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Scheme Title A1 : Dishforth to North of Leeming Improvements	Details Archaeological Fieldwalking
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Contractor A.W+P.	
County North Yorkshire	
OS Reference SE37	
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Archaeological Fieldwalking

A1

**Dishforth to North of Leeming Improvements
AREA 13.**

A1 DISHFORTH TO NORTH OF LEEMING IMPROVEMENTS

Archaeological Intensive Fieldwalking

AREA 13

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A1 DISHFORTH TO NORTH OF LEEMING IMPROVEMENTS

Archaeological Fieldwalking

Area 13

1. Introduction

Area 13 is situated, west of the A1 and to the south-east of the A61, NGR SE 3550 7575 (Fig. 1). The area was intensively fieldwalked on October 10th, 1994, the area measured 180m east-west at its longest point and 160m north-south, giving an area of 1.43ha. The grid was established on site by Anthony Walker and Partners in 10m squares tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Material was collected and recorded from each 10m square and recorded by artefact category. A period of five minutes was allocated per square and walked in east-west direction. Collection policy dictated that no post medieval nor modern material was to be collected, only noted on this occasion.

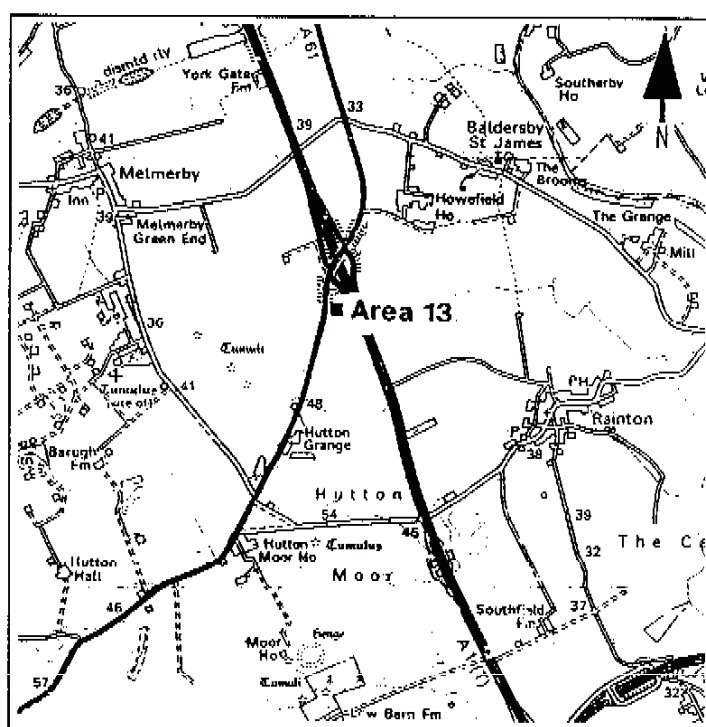


Figure 1. Site Location. Scale 1:50000

The area had been drilled and the crop was showing through to a height of approximately 0.05m. The surface was even and wet. Light conditions were generally very poor due to thick fog and constant light drizzle.

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Results

A total of 12 artefacts were collected during the intensive fieldwalking of Area 13 (Figs. 2-4; p. 11-13; Tables 1-3; p.14-16), which are as follows;

Flint: a total of 11 pieces of worked flint were collected. This assemblage consisted of 6 flakes, and 5 tools. In addition, a number of natural pieces of flint were collected to provide a comparison of types of raw materials occurring at the site. Of the flint collected 5 of the pieces are of translucent quality with the remainder being of the mottled grey type.

Tools: these implements included blades (2), knives (2); and a scraper (1). Particular reference should be made to the scraper from F10 which is a disc scraper in form but appears not to have been retouched.

Flakes: a number of the flakes were recovered, including a calcined piece from T3.

Patterns of Distribution: the distribution of flint tools and waste material does not appear to form any distinct cluster, as both categories are fairly widely distributed across the area surveyed (Figs. 2 & 3 : p. 11 & 12). The composition of the assemblage is of interest, with a ratio of tools to waste of practically 1:1.

Pottery: only a single sherd of pottery datable to the Romano-British period was collected from A2 (Figs. 2 & 4; p. 11 & 13; Tables 1 & 3; p. 14 & 16). This consisted of a Mortarium body sherd of 2nd century A.D. date.

Animal Bone: 1 fragment of animal bone was collected from C4. This was felt to be of modern date.

Other Finds: 3 pieces of slate were recovered from B10, F12 and K7 (Fig. 2; p. 11; Table 1; p. 14).

Conclusions

The intensive fieldwalking of Area 13 has provided an account of the distribution of flint tools and waste products. However, there does not appear to be any distinctive clustering unlike the distribution pattern seen in the adjacent area to A13, that is to say Area A4i. The type of flint used may also be significant in that there is almost a 1:1 use of translucent type to the mottled grey type. Artefacts of the mottled type have a widespread distribution within the north of England, the nearest source of which is the Yorkshire Wolds. The high quality coloured translucent flint has a known source at Flamborough Head in Humberside.

In addition to material discarded at knapping sites, flint tools enter the archaeological record through being discarded or lost at the places where they were used. Two broad categories of use may be conjectured, use during the processing of raw materials and manufacture of equipment, and use during the procurement of resources. Examples of the former kind are scrapers and butchery knives, while arrowheads and sickle blades may be said to fall into the second category. Processing, manufacturing and maintenance often take place at settlements, while the procurement takes place elsewhere (Smith forthcoming). The assemblage from Area 13 appears to reflect the primary category but its small size hampers interpretation.

2. Spatial Analysis

Comparative material for this report is based on fieldwalking results from the sections of the A1 improvement Dishforth to Leeming and Walshford to Dishforth (Fig. 5: p.17; data kindly supplied by the Archaeology Section: North Yorkshire County Council and Northern Archaeological Associates). Below are the spatial analysis results for the areas intensively fieldwalked, from Areas 11, 13, 21, 24 and 25; compared to Fields 3800 and 4065 and the results of intensive fieldwalking along the Walshford to Dishforth corridor. The analysis for Area 13 has concentrated on flint, and Roman pottery, as these were the only artefact categories to be collected.

All areas are situated on solid geology of Permian and Triassic Sandstone with a Drift geology of Glacial Sands and Gravel; the soils in Areas 11, 13, 21, 24 and 25 are of the Escrick 2 Association over Glaciofluvial drift.

For the comparative material Fields 7, 74, 76 and 115 are soils of the Bishampton 1 Association over Till and Glacio-fluvial drift. Fields 89, 3800 and 4865 are soils of the Escrick 2 Association over Glacio-fluvial drift. Field 78 (southern part) has soils of the Fladbury 3 Association over river alluvium; soils of the Escrick 2 Association extend to the north.

Flint Assemblage

The density of flint artefacts per hectare varied greatly within areas evaluated in the Dishforth to North of Leeming improvement. As mentioned above the geology is fairly constant and therefore provides a good base for comparison.

Of the areas intensively fieldwalked (Areas 11, 13, 21, 24 and 25), all produced a flint assemblage with density variations from 1.538 (Area 21) to 11.11 per hectare (Area 11). Eleven flint artefacts were recovered from Area 13, with a density per hectare of 7.69: five tools and six waste implements each giving a density per hectare of 3.49 and 4.19 respectively. From the evaluation to the south, Field 4065 produced the lowest density per hectare of 8.52 rising dramatically to 64.706 in Field 89. It must be stressed that two prehistoric sites were located in this area and that Field 89 was suffering severe plough damage. In Areas 21, 24 and 25, the flint assemblage again suggests a prehistoric presence of undefined nature. This occurrence is also paralleled by the flint assemblage from Field 76 (identified by geophysical survey and excavation as a Roman fort), where 12 flint tools were located which may have been disturbed by the Roman activity.

Roman Pottery

All areas considered within the evaluation of the A1 improvement scheme were in close association to a known Roman road, therefore it is not surprising to see small numbers of sherds within the corridor. Area 13 produced a single sherd of Roman pottery. A single sherd is not a large enough sample to be of any significance.

Total Flint				Flint Waste				Flint Tools			
Intensive Distribution				Intensive Distribution				Intensive Distribution			
Area	No.	Ha.	per Ha.	Area	No.	Ha.	per Ha.	Area	No.	Ha.	per Ha.
A4	40	3.6	11.11	A4	18	3.6	5	A4	22	3.6	6.11
C1	4	2.6	1.538	C1	3	2.6	1.154	C1	1	2.6	0.385
C2	17	6.2	2.742	C2	10	6.2	1.613	C2	7	6.2	1.129
C3	18	2.9	6.207	C3	15	2.9	5.172	C3	3	2.9	1.034
13	11	1.43	7.69	13	6	1.43	4.19	13	5	1.43	3.49

Comparative Data

Total Flint				Flint Waste				Flint Tools			
Intensive				Intensive				Intensive			
Field	No.	Ha.	per Ha.	Field	No.	Ha.	per Ha.	Field	No.	Ha.	per Ha.
7	48	4.85	9.897	7	40	4.85	8.247	7	8	4.85	1.649
74	77	3.61	21.329	74	65	3.61	18.006	74	12	3.61	3.324
76	52	4.21	12.352	76	40	4.21	9.501	76	12	4.21	2.850
78	7	0.16	43.75	78	5	0.16	31.25	78	2	0.16	12.5
89	66	1.02	64.706	89	33	1.02	32.353	89	33	1.02	32.353
3800	16	1.76	9.09	3800	10	1.76	5.68	3800	6	1.76	3.41
4065	30	3.52	8.52	4065	22	3.52	6.25	4065	8	3.52	2.27

Roman pottery

Intensive Distribution

Area	No.	Ha.	per Ha.	Area	No.	Ha.	per ha.	Area	No.	Ha.	per ha.
C1	18	2.6	6.923	C2	462	6.2	74.516	C3	5	2.9	1.724
				Mortaria	15		2.419			3.3	

Area	No.	Ha.	per Ha.
13	1	1.43	0.699
Mortaria	1	1.43	0.699

Comparative Data

Roman Pottery

Intensive

Field	No.	Ha.	per Ha.
7	3	4.85	0.619
74	8	3.61	2.216
76	174	4.21	41.33
78	1	0.16	6.25
3800	3	1.76	1.70

Roman/medieval? Pottery

Intensive

Field	No.	Ha.	per Ha.
3800	3	1.76	1.70

3. Bibliography

Dennison, E., *A1 Dishforth to North of Leeming Improvements: Archaeological Desktop Survey*.
Vol. 1. Factual report – Appendices (second draft 8.3.93.).

Smith, C., *The Flint Assemblage from Beadlam Roman Villa* in Beadlam Roman Villa
Forthcoming.

4. Finds Catalogue

Pottery

A2 – 1 mortarium body sherd (2nd century AD – Roman)

Flint

A3 – 1 flake, cortex remnant, translucent grey-brown.

Length: 27mm, width: 18mm, thickness: 5mm

C3 – 1 flake, cortex remnant, dark grey.

Length: 40mm, width: 20mm, thickness: 11mm

C4 – 1 flake/blank for disc scraper, no retouch, percussion bulb, translucent dark grey.

Length: 28mm, width: 26mm, thickness: 6mm

D9 – 1 flake, percussion bulb, mottled brown.

Length: 29mm, width: 25mm, thickness: 5mm

E7 – 1 flake, cortex remnant, translucent dark grey.

Length: 24mm, width: 16mm, thickness: 10mm

F10 – 1 knife, slight retouch on left, right and proximal snapped, translucent yellow-brown.

Length: 42mm, width: 16mm, thickness: 5mm

J9 – 1 flake, left side snapped, mottled grey.

Length: 33mm, width: 14mm, thickness: 9mm

N7 – 1 knife, no retouch, grey.

Length: 42mm, width: 15mm, thickness: 4mm

R4 – 1 blade fragment, possible edge retouch on right, distal damaged, proximal snapped, badly abraded piece, percussion bulb, translucent dark grey.

Length: 24mm, width: 18mm, thickness: 5mm

S3 – 1 blade, no retouch, proximal snapped, distal damaged, percussion bulb, translucent dark grey.

Length: 34mm, width: 19mm, thickness: 6mm

T3 – 1 flake, calcined, percussion bulb, light grey.

Length: 14mm, width: 11mm, thickness: 5mm

Slate

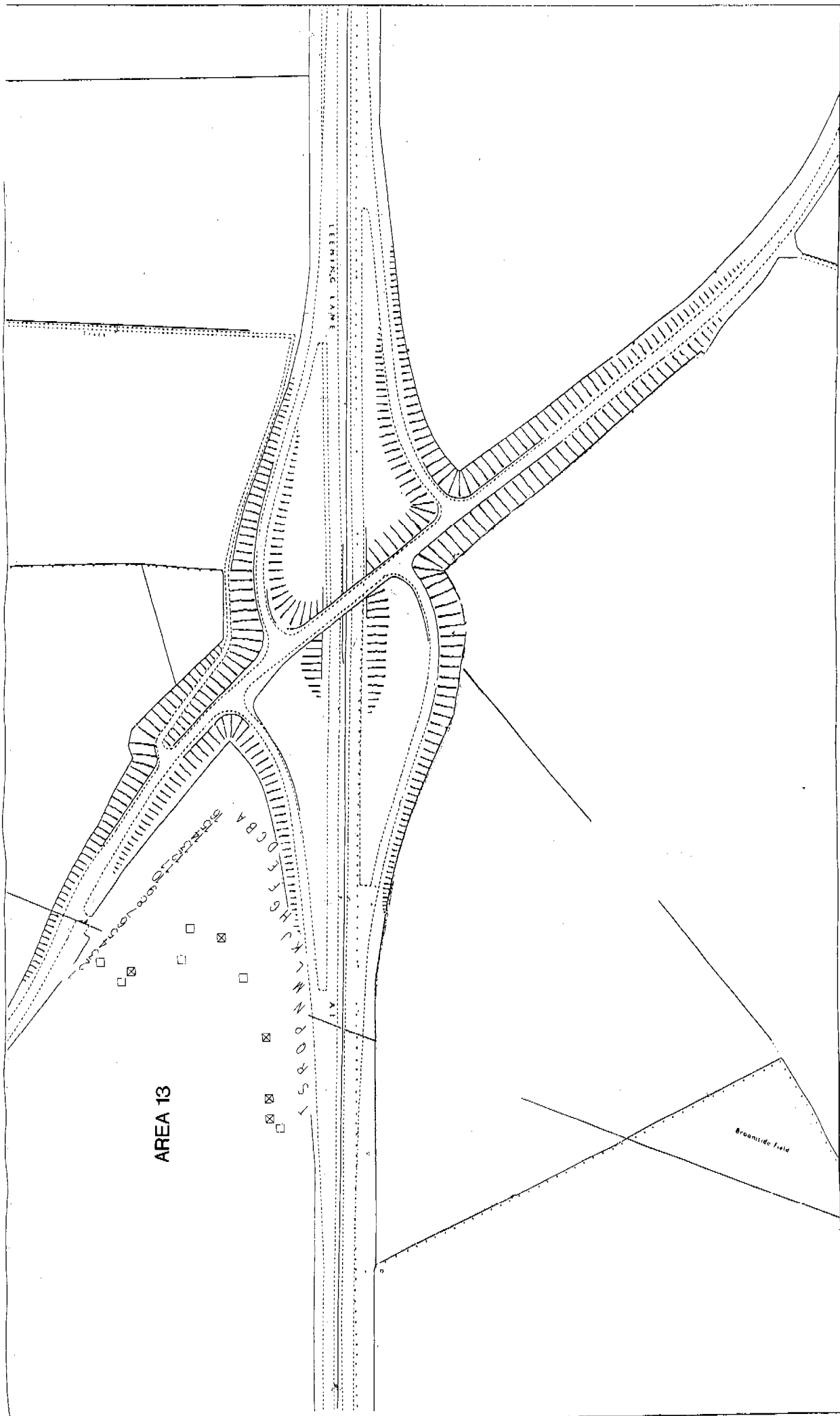
B10 – 1 fragment

F12 – 1 fragment

K7 – 1 fragment

Animal bone

C4 – 1 fragment – modern



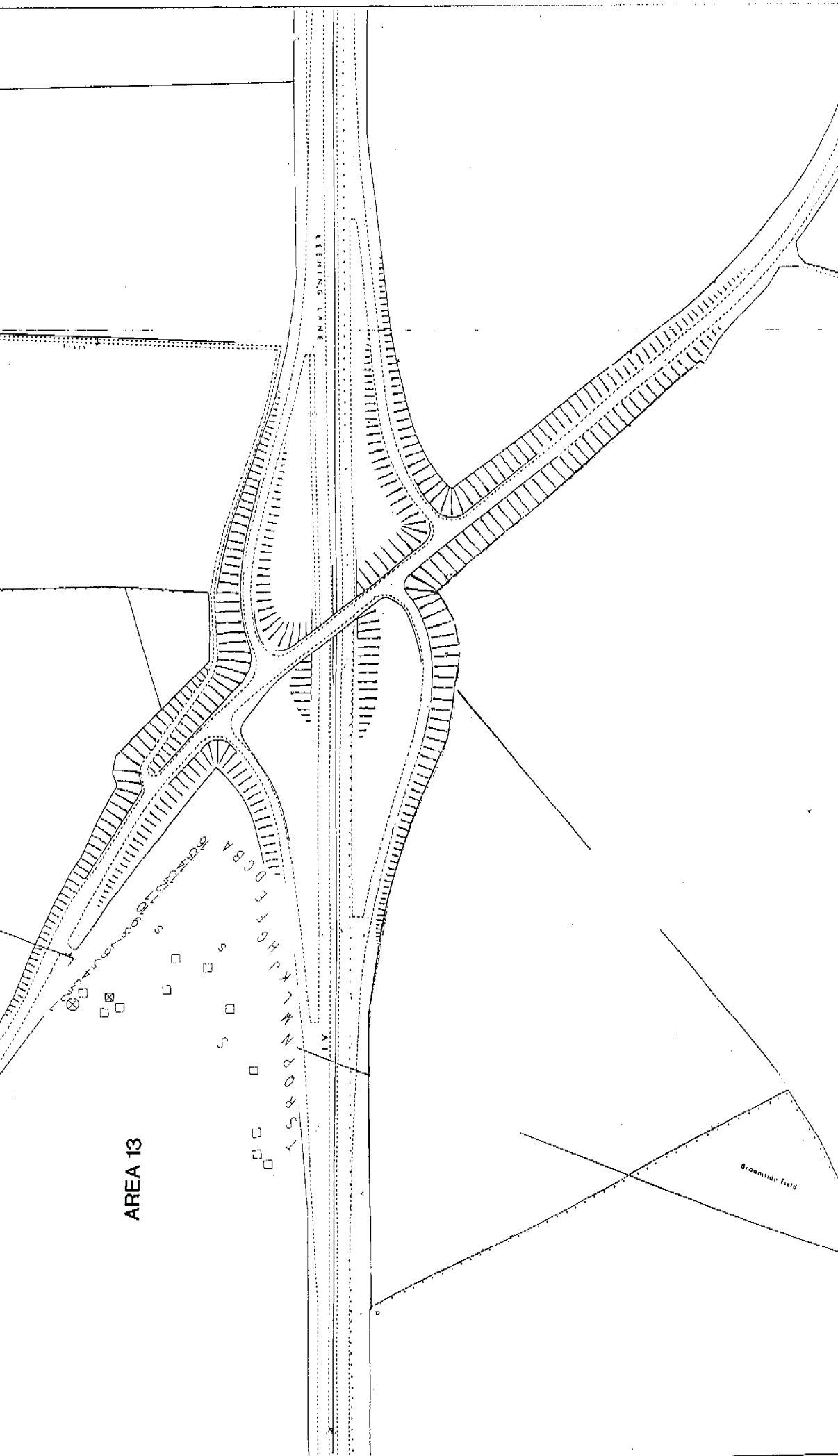
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PROJECT	
A1 DISHFORTH TO NORTH OF LEEING IMPROVEMENTS STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS	
TITLE	
Flint distribution.	
SCALE	DRAWING
Scale 1:2500	Figure 3

ORIGINAL AT A3

KEY
 ◊ Flint Waste
 ⊞ Flint Tool



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PROJECT

A1 DISHFORTH TO NORTH OF LEEMING IMPROVEMENTS
STAGE 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

TITLE

General finds distribution.

SCALE

Scale 1:2500

DRAWING

Figure 4

KEY

- ◇ Flint
- ⊕ Animal bone
- ⊕ Roman pottery
- S Slate

ORIGINAL AT A3

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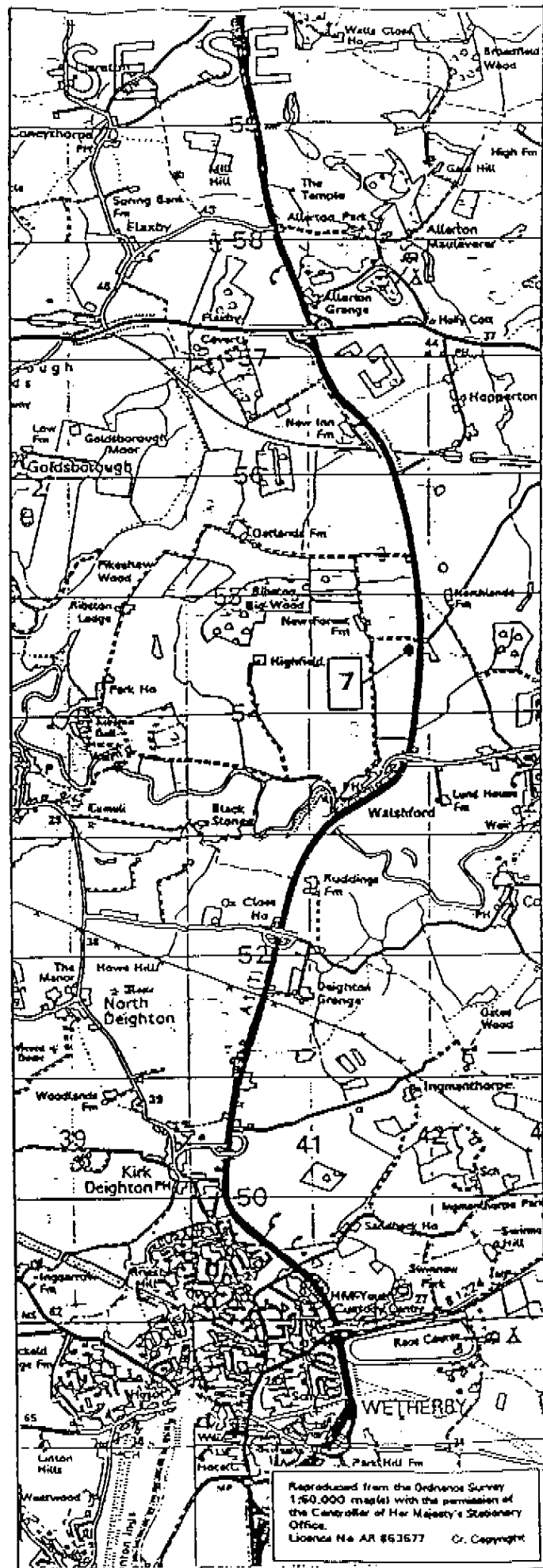
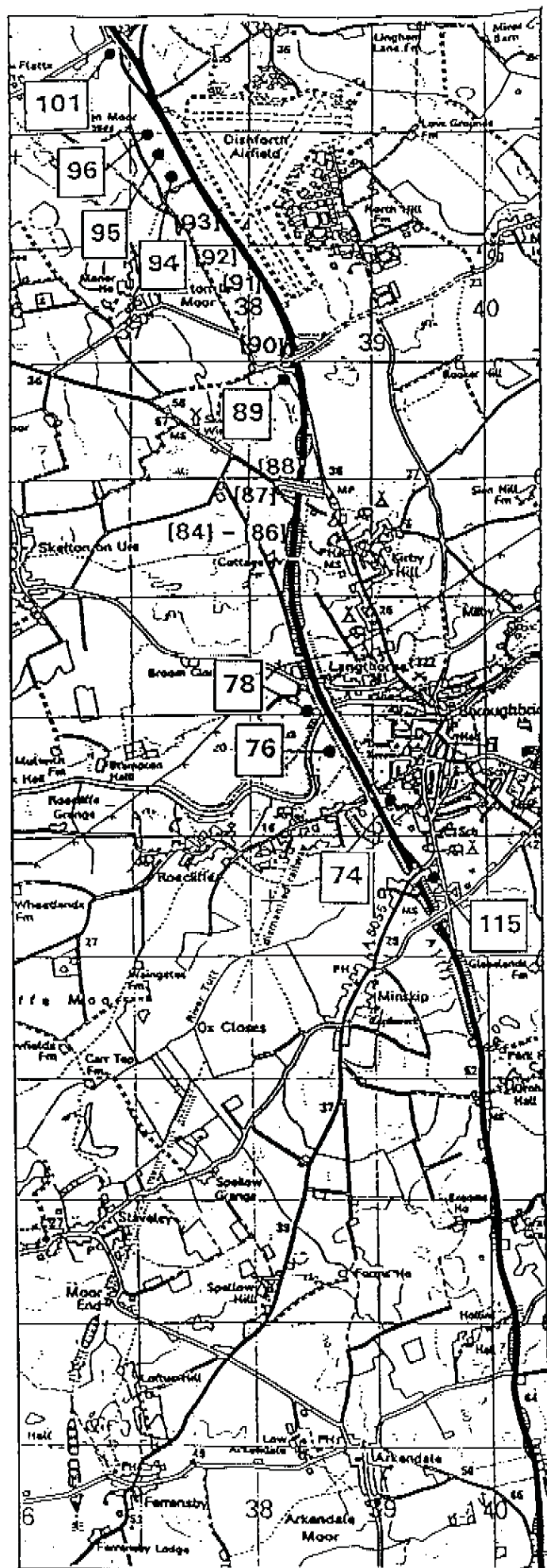


Figure 5

Walshford to Dishforth : site locations. Scale 1:50000

TABLE I
GENERAL FINDS DISTRIBUTION

[illegible]

KEY

R – Roman Pottery

F - Flint

S - Slate

A - Animal Bone

TABLE 2
FLINT DISTRIBUTION

[illegible]

KEY
T - Tool
T? - Possible Tool
F - Flake

