



**Results of Archaeological Fieldwalking:  
Land to the north of Wardentree Lane,  
Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire**

**NGR TF 2500 2520**

prepared by

*John Samuels Archaeological Consultants*

on behalf of

**M. Parker & Sons Ltd.**  
St. Johns Road,  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 1JX

**Planning Application Ref.: H14/0613/01  
Site Code: WLP01  
LCNCC Accession No.: 2001.410**

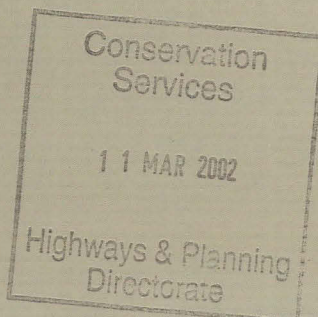
**JSAC 861/02/03**

**February 2002**



Certificate Number 1967/99

THE MANOR SOUTH STEET NORMANTON-ON-TRENT NEWARK NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG23 6RQ  
TELEPHONE 01636 821727 FAX 01636 822080 E-MAIL jsac@btconnect.com



Event 42890

Source 47564

47565

Mon 482708

23733

**Results of Archaeological Fieldwalking:  
Land off Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire**

NGR TF 2500 2520

Contents

Summary.....	1
1. Introduction.....	2
2. Archaeological and Historical Background.....	3
3. Methodology.....	3
4. Results.....	4
5. Discussion.....	4
6. Figures.....	5
7. Bibliography.....	6
Appendix A: Pottery Archive.....	8

### Summary

*M. Parker and Sons Ltd. are proposing industrial development on land north of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, nr. Spalding, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 2500 2520). The proposed development covers an area of approximately 7 hectares and is located to the southeast of Pinchbeck.*

*An outline planning application (Ref. H14/0613/01) was submitted and the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council acting as advisors to South Holland District Council (SHDC) requested that a staged approach archaeological investigation should be undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application.*

*The evaluation commenced with the preparation of a desk-based assessment by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC 861/01/01), which identified the presence of linear cropmarks on the site. Consultation with the Archaeological Advisor (SHDC) concluded that fieldwalking and geophysical survey should be undertaken as the next stage of work in order to determine the date, spatial arrangement and presence/absence of archaeological features on the site.*

*The fieldwalking retrieved seven sherds of pottery dated to the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. All of the sherds collected were abraded, suggesting long-term weathering caused by intensive farming practices and exposure to the elements. There was a marked preponderance of sherds located on the western side of the site.*

*The results of the fieldwalking survey suggest a presence on the site during the medieval period. Although the quantity of finds retrieved would suggest low-scale human occupation and are more likely to be attributed to manuring processes associated with agricultural activity.*

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 M. Parker and Sons Ltd. are proposing industrial development on land north of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, nr. Spalding, Lincolnshire (NGR TF 2500 2520). The proposed development covers an area of approximately 7 hectares and is located to the southeast of Pinchbeck. Pinchbeck lies approximately 2km to the north of Spalding, in South Holland District. Smedleys Food Factory forms the eastern boundary and the Blue Gowt Drain forms the northern boundary with agricultural land to the west.
- 1.2 The area proposed for development covers approximately 7ha of level agricultural land at a height of approximately 3m AOD. Soils at the site are Wisbech Association (812b) comprising stoneless calcareous coarse silty soils overlying marine alluvium (SSEW 1984).
- 1.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment was commissioned by M. Parker and Sons Ltd. (*JSAC 861/01/01*), which established that aerial photographic evidence exists for the development site. This evidence illustrates the presence of cropmarks suggestive of past human activity on the site. The County Sites and Monuments Record contains entries for finds of Roman and medieval date to the east and adjacent to the site. Following consultation with the County Archaeological Officer a programme of evaluation by fieldwalking and geophysical survey was recommended prior to the determination of an outline planning application (Ref. H14/0613/01).
- 1.4 A specification for undertaking the fieldwalking was prepared (*JSAC 861/01/02*) and approved by the County Archaeology Officer prior to fieldwork. This report details the results of the survey and conforms to the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE, 1990). It is in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines, including:

*Code of Conduct* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1997)

*Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991)

*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994; revised 1999)

*Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council 1998)

- 1.5 The fieldwalking was undertaken by Jenny Young BA(Hons), MA, AIFA on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2001. Ground conditions were good with the field having been ploughed and harrowed within the previous month. This report was written by Jenny Young in consultation with John Samuels BA, PhD, FSA, MIFA, MLI.

## **2. Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 2.1 The Lincolnshire County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) was consulted for a radius of up to 1km outside the development site. A distribution plot for those entries appears as Figure 2.
- 2.2 No archaeological remains have been recorded on the study site itself. However, immediately adjacent to the development area, undated cropmarks have been recorded (SMR 23584). A vertical aerial photograph of the site held by the sites and monuments record shows a double linear feature (interpreted as a road or track), linear features possibly representing field boundaries and a small enclosure. These are within the proposed development site although the NGR co-ordinates on the SMR, plots them to the east of the site (see Figure 2).
- 2.3 Evidence for salting dating from the Roman or medieval period has been recorded to the east of the site (SMR 23591 & 23592). During construction of the sugarbeet factory in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, remains related to this industry were recovered. However, the remains are tentatively dated by association with Romano-British pottery found nearby as well as being located near medieval salt mounds in Pinchbeck Marsh.
- 2.4 To the immediate east of the site, undated and medieval (or later) ditches were recorded during archaeological evaluation and watching brief (SMR 23716) which had been identified by earlier geophysical survey. These features are thought to represent drainage and/or agricultural boundaries.
- 2.5 Approximately 500m to the north of the site, a medieval moated site has been recorded (SMR 20144). The site is recorded at Otway Study House and has since been converted into a ha-ha. The moat is not illustrated on early OS maps.

## **3. Methodology**

- 3.1 Approximately 7 hectares of the site was included in the fieldwalking survey. However, the northern part of the site totaling 0.28ha was unwalkable due to a dump of soil. A 20m x 20m survey grid was established across the site and was surveyed in 20m transects with 20m sampling intervals (as per the specification *JSAC 861/01/02*).
- 3.2 All finds predating the 19<sup>th</sup> century were collected on a comprehensive basis along each transect. Each find was to be individually plotted or located according to grid quadrant if large concentrations of artefacts were present.
- 3.3 All finds were placed in marked bags prior to being washed and marked for analysis. All retrieved finds dated from the medieval period and were assessed by the nominated specialist, Jane Young (Lindsey Archaeological Services). The site code is WLP01 and the site archive will be deposited in the City & County Museum, Lincoln under the accession number LCNCC: 2001.410.

#### **4. Results**

- 4.1 The fieldwalking survey resulted in the retrieval of seven sherds of pottery all dating from the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (see Appendix A). All were very abraded, caused by intensive farming practices and weathering over the centuries. All sherds were of local fabrics and Bourne fabrics of A-C types. The forms represented comprised jar, jugs and bowl with body and rim sherds present.
- 4.2 There was a prevalence of material located on the western side of the site between transects A-E (see Figure 3 - for finds plot against aerial photograph plot). This pattern of spread correlates with the cropmarks identified by the aerial photographic plots produced.
- 4.3 On the southwestern corner of the site, a spread of brick was noted during the fieldwalking exercise. This spread of material is likely to be attributed to buildings shown on the 25" 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, which has annotation indicating that these buildings located outside the site, have burnt down.

#### **5. Discussion**

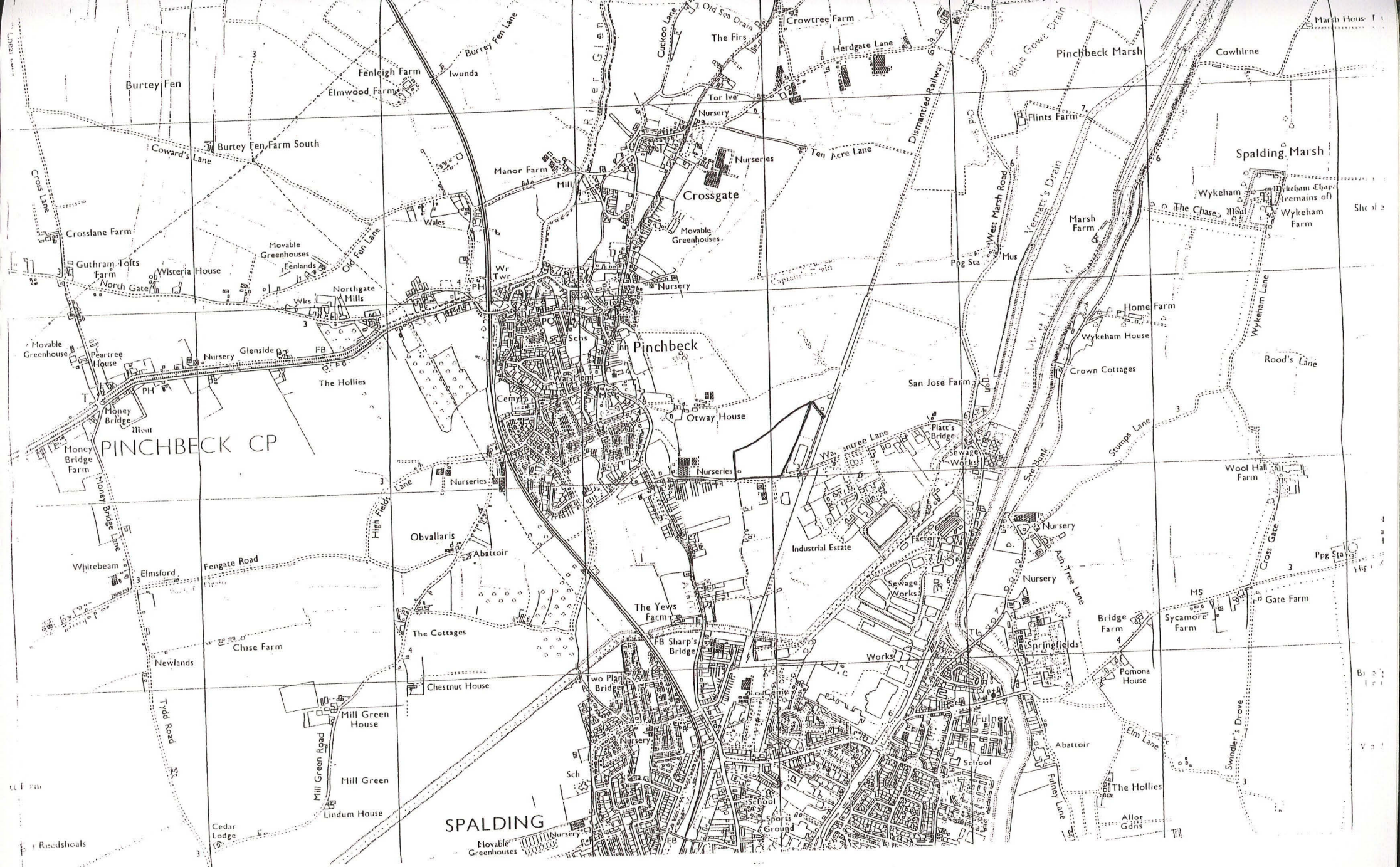
- 5.1 The fieldwalking survey has recorded medieval activity on the site dated to the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The spread of material is likely to represent agricultural manuring practices carried out during this time rather than indicative of intensive settlement or occupation.
- 5.2 Aerial photographs held at the Sites and Monuments Record, Lincoln and the National Monuments Record, Swindon were consulted and plotted across the site as part of the desk-based assessment exercise. In general, the plot suggests a regular division of land on an east west alignment although two smaller enclosure type features do occur. Archaeological field evaluation on land to the east of the site (SMR 23716) recorded linears on a similar alignment. The evaluation interpreted these features as drainage and agricultural boundary ditches of undated and medieval date with residual Roman pottery present (Albone 1999). The conclusions drawn for this element of fieldwork suggested a low-level of human activity with stock grazing on marshy land.
- 5.3 It is therefore concluded that the results of the fieldwalking would suggest a presence during the medieval period, possibly with similar land-use as the site to the east (SMR 23716). However, it is unknown at present whether or how, the finds retrieved relate to the linear cropmarks recorded on aerial photographs.

**6. Figures**

Figure 1. Site location

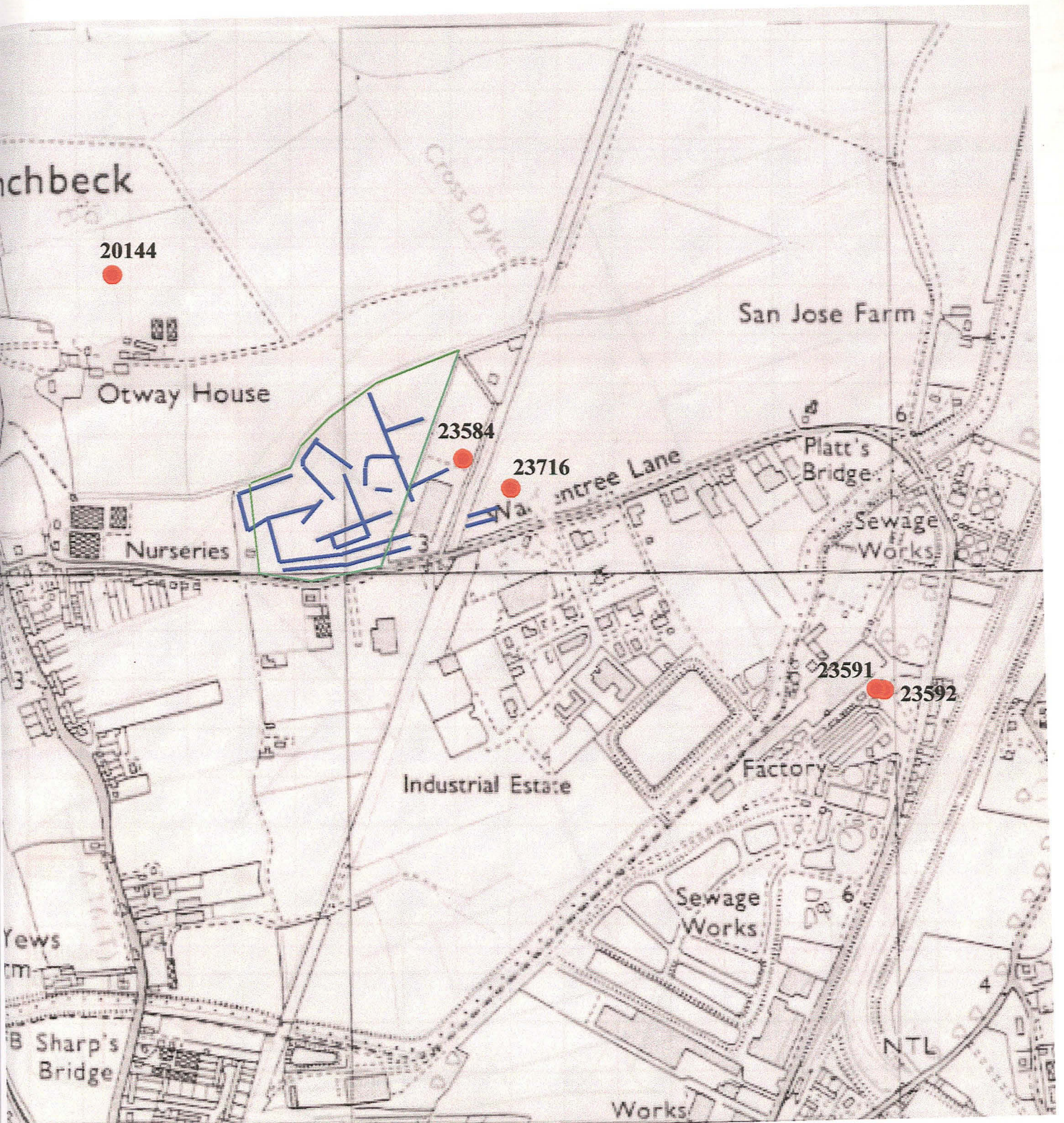
Figure 2. SMR distribution plot

Figure 3. Finds distribution plot



**Figure 1. Site location plan on Pathfinder 857 Spalding & Holbeach**  
**Scale 1: 25 000**





Note: Map based on Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.  
 Crown Copyright Reserved. Licence No. AL 100020447

● = SMR entry      — = cropmarks      — = site boundary

Figure 2. SMR Distribution Plot

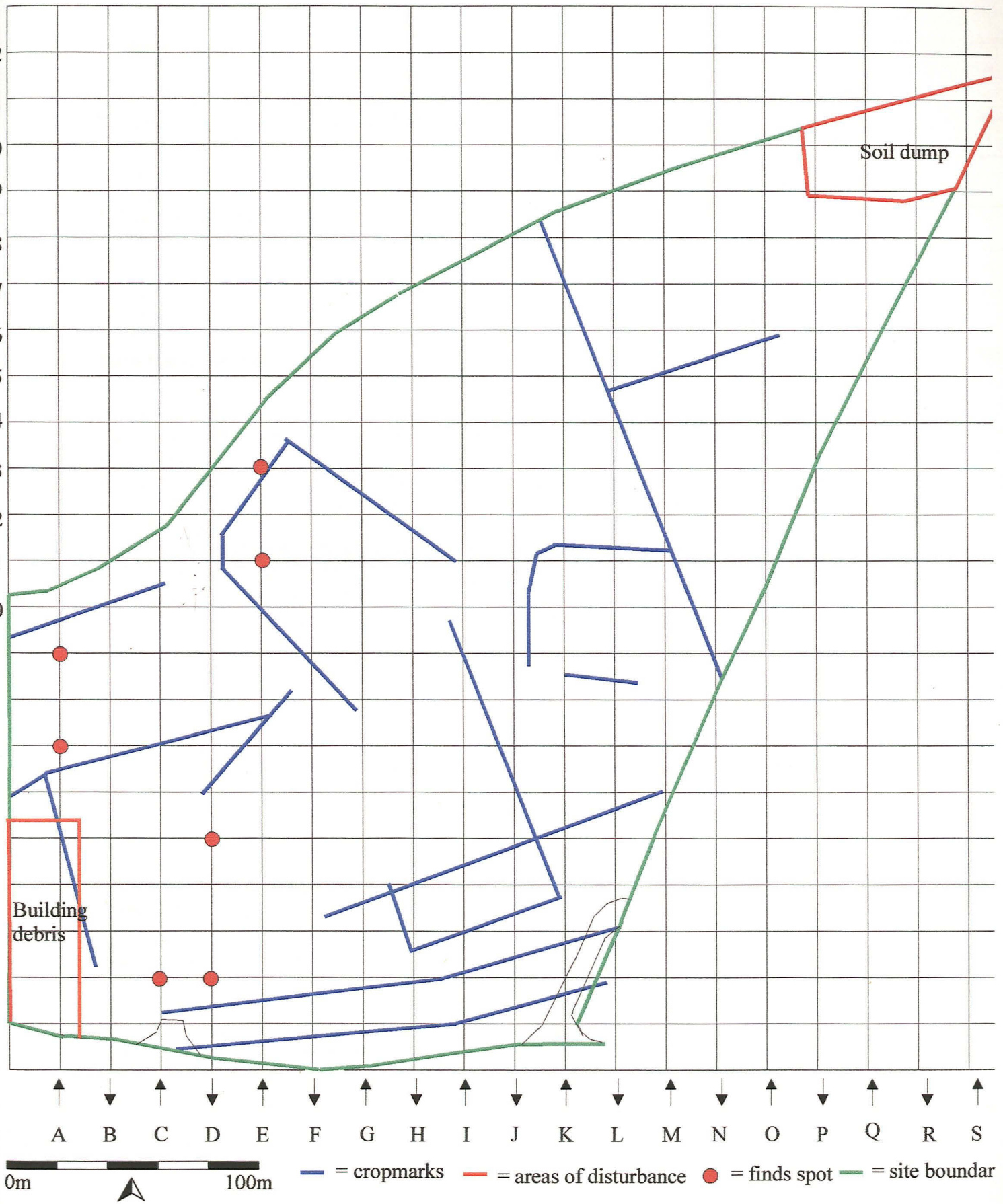


Figure 3. Finds Distribution Plot (Medieval only)

## 7. Bibliography

- ALBONE, J. (1999). Archaeological Field Evaluation – Land North of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire. Unpublished PCA Report.
- ALLEN, 1833. *The History of the County of Lincolnshire: Volume One*. London & Lincoln: J. Saunders, Junior.
- ALLEN, 1834. *The History of the County of Lincolnshire: Volume Two*. London & Lincoln: J. Saunders, Junior.
- BENNETT, S & BENNETT N 1984 *An Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire* Hall: University of Hall Press
- BUTLER, A (1999). A geophysical survey at land north of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire. Unpublished ULAS report.
- CAMERON, K., 1998. *A Dictionary of Lincolnshire Place-Names*. Nottingham: The English Place-Name Society.
- CANTOR, LEONARD, 1983. *The Medieval Parks of England: A Gazetteer*. Loughborough: Loughborough University of Technology.
- EKWALL, E. 1991. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- ENGLISH HERITAGE, 1990. *The Conservation Areas of England*. London: English Heritage.
- ENGLISH HERITAGE, 1996. *County List of Scheduled Monuments -Lincolnshire*. London: English Heritage.
- ENGLISH HERITAGE, c1994. *Register of Historic Battlefields*. London: English Heritage.
- ENGLISH HERITAGE, 1985. *Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest, Part 27 Lincolnshire*. London: English Heritage.
- FOSTER, C.W. & LONGLEY, T., 1921. *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*. Lincoln: The Lincoln Record Society, rep.1976.
- MAY, J., 1976. *Prehistoric Lincolnshire: History of Lincolnshire Volume One*. Lincoln: History of Lincolnshire Committee.
- MORGAN, P. & THORN, C., 1986. *Domesday Book 31: Lincolnshire Part 1*. Chichester: Phillimore.
- MORGAN, P. & THORN, C., 1986. *Domesday Book 31: Lincolnshire Part 2*. Chichester: Phillimore.
- OWEN, D.M., 1971. *Church and Society in Medieval Lincolnshire: History of Lincolnshire Volume Five*. Lincoln: History of Lincolnshire Committee.
- PEVSNER, N., & HARRIS, J. rev. by ANTRAM, N., 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1989. *The Buildings of England: Lincolnshire*. London: Penguin Books.
- PHILLIPS, C.W., ed., 1970. *The Fenland in Roman Times*. London: Royal Geographical Society.
- PLATTS, G., 1985. *Land and People in Medieval Lincolnshire: History of Lincolnshire Volume Four*. Lincoln: History of Lincolnshire Committee.
- RIDSDALE, M. & PALMER-BROWN, C. (1999). *Archaeological Watching Brief Report – Land North of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire*. Unpublished PCS Report.
- SAWYER, P., 1998. *Anglo-Saxon Lincolnshire: History of Lincolnshire Volume Three*. Lincoln: History of Lincolnshire Committee.
- SAWYER, P.H. 1968. *Anglo-Saxon Charters: an annotated list and bibliography*. London: Royal Historical Society.

*Results of Archaeological Fieldwalking:  
Land off Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire*

*Soil Survey of England & Wales* 1984. Soils and their use in Eastern England

TATE, W.E. & TURNER, M.E., 1978. *A Domesday of English enclosure acts and awards.*

Reading: University of Reading.

WHITWELL, J.B., 1970. *Roman Lincolnshire: History of Lincolnshire Volume Two.* Lincoln:

History of Lincolnshire Committee.

**Appendix A:  
Pottery Archive**

# Pottery Archive WLP01

*Jane Young Lindsey Archaeological Services*

plot	cname	full name	sub fabric	form type	sherds	part	description	date	condition
A7	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C		?	1	base		13th to 14th	very abraded
A9	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	OX/R/OX;fine-med;hard	jug	1	rim	abundant mixed quartz mod fe occ limestone;triangular rim	13th to 14th	very abraded
C2	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	OX/R/OX;med sandy;hard	jar	1	rim	abundant mixed subround quartz moderate fe occ shell	13th to 14th	slightly abrad
D2	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	white/r/white;fine-med sandy;med hard	jug	1	BS	light reduced glze;abundant subround quartz comm carbonised veg/fe	13th to 14th	very abraded
D5	BOUA	Bourne-type Fabrics A, B and C		?	1	BS	small fragment	13th to 14th	very abraded
E11	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	reduced;fine sandy;hard	bowl	1	BS	reduced glaze;micaceous clay	13th to 14th	very abraded
E13	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	OX/R/OX;fine-med;hard	?	1	BS	abundant mixed quartz mod fe occ limestone	13th to 14th	very abraded