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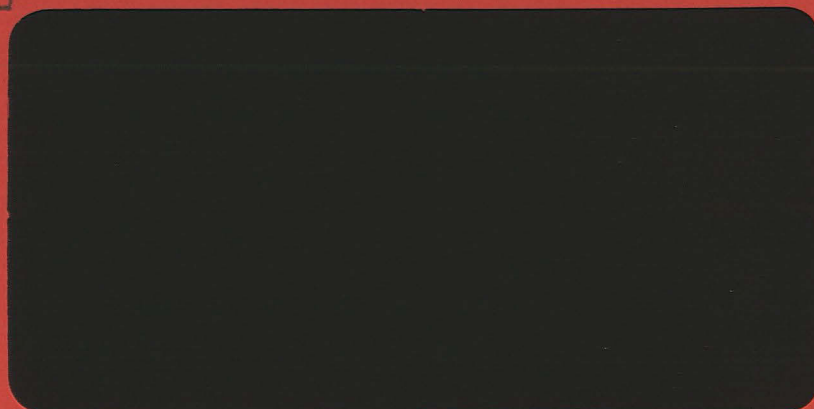
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**CAENBY HALL, MARKET RASEN,
LINCOLNSHIRE :
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESKTOP ASSESSMENT**

Conservation
Services

24 FEB 2003

Highways & Planning
Directorate



EVENT L14274
SOURCE L18827

PRN-51063

Tony Sumpter Archaeological Consultancy


Tel. 01777 710462

*Victoria House
11 - 13 Victoria Road
Retford
Nottinghamshire
DN22 7DJ*

**CAENBY HALL, MARKET RASEN,
LINCOLNSHIRE :
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESKTOP ASSESSMENT**

for

**Ian Baseley Associates
Chartered Town Planners
The Studios
Church Farm
Mansfield Road
Edwinstowe
Nottinghamshire
NG21 9NJ**

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a rectangular box. The signature appears to read "Lee Monek" in a cursive script.

April 2003

**CAENBY HALL, MARKET RASEN,
LINCOLNSHIRE :
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DESKTOP ASSESSMENT**

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Title page : Signature of Lawrence Monck, owner of Caenby Hall and
 lord of the manor, from a lease dated 23rd November 1794
 (in private possession)

**CAENBY HALL, MARKET RASEN,
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SYNOPSIS

An archaeological desktop assessment was carried out before determination of an application for construction of an employment park on the site of Caenby Hall, a former late Georgian house adjacent to Ermine Street. Within a one-mile radius there is evidence for multi-period activity, but in the vicinity of the application area there are few sites or findspots and none with specific implications. Following demolition of the hall c.1970, the area was stripped and ballasted for a heavy excavation plant depot. Additional land to the south has been totally excavated in training machine drivers. The presence of remains of antiquity is unlikely, and the potential archaeological impact of the development is seen as negligible.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by the *Tony Sumpter Archaeological Consultancy* (the archaeological consultant) for Ian Baseley Associates (the developers). It comprises an archaeological desktop assessment carried out in advance of proposed redevelopment at Caenby Hall, 11 miles north of Lincoln (SK 9678 8848).
- 1.2 A planning application was submitted for an employment park (M02/P/1055).
- 1.3 The local planning authority (LPA), West Lindsey District Council, acting on the advice of the District Archaeologist for Lincolnshire County Council, requested an archaeological evaluation before determination of the application. In the first instance a desktop assessment was required to gauge the archaeological implications and to determine what if any field evaluation might be appropriate.
- 1.4 The developers retained the archaeological consultant to carry out the desktop assessment.
- 1.5 The desktop assessment is based on the requirements of *Planning Policy Guidance 16* (DoE 1990). It is intended to accord with the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire CC 1998). It conforms with the *Code of Conduct* and takes account of the appropriate *Standards and guidance* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 1997, 1999). It is designed to follow current best archaeological practice.

2. PROCEDURE

- 2.1 The aims of the desktop assessment are to determine whether there is evidence for archaeological remains in the intended application area which might be affected by the proposed development; and if so, to establish their nature, extent, condition, dating and importance. The results are to enable recommendations for further investigation if shown to be necessary.
- 2.2 Plans of the proposed development were supplied by the developers.
- 2.3 A walkover inspection of the application area and environs was carried out on 15th January 2003, with guidance and information by courtesy of Mr Stephen Fox of Fox Plant (Owmby) Ltd.
- 2.4 A visit was made to the County Sites & Monuments Record (SMR) in Lincoln on 11th February 2003, where Miss Sarah Grundy kindly provided detailed data including the results of aerial reconnaissance and a map to show the extent of features and cropmarks.
- 2.5 Early maps and other documents in the Lincolnshire Archives office were consulted on 14th March 2003.
- 2.6 Further information was obtained from sources listed in the *Bibliography* and *Cartography*, below.
- 2.7 The archaeological consultant has drawn upon his own experience of fieldwork in the study area.

3. SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

3.1 Location

The application area lies immediately east of the A15 Ermine Street, and 900m south of Caenby Corner where the A631 crosses Ermine Street. It is approximately halfway between Gainsborough to the west and Market Rasen to the east.

3.2 Description

The application area includes the curtilage of the former Caenby Hall (c. 0.8ha) with some 3ha of the parkland which lay to the east, and an additional 1ha to the south. It is roughly rectangular, with mean overall dimensions of 260 (N-S) x 200m (E-W), and covers c. 4.8ha (c. 12 acres). The ground is fairly level with a slight slope to the south-east, and is crossed by the 45m (148ft) OD contour. It is surrounded by arable fields.

3.3 Land use

The application area is a commercial maintenance depot for excavation plant of the heaviest type as used for opencast mining, road construction and major land reformation. It comprises late 20th century workshops within an operational yard of ballast and concrete. In the north-west corner is a steel lattice microwave mast. There are no special planning constraints applicable.

3.4 Geology

The area lies on the gentle dip slope of the Lincoln Cliff, a ridge of outcropping Lincolnshire Limestone of the Middle Jurassic. It supports a heavy clay soil.

3.5 Environs : topography and settlement

a) The topography of north Lincolnshire is governed by the geology and comprises a series of linear zones lying south-north. From west to east they are the Trent valley; the Lincoln Cliff; the Ancholme valley; the chalk Lincolnshire Wolds; and the coastal plain.

b) The Lincoln Cliff rises steeply to just over 60m (200ft) OD and forms part of the Jurassic Way, a major prehistoric routeway. Along the scarp edge is the sinuous B1398 minor road. On the dip slope, 1 to 2 miles east of the scarp, the Roman Ermine Street runs northward and virtually straight from Lincoln to the Humber. It forms the spine of a network of parish boundaries which extend to east and west.

c) There are two south-north lines of villages which, notably, are situated on neither of these roads. One is at the foot of the scarp along the spring line where the limestone meets impervious clay. The other is on the dip slope east of Ermine Street, on or near small streams flowing east towards the Ancholme. Almost all are recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086. The majority have names of Saxon origin, but some have Danish elements (North 1938; Miller 1964; Mills 1998).

4. EXISTING HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- 4.1 Caenby village is a shrunken medieval settlement, now a hamlet, 2 miles to the east-north-east. It is recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086 in Aslaoce wapentake as *Couenebi*, probably 'Cafna's farmstead or village' (Mills 1998).

Caenby is a long east-west strip parish. The eastern half of the northern boundary with Glenthams parish zigzags as if artificial or negotiated, possibly reflecting a late formal division of early medieval tenurial and church links (Everson 1991).

The parish church of St Nicholas (TF 0002 893) is apparently a medieval structure rebuilt in 1869 (Pevsner & Harris 1964, 212).

Manor Farm (TF 0025 8983) is a medieval moated site with an early Georgian house to the north (Pevsner & Harris 1964, 212).

Old Hall Farm (SK 9995 8913) is a medieval moated site with a later farmhouse to the north (OS 1962; OS 2000)

Manor House is an L-shaped house, mostly late 18th century, once the seat of the de Tournays (Pevsner & Harris 1964, 212).

- 4.2 Caenby Hall was a late Georgian two-storeyed six-bay house with hipped slate roof and parapet, and a billiard room extension of 1829 (SK 9678 8848 ; SMR 51063). Originally it was the seat of Lawrence Monck, lord of the manor of Caenby and Glenthams, patron of Caenby church and owner of the soil. His daughter and heiress Jane married Sir William Lambert Middleton of Belsay Castle, Northumberland. In 1799 their son Sir Charles Middleton, pursuant to Lawrence Monck's will, changed his name to Monck, presumably as a condition of inheriting the Caenby estate. But Northumberland was the principal residence and after his marriage in 1804, Sir Charles Monck built Belsay Hall to his own design in 1810-17. Caenby was of secondary importance and the hall was let out and became a farm. In 1842 it was occupied by John Golden, and in 1856 by John Stevenson, corn merchant. In 1871 Caenby was sold by Sir Arthur Monck, who then re-adopted the name Middleton, to John Thomas Tweed, farmer and town clerk of Lincoln. In 1891 John Tweed was still owner and lord of the manor, though Sir Arthur Monck retained patronage of the church. After the 1930s the hall was unoccupied. It changed hands in 1911 and 1957 and was eventually demolished c. 1970 (Pevsner & Harris 1964, 212; White 1842, 478-79; Pevsner 1957, 85-87; White 1856, 210; White 1892, 237-38; Calthrop 1871; Spencer 1957).

- 4.3 The family name is perpetuated in the Monck's Arms at Caenby Corner which existed by 1842, though it has now been closed for some years.

- 4.4 Caenby Hall with adjoining land was acquired by Fox Plant (Owmby) Ltd, a major earthmoving and plant hire business. To enable movement of low-loaders and heavy machines, superficial deposits were stripped over the entire area and replaced by a substantial depth of rolled slag ballast and concrete (Mr S. Fox pers. comm.). Workshops of sectional steel, breeze block and asbestos were erected, and underground fuel tanks installed.

- 4.5 The southernmost hectare was stripped of topsoil and reserved as the Excavator Training Area. In the course of training machine drivers it has been repeatedly re-excavated and the original deposits destroyed (Mr S. Fox pers. comm.).
- 4.6 There are two partly-surviving elements of Caenby Hall. One is a much-modified and repaired two-storey brick outbuilding known as the stable block, though it seems unlikely to have been a stable and in the 1957 sales particulars is described as a barn (Spencer 1957). It measures 27 x 6m and is aligned east-west. The ground floor is of 2¼-inch brick, probably 18th century, and the first floor appears to be 19th century with a 20th century asbestos roof. It is in use as a parts store.

The other structure is a boundary wall fronting Ermine Street and part of the north side. It is between 2m and 3m in height, in Lincolnshire Limestone of coursed rubble construction topped by pantiles. Two narrow gateways with square pillars and, originally, wrought iron gates (Spencer 1957) have been blocked in Lincolnshire Limestone. The wall has required considerable repair and maintenance owing to damage from the volume of traffic now using the adjacent A15 Ermine Street (Mr S. Fox pers. comm.).

- 4.7 The study of early maps shows that there has been very little change during the past two centuries, as might be expected in a purely agricultural area (OS 1824, Tithe Award 1844, Calthrop 1871, OS 1891, OS 1905). The layout of the grounds of Caenby Hall remained unaltered up to its sale in 1957 (Spencer 1957).

On the Tithe Award map (1844) the field immediately south of Caenby Hall is named Stonepit close. This may reflect the extraction of building stone for the boundary wall of the hall, or quarrying at an earlier period.

5. EXISTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL INFORMATION

5.1 General

The fertile soils of the Lincolnshire Limestone have encouraged settlement since prehistoric times. The Romans engineered what remains the principal south-north highway. In the Anglo-Saxon period villages grew up which still broadly comprise the rural settlement pattern, albeit without their former self-sufficiency. The region continues to be characterised by arable farming, though on a larger scale with bigger fields cultivated by major landholders.

For present purposes the study area is within a one-mile radius of Caenby Hall. Evidence on the SMR is largely from cropmarks recorded during systematic aerial reconnaissance, much of it under the National Mapping Programme conducted by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, and from casual finds.

5.2 Prehistoric (before AD 43) and undated

- a) 130m north of Caenby Hall, a barbed & tanged flint arrowhead of the Early Bronze Age (c. 2200-1500 BC) was found (SK 9675 8861 ; SMR 51058).
- b) 440m north, an ovoid enclosure or possible ring ditch, undated, was recorded as a cropmark east of Pilkington Farm (SK 9666 8892 ; SMR 51088).
- c) 710m north-east, a polished stone axe of Neolithic date (c. 4000-2200 BC) was found south of Caenby Cliff Farm (SK 9732 8895 approx.; SMR 51015).
- d) 800m north, a ring ditch of a possible round barrow of the Bronze Age (c. 2200-800 BC) was recorded as a cropmark south of Caenby Corner (SK 9683 8929 ; SMR 53962).
- e) 810m east-north-east, an enclosure of late prehistoric date (c. 4000 BC - AD 42) was recorded as a cropmark (SK 9756 8873 ; SMR 53958).
- f) 860m north-north-west, a north-south curvilinear boundary ditch at least 370m long, undated, was recorded as a cropmark west of Caenby Corner (SK 963 892 to SK 9633 896 ; SMR 50344).
- g) 930m north-east, a ring ditch of a possible round barrow of the Bronze Age (c. 2200-800 BC) was recorded as a cropmark south of Caenby Cliff Farm (SK 9751 8908 ; SMR 53961).
- h) 1.0km south-west, a sub-rectangular enclosure aligned north-west to south-east, undated, was recorded as a cropmark east of Glentworth Cliff Farm (SK 9612 8772 ; SMR 51087).
- i) 1.05km north, amorphous linear features, undated, were recorded as cropmarks west of Caenby Corner (SK 9648 8949 ; SMR 51089).
- j) 1.2km north-west, a circular enclosure or ring ditch and two possible linear features, undated, were recorded as cropmarks east of Canberra Crescent (SK 9606 8955 ; SMR 51090).

5.3 Roman (AD 43-410)

- a) Immediately west of Caenby Hall is the major Roman road Ermine Street, originally part of the 1st century military route from London to the North (SK 9674 885; SMR 50574). This 32-mile stretch (Margary 2d) from Lincoln to the Humber is known locally as The Ramper. The *agger* adjacent to the application area is 1.2m high (OS 1991; Margary 1973).
- b) 40m west, unspecified possible Roman artefacts were noted in 1930 west of Ermine Street, though more recent fieldwalking has been negative (SK 9674 8848 ; SMR 51057).
- c) 130m north, an unspecified Roman potsherd was found east of Ermine Street (SK 9675 8861 ; SMR 51059).
- d) Perhaps 220m north, two late Roman rim sherds were found : a dimpled bowl in grey ware, and a bowl in orange fabric with external white-painted decoration (SK 968 887(?) ; SMR 51054). The provenance is vague, the grid reference speculative, and the actual findspot may have been Owmbly Cliff, 2.2km south, where these pottery types are typical.
- e) 790m north, a piece of Roman wall plaster was found immediately south-east of Caenby Corner (SK 9672 8927 ; SMR 51060).
- f) Perhaps 900m north, a Roman bronze coin of Magnentius (AD 350-353) was found with other unspecified coins (SK 967 894(?) ; SMR 51017). The provenance is vague and the grid reference speculative.
- g) Perhaps 900m north, a Roman bronze coin of Constantine I (AD 330-337) was found (SK 967 894(?) ; SMR 51018). The provenance is vague and the grid reference speculative.
- h) 1.2km south, two regular rectangular enclosures aligned east-west, each with a central smaller rectangular enclosure, undated but apparently in association with Ermine Street, were recorded as cropmarks west of Ermine Street (SK 9675 873 ; SMR 51125).
- i) Outside the study area, 2.2km south, is a large Iron Age and Roman settlement to either side of Ermine Street at Owmbly Cliff, scheduled as an ancient monument (SK 970 863). Linked irregular enclosures and a road heading east have been recorded as cropmarks. With Staniwells (10 miles north) it trisects the route between Lincoln and the Humber, prompting theories of an early military base and a later posting station. Fieldwalking and metal detecting have produced Iron Age coins and quantities of Roman artefacts, including much 4th century material, over some 30ha (OS 1991; May 1976, 163, 191; May 1984; Whitwell 1970, 67-8; Whitwell 1982; Everson & Hayes 1984, figs. 9 & 10).

5.4 Saxon (AD 410-1066)

- a) 520m north-north-east, an Anglo-Saxon barrow was excavated in 1849. It was 340ft (104m) in circumference, c. 32m in diameter and c. 8ft (2.4m) high. A skeleton was found with an iron sword and decorated silver shield mounts of the early 7th century (SK 9703 8896 ; SMR 50430 ; Jarvis 1850).

5.5 Medieval (AD 1066-1539)

- a) 190m north, a ring ditch was recorded as a cropmark (SK 9676 8867 ; SMR 51056). A mound at this location visible in 1930, now ploughed out, was interpreted as a medieval windmill mound.
- b) 360m north-west, an east-west double-ditched linear boundary or possible trackway visible for 1km was recorded as a cropmark in association with medieval earthwork and cropmark field boundaries (SK 9552 8859 to SK 9653 8873 ; SMR 50345).
- c) 960m south-east, the site of a possible unlocated medieval grange may be indicated by 'The Grange' place-name at Normanby Cliff on the OS six-inch map (SK 9745 878 ; SMR 53966). This interpretation is speculative.
- d) 1.1km north-north-east, medieval ridge & furrow earthworks have been recorded from the air east-north-east of Caenby Corner (SK 9705 8955 ; SMR 54143).
- e) 1.55km north, the shrunken medieval village of Spital in the Street straddles Ermine Street (SK 9665 9005 ; SMR 50846). The village is first recorded in 1204. The hospital was founded in 1396; the extant stone structure west of Ermine Street is dated 1620. On its north side is the medieval St Edmund's chapel. Former earthwork enclosures have been recorded as soilmarks suggesting properties fronting Ermine Street (Mills 1998; Pevsner & Harris 1964, 375).

5.6 Post-medieval (AD 1539-1900)

- a) Opposite Caenby Hall west of Ermine Street, two parallel linear ditches aligned south-east to north-west and visible for 920m were recorded as cropmarks (SK 967 885 to c. SK 960 890 ; SMR 50579 and 50343). They are interpreted as a post-medieval road.
- b) 900m north, a possible routeway ran west-north-west to east-north-east along the Hemswell - Harpswell parish boundary, close to the A631 and meeting Ermine Street at Caenby Corner (SK 899 908 to SK 967 894 ; SMR 53954).
- c) 1.26km east-south-east, 'Old Stone Pit' is marked on the OS six-inch map (SK 9795 880; SMR 53965).

5.7 Modern military sites (after AD 1900)

During the 20th century this rural area became important in the defence of Britain when the shallow dip slope of the Lincoln Cliff was utilised for Royal Air Force bases in both World Wars and the Cold War. The updraft of westerly winds over the scarp generates high lift which during WWII was vital in aiding laden relatively low-powered bombers to take off. There were Bomber Command airfields 2 miles north-west at Hemswell (SK 938 903), operational 1918-19 and 1937-67, which became an ICBM base in 1958-63; and within 6 miles to the south at Scampton (SK 957 789), 1916-20 and 1936-96; Ingham (SK 958 830), 1942-45; and Dunholme Lodge (SK 993 776), 1943-64, which housed ground -to-air missiles in 1959-64. Five miles south-east, Faldingworth (TF 030 847), 1943-72, was fortified in 1957 for the storage of nuclear weapons (Hancock 1978).

5.8 Recent fieldwork

- a) During the late 1960s and 1970s the Owmbly-Caenby area was the focus of activity by numismatist and collector Henry Mossop who was studying the typology and die-linking of Iron Age coins. His interests extended to other types of artefact and besides acquainting himself with archaeological fieldwalkers and detectorists he also circulated wish-lists to encourage vigilance by local farmworkers. However most of the known findspots are concentrated at the Owmbly Cliff settlement.
- b) In 1980 the environs of Caenby Hall were fieldwalked by the North Lincolnshire Archaeological Unit (SMR). In the field west of the application area nothing was seen to confirm supposed Roman finds of 1930, and the only artefacts retrieved were a single Roman sherd and a barbed & tanged arrowhead north of the area (5.3b, 5.2a, 5.3c above).

5.9 Settlement evidence from SMR data

- a) For the Stone Age the study area shows little material, though flint artefacts are known to the south from Owmbly Cliff.
- b) Four circular cropmarks which could represent Bronze Age barrows and a barbed & tanged arrowhead suggest there may be contemporary settlement in the study area. All are north of the application area, and from their distribution the vicinity of Caenby Corner might be a possibility.
- c) In the Iron Age the centre of influence was the large settlement at Owmbly Cliff, whose inhabitants would have exploited the surrounding area. Evidence for outlying farmsteads may lie in undated enclosures and ditches recorded as cropmarks.
- d) Roman occupation in the study area was probably even more dominated by Owmbly Cliff, which may have lain within the *territorium* of Lincoln. Outlying farmsteads are to be expected but there have been very few isolated Roman finds with reliable provenances.
- e) The Anglo-Saxon barrow (SMR 50430) represents a high-status burial and indicates settlement in the vicinity. In the absence of other Saxon finds its whereabouts remains unknown, though it may have been Caenby village.
- f) The pattern of medieval and post-medieval occupation is shown by the existing villages, most of which are recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The assessment shows that within a one-mile radius there is evidence for prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity. However in the vicinity of the application area there are few sites or findspots. This is despite the fact that it has been subjected to intensive fieldwalking and scrutiny over a period of years.
- 6.2 Within a 400m radius of Caenby Hall there are only five reliable SMR entries. A flint arrowhead 130m north suggests Bronze Age hunting nearby. A single Roman sherd at the same location is not necessarily significant given the proximity of Ermine Street. A windmill 190m north is too far away for ancillary buildings. A post-medieval road, if it crossed the area, has almost certainly been destroyed. None of these has specific implications for the application area.
- 6.3 The application area itself includes the site of Caenby Hall, a modest late Georgian house. Its status as the seat of the Monck family was short-lived, possibly less than fifty years, before it was rented out as a farm. The only remains are an outbuilding and part of a boundary wall, both extensively modified and repaired.
- 6.4 After demolition of the hall the entire curtilage was stripped of superficial deposits and heavily ballasted for use as a heavy excavation plant depot. A further hectare added to the application area has been totally excavated in the course of training machine drivers.
- 6.5 Because of the wholesale destruction of deposits it is extremely unlikely that any features of antiquity, even if present, have survived. For these reasons the potential impact of the proposed development is seen as negligible.

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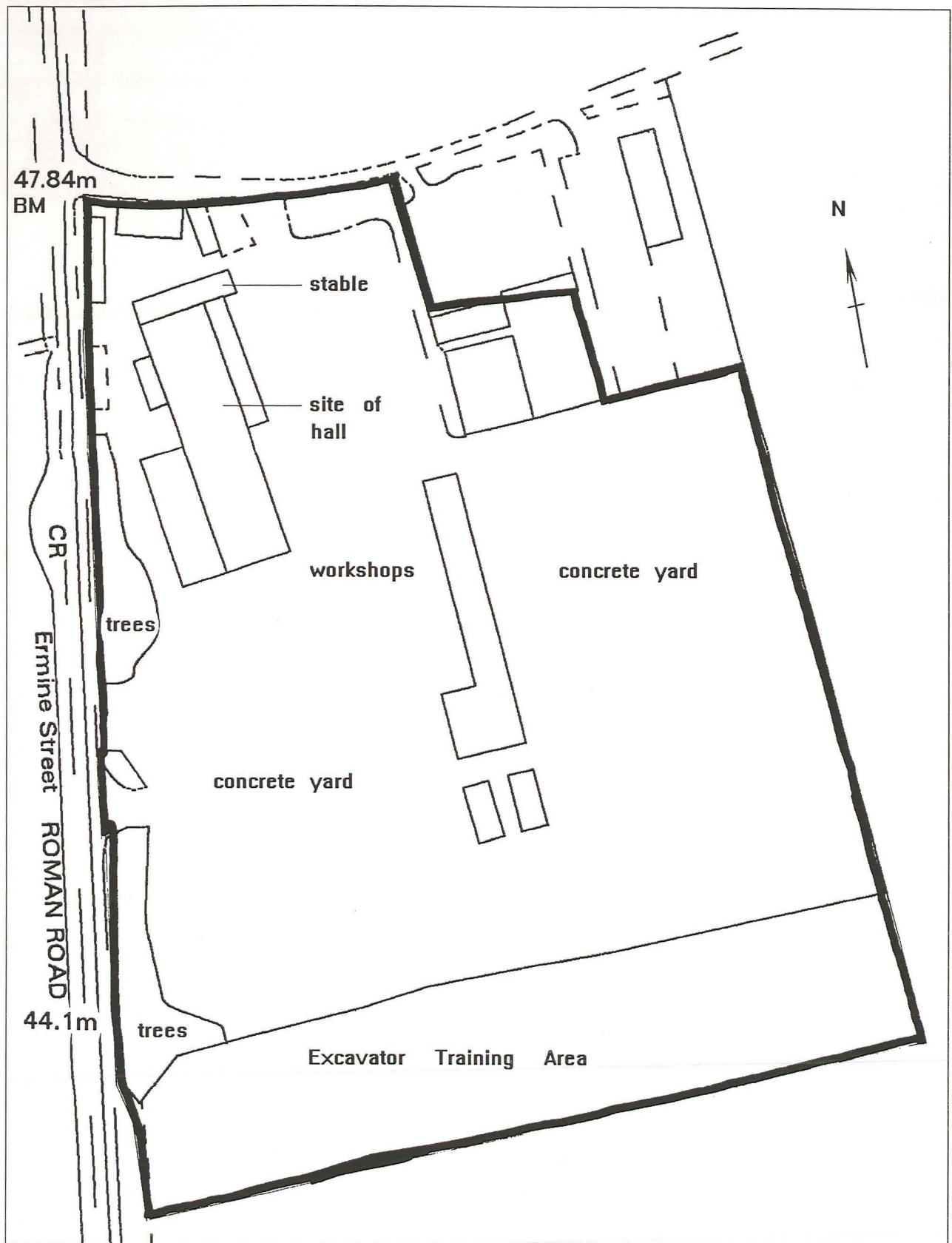


Fig. 1 SITE PLAN (1 : 1,500)
(Based on a plan supplied by courtesy of Ian Baseley Associates)

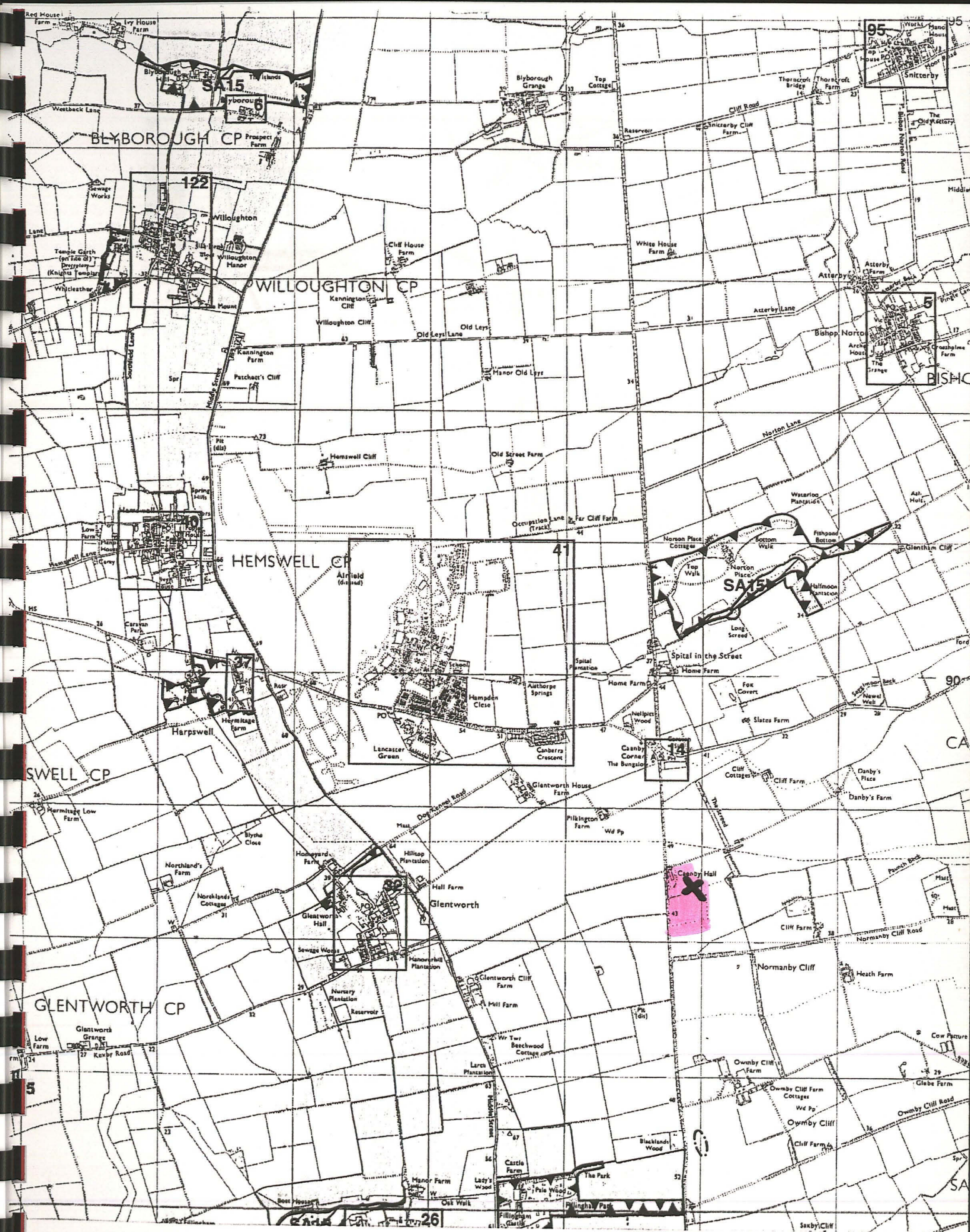


Fig. 2 LOCATION MAP (1 : 35,000)
 (Reduced extract from OS 1 : 25,000 map supplied by courtesy of Ian Baseley Associates)

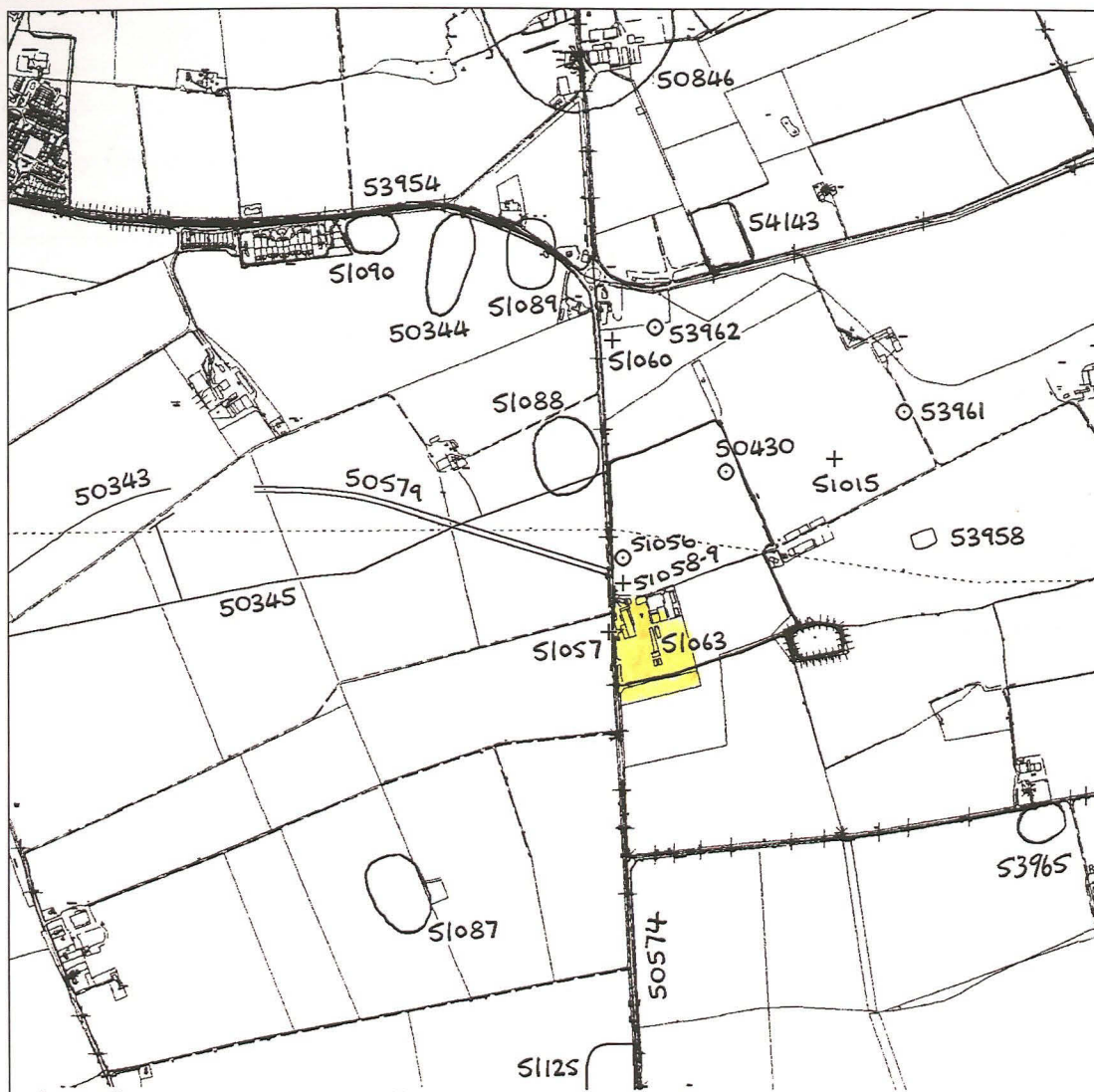


Fig. 3 SMR PLAN (1 : 20,000)

with cropmarks from the National Mapping Programme (by courtesy of Lincolnshire SMR)

*This Indenture made the Nineteenth Day of January in the seventeenth Year of the
Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland
King Defender of the Faith and so forth And in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred
and Seventy seven Between Thomas Walker of Normantby in the County of Lincoln Bachelor and his
Ann his Wife (which said Ann is the only Child and Heir at Law of Thomas Barr late of Normantby
aforesaid Weaver deceased) of the one Part and Laurence Monck of Caenby in the same County
Esquire of the other Part Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of five Shillings ---
of lawful Money of Great Britain to the said Thomas Walker in hand paid by the said Laurence
Monck at the time of the sealing and Delivery of these presents The receipt whereof is hereby ac-
knowledgeed They the said Thomas Walker and Ann his Wife Have and each of them Hath
Bargained and sold (and by these Presents Do and each of them Doth Bargain and sell unto
the said Laurence Monck his Executors Administrators and Assigns All that Messuage or Tenement
with the Yard Croft Orchard and Homestead therunto belonging situate at Normantby aforesaid as
commonly called The Chauntry House and now in the tenure or Occupation of him the said Thomas*

Fig. 4 EXTRACT FROM INDENTURE (x 60%)

Dated 19th January 1777, relating to a property transaction by Lawrence Monck, owner of
Caenby Hall and lord of the manor (in private possession)