

M7/17

**SOUTH WITHAM QUARRY
SOUTH WITHAM
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWALKING
SURVEY**

For

HEATON PLANNING LTD

on behalf of

ENNSTONE JOHNSTON LTD

CA PROJECT: 2449
CA REPORT: 07144

NOVEMBER 2007

COTSWOLD
ARCHAEOLOGY



CONTENTS

SUMMARY	4
1. INTRODUCTION	5
2. RESULTS (FIGS 3-4).....	7
3. DISCUSSION.....	8
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	8
5. REFERENCES	8
APPENDIX A: THE FINDS	9
APPENDIX B: TABLE OF FINDS	10
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	14

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
Fig. 2 Location of fieldwalking survey (1:12,500)
Fig. 3 Fields 1(W), 2 and 3: Finds distribution (1:2500)
Fig. 4 Field 1 (E): Finds distribution (1:2500)

SUMMARY

Project Name: South Witham Quarry
Location: South Witham, Lincolnshire
NGR: SK 9070 1864
Type: Archaeological fieldwalking survey
Date: 23-26 October 2007
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Lincoln Museum
Site Code: SWQ 07

An archaeological fieldwalking survey was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2007 at the request of Heaton Planning Ltd on behalf of Ennstone Johnston Ltd at South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire.

A low level of artefactual material dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval periods was recovered across the survey area. This material exhibited no significant distribution, and represented a 'background noise' of artefacts resulting from prolonged agricultural use of the landscape. An undated cropmark visible on aerial photographs of the site was found to coincide with a depression on the surface of the field, which may be of geological origin.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2007 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological fieldwalking survey for Heaton Planning Ltd on behalf of Ennstone Johnston Ltd at South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire (centred on NGR: SK 9070 1864; Fig. 1). The fieldwalking survey was undertaken as part of a programme of archaeological site investigations carried out in connection with a planning application for mineral extraction on the site.
- 1.2 The fieldwalking survey was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2007b) and approved by Dr Beryl Lott, Principal Archaeologist for Lincolnshire County Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

The site

- 1.3 The site covers approximately 28ha, and is bounded by the disused Midland and Great Northern Railway to the north and Lincolnshire-Rutland county boundary to the south. Fosse Lane runs down the western edge while the east abuts an active quarry (Fig 1). It lies at 125m AOD and is generally level with some gentle undulation in the central area, and is currently under arable cultivation. The site consists of three fields (Fig. 2). In each field the crop was just through, with good visibility of the ground surface.
- 1.4 The solid geology of the site comprises Lower Lincolnshire Limestone of the Jurassic period. This is overlain by Glacial Boulder Clay of the Pleistocene and Recent periods (BGS 1971).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 The archaeological potential of the site has been investigated in an archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) by CA (2007a); this document is briefly summarised in the following paragraphs.

- 1.6 Archaeological works undertaken to the east of the site have located a range of features probably associated with prehistoric settlement activity. This activity may have continued westward into the proposed extraction area. An undated cropmark, visible on aerial photographs, was thought to represent an associated feature within the site. Romano-British evidence, primarily a parallel trackway ditch, has also been identified in this area. This trackway might extend into site, towards the Fosse Lane Roman road located at its western edge.
- 1.7 Medieval and post-medieval activity appears to have been focused to the south-west of the site at the village of Thistleton.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.8 The objective of the fieldwalking survey was to systematically recover archaeological artefacts from the surface of the fields to provide data on the date and distribution of archaeological activity. Together with the results of the geophysical survey, these results will inform an Environmental Statement to accompany the application for mineral extraction.

Methodology

- 1.9 An independent 20m grid was established across each field by means of measured survey technique and each grid was related to the OS national grid. Each field was line walked along a series of transects and a new collection bag was used for each 20m stint within each transect. Each bag was marked with the site code, the relevant field number, the assigned alphabetical letter of the transect, and the assigned number of the stint (Figs 3-4). A 1m corridor either side of each line was observed and all of the artefacts identified within this 2m wide area were collected.
- 1.10 All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995). The archive and artefacts from the fieldwalking survey are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Lincoln Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 3-4)

- 2.1 A brief description of each of the main categories of recovered artefact is given below. A detailed summary of the finds can be found in Appendix A. The distributions of the finds are depicted by Figures 3-4 and are presented in tabular form in Appendix B.

Worked flint

- 2.2 Six fragments of worked flint were recovered, five from Field 1 and one from Field 2. Of note is a Mesolithic bladelet core from Field 1, transect G3. It consists of a single platform core which has been rejuvenated. The remaining pieces of flint consisted of waste flakes, which can be dated broadly to the prehistoric period.

Roman pottery

- 2.3 Roman pottery was recovered from Field 1 (transects G-1, G3, LL9 and OO5). The assemblage comprises single sherds in Nene Valley colour-coated ware, samian ware and local grey and oxidised coarseware fabrics.

Medieval pottery

- 2.4 Probable medieval pottery was recovered from Fields 1, transects J-1, J7, N1, S7, RR9 and TT1 and Field 2, transect B7. The majority of sherds occur in an unglazed coarse oxidised fabric apart from one possible jug sherd in a sandy oxidised fabric, with a green external glaze. Of note is an unglazed strap handle from transect RR9.

Metalworking residue

- 2.5 Metalworking residue in the form of tap slag was recovered from Field 1, transects N6 and Q0. Tap slag is produced using a bloomery style of iron furnace, which was in use from the Roman to post-medieval periods.

Other material

- 2.6 The remainder of the material recovered consisted of post-medieval and modern pottery, glass and ceramic building material. Post-medieval or later pottery types

include glazed earthenwares, black glazed earthenware, Midlands Purple, salt-glazed stonewares, flowerpot-type unglazed earthenwares, hand-painted and transfer-printed china. The ceramic building material consists of flat roof tile, pantile and brick fragments. A heavily worn Victorian penny was recovered from Field 1, transect Q0.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The presence of prehistoric and Roman material may suggest that there was activity in the vicinity of the site in these periods. However, the very small size of the assemblage and its disparate distribution renders further interpretation impossible and suggests there was no focus of settlement in the fields walked. The medieval, post-medieval and modern material was probably distributed across the site by manuring, and is not archaeologically significant. An undated cropmark visible on aerial photographs of the western part of Field 1 (Figs. 2 and 3) was found to coincide with a depression on the surface of the field, which may be of geological origin.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by David Cudlip, assisted by Jonathan Bennett and Robert Elliott. The report was written by David Cudlip. The illustrations were prepared by Jemma Elliott. The archive has been compiled by David Cudlip, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 1971 *Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales)* Sheet 143: Bourne
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007a *South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, CA Report No. 07050
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007b *South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey*

appendix A: The Finds

	F1		F2		F3		Total	
Type	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
Copper Alloy Coin	1	8					1	8
Flint core	1	22					1	22
Medieval pottery	6	52	1	6			7	58
Post-medieval CBM	109	2172	12	270	15	339	136	2781
Post-medieval clay pipe	1	5					1	5
Post-medieval pottery	76	1093	4	133	7	142	87	1368
Roman pottery	4	24					4	24
Slag	2	83					2	83
Worked flint	4	23	1	8			5	31

Table 1: Summary of finds per field

Quantities of pottery, struck flint, ceramic building material, glass, clay tobacco pipe, slag, coal, charcoal, metalwork and burnt stones were recovered from the fieldwalking exercise. All material was abraded, as can be expected from a surface-collected group.

The majority of surface collected material consists of post-medieval and modern pottery, glass and ceramic building material. Post-medieval or later pottery types include glazed earthenwares, black-glazed earthenware, Midlands Purple, salt-glazed stonewares, flowerpot-type unglazed earthenwares, hand-painted and transfer printed china. The ceramic building material consists of flat roof tile, pantile and brick fragments.

Probable medieval pottery was recovered from Fields 1 (J-1, J7, N1, S7, RR9 and TT1) and 2 (B7). The majority of sherds occur in an unglazed coarse oxidised fabric apart from one possible jug sherd in a sandy oxidised fabric, with a green external glaze. Of note is an unglazed strap handle from RR9.

Roman pottery was recovered from Field 1 (G-1, G3, LL9 and 005) and consists of sherds in Nene Valley colour-coated ware, samian ware and local grey and oxidised coarseware fabrics.

Metalwork consisted of a heavily worn Victorian penny recovered from Field 1 (Q0) datable to the 1860s.

Metalworking residue in the form of tap slag was recovered from Field 1 (N6 and Q0) only. Tap slag is produced using a bloomery style of iron furnace.

A total of six fragments of worked flint were recovered, five from Field 1 and one from Field 2. Of note is a Mesolithic bladelet core from Field 1 (G3). It consists of a single platform core which has been rejuvenated. The remaining pieces of flint consist of waste flakes.

APPENDIX B: TABLE OF FINDS

Field	Grid Square	Struck flint		Roman Pottery		Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval CBM		Slag		Copper Coin	
		Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
F1	A4							1	9						
F1	A8							1	8						
F1	B0									1	2				
F1	B3							1	10						
F1	C0							1	7						
F1	D5							1	3						
F1	D6														
F1	E0							1	3						
F1	E5									1	11				
F1	E6							1	24						
F1	F0							1	29						
F1	F3							1	10						
F1	F4									1	2				
F1	F5	1	8					1	7						
F1	F7									1	34				
F1	G-1			1	2										
F1	G2									1	18				
F1	G3	1	22	1	5										
F1	G4							1	7						
F1	G7							1	5						
F1	H-1									1	2				
F1	H0														
F1	H2							1	3	1	2				
F1	H3									2	3				
F1	H4									1	4				
F1	H5									1	2				
F1	H6							1	14						
F1	H7							1	3	2	26				
F1	I1							1	23						
F1	I2							1	11						
F1	I6							1	13						
F1	I7	1	3												
F1	J-1					1	2			1	55				
F1	J2							1	10	3	3				
F1	J3							1	4	1	1				
F1	J5							1	19	3	4				
F1	J7					2	11	1	4	1	1				
F1	K4														
F1	L1							1	2	3	124				
F1	L3							1	3	2	38				
F1	L4									1	1				

Field	Grid Square	Struck flint		Roman Pottery		Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval CBM		Slag		Copper Coin	
		Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
F1	L5									1	6				
F1	L6									1	8				
F1	M0							2	132	1	15				
F1	N-1							1	8						
F1	N1					1	5	2	19	1	4				
F1	N2							1	2	3	10				
F1	N6	1	8					1	8			1	22		
F1	O2									1	19				
F1	P0							1	5						
F1	P1									3	39				
F1	P2							1	5	1	19				
F1	P3									1	14				
F1	P5							1	27	2	28	1	61		
F1	P6									1	36				
F1	Q-1							1	10	1	3				
F1	Q0							1	9					1	8
F1	Q3							1	5						
F1	Q4							1	41	2	8				
F1	Q8									1	19				
F1	R-1							1	19						
F1	R1							1	17	2	21				
F1	R2									3	116				
F1	R4									1	23				
F1	R6							1	19	2	47				
F1	S-1							2	29	1	15				
F1	S0							2	40						
F1	S1							1	11	2	3				
F1	S2							1	2						
F1	S3									2	9				
F1	S4							1	4	1	44				
F1	S5									1	24				
F1	S6							1	11						
F1	S7					1	6	2	10						
F1	T-1	1	4												
F1	T0									1	19				
F1	T5														
F1	T7							1	22						
F1	U3									1	82				
F1	U4							1	6						
F1	U8							1	5						
F1	V1							1	17						
F1	V2									1	8				
F1	V5							1	12						
F1	V7									1	26				

Field	Grid Square	Struck flint		Roman Pottery		Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval CBM		Slag		Copper Coin	
		Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
F1	W1							1	30						
F1	X0							1	21						
F1	X1							1	60						
F1	Y3									1	197				
F1	Y6									1	77				
F1	Z4									1	5				
F1	Z5									2	23				
F1	Z7									1	1				
F1	BB3									1	123				
F1	BB6							1	7						
F1	DD0									1	12				
F1	DD-2							1	2	2	57				
F1	DD6									2	12				
F1	EE3									1	32				
F1	EE6							1	7						
F1	FF0									3	26				
F1	FF2									2	27				
F1	GG-2							1	66						
F1	GG7							1	10						
F1	HH-1							1	5						
F1	HH1									1	8				
F1	HH3							1	4						
F1	II-2									3	64				
F1	II3									2	4				
F1	II6							1	11						
F1	JJ1									1	59				
F1	JJ4							1	16						
F1	KK3									1	21				
F1	LL-2									1	27				
F1	LL7							1	3						
F1	LL9			1	15										
F1	MM4									1	49				
F1	NN-2									1	42				
F1	NN5							1	2						
F1	OO0									1	4				
F1	OO2							1	4						
F1	OO5			1	2					1	25				
F1	PP-1									1	58				
F1	PP11									1	56				
F1	QQ1							2	69	5	134				
F1	QQ6									2	5				
F1	RR9					1	28								
F1	SS-1									1	19				
F1	TT1							1	15						

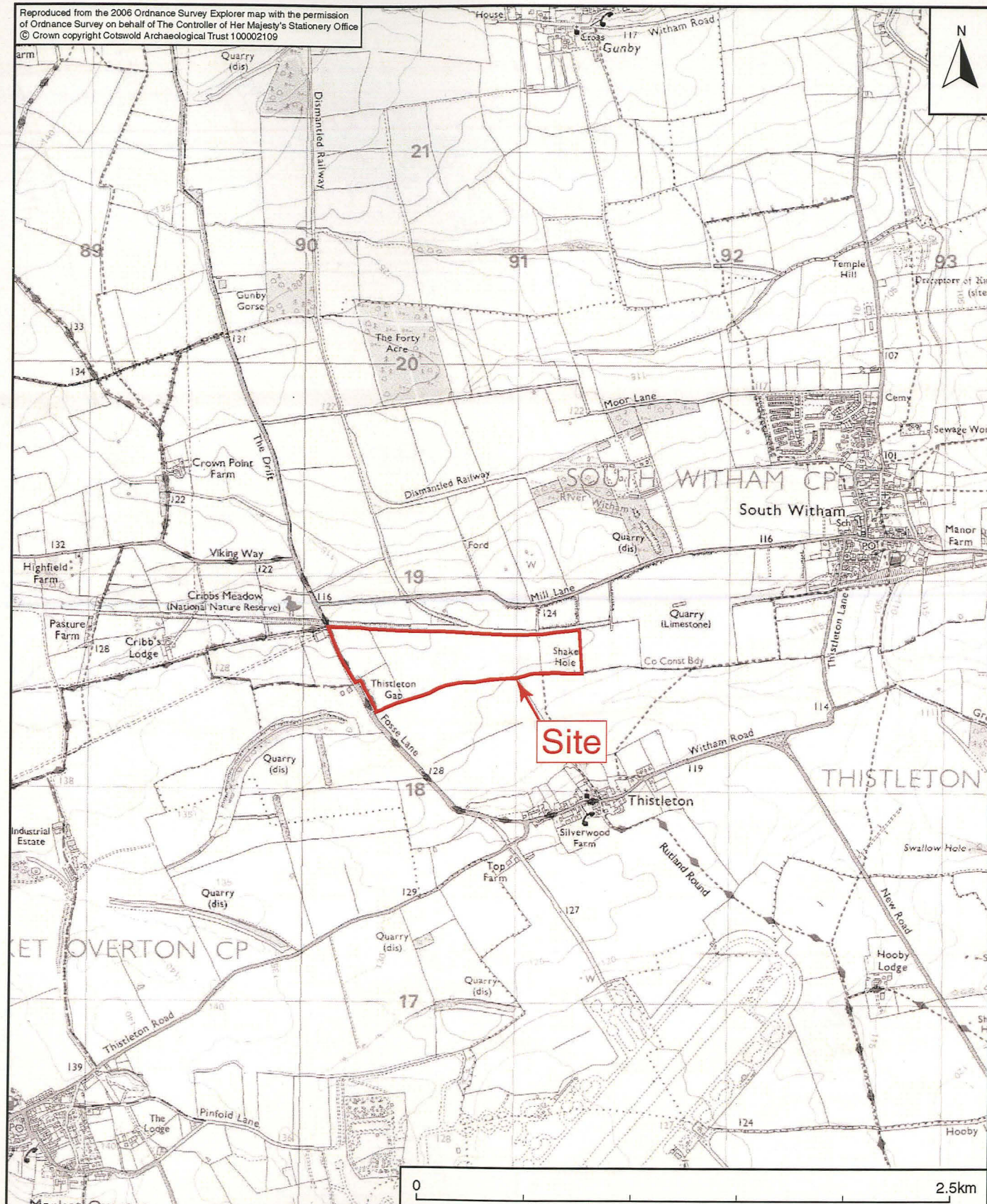
Field	Grid Square	Struck flint		Roman Pottery		Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval Pot		Post-Medieval CBM		Slag		Copper Coin	
		Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
F1	UU-1							1	19						
F1	WW-4									1	7				
F2	A8	1	8												
F2	B1							1	10	1	1				
F2	B4									1	1				
F2	B6							1	49	2	2				
F2	B7					1	6								
F2	D8									1	5				
F2	F2							1	22						
F2	F3									1	28				
F2	F6									2	22				
F2	F9									1	7				
F2	G8									2	194				
F2	H4							1	52						
F2	H7									1	10				
F3	A0							1	47						
F3	A1							1	5	1	26				
F3	B0							1	10						
F3	B1									2	2				
F3	B2									2	70				
F3	B3									1	11				
F3	B4									1	32				
F3	D2									1	7				
F3	D3							1	2						
F3	E2									1	16				
F3	F0									1	69				
F3	F1							1	13	1	11				
F3	F3							1	32	1	20				
F3	F5									1	19				
F3	G5									1	46				
F3	I0									1	10				
F3	I5							1	33						

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological fieldwalking survey was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2007 at the request of Heaton Planning Ltd on behalf of Ennstone Johnston Ltd at South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire.</p> <p>A low level of artefactual material dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval periods was recovered across the survey area. This material exhibited no significant distribution, and represented a 'background noise' of artefacts resulting from prolonged agricultural use of the landscape. An undated cropmark visible on aerial photographs of the site was found to coincide with a depression on the surface of the field, which may be of geological origin.</p>	
Project dates	23-26 October 2007	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Fieldwalking survey following on from DBA (CA 2007) and geophysical survey (PCG 2007).	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	South Witham Quarry programme of archaeological works: NMR 1349905, 1362993, 1362994 and 1429965 (PCG 2000, HAT 2001 and Nicholson 2004) on land immediately to the east of this site.	
Future work	Archaeological evaluation likely: date unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	28ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SK 9070 1864	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	NA	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	David Cudlip	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Lincoln Museum	Fieldwalking finds
Paper	Lincoln Museum	Recording sheets
Digital	Lincoln Museum	Digital survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007a South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, CA Report No. **07050**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007b South Witham Quarry, South Witham, Lincolnshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

South Witham Quarry, South Witham
Lincolnshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY

JE

SCALE

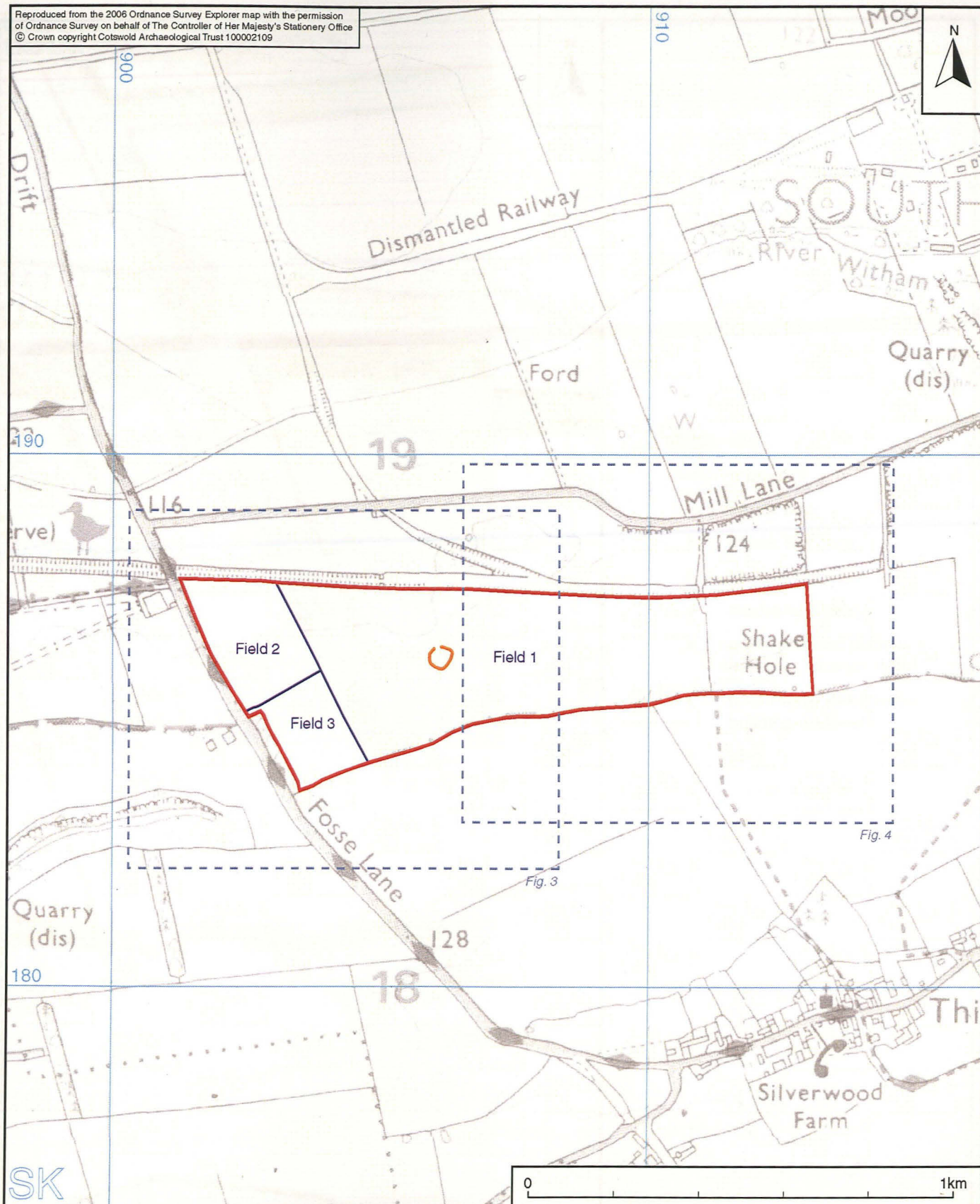
1:25,000@A4

PROJECT NO.

2449

FIGURE NO.

1



- site
- field boundary
- cropmark



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

South Witham Quarry, South Witham
Lincolnshire

FIGURE TITLE

Location of fieldwalking survey

DRAWN BY

JE

SCALE

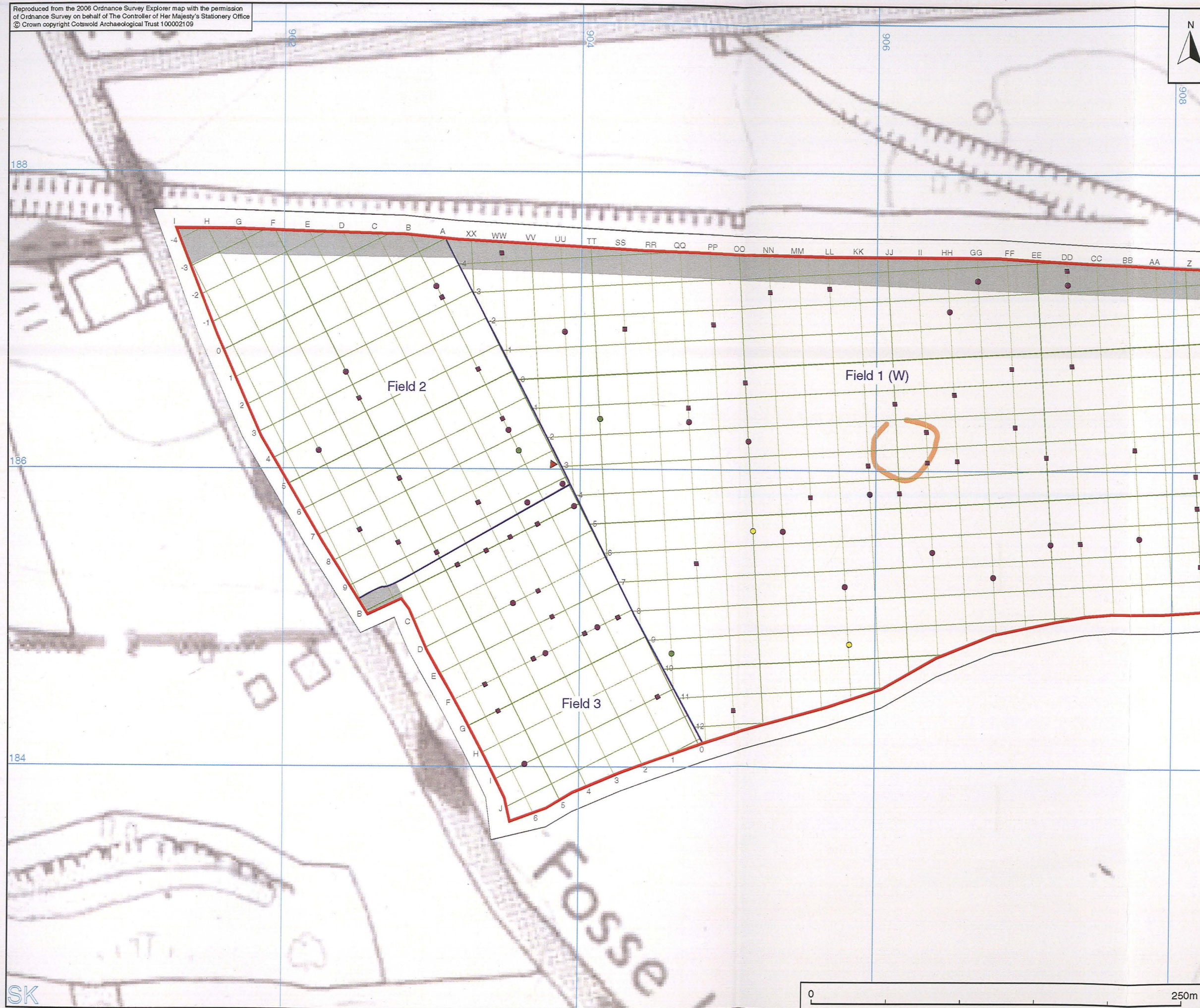
1:12,500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2449

FIGURE NO.

2



- site
- cropmark
- ▼ struck flint
- ◆ struck flint core
- Roman pottery
- medieval pottery
- post-medieval pottery and clay tobacco pipe
- post-medieval ceramic building material
- slag
- ★ copper alloy coin

 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
South Witham Quarry, South Witham
Lincolnshire

FIGURE TITLE
Fields 1(W), 2 and 3: Finds distribution

DRAWN BY JE	SCALE 1:2500@A3	PROJECT NO. 2449	FIGURE NO. 3
----------------	--------------------	---------------------	------------------------



- site
- cropmark
- ▼ struck flint
- ◆ struck flint core
- Roman pottery
- medieval pottery
- post-medieval pottery and clay tobacco pipe
- post-medieval ceramic building material
- slag
- ★ copper alloy coin