

**An Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey
at Brascote Lane North, Cadeby,
Leicestershire.**

NGR: SK 429 027

Tim Higgins



ULAS Report No 2017-092

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**An Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey
at Brascote Lane North, Cadeby,
Leicestershire**


NGR: SK 429 028

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For: Tarmac Trading Ltd

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CONTENTS

Summary	1
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Site Description, Topography and Geology.....	2
3. Historical and Archaeological Background.....	2
4. Aims and Methods	3
5. Results.....	4
6. The Finds	7
7. Conclusions.....	7
8. Archive.....	8
9. Publication	8
10. Bibliography	9
11. Acknowledgements.....	9

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location plan within the UK and county of Leicestershire.....	1
Figure 2 Proposed extraction areas	3
Figure 3 The field surveyed (Proposed extraction areas 2A and 2B) and the direction of field-walking traverses.	4
Figure 4 View of the field looking north-east.....	5
Figure 5 View of the field looking south-east	5
Figure 6 Distribution of Flint. Key: Blue = Flint.....	6
Figure 7 Distribution of post medieval and modern finds	6

An Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey, at Brascote Lane North, Cadeby Quarry, Leicestershire.

Tim Higgins

Summary

An archaeological fieldwalking survey was carried out by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at Brascote Lane North, Cadeby, Leicestershire, on behalf of Tarmac Trading Ltd. The fieldwalking survey revealed a light scatter of flint flakes and cores equally distributed across the field. In addition to this, a moderate density of mostly modern pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) was identified across the entire survey area.

The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museums Services under accession no. XA.48.2017.

1. Introduction

This report presents the results of an archaeological fieldwalking survey carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on the proposed Brascote Lane North extension (Proposed Areas 2A and 2B), north of Brascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire (SK 429 028) (Figures 1 and 2). The work was undertaken as part of an archaeological impact assessment in advance of a proposed extension to Cadeby Quarry.

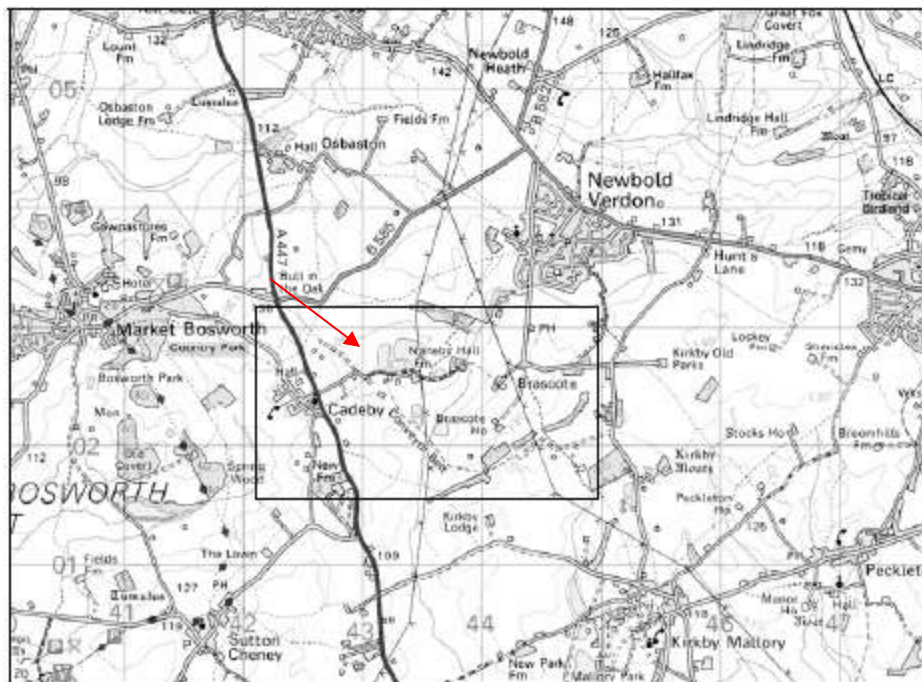


Figure 1: Site location plan within the UK and county of Leicestershire

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2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

Cadeby Quarry lies to the west of Cadeby village and south-west of Newbold Verdon in west Leicestershire. The proposed Brascote Lane North extension comprises two fields located north of Brascote Lane, Cadeby, centred on national grid reference SK 429 028 (Fig. 1) within the parish of Cadeby. Only the easternmost field (proposed phases 2A and 2B) was suitable for fieldwalking.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 155 (Coalville) indicates that the underlying geology consists of glacial sands and gravels underlain by Mercian Mudstone Group. The proposed survey area is relatively flat and lies at a height of c.130m aOD.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

The Desk-based assessment prepared by ULAS for the proposed extensions to Cadeby Quarry summarised the results as follows:

The Leicestershire Sites and Monuments Record records numerous archaeological sites in the vicinity of the quarry area, although no sites are known within the two new application areas. The surrounding area contains evidence for Iron Age occupation and land division in the form of rectangular enclosures and numerous pit alignments. Earlier prehistoric finds have also been made within the area. Few recorded Roman sites lie in close vicinity to the site although occupation sites and villas are known slightly further afield. There is no recorded evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity close to the two extraction areas, although it is likely that the surrounding villages all have some element of Saxon origins. Medieval settlements existed at Cadeby, Newbold Verdon, Brascote and Naneby, with the proposed extraction areas lying within the surrounding agricultural lands of these settlements. Evidence for both proposed extraction areas suggests that the land would have been utilised as agricultural land since at least the medieval period. The land is likely to have remained relatively undisturbed since the medieval period, save for disturbance from plough activity, and thus any archaeological deposits that may exist within the area would lie close to the present ground surface beneath the existing topsoil. There is a high potential for archaeological remains of an Iron Age date to exist within the proposed extraction areas. There is a moderate potential for remains of a Bronze Age date to exist and lower potential for archaeological remains of other periods. It should be noted that no previous systematic survey of either proposed extraction area has been carried out and that significant archaeological remains of all periods may conceivably be present. It is likely that initial archaeological evaluation of the site would be necessary prior to a decision being made on planning. (Meek 2004)

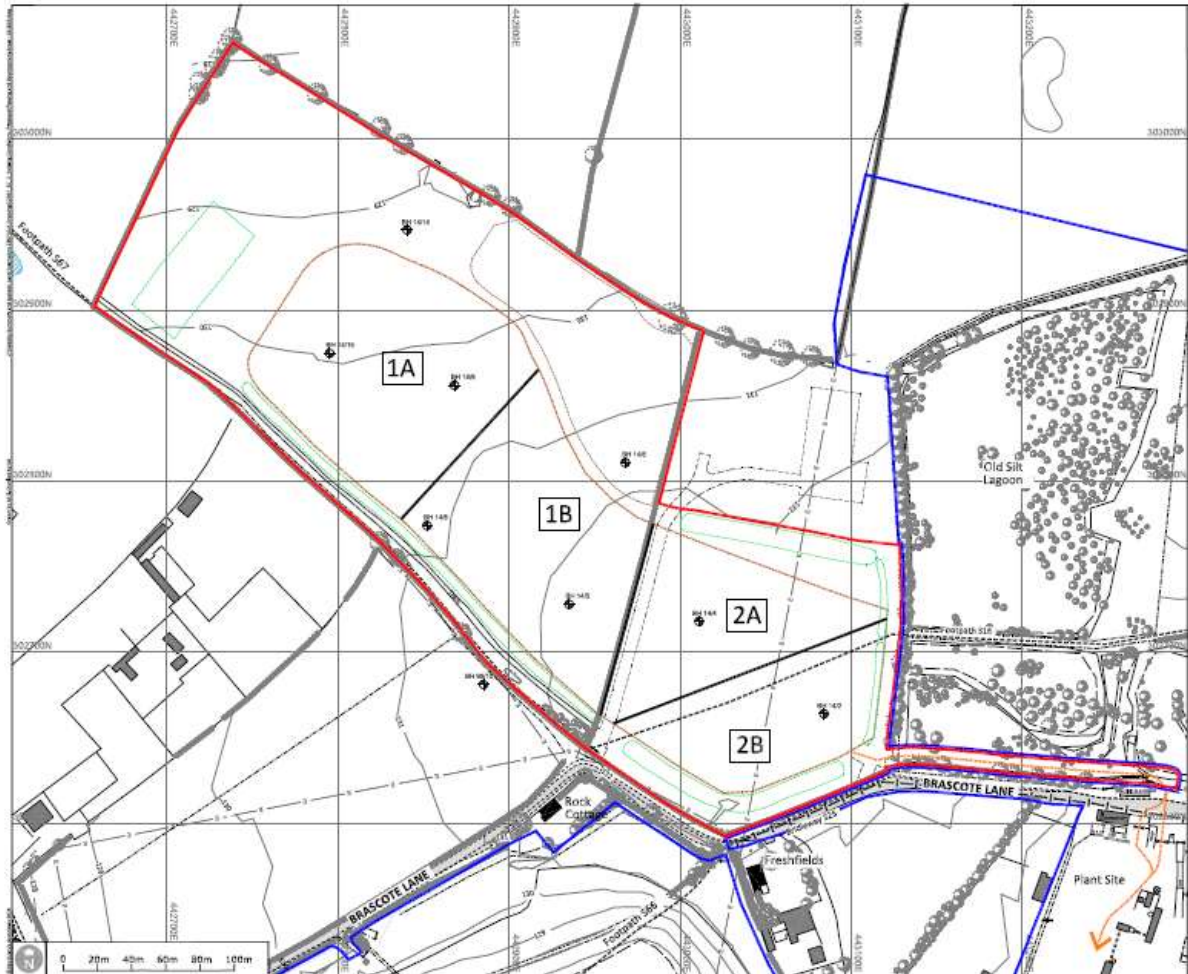


Figure 2 Proposed extraction areas

4. Aims and Methods

The overall aim of the fieldwalking survey was to gather information to establish the extent, condition, character and date (as far as circumstances permit) of any archaeological features and deposits within the area. All artefacts pre-dating the post-medieval period (c.1500-1750) were collected and bagged. Post-medieval and modern material was recorded on site and then discarded.

The survey was undertaken along 10m transects that had been set up within 100m Ordnance Survey grids (Fig. 3). The location of the finds was plotted using hand-held GPS loggers (Garmin Legend Hcx, satellite accuracy c.3-5m). Assuming a field of vision of 2 metres, a 20% sample of the field's surface was examined.

The visibility during the survey was good, with diffused lighting and the crop only partially obscuring the surface, providing c.90% ground visibility (Figs. 4-5). All archaeological work adhered to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's (CIfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (CIfA 2014).

5. Results

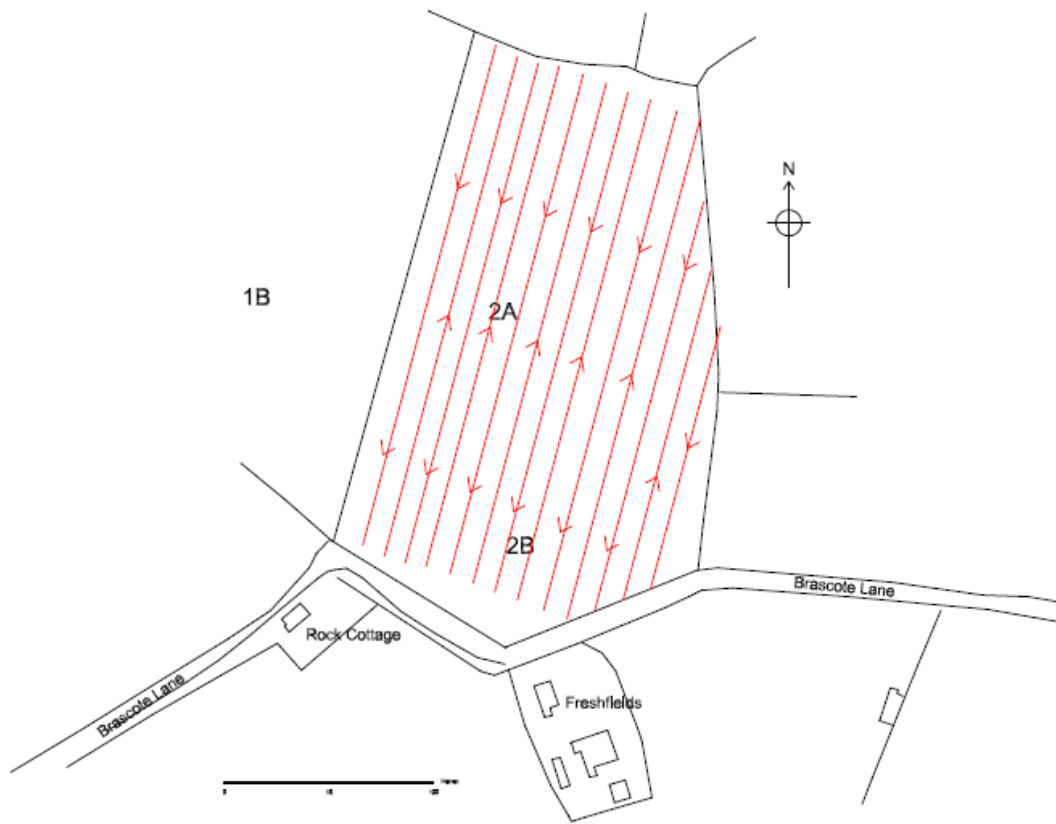


Figure 3 The field surveyed (Proposed extraction areas 2A and 2B) and the direction of field-walking traverses.



Figure 4 View of the field looking north-east



Figure 5 View of the field looking south-east

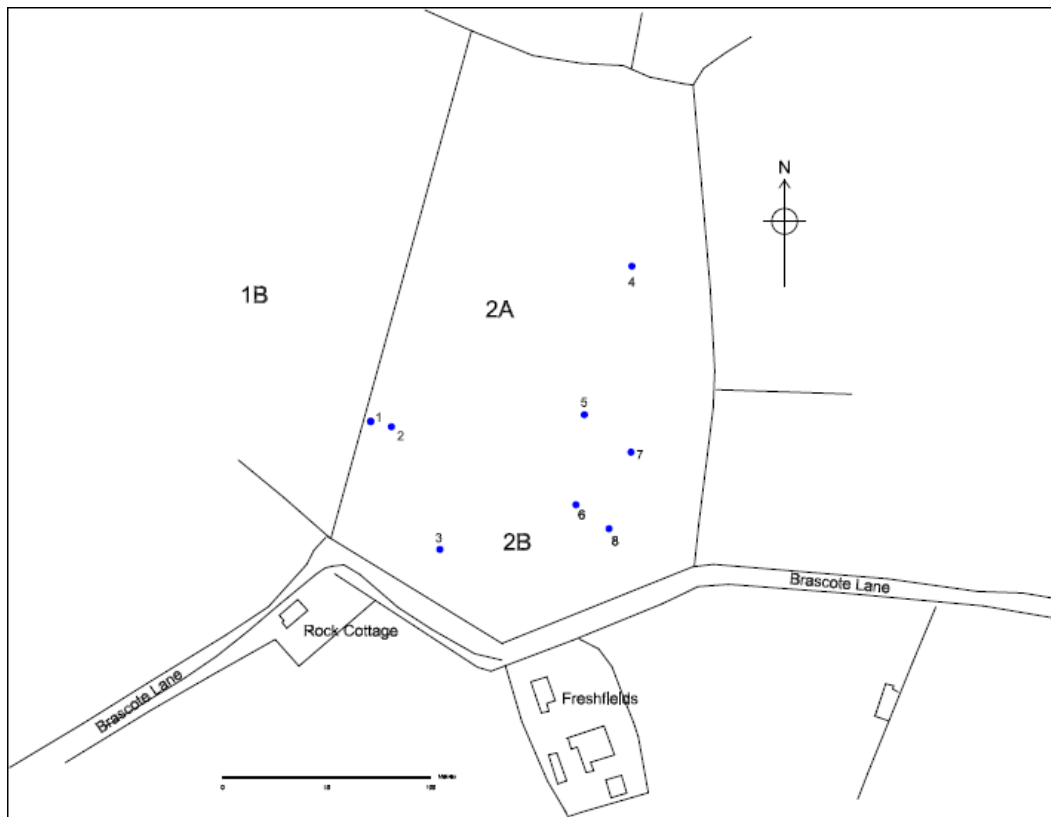


Figure 6 Distribution of Flint. Key: Blue = Flint

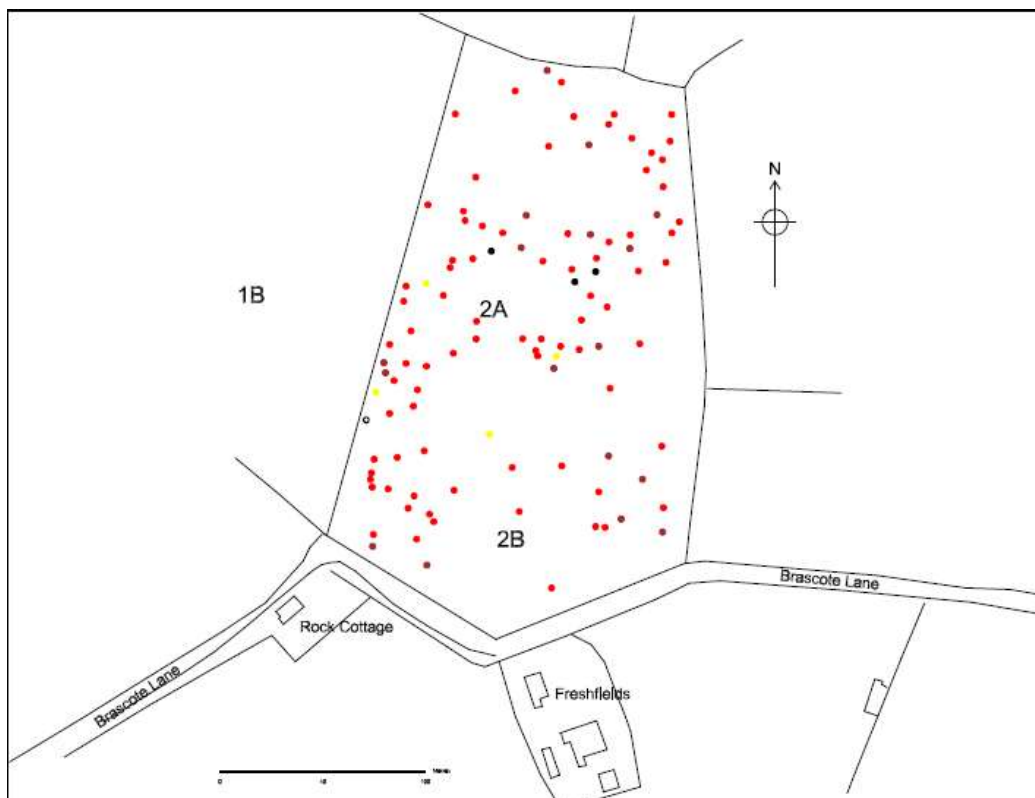


Figure 7 Distribution of post medieval and modern finds
Key: Red = ceramic building material (CBM); Brown = Pottery; Yellow = Clay Pipe;
Black = Metal

6. The Finds

The Lithics

Lynden Cooper

A small collection of eight flints was recovered during this fieldwalking survey. It consisted of seven pieces of worked flint and one natural flake that was discarded after it was examined. The grey-brown flint raw material was all local till-derived semi-translucent flint with thin cortex skin.

The field produced three cores, three secondary flakes and one possible obliquely truncated blade.

Overall a small collection of worked flints utilising raw material of local till origin. There was no diagnostic piece. A later prehistoric (Late Neolithic-Bronze Age) date is likely.

Table 1 – The Lithics

Find code	Description	Field Location	Identification
1	Flint	Field 2A 2B	Core
2	Flint	Field 2A 2B	Obliquely truncated ?blade
3	Flint	Field 2A 2B	core
4	Flint	Field 2A 2B	2ry flake
5	Flint	Field 2A 2B	Natural - discarded
6	Flint	Field 2A 2B	core
7	Flint	Field 2A 2B	2ry flake
8	Flint	Field 2A 2B	2ry flake

The post-medieval and modern finds

The remaining finds found during the survey comprised of post-medieval or modern ceramic building material and unclassified Earthenware. Other finds included clay pipe and modern iron fragments. All these items were examined on site and their position recorded and were then discarded

Most of these finds are probably associated with the manuring of the fields with ‘night-soil’ from the nearby villages of Cadeby, Newbold Verdon and Brascote from the post-medieval period onwards.

7. Conclusions

The fieldwalking survey has revealed a very light scatter of Late Neolithic to Bronze Age worked flint across the field. The local geology partly consists of Oadby Till that contains flint, which perhaps provides a local source material that could be casually tested.

In addition to this a low level of post-medieval and modern pottery and medium level of modern ceramic building material (CBM) was identified across the entire survey area. This suggests agricultural activity and manuring throughout these periods

8. Archive

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services, under accession number XA.48.2013.

The archive contains:

- Survey notes and plans
- Digital photos on CD
- 1 box of finds

9. Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work to the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York (Appendix 1). A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal, the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, in due course

The report is listed on the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York... Available at: <http://oasis.ac.uk/>

ID	OASIS entry summary
Project Name	Brascote Lane North, Cadeby Quarry
Summary	An archaeological fieldwalking survey was carried out by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land to the east of Brascote Lane, Cadeby Quarry, Leicestershire, on behalf of Tarmac Trading. Ltd. The fieldwalking survey, revealing a low scatter flint flakes and cores in the survey field. In addition to this post-medieval to modern pottery and CBM was identified across the entire survey area.
Project Type	Fieldwalking
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Timothy Higgins
Previous/Future work	Unknown
Current Land Use	Agricultural farmland
Development Type	Quarry
Reason for Investigation	NPPF
Position in the Planning Process	Pre-application
Site Co ordinates	SK 429 027
Start/end dates of field work	08/05/2017 – 09/05/2017
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services

Study Area	ha
Associated project reference codes	Museum accession ID: XA.48.2017 OASIS form ID:

10. Bibliography

CIfA, 2014 *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Meek, J., 2004 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for the Proposed Cadeby Quarry Extension, Leicestershire (centre SK 434 025)*, ULAS Report No. 2004-204

11. Acknowledgements

Fieldwork was carried out by Timothy Higgins and Adam Clapton. The flint was analysed by Lynden Cooper. Patrick Clay managed the project.

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16/06/2017



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