

**A Fieldwalking Survey at Yennards Farm
for the extension to Huncote Quarry,
Huncote, Leicestershire
(SP 503 982)**

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For

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Acresford Sand and Gravel Ltd**

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Fig 1 Location of Site. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100021187

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A Fieldwalking Survey at Yennards Farm for the extension of Huncote Quarry, Huncote, Leicestershire (SP 503 982)

Summary

A fieldwalking survey was carried out by ULAS in April 2004 over land north of Yennards Farm, Huncote, Leicestershire (SP 503 902), for Acresford Sand and Gravel Ltd and SLR Consulting. Material of prehistoric to modern date was recovered. Of note was a concentration of Early Medieval pottery, and the presence of several pieces of Romano-British roofing tile. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services under accession number X.A156.2004.

Introduction

This document reports on a geophysical and fieldwalking survey of an extension to Huncote Quarry, Huncote, Leicestershire. This is a variation of conditions 8 and 19 of the present planning consent (No: 99/0359/1) and comprises an extension to the north west of the existing quarry in the Yennards Farm area (Figs 1-2; NGR SP 503 982). It follows the requirements of the Senior Planning Archaeologist of Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services as archaeological advisor to the planning authority.

The proposed development site is located 1.5km northwest of the village of Huncote, and approximately 7 miles southwest of Leicester (Figs 1 & 2). It consists of an area of *c.* 19 hectares. The proposed extension is in Thurlaston parish and Blaby district. The Sites and Monuments Record for Leicestershire indicates that the proposed site may contain archaeological remains.

Staged archaeological work has been undertaken by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) for previous applications (Planning Application No: 99/0359/1). This has included desk-based assessments (Sturgess 1997; Browning 1999), fieldwalking (Browning 1997; Coward 2003), metal detector survey (Browning 1997; Coward 2003), geophysical survey (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford 1997; Coward 2003, Stratascan 2004), evaluation (Beamish 1998) and excavation (Shore 2001). The excavation revealed an Iron Age settlement at NGR SP 5160 9850 after an Iron Age chariot lynchpin was found through metal detecting to the north.

Site Description, Topography and Geology (fig 1)

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 155, indicates that in most of the area the underlying geology is likely to consist of boulder clay with under and over lying sand and gravel. Some Red marl with beds of sandstone may be present towards the western and central parts of the application area. The fieldwalked area lies at a height of *c.* 75m O.D. in the north east adjacent to the M69, rising to *c.* 82m O.D. around the farm itself. The fieldwalking covered only the arable fields to the north of the farm buildings, those to the south being under pasture.

Objectives

The primary objective of the evaluation was to collect and interpret data to establish, supplement, improve and make available information about the archaeological resource existing within the application area to a level at which the Senior Planning Archaeologist of Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services, as advisor to the planning authority, can make necessary/appropriate planning recommendations as to the future treatment of archaeological deposits in relation to the development proposals.

Methodology

All archaeological work adhered to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* and the *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records now Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services).

Fieldwalking was carried out in 20m traverses, the position of each find in the traverse being plotted by Electronic Distance Measurer. All material was recovered with the exception of obvious 19th - 20th century date. Finds were given an individual identification number, bagged and removed from the field surface. All finds were washed, marked and identified by an appropriate specialist. The location of the finds were plotted using n4ce survey software and TurboCad software.

Conditions were favourable for the survey. The crop was only recently through, and the light conditions were good. The survey was carried out in April 2004.

Results

A full catalogue of the material recovered is included in the appendices.

Lithic material (fig 2)

A general scatter of worked flint was recovered, with a higher density in the central and western fields than in the east field. The material was generally undiagnostic, probably of a late Bronze age date.

Romano-British material (fig 3)

Pottery of this date (all Grey ware) was generally sparse, but of note is the ceramic building material. Examples of roofing tile (tegula and imbrex, marked T and I on fig 3) were recovered.

Early Medieval material (fig 4)

All material of this date was pottery sherds of Potters Marston ware, with a concentration in the north west of the area

Medieval and Early Post-Medieval material (fig 5)

Pottery from these periods formed a generalised scatter across the area, with no obvious concentrations. Sherds of the Medieval period occurred in Chilvers Coton ware 1, and Medieval Sandy ware. The later Medieval and Early Post Medieval pottery occurred in a variety of wares.

Post Medieval and Modern material (not illustrated)

A large general scatter of ceramic material from this period was recovered, mostly earthenware pottery. In addition to the material recovered, other material recognised by the fieldwalking team as being of clear recent date (*i.e.* nineteenth and twentieth century) was left on the surface.

Discussion

The distribution of lithics shows some areas where the concentration of finds appears to exceed the normal 'background noise'. These areas mostly respect the higher ground adjacent to the farm and road.

The presence of Romano-British ceramic building material may be of significance. Other Romano-British building material has been previously found in the area, and the presence of tegula and imbrex indicate possible habitation in the near vicinity. It may be significant that all the tegula and imbrex, bar one fragment, was recovered adjacent to the M69 motorway on land which may have been disturbed during its construction.

The Early Medieval pottery is concentrated in that part of the area nearest to the village of Thurlaston, and probably represents a manuring scatter. The Medieval and later period pottery is more widespread across the survey area, but is also likely to represent manuring scatter.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwalking survey was undertaken by Jon Coward and Leon Hunt, with the assistance of Penglin Xu. Project management was by Dr Patrick Clay.

Archive

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services, under accession codes X.A156.2004. It consists of one box of finds, one *pro-forma* fieldwalking survey sheet, and one *pro-forma* EDM survey sheet.

Bibliography

Browning, J. 1999 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for the Renewal of Planning Permission and Extension to Huncote Quarry, Leicestershire (SP 503 972 to SP 517 989)* ULAS report 99/128

Browning, J., and Clay, P. 2003 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for an extension to Huncote Quarry, Yennards Farm area, Huncote, Leicestershire (SP 503 982)* ULAS report 2003 - 169

Coward, J. 2003 *A Fieldwalking, Metal Detector, and Geophysical survey at Huncote Quarry Extension, Huncote, Leicestershire (SP 503972 to 517989)* ULAS report 2003 - 057

Shore, M. 2001 *An Archaeological Watching Brief, Metal Detecting Survey and Excavation of an Iron Age Enclosure at Forest Road, Huncote, Leicestershire* ULAS report 2001-115

Stratascan 2004 *Geophysical Survey Report Yennards Farm, Huncote, Leicestershire* Stratascan job no. J1857

Appendix I

The Lithics

Lynden Cooper

Small find number	Description
2	flake
6	flake, poss retouch
9	flake
16	flake
22	flake
34	flake
47	flake
48	flake
49	flake
51	flake
54	flake
57	flake
63	core
67	flake
69	flake
74	flake
76	Core – struck frag
103	core
116	flake
124	flake
129	flake
141	Tool – concave scraper
188	flake
189	Core – struck frag
190	flake
192	Tool - piercer
196	flake
199	flake
203	Core – struck frag
206	Tool - piercer
211	Core – struck frag
212	flake
213	core
214	Tool - piercer
218	shatter
220	core
221	flake
222	Tool - scraper
223	flake
225	core
244	flake
245	core
246	flake
248	Core – struck frag
252	flake
253	flake
256	flake
261	flake
262a	flake
262b	flake
271	core

APPENDIX II

The pottery and miscellaneous finds

D. Sawday

The pottery, one hundred and eighty seven sherds, weighing 1.992 kg, was examined under a binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (table 1), (Davies and Sawday 1999). Thirty one fragments of coarse building material, weighing 2.448 kg, were also recovered.

Six of the pottery sherds, weighing eighty nine grams, are thought to be Roman, as are seventeen of the fragments of building material. Amongst the later pottery, ninety five sherds date from the early medieval to the early post medieval period, the majority, in Potter Marston ware, dating generally from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Most of the remaining material in this group dates from the later fourteenth to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, if not slightly later.

In terms of fabrics and forms, the post Roman pottery is typical of that found in the region.

Bibliography

Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 1999. 'The Post Roman Pottery and Tile' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5**, 165-213.

Fabric/Ware	Sherd Nos.	Weight Grams	Av. Sherd Weight
Roman			
?GW - Grey ware	6	89	
Sub Total	6	89	14.8
Early Medieval			
PM - Potters Marston	59	263	
Sub Total	59	263	4.4
Medieval			
CC1 – Chilvers Coton ware 1	4	19	
MS – Medieval Sandy ware	5	52	
Sub Total	9	71	7.8
Late Med/Early Post Medieval			
MS3 – Medieval Sandy ware 3	1	20	
MP2 – Midland Purple ware 2	4	167	
CW1 - Cistercian ware 1	1	18	
CW2/MB - Cistercian ware 2/Midland Blackware	11	109	
MY – Midland Yellow ware	3	48	
EA1 – Earthenware 1	7	129	
Sub Total	27	491	18.1
Post Medieval/Modern			
EA2 – Earthenware 2	69	925	
EA3, EA4, EA5- Earthenwares 3- 5	14	116	
EA7 – Earthenware 7	3	37	
Sub Total	86	1078	12.5
Totals	187	1992	

Table 1: The Roman and later pottery totals by fabric sherd numbers and weight (grams)

+ All the finds are pottery, unless stated otherwise. **CBM**= ceramic building material.

*DATE: - **RB** – Roman, **EMED** – Early Medieval, **MED** – Medieval, **LM** – Later Medieval, **EPM** – Early Post Medieval, **PM/MOD** – Post Medieval/Modern, **MOD** - Modern

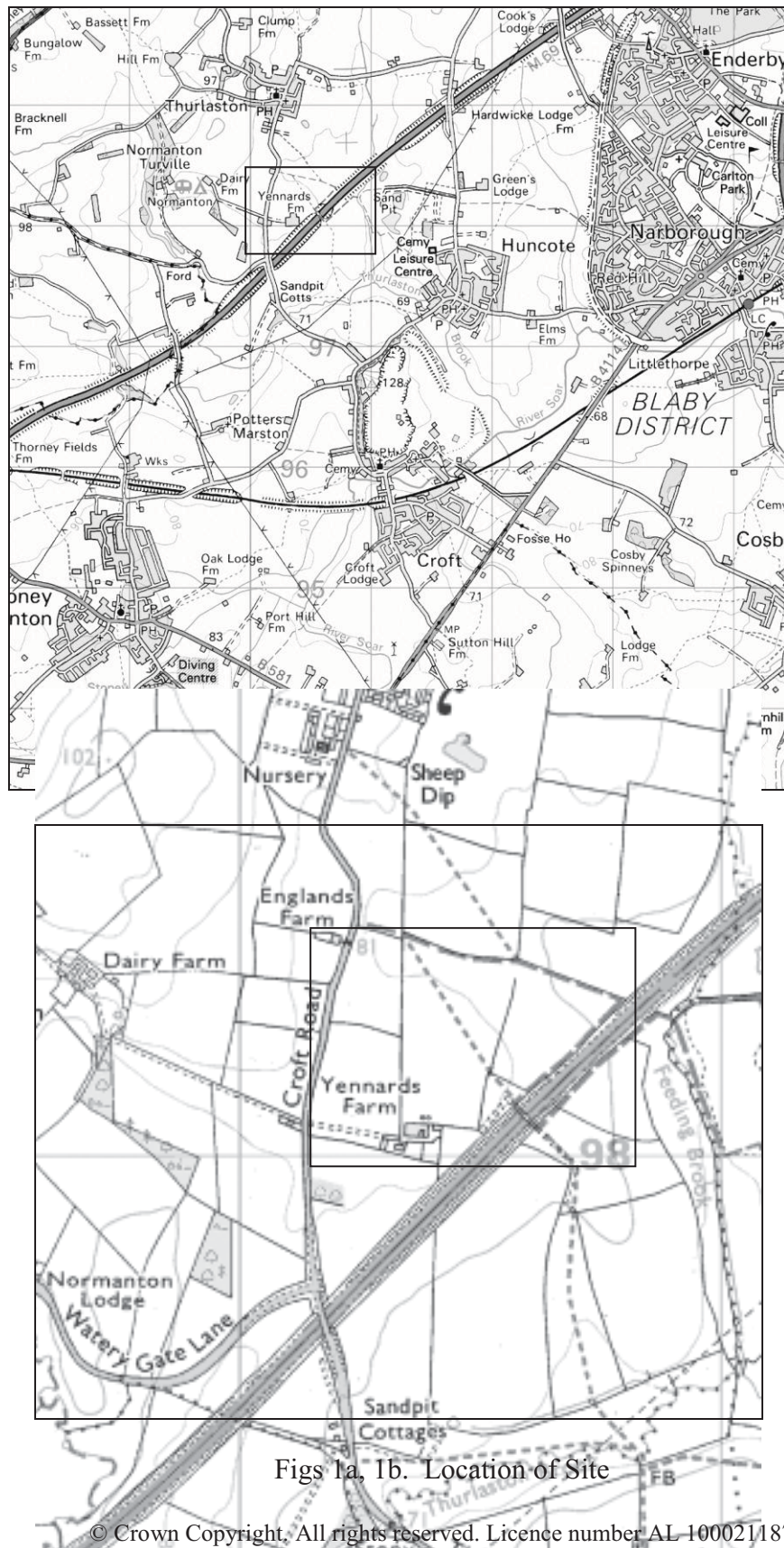
Small find no.	Fabric/ware +	frag nos.	weight grams	Date*	comments
1	EA2 – Earthenware 2	1	10	PM/MOD	
4	PM – Potters Marston	1	8	MED	abraded
6	flint	1			
7	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
8	PM	1	8	EMED	
10	EA6 - Earthenware 6	1	5	PM/MOD	Small cup base
11	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
12	PM	1	5	EMED	abraded
14	Glass	1		MOD	
15	EA7 – Earthenware 7	2	15	?PM	Yellow gl, ?wt
17	PM	1	4	EMED	
18	PM	1	7	EMED	
19	PM	1	3	EMED	Small cp rim, abraded
20	EA2	1	35	PM/MOD	
21	PM	1	5	EMED	
23	PM	1	8	EMED	
24	CW2/MB – Cistercian/Midland Blackware	1	10	LM/EPM	
25	PM	1	3	EMED	
26	EA2	1	13	PM/MOD	
27	PM	1	17	EMED	
28	EA2	1	3	PM/MOD	
29	PM	1	6	EMED	
30	PM	1	3	EMED	
31	PM	1	2	EMED	
32	EA5 – Earthenware 5	1	32	PM/MOD	
33	EA5	1	10	PM/MOD	
35	PM	1	2	EMED	
36	CBM	1	5	RB	
37	PM	1	5	EMED	
38	EA2	1	4	PM/MOD	
39	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
40	PM	1	1	EMED	
41	PM	1	5	EMED	
42	PM	1	1	EMED	
43	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
44	EA2	1	17	PM/MOD	
45	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	

46	EA1 – Earthenware 1	2	68	EPM	Oxidised, join
50	CC1 – Chilvers Coton ware 1	1	4	MED	
52	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
53	EA6	1	1	PM/MOD	Cup/bowl rim
56	PM	1	4	EMED	
58	PM	1	3	EMED	
59	EA2	1	15	PM/MOD	
60	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
61	CW2/MB	1	10	LM/EPM	
64	China clay	1		PM/MOD	Clay pipe stem
65	EA2	1	3	PM/MOD	
66	CW2/MB	1	7	LM/EPM	
68	EA2	1	45	PM/MOD	
70	EA2	1	45	PM/MOD	
71	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
72	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
73	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
75	CW2	1	5	LM	
77	CW2/MB	1	10	LM/EPM	handle
78	CBM	1	9	?PM/MOD	
79	CBM	1	15	RB	
80	EA1	1	13	EPM	
81	CBM	1	28	RB	tile
82	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
83	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
84	CC1	1	4	MED	
85	CW2/MB	1	4	LM/EPM	
87	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
88	EA2	1	32	PM/MOD	Pantheon rim
89	PM	1	5	EMED	
90	MS – Medieval Sandy ware	1	8	MED	Cp rim
91	EA2	1	25	PM/MOD	
92	EA3	1	6	PM/MOD	
93	CBM	1	225	MOD	? drain
94	PM	1	7	EMED	
100	EA2	1	30	PM/MOD	
101	EA3 – Earthenware 3	1	1	PM/MOD	
102	CBM	1	13	?PM/MOD	
104	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
105	EA1	1	22	EPM	
106	?GW – Greyware	1	11	RB	
107	PM	1	5	EMED	
108	PM	1	7	EMED	
109	MP2 – Midland Purple ware	1	40	LM	
110	?GW	1	8	RB	

111	EA2	1	6	PM/MOD	
112	EA2	1	8	PM/MOD	
113	?GW	1	25	RB	
114	Stone				discarded
115	Glass	1		?MOD	
117	CBM	1	4	?PM/MOD	
118	EA6	1	2	PM/MOD	
119	EA2	1	1	PM/MOD	
120	Slag	1	28		
121	EA2	1	43	PM/MOD	?18 th C.
122	CW2/MB	1	13	LM/EPM	
123	EA2	1	1	PM/MOD	
125	CBM	1	37	RB	tile
126	EA2	1	6	PM/MOD	
127	EA2	1	4	PM/MOD	
128	EA2	1	11	PM/MOD	
130	CW2/MB	1	23	LM/EPM	
131	?GW	1	2	RB	
132	EA3	1	4	PM/MOD	
133	?GW	1	38	RB	
134	CBM	1	10	RB	
139	EA1	1	3	EPM	Jar rim
140	discarded				
142	EA2	1	17	PM/MOD	
143	EA1	1	15	EPM	Jar
144	PM	1	5	EMED	abraded
145	CBM	1	140	?PM/MOD	
146	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
147	CBM	1	83	RB	imbrex
148	EA7	1	22	?PM	Wt bowl
150	CBM	1	158	MOD	
151	CBM	1	10	?PM/MOD	
152	CBM	1	20	?PM/MOD	
153	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
154	EA4 – Earthenware 4	1	13	PM/MOD	
155	CW1 – Cistercian ware 1	1	18	LM	
156	CBM	1	100	RB	
157	CBM	1	136	RB	tegula
158	MS	1	27	MED	
159	EA2	1	11	PM/MOD	
160a	CBM	1	27	?PM/MOD	
160b	CBM	1	18	MOD	
161	CBM	1	870	MOD	drain pipe
162	PM	1	6	EMED	
164	EA2	1	52	PM/MOD	
166	CBM	1	126	RB	imbrex

167	CBM	1	95	RB	imbrex
168	CBM	1	145	RB	
180	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
181	?GW	1	5	RB	
182	EA2	1	42	PM/MOD	
183	EA1	1	8	EPM	
184	EA2	1	37	PM/MOD	
185	EA6	1	2	PM/MOD	Coarse fabric
186	MS	1	6	MED	
187	MP2	1	62	LM	Under fired
193	EA2	1	4	PM/MOD	
194	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
195	CBM	1	30	RB	imbrex
197	CW2/MB	1	16	LM/EPM	base
198	PM	1	5	EMED	
199	PM	1	7	MEED	
200a	PM	1	6	EMED	
200b	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
201	CBM	1	35	RB	
202	EA2	1	35	PM/MOD	
204	CBM	1	92	?PM/MOD	
205	PM	1	8	EMED	
207	CW2/MB	1	7	LM/EPM	
208	EA2	1	13	PM/MOD	
209	EA2	1	9	PM/MOD	
210	PM	1	7	EMED	
210	CBM	1	2	RB	
215	pebble	1			
216	PM	1	5	EMED	
217	EA2	1	14	PM/MOD	
224	PM	1	5	EMED	
226	EA2	1	5	PM/MOD	
228	PM	1	2	EMED	
229	EA2	1	6	PM/MOD	
230	PM	1	1	EMED	
231	PM	2	12	EMED	
232	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
233	PM	1	2	EMED	
235	CBM	1	1	?PM/MOD	
236	MP2	1	27	LM	
237	MS3 – Medieval Sandy ware 3	1	20	LM	
238	EA2	1	20	PM/MOD	
239	EA4	1	6	PM/MOD	
240	EA5	1	5	PM/MOD	
241	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
242	EA2	1	12	PM/MOD	

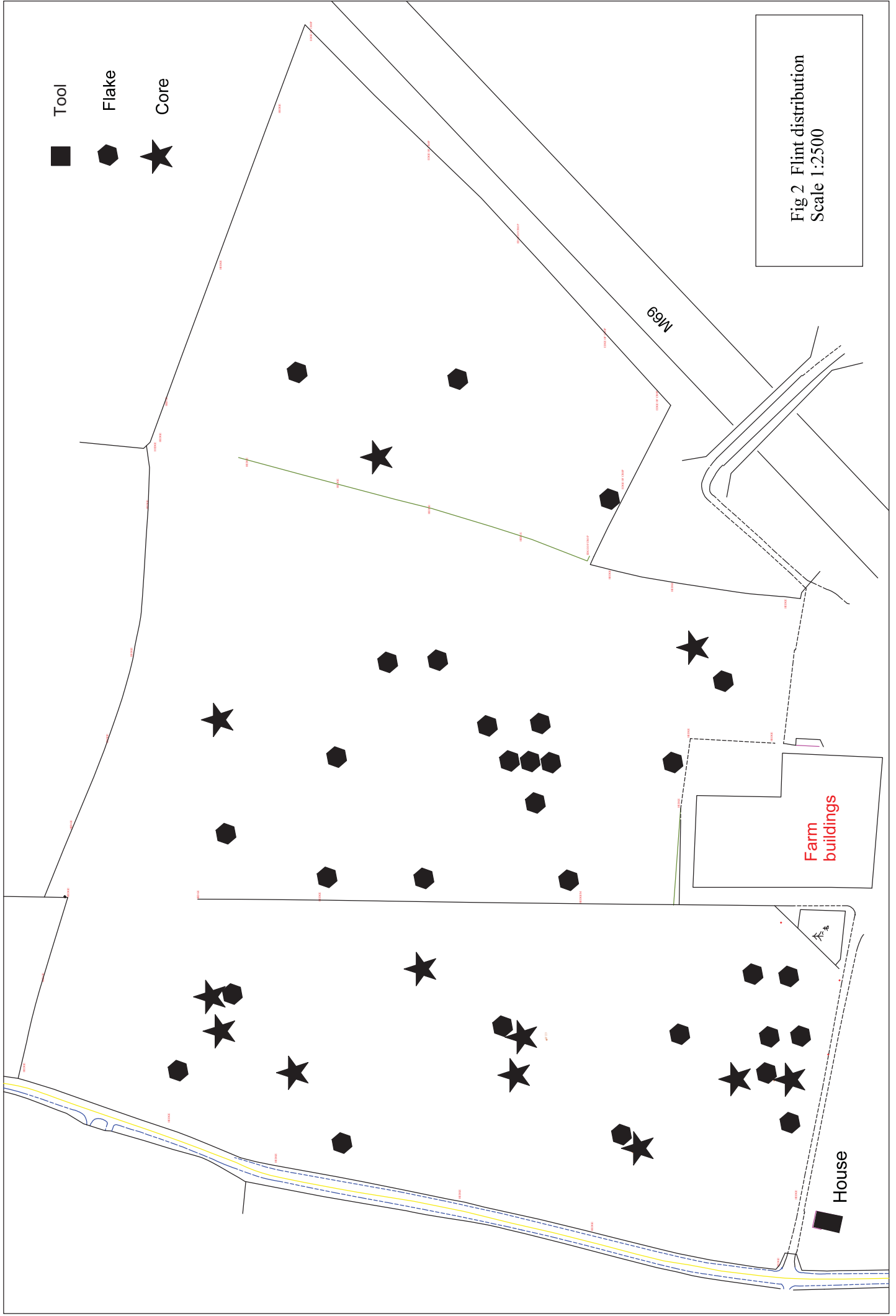
243	EA2	1	4	PM/MOD	
247	PM	1	11	EMED	Collared cp rim
249	EA2	1	48	PM/MOD	
250	EA6	1	11	PM/MOD	
251	CBM	1	1	RB	
257	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
258	CBM	1	3	MOD	modern
263	CBM	1	5	RB	
264a	MS	1	10	MED	abraded
264b	CBM	1	5	RB	
265	PM	1	2	EMED	
268	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
269	EA2	1	10	PM/MOD	
270	PM	1	1	EMED	
270	MY – Midland Yellow ware	1	35	EPM	
271	EA2	1	8	PM/MOD	
272	CC1	1	10	MED	
273	PM	1	4	EMED	
274	PM	1	1	EMED	
275	MP2	1	38	LM	
276	EA2	1	22	PM/MOD	
277	CW2/MB	1	4	LM/EPM	
278	MY	1	4	EPM	
279	PM	2	5	EMED	
280	EA2	1	22	PM/MOD	
281	PM	1	4	EMED	
282	PM	1	5	EMED	
283	PM	2	9	EMED	
284	PM	1	7	EMED	
285	MS	1	1	MED	
286	EA2	2	13	PM/MOD	
287	PM	1	4	EMED	
288	PM	2	6	EMED	
289	MY	1	9	EPM	
290	EA2	1	2	PM/MOD	
291	PM	1	3	EMED	
292	PM	1	12	EMED	
293	PM	1	2	EMED	
294	CC1	1	1	MED	
295	PM	1	2	EMED	
296	PM	1	4	EMED	
297	EA2	1	20	PM/MOD	
298	EA5	1	18	PM/MOD	
299	EA2	1	7	PM/MOD	
300	PM	1	3	EMED	

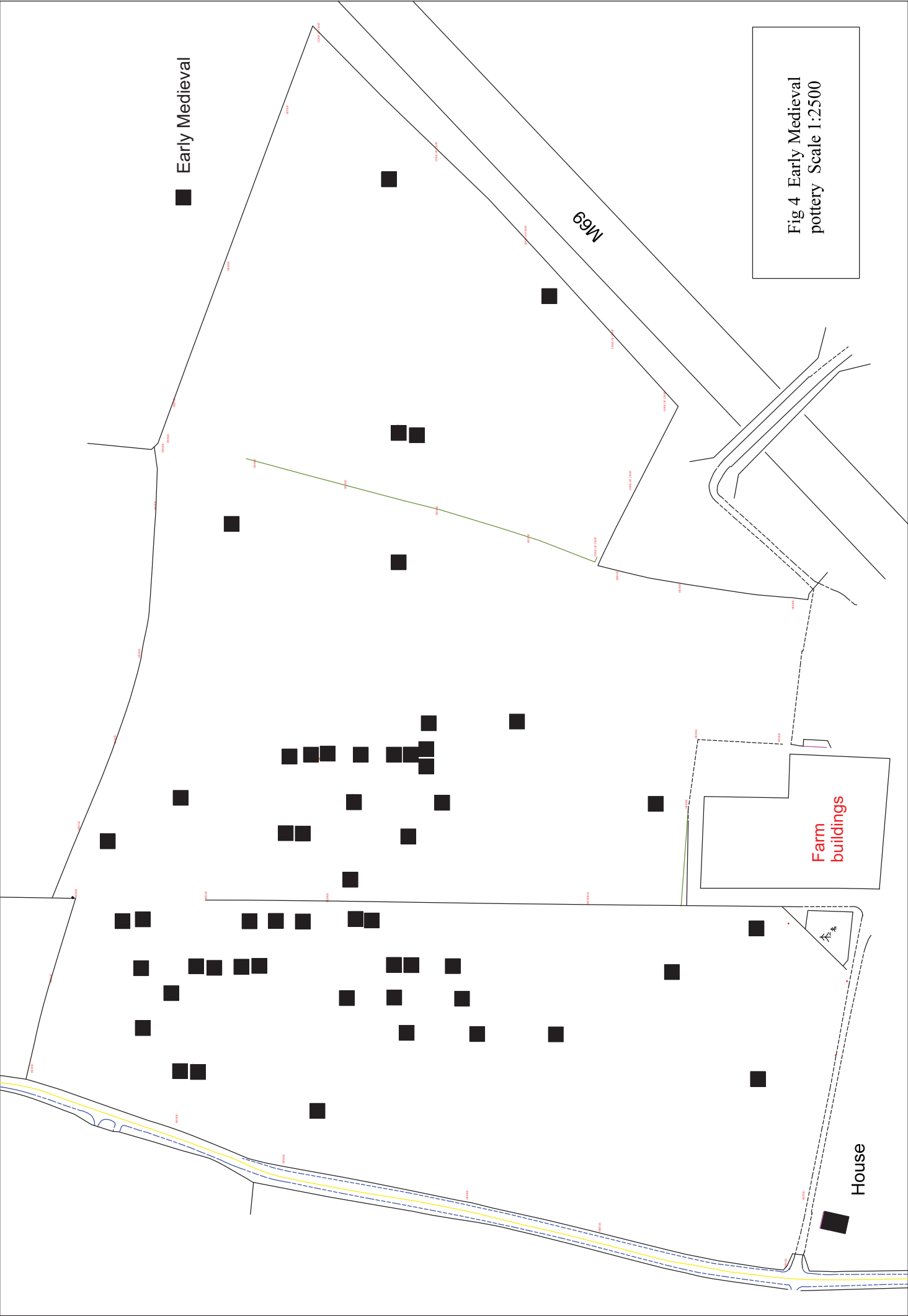


Tool
Flake
Core



Fig 2 Flint distribution
Scale 1:2500





■ Early Medieval

Fig 4 Early Medieval
pottery Scale 1:2500

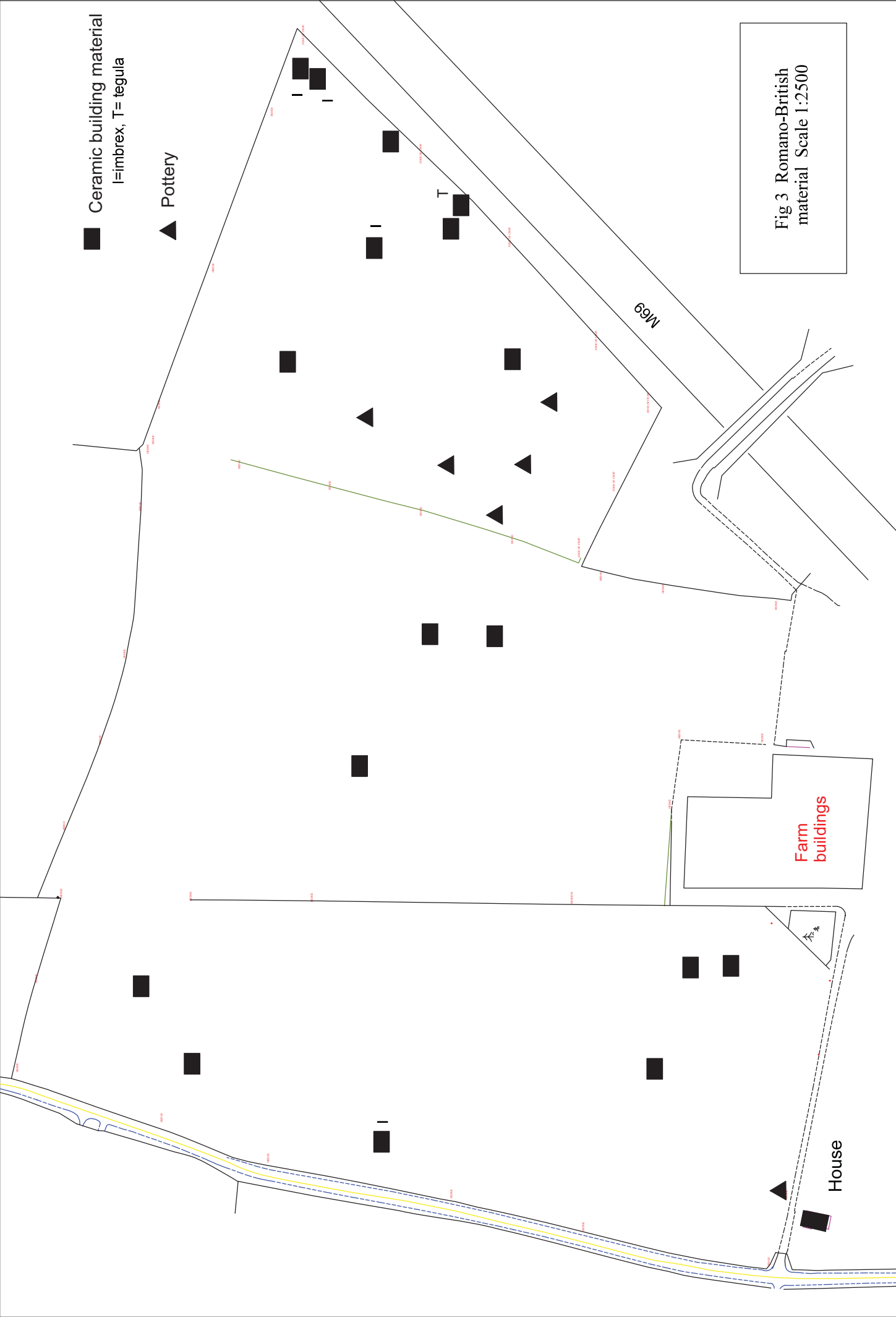


Fig 3 Romano-British material Scale 1:2500

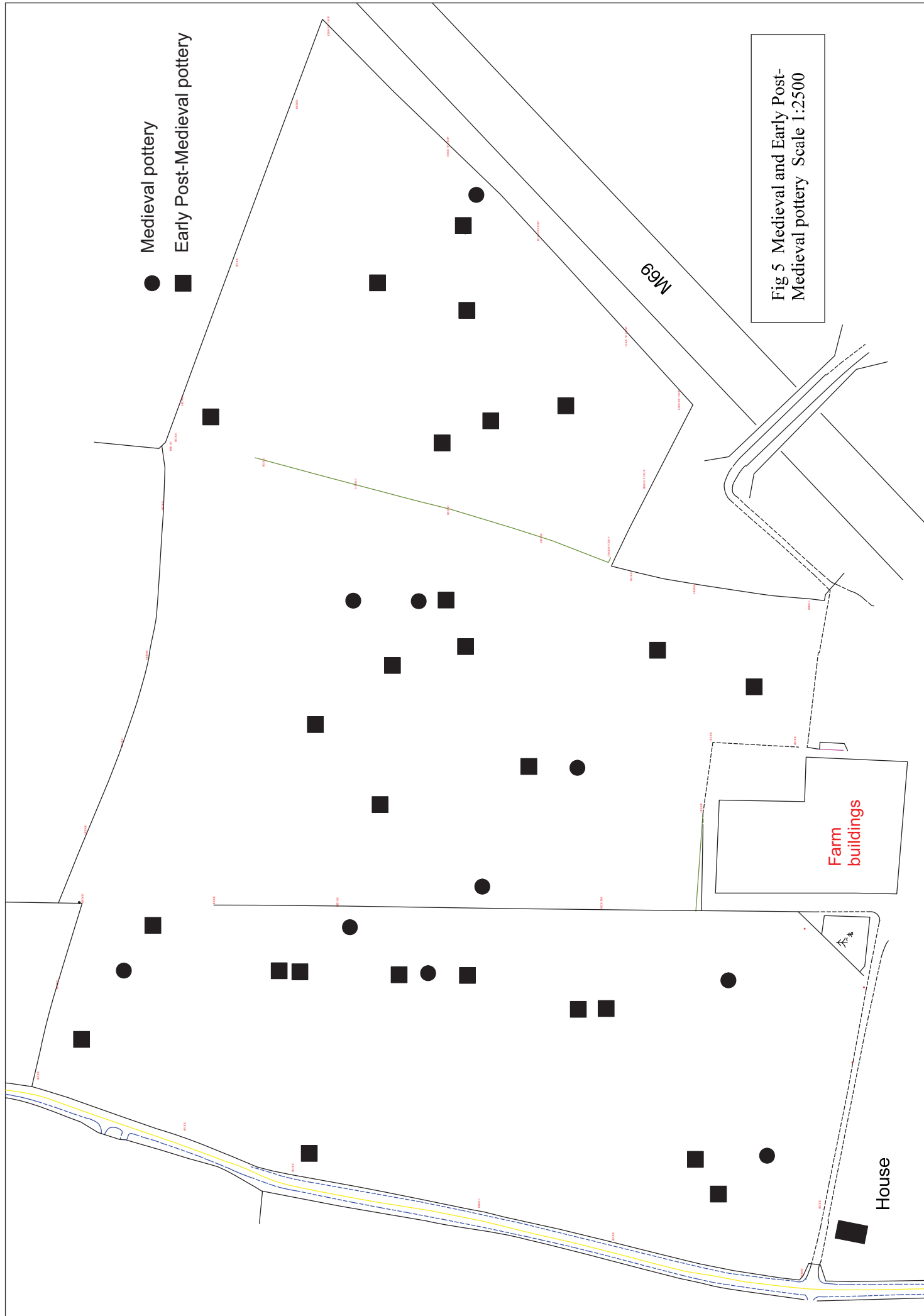


Fig 5 Medieval and Early Post-Medieval pottery Scale 1:2500