

**Tern Hill Quarry Extension
Market Drayton
Shropshire**

Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey

for
Cemex UK Operations Ltd

CA Project: 3578
CA Report: 11274

November 2011

Tern Hill Quarry Extension
Market Drayton
Shropshire

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signed	
date	17 November 2011
issue	01

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Tern Hill Quarry
Location: Market Drayton, Shropshire
NGR: SJ 6506 3051
Type: Fieldwalking Survey
Date: 17 to 19 October 2011
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Shropshire County Museum
Accession Number: SHRMS: E00252
Site Code: THQ11

An archaeological fieldwalking survey was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2011 at Tern Hill Quarry, Market Drayton, Shropshire.

The survey recovered a small quantity of finds, comprising two pieces of prehistoric worked flint, a clay tobacco pipe stem and a piece of waste lead from the northern third of the site. The small size of the finds assemblage and the limited range of material recovered are not suggestive of concentrated activity on the site in any period.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2011 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological fieldwalking survey for Cemex UK Operations Ltd at Tern Hill Quarry, Market Drayton, Shropshire (centred on NGR: SJ 6506 3051; Fig. 1). The fieldwalking survey was undertaken to accompany a planning application which is to be made to Shropshire Council (SC) for the extraction of minerals from an extension to the quarry.
- 1.2 Discussions between CA and Dr Andy Wigley, Planning Archaeologist/Historic Environment Countryside Advisor to SC had indicated that a programme of archaeological works, including fieldwalking, would be required prior to the determination of any planning application for the development of the site. A subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by CA (2011) and approved by Dr Wigley. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006).

The site

- 1.3 The site lies approximately 3km to the south of the market town of Market Drayton. The site is approximately 5.7ha in area and comprises a single flat field, currently under arable cultivation. It is bordered by modern fences, and by the Stoke Hill Young Offenders Institution.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the site comprises interbedded sandstone and conglomerate of the Kidderminster Formation of Scythian Age (BGS 2011). This is overlain by drift deposits of fluvio-glacial origin across the site, probably laid down by post-glacial meltwater. Boreholes at the extant Tern Hill quarry to the south-east have demonstrated these layers to be at least 15m thick, sealed in by 0.5m of topsoil (CA 1999).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 A heritage desk-based assessment (CA 2011) found no heritage assets have been recorded within the site or its immediately environs. Two Roman roads run within 300m of the site, intersecting to the north. The road to the north-east follows the course of the modern A41 (known as 'The Longford'), and ran from the Roman settlement near Stretton Mill (Margary 1973). The second road runs perpendicular to the Longford, and is recorded by Margary as RRX24. As such, there may be some potential for roadside settlement of this date to lie within the site. However, no evidence of any such features has been recorded from aerial photographs or on the ground, and as such the DBA concluded the potential for such features was low.
- 1.6 A former course of the parish boundary runs through the site, and has been suggested as a potential course of one of the former Roman roads (the Longford). However, it is considered much more likely that the Roman road follows the course of the nearby A41, to the east of the site, as elsewhere along its course the parish boundary follows irregular field and property boundaries (CA 2011, 11). There are no earthworks associated with the former parish boundary within the site or adjacent to it. The DBA concluded the parish boundary probably follows the course of a former field boundary, and that there may be potential for an infilled ditch, or similar feature, to survive below ground along the line of the boundary.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objective of the fieldwalking survey was to identify and systematically recover artefactual material from the ground surface, in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site. This information will assist Shropshire Council in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2011). Fieldwalking took place over the field using transects established at 10m intervals. Each search unit along these transects was 20m in length. The location of the transects was established using a Leica 1200 series SmartRover GPS.
- 1.9 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Shropshire County Museum under accession number SHRMS:

E00252, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 The finds assemblage recovered from the fieldwalking survey is summarised in Appendix A, Table 1. Two flint flakes, only broadly dateable as prehistoric, were recovered from transects C7 and F10. Both of the flint items were of very small size weighing less than a gram each. Neither featured secondary working and close dating was not possible. That from grid 7C was a broken flake which was probably burnt. The other from grid 10F was a small flake or chip, resulting from core reduction or from tool manufacture. Due to the small size of the recovered flint assemblage no spatial patterning could be ascertained.
- 2.2 Post-medieval finds were limited to a single clay pipe stem of probable 17th or 18th-century date recovered from transect G1. An undated piece of waste lead was recovered from transect E6.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The small size of the finds assemblage and the limited range of material recovered during the fieldwalking survey are not suggestive of concentrated activity on the site in any period.
- 3.2 The small quantity of prehistoric flint recovered suggests that the site lies beyond any settlement focus of this date. The absence of prehistoric pottery might add to this impression, although it should be noted that pottery of this date survives poorly within the ploughsoil, relative to Roman and medieval or later pottery.
- 3.3 No evidence of potential Roman roadside settlement was identified during the fieldwalking.



4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jamie Wright, assisted by Charlotte Haines. The report was written by Jamie Wright and Charlotte Haines. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Jamie Wright, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2011 *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Online resource at http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html viewed October 2011

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 1999 *Land near Tern Hill Quarry, Market Drayton: Archaeological Desk-base Assessment*.

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 *Tern Hill Quarry Extension, Market Drayton: Heritage Desk-Based Assessment*.

Margary, I.D. 1973 *Roman Roads in Britain*.



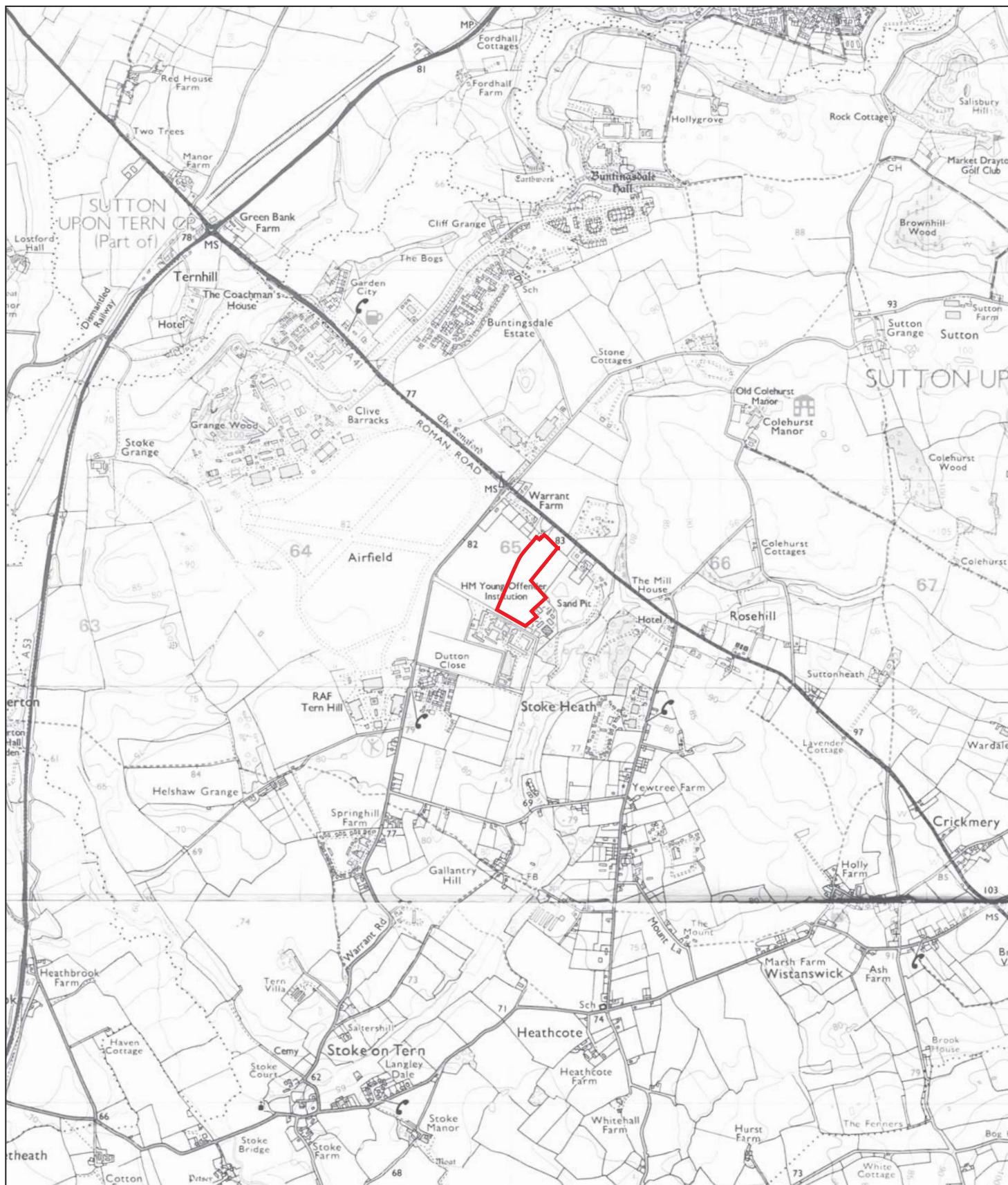
APPENDIX A: THE FINDS

Table 1: Fieldwalking finds

Grid	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Date
1G	Clay tobacco pipe: stem	1	3	C17th - C18
6E	Lead: waste	1	41	undated
7C	Flint: broken flake	1	<1	prehistoric
10F	Flint: small flake	1	<1	prehistoric

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Tern Hill Quarry Extension, Market Drayton, Shropshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological fieldwalking survey was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in October 2011 at Tern Hill Quarry, Market Drayton, Shropshire.</p> <p>The survey recovered a small quantity of finds, comprising two pieces of prehistoric worked flint, a clay tobacco pipe stem and a piece of waste lead from the northern third of the site. The small size of the finds assemblage and the limited range of material recovered is not suggestive of concentrated activity on the site in any period.</p>	
Project dates	17-19 October 2011	
Project type	Archaeological fieldwalking survey	
Previous work	Heritage desk-based assessment, Cotswold Archaeology 2011	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Tern Hill Quarry Extension, Market Drayton, Shropshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	5.7ha	
Site co-ordinates	SJ 6506 3051	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Jamie Wright	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Physical	Shropshire County Museum SHRMS: E00252	Flint, lead waste, clay tobacco pipe
Paper	Shropshire County Museum SHRMS: E00252	Digital archive
Digital	Shropshire County Museum SHRMS: E00252	Fieldwalking records
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 <i>Tern Hill Quarry Extension, Market Drayton, Shropshire: Archaeological Fieldwalking Survey</i> . CA typescript report 11274		



0 1km

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PROJECT TITLE

**Tern Hill Quarry Extension
Market Drayton, Shropshire**

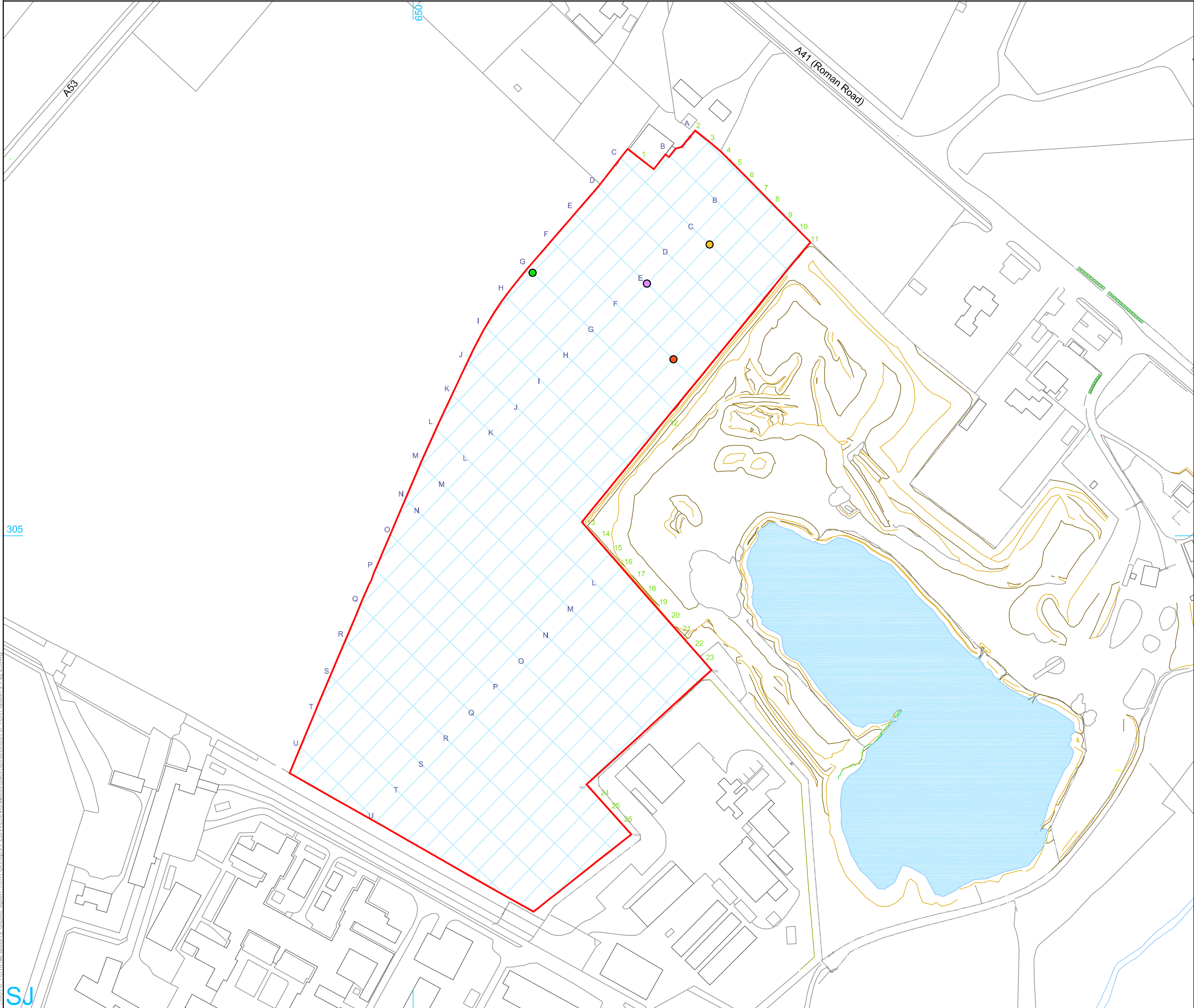
FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

PROJECT NO. 3578 DATE 31-10-2011
DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
APPROVED BY REY SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



- site
- flint: small flake
- flint: broken flake
- clay tobacco pipe: stem
- lead: waste



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PROJECT TITLE
Tern Hill Quarry Extension
Market Drayton, Shropshire

FIGURE TITLE
Fieldwalking results

PROJECT NO. 3578 DATE 14-10-2011
DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
APPROVED BY REY SCALE@A3 1:2000

FIGURE NO.
2