

**Bardon Roadstone Ltd**

**Ivonbrook Quarry**

**Ivonbrook Grange, Derbyshire**

**NGR SK 2340 5845**

Report on the Fieldwalking Survey: Field 2

**OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT**

**JUNE 1997**

**Bardon Roadstone Ltd**

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\*NGR corrected from January 1997 report

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## Report on the Fieldwalking Survey: Field 2

### *Summary*

*A fieldwalking survey was carried out on a field, designated Field 2, to the south-east of Ivonbrook Quarry. No significant clusters of material were revealed by the survey. The small quantity of randomly distributed artefacts included a few pieces of flint, clay pipe and post-medieval pottery.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

On the 28th and 29th of May, 1997, the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) undertook a fieldwalking survey on behalf of Bardon Roadstone Limited in advance of a proposed quarry extension of Ivonbrook Quarry in north Derbyshire (cf. Figure 1). The following report documents the results of this exercise.

### 1.1 Archaeological Background

The area of the proposed quarry extension lies within an area of demonstrated prehistoric, Anglian and medieval archaeological activity. The principal sites in the surrounding area are the remains of two prehistoric Barrows, both Scheduled Ancient Monuments, which are located on the summit of Green Low 600 m to the south-west of the current quarry. These include Green Low Chambered Tomb (SAM no 13368), a late Neolithic round cairn with a facade of coursed limestone blocks on the south side. This barrow was excavated in 1843 and then again in 1964 and found to contain disarticulated human bones and late Neolithic pottery and flint. The cairn produced a chance find of Roman coins and pottery, possibly suggesting that it was opened or investigated in the Roman period. To the west of this lies Green Low Bowl Barrow West (SAM no 13331), a Bronze Age Round Barrow, also excavated in 1843, which contained a primary cremation, secondary inhumation and flint implements.

Field walking of the slopes of the hill adjacent to the area of the proposed development to the east has produced evidence of prehistoric activity, including Mesolithic flints, Neolithic pottery and flints and Bronze Age flintwork (DSMR 8603-8605, 8609-8610).

Anglian Settlement in the area is indicated by the, now destroyed, Anglian Barrow on Winster Moor. This monument, whose exact location is now lost, was opened in 1765 during the enclosure of the moor and found to contain a number of rich grave furnishings including a silver bracelet, circular gold brooch, a decorated gold cross and pottery and glass vessels.

Ivonbrook is mentioned in Domesday as containing land for 1 plough although the parish was then described as 'waste', a term used by most commentators to refer to areas left devastated by William I's campaign following the Mercian Revolt of 1069 (Holly 1962: 313). During the medieval period it appears that the development area and its immediate surrounding area formed part of the landholdings of two large monastic houses. Ivonbrook Grange is listed by Hart (1981: 155) as being a grange belonging to the Cistercian abbey at Buildwas in Shropshire. A medieval monastic grange was an independently controlled estate, usually located at some distance from the mother Abbey and possibly in this instance sited to exploit the sheep farming potential of the area. To the north of Wigley Meadow Farm lies a large undated earthwork enclosure (NAR 3), long described as a Roman camp, but now considered by the NAR to possibly be a pastoral enclosure connected to Ivonbrook Grange.

To the east of the current quarry, and across the road which acts as the parish boundary, lies Aldwark Grange, described by the Derbyshire Sites and Monuments Record (DSMR no 135), as the site of a grange belonging to the Augustinian Monastery at Darley near Derby.

No medieval buildings or finds have been recorded from either Ivonbrook Grange or Aldwark Grange. A 1988 excavation of the Ivonbrook Grange enclosure produced no dating evidence.

The present Fieldwalking Survey forms part of a staged series of works associated with various extension phases for Ivonbrook Quarry. In December 1995 OAU undertook an evaluation of a putative barrow to the north of the present quarry (OAU 1995). An Earthwork Survey and a study of the relationships between the drystone walls to be affected by the quarry expansion are further parts of the mitigation strategy. Stage 1 of the Fieldwalking Survey, 'Field 1', in the separate southern extension to the quarry, was carried out in December 1996. No significant clusters of material were discovered. The artefacts recovered consisted of a few pieces of worked flint, clay pipe and post-medieval pottery (OAU Report, 1997).

## 1.2 Topography and Geology

The area designated Field 2 is located to the south-east of Ivonbrook Quarry (cf. Figure 2). It slopes gently up-hill from the West and the East to a ridge of slightly higher ground running North/South through the centre of the surveyed area.

## 1.3 Crop and Ground Conditions

The surface of Field 2 had not been under cultivation and was ploughed specifically for fieldwalking. The ploughed turf was heavy and slightly weathered after some rain in the preceding days. The weather conditions were hot and dry with bright sunshine. Although conditions were not ideal, the artefacts found were easily seen, and it is considered that the results are reasonably reliable.

#### 1.4 Methodology

A series of north-south aligned transects, spaced at 10 m intervals, was set out at ninety degrees to the North West / South East aligned drystone wall which forms one boundary of Field 2. Each transect was walked in 20m 'stints' and any surface artefacts within the scanned width of 2-5m collected, bagged and labelled to the corresponding number of that segment; i.e. any artefacts from 0-20m of Transect 'A' would be labelled as 'A1', from 20-40m as 'A2', and so on. 'Stints' were measured cumulatively on the ground using measuring tapes to avoid variation in individual pace. The process was repeated until the end of the transect was reached. Extra transects were to be interspersed between the original transects if significant artefact clusters were recognised.

## 2 RESULTS

A total of 10 transects numbered A-J, corresponding to a linear distance of *circa* 1750 m were fieldwalked in Field 2.

The results from Transects A-J are presented in Table 1. Overall the density of finds across the field was low and most of the artefacts appear to have been the result of post-medieval activity. No significant artefact clusters were recognised.

All the pottery that was recovered dated to the post-medieval period and it seems likely that the distribution of this material, together with the few pieces of metal, tile, coke, glass and fragments of clay pipe, was the result of relatively recent (i.e. post-medieval) agricultural activity; manuring and the like. A black glass bead was recovered, but remains unprovenanced. Of the five pieces of worked flint discovered, two were identified as specific tools. A kite shaped leaf arrow head and a serrated flake, both recognised as late Neolithic, are individually of interest but are probably casual losses. A general scatter of flint would be expected in an area of significant prehistoric activity.

## 3 CONCLUSIONS

The results of the Fieldwalking Survey suggest that no significant deposits and/or features of archaeological importance are present in Field 2. No significant clusters of material were recognised and the vast majority of the finds that were recovered dated to the post-medieval period. The extension of Ivonbrook Quarry into this area is therefore unlikely to have any significant archaeological impact.

Table 1: Surface Collection Results from Transects A-J

Transect	Stint	Post-medieval Pottery	Clay pipe	Flint	Tile	Bone	Misc
A	3	1	1				
A	4	3	1				
A	5		2	2			
A	6	2	3				
A	8		1				
B	2	1					
B	3		1				
B	4	2			1		
B	5	1	2				
B	6	1					
B	7	1					1(glass)
B	8	5					
C	1	3	1				
C	2						1(glass)
C	3		2	1			
C	4	3					
C	5	1	4				
C	6		2				
C	7	3					
C	8	1					
C	9	1		1			
D	3	3					
D	5	3	4				
D	6	1		1			
D	7	3	1				
D	8	2	1				1(Fe Obj)
D	9	2	1				
E	3	1					1(glass)
E	4	2					1(coke)
E	5	4					
E	6	6	1				
E	7	2					
E	8	2	3				
F	1	1					
F	2	4					
F	3	1					
F	4	1	1				
F	5	2	1				
F	6	2				1	1(glass)
F	7	2					1(glass)
F	8	1	1				
F	9	2					
F	10	3					

Transect	Stint	Post-medieval Pottery	Clay pipe	Flint	Tile	Bone	Misc
G	1	3	1		1		
G	2	1	1		1		1 (bead)
G	3	2					1 (Fe Obj)
G	4	4				1	
G	5	2	1				
G	6	4					
G	7	3					
G	8	2					
G	10	3			1		
H	3						1 (Fe Obj)
H	4						1 (glass)
H	5	1	1				
H	6	4					
H	7	2					
H	9	2					
I	2	1					
I	4	1					
I	5	2					
I	6	3					
I	7	1					
I	8	3	1				
J	1	2					
J	2	1	1				
J	3	2	1				
J	4	2	1				
J	6	1					1 (Fe Obj)

#### 4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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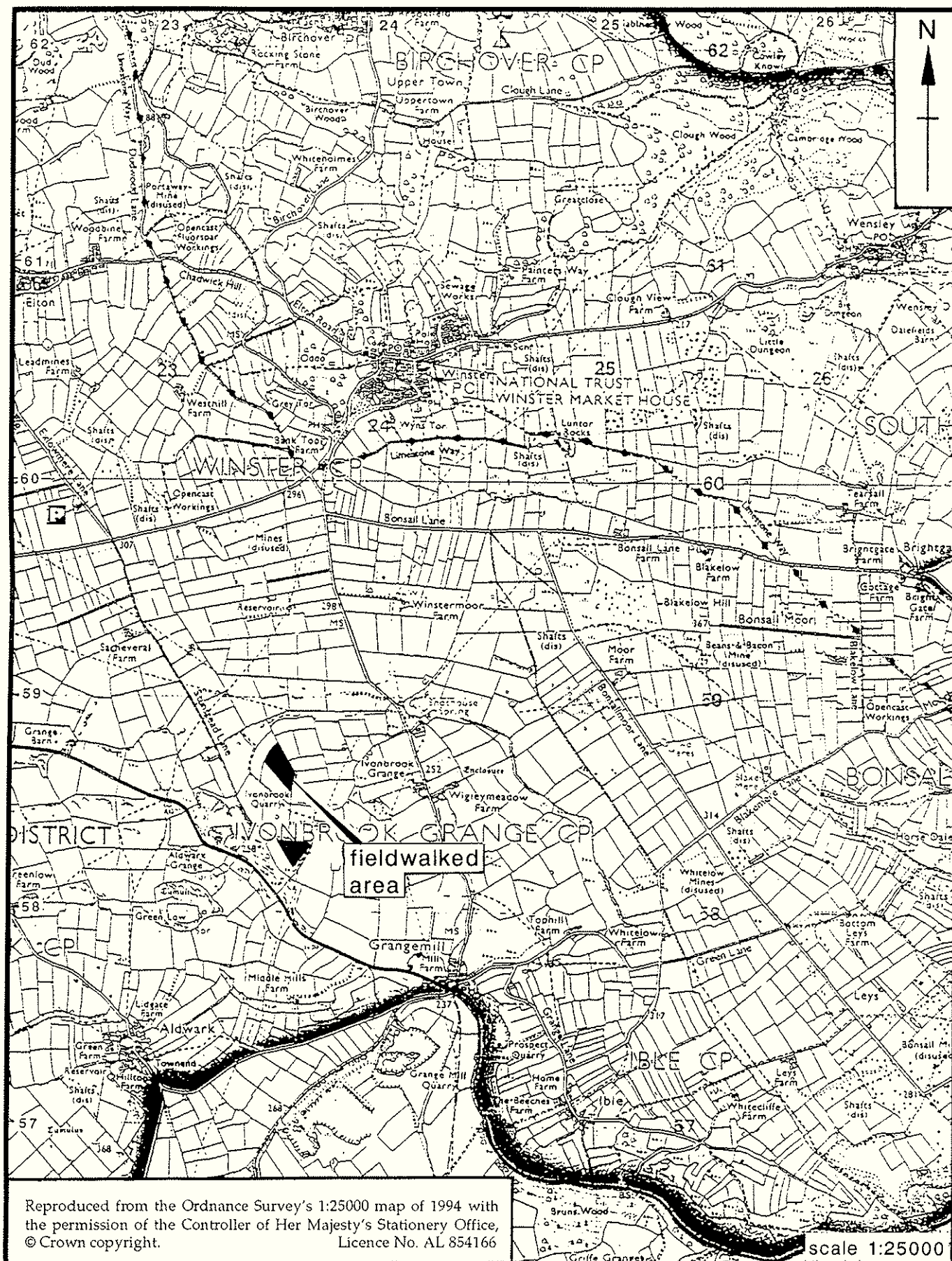


Figure 1: General Location Plan



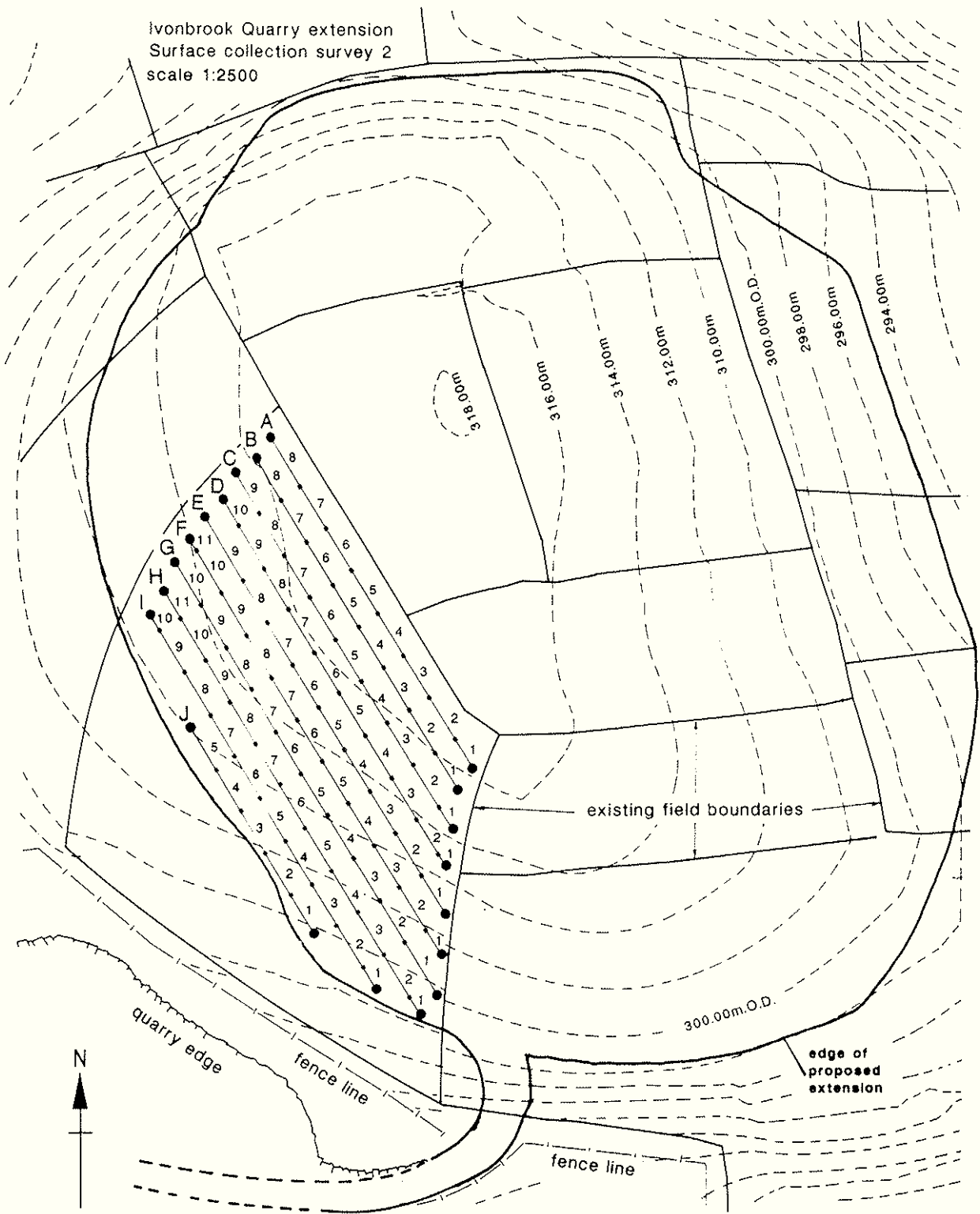


Figure 2: Plan of Field 2, showing location of field.



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