

Part 2

*Approaches to Site Location
and Identification*

This second section analyses the problems of site location and identification within the Mersey Basin, and the North West in general, which have bedevilled the search for rural settlement for many years. Jill Collens discusses the usefulness of repeated aerial reconnaissance in a region traditionally seen as unconducive to cropmark formation because of the extensive coverage of claylands and the urban sprawl of Chester, Liverpool and Manchester. As both she and Keith Maude emphasise, however, such data will remain enigmatic unless it is coupled with a systematic programme of field investigation in order to provide the new sites with a date and function.