

93/14
TF 365 - 12
42458 - settlement
Ref LI 4059
Source - 458628

HARRINGTON VILLAGE SURVEY
Preliminary Report for Meeting on July 28th 1993

Lindsey Archaeological Services was commissioned by Robert Bell and Company to undertake a desk top study and a measured earthwork survey of the village remains at Harrington which lie in parkland west of the Hall as outlined in the brief prepared by the County Archaeological Officer dated April 1993.

The parish of Harrington is located in the heart of the Lincolnshire Wolds some 8 miles north-east of Horncastle. The Hall and its gardens lie immediately south of the parish church on the sheltered lower slopes of a hill which rises to the east. The earthwork remains of the deserted village may be seen in pasture to the south and west of the Hall. There is also a moated site which lies in woodland west of the village (Fig.1).

Documentary Research

Secondary sources at the Local Studies Library in the Lincoln City Library were examined, together with selected printed documentation at the Lincolnshire Archives Office. Without lengthy examination of primary records it is only possible to hint at the development of the village at Harrington. Further documentary research may further illuminate the history of the settlement but there is little to be found which describes the physical remains; the earthworks themselves are the best surviving source.

The origins of the settlement are unknown and the placename evidence is of little assistance. Three alternative interpretations are offered. Harrington may mean the farmstead of a man called Haering (Old English personal name + tun), or it may derive from the OE 'haering' meaning stony place or 'haring' meaning grey wood (Mills 1991, 160).

The village and manor of Harrington are not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Foster and Longley 1926) although Ross states that Ivo Taillebois had a manor in this vill [Archintone] given him by the Norman Conqueror, late belonging to Esbern together with its members on Grimesby and S[l]oothby (Ross MSS, vol.5, 561). The identification of Archintone as Harrington may be incorrect and no source for this information is given by Ross. The first documented reference to Harrington is in 1212, when it is noted that a Hugo de Harrington held the third part of one knight's fee of the Fee of Chester in this vill and in Aswardby and Langton (Book of Fees). This information is recorded again in 1260 as belonging to John de Harrington. In 1258 King Henry III had granted John a charter of free warren over his demesne lands in this vill (and other villages). The village of Harrington was often associated with Aswardby in documents making it almost impossible to identify where land being described belongs.

The main source of information at the local Studies Library, Lincoln was the Ross Manuscripts in which transcripts of medieval records are to be found. Of particular interest are the accounts of land given to the Chantry which was founded by John de Harrington in c.1300. Many gifts of land in the village, and elsewhere, were given between 1316 and 1324 to support a priest. Records of these transactions incidentally show the existence of the village at that time and give some insight into its character (see Appendix 1). In summary gifts of land included tofts with buildings, arable land, meadows and sheep pasture. One gift of land comprised two pieces of meadow situated in Milncroft or Adamacroft (? dam croft), probably near to the present site of Stockwith Mill. Another gift of land was situated close to the 'great fosse or fishpond in Harrington.....extending to the road that passes between the two fosses or fishponds....'.

It is not possible to identify the location of individual gifts of land nor is it possible to make inferences about the wealth or size of the village. However, not long after the endowment of the Chantry a series of taxes was levied on the whole country known as Lay Subsidies. The purpose of the Tax was to raise revenue for the King, the first of which was in 1327. The Lay Subsidy Roll of 1332 has been transcribed and lists nineteen people who were liable for tax at a rate of 1/15th of their wealth. Those whose goods were valued at less than 10/- were exempt and it is not known what proportion of households this number represents (nor how many people evaded the tax). Furthermore, Harrington was assessed together with Aswardby and there is no way of knowing who lived in which village. The total paid by the two villages was £1.13s. 4d. (In 1334 the sum paid was £1. 15s. 4¾d..) Other individual villages in the same wapentake paid a similar sum suggesting that Harrington and Aswardby were either particularly small or particularly poor. The sums paid by many of the villages in the area were low when compared with the subsidy returns elsewhere in the county.

There is a gap of 200 years in the documentary evidence: work has not been completed at the archives but there may be no further easily accessible data.

At the suppression of the Chantry the incumbent Robert Smith had the following profits:

The firm of the mansional house, one barn, one garden and certain lands belonging to the same lying in Harrington and demised to Sir John Coupledyeke from December 25th 1543 for 40 years at a rent p.a. of £6. The firm of one camera, one garden there in the tenure of the cantarist at a rent of £1. 8s. p.a. The profits of 3s. 4d. from a pasture or agistment of one lamb were allowed to the said cantarist by the farmer.

Whilst not directly referring to the village the above description implies its existence which is confirmed a few years later when on February 28th 1553 King Edward VI, by letters patent, granted and confirmed to Thomas Shadbolt among other things...

all that mansional house, late belonging to the chantry of Harrington in the parts of Lindsey. and also all those messuages, mills, houses, edifices, barns, stables, columbaries, orchards, pomaries, gardens, lands, tenements, feedings, pastures, common pastures for sheep called shepegates and commonage of pasture for animals, waters, ponds, vinaries, rents, reversions services and hereditaments, soever in Harrington and Aswardbye, late parts or parcel of the chantry of Harrington then or lately in the tenure of John Copledyeke Kt or his assigns.

In 1563 the Privy Council required each Bishop to compile a return of the number of households in every parish and hamlet of his diocese (Brit. Mus. Harleian MS 618). The return for Harrington records 12 households. Many of the villages in the same deanery were small, apart from Tetford with 46 households and Hagworthingham with 40. The smallest villages were Scrafield (8), Oxcombe (10), Ketsby (10), Winceby (10) and Claxby Pluckacre (12). All these settlements are now classed as deserted medieval villages.

Unfortunately the Hearth Tax Returns for Lindsey (1662-65) are not available so the next accessible records are the Census Returns of 1811 and 1821 which reveal a village size little altered from that recorded in 1563. In 1811 ten households were recorded, comprising 13 families (65 people). All the families were described as working in agriculture. The number in 1821 was 11 households, comprising 15 families (105 people).

In conclusion it appears that Harrington was never a very large village. Whilst many of the other villages in this part of Lincolnshire were fairly small Harrington was amongst the smallest. In 1563 it comprised only 12 households, a figure virtually the same as the one recorded in 1811. The Lay Subsidy Returns of 1332 show that Harrington was not a large settlement even at that time. Further documentary research may help to refine our knowledge about the decline of the settlement.

Cartographic Evidence

There is no Enclosure Award for the parish and no early estate maps have been located. Fortunately, there is a detailed map accompanying the Tithe Award of 1839 (LAO K21). The map is badly torn and was not available for copying but a tracing (Fig. 2) shows the area immediately west of the Hall which is the subject of the present survey. The field divisions are, for the most part, still recognisable today as shallow depressions in the ground. the field names are not especially helpful, except perhaps for the 'Old Yard', in the north-west corner of the field. However, this part of the site does not show any obvious remains of buildings.

Earthwork Survey

The site was visited on July 7th in order to carry out the measured survey of the earthworks. The survey area was covered in long grass, some up to 3ft high, with clumps of thistles making the general ground visibility poor. The whole area was walked over to establish the location and alignment of the main ditches and banks. Some areas of ridge and furrow were identified, others were uncertain. A radial plane survey was commenced in the south-west corner of the area defined in the Brief and c.8,000 m² was surveyed but the remainder of the survey was abandoned for the time being because of poor visibility.

Aerial Photographic Evidence

The earthworks have been recorded on two occasions by Cambridge University and a selection of photographs is shown on Figs. 4, 5 and 6. These define quite clearly the character and limits of the earthworks. AHC 10 shows the total survey area viewed from the south-east. The survey area is limited to the east by the Hall gardens and tennis courts, to the north and west by the main road and extends as far south as the kink in the road. The total area of the village remains extends beyond the survey area to the south but not as far as the road to Aswardby. The road from Stockwith Mill which forms the present western limit of the earthworks appears to cut through the enclosure ditches which may be seen as soil marks on photos AMV15 and AMV17. The ploughed field to the north of the survey area, which is shown on photo AHC11 is blotchy but no positive village remains may be seen in the soils.

When the earthwork remains are compared to the 1839 map many of the enclosure boundaries can be recognised. Fig. 3 shows these boundaries, traced from the map with the earthwork remains superimposed. The majority of the enclosures seem to define fields, some of which contain ridge and furrow. It is not clear whether the boundaries are later than the ridge and furrow but examination on the ground when conditions have improved may solve this question.

Only a very small area of the earthworks remotely resemble what might be defined as village remains. These are located east of the Five Acre Field on the 1839 map and south of the present survey area. the map shows a building complex including a barn and stables but these appear to lie north of the remains just described and appear to have left little by way of physical remains identifiable on the photos.

The possibility of some of the earthwork remains being of First World War origins was raised. Investigations show that summer camps were never held at Harrington and there is no record of any military training at Harrington. There is nothing immediately identifiable on the air photographs to suggest such activity.

Discussion

The preliminary documentary research has shown that the village of Harrington was a modest settlement in the 14th century which was little more than a hamlet by 1563. the air photographic evidence shows that the earthwork remains comprise mainly enclosed fields, some of which contain ridge and furrow. What little evidence there is of true village closes appears to be confined to land outside the survey area.

Naomi Field
July 20th 1993

APPENDIX 1
Lands granted to the Harrington Chantry

On March 14th 1316 1 toft named Gloreston Croft with all the buildings on it, lately held by Walter, son of Hugo, was given by the Lord of the vill to the founder of the chantry.

In 1319 1 messuage and 1 oxgang, then in the tenure of Amicia, called Caunteben, a bondwoman or native of the manor, who with all her chattels and all belonging to her were given with the property.

1 messuage and 1 oxgang late held by Roger de Thoresway and Agnes his wife for the term of their lives were also given.

3 messuages and 3 oxgangs with pasturage for 300 sheep were given on Palm Sunday in 1319.

1 messuage, 1 croft, 1 oxgang of land, then in the tenure of Alice, widow of William of Harrington and called 'Gode Willi' were also given in 1319.

In 1320 the following lands were given to the chantry

1 toft and 1/2 oxgang formerly held in villanage of the lord of the vill by Hugo Quiten, a bondman (May 1st).

1 toft with the buildings upon it then in occupation of a bondman or native called Adam de Hamebrande, who was given along with it and all his sequela and chattels.

1 toft late inhabited by Ulgiot Grim held by annual rent of one rose (4th March).

One small piece of land given by the same lord of the vill at the confirmation of the above and situated close to the great fosse or fishpond in Harrington and near the road leading from that vill to ... [illegible].. and extending to the road that passes between the 2 fosses or fishponds....[illegible]..

One piece of meadow lying beyond the ripe Scopwath called Adamacroft named Slikforland.

Two pieces of meadow situated in Milncroft or Adamacroft (?dam croft)

William Brant gave up all claim to common right which he had of feeding his animals on pieces of pasture called Encroft and Westcroft.

One piece of meadow called Jeane in the south plain of Harrington situated between the land of Adam a Croft and ...[illeg.] and surrounded by ditches ...

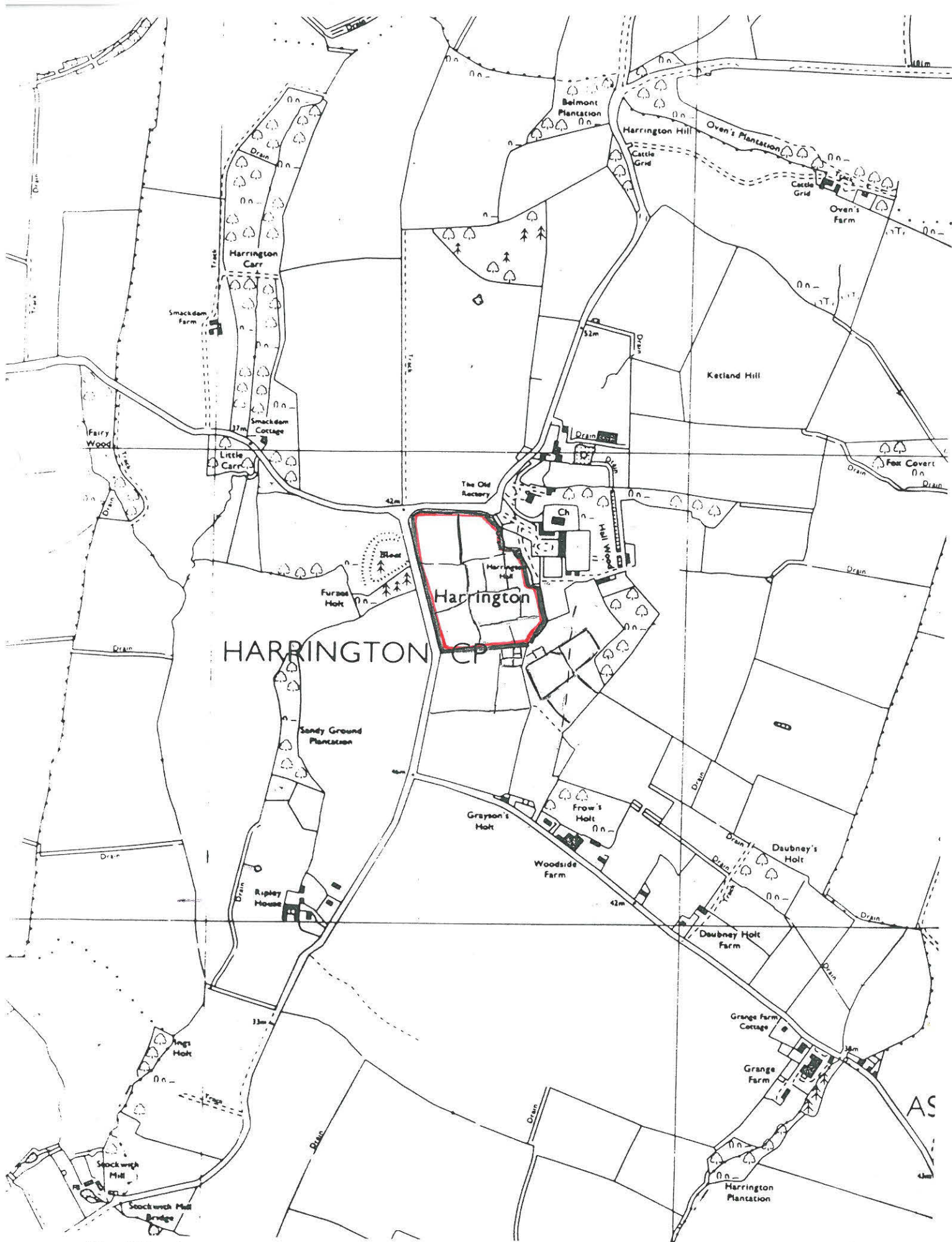
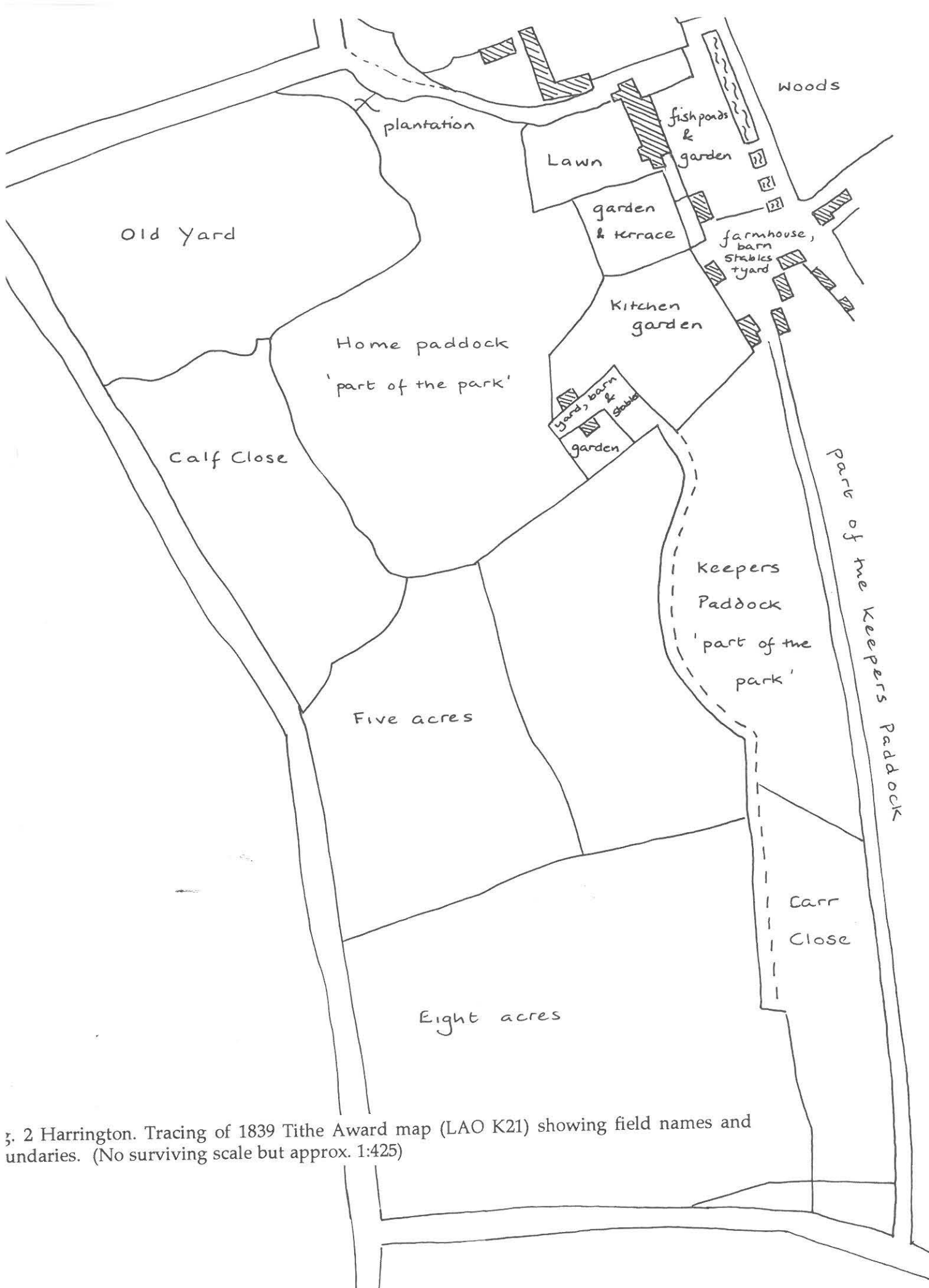


Fig. 1 Harrington. Location of Survey Area with main earthwork boundaries shown (O.S 1:10,560 Crown Copyright)



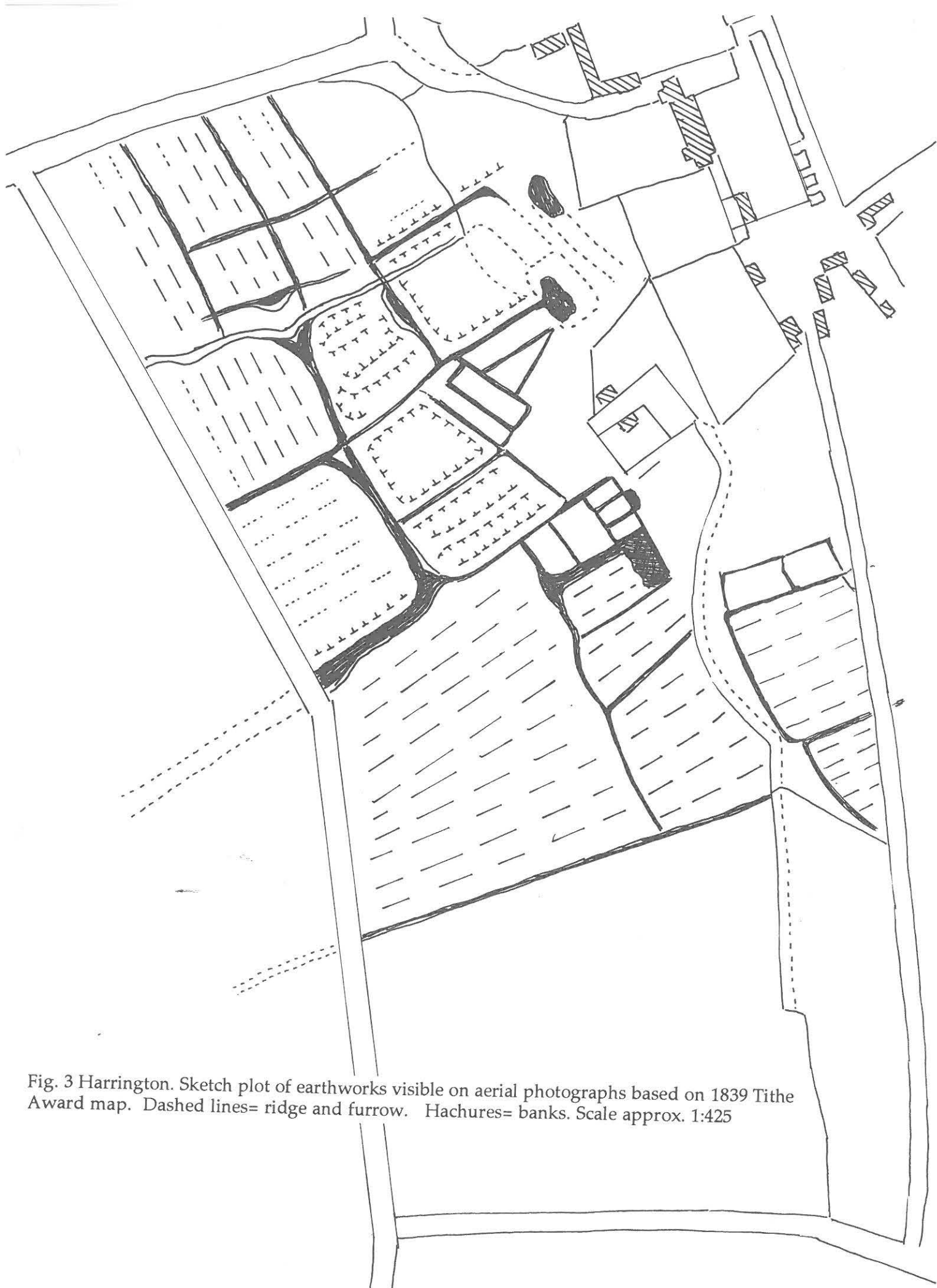


Fig. 3 Harrington. Sketch plot of earthworks visible on aerial photographs based on 1839 Tithe Award map. Dashed lines= ridge and furrow. Hachures= banks. Scale approx. 1:425



Fig. 4 Harrington. Aerial view of survey area, from the south east. (Cambridge University Collection of Air photographs AHC10 and AHC11)

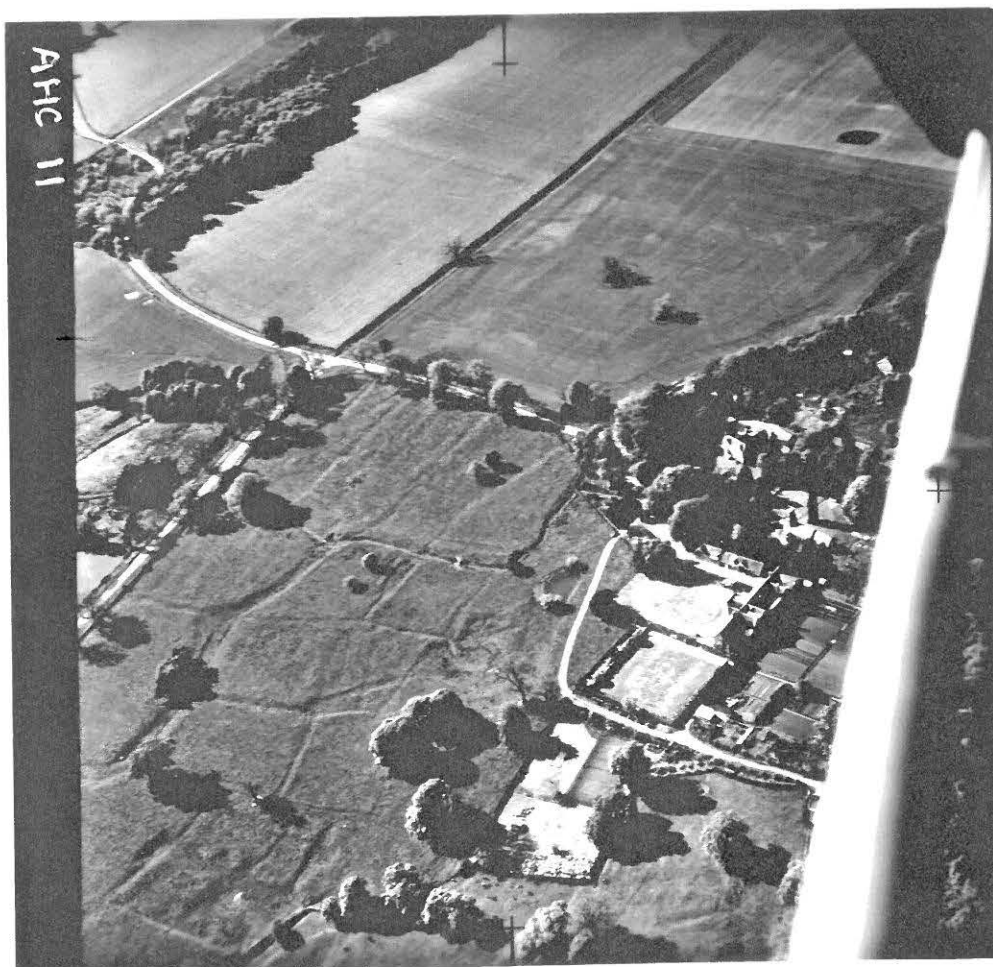
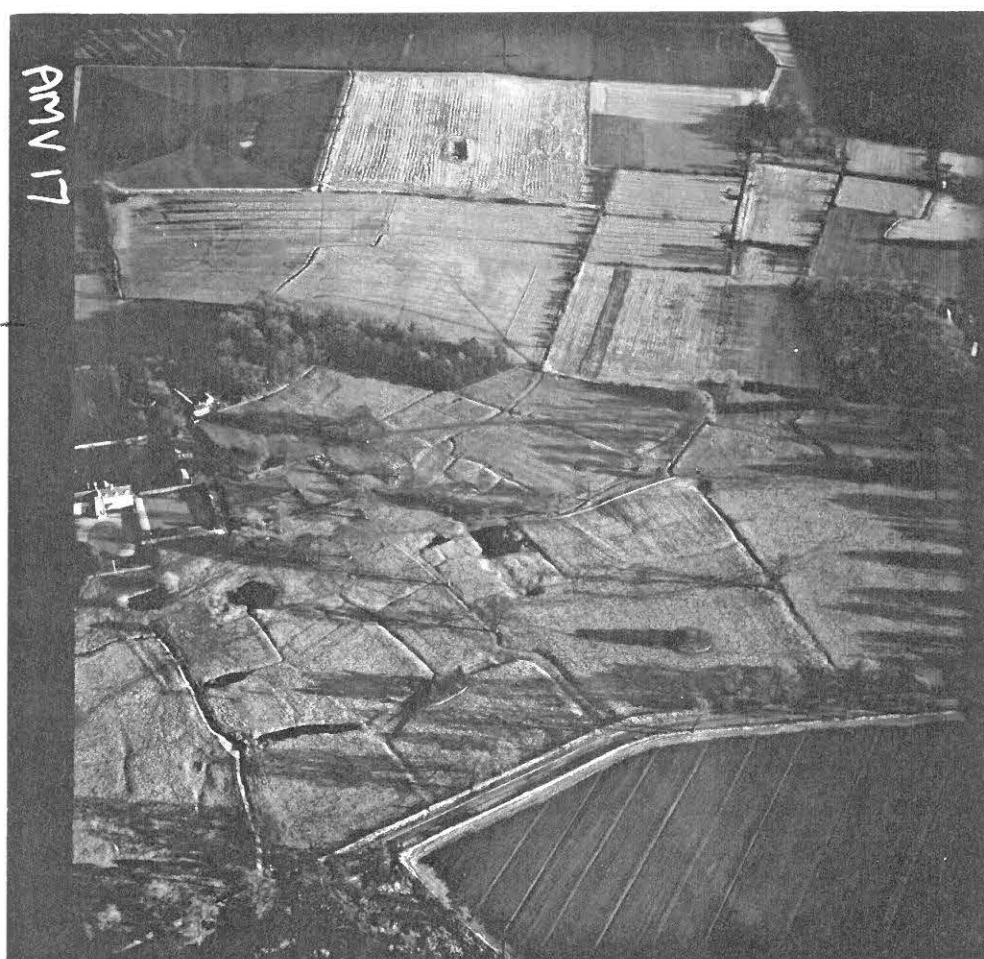




Fig. 5 Harrington. Aerial view of survey area, from the west. (Cambridge University Collection of Air photographs AMV15 and AMV17)



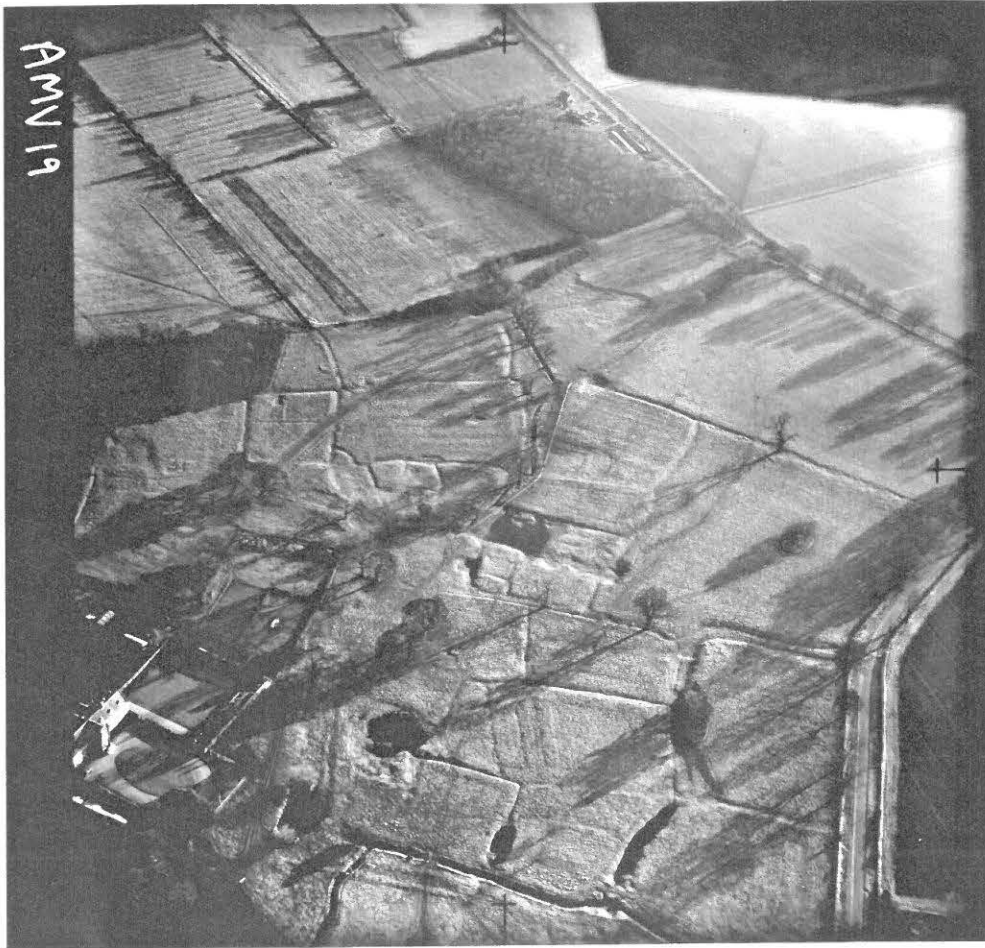


Fig. 6 Harrington. Aerial view of the earthworks south of the survey area, from the north.
(Cambridge University Collection of Air photographs AMV19)

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
(INCORPORATING DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT),
ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION, LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SITE: Harrington Deserted Medieval Village

PLANNING APP. NO.: Not Applicable - Grant Aid Application
for tree planting scheme.

COMPANY: Robert Bell and Company, Horncastle

DATE: April 1993

LOCATION: Harrington, near Alford, Lincolnshire

1. Summary

1.1 This document is the brief for archaeological work to be carried out on an area to be considered for tree planting at Harrington. It sets out the requirements for a detailed desk-top assessment and full field evaluation of the area. Such an undertaking should help to define the character and extent of any archaeological remains. Evaluation offers an efficient and inexpensive way of retrieving such information. Guidelines are set by D.O.E. Planning and Policy Guidance note 16 (1990), see paragraph 21.

1.2 This document is not a specification of works, it should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological project design. In response to this brief contractors will be expected to provide details of the proposed scheme of work, to include the anticipated working methods, timescales and staffing levels.

1.3 The detailed specifications should be submitted to Robert Bell and Company and be approved by the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. The client will be free to choose between those specifications which are considered to adequately satisfy this brief.

2. Site location and description

2.1 Appendix 1 consists of a map of the area under consideration, outlined in red, and a map locating Harrington village. Harrington is on the edge of the rolling hills of the Lincolnshire Wolds, a chain of hills formed of Upper Cretaceous chalk and is situated on Spilsby sandstone solid geology. The site is at an altitude of 42m approximately and west of Harrington Hall in open parkland.

3. Background

3.1 The present owners of Harrington Hall wish to plant trees to enhance the current wooded parkland and to provide the Hall with a screen from the road. It is hoped that disturbance of archaeological remains during this process can be kept to a minimum.

3.2 The village of Harrington is within the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Harrington Hall itself is a Grade I listed building and lies within Grade II listed parkland.

4. Archaeological background

4.1 Although there are several flint artefacts reported from the parish of Harrington, little is known of the village prior to the

medieval period. However, recent air photo interpretation by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England does suggest settlement of both prehistoric and Roman date in the parish.

4.2 Harrington is clearly a largely deserted Medieval village. Its placename suggests an Anglo-Scandinavian origin and the village is mentioned in the Danelaw Charters although not mentioned in the Domesday Book. Much of the village has gone although the church survives. Despite being largely rebuilt in 1854-5 by Teulon some Medieval masonry survives in the tower. Harrington Hall itself is largely Elizabethan and is the remaining part of the seat of the Copledykes. However, recent archaeological work during restoration of the fire-damaged house suggests an earlier core to this building remains.

5. Requirement for work

5.1 In order that the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeology Section has sufficient information on which to advise upon the tree planting scheme a full archaeological field evaluation should be carried out. Any adjustments to the brief for the evaluation should only be made after discussion with the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council. If any archaeological discovery is made it is hoped that this will be accommodated within the scheme and preservation in situ be given due consideration.

5.2 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation should be to gather sufficient information to establish the nature and exact

location of the surviving earthwork remains, within the landscape context of both the medieval village and the later parkland.

6. Stage of works and techniques.

6.1 The archaeological evaluation must be preceded by a fully detailed desk-top assessment. This will indicate the presence of any archaeological constraint hitherto unidentified.

6.2 The desk-top assessment should include an assessment of the site within both the local and regional context. It should highlight any particularly relevant research priorities which may be addressed by this project.

6.3 In order to ensure that all possible archaeological constraints are evaluated all secondary sources must be consulted as part of the desk-top assessment. The specification should detail those sources to be consulted, but it is expected that they should include:

- 6.3.1 Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record;
- 6.3.2 All Ordnance Survey maps;
- 6.3.3 Tithe, Enclosure Award and Parish Maps (where appropriate);
- 6.3.4 Historical documents, particularly those held by the Lincolnshire Archives Office, and any additional information held by Mrs Price;
- 6.3.5 Archaeological books and journals;
- 6.3.6 Unpublished reports and archives (where appropriate);
- 6.3.7 Aerial photographs, particularly those already identified from the Cambridge Collection (CUCAP): AMV 15-19, AFQ 37 and AHC 10-13;
- 6.3.8 Any other sources deemed appropriate;
- 6.3.9 A visit to verify site conditions.

6.4 For the field evaluation phase, the specification will be expected to contain a reasoned discussion of field techniques selected. The rejection of a particular technique must be explained. In this particular case consideration should be given to the appropriate form and scale of earthwork survey and the requirement for targetted geophysical survey as possible field evaluation techniques. When preparing the specification, account must be taken of the local geology, topography and land-use as it affects the feasibility of the various techniques.

7. Methods

7.1 In consideration of methodology the following details should be given in the contractor's specification.

- 7.1.1 A projected timetable must be agreed for the various stages of work.
- 7.1.2 The staff structure and numbers must be detailed. This should include lists of specialists and their role in the project.
- 7.1.3 It is expected that all on-site work will be carried out in a way that complies with the relevant Health and Safety legislation and that due consideration will be given to site security.
- 7.1.4 The techniques applied in field survey, if undertaken, must be described in full. These should include the conventions applied in earthwork survey presentation, the spacing of transects and presentation of statistical data from field-walking and the plotting of aerial photographs.

7.2 It is expected that an approved recording system will be used for all on-site and post fieldwork procedures. The recording procedure must take into account the long-term archival requirements of archaeological records. Due attention must be given to the drawn and photographic record.

8. Monitoring arrangements

8.1 The Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council will provide a monitoring programme to ensure that fieldwork meets the specification. To facilitate this he should be contacted at least one week prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

9. Reporting requirements

9.1 The final report must be produced in two stages. There must be a preliminary report of the desk-top assessment. This report must:

- 9.1.1 summarise all available information;
- 9.1.2 provide a comprehensive list of all sources consulted, along with an explanation if sources detailed in paragraph 6.2 above are not consulted;
- 9.1.3 outline all possible options for further work, including recommendations for alterations to the original evaluation specification.

9.2 The second stage shall be an evaluation report which should be a straight-forward account of the fieldwork carried out. Ideally it should be produced within two months of the completion of the fieldwork phase. If this is not possible then the County Archaeological Officer must be consulted at the earliest possible opportunity. The report should include:

- 9.2.1 computer generated plots of geophysical survey data and interpretation, if appropriate;
- 9.2.2 a plan at a scale of 1:1000 of all earthworks with a fully cross-referenced description;
- 9.2.3 a consideration of the evidence within the wider landscape setting;
- 9.2.4 a consideration of the importance of the findings on a local, regional and national basis;

- 9.2.5 a critical review of the effectiveness of the methodology;
- 9.2.6 recommendations for further work or aspects to be considered as part of the archaeological strategy to mitigate the impact of the tree planting to be adopted by the developer;
- 9.2.7 a projected timetable for the completion and final location of the site archive.

9.3 A copy of the desk top assessment and evaluation reports must be deposited with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record and Robert Bell and Company.

10. Archive deposition

10.1 Arrangements must be made with the land-owner(s) and/or developers and City and County Museum, Lincoln for the deposition of the archive. Preliminary discussion must take place prior to fieldwork commencing, see address below, to determine format and content of the archive.

11. Publication and dissemination

11.1 The deposition of a copy of the report with the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record will be deemed to put all information into the public domain, unless a special request is made for confidentiality. If material is to be held in confidence a timescale must be agreed with the County Archaeological Officer but it is expected this shall not exceed six months. A short note should be presented to the editor of Lincolnshire History and Archaeology and consideration be given to a full account being published in due course.

13. Additional information

13.1 This document attempts to define the best practice expected of an archaeological evaluation but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. However, changes to the approved programme of evaluation work are only to be made with the prior written approval of the Archaeological Officer of Lincolnshire County Council.

13.2 On the basis of the final report of the evaluation, the developer will be expected to provide a strategy for the mitigation of the threat to the archaeological remains identified therein. This should be submitted in support of the application for the grant aid of tree planting.

13.3 This brief has been set for the guidance of the agents of the owner of Harrington Hall. For further information please contact:

Robert Bell and Company
Old Bank Chambers
HORNCastle

13.2 Further contact addresses:

Mr S Catney
Archaeological Officer
Lincolnshire County Council
12 Friars Lane
LINCOLN
LN2 5AL

Mr T Page
City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
LINCOLN
LN2 5AL

oo0oo

Brief set by Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council
in April 1993.