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## **Hanging Grimston Deserted Medieval Settlement North Yorkshire**

Archaeological Survey and Investigation

Report no. 2308

February 2012



Client:  **ENGLISH  
HERITAGE**



# **Hanging Grimston Deserted Medieval Settlement North Yorkshire**

## **Archaeological Survey and Investigation**

### *Summary*

*Archaeological Services WYAS has undertaken a detailed survey and investigation of the surface remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Hanging Grimston, situated on the north-western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, North Yorkshire. The remains consist of an extensive and complex series of earthworks, representing various phases of settlement through the medieval and post-medieval periods. These include two rows of regularly laid out tofts fronting onto a hollow way, and separated from the surrounding areas of ridge and furrow by back lanes. A large rectilinear enclosure occupies much of the northern side of the settlement, and could represent a manorial site. Overlaying these earthworks are the remains of individual late medieval or post-medieval farmsteads. These represent a change in the character of settlement at Hanging Grimston through a process of depopulation and a transition to large scale sheep farming.*



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## Report Information

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Report Type:	Archaeological Survey and Investigation
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Project Management:	Mitchell Pollington BA MA
Fieldwork:	Mitchell Pollington
Report:	Mitchell Pollington
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## 1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) was commissioned by English Heritage to undertake an archaeological survey and investigation of the site of Hanging Grimston Deserted Medieval Settlement, North Yorkshire.

The site of Hanging Grimston comprises the extensive and complex earthwork remains of various phases of medieval and post-medieval settlement, and agricultural activity. These represent the site of a planned medieval village, a possible manorial enclosure, and a number of later farmsteads, surrounded by well preserved areas of ridge and furrow. The majority of these remains form part of a designated Scheduled Monument (SM no. 32665; now National Heritage List for England (NHLE) asset no. 1019093; see Appendix 4).

The survey has been undertaken to provide a baseline record of the form and condition of the surface remains, which will be used to inform the management of the site and future programmes of archaeological and historical research.

### Location, topography and land-use

Hanging Grimston is located on the north-western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, North Yorkshire (SE 7998 5991), approximately 1.5km to the north-west of the village of Kirby Underdale (Fig. 1). It is situated in the modern civil parish of Thixendale, but historically lay within the ecclesiastical parish of Kirby Underdale, in the wapentake of Buckrose. The settlement itself now survives as two farmsteads: Mount Pleasant Farm and a former farmstead which is now a private house called View Cottage (Plates 1 and 2).

The survey area encompasses approximately 22.6 hectares, including the whole of the Scheduled Monument area and adjacent fields which also contain earthwork remains, but excluding the farm buildings and adjacent yards (see Figs 2 and 4). It is situated on a steep south-facing slope, varying in height from between 100m and 165m above Ordnance Datum (OD). To the north of the survey area, the ground level continues to rise onto Hanging Grimston Wold, and to its south the hill slopes down to the valley bottom along which runs a small stream known as the Salamanca Beck. On the eastern side of the survey area the ground level also slopes steeply downwards into Open Dale.

The survey area consists of a number of fields of improved pasture used for sheep farming, which are divided by modern fences and hedgerows, and contain intermittent mature trees (see Plates 3 to 8). The western side of the survey area is crossed north-south by Gatehowe Road, a post-medieval road which is gated where it enters the survey area at its northern and southern ends. The survey area is also crossed east to west by the spring line following the bands of clay and sandstone which form the underlying geology. A natural spring, known as the Sounding Well, rises close to the boundary of the western side of the survey area. A number of artificial ponds are situated on the eastern side of the survey area, which are also probably fed by further springs.

## Geology

On the northern side of the survey area the underlying bedrock geology consists of a band of mudstone of the Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clay Formation, which overlies a band of Lower Calcareous Sandstone to the south. Downslope, another band of Oxford Clay mudstone is followed by inter-bedded sandstone and limestone formations. The bedrock geology within the southern part of the survey area comprises undifferentiated sandstone, siltstone and mudstone. This overlies a band of Whitby Mudstone which runs along the base of the escarpment marking the north-western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds (BGS 2011).

The overlying soils on the northern, upper slopes of the survey area comprise shallow well drained calcareous silty soils, with slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged, clayey soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1980).

## 2 Methodology

### Site visit

Prior to undertaking the field survey, a site visit was undertaken with members of the English Heritage Archaeological Investigation Team (York), now the Assessment Team North, to discuss the survey methodology and initial interpretations of the earthwork remains.

### Field survey

The field survey was carried out to the standard of an English Heritage Level 3 survey as defined in *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes* (Ainsworth *et al.* 2007), and using the English Heritage guidelines for GPS survey *The Global Positioning System in archaeological field survey* (Ainsworth and Thomason 2003).

The field survey was undertaken using survey-grade Trimble 5800 GPS equipment using Virtual Reference Station (VRS) real-time corrections, and in certain areas with a GPS local base station. This allowed all survey data to be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey national grid, and the height of all points to be established relative to the Newlyn datum.

In areas where the proximity of trees or buildings prevented a satellite or VRS connection, features were recorded using graphical survey techniques which were then combined with the digital survey data.

The top and base of the slopes of all archaeological earthwork features within the survey area were recorded, together with modern detail such as tracks, fences, ponds and other structures, as well as the location of individual mature trees. Significant natural slopes and areas of modern disturbance were also surveyed. These data were used to produce detailed hachure plans of the earthwork remains at 1:2500 and 1:1000 scales (Figs 2 and 3).

Spot points were recorded at regular intervals across the survey area to provide data for the production of a contour model of the site, which has been integrated with the hachure plan. All survey data were processed using GeoSite 5.1 and AutoCAD Map 3D 2008 software, and these data are provided on a CD attached to this report.

Features within the survey area were photographed using a high-resolution digital camera, and details of these photographs are listed in Appendix 1. These are provided on the attached CD, and a representative selection of photographs has also been reproduced in this report.

### **Permanent survey station markers**

Four permanent survey station markers were positioned within the survey area, using 350mm steel ground markers, to allow the location of any future archaeological investigations to be tied in accurately to the results of the present survey. The National Grid Reference and OD heights for each of these markers are detailed in Appendix 2, and their positions are shown on Figures 2 and 3.

Prior to establishing the permanent survey station markers, their positioning was discussed with Keith Emerick, English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Ian Grice, the farmer at Mount Pleasant Farm, in order to minimise potential impact on subsurface archaeological features, and prevent possible hazards to livestock or farm machinery. These markers have therefore been placed between the parallel modern fence lines that enclose hedgerows around the boundary of the survey area, to minimise any impact.

### **Documentary and cartographic sources**

Background information on the survey area and previous archaeological finds and investigations within it, or in the surrounding area, was obtained from the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and the English Heritage National Monuments Record (NMR). The North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton, the East Riding Archives, Beverley, the National Archives, the Borthwick Institute, York and the archives of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society (YAS), Leeds, were consulted for all historical maps and plans, and other relevant published and unpublished documentation. Further publications and academic journals were consulted at the YAS library and York Central Library.

### **Aerial photographs**

A search was undertaken of all vertical and oblique aerial photographs held by the NMR covering the survey area. Details of these are listed in Appendix 3, and relevant photographs are reproduced in this report. Cropmark data recorded as part of the English Heritage National Mapping Programme were consulted at the English Heritage regional office in York.

### **Terminology**

For the purpose of this survey the term *toft* has been used in relationship to the individual plots laid out along either side of the hollow way, which formed the area of domestic settlement within the medieval village. These tofts would have been occupied by a house, and other associated buildings and structures, and in this context the term is interchangeable with the use of the term *messuage* in documentary sources. These tofts are usually accompanied by an enclosure to the rear known as a *croft*, used for small scale agriculture and horticulture separate from the open fields (see Hurst 1979, 23).

Individual possible buildings have been given an identifier code, based on their association with various elements or phases on the site. Buildings associated with tofts have been given an 'NR' (North Row) or 'SR' (South Row) prefix, buildings associated with the enclosure have been given an 'E' prefix, and probable post-medieval buildings have been given a 'PM' prefix.

### 3 Archaeological Background

#### Previous research

There have been no previous detailed archaeological investigations of Hanging Grimston, although there has been some limited documentary research undertaken of the area. Maurice Beresford recorded the site in the second part of his *Lost Villages of Yorkshire* article in the Yorkshire Archaeological Journal (YAJ) in 1952, collating information from the Poll Tax returns of 1381, the Inquisition of 1517, the 1563 Dacre survey and a Chancery Petition of 1619 (Beresford 1952). The Reverend W.R Shepherd also undertook historical research relating to Hanging Grimston as part of his *History of Kirby Underdale* (1928). In particular, he records disputes over land holding between the Abbot of St Mary's, York and Thomas Cromwell in the 1530s, and includes a transcription of an Elizabethan Terrier containing a number of field names relating to Hanging Grimston.

The NMR record for the site (SE 75 NE 17) provides a brief description of the earthworks, produced from the examination of a number of aerial photographs. The remains within the north-western fields of the present survey area were scheduled in 2000, but the scheduling did not incorporate the well preserved earthwork remains on the southern side of the village, which were unrecognised before the present survey (see Fig. 2 and Appendix 4). The North Yorkshire County Council HER record for Hanging Grimston (MNY1563) has only a brief description, apparently drawn mainly from Beresford's YAJ article of 1952.

#### Prehistoric and Roman remains

The landscape of the Yorkshire Wolds contains extensive evidence for prehistoric activity and settlement. This includes the earthwork remains of funerary and ritual monuments, such as Neolithic long barrows and Bronze Age round barrows, as well as extensive Iron Age land divisions marked by extant dyke systems or recorded as cropmark ditches, often associated with enclosures and settlements (e.g. Stoertz 1997). Although there is no recorded evidence for prehistoric activity within the survey area, there is a significant concentration of barrows situated along the ridge to the north and east. These include a Neolithic long barrow, numerous Bronze Age bowl barrows, and a section of cross dyke, known as the 'Queen Dyke'. It was probably from one of these barrows that a hoard of Bronze Age implements was recovered in 1882 (NMR SE 86 SW 36; MNY 12470).

The Roman road which connected the fort at Malton with that at Brough on the Humber Estuary was also aligned along the top of this ridge, and its course is now followed by the modern road (Margary 1973, road no. 29). Roman activity in the area is also attested by a carving built into the wall of the church in Kirby Underdale, which may date to the 2nd or 3rd century and is thought to be a representation of Mercury.



## 4 Historical Background

### Documentary sources

Hanging Grimston is one of a number of ‘Grimston’ place-names found across North Yorkshire and the East Riding, which derive from the Old Norse personal name ‘Grim’ and the Anglo-Saxon ‘tun’, meaning a farmstead or settlement (e.g. Smith 1962). The earliest record of its ‘Hanging’ prefix appears in a letter from William Rufus to the Abbot of St Mary’s, York in the late 11th century, which refers to the manor here as *hynginge Grymston* (Leadam 1893, 248). This element probably derives from the Old Norse word *hengja*, ‘to hang or suspend’, in the sense of a steep slope or overhang (Smith 1937, 130). The steep incline along the Wolds’ edge, on which Hanging Grimston sits, clearly fits this description.

The earliest documentary reference to Hanging Grimston is from the Domesday Book of 1086 (Farrer 1912), which records that the land here was divided into two manors, together totalling eight and a half carucates (1020 acres or 413 hectares). At the Conquest in 1066 four carucates had been held jointly by Gudhridd and Odhvidh, but by the time that the Domesday Book was compiled this land had been granted to an Oswald and Rodmund by William I, and it was recorded as being waste – perhaps as a result of the king’s ‘harrying of the north’ of 1069. The remaining four and a half carucates were granted to Odo the Crossbowman (*Odo Arbalistarius*), which provided enough land for four and a half plough teams, while leaving aside only eight acres (3.2 hectares) for pasture. This was subsequently granted to St Mary’s Abbey in York, and their holding was confirmed in a letter from William II to Abbot Stephen dating between 1088 and 1093 (Leadam 1893, 248; Farrer 1914, 264-5).

There is no accessible documentation for Hanging Grimston in the 12th and 13th centuries, with the exception of an extract from a ledger book of St Mary’s Abbey, dating to 1203, which records King John’s grant of free warren to the abbey’s lands at Hanging (*Hingand*) Grimston (Ellis 1883, 11). It is, however, possible that any future study on the cartularies of St Mary’s Abbey, York – the documents which list the abbey’s landholdings – may uncover further details on the manor. At present, however, these remain unpublished.

The Calendar of Patent Rolls for the reign of Edward III (1327-1330) records a complaint from the Abbot of St Mary’s to the king regarding the infringement of the abbey’s rights of free warren at Hanging Grimston (PRO 1891, 396-397). The Abbot describes an incident in which a large group, led by William Mowbray, parson of St Andrew’s Church, Normanby, entered the church lands at Hanging Grimston and illegally hunted in the manor. This was apparently not before the group had already ‘besieged’ a number of monks at ‘Shupton in Galtres’ (Shipton near York), set fire to the timber stored here, entered the park at Overton, and then apparently rampaged through the abbey’s lands at Poppleton, Thixendale, Deighton and Normanby, carrying away ‘trees with deer from the park and hares, conies, pheasants and partridges’ and assaulting the occupants of the land in all these areas ‘so that they dare not till [the abbots] lands or serve him there’.

The earliest indication of the population of Hanging Grimston in the late medieval period comes from the Poll Tax returns of 1381. These show that there were 79 people over the age of 14 in the manor, who were therefore liable for payment of the tax (Beresford 1952, 62).

A process of enclosure and depopulation appears to have been underway by at least the early 16th century, with the Inquisition of 1517 recording that the Abbot of St Mary's '...inclosed 40 acres, devastated 2 houses, and drove 8 people from the village of Hanging Grimston.' (Sellers 1913, 475; Leadam 1893, 248). During the mid-1530s a dispute arose between William, the Abbot of St Mary's and Thomas Cromwell, with the abbot writing to Cromwell complaining about the grant of what was part of the abbey's lands to Sir Arthur Darcy, in a letter dated the 15th of May 1536 (Shepherd 1928, 107). A further letter from the Abbot dated the 17th of April 1538 stated that he 'wished to have the fermold called Grymston back again' as his tenants 'have no other ground to keep their muttuns' (Shepherd 1928, 108); indicating the importance of sheep farming at Hanging Grimston by this time.

Following the dissolution of St Mary's Abbey in 1539, Hanging Grimston was granted to Edward Fiennes, Lord Clinton, who passed it to Richard Sackville in September 1551 (National Archives ref. LR 15/151). The manor then passed to Richard's son, Thomas Sackville, Baron Buckhurst, who held the land until 1575.

In 1575 Thomas Sackville sold the manor at Hanging Grimston, as well as other lands in Kirby Underdale, Painsthorpe and Uncleby to Sir Ralph Bouchier. This transaction is recorded in the 1575 *Feet of Fines*, which appears to indicate that there was still a substantial settlement at Hanging Grimston in the late 16th century, listing it as comprising of '40 messuages, 40 cottages and a watermill' (Collins 1888). Indeed, the daughter of John Bouchier, Sir Ralph's son, was apparently born in Hanging Grimston in 1593 (Shepherd 1928), suggesting the continued occupation of a substantial house in the area through this period.

Further details of the township are provided in a Terrier dating to 1590, which was transcribed by Rev. W.R Shepherd in his *History of Kirby Underdale* (1928). This provides a list of field names, which Shepherd has marked onto a modern map. Notably, this includes the site of a mill in 'Mill Close', situated in the area of the existing house at Salamanca, on the north side of Salamanca Beck. Shepherd also marks the 'site of manor house' to the north-west of the survey area, apparently corresponding with the location of Low House, although on what basis this has been attributed is unclear.

The post-medieval documentary sources may, however, provide a misleading picture of the unity of land holding at Hanging Grimston. Indeed, it is possible that the township continued to be divided into two units through into at least the 17th century, perhaps reflecting the division between the two medieval manors recorded in the Domesday Book. This is suggested by the documentary evidence from the late 16th century, when the Sackville's are recorded as holding the manor (National Archives ref. LR 15/151), but the survey of lands held by Baron Dacre of Gilsland (which included the estate at Castle Howard) also apparently includes land at Hanging Grimston and states that 'there is none that hath any free

land in the said lordship but only this farm of my lord Dacre' (Beresford 1952, 62). Confusingly, in 1565, Richard Sackville's daughter, Anne, married Gregory Fiennes, who held the title 10th Baron Dacre, a separate title from that of the Dacres of Gilsland. The 1587 and 1603 *Feet of Fines* also list land at Hanging Grimston being transferred to and from William, Lord Howard and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Dacre (Collins 1889; Brigg 1915). The Dacre family and their Howard successors therefore seem to have held part of the township of Hanging Grimston at the same time as John Bouchier also held lands here.

A Chancery Petition of 1619, records that 'the township did consist anciently of eight and forty oxgangs of land [288 hectares] with pasture for keeping of 4000 or 5000 sheep', but according to Beresford by the time the Petition was produced there was only a small area of arable remaining (Beresford 1952, 62), and the township had presumably been given over almost completely to sheep farming. Hanging Grimston is not listed as a separate entry in the hearth tax records for the East Riding of 1672 (National Archives ref. E179/205/504), and any taxable properties in the township were by then presumably listed under the figures for Kirby Underdale.

### **Cartographic sources**

Hanging Grimston is not marked on any of the county maps of Yorkshire produced from the 17th century onwards, despite such maps often showing the smallest of villages (e.g. Robert Morden 1722 map of the East Riding of Yorkshire). Indeed, the place-name does not seem to be marked on any mapping prior to 1775, when it appears on Thomas Jefferys' map of Yorkshire (Jefferys 1775, Plate IX; Fig. 5). Jefferys' map does not show Hanging Grimston as a single settlement, however, but rather as the name of a wider area. This appears to include three farmsteads or houses; one at the site of Mount Pleasant Farm, another to the north-west, presumably on the site of Low House, and a third further north, which appears to lie outside of the township as it existed by the mid-19th century (see Fig. 6). Jefferys' map shows the line of Gatehowe Road, running north-east and north from Kirby Underdale, but seems to mark the road's route turning eastwards further south than it now does, crossing into Open Dale to the east, rather than continuing its modern line up on to Hanging Grimston Wold to the north.

The earliest large scale map of Hanging Grimston is the 1837 Kirby Underdale Tithe Map, held at the Borthwick Institute, University of York (ref. TA 13 L; Fig. 6), although an inscription on the map states that it is based on an earlier plan of 1812. The tithe map shows the field and road pattern much as it survives today, with the exception of the removal of a number of boundaries, and depicts an L-shaped range of buildings at Mount Pleasant Farm, and the barn and house at View Cottage. The field names recorded on the attached apportionment provide little information about any earlier activity, and do not correspond with any of the fields names listed on the Elizabethan Terrier (Shepherd 1928).

The First Edition Ordnance Survey 6 inch map of the area was surveyed in 1851, and published in 1854 (Fig. 7). This does not depict the earthworks at Hanging Grimston, or mark the village's location, despite the Ordnance Survey surveyor, Captain John Bayly, being responsible for surveying the earthworks at Wharram Percy, Towthorpe and a number of other

medieval sites on the Yorkshire Wolds. Indeed, Bayly also surveyed the prehistoric monuments on the ridge to the north of Hanging Grimston. It has been suggested that the inconsistency in recording of prominent archaeological features was due to changeable official instructions, and a bias towards surveying prehistoric and Roman remains (Oswald 2004, 7).

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map depicts the fields to the west of Mount Pleasant Farm as rough pasture. Much, if not all, of the rest of the survey area must also have been in use as pasture at this time since the remaining fields are shown containing intermittent stands of trees, and are crossed by numerous tracks leading to the farm. The existing farmhouse appears to be marked, together with an L-shaped range of buildings to its east, and two probable barns to its south; a small orchard was also situated to the immediate west of the house. The arrangement of buildings at View Cottage is shown largely as it remains today, with a track leading through the field to its south. The Sounding Well spring head, on the western side of the survey area, is first named on this map, and another well is marked to the south of View Cottage, together with a number of small ponds in the fields to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm.

## **5 Description of the Earthworks (*see Figs 2, 3 and 4*)**

The surface remains at Hanging Grimston can broadly be divided into two main areas, defined by the form and character of the earthworks. To the south and south-west of Mount Pleasant Farm lie the remains of a planned medieval village, consisting of two rows of tofts (North Row and South Row) fronting onto a hollow way. The remains of probable later medieval or early post-medieval farmsteads appear to overlie these tofts. There has also been substantial post-medieval and modern disturbance in this area, to the immediate south-west of the farm, largely caused by the creation of ponds and other drainage works.

To the north-west of Mount Pleasant Farm there is a large sub-rectangular, possible manorial, enclosure the interior of which contains a range of earthworks probably representing various functions, and phases of activity. Extensive and well preserved tracts of ridge and furrow, and associated lynchets, survive in the adjacent fields, although the field to the south of View Cottage does not contain any earthworks, and any such remains are likely to have been destroyed by later cultivation (see Plate 22 and cover photo).

### **Medieval village settlement**

Two rows of tofts (North Row and South Row), survive as earthwork platforms aligned north to south down the hill slope on both sides of a substantial hollow way. Each toft represents a small plot of land in which a house and possibly other structures were situated. The toft platforms are rectangular in plan with their short ends fronting onto the hollow way, and a back lane to the rear. There is no surface evidence that indicates that any of the surviving tofts had an associated croft, a larger enclosure often found to the rear of a toft, in which small-scale agricultural or horticultural activity was undertaken. It is, however, possible that the remains of earlier crofts could have been obscured by later medieval ploughing.

*North Row*

The most northerly of the two rows is situated to the west and south-west of Mount Pleasant Farm, and consists of at least five broadly rectangular, level platforms, which mark the sites of individual tofts (Plate 9). These would have fronted on to the hollow way, although this has been heavily disturbed by later activity. A back lane, approximately 75m long and 2.5m wide, runs along the rear of the tofts, separated from the ridge and furrow to the west by a headland up to 5m wide and 0.5m high (Plate 10). The tofts are of similar size and appear to share a single frontage, and the sites of a number of buildings have been identified within them. The tofts have been described individually below in order from north to south.

Tofts 1 and 2, are situated at the northern end of the North Row, and are represented by two well defined platforms. The main platform of Toft 1 measures approximately 10m wide and survives to a length of 25m, bounded on its northern edge by a south-facing scarp about 0.8m high. The western end of the platform is defined by the back lane, from which the southern edge of the platform runs eastwards, defined by a scarp up to 1.5m high. The line of this scarp turns northwards, merging with a low north-south scarp before its line is disturbed by the presence of the modern fence line. Following this break, the alignment of the southern edge of the platform appears to continue on the eastern side of the fence.

Toft 2 measures approximately 16m wide and 42m long. Its western end is defined by a low bank which sits above the hollow of the back lane, and parching along the bank suggests that it represents the line of a wall. In the centre of the toft the probable remains of a building (NR1) are defined by a low L-shaped scarp, along the top of which parch marks were again identified during the survey, suggesting the presence of buried stone wall foundations. The western wall of the building measured approximately 12m north-south, and a clear break in the parch mark along this side could represent the position of a doorway. The building's dimensions east to west are unclear due to disturbance caused by the post-medieval field boundary, and farming activity in the field on its eastern side. Despite each of these tofts being defined by well preserved individual platforms, Tofts 1 and 2 are each far narrower than the tofts surviving to the immediate south, although combined they form an area of similar proportions to the other tofts. It is therefore possible that rather than originally representing individual plots, these platforms may be sub-divisions of a single toft.

Toft 3 measures up to 25m wide and 42m long from the back lane to the edge of the hollow way to the east. At its western end, the scarp defining the toft's northern edge is well defined but slumping and other farm activity appears to have disturbed its line to the east of the modern fence. A smaller platform is situated on the north-western side of Toft 3, and possibly partially continues on the eastern side of the modern fence. The western side of this platform coincides with a break in the line of both the western scarp of the back lane and the headland bank on the opposite side of the lane, perhaps suggesting a line of direct access from the field into this area. The site of a building (NR2) appears to be located at the western end of the toft, marked by a low north-south bank, which forms a right-angle with the southern scarp of the smaller platform to the north. Parch marks recorded along the edge of this scarp and the

bank, suggest the presence of stone wall foundations defining a rectangular building measuring approximately 15m north to south, and at least 10m east to west. Another short length of scarp, aligned at a right-angle to the southern side of Toft 3, may also represent part of a sub-division. The southern edge of the toft platform is defined by a scarp about 0.4m high at its western end, which becomes more prominent, on the eastern side of the existing field boundary, where it survives to a height of 0.8m.

Toft 4, to the south, also survives to its full length of approximately 42m, and to a maximum width of around 23m at its western end. A rectangular building platform (NR3) is cut into the centre of the eastern edge of Toft 4 to a depth of 0.9m, and measures about 9m north-south and 3.5m east-west at the base of slope. This would presumably have fronted onto the line of the hollow way to the immediate west, although this section of the hollow way has been heavily disturbed by later activity. A slight platform measuring approximately 22m east-west by 9m north-south occupies the south-western corner of the toft, and may represent an internal subdivision or another building platform. Much of the south-eastern corner of the toft platform has been disturbed by the line of a later path and modern drainage works, although the scarp defining the platform's south-western edge survives to a height of 0.8m.

Toft 5 has been heavily disturbed, and its northern side is cut by later paths and drainage. The irregularity of the southern edge of the platform, and a number of low mounds in the area, also attest to disturbance. The western end of the toft is defined by a low north-south scarp, although this does not appear to extend for the full width of the toft, and curves eastwards after 15m. This scarp could represent the site of a building platform, but may be the result of later activity. From this scarp to the line of the hollow way, the toft again measures 42m in length. As with Toft 4 to the north, a rectangular building platform (NR4) is cut into the eastern end of Toft 5 (Plate 11). This is up to 1.2m deep, and measures about 6m north-south and 4m east-west, at the base of slope. There is also a low rectangular feature within the platform's north-western corner, measuring around 2m by 3m. A low mound situated adjacent to the building platform's western upper edge may in part be up-cast material removed when the platform was originally dug. Although the southern edge of the toft is not clearly defined, it seems probable that its width was similar to Toft 3 and Toft 4 at between 23m and 25m wide, positioning the building at the centre of its eastern end, as in Toft 4.

To the south of Toft 5, the area is overlain by what appear to be the remains of a later farmstead (see below), although a short length of north-south scarp, broadly on the same alignment as the rear ends of the toft platforms to the north, could represent the western end of another toft. If additional tofts were originally situated further south, any surface remains have now been obscured by later activity.

### *South Row*

The toft platforms comprising the South Row are situated on the eastern side of a substantial and well defined section of the hollow way, and are aligned approximately north-south down the hill side on the southern side of the survey area (see Plate 8). This row consists of seven



sub-rectangular platforms, fronting onto the hollow way, with a narrow back lane aligned along the rear of the tofts.

Toft 6 is situated close to the northern edge of the existing field, and is bounded on its northern side by a terrace about 1.4m high, the southern scarp of which is aligned east-west to the south of the modern field boundary. The toft platform itself is around 30m long with an approximate width at its western end of 15m where it fronts onto the hollow way. Its southern scarp is broader and less well defined than the toft platforms to the south. This may partly be the result of the use of this area as an orchard during the 19th century, and the disturbance caused by the presence of trees and a surrounding hedge line (Ordnance Survey 1854; see Fig. 7). A short right-angled section of scarp below the south-east corner of the platform could perhaps more closely represent the original south-eastern corner of the toft.

Toft 7 has a more irregular, wedge-shaped plan, than the other platforms in the South Row, and measures 29m in length with a width of 13m at its eastern end. Its south-western corner, however, extends into the toft to the immediate south, producing a western frontage approximately 22m wide. This irregular plan is perhaps the result of the later reorganisation of the boundary between Tofts 7 and 8, or the result of later encroachment over Toft 8, possibly following its abandonment. The western end of Toft 7 is defined by a low scarp which fades out to the north, and is set back about 4.5m from the edge of the hollow way. The gradual scarp forming the eastern edge of the platform appears to partially overlie the line of the back lane. The eastern half of the toft also contains a roughly square platform, measuring 10m by 10m, defined on its southern and western sides by a slight scarp about 0.2m high.

Toft 8 is approximately 30m in length with a maximum width of 15m at its eastern end, although its western end is narrower, measuring 9m wide where it appears to be partially overlain by the platform of Toft 7. This western end is defined by a low scarp set back from the edge of the hollow way by about 3m, which turns eastwards to define the southern side of the platform, surviving to a height of about 0.8m. Where this southern scarp meets the line of the back lane it turns northwards, and merges with the lane's western edge.

Toft 9 is a clearly defined rectangular platform, measuring 34m in length, with a width of 14m. Its western edge is marked by a low scarp, set back about 2.5m from the edge of the hollow way. The southern scarp of the platform is up to 0.7m high, and merges with the western edge of the back lane at its eastern end. A low rectangular depression situated in the toft's north-western corner, which measures approximately 10m north-south by 6.5m east-west, could represent the site of a building (SR1).

Toft 10 is of similar dimensions to Toft 9, measuring 33m in length and 14m wide, with its southern scarp having a maximum height of 1.3m. The western end of the platform, set back about 4m from the edge of the hollow way is, however, less clearly defined, especially at its northern end. Two short scarps, aligned north-south close to the south-western and north-eastern corners of the platform may represent the remains of internal structures or divisions.

Toft 11 also measures approximately 34m in length, although it is substantially wider than Tofts 9 and 10, measuring up to 23m. Its western end is defined by a low north-south scarp, about 0.1m high, set back from the hollow way by between 3m and 6.5m, where the hollow way curves westwards. This low scarp appears to angle eastwards to define a slight rectangular area, before continuing south to form the platform's south-west corner. The southern scarp of the platform becomes more substantial to the east, surviving to a height of 0.6m, before merging with the edge of the back lane which defines the platform's eastern end. The western side of the toft platform is crossed north-south by a low rectangular depression about 8m wide, which could be the site of a building (SR2). There is also a broadly square depression in the south-eastern corner of the platform, measuring 13m by 13m, and defined by two low scarps on its northern and western side, which could represent the site of a further building (SR3).

A further platform, Toft 12, is situated to the immediate south of Toft 11, but is offset to the west of the alignment of the tofts to the north, and may not have been laid out as part of the same phase. Toft 12 is about 18m wide, and appears to front directly onto the line of the hollow way at its western end. It is defined on its southern edge by an approximately east-west aligned scarp, measuring up to 0.3m high which gradually declines in height to the east, before continuing northwards as a slight scarp marking the platform's eastern end. This end lies around 15m to the west of the back lane. There are no surface features indicating the presence of any buildings or divisions within the interior of Toft 12.

Toft 12 appears to mark the southern extent of occupation along this row, as beyond this a single furrow has been recorded, apparently marking the edge of the open fields. It is possible, however, that this furrow may represent later medieval or post-medieval ploughing, which could have destroyed surface evidence for any further tofts to the immediate south.

### *Crofts*

Although no surface remains of croft boundaries are visible to the rear of either the North or South Rows, an area of land to the immediate south of Mount Pleasant Farm appears to have been divided into a series of croft-like plots. These could suggest that an additional row of tofts, which are no longer visible on the surface, may have previously existed on the eastern side of the hollow way, opposite the North Row and possibly forming a northward extension of the South Row. The area of 'crofts' is defined on its eastern side by a boundary ditch, or possible back lane, aligned north-south and measuring approximately 3.5m to 4m wide and 0.4m deep, with a low bank along its western side up to 0.2m high and 3.5m wide. This extends southwards from the base of the large embankment on which modern barns have been constructed, which overlays its northern end. It survives to a length of approximately 75m, after which its line has been obscured by the construction of post-medieval ponds, and an electricity pylon. To the south of this there are the poorly preserved remains of ridge and furrow, and it is therefore likely that the boundary of this area originally turned at this point, to join with the northern end of another section of boundary ditch or lane 25m to the west. This further section is around 4m wide and 0.4m deep, and extends southwards on a north-south alignment for 55m before its line turns towards the south-west and is continued by a

bank for a further 12m. The boundary has then been truncated by plough action in the field to the south of the modern fence line.

The possible crofts are represented by a number of long plots, aligned approximately east-west. These are most clearly visible on the area's northern side, where two 'crofts' survive as clear terraces, each about 65m long and between 15m and 20m wide. These appear to have slight lynchets along their centre, probably the result of small-scale agricultural or horticultural activity. Fragmentary sections of scarp to the west of these terraces suggest a continuation of their alignment, but this area has been disturbed by later activity. On the southern side of the area, a number of less well defined terraces are also aligned east-west. These are not as prominent as the terraces to the north-east, and may be small lynchets rather than planned boundaries. Similar lynchets appear to underlie the remains of a later farmstead to the west (Farmstead 1).

#### *Roadways and lanes*

The tofts of the medieval village were laid out along a road aligned north-south down the hill side. This survives in the southernmost field of the survey area as a substantial hollow way, up to 21m wide, and varies in depth between 1.5m at its southern end to 2.5m to the north (see Plate 8). Around 60m from its southern end, there is a sharp rise in the base of the hollow way marked by a section of east-west scarp cutting across its line; this may be the result of later drainage works or an underlying sandstone outcrop. The hollow way continues northwards as a clear depression for a further 40m into the field to the north, where its line is largely obscured as a result of later activity between the North Row and Farmstead 1. A short length of the hollow way's western scarp survives to the immediate south-west of Mount Pleasant Farm, on to which Toft 3 fronts, although its eastern side along this section has been heavily altered by the construction of a pond. To the north, the hollow way has been completely obscured for a length of around 60m by the modern terracing on the western side of Mount Pleasant Farm. Beyond the farm its line re-emerges as a much narrower and sharper-sided hollow way which curves north-westwards around the eastern side of the enclosure boundary (Plate 12). The hollow way here survives up to 13m wide and 1.2m deep at its southern end, before becoming a slighter depression as it continues northwards, where a number of low scarps appear to continue its line. The hollow way is also overlain by later boundaries and structures in this area. The medieval road then would have met with the line of Gatehowe Road close to the gate at the northern edge of the survey area. Indeed, the section of Gatehowe Road to the north of the survey area itself follows a deep hollow way which appears to curve to reflect the former adjacent medieval ploughing. To the south of the survey area any continuation of the hollow way has been ploughed away, although its alignment can be identified as a faint cropmark in aerial photographs (RAF 1964; MAL 1975).

The two back lanes to the rear of the North and South Rows formed part of the planned medieval village, providing access to the rear of the tofts and dividing these from the fields beyond. The lane to the rear of the North Row is 75m long and up to 6.5m wide, and is defined on its eastern side by the western edges of the toft platforms, and to its west by a headland

bank, about 0.3m high. The lane may have been truncated at its southern end where it could have continued into the field to the north of View Cottage. At the lane's northern end, a break in the scarp of a terrace underlying the modern farm track is aligned with the end of the lane and may indicate a northern continuation. There is no evidence, however, for a continuation of the lane across the southern scarp of the enclosure boundary, on the north side of the modern track.

The lane to the rear of the South Row survives as a shallow depression, between 4.5m and 7.5m wide, and is clearly defined by the rear of the toft platforms to its west, and a low bank or headland on its eastern side. The lane appears to have been at least partially over-ploughed, with the furrows in the field to the east extending over its line. This could suggest that the ploughing to the east of the South Row is late medieval or post-medieval in date, and allows for the possibility that evidence for crofts in this area may have been obscured by later ploughing.

The ditch which defines the boundary between the possible crofts to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm, and the open fields to the east, may also have been formed, or functioned as, a back lane. A possible lane also extends westwards from this line, on the same alignment as the 'croft' boundaries, presumably allowing access between these plots.

Another medieval lane may be represented by the line of a later field boundary on the western side of the survey area. This is defined by a ditch approximately 3.5m wide and 0.5m deep, with a bank along its southern edge. It is possible that the ditch may have originated as a lane, allowing access to the spring at the Sounding Well from the village to the east.

### **The enclosure**

The earthwork remains to the north of the modern track leading from Gatehowe Road to Mount Pleasant Farm differ markedly from those of the planned medieval village to the south, and are primarily defined by a large, possible manorial, enclosure. This enclosure is formed by an alignment of substantial banks and scarps which define a sub-rectangular area covering approximately 1.64 hectares. The interior of the enclosure is divided into two main areas by internal east-west boundaries, as well as into smaller plots or compounds within these. It also contains evidence for the remains of a number of buildings and structures.

#### *The enclosure boundary and associated features*

The enclosure's western boundary is defined by a straight bank, up to 0.7m high internally and 1.75m high externally. The boundary extends southwards for around 60m from Gatehowe Road, the line of which appears to have truncated the enclosure's northern end. It then meets the south-facing scarp of the western end of the enclosure's main east-west interior division, where its level drops by 0.75m, and continues south for a further 32m (Plate 13). The south-western corner of the enclosure is defined by the highest section of scarp along the enclosure boundary, at around 3m high. This curves eastwards to form the enclosure's southern edge, although the scarp has been disturbed by slumping and sheep movement in this corner. The southern boundary of the enclosure continues eastwards for 85m in the form of a steep scarp, up to 2.5m high (Plate 14). Its height gradually declines to around 1m before it meets a break caused by a modern vehicle track. Beyond this the scarp

again rises to a height of 2.1m, and curves northwards to form the south-east corner of the enclosure. The eastern boundary of the enclosure then continues as a north-south aligned scarp for 21m, along the top of which runs a bank measuring 4m wide and 0.2m high (Plate 15). The boundary then changes alignment, turning north-westwards, and continuing as a straight bank for 13m, before reaching the point where the main interior east-west boundary merges with its line. The enclosure boundary then continues to curve north-westwards in the form of a bank for a further 80m, which widens to up to 8.5m towards its northern end, possibly as a result of activity related to the presence of a later medieval or post-medieval structure situated on its external side at this point (PM4). The boundary then meets a break in its line, which measures 4.5m wide and may mark the position of an entrance way, the only obvious visible location for such an entrance into the enclosure. To the north a further section of low scarp may mark the continuation of the enclosure boundary, although this scarp is on a slightly different alignment to the boundary to the south of the 'entrance way'. The scarp is also overlain by a straight section of sharply defined bank, and concentrations of stone visible within the bank suggest that it may be the remains of a later wall.

Outside the enclosure's western side is a section of straight bank and ditch (Plate 16). The bank is up to 4.5m wide and 0.3m high, and has a ditch aligned along its western side measuring around 4m wide with a maximum depth of 0.5m. The bank is aligned on an approximately north-south orientation, although it does not run parallel to the western side of the enclosure. This results in the distance between the bank and ditch, and the scarp of the enclosure, differing from 4m wide to the south, to nearly 9m wide at their northern end, and may suggest that the bank and ditch post-date the construction of the enclosure. The line of the bank and ditch is truncated at its northern end by Gatehowe Road, and at its southern end by the modern farm track. It is, however, possible that the fragmentary banks that curve around the western side of the field to the south of the track may have formed a southward continuation of this line. The area between the western side of the enclosure and the bank and ditch is also crossed east-west by a small south-facing section of scarp, which continues the alignment of the main internal east-west division of the enclosure. It is not possible to determine from the surface remains whether the east-west boundary line respects, or is truncated by, the north-south bank and ditch.

To the outside of the southern edge of the enclosure, the embankment of the modern farm track appears to overlie an earlier terrace. This terrace is up to 0.9m high, on its southern side and runs for 90m to the south of the modern track, extending along the northern edge of the field to the west of the North Row. At the eastern end of the terrace there is a break in its line partially caused by modern vehicle movement into the field to the south. This break also corresponds with the end of the back lane behind the North Row, and could possibly represent the lane's northern continuation.

#### *Interior divisions*

The interior of the enclosure is divided into two main areas, north and south, by a straight east-west boundary. At its western end, this boundary extends eastwards from the main

enclosure boundary, and is defined by a substantial south-facing scarp up to 1.2m high. To the east, the boundary becomes lower and more gradual towards the centre of the enclosure, before it is overlain by a narrow mound. The boundary then continues as a clearly defined straight bank, about 52m long and measuring 4.5m wide and 0.3m high. At its east end the boundary curves around to join the bank forming the eastern side the enclosure.

To the south of this boundary, the enclosure is divided into three plots or compounds. The westernmost plot measures about 32m by 32m, with a boundary on its eastern side formed by a low north-south aligned scarp. This plot contains two large sub-circular depressions, which may have been used as rain-fed beast ponds, or could be the result of small scale quarrying. To the east, another similar sized plot is defined by a further section of low boundary bank, the line of which is continued southwards by the western side of a probable building (E1). The south-eastern side of the enclosure appears to have been divided into a larger compound and, as well as including building E1 in its south-western corner, also contains another possible beast pond.

Another less substantial east-west internal boundary crosses the northern side of the enclosure, approximately 55m to the north, and survives as a slight south-facing scarp measuring up to 0.4m high.

#### *Buildings and structures*

The sites of a number of buildings have been identified within the enclosure, surviving as both earthworks and parch marks. The remains of a rectangular building (E1), orientated north-south and measuring 14m long by 6m wide, are situated at the central point along the enclosure's southern boundary. This building is located in the south-west corner of the compound that covers the south-eastern side of the enclosure, and lies within a level area which appears to have been created by excavating into the natural slope. The building is defined by a low bank on three sides, measuring about 2m wide and 0.1m high; a break in the centre of its eastern side may mark the position of a doorway. Parch marks identified along these banks, and along the edge of the scarp defining the building's western side, suggest the presence of stone wall foundations (Plate 17).

The site of a further building (E2) has been identified as a parch mark to the north-west of building E1, on the northern side of the plot to its immediate west, but does not survive as an earthwork. This appears to consist of an approximately T-shaped section of wall, measuring about 0.7m wide, 6.5m north-south and 12.5m east-west. It is situated to the immediate south of the boundary dividing the north and south areas of the enclosure, but is not aligned parallel to it.

Two possible building platforms are located on a terrace within the south-eastern corner of the northern division of the enclosure (E3 and E4). These are rectangular in plan and are aligned east-west. Both are 6.5m wide, with the western platform measuring 18.5m long and the eastern platform being slightly shorter at 14.5m. The platforms are defined along their northern sides by a shared bank, with low scarps marking their short ends, and the scarp of the terrace on which they are situated defining their southern edge. A parch mark has also been identified just to the west of these platforms, which appears to mark the line of a north-



south wall, 9m long, with a westward return at each end. This could represent the eastern side of another building (E5). About 35m to the north, a level rectangular area measuring approximately 7m north-south and 18m east-west, could represent the site of a building of similar proportions, and on the same east west alignment (E6).

A further row of platforms and banks, aligned north-south along the inside of the north-western boundary of the enclosure, may represent the site of at least three further small enclosures and/or buildings. These platforms are not regular in size or plan, however, and their plan is difficult to determine based on the earthwork remains. At the row's southern end is a sub-rectangular platform measuring about 12m wide, north to south, and 17m long. A low, wide bank appears to overlie its eastern end, although two other mounds of material in this area may be the result of later disturbance. The eastern end of this platform does not directly abut the enclosure boundary, but is set back from it by around 1.5m. A more clearly defined platform is situated to the immediate north and measures up to 12m wide and 17m long, with its western end defined by the boundary bank of the enclosure. A gradual scarp on the platform's north-eastern side marks the division between it and a larger rectangular area to the north. The western end of this division is overlain by a mound up to 0.75m high and 7m wide, which partly overlies the main enclosure boundary. To the north is a rectangular plot measuring between 12m and 15m wide, east to west, and 21m long. Its northern side appears to have been disturbed by later activity, perhaps due to the presence of a track, marked by a ramp of material, overlying this end. Its western side is defined by the main enclosure bank, with its eastern side marked by a straight length of bank 4.5m wide and up to 0.2m high. A smaller, square platform is situated abutting the enclosure boundary towards the centre of this area, and could represent the site of a building (E8).

To the immediate east of this row a level rectangular area, measuring 10m east-west by 7.5m north-south, appears to have been excavated into the natural slope. This has created a steep scarp on its northern side of up to 2m high, and on its western side up to 1m high, while its southern edge is defined by a low section of bank, and its eastern side by a slight scarp. This appears to be too regularly defined to simply be the result of quarrying (although it could represent the remodelling of an earlier quarry or depression) and is likely to be the site of a building (E7). To its east are two further possible, albeit slight, platforms each measuring approximately 7m east-west by 8m north-south.

On the northern side of the enclosure are the well defined remains of two rectangular buildings in an L-shaped configuration. The larger of the two buildings (E9) is aligned east-west, and measures 9m wide and 16m long. At its east end it is abutted by a second, slightly smaller, building, aligned north-south and measuring approximately 8m by 12.5m (E10). The walls of both buildings are defined by banks surviving up to 0.3m high and 2.5m wide, or where these are absent, by slight scarps. Just to the west of these is a large circular bank, surrounding a central depression, measuring around 11.5m in diameter, which could be the site of a dovecote. These buildings appear to be situated within a small enclosure, defined on two sides by the continuation of the eastern side of the enclosure boundary to the east, and a

boundary marked by the line of a low scarp aligned east-west along its southern side. To the west of this, the area appears to have been disturbed, probably by the removal of material for the construction or maintenance of Gatehowe Road.

#### *Other activity*

A large sub-circular depression is situated on the eastern edge of the enclosure, and measures approximately 29m east-west and 26m north south, with a depth of up to 3m where it appears to cut into the natural slope of the hillside. Its base is relatively level, and it has a slight terrace curving around its northern side. It is possible that this feature is the result of quarrying, presumably in the post-medieval period, although its relatively smooth scarps and level base are perhaps not necessarily characteristic results of such extraction. Another linear depression is situated close to the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, defined by a scarp about 0.8m high on its northern side and a slight north-facing scarp on its southern side. This appears to partially cut into the edge of the enclosure boundary.

There are also a number of other amorphous mounds and depressions within the centre of the enclosure, which are of indeterminate function and form, but could be the result of small scale extraction or later agricultural disturbance.

### **Late medieval or post-medieval activity**

#### *Farmstead 1*

The well preserved remains of a farmstead (Farmstead 1) are situated in the field to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm, about 22m to the east of the line of the hollow way (Plate 18). These clearly overlie earlier agricultural features, including a series of east-west aligned lynchets, which in part may also preserve the boundaries of earlier crofts. The farmstead consists of a U-shaped building range on its northern side, with a yard extending southwards from this, across three of the earlier lynchet terraces. This building range appears to be the remains of a farmhouse, aligned east-west, measuring 40m long and 14m wide and possibly divided into two or perhaps three ground-floor rooms, with an entrance in the centre of its northern side. Two wings extend from either end of the main house, both of which are similar in dimension, suggesting that these formed part of a deliberate layout, either as a component of the original farmhouse or a planned extension, rather than simply being piecemeal additions. These buildings have been constructed on a substantial platform, defined by a scarp up to 1.7m high on its eastern side and 0.8m to its west. The size of the farmhouse may suggest that it was occupied by a wealthy yeoman farmer, or even a member of the minor gentry, rather than a peasant farmer.

To the south of the building range is a yard, enclosed by a low bank and divided into two terraces apparently formed by underlying earlier lynchets or boundaries. A square platform (PM1) is situated adjoining the yard's southern edge, which measures 12m by 12m and has a smaller mound overlying its north-western side. The location of this feature, at a distance from the building range, could suggest that it is the site of an oven or kiln. However, this cannot be determined by the form of the earthworks, and it is also possible that it may be the

remains of a structure such as a dovecote. To the north of Farmstead 1, another substantial rectangular platform aligned north-south, measures 7.5m by 16m, and this may be the site of an associated barn (PM2). Although the area to the west of the farmstead has been heavily disturbed by later drainage activity, it is possible that a level area situated along the line of the hollow way could have been a crew yard associated with the farmstead, used for over-wintering livestock.

### *Farmstead 2*

An arrangement of banks and platforms situated to the immediate north-east of View Cottage may represent the site of another late medieval or post-medieval farmhouse, although the earthworks here are not as clearly preserved as those which form the house associated with Farmstead 1. The remains of the possible farmhouse consist of a broadly rectangular area, defined on its northern site by a large bank, about 4m wide and up to 1m high, which runs east to west for approximately 16m before turning southwards for a further 8m. To the south, it is defined by a substantial scarp, up to 1.75m high, which curves around its south-western side, where it joins a straight section of north-south bank defining the farmstead's eastern edge. A rectangular level area at the north end of this bank may be the site of a building, or room, but otherwise the interior contains a number of low banks, and irregular level areas which do not form a coherent plan.

About 15m to the south of the possible farmhouse remains, situated below a steep south-facing scarp, is a square plot, measuring 32m by 32m. This is similar in size to the yard associated with Farmstead 1, and may also have formed a yard serving the farmhouse to the north. It certainly pre-dates an existing field boundary, which overlies the southern side of this 'yard'.

The remains of a further rectangular building (PM3) are situated on the north-western side of the possible yard. This is aligned north-south and measures 5.5m wide by 12m long, and consists of clearly defined banks about 2m wide, which represent the eastern, southern and western sides of the building. An extant post-medieval stone barn, now associated with View Cottage, is situated to the immediate north-west, which is of a similar size, and on the same orientation, as building PM3. The extant stone barn also has a blocked doorway in its eastern side (see Plate 2), which would have allowed access into this area, and it seems likely that the barn originally formed part of the former Farmstead 2.

### *Other buildings and structures*

The sites of two further possible structures are situated on the outer edge of the eastern side of the possible manorial enclosure, on the northern side of the survey area. These overlie the line of the hollow way suggesting that they post-date the use of this as the main north-south route. The most northerly of these structures (PM4) is situated on the southern side of the possible entrance into the 'manorial' enclosure, and abuts the enclosure's eastern edge. It is represented by an almost square platform, measuring approximately 10m by 10m and about 0.3m high. Two short sections of bank, aligned at a right angle to the boundary of the possible manorial enclosure, run along the platform's northern and southern edges, and there

is a small mound in its northern corner. These features may represent the site of a small stock enclosure or pen. About 20m to the south-east, a similar square platform (PM5), measuring 8m by 8m, abuts the exterior of the 'manorial' enclosure boundary. This is associated with a fragmentary length of bank which extends north-eastwards from the enclosure boundary, along the northern edge of the platform, cutting across the hollow way until it meets the modern fence line. This may mark the site of a stock pen and gate, controlling access to Mount Pleasant farm to the south.

The remains of two other structures are situated in or adjacent to the area of 'crofts' to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm. The westernmost of the two (PM6) overlies the western end of a possible lane which defines the southern edge of two 'croft' terraces to the north. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 9m north-south by 8m east-west, and comprises a bank which encloses its southern edge and part of its eastern and western side, partly enclosing a central depression. The site of another possible structure is situated to the south-east (PM7), adjacent to the eastern side of the boundary ditch or possible back lane which separates the area of 'crofts' from the ridge and furrow to the east. This is rectangular in plan, and measures 6.5m east-west by 12m north-south, and comprises a low bank 2.5m wide and up to 0.3m high on its north and eastern side. A short section of scarp defines its southern side, which ends about 3.5m from the boundary ditch, a break perhaps marking the position of an entranceway. This structure appears to overlay probable medieval furrows, suggesting a late-medieval or post-medieval date.

## **Field systems**

### *Western survey area*

To the west of the settlement remains at Hanging Grimston lie the extensive earthwork remains of well preserved ridge and furrow, extending across at least four separate, but only partially surviving, furlongs. The clearest surviving ridge and furrow occupies much of the north-western corner of the survey area, where the ridges average around 7m wide and up to 0.5m high (Plate 19). These are aligned north-south in a reverse-S alignment, and terminate at their southern ends at a substantial headland bank, 1.8m high and 10m wide, which runs east to west from Gatehowe Road. The eastern side of this furlong has been disturbed by the embankment of Gatehowe Road, which cuts across the line of a number of the ridges, and obscures the relationship between the ploughing and the eastern side of the possible manorial enclosure and its outer bank. The ridges are also crossed by a modern farm track and the line of a disused farm track on a north-east to south-west alignment, the use of which has caused erosion to a number of the ridges along its route. A series of insubstantial post-medieval or modern pits and mounds are also situated along the line of the path.

To the south of the headland, a further block of ridge and furrow extends down the hill side on an east-west alignment, broadly following the contour of the natural slope. The ridges here are broader than those to the north, averaging about 10m wide, but are lower and less well defined. A boundary, represented by a ditch and bank, then crosses the area on the same east-west alignment as the furrows. This is marked on the Tithe Map and the First Edition

Ordnance Survey map (see Figs 6 and 7), but could have earlier origins as a lane providing access from the village to the Sounding Well to the west.

As the hill side becomes steeper to the south, the effect of ploughing has created a series of lynchets, up to 1.2m high. Beyond these, the natural slope becomes more gradual, with the line of cultivation resumed again by a number of low ridges. The eastern side of this furlong has been truncated by Gatehowe Road, although aerial photographs from the 1940s (RAF 1945) show a right-angled headland bank surviving on the north-western side of the field to the south of View Cottage (see Plate 23). This presumably formed the furlong's south-eastern corner. Continuing down slope, the furlong is divided from another to the south by a headland lynchet, which marks the northern end of a block of narrow, north-south aligned ridges about 5m wide and up to 0.3m high. These have been truncated along the modern fence line at their southern end, beyond which modern ploughing has destroyed any surface remains, although earthworks appear to have survived here until at least the mid-1960s (RAF 1964).

A smaller block of broad ridge and furrow also survives to the east of North Row, bounded to the north by the modern farm track, and to the west by Gatehowe Road. The ridges in this area are aligned east-west and vary between 7m and 9m wide, ending at a low headland bank to the east and terminating at their western end at a fragmentary section of curving bank. A post-medieval tree bank is situated on the southern side of the area, and there is no evidence that the ridges continued into the field to the south, although this field has been heavily disturbed by the former presence of a modern sheep dip.

The field to the south of View Cottage has also been disturbed by modern ploughing, although narrow ridge and furrow on an east-west alignment, and apparently of similar character to that in the north-western corner of the survey area, appears to have survived as earthworks in this field until after the Second World War (RAF 1945; see Plate 23). There is no evidence for its continuation across the later field boundary on its eastern side, up to the line of the hollow way. Two small blocks of apparent ploughing do survive in this area, to the immediate west of the southern end of the hollow way. The ridges forming the block to the north are aligned east-west, but they are much broader than those shown in the aerial photographs in the field to the west, and do not appear to represent a direct continuation of ploughing between these two areas. A further block of slightly narrower ridges run north-south down slope from this, which appears to partially continue over a large bank at their southern end. There is a drop of around 1m in ground level along the modern boundary into the field to the south, which has been subject to modern ploughing. Both these blocks of ploughing respect the former boundaries of two small post-medieval fields shown on the Tithe Map and First Edition Ordnance Survey map (see Figs 6 and 7) and it is possible that the earthworks here are the result of later cultivation and/or drainage activity.

#### *Eastern survey area*

The earthwork remains of the ridge and furrow to the east of the medieval settlement and the hollow way, are slighter and less well preserved than those in the fields to the west. To the south-east of Mount Pleasant Farm, a number of plough ridges have been recorded aligned

south-west to north-east, partly following the natural contour of the hill side, and aligned down the slope forming the western side of Open Dale. These are most clearly visible on the southern edge of the modern field, where a series of ridges survive to around 6m wide and 0.4m high, and a substantial lynchet also follows the same alignment (Plate 20). Less well defined lynchets curve around the natural contour of the hill side to the north, crossing the line of the medieval ploughing, and may represent an earlier phase of cultivation. To the south-west of this area a substantial ditch extend westwards on the same alignment as the existing fence line to the east, although it has been heavily disturbed by the construction of a pond and other drainage features. This is depicted as a tree line on the Kirby Underdale Tithe Map of 1837, although it appears to have gone out of use by this time (see Fig. 6).

A number of east-west aligned ridges survive to the south of this boundary, between 6.5m and 7.5m wide and 0.3m high. These have been truncated at their eastern ends along the line of the modern field boundary, to the east of which ploughing has destroyed any earthwork remains. Aerial photographs from the 1950s and 1960s do, however, show the ridges continuing into this field as both earthworks (RAF 1958) and subsequently as soilmarks (Ordnance Survey 1967).

A further block of apparent ridge and furrow survives on the south-eastern corner of the survey area, to the east of the South Row and its rear back lane. The ridges in this area are orientated approximately east-west, on a straight alignment with no apparent curve, and average 6.5m wide and only 0.2m high. A slight headland bank about 6m wide and just 0.1m high bounds their western end, but the furrows also appear to at least partially overlies this bank as well as the back lane to the rear of the South Row. The eastern ends of the ridges appear to have been truncated by a drainage channel, and are also overlain by a bank formed by the up-cast material from its construction. Aerial photographs do not show any eastward continuation of the ridges into the field beyond, which has now been ploughed, although north-south aligned ridge and furrow does appear to have still been extant in this field in the mid-1940s (RAF 1945). This suggests that the ridge and furrow to the east of the South Row was originally constrained along the line of the existing boundary to its east, or represents late medieval or post-medieval ploughing following the enclosure of this area, and the possible abandonment of the tofts (and back lane) to the west.

### **Water management**

The natural spring line runs east-west across the centre of the survey area, and access to water is likely to have been an important factor in the establishment of a settlement at Hanging Grimston. A spring head situated on the western edge of the survey area is named 'Sounding Well' on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854 (see Fig. 7), although its location is not marked on the earlier Tithe Map, or reflected in the field names. The spring is covered by a stone structure, consisting of a small vaulted chamber measuring approximately 1m high, 1m wide and 2m long (Plate 21). This has been cut into the natural south-facing slope on the northern side of a marshy pond fed by the spring, which itself drains southwards into a modern drainage channel along the field boundary. Amorphous mounds in the surrounding area, and to the south, may be the result of later drainage works.

A well is shown situated to the south of View Cottage on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map, and its location is now marked by a drinking trough. A number of ponds are situated on the eastern side of the survey area, two of which were in existence by the middle of the 19th century at which time another pond was situated in the centre of the line of the hollow way, between Farmstead 1 and Toft 5. Indeed, this area appears to have been greatly disturbed by ponds and drainage works, as shown on aerial photographs (e.g. Ordnance Survey 1956; see Plate 25), and the hollow way itself appears to be depicted as a stream line on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (see Fig. 7). In the northern half of the survey area, above the spring line, water may have been provided for animals through rain-fed beast ponds.

### **Other modern earthworks**

Numerous low banks and mounds, situated along either side of Gatehowe Road, formally acted as water run-offs channelling surface water off of the road and into the adjacent fields. These were maintained into the second half of the 20th century, but are no longer used.

A large rectangular mound situated on the western side of the field to the north of View Cottage marks a former modern sheep dip (e.g. NMR ref: SE 8059/3; see front cover photograph).

## **6 Discussion**

### **Early settlement**

The earthwork remains at Hanging Grimston represent a complex pattern of settlement formed by numerous phases of construction and reorganisation, a pattern which resulted from both large scale planning, and piecemeal, small scale development and change.

It is not possible to determine the earliest phase of settlement on the site from the earthworks alone, although clearly there was extensive activity in the surrounding area from the Neolithic period onwards, evidenced by the barrow cemetery to the north-east. It is possible that a number of lynchets which follow the contour of the hill side on the eastern side of the survey area may be of an early date, possibly dating to the Iron Age or Romano-British period. These curve around against the alignment of the faint ridge and furrow in the area, but could also be the result of changes in cultivation in the area during the early medieval period.

It is also possible that the main hollow way running through the settlement has early origins, with its substantial size, especially at its southern end, indicating that it was in use for a considerable period of time. Indeed, a section of road through Wharram Percy, which survives as a hollow way, appears to have Iron Age or Romano-British origins (Beresford and Hurst 1990), and the hollow way at Hanging Grimston could be of a similar date, although it is not possible to determine such a date from the earthworks alone.

The place-name 'Grimston' obviously suggests Anglo-Scandinavian settlement in the area, although the character of settlement at Hanging Grimston during the 9th or 10th century cannot be determined from the surface remains. It is possible that some form of nucleated settlement developed at Hanging Grimston during this period, as evidence suggests being the

case at Wharram Percy (Richards 2000; Oswald 2004). Such a nucleated but perhaps not rigidly planned settlement is likely to have existed by the late 11th century when the manor is first recorded in the Domesday survey.

### **The planned medieval village**

Whatever the character of settlement at Hanging Grimston before the Conquest, at some stage the village was deliberately re-planned, with the creation of rows of tofts along either side of an axial road way. Planned villages in Yorkshire generally seem to have originated in the late 11th and 12th centuries (Sheppard 1976). This may partly have been the result of the opportunity for the new Norman land holders to reorganise these settlements following the upheavals of the 11th century, particularly the destruction caused by the 'Harrying of the North' in 1069-70. In this context it seems likely that a planned village was first established at Hanging Grimston following the grant of the manor to St Mary's Abbey, York in the late 1080s. The surviving earthworks cannot necessarily be dated to this period, however, and could themselves obscure earlier planned layouts.

The North Row is clearly the result of a single phase of planning, with each toft being of similar dimensions, with a shared frontage and rear lane. It is probable that each toft originally had a house fronting on to the road to the east, and the similar sized building platforms at the eastern end of Tofts 4 and 5 may have been part of the original layout. The lack of the remains of similar house platforms at the eastern end of Tofts 1/2 and Toft 3 may be the result of differential earthwork survival rather than a variation in plan. These tofts do, however, contain evidence of larger buildings which are likely to represent later additions and changes to the layout with these plots.

The South Row also appears to be the result of controlled development, although its plan is not as regular as the North Row, and the remains of the toft platforms themselves are of varying size. They also do not share a common frontage, or rear alignment, and do not front directly onto the hollow way. Unlike the tofts in the North Row, the plots are also not aligned at a right angle to the hollow way, but appear to have been orientated to follow the natural contour of the hill side. It is possible that the South Row developed in stages, with Tofts 9, 10 and 11, which share a frontage, perhaps forming a separate phase from the remaining tofts to the north. It is unclear, however, whether the more irregular plots of Tofts 6, 7 and 8 were later additions to an original regular plan, or whether Tofts 9, 10 and 11 represent a later more regular development of an existing row. All the tofts do, however, share a regular east-west alignment, and back on to a rear lane. This suggests that the row may originally have been laid out as part of a single phase of development, even if the layout or boundaries of tofts within the row were subsequently altered. The exception is Toft 12, which is situated further west than the other tofts and does not back onto the lane, and this could be a later addition. Evidence of buildings within the tofts on South Row is limited, with only slight rectangular depressions at the western end of Tofts 9 and 11 possibly representing buildings platform, although other low platforms and scarps suggest the presence of structures or divisions within the plots.



Later changes to the use and the form of the tofts are indicated by the irregular boundary between Tofts 7 and 8. This may represent a later piecemeal and unplanned extension of Toft 7, and its encroachment onto Toft 8, suggesting a breakdown of formal boundaries possibly due to the abandonment of neighbouring tofts. The partial over-ploughing of the back lane to the rear of the South Row also suggests the possible (partial) abandonment or alteration to the tofts as access was no longer required along this lane. The row may therefore have been largely abandoned prior to the end of open field cultivation in the area.

The contrast between the regularity of the North Row tofts and those in the South Row suggests that these rows were not together part of a single phase of development, but represent separate phases of planning, construction and controlled addition. There is no way to relatively date the North and South Rows based on the earthworks, as neither row has any clear stratigraphic relationship with dateable surface features. It is tempting to view the North Row as forming the earliest phase of development simply on the basis of its apparent central position in relationship with the enclosure to the north, with the South Row representing a southward expansion. The date of the enclosure, and its relationship with the planned elements of the village to the south is, however, unclear, and cannot necessarily be seen as forming the original focus of the settlement.

The visible archaeological evidence for only twelve tofts surviving on the site does not appear to tally with the size of population recorded in the documentary sources, if these are accurate. At the time of the Poll Tax of 1381 there was a taxable population of 79, but even if this figure is doubled to include children, this number of people is unlikely to have been accommodated within such a limited number of plots. Even following the forced depopulation of the early 16th century (Beresford 1952, 62), there were still apparently forty messuages and associated houses in the village by 1575 (Collins 1888), although this does not necessarily mean that these were all still occupied. It is possible that further tofts could have been situated on the eastern side of the hollow way, opposite the North Row, and/or continuing northwards from the South Row. The presence of the later farmstead in this area, as well as other post-medieval and modern disturbance, could easily have destroyed or obscured surface traces of any platforms in this area. It is also necessary to account for the presence of further houses in the area of the enclosure.

### **The possible manorial enclosure**

The enclosure dominates the northern side of the survey area and its size, and the scale of its earthworks, suggests that this represents a high status manorial site. Establishing a relative date for the enclosure is made difficult by the presence of the modern farm track to the immediate south of the enclosure, which largely severs the relationship between it and the village earthworks to the south. The most notable relationship between these areas is the lack of evidence of any continuation of the back lane of the North Row northwards into the enclosure, although its line appears to continue up to the modern track. It is possible that the lane originally respected the southern boundary of the enclosure, simply ending, or turning eastward around the most northerly toft to join with the hollow way. The lane could,

however, have been truncated by the enclosure's later construction, and any original northward continuation obscured by later activity within the enclosure itself.

The possibility that the enclosure is a later element in the village plan is also suggested by its alignment and layout. The western side of the enclosure appears to have been laid out to form a regular right-angle. This regularity is not reflected in the enclosure's eastern side, however, where the alignment of its curving boundary appears to have been influenced by the line of the hollow way, as well as possibly following the curve of medieval ploughing to the east, which may account for the alignment of the modern field boundary in this area. It would seem unlikely that the enclosure boundary would follow such an alignment if these features did not already exist. This suggests that by the time the enclosure was established the route marked by the hollow way, and the medieval field pattern to the east, were already established features in the landscape which constrained the enclosure's plan and extent. Any northern continuation of the enclosure has been obscured by the construction of the post-medieval diversion of Gatehowe Road, and the field to the immediate north has been ploughed. A number of features do, however, appear in this field as cropmarks on an aerial photograph (Ordnance Survey 1967), and a linear feature seems to continue the alignment of the western side of the enclosure northwards, before turning eastwards (Plate 24).

The relationship between the possible manorial enclosure and the ridge and furrow to the west is also unclear, due to the line of Gatehowe Road. The presence of a number of short truncated north-south ridges, situated to the south of Gatehowe Road before it curves towards the north-west, outside the south-western corner of the enclosure, indicate that the furlong ended to the east of the modern road. The straight alignment of the bank and ditch situated between the road and the western side of the enclosure does not mirror the curve of the ridges, and does not appear to simply reflect the eastern edge of the furlong. It is also not aligned parallel with the enclosure boundary, suggesting that these features are not contemporary. The fact that this bank appears to meet the alignment of a low terrace to the south of the enclosure, partly overlain by the modern farm track, suggests that these features are related, perhaps forming part of a separate boundary alignment.

The interior of the enclosure appears to have been divided into two main areas. The northern area appears to have contained the majority of the buildings, with most of those identified aligned on an east-west orientation. It is not possible to determine any relative relationship between these, and it is possible that they represent various phases of use and development. The identification of the sites of at least two probable buildings as parch marks also demonstrates the potential for the sub-surface survival of further building remains which do not otherwise manifest themselves as earthworks. The southern half of the enclosure appears to have been sub-divided into three smaller plots or compounds, with the remains of a possible rain-fed beast pond suggesting that the south-western corner of the enclosure may have been used as a paddock.

### **Later occupation and abandonment**

It is difficult to determine a chronology for the process of change and abandonment of the medieval settlement pattern at Hanging Grimston. The few documentary sources available provide often conflicting evidence for the settlement's size and population in the late medieval and post-medieval periods, which is further confused when attempting to tally this with the archaeological earthwork evidence. There had certainly been some forced depopulation and enclosure in the village by St Mary's Abbey in the early 16th century, and the letters between the Abbot and Thomas Cromwell just prior to the Dissolution highlight the importance of sheep farming in the manor by this time. The construction of the farmstead to the south-east of the North Row (Farmstead 1) is likely to date from this period, as such farms appear to become a common feature in the Yorkshire Wolds from the middle of the 16th century onwards (Hurst 1971, 112). Their establishment clearly marked a break from the medieval tenurial arrangements within the village, as the substantial new farm buildings overlay earlier medieval boundaries. At some point the former route marked by the hollow way also ceased to be used, and the main route south through the survey area was moved westwards along the line of Gatehowe Road. Smaller structures, or animal pens, were constructed across the route's northern section, adjacent to the east side of the enclosure, and ultimately the development of Mount Pleasant Farm blocked its line. Despite these changes, the *Feet of Fines* still lists forty messuages in the village in 1575, although it seems improbable that this document represents a true picture of the actual level of population at this time. Indeed, by the early 17th century it is probable that Hanging Grimston consisted of only a few individual farmsteads at most, concentrating almost exclusively on sheep farming, and the existing farmsteads at Mount Pleasant Farm and View Cottage are likely to occupy the sites of two of these post-medieval farms.

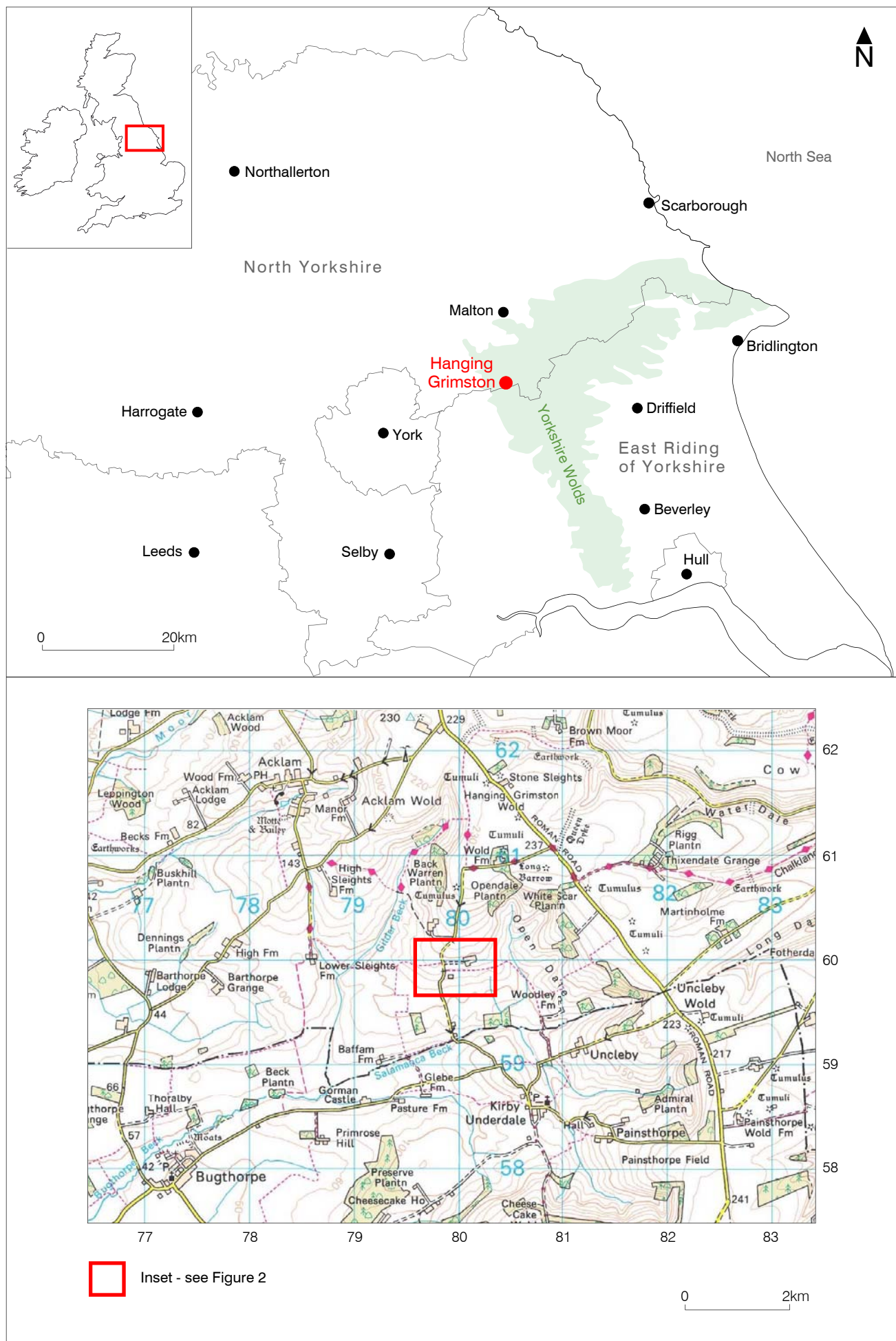


Fig. 1. Site location



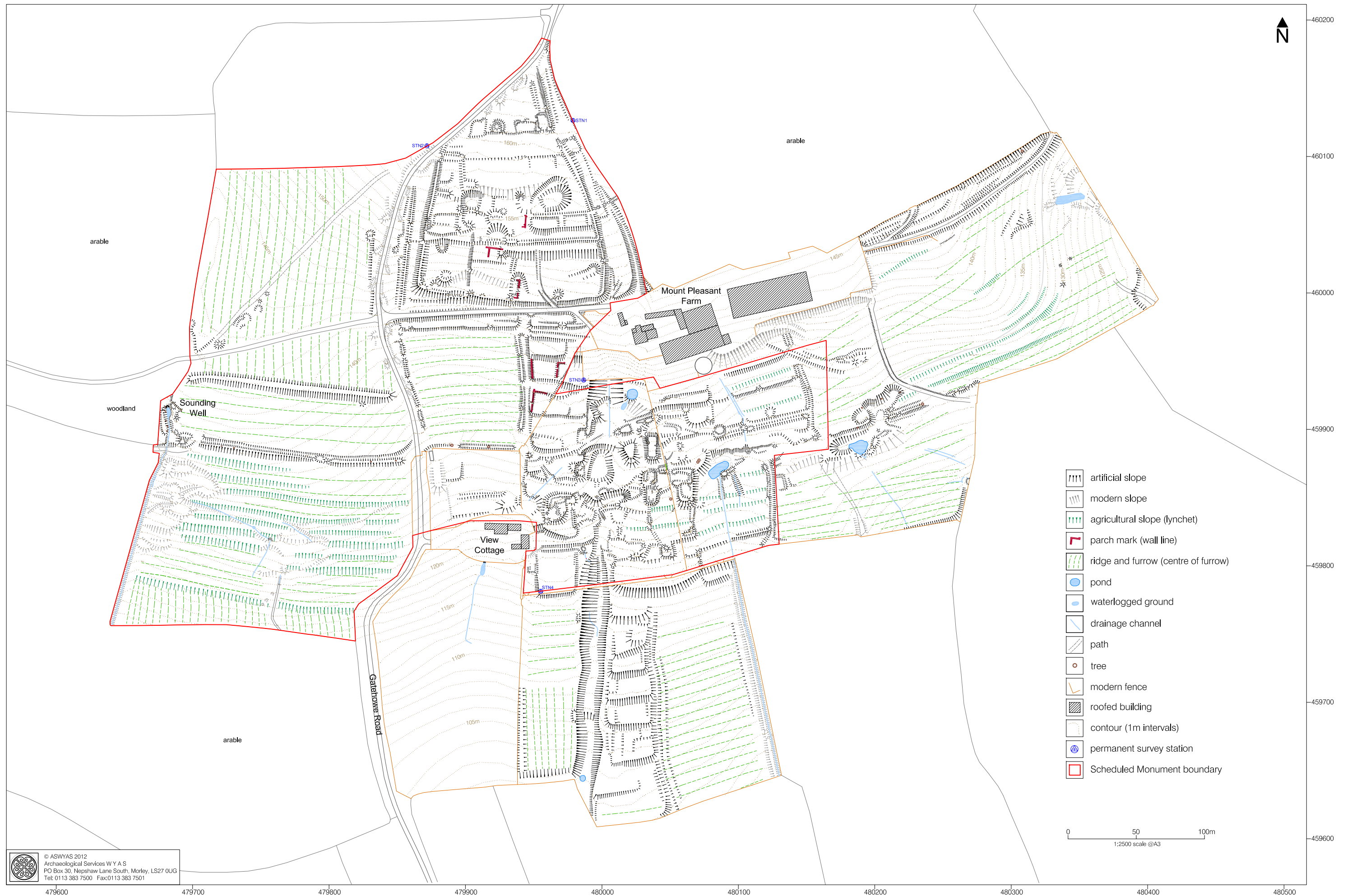


Fig. 2. Earthwork survey of Hanging Grimston (1:2500 scale)



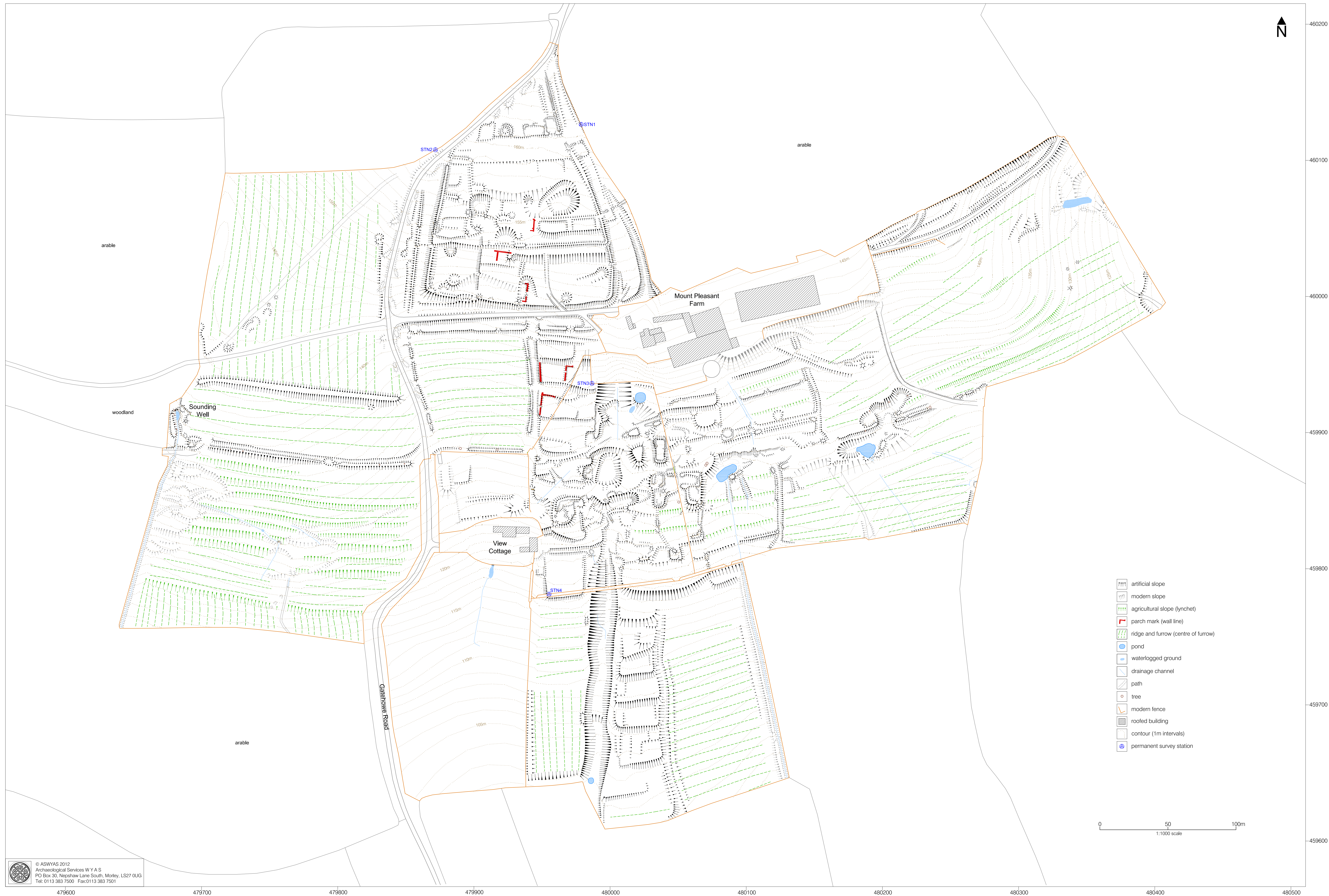


Fig. 3. Earthwork survey of Hanging Grimston (1:1000 scale)



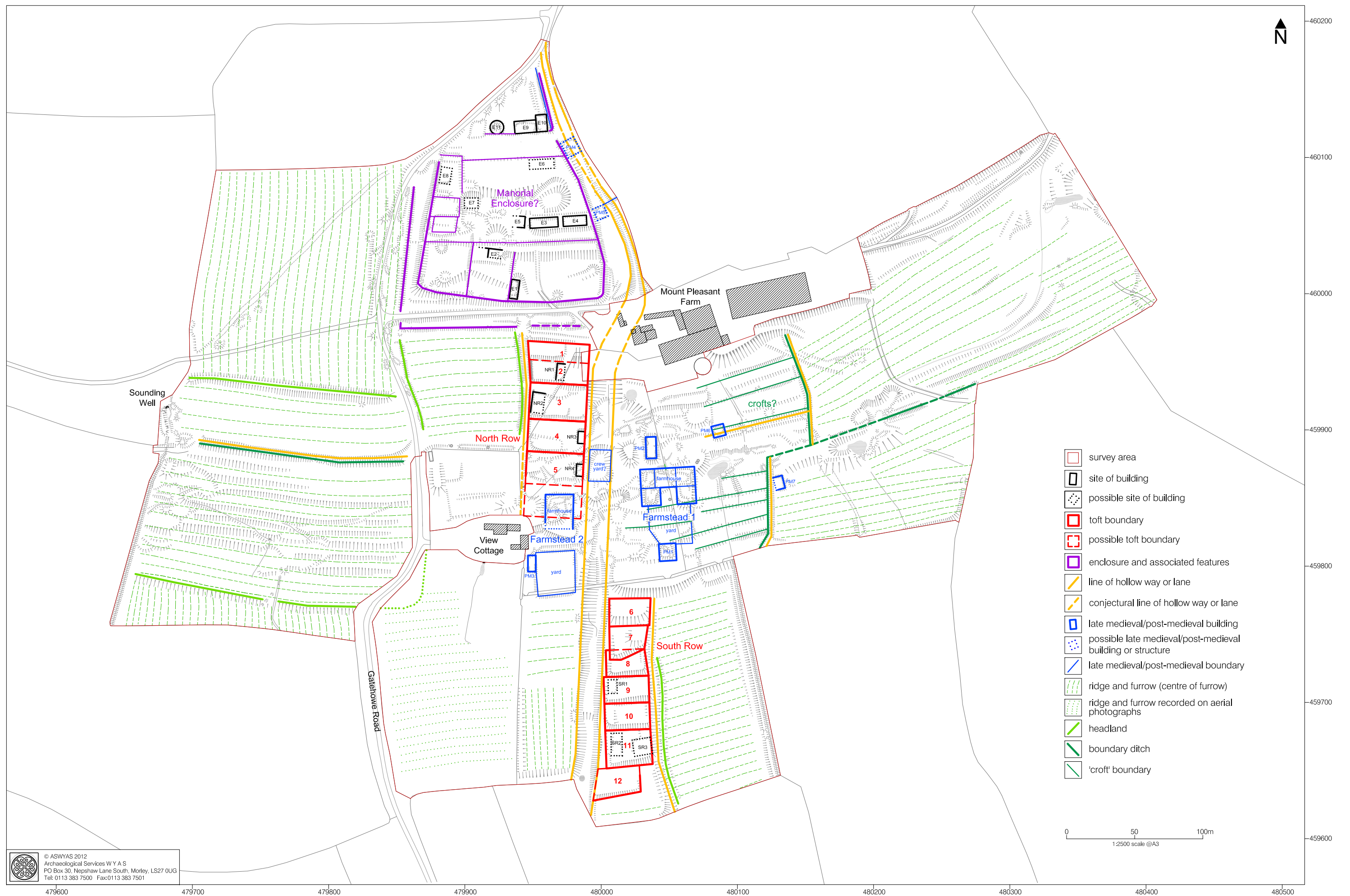


Fig. 4. Conjectural interpretation plan of medieval and early post-medieval features (1:2500 scale)



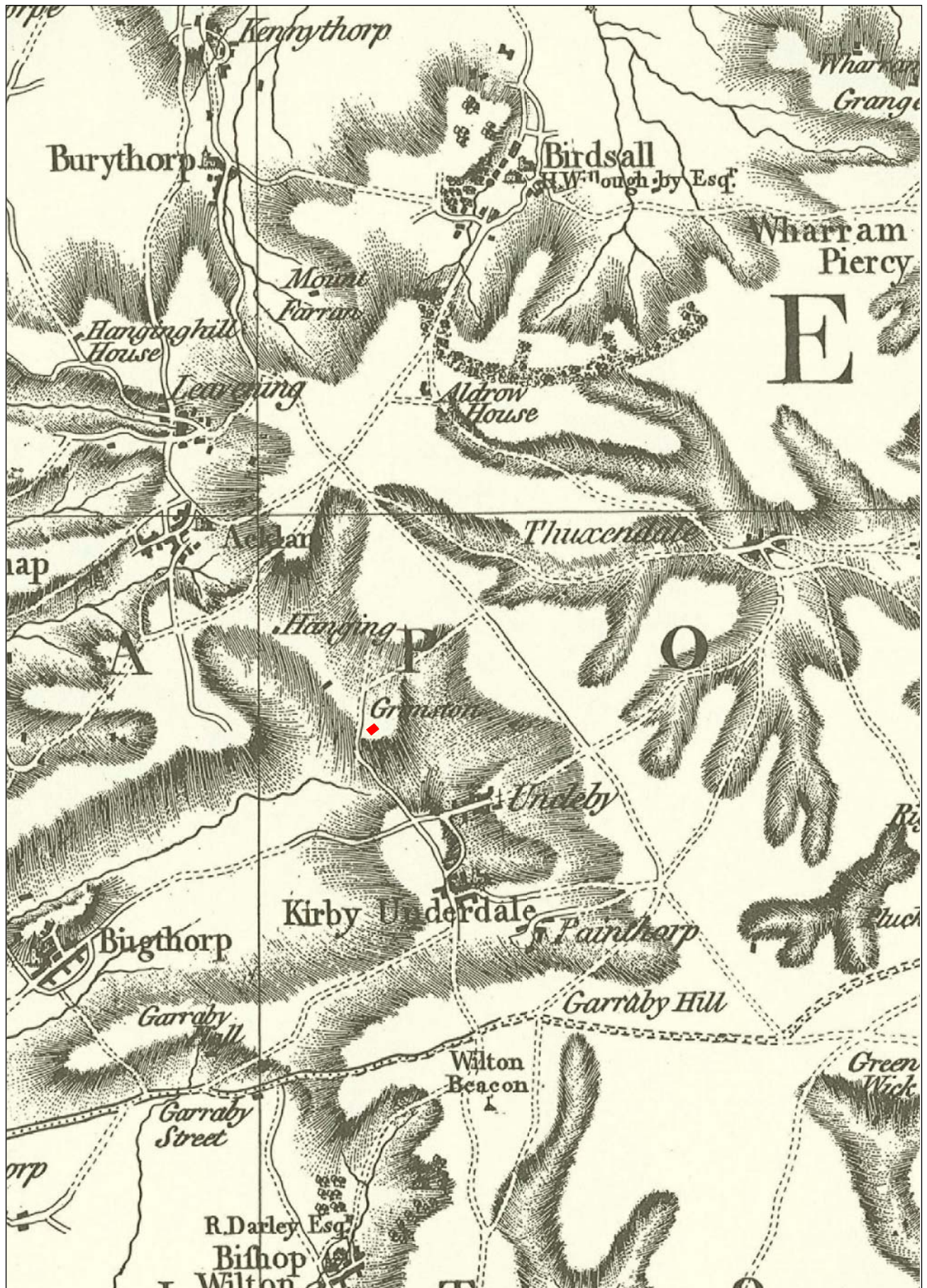


Fig. 5. Extract from Jefferys' 1775 'Map of Yorkshire' with the location of Mount Pleasant Farm highlighted in red



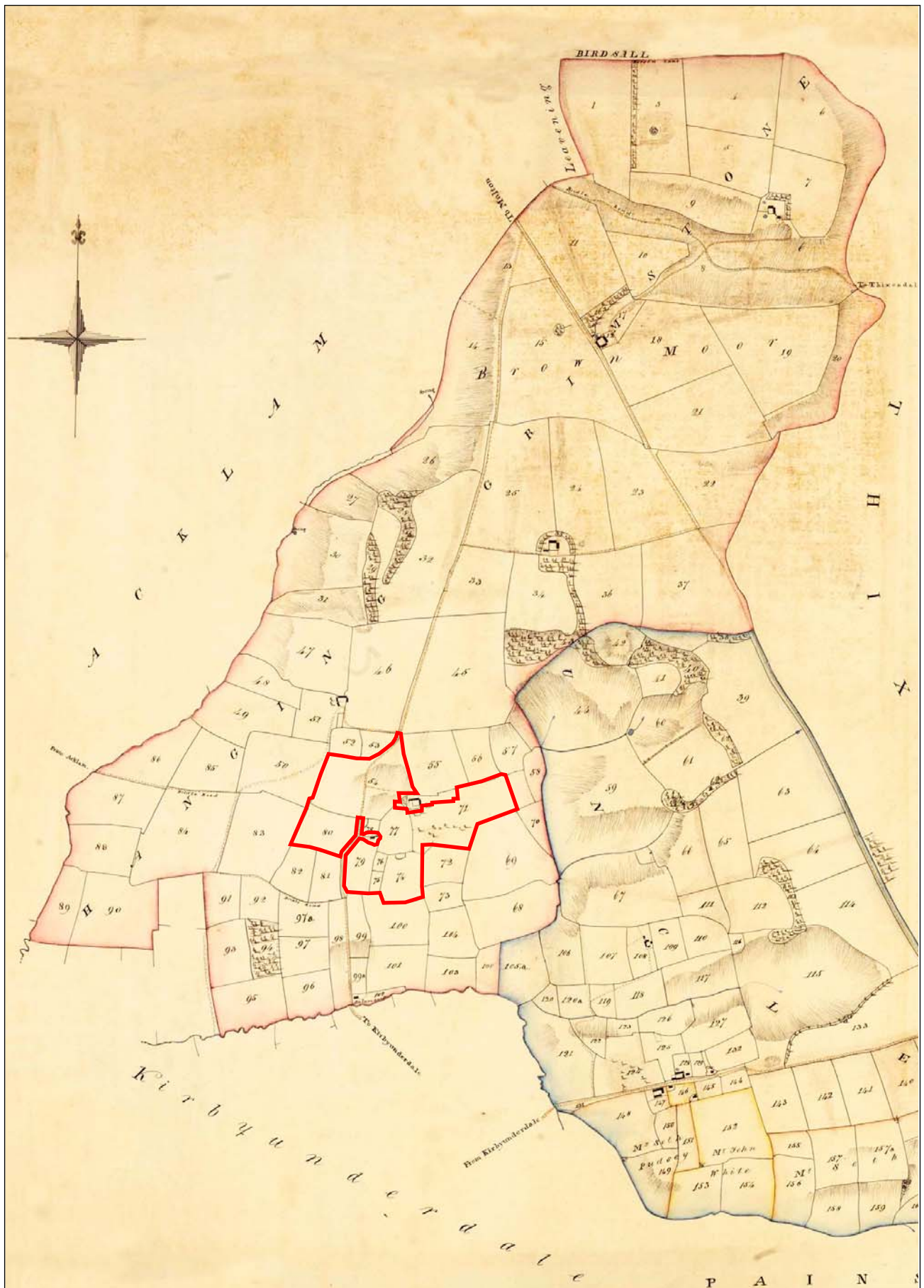


Fig. 6. Extract from the Kirby Underdale Tithe Map of 1837 showing the township of Hanging Grimston highlighted in pink, with the survey area outlined in red (Borthwick Institute ref. TA 13 L)



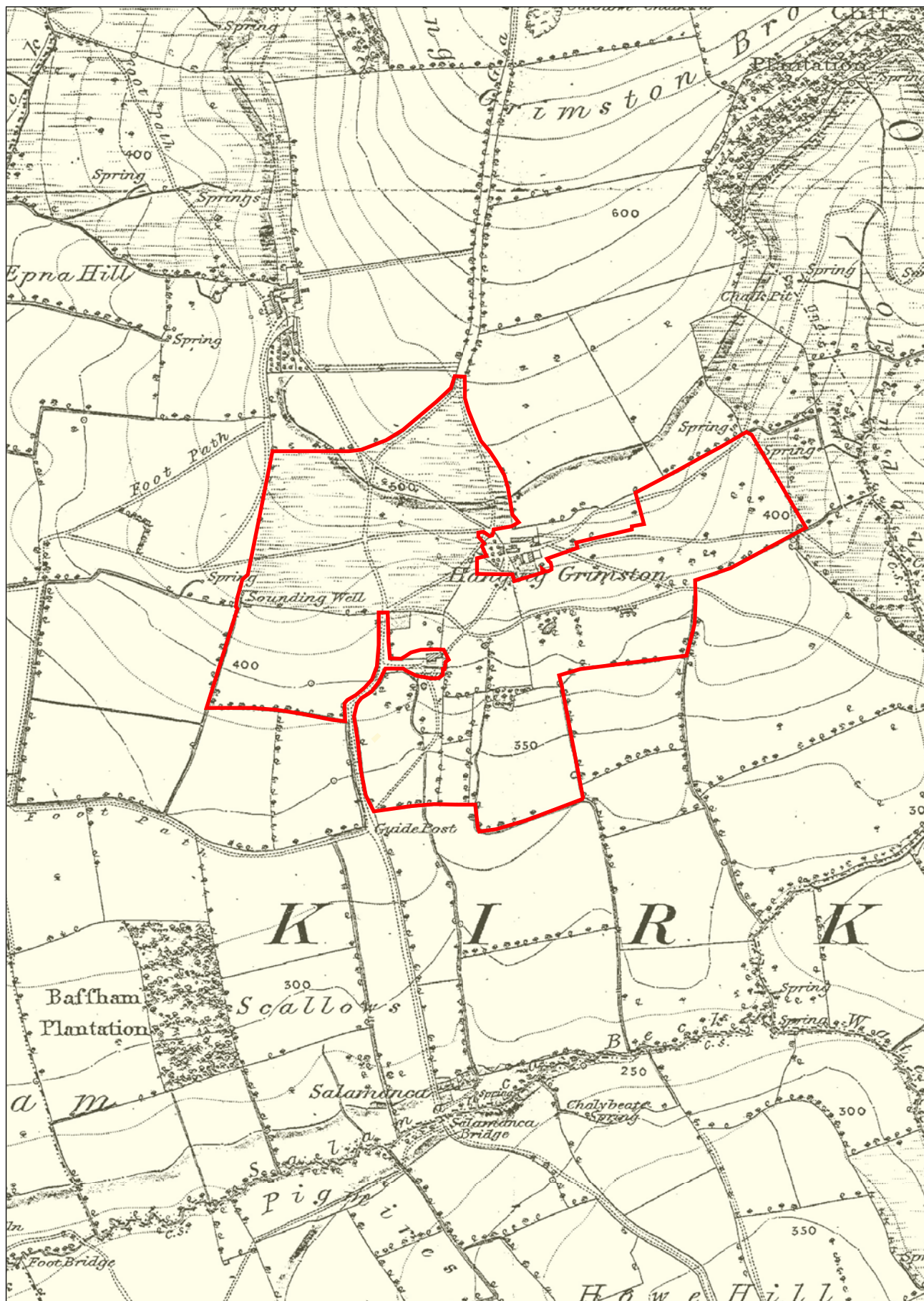


Fig. 7. Extract from the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6 inch scale map of 1854 (sheet 159), with the survey area outlined in red





*Plate 1. Mount Pleasant Farm, looking north-east*



*Plate 2. View Cottage and its associated barn, looking south-west*



*Plate 3. The northern side of the survey area, looking north-east, with the earthworks of the enclosure visible to the right of the road*



*Plate 4. The south-western side of the survey area, looking westwards towards the Vale of York*





*Plate 5. The southern side of the survey area, looking south*



*Plate 6. Part of the eastern side of the survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm, looking north*



*Plate 7. The eastern side of the survey area, looking eastwards towards Open Dale*



*Plate 8. The southern side of the survey area, looking north, with the line of the hollow way marked by ranging poles and the platforms of the South Row visible to the right*





*Plate 9. The platforms of the North Row crossed by the later fence line, looking north*



*Plate 10. The back lane to the rear of the North Row, looking north*



*Plate 11. The probable house platform (NR4) at the eastern end of Toft 5, looking west*



*Plate 12. The northern section of the hollow way, to the south-east of the enclosure, looking north-east*





*Plate 13. The western boundary of the enclosure, looking north*



*Plate 14. The southern boundary of the enclosure, looking west*



*Plate 15. The eastern boundary of the enclosure, looking south*



*Plate 16. The bank and ditch to the west of the enclosure, looking north*





*Plate 17. The site of a building (E1) visible as both parch marks and low earthworks, looking south*



*Plate 18. The north-western corner of Farmstead 1, looking south-east. The tree stands between the two wings of the main building range*



*Plate 19. Well preserved ridge and furrow on the north-western side of the survey area, looking north-east*



*Plate 20. Lynchets on the eastern side of the survey area, looking north-east towards Open Dale*





*Plate 21. The Sounding Well, looking north-west*



*Plate 22. Oblique aerial photograph of Hanging Grimston taken in 1993 (NMR ref: SE 8059/5; © English Heritage.NMR)*





*Plate 23. Vertical aerial photograph of Hanging Grimston taken in 1945, with the survey area outlined (NMR ref: RAF/106G/LA/215, frame 3063; © English Heritage.NMR)*



*Plate 24. Vertical aerial photograph of Hanging Grimston taken in 1967 (NMR ref: OS/67339, frame 183; © English Heritage.NMR). Cropmarks visible in the field to the north of the survey area could represent a continuation of the enclosure boundary, and other possible associated features*



*Plate 25. Oblique aerial photograph of Hanging Grimston taken in 1956 (NMR ref: SE 8060/7; © English Heritage.NMR)*

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## Appendix 1

### Photographic register

Frame	Description	Direction	Date
<b>General photographs</b>			
HGS_001	View Cottage and associated buildings	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_002	Post-medieval barn at View Cottage	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_003	Post-medieval barn at View Cottage	E	Nov 2011
HGS_004	Mount Pleasant Farm	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_005	General view to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_006	General view of fields to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	Nov 2011
HGS_007	Area of disturbance to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	E	Nov 2011
HGS_008	General view to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	SE	Nov 2011
HGS_009	General view to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	W	Nov 2011
HGS_010	Area of disturbance to south of Mount Pleasant Farm	W	Nov 2011
HGS_011	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	May 2011
HGS_012	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	May 2011
HGS_013	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	E	May 2011
HGS_014	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	NE	May 2011
HGS_015	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	May 2011
HGS_016	The survey area to the south of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	May 2011
HGS_017	Field to the north of View Cottage	W	May 2011
HGS_018	Field to the north of View Cottage	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_019	Field to the north of View Cottage	SW	May 2011
HGS_020	Field to the north of View Cottage	SE	May 2011
HGS_021	Eastern side of survey area to south of the modern barns	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_022	Eastern side of survey area looking towards Open Dale	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_023	Eastern side of survey area looking towards Open Dale	E	Nov 2011
HGS_024	Eastern side of survey area looking towards Open Dale	E	Nov 2011
HGS_025	Post-medieval pond on eastern side of survey area	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_026	The south-western side of the survey area	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_027	The eastern side of the survey area south of modern barns	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_028	Modern pond to east of Farmstead 1	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_029	The northern side of the survey area	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_030	The farm track and embankment	E	Nov 2011
HGS_031	Bank to the south-west of the enclosure	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_032	Bank to the south-west of the enclosure	S	Nov 2011
HGS_033	The Sounding Well	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_034	The Sounding Well with ranging poles	NW	Nov 2011

HGS_035	The Sounding Well with ranging poles	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_036	The Sounding Well	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_037	The Sounding Well and adjacent waterlogged area	NW	Nov 2011
<b>North Row</b>			
HGS_038	The eastern side of the North Row	N	Nov 2011
HGS_039	The platforms of the North Row crossed by modern fence line	N	Nov 2011
HGS_040	Platforms of the North Row with back lane to the left	N	Nov 2011
HGS_041	The platforms of the North Row crossed by modern fence line	N	Nov 2011
HGS_042	Toft platform 1/2	E	Nov 2011
HGS_043	Toft platform 3	E	Nov 2011
HGS_044	The site of building NR1 (Toft 2)	N	Nov 2011
HGS_045	The site of building NR2 (Toft 3)	N	Nov 2011
HGS_046	The southern scarp of Toft 3	E	Nov 2011
HGS_047	The site of building NR3	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_048	The site of building NR3	N	Nov 2011
HGS_049	The site of building NR4	W	Nov 2011
HGS_050	The site of building NR4	S	Nov 2011
HGS_051	Back lane to the west of the North Row with ranging pole	S	Nov 2011
HGS_052	Back lane to the west of the North Row	S	Nov 2011
HGS_053	Back lane to the west of the North Row with ranging pole	N	Nov 2011
HGS_054	Back lane to the west of the North Row	N	Nov 2011
<b>South Row</b>			
HGS_055	The platforms of the South Row to the east of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_056	The platforms of the South Row to the east of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_057	The platforms of the South Row to the east of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_058	The platforms of the South Row to the east of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_059	The platforms of the South Row to the east of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_060	The scarp of the terrace at the northern end of the South Row	E	Nov 2011
<b>Hollow Way</b>			
HGS_061	The southern end of the hollow way with ranging poles	N	Nov 2011
HGS_062	The southern end of the hollow way with ranging poles	N	Nov 2011
HGS_063	The southern end of the hollow way	S	Nov 2011
HGS_064	The southern end of the hollow way with ranging poles	S	Nov 2011
HGS_065	The southern end of the hollow way with ranging poles	S	Nov 2011
HGS_066	Disturbed hollow way to south-east of Mount Pleasant Farm	N	Nov 2011
HGS_067	Disturbed hollow way to south-east of Mount Pleasant Farm	N	Nov 2011
HGS_068	Hollow way to south-east of Mount Pleasant Farm	S	Nov 2011
HGS_069	Hollow way to south-east of Mount Pleasant Farm	SE	Nov 2011

HGS_070	Northern section of hollow way to south-east of enclosure	N	Nov 2011
HGS_071	Northern section of hollow way to south-east of enclosure	N	Nov 2011
<b>The Enclosure</b>			
HGS_072	General distance view of enclosure to east of Gatehowe Road	NE	May 2011
HGS_073	Northern end of the western enclosure boundary	N	May 2011
HGS_074	Western boundary of the enclosure and outer bank and ditch	NE	May 2011
HGS_075	South-western corner of the enclosure's western boundary	N	May 2011
HGS_076	Western boundary of the enclosure	S	May 2011
HGS_077	The interior of the western boundary of the enclosure	N	May 2011
HGS_078	The western boundary of the enclosure and outer bank	S	Nov 2011
HGS_079	The western boundary of the enclosure and outer bank	S	Nov 2011
HGS_080	The interior of the western boundary of the enclosure	S	May 2011
HGS_081	South-western corner of the enclosure and outer bank	N	Nov 2011
HGS_082	South-western corner of enclosure and outer bank and ditch	N	Nov 2011
HGS_083	Western enclosure boundary crossed by internal E-W boundary	N	May 2011
HGS_084	Western enclosure boundary crossed by internal E-W boundary	E	May 2011
HGS_085	Southern boundary scarp of the enclosure	E	May 2011
HGS_086	Southern boundary scarp of the enclosure	E	Nov 2011
HGS_087	Southern boundary scarp of the enclosure	W	May 2011
HGS_088	Southern boundary scarp of the enclosure SE of building E1	W	May 2011
HGS_089	Southern scarp of the enclosure crossed by modern track	W	May 2011
HGS_090	Southern scarp of the enclosure to NE of Mount Pleasant Farm	W	May 2011
HGS_091	Eastern boundary of the enclosure with ranging poles	S	Nov 2011
HGS_092	Eastern boundary of the enclosure	N	Nov 2011
HGS_093	Eastern boundary of the enclosure with ranging poles	N	Nov 2011
HGS_094	Northern section of boundary scarp overlaid by later bank	N	Nov 2011
HGS_095	Later bank overlaying enclosure boundary scarp	N	Nov 2011
HGS_096	Exposed stonework in bank overlaying northern boundary	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_097	Outer bank and ditch to the west of the enclosure	N	May 2011
HGS_098	Outer bank and ditch to west of the enclosure with ranging poles	N	May 2011
HGS_099	Outer ditch with ranging poles	N	May 2011
HGS_100	Northern section of outer ditch	N	May 2011
HGS_101	The eastern end of the internal E-W boundary bank	W	Nov 2011
HGS_102	Terrace to the south of the enclosure underlying modern track	W	Nov 2011
HGS_103	Terrace to the south of the enclosure underlying modern track	E	Nov 2011
HGS_104	Site of building E1 on southern side of the enclosure	S	May 2011
HGS_105	Site of building E1 with ranging poles	S	May 2011
HGS_106	Site of building E1 with ranging poles	S	May 2011
HGS_107	Site of building E1 with ranging poles	N	May 2011

HGS_108	Exposed stone at south-west corner of building E1	W	May 2011
HGS_109	Exposed stone at south-west corner of building E1	N	May 2011
HGS_110	Site of building E4 on the eastern side of the enclosure	W	Nov 2011
HGS_111	Site of building E3 on the eastern side of the enclosure	W	Nov 2011
HGS_112	Site of building E10 on the north-east side of the enclosure	N	Nov 2011
HGS_113	Site of building E9 on the north-east side of the enclosure	N	Nov 2011
HGS_114	Remains of possible dove cote on northern side of enclosure	N	Nov 2011
HGS_115	Remains of possible dove cote on northern side of enclosure	E	Nov 2011
HGS_116	The northern side of the enclosure	E	Nov 2011
HGS_117	The site of possible building E7	N	May 2011
HGS_118	The site of possible building E7	W	May 2011
HGS_119	Possible pond(?) in south-western corner of enclosure	E	Nov 2011
HGS_120	Area of quarrying (?) on eastern side of the enclosure	NW	Nov 2011
<b>Fields and agricultural features</b>			
HGS_121	N-S aligned ridge and furrow on NW side of the survey area	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_122	N-S aligned ridge and furrow on NW side of the survey area	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_123	N-S aligned ridge and furrow on NW side of the survey area	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_124	Ridge and furrow on the western side of the survey area	SW	May 2011
HGS_125	Ridge and furrow on the western side of the survey area	SW	May 2011
HGS_126	Post-medieval bank and ditch on western side of survey area	E	Nov 2011
HGS_127	Lynchets on the south-western side of the survey area	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_128	Lynchets on the south-western side of the survey area	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_129	N-S aligned ridge and furrow on SW side of the survey area	SE	Nov 2011
HGS_130	N-S aligned ridge and furrow on SW side of the survey area	S	Nov 2011
HGS_131	E-W aligned ridge and furrow to south of the enclosure	N	May 2011
HGS_132	Formerly ploughed field to south of View Cottage	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_133	Area to the west of the southern end of the hollow way	N	Nov 2011
HGS_134	N-S boundary bank and ditch on eastern side of survey area	S	Nov 2011
HGS_135	Terraces to south of modern barns	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_136	Terraces to south of modern barns	W	Nov 2011
HGS_137	Terraces to south of modern barns with boundary ditch to right	N	Nov 2011
HGS_138	Terraces to south of modern barns	N	Nov 2011
HGS_139	Terraces to south of modern barns	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_140	Southern end of boundary ditch on southern edge of survey area	W	Nov 2011
HGS_141	Lynchets on east side of survey area looking towards Open Dale	E	Nov 2011
HGS_142	Lynchets on east side of survey area	NE	Nov 2011
<b>Post-medieval features</b>			
HGS_143	The north-western corner of Farmstead 1	SE	Nov 2011
HGS_144	The yard between the two wings of the building range	E	Nov 2011

HGS_145	The western side of Farmstead 1 marked by ranging poles	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_146	The north-eastern corner of Farmstead 1 at a distance	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_147	The south-eastern corner of Farmstead 1 marked by poles	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_148	The yard to the south of the building range of Farmstead 1	N	Nov 2011
HGS_149	The yard to the south of the building range of Farmstead 1	SE	Nov 2011
HGS_150	Structure on southern edge of Farmstead 1 yard	S	Nov 2011
HGS_151	Structure on southern edge of Farmstead 1 yard	E	Nov 2011
HGS_152	Site of possible barn to north of Farmstead 1	S	Nov 2011
HGS_153	Site of possible barn to north of Farmstead 1	N	Nov 2011
HGS_154	Southern side of Farmstead 2	N	Nov 2011
HGS_155	North-eastern corner of Farmstead 2 with edge marked by poles	SW	Nov 2011
HGS_156	North-western side of Farmstead 2 with edge marked by poles	NE	Nov 2011
HGS_157	Southern side of building platform PM3	N	Nov 2011
HGS_158	South side of possible building platform PM4 to east enclosure	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_159	North side of possible building platform PM4 to east of enclosure	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_160	South side of possible building platform to east of enclosure	NW	Nov 2011
HGS_161	Site of possible building to south of modern barns	N	Nov 2011

## Appendix 2

### Permanent survey station locations

SURVEY STATION 1	
Station ref.	STN1
Type of marker	steel ground anchor
Direction of photographs	north
Date of survey	June 2011
Surveyor	Mitchell Pollington



NGR	Easting	Northing	Height (m above OD)
SE 79978 60126	479978.783	460126.366	162.065

SURVEY STATION 2	
Station ref.	STN2
Type of marker	steel ground anchor
Direction of photographs	south-west
Date of survey	June 2011
Surveyor	Mitchell Pollington



NGR	Easting	Northing	Height (m above OD)
SE 79871 60107	479871.738	460107.754	158.945

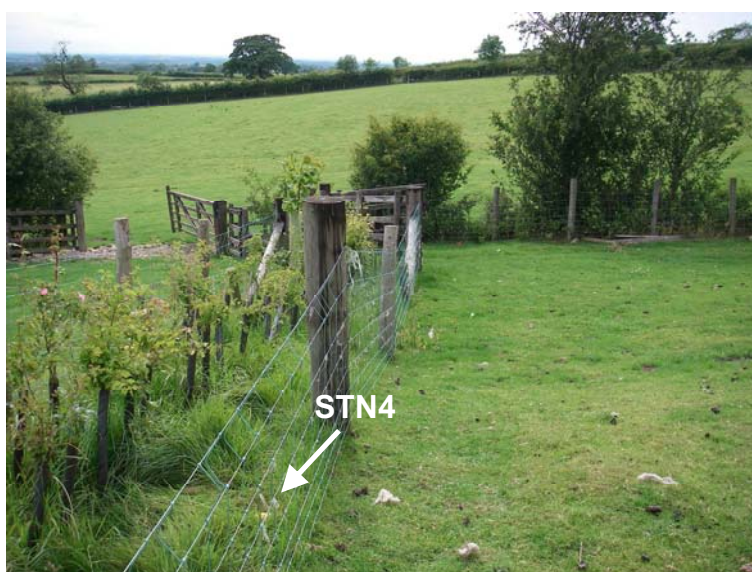


SURVEY STATION 3	
Station ref.	STN3
Type of marker	steel ground anchor
Direction of photographs	north
Date of survey	June 2011
Surveyor	Mitchell Pollington



NGR	Easting	Northing	Height (m above OD)
SE 79986 59936	479986.645	459936.178	137.161

SURVEY STATION 4	
Station ref.	STN4
Type of marker	steel ground anchor
Direction of photographs	west
Date of survey	June 2011
Surveyor	Mitchell Pollington



NGR	Easting	Northing	Height (m above OD)
SE 79955 59781	479955.188	459781.308	118.199

## Appendix 3

### List of aerial photographs consulted

Sortie	Frame	NGR	Date
<b>Vertical Aerial Photographs</b>			
RAF/106G/LA/215	3062	SE 799 590	13 APR 1945
RAF/106G/LA/215	3063	SE 794 595	13 APR 1945
RAF/106G/LA/235	2027	SE 804 603	18 APR 1945
RAF/106G/LA/235	2028	SE 793 600	18 APR 1945
RAF/106G/UK/1417	3050	SE 803 599	15 APR 1946
RAF/106G/UK/1417	3051	SE 795 595	15 APR 1946
RAF/106G/UK/1491	4099	SE 798 593	10 MAY 1946
RAF/543/368	218	SE 799 609	28 AUG 1958
RAF/543/368	218	SE 796 591	28 AUG 1958
RAF/543/368	219	SE 802 592	28 AUG 1958
RAF/543/397	142	SE 800 599	08 OCT 1958
RAF/543/397	143	SE 791 599	08 OCT 1958
OS/67339	183	SE 797 603	01 SEP 1967
OS/67339	184	SE 803 603	01 SEP 1967
OS/74085	765	SE 803 602	26 MAY 1974
MAL/75025	211	SE 802 597	04 MAY 1975
MAL/75027	14	SE 798 587	04 MAY 1975
OS/78053	344	SE 797 602	25 MAY 1978
OS/78053	345	SE 803 602	25 MAY 1978
OS/96621	94	SE 793 599	09 JUN 1996
OS/98424	124	SE 806 602	07 NOV 1998
OS/98424	125	SE 806 596	07 NOV 1998
OS/99301	3	SE 795 600	01 AUG 1999

Reference	Film and Frame nos	NGR	Date
<b>Oblique Aerial Photographs</b>			
SE 8060/2	CAP 8326/ 74	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/3	CAP 8326/ 75	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/4	CAP 8326/ 76	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/5	CAP 8326/ 77	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/6	CAP 8326/ 78	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/7	CAP 8326/ 79	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/8	CAP 8326/ 80	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956

SE 8060/9	CAP 8326/ 81	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 8060/10	CAP 8326/ 82	SE 801600	27 MAR 1956
SE 7959/1	NMR 10301/ 7-8	SE 798599	14 AUG 1973
SE 7960/4	NMR 10301/ 1-4	SE 798600	14 AUG 1973
SE 7960/5	NMR 10566/ 5-6	SE 799600	14 AUG 1973
SE 8059/1	NMR 10922/ 9-12	SE 800599	14 AUG 1973
SE 8059/22	DNR 1535/ 13	SE 800599	12 JUL 1979
SE 8059/23	DNR 1535/ 14	SE 800599	12 JUL 1979
SE 8059/24	DNR 1535/ 15	SE 800599	12 JUL 1979
SE 8059/25	DNR 1535/ 16	SE 800599	12 JUL 1979
SE 7960/6	NMR 1676/ 409-410	SE 797601	21 AUG 1979
SE 8059/11	NMR 12312/ 31	SE 801599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/12	NMR 12312/ 33	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/13	NMR 12312/ 34	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/14	NMR 12313/ 23	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/15	NMR 12313/ 24	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/16	NMR 12313/ 25	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/17	NMR 12313/ 26	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/18	NMR 12313/ 27	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/19	NMR 12313/ 28	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/20	NMR 12313/ 29	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8059/21	NMR 12313/ 30	SE 800599	22 JUL 1992
SE 8060/21	NMR 12312/ 32	SE 801600	22 JUL 1992
SE 7959/2	NMR 12376/ 108	SE 799597	07 MAY 1993
SE 7959/3	NMR 12376/ 109	SE 799597	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/2	NMR 12381/ 32	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/3	NMR 12381/ 33	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/4	NMR 12381/ 34	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/5	NMR 12367/ 07	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/6	NMR 12367/ 08	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/7	NMR 12367/ 09	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/8	NMR 12367/ 10	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/9	NMR 12367/ 11	SE 800599	07 MAY 1993
SE 8059/10	NMR 12367/ 12	SE 801599	07 MAY 1993
SE 7959/4	NMR 17198/ 37	SE 799597	10 NOV 1998
SE 7959/5	NMR 17186/ 06	SE 799599	10 NOV 1998
SE 7960/8	NMR 17198/ 39	SE 799600	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/26	NMR 17198/ 27	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/27	NMR 17198/ 28	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998

SE 8059/28	NMR 17198/ 29	SE 801599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/29	NMR 17198/ 30	SE 801599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/30	NMR 17198/ 31	SE 801598	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/31	NMR 17198/ 32	SE 801599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/32	NMR 17198/ 33	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/33	NMR 17198/ 38	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/34	NMR 17186/ 04	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8059/35	NMR 17186/ 05	SE 800599	10 NOV 1998
SE 8060/30	NMR 17198/ 35	SE 803601	10 NOV 1998
SE 8060/ 31	NMR 17198/ 36	SE 800600	10 NOV 1998



## **Appendix 4**

### **Scheduled Monument description**

## EXTRACT FROM ENGLISH HERITAGE'S RECORD OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

MONUMENT: Hanging Grimston medieval settlement adjacent to Mount Pleasant Farm

PARISH: THIXENDALE

DISTRICT: RYEDALE

COUNTY: NORTH YORKSHIRE

NATIONAL MONUMENT NO: 32665

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE(S): SE79895992

### DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT

The monument includes buried and earthwork remains of the medieval village of Hanging Grimston, together with the surviving area of its open field system visible as ridge and furrow earthworks. It is located to the south and west of Mount Pleasant Farm. Originally known as Grimston, the 'Hanging' prefix of the settlement's name first occurred in 1300; the settlement was a township of Kirby Underdale. The Domesday Book of 1087 listed two manors for the settlement. The first was held by Odo the Crossbowman, William the Conqueror's chief military engineer, and included arable land for four and a half plough teams and eight acres of meadow. The second manor included the same amount of arable land and was held by the king who let it to Osweard and Rothmundr. By 1093 William Rufus confirmed the granting of both his and Odo's manors to St Mary's Benedictine Abbey in York which is thought to have held the township until the abbey was dissolved in 1539. In 1381, 79 people were listed as being over 14 and thus liable for the Poll Tax. Enclosure of the medieval openfields was reported in 1517 and by 1563 all of the township was in the ownership of Lord Dacre. A Chancery petition in 1619 noted that there was just a small area of arable left, indicating that the settlement was effectively deserted by this time. The earthworks of the village extend down a south facing hillside with building platforms forming a number of small terraces. In overall form the village was simple in plan with two rows of properties facing each other across a narrow village green with a third row of smaller houses to the north west following a section of a back lane. The village's main street was a southwards continuation of Gatehowe Road, now followed by a footpath in the bottom of a hollow way. This continued south, past the western side of the modern Mount Pleasant Farm and broadened into a long narrow village green which formed the heart of the village. To the west of this main street there was another lane marked by a hollow way. This is approximately followed by the modern road line southwards, diverging from the main street at the north end of the monument. Linking these two routeways there is a 20m wide terrace supporting the trackway which ends at the modern farm. Mount Pleasant Farm is thought to have developed out of the last farm remaining following the depopulation of the village in the 16th century, and the terrace is interpreted as a drove way for the sheep which were more profitable than tenant farmers for the landlord at that time. Running southwards from this drove way, 60m west of the entrance to the farm, there is another hollow way which formed a back lane for properties fronting onto the western side of the green.

The main core of the settlement lies to the south of the drove way. Between the back lane and the village green, which lies 40-50m to the east, there is a north-south row of at least six tofts (plots for houses, outbuildings and yards), terraced into the hillside. The toft immediately to the north east of the present house, which lies to the south west of the modern farm, is especially complex, with remains of several buildings arranged around a central yard. The village green is about 30m wide and has been heavily quarried into a series of depressions extending down the hill, some of which contain water. As this quarrying is constrained by the building platforms to east and west, it is thought to have taken place during the lifetime of the village. On the eastern side of the green there are further tofts retaining building remains. The tofts have a common boundary ditch to the east and are separated from each other by low banks or breaks of slope. Centred 200m south of the modern farm there are the remains of a small courtyard farmstead, similar to those found to typically date to around the 15th century elsewhere on the Wolds. This measures 22m by 40m externally and includes a horseshoe of buildings around a south facing yard 8m by 20m. The next two tofts to the north extend just over 100m back from the green. They appear to have been amalgamated as they share a single building 8m by 20m orientated parallel to the green. The two tofts to the south of the courtyard farmstead are not as long, extending about 70m back from the green. The northern one has a single small building platform, whereas the southern toft retains evidence of at least two structures. Fronting onto the green there is a level area for a small building similar to several other tofts within the monument. To the east there is a raised platform 8m by 8m, 0.5m high with a 5m diameter, 0.7m high mound on its northern, uphill half. This is interpreted as the remains of a kiln or oven.

The northern part of the monument, to the east of the modern road and north of the track to Mount Pleasant Farm, is divided into a series of six east-west terraces extending down the hillside southwards. On the western side of this area, extending south from approximately where the modern road diverges south from the field boundary, there is a row of five to six small building platforms. These are typically 8m across and front onto the hollow way, which runs just east of the modern road and is interpreted as a former back lane, with a low bank to their east. These are interpreted as platforms for less substantial medieval peasant houses than those fronting onto the green. Along the southern edge of the northernmost terrace there are the footings of a further three buildings. These are much more substantial in nature and are more comparable with those near the village green. The middle structure is 10m by 10m and the two flanking ones are both 8m by 11m. The next two terraces, both about 20m wide, are interpreted as crofts, probably originally used for horticulture. The fourth terrace down the hillside is the widest, up to 35m wide. This has been used for quarrying, but also has a small building platform in its south west corner and a circular depression around 20m in diameter to the east interpreted as a dewpond. The terraces to the south are more irregular, narrower and also show evidence of quarrying. Further to the south, beyond the drove way to Mount Pleasant Farm, there are the earthworks of ridge and furrow cultivation following the contours east to west and extending between the back lane of the properties fronting onto the village green and the other lane followed by the modern road. To the west of the modern road there are the well preserved remains of further medieval ridge and furrow earthworks. In the northern 300m of the area, the ridge and furrow is orientated north-south, down the gentle slope of the hillside. The northern end is cut across by a later field boundary, but the southern end retains a well defined header bank. To the south of this, the hillside steepens and the ridge and furrow is orientated with the contours east-west, producing a succession of low lynchets. On the far western side there is a stone arched well known as Sounding Well, cut into the hillside, which may have medieval origins.

A number of features are excluded from the scheduling; these are all modern

fences, walls, styles and gates, water troughs and the platforms that they stand on, telegraph poles and all road and path surfaces; however, the ground beneath these features is included.

## ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE

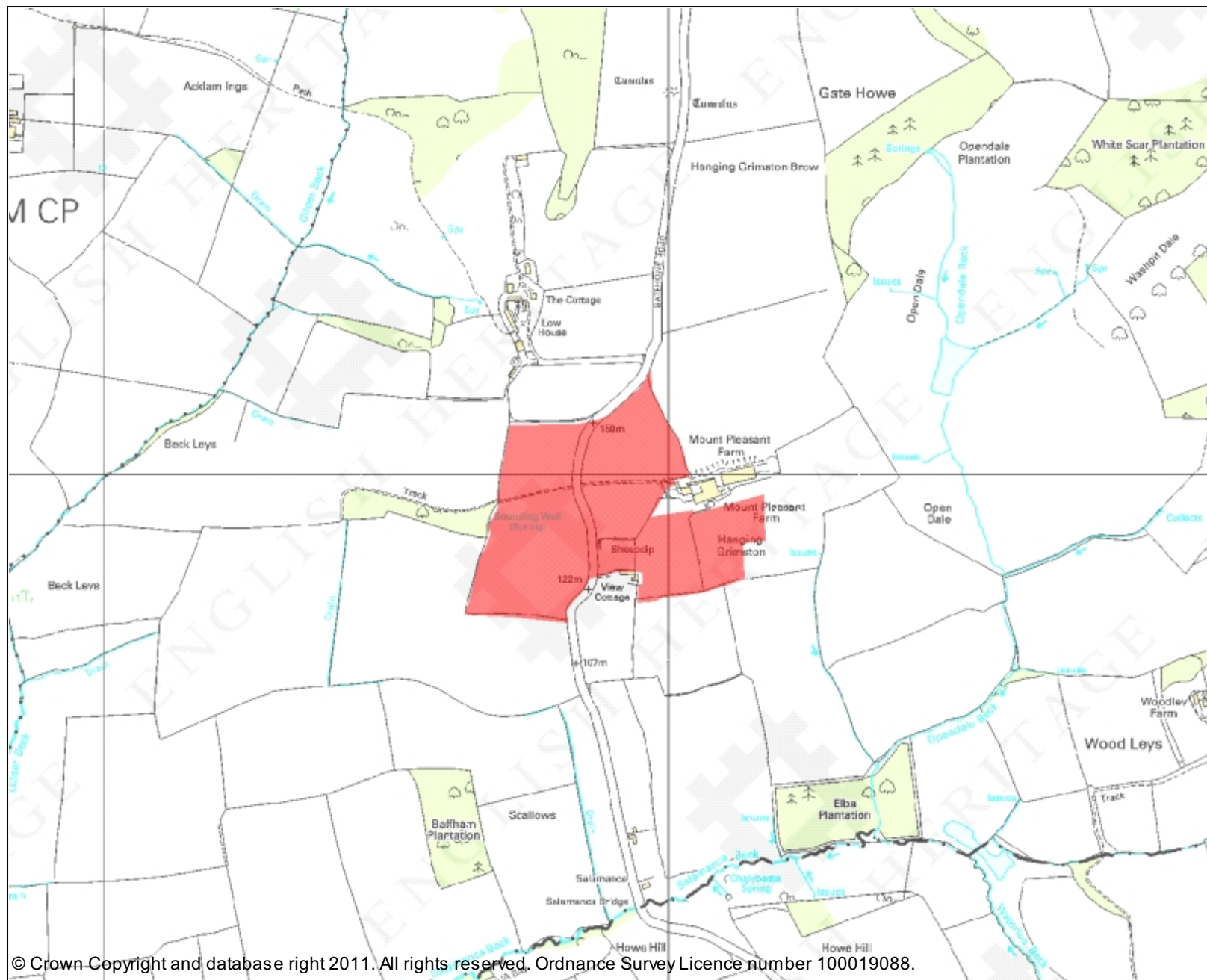
Medieval rural settlements in England were marked by great regional diversity in form, size and type, and the protection of their archaeological remains needs to take these differences into account. To do this, England has been divided into three broad Provinces on the basis of each area's distinctive mixture of nucleated and dispersed settlements. These can be further divided into sub-Provinces and local regions, possessing characteristics which have gradually evolved during the last 1500 years or more.

The Yorkshire Wolds local region is a soft, rolling, chalk landscape with deep valleys. Dispersed farmsteads, usually impressive creations of the late 18th and 19th centuries, are present in small numbers. The earlier pattern of medieval nucleated settlements - villages and hamlets - still dominates the archaeological landscape as either deserted settlement sites or sites still occupied by rural communities.

Medieval villages were organised agricultural communities, generally sited at the centre of a parish or township, that shared resources such as arable land, meadow and woodland. Village plans varied enormously, but where they survive as earthworks, their most distinguishing features include roads and minor tracks, platforms on which stood houses and other buildings such as barns, enclosed crofts and paddocks. They frequently included the parish church within their boundaries, and as part of the manorial system, most villages included one or more manorial centres which may also survive as visible remains as well as below ground deposits. In the Central Province of England, villages were the most distinctive aspect of medieval life, and their archaeological remains are one of the most important sources of understanding about rural life in the five or more centuries following the Norman Conquest. Medieval villages were supported by a communal system of agriculture based on large, unenclosed open arable fields. These large fields were divided into strips (known as lands) which were allocated to individual tenants. The cultivation of these strips with heavy ploughs pulled by oxen-teams produced long wide ridges and the resultant 'ridge and furrow' where it survives, is the most obvious physical indication of the open field system. Individual strips were laid out in groups known as furlongs defined by terminal headlands at the plough turning points and lateral grass baulks. Furlongs were in turn grouped into large open fields. Well preserved ridge and furrow, especially in its original context adjacent to village earthworks, is both an important source of information about medieval agrarian life and a distinctive contribution to the character of the historic landscape.

The earthworks of Hanging Grimston are particularly well preserved. In addition, buried remains such as rubbish pits, yard surfaces, and spreads of deposits such as smithing wastes will add to the understanding of medieval village life, none of which will necessarily show as upstanding earthworks. The monument also gains additional importance via its association with St Mary's Abbey. The village settlement appears to have been occupied for several hundred years and demonstrates changing agricultural practises over this period, for example, with the development of courtyard farms around the 15th century. These probably indicate an increased emphasis on stockbreeding at this time.

MONUMENT INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE ON 07th July 2000



## Heritage Category:

Scheduling

List Entry No :

1019093

County: North Yorkshire

District: Ryedale

Parish: Thixendale

Each official record of a scheduled monument contains a map. New entries on the schedule from 1988 onwards include a digitally created map which forms part of the official record. For entries created in the years up to and including 1987 a hand-drawn map forms part of the official record. The map here has been translated from the official map and that process may have introduced inaccuracies. Copies of maps that form part of the official record can be obtained from English Heritage.

This map was delivered electronically and when printed may not be to scale and may be subject to distortions. All maps and grid references are for identification purposes only and must be read in conjunction with other information in the record.

List Entry NGR:

SE 79903 59971

Map Scale:

1:10000

Print Date:

21 September 2011

**Name:** Hanging Grimston medieval settlement adjacent to Mount Pleasant Farm



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