

MEAUX DECOY, SOUTH-WEST OF
MEAUX DECOY FARM, WAWNE, EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd
18 Springdale Way
Beverley
East Yorkshire
HU17 8NU

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Author: Ed Dennison & Shaun Richardson

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April/May 2021, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) undertook a privately-funded research project to survey the former duck decoy at Meaux Decoy Farm, Wawne, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 0801 4030 centred). The work was carried out to further general research into duck decoys as a specific class of archaeological monument, and because the site is exceptionally well preserved. The site is protected as a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England 1015305).

As part of the same project, research was carried out into the other known eight decoys located in the historic East Riding (at Escrick, Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, Watton, Scarborough, Hempholme, Hornsea, Leven and Sunk Island), to provide comparative examples and a context for the Meaux decoy.

The Meaux decoy was described as being 'lately constructed' in 1650, and so is assumed to have been built in c.1640 or shortly thereafter, perhaps by Sir William Alford, whose family had leased the former monastic estate at Meaux from the Crown since the mid-16th century. This, together with another decoy at Leven which has a similar date, would make both early surviving examples; the earliest known decoys in the country and elsewhere date from 1620 (Waxham, Norfolk), 1635 (County Wexford, Ireland) and 1638 (Hale, Cheshire) but numbers significantly increased after 1665 following the construction of one in St James' Park for Charles II. Documents show that, of the other historic East Yorkshire examples, Watton decoy was built after 1665 and Scarborough decoy was in existence by 1682, while the Hempholme decoy was built after 1650 and that at Sunk Island dates to around c.1700. The majority of the East Riding decoys lie within the low-lying central part of the River Hull valley, and they fell out of use following large-scale drainage improvement schemes - the individual landowners were compensated for their loss of income from the decoys. Unfortunately, there is little historical information relating to the Meaux decoy, but there are some late 17th-early 18th century documents detailing the operation and maintenance of the Scarborough decoy which was part of the Hotham estate. Nothing is known about the decoys at Sunk Island and Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, and even their specific locations are in doubt. The decoys at Escrick are later 19th century 'estate'-type examples, having been built around 1830, and the Hornsea decoy is not considered to be 'true' decoy, as it involved netting ducks in a natural bay on Hornsea Mere.

The Meaux decoy seems to have been built to a standard mid-17th century design, with a central rectangular pond and four pipes curving out from each corner. There are also projections to each side of the pond which are more unusual - they may have been used to observe the ducks as they were being enticed into the pipes. A line of trees on the north side of the pond is almost certainly a remnant of deliberate planting, which would have provided shelter for the ducks. The completion of the late 18th century Holderness drainage scheme means that it is not possible to see how water was originally brought to and from the decoy, but a ditch around the north and west sides probably acted as a bypass leat, to prevent flooding at times of inundation, but from which water could be diverted into and out of the pipes and the central pond when required.

The Meaux decoy is directly comparable to the other East Yorkshire decoys although those at Watton, Hempholme and Scarborough all have a slightly squarer pond; the decoys at Watton and Scarborough have an additional pipe running from the centre of one of the sides which might represent a later modification. It is probable that Leven decoy, which is of a comparable date, was similar to Meaux, although insufficient remained to be mapped by the Ordnance Survey.

Further research is continuing into the historic East Yorkshire decoys, both to identify other as yet unknown examples as well as to gather further information on those that are described in this report.

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Reasons and Circumstances of the Project

- 1.1 In April/May 2021, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) undertook a privately-funded research project to survey the former duck decoy at Meaux Decoy Farm, Wawne, East Yorkshire (NGR TA 0801 4030 centred). The work was carried out to further general research into duck decoys as a specific class of archaeological monument, and because the site is exceptionally well preserved.

Site Location and Designations

- 1.2 The decoy is located some 440m to the south-west of Decoy Farm, at an elevation of c.2.50m AOD (see figure 1). It lies within an extensive area of low-lying farmland at a very similar elevation, although the farm, as might be expected, lies on a slight rise. At the time of the survey (May 2021), the majority of the field in which the decoy is located was given over to rough grazing. There are several mature trees along the northern edge of the pond, and also the northern side of the decoy itself. There is also some encroachment of hawthorn to the north-west and south-west decoy pipes, although it was possible to complete the survey in these areas.
- 1.3 The decoy is protected as Scheduled Monument, first designed on 6th August 1997 (National Heritage List for England 1015305). The Scheduled Monument description provides a summary account of the monument, as well as more general details relating to duck decoys; it suggests that the Meaux decoy dates to the 17th century or later. The decoy is also recorded on the Historic England Research Record database (site 1089812) and the Humber Historic Environment Record (site 8426). A total of 47 other duck decoys in England are protected as Scheduled Monuments (Historic England 2018, 18).

Previous Archaeological Investigations and Research

- 1.4 There is now a reasonable body of published material relating to duck decoys in general and their operation, for example Costello (2002), Heaton (2001) and Dennison & Russett (1990, 141-147). Sir Ralph Payne-Gallwey's book of 1886 remains the seminal work on decoys, and other accounts list and describe decoys still in use (e.g. Southwell 1879; Harting 1888). Several county-wide surveys have been produced, for example for Somerset (McDonnell 1984), Norfolk (Baker 1985) and Gwent (Green 1994). Details of specific decoys have also been published, for example the Borough Fen Decoy near Peterborough (Cook & Pilcher 1982), the Abbotsbury and Morden decoys in Dorset (Prendergast 1984; 1985), and the Nyland decoy in Somerset (Dennison & Russett 1990, 148-154). Interesting research has been carried out into the profitability of decoys (e.g. Betty 1988), the analysis of catches (e.g. Matthews 1969), and how decoys formed part of the general exploitation of the early post-medieval landscape (e.g. Williamson 1997, Aston & Betty 1998, 131-133). However, only a comparatively small number of decoys appear to have been subject to modern detailed archaeological survey, for example Escrick, North Yorkshire (Blyth & Wild 2009), Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire (Strafford & May 2016), and Nyland in Somerset (Dennison & Russett 1990). Costello (2002) has also discussed the Dutch influences relating to decoys in 17th century Ireland, detailing in particular a decoy built on the Portmore Estate by a Dutchman. Finally, the National Trust maintain a duck decoy at Boarstall in Buckinghamshire, where the layout and operation of a typical decoy is explained and displayed to the general public.

- 1.5 The Meaux duck decoy has not been the subject of any previous archaeological survey, nor indeed any real historical research. It goes without saying that the East Yorkshire decoys are concentrated in the low-lying Hull valley (see figure 5), and several including Meaux are mentioned in a recent archaeological survey of the area's wetland heritage (Van de Noort & Ellis 2000, 102 & 179). Payne-Gallwey also includes Meaux in his book, together with four other East Yorkshire decoys (Watton, Holme (on Spalding Moor), Sunk Island and Scarborough), and schematic plans of Meaux and Watton decoys are provided (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 181-182). Other details relating to the Meaux decoy have been produced as short notes in local history journals, for example Audas (1900), Crackles (1988, 14), Harris (1989-90, 19-21), Neave (1989), Bramley (1973), and Limbert (1978, 95-102); Audas (1900, 96) publishes two early photographs of the Meaux decoy. Most recently, a transcript of the Payne-Gallwey chapter relating to the Yorkshire decoys has been reproduced (Credland 2022).

2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 The aim of the survey work and resulting report was to produce a detailed 'Level 3' analytical survey of the decoy, as defined by Historic England (2017, 33-34).

Documentary Research

- 2.2 As suggested above, there appears to be little direct documentary information relating to the Meaux decoy, although some research was undertaken in the East Riding Archives. Other previously published information, as outlined above, was also collated, cross-checked and used where relevant.
- 2.3 A certain amount of other research was undertaken into the other known decoys in the historic East Riding, in order to place the Meaux decoy into context and to provide some comparative information.

Field Survey

- 2.4 A detailed measured topographical survey of the decoy was undertaken at a scale of 1:500 using EDM total station equipment. Sufficient information was gathered to allow the survey data to be readily located through the use of surviving structures, fences, walls, water courses, trackways and other topographical features. The survey recorded the position at ground level of all earthworks, water courses, leats, and other relevant features considered to be of archaeological or historic interest as well as boundaries. The EDM survey work was undertaken on 23rd April 2021.
- 2.5 The site survey was integrated into the Ordnance Survey national grid by resection to points of known co-ordinates. A survey station was assigned a nominal height of 100m AOD, and relative levels obtained across the survey area in relation to this. Survey points were taken from fixed survey stations on a closed traverse around and through the site; the locations, descriptions and values of the survey stations and control points are stated in the final survey data.
- 2.6 On completion of the total station survey, the field data was plotted and re-checked on site in a separate operation, with any new information added by hand measurement. The resulting site survey was produced at a scale of 1:500 and presented as an interpretative hachure plan and drawings using conventions analogous to those used by Historic England (English Heritage 1999; 2002, 14;

Historic England 2017, 40-45). The on-site enhancement work was undertaken on 7th May 2021.

- 2.7 A number of photographs were taken of the decoy using an SLR digital camera with 12 mega-pixel resolution. The guidelines produced by Historic England (2015) were followed as appropriate. All photographs were taken in colour in jpeg format, and were clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and were cross referenced to image numbers.

Report and Archive

- 2.8 This EDAS archive survey report is based on the results of the documentary collation and the information obtained during the on-site fieldwork. It assembles and summarises the available evidence for the site in an ordered form, synthesises the data, comments on the quality and reliability of the evidence and, if necessary, how it might be supplemented by further field work or desk-based research. The report is also illustrated by reduced versions of the survey drawing, various historic maps and plans, and a selection of photographic plates. The report has been produced in an electronic (pdf) format, and has been distributed to all interested parties, including the landowner and the Humber Historic Environment Record.
- 2.9 EDAS also subscribe to the OASIS (Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) project, and all EDAS projects are fully OASIS compliant. An OASIS online record was therefore completed and submitted; this includes an uploaded pdf version of the project report which will be placed in the Archaeology Data Service's Grey Literature Library.
- 2.10 A fully indexed and ordered field archive was also prepared, following the guidelines produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020). The archive comprises primary written documents, site drawings, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive (EDAS site code MDM 21). The site archive was deposited with the East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service at the end of the project.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Duck Decoys

- 3.1 Details concerning the history, development and operation of duck decoys have already been published elsewhere (e.g. Heaton 2001, Dennison & Russett 1990), and so the following text provides a summary. Given that decoys rely on low-lying wetlands and relatively isolated locations, their distribution is concentrated in the eastern coastal counties, such in East Anglia, south Lincolnshire, and eastern Yorkshire, although there are also significant numbers in other wetland areas such as the Somerset Levels, in Dorset, and the Doncaster, Goole and Thorne areas of South Yorkshire. Decoys generally occur as single monuments, any apparent clustering being the result of construction on adjacent landholdings.

History and Development

- 3.2 Reduced to its most basic elements, a decoy pond is an artificially created or modified pool of water, designed and constructed to catch and manage wildfowl, especially ducks, to provide a constant and sustainable supply of food. They were an important aspect of the rural economy and a valuable asset to any landowner.

The main species of duck which were caught were mallard, teal and widgeon, although many other types of wildfowl were also trapped.

- 3.3 The tradition of constructing decoy ponds appears to have begun in England in the 13th century, when they are mentioned in litigation. These early examples were of a simple design, and the method of operation was to drive the ducks into tunnel nets, usually before the younger ducks were able to fly and the older ducks were moulting. This practice seriously depleted numbers, and as a consequence it was outlawed by an Act of Parliament in 1534. Alternative methods of catching ducks, using baited traps, were not as successful, primarily because they could obviously only catch small numbers of wildfowl at any one time.
- 3.4 The more common type of decoy with pipes, such as that at Meaux, originated in Holland, and are thought to have been introduced into Britain, probably first to Norfolk, during the early 17th century using Dutch expertise. The earliest known references to these types of decoy comes from Waxham in Norfolk in 1620, County Wexford in Ireland in 1635, and Hale in Cheshire in 1638 - many decoys originate in the mid-late 17th century. One was built in St James' Park in London for Charles II by a Dutchman in 1665, and this stimulated an increase in numbers throughout the country (Costello 2002, 180). The word 'decoy' originates from the Dutch *eendenkooi*, meaning a duck cage.
- 3.5 Landowners spent a considerable amounts of time and money on the construction of a decoy, but this could prove to be a profitable long-term investment. For example, a decoy at Compton Dundon in Somerset cost over £139 to construct in 1695, but by the 1720s it was making an annual profit of £35 from the sale of captured wildfowl (Aston & Betty 1998, 132). Not all decoys were built by the landed gentry - in 1657 Doncaster Corporation spent £160 constructing a six pipe decoy on Barlby Carr, the profits from which were distributed to the poor of the town (Heaton 2001, 24). Large numbers of birds were taken from decoys every year, and in the 19th century it was not unusual for over 2,500 wildfowl to be caught at an individual decoy. At the Ashby decoy in Lincolnshire, between 1833 and 1867, some 1,500 to 6,000 birds were caught annually, predominantly ducks and teal (Audus 1900, 94-95). At Dowsby in Lincolnshire, 13,180 ducks were caught in the decoy between October 1765 and April 1766, and were sold for seven shillings per dozen (Heaton 2001, 17). Costello (2002) provides an interesting account of the discussions involved in constructing a four acre decoy on the Portman estate in County Antrim, Northern Ireland in 1665.
- 3.6 Many mid-late 17th century decoys, usually situated in low-lying waterlogged areas for obvious reasons, went out of use as land was enclosed, drained and improved for agriculture. However, a second phase of activity can be seen in the later 18th and 19th centuries, when decoys with slightly different plan forms and improved methods of operation were constructed, often within the grounds of large landed estates, to provide ducks for the kitchens (Heaton 2001, 5). The total number of decoys built in England is uncertain, but a figure of 188 given in the late 19th century is now thought likely to be a gross underestimate (Dennison & Russett 1990, 141-144); around 800 is now thought a more reasonable estimate (Blythe & Wild 2009, 12).

Plan Form

- 3.7 There is scant contemporary or near-contemporary information about how to construct a decoy. Costello (2002, 181) suggests that this is due to the fact that decoymen were notoriously secretive about their methods and were loath to

commit to writing detailed instructions. As far as known, the best and most complete account of decoy construction dates to 1752, and describes one seen in Lincolnshire:

“what are called decoys are generally confined to fenny counties. Decoys are large ponds, dug in the fens, with four or five creeks, running from them to a great length, and each growing gradually narrower till it becomes a point. The banks are well planted with willows, sallows, osiers, and like of underwood ... boughs are so artfully managed, that a large net is spread near the tops of the trees, among the branches, and fastened to hoops which reach from side to side. This is so high and wide, the room is so much below, and the water so open, that the fowls do not observe the net above them.” (Universal Magazine vol 10 (1752), quoted in Costello (2002, 181)).

- 3.8 Although there is some variation in plan and design, all decoys contain a number of basic components. The largest element is obviously the pond, with the ideal size suggested to be between one and two acres (0.4ha-0.8ha), with a depth of not more than 3 feet (1m). The most common pond shape used was a rectangle or square, but more elaborate triangular or even star-shaped examples were constructed (see figure 2); a later 19th century decoy at Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire, built in 1860, is circular. Some ponds had shallower areas around the edge to encourage nesting or from where boats could be launched for maintenance purposes. Many decoys were built in woodland, or had woods or trees planted around them, to provide shelter and a barrier against outside disturbance (it was essential that the ducks were not disturbed prior to being caught), although the ends of the pipes were left open and unshaded so the ducks could see the sky and would regard it as a safe area into which to fly.
- 3.9 The pond in the more traditional 17th and 18th century decoys had one or more long, curving channels running from it which were known as ‘pipes’, and these formed the most important operating parts of the decoy. The pipes extended from the edges or corners of the pond, tapering in width and height away from it. The presence of several pipes meant that changing wind directions could be accommodated - once chased, the ducks prefer to take off into the wind. Although the dimensions of the pipes varied from decoy to decoy, they were usually about 65m long, 6m wide at the junction with the pond, decreasing to 0.5m at the farthest point, and incorporating several angles rather than being true curves. They were covered with hemp netting stretched over hoops, initially of wood (wych elm or willow) and later wrought iron, referred to as *pipe-rods*; these hoops were generally placed at 5 feet (1.5m) intervals along the pipe, and their height decreased from the entrance to the tunnel end of the pipe.
- 3.10 There was a specialist terminology associated with the decoy pipes, as detailed by Payne-Gallwey (1886, 17-18) (see figures 3 and 4). The *draught* of a pipe was that part of the pond which narrowed in front of the pipe. Halfway between each pipe entrance there were *reed edges*, comprising small areas of reeds for the waterfowl to hide in. The *breast wall* was made from one or two concealing screens (*breast wall screens*), usually of reeds, flanking the left-hand side of the entrance into the pipe and this sheltered the *breast wall landing*. A smooth bank on the right-hand side of the pipe, and extending into it, was the *backwing landing*. Once landed, the ducks were said to be *banked* and considered to be at a suitable distance for decoying along the nearest pipe. Angled screens, again made from reeds, were placed at intervals of about 0.5m to 1m along the left-hand edge of the pipe, sufficiently high for the decoyman (the man who operated the decoy) and his dog to hide behind. Between the angled

high screens were lower ones at right angles called *dog jumps*, designed to allow the dog to negotiate the pipe when decoying; a special jump, called a *yackoop*, was positioned between the breastwall and the high screen. The narrow end of the pipe was covered by the detachable *tunnel net*, from which the ducks were removed after capture.

- 3.11 The pipes and the pond required a supply of slow-moving rather than stagnant water, and there are often leats, channels and sluices associated with a decoy to bring water to and from the pond. Due to the value of the wildfowl, the decoy would often be surrounded by a hedge or fence to deter predators (both animal and human) - in many cases, water-filled ditches were added as an additional security measure and these also provided a means of bringing water to, and taking water away from, the decoy to maintain slow flow through the decoy. Sometimes there were also buildings for the accommodation for the decoyman and for the storage of equipment adjacent to or nearby the decoy (Dennison & Russett 1990, 144-145).

Operation of the Decoy

- 3.12 In many cases, tame ducks were used to attract wildfowl to the decoy ponds, but generally there was a reliance on the body of water and quiet environment to entice the birds. The actual capture of the ducks was undertaken by a decoyman and a trained dog, known as the *piper*; the dog was often a small red-coloured breed which the ducks assumed to be a fox. Ducks were enticed towards the entrance of the pipe, either by using tame ducks which were trained to respond to the call of the decoyman or by throwing seed into the pond. Once the ducks were 'banked', the dog was ordered to appear from behind the *yackoop* between the breast wall screens, which attracted the attention of the ducks; it was previously thought that the ducks were inquisitive and wanted to see what the dog was up to, but in fact it is a collective 'mobbing' response to a potential predator (Costello 2002, 185). The ducks begin to swim towards the dog, by which time it had concealed itself and run round behind the screens further down the pipe. The following ducks were unable to see the pipe narrowing due its curving shape. Once far enough down the pipe, the decoyman, whose scent was masked by burning materials such as turf where available, appeared from behind the *head shew* at the mouth of the pipe to frighten the ducks. They attempt to fly away, into the wind and down the pipe, but could only reach the narrow *tunnel net*, where a gate was closed behind them. The *tunnel net* was then removed, and the trapped ducks extracted and killed (Dennison & Russett 1990, 145-147).

- 3.13 Grabham (1897) gives an account, with photographs, of one of the last two working Yorkshire duck decoys at the very end of the 19th century. Although the decoy is not named or located, in 1886 it was noted that there were only two Yorkshire duck decoys still working, one at Hornby Castle, near Bedale, and the other on Payne-Gallwey's own estate at Thirkelby Park, near Thirsk (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 177). Given the other information included in the account, one might guess that the decoy described by Grabham was the New Decoy at Hornby Castle, constructed in 1882 to the south-east of the castle, which replaced a mid-19th century decoy close by to the west (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 177). Grabham's description of the working of the decoy is similar to that set out above, with a few differences, which presumably reflects improvements on the older method. For example, the dog used in the illustrated decoy was fitted with a fox skin coat and brush, to more accurately resemble a fox, and there was a wind vane present at the decoy, so the decoyman could gauge the important wind direction. The screens were made of tarred, upright boards rather than reeds, with a peephole

and shutter through which the decoyman could observe the ducks; there were 13 screens to each pipe. In winter, any ice on the decoy pond was broken up at night, when the ducks were generally away.

East Yorkshire Decoys

- 3.14 Payne-Gallwey (1886, 176-187) describes a total of 14 decoys in Yorkshire, including two in North Yorkshire still in operation, at Hornby Castle and Thirkelby Park (see above). Payne-Gallwey lists seven in the historic East Yorkshire, at Escrick (2), Meaux, Watton, Scarborough, Holme (near Holme-on-Spalding-Moor), and Sunk Island (see figure 5). Details regarding the Meaux decoy are covered in Chapter 4 below.
- 3.15 East Yorkshire, and the Hull valley in particular, was ideally suited to the construction of decoys in the low-lying poorly-drained carr lands which generally had little other agricultural value. Decoys provided landowners who could afford the initial costs of construction with a regular and often profitable income, which was maintained until late 18th century drainage improvements meant that many decoys were abandoned. Several decoys have been identified in the Hull valley, including those described by Payne-Gallwey, and these are listed below (see figure 5). Many of the decoys are referred to as a 'coy' - this is a Holderness dialect term for a duck decoy (Ross, Stead & Holderness 1877, 46).
- 1) *Escrick Decoys* (present North Yorkshire) (NGRs SE 6352 4267 and SE 6411 4177)
- 3.16 Escrick Hall was rebuilt in the late 17th century, and its associated park was laid out in 1781. The park was then expanded in c.1825 when the roads to Skipwith and Ricall were laid out to by-pass the village (Allison 1976, 17-19). Payne-Gallwey notes that there were formerly two decoys here. Little remains of one, subsequently known as the 'northern pond' (NGR SE 6352 4267), apart from a stagnant pool overgrown with rushes, with no trace of the pipes being visible. This pond is not of a typical construction, being irregular in shape and it originally had only two pipes, later modified to three.
- 3.17 The other decoy to the south (known as the Moor Head pond - NGR SE 6411 4177), was constructed by George Skelton (c.1760-c.1840) in about 1830 and was used until 1860 (Bonnett 1912, 525); Skelton was one of a famous Lincolnshire family of decoy makers and operators, who were responsible for building or remodelling many of the early 19th century decoys (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 12-14). Tradition states that, when in working order, about 2,000 fowl were taken in a typical season from its four pipes, although 'the formation of an island in the pool operated prejudicially, for fewer fowl were subsequently taken, and it was eventually abandoned'. Nevertheless, Payne-Gallwey states that its outline could be easily traced, its form being compact, well-shaped and planted - the iron hoops, remains of the screens, and the decoyman's hut, were still evident. This decoy was made for the late Lord Wenlock, and a previous owner of the estate recollected seeing ducks caught in it when a boy (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 180). Payne-Gallwey also provides a sketch of the decoy, and depicts a square-shaped pond with long curving pipes running away from each corner. His sketch bears little resemblance to the plan shown on the earlier 1851 Ordnance Survey map (sheet 206), and so it must have been remodelled between these two dates (see figures 6A and 6B).

- 3.18 As noted in Chapter 2 above, both decoys were subject to a recent archaeological survey, to inform management proposals and potential reconstruction options (Blythe & Wild 2009). The archaeological survey established that the Moor Head Decoy originally had three pipes, and was later modified to have four pipes after 1855 and a central island (see figure 6C). The 2009 survey accords well with Payne-Gallwey's 1886 sketch.

2) Holme-on-Spalding-Moor Decoy (SE 810 330 approx)

- 3.19 There was a decoy close to Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, on Spalding Moor, but little appears to be known about it (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 184). Bonnett notes that it fell into disuse at the end of the 18th century, and that it was located about five or six miles south-west of Market Weighton (Bonnett 1912, 526). This location would place it close to the River Foulness, in the Bursea/Hasholme area, but nothing is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 or Bryants' 1829 maps of Yorkshire, or subsequent Ordnance Survey maps. No decoy is mentioned in the Holme-on-Spalding-Moor enclosure Act of 1773 or shown on the corresponding plan of 1774 (ERAO DDCC/48/1 & DDX 160/27). Nothing is visible on modern aerial photographs or LiDAR imagery in an area now given over to intensive agriculture. The site is recorded by the Humber HER (1770) but not apparently by Historic England.

3) Watton Decoy (NGR TA 0690 4941)

- 3.20 Payne-Gallwey (1886, 183) provides an illustration of Watton decoy, and depicts a rectangular pond with a pipe at each corner, each pair of pipes curving gently inwards to one another (see figure 7C). Although the decoy is sometimes attributed to Watton Priory, but this is unlikely as the plan is characteristic of a typical post-Dissolution 17th century example. The decoy was situated in the eastern low-lying part of the township, close to the west bank of the River Hull.

- 3.21 The decoy is shown on Jefferys' 1771 map, named as 'Stanningholm Decoy' (presumably after the adjacent Standingholme Farm), and on Bryant's 1829 map of Yorkshire, named as 'Watton Decoy' within an area of woodland on the west side of the Beverley and Barmston Drain. The 1854 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 179) shows the decoy within a small plantation and an earthwork bank around it, named as 'Watton Decoy' (see figure 7A). On this map, it is generally depicted as shown by Payne-Gallwey, with the four curving pipes, one from each corner, although there is also a straight fifth pipe extending west from the centre of the west side (see figure 7B). It appears to be surrounded by an earthwork scarp, suggesting that it was set within a raised bank which presumably protected it from flooding, and it is accessed by an embanked track from the north. There are no buildings in the vicinity, although a large farm, named 'Decoy House' lies a short distance to the north-west (see figure 7A). The more detailed Ordnance Survey 1892 25" map (sheet 179/14) does not show the decoy, although the wood is named as 'Decoy Wood'.

- 3.22 It is probable that the decoy was built by the Earl of Winchilsea, the owner of the Watton estate in the 1660s, as in August 1667 he wrote from abroad to his trustees enquiring "whether a decoy at Watton may be beneficial, and if so, in what place, what may be the benefit, and what the expense?" (Neave 1990, 146). The decoy is not depicted on an undated but otherwise 17th century plan of the Manor of Watton (ERAO DDX 128/3), although there are a few circular wooded features, apparently sketched, in an otherwise unenclosed area of land on the west bank of the River Hull which corresponds with the position of the decoy. Payne-Gallwey notes that a Mr H W F Ellis of Crowle, 'who has made careful researches' informed him that the decoy was very productive, yielding at times as many as 400 ducks a

day before drainage of the surrounding land sealed its fate (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 183; Bonnett 1912, 526).

- 3.23 The Earl of Winchilsea died in 1689, and the Watton estate remained with the dowager countess until 1745. By 1761 part of the estate was in the hands of Sir Richard Lloyd who retained it into the 19th century (Neave 1990, 389-390). Several publications note that Richard Savage Lloyd was compensated for the loss of his decoy at Watton when the Beverley and Barmston Drain was constructed in c.1798 (e.g. Crackles 1988, 65; RHVDHG 2014, 65). This was indeed the case - the relevant section of the 1798 act (ERAO AP 2/7) notes:

And whereas Richard Savage Lloyd Esquire is, or claims to be, seised or possessed of a certain Piece of Water and certain Land at Watton, contiguous thereto, which for many Years last past have been used as a Decoy for the catching of Wild Fowl: And whereas Sir Charles Hotham Baronet is, or claims to be, seised or possessed of a certain other Piece of Water and certain Land at Scorbrough, contiguous thereto, which for many Years last past have also been used as a Decoy for the catching of Wild Fowl: And whereas the said decoys would be rendered useless, or greatly injured, when the said Low Grounds and Carrs are drained and improved as directed by this Act, and by reason thereof the said Richard Savage Lloyd and Sir Charles Hotham, and their Heirs respectively, will be deprived of receiving any or so much Rent as they now respectively receive, or entitled to on Account thereof: Be it therefore enacted, That the said Commissioners shall make such reasonable Recompense and Satisfaction ... for the Damages which they shall respectively certain by the Means aforesaid, as shall be agreed upon between the said Commissioners and the said Richard Savage Lloyd and Sir Charles Hotham respectively ...

The text goes on to say that, if agreement cannot be reached, then it shall be decided by a jury and the Justices of the Peace at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the East Riding. Any money for damages received should go towards defraying and discharging the taxes and assessments to be raised by the Act. The compensation process was actually following the precedent established by the previous Holderness Drainage Acts of the 1760s-70s (see Meaux decoy below).

- 3.24 By the 1920s, the farm was part of the Londesborough Estate, and it and the adjacent land, including the decoy, was offered for sale in March 1921 (plot 32 comprising some 457 acres) (ERAO DDUL 41/2/12). The decoy is named as 'Decoy Wood' in the sale particulars and was just over seven acres in extent.
- 3.25 The decoy is believed to still survive, but modern Google Earth photography shows that it remains within a small area of woodland named as 'Decoy Wood'. Modern LiDAR imagery suggests that the site has been significantly disturbed (see figure 7D). The site is recorded by the Humber HER (8115) and Historic England (1566942).

4) Scorbrough Decoy, Leconfield (NGR TA 0351 4578)

- 3.26 This decoy, which lay on Arram Carrs, is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 map of Yorkshire, but is not named. It is also shown on Bryant's 1829 map of Yorkshire, named as 'Scorbrough Decoy' located within woodland on the west side of the Beverley and Barmston Drain and the River Hull. It is not specifically shown on the 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 195), as it fell within a rectangular plantation named 'Decoy Wood' located on the east side of the Hull to Bridlington

railway, with a 'Decoy Farm' adjacent (see figure 8A). This map shows an isolated 'Decoy Cottage' to the west, with a disproportionately large garden, and a large farmstead ('Decoy Farm') to the north-east. Payne-Gallwey notes that, although trees have grown up in and around it 'very thickly', the pool and the pipes are still plainly visible, and it is evident that "much care and expense was in former times bestowed upon it. The site of the Decoy was well chosen, for even now, when there is an overflow from the river (formerly an annual, now an occasional occurrence), wildfowl resort to its vicinity in considerable numbers" (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 184). The 1891 Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile map (sheet 195/8) depicts the decoy earthworks in some detail (see figure 8B), comprising a sub-rectangular, almost star-shaped pond, with four pipes in the corners and another in the centre of the east side. Bramley (1973, 22-23) notes that the outline of the pond could still be traced in 1971, together with the south-west and north-west pipes.

- 3.27 There is some supporting documentary material relating to the Scarborough decoy. It had been established by 1682 by the main branch of the Hotham family, on their Scarborough estate. An entry in the account book of Elizabeth Hotham for 1682 refers to 'coy fowl', and in 1692 oats for the decoy were purchased (HUL DDHO/15/2-3 - quoted in Neave 1990, 147). Later early 18th century accounts for the Hotham estate include payment for four bushels of hemp seed and four bushels of oats 'for the decoy ducks' in 1727-28, presumably a reference to feed for the tame birds which were used to attract the wild birds into the decoy. In 1728 five new 'bow nets' for the decoyman were purchased, and in 1735 85 pounds of hemp was bought for the decoy nets. In the following year, payments were made for spinning and knitting these nets (HUL DDHO/15/6 - quoted in Neave 1990, 147). The decoy provided income for the estate from the sale of fowl; between September and November 1729, for example, accounts record the sale of 50 dozen ducks at £2 3s 4d per ten dozen (HUL DDHO/15/9 - quoted in Neave 1990, 147; Neave 1989). In 1750, the decoy together with the Decoy House, was leased by the estate to Mark Robinson of Lockington for seven years for a rent of £50 (HUL DDHO/47/1).
- 3.28 As noted above, the Beverley and Barmston Drainage Act of 1798 provided that compensation should be paid for the Scarborough decoy which was owned by Sir Charles Hotham (ERAO AP 2/7). The site was still held 'in hand' by Lord Hotham at the time the 1843 tithe map was produced - plot 18 is named as 'decoy' and it was a wood covering 8 acres 1r 8p (Scarborough tithe map available at <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>). This map also shows that the Decoy Farm as shown on the 1855 Ordnance Survey map had not been built; the farm was located just to the west, on the site of the later Decoy Cottages.
- 3.29 The adjacent Decoy Cottages were scheduled for demolition in October 1938, by the Medical Officer of Beverley Rural District Council under the Housing Act of 1936 (ERAO RDBE 8/4/9-10); by this time the site was part of the Dalton Estate. It was reported that the two buildings were unfit for human habitation by reasons of disrepair and sanitary defects, and there are two photographs of the cottages (see figure 8C). However, the documents also note that 'Order not confirmed - Transferred Section 11' so it is assumed that the demolition did not take place at this time; the buildings are still shown on the Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1951 (sheet 195NE), although they are no longer present and appear to have been demolished before 2003 (Google Earth aerial photographs). Modern Google Earth photography shows the decoy to be wooded, although the earthworks are very visible on modern LiDAR images (see figure 8D). The site is recorded by the Humber HER (3686) and Historic England (1548714).

- 3.30 The site was visited on 25th March 2022, with the permission of the landowner. This showed that the earthworks do survive well, although in summer much would be obscured by the dense tree cover and other vegetation. The curving pipes run out from each corner, and the pond is drained by a channel which runs along another pipe extending east from the centre of the east side; this falls into a drain which encircles the decoy. The main pond is about 80m square and is defined by banks around all four sides which are up to 2m high. No side of the pond is straight, but they curve towards the pipes, although the west side has a definite mound on its east side into the pond, presumably to create a landing point for a boat (see figure 9). The site would benefit from a detailed earthwork survey.

5) Hempholme Decoy (NGR TA 0827 4960)

- 3.31 Another decoy lay to the south-west of Hempholme, on South Carrs, on the east side of the River Hull. It is not mentioned by Payne-Gallwey and nothing is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 or Bryant's 1829 maps of Yorkshire. However, the 1854 Ordnance Survey 6" map (sheet 179) depicts a sub-square marshy pond within a larger sub-rectangular earthwork on the east side of the River Hull, between the Roam Drain to the north and Mickley Dike to the south (see figure 10). In 1842, this field was named as 'Decoy Carr' (plot 31), as were the other two fields to the west, between it and the river (plots 29 and 30); all were in arable cultivation, occupied by John Atkinson, and owned by 'The Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods and Forest Lands' (Hempholme tithe map, available at <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>). Nothing is depicted on the subsequent 1892 Ordnance Survey 25" map (sheet 179/14).

- 3.32 Sir Thomas Heneage exchanged the manor of Hempholme with the Crown in 1588, and it was later leased to Sir Hugh Bethell (d.1679) in 1661; it remained with the Bethell family until the Crown finally sold the manor in 1866 (Walker 2002, 300). However, it is not mentioned in a Parliamentary survey of the manor 1650 (ERAO DDX 683/2), and so it presumably post-dates this document. It was possibly built by Sir Hugh Bethell.

- 3.33 The decoy is recorded by the Humber HER (2863) and Historic England (1464077). A soilmark representing the decoy is visible on aerial photographs taken in December 1946 (NMR RAF/CPE/UK/1911, 3082). It appears as a partially sub-divided embanked rectilinear enclosure, measuring 140m by 80m overall; it appears to have been substantially levelled by 1946. Only vague undulations are shown on the modern LiDAR images, and these do not closely resemble a decoy as shown on the 1854 mapping.

6) Hornsea Decoy (NGR TA 1808 4634 approx)

- 3.34 There may also have been a decoy at Hornsea, which is not noted by Payne-Gallwey. The Ordnance Survey 1854 6" map (sheet 197) names a 'Decoy Plantation' on the south-west corner of Hornsea Mere - three linear north-south aligned ponds are depicted at the west end of the wood as well as numerous thin inlets at the east end, although none resemble a decoy. The area is similarly depicted on the 1891 25" edition (sheet 197/6); nothing is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 or Bryant's 1829 maps of Yorkshire. A 'decoy bay' is shown on a map of 1778 but it is thought that a 'pipe' decoy would have been unlikely here, given the presence of the mere; it is possible that boats were used to drive the ducks from the mere into the bay which was then netted (Limbert & Pashby 1985).

7) *Leven Decoy* (NGR TA 0744 4621)

3.35 There was a decoy on the north side of Leven North Carr Drain, to the west-north-west of Hall Garth and west of Little Leven. It is not mentioned by Payne-Gallwey and nothing is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 or Bryant's 1829 maps of Yorkshire. However, the 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" map (sheet 196) depicts a U-shaped earthwork, open to the west side between Leven North Carr Drain to the south and Cherry Bank to the north within 'Decoy Carr', and it is named as 'Remains of Leven Decoy' (see figure 11). It is not shown on any later editions. On the 1842 tithe map, the field is called 'Decoy Close' (plot 47) while the field immediately to the east is 'Coy Close' (plot 48); both fields are recorded as arable, owned by Richard Bethell and occupied by Benjamin Elvidge (Leven tithe map, available at <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>).

3.36 This decoy was located on former Crown estate land and is a relatively early example. A Parliamentary survey of April 1650 (ERAO DDX 683/3) describes it as follows:

All that lately erected ffowleinge [Fowling] place called or knowne by the Name of the Coy with a little howse thereon standinge situate lyinge and beeinge about the Middle of the Carrs or Mooreish ground and now in the occupa[tion] of the said Joseph Michaelthwaite contayd [contained] by estema[tion] & worth p[er] ann[um] 02:00:00 [2 acres 0r 0p] £35 0s 0d.

The use of the phrase 'lately erected' suggests that the decoy had been built in the last ten years i.e. around c.1640. It is also recorded in 1659 (Walker 2002, 302).

3.37 If the above date is correct, it would probably mean that the decoy was constructed by a tenant of the Crown while it was assigned to trustees for Queen Henrietta Maria (d.1669 and later Queen Catherine (d.1705)) (Walker 2002, 299). It is recorded on the Humber HER (13245), but all remains now appear to have been ploughed out. There are a large number of undulations shown on the modern LiDAR imagery, none of which are convincingly of a former decoy.

8) *Meaux Decoy* (NGR TA 0801 4030)

3.38 This decoy is described in detail in Chapter 4 below.

9) *Sunk Island Decoy* (NGR TA 2769 1765 approx)

3.39 Another decoy was located on Sunk Island, to the east of Hull. It is believed to have been constructed towards the end of the 17th century, and is referenced in a letter of 1711 by the Revd. Francis Brokesby contained within Leland's Itinerary: this notes that "there are near 2,000 acres enclosed by high banks to keep out the sea. Some years ago they made a Decoy upon the Island, which is plentifully stored with wildfowl especially Ducks and Teal, but it turns to little account for want of trees, which will not grow well here, as the ground is too salt" (Payne-Gallwey 1886, 184-185; Bonnett 1912, 526). Much of Brokesby's letter is reproduced by Allen (1831, 462-463).

3.40 Sunk Island, having been created by fluvial deposition in the Humber estuary, was Crown property, and it was leased to Colonel Anthony Gilby in December 1668. By 1675 he had embanked some 20 acres around the Old Hall, and his grandson William continued the work after c.1690 so that by 1711 some 2,000 acres were

created (Allison 1984, 135). It is assumed that the decoy was constructed by Anthony Gilby (d.1682) somewhere in the vicinity of Old Hall.

- 3.41 The specific location of the decoy is uncertain, but Payne-Gallwey notes that some old maps marked a 'Decoy Creek'. Nothing is shown on Jefferys' or Bryant's maps of Yorkshire (1771 and 1829), but the 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 256) shows 'Decoy Creek' to the south-west of the Old Hall, close to the north bank of the Humber, but with no obvious remains of an actual decoy indicated (see figure 12). The watercourse is no longer named as such on the later 1890 edition (sheet 256/14). It is possible that very faint soil marks on 2019 Google Earth coverage might define a sub-rectangular shape with one pipe in this location, but they are not wholly convincing and may be natural; nothing is visible on the modern LiDAR imagery. The site is recorded by the Humber HER (10944).

4 THE MEAUX DECOY

Historical Background

- 4.1 Unless otherwise stated, the historical background given below is taken from Kent (2002, 181-204).
- 4.2 The decoy lies within the historic township of Meaux, in the parish of Wawne. The boundaries of Wawne, Meaux and neighbouring settlements were defined soon after the Conquest, and the parish and township boundaries in this low-lying area were formed almost entirely by watercourses. Many of these watercourses were made or improved by Meaux Abbey (see below). Nevertheless, the area remained prone to flooding and much was badly drained. Sir Joseph Ashe, lord of Wawne in the later 17th century, carried out drainage improvements to the west side of Wawne parish in 1675, but it was not until the Holderness Drainage Acts of 1764 and later that widescale improvements took place.
- 4.3 For much of the medieval period, the area was dominated by Meaux Abbey, founded in 1150-51. The decoy is set some 1.40km to the north-west of the core of the abbey complex. There is a local belief that it is associated with the abbey but there is no documentary evidence to support this, and indeed the idea is specifically refuted by Payne-Gallwey (1886, 182-183) who notes that it "would assuredly have been alluded to in the writings of the time, which were both accurate and not few in number in regard to the district". As with Watton decoy (see above), the Meaux decoy has the characteristic shape of a 17th century example. However, the abbey did have a grange at Fewsome, on the site of the current Meaux Decoy Farm, some 450m north-east of the decoy itself. Following the Dissolution, the abbey's former estates, including Fewsome Grange, were granted by the Crown to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick (and later Duke of Northumberland). They were forfeited by him in 1553 and re-granted to Lord Robert Dudley, later Earl of Leicester, in 1561. Dudley returned them to the Crown in the early 1570s, and the estates were then settled on Queen Henrietta Maria in 1629, when they were valued at just over £80 per annum.
- 4.4 The date at which the decoy was built can be pinpointed relatively accurately, due to a Parliamentary Survey of former Crown properties relating to the dissolved monastery of Meaux, undertaken in May 1650 (ERAO DDX 683/6) (see figure 13A). The survey describes the decoy as follows:

All that lately erected ffowleng [fowling] place with the appurtenances called or knowne by the name of the coy lying within the aforesaid carrs on the southwest

pte [part] of the said Grange house and now in the occupation of the said William Waddington - contayne [containing] by estema[tion] & worth p ann [per annum] 02:00:00 [2 acres 0r 0p] £43 13s 04d.

The use of the phrase 'lately erected' suggests that the decoy had been built in the last ten years i.e. around c.1640.

- 4.5 Meaux Decoy Farm was recorded as Fewsome Grange in 1650. The Crown had leased much of the Meaux estate to the Alford family in the late 16th and early 17th century - Lancelot Alford had obtained a 21 year lease on the estate in 1540, and his nephew, also Lancelot Alford, was the Crown's lessee at Meaux from 1582. His successor, Sir William Alford (d. c.1642), bought another part of the former abbey estate at Meaux in 1634. It is tempting to see Sir William as the builder of the decoy, although there is, as yet, no specific documentary evidence to suggest that he was. The Alfords had lived at Meaux since the 1550s, and Sir William Alford was described as 'of Meaux' in 1617; he was an important local landowner, holding several offices in the East Riding and was a member of the Council of the North between 1625 and 1641. After the Restoration in 1660, the remaining parts of the Crown's Meaux estate formed part of the jointure (an estate or property settled on a woman in consideration of marriage, to be owned by her after her husband's death) for Charles II's queen, Catherine of Braganza. The Cornwallis family were lessees of the estate in the later 17th century, and were succeeded in the early 18th century by the Hampdens. Meaux Decoy Farm (then still known as Fewsome Grange), with 365 acres, was bought by William Kirkby in 1776, and the earliest surviving farm buildings appear to date from the 18th century.
- 4.6 Flooding in the Hull valley remained a serious and frequent problem, and conditions were only significantly improved after the creation of the Holderness Drainage Board in 1764. The Board were able to drain considerable areas, using the expertise of engineers such as John Grundy, John Smeaton and William Jessop, and they replaced or renewed existing drains, built new straighter channels, and installed new flood banks along the River Hull. Initially, these schemes only covered the southern parts of the Hull valley, and the northern carrs such as those around Tickton, Weel and Wawne were not improved until the late 18th century (Sheppard 1976; Alison 1976b, 167-169).
- 4.7 The Holderness Drainage Act and award of 1775 identified some 733 acres in Meaux township which were at risk from flooding; the township covered 1,456 acres in total. Much of the drainage work here was done in or before 1779, and included the cutting of a substantial drain parallel to the eastern boundary through East Carr (Kent 2002, 184). The impact that the proposed drainage work would have on the Meaux decoy was foreseen, and the Act of 1764 (ERAO AP 2/1) contains a clause that specifically relates to it, as follows:

46. And whereas John Charles Crowle, of Goxhill in the county of Lincoln, esquire, is seised or possessed of or entitled unto a certain piece of water and certain quantities of land contiguous thereto, which for many years last past have been used as a decoy for the catching of wildfowl in Meaux, which decoy has been from time to time let for considerable rents, but the said decoy will be rendered useless or greatly damaged when several lands and estates hereinbefore mentioned are drained and improved in such manner as by the said Act is directed, and by reason thereof the said John Charles Crowle and his heirs will be deprived of receiving any or so much rent on account thereof: Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for the said trustees, or any five or more of them ... required to inquire into the value of such decoy and into the damage

which the said John Charles Crowle and his heirs will sustain in the said decoy by such drainage ... and to pay to the said John Charles Crowle and his heirs such sum or sums of money as shall be deemed by them, the said trustees, a proper and sufficient recompense and satisfaction on account thereof ...

- 4.8 A set of detailed plans were subsequently produced, and one dating to August 1833 shows the extent of the new drainage works carried out in the vicinity of the decoy (ERAO DCBB 7/523). The new drains are shown in red with areas liable to flood highlighted in blue; the north-south aligned Holderness Drain is the major alignment to the west of the decoy, and the 'Meaux West Drain' feeds into its east side, running past the south-west corner of the decoy (see figures 13B and 14A). This plan clearly shows how Meaux Decoy Farm lies on slightly higher ground to the north-east, and the decoy itself is depicted in some detail with its associated pipes and ditches - there is a drain running around the north and west sides of the decoy, feeding into the Meaux West Drain. A second plan of the same date shows a very similar arrangement (ERAO DCBB 7/523). At this time, the area of the decoy was owned by William Scott; he had bought the farm of 288 acres in 1833, from William Kirkby's nephew, John Kirkby Picard. In 1851, Scott's son William Richardson Scott sold the farm to Albert Denison, Baron Londesborough. It later passed with Denison's larger estate in Routh to Sir Henry Samman, Bt., who sold the farm in Meaux, then comprising 327 acres, to G L Cullington in 1938. Little Decoy Farm, set c.210m directly east of Meaux Decoy Farm, was in existence by 1828, but nothing now remains.
- 4.9 Payne-Gallwey (1886, 180-181) notes that the decoys at Meaux, Watton and Scarborough all fell into decay as a result of the passing of the various Holderness Drainage Acts in the 1760-1770s, because the draining of the surrounding carr lands deprived wildfowl of their natural feeding grounds. Presumably the compensation went some way to offset the decline of income from the decoy caused by the drainage work, and the decoy is said to have fallen out of use in the later 18th century, or to have been 'done away with' in 1800 (Grabham 1897, 557).
- 4.10 The decoy is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 map of Yorkshire, where it is shown as a star-shaped feature surrounded by woodland and named as 'Decoy'. It is also named as 'Meaux Decoy' on Greenwood's 1817 plan, and depicted with four arms. The 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 211) also marks it as 'The Decoy' and shows it to be dry; the outline is essentially the same as that shown in 1833 although the pipes appear slightly straighter (see figures 13C and 14B). This shows that the pond is broadly rectangular in plan, with a short, semi-circular or sub-triangular projections extending into the pond from the approximate centre of each side. There are four pipes. The two western pipes curve around to the south at their western ends, where they meet a watercourse running between the Holderness Drain to the west and the Meaux West Drain to the south; the latter has a bank running parallel to its north side - the alignment of the south-east pipe differs from that shown on the 1833 Holderness drainage plan. In 1855 the south-east pipe follows a long extended curvilinear course, as far as a track running parallel to the east boundary of the field in which the decoy is located. The north-east pipe runs a short distance before meeting a rather sinuous field boundary and drain which originates at Meaux Decoy Farm. Several trees are shown along the north side of the decoy, and the sinuous field boundary. The fields to the immediate north of the decoy field are named 'Great West Carrs'.
- 4.11 Payne-Gallwey (1886, 181-182) provides a brief description of the decoy, together with a schematic plan (see figure 14C). This shows the decoy pond to be very rectangular, and with protrusions only to the centres of the north and south sides.

There are four pipes, as in 1855; the two western pipes curve inwards towards one another, as shown in 1833, whilst the two eastern pipes curve gently to the south at their western ends, different to the arrangement shown in 1855. He also notes that “*a few 100 yards to the west of the decoy stands an old low building, now used as a farm house, and formerly known as Butterbump Hall, a name derived from the number of bitterns which formerly bred in the adjacent marsh*”. The only buildings shown in this approximate location in 1855 are an un-named pair of short ranges set at a right-angle to one another on the east side of North Carr Lane, but these are over 700 yards (661 m) west of the decoy, and are not thought to be associated with the decoy.

- 4.12 The earthworks of the decoy are mapped in more detail on the 1893 Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile map (sheet 211/6), making it clear that the pond and the pipes are surrounded by substantial raised banks or berms (see figure 14D). It is again named as ‘The Decoy’, and the rectangular pond has a short protrusion from the centre of each side, as shown in 1855. The eastern pipes both curve around to the south-east, and have a narrow linear bank or drain running between them. The watercourse depicted in 1855 running between the two main drains in the area, and apparently connecting with the western pipes, is no longer present. However, a pair of parallel, north-west/south-east aligned ponds to the west of the south-west pipe mark part of its former course. The south-west pipe itself appears slightly shorter than in 1855 and 1886, and again it may be that one of the two ponds represents its former extent. Trees remain along the north side of the decoy pond, and the sinuous field boundary to the north of the decoy was almost certainly following the north scarp of the bank defining the pond and north-east/north-west pipes. Two tracks left Meaux Decoy Farm to head towards the decoy, but neither actually met it. Banks are shown running parallel to the internal sides of the drains which define the western and southern sides of the decoy field.
- 4.13 Between 1893 and 1910, the sinuous field boundary to the north of the decoy was removed and replaced with a new, straight boundary set slightly further to the north (see figure 14F). The parallel ponds close to the south-west pipe are also no longer shown in 1910. In 1900 and 1912, it was noted that the outline of the decoy could be plainly traced, and Audas provides a sketch plan and photographs (Audas 1900, 96; Bonnett 1912, 526) (see figure 14E). The decoy was similarly depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1927 as it was in 1910.
- 4.14 The decoy is recorded by both the Humber HER (8426) and Historic England (1089812). It is also protected as a Scheduled Monument, first designated on 6th August 1997 (National Heritage List for England 1015305). The earthworks are well preserved, as shown on an aerial photograph taken in January 1992 and by the modern LiDAR imagery (see figures 15A and 15B).

Site Description

Location and Setting

- 4.15 The decoy is located some 440m to the south-west of Decoy Farm, at an elevation of c.2.50m AOD (see figures 13B, 13C and 16). It is set within an extensive area of low-lying farmland at a very similar elevation, the only exception being to the north-east where the ground rises slightly towards Meaux Decoy Farm to become Fewsome Hill; this slight height difference is well illustrated on the 1833 Holderness drainage plan (see figure 13B). At the time of the survey (May 2021), the majority of the field in which the decoy is located was formed by rough grazing, with the eastern end of the decoy enclosed in a number of temporary paddocks for

horses. There are a number of mature trees along the northern edge of the pond, and also the northern side of the decoy. The north-west and south-west pipes are now overgrown with hawthorn, the former particularly so, although sufficient remained visible for them to be surveyed.

- 4.16 The northern boundary of the decoy field is formed by a straight hawthorn hedge, this line being established between 1893 and 1910. The eastern boundary comprises a deep, steep-sided ditch and parallel hedge, whilst the south boundary comprises the ditch of the Meaux West Drain. The western boundary of the decoy field, some distance to the west of the decoy itself, is the Holderness Drain, forming the boundary between Meaux and Weel townships (see figure 13C). The drain was significantly widened and improved by the Holderness drainage scheme in the late 18th century, the line originally formed part of the Skaith or Double Dike, which was in existence by 1433 (Kent 1989, 308).

The Decoy (see figure 17)

- 4.17 The decoy is set on a slight north-east/south-west alignment, although for the purposes of description it is considered to be aligned east-west. It has maximum dimensions of c.220m east-west by 110m north-south, with the central pond measuring 100m east-west by 80m north-south. The decoy was dry at the time of the survey (May 2021), but some parts do occasionally contain water after heavy rain (see plate 4) but the surviving earthworks are between 1.20m and 1.50m in depth, suggesting that when filled, the water in the pond was of the c.1m depth that was generally recommended. The four sides of the pond are held in place by substantial, flat-topped earth banks, averaging up to 10m wide. Although it is possible that the area occupied by the decoy formed a slight natural rise or promontory before it was built, and so some of this earth was dug out to form the pond, it seems more likely that the majority of the earth was brought in to build up the banks; the centre of the pond therefore represents the original pre-construction ground level. The building of the decoy must have been a substantial undertaking, requiring considerable manpower.
- 4.18 As a result of the late 18th century drainage improvements, the way in which the decoy was originally supplied with water is now unclear. The watercourse shown on the 1855 map, running between the Holderness Drain and the Meaux West Drain, and apparently connecting with the two western pipes (see figure 13C), is now poorly preserved. That part which ran south-east from the Holderness Drain towards the decoy remains clearly visible on modern aerial photographs and LIDAR coverage (see figure 15), but it only survives on the ground as a very spread linear depression, c.9m wide and 0.3m deep. As it approaches the decoy, it meets a much better defined linear depression or ditch which runs around the western and northern sides of the decoy; a curving ditched field boundary is shown following the line of this depression in 1855 and 1893 (see figures 14B and 14D).
- 4.19 This northern ditch first becomes visible to the west of the western end of the south-west pipe, where it is a rather spread, shallow feature; it probably represents one of the two parallel ponds shown here in 1893, themselves a remnant of the 1855 watercourse. The ditch runs west for c.30m and then angles sharply to the north to run along the west side of the decoy, where it is c.4m wide and 0.50m deep, with a flat base. It then angles to the north-east, running parallel to the north-west pipe. For a distance of c.110m, the south scarp of the ditch is formed by the northern edge of the bank along the north-west pipe and the pond, which stands up to 1.50m high. The north scarp, although equally steep, stands up to 0.50m in height. There are a number of sycamore trees with a trunk diameter of

up to 0.80m along the top of the southern scarp, with what appears to be a fallen mature ash of large diameter to the north-west pipe, although this could not be located accurately due to the surrounding dense thorns. After this, the ditch diverges from the former northern edge of the bank around the pool, which can be seen as a spread, north-facing scarp, standing up to 1.0m in height. It continues in a north-east direction for a further c.30m, becoming more spread as it does so, eventually almost fading out closer to the hawthorn hedge line that was laid out between 1893 and 1910. It then angles sharply to the south-east, again as depicted in 1855 and 1893, becoming more prominent again, and can be followed south-east for c.50m, where it again begins to curve around to the north-east. Here, it is again running parallel to the north-east pipe, and shares the northern edge of the bank around it. The ditch can be seen beyond the survey area as a faint feature, following the line of the field boundary shown in 1855. Close to the point where it diverges from the north-east pipe, modern aerial photographs and LIDAR imagery show two other features which appear to be heading for the north-east pipe, perhaps modern drains (see figure 15).

- 4.20 The central pond of the decoy is defined by steep, regular, scarps, standing up to 1.20m high; no traces of any form of artificial revetting are visible (see plates 1 and 2). Around the north and west edges of the bank, there is a much lower internal scarp, set c.3m further into the pond than the base of the main scarps. A number of modern drainage cuts have been made across the base of the southern part of the pond, and there is also a modern rectangular depression to the approximate centre of the pond, which is effectively acting as a sump to drain any remaining standing water after heavy rain (see plate 4).
- 4.21 The protrusions from the centre of each side of the pond, depicted on the 19th century plans (see figure 14), still survive. Those to the north and south sides are broadly semi-circular in plan and larger, measuring a maximum of 18m-20m across the tops, and projecting up to 5m into the pond (see plates 1 and 3). The east and west examples (although the east projection is somewhat truncated) are smaller and more pointed in plan, measuring 8m across the top and projecting up to 6m into the pond. The south and west projections have a shallow, oval mound on the top, measuring c.9m by 3m, and there may be the remnants of a similar feature to the north projection. Along the top of the scarp to the north side of the pond, there is a line of eight mature trees spaced at regular intervals, which must be the remnants of artificial planting associated with the decoy. The majority are sycamores, but at the eastern end there is an oak tree with a trunk diameter of c.1.5m.
- 4.22 The north-east pipe is c.50m long in total, incorporating at least one gentle change in angle along this length, and curving to the south-east as it runs east. The pipe has a maximum depth of c.1.5m where it leaves the pond; at this point, the pipe is c.10m wide across the top, but narrows to 3.50m at the opposite, tunnel net, end. The pipe is flanked by well-defined banks on both sides. The top of the north bank (where the screens would have been positioned), has been disturbed by a sub-oval depression, perhaps a large tree pull, to the west of centre. In the approximate centre, a later drain has been cut through the north side of the pipe to join with the linear depression described above to the north of the decoy; this channel is shown on the 1833 Holderness drainage plan (see figure 14A). There is now no clear evidence for the bank shown running between the north-east and south-east pipes as depicted in 1893 (see figure 14D).
- 4.23 The south-east pipe is c.42m long in total, incorporating one gentle change in angle along this length, and curving to the south-east as it runs east (see plates 6

and 7). This pipe has a maximum depth of c.1.5m where it leaves the pond; at this point, the pipe is c.9m wide across the top (see plate 5), but it narrows to c.5m at the tunnel net end. The pipe is flanked by well-defined banks on both sides, and the screens would have been placed on the wider, longer, north bank. There may be some disturbance to the very south-eastern tip of the pipe, although this could equally mark the former position of the tunnel net structure.

- 4.24 The south-west pipe is c.40m long in total, incorporating one gentle change in angle along this length, and curving to the north-west as it runs west. The pipe has a maximum depth of c.1.5m where it leaves the pond; at this point, the pipe is c.8m wide across the top, but narrows to 3.50m at the tunnel net end. The pipe is flanked by a well-defined bank to the south side. At the west end of the north side, a channel or ditch appears to have been cut through to link with a poorly defined possible pond, now visible as a damp, reedy depression. The pipe as existing is the same length as shown in 1893, but the surviving earthworks suggest that it may once have been up to 10m longer, perhaps having been re-cut at some date. A bank extends from the western end of the pipe to join up with a similar bank from the north-west pipe, as shown on the 1833 Holderness plan and the 1855 Ordnance Survey map (see figures 14A and 14B). The area thus enclosed is uneven and marshy, with a slightly raised area to the centre.
- 4.25 The north-west pipe is c.50m long in total; it does not incorporate any clear angles in its length, but rather curves very gently to the south-west as it runs west. The pipe has a maximum depth of c.1.5m where it leaves the pond (see plate 8); at this point, the pipe is c.10m wide across the top, but narrows to c.3.5m at the tunnel net end. At the pond end, there is a slight angular scarp at the top of the much larger scarp forming the breastwall landing that might possibly mark the former positions of the head shew and screens here, although they would normally be expected on the north side of the pipe. The pipe is flanked by well-defined banks on both sides.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The Meaux decoy was described as 'lately constructed' in 1650, so is assumed to have been built in c.1640 or shortly thereafter, perhaps by Sir William Alford, whose family had leased the Crown estate at Meaux since the mid-16th century. This, together with another decoy at Leven which has a similar date, would make them both relatively early surviving examples both regionally and nationally; the earliest known examples in the country date from 1620 (Waxham, Norfolk) and 1638 (Hale, Cheshire), but more were date to after 1665 when one was built in St James' Park for Charles II. Documents show that Watton decoy was built after 1665, and Scarborough decoy was in existence by 1682, while Hempholme decoy was built after 1650 and that at Sunk Island dates to around c.1700.
- 5.2 It is assumed that the William Waddington who leased the decoy and Meaux Decoy Farm (then Fewsome Grange) in 1650 was a tenant of the Alford, and might even have been the decoyman. The valuation of the decoy at £43 per annum in 1650 shows that it formed a valuable part of the estate, and the possession of a decoy may have been an important part of the social aspirations of the period (Dennison & Russett 1990, 148). The construction of the Meaux decoy would have been a considerable investment, as substantial amounts of labour were needed to construct the raised banks surrounding the pond and pipes. It fell out of use, like the other East Yorkshire decoys at Watton and Scarborough, following the drainage improvement schemes, firstly the Holderness Drainage Act of c.1764 and then the Beverley and Barmston Drainage Act of c.1798, which deprived the wildfowl of their natural feeding grounds; the individual landowners

were compensated for their loss of income from the decoys. The Meaux decoy would therefore have had a working life of perhaps 150 years, but there appear to be no records of how many ducks were caught or details of its construction or maintenance. By comparison, there are some details relating to the operation of the Scarborough decoy which was part of the Hotham estate - in 1692 and 1727-28 oats and seed was bought for feeding the ducks, and in 1728 and 1735 new nets and hemp were purchased for making new nets; between September and November 1729, the accounts record the sale of 50 dozen ducks at £2 3s 4d per ten dozen.

- 5.3 The Meaux decoy appears to have been of a standard design, with a central, rectangular pond and a pipe curving out from each corner. The protrusions or projections to each side of the pond are more unusual, and it is difficult to suggest a clear function. At Nyland in Somerset, a decoy pond had a similar projection to the north side only, and this was suggested to perhaps be a ledge from which the decoy boat, used for maintenance, was launched (Dennison & Russett 1990, 148-149). While one of the projections at Meaux could have served this purpose, it is difficult to see why four would be needed - unless they have some unrecorded function such as, for example, observing banked ducks at the pipes opposite, it is possible that they are purely ornamental. The line of trees on the north side of the pond must be a remnant of deliberate planting connected with the functioning of the decoy. It is possible that the linear earthwork which runs around the west and north sides of the decoy was associated with either the supply or regulation of water to the decoy pond, but its relationship with the pond's north bank suggests that it may have been re-cut at least once; it formed a ditched field boundary by 1855. Several of the pipes preserved evidence for later disturbance, but one (the north-west pipe) might retain earthworks relating to the structures that were present during the decoy's working life. The rectangular depression and the other drains in the centre of the pond appear to be modern intrusions, to prevent a build-up of water - it is unlikely to be a part of the original construction, and indeed, islands or other obstructions within a decoy pond were generally thought to be incompatible with the efficient operation of a decoy.
- 5.4 Unfortunately, the mid-18th century drainage schemes mean that the way in which water was originally brought to and from the decoy is unclear; a slow movement of water through the decoy was an important factor in keeping the water clean and preventing the built-up of silt and other debris. The ditch shown in 1855 as running around the north and west sides of the decoy presumably acted as a bypass leat, to prevent flooding at times of inundation, but from which water could be diverted into the pipes and the central pond when required. This ditch, and the way in which it connects with three of the four pipes, is clearly shown on the 1833 Holderness drainage plan, and it presumably fed into the Meaux West Drain which then flowed west into the Holderness Drain.
- 5.5 The Meaux decoy has a classic mid-17th century four pipe design and is directly comparable to the other East Yorkshire decoys at Watton (built after 1667), Hempholme (built after 1650) and possibly Scarborough (built by 1682), although all these have a slightly squarer pond compared to Meaux; both Watton and Scarborough have an additional pipe running from the centre of one of the sides which might represent a later modification. It is probable that Leven decoy (c.1640) was similar to Meaux, although insufficient remained to be mapped by the Ordnance Survey, and nothing is known of the decoys at Sunk Island (built c.1700?) and Holme-on-Spalding-Moor (unknown date). The decoys at Escrick are later 19th century 'estate'-type examples, having been built around 1830, and it is not considered that the Hornsea decoy is a 'true' type of decoy. All of the decoys

in the Hull valley (Watton, Scarborough, Hempholme, Leven and Meaux) went out of use as a result of the late 18th century drainage schemes.

- 5.6 Further research is continuing into the East Yorkshire decoys, both to identify other as yet unknown examples as well as to gather further details on those that have been described above. It is hoped that a detailed survey of the Scarborough decoy can be carried out, so that a direct comparison to the Meaux decoy can be made.

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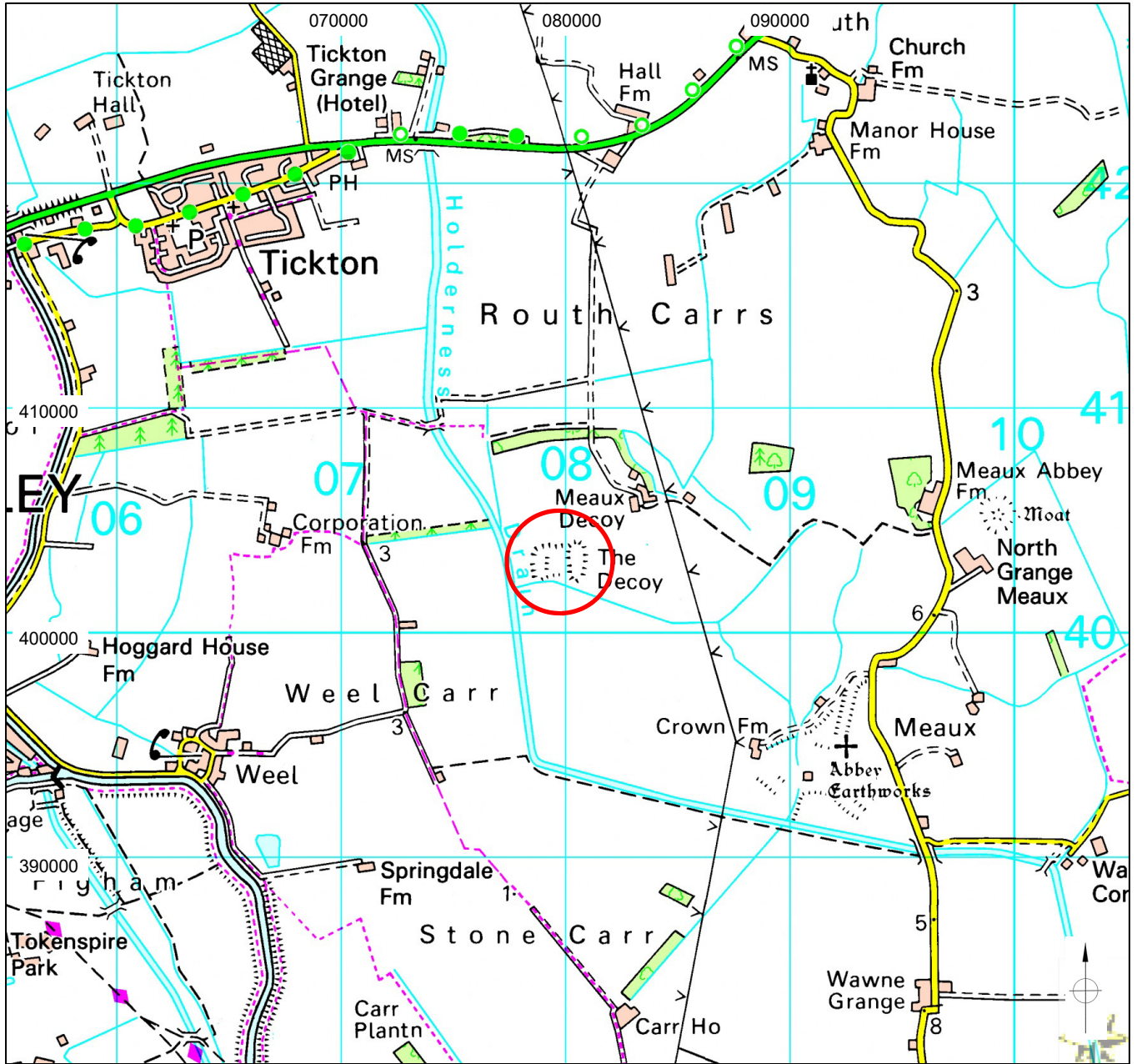
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7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

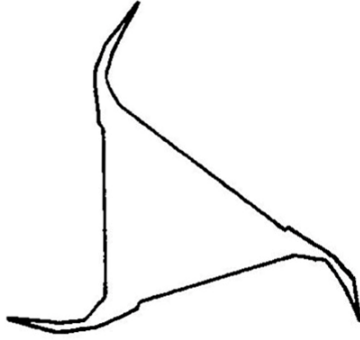
7.1 The archaeological survey of the Meaux decoy was undertaken by Shaun Richardson (EDAS) and Dave Kempley of Benchmark Surveys. EDAS would like to thank Mr Eric Ribey of Meaux Decoy Farm for permission to do the survey work. The documentary research on all the East Yorkshire decoys was undertaken by Ed Dennison (EDAS), with assistance from Dr Susan Neave. Shaun Richardson took the site photographs and produced the field drawings, and the final report was produced by Ed Dennison, who retains responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies.



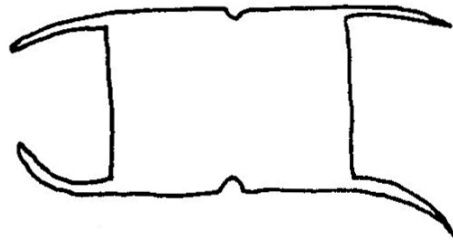
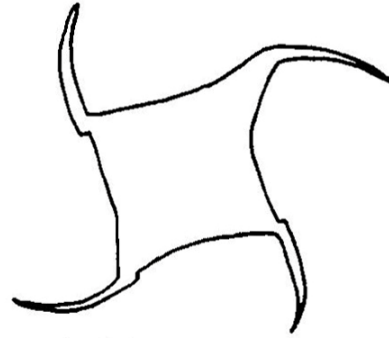
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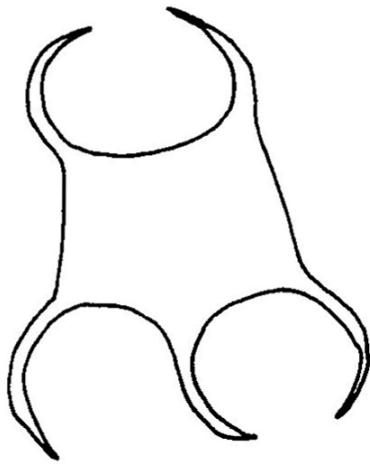
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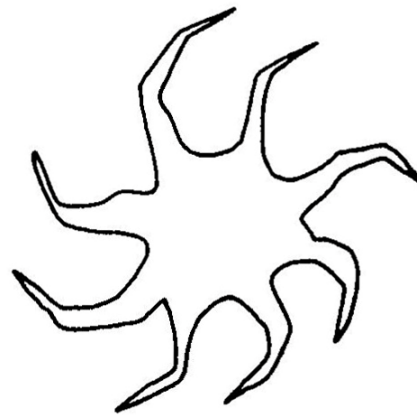
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Meaux, East Yorkshire



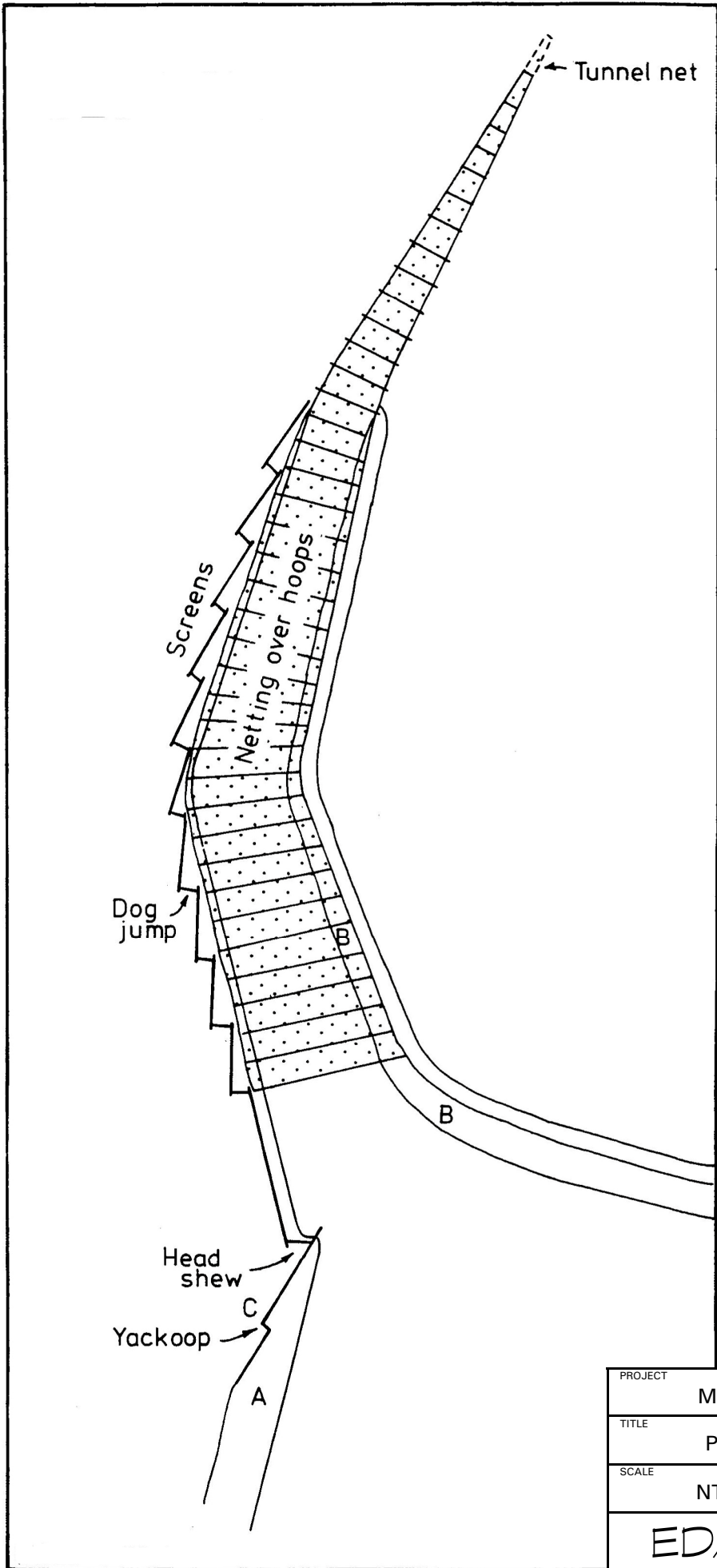
Morden, Dorset



Borough Fen, Cambridgeshire

Source: Dennison & Russett 1990, p.143, figure 1 (after Payne-Gallwey 1886, Cook & Pilcher 1982).

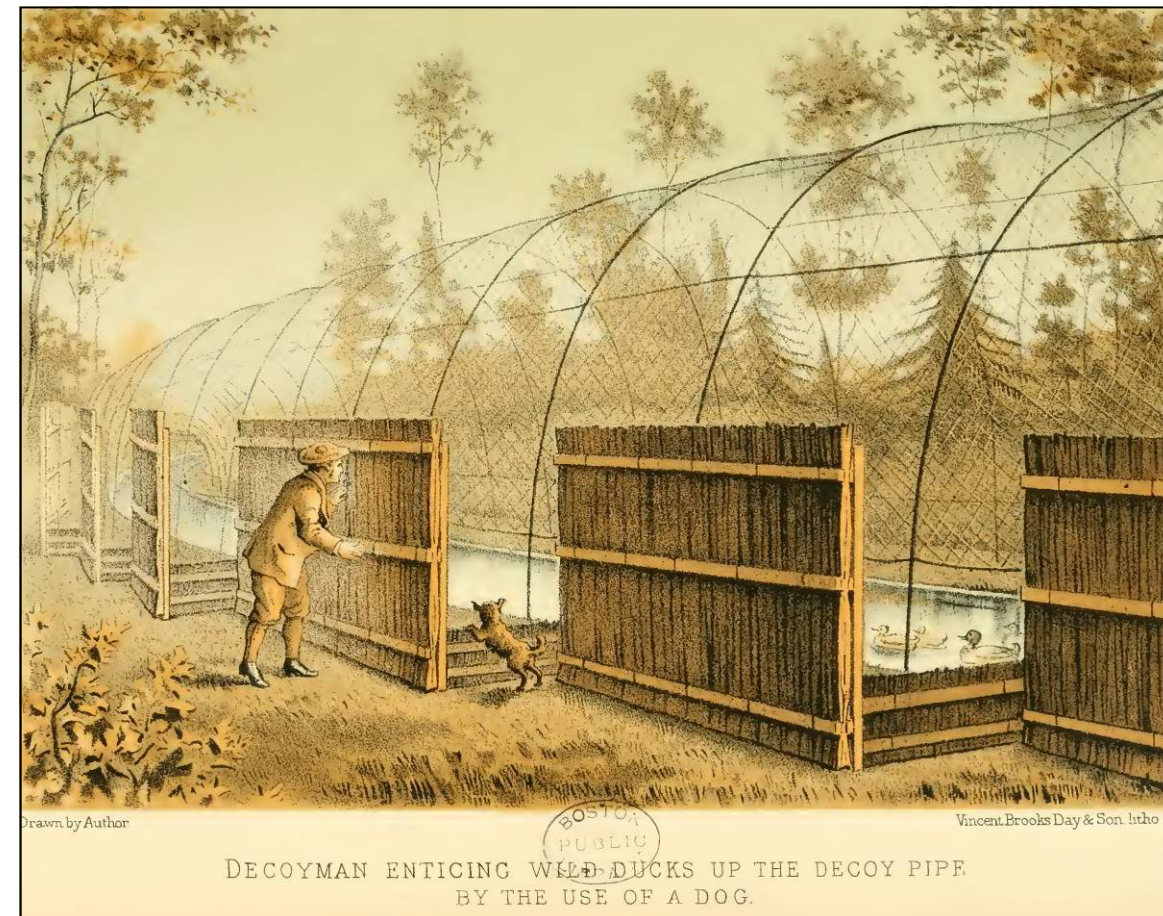
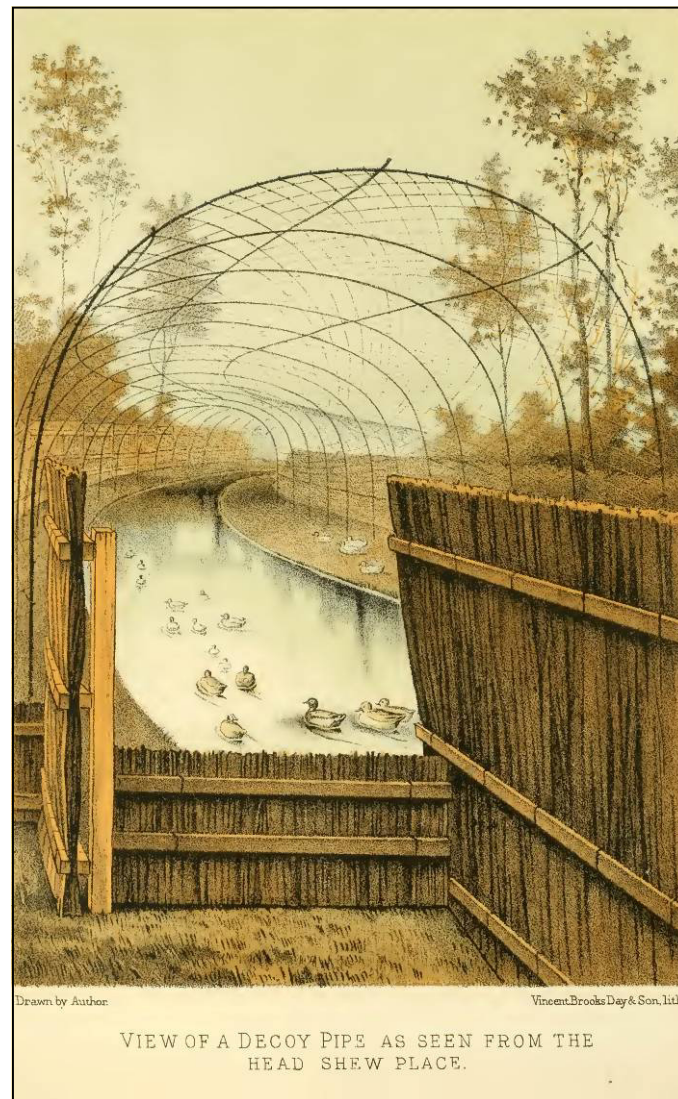
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A = Brest wall landing
 B = Backwing landing
 C = Brest wall screens


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 1990, p.146, figure 2 (after
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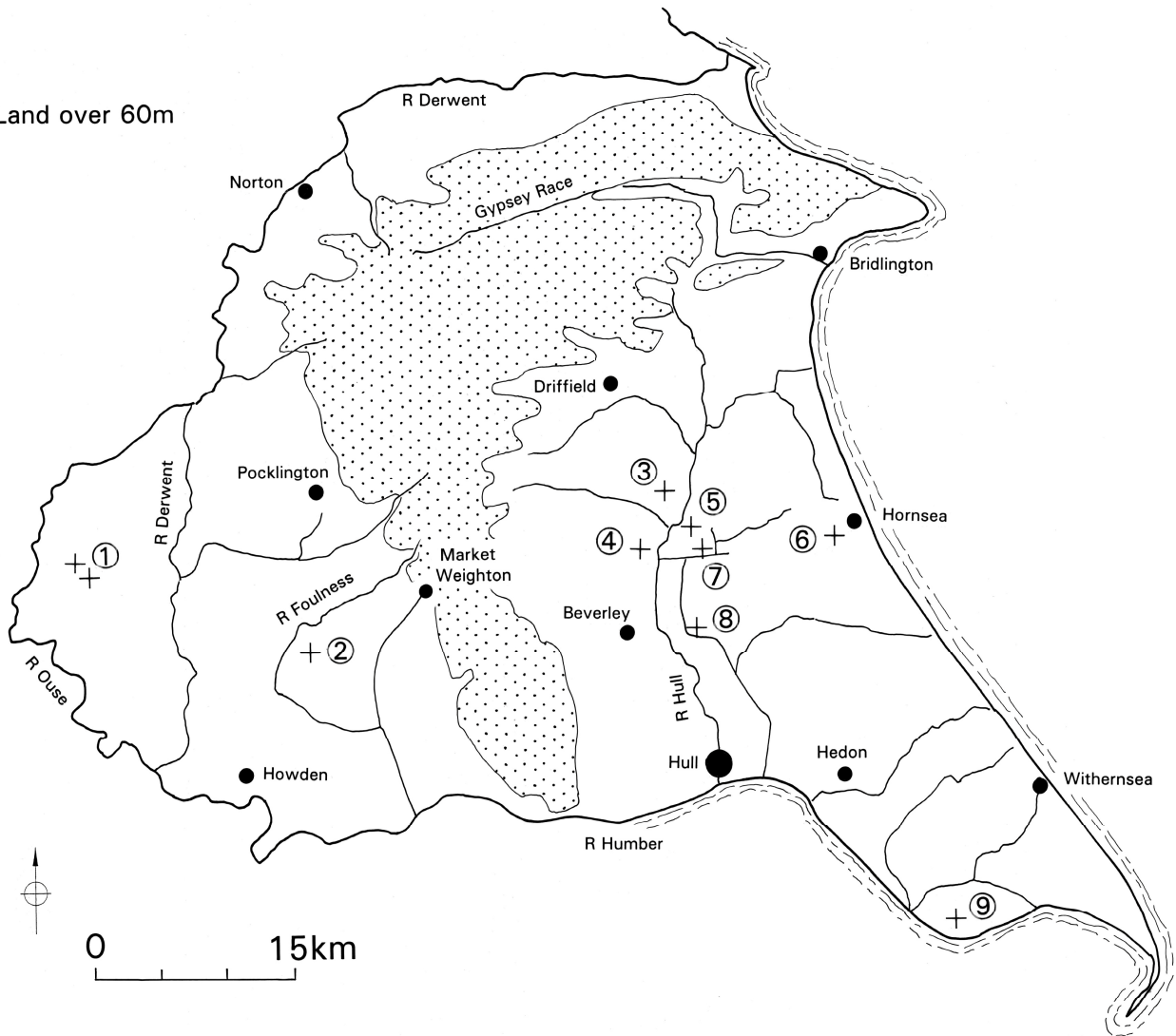
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TITLE		PLAN OF A DECOY PIPE	
SCALE	DATE	NTS	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	3



Source: Payne-Gallwey, R 1886 *The Book of Duck Decoys: their Construction, Management and History.*

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE			
PAYNE-GALLWEY ILLUSTRATIONS			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	4

 Land over 60m

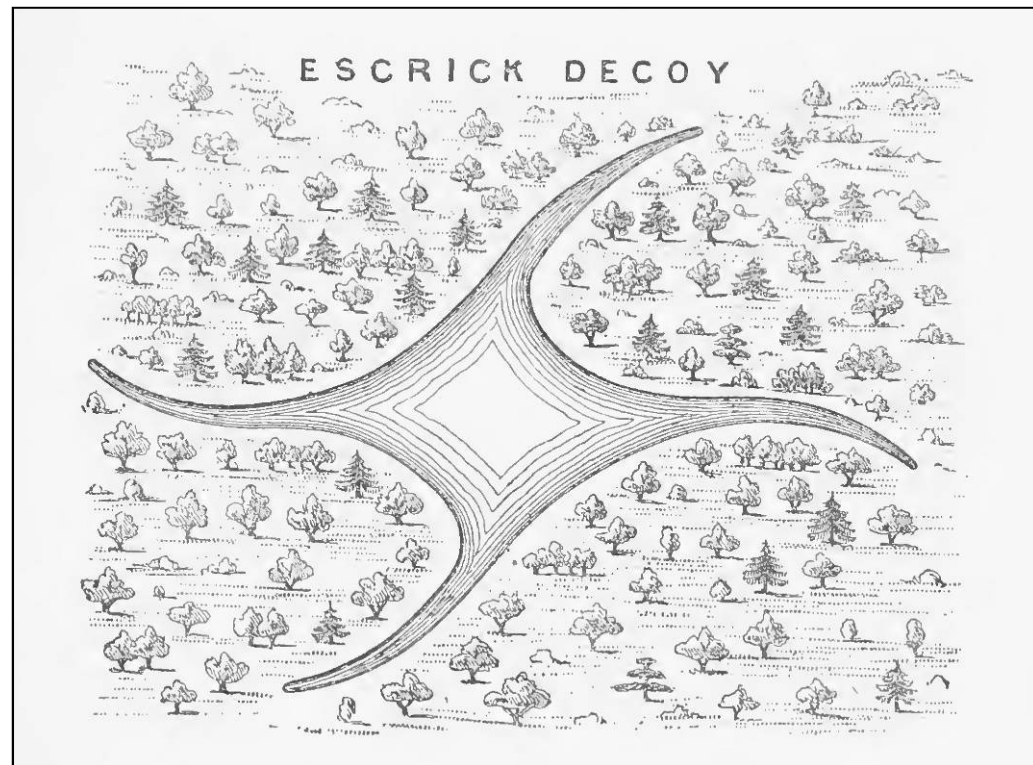


- 1 = Escrick
- 2 = Holme-on-Spalding-Moor
- 3 = Watton
- 4 = Scarborough
- 5 = Hempholme
- 6 = Hornsea
- 7 = Leven
- 8 = Meaux
- 9 = Sunk Island

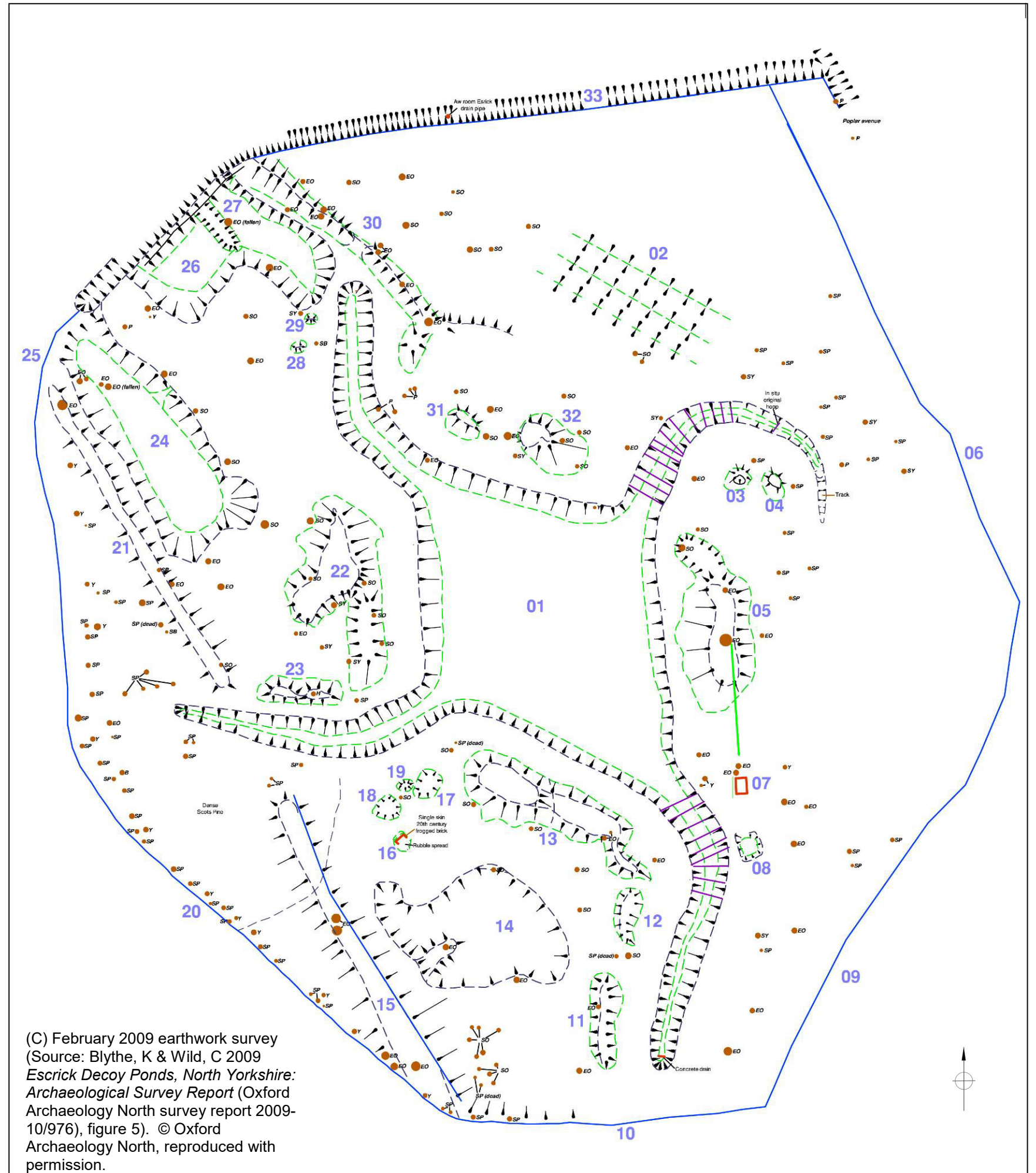
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EDAS		FIGURE	5



(A) 1851 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 206 (surveyed 1845-47).



(B) Payne-Gallwey, R 1886 *The Book of Duck Decoys: their Construction, Management and History*, p.179.



(C) February 2009 earthwork survey (Source: Blythe, K & Wild, C 2009 *Escrick Decoy Ponds, North Yorkshire: Archaeological Survey Report* (Oxford Archaeology North survey report 2009-10/976), figure 5). © Oxford Archaeology North, reproduced with permission.

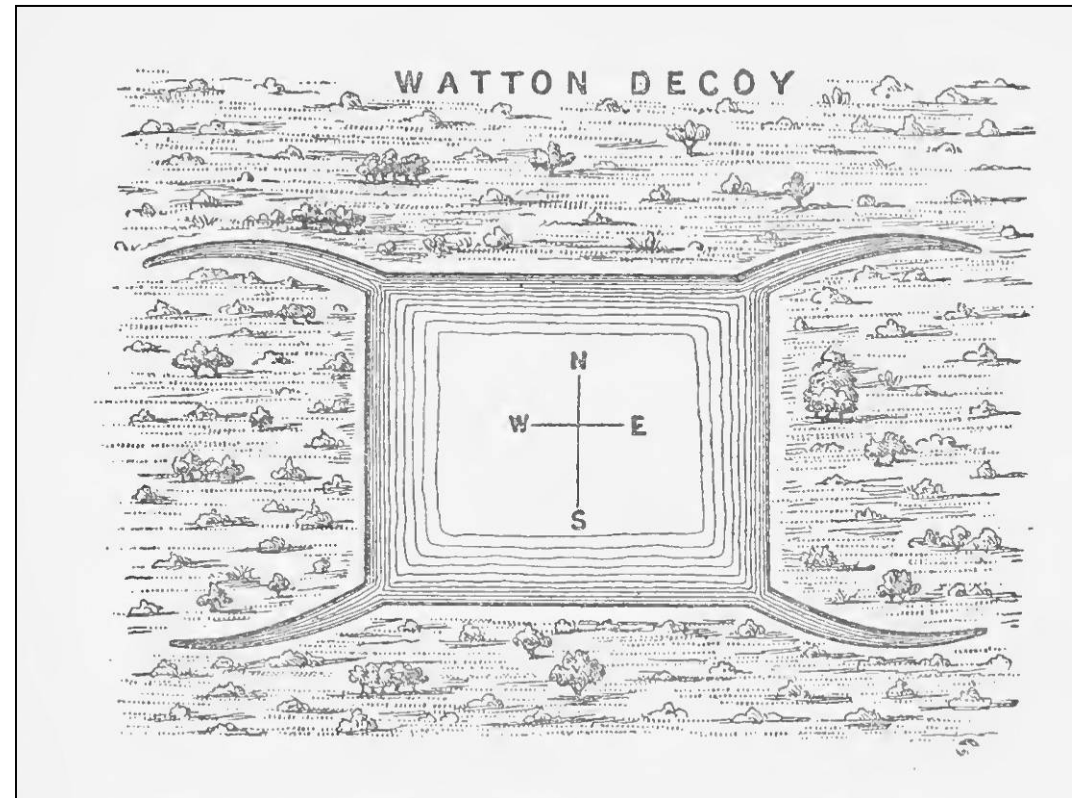
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SCALE	DATE	NTS	JAN 2023
EDAS	FIGURE		6



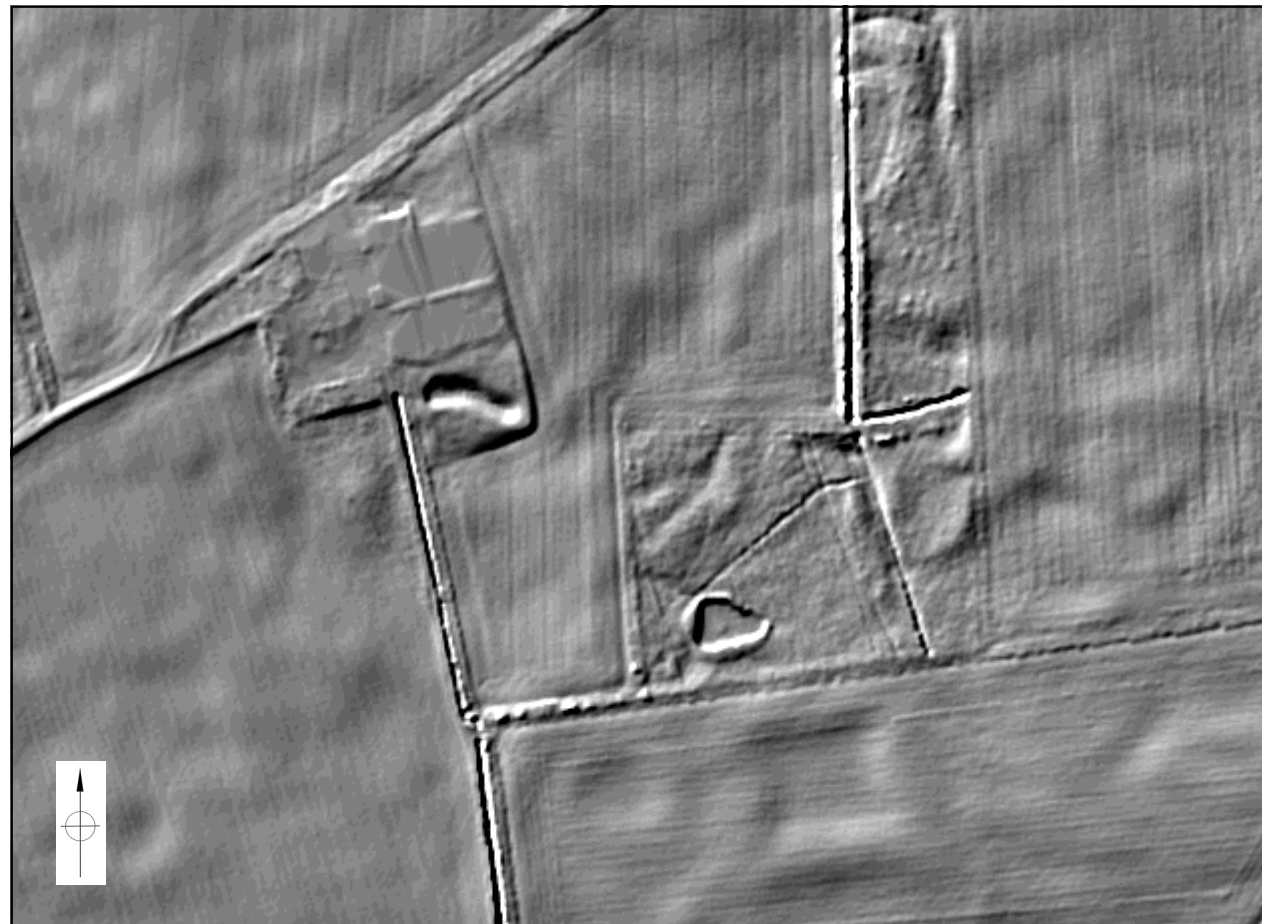
(A) 1854 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 179 (surveyed 1851-52).



(B) 1854 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 179 (surveyed 1851-52).

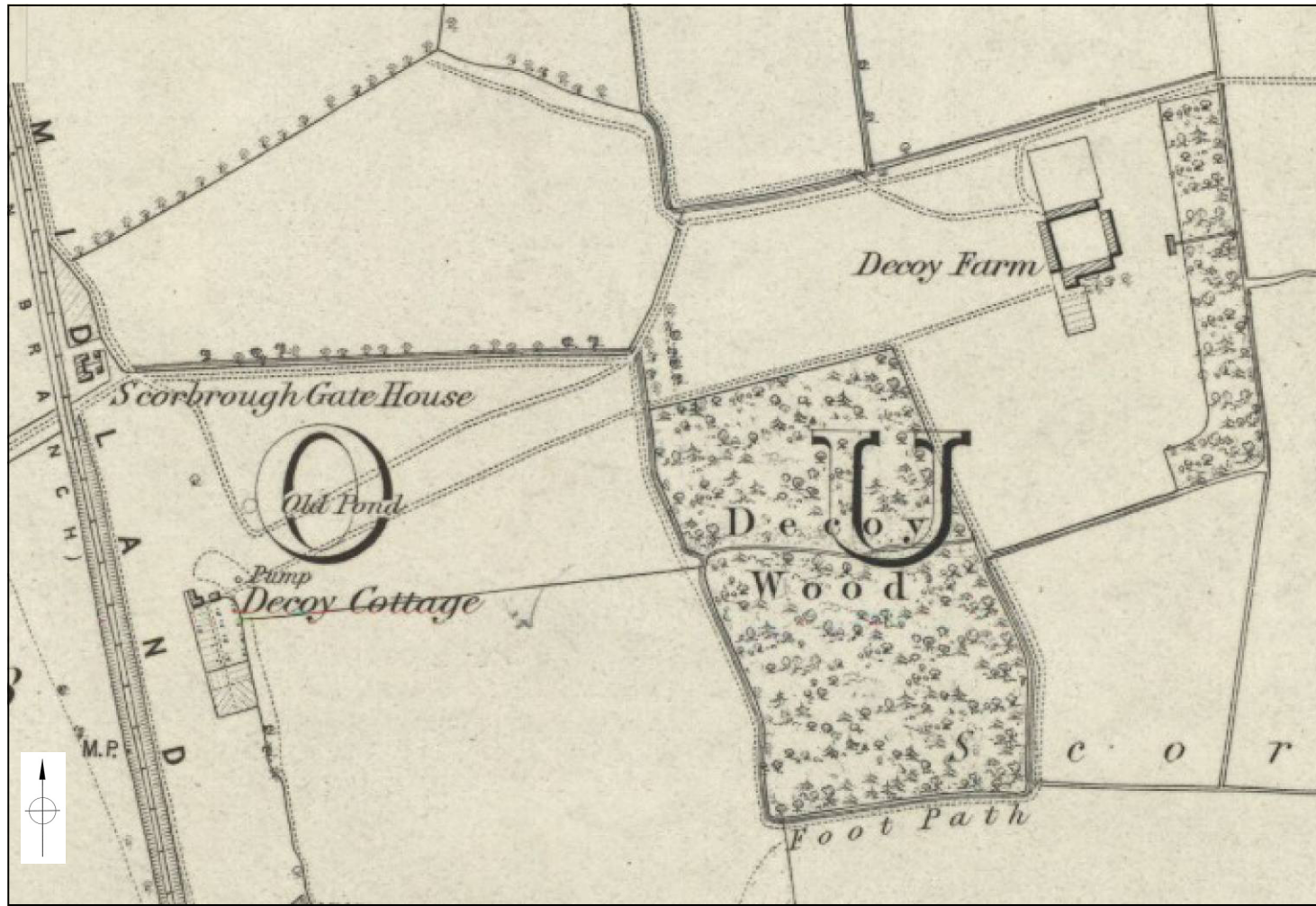


(C) Payne-Gallwey, R 1886 *The Book of Duck Decoys: their Construction, Management and History*, p.183.

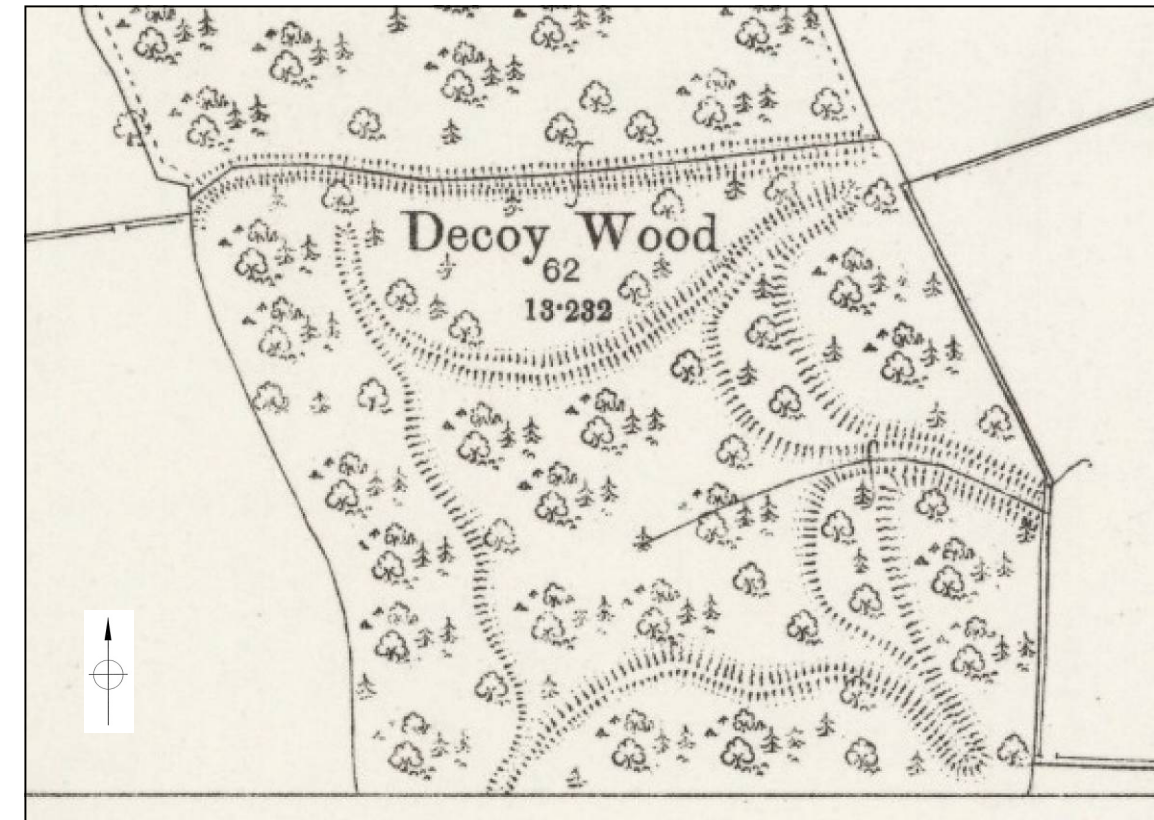


(D) Modern LiDAR image. Reproduced from the Environment Agency LIDAR Composite DTM 2020 1m data. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

PROJECT		MEAux DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		WATTON DECOY	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	7



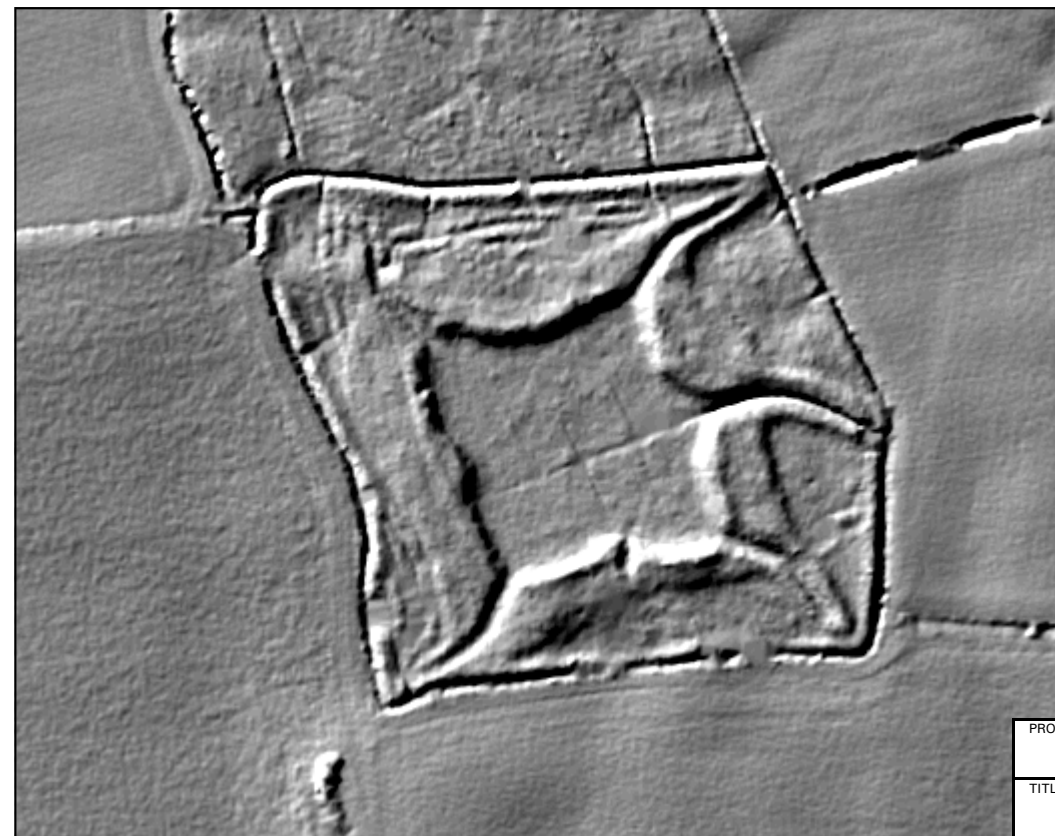
(A) 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 195 (surveyed 1851-52).



(B) 1891 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 195/8 (surveyed 1890).



(C) 1939 photograph of Decoy Cottages, prior to their demolition (source: ERAO RDBE 8/4/9).



(D) Modern LiDAR image. Reproduced from the Environment Agency LIDAR Composite DTM 2020 1m data. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

PROJECT		MEAux DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		SCORBOROUGH DECOY	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	8



(A) View into south-west pipe, looking south-west.



(B) View along south side of main pond, looking east.



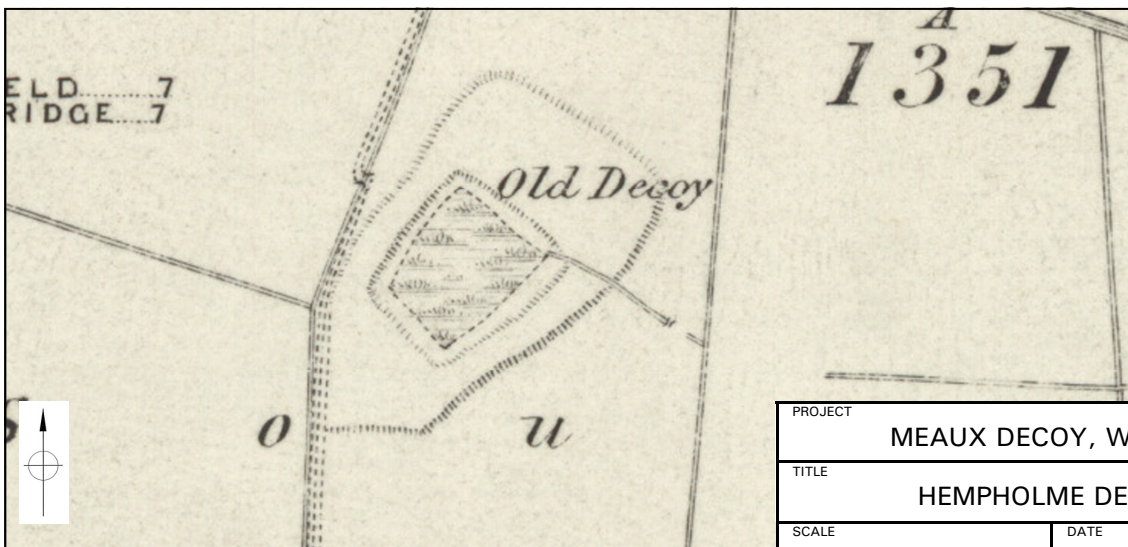
(C) View into south-east pipe, looking south-east.



(D) View across central pond, looking west.

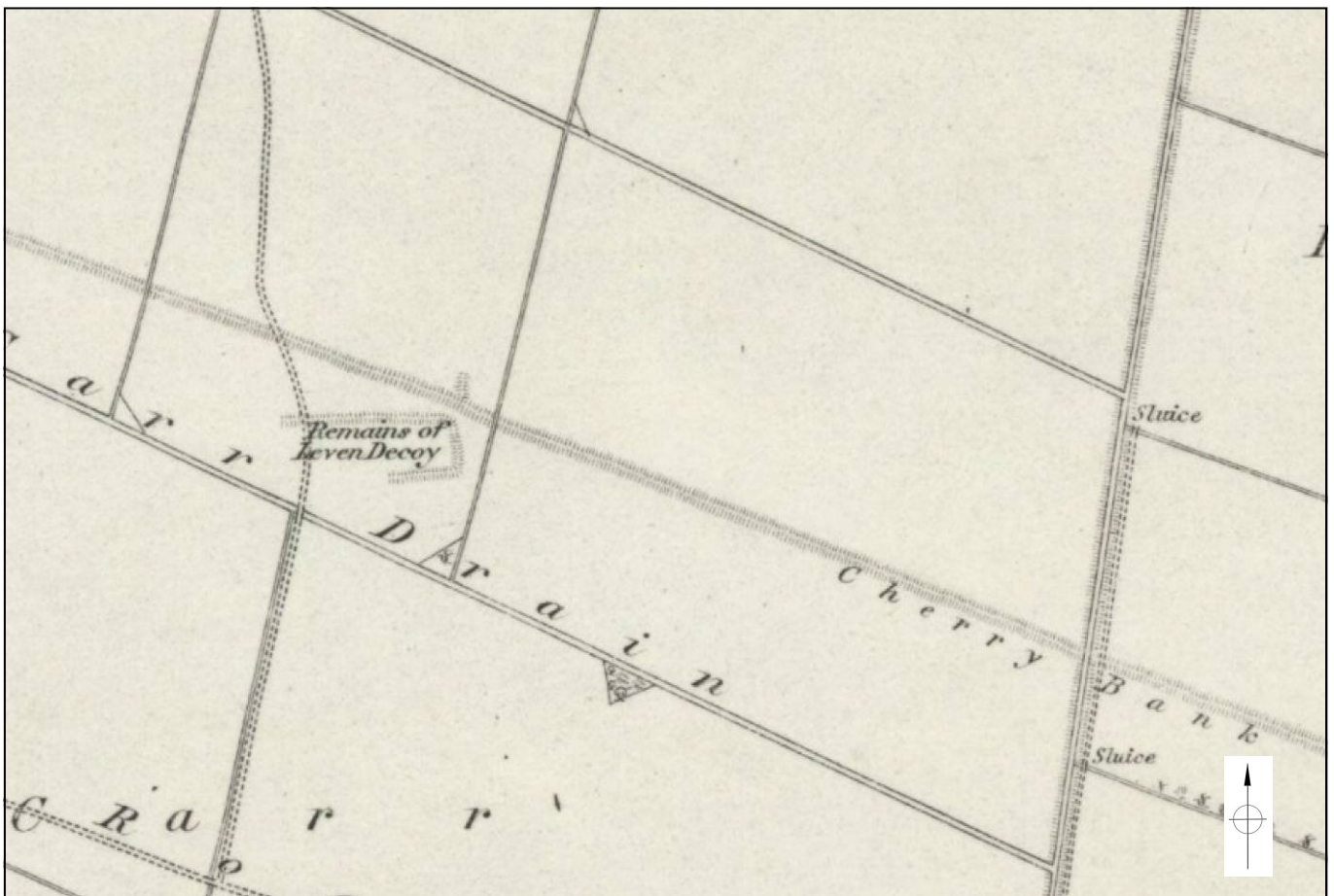
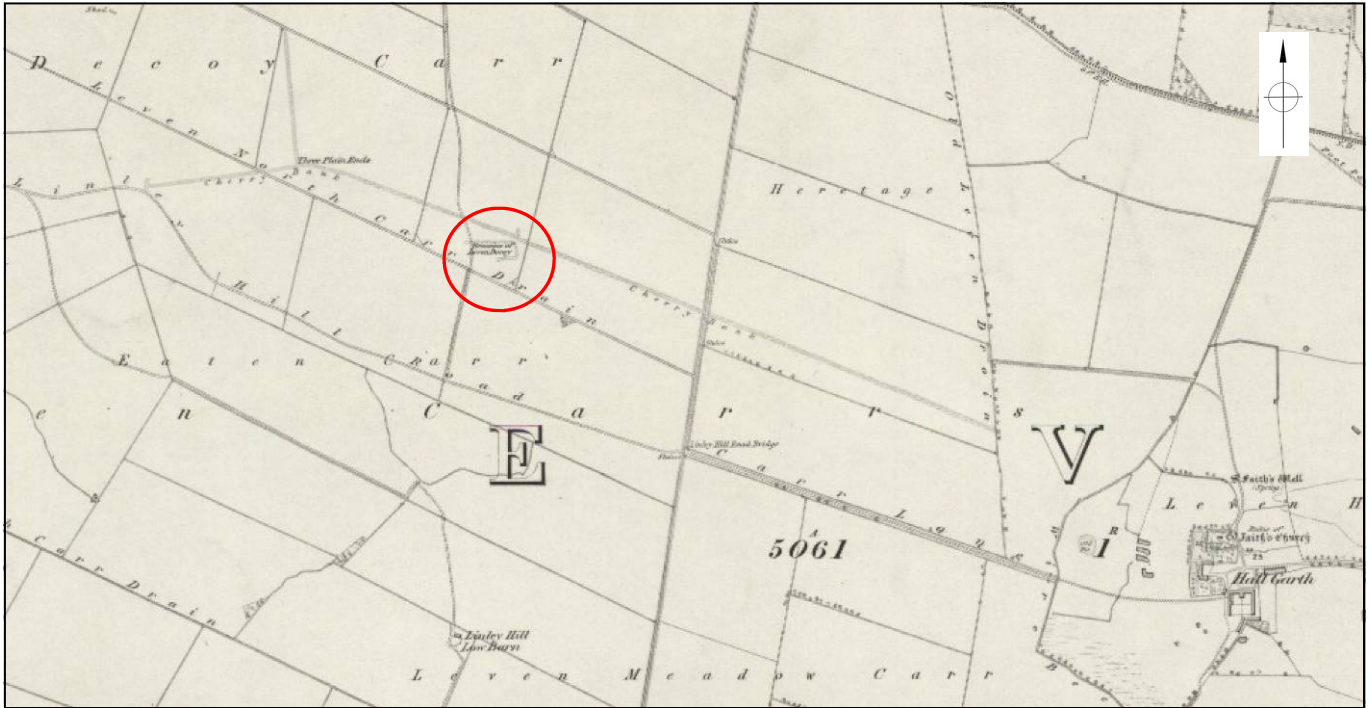
Photographs taken 25th March 2022.

PROJECT		MEAux DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		SCORBOROUGH DECOY	
SCALE	DATE	FIGURE	
NTS	JAN 2023	9	
EDAS			



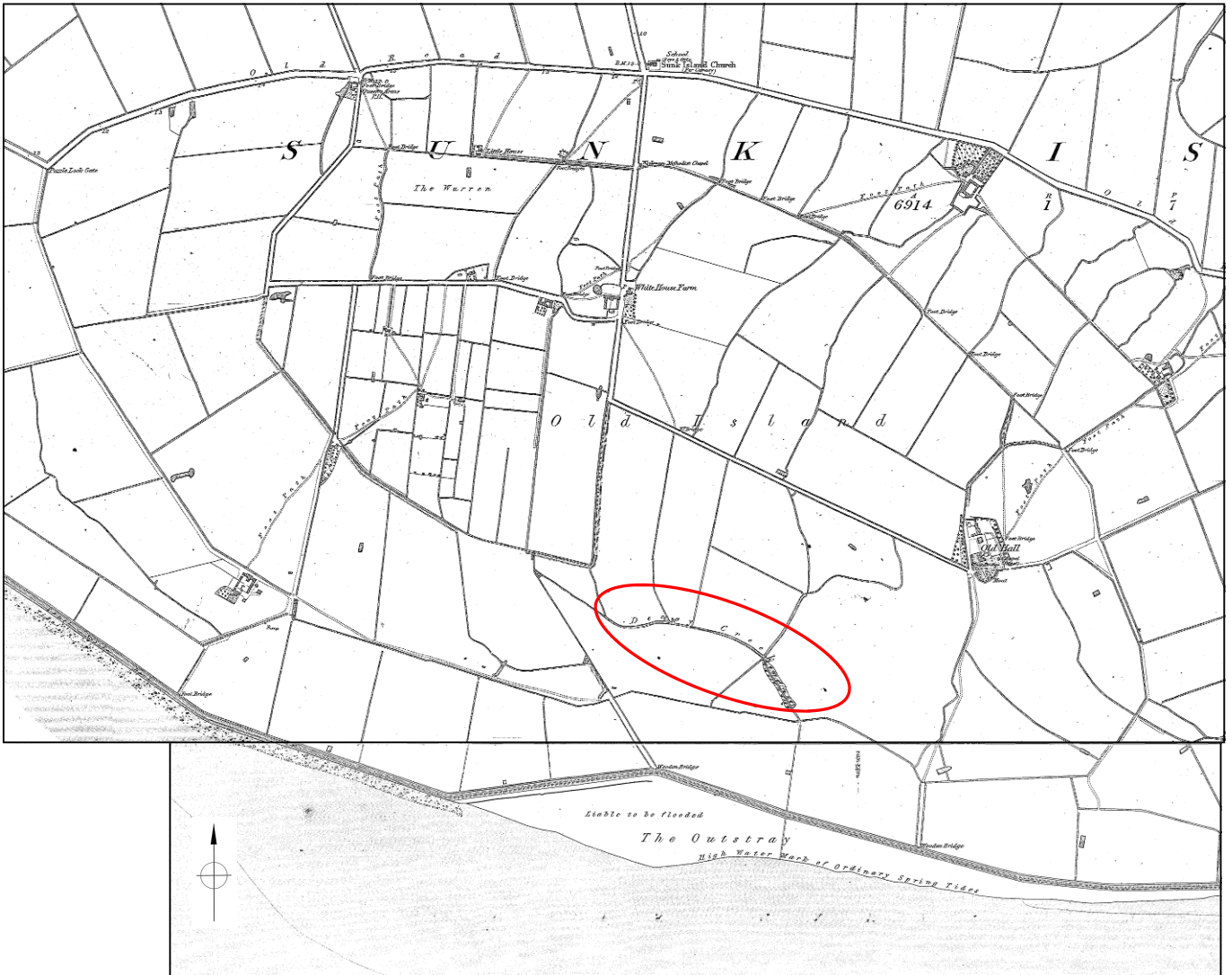
PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		HEMPHOLME DECOY	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	10

Source: 1854 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 179 (surveyed 1850-51).



Source: 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 196 (surveyed 1850-51).

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		LEVEN DECOY	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	11



Sources:
 Top - 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map
 Yorkshire sheet 256 (surveyed 1850-51).
 Bottom - 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile
 map Yorkshire sheet 268 (surveyed 1852).

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		SUNK ISLAND DECOY	
SCALE	DATE	NTS	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	12

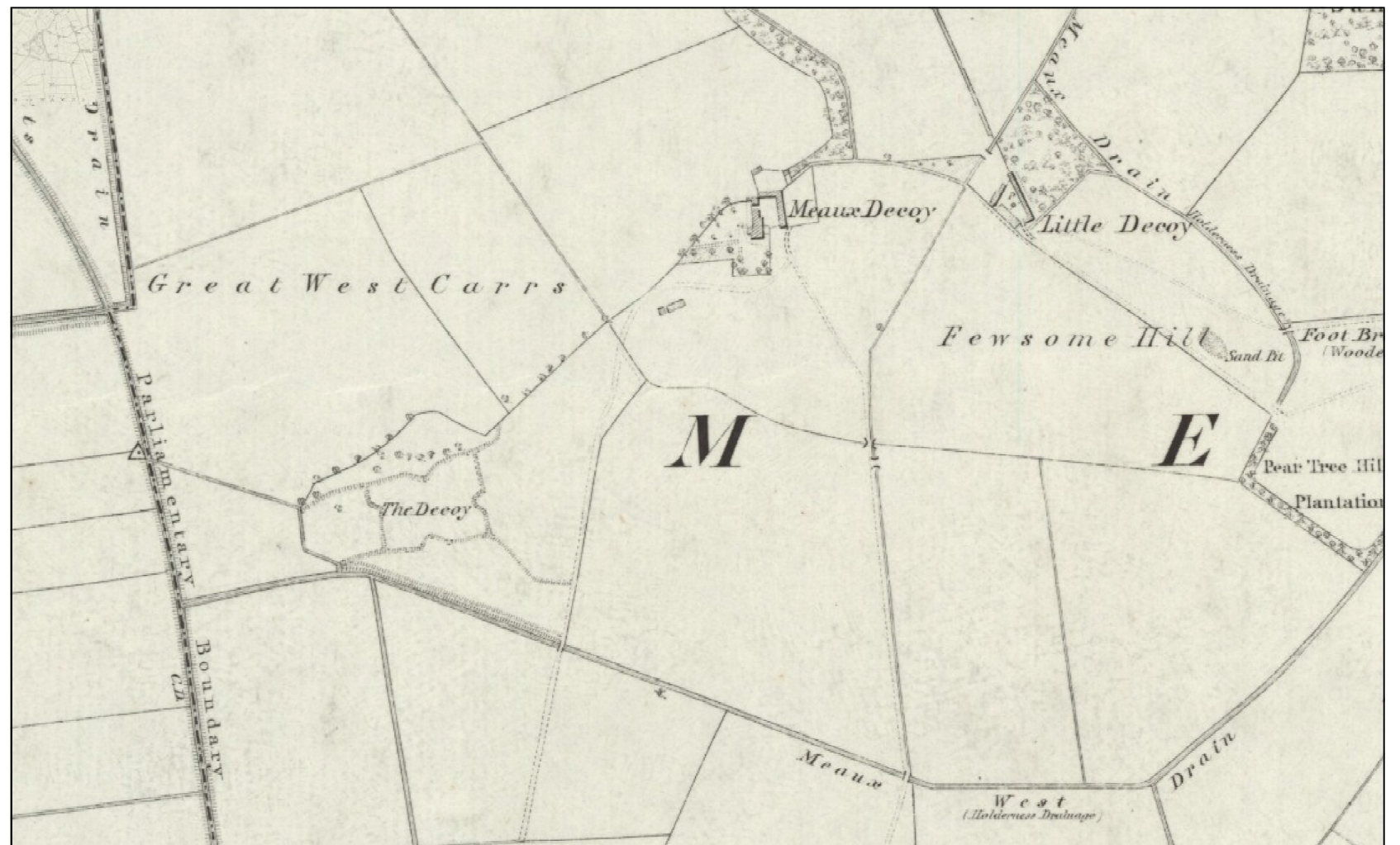
All that lately erected fowleng place with the appurtenances called or knowne by the name of the coy lying within the aforesaid Carrs on the south west pte of the said Grange house and now in the occupation of the said William Waddington - contayne by estema & worth p ann 02:00:00 43:13:04

All that lately erected fowleng [fowling] place with the appurtenances called or knowne by the name of the coy lying within the aforesaid carrs on the south-west pte [part] of the said Grange house and now in the occupation of the said William Waddington - contayne [containing] by estema[tion] & worth p ann [per annum] 02:00:00 [2 acres 0r 0p] £43 13s 04d.

(A) Parliamentary Survey of former Crown properties at Meaux, referencing the decoy, May 1650 (source: ERAO DDX 683/6).



(B) 1833 Holderness Drainage Plan, showing Decoy Farm and the decoy on the west side of the Holderness Drain (source: ERAO DCBB 7/523).

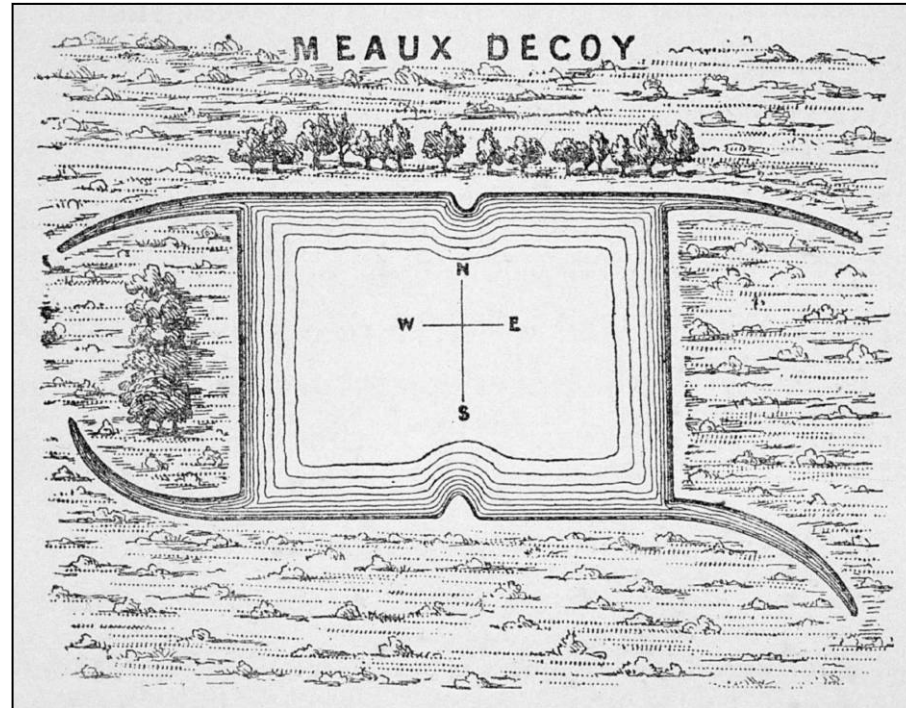


(C) 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" map Yorkshire sheet 211, surveyed 1852.

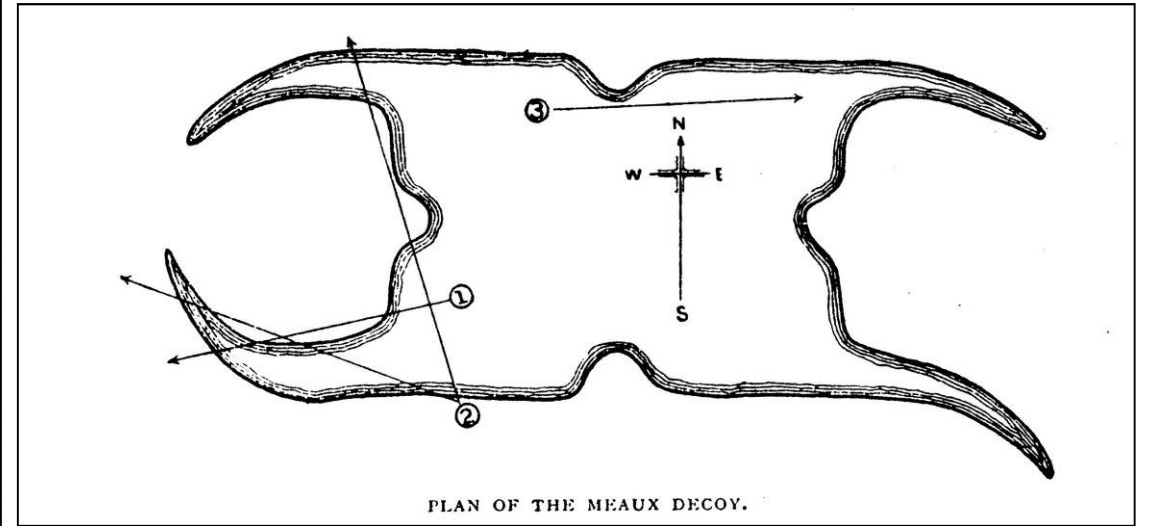
PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE			
DEPICTIONS			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	13



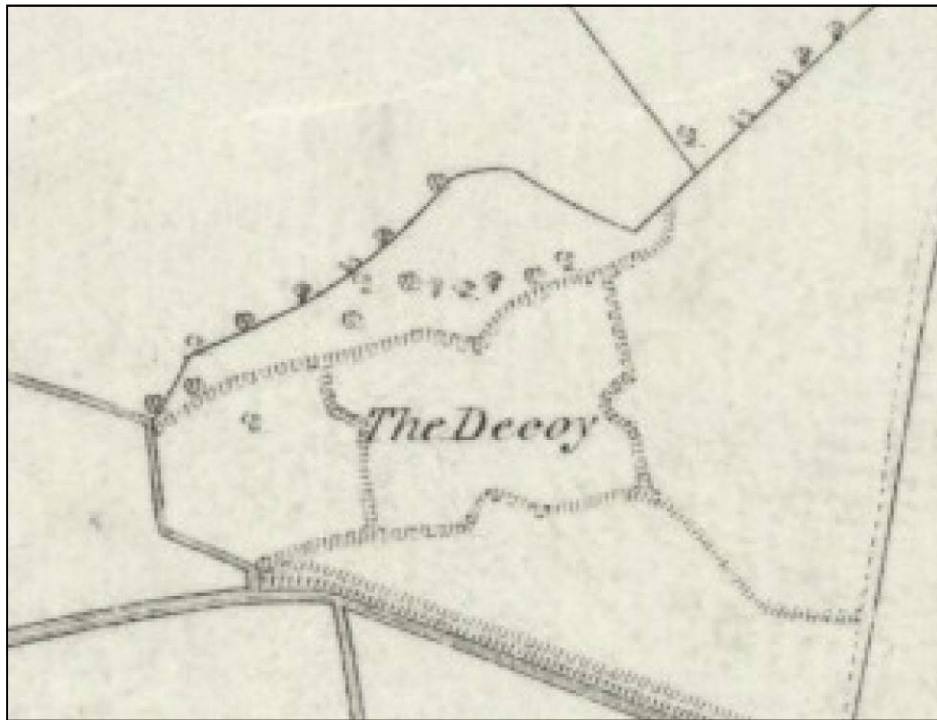
(A) 1833 Holderness Drainage plan (source: ERAO DCBB 7/523).



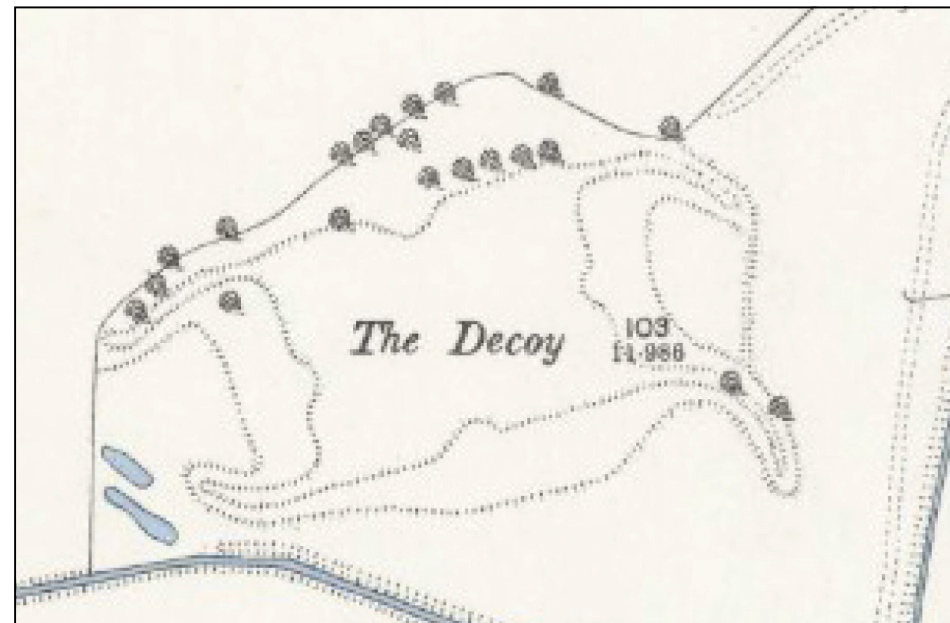
(C) Payne-Gallwey, R 1886 *The Book of Duck Decoys: their Construction, Management and History*, p.182.



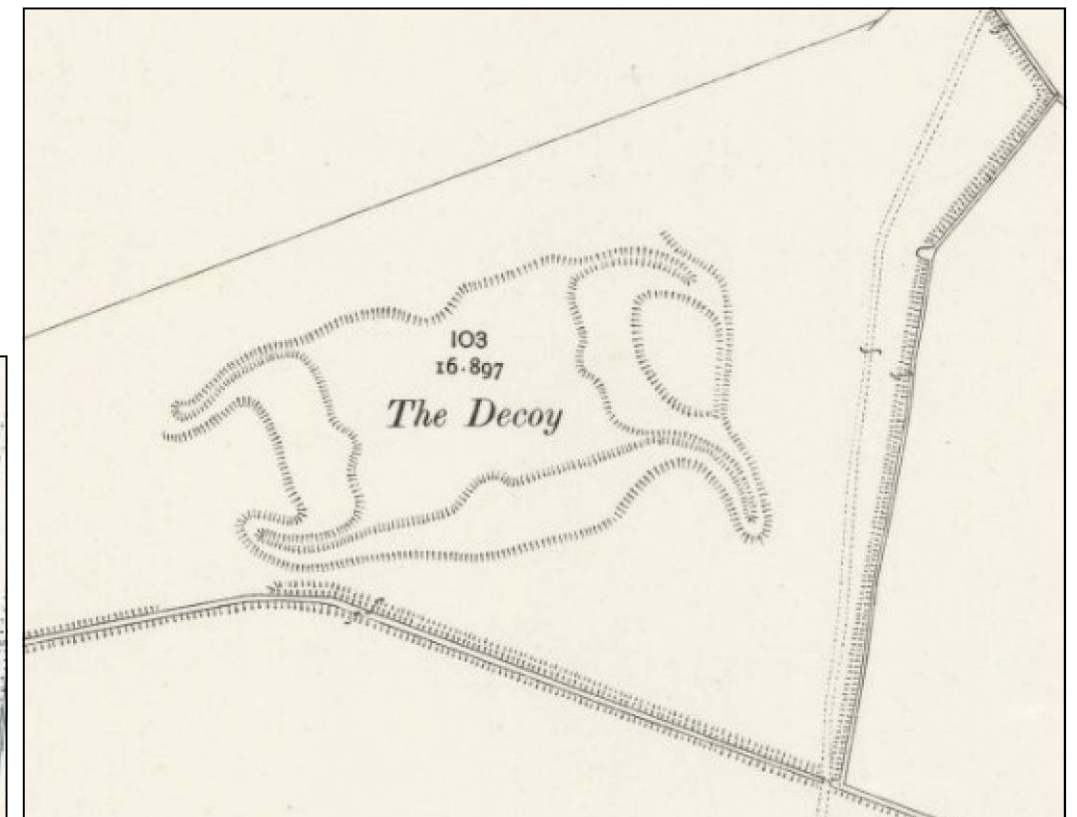
(E) Source: Audas, T 1900 'Old Wild Duck Decoys of Lincolnshire and the East Riding of Yorkshire'. *Transactions of the Hull Scientific and Field Naturalists' Club* vol 1 part 3, p.96.



(B) 1855 Ordnance Survey 6" map Yorkshire sheet 211, surveyed 1852.



(D) 1893 Ordnance Survey 25" map Yorkshire sheet 211/6, surveyed 1899.



(F) 1910 Ordnance Survey 25" map Yorkshire sheet 211/6, revised 1909.

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		DEPICTIONS	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	14

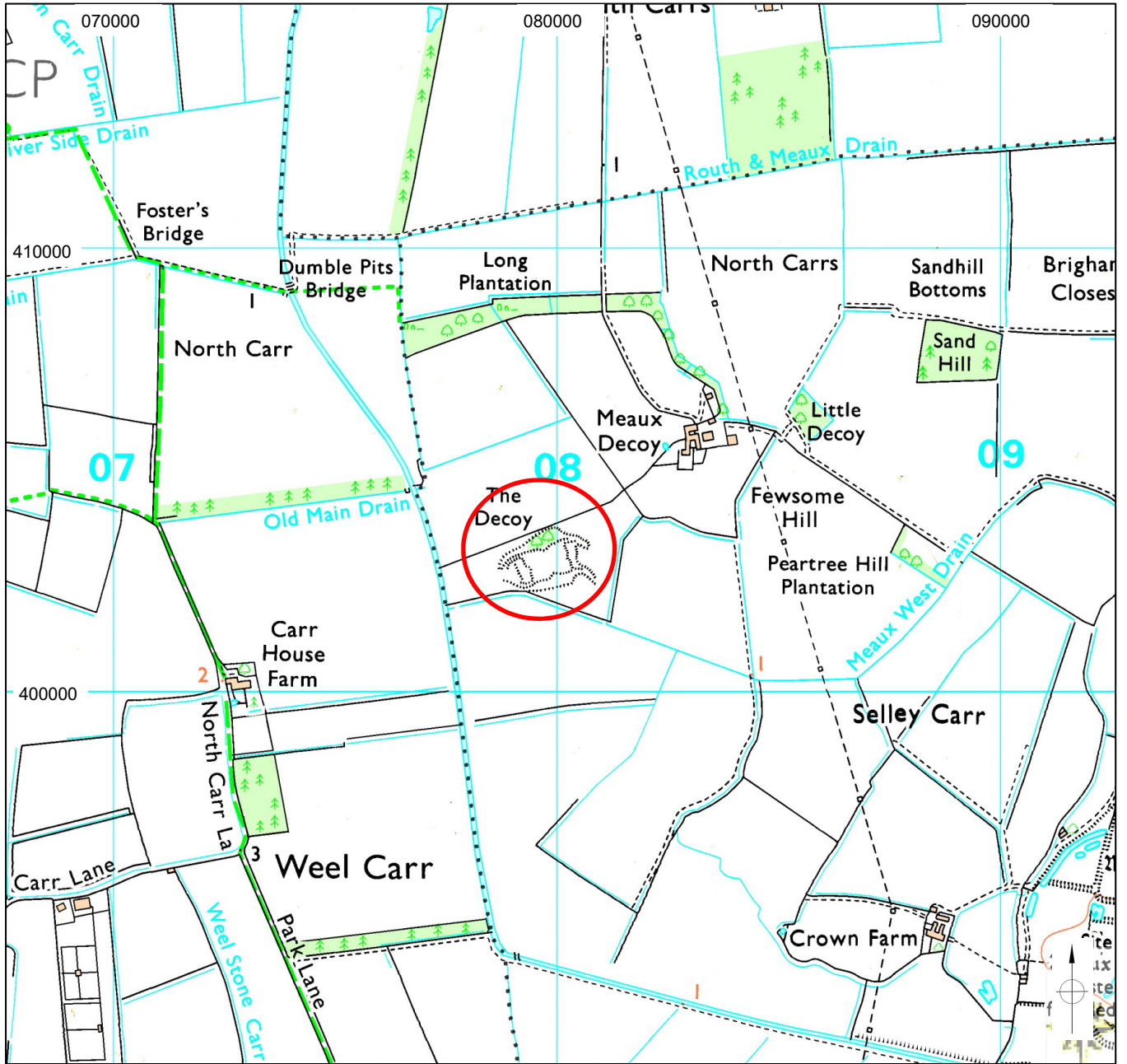


(A) Aerial photograph taken by Ed Dennison, 13th January 1992.



(B) Modern LiDAR image. Reproduced from the Environment Agency LIDAR Composite DTM 2020 1m data. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE			
		AERIAL VIEWS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	15



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PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		DETAILED LOCATION	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2023
EDAS		FIGURE	16

PROJECT		MEAUX DECOY, WAWNE	
TITLE		EARTHWORK SURVEY	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2023
	EDAS	FIGURE	17





Plate 1: General view across north side of decoy, showing projection to north side, looking E (October 2020).



Plate 2: General view across west side of decoy, looking NW (March 2021).



Plate 3: View of south side of decoy, showing projection to south side, looking W (March 2021).



Plate 4: View across central part of decoy, showing 'sump' after heavy rain, looking SE (March 2021).



Plate 5: View into south-east pipe from pond, looking E (October 2020).



Plate 6: View along south-east pipe, looking SE (October 2020).



Plate 7: View along south-east pipe, looking NW (March 2021).



Plate 8: View into north-west pipe from pond, looking NW (October 2020).