

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2019

INVESTIGATING LOST LANDSCAPES ACROSS THE EAST MIDLANDS

20 YEARS IN PERSPECTIVE

On Monday 15th November 1999, we stepped out onto the Owl's Nest field at Wheatcroft Farm, Keyworth, and here we are twenty years later, looking back at two decades of time travel. Picking out the developmental milestones and landmark discoveries has proved to be an enlightening experience. Always travelling in the day we are in, it is so easy to leave special moments behind, so when we re-opened our 1999-2019 field diaries it was a joy to rediscover those marvellous times out on the field once again.

To celebrate 20 years of the Field Detectives, we have created a PowerPoint presentation taken from the field diary pages which will form the central theme for our programme of community talks in 2020.

Now firmly established as a historic landscape study group, we can be very proud of our achievements to date. Our Romano-British landscape investigations key into the regional and national parish boundary field and research studies. Our field survey reports which are registered with the historic environment record, present a growing body of evidence that helps to inform our understanding in regard to how our historic landscapes have evolved over the centuries.

We are collaborating with local, regional and national heritage sector colleagues on our lead shot/musket ball and RAF investigations.

Since 2017, our numbers have grown from three detectives in the field to fourteen, which means that we now have the capacity, expertise and the know how to investigate so much more, which is an exciting prospect as we move into our next decade.

None of this would be possible if it wasn't for the landowners who place so much trust and faith in us, many of whom have become historic landscape study collection custodians, safeguarding our findings for future generations to enjoy.

20 years later, and there are so many more stories to be told.....



John, Jill & Catherine on research duty
at the , Leicester & Leicestershire Record Office

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COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS IN 2019

- Wing Commander GLB Hull DFC two site Commemoration Day, Oving (Bucks) & Goadby Marwood (Leicestershire)
- Cropwell Bishop Heritage Group, Every Field Tells a Story
- Waltham-on-the-Wolds Women's Institute, Celebrating 20 Years of Time Travel

FOX COVER

CROPWELL BUTLER, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Bingham Heritage Trails Association carried out a field walking survey of all the arable land in the parish of Bingham between 2004 and 2010. This work yielded interesting results in the field in the south western corner of the parish, which shares a boundary with the southern end of Fox Cover sited in the parish of Cropwell Butler.

It is very probable that the parish had acquired its current shape and size by 1066, which means that it was unlikely to have been extended further after that date. There is a suggestion that the parish may have originated from a Roman estate; thus, making the parish boundary meaningful at a much earlier date.

Finds from the field confirm human activity on the land from the late 1st/early 2nd century through to the 4th century AD. This is the first of a seven field landscape study and so therefore, the initial findings are promising.

There is no evidence of human activity on the field from the Iron Age, the Bronze Age or earlier. There is also no evidence of human activity on the field after the 4th century AD right up until the late 13th century.

The Fox Cover field survey has provided us with much food for thought, and presents us with a solid set of context-recorded coins and artefacts that will help to inform the next phase of our investigation.



Roman Brooch
Trumpet Type
c. AD 75-175

SAMWORTH FARMS
FOX COVER - SK 689 375
CROPWELL BUTLER
SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

FIELD SURVEY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2019

APPENDIX 1

Orange Block of Seven Fields at Cropwell Butler - Historic Landscape Research Study

TL

Field Detectives



Every Field Tells a Story

**“The
parish
may have
originated
from a
Roman
estate”**

MILL FIELD

LONG CLAWSON, LEICESTERSHIRE

At the heart of the landscape study lay the family fortunes of the Shilcock family, the transition from a wooden post mill to a six-storey brick built tower mill, two trackways, an ancient water course and a stone-lined cattle drinker. One of the trackways in question would seem to originate from a centralised area of the village, where the ancient church of St Remigius stands beside a field that intriguingly, appears to draw trackways towards it as if it were a landscape magnet.

Over the dull, damp and extremely cold months from December 2018 through to March 2019, the Field Detectives braved the weather in search of physical evidence to tell a story. Finds from the field featuring a number of Roman coins and brooches, confirm human activity on the land from the late 1st to early 2nd century through to the early part of the 4th century AD. There is no evidence of human activity on the field from the Iron Age, the Bronze Age or earlier. There is also no evidence of human activity on the field after the 4th century AD right up until the mid 13th century,

The Romano-British finds locations indicate a concentration of activity close to two trackways and related water-courses, so therefore, our working hypothesis linking Long Clawson to the Salt Way during the Romano-British period holds good.



SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS
Silver Denarius
c. AD 193-211

OWTHORPE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

“Once the site of a medieval hospital”

A planned investigation of the neighbouring landscape, in search of clues to evidence human activity that could be associated with the English Civil War, the Hutchinson family, the 13th-15th century and the Romano-British period.

The initial Home Field survey (Appendices 1 & 2) concluded that Owthorpe was once the site of a medieval hospital, and that the manor house building phases were located in close proximity to St Margaret’s Church. We were also able to confirm that Owthorpe had a windmill in 1328.

Appendices 2 & 4 revealed that the landscape hosted the presence of people during the Romano-British period and people from the 13th century through to the modern day. We have yet to record any evidence of earlier human activity on the land before the Romano-British period. Neither can we evidence any continuity of human activity following the end of the Roman occupation c.AD 410, through to the 13th century.

Forty-one musket balls were recorded on Pond Wong field (Appendix 3), and they will form the first part of a field by field musket ball and lead shot Owthorpe landscape study. This is a heritage sector collaboration with the Royal Armouries Museum, the National Civil War Centre and associated research colleagues.



Lead Token featuring a cross & pellets design
c.15th-16th Century

SAMWORTH FARMS
HOME FIELD - SK 669 335
OWTHORPE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

FIELD SURVEY REPORT

AUGUST 2019

APPENDIX 1

Home Field Investigation of SK 669 335
Owthorpe Block of Field Historical Landscape Study

SAMWORTH FARMS
HOME FIELD - SK 669 335
OWTHORPE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

THE HOME FIELD VISUAL DIARY

2019

APPENDIX 2

Home Field Investigation of SK 669 335
Owthorpe Block of Field Historical Landscape Study

SAMWORTH FARMS
POND WONG - SK 672 336
OWTHORPE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

FIELD SURVEY REPORT

OCTOBER 2019

APPENDIX 3

Home Field Investigation of SK 672 336
Owthorpe Block of Field Historical Landscape Study

SAMWORTH FARMS
RUSHMOOR - SK 672 340
OWTHORPE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

FIELD SURVEY REPORT

OCTOBER 2019

APPENDIX 4

Home Field Investigation of SK 672 340
Owthorpe Block of Field Historical Landscape Study

WING COMMANDER GLB HULL DFC COMMEMORATION DAY

OVING, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE & GOADBY MARWOOD, LEICESTERSHIRE

One year ago, The Field Detectives, led by the late Dr Alan Stevens, undertook a research project, regarding a crash site at Goadby Marwood, where a Mosquito aircraft crashed on 17th May 1946 killing it’s pilot, Wing Commander George Laurence Bazett Hull DFC. We have now written up his amazing story and that of his cousin Caesar Hull, a celebrated WWII fighter pilot, both from South Africa. The full account can be found in the Flying Hulls booklet, along with his involvement in the Great Escape at Stalag Luft III and how he was part of the forced march the POW’s endured as the war was ending.



The day was a two site commemoration, the first being in the morning at Oving (Buckinghamshire) where Wing Commander Hull is buried (next to his twin sister) and the second was at Goadby Marwood, where he died 73 years ago to that very day (Friday 17th May 1946).

Catherine read out a speech at both sites, written by Wing Commander Hull’s cousin Mr Caesar Bryan who unfortunately could not be with us on the day, however his two sisters Mary and Diana were present. The RAF, Air Cadets, Royal British Legion and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission were also represented.

A memorial building created to tell the story of Wing Commander Hull was unveiled in the gardens of Goadby Hall.

The Field Detectives

Historic Landscape Studies

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Field Detectives seek opportunities to survey fields that can tell us more about how our historic landscapes evolved - By sharing the stories that we uncover from our field survey activities, we help to inform a better understanding of how our farming landscapes evolved over the centuries.

Share the Learning and record the information for current and future historical research

On completion of the field survey activities, a field survey report is produced that precisely records all of the associated survey finds (coins, artefacts, pottery etc.). One copy is presented to the landowner, and a further copy is sent to the relevant County Historic Environment Record Office where it is allocated a unique reference number.

Once the field survey reports have been processed, the artefacts are curated as a landowner held Historic Landscape Study Collection where they are safeguarded for further research and study. A community presentation/display can then be arranged where the information is shared and an opportunity is provided for the local community to get involved in future research activities.

By submitting the completed field survey reports as an exact finds location record, and by working closely with our heritage sector colleagues, we are establishing a growing set of detailed historic collections. These context-recorded studies, are held in trust by the respective landowners who act as heritage custodians, which in turn, provides a unique set of rich historical landscape investigations for further study and collaboration.

Every field has a story to tell...

PDF copies of our reports and posters can be sent out electronically

email: fielddetectives@talktalk.net

Mobile: 07896 225 691

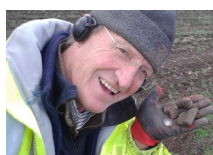
Phone: 0115 9377 318



Richard Pincott
Social Historian & Historic
Landscape Detective



Catherine Pincott-Allen
Family Historian & Historic
Landscape Detective



Sean Gallagher
Ecologist & Historic
Landscape Detective



Steve Wells
Finds Photographer, & Historic
Landscape Detective



Dr Alan Stevens
Passed Away 10.04.19
memoratus in aeternum



Sophie Chell
Historic Landscape
Detective



Martyn Brown
Historic Landscape
Detective



Alan Brown
Historic Landscape
Detective



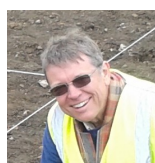
Mel Steadman
Historic Landscape
Detective



Brian Lovett
Farmer & Historic
Landscape Detective



Jill Barlow
Historic Landscape
Detective



John Barlow
Historic Landscape
Detective



Alan & Sylvia Massey
Prehistory Consultants &
Witch Bottle Experts



Julie Penaluna
Historic Landscape
Detective