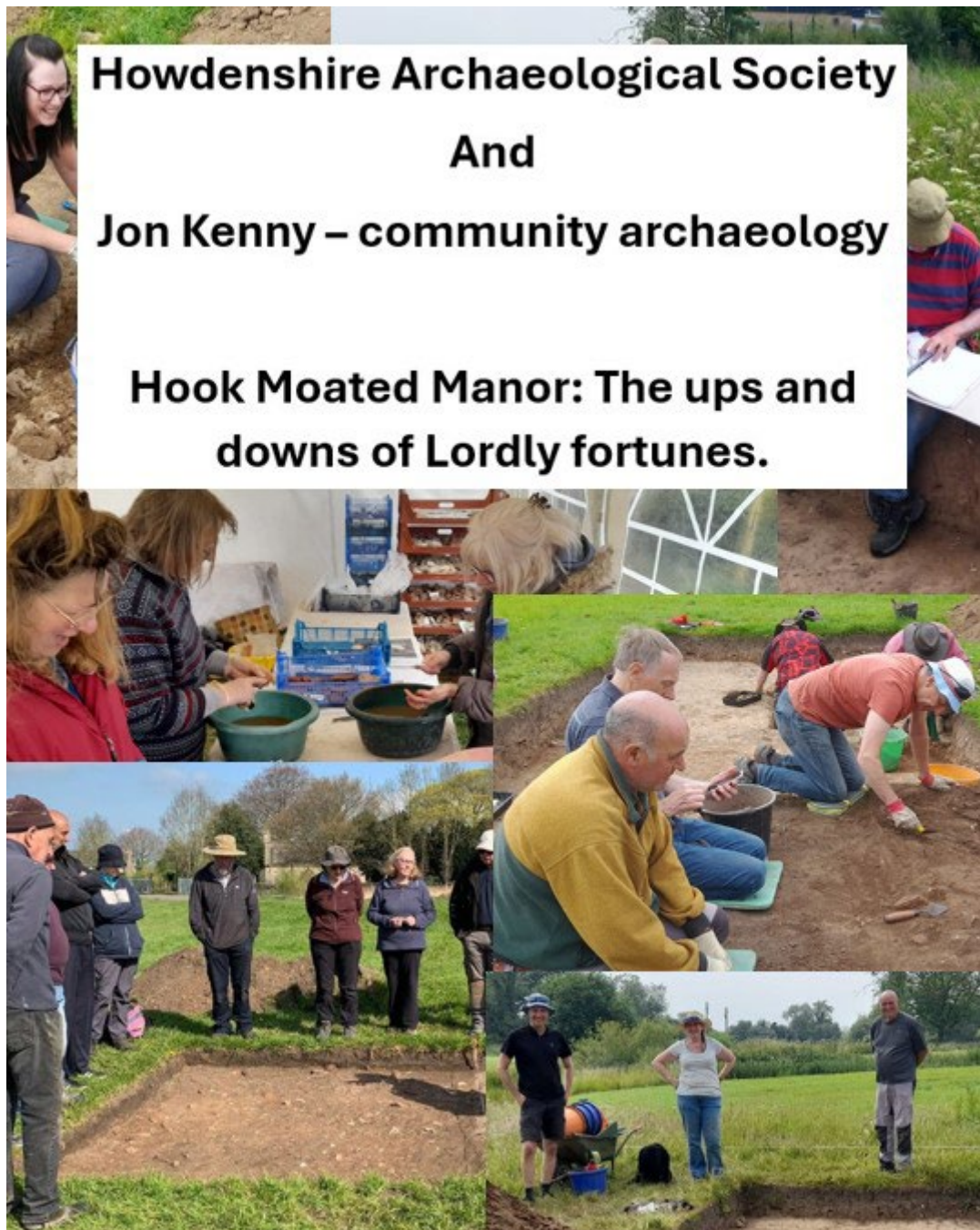
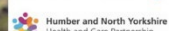




Howdenshire Archaeological Society And Jon Kenny – community archaeology

Hook Moated Manor: The ups and downs of Lordly fortunes.



Goole Fields Wind Farms Community Fund

Dr Jon Kenny and Chris Collins

Howdenshire Archaeological Society

And

Jon Kenny – community archaeology

Hook Moated Manor: The ups and downs of Lordly fortunes.

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1. Introduction

Archaeological surveys (undertaken in 2022) and evaluation excavations (undertaken in 2023) are described and discussed in this report. They were carried out by a volunteer workforce from Howdenshire Archaeological Society and supervised and trained by professional archaeologist Dr Jon Kenny MCIfA. The project was supported by The Green Social Prescribing project at Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership and the Goole Fields Wind Farms Community Fund. Without their support, none of the work reported here would have been possible.

The projects were undertaken by the Howdenshire Archaeological Society in a drive to better understand a medieval township in the community that they cover. Given that we were working in a time soon after COVID we were also very aware of the role of history societies such as HAS and community archaeologists like Jon Kenny that we needed to develop a **Wellbeing Principal** in our work. It's not that we didn't already do that, but now more than we had before we put community wellbeing up front with learning about the past.

To put the **Wellbeing Principal** upfront in this report the first part sets out to define the wellbeing work that community archaeologists and associated history / archaeology societies contribute to.

The main bulk of the report, however, is a description of what we learned about the past. First by consulting the work that has been done before on the moated site, then by looking at the historical references that have been located regarding the Lords of the Manor in Hook during the medieval period. It really does seem that the moated manor site grew along with the village in that period, on the site of a fairly remote hermitage dating back into the Anglo-Saxon period of the earlier medieval.

The report covers geophysical and earthwork surveys undertaken for and mostly by the HAS volunteer team that set about looking for evidence without putting a spade in the ground. Having realised that much of the archaeology was masked by more recent dumping activity we set about undertaking an evaluation excavation.

The narratives that we were able to tell are told in this report along with how these narratives stand alongside the historic evidence to tell the story of a moated site that came into being in the late 1100s or early 1200s and reached its peak of influence in around 1320 before crumbling, along with its medieval Lords into a long and less distinguished end, eventually coming in the 1500s or 1600s.

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Storme Gathercole	Tommy Wade
Verdon Coucom	

2. The Wellbeing Principal: Community Archaeology and Wellbeing with Howdenshire Archaeological Society.

2.1 Introduction

A key aspect of the Hook Manor project was encouraging involvement of members of the local community as project participants. The work reported in this document was supported by funding from two separate organisations / projects. The first was the NHS Green Prescribing Project (which helped with funding the non-invasive activity in 2022), the second was the local Windfarm community funding (helping with the excavation aspects in 2023).

Howdenshire Archaeological Society (HAS) was, and still is, keen to welcome those who wouldn't typically identify archaeology as within their sphere of interest. We connected with social prescribing link workers within local medical practices to offer volunteer opportunities to participate, alongside advertising the project locally via social media, print media and local organisations.

Using archaeology as a focus, we developed group cohesion from structured activities and less formal group interactions. The project enabled people from all walks of life to get involved in understanding their historic landscape and learning about the basic aspects of archaeological investigation.

We believe that we enthused and inspired those participating to engage in further enquiry so that they and we might understand the wider historical landscape and develop a core team of local people who are willing to proceed to further investigation of this or other local archaeological sites with the society. This has continued in the work of HAS at the nearby Parish church where the community team has undertaken excavations on two occasions at the church and are currently participating in a survey of the church memorials.

HAS and the author (Jon Kenny – community archaeology) were and still are convinced that participating in community archaeology generates and fosters a sense of wellbeing amongst participants and that this should form a core part of the activities that they undertake. Being welcoming and designed to foster wellbeing, a **Wellbeing Principal** behind our work if you like. Not simply directed at the gathering of archaeological data.

2.2 Support for the Wellbeing Principal.

Participation in community archaeology can boost wellbeing through multiple, evidence-backed routes — social connection, purposeful activity and skill-building, time outdoors and manual work, strengthened local identity/meaning, and reduced stress. Studies, reviews and evaluations show consistent positive effects for volunteers and targeted groups (e.g., veterans), though the evidence base still calls for better standardized evaluation. (Pattinson 2023, Pennington 2019).

2.3 Participation Supports Wellbeing.

- **Social connection & belonging.** Shared non-invasive activities and excavation, workshops and conservation projects encourage new friendships, making contacts and a sense of community — factors strongly associated with improved mental health. Volunteers commonly report greater social support and reduced loneliness after heritage volunteering. (Pattinson 2023).
- **Purpose, mastery and meaningful activity.** Learning archaeological skills, contributing to a visible project, and doing “work that matters” gives participants a sense of purpose

and competence — key ingredients of psychological wellbeing. Studies identify purpose/altruism and skills-learning as consistent wellbeing pathways. (Lewis 2023).

- **Physical activity and time outdoors.** Many community archaeology roles involve light-moderate physical work in outdoor, often green settings. Contact with nature and physical activity both reduce stress and improve mood, and archaeology projects involve both. (Gallou 2022). This is particularly true if you can work in months when the weather is good. Although our experience suggests that running for cover from the rain also builds a sense of communal togetherness.
- **Connection to place, continuity and identity.** Working on local sites like Hook strengthens place-attachment and identity, which can improve life satisfaction and resilience, particularly in areas with social or economic disadvantage (the port town at Goole lies within the medieval parish of Hook). (Gallou 2022).
- **Non-clinical therapeutic benefit for target groups.** Targeted programmes (for veterans, people with mental-health challenges) report mood improvement, reduced anxiety and practical gains in coping — archaeology used as a structured non-medical intervention. However, evaluations are often small-scale and largely qualitative. (Everill, Bennett and Burnell 2025).

Systematic reviews and scoping reviews of heritage projects aimed at wellbeing include What Works Wellbeing by Historic England. They found promising but uneven evidence: many positive case studies and some quantitative gains, but inconsistent methods, small sample sizes and limited long-term follow up. The sector is moving toward more rigorous, comparable evaluation framework. (Penington, A., R. Jones, A-M Bagnall, J. South and R. Corcoran, 2019).



Figure 1: Wellbeing in Action! It is clear that given good weather Geophysical Survey can occupy a much larger number of people than a professional team would need to undertake the work. An enthusiastic leader is an important factor in the experience.

2.4 Meeting Wellbeing needs:

The literature on Wellbeing and Heritage suggests that we aimed for the following targets:

- **Design our project for inclusion & social contact (Pennington 2019) :** We sought to mix roles that encourage teamwork and provide formal social time (breaks, debriefs).
- **Provide clear tasks and skills training:** learning boosts self-efficacy so we included a set of Workshops on different aspects of the work volunteers would work on (Lewis 2023).
- **Make sites accessible and adapt roles:** people with all degrees of mobility and health levels were invited (work such as object handling, finds-washing and recording was made available and fully valued as part of the process). (Lewis 2022)
- **Build partnerships** with health or community providers for referrals and follow-up where appropriate. (Dilshad 2025). The way that we set ourselves up with the Green Social Prescribing project in 2022 meant that our volunteers referred by GP surgeries were not known to us. A different approach may have been taken given the difficulty this caused in assessing the efficacy of the project in impacting the wellbeing of people who were struggling.

2.5 How strong was the evidence for the effect of participation in Community Archaeology and personal Wellbeing on the Hook Manor projects?

It is fair to say that our project found it difficult to evaluate success in a quantitative way, without the opportunity to interview those who had been recommended to us by a GP. But we could talk to everyone about wellbeing and made it clear that part of what we were doing was about wellbeing.

- **Community Involvement:** The excavation activity was supervised by a professional community archaeologist (Dr Jon Kenny) but otherwise undertaken by volunteers from the Hook and Goole area and Howdenshire Archaeological Society. We had 38 different volunteers working with us on site, the maximum on any particular day being 19. The project contributed 359 working days (1,795 hours) from the 38 volunteers. Of the 38 volunteers on site 26 had never experienced archaeological excavation activity before. Of the volunteers with previous experience 3 acted as mentors to support the community archaeologist (their hours are included in the figure above). In addition to the excavation work project management and running of the open day was delivered for 65 hours by 6 volunteers, Historical research was undertaken by 3 volunteers over 100 hours. In addition to the excavation work the community archaeologist visited the neighbouring primary school and explained what was happening and how the medieval village and manor house would have worked. The results of the excavations were presented at a village open day at the community centre in Hook as part of CBA National Heritage Open Days programme. Throughout the day we were visited by 106 people who were able to talk to the archaeologist and volunteers.
- **Well-being:** Well-being work was undertaken throughout the project, and the community archaeologist and mentors ensured that the volunteer groups discussed this topic during the project. Effectively the structured social interaction and outdoor activity gave all volunteers participating the opportunity to feel good about themselves and their lives whilst meeting new people, undertaking new activities and feeling part of the research into their pasts. Future projects should recognise the value undertaking community archaeology has for people's personal well-being and seek to gather data to improve our understanding of this important community activity.

- Where our projects were seeking information from people who were in an archaeological frame of mind, they found it difficult to switch to a more medical sense of their wellbeing. It felt like we were intruding! In the Green Social Prescribing project, we did not know which of our volunteers had actually been prescribed participation. So couldn't assess the benefit unless they were forthcoming to chat about their experiences outside the protected world of the archaeology group.
- The community team that existed at York Archaeology until 2025, led by Ian Milsted and Arran Johnson took a more medical led approach from the start in their projects. This probably led to better evaluation of the outcomes.
- Milsted and Johnson undertook two influential projects: Archaeology on Prescription which took participants who were prescribed by GP surgeries. (City of York Council 2024). This was followed by a consultation project on the value of running a community archaeology project in the city published as the Walmgate Research Project (York Archaeology, 2024). This continued to highlight the importance of heritage interaction and wellbeing to local communities. Johnson is now continuing his work with Wessex Archaeology in York, hosting special "Dig In" community cafe events with talks (like at Legends Coffee House), aiming to build community around archaeology through shared experiences, learning, and affordable refreshments, rather than just serving food.

3. What has been done before?

A number of history and archaeology projects have studied Hook over the last 60 years.

3.1 Excavations by Harold Garside and Eric Duckles in the 1960s.

The first known archaeological research into the 'Hall Garth' at Hook was undertaken by local archaeologist Harold Garside with assistance from Eric Duckles (see Figure 2 below). They reported stakes in a moat, hearths, foundations and pottery. They also reported some infilling in the northern part of the moat that might have been the location of a causeway or bridge abutment (Loughlin and Miller 1979). Unfortunately, Garside and Duckles did not write up or publish the work that they undertook, but the Medieval pottery sherds and roof tile were reported by Loughlin and Miller to be at Goole Library (1979) (see Figure 3 below).



Figure 2: Harold Garside (right) and possibly Eric Duckles, reveal a fragment of mill stone.



Figure 3: A selection of pottery sherds and roof tile later deposited at Goole Museum.

Goole Museum now hold the Garside collection, what remains of it. They will also accept the finds from this project. The remaining finds at the museum are listed as: A pottery handle, various sherds of medieval pottery, roof tile fragments, a brick fragment, animal bone and a pig's tusk.

3.2 The Moated Sites of Yorkshire 1973

In her seminal overview of the moated sites of Yorkshire Jean Le Patourel stated the same description of the Hook moat derived from Garside and Duckles. She lists "hearths, stakes in moat, foundations and pottery reported by owner" (Le Patourel, 1973, 125).

3.3 The Historic England Research notes describe the site as:

"The moated site is roughly rectangular in plan, orientated north-south. The moat ditch, which is typically 1.5-2 metres deep and 15 metres wide, surrounds an island 70 metres east-west and 90 metres north-south. The northern moat arm is wider than the other sides, being about 25 metres across, and is crossed midway by a causeway which is in line with the west end of the church. There is no evidence for an external bank around the moat; instead, the upcast from the ditches was used to raise the ground surface of the island. The main island is subdivided at its south-east corner by a ditch, 15 metres wide and up to 2 metres deep, to form a second island approximately 35 metres square. The ground surface of this smaller island is slightly higher than the rest. To the south of the moat is a bank, possibly part of larger enclosure surrounding the moat."

3.4 Humber Wetlands Project 1992 – 2001

An extensive survey of the value of the wetlands in the landscape around the Humber Estuary and the rivers feeding into it was carried out between 1992 and 2001. The potential of the archaeology at Hook was assessed by undertaking coring in two parts of the moat (1995-1996). The conclusion was that "Hook has revealed high percentages of well-preserved pollen, but the nature of the vegetation and soil has reduced the potential of the site" (Fenwick, 1997, 438).

3.5 The Historic Hook Project in 2013.

In 2013 the history of Hook and its moated manor site had still not been well researched. A project underway through East Yorkshire supported the Historic Hook project. The project was funded by a combination of money from LEADER (Coast, Wolds, Wetlands & Waterways) a European Union fund, the Department of the environment and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. It encouraged the work of the Hook community to research the history of the church, generating a booklet called Hook Church, Hall Garths and the de Houks (2013), this was put together by Susan and David Walker.

In addition to the historical research a set of four banner displays were created giving an overview of the how the medieval village may have looked, based on the structure of the 1768 enclosure map, which gives a good idea of the layout of the tofts and crofts and their relation to the moated manor site (see Figure 4 below). This also shows the relationship with the chantry chapel originally constructed as a chapel for the de Houk family residing in the moated manor site (1225). The chapel was only given dispensation for the burial of villagers in 1499, before that villagers had to go to Snaith, the parish church of an extensive peculiar parish.

The banner displays also showed the interpreted (by Chris Rock) appearance of the moated site, community use of the chantry chapel and the nearby pinfold. The interpretation of the moated manor is shown in Figure 5 below. While an interpretation of activity in the chantry chapel itself appears in Figure 6 below, if indeed the villagers were welcomed into the chantry until the very late medieval period.

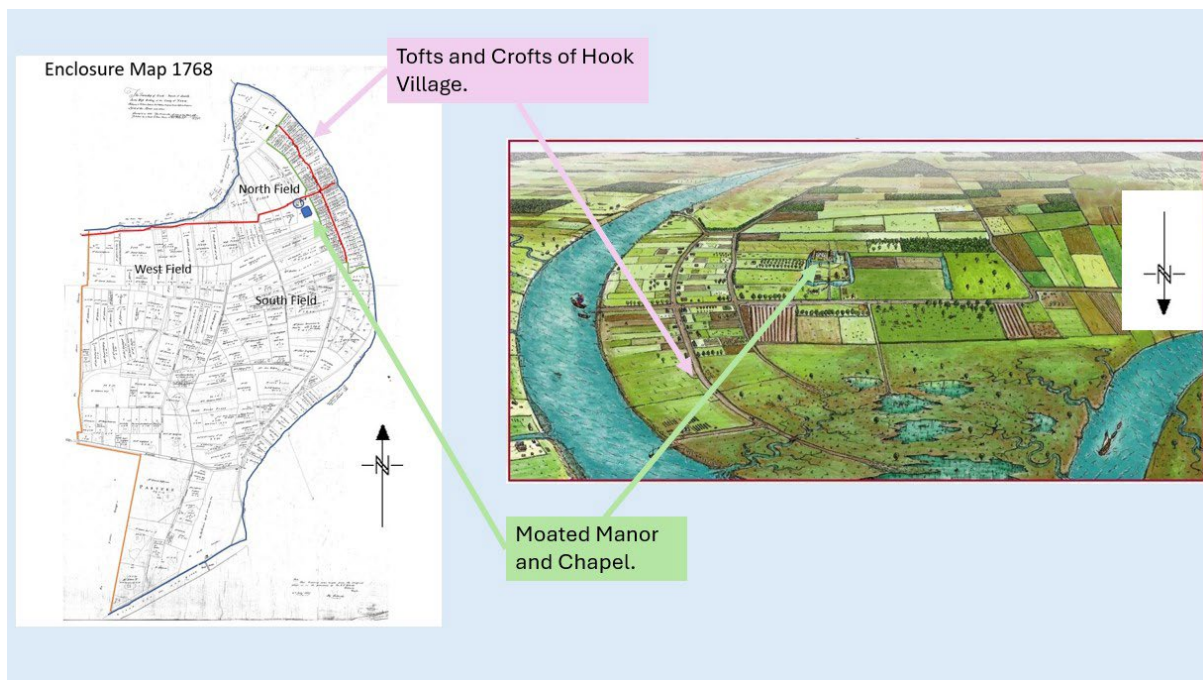


Figure 4: Artist's impression (Chris Rock) view of the medieval township of Hook drawn from the 1768 enclosure map.

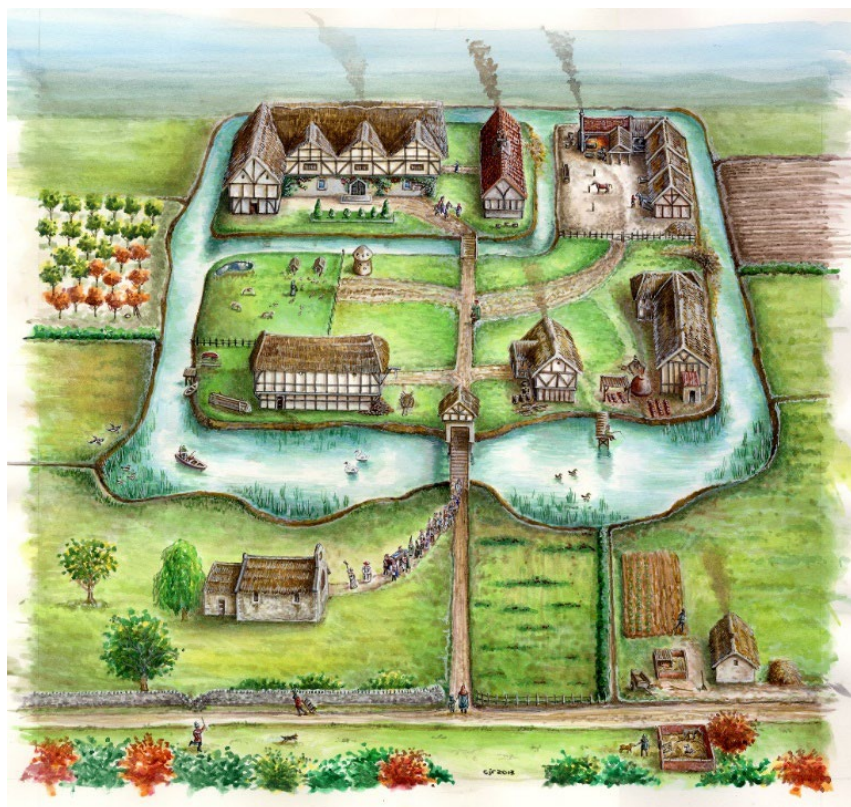


Figure 5: Artist's impression by Chris Rock showing the moated site (home to the de Houk family during the medieval period. Note the chantry chapel to the north (bottom of the image).



Figure 6: Artist's impression by Chris Rock showing community life using the chantry chapel during the medieval period. Assuming that although the chapel could not be used by villagers as a parish church, it was made available as a community resource.

3.6 Historic Hook Magnetic Survey

The final and most ambitious archaeological investigation undertaken by the Historic Hook Project was the commissioning of a magnetic susceptibility survey by James Lyell in the summer of 2013.

The survey was undertaken across the platform(s) of the moated site (see Figure 7 below). The survey was undertaken specifically to identify whether any structural remains of the Manor House could be detected using a magnetic geophysical method. In the event, no direct structural evidence was detected, although a number of anomalies of potential archaeological significance were discovered.

Lyell noted the underlying solid geology is a mudstone of the Mercian Mudstone group, formed between 206 and 248 million years ago, although the results of the survey are almost certainly dominated by the superficial soil deposits. These are classified as alluvium, made up of clay, silts sands and gravel, in a local environment dominated by riverine deposits (Lyell, 2013, 5).

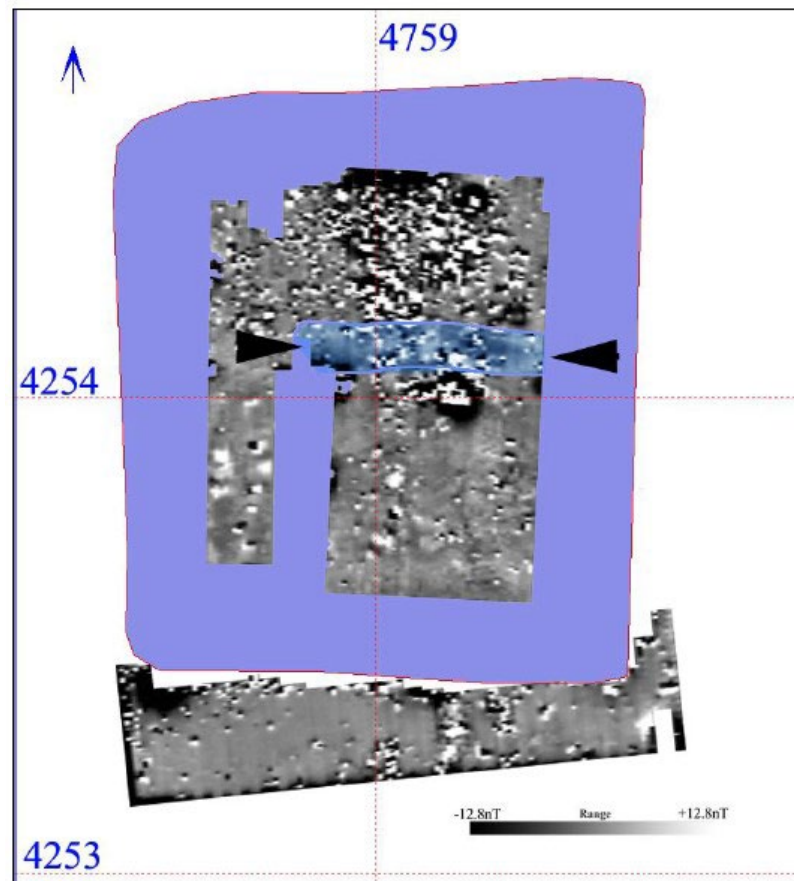


Figure 7: Magnetic survey overlaid on Ordnance Survey. Moats is in blue.

In his interpretation of the magnetic survey Lyell noted large and small black and white areas in the greyscale images (see Figure 7 above).” These are dipoles (iron spikes), which indicate the presence of iron or steel objects. These are generally found in the topsoil, and although they could signify the presence of archaeological objects, it is much more likely that they relate to more modern detritus, such as broken ploughshares, iron horseshoes, shotgun cartridges etc. The northern part of the surveyed area was particularly affected by this anomaly type, probably because the area was previously used as an ad hoc dumping ground (Richard Fawbert pers comm)” (Lyell, 2013, 6).

Lyell’s interpretation of what could be seen through the noise of the more recent dumping can be described as ten features (see Figure 8 below):

1 to 6 . Pits. A series of pits that when viewed closely suggest each is a cluster of pits. Pit 2 may indicate a trench opened up by school children revealing stacked tiles (Richard Fawbert pers comm). These pits Lyell suggests may relate to activity at the manor house on the site (Lyell, 2013,7).

7 to 9. The other anomalies picked out in blue by Lyell (see Figure 8 below) are linear in nature. These are suggestive of drains running into the moat from the platform, or indeed in the case of anomaly 9 a large drain taking water away from the moat.

Finally, anomaly 10 is much fainter than the others (see Figure 7 above and Figure 8 below). This was described by Lyell, saying that it “could represent an earlier in-filled moat. It is slightly

curvilinear and appears to be turning to the east at both its northern and southern ends. At just over 7m wide, it is too wide to be a ditch, and thus the interpretation as an earlier moat, although this must remain speculative without further investigation” (Lyell, 2013, 8).

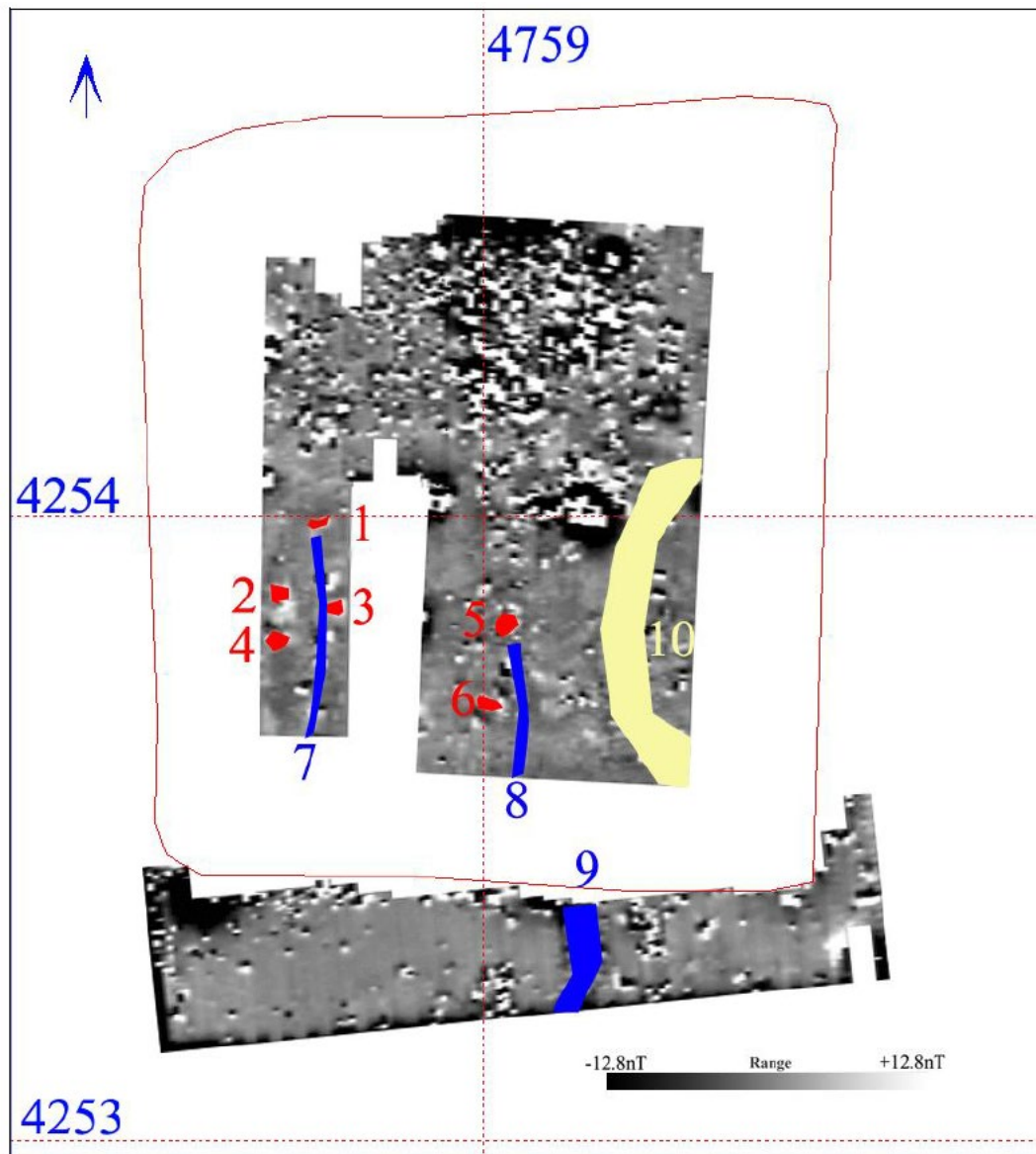


Figure 8: Magnetic survey interpretation.

Unfortunately, the “most interesting” feature suggested by the magnetic survey, a possible earlier moat, was too deep for community excavation and the restraints of the scheduled monument to pursue. This, however, should be remembered as a target of investigation if further work is undertaken.

4. Historical Background (Chris Collins HAS).

4.1 Introduction

In 2021 the newly formed Howdenshire Archaeological Society (<https://www.howdenshire-arch.org/home>) took an interest in the moated site at Hook. At an early-stage Chris Collins compiled detailed notes that fed into the history as we knew it in 2022.

The following historical notes have been compiled by Chris Collins a member of Howdenshire Archaeological Society. The research behind these notes was undertaken as a part of the 2022 Hook Manor Project.

Hook is a linear, riverside village, situated in the East Riding of Yorkshire (previously in the West Riding), adjoining the river Ouse. The village is probably named after the hook of land on which it stands.

There is no record of Hook in the Domesday Book, the closest places mentioned being Skelton, situated immediately opposite, across the river, and Little Airmyn, approximately 3 miles west of Hook. In 1066, Skelton was under the ownership of King Edward. By 1086, the tenant in chief was Cuthbert, Bishop of Durham. In 1066 Airmyn was owned by the Sheriff Merleswein, Ralph Paynel becoming tenant in chief by 1086. A comparison of annual values for Skelton and Airmyn between 1066 and 1086 suggests that the Harrying of the North vastly reduced the value of this area, particularly in Skelton. It is possible that Hook was not recorded in the Domesday Book due to difficulty of access - the land was extremely wet and marshy, being on the edge of the peat bogs of Inclesmoor.

Colonisation of this area seems to have begun in the medieval period, mainly due to the proximity of the turbaries (peat deposits). The peat was an extremely valuable commodity and was used for domestic heating and for powering industry. The area also provided valuable pastureland, with food such as fish, ducks and eels being sourced in the rivers and waterways.

4.2 The de Hooks Arrive

Hook's first known resident seems to have been a hermit - the hermitage became an accepted landmark in deeds of the 12th century. For instance, a deed of 1190, states: "Moorland in Hook, with the heremitagium in the land of Hook, with land to make a road to the river - confirmed by son, Roger. Granted by Anketin de Hook to Selby Abbey".

The de Hooks are found in Hook land transfer documents from the 12th to the 14th century. In fact, it seems that the first Lords of the Manor of Hook and, possibly, the first inhabitants of the moated site may have been the family of Anketin de Hook. The first mention of the family occurs circa 1150, when Anschetil de Huc and Savaric, his brother, act as witnesses to a grant made by Robert de Davidvilla [D'Eyville] to William son of Scledware, of one bovate at Ethelinghefled [Adlingfleet] at an annual rent of 1 pound of pepper. As parties on both sides of a deal at this time were keen to ensure that only very reliable men or women were chosen as witnesses, the de Hucs were obviously well-thought of and of high status in the area.

It seems likely that the de Hook family originated in the Anctville region of Normandy, coming over to England following the Norman Conquest. The ancient family of Anctil were influential seated landowners in Normandy. Following the Norman invasion, the family was granted lands, manors and

estates in the British Isles. Subsequent grants made by members of the de Hook family indicate that one of these estates covered the area of Inclesmoor, including Hook. However, it is possible that, in turn, the de Hooks were tenants of St Mary's Abbey, as Hook would have come within the area 'between Airmyn and Ousefleet' which Henry I gave to St Mary's Abbey, York during the early 1100's.

The de Hook family made many grants of land, particularly turbaries, to a range of monasteries, including St Mary's Abbey in York, Selby Abbey, Thornton Abbey, Louth Park, Pontefract Priory and to the Nuns of Nun Coton. From these grants we can identify a brief genealogy of the family:

1. Norman invader?
2. Anketin is recorded as giving land to monasteries in 1189, together with his son, Anketin. It seems probable that Anketin Snr was born during the first quarter of the 1100's.
3. Ankelinus (Anketin; Anschetill) and wife, Avicia - Ankelinus died c1208; born pre-1169?
4. Roger de Huck (Huch; Huuc) - was a benefactor to the hospital of St Leonard, York. In 1208, Savary de Huc quit-claimed to Roger 20 acres of land in Hook,
5. John de Huck- became Sir John de Huck and, subsequently, Baron John de Houke. In 1224 / 1225 Baron John was granted a licence to build a chantry chapel. John's son, Godwin, gave half an acre of land in Rawcliffe to Selby Abbey.
6. Thomas de Huck, Knight - between 1270 to post-1316. Thomas was returned as Lord of Cotness and joint Lord of Swinton in Ryedale.
7. William de Houk - served as Sheriff of Yorkshire from 1304 - 1307.

One such grant, dated to between 1190 and 1207 bears Asketill's seal, which is described in the Catalogue of Seals at the Department of Manuscripts in the British Museum, Volume 2, as 'In armour: hauberk of mail, cap-like helmet, sword, shield. Horse galloping, +SIGILLVM.ASCTIN DE HVC'.

4.2 A Chantry Chapel is Built

In 1224 / 1225, Richard de Kellesay, the Abbot of Selby from 1223 to 1245, granted a licence to Baron John de Houke for a chantry chapel to be built in the courtyard of his manor house, thus suggesting that a house was in situ by this date. Manor houses were typically built around a courtyard. The chaplain of the chapel was to swear fidelity to the Abbot of Selby. The proximity of Hook Church to the moated platform suggests that the de Hook manor house may have been built on the platform, the chapel being built just to the north, on the site of the present church. It is possible that the moat might have been a later addition.

4.3 Margaret Despenser is sent to Hook

In 1323 Margaret Despenser, the fourth daughter (and at least ninth child) of Hugh Despenser the Younger and Eleanor de Clare was born at the King's Manor House in Cowick, approximately 10 miles from Hook. Hugh and Edward II were at Cowick at the time, and Edward gave Eleanor £100 'for the expenses of her childbed' (son gesine). There is a suggestion that Margaret may have been the illegitimate daughter of Edward II and Eleanor - not Hugh's daughter. By the order of the King, Margaret was sent to live with Sir Thomas Houk and his family soon after birth and was raised there with a large retinue. Proof of this may be found in the Calendar of Close Rolls 1327-30, pp. 47-8, Membrane 12, where Thomas asks to be released from a debt in part recompense for the expenses incurred when keeping Margaret Despenser, daughter of Hugh, together with her nurse and a large

retinue, in his house at his cost. If the de Hook family were still living in the moated manor house, it is probable that the accommodation would have had to be extended to house a 'large retinue'. Could it be that the separate areas on the site may indicate additions to accommodate these royal visitors? Or had the work been done 20 years earlier when Sir William became Sheriff of Yorkshire. Unfortunately, Margaret only lived in Hook until the start of 1327 as, when she was just three years old, Queen Isabella forced her to be veiled as a nun at Watton Priory.

4.4 The status of Hook is on the wane

In the Poll Tax of 1379, Hook was recorded as the smallest of the townships in the neighbourhood, most of the villagers paying the minimum tax of 4d. There was no mention of a 'de Hook' family in the listing for Hook, the nearest being in Howden, across the river.

In 1384-5 Sir Thomas Ughtred, knight, was granted the manor of Hook by William de Swynfflet, John Marshall Rouclyff, William Benetson of Linton, and Thomas de Moram of Hook, thus indicating that the manor was no longer in the ownership of the de Hook family. In fact, it seems that Avice, sister and one of the heirs of Sir Thomas de Houk, instigated the departure of the de Hook family. Avice was the wife of Sir Nicholas de la Rivere. In 1330 Avice granted part of the manor of Hook to her sons and heirs, Richard and William de la Rivere. The de Hooks seem by now to have largely relocated to the Cotness and Swinton in the Ryedale area.

4.5 The Hooks are gone; who arrives next?

The manor of Hook transferred many times over subsequent years, major Hook landowners including the families of, Sotheron and Jefferson.

The Mitchells

A key family in the story of Hook is the Mitchell family. The first time we meet them is when Anthony Mitchell, Senior and Junior acquire the moiety of a cottage, croft and sand, a parcel of moor and a cowgate in Hook from William Ascoughe. Thomas, son of Anthony Mytchell and Elizabeth, who was the daughter of Robert Jackson, Yeoman of Hook, later mentions a mansion house in Hook, but gives no indication of the location of this house.

Dorothy Mitchell (born c.1667) was the daughter of Anthony's descendant, Robert Mitchell, and inherited Hook from her father in 1691. Dorothy married William Sotheron, Gent in 1684 and this marriage led to a long line of Sotherons in Hook, including John Sotheron who, according to a Sotheron genealogy, was responsible for 'rebuilding the mansion at Hook'. John died unmarried in 1743, which is the date credited with the building of Hook Hall. However, we believe that the 'mansion' which John 'rebuilt' may have been Hook House, which is situated very close to Hall Garth. Hook House is recorded as not having been built until the early 1800's, but it appears on the enclosure map of 1768 (see figure 9 below).

Finally, intriguing evidence of a manor house on the moated site appears in a one-year lease, made by Robert Mitchell, Gentleman of Hook, to Reverend William Millington of Howden and Matthew Belt, Gentleman, also of Howden, dated 4th April 1688. The lease refers to a 'capital messuage called Hall Garth in Hooke'. As a capital messuage is the main messuage of an estate, the house in which the

owner of the estate normally lives, this strongly suggests that there was a building on the moated site of Hall Garth at this time. Maybe the Mitchells lived on the moated manor site? The manor house may have needed major repair by this time, especially if it had been built at the time of the de Hook family. Therefore, is it possible that John Sotheron built the 'new' Hook House nearby to house the Sotheron family, the moated site being relegated to accommodation for servants, with storerooms and brewery, etc. or even just pasture for animals, perhaps?

Enclosure Map 1768

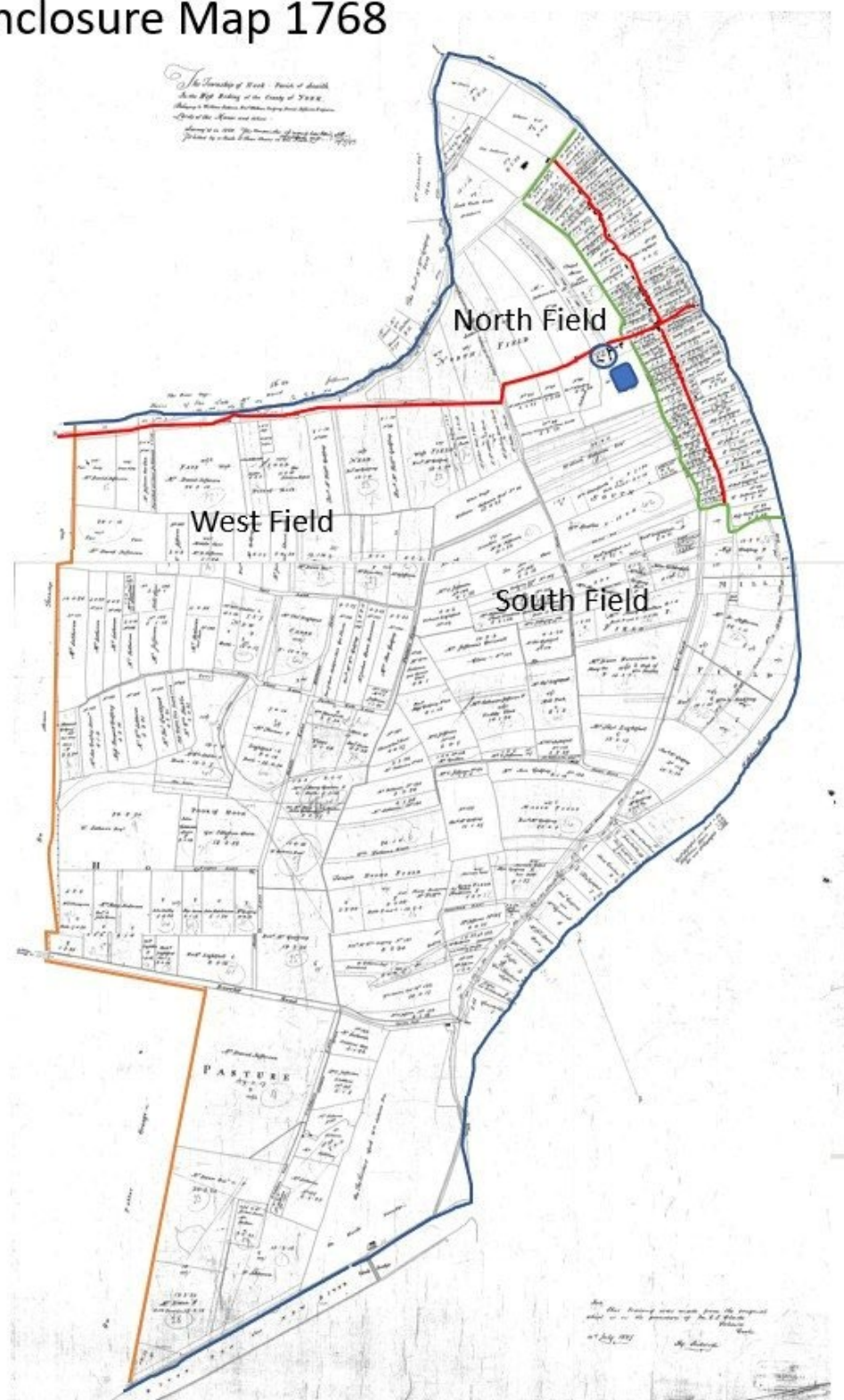


Figure 9: Annotated Enclosure Map from 1768. (Hull History Centre (catalogue reference in their Enclosure series: L CEA/28).

5. Landscape Survey (2022)

In 2022 Howdenshire Archaeological Society (HAS) was able to obtain funds to undertake non-invasive investigations at the Hook Moated Manor site. The project was named The Hook Manor Project. The funding came from the Green Social Prescribing programme that was supported by the Smile Foundation and the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership. The project was structured around two archaeological activities, a Landscape Survey and a Geophysical Survey. These two activities were undertaken around a set of Workshops (held at St Mary's Parish church, formerly the Chantry Chapel) and a Heritage walk around the village of Hook. The Wellbeing aspects of our work at Hook are discussed in part 1 of this report.

5.1 Mapping Hook

The first objective of the Landscape study was to build up a broad landscape understanding of the whole township (see Figures 4 and 9 above) as well as the landscape around the moated site.

The earliest map showing Hook is part of a very large, probably late medieval map, called the Inclesmoor map. This map was made to show a large area on the southern banks of the river Ouse that was dominated by moor land and peat bog but still had enough dry workable soil for medieval townships such as Hook to thrive. The section of the Inclesmoor map containing Hook can be seen in Figure 10 below.



Figure 10: Section of the Inclesmoor map (inverted to put north to the top) showing key points in the present-day landscape.

Hook itself stands on a bar of slightly higher ground in a hook in the river Ouse. This 'elevated' position can be seen on a topographic map in Figure 11 below, appearing as a green strip (over 7m above sea level) in a light blue world (below 6m above sea level). A higher strip running westwards from the village location is the place on which the moated manor and the chapel are located. Before the fields were developed to the west and south of the village, through the process of warping, there must have been times when Hook seemed like an island!

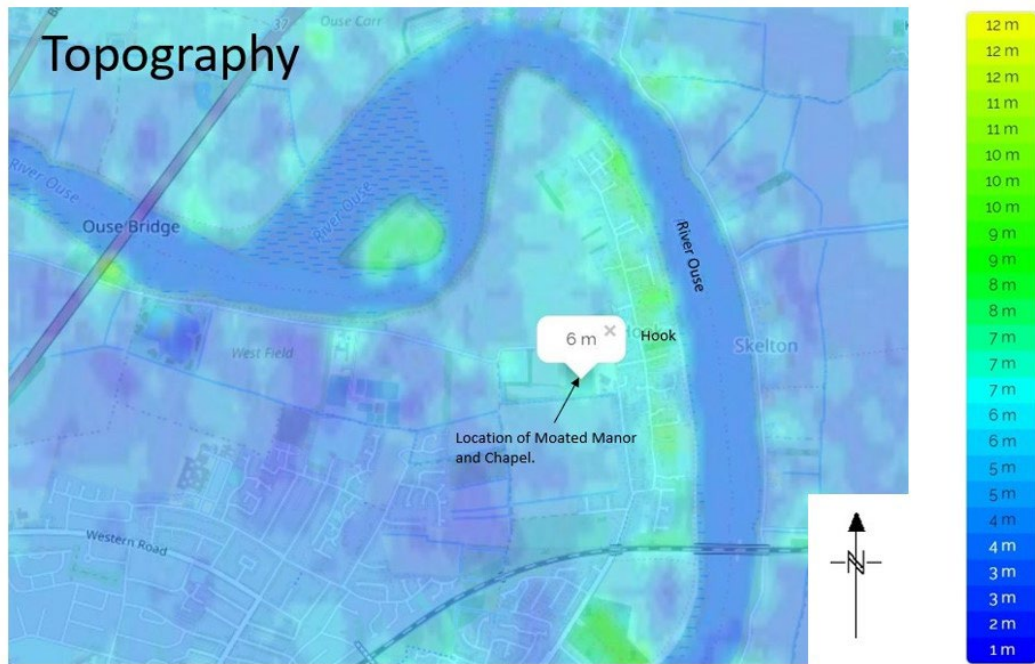


Figure 11: Topographic Map showing slightly higher ground where Hook has been built.

There are a number of interesting drainage issues in the spur of land where the moated site sits. At the point that the higher ground drops down into the lower area to the west a spring rises. The spring may have been used to feed water towards the moat when water levels were low, during the summer months, or by taking water away and draining it out to the west when water levels get too high. The skills of medieval people in engineering the subtle location of water features such as the moat at Hook are often only recognised in ecclesiastical sites. But secular Hook Manor also demonstrates considerable understanding of the lie of the land (See Figures 12 and 13 below).

Possible water feed and drainage system for the moated site.

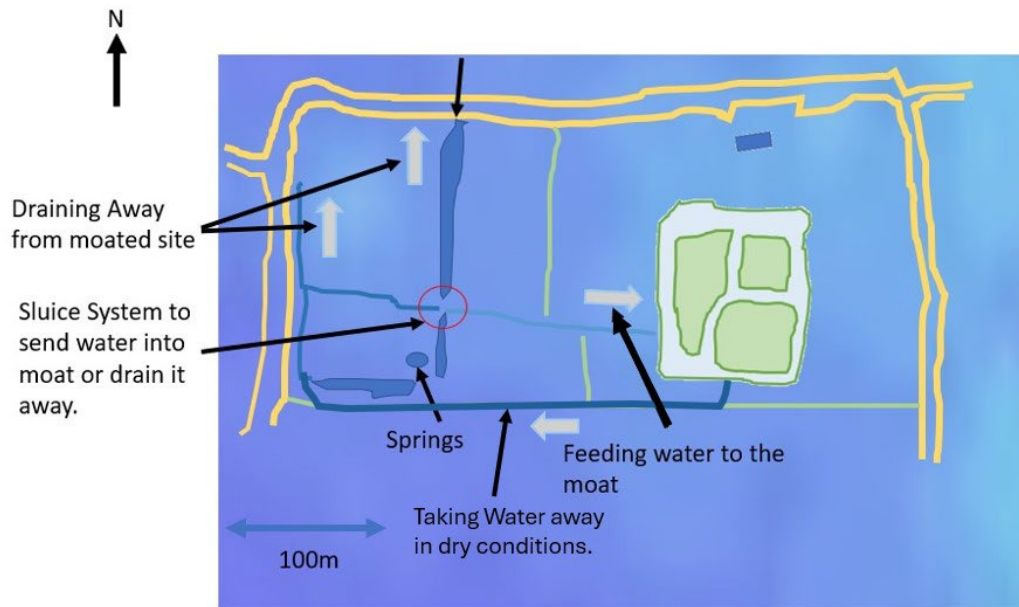


Figure 12: Topographic map showing the slightly elevated ground (lighter blue) and the water courses taking water to the moat or away from it.

Possible water feed and drainage system for the moated site.

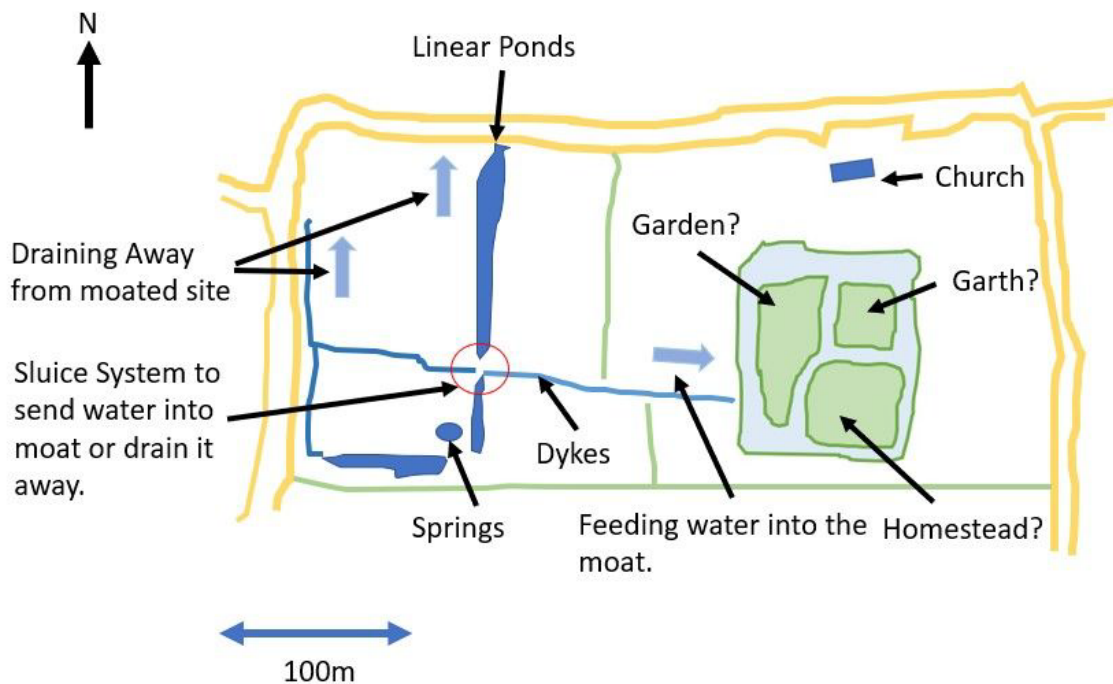


Figure 13: Map showing the drainage / water feed without background topography.

The development of increasingly accurate surveys for maps develops through the 1800s and 1900s with the Ordnance survey. Taking a look at Ordnance survey maps through time allowed the HAS team to build a picture of the moated site (see Figure 14 below).

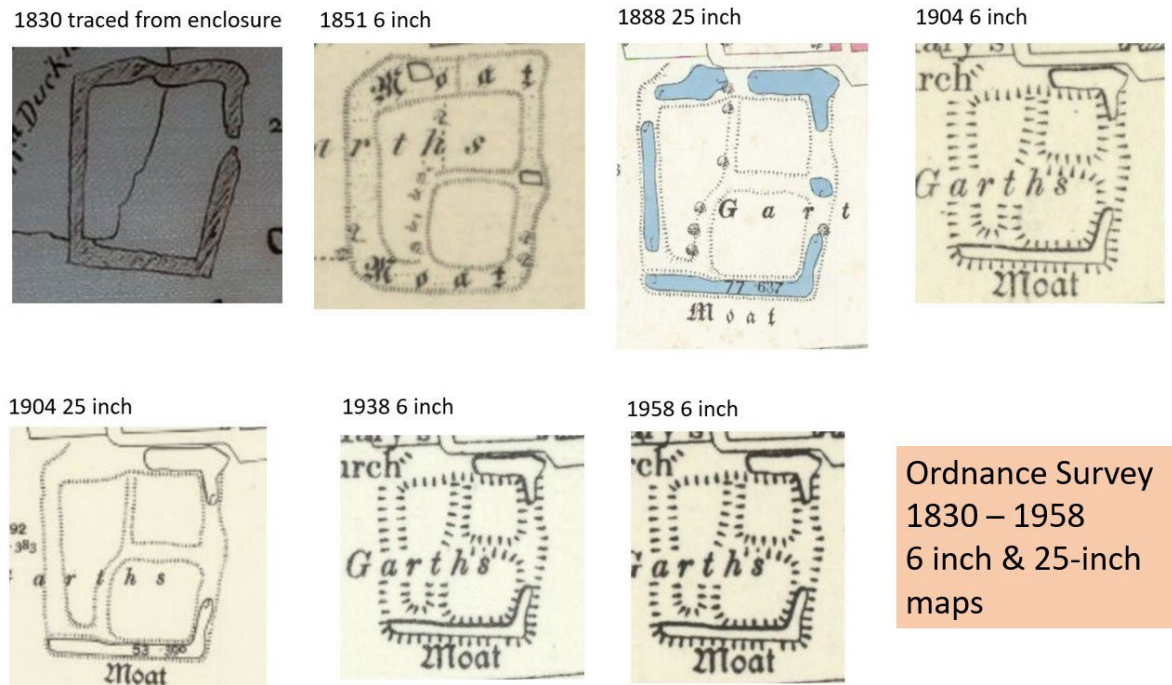


Figure 14: Mapping the Moated Site

The first observation that we made was the structure of the moat. It was not a double platform as suggested in the interpretation shown in Figure 5 above. It was in fact a triple platform with a single large moat around everything and a shallower, narrower moat making the divisions internally.

The HAS team also noted that the maps do not suggest a causeway. Rather the crossing points over the moat vary according to how much standing water is present at any time. This suggests that a bridge was used for access during the medieval period. The drainage / water supply system would also have been required to make the inner moats remain full of water.

5.2 Earthwork Survey of the Platforms.

To better understand the micro topography of the platforms we undertook a survey using a Total Station theodolite. The modern professional approach would only need two, or even one person, collecting data digitally and then creating maps back in the office. For the Wellbeing Principal to work for HAS and our volunteer team we took a more old-fashioned approach.

The objective was for a group of volunteers to identify topographic features, most obviously the moats. But also, then identifying higher ground and slopes on the platform surface. Some of these may have been dumps created in more recent years as seen in the magnetic survey. But other topographic features may have restricted or been part of structures built on the platform. Once we had decided what we wanted to survey, one member of the team used the total station to gather grid references while another walked around marking out the features with a reflector. The

rest of the volunteers each had a drawing board with a sheet of *permatrace* on it. The drawing team would create their version of the overall drawing. (see Figures 15 and 16 below).



Figure 15: Deciding what we will draw.



Figure 16: Locating the reflector across the moat and the drawing team ready to go.

A single final version of the drawing was then created and digitised for use in talks and of course this report. An annotated version of our Earthwork survey can be seen in Figure 17 below. This shows a number of features that we interpreted at this point.

Three platforms:

- A possible house platform (area 1) giving an area of about 40m by 40m on which to build a hall and possibly some ancillary buildings like a kitchen.
- A larger area than area 1 is (area 5) on a separate platform. This will allow for the addition of working buildings on a Garth. Potentially stables, a smithy and possibly storage.
- To the west is a third platform (area 6). It contains raised areas (7 and 8) that, along with the narrow nature might restrict the size of any structures. This may suggest a garden area, possibly accessed by bridge from area 1.

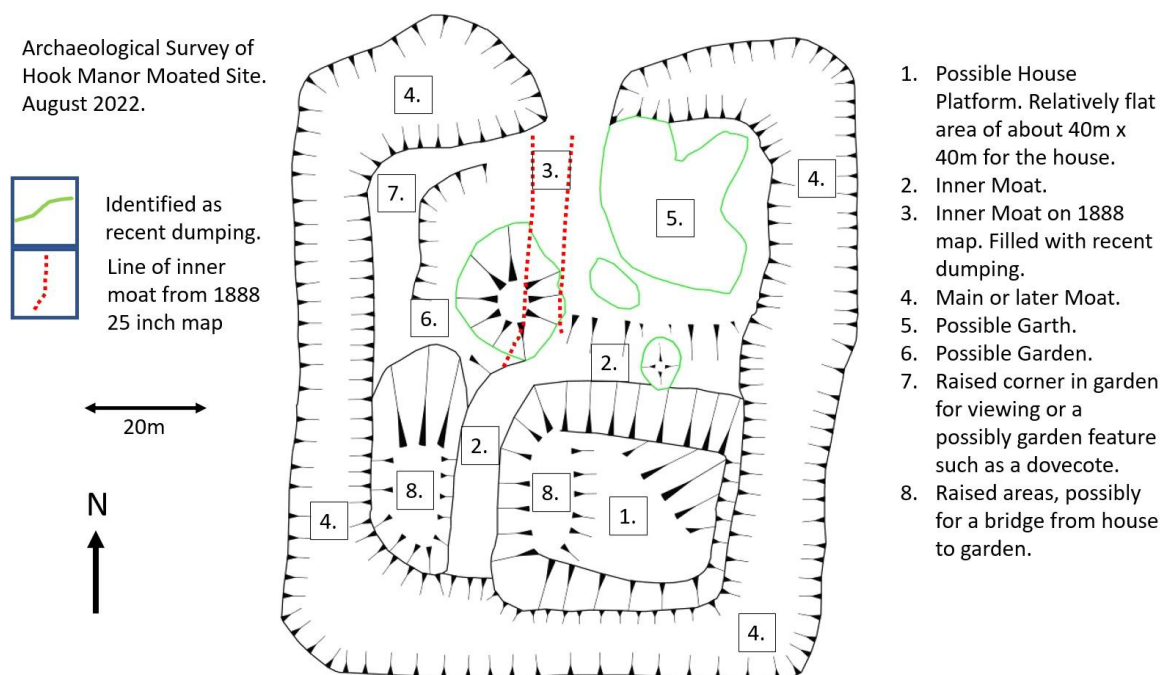


Figure 17: Plan showing the Earthwork Survey and interpretation of the features.

Three Moats:

- Main moat (area 4) a broad moat surrounding the whole set of three platforms. Both wider and deeper than the inner moats. It was this moat that the Humber Wetlands Survey cored (Fenwick, 1997).
- First inner moat (area 2) a narrower and shallower moat defining area 1 to the north and west. This seems to enclose the hall platform, the focus of the site.
- Second inner moat (area 3) was not actually visible to the earthwork survey. It is included in the figure above following the earlier surveys undertaken by the Ordnance Survey (see figure 14 above).

Areas marked in Green

- Area 5 and other 'lumps' are indicated in green. These seem to represent higher mounds of building dumping also noted in the magnetic survey (see section 2 above).

5.3 Was the moated site developed and expanded?

The magnetic survey had already suggested a moat before the one we observed in our map and survey work. Perhaps the Lordly settlement changed over time. Looking at the different sizes and depths of the moats, one might suggest a phased development. This might involve two or three phases (see Figure 18 below), even four if the mysterious response in the magnetic survey is a moat.

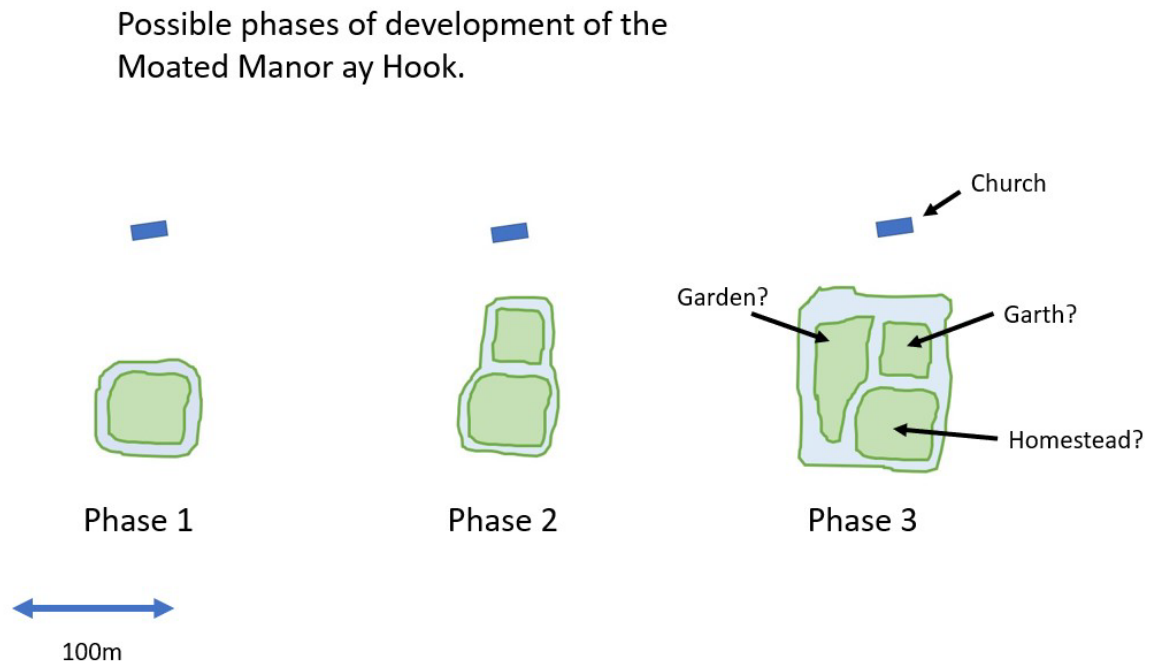


Figure 18: Three possible phases. Maybe even four if you include the possible early moat shown in the Magnetic Survey.

The growth in size to include space for an enclosed garth and possibly a garden may suggest a rise in the status of the occupants. We should perhaps consider the historic events identified in section two of the report. Seeking changes in ownership or rises in the fortunes of the family in occupancy. Even indeed specific events.

The points that we might suggest the site was expanded might be:

- The Lordship of John de Hook who was granted the right to a chapel in 1224.
- The Lordship of William de Hook who was influential enough to be Sherriff of Yorkshire from 1304 to 1307.
- The sending of infant Margaret Despencer in 1323 (presumably a baby with a Royal level entourage!), to live at Hook.
- By 1379 Hook had become the smallest township in the area, measured by Poll Tax returns. Had the township and the family fallen on hard times?
- From 1380 onwards the Lordship of Hook changes frequently. It is still possible that one of these changes resulted in the expansion of the moated manor to 3 platforms.

5.4 Where could they build?

The Earthwork Survey allowed the team to identify certain mounds of modern builders rubble that are outlined in green in Figure 17 above. There are, however, other irregularities in the platforms that may be deliberate high points created as part of the platform structure or may alternatively be earlier mounds of demolition material that was not recycled and taken away as part of the demolition process.

Lines of the moats, both inner and outer are shown in Blue in Figure 19 below. Inner moat 3 on the plan is marked as it appears on 19th Century maps, it is poorly defined today due to modern back filling.

Areas free from earlier mounds on the platforms are shown in green in Figure 19 below. These areas are the places on the platforms that are 'available' to the moated site builders to inert actual buildings of any size.

The 'Garth' platform is the most uniform platform today (no. 5 in Figure ?? below) leaving a large area in which buildings could easily be located. We propose that this platform was utilised for service buildings for the hall and buildings important to the running of the estate. There was a much larger outer garth around the site for other activities pertaining to the running of the estate.

The 'Garden' platform (no. 6 in Figure ?? below) has two features that restrict the space for building to the eastern part of the platform. It is this restriction alone that has led to the very speculative naming of the 'garden' platform! A mound (no. 8 in Figure 19 below) sits at the southern end of the platform where it is narrowest. This mound rises up to the same level as the neighbouring 'Hall' platform. Could this be the landing point for a bridge coming across from the 'Hall' platform? Possibly giving private access to the people living in the hall to a garden. Along the western and northwest edge of the 'garden' platform there is a raised ridge (no. 7 on Figure 19 below). This may be dumping from the demolition phase of the moated site, but it looks too deliberately made for that. The more interesting interpretation is that it is a walkway around the moat edge, allowing people taking time for quiet reflection in the garden to walk around that corner, giving a view across the 'outer' garth to the west and the 'inner' 'Garth' platform to the east. The flat ground left for building is not extensive on the 'garden' platform, about 30m by 15m. Still enough for a structure, but also a good area for medieval garden features.

The 'Hall' platform (no. 1 in Figure 19 below) stands higher than the 'Garth' platform to the north. It is also restricted in its space for building by gentle slopes down towards the moat to the north, east and south and by a mound (no. 8 in Figure 19 below) matching that on the 'garden' platform to the west. The mound on the 'hall' platform may be deliberately placed to match the mound in the garden, representing perhaps the take-off spot for a bridge over the moat from the hall residence to the gardens, providing private access to the occupants of the hall. This actually leaves a smaller spot for the construction of the hall itself, leaving about 20m by 25m on which to build. If we allow for utilising part of the gentle sloping ground, a hall measuring 30m by 15m can easily be achieved which would suit the needs of a standard manorial hall.

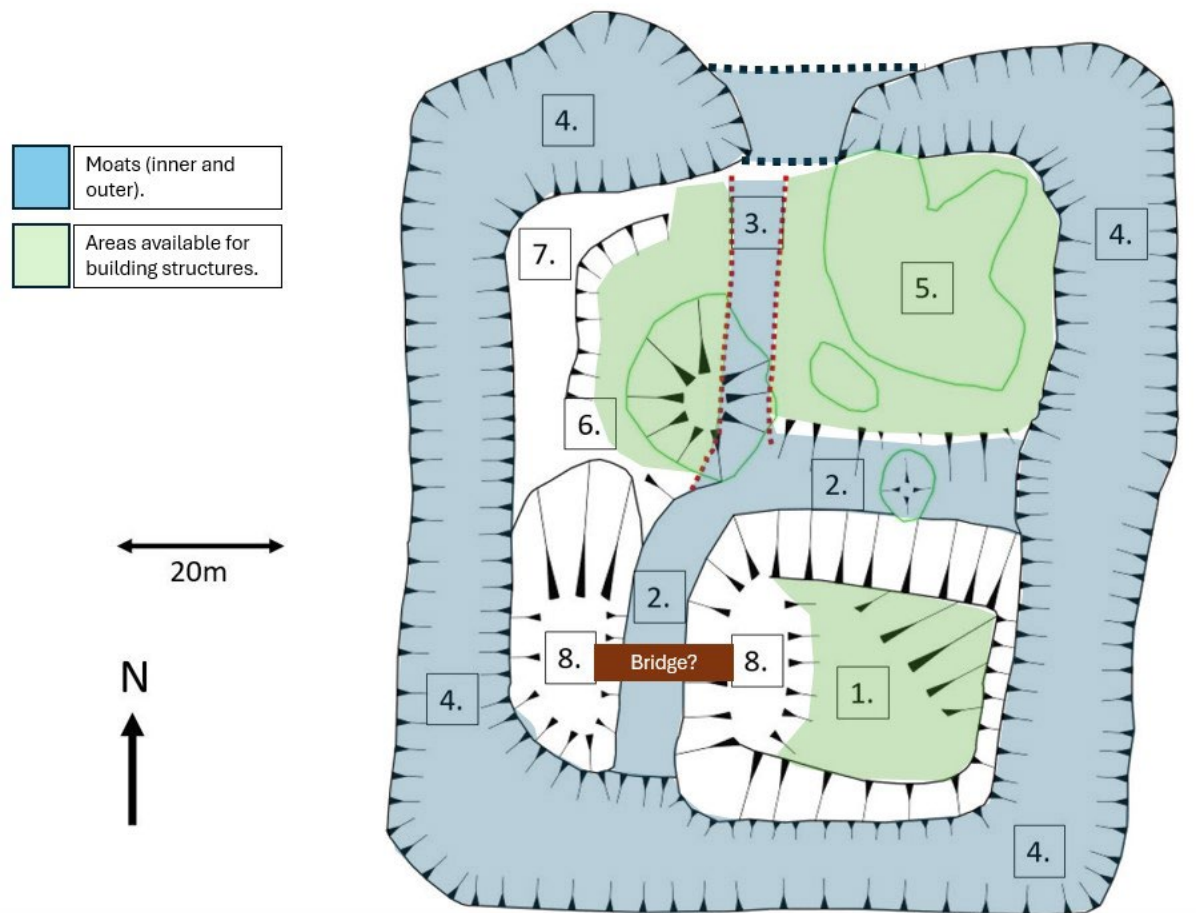


Figure 19: Earthwork Interpretation showing available space for building structures.

5.5 Conclusions

A landscape survey of the area where Hook Manor stands helps us to understand the occupation of the area. There has not been any reported archaeology dating back before the medieval period, but this does not preclude earlier occupation on this river side higher ground.

The historic evidence suggests an earlier occupation somewhere nearby by a hermit / hermitage. This was recorded as nearby when the chapel was constructed in 1225. It seems fair to suggest that the more communal occupation of the area begins with the establishment of a medieval township, working to clear and farm a large area, some of which could be turned to fields while other areas may have provided more traditional wetland resources such as peat.

The construction of a moated manor on the higher ground, and the subtle job of keeping the moat filled to an appropriate level is an important development. Allowing the lordly family, the de Hooks for much of the medieval period to establish themselves in the area.

The expansion of the moated site may have taken place over a number of years and possibly phases. We can try to pinpoint moments in the historical record that relate to this change or changes. But archaeology doesn't always marry up to historic events. One of the short-lived Lordships in the 1400s may have led to the rebuild(s). At the time a new Lord moves in they always think they are there for life.

The space available for construction on the platforms drawn in Figures 17 and 19 above show there are quite specific spots where structures could be placed. The 'Hall' platform has space for a standard medieval hall. The extra space afforded by the 'Garth' platform allows for extra storage, stabling and possibly a kitchen. The proposed 'Garden' platform has a reasonable space for a structure opposite the 'Garth' platform, but this would also leave room for formal garden planning and popular medieval features such as a dove cote.

6. Geophysical Survey (2022)

6.1 The Survey

Following the Earthwork Survey HAS moved onto geophysical survey. Once again with Dr Jon Kenny at the helm we set ourselves up with a workshop to attract new members and let returning volunteers know what they would be up to. As always, our workshop was centred at the church which gave a great sense of continuity to our work (see Figure 20 below).



Figure 20: Workshop under way at St Mary's Church in Hook.

This time we were using Earth Resistance, which we hoped might give different results to the magnetic survey and is somewhat more accessible for community use. We surveyed the areas 1 and 5 as shown on Figure 19 above. These being the area we thought might contain the Lordly Hall (area 5) and the Garth where we might find working and storage buildings. The more practical reason for omitting area 6 was that it had a row of bee hives on it!

Popularity of the data gathering was high, given that a professional team can undertake earth resistance with a team of 2 the groups of as many as 15 may seem unworkable. But with the author running around enthusiastically and with the very sunny summer people were content to chat to each other, be entertained by me or take their turn with the earth resistance rig itself (a Geoscan RM15) (see Figure 21 below).



Figure 21: The Author (Jon Kenny) demonstrating the setup of the RM15.

The resulting interpreted data can be seen in Figure 22 below overlaid onto the 1888 Ordnance Survey map. The Red Green and Blue colouration was used to make the interpretation clearer for beginners. The interpretation of the data can be seen in Figure 23 below.

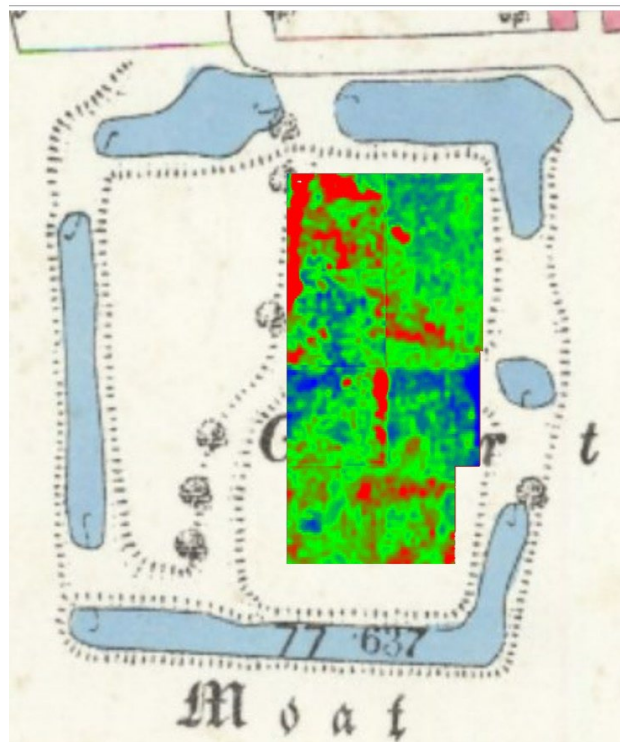


Figure 22: Earth resistance interpolated data overlaid on 1888 Ordnance Survey map. Red represents high range resistance (drier) and the blue low range (damper). Green is the middle range.

The interpretation of the data can be seen in Figure ?? below. As we found with the magnetic survey the modern dumping was so dense, being made up of lots of demolition rubble that it masked most of the northwest portion of the survey.

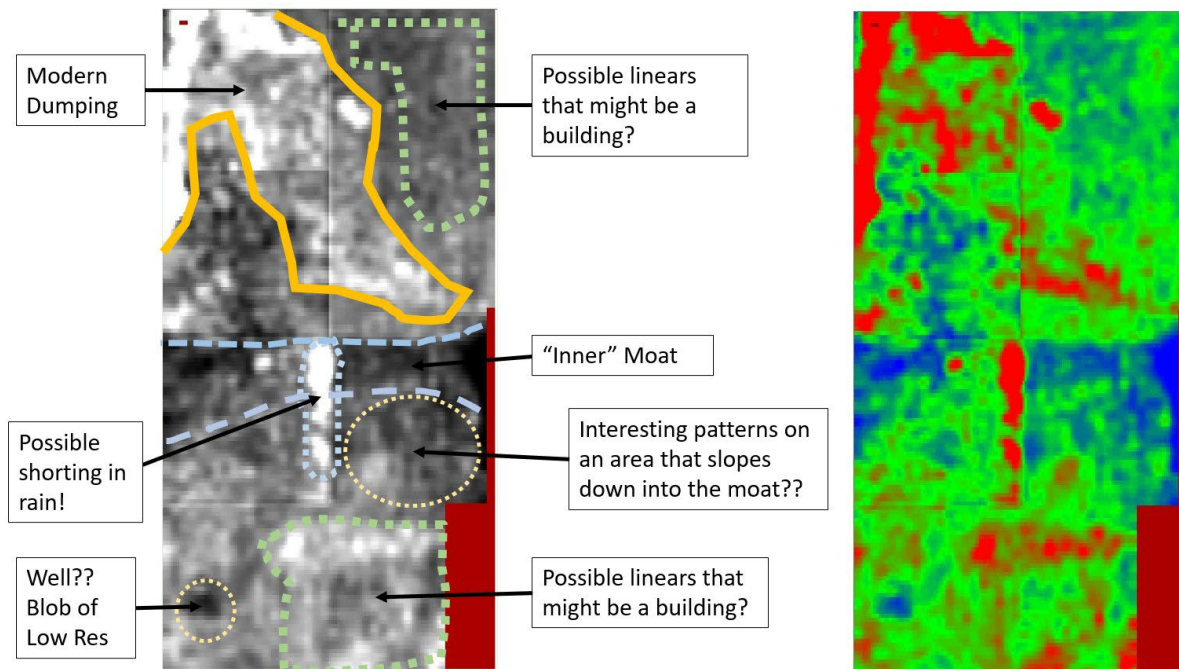


Figure 23: Interpretation of the Earth Resistance data. Interpretation on the grey scale image. Red, Green Blue is for reference.

The high resistance across the northwest of the survey is the builders' rubble. The distinctive stripe of high resistance running north to south is a stripe caused by shorting of the survey due to heavy rain. We heroically carried on the finish surveying the square, but the current was shorting across the very wet grass!

The northeast corner of the survey shows green linear features outlined as they cross the damper blue soil. One in particular runs east to west and turns to the south. These may be foundation to a building although they are not so obvious right across that corner.

The blue, low resistance (damper) material is at its most dense in the shallow moat running east to west across the survey (area 2 in the earthwork survey). This can be seen turning south at the very western edge of the survey. It is also possible to identify the northern arm of the inner moat (area 3 in Figure 19 above), this disappears beneath the high resistance (red) dumping as it goes northwards.

There are two areas of interest on the Hall moat (area 1 in Figure 19 above on the earthwork survey). One is on the northern eastern edge of the platform, and the earthwork survey shows the ground dipping down that way. There are linear features and 'blobs' that may relate to posts or trees. The area had in the recent past (when being dumped on to the northwest) was allowed to start growing trees and shrubs.

To the southeast of the Hall platform there are once again a series of faint linear features surrounded by lighter (red) low resistance that may relate to stripes of foundation or demolition material (this corner is not thought to have received the modern dumping).

A large low resistance blob located in the southwest corner was thought to be one of the pits located by the magnetic survey (number 6 in Figure 19 above). The HAS team also speculated that this might be a well.

6.2 Conclusions

The addition of Earth Resistance survey to the magnetic survey undertaken in 2013 allowed for the confirmation of the effect of modern dumping on the ability to use geophysics but also saw some potential in the areas not dumped on. This most importantly suggested structural presences, possibly masked by demolition in the northwest and southeast corners of the site.

It was these areas that the HAS decided were best suited for evaluation excavation the next year.

7. Evaluation Excavation (2023)

7.1 Introduction

Over the summer of 2023 the excavation of 3 trenches was undertaken by a team of volunteers, led by Dr Jon Kenny (the author) and Howdenshire Archaeological Society. The work was undertaken on two days per week (Tuesdays and Sundays) starting on 4th April and ending on 18th July, a total of 30 days. The excavation was recorded using a single context recording system and finds recorded using the same methods, grouping bulk finds by context and keeping small finds as separate objects recorded by number and context.

This report tells the narrative of each trench (combining trenches 1 and 1a under the same narrative). The narratives are set out below following the phases of development interpreted from the excavation and the bulk finds, pottery and animal bone in particular.

It should be stated that the project aimed to undertake archaeological research but also aimed to support the local community of Hook, Howdenshire and surrounding area. We like to feel that we did this in a number of ways:

- Got people out and about working outdoors after COVID. This kind of ‘wellbeing work’ is now recognised as essential for people dealing with issues such as loneliness and anxiety.
- For the older members of the group the work also allowed them to learn new skills and put them into practice. It also helped directly to deal with issues regarding life after children have left home, preparing for retirement or finding new motivation in retirement.
- Allowed people to meet new friends with similar interests and enjoy activity that suited their abilities.
- Gave an excellent opportunity for young people to develop archaeological and social skills. Prepared the way for them to go to university in the first place or develop skills during their time at university.
- Provided those interested in the history of their local landscape the opportunity to visit and see research in action, telling the story of part of their landscape that they were not necessarily engaged with.

Naturally an archaeological evaluation also had archaeological objectives. The following list of objectives sets out what we hoped to learn from evaluating the moated site at Hook:

- We wanted to demonstrate that there were buildings on two of the platforms at the site at Hook.
- We wanted to evaluate the potential status of any buildings that we discover on the platforms.

We had further archaeological objectives set out below.

7.2 Archaeological Objectives

These are our objectives set out at the start of the excavation.

- We want to demonstrate that there were buildings on two of the platforms at the site at Hook.
- We want to evaluate the potential status of any buildings that we discover on the platforms.
- We were keen to continue understanding the role that the moated site played in the immediate Hook landscape.

- The site offered the possibility of insight into the establishment of the moated site as an aspect of the medieval landscape and expression of lordly power; other than the work of Jean Le Patourel (1973) the creation and development of moated sites has not been the source of significant research in the past and Hook could form part of an attempt to change that.
- We would like to know how the building of a moated site at Hook fits into the pattern of establishing manorial control by Anglian (is there evidence for pre-Norman activity?) and then Norman Lords in the landscape of the river Ouse.
- Howdenshire Archaeological Society (Hook Manor Project) research has built upon the work of the patchy historic notes held in the Scheduled Ancient Monument Listing and HER record held by the Humber Historic Environment Record. Also, some documents recovered by the LEADER project from 2013. Research carried out by Chris Collins for section two of this report suggests several Lords of the Manor, but this does not provide evidence that they lived at Hook or what status they had in Medieval society. We would like to build a better picture of the status of the moated site in Hook.
- We sought to see a change in status during the medieval period that sees the expansion of the moated site from one platform to three, or indeed the replacement of one moated site by another.
- Relatively little research attention has been paid to the medieval landscape in and around Hook, as work on Medieval Howden or the growth of industrial Goole has grabbed the attention of researchers. This project sought to highlight the importance of understanding the medieval township. Goole for example is built in the township of Hook!

Following the geophysical and landscape studies undertaken by the Howdenshire Archaeological Society (led by Dr Jon Kenny) Scheduled Monument Consent was applied for and received from Historic England. Two trenches measuring 10m by 3m were applied for (see Figure 24 below).



Figure 24: Trench Locations Applied for in Scheduled Monument Consent (2023)

The location of the trenches were varied when we actually got on site, still excavating the same square meterage but positioning ourselves better on the geophysical survey.

Our intention was to seek the location of buildings on the platforms to best answer as many of our objectives as we could (see section 7.2 below). See figure 25 below for the final trench locations.



Figure 25: Trench Location Map.

7.3 The Phasing and Stratigraphic Narratives of the Excavated Trenches

This “stratigraphic narrative” tells the story of the archaeological evidence located in the trenches. The details of the contexts excavated a brief summary of the phasing, and a trench matrix are contained in Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this Document. The narrative begins with the oldest phases of activity running through to the most recent, the opposite way to which it was excavated. We believe that this makes the story flow in an easier to understand manner.

7.4 Trench 1 and 1a

Trench 1 was located at the northeast corner of the largest of the three platforms. We only excavated a 5m x 3m trench to begin with to see what kind of archaeology we would encounter.

After locating features, we decided to excavate another trench (Trench 1a) next to the first. It was our hope that the vague features seen in the earth resistance survey would prove to relate to walls running east – west and north – south.

Phase 1: This phase represents the makeup of moat platform (see Figure 26 below). It was an orange, brown clay with some silts created when the moat was dug, and the platform was created with the upcast. The creation of a moat in this very low-lying landscape, so close to the river Ouse would have taken considerable skill in brining water into the moat in dry spells and taking it away in the wet. This issue is discussed further in the conclusion. The material making up this construction phase was represented by context 1023 in trenches 1 and 1a.

This phase in the growth of the moat platform did not contain any trace of CBM (Ceramic Building Material – brick, tile or mortar). There was animal bone and pottery however, the animal bone consisted of general food source material in the form of stray bones from pig, sheep and cattle. There was also one Grey Heron bone (see Faunal Remains Report in Appendix 7 below).

Upper parts of the platform make up are represented by darker deposits that seem to represent different stages in the construction of the platform (contexts 1016b, 1017b, 1018b). These spreads within the platform make up contained pottery. These were a single sherd of Med X pottery dating to 13th – 14th century and three sherds of Torksey Ware dating to the 10th – 11th century. This suggests that pottery has been redeposited as the platform was built up by digging out the moat. The presence of pre-Norman or very early Norman material supports the historical references to a hermitage here before the Norman Lords de Huc take over control, presumably creating the township and the manor sometime before the creation of the chapel in 1224 (see chapter 2 above). Some animal bone was also redeposited, fragments of Cattle, Pig and Sheep, all 5 having butchery marks supporting the picture of domestic activity in the period prior to the construction of this platform. A Heron bone was also found, which isn't too surprising in a wet landscape near a major river to the north and east.

Phase 2: This phase represents a structure built onto the platform (see Figures 26 and 27 below). The evidence is a stone 'foundation' running from east to west (1009 and 1020b) and possibly turning to the south. There was no trace of a construction cut in the material overlying the 'foundation' suggesting one of two options:

- The 'foundation' was created as the platform was built up, suggesting very organised preplanning.
- The other, most likely, option is that the platform was built up higher than the phase 1 deposits and the 'foundation' was indeed formed by digging a trench and then creating a 'foundation' in the ditch. This should create a construction ditch and cut. But it appears that after the demolition of the building the land was ploughed, at least once, destroying the construction cut and dragging fragments of 'foundation' into the ploughed deposit (the top of the platform).

Also included in this phase is a small post hole sitting along the presumed line of a gable end of the building above (contexts 1021b and [1022]b). There was no pottery associated with these deposits, but more evidence of domestic activity in Cattle, Pig, Sheep and a little horse (see Faunal Bone Report in Appendix 7 below).

There were a small number of Small Finds (see Appendix 8 below). These amounted to nails (total 3) and identified Iron Objects (total 2). There was no CBM located in this phase, apart from a small

fragment of burned daub located in a shallow scoop / post hole (context 1021) and all of the stone occurred in the actual foundation deposit (contexts 1009 and 1020). (see Appendix 3 below).

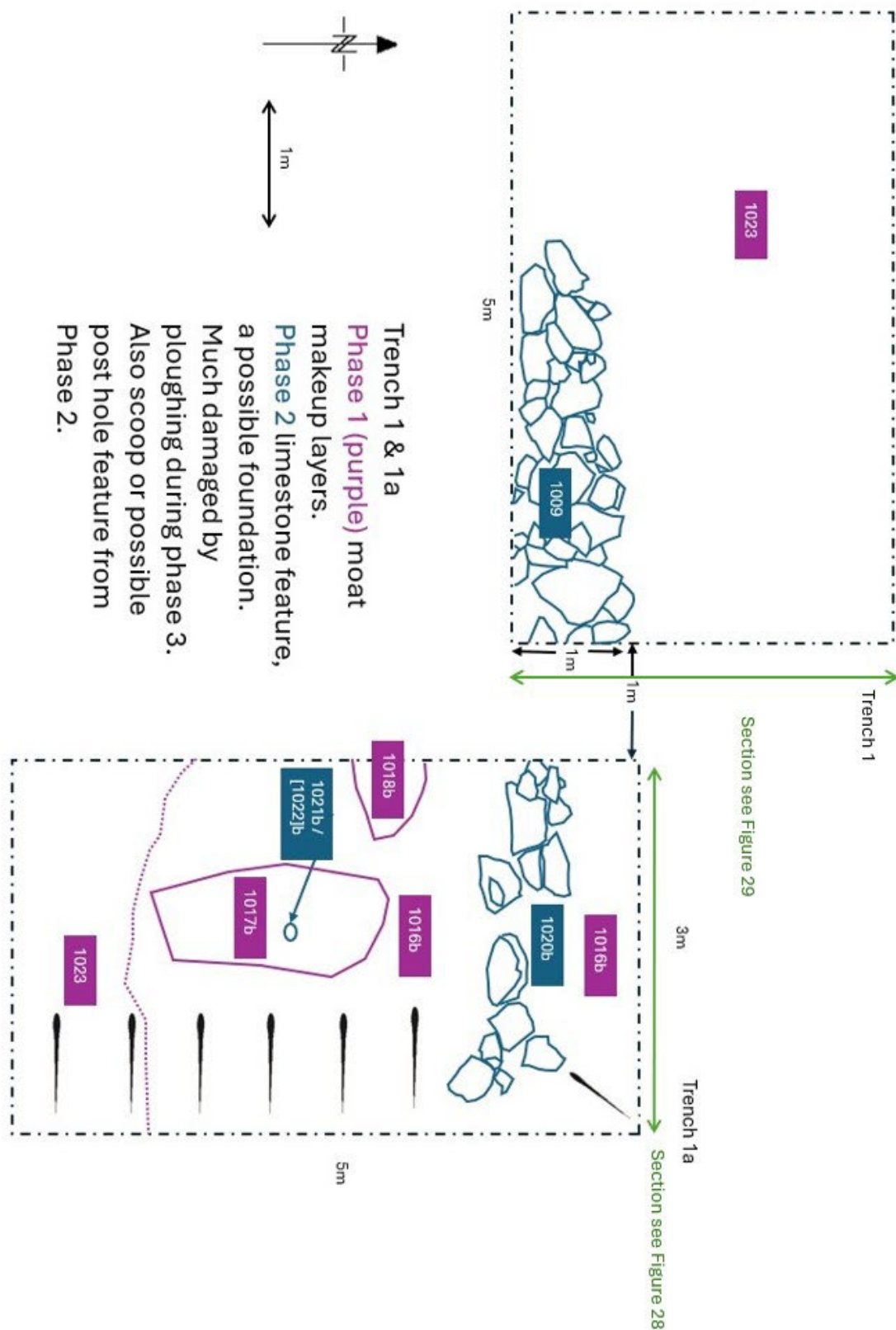


Figure 26: Plan showing phase 1 and 2



Figure 27: Cleaning around foundation context 1009.

Phase 3: The material overlying the foundation represents the third phase. In trench 1 we have 6 contexts that were eventually combined as one deposit 1002 in trench 1 (see Figure 28 below) and 1011b in trench 1b (see Figure 29 below). We expected to be able to identify a construction or robber cut and back fill cut through this deposit but there was nothing apparent. The most likely reason for this absence is that the platform was ploughed after the demolition of the building that stood on the ‘foundation’ identified in phase 2.

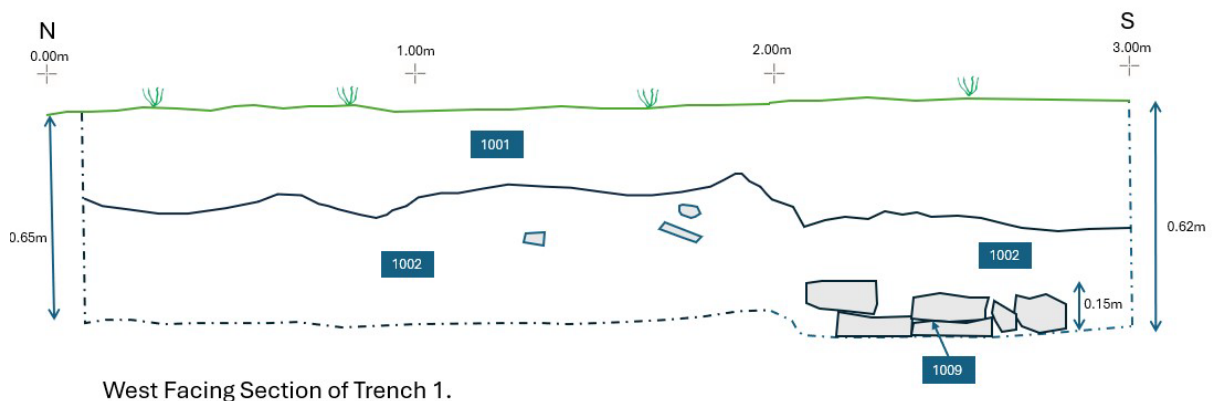


Figure 28: Section in trench 1 showing the ploughed platform material 1002 and overlying topsoil (1001).

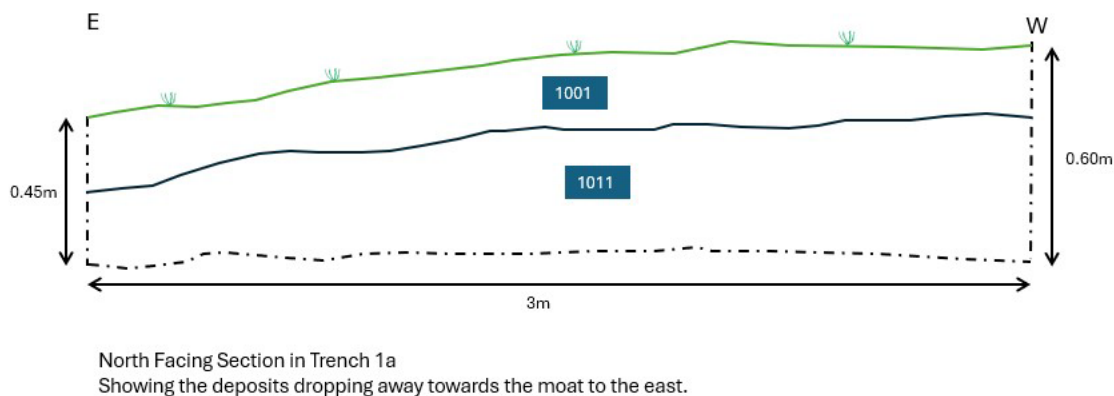


Figure 29: Section in trench 1b showing the ploughed platform material 1011 and overlying topsoil (1001).

The limestone plucked out from the 'foundation' could be seen when we took off the topsoil (1001) in trench 1. This can be seen in our plan of the deposit in figure 30 below, the limestone has been dragged some 1.00m to 1.50m northwards and formed a visible stripe in the deposit. This deposit will also have contained the demolition debris after the building was demolished prior to the ploughing.

The deposits making up this deposit in trenches 1 and 1b are (1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007 and 1011b). These include the majority of the pottery (35 sherds), some of which will be redeposited into the platform makeup. But the majority will have been deposited during the occupation of the building and its demolition.

Anne Jenner the Pottery Specialist who assessed our assemblage comments:

'The 14th century wares from the excavations at the Hook Manor moated site, particularly the Humber wares, may represent the height of activity at the site. Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) attribute the peak of manor houses to the early 14th century and date the start of the decline at AD1325 lasting through to AD1500: Phase IV 'Decline'. However, the assemblage at Hook Manor seems to contrast with this theory by potentially extending the date of expansion throughout the 14th century. The term 'decline' used by Le Patourel and Roberts may be a misnomer when used in relation to the site at Hook Manor. Despite Trench 1 no longer being in use at this time, Phase 4 in Trench 2 still sees construction occurring. The majority of the contexts from Hook Manor related to this phase did not include any pottery, however the Phase 3 post-demolition layers in Trench 1 act as a *terminus post quem*, as they contain 14th century Humber wares (C1002, 1003, 1004, 1007, 1011).'

The development of the manor at Hook seems to expand in the early 14th century, quite possibly after AD 1300. Challenging Le Patourel and Robert's model, a similar development is also observed at Skipwith some 10 miles to the northwest. Despite the privations of the 14th century (famine and the plague) the middling sorts in Medieval society seem to be investing in and expanding their moated manor sites.

In addition to the more frequent pottery, we had a single horse bone (see Appendix 7 below) and a single unidentified Iron Object (see Appendix 8 below). There was a considerable amount of stone, in rough unworked fragments 0.10m to 0.60m in size throughout these deposits (see

Appendix 3 below). There was also broken roof tile and a very little broken brick. This suggests remains of the underlying foundation stone plucked up by the plough and mixed with assorted demolition material in the soil.

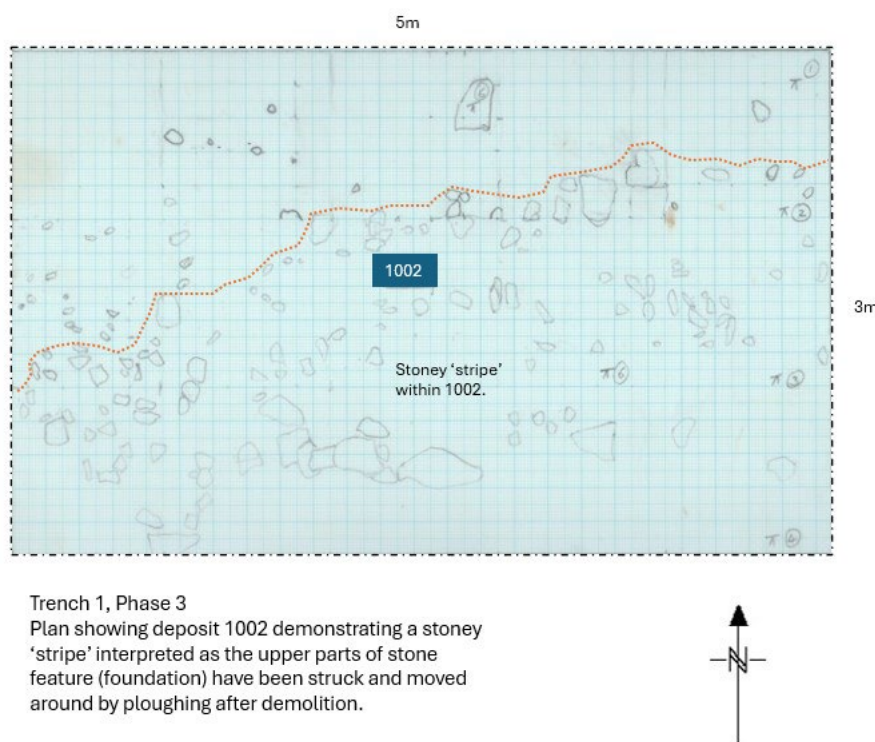


Figure 30: Plan showing the top of Phase 3, the much-disturbed top of the stone foundation feature.

Phase 4: This is the final phase of development; it represents the land being turned over to grazing and even just rough vegetation. There is still a scatter of medieval pottery in these contexts (1001 and 1010b) but interestingly very little post medieval pottery. Once the house has gone out of use there seems little activity, apart from extensive dumping of building material on other parts of the site (see Geophysics chapter above).

Anne Jenner again comments that:

‘Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) next describe the Phase V ‘Destruction, Adaptation and Revival’, which occurs from approximately AD1500. At Hook Manor this phase is represented by Phase 5 in Trench 2. C2002 contains mixed pottery dating from the mid-10th to the mid-16th century, including the only example of 14th-15th century Lincoln Glazed type ware. The latest date of the mid-16th century is taken from the presence of the one sherd of Langewehe/Raeren pottery. A lack of other 16th century wares, such as Cistercian wares, suggests little to no occupation in the later 16th century.’

These deposits, turned over to horticultural use, contain a variety of fragments of CBM, Stone and animal bone representing the demolition of a building and subsequent farming activity See Appendices 3, 7 and 8 below).

7.5 Further Data

The Harris matrix for trench 1 and 1a, used to generate this narrative appears in Appendix 2 at the back of this document.

The full context list for trench 1 and 1a, appear in Appendix 3 at the back of this document.

The full pottery report by Anne Jenner and Katherine Bradshaw appears in Appendix 6 at the rear of this document.

The full Animal bone report by Jessika Odenthal and Tom Vaughan appears in Appendix 7 at the rear of this document.

7.6 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located on the southerly platform, which I have elsewhere referred to as the Hall or Homestead platform. See Figure 19 above. We only started by opening up a 7m x 3m trench to start with to allow us a little leeway to extend either trench 2 or trenches 1 and 1a. As it turned out we extended trench 2 an extra 2m x 1m to the east to start dropping down into the moat. This took place because we wanted to look for a wall at the eastern end of the platform.

Phase 1: As was the case in trench 1 and 1a the earliest deposit we reached was the makeup of the platform. This was composed of deposits 2012 and 2021, (context 2012 contained a two sherds of pottery that date to the late 12th century (1100s) through to 14th century (1300s). The creation of this platform is likely to be the first activity in the construction of the hall platform, the first phase in the construction of the moated site itself. The pottery would not discount this from happening during the 100s or early 1200s. The pottery may have been deposited at any time after the construction of the platform making it even more viable as an interpretation.

Jenner in her report on the assemblage from Hook notes that this late 12th Century to 13th Century pottery (York Glazed Ware and Beverly type 2 Ware) was phased by Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) as indicative of the ‘innovatory’ period in the development of moated manor sites.

No Animal Bone, CBM, stone or Small Finds were located in this early phase.

Phase 2: Cut into the phase 1 make up material was a substantial stone footing running away north south out of the trench (see Figures 31 and 32 below). This appears to be either a wall foundation or a very large post pad (2009). This appears to represent part of the construction of a building on the newly made-up platform. The pottery as noted above from the make-up phase suggests that this building is part of what Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) would term the ‘innovatory’ phase of moat building.

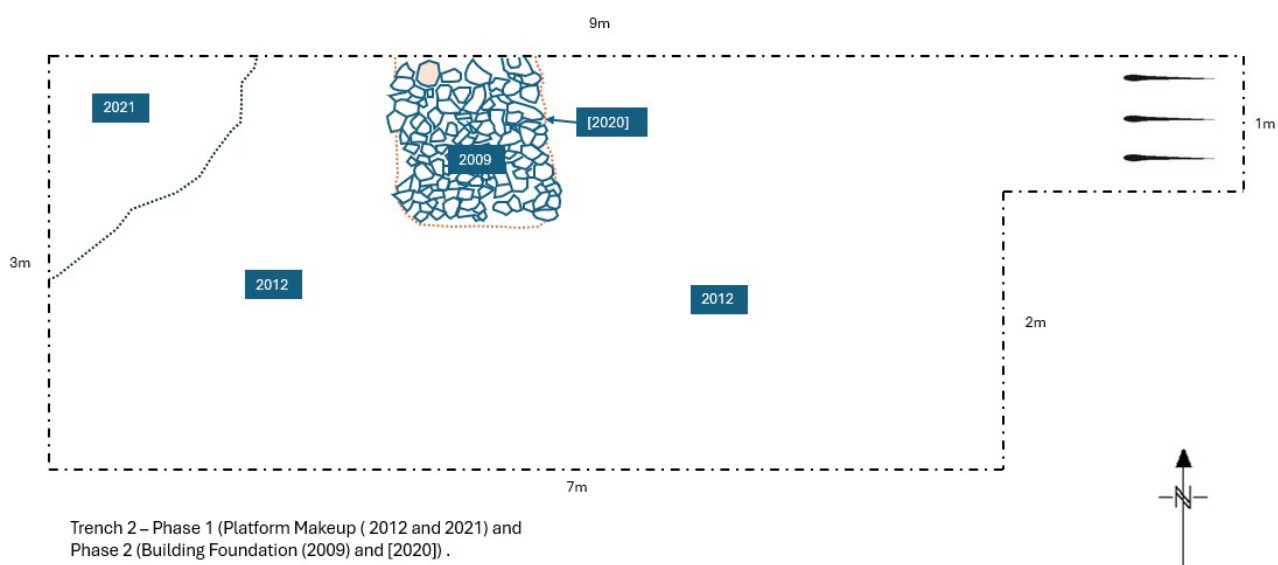


Figure 31: Trench 2 phases 1 and 2. The make-up of the ‘innovatory’ platform late 12th century or early 13th century.



Figure 32: Foundation laid down in Phase 2 (context 2009) under excavation.

The building probably sat on a small moat suggested as phase 1 in figure 19 above, surrounded by a narrower and shallower moat, still visible as area 2 in figure 19 above. This would have been

the first house (unless the magnetic survey shows an earlier one) and was likely to have been built by Anketin de Hook in the late 1100s or John de Hook in the early 1200s.

A small quantity of animal bone relating to this phase, representing the presence of cattle and a dog. Likely in a rural moated site.

Phase 3: Phase 3 sees a major change in the development of the southern platform. The building appears (where the trench is at least) to be taken down and an extra 0.50m (see Figure 33 below) of further make-up deposits are placed on top. The purpose of this seems to be to raise the level of the platform, but also to utilise the material excavated from a much wider and deeper moat enclosing not only the 'hall' or 'homestead' platform but creating two new platforms too.



Figure 33: Gary and Richard showing Phase 3 make-up layer overlying Phase 2 foundation.

Contexts 2011 and 2015 of this second make up layer contained pottery. This was identified by Anne Jenner as 13th and 14th century wares 'such as Brandsby and North Yorkshire Red ware, as well as the 14th century Humber wares' (Jenner see report in Appendix 6 below. This phase in the 1200s or 1300s is what Le Patourel and Roberts would term the 'expansion' period (1978, 46).

This period of considerable expansion at Hook may relate to the Lordship of Sir William de Hook in the early 1300s. Between 1303 and 1307 he attained the rank of Sherriff of Yorkshire. Less than 20 years later the daughter (Margaret) of Hugh Despenser was sent to reside at Hook as a baby, presumably supported by a high-level entourage. Clearly the new moated manor was up to scratch to house a child in such high-status ranks.

Interestingly contexts from this ‘expansion’ phase also contained remains suggesting high ranking eating. Most notably Swan and Deer. Indeed 10 Swan bone fragments were recovered. This high-status dining only left traces in trench 2, on the ‘hall’ or ‘homestead’ platform. Unlike trench 1 where the servants were more likely to be dining on the usual pig, sheep and cattle. Also notable is the presence of fish bone in either trench, does this suggest fish was not eaten or that we needed a sieving strategy to recover these bones? Although other small bone was recovered such as hedgehog, chicken and landfowl. (see Appendix 7 below).

This expansion phase is also typified by a large number (for the site of nails (15 in context 2011) but no CBM or stone. This may reflect the fact that we don’t have a definitive structural foundation in trench 2. Despite the obvious rebuilding going on suggested by the pottery and nails (see Appendices 5, 7 and 8 below).

Phase 4: Phase 4 needs to be seen in conjunction with phase 3, it consists of possible structural elements cut into or laid onto the make-up identified in phase 3 (see Figures 34, 35 and 36 below). The post hole (context 2006) may relate to part of a building, but without other evidence tends to float. The small stone feature on the northern edge of the trench is also frustratingly uncertain. It doesn’t have the size to definitively suggest a foundation, meaning that in trench 2 we did not conclusively have structural evidence for a new hall built to replace the old. We did, however, have the high-status eating on this platform, at this time suggesting that structures are not far away.

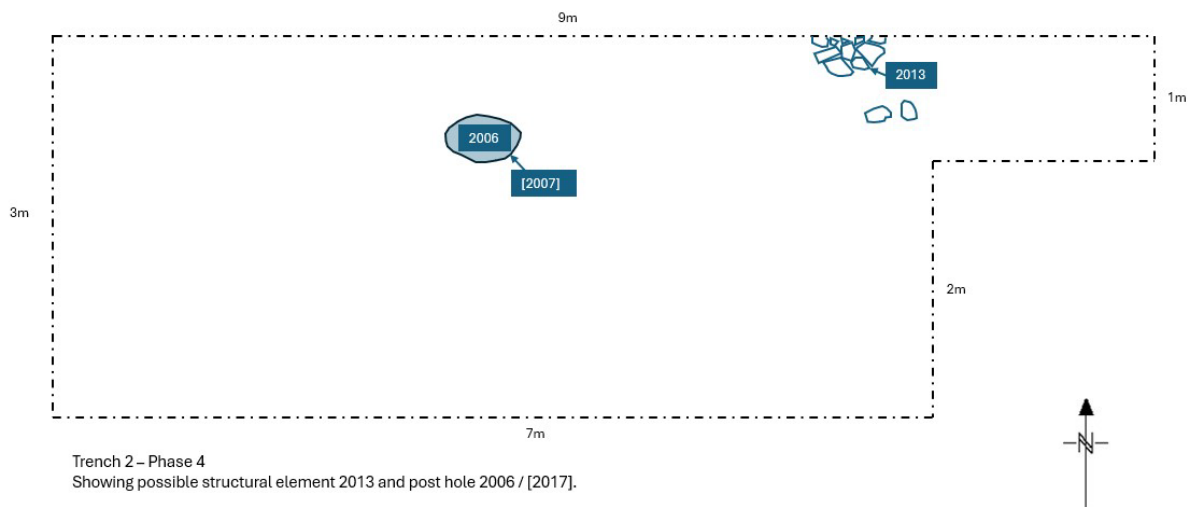


Figure 34: Plan showing possible structural features in phase 4, a post hole and stone feature.

The stone feature (context 2013) clearly gives us stone in this phase, but none appears in the small post hole to the southwest. The posthole does however contain Animal bone (cattle, and a little horse and landfowl), CBM, small stone fragments and an unusual fragment of poorly preserved leather (see Appendix 5, 7 and 8 below).



Figure 35: Post hole (context 2006), cut all the way through make-up layers to meet earlier foundation (context 2009).



Figure 36: Context 2011, the uppermost layer in the make-up deposition in Phase 3. Also showing phase 4 stone feature sitting on top of the make-up.

Phase 5: Phase 5 in trench 2 was a series of 4 interleaved and fairly indistinguishable demolition layers. There is no evidence that these didn't occur at roughly the same time as each other (see Figures 37 and 38 below). They comprise contexts 2002, 2003, 2018 and 2019.

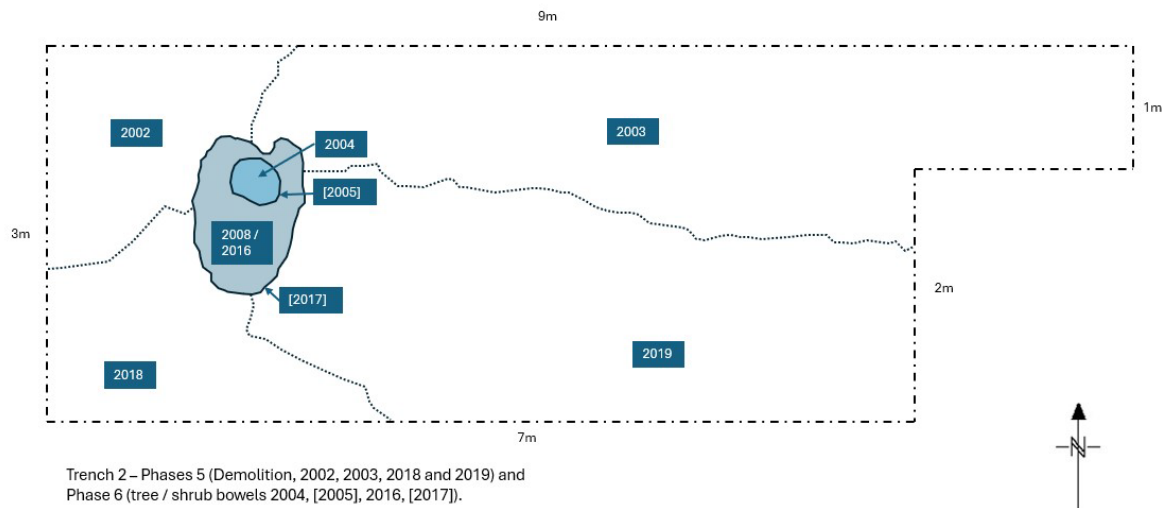


Figure 37: Plan showing Phases 5 and 6. Phase 5 being a set of very similar demolition deposits and Phase 6 being a tree throw replaced by the root bowl of a smaller shrub.

The demolition deposits contain considerable amounts of broken medieval flat roof tiles. Suggesting the destruction of a building on the ‘hall’ or ‘homestead’ platform. Pottery from this demolition phase 5 contains mixed pottery dating from the mid-10th to the mid-16th century, including the only example of 14th-15th century Lincoln Glazed type ware. The latest date of the mid-16th century is taken from the presence of the one sherd of Langewehe / Raeren pottery. A lack of other 16th century wares, such as Cistercian wares, suggests little to no occupation in the later 16th century. Historical records however suggest that a ‘capital messuage called Hall Garth in Hooke’ was being leased out in 1688.

This phase contained Animal bone, CBM, Stone and 26 Iron Nails, an unidentified Iron Object and Lead Object.

Phase 6: Phase 6 represents the final turn over of the ‘hall’ or ‘homestead’ platform to horticultural use. The soil was some 0.05m deep and lay directly onto the demolition deposits (2002). In Figure 38 below it is possible to see the thickness of the topsoil, which has not been ploughed or improved for growing crops, very much unlike the topsoil and underlying deposits in trench 1.

The phase contained a bit of everything, pottery, CBM, stone and a variety of more recent small finds (see Appendices 5, 7 and 8 below)



Figure 38: Image showing the topsoil layer removed but visible in section. This seems to have been intended and used as pasture rather than for growing crops.

7.7 Further Data on Trench 2.

The Harris matrix for trench 2, used to generate this narrative appears in Appendix 4 at the back of this document.

The full context list for trench 2, appear in Appendix 5 at the back of this document.

The full pottery report by Anne Jenner and Katherine Bradshaw appears in Appendix 6 at the rear of this document.

The full Animal bone report by Jessika Odenthal and Tom Vaughan appears in Appendix 7 at the rear of this document.

8. Conclusions

8.1 An evaluation of the archaeological deposits.

The 'garth' platform was shown to have been affected by considerable dumping of modern material that has made geophysical survey difficult. It has also filled the northern inner arm of the moat (dividing the 'garth' moat from the 'garden' moat) entirely.

The 'garth' moat in the northeast corner, and probably across the entire platform has been ploughed. This appears to have damaged and possibly removed in places the underlying rough limestone foundations of any buildings. At least one section of foundation remains, but it is not possible to tell whether the building that it supported was timber beam construction sat on a stone foundation or stone walls, since removed and recycled.

Any further excavation of this platform may find it difficult to find evidence for the whole footprint of buildings.

The 'hall or homestead' platform has not been the site of recent dumping or ploughing. There have however, been a number of small trees and shrubs growing on the platform since it became pasture that will have done some damage. Despite our careful selection of a trench location over what looked like building foundations we only found evidence for the earlier house.

The fact that the demolition of the second house on the platform covers the remains makes both Magnetic survey and Earth Resistance difficult to interpret. This is particularly difficult for the first house that is buried some 0.80m beneath the present pasture and the second house construction level, the result of the raising of the platform when the larger outer moat was dug (possibly circa 1300).

8.2 The Use of Space at Hook.

The final phase of the life of the moated site, after around 1300 was lengthy (nearly 400 years), the earthwork survey above suggests that through that period the space available for growth and expansion was limited. This was the case on the 'Garden' platform, where there was little space for structures, apart maybe for storage in the northeast portion. The 'Garth' platform has the most space, and we know through excavation had a building on the northeast corner, but that space was needed for the running of the hall and estate unless they spread out onto the outer garth. Lastly the space available on the 'Hall' platform was ample for a standard hall around 1300. This included a hall for feasting and administration of courts etc. It was also likely to have a small pantry with storage above at one end and accommodation for the Lordly family at the other end, particularly the solar room above. This lack of space for the Lordly family would have become increasingly apparent as time progressed and pressure would have been felt to expand the house. In many instances this was achieved by adding wings and extensions to the hall (for example Skipwith (Kenny and Worrall 2025) some 10 miles to the northwest). The lack of space for growing the service and garden may have been behind the redevelopment of the site circa 1300, and they may well have expanded the hall as well as the hall platform at that time. But they hadn't left a great deal of space to expand the hall itself. Skipwith had about 40m by 40m, and they extended the moat by about 10m. So, Hook's space of about 20m by 25m may have been restrictive to further expansion as soon as it was built.

8.3 The story of Hook Moated Manor.

An overall understanding of the three platforms can be understood by naming them by their probable / possible functions. The naming of the platforms made it easier to describe for volunteers and visitors alike, but a good deal of scepticism had to be added. Especially when the project first set out. The diagram in Figure 39 below suggests a 'Hall or Homestead' platform, a 'Garth' platform and a 'Garden' platform. The latter description is very much the fancy of the author and needs further investigation to be demonstrated or otherwise.

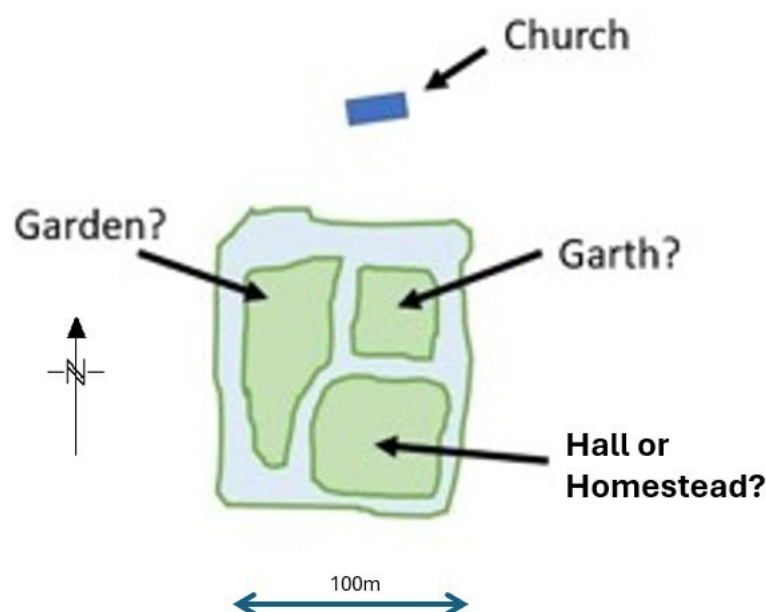


Figure 39: Suggested uses of the three platforms at Hook Manor.

Following the community projects undertaken at Hook Manor through 2022 and 2023 it is more likely that the 'Hall or Homestead' platform was indeed the location of the main house and that the 'Garth' platform was built to provide working space, stabling and storage. The 'Garden' platform remains conjectural, based on its size and irregular surface. There is no easy location for structures apart from smaller garden features such as a dove cote.

8.4 Summary of the Historical / Archaeological Narrative for Hook Manor.

A summary of the narrative for both the Hall / Homestead and Garth platforms is set out in the table below. More depth in later studies might be done on the Lordship and those who may have resided at the Hook Manor house the 1380s and 1691. Although this appears to be a period of stable but slow decline for the moated site due to its lack of space to build / rebuild a hall with suitable accommodation for a Lordly family during that period.

The table below shows the growth of the moated site up until its height around 1300 when its occupants the De Hooks had reached the height of their wealth and were only a generation from

moving on around 1330. Possibly to lands in Cotness (only 3 miles away eastwards along the Ouse) or Swinton in Ryedale, just west of Malton (about 30 miles to the north of Hook).

Hall / Homestead Platform	Approx Date	Garth Platform
Something is going on prior to the building of the Moated Manor House.	Pre 1066	Nearby Hermitage
Construction of small Moated Site. (50m x 35m approx.) The first Moated Manor site is built and lasts for about 100 years.	1200	
Chantry Chapel built some 100m north of the moated site.	1225	
Considerable remodelling and levelling up of platform. Rebuild of the hall. Possibly for Sir William de Hook (Sheriff of Yorkshire 1304-1307). Animal bone (Swan and Deer) suggest a high-status diet on this platform.	1300	Larger Moat is extended to surround three platforms. The Garth platform (50m x 35m approx. was added). A building was constructed in the northeast corner of the Garth platform.
Margaret Despenser (a baby) was sent to live at Hook. She and her retinue would have had high status expectations. The Heyday of Hook Manor!	1325	
The de Hook's (probably Sir Thomas) sees the manor at Hook pass through his daughters marriage to the De la Rivere family.	c1330	No sign that the new family invest in the house at Hook.

Hook shows as one of the poorest townships in the area in the 1379 Poll tax returns. The slow and gentle decline for the Manor House at Hook is under way.	1379	
The De la Rivere family leave and a number of Lords take control. They may not reside here though. The heyday of Hook may be over.	1380s	Was it the De la Rivere family who invested in new windows for the chapel west and east ends.
Pottery suggests a long crumbling of the moated site. The Sotherons take the Lordship through marriage to the Mitchells (married 1684, inherited in 1691). They rebuild the manor, but probably a new house on a nearby site. If not before the moated manor may be finally demolished at this point. Much of the building stone would have been taken away and reused at this point. The Demolition of the Moated Manor presumably takes place between 1691 and the early 1700s.	1500-1691	After demolition of the buildings an attempt is made to plough this platform. That doesn't seem to have been a long period of soil working but enough to pull apart all but the deepest foundations.

Table: Summary of the Hook Manor Timeline.

8.5 Pre Norman Activity

Historical sources and the structural archaeology at the moated site suggest that the site developed after the land had been awarded to his followers by William after 1066. Some evidence however, hints at activity before that date. Firstly, a document at Selby Abby states that Roger de Huck (son of Thomas) - granted land near the hermitage in Hook to Selby Abbey in the late 1100s early 1200s. This suggests that a hermitage was present nearby.

The material excavated to create the new larger encircling moat, in the north-east corner contained 13 sherds of pre-Norman pottery. This pottery must have been redeposited with the

digging of the moat and creation of the 'garth' platform around 1300. Does this pottery suggest a hermitage or settlement of some kind nearby?

The west end of the church also has a rough stone walling exposed which also has a row of herring bone stonework evident just below the west window (see figure 40 below). This has not been commented on definitively as pre-Norman, but a number of archaeologists have commented in passing that this may be of that date. Not conclusive by any means, this stonework probably needs recording properly and commenting by specialists. Nevertheless, it may go with the pre-Norman pottery as a suggestion that the old hermitage sits in what became the 'outer' garth of the Moated Manor site on or near the spot that the Chantry Chapel was built in 1225.



Figure 40: Rough stonework and herringbone at west end of St Mary's Church in Hook.

8.5 The building of the Moated Manor Site at Hook

A township does not seem to exist at the time of Domesday (1086), but there is clearly some activity in the location. It is quite possible that we have a slightly raised sandy ridge surrounded by marsh and peat bogs. An ideal spot for a hermitage, that was not recorded in Domesday.

As noted in section 4 above in this report the first sign of a Norman Lord taking on the land to carve out a Township is Anketin de Hook who in 1190 is recorded as having road built into the moorland near the hermitage in Hook. The road was granted to the Abbey at Selby, in true medieval style looking after their souls and building a reputation as pious into the bargain. It is quite possible that it is Anketin de Hook or his son Roger who has the moated Manor constructed. At some point around 1200, before the later construction of a Chantry Chapel in 1225.

Before stating that the platform in the southeast corner of the moated site as we see it today, was the first moated site, we should refer back to the magnetic survey described in section 3 above. There was a faint feature that may suggest an earlier channel cut into the sandy higher ground. We have to ask whether a first moated site on the spot was replaced quite early on between 1200 and 1300. That will have to remain a mystery until more geophysical survey picks the channel up outside the moated site, in the school playing field or field to the south confirming its shape, or an excavation can be undertaken through the makeup layers of the 'Hall' moat platform to a depth deep enough to identify the feature. It may just be a feature dating back beyond the medieval period entirely.

That feature aside then, we can imagine a moat about 7m wide surrounding a roughly square platform measuring approximately 40m by 40m. This allowed for space for a hall say measuring 20m by 10m to be constructed as well as important service buildings such as a separate kitchen, possibly stabling and / or a barn. Excavations revealed a section of stone foundation; large stones laid onto limestone rubble. This suggests a reasonably substantial hall of two stories, or a well-built service structure.

8.6 The De Hooks reach heady heights, and the Moated Manor has its Heyday!

The de Hook family reached a peak in their influence, and probably wealth around the beginnings of the 1300s. The previous century had been one of considerable growth and expansion in medieval England as a whole. The climate was favourable and the feudal system really kicked in driving the expansion of townships, the population grew. The estimates go up from 1.7 million in 1086 (Domesday) to 4.5 million in 1300 (Walker, J.T., J.S. Lee, and S. Broadberry 2022, 16-23). Even a township on the edge of a large tidal river and surrounded by marshlands the drive to increase its fields and income would have been strong. Marshlands were turned to fields, thanks in part to drainage and building up fields near the river by warping. The wealth would have rolled in, especially as we believe that the De Hooks also had interests in the tiny townships of Cotness a few miles up the Ouse to the east and Swinton near Malton about 30 miles away.

Sir William de Hook became Sherriff of Yorkshire between 1304 and 1307. Attaining this post was not easy, it was a Royal grant and required considerable prestige and no small amount of monetary investment! It seems that he would have had the wealth and influence to want a new *capital messuage* to go with his new position.

Given the dating of the pottery from the excavation, showing in trench 2 the removal of the early house / structure on the platform and the adding of a good 0.50m of fresh, makeup deposits ready to build a new hall for the Lord. We even have faunal evidence in the shape of swan bones to suggest wealth and status.

It is clear that the de Hook family had status in the local community. In 1325 Eleanor the wife of Hugh Despenser was staying at the Royal Moated Site at Cowick just 7 miles away up the River Aire. Hugh Despenser was a favourite of the King Edward II, at this time neither was well liked in the country. Eleanor was pregnant and she gave birth to a daughter Margaret at Cowick. Thomas De Hook, son of Willaim, was trusted enough to take charge of baby Margaret and she, and presumably and entourage went to live at the relatively new Manor House in Hook. Even after the rebuild the hall itself would have been too small tom accommodate too many servants, who would have had to stay in service accommodation on the 'Garth' platform. In 1326 her father Hugh Despenser was executed! Then in 1327 Edward II was killed, Margaret was whisked away to a

Nunnery, Queen Isabella (ruling alongside Roger Moertimer while Edward III who was only 14 years old) forced her to be veiled as a nun at Watton Priory.

Soon after the death of Edward II Sir Thomas de Hook was asking to be released from a debt in part recompense for the expenses incurred when keeping Margaret Despenser, daughter of Hugh, together with her nurse and a large retinue, in his house at his cost.

8.7 The de Hooks drift away from Hook!

After 1330 the de Hook interest in the township wains. This seems a sudden change in fortune, many high-status families seem to flourish through the 1300s despite famine and plague, for example the de Skipwith family return to the township in around 1400 and take control entirely rebuilding the moated manor (Kenny and Worrall, 2025). Perhaps as the environment deteriorated in the 1300s former marsh lands struggled to produce the income they had. Between 1315 and 1322 England was struck by *The Great Famine* (Lucas 1930) Following that an infectious disease, possibly influenza had struck the country in 1327 and a disastrous harvest and subsequent famine hit in 1328. More famine and plague (including the Black Death) hit after the de Hooks had left so that by 1379 Hook was looking like one of the poorer townships in the Poll Tax returns.

Sir Thomas de Hook in 1330 had seen / allowed the Lordship of Hook pass through his daughter Avice to her sons Richard and William de la Rivere. Future projects may want to see what we can find of the de Hooks in Cotness or Swinton. They seems to have gone from a high-status family to giving up and moving on, had the cost of the house rebuild and Margaret Dispenser's entourage combined with poor income from the township been too much.

8.8 Did we achieve our goals?

Buildings on Site: Our first goal was quite basic and seems obvious now. Especially as Garside and Duckles had found domestic and building material back in the 1960s. But the LEADER funded project in 2013 hadn't seen anything conclusive with a magnetic survey but had set down something concrete in the form of Chris Rock's excellent paintings.

Our excavation work did confirm the presence of buildings on the 'Garth' and 'Hall' platforms and also added evidence that we have two buildings on the 'Hall' platform, that was probably remodelled around 1300. The Earthwork survey then allowed us to speculate where typical moated site buildings could be placed (See Figure 41 below).

Status on the Site: No small finds from the excavation suggested particularly high-status activity, the pottery was not particularly indicative of status. Bother the stratigraphic evidence and pottery suggest that the site reached its peak as early as 1325 which matches the idea that the peak of status was during the first part of the 14th century (1300s). Faunal analysis also supports the idea that the site was at its highest status during the early 1300s when food bones such as Swan and deer appear on the Hall Platform. Although the occupants of the moated site are hardly low status no evidence suggests another heyday like the early 1300s.

Role in the Landscape: Like most moated manor houses the hall represents the heart of the estate. It is here that the workings of the township are administered and judicial courts are held, although village meetings may have been held somewhere larger like a barn deciding what to grow and how to use the fields, peat supplies, marsh land and common around the village.

Putting a moat around the hall and then the most important buildings like a barn and stables wasn't really about protecting them. The Norman Lords were confident that they had taken

control of the land and the people by 1200. If you can transmit your power to the local peasantry and remind them of your position of dominance all well and good.

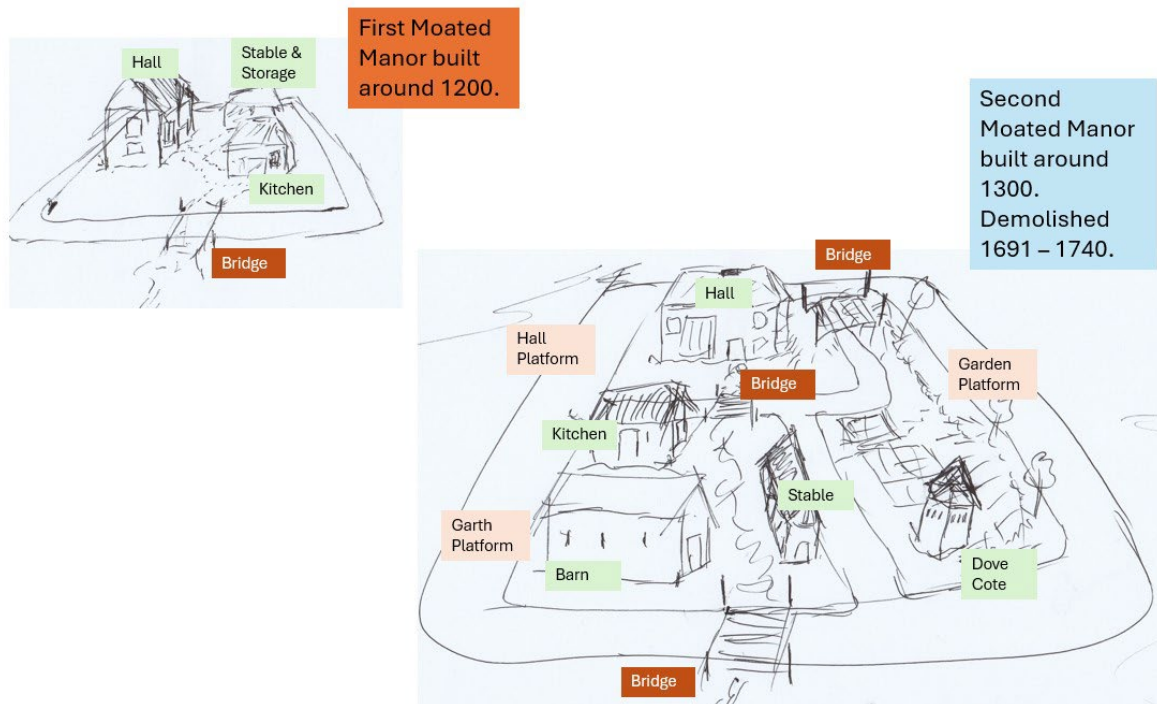


Figure 41: Sketch proposing potential positions for building typical of a Medieval Hall complex. Note that the earlier Single Platform has more space than the subsequent 'Hall' Platform because of the artificial mound on the west side.

What they were really aiming at is demonstrating that same power and prestige to their equals and betters in society, effectively trying to climb the greasy pole! Normal secular Lords needed to show that they had martial skills (they were never far from conflict) and that they were pious. We sometimes overlook the importance in this rivalry of impressing visitors and rivals with your house.

Sitting on the very edge of the higher (slightly) sandy ridge the moated site had to tread a fine line in terms of drainage. The moated site needed to bring water in when it was dry, to keep the moat full, to look good and also to act as a fishpond. When it was wet, which happens a lot in a former marsh, water needs to run away towards the river (see Figure 42 below). It is possible to piece together the system by walking the larger outer garth and using the 19th century Ordnance Survey maps to pick out dykes and suggest a system.

Effectively the subtle differences in the height of the land allow water to flow into the moat from springs to the west and then water draining out of the dyke heading slightly south and then following a dyke still in use towards the west before turning north and spilling out onto the mud flats of the Ouse.

Possible water feed and drainage system for the moated site.

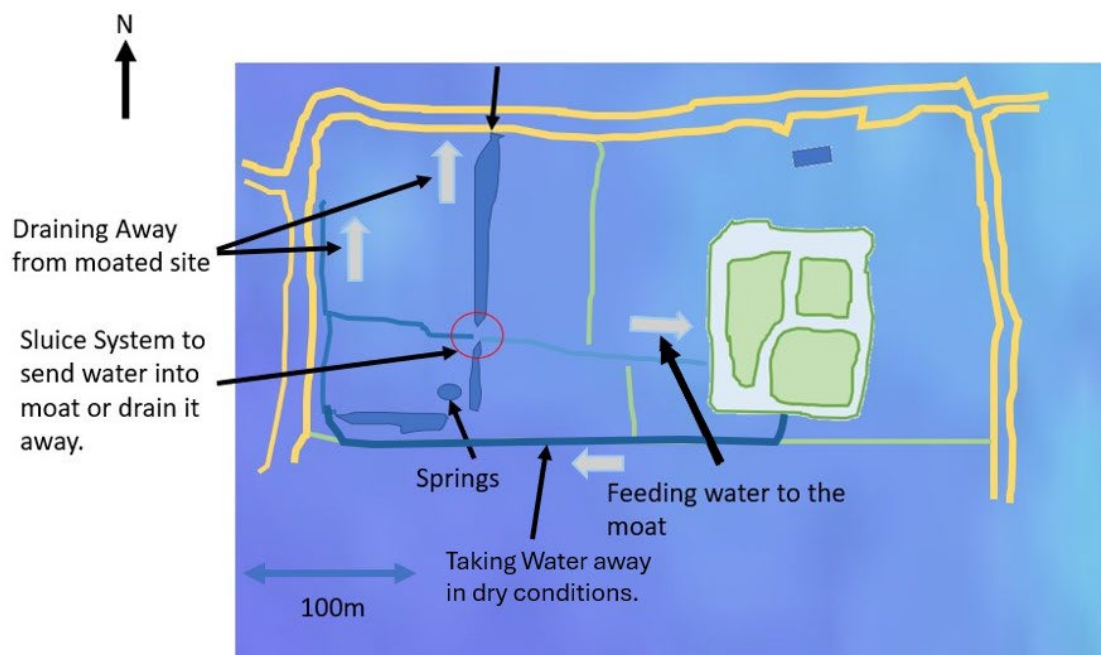


Figure 42: Outer garth of the moated site showing complex drainage and water supply from springs at the west end of the outer garth.

8.8 Further Research?

As the excavation work was undertaken to assess the potential for further work, the question has to be asked.

- Archaeologically it seems that the deposits on the Garth platform have been damaged by ploughing, but it would be useful to look for evidence for other buildings. Indeed, the wall foundation located in trench 1 did not give too many clues to the use of that building. Further geophysical survey might be fruitful, possibly using radar to look below the modern dumping.
- The 'Hall' platform still needs better understanding in terms of the buildings on the first platform and then the positioning of the hall on the second 'Hall' platform. The mound on the west end also needs investigating, did this relate to a bridge? All of this would require more trenching, but might also benefit from radar survey first, allowing better targeting of trenches,
- The 'Garden' platform needs much more research to really establish its purpose, was it a garden? Earth resistance might be tried on this platform as well as including it in any radar work. It might be investigated first through test pitting.
- We do need to recognise the Listed Status of the site, and the degree of excavation needs to be justified to add more detail to the understanding of this specific moated site. The 'Garth' and 'Garden' platforms are still very putative in their use despite the labels this project has assigned them.
- More geophysical survey would have the potential for answering some of these questions before going back in with further excavation.

- There is still more scope for historical research.
 - What happened to the de Hook family away from Hook?
 - What were they doing at Cotness and Swinton?
 - Can we learn more about the families who lived at Hook Manor after circa 1380?
 - Were they tenants?
 - How high status were they?

Although we did not show evidence for more development of the moated manor after the early 1300s there is still a possibility that later Lords, living at the Manor or not, invested in the growth of their Chantry Chapel in the outer Garth. The West window, identified by Pevsner as “3-light pointed window with Perpendicular tracery, and 2-light bellcote above” (Pevsner and Neave, 1995, 692-693). This perpendicular architecture dates from approximately 1350 to 1550, so the window originally built with the chapel in 1225 was replaced after the chapel was built, somewhere between 1350 and 1550. It would be useful to better understand the Lords of the manor through that period to suggest when this considerable alteration to the church took place. The same can be said of the square headed windows in the east end of the chapel (Pevsner and Neave, 1995, 692-693) that probably also appeared between 1350 and 1550.

As is always the case with archaeological projects we only end up asking more questions. This time our experience hasn’t just been about uncovering knowledge of the past. It has also been about a group of people working on their senses of wellbeing over two years of interesting and rewarding working together. Making new friends and cementing old friendship.

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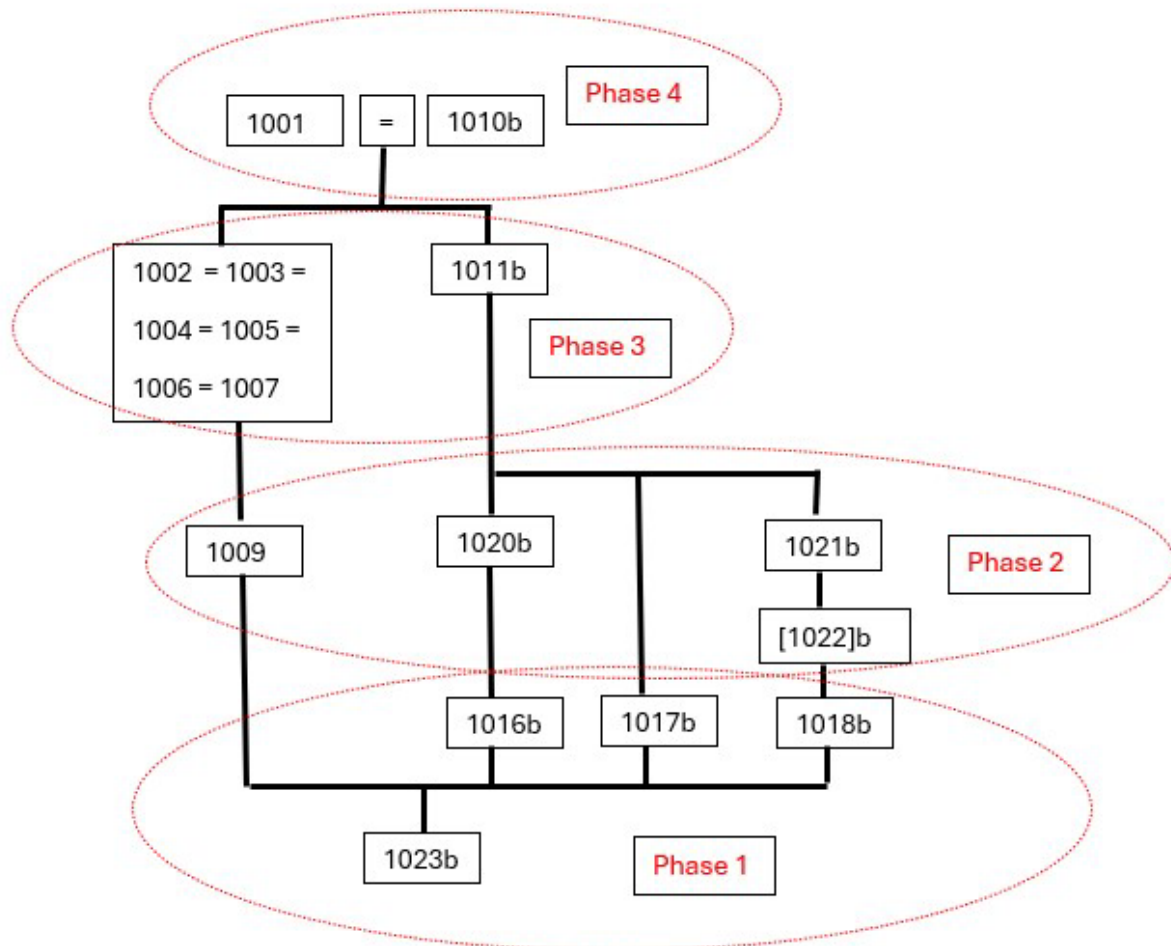
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Appendix 1: Harris Matrix for Trench 1 and 1a.

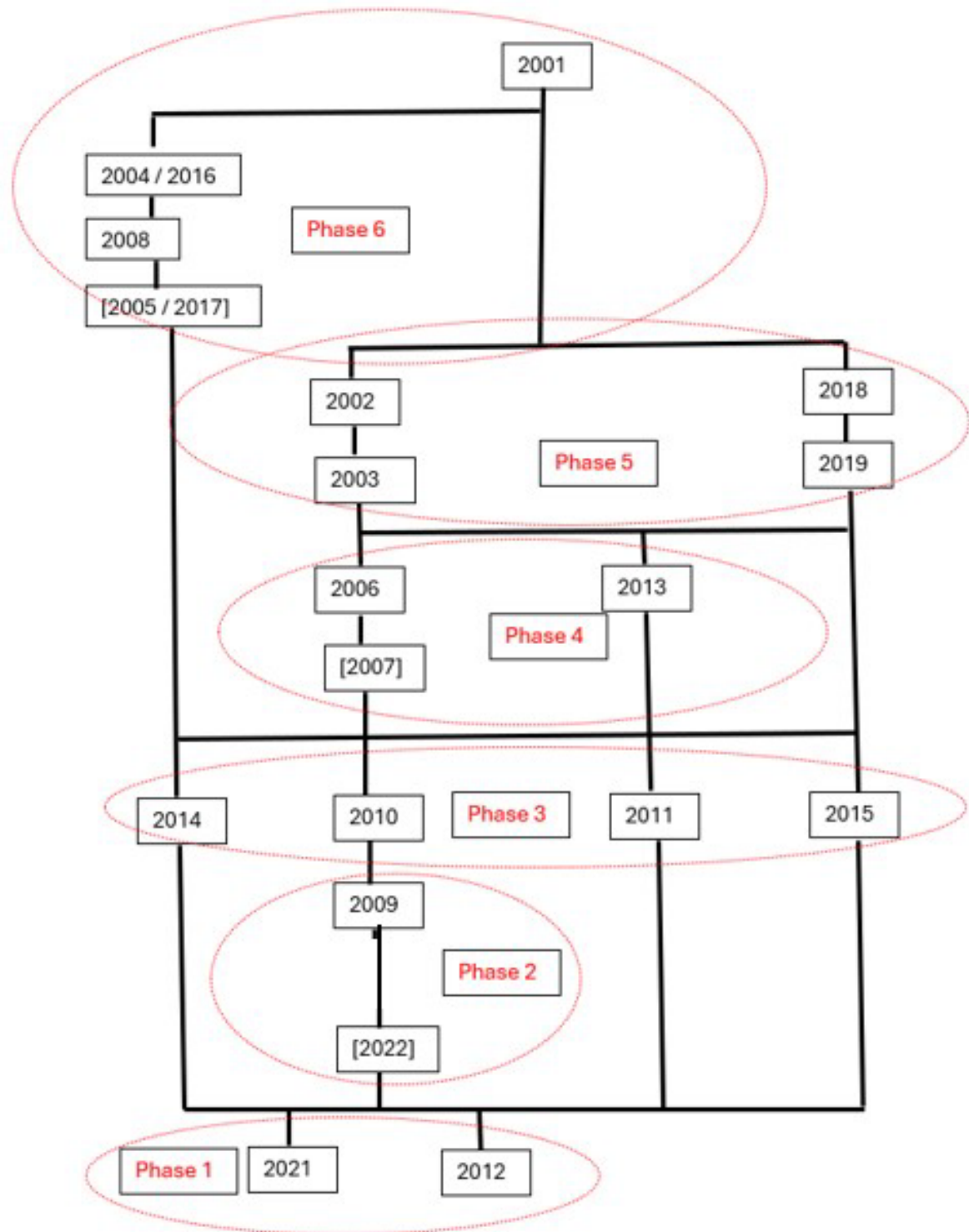


Appendix 2: Context List for Trench 1 and 1a.

Trench 1 Context List

Context b = trench extension	Cut / Fill / Deposit	Interpretation	Phase	Pot	Animal Bone	SF	CBM	Stone
1000	Deposit	Turf	4	Y				
1001	Deposit	Horticultural Soil	4	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1002	Deposit	Clay and Stone	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1003	Deposit	Section through stone stripe	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1004	Deposit	Section through stone stripe	3	Y			Y	Y
1005	Deposit	Section through stone stripe	3				Y	Y
1006	Deposit	Section through stone stripe	3		Y		Y	Y
1007	Deposit	Section through stone stripe	3	Y	Y		Y	Y
1009	Deposit	Stone Foundation in situ.	2		Y			Y
1010b	Deposit	Horticultural Soil = 1001	4	Y	Y		Y	Y
1011b	Deposit	Clay and Stone = 1002	3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1016b	Deposit	Dark (organic?) Clay	1		Y			
1017b	Deposit	Thin clay deposit.	1	Y	Y	Y		
1018b	Deposit	Silty clay deposit.	1	Y	Y	Y		
1020b	Deposit	Stone Foundation in situ.	2					Y
1021b	Fill	Shallow Scoop / Post fill.	2				Burnt Daub	
[1022]b	Cut	Containing 1021	2					
1023	Deposit	Platform make-up.	1					

Appendix 3: Harris Matrix for Trench 2



Appendix 4: Context List for Trench 2.

Trench 2 Contexts

Context	Cut / Fill / Deposit	Interpretation	Phase	Pot	Animal Bone	SF	CBM	Stone
2001	Deposit	Horticultural Soil	6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2002	Deposit	Demolition Deposit	5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2003	Deposit	Clay beneath demolition.	5				Y	
2004	Fill	Fill of subcircular feature.	6		Y		Y	Y
[2005]	Cut	Cut containing 2004 = [2017]	6					
2006	Fill	Fill of big subcircular feature. Post Hole?	4		Y	Y	Y	Y
[2007]	Cut	Cut containing 2006. Post Hole?	4					
2008	Fill	Second fill of 2004	6				Y	
2009	Deposit	Stone Foundation.	2		Y			
2010	Deposit	2 nd Platform Make-up.	3					
2011	Deposit	2 nd Make up at East End of trench.	3	Y		Y		
2012	Deposit	Clay at base of 2009.	1	Y	Y			Y
2013	Deposit	Stone feature at East End of trench.	4					Y
2014	Deposit	2 nd Platform Make up (folded clay / warp)	3					
2015	Deposit	2 nd Platform Make up.	3					
2016	Fill	Entire fill of 2004.	6		Y	Y	Y	Y
[2017]	Cut	Cut containing root bowl 2004.	6					
2018	Deposit	Demolition East End of trench.	5				Y	Y
2019	Deposit	Demolition tipping east	5				Y	Y
2020	Deposit	1 st Platform Clay under 2012	1					
2021	Deposit	1 st Platform Make up.	1					
2022	Cut	Containing 2009 and 2012	2					

Appendix 5: Pottery report

By Anne Jenner and Katherine Bradshaw

Introduction

One hundred and thirty-nine sherds of pottery were retrieved from 17 contexts from community excavations at the moated manor site at Hook Manor, East Riding of Yorkshire. The dates range from the late 9th to the 18th century. The height of activity may be contemporary with the use of Humber wares in the 14th century, though the size of the assemblage makes it difficult to say this with certainty.

We are indebted to Jane Young for her knowledge and help in identifying the fabrics. We also thank Ken Shaw for his research into Le Patourel and Roberts' 1978 phasing.

Methodology

Visual analysis involved separating fabric and form groups by date and type. The numbers of sherds of each type of pottery are recorded in tabular form (see Table below). Decorative schemas, stamps and other significant features are also noted. Assemblages from each relevant period are outlined briefly under 'Discussion', below. Interesting items and assemblages are also considered in the 'Discussion' section. Any additional research and/or scientific analysis is outlined under the heading of 'Recommendations for further work'.

Spot Dating

Spot dates are given for each context containing the most significant pottery fabric types. This is because pottery is often the most common and most datable find on urban excavations, and can consequently help the excavation staff to interpret any given stratigraphic sequence. The method used here for calculating the spot date is the latest date from the latest pottery type. Where the largest percentage of a context is of a specific type and date, later items may not be used for the spot date as these may be intrusive.

Date Range

Calculation of the date range at YA is the earliest date from the earliest pottery type and the latest date from the latest pottery type. When there are two very distinct date ranges these will be included in the text, e.g. Roman and medieval. Sherds that can be identified as intrusive or residual will be noted (Barclay, et al 2016, Appendix 1).

Sherd Size

Sherd sizes are based on the following ranges and are measured across the widest dimension of the sherd. Small is anything less than 5cm, medium is anything above 5cm and below 10cm. Large is above 10cm. Sometimes very small (<1cm) and very large (>20cm) are used. These measurements are taken when there is no time to use weight as a corroborative measure.

The Wares

Saxo-Norman

Saxo-Norman pottery dates from the late 9th/early 10th century to the mid-11th century. The latest date is based upon the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Although the pottery does not always align with these historic dates, they are useful as indicators within these broad periods.

Saxo-Norman Grey – Late 9th to 11th Century

One sherd of this ware was recovered from C1007, and is a fine sandy reduced fabric, with moderate iron and some calcareous inclusions. This was possibly made locally to the site in Hook Manor, as the inclusions bear resemblance to the Non-local Saxo-Norman fabrics seen in Lincoln (Young et al 2005, 91), as opposed to the shell-tempered Local Saxo-Norman wares (ibid, 81).

Torksey – Late 9th to 11th Century

This ware type is a predominantly grey-coloured sandy ware. It has a pimply surface texture and frequently has a reddish-brown core (Mainman 1990, 432-434). This is thought to be due to letting the air circulate during the beginning of the firing and then reducing the flow of oxygen towards the end. Some forms are wheel thrown while others are handmade. The most common forms are jars, although large storage jars and spouted bowls occur less frequently (ibid., 427). Vessels are mainly quite plain, but some are decorated with applied thumbled strips. These wares occur in small numbers in the late 9th century, but peak in quantity around AD1000 and only begin to decrease in the second half of the 11th century (ibid., 426).

Thirteen sherds of Torksey ware were recovered from ten contexts during excavations at Hook Manor moated manor site, including jar/bowl flanged square rims with shallow and deep lid seats.

Medieval

The medieval period is generally defined as starting at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and ending at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. Although some historians see the end of the period as occurring at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century, the ceramic timeline in Britain fits better with these *termini a quo* and *terminus ad quem*. This is particularly true for the end of the period as a distinct change in pottery types occurs at this time.

Northern Gritty Ware – late 11th to early 13th century

Northern Gritty ware is an umbrella term for the numerous gritty wares produced in the north of England at the beginning of the medieval period. The sherd from C1007 is finely gritted compared to the buff Gritty Ware commonly found in York (see below). It has a lightly oxidised core with fine buff margins. Biscuit coloured surfaces resemble Brandsby ware, but the sherd has the ribbed external surfaces of gritty ware jars.

Gritty wares – late 11th/ mid- 13th century

There are at least three Gritty ware fabric groups, according to the size and frequency of their inclusions, but they are all usually fairly rough and pimply to the touch (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1178). However, the quartz grains used to temper this ware are not as angular as those of their predecessors, the 'York wares'. White Gritty wares slightly predate the Buff Gritty wares, although

all the fabrics vary in colour from cream to pinkish. Buff gritty wares are commonly found in Yorkshire, where they occur in large numbers, from the late 11th to the early 13th century.

Wheel thrown shouldered jars with pronounced ribs, squared rims and sagging bases are the most common form (ibid., 1178-1181). Jars are almost always unglazed and undecorated, although occasionally spots of a light greenish yellow colour can be seen on them. They were probably used in relation to new Norman cooking methods, as differing amounts of soot are visible on them. This varies from quite dense to lighter more watery patches of soot (ibid., 1183).

Other forms include 'pitchers' and 'spouted bowls'. Pitchers often have a thin pitted splashed glaze on the shoulder. These are relatively rare.

Two sherds of Gritty ware were present in this assemblage, both of which were small body sherds from jars.

Nottingham Splashed ware (NSP) – Late 12th – early 13th century

This ware consists of fine and coarser sandy variants, the former generally being reduced with oxidised surfaces, and the latter being fully oxidised (Boyle et al 2018, 7). The sherd from Hook Manor is of the finer fabric and too small to identify a form, though forms in this fabric tend to be collared pitchers, jugs, jars and bowls (ibid., 7).

Splashed glazes are thought to have been applied to a prepared surface as ground up minerals, rather than in suspension, thus giving a speckled effect (Newell et al 1995, 77). They are replaced by suspension glazes by the late 12th/early 13th century across Yorkshire and Lincolnshire (Cumberpatch et al 1998, 54).

York Glazed Ware – mid- 12th to mid- 13th century

York Glazed ware has a white to light greyish coloured, lightly gritted fabric with sub-angular quartz inclusions and occasional red stained larger rounded 'quartz'. A finer white version of this fabric is sometimes called York white ware and a pinkish fabric with yellow glaze and copper spots is sometimes labelled early glazed ware, although it is now not thought to occur any earlier than the other fabrics within this category.

The most common form is the jug. These are often highly decorated, sometimes with applied strips, scales, pellets or seals. Handles often have 'ears' applied at the top of their handles. Spouts vary from tubular bridge spouts to 'parrot beak' and small pinched lips. Glazes are usually shiny and watery, in light green and yellow (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1203-1225).

One sherd of York Glazed ware was recovered from the excavations at Hook Manor, which had a watery yellow glaze, applied pellets and vertical combed lines.

Brandsby-type wares – Mid-13th to Mid-14th Century

The ceramics of the mid-13th to mid-14th centuries in North Yorkshire were dominated by Brandsby-type wares. These wares usually have a fine, fairly hard sandy buff fabric, though variants can more closely resemble York Glazed wares, or finer, whiter York White wares. This similarity is due to the Brandsby-types succeeding York Glazed wares and overlapping in production in the early years.

The most common forms of Brandsby-type wares are jugs and bowls, and glazes vary from dark mottled green to plain mid green. Vessels are mostly either plain, or decorated with 'roller stamped' lines,

triangles, or rectangles. A kiln which is thought to have been producing these wares is situated at Brandsby-cum-Stearsby, in the Howardian Hills (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1232).

The assemblage from Hook Manor contained three sherds of Brandsby-type wares.

Lincoln Glazed Ware (LSW3) type – 14th to 15th century

These wares are often reduced to a light/mid grey colour internally, with a good quality, dull green glaze. Vessel forms often have flat bases and rod handles, although neither were present within this assemblage. The decoration of the three sherds from C2002 at Hook Manor includes applied horseshoe curved strips and roundels, which matches a shouldered Type 8 jar from Lincoln (see Young et al 2005, 183, fig 156, no.1152). Often the applied horseshoe decoration contains a fleur-de-lis, however the sherd from Hook Manor has a stamped roundel.

Humber ware – Late 13th to 15th Century

Humber wares were made at a number of places in Yorkshire and the Humber basin including: Blue Bridge Lane, York (Vince and Steane 2005); Walmgate, York (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1257); West Cowick (Mayes 1964; Johnson 1999); and Holme-on-Spalding-Moor (Hayfield 1980).

They have a fairly fine sandy, red firing clay body and a greenish glaze. The edges of the glaze are often tinged with an amber or brownish colour. Later 14th and 15th century products can have a purplish coloration, perhaps due to higher firing temperatures and a desire for a more metallic looking finish. Vessels are usually jugs, but jars, dishes, condiment dishes, chafing dishes and bowls are also part of the Humber type potters repertoire. Decoration tends to be limited to thumbled applied strips.

Humber-types were the most common ware within the assemblage, with 59 sherds being recovered from 23 contexts. Amongst these were sherds with thumbled impressions, a cistern, various jugs and jars (including unglazed drinking jugs) and one small sherd with a purplish glaze.

Beverley wares – 11th to Mid-14th Century

Beverley wares are a fine orange sandy ware, previously labelled as ‘Orange’ ware in Hull, of which there are two fabrics: Beverley 1 and Beverley 2 (Watkins 1987, 82-83, 93). The most notable temper is white chalk inclusions which vary in quantity and size over time. For instance, cooking pots generally have more inclusions within their make-up than jugs, and earlier wares are generally coarser (Didsbury and Watkins 1992, 108).

Beverley 1, which dates to the late 11th to late 12th centuries, is a hard, pale orange fabric, occasionally with a reduced grey core (Watkins 1987, 82). The fabric is a fine, sandy matrix with frequent angular quartz and some mica and chalk inclusions (Watkins 1987, 82-83). Cooking pots in Beverley 1 fabric tend to be more heavily tempered with larger quartz and frequent flecks of chalk. Glazes begin in the splashed method, but develop into the 12th century with the introduction of suspension glazes (Watkins 1991, 80).

Beverley 2, which dates to the late 12th to early 14th centuries, is softer and finer than Beverley 1, with thick walls (Watkins 1987, 93). The surfaces are smoother and its orange fabric becomes deeper orange over time. (Watkins 1991, 90). The glazes include copper and are less patchy, smoother and probably applied as a liquid suspension glaze. Forms include a larger range than Beverley 1 with bowls, jugs, cooking pots, curfews, dripping pans, jars, panchions, pipkins, small dishes and condiment dishes (cf. Watkins 1991, 90, Figure 76).

Twelve sherds of Beverley 2 type wares were present in this assemblage, including a ribbed neck with applied pellets, a rod handle, a sherd with a transitional (splashed to suspension) glaze, and a body sherd with an orange glaze.

North Yorkshire Red ware – Late 13th Century

North Yorkshire Red ware has a fairly hard, fine sandy oxidised fabric, usually in a light red colour. These jugs often have a lustrous mid to dark green glaze with brown flecks. There are a number of variants of this fabric, all of which are a minor late 13th century type (Mainman and Jenner 2013, 1250). Two sherds of North Yorkshire Red type wares were recovered, including one from C2002 which may be a Scarborough ware.

North Lincolnshire Fine Medium Sandy Ware (NLFMSW) – late 12th to mid-15th century

North Lincolnshire Fibe Medium Sandy ware is a fine to medium sandy fabric, which can be either fully oxidised or have a reduced core and inner surface. Inclusion quantities can vary from sherd to sherd, suggesting numerous sources across the region (Boyle et al 2018, 6), however they generally consist of moderate to abundant sub-rounded/rounded calcareous inclusions and fine to moderate iron. The glaze is a reduced, dark green suspension glaze, although there is no glaze present on the sherds within this assemblage. The sherd from C1007 is oxidised and probably came from a jug, with other forms including jars and bowls. The sherd from C1002 is a lightly reduced storage jar with light sooting on the exterior.

Lincoln Fine-Shelled (LFS)– mid 10th to late 12th century

Late 10th to mid-11th century vessels of this ware have a soft fabric and slightly rougher surface feel. They can be bright red or reddish brown, with a grey core. Later in the late 11th to 12th century vessels have a smoother surface and are harder fired, with red to yellowish grey surfaces. The shell temper consists of bivalve shell, up to 2mm, but mostly 0.5mm-1mm, in addition to sparse rounded iron inclusions. Forms are handmade but later vessels were sometimes finished on the wheel, and all have very limited decoration (Young et al 2005, 81). Three sherds of LFS were recovered from Hook Manor, including one small rim and two small body sherds.

Lincolnshire Early Medieval Shelly (LEMS) – early/mid 12th to early/mid 13th century

This fabric is generally oxidised with a reduced core, though the intensity of colour changes between vessels. Likewise, the surface colour can vary from red to orange. Abundant fossil bivalve shell <3.0mm, sparse sub-angular quartz and sparse iron form the inclusions and make the surface pimply. Vessels appear to be coil built before being finished on a slow wheel (Boyle et al 2018, 7). Forms are mainly undecorated jars and bowls with wide bases, although narrow based jars, shallow everted-rim dishes and small rounded bowls also occur (Young et al 2005, 113). One small body sherd of a probable jar/bowl was found in C2011.

North Lincolnshire Shell Tempered Ware (NLST) – early 12th to late 14th century (1120-1400)

North Lincolnshire Shell Tempered ware is a sandy ware with quartz inclusions as well as moderate inclusions of rounded iron and occasional shell. Vessels can be handmade or wheel thrown. Surface colours are grey to dark grey, with reddish brown to buff coloured core and inner margins

(Boyle et al 2018, 8). The only sherd of NLST from Hook Manor was an abraded rim sherd from C1011.

North Lincolnshire Quartz and Chalk (NLQC) – Late 11th- early 13th century

This coarsely gritted fabric is characterised by sub-angular to angular quartz, and moderate to abundant rounded chalk. It can additionally include moderate iron and occasional shell or Greensand quartz. The fabric can vary from soft to hard, and can also vary in colour although 12th century examples tend to be oxidised. Forms are generally jars and bowls, although some glazed jugs occur. (Boyle et al 2018, 4-5). A collared rim sherd and one lightly abraded body sherd represented NLQZ in the assemblage from Hook Manor.

South Lincolnshire Shelly (SLS) – 12th/13th century

One sherd of this fabric was retrieved from C2011 and has a reduced core as well as fine buff margins and surfaces. Inclusions are fine quartz mostly < 0.1mm and occasional fossil shell. The form of this sherd is a jar with a collared rim and bulbous body. The only South Lincolnshire fabric described or illustrated in Young et al.'s *Corpus of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* is of an oolitic limestone tempered fabric, of which the form differs to this rim sherd (Young et al 2005, 123).

Nottingham Light Bodied, Green-Glazed ware (NOTGL) – 13th to early/mid-14th century

This is a fairly hard, light-coloured ware, which can vary from white to light orange. It has a thin and glossy copper coloured light green glaze (Boyle et al 2018, 10). Sometimes vessels of this ware copy Scarborough wares, though the sherd from Hook Manor is too small to determine its form or decoration.

Other medieval wares

Some of the sherds from Hook Manor are medieval in date and similar to known wares, but could not be securely identified. Two sherds from C1007 have an orange and green suspension glaze that resembles the colours used in the Tees Valley B and C wares. The ribbed neck example from C1004 has decoration that is similar to Beverley and Hallgate A wares and is probably from a face jug. Despite resembling these wares, the fabrics from Hook Manor appear different enough to potentially be from a currently unidentified kiln source. Further analysis may shed light on the provenance of these wares.

C2002 contained eight waster sherds, seemingly of ceramic building material. Wasters are over-fired ceramics which have warped or broken during the firing process, and are often extremely hard and fused due to the exposure to high temperatures. Depending on the level of distortion they can sometimes still be sold and used as functioning vessels, and hence can be found in domestic assemblages, however they are most often associated with industrial sites, particularly kilns. The sherds from Hook Manor may have been part of a tiled kiln base, or perhaps saggars. Two are fused together confirming very high temperatures, although it is unclear what structure they may have come from. Further identification by a building materials specialist may shed further light on these items.

Post-medieval wares

The post-medieval period starts after the end of the medieval period in 1485 and continues to the present day. The period can be split into early post-medieval (1485 - 1760), Industrial (1760 - 1901), and modern (1901 - present).

Tin glazed ware – Late 17th Century to Present Day

Earthenwares are fired to lower temperatures than stonewares (below 800 degrees centigrade) which results in a softer and more porous fabric (Savage and Newman 1974, 163). Tin Glazed wares are a specific type of earthenware that are wheel thrown and then 'biscuit' fired. When cool, a tin rich glaze is applied to the porous surface to produce an even white background. Once dry, free-hand motifs including anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figures, sometimes within schematic landscapes, or simple geometric symbols are generally applied with a paint brush. Blue is the most frequent colour used, but other colours such as red and yellow are not uncommon. Moulded dishes and bowls with small finger impressions give the edges a 'pie-crust' appearance.

These wares were commonly produced from the late 17th to early 18th centuries. Other forms were produced throughout the 18th and 19th centuries and up to the present day. The tradition started in the Low Countries, from which the first imports to Britain came. The most likely British production centres for this ware were London, Liverpool, and Bristol.

German Stonewares – 16th to 19th Century

Stonewares are made from clay which has been fired to over 1000 degrees centigrade. Such high temperatures cause the minerals in the clay to fuse and become very hard and less porous than earthenwares. Hence, they are often used for holding liquids, and for drains and other sanitary products.

Langewehe –mid 14th century to late 16th century

Langewehe stonewares most often have a dark grey fabric covered with an iron wash, and varied surface colours ranging from buff to red dependant on level of firing. The grey to brown salt glaze appears patchy and is hard to distinguish from Raeren products (see below; Hurst et al 1986, 186). These wares were produced from 1350-1500.

Raeren – late 15th to mid-16th century

Raeren stonewares are often a light grey colour with brownish glaze. Forms are usually mugs or likewise related to drinking ale.

Although the dates of production are not precise these wares are commonly found on excavations in Britain from the late 15th century, at which point they were the dominant stoneware in Britain (Gaimster 1997, 225) until they were overtaken by Frechen products in the mid-16th century (Gaimster 1997, 209). Generally German Stonewares peak in number on British sites in the mid-16th century, though later types are made well into the modern period.

A base sherd from a mug from C2002 may be of Langewehe or Raeren production.

Discussion

In 1978, le Patourel and Roberts proposed a chronology of the development of moated manor houses. Within this report we have tried to tie the site at Hook Manor into this system, though it appears that this and other similar sites vary in comparison to le Patourel and Roberts' scheme.

At Hook Manor the pottery originated within three trenches, many contexts of which were disturbed by later ploughing (pers comm Jon Kenny). Despite being a small, mixed assemblage, the pottery is worthy of comparison with other similar sites.

Humber wares are the most common pottery type at Hook Manor, and this ware was also found in the moated manor site at Skipwith (Jenner forthcoming), as well as at various sites in East Yorkshire (le Patourel and Roberts 1978; Dean 2005).

What is particularly interesting about the site at Hook Manor is the evidence of earlier activity from the Saxo-Norman period in the area, specifically through the presence of Torksey wares and the Grey ware sherd from C1004. This pottery may have come from people traversing through the area rather than occupation, however it may point towards the use of an early defensive structure such as a burh – described by Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) as a Phase I 'Evolutionary' period at moated manor sites. Alternatively, this early pottery may relate to the presence of a hermitage nearby (pers comm Jon Kenny). The contexts related to Phase I are C1016, 1017, 1018, 1023, C2020 and 2021.

A Phase II 'Innovatory' period (Le Patourel and Roberts 1978, 46) may be represented by residual Gritty and Splash Glazed wares at Hook Manor. The only context in the assemblage within this phase which contained pottery was C2012, comprising one sherd of York Glazed ware and one of a Beverley 2 type. Both of these jug sherds were decorated with applied pellets. (The York Glazed sherd was also decorated with vertical incised lines). These wares were in currency from the mid-12th century, but the York Glazed ware went out of use around the middle of the 13th century and the Beverley type 2 continued in use until the 14th century. If the earliest date for these wares is considered they would fit into the Phase II period of general moated manor development postulated by Le Patourel and Roberts (1978).

The subsequent phase of moated manor development – Phase III 'Expansion' (Le Patourel and Roberts 1978, 46) – may therefore be represented by the 13th and 14th century wares from Hook Manor, such as Brandsby and North Yorkshire Red ware, as well as the 14th century Humber wares. This relates to the building of foundations for the moated manor at Hook: Phases 3 and 4 in Trench 2: C2010, 2011, 2014, and 2015, as well as C2006, 2007 and 2013 respectively. Of these, only C2011 and 2015 contain pottery. There are no contexts from Trench 1 containing pottery that directly relate to this phase.

The 14th century wares from the excavations at the Hook Manor moated site, particularly the Humber wares, may represent the height of activity at the site. Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) attribute the peak of manor houses to the early 14th century and date the start of the decline at AD1325 lasting through to AD1500: Phase IV 'Decline'. However, the assemblage at Hook Manor seems to contrast with this theory by potentially extending the date of expansion throughout the 14th century. The term 'decline' used by Le Patourel and Roberts may be a misnomer when used in relation to the site at Hook Manor. Despite Trench 1 no longer being in use at this time, Phase 4 in Trench 2 still sees construction occurring. The majority of the contexts from Hook Manor related to this phase did not include any pottery, however the Phase 3 post-demolition layers in Trench 1 act as a *terminus post quem*, as they contain 14th century Humber wares (C1002, 1003, 1004, 1007, 1011).

Although the majority of the pottery from these contexts is Humber ware, it is mixed with earlier wares from the Saxo-Norman and early medieval periods, as well as one sherd of intrusive post-medieval Tin Glazed ware. Later ploughing may explain the presence of these sherds.

Unfortunately, the small size of the assemblage from Hook Manor makes these conclusions uncertain, however similar conclusions have been noted elsewhere. In Greater Manchester dates of expansion, and therefore occupation of the moated manor site there, also extends le Patourel and Roberts' dates through documentary evidence of moat construction dating between the late 13th to later 14th century (Walker and Tindall 1985, 69-70). The 14th century Humber wares present at Skipwith Manor, as well as in the sites from the East Riding of Yorkshire, therefore additionally correlate with this hypothesis.

Le Patourel and Roberts (1978, 46) next describe the Phase V 'Destruction, Adaptation and Revival', which occurs from approximately AD1500. At Hook Manor this phase is represented by Phase 5 in Trench 2. C2002 contains mixed pottery dating from the mid-10th to the mid-16th century, including the only example of 14th-15th century Lincoln Glazed type ware. The latest date of the mid-16th century is taken from the presence of the one sherd of Langewehe/Raeren pottery. A lack of other 16th century wares, such as Cistercian wares, suggests little to no occupation in the later 16th century.

Le Patourel's phases do not extend past Phase V. Trench 1 Phase 4 at Hook Manor contains horticultural soils with evidence of heavy ploughing, suggesting the Manor was no longer in use at this time. Contexts 1001 and 1010 contain only Humber wares, which may provide a date for these contexts, however the sherds are likely to have been disturbed from the height of occupation represented by earlier contexts. This is supported by Phase V, which contained later dated pottery. Phase 6 at Hook Manor in Trench 2 is represented by C2001, which is again a mixed context, although still dominated by Humber wares. This context has no evidence for ploughing, but is still an amalgamation of earlier occupation, rather than the pottery confirming a date for this context.

The assemblage on the whole may indicate a relative lack of wealth as only a limited amount of decoration is seen on the pottery. This is restricted to the 12th-14th century wares, suggesting that the moated manor occupation was the most affluent period at the site. Comparison with other find types will further illuminate this theory, as metal and glass table wares give further insight into the wealth of the occupants at a site. However, these material types were often recycled into new vessels during the medieval period, and as such can be lost in the archaeological record. Drawing conclusions from pottery assemblages alone can be inconclusive.

Conclusion and recommendations for further work

While this assemblage is rather small, the evidence points towards the height of occupation at Hook Manor taking place during the medieval period, particularly in the 14th century with the dominance of Humber wares. While some suggest that the height of occupation at moated manor sites ceased around 1325, others comply with the hypothesis that this phase continued through the 14th century. Further analysis of moated manor sites and their associated assemblages may shed light on these minor contradictions; at Hook Manor, the relationship of the pottery to the stone foundations excavated in Trench 1 should be further analysed. Additionally, future excavations at the site at Hook Manor may help back up the theories propounded in this report.

Analysis of the unidentified medieval fabrics and the wasters by local pottery and ceramic building material specialists respectively may provide more information on these sherds. Statistical

analysis, including graphs and charts showing the relative percentages of the various wares, would also help to illustrate the trends in this assemblage.

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Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
1000	1	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Rim	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	Everted flanged shallow lid seat, squared end
1001	1	Humber		Body	13th - 14th century	Small	
1001	1	Humber 4	Jug?	Body	14th - 15th century	Small	Purplish glaze
1002	1	BEV2 B		Body	13th - 14th century	Medium	
1002	1	Med X	Jug	Neck	14th - 14th century	Small	Close to rim. Dark GGL. Thumbed impressions
1002	1	NLFMSW North Lincolnshire Fine Medium Sandy Ware	Storage jar	Body	Late 12th- mid 15th century	Small	Light sooting
1002	1	Tin Glazed	Tile		Late 17th - 18th+ century	Small	White
1002	2	CBM				Small	Drain
1002	5	Humber	Cistern	Body	13th - 14th century	Small to large	
1003	1	Humber		Body	13th - 14th century	Very small	Reduced
1004	2	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Rim	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	Flanged deep lid seat. Squared edge
1004	1	Torksey		Body	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	
1004	1	Med X	Jug	Rim	13th / 14th century	Small	Ribbed neck with applied hand. Green brown suspension glaze. Similar to Bev 02T, Doncaster or Tees
1007	1	Grey	Jar	Body	Saxon - Norman	Medium	Fine sandy, moderate iron, some

Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
							calcareous inclusions.
1007	1	Gritty	Jar	Body	12th century	Small	
1007	2	Med X	Jug	Neck	13th / 14th century	Medium	Fine fabric. Moderate red iron. Quartz > 0.1mm. Orange & green suspension glaze
1007	1	Torksey	Jar	Body	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Scrap	
1007	1	NLFMSW North Lincolnshire Fine Medium Sandy Ware		Body	Late 12th-mid 15th century	Very small	
1007	1	Northern Gritty ware NGW	Jar /jug	Body	12th / 13th century	Small	Fine smooth surface
1010	1	Humber	Jar?	Base	13th / 14th century	Medium	Burnt & abraded
1011	1	HUMBT	Jug?	Body	13th - 14th century	Small	Dark green brown suspension glaze
1011	2	HUMBT	Jug?	Base	13th - 14th century	Small / medium	CJ. Abraded. Glazed internally
1011	1	BEV2B	Jug	Body	13th - 14th century	Very small	
1011	2	Misc		Body			Micaceous clay
1011	1	NLQC North Lincolnshire Quartz and Chalk	Jar / jug	Rim	Late 11th - early 13th century	Small	Collared
1011	1	NLST North Lincolnshire Shell Tempered	Jar / bowl	Rim	Late 12th to mid 15th century	Small	Abraded
1011	3	Humber	Jug	Body	13th - 14th century	Small	

Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
1011	1	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Rim	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	Everted flanged shallow lid seat, squared end. Fine walled
1012	1	Torksey		Body	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Scrap	
1017	1	Med X		Body	13th / 14th century	Very small	Abraded
1017	3	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Body	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	
1017	1	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Rim	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	Everted flanged shallow lid seat, squared end
1018	1	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Rim	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	Everted flanged shallow lid seat, squared end. Fine walled
1018	1	LFS - Lincoln Fine-Shelled	Mini jar	Rim	late 10th-late 12th century	Scrap	
1018	1	Misc				Very small	Highly fired oxidised York ware type
2001	1	Stone					
2001	2	BEV 2	Jug	Body	Late 12th to 14th century	Small	Dark green glaze with ribbs
2001	1	Brandsby	Jug	Body	Late 13th - early 14th century	Small	
2001	1	HUMBT	Drinking jug	Body	14th century	Small	Slightly abraded
2001	1	NSP - Nottingham Splashed ware	Jug?	Body	Late 12th - early 13th century	Small	

Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
2001	1	Brandsby	Jug	Body	Late 13th - early 14th century	Small	
2001	1	Gritty	Jar	Body	12th century	Small	
2001	1	MED X	Bowl?	Body	13th - early/ mid 14th century	Small	Mottled green glaze
2001	6	Humber	Jug	Body	14th century	Small / medium	
2001	1	Humber	Jug?	Rim	14th century	Small	Simple rounded rim
2001	1	Humber	Drinking Jug	Base	14th century	Small	
2001	1	Humber	Jug	Base	14th century	Large	Whitish concretion above and below base
2001	1	Humber	Jar	Rim	14th century	Medium	Late
2001	2	MED X	Jar / bowl	Rim	13th - 14th century	Large	Mixed fabric. Mainly fine quartz. Some iron, cemented sandstone. Join.
2001	3	CBM	Tile			Small	
2002	1	BEV2	Jug	Handle	Late 12th to 14th century	Medium	Rod handle
2002	1	HUMBT	Drinking jug	Rim	14th century	Medium	Unglazed
2002	1	LFS - Lincoln Fine-Shelled	Jar?	Body	11th - 12th century	Small	
2002	1	Torksey	Jar / bowl	Body	Mid 10th - mid 11th century	Small	
2002	1	LANG/RAER	Mug	Base	Late 14th - mid 16th century	Medium	
2002	5	HUMBT	Drinking jug	Body	13th - 14th century	Small / medium	

Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
2002	3	Lincoln Glazed Ware (LSW3) type	Jug	Body	14th-15th century	Large	Applied horseshoe curved strips & roundels; Shouldered type 8 see fig 152, no.1152 Young et al 2005, 183
2002	13	HUMBT	Jug	Body & Handle	14th+ century	Small / large	Ribbed strap handle.
2002	2	Humber	Jug	Base	14th century	Small / large	
2002	8	Humber	Jug	Body	14th century	Small / medium	Includes 1 sherd with fingered impressions
2002	1	Humber	Jug	Handle	13th - 14th century	Medium	Rod handle with upper thumbbed impressions
2002	1	Humber	Pitcher	Handle	13th - 14th century	Small	Strap handle
2002	1	Humber	Jar	Rim	14th - 15th century	Large	Late form
2002	1	NYR - North Yorkshire Red ware		Body	Late 13th century	Small	Flaked green glazed. Scarborough ware?
2002	1	Fired Clay	Mould	Body		Small	Industrial; burnt internally
2002	8	Waster	Tile	Body		Small / large	2 sherds fused and counted as 1
2011	1	LFS - Lincoln Fine-Shelled		Body	11th - 12th century	Very small	
2011	1	Fired clay		Body		Small	Calcaceous inclusions
2011	1	LEMS - Lincolnshire Early Medieval Shelly	Jar / bowl?	Body	Early/mid 12th - early/mid 13th century	Small	

Table 1: Pottery by context quantification							
Context	Sherd Count	Description	Form	Part	Date	Size	Comments
2011	1	SLS - South Lincolnshire Shelly	Jar	Rim	12th/13th century	Medium	Fine quartz mostly < 0.1mm. Occasional fossil shell. Collared rim on bulbous body
2011	5	BEV2	Pitcher	Body	Late 12th to 14th century	Small / large	Transitional glaze
2011	1	NYR - North Yorkshire Red ware	Jug	Body	Late 13th century	Small	Dark green glaze
2012	1	BEV2	Jug	Body	Late 12th to 14th century	Small	Ribbed neck. Applied pellets
2012	1	YGW	Jug	Body	Late 12th - early 13th century	Small	Watery yellow glaze with applied pellets
2015	1	NLQC North Lincolnshire Quartz and Chalk	Jar?	Body	Late 11th - early 13th century	Small	Slightly abraded
2015	1	Humber	Pitcher	Handle	13th+ century	Small	Pitted glazed
3003	1	NOTGL - Nottingham Light Bodied Green-Glazed ware	Jug	Neck	13th – early/mid 14th century	Medium	Light bodied.
3003	1	Brandsby	Jug		13th - early/ mid 14th century	Large	Copper speckled glaze
3003	1	BEV2 T	Jug?	Body	13th - early/mid 14th century	Small	Orange glaze
3003	1	Med X	Jug	Handle	13th - early/mid 14th century	Large	Strap handle with green & orange glaze

Appendix 6: Hook Project Faunal Report

Jessika Odenthal and Tom Vaughan Prepared October 2024 for J. Kenny.

Introduction

In 2023, 226 faunal bone fragments were recovered from excavations across two trenches at the multi-platformed medieval moated manor site in Hook, England—the main phases from the site date between the 1300s and 1600s.

Methodology

Bone fragments were examined macroscopically and recorded following good practice for faunal analysis (Baker and Worley, 2019). Species identification was achieved using a comparative reference collection of modern specimens held at BioArCh, University of York. As well as identification guides (e.g., Schmid, 1972; Cohen and Serjeantson, 1996). Morphologically similar species were distinguished, when possible, based on published criteria, such as Zeder and Lapham (2010) for sheep/goats (*Ovis aries*)(*Capra hircus*) and Tomek and Bocheński (2009) for Galliformes. Bone fragments not identifiable to taxa were categorised by size class, either as small, medium or large, bird or mammal. Diagnostic zones were recorded following the system devised by Dobney and Rielly (1988).

Ageing for mammals was examined by assessing the fusion status of postcranial bones and eruption/wear of teeth (Payne, 1973; Grant, 1982). The presence of juvenile bird and mammal bone, which appear porous, were also recorded. Cattle (*Bos taurus*) and sheep/goats were sexed based on pelvis morphology (Grigson, 1982; Prummel and Frisch, 1986). Pigs (*Sus scrofa*) were sexed based on the morphology of their canines and alveoli (Hillson, 2005, pp.128–131). Galliformes were sexed based on the presence of a spur or spur scar on the tarsometatarsus (Sadler, 1991).

Measurements were taken on fused bones following the standards of von den Driesch (1976), with supplementary measurements of humeri from Payne and Bull (1988). Bones exhibiting signs of pathology were described systematically following guidance by Thomas and Worley (2019). A low light magnification was used to examine taphonomic evidence. Butchery was attributed to the type of mark, either slice, chop, scrape or impact, and then systematically described (Maltby 2019, 54). Burnt bone was recorded by the degree of burning (Lyman 1994). The overall surface quality of a given bone fragment was recorded on a 5-point scale from very poor (>50% of the bone surface powdery) to very good (smooth fresh surface)

(Lyman 1994).

Taphonomy & Preservation

A total of 226 bone fragments were recovered from Hook, of which 37% were identified to species and 63% were identified to size class (Table 1). From Trench 1, little material was recovered from Phases 1 & 3 (creation of the platform and insertion of stone rubble foundations). Most material was found in Phases 2 & 4 which represent the laying of a clay deposit and the creation of horticultural soil by ploughing. In Trench 2, little to no material was recovered from Phases 1, 2, 3, & 4 (initial construction, widening of moat, and possible construction of second building). The majority of the material comes from Phases 5 & 6 which represent an extensive demolition layer dating to the 1600s and horticultural soil overlying demolition.

	Phase	Quantity	ID	ID %	Size class	Size class %
Trench 1	1	12	6	50.0%	6	50.0%
	2	35	14	40.0%	21	60.0%
	3	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%
	4	30	17	56.7%	13	43.3%
Trench 2	1	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	3	3	100.0%	0	0.0%
	3	12	5	41.7%	7	58.3%
	4	7	3	42.9%	4	57.1%
	5	92	22	23.9%	70	76.1%
	6	20	7	35.0%	13	65.0%
	Total	212	78	36.8%	134	63.2%

Table 1: Quantity of animal bone from phases 1-6.

The vast majority of the material recorded from Hook was average to poorly preserved (Table 2). Partially due to the relatively poor preservation of the assemblage, there was not much evidence of pre-burial taphonomy (Table 3). 25 bones showed evidence of butchery across 47% of contexts. Evidence of carnivore gnawing was recorded on 4% of bone across the whole assemblage. Only one bone was recorded as being burnt.

	Phase	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Trench 1	1			12		
	2		1	32	2	
	3			1		
	4			29	1	
Trench 2	1					
	2			2	1	
	3			10	2	
	4			3	3	1
	5		1	77	12	2
	6		1	14	3	2
	Total	0	3	180	24	5

Table 2: Preservation of animal bone from Hook.

	Phase	Butchery	Burning	Carnivore gnawing
Trench 1	1	3		3
	2	4		2
	3			
	4	5	1	1
Trench 2	1			
	2	2		
	3	3		
	4			1
	5	6		
	6	2		1
	Total	25	1	8

Table 3: Phases where evidence of pre-burial taphonomy was noted.

Species Representation

The assemblage from Hook comprised a minimum of eleven identified mammal and bird species (Table 4). Domestic animals are the most prevalent with cattle most frequent overall (48%), followed by sheep/goat (23%), horse (11%), and pig (7%). Other notable species include dog (*Canis familiaris*), hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), and heron (*Ardea cinerea*).

The small sample size of this assemblage limits the ability to draw definitive conclusions about the abundance of the main livestock species, although some general observations can still be made. When considering the size-class data, cattle remains are the most frequent, consistently outnumbering sheep/goat and pig remains throughout the trenches and phases. This is not unusual and has been reflected in nearby medieval sites in York (Bond and O'Connor 1999, 414). However, size class data from Trench 1, Phase 2 suggests a possible higher abundance of pig remains, which might point to a variation in diet during this phase. Sheep/goat remains are notably absent from the occupation phases with only two recorded remains, whereas demolition and later horticultural layers produce higher numbers. This may reflect a shift in land use following the demolition of the manor, possibly linked to pastoral activities.

Remains of wild animals are represented by a single deer, hedgehog, and heron bone. Also recovered was a partially complete skeleton of a mute swan which will be discussed in more detail later. The deer metapodial fragment was unable to be securely identified between roe (*Capreolus capreolus*) and fallow (*Dama dama*) deer. These two species had distinct cultural significance in the medieval period. Fallow deer were the favoured deer of the medieval aristocracy; they were managed in deer parks and associated with aristocratic hunting, while roe deer were less preferred, as is reflected in their reduced abundance during this time (Sykes 2007; Miles 2009). Herons were prized by the medieval elite, and

their presence in the assemblage is consistent with other high-status sites (Serjeantson, 2023). The heron was likely obtained by wildfowling in the local area, proximity to the Ouse would have made these birds, along with other waterfowl, common quarry in the area. Neither the deer nor the heron remains display signs of butchery. The hedgehog which pertains from a demolition layer is likely a natural accumulation.

Due to the small sample size, only a little information was gained regarding age at death, sexing, and biometrical variation. There is one ageable sheep/goat mandible from context 1018 with a mandible wear score of 39 giving an estimated age of 4-6 years (Payne 1973). In total, there were 17 measurable bone fragments, including the tibia of a dog.

Common Name	Taxonomic Name	Trench 1				Trench 2					Total
		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Phase 6	
Cattle	<i>Bos taurus</i>	3	7		6	2	2	1	11	6	38
Sheep/goat	<i>Ovis/Capra</i>		1		9		1		4		15
Sheep	<i>Ovis aries</i>	1							2		3
Pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	1	4							1	6
Equid	<i>Equus sp.</i>		2	1	1			2	1		7
Dog	<i>Canis familiaris</i>				1	1			1		3
Roe/fallow deer	<i>Dama/ Capreolus</i>						1				1
Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>								1		1
Chicken	<i>Gallus gallus</i>						1		1		2
Land fowl	<i>Galliformes</i>							1			1
Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>								1		1
Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>						10				10
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1									1
Identified Total		6	14	1	17	3	15	4	22	7	89
Cattle-sized		2	2		10		1	1	35	6	57
Sheep-sized		2	11		1		3		10	2	29
Hare-sized			1								1
Large bird							1		1		2
Medium bird									4	1	5
Indet. mammal		2	7		2		1	2	20	4	38
Unidentified Total		6	21	0	13	0	6	3	70	13	132

Table 4: Species representation from Hook.

Swan Associated Bone Group (ABG)

A partial ABG of a swan was recognised from context 2011, phase 3. The remains were identified as a mute swan (*Cygnus olor*). The ABG includes representation of the wings (L R Humerus), legs (L R Femur, L Tibiotarsus) body (L R Scapula, L R Coracoid, Sternum) and feet (singular phalanx) (Figure 1). A series of fine slice marks were observed on one of the humeri, these marks appear to be related to removal of the wing tendons for food preparation. This suggests that swan was consumed at the site during the 14th century. Various historical sources indicate that the swan was a valued bird on the table of the medieval elite (Albarella and Thomas 2002). Ownership of swans was controlled by the crown, and the bird was managed in parks (Macgregor 1996). This finding is consistent with the archaeological record where swan remains are most commonly recovered from high-status medieval sites (Sykes 2014, Figure 8.4).

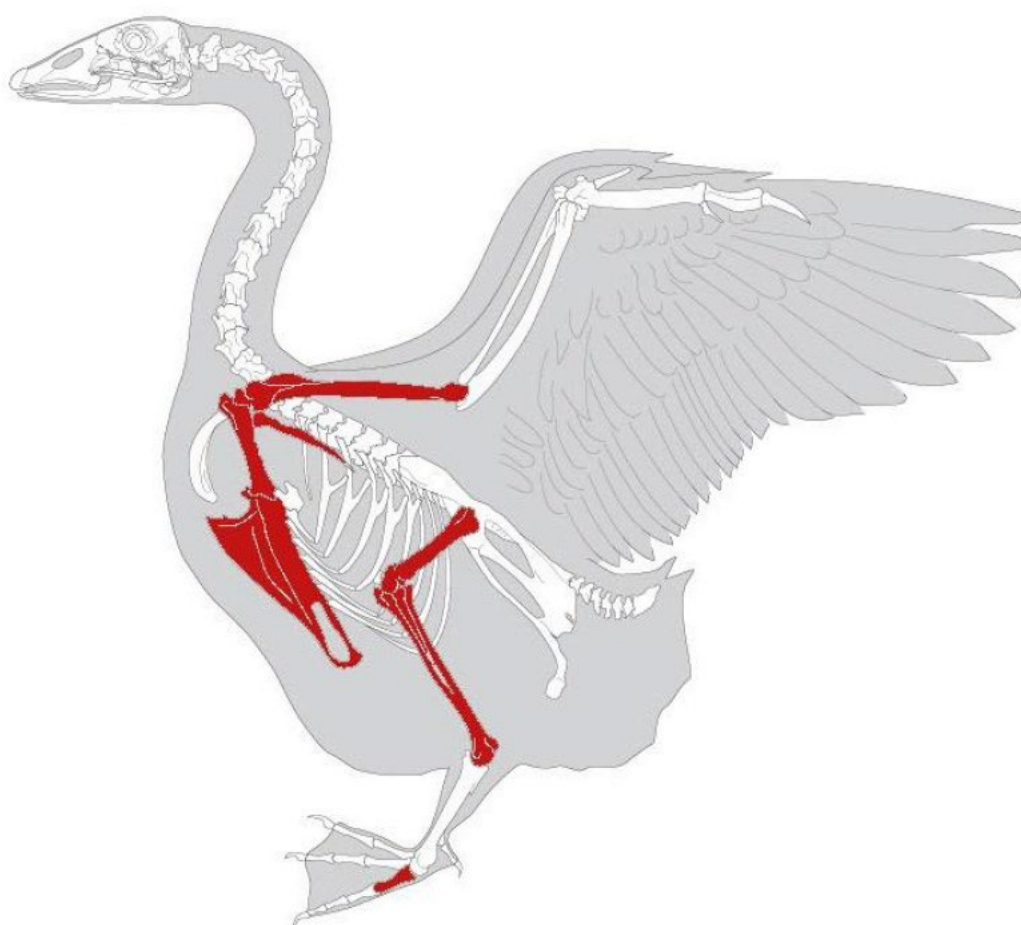


Figure 1: Image of a vectorised swan with recovered elements highlighted in red.

Butchery

Butchery marks were present on 11% of the bone fragments recovered, the majority of which were chop or cut marks on *Bos taurus* or cattle-sized bones (Figure 2). Every butchery mark recorded was only noted once and as such no butchery pattern may be gleaned from the results. In saying this, the ends of scapula, humerus, and astragalus have been chopped off indicating that portions of meat were being disarticulated from the rest of the body. Fewer butchery marks were located on other taxa, including

sheep/goat, horse, and swan. Noteworthy is the 1st phalanx of a horse which exhibits butchery marks indicative of disarticulation.

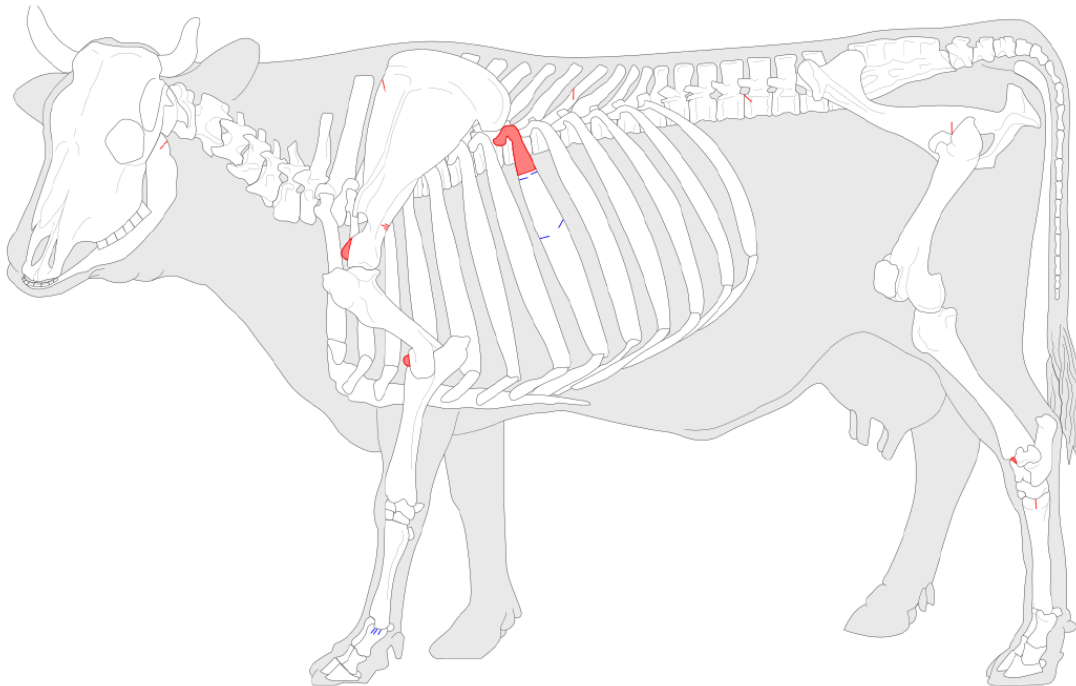


Figure 2: Image of a vectorised cow showing butchery marks. Red lines indicate chop marks. Red shading specifies where the bone has been removed. Blue lines indicate cut marks. Single rib and vertebrae were chosen to identify all chop marks on that element (Vectorised cow template from ArchéoZoothèque).

Summary & Recommendations

The faunal assemblage from Hook is moderately preserved and small in size. Although, considering its small size the assemblage provides a reasonably diverse range of taxa.

The butchered mute swan strongly suggests that the occupants of the manorial site at Hook had a high-status diet, as discussed earlier. The presence of the deer and heron also supplements this finding, as both were favoured in the diet of the medieval aristocracy and connected to hunting activities. However, the lack of butchery could indicate they were natural deposits from the local environment. In any case, it appears that the diet at Hook is consistent with that of a high-status manorial site.

Any further excavation at the site could consider sieving or flotation as this may uncover smaller bones which are usually lost. This may reveal evidence of other birds, fish, and micromammals at the site which can be used to determine both consumption habits and the environmental ecology of the site. Given that small remains, like the hedgehog bone, were recovered and considering the well-documented prevalence of fish consumption across medieval sites (Barrett et al. 2004), the lack of fish remains is surprising, especially those of larger species like cod. Sieving or flotation may reveal whether fish remains were missed or if they were simply not consumed at Hook.

Appendix 7: Small Finds Registers

Trench 1: Small Finds Register.

Context No	Small Find	Phase	Number
1001	Iron Nails	4	2
1001	Iron Object	4	1
1001	Horseshoe Frag	4	1
1002	Iron Nail	3	3
1002	Iron Object	3	2
1003	Iron Object	3	3
1005	Iron Nail	3	1
1010	Horseshoe Frag	4	1
1011	Iron Object	3	4
1011	Iron Nail	3	1
1015	Iron Nail	3	1
1018	Iron Object	1	2
1018	Roof tile with comb marking	1	1

Trench 2: Small Finds Register.

Context No	Small Find	Phase	Number
2001	Painted Tile	6	2
2001	Roof Tile with paw print	6	1
2001	Painted Brick Fragment	6	1
2001	Copper Alloy Object	6	1
2001	Iron Nails	6	8
2001	Horseshoe Fragment	6	1
2002	Iron Objects	5	2
2002	Iron Nails	5	26
2002	Lead Object frag	5	1
2002	Roof Tile with paw print	5	1
2011	Iron Nails	3	15
2011	Iron Objects Fragments	3	5
2006	Leather Fragment	4	1
2016	Iron Object Fragment	6	1

Appendix : Images of Our Project.



Earth Resistance under way 2022



A Workshop Gathers on Site.



Jon Kenny Leads a Walk around Hook.



Using the Dumpy Level.

Archaeology for everyone

Are you interested in the past?

Would you like to spend some time outdoors?

Do you ever wonder what the strange lumps and bumps in local fields are all about?

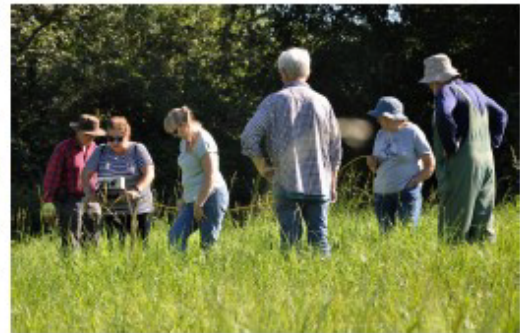
Would you like to know what was going on in our local area a few hundred years ago?



Howdenshire Archaeological Society are keen to welcome members of the local community to join us in our new project about landscape and its archaeology. We will be looking at the medieval moated manor site in Hook nr Goole.

No previous experience or knowledge required.

EVERYONE is welcome to come along to try us (and archaeology) out for free with the first part of this project. We will be supported by a professional archaeologist as we learn how they look at landscapes and use survey equipment to gather clues about what might be underground.



Alongside archaeology and learning about the past, we will enjoy the outdoors, learn from each other, record our activities, and possibly eat cake!

The project will involve workshops and fieldwork sessions taking place weekly in Hook on **Mondays starting on April 25th, 2022, running through May and June.**

If you would like to know more, please contact Liz Allen:

email Liz@jkcomarc.co.uk or phone 01904 658255

We are very grateful for project funding from the Smile HEY Foundation as part of the Green Social Prescribing Programme of the Humber, Coast and Vale Care Partnership

Advertising Ourselves!



Opening Trench 1.



Opening Trench 2.



Relaxing is all about Wellbeing 😊

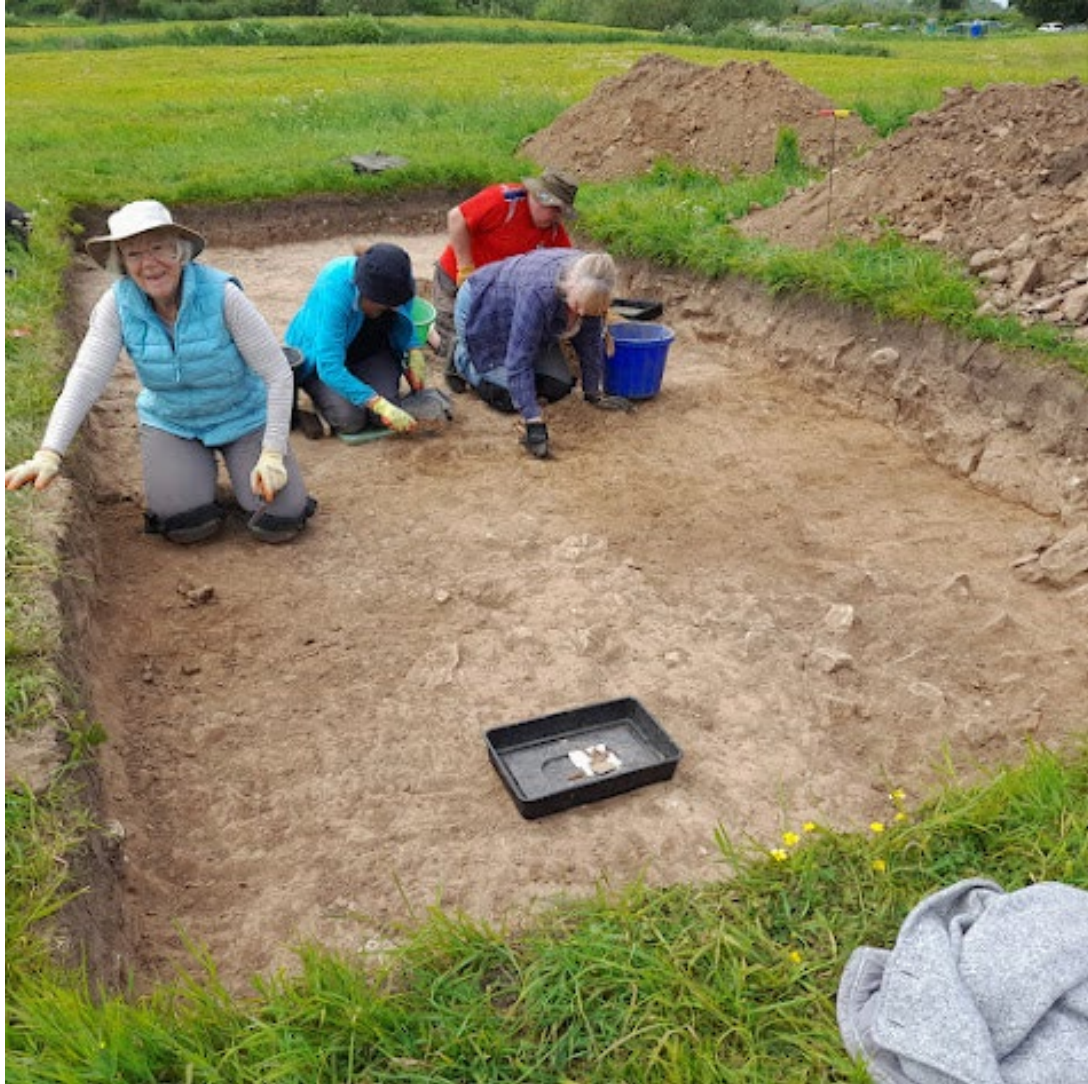


The Site Tent..



Trowelling Under Way in Trench 2.





Putting a smile on your face!



Work Under Way.....



The Finds Team's Lair..



Finds Team in Action...
There's a Job for All....





We Even Had Fun in the Rain!





Goole Fields Wind Farms Community Fund



It Takes a Lot to Bring us Together!

