

LANDSCAPE
SURVEY GROUP
Quarterly news bulletin

April 2016

I rely on members passing items of interest to me, so if news items crop up during the rest of April, May or June, or you spot any events in June to December (or later but with deadlines during the same period) please pass them on to me at any time – magnus.alexander@historicensland.org.uk. Thanks in advance.

Membership

We have had quite a few new members joining us since January, so hello to all of you!

For pre-existing members, April is membership renewal time (£10 annual fee). You should have all received an email about this earlier in the month. An email of receipt will be sent out by our membership secretary shortly after payment has been received. Thank you to all who have already renewed.

News

LSG AGM: 18-19th March 2016 in York and the Yorkshire Wolds

March saw the LSG's annual AGM and spring meeting come to Yorkshire, where it was hosted by Historic England at their regional office in the centre of York. Once the usual matters of business had been signed-off, we were treated to three short presentations by members on recent research projects: David Knight (Aerial Investigation & Mapping, Historic England) spoke about the preliminary results aerial mapping phase of the SW Cambridgeshire National Archaeological Identification Survey (NAIS). Marcus Jecock (Assessment Team, Historic England) gave an introduction to the medieval settlement and manorial earthworks at Hanging Grimston and the findings of recent survey and excavation work there, and Emily Fiocoprile (School of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford) presented part of her doctoral research, looking at the enigmatic parallel prehistoric earthwork banks of Huggate Dykes. All were extremely engaging and the latter two presentations acted as introductions to the Saturday field visits – thank you David, Marcus and Emily! The day was rounded off with the traditional wine reception, followed by a meal and drinks in town.

On Saturday we drove east out of York up onto the chalk spine of the Yorkshire Wolds for a wild and windy stroll across two earthwork sites (see the photos below): first to the multi-period, but predominantly medieval, settlement complex at Hanging Grimston and then to the impressive prehistoric linears of Huggate Dykes. A fantastic morning of discussion and exploration was rounded off by a trip to Seaways Café, the renowned bikers' pit stop at Fridaythorpe, to warm up over chip butties and mugs of Yorkshire tea. Both Marcus and Emily must be commended for giving such informative and enthusiastic tours of their respective sites, and a general thank you goes out to everyone who attended all or part of the event.

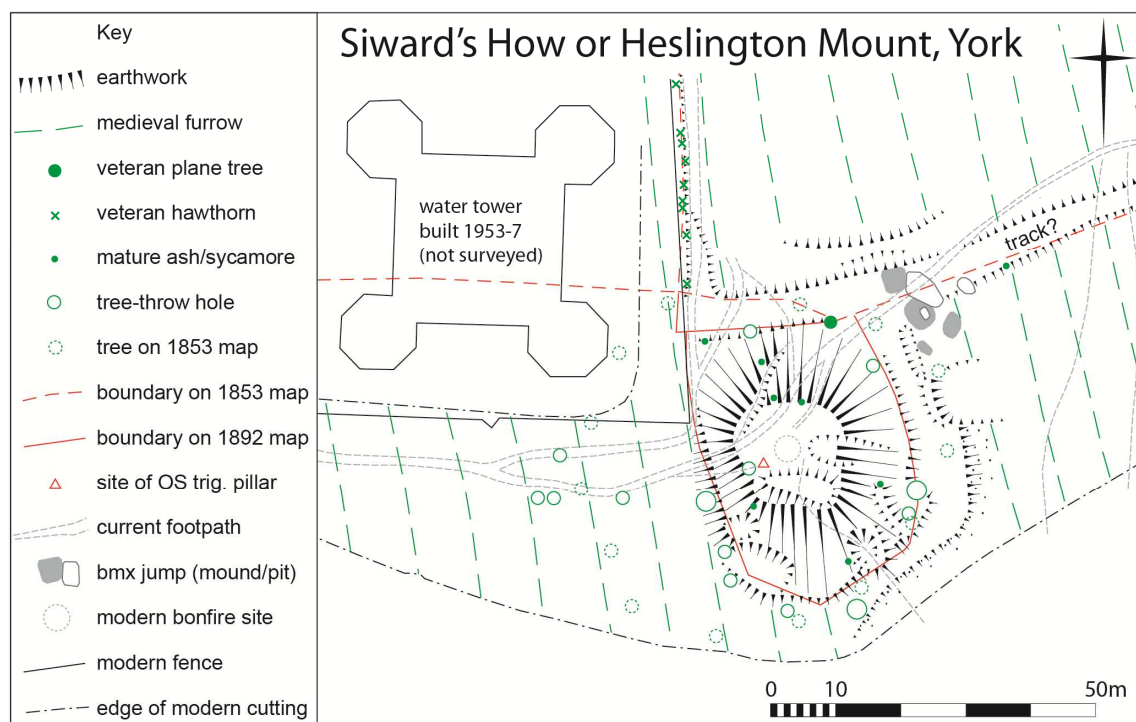
During the AGM it was agreed that next year's meeting will be held in the New Forest in spring 2017 - we hope to see many of you there!



Top - the group at Hanging Grimston (Dave Went), bottom - the central section of Huggate dykes (Becca Pullen)

The first stage of the Research Framework for the Archaeology of the Extractive Industries in England has been completed with the publication of **The Archaeology of Mining and Quarrying in England: a research framework**. Written by LSG member Phil Newman it will be available in a high resolution form in due course but it can be downloaded in two parts, each about 5MB, from the NAMHO website at <http://www.namho.org/research.php>.

LSG Member Al Oswald has just completed a field survey of Siward's How, in the course of training archaeology undergraduates at the University of York (see the plan below, NTS). The mound was scheduled in the 1920s as the supposed burial place of Earl Siward of Northumbria (d.1055), while more recent research, including high-resolution ground modelling in the 1990s, has suggested it to be a prehistoric burial mound. The new survey, however, tends to suggest that mound overlies broad rig cultivation, suggesting that it is a windmill mound, as indicated on early maps, although perhaps one of late medieval date. Examples of similarly focussed surveys suitable for inclusion here or on the website gratefully received.



Events

May 7: CBA NW – spring day conference on Medieval archaeology of NW England:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/new-light-on-the-medieval-archaeology-of-north-west-england-tickets-24455217213>

May 16-18: 'Introduction to Landscape Archaeology' course run by tutors from Historic England (and all are LSG members), to be held in North Yorkshire. A three-day residential training school introducing landscape archaeology. For professional and independent archaeologists, historians and heritage managers. Details at <https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/training-skills/heritagepractice/heritagepractice-residential/>.

May 22 (Deadline for registration: May 8): The Lithic Study Society's annual conference; *From Lithics to Landscapes* will be held at Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, Lecture Theatre. Details at <http://www.lithics.org/conference.html>.

June 4 (bookings after 10th May subject to availability): the BALH Local History Day St Andrew Holborn, London EC4A 3AB may be of interest, particularly the afternoon session - LANCELOT BROWN AND THE CAPABILITY MEN: the landscape revolution of 18th Century England by Tom Williamson, Professor of Landscape History at the University of East Anglia. Book on the BALH website www.balh.org.uk/events.

June 8: A '1-day Introduction to Landscape Archaeology' course at Leicester University. Check Historic England/Leicester University websites.

October 21-23 (book by July 31st for Early Bird discount): RAI Conference - The Neolithic of Northern England: <http://www.royalarchinst.org/conferences>

26 November: the 2nd biennial Southeast England Regional Conference entitled **Geology, Landscape and Humans in Southeast England**. To be held in the Exhibition Hall of Worthing College at their

campus on the northern outskirts of the town. Although a bit early it might be worth booking sooner rather than later. Email anthony.brook27@btinternet.com for information.

And notice of the 2016 LSG 3rd Annual Conference: 'Active Landscapes – recording change by archaeological survey'

September 16-17 in Exeter. With thanks to Phil Newman for co-organising. Nathalie Barratt (see above) will be in touch with more details later in the year but please contact her with any advance queries. If you'd like to contribute then please see the Call for Papers previously circulated, and available on the LSG website (http://landscapesurvey.org/?page_id=514) and social media pages. Please help publicise the event by distributing the Call for Papers poster to your contacts.

Finally...

Apologies for any glaring omissions and thanks to all contributors. Once again, any items for inclusion in the next newsletter to me (magnus.alexander@HistoricEngland.org.uk) by the end of June please.