



Update July 2019

The First Term's Workshops

Wednesday, 3rd July saw the completion of the first five of our workshops led by Matt Beresford. These were very well attended with numbers varying between the high teens and low twenties. Beginning with an introduction to the project the topics covered were documentary research, site reinstatement, landscape surveys including LIDAR and geophysics, field walking, metal detecting, the role of excavation and finds processing and analysis. We concluded with planning our next steps including data collection, how to create a site archive, education and dissemination plans.

There was lively discussion during the workshops and we have already seen outcomes from some of the sessions. Geoff Kimbell has processed the recently released LIDAR data from the Environment Agency for the area around the St Ethelburga, including a fly-over version, and the area north of Langar including Wiverton Hall. We also have aerial photos downloaded from Google Earth which show a number of interesting crop marks in Langar, Barnstone and the surrounding villages. Our collection of maps has been enhanced by Geoff with the merging of Nigel Wood's photos of the 1818 Map of the Townships of Langar & Barnstone to create a complete view of the map. This will be of great use for overlaying the LIDAR, photos, finds locations etc.

Summer Activities

Following discussion during the afternoon of the final workshop of the First Term we agreed to carry out the following activities ahead of the next term starting in September.

1. To help fulfil a primary objective of the project, the creation of a site archive, we will gather together all known finds from the site, collected during previous field walking, recovered from the site and spoil during the reinstatement of the site and those found by metal detectorists and other visitors to the site.
2. Find a suitable location for the archive within Langar & Barnstone to be used during the project and possibly longer if a permanent archive is not available in Nottinghamshire.

3. Carry out a search of the Howe and Chaworth family archives for documents relating to St Ethelburga's and its location.
4. Nigel and Barbara Wood will meet with Emily Brown, the Head of Langar School, to discuss the school's involvement as part of the outreach requirements of the project.
5. "Ground-proof" the LIDAR and aerial photos to eliminate any modern structures or features.

We will organise an evening meeting to include those who were unable to attend the daytime sessions to help bring them up to speed on the project and to explain the summer activities.

Second Term Workshops

Our second term of workshops will commence in September. These will build on our summer activities with sessions on our finds, maps, LIDAR, documents etc. Barnstone Village Hall has been booked for these as we will have access to Wi-Fi, space to work on our finds and carry out small group work if required. Once again they will be held from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm of Wednesdays. The following dates have been booked (subject to Matt Beresford's availability):

25th September, 2nd October, 16th October, 23rd October, 6th November, 13th November, 20th November, 27th November, 4th December & 11th December

Remembering St Ethelburga

In the medieval calendar the feast day for St Ethelburga was 11th October. It would seem appropriate for us to mark this in some way. Any ideas?

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