

KELHAM REVEALED! ARCHAEOLOGY REPORT

Matthew Beresford BA (hons), MA, ACIfA

MBArchaeology

Between September 2017 and July 2019, MBArchaeology led a programme of landscape surveys, building surveys and test pit excavations in and around the village of Kelham, Nottinghamshire on behalf of Involve Heritage CIC, as part of the Heritage Lottery funded Kelham Revealed! project.

The work incorporated magnetometer and resistivity surveys in four distinct areas of the Kelham Hall Estate, a Level One building survey of the Hall Estate and wider village, and a programme of test pit excavations centred around the hypothesised location of the Medieval village.

This report discusses the results from the fieldwork undertaken as part of the wider project.

CONTENTS

BACKGROUND	PAGE 3
HISTORICAL INFORMATION	PAGE 4
GEOPHYSICS RESULTS	PAGE 9
RESISTIVITY SURVEY	PAGE 9
MAGNETOMETRY SURVEY	PAGE 13
LEVEL ONE BUILDING SURVEY	PAGE 15
KELHAM HALL CELLAR SURVEY	PAGE 39
TEST-PIT EXCAVATIONS	PAGE 57
DISCUSSION	PAGE 65
PLANS & SECTION DRAWINGS	PAGE 70
PHOTOGRAPHS	PAGE 79
APPENDICES:	PAGE 88
1) Research Report: History of Kelham bridges	
2) Research Report: History of Kelham Hall	
3) Research Report: History of the Medieval village at Kelham and surrounding landscape	
4) Annotated drawings showing image locations for Cellar Surveys	
5) The Fox Inn, Main Road & 4 Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, Nottinghamshire: Archaeological Statement of Significance	

BACKGROUND

The Kelham Revealed! project was a two-and-a-half year Heritage Lottery funded community research project that built on work undertaken on the ‘Kelham in the Civil War’ project, which ran between 2014-2016.

Launched in September 2017, the Kelham Revealed! project sought to explore the history and development of Kelham village, church and the Kelham Hall Estate, via documentary research, map work and archaeological landscape studies. Alongside engaging with local people and providing training and opportunities for them, the project had specific research questions it aimed to address. These were, notably:

- 1) Where was the location of the original village in the Late Saxon / Early Medieval period, and how did it develop?
- 2) When was the church first built and was its development linked to that of the village?
- 3) When was the first Hall established, and how did this develop?
- 4) When was the road and bridge, shown on 17th century maps, moved to its current location?

The questions were explored via a variety of research methods, with volunteers receiving training and support to be able to meaningfully take part in as many aspects of the project work as they wished. The main strands of research were Historical Research, Geophysical Surveys, Building Surveys and Excavation. The results of each of these strands are documented within this report, followed by a detailed Discussion section.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Documentary research was undertaken at a variety of archives and research centres, and involved volunteers working through historic maps, both primary and secondary material, photographic images and other archival materials.

This research has been fully written up by a small research team and is included in its entirety as appendices at the end of this report. A brief summary of the research is provided here.

Bridges – A road and crossing point linking Kelham to Newark was identified on a series of 17th century maps, the earliest being Civil War-era maps. Current research has suggested that this was moved during the eighteenth century. Archaeological work by the Kelham Revealed! project confirmed an original crossing point for the Kelham bridge to the south-east of the Hall where the A617 from Newark currently reaches the Trent bank (see geophysics results below).

The earliest documentary evidence testifies to a crossing point on the River Trent at Kelham in the early 13th century, but whether this was a bridge or a causeway is not clear. As markets were being granted charters in Newark and towns to the north and west of Kelham. This crossing point would have been of both commercial and strategic importance. This may add weight to the crossing being a bridge, substantial enough for transporting goods and livestock across the wide and fast flowing river.

The location of the bridge appears to have made use of the underlying geology to minimise flood risk and was at a point where the river power was greatly reduced. Exactly how many bridges stood in this original location is difficult to say given the likely impact of severe floods and the manipulation of the river flow by man, which frequently caused devastation. However, there is a continuous documented history of the bridge from the 13th century to the present day.

Within this, one recurring theme in the documentation is the history of neglect, disrepair and avoidance of responsibility for maintenance of the bridges. Pontage rights (a toll levied for

the building or repair of bridges) were established almost as soon as the bridge came into existence, but the responsibility to spend at least part of the toll revenue on the bridge appears not to have happened.

There is evidence of high tolls being charged, blackmail and toll avoidance. It seems that the bridge was always subject to disputes up to and including who should pay for the rebuilding after the English Civil War in the 17th century. In the 18th century, the location of the bridge was moved close to where the current one stands to allow the road through the Hall grounds to be re-routed out of view and the grounds enclosed. It appears that the new bridge was of very poor construction and it was eventually replaced in 1849 only for that structure to be destroyed in the winter of 1855. The current bridge has stood from 1856.

Halls - The evolution of the Halls at Kelham is inextricably linked with the fortunes of the Sutton family and their holdings of land. Documentary evidence suggests the pattern of land ownership in Kelham was fragmented from *Domesday* records through to the early 16th century. More details are included in the ‘Medieval Village Report’ (see Appendix Three).

During this period the wealth of Averham and the eventual owners of that manor, the Sutton family, grew and while Kelham most likely remained a scatter of farmsteads with a small medieval village centre, Averham had a moated Manor house with land, water mills and fish weirs. The Suttons became the predominant power in the area by the end of the 16th century, and gradually acquired land in Kelham. The first substantial house on the current hall location was probably either built or acquired by the Suttons as they first became established in the parish in the 1580s. The cellar survey revealed what could be the footings of this early building (see below). In the 17th century the major figure in the district was Robert Sutton, who made significant acquisitions of land in and around Kelham and who, by the early 1600s, had ‘became lord and owner of the whole township and territories of Kelham, and in effect of the whole island of excellent ground between the two currents of the Trent’.

Robert supported Charles I in the Civil War and was made Baron Lexington of Averham for his service to the crown in 1645. He was part of the Newark garrison resisting the siege at the end of the war. After Newark fell Robert found that his Manor at Averham had been

destroyed and his choice of the Royalist cause cost him money and, for a time, his freedom. After the restoration of the monarchy his position was re-established by Charles II and he built the first grand Hall at Kelham in around 1663.

His son Robert, 2nd Lord Lexington was extremely well connected and wealthy, but was largely absent abroad. His will contains a detailed inventory of the 1663 house and contents giving us an idea of the scale of the hall and the activities that took place within and around it. Although nothing remains of this building today, the footprint of it was also established during the cellar survey. On his death, Bridget, his daughter, was tasked with remodelling the hall to plans Robert had approved, and the family continued to develop the Hall and estate on the same site in Kelham. Further, detailed documentation relating to this expansion and the subsequent ‘modernisation’ of the original structure in the early 18th century era was collected during the research phase of the project, but this period falls outside of our study period.

The Halls of Kelham; a summary

1. The first ‘substantial house’ - The Sutton family (acquired or built?) - c.1600 or earlier?
2. The first grand Hall - Robert Sutton, 1st Lord Lexington - c.1663
3. The rebuild/renovation - Bridget, 3rd Duchess of Belvoir - 1723 – 1734
4. The Salvin, Jacobean Revival - John Henry Manners-Sutton - 1844 - 1846
5. The George Gilbert Scott Hall - John Henry Manners-Sutton - 1859 – 1861

All these build phases took place within the current hall footprint, being built one on top of another.

Church – According to the *Domesday Survey* of 1086, there was no church at Kelham, although one did exist at neighbouring Averham. It is probable that the inhabitants of the scattered, Late Saxon and subsequent Norman farmsteads worshipped there. Documentary evidence suggests a church was first established at Kelham itself in the late 12th century, probably by one or more prominent landowners, which gave them the right (advowson) to appoint the priest.

Little else is known about this early church, although it seems likely it stood on the site of the current, later church. However, a chance find by a metal detectorist in the grounds of Kelham Hall recovered a Late Saxon / Early Medieval cross pendant of Byzantine style, with five concentric circle designs thought to represent the five wounds of Christ.

The earliest fabric of the current church dates to the 14th century, including both North and South arcades. This suggests an existing church was widened and a side aisle added. Recent work in the church has revealed two sculpture niches and an aumbry in the South Aisle and opened up the 'squint' to the high altar. These are all 14th century features.

The tower was added in the 15th century, with further windows added and other parts of the church being modified. The 18th and 19th centuries saw further improvements, with the Lexington Chapel added as a memorial to the 2nd Lord Lexington and his family, and the removal of the box pews.

Surviving fabric within the church adds further information to the chronological development, with the font and a grave slab (which was reused as window lintel in the tower) being dated to the 13th century, and the screens being 14th century. The main (north) door is of 15th century fabric and design, although it was later modified in the Civil War with a series of holes for muskets being drilled through it. The church has three bells dating to the late 16th – early 17th century and a silver chalice of 17th century date.

Medieval village - The period of medieval Kelham for this study covers the years from the Norman Conquest in 1066 to the late sixteenth century. Kelham in 1066 and before was not one manor as Averham was, but divided into five manors. The ownership changed over the centuries, land was transferred by lease sale or inheritance and occasional until the "whole township and territories" of Kelham came into the ownership of the Mr Sutton who became

the first Lord Lexington. [9]. “Ownership” in the medieval contest is used loosely, in that all land was owned by the king who awarded territories to his loyal followers as tenants-in-chief.

The earliest record considered for Kelham in this paper is the Domesday Book, compiled in 1086 as a record of all taxable assets for William I (the Conqueror). In the years following the Conquest, there had been much unrest and it was necessary to raise taxes to pay for the army in order for William to consolidate his military power, both from internal insurrection and that of a threatened invasion by King Cnut of Denmark (Son of Swein) in 1085.

William had inherited from the Anglo-Saxons a ready-made tax-gathering system that had been used to raise taxes (geld) based on a fixed rate of tax on each *hide* to pay off the invading Danes, (Danegeld) therefore in a relatively short space of time the basic government organisation transferred to the Norman invaders. Most of the English nobility had been killed at during the Battle of Hastings or shortly afterwards in brief and savagely put-down rebellions, so William was able to reward his most loyal followers with grants of land, replacing the original owners.

GEOPHYSICS RESULTS

Geophysical surveys were undertaken in four separate locations across the Kelham Hall Estate. Resistivity surveys were carried out on the bank of the Trent in the area where the Medieval crossing was believed to have been located, to the south-east of the Hall where the Medieval road would have run, and to the south of the Hall close to where the road would have curved northwards towards the current village. All resistivity surveys were undertaken using a RM15D meter manufactured by Geoscan Research. The surveys employed a standard survey resolution of 1m x 1m over the series of grids, using 0.5m probe spacing.

A fourth survey area was undertaken using magnetometry on the site of the large green area to the south-west of the Hall, using a dual sensor Grad601-2 Fluxgate Gradiometer manufactured by Bartington Instruments Ltd. Samples were taken every 0.25m on a 1m traverse.

RESISTIVITY SURVEYS

Three resistivity surveys were undertaken in the grounds of Kelham Hall during the project. The first survey (Area One) was located slightly to the south of the current reception entrance and comprised a 60m x 20m grid running lengthways in a north-south direction towards the church. The survey results showed the Medieval road running in a north-west / south-east direction just to the south of the Hall, with what appears to be two buildings just to the north of the road, and on the same alignment. These are evidenced by one square anomaly in the top left of Grid One, and one rectangular black anomaly in the top right of Grid One. Excavation would be needed to fully explore these features.

The second survey (Area Two) was located to the south-east of the Hall and comprised a 40m x 40m grid. The survey identified what appears to be a large building running east-west across the bottom two survey grids. It is approximately 6-7m wide, and at least 23m in length. The Medieval road may also just be visible in the bottom right corner of the grid, although based on the more general alignment taken across all the geophysical surveys during

this project and the previous ‘Kelham in the Civil War’ project it more likely runs just to the south of the building plot.

The third survey (Area Three) was located to the east of Kelham Hall and adjacent to the River Trent, where the river crossing would have been located. The grid measured 40m x 40m. Results here were much fainter, possibly due to landscaping / flooding, but a faint linear feature can be noted at the bottom of the top right grid, running approximately east-west.

Taken as a composite plan, the three sets of resistivity surveys show the road and location of river crossing, with three buildings placed to the north of the road. The results show the road would have then met the current tarmac road in front of the Hall, where a T-junction would have led to the church (westwards) and the main village (eastwards).

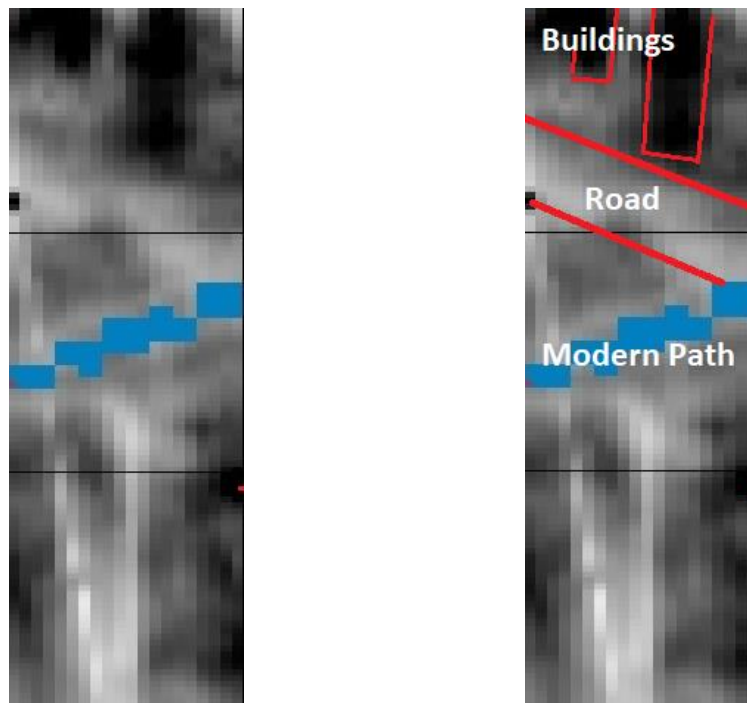


Figure One: Resistivity survey results from Area One (left) with annotations (right), showing road alignment and building plots, with modern path.

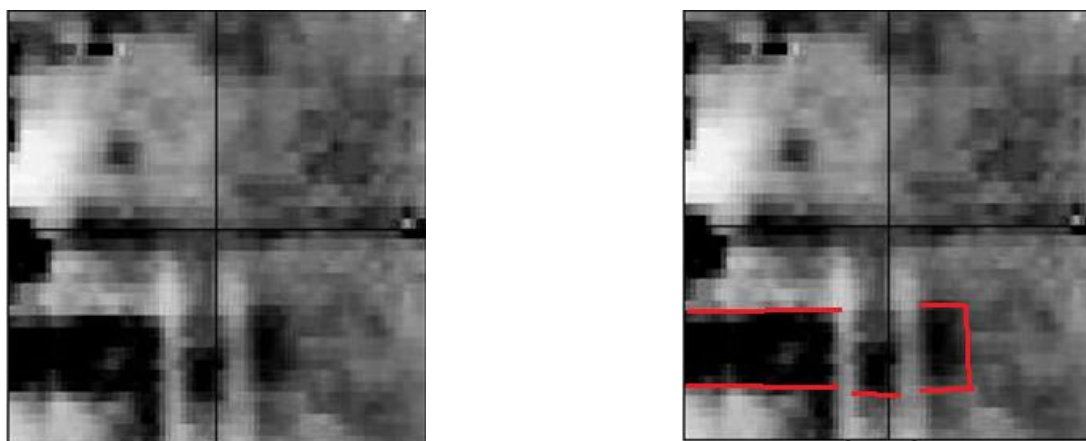


Figure Two: Resistivity survey results from Area Two (left) with annotations (right), showing probable building.

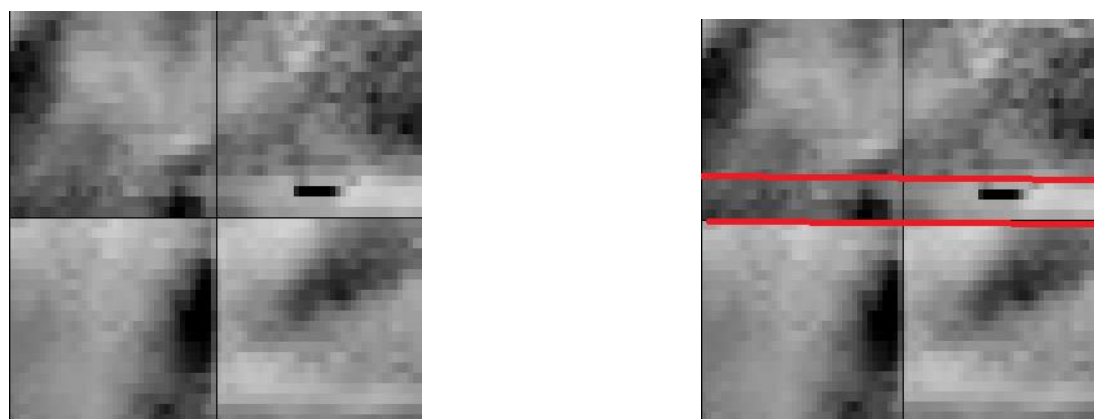


Figure Three: Resistivity survey results from Area Three (left) with annotations (right), showing road alignment.



Figure Four (above): Composite resistivity survey results showing location and alignment of grids
Figure Five (below): Annotated composite resistivity survey results showing location of Medieval road



MAGNETOMETRY SURVEY

The magnetometry survey was undertaken on the main green area to the west of the Hall, from the road boundary up to the area where the cricket pavilion is situated. This was because initial development plans for the Hall were intended to see a new drive and road system cut through this area, with the current road being used only as a service route. It was initially thought the Medieval road cut across this area and linked up with Broadgate Lane, to the north of the village. However, the magnetometer survey did not find any trace of a road, and the survey area was void of archaeological features.

Subsequent historical research and archaeological fieldwork has shown the road to have turned northwards just to the west of the Hall, which coupled with the magnetometry results gives a definitive picture.



Figure Six: Area surveyed via magnetometry during the Kelham Revealed! project

LEVEL ONE BUILDING SURVEY

Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 1

Name of building	The Cricket Pavilion
Address of building	Kelham Hall, Kelham, Notts. NG23 5QX
NGR location of building	SK7727055445
Statutory designation	Not Listed
Photograph numbers	20180605_113211 North facing elevation TB 20180605_113508 South facing elevation TB
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Rectangular timber building with shingle roof. Used as a cricket pavilion and camping wash facility
Name of recorder	Glyn Eley
Date of record	05/06/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 2

Name of building	Bridgend Cottage
Address of building	Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, Notts. NG23 5QT
NGR location of building	SK7747755712
Statutory designation	Not Listed
Photograph numbers	20180605_134726 West facing elevation TB
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Probably post war mid 20 th century prefab residential bungalow
Name of recorder	D N Parrish
Date of record	05/06/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 3

Name of building	Blacksmith Cottage
Address of building	2 Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, Notts. NG23 5QT
NGR location of building	SK7749355722
Statutory designation	Grade 2 Listed
Photograph numbers	20180605_132220 NE Diagonal direction TB 20180605_132319 SSW Diagonal direction TB
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Early 17 th Century. Timber Frame Building with Brick ground floor. West elevation – 3 + single bays. Off centre door. 2 ridge stacks (rebuilt) Yorkshire sash windows. 1 casement on S Upper elevation (20c) Pan Tile roof with rebated eve. Modern N gable on extension.
Name of recorder	A Hoe
Date of record	05/06/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 4

Name of building	The Smithy
Address of building	Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, Notts
NGR location of building	SK7747755758
Statutory designation	Not Listed
Photograph numbers	20180605_140854 NE direction TB
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Residential brick built bungalow (c1970's) 2 nd half 20 th Century Earliest map reference is 1990's Built on footprint of previous older building
Name of recorder	R Strong
Date of record	05/06/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 5

Name of building	No. 8
Address of building	8 Blacksmith Lane , Kelham
NGR location of building	SK 7749855777
Statutory designation	Grade 2
Photograph numbers	20180703 / 111139 West Elevation 20180703 / 111205 North West Elevation
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Early 18 th C. Two storey brick – (attached to number 4on West elevation). Steep pitch terracotta pan tile roof. Coped gables with kneelers. Single gable with stack.
Name of recorder	L. Fryer
Date of record	03-07-2018



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 6

Name of building	Ennerdale – between Bridgend & Blacksmiths Cottage
Address of building	Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, Notts
NGR location of building	SK7748755717
Statutory designation	None
Photograph numbers	20180605_135742 West elevation TB
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	2 nd half 20 th Century, residential bungalow. Brick built, Tiled roof Earliest map reference is 1970's
Name of recorder	T Beresford
Date of record	05/06/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 7

Name of building	Fox Inn
Address of building	Main Street, Ollerton Road, Kelham, Notts. NG23 5QP
NGR location of building	SK 77454 55696
Statutory designation	N/A
Photograph numbers	20180703_133712 (South East elevation Gable) 20180703_135013 (East elevation)
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Inn – Brick built, Terracota Pan Tiled roof. L shaped building – possibly built in 2 stages, with various additions of porches / extensions.
Name of recorder	T Beresford, G Eley, J Dornan
Date of record	03/07/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 8

Name of building	Kelham Hall
Address of building	Averham Road, Kelham, Notts.
NGR location of building	SK 77372 55551
Statutory designation	Grade 1 Listed
Photograph numbers	20180515_112344 (front elevation) 20180515_112726 (rear elevation)
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Country House – Gothic Revival Style 1859-61 Service Range – circa 1844-46 Pre 19 th Century Brickwork. Stonework in cellars circa late 17 th to early 18 th Century
Name of recorder	T Beresford, M Beresford
Date of record	04/07/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 9

Name of building	No 6
Address of building	Main Street, Kelham, Notts.
NGR location of building	SK 77381 55739
Statutory designation	Grade 2
Photograph numbers	20180704-101830 (South elevation)
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Residential Brick Built rectangular building. Terracota Pan Tiled Roof. Late 17 th – Early 18 th Century
Name of recorder	T Beresford, J Dornan
Date of record	04/07/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 10

Name of building	Old Post Office Outbuilding
Address of building	Broadgate Lane, Kelham, Notts.
NGR location of building	SK
Statutory designation	N/A
Photograph numbers	20180704-103930
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Brick built, Concrete Pan Tiled roof. Central door with stone insert in arched door frame – 2 windows (1 each side)
Name of recorder	T Beresford, J Dornan
Date of record	04/07/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 11

Name of building	Old Post Office
Address of building	Broadgate Lane, Kelham, Notts
NGR location of building	SK
Statutory designation	N/A
Photograph numbers	20180704-103919 (South elevation)
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Rectangular Residential Brick Built, Concrete Pan Tiled roof. Later renovation shows new roof/chimneys/extension to South west end. Originally/ possibly 3-4 dwellings
Name of recorder	T Beresford, J Dornan
Date of record	04/07/18



Kelham Revealed! Level 1 Historic Building Survey

Sheet Number: 12

Name of building	Range of Farm Buildings
Address of building	Home Farm, Main Street, Kelham, Notts
NGR location of building	SK 77372 55551
Statutory designation	Grade 2 listed
Photograph numbers	20180704-105911 (North Facing elevation)
Sketch plan / evaluation (annotate as necessary)	
Summary of type/purpose/date of building	Late 18 th Century Brick built farm buildings with 19th century alterations / additions. Pyramidal, patterned/plain tiled roof and shingles.
Name of recorder	T Beresford
Date of record	04/07/18



KELHAM HALL CELLAR SURVEY by Andy Hoe

Introduction

Plans of the current hall basements following survey work by Guy Taylor Associates suggest that the hall was built in clear phases from the early 17th cent. onwards and that the post-civil war, 1663, and Georgian houses were all built within the current Victorian hall footprint. It is thought that the oldest part of the current structure is located around and below the kitchen area near the main access point to the basement. The building outline is clearly defined on both the basement plan (by extent and limits) and the ground floor plan (showing thicker wall construction mirroring the basement layout).

Objective of Survey

To find physical evidence to support or discount the proposed phasing of the hall build that was based purely on the architectural plans. To, where possible, give approximate dates for building fabric in location based on detailed examination.

Methodology

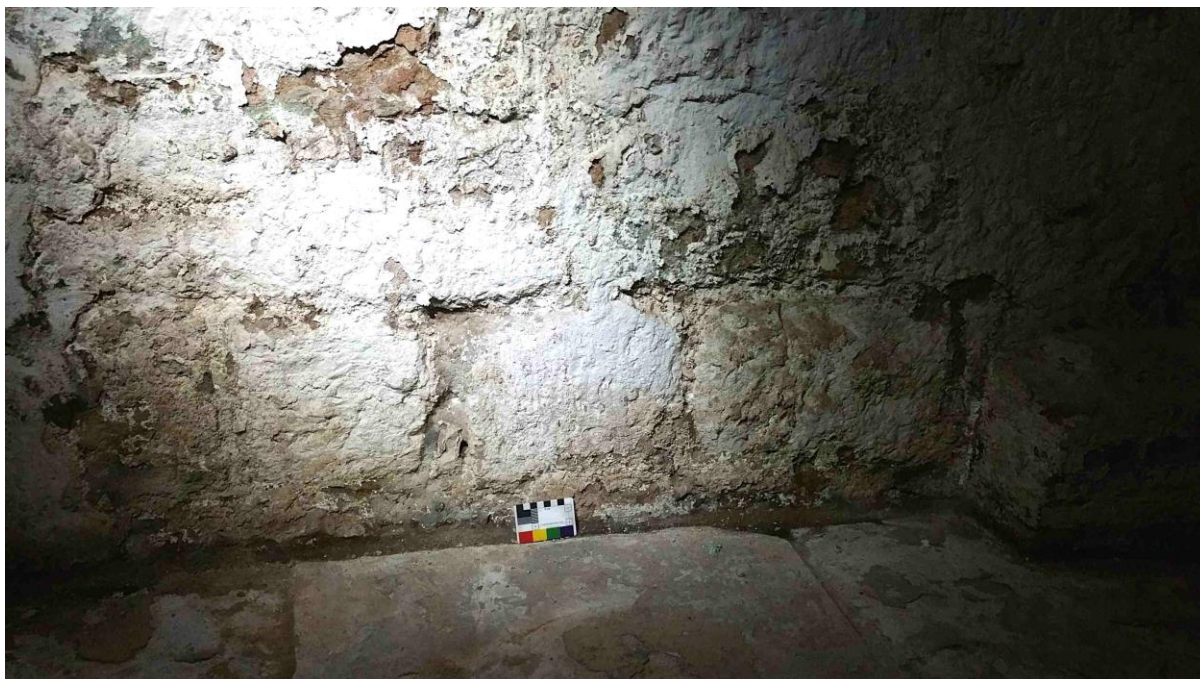
A systematic survey of the basement was carried out across 40 locations within the maze of rooms and corridors beneath the Gilbert Scott Wing. At each location point one or more photographs were taken and specific features noted. On the second date the surveyors were accompanied by JW to carry out a more detailed examination of the most significant features. It later became clear that additional basement rooms should be surveyed and that there could be hidden rooms accessible through a limited access crawl-way. These were investigated on our third visit.

Findings

Though many of the dividing walls and supporting arches are of 18th cent. brick there are a surprising number of earlier features in stone. This report to be read in conjunction with the set of Basement Survey Drawings v.3. The basement can be split into 4 distinct areas:

Area A

This area is characterized by rough stone walls of Magnesian Limestone resting on large, dressed foundation blocks. These form the perimeter of rooms B15, B16 and B17.



Walls in the oldest part of the cellars (Area A) – rough rubble sitting on lower large dressed limestone blocks (Location 6)



Characteristic stone slab floors with stone lined drainage channels in Area A (Location 8)

The floor is of uneven flagstones and there have been lined drainage channels some of which are now filled in (Location 8). The most notable features in the area are the large central pillar, the mullioned window on the W wall and a section of brick-built wall abutting the W wall, built over an earlier foundation.

The central pillar (Location 15 to 17)



The Massive Central Pillar in Area A, viewed from W side – large finely dressed stones (3 ft. x 4.5ft footprint) – (Location 16)



Star Shape Mason Mark on pillar stonework

This massive stone work is almost exactly 'central' being only 2cm out of alignment based on the room width. It is constructed of large, dressed stones and has an exact 3 feet by 4-foot 6 inch. footprint. It was clearly designed to take considerable loading. It has been foreshortened and loosely filled at the top so is now not bearing any load. The N. and S. sides of the pillar have thick plasterwork against which 18th cent. brick arcade and arches are abutted, these are floating (i.e. not tied in to the stonework). Though the stonework on the pillar looks old and has masons' marks it cannot be accurately dated.



Central Pillar with abutting 'floating' 18th cent brick arches (Location 17)

The mullioned window

This feature is at head height on the W. wall (Location 7). It is not central i.e. not opposite the central pillar but off-set towards the N. wall. It has a rectangular shape (wider than it is high) and well-dressed sandstone, splayed centre mullion and frame creating two lights. The window is blocked off with modern brick. It is likely that the window brought in light from a courtyard with ground level with the top of the window frame. Though well-constructed the window is best described as 'rustic' and functional rather than 'grand'. It clearly shows features of being 17th cent. in date.



17th cent. Mullioned window high up on west wall of Area A – now bricked up and partially obscured by service pipes. (Location 7)



Central Mullion - detail

Low brick wall



Wall of Medieval brick in NW corner of room B15 (Location 10)

There is a small protruding brick feature in the NW corner of B15 (Location10). The bricks are extremely thin (approx. 38mm) and completely different from the 18th cent. ones seen in the extensive English Bonded wall areas, arcades and vaulting. The bricks are irregular, hand-made and show surface firing faults. JW is confident that they are medieval. Medieval brick in Nottinghamshire is a rare building material. It is unclear if this feature is contemporary with the date of the brick manufacture or constructed from re-used materials but more likely the latter. Intriguingly, the wall is built over an earlier course of large stones forming the plinth on which the N. wall sits. This plinth is clearly out of alignment with the wall sitting on it suggesting rebuilding respecting the basic outline of an original wall but not following it exactly.



Misaligned foundation blocks below the N wall of B15 (Location 9)

There are infills between the floor flagstones and the plinth to allow for the misalignment. The plinth reappears at the other side on an 18th cent. buttress close to location 11. There is a shadow of a stripped-out wall of the same dimensions as the existing brick feature on the floor close to location 9 which may have been the other end of some large work area. Given the location of the mullioned window it would have cast light onto this part of the room.

Other observations

There is clear evidence that a thick wall has been cut through at location 40 to create the short passage (location 2) to access a lift shaft. This is matched by a cut through at location 39 (see later).

This could be part of Area A as it shows the similar structure as walls of rooms B15 to B17 and could be the S. wall mirroring the N. wall of B15 thus forming the S. boundary of Area A. Alternatively, and more likely, it could be the N. wall of the 'missing' S wing matching Area B. Additional evidence that it is part of Area B rather than Area A is its location relative to the central pillar in B15. If the pillar is indeed central and Area A symmetrical location 40 is too far to the S. (see later comments on Area D).

Also, in room B18 at location 37 is the underside of a flight of steps. These were initially thought to be early but later investigation in the ground-floor kitchen showed that they were Victorian. There is, however, an outlying piece of stone work on the steps to access B19, location 38. This is a buttress of well-dressed stone blocks similar in construction to Area B. Though it looks to be contemporary with Area B it is an isolated feature located a long way to the SE.



Outlying stonework in Room B19 – May be contemporary with Area B (Location 38)

A survey of room B18 revealed a small section of stone wall surmounted by 17th cent. brick matching the fabric of B15 to B17. This was expected and is almost certainly the other side of the E wall of room B15.



*Stonework in B18 – likely to be the outside of the wall of room B15 – the earliest fabric
(Location 37)*

On either side of the buttress close to Location 13, separating rooms B15 and B17, there is evidence of a wide, blocked entrance. The blocking brickwork is 18th cent.

In summary, the architects plan suggest that this basement could have been below the earliest hall/farmstead and that the perimeter walls and central pillar could have supported a central hall and additional storeys above. There is sufficient evidence to confirm that the area dates largely from the 17th cent. and there is additional evidence to suggest the existence of an earlier, subsumed structure through the presence of materials and fabric.

Area B

This is an extensive area formed by rooms B6, B10, B11, B12 and B13. The rooms date either the late 17th cent or early 18th cent. There are added, 18th cent. separating walls and vaulting of brick dividing the two original spaces. These original rooms were massive with B10 and B11 being one large room and B12 and B13 forming an even larger one next door

separated by a substantial central stone wall (3 feet thick, clearly visible in the doorway at Location 25).



Cut through of Area B central dividing wall (Location 25)



Example of large cellar rooms in Area B – note flagstone floor and multiple drainage channels (Location 20)

The walls in these rooms are constructed of roughly dressed, fossiliferous limestone blocks from floor to head height. Some walls are not as finely constructed as others. They appear to be similar in construction to those found throughout Area A but are not of the same material.



Wall construction in Area B (location 18)



Example of drainage channel in Area B (Location 19)

It was also clear from the survey that room B6 is of the same construction as the rest of Area B and that all are likely to date from the same build phase. The original proposal was that this area, 11 together with B8, formed the northern wing of the post-Civil War hall originally build by Robert Sutton around 1663.

The East wall of B13 has a large, bricked-up, arched doorway leading out to ground level in the current courtyard. The wall common to both Areas A and B is extremely thick, which JW suggests points towards a double-skin construction as the N. wing was added.

Area C

This is a small area, largely made up of room B8. It had been proposed that this was part of the northern wing of the 1663 building, but close examination of the stonework shows it to be very different from that in both Area A and Area B. It is characterized by quite rough stonework in stratified dark grey and greenish Limestone with, in places, clear black and white marbling stripes (Location 23). B8 also has later features such as the staircase from the outside ground level converted into a ramp to allow movement of plant and machinery into the basement (location 22) and a cut through in modern materials at location 24. It seems this area is either a later addition or a rebuild of part of Area B.



Complex mixture of construction materials in Area C – none of which matches that found in Area A or B (Location 22)

Area D

Crawl-way corridor

We arranged access to a restricted area beyond a crawl-way at location 39. This is entered through a 600mm x 600mm door located at chest level, 1.4m from the bend in the main corridor S into the Georgian wing (locations 29 to 35). Immediately behind the door and facing bricks there is a narrow cut through of an old wall that is 920mm thick. This matches and is aligned with the wall found in the cut through at location 40. 1.6m beyond the door the space open into a N/S corridor, some 10m long, with a floor that rises gradually the further S.it goes. This is immediately adjacent to, and parallel with, the long corridor running under what was the Georgian wing. Approximately 10m from the entry door there is a shallow alcove in the E wall and a break-through for pipes. Looking through the break in the brickwork another N/S wall can be seen. Unfortunately, there is no access to any areas E. of the corridor.



Wall break-through to crawlway (Location 39)



Wall break-through to crawlway (Location 39)

The wall broken through at locations 39 and 40 together with the wall seen at the alcove, suggesting additional basement rooms, leads us to believe that there would once have been a S. wing symmetrical with Area B, the N wing. If this wall is the N wall of the S. wing then, together with the S. wall of the N. wing, it would position the central pillar in B15 half way between them. Any basement under what was the S wing is not on the modern architects' drawings and any rooms are now never likely to be mapped they having been filled in during the period of ownership by the County Council.

Additional areas surveyed

We also looked at the basement under what is known to have been the Georgian House to the south of the original hall. Access is by a long, dressed-stone passage. Here we found examples of mason's marks and quarry marks (Locations 29 to 32) despite the whole area being painted.



Quarry marks and Masons mark in Georgian Corridor (Location 29)

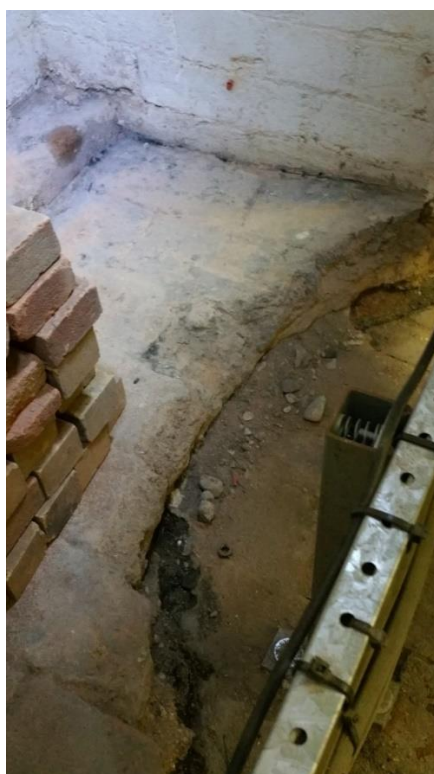
At the S end of the corridor was what appeared to be an oven or fireplace with a circular feature just outside it in the corridor with charcoal deposits around the edge.



Circular feature in corridor (Location 34)



Fireplace or furnace alcove? (Location 33)



Charcoal deposits at edge of circular feature (Location 34)

There were what looked like boiler/furnace rooms further on at Location 35.



Boiler room? (Location 35)

Conclusions

The surveys confirm that the oldest parts of the cellars are below the current kitchen. The core of the basement, Area A, is largely 17th cent. with earlier features also present. Evidence suggests phased construction. Some original building existed prior to the 17th cent. at which point area A is likely to have been constructed on top of that. At a later date, during the 17th cent. or early 18th cent., the N wing was added (Area B). We have documentary evidence that the extended original hall was a large, multi-roomed, ‘grand’ building. Evidence we have found now strongly suggests the existence of a ‘hidden’ S. wing (Area D) matching the N wing. This S. wing would have been built over by the Georgian House which was then built over again by the Gilbert Scott Wing. The S. wing would have given symmetry to the whole ‘grand’ house by the early 1700s

TEST-PIT EXCAVATIONS

Eleven 1m² test pits were excavated in the 2018 season, with a further five in the 2019 season. All sixteen pits were located in the region of the modern village to test whether any evidence could be uncovered relating to the early village. It was hoped that dateable evidence could be recovered that would help shed light onto when the current village location was established.

2018 Season

Test pit 1, front lawn (right), Manor Farm, Kelham.

Test pit 1 was located in the front garden of Manor Farm to explore the farm's yard surface and had approximately 30cm of topsoil with mixed finds including pot sherds, mortar, bone and small pieces of glass. A thin layer composed of mortar and plaster was directly beneath the topsoil varying in depth from a few mm on the western side, to 5cm on the eastern side. This was covering a surface composed of small to medium pebbles from a few mm in diameter to the biggest being 60mm. The cobbled surface was quite uniform and was approximately 30cm deep. Under the cobbled layer the soil was dark brown sandy silt, with an average depth of around 10cm with evidence of a possible animal burrow running E-W in the northern half of the pit. The finds were mixed with a possible late stone age/early bronze age flint arrowhead being the notable one. The other finds consisted of CBM, bone, clay pipe fragments and pot sherds.

Underneath this layer the earth changed to a dark brownish sandy silt with a lot of small pebbles a few mm in diameter on average. The finds were again varied and consisted of CBM, pot, clay pipe stems (more than previous layers), bone and a piece of laminated glass. Again, this layer was approximately 10cm thick and gradually changed to dark orangey brown silt with gravel towards the bottom. At around 55cm depth the material changed to a mixed fine gravel (a few mm to 10mm in diameter) and coarse sand, which continued to the bottom of the test pit. There were no finds in this layer. A sondage was dug at 80cm depth in the NE corner (25cmx25cm) as the material had not changed and had the same composition down to 1M.

Test pit 2, Wheelwrights, Blacksmith Lane, Kelham.

Test pit 2 was located over what appeared to be a man-made flood defence in the rear garden of Wheelwrights, around 5-10m from the bank of the Trent. It had approximately 20cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, metal, clay pipe fragments and plastic. At approximately 23cm a wetter, silty clay layer was exposed, which contained limited finds of a few sherds of pottery, some tile fragments and a couple of pieces of modern glass. A gravel layer was exposed in the eastern half of the pit at c.32-34cm depth, which comprised small pebbles mixed within a greyish-brown silty clay. Two sherds of Medieval pottery (one green glazed, one Midlands purple) were recovered from the gravel layer, alongside some animal bone fragments. The western section of the pit continued as above.

At approximately 50cm deep, the gravel layer turned into a narrow channel running roughly east-west and truncating a layer of clay. Finds were limited in both contexts, with Medieval pottery and animal bone being recovered in the gravel-filled channel, and CBM fragments being recovered from the clay layer. The gravel feature appeared to form the upper fill of a pit, and continued to a depth of 62-66cm. Below this, the pit continued to a depth of 90cm and contained a fill of a greyish-brown clayey silt. As mentioned, the upper fill of the pit contained Medieval pottery and small animal bone pieces, the middle fill (as the gravel changed to the clayey silt) contained large pieces of animal bone including vertebrae, pelvic bone fragments, leg bones and a rib – moderate charcoal pieces were also noted in this middle fill layer. The lower fill of the pit also contained moderate charcoal pieces alongside a few small pieces of animal bone and Midlands purple pot sherds.

A clay layer was exposed at approximately 83-90cm, which the pit had been dug into. This continued to the maximum depth of the excavation (1m), with a few pieces of animal bone and teeth being recovered. In section, it could be seen that the pit feature underlay the flood defence bank, which had been built directly over the top of it.

Test pit 3, front lawn (left), Manor Farm, Kelham.

Test pit 3 was located in the front garden of Manor Farm to explore the farm's yard surface and had approximately 20cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, a nail and piece

of lead. It changed at approximately 20cm depth to dark brown soil but mixed with CBM and plaster rubble. This layer had 4 nails, pot, glass, bone, flint pieces and a metal object. At a depth of around 40cm the soil became lighter brown with large pieces of rubble and a circular feature was found at the bottom of the layer in the NE quadrant that had a plastic rubble sack covering it. This layer had CBM, charcoal, 2 nails, some small pieces of clay pipe, glass and pot. The feature was found to be a soak away for the farm and consisted of a round pit filled with large pieces of rubble and brick that went down to at least 70cm. It was decided to close the pit and not clear the soak away.

Test pit 4, 7 Blacksmith Lane, Kelham.

Test pit 4 was located at the lower end of the rear garden of the house, roughly in line with the pit at Wheelwrights three houses down the lane. It had approximately 24cm of topsoil with mixed finds of pot, bone, metal, glass, a small glass bead and a metal belt buckle. Below this, a compact layer of mid-brown silt with evidence of burning appeared. Artefacts were again mixed and comprised pot, glass, bone, clay pipe fragments and metal. This continued to a depth of c.60cm, after which a redeposited layer of mixed clays and silts was uncovered. This continued to the base of the pit (1.2m) and artefacts were limited to a few pieces of animal bone and several sherds of Medieval pottery, including a large rim sherd of a shell-tempered cooking pot (c.98cm depth). From 1.1m depth, the soil became more compact and less silty, with occasional pebbles. One sherd of Medieval pottery was recovered from this layer.

Test pit 5, front lawn (right), Manor Farm, Kelham.

Test pit 5 was located in the front garden of Manor Farm to explore the farm's yard surface and had approximately 20cm of topsoil composed of medium orangey brown well compacted sandy silt with a few pebbles and roots mixed in. The finds were CBM, pot, nails, bone and some small pieces of metal. At an average depth of 20cm a pebbled surface was found comprised of pebbles from a few mm to 45 mm in diameter. This was very similar to the surface found in Test pit 1. Under the cobbled surface the ground was very hard and compacted mid brown silt with some pebbles and many roots. The finds included bone, CBM, a clay pipe bowl, bone and more medieval pot than previous layers. At around 50-

55cm depth the material changed to a dark brownish sandy silt that was much more friable than the previous compacted layer. It contained a few pebbles and much thicker roots with finds including pieces of coal and medieval pot. At around 70cm depth there was a thin layer (about 8-10cm thick) of pea gravel that sat on top of the natural fine gravel mixed with coarse sand. This layer continued to the bottom of the test pit with no finds. A sondage was dug in the NW corner 25cmx25cm down to 1m depth.

Test pit 6, Blacksmith Cottage, Blacksmith Lane, Kelham.

Test pit 6 was located in the rear garden of the property, and had approximately 30cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, metal, clay pipe fragments and plastic, as well as one sherd of Medieval pottery. At approximately 38-40cm, a mid-brown sandy silt layer was exposed that contained frequent gravel pieces. This changed to a more olive-brown sandy silt at around 45-50cm, which also contained frequent gravel pieces. Artefacts in both layers were still mixed.

At approximately 50cm deep, a segmented ceramic land drain was uncovered in the southern quadrant of the pit running east-west. This was recorded and left in situ. The northern quadrant was then continued, and a second segmented ceramic land drain was uncovered at c.60cm. This was also recorded and left in situ and the pit was backfilled.

Test pit 7, garden extension (front), Manor Farm, Kelham.

Test pit 7 was located in the garden extension to the south of the main front lawn of the farm, and had about 20-25cm of topsoil that contained glass, pot, CBM finds. This changed to a friable sandy soil with gravel sparsely mixed in and more pottery including purple ware, clay pipe, glass and a piece of concrete with lino attached. The soil underneath this layer was olive brown sandy silt with a few pebbles ranging from a few mm to 20mm in diameter and a few roots. The finds included pot, metal, glass and CBM. This was a thick layer of around 50cm and the pot finds became more medieval in date as the depth increased (a notable find was the spout of a green glazed jug). At approximately 90cm depth the soil changed to mid orangey brown clayey sandy silt, which continued to the bottom of the test pit. (1.2M deep). In this layer all the pot finds were medieval including a large rim sherd with other finds including a square headed nail, bone, teeth and a copper strap end.

Test pit 8, Wheelwrights, Blacksmith Lane, Kelham.

Test pit 8 was located around 3m to the east of Test Pit 2 on the same general alignment, and had approximately 20cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, metal and two Civil War musket balls. Below this, a very compact mid-brown silty clay layer was uncovered, which contained very limited artefacts (just one animal tooth). At approximately 37-40cm depth, occasional gravel / pebble inclusions were noted, and finds became more frequent – these included animal bone, brick/tile fragments and Medieval pottery. At 50cm, the pebble inclusions increased, but only one Medieval pot sherd was recovered.

The pebble inclusions thinned out beyond 60cm, and only one or two small pieces of animal bone and two sherds of Medieval pottery were recovered from the rest of the pit (all from c. 60-75cm). No further finds were recovered beyond 75cm. The pit was tested to a depth of 1m with no further changes.

Test pit 9, The Pines, Church Street, Averham.

Test pit 9 was located in the front garden of the property in order to test the viability of a more structured test pit campaign in the next phase of the project to explore the development of Medieval Averham. The topsoil was composed of light greyish brown sandy silt with a few pebbles and roots and was 20-25cm thick. The finds were pottery and CBM. Underneath this a stone surface was exposed running roughly N-S composed of different sized stones that appeared to have been laid down and set on a hard orangey-brown compacted clay layer. The finds had a lot of medieval pot, nail, bone and CBM.

Under the clay was a layer of fine gravel approximately 8-10cm thick that sat on top of another mixed thicker gravel and pebble layer. The soil was orangey brown compacted clay around the pebbles. The finds were mostly pot and bone in this layer. Underneath this layer was the natural layer of mixed gravel and coarse sand. A 25cmx25cm sondage was dug in the NW sector that showed the natural material continued down to 1M.

Test pit 10, Meadow, adjacent to Kelham Bridge (north side), Kelham.

Test pit 10 was located in the Meadow area close to the northern property boundary of Blacksmith Lane. It had approximately 25cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, metal and a broken metal belt buckle. Below this, a mid-brown silty clay layer was exposed, which contained limited artefacts (CBM, pot, glass). This continued in a disturbed fashion down to c. 60cm – a plastic chocolate bar wrapper was recovered at 50cm deep.

At c.60cm the ground became wetter and more clayey, although finds were still limited (CBM, pot, glass, animal bone). At 65cm a spread of CBM pieces was noted, and these became more frequent with larger chunks. This continued to a depth of around 80cm. Only one Late-18th century pot sherd was recovered from this CBM debris deposit. At c.90cm, a gravel layer was exposed, which again contained limited artefacts. However, a couple of oyster and clam shells were recovered, alongside one sherd of Medieval pottery and one sherd of fairly modern pottery. No further finds were recovered beyond this.

Test pit 11, Meadow, adjacent to Kelham Bridge (north side), Kelham.

Test pit 11 was also located in the Meadow area close to the northern property boundary of Blacksmith Lane. The topsoil was composed of mid grey compacted clayey silt with a few pebbles and was approximately 20cm thick. The finds for this layer were pot, CBM, glass, bone, clay pipe and 1 piece of metal. The soil changed to a mid brown compacted clay silt down to a depth of around 50cm and contained finds of pot, glass & CBM. At around 50cm depth the layer changed to contain a lot of housebricks and house brick pieces (whole brick was 100mm W x 70mm T x 170mm L) in a dark grey brown compacted material. At 55cm this changed to a dark brown softer moist clay. From about 70cm depth the bricks stopped and the soil continued to be the softer moist dark brown clay to the bottom of the test pit. Finds included pot, oyster shell, clay pipe pieces and slag. A 25cmx25cm sondage was dug in the NW quadrant and the same dark brown clay was observed to a depth of 1M.

2019 Season

All five test pits in the 2019 Season were located in the beer garden of The Fox Inn, Kelham, where archival work had suggested the Medieval village green was located.

Test pit 1, rear beer garden, The Fox Inn, Kelham.

Test pit 1 was located at the northern boundary of the rear beer garden in an area where, previously, the village allotments had been located. It had approximately 20cm of topsoil with mixed finds of CBM, pot, bone, metal and plastic. Below this, a disturbed layer comprising a greyish-brown silt was exposed. This was interpreted as the allotment make-up, and contained mixed artefacts including post-18th century pottery, glass and CBM, but also several Medieval pot sherds and one Roman pot sherd. Between 20-30cm deep, a silver coin was recovered. This was a William III half crown, 1690s. It is currently being cleaned and recorded with the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

At approximately 68-69cm below ground level, a gravel-filled feature was exposed in north-west corner of the pit. The feature was recorded and excavated (base of feature was 102-104cm from ground level, under which was a natural orange sand deposit) and was interpreted as a probable pit. It was filled with frequent, small-medium gravel mixed with a brownish-orange silty sand, and contained no artefacts. The surface that the pit had been dug into comprised a mid-brown silt, with occasional pebbles and occasional patches of fine gravel. Again, no artefacts were recovered. This continued down to approximately 92-100cm, when a natural orange sand deposit was located.

Test pit 2, rear beer garden, The Fox Inn, Kelham.

Test pit 2 was located at the northern boundary of the rear beer garden, approximately 5m to the east of Test Pit 1. It comprised approximately 18cm of a brownish-grey sandy silt topsoil with mixed artefacts, including pot sherds, glass fragments, and nails. After 18cm the soil changed to a more clayey layer with an increasing amount of pea gravel appearing. This layer contained frequent glass pieces (including parts of a milk bottle), bone, nails, pot sherds and two modern LBC PHORPRES bricks. The pea gravel became more pronounced at around

20cm and was 8-10cm thick on average. The plant roots in this layer became much thicker and finds included pot, glass (much less than the top few spits), clay pipe, chert, CBM and nails. At approximately 40cm, a thin olive-brown layer was uncovered, directly underneath the gravel and appeared to cap a brown clayey sand that then continued to the bottom of the pit. Medieval pottery was recovered from within the clay layer down to approximately 80cm, after which there were no further finds.

Test pit 3, rear beer garden, The Fox Inn, Kelham.

Test pit 3 was located at the eastern boundary of the rear beer garden, just to the north of the tarmac car park. It comprised approximately 20cm of topsoil, with mixed artefacts including pottery, glass, CBM, bone, clay pipe and metal objects. Below this, a mid-greyish brown sandy silt with moderate small pebbles was uncovered, with evidence of disturbance. Again, this contained mixed artefacts and continued down to approximately 43-46cm, after which a much more compact olive-brown silt was exposed. This layer contained frequent small pebbles, and had limited finds (a few pieces of CBM, glass and post-18th century pottery, plus three sherds of Medieval pottery).

This compact layer continued down to approximately 78-80cm below ground level, and contained limited artefacts throughout. Between 50-60cm only one sherd of modern pottery, one piece of modern paving slab and one Medieval pot sherd were recovered, and between 60-70cm only seven Medieval pot sherds were recovered. After 70cm deep, no further artefacts were recovered. From approximately 80cm deep patches of a very fine pea gravel began to appear, followed by a thin (5cm) lense of pea gravel at c.90cm, and then natural sand. These layers were interpreted as natural.

Test pit 4, rear beer garden, The Fox Inn, Kelham.

Test pit 4 was located at the eastern boundary of the rear beer garden, just to the north of the tarmac car park, and approximately 4m north of Test pit 3. It comprised approximately 30cm of a greyish-brown silty topsoil with mixed finds including pot, bone, metal, glass, CBM and snail shells. This became a light-brown clayey sandy silt at around 40cm and two tipped bricks

appeared together with 2 floor tiles stacked on top of one another. This covered a disturbed burial of possibly a cat against the south facing section.

Other finds in this layer were pot, clay pipe, CBM, glass metal and some oyster shell. Below the burial the light brown clayey sandy silt continued for another 20cm, but with an increasing amount of pebbles (33% volume) of varying sizes from a few mm to 30-40mm in diameter. A lot of worm activity was noted in this layer compared to those above. Finds in this layer remained mixed, and comprised pottery (including a piece of midland purple ware & two pieces of 18th century) and CBM. The soil changed to a light brown clayey sand at approximately 70cm with only one piece of pottery recovered, and then became a mid-brown sand with 5% volume pebbles at approximately 80cm to the bottom of the test pit. There were no finds in this sandy material.

Test pit 5, rear beer garden, The Fox Inn, Kelham.

Test pit 5 was located at the western boundary of the rear beer garden, just to the east of Ollerton Road. It comprised approximately 15cm of topsoil, with mixed artefacts including pottery, glass, CBM, bone and metal objects. Below this, a gravel layer was uncovered, which again contained mixed artefacts. Below this, from c.25-30cm below ground level, a disturbed mid-brown silt layer was exposed. Again, artefacts were mixed but were less frequent, and evidence of burning was noted in the south-west corner of the pit at approximately 25cm below ground level.

From c.50cm below ground level, the soil became more clayey, with occasional sandy patches. Only one Medieval pot sherd was recovered between 50-80cm deep (at c.65cm deep). At 80cm below ground level, a natural pale brown sand was encountered, which continued to the base of the pit (c.1m depth). No further finds were recovered.

DISCUSSION

The two seasons of test-pit excavations at Kelham helped to show that the original, Medieval village was located in the same region as the current village, and not to the south of Kelham Hall as previously thought (and recorded as such in the Historic Environment Records). Fieldwalking in this region in 2015 as part of the ‘Kelham in the Civil War’ project recovered little evidence of Medieval occupation.¹

Documentary research provided additional information that strengthened the archaeological discoveries from 2018 and 2019. For example, early 14th tax records suggested small-scale industry to be present at Kelham and included a blacksmith, baker and wheelwright, and fieldwork has suggested that this was located along the current Blacksmith Lane.

Test-pit excavations (Test Pit Two) at the property known today as Wheelwrights revealed 13th and 14th century pottery, including green-glazed and shell-tempered wares, alongside butchered animal bone from a rubbish pit that had been sealed in by the construction of an earthen bank, to act as a flood defence against the rising level of the River Trent. Artefacts recovered immediately above the rubbish pit and associated with the bank suggest an approximate date of around the late 16th century, exactly when the property was converted into a three-storey dwelling. Provisional building survey work here in preparation for a more detailed, Level Two/Three Building Survey revealed evidence that the building has earlier Medieval timbers and was originally constructed as a three-bay timber framed dwelling in the late 14th / early 15th century (see Appendix Six). A medieval horse shoe has also been recovered at the property during gardening work by the current owner.

Excavations at Number 7 Blacksmith Lane (Test Pit Four) also revealed evidence of a Medieval rubbish pit in the rear garden, which like the pit at Wheelwrights contained animal bone and several sherds of Medieval pottery. Again, 13th and 14th century cooking and storage wares were recovered, including a large rim sherd from a storage vessel (see Photographs). Further mid-Medieval pottery sherds were recovered from Blacksmith Cottage (Test Pit Six), although these were from a later, disturbed context. Nevertheless, the Level

¹ Beresford, M (2017) ‘Landscape Surveys at Kelham, Nottinghamshire’. *Transactions of the Thoroton Society*, Vol. 121, pp. 71-73

One Building Survey and previous dendrochronology sampling places the earliest phase of the current building in the early 15th century,² and broadly contemporary with Wheelwrights.

Further Medieval evidence was recovered from the western-most garden extension at Manor Farm – Test Pit Seven was located directly across the road from The Fox Inn and abutting the hedge line separating Manor Farm from Ollerton Road. Here, further evidence of a Medieval rubbish pit was identified, with numerous pot sherds dating from the 13th century onwards being recovered alongside an abundance of animal bones. Both Medieval pottery and animal bone was still being recovered when the maximum depth of the pit was reached at 1.2m. Between current ground level and an approximate depth of around 70cm, deposits were disturbed and artefacts mixed, but from c. 70-75cm down only artefacts of a Medieval date were recovered.

Given that the main road is relatively level with the top of the pit, and the fact that generally Medieval layers in other pits began to be exposed at approximately 40cm below current ground level, the depth of the Medieval layers in Test Pit Seven was surprising (some 30-35cm lower than might be expected). However, conversations with the householder at Manor Farm suggested that a row of earlier cottages existed in that general area but were demolished prior to the land becoming part of the Manor Farm estate. Furthermore, evidence from the opposite side of the road (Test Pit Five, 2019 Season) also recovered Medieval pottery from c.60-70cm under the modern ground level, with layers above this being disturbed.

The house immediately to the west of the garden where Test Pit Seven was located (approximately 10-12m away) was dated to the late 17th / early 18th century during the Level One Building Survey (Number Six Main Street), so it seems likely that post-Medieval disturbance / landscaping may well have occurred, and thus truncating the upper Medieval layers of that area. Excavations in the main, adjacent garden of Manor Farm (Test Pits One and Three) revealed the 19th century farmyard surface at a depth of 30-35cm, further indicating ground make-up and landscaping in this area.

The test-pit excavations in the 2018 Season supported what the documentary research and the landscape studies had shown – that the scattered farmsteads of the Late Saxon period had

² Pers. Comm. Property owner , 11th July, 2018

developed into a more structured Medieval settlement at Kelham at least by the 13th century, and possibly earlier. Documentary records show that a river crossing existed at Kelham as early as the 12th century, and an earlier church subsequently developed close by, supported by the tolls collected for crossing the bridge. Geophysical surveys within the grounds of Kelham Hall have shown this existed slightly to the south-east of the current Hall, with an early trackway and subsequent road following the course of the current Newark Road, crossing the Trent and running just to the south of Kelham Hall, before turning ninety degrees and heading northwards in front of the Hall and joining up with what is now Ollerton Road on the junction of The Fox Inn / Manor Farm.

Manor Farm may well have existed as a Medieval farm (and may have itself developed out of one of the earlier, Saxon farms, although no direct evidence for this has so far been discovered) given its proximity to the Medieval road junction. Whether it existed as a farm or a dwelling, the abundance of Medieval pottery recovered from Test Pit Seven indicates some form of building must have been located there, and this is most likely underneath the current farm house. The presence of several pieces of body sherds, handles and a spout, all from both green and brown glazed jugs, seem to indicate at the least a moderate status building on the site, and given the name of Manor Farm, it may well have been one that was directly linked to the newly-expanding village.

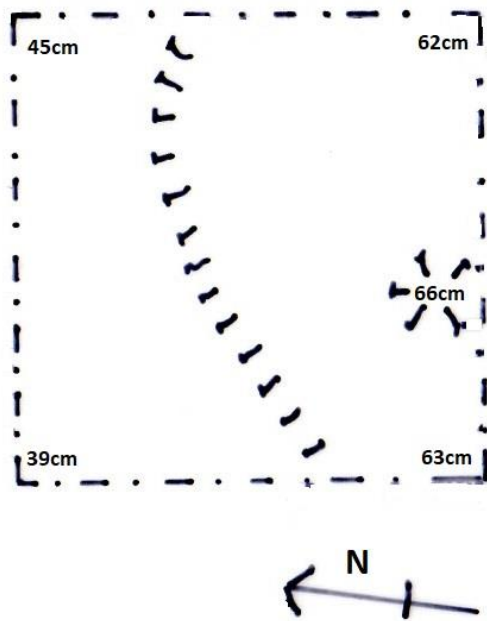
Blacksmith Lane was constructed as the Back Lane of the village, with toft/croft plots stretching eastwards to the Trent. Here, the names of the houses, features of the properties themselves (for example a preserved bread oven within the chimney structure of Blacksmith Cottage) and the archaeology all indicate that this region was reserved for industry. As mentioned, the 1327 tax records document a blacksmith, baker and wheelwright being present at Kelham, and the pottery recovered from pits along Blacksmith Lane confirm occupation here in the 14th century.

The area inbetween Ollerton Road and Blacksmith Lane appears to have functioned as the Medieval village green. Most of this area is now part of The Fox Inn, and includes main pub building, outbuildings, car park and large, grassed beer garden. The 2019 Season focussed on this central area and showed that although later disturbance occurred, Medieval layers appear to be present in several pits from 60cm below ground level. Test pit 1 had a gravel-filled pit

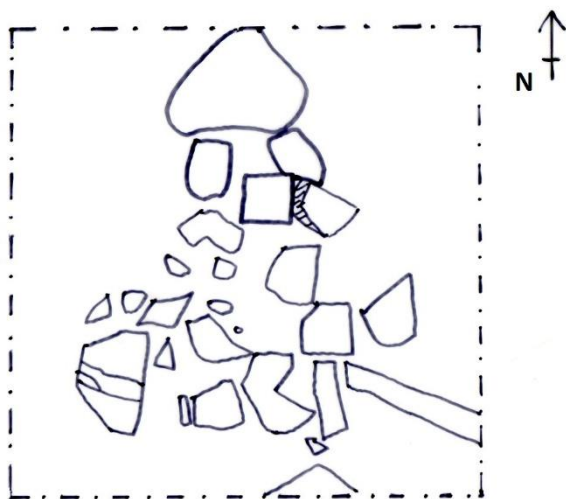
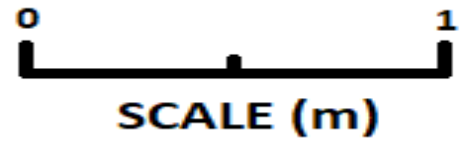
feature at a depth of c.68cm below ground surface, and given the lack of artefacts may have been constructed as some type of drain or soakaway. Although no direct Medieval evidence was found, the lack of post-Medieval artefacts and its comparative depth with other pits strongly suggest the feature was Medieval.

Test pits 3 and 5 also contained only Medieval artefacts after a depth of c.60cm below ground level, although these were fairly limited (Test pit 3, seven sherds & Test pit 5, one sherd respectively). The lack of features (rubbish pits, post holes, buildings) within all the 2019 Season pits and the limited artefacts appears to support the hypothesis that it formed part of a central village green in the Medieval period, possibly used as a public open space, market area or other such village activities.

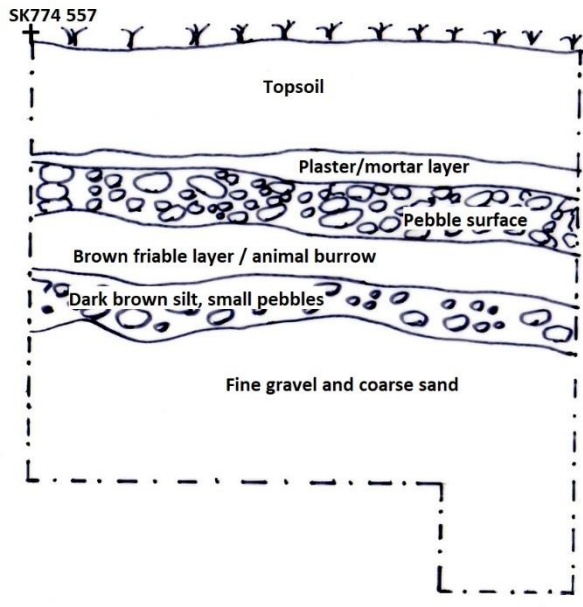
PLANS & SECTION DRAWINGS



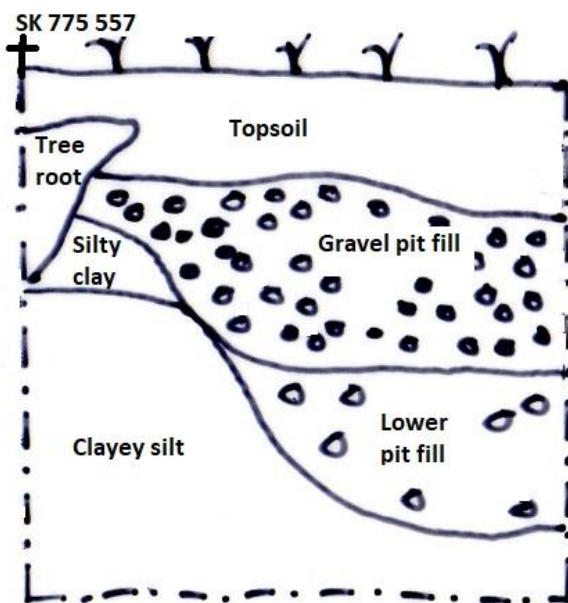
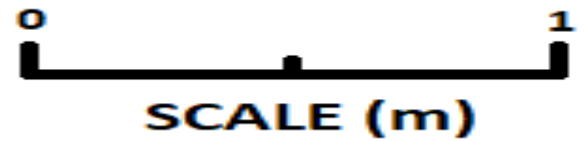
Medieval pit feature from Test Pit Two



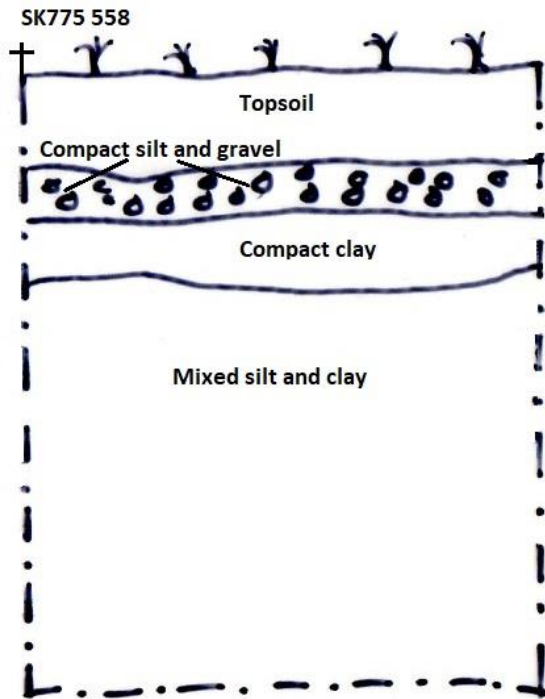
Stone surface from Test Pit Nine



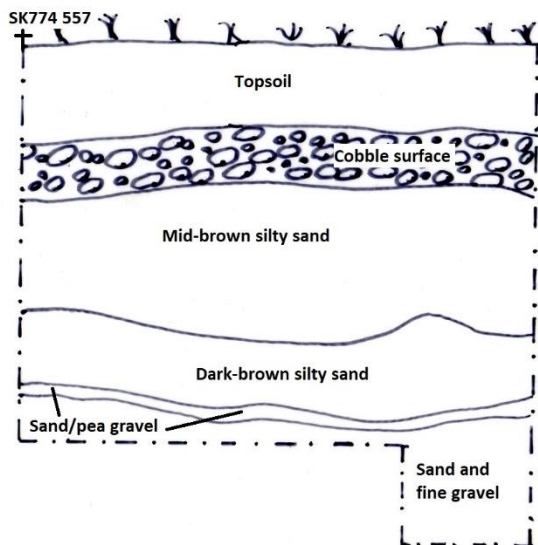
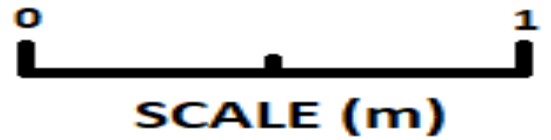
North-facing section of Test Pit One,
showing farmyard surface



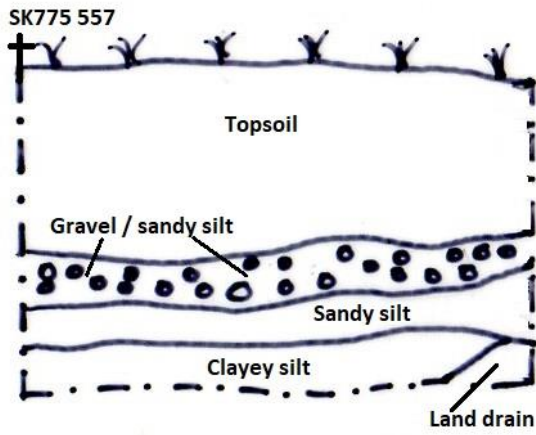
West-facing section of Test Pit Two,
showing Medieval pit feature



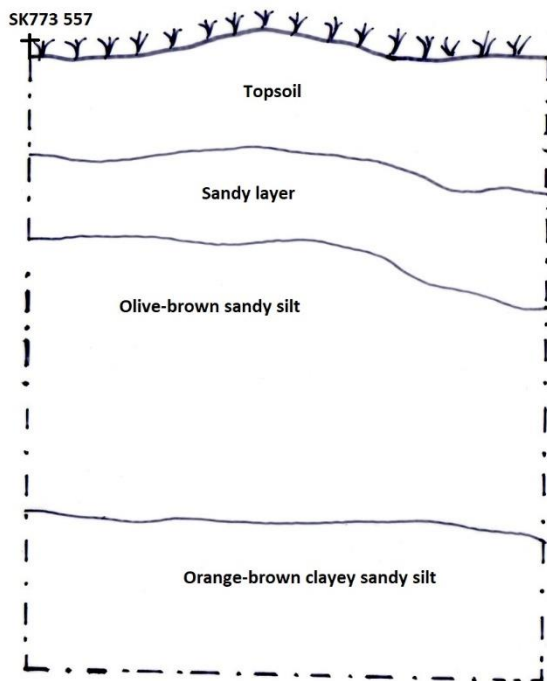
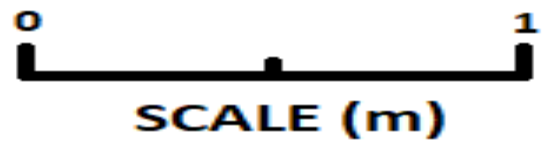
West-facing section of Test Pit Four



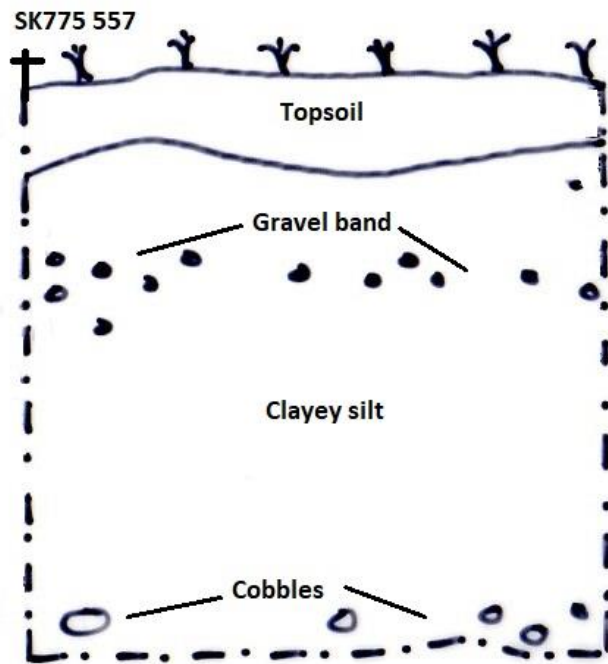
West-facing section of Test Pit Five, showing farmyard surface



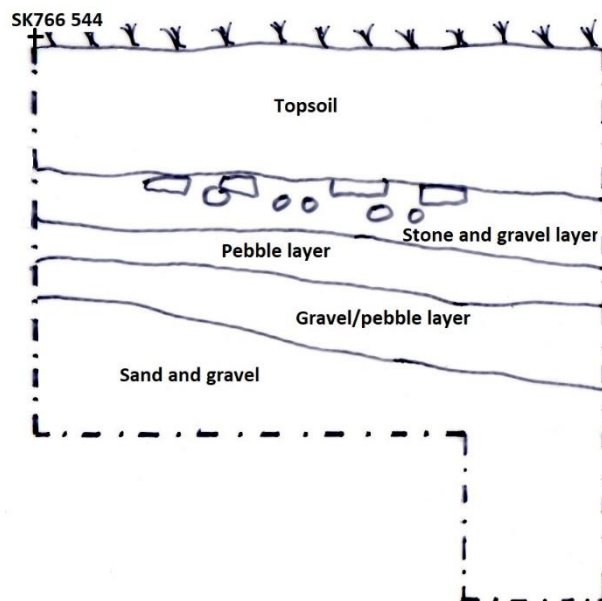
South-facing section of Test Pit Six



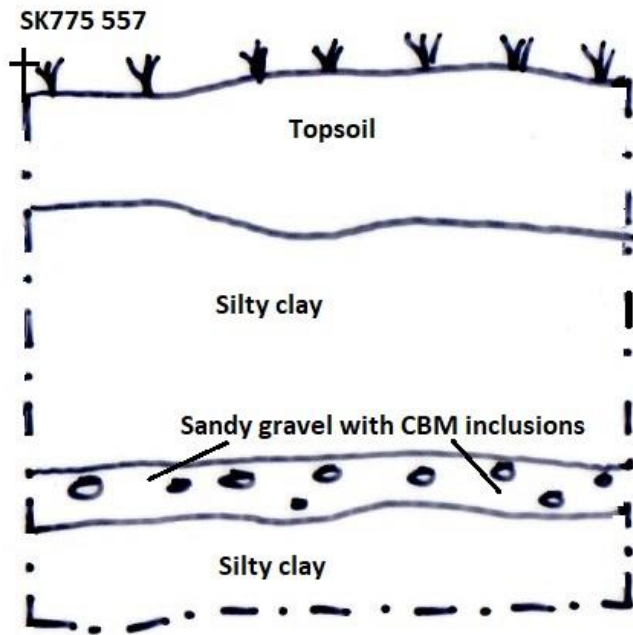
North-facing section of Test Pit Seven



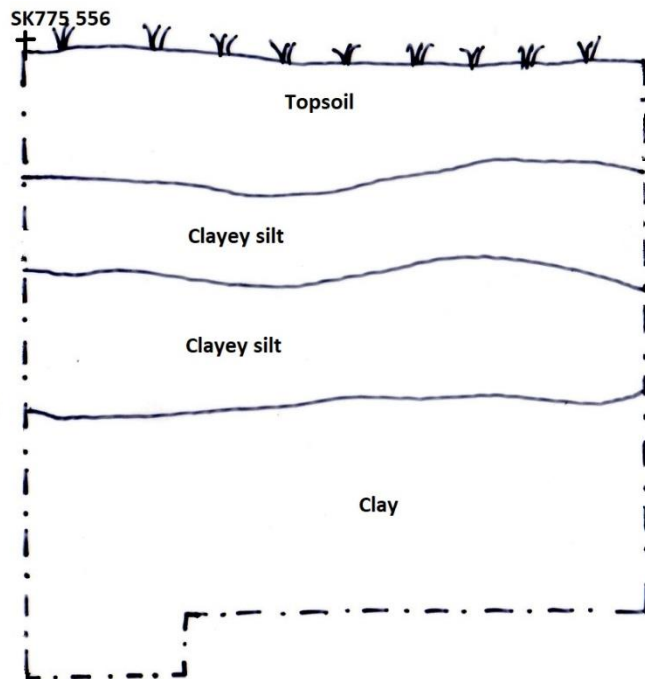
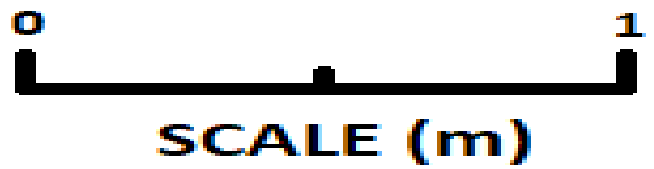
East-facing section of Test Pit Eight



West-facing section of Test Pit Nine

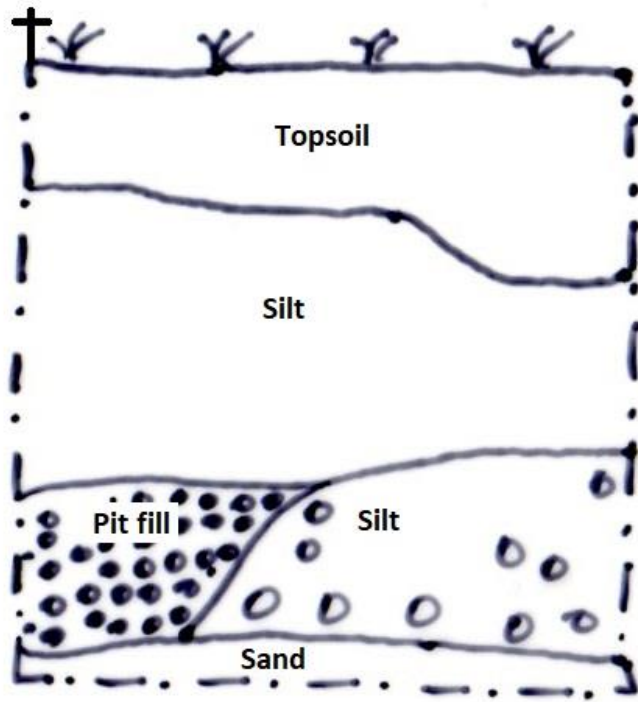


South-facing section of Test Pit Ten

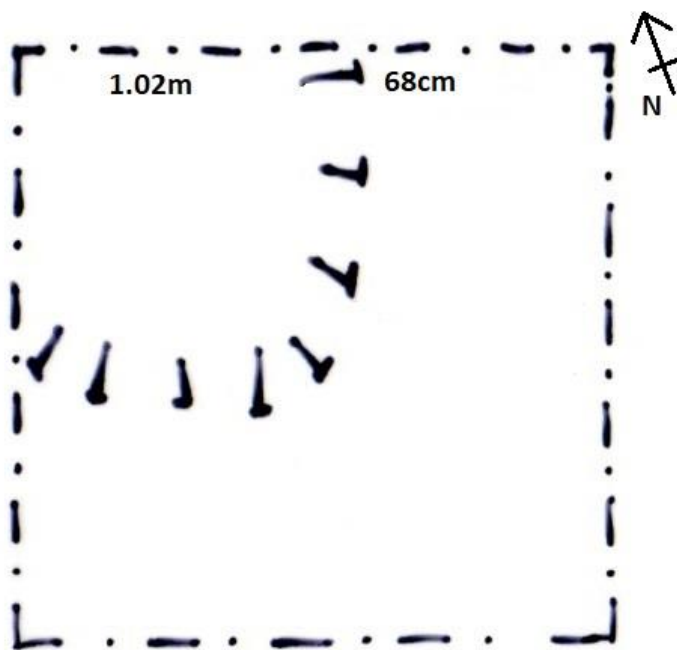


North-facing section of Test Pit Eleven

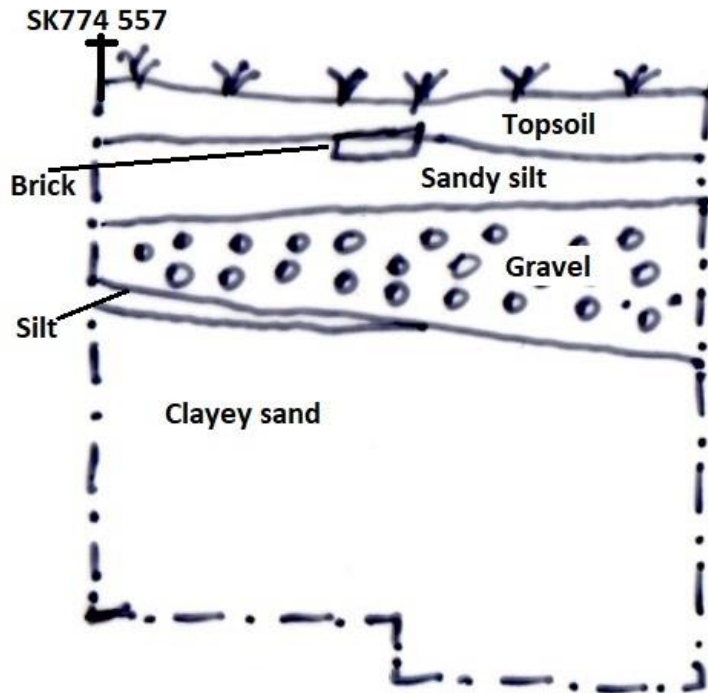
SK504 733



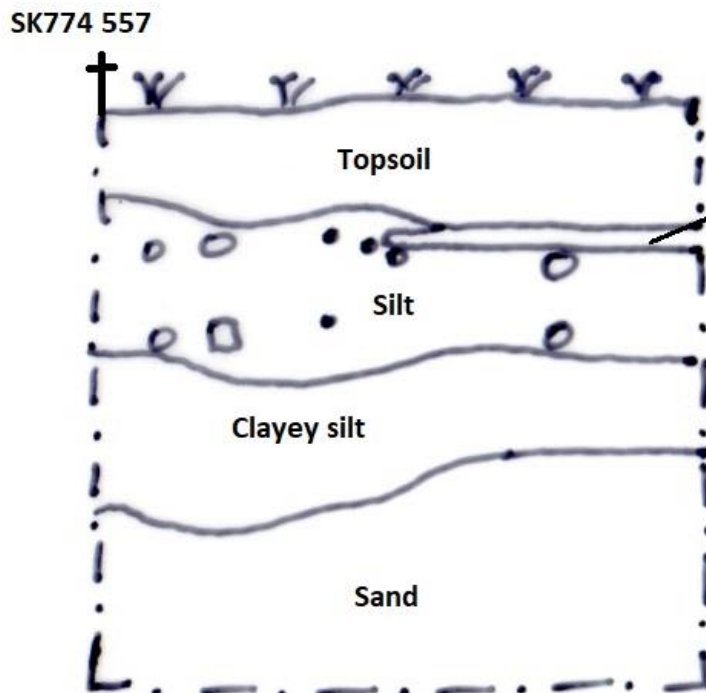
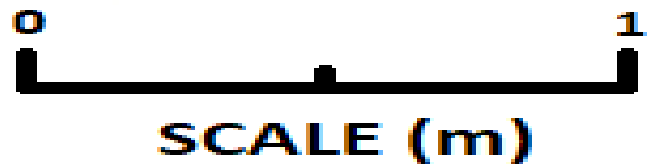
South-facing section of Test Pit One (2019)



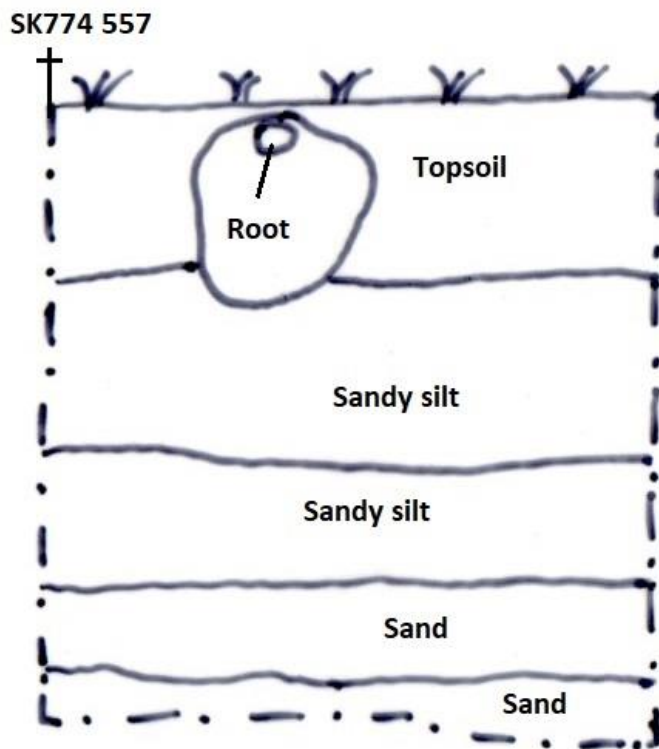
Medieval pit feature from Test Pit One (2019)



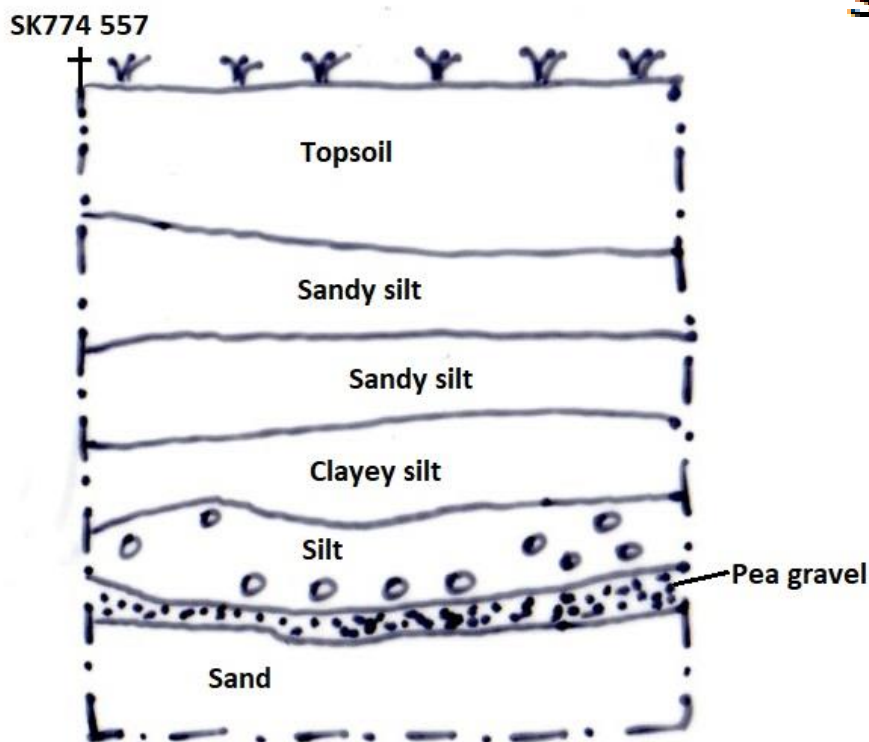
West-facing section of Test Pit Two (2019)



West-facing section of Test Pit Three (2019)



East-facing section of Test Pit Four (2019)



South-facing section of Test Pit Five (2019)

PHOTOGRAPHS



*Cut of Medieval rubbish pit from rear garden of Wheelwrights, Blacksmith Lane
(Test Pit Two, 2018)*



*Test Pit One (2018) under excavation, with old farm yard surface visible in section, directly
under topsoil*



Exposed soakaway from Test Pit Three, 2018



Exposed yard surface from Test Pit Five, 2018



Ceramic land drains from Test Pit Six, 2018



Large rim sherd from a Medieval storage jar, recovered from Test Pit Four, 2018



Gravel filled pit feature from Test Pit One, 2019



Pit feature after gravel fill was removed, Test Pit One, 2019



Tile capping animal burial in Test Pit Four, 2019



Animal burial from Test Pit Four, 2019



Civil War musket balls recovered from Test Pit Eight, 2018



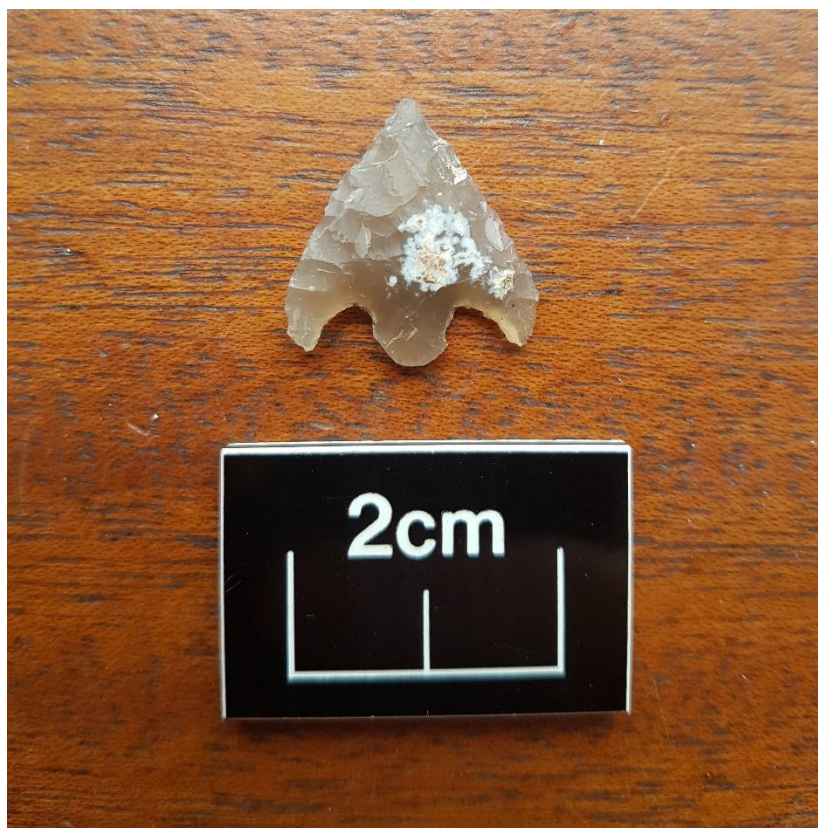
Whetstone from Test Pit Four, 2018



Clay pipe bowl from Test Pit Two, 2018



Copper alloy belt buckle fragment from Test Pit Ten, 2018



Bronze Age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead from Test Pit Two, 2018



Civil War musket balls from Test Pit Eight, 2018



Medieval pot sherds and jug handle fragment from Test Pit Seven, 2018

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - A Report on the bridges of Kelham

Written by Andy Hoe

With contributions by the ‘Kelham Revealed!’ volunteer team



Image copyright – Andy Hoe

Cover Picture

The Trent in July 2018 following weeks without rain, showing the original crossing point

Summary

Archaeological work by the Kelham Revealed! Project team confirmed an original crossing point for the Kelham bridge to the SE of the Hall where the A617 from Newark currently reaches the Trent bank. The earliest documentary evidence proves there was a bridge across the Trent, or more likely a causeway, at Kelham, in the early 13th century, as markets were being granted charters in Newark and towns to the north and west of Kelham. The bridge would have been of both commercial and strategic importance. The location of the bridge appears to have made use of the underlying geology to minimise flood risk and was at a point where the river power was greatly reduced.

Exactly how many bridges stood in this original location is difficult to say given the likely impact of severe Trent floods and the manipulation of the river flow by man which frequently caused devastation. However, there is a continuous documented history of the bridge from the 13th century to present day.

One recurring theme in the documentation is the history of neglect, disrepair and avoidance of responsibility for maintenance of the bridges. Pontage rights were established almost as soon as the bridge came into existence but the responsibility to spend at least part of the toll revenue on the bridge seems to have been conveniently forgotten. There is evidence of extortionate tolls being charged, blackmail and toll avoidance. It seems that the bridge was always subject to disputes up to and including who should pay for the rebuilding after the English Civil War.

In the 18th century the location of the bridge was moved close to where the current one stands to allow the road through the Hall grounds to be re-routed out of view and the grounds enclosed. It appears that the new bridge was of very poor construction and it was eventually replaced in 1849 only for that structure to be destroyed in the winter of 1855. The current bridge has stood from 1856.

Note: numbers in square brackets refer to the sources of information which are found at the end of this document.

Finding the medieval crossing point

In 2017 and 2018 geophysics was carried out on the Kelham bank of the Trent in the Hall grounds.

Maps and some documentary evidence suggested that the current A617 road from Newark follows the route of the more ancient road to Kelham and that instead of turning abruptly north to the current crossing point, as it reached the river bank, it would have crossed directly at that point.

The geophysics results were conclusive and the roadway from the bank towards the hall could be traced.

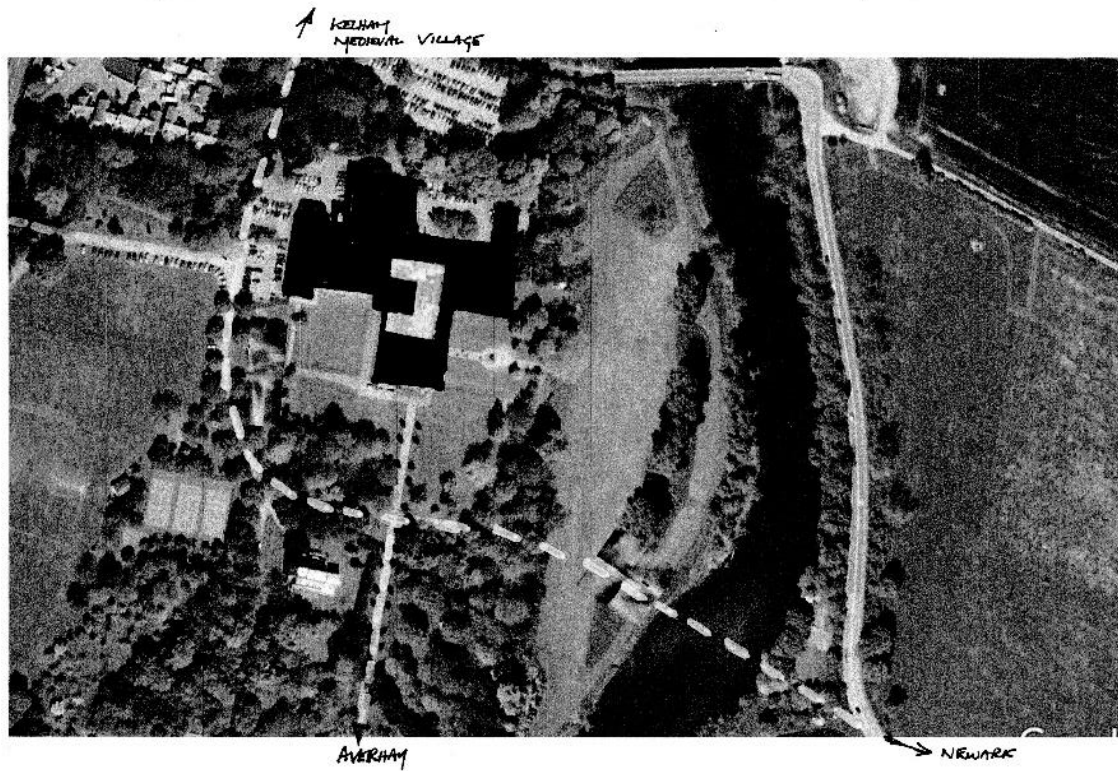


Geophysics results from project work in 2018

Copyright MBarchaeology

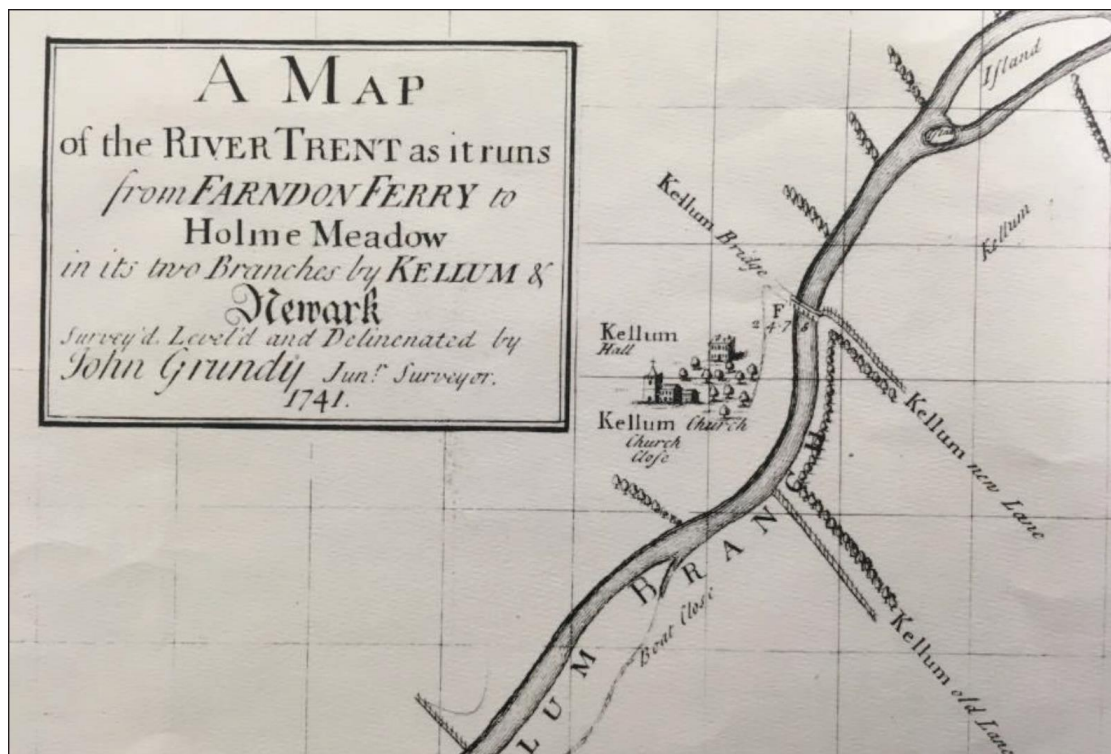
The annotated map overleaf shows the probable route of the road from the end of the old bridge passing the church to the north, skirting the hall (current Hall in Black – ‘post-Civil War’ Hall in white) to the south and east before turning north through the medieval Kelham settlement revealed by our test pit digging in the summer of 2018. The exact route across the Hall grounds is unclear – it may or may not have been closer to the hall (especially given the much smaller hall in earlier periods).

The route to Averham, via the Sutton family watermills on the Trent, would have gone in a straight line, SSW from the main track. The ghost of these tracks can be picked out on Lidar scans of the area. From Kelham, roads radiate out to commercial centres in the north and west.



Copyright – Andy Hoe

Other maps tend to support this proposition. The map below is interesting in that it shows the bridge close to its current position yet shows two lanes heading towards Newark. Kellum ‘old lane’ following the route of the A617 and the Kellum ‘new lane’ coming straight off the end of the bridge. The latter follows the current route of the track across ‘the island’ meeting the Old Great North Road near the sugar refinery. The church and hall at Kelham are also shown.



Extract from a map of 1741

Source unknown

Why build a bridge at Kelham?

Trade

It may have been that there were bridges across the Trent at Kelham prior to the 12th century, however, no documentary evidence could be found to confirm it. We know there was Roman activity in the area due to finds records but no records of a bridge. The Domesday records and early Charters from the time of Henry II in the 12th century mention people passing over the Trent in Nottinghamshire but again make no mention of a bridge at Kelham.

However, in the 12th century trade between increasingly urban communities and the countryside together with the establishment of towns with vibrant chartered markets meant that communication links, roads and bridges, became necessary to allow easy and fast transport of goods to market. There is documentary evidence for the creation of local markets on either side of the Trent during this period.

1156

Newark becomes a local centre for the wool and cloth trade and by the time of Henry II (1154 - 1189) a major market was established. Wednesday and Saturday markets in the town were established during the period 1156–1329, when a series of charters granted to the Bishop of Lincoln made them possible.[1]

1227

Mansfield was granted a first Market Charter by King Henry III 'to the men of Mansfield'. A note on the roll it says, 'vacated because surrendered'. Whether this

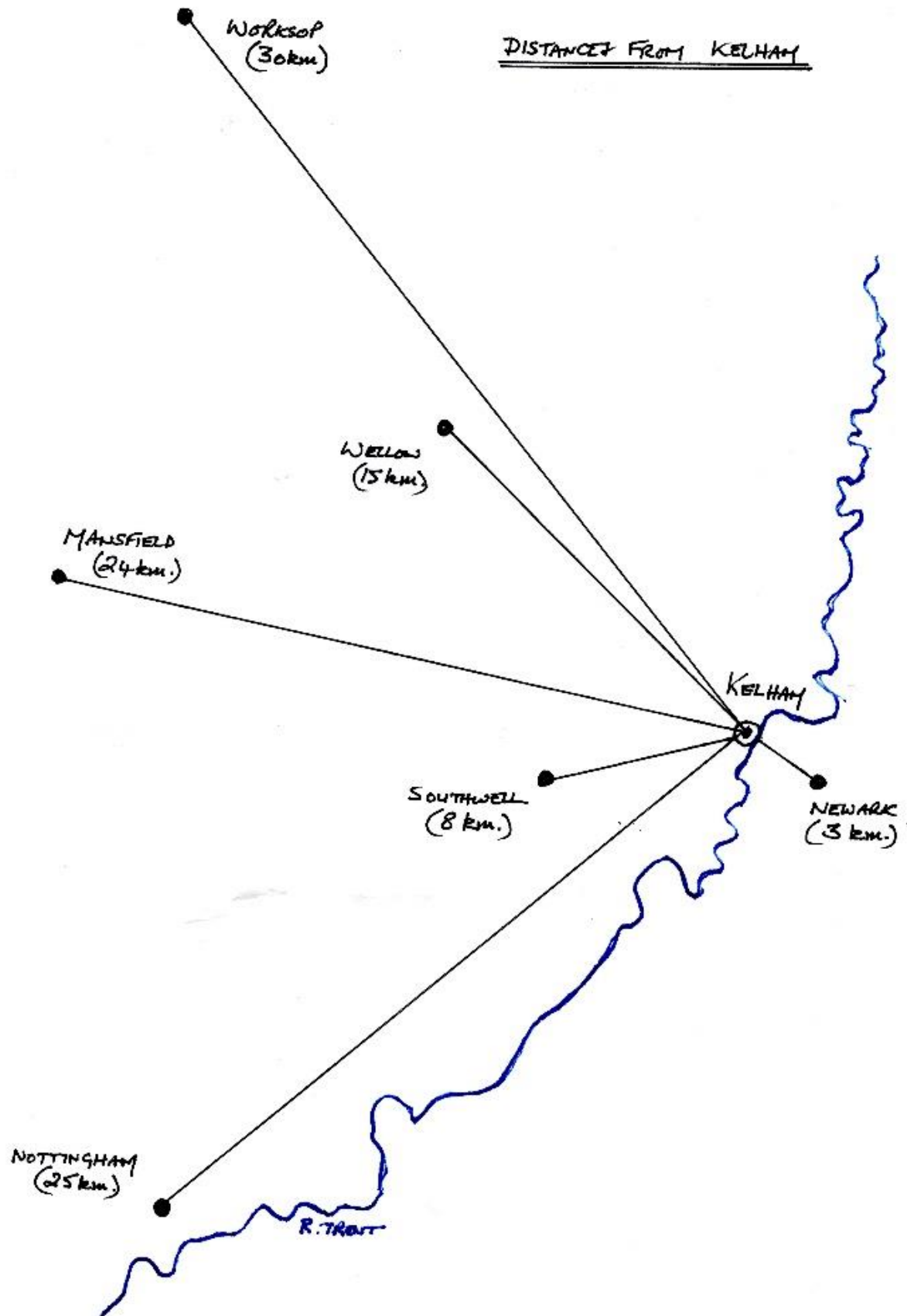
means it was established and then lapsed is not known. However, other (Mansfield) charters followed throughout the 1300's.

Also, other markets proliferated in the area for example including those at Wellow (1268) and Southwell (1329). [1]

A bridge over the Trent in Kelham would have been in an ideal position to allow travel to the markets in Newark, Southwell and more northern towns.

Straight line distances and directions from the Kelham crossing are illustrated overleaf:

It is noticeable that the current trunk road network closely mirrors the pattern shown. Newark and Mansfield are linked by the A617 via Kelham, Newark is linked to Nottingham via Kelham and Southwell by the A612 and Newark is linked with Wellow and Worksop via Kelham by the A616.





1606 – Jodocus Hondius Map

Extracted from 'Eboracum, Lincolnia, Derbia, Staffordia, Notinghamia, Lecestria, Rutlandia, et Norfolcia'
Original held in the University Library of Bern made available to the public via the Creative Commons

The extract shown above is taken from one of the earliest maps of the area that could be found. Interestingly, it shows no bridges downstream from Kelham to the North Sea on the Trent and Nottingham, Trent Bridge as the next bridge upstream. The accuracy of the map may be doubtful but the clear representation of a bridge at Kelham is indicative that the crossing was of major strategic and commercial importance by the start of the 17th century.

The bridge over the other arm of the Trent/Devon close to Newark is also shown.

We have an indication of what was being transported across the bridge in medieval times from the Letters Patent granted to the 'Men of Kelham' on 1346

1346

Edward III issued the Letters Patent granting the right to tax all goods, going to be sold at market, being taken across the bridge. The toll details of 35 specific items and one catch-all, are listed on the document. [2]

The list makes interesting reading: see overleaf:

1346 - COPY OF LETTERS PATENT

Granting Pontage to the town of Kelm - Toll rates stated within the document

Notts Archive - DD/T/17/4

Goods	Quantity	Toll	Comment
Corn	Horse Load	1/4d	
Wine	Cask	2d	Is this a Tun? 2016pints - seems a lot
Wine	Pipe	1d	pipe was half a Tun, or 1008 pints
A horse, cow or Ox	each	1/2d	
Hides (fresh salted or tanned)	each	1/4p	
Bacon Hogs	5	1/2p	
Salmon (fresh or salted)	each	1/4d	
Sheep. Goats or Pigs	10	1/4d	
Fleeces	10	1/2d	
Sheep or Goat skins	100	1/2d	
Cloth	Horse load	1/2d	
Cloth	Cart load	3d	
Cloth	40/- worth	1/2d	
Honey	Cart Load	1d	
Wool	A bag	2d	
Iron	Horse Load	1/2d	
Lead	Horse Load	1d	
Bark	Horse Load	1/4d	Used for Tanning
Millstone	each	1/4d	
Smithy's Grindstone	each	2d	
Onions	A Poise	1 1/4d	Poise is weight - not defined for the era
Tallow	A Poise	1 1/4d	Hard fat used in candles and soap
Wood	A Quarter	1d	512lb at the time
Sea Fish	1 cwt.	2d	112lb
Sea Fish	Horse Load	1d	
Boards	100	1/4d	
Faggots	100	1/2d	Bundles of sticks
Salt	A Quarter	1/4d	
Cheese	A Poise	1/4d	Poise is weight - not defined for the era
Butter	A Poise	1/4d	Poise is weight - not defined for the era
Brush & Brier wood	Cart load	1/2d	
Coal	Cart load	1/2d	
Horse Nails	1000	1/2d	
Horse Shoes & Clout nails for carts	100	1/4d	
Sheaves	100	1/4d	Bundles of un-threshed cereal
Canvas	10 stone	1/2d	140lb
Flagons of Oil	10	1/4d	
Items Various	each 5/-	1/2d	

If nothing else this list of goods gives an idea of the diversity of what was going to or coming from markets over the bridge. The list clearly couldn't capture everything, so the final entry allows any goods to be taxed based on their market value. Who assessed that value is unknown, but it could easily be imagined that the judgement would lead to disputes.

Geology and Topography

There has been much debate as to whether Newark is indeed on the Trent or not and undoubtedly the flow of the river has changed on a number of occasions over the centuries. The Trent flowing past the walls of the castle at Newark draws most of its water from the River Devon with most of the Trent flow goes past Averham and Kelham. This may not always have been the case. At one time the main flow may have been through the Old Trent Dyke across 'the island'. [3]

Up to the 16th century some believe that the flow of the water past Kelham was nothing more than a brook. Intervention by the powerful Sutton family changed that.

1506

Granting to Sir Thomas Sutton, Lord of the manors of Averham and Kelham, licence to have a water-course called a goore from the River Trent to direct water into 'the Grymesdyke' rivulet and from there into Averham water rivulet and Sutton's two water mills at 'Kellome Water'. [4]

This arrangement is shown on the Tudor map below:



Detail from a map of the River Trent held by the British Library published by the Thoroton Society to accompany an article by C R Salisbury on 'An Early Tudor Map of the River Trent in Nottinghamshire', *Transactions of the Thoroton Society*, vol 89,1985.

This map may have been produced as part of the lawsuit brought over the supply of water to the mills on the Devon in Newark. It appears to date from between 1500 and 1540. [5]. This re-routing starved the Old Trent Dyke and by 1593 the millers of Newark were up in arms.

1593

The document lists a series of enquires raised by the millers of Newark about the flow of the Trent past the town. It says that the navigation of the river and the flow of water directed to 'the corn milles and our fulling mill is disordered'. They wanted to change the flow 'so to find the milles in right form'. There is reference to a weir to aid redirection of flow. There are also enquiries about the profits being made by 'the Manor of Egom' and the loss of their own profits. Seeking compensation for loss of profits perhaps? This must be the document that kicked off the law suit brought against the Suttons mentioned by Thomas Heron in the Thoroton transcripts.[6]

As late as the Civil War the flow of the Trent was being manipulated.

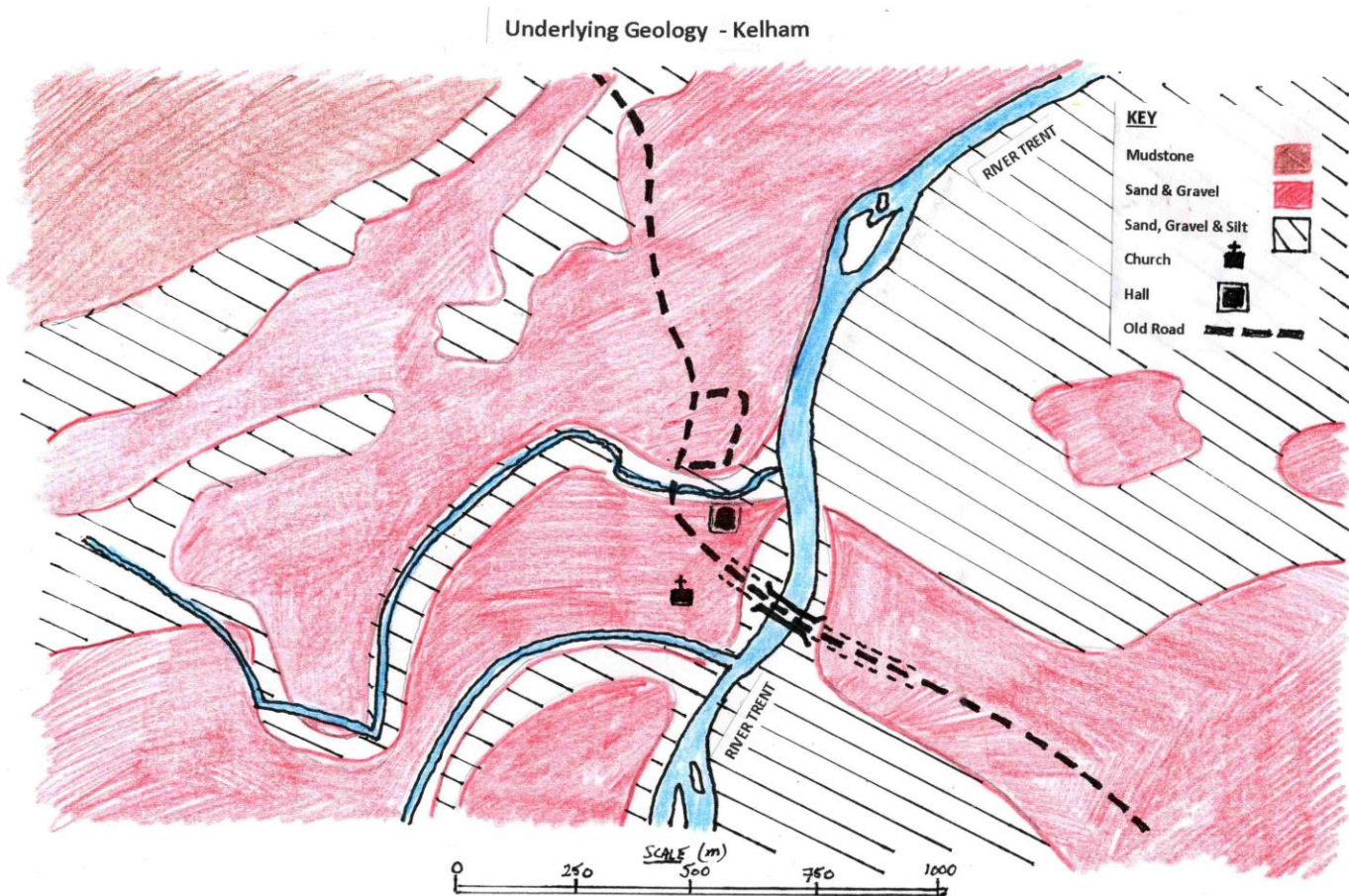
1646

During the Siege of Newark in April 1646 Gen. Sydenham Poyntz had succeeded in turning the courses of both Trent and Smite (the Devon) away from Newark by damming the Trent above Newark. [7]

This was designed to starve the mills of power preventing corn from being milled but more importantly at the time hindering the manufacture of gun powder.

It is impossible to say what the Trent valley looked like in the Medieval period. However, there may be some clues in the existing geology and the topography of the river as we see it today.

The Geological map for the Trent at Kelham is dominated by areas either side of the river with banks of clay, sand, silt and gravel. There are particularly large areas of clay and silt deposits on the Newark bank resulting in the rich soils of 'the island', the area between the two arms of the Trent. There are clear terraces of sand and gravel mainly on the Kelham side of the river between the river and the rising, mudstone escarpment to the NW of the village. It is noticeable that there is a clear tongue of sand and gravel coming down to the river on the Newark side where the original bridge crossed. Areas of land with clay and silt deposits suggest repeated flooding. See map overleaf.



The Trent is widely known for its tendency to cause significant flooding along its course and the stretch of the river at Kelham is no exception. Records going back hundreds of years show repeated flooding and communications disruption. Early bridges were vulnerable to floods, and in 1309 many bridges along the Trent were washed away or damaged by severe winter floods.

In 1683 floods resulted in the loss of the bridge in Newark. Historical archives often record details of the bridge repairs that followed floods, as the cost of these repairs or pontage had to be raised by borrowing money and charging a local toll (see later). [8] [9]

The largest known flood was the Candlemas flood of February 1795, which followed an eight-week period of harsh winter weather, rivers froze which meant mills were unable to grind corn, and then there followed a rapid thaw. Due to the size of the flood and the ice sheets carried by the flow, nearly every bridge along the Trent was badly damaged or washed away.

In 1875 the principal flood of the 19th century occurred, the second largest recorded. In Newark the water was deep enough to allow four grammar school boys to row across the countryside (across ‘the island’) to Kelham. [10] Spectacular flooding in 2012 led to most of ‘the island’ being submerged between Kelham and Newark.

Given this situation it would clearly make sense to build the bridge at a point least susceptible to repeated flooding. It is also likely that the early bridge designs took into consideration the tendency of the river to flood. In the 15th century there were references to a 'causeway' rather than a bridge.

1443-1490

3 bequests from residents of Newark for "the causey" or "causeway" at Kelham.[11]

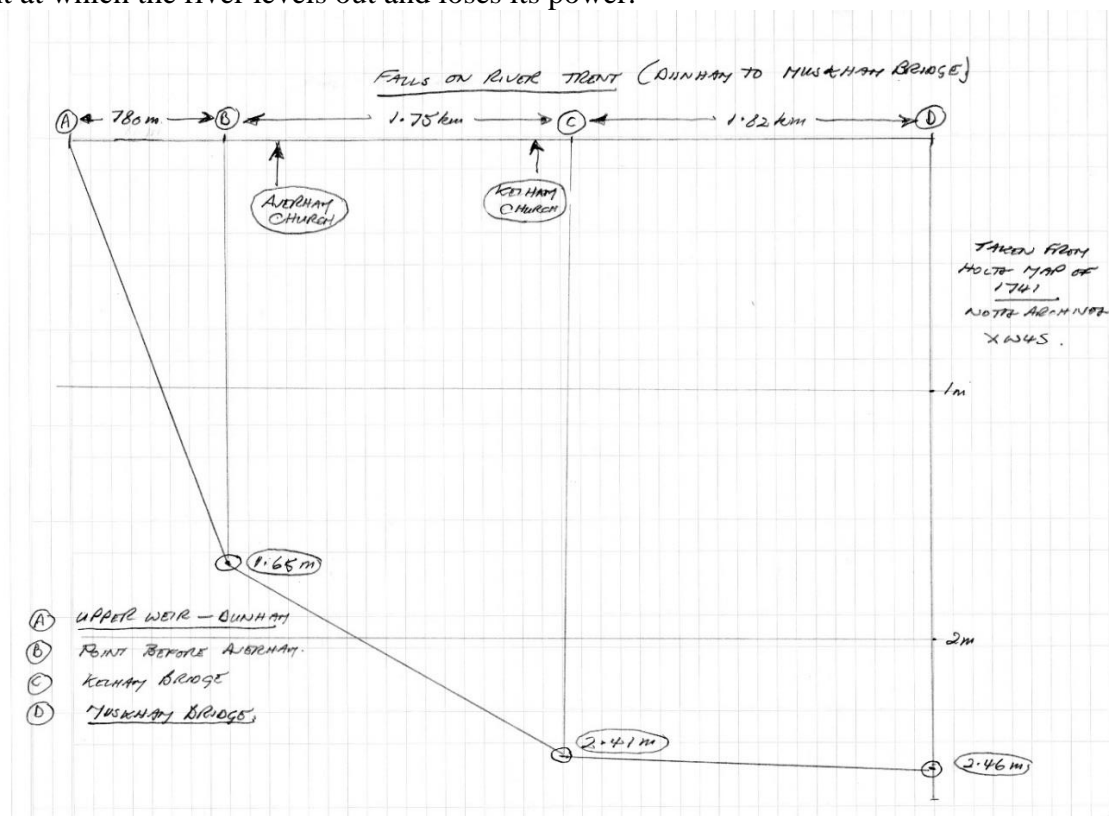
It is likely that, on the Newark bank the approach leading up to the bridge proper would have been elongated and raised up to protect from flooding.

Another reason for siting the bridge at Kelham may have been that the river opposite the village has reduced power at that point.

1741

There is a detailed 1741 map of both legs of the Trent that shows water drops based on a datum point at the Upper Weir at Dunham. [12]

Though the river may have changed significantly through the ages it is interesting to map the drop in the river along its travel from Dunham to Muskham bridge from this map data. If we are to trust the accuracy of the 18th century surveyor, after the first 780m downstream of the weir the level drops 1.65m, in the next 1750m just 0.76m and between Kelham and Muskham Bridge, a distance of 1820m, hardly at all. So, just after it passes Kelham church, is the first point at which the river levels out and loses its power.



Copyright – Andy Hoe

The cover photo of this report and the photo below were taken in June 2018 at the point the original causeway/bridge crossed the river. Due to the extremely dry summer it was possible to walk out into the river on a wide gravel bank over which shallow water was flowing. Only close to the Newark bank was there any significant volume of water preventing completion of the crossing on foot.



Gravel Bank across the Trent with river level showing slight fall and water flow greatly reduced.

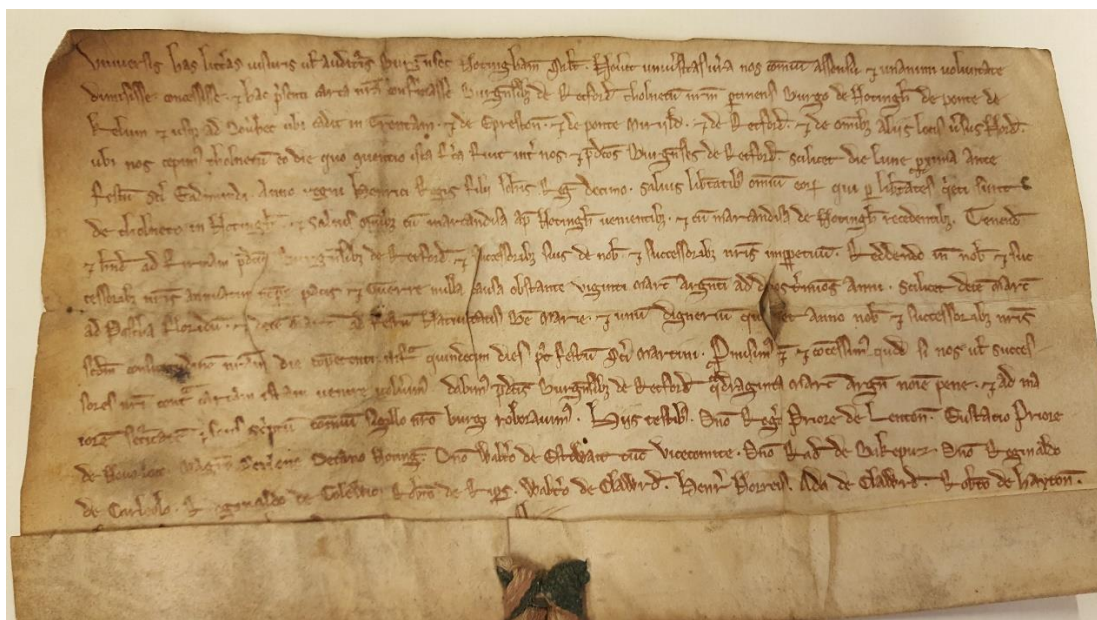
Copyright – Andy Hoe

History, Pontage, Tolls and Disrepair

The earliest reference to a bridge at Kelham was found in the Nottingham archives in the form of an ancient manuscript with an impressive wax seal dating from the early 13th Century. The wording suggests the bridge predates the pontage rights being given.

1225

Burgesses of Nottingham assigned the Burgesses of Retford to take 'their toll from the bridge at Kelham 'de Ponte de Kelum'. Mentions other parties including ecclesiastic foundations such as Lenton Priory. [13]



1225 – Pontage Charter

Image by Permission of Nottinghamshire Archives (copyrighted)



1225 – Pontage Charter seal

Image by Permission of Nottinghamshire Archives (copyrighted)

The documentary evidence pointing to who built one of the early bridges at Kelham can be found in a document recording the trial of Bishop Thomas of Lincoln. [14]

1284

After the acquittal of Bishop Thomas of Lincoln in the 1344 accusation, the Jury was asked if there was indeed a bridge at ‘Kelm’ and who was responsible for it. They stated that the bridge existed and had been built 60 years earlier (i.e. approximately in 1284). The construction was part (or wholly) financed by Bishop Oliver of Lincoln at a cost of 40/-.

Confirmation of the exact build date is not possible, but one Oliver Sutton was Bishop of Lincoln from 1280 to 1299 (he was nephew of Henry of Lexington, Bishop of

Lincoln from 1254 to 1258). When asked about the maintenance of the bridge they (the jury) stated that it was 'maintained by the alms of the men of the county passing' though no one individual responsible for the bridge was named.

Documentation shows that there were many disputes over the bridge pontage rights, tolls and repair. Usually the rights of pontage, i.e. the rights to charge tolls on goods crossing the bridge, and the responsibility for keeping the bridge/causeway in good repair were meant to go hand in hand. This was often conveniently forgotten.

1346

As we already know, Edward III issued Letters Patent granting the men of Kelham the right to tax all goods, going to be sold at market, being taken across the bridge. The problem as stated by the king was 'Know ye that in aid of mending and repairing the broken bridge of Kelm near Newark and the decayed and ruined causeway between the same towns to the great danger of the men there passing to the repair of which no one is bound unless from his own mere will as we are informed'. The patent was issued for a period of 3 years after which time the tolls would cease. 'The money arising to be employed about the repair and support of the bridge and footways aforesaid and not for any other purpose'. Signed Lionel (Son of the King). [15]

On some occasions pontage rights were sold and must have been seen as a valuable asset.

1377

In 1377 the Burgesses of Nottingham sold a part of this Toll to the Burgesses of Redford 'from Kelam Bridge to Doverbec where it falls in Trent from Epreston the Bridge of Miruld (Merriall and West Markham) from Retford towards the North where the Burgesses of Nottm took toll'. [16]

There are also early references to blackmail, extortion and exploitation as well as avoidance of toll payment relating to the traffic across the bridge.

1276

Walter Touk (a notable landowner in Kelham at the time) was accused of levying blackmail from strangers crossing the Trent between Kelham and Newark [17]

1324

Even more extra-ordinary there is a Petition concerning actions of the 'Lady of Averham'. The Petition reads: The people of the county of Nottinghamshire, passing between (Kelm) Kelham and Newark, request a remedy for the accroachment (OED - The action of accroach; usurpation i.e. taking over) of the king's highway between these two places by the Lady of (Egrum) Averham, who demands heavy charges from the people using it, although it has been free for all people passing that way from time immemorial. Nature of endorsement/outcome of the petition: 'Certain faithful people are to be appointed, with the sheriff, to enquire into the contents of the petition and to inform the king of this in Chancery; and what is just will be done there'. [18]

1329

In 1329 there was a dispute about seizure of some property 'That in the town of Keleam in a place called Altte Brigge End of Newark'...the Burgesses of Retford had

a Toll called Thurgh Toll by devise [?] from the Burgesses of Nottm that said Roger or party had a cart for which Toll was due. [16]

There is repeated evidence showing the constant battle to establish responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the bridge.

1300

The bridge obtained a grant of portage for 3 years in aid of its repair. About 40 years afterwards the Manor of Kelham obtained another Grant for the same purpose for 3 years. [19]

1344

Bishop Thomas of Lincoln was accused of not repairing and sustaining bridge of Kelm. And that the watercourse of the Trent had been changed by making a weir at Short Dayles so that ships cannot pass. The Bishop denied building the weir and says he is not responsible for the bridge. The Jury finds him Not Guilty but are not sure who is responsible (for the bridge). [20]

1396

In 1396 Richard II issued Letters Patent granting Kelham the right to tax all goods, going to be sold at market, being taken across the bridge. 'In aid of repairing and mending the bridge now decayed and broken down'. The patent was issued for a period of 3 years after which time the tolls would cease. The toll details of numerous specific items to be taxed are listed. (this list was like that shown on page 8). [21]

This constant battle to pin down who was responsible for bridge maintenance continued right through to the Civil War and the years that followed.

1640

The bridge was entirely destroyed. The Sutton family made several attempts to fix the County with the liability.[18]

1645

The bridge was destroyed during the Civil War for military purposes and (the Parliamentarian forces) replaced it with a pontoon of boats as indicated in Clampe's Map of the Siege of Newark. [22]

It appears that the bridge was out of commission or at least under repair for some time afterwards according to accounts from the Nottingham Sessions in the years that followed:

1657

A summary of court proceedings, regarding collection of monies (£100) for the repair of Kelham Bridge. 1657 Nottingham Sessions " whether certain Lands in Kelham called Bridge Lands ought to be employed for the Repair of the said Bridge".[23]

1665

After the interregnum the Suttons refused liability to repair the bridge because it had been deliberately destroyed as an act of war. A prosecution was brought at Nottingham sessions, County vs, Sutton. An order was made to 'take an account of Mr. Mason----- on behalf of the court to pay what is due unto him and what money

shall be further requested for the further prosecution of the repair of Kelham bridge and the discharging of any issues that shall come upon the county for the same'. [24]

1673

There are notes on court proceedings (undated). The King v Lord Lexington dismissed. The King v Tenants of Lord Lexington who plead guilty to trespass, contempts and nuisances, were fined. Jurors at the trial say " Robert Lord Lexington and his tenants ought to repair the Bridge in question " – there were 19 defendants - indicating the large extent of the Lands liable to the repair of the Bridge [25]

1674

Refers to the 'common, ancient and public bridge in the Parish of Kelham on the Newark to Mansfield Road. That it 'was and yet is running dangerous broken and in great decay'. The crown calls on the people of Nottinghamshire to repair the bridge. County representatives say that it is not their responsibility but that of Robert Lord Lexington who occupies the 'bridge lands' in Kelham. The case against the county was dropped but the case against Robert Lord Lexington was pursued. [26]

1674

The crown went after Robert (Sutton) Lord Lexington. The verdict was that Robert Lord Lexington should take responsibility for repair of the bridge because he and his tenants occupied the 'bridge lands' in Kelham. [27]

The crossing is moved

1720s

It is not clear when the first bridge in the current location was built but is likely that it occurred as the Hall was being significantly renovated by Bridget, 3rd Duchess of Belvoir between 1720 and 1740 or shortly thereafter. To preserve the view from the house to the river and enclose the grounds of the hall, the road would have been rerouted along the Trent Bank and the first bridge built close to where the current bridge stands.

It appears that the bridge was not exactly of sound construction as significant work was carried out over an extended period by the Suttons at significant cost.

1770's

Workmen employed 1776-1777 repairs by Lord Geo Sutton. Workmen employed by Geo. M. Sutton Esq. 1782,1783,1784 -1790,1792- 1796,1799, 1802-1804. Workmen employed by John M Sutton Esq. 1805,1806, & 1814,1815. [28]

However, Thoroton makes reference to the bridge in one of his entries.

1796

As an addition to Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire entry on ' Kelham and Parke Lathes', Thorsby stated that at the date of publication the 'lordship (of Kelham) is enclosed and owned by George Sutton, Esq. The village contains 50 dwellings. Here is a broad wooden bridge over the Trent of singular construction apparently the most complex man ever formed'. [29]

1843

The Nottingham and Newark Mercury in reporting an accident on the bridge said that ‘all six pillars were rotted, and the passage of heavy loads causes the arches to deflect’.[30]

Repairs were considered a waste of money and the County Bridge Committee ordered a new bridge to be built. Construction started in 1849 on a site ‘quite close to the old bridge which is in a very dilapidated state’.

1855

In 1855 the new bridge was totally destroyed.

There is dramatic picture clearly showing the devastated bridge close to its current location to the NE of the hall. The destruction of the bridge made news in the capital. [31]

THE DESTRUCTION OF KELHAM-BRIDGE.

Among the devastations occasioned by the late frost, we have to record the destruction, last week, of Kelham bridge, erected over the river Trent, about three miles from Newark, at a cost of £3000. The bridge was constructed of wood and supported by wrought-iron screw piles and girders, with stone abutments. The river at Kelham is very wide and deep, and the current exceedingly rapid. It appears that on the morning of the accident, fears were entertained respecting the safety of the Bridge, and, by desire of the deputy clerk of the peace, a surveyor and a staff of men went down to the river, and proceeded to break the ice around the Bridge, and clear it away. When they had succeeded in removing the greater part of it, an immense sheet of ice, several tons weight, was seen floating rapidly down the Trent; the men found it impossible to withstand the force, and in a short time it came in violent collision with the piles which supported the end of the Bridge near Kelham. Four of the piles were instantly snapped asunder, and half the Bridge fell into the river. Fortunately, no persons were injured, although several men had just crossed it. On Wednesday the remaining portion was knocked down by a large piece of ice driven against the piles, which instantly snapped them; so that the whole will have to be rebuilt.

Work to build the current bridge began later that same year but was not completed until the end of 1856. The people of Kelham had clearly lost patience with delays to the project as they started using it as soon as a way across was available despite the risk to their safety.

References

1. Internet, Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs to 1516: Nottinghamshire. Referencing W.H. Stevenson ed., Records of the Borough of Nottingham (London, 1882), i, 1155–1399, pp. 2, 10).
2. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of Letters Patent - Granting pontage to the men of the town of Kelm. DD/T/17/4
3. W. Dickenson. The History and Antiquities of Newark. Book 1805
4. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of Letter Patent, DD/T/17/7 dated 1506
5. Article by C R Salisbury, Transactions of the Thoroton Soc, Vol 87, 1983
6. National Archives, Articles of enquiry about the mills at Newark; the ways of bringing water again to the... SP 46/49/fo122, 1593
7. Notts Archives, Royal Commission on Historical Monuments - Newark on Trent - The Civil War Siege works, Book 1964
8. Everard Leaver Guilford (1912). "Memorials of old Nottinghamshire" (Memorials of old Nottinghamshire. ed.). London: G. Allen. pp. 93–103.
9. Brown, A.G.; Cooper, L; Salisbury, C.R.; Smith, D.N. (2001). "Late Holocene channel changes of the Middle Trent: channel response to a thousand-year flood record". *Geomorphology*. 39 (1): 69–82.
10. Williams, Frederick Smeeton (2012). *The Midland Railway: Its Rise and Progress: A Narrative of Modern Enterprise 1876*. Cambridge University Press. p. 329. ISBN 978-1-108-05036-4.
11. *The History of Newark-on-Trent* by Cornelius Brown. Book, 1904
12. Notts Archives, F Holt map. John Grunday, surveyor - Survey of the water levels of the River Trent with proposed positioning of locks at Newark, XW4S, 1741
13. Notts Archives, Tolls at Kelham, 1225, CA 4217 (please note that there is a 19th century transcription/translation reference DD T/17/4).
14. Notts Archives, Proceedings against Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln for not repairing Kelham Bridge and building of the weir in River Trent at Dunham, DD/T/17/3
15. Notts Archive, Tallents Collection, Copy of Letters Patent - Granting pontage to the men of the town of Kelm. DD/T/17/4
16. Notts Archive, Tallents Collection. History of the Tolls with Extracts from Charter of Henry III granting a Toll to the Burgesses of Nottingham from 'persons passing over the Trent...'Compiled[?] by John.DD/T/17/1
17. Internet, Kelham boasts of its thousand years of history by W E Doubleday, online article <http://www.nottshistory.org.uk/articles/doubleday/kelham1.htm>
18. National Archives, Special Collections: Ancient Petitions. PETITIONS TO THE KING; TO THE KING AND COUNCIL; TO THE COUNCIL; TO THE PARLIAMENT; AND THE LIKE. 351-400, SC 8/8/374
19. Notts Archive, Part of the Tallents collection, Notes on Kelham and the bridge there, DD/T/17/2
20. Notts Archives, Tallents, Proceedings against Thomas, Bishop of Lincoln for not repairing Kelham Bridge and building of the weir in River Trent at Dunham, DD/T/17/3
21. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of Letters Patent - Granting pontage to of the town of Kelm, DD/T/17/6
22. An exact Platform of all the redoubts, forts and fortifications, which were about the town of Newark upon Trent... when it was unhappily besieged the 6 day of March 1644/5 by the ... Scotch army, and the form of all the entrenchments, batteries and approaches raised and carried on by them against it, till it was surrendered on the 8th May, 1646. "Taken by their Chief Engineer during that transaction from whose drawing this is correctly copied and has

- been compared with the remains of the said place by Sam[uel] Buck. June 1725. R Clampe delin. 1646. S. Buck, sculp 1726. [Nottinghamshire Archives Ne 2 S
23. Notts Archive, Tallents Collection, Notes and extracts from Notts. Quarter Sessions records relating to Kelham Bridge, DD/T/17/9
 24. Newark Library, Notes from minutes of the Newark Navigation Commission, 14.1.1773, 1951, Typed Manuscript
 25. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of Rules of Kings Bench in Rex v Lord Lexington - repair of Kelham Bridge, DD/T/17/14, 1673 - 1678
 26. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of issue in Rex vs. Inhabitants of Nottinghamshire: - repair of Kelham Bridge, DD/T/17/15
 27. Notts Archives, Tallents Collection, Copy of Rules and orders in Rex vs. Sutton: - repair of Kelham Bridge, DD/T/17/16
 28. Notts Archives, extracts from 'Mr Hutton's account' relating to repairs to Kelham Bridge, DD/T/17/25, 1776-1815
 29. Notts Archives, Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire., Volume 3 - Kelham and Parke Lathes. Reference Library
 30. Nottingham and Newark Mercury 20th August 1843
 31. London Illustrated News, 10 March 1855)

Appendix 2 - A report on the halls of Kelham

Written by Andy Hoe

With contributions by the ‘Kelham Revealed!’ volunteer team



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Pass, Kelham Hall

Cover Picture

Hall current day

Summary

The evolution of the Halls at Kelham is inextricably linked with the fortunes of the Sutton family and their holdings of land. Documentary evidence suggests the pattern of land ownership in Kelham was fragmented from Domesday records through to the early 16th century. More details are included in the 'Medieval Village Report'. During this period the wealth of Averham increased as the eventual owners of that manor, the Sutton family, became more influential. While Kelham most likely remained a scatter of farmsteads with a small medieval village centre, Averham had a moated Manor house with land, water mills and fish weirs.

The Suttons became the predominant power in the area by the end of the 16th century and gradually acquired land in Kelham. Given that a sequence of halls were built by the Suttons, it is likely that the first house, in the current hall location, was probably either built or acquired by the Suttons as they first became established in the parish in the 1580s. The cellar survey revealed what could be the footings of this early building. In the 17th century the major figure in the district was Robert Sutton, who made significant acquisitions of land in and around Kelham and who by the early 1600s had 'became lord and owner of the whole township and territories of Kelham, and in effect of the whole island of excellent ground between the two currents of the Trent'.

Robert supported Charles I in the Civil War and was made Baron Lexington of Averham for his service to the crown in 1645. He was part of the Newark garrison resisting the siege at the end of the war. After Newark fell Robert found that his Manor at Averham had been destroyed and his choice of the Royalist cause cost him money and, for a time, his freedom. After the restoration of the monarchy his position was re-established by Charles II and he built the first grand Hall at Kelham shortly before 1666 when it was mentioned in his will. The Hearth Tax of 1664 shows Lord Lexington being taxed on more than twenty hearths showing the house at that time was a very substantial one.

His son Robert, 2nd Lord Lexington was a diplomat and ambassador largely absent abroad. The probate of his will contains a detailed inventory of the Post Civil War house and contents giving us an idea of the scale of the hall and the activities that took place within and around it. The footprint of this building was established during the cellar survey.

On his death Bridget, his daughter, was tasked with remodelling the hall to plans Robert had approved and the family continued to develop the Hall and estate on the same site in Kelham. We have detailed documentation relating to this expansion and the subsequent 'modernisation' of the original structure in the early 18th century 'Georgian' era.

The Halls of Kelham

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. The first 'substantial house' | - The Sutton family (acquired or built?) | - 1588 or earlier? |
| 2. The first grand Hall | - Robert Sutton, 1 st Lord Lexington | - c.1663 |
| 3. The rebuild/renovation | - Bridget, 3 rd Duchess of Rutland | - 1723 – 1734 |
| 4. The Salvin, Jacobean Revival | - John Henry Manners-Sutton | - 1844 - 1846 |
| 5. The George Gilbert Scott Hall | - John Henry Manners-Sutton | - 1859 – 1861 |

All these build phases took place within the current hall footprint, being built one on top of another.

Note: numbers in square brackets refer to the sources of information which are found at the end of this document.

1086 Close examination of the entries for Kelham and Averham in the Domesday record [1] show some important differences between the 11th century settlements. In Kelham, landholding was split between multiple owners and their tenants. Whilst in Averham all land, church and mill appear to have been in the manor of just one person who, it should be noted, also held part of the land in Kelham at that time.

Substantial houses can only be built with substantial wealth and in the medieval period wealth came largely through land ownership. The larger the estates, the higher the revenue and the opportunity to build one's own grand house.

This pattern of land ownership continued in Kelham through the next three centuries. There is much documentary evidence of transfers of land and further fragmentation of ownership in Kelham. (see the 'Medieval Village Report' for more details).

c.1251 In the reign of Henry III (1216-1272) Robert de Lexington was given Averham in return for clearing a debt contracted by Robert le Sauvage to Aaron, a Jew of York. Bennet and Stobbs suggested in 1980 that at this point both Kelham and Averham came into the hands of the Lexington family. Our research shows that partial ownership of the Kelham lands by the Lexingtons was possible but unlikely. Documentary evidence shows that ownership of land in Kelham during the 13th cent. remained very fragmented with multiple owners. The 1327 – 8 Lay subsidy records show no Lexingtons (or Suttons) paying tax in Kelham but there are a number of other substantial land-owning residents (details appear in the 'Village and Landscapes Report').

1538 Alicia, sister & heir of Robert de Lexington married Rowland de Sutton. Averham became the main family seat of the Suttons and the moated manor between the church and the river was to be occupied until the civil war by the Sutton line. [2]

To

1550 Robert Thoroton, published in 1677, says 'Rufford Abbey had diverse farms there (Kelham) and in 1538 granted them to George Earl of Shrewsbury 'by descent and mean conveyance' it came to Sir William Saville baronet who sold his interest to Sutton who became lord and owner of the whole township and territories of Kelham, and in effect of the whole island of excellent ground between the two currents of the Trent. (3)

The first substantial house

Information captured in the 'Report on St. Wilfrid's church' shows members of the Sutton family holding responsible positions in the village from the 1580s. By this time, all the land would have been owned by the head of the Sutton family (in 1599 – William Sutton), but younger members appear to have moved into Kelham effectively as his tenants (as they pay tax for 'goods' but not 'for lands' in the 1599 Lay Subsidy).

1599

The Lay Subsidy of 1599 shows the power of the Suttons and their increasing presence in Kelham. The list shows the Sutton family paying nearly 90% of the tax levied in

Averham while William Sutton Jnr. and Richard Sutton contributed 30% of tax raised in Kelham. [4]

The Suttons had arrived, and it is likely that the first significant 'house' was either built or acquired by one of these members of the family.

1625- Robert Sutton, 1st Baron Lexington (1594–1668) was a Royalist MP in 1625 and 1640.
1645 He was barred as a Royalist from sitting in 1643. He served the king during the English Civil War, making great monetary sacrifices for the royal cause. His estate suffered during the time of the Commonwealth, but some money was returned to him by Charles II. [5]

1645 Charles I made Sir Robert Sutton, Baron Lexington of Averham in 1645. When he marched out of Newark after the garrison surrendered and returned home (to Averham) he found it burnt down. He also had to pay £5000 to recover his estates and spent time in prison. He could not use the title Lord Lexington until after the Restoration of Charles II.
1646 A new house was built at Kelham. [6]

There is an article about Charles I's capture and the surrender of Newark. It includes transcriptions of letters held at the Bodleian Library as part of the Tanner MSS collection. The king was temporarily held in Kelham. Where he was kept is not explicitly stated - only that he was there. It is possible that, as the home built by the Suttons would be one of the few substantial houses in the area and with the Suttons' affiliations, the King would be held there [7]

The First Grand Hall

The complex will of Robert, 1st Lord Lexington, extracted from the Registry of Prerogative, Court of Canterbury, has multiple options and codicils based on who survived him. But states that his wife (3rd wife - Mary m. 1660) has use of his house, grounds and contents at Kelham 'which she hath taken care and pains in the building'. It also states that the house has an orchard garden, stables and all the fair grounds'. [8]

If the will was written in 1666 (2 years before Robert's death in 1668) then the building of the Kelham post-Civil War house must be before that date. The English Interregnum was 1651–1660 so the possible build date would be c.1663.

This is the first true Kelham Hall on a grand scale.

Robert Sutton, the 2nd Lord Lexington (1662–1723) was an English diplomat and a very powerful individual well connected with the royal court. He served as a captain of a 'Troop of Horse' resigning his commission in 1686. He was appointed a 'Gentleman of Horse' to the Prince and Princess of Denmark, Princess Anne, later Queen Anne, in 1690; a position he resigned in February 1692/3. He supported the elevation of William of Orange to the throne, and was employed by that king at court and on diplomatic business, being sent as 'envoy extraordinary' to the Elector of Brandenburg in 1689.

He was appointed a Privy Councillor in 1692, and was a 'Gentleman of the Bedchamber' to King William from 1692 until 1702. Lexington was again sent abroad in 1694 as 'envoy extraordinary' to the Court in Vienna and served until the Treaty of Ryswick was concluded in 1697. He was a Lord of Trade from 1699 to 1702, and ambassador to the Court of Madrid from 1712 until 1713, during negotiations for the Treaty of Utrecht.

1668 His appointment to the Privy Council was not renewed upon the accession of George I in 1714. He was sent abroad for the last time in 1718, as minister at Vienna. [9] [10]

1723 On the death of his father Robert, the 2nd Lord Lexington inherited the hall from his father (he's only aged 6 at the time). We have no documentary evidence that he masterminded changes to the original 1660's house during his lifetime. As can be seen from the synopsis of his career, he was rarely in the country. However, it appears he laid out plans for the work to take place.

1723 Robert, 2nd Lord Lexington's will made references to his original grand Hall including: 'plants and statues in garden; a great drawing room', 'best bedroom'; '£100 pa to maintain house', 'outhouses and gardens'. In his will, he instructed his daughter, Bridget, 3rd Duchess of Rutland who inherited (for her lifetime) to renovate/rebuild the Hall according to plans he has already signed off (described as a Platt Model). Work had not started when he died. The will set aside £500 a year until the work was finished. This work on the hall would have happened in the years that followed. Bridget also made some repairs to Averham Park, another house owned by the Suttons and built the Lexington Chapel onto the Church. [11]

There is also a detailed inventory of the rooms and contents of the 1660 Hall taken following death of 2nd Lord Lexington. This listed all his possessions as a legal record of what Bridget was to inherit. The house was a substantial Hall with extensive outbuildings and gardens. It lists about 8 ground floor rooms including 3 parlours, great drawing room, little drawing room, the Granby Hall; 2-3 staircases, bedchambers over 2 upper floors (it also includes names of senior servants). (for a full listing - see Appendix 1). [12]

Also written into his will was that after Bridget's death, the Hall and the very extensive estates were to be inherited by whichever of her sons will change their name from Manners to Sutton.

1734 In 1723, when 2nd Lord Lexington died, Bridget's first son was about 2 years old – he was in-line to become the Duke of Rutland and would not change his name. Her other two sons were born after the death of their grandfather. The 2nd son adopted the name
1730s Manners-Sutton but died without any legitimate heir. The 3rd son adopted the name Manners-Sutton and started another dynasty.

Bridget died in 1734 (age 34) while her children are still infants.

There are large bundles of workmen's bills relating to rebuilding (or remodelling) of Kelham Hall in the 1730s. Some refer to taking down partitions, wainscoting, moving pictures into other rooms, making doors, making Venetian Windows, making cornices - i.e. renovating the original hall and updating it in a more 'Georgian' style. There are also bills for garden work, refer to Old Garden, New Garden, pond garden and ditching canal. [13]

Lord Robert Manners, later Manners-Sutton (1722 – 1762) was the second son of John Manners, 3rd Duke of Rutland by his wife the Bridget.

Becoming a courtier, he served as a Gentleman of the Bedchamber to Frederick, Prince of Wales from 1749 to 1751. He was appointed Master of the Stagounds on 26 April 1744 and Master of the Harriers from 11 April 1754 until 13 January 1756. From 6 July 1747 until his death he was one of the Members of Parliament for Nottinghamshire.

He adopted the additional surname of Sutton on succeeding to the estates of his maternal grandfather the 2nd Lord Lexington in 1734. These included Kelham. He died without having married, and so the estates passed to his next brother Lord George Manners, who also adopted the name Manners-Sutton.

Recent History

John Henry Manners-Sutton (1822 – 98) initiated the next rebuild of the Georgian house. In 1843 Anthony Salvin was commissioned to turn the 18th century house into something more fashionable for the period. Salvin produced a scheme to turn the Georgian house into a Jacobean style mansion and £9000 was spent between 1844 and 1846 – however the changes were not to the liking of Manners -Sutton. Manners Sutton called in George Gilbert Scott to make additional changes.

On the night of 26th November 1857 the whole house apart from Salvins Service wing was burnt down leaving a clean slate for Scott to design the main hall as we see it today. £40,000 was expended on the lavish building but it could not be finished, Manners-Sutton ran into debt and his aspirations were never fully realised.

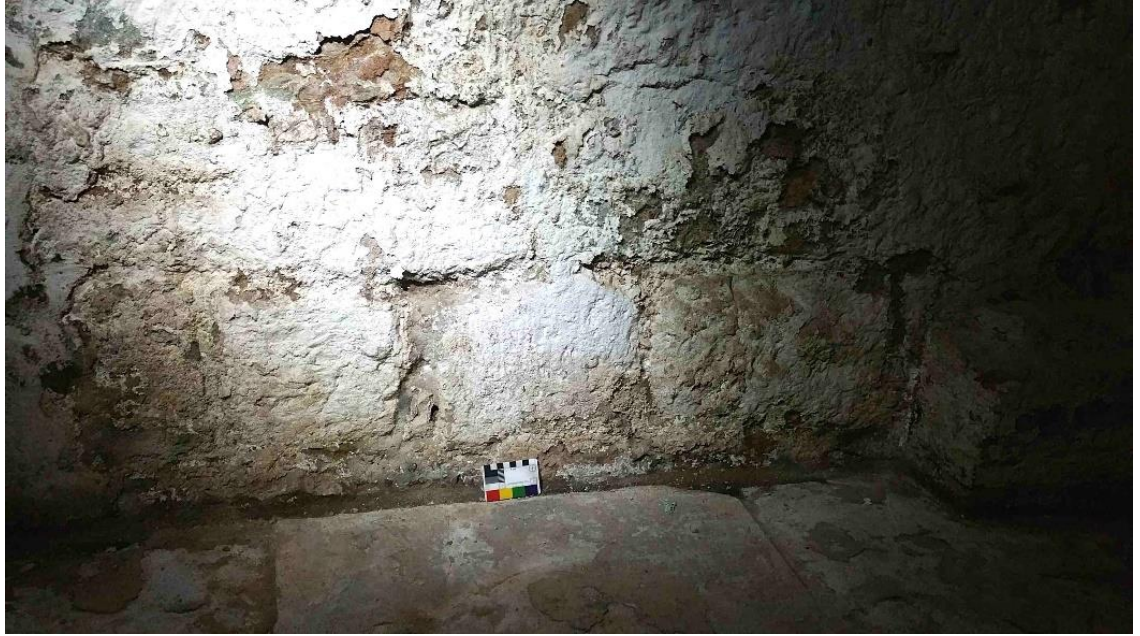
The Physical Evidence

From August to November 2018 detailed surveys took place of the cellars beneath the existing Salvin wing and Scott buildings following suggestions by Guy Taylor Associates that the hall had been built in phases from the 16th Century onward. The architects plan

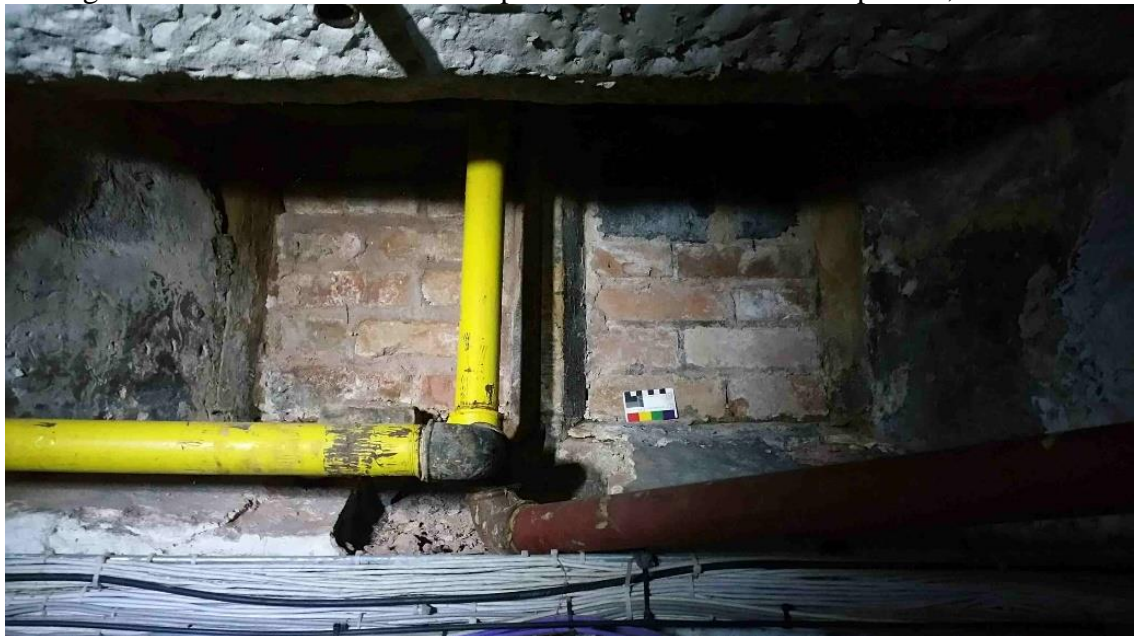
of the cellars, they provided, suggested the footprints of older structures that had subsequently been built over.

The oldest area of the cellars is situated below the current kitchens. There is a large room that has a massive central column, a 'rustic' medieval mullioned window, a flagstone floor with lined drainage channels and evidence of medieval brick structures.

(See pictures on the following pages)



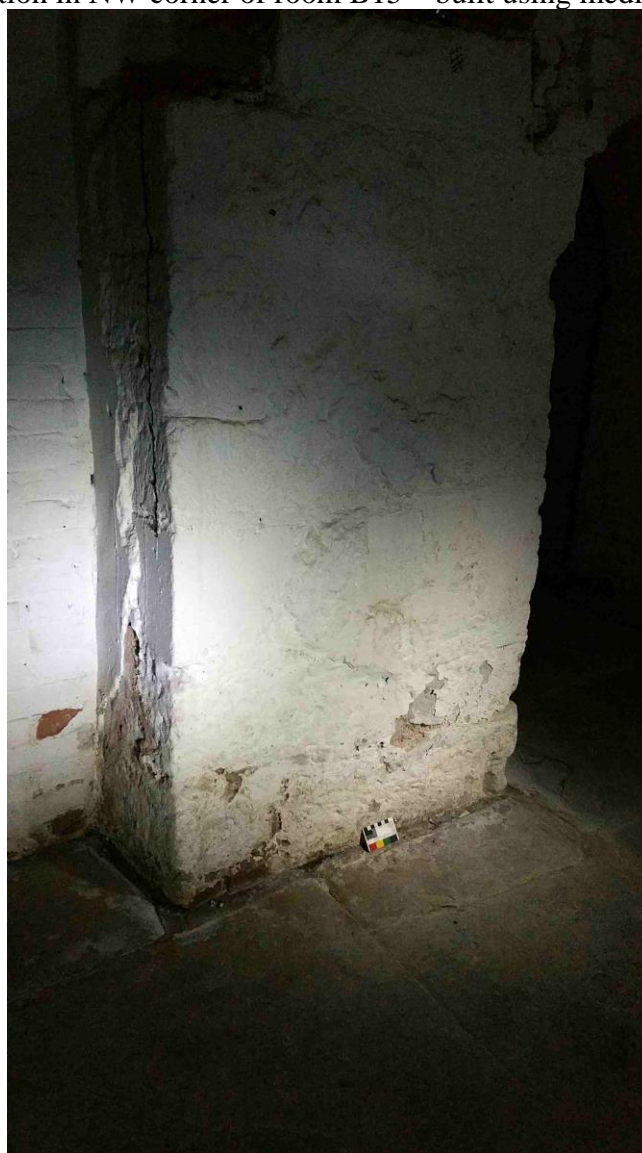
Large Dressed stone walls in oldest part of the cellar network – point 9, Room B15



Mullioned window - point 7, Room B15



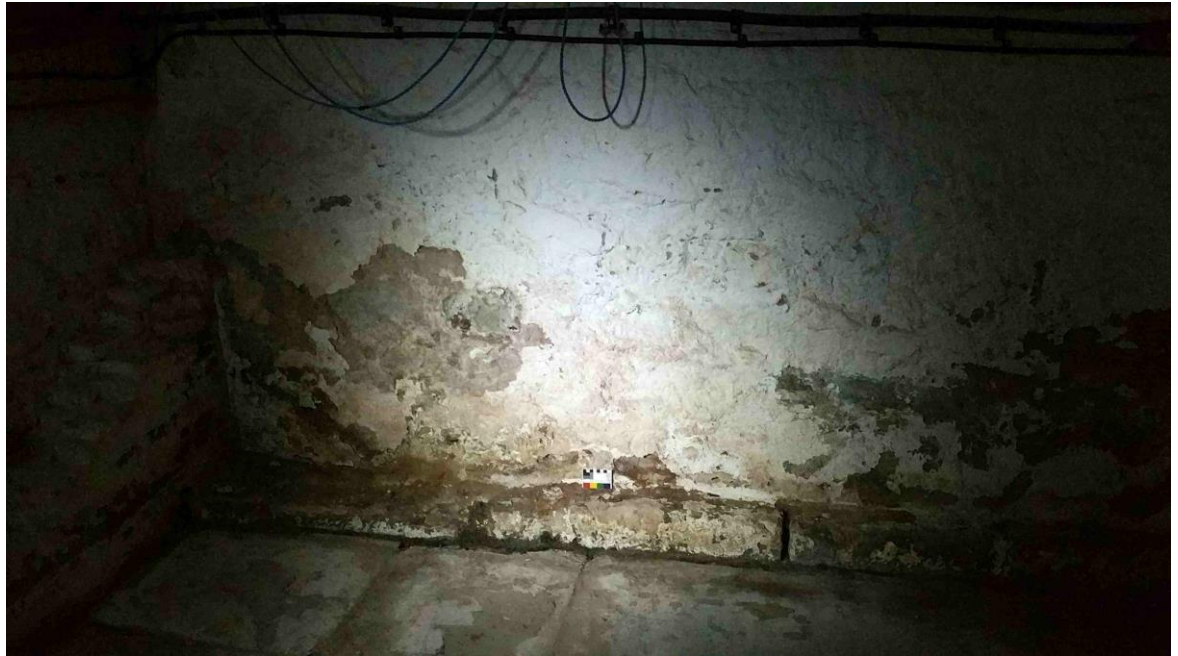
Construction in NW corner of room B15 – built using medieval brick.



Massive Central Pillar in B15 – point 17. 3ft. x 4ft 6” in dressed stone

The window design suggests it is 17th century and the room could well have been part of the post-Civil War hall built by Robert 1st Lord Lexington.

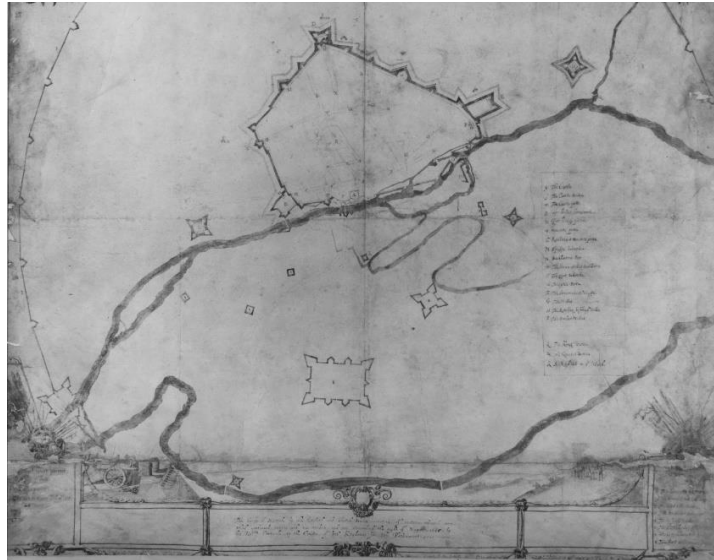
The N. wall of this room appears to be built on top of an earlier structure as evidenced by a course of large foundation stones that are slightly misaligned to the 17th century wall. This could possibly be a small remnant of the first substantial house built in the 16th century.



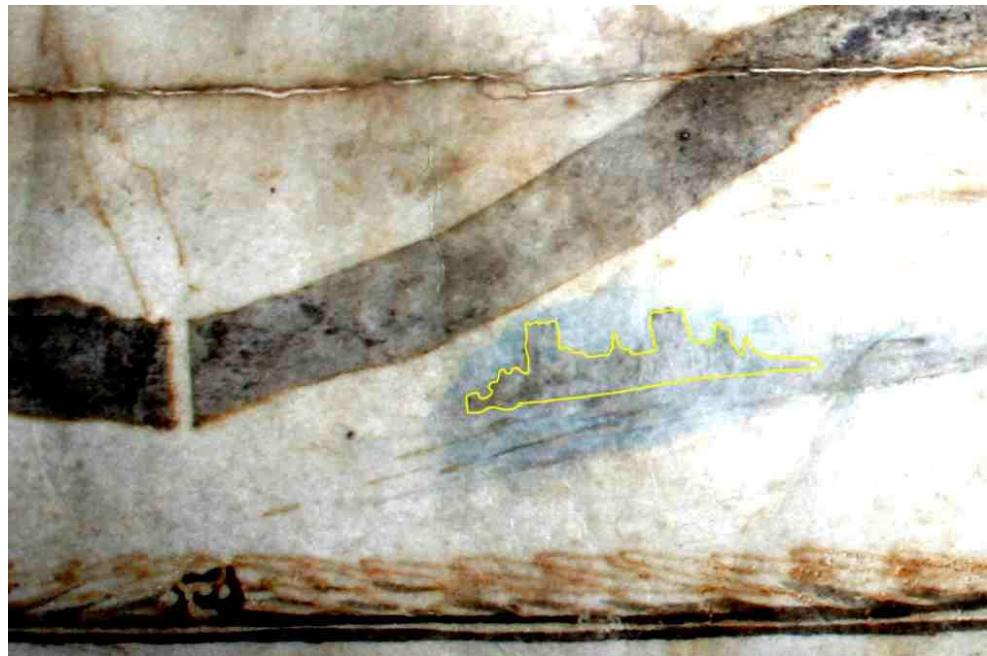
Misaligned foundation stones below 17th Century wall

It was evident that this core structure had been expanded with the addition of two substantial wings to the N. and S. of the original building. These date from either the late 17th century or early 18th century. The footprint of this expanded hall is very large and would match the scale of the grand hall outlined in the 1723 inventory taken following Robert, 2nd Lord Lexington's death.

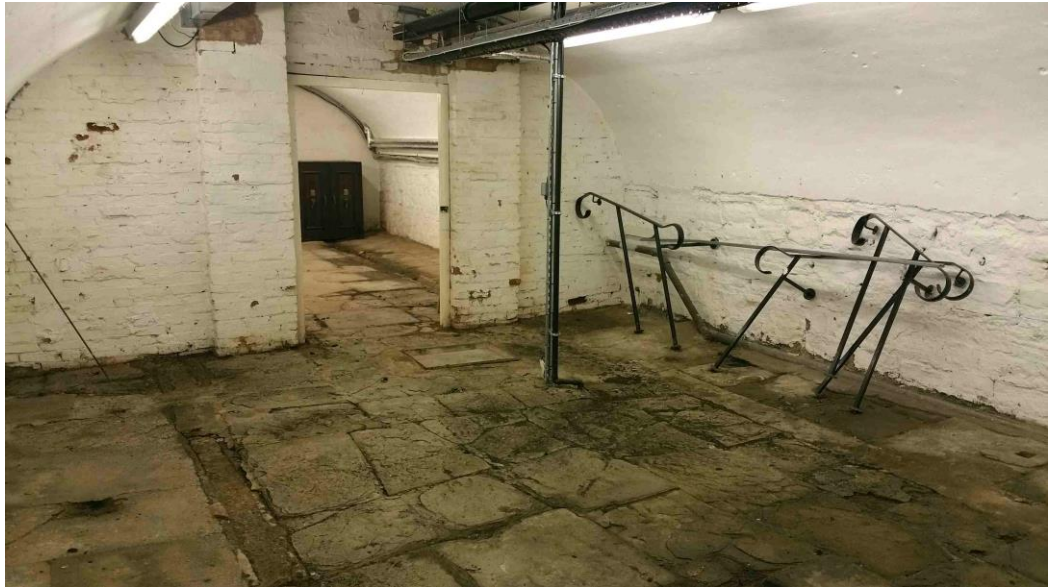
There is an intriguing picture, reputedly showing Kelham Hall on an undated siege of Newark map.



In the bottom right-hand corner is a depiction of a grand house by a bridge across the River Trent with some horsemen in the foreground. Though it may show considerable artistic licence, the house is shown with a symmetrical frontage and 2 multi-story wings either side of a lower central core. It is highly likely that this map was drawn after the 1660's and could be depicting the kings surrender but with the then current hall as the backdrop.



The cellars below what would have been the north wing are fully accessible with larger rooms that show massive wall construction, stone slab floors and an extensive layout of drainage channels. The area under the south wing is largely inaccessible but penetration of the area though very limited strongly suggests the wing would have mirrored that to the north.

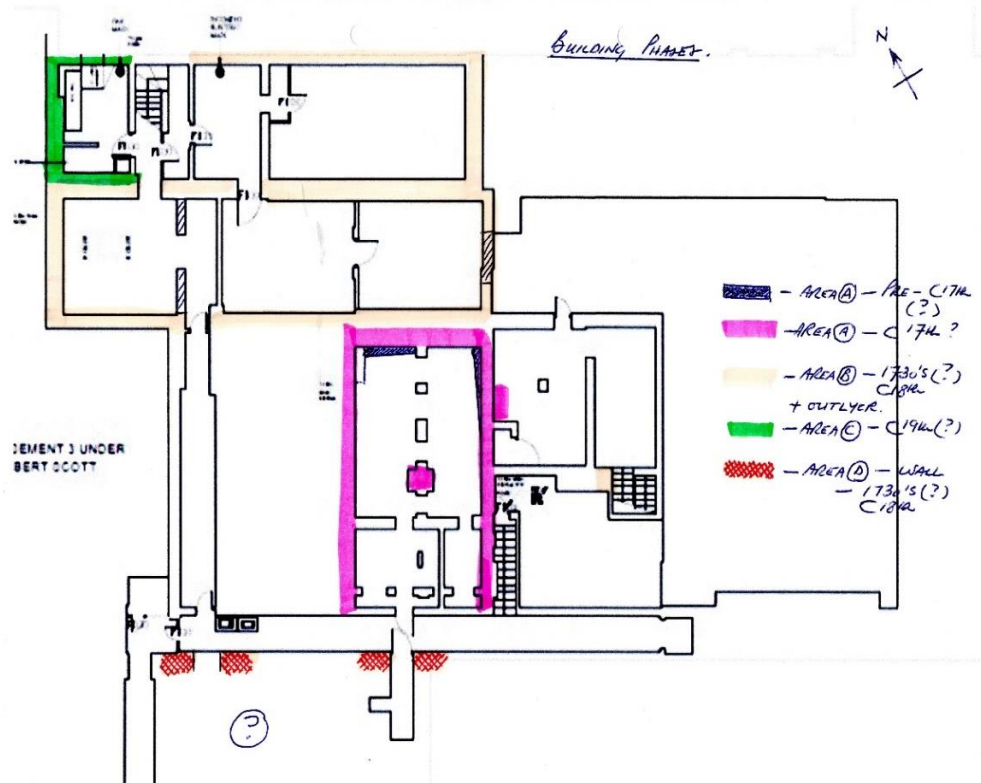


Large cellar rooms below the N. wing – room B12 and B13



Stone lined drainage channels in flagstone floor

So, the physical evidence supported by the documentary records provide a compelling proof that there have been a series of halls built over an original, more humble, structure and that the first real hall was built by Robert Sutton, 1st Lord Lexington around 1663. Below is a plan showing the building phases.



Extract of Basement plans used by kind permission of Guy Taylor Associates, Newark

More details of the cellar survey work can be found in the 'Basement Survey Report'.

Annotated Bibliography

1. Domesday Book, 28, Nottinghamshire. Phillimore - History from the source, Published book (1977)
2. Kelham Hall-A Family & a House by Francis Bennett & Gordon Stobbs (1980), Bromley House Library, C29289.
3. Notts Archive, Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire, Volume 3 – Kelham and Parke Lathes, Reference Library.
4. National Archives
5. Chisholm, Hugh, ed. (1911). "[Lexington, Baron](#)". *Encyclopædia Britannica*. **16** (11th ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 526.
6. Notts Archive, Transactions of the Thoroton Soc. Vol 65 p47, Book, Reference Library
7. Internet, online article
<http://www.nottshistory.org.uk/articles/tts/tts1922/charlessurrender2.htm>, The surrender of King Charles I. to the Scotts by E L Guilford, transcript of talk given to Thoroton Society
8. Notts Archive, Copy of Will of Robert, Lord Lexington, DD/T/17/12
9. Chisholm, Hugh, ed. (1911). "[Lexington, Baron](#)". *Encyclopædia Britannica*. **16** (11th ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 526.
10. Cokayne, George Edward (1998) [1910]. ed. The Hon. Vicary Gibbs, ed. *The Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom, extant, extinct, or dormant, Volume 12 part 2*. London: The St. Catherine Press. pp. 626–629
11. Notts Archive, Copy of Will of Robert, 2nd Lord Lexington, DD/H/45/7a
12. Belvoir Castle Archive, Inventory of Kelham Hall, Acc 377
13. Belvoir Caste Archives, Workmen Bills, Kelham Hall, 1730 – 1733

List of Rooms in 1723 Inventory of Kelham Hall, drawn up following death of 2nd Lord Lexington

(original includes list of contents, omitted in this document)

Hall

Great Drawing Room

Chinks [Chintz] Room

Lobby

Great Parlour

Lord Lexington's mothers parlour

My Lord Lexingtons Parlour

Red Damask Bed Chamber

Two Closets [one toilet, one store room]

2 ??? Closets [store rooms]

Great Stair Case Lobby

Little Drawing room next to Hall

Granby Hall

In the Anti Chamber up one Pair of Stairs

In the closet to the Antichamber

Green Damask Bed Chamber

Best bed chamber

Closet in the Best Bed Chamber [toilet]

In the Passage Chamber

In the Room up two Paire of Stairs

Mr Hodsons bedchamber [possible valet or personal servant]

Wm Nicksons Bed Chamber [possible valet or personal servant]

On the little staircase

His Grace's Dressing Room

Mrs Thistlethwaites Bed Chamber

Late Lord Lexington's bed chamber

Library

Dark Closet by back stairs (toilet)

Red Damask Bed Room up two paire of stairs

First nursery

Partridge Garret or Housemaids Chamber

Mrs Dessmares Bed Chamber

In the Powder Garret [for wigs]

Inward Dairy

Outward Dairy

Stewards Room

Servants Hall

Stable Chambers and ??? in Philip Booths Chamber

Paper Room where Mr Ellis Lyes

Gardeners Red Chamber
chamber next to Mr Ellis Chamber
Wm Manbys Chamber
chamber behind Philip Booths Chamber
John Hardy's chamber
Wm Clarks Chamber

chamber next Wm Clarks
chamber next the three Bed Room
three Bed Room
John Lees Chamber
boys chamber
John Lees Room
Long Stable for Hacking

Still house chamber
Maids Chamber over the kitchen
Mr Waters Bed Chamber
Laundry Maids bed chamber
dairy maids Bed Chamber

Laundry
Kitchen Maids Bed Chamber

Linen found in the Landing
Linen in a chest on the stairs in the house
Linen in the Kitchen Maids chamber

House of office in the Garden (toilet)
Brewhouse
bake house
bake house chamber
workshop

Kitchen
Scullery
Pantry and fowl larder
Passage between the kitchen and still house
Great larde

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to Guy Taylor Associates, Architects, Newark for permission to use extracts from the architectural plans for the hall basement.

Thank you to Jonathan Pass for allowing full access to the hall basements on a number of occasions.

All basement photographs copyright of Tony Beresford and Andy Hoe

Appendix 3 - History of the Medieval village at Kelham and surrounding landscape



The Vision and Creed of Piers Ploughman (Project Gutenberg) www.wikipedia.com

Compiled by Ruth Strong from the work of the
Research Team.



P1100875. Modern deep ridge and furrow

All photographs © R. Strong unless stated

The Research Team

Norma
Burke



Andy Hoe

Lorraine
Fryer

Judith Mills

And Ruth Strong (below)

With R & S Longden (not pictured)



At the National archives

Contents

1. Summary	page 5
2. The Manors of Kelham: Introduction	6
3. Landscape	6
How big was Kelham?	7
Population	10
What did Medieval Kelham look like?	10
Changes Of Land Ownership	12
The Medieval Village of Kelham	6
Appendix 1. Land distribution at the time of Domesday	21
Appendix 2. Society – the Structure from 1066	23
Appendix 3. Family Trees	24
Glossary	26
References	28

Summary

Kelham Revealed! set out to discover as much as possible about the manors of Kelham, whether there was a village or not and its location. Kelham has been the subject of several books and articles, most concentrating on the later village and particularly Kelham Hall with few sources given.

The content of this report was derived from documentary research in local and national archives, and walking and photographing the present landscape to attempt to find traces of the medieval landscape.

Research was carried out on specific features in the area, pertaining to the importance of the bridges of Kelham, the church and Kelham Hall itself. The account of Kelham Village and landscape should be read in conjunction with the reports on *The Bridges of Kelham*, *Kelham Hall*, the church and the research into the taxation systems or Lay Subsidies.

The period of medieval Kelham for this study covers the years from the Norman Conquest in 1066 to the late sixteenth century. Kelham in 1066 and before was not one manor as Averham was, but divided into five manors. The ownership changed over the centuries, land was transferred by lease sale or inheritance and occasional until the “whole township and territories” of Kelham came into the ownership of the Mr Sutton who became the first Lord Lexington. [9]. “Ownership” in the medieval contest is used loosely, in that all land was owned by the king who awarded territories to his loyal followers as tenants-in-chief. See Appendix b.

The Manors of Kelham

Numbers in square brackets refer to the references at the end of this report.

Definitions of words in italics can be found in the glossary.

Introduction

The earliest record considered for Kelham in this paper is the Domesday Book, compiled in 1086 as a record of all taxable assets for William I (the Conqueror). In the years following the Conquest, there had been much unrest and it was necessary to raise taxes to pay for the army in order for William to consolidate his military power, both from internal insurrection and that of a threatened invasion by King Cnut of Denmark (Son of Swein) in 1085. William had inherited from the Anglo-Saxons a ready-made tax-gathering system that had been used to raise taxes (geld) based on a fixed rate of tax on each *hide* to pay off the invading Danes, (Danegeld) therefore in a relatively short space of time the basic government organisation transferred to the Norman invaders. Most of the English nobility had been killed at during the Battle of Hastings or shortly afterwards in brief and savagely put-down rebellions, so William was able to reward his most loyal followers with grants of land, replacing the original owners.

Landscape

Kelham is in the *Wapentake* of Lythe.

In 1086 when Domesday Book was compiled [1], Kelham had five *Tenants-in-Chief*, holding land directly from the king. In contrast, Averham, (or Aygum in the manuscript), has one Tenant-in-Chief. These individuals had been awarded their holdings as loyal supporters of the king. One person has a Saxon name and is describes as a *King's Thegn* (theyne or thane). Some of the Tenants-in-Chief held land in neighbouring manors. For example, Walter D'Ainscourt was lord of Averham and 36 other manors in Nottinghamshire in addition to his holding in Kelham.

Table 1. Tenants in Chief of Kelham

<i>1066</i>	<i>1086</i>
Ulfkil brother of Algar	Healdene or Haldene (of Cromwell)
Aelfric	Gilbert Tison
Osmund	Ralph of Buron and tenant William
Godric and Thorkill of Hickling	Roger de Busli
Thori son of Roald	Walter D'Ainscourt

Domesday is the earliest written record of who held land in 1086. The names of the landholders at the time of King Edward was also recorded, conveniently erasing Harold from

the list of kings and only referring him to him when necessary as “Earl Harold”. Domesday is a list of taxable assets, such as areas of land under cultivation or woodland which provided crops of wood for firewood or hurdle fences. Land not under cultivation was recorded as *waste* and was not taxed.

How big was Kelham?

Domesday does not show geographical boundaries nor the position of each holding or areas such as woodland.

The areas of each holding can only be estimated and are expressed in terms of the amount of land that can be ploughed by a certain size of plough team in a day or year. Therefore measurements will vary according to soil type, and nature of the terrain. For consistency, the values defined in the glossary are used.

Tenant-in-Chief	Tenant if named	Ploughland arable(acres)	Meadow (acres)	Underwood Area in miles	People (adult males)
Roger de Busli	Tuold	495	22	2 x 1.73	13
Walter D’Ainscourt		1,340	16	1.125 x 2.08	21
Ralph de Buron	William	150	9	1 x 0.60	3
Gilbert Tison		150	6	1 x 0.66	2
Healfdene/Haldene		120	6	1 x 0.38	4
Total		2,255	59		43

Table 2. Distribution of land – summary. See Appendix A for the detail

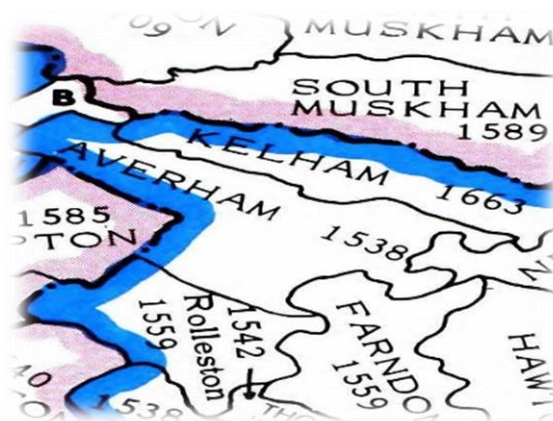
In the present day, Kelham is defined as a Civil Parish (Map 1). The boundaries appear little different from the ecclesiastical parish (Map 2) or the “ancient” parish (Map 3). The size of the present Parish of Kelham is 1,800acres, of which 484 are on the island between the rivers.



Map 1. Modern Civil Parish [2]



Map 2. Ecclesiastical Parish [3]



Map 3. Ancient Parish [4] The date is when Parish Registers commenced

There has been no documentary evidence found so far, to define the original boundaries of Kelham. If the values indicated by the Domesday Commissioners are accurate, Kelham encompassed a larger area than now (ie. 2019). The Parish system in the Danish territories including Nottinghamshire may have developed from defensive areas set by the Danes and developed after their defeat in the 10th century when collection of tithes by the king was enforced and later as a means of defining pastoral duties by the church. Ecclesiastical boundaries were fluid in the 10th to 12th century. [5]

Some documents related to leases disputes or inheritances mention place names. The population at the time would have known which location the description refers to. Unfortunately, to relate the descriptions to a modern map can only be guesswork unless further documentary evidence is found.

For example, in 1220, William de Bucton granted the monks of Rufford a *selion* “lying between Trent and the Kelham-Muscum road” [6] and in 1248 a further three acres of arable from William in “Dodcrofftdal and other places in Kelham”. [7] A place called Old Ynge is mentioned in a lease of 1358. John de Glentham leased 4 acres of meadow at Old Ynge to Hugh Bote of Newark and his wife Beatrice for nine years in return for a rose. [8] Parklathes, still shown on modern maps, was sold to Rufford Priory by William de Tulc or Tuc with permission from his overlord Ralph Silvein and confirmed by King Stephen and land in the fee of Tickhill held by Gilbert de Kelum and William de Tulc granted to Rufford Abbey as being “on the west side of Buggewang.... unto the bounds of Wynchburne..” [9] Modern Winkburn is the parish and village adjacent to the north west of the Parish of Kelham. The border is the present Cauntoun Road

A study of “*Minor and Field names in the Thurgarton Wapentake*” (Rebecca Gregory 2018) dates Park Leys to 1160, Buggewang is dated to 1146. [10] The frequency of name suffixes

ending in *wang* or *wonge*, *feld*, *furlong*, *croft* or *land* with a prefix which was either a personal name or description such as *nor*, *middel* would describe the land and who worked it. People at the time would have known where these places were.

Underwood

Each holding had an area of woodland, described as *underwood*. This land would yield crops of coppiced wood for hurdles and firewood for domestic heating and cooking. Initially the amounts of each holding is confusing as both measurements are areas. *Furlong* is also a length. *Virgate* is an area. It is most probable that the number of virgates is the area of each holding. To obtain a reasonable idea of the extent and shape of woodland, each holding was calculated in miles using the calculation below;

$$\begin{aligned} V \times 30 \times 4840 &= \text{area in square yards (A)} \\ F \times \text{no of furlongs(x)} &= \text{length of woodland (f}_x\text{) in yards} \\ A \div f_x &= \text{width of woodland (W) in yards} \\ W \div 1760 &= W \text{ in miles (Wm)} \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Virgates} &= v & 1 \text{ mile} &= 8 \text{ furlongs or } 1,760 \text{ yards} \\ \text{Furlongs} &= F \\ 1 \text{ acre} &= 4840 \text{ sq yds} & 1 \text{ virgate} &= 30 \text{ acres} \end{aligned}$$

Example:

Ralph of Buron has underwood of length 8 furlongs and width of 8 virgates

$$\text{Area A} = 12 \times v = 12 \times 30 = 360 \text{ acres} \times 4840 = 1,742,800 \text{ yds}^2$$

$$\text{Length} = f \times 8 = 1760 \text{ yds}$$

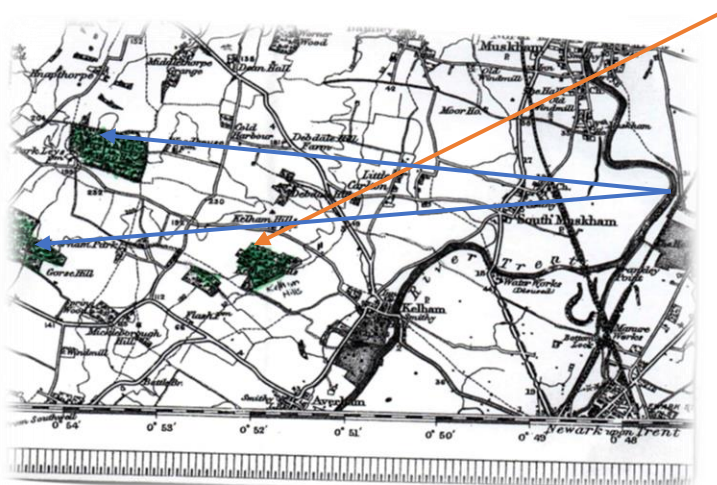
$$\text{Width} = 1,742,800 / 1760 = 990 \text{ yds} = 0.58 \text{ miles}$$

Therefore Ralph has an area of underwood one mile long and just over half a mile wide.

Domesday does not indicate geographical position, but it is noticeable that each plot of underwood is about the same length except for that of Roger de Busli which is twice the size of the others. It is most likely that all the underwood of the same or similar length was in one or two blocks with Roger's holding separate.

The 1906 OS map of Kelham below shows woodland which logically may be the approximate position of ancient woodlands. [11]

Map 4.



The present location of Kelham Wood is on an area of rising land, the elevation increasing by 40m over a distance of 500m.

Muskham Wood and Cheveral Wood; both on the borders of the present Parish of Kelham. The map is not evidence but is to provide an illustration.

Views of the slope taken from Kelham Hills Farm:



Population.

Domesday mostly only records male heads of household. It is estimated that the number of householders can be multiplied by between 4.5 and 5. [12] This would represent a population of between 194 and 215. There may be others unrecorded by the Domesday Commissioners. Of the 43 persons recorded in 1086, 19 are described as *freemen or sokemen*. Others as *villeins* or *bordars (smallholders)*. The proportion of freemen, almost half, to unfree peasants is thought to be a feature of the Danelaw as is the use of the words *Wapentake*, or *carucate* in the Thoroton translation of Domesday.[1]

The Lay Subsidy lists of taxpayers in 1327, 1332, 1523 and 1543, records 12, 11 and 27 taxpayers respectively which would be only those with the means to pay tax so are not an indicator of population size by themselves. However, there were 56 signatories to the *Oath to Defend the Protestant Religion against all Popery and Popish Innovations* of 1641, which was a legal requirement for all males over 18. (Protestant Returns 1641-42 in Nottingham Archives) Even if the two marked as “Jnr” are still living with parents may have been family men, and a multiplier can be applied. In this case, it could be 4.5 advocated by the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Studies (www.campop.geog.cam.ac.uk) which gives a total of 252 if all 56 males are counted.

Alternatively, the multiplier recommended by P.H. Nustelling in his paper *The Population of England 1539 - 1873* on page 67 (www.persee.fr/doc/hism) is 3.43, which works out as 185. This compares to the population of Kelham Parish of 169 according to the 1841 Census [13] and 207 from the 2011 Census. [14]

Records concerning the effect of the Black Death in Kelham have not yet been found. If the literate record keepers were among the dead then it is possible no records were kept outside urban areas. The East Midlands was already in economic decline due to changes in the weather in the early 1300s to a wetter environment which affected harvests which would have an effect on the resistance to an epidemic of the severity of bubonic plague. [15]. Estimated deaths were from 30% to 80% depending on location. Kelham may have been a crisis point considering its position as a trade route via the bridge to Newark and Nottingham and via the river linking to the northern ports. In Newark, in 1349, all the graveyards had been filled so the Bishop was petitioned to open new burial places [16].

What Did Medieval Kelham look like?

The most likely agricultural system in Kelham was the use of the Open Field system although details of whether it operated on a two, three or four field rotation is not mentioned. The Open Field system was common in the Midlands until gradually, land was enclosed and more modern farming methods still used today were made possible. Enclosure in Kelham seems to be by private treaty [10] and not part of the general Enclosure Acts of the later 18th and early 19th centuries. A relic of Open Field farming can still be seen in Laxton, Nottinghamshire. [17] [18]

Documentary evidence indicates that there is no nucleated settlement or village but individual farmsteads. No manor house is documented for each of the tenants-in-chief but it is not necessary for those lords to reside on their land. For example, the head of the Honour of Roger de Busli is Tickhill [9]. The number of freemen being nearly half of the (male over 14) population could indicate that some farmed independently, but still been part of the communal open field method. They were entitled to buy and sell their land but would still be

obliged to attend the manor court where matters pertaining to farming such as crop rotation were decided.

With open Fields, farmers would hold parcels of land in different places to share out the good and less good agricultural land. Each parcel would consist of *furlongs* (meaning an area) or *lands* consisting of *selion* strips. Groups of furlongs made up the field. There would be uncultivated land or balks separating strips which would also allow access. Sometimes these can be traced as they evolved into rights-of-way, lanes or holloways still used by farmers. Traces of open field can be seen in the layout of modern farms when present field patterns form an S-curve. [17] This is because land was ploughed in the same direction, more often clockwise, forming deep furrows to aid drainage and ending with a slight turn. Traces of the S-curve can be seen in field layouts in the OS map of Kelham. The photograph on page 2 illustrates deep furrows and a ploughing pattern still in use. Traces of ridge and furrow have been found in the grounds of Kelham Hall



A panoramic view would have been a large field devoid of hedges but perhaps divided by a balk [17] for access.



A modern large field with a central access lane in Kelham

An open field in Laxton



Access lane between fields in Laxton.



Meadow was land left uncultivated but cropped for hay for winter fodder, then used as pasture. In 1086, Domesday does not specify land only used for pasture, but plough animals would have to be provided for. The whole of Kelham at this time appears to be concentrated as arable farming, but this situation could have changed over time. Meadow was permanent pasture, often land near rivers [17]



Picture: The present river bank with meadow on each side

Evidence that Kelham was still farmed using open fields is indicated by the terms of a lease granted in 1562 by Sir Godfrey Foljambe as *Escheator* for Nottinghamshire, to Matthew Dawson of Kellum (Kelham), who is described as a “husbandman” or farmer. In exchange for £13. 5s 8d paid in advance, Matthew and his heirs were leased 40 acres of arable land and 5 acres meadow. The arable land was described as follows; 13 acres in the N. field, 14 acres in the middel (sic) field and 14 in the S. field. [19] Use of these terms for the fields is typical of the open field system. [18 & 19]

Changes Of Land Ownership.

The ownership and disposition of Kelham and Averham can be traced through documentary evidence of charters, leases and assorted documents collected in family archives. Among these records are “Inquisitions Post Mortem”. Inquisitions Post Mortem record the passing of property from the owner to his heir, on death and are used to assess if any tax is owed and how much. A complete list of sources is included at the end of this report

The manors of Kelham changed hands over the next few centuries through deeds of gift, sale, inheritance or confiscation by the Crown. Families intermarried, so parcels of land changed hands as marriage portions or to other branches of a family if there was no heir of the same name.

As was customary at the time, land was gifted or sold or leased to religious establishments for a variety of reasons apart from purely commercial. The grants might be as a penance or a fee so that masses for the souls of the departed would be said daily, thereby hastening the end of their time in purgatory.

Rufford Abbey was a major recipient of grants of land from Kelham landowners. It was founded in 1146 with land initially given by Gilbert de Gant, Earl of Lincoln, who had been excommunicated for burning the Priory of Pontefract. [20]

Between 1146 and 1154, Kelham lands granted to Rufford amounted to 150 acres; comprising five bovates from Geoffrey de Stantun, 40 acres from Malgarus de Rollestun who held land from Walter D'Aincourt, and land rented from Ralph de Hocretun for 16 pence per year.[21]

At this time the de Chelum (or Kellum, Kelham) family appears as does that of William le Tuk (Touk, Tuke or Tulc) from a family of magnates based in Yorkshire. The tenant of Roger de Busli, Turoid de Lissures, was replaced by Roger de Cressy. Land given by Gilbert de Chelum (Kelham) was sold to him by William le Touk with permission from his overlord. . All land was not owned as such but held by permission from an overlord one grade above. (See Appendix B) the overlord of William le Touk was Ralph Silvein [9]

Donations of Land to Rufford Priory continued until the Dissolution. Some grants were described as being the late property of someone such as in 1201 when Henry de Kelum, grandson of Maurice (See Appendix C) granted to the monks of Rufford the commons and rights of land in Kelum relating to a bovate of land late belonging to Matilda Tuke [22] The Tuke family feature often in documentary evidence as donors to Rufford but not always amicably.

Between 1276 and 1450, the same family names are mentioned in court cases about land disputes or grants of land. The individuals named are not necessarily resident in Kelham although their families may have originated there. [23] Spelling was not standardised at this time so the same family names appear differently. Appendix 3 shows short family trees of the Tukes and De Kelums according to Thoroton [9]. These families include Walter Tuk or Touk, John Touk, Walter, son of Matilda of Kelum, the de Kelum family, Prides of Kelum, Pyngles of Kelum, John Kellum and a probable foreign resident, Robert Koh of Kellum as he paid an Alien tax imposed on foreigners. Taxation records from 1327 show the several members of the Sutton family paying tax on wages but on land in 1523.

Walter in 1290 disputed land ownership with Rufford Abbey. [22] He had already been discovered as a blackmailer over access to the bridge. In 1295, Walter was dispossessed as he supported Prince John in rebellion against Richard I and spent time imprisoned in Nottingham. He was able to recover his land on payment of a fine.[9] Documents from 1311 say that the Tuke (Touk) descendant at the time, Henry, son of Walter “held the manor of Kelham by service of half a knight’s fee” [9 and 25] from their overlord, Edmund de Cresley of Tykhyll (Tickhill).

The manor of Kelham was transferred by Henry’s son Simon to Thomas de Cophouse for 10 silver marks in 1304 and confirmed in 1337. [26] In 1337, another Tuke or Touk, John, granted 2 bovates (30 acres) and 8 acres of meadow to Robert de Kelm and his wife Juetta. [23] Robert was described as a “clerk”. There is still no evidence that the Tukes were resident in Kelham (see the Lay Subsidy report on taxation).

Lands belonging to the Tuke family in Kelham which were described as their principal manor, by 1418 had passed to the Foljambe family and were later sold to Sir William Sutton whose descendants became the Lords Lexington. [27] The same year, 1418, Henry de Sutton and others were granted lands in Kelham and Averham by “John, son of Robert de Willoughby, late Lord of Cresley and Katherine his wife” [27].

The De Kellum (or Kelm) family appear in taxation rolls of the 1327, 1332 and 1523 to 1527 as being taxed for land (see the Lay Subsidy Report and Appendix C of this report for a short family tree). In 1250, Ada daughter of Henry de Kellum gave the monks of Rufford property worth an annual rent of 12d. [28] John de Kellum at his death in 1496 held 9 messuages, 80 acres of land and 20 acres of meadow ‘of the King’ who at that time was lord of the honour of Tykhill. [29] The de Kellums (sic) of the 1523-1527 tax lists, Robert and his son John, were in debt of £100 and their estates were seized by the Sheriff because they disappeared. The Inquisition into their debt is dated 1523. Their property listed at the time was described as the Manor of Kelham ‘in demesne’, (which means that they were in residence and farmed the land themselves rather than renting it out) and 6 messuages, 200 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, and 40 acres of pasture in Kelham and Newark-on-Trent [in Newark Wapentake], worth £5 altogether plus other properties in Kersall, Kelham and Newark worth £7.10s [30]. However by 1594, John Kellum, age 30, inherits property in Kelham worth £7 consisting of 9 messuages, 80 acres of land and 12 acres of pasture. [31] Although the document is dated 1594, the “king” date given is 9HENVII, which would be 1502.

Other families appear in documentary records relating to Rufford Abbey. The de Buckton or Bucton family is recorded as donating over 43 acres of land plus meadow and other land not specified to Rufford Abbey. [32] The Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford Abbey in Nottingham archives list donations of property in small parcels over the years 1220 to 1260, sometimes as *selions* or *acres*. Some of the land has a location mentioned, for example in 1220. A *selion* was gifted described as lying between the river Trent and the Muscam Road.

The Suttons

The earliest mention of the Sutton family is in 1251, during the reign of Henry III when Averham was given to Robert de Lexington by Robert le Sauvage in return for payment of a debt. Robert’s sister and heir married Rowland de Sutton. [33] The Lay Subsidy records of 1327-1333 and 1523-1527 show that members of the Sutton family were major taxpayers based on land in Averham, whilst in Kelham, members of the de Kellum family filled that position. (See the Report on Taxation).

The Sutton family’s interests remained closely connected to Averham and control of the bridge and water course (See the Bridge Report). Their lands holdings increased in 1418 when Henry Sutton was granted all the lands in Averham and manor of Kelum from John Willoughby, son of Robert Lord Cresly [27]. At the same time, The Sutton family bought the Tuke land from the Foljambe family [27]. Sir Godfrey Foljambe was the *Escheator* for Nottinghamshire, so was arranged the sale of inheritances without heirs. Documentary evidence records that lands at Averham given to Henry Sutton on an unknown date, father of

Sir Thomas Sutton at his death includes: 1 gurgate/fishing/weir & 2 watermills in Kelham. Also 100 acres meadow and 200 acres pasture in Averham, Harby, Kelham and Clifton. Lands at Kelham, the mills & the profits from the fishery and a close called Thrussepittes to be given to his wife. This may be the same land granted by the Willoughby family but it is not possible to be certain. [29]

In 1516, the last male member of the Robertson family of Kelham died. His heirs who included his sisters then their heirs eventually sold the land to the Mr Sutton who became the first Lord Lexington in 1645 [27]. Eventually, the Sutton family through purchase, legacy or marriage became the dominant landowners. Lands given to Rufford Priory at the dissolution in 1538 were assigned to George Earl of Shrewsbury, then by inheritance to Sir William Saville who also sold his Kelham land to Mr Sutton. [9]

The influence of the Sutton family over both Kelham and Averham was considerable. The Report on the Bridges of Kelham describes how they were able to change the course of the River Trent, extract tolls and at times be taken before the court as to their liabilities to repair the bridge.

Other families of local magnates are associated with land transactions in Kelham and district. The area was owned or tenanted by multiple overlords throughout the period covered in this study. The Fitzwilliams and the Foljambe families are evident in the late 15th and 16th centuries. The widow Elizabeth Fitzwilliam in 1503, left her Kelham property of one *messuage*, six *oxgangs* and eight acres of meadow worth ten marks to Thomas Fitzwilliam [9]. The same Thomas Fitzwilliam who is described as holding land in Kelham “of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster” leaves this estate to his heir, another William aged 4 in 1515 [9].

In 1524, Sir Godfrey Foljambe’s (1472 – 1541) son James, marries Alice daughter of Thomas Fitzwilliam, niece of the Earl of Southampton and granddaughter of the Marquis of Montagu. [34 and 35] As *Escheator* of Nottinghamshire, the next Sir Godfrey Foljambe (1527-1585) is responsible for the disposal and allocation of tenancies left without an heir on behalf of the King.

The Medieval Village of Kelham

There seems to be no village of Kelham at the time of Domesday. Taxation records show the presence of a baker and a carter who paid taxes in 1327 of 10d and 6d respectively. Full information about taxes and evidence of occupations can be found in the Lay Subsidy Report.

The presence of a carter and baker indicates that a central core of village services had developed. In present day Kelham, along the perhaps aptly-named Blacksmith’s Lane there are older properties with timbers dating to the fifteenth century with what is thought to be a baker’s oven and together with a smithy where the house is a modern rebuild of the same design over an older footprint is an indication that trades were carried out in this area. Archaeological evidence of occupation along this area of the river bank has been found and can be seen in the main body of the this report.

The Fox Inn public house is documented to around this time although it is not known whether it was named, was an inn or just a cottage which sold surplus beer.

If the oldest buildings in the modern village are marked on a modern map, then a potential village centre is evident bordered by Blacksmith's Lane and Ollerton Road with Manor Farm opposite the junction of these two roads and an area between which could have been the site for other dwellings or left as common land. The early maps are not detailed and only show main roads or tracks which correspond with Broadgate Lane and Ollerton Road. A settlement developing in this area from the 12th century onwards would be in a position to trade with those using the bridge as their route to the markets of Newark. The tolls listed in the Bridge Report indicate usage of this route.

In 1329, the Charter from Henry III which granted the tolls from those passing over the bridge at Kelham to the "burgesses of Nottingham" refers to Kelham as a town. [36]. This would be a description of a nucleated settlement rather than scattered farmsteads. It is some evidence that by this time, there was a village in Kelham and supported by archaeological evidence from test pitting, that Blacksmith's Lane was a part of it.

Further references indicating a village to Kelham, mention "messuages", which although means a house with associated outbuildings and land is listed separately from cottages, arable land and tofts and crofts. The property inventory of John Kellum of Kellum in 1496 lists nine messuages [29]. The widow Elizabeth Fitzwilliam, in 1503 left a messuage as well as land.[29] and the inheritance of John Robinson in 1516 refers to the "town and fields"[9 and 27].

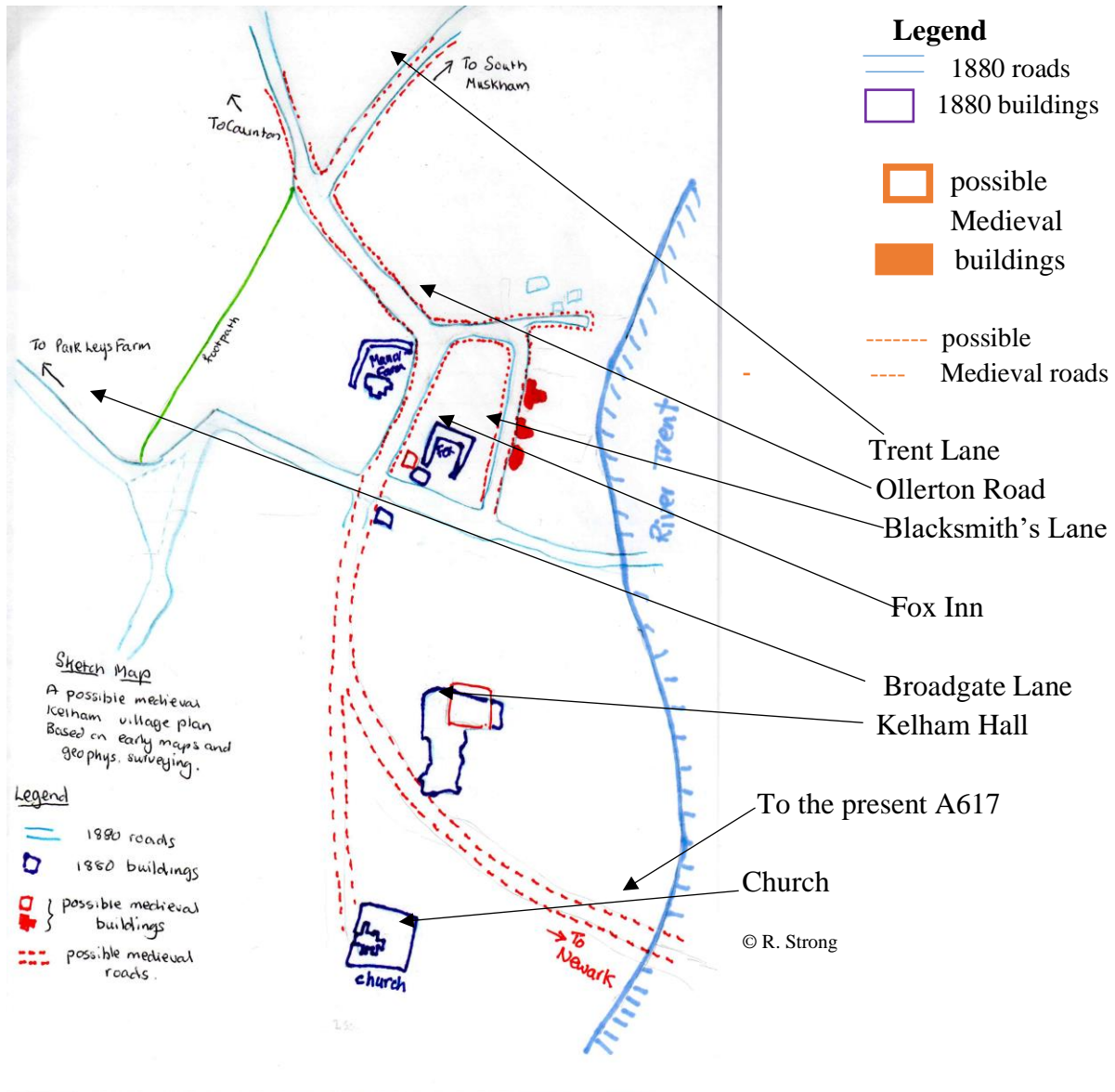
Map 5



This section of a map dating from the 17th century indicates the main thoroughfares of Kelham but is not thought to be drawn to scale. However, based on this map, estate maps, geophysical surveying, the OS map of 1880 and the position of existing buildings, it is possible to postulate a village layout which is illustrated in the sketch map below.

A report of the *Royal Commission On Historical Documents – Newark-on-Trent, The Civil War Siegeworks* includes a map dated 1646 at the back of the volume showing the 17th century road system. The road from Newark is shown coming over a 17th century bridge at Kelham, passing north of the church, crossing the current Averham/Kelham road and linking up to Broadgate Lane. This document can be found in Nottingham Archives.

Map 6. Sketch map. Suggested village plan pre-17th century



Broadgate Lane is a direct route to Park Leys (grangia de Parco. 1160, Le Parklathe, 1330) [9] so it would be logical to have another path or road leading across what is now the front lawn of Kelham Hall to meet the postulated path near Kelham church but so far, the evidence for this has not been found.

Blacksmith's Lane – is this the original village street?



Blacksmith's Lane facing north



House with timbers dating to the 15th century and retaining a baker's oven.



Blacksmith's Lane facing south

Blacksmith's Lane curves round to join Ollerton Road at a point where older maps show a wide undeveloped space around the junction which would be a convenient market area.



The junction of Blacksmith Lane and Ollerton Road with Manor Farm on the left. The Fox inn is to the right just out of the picture

Buildings along Blacksmiths Lane have long plots of land down to the river. Test pits dug in this area in the summer of both 2018 & 2019 produced high status pottery indicating evidence of prosperity among the inhabitants.



Test pitting was also carried out on Manor Farm land (pictured left). Indications are that the present road is on top of the medieval road

Ollerton Road facing south with the Fox Inn site on the left. Ollerton road is directly opposite the Lodge Gates of the present Kelham Hall. Lidar indicates that a road continues from this point, traverses Kelham Hall grounds and extends towards the river.



The car park of the Fox Inn, facing north looking towards the junction of Blacksmith Lane with Ollerton Road

Appendix A - Land Distribution At The Time Of The Domesday Survey [1]

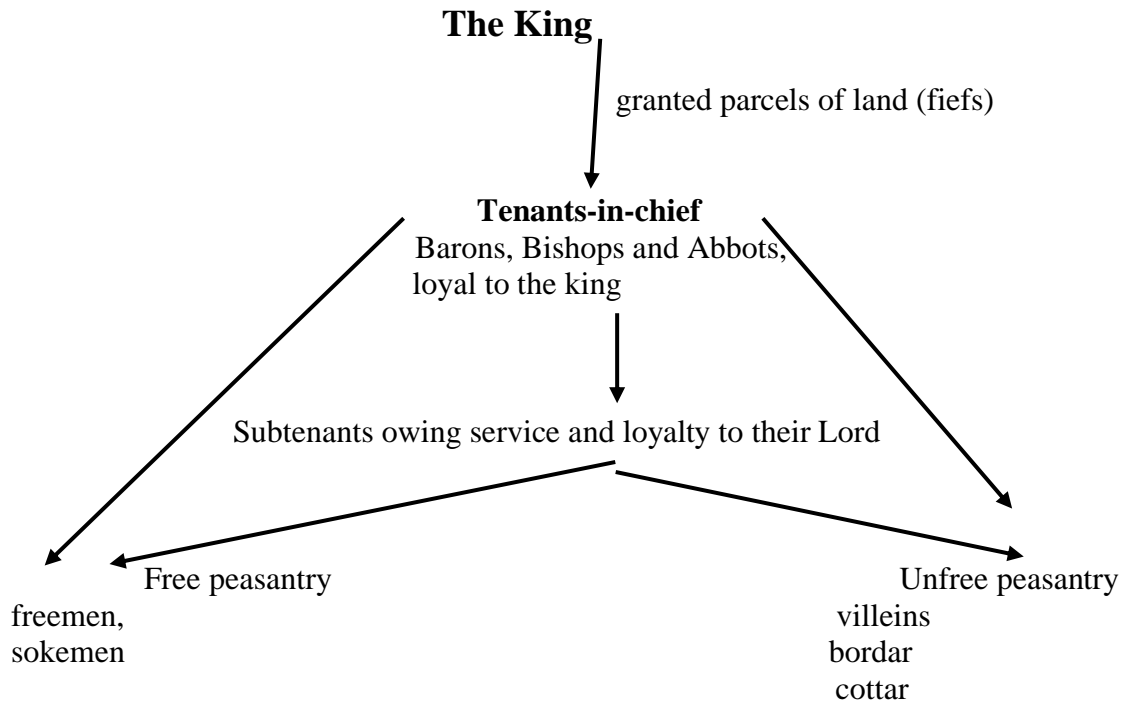
See the glossary for definitions.

Domesday transcription (Phillimore)	Landholder post 1066	Meaning/estate details	comments
<p>In Kelham - Thorkell and Godric had 10 bovates of land and the third part of 1 bovate taxable. Land for 3 ploughs. (before 1066)</p>		<p>10 bovates=10x15=150acres 1 third of a bovate=5 acres 3 ploughs = 3x120 = 360 acres Total 515 acres (under cultivation)</p>	<p>At or before 1066. Value 60s. social status of population not noted. No livestock so all arable farming. Thorkell and Godric were therefore dispossessed either by being killed at the battle of Hastings or loss of status as a peasant</p>
<p>. Thorold, Roger's man had 1 plough and 7 freemen with 5 bovates of this land and 3 villagers and 3 smallholders who have 2 1/2 ploughs. Meadow 22 acres, underwoods 16 furlongs long and 74 virgates wide. Value before 1066, 60s, now 28s.</p>	<p>Roger de Busli</p>	<p>1 plough = 120 acres 5 bovates = 5 x 15 =75 acres 2½ ploughs = 2½ x 120 = 300acres Meadow = 22 acres Underwood = 74 virgates = 74 x 30 = 2,220 acres. At 16 furlongs (2 miles) long means a width of 1.73 miles Area excluding underwood is 517 acres. Number of households: 13 <i>free and unfree</i></p>	<p>Mostly arable with meadow. Total of 3½ ploughs means grazing and winter fodder for 28 oxen would be needed. The meadow area would provide support for these. Modern land management indicates 1.8 – 2 animals per acre. 22 acres provides for 1.27 per acre. Population: Mostly free, i.e. pay rent for their land and do not owe service to a lord. Smallholders also rent or own a small farm usually between 10 and 20 acres. The 7 freemen if sharing 5 bovates would not have much land each but the status of whether these men were specialists or craftsmen is not noted.</p>
<p>. In the Land of Walter of Aincourt - In Kelham, 9 bovates of land and a third of 1 bovate taxable. Land for 2 1/2 ploughs. 18 freemen and 3 smallholders have 7 1/2 ploughs. Meadow 16 acres. Underwood 9 furlongs long by 50 virgates wide.</p>	<p>Walter d'Aincourt</p>	<p>9⅓ bovates =9⅓ x 15 = 140acres 2½ ploughs = 300acres 21 households have 7½ x 120 = 900acres between them. Meadow = 16 acres. Underwood =50 virgates =1,500acres and 9 furlongs long means an area of 1.125 by 2.08 miles.</p>	<p>Freemen described as <i>Sokemen</i> and <i>smallholders</i> as Bordars(unfree peasants) by the Thoroton translation</p>
<p>In the Land of Ralph of Buron In Kelham - Osmund had 2 bovates of land and a 1/3rd part of a bovate taxable. (before 1066)</p>		<p>2⅓ bovates is 35 acres</p>	<p>If only a third is taxable, it is possible that only this area was cultivated. Osmund disappears; either dead or dispossessed</p>

Domesday transcription (Phillimore)	Landholder post 1066	Meaning/estate details	comments
<p><i>In the Land of Ralph of Buron In Kelham. William, Ralph's man has 1 plough and 3 smallholders with 2 ploughing Oxen. Meadow 9 acres, underwood 8 furlongs long and 12 virgates wide. Value before 1066, 40s, now 16s.</i></p>	<p><i>Ralph de Buron</i></p>	<p><i>1 plough = 120acres 2 ploughing oxen = 1 virgate = 30 acres Meadow = 9acres Arable land total = 159acres Woodland = 12 virgates = 360acres = land measuring 1mile by 0.6 mile</i></p>	<p><i>The landholding in Kelham by William under Ralph appears to have increased. The population is 3 smallholders described by Thoroton as bordars or unfree peasants. With one plough or team of 8 plus two oxen, the meadow of 9 acres would be insufficient to maintain ten animals unless grazing the woodland was possible.</i></p>
<p>. In the Lands of Gilbert Tison - In Kelham. Aelfric had 2 bovates of land taxable. Land for 6 oxen. 1 freemn and 1 smallholder with 1/2 plough. Meadow 6 acres, Underwood 8 furlongs long and 14 virgates wide. Value in 1066 was 16s. now 5s.</p>	<p>Gilbert Tison</p>	<p>2 bovates = 30 acres Land for 6 oxen = $\frac{3}{4}$ x 120 = 90acres $\frac{1}{2}$ plough = 60acres Meadow 6 acres Total arable land = 186 acres Underwood of 14 virgates and 8 furlongs long = 1 x 0.66 miles</p>	
<p>In the Land of the (Kings) Thanes - In Kelham - Ulfkell had 1 bovate of land and 2 parts of 1 bovate taxable. Land for 6 oxen. (Before 1066)</p>		<p>Ulfkell appears to hold 90 acres, plus 15acres and two parts of another 15 acre plot (10acres)= 125 acres</p>	<p>Ulfkell disappears, either dispossessed or killed in battle</p>
<p>In the Land of the (Kings) Thanes - In Kelham. Haldene has 2 villagers and 2 smallholders with 1 plough. Meadow 6 acres. underwood 8 furlongs long and 8 virgates wide. Value before 1066 was 20s now 10s.</p>	<p>Haldene or King's Thane (Thayne or Thegn)</p>	<p>1 plough = 120 acres Meadow 6 acres Total arable land = 128 acres Underwood of 8 virgate = 1 mile long x 660yds</p>	<p>6 acres of meadow does not seem to be enough to provide grazing and fodder for 8 oxen unless other grazing is available. Arable land under cultivation looks to be 5 acres less than in 1066</p>

Appendix B

Society – The Structure from 1066 [37]

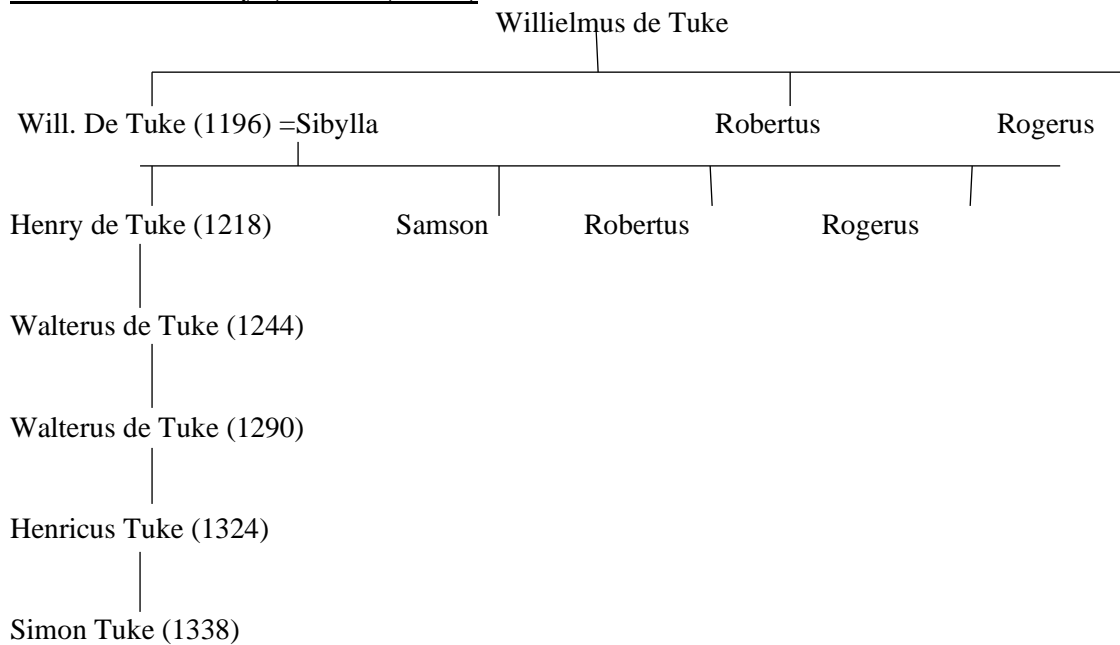


Appendix C

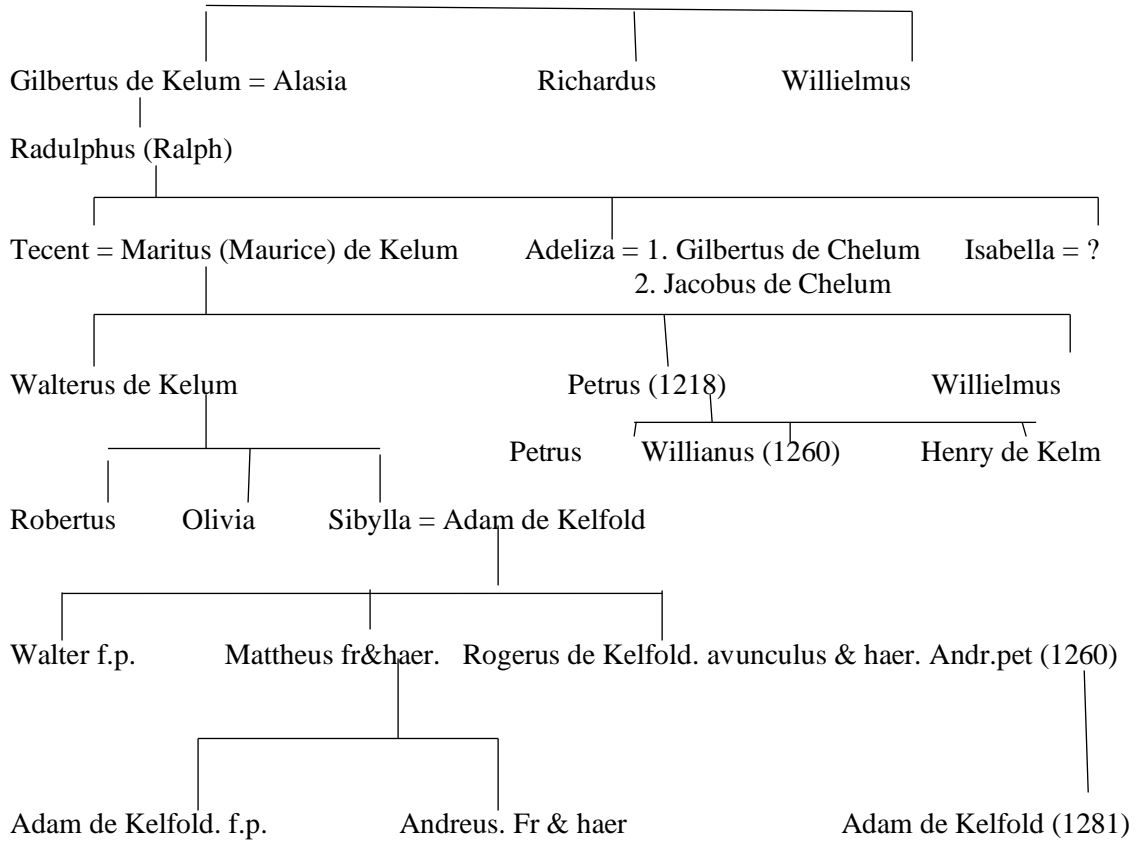
Family Trees [9]

Names are reproduced as given in the original latinised version.

1. The Tuke Family (also Tuc, Touk)



2. The de Kelum Family (also Kelm, Kelham, Kellum)



Glossary

Glossary references from www.domesdaybook.co.uk, *The National Archives and Corêdon C. and Williams A. A Dictionary of Medieval Terms and Phrases. Book. Boydell and Brewer 2016*

Term	Definition
acre	An area of arable land = 4,840yds ² See furlong
bordar	An unfree peasant owing menial service to the lord. Holding about 5 acres and a share in a plough team. Less land than a villein but more than a cottar. Sometime called a smallholder
bovate	An area of land. The area ploughed by one ox in one year, taken to be 15 acres but could vary according to the area, See oxgang
carucate	A measurement of land used in the Danelaw equivalent to an area of land, tilled in a year by a team of 8 oxen. Taken to be 120 acres. See Hide
cottar/cottager	An unfree peasant of the lowest rank with a cottage but with little or no land. Required to work on the Lord's land or to provide a service
croft	A smallholding or piece of land with a house. See Toft and croft
**eng	From old Norse. A pasture or meadow
escheat	The reversion of land to a lord on the death of a tenant without an heir, or attainted for treason
Escheator	A royal officer responsible for taking escheats from deceased subjects and delivering to the King
**feld	Open country
freeman	A rent paying tenant of the lord with the right to farm only their own land with rights under law. They had freedom of movement but could be evicted. Also called a franklin. A common class of peasant in the Danelaw
furlong	An area of land equivalent to a furrow ploughed by a team of 8 oxen before turning the ox-team. Taken to be 220yds long by 22 yds wide. The basis of the acre. Or a length of 220 yards.
hide	The amount of land needed to maintain a family, taken as 120 acre but could vary according to quality of land
hundred	A sub-division of a shire. 100 hides in a shire. See Wapentake
manor	A unit of lordship, varying in size. It did not necessarily include a village or a [manor] house
meadow	An area where hay was grown to provide winter fodder. Often found beside rivers

Term	Definition
oxgang	A measure of land for tax purposes taken as 15 acres
perch	A measure of length, usually 5½ yards or 16 ½ feet
plough/ploughland	A measure of taxable land ploughed by 8 oxen. See carucate
selion	A strip of land, a small field for crops owned or rented by peasants. Area 1 furlong x 1 chain (220 x22 yds)=1 acre
smallholder	Holder of a small amount of land
sokeman	A term used in the Danelaw for a free peasant ranked between a villein and a freeman holding land by rent or service to the lord (excluding military service) and had to attend the Lord's manor court
Tenant-in-chief	All land was held from the king whether by a noble or a peasant. The tenant-in-chief held land directly from the king. The church and the earls were Tenants-in-chief
Thegn/thane	Originally an Anglo-Saxon noble below the rank of an earl with 5 hides of land. Their rank depended on who they served. A king's Thegn served the king directly and owed service to the king either military or administratively.
toft	The site of a homestead and outbuildings and a field, larger than the space occupied by a house. Or a small area of flat land
Toft and croft	A holding of a homestead and arable land
underwood	Small trees and bushes growing beneath taller trees which could be coppiced and harvested as a crop for both timber and firewood.
vassal	A freeman holding land in return for owing fealty and paying homage to the lord
villein	Unfree peasant who owes the Lord labour services, perhaps 2 or 3 days per week as well as rent, but also farms for himself. This class is the wealthiest and most numerous of the unfree peasants.
virgate	A measure of land for tax purposes, taken as 2 oxgangs or 30 acres (see yardland)
wapentake	An area of land equivalent to a hide. The term was used in the Danelaw as a standard of tax assessment
waste	Uncultivated and therefore untaxed land
Wong/wang	A field, a garden or common land
yardland	A measure of land for tax assessment, usually ¼ hide or 30 acres

References

1. The Domesday Book. Phillimore translation. Domesday Book 28.
Thoroton R. 1796. History of Nottinghamshire Vol.3. Kelham and Park Lathes.
Domesday on Line. www.domesdaybook.co.uk and <https://opendomesday.org>
2. Ordinance survey map. OS Explorer 271
3. From A Church Near You. <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>
4. From Ancestry Ancient Parish Map, with permission. www.ancestry.co.uk
5. Jones, A. *A Thousand Years of the English Parish* 2000 the Windrush Press
6. Saville Family papers relating to Rufford Abbey. DD/SR/102/17 Nottinghamshire Archives
7. Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford Abbey. DDSR/102/55. Nottinghamshire Archives
8. Deed collected by Sir Godfrey Foljambe as Escheator for the County of Nottinghamshire. DDFJ 7.3.4. Nottinghamshire Archives.
9. Thoroton R. 1796. The History of Nottinghamshire Vol 3. Kelham and Park Lathes
10. Gregory R. Thesis for D. Phil. "Minor and Field Names of Thurgarton Wapentake."
11. Old Ordinance survey Maps. Godfrey Edition. England sheet 113. With permission
12. Wood. M. *Domesday. A Search for the Roots of England.* BBC Books 1986. and Miller E and Hatcher J. *Medieval England. Rural Society and Economic Change 1086 - 1348.*
13. 1841 Census. Internet. www.ancestry.co.uk
14. www.wikipedia.org Internet. Civil Parish Population. Office for National Statistics
15. Beckett J.V."The East midlands from AD1000" chapter 3.Book. (Longman 1988)
16. King Death - The Black Death and its aftermath in late-medieval England' - Colin Platt, University of Toronto Press,ISBN 1-85728-313-9 + on line sources
17. Hall. D. *Medieval Fields.* Shire Archaeology. Shire Publications1982
18. Orwin. CS & CS. *The Open Fields* Second Edition 1954. Oxford Clarendon Press
19. Lease. Document in English. M8181. Nottinghamshire Archives
20. *History of the County of Yorkshire. Vol.3.* pp184 186 and www.wikitree.com
21. Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford Abbey. DD/SR/102/45 Nottinghamshire Archives.
22. Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford Abbey.DD/SR/102/67 Nottinghamshire Archives

23. Brown. Cornelius “The History of Newark-on-Trent” . Book.1904
24. Doubleday W.E. “Kelham boasts of it’s 1000 year History”. On-line article.
www.nottshistory.org.uk
25. Stanton. Sir F. *Anglo-Saxon England* page 637 Third Edition 1971. Oxford Clarendon Press. A knights fee, commonly under £10 and could be much less, being an agreement between a lord and the tenant. It was basically the cost of military service which the king could call for, for a set number of days per year.
26. University of Nottingham Manuscripts and Special collection. Mi D580
27. Items deposited by the Manners-Sutton Family. DDMN2/9 Nottinghamshire Archives
28. Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford Abbey. DD/SR/102/69. Nottinghamshire Archives
29. Inquisitions Post Mortem. Volume 1. Book. Nottinghamshire Archives
30. Inquisitions and Return for Debt. C131/106/21. 1523 document. National Archives
31. Inquisitions Post Mortem. Volume 1. Book. Nottinghamshire Archives
32. Saville Family Papers relating to Rufford abbey. D/SR/102/17, DD/SR/102/83, DD/SR/102/76, DD/SR/102/105 and DD/SR/102/80. Nottinghamshire Archives
33. “Kelham Hall -A Family house” Book. Bennett F. and Stobbs G. Book. C29289. Bromley House Library
34. Bennett F. and Stobbs G. “Kelham Hall-a Family House”. Book. Bromley House Library
35. www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/foljambe/foljambe.shtml
36. [Catalogue entry. The Foljambe Collection. Nottinghamshire Archives](#)
37. History of the Tolls from the Tallent’s Collection. DD/T/17/1. Nottinghamshire Archives
38. Miller E. and Hatcher J. “Medieval Society and Economic Change. 1066 – 1348. (Longman 1988)

Bibliography and Background Reading

Hoskins. W.G. -. *The Making of the English Landscape*. Hodder and Stoughton 1955

Higham. N.J .- *A Frontier Landscape*. Windgather Press 2004

Morris. M. - *The Norman Conquest*. Windmill Books 2013

Rippon. Stephen. - *Historic Landscape Analysis*.

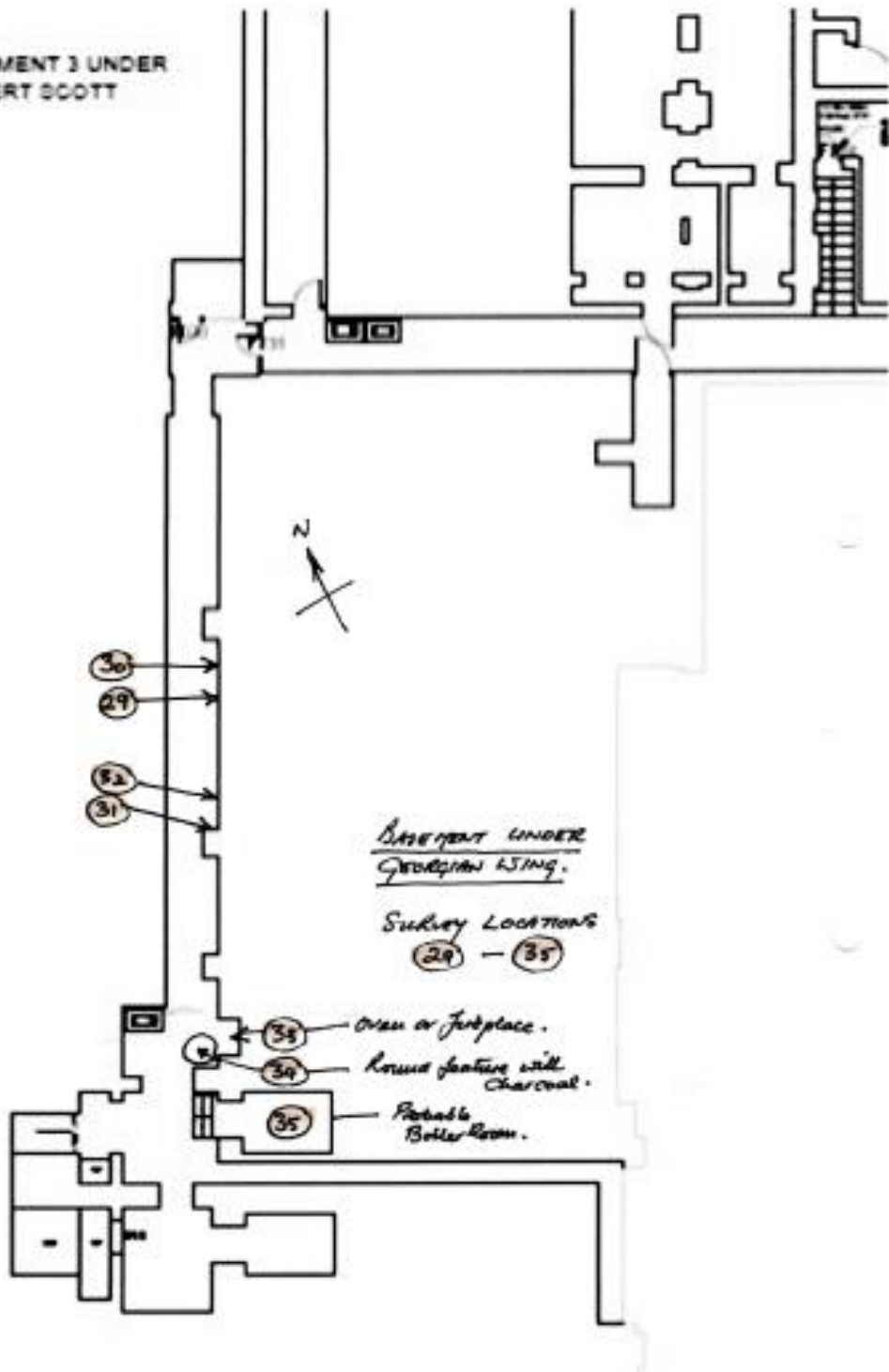
Practical Handbooks in Archaeology N° 16

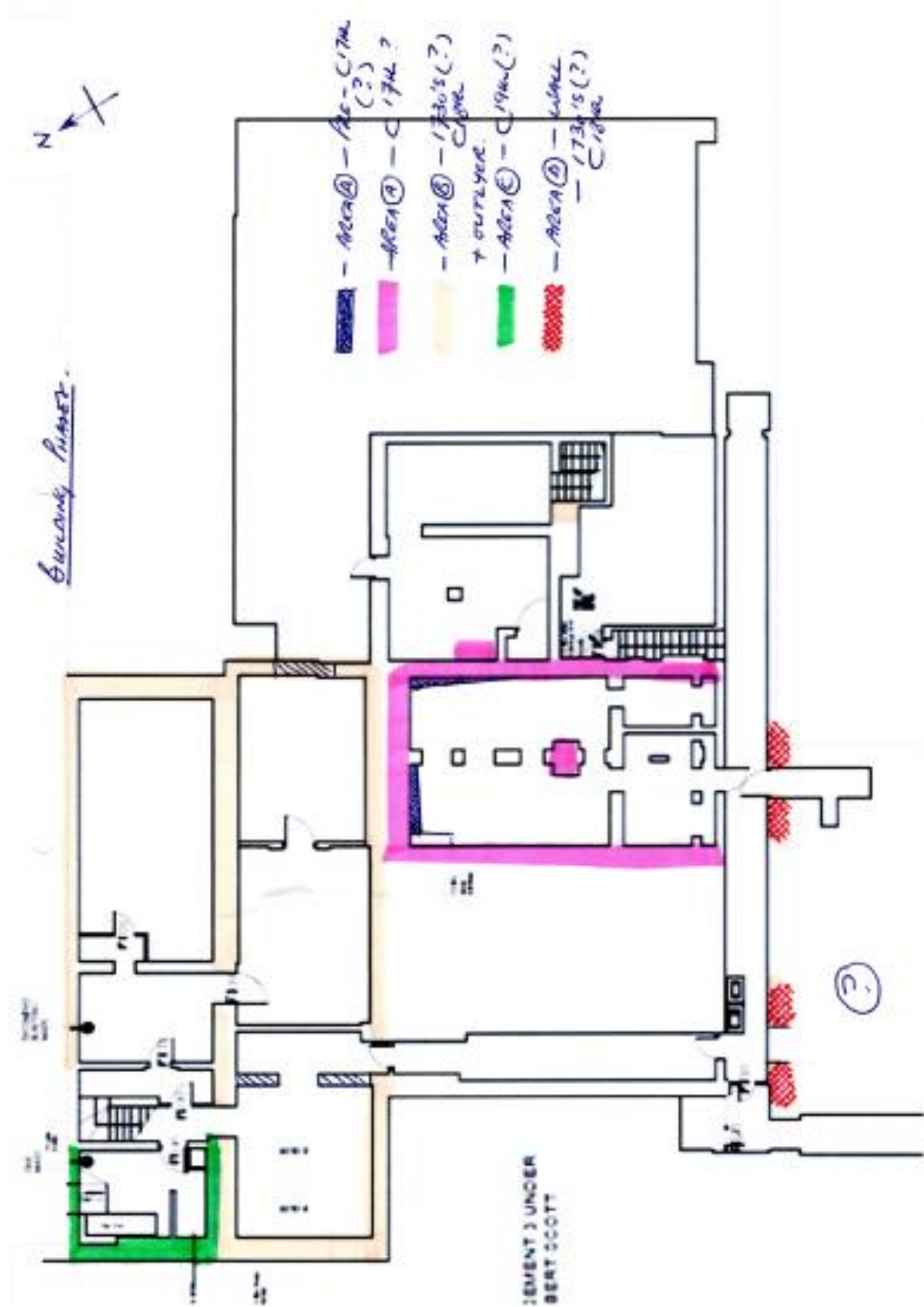
Council for British Archaeology 2004 (reprinted 2008)

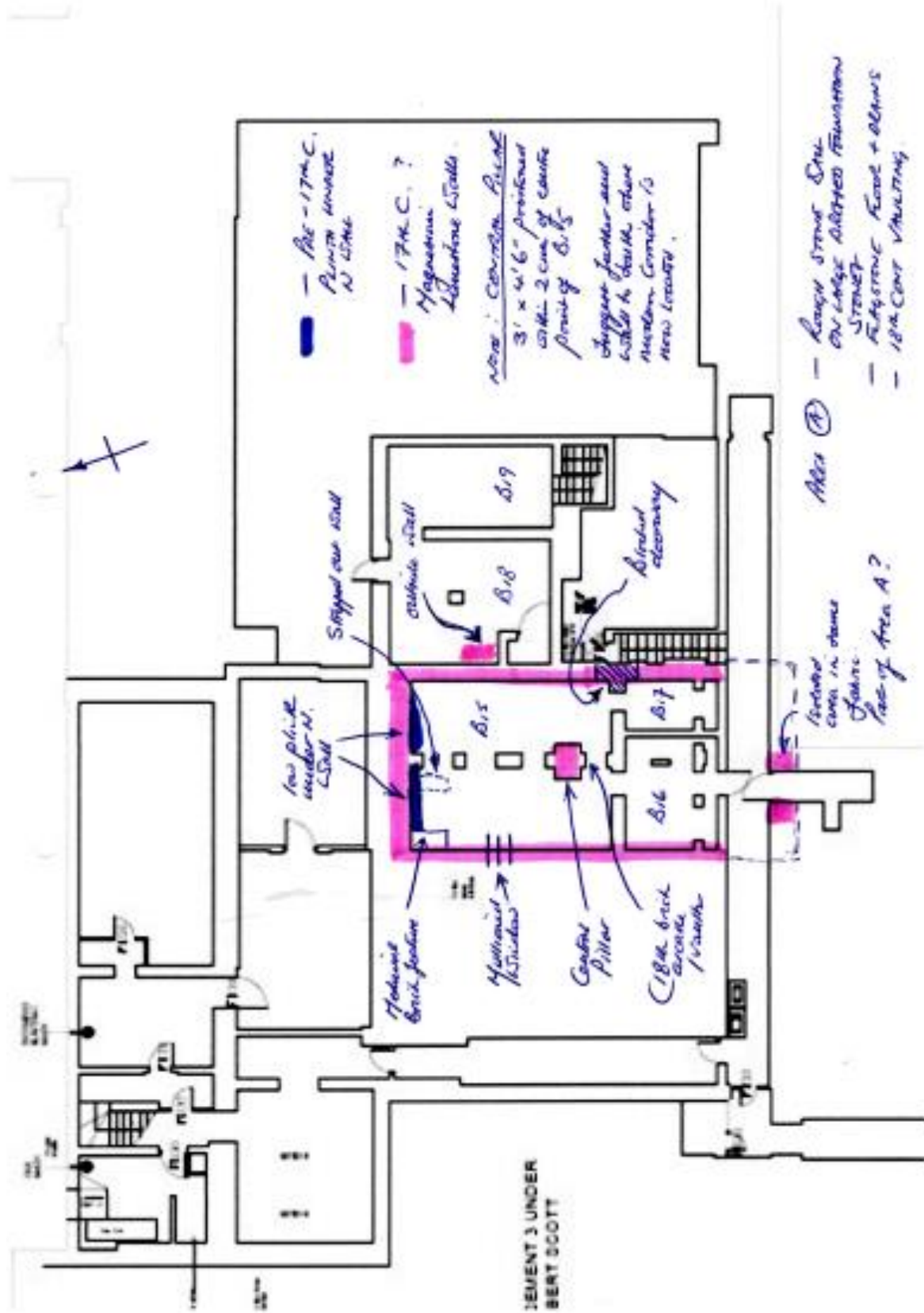
Sayles. G.O. - *The Medieval Foundations of England*. Methuen and Company.

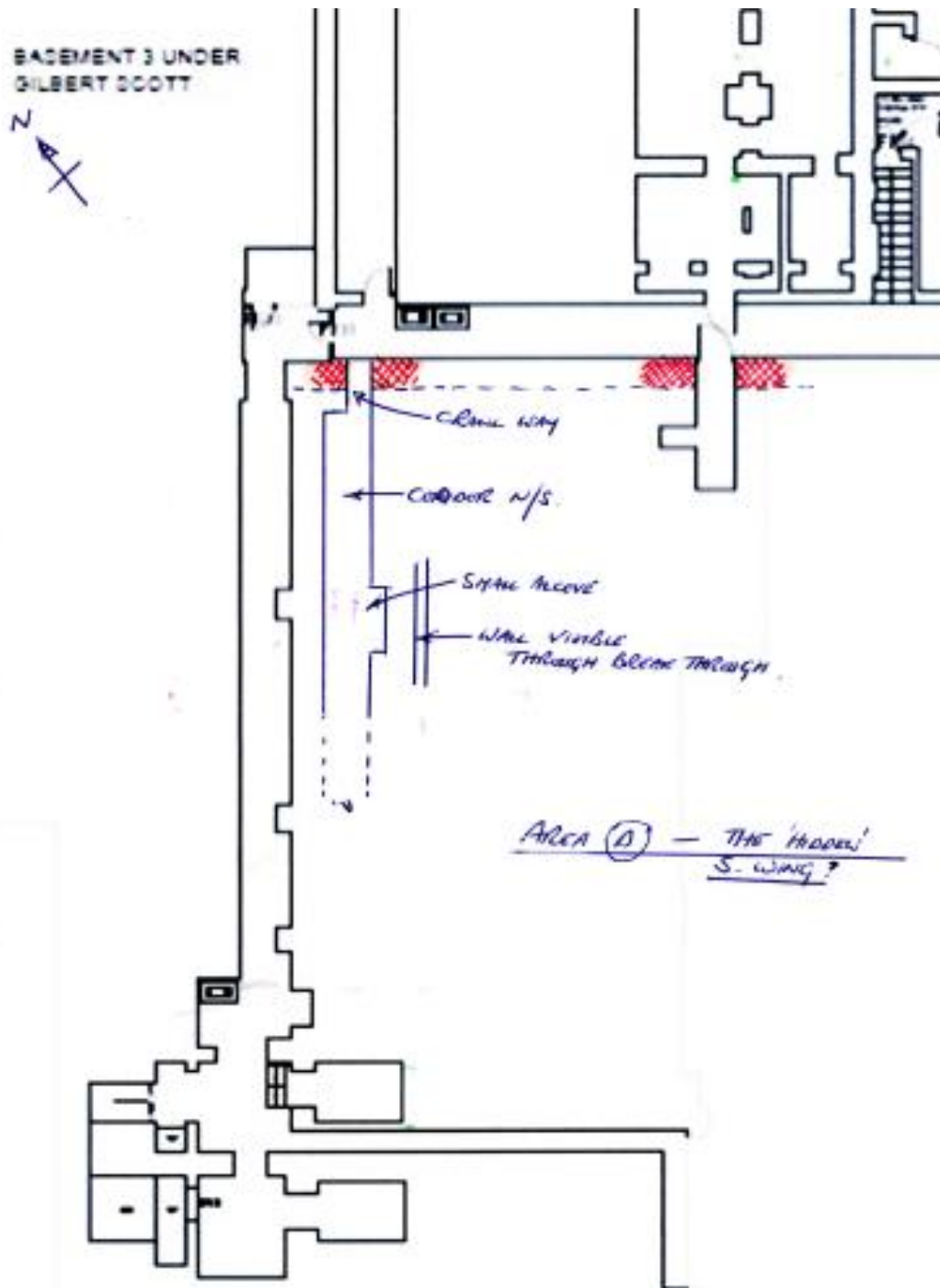
Second Edition Revised 1963

BASEMENT 3 UNDER
GILBERT SCOTT









Appendix 5 - The Fox Inn, Main Road & 4 Blacksmith Lane Kelham, Nottinghamshire

Archaeological Statement of Significance



James Wright FSA
Triskele Heritage
www.triskeleheritage.com



Contents

Introduction	160
The Fox Inn.....	161
4 Blacksmith Lane.....	163
Significance of the Buildings.....	165
Research Potential of the Buildings.....	166
Statement of Indemnity	166
Acknowledgements.....	167
Bibliography	168
Illustrations.....	168

Introduction

The author of this statement of significance was invited by Involve Heritage to assess two properties in Kelham, Nottinghamshire, with a view to providing a statement of significance and spot dating of architectural features and phasing. The buildings were: The Fox Inn on Main Road and 4 Blacksmiths Lane (Figure 1). The latter building is a Grade II listed building. A further intention of the survey was to provide a basis for identifying *in situ* timbers, in locations representative of the historic phases, of the buildings in advance of potential dendrochronology sampling. The fieldwork took place in March 2019.

The survey was entirely non-intrusive and all accessible spaces were viewed. An annotated sketch plan of both buildings was created on site (not reproduced) and representative photographs were taken on a Canon EOS 1200D.



Figure 1 The site locations

The Fox Inn

The Fox Inn is a working public house that was renovated and reopened to the public in 2018, after a period of closure. It is characterised by traditional, post-mediaeval Nottinghamshire brick and pantile architecture (Figure 2). Internally, much of the historic character of the building is masked under modern plaster.

The earliest identifiable phase is an east-west range, running from main bar-room back as far as the west wall of the modern bay extension to the east (Figure 3). At ground floor level, this phase is visibly represented by a bridging beam, orientated north-south, in the main bar-room which has double chamfers and step stops (Figure 4) – the latter is unlikely to date to a period after the mid-eighteenth century and was common in lower status spaces throughout the post-mediaeval period (Hall 2005, 159).

The post-mediaeval character is maintained in the oak, clasped purlin roof structure (with single dovetail halved jointed collars) of the east-west range which regionally dates to the period c 1500-1850 (Harris 2012, 65) (Figure 5). The roof is divided into four unequal bays by collars, however, the rafters are all of similar dimension (c 95 x 105mm) with no obvious principle rafters present. There are two longitudinal spine beams comprised of reused timbers with relict mortices. The masonry of the chimney breast and eastern gable is comprised of bricks of dimension 112mm (breadth) x 55-60mm (thickness) x 235mm (length). This compares well with the known dimensions of the 1571 Tyler's Charter on bricks, with the dimensions of bricks not altering substantially until the mid-eighteenth century (Hammond 1990, 30; Lloyd 1925, 12). The gable end is supported on skew-back corbels and projects well above the roofline - suggesting that the building was once thatched (Figure 3). The timber wall plate is visible externally on the north elevation.

A single storey extension was added at the north-west end of the east-west range, probably somewhere in the eighteenth or nineteenth century and a chimney breast was also inserted, between the two structures, at this period (Figure 3). Possibly contemporary with this addition, or slightly later, is the brick north-south range which was added to the south-west of the earlier wing (Figure 6). This has un-chamfered, machine sawn beams and joists at ground floor level that cannot be earlier than the late eighteenth century. There are blocked doors and windows with segmental heads in the east elevation. The cornice has simple dentil brickwork. The roof structure of the north-south range is composed of simply split, softwood common rafters with spiked collars (rather than joints) - indicative of an eighteenth or nineteenth century date (Harris 2012, 83-6) (Figure 7).

A single storey, outshot pantile roof abuts the north-south range on its western elevation and covers a half-basement cellar featuring brick vaults at the northern end (Figure 8). This build was in situ by the later nineteenth century as it appears on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map. It was later extended further to the west (Jonathan Pass, pers. comm. 19/03/2019).

During the twentieth and twenty-first centuries brick extensions were added to the building – a narrow range immediately to the west of the east-west range was then abutted by two later, rectilinear, builds; a bay extension was added to the east end of

the range and a new L-shaped porch was added in the angle of the north-south and east-west ranges.

Three concealed artefacts were discovered during recent renovations (Jonathan Pass, pers. comm. 19/03/2019): a dried cat was uncovered in the roof structure of the western outshot roof and was put back in situ after photography (Figure 9). Two very worn leather shoes were found in the roof structure of the east-west range, but were discarded without record. Such artefacts have been studied extensively in recent years and growing evidence points towards their deliberate deposition as part of rituals associated with averting evil and bringing good luck to a building (Hoggard 2016, 106-117; Swann 2016, 118-130).

4 Blacksmith Lane

This L-shaped building (Figure 10) demonstrated evidence of a largely intact late mediaeval timber-frame clad with later brickwork. A narrow brick extension masks much of the original west elevation and has been there since at least 1880 when it was shown on the Ordnance Survey mapping. The main north-south range has a 3-bay, hall house plan with parlour (south bay), hall (central bay) and kitchen (north bay). The former west façade is visible behind the later western extension and has two posts (one on a pad stone) with jointed rails that have relict mortices for studs (Figure 11).

The spine beams of all three ground floor bays have chamfers with diagonal cut stops common until the sixteenth century (Hall 2005, 159). The spine beam of the parlour features an ogee and quarter circle moulding, popular in the late mediaeval period (Figure 12). A similar moulding, from the Old Sun Inn, Saffron Walden, Essex, was dated c 1350-60 (Hewett 1980, 311), although this moulding achieved greater popularity in the fifteenth and early sixteenth century (Forrester 1972, 19, 31). The moulding is followed by to a roughly cut chamfer at the north end and, at this point, there is also the severed tenon of a stud in the soffit of the beam which may indicate the former presence of a subdivision in this bay – possibly for a screen.

The first floor is also divided into three bays. The west and east wall plates have stop-splayed scarf joints with squinted butts. Hewett (1980, 267) dates this type of joint to the period c 1325-1400 – with common use in vernacular buildings towards the end of that range (Figure 13). The wall plates also house the relict mortices of upward braces jointed to the principle, posts The tie beam is jointed to the wall plate and principle post (via an integral bracket) through the standard lap dovetail assembly. The accompanying tie beam of the principle truss between the central and southern bay is cambered (Figure 14) – another indicative mediaeval feature - which would not be expected after the mid-sixteenth century (Hewett 1980, 228).

The western wall plate of the central bay has extensive evidence for ritual taper burn marks (Figure 15). Whilst there are many other such examples in the building, this assemblage has particular significance. The centre-line drying crack through the timber has opened through the burns. Dean and Hill (2014, 1-15) have demonstrated that where this has occurred there is potential to date the creation of the burn marks to within 15 years of construction of the building. Other evidence of ritual graffiti within the building includes compass drawn circles and daisywheels on the timbers of the first floor and attic (Figure 16).

The oak roof structure consists of slender common rafters with single dovetail halved collars (Figure 17). Only the south bay has visible side purlins, which are located beneath the collars. The timbers of the southern and central bays have evidence of smoke-blackening, indicating that they were once open to a ground floor open hearth – which again points to a mediaeval or sixteenth century date (Harris 2012, 31). The central bay is divided from those to north and south by lime and horse hair plaster over timber laths (Figure 17). The northern bay has very wide oak floorboards which are not younger than the early seventeenth century (Hall 2005, 165) (Figure 18). It is possible that all three bays were once single storey constructions and the insertion of the first floor and attics may have taken place during the early modern period alongside

the chimney flues. Alternatively, the south bay may always have had multiple storeys – a factor related to the higher status of this end of the house.

The brick east-west range is a later addition. It has a 3-bay roof structure with staggered purlins, tenoned rafters and single dovetail halved collars, probably dating to the mid-seventeenth to early eighteenth century (Harris 2012, 65) (Figure 19). The principle rafters and collars have deeply chiselled carpenter's assembly marks characteristic of the latter end of this period (Brunskill 1999, 34). The floor frame of this range is contemporary with the roof.

Significance of the Buildings

The Fox Inn is an interesting example of post-mediaeval Nottinghamshire brick and pantile architecture which characterises much of historic core of Kelham. The archaeological significance of this unlisted asset is considered to be low to medium as it has been extensively remodelled, with little of its original features still visible.

The archaeological significance of, the Grade II listed, 4 Blacksmiths Lane is considered to be high. The building appears to represent an in situ, late mediaeval, timber-framed 3-bay house which has not been substantially remodelled. Mediaeval vernacular architecture is not a common asset within Nottinghamshire and few structures have been comprehensively surveyed (Mordan 2004, 12). The current National Heritage List for England entry (NHL: 1045986) dates the building to the seventeenth century. However, the potential of the moulded spine beam in the parlour, jointing of the wall plate and construction of the framing and roof structure points towards a much older structure – potentially of late mediaeval date - which has previously gone unnoticed. The building also has medium to high historical significance as there are intriguing local traditions linking it to Charles I's surrender to David Leslie, general of the Scottish army, during the third siege of Newark in May 1646 (NFWI 1989, 94; Bennett & Stobbs 1980, 6).

Research Potential of the Buildings

The understanding of both buildings would be enhanced through archaeological standing building surveys. Such data would be invaluable to the study of the architectural and archaeological development of Kelham, but would also add to the story of Nottinghamshire as well. A Level 2 survey may be most appropriate for The Fox Inn, with 4 Blacksmiths Lane warranting a more intensive programme of a Level 3 or 4 survey (Historic England 2016).

There is limited potential for dendrochronology at The Fox, as the roof structure is composed of relatively slight timbers. However, the north-south orientated bridging beam in the main bar-room is sufficiently thick to be considered - although, as it is stained, it was not possible to determine the presence of a wane edge or sapwood. Stylistically, 4 Blacksmith Lane appears to be a late medieval hall house and the size of its timbers – particularly principle posts, tie beams and wall plates - shows good potential for obtaining dendrochronology samples to help refine the dating of both of the main structural phases.

Both buildings have demonstrated the presence of ritual behaviour. This is found in the form of concealed artefacts at The Fox Inn and taper burns and graffiti at 4 Blacksmith Lane. A record of the concealed artefacts should be passed on to relevant experts and museum collections - such as Brian Hoggard of Apotropaios, Ceri Houlbrook of the University of Hertfordshire and Northampton Museum & Art Gallery. The data from 4 Blacksmith Lane should be gathered via a comprehensive graffiti survey which ought to be integral to any future standing building survey. Additionally, the potential to understand the specific date of the taper burns through accompanying dendrochronology is very high.

As well as any grey literature reports produced on the two buildings, more public-facing outputs should be considered. A short report on both buildings should be lodged in the 'Archaeological Round-up' section of the *Transactions of the Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire*. Meanwhile, if any future survey work is produced on 4 Blacksmith Lane, it would be entirely appropriate to write an accompanying article for a relevant journal such as *Vernacular Architecture* or similar.

Statement of Indemnity

The evidence, statements and opinions contained within the text of this report are based entirely on the works undertaken for the project and are produced according to professional industry guidelines (Historic England 2016). No responsibility can be accepted by the author for any errors of fact or opinion arising as a result of data supplied by third parties.

Acknowledgements

James Wright carried out fieldwork and produced this report during March 2019. The author would like to thank Matthew Beresford of Involve Heritage for commissioning the work. Access to the buildings was kindly provided by Jonathan Pass, Julia & Philip Parry-Jones.

Bibliography

- Alcock, N. W., Barley, M., Dixon, P. W. & Meeson, R. A., 1996 (2010 edition), *Recording Timber-framed Buildings: An Illustrated Glossary*. Council for British Archaeology. York.
- Bennett, G. & Stobbs, F., 1980, *Kelham Hall: A Family and a House*. Newark & Sherwood District Council. Newark.
- Brunskill, R. W., 1999 (2007 edition), *Timber Building in Britain*. Yale University Press. New Haven & London.
- Dean, J. & Hill, N., 2014, 'Burn marks on buildings: accidental or deliberate?' in *Vernacular Architecture* Vol. 45
- Forrester, H., 1972, *Medieval Gothic Mouldings*. Phillimore. London & Chichester.
- Hall, L., 2005, *Period House Fixtures and Fittings: 1300-1900*. Countryside Books. Newbury.
- Hammond, M., 1990 (2012 edition), *Bricks and Brickmaking*. Shire. Botley.
- Harris, R., 2012, *Discovering Timber-framed Buildings*. Shire. Botley.
- Hewett, C. A., 1980 (1997 edition), *English Historic Carpentry*. Linden Publishing. Fresno.
- Historic England, 2016, *Understanding Historic Buildings*. Historic England. Swindon.
- Hoggard, B., 2016, 'Concealed Animals' in Hutton, R. (ed.) *Physical Evidence for Ritual Acts, Sorcery and Witchcraft in Christian Britain*. Palgrave Macmillan. Basingstoke
- Lloyd, N., 1925 (1983 edition), *A History of English Brickwork*. Antique Collectors Club. Woodbridge.
- Mordan, J., 2004, *Timber-framed Buildings of Nottinghamshire*. Nottinghamshire County Council. Nottingham.
- [NFWI] Nottinghamshire Federation of Women's Institutes, 1989, *The Nottinghamshire Village Book*, Countryside Books. Newbury.
- Swann, J., 2016, 'Shoes Concealed in Buildings' in Hutton, R. (ed.) *Physical Evidence for Ritual Acts, Sorcery and Witchcraft in Christian Britain*. Palgrave Macmillan. Basingstoke

Illustrations



Figure 2 The Fox Inn, Kelham, looking north-west



Figure 3 The east-west range, looking south-west, note the later extensions and high gable



Figure 4 Main bar-room, looking north, note the chamfered bridging beam

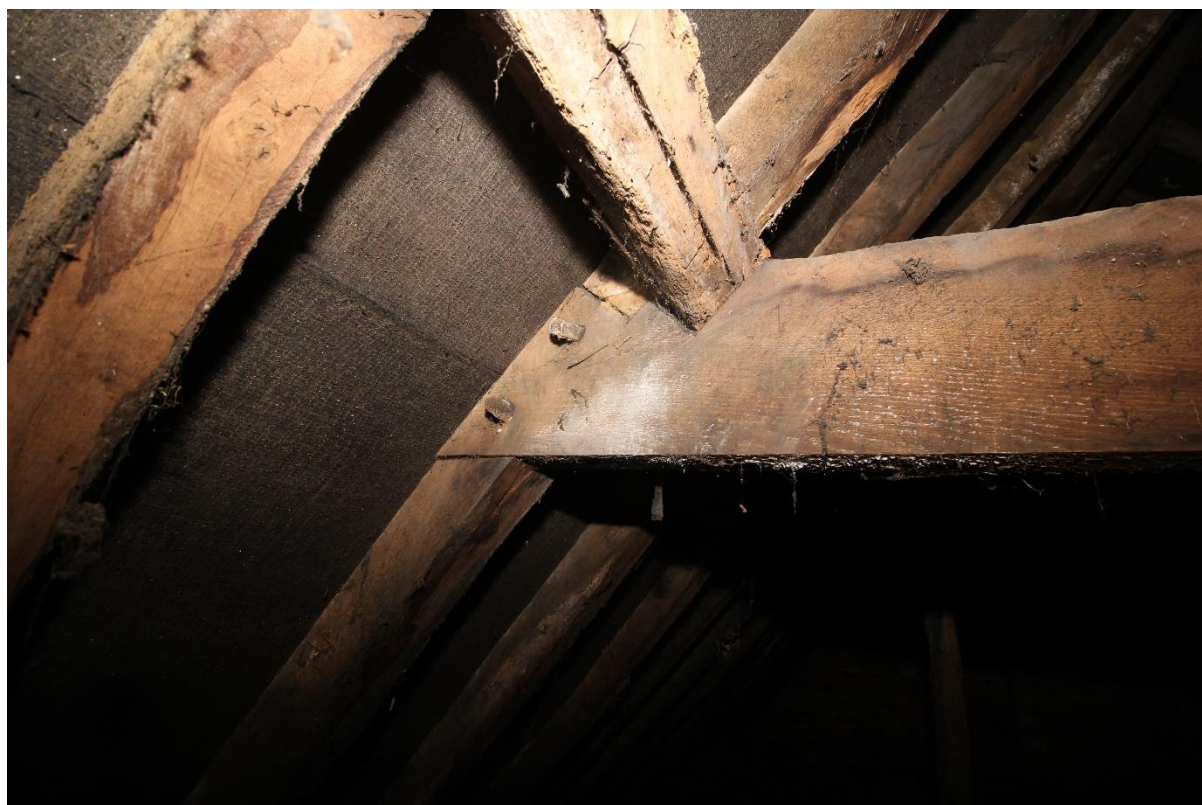


Figure 5 Clapped purlin roof of the east-west range, looking east



Figure 6 East elevation of the north-south range, looking west, note the blocked windows and doors



Figure 7 Softwood roof structure of the north-south range, looking south



Figure 8 West elevation of the north-south range, looking east, note the outshot roof over the cellar



Figure 9 Ritually concealed cat discovered in the roof structure of the outshot over the cellar, looking east. (Photograph: Jonathan Pass)



Figure 10 4 Blacksmith Lane, Kelham, looking north-west



Figure 11 Timber-framing of the former external west elevation, looking north-east



Figure 12 Spine beam of the ground floor south bay, note the moulding, looking south-east



Figure 13 Joint of eastern wall plate, looking east (Photograph: Julia Parry-Jones)



Figure 14 First floor central bay, note the cranked tie beam, looking north-east



Figure 15 Ritual taper burn marks on the western wall plate of the central bay, note the centre-line drying crack in the timber, looking north-west



Figure 16 Daisywheel graffito on the timber lintel of the fireplace in the north elevation of the northern bay attic, looking north



Figure 17 Roof structure of the central bay, note the smoke blackening of the timbers, looking south



Figure 18 Southern bay attic, note the width of the floorboards, looking south



Figure 19 Roof structure of the east-west range, looking east