



ALTOGETHER ARCHAEOLOGY

FIELDWORK MODULE 6b

MUGGLESWICK GRANGE
EXCAVATION

PROJECT DESIGN



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Front cover illustration. Speculative reconstruction of Muggleswick Grange from the south-east by Peter Ryder, based on recent survey and excavation work.

1. General introduction

Altogether Archaeology, largely funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, is the North Pennines AONB Partnership's community archaeology project. It enables volunteers to undertake practical archaeological projects with appropriate professional supervision and training. As well as raising the capacity of local groups to undertake research, the project makes a genuine contribution to our understanding of the North Pennines historic environment, thus contributing to future landscape management.

Over an initial 18 month period ending in December 2011, the project attracted 400 volunteers and completed a range of fieldwork modules including survey and excavation of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval sites, and the survey of complex multi-period archaeological landscapes. Details of work completed during this pilot phase can be found on the AONB website.

The current Altogether Archaeology programme runs from September 2012 - September 2015. It involves a range of professional and academic partners, and participation is open to all; it currently has some 600 registered volunteers. Work is arranged according to ten themes, ranging from Early Farming to 20th-Century Industrial Archaeology. Further information, including details of how to register as a volunteer, are available on the AONB website.



Early twentieth-century view of Muggleswick Church from the south-west, with the grange ruins visible behind. (Reproduced from Muggleswick conservation Area Character Appraisal (draft). Source: M Sobo archive).

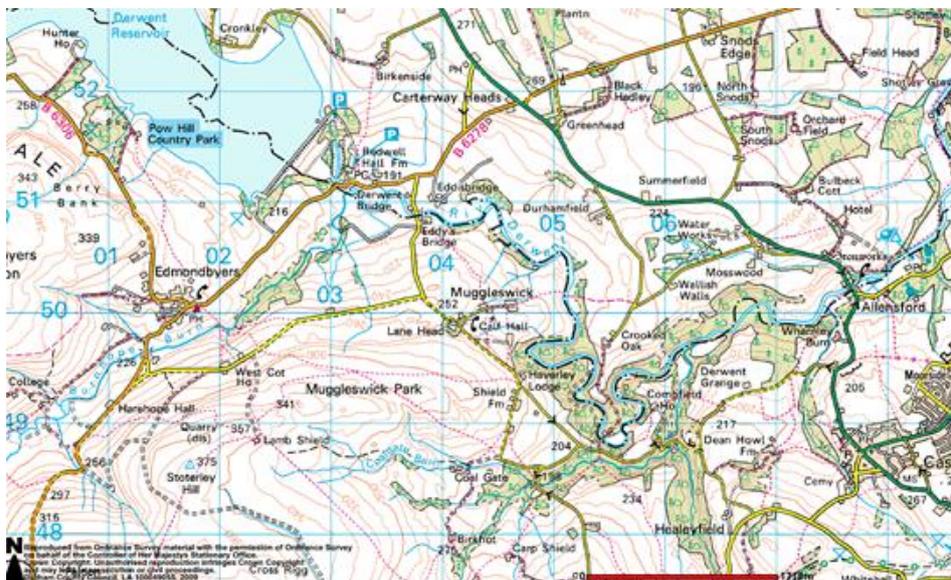
2. Introduction to this module.

The spectacular medieval ruins of Muggleswick Grange have recently been consolidated by a project led by the North Pennines AONB Partnership. Linked to the conservation project was a small-scale excavation programme, undertaken by Altogether Archaeology volunteers under the professional direction of Tom Addyman. The results of this work were spectacular, demonstrating the presence of extensive well-preserved buried remains in the vicinity of the visible ruins.

Northern Powergrid have developed a proposal to underground the overhead power cables to improve setting of the scheduled priory ruins and the conservation area as a whole. While the proposal to underground the cables is very much a positive thing for the setting of the conservation area, the trench for the cable must pass through an area of known archaeological sensitivity to the north of the visible ruins. This area was partially investigated during the earlier Altogether Archaeology excavations, but never completed due to lack of resources.

This Project Design is for a small-scale follow-up campaign of fieldwork, generously sponsored by Northern Powergrid, to complete the excavation of what was known in earlier reports as 'trench 5'. The work will again be directed by Tom Addyman, and is scheduled for 9-15 March 2015. A watching brief on the digging of the rest of the cable trench will also be undertaken during the same week, and volunteers may also have the opportunity to help with this. As well as enabling the undergrounding of currently unsightly power cables in the immediate vicinity of the grange ruins, this work should provide some important results that will contribute to our understanding, and the future management, of the important medieval complex at Muggleswick.

In addition to providing the necessary Project Design for the work, this document is intended to function as an introduction to the site and the project for all participants.



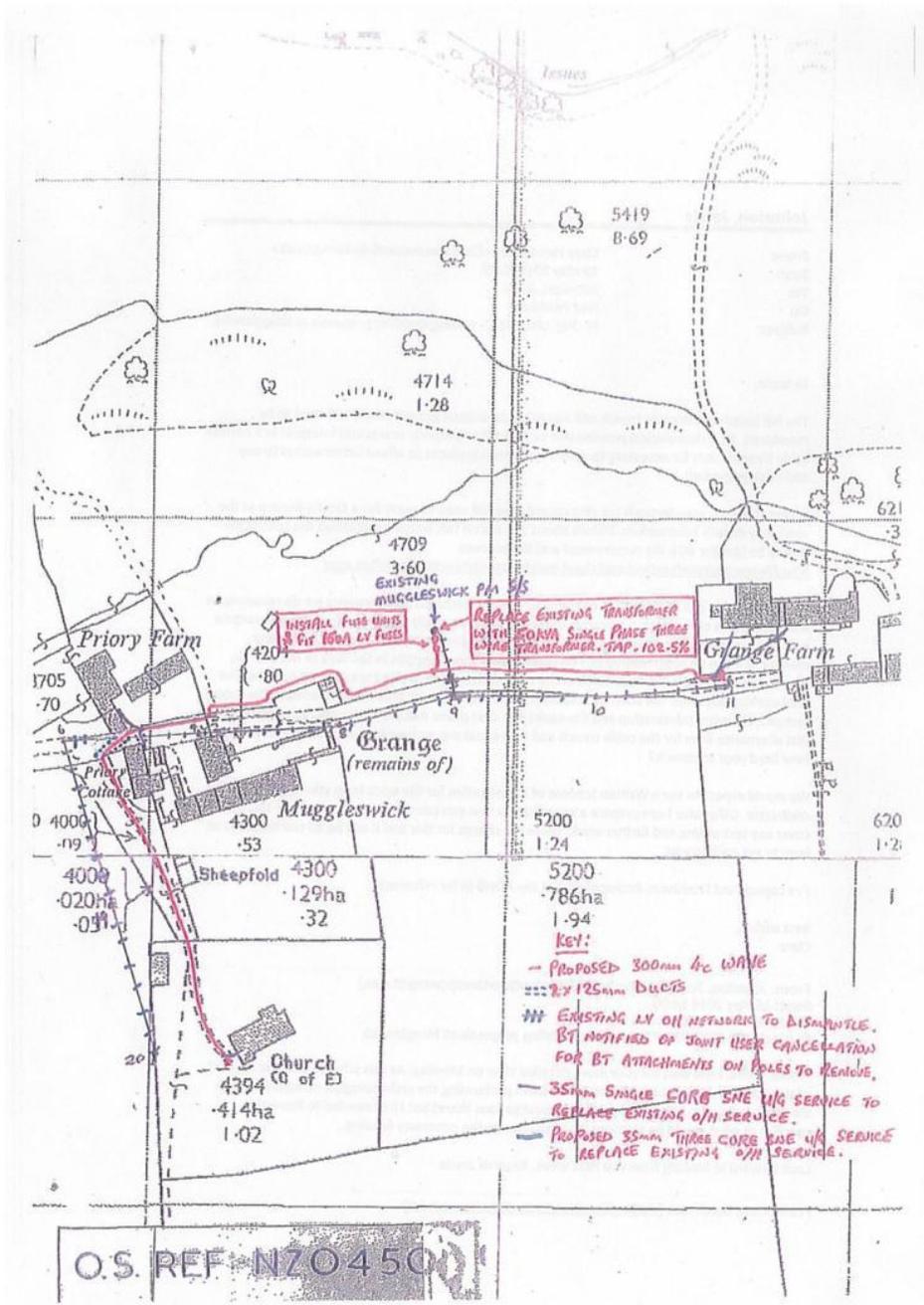
General location of Muggleswick.



Aerial view of Muggleswick within its local landscape setting.



The grange ruins and the much later All Saints Church from the east.



Plan showing Northern Powergrid proposal to underground power cables in the vicinity of Muggleswick Grange. A watching brief will be maintained on the entire cable trench as it is dug, all the way from the church to Grange Farm, but the excavations will focus on the area immediately north of the Grange ruins.

3. Background and Previous Work

3.1 General background.

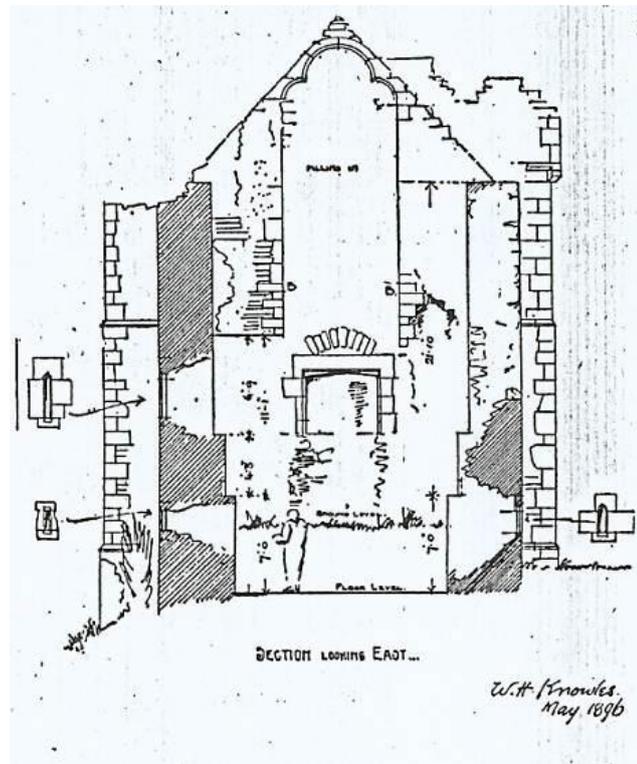
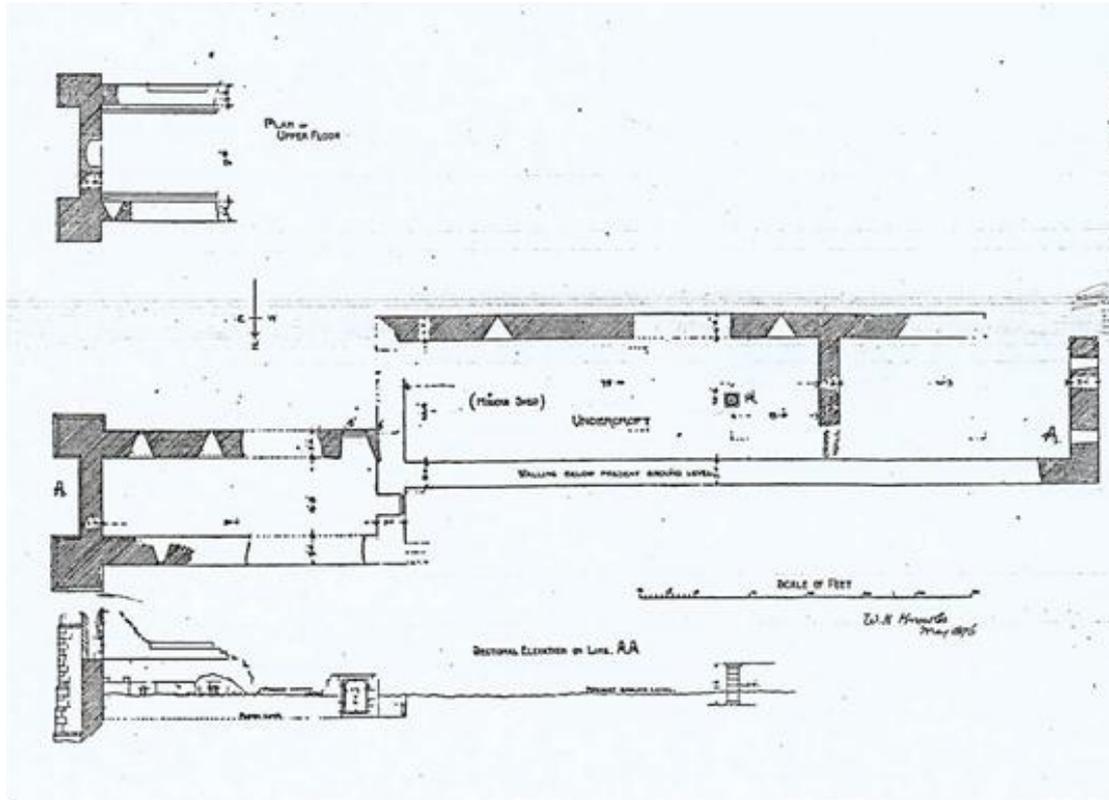
Muggleswick Grange lies at NGR NZ04425002. It is recorded on the County Durham HER as site number D11831. The grange ruins are legally protected as Scheduled Monument no. 1016814, but the area of archaeological interest extends well outside the scheduled area to encompass several historic buildings (all of which probably incorporate masonry recycled from the grange), further buried remains, and the extensive area of Muggleswick Park in the surrounding landscape. A more detailed discussion of the Grange is included in Section 4, below.

The direct historical link between the site and the World Heritage Site of Durham Cathedral demonstrates the importance of Muggleswick Grange (see Section 4.2), and there is much potential to develop this link in future. Any work undertaken here will contribute not only to our understanding of Muggleswick, but also to some degree our understanding of the World Heritage Site.

A large-scale consolidation project has recently been completed at Muggleswick Grange as part of the North Pennines AONB Partnership's Living North Pennines Project (LNP). This has seen the consolidation of the Grange ruins, alongside detailed survey work and small-scale excavations undertaken by local volunteers under the direction of Addyman Archaeology. Addyman Archaeology acted as project archaeologists for the entire conservation project (working in association with Simpson & Brown, project architects) and a great deal has been learned about the history of the site through this work. However, there is still much potential to learn more through further excavation. In addition to this fieldwork, much documentary research of relevance to the grange has been undertaken, notably by Muriel Sobo and by Sheila Newton (see References). Some of this is discussed within the Muggleswick Conservation Area Character Appraisal; it is all collated and summarised in the project report on Muggleswick by Addyman Archaeology.

3.2 Investigations in the 1890s.

There have been two recorded phases of investigation at Muggleswick Grange. The first, in the 1890s, was published along with a detailed discussion of documentary sources relating to Muggleswick in 1896 (Greenwell & Knowles 1896). The publication includes a description of remains visible at the time, some of which had been freshly exposed through excavation though it is not clear from the report how extensive these excavations were. There are some notable discrepancies between the ruins as described in this paper and the site as it currently appears, and recent superficial reassessment of the report suggests that it may have been written just prior to the construction of the agricultural buildings that now occupy part of the site. It is also possible that the report led to a degree of (undated and unrecorded) consolidation work to the ruins that was recognised during the recent conservation work.



Illustrations of Muggleswick Grange from Greenwell & Knowles 1896.

3.3 Recent survey and excavation (2007-2011)

The second phase of investigation is the recent work (2007 - 2011) led by the North Pennines AONB Partnership associated with the consolidation of the grange ruins. (The following summary of this work is largely reprinted from Addyman Archaeology 2011). Recent work has included:

Analytical topographic survey of the grange ruins and immediate landscape.

Rectified photographic survey of standing ruins.

Stone-by-stone drawing, to inform consolidation work.

Detailed monitoring and recording of consolidation work (by Addyman Archaeology).

Small-scale excavation of areas adjacent to the standing ruins by Altogether Archaeology volunteers under the direction of Addyman Archaeology.

The three phases of archaeological evaluation at Muggleswick Grange, conducted as community archaeology projects in 2010-11, and the results of monitoring and building recording works undertaken during repairs to the ruin in 2009-10, have all been drawn into a comprehensive report (Addyman Archaeology 2011). Together they represent a major reappraisal of this important site which has considerably extended our understanding of it as first established by Greenwell and Knowles in the late 19th century and further developed by Peter Ryder in 2006.

Most importantly the extent and many details of the early range described by Greenwell and Knowles, and now only represented above ground by its partially upstanding west gable wall, have been revealed, defined and far better understood. This improved understanding extends to the relationship of the early range with the chapel range, the latter now firmly established as a subsequent though likely near-contemporary addition to the early range. The more comprehensive exposure of the early range's buttresses (only the somewhat altered NE buttress had been recorded hitherto) included the definition of the well-preserved clasped buttress to the SE (these also now deduced for the SW and NW angles), and pilaster buttresses at the centre of the east and west gables, and one on the south side. Also of significance is the recovery of jamb stones of early detail, at least one of which is likely to derive from the early range, that correspond to the form of openings recorded as extant by Greenwell and Knowles within the south wall of the range in the 1890s.

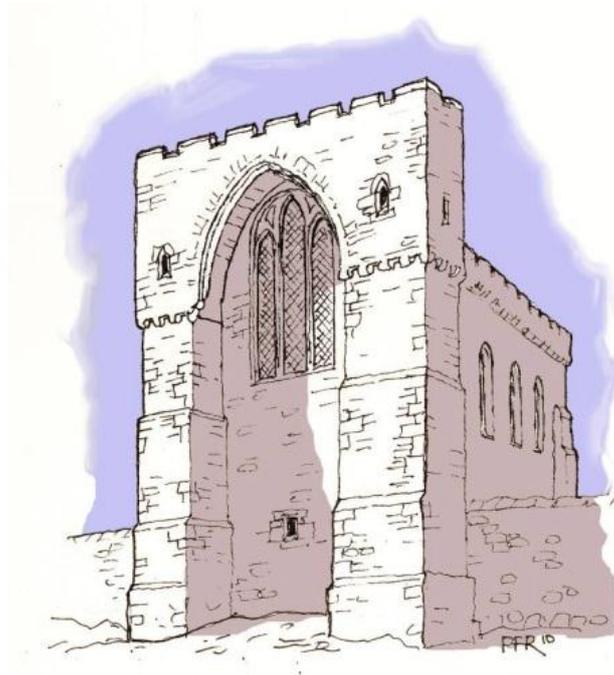
These diagnostic details, taken as a whole, permit a far more authoritative comparison to be made with structures of similar form and date elsewhere in the region. Martin Roberts and Peter Ryder have suggested a number of parallels for these architectural details, particularly the presence of clasped buttresses which, though an archaic feature with roots in the Norman period,

were still employed in the region well in to the 13th century - as seems to be the case with Muggleswick and the comparable sites of Bewley (one of the most important sites of the Prior of Durham, said to have been built between 1258-73) and the inner camera added at Beaurepaire at about the same time c1260-70, and other sites such as Bellister Castle near Haltwhistle, Tynedale

In terms of the evidence for its plan the Muggleswick building is proving to be exceptionally well preserved (although it is clear much damage must have been done to its western parts with the construction of the existing byre). Many further details may yet be recoverable - at the external wall foot of the west gable, and along the eastern parts of the north wall (the principal elevation - where evidence may survive for entrances, external stairs, etc.).

The chapel structure is also far better understood, much having been revealed both by close scrutiny from the scaffold during consolidation, and by the excavation of trenches 1 and 4. Trench 1 also revealed important constructional details and provided some of the few medieval finds from the site, most notably the *grisaille* window glass.

Between the early range and the chapel there was also recorded much evidence for the later development and eventual dismantling of the site which, on the basis of recovered finds seems likely to have occurred in the 17th century.



Speculative reconstruction of the surviving grange ruins by Peter Ryder, based on detailed recording work during the 2010 conservation project and knowledge of contemporary sites elsewhere. (See also the front cover illustration).



Plan of previous Altogether Archaeology excavation trenches and general views of the 2010 excavations (above from the SE, below from the E).

Work in 2010 and 2011 also included the excavation of 'trench 5' within the field to the north of the existing chapel ruins (see below). This confirmed the suspicion that the platform evident within the field did indeed represent part of the grange complex, as suggested by Peter Ryder. Though the structures revealed in trench 5 cannot be fully understood without further excavation, they certainly appear in part to constitute elements of the medieval complex. On initial appearance they seem to represent some of the ancillary farming-related structures that doubtless existed at the site - at the east end of the trench part of the very well preserved interior of a 'byre' was revealed.

Summary of previous work on 'Trench 5'

Trench 5, 2 x 20m, ran parallel to the field boundary bounding the field to the north of the farm access road. Prior to opening the trench the boundary wall in this area was surveyed. It contains a number of different builds and relict features, clearly parts of pre-existing structures present on the site (see illustrations below). Four individual footing alignments were noted running perpendicularly through or northwards from this section of wall. The 1st Edition OS demonstrates the former existence of an agricultural building on the eastern part of this wall section on its south side. The eastern parts of the field wall correspond to this structure and, indeed, the lower quoining of its NE and NW angles can still be made out. The quoining to the NE includes grit-stone blocks that seem likely to be reused from medieval structures at the site. A wall alignment extends northwards from beneath the quoining; that this precisely lines through to the east end wall of the chapel suggests the wall footing may well relate to the medieval complex. This footing, which is about 0.90m - 1.0m in width, corresponds to a slight level change in the field beyond.

At the NW corner of the building shown on the early OS map a further footing runs northwards, this about 0.70m in width. Immediately to the west of this exists what appears to be a blocked entrance. On the west side of the entrance is a 4m long section of walling wholly formed of smaller slabs of sandstone; it is possible that this represents the remains of an internal subdivision within a structure. At about 0.8m in thickness this is considerably thicker than other parts of the boundary wall. Its west end marks a further wall return seen running out to the north. The 3m or so of walling beyond that point appears to be comparatively recent and may be a blocking of a former field entrance whose existence is suggested by a track running northwards from this point on the 1st Edition OS. At the west end of that wall section is a dog's-leg that marks yet another northwards-running wall alignment, this again corresponding to a level change in the field beyond - the eastern side of the platform thought to represent the NE quadrant of the medieval grange site.

Trench 5 was positioned to examine these various northwards-running wall alignments, and the eastern side of the platform in general. Topsoil was removed along the length of the trench and a number of structural features immediately revealed. With the limited resources available, and despite a brief return to site in September 2011, it was not possible to complete the excavation of Trench 5. Excavation work was restricted to better defining

structural remains within two areas, at the western and centre-eastern parts of the trench.

Western end of Trench 5

The western area of excavation concentrated upon the eastern edge of the broad platform. Revealed across the entirety of the westernmost three metres of the trench was a spread of cobble-like stones some 0.10m - 0.20m below surface. This seemed likely to be the remains of a cobbled surfacing of the level top of this part of the platform, the cobbles themselves perhaps having become displaced by subsequent use of the field, perhaps trampling by livestock. Further east the cobbles were increasingly overlain by smaller loose rubble stones.

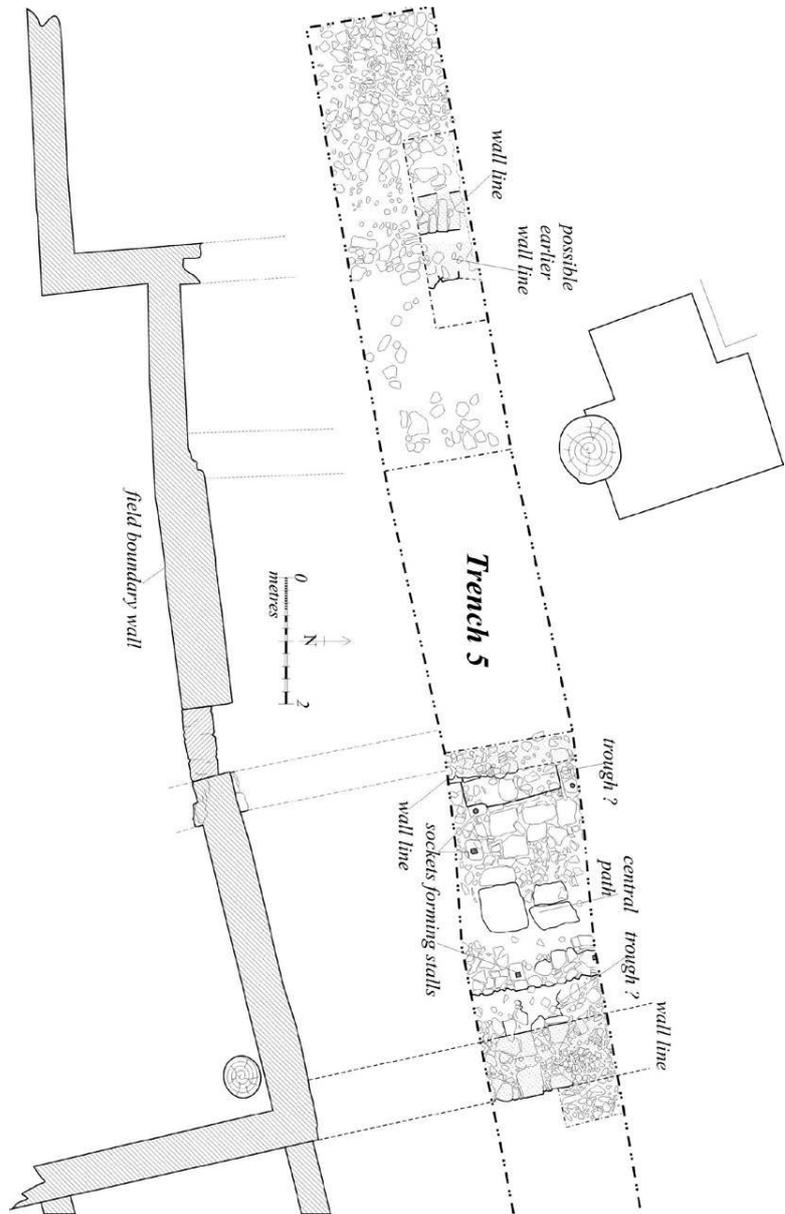
A 0.75m wide strip sondage was excavated along the north section of the trench across the break in slope of the main platform (between 2.0m and 5.0m from the west end of the trench). In the west part of the sondage a continuation of the cobbles was revealed beneath the looser stones. The cobbling ran up to and abutted a substantial wall footing running across the trench from south to north, approximately in line with the wall stub on the boundary wall to the south. Stacked against the eastern face of this wall line were a number of stone roofing slates abutting the base of the wall and sloping away at 45°. These were overlain by fallen rubble stone. The surviving height and footings of the wall were not revealed.

Following removal of topsoil within the centre-eastern part of the trench a spread of smaller loose rubble stone was revealed within the lower topsoil matrix; this concentrated to the east. Emerging through this further east was the clear outline of a substantial and well-built masonry wall footing corresponding to the footing within the boundary wall, this similarly measured 1.0m in width. The probable remnants of a second wall line were noted further to the west, aligned with footing in the boundary wall. The two footings evidently represented the east and west long walls of a range. Following removal of the rubbly overburden between these two walls a partly cobbled, partly flagged floor surface was partially uncovered. Set within this floor area were a series of stones with cut sockets presumably to hold uprights for stalls. Also noted within the floor were a series of aligned vertically set slabs running north/south across the trench that formed kerbs defining individual areas of flooring and, apparently, stone-lined gully drains within.

The flooring on closer inspection appears to relate to a central paved path flanked by raised cobbled areas the regular sockets in the raised areas may indicate that these held uprights for stalls. Between the raised cobbled area and the external walls is an approximately 0.50m wide apparently in-filled sunken area, the extent of these is indicated by the vertical set slabs and are presumably feed troughs (*mangers*).

All the features revealed were exposed by simple topsoil stripping or shallow excavation into an overlying rubble spread, and as such it is likely much more remains to be uncovered. The rubble spreads could be the remnants from robbing of the larger reusable stones from the buildings as they were being

demolished, alternatively the rubble could have been imported to form a hard standing especially to the west where it appears to overlie a large level area. It is hoped that the currently proposed project will enable clarification of the extent to which the remains encountered in trench 5 relate to the medieval grange complex, thus enabling the results from this are to be properly integrated with the better-understood remains to the south of the road.



Plan of Trench 5 as excavated, with a view of the adjacent stone wall at the same scale and alignment. The wall shows clear evidence of differing construction methods and phases which appear to relate to features recorded in the excavation trench.



Three views of trench 5, all described in detail in the site report (Addyman Archaeology 2011). The trench requires further excavation in order for these features to be properly understood in relation to the wider grange complex.

4. Muggleswick Grange - historical summary.

This account is adapted from the Muggleswick Conservation Area Character Appraisal (Consultation Draft) which includes a historical summary of Muggleswick and descriptions of buildings within the Conservation Area. It owes much to unpublished research undertaken by Muriel Sobo.

4.1 Origins of Muggleswick

The earliest evidence for settlement at Muggleswick comes not from archaeology but from the place name. The name 'Muggleswick' derives originally an Old English (ie pre-medieval) place name that probably meant 'the settlement of the descendents of Mocla'. We will never know who Mocla was, but the nature of the name implies that there was a settlement of some kind here prior to the Norman Conquest. This may have been little more than a farmstead, perhaps occupied by a single extended family, but it could have been a more substantial village of timber long-houses, conceivably with a church on the site of the present day church.

4.2 Medieval Muggleswick

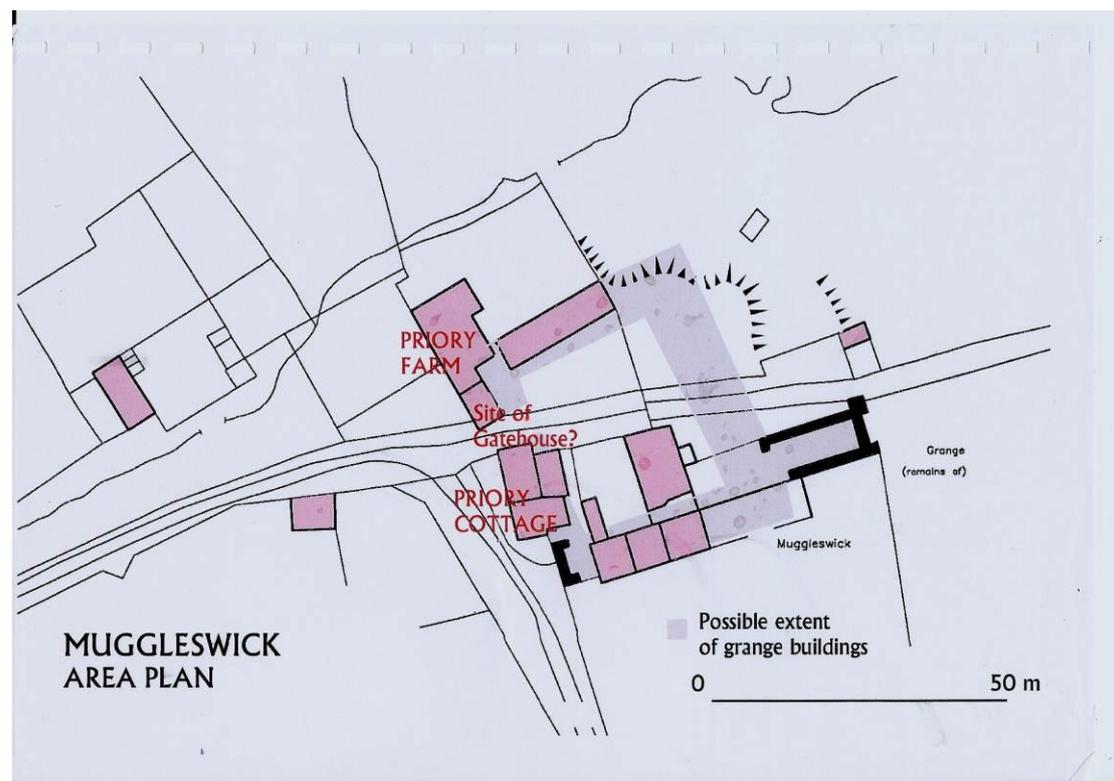
4.2.1 'Muglingwyc' is recorded in the Boldon Book of 1183, and various alternative spellings of the name (such as Moclyngeswyk, Muklingwyk, and Myglkynwyc) are recorded in other post-conquest documents. The Boldon Book records that the Prior of Durham (the head monk of the monastery at what is now Durham Cathedral) held extensive lands, including Muggleswick, on behalf of the monks. The manor of Muggleswick had previously been owned by the Bishop of Durham, but passed to the Prior some time before 1183, apparently in exchange for the manor of Hardwick near Castle Eden. All surrounding land was owned by the Bishop, who granted the Prior licence to assart (clear of trees and scrub to improve pasture and/or prepare for cultivation) 160 acres at Muggleswick, and to use further land as pasture. The Bishop, however, retained the hunting rights. A document dated 1229 refers to a large house ('domum magnam') constructed at 'Muclingwic' by Brother William of the Priory; this may have been constructed of timber. In the mid 13th century, perhaps in the 1260s, Prior Hugh de Derlington erected a 'camera' (Latin for 'vault' or 'arched chamber', implying a substantial stone structure) at Muggleswick, presumably on or adjacent to the site of Brother William's house, and it is the ruins of this that survive today as 'Muggleswick Grange'.

4.2.2 Prior Hugh's 'camera' must have been an extraordinarily impressive structure, much grander than anything seen at Muggleswick before or since. It was the centre from which the Prior's extensive lands at Muggleswick were managed. These lands became more extensive through time; three separate documents from the later 13th century record the granting by bishops of in excess of 1200 acres of wood and waste at Muggleswick to the Prior and monks of Durham. Of particular interest is a charter dated 1259, by which Bishop Walter de Kirkham granted to Prior Hugh de Derlington and the Convent (ie the monks) licence 'to enclose and impark their wood in the vill of Muclingwic'. This document describes the line of the stone wall erected around the wood in some detail, and it would be a fascinating exercise to retrace this line in today's landscape to establish how much of the original boundary survives, and in what form.

4.2.3 Through grants such as these, the Prior gained possession of the whole of Muggleswick parish, other than Rowley, and the area became a huge cattle and sheep ranch, sending large quantities of meat, hides and tallow to the monastery at Durham. There were also fishponds, possible earthworks of which survive on the line of the Muggleswick Burn upstream of the ruins. A document dated 1464 lists a hall, chapel, grange and dairy at Muggleswick, which seem to have been in poor condition as £26 13s 4d was required for repairs. At the same time the stock at Muggleswick consisted of:

43 oxen, 28 young oxen and heifers of 3 years, 45 cows, 26 young oxen and heifers of two years, 20 calves of a year old, 17 young calves, 85 sheep, 52 ewes, 27 hogs and 24 lambs

4.2.4 In his historical survey of Muggleswick Grange, Peter Ryder (2007) presents a speculative plan, based on a rapid survey of the site coupled with his knowledge of grange sites elsewhere, of the possible extent of the grange buildings in relation to the surviving ruins and present day buildings. Presumably, several other buildings, probably of timber, stood in the vicinity of the grange, but no trace of these survives in today's landscape. There was apparently a church on the site of the present church in medieval times, but no sign of such a structure has been noted within the masonry of the current church, nor is there any sign of any ancient structures between the grange ruins and the church.



Speculative plan by Peter Ryder showing possible extent of medieval grange buildings.

4.3 Post-medieval Muggleswick

4.3.1 After the Dissolution of the Durham monastery in 1539, ownership of Muggleswick Grange passed briefly to the Crown, passing back to Durham in the form of the newly formed Dean and Chapter of the cathedral in 1541. The Dean and Chapter were the landowners through until the mid 19th century when responsibility passed to the Church Commissioners, who sold it to private landowners during the 20th century.

4.3.2 We don't know for how long the grange continued to function and its buildings remained in use, but it seems that some of today's buildings at Muggleswick were originally constructed, presumably using stone and timber taken from the medieval ruins, during the 17th century. At some point the grange building itself was substantially modified, with the addition of the surviving Tudor fireplace to the first floor and the modification of the east window into a chimney flue. The surviving ruins were examined in detail from the scaffolding during the recent conservation work, and detailed drawings are included within the report (Addyman Archaeology 2011).

4.3.3 Muggleswick was perhaps not as badly affected as regions closer to the border by Anglo-Scottish conflict in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries, but we may assume that its status as a cattle ranch would have made it a particularly attractive target to cattle poachers during the era of the Border Reivers during the 16th and early 17th centuries. The grange must have had the facility to store stock safely when threatened, presumably within the main courtyard, assuming Ryder's reconstruction of this (see front cover) to be accurate.

4.3.4 In 1646, Cromwell's parliament abolished all bishops, deans and chapters, appropriating their lands for the state. Such lands were surveyed at the time, and the survey of the Manor of Muggleswick (dated 1649) still survives, giving a remarkable insight into the local landscape and society of the mid 17th century. The survey gives a detailed description of the boundaries of the manor, along with details of the occupants and values of properties throughout. It provides information about arable fields, meadows and common pastures, and also states the need for tenants to turn out with horses and equipment for border service when required (although the Union of the Crowns under James I occurred in 1603, cross-border problems persisted well into the 17th century). The survey notes that properties throughout the manor were of stone and clay, thatched with heather or ling.

4.3.5 In an era before the widespread introduction of accurate maps, the boundaries of the Manor of Muggleswick were marked out on the ground with boundary stones, and the boundaries were 'walked' on a regular basis. Many boundary stones, apparently of early nineteenth-century date, survive in today's landscape, marked 'DC' for 'Dean & Chapter' on the Muggleswick side, and inscribed with the initials of adjacent landowners on the other.

4.3.6 By the late 19th century the Grange ruins had been much pillaged for building material. Antiquarian investigations in the 1890s (see Section 3, above) included some recording of the standing ruins and the excavation of buried remains. The construction of agricultural buildings over part of the site, and possibly some conservation work to the ruins, seem to have followed soon after this work. After this, no work occurred at the site until the early 21st century when the AONB Partnership's conservation scheme was implemented.



Two old photographs of the grange ruins, both thought to date from about 1900.



5. Research Aims and Objectives.

Our understanding of Muggleswick Grange was until recently based largely on our interpretation of the spectacular standing ruins, combined with the work of Greenwell and Knowles published back in 1896. However, recent work by Altogether Archaeology volunteers under the direction of Tom Addyman (discussed above) has demonstrated that extensive buried remains still lie buried beneath and around the current buildings, and that these offer much potential to improve our understanding of the complex.

Excavations on the south side of the road have led to a sound interpretation of the original buildings here, but due to time constraints during the earlier campaign the buried remains known to exist north of the road still await adequate investigation. The opportunity afforded by the Northern Powergrid undergrounding proposal has enabled a return to the site to complete the investigation of what in the earlier campaign was referred to as 'Trench 5'.

This project is small in scale and has one basic aim: **to investigate and help to characterise the nature of buried remains in the area of 'Trench 5', a few metres north of the visible ruins at Muggleswick Grange, and to integrate the results of this work into the interpretive account of the Muggleswick complex arising out of previous fieldwork campaigns.** At the same time, it will provide a channel through the archaeologically sensitive area within which the power cable will be laid.

The results will be of interest in their own right, but will also be used to inform future management of the site. The aim of the excavations is to locate and characterise features and deposits in the vicinity of the ruins, not necessarily to fully excavate them; if medieval walls or floors are encountered then it may be decided to partially investigate them without full excavation.

Questions that the project may help to address include the following:

Can we ascertain the nature of any medieval structures in this part of the site, both originally and through time?

How do buried features here relate to the complex stone wall along the north side of the road, and to the surviving ruins to the south?

Is there evidence for activity here during post-medieval times, following the closure of the grange?

Is there any evidence here for early activity, prior to the construction of the grange?

What potential does the site offer for further investigation into the history of the grange, and also into times prior to its construction and after its closure?

6. Business Case.

6.1 The opportunity provided by the Northern Powergrid proposal to underground power cables through this part of the Muggleswick conservation area provides a one-off opportunity for the Altogether Archaeology volunteers to complete their investigation of this part of the Muggleswick complex. This will further engage local volunteers directly in the study of this important site, therefore enhancing public awareness of the site and concern for its future management.

6.2 The recent large-scale project to consolidate the spectacular ruins of Muggleswick Grange generated much local interest in the site and led directly to a small-scale community excavation campaign in 2010 and 2011. The scope of that work was constrained by available funds, and many local people are keen to do more. In general terms, the strong desire amongst local people to better understand the origins of Muggleswick and protect the grange for the future provides clear impetus to complete this project at this time. Once equipped with skills obtained through the project, local volunteers will be at liberty to plan further works to enhance the historic environment, both within Muggleswick and elsewhere.

6.3 The fieldwork completed by this project will contribute to the wider initiative at Muggleswick, all of which will be collated and published by Addyman Archaeology in due course.

6.4 The project is supported by English Heritage, and the regional EH inspector is on the core project team. It will thus contribute to the aims of the joint accord signed between English Heritage and the National Association of AONBs to work together to further the understanding, conservation, enhancement and public enjoyment of the historic environment within the AONB (English Heritage 2005b).

6.5 With regard to SHAPE 2008 (A Strategic Framework for Historic Environment Activities & Programmes in English Heritage), this project, although small in scale, contributes to several of English Heritage's stated corporate objectives. The project could fit into several of the Sub-Programmes within SHAPE 2008, but the most appropriate is sub-programme number 51311.110:

Sub-programme name	Community Involvement and Awareness Projects
Sub-programme number	51311.110
Corporate Objective	5A. Increase public awareness of the historic environment
Sub-programme description	Projects raising community awareness of historic environment through direct communication, engagement and participation. (eg Community-led research programmes)
Reason for EH support	Builds direct support and engages enthusiasm from which multiple benefits flow. Encourages knowledge transfer through enjoyment.

It should also be noted that the project has multiple benefits and a sound case could also be made for including it within any of the following SHAPE sub-programmes:

Understanding Place: Analysis of specific historic assets and locales (11111.130).

Community Training Projects (12211.110).

Protected Landscape Research (23111.110).

Guidance for Volunteer and Community Groups. (43215.110).

6.6 This project at Muggleswick will contribute directly to the following objectives within the *North Pennines AONB Management Plan (2014-2019)*:

Objective 5. To ensure an increase in professional and public knowledge and understanding of the AONB's historic environment.

Objective 6. To ensure effective conservation and management of the North Pennines historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites and heritage landscapes.

Objective 13. To ensure that a wide range of opportunities exists for everyone to get involved in conserving and celebrating the North Pennines.

7. Project scope.

7.1 There is much potential for a range of research and interpretation work at and around Muggleswick Grange. However, this project is necessarily limited in scope to the survey and evaluation of the physical remnants of the Grange within the area of 'Trench 5' as set out in Section 5 above. A watching brief on the digging by Northern Powergrid's contractor of the trench for the power cable along its entire length from the church to Grange Farm will be undertaken during the week of the excavation; this will be led by Paul Frodsham and volunteers will have the opportunity to be involved in it should they so wish. Should anything be encountered during the watching brief that requires closer investigation, then volunteers will also have a chance to get involved with this.

7.2 Post-excavation work will be undertaken by Addyman Archaeology alongside that relating to earlier fieldwork. An updated version of the current Muggleswick report will be produced for circulation to volunteers and other interested parties before the end of 2015. This will then be incorporated into a publication combining all the recent work at Muggleswick, to be completed in due course.

7.3 The results of the project will help to inform the public interpretation of the grange ruins, both on- and off-site. An awareness of the nature and extent of buried remains in the vicinity of the ruins will also be important to the future management of the site. However, all such interpretive and management work lies outside the scope of this project.

8. Interfaces

8.1 This module is largely self-contained although it is very closely linked to the consolidation of the grange ruins and associated fieldwork undertaken in 2010 and 2011. As noted elsewhere, these different phases of work will be united through a combined post-excavation and publication phase.

8.2 This module forms part of the wider Altogether Archaeology project which aims to improve understanding of, and direct public involvement with, the archaeological heritage of the entire North Pennines. Links between this Muggleswick module and the wider project will be maintained through the project web pages, and the results will be discussed at an Altogether Archaeology conference in late 2015.

8.4 The results may be of use in informing management agreements between English Heritage and the owners of the Grange and surrounding land.

8.5 This project is expected to generate further local interest in the grange, providing impetus for further investigation of Muggleswick's history. Altogether Archaeology volunteers and other local residents may well wish to undertake further fieldwork on the grange and other parts of the village. Any such work will be outside the remit of the current project, but where appropriate the North Pennines AONB Partnership will offer support to the local community for the development of such follow-up initiatives.

9. Project Team structure.

This is a small-scale project and has a simple management structure, with a small project team.

The Project Core Team will consist of:

Paul Frodsham, North Pennines AONB Partnership Historic Environment Officer and Altogether Archaeology Project Officer.

Tom Addyman, Addyman Archaeology.

Sheila Newton & Andrew Newton, local archaeologists representing the Upper Derwent Archaeology Society.

Rob Young, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage.

Overall project management will be by Paul Frodsham, assisted as required by Rob Young and Tom Addyman, and where appropriate by other members of the North Pennines AONB Historic Environment Working Group (HEWG). The HEWG is the designated advisory group for the whole of the *Altogether Archaeology* project, and includes the Durham County Archaeologist along with several other professionals with wide experience of historic environment work both within the North Pennines and elsewhere. PF will also be responsible for co-ordinating volunteer involvement in the project.

Direction of fieldwork will be the responsibility of Tom Addyman and his fieldwork team, assisted by Sheila and Andrew Newton. These arrangements are similar to those of the earlier community excavations at Muggleswick. Tom will act as Site Director, directing all fieldwork on site, including training of volunteers; he will also be responsible for on-site health and safety. In practice it is expected that Paul Frodsham will also be on site most days, but his role will be to assist the Site Director and Supervisors rather than to direct the fieldwork himself. Tom Addyman will be responsible for the writing up of the interim project report (see below), with Paul Frodsham also available to help with certain aspects of this.

Fieldwork will be done by Altogether Archaeology volunteers. The project has a pool of some 600 volunteers, of whom it is expected that about 30 will wish to participate actively in this module. Although there must be some flexibility with regard to volunteer involvement, up to 20 volunteers are expected on site each day. PF will draw up a rota showing which volunteers expect to be on site each day, and fieldwork can then be planned accordingly. Some volunteers are more physically able than others, while some have particular interests in certain aspects of the work, but all volunteers will be offered a varied workload, receiving training and experience in all aspects of fieldwork. Formal records will be kept of volunteer attendance, and of the training and experience gained by each volunteer.

10. Communications.

10.1 PF maintains a volunteer database of all Altogether Archaeology volunteers, and information about the project will generally be disseminated by email or telephone using contact details contained within this database.

10.2 PF will be in daily contact with Tom Addyman and/or the site supervisors during the fieldwork phase. Communication by email, telephone and face-to-face meetings as necessary will be maintained during project planning and post-excavation phases.

10.3 The North Pennines AONB HEWG (the project advisory group) meets quarterly. A preliminary report on the Muggleswick module will be presented by PF for discussion at the April 2015 HEWG meeting. It is envisaged that a final report on the project will be presented by PF to the December 2015 HEWG meeting.

11. Methods Statement.

11.1 General

11.1.1 Fieldwork will be undertaken by volunteers from the *Altogether Archaeology* project, with training and constant on-site supervision provided by Addyman Archaeology. All work will be completed according to relevant professional standards and guidelines.



Site plan showing the locations of previous Altogether Archaeology excavation trenches at Muggleswick. the current project will focus on the complete excavation of Trench 5, which will be extended to the west as far as the stile in the corner of the field.

11.2 Site preparation

The new trench will be marked out on the ground and accurately tied in to the general site plan produced during earlier work (see plan); any extensions to the trenches will be similarly recorded and tied in to the main plan.

11.3 Excavation

The excavation trench is located outside the Scheduled Area, so Scheduled Monument Consent will not be required for the work. The methodology will be identical to that employed during previous excavations at Muggleswick.

Trenches will be deturfed and excavated entirely by hand. Descriptions of all archaeological contexts excavated or exposed will be recorded on standard Addyman Archaeology recording forms. Other than the narrow trench to take the power cable, which will be excavated down into undisturbed natural along the entire length of the excavation, features may be uncovered and recorded but not necessarily completely excavated. The sample excavation of some features may be deemed desirable, in which case partial excavation, half-sectioning or sampling will be preferable to full excavation. All such decisions will be made on site by the Project Management Team.

The trench will be accurately surveyed into the general site plan. Individual trench plans at a suitable scale will also be made. Plans, usually at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, will be drawn to show all archaeological deposits exposed during the excavation. At least one continuous long section of the trench will be drawn. Other sections of individual features will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. All drawings will be digitised as appropriate in due course. The OD height of all strata and features will be measured and recorded on the appropriate plans and sections. A Harris matrix stratification diagram will be constructed to show stratigraphic relationships throughout the site.

Previous work suggests that the retrieval of significant finds other than pottery is unlikely. However, all finds of all dates will be retained and treated in a proper manner according to established guidelines provided within the UK Institute for Conservation's 'Conservation Guidelines No. 2'. All finds will be recorded on a finds register. Analysis of all finds will be undertaken by Addyman Archaeology (using specialists where appropriate) as part of the post-excavation phase.

Any soil or other samples recovered from excavated contexts will be retained by Addyman Archaeology for subsequent analysis; such analysis will form part of the post-excavation phase and is therefore not covered in detail here.

A full digital photographic record will be maintained, in accordance with standard Addyman Archaeology practice, to show principle features and finds in close detail and general context. The photographic record will also include a series of 'working shots' recording the progress of the excavation from initial turf-cutting through until backfilling. Video recording may also be employed if deemed appropriate.

11.4 Training for volunteers

Work will proceed at a suitable pace to enable adequate time for training for all volunteers, and regular on site discussions will be held with volunteers to discuss progress and the interpretation of trenches as work progresses. All volunteers will be encouraged to undertake a range of activities, including excavation, recording, finds processing, planning, surveying, levelling, and architectural recording of standing structures. Decisions relating to the deployment of volunteers throughout the site will be the responsibility of the Director/Supervisors, but the wishes of volunteers will be taken into account when arriving at such decisions.

Volunteers will be encouraged to take responsibility for completing tasks allocated to them, but professional guidance will be available at all times. The overall integrity of the site record will be ensured through the immediate checking by the Director or Supervisor (and if necessary correction) of all records, drawings etc.

Volunteers will be asked to sign an attendance sheet each day as a record of their participation, and will also be asked to complete an evaluation at the close of the project so that their comments can be taken on board when planning future Altogether Archaeology modules.

11.6 Post-excavation

All post-excavation work will be undertaken by Addyman Archaeology and the results merged with those of earlier work at Muggleswick.

11.7 Archiving and Dissemination

The results will be fully published in a paper covering all aspects of the recent research, survey and conservation programme at Muggleswick, and the archive from this project will be incorporated into the general site archive. However, a brief interim covering just the results of this project will be produced for circulation to volunteers, and does form part of this project. The interim report will include a selection of illustrations of the work including drawings and photographs, and will present the results within a framework of our understanding of the site. Although most sections will be brief, the general structure of the interim report will be as follows:

1. Executive summary
 - 1.1 The project
 - 1.2 Results
2. Project background
 - 2.1 Location
 - 2.2 Objective and links with wider initiative at Muggleswick.
 - 2.3 Dates
 - 2.4 Personnel (including names of all participating volunteers)
 - 2.5 Acknowledgements
 - 2.6 Archive

3. Archaeological and historical background
4. Excavation and survey
 - 4.1 Field methods
 - 4.2 Post excavation
 - 4.3 Interpretation of results
5. Discussion
6. References

12. Stages, Tasks and Timetable.

This project is small in scale, consisting of a single phase of fieldwork, and thus has a simple structure. As noted elsewhere in this document, it forms part of a wider initiative at Muggleswick into which the results will be merged.

This project is divided into three stages and 15 tasks as shown in the table below. Fieldwork is planned to extend over seven days from Monday 9th - Sunday 15th March 2015. Results analysis and report production will take up to four months following the completion of fieldwork.

STAGE/ Task no	STAGE/Task	Person(s) responsible	Dates (all 2015)
S 1	PREPARATION		
T 1.1	Finalising of MORPHE compliant project design.	PF/TA/Ry	25 Feb
T 1.2	Arrange health & safety provision and complete risk assessment.	PF	28 Feb
T 1.3	Finalise all access arrangements etc with landowner and tenant.	PF	28 Feb
T 1.4	Circulate Project Design to AA volunteers, inviting volunteers to register.	PF/volunteers	25 Feb
T 1.5	Closing date for volunteer registration	Volunteers	4 Mar
T 1.6	Agree volunteer participation rota - inform volunteers.	PF	5 Mar
S 2	FIELDWORK		
T 2.1	Site set-up and on-site start-up meeting	Volunteers/PF/TA	9 Mar
T 2.2	Fieldwork	Volunteers/PF/TA	9-15 Mar
S 3	REPORT, ARCHIVE & PUBLICITY		
T 3.1	Production of interim project report	TA	April/May
T 3.2	Post-excavation work (finds analysis, sample processing, dating etc)	TA	April - July
T 3.3	Merging of results with existing Muggleswick report	TA	Aug
T 3.4	Presentation of final report to HEWG	PF	Sept
T 3.5	Deposition of archive, dissemination of final report to HER & OASIS	PF/TA	Sept
T 3.6	Link to Project Report placed on AONB website.	PF	Sept
T 3.7	Contribution to Altogether Archaeology public conference.	PF/TA	tbc

PF = Paul Frodsham (North Pennines AONB Partnership)

Ry = Rob Young (English Heritage)

TA = Tom Addyman (Addyman Archaeology)

HEWG = North Pennines AONB Historic Environment Working Group

13. Project Review.

13.1 The project will be subject to continuous review by the Project Director who will maintain an active role in the fieldwork programme. Should any changes to the proposed programme become desirable during the course of the project then they will be discussed and agreed by all members of the Project management team.

13.4 The Project Management Team will also hold a review meeting upon completion of the project. This may consider recommendations for the future site management, though this lies outside the scope of this project.

13.5 The project will also feature in the external Altogether Archaeology Project Review which will be completed towards the end of 2015.

14. Ownership.

The land is owned by the Lambton Estate, and is tenanted by Mr Wilf Storey, Grange Farm, Muggleswick. Full consent from both will be secured prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

Any finds recovered during the work will remain the legal property of the landowners, but if appropriate will be donated or loaned to a local museum for long-term curation and display.

15. Health and safety.

15.1 Full consideration will be given to matters of health and safety throughout this project. The Altogether Archaeology generic Risk Assessment for all project fieldwork will apply to this module, and a separate Risk Control Sheet specific to this module will also be produced. The Addyman Archaeology Health and Safety policy will also apply to all fieldwork undertaken as part of this module. A health and safety briefing will be given to all volunteers at project start-up, and all will be required to read a written statement on health and safety which will be kept on site and which all volunteers partaking in the project will be required to sign, stating that they have read and understood it and that they will abide by its terms.

15.2 Addyman Archaeology abides by the 1974 Health and Safety Act, its subsequent amendments, and the 2007 Construction Design and Management Regulations. All Addyman Archaeology field projects are carried out in accordance with the SCAUM Health and Safety in Field Archaeology manual (2007).

15.4 Addyman Archaeology will ensure that a qualified First Aider and First Aid supplies are present on site at all times during work. All staff members are supplied with appropriate safety clothing and equipment and advice will be

provided to volunteers as appropriate regarding such equipment.

15.5 It is intended to hire a portacabin and locate it as close as possible to the excavation site. A Portaloo will also be hired and set up adjacent to the site the duration of the project. Volunteers will also be able to shelter in their vehicles in the event of temporary bad weather.

16. Risk Log.

This is a small-scale project and risks are of a correspondingly small scale. Nevertheless, a risk log is appended here as Appendix D.

17. References

Addyman Archaeology. 2011. *Muggleswick Grange. Historic building survey and community archaeology projects*. Data structure report (unpublished) for North Pennines AONB Partnership.

Greenwell, W. & Knowles, W.H., 1896. Muggleswick. *Transactions of the Durham & Northumberland Architectural & Archaeological Society* IV, 287-308.

Newton, S. 2014. *Landscape Change: The Case of Two North Pennine Parishes. Settlement and Landuse in the Parishes of Edmundbyers and Muggleswick, County Durham, and adjacent areas of the Upper Derwent Valley*. PhD thesis, University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Ryder, P.F., 2006. *Muggleswick*. (Unpublished archaeological survey incorporated within the Muggleswick range Conservation Statement, prepared by Johnson & Wright for the North Pennines AONb Partnership. January 2007).

Sobo, M.E. 1996. *Muggleswick Parish & Church. A Brief History*. (A4 leaflet).

Sobo, M.E./Muggleswick Community Association. 2001. *Muggleswick & Waskeley: An Eclectic History with Photographs*. (A Local Heritage Initiative booklet)

Sobo, M. E. Unpublished research files.

North Pennines AONB Partnership/Durham County Council. 2009. *Muggleswick Conservation Area Character Appraisal, Consultation Draft*. Unpublished report.

Appendix A. Scheduled Monument List Entry Summary and Map

This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance. This entry is a copy, the original is held by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Name: Monastic grange at Priory Farm

List Entry Number: 1016814

Location

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County:

District: County Durham

District Type: Unitary Authority

Parish: Muggleswick

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: Not applicable to this List entry.

Date first scheduled: 01-Jun-1962

Date of most recent amendment: 07-Jul-1999

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: RSM

UID: 32718

Asset Groupings

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List Entry Description

Summary of Monument

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Reasons for Designation

A monastic grange was a farm owned and run by a monastic community and independent of the secular manorial system of communal agriculture and servile labour. The function of granges was to provide food and raw materials for consumption within the parent monastic house itself, and also to provide surpluses for sale for profit. The first monastic granges appeared in the 12th century but they continued to be constructed and used until the Dissolution. This system of agriculture was pioneered by the Cistercian order but was soon imitated by other orders. Some granges were worked by resident lay-brothers (secular workers) of the order but others were staffed by non-resident labourers. The majority of granges practised a mixed economy but some were specialist in their function. Five types of grange are known: agrarian farms, bercaries (sheep farms), vaccaries (cattle ranches), horse studs and industrial complexes. A monastery might have more than one grange and the wealthiest houses had many. Frequently a grange was established on lands immediately adjacent to the monastery, this being known as the home grange. Other granges, however, could be found wherever the monastic site held lands. On occasion these could be located at some considerable distance from the parent monastery. Granges are broadly comparable with contemporary secular farms although the wealth of the parent house was frequently reflected in the size of the grange and the layout and architectural embellishment of the buildings. Additionally, because of their monastic connection, granges tend to be much better documented than their secular counterparts. No region was without monastic granges. The exact number of sites which originally existed is not precisely known but can be estimated, on the basis of numbers of monastic sites, at several thousand. Of these, however, only a small percentage can be accurately located on the ground today. Of this group of identifiable sites, continued intensive use of many has destroyed much of the evidence of archaeological remains. In view of the importance of granges to medieval rural and monastic life, all sites exhibiting good archaeological survival are identified as nationally important.

The monastic grange at Priory Farm is reasonably well preserved despite some structural instability in the standing fabric, and retains significant archaeological deposits. As a securely dated and well documented medieval building which retains many original features, it will contribute to our knowledge and understanding of medieval rural life. The association of the grange with the medieval priory at Durham enhances the importance of the monument.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

The monument includes parts of a monastic grange of 13th century date, situated on the right bank of the Muggleswick Burn, a tributary of the River Derwent. The standing remains of the monument are Listed Grade I. The grange was built for the priors of Durham by Prior Hugh of Darlington, while he held office between 1258 and 1272, on what is thought to have been the site of an earlier grange. The grange lay within a park, which Prior Hugh was granted permission to enclose in 1259. The buildings of the monastic grange remained in use throughout the medieval period; in 1464 a document records that the buildings consisted of a hall, chapel, grange and a dairy, which must have been in poor condition at that time as an estimate for their repair is also given. The same document records a large stock of oxen, cattle, calves, sheep, pigs and lambs. The visible remains of the grange above ground are two rectangular blocks orientated east to west and joined at the south western corner of the smaller, more easterly block. The latter block consists of the remains of a rectangular building 15.1m long and 4.4m wide within a wall 1.7m to 1.8m thick; it is thought that this building originally stood two or possibly three storeys high. The eastern gable is intact and stands to its full height of 15.5m. There is a rectangular buttress at each corner with corbels forming false machicolation. At the centre of the gable near the top there is a window of 15th century date which was later blocked by the insertion of a flue to a 16th century fireplace. The form of the window is thought to indicate that the upper storey was used as a chapel. The south wall of the building stands to a maximum height of 3m at its eastern end. Also at this end there is a narrow window of lancet form and at the western end there is a rebate for a doorway 1.5m high. The west wall was uncovered by excavations in the late 19th century and was found to be 1.8m thick, containing a central doorway. The north wall stands to a maximum height of 2m but is on average 0.7m high and contains the remains of two narrow windows. The western block is a rectangular building, substantially longer than the eastern, and divided by a cross partition wall. This building originally contained a vaulted undercroft; a description of the building at the end of the 19th century referred to the removal of several pillars from the site, though to have formed the undercroft. The western gable of this building stands up to 4m high. The sill of a large first floor window is visible. At the present ground level the tops of two small windows with triangular shaped lintels are visible; these are thought to have served to light the undercroft. The western block is thought to have housed the main hall of the grange, above vaulted undercrofts. The foundations of the remainder of this building, which were uncovered by excavation in the late 19th century, are considered to survive below ground level as buried features. The wider extent of the grange and location of other buildings is not yet fully understood. All gate posts, fences, modern walls, garden sheds, raised flower beds, the telegraph pole, the corrugated metal barn and the stone farm buildings situated within the area of the scheduling are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath these features is included.

MAP EXTRACT The site of the monument is shown on the attached map extract. It includes a 2 metre boundary around the archaeological features, considered to be essential for the monument's support and preservation.

Selected Sources

Other

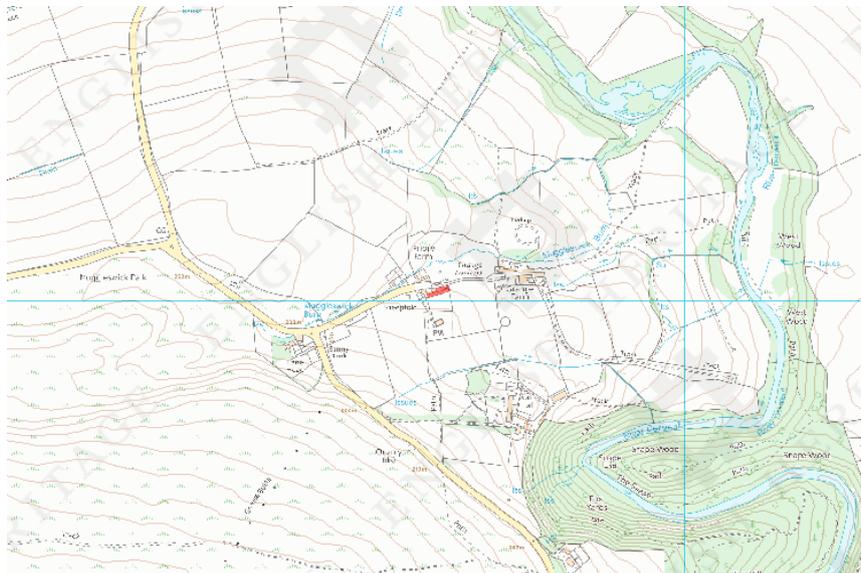
2342,

Field Reconnaissance, Ryder, P F, Muggleswick, Ruins of the Medieval Manor, (1964)

Map

National Grid Reference: NZ 04432 50023

The below map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - [1016814.pdf](#) - Please be aware that it may take a few minutes for the download to complete.



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This copy shows the entry on 18-Feb-2015 at 12:14:34.