

The Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland Hillfort survey (v2 October 2013)

Important information:

This form must be used with the accompanying Notes for Guidance which are downloadable from the Project website (<http://www.arch.ox.ac.uk/hillforts-atlas.html>). Please read the notes before attempting to fill in this form.

Once completed this form can be either posted or emailed to us, alternatively you can transcribe the information into the web-based form and submit electronically – see the Notes for details.

Access to sites and Health and Safety:

The project and its host Institutions bear no responsibility for any access or health and safety issues that may arise during your participation in this project.

Disclaimer:

The Co-directors of this project and their institutions are not responsible for issues of access to sites and health and safety of participants in the survey. By taking part in this survey you are acknowledging that access and health and safety are your responsibility.

Section 1.

Introductory comments

Thank you for taking part in this survey, by doing so you are agreeing that all information provided can be used and published by the project. You will remain anonymous unless you indicate here that you want to be named on the project website:

1.1. YES – Name to be used: C.L.A.S.P. (Stephen MacFarlane and Norman Garnett)

Basic information about you

1.2. Your name: Community Landscape Archaeology Survey Project (CLASP)

1.3. Contact phone number: c/o G.W. Hatton, 01788 822411

1.4. email address: c/o ghatton@toucansurf.com

1.5. Did you visit this site as part of an archaeological society/group, if so which one:
See answers to 1.1 and 1.2 above

Section 2.

Basic information about the site

- 2.1. Name of the site: Irthlingborough .
2.2. Alternative name of the site: Crow Hill .
2.3. National Grid Reference: SP 95793 71506 .
2.4. Any known reference numbers: Northants MPP reference Site no. 1780/0/0.
2.5. Current county/Unitary authority: Northamptonshire .
2.6. When did you visit the site (month/year): 26 April 2014 .

Landscape setting of the site

2.7. Altitude (metres): 60m OD

2.8. Topographic position: [you can tick more than 1]

- HILL TOP .
COASTAL PROMONTORY .
INLAND PROMONTORY X .
VALLEY BOTTOM .
KNOLL/HILLOCK .
OUTCROP .
RIDGE .
PLATEAU/CLIFF-EDGE .
HILLSLOPE X .
LOWLAND (E.G. MARSH) .
OTHER .

Comments on topographic position: Area slopes gradually upwards to the West.

ASPECT (if slope) Gradual easterly slope of promontory main axis, gradually increasing.

2.9. Maximum visibility/view:

- NE: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
SE: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
SW: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
NW: [tick 1 only]
LONG .
MEDIUM X
SHORT .

Comments: The particular relevance of this site, bearing in mind that it is a hillslope location rather than a true hilltop, seems to be the

excellent surveillance that it would have afforded over the nearby major water-transport routes (see also Thrapston).

2.10. Water source inside: [you can tick more than 1]

SPRING .
STREAM .
POOL .
CISTERN .
OTHER (details): .

2.11. Water source nearby: River Nene located (now) app. 300 metres to south-east

2.12. Current land category (over whole site footprint) (you can tick more than 1)

WOODLAND
COMMERCIAL FORESTRY PLANTATION .
PARKLAND .
PASTURE (GRAZED) .
ARABLE X
SCRUB/BRACKEN .
ROCKY OUTCROPS .
HEATHER/MOORLAND .
HEATH .
BUILT-UP .

Comments: Site is located in 2 fields with an East/West hedge line dividing the site more or less equally. Site was under a wheat crop of app. 400mm. height when inspected.

2.13. Pre-hillfort activity: None known

2.14. Post-hillfort activity: None known other than medieval tillage and current usage.

Surface morphology of the site

Note (see the Notes for guidance document): from this section onwards we are assuming that you are working with a plan of the site. If it is a published plan then we do not expect you to record every item, only those which are different/additional to the plan you are working with. If you are drawing your own plan you can annotate details on it.

2.15. Which plan are you using: Ordnance Survey SP 9579 7151 (Landranger Sheet 153)

2.16. Have you used any other sources of information (tick any that apply):

HER .
NMR .
PUBLISHED SOURCE (details): Knight 1986–7, p39; Kidd 1999;
Parry 2006, p61-65 and 139-151
OTHER (details): .

2.17. Is there an annex (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

YES .
NO X.

Note: Sections 3 and 5 are for every site, section 4 only applies to sites with an annex.

Section 3. Enclosed area

3.1 General overall shape of enclosed area: [you can tick more than 1]

CIRCULAR .
SUB-CIRCULAR/OVAL .
RECTANGULAR X
SUB-RECTANGULAR .
POLYGONAL .
IRREGULAR .
COMPLEX (MORE THAN ONE ENCLOSURE)

Comments: Outline detected from crop marks on aerial photo (2010) No evident signs on ground.

3.2. Maximum dimensions of internal area (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

1. 200 metres (NE x SW)
2. 150 metres (NW x SE)

Comments: Measured from crop marks on aerial photo. No evident signs on ground.

3.3. Maximum dimensions of whole site footprint (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

1. 205? metres
2. 155? metres

Comments: Measured from crop marks on aerial photo. No evident signs on ground.

Entrances

3.4. Number of breaks/entrances through the rampart by position: [give a number for each]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

Comments: None evident on ground.

3.5. How many are apparently secondary breaks: [give a number for each]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .

W .
NW .

Comments: None evident on ground.

3.6. (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

For each entrance that is not a simple gap, is it most like any of the following (e.g. in-turned), if so record which position it is in:

IN-TURNED: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

OUT-TURNED: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

BOTH (IN- AND OUT-TURNED): [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

HORNWORK: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

OVER-LAPPING: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .

S .
SW .
W .
NW .

OUTWORKS: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

Comments: None evident on ground..

OTHER FORMS:

Comments: None evident on ground..

Enclosing works - ramparts/banks/walls and ditches

(None evident on ground at time of this survey)

3.7. Number of ramparts/banks/walls per quadrant:

NE: .
SE: .
SW: .
NW: .

Comments: None evident on ground.

3.8. Number of DITCHES per quadrant:

NE: .
SE: .
SW: .
NW: .

Comments: None evident on ground.

3.9. Form of rampart/bank/wall

Same all the way around:

Y .
N .

If yes: [tick one only]

EARTHEN BANK .
STONE WALL .
BOTH .
PALISADING .
VITRIFICATION .
OTHER BURNING .

Comments: .

If NO then by quadrant:

NE: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

SE: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

SW: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

NW: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

3.10. For each quadrant how many of each of the bank/wall/ditch combinations are there (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

NE:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

SE:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

SW:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH) .
BANK/DITCH .
BANK/DITCH/BANK .
OTHER .
Comments: .

NW:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH) .
BANK/DITCH .
BANK/DITCH/BANK .
OTHER .
Comments: .

3.11. Chevaux de Frise (tick if YES, you can tick more than 1]

NE .
SE .
SW .
NW .
Comments: .

Interior features

3.12. Tick all that are present, mark where on the plan and send to us: [you can tick more than 1]

NO APPARENT FEATURES X
STONE STRUCTURES .
PLATFORMS .
QUARRY HOLLOWES .
PITS .
OTHER .
Comments: .

Section 4.

If the site has an annex (see notes for definition of an annex), continue here with information about the annex, otherwise go to section 5 below:

4.1. Shape of the annex [tick only 1]

LOBATE .
CONCENTRIC .
CIRCULAR .
SUB-CIRCULAR .
RECTANGULAR .
SUB-RECTANGULAR .
POLYGONAL .
IRREGULAR .
OTHER .

4.2. Number of annex ramparts: .

4.3. Number of annex ditches: .

4.4. Number of annex entrances: .

4.5. Comments on the annex:

Section 5.

5.1. Any general comments (including comments on erosion/damage, especially if recent):

There was little or no evidence of individual features visible at time of this survey. The survey was made with the use of Ordnance Survey maps and aerial photographs which were obtained in 2006 (which showed crop marks indicating a rectangular feature). The crop marks on 3 sides (NW, NE & SW) appeared readily identifiable on the aerial photograph however, the SE "boundary" appeared to coincide with a hedge line, there being no sign on the photo of the feature on this side.

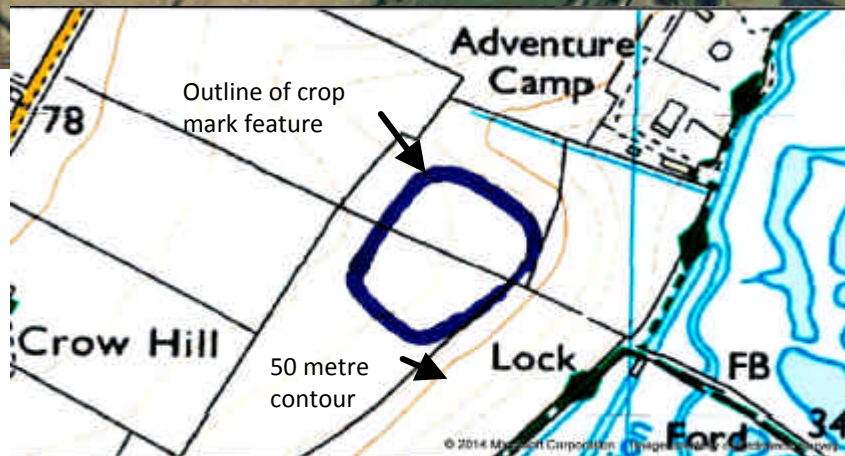
The site itself slopes down quite steeply to the SE side and much more gradually to the SW and NE sides. The NW side slopes slightly uphill to a more elevated area of land app. 10 metres higher than the upper "boundary" of the site.

Site appears to have been regularly farmed over a long period and is currently under crop.

The maps below indicate that no significant changes in the relevant hedge lines have been made since 1884.



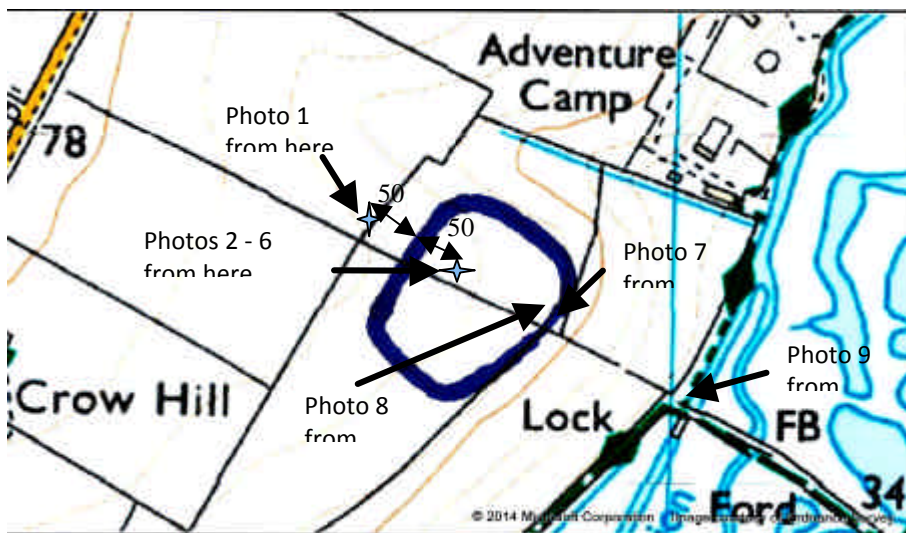
Aerial photo 2006 showing crop marks



Showing position of crop mark on contour map



HER MapInfo printout

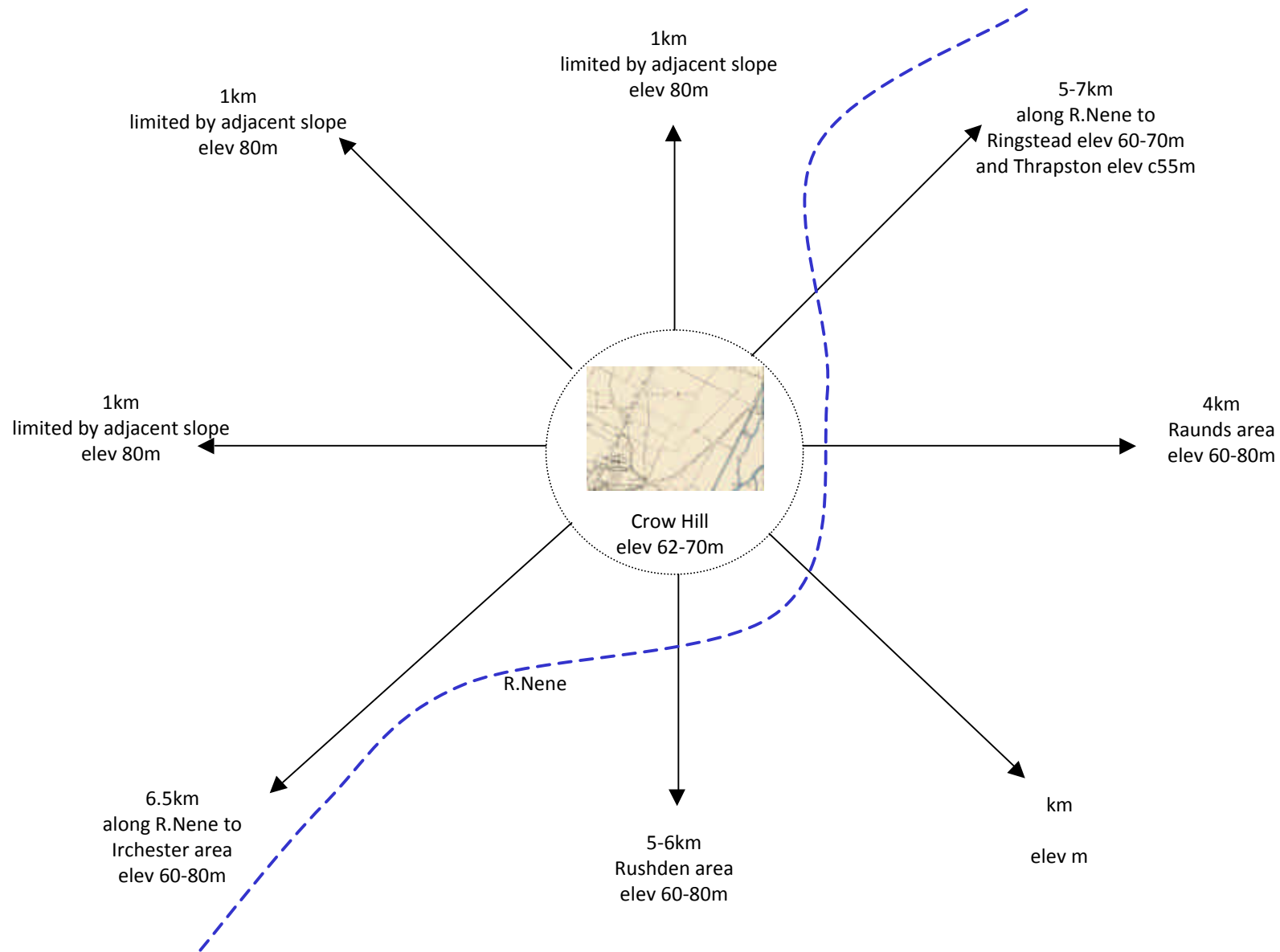


Showing locations from which photos were taken



Extract from 1884 OS 6" map of the area

Viewshed diagram for Crow Hill, Irthlingborough



6. Photographs



1 - 50m outside west side looking east



2 - 50m inside west side looking north



3 - 50m inside west side looking south



4 - 50m inside west side looking west



5 - 50m inside west side looking east



6 - 50m inside west boundary looking NE



7 - On east boundary looking east



8 - On east boundary looking west



9 - 150m outside east boundary looking west