The site

The site is one most important and best preserved Deserted Medieval Villages in the north of England. Established in what we believe to be the 6th Century it survived as a thriving settlement until the 16th century, when it slowly declined. And disappeared. The last household left in 1821 according to the records.

The site of a beacon, it used to warn the country of impending invasion. Records show the village was a key location during the Pilgrimage of the Graces, the major rebellion against Henry VIII over his break with Rome.

Lost for over 200 years, this exciting project aims to uncover the secrets of the village, explore its history, and discover the stories of the people who lived here.

Geophysical surveys carried out on the site have identified around 19 house platforms, a possible dove cot, a large structure in the north-west corner of the site, and other, as yet unidentified, archaeological features.

Ethos Heritage - East Yorkshire Deserted Medieval Village Site

Possible Church and enclosure
Possible Industrial feature
Ridge and furrow ploughing
Possible houses/structures
Boundaries

In 2022, excavations focused on one of the house platforms, and confirmed the presence of a large structure which was in use between the 13th-15th Centuries. The site was finds rich, with significant amounts of pottery and animal bone recovered. Participants also retrieved a number of well-preserved metal artefacts.

In 2023, participants will continue to excavate this building, with the opening of 3 more 10 x 10 meters trenches.

In addition we hope to have an opportunity to work in a new trench over the large structure identified in the north-west corner of the site.

Costs for training and excavation
(Includes camping with tent provided, washing facilities, food, excavation equipment and archaeological training). All diggers must join the Friends of High Hunsley cost £10

Collection from the nearest train (6 Miles) station free of charge.

⇒ One week (7 Days) - £210
⇒ Two Weeks (14 Days) - £420
⇒ Three Weeks (21 Days) - £630
⇒ Four Weeks (30 Days) - £840

How to apply?
Contact admin@ethosheritage.com

Closing date for applications: 6th June 2023