

# Parish of Spridlington

## *Character Assessment*



AUSTIN HERITAGE  
CONSULTANTS

Funded by



Completed for the  
Spridlington  
Neighbourhood Plan  
Steering Group

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## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Objectives

The aim of this *Character Assessment* is to provide an assessment of the historic development and existing character of the historic Parish of Spridlington, including its heritage assets, landscape and setting. This assessment will form the basis of the *Neighbourhood Plan* for Spridlington that is being prepared by the Spridlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The report was commissioned by the Spridlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in October 2017 and carried out by Jen Austin of Austin Heritage Consultants during the period of November 2017-January 2018.

Funding for the assessment was generously provided by Groundwork - "Changing Places, Changing Lives".

The following assessment will include an overview of the historical development of Spridlington. This will be complemented by an assessment of the heritage assets and architectural stock of the parish, as well as landscape, setting and views that all contribute to the historic character of the place today.

### 1.2 Study Area

The study area comprises the area shown on figure 1 and is defined by the boundaries of the Parish of Spridlington.

The village of Spridlington forms the heart of the parish and it is centred on the Church of St Hilary on the southwest corner of the junction of Owmbly Road and Church Hill. Spridlington Hall and its grounds forms a further key focal point at the northern end of the village on Owmbly Road.

The village has evolved along the north-south route of Owmbly Road, as well as the two main east-west roads of Church Hill/Cliff Road to the west of Owmbly Road and Faldingworth Road to the east, with both roads forming the two main road junctions within the village.

Spridlington itself is surrounded on all sides by a rural landscape comprising mainly arable fields and some pasture. The north-eastern corner of the parish also incorporates part of the former RAF Faldingworth air base. There is a large water reservoir on the western side of the village centre, south of Cliff Road and an anaerobic digestion plant (Grange Farm Biomethane Injection Plant) is located at Grange Farm on the west side of the parish.



**Figure 1** Study area shown with blue outline.<sup>1</sup>



### 1.3 Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following individuals and organisations during the completion of this assessment.

- Groundwork - "Changing Places, Changing Lives"
- Spridlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- Richard Watts, Historic Environment Record, Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Archives
- Local Studies, Lincoln Central Library
- NE Lincolnshire Archives
- Grimsby Central Library
- Skydock, Faldingworth Air Base
- Ian Marshman, Historic Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council

### 1.4 Previous Reports

There are a number of archaeological assessments that have been carried out for separate sites throughout the parish and they are listed in Appendix I for further reference.

The *Spridlington Conservation Area Appraisal* was published by West Lindsey District Council in c.1998. Some of the content of this report has been incorporated and expanded upon as part of the *Character Assessment*.

### 1.5 General Comments & Limitations

This *Character Assessment* is based upon site inspections carried out in November 2017 by Jen Austin, combined with desk-based and archival research. Assistance was provided by Parish Councillor, Mr David Clough during these site inspections.

For security reasons, site access was not possible within the former RAF Faldingworth air base, but permission was granted by Skydock to photograph the site from the exterior perimeter. Consequently, the assessment of Character Area 3 has been based upon aerial photographs, historical maps and other secondary information and the description of this character area should be updated at such time in the future that access is possible. "Spridlington Manor Farm" was also not directly inspected and only viewed from Cliff Road.

## 2.0 Historical Development of the Parish of Spridlington

### 2.1 Introduction

In reviewing the historical evolution of the parish, a map regression exercise was carried out, combined with available historical information. This is summarised in the following historical account and it is based upon best available information at the time of writing. If further research provides additional information in the future, the assessment should be updated accordingly.

The thumbnail "snapshot" maps at figures 5-10 provide an insight into the evolution of the parish since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Generally, while there has been documented ongoing development throughout the parish since at least the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, development throughout the parish overall has not been extensive and the open field system of the majority agricultural landscape still exists today, with the village as the focus of the parish.

Development within the village has also been gradual, with the majority of change noticed during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including infill development within the village itself, larger individual developments such as RAF Faldingworth at the east end of the parish, and the more recent anaerobic digestion plant at the west end.

The earliest known evidence for human activity in the parish takes the form of two Neolithic flint scrapers found on Spridlington Cliff, perhaps left by one of the first people to settle here, clearing the forest and creating fields to farm the land.<sup>2</sup>

By the Bronze Age it is likely that most of the parish's cultivatable land had been cleared of woodland with farmsteads spread across the landscape. This scattered community came together in death with a large cemetery of round barrows stretching along the 30m contour on the slopes to the cliff, long since ploughed out but still visible today as cropmarks.<sup>3</sup>

A number of Roman objects have been found in the fields close to the village, including coins and a lead weight, and the area probably continued to be settled with small scattered farmsteads during this period. One possible example is known from cropmarks visible on aerial photos in fields south of Cliff Road near

Rose Cottage. This was connected to Ermine Street by a trackway which ran through the former barrow cemetery and appears to have continued down the slope in the direction of the present village, where other farms may have been located taking advantage of the spring line.<sup>4</sup>

## **2.2 The Early Manors and the Church**

Archaeology suggests that Spridlington was first established in the Saxon period (5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> centuries) and the first documentary evidence for the village is found in the *Domesday Book* of 1086, where two manors are listed at "Sperlin(c)tone" or "Spredeintone"<sup>5</sup> (also variously written as "Sperlington", "Splintone", "Spritlingtone" and "Spridlintuna"<sup>6</sup>). The owners of the land in the late 11<sup>th</sup> century were listed as "Ebrard and his two brothers" and "Coxswain".<sup>7</sup> By the time of the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, landowners were identified as "Robert de Haid" and Stephen, Earl of Brittany".<sup>8</sup>

Although the Roman road forms the western boundary of the Parish, there is no evidence to date of Roman settlement in the village.<sup>9</sup>

Spridlington originally comprised two separate, but adjoining manors with two associated churches: St Hilary with the northern manor and St Albinus with the southern manor. Revenues from the churches in Lincolnshire declined significantly with the loss of tenants from the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century following the devastation of the Black Death, which in turn led to the decline of the village and farming, ruin of St Albinus and its eventual demolition and union with the church of St Hilary in 1417.<sup>10</sup> St Albinus was reported to have been located only about 40m from the Church of St Hilary.<sup>11</sup>

Despite at least two known periods of rebuilding in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the latest dating to 1875, the Church of St Hilary is believed to be in the location of the original church<sup>12</sup> and that the churchyard may date back to the medieval period.<sup>13</sup> It is also believed that the moated scheduled ancient monument site located west of the church was likely to have incorporated what remains of the former south manor of the village.<sup>14</sup>

## **2.3 18<sup>th</sup> Century Enclosure**

In 1774-1776, Parliamentary Enclosure took place in Spridlington and the 1775 Enclosure Award and Plan show the layout of the village at this time, as well as allocation of land to the major landowners following changes to the open field systems and formal Enclosure (see Figure 2).<sup>15</sup>

Prior to Enclosure, Spridlington was subdivided into hedged closes within the village north and south of the church, but the majority of the parish was not defined by permanent hedges. At the eastern end of the parish, where the former RAF Faldingworth is located today, was "The Moor" and between this and the village were two arable fields, "North Low Field" and "South Low Field". West of the village closes were the fields "Rye Barf Furlong", "The Ings", "The Oxford" and "The Ox Pasture". Further west in the parish were the very large arable fields known as "North Cliffe Field" and "South Cliffe Field". "North Heath" and "South Heath" comprised the western end of the parish along the A15/Ermine Street.<sup>16</sup>

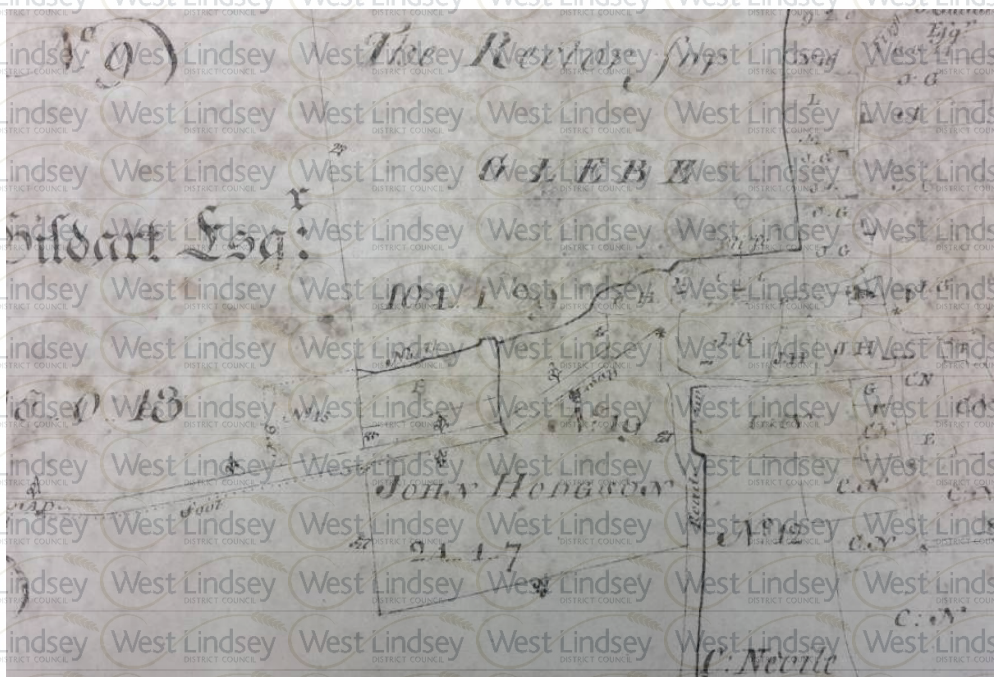
Work on Enclosure began in June 1774 and was completed in November 1776. The commissioners laid out four straight new wide roads, defined footways, cut four new public field drains and divided the parish between six owners: The Rector; Christopher Nevile Esquire; Johnson Gildart Esquire; John Hodgson; Trustees of the Church Lands; and The Surveyors of the Highways (3 pits for obtaining road making materials).<sup>17</sup>

Enclosure of the parish stated that the roads to be set out must be at least sixty feet wide between the ditches.<sup>18</sup> This requirement saw the development of the Cliff Road between the A15 and the village with the width that remains today. The road was referred to in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as the "Spridlington Gallop" and one of the reasons for the wide grass verges was to permit grazing for horses of the local villagers after they had lost common rights following enclosure.<sup>19</sup>

The line of Cliff Road and Faldingworth Road are generally on the same alignment as shown on the 1775 Enclosure Map, as is the continuance of Owmbly Road to the south of the Faldingworth Road junction known as the "Wetherwalk".

A road ran east along the northern side of the property known as "Church View Farm", from the east side of Owmbly Road (following the current farm access track through the property today) and was marked as a private road on the 1822 survey map.<sup>20</sup> A further road was noted on the 1775 map linking Hackthorn Road and the "Wetherwalk" (along the field boundary and between the modern brick "Elms Farm House" and the outbuildings of "Spridlington House").





**Figure 2** Part of the 1775 Enclosure Map showing the proposed enclosure of Spridlington 1774-1776.<sup>21</sup>

## 2.4 19<sup>th</sup> Century Development

Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the population of Spridlington grew from 126 to 313 inhabitants (and 59 houses) by 1851. However, there was gradual decline over the following decades from 1851 to 1891, when the population of the village was reduced to 269 inhabitants and 58 houses.<sup>22</sup>

The earlier parsonage and associated buildings were identified to the southwest of the current "Manor House" in the survey of 1822.<sup>23</sup> The parsonage building was demolished between 1956 and 1975.

Owmbly Road changed alignment between 1822 and the time of the 1885 OS Map and this is believed to have occurred in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century at about the time Spridlington Hall was constructed or shortly afterwards. It was straightened, moved further to the east and planted with trees.

The alignment and layout of properties on the north side of the junction of Cliff Road and Hackthorn Road is also neatly illustrated in the 1822 survey map of the area, showing areas of pasture, including the "Ox-Pasture or Con Close" to the west of the former "sheep wash" and area known locally as the "ox-pond". It also shows the former homestead buildings to the east and that there was an orchard located between the homestead and the "ox-pond" (see figure 4).

The 1842 *History and Gazetteer of Lincolnshire* states that by this time, Spridlington comprised 250 inhabitants and 2,180 acres of land. The lords of the manor at this time were listed as Rev. Frederick Gildart (incumbent Rector of Spridlington) and Christopher Neville Esq.<sup>24</sup>

In 1841-1842, the Rectory (Spridlington Hall) was constructed for the Rev. Henry Frederick Hutton (Rector between 1842 and 1873) at the north end of the village with a bequest of £5,000 from the late Rev. Frederick Gildart.<sup>25</sup> The architect for the house was Nicholson & Goddard of Lincoln, and it was built by Wallis of Market Rasen.<sup>26</sup>

Much of the tree planting within the village, which is a major feature of the historic character of Spridlington, has been attributed to the Rev. H F Hutton and it has been suggested that he employed landscape nurseryman and author, William Pontey to lay out the grounds (although it may also have been his nephew, also a nurseryman of the same name). As well as landscaping within his own lands, Hutton apparently had trees planted on the realigned Owmbly Road (north end of the village) and along the road from Spridlington to the Roman Road, using oaks, elms, limes and chestnuts.<sup>27</sup>

It was also noted that Hutton provided land for allotments to villagers this was likely the areas of land shown on historic OS Maps along the north edges of Cliff Road and Faldingworth Road and possibly also on land to the west of the current "Old Rectory Cottages" (although these may have been orchards). He was also responsible for the construction of the village school (now the village hall) in 1870.



Spridlington as a village did not see significant recovery in population from its late medieval decline until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>28</sup> In 1848, the population of Spridlington had reached 292 inhabitants and the parish comprised 2,400 acres.<sup>29</sup>

Rev. Arthur Wollaston Hutton, succeeded his father Rev. H F Hutton as rector of the parish on his father's death in 1873 and Rev. Henry Wollaston (Arthur's older brother) inherited the land. The replacement Church of St Hilary was built in memory of Rev. H F Hutton and dedicated in 1875.

The rivers Ancholme (flowing north to the Humber) and Langworth (a stream forming part of the Barlings Eau, flowing south to the Witham) both rise in or near the parish and it is thought that the name "Spridlington" may refer to the "the enclosure at the springs".<sup>30</sup>

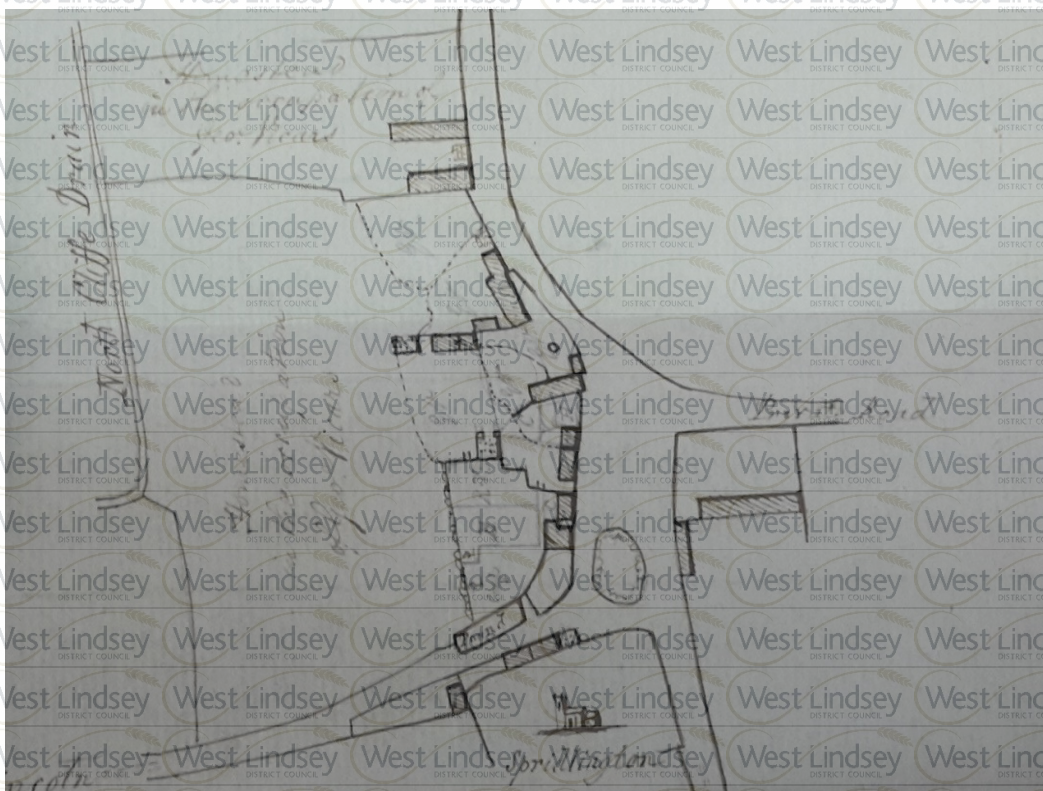
In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the former "ox-pond" at the west end of the village (located just outside the Conservation Area boundary) was traditionally filled by the river Ancholme and then flowed out into the river Langworth along the Hackthorn Road. Sluices were employed on the river to create a sheep wash in the spring.<sup>31</sup>

A building known as "The Lodge" (now demolished) was located at the junction of Cliff Road with the A15, on the south side of Cliff Road within the parish boundary. It was there from at least the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and still appeared on the 1948 OS Map.

In 1879, a new blacksmith's shop was established near the village school (now the village hall) and previous carpenter and blacksmith's shops were combined for the carpenter's use.<sup>32</sup>

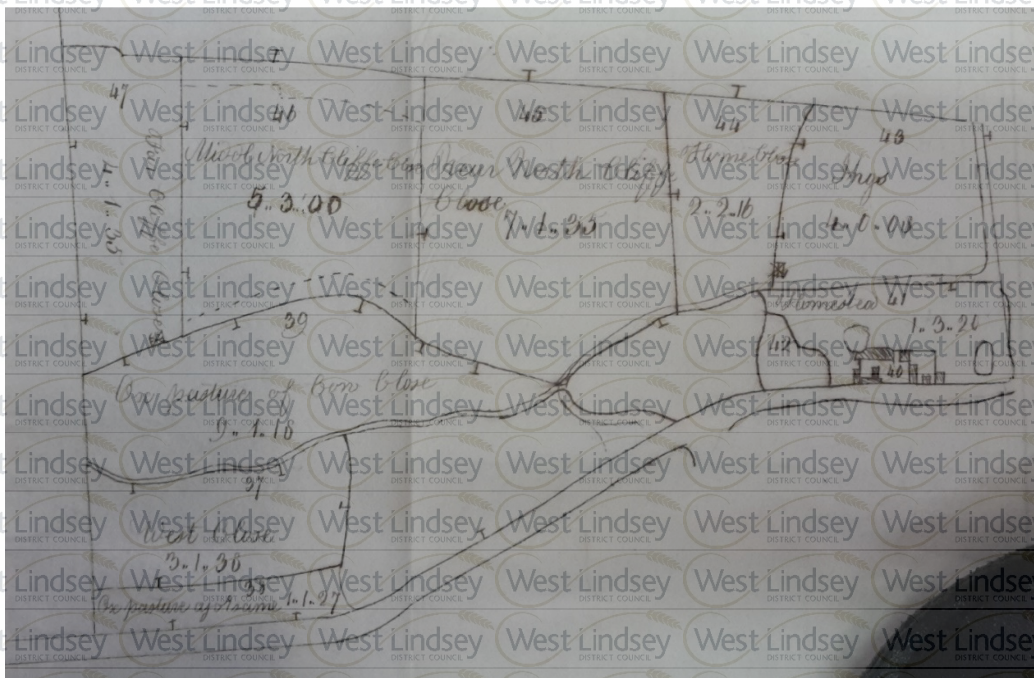
In 1888, Rev. Henry Wollaston Hutton rebuilt the "Manor House Farm" (to the south of Spridlington Hall) and he also enlarged the cottage on the Cliff Road associated with the farm.<sup>33</sup>

Between 1873 and 1890, Rev. Hutton spent a considerable amount on fencing and drainage within his parish lands.<sup>34</sup>



**Figure 3** 1822 Survey Map of the village centre showing Owmbly Road alignment prior to 19<sup>th</sup> century alteration.<sup>35</sup>





**Figure 4** 1822 Survey Map of the village centre showing the junction of Hackthorn Road and Cliff Road.<sup>36</sup>

## 2.5 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Century Development

In 1901, the population of the village was 252 inhabitants.<sup>37</sup>

A Mr Herbert Green described the entrance into the village from the north along Owmy Road in c.1904 in a most complimentary fashion. He found *"...his way along the dry and dusty road and from beneath the sweltering sun, into the long and grateful shade of an avenue of leafy trees which is the courtyard, so to say, of the place..."*<sup>38</sup> He further described the avenue continuing to the church at the junction and highlighted the avenue and trees as a major contributing factor to the attractive character of the village at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The *Kelly's Directory* of 1906 stated that the principal landowners at this time were Ralph Henry Christopher Nevile Esq of Wellingore Hall and the Rev. Henry Wollaston Hutton of Lincoln, and the chief crops within the parish included wheat, barley, beans, turnips and some pasture land.<sup>39</sup>

Parish Council records show that during the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Parish Council owned and rented out six houses and many allotments. The allotments were generally located along the roadside and a remnant of these is believed to survive in the gardens on both sides of the cottage "Hackthorn View", on the north side of Cliff Road.

In 1937, the *Kelly's Directory* description of the parish reveals that the land was *"...chiefly owned by the farmers"* by this time, including Albone Bros; J Barnard & Co; Edwin C Harrison; Parkin Bros; A E Sutton; and Charles Sutton.<sup>40</sup>

In October 1938, the new rectory house was begun in Spridlington following the sale of the original rectory (Spridlington Hall).<sup>41</sup> It was originally to be located on the east side of Owmy Road, but the site was changed to one closer and to the northeast of the old rectory (Spridlington Hall).<sup>42</sup>

### **RAF Faldingworth**

One of the more significant changes within the landscape of the parish and the neighbouring parishes to the east (particularly the Parish of Faldingworth), was the construction of RAF Faldingworth. RAF Faldingworth was established as Toft Grange 'K-type' day (and later a 'Q-Type' night) decoy airfield for RAF Hemswell<sup>43</sup> and began construction in 1942.<sup>44</sup> By the time of its opening in 1943 it had become a satellite air base.<sup>45</sup>

It was constructed on fields and the southern half of the air base is shown on the *Glebe Exchange* map of 1874 as originally comprising the fields known as "Beck Close", a part of the Barlings Eau stream, "East Moor" and "Church Close" (or "Nine Acres").

The site was first occupied by 1667 Heavy Conversion Unit who moved from Lindholme in August 1943.<sup>46</sup> Handley Page Halifax and Avro Lancasters operated from the base as part of the conversion unit.<sup>47</sup> In 1944, it became home to 300 (Polish) Squadron who moved from RAF Ingham and the base became PAF (Polish Air Force) Station Faldingworth in 1945. The Polish Air Force units serving in Britain were officially disbanded in January 1947.<sup>48</sup>

92 and 93 MU (Maintenance Unit) were then based at the site and by 1957, Faldingworth had been commissioned as a Permanent Ammunition Depot (PAD). Until its closure in 1972, it was used as a nuclear weapons storage facility. The main facility was located at the western end of the airfield within the parish boundaries.<sup>49</sup> Several new buildings were constructed on the site during the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Following the closure of the base, an armaments manufacturer occupied the site for storage and testing until 1996.<sup>50</sup> Today, the western part of the former air base today remains as a secure facility occupied by Skydock and is used for testing, ammunition storage, helicopter storage and maintenance, and as a filming location. The main part of the airfield outside the parish boundaries was sold off in 1998 for return to agricultural use.<sup>51</sup>

A considerable amount of work was carried out on the house and landscape of Spridlington Hall in the mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> century. This included the construction of the "ha-ha" in the immediate vicinity of the house and extensions (including a swimming pool) to the north of the house.

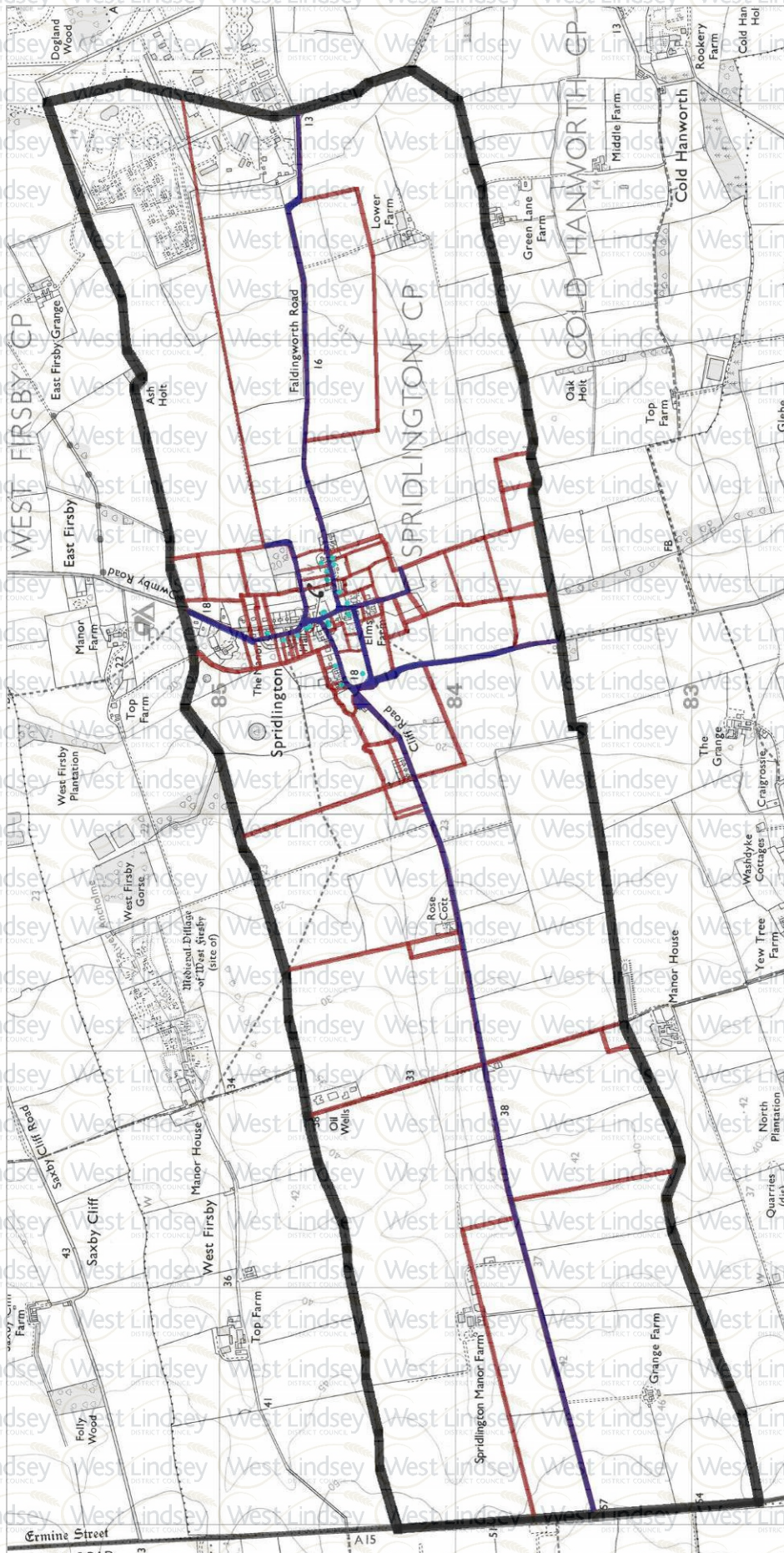
A small number of semi-detached houses were also constructed on the north side of Cliff Road outside the village before 1948 and this group was added to with four additional houses in the form of a terrace between 1956 and 1975.

Farms within the parish have been altered and extended throughout the decades and many now have large modern agricultural and storage sheds as well as the retention of some early stone and/or brick farm buildings.

Several houses have been built along Owmbly Road, Cliff Road and Faldingworth Road in both infill and on former farm sites within the village in recent decades and some demolition of redundant farm buildings within the village has been carried out.

In 2015, "Grange Farm" at the southwest corner of the parish became home to a large anaerobic digestion plant that feeds green gas directly into the mains, and the large clay-lined Hackthorn Manor Reservoir was constructed on the south side of Cliff Road just west of the village as part of the Rural Development Programme for England 2007-13.





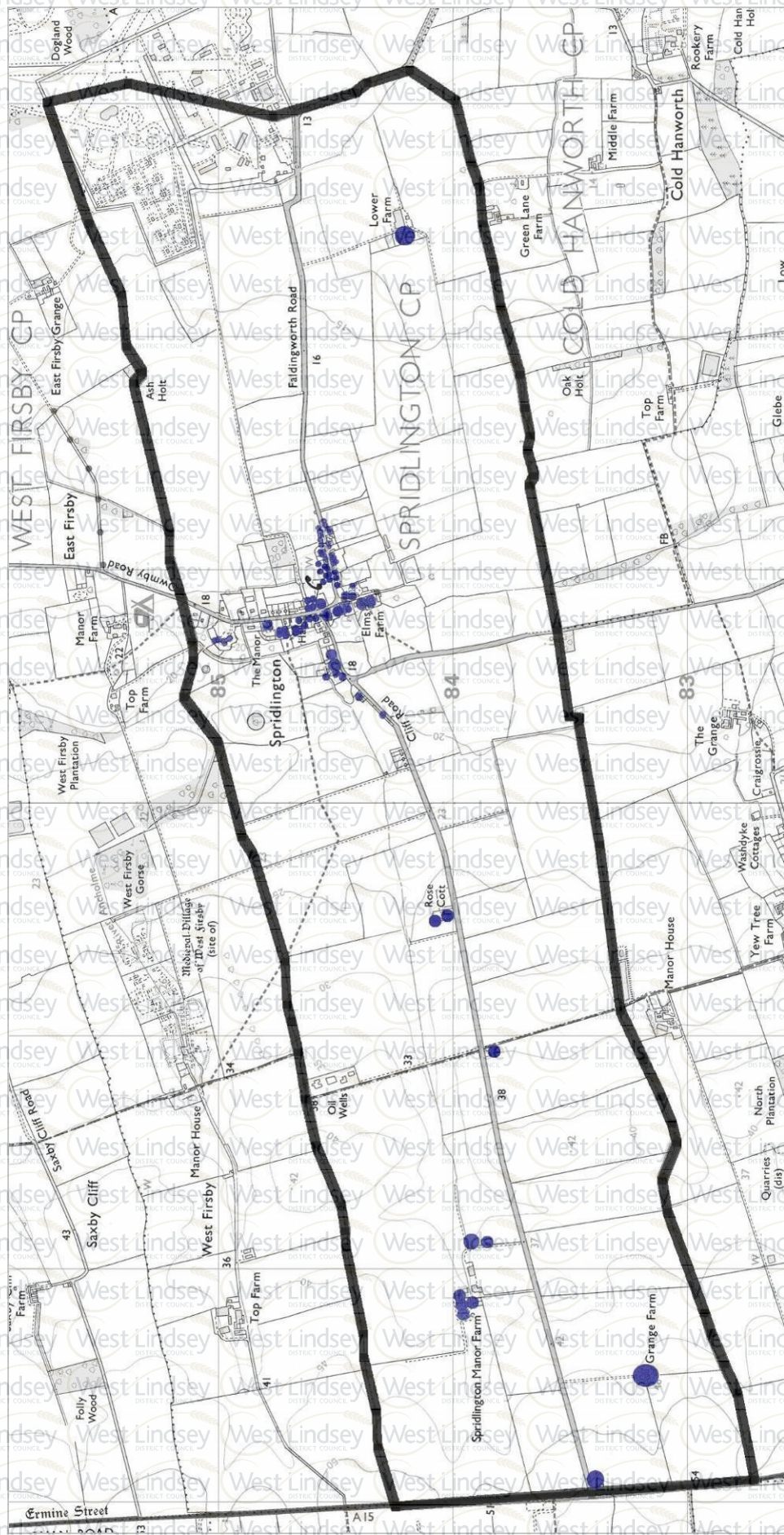
**Figure 5** Outline of the field boundaries (red), road alignments (dark blue) and key building (turquoise) as shown on the 1775 Enclosure Award showing the results of the enclosure of Spridlington from 1774-6.<sup>52</sup>





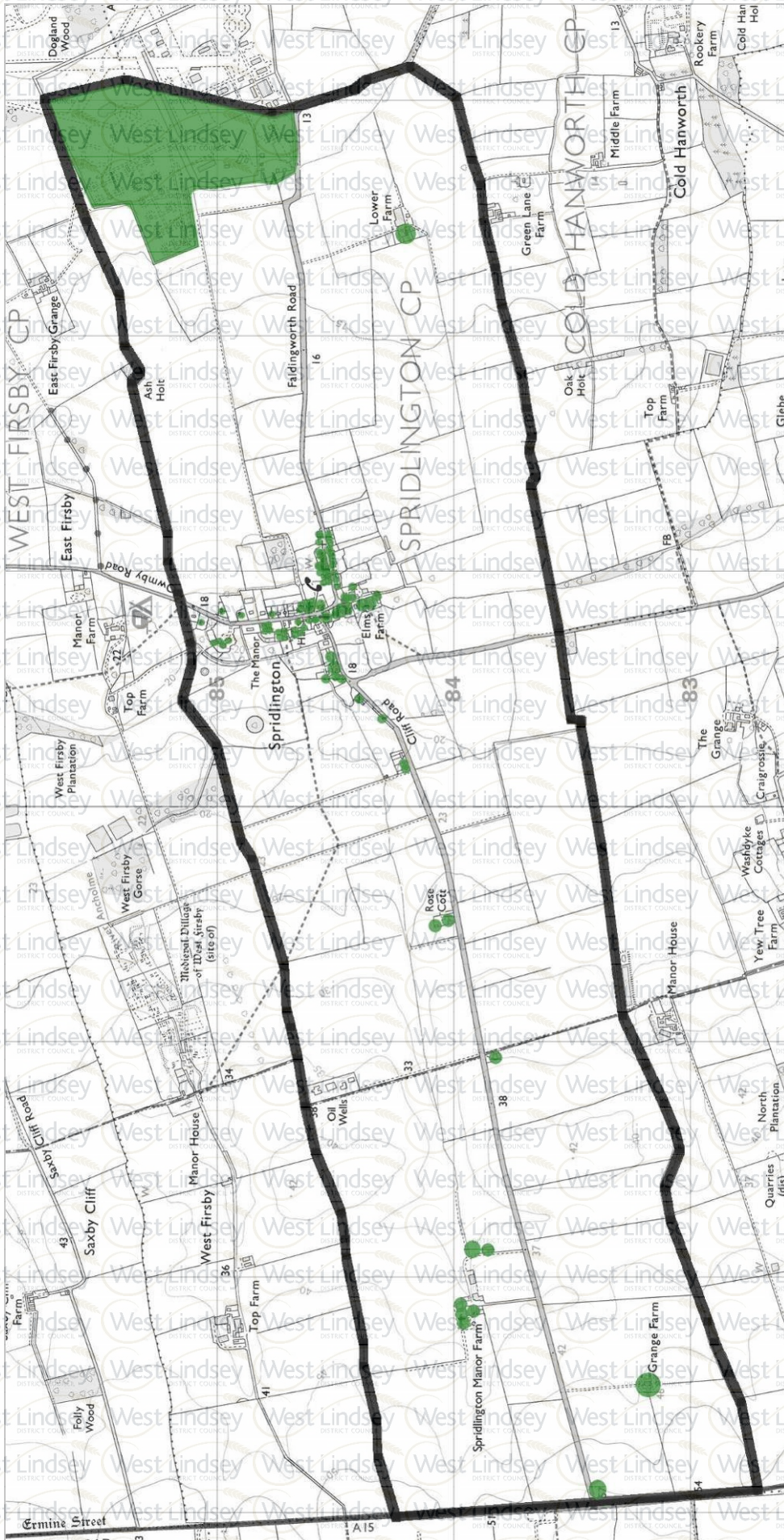
**Figure 6** Snapshot of the extent of building development by 1885 (yellow).<sup>53</sup>





**Figure 7** Snapshot of the extent of building development by 1906 (blue).<sup>54</sup>





**Figure 8** Snapshot of the extent of building development by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (green).<sup>55</sup>





**Figure 9** Snapshot of the extent of building development by 1975 (turquoise).<sup>56</sup>





**Figure 10** Snapshot of the extent of building development by 2017 (orange).<sup>57</sup>

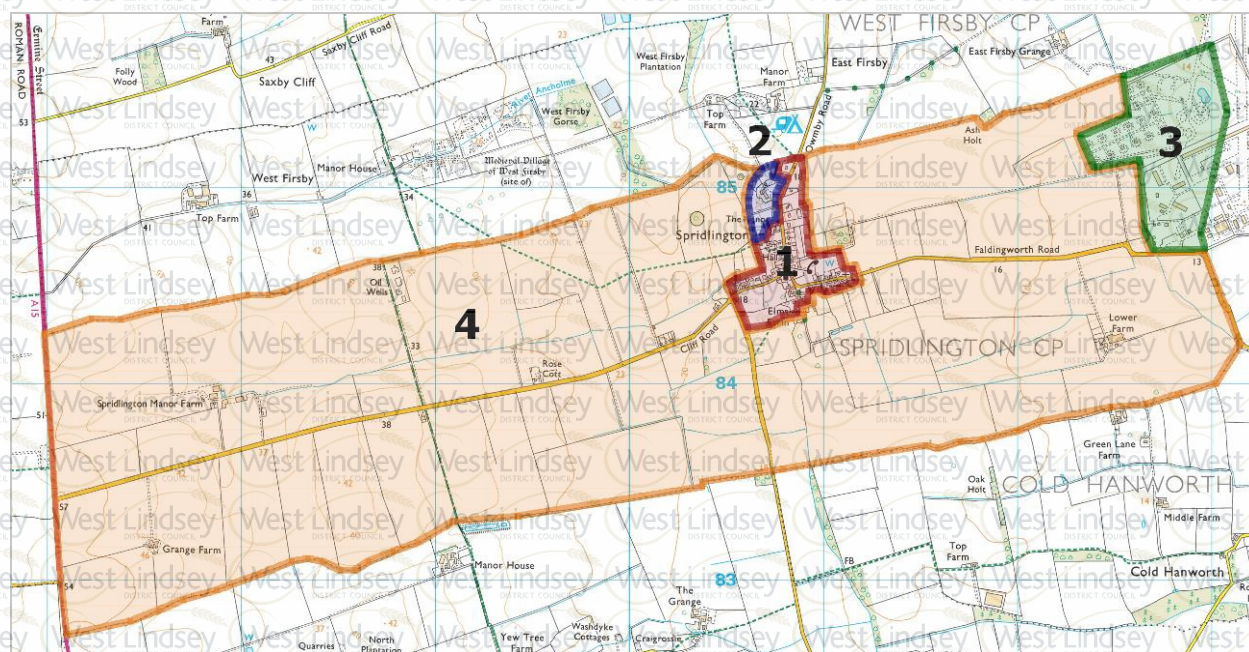


### 3.0 Character Assessment

For the purposes of this assessment, the Parish of Spridlington has been divided into four separate character areas:

1. Village
2. Spridlington Hall
3. Former RAF Faldingworth
4. Wider Landscape

The boundaries of these character areas are identified in figures 11, 12, 58, 78 and 82, and form the basis of the individual assessments in sections 3.1-3.4.



**Figure 11** Character Areas.<sup>58</sup>



### 3.1 Character Area 1: Village

#### 3.1.1 Overview

The Village Character Area is defined by the current Conservation Area boundary, with the exception of the grounds of Spridlington Hall, which have been designated separately as Character Area 2.

Spridlington is a small, rural village set within an agricultural landscape, where some of the key contributing features to the Character Area are the trees, traditional stone buildings and walls.<sup>59</sup>

The RAF Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows, also feature in the wider landscape of the parish. They are based at nearby RAF Scampton and are frequently a prominent visual and aural feature in the skies above Spridlington.

#### 3.1.2 Layout & Topography

The village is centred on the north-south spine of Owmbly Road with two further access roads running east and west from Owmbly Road either side of the Church of St Hilary.

The land of the village centre is generally flat from the north-south spine of Owmbly Road to the east, with the ground gently sloping away to the northwest and west towards the waterways and drains (from the River Ancholme) and Hackthorn Road, that together form the western boundaries of the character area.

The village has gradually built up around two manors each originally with its own church, but today forms a single settlement focused around the central feature of the Church of St Hilary. The traditional mixture of farming and residential buildings within the village core has largely been replaced by residential development today.

Roads gently curve along Church Hill and the north end of Owmbly Road, and straight along Faldingworth Road. Layout of the earlier building plots is irregular and with inconsistent building lines fronting the street, with some buildings set close to the road with only a grass verge or footpath, to being set back some distance from the road with large front gardens or paved driveways. Many of the houses relating to 19<sup>th</sup> century or earlier development are also associated with neighbouring open fields or large back gardens and are often set within irregularly-shaped plots.

With the exception of the construction of a few isolated, individual houses (for example, "Netherwood" at the north end of the village), 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century housing development is more regular, with more regular plot shapes and large front and rear gardens and the front elevations are set back from the road. This is most apparent along the east side of Owmbly Road, north of "Church View Farm".

#### 3.1.3 Land Use

The village core is predominantly in residential use with a small amount of farming use extant at the south end of the village by "Elms Farm" and at "Church View Farm".

There are some agricultural storage sheds at the perimeter of the village, including those at the south end of the village off the "Wetherwalk" and it is understood that a number of residences within the village also retain home-based offices.

There are currently no schools, shops, cafes or restaurants within the village core.

The only community facility is the village hall on Owmbly Road and the only remaining ecclesiastical facility is the Church of St Hilary at the junction of Owmbly Road and Church Hill.

There is limited land for recreational use throughout the village, as there are no dedicated playing fields, gardens or squares. However it was clear during the site inspection that there are a number of road-side grassed verges that are regularly tended and furnished with benches for use by local residents and visitors.

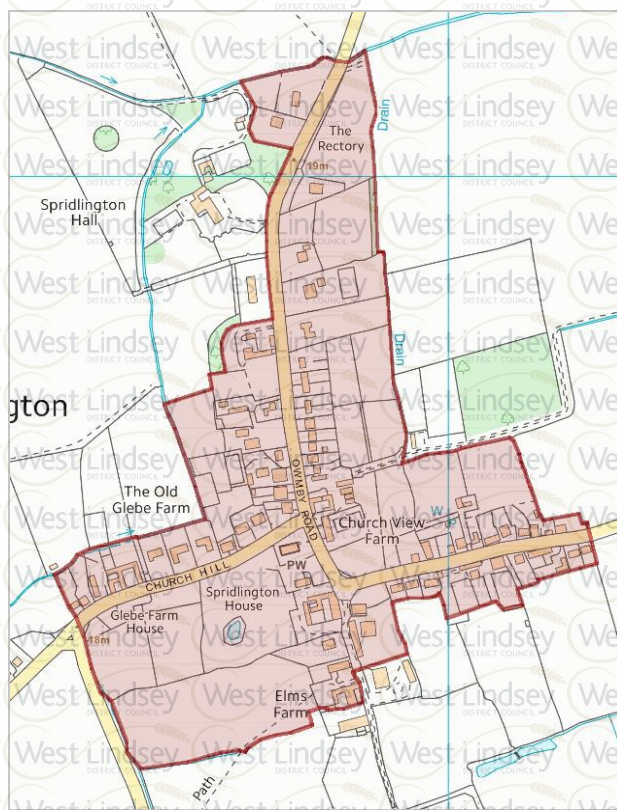


Figure 12 Character Area 1.<sup>60</sup>

### 3.1.4 Routes

Owmbly Road is the main north-south spine road through the village and it has a kerbed pedestrian footpath along the west side of the road.

There are two further main access roads that form the key junctions within the village. The first is from Lincoln and the west along Cliff Road/Church Hill (with a footpath along the north side) that forms a junction with Owmbly Road on the north side of the Church of St Hilary. The second is Faldingworth Road running east from Owmbly Road just south of the church. A third road historically associated with the layout village is Hackthorn Road which runs south from the junction with Cliff Road (along the west side of the character area). All of these vehicular routes permit two-way traffic.

A continuance of Owmbly Road south of Faldingworth Road, called the "Wetherwalk" serves as a minor access road to properties and farmland in the south of the village.

There is a waymarked walking trail from the village to the west. It runs from the west side of Owmbly Road, past the properties known as the "Old Rectory Cottages", and west (where it leaves the character area) along field boundaries until it changes direction to the northwest towards West Firsby (outside the parish),

A shorter walking trail starts on the west side of the "Wetherwalk" through "Elms Farm", running in a generally south-westerly direction across an arable field to meet the Hackthorn Road (into Character Area 4).

A further trail (outside the parish boundaries, but worth noting for context) starts at the north end of the village, connecting Spridlington with Saxby and onwards to Owmbly-by-Spital.

There are no specific cycle trails identified within the parish. However, it was observed that cyclists frequently used the main vehicular routes between villages. While there is a marked bridle path west of the village, none were noted within Character Area 1.



**Figure 13** Public footpath as it leaves Owmbly Road past "Old Rectory Cottages".

### 3.1.5 Heritage Assets & Landmarks

There are five listed buildings within the Village Character Area:

- Church of St Hilary - Grade II
- Village Hall (former school house) - Grade II
- Church View Farm House - Grade II
- Elms Farm House - Grade II (known locally today as "Elm House", with a separate, modern property known as "Elms Farm House")
- Farm Buildings at Elms Farm House - Grade II

There is one Scheduled Ancient Monument within the Village Character Area:

- Spridlington Moated Manor

#### **Church of St Hilary**

Remains of the earlier Church of St Hilary were demolished in 1801 and replaced with a small church. A chancel and porch were added in 1821 (the porch built from the remains of the earlier tower<sup>61</sup>). The incumbent, Rev. H F Hutton added a north transept in 1843.<sup>62</sup> This church was replaced in 1874-5<sup>63</sup> by the current building constructed in local oolitic limestone with Ancaster stone dressings<sup>64</sup> and was designed by architect James Fowler of Louth.<sup>65</sup> The church also has an organ by Nicholson of Lincoln.<sup>66</sup>

It was rebuilt in memory of Rev H F Hutton after his death in 1873 by his family and friends and consecrated on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1875 by the Bishop of Lincoln.<sup>67</sup>

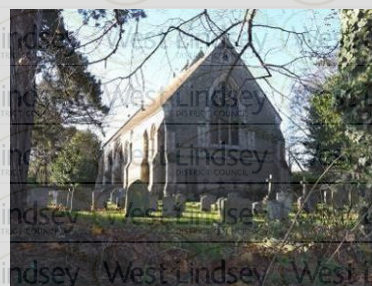


**Figure 14** The tower Church of St Hilary as viewed from Church Hill.<sup>71</sup>



The church was built by Walter and Hensman of Horncastle and the works included the rebuilding of three parts of the churchyard wall.<sup>68</sup> The construction of the new church saw the removal of several 'old cottages' originally along the churchyard wall and the churchyard was noticeably raised following the lowering of the road and the installation of Yorkshire stone steps at the entrance. The road on both sides was also widened at this time.<sup>69</sup>

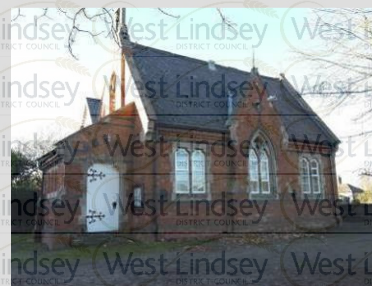
The face of the tower clock was gifted by the Spridlington farmers, highlighting the importance of the church to its rural parish and it has been noted that nearly every house in the village contributed towards its erection in some way, whether by donation or assistance.<sup>70</sup>



**Figure 15** East elevation of the church.<sup>72</sup>

### ***Village Hall (Former Village School House)***

The village hall to the northwest of the site was originally the village school and was constructed in brick with terracotta and stone dressings. Rev. Hutton funded the erection of the school house in 1870, it was enlarged in c.1873, and used as a temporary church while St Hilary's Church was being rebuilt in 1874-5.<sup>73</sup>



**Figure 16** East elevation of the village hall (former school).<sup>78</sup>

The school was apparently constructed for about £400<sup>74</sup> and was designed by Goddard of Lincoln.<sup>75</sup> It served not only the village, but the wider communities outside the parish including Saxby and East and West Firsby<sup>76</sup> and the school house was extended with the addition of a classroom to cater for the increase in school catchment.<sup>77</sup>

### ***Church View Farmhouse***

Dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and underwent alterations in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Constructed of coursed limestone rubble with brick dressings and it has a clay pantile roof with two brick gable chimney stacks.<sup>79</sup>



**Figure 17** Church View Farmhouse, view east.<sup>80</sup>

It is a surviving 18<sup>th</sup> century farmstead that was originally attached to a range of working buildings located to the north (known as "Church View Farm" today), including a cartshed of the east range of a farm building complex dating to at least 1822 and a small stable block built between 1885 and 1905 along the north side of "Church View Farm".

### ***Elm House and Farm Buildings***

With a main elevation facing west, the T-plan, two-storey farmhouse dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century with 20<sup>th</sup> century additions. It is constructed in traditional location materials including coursed squared limestone with brick dressings, a clay pantile roof and gabled ends.



**Figure 18** Elm House.<sup>81</sup>

The farm buildings associated with Elm House (Grade II listed as "Elms Farm House") also date back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The two-storey complex comprised a pigeoncote, stables and barn and were also constructed of traditional limestone rubble with brick dressings and pantile roof. This building was being converted for residential use at the time of the assessment.

### ***Spridlington Moated Manor - Scheduled Ancient Monument***

The site is thought to incorporate the remains of the former south manor of Spridlington, which was held by Sir John Chaumont in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

The medieval moated site exhibits a variety of earthwork and buried features including remains of internal structures, a complete moat, associated water management features, ponds and enclosures. Today, the area is enclosed by a fence and hedgerows.



**Figure 19** Survey of the moated site.<sup>82</sup>

There were 15 buildings previously identified of local interest and importance,<sup>83</sup> to which a number of buildings have been added as part of this assessment:<sup>84</sup>

- The Coach House, Spridlington Hall
- Walled Garden at the Coach House, Spridlington Hall
- The Manor, Owmbly Road
- Old Rectory Cottage(s), Owmbly Road
- Barn and Stables at The Grove, Owmbly Road
- Barn at Paddock House, Owmbly Road
- Blacksmiths Cottage, Owmbly Road
- Farrier's Cottage, Owmbly Road
- Farrier's Workshop, Owmbly Road
- Ebenezer Cottage, Church Hill
- Old Meldrum, Cliff Road
- Glebe Barn at Glebe House Farm, Cliff Road
- Under Oak, Church Hill
- Tithe Barn, Owmbly Road
- Stable at Church View Farm, Owmbly Road
- Spridlington House, Faldingworth Road
- Spridlington House Barns, Faldingworth Road
- Coulson's Yard Outbuildings (Barns South of Corner Cottage), Faldingworth Road
- Coulson's Yard Barn Conversion, Faldingworth Road
- Corner Cottage, Faldingworth Road
- Barn at The Grange, Faldingworth Road
- The Grange, Faldingworth Road
- Rose Cottage, Faldingworth Road
- Mull Cottage, Faldingworth Road
- Former Methodist Church, Faldingworth Road: The first Wesleyan Chapel was constructed in the village in 1838<sup>85</sup> and enlarged in c1864<sup>86</sup>. According to the Kelly's Directory of 1937, another chapel was constructed in 1901.
- Pear Tree Cottage, Faldingworth Road

The key landmark building within the Village Character Area streetscape is the Church of St Hilary at the centre of the village and at the crossroads of Cliff Road/Church Hill, Owmbly Road and Faldingworth Road. Church View Farm House is also a prominent building opposite the church facing towards the junction of Owmbly Road and Faldingworth Road.

### **3.1.6 Building Types, Architectural Styles & Materials**

The *Spridlington Conservation Area Appraisal* stated that there is no strong architectural character that can be identified as typical within the village. However, the village demonstrates a variety of building types and architectural design dating from at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century, through the 19<sup>th</sup> century gentrification of the village and construction of Spridlington Hall (former Rectory) and to present day residential development.

The built character of Spridlington is a combination of purpose-built residential, farm buildings (former and existing) and ecclesiastical, and the majority are of one to two storeys in height. Some farm buildings remain in agricultural use at the perimeter of the village, but the majority have been demolished for new residential buildings or converted to residential use and this was noted as ongoing at the time of the assessment.

There are two ecclesiastical buildings - the former Methodist Church on Faldingworth Road, constructed in brick with stone dressings and tiled roof; and the Church of St Hilary, constructed in local limestone with Ancaster stone dressings and with a slate roof.

Traditional local buildings are predominantly made of limestone and/or brick (red and blonde brick and some blue brick detailing). Some buildings have been rendered and/or painted. Roofs are predominantly gabled and clad with red clay pantiles and it is these traditional buildings that are aesthetically, a key feature of the historic character of the village and parish overall.

Simple roof forms with gable ends and use of natural materials dominate the village - limestone, clay pantile and timber, as well as small windows and symmetrical fenestration in dwellings as traditional features. Many of the older buildings of the village have undergone alteration, extension or conversion, but generally are well maintained and are in good condition.



The housing stock of the village is mostly detached, with some semi-detached houses. New housing development where not a conversion of an existing building, is detached and largely two-storey and constructed in materials in keeping with local character using stone and brick.



**Figure 20** Corner Cottage, junction of Faldingworth Road and the "Wetherwalk".<sup>87</sup>



**Figure 21** Limestone walling and pantile roofs of barns on the east side of the "Wetherwalk".



**Figure 22** Rear view of "Elm House".



**Figure 23** Limestone walling of the former barns of Glebe Farm on Cliff Road.



**Figure 24** West end houses on Cliff Road with variegated brick detailing and painted elevations.



**Figure 25** Limestone south elevation of the Church of St Hilary.



**Figure 26** Limestone walling of the west elevation of Church View Farmhouse.



**Figure 27** Red brick wall and painted timber door, "Spridlington House".



**Figure 28** Red and blue brick and stone detailing of the village hall.



**Figure 29** Former stable block at "Church View Farm" with limestone walling, brick dressings and pantile roof.



**Figure 30** Limestone building and brick dressings at the "Tithe Barn" on Owmbly Road.



**Figure 31** Owmbly Road - part of "The Manor" built in limestone with pantile roof.



### 3.1.7 Natural features

The village is dominated by the mature trees lining Owmbly Road, Church Hill and Faldingworth Road.

Much of the mature tree planting within the village, which is a major feature of the historic character of Spridlington, has been attributed to the Rev. H F Hutton, who built the rectory (Spridlington Hall) at the north end of the village in 1842 (see Character Area 2). He is reported to have employed landscape nurseryman and author, William Pontey (or possibly his nephew of the same name) to lay out the grounds of the hall.<sup>88</sup> As well as landscaping within his own lands, Hutton is reported to have planted trees along the realigned Owmbly Road and along Cliff Road from Spridlington to the A15/Ermine Street, using oaks, elms, limes and chestnuts where his land bordered the road.<sup>89</sup>

There are many mature specimen trees located throughout the village. Many form part of property boundaries and private gardens, but some also are located as isolated specimens in the immediate village landscape. Examples include the walnut tree in the field to the west of "The Grove" and a tree in the field to the west of "Elms Farm". They are all important to the historic character of the village.

There were no pockets of woodland within the boundaries of Character Area 1. However, hedgerows are commonly used to define property and field boundaries and the gardens of the village are generally well maintained and well stocked.

Grass verges feature at the entrances to the village. From the north, there is a wide, linear grassed area on the east side of Owmbly Road that forms part of the "avenue" alongside Spridlington Hall with mature tree planting. There is a grassed verge at the junction of Hackthorn Road and Cliff Road and south along Hackthorn Road by the fields and narrow grass verges feature along most of the roadsides where footpaths do not exist. Further wide grassed verges are also located at the junction of Faldingworth Road and Owmbly Road.

The North Cliff Drain runs along the western perimeter of the character area and is part of the River Ancholme. The river also runs across the north end of the character area. It originally ran around the feature known locally as the "ox-pond" and was used to supply the sheepwash that was located just outside the boundary of the character area and it not currently filled, but still visible in the landscape.



**Figure 32** Owmbly road tree planting.



**Figure 33** Walnut tree in the field to the west of "The Grove".



**Figure 34** Tree in the field west of "Elm House".



**Figure 35** River Ancholme and drain near bridge at the north end of the village on Owmbly Road.



**Figure 36** Verges at Faldingworth and Owmbly Road junction.



**Figure 37** Church Hill looking west.



### 3.1.8 Boundary Treatments & Streetscape

Apart from the prominent mature trees planted throughout the village, the most notable boundary and streetscape features of the village character area are the boundary walls made from locally sourced limestone, as well as brick walling and hedgerows. Some modern vertical timber board fencing has also been incorporated into some property boundaries and it is usually combined with hedges. There is some unsympathetic concrete block walling along the north side of Church Hill and Faldingworth Road, and wooden "field" type fencing has been used to some properties on Faldingworth Road.

Most properties have gated driveways and gates are predominantly wooden "estate" or "field" type gates, with some simple, but sympathetic metal gates, such as the pedestrian gate to "Church View Farmhouse".

The overall village streetscape is one of residential village development around the church as a focal point. The streetscape is defined by tarmacked roads, tarmacked footpaths, grass verges and some unmade farm tracks.

There are traditional village signposts at major junctions, as well as public footpath signposts and waymarkers, and there are standard modern village signs at each main road entrance. Other than this, signage within the village is limited and this lack of clutter contributes to the traditional character of the place.

Overhead electricity cables cross the village in various locations and are supported on wooden poles. The very limited street lighting is attached to these poles.

There is public seating in the grassed open space at the southeast corner of the junction of Hackthorn Road and Cliff Road; within the south side of the churchyard of the Church of St Hilary; and within the linear grassed open space on the east side of Owmbly Road, opposite Spridlington Hall.



**Figure 38** Limestone walling near "Netherwood".



**Figure 39** Wooden gate and stone walling on the east side of the churchyard.



**Figure 40** Hedges, trees and brick walling along Owmbly Road.



**Figure 41** "Estate" type gate to "Spridlington House".



**Figure 42** Detail of brick wall near "Elm House".



**Figure 43** Stone walling to "The Manor" on Owmbly Road.



**Figure 44** Signposts & public footpath waymarkers.



**Figure 45** Public seating at the north end of Owmbly Road.



### 3.1.9 Open Spaces

There are no designated children's play areas, public parks, car parks, recreational grounds or a village square within the character area. However, there are a number of areas of open space within the Village Character Area that contribute to the character of the village overall and provide useful recreational space for residents and visitors alike:

- Churchyard of the Church of St Hilary: Historical setting of the church, surrounding the building on all sides. The churchyard also provides an intimate publicly-accessible garden space complete with a bench on the south side and maintains visual links with the private gardens of "Spridlington House" to the west/southwest.
- Southeast corner of junction between Hackthorn Road and Cliff Road. This is a small area of grass verge with a bench. The area is clearly in use by dog walkers.
- Linear open space opposite Spridlington Hall along the east side of Owmbly Road providing a wide grassed verge and an area for walking and seating, whilst permitting views out towards the Wolds across the neighbouring open field to the east.
- Linear grassed verge on east side of Hackthorn Road, south of the junction with Cliff Road: Wide grassed verge providing a clear approach to the west end of the village, as well as a base for views east towards the village across open fields.
- Open space on the northeast corner of the junction of Owmbly Road and Faldingworth Road, on the south side of Church View Farm House. This area forms an important part of the setting of Church View Farm House and enhances the appreciation of the primary (south) elevation of the house. It is also a historical remnant of village farming and field boundaries.



**Figure 46** Linear open space on the east side of Owmbly Road opposite Spridlington Hall.



**Figure 47** View north along Hackthorn Road showing linear open space on right.



**Figure 48** Churchyard of St Hilary, south side.



**Figure 49** Churchyard of St Hilary, south side.



**Figure 50** Hackthorn Road/Cliff Road junction.



**Figure 51** Open space on south side of "Church View Farmhouse".

### 3.1.10 Views & Vistas

Spridlington is built along the north-west spine of Owmbly Road with two main road junctions at Cliff Road/Church Hill and Faldingworth Road.

Trees dominate the built form and views within the village and they are key to the character of the village. Many of the mature trees within the village probably date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Limited views into and out of the village are framed by gentle bends in the road, fields, walls, trees and hedges - the church is not a visual focal point within the village itself as it is largely hidden by mature trees that dominate the fabric of the village. However, the tower can still be glimpsed from various points in the village. Where the roads widen at junctions within the village, better views are permitted of the surrounding



buildings and the best views of St Hilary's Church and traditional stone buildings of the village tend to be from these junctions.

Approaches to the village vary in their visual interest. The approach into the village from the south along Hackthorn Road is not visually distinctive looking north to the junction with Cliff Road, except for the open space on the east side of the road (with views to the east) and trees lining the approach to the junction.

The approach from the west from Cliff Road forms a winding view into the west end of the village and does not have a direct line of site, but it is lined with trees, houses and vegetation before becoming Church Hill where it opens out before the junction with Owmbly Road, providing some views of the church tower.

The eastern approach from Faldingworth Road is not remarkable, but it does maintain a tree-lined approach and grass verges typical of the village.

From the north, the approach is more distinctive and attractive, owing to significant road changes and planting carried out in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The road is wide, with the linear grassed open area on the east side and an avenue of mature trees leading into the village, however views into the village are still limited by the bend in the road and extensive planting in the streetscape.

There are two previously recognised views within the character area: one to the east across open fields to the Wolds from the linear open space at the north end of Owmbly Road, opposite Spridlington Hall; and another east across open fields towards the buildings at the south end of the village, including "Elm House" and farm buildings from the linear open space on the east side of Hackthorn Road on the south approach to the village.



**Figure 52** View from the east side of Owmbly Road towards the Wolds from the linear open space opposite Spridlington Hall (View 2 on Figure 104).



**Figure 53** View of approach into village on Hackthorn Road.



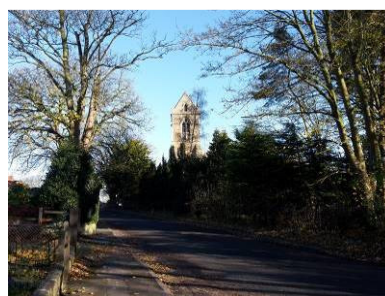
**Figure 54** View across fields from Hackthorn Road towards the south end of the village and "Elm House" and farm buildings (View 1 on Figure 104).



**Figure 55** View into the village from the northern end of the village along Owmbly Road.



**Figure 56** View into the village from Faldingworth Road.



**Figure 57** View into the village from Church Hill.



## 3.2 Character Area 2: Spridlington Hall

### 3.2.1 Overview

Character Area 2 comprises the private gardens and setting of Spridlington Hall, which is located within the Spridlington Conservation Area at the north end of the village.

Constructed in 1841-2 for the Reverend Henry Frederick Hutton, Spridlington Hall was built originally as the Rectory for the incumbent minister of Spridlington, following an inheritance from his cousin and godfather, Reverend Frederick Gildart, member of one of the long-term landowning families in the parish.<sup>90</sup> Hutton's widow remained at the property until her death in 1881.<sup>91</sup>

The earliest map depiction of the character area dates to the Lindsey Award of 1775 and it indicated that the majority was attributed to "The Rectory", but no buildings were shown on the land. A later survey of 1822 suggests that the majority of the land was part of R Sykes Farm and occupied by Z Priestly and the description indicates that it may have been in use as a rye field.<sup>92</sup>

### 3.2.2 Layout & Topography

Today, Spridlington Hall is set within gardens, lawns and paddocks, with a ha-ha that is believed to have been constructed in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century during a period of extensive works at Spridlington Hall. It defines the west and south sides of the immediate setting of the house.

The Hall is set within the northern half of the character area and formerly associated outbuildings (including the walled garden, coach house and stables) still exist to the northeast of the house. The historical circular drive to the east portico of the house has been divided, forming separate drives from Owmbly Road to Spridlington Hall (south entrance) and the "Coach House" (north entrance).

Character Area 2 gently slopes away from Owmbly Road and the level of the Hall towards the north and west, where it meets the "North Cliff Drain" (a tributary of the River Ancholme) forming the western boundary of the Spridlington Hall site.

### 3.2.3 Land Use

Character Area 2 is in residential use with a large detached dwelling as the focal point of the site and two separate residences in the vicinity, including the "Coach House" adjacent to the Hall and "The Coppice" at the southeast corner of the character area. There is a significant amount of green space that forms the setting of Spridlington Hall.

### 3.2.4 Routes

The character area is bordered by the tarmacked Owmbly Road to the east, the main north-south spine road through the village and it has a kerbed pedestrian footpath along the west side of the road. It is a main vehicular route that is also popular with cyclists.

There is no public right of way through the character area itself, as it is private land and access to the fields to the west is via a private grassed track running east-west across the centre of the grounds to the Hall.

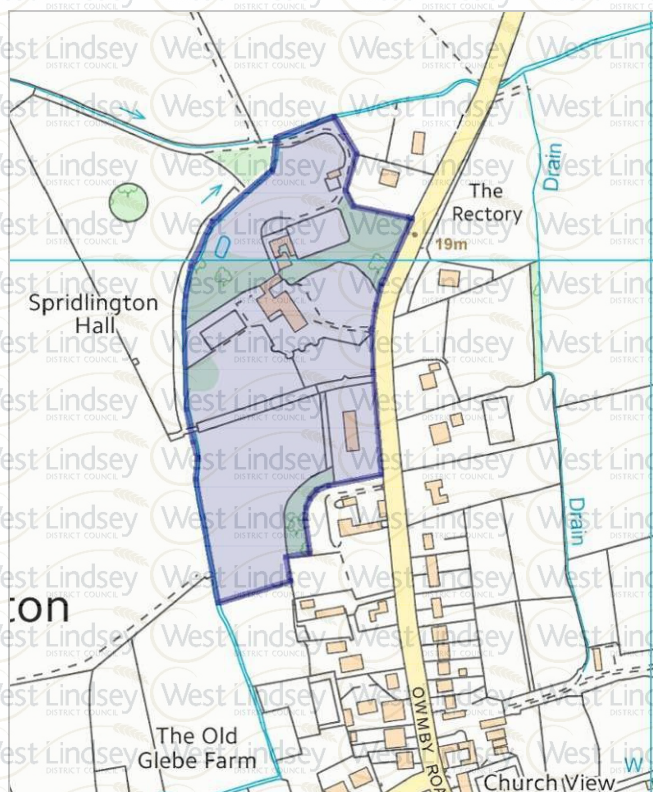


Figure 58 Character Area 2.<sup>93</sup>



Figure 59 Aerial of Spridlington Hall in 1978.<sup>94</sup>



However, there is a public footpath that runs along the southern edge of Character Area 2 leading out across the fields to connect Spridlington with West Firsby.



**Figure 60** Footpath along east boundary of character area (Owmbly Road).<sup>95</sup>



**Figure 61** Bridge at southwest corner of character area.

### ***3.2.5 Heritage Assets & Landmarks***

Spridlington Hall is a Grade II listed building as designated on the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) and it has associated structures, including the former stables, coach house and walled garden. The character area is located within Spridlington Conservation Area. There were no scheduled ancient monuments noted within the character area.

The Hall is the clear focal point of Character Area 2 as a landmark building at the north end of the village of Spridlington. It retains former outbuildings (though a separate property) and is set within a designed landscape.

The surviving gardens and parkland at Spridlington Hall, whilst not a statutorily designated gardens site, represent a non-designated heritage asset including a range of features of historic interest. These include historic planting, remains of the kitchen garden, driveway and gate piers, as well as remains of settlement associated with the medieval north manor.

### ***3.2.6 Building Types, Architectural Styles & Materials***

The focal point of Character Area 2, the classical design of the former Rectory was considered somewhat old-fashioned by the time of its construction in 1842. However, it presumably achieved the desired effect of producing a compact “villa” residence within a contained, yet simply designed, landscape that encompassed the north end of the village - more of a country gentleman’s home, rather than a minister’s rectory.

Spridlington Hall is designed with a two-storey, three-bay symmetrical frontage, including a substantial front entrance portico with square columns and Corinthian-style capitals supporting a deep frieze and roof adorned with brackets and lion roundels. There is a large service wing attached to the north side.

Constructed in blonde brick with an ashlar stone portico, and dressings to openings and the first floor string courses, the large hipped roof is finished with slate. There are large windows facing out to the west from the ground floor reception room and a bay window facing towards the south gardens. While the architectural style and materials employed at Spridlington Hall are not part of the local vernacular, the building reflects the original design intention of a focal point within the landscape of not only the hall itself, but for the north part of the village.

The former outbuildings for the Hall including stables, coach house and walled garden are of similar construction, but are today part of a separate property to the northeast of the Hall.

A single-storey brick and tile-roofed house, known as “The Coppice” was constructed at the southeast corner of the character area post-1975. It has an adverse impact on the original designed landscape of Spridlington Hall through the loss of part of the original setting for the house.



**Figure 62** Front (east elevation) of Spridlington Hall.



**Figure 63** View towards the southwest corner of Spridlington Hall from within the immediate parkland setting of the Hall.



**Figure 64** "The Coppice" as viewed from Owmbly Road.

### **3.2.7 Natural Features**

The former Rectory and gardens were designed in the fashion of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century villa landscape, with simple pleasure grounds comprising lawns and specimen trees providing views over areas of park-like paddocks and beyond to working agricultural land.<sup>96</sup> Late 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping shows that the site included a walled garden to the northeast of the house (now a separate property); a circular drive on the east side of the house; pleasure gardens with paths adjacent to the house; and a sinuous fenceline separating the gardens from paddocks to the south, east and west.

The designed landscape of the Hall is not included in the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens and therefore not considered to be of national significance and a significance assessment of the landscape carried out in 2017<sup>97</sup> stated that the original designed landscape had been significantly compromised by 20<sup>th</sup> century changes and housing development.

Today, there is a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century ha-ha with integral semi-circular "bastions" and timber estate fencing that physically divides the house gardens from the adjacent paddock and all is laid to lawn with a tarmac drive.

The water-filled "North Cliff Drain" that is a part of the River Ancholme forms the north and west boundaries of Character Area 2 and they have earth embankments sloping down from the adjacent paddocks and fields.

There are trees planted along the western boundary with some gaps between extending views to the land beyond from the house and gardens and there are mature specimen trees planted within the grounds, both in the gardens adjacent to the house and within the paddock. The agricultural fields beyond the character area to the west and east are working fields and it was noted that there was some cluster planting for game cover within the field to the west forming part of the wider views within the landscape from the house. This circular copse is believed to be the "Trimmingham's Wheat - barf" referred to in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and visible on the 1886 OS Map.<sup>98</sup>

Some planting, such as the 20<sup>th</sup> century coniferous hedging along the eastern side of the character area, is intrusive and has an adverse impact on the appreciation of Spridlington Hall as a landmark building by obstructing the view to and from Owmbly Road.

It has been suggested that some of the trees on site and within the north end of the village possibly date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century planting under the direction of Reverend H F Hutton and landscape nurseryman William Pontey (or perhaps his nephew). Healthy mature specimen trees retained within the grounds of the Hall not only contribute to the setting of the Hall, but they also make a positive contribution to the overall character of the village and the streetscape. The planting within the grounds compliments the "avenue" of planting that continues south along Owmbly Road into the village.





**Figure 65** Spridlington Hall from the parkland setting.



**Figure 66** Gardens to the south of the Hall.



**Figure 67** View southwest from the Hall.

### **3.2.8 Boundary Treatments & Streetscape**

The eastern boundary of the character area is formed by Owmbly Road, which comprises a mixture of simple iron fencing, modern wrought metal gates and brick gateposts to the "Coach House" entrance; stone gate piers with ball finials, low wooden fencing, and stone dwarf garden beds at the entrance to Spridlington Hall and some coniferous hedge planting (non-indigenous and not original to garden planting).

The south side of the character area is bordered by timber fencing to the public footpath at the southwestern corner and private gardens between the character area and the "Manor House" at the southeast corner.

The west side boundary comprises timber estate fencing combined with planting and the "North Cliff Drain" forms a physical boundary with a grassed private estate track along the west side of Character Area 2.

The north side is also bordered by the drain and there is mature planting defining the boundary edge.



**Figure 68** Entrance drive from Owmbly Road showing stone gatepiers with ball finials, modern conifer hedge and timber fencing.



**Figure 69** Entrance drive to the "Coach House", originally part of the circular drive for the Hall.



**Figure 70** Western boundary including drain of the character area.



**Figure 71** Southern boundary along public footpath.

### 3.2.9 Open Spaces

Despite compromise of the original design through later interventions, Spridlington Hall, by the nature of the original layout of the setting of the house, retains much of its open garden and parkland spaces. Some of these are visible from the public domain of Owmbly Road or the public footpath to the southwest.

Although privately owned, the gardens and paddocks that form the setting of Spridlington Hall, a former traditional "villa" landscape, remain important open spaces that allow for views to and from the Hall as a local landmark from the east, west and south.

The open gardens and paddocks help preserve the traditional setting of the Hall. This encourages an appreciation of the historic Hall and assists in its contribution to the historic character of the village overall, to which its historical development is intrinsically linked.

### 3.2.10 Views & Vistas

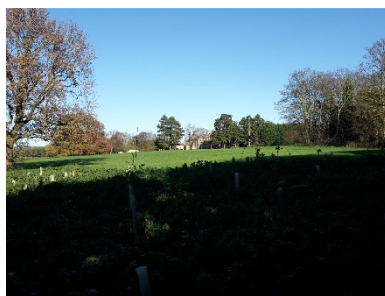
Set within a designed landscape, the house today retains important views out to the east into the front gardens and across Owmbly Road to the fields beyond; towards the more intimate and enclosed gardens to the south; and west across the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century ha-ha, paddock and to the working fields beyond.

There are trees planted along the western boundary with some gaps between them, extending views to the land beyond from the house and its gardens. There is also a variety of specimen trees planted within the grounds, both in the gardens adjacent to the house and within the paddock. The agricultural fields beyond are working fields and it was noted that there were some areas of game cover planting isolated within the fields that form part of the wider views across the landscape to the west (copse dating back to at least the late 19<sup>th</sup> century).

As a focal point in the landscape, the house is viewed from Owmbly Road and adjacent properties to the east and it is also visible in its garden setting from the public footpath on the south side of the character area, as well as from further afield from the west.



**Figure 72** View along drive to Spridlington Hall from Owmbly Road (View 6 on Figure 104).



**Figure 73** Views northeast across parkland of the character area from the public footpath (View 7 on Figure 104).



**Figure 74** Views from the public footpath across outlying fields towards Spridlington Hall (View 8 on Figure 104).



**Figure 75** Views from the west elevation of the house west across parkland of the character area and towards outlying fields (View 4 on Figure 104).



**Figure 76** View south towards hedges concealing "The Coppice" (View 5 on Figure 104).



**Figure 77** View east along the entrance drive towards Owmbly Road.



### 3.3 Character Area 3: Former RAF Faldingworth

#### 3.3.1 Overview

Character Area 3 is located in the far north-eastern corner of the parish and comprises the western part of the former air base of RAF Faldingworth (as described in section 2.4). The remainder of the former base is located in the adjacent parishes, with the majority falling within the Parish of Faldingworth.

Today, the western portion of former RAF Faldingworth is home to Skydock, a private company specialising in ballistics and other testing, secure storage, helicopter maintenance and storage and as a facility for film production.

Skydock operate a secure site and access within the site was not possible as part of this assessment. However, permission was granted to photograph the site from the external perimeter and the following information was gathered from readily available map and other resources.

#### 3.3.2 Layout & Topography

Character Area 3, as a former airfield and agricultural land, is predominantly flat. There are numerous man-made embankments within the character area associated with Second World War construction on the site and later Cold War nuclear bomb storage, but these are small scale in the overall landscape and form discrete localised clusters.

The site is located at the west end of the former airfield and maintains the original layout of the base as a Class 'A' type airfield with three intersecting runways. It has an area of uniformly-spaced high explosives magazines in the northwest corner; former nuclear storage buildings towards the centre; guard room and entrance in the southwest corner; and remnants of the runways, perimeter track and hard standings across the west side of the character area and beyond into the adjacent parishes. Much of the runway and perimeter track system of the base to the east of the character area and eastern parish boundary has been absorbed back into the rural landscape through reinstatement of agricultural use.

The western boundary of the character area contains a deep drainage ditch between the former air base and the agricultural fields to the west.

#### 3.3.3 Land Use

Character Area 3 is part of a wider area in commercial and industrial use as a secure ballistics and other testing facility. The company that occupies the character area also provides helicopter maintenance and storage with landing facilities; secure storage; and as a site for film production. Explosives/ammunition magazines and former bomb storage shelters (as well as other related buildings) are still in use following their construction during the Second World War.

There is also a solar farm located within the north side of the character area.

#### 3.3.4 Routes

The main entrance to the air base is via a private road off the public highway of Faldingworth Road and there is a large tarmacked parking area located behind high metal security fencing and in front of the main entrance and guard room.

There is no public right of way through the site via road, pedestrian, cycle or bridle path.

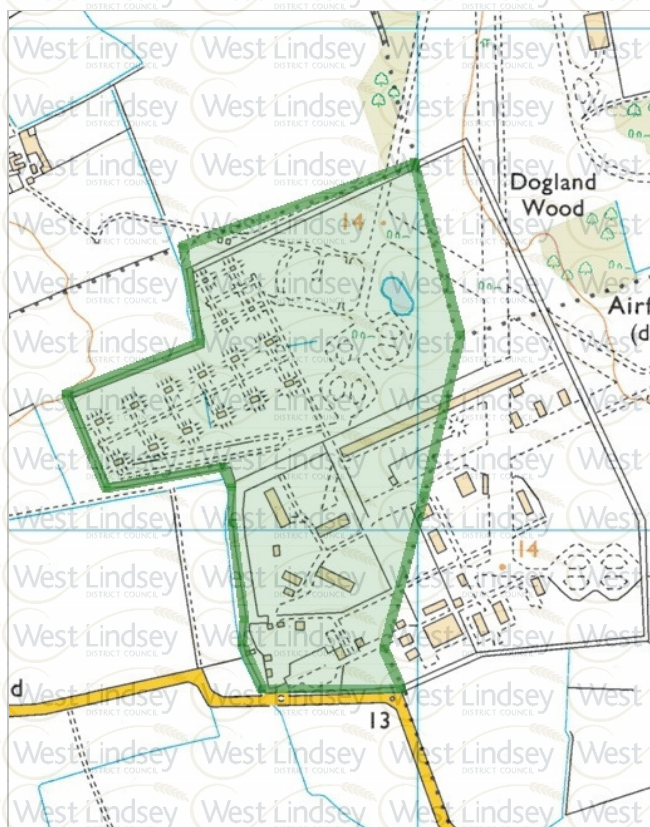


Figure 78 Character Area 3.99

### **3.3.5 Heritage Assets & Landmarks**

There are no listed buildings or scheduled ancient monuments currently identified within Character Area 3. The site does not fall within a conservation area, nor were there parks or gardens identified to be of special interest locally or nationally. No specific landmarks were identified during the limited inspection, although the remnants of the former base itself can be considered a landmark in the overall landscape.

The western section of the former air base that is located within the parish and defined by Character Area 3 retains much of its original layout as the storage and working area for a purpose-built, Second World War airfield.

Although a physical inspection was not possible during the completion of this assessment, remnant buildings of this era and type (particularly as they gradually disappear from the British landscape through degradation or development), are of increasing historical interest. These include concrete explosives magazines covered in grassed mounds of earth, former nuclear storage buildings and ancillary structures largely of brick and concrete construction.

The nuclear storage facility at is of particular significance because of its important role in Britain's early Cold War nuclear deterrent. It is one of only two storage and maintenance facilities built for Britain's first nuclear bomb code-named 'Blue Danube'. Nuclear bombs kept here from 1957 would have serviced airfields across Lincolnshire and the wider region for use by V-force heavy bombers. Historic England have designated the only other similar facility at Barnham, Suffolk as a scheduled monument in recognition of its national significance. The nuclear facility at Faldingworth is believed to be less well-preserved, having lost its perimeter wall and gates, but the three large non-nuclear component stores survive, as do maintenance buildings and a guard room, and several of the small fissile core stores known as hutches. Also surviving is much of the original planting, including limes and poplar, which English Heritage suggest was placed to enhance the working environment as much as for camouflage.<sup>100</sup>

### **3.3.6 Building Types, Architectural Styles & Materials**

The construction of the air base is in complete contrast to the architectural styles and materials of the village and surrounding rural landscape, creating a distinctive compound that is visually and physically separated from the rest of the parish to the west.

However, the building types and materials used within the base when it was constructed in 1943 are consistent with those used across air bases of the Class 'A' airfield type and period throughout Britain. Class 'A' comprised three intersecting runways with a perimeter track (taxi-ways).

It is believed that remaining structures within the former base include: high explosive magazines; former nuclear bomb stores; non-nuclear storage buildings; a former decontamination building; maintenance facilities; water tanks; sheds; fuel storage; a guard room; and ancillary buildings.

The buildings within the character area are believed to be predominantly 1-2 storeys in height (with some larger sheds nearby on site) and buildings are generally detached - particularly the explosives storage buildings for safety reasons.

The dominant materials used within Character Area 3 that relate particularly to the Second World War period are of reinforced concrete and brick construction, for building of explosives stores and associated buildings. Grassed earth banks cover structures throughout the area creating embankments and remnants of tarmac and concrete roads, runways and hard standings survive and remain in use today.

The perimeter of the former air base (and therefore the majority of the character area perimeter) is enclosed by modern high steel security fencing and there is a drainage ditch between the former air base and adjacent fields along the western boundary.

The compound of the former air base is in contrast to the rest of the parish character in terms of architectural styles and materials, and there are some details that are less sympathetic to the overall rural landscape such as the intrusive perimeter security fencing. However, the surviving part of former RAF Faldingworth is of historical and architectural interest as a remnant feature of a national programme of airfield development across the country in the defence of the nation during the Second World War.

### **3.3.7 Natural Features**

The natural features of the character area are defined by the private planting of trees as visible from outside the perimeter of the secure site and these are concentrated along the western boundary and within the centre of the character area. There are a large number of mature trees, both deciduous and evergreen.

Exposed grassed embankments over buried structures (without trees) also feature in the landscape, and are most noticeable from the neighbouring properties at the northwest corner of the character area. The



remainder of the character area appears from aerial photographs to be mostly laid to lawn with exposed areas of remnant perimeter track, runway, paths and roads.

The drain of the Barlings Eau runs along the western perimeter of the character area.

### **3.3.8 Boundary Treatments & Streetscape**

Character Area 3 is surrounded by high, vertical-post, modern steel security fencing along the west, north and south boundaries and there is a drainage ditch/stream running along the western side and referred to on maps as part of the Barlings Eau. Roads are tarmacked and there are 20<sup>th</sup> century cobbled and concrete islands within the parking area at the front of the base.

### **3.3.9 Open Spaces**

The only open space noted within the character area from the perimeter was the large private tarmacked carpark in the southwestern corner of the site near the guard room and entrance. There may be more within the secure site, but it was not possible to ascertain at the time of writing this assessment.

### **3.3.10 Views & Vistas**

The site is physically enclosed and views to the character area are actively discouraged owing to the original and ongoing secure nature of the former air base. No significant views were noted towards the character area and it is not known if there are any significant views within the character area itself.

There is a very distant (but not key) view of the upper part of the tower of the Church of St Hilary across the flat and open fields west towards Spridlington village, from the western side outside the perimeter of the character area. The remainder of the village was obscured by mature vegetation.

It is known that Ermine Street as a visual landmark was used for pilot training purposes in relation to the base at RAF Scampton and views along the road towards Lincoln Cathedral assisted returning aircrew to locate the airfield. It is therefore possible that the tower of the Church of St Hilary may have also had a historical role in navigation for RAF aircrew and it is likely that the tower would have been used as a landmark feature in the landscape.<sup>101</sup>



**Figure 79** Distant view of the tower of the Church of St Hilary across fields to the west.



**Figure 80** Western perimeter fenceline of former RAF Faldingworth.



**Figure 81** High explosive magazines.

### 3.4 Character Area 4: Wider Landscape

#### 3.4.1 Overview

Overall, the parish of Spridlington comprises an agricultural landscape, with the village of Spridlington at its core, surrounded by outlying farms and the wide expanse of their associated open fields.

Character Area 4 incorporates the majority of the land within the parish from the A15/Ermine Street in the west, to the former RAF Faldingworth air base in the east. The character of this area is predominantly agricultural land, with associated farm buildings and some housing lying outside the village core.

The RAF Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows, also feature in the wider landscape of the parish. They are based at nearby RAF Scampton and are frequently a prominent visual and aural feature in the skies above Spridlington.

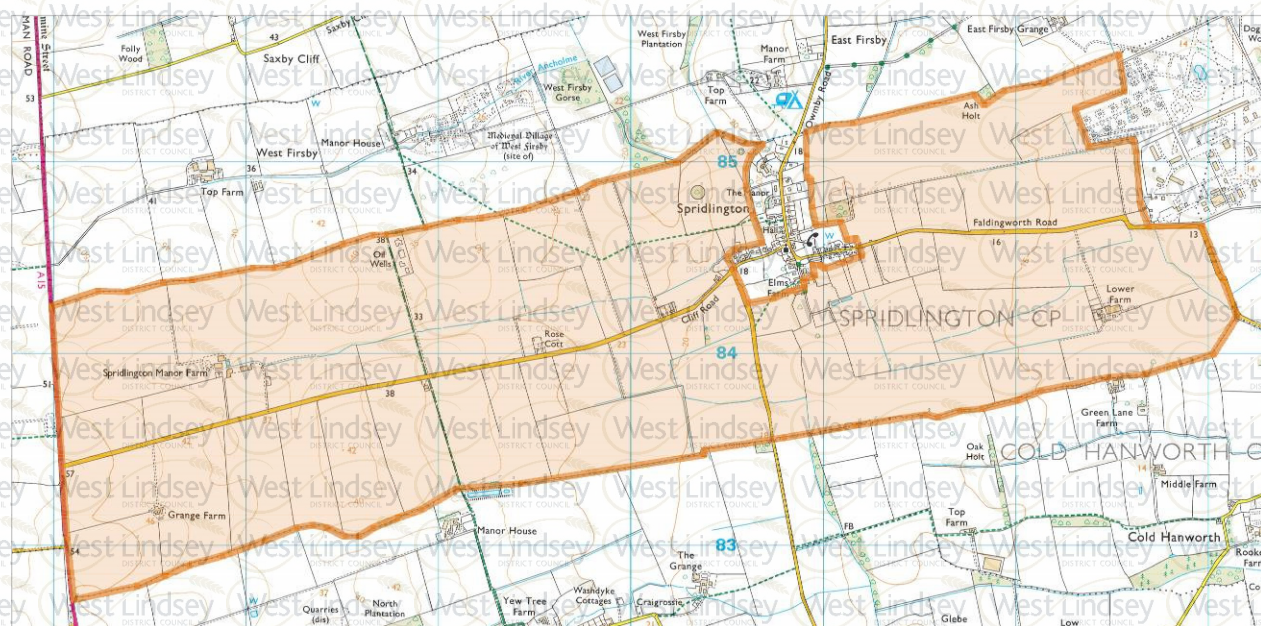


Figure 82 Character Area 4.<sup>102</sup>

#### 3.4.2 Layout & Topography

The topography of the wider landscape is varied, but overall, the land is generally flat to the east of the village. West of the village centre, the land slopes down to the North Cliff Drain on the perimeter of the village, it is then gently undulating from east to west and north to south as the parish land ultimately rises up to meet the boundary with the A15. The land also slopes down towards the east-west drain running almost parallel with Cliff Road within the fields to its north.

The wider landscape generally maintains historic field boundaries and buildings are predominantly set within isolated farm settlements. The few buildings along Cliff Road outside the village centre are set within regular building plots with houses fronting the road. With the exception of "Hackthorn View", the houses are set back from the road with gardens and with rear gardens. "Hackthorn View" is close to the road and has linear gardens that are believed to have been part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century allotment scheme for the village.

#### 3.4.3 Land Use

Character Area 4, as the wider landscape, is predominantly in agricultural use for arable farming with some pasture. Isolated pockets of residential and/or agricultural buildings are located on the individual farms at "Grange Farm", "The Thorns" and "Spridlington Manor Farm", as well as close to the village perimeter and along Cliff Road.

Other uses within the agricultural landscape include a small oil-field on the northern parish boundary west of the village; the large anaerobic digestion plant at "Grange Farm"; sewage pumping station east of the village; and the large water reservoir on the south side of Cliff Road.

#### 3.4.4 Routes

The main recognised Roman road associated with the parish is that of the Ermine Street, which forms the western boundary of the parish (and Character Area 4) and is aligned with the current A15.



There are three other main vehicular routes through the character area, all leading to the village centre. Cliff Road, the traditional road from Lincoln, runs west-east from the A15/Ermine Street to meet the north end of Hackthorn Road, which runs south from this junction towards the village of Hackthorn. Faldingworth Road runs east from the village and all are two-way streets. A continuance of Owmbly Road south of Faldingworth Road, called the "Wetherwalk" serves as an access road to properties and farmland in the south of the village.

There is a waymarked walking trail from the village to the west. It runs from the west side of Owmbly Road, past the properties known as the "Old Rectory Cottages", and west along field boundaries until it changes direction to the northwest towards West Firsby (outside the parish), where it meets the bridle path.

A shorter walking trail starts on the west side of the "Wetherwalk" through Elms Farm, running in a generally south-westerly direction across arable fields to meet Hackthorn Road.

A further trail (outside the parish boundaries, but worth noting for context) exists at the north end of the village, connecting Spridlington with Saxby and onwards to Owmbly-by-Spital.

A tarmacked footpath also exists along the north side of Cliff Road/Church Hill from the centre of the village as far west as the group of semi-detached and terraced 20<sup>th</sup> century houses, providing a clear pedestrian link with the centre of the village.

There are no specific cycle trails identified within the parish. However, it was observed that cyclists frequently used the main vehicular routes between villages. There is also a long-established bridle path that runs between Owmbly Cliff in the north and Hackthorn in the south, which cuts north-south across the study area approximately half way between the village and the A15/Ermine Street.



**Figure 83** Waymarked field path in fields to west of the village.<sup>103</sup>



**Figure 84** Footbridge at Hackthorn Road to field footpath from the "Wetherwalk" and "Elms Farm".



**Figure 85** Footpath to village along Cliff Road.

### **3.4.5 Heritage Assets & Landmarks**

There are no listed buildings or scheduled ancient monuments located within Character Area 4.

There are few traditional farm buildings surviving in the landscape of the character area, such as the stone farm buildings of Grange Farm and there were no historic landmarks noted. There is, however, one modern notable landmark in the southwest corner of the parish, being that of the distinctive "Grange Farm Biomethane Injection Plant" (anaerobic digestion plant).

### **3.4.6 Building Types, Architectural Styles & Materials**

There is no strong architectural character within Character Area 4, as the wider landscape comprises isolated farms and small building groups on the perimeter of the village. However, the character area does demonstrate a variety of building types, architectural design and periods.

There are some retained limestone and brick farm buildings with pantile roofs at some of the surviving farm settlements such as "Grange Farm" in the southwest and "The Thorns" in the southeast of the parish. Many buildings have been demolished over the decades and the dominant farming structures are large modern agricultural sheds of concrete, brick, steel and corrugated sheet.

Isolated housing to the west of the village centre is an inconsistent mixture of bungalows, detached two-storey houses, semi-detached and a terrace of houses. There are two houses dating back to at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century ("Mill Cottage" and "Hackthorn View") noted on the north side of Cliff Road. "Mill Cottage" has been painted white and "Hackthorn View" has undergone significant alterations and extensions. The terrace housing of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is two-storey and constructed in face brick with simple tiled roof forms

and frontages broken by projecting awnings. Solar panels have been applied to a number of the roof planes on the terrace block. The earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century pair of semi-detached houses to the west of the terrace have half-hipped roofs, chimneys, and face brick elevations with small porches defining the front doors.

Other structures in the wider landscape include the utilitarian oil field sheds, pumpjacks and other equipment on the northern boundary of the parish to the west of the village; the steel-encased water board structure on Hackthorn Road; and the prominent anaerobic digestion plant with domed roofs in the southwest corner of the parish.



**Figure 86** "Hackthorn View", Cliff Road.



**Figure 87** Domes of the Anaerobic Digestion Plant from Cliff Road.



**Figure 88** Side elevation of "Mill Cottage", Cliff Road.

### **3.4.7 Natural features**

Character Area 4 is predominantly made up of wide expanses of open agricultural fields for crops and subsequently, the landscape character changes cyclically throughout the year from ploughed fields to mature crops.

As well as landscaping within his own lands, Rev H F Hutton in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century reportedly had trees planted on the realigned Owmbly Road and along Cliff Road from Spridlington to the A15 where his property met the road, using oaks, elms, limes and chestnuts.<sup>104</sup> Today, Cliff Road has numerous trees planted along both sides of the road, but there are few trees along Faldingworth Road. Hackthorn Road is planted with trees from the Cliff Road Junction to part of the way south of the village, but this stops near the village entrance sign.

Mature trees were also noted as part of field boundaries and as isolated trees within some fields and hedgerows feature strongly throughout the field system as field boundaries and windbreaks.

There are very wide grassed verges either side of Cliff Road, historically referred to as the "Spridlington Gallop" and designed as a place for common grazing post Enclosure of the parish lands in 1774-6. Further grassed verges were noted at the east end of Faldingworth Road near RAF Faldingworth and there is a wide grassed verge on the east side of Hackthorn Road, west of the fields near "Elm House".

No managed woodland was noted within the character area, but a circular copse of trees known in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as "Trimmingham's Wheat - barf" is still extant in a field northwest of the village centre and it forms part of the wider setting and views from Spridlington Hall.

A major drain runs roughly parallel with the north side of Cliff Road and is believed to be part of the River Ancholme. It leads to a small reservoir at "Spridlington Manor Farm". The drain to the south of Cliff Road along Hackthorn Road relates to the River Langworth (part of the Barlings Eau) and this supplies numerous field drains throughout this part of the character area. The Barlings Eau also features in the east side of the character area, supplying field drains across the wider landscape.

A large, clay-lined reservoir to supply local crops has been constructed in recent years on the south side of Cliff Road, west of the village.





**Figure 89** Hackthorn Road looking southeast near the entrance to the village.



**Figure 90** "Trimmingham's Wheat - barf" - circular copse west of Spridlington Hall.



**Figure 91** Drain through the west fields.

### **3.4.8 Boundary Treatments & Streetscape**

Character Area 4 is predominantly open fields, with the dominant form of field boundary being hedgerows (with mature trees) and some wooden field fencing. There is also some modern steel agricultural fencing and gates to farm tracks.

There are remnants of dry stone walling at the southern end of the "Wetherwalk" on the farm track and at "Hackthorn View" on Cliff Road and this is in character with the traditional materials used throughout the village itself. Some less sympathetic modern brickwork and concrete block walling have been used at the bungalow and the adjacent house on Cliff Road on the west side of the "ox-pond".

Roads within the character area are a combination of tarmac to Cliff Road, Faldingworth Road and Hackthorn Road, with partial tarmac and gravel farm track continuing the "Wetherwalk" to the south of the village. Other farm tracks are generally grassed, dirt or metalled and the roads to the oil fields and "Grange Farm" are tarmacked.

There are standard modern signs and waymarkers for the public footpath on Hackthorn Road and the bridle way that crosses Cliff Road and there are some small public flower planter boxes attached to the village entrance signs.



**Figure 92** Cliff Road hedges, grassed verge and tree planting.



**Figure 93** Stone walling along the "Wetherwalk", south of the village.



**Figure 94** Hedgerows as field boundaries.

### **3.4.9 Open Spaces**

The very nature of the character area is that it is a wide, rural landscape of extensive open spaces comprising fields in traditional, ongoing agricultural use for mostly arable farming.

Within the wider landscape, there were no playing fields, recreation grounds, graveyards, public parks, car parks or village squares noted.

Despite this extensive open agricultural landscape, two specific areas of historical and current open space use were noted close to the west end of the village. These included the remnants of what are believed to be 19<sup>th</sup> century allotments on the east and west sides of the cottage known as "Hackthorn View", along the north side of Cliff Road; and the area locally known as the "Ox-Pond", immediately to the west of the boundary with Character Area 1: Village. The "Ox-Pond" is historically a field associated with the River Ancholme and North Cliff Drain, a sluice gate and the adjacent sheepwash/pinfold fronting Cliff Road.



**Figure 95** Open fields with public footpath.



**Figure 96** "Ox-Pond" and sheepwash fields on Cliff Road.



**Figure 97** Remnant allotment gardens adjacent to "Hackthorn View".

### ***3.4.10 Views & Vistas***

Generally, there are wide views possible across the open agricultural landscape of the character area and there are a few locations on public footpaths where there are views of the village and Spridlington Hall. Views towards the village, while glimpses of buildings are possible, they are generally obscured by the dominant mature vegetation which is key to the character of the village.

There are views from the public footpath to the west of the village that take in the parklands and glimpses of Spridlington Hall to the east.

The views east from the north end of Owmbly Road in Character Area 1 look out across the fields of the northeastern part of the character area towards the Wolds.

On a more transient level, there are also excellent views available of the RAF Red Arrows training in the skies above on a regular basis and their presence provides a tangible link to the aviation history and ongoing associations of both the parish and the county.

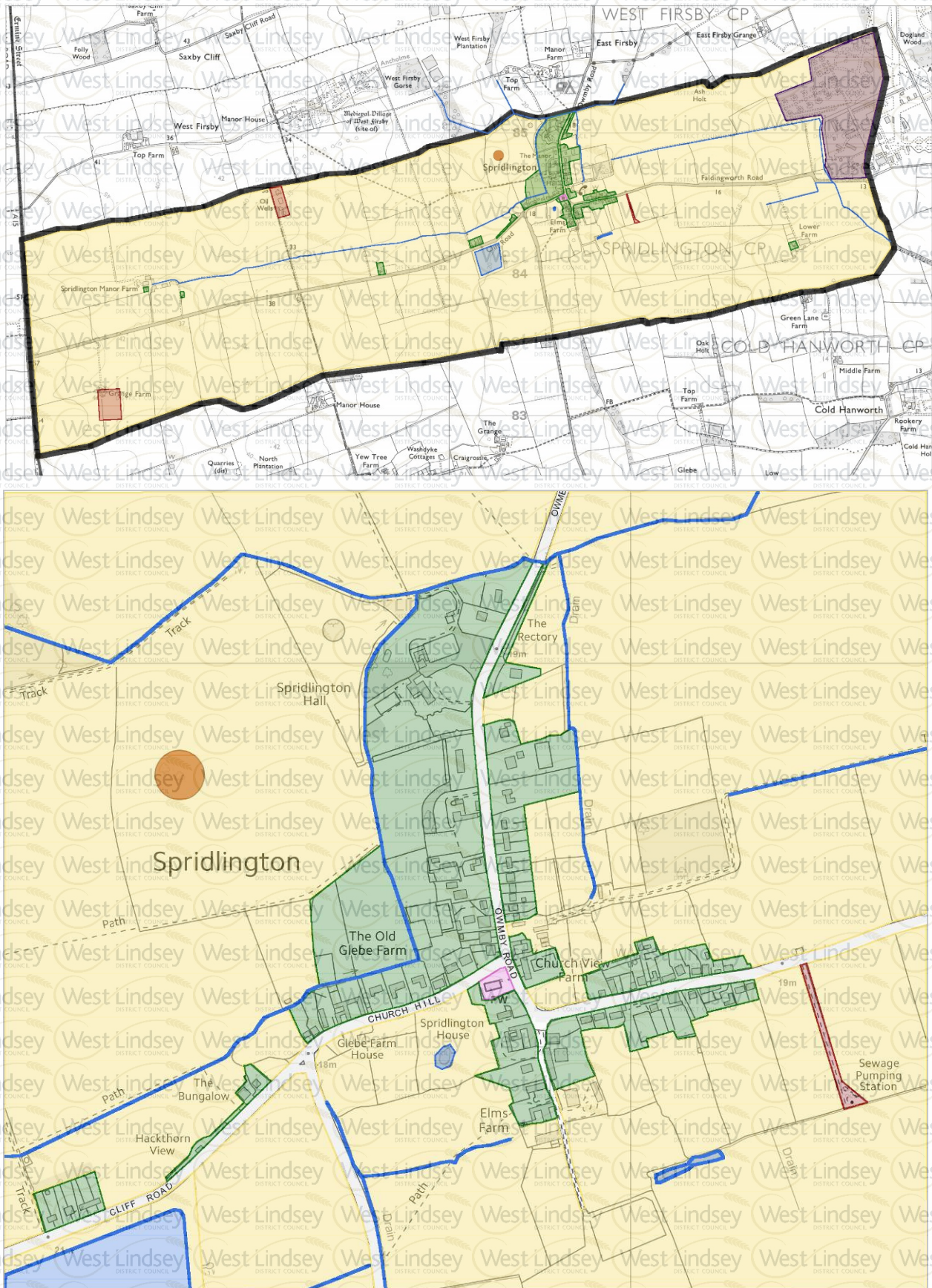


**Figure 98** View back across field towards Spridlington Hall from the public footpath west of the village (View 8 in Figure 104).

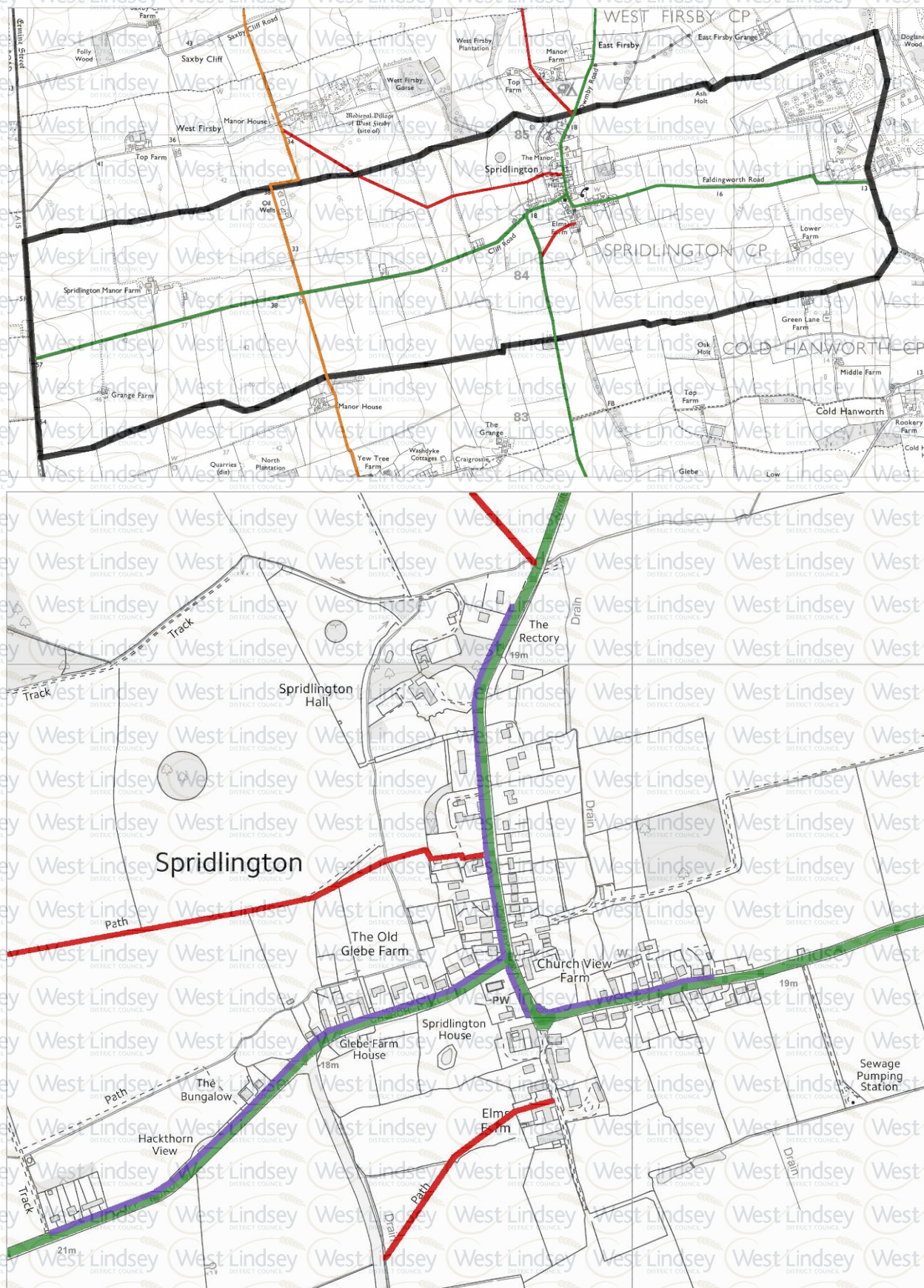


**Figure 99** View back across field towards Spridlington Hall from the public footpath west of the village (View 8 in Figure 104).



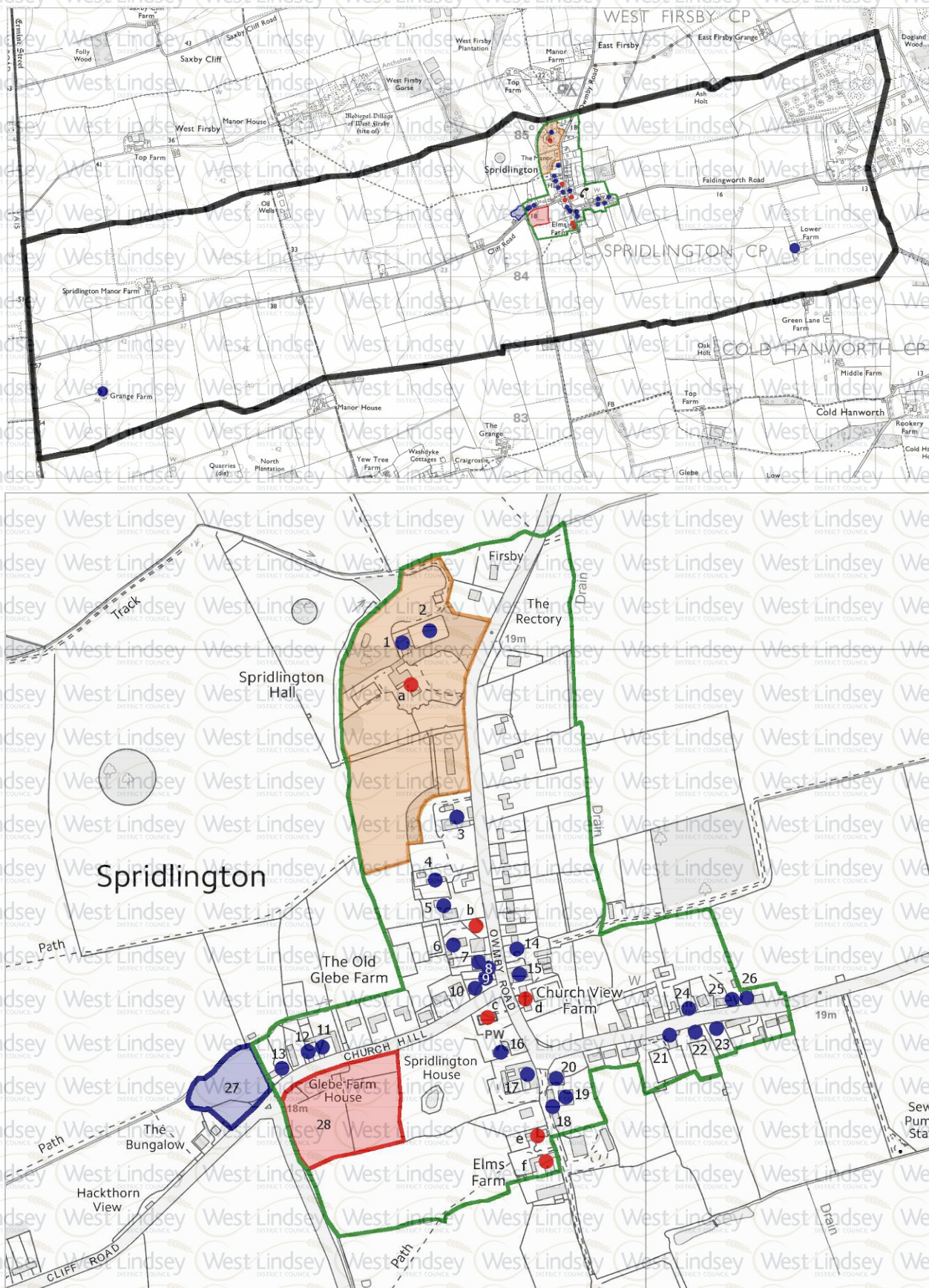






**Figure 101** Routes: Bridle Path (Orange); Key Roads (Green); Roadside footpaths (Purple); and Public Footpaths (Red).<sup>106</sup>





**Figure 102** Heritage Assets: Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Red); Conservation Area (Green); Traditional Buildings and Sites of Local Importance (Blue); and Gardens of Local Interest (Orange). See legend below<sup>107</sup>



## Legend for Figure 102:

### Listed Buildings

- Spridlington Hall - Grade II
- Village Hall (former school house) - Grade II
- Church of St Hilary - Grade II
- Church View Farm House - Grade II
- Elms Farm House (known locally today as "Elm House", with a separate, modern property known as "Elms Farm House") - Grade II
- Farm Buildings at Elms Farm House - Grade II

### Traditional Buildings and Sites of Local Importance

- The Coach House
- Walled Garden at the Coach House
- The Manor
- Old Rectory Cottage(s)
- Barn and Stables at The Grove
- Barn at Paddock House
- Blacksmith's Cottage
- Farrier's Cottage
- The Farrier's Workshop

- Ebenezer Cottage
- Glebe Barn
- Under Oak
- Old Meldrum
- Stable at Church View Farm
- Tithe Barn
- Spridlington House
- Spridlington House Barns
- Coulson's Yard Outbuildings (barns south of corner cottage)
- Coulson's Yard Barn Conversion
- Corner Cottage
- Barn at The Grange
- The Grange
- Rose Cottage
- Mull Cottage
- The Old Methodist Chapel
- Pear Tree Cottage
- Ox Pond
- Spridlington Moated Manor (Scheduled Ancient Monument)

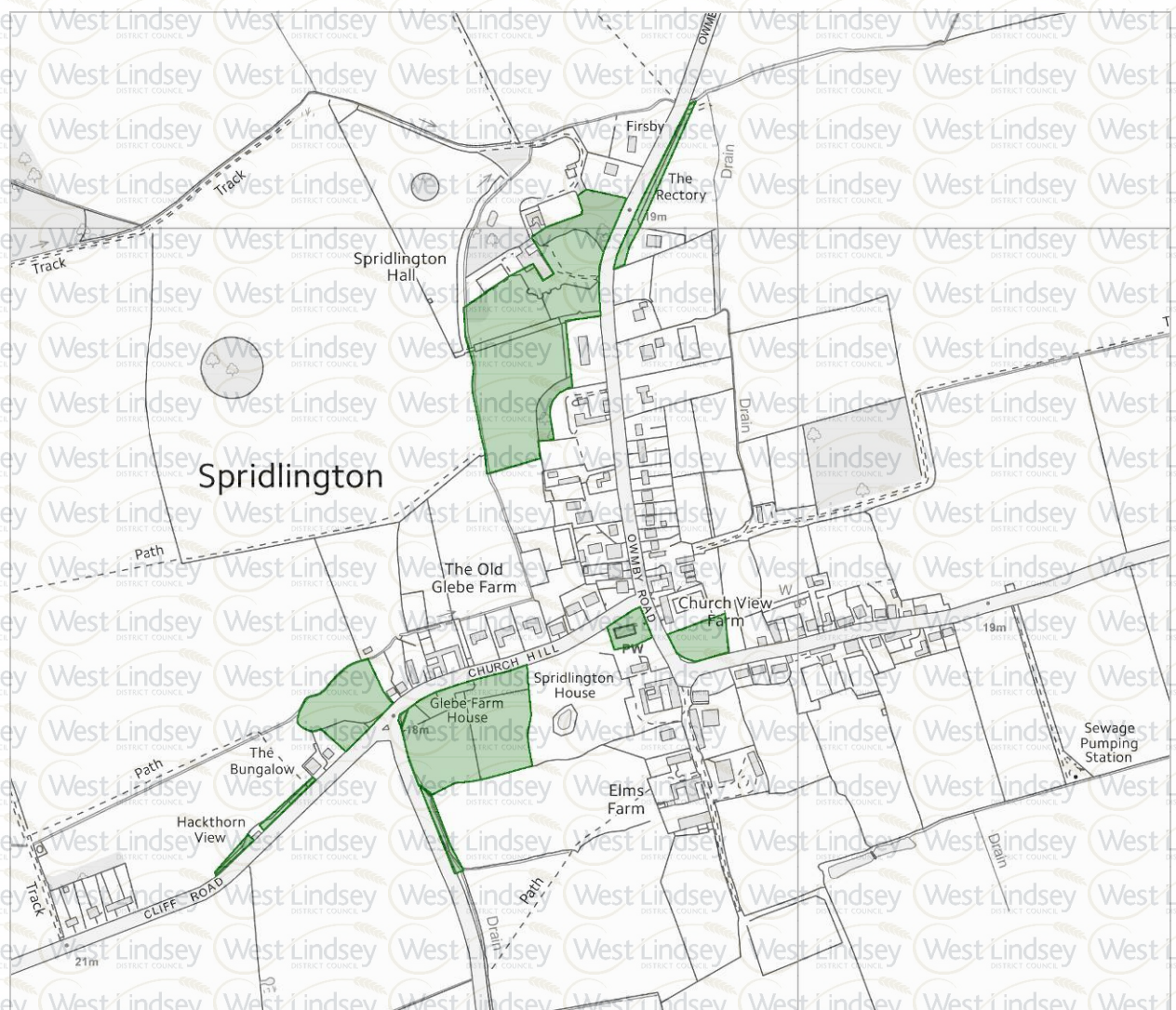
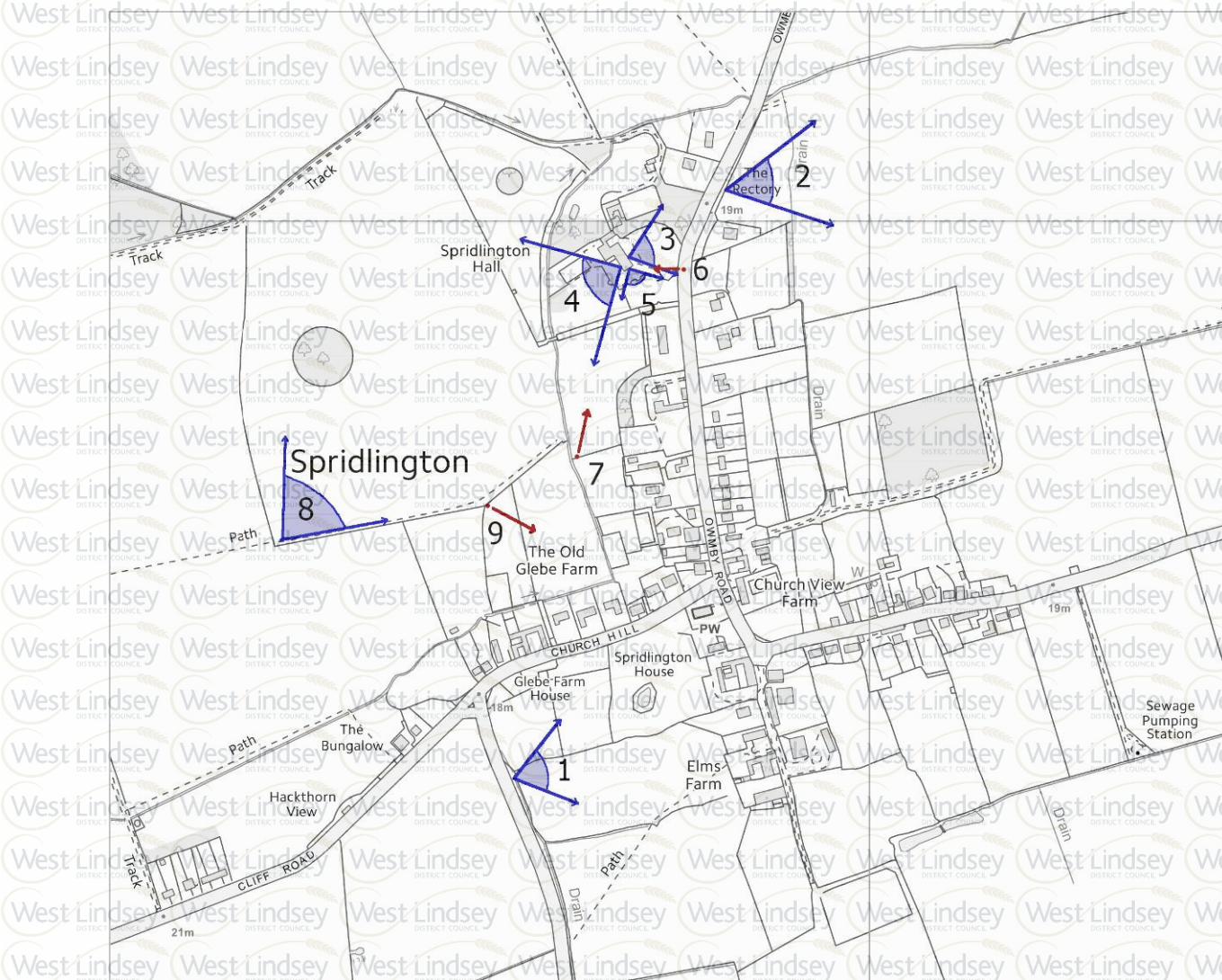


Figure 103 Open Spaces (Green).<sup>108</sup>





**Figure 104 Views:** (1) Hackthorn Road to village in the east; (2) Views from Owmy Road to the Wolds; (3) View east from Spridlington Hall across gardens and fields beyond Owmy Road; (4) View west from Spridlington Hall across parkland and fields including copse; (5) View south from Spridlington Hall to private gardens; (6) View of approach to Spridlington Hall along entrance drive from Owmy Road; (7) View north towards Spridlington Hall in its parkland setting; (8) Views of Spridlington Hall and its wider parkland and field setting (including copse of trees); (9) Views southeast across fields/extended gardens to Church Hill houses with glimpses of the church tower and houses.<sup>109</sup>

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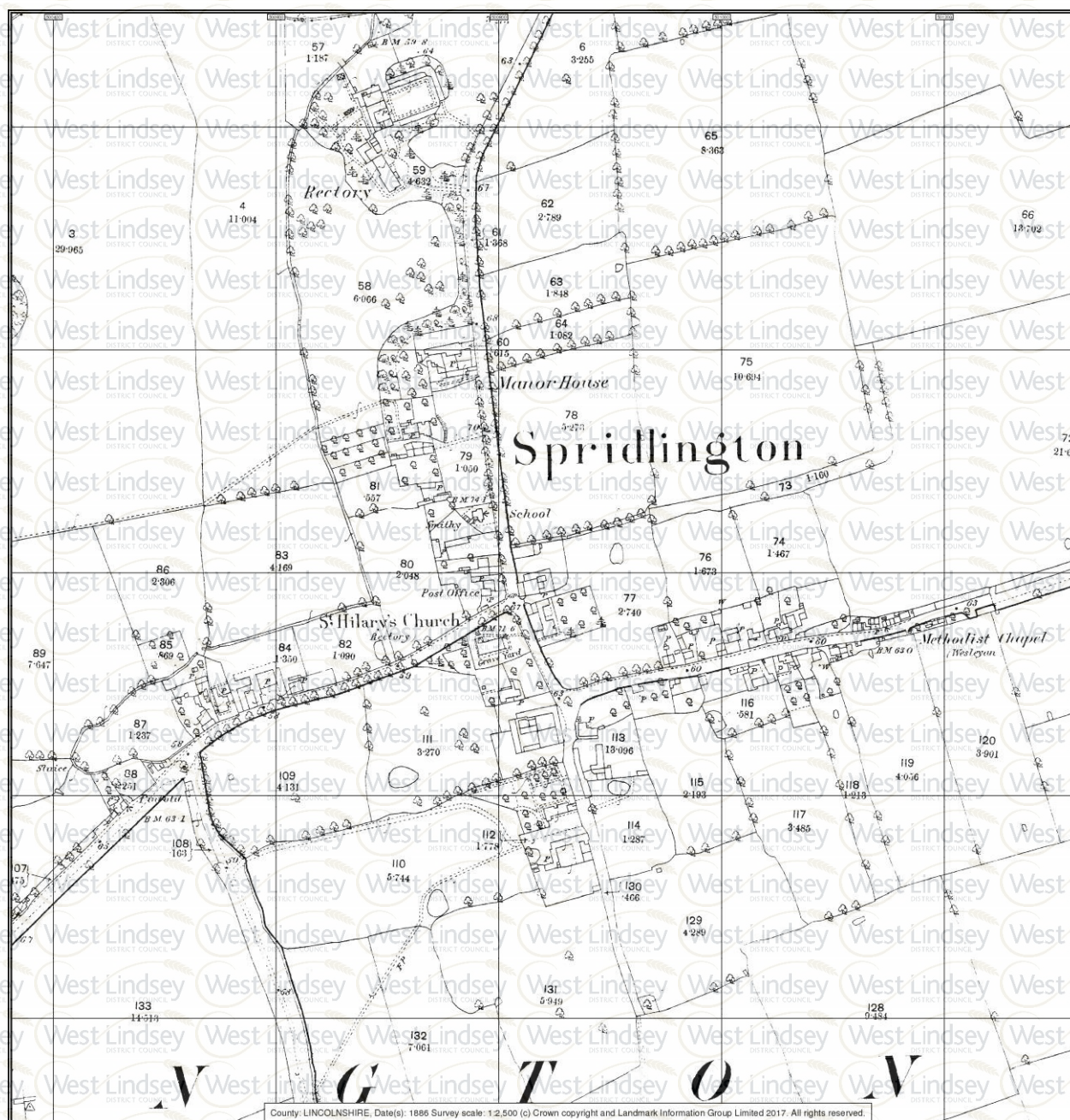
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Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology:  
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## Appendix II Historical Maps

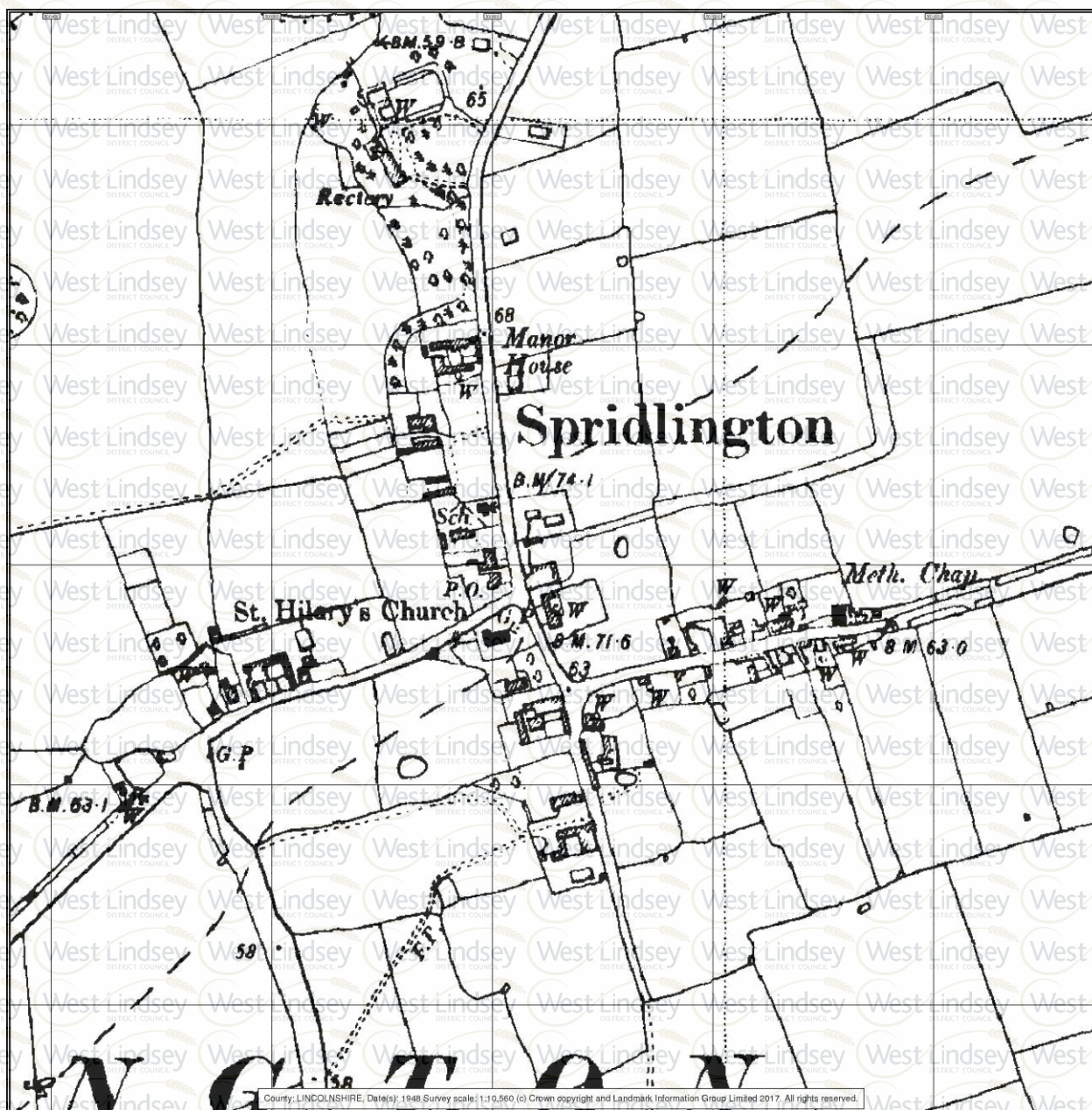


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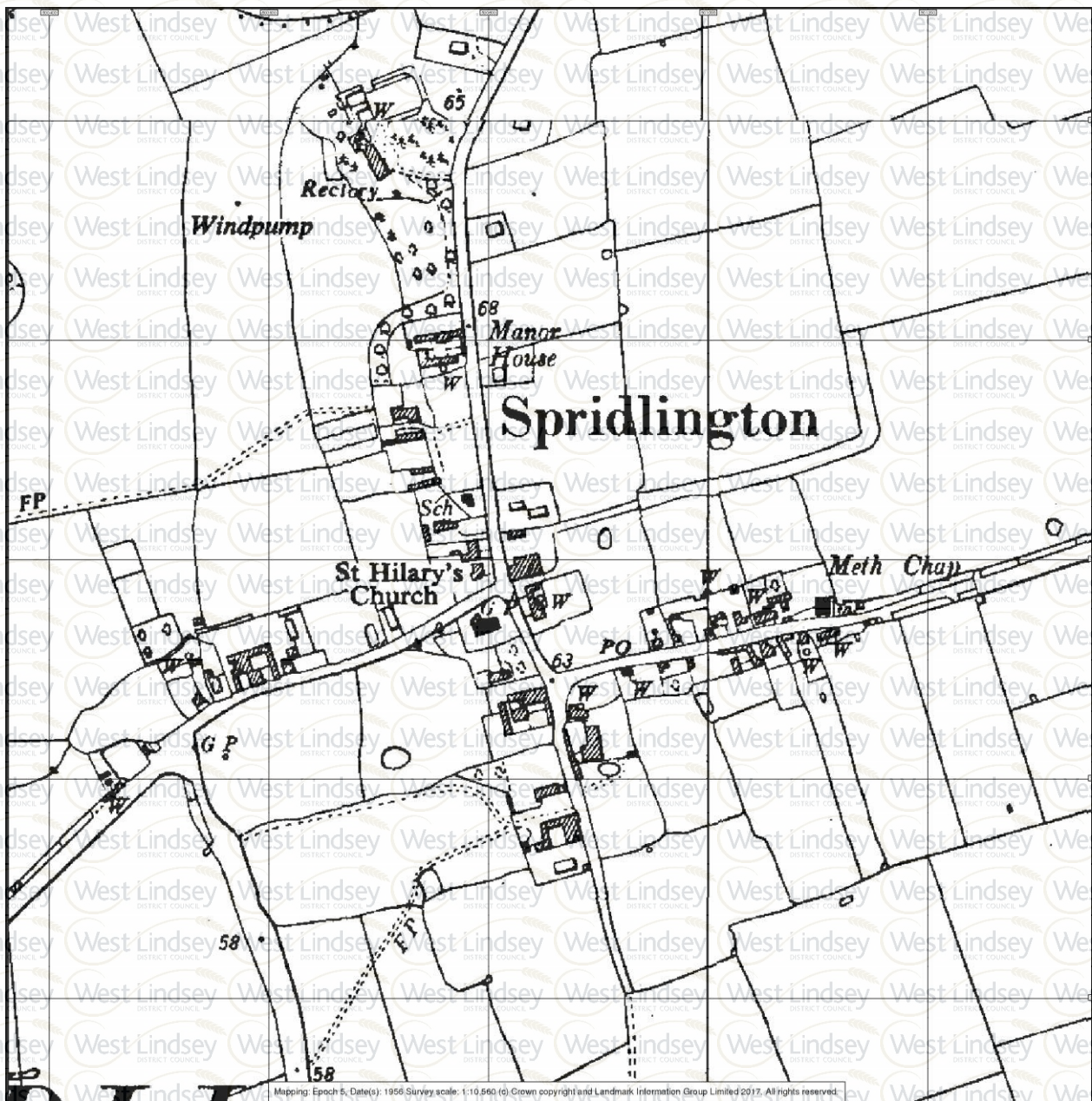


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- <sup>2</sup> Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record - Comments from Ian Marshman
- <sup>3</sup> Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record - Comments from Ian Marshman
- <sup>4</sup> Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record - Comments from Ian Marshman
- <sup>5</sup> p2 *CLAU Archaeological Report 65: Land Adjacent to Church View Farm Cottage, Faldingworth Road, Spidlington* October 1993
- <sup>6</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> p4 *Spidlington Conservation Area Appraisal* West Lindsey District Council, 1998.
- <sup>10</sup> 'Houses of the Gilbertine order: The priory of Bullington', in *A History of the County of Lincoln: Volume 2*, ed. William Page (London, 1906), pp. 191-192. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/lincs/vol2/pp191-192> [accessed 25 April 2017].
- <sup>11</sup> HER No. 51459-MLI51459: *Former Medieval Church of St Albinus, Spidlington*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>12</sup> HER No. 51457-MLI51457: *Church of St Hilary, Spidlington*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>13</sup> HER No. 51457-MLI51458: *Churchyard, Church of St Hilary, Spidlington*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>14</sup> *Spidlington Moated Manor, National Monument No. 36353*, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008, Historic Environment Record
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- <sup>16</sup> p89 Russell, E & Russell, R C *Making New Landscapes in Lincolnshire: The Enclosures of Thirty Four Parishes in Mid Lindsey*
- <sup>17</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>18</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> *Field Book of Spidlington, September 1822*, Lincolnshire Archives - 1-DIXON/19/12/3
- <sup>21</sup> *Enclosure Map and Award, 1775*, Lincolnshire Archives - LINDSEY AWARD/68. Reproduced with permission of Lincolnshire Archives.
- <sup>22</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>23</sup> *Field Book of Spidlington, September 1822*, Lincolnshire Archives - 1-DIXON/19/12/3
- <sup>24</sup> Transcription of *History, Gazetteer and Directory of Lincolnshire* 1842. Courtesy of Lincs to the Past.
- <sup>25</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> p9 *Spidlington Conservation Area Appraisal* West Lindsey District Council, 1998.
- <sup>28</sup> HER No. 50518 - ML50518: *The Settlement of Spidlington - Monument Record*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>29</sup> 'Spilsby - Sproxton', in *A Topographical Dictionary of England*, ed. Samuel Lewis (London, 1848), pp. 159-164. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-dict/england/pp159-164> [accessed 25 April 2017].
- <sup>30</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>31</sup> Ibid.
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- <sup>33</sup> Ibid.
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- <sup>35</sup> *Field Book of Spidlington, September 1822*, Lincolnshire Archives - 1-DIXON/19/12/3. Reproduced with permission of Lincolnshire Archives.
- <sup>36</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup> Historical text extracted, it is believed, from notes by Herbert Green c.1904. Transcriptions provided by David Clough and Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
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- <sup>41</sup> Letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> October 1938 from M Otter & Co, informing architect J Davis Esq that the foundation had been laid and works had commenced on the new rectory. DIOC/PARSONAGE MEASURES/1001B/1 Lincolnshire Archives
- <sup>42</sup> Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 1938 from the Diocesan Board of Dilapidations to J Davis Esq, architect. DIOC/PARSONAGE MEASURES/1001B/1 Lincolnshire Archives
- <sup>43</sup> Heritage Gateway: *Pastscape - Airfield Bombing Decoy Q16b* [www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)
- <sup>44</sup> [www.forgottenairfields.com](http://www.forgottenairfields.com)
- <sup>45</sup> [www.bcar.org.uk/faldingworth-history](http://www.bcar.org.uk/faldingworth-history)
- <sup>46</sup> [www.forgottenairfields.com](http://www.forgottenairfields.com)
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- <sup>52</sup> Marked up by Austin Heritage Consultants. Base Map: Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2015. All rights reserved. Licence Number 100022432.
- <sup>53</sup> Ibid.
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- <sup>61</sup> *A Description of the New Church of St Hilary at Spidlington: Built in Memory of the Late Rev. Henry Frederick Hutton M.A., For Thirty-Two years Rector of the Parish* 1875
- <sup>62</sup> Historical notes on the Church of St Hilary provided by Katrina Morton of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Undated and unknown author.
- <sup>63</sup> HER No. 55843-MLI96617: *Village Hall, Spidlington*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>64</sup> Historical notes on the Church of St Hilary provided by Katrina Morton of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Undated and unknown author.
- <sup>65</sup> Nicholson, T *St Hilary's Church Spidlington: Lincolnshire houses "...the best surviving organ..."* Pamphlet c.2007
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- <sup>67</sup> p12 *A Description of the New Church of St Hilary at Spidlington: Built in Memory of the Late Rev. Henry Frederick Hutton M.A., For Thirty-Two years Rector of the Parish* 1875
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- <sup>71</sup> Austin Heritage Consultants, November 2017
- <sup>72</sup> Austin Heritage Consultants, November 2017
- <sup>73</sup> HER No. 55843-MLI96617: *Village Hall, Spidlington*, Historic Environment Record
- <sup>74</sup> Historical text extract entitled "*Town and Village Life in Lincolnshire*" By the Author of '*Forgotten Lincoln*'" Courtesy of Grimsby Central Library local studies collection - undated, but believed to be c.1901. Author believed to be Herbert Green.
- <sup>75</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- <sup>76</sup> Historical text extract entitled "*Town and Village Life in Lincolnshire*" By the Author of '*Forgotten Lincoln*'" Courtesy of Grimsby Central Library local studies collection - undated, but believed to be c.1901. Author believed to be Herbert Green.
- <sup>77</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
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- <sup>83</sup> p14 *Spidlington Conservation Area Appraisal* West Lindsey District Council, 1998.
- <sup>84</sup> Following comments from the Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (Ian Kealey) May 2018
- <sup>85</sup> Historical text extract entitled "*Town and Village Life in Lincolnshire*" By the Author of '*Forgotten Lincoln*'" Courtesy of Grimsby Central Library local studies collection - undated.
- <sup>86</sup> *Notes on Spidlington, Lincolnshire* Compiled 1893-7 by Arthur Wollaston Hutton. Copy provide by Katrina Morton, Spidlington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
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- <sup>88</sup> p9 *Spidlington Conservation Area Appraisal* West Lindsey District Council, 1998.
- <sup>89</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>90</sup> p5 Lovie, J *Spidlington Hall: Assessment of the Historic Development and Significance of the Designated Landscape and the Ha-Ha; Assessment of the Impact of the Proposed New Gardens*. August 2017
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