

CULTURAL HERITAGE

1 Walkover Survey on 17 February 1995

The whole of the area outlined on plan 92114/003 in Appendix 4 was carefully walked over on 17 February 1995. This work did not reveal any new information of direct archaeological interest, but it did provide valuable information on recent land use and the suitability of different areas for any further archaeological fieldwork. The distinct areas are marked by letter codes on **Figure 1.1**: some residual pieces of land of narrow extent and/or obviously badly disturbed by recent landscaping are separately indicated as unsuitable for any further archaeological investigation by reason of these facts. The lettered parcels of land as shown in **Figure 1.1** are as follows, the title of each site is given in paragraph 4.6:

- A Site of SMR number 3745 - As described above, a well-defined cutting but note that there are many small (approximately 3 to 7 m high) trees growing within it. On the eastern side, spoil from the motorway construction spills over the sides of the cutting.
- B This is scrub land, with occasional small trees, open and accessible for further fieldwork.
- C Area covered with closely spaced, small (approximately 1.5 m high) fruit trees. Fieldwork would be impossible with this ground cover, but the trees would be easily removed by machine if archaeological investigation was required.
- D A small grass-covered, area, sloping steeply to the south. It seems probable that this has been heavily landscaped, and is useless for further archaeological investigation.
- E This is a grass field, but it has evidently been much disturbed in the recent past. It was a compound during motorway construction and a gas pipeline was diverted into the field for the construction of the M23. Topsoil has been removed and piled in low mounds, and there is much surface standing water, and evidence of the passage of heavy vehicles. At F, rubbish tipping has been taking place. Despite all this, it would be unwise to assume that archaeological remains (if such exist) have been damaged or destroyed beyond recovery of useful information. This is especially so on the higher ground towards the south (on fin 1), which seems the most likely location for a barrow (SMR 1067) and is also apparently less disturbed than elsewhere.
- F See above under F.
- G This is a sizeable area of fairly level ground. It is covered with small (approximately 5 m high) trees at 7 to 10 m intervals, and there is evidence of many similar trees in between having been cut at ground level in the past 1 to 2 years. Removal of the trees and stumps would almost certainly destroy any archaeological evidence present. Fieldwork (trial trenching) would just about be practical in its present condition, but the stumps may be a problem.

- H Large quantities of dumped soil here would render fieldwork impossible. Even if removed it seems likely that the area below has been badly disturbed.
- I Grassland with a few trees, not apparently previously disturbed, suitable for fieldwork.
- J,K These are pasture fields, both of which slope gently to the south-east or east. Suitable for fieldwork. The northern part of the field has been disturbed by the laying of a gas pipeline. It was diverted into this area during the construction of the M23.

Figure 1.2 Extract from the Rocque map of 1768



Figure 1.3 Extract from the Tithe map of 1840

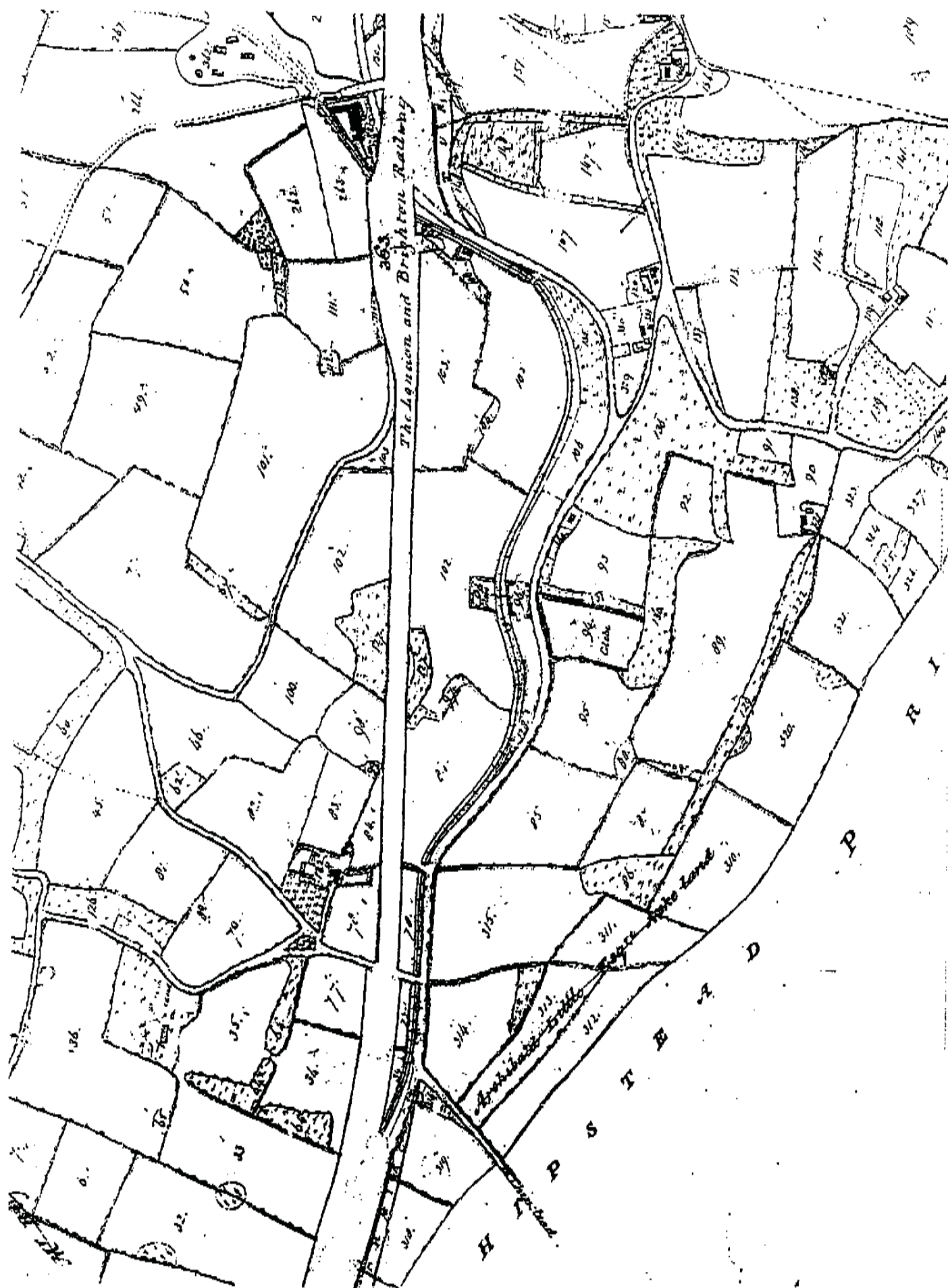
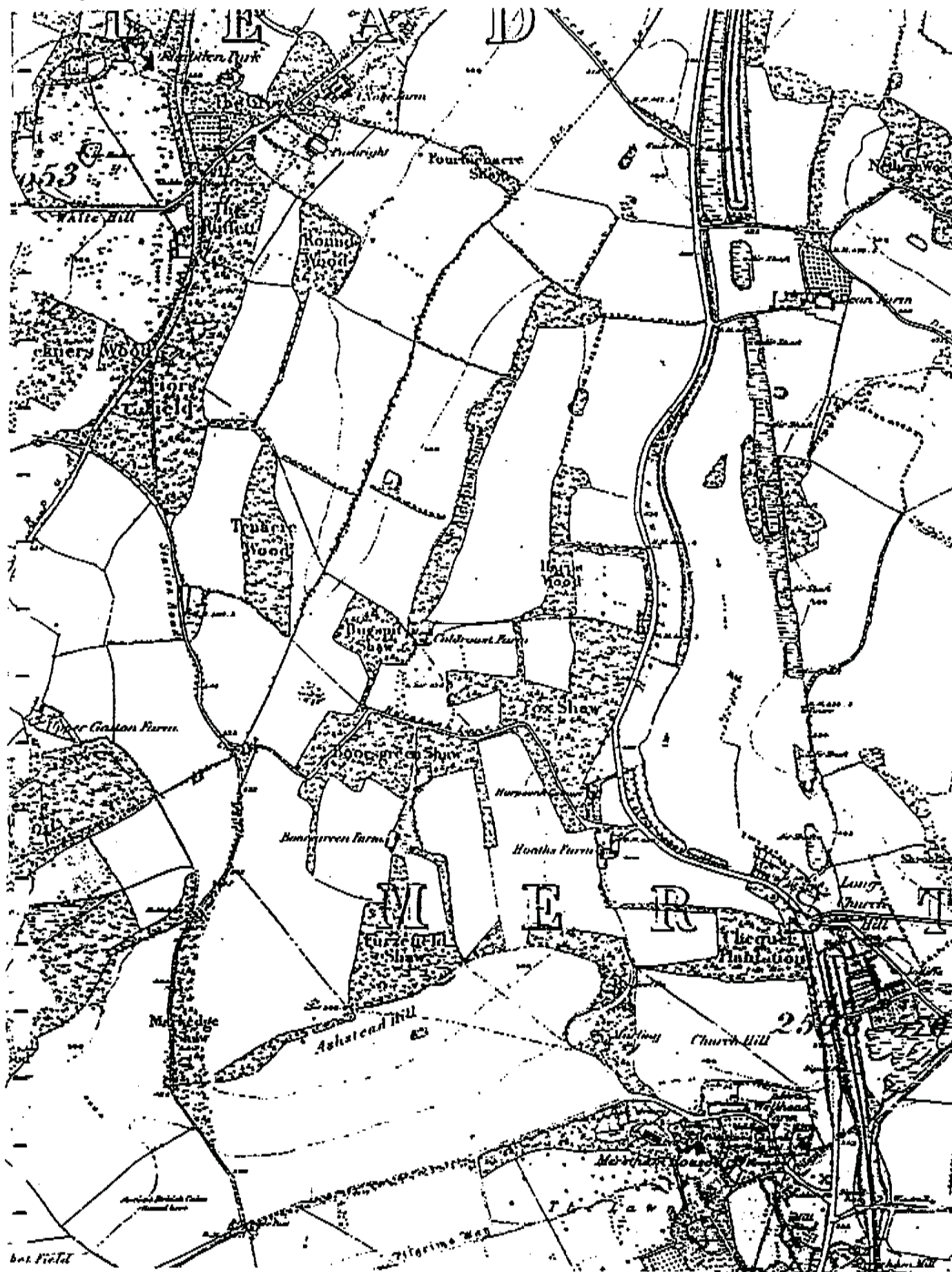


Figure 1.4 Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1871



PART 2: ECOLOGY AND NATURE CONSERVATION