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## **The Brockhampton Estate, Bromyard: Archaeological Survey, 2003**



**Report prepared by  
Keith Ray**

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Herefordshire Council

# **The Brockhampton Estate, Bromyard: Archaeological Survey, 2003**

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***Herefordshire Archaeology  
PO Box 230  
Blueschool House  
Blueschool Street  
Hereford  
HR1 2ZB***

**Herefordshire Archaeology** is Herefordshire Council's county archaeology service. It advises upon the conservation of archaeological and historic landscapes, maintains the county Sites and Monument Record, and carries out conservation and investigative field projects. The County Archaeologist is Dr. Keith Ray.

## **Summary**

*A survey of the Brockhampton Estate, Bromyard, was carried out between February and April 2003 as a partnership project between Herefordshire Archaeology and the owners and managers of the estate, The National Trust. Agreement was reached in 2002 concerning the desirability of an estate survey of the property, following a rapid reconnaissance visit early in 2002 to assess the archaeological potential). A short report was written to summarise aspects of the potential, with particular focus upon the areas most readily accessible to a rapid visit (Ray, 2002).*

*The 2003 survey involved obtaining access into and walking across nearly all areas of the estate. The various areas and holdings covered are described in this report. The results were significant, if not wholly remarkable. More information than hitherto available was gathered about sites and complexes for which there were existing records. Paramount among these was the Lower Brockhampton moated manorial site, long celebrated in heritage terms. Here, the discoveries were of sufficient importance to carry out a separate exploratory localised survey (Ray, Lello and Williams, forthcoming). Elsewhere, the deserted settlement known from documentary evidence on the margins of Bringsty Common at The Grove was more fully recorded. New discoveries included the earthworks of a further deserted settlement north of Bond's Dingle. Numerous often subtle earthworks of former woodlands and field systems were noted, along with a variety of estate features including large former earthwork dams along the dingles.*

*This report not only describes and provides an inventory of these findings, but also makes some specific management recommendations. It became evident in the course of the survey that a fine local environment comprising orchards with earthworks, common areas and extensive pasture once existed here. However, over the course of the last forty years, the estate farmlands in particular have suffered the fate of much of the surrounding area around Bromyard, with intensification of arable. This has resulted in the loss not only of the former intimate landscape texture, but with it also, much of the archaeological evidence for former settlement and land-use.*

*This report was prepared in early draft form in 2003. However, it was noted then that some details needed re-checking in the field. Unfortunately, staffing changes at Herefordshire Archaeology then resulted in delay in organising the re-visit and this was not accomplished until early in 2010. However, this visit itself added significant new information at both Lower Brockhampton and at The Grove.*

## **Notes:**

1. It should not be assumed that land referred to in this document is accessible to the public.
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## Contents

1. Introduction and background
  - 1.1 The Brockhampton Estate: an introduction
  - 1.2 Brockhampton: a brief history
  - 1.3 Landscape history from maps
  - 1.4 A preliminary reconnaissance visit, 2002
  - 1.5 The Brockhampton Estate survey, 2003
2. Methods and progress
  - 2.1 Field reconnaissance and mapping methods
  - 2.2 Desk-based and database methods
  - 2.3 Survey areas and coverage
3. Results
  - 3.1 Area A: Lower Brockhampton, The Warren, Hill House and Greenfield
  - 3.2 Area B: Brockhampton Park and woodland
  - 3.3 Area C: Home House Farm
  - 3.4 Area D: Lower Norton
  - 3.5 Area E: Linceter
4. Significance assessment, management review and guidance
  - 4.1 Archaeological significance
  - 4.2 Management overview
  - 4.3 Lower Brockhampton management advice
  - 4.4 The Grove and Wallcroft earthwork sites
  - 4.5 Farm environs, former farms, fields and orchards
  - 4.6 Recommendations for future studies and information provision
5. Acknowledgements
6. Site Archive
7. List of illustrations
8. Bibliography
9. Validation

## Introduction



Figure 1: Location Plan

### 1.1 The Brockhampton Estate: an introduction

- 1.1.1 The National Trust's Brockhampton Estate is situated a mile to the east of Bromyard, and close to the border of Herefordshire with Worcestershire to the east. While most of the estate lies within the civil parish of Brockhampton, a detached part lies within Tedstone Delamere parish to the north. Lower Brockhampton House is situated at SO 688 560.
- 1.1.2 The estate, which covers 702.5 hectares (1736 acres), is bordered to the east by the parish of Whitbourne and the former estate lands of Whitbourne Hall. To the south across the A44 Bromyard to Worcester road lies the parish of Linton, while to the east the estate is bordered by the parishes of Bromyard with Wilmslow and Norton. It occupies a series of abruptly down-cutting valleys (often termed 'dingles') descending from west to east from a high ridge (200 to 250m OD) cresting the Bromyard Downs and the 'High Lane' northwards towards Upper Sapey.
- 1.1.3 405 ha of the estate is agricultural land, and in 2003 was farmed through five tenancies based upon Home House Farm, Old Linceter Farm, Warren Farm/Hill House/Lower Brockhampton, Lower Norton Farm, and the parkland. The land is often poorly drained, and the agricultural land quality is either of Grade 3 or Grade 4, with relatively low acreages of arable mostly in root-crops, and extensive pasturage.



1.1.4 The extensive woodland of the estate covers 283 hectares and comprises deciduous and coniferous plantations on east-facing hillsides, along the mostly west to east dingles, and in a block adjacent to the eastern side of Brockhampton Park. The biodiversity value of the estate is variable, with the parkland and the dingles providing habitats of greatest importance.

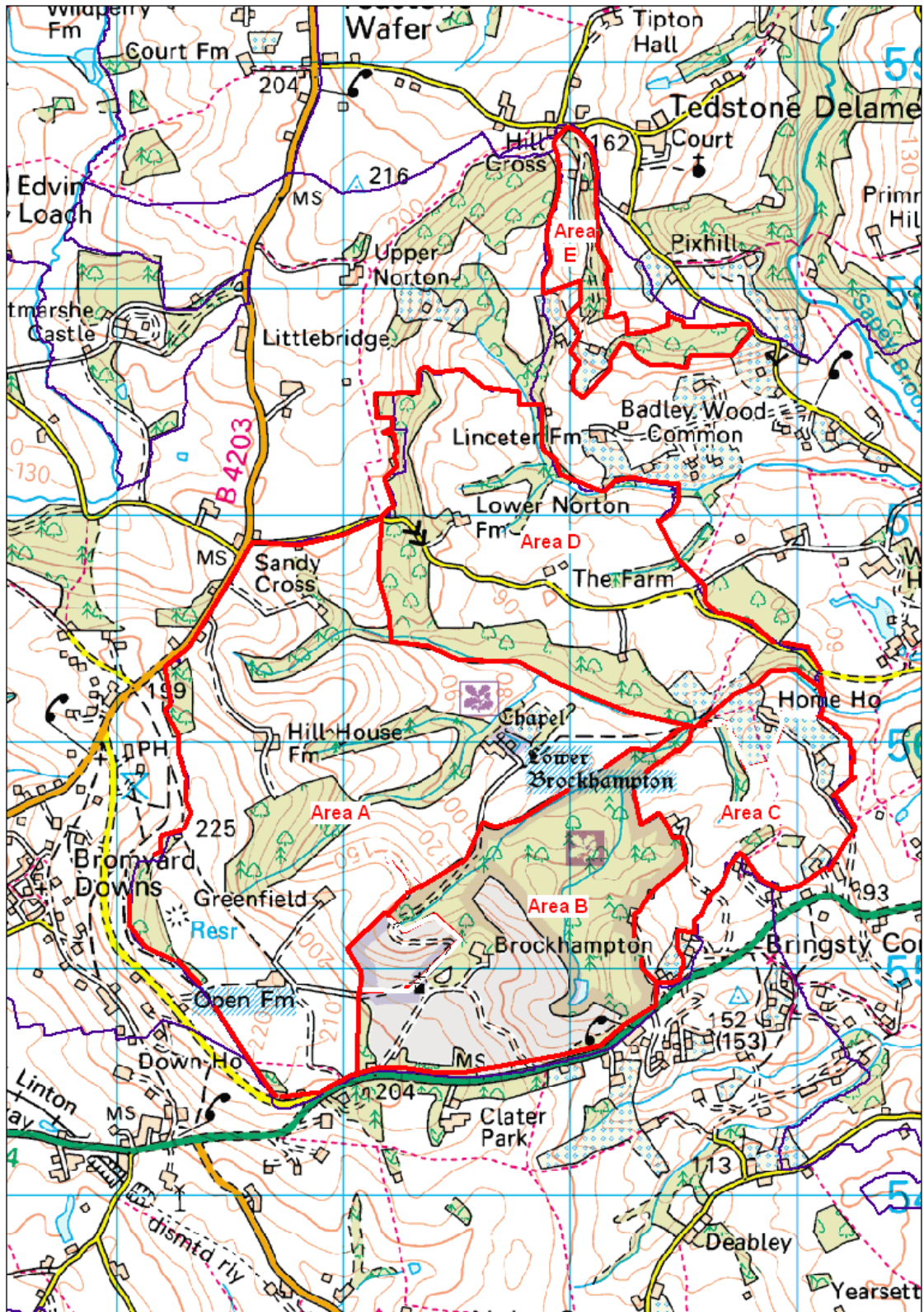


Figure 2: Estate Plan, indicating estate boundary and survey areas

## 1.2 Brockhampton: a brief history

- 1.2.1 The area covered by Brockhampton parish and its neighbouring areas possesses few known prehistoric sites or finds. The earliest nearby evidence for early structures comes from two ring-ditches marking the circular ditches surrounding two former Bronze Age barrows discovered from the air on a ridge overlooking the river Teme just to north of Whitbourne village in 2006. Romano-British activity in the form of a farmstead surrounded by a rectangular ditched enclosure has been investigated to the north-west at Tedstone Wafer, while a similar farmstead surrounded by a circular enclosure was examined in 2004 in the Frome valley near Avenbury.
- 1.2.2 The place-name, which means simply 'Brook settlement', is first recorded in its present form in 1283. An earlier record of 1166 renders it *Brochant(one)*, held by one Bernard. Brockhamptons were the first recorded owners of the manor, from the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and Richard de Brockhampton passed the ownership of the manor to Robert de Furches in 1283. The manor was in the hands of Lawrence de Sollers by 1349 and Sir Thomas de Moigne was in possession from 1350. By 1383 it had in turn passed into the hands of John Domulton. Throughout the medieval period the parish church for Brockhampton was St. Peter's Bromyard although by the 17<sup>th</sup> century it appears that Whitbourne was regarded as the parish church for the area.
- 1.2.3 The earliest fabric of the chapel at Lower Brockhampton dates to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Meanwhile the open hall of the manor house can probably be dated to the early years of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. A deserted settlement at the Grove is thought to be the Studmarsh (or Stubmarsh) mentioned in the Red Book of the Bishop of Hereford in 1268-1275, but it is not mentioned in the Lay subsidy Rolls of 1334-6 and may have been deserted by then.
- 1.2.4 At the beginning of the sixteenth the estate passed to the Habingtons of Wichenford in Worcestershire, and in 1545 Richard Habington left the property equally to his three sisters. One of these sisters, Mary, married Richard Barneby of Bockleton in Worcestershire just to the north-east of Bromyard in 1552, and lived at Brockhampton.
- 1.2.6 In 1731 a nephew of the last of the male Barnebys, Bartholomew Lutley, inherited the estate. Following a change of surname from Lutley to Barneby and his marriage to Betty Freeman of Gaines in 1756, Bartholemew Barneby began building a new house at Brockhampton Park, in an elevated position to the south of the estate near the Bromyard to Worcester road. This is thought to have been designed by the renowned architect Thomas Farnolls Pritchard.
- 1.2.7 Bartholomew's son John Barneby built a new chapel close to the house in 1799. At this point Lower Brockhampton reverted to use as a farmhouse, and the medieval chapel was no longer maintained. The restoration of Lower Brockhampton House in the Victorian image of half-timbered Gothic

domestic style has been proven to be the work of J.C. Buckler from around 1871.

- 1.2.8 The estate was bequeathed to the National Trust in 1946, and it formally took possession in 1950, with a further purchase in 1968 and the sale of various lands south of the A44 soon thereafter. The house, Brockhampton Park, is rented on a long lease.

### **1.3 Landscape history from maps**

- 1.3.1 The lands of the estate appear on a variety of early maps, but none of these maps depict features of any great landscape history significance. An example of which an extract is reproduced here is Taylor's map of Herefordshire of 1738, which shows the newly created turnpike road that now defines the southern limit of the estate.

- 1.3.2 The earliest surviving estate map was prepared by John Perkins in 1737 for Bartholomew Richard Barneby, who was responsible for the remodelling of Bromyard Park and the building of the new house, and who died in 1783. It is noteworthy that Barneby was only 24 years old when he commissioned the survey, and that the new house and park were not created for another twenty years or so. The map shows the position of The Hill, the farm where Brockhampton House now stands. At 290 acres this was the largest farm on the estate at the time, and had come into the possession of Philip Domulton before 1428, when it was called the Hyde.

- 1.3.3 A further estate map was the one prepared in place of the Tithe Map, that was surveyed for John Barneby in 1829. Unlike many of the other parish tithe Maps for the county, however, for some reason the field names provided in the 1829 survey only cover the southern portions of the parish. Nonetheless, several have been noted as being of some topographical or historical interest. These include names such as 'Lime Kiln Piece' that refer to individual structures, 'Hopyard' that relate to contemporary land-use, and 'Brickclamp' that reference industrial activity. A number of farms and farm buildings are noted on the map, but that have since disappeared. Some of these will be mentioned under the various 'results' sections for the different areas of the estate below (see under section 3).

- 1.3.4 The first edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map of 1885 shows fairly closely the landscape that is recognisable today in terms of the position of most if not all of the field boundaries. The biggest single change has been the loss of orchard, particularly in close proximity to the farm-houses. This mapping also notes the position of quarries, as in the case of those in the valley of the Paradise Brook, and the disposition of buildings



## **1.4 A preliminary reconnaissance visit, 2002**

- 1.4.1 Before the conduct of the main estate historic environment/archaeology survey was embarked upon, a reconnaissance visit was organised and undertaken. This took place on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2002, and involved a visit to the main publicly accessible areas of the estate, together with visits in the vicinity of Lower Norton and Hill House farms, and some of the woodlands.
- 1.4.2 A brief report was prepared (Ray, 2002), which described observations made during the visit that included brief reference to 54 features noted as potentially of some interest. The report then listed the 14 previously entered records in the county Sites and Monuments Record, and went on to outline the potential for further survey discoveries, especially in the wooded areas of the estate.

## **1.5 The Brockhampton Estate survey, 2003**

- 1.5.1 The full estate survey took place across ten days spread between 6<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2003. All parts of the estate were walked (see methods below), and a total of 708 individual locations were recorded, relating to over 450 individual sites (see gazetteer sections, below).
- 1.5.2 A particularly significant number of features was recorded, not surprisingly, in the Brockhampton Park parkland. Especially on the steeper ground a number of parkland features such as carriage-rides and paths were recorded. However, there were also features relating to former land-uses, as with the features towards the north-western limit of the parkland that relate to former woodland management, and those in the southern areas that pertain to former medieval plough-lands. Other areas of high occurrence of surviving visible features included the rough grazing on the margins of Bringsty Common along the eastern limit of the estate, and several areas of orchard, as with the orchard immediately to the north of Lower Brockhampton House.
- 1.5.3 Although the areas of arable farming on the estate were not expected to produce a high number of features of archaeological interest, the number of sites and features surviving within areas of improved grassland was disappointingly low. The density of sites recorded in all the woodland except the Brockhampton Park woodland was also disappointingly low. It is not known why exactly this should be so, but the extent of twentieth century plantation, and the lack of modern-day woodland management leading to the growth of a very substantial understory, certainly contributed to the difficulty of locating features in many areas of woodland.
- 1.5.4 It should be noted that not all areas of the estate were visited during the survey. In particular, it did not prove possible to record the whole of Norton Wood, nor the west-facing slopes of the Punch Bowl by Old Linceter. Stocking levels in paddocks immediately south of Home House Farm inhibited survey of this area.

- 1.5.5 Three places containing earthworks were noted as deserving special survey effort in future. Following discussion with the Property Manager, a detailed survey of the environs of Lower Brockhampton was carried out. This is the subject of a separate further report.

## **2. Methods and progress**

### **2.1 Field reconnaissance and mapping methods**

- 2.1.1 The survey method pursued in the 2003 Brockhampton Estate survey was a walkover survey with hand-held recording devices. This involves a rapid transit of the whole area, in this case based upon the management areas defined in advance by the property manager.
- 2.1.2 The survey involved scanning for the existence of earthworks or other visible traces both in farmland and woodland. Wherever potential features were noted, they were inspected closely on the ground and described when in full view. Particular effort was taken to try to follow the course of banks and other linear features to be sure of their nature and extent, and their relationships with other features.
- 2.1.3 In parkland and farmed grassland any earthworks or other built features located were viewed from several angles. Identification was undertaken only when the full complexity of the surface features had been registered, and where feasible the relationship with other features traced.
- 2.1.4 Features incorporated within surviving field boundaries are noted where they might throw light on the former existence of woodland or other past land management features. In woodland, transects are walked from one side of an area of woodland to another, and features such as pitsteads (usually referred to in Herefordshire Archaeology surveys as charcoal burning platforms) and saw-pits recorded as and when they are intercepted. Linear features such as woodland boundary banks may be traced along their courses when first intercepted. A particular concern is to try to locate and map the position of features relating to former land-use such as agricultural lynchets or terraces.
- 2.1.5 The problems of visibility especially in woodland are such that these areas can only really be adequately surveyed in the second half of the winter (from late January) when the died-back vegetation is adequately reduced down from frost and rain. Winters in recent years have been so mild that the optimum levelling of such vegetation for optimal survey visibility has rarely occurred.

2.1.6 As soon as a feature was noted and closely examined, a record location was noted by taking a three or more satellite locational reading from a hand-held Garmin GPS instrument and by speaking the reading into a Dictaphone. A series of seven 60-minute tapes were thus recorded in 2003, to enter the 708 individual records produced.

## **2.2 Desk-based and database methods**

2.2.1 The desk-based assessment of Sites and Monuments Record information and of the readily available secondary documentary sources was carried out either before the rapid reconnaissance visit of February 2002, or between that visit and the full survey of early 2003.

2.2.2 A series of data files were created that contained photocopies, printed copies and notes concerning the various sources. To this were added photocopies of relevant historic and contemporary maps, and material relating to the management of the estate supplied by Les Rogers the then estate manager and by Hilary Meer of the Estate Office.

2.2.3 Following the main survey, the first task involved the transcription of the survey data for the 708 locational records contained within the seven survey record tapes. A hard copy was printed out as a 45-page document that specified all grid references and all the survey descriptions.

2.2.4 A second stage of data preparation, carried out by Tim Hoverd, was the plotting of all the reference points provided via the tapes to ten figures of the National Grid. These entries were then plotted onto a base-map from which the five area maps reproduced in this report were derived.

2.2.5 Finally, a site record data-base was developed from a rationalisation of the locational entries. This then has formed the basis for the gazetteer entries in each of the 'results' sections below, that specify the 450 or so individual sites and features recorded during the survey.

## **2.3 Survey areas and coverage**

2.3.1 The survey areas are those that relate directly to farming and estate management areas as defined by the Estate Manager in 2003. These are described as Areas A to E, below. The largest area, and that which contains the largest number of sites of archaeological significance are those in Area A, that takes in Lower Brockhampton and the two farms that form the eastern part of the property, as well as the former farm, Greenfield, which has for some time been the estate management centre but from 2010 is the headquarters of the National Trust's Herefordshire sites and properties management team.

2.3.2 The other management areas are Brockhampton Park and woodland, Home House Farm, Lower Norton Farm and Linceter. Some of the management areas in effect cut across historic holdings boundaries, for instance where former Home House land is today managed from Lower Norton.



Figure 3: A charcoal burning platform surviving in former parkland (HSM 76626)



## 3. Results

### 3.1 Area A: Lower Brockhampton, The Warren, Hill House and Greenfield

- 3.1.1 *Definition.* This area takes in all the farmland stretching from the Bromyard Downs on the western margins of the Estate, down to the confluence of Paradise Brook with Mill Dingle. It includes Lower Brockhampton manor and Lower Brockhampton Farm. It also includes Greenfield and The Warren Farm, and Hill House Farm. These are all now managed as a single holding, apart from the courtyard, manor house and chapel at Lower Brockhampton, which are managed directly by National Trust staff as a heritage visitor site.
- 3.1.2 *Landscape character and history.* The landform here comprises firstly, a north-south ridge to the west, that forms the crest of the Bromyard Downs. From this ridge a series of spurs plunge eastwards, divided by deeply incised valleys or 'dingles' as they are known locally. The history of Lower Brockhampton manor was outlined above in section 1.2. Both the Warren Farm and Hill house Farm appear to be holdings recorded first in 1285.
- 3.1.3 **Greenfield environs.** Greenfield Farm itself is now the administrative base for the estate. The fields surrounding Greenfield are mostly improved pasture, but some fields are under arable rotation. A small strip of mixed woodland and heath borders the northern side of approach road to the farm west of the parkland.

The features of archaeological interest noted in the grassland were for the most part highly degraded. In the fields to the north of Greenfield (Greenfield Leasowe and Warren Leasowe on the 1829 estate map, OS parcels 0049, 7727 and 6817) such features comprised hints of the location of former field boundaries and of lynchets or terraces that relate potentially to earlier strip field farming.

However, the fields immediately to the east of Greenfield occupy a prominent ridge between Brockhampton Dingle and Hyde Dingle, and may have a slightly greater potential. This is potentially indicated by lynchets that contribute to the definition of the northern boundary to the more northerly field (Lower Greenfield/OS 2038). This has now been amalgamated with Upper Greenfield, and the dip towards the north-west boundary of the field still echoes the former division. The lynchets defining the northern boundary with the steep north-facing field (Yeald Tillage/3448, about which more is noted below) in the land formerly farmed from Lower Brockhampton are very pronounced. At the north-west corner of OS 2038 they curve within the angle made by the straight lines of the modern field boundaries and stand up to two metres above the north-facing slopes to the north-west. It is possible that rather than ploughsoil accumulation, they represent the outline of a former defensive enclosure here that, occupying the crest of the north-facing spur of land, would be presumed to be of prehistoric date. If so, however, there is no



obvious trace of the putative southern circuit of bank or ditch cutting back across the spur at the point where the land drops south-westwards in the direction of Warren Farm.

- 3.1.4 **The Warren Farm.** The farmlands take in the extreme south-western area of the estate, running up to the crest of Bromyard Downs near Brockhampton Primary School. The fields surrounding the farm were found to be either improved pasture or heavily ploughed arable. A small area of mostly beech woodland provides cover and definition to the edge of the holding above the school, and small patches of unimproved and minimally improved grassland exist close to the ridge defining the western boundary of the estate. In 1737, the farm covered 222 acres.

No features of archaeological interest were noted in the arable. This does not mean of course that there may not be important buried archaeological deposits present, and the arable fields themselves were not walked. However, the walkover survey did not reveal any upstanding earthworks in the improved grazing areas. The only area of grassland close to the Warren Farm in which some features relating to past enclosure and land-use survive is in a strip running west to the crest of the hills immediately to the east of Warren Farm. Former quarrying was also in evidence in the field and woodland strip that in the Tithe Map area at the extreme south-west corner of the estate north of Brockhampton Primary School was described as 'Old Banks'. The possibility therefore is strongly that the 'old banks' concerned were, even in 1829, the pits and spoil heaps of former quarries.

- 3.1.5 **Warren Wood and Greenfield Wood.** Scrubby woodland fills the steep-sided slopes either side of the dingle north-west of the Greenfield Farm complex, and this extends right down Brockhampton Dingle west of Lower Brockhampton. Warren Wood is largely a beech wood occupies the crest of the hill at the apex of the Bromyard Downs.

There were no traces of the existence of former artificial rabbit burrows or 'pillow mounds' in Warren Wood, where it might be supposed a warren once existed. Instead, there were several areas covered with sometimes intercutting stone quarry pits. A hollow way was recorded along part of the track that leads from Warren Farm towards Shepherd's Cottage, in the vicinity of Shepherd's Pool, and a lynchet to the east of this.

The eastern part of the area at the head of Brockhampton Dingle was until 50 years ago rough pasture and in 1839 was termed 'Warren Leasowe'. This could mean that the arable field in between here and Warren Wood (formerly Shipping Pool Piece – the land by the sheep-dipping pool, presumably Shepherd's Pool – could instead have been the site of the warren. However, another possibility exists. This is that the woodland, field and farm are all named after William of the Ware who may have farmed the area in 1285 (Williams, 1987, 88).

Several earlier landscape and possible wood-management features were recorded in Greenfield Wood. However, the extent of the undergrowth within the wood was such as to inhibit close observation.

- 3.1.6 **Hill House Farm.** The farm again occupies the slopes immediately to the east of the Bromyard Downs ridge, and comprises mostly improved grassland with some arable on slopes facing east and south-east. Bounded on the south by Greenfield Wood and Brockhampton Dingle, the farm includes also the Blews Ditch dingle and extends north-eastwards to Woodcock Hill Wood.

The farm has been identified as the holding occupied by Walter de la Hull in the Bishop of Hereford's Red Book of 1285, and again it could be supposed that it was from this family that the farm derived its name. In 1575 William Ward was in occupation, and by the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century it had been absorbed into the Brockhampton estate.

A series of earthworks were recorded in the near vicinity of Hill House Farm, including earthen banks and platforms in the pasture field immediately to the south-east of the farmhouse (OS 8088) that might represent a former site of the farmstead itself. This possibility is reinforced by the presence of a part-ditched rectangular enclosure just to the east in former Lower Brockhampton land (0089) that was recorded during the survey, but had previously been noted from aerial photographs (HSM 30700).

- 3.1.7 **Lower Brockhampton Farm.** The farmland historically occupied the lower lying ground between and towards the foot of Brockhampton Dingle and Hyde Dingle, and between Brockhampton Dingle and Paradise Brook.

At the southern limit of the farmlands, in OS 5061, adjacent westwards of the approach road to Lower Brockhampton, was traced the heavily eroded course of a linear bank with slight indications of a ditch on either side of it. This was a medieval wood-bank that once crossed Hyde Dingle from what is now Yewtree Bank within Brockhampton Wood and extended westwards and then southwards to pick up the line that it follows round into the west park area of Brockhampton Park where it survives as a linear earthwork feature today (see 3.2.10, below). This slight bank was traced as it approached the boundary hedge between 5061 and 3448 (Yeald Tillage of 1829), and was picked up within the latter field, although it soon disappeared as it ran southwards and uphill into this field. This is an important piece of landscape history since, clearly pre-dating the re-organised survey-planned enclosures of the immediate post-Medieval period, it provides some insight into the disposition of woodland and farmland in the Medieval period itself.

The earthworks comprising slight traces of east-west aligned lynchets that relate to the former arable farmland eastwards of Lower Brockhampton were traced in field OS 1411 towards the confluence of Paradise Brook with Mill Dingle. In the field adjacent eastwards again (3900), immediately to the east of the Dingle, earthworks possibly representing the grubbing up

of former orchard were noted, as well as a deeply incised hollow-way running along the line of a track recorded in 1829, making for a bridge over the leat leading to the Mill to the west of Home House (noted under 3.3.12, below).

- 3.1.8 ***Lower Brockhampton moated manor, chapel and settlement.*** The site of Lower Brockhampton itself is very interesting, because it occupies a slight ridge between two dingles, the eastern-most of which effectively sub-divides the ridge between Brockhampton Dingle and Hyde Dingle. As a result it is afforded natural protection from east and west, but not from the south. It may be that the farm itself is built across a south-facing ditch that might have cut off the ridge, making it a promontory, with the northern side marked by the steeply downcut Paradise Brook.

The Lower Brockhampton group of structures is widely, and correctly, regarded as comprising the core group of key historic assets on the Brockhampton Estate. The moated manor and its detached ornamental gatehouse regularly feature on National Trust promotional literature. One reason for their doing so relates to the timbered close-studding that was such a marked feature of wealth display during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in England, and that is represented both on the main building of the manor-house and on the gate-house.

The survey here added considerable detail to the known record of the site, and its findings were amplified through the follow-up survey. The complex comprises the manor house partially surrounded by an ornamental moat with a further minor moat to the north-east, the ornamental gatehouse to the south spanning one arm of the moat, the ruined medieval chapel to the west of the moated site, and an area of settlement earthworks to the north in the adjacent orchard.

**Manor house.** This comprises accommodation on two storeys through the length of the east range. A main early fifteenth century hall of two bays open to the timber roof trusses and wind-braces following J.C. Buckler's restoration is set broadly east-west with a former screens-passage to the east. The fifteenth century east range is set at the perpendicular to the eastern end of the hall. The Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England survey published in 1932 (Herefordshire East) noted that the house was originally arranged on an H-plan with a parallel west range, but that this was destroyed at some point, although its foundations were said to survive (RCHME 1932, 32). No trace of these foundations is visible today, but geophysical survey in 2003 located the footprint of this long-vanished west range.

The two or three claimed northern extensions to the east wing that are dated by RCHME to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are in need of re-assessment. The most northerly of these structures is stone-founded and its internal arrangements indicate some substantial rebuilding at some point. In view of what was observed concerning the moats, it is proposed here instead that this most northerly structure formed part of the original stone and timber medieval manor house. This was substantially

demolished and the remains altered to ancillary structures c. 1400 when the new hall and cross-wings were built and the ornamental pond/moat created. It was then re-commissioned and linked to the east wing and hall sometime after the west wing was demolished. The brickwork in this most northerly structure is most likely of late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date and this is likely to be the date of re-construction.



Figure 4: The Manor House and principal moat looking south.

**Moats.** The literature on the site notes the existence of the moat surrounding the manor house, but does not as yet record either the character or the developmental sequence of moats at the site. The survey visit and survey of 2002 and 2003 produced a significant new perspective on these features. The moat that exists today is markedly broader on the eastern flank of the manor house than the west, and curves around with a flourish to mark out the location of the gate-house on the southern side opposite the screens passage. This is a very carefully designed position, but the plan of the moat (see illustration drawn from the RCHME plan) with the house reveals that the house does not sit squarely within the moat, and it seems likely that the present form of the moat is, rather, designed also to enhance the prospect of the house from its principal southerly to south-easterly approach (which is defined by a north-south aligned hollow-way recorded in the survey of 2003 in the fields to the south of the manor house and farm).

The major discovery of the *Herefordshire Archaeology* surveys here, however, is that the former northern arm of the moat still survives as a largely filled-in curving broad gully to the north of the present northern arm of the moat. This infilled arm of the moat is more strictly aligned east-west

than the present northern arm, and this aligns much more closely with the stance of manor house, and clearly pre-dates the present moat. Just as the stone-founded northern 'extension' of the represents the sole surviving above-ground trace of the former, pre-1400 medieval manor house, so the infilled northern arm of the moat represent therefore the sole surviving element of the defensive moat that once surrounded that earlier manor house.

The post-1400 ornamental moat is designed, then, to look most impressive from the south-east and this sense of a designed micro-landscape of the environs of the manor house is enhanced by the addition of two other elements that are probably contemporary with each other, dating to the mid-sixteenth century. The ornamental gate-house will be discussed below, but the other feature is a miniature moat with a central island that is located to the north-east of the present moat and is connected to it by a small overflow channel. This miniature moated site is presumably a folly designed as a pun on the larger moated site, and a dam in the dingle to the west would have created another watery element, perhaps of the eighteenth century, to further add to the tranquil scene.

**The gatehouse** was once thought to be of late fifteenth century date, but is now dated both stylistically and through dendro-chronology to the period 1545-50. The two-storey structure is, like the moated island to the north-east of the main moat, a miniature. It should properly also be seen also therefore as something of a visual pun, this time setting off the close-studded eastern elevation of the manor house.

**The chapel** is as described by the RCHME in 1932, with 12<sup>th</sup> century fabric to the undivided nave and chancel, and with traces of a contemporary south door and round-headed single-light window. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century this latter was converted into a narrow lancet and two other lancets were inserted, one in each of the south and north walls of the chancel. The south door was modified at this time. Larger and more elaborate windows were inserted into the east and west ends of the chapel in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The fabric is however of more complex build than allowed in the 1932 account, with large blocks of tufa and of dressed limestone, along with narrow carefully laid courses of almost purple red sandstone and patches of coursed limestone amid an otherwise rubble build. This complexity, and particularly a different build in the lower courses that those higher up in each elevation, especially on the southern elevation, suggests the possibility of a pre-mid-12<sup>th</sup> century phase to the structure.

A significant discovery made as a result of the *Herefordshire Archaeology* survey of the area around the manor house and chapel in 2003, however, concerned the environs of the chapel rather than the structure itself. The chapel has been supposed to have served primarily as a private chapel for the inhabitants of the manor house. While it was known that some family members had been interred within the chapel, and that a settlement had probably existed close by before c.1500 (see below), it had been assumed



that most of the local deceased had been buried either in the churchyard of St. Peter's Bromyard or St. John the Baptist in Whitbourne. Geophysical (resistivity) survey undertaken to the north of the chapel in 2003, however, appears to indicate the presence of burials across at least all of the area south of the orchard and with a marked concentration towards the north-eastern part of the area.

**The orchard** to the north of the manor house was found in the survey to contain a marked concentration of subtle earthworks. The latest of these are a series of north-south aligned broad ridges that represent at least two phases of orchard creation. A more pronounced feature is a hollow representing a track or former ditch that crosses the orchard from east to west around 50m north of the boundary fence with the manor, and parallel with it. Beneath all these features are a series of levelled areas and rectangular platforms that approximate the form of building and yard locations within deserted medieval and later settlements. An area of mole-heap activity close to one such level area within the orchard but just to the north-east of the chapel was found to have revealed an area of brick foundations and floor levels from an eighteenth century barn which itself may have disturbed earlier settlement activity. A very small abraded sherd of pottery retrieved from the surface of one mole-heap appears likely to be of chaff-tempered ware. The fine sandy fabric of this sherd also has voids where an organic temper has leached out during firing. If this identification is correct, it represents very rare evidence of domestic activity of the early to middle Saxon period with a date range of c.600 to c.850AD.

### 3.1.9 Gazetteer of sites and features recorded

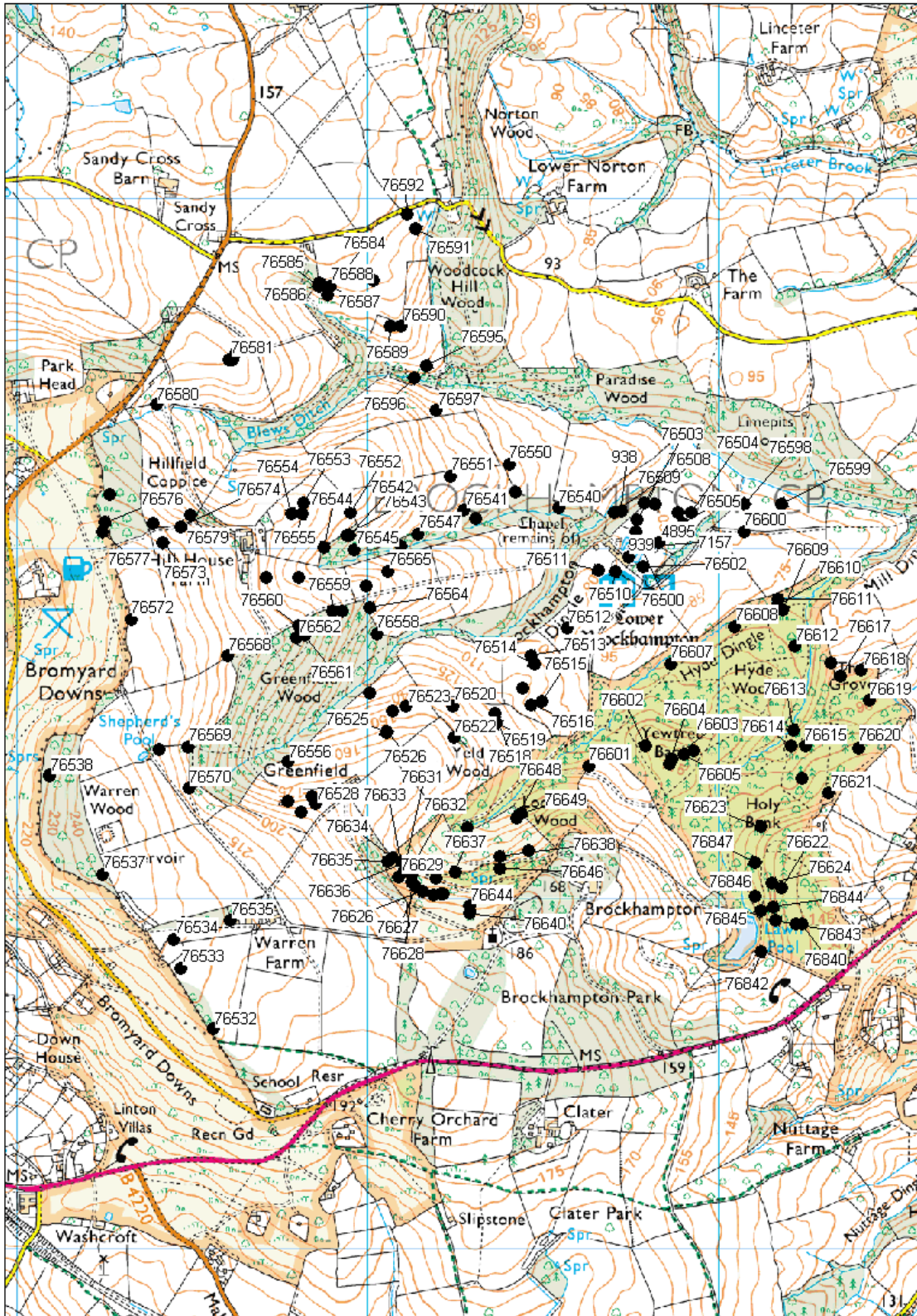


Figure 5: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area A

SMR NO	EAST	NORTH	FEATURE/SITE DESCRIPTION	TYPE-	PERIOD	CONDITION
938	368722	256106	Brockhampton Chapel		Medieval	Fair
7157	368793	256008	Brockhampton moated site and moat		Late Medieval	Good
7157			Manor House		Late Medieval	Good
939	368742	255978	Gatehouse		Late Medieval	Good
76500	368773	256016	Dam		Post Medieval	Good
4895	368829	256020	Lower moated site with island		Post Medieval	Good
76501	368764	256050	N/W angle of earlier moat		Medieval	Poor
76502	368785	255951	Bank		Post Medieval	Poor
76503	368787	256131	Ditch		Post Medieval	Poor
76504	368921	256104	Platform		Post Medieval	Poor
76505	368897	256072	Furrow?		Medieval	Poor
76506	368884	256103	Furrow?		Medieval	Poor
76507	368817	256127	Furrow?		Medieval	Poor
76508	368702	256105	Ditch		Post Medieval	Poor
76509	368767	256083	Ditch		Post Medieval	Poor
76510	368704	255936	Bank		Medieval	Fair
76511	368657	255940	Holloway		Post Medieval	Poor
76512	368568	255775	Woodland boundary bank		Post Medieval	Fair
76513	368465	255696	Quarry		Post Medieval	Good
76514	368475	255672	Quarry		Post Medieval	Good
76515	368495	255565	Woodland boundary bank		Post Medieval	Poor
76516	368464	255553	Platform		Post Medieval	Good
76517	368440	255603	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76518	368360	255531	Platform		Post Medieval	Poor
76519	368365	255501	Features recorded by AP		Post Medieval	Poor
76520	368240	255551	Ditch		Post Medieval	Fair
76521	368283	255205	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76522	368244	255461	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76523	368108	255550	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76524	368068	255536	Bank		Post Medieval	Fair
76525	368051	255476	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76526	368050	255480	Trackway		Medieval	Poor
76527	367902	255313	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76528	367850	255271	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76529	367838	255294	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76530	367807	255248	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76531	367770	255279	Artificially extended spring		Unknown	Good
76532	367557	254628	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76533	367464	254801	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76534	367444	254884	Spoil heap		Post Medieval	Fair
76535	367603	254938	Holloway		Post Medieval	Good
76536	367470	254931	Platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76537	367241	255071	Quarry		Post Medieval	Good
76538	367089	255350	Saw pit		Post Medieval	Fair
76539	367089	255354	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76540	368542	256117	Trackway		Post Medieval	Fair
76541	368272	256111	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Fair
76542	367945	256040	Platform		Post Medieval	Good

76543	367939	256040 Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Poor
76544	367873	256004 Boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
76545	367960	255997 Platform	Post Medieval	Poor
76546	368092	256007 Charcoal burning platform	Post Medieval	Poor
76547	368142	256043 Quarry	Post Medieval	Fair
76548	368307	256086 Quarry	Post Medieval	Fair
76549	368420	256163 Lynchet	Post Medieval	Fair
76550	368401	256241 Field bank	Post Medieval	Fair
76551	368233	256209 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76552	367947	256105 Platform	Post Medieval	Fair
76553	367814	256132 Holloway	Medieval	Fair
76554	367781	256101 Platform	Post Medieval	Good
76555	367810	256101 Platform	Post Medieval	Fair
76556	367770	255391 Sheep dip	Post Medieval	Fair
76557	368003	255589 Trackway	Post Medieval	Good
76558	368024	255758 Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Poor
76559	367897	255822 Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76560	367800	255780 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76561	367816	255752 Spoil heap	Post Medieval	Good
76562	367795	255745 Quarry	Post Medieval	Good
76563	367924	255824 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76564	368004	255834 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76565	368056	255935 Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76566	367802	255918 Platform	Post Medieval	Fair
76567	367709	255918 Bank	Medieval	Good
76568	367598	255696 Bank	Medieval	Good
76569	367483	255433 Masonry surrounding a pool/well	Post Medieval	Fair
76570	367487	255316 Trackway	Post Medieval	Fair
76571	367401	255427 Upcast from dredging Shepherds Pool	Post Medieval	Fair
76572	367322	255799 Estate boundary bank and ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76573	367411	256018 Concrete Cistern	Modern	Good
76574	367465	256064 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76575	367383	256072 Bank	Post Medieval	Good
76576	367246	256078 Compartment boundary	Post Medieval	Good
76577	367239	256050 Compartment boundary	Post Medieval	Good
76578	367260	256157 Quarry	Post Medieval	Good
76579	367492	256096 Quarry	Post Medieval	Fair
76580	367395	256412 Platform	Post Medieval	Fair
76581	367602	256541 Orchard Ridging	Post Medieval	Fair
76582	367610	256540 Lynchet	Medieval	Good
76583	367620	256560 Lynchet	Medieval	Good
76584	367882	256727 Trackway	Post Medieval	Good
76585	367858	256752 Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76586	367863	256759 Carriage ride	Post Medieval	Fair
76587	367860	256760 Compartment boundary	Post Medieval	Good
76588	367889	256752 Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76589	368063	256637 Bank	Post Medieval	Fair
76590	368094	256637 Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76591	368133	256916 Quarry	Post Medieval	Fair
76592	368110	256956 Quarry	Post Medieval	Poor

76593	367994	255895 Ditch	Post Medieval	Poor
76594	368012	256766 Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76595	368165	256524 Holloway	Post Medieval	Fair
76596	368130	256488 Stone Bridge over Blues Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76597	368194	256398 Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76598	369071	256129 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76599	369178	256128 Bank	Medieval	Poor
76600	369072	256049 Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
76601	365707	255419 Trackway	Post Medieval	Fair



## 3.2 Area B: Brockhampton Park and woodland

3.2.1 *Definition.* This area includes all the former parkland areas contained to the south and east within the main park pale wall, and to the north and west by park railings where these survive. It encompasses the distinct areas of parkland to the north-west and west of Brockhampton House that sweeps around from the stables west to the drive to Greenfield, and then south to the main entrance drive by Brockhampton Chapel. Eastwards from this drive, it includes all the area of parkland that extends northwards from the A44 boundary to take in the environs of the Lawn Pool, and bounded to the north by the woodland. Finally, it takes in also the whole area of enclosed woodland to the east of the House. The house itself is in private ownership and is not part of the National Trust estate.



Figure 6: carriage rides across the parkland

3.2.2 *Landscape character and history.* The parkland comprises mainly north-facing and east-facing open grassland slopes with a mix of planted individual deciduous standard trees and specimen conifers. Major entrance drives approach from the south-west (Bromyard Lodge) and south-east (Worcester Lodge) and both are associated with landscaping works. Deep combs descend from north and south of Brockhampton Park house, and merge in the valley the base of which is filled by the Lawn Pool, which in turn drains northwards into Mill Dingle. Much of the area of ground below Brockhampton Park to the north, and much of the rising

ground to the east within the park wall is now deciduous woodland with dispersed conifer plantations.

In 1737, the site of the present house at Brockhampton Park was occupied by the farm identified as The Hill. At 290 acres it was the largest holding on the estate, and it had been held jointly with Lower Brockhampton by Philip Domulton in 1428, at which time it was called The Hyde. It remained in the possession of the Manor of Brockhampton, with John Barneby farming it in 1657. It is not impossible that it was at that time the main place of residence for the Barneby's, since the site of the house and garden covered more than five acres (Williams, 1992, 86). The house appears to have comprised a hall with a cross-wing and there were nine ancillary buildings. 125 acres of the 290 total were woodland, with another 16 acres of coppice.

In 1829, four Hyde field-names were located further down-slope to the north-east between Hyde Dingle and Mill Dingle, and these may have been assarted from the earlier woodland. The creation of the parkland in the years following 1756 must have involved extensive woodland clearance and the creation of parkland nonetheless organised into separate farmed meadows. Today Hyde Wood occupies the site of two of the 'Hyde' fields, together with the former Hyde Orchard, while Yewtree Bank occupies an area that in 1839 comprised the fourth enclosure bearing the 'Hyde' place-name, and another enclosure identified as a Hopyard.

**3.2.3 North-west park.** The most dramatic and obvious earthwork features here are a series of carriage rides that criss-cross the north-facing hill-slopes overlooking the now metalled drive that descends from the direction of Brockhampton Chapel down towards Lower Brockhampton. These rides are now grass-covered and are terraced into the hillside at a shallow gradient both for the ease of former passage of light carriages, but also for recreation: to provide ever-changing prospects out across the parkland and wider landscape. At the time of the creation of the Park, the prospects northwards from all levels along this north-facing slope would have been uninhibited (as they are now masked) by mature tree growth.

Dramatic though these carriage-ride terrace-ways are, they are not the only linear features on these slopes. A particularly prominent bank with a ditch on either side of it passes south-westwards from the direction of Look-out Wood on the eastern side of the upper end of Hyde Dingle, across the metalled road to Lower Brockhampton at the foot of the north-facing slope, and rises from north-east to south-west onto and across the line of the lowest carriage-ride before rising to the level of the upper carriage-ride which it joins to continue westwards out of the parkland.

On the slopes above the upper carriage-ride towards the western limit of the park is a group of extremely well-preserved earthwork features. These include at least two charcoal burning platforms cut into the north-facing slope, and one of which has a small rectangular fuel stacking platform to its west, also cut into the slope. Surrounding the most westerly of these

platforms there is a bank defining a triangular enclosure, best seen from across the valley to the north. This may have defined a wood-processing area for the charcoal burning operation. The presence of these features so close to the former woodland boundary bank (they lie just upslope from it) indicates that the woodland was in active use in the period before the area became emparked in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

- 3.2.4 **West park.** In 1829 this area of the park to the west of Brockhampton chapel was divided into three parcels, the more westerly two of which formed the eastern half of a set of four fields of almost equal size. The eastern field was termed 'Brickclamp' and was presumably the area where bricks for Brockhampton Park were fired when it was being built around 1760. There are no obvious traces of this activity in the parkland now.

The main features in this area are the enclosed pool to the west of Brockhampton chapel, and the south-west drive. The former seems to have been used simply as a cistern for supplying water for the domestic uses of the main house and its ancillary service buildings. It may occupy the site of the main clay quarry for the brick-making. The field to its west may also have been levelled to provide material for the linear embankments that flank the south-west drive to east and west. These are very carefully landscaped to mask the surface of the drive when viewed from east or west.

- 3.2.5 **South park.** The area of parkland south of Brockhampton Park retains the four enclosure form shown on the 1829 map, and is bisected by the south-east drive which itself has been carefully and subtly let into the east-facing slopes. This in itself provides an ever-changing vista north and north-eastwards over the park to the wider landscape beyond, and at least two points it connects with a further former carriage-ride crossing the park, and with a path that takes a winding course down to the Lawn Pool.

Of particular note within this area are the various earthworks recorded across the whole area between the two drives. Most of these features relate to the period when the fields in question were under arable farming, in some cases from the Medieval period. The earthworks immediately to the east of the south-west drive for instance include a series of ridge and furrow furlongs oriented north and south in the area directly to the south of the Brockhampton Park walled garden. On the steeper slopes to the east there are traces in several places of the strip-lynchets belonging to furlongs ranged again mostly north and south and along the contours of the east-facing slopes above the south-east drive.

The park wall that extends eastwards from Bromyard Lodge through to Bringsty Common over a kilometre to the east is, along most of this course, a free-standing coursed stone structure sometimes as much as four metres high. At points where the road to the south is deeply incised, the wall features a deep trench cut between it and the bank to the north. The wall departs the roadside obliquely by the Common, turning north-eastwards and then northwards as it descends the eastern slopes of Holy Bank towards The Grove, where it ends.

3.2.6 **Lawn Pool and west environs.** In 1829, the parkland to the west of Lawn Pool stretching up towards Brockhampton Park house itself and curving around the northern flank of the spur of land on which the Park house stands was divided between the Lawn, Cow Pasture and Hopyard. The northern part of the latter and the northern half of Cow Pasture are now within woodland, while the rest now form one continuous sweep of parkland.

A variety of earthwork features were noted in this area, including terracing and the line of former fences. It is evident that more than one phase of landscaping is represented by the various earthwork features concerned. In contrast, there are few signs of former arable farming in these areas.

3.2.7 **Brockhampton Wood.** This is a convenient term to encompass six areas of named woodland on post-war large-scale Ordnance Survey and more recent National Trust estate maps. These are Yeld Wood on the western side of Hyde Dingle, Look-out Wood on the opposite side of Hyde Dingle immediately north of Brockhampton Park, Yewtree Bank and Hyde Wood successively northwards from Look-out wood and south of Hyde Dingle, Runaway Bank on the eastern side of Mill Dingle near The Grove, and Holy Bank stretching from The Grove southwards to the Lawn Pool, again to the east of Mill Dingle.

The area that contains the best preserved earthwork features within this extensive tract of woodland with much obscuring undergrowth is Holy Bank. Of particular note are the extensive lengths of former woodland boundary bank, that trace a complex history of the development of woodland here, and the landscaping and carriage ride features that relate to the emparkment of the area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



### 3.2.8 Gazetteer of sites and features recorded

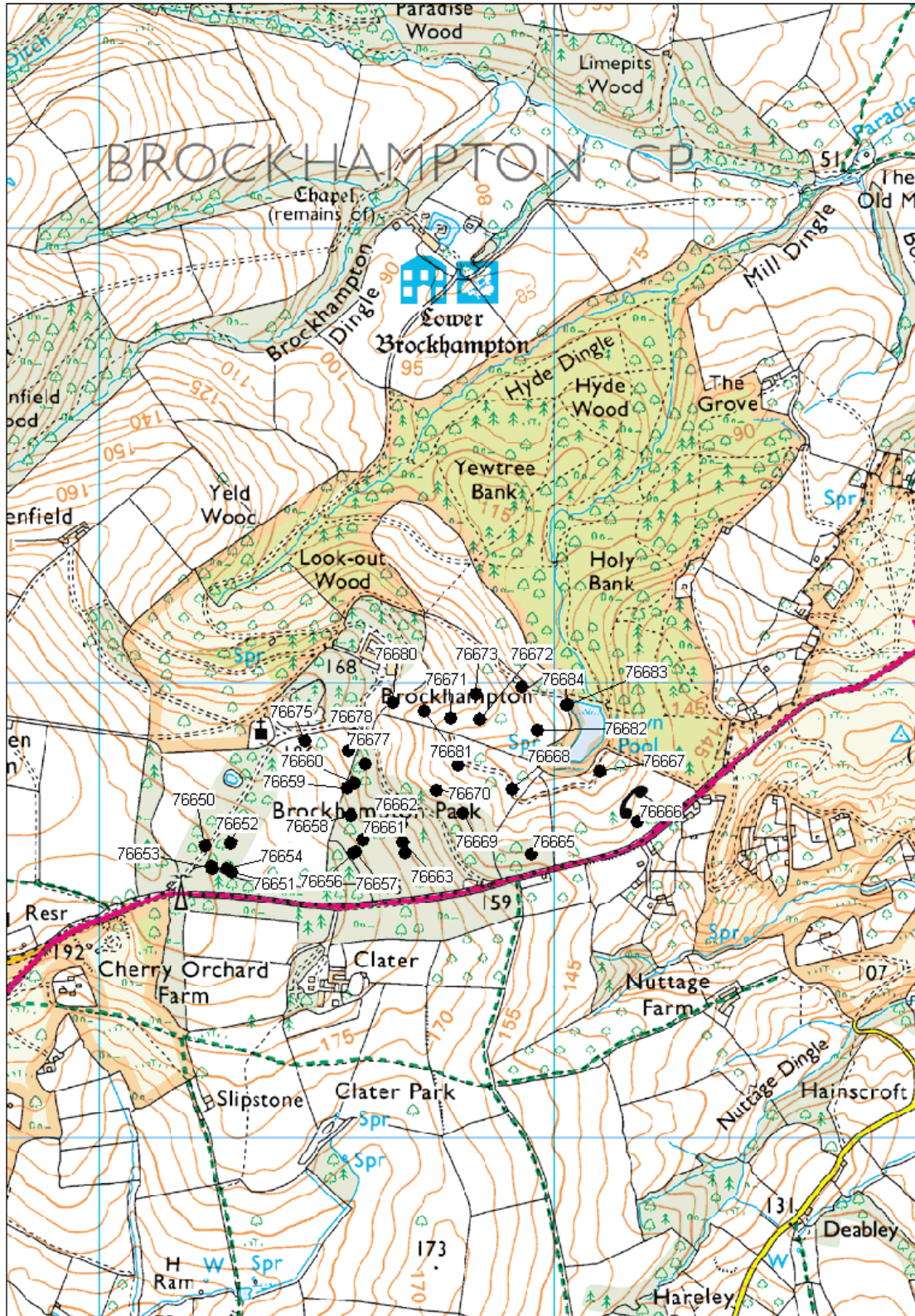


Figure 7: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area B



SMR NO	EAST	NORTH	FEATURE/SITE TYPE-DESCRIPTION	PERIOD	CONDITION
76650	368233	254641	Western side of embanked driveway	Post Medieval	Good
76651	368246	254595	Eastern side of embanked driveway	Post Medieval	Good
76652	368287	254645	Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76653	368248	254591	Bank and ditch	Post Medieval	Good
76654	368280	254591	Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76655	368290	254583	Quarry	Post Medieval	Good
76656	368557	254624	Lynchet	Post Medieval	Good
76657	368563	254627	Woodland boundary bank	Post Medieval	Fair
76658	368552	254708	Bank	Post Medieval	Good
76659	368545	254767	Prospect Terrace	Post Medieval	Good
76660	368561	254778	Mound - possible parkland feature	Post Medieval	Good
76661	368579	254655	Lynchet	Post Medieval	Fair
76662	368663	254688	Lynchet	Post Medieval	Fair
76663	368667	254649	Lynchet	Post Medieval	Fair
76664	368670	254625	Ridge and Furrow	Post Medieval	Poor
76665	368950	254622	Bank and ditch	Post Medieval	Poor
76666	369182	254693	Lynchet	Post Medieval	Good
76667	369100	254805	Carriage ride	Post Medieval	Good
76668	368907	254766	platform with cider press	Modern? Post	Fair
76669	368799	254711	Viewing Platform	Post Medieval	Good
76670	368740	254762	Bank and ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76671	368771	254921	Platform	Post Medieval	Good
76672	368836	254918	Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76673	368827	254975	Trackway / path	Post Medieval	Fair
76674	368787	254819	Ditch	Post Medieval	Fair
76675	368453	254872	Ridge and Furrow	Post Medieval	Good
76676	368439	254780	rectangular depression	Post Medieval	Fair
76677	368546	254849	Headland	Post Medieval	Fair
76678	368559	254886	Holloway	Post Medieval	Fair
76679	368584	254821	Carriage ride	Post Medieval	Fair
76680	368644	254956	Slab covering a drain	Post	Good

76681	368713	254936	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Poor
76682	368962	254894	Holloway	Medieval	Fair
76683	369026	254949	Holloway	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76684	369029	254951	Carriage ride	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76685	368927	254991	Viewing Platform	Medieval	Good
76602	369707	255419	Ridge and Furrow	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76603	368866	255398	Quarry	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76604	368859	255385	Quarry	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76605	368900	255412	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval	Fair
76606	368927	255423	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
76607	368861	255670	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76608	369045	255778	Platform	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76609	369182	255826	oval mound	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76610	369166	255835	Dam	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76611	369169	255858	Retaining Wall and Sluice	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76612	369217	255722	Trackway	Medieval	Good
76613	369213	255482	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
76614	369206	255436	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Poor
				Post	
76615	369246	255437	Carriage ride	Medieval	Fair
76616	369319	255675	Bank	Medieval	Poor
76617	369346	255636	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76618	369407	255654	Saw pit	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76619	369430	255568	Quarry	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76620	369398	255432	Quarry	Medieval	Fair
76621	369313	255302	Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76622	369180	255031	Carriage ride	Medieval	Good
76623	369121	255206	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Good
76624	369150	255045	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Good
76625	369237	255345	Lynchet	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76626	368154	255023	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval	Fair
76627	368134	255034	Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76628	368122	255050	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval	Good
76629	368086	255061	Charcoal burning platform	Post	Good

76630	368123	255068	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Good
76631	368098	255075	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Good
76632	368114	255078	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Fair
76633	368092	255109	Saw pit	Medieval Post	Fair
76634	368067	255119	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Good
76635	368055	255108	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Good
76636	368110	255103	Spoil heap	Modern? Post	Good
76637	368247	255075	Compartment boundary	Medieval Post	Poor
76638	368373	255121	Bank	Medieval Post	Good
76639	368192	255059	Carriage ride	Medieval Post	Good
76640	368288	254961	Bank	Medieval Post	Fair
76641	368186	255012	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Poor
76642	368206	255015	Platform	Medieval Post	Fair
76643	368212	255014	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Good
76644	368290	254979	Rectangular hollow	Medieval Post	Fair
76645	368326	255010	Compartment boundary	Medieval Post	Fair
76646	368376	255086	Mound - possible parkland feature	Medieval Post	Good
76647	368458	255139	Bank and ditch	Medieval Post	Fair
76648	368421	255232	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76649	368435	255246	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76840	369238	254927	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Good
76841	369221	254928	Relict Hedge	Medieval Post	Fair
76842	369119	254849	Carriage Ride	Medieval Post	Good
76843	369161	254938	Platform	Medieval Post	Fair
76844	369156	254977	Viewing Platform	Medieval Post	Good
76845	369122	254966	platform	Medieval Post	Good
76846	369102	255009	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Good
76847	369103	255104	Charcoal burning platform	Medieval Post	Fair

### 3.3 Area C: Home House Farm

3.3.1 *Definition.* This area includes the fields immediately south of Home House and either side of Bond's Dingle, as well as the unimproved grassland to the south of the Dingle in the environs of The Grove, adjacent eastwards from the eastern park boundary wall of The Park.

3.3.2 *Landscape character and history.* The area comprises almost entirely pastureland, some of which is rough grazing. This is especially the case for the lands in the southern area of the holding, near The Grove and at that part of Holy Bank outside (and to the east of) the park wall. This is the highest land attached to Home House farm, and the land falls steadily northwards towards Paradise Wood.

The Domulton family held Home (or Holme) House and the adjacent land across the Paradise Brook to the north called Wallcroft in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The present house is dated 1660 at which time the farm was owned by the Bray family. Thomas Winton of Thornbury bought the farm in 1700, and in 1787 John Barneby re-incorporated it by purchase into the Brockhampton estate. In 1801 he added The Grove and Studmarsh.

3.3.3 *East of Bond's Dingle.* This is the land immediately surrounding Home House and to its south. There are a variety of somewhat degraded earthworks in the fields and paddocks concerned. Some may relate to the use of the land as Medieval furlongs since they feature ridge and furrow, although these ridges might represent orchard planting.

3.3.4 *Bond's Dingle and west of Bond's Dingle.* Both Bond's Dingle and Mill Dingle contain the remains of significant earthwork dams with channels leading from them to help power the mill. The Mill House is in origin a cruck-framed building of late Medieval date, and the site of the mill itself is evident immediately to the south, spanning the Paradise Brook. A series of works in the near-vicinity including the part stone-lined leat and the bridge across the Paradise Brook are good examples of the investment in estate infrastructure that is evident in the eighteenth century especially.

The upper part of OS 6100 immediately to the west of Bond's Dingle rises to a crest of a hill upon which a 2001 FMD pyre site was located. This was unfortunate, since it appears to stand within what was once Studmarsh.

3.3.5 *The Grove and Studmarsh.* Extensive settlement remains survive in remarkably good condition to the east of The Grove. A track that descends the slope from OS 6100 to 6262 bisects this area, following the course of a woodland boundary bank that did just the same, but that continues across onto Bringsty Common. The fact that this bank transects and apparently ignores later boundaries suggests that it might be late Medieval and may reflect adjustments made following the desertion of Studmarsh.

It seems likely that the (at least) four house-site foundations or platforms to the west of this track and the comparable number to the west on a

south-facing slope comprise one part of the once extensive Medieval settlement of Studmarsh. This was mentioned in the Red Book of the Bishop of Hereford in 1268-1275, but it is not mentioned in the Lay Subsidy Rolls of 1334-6 and may have been deserted by then. A pool once existed to the south of this settlement, and on the hill slopes opposite there are a number of massive farming lynchets and a possible pillow-mound of unusual form. Just to the north of the site of the pool, a spring once fed a leat that survives as an earthwork feature and that leads northwards along the contours towards Hill House.

3.3.6 **Holy Bank (east)**. Holy Bank Cottage occupies the site of a farm called Howley in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The earthworks that still survive in the valley to the east probably represent pendant enclosures associated with this former farm. To the east again, against the edge of Bircher Common there are a number of small enclosures representing common-edge settlement. In addition to the earthwork banks defining the perimeter of these minute smallholdings, the location of the buildings that once stood within them are evident as earthwork traces in at least two instances.



### 3.3.7 Gazetteer of sites and features recorded

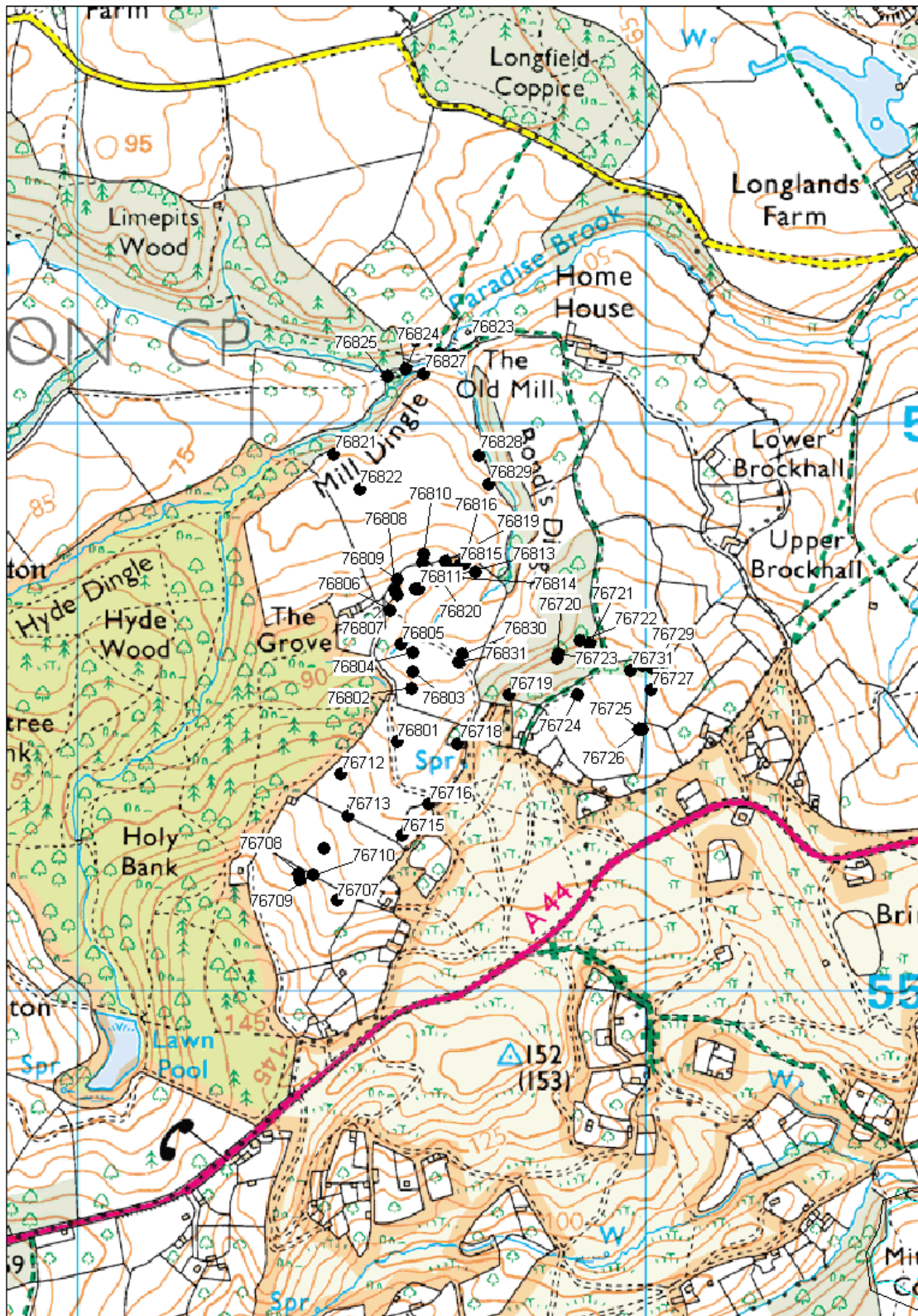


Figure 8: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area C

SMR NO	EAST	NORTH	FEATURE/SITE TYPE- DESCRIPTION	PERIOD	CONDITION
76707	369456	255161	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76708	369389	255209	Concrete Cistern	Medieval	Poor
76709	369415	255206	brick & stone rubble spread at spring	Post Medieval	Poor
76710	369391	255197	bank	Post Medieval	Poor
76711	369433	255253	Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76712	369464	255383	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Poor
76713	369475	255310	drain	Medieval Post	Fair
76714	369486	255326	Ditch	Medieval Post	Fair
76715	369570	255275	ruined building	Medieval	Poor
76716	369617	255332	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval Post	Fair
76717	369618	255330	bank	Medieval Post	Fair
76718	369669	255437	ruined building	Medieval	Poor
76719	369759	255523	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76720	369843	255586	Ditch	Medieval	Fair
76721	369902	255613	Lynchet	Medieval	Good
76722	369883	255618	Lynchet	Medieval	Fair
76723	369845	255595	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76724	369880	255524	Quarry	Medieval Post	Fair
76725	369987	255463	Field bank	Medieval Post	Fair
76726	369994	255462	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76727	370009	255531	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76728	370030	255560	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76729	370011	255569	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76730	369994	255575	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76731	369973	255566	ruined building	Medieval Post	Poor
76801	369117	255464	Leet	Medieval	Fair
76802	369588	255535	Lynchet	Medieval Post	Fair
76803	369591	255564	Ridge and Furrow	Medieval Post	Poor
76804	369589	255598	Platform	Medieval	Fair

76805	369569	255613	ruined building	Post	
76806	369549	255671	Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
				Post	
76807	369563	255700	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76808	369559	255708	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76809	369562	255727	Ruined Wall	Medieval	Poor
76810	369607	255756	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76811	369600	255709	Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76812	369594	255709	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76813	369632	255724	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76814	369668	255729	ruined building	Medieval	Poor
				Post	
76815	369672	255752	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76816	369680	255754	Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76817	369699	255740	Bank	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76818	369657	255744	Rectangular Enclosure	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76819	369648	255759	ruined building	Medieval	Poor
76820	369610	255771	FMD Pyre Site	Modern	Fair
76821	369451	255946	Lynchet	Medieval	Poor
				Post	
76822	369497	255886	Field bank	Medieval	Poor
				Post	
76823	369661	256122	Leat	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76824	369578	256097	Trackway	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76825	369545	256085	Bridge	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76826	369637	256124	Culvert	Medieval	Good
				Post	
76827	369608	256088	Building Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76828	369707	255945	Dam	Medieval	Fair
76829	369724	255894	Woodland boundary bank	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76830	369677	255595	Platform	Medieval	Fair
				Post	
76831	369670	255580	Pond	Medieval	Fair
76832	369733	255604	Lynchet	Medieval	Fair

### 3.4 Area D: Lower Norton

3.4.1 *Definition.* This area comprises the lands of Lower Norton Farm, including 'The Farm' and its environs and fields. It also includes Norton Wood to the west of Lower Norton, and the three areas of woodland – Woodcock Hill Wood, Paradise Wood and Limepits Wood occupying the south-facing slopes to the north of Paradise Wood.

3.4.2 *Landscape character and history.* Although standing well above the height of the Paradise Brook to its south, the Lower Norton area feels very much as if it is in a valley due to the height of the hills that rise to its north and provide an encircling arc of higher ground. The landscape is also framed by woodland on these overlooking slopes. There is a mixture of (poor) arable and improved pasture in all the farmlands here.

Both Lower Norton and The Farm formerly lay in Tedstone Delamere parish, but these lands were incorporated into Brockhampton civil parish while Upper and Middle Norton were absorbed into Norton civil parish. While Lower Norton may be as recent a creation as the 18<sup>th</sup> century, The Farm, formerly known as Tyler's Farm, is identifiable as the 'Bachelande' that was recorded as part of the Brockhampton estate in 1575, might date back at least to the time of Thomas de la Bache who was recorded in the Red Book of 1285. Thomas Tyler and John Tyler were successively tenants here in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, and they presumably lent their name to the holding.

3.4.3 *Lower Norton farmlands.* The level of improvement of these farmlands is such that very few earthwork features survive. There are isolated lynchets just to the north of The Farm (a substantial trace on an east-west alignment facing down-slope to the north) and north-east of Lower Norton, where a former field boundary has a large associated east-facing bank overlooking the Linceter Brook dingle. A hollow-way descends the slope northwards from The Farm immediately eastwards of the field boundary that follows its western edge. That agricultural improvement dates back to the days of steam-ploughing is evident from the cultivation furrows that still cross the improved pasture on the north-facing slope above Linceter Brook opposite Little Linceter.

3.4.4 *'Lower Norton' woodlands.* Woodcock Hill Wood, Paradise Wood and Limepits Wood were extensively searched where the dense undergrowth permitted, during the survey. In addition to some woodland management features, a long sinuous woodland boundary bank was traced at mid-slope of the south-facing slopes across which Paradise Wood is ranged.

3.4.5 *Wallcroft.* This is an area that is clearly associated with Home House farm, but which is currently farmed from Lower Norton. 'Wallcroft' is thought to be the historic area immediately to the south-west of Wallcroft Wood at the extreme eastern edge of the property in the Paradise Brook valley to the north of Home House and just across the stream from it. It is



now, and has for some time been an area of orchard on the slopes facing southwards onto and immediately adjoining the Paradise Brook.

Ranged across these slopes are a series of around five or six platforms. Some of these platforms, cut into and built out from the south-facing gentle slope above the stream are both wide (more than six metres) and long (more than 20m). They may represent the sites of domestic buildings, but in some cases it seems more likely that they represent the sites of barns.



Figure 9: Stone foot bridge (HSM 76756)



### 3.4.6 Gazetteer of sites and features recorded

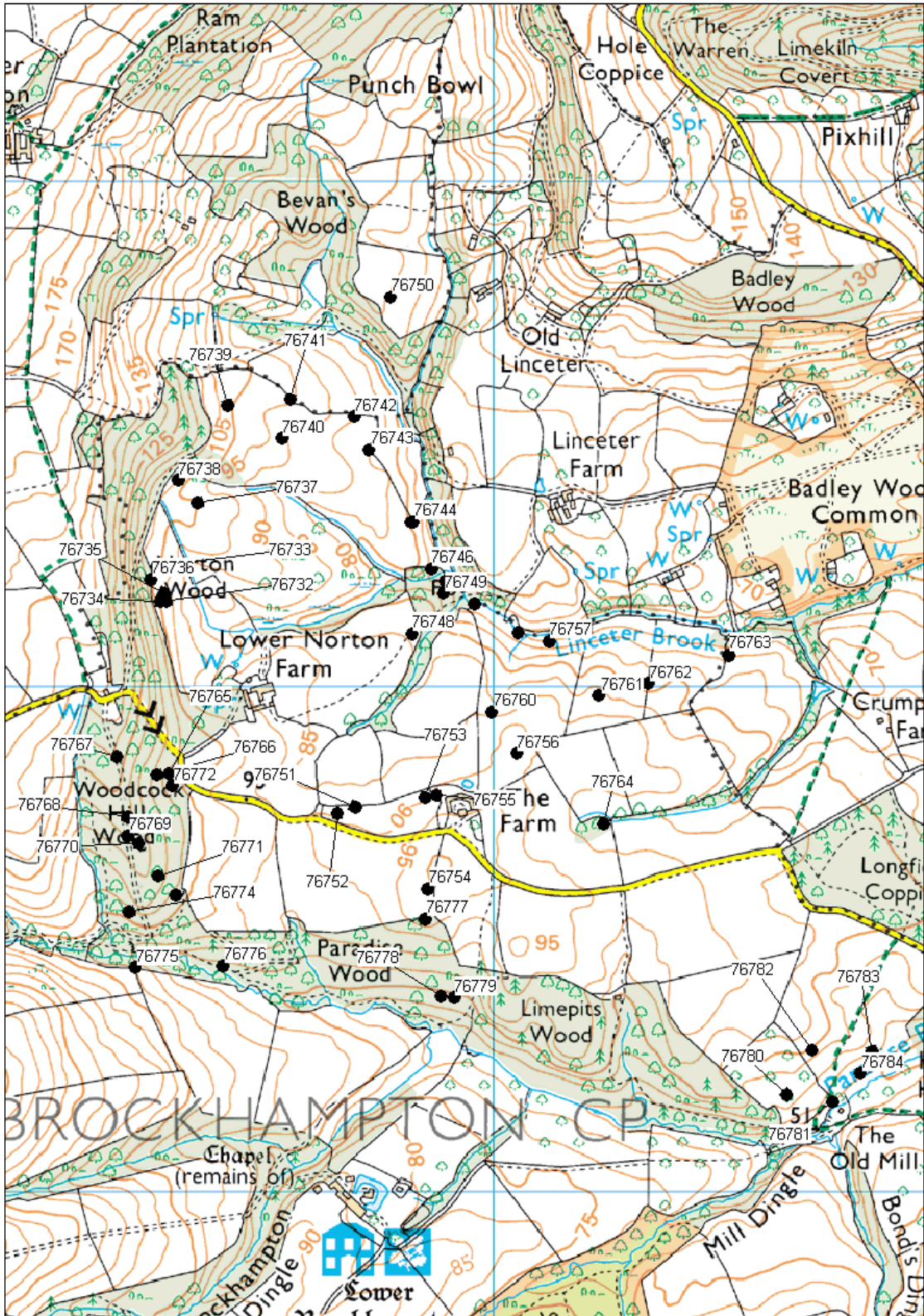


Figure 10: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area D

SMR NO	EAST	NORTH	FEATURE/SITE DESCRIPTION	TYPE-	PERIOD	CONDITION
76732	368355	257169	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76733	368335	257237	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76734	368343	257169	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76735	368350	257185	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76736	368324	257211	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Good
76737	368417	257365	Pit		Modern?	Fair
76738	368377	257409	Building Platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76739	368476	257557	Lynchet		Medieval	Poor
76740	368582	257493	Field bank		Post Medieval	Fair
76741	368600	257568	Parish boundary bank		Medieval	Good
76742	368726	257535	Bank		Post Medieval	Poor
76743	368754	257470	Lynchet		Medieval	Poor
76744	368843	257327	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Fair
76745	368837	257327	Building platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76746	368877	257234	Trackway		Post Medieval	Fair
76747	368906	257209	Building Platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76748	368839	257105	Mound		Post Medieval	Good
76749	368901	257186	Woodland Boundary Bank		Medieval	Good
76750	368797	257770	Lynchet		Medieval	Fair
76751	368729	256761	Ditch		Post Medieval	Fair
76752	368692	256750	Bank		Post Medieval	Fair
76753	368866	256782	Pond		Post Medieval	Fair
76754	368871	256600	Dam		Post Medieval	Good
76755	368887	256785	Holloway		Post Medieval	Fair
76756	369047	256869	Bridge		Post Medieval	Fair
76757	369110	257091	Building platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76758	369048	257108	Platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76759	368963	257164	Holloway		Post Medieval	Good
76760	368998	256951	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Fair
76761	369209	256984	Ridge and Furrow		Post Medieval	Fair
76762	369306	257007	Ditch		Post Medieval	Fair
76763	369465	257063	Lynchet		Medieval	Good
76764	369219	256728	Platform		Post Medieval	Fair
76765	368359	256829	Holloway		Post Medieval	Fair
76766	368335	256827	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Fair
76767	368257	256861	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Good
76768	368279	256742	Bank		Post Medieval	Fair
76769	368279	256705	Circular pit		Post Medieval	Fair
76770	368299	256690	Quarry		Post Medieval	Fair
76771	368337	256626	Trackway		Post Medieval	Fair
76772	368367	256804	Woodland boundary bank		Medieval	Fair
76773	368374	256588	Woodland boundary		Medieval	Good

		bank		
76774	368280	256554	Platform	Post Medieval Fair
76775	368305	256401	Quarry	Post Medieval Good
76776	368465	256448	Woodland boundary	Medieval Fair
		bank		
76777	368867	256541	Quarry	Post Medieval Fair
76778	368897	256388	area of quarrying	Post Medieval Fair
76779	368923	256387	trackway	Post Medieval Fair
76780	369580	256193	Orchard Ridging	Post Medieval Good
76781	369671	256180	Holloway	Post Medieval Fair
76782	369631	256282	trackway	Post Medieval Fair
76783	369748	256279	Platform	Post Medieval Fair
76784	369725	256236	Platform	Post Medieval Fair

### 3.5 Area E: Linceter

- 3.5.1 *Definition.* This area comprises woodland and pasture north of Old Linceter, together with Badley Wood which occupies a substantial hill-slope to the north of Badley Wood Common. Both of these areas are in Tedstone Delamere parish and are separated from the rest of the Brockhampton Estate lands by Linceter Farm which is not in National Trust ownership.
- 3.5.2 *Landscape character and history.* The lands around Linceter are either located on the crest of ridges, or on steep slopes descending from such ridges, or lie at the foot of such slopes. All areas face southwards. Old Linceter is likely to be a Medieval structure in origin although most of the present fabric dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. It appears as 'Lincestre' in the Red Book of 1285 and one explanation of the form of the name is 'flax settlement'.
- 3.5.3 *Old Linceter woodlands and pasture.* Some earthworks survive in the near vicinity of Old Linceter, and may represent a former hamlet here, for instance in the Medieval period. Of greater interest due to their very good state of preservation are the possible earthwork traces of an isolated farmstead at OS 7181 on the ridge above Old Linceter to its northeast.
- 3.5.4 *Badley Wood.* This relatively small wood occupies a steep south-facing bank, and within parts of it there is a very good level of earthwork preservation, with good evidence for past woodland management.



### 3.5.5 Gazetteer of sites and features recorded

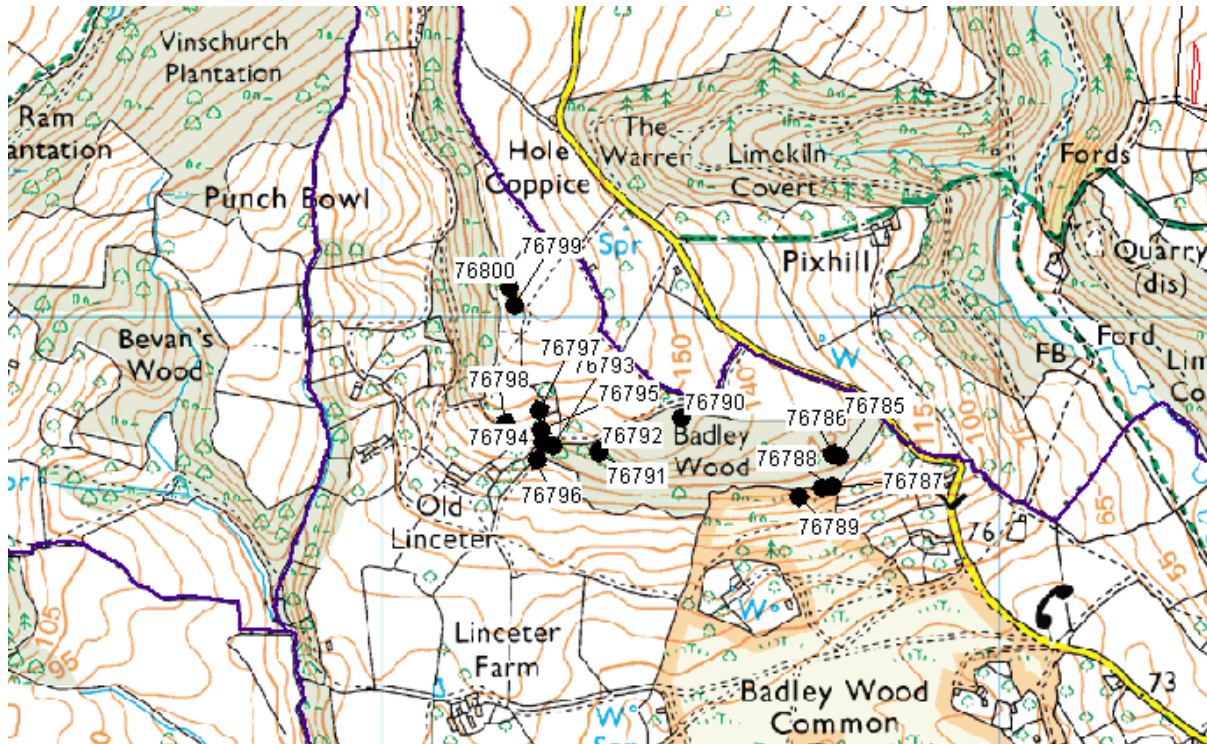


Figure 11: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area E

SMR NO	EAST	NORTH	FEATURE/SITE DESCRIPTION	TYPE	PERIOD	CONDITION
76785	369707	256734	Platform	Post	Medieval	Fair
76786	369696	256736	Platform	Post	Medieval	Fair
76787	369712	257723	Charcoal burning platform	Post	Medieval	Good
76788	369728	257726	Quarry	Post	Medieval	Good
76789	369673	257708	Woodland boundary bank	Post	Medieval	Fair
76790	369484	257837	Woodland boundary bank	Post	Medieval	Poor
76791	369351	257780	Woodland boundary bank	Post	Medieval	Fair
76792	369350	257782	Holloway	Post	Medieval	Fair
76793	369275	257791	Platform	Post	Medieval	Fair
76794	369260	257797	Possible Warren	Post	Medieval	Fair
76795	369256	257816	Trackway	Post	Medieval	Good
76796	369266	257669	Quarry	Post	Medieval	Good
76797	369254	257847	Lynchet	Post	Medieval	Poor
76798	369200	257827	Lynchet	Post	Medieval	Fair



76799	369214	258018	Building Platform	Post Medieval	Fair
76800	369204	258045	Garden Enclosure	Post Medieval	Fair



Figure 12: The complex of buildings known as “The Farm”.

## 4. Significance assessment, management review and guidance

### 4.1 Archaeological significance

#### 4.1.1 *The Brockhampton Estate and its archaeological significance.*

The national archaeological significance of the Brockhampton Estate is vested primarily in the complex of sites at Lower Brockhampton. If the settlement likely to have existed to the north of the moated manor house can be proven to have begun in the period 600-850AD it will add to the evidence for high status Anglo-Saxon settlement in the Bromyard area within this time period.

Of more regional and local significance are the traces of medieval and later settlement activity at The Grove to the east of Brockhampton Park and adjacent to Bringsty Common. The complex of earthworks that survives in this area is rare in a regional context, including as it does also, both farming terraces and water management features.

Sites and earthwork features recorded elsewhere on the estate are of either more local, or of indeterminate existence. Some exceptionally well-preserved building platforms exist to the north-west of Home House, and the parkland features are of considerable interest.

4.1.2 *The Brockhampton Estate parkland.* The parkland is of eighteenth century origin, and exhibits a number of features of designed landscaping such as the Lawn Pool, carriage rides and possible prospect stances or platforms. It is possible that the parkland, as also the house, was designed by Thomas Farnolls Pritchard, and this might explain the lack of formality in landscaping and planting in order to produce a Picturesque landscape which is in essence primarily providing foreground interest and perspective to the views north-westwards to the Abberley Hills. As with parkland elsewhere the grassland cover has preserved features from earlier land-uses. Of particular note are the drives and carriage-ways that provided constantly changing vantage points over the landscape.

The importance in a national context of parkland potentially designed by a leading proponent of the Picturesque would be considerable.

4.1.3 *The Lower Brockhampton complex.* The importance of the Romantic era restoration of the manor house has long been understood. However, the new appreciation of the contrived nature of landscaping and even possibly selective demolition here adds considerably to the interest of the site as a confection of the period 1400-1550 that tells us more about taste and attitudes to display than it does the need for defence. The discoveries that relate to the extent of the medieval settlement and the apparent burying of the dead in the chapel graveyard as if it were a parish church throws potentially very important light on the medieval occupation of the area prior to the Black Death of the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century. Both the manor house and church will repay closer examination in terms of their developmental history (see 4.3, below).

- 4.1.4 **The Grove and environs.** The extensive deserted Medieval settlement at The Grove/Studmarsh is extremely well-preserved and is a rare survival in this condition. It is of regional importance and may be of national importance. There is certainly some group value to its location in association with (likely contemporary) farming traces.
- 4.1.5 **Home House environs: Wallcroft.** The exact status of these remains is uncertain. Their size and form suggests that they may be of post-Medieval date, but a Medieval date cannot be ruled out. There was clearly a settlement of at least farmstead proportions here
- 4.1.6 **Earthwork sites and relict landscape features.** The best preserved significant group of these comprises the enclosure and the possible farmstead site south-east of Hill House Farm. Although only of local (and not, for instance, of regional) importance, the ditched earthwork on the eastern side of the complex located upon the prominent hill-spur directly to the north of Greenfield could represent the site of a later prehistoric farmstead enclosure and as such would be of county-level importance.

Several other features could be of greater importance than at present apparent. An example is the possible early settlement enclosure that may occupy OS 2038 east of Greenfield. Individual hollow-ways, lynchets, field systems and woodland boundary banks are of considerable importance in preserving traces of the pre-1760/1829 landscape.

- 4.1.7 **Woodland management features.** While most of these are situated within woodland, it is a paradox that some of the best preserved examples are in the parkland, as discussed for those features in the west park area above. These sites are again of local importance, but as with the other landscape features, they contribute to an appreciation of the landscape history of the estate and Bromyard area, especially for the period before the creation of the parkland in c.1760.
- 4.1.8 **The buried archaeological resource.** There are clearly potentially well-preserved archaeological deposits underneath and in association with the earthworks of the deserted settlement sites at Lower Brockhampton, The Grove and 'Wallcroft'. The two possible prehistoric enclosure sites have been noted and others are likely to exist: although it seems likely that settlement of what was likely to have been a wooded area through to the early Medieval period at least may have been sparse.
- 4.1.9 **The resource of buildings.** The timber-framed buildings not only at lower Brockhampton but for instance also at Home House, The Mill and The Farm are of considerable local importance, while the Lower Brockhampton manor house, gate-house and chapel, as well as Brockhampton Park house are of national importance. The resource of farm ancillary buildings, surveyed in 2002 to support potential plans for farm diversification (Hill, 2002), although of local importance should not be underestimated in terms of their contribution to local distinctiveness in respect to features such as hop-kilns and the use of brick and timber in combination.

## 4.2 Management overview

- 4.2.1 **Sites and features in grassland and orchards.** The interest in maintaining biodiversity through the preservation where possible of the remaining areas of orchard will also serve to protect the vulnerable earthwork features often located within them. This is for instance true for two out of the three principal deserted settlement sites identified in this survey. In these terms, the preservation of orchards is to be recommended, with care taken when filling gaps or carrying out more comprehensive replanting, to be aware of the potential damage to earthworks when these operations are carried out.

*Reference should be made to the Trust's regional archaeologist and/or to the Countryside Adviser (Archaeology) at Herefordshire Council (in 2010, Dr. Neil Rimmington) for further advice, and this holds for all aspects of land management and historic environment resources discussed in this section of the report.*

Equally, sites and features that exist in the parkland should be well-protected, but these features are perhaps more vulnerable to visitor pressure and sometimes to different grazing regimes. However, possibly the most damaging circumstance can be for infrastructure works that are needed from time to time to improve services to buildings, and so on. In the past, these have been carefully monitored for below-ground impact upon buried archaeological deposits, but care should also be taken to re-instate earthworks where for instance these have been traversed by pipe-runs or other service works.

- 4.2.2 **Sites and features in woodland.** The earthwork former boundary or woodland banks and more subtle features located in the woodland are obviously vulnerable to woodland operations, especially when heavy machinery is brought in to clear any felled trees or areas. For this reason the linear earthworks especially would merit being more carefully mapped than was possible in this survey. (See also
- 4.2.3 **Sites under arable.** A considerable amount of damage was done to earthwork sites in improved pasture and in current arable in the period when the farms were managed intensively. There were no locations on the estate where demonstrable damage was being done to earthworks recognised either during the survey or previously. However, the almost nil recognition of features in these areas during the survey is probably attributable to three factors. These factors are: the lack of time to walk the arable fields; the low 'yield' of cropmark sites from aerial survey of these areas in the past; and the likely levelling of subtle earthworks when these areas were first subject to deep ploughing within the past fifty years.

- 4.2.4 **Major monument complexes and buildings.** These in some instances need further close assessment such as is conducted for Environmental Stewardship purposes. However, certainly Lower Brockhampton and probably also the parkland would benefit from inclusion in a Conservation Management Plan.
- 4.2.5 **Environmental Stewardship.** The farms within the estate probably would all qualify for Higher Level scheme membership.
- 4.2.6 **Woodland regeneration.** There have at various times been suggestions for how the woodland across the estate could be better managed. Clearly, many of them are very neglected and could benefit from improved management. Whenever such schemes are drawn up, there should be an archaeological input and some more intensive survey, especially in areas of apparent high potential for earthwork survival as specified in this report.

### 4.3 Lower Brockhampton management advice

- 4.3.1 **Church/chapel and environs.** The close environs of the church are managed as lawned areas. The temptation to provide more hard-standing in the area should be resisted. The area could be more sensitively fenced, particularly to the west. If survey and site investigation in the neighbouring orchard area were to show that the cemetery once extended further north, consideration could be given to the re-alignment of fencing to bring this area into the curtilage of the chapel building.
- 4.3.2 **The principal moated site.** The principal recommendation here is for the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan, that might take in also the chapel environs.
- 4.3.3 **The ornamental moat and environs.** The planting up of this area beyond the seasonal bulbs already in place should be resisted, so that the prospect from the south-east is maintained.
- 4.3.4 **The orchard (8600).** The grazing by specimen and rare breeds sheep already in place is the most benign form of management here. Mole activity will inevitably cause damage to the buried archaeological deposits, but this tends to be localised and cyclical.

### 4.4 The Grove and Wallcroft earthwork sites

- 4.4.1 **The Grove – centre (6262).** Recommended: detailed survey and management review, for the important deserted Medieval settlement features. It would be helpful here, as elsewhere in the farmlands, for there to be some briefing made available for the tenants to explain the nature and significance of the remains. Detailed earthwork survey should provide the basis for a simple management plan



- 4.4.2 **The Grove – north (6100)**. Recommended: that consideration be given to arable reversion of the area immediately to the north of the southern boundary fence, with a view to re-establishing the integrity of the northern flank of the former settlement.
- 4.4.3 **The Grove – east (8356/8370)**. Recommended: that stocking levels are kept low in this area to avoid poaching of the north-facing banks. Some assessment may be needed of the mature trees along the top of the bank here, where these may be blown over and cause damage to the apparently stone-reinforced edge to the upper lynchet. More detailed survey should establish the exact nature of the remains here and help to establish their significance.
- 4.4.4 **Holy Bank (3813/4425/5539)**. Recommended: resist overstocking, and new schemes for improving the drainage (the results of several such past schemes are evident in the valley). Consider measures to improve the condition of the enclosures along the eastern boundary line adjacent to Bringsty Common. Some dumping was evident within one of these enclosures during the survey in 2003.
- 4.4.5 **Wallcroft (Lower Norton holding: 4436 – part)**. Recommended: restrictions on the movement of wheeled farm vehicles in the orchard, evident in 2002 (this may not any longer be a problem), and advice on alternatives.

## 4.5 Farm environs, former farms, fields and orchards

- 4.5.1 The farm buildings survey carried out in 2002-3 identified the desirability of bringing back a range of different farm buildings into good repair and alternative uses. Certainly, the setting of a number of the farms could be improved through careful stewardship of ponds and improved drainage (for instance, the area to the east of The Farm).
- 4.5.2 As elsewhere, Environmental Stewardship could improve the condition of Hedgerows, while orchard restoration might extend to the re-planting of areas of orchard that existed right up to the 1970s in some instances. These works would improve the condition of the 'fabric' of the landscape, as well as benefitting biodiversity.

## 4.6 Recommendations for future studies and information provision

4.6.1 For ease of reference, set out below are a headline series of management recommendations for the archaeology and historic landscape of the Brockhampton Estate, arising from the survey. It should be noted that these specifically exclude any recommendations concerning the maintenance of historic buildings, including vernacular farm buildings, and separate specialist advice should be sought concerning their conservation.

4.6.2 A series of recommendations can be made concerning further survey, recording and investigation at the property. These might include:

- Measured survey of the environs of Lower Brockhampton, to include test areas of geophysical survey around the chapel and moated site (accomplished in 2003)
- Building survey and analysis of the structural sequence of Lower Brockhampton manor house, to test the tentative re-interpretations made in this report
- Measured survey of the 'Studmarsh' deserted settlement site at The Grove and detailed landscape survey of the near environs to record traces of early field systems and water management features
- Measured survey of the earthworks north of Home House in the orchard at 'Wallcroft'
- Measured survey and limited research excavation within the orchard to the north of Lower Brockhampton House
- Re-assessment and study of the parkland to establish the principles used in designing the landscape in more detail than at present available. In particular, documentary research to establish whether T. F. Pritchard was closely involved in the

4.6.3 A further series of recommendations can be made regarding improvements to interpretation at the site, or made available at the site. These might include:

- Provision of an historic landscape leaflet or booklet that introduces the historic landscape, sites and buildings of the estate as a whole and guides the visitor to publicly accessible viewing of these features. This could be of benefit for visitors staying at the estate holiday cottages, for instance.
- Provision of information concerning the results of new studies both of Lower Brockhampton manor house and its moats and the 'designed landscape' it sits within, and the settlement that once existed in the orchard to the north.
- Provision of information specifically about the parkland and the features that can readily be observed within it

## 5 Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the support of Les Rogers the then estate manager and by Hilary Meer of the Estate Office. We would also like to acknowledge the support and interest shown by Jeremy Milne, Regional Archaeologist for the National Trust.

## 6 Site Archive

Archive resulting from this piece of fieldwork:

124 digital images

7 Micro-cassette / Dictaphone tapes

1 Microsoft Word transcription document

21 Mapinfo data files / workspaces

6 Microsoft Exel database files

This document.

## List of Illustrations

Figure 1: Location Plan © Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 2: Estate Plan, indicating estate boundary and survey areas  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 3: A charcoal burning platform surviving in former parkland (HSM 76626)  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 4: The Manor House and principal moat looking south.  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 5: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area A  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 6: carriage rides across the parkland © Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 7: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area B  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 8: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area C.  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 9: Stone foot bridge (HSM 76756), © Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 10: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area D  
© Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 11: Location and HSM numbers of features recorded within area E.

Figure 12: The complex of buildings known as “The Farm”.

## 7 Bibliography

- |                |      |                                                                                                                                                      |
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**Validation**

Herefordshire Archaeology operates a validation system for its reports, to provide quality assurance and to comply with Best Value procedures.

This report has been checked for accuracy and clarity of statements of procedure and results.

Julian Cotton, Archaeological Advisor



