



Herefordshire Archaeology
Conservation and Environmental Planning
Planning Services
Environment Directorate
Herefordshire Council

**Herefordshire Commons
Survey
Yatton Common,
Aymestrey CP
SO 440 664**

Herefordshire Archaeology Report No.209

Report prepared by
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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.

Herefordshire Commons Survey: Yatton Common Aymestrey

Herefordshire Archaeology Report No.209

Herefordshire Archaeology, March 2006.

Summary:

The survey described in this report formed part of a pilot study for The Community Commons Project operated by Herefordshire Nature Trust. A rapid walk over survey was carried out on the Common concerned. A hand held Global Positioning by Satellite System was used to record the location of features encountered.

Features were recorded within the Common that illustrate the intensive use of the land resource in the late and post medieval periods, i.e. quarries, earthworks, settlement platforms and hollow ways.

The earthworks relating to the neighbouring Iron Age hillfort of Croft Ambrey were recorded within the Common as was a complex system of hollow ways.

Disclaimer: It should not be assumed that land referred to in this document is accessible to the public. Location plans are indicative only. National Grid Reference (NGR) are accurate to approximately 10m. Measured dimensions are accurate to within 1m at a scale of 1:500, 0.1m at 1:50, and 0.02m at 1:20.

Figure 1 contains material from the Ordnance Survey. The grid in this material is the National Grid taken from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. This material has been reproduced in order to locate the site in its environs.

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Introduction

This report provides an account of a rapid survey of Yatton Common, Aymestrey, Herefordshire (EHE43703). A total of twelve commons have been targeted as part of the Community Commons Project. The project was created by Herefordshire Nature Trust with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund. The overall aims of the Community Commons Project is to record and measure the level of biodiversity upon the common land in order to form a management plan for each common to improve and promote the habitat of local fauna and flora as well as improvements to public access. The project also provided the opportunity to document and record known and previously unknown archaeological features within the common landscape through a series of rapid survey assessments.

Commons are areas of high archaeological potential in that they have seldom been subjected to the types of disturbance associated with intensive modern agriculture. Relatively little information concerning archaeological sites within common land in Herefordshire has been recorded in the past. The rapid survey assessment centres on the recording of archaeological features and their position within the landscape.

When the visible archaeological traces within each common have been documented and understood, the results can be combined with the ecological records. From these, a well-informed management strategy can be developed to preserve and interpret the archaeological record alongside the other aims of the Community Commons Project.

Location

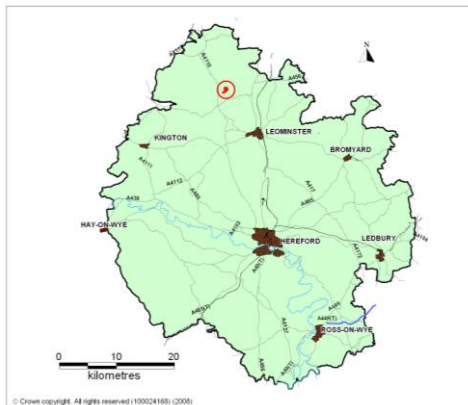


Figure 1: Location of Yatton Common in Herefordshire

Yatton Common is located at National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 44037 66419, 1.17km northwest of Croft Castle, 0.6km east of Yatton Village and 1.29km northeast of Aymestrey. Yatton Common lies within the parish of Aymestrey. The common dominates a westerly-aligned spur protruding from a northwest facing steep slope of Yatton Hill. The topography drops from a maximum of 270m to a minimum of 180m above Ordnance Datum.

Method

Yatton Common was surveyed on the 9th March, 2006. The survey comprised a rapid assessment of the commons potential to contain well-preserved archaeological features. The survey therefore approximated a 'Level 2' survey (RCHME 1999) and, as such it has identified most of the more prominent traces. It should not be regarded as definitive in its results however, given that survey coverage, although systematic was not total. Features were mapped using a hand-held Garmin 12 XL Global Positioning by Satellite System, enabling a ten-figure grid reference to be recorded for each feature. This system is accurate to within approximately 10m.

The common (34.26 hectares) was walked in transects aligned roughly south/north and approximately 50m to 100m apart. If a large feature was encountered and no other features of archaeological significance could be seen, then this feature was followed and features 50m either side of it recorded. Field observations and grid references were recorded on a Dictaphone and transcribed at a later date.

The following survey therefore provides only a sample of the remains located upon the common and should not be regarded as exhaustive or its results as definitive. Its purpose is to record the type of features present, their state of preservation and something of their relationships to other features throughout the common.

Field Conditions

The majority of Yatton Common occupies a westerly-aligned spur extending out from the northwest facing steep slope of Yatton Hill. The underlying bedrock of Yatton Common consists of Limestones that are argillaceous and thinly bedded to nodular. This is intermixed with calcareous mudstone of the Aymestry Limestone Formation and slumped mudstone and siltstone units of the Lower, Middle and Upper Elton Formations.

Survey Conditions

The rapid walkover survey was conducted on 21st March 2006. The weather was predominantly overcast with strong winds and rain.

The vegetation cover on the common is dominated by bracken. There were scattered areas of open beech woodland. The main restriction to access experienced during the survey was due to the bracken coverage. This obscured some areas and limited the surface visibility. This vegetation is likely to have impeded the observation of some archaeological features. As such the clearance of bracken is likely to result in the discovery of further archaeological features.

Previous Records

Prior to the commencement of the walkover survey a search of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) was made in order to locate any known archaeological features within the common and avoid replication of the archaeological record. The survey would serve as a reinterpretation of some of the previously recorded archaeological features.

SMR record 39483

Site name	Quarry
Parish	Aymestry
NGR	SO 4368 6684
Description	
Compiler	High, Chris
Date of record	2000
Period and site type	Post Medieval Quarry

Results

The recorded data from the survey is described in detail in the database. The present section is concluded by a brief discussion providing an interim assessment of the historical development of the common. The significance of recorded features and management implications are then commented upon within the discussion section. Appendix 1 contains a simple data base which cross references each site to the Ordnance Survey National Grid, (NGR), and the series of unique Sites and Monuments "Primary Record Numbers" (PRN), allocated following the transcription. These numbers are referred to within both the text and illustrations. They are prefixed by HSM, these initials relating to Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Record unique numbers.

Prehistoric earthworks

A series of earthworks relating to settlement at Croft Ambrey were recorded along the eastern boundary of the common. The earthworks form part of the outer defences for the multivallate Iron Age hill fort to the east. There were two clearly definable features, HSM 43704 and HSM 43709. The earthwork HSM 43704 consists of a large bank c.5m wide, 2m high and 10-15m long aligned roughly north-south. There is no clear indication for a ditch upon its external western side though this may be the result of subsequent natural erosion or medieval and post-medieval activity within the area. The bank is situated within the northeast of the common running parallel to the common boundary. The feature HSM 43709 lies to the south of that above but again parallel to the common boundary to the east. The earthwork is considerably larger than HSM 43704 as it measures almost 10m wide, 3m high. The bank is not linear though this might be due to the effect of later quarrying upon its eastern side (HSM 43710). Instead the bank forms a semi-circle with the two ends facing east. The feature has a diameter of c.20m. There is the slightest trace of a ditch lining the western edge of the feature c.1-2m wide and 0.5 deep.

Both of the earthwork defences above would have been linked during the Iron Age, the current divide between the two is due to the common boundary trackway. The trackway sits within a broad ditch that may have partly been formed by the excavation of materials to construct earthworks HSM 43704 and HSM 43709 as well as for the earthwork defences to the east of the common connected to Croft Ambrey.

Medieval Land Management Features

A total of seven lynchets were recorded occupying the west facing slope of the spur on which the majority of the common is sited. Two lynchets, HSM 43706 and HSM 43708 are situated within the northeast of the common directly west of the Iron Age defences HSM 43704 and HSM 43709. Both lynchets are aligned roughly southeast – northwest following the spur of the hill until they terminate at the modern track parallel to the northern common boundary. The two features are c.30m apart and were formed to create land on a slope for agricultural use. Between the two lynchets at the base of HSM 43706 is a hollow way aligned parallel to the lynchets and would have once acted as a link route between the two. The hollow way is at it most

pronounced to the north where it survives 0.5-1m deep and 2.5m wide, it is currently overgrown with both gorse and bracken. The two lynchets are entirely hidden by bracken.

Further to the west at a height of 140m Ordnance Datum the remains of a further two lynchets are visible (HSM 43714 & 43715) each lie 15m apart and aligned north – south. The southern ends terminate at a shallow ditch that acts as drainage off the common. To the north they compliment the hollow way HSM 43713 that transects the common. The hollow way does not appear to cut the two lynchets and so is either contemporary or later in construction to the features.

Towards the far west of the common where the spur is at its steepest a further two lynchets are visible. The largest of which is HSM 43726. This lychet is approximately 70m long, aligned north – south and measures c.25m wide. To the west at SO 43804 66794 the lychet overlooks a rectangular platform (HSM 43725)

and associated trackway. The trackway follows the edge of the lychet south until it is cut by the hollow way HSM 43713. The lychet also ends short of the hollow way by c.10m.

The platform HSM 43725 measures 20m in length aligned southeast and in width c.10m. Due to the platforms relation between the two lynchets and the proximity to the trackway that links both lynchets it can be assumed that the feature was constructed during the medieval period, either contemporary with or later than the lynchets. The platform may have housed a structure relating to storage or perhaps for the work force employed in farming the common.

The second of these lynchets HSM 43724 lies west of HSM 43726 by c.30m and is semi-circular in form and sat on the northern spur of a re-entrant, the trackway that links the two lynchets runs up to the southern edge of HSM 43724 and follows its edge round to the west where it branches off to leave the common.

HSM 43728 marks the position of a series of platforms, though two are clearly apparent the presence of others may be obscured due to bracken and gorse coverage. The two platforms are aligned northwest to southeast with the northern platform situated c.2m above that of the south. The northern platform measures c.30m x 20m and the southern 20m x 20m. Both platforms are masked by bracken and gorse which may hide any surface evidence to suggest structure. The southern platform's western and southern edge is marked by a wide bank and ditch (HSM 43716) that connects with the platforms northwestern corner at SO 44024 66717. The bank and ditch is sinuous leading west from the platforms for c.200m. The bank lies to the south of the ditch measuring 2-3m wide, 1m high. The ditch is up to 5m wide, 1.5m deep and winds through the common west until terminating at a junction with the later post-medieval hollow way (HSM 43713). The feature HSM 43716 forms either a boundary or large trackway/hollow way. With the bank to the south the feature may represent the remains of a deer park boundary enclosing the lands to the north, though any further extent of the feature was not visible during the survey. On the other hand the feature may mark the course of a hollow way linking the two platforms HSM 43728 with the lynchets HSM 43714, 43715 and 43726 to the west.

Post-medieval Land Management Features

Within the northeast corner of the common are the remains of a low banked enclosure, rectangular in construction with some evidence for a dividing bank through the centre. On the features northern edge is a shallow ditch 0.5m wide, 0.2m deep. The bank of the enclosure is 0.7m wide, 0.3m high. The feature encloses an area containing Scots Pine, the enclosure measures 15m east – west and 10m north – south and is recorded on the 1840 Tithe Map. A similar feature that encloses Scots Pine is visible on the 1840 Tithe Map further west, though the enclosure was constructed as a simple fence with no evidence for a bank and ditch.

Post-medieval Industrial Features

A number of quarries are visible throughout the common, each of which is situated no more than 20m from a well-established route way. The quarries HSM 43710, 43717, 43721, 43730 and 43735 vary in size, the largest of which HSM 43730 measures almost 20m north – south and 7m wide and was dug into western slope of the common. The geology dictates that quarrying upon the common was concerned with the extraction of either limestone or mudstone.

The remains of a sawpit (HSM 43727) 5m long, 1.5m wide and 0.4m deep with the upturned spoil on the south-eastern edge is also visible within the northeast quarter of the common c.15m south of the hollow way HSM 43713.

Communication Links

The most extensive feature recorded within the common consists of a winding hollow way that runs roughly east to west. Though currently overgrown for most of its course the feature is clearly visible on the 1890 1st Edition Ordnance Survey. On average the hollow way measures 2m wide by 0.4m deep and follows the spur down hill from the hillfort of Croft Ambrey to an entrance onto the common to the southwest but not before following the spur to the north where it splits to form three branches that rejoin the main course of the hollow way south at SO 43877 66884.

Within the east of the common the hollow way HSM 43713 ends at the northern edge of a modern trackway, as the trackway continues east for c.20m the track sinks to form a hollow way (HSM 43712). It is probable that the two hollow ways HSM 43713 and HSM 43712 were at one time the same feature. HSM 43712 continues east until reaching the common boundary adjacent to Croft Ambrey where the hollow way turns south. The hollow way is lined with a bank on its western edge measuring between 2-3m wide, 1-2m high. The bank comes to an end to the south at SO 44235 66682. At this point the hollow way levels into the trackway that leads onto the common from the south.

Though the hollow ways HSM 43712, 43713 and 43718 are recorded as post-medieval at least some aspects of the hollow ways may have origins dating to the medieval period perhaps contemporary to the construction of lynchets as a means to aid movement of supplies and equipment between each site of activity.

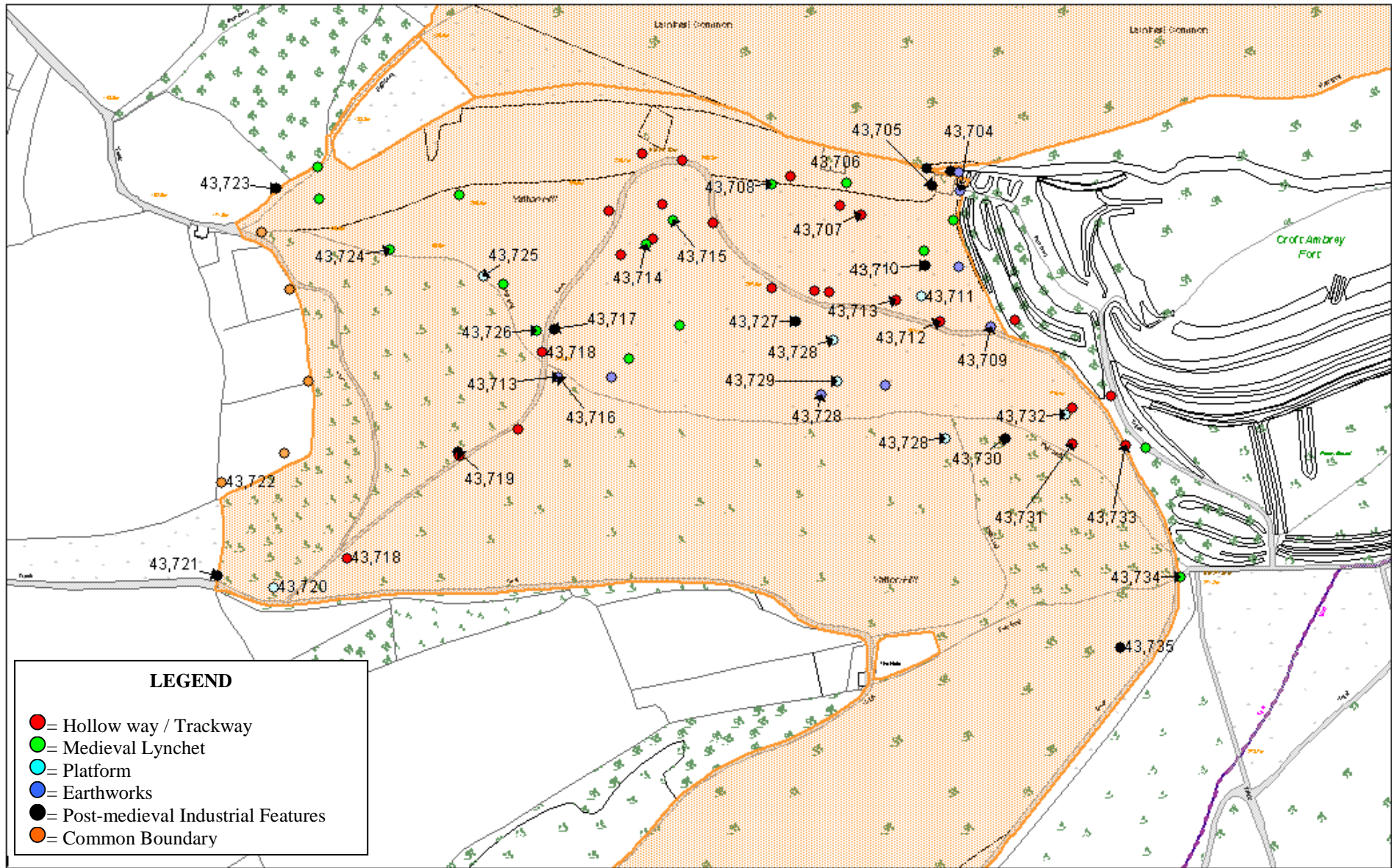
Within the southeast corner of the common west of the common boundary trackway on the downward slope of a re-entrant are a series of minor levelled tracks winding down slope to where the two medieval platforms (HSM 43728) are recorded. The winding trackways recorded as HSM 43731 and HSM 43733 measure 5m wide and align approximately east – west. Their exact course is masked by dense beech woodland that has formed in the area; as such the features entire course could not be traced. What is clear is that the levelled trackways acted as a branch of the main hollow way HSM 43712. Though the levelled tracks final destination are unknown their course links with a small circular platform cut into the west sloping hill (HSM 43732). The platform (10m diameter) reveals no other surface features that might suggest a previous structure.

Within the two medieval platforms HSM 43728 upon the southern most of the two is a sub-rectangular platform approximately 10m x 10m, the earthwork is currently masked by the presence of both gorse and bracken. The platform has angular stone protruding from its surface on the northwestern edge. The reasoning behind its construction is unclear though it may have acted as an observation platform for travellers moving through the common down the levelled trackways of HSM 43731 and 43733.

The Common Boundary

The majority of the common boundary has been replaced with modern fence boundaries. Along the southern edge of the common to the south of the spur, the boundary consists of bank and internal ditch; the bank has been lined with a hedgerow and survives to approximately 1m wide, 0.5m high. The ditch survives at 1.3m wide, 0.7m deep.

The western common boundary HSM 43722 consists of a minor bank 1m wide, 0.5m high with an eroded internal ditch 0.7m wide 0.2m deep. The course of the boundary is lined with a mix of beech and ash, though their setting along the boundary bank is sporadic. To the west of the boundary are a series of at least three small fields, each with a field boundary similar to that described above. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey indicates that two of the fields were employed as orchards, the third as arable. Interestingly there is a small stone cottage site to the north on the entrance to the common, this feature is visible on both the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey and the 1840 Tithe Map and may indicate the post-medieval reclaiming of land from the common. If we examine the linear western boundary of the three small fields we will see that its construction (though currently lined by a hedgerow) matches that of a medieval common boundary.



Discussion and Implications

Interpretation of the Results

The earliest evidence identified during the survey was the earthworks associated with the western defences of the Iron Age hillfort of Croft Ambrey. The survey provided no further evidence of prehistoric features.

Agricultural evidence dates from the medieval period. This consists of a series of agricultural terraces (lynchets) and supporting route ways and platforms associated to past structures.

Post-medieval evidence indicates an attempt to claim land from the common within the west (HSM 43722). Further activity is visible through a network of hollow ways (HSM 43713, 43712 & 43718) that cross east-west through the common linking the lands of Croft Estate with the valley approach to Wigmore. Surrounding the network of hollow ways are a number of industrial features consisting almost entirely of quarries with the exception of a possible sawpit.

Implications regarding the archaeological resource

The topography and geology (especially the soils) of Yatton Common dictates that due to the steep slopes and well-drained soils within the common, archaeological features i.e. banks, ditches platforms survive generally well. In addition the lack of modern activity and the absence of woodland have greatly favoured the survival of archaeological features. The majority of features recorded are susceptible to erosion or burial as the soil moves down slope, covering and distorting any archaeological features. Disturbance upon archaeology within the common is caused by the presence of bracken as the rhizome will disrupt below ground archaeological stratigraphy.

Implications regarding site condition

Across the common, platforms, banks, ditches and drainage channels remain visible. As such relationships can be noted linking features. Traces of past communications survive in the form of hollow ways that can be traced linking a number of sites within the common. The survival of features makes it possible to produce a rough chronology between sites. Surveying the common boundary indicates that at a point during the post-medieval period an area of land was reclaimed from the common to form a series of orchards and land for pasture. Quarries provide another example; in a number of instances cuts are seen to overlap providing a chronology of events.

Implications for future management

The implications for the future management of the historic environment on Yatton Common fall into two categories: reducing further loss and potential enhancement.

In order to reduce further loss to the historic environment a number of management approaches are recommended.

- Avoid works that cause disturbance to the ground surface on or adjacent to known archaeological features as these may disfigure upstanding monuments and can irreversibly damage any *in-situ* archaeological deposits.
- Avoid the dumping of materials on or adjacent to any upstanding archaeological features as this will result in a modification to their form.
- The clearance of bracken should be done in periods when ground conditions are firm and not prone to disfigurement and compaction. In some circumstances, such as soft ground conditions, it maybe appropriate that lightweight machinery or vehicles equipped with low compaction tyres would be favourable so as to reduce ground disturbance.
- Significant earthmoving operations such as the creation of new drains, ponds, parking areas, and access tracks may disturb currently unrecorded archaeological deposits. Proposals should be subject to a rapid assessment by Herefordshire Archaeology to assess the potential archaeological impact of the works and if appropriate instigate a programme of archaeological work.

The aim here is to highlight some of the key archaeological features for enhancement under the Community Commons Project. Further management advice can be obtained from Herefordshire Archaeology. The highlighted features are:

- To reduce bracken/scrub cover over identified archaeological features. In particular the earthworks associated with Croft Ambrey Hill Fort (HSM 43704 and HSM 43709) and the series of platforms (HSM 43728 and 43729). This clearance will help improve the visibility of features and help protect below ground archaeological deposits that have survived.
- The lynchets (HSM 43706 and HSM 43708) located within the east of the common could also be subject to bracken reduction. This will greatly improve their visibility and access to one of the main features that typifies the historical activities carried out on the common.
- The numerous hollow ways and tracks (HSM 43713, 43712 and 43718) on the common present the opportunity to create/improve walking or access routes by the reduction of bracken and scrub.

Implications for future field work.

Yatton Common contains a high density of visible archaeological features relating to grazing, agriculture, communications and settlement. The features recorded consist primarily of post-medieval trackways and medieval lynchets.

The common land has a high potential for the presence of further well-preserved, visible archaeological features currently masked by bracken. It should be possible to recognise relationships between the features recorded and hence produce at least a rudimentary series of phases illustrating the changing management of the common. Due to substantial areas of bracken growth within the common it is probable that a number of archaeological features remain undetected.

Opportunities to further investigate the archaeology of the common should target key aspects to establish a more complete picture of the archaeological resource. These are:

- Investigate the relationship of the earthworks (HSM 43704 and HSM 43709) on the eastern boundary of the common with the other earthworks of the Iron Age hillfort of Croft Ambrey.
- Investigate the two platforms HSM 43728 and HSM 43729 and their relationship to one another. The platforms are aligned northwest to southeast with the northern platform situated c.2m above that of the south.

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the help and co-operation of Herefordshire Nature Trust for assistance with access for this survey, and to the Herefordshire Community Commons Project for their commitment to this scheme.

Dr. Keith Ray, County Archaeologist, for his editorial input into this report.

Dr. Neil Rimmington, Countryside Advisor, for his editorial input into this report.

Archive

1 Dictaphone tape
1 Transcription Record
1 Excel Database
1 Mapinfo data file

Appendix 1: Database of features recorded during this survey.

HSM	Easting	Northing	Site type	Period	Description
43704	344119	266871	Bank (Earthwork)	Iron Age	Large bank earthwork aligned north-south 10-15m long, 5m wide and c.2m high. Outwork to Croft Ambrey.
43704	344120	266858	Bank (Earthwork)	Iron Age	Earthwork ends at a modern bench for a c.5m break until it continues to edge the northeast common boundary.
43705	344114	266872	Boundary bank	Post- medieval	Northeast corner of enclosure containing Scot's pine, north facing bank 15m, east facing bank 10m. Bank is 0.7m wide, 0.3m high.
43705	344101	266862	Boundary bank	Post- medieval	Southwest corner of enclosed area.
43705	344097	266874	Boundary bank	Post- medieval	Northwest corner with evidence for a ditch marking the northern and western edges. Ditch is 0.5m wide, 0.2m deep.
43706	344116	266838	Lynchet	Medieval	Northwest running lynchet, c.70m before terminating at spur of hill. High bracken coverage.
43706	344042	266864	Lynchet	Medieval	End of lynchet.
43707	344052	266842	Hollow way	Medieval	Slight hollow way 5m to south of lynchet HSM 43706 runs 10m to the east before disappearing. To the west continues.
43707	344037	266848	Hollow way	Medieval	Redirects north-northwest.
43707	344003	266869	Hollow way	Medieval	Comes to an end in an area of gorse growth. hollow way measures up to 1-2m wide, 0.5-1.5m deep.
43708	344066	267889	Lynchet	Medieval	30m wide, lynchet is aligned east to west. Runs west off common boundary continuing west terminating at the spur of the hill. Overgrown with bracken.
43709	344142	266764	Bank (Earthwork)	Pre- historic	4m high, 10m wide, connected to hillfort (Croft Ambrey) runs northwest or 15m before realigning north for 20m. Has a quarry at its base to the east that runs north forming a ditch that realigns west following the base of the earthwork.
43709	344119	266806	Bank (Earthwork)	Pre- historic	Comes to an end at its northern point.
43710	344096	266807	Quarry	Post- medieval	Disappears to the west of earthwork within heavy bracken coverage.
43711	344093	266785	Platform	Post- medieval	From this position the platform extends south-southeast for 10m and northwest for c.12m. Course lost due to bracken coverage.
43712	344106	266768	Trackway	Post- medieval	Southern edge of track marked by a bank 2m wide 1m high. The bank runs southeast to base of Croft Ambrey and northwest for 15-20m before terminating.

43712	344225	266716	Trackway	Post-medieval	Common boundary track with the associated bank to the west ends at this point. The bank remains as 2m wide, 0.2m high.
43712	344158	266769	Trackway	Post-medieval	Common boundary track and external bank realign northwest at this point to run away from the common boundary. The bank stands at 3m wide, 1.5m high. The track follows the topography of a re-entrant the bank allowing for a break to aid drainage from the track. The re-entrant leads to the quarry HSM 43730.
43713	344076	266783	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Northern side of modern track running from platform HSM 43711. Aligned roughly east to west, the Hollow way measures 2m wide 0.2m deep.
43713	344030	266788	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Feature breaks
43713	344019	266789	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Reappearance of hollow way, 3m wide, 1m deep.
43713	343990	266791	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Continuation, overgrown with gorse as it swings northwest following contour of slope.
43713	343949	266836	Hollow way	Post-medieval	'Y'-junction along hollow way, main course continues northwest, later hollow way runs west.
43713	343900	266884	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Main course of hollow way continues north-northwest for 10m before aligning southwest to run parallel to modern track to the north. hollow way is 3m wide, 0.5m deep.
43713	343877	266845	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way redirects south and continues for c.50m
43713	343928	266880	Hollow way	Post-medieval	A second 'Y'-junction of the main course occurs at this point where it runs in a south-westerly direction
43713	343914	266849	Hollow way	Post-medieval	The two branching hollow ways mentioned above meet at this point and run in a southerly direction.
43713	343907	266825	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Both the main hollow way and the branching system join together at this point. The branching hollow way joins from the east. The hollow way turns south-southwest.
43713	343885	266814	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way continues in a west-southwest direction for 30m.
43713	343842	266729	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way crosses the path of what might have been Deer Park Boundary. Hollow way continues to run southwest for 10m before redirecting west.
43714	343903	266821	Lynchet	Medieval	Lines the western slope aligned north south. Approximately 15m wide.
43714	343891	266742	Lynchet	Medieval	Lynchet ends at an east to west ditch.

43715	343921	266838	Lynchet	Medieval	Parallel lynchet to the east of HSM 43714. Approximately 10m wide
43715	343926	266765	Lynchet	Medieval	Lynchet ends at an east west running ditch.
43716	343879	266729	Boundary bank/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Large earthwork bank and ditch. Ditch is on the up slope to the bank (bank on southwest side) ditch is c.5m wide, 1.5m deep. Bank is a low spread 1m high, 2-3m wide. The feature is partially hidden by gorse. From this position it runs south-southeast for approximately 50m and north-northwest in the opposite direction.
43716	343842	266729	Boundary bank/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Bank and ditch comes to an abrupt end as a hollow way crosses its path from the northeast. No evidence for the boundary's continuation on the other side of track.
43716	344024	266717	Boundary bank/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Bank and ditch (course of)
43716	344068	266723	Boundary bank/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Feature runs out when it meets the modern trackway.
43717	343839	266762	Quarry	Post-medieval	Shallow quarry scoop (gravel) 3m diameter, 0.5m deep.
43718	343831	266746	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Two parallel hollow ways 10m apart aligned south for 50m. The two acted as lanes, one south one north.
43718	343814	266693	Hollow way	Post-medieval	The two hollow ways close in distance apart to 6m and redirect south-southwest.
43718	343773	266674	Hollow way	Post-medieval	The two hollow way's part distance to give way to small clearing that may have held a structure.
43718	343695	266603	Hollow way	Post-medieval	The two parallel banks from this position align south to run out onto the modern roadway.
43719	343772	266677	Enclosure	Post-medieval	Position marks the northwest corner of a rectangular enclosure with dividing boundaries. The enclosure is 15m long and 10m wide. The dividing boundary within the centre runs northeast to southwest. The enclosure is marked by a small earth covered stone bank c.1m wide 0.3m high.
43720	343645	266583	Platform	Post-medieval	Triangular platform between the two parallel Hollow way's along the edge of the modern roadway. Platform stands approximately 1.5m high, approximately 10m along the edge of the road. The platform runs to a point north of the modern road, c.20m. The platform is solidly form, having been produced through pilling stone. Material for platform produced from upturn for modern roadway or from quarrying activity

					carried out within the west of the common (HSM 43721).
43721	343606	266591	Quarry	Post-medieval	Quarry within the west along the common boundary south of the modern roadway. 15m diameter, 1.5m deep. The site has been subject to dumping of waste material.
43722	343608	266656	Boundary bank	Post-medieval	Common boundary: Western corner of common, boundary defuse consisting of a small bank (1m wide, 0.5m high) and ditch on the external side. The boundary is lined by sporadic beech and hawthorn. From this position the boundary runs east. The lands adjacent to the common consist on small-enclosed plots visible on both the 1 st Ed and Tithe map. 5 compartment fields in total for orchards and arable. They appear to impose on the common lands and may have been extracted during the medieval period that might explain the reason for the common boundaries less than substantial appearance.
43722	343652	266676	Boundary bank	Post-medieval	Corner of common boundary as it redirects north.
43722	343669	266726	Boundary bank	Post-medieval	Course of common boundary.
43722	343656	266790	Boundary bank	Post-medieval	Common boundary joined by a parallel track to the east.
43722	343636	266830	Boundary bank	Post-medieval	Corner of common boundary as it redirects west with the trackway parallel. The boundary continues until reaching an entrance on and of the common. On the northern edge of the entrance is a disused stone hut, perhaps connected to the lands previously discussed.
43723	343646	266860	Quarry	Post-medieval	Quarry south of a hollow way evident on the 1 st Edition OS. The hollow way leaves the common to the north approximately 15m away. The quarry is 5m diameter and up to 2m deep.
43724	343675	266875	Lynchet	Medieval	Aligned south-southwest for c.70m. The lynchet stands above the common boundary and trackway mentioned above (HSM 43722)
43724	343676	266853	Lynchet	Medieval	Realigns following the topography south.
43724	343725	266818	Lynchet	Medieval	Terminates at this position after realigning in east taking in a broad arc as it does so. Lynchet c.15-20m wide.
43725	343790	266799	Platform	Medieval	Position taken from northwest corner of a rectangular platform that stretches 20m to the southeast. 20m x 15m. there is a trackway lining its

					eastern edge. Light vegetation coverage consisting of beech. Platform too small for a lynchet, may have housed a structure associated to land management within the medieval period.
43726	343804	266794	Lynchet	Medieval	Southeast aligned lynchet overlooking platform and lane HSM 43725. To the northwest the lynchet continues for a further 50m before fading in the spur of the common.
43726	343827	266761	Lynchet	Medieval	Lynchet comes to an end as it meets with the two parallel hollow way's HSM 43718.
43727	344006	266768	Saw Pit	Post-medieval	Oval depression with up turned soil on southwest side. Pit is 5m long, 1.5m wide, 0.4m deep.
43728	344032	266755	Platform	Iron Age	Platform aligned south-southwest for c.50m before turning redirecting west. To the northeast of the recorded position the platform continues for 10-15m before ending. The scale of the platform may indicate a connection with the prehistoric settlement of Croft Ambrey.
43728	344024	266717	Platform	Iron Age	Southwest corner of platform. The southern edge of the platform drops c.1.5m onto a second platform. Its southern edge is lined by a shallow east to west running ditch and joins the large bank and ditch feature HSM 43716 (Boundary/Hollow way) at this position that runs up from the north to border the platforms western side. The bank and ditch boundary/hollow way lines the second, lower platform before terminating to the south at the trackway recorded above (c.30m from recorded position). The ditch measures 4m wide, 0.5m deep, the bank on the external southern side stands c.5m wide, 1.2m high. It is possible that all of these features relate to the defence of Croft Ambrey. A guarded entrance from the west?
43728	344110	266686	Platform	Iron Age	Southern edge of platform runs east into the natural slope of the common.
43729	344035	266726	Earthwork	Post-medieval	Sub-rectangular rise upon platform approximately 10m x 10m. Unknown purpose, feature heavily overgrown by bracken and gorse.
43730	344152	266686	Quarry	Post-medieval	Quarry aligned northeast of position for 20m, ditch is 7m wide, 0.8m deep. Cut into western hill slope, eastern edge stands c.5m high! May have connection with construction

					of HSM 43728.
43731	344198	266683	Trackway	Post-medieval	Disused overgrown trackway c.5m wide running up slope to the south east to the north west the track runs for 20m before becoming lost in vegetation. To the south east the track is lost after c.12m
43732	344193	266703	Platform	Post-medieval	Positioned overlooking trackway HSM 43731 the platform is circular c.10m diameter, no structural evidence.
43733	344198	266708	Trackway	Post-medieval	Disused to the north east of platform HSM 43732. Track leads to the northwest for c.50m. To the southeast track continues to join with modern track that runs parallel to the common boundary.
43733	344235	266682	Trackway	Post-medieval	Disused track joins the modern common boundary track. The trackway recorded is overgrown.
43734	344249	266680	Lynchet	Medieval	Lynchet recorded 5m to the west of position running parallel to common boundary trackway to the southeast.
43734	344273	266590	Lynchet	Medieval	Lynchet ends on the northern side of a re-entrant as Yatton Hill turns to run southwest.
43735	344231	266541	Quarry	Post-medieval	Oval shaped quarry, 8m long, 5m wide, 1m deep. Spoil mound on the northwest side (down slope)

Bibliography

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