



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

**Herefordshire Commons  
Survey  
Merbach Common,  
Clifford CP  
SO 302 448**

**Herefordshire Archaeology Report No.213**

Report prepared by  
Christopher Atkinson

**Contents**

**Summary**  
**Introduction**  
**Location**  
**Method**  
**Results**  
**Discussion & Implications**  
**Acknowledgements**  
**Archive**  
**Figures**  
**Bibliography**  
**Appendix**

**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: Merbach Hill Common Clifford CP

## Herefordshire Archaeology Report No.213

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 would illustrate the intensive use of the land resource in the late and post medieval periods. Some of the features identified consist of quarries, limekilns, settlement platforms and track networks.*

*During the survey an industrial site/settlement was recorded within the west of the common. Features identified with the site consisted of a limekiln with a supporting network of trackways/hollow ways as well as a series of platforms that would have supported structures or acted as collection points.*

**Disclaimer:** It should not be assumed that land referred to in this document is accessible to the public. Location plans are indicative only. NGR's 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.

Contact details: Herefordshire Archaeology, PO Box 144 Hereford. HR1 2YH.  
Copyright Herefordshire Council 2007

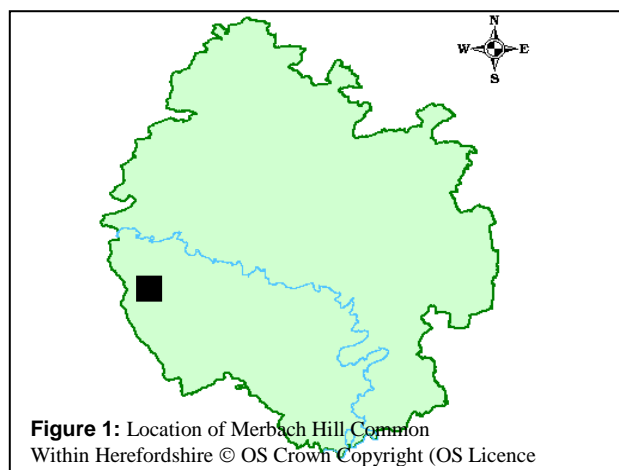
## ***Introduction***

This report provides an account of a rapid survey of Merbach Hill Common, (EHE43589). 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***



Merbach Hill Common is located at NGR: SO 30247 44858, Merbach Hill rises from the southern side of the River Wye within Clifford CP. To the east it borders Bredwardine CP and to the south Dorstone CP. At its highest the common sits at BM 318.65m. The majority of the common is situated on the northern spur of a ridge extending south-southeast. The northern edge of the common is dominated by a steep gradient that falls to 150m.

## ***Method***

Merbach Hill Common was surveyed on March 24<sup>th</sup> 2006. The survey comprised a rapid assessment of the potential of the Common 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. Satellite System, enabling a ten-figure grid

reference to be recorded for each feature, mapped features using a hand-held Garmin 12 XL Global Positioning. This system is accurate to within approximately 10m.

The common (65.22 hectare) was walked in transacts 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 is only a sample of the Common and should not be taken as exhaustive or its results as definitive. It is intended to record the type of features present, their state of preservation and their relationships to other features throughout the Common.

### ***Field conditions***

Merbach Hill Common occupies the edge of a ridge that extends down a spur to the north. The geology of the area is of Lower Old Red Sandstone, recognised as the St Maughans Formation. The geology consists primarily of mudstone and siltstone with seams of green sandstones and calcrete. At c.200m the ridge is distinguishable by a limestone seam up to 10m thick (Bishops Frome Limestone Member). To the east and south there are two isolated areas relating to glacial deposits.

### ***Survey Conditions***

The rapid walkover survey was conducted on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2006. The weather was predominantly dull with heavy rainfall. The vegetation on the common features a mix of open woodland consisting of Birch, Alder and Hazel with large areas of bracken coverage with sporadic areas of gorse and hawthorn. There are no areas free of substantial vegetation, bracken coverage obscures most areas and limits the surface visibility.

### ***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 40083**

<b>Site name</b>	Quarry
<b>Parish</b>	Clifford
<b>NGR</b>	SO 3037 4468
<b>Compiler</b>	Webb, Howard
<b>Date of record</b>	2001
<b>Period and site type</b>	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.

### **Parish Boundary**

The eastern and southern edge of the common is lined by the parish boundary that separates the three parishes of Clifford, Dorstone and Bredwardine. The boundary consists of a bank with a ditch on the common side so as to prevent wildlife and livestock from interfering with surrounding farmland. The ditch is up to 1.5m wide and 0.5m deep with the bank measuring 2m wide and 0.6m high. Along the top of the bank is a planted hedgerow and modern fence. The boundary is likely to date from the Medieval Period when the common land was first established.

### **Industrial Settlement**

Within an area along the western edge of the common are the remains of a small industrial site cut into the west-facing slopes overlooking the village of Middlewood. At this location the common is joined by a well-established hollow way, recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey as *Derry Wood Road*. This hollow way links the village of Middlewood to the industrial site on the common.

The remains of a limekiln (HSM 43590) survive on the eastern edge of *Derry Wood Road* though it appears in poor condition with only the rear wall of the kiln now surviving. The feature has suffered substantially due to scrub woodland and root growth. The rear wall of the kiln is crescent in shape, measuring c.6m diameter and stands 1.5m high.

On the western edge of *Derry Wood Road* opposite the remains of the limekiln is a large sub-rectangular platform (HSM 43591) cut into the west-facing slope. It measures 20m long and up to 10m wide. The platform is supported by a level track on its northern edge that links it to the course of *Derry Wood Road*.

To the southwest of the platform HSM 43591 are the remains of a cottage site built of local sandstone. It is located outside of the common but adjacent to the boundary and was accessed via *Derry Wood Road*. It is within this area that the road itself terminates, having served as an access route linking Middlewood with the oak woodland referred to on the first County Series survey (1843-1893) as *Derry Wood*. The building measures approximately 8m long by 5m wide and had a south facing entrance, the upstanding remains survive to a height of 3m. It appears that the

structure had two rooms the western most having housed a fireplace and chimney; the structure would originally have consisted of two storeys.

Cut into the west-facing slope to the east and overlooking the limekiln HSM 43590 is a platform (HSM 43592) that measures 10m diameter. The platform can be accessed from the hollow way adjacent to the common boundary. Running from its northern edge is a north-northeast aligned track cut into the northwest-facing slope. The track is roughly 3m wide and runs for 10m before the scrubland prohibits further survey.

Following the hollow way east along the common some 80m from the platform HSM 43592 the start of a north north easterly aligned terrace was recorded (HSM 43593). In total the terrace is c.100m long with a connected hollow way (HSM 43594) on its northern edge (NGR SO 29632 44756) that runs south to connect with the main east-west running hollow way that lines the south-western edge of the common. Other than the adjoining hollow way there is no other evidence for structure or access associated with the terrace.

A second terrace was recorded further along to the east, again visible from the east-west aligned hollow way. HSM 43596 is recorded as starting c.8m to the north of the hollow way at NGR SO 29770 44812 and runs northeast, keeping with the contours of the common. The terrace is joined by a levelled track from the west (HSM 43595). The terrace continues for c.120m and measures roughly 20m wide. Visually there is no evidence for further features or associated structures due to heavy bracken coverage. The terrace appears to continue on its course for at least a further 50m though vegetation growth prevents further recording.

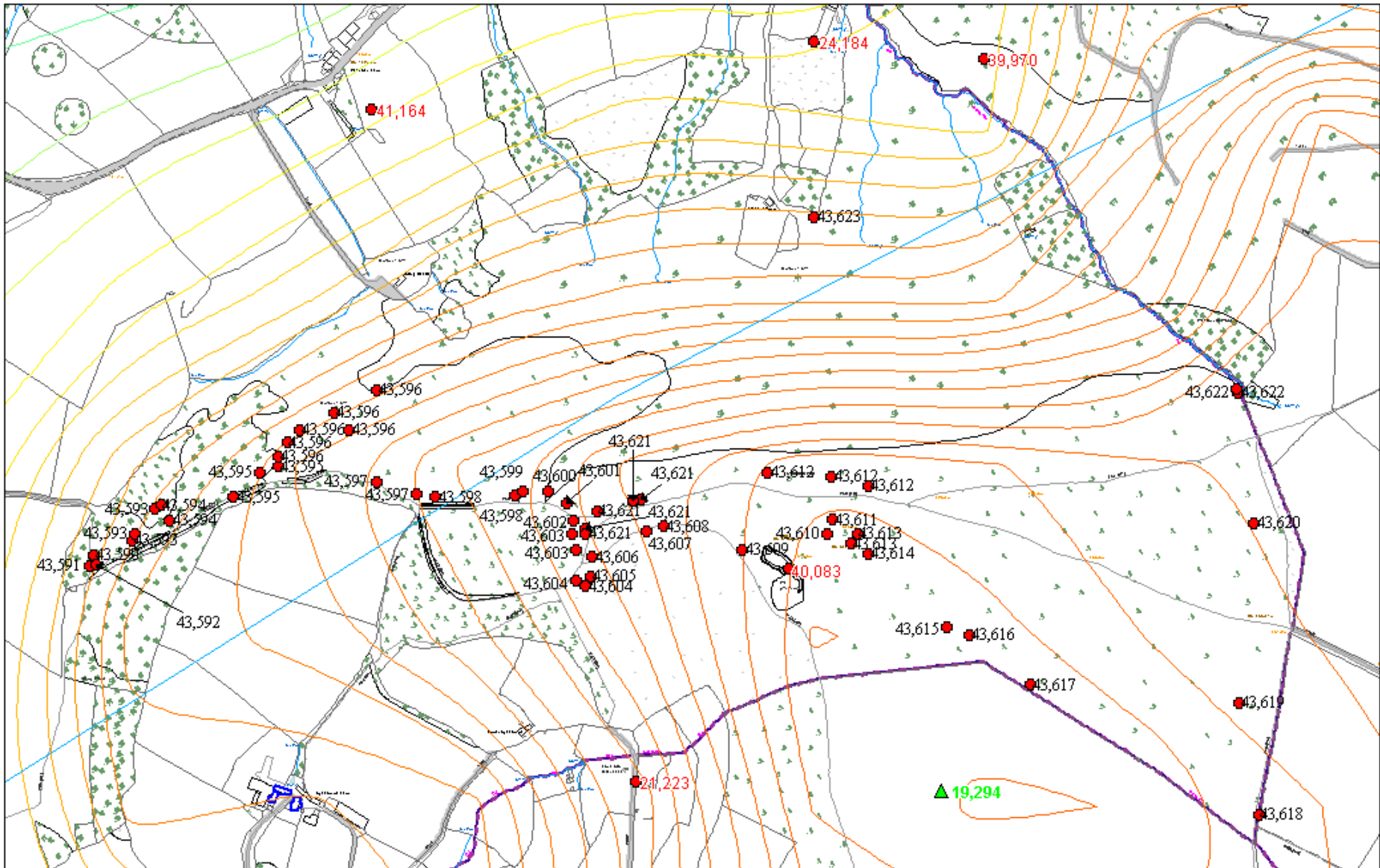
The terraces HSM 43612, 43607 and 43606 are no doubt natural in form; however their use in the past cannot be ruled. HSM 43612 sits north of the quarried area between HSM 43609 and HSM 43614. It is certain the hollow ways from the quarried area ran onto HSM 43612 though the direction to the east and west is no longer traceable.

The final platform recorded during the survey (HSM 43622) is sited at the start of a re-entrant with a stream running down slope to the east at NGR SO 30898 44892. The platform is 12m long as it stretches northwest and up to 10m wide. On its southern side is a small quarry 8m diameter and up to 3m deep. There is no evidence for supporting track way.

### **Post-medieval industrial features**

A total of thirteen quarry sites were recorded with the largest concentration being sited around the commons summit (HSM 43609, 43613, 43614, 43615, 43616, 43617). The remaining seven sites are scattered randomly within the east and west of the common. It is clear that a good number of the quarries were concentrated on the extraction of limestone (Bishops Frome Limestone Member) that appears within the common at 250m OD and lies up to 10m thick.

With the survival of a kiln (HSM 43590) located within the west of the common at NGR SO 29552 44696, north of an east-west aligned hollow way it can be deduced that the stone extracted from the quarries was employed in local lime production.



**Archaeological features recorded within Merbach Hill Common**  
**Scale 1:6000**



Reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.  
 Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction in any form is prohibited. Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
 Herefordshire Council - 10002+168, 2007.

Herefordshire Council,  
 ICT Services Division,  
 Thom Office Centre,  
 Holme Lacy Road,  
 Rothley,  
 Hereford, HR2 6JT.  
 Tel: 01432 290193  
 Email: helpdesk@herefordshire.gov.uk





The kiln is roughly 6m diameter and currently stands at 1.5m high. The kiln sits upon a rise approximately 1m above *Derry Wood Road* aligned south that links with the hollow way that follows the common boundary east. The kiln is at risk from tree and scrub growth with some birch protruding from within the feature.

Each of the quarries recorded vary in both shape and size. HSM 43603 was cut into the base of a terrace aligned southwest for c.30m with a width of over 10m. Activity here was connected with the removal of limestone.

### **Post-medieval communication links**

Seven routes of communication were recorded visible as hollow ways. Each of which indicated a clear relationship with surrounding features, in effect linking both quarrying and areas of settlement and industrial activity.

The tracks associated with post-medieval settlement have been noted above where they were found directly tied to platforms and terrace and in the majority of cases traceable to link one platform with another.

Though there is no complete route of communication linking the quarries to the settlement there are fragmented stretches that would indicate such a feature. On following the main holloway aligned east to west along the south of the common, two recordings were made reference a series of parallel hollow ways each orientated east to west (HSM 43597 & HSM 43598) though the two features are separated by c.50m, it might be suggested they were once joined. Both hollow ways are cut by what is currently the modern right-of-way.

When surveying the quarries HSM 43613 (NGR SO 30444 44710) and HSM 43610 (NGR SO 30465 44698) the remains of previous route ways to and from the quarried areas survive. Though both hollow ways run in a northerly direction, it is highly probable that they originally redirected west so as to connect with the system of route ways previously mentioned. It is either through erosion or simply due to substantial vegetation growth that the system of route ways connected to post-medieval activity upon the common does not survive intact.

## ***Discussion and Implications***

### **Interpretation of the Results**

One of the primary activities upon the common appears to have been concerned with the extraction of stone. This is evident from the surviving quarries, hollow ways, platforms and limekiln. It is assumed that the majority of this activity can be associated to the post-medieval period, though the possibility of the archaeology being earlier and relating to the use of the common during the medieval period cannot be ruled out.

### **Indications of former land use**

The earliest evidence identified during the survey was the Parish Boundary that follows the southern and eastern edge of the common. The parish boundary divides

Bredwardine to the east, Dorstone to the south and Clifford to the northwest. It is likely that the northern and western extent of the common represents the original boundary established during the medieval period.

The network of trackways and quarries as well as the settlement located within the west of the common indicate the area importance as a centre for the extraction of stone during the post-medieval period. Very little information was obtained during the survey to suggest the common lands use during the medieval period.

### **Implications regarding the archaeological resource**

The topography and geology (especially the soils) of Merbach Common dictates that due to the easily drainable condition of a large area of the common, any archaeological features i.e structural will have survived generally well. In addition the lack of modern activity and the absence of woodland have greatly favoured the survivability of archaeological features. Disturbance upon archaeology within the common is caused largely by bracken and scrub coverage.

### **Implications regarding site condition**

Throughout the common, platforms, ditches and hollow ways 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 quarry and settlement sites. The survival of features makes it possible to produce a rough chronology between sites.

### **Implications for future management**

The implications for the future management of the historic environment on Merbach Hill 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 limekiln HSM 43590 and associated platforms HSM 43591 and HSM 43590. The removal of scrub from the limekiln would ensure its survival as well as improve visibility.
- The numerous hollow ways and tracks on the common present the opportunity to create walking or access routes by the reduction of bracken and scrub.
- The dumping of materials within identified quarries should be discouraged.

### **Implications for future field work.**

Merbach Hill Common contains a moderate density of visible archaeological features relating to post-medieval settlement and industry. The features recorded consist primarily of hollow ways, platforms, quarries and a limekiln.

The common land has a high potential for the presence of well-preserved archaeological features. 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:

- The remains of the limekiln are in a state of further dilapidation due to the intrusion of birch and general scrub. An investigation of the limekiln would ensure a permanent record of the structure.
- Investigate the post-medieval settlement located around the limekiln and provide a detailed plan of the site to place the limekiln in context with its physical surroundings.

### ***Archive***

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

### ***Figures***

Figure 1: Location of Merbach Hill Common within Herefordshire © OS Crown Copyright (OS Licence 100024168)

## ***Bibliography***

British Regional Geology (Third Edition 1971). *The Welsh Borderland*. London: HMSO.

Soil Survey of England and Wales (1971). *Soils of Midland and Western England 1:250,000*. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

## ***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.

## Appendix 1: Database of features recorded during this survey.

HSM	East	North	Site type	Period	Description
43590	329552	244696	Limekiln	Post-medieval	6m diameter, open front to the west. Stood at 1.5m high, approximately 1.5m above modern track.
43591	329547	244684	Platform	Post-medieval	Triangular platform 10m south side, 20m north side, levelled into western slope of common. On its northern tip, platform gives way to form a track/Hollow way that runs to common entrance.
43592	329556	244685	Platform	Post-medieval	Platform 15m diameter with a track running north-northeast of its northern edge. Platform overlooks the limekiln standing c.2m above. Track measures 3m wide, its traceable for 10m before disappearing into the slope of the common.
43593	329597	244714	Terrace/ track?	Post-medieval	End of a northeast aligned terrace 5m wide. Perhaps track.
43593	329601	244722	Terrace	Post-medieval	Terrace broadens into a far more substantial area 15m wide c.35m long its open end facing west.
43593	329624	244751	Terrace	Post-medieval	Terrace comes to an end, no evidence for structure upon the terrace.
43594	329632	244756	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way leaving platform HSM 43593 aligned east running upslope. 4m wide, c.1.5m deep
43594	329642	244737	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way joins modern track to the east.
43595	329717	244765	Hollow way	Post-medieval	10m north of recorded position running parallel to modern track in an easterly direction, 3m wide.
43595	329748	244793	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Continues
43595	329770	244801	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Disappears due to dense scrub coverage.
43596	329770	244812	Terrace	Post-medieval	Northwest side of large terrace 20m wide aligned east-northeast.
43596	329780	244829	Terrace	Post-medieval	Edge of platform
43596	329795	244844	Terrace	Post-medieval	Edge of platform, levelled track visible to the north 20m away from recording. Its runs parallel to platform running up slope.
43596	329836	244864	Terrace	Post-medieval	Terrace continues, parallel track visible.
43596	329853	244844	Terrace	Post-medieval	Terrace is joined by levelled track.
43596	329885	244891	Terrace	Post-medieval	Terrace continues in an easterly direction though impossible to follow due to vegetation coverage.
43597	329885	244783	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Ditch 2m wide 0.5m deep aligned east.
43597	329932	244769	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post-medieval	Ditch runs on to modern track aligned north to south. Modern track follows common boundary to the south.
43598	329955	244765	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way aligned east parallel to modern track. 2.5m wide 1m deep
43598	330048	244766	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Course of.
43599	330057	244771	Platform	Post-medieval	Platform to the north of modern track. Platform aligned east to west measuring 20m long, 8m wide.
43600	330087	244771	Lynchet	Medieval ?	10m north of recorded position is a possible medieval lynchet aligned east o west. The feature may have joined platform HSM 43599, difficult to see due to vegetation. 5m wide running east before

					realigning north after 25m.
43601	330109	244758	Terrace	Natural	Aligned northeast to southwest though natural, high possibility for use in medieval and post-medieval. 30m wide.
43602	330117	244737	Quarry	Post-medieval	Aligned northeast to southwest approximately 18m long, 7m wide, 1m deep.
43603	330115	244722	Quarry	Post-medieval	Aligned southwest, curving west after 30m. Quarry cut into western edge of overlooking terrace. Area surrounded with spoil associated with excavation.
43603	330121	244702	Quarry	Post-medieval	End of quarry, spoil bank to east measuring 7m wide, 8m long, 1.5m high.
43604	330120	244666	Terrace	Natural	Terrace aligned east to west. To the east it runs 100m before terminating. To the west 40m.
43604	330132	244661	Terrace	Natural	End of terrace.
43605	330137	244672	Quarry	Post-medieval	Recording taken at southern edge of quarry. 15m long aligned east to west. 8m wide, 2m deep.
43606	330139	244694	Terrace	Natural	Overlooks quarry to the south. 10m wide aligned north to south.
43607	330204	244725	Terrace	Natural	30m wide aligned northeast to southwest.
43608	330224	244731	Delve	Post-medieval	Circular delve 10m diameter, 0.3m deep.
43609	330316	244702	Quarry	Post-medieval	Shallow quarry 7m in diameter, 0.5m deep. Two scooped quarries adjacent to the north, each is 2m in diameter, 0.1m deep.
43610	330416	244722	Hollow way	Post-medieval	3m wide running northeast from the large quarried area at the top of Merbach common.
43611	330422	244738	Hollow way & platform with possible pen.	Post-medieval	Hollow way runs out onto a levelled platform 10m diameter. Within the northeast side is a cut/quarry pit 5m diameter with a retaining dry stone wall on its northern side. Wall has entrance. The dry stone is 30cm wide 0.5m high
43612	330421	244789	Terrace	Natural	Extends to east and west, though natural probable use in medieval and post-medieval periods.
43612	330346	244793	Terrace	Natural	Ends at this point to the west.
43612	330464	244777	Terrace	Natural	Ends at this point to the east.
43613	330452	244722	Quarry	Post-medieval	Recorded from southern end. Hollow way visible leaving quarry to the west. The track ends 10m to the south. Quarry extends north for 40m and is up to 30m wide.
43613	330444	244710	Hollow way	Post-medieval	Hollow way comes to an end within the centre of the quarry.
43614	330465	244698	Quarry	Post-medieval	Northeast to southwest, 30m long, 8m wide, 1m deep.
43615	330557	244611	Quarry	Post-medieval	Southwest facing quarry 15m long, 8m wide 1.5m deep.
43616	330583	244603	Quarry	Post-medieval	Centre of quarried area 20m squared spoil 2m high. Largest quarry pit 5m diameter 1.5m deep.
43617	330655	244544	Quarry	Post-medieval	15m long, 5m wide, 1.5m deep.
43618	330924	244391	Quarry	Post-medieval	20m squared area, largest pit 8m diameter, 2m deep.
43619	330901	244523	Platform?	Post-medieval	Aligned northeast southwest, 30m by 15m. southern side has two quarries each 5m diameter, 0.5m deep. Heavy bracken coverage.
43620	330919	244734	Pool	Post-medieval	20m-diameter pond, doesn't appear natural, not on OS maps either, possibly formed by pooled water into derelict quarry?
43621	330197	244762	Ditch/	Post-	Western running ditch 3m wide 0.5m deep. Parallel

			Hollow way	medieval	on is southern side is a raised track way approximately 1m above level of ditch.
43621	330187	244760	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post- medieval	The two tracks join at this point
43621	330145	244748	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post- medieval	Ditch realigns southwest.
43621	330132	244728	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post- medieval	Realigns south.
43621	330132	244722	Ditch/ Hollow way	Post- medieval	Feature continues but it is impossible to trace due to vegetation coverage.
43622	330900	244887	Quarry & Platform	Post- medieval	8m diameter, 3m deep. On its northern edge is a levelled platform stretching 12m. Platform is 10m wide.
43622	330898	244892	Platform & Quarry	Post- medieval	Platform comes to an end at this grid.
43623	330400	245094	Spoil or Platform?	Post- medieval	Spoil heap aligned east to west. 15m long and up to 10m wide, forms a rough platform to one side of modern track. Possibility it began as spoil then reused as platform due to its solid form.

### **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.

Dr. K Ray      County Archaeologist.