

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AT GLENTHORNE IN
COUNTISBURY, DEVON AND OARE, SOMERSET

PROJECT REPORT

By Hazel Riley



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OASIS PROJECT NO 321538

ABBREVIATIONS

ECP England Coast Path

ENPA Exmoor National Park Authority

GPS Global Positioning System

HE Historic England

HECO Historic Environment Conservation Officer

HER Historic Environment Record

RCHME Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION AND DESIGNATIONS

HE List Entry: 121846

Exmoor HER: MSO 7777

County: Devon and Somerset

District: North Devon and West Somerset

Parish: Countisbury and Oare

NGR: SS 802 492 to SS 784 497

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The owners kindly allowed access to the proposed route of the new England Coast Path through the Glenthorne Estate; Sue Applegate (ENPA) facilitated the fieldwork; Shirley Blaylock (ENPA) commented on the draft report; Catherine Dove (ENPA) provided background material for the survey work. The author is grateful to George Halliday for making family photographs of Glenthorne available for study.

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Fig 1 Location map

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological survey along the proposed route of the new England Coast Path through the Glenthorne Estate on Exmoor recorded a number of structures associated with the 19th-century designed landscape around Glenthorne House. These include terraced walks with viewpoints, an ornamental gateway, a pinetum with original specimen trees, an icehouse and the remains of previously unrecorded bath house.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological survey at Glenthorne along the proposed route of the new England Coast Path (ECP). The survey was commissioned by the Historic Environment Conservation Officer (HECO) of the Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) in order to record, and inform future management of, the surviving features affected by the development of this part of the new ECP route (Blaylock 2018).

2.2 The Glenthorne Estate lies on a remote part of Exmoor's coast between Lynton and Porlock, north of County Gate, centred at SS 7985 4960 (Figs 1 and 2).

2.3 The geology of the survey area comprises Quaternary deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel over Devonian sandstones of the Hangman Sandstone Formation (bgs.ac.uk).

2.4 The proposed route of the new ECP utilises a 19th-century terraced walk on the south side of Yenworthy Combe through Manor Wood and onto Glenthorne Beach. The route climbs the cliffs below Glenthorne House, then uses a 19th-century terraced walk along the southern edge of Little Wood, before joining the current South West Coast Path NW of Old Burrow Hill.

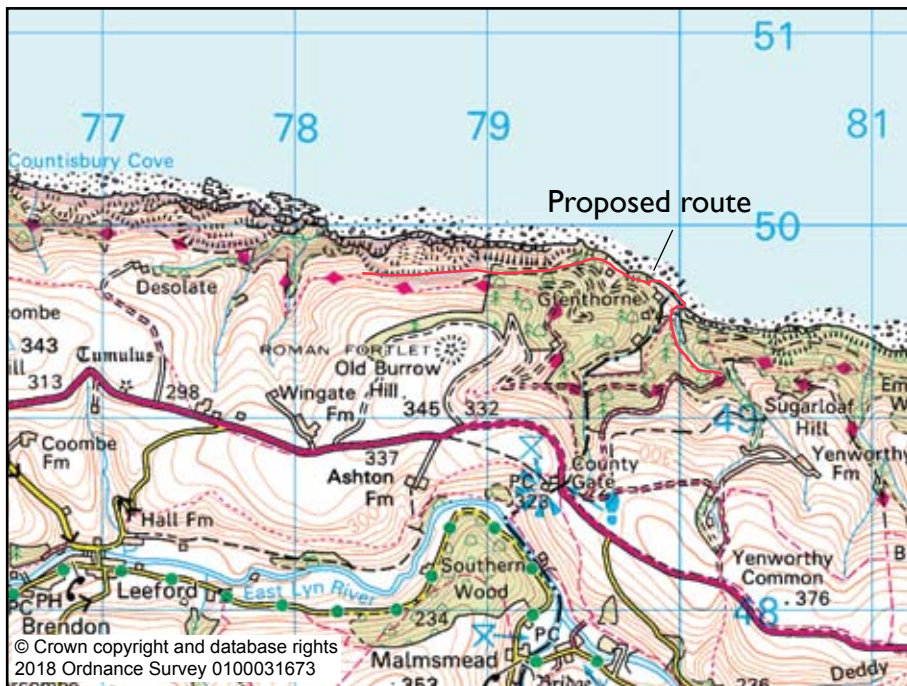


Fig 2 Survey location and topography

3.0 HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

3.1 The Glenthorne Estate was created in the 19th century by the Rev W S Halliday, who purchased the whole of the parish of Countisbury between 1829 and 1866 (Halliday 1995, 68). Countisbury was a Domesday Manor, held by Aelmer in 1066 and by William de Capra in 1086. The OS map of 1804 shows a landscape of small farms to the north and south of the East Lyn River, with the unenclosed common of Old Burrow Down on the coast west of Coscombe Bay, and woodlands on the cliffs north of Yenworthy and Broomstreet Farms (Fig 3). Coscombe, a holding of some 94 acres, purchased by Halliday in 1829, formed the heart of the Glenthorne Estate (Chanter 1906, 166-7).

3.2 The Rev W S Halliday built a large house – Glenthorne House – on the edge of the cliffs overlooking the Bristol Channel. It was largely complete by 1831, with an extension for new kitchens and servants' quarters built in 1839 and a library wing in 1846. A drive to the house from Windgate Farm was constructed, with a lodge, two gateways and several disconcerting hairpin bends. Most of the materials for the new buildings, however, came by sea. A lime kiln, store rooms and a boat house were built at the landing place on the beach below the house. Home Farm, the Garden Cottage and kitchen garden, an icehouse, a bath house and a reservoir were constructed in the period 1830s-1850s (Halliday 1995, 19-43). The network of terraced walks and paths around Glenthorne was in place by the late 19th century (OS 1890).

3.3 The tithe maps for Countisbury (1841) and Oare (1842) show the principal features of the Glenthorne Estate built by Halliday in the 1830s. The house, Garden Cottage, Home Farm, coach house, lodge and buildings by the beach are all shown. At this time the drive to Glenthorne left the Countisbury to Porlock road at Windgate Farm and crossed Old Burrow Down to the north of Old Burrow. The tithe maps depict a narrow strip of woodland – Little Wood - between Old Burrow Down and the sea in Countisbury and a block of woodland – Manor Wood and Stag's Head Wood - between the enclosed land of Yenworthy and Broomstreet Farms in Oare (Figs 4 and 5).



Fig 3 Extract from OS map North Molton 1804 (bl.ac.uk)



Fig 4 Extract from Countisbury tithemap 1841 (DEXI4/a/TM/Countisbury) (Reproduced with the kind permission of the South West Heritage Trust)



Fig 5 Extract from Oare tithe map 1842 (SHC d/Rt/M/360) (Reproduced with the kind permission of the South West Heritage Trust)

3.4 The Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25” map (OS 1890) shows the extent of the designed landscape around Glenthorne. A network of terraced walks and paths traverse the slopes between the main drive, and link the house with the walled gardens and Garden Cottage, Home Farm, Glenthorne Beach and Yenworthy Combe. Four linhays to the south and SE of Home Farm are named on the map: Coscombe Linhay; Five Acre Linhay; Hemlawn Linhay and Whitebloom Linhay. A road links the drive with the Countisbury to Porlock Road south of Old Burrow, and several small buildings and structures are shown: a fountain; ‘The Towers’; a bath house, an icehouse and a reservoir and ponds. Coniferous woodlands are depicted in Glenthorne Plantations and in Manor Wood (Fig 6).

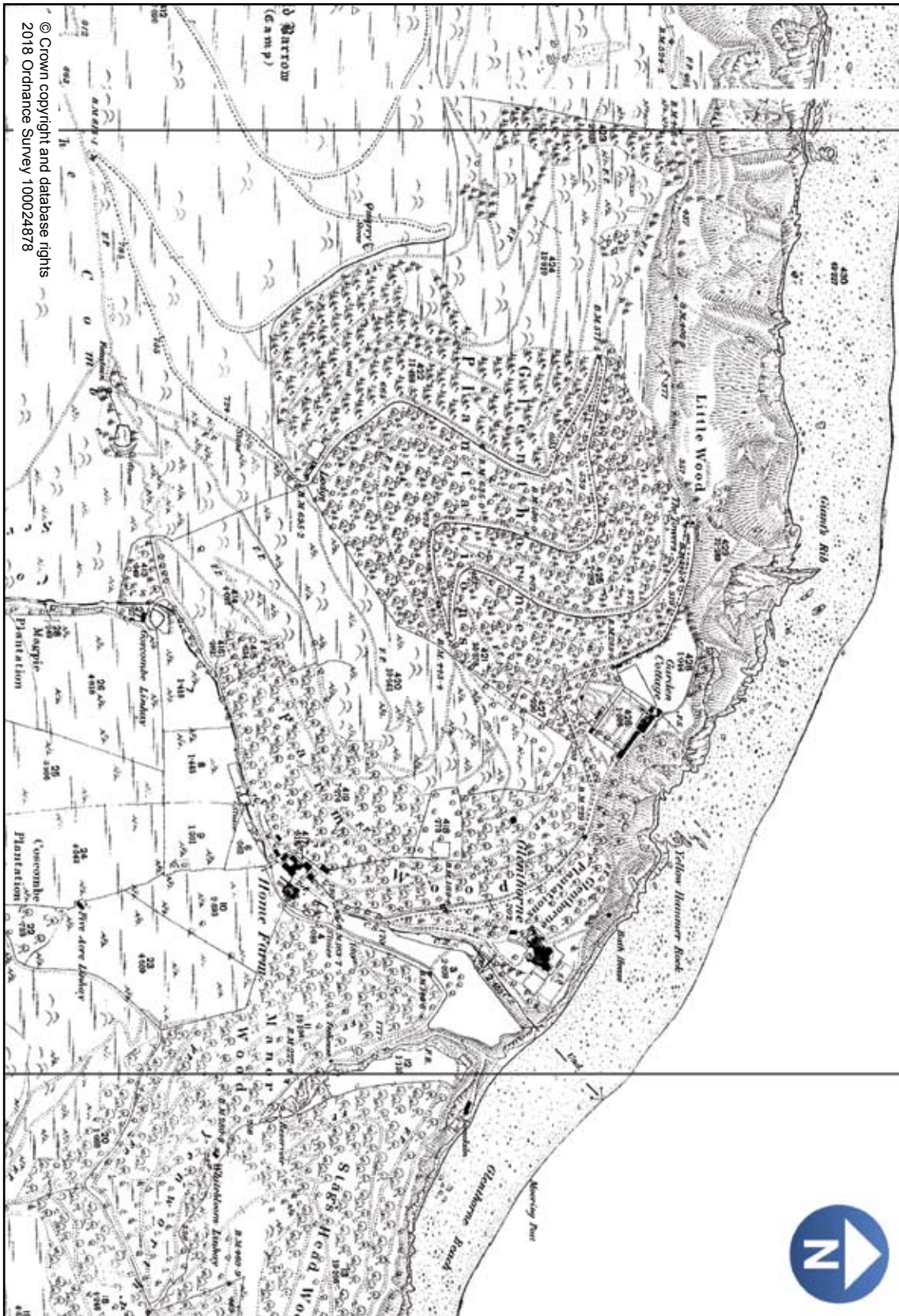
3.5 Photographs from the Halliday family collection show a landscape of enclosed fields south of Home Farm, in what is now woodland. These photographs are not dated but were probably taken in the late 19th or early 20th centuries (Fig 7).

3.6 A history of the Halliday family at Glenthorne was written by Ursula Halliday (1995).

3.7 Previous archaeological work on the Glenthorne Estate includes some recording work by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) on Glenthorne Beach and the Historic England (HE) list entries for the estate.

Fig 7 The Combe south of Home Farm in the late 19th century (Halliday Family Collection)





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Fig 6 Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey 25" map (1890)

4.0 OBJECTIVES

4.1 The main objective of the survey was to record the surviving archaeological features affected by the development of the new ECP route through the Glenthorne Estate, and to inform future management of these features.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The desk-based assessment located records relevant to the survey in the following: HE List Entry (www.historicengland.org.uk)

List UID 1289230 The Towers; 1213083 Garden Cottage and walled garden; 1212846 Glenthorne House; 1173368 lime kiln; 1058039 icehouse

Exmoor Historic Environment Record (HER) (www.exmoorher.co.uk)

MSO12168; MEM22839; MSO7775; MSO7767; MEM22842; MEM22843; MEM22827; MSO7777; MEM22703; MEM21334; MEM21306

5.2 The following historic maps and air photographs were consulted

North Molton 1804 (www.bl.ac.uk)

Tithe maps: Countisbury (1841) and Oare (1842)

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map (surveyed 1888, published 1890)

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25" map (revised 1902 to 1903, published 1904)

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" map (surveyed 1887 to 1888, published 1889)

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 6" map (revised 1902 to 1903, published 1905)

RAF vertical air photographs (1946-48)

5.3 A collection of photographs of Glenthorne, dating from the 19th and 20th centuries, from the Halliday family collection was consulted in the Exmoor HER, ENPA.

5.4 A rapid assessment of the route of the new England Coast path from Yenworthy Combe (SS 802 492) to Handball (SS 794 497) was undertaken by the author in May 2018. All of the archaeological features on or close to the route were recorded. The locations of the features were obtained from current and historic mapping or using a handheld Trimble Yuma tablet with enhanced Global Positioning System (GPS).

5.4.1 Profiles across the terraced walks were surveyed at a scale of 1:100 to illustrate their morphology across the course of the route

5.4.2 A plan of the remains of the bath house was surveyed at a scale of 1:50.

5.4.3 Each archaeological feature has been given a unique number with the prefix GT18, and these numbers are used throughout this report: GT18001 to GT18029 (Fig 8). These numbers are cross referenced to known sites in the Exmoor HER in the Site Gazetteer where appropriate.

5.4.4 Photographs of the archaeological features were taken and form part of the project archive.

5.4.5 The survey archive has been deposited with the Exmoor HER, ENPA.

6.0 RESULTS

6.1 The results of the surveys are set out in the Site Gazetteer (below, 6.2) and the location of each site is shown in Figure 8. Twenty eight sites were recorded during the course of the survey, the majority of the features date from the 19th-century and are associated with the Glenthorne Estate; the exceptions are the enclosures on the edge of Stag's Head Wood which probably date to the late medieval/early post-medieval period (below, 6.2 GTI8006).

6.2 GTI8 Glenthorne Site Gazetteer

GTI8001 LOCATION 280220 149200

TYPE PINETUM

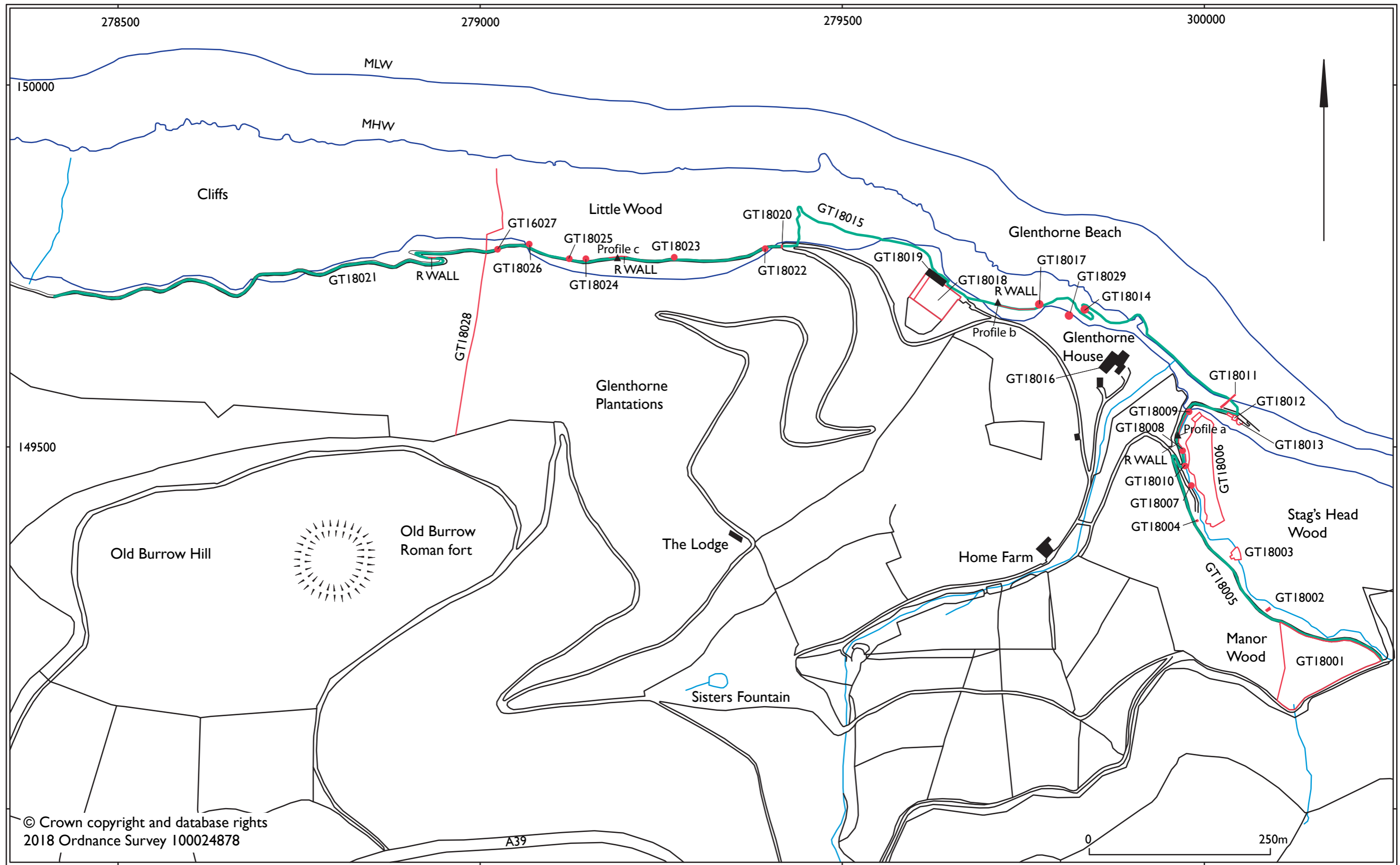
PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A pinetum in the south of Manor Wood was planted between 1840 and 1870, when many of the species were newly introduced into Britain. The first trees may have come from Sir Thomas Acland who sent John Veitch, the land steward at Holnicote, to California to collect seed. James Veitch, John's son, established a nursery in Exeter in 1832, raising many conifer species commercially from seeds. He employed William and Thomas Lobb, plant hunters of note, who introduced the Western Red Cedar in 1853; some of the trees in the Glenthorne pinetum were bought from James Veitch in the 1850s and 1860s when they were first introduced into the country. Many of the original trees survive (in 1993), reaching heights of over 100 feet (Fig 9). The pinetum was cleared of dead trees and scrub in the 1980s and 1990s with the help of ENPA and volunteer groups (information from ENPA information board). The new ECP route runs along the NE side of the pinetum, which is marked by an information board.

REFERENCES GTI8001_NW_22MAY18_HRILEY



Fig 9 Monterey Cypress in the Glenthorne pinetum GTI8001 (Hazel Riley)



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Fig 8 Route of the proposed new England Coast Path and site locations

GT18002 EXMOOR HER MSO12168 LOCATION 280080 149270

TYPE LINHAY

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A roofless, stone building lies between the new ECP route and the stream in Yenworthy Combe. The building is oriented NE/SW and is 7m long and 3.4m wide. The NE gable wall survives to a height of c 2m. The walls, 0.45m thick, are built of coursed local stone and lime mortar, with ashlar blocks at the corners and small areas of cement-based mortar repairs. The building is open fronted, with a single, circular stone pillar, 0.8m in diameter and 1.4m high as a support for the roof. A benchmark is carved into the end of the SW wall (Fig 10). The building is not shown on the tithe map but is named on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map as 'Whitebloom Linhay,' suggesting that it was built in the mid-19th century (Oare 1842; OS 1890). The building is one of a series of linhays to the south of Home Farm. It may have been used for storage and seems to have been one of the points of interest on the terraced walk along the side of the pinetum down to Glenthorne and the beach. The linhay is marked by a wooden post numbered '3' on the side of the path.

REFERENCES GT18002a_NE_22MAY18_HRILEY4890 4892 4891; GT18002b_NE_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18002c_SE_22MAY18_HRILEY

GT18003 EXMOOR HER MEM22839 LOCATION 280030 149350

TYPE RESERVOIR; CASCADE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION The remains of a stone-lined pond or reservoir lie on edge of the new ECP route in Yenworthy Combe (Fig 11). It is 17m N/S, 8m E/W and up to 1m deep, with a rectangular recess on the east side. The remains of a stone-lined sluice channel, which controlled the flow of water into the pond, lie at the south side of the pond. The sluice channel is 3.4m long, 1.7m wide and 0.7m deep, with iron gearing still in place. Viewed from the downstream side, the overflow of the pond presents a cascade over a high retaining stone wall, and it may well have been deliberately designed like this as part of the Glenthorne designed landscape (Fig 12). The pond is shown on the tithe map and is named on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map as a reservoir (Oare 1842; OS 1890) (Figs 4 and 6). Further ponds lie to the SE and by Home Farm, outside the survey area. They are described as ponds, 'built partly to regulate water flow for safety's sake, partly for decoration and, in the case of the one near the farm, for convenience' (Halliday 1995, 47). The pond is signposted from the new ECP route by a fingerpost marked 'Trout Breeding Pool.'

REFERENCES GT18003a_N_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18003b_N_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18003c_S_22MAY18_HRILEY

GT18004 EXMOOR HER MSO7775 HE List entry 1058039

LOCATION 279980 149390

TYPE ICEHOUSE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION An icehouse lies close to the stream in Yenworthy Combe to the SE of Glenthorne House. The structure is built into the hillside, with an entrance which faces the stream (Fig 13). The entrance to the storage chamber is built of local sandstone blocks with a slate roof; there are some repairs

using a cement-based mortar. The doorway is 0.93m wide, 1.9m high, the walls are 0.44m thick. The roof of the entrance chamber is made of large slate slabs, the interior has a brick floor and rendered walls. The entrance runs for 2.5m straight into the hillside, then turns at an angle of 45° where the floor changes from brick to slate at the entrance to the ice storage chamber. Access to the icehouse was originally by a path close to the stream edge, this is now difficult to follow. A finger post marks the icehouse from the new ECP route.

REFERENCES GT18004a_S_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18004b_W_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18004c_W_22MAY18_HRILEY

*Fig 10 (top right) Whitebloom Linhay
GT18002 (Hazel Riley)*



*Fig 11 (centre right) Reservoir GT18003 in
Yenworthy Combe (Hazel Riley)*

*Fig 12 (bottom right) Cascade over north
end of reservoir (Hazel Riley)*

*Fig 13 (below) The Glenthorne icehouse
GT18004 (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)*



GT18005 LOCATION 280000 149350

TYPE TERRACED WALK

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A terraced walk through Manor Wood to Glenthorne Beach is part of a network of drives and paths associated with the Glenthorne Estate. Between the pinetum to the SE and the junction with the terraced walk to Home Farm at the NW, the path is a wide, level drive, 2.5-2.7m wide, cut into the hillside, 1-2m, and surfaced with local stone (Fig 14). There is only one stretch of walling associated with this part of the path. This is by the reservoir, where a retaining wall, 3m long, 1.2m high, in poor condition, built of vertically pitched small stones, with no evidence for stone capping, can be seen (Figs 15 16). The path to Glenthorne Beach is different in character. It is a narrow, level path, up to 2.5m wide, rock-cut and on the edge of the stream. The stream has been contained by a retaining wall up to 1m high, built of vertically pitched stone slabs, with larger, vertically pitched stone slabs forming a capping (Figs 17, 18).

REFERENCES GT18005a_NW_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18005b_NW_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18005c_SW_22MAY18_HRILEY; GT18005d_SW_22MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 14 (below) Terraced walk GT18005 by Whitebloom Linhay (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 15 (bottom) Terraced walk GT18005 and enclosure boundary GT18006 (Hazel Riley)

Fig 16 (below) Detail of retaining wall (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 17 (bottom) Stream and retaining wall on the path to Glenthorne Beach (Hazel Riley)



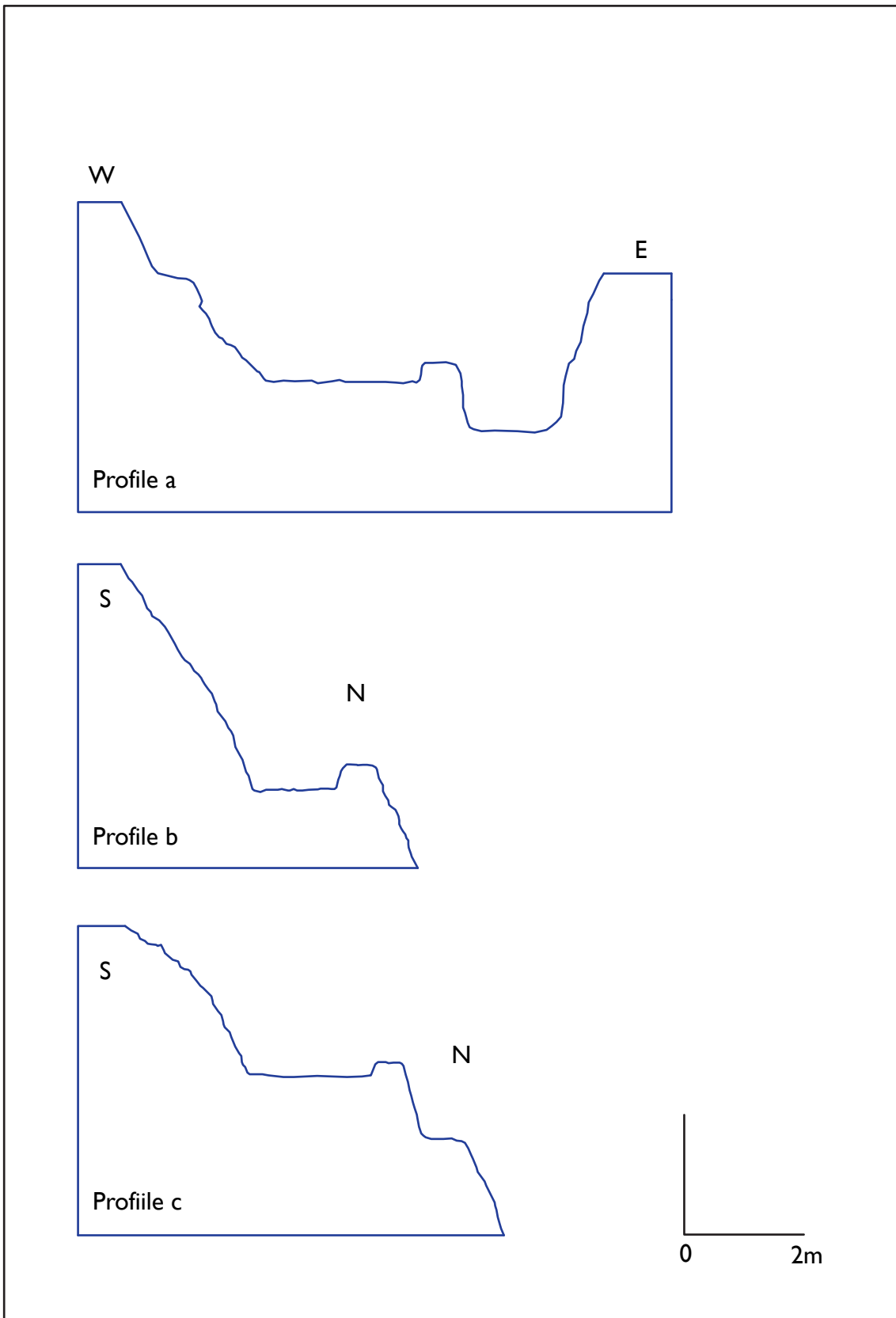


Fig 18 Profiles across terraced walks 1: 100 scale

GT18006 LOCATION 280000 149450

TYPE ENCLOSURE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION Two long, narrow enclosures in Yenworthy Combe on the west edge of Stag's Head Wood may be part of the pre-Glenthorne Estate landscape. Part of the enclosure boundary can be seen by the reservoir where it runs close to the terraced walk and comprises a stony bank, 1.2m wide, 0.6m high (Fig 15). The enclosures are marked on the tithe map (Oare 1842)(Fig 5) and they may well be the 'two little meadows' close to the site Walter Halliday chose for his new house (Halliday 1995, 22).

REFERENCES GT18006_NW_22MAY18_HRILEY

GT18007 LOCATION 279982 149446

TYPE FOOTBRIDGE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A small footbridge, 1.3m wide, 1.5m high, with a brick arch, takes a path from the icehouse path to the enclosures on the edge of Stag's Head Wood (Fig 19). The bridge is visible from the new ECP route.

REFERENCES GT18007_S_22MAY18_HRILEY



GT18008

LOCATION 279969 149498

TYPE FOOTBRIDGE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND

INTERPETATION A footbridge, formed by a single stone slab 1.1m long, 0.8m wide, takes a path from the Glenthorne Beach path up to the cliff edge and through Stag's Head Wood (Fig 20).

REFERENCES GT18008_SW_22MAY18_HRILEY



Fig 19 (above left) Footbridge GT18007 north of icehouse (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 20 (left) Footbridge GT18008 by the path to Glenthorne Beach (Hazel Riley)

GT18009 LOCATION 279978 149548

TYPE TUNNEL

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A tunnel takes the stream in Yenworthy Combe under the path to Glenthorne Beach. The entrance to the tunnel is a stone arch, 1.2m high and 1.5m wide at the base (Fig 21).

REFERENCES GT18009_NE_22MAY18_HRILEY

GT18010 LOCATION 279974 149470

TYPE CASCADE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A massive retaining wall at the junction of the beach and icehouse paths may mark the site of a ruined cascade. A significant amount of large boulders together with some fragments of walling in the stream bed suggest that there may have been a structure across the stream here (Fig 22).

REFERENCES GT18010_SE_22MAY18_HRILEY

GT18011 EXMOOR HER MEM22843 LOCATION 280020 149560

TYPE GROUYNE PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A wooden groyne lies on Glenthorne Beach. It comprises a double row of wooden posts, 1.4m apart and some 15m long (Fig 23). It is mapped on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map (OS 1904), suggesting that it dates from the late 19th or early 20th century.

REFERENCES GT18011_NW_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 21 (below) Tunnel GT18009 by the path to Glenthorne Beach (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 22 (right) Site of possible cascade by path to Glenthorne Beach GT18010 (Hazel Riley)

Fig 23 (below right) Wooden groyne GT18011 on Glenthorne Beach (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)



GT18012 EXMOOR HER MEM22842 LOCATION 280030 149540

TYPE BOAT HOUSE; STOREHOUSE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION Two buildings lie to the west of the lime kilns on Glenthorne Beach. They are built of flat bedded local sandstone with some beach cobbles and are roofless. Both have large, arched entrances in their gable ends which face the beach (Fig 24). A stone retaining wall and slipway in front (Fig 25) provide access to the buildings and the adjacent lime kilns (GT18013). Halliday (1995, 42) notes that they were built by Walter Halliday and that one was a coal store, the other a boat house. Access by road to Glenthorne was difficult; coal for the estate was shipped across from South Wales direct to Glenthorne Beach twice a year and most building materials were shipped from Porlock. Historic mapping shows that the store room was built by 1842 and the boat house was built by 1888 (Oare 1842, OS 1890).

REFERENCES GT18012a_NW_23MAY18_HRILEY; GT18012b_SW_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18013 EXMOOR HER MSO7767 HE List entry 1173368

LOCATION 280040 149530

TYPE LIME KILN

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A double lime kiln on Glenthorne Beach was built by Walter Halliday to provide lime for the estate farms and buildings (Halliday



1995, 42). At the time of the survey vegetation made access difficult (Fig 26) but the descriptions from the Exmoor HER and from the HE List entry suggest that the kilns survive in good condition. Historic mapping shows that the kilns were built by 1842 and disused by 1904 (Oare 1842; OS 1904).

REFERENCES GT18013_SE_23MAY18_HRILEY



Fig 24 (above left) The store room and boat house GT18012, Glenthorne Beach (Hazel Riley)

Fig 25 (left) Retaining wall and slipway by the boat house, Glenthorne Beach (1m scale). More of this structure may be seen when the shingle is shifted by the tide (Hazel Riley)

GT18014 EXMOOR HER MEM 22827 LOCATION 279830 149680

TYPE BATH HOUSE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION The remains of a bath house lie on the cliff edge to the NW of Glenthorne House (Front cover). They comprise two interconnected below ground structures, with walling above (Fig 27). The below ground structures, which are rendered, are the remains of two plunge pools. The larger is 3m N/S, 3m E/W and over 1m deep; the smaller is 1.1m N/S, 2.2m E/W and over 1m deep (Figs 28 and 29). There is an iron water pipe in the SE corner of the larger pool and the remains of lead water pipes (or handrails?) around the sides of the plunge pools. Above these pools, on the south and east sides, is a stone wall built of flat bedded local sandstone and 0.45m thick. The wall stands to a height of some 1.5m; a fireplace with a stone relieving arch and metal grate lies in the south wall, and the remains of a stone chimney can be seen above it (Fig 30). The NW corner of the structure is difficult to interpret but it seems that the pool wall has been taken down to stop the structure filling up with rainwater. The remains of two external buttresses can be seen at the NW corner. A description of the bath house is given by Ursula Halliday:

'On an elbow bend of the path leading from the garden to the beach, a bath-house was built. Its main room was octagonal with a little fireplace and a leaded window which looked over the sea. It was furnished with a rustic table, chair and stool, a cast from the Capitol, and a hip bath. Here, invigorating sea-water baths

Fig 26 (below) Lime kiln GT18013 on Glenthorne Beach (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 27 (right) The warming room above the larger plunge pool (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)



were taken in warmth and comfort, the essential sea-water being hauled up the steep path in buckets by perspiring servants. In a little, lower room was, most improbably, a water closet and the whole charming little building was capped by a groined roof and tall chimney. It was tucked into the hillside and surrounded by trees but one day one of the trees fell on top of it and now its existence is remembered only by a rubbish-filled hole in the ground'
(Halliday 1995, 43).

The evidence indicates that the Glenthorne bath house consisted of two, connected plunge pools with two rooms above. The main room, over the larger plunge pool, was octagonal with a fireplace and window: this was the warming room. The second room, over the smaller pool, had a lean-to roof. Access arrangements to the rooms and to the plunge pools are not clear from the visible evidence. Sockets for joists in the stone walls above the plunge pools indicate a wooden floor across the whole area. This then suggests that the warming room had an entrance, probably on the east wall, with a separate entrance to the plunge pools probably at the NW corner. Access down into the pool was usually by stone steps and these may still be buried under the build up of vegetation in the plunge pools. At the bath house in the grounds of Bradshaw House, Congleton, an early 19th-century bath house similar in scale to the Glenthorne example, the plunge pool and warming room above had separate entrances and were not connected (Congleton Building Preservation Trust website).

REFERENCES GT18014a_W_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014b_SW_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014c_SW_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014d_SW_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014e_S_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014f_W_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014g_N_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014h_S_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18014i_N_25MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 29 (below) The smaller plunge pool (1 m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 30 (below right) Detail of fireplace (0.5m scale) (Hazel Riley)



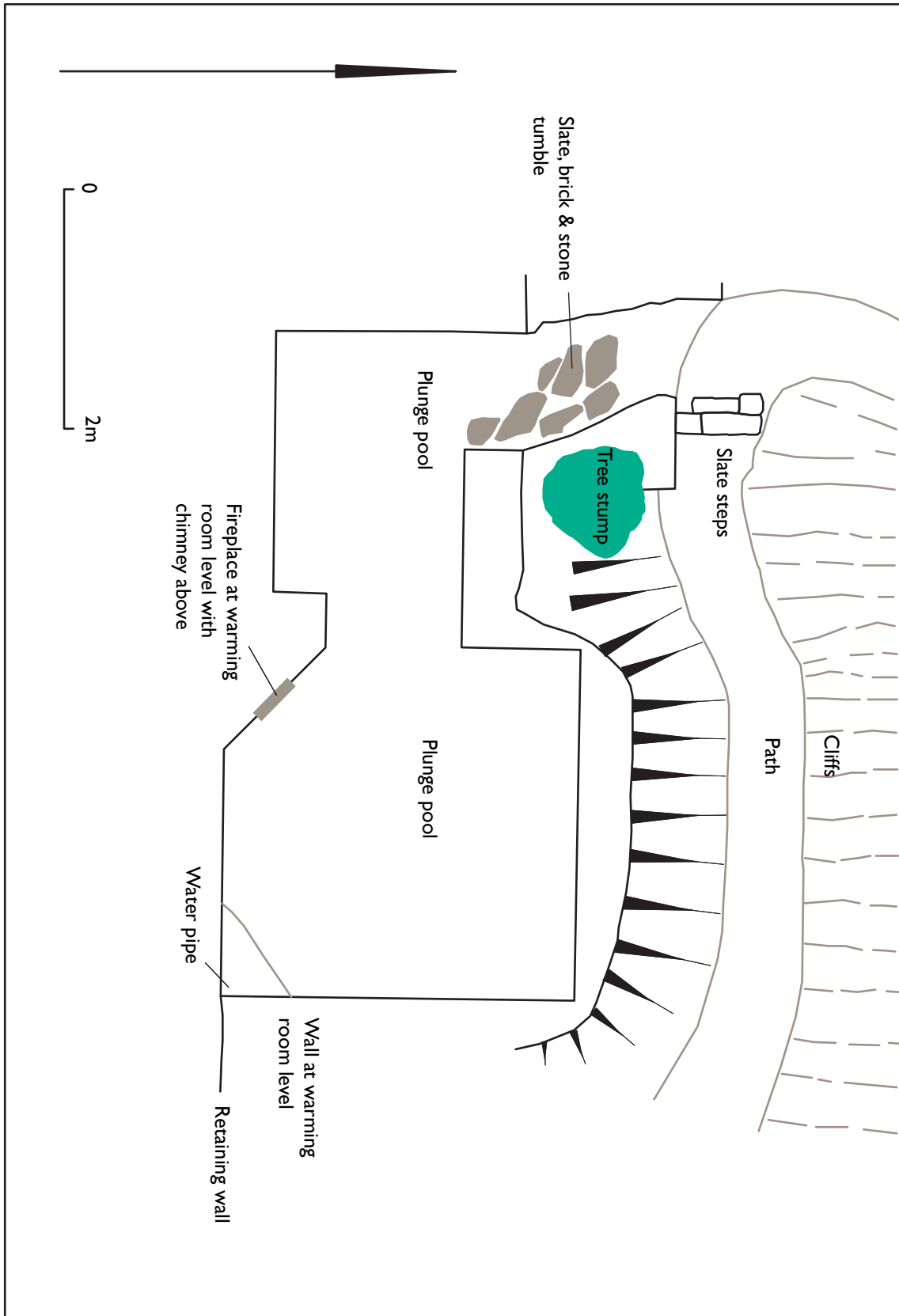


Fig 27 Plan of bath house GT18014 1:50 scale

GT18015 LOCATION 279715 149699

TYPE TERRACED WALK

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A path from the beach, past the bath house, the walled garden and Garden Cottage, to the The Towers. The path from the beach to the bath house is a narrow path, 0.75m wide, cut into the edge of the cliff (Fig 31). As the path turns around the bath house two slate steps are visible (Fig 27). West of Glenthorne House, the path links the house with the walled garden and Garden Cottage. It is a wide, level path, 1.3m wide, rock cut to a depth of some 2m, with a retaining wall on the seaward side (Figs 18 and 32). The retaining wall is 50m long, up to 1m high, 0.4m wide, built of vertically pitched stones, capped with more openly spaced vertically pitched stones (Fig 33). Beyond the Garden Cottage the terraced walk is a narrow path, up to 1m wide, cut into the cliff edge, with wide-ranging views across the Bristol Channel (Fig 34).

REFERENCES GT18015a_NW_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18015b_E_25MAY18_HRILEY; GT18015c_NW_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 31 (below) Path to bath house from beach (Hazel Riley)

Fig 32 (bottom) Terraced walk GT18015 between Glenthorne House and Garden Cottage (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 33 (below) Detail of retaining wall (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 34 (bottom) Terraced walk GT18015 west of Garden Cottage (Hazel Riley)



GT18016 EXMOOR HER MSO7777 HE List entry 121846

LOCATION 279860 149610

TYPE COUNTRY HOUSE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION Glenthorne House, built by Rev W S Halliday in the early years of the 1830s, forms the focal point of the network of terraced walks and paths on the Glenthorne Estate (Fig 35).

REFERENCES GT18016_E_25MAY18_HRILEY

GT18017 LOCATION 279772 149697

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint, now largely obscured by vegetation, where the terraced walk curves around a rock outcrop and approaches the west front of Glenthorne House. The viewpoint is formed by a stony platform, 7.3m long, 5m wide and 0.7m high (Fig 36).

REFERENCES GT18017_E_25MAY18_HRILEY

GT18018 EXMOOR HER MEM 22703 HE List entry 1213083

LOCATION 279620 149700 TYPE KITCHEN GARDEN

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION The terraced walk from Glenthorne House runs along the NE side of the walled kitchen garden (Fig 37). The tithe map (Countisbury 1841) shows the garden as a rectangular enclosure, divided into two by paths (Fig 4).

REFERENCES GT18018_NW_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 35 Glenthorne House (Hazel Riley)

Fig 36 (bottom right) Viewpoint GT18017 (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 37 (below) Buttress and terraced walk on NE side of kitchen garden GT18018 (Hazel Riley)



GT18019 EXMOOR HER MDE 21334 HE List entry 1213083

LOCATION 279620 149730

TYPE ESTATE COTTAGE

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION The terraced walk from Glenthorne House runs along the NE side of the Garden Cottage (Fig 38).

REFERENCES GT18019_NW_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18020 EXMOOR HER MDE21306 HE List entry 1289230

LOCATION 279410 149770

TYPE GATEWAY

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION An ornate stone gateway set back from a hairpin bend by the drive to Glenthorne, known as The Towers. The Towers are two hexagonal turrets, linked by an archway, with a carved stone lion on top of the arch and stone birds on top of each tower (Fig 39). The gateway forms the start of the terraced walk (GT18021) along the cliffs through Little Wood.

REFERENCES GT18020_W_23MAY18_HRILEY



Fig 38 (left) Terraced walk along the NE front of the Garden Cottage GT18019 (Hazel Riley)

Fig 39 (bottom left) The Towers GT18020 at the start of the terraced walk through Little Wood (Hazel Riley)

Fig 40 (below) The terraced walk GT18021 through Little Wood (1 m scale) (Hazel Riley)



GT18021 LOCATION 279190 149761

TYPE TERRACED WALK

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION The terraced walk through Little Wood is a level path, rock cut, often to dramatic effect, with several viewpoints (GT18022-27) and some retaining walls on the seaward side of the path. At SS 7919 4976 the path skirts a massive rock outcrop and a retaining wall runs along the seaward side for some 24m. The path is 2m wide and surfaced with stone, it is cut into the cliff to a depth of some 1.5m; the retaining wall is 0.4m wide, up to 1.3m high and is built of vertically pitched stones; in places the wall is capped with larger, vertically pitched stones (Figs 19, 40, 41). There is also a length of retaining wall at SS 7895 4977, where the path turns sharply up the cliff, above a place named 'Look Out' on the tithe map (Countisbury 1841, Fig 4). The wall is 8m long, up to 1m high and built of vertically pitched stone blocks with a capping of large, more openly spaced, vertical stones (Figs 42 and 43). West of this the path is largely obscured by rhododendron; at SS 7882 4975 the path cuts through a large boulder on the seaward side .

REFERENCES GT18021a_W_23MAY18_HRILEY; GT18021b_W_23MAY18_HRILEY; GT18021c_W_23MAY18_HRILEY; GT18021d_N_23MAY18_HRILEY; GT18021e_E_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 41 Detail of retaining wall (Hazel Riley)

Fig 42 (bottom right) Terraced walk below hairpin bend (Hazel Riley)

Fig 43 (below) Detail of retaining wall (Hazel Riley)



GT18022 LOCATION 279393 149773

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint to the west of The Towers, formed where the path is flanked by a large quarry to the south and a platform to the north, forming an area 9.2m N/S and 8.5m E/W; some pines on the edge of this feature may be part of the 19th-century planting as conifers are shown at this point on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map (OS 1890; Figs 6 and 44).

REFERENCES GT18022_E_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18023 LOCATION 279268 149762

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A massive rock outcrop by the side of the path is emphasised by a short length of retaining wall, 3m long, 1.2m high built of vertically pitched stone, and a viewpoint formed by a platform on the edge of the path, 3m long, 1.5m wide and 1m high (Fig 45).

REFERENCES GT18023_W_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18024 LOCATION 279146 149760 TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint on the edge of the terraced walk in Little Wood formed by a stony platform, 4m long, 2.4m wide, 1m high (Fig 46).



REFERENCES GT18024_E_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 44 (left) Viewpoint and quarry GT18022 west of The Towers (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 45 (bottom left) Viewpoint GT18023 and retaining wall (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 46 (below) Viewpoint GT18024 in Little Wood (Hazel Riley)



GT18025 LOCATION 279123 149760

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint on the edge of the terraced walk in Little Wood formed by a stony platform, 3m long, 2.4m wide, 1.2m high, with a low stone wall, 0.9m wide, 0.7m high, 3m long, marking the edge of the path (Fig 47).

REFERENCES GT18025_E_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18026 LOCATION 279070 149783

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint on the edge of the terraced walk in Little Wood formed by a stony platform 10m long, 1.2m wide, with a large boulder at the east end (Fig 48).

REFERENCES GT18026_W_23MAY18_HRILEY

GT18027 LOCATION 279024 149773

TYPE VANTAGE POINT

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION A viewpoint on the edge of the terraced walk in Little Wood formed by a mound 6.6m long, 2.5m wide, 1m high and flanked by a small quarry 4.6m long, 1.2 wide, 1.4m deep (Fig 49).

REFERENCES GT18027_E_23MAY18_HRILEY

Fig 47 (right) Viewpoint GT18025 in Little Wood (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 48 (bottom right) Viewpoint GT18026 in Little Wood (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

Fig 49 (below) Viewpoint GT 18027 in Little Wood (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)



GT18028 LOCATION 279008 149773

TYPE WALL

PERIOD POST-MEDIEVAL

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPETATION

A drystone wall in Little Wood, built of horizontally laid sandstone blocks, with a possible gateway for the terraced walk (Fig 50). The wall is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map, it formed the western boundary of an area of conifer plantations west of Glenthorne House (OS 1890) (Fig 6).

REFERENCES GT18028_W_23MAY18_HRILEY



Fig 50 (above) The wall GT18028 in Little Wood (1m scale) (Hazel Riley)

GT18029 LOCATION 279819 149660

TYPE GARDEN STEPS

PERIOD MODERN

DESCRIPTION AND INTERPRETATION A

flight of stone steps descends a steep slope from the terraced walk GT18015 to the top of the cliffs, SW of the bath house. The steps are built of large slabs of local stone set into the hillside (Fig 51). They are not shown on the OS 1st or 2nd edition maps (OS 1890; 1904) and appear to be associated with a 20th-century garden feature - a cross on a level platform - to the west of Glenthorne House.

REFERENCES GT18029_S_11JAN18_HRILEY



Fig 51 (above) The garden steps GT18029 to the SW of the bath house (Shirley Blaylock)

7.0 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 This survey work has highlighted the extent of the 19th-century designed landscape and associated structures which survive in the Glenthorne Estate.

7.2 The new ECP route uses some of the terraced walks which are an integral part of this designed landscape.

7.3 The new ECP route will allow access to several 19th-century structures constructed in the early 19th century as part of the designed landscape around Glenthorne House. Although some of these structures are listed there has been no systematic programme of research and record of the Glenthorne designed landscape.

7.4 The bath house at Glenthorne is a nationally significant heritage asset and as such is worthy of conservation and further research. A search of the HE List entries returned 142 bath houses listed in England. These range from the ornate 17th-century imitation of Sejanus' grotto at Posilopo, Naples, at Albury House, Guildford, to 19th century military ablution blocks on Drakes Island, Plymouth and early 20th century pithead baths at Chatterley Whitfield Colliery, Stoke-on-Trent. The majority of the listed bath houses are, however, 18th and early 19th century bath houses set in the grounds of country houses. On the south west peninsula, away from the concentration around the thermal springs at Bath, only nine examples of 18th and 19th century bath houses associated with private houses are listed by HE.

7.4.1 In the 18th century, cold water bathing was regarded as part of a healthy way of life. Plunge pools and cold baths were built both inside houses and outside in garden or landscape park settings, where they formed part of a circuit of features to be visited. Cold water bathing was seen as part of a health-giving regime which included spending time outdoors, eating cooling foods and taking plenty of exercise (Hickman 2012). Walter Halliday was evidently a keen follower of this regime. Halliday lived in Lynmouth before he built Glenthorne, in a large house, Clooneavin, set in wooded grounds on the hillside above the town. Clooneavin had a bath house in its grounds which was incorporated into a small villa called 'Pixie Dell' (Exmoor HER 20976).

7.4.2 The remains of the Glenthorne bath house were cleared of vegetation in early 2018. The structure is vulnerable to accidental or deliberate damage, and to deterioration through weathering and further vegetation growth (Fig 52). A conservation management plan for the structure is recommended.



Fig 52 Vegetation clearance from the bath house (Hazel Riley)

7.5 The icehouse at Glenthorne is a Grade II listed building; it is vulnerable to accidental or deliberate damage, and to deterioration through weathering and vegetation growth. The slate roof is beginning to fail (Fig 53). A conservation management plan for the structure is recommended.

7.6 The Towers at the start of the terraced walk through Little Wood is a Grade II listed building; it is vulnerable to accidental or deliberate damage, and to deterioration through weathering and vegetation growth. In particular the carved stone lion on top of the arch and the carved stone bird finials are vulnerable to weathering and vegetation growth (Fig 54). A conservation management plan for the structure is recommended.

7.7 Whitebloom Linhay is one of several linhays on the Glenthorne Estate which are named on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map (OS 1890). Whitebloom Linhay is situated in an awkward place for an agricultural building, in woodland, with no obvious access routes. It may be part of the designed landscape, perhaps functioning as a shelter or summer house but designed as a vernacular agricultural building.

7.7.1 Several laurel branches have fallen across the building, these should be removed to prevent further damage and improve the visibility of the building from the path.

7.7.2 Following clearance, a metric survey and photographic survey should be carried out to further understand the nature of the building.



7.7.3 The sites of the other named linhays on the Glenthorne Estate should be investigated and recorded as appropriate.

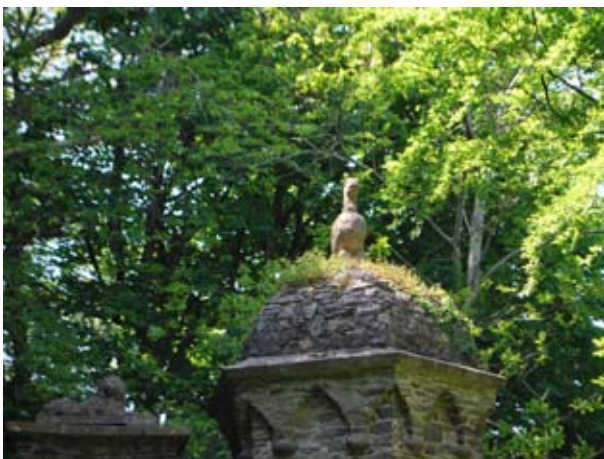


Fig 53 (above left) Detail of slate roof, Glenthorne icehouse (Hazel Riley)

Fig 54 (left) Carved stone lion and stone bird finial on The Towers (Hazel Riley)

7.8 The lime kilns, boat house and store on Glenthorne Beach are part of the story of Glenthorne Estate. The lime kilns are listed, the boat house, store room and slipway are not listed. All of the structures are vulnerable to accidental or deliberate damage, and to deterioration through weathering and, particularly, vegetation growth. A conservation management plan for all of the structures is recommended.

7.9 The new ECP route takes in several stretches of 19th-century terraced walks around the Glenthorne Estate. These walks were deliberately constructed to link key points in the designed and natural landscape of the estate with Glenthorne House, and they contain several structural features which contribute to the landscape setting. These include the footbridges and tunnel on the approach to Glenthorne Beach and several stretches of drystone retaining walls. These features should be taken account prior to any repair work or structural work such as the construction of steps, handrails etc.

7.9.1 The survey has located seven possible viewpoints on the new ECP route. Woodland management or vegetation clearance to open views from the path should take these viewpoints into account.

7.10 It is planned to make a route for the new ECP from the bath house up the cliff to the terraced walk GT18015. (Fig 8). The 20th-century stone garden steps GT18029 should be excluded from the route of the new path to avoid damage to the structure

7.11 The survival of the 19th-century pinetum at Glenthorne is nationally significant. Historic England's list of Registered Parks and Gardens includes eight sites with pinetums in the south west peninsula. The survival of what seem to be the original specimen trees is significant.

7.11.1 A substantial amount of work has already been carried out on the history and ecology of the pinetum by the ENPA. This work should be reviewed and a plan for its future management and interpretation drawn up.

7.12 The current provision of information about the Glenthorne Estate in general and the structures encountered along the new ECP route need reviewing.

7.12.1 There is one information board which details the history of the pinetum with a map key which relates to the specimen trees. Some of the tree markers are now lost or difficult to read.

7.12.2 The marker post by Whitebloom Linhay relates to a numbered trail.

7.12.3 The marker posts by the reservoir and icehouse do not connect the sites with their historic landscape setting.

7.12.4 Glenthorne is one of three 19th-century estates on Exmoor which use the coast and cliffs as part of their landscape settings: Lee Abbey to the west and Ashley Combe to the east. A plan for the interpretation of the Glenthorne Estate from the new ECP

route should be drawn up in conjunction with work which has been carried out on these coastal 19th-century designed landscapes (Riley 2017a;b).

8.0 REFERENCES

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