

Archaeological Ground Survey of Sutton Park, Birmingham

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Report 0957

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Summary

Lidar survey of Sutton Park was carried out early in 2009. This was followed by identification of 163 potential new archaeological sites from the data by Mike Hodder, (Birmingham City Planning Archaeologist). In October/November 2009 a ground survey was carried out in an attempt to find and assess as many of these sites as possible within a limited time frame. As more sites were identified than initially anticipated it was not possible to visit all of them, and of those visited many were obscured by vegetation. However, the lidar survey has allowed the identification of many new sites within Sutton Park.

1. Introduction

1.1 Sutton Park is a publicly owned space to the north of Birmingham, much of which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 30085). It is also included in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. A pilot Heritage Partnership agreement is being drawn up for Sutton Park which runs parallel with the new management plan. Sutton Park contains many archaeological sites and these are included on Birmingham City Council's Sites and Monuments Record. Many of these were mapped in the 1970s using measuring tapes and it has proved difficult to incorporate them into GIS. A lidar survey has been carried out in order to obtain a more comprehensive and accurate mapping of the archaeological earthworks present in the park.

1.2 A programme of fieldwork to locate and assess sites identified in the lidar survey, in accordance with a Brief prepared by the Planning Archaeologist (see Appendix), was commissioned from the Warwickshire Museum by Birmingham City Council and carried out in October-November 2009. The site archive will be deposited with Birmingham City Council under site code SP09.

2. Location

2.1 Sutton Park covers an area of approximately 9km² and is centred on national grid reference SP094 970. Fig. 1 shows archaeological sites and findspots already known in Sutton Park, with more recent ones in red.

2.2 The underlying geology of the area is primarily Bunter Soft Sandstone with Pebble Beds; there are some areas of First Terrace Glacial Deposits and Alluvium. The eastern side had underlying Hopwas Breccia Formation Breccia and Sandstone, while other parts have Enville Member Sandstone with Conglomerate and Siltstone (British Geological Survey 1964).

3. Archaeological and historical background

3.1 The earliest evidence of human activity in Sutton Park is in the form of flints of Mesolithic date (8500-3500 BC). Chance finds of flints of probable Mesolithic and later date, including scrapers, arrowheads, rejuvenation flakes and blades have been found in the western part of the park (Sites and Monuments Record Nos. 02200, 02201, 02202, 02203, 02204, 02207, 20171, 20268, 20299; Fig. 1 - the location of 20299 is unknown; Fig. 1; Hodder 1988, 164).

were excavated in 1926 (Bullows 1927, 291-300). The mounds are composed of heat-cracked stones and may represent the debris in areas used for cooking or steam bathing, although the Sutton Park mounds differ from others found in the region in that no charcoal was found to be present and the mounds are some distances from water sources. An 'ancient encampment' lies on a ridge to the north of Blackroot Pool (SMR No. 02259). Excavations undertaken in 1981 did not succeed in dating the earthworks but they are likely to be of prehistoric date (Hodder 1988 167-8). A timber trackway, possibly of Bronze Age date was recorded in the Old Peat Pit (SMR No. 02224). It has been suggested that the Sutton Park trackway may be of a similar date to corduroy tracks found in the Somerset levels (2500-1900bc; Hodder 1988, 168). In addition, a blade fragment of a miscast bronze flat axe of Bronze Age date was found with a metal detector west of Holly Hurst (SMR No. 02219).

3.4 The western side of the park is crossed by a major Roman road, Ryknild Street. This road runs from the Fosse Way at Bourton-on-the-Water, to Templeborough in South Yorkshire. Ryknild Street runs through the western side of the park and is visible both on the ground as an earthwork and on aerial photographs, although parts of it are tree-covered (Margary 1973, plate ix; SMR No. 02006). A series of Roman coins have been found over the years in the vicinity of the Roman road, which may represent losses by travellers along the road (SMR Nos. 02228, 02229, 02909, 02917, 04771). A Romano-British bronze fibula was found with a metal detector to the east of the Roman road, within the Golf Course (SMR No. 04770), and a sherd of 2nd century pottery, a mortarium rim, was found in Blackroot Glade (SMR No. 02244). This latter find was found c.2km from the Roman road. A recent archaeological evaluation to the south-west of the park, on the line of Ryknild Street, did not find any evidence for the Roman Road (Warwickshire Museum 2001).

3.5 Woodland two leagues long by one league broad was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, attached to the royal manor of Sutton (VCH 1947, 235). The hunting reserve, Sutton Chase, included a number of parks, one of which was Sutton Park, within its boundaries (Hodder 1988, fig. 51). Dugdale mentions 'a park and enclosed hay' in the manor of Sutton in 1126 (Dugdale 1730, 909-10). The four earliest enclosures at Sutton Park were deer parks and have been designated numbers I to IV; the western boundary of the current park is Park IV (Fig. 1; Hodder 1988, 169). The enclosures are typified by having banks with internal ditches and would have originally have had hedges on the banks; the purpose of which was to keep the deer within confined areas for hunting purposes. Park I (SMR No. 20037) and Park IV (SMR No. 20040) are thought to date to the 12th century, Park II to the 14th century (SMR No. 20038) and Park III to the 15th century (SMR No. 20039). Parks I, II and III enclose areas in the east side of the park as it stands today; Park IV enclosed the whole park area and roughly corresponds with the present park boundary. Park I is a semi-oval enclosure encompassing c.1km² of land on the eastern side of the park; its earthwork, a bank with an internal ditch, measures c.5.5m wide. Park II is an addition of c.0.3km² on the northern side of Park 1. Its boundary bank and internal ditch together measure c.7m wide. Park II is cut on its east side by the boundary of Park III. Park III has an earthwork c.4m wide, again of a bank with an internal ditch. It encloses an irregularly shaped area of c.3.3km² in the north and east of the park. Its boundary is discontinuous and is made up of a series of short lengths of bank and ditch. The eastern boundary of Park III runs along the eastern edge of Holly Hurst and through the centre of Parks I and II; its eastern side may be the same as that of Park IV through Four Oaks Park. In the north, Park III's boundary is south of and parallel to that of Park IV, then swings round south through Gum Slade and Pool Hollies, then turns north-west towards the corner of Park IV. Park III includes all of the woodland enclosed in the 16th century except for Streetly Wood, as well as a number of streams and pools. Parks I, II and III are all cut by 16th-century earthworks. Park IV's boundary is roughly that of the present park and its earthwork consists of a ditch c.5m wide inside the current park fence. The boundary to the north-east is outside that of the present park and only survives for a short

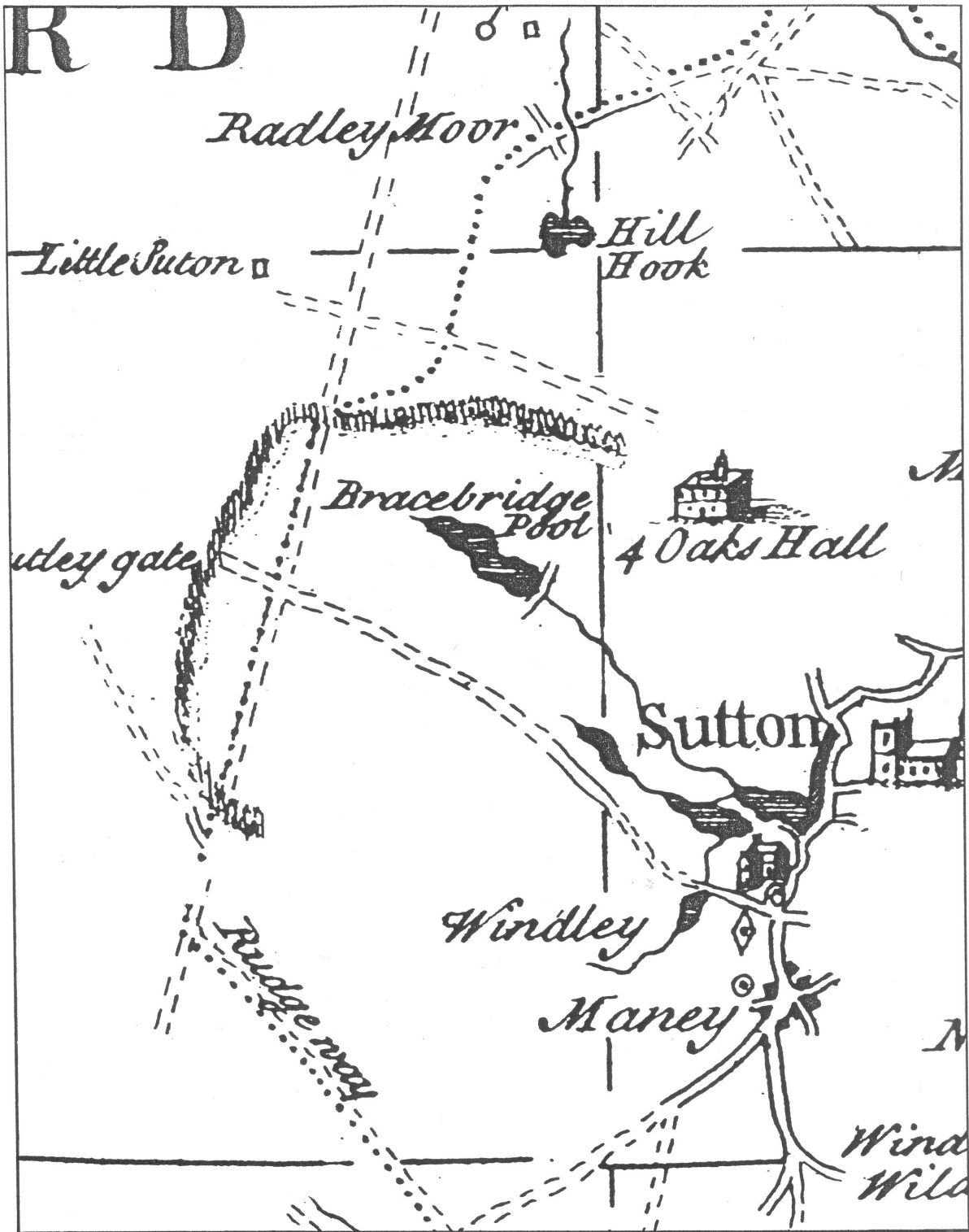


Fig. 2: Detail from Beighton's map of 1725, showing Sutton Park

stretch. The southern boundary is unclear and may have been formed by Longmoor Brook. Alternatively it could have been further to the south (Hodder 1988, 169-173).

3.6 A 16th-century charter records the enclosure of a series of coppices (areas of managed woodland in which trees are regularly cut down to provide shoots from the cut stumps), the 'Seven Hayes', which consisted of: Pool Hollies (SMR No. 04550),

Upper Nut Hurst (SMR No. 04551), Lower Nut Hurst (SMR No. 04553), Holly Hurst (SMR No. 04554), Gum Slade (SMR No. 04555), Lady Wood (SMR No. 04556) and Streetly Wood (SMR No. 04603). *Hurst* usually means an isolated grove and the term is often applied to a series of defined coppice woods that are attached to parks or common land, such as those at Sutton Park (Rackham 1976, 109). In contrast to the earlier park enclosures, these woodlands were enclosed by banks with ditches on the outside, rather than the inside, so that livestock were excluded from the coppices. The total width of each bank and ditch around the coppices was c.4.0m (Hodder, 1988, 174). As well as being managed for woodland, certain areas within Sutton Park were being utilised for industrial purposes by the 16th century. Park House lies on the site of a watermill of 16th-century date (SMR No. 01124) it was later used as a blade mill. Wyndley Pool (SMR No. 20045) is thought to have been constructed as a fishpond in the 15th century.

3.6 A number of earthworks have been identified in the park of medieval or later date. A linear earthwork in the golf course may be of medieval date (SMR No. 20836), as might another further to the south-east (SMR No. 20840). Earthworks SMR No. 20513 and SMR No.20773 may also be medieval and SMR No. 20512 may be medieval or post-medieval. A mound on the golf course (SMR No. 20837) is of unknown date and may be an archaeological feature that has been modified by the golf course. There are also three 16th-century enclosures identified (SMR No. 20176, 20178 and 20179) and an enclosure of 18th-century date (SMR No. 20177). One area of ridge and furrow has been identified (SMR No. 20591).

3.7 An illustration of c.1730 shows a view across Sutton Park from Four Oaks Hall in its north-east corner, towards Birmingham (Dugdale 1730, 910). The illustration shows that the park was extensively wooded, with avenues leading from Four Oaks Hall towards the woodland. A map drawn up in 1725 shows that the north and western boundary of the park (part of the boundary line of Park IV, dating back to the 12th century) was still prominent (Dugdale 1730, 869; Fig. 2).

3.8 In the post-medieval period a number of pools were constructed for industrial purposes within Sutton Park. A leather mill was located immediately south of Blackroot Pool and this later became a water-powered sawmill (SMR No. 20044). Wyndley Pool (SMR No. 20045) had a Blade Mill (SMR No. 20056) at its north-east corner by 1668 and two mills are mentioned in 1778. The mill was converted to a sawmill in 1840 and continued in use into the 1920s. Powell's Pool was created in 1730 and a mill set up on the dam in 1733 (SMR Nos. 20046, 20055). The mill was originally used to work an experimental cotton-spinning machine and was used as a spade-manufacturing mill after 1750. In the 19th century stream power was introduced and the mill became a steel rolling mill by 1882. The 1887 Ordnance Survey map has the mill marked as Stonehouse Mill. Bracebridge Pool had a Fulling Mill at its south-east corner (SMR No. 20054). The 1888 Ordnance Survey map shows Longmoor Mill (SMR No. 03218), a corn mill, to the south-east of Longmoor Pool. The mill was built in the 1750s and remained in use until early in this century. Keepers Pool was a fishpond within the park (SMR No. 20510). In addition to the industrial activity by the pools, some agricultural activity took place in the park. An enclosure at Park House was in existence by 1729 (SMR No. 20176) and was probably an arable field. Westwood Coppice (SMR No. 20166) was enclosed and used for cereal cultivation in the late 18th century.

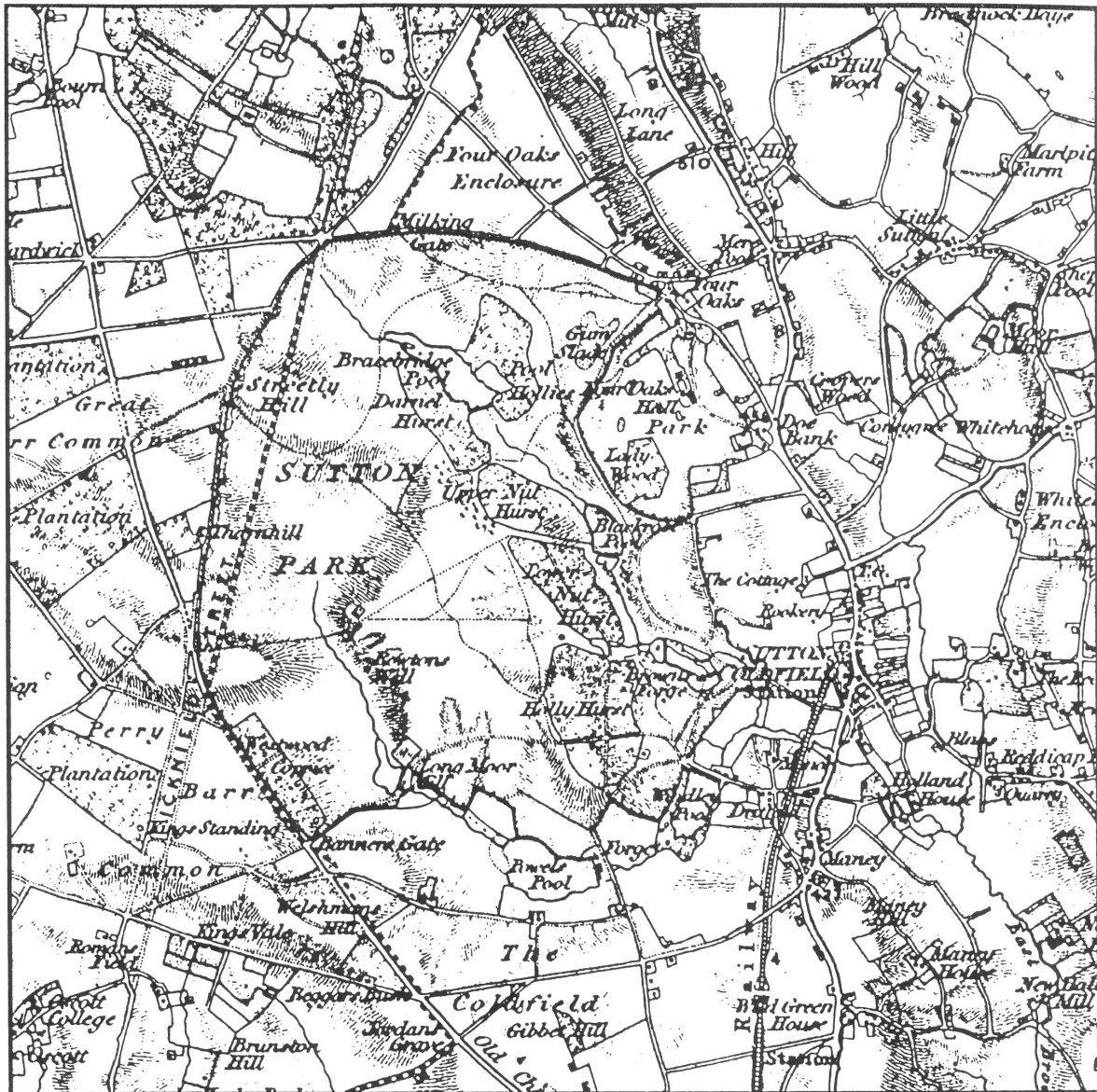


Fig. 3: Sutton Park 1834 (Ordnance Survey First Edition 1 inch to 1 mile map)

3.9 A racecourse was opened up in the 19th century to the north of Holly Hurst; the Birmingham races were held there in 1847 (SMR no. 20568). A branch line of the Midland Railway (Walsall and Water Orton Branch), running through Sutton Park, was opened in 1879. The railway ran through the park from the south-east to the north-west, cutting across the line of the Roman road to the north of Streetly Wood. In 1880 a golf course was laid out in the south-east part of the park, near to the town gate. The Ordnance Survey maps of 1884-1889 show the park as it was in the late 19th century, with the railway cutting across the park and the central southern part criss-crossed by footpaths (Ordnance Survey 1884a, 1884b, 1884c, 1887, 1888, 1889; Fig. 4). The 19th century has left behind a number of military features in the south-west part of the park. These include concrete-lined trenches and the gullies dug around bell tents, which are marked as Butt Targets on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map (SMR No. 20361). A rifle range (SMR No. 20362, practice trench (SMR No.

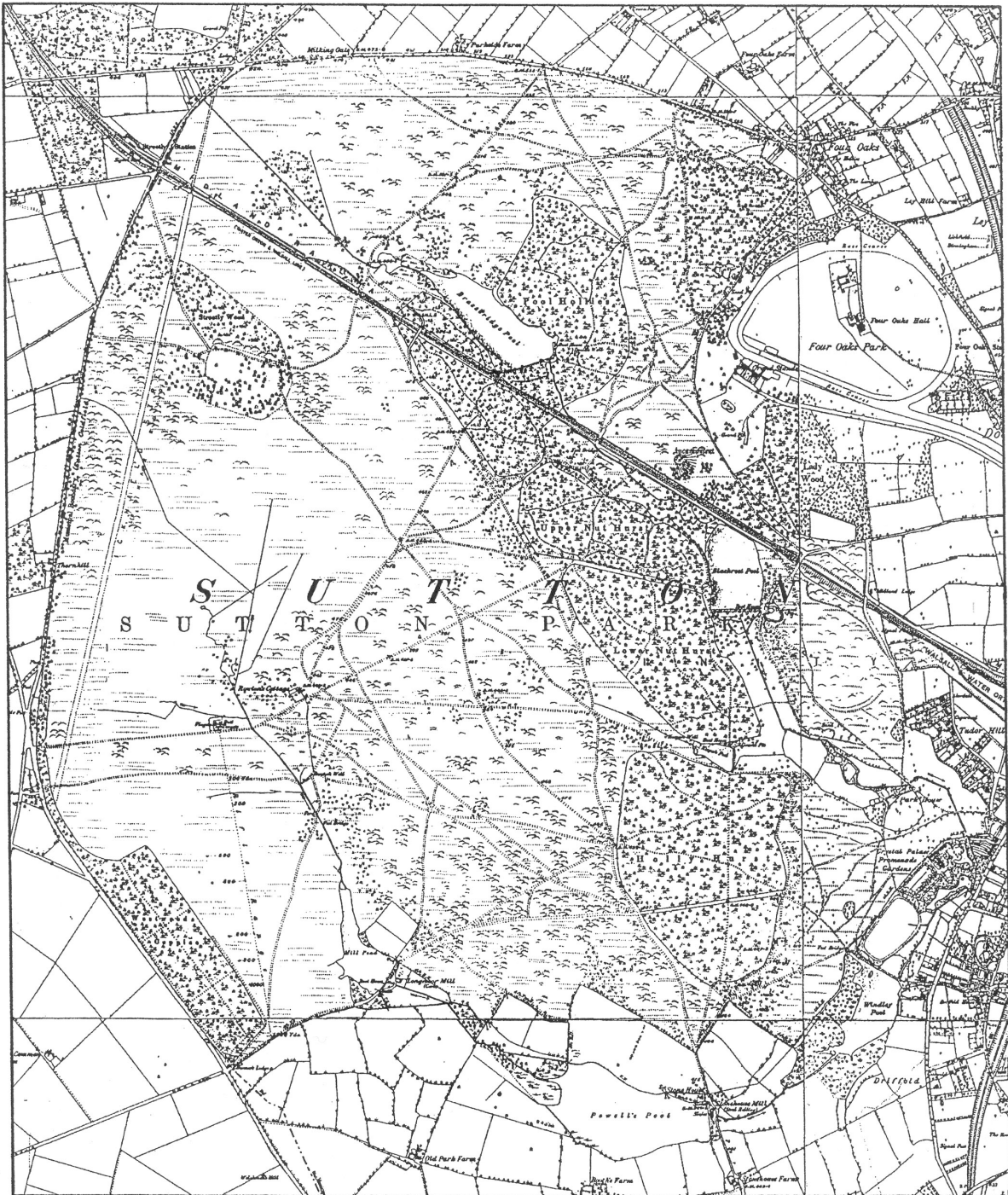


Fig. 4: Sutton Park 1884-9 (Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:10560 maps)

20363), camp (SMR No. 20364) and practice trench (SMR No. 30825) are also noted in the Sites and Monuments Record.

3.10 Evidence for peat extraction in the form of peat cuttings and peat pits has come to light in a number of areas in the park such as at those areas at Longmoor Brook (SMR No. 20808), (SMR No. 20805), Bracebridge Pool (SMR No. 20807). There is also evidence for a sawpit in Darnel Hurst (SMR No. 20835).

3.11 The park is currently used extensively for leisure pursuits and many of the former tracks have been covered with tarmac for vehicle use. Fewer tracks exist than in the 19th century and the mills are no longer in industrial use. The park now boasts the Sutton Coldfield golf club's course near Streetly Wood, another golf course (Boldmere Golf Course) south of Longmoor Pool, and a visitor centre and restaurant. Its national importance has been recognised by its inclusion in English Heritage's register of Parks and Gardens.

4. Lidar survey

4.1 'Airborne lidar (**L**ight **D**etection **A**nd **R**anging) measures the height of the ground surface and other features in large areas of landscape with a resolution and accuracy hitherto unavailable, except through labour-intensive field survey or photogrammetry. It provides, for the first time, highly detailed and accurate models of the land surface at metre and sub-metre resolution. Lidar operates by using a pulsed laser beam which is scanned from side to side as the aircraft flies over the survey area, measuring between 20,000 to 100,000 points per second to build an accurate, high resolution model of the ground and the features upon it.' (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.8730>)

4.2 Lidar can reveal both very slight earthwork remains and those that lie under certain kinds of vegetation. It is able to penetrate to the ground in deciduous woodland in winter. In March 2009 a lidar survey was made of Sutton Park and the data was passed to Mike Hodder (Birmingham City Planning Archaeologist) who examined the four sets of hillshaded images in order to identify potential new archaeological sites (i.e. not already recorded in the Sites and Monuments Records). A 'New Sites' MapInfo layer was then created indicating the location and extent of 163 of these sites and a 1:10,000 print-out of the park was made showing their locations. In the great majority of cases sites already on the SMR were excluded from this. In a small number of cases sites were included to be checked on the ground or where a known feature appeared to extend further than already recorded on the SMR.

The potential sites identified can be broken down as follows:

Ditches/drains:	50
Banks:	28
Areas of ridging:	20
Hollows:	19
Pits:	13
Group of pits	8
Bank and ditch	6
Group of hollows:	4
Mounds	4
Enclosures/field boundaries	3
Sawpit(s)	2
Circular feature	2
Path	1
Ditches and hollows -peat cutting	1
Hollow and pit	1

Ridges and pits	1
Access to peat pits	1

4.3 In some cases the feature was ambiguous and could have either been a ditch or a bank, a pit or a mound. In each of these cases the first interpretation has been used in the list above.

4.4 As can be seen from the list above the most common features identified were linear (banks and ditches); many of these would relate to drainage as large areas of the park are boggy and historic ditches are recorded on the first edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1884 to 1889 (Fig. 4) many of which are still in existence (although not all appear on contemporary mapping).

4.5 Between October 12th and 16th, on October 23rd and on November 2nd Sutton Park was visited to ground truth the lidar data. The weather on all but October 15th was good; on the 15th the fieldwork had to be abandoned because of persistent drizzle. On each day an area of the park was chosen for survey, based either at one of the entrances to the park or an area of parking within the park.

4.6 On the first day of survey work was carried out using the 1:10,000 map provided. This was adequate for large features which could be located with reference to mapped boundaries etc but was found to be inadequate for areas of the park that were more open or not close to features which could be identified on the map. A Garmin Etrex hand-held GPS unit was subsequently used in order to assess locations more accurately. This was useful in open areas but did not work in areas of tree cover. Finding sites in areas of woodland was therefore very difficult as these can be both without reference points and GPS cover.

4.7 Mike Hodder subsequently supplied a copy of the hillshaded images and more detailed print-outs of both this and the mapped data were used, particularly where there was a density of sites in a particular area. The lidar mapping of vegetation coverage, particularly stands of trees etc, also proved useful in helping to locate sites.

5. Vegetation cover and topography

5.1 Sutton Park has a wide variety of vegetation, from dense holly woodland to open heathland, turfed golf course areas, areas of bog, and both deciduous and coniferous woods. Although much of the park is gently rolling ground there are areas with steep slopes. The slope and vegetation cover can affect how well the lidar can pick up archaeological features.

5.2 When the lidar survey was carried in March 2009 out the deciduous trees were not in leaf and the new bracken had not started to grow, although last year's dead bracken would have been masking the ground. The gorse, heather and rushes have similar ground-covering habits all year round. Brambles would have been leafless in March although they would still have been covering areas of ground.

5.3 When the ground survey was carried out (Mid to late October/early November) the deciduous trees had lost much (but not all) of their leaves, the bracken was high in most places it existed (whether green or brown). Brambles were in full leaf and other plants were in their year-round state such as the heathland plants. It quickly became apparent that the lidar had been able to penetrate to the ground in March over extensive areas of the park more easily than was able to be seen when the ground survey was carried out in the autumn. This was particularly the case in areas with bramble undergrowth and areas of heathland.

6. Results

6.1 Ease of locating and identifying sites varied in different areas of the park. When sites were identified a pro forma was filled out to record the characteristics of the site and a photographic record made. In many cases the subtleness of the archaeology meant that they did not photograph particularly well. In some cases archaeological sites were found but not in the area identified on the lidar, such as the probable quarry pit 1; a quarry pit was found, but closer to the road than in the impenetrable brambles where the lidar suggested it is likely to be. In a number of cases new sites were found which either did not appear on the lidar survey or were not initially identified, and these have been added to an edited version of the New Sites MapInfo layer (New Sites 2). One type of recurrent feature noted were circular pits with low banks around them. These occurred only in wooded areas and may be paralleled with white coal (kiln-dried wood) kilns, sometimes called Q pits or Q holes, that in Derbyshire and South Yorkshire are associated with lead smelting (Crossley 1993). These date from the end of the 16th century to the mid-18th century. White coal comes from billets of older wood coppice than that used for charcoal.

6.2 The following sites were non-archaeological or did not appear to exist: 23 (tree stumps), 30 (modern path), 42 (nothing there), 123 (piles of timber), 99 (nothing visible). These have been removed from the edited MapInfo layer. However as a word of warning, sites 103 and 104, clearly visible in dry conditions, were quite unnoticeable when the grass was wet, suggesting a need to revisit some sites that may appear as subtle changes on the ground under certain light or weather conditions.

6.3 In addition to the sites identified on the lidar, a number of additional sites were found. Some of these could subsequently be seen to be visible on the lidar (e.g. ridges 165, quarry pit 168, ridges 169 and double banked-pit 45 (the pit where 45 was indicated could not be seen – this was to its north and west)

6.4 The following 34 sites were not visited due to time pressure: 15, 17, 24, 25, 28, 29, 38, 39, 55, 57, 58, 73, 76, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 101, 108, 110, 120, 129, 138, 139, 146, 147, 148. In many cases the visits did not take place was because the sites were in areas of boggy ground or heathland where the ground was masked by heather and rushes and it was decided to concentrate on those areas where the probability of being able to find the site was higher. In some of these cases the linear sites were almost certainly drainage ditches (e.g. 24, 25, 106, 141, 161). Other sites were not visited as they were peripheral to an area being investigated on a particular day, or even because the site number had been hidden behind another number on the print-out.

6.5 In some instances the area was visited but the height and type of vegetation cover made ground-truthing the following sites impossible: 1, 2, 14, 15, 33, 34, 35, 36, 52, 59, 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, 78, 86, 87, 88, 106, 136, 141, 142, 144. It might be possible to revisit some of these at different time of the year to see if they are visible, possibly with a programme of clearance of certain types of vegetation (brambles etc). The areas of heathland where hollows and ditches are thought to lie could be revisited if there were any incidents of heather clearance.

6.6 Where dimensions are given the lengths or areas of large or long features has been taken from the lidar. Widths of ditches, heights of banks etc were measured on the ground wherever possible. Where the notes section has been put into bold it is to emphasise the archaeology that was found there.

Site number 1: Pit/hollow (associated with SMR no. 02006?)

NGR: SP0889 9879
Dimensions: c.4-5m diameter, c.0.40m deep
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: adjacent to Roman road
Visibility: good
Vegetation: Birch woodland, small oak trees
Visitor pressure: moderate – road/track close by
Animal burrowing/erosion: earth fairly bare
Photo no.: 5

Notes: West of north end of Ryknild Street, probable quarry pit associated with Ryknild Street

NB: This ground-recorded pit is not in the location MH has circled on the New Sites layer – the latter is in impenetrable brambles further to the north-west.

Site number 2: Pit (associated with SMR no. 02006)

NGR: SP0894 9882
Dimensions: unknown
Condition: n/a
Relationships/associations: east of Ryknild Street, may be a quarry pit
Visibility: poor,
Vegetation: lots of vegetation and uneven ground, brambles, shrubs, etc.
Visitor pressure: low, due to vegetation, although close to a path
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 6, general shot of area

Notes: No access to this area due to brambles.

Site number 3: Ditch

NGR: SP0901 9889
Dimensions: lidar suggests c.20m long
Condition: n/a
Relationships/associations: n/a
Visibility: poor, can't be found
Vegetation: mixture of dense tree cover, thick brambles and tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: n/a
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 7, general shot of area

Notes: Short length of possible ditch on lidar, unable to find on ground.

Site number 4: Bank

NGR: SP0902 9892 to SP0925 9894
Dimensions: 25m across and c.0.50m high, lidar suggests 225m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: overlies ditch 5, which is visible to its north and south
Visibility: variable
Vegetation: nettles, ferns, brambles
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: some

Photo no.: 8

Notes: **Prominent bank, a number of blue brick fragments on surface near junction with 5 suggest 19th-century date.**

Site number 5: Bank and ditch

NGR: SP0919 9893 to 0919 9887

Dimensions: 1.20m deep, c.5m wide ditch, lidar suggests length of 75m long

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: predates 4

Visibility: good

Vegetation: Birchwood, ferns, young oak

Visitor pressure: none for most part

Animal burrowing/erosion: some burrowing, some erosion at path end

Photo no.: 9 -11

Notes: **Very prominent wide ditch, c.5m wide west bank, less prominent east bank, visible on both sides of path but less prominent to the south. The prominence of the feature suggests it was part of a former park boundary, running south off the 12th-century Park IV boundary and parallel to the 15th-century Park III boundary.**



Fig. 5: Site 5

Site number 6: Ridges

NGR: SP0992 9884 (centred)

Dimensions: N-S 6m wide ridges covering an area c.273m x 213m

Condition: unknown

Relationships/associations: 18 and 19

Visibility: very poor

Vegetation: ferns, oak
Visitor pressure: lies north of path and area of burnt mounds
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: 15

Notes: These ridges could not be seen at all on the ground but may be discernible in late winter or if undergrowth was cleared.

Site number 7: Banks and ditch (SMR no. 20039)

NGR: SP0931 9888
Dimensions: c.130m long, 1m wide and 0.20m high
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: parallel with known park boundary
Visibility: poor/variable
Vegetation: variable – grass, heather, oak and brambles
Visitor pressure: path runs across here
Animal burrowing/erosion: areas of erosion right across in the south, animal burrowing as well.
Photo no.: 13

Notes: Slight banking visible on the east side of the ditch. **This may be part of the Park III boundary system.**

Site number 8: Ridges

NGR: SP0943 9890
Dimensions: area c.90m x 35m
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: near northern boundary of park
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: mostly dense vegetation with brambles, grass and trees. Lots of leaf litter.
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 14

Notes: **Visible as slight ridging in some areas.**

Site number 9: Large pit

NGR: SP1047 9876
Dimensions: 15m N-S, 20m W-E, c.2m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: adjacent to pit 10, pit 166 lies just to its north
Visibility: good
Vegetation: holly and birch woodland
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: old burrows/setts on west side
Photo no.: 142

Notes: **This is a substantial pit, probably a quarry pit.** The land slopes down to the SE.



Fig. 6: Site 9

Site number 10: Pit

NGR: SP1045 9876

Dimensions: 7-8m W-E, 9m N-S, 1.5m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: 9

Visibility: good

Vegetation: holly, bracken, birch and oak, some brambles

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: some burrowing at SE end

Photo no.: 140-141

Notes: A number of bricks in this pit with lettering JUBILEE on their side – late 19th-/early 20th-century date? **Size of pit suggests it was probably a quarry pit.**



Fig. 7: Site 10

Site number 11: Group of small pits

NGR: SP1044 9877

Dimensions: one located c.5m diameter

Condition: poor

Relationships/associations: edge of woodland, see 166 as well

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: high holly, oak, birch, fairly dense bracken

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion, lots of pony hoof prints

Photo no.: 144

Notes: **Possible banked pit group. Lidar suggest a series of pits across a 25 metre band. 166 may be part of this 'group'.**

Site number 12: Ditch?

NGR: SP1037 9876

Dimensions: 42m long, 1m wide, 0.20m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: leads to a groups of small pits at south end

Visibility: good

Vegetation: low grass

Visitor pressure: moderate

Animal burrowing/erosion: grazing, rabbits

Photo no.: 136 and 137

Notes: **There is slight banking either side of a hollow.** The hollow itself is lower than the general ground either side.

Site number 13: Ditch

NGR: SP1063 9876

Dimensions: 0.40m wide, 0.40m deep, 5m long visible

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: none

Visibility: good

Vegetation: brambles, oak and grass

Visitor pressure: low, although N end is close to a path

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 135

Notes: **Lidar suggests this is c.25m long but only north-eastern 5m could be seen before it disappeared below brambles. This is probably a modern feature - this area was quite boggy.**

Site number 14: Narrow bank

NGR: SP0891 9869 to SP0898 9850

Dimensions: c.205m long

Condition: unknown

Relationships/associations: none

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: heather and high tussocks of grass

Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 24

Notes: Not possible to locate due to heather cover. Would suggest that this is revisited with good GPS in next stage of work.

Site number 15: Ditch

NGR: SP0902 9856 to SP0911 9856 to SP0915 9851
Dimensions: 156m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: no photo

Notes: This is likely to be a drainage ditch but has not been visited.

Site number 16: Ditch or former path

NGR: SP0916 9880 to SP0922 9868
Dimensions: 0.50-1.20 wide, 130m long
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: none
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: short grass and heather
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: erosion in parches
Photo no.: 12

Notes: There are a number of paths which cross this area in various directions some of which will be the linears detected on the lidar in this area.

Site number 17: Path?

NGR: SP0941 9877 to 0944 9874
Dimensions: c.45m long on lidar
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: none
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: heath
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: no photo

Notes: Not found on ground. To be checked in next stage.

Site number 18: Ridges

NGR: SP0977 9864

Dimensions: c. 180m x 170m

Condition: n/a

Relationships/associations: 6 and 19

Visibility: good

Vegetation: widely spaced birch and oak trees, bracken, uneven ground cover

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 16

Notes: These west-east ridges were not discernible on the ground due to vegetation cover.

Site number 19: Ridges

NGR: SP 0992 9862

Dimensions: 140m W-E, 110m N-S

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: 6 and 18

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: mix of heather, oak trees, grass. Some open ground

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 17

Notes: **Low ridges are visible in places but not everywhere.** They are very clear on the lidar but probably confined to the northern block. Also show as differential vegetation on aerial photo (Bing maps 2009).

Site number 20: Pit

NGR: SP 1048 9866

Dimensions: c.6m diameter and 0.50-0.60m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: close to junction of paths

Visibility: good

Vegetation: light oak and birch woodland

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.:138-139

Notes: **Circular banked pit (?whitecoal pit or Q pit). Very good example.**



Fig. 8: Site 20

Site number 21: Ditch?

NGR: SP0875 9849 to 0883 9849

Dimensions: lidar suggests 80m long, 1.30m wide, 0.60m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations:

Visibility: good

Vegetation: birch woodland, occasional bracken and holly

Visitor pressure: none

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.: 4

Notes: **Slightly curving ditch on slope - drainage?**



Fig. 9: Site 21

Site number 22: Bank and ditch

NGR: SP0884 9848 to 0885 9847
Dimensions: lidar suggest 14m long. Bank 1.5m wide, 7m visible
Condition: variable
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: small trees and brambles
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 3

Notes: **About half of this bank is visible before disappearing into vegetation.**

Site number 23: Group of small pits

NGR: SP0893 9842
Dimensions: area 30m x 40m (lidar suggests latter more like 65m)
Condition: n/a
Relationships/associations: no
Visibility: good
Vegetation: mix of grass, bog and birch woodland
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: ground churned by animals
Photo no.: 2

Notes: This turned out to be a group of tree stumps – this area has been felled recently.

Site number 24: Ditch?

NGR: SP0910 9839 to SP0926 9842
Dimensions: 165m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 25
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This boggy area was not visited. However, the straight linear between the railway and drainage channel is likely to be a drainage ditch. Can be checked in second stage.

Site number 25: Ditch

NGR: SP 0918 9833 to SP0933 9836
Dimensions: 158m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 24
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown

Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This boggy area was not visited. However, the straight linear between the railway and drainage channel is likely to be a drainage ditch. Can be checked in second stage.

Site number 26: Ditches and hollows – peat cutting?

NGR: SP0942 9825
Dimensions: area of c.60m x 36m
Condition: wet
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: birch, high reeds, willow
Visitor pressure: adjacent to Bracebridge Pool but not many people venturing into this boggy area
Animal burrowing/erosion: ground churned in places
Photo no.: 21

Notes: Where cuttings are visible they look like peat extraction.

Site number 27: Group of banks and ditches

NGR: SP0989 9827 to 0999 9828
Dimensions: series of banks and ditches. Banks are 1.5-2m wide, ditches 1-1.5m wide and 0.40-0.60 high/deep
Condition: mostly good
Relationships/associations: this is the convergence of a series of boundaries associated with the deer park.
Visibility: good
Vegetation: holly, conifers and clear ground.
Visitor pressure: high in one area
Animal burrowing/erosion: lots of erosion on the banks where the paths cross. The eastern ditch has been filled with branches and there are pony tracks obliterating an area of ditch at the wood edge.
Photo no.:88-92

Notes: **A well-preserved series of banks and ditches. Some of the ditches converge as can be seen on Fig. 10 below. This area would benefit from a proper survey.**



Fig. 10: Site 27 ditches



Fig. 11: Site 27 bank

Site number 28: Bank?

NGR: SP1034 9849 to 0999 9828

Dimensions: c.70m long

Condition: unknown

Relationships/associations: unknown

Visibility: unknown

Vegetation: unknown

Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This site was not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 29: Pit

NGR: SP1057 9835
Dimensions: unknown
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: Woodland
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This site was not found. However, gravel and sand extraction are indicated close by on 1st edition map.

Site number 30: Linear hollow

NGR: SP0853 9814 to SP0855 9813
Dimensions: 2m across
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: golf course
Visibility: good
Vegetation: none
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: none
Photo no.: 1

Notes: **This is a modern golf course path between two tees.** Checked against aerial photos.

Site number 31: Ditch (also shows as grass mark parallel with Roman road)

NGR: SP0870 9805 to SP0867 9794
Dimensions: c.3m wide, 123m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: ? golf
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: high from golf traffic
Animal burrowing/erosion: mole holes
Photo no.: 77

Notes: This is a faint depression visible on the ground. It appears that this continues both to the south and curving to the north west. It doesn't appear to be a golf path as it crosses the fairways, but may be a depression left by groundsmen's vehicles. It does, however, run parallel to course of Ryknild Street but too far away to be the remains of a road ditch.

Site number 32: Sawpit?

NGR: SP0888 9813

Dimensions: 2.80m wide x 6m long x 0.70-0.80m deep

Condition: somewhat overgrown

Relationships/associations: in woodland

Visibility: fair

Vegetation: oak and holly

Visitor pressure: none

Animal burrowing/erosion: burrow on south side, some erosion

Photo no.: 159, 160

Notes: **Located deep in the woods in a relatively lightly vegetated area, surrounded by denser woodland.**



Fig. 12: Site 32

Site number 33: Hollow

Dimensions: unknown - ? 20m long

Condition: unknown

Relationships/associations: 34, 35, 36

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: high heather

Visitor pressure: none

Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown

Photo no.: 23

Notes: Ground here obscured by high heather.

Site number 34: Hollow

NGR: SP 0924 9818 to SP0925 9817
Dimensions: ?20m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 33, 35, 36
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: high heather
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 23

Notes: Ground obscured by high heather

Site number 35: Hollow

NGR: SP 0916 9815 to 0917 9813
Dimensions: ?c.20m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 33, 34, 36
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: high heather
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 23

Notes: Ground obscured by high heather

Site number 36: Hollow and pit

NGR: SP 0919 9811 to 0920 9809
Dimensions: ?28m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 33, 34, 36
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: high heather
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 23

Notes: Ground obscured by high heather

Site number 37: Ditch – part of Park III? (SMR no. 20039)

NGR: SP0947 9809 to SP0954 9804 to SP0958 9798
Dimensions: 110m long, 1m wide, 0.20m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: part of Park III boundary
Visibility: good
Vegetation: oak, beech and some holly
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 162

Notes: This is a fairly subtle ditch, c.1m wide and 0.20m deep. Trees generally run either side of it. The prominent bank surrounding Darnell Hurst is visible to the north of this and was also photographed (photo 161).



Fig. 13: Site 37

Site number 38: Bank

NGR: SP 0966 9822 to SP0964 9819
Dimensions: 40m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 39: Ditch

NGR: SP0973 9816 to SP0972 9814
Dimensions: 28m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 40: Pock-marked – sawpits?

NGR: SP1011 9819

Dimensions: area of woodland 145m x 60m

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: none

Visibility: good (albeit rather dark)

Vegetation: coniferous plantation with some bracken, beech and holly at west end

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 84-86

Notes: The lidar may be picking up a combination of tree stumps, pits and small mounds. There are some long pits in this area that could very well be sawpits. Needs further investigation.

Site number 41: Ditch - part of boundary to Pool Hollies (SMR no.04550)

NGR: SP1034 9812 to 1036 9805

Dimensions: at least 50m visible on the ground 2m wide bank 1m wide ditch, 73m length on lidar

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: 42 - but latter doesn't appear to exist

Visibility: dark under holly but clearly visible

Vegetation: dense holly and birch woodland

Visitor pressure: none - difficult to get in to this area

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion on bank

Photo no.: 82-3 (NB photos labelled 42, not 41)

Notes: The ditch and bank are clearly visible most of the way up from the car park area. Continues further south than the area marked on lidar but set back from the current path and wood edge by 20m or so.



Fig. 14: Site 41

Site number 42: Ditch?

NGR: SP1035 9806 to SP1036 9805

Dimensions: 18m length

Condition: n/a

Relationships/associations: ?41

Visibility: good

Vegetation: holly and birch woodland

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: none

Notes: Walked north from 9801 to 9808 along length of 41 and there is no linear feature. There are fallen trees, and this might be one of them. **Non- archaeological.**

Site number 43: Parallel ditches or hollows

NGR: SP 1052 9806

Dimensions: covers an area of c. 85m x 60m

Condition: n/a

Relationships/associations: none

Visibility: good

Vegetation: young oak and birch woodland, scant bracken

Visitor pressure: some

Animal burrowing/erosion: some path erosion

Photo no.: 94

Notes: Sloping ground, boggy lower slopes. Could not see anything parallel. Various hollows but these may be paths or natural. Photo taken looking SSE. Would be worth revisiting with a copy of the lidar of this area to look specifically at those areas where hollows appear.

Site number 44: Mound

NGR: SP 0855 9776

Dimensions: 11m long, 2m wide, 0.30-0.50m high

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: possibly associated with drainage ditch

Visibility: good

Vegetation: tussocky grass, heather and marsh grass

Visitor pressure: path to its south

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 78

Notes: **Long mound, just north of drainage ditch.** This is an artificial feature and not golf-related, although it is within golf course area.



Fig. 15: Site 44

Site number 45: Pit

NGR: SP1050 9781 circled on lidar but this is probably SP1049 9781 on ground

Dimensions: two adjacent pits both 4m diameter

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: none

Visibility: good

Vegetation: widely spaced oak woodland

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion on banks

Photo no.: 101, 170, 171

Notes: This double banked-pit may not be that identified on the lidar but it is in the right general area. They lie on a slight slope and are difficult to photograph. Possible double banked-pit (?whitecoal pit or Q-pit). Looking at the lidar retrospectively this may be the feature just to the south-west of that marked by MH. Nothing was visible on the ground in the area he circled. New Sites 2 has new site marked. On the photo below the upper pit lies to the left of the central tree, the other to the upper right.



Fig. 16: Site 45

Site number 46: Hollow

NGR: SP1052 9782
Dimensions: c.19m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: oak and birch woodland
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: low
Photo no.: 104

Notes: **Relatively shallow hollows in this area – may be quarry related or natural.**

Site number 47: Hollow

NGR: SP1053 9780
Dimensions: 5m wide, 0.50m deep

Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: oak woodland
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: none
Photo no.: none

Notes: **Possible hollow in this area - may be quarrying or part of a hollow way.**

Site number 48: Hollows (SMR no 2552)

NGR: SP 1050 9780
Dimensions: area marked on lidar is c.40m x 20m. Hollows c.1.5m deep.
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: similar to 64
Visibility: high
Vegetation: conifers and some beech woodland
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 102 and 103

Notes: **This lies within an already identified site (SMR no. 2522) of gravel pit hollows and scoops. It is an area of hollows east of the path. Gravel Pit marked on 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.**

Site number 49: Ditch

NGR: SP1057 9778 to SP 1059 9803
Dimensions: 1.40m wide 0.50m deep, 250m length identified on lidar but actually much longer
Condition: overgrown in places
Relationships/associations: drainage ditch
Visibility: good
Vegetation: brambles, small birch, holly
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 93

Notes: **The photo shows the northern part on a dry day where there is a bank and ditch. Looking at it further to the south (and after heavy rain) it is clearly part of a drainage watercourse - also marked on the MapInfo mapping.**



Fig. 17: Site 49

Site number 50: Pit

NGR: SP0859 9760
Dimensions: unclear
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: close to 51
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: oak, tall gorse, bracken
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 81

Notes: No pit is visible here but it may be under heavy vegetation cover. There is, however, a low mound c.5m across around here – could be this feature?

Site number 51: Ditches and bank? (associated with SMR no. 02006?)

NGR: SP0861 9759 to SP 0858 9750
Dimensions: c.98m long
Condition: overgrown area
Relationships/associations: parallel to Ryknild Street, close to 50
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: gorse, bracken, birch and heather
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 80

Notes: Could this just be a path? Revisit when bracken etc is down in late winter.

Site number 52: Circular feature (see 167 for linear 52, which is mis-numbered on the survey)

NGR: SP0868 9761

Dimensions: c.13m diameter

Condition: overgrown

Relationships/associations: close to Ryknild Street but probably not associated

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: dense brambles and birch

Visitor pressure: none

Animal burrowing/erosion: lots of wet ground adjacent with animal tracks

Photo no.: 44

Notes: Although this site appears as a clear circle on the lidar it is completely swamped by brambles. This could be revisited or even cleared in the winter to check what it is.

Site number 53: Ditch

NGR: SP0881 9764 to SP 0894 9760

Dimensions: c. 130m long, c.2m wide

Condition: fair

Relationships/associations: unlikely to be golf related

Visibility: good, but difficult to see

Vegetation: very short grass and moss

Visitor pressure: part of golf course

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.: 40

Notes: **This is a very low relief feature no more than a few centimetres deep, but can be seen both as a slight hollow and in change in vegetation across the area of open land.**



Fig. 18: Site 53

Site number 54: Ridges

NGR: SP0896 9773

Dimensions: covering an area of land c.31m x 18m the ridges are 2.5m across and furrows 1.5m wide, 0.30, deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: ?golf course

Visibility: good

Vegetation: heather on top of ridges, short grass in furrows

Visitor pressure: golf course

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.: 39

Notes: While these are prominent features, both on the lidar and in the landscape it is quite possible that they are the result of golf traffic over this rise of land; alternatively they may be relict ridge and furrow. There is now a golf path parallel to the south-west.



Fig. 19: Site 54

Site number 55: Ditch

NGR: SP0876 9753 to SP0878 9747
Dimensions: lidar suggests c.65m
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: The heather made it difficult to see where this could be so close examination was not carried out.

Site number 56: Double bank (SMR no. 20836)

NGR: SP0901 9766 to SP 0904 9741

Dimensions: 250m long, eastern bank c.4m across, western one 2.5m across, 9m across in total
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: n/a
Visibility: good
Vegetation: mostly heather, gorse and birch and high vegetation to north of path.
Visitor pressure: where path crosses
Animal burrowing/erosion: on path
Photo no.: 42

Notes: These two banks are highly visible where the path crosses but are subject to erosion here. The eastern bank is more prominent and this continues into field to south of path. Monument number 2498 in SMR - 'linear earthwork'.



Fig. 20: Site 56

Site number 57: Ditch

NGR: SP1012 9772 to SP 1014 9771
Dimensions: lidar suggests c.20m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: n/a
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather (boggy)
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not inspected but it could easily be part of a drainage ditch as this area is quite boggy.

Site number 58: Group of pits

NGR: SP1020 9765
Dimensions: lidar suggests an area of c. 50m x 20m
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: n/a
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: holly, bracken, oak, heather
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Moderately open ground with tree stumps and uneven ground. Only viewed this area from the north-east – no convenient access.

Site number 59: Hollow

NGR: SP1036 9753 to SP1036 9750 to SP1039 9749
Dimensions: lidar suggests c.60m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: uneven heather, rushes and tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 97

Notes: This lies in the same area as 86 and has the same visibility problems with the heather and rushes. A path is supposed to cross this area of land from north-west to south-east but this couldn't be found. The ground is very boggy near the stream and this L-shaped feature, if real, could be a drainage ditch.

Site number 60: Hollow

NGR: SP 1041 9751
Dimensions: lidar suggests 74m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: close to stream
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: birch and shrubs, dense vegetation cover
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: 99

Notes: There are water-filled hollows, probably natural, in this area, but there is also a diagonal bank which may be this feature – indistinct though.

Site number 61: Narrow ridges (some within SMR no. 2259)

NGR: SP1047 9759
Dimensions: lidar suggests an area of 100m x 60m with ridges running SW-NE
Condition: steep slope
Relationships/associations: close to railway line
Visibility: good on east side, poor on west
Vegetation: birch, oak and bracken
Visitor pressure: crossed by paths
Animal burrowing/erosion: quite a lot
Photo no.: none

Notes: Further 'ridging' can be seen on the lidar hillshading to the north-west of this area for a further 240m but it may not be 'real'. However, nothing can be seen on the ground, even when directly compared with the lidar print-out. The steep slope here makes it unlikely to be agricultural. Could it be picking up tree planting? Although the current vegetation does not run in straight parallel lines, could it have once been planted this way? The lidar has been examined and this type of apparent ridging occurs on a number of areas, all running in the same direction and with similarly

narrow 'ridging' (e.g. at SP 0905 9715, SP0853 9614, SP0905 9576 and SP1002 9558) - suggests this is lidar patterning rather than archaeology.

Site number 62: Ditch?

NGR: SP1048 9773 to SP 1050 9772
Dimensions: c.1m across
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: on edge of woodland
Visibility: good
Vegetation: grass and leaf litter
Visitor pressure: fairly high
Animal burrowing/erosion: some
Photo no.: 145

Notes: This appears as a slight depression with slight banking either side. May just be a pathway.

Site number 63: Pit?

NGR: SP1056 9773
Dimensions: 3.5m x 4m, 0.60m deep
Condition: on slope
Relationships/associations: gravel extraction?
Visibility: good
Vegetation: bracken, low grass and trees
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: burrow on one side
Photo no.: 155, 174

Notes: **This is in an area of bracken adjacent to open ground on a slope. (see photo 174)**
The pit has an irregular shape and may be associated with gravel extraction.

Site number 64: Group of hollows

NGR: SP1053 9767
Dimensions: lidar suggests an area of c.30m x 35m
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: 48
Visibility: good
Vegetation: open oak woodland and grass
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: slope erosion, ponies and ?foxes/badgers
Photo no.: 147-150

Notes: **This is probably an area that has been subject to quarrying. Its north-east corner lies just within SMR no, 2522 (Gravel pit). There may also be shallow banked pits here associated with whitecoal production.**

Site number 65: Group of hollows

NGR: SP1059 9763
Dimensions: triangular area 30m x 30m x 50m

Condition: fair, on a slope
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: variable
Vegetation: holly, oak and birch
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: path erosion
Photo no.: 153, 154

Notes: **Mix** of small scoops 2-3m across and deeper pits, latter probably quarry pits.

Site number 66: Bank

NGR: SP1061 9765 to SP 1064 9766
Dimensions: 1.50m across, 30m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: runs as footpath between footbridge and road
Visibility: good
Vegetation: grass, birch and boggy ground
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: ponies and footpath erosion
Photo no.: 151

Notes: Runs upslope towards road. This bank has ditches either side and is a clear feature in the landscape. However it is mapped as a footpath so may be of recent date.



Fig. 21: Site 66

Site number 67: Banks

NGR: SP1061 9764 to SP1060 9759

Dimensions: c.0.80m across, 0.25m high, c.50m long

Condition: variable

Relationships/associations: parallel with watercourse

Visibility: fair

Vegetation: brambles, bracken and birch

Visitor pressure: high?

Animal burrowing/erosion: parts eroded out

Photo no.: 152

Notes: **This is a genuine bank and may even run another 50m south** (suggested by lidar – would need checking on ground).



Fig. 22: Site 67

Site number 68: Ditch

NGR: SP1060 9757 to SP1062 9758

Dimensions: 0.60m wide, c.33m long

Condition: overgrown

Relationships/associations: ditch joining watercourse

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: birch, brambles, ferns and some holly

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 157

Notes: This is a drain, flowing into larger watercourse marked on mapping.

Site number 69: Ditch

NGR: SP1062 9764 to SP1062 9761
Dimensions: lidar suggests c. 34m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not checked due to time constraints.

Site number 70: Ditch

NGR: SP0151 9754 to SP 1053 9754
Dimensions: bank and ditch both 1.5m wide and 0.30-0.40 high, 25m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: curves round hillside
Visibility: good at railway end
Vegetation: holly, oak, birch, some trees growing on bank
Visitor pressure: close to path
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 100 (NB photo says 72 but this is wrong)

Notes: Would be worth investigating this further as it may well continue further into woodland.

Site number 71: Ditch

NGR: SP1052 9753 to SP 1053 9753
Dimensions: lidar suggest 16m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: didn't see this
Vegetation: as 70
Visitor pressure: as 70
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: no

Notes: Didn't see this feature - its possible what we see on the lidar is the break of slope at the base of the hill?

Site number 72: Ditch

NGR: SP1054 9754 to SP 1055 9752
Dimensions: lidar suggests c.25m
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: possibly running towards water course
Visibility: didn't see
Vegetation: woodland
Visitor pressure:
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: none

Notes: This feature was not inspected but it would be running downslope towards drain and could therefore be a drainage ditch as well.

Site number 73: Ditch

NGR: SP1069 9755 to SP 1067 9750
Dimensions: lidar suggests 53m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This is a fairly boggy area so it could be another drainage ditch. Not inspected.

Site number 74: Ditch

NGR: SP 0840 9729 to 0840 9727
Dimensions: c.20m long
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: ? path
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: lots of brambles
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: The area between the path and the western edge of the park is very overgrown in this area. This may be an old length of path. Not inspected.

Site number 75: Ditch:

NGR: SP 0840 9729 to SP 0842 9729
Dimensions: lidar suggests 18m long
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: ?path
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: lots of brambles under tree canopy
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: This may similarly be an old length of path.

Site number 76: Bank

NGR: SP0847 9735
Dimensions: possibly 26m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:

Visibility: variable
Vegetation: trees to west, open to east
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not inspected but a likely interpretation of the lidar would be that there is something in the eastern part of the area marked, which is on the golf course. Re-check this on the ground.

Site number 77: Ridges

NGR: SP0890 9744 to SP0897 9744
Dimensions: area c.10m x 77m marked but probably only length worth noting
Condition: unclear
Relationships/associations: immediately south of path
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: small birch, high grass, heather
Visitor pressure: no
Animal burrowing/erosion: none
Photo no.: 41

Notes: Nothing visible on the ground but closer inspection of the lidar suggests this is part of 78 and drainage related –mapping changed to show this.

Site number 78: Bank/former drain

NGR: SP0895 9745 to SP0912 9742
Dimensions: 180m length suggested by lidar
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 77
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather, high tussocky grass, small birch
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 43

Notes: Boggy, uneven ground. General photo taken of the area as feature not visible. Looking at the lidar and MapInfo combined this very much **looks to be a drain running into the 'collects' area**. The short 'T' at the east end is on the line of the main extant drain run.

Site number 79: Hollow – peat cutting

NGR: SP0917 9738
Dimensions: c.40 W-E area
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: drainage?
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown (boggy)
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not inspected but looking at the mapping there may be old drains as well as peat cutting. Need to revisit.

Site number 80: Old drains?

NGR: SP 0908 9733
Dimensions: two drains, each 60m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: running into current mapped drain
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited but looking at the line of old drains in this area this is a very likely explanation. The lidar shows extensive drain lines – more than the current mapping.

Site number 81: Ridges

NGR: SP0913 9725
Dimensions: 53m x 29m area
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited. Lidar shows this to be a series of somewhat meandering ridges, unlike those found elsewhere. There appear to be ridges running parallel to the drain just to the south of here though.

Site number 82: Group of pits

NGR: SP0923 9738
Dimensions: c.80m x 20m
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 83?
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time pressure. However, not convinced by lidar that this is archaeological, may be vegetation.

Site number 83: Group of pits?

NGR: SP0926 9743
Dimensions: 56m x 8m

Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 82?
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time pressure. However the location suggests that 83 and 83 could represent an area of peat extraction (or merely vegetation change).

Site number 84: Pit

NGR: SP 1023 9742
Dimensions: 6m N-S, 3.20 W-E, 0.60-70m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: east of path
Visibility: good
Vegetation: low mossy grass, brambles, overhanging beech trees.
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 95

Notes: **Oval pit with irregular sides. Contains two tree stumps, where trees have been felled, one at either end of the pit. Banking irregular on east side.**

Site number 85: Pit

NGR: SP1022 9736
Dimensions: 5m x 3m, c.1m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: in woodland
Visibility: variable
Vegetation: canopy of birch and beech, fairly dense holly around here
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: badger setts in this wood
Photo no.:96

Notes: This oval pit lies in the wood just east of a pile of logs which are parallel with the track.



Fig. 23: Site 85

Site number 86: Many small pits

NGR: SP1037 9747

Dimensions: area 125m x 20m on lidar

Condition: boggy

Relationships/associations: south of stream

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: heather and tussocky grass

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.: 97

Notes: Uneven vegetation makes proofing this unlikely. There are a number of small piles of timber in this field, which the lidar may be picking up. However it is also possible there are peat pits here, hidden by the vegetation.

Site number 87: Hollow

NGR: SP1047 9743

Dimensions: c. 80m long

Condition: overgrown

Relationships/associations: stream?

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: impenetrable holly, climbers, bracken, beech, ash

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: ground very boggy
Photo no.: 98

Notes: If this exists it may be the former line of the stream, before it meandered north. Nothing visible because of vegetation, boggy ground.

Site number 88: Bank

NGR: SP 1044 9747 to SP 1053 9741
Dimensions: 21m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: associated with stream?
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: impenetrable holly, climbers, bracken, beech, ash
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 98

Notes: Possible banked ditch running towards stream?

Site number 89: Hollow

NGR: SP1072 9743 to SP 1072 9742
Dimensions: c.18m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time pressure. May be a small length of drainage ditch as it is heading towards the ditch that runs alongside the railway track.

Site number 90: Ditch

NGR: SP1097 9739 to SP1080 9735
Dimensions: c.35m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: railway?
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time pressure. Likely to be a length of drainage ditch as it is heading towards the ditch that runs alongside the railway track.

Site number 91: Ridges?

NGR: SP0848 9703
Dimensions: area 30m x 23m

Condition: good
Relationships/associations: 92 and 105
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: tall grass and heather
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: some burrowing
Photo no.: 73

Notes: **North-south ridges, looking slightly wider than those of 92. Visible where grass is low and running in same direction as 92. Checking lidar it appears that these are part of same ridging, as is 105.**

Site number 92: Ridges

NGR: SP0850 9707
Dimensions: area c.30m x 27m
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: 91 and 105
Visibility: good
Vegetation: rough low grass and areas of heather
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 70

Notes: A small area clearly visible c.13m across in rough grass, probably more under heather.



Fig. 24: Site 92

Site number 93: Hollow

NGR: SP0865 9705
Dimensions: c.30m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. Appears to be a curving hollow.

Site number 94: Bank

NGR: SP0879 9707 to SP 0888 9707
Dimensions: c.85m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. May be a bank by the side of a drain?

Site number 95: Bank

NGR: SP0914 9717 to SP0913 9713
Dimensions: c. 40m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. May be associated with former drain.

Site number 96: Bank

NGR: SP0920 9717 to SP0924 9715
Dimensions: c.48m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: unknown
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. Heading towards drain - may be associated with former drain or may be part of a path.

Site number 97: Bank

NGR: SP0920 9717 to SP 0919 9715
Dimensions: c.25m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: drain
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. Runs immediately parallel to current drain.

Site number 98: Ditch

NGR: SP 0940 9710 to SP 0936 9702
Dimensions: c.110m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: continues south as 112 then SMR no. 20840
Visibility: variable
Vegetation: tussocky grass, gorse and heather
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 164, 166, 167

Notes: This area is much less clear than 112. There may be some slight ditching or it may have been the path being picked up (see photo 166). This appears to be a continuation of the bank and ditch earthwork recorded on SMR (20840) and 112.

Site number 99: Slight ditch

NGR: SP0937 9719 to SP0941 9712 to SP0943 9713
Dimensions: c.113m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: 98?
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: high - golf course
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 165

Notes: **There is nothing visible as a N-S ditch on the golf course fairway in this location.** The SW-NE length may be a continuation of 98?

Site number 100: Narrow ridges

NGR: SP1000 9707
Dimensions: 155m x 105m
Condition: obscured

Relationships/associations: south of path
Visibility: mostly very poor
Vegetation: mixed – grass in flower, small birch, high bracken and high gorse
Visitor pressure: high - paths crossing this area
Animal burrowing/erosion: some path erosion
Photo no.: 26

Notes: E-W ridges but obscured by vegetation.

Site number 101: Ditch

NGR: SP1028 9713 to SP 1027 9712
Dimensions: c.12m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: perpendicular to a path
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 102: Circular or penannular feature (within SMR no. 20568)

NGR: SP1102 9709
Dimensions: 16m across
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: 103 appears to butt 102
Visibility: good
Vegetation: low tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: path through centre
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 75

Notes: **Circular ditch and banked feature.** This can be seen on path as two slight banks, c.16m apart and in correct weather conditions can also be followed on grass. However, it completely 'vanished' in the grass when the weather was wet. This feature shows up well as a cropmark on aerial photos (in dry summer – Bing maps 2009). This feature lies within the former racecourse – remains of possible manège? While ridges 103 appear to *butt* 102 it may be that they have been obliterated in this area by horse activity.

Site number 103: Narrow ridges (within SMR no. 20568)

NGR: SP 1107 9707
Dimensions: 215m N-S, 80m W-E
Condition: slight
Relationships/associations: appear to butt 102
Visibility: good
Vegetation: low tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.:76, 125-126

Notes: **Very slight 3m wide 'ridges' more visible as the 0.20m depressions between them.** These can be seen as differential vegetation growth on the ground. Become invisible in wet weather. I would suggest these continue further south, but not as far east as MH indicated. Good example of lidar picking up something that would not otherwise have been spotted.



Fig. 25: Site 103

Site number 104: Hollow

NGR: SP1094 9700 to SP 1096 9701
Dimensions: c.30m long, 0.50m wide and 0.25m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: quarried area?
Visibility: good
Vegetation: tussocky grass and leaf litter
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 127

Notes: Curving ditch between path and deep quarried hollow where buildings are.

Site number 105: Bank

NGR: SP0845 9697 to SP0843 9691
Dimensions: c.70m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: part of same ridging as 91 and 92
Visibility: good
Vegetation: tall tussocky grass and heather, some trees
Visitor pressure: low, although adjacent to Ryknild Street
Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 68

Notes: **The whole of the ridging (91, 92, 105) appears to cover an area c.204m long and 45m wide and is part of one feature.**

Site number 106: Ditch

NGR: SP0859 9672 to SP0859 9669
Dimensions: c.30m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: drain
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather and tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 38

Notes: Could not be located. Heading towards drain - likely to be a drainage feature.

Site number 107: Hollow (associated with SMR no. 02006)

NGR: SP 0835 9641 to SP0835 9639
Dimensions: 15m long, 5m wide, 1m deep
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: west side of Ryknild Street
Visibility: good
Vegetation: small holly, large birch canopy
Visitor pressure: high. Gate to west, major entry point into park
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 36, 37

Notes: **Quarry pit for Roman road near park entrance.**

Site number 108: Bank

NGR: SP0916 9687 to SP0818 9686
Dimensions: c.18m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: at right angles to path
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: none

Notes: Not seen due to time constraints. Possible path?

Site number 109: Mound or pit

NGR: SP0899 9664
Dimensions: uncertain
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: close to concrete butts and path

Visibility: poor
Vegetation: brambles and gorse, birch and small oak, tussocky grass
Visitor pressure: path adjacent
Animal burrowing/erosion: none seen
Photo no.: 35

Notes: Tangle of vegetation obscuring possible mound. May be a Burnt Mound - not far from watercourse. Alternatively it maybe associated with concrete butts. Needs to be revisited when vegetation is lower.

Site number 110: Hollow

NGR: SP0915 9656
Dimensions: c.100m length on lidar
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: watercourse
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: marsh grasses and rushes
Visitor pressure: low - very boggy area
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Possible former line of watercourse which now meanders to north. Not seen too closely due to bogginess of ground and high vegetation at time of visit.

Site number 111: Ditch (within SMR No. 2467, south of trackway 495)

NGR: SP0917 9641 to SP0919 9638
Dimensions: c.40m long
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: runs into drain
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: surrounded by birch, thistles, brambles etc
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion: none
Photo no.: 34

Notes: Raised ground beyond boggy area, possibly a natural hollow, water running in it!

Site number 112: Intermittent ditch

NGR: SP0936 9699 to SP0937 9690
Dimensions: 110m, bank 2m wide and 0.70m high
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: 98 and SMR no. 20840
Visibility: good for the most part
Vegetation: tussocky grass, heather and gorse
Visitor pressure: crossed by path so fairly high
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 163

Notes: Continuation of 20940. **On the south side of the track this appears as a bank with a ditch on the west side.** Becomes less clear on north side of path where there is more gorse.

Site number 113: Ridges

NGR: SP 0946 9695

Dimensions: area c.175m x 80m,

Condition: largely covered in vegetation

Relationships/associations: north of path

Visibility: good

Vegetation: mostly bracken and small birch with heather

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: none seen

Photo no.: 29

Notes: **Narrow, very low, ridges run NW-SE and can be seen on paths.** Not visible in bracken-covered areas. Revisit in winter? Between 113 and 114 is an earthwork (20840) which is believed to be of medieval date.

Site number 114: Ridges

NGR: SP0938 9678

Dimensions: area 250m x 120m

Condition: overgrown

Relationships/associations: crossed by track and running east of a footpath; 115

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: tall grass and light brambles north of the path, bracken and tall grass to south

Visitor pressure: moderate

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion on paths

Photo no.: 30

Notes: 114 and 115 may be continuous with areas of higher vegetation masking ridges between.

Site number 115: Ridges and pits

NGR: SP0934 9664

Dimensions: area c.240m x 100m, ridges 1.20-1.50m wide and 0.15m high

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: 114

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: Bracken, gorse and low grass

Visitor pressure: path to north heavily used

Animal burrowing/erosion: very eroded path to the west, steep slope with exposed sand and gravel

Photo no.: 31

Notes: Good to revisit in winter. **Ridging can be made out running downslope.**

Site number 116: Ridges

NGR: SP0936 9648

Dimensions: area 250m x 125m

Condition: fair

Relationships/associations: 115

Visibility: variable

Vegetation: gorse and bracken, heather, tussocky grass

Visitor pressure: fairly high

Animal burrowing/erosion: lots of heavy erosion on the paths that run through this area

Photo no.: 32

Notes: N-S ridging, this is a flatter area downslope of 115. Some slight ridging can be seen on the paths.

Site number 117: Two mounds

NGR: SP0933 9641

Dimensions: one mound 8m x 7m, second one 10m x 2m

Condition: very good

Relationships/associations: close to water course

Visibility: good

Vegetation: tussocky grass

Visitor pressure: moderate – path on south side

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 33, 168

Notes: Two mounds seen were on west side of path – nothing visible on east of path as area obscured by gorse and bracken. This might be worth revisiting in winter. The roughly circular mound is quite a prominent feature. **Possible burnt mounds?** The paths in this area are confusing however – more exist than are mapped.



Fig. 26: Site 117

Site number 118: Ditch

NGR: SP1017 9697 to SP1006 9686
Dimensions: c.150m long
Condition: overgrown area
Relationships/associations: paths
Visibility: reasonable
Vegetation: birch, bracken and gorse
Visitor pressure: lots of paths cross this area
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 27

Notes: Ground slopes down from E to W and from N to S. There is a steep slope down from the north-east. This may be a ditch or a path. Cannot verify.

Site number 119: Bank (running off SMR no. 20039)

NGR: SP1021 9692 to SP1025 9693
Dimensions: c.35m long
Condition: hidden by vegetation
Relationships/associations: running off Park III boundary?
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: high bracken
Visitor pressure: lots of walkers
Animal burrowing/erosion: erosion from paths
Photo no.: 28

Notes: Cannot locate - maybe revisit in winter. It is possible that this is a line of higher bracken and birch which could indicate a bank in this area.

Site number 120: Ditch

NGR: SP0971 9651 to SP0978 9642
Dimensions: 108m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints. The 3rd Hillshade suggests it may be more like 225m long.

Site number 121: Ditch

NGR: SP1013 9635 to SP1011 9632
Dimensions: c. 38m long, c. 1m wide
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: gorse to the west, heather to the east
Visitor pressure: high - path
Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 122

Notes: **This looks to be a path.**

Site number 122: Three pits

NGR: SP1023 9651

Dimensions: one pit c.4m radius

Condition: fair

Relationships/associations:

Visibility: variable

Vegetation: oak and beech wood, low grass, brambles

Visitor pressure:

Animal burrowing/erosion:

Photo no.: 123

Notes: Not certain that the lidar shows this. There is a 4m radius pit and a not very convincing hollow.

Site number 123: Group of hollows (within Holly Hurst SMR no 20268)

NGR: SP1162 9647

Dimensions: n/a

Condition: n/a

Relationships/associations: cleared area

Visibility: good

Vegetation: dense holly around edges of clearing

Visitor pressure: none

Animal burrowing/erosion: none

Photo no.: 67

Notes: **Actually a group of log stacks in a felled area in Holly Hurst.**

Site number 124: Pit

NGR: SP1104 9678

Dimensions: there is a slight hollowing here 6m x 3m and 0.20m deep, plus a slight mound c.3m across just to west

Condition: fair

Relationships/associations: just north of park boundary

Visibility: good

Vegetation: tussocky grass

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 128

Notes: May be natural, not convinced this is a site.

Site number 125: Bank?

NGR: SP1083 9660 to SP1089 9660

Dimensions: c. 66m long, 1m wide and 0.30m deep

Condition: overgrown

Relationships/associations: drainage
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: rushes, birch and brambles
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 124

Notes: Boggy ground - this is a ditch, part of the drainage system.

Site number 126: Ridges

NGR: SP1109 9632
Dimensions: area of 250m x 200m, ridges 2-2.5m across where visible
Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: very variable, impenetrable in places
Vegetation: bracken, gorse, birch and oak
Visitor pressure: high (close to visitor centre)
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 66

Notes: Ridges run W-E, north-west of visitor centre. Visible in less densely vegetated areas.



Fig. 27: Site 126

Site number 127: Hollow (part of SMR no. 20040)

NGR: SP1133 9666 to SP1136 9650
Dimensions: c.4m wide hollow, 33m clearly visible on ground, 166m on lidar
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: park boundary, runs towards Plants Brook
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 129

Notes: Gently sloping sides, lidar picking up more than can be seen by eye in these conditions. **This is part of Park IV boundary which is thought to be of 12th-century date.**

Site number 128: Hollow

NGR: SP1148 9647 to SP1150 9647
Dimensions: 1.5m wide, c.20m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: running down towards Plants Brook
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: light
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 130

Notes: **Slight hollow/banking. May simply be drainage.**

Site number 129: Hollow

NGR: SP1131 9638 to 1132 9635
Dimensions: c.35m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: in garden of park house
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Didn't get to see this due to time constraints.

Site number 130: Ditch

NGR: SP1139 9641 to SP1142 9636
Dimensions: 1.5m wide, c.60m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf and leaf litter
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: 131

Notes: **Shallow, curving ditch to east of Park House. May continue on south side of the road.**

Site number 131: Enclosures (SMR no. 20040)

NGR: SP1137 9628

Dimensions: area on map c.150m x 80m
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: park boundaries etc
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 132-134

Notes: **A number of banks on this area, including original Park IV boundary. It looks as if ditch 130, continuing south across from the road, may then be continued as part of this feature.**

Site number 132: Ridges

NGR: SP1113 9613
Dimensions: 2-2.5m across area of land 220m x 150m
Condition: variable
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: short tussocky grass, occasional trees
Visitor pressure: close to visitor centre, probably well used area
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: 64

Notes: **Ridges to SW of visitor centre, running to SSE from northern path.** These are mostly difficult to see as there are lots of bumps and ridges in this area.

Site number 133: Bank (part of SMR no. 20362)

NGR: SP0889 9618 to SP0899 9618
Dimensions: 0.90m wide and 0.25m high, lidar shows 115m length
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: firing range
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: very uneven ground, young birch, boggy rushes
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: none
Photo no.: 44 and 47

Notes: **Flat-topped bank. 500 foot distance marker for firing range.**



Fig. 128: Site 133

Site number 134: Ridges (within SMR no. 20166)

NGR: SP0899 9571

Dimensions: 2.5m across in land area 80m x 95m

Condition: variable

Relationships/associations: in Westwood Coppice

Visibility: good

Vegetation: chestnut and beech, occasional brambles, ground cover of leaf litter

Visitor pressure: high – lots of dog walkers

Animal burrowing/erosion: ground churned in places

Photo no.: 45

Notes: **Ridges run NE-SW. Ground slopes slightly towards path.** Ridges may continue to the NW but ground is obscured by heavier vegetation cover with lots more holly etc. Could these be the remains of 18th-century cultivation mentioned in the SMR within Westwood Coppice?

Site number 135: Pit (within SMR no. 20166)

NGR: SP0907 9561

Dimensions: 8.60m across, 1m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: in Westwood Coppice

Visibility: good

Vegetation: Beech and oak woodland

Visitor pressure: high, close to car park

Animal burrowing/erosion: ground bare in places

Photo no.: 48

Notes: **Possible quarry pit.**



Fig. 29: Site 135

Site number 136: Peat pits?

NGR: SP0923 9607
Dimensions: area 25m x 25m
Condition: wet
Relationships/associations: east of track
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: rushes, mosses and heather
Visitor pressure: on paths only
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: 52

Notes: Ground very boggy here and ground uneven. Not possible to identify any specific peat pits but it is likely that this area has been subject to peat extraction.

Site number 137: Ditch?

NGR: SP0929 9609 to SP0935 9609
Dimensions: c.55m long
Condition: wet
Relationships/associations: heading towards stream
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: rushes, mosses, cotton grass, heather
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 53

Notes: Could not be found. Suggest revisit with a more detailed map and higher spec GPS.

Site number 138: Bank

NGR: SP 0939 9613 to SP0943 9614
Dimensions: c. 34m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: possibly heading towards stream
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather, rushes etc
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 139: Bank

NGR: SP0924 9599 to SP0935 9602
Dimensions: c.120m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: begins at north end of 140
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather, rushes and sedges
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 54 (general area)

Notes: Followed 140 looking for this but couldn't find it under heather cover.

Site number 140: Bank

NGR: SP0925 9599 to SP0923 9593
Dimensions: c.60m long, c.2m wide and 0.20m high
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: 139 to north of this
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: sedges, rushes and low grass. Heather to east burnt off?
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: cattle have been grazing here
Photo no.: 55

Notes: **A low but visible feature which could be seen in non-heather covered ground.**



Fig. 30: Site 140

Site number 141: Bank

NGR: SP0929 9588 to SP0925 9581
Dimensions: c.80m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: heading towards drain
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather, sedges and rushes
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: 54

Notes: Could not be seen in the heather cover. However MapInfo suggests its on the line of a drain.

Site number 142: Banks

NGR: SP 0916 9581 to SP 0918 9581 to SP 0917 9575
Dimensions: 32m long W-E and 79m long NE-SW
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: runs into area of peat pits
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: heather and rushes
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: see 54 for area

Notes: W-E part looks to be a ditch on the lidar while the NE-SW part looks to be a bank.

Site number 143: Access to peat pits (within SMR no. 20805)

NGR: SP0917 9666

Dimensions: c.40m and 75m long banks, 3m wide

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: leads to peat pit area

Visibility: variable

Vegetation: sedges, rushes and heather, tussocky grass on top

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 58

Notes: **The NE-SW stretch is highly visible as a wide bank, ditched on either side,** and where indicated by MHI on lidar as 75m long could actually be up to 150m long. The NW-SE stretch, which is c.40m long on lidar, was less clear.



Fig. 31: Site 143

Site number 144: Ditch

NGR: SP0923 9565 to SP0923 9562

Dimensions: c.28m long

Condition: impenetrable and wet

Relationships/associations: runs towards drainage ditch that lies at path side

Visibility: poor

Vegetation: willow, birch, extensive nettles and high brambles

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 51

Notes: Not accessible, general photo taken of area. Probably a small length of drainage ditch

Site number 145: Ditch

NGR: SP0935 9574 to SP0945 9568

Dimensions: c.110m long

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: cuts across area of ridges

Visibility: fair

Vegetation: holly, oak, birch and low grass

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 49, 158

Notes: Although this feature is clear on the lidar I it could not be seen on the ground. It was thought to be a ditch, however, there is a fairly wide bank however visible east of the fence. The ground west of the fence, where the majority of this feature lies was completely inaccessible due to high number of very young trees. Suggest re-checking lidar and on the ground.

Site number 146: Ditch/track

NGR: SP0942 9565 to SP0945 9554

Dimensions: c.127m long, c.2m wide and 0.30m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: post-dates R+F , 147 and 148

Visibility: good

Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: moderate to high

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion

Photo no.: 117

Notes: Slight banking on both sides of depression. The ground is fairly wet here and the ditch is particularly visible south of the tree line that runs across the middle of the golf course. It heads from the southern park boundary towards a deep water-filled ditch between road near Longmoor Pool and the edge of the golf course. Another ditch is visible 4-5m to the west in the northern area. **This represents part of a field boundary shown on the first edition map, along with 147.** NB the part north of 147 is not part of the field boundary but may be later ditching. The MapInfo layer has been altered to represent this .

Site number 147: Ditch/path

NGR: SP0946 9565 to SP0942 9561

Dimensions: c.60m long, 1m wide and 0.20-0.30m deep

Condition: variable, ground very boggy to north

Relationships/associations: 146 and 148

Visibility: good

Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: high (golf traffic)

Animal burrowing/erosion:

Photo no.: 116

Notes: Curving ditch running from 146, across 148 and into ditch to north, Lies at west end of ridges 165. This is a more uneven feature than 146 and 148. **It represents part of a field boundary shown on the first edition map, along with southern stretch of 146.**



Fig. 32: Site 147

Site number 148: Bank and Ditch

NGR: SP0942 9564 to SP0953 9551

Dimensions: c.190m, bank c.2m wide, ditches 1.5m wide and 0.30m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: 146 and 147, cuts ridges 165
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: high (golf traffic)
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 110, 118, 119

Notes: **This is also visible as higher, darker grass growth in ditches. Bank with ditches either side, SW ditch more noticeable. Post-dates ridges 165.**

Site number 149: Ditch

NGR: SP0950 9569 to SP0947 9567
Dimensions: lidar suggests 43m long, 3m wide bank, 2m wide ditch
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: lies between stream on north side of golf course and road to Longmoor Pool
Visibility: good
Vegetation: brambles, holly, oak, lots of ivy covering ground -
Visitor pressure: immediately adjacent to golf area but probably not much pressure here
Animal burrowing/erosion none
Photo no.: 159, 160

Notes: **There is a bank with a possible ditch to the north of a raised golf tee area.**

Site number 150: Former field boundary

NGR: SP0975 9437 to SP0983 9551
Dimensions: ditch 0.80m wide, 180m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: former fields
Visibility: fair
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: golf traffic
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 120

Notes: **The line noted above is a field boundary running up from former Old Park Farm on first edition map.** However those to west and north are not 1st edition boundaries. The northern one is a drain. The western one is a mystery.

Site number 151: Bank and ditch?

NGR: SP 0985 9605 to SP0986 9596
Dimensions: 85m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 152: Ditch?

NGR: SP0988 9573 to SP0989 9568
Dimensions: 58m long
Condition: unknown
Relationships/associations: none
Visibility: unknown
Vegetation: unknown
Visitor pressure: unknown
Animal burrowing/erosion: unknown
Photo no.: none

Notes: Site not visited due to time constraints.

Site number 153: Ridges

NGR: SP128 9588
Dimensions: area measuring 170m x 130m
Condition: fair
Relationships/associations: none
Visibility: good
Vegetation: tussocky grass with heather and birch in places
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: some rabbit burrows
Photo no.: 63

Notes: Open area with a few footpaths. Quite bumpy and on slight slope. **Some ridging visible running NW-SE.**

Site number 154: Ditch (on boundary SMR nos. 20037, 20038, 20039)

NGR: SP1053 9584 to SP 0162 9577
Dimensions: c.120m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: park boundary
Visibility: good
Vegetation: edge of woodland
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.:

Notes: Check this again as pro forma has disappeared? On boundary of Park I, II and III.

Site number 155: Ditch

NGR: SP1066 9560 to SP 1080 9545
Dimensions: 210m long, c.1m wide ditch and 0.30m deep bank
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: woodland boundary
Visibility: good
Vegetation: grass
Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion where path crosses
Photo no.: 60

Notes: **There is a modest bank and ditch on the south-west side of a rectangular area of woodland (now marked on new MapInfo layer).** The feature MH had marked is a footpath; this may follow what is marked as a field boundary on the 1st edition OS map.

Site number 156: Ridges

NGR: SP1076 9556
Dimensions: area 210m x 96m
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: lies within woodland
Visibility: very poor over most of area
Vegetation: beech and oak woodland with thick bramble under story
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: wide eroded footpath where MH originally had 155 line.
Photo no.: 59

Notes: Slopes down to NE. Some narrow ridging visible in the south-west part going NE-SW.

Site number 157: Ditch

NGR: SP1072 9568 to SP1086 9557
Dimensions: c.190m long, banks 2.5m and 3m across, ditch 1.50m wide, banks 0.50-0.60m high
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: former park boundary
Visibility: good
Vegetation: woodland, trees growing on the banks
Visitor pressure: path crosses on NE side of wood
Animal burrowing/erosion: path erosion
Photo no.: 62

Notes: **Good example of park boundary. Totalling 9m across double bank and ditch.**



Fig. 33: Site 159

Site number 158: Former field boundaries

NGR: SP1004 9524

Dimensions: w-E 125m long, short W boundary 45m long, long E boundary 125m long, latter c.3m wide and 0.50m high

Condition: good, particularly on east side

Relationships/associations: 19th-century field boundaries

Visibility: good

Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: golf traffic

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 108

Notes: **The western side of the area marked corresponds to a field boundary shown on the first edition map.** The lines have been altered to correspond with where they are marked on the first edition (and show on the ground and lidar). Photo 109 shows the southern park boundary bank.

Site number 159: Ditch in woods and continuation

NGR: SP0996 9544 to SP0987 9534

Dimensions: c.132m long

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: drainage ditch

Visibility: good

Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: golf course traffic

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion

Photo no.: 131

Notes: **This is shown on the first edition map as a drainage ditch.**

Site number 160: Bank

NGR: SP1056 9552 to SP1053 9545
Dimensions: c.80m long
Condition: modern
Relationships/associations: boat pool and car park
Visibility: v. good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: close to car park
Animal burrowing/erosion: patches eroded
Photo no.: 61

Notes: **The southern part is a slight path down to the boat house.** However this is very subtle. The part in the northern part of the car park is the slight bank of the edge of the car park.

Site number 161: Bank

NGR: SP1082 9528 to SP1082 9525
Dimensions: 35m long
Condition: overgrown
Relationships/associations: associated with drainage
Visibility: poor
Vegetation: scrubby woodland, small trees, brambles, ferns
Visitor pressure: none
Animal burrowing/erosion:
Photo no.: none

Notes: Overgrown area that was not accessible. However this is directly on line of drainage ditch, therefore likely to be associated with it.

Site number 162: Bank and ditch

NGR: SP09800 9840
Dimensions: bank c.1m wide and 0.50m high
Condition: wet
Relationships/associations: park boundaries?
Visibility: variable
Vegetation: wooded - birch, with low grass, very boggy
Visitor pressure: paths here heavily used
Animal burrowing/erosion: cattle churning up the ground
Photo no.: 18

Notes: **A narrow curving bank can be seen running alongside path, then NE into woods.** Disappears into holly to the south. This has been noted as being part of a feature already recorded on the SMR 'but exact course unclear'. However it is not clear if the polygon MH has marked is suggesting the park boundary lies within this area? Vegetation here is fairly dense.

Site number 163: Mound (SMR no. 20837)

NGR: SP0857 9748

Dimensions: 22m N-S 5-10m W-E
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: golf course, Ryknild Street
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 79

Notes: **This appears to be a golf course feature but the golf club say it is not so it may be a feature that had been incorporated into course. It is a smooth bank forming what could be one half of a square or rectangle with round corners. It is square on to Ryknild Street - could it be remains of a signal station? If so, nationally important - possible candidate for excavation.**



Fig. 34: Site 163

Site number 164: Ditch

NGR: SP 0851 9757 to SP 0849 9755
Dimensions: 26m long, 1.5m wide
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: on golf course
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf/ rougher grass
Visitor pressure: high
Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion
Photo no.: 74

Notes: **Ditch running SW- NE across an area of the golf course.**



Fig. 35: Site 164

Site number 165: Ridges

NGR: SP0857 9748

Dimensions: 2.5m across over an area c.180m x 125m

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: cut by bank and ditch 148

Visibility: good

Vegetation: turf

Visitor pressure: high

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion

Photo no.: 111, 114, 115

Notes: **These ridges show up very clearly on the ground.** The lidar suggests they run parallel (within?) field boundaries on first edition maps, they show up very well on aerial photo where the ridges in the north-east of the area can be seen to run at right angles to the rest, suggesting a former field boundary (Bing maps 2009).



Fig. 36: Site 165

Site number 166: Banked pit

NGR: SP1047 9878

Dimensions: 4m diameter, 0.30m deep

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: just north of 9

Visibility: good

Vegetation: leaf litter

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 143

Notes: **Small banked pit north of feature 9. Possible white coal kiln/Q pit.**



Fig. 37: Site 166

Site number 167 (mis-numbered 52 on survey): Ditch?

NGR: SP0879 9766 to SP0881 9768

Dimensions: c.0.80m wide, 25m long

Condition: good

Relationships/associations:

Visibility: good

Vegetation: birch woodland and low grass, some oak and gorse in area

Visitor pressure: high

Animal burrowing/erosion: some erosion

Photo no.: 169

Notes: The only feature visible in this area is a path.

Site number 168 Quarry pit

NGR: SP 0848 9653

Dimensions: 13m north south, 5m west-east, depth unknown

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: adjacent Ryknild Street

Visibility: good

Vegetation: filled with rushes and sedges

Visitor pressure: low

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 69

Notes: Long oval quarry pit.



Fig. 38: Site 168

Site number 169 Bank

NGR: SP 0963 9546 to SP0973 9557
Dimensions: c.118m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: high – golf course
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: none

Notes: This is a bank that formed the western side of what MH had marked as 150, however it is not a 19th-century field boundary although the one to the east is.
Possible early field boundary.

Site number 170 Drain?

NGR: SP 0971 9556 to SP 0981 9552
Dimensions: c.90m long
Condition: good
Relationships/associations: drainage?
Visibility: good
Vegetation: turf
Visitor pressure: low
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: none

Notes: Northern 'boundary' of former 150 polygon. Has the same appearance as other drains in the area, also on aerial photos. Appears to run into mapped length of drain. Needs to be checked on the ground.

Site number 171 Hollow way

NGR: SP 1048 9785 to 1057 9782
Dimensions: c.90m long, 1.5m wide
Condition: good
Relationships/associations:
Visibility: good
Vegetation: grass and oak woodland
Visitor pressure: moderate
Animal burrowing/erosion: no
Photo no.: 174

Notes: Hollow way going down hill from car park area towards stream/drain.



Fig. 39: Site 171

Site number 172 Ridges

NGR: SP0943 9570

Dimensions: 54m x 42m area, ridges c.2.5m wide and 0.25m to 0.30m high

Condition: good

Relationships/associations: between ditch/stream and Longmoor Pool

Visibility: good

Vegetation: oak woodland and brambles

Visitor pressure: moderate - close to pool edge

Animal burrowing/erosion: no

Photo no.: 49

Notes: **Very well-defined series of ridges identified on the ground but can also be seen on lidar.** NB number on number board refers to adjacent site 145.



Fig. 40: Site 172

Acknowledgements

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Appendix:

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Sutton Park Ground Survey: part of English Heritage HEEP project 5661 Brief for preparation of costed project design

Background

Sutton Park (centre 40941 29703) is located on the northern side of the Birmingham conurbation. It is a publicly owned open space in recreational use and is surrounded by built-up areas, mainly residential, on all sides. Much of it is a scheduled ancient monument (SM 30085) and it is included in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. In addition, the national importance of its ecology and natural environment is recognised by its designations as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a National Nature Reserve.

A pilot Heritage Partnership Agreement is being drawn up for Sutton Park, reflecting the good survival, extent and complexity of its historic environment and the challenges of managing this resource. The HPA runs in parallel with and contributes to a new management plan, integrating management of the historic and natural environment.

Sutton Park contains many well-preserved archaeological remains, surviving as earthworks, ranging in date from prehistoric to post-medieval. They include prehistoric burnt mounds, a Roman road, medieval deer park boundaries, woodbanks, military targets and practice trenches, and a racecourse. All of the known archaeological features visible as earthworks are recorded in Birmingham City Council's Sites and Monuments Record. Although these are prominent on the ground they are not clear on aerial photographs because most of the Park is heath or woodland. These conditions have also precluded detailed ground survey. Further features both within and outside the scheduled area have been exposed by clearance of vegetation as part of a recent heathland management project. All of the known archaeological features visible as earthworks are recorded in Birmingham City Council's Sites and Monuments Record. Mapping of the features, on MapInfo, is based mainly on measured surveys, made by tape alone, not by instrument, from the 1970s. Incorporation of this relatively coarse non-digital data into GIS has proved difficult because the precision available in GIS highlights the imprecision of the data.

The Ground survey described in this brief is part of a broader project which also includes capture and analysis of Lidar data and an assessment of deposits likely to contain palaeoenvironmental data.

Aims and objectives

The overall aim is to obtain a comprehensive and more accurate record of archaeological earthwork remains in Sutton Park. This will be used to assess requirements for extension of the current scheduled area; to ensure that the proposed heritage partnership agreement has a sound information base; to ensure

that detailed and accurate information is available for implementation of the heritage partnership agreement; to ensure that the management plan has a sound information base; to ensure that detailed and accurate information is available for implementation of the management plan; and to ensure integrated and complementary management of the historic and natural environments. The specific aim of the Ground Survey is to inspect, characterise and record the features detected by lidar for inclusion on the Sites and Monuments Record; to identify areas where archaeological remains may survive but have not been detected by lidar because of the type of vegetation covering them or because they lie on a slope; and to identify areas for future conventional detailed ground survey, ground-based remote sensing and small-scale excavation.

Stages of work

1. Field identification, characterisation and interpretation of features detected in lidar survey
2. Identification of relationships and associations
3. Assessment of condition, including the effects of visitor pressure, vegetation growth and animal burrowing
4. Production of a written description of each feature, in a form that can be incorporated into the Sites and Monuments Record, including dimensions, interpretation, relationships, associations, and condition, and a photographic record
5. Identification of areas where earthworks survive or are likely to survive but have not been detected by lidar
6. Identification of areas for future conventional detailed ground survey, ground-based remote sensing or small-scale excavation.

Note: the Ground Survey will not include detailed earthwork survey, ground-based remote sensing nor any intrusive works, but these may be undertaken as part of a future project.

Staffing

It is anticipated that the Ground Survey will be undertaken by an archaeological organisation competent in earthwork survey and analysis.

Standards

The Ground Survey must be undertaken in accordance with the Code Of Conduct, Standards and Guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists and in accordance with recording Level 1 as defined in English Heritage's guidelines, *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscape*.

Programme

It is anticipated that the Ground Survey would be undertaken in Spring 2009.

Project design

The project design must be in accordance with the format described in MoRPHE and must include a task list identifying tasks, products, staff and time allocation, and costing identifying staff day rates, non-staff costs and overheads.

Birmingham City Council will provide Lidar data; Ordnance Survey Mastermap tiles; Historic OS mapping; Information from Birmingham Sites and Monuments Record; and general archaeological information and advice.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Date prepared: 7 November 2008

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BriefGroundSurveySuttonPark.doc