

***The Medieval Deer Parks of the Cranborne and
West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding
Natural Beauty***

**Embracing areas of
Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire and Somerset**

**Katherine Barker
May 2006**

Executive Summary

The survey

This survey of the medieval deer parks of the CCWWDAONB was undertaken between October 2005 and March 2006. This was a desk-based study which in the short time available has been restricted to the use of already-published sources as available in four counties. Hitherto unpublished deer park sites await formal identification. The aim has been, given the time constraint, to write a brief report on each site, outlining its recorded history, what is known of its origins and setting, the nature and character of any surviving park boundary and with a note as to likely indications of the survival of veteran trees and/or relict woodland. It has not been possible in the time allotted to undertake any fieldwork.

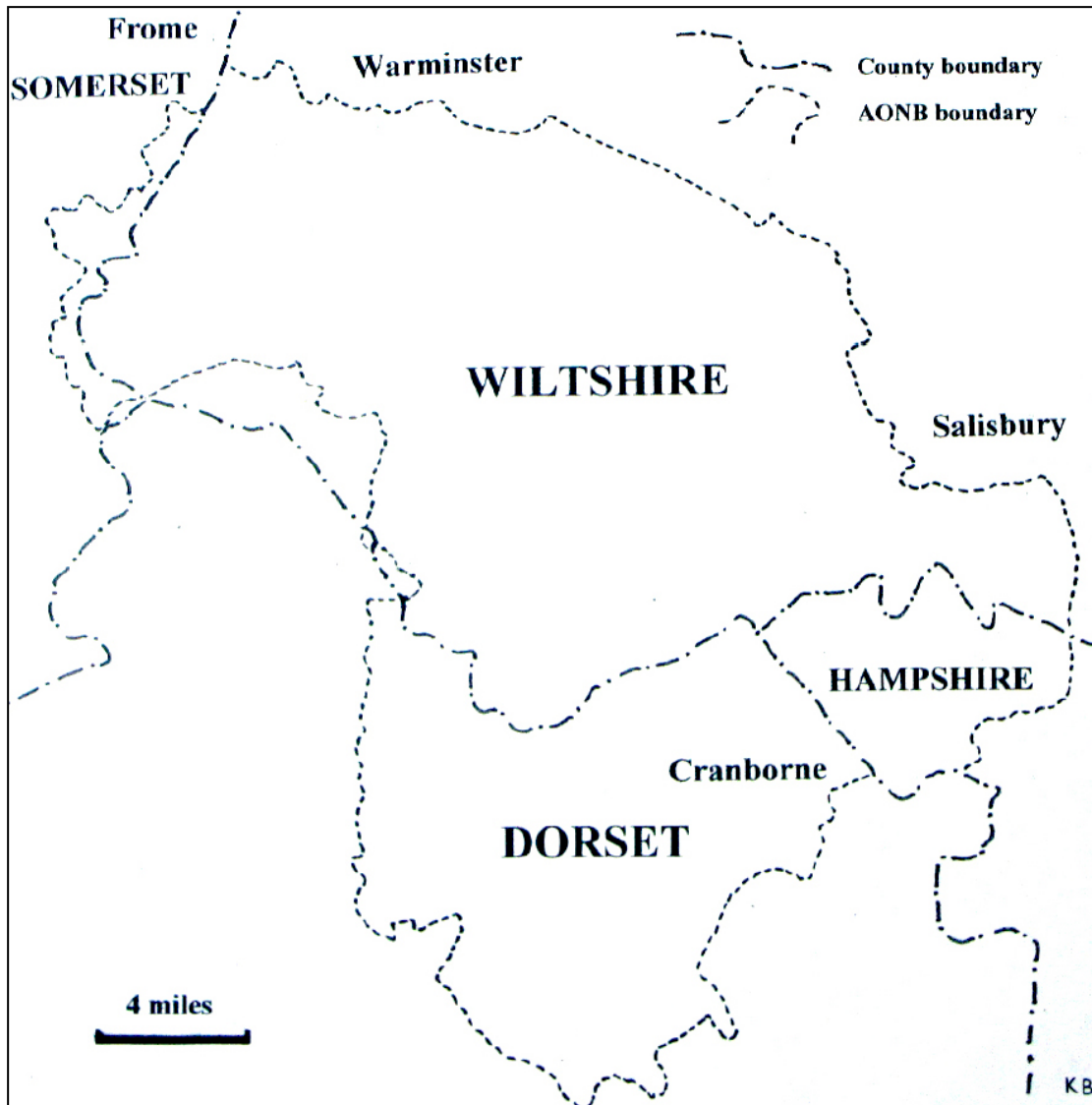
Hugh scope for further work

The survey has identified the huge scope of any such study. Each site is deserving of an in-depth analysis in its own right. As will be seen from the report, for a number of sites it will only be through further work in field and archive that it will be possible to come to a fully considered conclusion about respective origins, history, development, and present-day status. This will have an important bearing on matters relating to a wider appreciation of the landscape, and to the botanical and ecological impact effected by these historic sites on soil types, vegetation and wild-life.

There is at least one park of pre-Norman origin, (one may be of Roman origin), others appear to be post-Conquest creations. Another group belong to the great 13c period of park construction. After the Dissolution some former church-held parks survives to be incorporated into the ornamental and landscape parks of the 18c; there are two very large examples in the AONB, at Longleat and Stourhead. It remains to be established just how many parks have been lost in the course of time whose characteristic outline plan-forms yet remain 'embedded' in the present landscape.

A unique opportunity presented

An important part is played here, quite literally, by the area of the AONB. So many things are county-base it is a rare privilege to embark on a study of a territory whose borders wholly ignore (as it were) those of four historic shires which run through it; borders and borderlands which have been in existence for at least 1200 years dating back to a time when they served as cultural, linguistic – and military – frontiers. The archaeology and early history of the peoples on either side of these borders has long been studied; but as yet no systematic study of the borderland themselves has been undertaken. These are areas of very particular cultural and territorial significance which have shapes over centuries the exploitation and management of the natural landscape that awaits both understanding and characterisation. The recent study has thrown into sharp focus the distribution and significance of place- and minor names in the area which form a landscape assemblage such as to enhance and complement our appreciation of the ground plan and pattern of things, both man-made and natural. This is a rich field of enquiry which awaits full treatment by an organisation in a unique position to identify it, to quantify it – and to act accordingly.



Sketch map showing the boundary of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in relation to the county boundaries of Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire.

The Medieval Deer Parks of Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

An introductory note with observation on what this survey has identified

Katherine Barker

Over the winter of 2005-6 Katherine Barker was engaged to undertake a survey of deer parks for the Cranborne and West Wiltshire Downs AONB, a project supported by the DGT. The work – unexpectedly – yielded some valuable insights into the making of the historic landscape of an area outstanding in more than one way. The following is a short introduction to some of things discovered – and some of the questions raised – and some of the opportunities presented.

What is a medieval deer park? This is not a difficult question to answer. How many medieval deer parks there are in the Cranborne and West Wilts AONB is not so straightforward. This note will not, however, attempt a resumé of the project undertaken last winter, but will instead explore a little of its ‘spin off’ which has begun to reveal something about the distinctive landscape history of the area as whole. The origins of at least some of these parks may lie in the pre-medieval and reflect something of the geography of an earlier world. An important part is played here – quite literally - by the area of the AONB. So many things are county-based (and have been for a long time) it is a rare privilege to be asked to embark on a study of a territory whose borders wholly ignore (as it were) those of four shires which run through it; borders – and borderlands - which have been in existence for at least 1200 years.

Medieval deer parks

The peak time for the making of deer parks coincides (more or less) with Exchequer requirement for ‘licence to empark’ (‘planning permission’) thus providing us with a written record to complement our understanding of what we see in the historic landscape. By the end of the 13c it is calculated that there were about 3,200 parks in southern England – roughly one to every four parishes. Many small parks were short-lived but their outline remains in many places, ‘embedded’ in plan and pattern of later fields and woodlands. Very much a status symbol, a local magnate would spend a lot of money on his park. To keep costs down the park perimeter usually followed an oval or sub-circular plan, often a circuit of a mile or more; Blagdon Park on the Dorset-Hampshire border has a circuit of nearly six. Relationship of the park boundary to the local parish boundary can be an indicator of its age.

The Bailiff’s accounts survive for Harbin’s Park in Tarrant Gunville. In 1337 expenses included those for paying 4 men for 3 days ‘mending defects in the fencing round the park and in 1372 ;’mending the old coppice and the gate of the park with nails.’ The boundary was important – fallow deer introduced by the Normans are strong animals and need to be kept in – other landowners’ deer were welcome to jump in (but not out!) hence references to ‘leap gates.’ The first Dorset deer park to be written up was by Heywood Sumner in 1919. This was at Rye Hill at Wimborne St Giles which presents a well-preserved boundary bank with a characteristic steeper inner face above a ditch. The whole was probably topped by a fence of cleft oak stakes and/or wattle fencing. Another park of about 110 acres lies just to the north round Deer Park Farm which also contains a chain of three fish ponds formed by damming the stream. These parks abut the east side of what to what appear to be a

series of early ring-fenced enclosures centred on Wimborne St Giles, formerly Up Wimborne, an outlying estate in an area of former wood and open common.

Venison - fresh meat in the winter – was without price. More than that, enclosed areas, park compartments or *launds*, could afford grazing for cattle and sheep, coppice and standard timber, and were often leased out to maximise profit. Breaking into a park was a crime. In 1294 we learn that William de Bridport with three accomplices were charged by John Mautravers for 'breaking his park at Witchampton and taking game to the value of 40s.' Such parks were not normally large enough for actual hunting – more in the nature of a 'reserve' or 'conservancy.' We find occasional references to methods employed for driving and trapping animals in parks which include the use of 'hays' which seem to have been temporary 'runs' of woven wattle hurdling - implying hazel coppicing. From a Germanic/AS word *haga*, *haia*, [wattle]'hedge' it also denotes a hedged enclosure; 'hay' and 'hays' are common field names. (This is the original meaning of the 'haw' in 'haw-thorn'). A 'hay' could, however, be much bigger. It is the pre-Norman name for a large Essex deer park. An Anglo-Saxon will of 1043 refers to a *deerhay* at Ongar. We find names in 'hay' or 'hay(e)s' many times in the Cranborne/West Wilts AONB and their meaning and significance invites further enquiry.

Deer parks in the Domesday Book

The Domesday Book lists 35 deer parks – including Ongar. For many entries we read *parcus ferarum silvaticum*, 'wild woodland-animal park.' *Parcus* is a Norman 'Latinisation' of an Old English word *pearroc*, which – like 'hays' - comes from a Germanic word adopted into both Early French and Early English from the 8c onwards. The same period sees the adoption of the word *forestis* to designate that area administered directly by the crown - the Royal Forest.

Old English *pearroc* simply means 'enclosure,' and is found in field names like *Parkham*, *Parkfield* and *Park Leys* – even *Park Farm* – and nothing to do with deer. We still talk about 'Deer Parks' and the Park has (again) diversified – although each time it still connotes a legally-defined reserve; the National Park, Safari Park, Science Park – and the Car Park.

In Domesday there is a clear correlation in the distribution of woods and deer parks. They tend to go together. Tracts of woodland and Royal Forest occupy marginal lands, that is, places away from centres of population. They are on borderlands; on the Continent they are coincident with frontiers. There are two major borderland areas in the Cranborne/West Wilts AONB; the former royal Forest of Selwood along the Somerset/Wiltshire boundary and Cranborne Chase, an extensive area licensed as a 'private' forest. They have complex tenurial histories, a contrasting 'pair' worthy of study. Both are ancient borderlands.

Deer parks on county boundaries

Longleat Park may be descended from a grant of land made to a medieval priory-cum-hermitage – it is not until 1618 when the Stuart Kings started to sell outright their rights in Selwood Forest on the Wiltshire-Somerset borders that the Thynne family purchased additional land to become the ornamental deer park of the 18c. Just to the south, Lord Stourton founded a deer park by royal licence in 1422; but again, it was not until disafforestation that the Hoares could embark on the 'aesthetic' landscaping which produced the park of today. In each case the existence of a mansion house within the park is, by definition, post-medieval.

Blagdon Park actually lies astride the Dorset-Hampshire boundary in Cranborne Chase. It also lies close to the point where the Roman road crosses the county

boundary at Bokerley Dyke – intimations here of one-time ‘border controls’ of people and stock in response to the westward migration and settlement of in-coming Saxons – English-speaking people. Blagdon is a huge park and interestingly, seems to ‘pair’ another huge one-time park on the Dorset-Devon borderland at Marshwood. There are some indications that something similar once existed for the White Sheet Downs in west Wiltshire, where the Wiltshire boundary extends round north Dorset. Bradley House Park may represent a sole survival of a once now-lost ‘great’ park which lay astride an early east-west routeway crossing Selwood at Alfred’s Tower.

Deer parks – and Roman roads

Ongar Great Park is not the only deer park actually crossed by a Roman road. Tarrant Rushton listed in 1296 as a park of 80 acres of wood and pasture is traversed from NNW to SSE by the now lost Roman road on its way to Badbury. Another lost Roman road runs through Witchampton Park, also on its way to Badbury. West of Salisbury, towards the edge of the AONB, a lost Roman road runs along the ridge through Grovely Forest/Park which presents a whole series of enclosures. A name in *graf*, ‘grove,’ suggests the area may once have had a pre-Christian, pagan Celtic significance. We may take it these old routes provided useful access. That said, we know that Columella in the first century BC describes keeping deer, wild pigs and gazelles in wooded enclosures with walls or wooden pales in Roman Italy. No deer parks are known (yet) from Roman Britain but we cannot wholly exclude the possibility that at least some of these later parks represent earlier enclosures, although not necessarily on exactly the same sites. Grovely Park may well support some ancient woodland relics.

It is with reference to borderlands we find interesting Continental references to the word *haga*, *haia*, [wattle]‘hedge’ or ‘hays’ in use there from the mid 9c in the sense of ‘defensive palisade.’ Echoes here perhaps of those spiky ‘hedges-built-like-walls’ constructed by the Gauls to impede the movement of Caesar’s army serving – surely – as ancient barbed wire. In the ancient borderland country of the AONB we find clusters of ‘hays’ names north of Longleat at Corsley, ‘the clearing at the pass/gap’ across what was destined to become the Wiltshire-Somerset border and similarly around the area of the medieval parks of East Knoyle and Mere (OE *ge-maere*, ‘boundary’) on the Wiltshire-Dorset border.

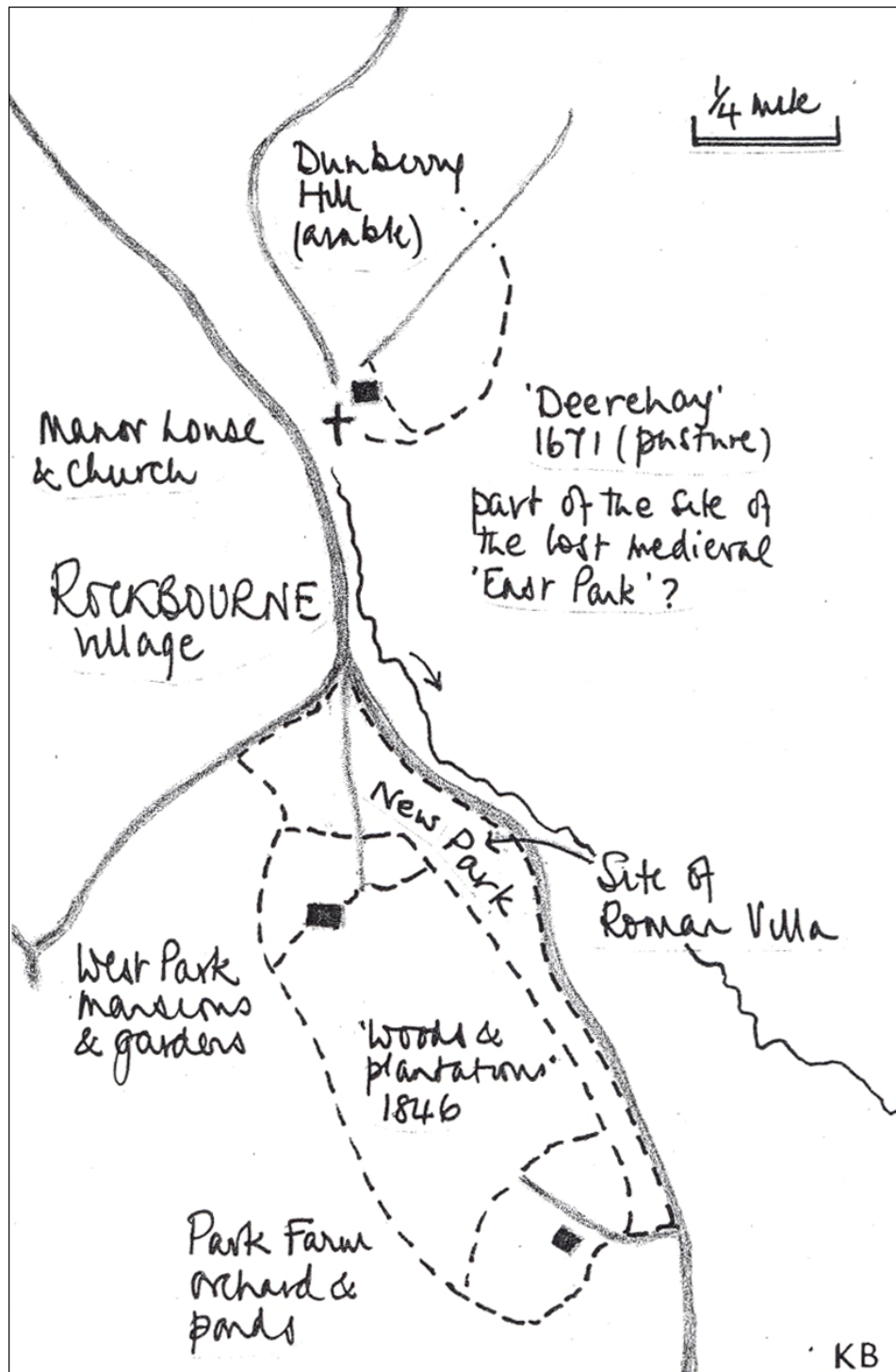
Rockbourne – or how many deer parks?

Rockbourne, on the edge of the AONB, occupies a ‘salient’ of Hampshire on the Dorset border and is the site of a major Roman villa. It provides us with a potential case study which concludes this note; a place with a sequence of parks. A royal manor in 1086, in 1307 there were two deer parks in Rockbourne containing 100 acres of large oaks and underwood. One of these was held by the Bishop of Bath and Wells who complained his park had ‘been broken into, his deer taken and his rabbits taken with ferrets nests and other engines.’ In the mid 16c ‘East Park’ belonged to the Lord of the Manor and one Sir George Marshall kept the king’s horses in ‘West Park.’ The plan here is drawn from the 1846 tithe map and a 1671 manor map. Of some interest is to discover a ‘deerhay’ on rising ground just east of the manor house and church. The park labelled ‘West Park, Mansions and Gardens’ in 1846 has clearly been enlarged and landscaped by the owner of the post-medieval mansion; there is a ‘New Park’ along the stream. It seems probable that the medieval ‘East Park’ is represented by the field called *Deerehay* in 1671. The remaining southern field boundary may provide some evidence of its age and origins; the hedgerow could be interesting. By 1671 the rest of the putative deer park boundary had already been ploughed out of existence; Dunberry Hill is described as ‘arable.’

Where next?

A large area of the Cranborne/West Wilts AONB embraces that ground where Augustus Henry Lane Fox Pitt-Rivers, 'Father of Scientific Archaeology,' did much of his seminal work on the Prehistoric monuments of the Chase. The southern edge of his Tollard [Royal] Park runs with the Wiltshire-Dorset border, one of its entry points in 1618 is *Lauermere Gate*, which gave its name to his Larmer Grounds ('amenity park') in the 1880s. (The very name contains Old English *ge-maere* 'boundary'). A preliminary survey of medieval deer parks in the AONB has highlighted a little of the potential of a borderland landscape study. Through looking more closely at what are known to be medieval deer parks, at what might – or might not be – further enquiry should yield a lot more as to the significance of (among other things) place-names in 'park' and 'hays.' Whether or not they were ever associated with deer is only going to be part of their interest.

Katherine Barker, May 2006



Sketch map of Rockbourne on the Hampshire border re-drawn using information from a manor map of 1671 and the tithe map of 1846 and presenting evidence for two – or three – medieval deer parks.

The Deer Parks of Dorset

Blagdon **ST055170**

Blagdon Park comprises about 1,040 acres of land and is by far the largest park in the County. The Park extends across the County Boundary, lying astride Bokerley Dyke.

The name *Blagdon* is OE *blaec* 'dark' and *dun*, 'hill'; the hill reaches nearly 529ft and lies on the County Boundary.

By the time of the Norman Conquest we find the area of the Park to occupy ground held by the Cranborne Abbey bordering Pentridge, a manor held by Glastonbury Abbey. Across Bokerley Dyke the manor of Damerham (including Martin) was also held by Glastonbury.

The location

of this Park is not in doubt; it is shown by Saxton and by Speed on their County maps but only Thomas Addlewell's map of 1618 shows it extending across the County boundary.

Its remarkable character is related to its 'frontier' significance here, and may be compared with Marshwood/*Crekelade* Parks in Marshwood Vale on the western borders of the County. It was one of those parks which was therefore large enough to accommodate full-scale hunting. It is on record as a hunting ground nearly a century before the park was made; it is twice mentioned in 1234 as 'a chace of the Duke of Gloucester.' In 1321 we read that Roger Damory enclosed 'his [the King's] wood of Blakedon, within the chace of Cranborne and to make a park of it. The Park was certainly in existence by 1324 for a Reeve's account for the year 1324-5 states that 107 oaks were sold from the Park; sale of underwood is mentioned in 1370-1. By 1459 the Park was managed directly by the Crown. In 1483, Edward III enlarged the park with the acquisition of an estate at *Estmerton*, [East Martin] held by the Abbot of Glastonbury at least since the Conquest – thus extending the Park into Hampshire – formerly into Wiltshire. [The parish of Martin, the *ge-maeres tun*, 'boundary *tun*/farm' was transferred from Wiltshire to Hampshire in 1895]

John Leland (c 1540) was much impressed by the size of the Park; in 1583 Blagdon is listed as a royal Park 'in the Queen's majesty' and was three miles in compass with no deer, which is probably the year in which the Crown disposed of it. Hutchins notes it was dis-parked about the year 1570.'

The Boundary

is described in some detail by Cantor and Wilson (1964, 168-9). 'The complete boundary of the Park can clearly be traced . . . on the map and on the ground yet only for two or three short distances are there any substantial remains of earthworks.' In common with other Parks it shares part of its perimeter with parish boundaries; Blagdon is unique in crossing the County Boundary and some 160 acres lie in Hampshire.

Reading anti-clockwise from the point where the Park boundary joins the County Boundary on Bokerley Dyke, it follows the Cranborne-Pentridge parish boundary along the crest of the hill as a low bank with the remain of an inner ditch best preserved through the Yew Wood on Blagdon Hill. West of the lane from Blagdon Blagdon Farm to Martin it becomes a field boundary. On the crest of Pentridge Hill it becomes smaller and more disturbed and just south of Penbury Knoll Camp 'a small sharply peaked bank is all that remains.' On reaching the Pentridge to Cranborne bridle way the bank swings away to run alongside it, the parish boundary continues on down the hill. The bank and ditch continues, in parts ploughed out. On the slope down to the lane leading to Blagdon Farm it is something of the textbook example of a park bank, 18ft wide and 2 to 3ft high with a deep ditch on the inward face. The line is lost in the undergrowth of Blagdon Wood. Thereafter, the curve taken by the hedge is likely to represent the enlargement of the Park effected in 1483. It may be that this length was never equipped with bank and ditch, 'but simply by quick-set hedges, palings, or a combination of the two.' The old, pre 1483 boundary most probably followed the County boundary (Bokerley Dyke) an arrangement represented in other areas/counties.

The Park today

is principally occupied by pastures and large arable fields; the highest point of the Park is at Penbury Knoll at about 600ft. 'No Dorset park can surpass Blagdon for spacious landscapes' dominated by the dark mass of Blagdon Wood.

Principal references for Dorset Deer Parks are to be found in Cantor L M and Wilson J D, in papers in volumes of the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society* between 1961, **61** and 1978, **100**.

For Blagdon above see Cantor L M and Wilson J D, 1964, 'The Medieval Deer Parks of Dorset IV, Blagdon, *Dorset Procs*, **86**, 165-170.
See also T W Wake Smart, *A Chronicle of Cranborne and Cranborne Chase*, 1841/1983

Harbin's Park, Tarrant Gunville ST901130

Harbin's Park comprises one of the best-preserved of Dorset's deer parks. It is also one of the more fully recorded. The Rev William Chafin in his book *Anecdotes respecting Cranborne Chase of 1818* describes how one Mr Harbin [of Newton Surmaville near Yeovil] who was alive at the time the book was written 'inherited the estate of Tarrant Gunville from his ancestor Mr Swayne' [see also Hutchins iii, 452].

The earliest reference is 1279 when an enquiry was logged 'touching persons who entered the park of Anthony Bek of Tarante . . . hunted therein and carried away deer.' By 1296 the Park was in possession of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford who held in Tarrant 'a small park of 48 acre,' the discrepancy in measurement may be explained in the use of the long perch.

In the DRO are a series of bailiff's accounts for years of the mid 14c detailing repairs undertaken on the fencing and one of 1372-3 'costs of park with enclosing copse' including the bill for the nails for mending the park gate. Towards the end of the century the Park was profitably leased out for pasturage and sale of underwood from an area called *Le Launde*. Also reference to the 'felling of felling of wands [*virga*] for wattles for making hedges round the park.' There is no mention of deer – but their presence is suggested by references to the boundary fencing. The last reference is 1398.

The location

It is sited on the southern edge of Cranborne Chase, in a wood, about a mile and half west of the village of Tarrant Gunville. There is no doubt as to the precise position of this Park for its banks are still completely preserved and appears on the OS one-inch, sheet 178. On the Tithe Map the name is found in the south-west corner of the Park in the field name *Park Pleck*. It lies on the Upper Chalk and encloses an area of about 155 acres.

The boundary

is formed by a rounded bank about 16ft wide and about 5ft high with an inner ditch of about 15ft wide. 'The bank is remarkable for its uniformity and continuity . . . and can be followed, but for one small break, for a complete circuit of the Park which The original break seems to be in the south-west corner and probably represents the site of the one-time gate. The other two are later. A source of water may be found in Hancock's Bottom, the gully running along the west side of the enclosure.

The western edge of the Park provides yet another example of a park bank following a parish boundary.

The Park today is heavily wooded, in the north-east corner a clump of coppiced trees make a striking pattern. It also contains several clearings referred to as *laundes* in medieval documents.

Principal References

Cantor L M and Wilson J D, 1964, 'The Deer Parks of Dorset , IV; Harbin's Park (Tarrant Gunville), *Dorset Procs*, **86**, 170-172

Edmonsham

ST035101; ST 048106 and possibly at ST055116

Two parks are on record for Edmonsham, following in a line roughly south-west – north-east close to the south-eastern border of the Cranborne AONB. The northern of the two at Deer Park Farm may once have been much larger. The sequence of development here might well respond to further field work. Only one documentary reference for Edmonsham is known, in 1288 we find 'in the park 4a of woods and the wood of each acre is worth 12d.' Which park is meant is not clear. It may be that these small parks are the sole survivors of a number of others which once occupied the borders of the heathland/commons to the immediate east. Small-scale exploitation by landowners of the character represented by the lost of Manor of *Philipston*.

The whole area needs a closer look . . . Wimborne St Giles is located on the edge of a large oval enclosure presented by the present field pattern – a possible candidate for Taylor's Park of *1765. This occupies what has every appearance of being an even larger sub-oval enclosure, cut into on its western side by the Roman road. East of the smaller oval enclosure – representing a segment of the larger – are the grounds of St Giles House, possibly the Park of 1765. East again of this are the parks at Rye Hill and Deer Park Farm described below. We are likely to be presented here with a series of ring fenced enclosures taken at some early date out of this borderland common/forest area on the western edge of Holt – their origins and function not known. An 'out settlement' of Wimborne, [also 'Up Wimborne'] St Giles was a 7c hermit later associated with road junctions in out-of-the-way places; he was patron saint of cripples and blacksmiths – and also associated with hunting. The Abbeyes of Wimborne, Cranborne and Wilton, the wife of the Norman sheriff, one thegn and one King's servant all held land here in 1086 . . . By 1086 two English holdings in Edmonsham had become three under the Normans; one in possession of Queen Matilda.

Location

These parks are located at Rye Hill, and at Deer Park Farm. This latter may formerly have been rather larger and include an area immediately to the north on the south side of the lane linking Lower Farm and Edmonsham Church.

Rye Hill 'has the distinction of being probably the first medieval Dorset deer park of which a detailed account was written' – by Heywood Sumner in 1919 for the Bournemouth Natural Science Society. The park contains about 100 acres. The park lies in the parish of Wimborne St Giles may have lain in the now lost manor of *Philipston*. The Park – seemingly – has no documented history.

Deer Park Farm is also mentioned by Heywood Sumner. The Edmonsham Tithe Map shows this enclosure is situated in much larger area of about 110 acres 'Deer Park including Ponds' which today lies outside the impressively banked park. But as above, there is apparently no documented history – although Cantor and Wilson suggest the Shaftesbury archive has yet to be consulted.

The Boundaries

The bank – with its inner ditch running along the north side of **Rye Hill Park** is ‘a particularly fine specimen and we must hope that it will be preserved.’ ‘Its over-all measurement is about 32ft.’ The bank can be traced anti-clockwise round the southern edge of Six Acre Copse and Park Copse but then continuing as a series of ‘detached earthworks’ created by later ploughing. The northern edge of Park Copse today is coincident with the former deer park boundary. The perimeter, conclude Cantor and Wilson ‘is thus in fact even more complete than Sumner realised.

The south-western edge of the park follows the parish boundary between Wimborne St Giles and Woodlands.

‘Earthworks traceable for much of the perimeter of this area . . . leave no doubt that here was in fact a separate deer-park. It is shown on Isaac Taylor’s map of 1765 as *‘St Giles Park’ and a length of its north-western boundary follows the Wimborne St Giles and Edmonsham. It is here, at a break in the earthwork, that the Tithe Award records ‘chalk pit by park gate.’ Its earthworks today are impressive. Perhaps the most striking feature of the Park is a string of three ponds, each of which still preserves its earth dam, the lowest dam formed by the park bank, ‘an arrangement probably without parallel in Dorset.’ Little remains today of the bank along the road passed Deer Park Farm.

North of the park perimeter an Enclosure Map of 1803 records ‘Great Park’ and ‘Little Park.’ Today a large area of arable land, apart from a low curving bank from a point near the churchyard gate there is no sign of any characteristic earthworks anywhere else. An area of woodland on the south side forms part of the woodland lying within the clear limits of Deer Park Farm park. As suggested above, this area seems to have a complicated tenurial history.

Principle References

Cantor L M and Wilson J D, 1968 and 1977, ‘The Medieval Deer Parks of Dorset’ VIII; Rye Hill and Deer Park Farm, *Dorset Procs* **90**, 244-248; *Dorset Procs*, **99**, 9.

Tarrant Rushton ST955072

Tarrant Rushton Park is mentioned in the same document as Harbin's Park at Tarrant Gunville (see above). In 1296 . . . 'a park containing 80a of wood and pasture held of the king in chief, of the honour of Cranebourne, for a knight's fee.' 'There is no place name evidence for the position of Tarrant Rushton Park – no reference in the Tithe Award.

Location

. . . lengths of convincing bank and ditch round Stubb's Coppice, Hogstock Coppice and Sing Close Coppice north-east of Tarrant Rushton airfield, lead us to believe that here was the medieval deer park.' The bank and ditch identified enclose a 'pear-shaped enclosure of about 120 acres in extent. The enclosure occupies a site immediately above 'The Cliff' sloping down to the River Tarrant; the south-eastern corner of the park lies about 230ft above sea level rising to 330ft at the northern tip.

The Boundary

is the only 'distinguishing feature' of this now densely wooded enclosure. A shallow but well-defined bank with a clear inner ditch is virtually continuous along the eastern and southern edges of the enclosure. Along the southern edge it is partly obscured by the concrete foundations of old RAF hutments. All but one short length of the western boundary has been obliterated except for one section presenting a bank 13ft wide and 3ft high.

The northern tip of the enclosure formed by Stubb's Coppice is in the neighbouring parish of Tarrant Rawston; Cantor and Wilson suggest a change in the parish boundary certainly recorded by 1811. Before which time the whole park will have lain within the borders of Tarrant Rushton.

It may be of note that the park lies astride the Roman road to Badbury which crosses the enclosure from north-west to south-east having left the course of the Tarrant Brook to climb the facing slope – and into the park. Also the site of a tumulus.

The name Hogstock is also found just outside the park. Whilst 'pigs' are a possibility here, it may be a reference to the characteristically-shaped 'hook' of land occupied by the park enclosure.

Principal Reference

Cantor L M and Wilson J D, 1968, 'The Deer Parks of Dorset' VIII, Tarrant Rushton, *Dorset Procs* **90**, 242-244.

Witchampton **?ST979068**

Witchampton Park is elusive. Cantor and Wilson note that in 1294 we have a reference to 'William de Brideport, John, son of the same, William and Robert le Keu are attached to answer to John Mautravers for breaking his park at Wykehampton and taking his game to the value of 40s . . . '

Hutchins quotes a Decree of 1633 concerning rights of access to Chitred Walk, Cranborne Chase, saying that keepers of the walk 'did use to walk the said ground called Deane's Leaze and over certain grounds in Wich Hampton aforesaid, called Wich Hampton Park and Sley Yates . . . '

The present Dean's Leaze Farm is the most likely location . . . 'Investigations have however failed to locate it; any further information or suggestions would be welcome.'

We note that this park would – like Tarrant Rushton – be bisected by a Roman road to Badbury. The name *Yates* may relate to a lost gateway or entrance. Further work is clearly needed here.

Cantor and Wilson, 1978, *Dorset Procs* **100**, 35.

The Deer Parks of Wiltshire

Faulston

ST077240

Faulston Park near Bishopstone is one of three parks mentioned by John Hutchins (1774) as lying outside the inner bounds of Cranborne Chase but within its outer perimeter and approved by special licence. During the reign of Edward III the Benton family were licensed to fortify the manor house, probably earlier fortified by the de Braose family who held the land in 1086. Only one tower remains, turned into an ornamental dovecot.

The location

The first – albeit indirect – reference to the park may be found in 1387 when the peasants rebelled ‘possibly because he was emparking the summit of Faulston Down.’ The area became known as ‘the Pale’ (*VCH* ii 13). The Park does not appear on Aldwell’s map of 1618 and it is taken that it was dis-emparked under Henry VIII

Hawkins 1980). Faulston was bought in 1649 by the Pembrokes ‘who developed the estate as a hunting and sporting establishment.’

A map of 1792 (*VCH* ii, 4) shows Faulston Park to the west of Faulston Drove about three quarters of a mile south of Faulston House on the flat summit of Faulston Down above the Ebble and three areas are marked West Pale, Middle Pale and East Pale and are set astride the former Roman road. Gallup (1988) quotes a 17c requiring lessees to maintain the Pale ‘for the quiet lodging and preserving of the Deere.’ The Park is approached from Faulston by Faulston Drove where – according to John Aubrey – the boy king Edward VI was lost by his courtiers whilst hunting, perhaps, in the Park.

The boundary

The park takes on an elongated rectilinear plan, co-incident with a pattern of long narrow land units running across the course of the Ebble valley. Faulston is focally placed in the parish of Bishopstone which latter settlement centre lies on the eastern boundary. Watts (1996) notes that the ‘linear earthwork of the park pale of Faulston Park remains very visible on the top of Faulston Down when looking north-east of the driveway formerly known as Little Man’s Drove . . .’ The potential of further field work here is suggested. The north-western corner of the park is ‘clipped’ by the line of the Roman road running on an oblique course across the Ebble on its way south west to Bokerley Dyke and the county boundary.

Principle Sources for the following deer parks in Wiltshire are the Victoria County History of Wiltshire (*VCH*) . . . and Watts Ken, 1996, ‘*Wiltshire Deer Parks: an introductory survey,*’ *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine* [*WAM*], **89**, 88-98; also 1998, **91**; also Watts Ken, 2005, *Some Notes on Wiltshire Deer Parks and their owners*. Unpublished notes, no ISBN; Wilts Co Ref Library, shelf mark R AAA.599

Longleat and *Hornygesham* Park ST815429

Longleat Park is marked on Saxton's map of 1576, its western edge coincident with the county boundary and sited across the 'long watercourse' running westwards to the Frome. Saxton (as does Speed 1610 and Blau 1648) shows the then 'Selwood Forest as lying immediately west of Longleat Park, in Somerset. The park is shown enclosing the church which, by definition, will make it post 16c. The area formerly comprised an outlying part of the royal manor of Warminster within the Forest of Selwood running north-south along the watershed borderland between Somerset and Wiltshire. The tenurial history of this area is complex. The present Longleat House occupied the site of the medieval Augustinian Priory of St Radegund.

By 1618 the Stuart kings began outright to sell outright their rights in the Wiltshire Forests . . . they were dis-afforested, the woods sold, the forest commons leased – in many cases to those who already lived there. In 1627 arrangements were made for the sale of the remaining portions of Selwood Forest.

The location

The history of the parks in this area has yet to be written. It seems likely that a Park was attached to the Priory; Park Hill [ST825429] east of the present Woodhouse Castle was in 1422 *parco de Hornygesham*. In 1332 there is a reference to an *Adam le Parker* paying tax at *Hornygesham*.

Sir John Thynne purchased the Priory after the Dissolution and re-built the old house destroyed by fire. In the 1570s he purchased additional land and emparked part of the former Forest which met with major local opposition in 1580 (Daniel 1879).

In the 18c the grounds of what was by then Longleat, were extensively altered by Capability Brown of which part survives as an ornamental deer park marked by the OS at 816428. In 1867 (Shirley, 102) it was 'at present the most considerable deer park in the country . . . 576 acres in extent . . . herd of 740 fallow deer.' In 1892 Whitaker described Longleat Park as being of '700 acres' . . . 'with 'ordinary wood pales.' It contained '500 fallow deer.'

'Thynne's original deer park seems to have occupied the low ground now covered by the Safari Park north-east of the house [828440] under Prospect Hill and extending west towards the kennels at Stalls Farm [807439]' . . . perhaps 'from *buckstalls* – framed nets for catching deer.'

The bounds of the park surrounded Longleat House are shown in *WAM* 8 (1864) as a diagrammatic park pale which can be traced on the OS – and which lies on both sides of the county boundary.

Watts (1996) also notes that Sir Thomas Thynne (dies 1620) also *has the power to empark Abbotte Moore*, the land west of Langley Water [ST778435] two miles west of Hales (Longleat MS 10075) – in other words, on the

Somerset side of the county boundary. Watts (1996) does not know whether this ever happened – [see the above reference] – the question may well be resolved by further [field]work.

The boundary

In 1892 Whitaker noted the ‘great difference in altitude between the higher part of the park and the plain on which the house is built.’ Watts notes ‘Embankments are visible around High Wood [ST806424] which could be the remains of the park pale of an early park associated with the Radegund Priory – or with the Woodhouse Castle [ST800420] a little to its south-east which was razed during the Civil War.’ ‘A Hunter’s Way ran west of Longleat to the county boundary . . . which became known as “Dog Street” . . . became a populous place . . . cottage ruins may still be found among the trees.’ [*Street* is a frequently found settlement name element in/on the edge of former Commons].

Extensive post-medieval development at Longleat has at least partly obscured the earlier history of emparking in this area. Together with the survival of other manmade landscape features – many, one suspects, associated with this ancient borderland – serve to make ‘park analysis’ far from straightforward. Further work is needed.

Warminster Park – or parks include ?ST877432

Longleat lay within Warminster a large royal manor a portion of which was conveyed by Henry II to Robert Lord Mauduit . . . ‘wood and plain with meadows and pastures with water mills, with parks, lakes, fishponds . . . ‘ The manor later reverted to the Crown and in 1327 there is a reference to a park in Warminster (Rot Orig II, 56).

Watts (1996) notes that Warminster Wood occupied a long finger of land running past Stalls Farm (see above) towards the county boundary at Roddenbury Camp and Hales Castle. A perambulation of the Forest of Selwood under Edward III, 1327-77, refers to Lord Mauduit’s woods of Warminster adjoining Roddenbury. Watts suggests that at least one of these parks was part of what later becomes Longleat. A possible park may also be found at ST877432, ‘Robin Hood’s Bower, a prehistoric earthwork and another at Norridge Wood north-west of Warminster (and outside the AONB).

There are indications here of emparking – from time to time – throughout the medieval period – within the northern part of Selwood. Some of these may represent earlier development along the borderland between the royal manors of Frome and Warminster.

Zeals Park

ST7953213

Zeals Park is first recorded in the mid 13c. In the reign of Henry III Geoffrey de Zeals enclosed a park in the Forest of Selwood at Zeals having obtained a royal warrant (*VCH* 4, 417). In 1246 the King gave permission for the Park to remain. The place-name *Zeals* contains the same element as *Sel-wood*.

The existence of a Castle Ground Farm suggests there was formerly a castle of some kind at Zeals; the present Zeals House is a Victorian reconstruction retaining some 14c features. It is sited within a walled home park of about 45 acres. The fact of a castle/house actually sited within a park suggests this park to be of a relatively recent origin.

The location

Watts (1996) notes that 'the early medieval deer park was situated one mile east of Zeals where 'Old Park' [ST795313] is shown by the OS 1:25000 immediately east of Wolverton and south of Zeals House on north-facing slope and with parkland trees. The park was bordered to the east by a linear strip of woodland, 'Old Park Plantation' following the line of a routeway from Manor Farm. A small stream forms the boundaries on the south and west side. 'The park contains the remains of medieval fish ponds.' Acreage is not given.

The boundary

would repay a closer look –especially along that part of the southern side not followed by the stream, and along the north. It does not follow the county boundary on its south side; the space is occupied by a lane. It may be that the present park is reduced in size.

Stourton Park centred on ST760345

The story of **Stourton Park** 'pairs' that of Longleat Park; both occupy extensive areas on the eastern side of the former medieval royal Forest of Selwood on the Somerset-Wiltshire boundary. Longleat lies to the north and Stourton to the south. Both have medieval antecedents (if not earlier) and both were subsequently 're-worked' and re-developed from the late 16c onwards. The area preserves a variety of earthworks, some of prehistoric origin.

Speed (1610) shows Stourton Park lying to the west of Stourton House; Saxton 1576 and Blaeu 1648 show the park as more or less circular and forming something of a 'salient' in the Wiltshire county boundary pushing into Somerset on the headwaters of a small watercourse flowing south-east; today's *Stourhead*. The church is shown outside the pale to the south-west. The park itself is shown as wooded.

In 1427 Lord Stourton's park at Stourton was acknowledged to be no longer part of Selwood Forest (*WAM* 23, 294). The Park was founded under royal licence to John Stourton to enclose and impark his manor of Stourton, a thousand acres of land, meadow, pasture and wood (*Cal Pat Rolls*, 1422-9). In 1441 John of Stourton obtained a grant to make 'certain deer-leaps in the enclosure of his part at Stourton.'

Colt Hoare (1822) observes 'I imagine the park was never kept up for deer after the purchase [early 18c] by Henry Hoare, though it retains its name.' He continues

'I myself pulled down a great part of the wall . . . separating the six springs . . .

The location

A thousand acres would cover that area south-north from Stourton village to Alfred's Tower and west-east from Aaron's Wood to Six Wells Bottom. This is consistent with Leland's description c 1540.

'Ther is a parke among the hills joining the maner place . . . one castle towards the north-weste part within the parke, double-ditched . . . the river of Stoure risethy ther of six fountaynes of springes, whereof three be on the North side of the parke, harde withyn the pale; the other three by the North also, but without the parke.'

The bounds of the park are shown in *WAM* 8 (1864) as a diagrammatic park pale which can be traced on the OS. It runs south-west from the B3092 in a straight line south of the house along the Gasper Road as far as the south end of the lake where it turns west past Tucking Mill and across Baker's Copse to near the county boundary where it turns in a wide sweeping semi-circular arc to Alfred's Tower Road a little east of Alfred's Tower. It then follows the road east-north-east and at the head of Six Wells Bottom it swings south-east and follows the drive first south-east and runs between Stourton

Farm and the obelisk to the minor road to Kilmington Common where it turns south-east again to reach the B3092 a little north of Drove Lodge and follows the road south to a point opposite Stourhead House and outside the village.

There may have more than one park. Watts (1996) notes a conveyance to Henry Hoare of 1720 which refers to 'parks warrens and fairs' . . . Henry Hoare re-built the house as a Palladian mansion and changed the name to Stourhead. 'The new park obliterated the deer park with its laundes and copses . . . an estate map of 1722 shows "Deer Meadow" north-west of the house adjoining Six Wells Bottom. The name is found again on a map of 1785 and may imply deer were kept for ornamental purposes.

**?Bradley Park – *White Sheet Downs*
centred ST808353**

A slight enclosure of about 115 acres [centre ST808353] may be one of the 'parks' mentioned for Stourton in 1720 (see above). Nine pillow mounds indicate medieval rabbit warrening. The greater part of the boundary follows parish boundaries and with a straight western edge this is an assemblage which suggests a medieval origin. It may have comprised an 'outpark' of Bradley House. A sequence of development here needs further elucidation. North of White Sheet Hill along the scarp is *The Park* recorded on the OS at ST830365 and Little Knoll [ST808379] was certainly included in Bradley House Park.

In 1807 Maiden Bradley was described as 'not large . . . but well-stocked and productive of good venison. In a letter of 1830 Lady Seymour wrote 'the large park extends many miles but Bradley House was never anything but a shooting box.'
There is a further 'The Park' adjacent to Keysley Farm [ST864532] three miles east of White Sheet.

If this does indeed represent a one-time park it presents something of the size and character of Blagdon on the Dorset-Hampshire boundary and Middlemarsh/Crekelade on the Dorset/Devon border. This putative Bradley [Great] Park lies north and east of Stourton, would occupy a sizeable high chalkland 'salient' where the south-west Wiltshire boundary extends round north Dorset. It also lies astride an early east-west routeway, in this case crossing Selwood at Alfred's Tower/Kingsettle Hill. The area is full of prehistoric earthworks/activity. 'The lost park of Bradley' would make an interesting project.

Sherrington Park, also Boyton centred on ST950370

Sherrington Park remains elusive – potential for more work.

The Giffards held the manor of Sherrington from the time of the Conquest had a castle there which survives as castle mound immediately west of the Church.

In 1086 Sherrington is infact held as two separate 5-hide manors. More significantly, perhaps, is the fact that Walter Gifford holds the Manor of (Maiden) Bradley from the King; possible site of a one-time – putative – Bradley Great Park around White Sheet Hill [see above].

Watts (1996) cites a number of 'park' field names in an area to the south of Sherrington and more at Boyton a mile or so upstream along the River Wylfe [held by Edward of Salisbury in 1086]. The second, Boyton Park, is associated with an earthwork enclosure which excavation in the 1960s proved to be medieval. But Watts proposes no 'shape' to either of these potential deer parks and seems to have done little fieldwork.

There is clearly potential here for both these sites.

Mere Park **ST858298**

Mere Park is a 13c Deer Park both well documented and well-defined on the ground.

Mere – *ge-maere*, ‘boundary’ in on the Wiltshire/Dorset border at the southern end of the Forest of Selwood where it runs into the royal manor and Forest of Gillingham.

Yet another borderland Park. Both Saxton, 1576 and Blaeu 1648 show an oval-shaped park at Mere its southern boundary coincident with the county boundary, and the Forest of Gillingham. [This is a characteristic location on these maps (and probably tenurially significant) – that is a park pale (of varying shapes and sizes) depicted just outside an area shown heavily wooded with a forest name].

Mere Park was created in the mid-13c by Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cornwall (1209-1272) as an outpark to the castle he built on Mere Hill. In 1244 ‘King Henry III granted to his brother . . . ‘the Manor of Meere, upon a hill or mount there.’ In 1258 there is record of a park break at Mere followed by another in 1296. ‘In 1299 over a mile of fencing and hedging was accounted for at the park and about 1300 there is a record of a man being sent with a horse to the Earl of Cornwall’s principal residence at Berkhamstead with a salted buck from Mere Park (WAM 29, 231, Watts 1996).

Colt Hoare (Hundred of Mere, 1822) quotes the 1296 reference to the expenses of parks *custus parcorum* including details of the costs of fencing. It is clear from the words there were two parks at Mere . . . costs ‘in newly enclosing 78 perches against the old ditch in the said park’ followed by a reference to ‘the small park.’ The name of the Park is given as *Conewich* which Watts identifies as Convish Farm [ST849309] at the north corner of the Park.

In 1300 the *Wiltshire Inquisitiones post mortem* refers to a Park called *Conewich* ‘in which there are no beasts.’ Sir Walter Raleigh was appointed Keeper of *Her Highnesses Parke of Meere.* A Parliamentary Survey of 1650 records that Mere Park was ‘Disparked about 60 years hence . . . bounded east by Knoyle Common, west by Gillingham Marsh . . . containing 495 acres 3 roods’ (Watts, 1998. 99).

The location

The northern edge of Mere Park coincides with the boundary of the AONB which runs along the road from Park Corner to Lugmarsh Farm. –The Park ‘straddles’ margin of land between the AONB boundary and the county boundary. Strictly speaking only its northern pale actually lies in the AONB; also the parish boundary of West Knoyle (see below). The park is rectilinear in shape extending south as far as the county boundary which forms its southern border.

The western boundary of Mere Park follows the lane from Park Corner to Gillingham and the eastern boundary the parish boundary. The Park is now the site of two farms, higher Mere Park and Lower Mere Park Farms; the stream that feeds the former fish ponds at the extreme south-west corner of the Park flows south to Gillingham and thence the Stour. This does indeed seem to be the circuit quoted by Hutchins (1774) from a 1568 reference to the bounds. '*From the corner of Mere Park adjoining to the north side of Pymperleygh hedge and from thence along the hedge by the said park unto the water called Gouge Pole, [cf Gutch Pool Farm] of old called Horseappledore and from thence by the Hedge of the said Park, called Double Hedge in the north side of Cowridge*' (WAM **29**, 238; **91**, 99).

Mere Park Farm is the site of the former moated lodge and Lower Mere Park Farm is the replacement New House of about 1726. Colt Hoare plotted the Park in his *Modern Wiltshire, Hundred of Mere* (1822). From 1844 the tenancy has been in the hands of the Mitchell family.

The boundary

The bounds quoted above represent a total pale length of some four miles and enclose an area of about 500 acres consistent with the 495 acres and 3 roods of the 650 survey. The 1568 record precisely defines the Park (see above). 'The 'Double Hedge' survives from ST841291-ST847284 as twin parallel hedges with a modern ditch on the outside and the remains of a park pale in between.' 'On the north and west sides there are distinct signs of a much reduced park pale ditch within a bank, and along the north boundary double hedges with banks and ditches that follow the road east from Park Corner (Watts 1996).

Watts (*ibid*) refers to a section put through the southern pale bank and ditch of Mere Park by the Shaftesbury and District Archaeological Group in 1975. The report is to be found in the SMR at Trowbridge, ref ST82NW/1, 'the only known example of an archaeological excavation of a park pale in Wiltshire (Watts *ibid*, 1998). He gives no details . . . A field visit would add much here.

See Watts., 1998, 'Some Wiltshire Deer Parks' WAM, 91, 98-100, in which paper is included a scale map.

Tollard Royal Park

ST945173

Tollard Park is sited on the Dorset/Wiltshire county boundary south of the present village. The Park was mentioned in 1227 (*VCH* 13, 81) suggesting that it was King John had enclosed a park within Cranborne Chase (Watts 1996). In 1615 it was described as being fenced with quickset hedging and ditches. It appears as Tollard Park on Aldwell's 1618 map where it is shown in some detail (*WAM* 22 149), but not on Saxton of Blaeu. In the early 17c the Park included about 50 acres, mainly wooded (*VCH* 13, 86).

In the late 19c General Pitt-Rivers 'father of British archaeology' inherited Tollard Royal (*royal* since 1535) and converted part of the Park, the Larmer Grounds, into a place of public entertainment.

The location

The Park lies to the south of the village confined for the greater part of its circuit by modern roads. The park is full of compartments, and a central area is marked as 'Tollard Park'. A preliminary inspection suggests there may be more than one phase involved here. The Park has clearly been intensively managed from at least the 19c.

The boundary

The Aldwell map of 1618 gives the name of the gate on the south boundary of the park – on the county boundary as *Lauermere Gate*; a boundary element here in

OE *ge-maere*. The east boundary of the Park is shown as a broken line followed by the present road and the north and western boundaries as continuous line. Further work is needed to identify precisely where these lay.

Rushmore Park **ST955185**

Rushmore Park is a late emparkment. By the early 17c 25 acres were enclosed along the Wiltshire/Dorset boundary (VCH 13, 24) but it is not mentioned by Hutchins (1774). Aldwell's 1618 map shows *Rushmore Lodge* enclosed within a dotted line describing a circle cut into on the eastern side by the much heavier line of an oval enclosure labelled *The Railes*, the whole surrounded by rectangular coppice compartments. '*The Railes* implies a post and rail enclosure fence round Rushmore Park' (Watts 1996). Something of these bounds should be traceable on the ground; some field work could elucidate.

Ashcombe Park **ST934201**

Ashcombe Park is located two miles north-west of Rushmore. Colt Hoare records that in the time of Henry VIII a lease of Ashcombe was granted to William Shelley 'for twenty beasts.' On the Aldwell map of 1618 Ashcombe Park is drawn as more or less circular in plan, wooded, with a house in the middle and the words *Ashcombe belongs to Mr Arundel who maryd heiress of Mr Wyndham*.

A deposition dated 6 November 1791 (WAM 33, 295) implies that there had been in a Park in Ashcombe in 1760 there had formerly been *places in the Park where the deer can Leap into the Park but they cant Leap out again*. In 1773 the Andrews and Drury map of Wiltshire shows a perimeter fence round Ashcombe House which probably represent the bounds of the Park. The house was pulled down in 1814. After the First World War the whole was sold as a shooting estate. As with Rushmore (above) more [field]work would help with an understanding of this site.

Both parks are post medieval – both seem to have been constructed around a house from inception.

Donhead Park **ST004236**

The Donhead villages [St Mary and St Andrew] lie on the Wiltshire/Dorset borderland just to the north of the early route between Wilton and Shaftesbury over Fovant Down at the headwaters of the Nadder. The high point of the area is represented by St Bartholomew's Hill, a dedication often associated with outlying, secondary settlement (Everitt).

The site of Donhead House was held by Shaftesbury Abbey until the Dissolution. The house is surrounded by a Park 'which looks ancient being undulating and studded with old oaks (Watts 1998). In 1840 the estate included '12 acres in High Park and 19 acres in Low Park' and although it is not certain, it is possible that in Donhead we have an 18c landscaping of a much earlier Deer Park. Given the location this seems likely; further fieldwork is clearly recommended here.

Donhead: **Wincombe Park** **ST880241**

In 1552 Donhead was granted to Lord Pembroke; a detailed survey reads '*There is a pasture called Wyncombe Park where a Warren has been constructed for Rabbits and a Lodge for a Warrener nearby. And there is in the same pasture four ponds for fish, viz, Carpes and Tenches, and the same pasture contains by estimate, sixty acres*' (Watts 1996). Colt Hoare (1829, iv 34) records 'Traces of the deer park and fence are still visible around Wincombe Park, particularly at the part bounded by a wood belonging to Lord Arundell, called Park Coppice.' Watts (*ibid*) suggests the site of the warreners lodge may be found north-east of the Park towards Castle Rings at Lodge Wood (ST885247). 'Along its northern edge are the remains of a bank and ditch. Two large ponds also survive in this Park.'

We might suggest that both these 'parks' represent a once much larger area of inter-commoning and emparkment occupying quite a well-defined land unit at the headwaters of the Nadder just east of the hilltop settlement at Shaftesbury. The settlement plans of these two interlinked villages would suggest as much. The bounds of the Donhead St Andrew estate were recited in the later 11c are coincident with those of the Manor of Wardour to the immediate north.

Wardour Park(s)

ST922268

Wardour Park is a 'multiple' Deer Park. In 1395 the fifth Lord Lovel was licensed to crenellate his castle at Wardour. The Wardour estate occupies the higher reaches of the Nadder, occupying part of that borderland identified above (see Donhead Park). In 1086 it is identified with a single hide of land held from the Abbey of Wilton listed with 2 x 1 leagues of woodland.

Speed 1610, shows Wardour as a single park as do Saxton 1577 and Blaeu 1648 who each show the *Warder Castle* sited within it, the southern park pale close to the Dunworth Hundred Boundary. Watts (1998) notes that Harding's map of 1618 shows two parks (WAM **22**, 1885, 149), one for 'Fallow Deer' and the other for 'Red Deare' born out by Aubrey's remark that 'Wardour Castle . . . here was a red-deer parke and a fallow-deer parke' – which had been ruined during the Civil War . . . the soldiers having 'pulled up the pales of two parks . . .' The parks were clearly re-instated because in 1653 the area of the park is given as 850 acres and in 1759 there is mention of 'Near and Far Deer Parks.' Arundell rentals record that Wardour Park was enclosed by pales, walls and ditches.

The location

Watts (1998, 101) has drawn a plan of the park 'the bounds . . . have been defined from old maps as shown.' Both parks are contained within the single large enclosure of which the [old] Castle occupies the north-eastern corner. Red Deer Park comprises the north-western 'segment' of about 100 acres, which now includes Park Pond along the Nadder, Fallow Deer Park occupies the middle portion; an area known as *The Lawne* occupies the south-east just north of Horwood Farm and what is called 'Rayles Park' is that 'salient' of the main park boundary extending in an arc just east of the Old Castle. The string of five ponds postdate the medieval park, possibly constructed between 1700 and 1753.

In 1768 the Parks enclosed 344 acres, by the time of the Tithe Map of 1839 they comprised 619 acres. Plots in the south-east corner include Horwood, OE *hara*, 'boundary.'

During the 18c the Park was formally landscape and later in the century 'deformalised.' 'Both of these re-organisations of the Wardour landscape have contributed to the removal of most signs of the former Deer Parks' but for a number of 'Park' field and plot names.

The Boundary

Watts (1998) includes no information on what may remain as to earlier park pales.

Some systematic field work could be useful here. He notes a 'Great Ditch' forming an arc in the boundary immediately north of the castle. The name in *Horwood* suggests some of these bounds could be early.

The former Park is entered on the west side at Park Gate Farm.

Tisbury Park

ST298929

Tisbury Park may have lain partly in neighbouring Fonthill. In 1086 the Manor of Tisbury was held by Shaftesbury Abbey. In 1376 Sir Thomas West was granted permission to enclose two parcels of land amounting to 58 acres at Tisbury in his Park at *Rowcombe* (Watts 1996). The extract indicates that this enclosure was an addition to an existing Park. In 1378 it seems to have been extended again and by 1380 it included a warren (Watts *ibid*). In 1570 it was described as a 'pasture, woodland and woody ground' having been enlarged again in 1533. In the 1630s Lord Cottington walled the Park at *Roughcombe*; the Cottingtons also held Fonthill.

The location

This land included a lake and according to the *VCH* (13, 165) lay mostly in Tisbury but towards Fonthill. The *Place-names of Wiltshire* (1939, 195) identifies *Rowcombe* as Roughcombe which becomes the sites of Lower Lawn Farm [ST297301] Higher Lawn Farm [ST927297] and Upper Lawn Cottages [ST923294]. 'Rough Lawn' [ST9172978] is where 'Old Park' is shown on the first series 1:25000– and which lies in Fonthill Gifford. In common with most Deer Parks this Park clearly occupies a marginal site – this time between two manor/parishes.

Colt Hoare (1829, 4, 134) notes that Roughcombe which place is now called "The Lawn" and is part of East Hacche or Hatch.' ME *launde*, 'open glade in a wood.'

The boundary

clearly needs sorting out . . .

Fonthill Parks

ST919296

Watts (1996) notes that 'the subject of the Deer Parks at Fonthill is complicated because of the number of houses built on various sites from the Norman Conquest.'

In 1086 Fonthill was held by one of the Giffords (see Bradley Park above). Earlier, by 901, it formed part of the estate of the Bishops of Winchester. The place-name *Fonthill* is one of those of a very small group descended from the Latin, in this case, *fons*, 'spring.'

By 1370 Sir Thomas West had imparked land at Fonthill Gifford which seems to have included a lake. There is reference to *le Parke* at Fonthill in 1373. In 1386 was fined for having enclosed within his Park at Fonthill without royal licence part of the Marlborough-Shaftesbury highway. He was required to make a new road round the north and west boundaries of the Park. The VCH notes there is no evidence for this new road. The Park was enlarged in the mid 16c; in 1539 John Mervyn who had bought the Park in 1533 was accused of having drowned the boundary between Fonthill Gifford and Fonthill Bishop presumably in extending the lake northwards.

Between 1632 and 1637 Lord Cottington walled the Park and may have emparked more in c1639.

No park is shown by Speed, 1610 or Morden 1695; interestingly, both Saxton 1575 and Blaeu 1648 shown 'Bishop's Fonthill' on a narrow southward pointing 'spur' of the Hundred of Mere.

In the late 17c there is reference to two Parks at Fonthill, and old one west of Fonthill House known as '*Nippard*' – and there is a *Nappern Mill* located to the south of it. By 1715 there were no more deer left at Fonthill Park because its wall had fallen into disrepair and the deer had escaped. The whole area was subsequently landscaped; William Beckford further developed the Park and extended the lake.

The Location

Old Park is shown at ST919296 on the first series 1:25000 a little north of Newtown, with Rough Lawn at ST917298. See Tisbury Park above. Watts (1996) notes that the '18c works at Fonthill have eliminated all signs of the former Deer Parks.'

The Boundary

Much more work is clearly needed here to sort out the 'emparkment' relations between Fonthill and its neighbouring manor of Tisbury.

West Hatch Park centred on ST909280

West Hatch Park lies one mile south-west of Fonthill Park and one and half miles north-west of the Wardour Parks. In the 1280s Eustace de Hache made a Park and in 1285 Edward I gave four bucks and eight does for stocking it (*Cal of Close Rolls* 1279-88, 341). Eustace had also been granted rights of free warren at West Hatch from 1282.

The location

As Watts (1996) notes 'the site or the Park at West Hatch is not definitely known. He notes Park House at ST906278 may not be as significant as was Dennis' Farm. 'It is possible that West Hatch Park was contained within the roughly triangular area of about 80 acres centred on ST909280 of about 80 acres enclosed by minor roads and containing both Park and Dennis Farms. In 1841 Hatch House was taken into the neighbouring Pythouse Estate. Both Tunncliffe 1791 and Cary 1801 show a Park at Pythouse on their respective maps.

Note that the *Roughcombe* of Tisbury Park was observed by Colt Hoare (1829, 4, to be identified with that place now called "The Lawn" which is part of East Hache or Hatch.'

'Hatch' OE *haecc* 'fence' may also denote a gateway or entrance, in this case perhaps to the area on higher ground at Fonthill. East and West Hatch lie on the valley slopes on the north side of the Nadder; between them, a little higher up slope at a small crossroads is *Newtown* which suggests medieval settlement development in a formerly ?wooded/emparked enclosure.

The boundary

Additional support for this 'triangular' area needs finding on the ground. And explanation of the name – and origins – of *Newtown* also invites enquiry.

Grovely Park

ST046340

Grovely Park occupies a spur of land between the Wylde and Nadder a few miles west of Salisbury. By 1086 this was part of the *Foresta de Gravelinges* the royal *Forest of Gravelle* of 1154. The plan of the forest (*VCH* 4, 57) shows it as extensive.

This was one of the smaller Forests, clearly already a well-established wooded area by late Saxon times – as its name would suggest.

Grovely Lodge was *Grovele Logge* of 1362 surrounded by a wooden pale incorporating standing trees – and deer. Outside the Park pale is a wide clearing on two sides and beyond that closely-packed trees and another fenced enclosure with scattered deer (Crawford, 1953, 193).

A 1631 survey refers to ‘a park within the Forest of Groveley called the Rayles with a lodge containing a parlour, cellar, kitchen, hall and sundry chambers . . . and a second lodge, built in 1566 at another part’ (Watts 1996). This second lodge may have occupied the second ‘park’ noted above. The Pembroke survey refers to the Park as 60 acres in extent.

The location

The first edition OS shows a rectilinear enclosure at ST051338 of an area of about

40 acres. The Lodge area today occupies three open sub-rectangular fields running along the spine of the hill surrounded by trees, Grovely Wood. A lost Roman road runs through the Park immediately north of the Lodge following the ridge on its way to Old Sarum.

The boundary

awaits inspection . . . may support some woodland ‘relics.’ As Rackham notes there are a number of Anglo-Saxon charters covering the Grovely Ridge in minute detail providing ‘eye witness’ record to numbers of boundary features, both natural and man made (Rackham 1986, 289-91). The name itself – *graf* + *leah* ‘grove/wood’ + ‘clearing’ suggests the woodland has contained cleared wood-pasture compartments from at least the early medieval. Prehistoric activity is well-represented along the ridge.

See also

Crawford OGS, 1953, *Archaeology in the Field*.
Rackham, 1986, *The History of the Countryside*

Compton Park centred on ST035300

Compton Park is sited in Compton [Chamberlayne] a royal manor in 1086. Sited on the south side of the Nadder five miles west of Wilton. A Park at Compton is mentioned in 1328 *Wilts Inquisitiones post mortem* and recorded on the Old Series 1:25000.

In 1867 there is a reference to 'a small Park at Compton of 90 acres, with a herd of about 170 deer' which was said 'to have existed from time immemorial and is mentioned in the time of Edward III, 1294. By this time the Park was that immediately adjoining the house, the more distant Park to the east long having been dis-emparked.

In 1892 Whitaker wrote 'Compton Park; acreage, including two large pieces of water and plantations, about 155 acres.' He also noted that the Park was 'fenced chiefly wooden pales on a raised bank; some parts iron fencing . . . number of fallow deer, 300. Whitaker also notes that 'it is a very ancient enclosure.'

The location

Watts (1996) suggests that the Park may have extended north and east of Compton House, mainly of 16c build with earlier features. More definite is a Park enclosure east of the present lake formed along a small tributary of the Nadder including Naishes Farm. A curved bank could be the remains of an early Park pale along the north edge of Holly Head Copse at ST032297. Alternatively, Watts (ibid) suggests a former park to the west of the present house enclosing what is now Compton Wood. The location clearly remains unresolved.

The boundary

clearly awaits attention; with an 1892 reference to wooden pales, raised banks and iron fencing something remains to be discovered.

East Knoyle Park around ST877301

East Knoyle Park is sited in yet another 'borderland' situation just north of the Wiltshire/Dorset county boundary. East Knoyle was a royal manor in 1986, the neighbouring estate West Knoyle was held by Wilton Abbey, their southern boundary being the northern boundary of Mere (see Mere Park above). This Park may well represent a one-time much larger 'great' park – cf Blagdon astride the Dorset/Hampshire boundary, Marshwood-Crekelade for Dorset/Devon and [Maiden] Bradley (see above) for Wiltshire/Somerset. See Watts' comments on East Knoyle below.

East Knoyle village occupies a steep north-facing slope and presents a dispersed settlement plan very characteristic of a formerly heavily wooded area.

The estate came into the hand of the Bishop of Winchester after 1180. It becomes *Bishop's Knoyle* in 1236 and in 1253 there is a reference to *parcum suum de Knoel*.

Knoyle OE *cnugel* 'knuckle' presumably in the likeness of the ridge. 'The bishops had an early Deer Park at East Knoyle situated south of the village over the 38 acre wooded area known as Park Coppice.

The location

The Wiltshire SMR records East Knoyle Park as a roughly oval ditched area south-west of East Knoyle Church and contained between Holloway Lane to its west and Shaftesbury Lane (A350) to its east. Existing field boundaries suggest a Park of about 80 acres, 1050 yards north-east to south-west and 500 yards east-west. In 1228 all the land west of Shaftesbury Lane (A350) was accounted part of Selwood Forest, dis-afforested in 1330. Double hedges with a bank follow Holloway Lane down the west side of the putative Park are probably the remains of an early Park pale (Watts 1996).

The boundary

The east boundary of the Park runs about 50 yards west of Shaftesbury Lane and survives as a discontinuous earthen bank now 13 feet wide and 28 inches high with double hedges. To the south and south-west the boundary is now a bank about 16 inches high.

Watts (1996) notes the many *hays* names extending south towards Sedgehill and Semley; Friar's Hayes Farm [ST870296] is very near the south end of the Park [also the boundary of the AONB . . .] 'These names lead to speculation that the Park may once have been much larger one later reduced in area.

The Deer Parks of Hampshire

Note

*The Deer Parks of Breamore, Rockbourne and Damerham run north-south along the eastern edge of the AONB, and also along the edge of a well-defined north-westerward pointing 'enclave' of Hampshire centred on the royal estate – the royal domus [residence] – of the Manor of Damerham mentioned in King Alfred's Will [880-885]. The southern edge of this 'enclave' follows Bokerley Dyke and the northern 'zig-zags' along lengths of Grim's Ditch. As noted above the Deer Park of Blagdon lies astride Bokerley Dyke in two counties. The eastern edge is formed by the River Avon. Only **Rockbourne Park** appears on Speed's map of 1610.*

Breamore Park

?ST145195

The Manor of Breamore was part of the royal manor of Rockbourne in 1086; a significant part of the Manor *cadit in Foresta*, 'falls in the Forest where it had rights to pannage. It was subsequently granted out to the Dukes of Devon. 'Certain lands' in Breamore formed part of the endowment of a Priory set up in the 12c [a 'priest' already received 20s from the Manor in 1086] the estate of became known as Breamore Bulborn' to which other lands were given during the 14c– in the same area. The land passed back to Breamore at the Dissolution. There are also tenurial links here with Christchurch downstream.

First reference to a Breamore Park is in 1288 for an 'extent' of the Manor taken at that date notes the difference in value between pasture 'the the park' and 'outside. In 1293, when the Manor had reverted to the Crown, 'the keeper of the Park of Breamore was commanded to give John de Drokensford two live bucks and six does to stock his Park of Crux Easton. In 1316 there was a legal action following the discovery of 'certain persons' who 'broke into the Park and hunted therein . . . '

In 1542 wood from the park of 'Overbremer' was assigned to meet the costs of repairing a stable building, and building a hayhouse. 'The inclosed ground called the park of Breamore' is last mentioned in a deed of 1741 (*VCH Hants* iv, 596-8).

The location

The present village of Breamore lies outside the AONB boundary on the west bank of the River Avon. To the west just inside the AONB re hamlets of North Street and Upper Street leading towards the present park surrounding Breamore House and what appears to be second enclosure immediately to the west, today's Breamore Wood [ST148192]. The name *Overbremer* is likely to be a reference to this location upslope away from the settlement focus on the river. Norden, 1595, does not show Breamore Park.

The eastern of the two Parks has every appearance of being a post-medieval development inclosing as it does not only part of the Upper Street hamlet, but the church. Later landscaping has been effected by Breamore House subsequent to 1741. Breamore Wood, now included in the whole much-

enlarged Park, lies on rising ground bounded on the west by a narrow wooded strip followed by a footpath.

The boundary

Further work needs to be done here from both documentary sources and on the ground but there is every suggestion that Breamore Wood represents the medieval Deer Park; the course of the park pale can only be established by fieldwork.

Rockbourne Park(s)

ST116168

Rockbourne Park(s) occupy Rockbourne, an estate shaped by the course of a small stream, tributary of the Avon which it joins at Fordinbridge.

Rockbourne is a royal manor in 1086; royal interest in the Manor was only finally extinguished by James I in 1608. From which time the estate came into the hands of the Ashley Coopers, Earls of Shaftesbury. The medieval manor was held by a long succession of royal 'appointees' – with some a colourful history. Rockbourne, in 1086, was a royal manor which had never been assessed for geld.

There were two Deer Parks in Rockbourne in 1307 containing 100 acres of large oaks and underwood worth 13s 4d yearly. The Bishop of Bath and Wells held the manor in the early 14c when a complaint was made 'that his park has been broken into, his deer hunted and his rabbits taken with ferrets nests and other engines.'

In the reign of Edward VI East Park still belonged to the lord of the manor who brought two suits of poaching against his tenants of Rockbourne. 'In 1628 – the other - Park belonged to Sir George Marshall and others who were paid that year £250 for keeping the King's race-horses in West Park and Cole Park' (VCH Hants iv, 584). It was purchased in 1762.

The location

There are two Deer Parks clearly implied from the written sources. Map work suggest there may be three parks represented. The present Rockbourne Park occupies a well-defined area lying between the Sandheath-Rockbourne road on the east (running along the west bank of the stream) and a well-defined double bank on the west, part of which is followed by the road to Damerham past Court Farm. The north boundary is followed by the Rockbourne-Damerham lane and the south a continuous hedgerow just north of West Park Farm.

What becomes clear from the Tithe Map [1846] is that 'West Park' is the older of the two parks, at this date comprising mostly 'Woods and Plantations' and the site of 'West Park Mansions and Gardens' at the northern end. At the southern end we find 'Does Close' and a group of ponds and an orchard, and the whole within a well-defined ring-fence. Filling in that strip of land ground lying immediately to the north between the Mansion and the road and to the east towards the road and stream is 'New Park;' an area which embraces the site of a major Roman villa. Whilst this area would qualify for the description 'East Park' it is more likely to represent an extension of parkland that accompanied the re-working of the Mansion.

Of some interest is that further upstream, just beyond the village and church of Rockbourne is the site of the Manor House. On steeply rising ground behind both house and church is a narrow strip of wooded land curving northwards [ST119115]. On a map of the Manor of Rockbourne 1671 this is clearly marked; the field name is *Deerehay* which is under 'pasture'. There is

no complementary boundary remaining to north or east; we find a series of very rectilinear fields on Dunberry Hill all under 'arable.'

It is tempting to identify this as the remains of the medieval *East Park* which, by 1671, had been largely ploughed out and converted to a different use.

Some support for this may be found on two early county surveys. In 1595 Norden shows a park, bounded by a conventional wooden pale, immediately to the north-east of the symbol for Rockbourne Church. John Cary, 1825, shows nothing beyond Rockbourne Church but neatly labelled – in its present position – is 'West Park.'

The boundary

There is clearly potential here for work on the bounds of both 'West Park' and its 'New Park' extension, and for looking carefully at the present field boundary of *Deerehay* – still marked as a narrow 'arc' of woodland on the OS 1:25000. At the top of the hill is the well-defined ring work of *Castle Ditches* just above the present village of Whitsbury. The immediate area is full of the remains of prehistoric – and Roman - activity.

Principal References for these Hampshire Deer Parks is the *Victoria History County*, Hampshire vol iv. Also the Tithe Map, 1846 and a manor map of Rockbourne, 1671.

The author also wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Colin Anderson at Hampshire County Council

Damerham Park

?ST100156

Damerham Park will occupy a royal manor first mentioned in the Will of King Alfred. In 1086 it is entered for Wiltshire; the parish of South Damerham was transferred to Hampshire in 1895. [Norden puts Damerham over the border in Wiltshire in 1595; so also Kitchen 1751 and Cary 1825]. At Domesday it comprised a large 50+ hide manor held by the Abbey of Glastonbury; a further hide was held by the Church or Cranborne. Damerham village lies on the higher reaches of the River Allen which rises further north at Martin, part of the Glastonbury estate (see above). Damerham land forms the greater part of the 'enclave' in the county boundaries here noted above. After the Dissolution the estate remained in the hands of successive bishops of Salisbury until 1830. In 1830 the manor house of South Damerham (West Park House) was attacked by rioters against the introduction of machinery (*VCH Wilts* iv, 587).

Damerham Park is first mentioned in 1226-7 and in 1283 it contained deer (*VCH Wilts* iv 586-8). There are several references to the Park in the course of the 13c relating to the Abbot's tenants; one in 1324-9 relates to the surrendering of pasture in *Haywood* which the Abbot was about to empark. In 1518 the Park contained 125 acres of wood which was divided into three coppices, *Edmundshay*, *Middle Coppis* and *Drakenorth Coppis*. 'It was apparently disparked before 1540.'

The location . . .

A recent survey by Colin Anderson for Hampshire County Council locates Damerham Park round Ashley Park Farm bounded to the north by the A3078 and to the east by the road running along the west bank of the river. This circuit needs to be verified by further documentary search; the story of *Ashley Park* needs to be established. It may be that the names of the three coppice compartments of 1518 can be located. The location of the estate boundaries also need looking at; the 'West Park Farm' at South Damerham recorded as being attacked in 1830 lies just over the parish boundary in Rockbourne (see above).

The boundary

is in need of definition here; something for further work

The Deer Park(s) of Somerset

Witham Park(s) **ST775395**

The AONB boundary embraces a small area of Somerset lying in that part of the former Royal Forest of Selwood across the Wiltshire/Somerset watershed at the headwaters of the River Frome, the source of which lies within the Witham parish.

The AONB boundary cuts north-south across the parish the boundary of which closely follow the bounds given in a royal charter of Henry II of 1182 granting an estate to the newly re-founded Carthusian Order. The bounds are found again in a Perambulation of 1244.

In 1182 these bounds begin at 'First, on north part, from the fosse [bank/ditch] of the park to *Hach stoch* ['Hodgstocks' 1813]; in 1244 this is adjusted to read 'From the park, on the east part, in the fosse of the same park to *Hackestock*.' This makes it plain that there was already a park in Witham before the grant was made to the Carthusians. Lying adjacent to the parish of Nunney, this reference point will lie outside the AONB boundary at approximately ST763423. The boundary was deflected northwards at this point in 1232 to include a large fishpond.

In 1298 a Perambulation of the Royal Forest of Selwood mentions 'the gate of the hall of the lord king which stood there when the park of Witham was enclosed.'

Armitage Robinson (1918) draws attention to lengths of the Witham parish boundary which present prominent double banks. It is tempting to suggest that a large part of the grant made to the Carthusians formerly comprised a large royal park on the west side of the Somerset-Wiltshire border – most of which will lie outside the AONB. This being the case, it will present yet another example of an early park crossed by a Roman road, in this case running across Selwood at Gaer Hill on a direct north-westerly course for Charterhouse on Mendip where the Carthusians held forest and mining rights.

At the Dissolution the Witham estate was granted to Ralph Hopton in whose family his mansion remained until sold to William Beckford of Fonthill. The monastery was taken down in 1764. 'An elegant seat was begun...' but with the death of the owner in 1770 was never completed. It seems likely however, that some formal landscaping has already taken place – see below for Witham Park.

Hick's Park **ST745381**

Field names on the OS1:2500 include *Hick's Park*, and *Witham Park* lying on the east side of the parish/manor and both will lie with the AONB boundary.

The southern part of Witham may have comprised a separately emparked area. In 1251, Robert de Mucegros had leave to enclose 'two acres by the king's perch within the Forest of *Selewood* containing in length 120 perches, lying near his park of Bryweham [Brewham], by the following metes [bounds] to wit, from the *Kingstil* {into Breham} to the way of *Froggemor*, for the extension of his park.' The present Hick's Wood runs from Frogmead Corner on the Brewham boundary which it follows southwards for about three-quarters of a mile, just above the remains of a large pond along the Holt Water stream fed by the spring just below the scarp.

Witham Park **ST770390**

On the OS 1:2500, a area of woodland lying along the west side of the county boundary is marked 'Witham Park.' On the Greenwood map of 1822, Hick's Wood is shown wooded, and Witham Park as a clearly landscaped park, the area of which includes Park Farm and Keeper's Cottage. Only the eastern part of the park survives, but its earlier bounds may well still be traceable in the present arrangements of fields down this south-facing slope.

Location and Boundaries

Witham clearly deserves a much closer look – given that only part of it actually lies within the AONB boundary. Both Hick's Park/Wood and Witham Park may present woodland relics; the first along its boundaries, the second remaining within the present wooded area.

References and Bibliography

Principal References to the work written up in this report are listed below. Where quotations are cited in the text they are drawn from these sources.

Abbreviations used in the text are
VCH 'Victoria County History' and
WAM 'Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine'

Dorset Deer Parks

References for Dorset Deer Parks are to be found in a series of papers published by Cantor L M and Wilson J D, in volumes of the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society (Dorset Procs)* between 1961, vol **81** and 1978, vol **100**; those relevant to the parks considered in this report are listed below.

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Which includes a gazetteer, map and a full bibliography for the whole county

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Which includes Mere Park and the Parks at Wardour Castle.

For a general survey of Wiltshire deer parks see
Watts Ken, 2005, *Some Notes on Wiltshire Deer Parks and their owners*.
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Somerset Deer Parks

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Hampshire Deer Parks

So far, there is no published in-depth study of the deer parks of Hampshire; the author wishes to acknowledge Colin Anderson at Hampshire County Council for his assistance.

For a general Survey see Cantor, L M, 1983, *The Medieval Deer Parks of England, a Gazetteer*. For those within the area of the CCWWDAONB see

The *Victoria History County*, Hampshire, vol 2, 168-172; vol 4, 542-584 Also the Tithe Map, 1846 and manor map of Rockbourne, 1671 in the Wiltshire County Record Office, (WRO), Winchester

Early county maps; Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset and Hampshire

For Dorset see Beaton above. For Wiltshire see Saxton's *Map of Wiltshire* with Salisbury and Stonehenge 1576 with corrections by Phillip Lea 1689, and Wiltshire from the *Nievwe Atlas* of John Blaeu, 1648, both reprints by Wilts County Education and Libraries, 2000. For Somerset see *Somerset Maps; Day and Masters* 1782 and Greenwood 1822, (ed) Robert Dunning, 1981, Somerset Record Society vol 76. For Hampshire see *A new Improved Map of Hampshire* by Thomas Kitchin, 1751 and *A New Map of Hampshire* by John Cary 1825, both reprints from the collections of the Hampshire County Council Museums Service.

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