The Bridge in Downton Moot, Downton, Wiltshire

Heritage Statement

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wessexarchaeology

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Downton Moot Preservation Trust Ltd. to prepare a Heritage Statement about the bridge in Downton Moot - a 19th century structure in an early 18th century landscape garden created on the site of a medieval ringwork fortification.

The bridge, which has no parapet or other form of barrier, spans a ditch with a drop of approximately 15-20ft. There is a concern that the current structure may present an unacceptable risk to members of the public that use the Moot and the Trust is in consultation to decide what protection(s) are appropriate.

This heritage statement provides a statement of significance to inform this decision-making and assists with constraints and opportunities in terms of potential heritage impacts.

The bridge lies within Downton Conservation Area, The Moot Scheduled Monument, and Moot House and The Moot Registered Park and Garden. Also, within the Conservation Area and Park and Garden is the Grade I listed Moot House and three Grade II listed buildings associated with either the house or garden.

The bridge is a 19th century structure that was extensively repaired/reconstructed in the late 1980s because it was in a ruinous condition. It likely replaced an earlier, 18th century, bridge in the same location.

This assessment has identified that the current bridge holds little heritage interest on its own. However, it does contribute to the special interest of the designated heritage assets it lies within as part of the landscaped garden.

This assessment has also found evidence that suggests the bridge previously had a low parapet, which sets a precedent for installation of a barrier.

In order to minimise the potential heritage impact of installing a barrier on the bridge, it should not interfere with access across or under the bridge, and should not materially obstruct views from the bridge. A barrier that meets these requirements is more likely to have a low neutral or slightly positive heritage impact on its associated heritage assets, dependent on final design and materials. Given the location of the bridge within an area that has three designations, any permanent solution must be agreed with the appropriate bodies. In particular, Historic England must be consulted, as well as the LPA's conservation officer, to ensure that any solution is appropriate. This report will inform any decisions that may be required with regard to any consents, such as Scheduled Monument Consent, which may be deemed necessary.

The exact nature of the barrier is therefore subject to discussion and agreement, but it is recommended that the solution is 'light touch' and acts as a warning rather than a complete barrier, especially if this can be combined with warning signs on the approaches to the bridge. In addition to protecting the significance of the Park and Garden, Scheduled Monument and Conservation Area, this would also lead to less disturbance to the fabric of the 19th century bridge. In addition, a more substantial barrier might encourage people to climb over and around it, leading to an increase in the likelihood that falls would occur, the very thing that the barrier is being provided to prevent.

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This project was commissioned by Downton Moot Preservation Trust Ltd., and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to George Syrett (Chairman) in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank staff at the Wiltshire and Swindon Archives for access to, and permission to reproduce, their records.

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Bridge in Downton Moot, Downton, Wiltshire

Heritage Statement

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Downton Moot Preservation Trust Ltd. (the Client), to prepare a Heritage Statement of the bridge at Downton Moot, an early 18th century landscape garden created on the site of a medieval ringwork fortification.

1.1.2 Within the garden is a Lime Avenue that runs across a bridge over the ringwork inner ditch. The bridge has no parapet. A *Health and Safety Audit Report* (McLean 2019) assessed the risk of falling from height and made the recommendation to 'install a suitable barrier along the sides of the unguarded bridge to prevent people from falling'. However, it did not assess the potential heritage impact of this recommendation.

1.1.3 The Trustees preference, and most public comment, is strongly in favour of making no change to the structure. However, there is a concern that the current structure may present an unacceptable risk. The Trustees are in consultation with The Moot Insurers, the relevant planning authority (Wiltshire Council), statutory consultees (i.e. Historic England) and other relevant bodies. Also, they recently invited members of the public to submit their comments (public consultation ended 28 February 2020) (http://downtonmoot.co.uk/project/public-consultation-concerning-matters-relating-to-the-moot/).

1.1.4 Temporary HERAS fencing has been placed along the edges of the bridge while the matter is under consideration.

1.1.5 This heritage statement provides a statement of significance to inform decisions to be made with regard to appropriate protections. It assists in identifying constraints and opportunities, and will allow proposals to be made for appropriate measures that would not damage the significance of the bridge, or its relationship with the designated heritage assets within which it lies.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 Downton is a village in south-east Wiltshire, approximately 8.9 miles south-east of Salisbury. Moot House and its associated landscape gardens are situated to the south of Downton High Street on the east and west sides of Moot Lane respectively.

1.2.2 There are seven designated heritage assets that encompass or are associated with Downton Moot:

Asset type	Grade	Name	List entry no.
Scheduled Monument	-	The Moot: a ringwork and bailey, earlier Roman settlement remains and later garden earthworks immediately east of the River Avon	1011452
Registered Park and Garden	II*	The Moot and Moot House	1000136
Listed Building	I	The Moot with Attached Kitchen	1023898
	II	Stables and Coach House at the Moot	1355693
	II	Gate, Gate Piers And About 6 Metres Of Wall To Either Side, To Front Of The Moot	1023899

Asset type	Grade	Name	List entry no.
	II	Gate And Gate Piers To Gardens Opposite The Moot	1023902
Conservation Area	-	Downton	-

1.2.3 The bridge is approximately located at OS NGR 418097, 121362 and lies within the Scheduled Monument, Registered Park and Garden and Conservation Area (**Figure 1**).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The methodology employed for this assessment is based upon relevant professional guidance, including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIfA 2014, revised 2017).

2.1.2 The definitions for heritage and architectural terminology used in this report are provided in the glossary in **Appendix 1**.

2.2 Research

2.2.1 Several publicly accessible sources of primary and synthesised information have been consulted. These comprised:

- The National Heritage List for England (NHLE);
- Downton Moot website;
- Know Your Place - Wiltshire website (including Historic Environment Record (HER) data);
- Relevant primary and secondary sources held at the Wiltshire and Swindon Archives and in Wessex Archaeology's own library.

2.2.2 Sources consulted during the preparation of this assessment are listed in the references section of the report.

2.3 Site visit

2.3.1 The Site was visited on 05 March 2020. Weather conditions were overcast with sustained heavy rainfall. The ground was muddy, waterlogged and flooded in some areas. A fieldwork record comprising digital photography is held in the project archive. Some of the photographs are marred by water droplets on the camera lens.

2.3.2 The aim of the Site visit was to assess the general aspect, character, condition and setting of the bridge and its context within/relationship to the designated heritage assets within which it lies. Also, to identify any prior impacts not evident from secondary sources.

2.4 Assessment criteria

2.4.1 The assessment of the significance of heritage assets was informed by:

- The National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance (revised 2019);

- Scheduled Monuments & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments (Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) October 2013);
- Principles of Selection for Listing Buildings (DDCMS March 2018);
- Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2 (Historic England 2015);
- The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition) (Historic England 2017)
- Relevant Designation Selection Guides published by English Heritage / Historic England.

2.5 Assumptions and limitations

2.5.1 Data used to compile this report consists of secondary information derived from a variety of sources, only some of which have been directly examined for the purposes of this Study. The assumption is made that this data, as well as that derived from other secondary sources, is reasonably accurate.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

3.1.1 Until the early 20th century, it was erroneously thought that The Moot was a Saxon burg or meeting place constructed on the site of an earlier prehistoric earthwork (e.g. Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society 1901, lxxv; Squarey 1906; Country Life 1909 54-62). However, this theory has since been disproved.

3.1.2 The defensive works at The Moot comprise a ringwork and bailey, probably constructed by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, in 1138. The site was put under siege during the civil wars of Stephen and Matilda, and was probably slighted in 1155. It was occupied throughout the medieval period and had royal visits in 1317 and 1344 (Edward II and III respectively). The last sizeable works were in 1466 and by 1647 the site was in disrepair (NHLE list entry no. 1011452).

3.1.3 The ringwork is defined by earthworks surviving to between 5m and 6m above the medieval ground surface. Two entrances, to the north-east and to the west, divide the earthworks into two separate sections. The interior area is 20m across. Beyond the ringwork, to the east and north, is the bailey, an enclosed area which contained associated ancillary buildings and settlement (ibid.).

3.1.4 In the 18th century the earthworks were remodelled to create a formal landscaped park and garden for the nearby Moot House (ibid).

3.1.5 An earlier house was built near the site of The Moot circa 1600, when the Downton estate was owned by the Coles family. The present house was originally built circa 1650. It is labelled as Downton House on Andrews and Drury's map of Wiltshire (1773) and later became known as Moot House (**Plate 1**). The building was extensively remodelled in the early to mid-18th century, and the kitchen range dates to this period. In 1923 Moot House was damaged by fire but was subsequently restored. Consequently, much of the interior dates to the 1920s (NHLE list entries 1000136 and 1023898).

3.1.6 The stables and coach house to the rear of Moot House are listed as 18th century with a 19th century extension, probably a tack room, to the rear of the stables (NHLE list entry 1355693). The listed gates and gate piers to the house and the gardens, both date to the

18th century (NHLE list entry no. 1023899 and 1023902). Restoration of the garden entrance gate, gate piers and adjacent boundary wall was permitted in 1997.

3.1.7 The landscaped park and garden was created in the ruins of the medieval earthworks circa 1720 (NHLE list entry 1000136). In 1754 the garden was described by commentator Pococke in his travelling journal as 'very prettily laid out and improved, being on a large old fortification with a double fosse improved into terraces above and walks below, with buildings on two mounts; the old keeps of the castle, and the river runs at the foot of it' (quoted in LUC 1992, cited in NHLE list entry 1000136). In 1784 the estate passed to the Rev. John Shuckburgh, and it subsequently had a series of different owners. From 1873 to 1911, Moot House and its surrounding grounds belonged to the estate agent Elias Pitt Squarey. Some alterations were made in the garden during the 19th century, but its main form and layout remained the same (LUC 1992, cited in NHLE list entry 1000136). The plan of the garden, as illustrated on an information board, is illustrated in **Plate 2**.

3.1.8 In the late 19th and early 20th century, the garden was used for entertainment events (e.g. fetes and bazaars, open-air concerts, plays and dances) with activities often focussed around the amphitheatre, pond and loggia (**Plate 3**). These events sometimes had up to 3000 attendees and some ran for several days (Downton Moot Preservation Trust 1990). At such times the bridge and paths around the Moot would have been subject to a lot of foot traffic.

3.1.9 Circa 1964, Moot House and The Moot garden were sold into divided private ownership. By the late 1980s the garden was neglected. One of its principal structures, the Temple of Mercury, had collapsed and other features including the bridge were in a ruinous state. Since 1988, the garden has been owned and managed by the Downton Moot Trust Limited and is subject to an ongoing programme of management and restoration (ibid).

The Bridge

3.1.10 The bridge reportedly dates to 1815 according to various sources including the registered park and garden list entry (no. 1000136). However, Andrews' and Drury's 1773 map of Wiltshire depicts the landscaped gardens and appears to show a path across the inner ditch where the Lime Avenue and bridge are now. This suggests that the present bridge may have replaced an earlier one in the same location, a point that is also in the Downton Moot Guide Notes (2009).

3.1.11 An undated account of the Moot by a former Vicar of Downton Rev. A. du Boulay describes 'standing upon the bridge across the deep ditch (in the modern central walk, which cuts through the banks) looking towards the river' to get a 'good general idea of the plan' of the ancient earthwork (cited in Squarey 1906, 25).

3.1.12 A photograph dated 26 July 1906 by Mr W Lane of Christchurch (**Appendix 4**) shows the bridge completely covered in ivy with a man standing on top, facing the camera. The man's knees and lower legs are obscured, which suggests there was a low parapet on the bridge at this time. However, the ivy makes it impossible to determine whether this parapet was constructed of brick or some other material.

3.1.13 The Downton Moot Preservation Trust Ltd is a charity that was formed by local residents in 1987 to acquire and manage the Moot. When the Trust took over the site, the bridge was in a ruinous condition and had to be substantially rebuilt, as seen in photographs presented on the Downton Moot website (http://downtonmoot.co.uk/project/public-consultation-concerning-matters-relating-to-the-moot/). A scaffold and timber frame was set up to support the arch while the brickwork to either side was rebuilt and repaired. At present, the Lime Avenue and bridge deck are laid with gravel, which was initially recommended in the Downton Moot Management Plan 1988 (Land Use Consultants). Many of the paths within

the Moot have been re-laid and re-surfaced over the past 18 months to improve access for all visitors in all weather conditions (http://downtonmoot.co.uk/project/public-consultation-concerning-matters-relating-to-the-moot/).

4 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: THE BRIDGE

4.1 Description

4.1.1 The bridge is a brick-built single-span structure, with simple moulded-brick detailing on piers either side of the central arch. There is also a masonry keystone rather than brick, and under the bridge there is a shallow alcove in each abutment. The bridge has no parapet. There is only one course of bricks above the voussoir of the arch. When inherited by the Downton Moot Preservation Trust in the late 1980s, the bridge was in a ruinous condition and had to be substantially rebuilt. This means that its present form and appearance is predominantly a late 1980s construct using a mix of modern and reused material (**Plates 4-6**).

4.2 Setting

4.2.1 The bridge is at a nexus of pathways within the garden (**Plate 2**). The bridge is part of the Lime Avenue and provides access over the inner ditch of the ringwork. There is also a path along the base of the ditch that passes under the bridge. The 1906 photograph illustrates that the bridge sides were previously hidden by ivy and the path through the ditch had vegetation (ferns) growing either side and probably felt more enclosed. At the west end of the bridge, paths diverge from the Lime Avenue and ascend the two mounts - Bevis Mount to the north-east with a viewpoint over the river Avon and Downton, and Moot Hill with the remains of the 18th century Temple of Mercury.

4.2.2 Vegetation on either sides of the ditch provide cover, and the lack of a parapet means that when proceeding along the Lime Avenue (and ignoring the HERAS fencing), the bridge reads as part of the path until one is on it and can see the drop on either side. The temporary HERAS fencing signposts the location of the bridge more clearly.

4.2.3 The structure of the bridge can be better appreciated when travelling along the base of the ditch (**Plates 5-6**). It can also be glimpsed from the tracks to Bevis Mount and Moot Hill, to the north-west and south-west respectively, and from the Upper Terrace Walk on a bank that curves along the south-east boundary of the registered park and garden.

4.2.4 The bridge is located towards the centre of the garden, so noise and activity from the surrounding streets is indiscernible.

4.2.5 The lack of a parapet means there are usually clear views from the bridge looking north and south along the ringwork ditch (**Plates 7-8**). Looking north, it is possible to glimpse the tower of St Laurence Church through the trees, although foliage is likely to obscure this view at other times of the year. As well as the ditch, it is also possible to appreciate the two mounts to the north-west and south-east, all of which are remnants of the medieval earthworks. All of these views are temporarily impeded by the HERAS fencing.

4.3 Significance

4.3.1 In the 17th and 18th century, bridges in English gardens became more ornamental as well as being of practical use. Architectural style varied considerably from classical and Palladian examples to more simple, rustic timber designs (Symes 2000, 23-24). Gothick and Chinoiserie styles gained brief popularity in the 1730s and 40s (Historic England 2018, 9).

4.3.2 In comparison, the present bridge at Downton Moot is a relatively plain, 19th century structure that was extensively repaired/rebuilt in the late 1980s. As illustrated in the 1906 and 1980s photographs, the bridge previously had a low parapet and its present form and appearance is largely the result of the 1980s repair. Its simple design and extensive previous impacts mean the bridge is of little heritage interest or significance on its own.

4.4 Relationship to associated designated heritage assets

4.4.1 The bridge lies inside the boundaries of the aforementioned Scheduled Monument, Registered Park and Garden and Conservation Area.

4.4.2 Scheduled Monuments are heritage assets that have been recognised as nationally important and that meet the necessary criteria (DCMS 2013). The Scheduled Monument list entry states the reason for its designation and provides a description of the asset (extract in **Appendix 2**). The bridge is included in the scheduling as part of the formal landscaped garden, albeit a later addition that is not specifically mentioned in the list entry.

4.4.3 The garden is registered for its special historic interest. As well as being illustrative of a mid-late 18th century garden, the fact that it has been created by remodelling the 12th century ringwork and bailey earthwork adds to its interest and significance. The earthworks create dramatic level changes within the site and the bridge provides a means to cross a ditch over a drop of 15-20ft. As well as providing a route over the ditch and a link between the bailey and the two mounts, the bridge also adds interest to the route along the ditch and is a vantage point from which to view the medieval earthwork remains. As such it contributes to the special historic interest of the garden, despite it probably being a replacement for an earlier bridge.

4.4.4 Downton Conservation Area was designated on 1 May 1973. The special interest, character and appearance of the Downton Conservation Area is addressed in its Appraisal and Management Plan (Salisbury District Council 2008). The key characteristics of the Conservation Area are presented in **Appendix 3**. The river has had a number of industrial uses, which have dramatically shaped and still define parts of the village and the surviving medieval water meadows are important and form an integral part of the immediate setting of the settlement. The Church of St Lawrence and the Moot are important historic sites and defining elements of the Conservation Area, which have had significant influences on the form of the village and its subsequent evolution and development.

4.4.5 The Moot House and The Moot (scheduled monument and registered park and garden) have been collectively identified as a distinctive character area, outlined in **Appendix 3**.

4.4.6 The bridge does not contribute to any of the key characteristics of the Conservation Area. However, it forms part of and contributes to the special interest of The Moot House and The Moot character area. Although it is an extensively rebuilt 19th century structure, it likely replaced an earlier bridge and so maintains the perambulations through the 18th century parkland that are of significant interest.

5 CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

5.1.1 As the bridge lies within the Scheduled Monument area, an application for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) must be made to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport before any work can be carried out which might affect the monument either above or below ground level.

5.1.2 An option that could be implemented with or without other forms of protection would be to add warning signs at either end of the bridge to make visitors aware of the upcoming hazard.

5.1.3 The 1906 photograph of the bridge indicates there is a precedent for a low parapet (approximately adult-thigh-high) on the bridge. However, the nature and exact height of this earlier parapet is unclear, so it would be difficult to reinstate accurately. The client may wish to consider a low parapet constructed in brick to match the rest of the bridge structure. Also, although there is no evidence of whether or not the earlier parapet was topped with coping stones, they are used elsewhere in the garden i.e. on the steps to the east of the Lime Avenue. There may, however, be a concern that a low parapet might encourage people to walk along it.

5.1.4 This assessment has demonstrated that the bridge not only provides access through the gardens, but is also a vantage point from which to view the landscaped garden and the remains of the medieval earthworks. This suggests that a low barrier, or one that is visually unobtrusive and will not impede views from the bridge would have a lesser heritage impact. For example, the Client may want to consider a wire fence, usually 1.10m high with wires not more than 100mm apart, as described on the Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group (VSCG) website (https://vscg.org/good-practice/published/managing-risk-from-drops).

5.1.5 Another possibility that could be explored is to use the trees at either end of the bridge as anchor points, rather than fix the barrier directly to the bridge.

5.1.6 These 'light touch' solutions also have the potential advantage that they would mark the edge of the bridge relatively unobtrusively, but would not encourage people to climb over or around them, which could potentially lead to falls.

6 POTENTIAL HERITAGE IMPACTS

6.1.1 The option that will have the least heritage impact would be to make no change to the bridge but add hazard warning signs on the approaches to it.

6.1.2 There is a precedent for the construction of a low parapet wall, which is likely to have a low neutral to slightly positive impact on the scheduled monument, registered park and garden and conservation area, dependant on final design and materials.

6.1.3 Construction of a taller, but visually unobtrusive/permeable barrier such as a wire fence will probably have a low neutral impact on the designated heritage assets because it is likely to be indistinguishable in views of the bridge from either side and will not materially obstruct views from the bridge.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1.1 The bridge is a plain 19th century structure that was subject to extensive repair/reconstruction in the 1980s and probably replaced an earlier 18th century bridge of unknown design. It holds little heritage interest or significance on its own.

7.1.2 It contributes to the special interest of the related scheduled monument, registered park and garden and Downton Conservation Area as a 19th century structure within the 18th century landscaped garden. It likely replaced an earlier bridge and so maintains the perambulations and vantage points that were established in the 18th century.

7.1.3 There is photographic evidence that suggests the bridge previously had a low parapet, approximately adult-thigh-high. However, the nature of the lost parapet is unknown.

7.1.4 In order to minimise the potential heritage impact of installing a barrier on the bridge, the barrier should not interfere with access across or under the bridge, and should not materially

obstruct views from the bridge. A barrier that meets these requirements is more likely to have a low neutral or slightly positive heritage impact on its associated heritage assets, dependent on final design and materials. The client may wish to consider the feasibility of a low brick-built parapet or wire fence as possible options. The latter has the potential advantage that it would mark the edge of the bridge relatively unobtrusively, but would not encourage people to climb over or around them, which could potentially lead to falls.

7.1.5 Whether the decision is made to install protections on the bridge or not, it may be appropriate to consider adding hazard warning signs on the approaches.

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Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DDCMS) 2018 *Principles of Selection for Listing Buildings*

DCMS October 2013 *Scheduled Monuments & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments*.

Historic England 2015 *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2*

Historic England 2017 *The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition)*

Historic England 2018 *Rural Landscapes: Register of Parks and Gardens Selection Guide*

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) updated 19 June 2019 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Symes, M 2000 *A Glossary of Garden History.* Shire Garden History series no. 6

Historic Environment Records

Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (WHER) (as consulted on the Know Your Place - Wiltshire website 12/03/2020)

Wiltshire and Swindon Archives resources

The Crowe Collection: Downton photographs and ephemera c.1805-2003 WSA ref. 3476/1/127 B/W

Land Use Consultants 1988 *Downton Plan Management Survey*. WSA ref. DOW.719

Squarey, E P 1906 (compiled by) "The Moot" and its traditions. Salisbury: Bennett Brothers. WSA ref. DOW.930

Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset photographs of Mr W Lane of Christchurch: 'Bridge in the Moot, Downton' dated 26 July 1906. WSA ref. 3497/1/89 B/W

Online resources

The Downton Moot website

http://downtonmoot.co.uk/moot-history/

http://downtonmoot.co.uk/project/public-consultation-concerning-matters-relating-to-the-moot/

National Heritage List for England http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/

Wiltshire Record Society: Andrews' and Dury's Map of Wiltshire, 1773: A Reduced Facsimile, ed. Elizabeth Crittall (1952) http://www.wiltshirerecordsociety.org.uk/publications/1773-map-of-wiltshire/

Know Your Place - Wiltshire. Search: Downton. Basemaps selected: 1840s Wiltshire Tithes, OS 25" 1st, 2nd and 3rd editions http://maps.bristol.gov.uk/kyp/?edition=wilts

Planning Practice Guidance: Historic environment https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment

Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group (VSCG): Managing Risks from Drops https://vscg.org/good-practice/published/managing-risk-from-drops

All websites accessed on 06-13/03/2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Terminology

Glossary

The terminology used in this assessment follows definitions contained within Annex 2 of NPPF:

Archaeological interest	There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
Conservation (for heritage policy)	The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance.
Designated heritage asset	A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.
Heritage asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
Historic environment	All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.
Historic environment record	Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use.
Setting of a heritage asset	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
Significance (for heritage policy)	The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance.

Other definitions have been taken from Planning Practice Guidance:

Architectural and artistic interest	These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skill, like sculpture. Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 18a-006-20190723; Revision date: 23 07 2019
Historic interest	An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history, but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity. Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 18a-006-20190723; Revision date: 23 07 2019
Non-Designated heritage asset	Non-designated heritage assets are buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets. A substantial majority of buildings have little or no heritage significance and thus do not constitute heritage assets. Only a minority have enough heritage significance to merit identification as non-designated heritage assets. Paragraph: 039 Reference ID: 18a-039-20190723; Revision date: 23 07 2019

Chronology

Where referred to in the text, the main archaeological periods are broadly defined by the following date ranges:

Prehistoric		**Historic**	
Palaeolithic	970,000–9500 BC	**Romano-British**	AD 43–410
Early Post-glacial	9500–8500 BC	**Saxon**	AD 410–1066
Mesolithic	8500–4000 BC	**Medieval**	AD 1066–1500
Neolithic	4000–2400 BC	**Post-medieval**	AD 1500–1800
Bronze Age	2400–700 BC	**19th century**	AD 1800–1899
Iron Age	700 BC–AD 43	**Modern**	1900–present day

Bridges

Bridge-related architectural terms that may be unfamiliar to the reader are provided below. The definitions are based on those in the Oxford Dictionary of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (Curl 2006).

Term	**Meaning**
Abutment	Solid structure from which an arch springs, and which resists the outward thrust
Arch	Construction made of truncated wedge-shaped blocks (voussoir) that by mutual pressure stay in place, set out in a curved form to span an opening and carry a superimposed load
Barrel	A form like a half-cylinder or extruded semi-circular arch with a smooth underside
Coping	Top course (capping) of masonry, brick etc. formed of coping-stones to throw off water; usually sloping.
Crown	Highest point of the intrados
Cut-water	Sharply pointed bridge pier to reduce the pressure on it when a river is in flood
Deck	The surface of a bridge
Extrados	Upper curve of each voussoir
Intrados	Lower curve of each voussoir, i.e. coinciding with the soffit (underside) of the arch
Keystone	Central large wedge-shaped voussoir in an arch
Parapet	Low wall or barrier at the edge of a balcony, bridge, roof, terrace or any place there is a drop and danger of falling
Pattress Plates	An anchor plate or wall washer connected to a tie rod or bolt. Anchor plates are used on exterior walls of masonry buildings, for structural reinforcement. In UK Pattress plates is the term for circular restraints
Pier	A detached mass of construction generally acting as support such as the element from which arches spring in a bridge
Refuge	Place intended for protection or shelter
Rib	Moulding on a flat or vaulted ceiling (hence ribbed arch)
Spandrel	Quasi-triangular plane framed by the extrados of an arch, a horizontal line projected from the crown and a vertical line rising from the springing
Spandrel wall	Wall built over an arch forming the spandrel
Springing	Point at which an arch unites with its support
Vault	An arch, the depth of which exceeds the span
Voussoir	Block in the shape of a wedge (with two long sides converging) that forms part of the structure of an arch or vault; usually masonry, brick or terracotta

Appendix 2: Extracts from Designated Heritage Asset NHLE list entries

The Moot: a ringwork and bailey, earlier Roman settlement remains and later garden earthworks immediately east of the River Avon

Overview
Heritage Category: Scheduled Monument
List Entry Number: 1011452
Date first listed: 30-Jan-1952
Date of most recent amendment: 20-Jun-1994

Location
District: Wiltshire (Unitary Authority)
Parish: Downton
National Grid Reference: SU 18055 21318

Reasons for Designation
Ringworks are medieval fortifications built and occupied from the late Anglo-Saxon period to the later 12th century. They comprised a small defended area containing buildings which was surrounded or partly surrounded by a substantial ditch and a bank surmounted by a timber palisade or, rarely, a stone wall. Occasionally a more lightly defended embanked enclosure, the bailey, adjoined the ringwork. Ringworks acted as strongholds for military operations and in some cases as defended aristocratic or manorial settlements. They are rare nationally with only 200 recorded examples and less than 60 with baileys. As such, and as one of a limited number and very restricted range of Anglo-Saxon and Norman fortifications, ringworks are of particular significance to our understanding of the period.

Despite the alterations in the 18th century, most of the archaeological remains of the ringwork and its associated enclosure survive and its history is well documented. The combination of a ringwork with a bailey is unusual and this example is one of the largest in the country. The earthwork remains of the formal garden, with its unusual earthwork theatre, also survive well. Evidence also survives for Roman occupation, particularly in the area south of the ringwork where structural remains in the form of buildings, tracks and ditches survive. Several Roman settlements are recorded from this area of the Avon valley, including villas and farmsteads. The site has significance as an integral part of the settlement record emerging for this area.

Details
The monument includes The Moot, a ringwork and bailey, later reused as a formal garden with an earthwork theatre, and an area of Roman remains under and to the south of it. The site is located on level ground on the east bank of the River Avon and at the foot of a west-facing slope. The ringwork and bailey survive as earthworks although these were modified in the 18th century to establish a formal garden and associated earthwork theatre. The ringwork is at the centre of the monument and is defined by earthworks surviving to between 5m and 6m above the medieval ground surface. Two entrances, to the north east and to the west, divide the earthworks into two separate sections. The interior area is 20m across. Beyond the ringwork, to the east and north, is the bailey, an enclosed area which contained associated ancillary buildings and settlement. The north side of the bailey has been partly levelled and built over although below ground remains will survive. To the east and north east the bailey is visible as a level area c.80m north to south by c.40m east to west, defined by a bank and ditch. The bank has been altered, presumably at the time the garden was established, but survives to 2m high. The accompanying ditch is c.5.5m deep on the south east side. To the north east the ditch has been largely infilled; a small-scale excavation in 1990 suggested that this occurred at the time of the 18th century remodelling. The extent of the survival of archaeological remains on the north west side of the bailey, beneath the houses and gardens south of Tannery House, is uncertain and this area has not been included in

the scheduling. The defensive works still visible at The Moot were probably constructed by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, in 1138. It was put under siege during the civil wars of Stephen and Matilda, and was probably slighted in 1155. It was occupied throughout the medieval period and had royal visits in 1317 and 1344. The last sizeable works were in 1466 and by 1647 the site was in disrepair. The 18th century remodelling of the earthworks has produced a fine example of formal gardens and a terraced earthwork theatre, landscaped as an amenity for Moot House which lies nearby. To the west of the theatre is a large fishpond which may have been constructed as a backdrop to the stage. Also included, at the rear of the theatre and on the southern bank of the ringwork, are the foundations of a building, the Temple of Mercury. Evidence from excavations and geophysical survey has confirmed that the ringwork was constructed on the site of earlier remains. Geophysical survey has indicated that the area south of the ringwork's southern ditch was occupied by earlier buildings, one of which was cut by the construction of the ditch. Other features in this area include a further, smaller, building as well as a track and associated ditches. Some of these align with sections excavated further to the south which were dated to the Roman period. Excavations within the gardens of Tannery House north of the ringwork have produced Roman pottery which may indicate the northern extent of these remains. The houses within the monument are excluded from the scheduling as are the changing rooms on the recreation ground; all fences and boundary walls are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath all these buildings and features is included.

Sources

Books and journals

Sumner, H, The Ancient Earthworks of the New Forest, (1914)

Other

Report for English Heritage, Hinton, D A, Excavation at 'The Moot', July 9th-13th, Report No. 463 (pagintion 12)
Wessex Archaeology, Tannery House, Downton, Wiltshire, Archaeological Evaluation, (1991)

Legal

This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance. This entry is a copy, the original is held by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

This extract was taken on 05-Mar-2020 at 15:19:58.

THE MOOT AND MOOT HOUSE, DOWNTON

Overview
Heritage Category: Park and Garden
Grade: II*
List Entry Number: 1000136
Date first listed: 01-Sep-1987

Location
District: Wiltshire (Unitary Authority)
Parish: Downton
National Grid Reference: SU 18093 21355

Details
A mid to late C18 garden laid out for the Coles family, making use of the earthwork remains of a C12 motte and bailey.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT
In 1138, the Bishop of Winchester, Henry de Blois, built a castle at Downton. A house was built near the site of the castle, on the west bank of the River Avon, c 1600 after ownership of the Downton estate had passed to the Coles family. A new house was built c 1650, called Downton House in 1773 (Andrews and Drury), and later known as Moot House. The building was extensively remodelled in the early to mid C18, and gardens were created c 1720, using the earthwork remains of Bishop Henry's castle situated in the grounds (VCH 1980; LUC 1992).

In 1754 the commentator Pococke described the garden at The Moot in his travelling journal as 'very prettily laid out and improved, being on a large old fortification with a double fosse improved into terraces above and walks below, with buildings on two mounts; the old keeps of the castle, and the river runs at the foot of it' (quoted in LUC 1992). In 1784 the estate passed to the Rev John Shuckburgh, and it subsequently had a series of different owners. From 1873 to 1911, Moot House and its surrounding grounds belonged to the estate agent E P Squarey. Some alterations were made in the garden during the C19, but its main structure and layout remained the same (LUC 1992).

In 1923 Moot House was damaged by fire but was subsequently restored. Moot House and The Moot garden were sold into divided private ownership c 1964. Since 1988, the garden has been owned and managed by a preservation trust and is subject to an ongoing (2002) programme of management and restoration.

DESCRIPTION
LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING The Moot, a site of c 3.6ha, lies in the south part of Downton, a village situated east of the A338 between Salisbury and Bournemouth. To the south the site is bounded by a recreation ground with late C20 housing beyond it. To the east lies housing with farmland beyond, while to the north, beyond a c 2.5m high brick boundary wall, lie the private gardens, houses, and other buildings situated south of Downton High Street. To the west The Moot is bounded by marshland and the River Avon, which runs south from Salisbury. The landform of The Moot is determined by the earthwork remains of the C12 motte and bailey, creating dramatic level changes within the site. From the mounts within the site are fine views of the distant hills to the north-west of the site, including Odstock Down and Cranborne Chase, and of Downton village to the north, with the spire of St Lawrence's Church.

ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES The Moot garden and Moot House are entered off Moot Lane, which runs through the eastern part of the site. The entrance to Moot House lies east off Moot Lane and is marked by an C18 wrought- and cast-iron gate and square brick gate piers with attached brick walls on either side (listed grade II). From the gate, steps lead up to a stone-paved path which leads to the west front of the House. Directly opposite this entrance, on the west side of Moot Lane, lies the entrance to The Moot garden. It has an C18 wrought- and cast-iron gate hung between square brick gate piers (listed grade II). Recently (2002), the attached dwarf walls with wooden baluster railings, as illustrated in Country Life in 1909, have been reinstated and the gate piers have been restored. From the entrance, a broad walk runs west, flanked on either side by a lawn, to a small flight of steps that leads up into the garden. North of the entrance is the site of a former flower walk that was separated from the kitchen garden by a yew hedge (LUC 1992).

At two points along the southern boundary of the site, wooden kissing gates (late C20) give access to The Moot garden from the playing fields and adjacent housing estate.

PRINCIPAL BUILDING Moot House (listed grade I) lies in the north-east part of the site. The two-storey C17 house, with basement and attic, has an attached kitchen and laundry range dating from the early C18. It is built of Flemish bond brick with limestone dressings, and has a tiled hipped roof with brick chimney stacks. Large sash windows on the main, west front offer fine views of The Moot garden. Immediately north of Moot House lie the C18 stables and coach house (listed grade II).

GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS Moot House has a small garden extending to its east and south, which is laid to lawn. This is bounded along its east side by a brick wall with a planted border along its full length. The Moot garden can be divided into various areas, created by using the ditches, ringworks, and mounts of the earthwork remains. The garden is wooded in most parts, with many mature trees, and crossed by numerous paths which follow the lines and levels of the earthwork.

Immediately west of the entrance lies the Sundial Lawn. This is a sunken lawn surrounded to the south and east by grassed banks. To the north-west runs a gravel walk along the herbaceous border (replanted late C20) which follows the line of the north-west boundary wall. A sundial surrounded by clipped yews (CL 1909) formerly stood on the mount in the centre of the lawn. On the bank west of the lawn is the recently restored (2003) Giant's Chair, a mature topiary yew feature.

In the south corner of the Sundial Lawn, steps lead up to the Upper Terrace Walk, laid out on a bank that curves along the south-east boundary of the site, surrounding the Bailey, a semicircular area laid to lawn and planted with mature specimen trees. Planting along either side of the Upper Terrace Walk includes various mature trees. The Lime Avenue, of which only four pollarded mature lime trees now (2002) remain, runs west from the Bailey for c 75m. The Avenue runs over a brickwork bridge (dated 1815) which crosses the inner ringwork ditch to the west of the Bailey, linking the latter with the two mounts situated in the centre of the site, and the ringwork hollow beyond it. On the summit of the southern mount, called Temple Hill, are the footings of the C18 Temple of Mercury, including remains of a pebble and knuckle-bone floor. The hexagonal Temple, with Roman Doric columns and a domed roof, collapsed in the 1980s after a long period of decay. From the site of the Temple there is a fine view of an amphitheatre and a pond, extending 120m to the west. The amphitheatre has six rows of seats cut into the grassed slope which descends to the trilobate pond beyond it. At the west end of the pond stand the remains of a curved loggia, dated 1897, probably replacing a mid C18 gothic seat (LUC 1992). The now (2002) ruinous loggia has recently (2002) been covered by a protective screen depicting a loggia. A photograph in Country Life (1909) shows the loggia as built in a Classical style, with a tiled roof and in front a balustrade with central steps leading to the pond. To the south-west and north-east of the pond lie areas of marshland along the River Avon. To the north of Temple Hill lies another mount, called Mount Bevis, just north of the centre of the site. From the summit are extensive and fine views to Downton village and St Lawrence's Church to the north, and the hills in the distance to the north-west.

In the south-east corner of the site is the site of a former orchard, now (2002) in use as a car park.

KITCHEN GARDEN The site of the former walled kitchen garden lies c 30m to the north-west of Moot House (outside the area here registered). The site is now occupied by a late C20 private dwelling.

REFERENCES

E P Squarey, The Moot and its Traditions (1906) Country Life, 25 (9 January 1909), pp 54-62
G Jekyll, Garden Ornament (1918), p 198
N Pevsner and B Cherry, The Buildings of England: Wiltshire (2nd edn 1975), p 224
M Binney and A Hills, Elysian Gardens (1979), pp 44-5
Victoria History of the County of Wiltshire XI, (1980), p 30

Downton Moot: Report of Historical Survey, (Land Use Consultants 1988)
Downton Moot: Landscape Management Plan, (Land Use Consultants 1992)

Maps
Andrews and Drury, Map of Wiltshire, 1773
OS 6" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1872
OS 25" to 1 mile: 1st edition published 1876 2nd edition published 1901

Description written: August 2002
Amended: September 2002; February 2005
Register Inspector: FDM
Edited: April 2005

Legal
This garden or other land is registered under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 within the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens by Historic England for its special historic interest.

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Appendix 3: Extracts from the Downton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (Salisbury District Council 2008)

The key characteristics of the Downton Conservation Area are:
- Its distinctive settlement layout and the contrast between the village core and The Borough.
- The survival of the important former industrial core to the village centred around the river.
- The setting of the valley floor comprising flood plain and former water meadow systems.
- Distant glimpses of buildings in a mature treed landscape.
- The importance of roofscape in local views particularly from The Moot.
- Continuous building lines providing good enclosure, defining roads and spaces complimented by the use of brick and flint boundary walls.
- The valuable survival of a significant number of thatched buildings individually and in groups.
- The use of traditional high quality, eighteenth century brickwork, often to re-front earlier timber framed buildings.
- Deep, narrow, open plots often backing onto open countryside

(page 2)

Character areas:
7. The Moot House and The Moot (Scheduled Monument & Registered Park and Garden Grade II*)
- Former defences of substantial earthwork castle and setting to The Moot House. Its elevated position in part provides important views over the village.
- The Moot House is on a grand, classical scale, but the massing and architectural handling of composition create a compact and very attractive house…
- Moot Farm is a very attractive group of farm buildings (diminished by the poor barn conversion and is visually linked to the village by a series of high quality boundary walls in brick and knapped flints with brick bands.
- Brick (with vitrified headers), flint and red clay tile, limestone quoins and door surrounds (The Moot House)
- Good panoramic views across the roofs of the village (The Tannery is particularly prominent) and enclosed local views along Moot Lane assisted by the boundary walls… An eighteenth

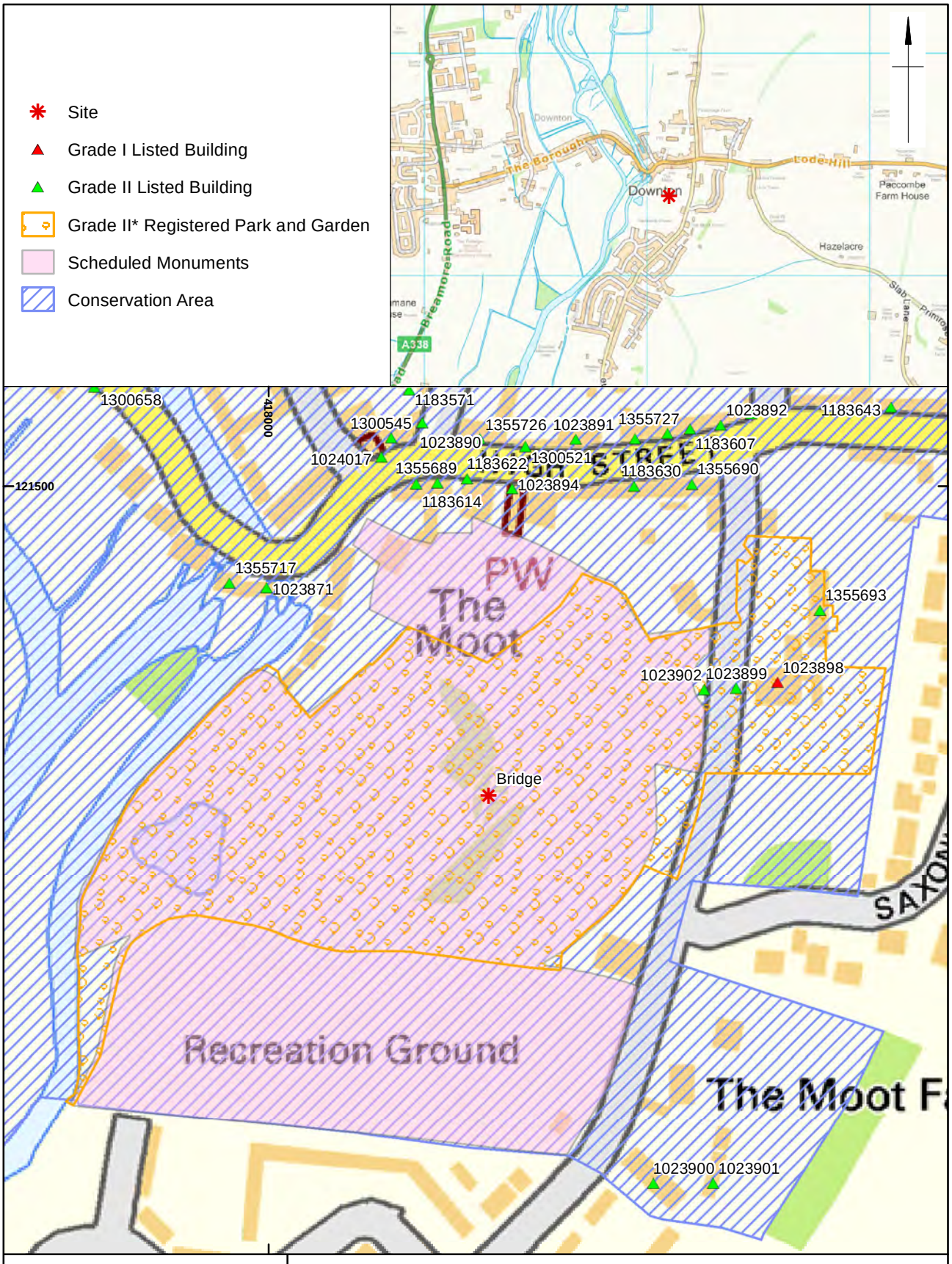
century planned vista looking back from The Moot to The Moot House providing an excellent setting.

- Boundary walls are particularly important in this sub area. The balustrades forming the railed entrance screens to The Moot gardens are striking and unusual in design and materials. Remains of follies and perambulations of the eighteenth century parkland are of significant interest.

(pages 11-12)

Appendix 4: Photograph - Bridge in the Moot, Downton by W. Lake dated 26 July 1906

Reproduced courtesy of Wiltshire and Swindon Archives. WSA ref. 3497/1/89 B/W



Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

0 100 m

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Site location and designated heritage assets

Figure 1

Plate 1: Moot House viewed from within Downton Moot

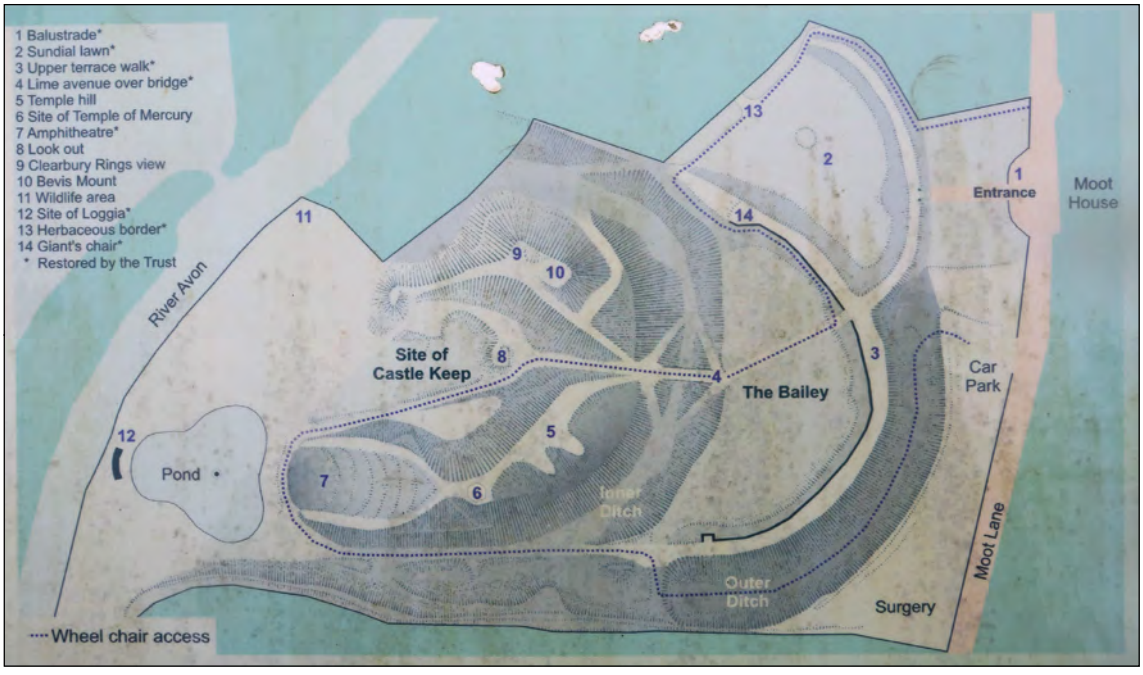

Plate 2: Layout of Downton Moot

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Plate 3: View of the amphitheatre, pond and site of the loggia from the top of Moot Hill (the site of the Temple of Mercury)

Plate 4: View across the bridge looking west

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Plate 5: View of the bridge from the south-west

Plate 6: View of the bridge from the north

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Plate 7: View from the bridge looking north

Plate 8: View from the bridge looking south

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