Data Protection: Please note that this information may be open to public examination



App. Ref.	No	Form A1

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

<u>APPLICATION FOR DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER</u>

DEFINITIVE MAP OF RIGHTS OF WAY FOR SHROPSHIRE

To: The Outdoor Recreation Manager
Outdoor Recreation
Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND
I/We Wendy Bannerman (Name of Applicant)
British Horse Society, Abbey Park, Stareton, Kenilworth Of(Address of Applicant
Warwickshire CV8 2XZ

hereby apply for an Order under Section 53 (2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 modifying the definitive map and statement for the area by **adding** the following right of way

Parish
Status: Byway Open to All Traffic/Restricted Byway/Bridleway/Footpath*
* delete as appropriate
From ^{SJ55502800}
ToSJ55572792 (Location of right of way)
as shown on the map accompanying this application.
(A map must be supplied with a scale of at least of 1:25,000)
I/We attach the following documentary evidence including evidence of use statements, in support of this application:
Greenwood's map 1827; Tithe 55 Radnorshire 047 Presteigne 1843; OS 25 inch XXII.1 1881
OS 6 inch XXII.NW 1884; OS 1 inch sheet 138 Wem 1899; IR 132/4/223; OS 1:25000 32/52 1950;
Inspire map 2018 accessed 2020
Dated ²⁰ May
Signed

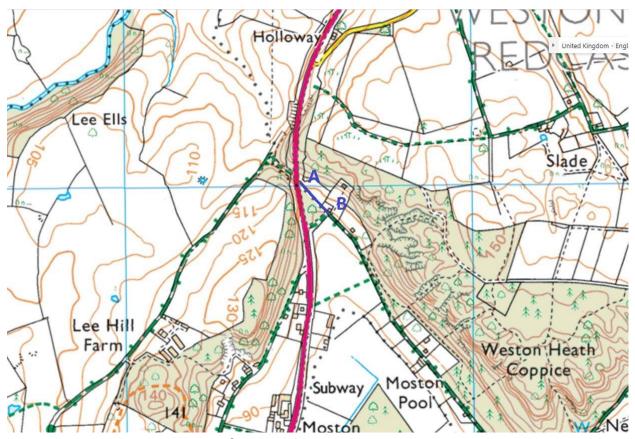
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Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Summary of Evidence

Definitive Map Modification Order Application

For a route in the Parish of Moreton Corbett to be shown as a Bridleway marked on the map below by the dark blue A-B



Extract from Ordnance Survey 1:25000 Applicant's Reference: SHR-0103

20 May 2020

Quick reference path facts to assist the Surveying Authority in its investigation

Grid references of ends of route (approximate)

SJ55502800 to SJ55572792

- 1. My name is Wendy Bannerman. I am the applicant for the order, for and on behalf of the British Horse Society (BHS). I am employed by the BHS as an Access Field Officer for the East and West Midlands with a key objective to support and progress Project 2026 in the region.
- 2. This application is made because, on the cut off day, 1st January 2026, the effect of s.53(1) and (2) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 on a public path that existed prior to 1949, still exists on the cut-off date, and hasn't been a highway of a different description in between, and is not shown in the definitive map and statement at all is to extinguish all rights on that route. (This applies if the route is determined to be a footpath or bridleway.)
- 3. I believe this application will pass the planned Preliminary Assessment Test required by para 2 Sch 13A Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, when introduced, because:
 - a. This application statement includes explanations as to how the evidence applies to the application route, and
 - b. The application contains one or more of the following forms of supporting evidence:
 - (1) Legal document(s) relating specifically to the right of way that is the subject of the application (such as Railway Act, Inclosure Act and Award, Finance Act, Court Order or Main Roads Order evidence).
 - (2) Evidence of reputation in legal document(s), even though not written specifically about the right of way that is the subject of the application (such as Tithe Awards and Maps).
 - (3) Documentary evidence of expenditure that would be unlawful unless the way was a public highway, for example Highway Board records.
 - (4) Documentary evidence of reputation, for example an Ordnance Survey map, coupled with public scrutiny, or evidence of highway status in a landowner produced document.
 - (5) Maps and other documents which, over a period of time, and taken together, provide evidence of reputation that the order route is part of the public road network.

THE APPLICATION ROUTE

- 4. The application route is unrecorded on the Definitive Map and Statement and is shown approximately on the plan above:
 - a. Point A at OSGR SJ55502800, from the A49 linking with the route currently recorded as a Footpath 0232/UN1/1 (subject to a claim SH-125-002 our ref SHR-0062)
 - b. Point B, at OSGR SJ55572792, where the route links to Restricted byway 0232/4/1
- 5. The application route is not recorded on the Council's online interactive map
- 6. Photographs 1 to 4 are from Google.



Photograph 1 is a Google Aerial View with the route indicated with a red line. The route is approximate due to being obscured by the trees.



Photograph 2 is a street view heading north on A49 with existing footpath to left of the picture and claimed route to the right where the darker trees are seen.



Photograph 3 is looking from the A49 NW towards the existing footpath 0232/UN1/1



Photograph 4 is looking from the A49 SE towards the claimed route

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF HIGHWAY STATUS

7. In order to be able to modify the definitive map and statement, the Surveying Authority needs to have a discovery of evidence which shows, on the balance of probabilities, that highway rights exist. The use of the 'balance of probabilities' test rather than 'beyond

reasonable doubt' was confirmed by the High Court in *Todd, Bradley v SOS for EFRA* [2004] 4 All ER 497.

8. The courts have given guidance on how evidence of highway status is to be considered. In *Fortune and Others v Wiltshire Council and Another* [2012] EWCA Civ 334, Lewison LJ said, at paragraph 22,

'In the nature of things where an inquiry goes back over many years (or, in the case of disputed highways, centuries) direct evidence will often be impossible to find. The fact finding tribunal must draw inferences from circumstantial evidence. The nature of the evidence that the fact finding tribunal may consider in deciding whether or not to draw an inference is almost limitless. As Pollock CB famously directed the jury in R v Exall (1866) 4 F & F 922:

"It has been said that circumstantial evidence is to be considered as a chain, and each piece of evidence as a link in the chain, but that is not so, for then, if any one link broke, the chain would fall. It is more like the case of a rope composed of several cords. One strand of the cord might be insufficient to sustain the weight, but three stranded together may be quite of sufficient strength.""

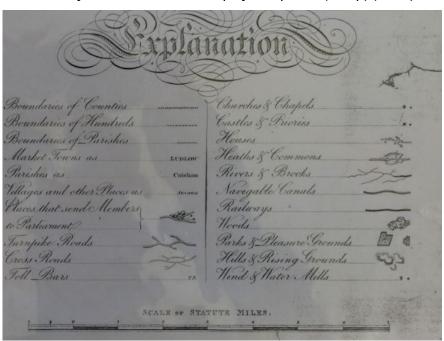
9. While no single piece of evidence is conclusive, the applicant believes that taken as a whole the pieces of evidence demonstrate highway reputation over many years, indicating that the route does indeed have highway status, and that prior to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, there were full vehicular rights.

10. Greenwood's Map of Shropshire

- a. <u>Date</u> This map was published in 1827.
- b. <u>Relevance</u> This was made for sale to the public, and so it is unlikely to show routes that the public could not use. It has a key in which different types of route are distinguished. This enables us to draw conclusions from how routes are shown.
- c. Archive An original is held at the local archives office.
- d. <u>Meaning</u> The route is shown in the same way as the routes in the key of 'Cross Roads'. It is indistinguishable from the routes to the north and south which are now recorded as a public road (A49) and restricted byway respectively.
- e. <u>Assessment</u> The depiction as a road is evidence supporting the proposition that the application route was considered to have vehicular rights in 1827.



Extract from Greenwood's map of Shropshire (Salop) (1827)



Key to Greenwood's map

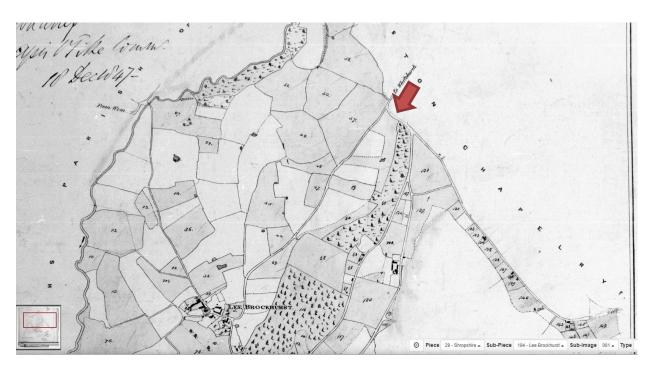
11. Tithe map and apportionment

a. <u>Date The map was produced in 1843 (55 Radnorshire 047 Presteigne)</u>

b. Relevance

(1) The Tithe Commutation Act 1836 enabled tithes (literally a tenth of the produce of the land) to be converted to a monetary payment system. Maps were drawn up to show the titheable land in order to assess the amount of money to be paid. The Act was amended in 1837 to allow maps produced to be either first class or second class.

- (2) First class maps are legal evidence of all matters which they portray and were signed and sealed by the Commissioners (s.2 Tithes Act 1847). They had to be at a scale of at least 3 chains to the inch. Second class maps, signed but not sealed, were evidence only of those facts of direct relevance to tithe commutation, and are often at 6 chains to the inch. There was a proposed convention of signs and symbols to be used, which included Bridle Roads and Footpaths, but this was not strictly adhered to. (3) The Tithe process received a high level of publicity as landowners would be particularly keen not to be assessed for more tithe payment than necessary. Nontitheable land deemed to be unproductive was usually excluded from the process. It is common therefore for no tithe to be payable on road, although wide grass drovers' routes could carry a tithe as they were used as pasture. It was in the interest of landowners for untithed roads to be shown correctly to minimise their payments. Footpaths and bridleways were more likely to be at least partially productive (for example as pasture). Therefore, although the process was not directly concerned with rights of way, inferences can be drawn from the tithe documents regarding the existence of public rights, and, in particular, public vehicular rights. In some cases highways are coloured sienna or light brown which typically indicates public status.
- c. <u>Archive and Reference</u> The tithe map has been accessed via the Genealogist website: <a href="https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/search/master/?type=person&source=&search_type=person&master_event=Tithe+%26+Landowner&person_event=&fn=&phonetic_mode_fn=1&sn=&phonetic_mode_sn=1&kw=lee+b_rockhurst&yr=&range=10&person_event=Tithe+Apportionments#loadwindow_1411935478 Piece 29 Shropshire Sub-piece 194 Lee Brockhurst (1847)



Extract from Tithe map Piece 55 Radnorshire Sub-piece 047 Presteigne (1843)

Samuel Sang Having Samuel Hearley -	7 0 6	Collages & gardens Yard at back Building Jola and	Grass		111	30			6	A
	03 00 12 13	Shaellyand Sirth Underhill Big Underhill Green reams Meadow—— Green reams	Anable Anable Meaclow Anable part grafs Anable	2 4 2 11 4	2 111	7 1 15 18 21	3	176 15 197	6	A A A A
	105	Listle Bridge Meadow with Float 1. 11 - Listle Bridge Jella Tearn Meadow Moston Coppies Small Tlough	Arable Aracdow Copyrice Wood	2 2 3	2 3	37 3 27	,	10 3	6.	A Bussa.
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Extracts from Tithe apportionment transcripts – highway is excluded from the hereditaments see 59

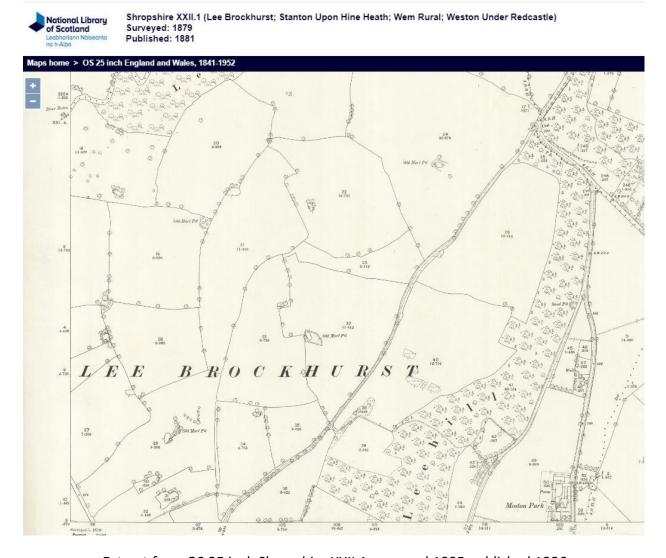
- d. <u>Meaning</u> The map shows the application route for the whole of its length. The route is shown as solid parallel lines. The road is excluded from the hereditaments on the apportionment transcripts. There is no solid boundary at either end of the route.
- e. <u>Assessment</u> This provides useful information from which inferences may be drawn. The majority of the application route is shown in the same way on the map as other public roads in the area including the current A49. No tithe was assessed on the route. This strongly suggests that the application route was a public highway at the time of assessment.

12. Ordnance Survey County Series 25 inch Maps.

- a. <u>Date</u>. The First Editions of OS sheet Shropshire XXII.1 was surveyed in 1879 and published in 1881.
- b. <u>Relevance</u>. The OS County Series 25 Inch mapping was predominantly used for professional purposes rather than for navigation. They are detailed enough to show gates / barriers on roads, tracks and paths. Parcels of land are numbered and areas shown either under the parcel number or in separate "Area Books" (on some First Edition sheets). Second edition and later maps generally carry the disclaimer "The representation on this map of a Road, Track or (Foot)path is no evidence of the existence of a right of way". However, scrutiny of some of the detail contained along with contemporary published guidance allows some inferences as to status of routes to be drawn.
- c. <u>Archive</u>. The extracts from these sheets below were obtained from the National Library of Scotland at https://maps.nls.uk/view/121149098
- d. Meaning. The route is shown as a track presented with 2 dashed lines. It connects with

the roads to the south and north presented with 2 parallel solid lines.

e. <u>Assessment</u>. The location of the route linking the highways north and south, provides a strong inference that it was also considered to be part of that highway network. The showing of the route on the map is evidence of reputation and appearance at the time the documents were compiled.

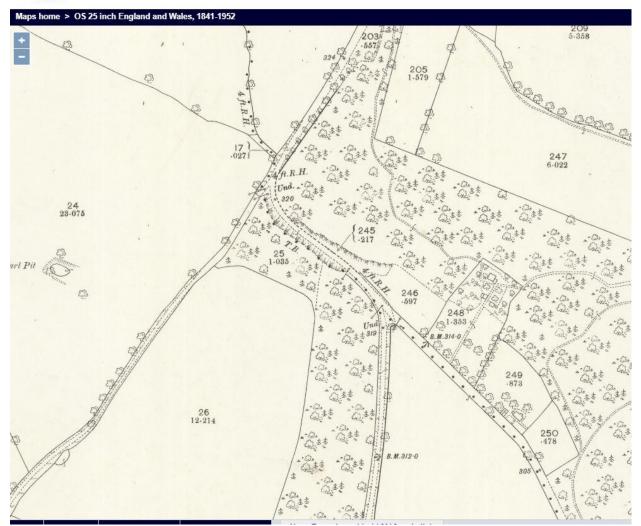


Extract from OS 25 inch Shropshire XXII.1 surveyed 1885 published 1886



Published: 1881

Shropshire XXII.1 (Lee Brockhurst; Stanton Upon Hine Heath; Wem Rural; Weston Under Redcastle) Surveyed: 1879



Extract from OS 25 inch Herefordshire X.11 surveyed 1879 published 1881 close up of claimed route

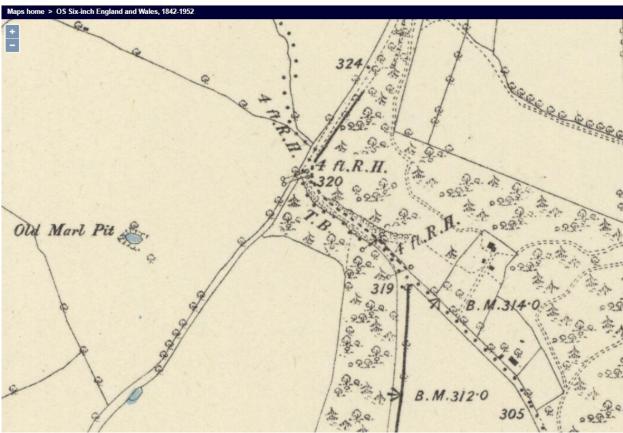
13. Ordnance Survey 6 inch Maps.

- a. <u>Date</u>. OS sheet Shropshire XXII.NW was surveyed in 1880 and published in 1884.
- b. <u>Relevance</u>. The 6" maps were based on and derived from the 25" series. Consequently, they seldom show any topographical differences from the larger scale.

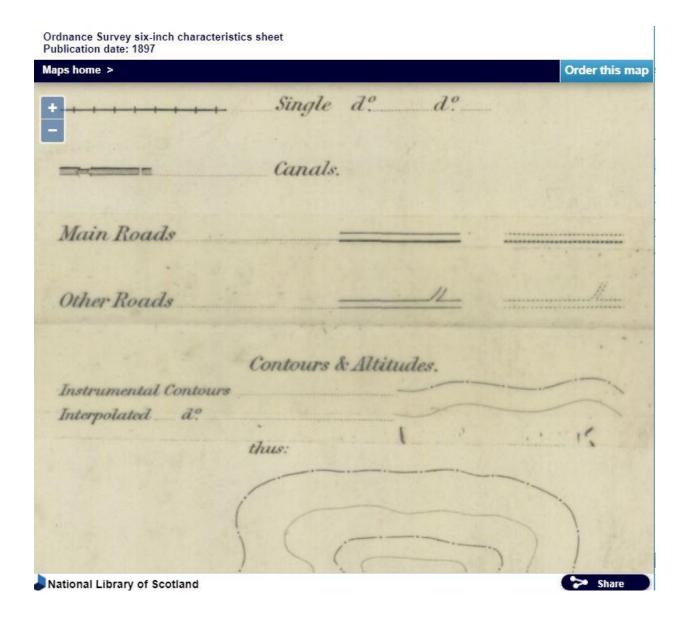
However, useful information can sometimes be derived from the particular conventions used to show detail.

- c. <u>Archive</u>. The extracts from this sheet below were obtained from the National Library of Scotland at https://maps.nls.uk/view/101593939.
- d. <u>Meaning</u>. The Characteristics Sheet for the 6" Maps differentiate between main and other roads through the use of a bold boundary on one side of a main road. The claimed route is shown as "Main Roads" with dashed lines.
- e. <u>Assessment</u>. This series of maps supports the inference drawn from the 25" maps, that the route is part of the road network.





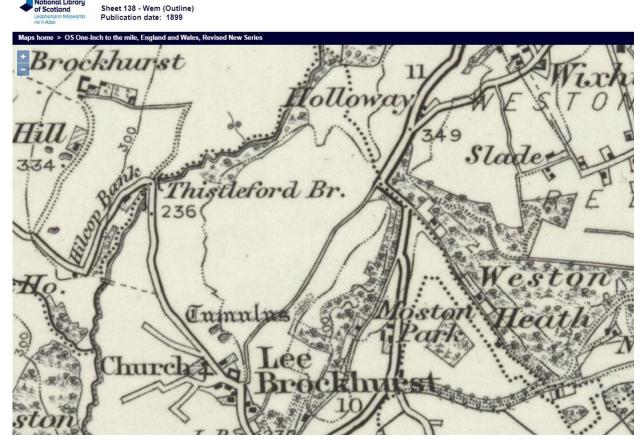
Extract from OS Six-inch Herefordshire X.SE (1886)



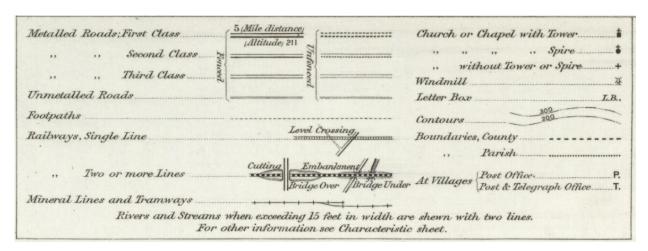
14. Ordnance Survey 1 inch Maps.

- a. Date. OS sheet 138 Wem was published in 1899.
- b. <u>Relevance</u>. These maps were made for sale to the travelling public and thus would only generally show routes of some significance that were available to them. They purported to show physical features that appeared on the ground.

- c. <u>Archive</u>. The extracts from this sheet below were obtained from the National Library of Scotland at https://maps.nls.uk/view/101167829
- d. <u>Meaning</u>. The route is shown as "third class road" and in places an "unfenced third class road".
- e. <u>Assessment</u>. Other through routes shown in a similar manner are now largely part of the ordinary road network and thus this is evidence in support of the route being a public carriageway.



Extract from OS 1" Map showing the application route as a "First class road" with bold, solid parallel lines



Extract from Key to OS 1" Map

15. Inland Revenue Valuation / Finance Act 1910 Maps

- a. <u>Date</u>. The valuation records were produced in the few years after 1910.
- b. Relevance. The Finance (1909–10) Act 1910 caused every property in England and Wales to be valued. The purpose was to charge a tax on any increase in value when the property was later sold or inherited. The valuation involved complicated calculations which are not relevant for highway purposes. However, two features do affect highways: public vehicular roads were usually excluded from adjoining landholdings and shown as 'white roads', and discounts could be requested for land crossed by footpaths or bridleways. This is known because s.35 of the 1910 Act provided,

"No duty under this Part of this Act shall be charged in respect of any land or interest in land held by or on behalf of a rating authority."

It is noted that a highway authority was a rating authority. There was no obligation for a land owner to claim any of the other discounts available (applying for discounts was an entirely voluntary act), but Section 25 authorised the discount for footpaths and bridleways if they were claimed:

"The total value of land means the gross value after deducting the amount by which the gross value would be diminished if the land were sold subject to any fixed charges and to any public rights of way or any public rights of user, and to any right of common and to any easements affecting the land, and ... [other exclusions.]"

All land had to be valued unless it was exempted by the Act. There were harsh penalties for making false declarations, and Section 94 provided:

"If any person for the purpose of obtaining any allowance, reduction, rebate, or repayment in respect of any duty under this Act, either for himself or for any other person, or in any return made with reference to any duty under this Act, knowingly makes any false statement or false representation, he shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months with hard labour."

As it appears to be a highway from other evidence, and no duty was assessed in the Inland Revenue Valuation, and the Inland Revenue were under a duty to collect all taxes applying, and hence value the land unless certain that an exemption applied, it is surely for anyone who argues that a different reason for the non-valuation of this white road to show which other exemption could have applied.

- c. <u>Archive</u>. The extract below is from the records that were passed from the IR Valuation Offices to The National Archives at Kew. The National Archives documents references are IR 132/4/223.
- d. <u>Meaning.</u> The extract below clearly shows the application route as a white road, separated from the adjoining hereditaments by continuous colour-washed boundaries.

e. Assessment.

- (1) As this land is unvalued, this suggests it belonged to a rating authority. As it is not held by a local authority or government department for any other known reason, this suggests it belonged to a highway authority. Had it only been a bridleway, the Inland Revenue would probably have valued the land and allowed a deduction instead, since this would have resulted in a greater tax levy. Had it been held by a rating authority for another purpose there would be some evidence of that holding, yet none has been found.
- (2) The legislation is sufficiently clear that anyone arguing that white road status means something other than the route is a public vehicular highway must show which other exception form valuation the route falls under.
- (3) There records are strong evidence that the claimed route was a public vehicular highway.



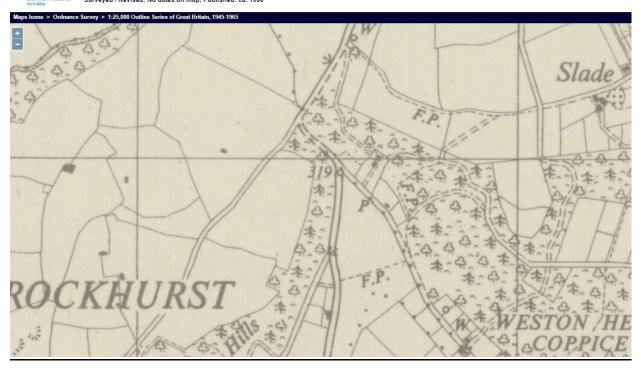
Extract from the Inland Revenue Valuation Map IR 129/3/80

16. OS 1:25000

- a. <u>Date</u> This map 32/52 A was published in 1950.
- b. Relevance This map was made for sale to the travelling to the public.
- c. <u>Archive</u> This map is available via the Library of Scotland site https://maps.nls.uk/view/207349841
- d. <u>Meaning</u> This map shows the application route partially as a 'Poor or unmetalled road' and partly as a 'road under construction'.
- e. <u>Assessment</u> The map shows the application route as part of the highway network. It would appear that the physical condition of the route has deteriorated form the records on earlier maps. The map indicates that the route originally had public vehicular rights.



33/52 - A (includes: Clive; Grinshill; Lee Brockhurst; Moreton Corbet; Shawbury; Stanton upon Hine Heath; Wem Rural; Weston under Redcastle) Surveyed / Revised: No dates on map; Published: ca. 1950



Conventional S	Signs	
Note:- Road fillings and numbers are shown in orange or	n the map. M 4 or A 6(M)	A 123 or A 123(T)
Motorway. Trunk and Main Road (Dual Carriageway) Trunk & Main Road	A 123 or	A 123(T)
Secondary Road =	Fenced B 2	314 Unfenced
Road Under Construction.	======	======
Other Roads =	Good, metalled	Poor, or unmetalled
Footpaths =	FP Fenced	FP Unfenced

Extract of the index for 1:25000 First Series (Provisional Edition)

17. <u>INSPIRE</u>.

- a. <u>Date</u>. This extract from the INSPIRE database was taken on 20 May 2020.
- b. <u>Relevance</u>. The Land Registry INSPIRE Index Polygons Service is a Web Mapping Service which provides map images of HM Land Registry's INSPIRE index polygons. The INSPIRE index polygon dataset contains only freehold registrations, and the polygons indicate the location of registered land.
- c. <u>Archive</u>. The publicly accessible dataset is found at https://data.gov.uk/data/map-preview?e=1.74944&n=60.8433&s=49.9553&url=http%3A%2F%2Finspire.landregistry.gov.uk%2Finspire%2Fows%3FService%3DWMS%26Request%3DGetcapabilities&w=-8.17167 The extract below is taken from a screen shot taken by the Applicant on the date stated above.
- d. Meaning. The application route is shown as separate to the land parcels on the map.
- e. <u>Assessment</u> Vehicular highways of ancient origin are often on unregistered land. Where the adjoining land on each side has been registered, but the ancient vehicular highway has not been claimed as part of either land ownership, this is supportive evidence of the ancient vehicular highway status. In the absence of any other explanation why neither adjoining landowner would lay claim to the land, the applicant draws the conclusion that this supports the view that the application route is a vehicular highway of ancient origin.



Extract from the INSPIRE mapping with approximate line of application route indicated by a red line.

CONCLUSIONS

- 18. This document presents evidence from the last 190 years that consistently indicates that the application route was part of the wider roads network. Whilst no single piece of evidence is conclusive in its own right, taken as whole it paints a compelling picture of the existence of public vehicular rights.
- 19. Employing the well-established legal maxim 'Once a highway always a highway', in the absence of a stopping up order, it follows that vehicular highway rights existed immediately before the operation of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.
- 20. The applicant requests the surveying authority to add the route to the definitive map as a bridleway. It is arguable that the evidence suggests that carriageway rights exist over at least part of the route, however due to the current construction of the law and the proposed extinguishment of unrecorded rights in 2026, the application will be made for bridleway status with acknowledgement that the surveying authority should make an order for Restricted Byway status if they consider that merited.

Date: 20 May 2020

Name: Wendy Bannerman Position: Access Field Officer

Organisation: British Horse Society