

## Appendix 17: Archaeological report and SHER

### 17A: Langport and Frog Lane archaeological report (2003)

Source: SWHT

Reference: M. Richardson, 'An archaeological assessment of Langport and Frog Lane', Somerset Extensive Urban Survey (2003),

[https://www.somersetheritage.org.uk/downloads/eus/Somerset\\_EUS\\_Langport.pdf](https://www.somersetheritage.org.uk/downloads/eus/Somerset_EUS_Langport.pdf),

accessed 8 November 2021

#### Page 3

##### III. A BRIEF HISTORY OF LANGPORT

Langport occupies a very particular landscape setting, covering a small steep hill, just below the confluence of the Yeo and the Parrett at a narrowing of the river valley. With Hurds Hill occupying a similar position on the west bank, the river could be bridged and the crossing protected, making Langport an ideal settlement location. To the north and south of the town the land was marshy, probably providing only summer pasture, until the advent of modern drainage. It has been suggested that the causeway linking the river crossing to the higher ground is of prehistoric date and although there is as yet no direct evidence of this stray finds and earthwork features of prehistoric date make occupation of this area likely. Similarly, although Roman occupation of the town site and use of the causeway and river crossing has not been proven both are likely, particularly as Roman material has been found in the town centre. There is also good evidence of Roman settlement on the west bank of the river at Frog Lane and at Wearne to the north of the town.

#### Page 9

Its neighbour, Frog Lane, though classed as part of Langport for the purposes of the Assessment document, can also be seen as one of six completely new towns set up in the 12th and 13th centuries on greenfield sites, from an existing settlement or borough. All of these new towns were given borough status by their founders - in this case the Bishops of Wells, one of three foundations from Wells - and were subsequently abandoned, or semi-abandoned, with consequently good archaeological preservation.

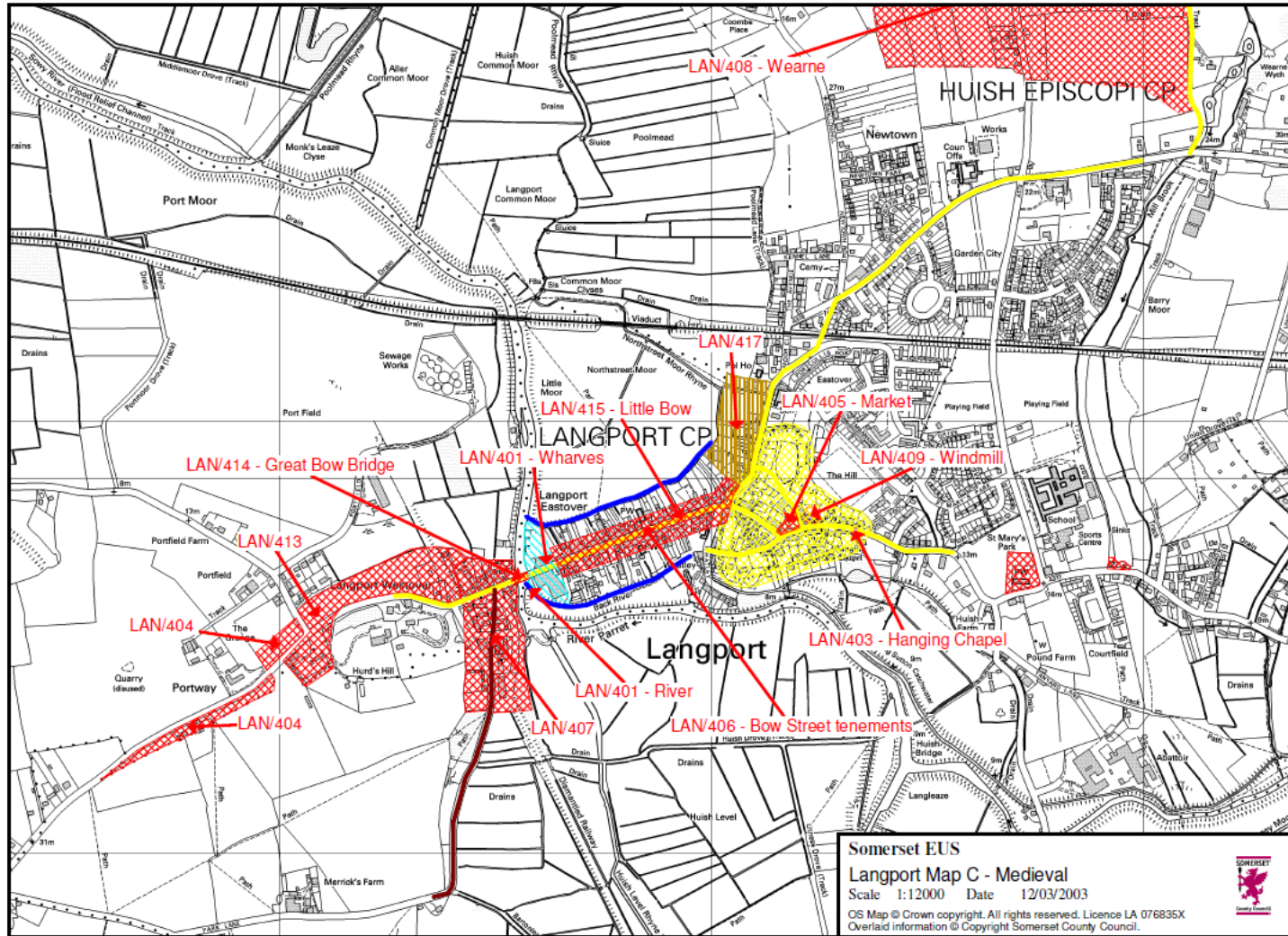
#### Page 11

(a) *Suburbs*  
LAN/407

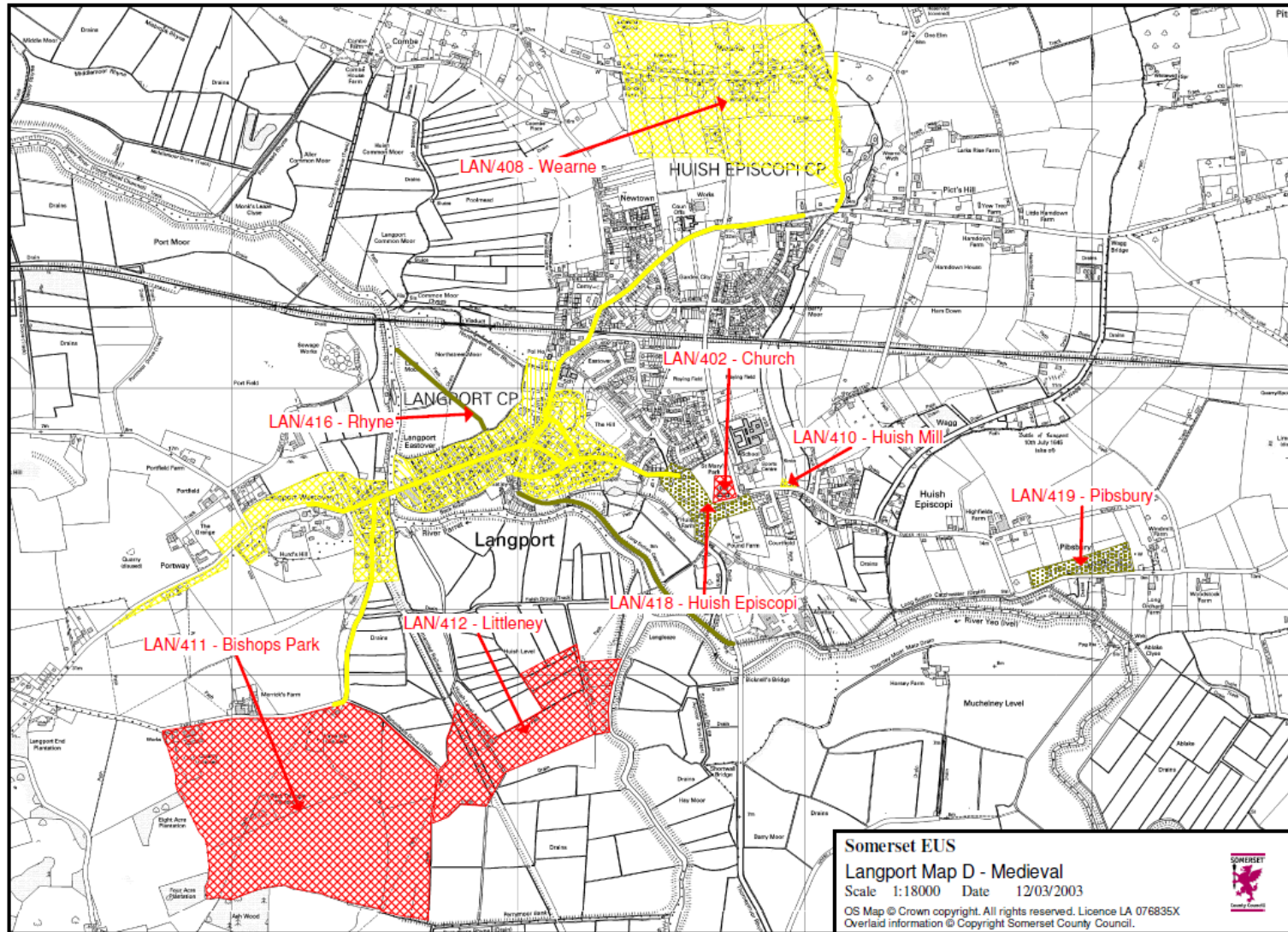
##### Southwick/Frog Lane (SMR 54052)

In the early 14th century a separate suburb was founded on the west bank of the Parrett at the foot of Hurds Hill. A bailiff for Southwick was present by 1351 and by 1358 Southwick was described as a borough with 31 burgesses paying a total rent of 32s 10d. 31 burgesses were still recorded in 1566 but by 1611 rents were being paid for closes of pasture (Dunning 1974:8). The borough's abandonment may have been due, in part, to flooding of at least the eastern side of the settlement.

Map C – Medieval



Map D – Medieval






## 17B: Somerset Historic Environment Record

Source: SWHT (<https://www.somersetheritage.org.uk/#>)

Reference: SMR 54051, SMR 54048, SMR 54050, SMR 54049, SMR 15846

 Somerset Historic Environment Record BaNES  
HER

Home Results Site 54051 Map Info More

### 54051: Littleney deserted village, Huish Level, Huish Episcopi

Old NRHE numbers	193734 (ST 42 NW 36)
Grid Reference	ST 420 257 (342029,125795)
Parish	Huish Episcopi


Details

Littleney, the 'Little Island' which gave its name to the Bishop's estate in the parish at Domesday, provided a limited amount of arable land a few feet above the surrounding marsh. In 1065 Edward the Confessor confirmed to Bishop Giso of Wells the village of Lytelenige. The Domesday survey recorded Giso's holdings only as Littelanea. In 1316 a new close was called Lytilnye. By the C14 much of the marsh had been drained and the settlement was deserted in favour of Huish Episcopi. {1}


"Litniss Drove" marked on OSAD 6" map. {3}

Earthworks forming an embanked trackway and possibly building or enclosure remains at the SE end of Bartonleaze Drove and on the E side of the dismantled railway line. A natural island, defined by flooding in 1947, lies immediately to the NE. {7}

[Find on map](#) [Contact us](#)




References

- 1 - In book: Dunning, RW. 'Huish Episcopi' In Dunning, RW (ed). *Victoria History of the County of Somerset*. 3 (1974) pages 1-13 (specifically 2 and 4)  Available online.
- 2 - Book: Darby, HC and Welldon-Finn, R. *The Domesday Geography of South West England*. (1967), 145.
- 3 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 National Grid Series map sheet: ST42NW (1962)
- 4 - Aerial photograph: 5.54.15. (November 1976) Copy in Historic Environment Service slide collection at Somerset Heritage Centre.
- 5 - Record card: Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record card. Record ID: ST 42 NW 36 (1978) Copy in HER file 54414.
- 6 - In journal article: Anon. 'Deserted settlements' In Aston, M. Somerset Archaeology 1976. *Somerset Archaeology and Natural History* **121** (1977), 107-128 pages 117
- 7 - Verbal communication: McDonnell, RRJ (Richard), Somerset County Council claylands aerial photo survey (1985) (ST4125). No written material.
- 8 - Aerial photograph: HSL UK 71 221 Run 41E 2398. (12/11/1971) Copy in Local Studies collection at Somerset Heritage Centre.
- 9 - Aerial photograph: Cartographical Services Ltd 969 5600. (17/08/1981) Copy in Local Studies collection at Somerset Heritage Centre.
- 10 - Aerial photograph: RAF CPE/UK/1924 3185. (16/01/1947) Copy in Local Studies collection at Somerset Heritage Centre.

Record first compiled on: 1984-11-01, last edited on: 2019-09-06.

The Somerset HER and the Bath and North East Somerset HER are managed for [Somerset County Council](#) and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) by the [South West Heritage Trust](#).

South West Heritage Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6SF. Company number: 09053532. Charity Number: 1158791. VAT Registration Number: 197221592.



## 54048: Deerpark, SW of Huish Episcopi

Old NRHE numbers	193720 (ST 42 NW 30)
Grid Reference	ST 412 255 (341238,125525)
Parishes	Huish Episcopi, Drayton

### Details

Park Lane, Park Triangle Plantation, Park Strip Plantation, Park Five Acre plantation and Park Farm shown on Ordnance Survey map. {1}


Deerpark belonging to the Bishop of Wells originated in a grant of free warren in 1257, confirmed in 1280. Shortly before this confirmation an agreement was made with the Abbot of Muchelney whereby the Bishop who had built a "wall" around his park to divide it from the Abbot's Park in Drayton (53903), should own a strip of land outside the wall, which the Abbot's beasts could nevertheless graze. Pasture in the park was let in the C15 though the area was still evidently fenced and gated. Thickets and thorns from the park, suggesting lack of recent use were sold in 1490-1, when oak and ash trees there were reserved for the lord. Sale of underwood and pasturage continued at least until 1566 but by the mid C17 the park had become the nucleus of the largest farm in the manor. {2}

The Huish Episcopi/Drayton parish boundary between ST 40352590 and ST 41522518, now generally represented by a 2.5m wide, 0.7m high bank with ditch on E and N sides, may possibly represent the course of the pale separating the bishop's and abbot's parks. No other topographic feature suggesting a park pale was located during field investigation. It is notable that the area E of Midelney Place (ST 400253) still retains a park-like character. Current boundaries conjecturally indicate the possible extent of both parks. {3}

Record first compiled on: 1984-11-01, last edited on: 2019-12-23.

[Find on map](#)
[Contact us](#)

### References

- 1 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 National Grid Series map sheet: ST42NW (1962)
- 2 - In book: Dunning, RW. 'Huish Episcopi' In Dunning, RW (ed). *Victoria History of the County of Somerset*. 3 (1974) pages 1-13 (specifically 5-6)  Available online.
- 3 - Data transfer from National Record of the Historic Environment, Historic England (Last recorded update before transfer: 1975) Source record ID: 193720
- 4 - Book: Hembury, PM. *The Bishops of Bath and Wells 1540-1640*. (1967), 24.

The Somerset HER and the Bath and North East Somerset HER are managed for [Somerset County Council](#) and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) by the [South West Heritage Trust](#).

South West Heritage Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6SF. Company number: 09053532. Charity Number: 1158791. VAT Registration Number: 197221592.



## 54050: Lime kilns, E of Merrick's Farm, Huish Episcopi

Grid Reference ST 413 258 (341360,125878)

Parish Huish Episcopi

### Details

'L.K.' shown on 188y Ordnance survey map with quarry to the N. {1}

House to the west called 'The Lime Kiln' on recent map. {2}

Well preserved with substantial stone walls. {3}

Record first compiled on: 1984-11-01, last edited on: 2020-06-25.

[Find on map](#)

[Contact us](#)

### References

- 1 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 First Edition County Series (Somerset) map sheet: 72.7 (1887) Copy in Somerset Heritage Centre and on HER website mapping.
- 2 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 National Grid Series map sheet: seamless digital mapping (2006)
- 3 - Site visit report: Croft, RA (Bob). Somerset County Council (13/1/1987). Location: HER file.
- 4 - Book: Warren, D. *Somerset's Industrial Heritage: A Guide and Gazetteer*. (1996), 35. Somerset Industrial Archaeology Society survey 8.
- 5 - Journal article: Daniel, P & Murless, B. Limekilns and limeburning in Huish Episcopi and Long Sutton. *Somerset Industrial Archaeological Society Bulletin*, 59 (April 1992), 2-12

The Somerset HER and the Bath and North East Somerset HER are managed for [Somerset County Council](#) and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) by the [South West Heritage Trust](#).

South West Heritage Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6SF. Company number: 09053532. Charity Number: 1158791. VAT Registration Number: 197221592.



## 54049: Lime kilns, E of Merricks Farm, Huish Episcopi

Grid Reference ST 412 257 (341295,125765)

Parish Huish Episcopi

### Details

'Limekilns' shown on 1904 Ordnance Survey map but not earlier. Large complex of kilns shown in two areas joined to Park Quarry (15846) by a tramway (15847). {1}

No buildings visible in the field but odd humps and bumps and spread of white material on ploughed field may indicate former location. A possible site for a limekiln was noted immediately adjacent to the site beside the lane on E side but not visited. {2}

Not evident in 1987. {3}

[Find on map](#)
[Contact us](#)


### References

- 1 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Second Edition map County Series (Somerset) sheet: 72.7 (1904) Copy in Somerset Heritage Centre and on HER website mapping.
- 2 - Site visit report: McCrone, P (Peter). Somerset County Council (19/9/1994). Location: HER file.
- 3 - Site visit report: Croft, RA (Bob). Somerset County Council (13/1/1987) Annotation on map copy.. Location: HER file.
- 4 - Journal article: Daniel, P & Murless, B. Limekilns and limeburning in Huish Episcopi and Long Sutton. *Somerset Industrial Archaeological Society Bulletin*, **59** (April 1992), 2-12

Record first compiled on: 1984-11-01, last edited on: 2020-12-29.

The Somerset HER and the Bath and North East Somerset HER are managed for [Somerset County Council](#) and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) by the [South West Heritage Trust](#).

South West Heritage Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6SF. Company number: 09053532. Charity Number: 1158791. VAT Registration Number: 197221592.



15846: Park Quarry, SW of Merrick's Farm, Langport

Grid Reference ST 409 257 (340901,125743)

Parish Huish Episcopi

Details

Quarry shown on 1880s OS map with tramway (15847) leading to limekiln complex to E (54049). {1}

Record first compiled on: 2002-12-18, last edited on: 2016-10-13.

[Find on map](#)

[Contact us](#)

#### References

1 - Map: Ordnance Survey 1:2500 First Edition County Series (Somerset) map sheet: 72.7 (1887) Copy in Somerset Heritage Centre and on HER website mapping.

The Somerset HER and the Bath and North East Somerset HER are managed for [Somerset County Council](#) and [Bath and North East Somerset Council](#) by the [South West Heritage Trust](#).

South West Heritage Trust is a charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England. Registered office: Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6SF. Company number: 09053532. Charity Number: 1158791. VAT Registration Number: 197221592.

