

From: Captain Yerger Johnstone

Representations in Objection

by e mail: section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/2025/0077 - Land West of High Street, Stebbing

1. I am motivated to object to the above Application in the strongest terms, since I consider that it does not protect and respect the important heritage of Stebbing Park, a listed Grade 2* property and its historic setting together with The Mount, a Norman motte castle which is of course a Scheduled Ancient Monument.
2. In fact, I believe that the Application is a real insult to the sensibilities of anyone who, like me, appreciates the history of Stebbing which includes the importance of the historic setting of the fields and river where the development is now proposed.
3. I am a Member of Stebbing Local History Society, an active body in the village which meets quarterly and usually has about 50 members attending.
4. At the 2025 AGM of the Society in February, we received a presentation from our Chairman, Graham Jolliffe who has been researching the manorial records for Stebbing for some years together with a compatriot of mine, Professor Larry Poos of Washington Catholic University, Washington DC. Prof Poos is a leading academic and has published several research pieces concerning the importance of Stebbing in its mediaeval context.
5. The subject of the presentation by Mr Joliffe was the Deer Park at Stebbing Park and I attach (with full acknowledgements to him) a copy of the slide presentations given by him at the AGM.
6. It will be seen from the descriptions given in the slides that the two fields now proposed to be developed were part of the Deer Park, which was first established in the 13 Century. The map prepared by Mr Jolliffe (a 19 Century extract OS Map) also has marked on it the line of the deer park boundaries and * signifies references in the manorial records (in the British Library) to the boundary line of the "pale" ie the deer fence. Three of these marked * actually lie on the northern and southern boundaries of the fields to be developed. They are visible even in part today. The deer park was very extensive as can be seen.
7. There is no doubt that the two fields now proposed to be developed have a very long history attached to Stebbing Park given its aristocratic/manorial importance but for some unexplained reason, none of this important history has been mentioned in the

reports supplied by these developers, let alone any respect given by them to their historic significance.

8. The photograph appearing on the last page of the attachment shows one of the sections of pale and perhaps you can see this when I hope you will visit Stebbing.
9. The fields in question are also shown in a 1795 Survey of Stebbing Park Farm prepared for the Earl of Essex, the estate owner until 1901.
10. The manorial connection can also I notice be seen on the map at the top of the track shown leading to Stebbing Park where the word “pound” is shown – ie the animal pound kept by the lord of the manor to hold stray animals until they are claimed.
11. None of this fascinating history which I believe is entirely relevant has been referred to by the historical expert commissioned by these developers, which I find incredible.

As an American but proud to be a resident of historic Stebbing, respectfully yours

Captain Yerger Johnstone

& Pamela Johnstone

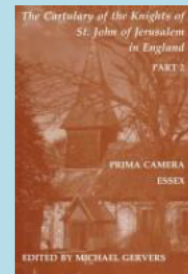
Medieval Deer Park

- Close Rolls, 1237:

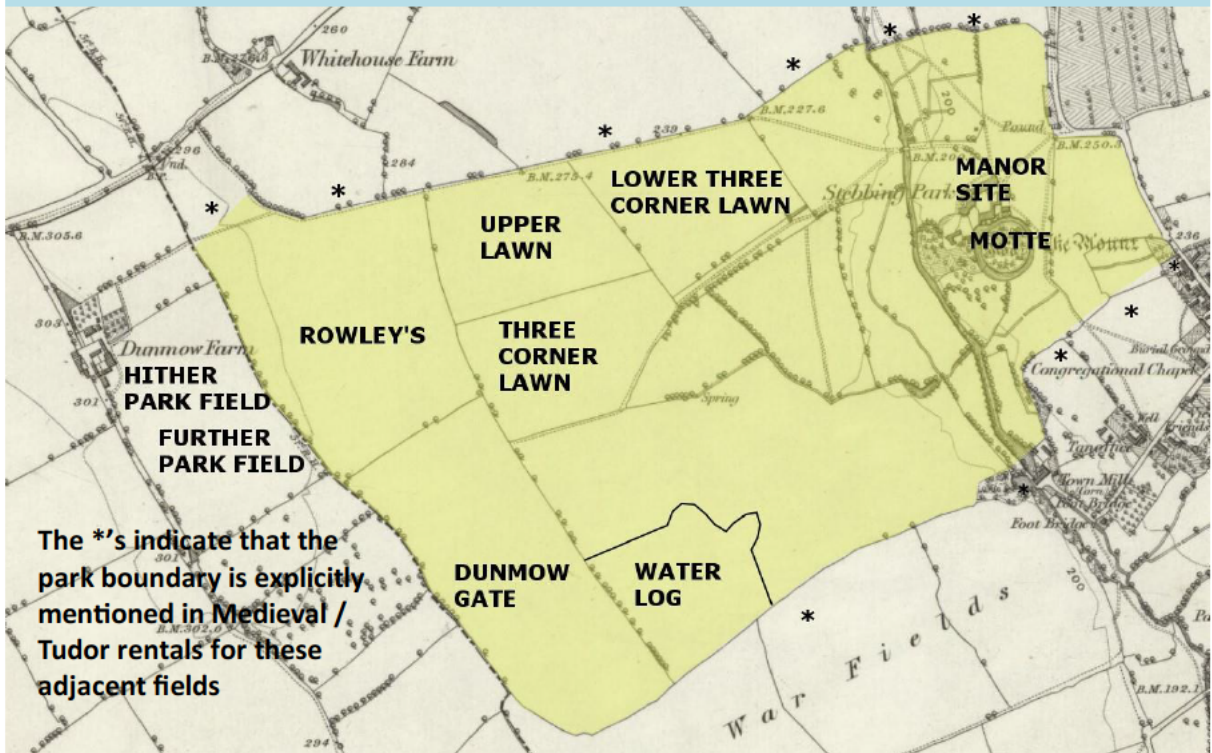
For William de Ferrers. Richard de la Lad is ordered to let William de Ferrers have five oaks in Bardfield park to make a pale to enclose his park at Stebbing. The king being witness as above.

- Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, property records for Warfield, c.1235:

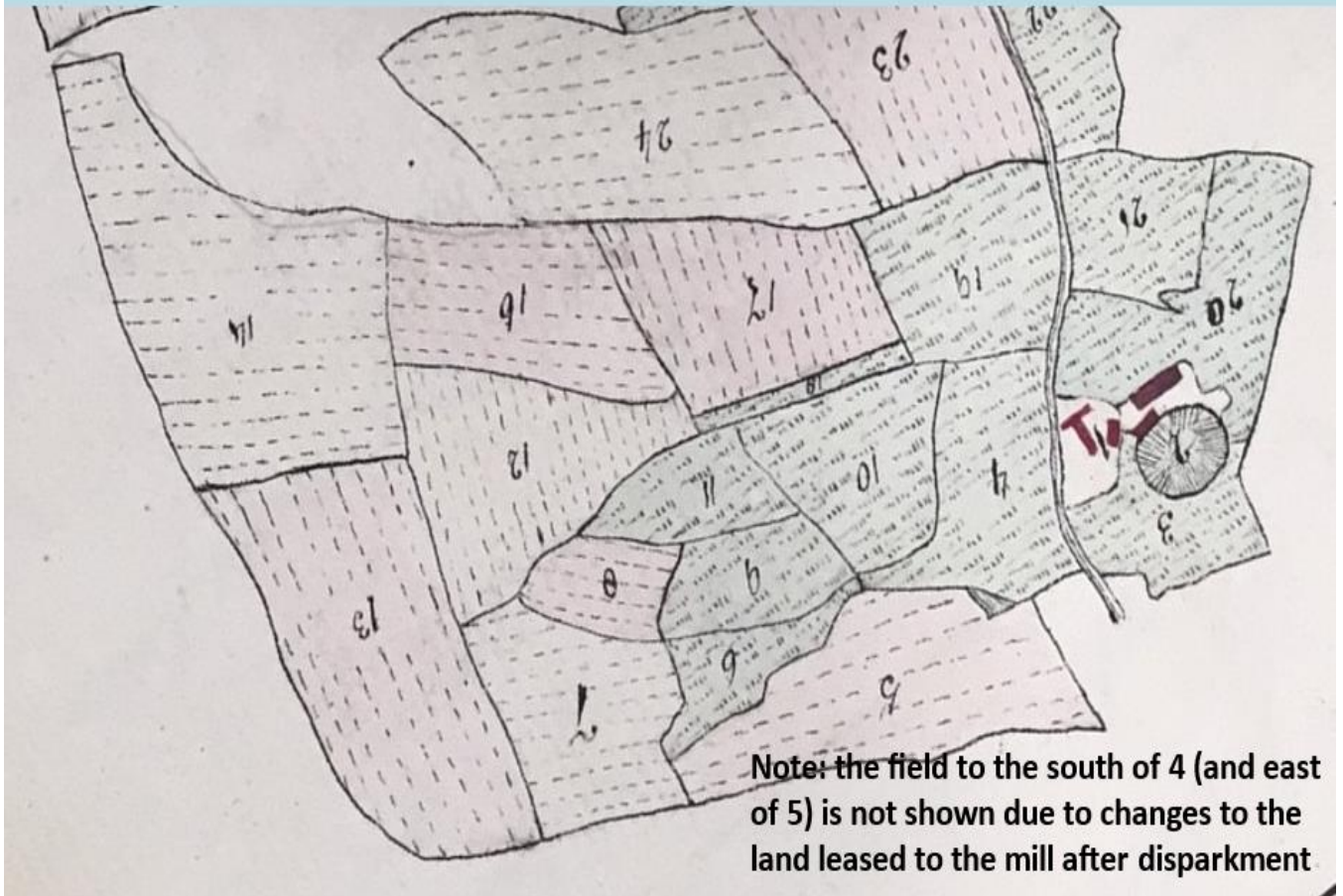
*- next to the park of Hugh de Coulonces
- next to the park that once was Hugh de Coulonces*



Accumulated evidence



1795 map of Stebbing Park Farm produced for the Earl of Essex



The end of the park (1)

- 1580 Stebbing Hall rental (draft version):

The manor howse standing in the parke called Stebbinge Parke wth a barne and stable to the same belonging which parke is ympaled round abowte wth a meadowe wth in the said parke called Halle Meade cont. nyne acres or theraboutes. And the said parke besides the said meadowe cont. by estymacion seaven score acres. And yt butteth upon the highe waye leading betwene Stebbinge and Lyndsell in the east and the south side lyeth parte upon the lands of the lorde of the manor of Stebbinge and the reasydue upon the lands of the parsonag of Stebbing. The north syde lyeth all upon the lordes lands of Stebbing and the west hedd butteth uppon the lands of George Mylborne called Markes parcell of his manor of Markes whiche parke of auncient tymes hath bene a game of deare and nowe is a game of conyes and not letten at any value.

The end of the park (2)

- 1632 Inquisition post mortem of Sir Arthur Capell, lately of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire:
Various lands, as follows: in Essex, the manors of Rayne, (or Raynehall, or Wells Hall), Stebbing, Porters Hall in Stebbing, Barwick Barners, Barners Rothering, and the advowson of Little Rayne, and the parks of Bocking Park, and wood, and Stebbing Park, and the farms called Blake End Farm, and Ladyfield in Stebbing Saleinge Lindfield and Bandfeild
- 1636 Quarter sessions:
Indictment of Christopher Lewen of Stebbing labourer, stole there 20 "parke pales" worth 10d. of Arthur Capell esq.



Reproduced with acknowledgments:

From a Presentation given by the Author at
the Stebbing Local History Society AGM – 10 February 2025

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