LEICESTERSHIRE	DESFORD

Locality	Nat. Grid Ref.
VILLAGE	(SK40SE) SK47808987

Circumstances of discovery	Date site examined	Site now destroyed / threatened / preserved
SITE VISIT	APRIL 1981	? POSSIBLY

Present location ~~of finds~~ MRS HERBERT SUNBREAK off MAIN ST. (SEE PLAN)

Description of remains, precise location and stratification (attach plans if necessary)

(Please refer to attached plan).

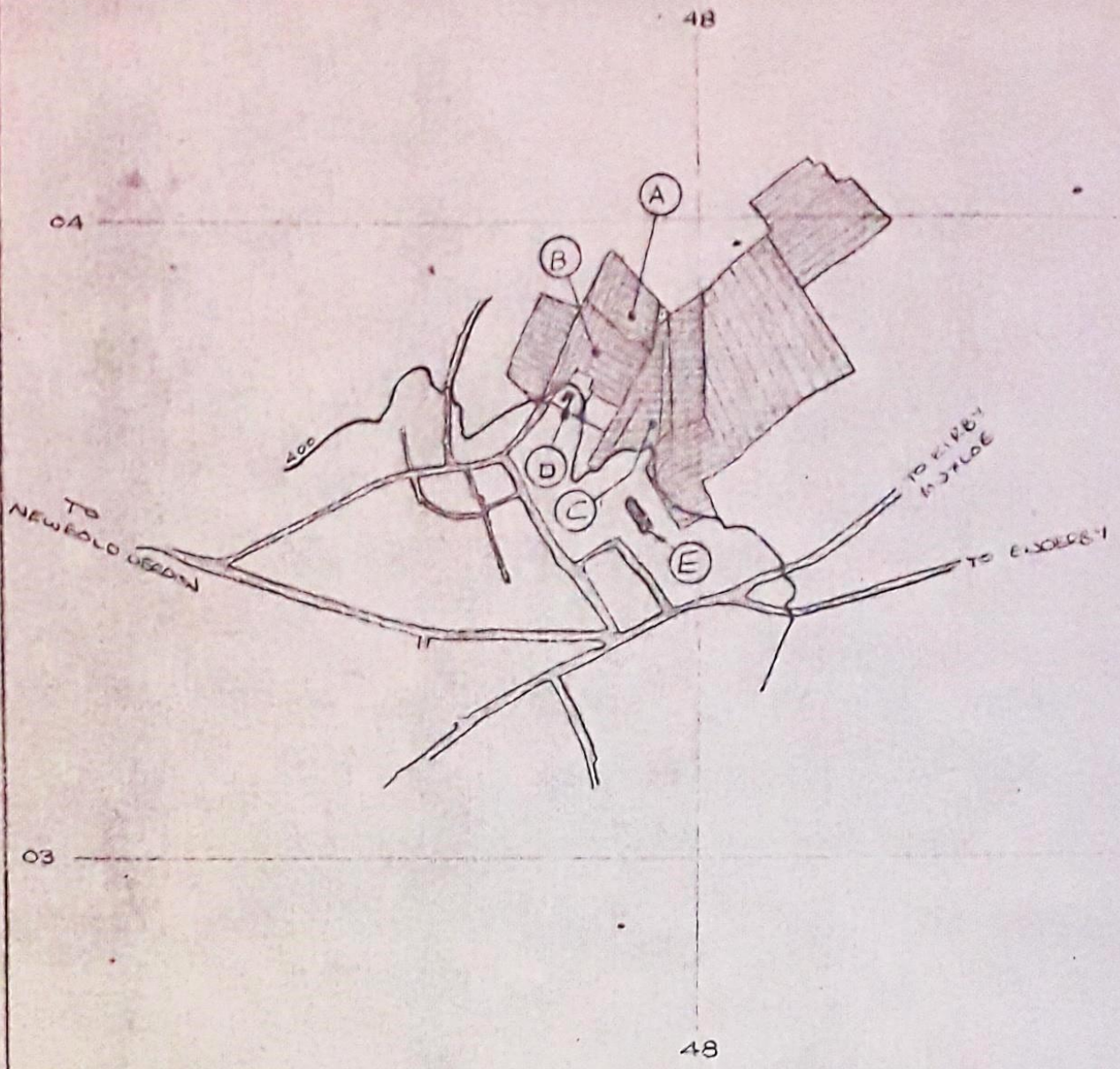
Mrs Herbert who lives at SUNBREAK also owns four small meadows adjacent to the house; the field names are shown on the plan. Castle Hill slopes up to the south and levels out on to a plateau on which sits most of the east side of the village (excluding the church and the site of the Romano British pottery finds). Apart from two linear features overlying the ridge and furrow, and the fact that the r+f does not cover the level area to the S. of the field no features that may substantiate the field name were visible. There is a stretch of water at the rear of the rectory but does not suggest itself as having formed part of a moat.

The ridge and furrow shown on the plan was plotted from an oblique aerial photograph produced by ACROFILMS 4, ALBEMARLE ST. LONDON W1X 4HL. 01-493-5211 REF NO A23197. The lines on the plan only indicate the direction of the r+f and not the actual number of ridges. Mick Ball of the Fading Ete group claims to have plotted this r+f.

Mrs Herbert is moving to Mkt Bosworth in the near future, I will try and get the name of the new occupier of 'Sunbreak' and to whereabouts of the room which she has in her possession.

Conclusions The two names 'Castle' and 'Castle' are interesting. As I understand it (?) Desford was one of the three demesne manors of the Earls of Leicester (the others were Earl Shilton and Bosworth?). E.S. + B. had a castle and a fortified manor house respectively so Desford ought to have had a castle. The siting of a castle on the draft control to the N/NE of ~~Desford~~ would seem an ideal situation given the unrestricted visual rights in both directions.

Signature	Ultimate disposal of finds	Publication
M W Harding 5.5.81		



SK40SE 6" TO 1 MILE. DESFORD VILLAGE. 5-5-81

RIDGE AND FURROW PLOTTED FROM ARIEL PHOTOGRAPH

(A) 'LESTER MEADOW' (B) HOME MEADOW' (C) 'CASTLE HILL'

(D) 'SUNBREAK' OFF MAIN ST. (E) POND

M W HAGDING. 1981