

The Story of the Coach House Pond Survey (20th June 2019)

The Coach House Pond

The photographs show the layout of the pond, picked out with ranging poles.

(A)

Looking North, towards Hemsworth Road



Looking
North East

Findings:

- The foundations of the pond's stone supporting wall has been found.
- The water inlet from a ditch along the old park boundary has been found.
- The outlet into the stream which runs through the valley between Spring Park, through Park Wood, connecting to the outlet stream from waterfall wood and the ponds has been identified.

The Pond

The pond has been infilled, presumably using infill material from when the coach house was demolished (provenance required). The inlet from the ditch has been piped with a 230mm pipework, through the centre of the pond to the outlet stream at Park Wood (found on the survey). Trees now grow surrounding and into the centre of the pond area. The ground depression where the pond was located can clearly be seen under examination.

Several large stones set at ground level have been found.



The Pathway or track

From the coach house pond, the original track runs through the summerhouse wood plantation, towards what is now the Bunting Nook car park and links with other paths there.



This shows evidence of the supporting wall for the original pathway. The stones can clearly be seen. It was exposed earlier in May 2019, when a terrier went down the 230mm (9inch) pipe (possibly after a rat) and got lodged in the centre of the pond. Park workers had to dig the dog out, which showed where the low wall was.

Stone fence post

A stone fence post has been located along the boundary of Summerhouse wood and the deer park at the end of the original pathway or track. (B)



Continuation of the coach house pond track



This track used to proceed south across the deer park and passed through the two stone gateposts located on the field boundary at the top pond. (C) It then continued south up the hillside, connecting with the Norton Hall Farmhouse buildings. NB It would be ideal to reinstall this section of pathway across the deer park area to the top pond; which would achieve a circular walk around the deer park without affecting the animal farm.

