

Spirit of Place Brockhampton 22/04/2015

Located in the heart of Herefordshire, Brockhampton fuses a rich and diverse working estate and designed parkland. With its rolling farm land, dramatic views, secret wooded, dingles, damson orchards and hedgerows abundant with wildlife, it was cherished by the same family for over 900 years.

At its heart lies the little moated manor house, later abandoned in favour of its grander neighbour, Brockhampton House, and now consigned to a slower and humbler pace of rural life.

Around the mansion, now largely isolated from view, the landscape of undulating parkland and picturesque water features alludes to a vision aspired to but never fully realised. The loss of the park's guiding compass creates a different and somewhat incomplete mood.

Yet the overriding feeling is one which surprises and delights. This is a traditional productive landscape still cherished and tended by farmers, foresters and fruit growers.

Local breeds of sheep still graze amongst apple orchards, stone farm buildings nestle into the hillsides and the quiet drone of tractors complete this quiet and beautiful place.