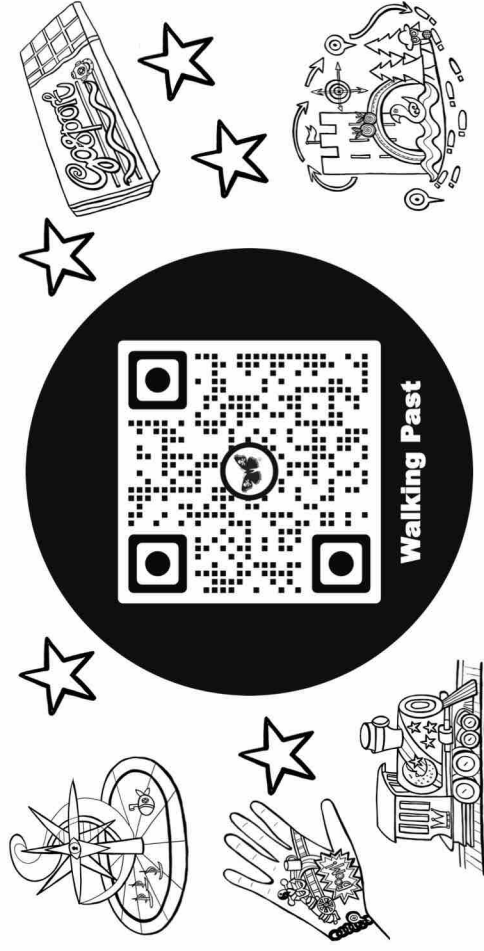




WALKING PAST

A collaboration between Seekers Create, GVA Community Spirit, First Light Trust, GOPF, Gosport Heritage Open Days, Action Asylum and Oarsome Chance to create a series of accessible history walks in and around Gosport.



www.seekerscreate.com/gosport-walking-past

Look, listen and watch, then enjoy the walks yourself!

These groups worked together as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone led by Gosport Borough Council and Historic England.



MOTTE & TRENCHES

Look up, look down, look all around! Things to spot and think about on your walk



1. Wild Grounds
2. Grange Farm
3. RAF Grange
4. Forest Paths
5. Apple Dumping Bridge
6. The Animals Perspective
7. Tiffin Gate
8. Off Piste

9. Browdown North
10. Into The Woods
11. Into The Trenches
12. Trench Warfare
13. Crossroads
14. More Trenches
15. In The Middle Of Nowhere
16. Back On The Main Path

17. Figure Of Eight
18. Carter's Copse
19. WW2 Pillbox
20. The Motte
21. Top Of The Keep
22. Walking Through History
23. Bridge On The Swamp
24. Steep Finish!

Motte & Trenches

Browndown North is an active military training area and is used extensively from orienteering to bivvy making through to section attacks. The area is used by all three services, Army, Royal Navy and RAF and is a 'go-to' area for cadet training. The MOD welcomes responsible use of the area, but please remember that it is a military training area and access may be restricted when there is training taking place.

Please do not enter the area if red flags or notices are displayed or where the gates are locked, this is for your safety. Public access is permitted under the Browndown and Rowner Military Lands Byelaw 1954, full copies are displayed on site.

There may be areas where the terrain is unsuitable for certain types of access due to steps, uneven terrain or mud so please use with caution..

Starting at the car park at the point that it curves, take the path heading west, until the path bends to the left and you can spot the bridge 'Apple Dumping' when you should turn right. Continue up hill slightly until you reach a path on the right. Take this and spot the 'hill' which is actually the Motte and Bailey castle. Circle around the base and spot the pillbox too.

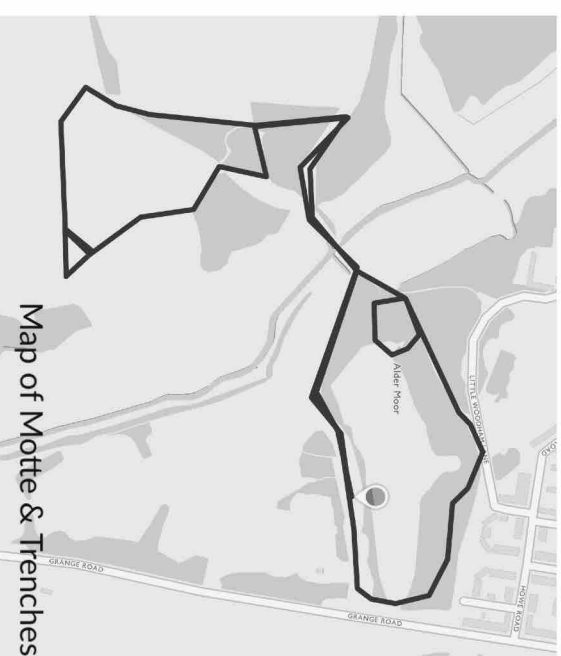
Continue along the path once you have completed a circuit of the Motte and Bailey, bearing east, and continue into Carters Copse. Look out for the large oak tree in 'Hangman's Hollow'.

At the far end of the copse you can either continue over the boardwalk, or if flooded, take the path slightly higher up and then continue along the uphill path (there is an upper or lower path but both join up so either can be taken). As the path heads south and then west, the unsurfaced path exits on to a tarmac path.

Turn right on to the path and walk back alongside the car park, continuing until you join up with the path you took from the car park and then continue. Where you turned right, you should turn left to Apple Dumping Bridge.

Walk over the bridge and head up the wide path which goes uphill and bears right. Just as the path comes out of the shaded area into more of an open space, you will see a path to your left accessed through a gate. This is the entrance to Browndown North and there will be signs visible. Do not enter if the red flag is flying, the gates are locked or notices are posted.

Enter Browndown North and follow the path straight ahead, continuing through the trees. When you come to the T-junction turn left and then bear left. Just past the larger tree on the left, before it clears you will see some trenches.



Continue along the path heading west until you meet a cross road of paths. Turn left here but directly opposite this junction within the trees, there are some possible trenches which can be explored. Once you have turned left, so that you are heading roughly north, continue along the path looking for a mound on your left.

Depending on the time of year it may be covered in bracken but from here if you stand on it, take in the views to the west of the trenches.

Continue north along the path until you come to another significant path. Bear left here and then continue straight over when you come across other paths. If you spot the 'two-eyed tree' you are on the correct path. Bear right on to the next main path and return back to the gate you came in, exiting into Alver Valley Country Park.

Turn right and retrace your steps back to Apple Dumping Bridge. Once over the bridge you can either return back to the car park, or bear left up towards the Motte and Bailey but instead of turning right continue north along the path. At the end here you will reach a road (Little Woodham Lane) which if you turn left on to will lead you to Grange Farm, the Wildgrounds (seasonal permit entry only), Little Woodham 17th Century Village (seasonal) and a garden centre (under construction). Retrace your steps back to the car park.

Car park: Alver Valley East Car Park, Little Woodham Ln, Gosport PO13 8AS