

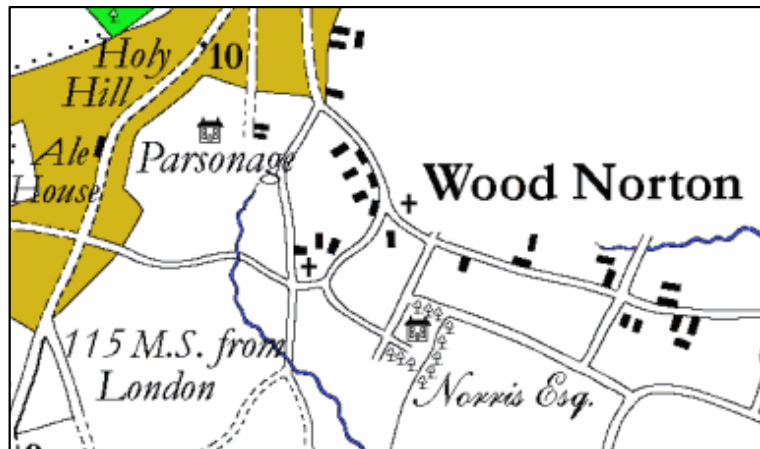
Wood Norton Community Orchard

The Pightle is situated on Ryors Lane, a bridleway. The lane itself has some interesting banks either side suggesting it is quite old. In any event it will be at least the same age as the Rectory as it looks as if it once led directly from All Saints to the Rectory. The lane, un-named, is shown on Faden's 1797 Map of Norfolk. Faden shows the Rectory as the Parsonage but does not show a link from Ryors to the Parsonage.

The field has an existing old metal gate with a rabbit warren in the lane bank immediately against the gate post and the gate. There is evidence of rabbit activity around the field perimeter. Deer are plentiful in the area and we will need to ensure the young fruit trees are fully protected against deer browsing.

The site slopes slightly from the east down to the west. It is hedged on the south and west sides with mixed hedges (predominantly blackthorn), unmanaged for many years. The northeast boundary, against Ryors Lane has several mature trees to the west of the gate and towards the eastern corner a few younger oaks

It is suggested that a new mobility scooter accessible kissing gate is installed to the east of the existing metal gate.



Extract from Faden, digitally re-drawn by Andrew Macnair

Meadow management

It is probably many years since the Pightle was last cultivated, although we do know that the late George Hopper used to have an allotment there. We have no idea what might be lurking beneath the existing rank grass. The suggestion is to cut and remove the arisings for the first season simply to give nature a chance to surprise us. If nothing much happens we can then consider giving it a helping hand.

During the first year a full survey can be made of the meadows and hedges to create a species list. This might dictate a slightly different management regime.

Generally apple and pear prefer drier conditions and damson and plum more moist, the planting plan reflects this.

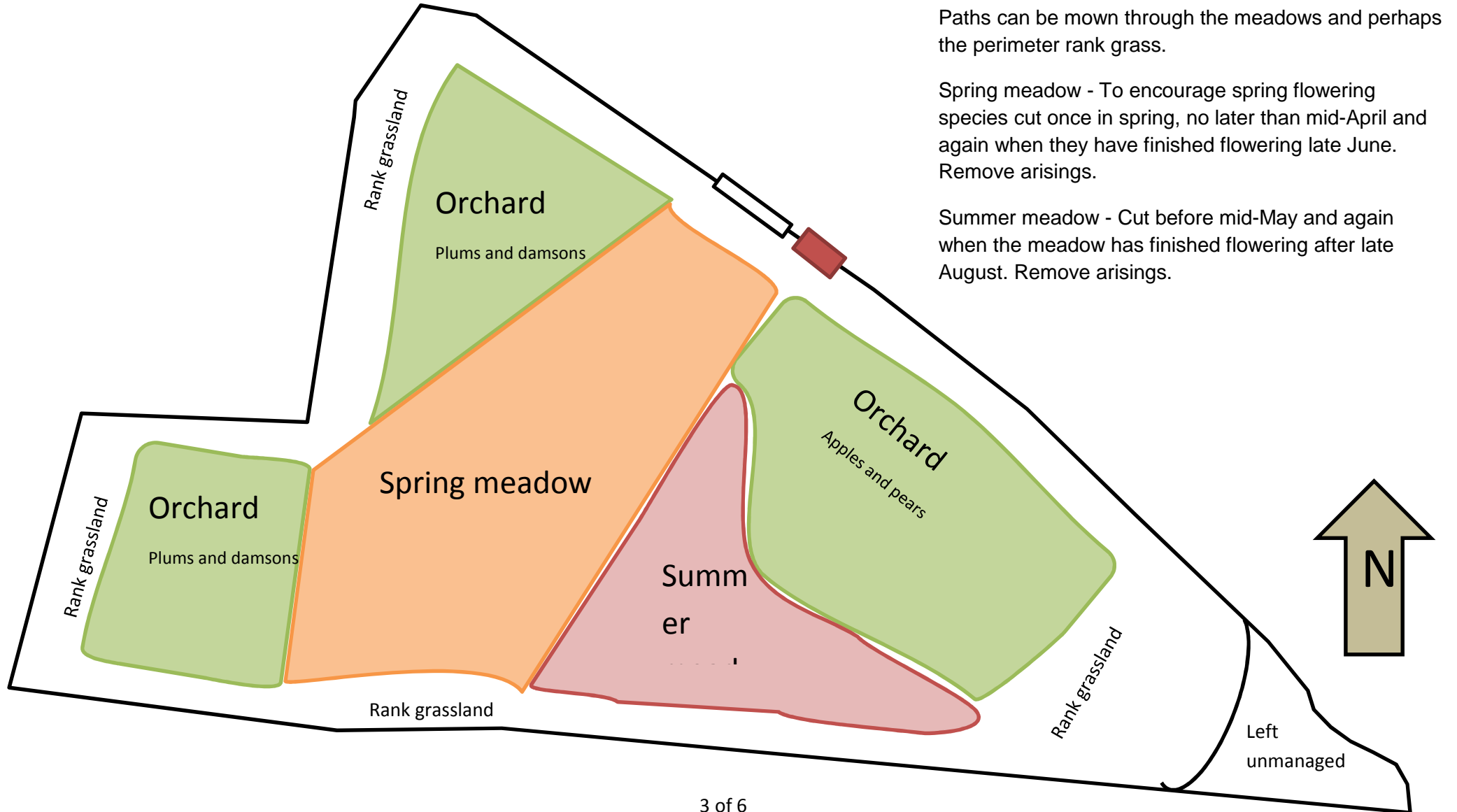
Orchard establishment

Plant in moist earth with mulch mats and staked, protect from deer by 1.5 metre high green mesh. It is important that during the first year the trees are watered.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Orchard planting	→→→	→→→	→→→	⇔⇔							→→→	→→→
Weed around young trees				→→	→→	→→	→→	→→	→→→			
Cut Spring meadow			→→→	→			→→	→→	Regularly	→→		
Cut Summer meadow 1 st year			→→						→→Once	→→		
Cut Summer meadow 2 nd year									→→Once	→→		
Water trees in drought conditions												



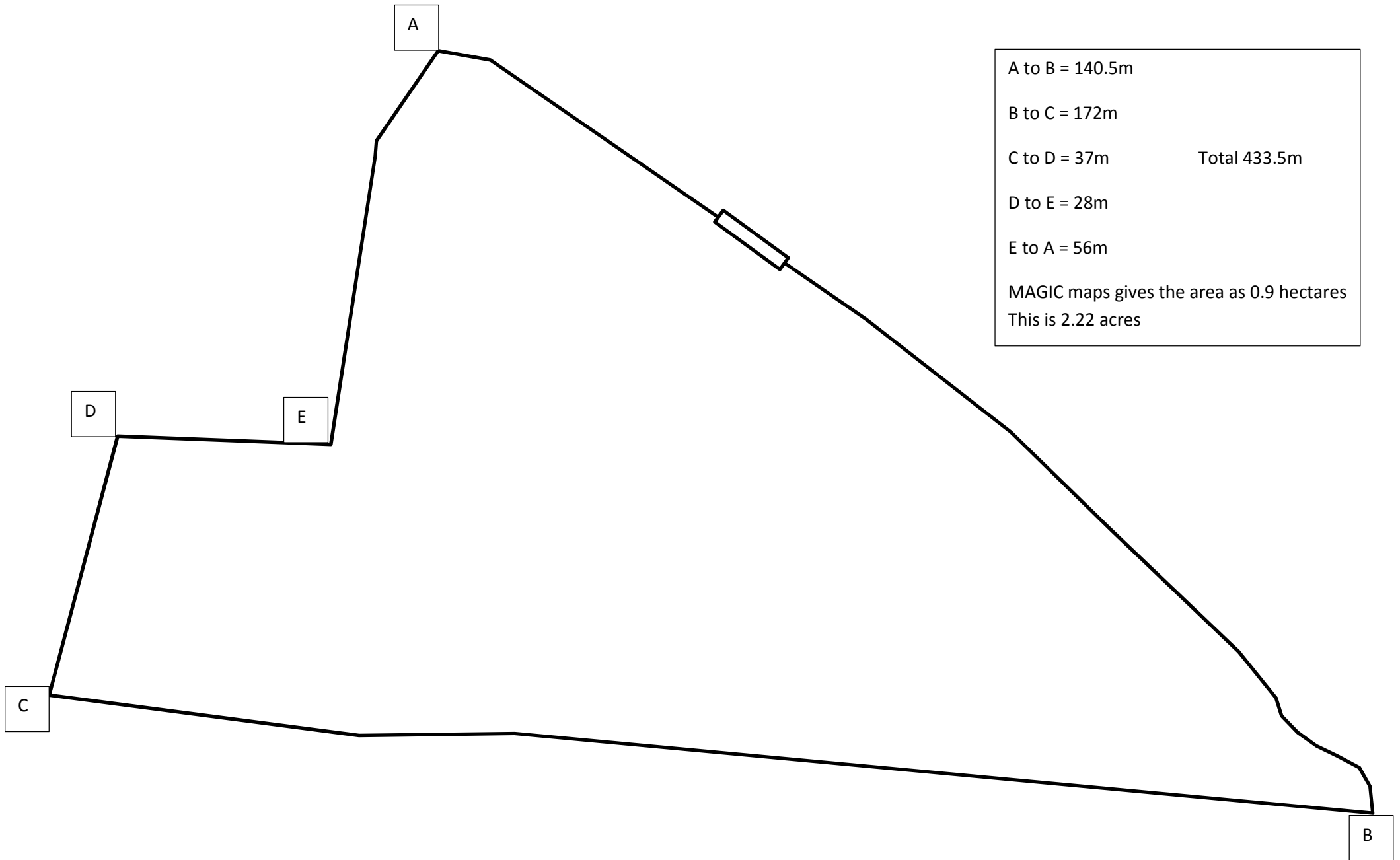
New mobility buggy accessible kissing gate



Paths can be mown through the meadows and perhaps the perimeter rank grass.

Spring meadow - To encourage spring flowering species cut once in spring, no later than mid-April and again when they have finished flowering late June. Remove arisings.

Summer meadow - Cut before mid-May and again when the meadow has finished flowering after late August. Remove arisings.



Greengages

- 13 Cambridge Gage
- 14 Ingall's Grimoldby Green Gage
- 15 Green Gage

Plums

- 16 Laxton's Ideal
- 17 Early Rivers
- 18 Bountiful
- Laxton's Cropper
- 20 Wallis's Wonder
- 21 Olympia

Cherries

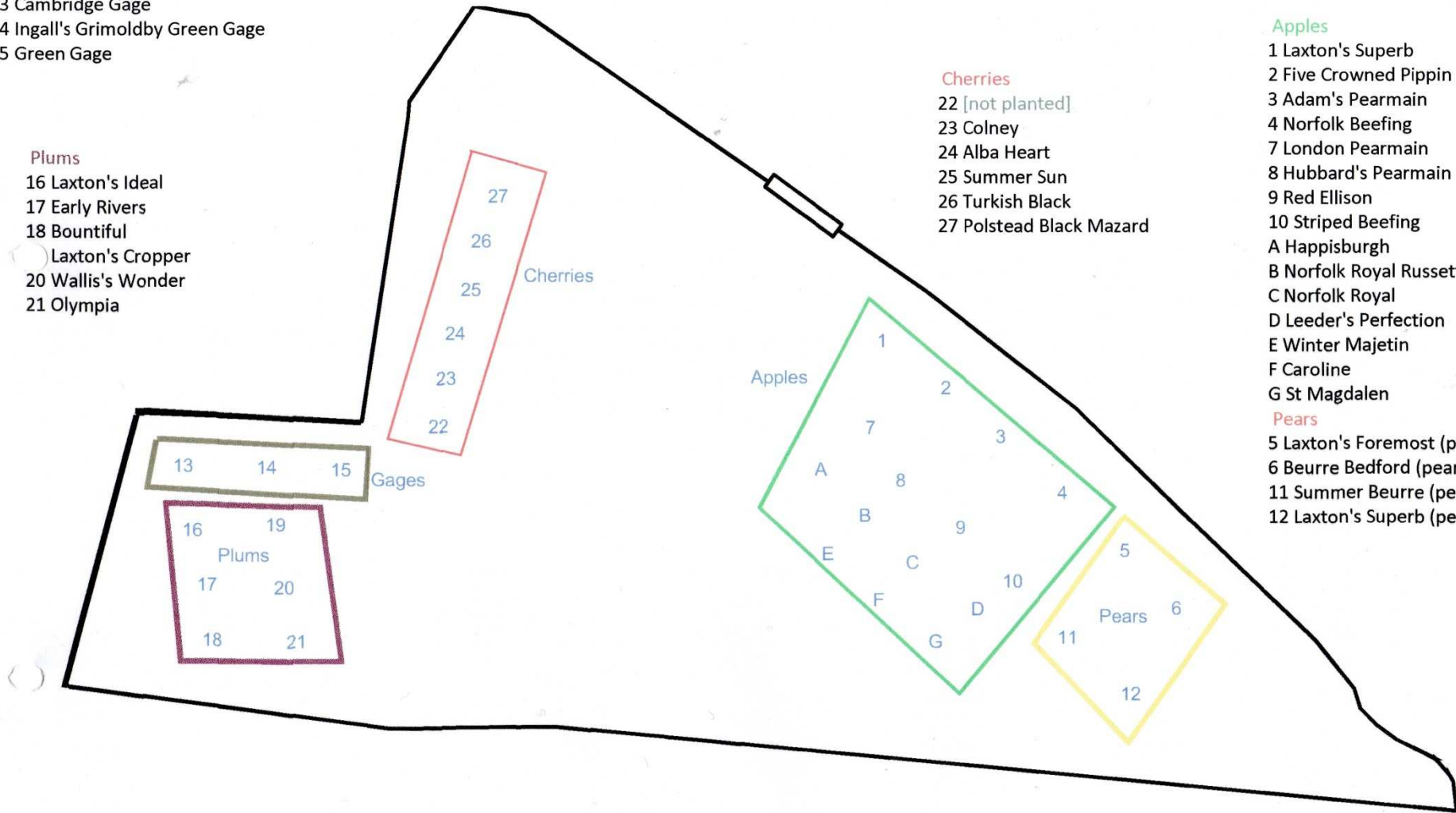
- 22 [not planted]
- 23 Colney
- 24 Alba Heart
- 25 Summer Sun
- 26 Turkish Black
- 27 Polstead Black Mazard

Apples

- 1 Laxton's Superb
- 2 Five Crowned Pippin
- 3 Adam's Pearmain
- 4 Norfolk Beefing
- 7 London Pearmain
- 8 Hubbard's Pearmain
- 9 Red Ellison
- 10 Striped Beefing
- A Happisburgh
- B Norfolk Royal Russett
- C Norfolk Royal
- D Leeder's Perfection
- E Winter Majetin
- F Caroline
- G St Magdalen

Pears

- 5 Laxton's Foremost (pear)
- 6 Beurre Bedford (pear)
- 11 Summer Beurre (pear)
- 12 Laxton's Superb (pear)



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Suggested mown paths for 2013

