

**Agricultural Land Classification  
Bromsgrove District Plan**

The site between Timberhonger Lane and the A448 Kidderminster Road was surveyed by the Resource Planning Group in December 1990. The site on the western edge of Bromsgrove covers approximately 14.5 hectares and is bounded by the Kidderminster Road to the north, Whitford Road to the east, Timberhonger Lane to the south and the M5 motorway to the west. At the time of survey most of the land was in agricultural use with permanent pasture grazed by sheep. Land not in agricultural use is occupied by a hotel in the north and in the south by the cottages and surrounding land at Whitford Mill.

Climate

Average annual rainfall	676 mm
Accumulated temperature above 0°C January to June	1396 day °C
Field capacity days	157 days
Moisture deficit wheat	99 mm
Moisture deficit potatoes	88 mm

Site

Most of the site is gently to moderately sloping from the highest point in the north east down to the south west. Alongside Timberhonger Lane and Battlefield Brook the land is generally level. Altitudes range from 90 m to just over 100 m.

Geology

Most of the site is underlain by Lower Keuper Sandstone, which gives rise to sandy textured soils, with sandstone within 100 cm depth in a few places. Alongside Battlefield Brook a small area of Alluvium gives rise to more silty textured soils over sand and gravel.

## Agricultural Land Classification

Grade 2. The small area to the south of Timberhonger Lane and the centre of the site where slopes are not too steep, have been mapped as Grade 2. Soils are generally deep with fine sandy loam topsoils over sandy clay loam. Sand, sandstone rock and gravel were encountered in some profiles at depths below 70 cm. Slight drought risk is the main limiting factor restricting soils to this Grade.

Grade 3a. Land in this grade is found along Timberhonger Lane and Battlefield Brook. Soils are more variable with loamy sand and sand or rock within 70 cm increasing the drought risk, and close to the stream heavier silty soils are restricted to this Grade by a wetness limitation.

Grade 3b. A small area of Grade 3b land where the slope exceeds 7°, restricting the land to this Grade.

### Area of land in each Grade

Grade	hectares	% of total area	% of agricultural area
2	6.5	45	57
3a	3.9	27	34
3b	1.0	7	9
NA	0.9	6	-
Urban	<u>2.2</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	14.5	100	100

Resource Planning Group  
Wolverhampton