

Lime Avenue Re-planting Begins

The work to replant the double Lime tree avenue in Broomfield Park has begun at last, after bad weather caused a short delay. Three trees been planted and positions for many others have been staked out.



Although I've seen pictures and maps showing the avenue in its prime, it's only when standing the centre of the four rows that I realised how big the whole planting scheme was. The avenue, or rather three avenues since there are four rows of trees, was aligned in relation to the House and its gardens.

Looking west from the garden area, the southernmost avenue can be seen framed by the gap or claire-voie in the listed wall.



Looking east back towards Broomfield House, the avenue aligns with the claire-voie and the arched gateway on Broomfield Lane.



The main “gateway” opening in the listed wall aligns with the central avenue.



Looking back towards Broomfield House, the alignment through the main gap in the wall to the House is clear.



The northern avenue is on an alignment with the third gap or claire-voie in the listed wall and the summer house/shelter against the rear wall (both also listed) behind Broomfield House. However, the view from the shelter is largely obscured by later tree growth. When the limes reach full height they might again be visible.



Not many of us around today will see the avenue in anything like its full glory, but this is an important stage in the long history of Broomfield Park.

Colin Younger

12 February 2016