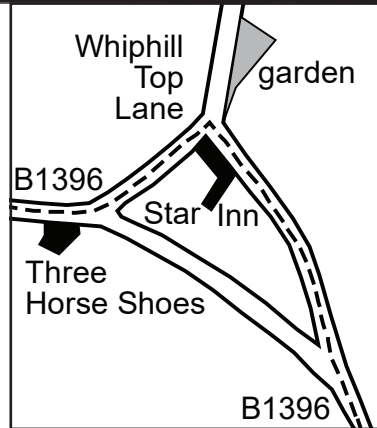




This picture above shows Whiphill Top Lane, looking north. On the right is the former Star Inn.

Until the war, the road to Auckley had turned sharp right, as shown below.

The dotted line on the plan shows the route that the road used to take, the route shown on Jefferys' map.





### **Star Inn Farm**

The Star Inn is shown on the 1849 Ordnance Survey map, although it went out of use as a public house at some stage.

In the nineteen-fifty estate sale catalogue, the former Star Inn building was shown as part of a small-holding, known as Star Inn Farm. It comprised twenty-three acres of fields, scattered around the village.

The triangular field opposite the house was described as a ‘garden’. It has now become a seating area, as shown above.

### **The Three Horse Shoes**

We do not know when the Three Horse Shoes public house was opened. Although the front wall shows the date 1907, this is misleading, because this was the date it was rebuilt. The Doncaster Gazette of 6th March 1908 reported that: “The Three Horse Shoes at Branton was rebuilt last summer.”

The earliest known reference the pub was in The Doncaster Chronicle of 19th May 1854. It reported on an inquest which was held at The Three Horse Shoes. It stated that a man had died from apoplexy whilst out shooting rooks.

### **Road Names**

‘Brockholes Lane’ used to be ‘Brockhole Lane’.

In the 1950 sale catalogue, Doncaster Road is named as ‘Sand Road’. The Ordnance Survey maps give this as an alternative to Cantley Lane.

County Council of the West Riding of Yorkshire  
Doncaster Rural District  
Branton and Auckley Village Map Reports  
December 1967

BRANTON VILLAGE MAP REPORT

On the Doncaster Rural District Map, Branton has been selected as a village which can satisfactorily undergo substantial expansion.

Topographical Setting

Despite its low average height, the combination of gently undulating land and several plantations gives rise to a pleasant natural environment.

Much of the village lies in Grade III agricultural land, but in the north, this improves to Grade II.

Character

Although lacking in outstanding character, the combination of groups of trees and the few remaining older buildings has given a fairly pleasing appearance to parts of the village.

1: The Willows on Brockholes Lane; 2: Branton House Farm;  
3: Mill Farm

The addition of some attractive new development has helped to enhance that appearance further.

1: North of the junction of Chapel Lane and Branton Gate Lane;  
2: The group of shops opposite Moor View.

The main unattractive areas lie to the west along the main Doncaster Road, where the untidy dumping of cars and remains of gravel workings need to be attended to.

Extracts from a typed and duplicated 1967 Report on the future of Branton and Auckley, from the County Planning Officer in Wakefield, and the Area Planning Officer in Station Road, Doncaster.

### Population

The number of houses in Branton in December 1967 was 289, giving an estimated population of approximately 900.

### Major Influences on Development

Originally, the village was spread along the Doncaster Road, but recently a more north-south orientation has become increasingly persistent.

The inadequate sewerage facilities will be remedied by Spring 1968.

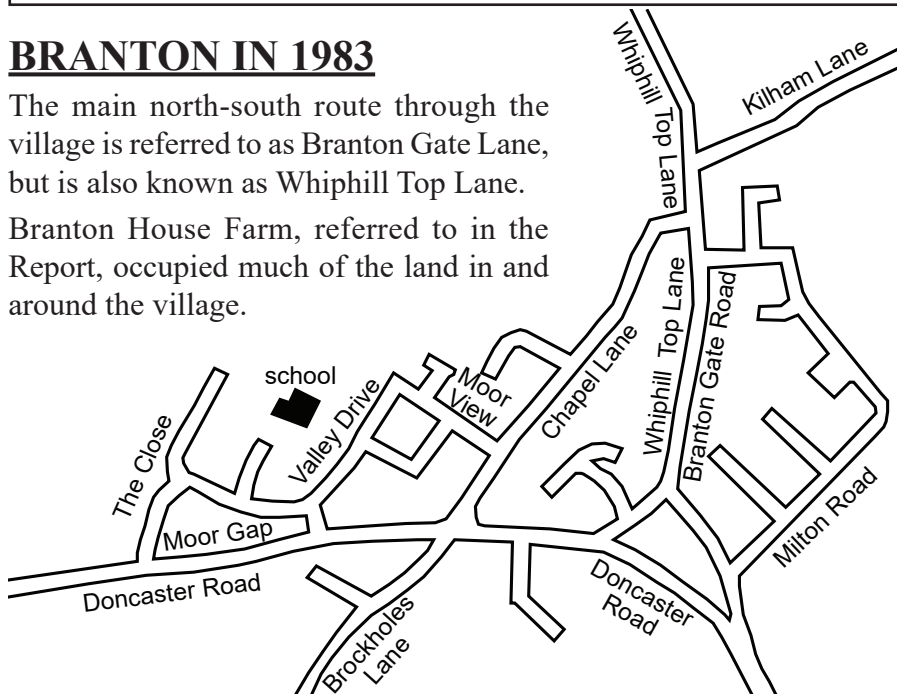
### Employment

Apart from the occasional farm and the repair of motor vehicles, there is no real source of employment within the village. Therefore, the major role of the village will be as a commuter settlement for Doncaster, and such factors as the provision for cars and buses should be considered in this light.

## **BRANTON IN 1983**

The main north-south route through the village is referred to as Branton Gate Lane, but is also known as Whiphill Top Lane.

Branton House Farm, referred to in the Report, occupied much of the land in and around the village.



## POLICY

1: Development will be concentrated on the north side of the Doncaster Road in a north-south direction.

2: A new village centre will be formed, focusing on the modern shopping development opposite Moor View, and taking movement away from the main road.

3: Development will be restricted: (i) south of the main road; (ii) along the main road to prevent coalescence with the neighbouring village.

### Residential

The main sites for housing will flank Chapel Lane and Branton Gate Road, in addition to an extension of Kingsmead Drive and The Close.

It is hoped to turn the home field around Branton House Farm into an open space or village green, for the use of all. It is proposed to demolish the buildings and construct a village hall.

It has already been decided to construct a junior and mixed infants school off Valley Drive, for pupils from Branton and Cantley villages.

The proposed additional housing will bring the total up to six hundred, with a total estimated population of nearly nineteen hundred.

### The Present Day

The Report recommended that development should be concentrated on the north side of the Doncaster Road in a north-south direction, and this has taken place.

However, against the stated policy, controversial development has also taken place south of Doncaster Road, around Poppyfields Way.

The population is currently almost two thousand, as predicted in the Report.

# The Twenty-Five Foot Contour Line

This plan, taken from the Ordnance Survey map, shows the twenty-five foot contour line, which can be confusing, as the line is easily mistaken for a field boundary.

What is rather intriguing is that the contour line closely follows what was once the route of Green Lane from Cantley to the Moor Gap, on the edge of Cantley Common.

It then follows the boundary between the Common and the allotment gardens, although slightly off-set. It turns back at the northern end of the gardens, and then follows Chapel Lane (Back Lane) southwards, crosses Doncaster Road, and then follows Brockhole Lane.

Similarly, the contour follows the boundary between the Common and the allotment gardens at Cantley. This may simply be coincidence. So, although the land in Branton undulates, it seems clear that many of the lanes in Brampton followed a fairly level course, which makes a lot of sense. The easiest route for a path would be along level ground.

It is interesting that the Red Path at West Bessacarr roughly follows the same twenty-five foot contour. The Red Path has replaced earlier lanes known as Top Lane and Hennings Road, lanes that once marked the edge of Potteric Carr, before it was drained.

