



Ancient Woodland Restoration

Upper Court Wood (Woodpecker Wood), Court Hill,
Damerham

Prepared by Bob Epsom, Outreach Advisor, South East

July 2022



Upper Court Wood viewed from the northeast at Damerham church yard.

1. Introduction

This report provides an assessment of Woodpecker Wood part of Higher Court Wood, Damerham, Hampshire. It is produced on behalf of the Woodland Trust's Outreach Department. The Outreach Department are, in this case, primarily concerned with improving the condition and resilience of ancient woodlands that are under threat from issues such as coniferisation and invasion of other non-native species. This process is known as ancient woodland restoration (AWR).

A survey of the woodland was carried out on the 13th of June 2022, in order to identify the key ancient woodland features and habitats present and assess the threats that exist to them. These findings were then used in compiling a schema of recommended interventions; the primary objective of these recommendations is best-practice AWR. There will be additional objectives and local factors that may also influence the management of the woodland, and these are accommodated wherever they would not be detrimental to the ancient woodland.

The interventions proposed should have the additional benefit of making the woodland more resilient to climate change, disease, windthrow, fluctuations in timber and woodfuel markets, and so on, and provide a more robust habitat link within the wider landscape.

This report is not intended as a management plan, does not qualify as a Forestry Commission (FC) approved woodland management plan (WMP), and a felling licence would in most cases be required as a minimum¹ in order to carry out any tree felling proposed within it. The report is instead intended to provide supplementary information to the landowner about their woodlands, to complement existing plans and/or inform future plans, particularly a WMP. It may also prove useful as a baseline to track change over time, particularly where woodlands are entering the restoration process for the first time.

Woodland classifications

1.1.1. Ancient Woodland

Ancient woodland is a classification given to woodlands where there is strong evidence that they have had continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 (within England), though they may still have been cleared at some point prior to that. Ancient woodlands are a rare and irreplaceable resource of great cultural, biological and landscape value, providing habitats which are amongst the most biodiverse in the UK due to their relative lack of disturbance. Those scarce few that remain are a precious resource that requires protection and careful management. Owning or managing an ancient woodland means being a steward to something very precious and worthy of due care and attention.

1.1.2. ASNW

Ancient semi-natural woodlands (ASNW) are ancient woodlands which are not thought to have had their naturally established tree species replaced by plantation trees, on the whole. They have usually been managed for centuries by man, e.g. by coppicing.

1.1.3. PAWS

Plantations on ancient woodland sites, or PAWS, are those ancient woodlands where the natural mix of trees and shrubs has been replaced by plantations, usually, but not exclusively, consisting of non-native conifers. Areas of ancient woodland that have 20% or more plantation cover are considered to be PAWS.

Plantations, and the techniques commonly employed to establish and maintain them, can have a variety of negative impacts upon the woodland, to a greater or lesser extent, depending upon the methods used, species involved, success in establishment and so on. Whilst they have often been greatly disturbed,

¹ No felling license is required for the felling of less than 5m³ per calendar quarter, or of trees with diameters of 8 cm or less, 10 cm or less for thinnings, or 15cm or less for cutting coppice, when measured at 1.3m height.

evidence shows that these woodlands can still retain valuable biodiversity and remnant features from their past.

1.1.4. Open areas

For the purposes of this report, open glades, rides and woodland edges are generally classified according to the surrounding tree cover.

1.1.5. Recent woodland

Any other areas of woodland on the site can be classed as 'recent woodland'. These areas were not generally surveyed in detail, but where feasible were looked at briefly, particularly where they appeared likely to contain important features and/or may in fact prove to be ancient woodland with further investigation. Those recent woodlands which have been included are they are zoned on the maps within the report, and the management prescriptions would presumably be broadly similar to those in corresponding ancient woodland sections of the same zone number, however detailed prescriptions for these areas is beyond the remit of this report.

Survey/report principles

The Woodland Trust's ancient woodland restoration approach starts with the premise that all PAWS and threatened ASNW are likely to retain some of the ecological and archaeological value from their ancient woodland origin. Our restoration recommendations are thus based upon site surveys that identify the distribution and condition of visible remnant ancient woodland features, within the following categories:

- **Ground flora:** certain flora tend to favour ancient woodlands, as they are highly sensitive to disturbance, spread or colonise at a very slow rate, and/or are highly specific to conditions within ancient woodland. These are known as ancient woodland vascular plants (AWVP's), and are used as ancient woodland indicators. AWVP's can be locally abundant species such as English bluebells or wood anemones, but other examples such as twayblade are extremely rare. Either way, they are a vital feature unique to each woodland, and where found they should be treasured and protected.
- **Deadwood:** deadwood provides a crucial habitat for many species. It creates nesting and other refuge opportunities for a huge variety of fauna, as well as an important food resource for saprophytes (deadwood eating species) and numerous pollinators, and provides many important ecosystem services which benefit the woodland and wider community. In addition, logs and brash piles can impede and deter herbivores locally, and thus create a mosaic of grazing and browsing pressure, helping to nurse tree seedlings. Deadwood also plays a key role in ecosystem functionality and will help to maintain the health and sustainability of the woodland.
- **Archaeology:** all ancient woodlands have historic significance simply by virtue of having existed for 400+ years and usually also because they have been relatively undisturbed in that period, which means that their heritage is often preserved more or less intact in the form of archaeology. Woodland archaeology can often be very conspicuous, in the form of large hollows, mounds, ditches, banks, lumps and bumps, but it is not always obvious. Either way they tell us important stories about the woodland's past and its management by our predecessors.
- **Notable trees** are trees which of local or national importance, whether for their cultural, historic, biological, or sentimental value. They need not be site-native, and may include:
 - **Ancient Trees:** these are of exceptional age for their species. For example, an oak of c.500 years+ could be considered to be ancient, whilst a birch would reach this status at c.100 years. Ancient trees will usually have significant value for a variety of reasons, often most notably the important habitat which they provide, such as rot holes, branch snags etc.
 - **Veteran trees:** not necessarily of a great age, but nevertheless having significant character gained from life events such as storm damage, or tree management practices such as pollarding. They will often also much greater habitat value than others of a similar age.
 - **Champion trees:** those of greatest height or girth within a given location. For example, the broadest oak on a site would be the champion oak for that site by girth.

- **Pre-plantation trees:** site-native trees which pre-date plantations on PAWS sites. PPTs are particularly valuable where broadleaves are otherwise scarce on a site, and can also provide a seed source for the regeneration of the woodland as restoration proceeds.

Once identified, each of the remnant features has been assessed to ascertain what threats, if any, there are to it. Levels of threat are then ascribed to each feature based upon the following criteria:

- **Critical:** urgent action is required in order to avoid irreversible loss or serious decline.
- **Threatened:** remnant features are unlikely to be lost in the short term under current conditions, but long-term survival is doubtful without appropriate intervention.
- **Secure:** The feature is likely to remain the same or improve under current conditions².

The focus of the survey was therefore primarily to record extant features and threats to them, whilst also touching upon any other factors which may be pertinent to the ancient woodland restoration process, including woodland structure and regeneration levels of trees and shrubs. All significant species were recorded as specifically as possible. Particular 'hotspots' of ancient woodland features were targeted in detail where visible/previously identified and accessible, however it is unlikely that all features will have been recorded. In particular, seasonally visible species, e.g., annual flora, may be missed where they are not visible above ground. The survey should not therefore be considered to be definitive or exhaustive, but rather it is indicative of the woodland's importance, and the threats that exist to the woodland.

The woodland was mapped using ordnance survey base mapping, a GPS unit, and/or satellite imagery, as appropriate. Tree canopy will have limited GPS satellite reception, and therefore the locations of specific features shown on the maps are a rough guide only. Individual flora and/or clumps are pinpointed on maps where they are under significant threat and/or are particularly notable.

Areas of a similar character and management prescription, in terms of ancient woodland restoration, are grouped together as 'zones', for ease of management. The zones used here are not derived from any existing management compartments, though they may in some cases correspond with them, and may be of use for broader management prescriptions in future plans.

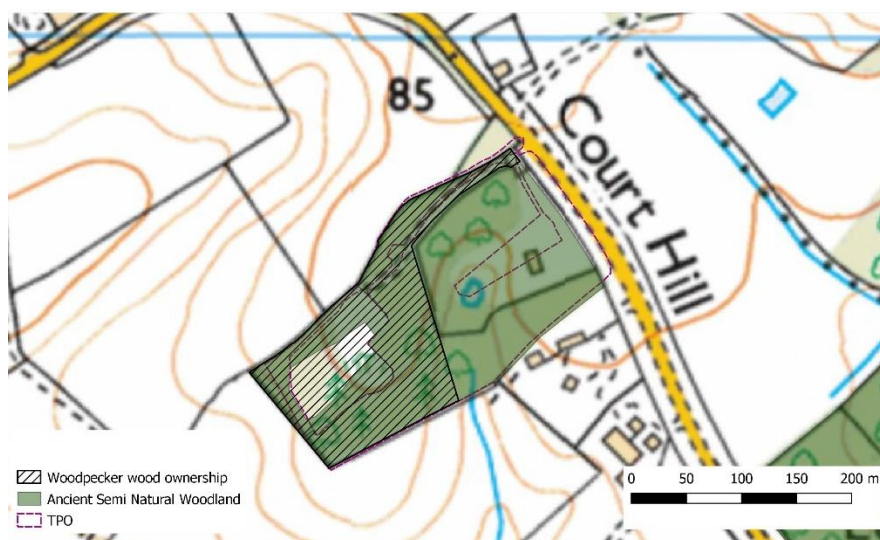
² For the purposes of AWR a site is considered to be 'secure', once it requires no further intervention to remove or manage significant threats to ancient woodland features. This will vary depending upon various factors. For instance, where the threat to ASNW is rhododendron, 100% eradication is usually the target, whilst for most PAWS, retention of up to 20% of the plantation canopy is generally felt to be acceptable.

2. Woodland condition, features and threats

Key site information

Grid reference	SU 113 157
Location	West of Damerham, Hampshire
Local landscape	<p>Woodpecker Wood sits within a farmed landscape surrounding the village of Damerham on the edge of the Cranborne Chase.</p> <p>National Character Areas</p> <p>Dorset Heaths National Character Area (NCA) 135 http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6271645295575040</p> <p>however note that Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase NCA 134 is adjacent http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5846213517639680</p> <p>Landscape Character Assessment – There are three that cover the area.</p> <p><u>Cranborne Chase AONB</u></p> <p>4A Martin –Whitsbury Downland Hills p121 to 127 in following report https://cranbornechase.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/LandscapeCharacterAssessment_FULL.pdf</p> <p><u>New Forest District</u></p> <p>3. Wooded Sandheath Farmland P 33 to 34 in following report https://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/1206/DL03a-Landscape-Character-Assessment-July-2000/pdf/DL03a_Landscape_Character_Assessment_-_July_2000.pdf?m=637412071478970000</p> <p><u>Hampshire County Council</u></p> <p>2g Wooded Sandheath Farmland – Covers roughly the same area as the New Forest District assessment but more detail in report. https://documents.hants.gov.uk/landscape/HICCharacterArea-2GWoodedSandheathFarmland-Final2012-05.pdf</p> <p>Although the woodland is much reduced in its extent (see history below), it is well connected to other woodlands directly to the north and hedges to the south.</p>
Site area	2.3 hectares including woodland, grassland and barn.
Woodland area	2.05 hectares woodland – Grassland approx 0.25 hectares. 0.35 ha not on AWI
Designations	<p>Ancient woodland: 1.7 hectares on AWI. Small amount of AWI is on grassland area.</p> <p>ASNW: 1.7 on AWI</p> <p>PAWS: None on AWI but some of ASNW area shows PAWS characteristics with conifers.</p> <p>AONB -Fully within the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</p> <p>Tree Preservation Order (TPO) – TPO number 10/99 – New Forest District Local Authority. Does not include grassland area and area of younger ash.</p> <p>Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC) – Higher Court Wood See https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/biodiversity/informationcentre/sincs For further information</p>
Access	No public access or public rights of way. Access from the Court Hill road. Track leads to barn and provides good access for management.

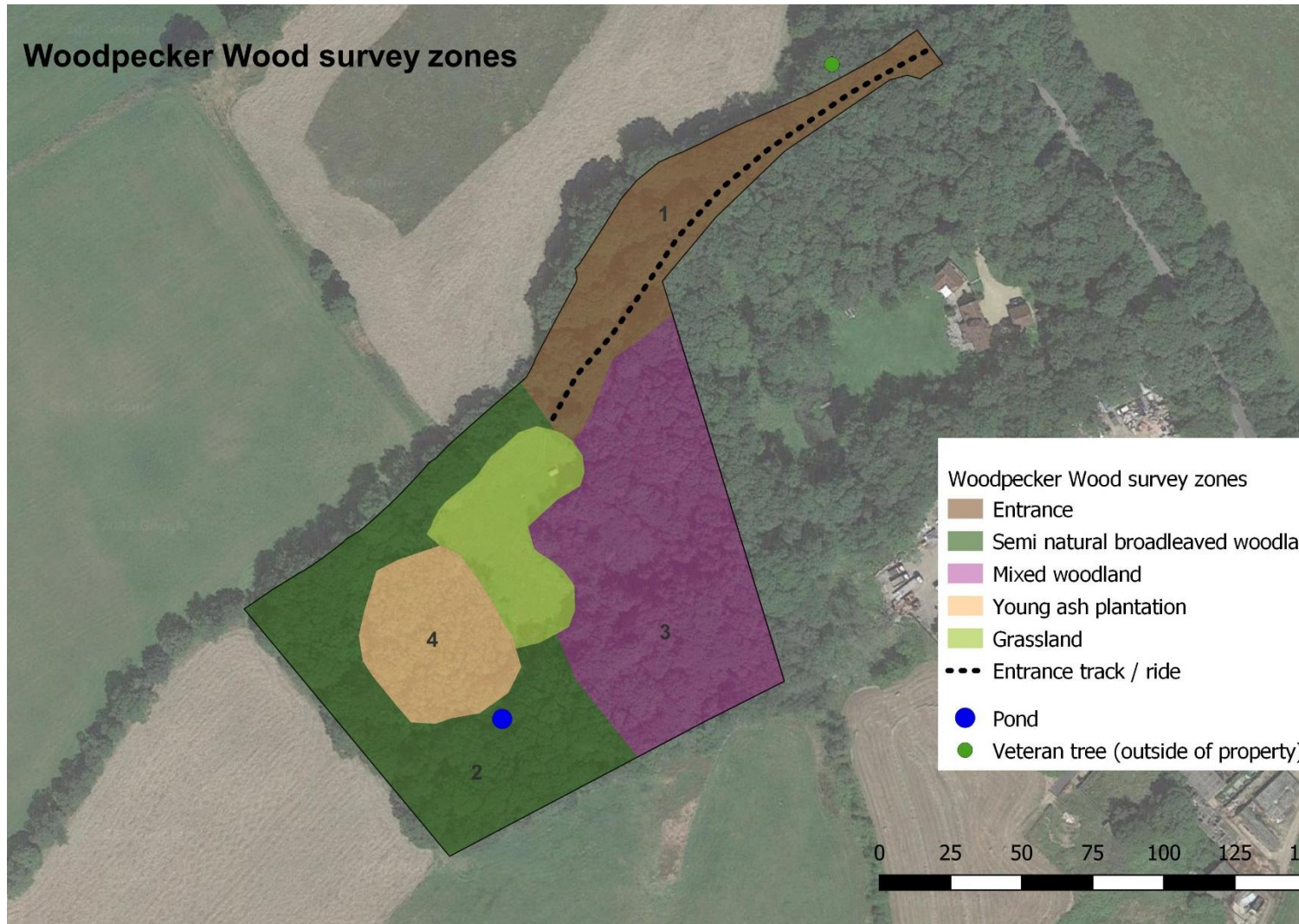
<p>Climate, topography, geology and soils</p>	<p>Topography Between 70 and 80 metres above sea level. Southwest facing moving to southeast facing slope.</p> <p>Geology Reading Formation – Sand Adjacent to east is London Clay Formation - Clay, Silt And Sand. In the valley in the SE are some superficial deposits of Head - Clay And Silt. British Geology Society – Geology of Britain Viewer https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</p> <p>Soils Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils. Soilscape 18. Viewed on Soilscales viewer http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales/ Soilscales 18 description https://www.landis.org.uk/soilsguide/soilscales.cfm?ssid=18</p>
<p>Hydrology</p>	<p>Small pond in SW. Drain / stream just to SE in neighbouring property. Allen River which is a chalk stream that has its source on the Cranborne Chase is located to the SE. It joins the River Avon at Fordingbridge. River Avon catchment</p>
<p>Ecology</p>	<p>Ancient woodland flora as detailed later in this report. Could have dormice present.</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>The woodland was originally known as Higher Court Wood and was much greater in extent with it being joined up with Lower Court Wood to the SE. Looking at old maps it looks as if the woodland was cleared sometime between 1962 and 1990 See appendix 2: old maps</p>



Map 1: Designations and location of woodland

Summary of woodland features

This section summarises the ancient woodland features identified during the woodland survey. These are listed in more detail in [Table 2](#). Woodland survey findings.



Map 2: Woodland survey zones

4. Prescriptions

The table below sets out the full range of interventions recommended in order to begin restoring the woodland, and securing it for the future. These are prioritised according to the most pressing threats to each zone, as follows:

- **Priority 1:** critical works which are required as soon as possible.
- **Priority 2:** pressing works which are required soon to critical/threatened areas.
- **Priority 3:** works required to secure threatened areas.
- **Priority 4:** works that will benefit areas but are not currently essential.
- **Priority 5:** longer term/optional objectives for the woodland.

Specific interventions are then recommended within each zone; these are also numbered in rough order of priority.

Table 3. Woodland interventions recommended

Zone	Overall priority	Interventions	Rough times
1	2	1. Where diseased ash is threatening access to the wood or damage to neighbouring property consider removing. Otherwise leave ash to naturally decay in situation.	Within 1 year
2	4	2. Coppice hazel and wood edge.	Within 5 years
3	2	1. Remove and treat rhododendron and Lonicera nitida	Within 1 year
		2. Look to remove conifers to return woodland to native broadleaved woodland.	Within 5 years
		3. Coppice hazel and wood edge.	Within 5 years
4	3	1. Thin out diseased ash. Keep healthy ash standing.	Within 2 years
		2. Allow natural regeneration of species within plantation or plant if no signs of this plant species	Within 2 years
5	4	1. Coppice shrub species on edge periodically.	Within 5 years
		2. Maintain rough edge between grassland and woodland.	Ongoing
All	3	1. Ensure regeneration of tree species occurs to replace loss of ash. Natural protection from bramble may allow this but do consider using tree shelters on seedlings to protect from deer and other browsing animals.	Ongoing
		2. If there is not regeneration or if sycamore becomes the dominant species consider underplanting with species native to woodland.	Within 2 years

Woodland specialist flora: Found in zones 1 to 3.

Ground flora species		Tree species	
Common name	Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Hart's-tongue fern	<i>Phyllitis (Asplenium) scolopendrium</i>	Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Pendulous sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i>		
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>		
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>		
Wood anemone	<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>		
Wood spurge	<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>		
Woodruff	<i>Galium odoratum</i>		
Yellow pimpernel	<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>		
Total Number	9	2	

Table 1. Summary of Ancient Woodland Vascular Plants identified during field survey

Deadwood: Some deadwood. Likely to increase as older ash trees dieback from ash dieback disease.

Archaeology: Wood bank along northern edge likely to be old.

Notable trees: Some larger old ash coppice stools. Large pedunculate oak just to north of property in the NE. Not measured but guessed to be over 4 metres.

4.1.1. Summary of woodland condition and threats to features

The main threats to the woodland's features were found to be (in descending order):

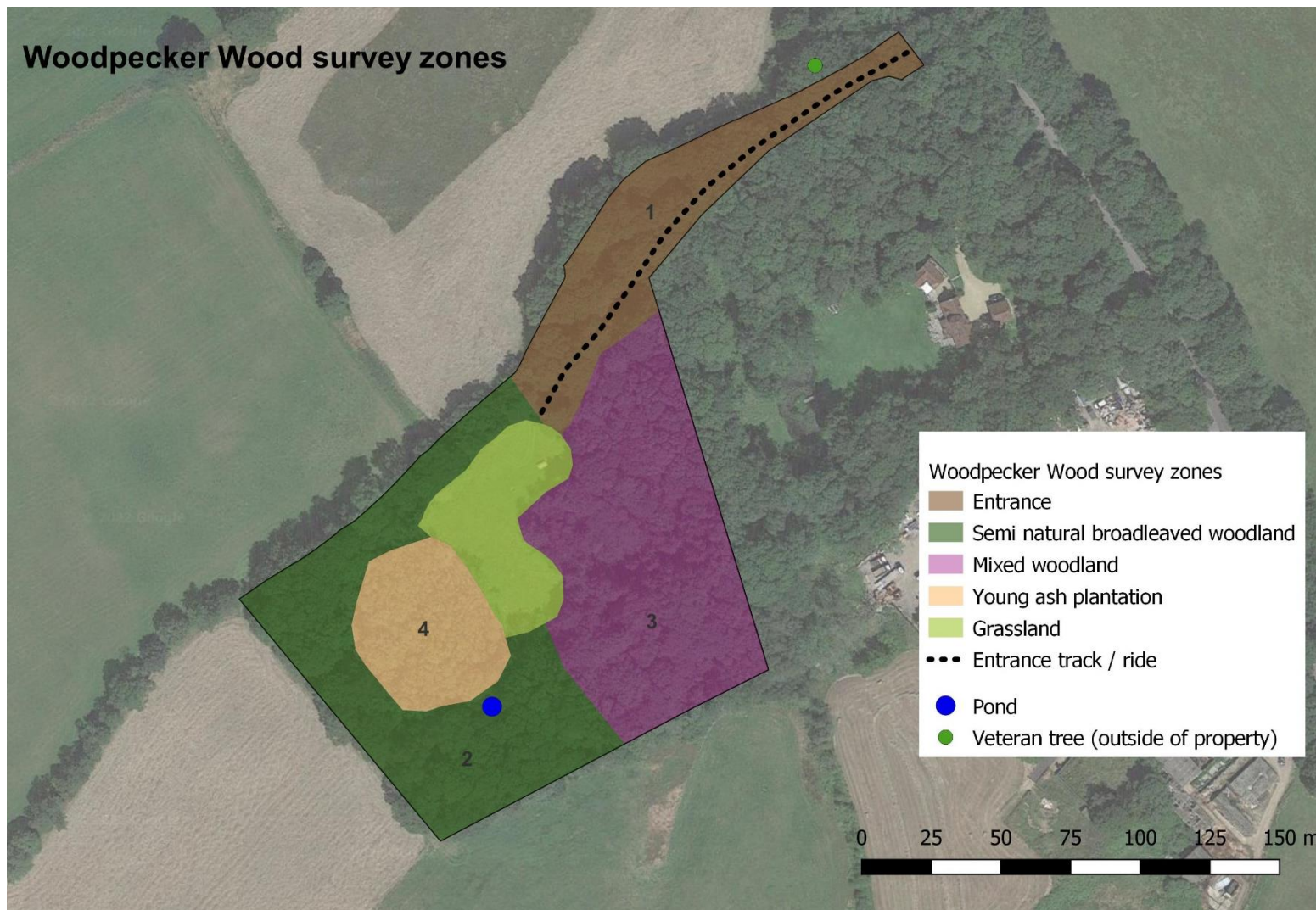
1. Invasive non-native species. – Some within SE corner of woodland with much more in neighbouring property. Also, *Lonicera nitida* is found along southern part of woodland which was likely to have been planted as game cover. The removal of both species would benefit the ground layer, allowing ancient woodland plants to spread and regeneration of trees and shrubs.
2. Ash dieback. Ash dieback is prevalent in the woodland in all ages of tree. There is a good diversity of other trees species so hopefully other tree species will regenerate. It may be that some regenerating ash will show resistance to ash dieback. Deer may have an impact on regenerating trees so this needs to be monitored.
3. Conifers. Although well-spaced and with no signs of regeneration it would be beneficial for them to be removed over time to allow the development of native broadleaved woodland.

Survey findings by Zone

The table below brings together features found during the survey, by zone, together with threats to them, and allocated threat levels.

Zone	Description	Trees & shrubs	Other flora & fauna	Other important features	Specific threats to features	Threat level across Zone
1	0.42 hectare. <u>Woodland strip along entrance drive</u> . Dominated by ash and sycamore.	Broadleaf trees: Common ash, Pedunculate oak, Sycamore, Shrubs: Bramble, Common hawthorn, Hazel	Ground flora: Bluebell, Hart's-tongue fern	Wood bank along northern edge. Old barn.	Ash dieback	Threatened
2	0.66 hectare. <u>Semi natural broadleaved woodland</u> . Lots of older ash coppice. Hazel coppice throughout with occasional Holly. Good wood edge habitat with Hawthorn, Field maple and other shrubs.	Broadleaf trees: Common ash, Field maple, Goat willow Pedunculate oak, Silver birch, Sycamore, Wych elm Shrubs: Bramble, Common hawthorn, Hazel, Holly	Ground flora: Bluebell, Pignut, Primrose, Wood anemone, Woodruff, Wood spurge, Yellow pimpernel	Wood bank along northern edge.	Ash dieback	Threatened
3	0.77 hectare. <u>Mixed woodland</u>	Broadleaf trees: Common ash, Field maple, Goat willow, Pedunculate oak, Silver birch, Sycamore, Wild cherry Conifers: Leylandii, Norway spruce Shrubs: Bramble, Common hawthorn, Hazel, Holly	Ground flora: Bluebell, Pignut, Primrose, Wood anemone, Woodruff, Wood spurge, Yellow pimpernel		Ash dieback. Rhododendron. Lonicera nitida. Conifers.	Threatened
4	0.25 hectare. <u>Young ash plantation</u> . Outside of ancient woodland part and the TPO.	Broadleaf trees: Common ash, Field maple	Limited		Ash dieback	Threatened
5	0.23 hectare. <u>Grassland</u>	No trees in area as grassland but important wood edge features.	Grassland not surveyed	Not identified.		

Table 2. Woodland survey findings.



Map 2: Woodland survey zones

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Felling licence and TPO regulations

As most of the woodland is designated under a Tree Preservation Order an application through New Forest District Council would need to be made to carry out works to trees. See

<https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/2642/Tree-Preservation-Orders>

Alternatively, a felling licence could be obtained through the Forestry Commission (FC) which would then work with the NFDC tree officer. This could be a 5 year stand alone licence or a 10 year licence with a management plan.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-felling-licence-when-you-need-to-apply>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-a-woodland-management-plan>

The area of young ash is mostly outside of the TPO and will likely to be exempt from needing a felling licence as

- Many trees are already dead so exempt.
- Many are under 8 cm.
- The rest would probably not equate to 5 cubic metres of cut material which you are allowed to fell each calendar quarter (see above guidance).

I would recommend speaking with a FC Woodland Officer before making an application. Details can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/forestry-commission/about/access-and-opening#south-east-and-london>

Barn in zone 1

Any planning application for changing use of the barn should not impact anything outside of the current footprint of the existing building as this would impact on the ancient woodland and TPO. The woodland has already shrunk a considerable size during the 20th century, so it is important not to lose any more of the woodland.

Further reading

Some of the publications listed are now out of print, but some PDFs and/or hard copies, as well as a more comprehensive list of further reading, are available from the Woodland Trust upon request.

1.4.2 Ancient woodland restoration and woodland management

Blakesley, D, Buckley, GP. (2010). *Managing your woodland for wildlife*. Pisces Publications, Newbury, UK.

Evans, J, (2006). *Badgers, Beeches and Blisters: Getting started in your own wood*. Patula Books, Basingstoke, UK. ISBN 0-9541947-1-3.

Forestry Commission (2001). *Ecological Site Classification Decision Support System*, Available at: <http://www.forestdss.org.uk/geoforestdss/> Forestry Commission (2015).

An introduction to coppicing. Video guides. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZqQGWHepq3nHL86Pbw94CrTSkSt5uaB>. Forestry Commission England, Bristol, UK.

Forestry Commission England (2009). *So, you own a woodland? Getting to know your wood and looking after it*. Available through the RFS online at <https://www.rfs.org.uk/learning/forestry-knowledge-hub/woodland-management/so-you-own-a-woodland/>

Forestry Commission England (2010). *Managing ancient and native woodland in England*. Forestry Commission England Practice Guide. Forestry Commission, Bristol, UK. ISBN 978-0-85538-821-8.

Thompson, RN, Humphrey, JW, Harmer, R, Ferris, R, (2003). *Restoration of native woodland on ancient woodland sites*. Forestry Commission Practice Guide. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, UK. ISBN 0 85538 579 0.

Woodland Trust (2015-19). *Ancient Woodland Restoration*. A series of detailed guides on the subject. Woodland Trust, Grantham, UK.

Warren, MS, Fuller, RJ, (1993). **Woodland rides and glades: their management for wildlife**. JNCC, Peterborough, UK. ISBN 1 873701 33 0.

Woodlands.co.uk (2015). **Woodlands TV**. Video guides on many aspects of woodland management. <http://www.woodlands.co.uk/tv/>. Woodlands.co.uk, London, UK.

Woodland Trust (2009). **Ancient Woods: A guide for woodland owners and managers**. Woodland Trust, Grantham, UK.

1.4.3 Ecology

Humphrey, J, Bailey, S, (2012). **Managing deadwood in forests and woodlands**. Forestry Commission Practice Guide. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh, UK. ISBN 978-0-85538-857-7.

Pond Conservation, (2010). **Pond Management Guide Summary sheet**. Available at: <http://www.seenature.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Pond-Management-guide-Summary-sheet.pdf>. Freshwater Habitats Trust, UK.

Rose, F, (1999). **Indicators of ancient Woodland. The use of vascular plants in evaluating ancient woods for nature conservation**. In: British Wildlife 10 (4), pp. 241-251. British Wildlife Publishing, Oxford, UK.

The Wildlife Trusts. **Managing Woody Debris in Rivers, Streams and Floodplains**. The Wildlife Trusts, Newark, UK.

1.4.4 Invasive and ruderal species

Woodland Trust (2015). **AWR Information Sheet - Bramble**. The Woodland Trust, Grantham, UK.

Woodland Trust (2015). **AWR Information Sheet - Rhododendron**. The Woodland Trust, Grantham, UK.

1.4.5 Legislation

Arboricultural Association (2018). **A brief guide to legislation for trees**. Available at: <https://www.trees.org.uk/Help-Advice/Public/A-brief-guide-to-legislation-for-trees>. Arboricultural Association, Stroud Green, UK.

Felling Licences Online – at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-online-for-a-felling-licence>

Forestry Commission **The UK Forestry Standard**. Available online at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/687147/The_UK_Forestry_Standard.pdf

1.4.6 Managing veteran trees

Lonsdale, D, (Ed) (2013). **Ancient and other veteran trees: further guidance on management**. The Tree Council, London, England. ISBN 978-0-904853-09-4.

1.4.7 Woodland Management Plans

See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/woodland-management-plan-grant-leaflet-countryside-stewardship/woodland-management-plan-grant-leaflet>

1.4.8 Pests and diseases

Forestry Commission Scotland (2007). **Controlling Grey Squirrel Damage to Woodlands**. Practice Note. Forestry Commission Scotland, Edinburgh, UK. ISBN 978-0-85538-735-8.

Forestry Commission (2015). **Tree Diseases**. Available at: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/treediseases>. Forestry Commission, Bristol, UK.

High Weald AONB Unit (2018). **Deer Management**. Various resources relating to deer management, including useful guidance on working with deer stalkers. Available at: <http://www.highweald.org/look-after/deer-management.html>. High Weald AONB Unit, Flimwell, UK.

Sylva Foundation (2018). **MyForest Deer Tool**. Available at: <https://sylva.org.uk/myforest/deer>. Sylva Foundation, Long Wittenham, UK.

The Deer Initiative (2011-12). **Best Practice: Deer Management. Best Practice Guides**. Available at: http://www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk/best_practice/deer_management.php. The Deer Initiative, Wrexham, UK.

1.4.9 Woodland archaeology

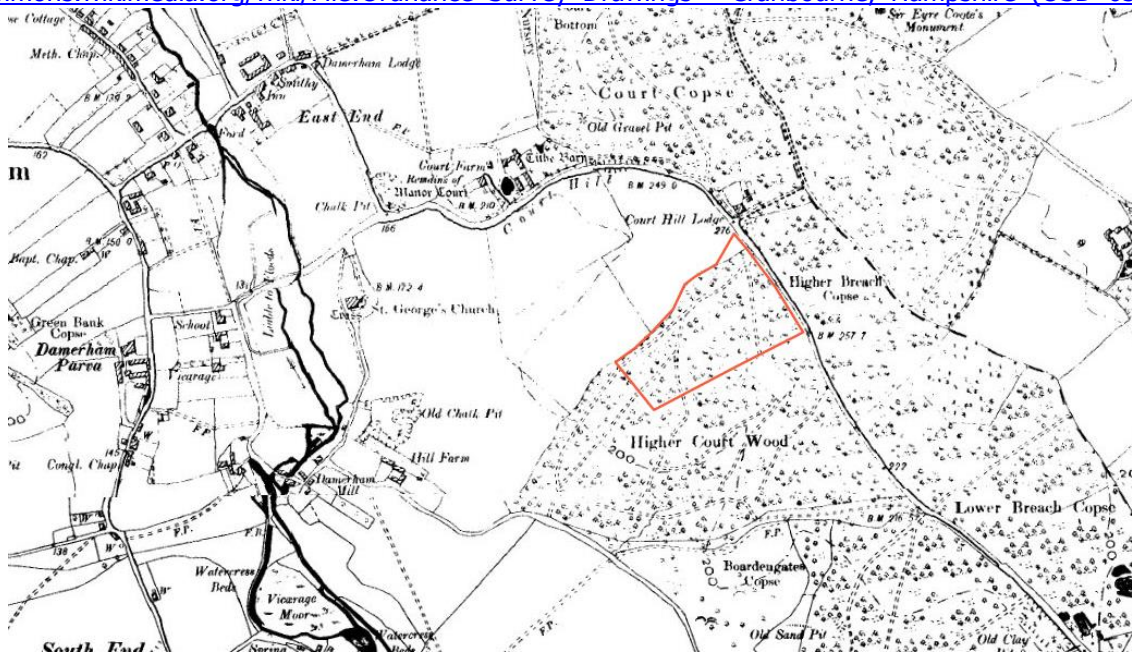
Bannister, NR, (2007). **The cultural heritage of woodlands in the South East**. South East AONBs Woodlands Programme, UK.

South East Woodland Archaeology Forum. **How to limit damage to historical features in woodland**. Available at: <http://www.highweald.org/downloads/publications/land-management-guidance/woodland-1/369-limiting-damage-to-woodland-archaeology/file.html>. South East Woodland Archaeology Forum.

Appendix 1: Old Maps



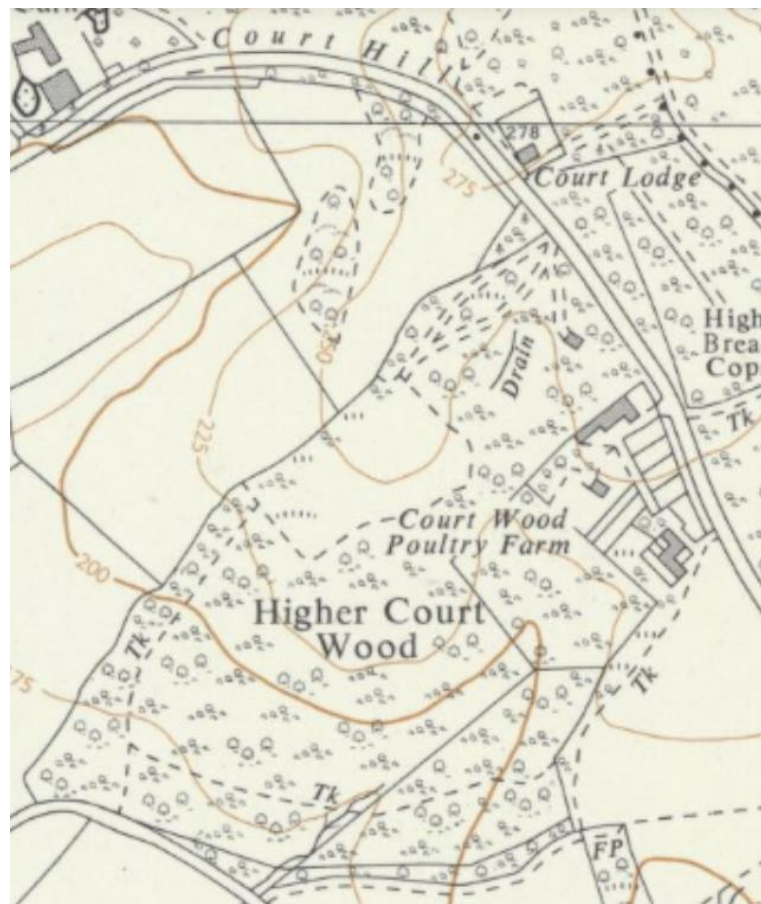
Ordnance Survey Drawings – Cranbourne Sheet 1807. Court Copse can be seen adjacent to Breach Copse.
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ordnance_Survey_Drawings_-_Cranbourne,_Hampshire_\(OSD_65\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ordnance_Survey_Drawings_-_Cranbourne,_Hampshire_(OSD_65).jpg)



Ordnance Survey 1897 map. Current extent of Court Copse shown in orange
Can be viewed on National Library of Scotland website.



1846 Ordnance Survey map. Higher Court Wood labelled as Breach Copse
<https://www.oldhampshiremapped.org.uk/hantsmap/ordnce6/OSS39f.htm>



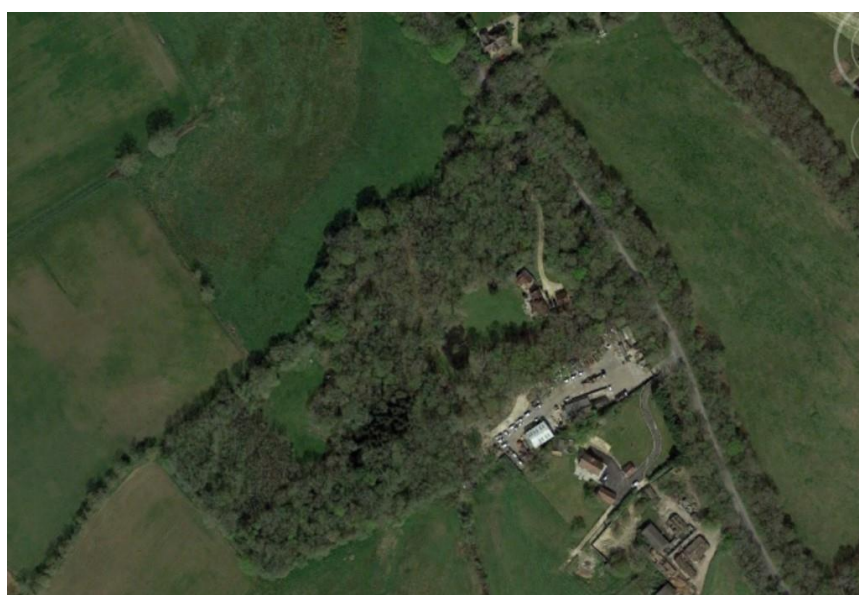
1963 OS map. Still showing original extent of Higher Court Wood.



1984 Google Earth image



2000 Google Earth image



2020 Google Earth Image

Appendix 2: Photos of zones and other features



Zone 1: Entrance drive



Zone 2: Area of bracken



Zone 3: Conifers



Zone 3: *Lonicera nitida*



Zone 4: Dense young ash



Zone 5: Grassland