



# WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021

Site: Ten Acres Woodland (TA)

Location: Stirchley and Selly Oak

Written by Alan Bale



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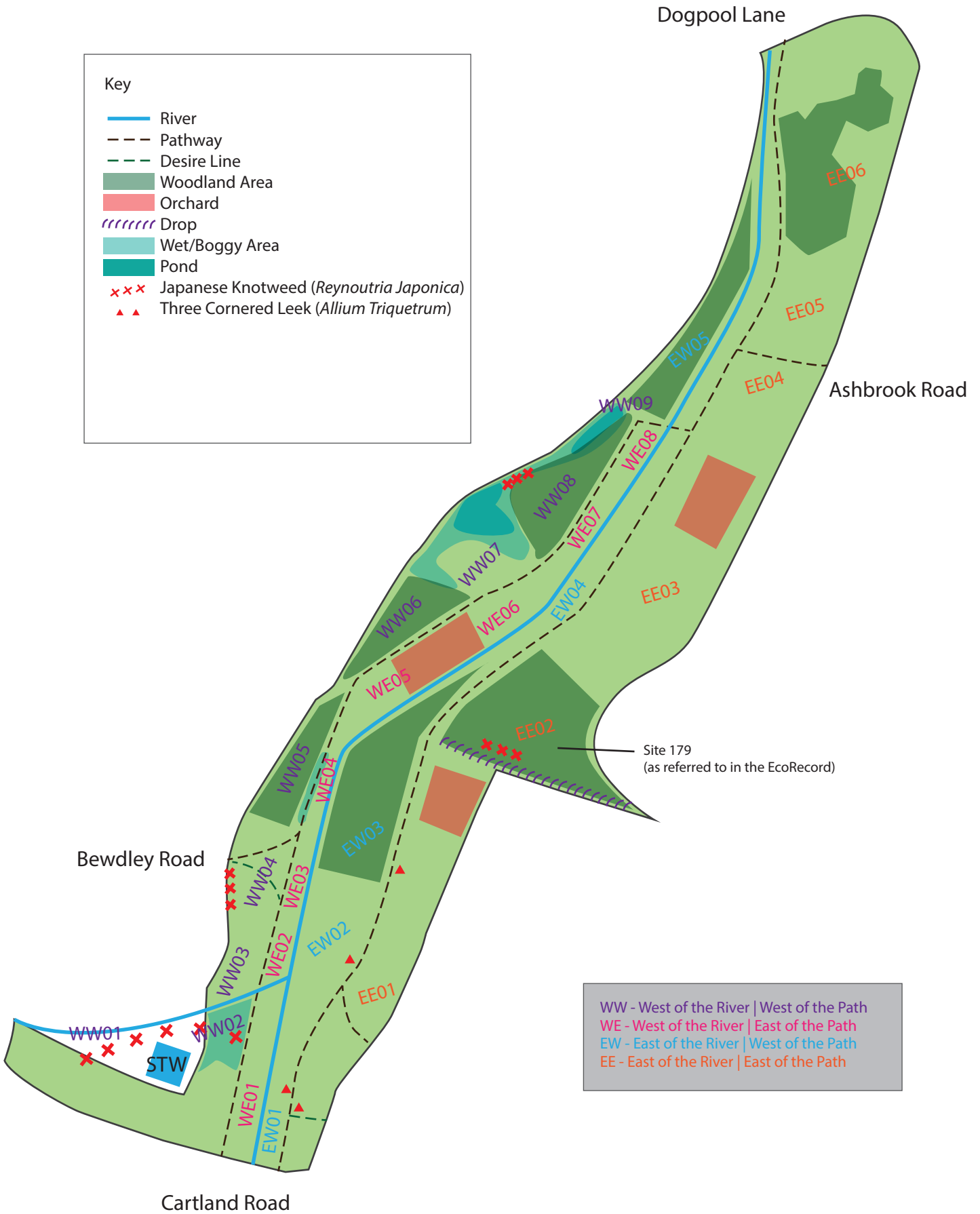
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Site 179  
(as referred to in the EcoRecord)



# **PART 1: General aims and approaches**



# Overview

TA is a large site that has seen many changes and has been used in a multiplicity of ways. Dogpool Mill, which was powered by the Rea, was in operation before 1740, when it became a blade mill. The mill underwent a number of changes, eventually becoming a copper and brass making mill by 1875. In the 1920s the mill pond was turned over to a boating and fishing pool, with a tea room. Today, a mental health facility stands where these buildings once did, and the mill pool has been drained.

Pre-fabricated housing was built on the site during WWII, and was apparently removed within fifteen years, though details of this are uncertain.

Allotments/Leisure Gardens were established on the eastern side of the river in the early 1900s, and were gone by 1970, leaving only a few traces (including the "Lost Orchard"). It was around this time that the site was designated a "Public Open Space". The Sustrans cycle route no.5 was established along the Rea in 2000.

The woodlands that dominate the site are mostly under fifty years old. On the western side, the woodland may have risen up after the construction of the bridge and path in the 1970s. The path has fallen into disrepair since that time. On the eastern side, at least some of the woodland has arisen since the loss of the allotments/leisure gardens and is therefore secondary woodland, and primarily wet woodland dominated by willow spp.. The site benefits from the nearby ancient woodland remnant at Holders Wood, and has a large number of ancient woodland indicator species.

Friends of Ten Acres (FOTA) was formed in 2019 when Sustainable Life Voluntary Organisation (SLVO) began seeking to improve the site, for which it was deemed necessary to form a Friends Group and affiliate with BOSF.

FOTA have now been active on the site since early 2020, when funding was first obtained through SLVO. FOTA work to improve and maintain the park for the benefit of both the public and of nature. They are part of BOSF, and have acquired (either directly, or in their early days through SLVO), a significant amount of funding, enabling them to make considerable improvements to the site already. Funding will continue to be drawn to the site, managed by FOTA, to facilitate the actions agreed with BCC in the current plan.



# Key Aims

- 1** To increase biodiversity ([Page 8](#)).
- 2** To increase accessibility and safety on the site ([Page 9](#)).

# Secondary Aims

3. To enhance the beauty of the site \*
4. To increase awareness of the site and its species \*\*

\* The beauty of the site will be enhanced primarily via aims 1 & 2, and by other volunteer activities such as litter picking.

\*\* The social media platform provided by FOTA, including facebook, instagram and inaturalist pages will increase awareness of the site, as will volunteer activities and occasional events.

# 1: Increase Biodiversity

The site has an abundance of Bramble, Willowherb, lesser celandine, hogweed, cow parsley, wood avens, stinging nettles, ivy, butterbur, pendulous sedge and ramsons (among others).

Problematic species on the site include: sycamore, horse chestnut, buddleia, and spanish bluebell.

Schedule nine invasives on the site include: tri-cornered leek, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed, Japanese rose and Himalayan balsam.

Appendix A ([Page 23 & 24](#)) lists ancient woodland indicator species found on the site since 2020.

The article 'The Value of Different Tree and Shrub Species to Wildlife' ([Page 33](#)) shows high value trees extant on site.

Site management will focus on improving the diversity of species and enhancing the population of valuable species. Key to this strategy will be the removal of invasives and the reduction of important but overabundant species such as bramble. Dead hedges will be used to compartmentalise areas of importance and to create habitat corridors.

Appendix C ([Page 28](#)) is a map from a survey in 1882. Using this we created a Hedgerow Map ([Page 29](#)) highlighting the old hedgerow lines on the site and original river route. These areas may contain richer seed banks, and need extra monitoring and management; the desired outcome of this would be to utilise seed banks to restore species to the site.

Appendix E ([Page 31](#)) lists lost/endangered species previously noted on the 1990 EcoRecord survey.



## 2: Increase Accessibility & Safety

The most important initial target is to reduce dangerous trees in areas of high footfall. The dank, intimidating atmosphere of the woodland (combined with the anti-social behaviour in those areas) also needs to be changed; improving sight lines through the woodland from the path, and improving the view to the river are all key strategies here. In term of accessibility, there are areas of path that regularly flood; these areas should be made more open, which it is believed will improve evaporation.





# TREE Management Actions



While the site is already of substantial value, in the long-term the site could certainly be improved in a number of ways. In terms of tree cover, this would include:

- Less Crack Willow, with more of the remaining Crack Willow being pollarded for public safety. Alder in place of Crack Willow where possible.
- Less and smaller Bramble and Sloe thickets, with native tree plantings taking their place.
- More highly valuable trees, especially Oak and Field Maple
- Overgrown hazel should be reduced in multiple locations for safety, and to increase light levels.
- Selected native trees, especially Willow, Oak and Ash allowed to become veterans.

The Crack Willow should only be encouraged in areas of low footfall, as its high risk of falling produces dangers for the public.

<i>Salix Fragilis</i>	<b>Crack Willow</b>	<b>REDUCE</b>
<i>Rubus spp.</i>	<b>Bramble</b>	<b>REDUCE</b>
<i>Prunus Spinosa</i>	<b>Sloe Thickets</b>	<b>REDUCE</b>
<i>Quercus spp.</i>	<b>Oak</b>	<b>INCREASE/PROMOTE &amp; ENCOURAGE VETERANS</b>
<i>Acer Campestre</i>	<b>Field Maple</b>	<b>INCREASE/PROMOTE</b>
<i>Corylus spp.</i>	<b>Hazel</b>	<b>MANAGE</b>
<i>Fraxinus Excelsior</i>	<b>Ash</b>	<b>ENCOURAGE VETERANS</b>

## Tree Planting

<b>Goat Willow</b>	<i>Salix Caprea</i>
<b>Alder</b>	<i>Alnus Glutinosa</i>
<b>Elder</b>	<i>Sambucus Nigra</i>
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus Monogyna</i>
<b>Birch</b>	<i>Betula Pendula</i>
<b>Oak</b>	<i>Quercus spp.</i>
<b>Rowan</b>	<i>Sorbus Aucuparia</i>
<b>Hazel</b>	<i>Corylus spp.</i>
<b>Field Maple</b>	<i>Acer Campestre</i>

Goat Willow, Alder, Elder, Hawthorn, Birch, Oak, Rowan, Hazel and Field Maple should be allowed to regenerate naturally on the site, and considered as good planting choices. Level of tree cover is to be decided in collaboration with BCC. But FOTA has located several areas on the site where significant improvements in canopy cover can be made by appropriate planting. Appendix D ([Page 30](#)) highlights these sites.

## Maintain & Enhance Diversity

The reduction of invasive and dominant species on the site and the increased diversity of light levels should support the regeneration of native flora and fauna. Where new species are found, specific support plans can be produced.

Bat and bird boxes on the site, combined with ongoing surveys, should enable a comprehensive plan to be drafted over the next three to five years.

## Create Habitat Channels

Dead hedging is considered to provide safe habitat channels for small forest creatures such as mice and hedgehogs, and is a useful way to tidy tree waste on the site. Log piles provide similar benefits while creating different niches.

## Accessibility & Safety

As a public woodland, TA needs to balance biodiversity and conservation value with accessibility and safety.

### **Of particular concern for safety is:**

- Preponderance of Crack Willow on the site, much of which leans heavily and/or has large broken limbs. These should be pollarded when and where resources allow.
- Historical presence of substance misuse paraphernalia, particularly syringes, in a variety of locations upon the site. This can be managed by increasing visibility across the site.
- The state of the footpath on the West of the river, which is frequently flooded.

### **In terms of Accessibility:**

- The state of the footpath on the West of the river.
- The lack of any signage
- The lack of bins.
- The lack of visibility through the woodland, which is intimidating to the public.



# **PART 2: Table of Actions**



# West of the River

## WW - West of the River | West of the path

AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
WW01	Borders Cartland Road and the Bourne. It is predominately woodland with thick bramble at the eastern edge, and grass from the edge to the footpath on Cartland Road. Large black poplar predominates here, alongside sycamore, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, and others. Toward the north JK predominates heavily. Litter is heavy both in the woodland and the brook.	Bramble to be slightly reduced to improve appearance and accessibility. Litter to be removed. Basic tree maintenance to make safe and accessible.	
WW02	Mixed deciduous woodland by entrance to site. The area has been significantly improved by basic maintenance already, though it is still unwelcoming and dark. North along the path, the area changes to become wet and thick with nettles and raspberries. As of yet the appropriate work for this part of the area is undetermined. Overgrown trees occasionally obstruct path.	Inspection and determination of work on the north of the space. Litter picking. Path kept clear.	
WW03	Willow bridge: crack willow routinely obstructs bridge, requiring repeated interventions; large weeping willow overhangs bridge and bourne. Under the bridge is a site of substance misuse.	Ongoing removal of crack willow branches from bridge. Litter picking under weeping willow. Report substance misuse paraphernalia.	
WW04	Strip between brown-fill site and path after bridge. Large norway maple saplings are prevalent, as well as ash and birch. Further north, area widens toward the Bewdley Road entrance, there is hazel, crack willow and hawthorn. HB covers this area. There is a eucalpyt at the northernmost point.	Norway maple saplings removed, as well as litter and HB. Basic maintenance.	
WW05	Dense wooded area which has been made accessible due to evidence of extensive substance misuse. Long, horizontal branches and dead dying trees make some removal and replanting desirable. The area is littered with car tyres and bags full of charity collection bags. Path here is dark and flooded	Clearance of small sections to replant Litter picking Removal of long branches if they obstruct path Increase light along path to discourage flooding.	



AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
WW06	<p>Mixed Woodland, south end is narrow and dense with hazel, privet, birch and hawthorn. North into the main woodland it widens, and is dominated by birch, with alder, hazel, hawthorn, sloe, elder, goat willow and juvenile oak. Ramsons are thick on the forest floor in spring. HB and JK are present but managed. There is a drainage channel toward the north of the area, and on the northernmost end of the space there are multiple fallen trees. On the boundary with WW07 there is willow and field maple. The area suffers from vandalism, and there are frequent fires around a central point, though some trees have been burned around the space. Children play here regularly and there are swings and shelters. Basic maintenance has been done here, though there is an ongoing issue in the north side (past the drainage channel) with fallen willow piling up.</p>	<p>Manage HB.                      Inspect regularly for substance misuse paraphernalia.                      Push back bramble on western edge to do some modest plantings of birch and hawthorn.                      Litter picking                      Clear fallen trees north of drainage channel.</p>	
WW07	<p>Bare patch of land with pond on westernmost point. Hb and JK preponderant here, with thick bramble encircling. Around pond is pendulous sedge. Willow, oak and sloe are in and around the pond area.</p>	<p>Manage HB. There is no plan to plant or manage this land, though discussions with BCC will hopefully result in receiving permission to plant trees.</p>	
WW08	<p>This second mixed woodland ww07 has at it's southwest edge. It is dominated by birch and alder, with some oak, hazel, hawthorn, and a single lime. The site has had some substance misuse and is frequently used for fires. HB is abundant but not dominant. Pendulous sedge is a feature, and sloe is thick around pond. The birch is even aged (around 30 years), but the alder much younger (maybe 15 years). This appears to be because of some historical work that has been undertaken there, though no record of this has been found as of yet. Basic maintenance has been done here.</p>	<p>Manage HB.                      Inspect for substance misuse paraphernalia.                      Thin alder saplings as necessary as they grow.</p>	
WW09	<p>At the north end of WW08 is a thin path dominated by heavily leaning medium sized crack willows, with multiple broken branches and root-plate shift. These surround a natural pond on the westernmost edge of the site, beyond which there is limited access. On the western fenced boundary of the adjacent land is thick JK which is spreading eastward.</p>	<p>Pollard crack willows.</p>	





## WE - West of the River | East of the path

AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
WE01	Riverside of the west entrance. By the bridge to the Rea the sloe and bramble were so tangled as to completely block light into the area – this has been removed but needs to be maintained. North along the path are multiple saplings from the willow, alder, hawthorn, elder and ash. Path side are several medium crack willows that are leaning and unsafe. Basic maintenance tidied dead and leaning wood, clearing obstructions from path. At the northernmost end where it was very dark and used for substance misuse has been opened up, but also needs maintaining.	Maintain sloe/bramble/HB at bridge Reduce saplings as they grow, with low density in mind to maintain view of river. Maintain moderate light levels around north end to prevent substance misuse.	
WE02	After bridge is a copse that has received basic maintenance, having previously been opaque and obstructed with wild privet, ivy, fallen trees and deadwood. Now it is a pleasant space with hazel, rowan, willow, birch and privet. The space has HB along the river.	Manage HB. Basic maintenance at some point in the next two years to limit regrowth of ivy and privet, which would obstruct visibility and create inhospitable space around walkway.	
WE03	The copse opens out to field of colts foot and HB, with small-medium crack willows along riverside. This space records the most bats on the site. There is a newly planted alder, a mature oak, and a random loquat in this space. A mature oak sits at the northern end, in which area is hogweed, fireweed, pendulous sedge, goosegrass and nettle. There is a birch and a leyland cypress here, and there is some fly-tipped waste, including a wooden door.	Light planting of alder Monitor bat population Manage HB Remove fly-tipped waste	
WE04	Opposite WW05. Path is flooded regularly. The east side borders the canalised Rea, and is occupied by bramble, HB, JK, and young sloe. There is some elder, plum, hawthorn and hazel, and going northward (where the space widens), some willow too. On the southern end of the path where it is closer to the river, the majority of the trees are very young, whereas at the northern end they appear older, though this may just be that the willow is so much faster growing as to give this appearance.	Open space to increase light to path. Manage HB and bramble (which tends to climb into sloe and over onto path). Basic maintenance on northern end. Plant small trees closer to river on northern end where HB has outcompeted other plants.	



AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
WE05	<p>On the south end is a thick patch of fallen tree debris and bramble. Bramble opens into top meadow garden, which is a native edible species garden planted by families with Fruit and Nut Village Stirchley. The area ends with a sloe thicket. HB is prevalent. The path here was under 6 metres of bramble, the clearing of which has left a large space and derelict path.</p>	<p>Work to continue on top meadow garden. HB to be managed. Bramble to be reduced further. Path maintenance is an issue but without funding there is no clear solution.</p>	
WE06	<p>Sloe thicket between path and river, opening northward into thick copse, which is tangled and overgrown. North end is enclosed by large fallen willow, after which is bramble.</p>	<p>Sloe thicket would benefit from having a channel cut through it to enhance public harvesting opportunities. Copse could undergo some basic maintenance to increase visibility to river.</p>	
WE07	<p>Area of bramble with limited medium sized trees, including willow and hawthorn. A path has been carved through the area at approx 2m width, opening view of trees and access to bank. HB is prevalent, especially toward path.</p>	<p>Path to be further widened to facilitate some light tree planting. Shade should enhance view and suppress HB and bramble.</p>	
WE08	<p>Copse on flat by the path and on the slope toward the river, populated by willow, elder, hazel, hawthorn, privet and others. Dense on the slope.</p>	<p>View could be enhanced by some tidying of dead in understory and shrub layer. This would also enhance the view from the bridge into the west side of the site.</p>	



# East of the River

## EW - East of the River | West of the path

EW is the area between the main cycle/footpath and the river. This area is the most important in terms of the aesthetics of the site, in which it makes sense to emphasize the river as one traverses the site.

AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
EW01	HB and GH are serious problems here, along the riverbank in particular. There is a large dead sycamore standing in view of the river but away from immediate risk to the public. Other invasives include Laurel, though this has been cut back. Light tree cover here has been tidied previously. Heroin paraphernalia has been found previously in a large, dark area.	Further removal of laurel, dead, bramble from among the trees, enhancing the view and reducing areas of potential substance misuse.	
EW02	The southern boundary of this area is marked by the widening of the space between path and river, and a prevalence of crack and goat willow. There is a strong shrub layer here, and some dog rose. Bramble is prevalent. Northward, the area widens further. Close to the path is hazel, apple, hawthorn, dog rose, sycamore; behind this is a dense field of bramble, punctuated with various tree species. Close to the river, the area is thickly littered with debris from the confluence of Bourne and Rea.	This site has potential to be enhanced with significant tree planting, increasing tree cover and biodiversity without detracting from the aesthetic of the site, thanks to the strong layer of trees closest to the path. The existing apple tree presents the possibility of some fruit tree planting here.	
EW03	After some thin cover in EW02, a clear boundary presents itself in which something more like a woodland exists. Bordered by cherry, it is populated mostly by crack willow, hazel, birch, hawthorn and wild privet. It is on a steep slope. The willow make the site unsafe for public footfall, and the site is obviously a likely spot for anti-social behaviour. The area appears to have a population of native bluebell, alongside the invasive Spanish bluebell.	Some work has been done in here to remove pests such as HB and Buddleia, and to reduce hanging dead. Further work could be done to enhance visibility from the west bank, limiting anti-social behaviour without encouraging access. In general, the area should not be opened up to the public due to the risk of falling crack willows. This has been highlighted by BCC for reduction in the future. An assessment of native bluebell populatin and possible removal of Spanish bluebell needs to be considered.	



AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
EW04	This area, at the bottom of the slope (southern end of area) and on the bank of the river, allows access to the river in multiple locations. Dominant species are bramble and rosebay willowherb. There is some GH close to the accessible points, which is already on the schedule. Further north there is HB, and some alder and willow in small clumps near the bank. Closer to the bridge (north end of the area), there is more GH.	HB to be removed.	
EW05	Over the bridge the site has not had any work. There is a large volume of dead, fallen and dangerous wood in this area, including a several medium willow branches overhanging the main path. Further north towards Dad's lane bridge, there are a few paths to the bank, used frequently by dog walkers. Limited access makes further description difficult.	Some basic maintenance to make safe, and to improve the view to the water. Litter picking. Further assessment.	





## EE - East of the River | East of the path

AREA	DESCRIPTION	WORK REQUIRED AND AGREED	DATE OF COMPLETION
EE01	This area opens at the entrance to the park. There is a copse between the path and the doctor's surgery. It is in an average state of repair. Further north there is a large grassed area with a large apple tree, and at the north end, a small fruit orchard.	Litter picking, Basic orchard maintenance.	
EE02	At the north end of the orchard and the south end of this area is a steep slope thick with JK. Badger setts are present and badgers have been sighted. Following this is a wooded area, with some quite large trees. HB and JK, bramble, watercress and pendulous sedge are prevalent. Tree species include sycamore, willow, hazel alder, elder, hawthorn, rowan, and toward the north of the wood (where it is quite wet), ash. The site has a lot of litter, including evidence of rough sleeping.	HB to be removed. Area has had some thinning to reduce anti-social behaviour and facilitate safe access to HB. Tree officer has requested that paths close to larger trees be diverted; this may be done via a dead hedge.	
EE03	The Secret Orchard (as it is known) follows from EE02 and is completely surrounded by thick bramble. The orchard itself was exposed by Fruit and Nut Village Stirchley in 2019. They are mostly plum, and investigation is ongoing as to whether the elusive "pershire plum" is growing there.	Basic Maintenance removal of significant flytipped litter parrallel with Ashbrook Rd with the aim of limiting fly tipping and enhancing the woodland for Ashbrook residents.	
EE04	At the back is a disused area used frequently for fly tipping.  The area north of the orchard opens out into woodland that is dense and inaccessible. Species have not been assessed.	Some basic assessment needs to happen here, with a view to improving the aesthetic and safety.	
EE05	The trees open out into a grassy area backing onto Ashbrook Grove. There are some park tables. Behind the existing woodland is an area of dense new planting (a flood mitigation strategy by the EA).	Litter picking.	
EE06	There is a woodland area here that is tidy and has good light levels throughout. It has plantings around it, as the area is part of a floodplain. The EA is responsible for these plantings for five years.	The area needs no work at present, though some litter picking and basic tidying would be helpful.	



# APPENDIX

# APPENDIX A 1/2

## Flora & Fauna

A complete list of the currently verified flora and fauna found on Ten Acres not including the newly planted orchard areas.

**AWVP** = Ancient Woodland Vascular Plant

Proper Name	Common Name	Category	Status
<a href="#">Adalia Decempunctata f. Decempustulata</a>	10 Spot Ladybird	Beetle	Common
Acer Campestre	Field Maple	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Aegithalos caudatus	Long Tailed Tit	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Aesculus Hippocastanum</a>	Horse Chestnut	Tree	Common
<a href="#">Aglais Urticae</a>	Small Tortoiseshell	Butterfly	Common
<a href="#">Alcedinidae</a>	Kingfisher	Bird	Common
Allium Ursinum	Bears Garlic	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard Duck	Bird	<b>AMBER</b>
Anemone Nemorosa	Wood Anemone	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Anthocharis cardamines	Orange Tipped	Butterfly	Common
Apium Nodiflorum	Fools Watercress	Plant	Common
Asellus Aquaticus	Water Louse	Crustacea	Common
Asplenium Scolopendrium	Hart's Tongue	Fern	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	Bird	Common
Armoracia Rusticana	Horseradish	Plant	Naturalised
<a href="#">Arum Maculatum</a>	Lords and Ladies	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Barbarea Vulgaris	Winter Cress	Plant	Common
Cardamine Pratensis	Cuckoo Flower	Plant	Common
Carex Pendula	Pendulous Sedge	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Cepaea hortensis</a>	White Lipped Snail	Snail	Common
<a href="#">Chamerion Angustifolium</a>	Rosebay Willowherb	Plant	Common
Chloris chloris	Greenfinch	Bird	Common
Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon	Bird	Common
Cornus Sanguinea	Dogwood	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Corvus Corone</a>	Carrion Crow	Bird	Common
Corylus Avellana	Hazel	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Crataegus Monogyna</a>	Hawthorn	Tree	Common
Crocus (spring)	Crocus	Plant	Common
Cyanistes caeruleus	Blue Tit	Bird	Common
Daphnia	Water Flea	Crustacea	Common
Delichon urbicum	House Martin	Bird	<b>AMBER</b>
Dendrocopos major	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Egretta garzetta</a>	Little Egret	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Elasmucha grisea</a>	Parent Bug	Beetle	Common
Epipactis Helleborine	Broad Leaved Helleborine	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Erithacus rubecula	Robin	Bird	Common
Galanthus	Snowdrops	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Galium Aparine</a>	Goosegrass	Plant	Common
Gallinula chloropus	Moorhen	Bird	Common
Garrulus glandarius	Jay	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Geranium Molle</a>	Doves Foot Cranesbill	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Geranium Robertianum</a>	Herb Robert	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Gonepteryx rhamni	Brimstone	Butterfly	Common
<a href="#">Harmonia Axyridis</a>	Harlequin Ladybird	Beetle	INVASIVE
<a href="#">Heracleum Mantegazzianum</a>	Giant Hogweed	Plant	INVASIVE
<a href="#">Heracleum Sphondylium</a>	Common Hogweed	Plant	Common
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Native Bluebell	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Hyacinthoides x Massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell	Plant	INVASIVE
Ilex Aquifolium	Holly	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Lamium Purpureum</a>	Purple Deadnettle	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Lapsana Communis</a>	Nipplewort	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Lathyrus Pratensis</a>	Meadow Vetch	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Lissotriton vulgaris</a>	Smooth Newt	Newt	Common – <b>Protected</b>
<a href="#">Lycaena Phlaeas</a>	Small Copper	Butterfly	Common
Meles Meles	Badger	Mammal	Uncommon – <b>Protected</b>

# APPENDIX A 1/2

Proper Name	Common Name	Category	Status
Myosotis Sylvatica	Wood Forget-me-not	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Narcissus	Daffodil	Plant	Common
Oenanthe Crocata	Hemlock Water Dropwort	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Oniscus Asellus</a>	Woodlouse	Crustacea	Common
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	Bird	<b>RED</b>
Pararge Aegeria	Speckled Wood	Butterfly	Common
Parus major	Great Tit	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Petasites Hybridus</a>	Butterbur	Plant	Common
Phylloscopus collybita	Chiffchaff	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Pica Pica</a>	Eurasian Magpie	Bird	Common
Pieris brassicae	Large White	Butterfly	Common
Pieris rapae	Small White	Butterfly	Common
<a href="#">Pipistrellus Pipistrellus</a>	Common Pipistrelle	Bat	Common – <b>Protected</b>
<a href="#">Plantago Lanceolata</a>	Ribwort Plantain	Plant	Common
<a href="#">Polyommatus Icarus</a>	Common Blue	Butterfly	Common
<a href="#">Polyporus Squamosus</a>	Dryads Saddle	Funghi	Common
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	Bird	<b>AMBER</b>
Prunus Avium	Wild Cherry	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Prunus Spinosa</a>	Blackthorn	Tree/Bush	Common
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	Bird	Common
Psittacula Krameri	Ring Necked Parakeet	Bird	non-native
Pterostichus Madidus	Black Clock Beetle	Beetle	Common
<a href="#">Reynoutria Japonica</a>	Japanese Knotweed	Plant	INVASIVE
<a href="#">Rhagoxycha fulva</a>	Red Soldier Beetle	Beetle	Common
Ribes Rubram	Redcurrant	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Rosa Arvensis	Field Rose	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Rosa Canina	Dog Rose	Plant	Common
Rosa Rugosa	Japanese Rose	Plant	INVASIVE
Salix Caprea	Goat Willow	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Sarcoscypha austriaca	Scarlet Elf Cup	Funghi	Uncommon
<a href="#">Sciurus Carolinensis</a>	Grey Squirrel	Mammal	INVASIVE
Scrophularia Nodosa	Figwort	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Silene Dioica	Red Campion	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Sitta europaea	Nuthatch	Bird	Common
Sorbus Aucuparia	Rowan	Tree	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
Stachys Sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>
<a href="#">Staphylinus Olens</a>	Devils Coach Horse	Beetle	Common
Streptopelia Decaecto	Collared Dove	Bird	Common
Syringa Vulgaris	Lilac	Tree	Naturalised
<a href="#">Trametes Versicolor</a>	Turkey Tail	Funghi	Common
Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	Bird	Common
Turdus merula	Blackbird	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Turdus philomelos</a>	Song Thrush	Bird	Common
<a href="#">Tyria Jacobaeae</a>	Cinnabar	Butterfly/Moth	Common
Valerianella Locusta	Lamb's Lettuce	Plant	Common – but mainly localised to coast/north
Veronica Chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	Plant	Common
Veronica Hederifolia	Ivy Leaved Speedwell	Plant	Common
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	Plant	Common – <b>AWVP</b>



## TEN ACRES, REA VALLEY

## Site Summary Report

Report generated on 14/06/2021



EcoRecord

EcoRecord Reference	Site Name	Other Name(s)	Grid Reference
BM092:9	Ten Acres, Rea Valley	none	SP060820

Current Designation	Designation Status	Designation Reason
SLINC (part); PSI (part)	Recognised	Wildlife

Planning Authority	Site Ownership	Area (ha)	Length (m)	Date of Most Recent Survey
Birmingham City Council	Birmingham City Council/EA	9.74	n/a	24/01/1990

## Citation (Summary of Value)

The River Rea is a small river rising in Waseley Hills and flowing in a semi-natural corridor connecting several important sites in south Birmingham before becoming canalised and flowing through built-up areas before joining Tame at Gravelly Hill.

## Description taken from 1990 Rea Valley Survey:

The River Rea corridor is one of Birmingham's most important green "lungs" offering a wealth of different habitats and wildlife along its 11km length between Cannon Hill Park and the Worcestershire border.

Much of the stretch below Fordhouse Lane, Stirchley has been canalised as part of a flood prevention scheme and it lies in a corridor of mown reseeded grassland surrounded by factories and suburban roads. At present a great deal of this is of low wildlife value but small pockets of rough grassland, shrub and planted trees do occur, notably to the north and south of Dogpool Lane.

Ten Acres Section

The river beyond Cartland Road flows roughly north east for 750m through a corridor of neglected grassland east of the Pershore Road. Access is easy from many places along the route.

Access to this site is either from the river or via the nearby River Brook Drive.

## Habitats

This stretch of the Rea runs through a matrix of tall herb and unimproved grassland with occasional clumps of scrub, some of it slowly invading adjacent habitats.

The only mature trees in the section, apart from a few crack willows, line the boundary fence to the west of the river just south of Dogpool Lane. These consist of large crack willow, alder and hybrid black poplar, apparently following the former course of the river. There is a sparse understorey of hazel here and this along with young crack willow and willow, is invading the adjacent grassland.

Other pockets of scrub, mainly willow, crack willow, alder and hawthorn, exist elsewhere along the section, particularly to the north and south of the Bourn confluence. One large patch just on the main river bend near "site 179" is rapidly maturing to form woodland.

A good range of other species occur in these scrub areas including downy and silver birch, hazel, oak, osier, elder, garden privet and dog rose.

Parallel with the river, particularly on the west side, is much tall herb dominated by bramble, rosebay and great willowherb, nettle, creeping thistle, cow parsley and dock with coarse grasses such as cock's-foot and false oat-grass and frequent patches of Japanese knotweed.

Beyond this is much rank neutral grassland with scattered clumps of tall herb such as dock, willowherb, tansy, mugwort, common sorrel and cow parsley. Much of the grassland consists of reverted rye grass pasture overgrown with cocks foot and false oat-grass with tufted hair-grass and reed canary grass in the damper areas. The finer grassy areas have Yorkshire fog, creeping bent and crested dogtail, along with herbs such as knapweed, ox-eye daisy, vetches and great burnet.

Many wasteland ruderals can be seen here such as lupin and michaelmas daisy while more unusual plants recorded include broadleaved everlasting-pea, tall rocket, hoary willowherb and goat's-rue.

The banks of the river have largely been canalised so few aquatic plants are still present. Much of the bank side vegetation consists of typical ruderals such as nettle, cow parsley and common wintercress. Lesser celandine and hairy sedge are numerous to the north and south of the Bourn confluence.

Between the river and Ashbrook Grove is a sizeable damp depression (site 179), possibly the remains of a former mill pool. It is rapidly becoming invaded by scrub, notably crack willow, goat sallow, hawthorn and alder with some hazel and sycamore. The densest and oldest section is on the east side of the depression. The rest of the depression is overgrown with meadowsweet, nettle and great willowherb providing an excellent habitat for birds and insects. Towards the north of the section, this tall herb gives way to much compact, soft and hard rush and a large colony of lesser pond sedge.

The most interesting part floristically is a wet drain running through the site, much overgrown, but providing a habitat for plants such as yellow flag, branched bur-reed, fool's watercress, brooklime, imperforate St John's-wort and angelica.

#### Habitats present

River; Neutral Grassland, Broad-leaved Woodland; Scrub

#### Citation Document

BM092 Rea Valley - 1990 Local Site Survey

#### Notes

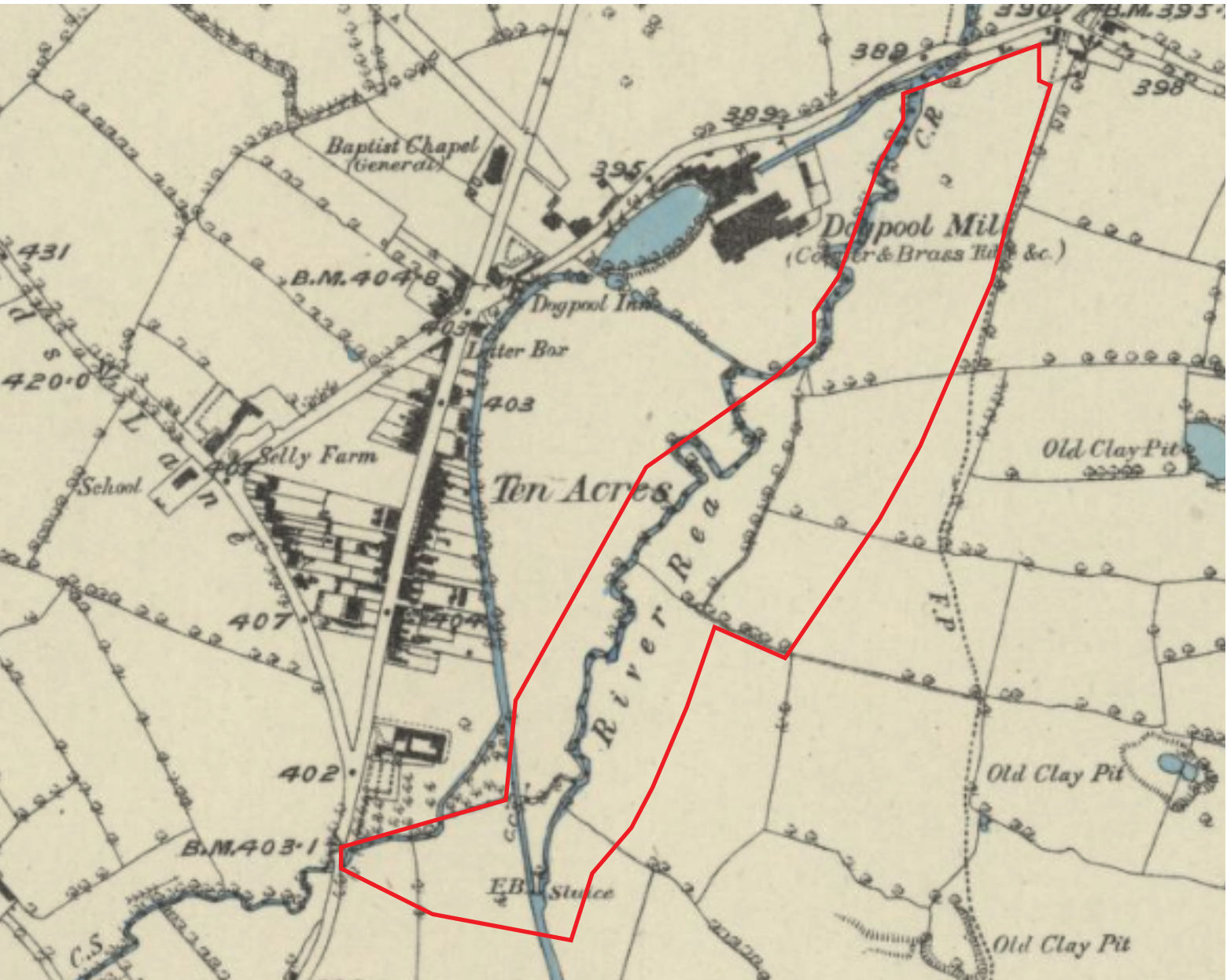
Designated as part of the wider Rea Valley (BM092) SLINC

Map Showing Boundary



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2020

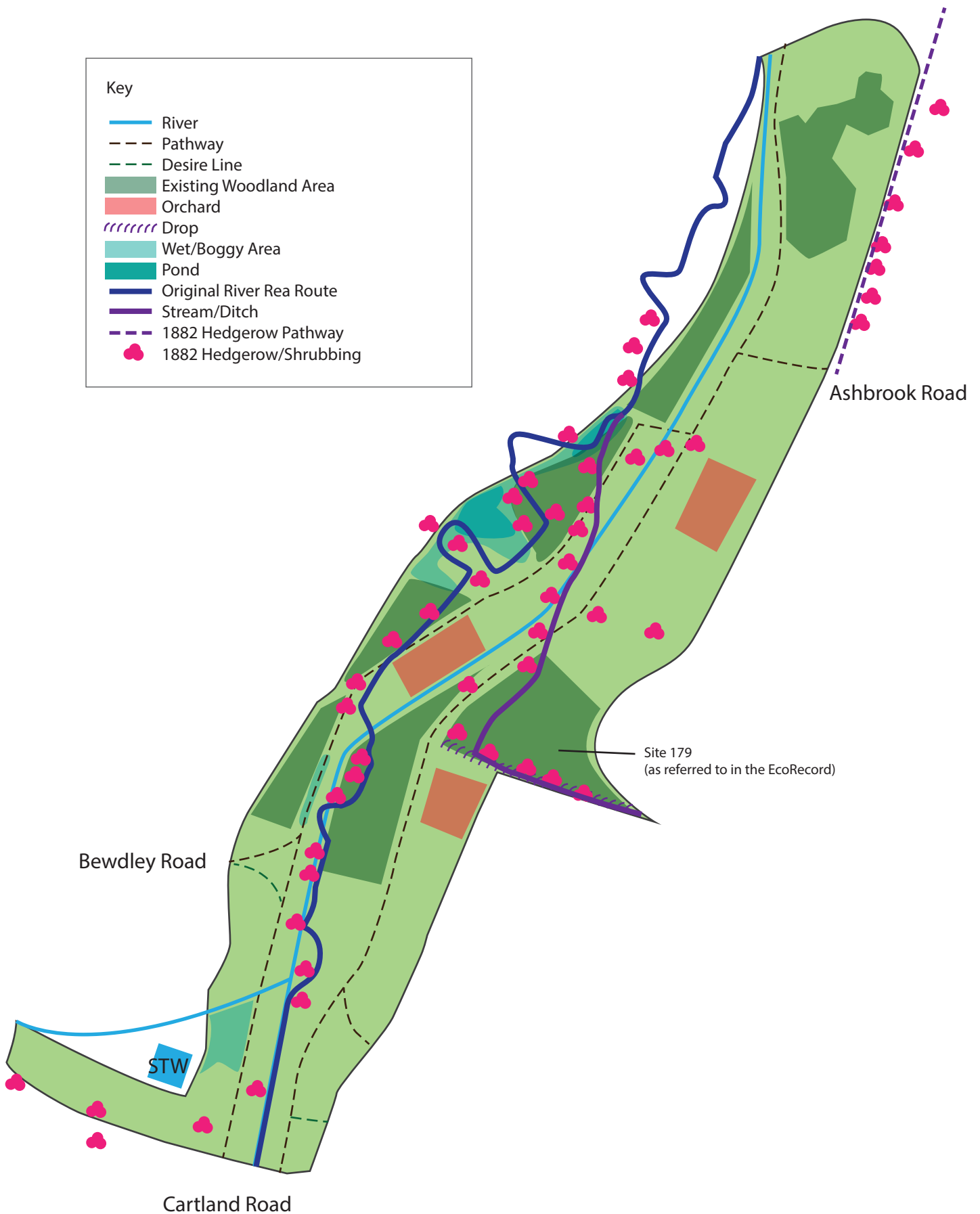
# APPENDIX C 1/2



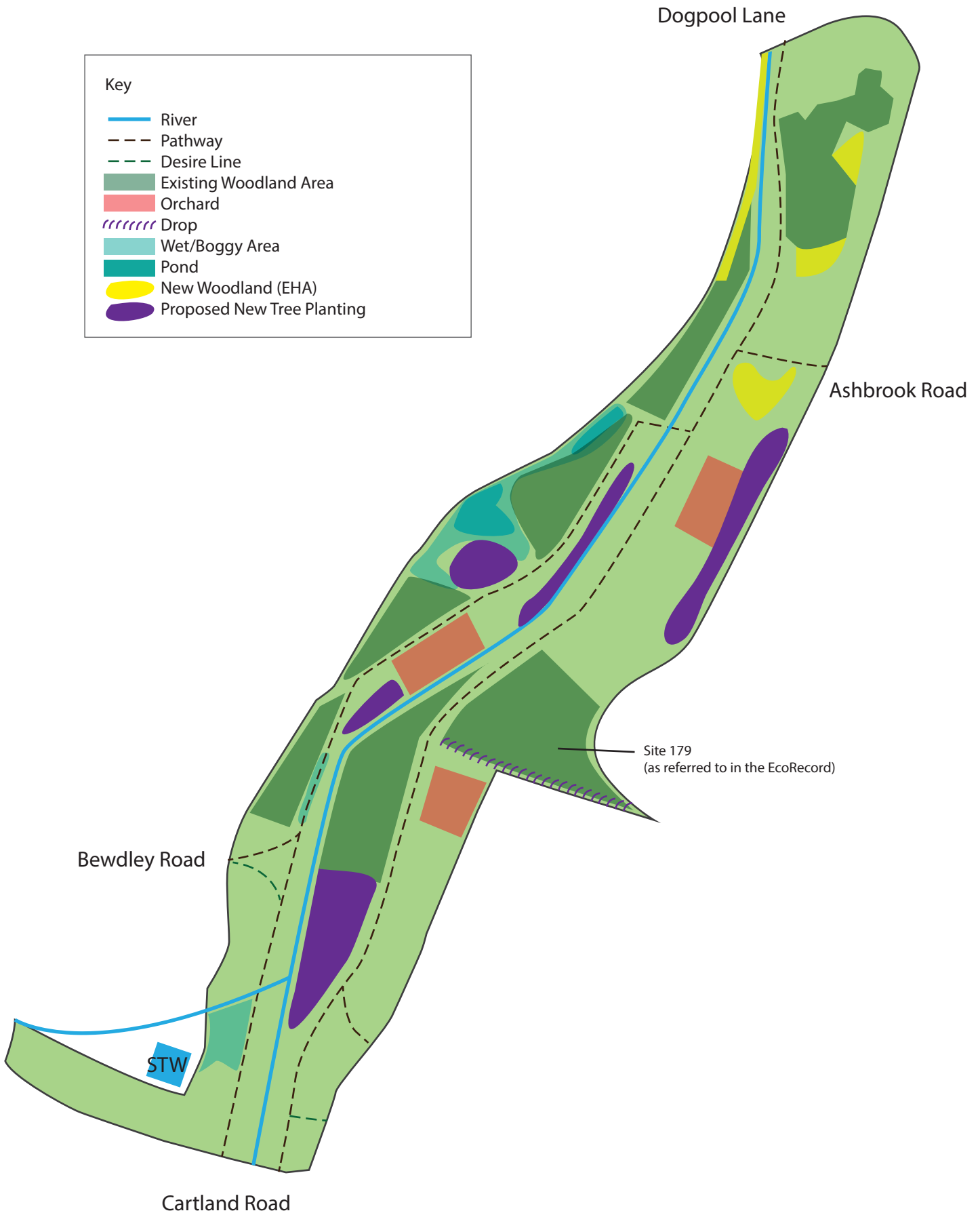
Worcestershire Sheet X.NE  
Surveyed: 1882, Published: 1884  
National Library of Scotland <https://maps.nls.uk/view/101585935>

 Bounds of Ten Acres Today

# Hedgerow Map



# Tree Planting Map



# Lost Species

Per the mentioned species on the 1990 Ecorecord report

## Species noted abundant now scarce/last clump:

Rosebay Willowherb  
Mugwort  
Ox Eye daisy

## Species noted abundant now no longer evident:

Tansy  
Common Sorrel  
Lupin  
Tall Rocket  
Broadleaved everlasting pea  
Goats Rue  
Meadowseet  
Branched Bur Weed  
Brooklime  
Angelica  
Imperforate St Johns Wort

**Species not yet verified include all mentioned sedges and grasses. A survey of these would be helpful.**



# Links & References





**Biodiversity:**

[http://www.countrysideinfo.co.uk/woodland\\_manage/tree\\_value.htm](http://www.countrysideinfo.co.uk/woodland_manage/tree_value.htm)

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279898989\\_The\\_value\\_of\\_different\\_tree\\_and\\_shrub\\_species\\_to\\_wildlife](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/279898989_The_value_of_different_tree_and_shrub_species_to_wildlife)

**Birmingham Conservation:**

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1023/nature\\_conservation\\_strategy\\_for\\_birmingham.pdf](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1023/nature_conservation_strategy_for_birmingham.pdf)

**Bluebells:**

[https://www.plantlife.org.uk/application/files/6014/8155/5822/Bluebells\\_for\\_Britain.pdf](https://www.plantlife.org.uk/application/files/6014/8155/5822/Bluebells_for_Britain.pdf)

**Bramble:**

<https://www.woodlands.co.uk/owning-a-wood/managing-your-woodland-for-wildlife/managing-your-woodland-for-wildlife.pdf> – esp: p59

<https://academic.oup.com/forestry/article/83/1/93/544246>

**Buddleia:**

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/1.bc-position-statement-on-buddleia-updated-2015.pdf>

**Light levels:**

[http://www.countrysideinfo.co.uk/woodland\\_manage/woodbio.htm#Light%20i](http://www.countrysideinfo.co.uk/woodland_manage/woodbio.htm#Light%20i)

**The Value of Different Trees and Shrub Species to Wildlife:**

<https://rb.gy/e3x2zb>