

M1/21

**FOREST ENTERPRISE WOODLANDS  
IN LINCOLNSHIRE**

**BOOTHBY GREAT WOOD  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

Event L12587  
Source L17189  
negative.

CONTENTS

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION .....   | 1 |
| 2. | HISTORICAL NOTES .....                                       | 4 |
| 3. | METHODOLOGY .....  | 1 |
| 4. | <b>FOREST ENTERPRISE WOODLANDS<br/>IN LINCOLNSHIRE</b> ..... | 2 |
| 5. | ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY .....                                  | 2 |
| 6. | <b>BOOTHBY GREAT WOOD<br/>ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY</b> .....    | 3 |
| 7. | BIBLIOGRAPHY .....   | 7 |
| 8. | ACKNOWLEDGMENTS .....  | 4 |

FIGURES

1. Boothby Great Wood Vicinity
2. Archaeological Remains in Boothby Great Wood
3. Extract from the 1828 Tithe Award map of Boothby Pagnell
4. Extract from the 1904 Ordnance Survey Map of 1904

October 2001  
Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

with mapping on GIS by  
Mark Dymond

A.P.S. Report No. **56/01**

Conservation  
Services  
  
08 NOV 2001  
  
Highways & Planning  
Directorate



## CONTENTS

|    |                              |   |
|----|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | INTRODUCTION .....           | 1 |
| 2. | HISTORICAL NOTES .....       | 1 |
| 3. | METHODOLOGY .....            | 1 |
| 4. | CURRENT CONDITION .....      | 2 |
| 5. | ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS ..... | 2 |
| 6. | RECOMMENDATIONS .....        | 3 |
| 7. | BIBLIOGRAPHY .....           | 3 |
| 8. | ACKNOWLEDGMENTS .....        | 4 |

## FIGURES

1. Boothby Great Wood Visibility
2. Archaeological Remains in Boothby Great Wood
3. Extract from the 1838 Tithe Award map of Boothby Pagnell
4. Extract from the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Plan of 1904

# FOREST ENTERPRISE WOODLANDS IN SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE

## Boothby Great Wood Archaeological Survey

April 2001

### 1. INTRODUCTION

As part of a programme of archaeological survey within Forest Enterprise Woodland in South Lincolnshire, Boothby Great Wood was investigated for archaeological remains in December 2000. The wood covers an area of 67 hectares and is situated 6km south of Grantham and centred on National Grid Reference SK 957 312. The woodland overlies a drift geology of Boulder Clay (GSGB 1972).

The wood has not undergone any previous archaeological surveys, which is classed as plantation (SMR 34322). Located to the north of Boothby Great Wood is a findspot of Romano-British pottery and other artefacts (SMR 33856). A possible Romano-British quern has also been recovered from south of the wood (South Kesteven Community Archaeologist parish file).

This report has been prepared to provide information to ensure that any monuments discovered are managed for the future. The fieldwork and report were undertaken as part of the Forest Commission Ancient Woodland Project.

### 2. HISTORICAL NOTES

Woodland is mentioned in the parish of Boothby Pagnell in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086 and comprised 40 acres of woodland for pannage and 120 acres of underwood divided between two holdings, those of Gilbert of Gant and Guy of Craon (Foster and Longley 1976, 24/81; 57/55). The total acreage is presumed to also include Boothby Little Wood which was also surveyed as part of this project (Cope-Faulkner 2001).

The earliest map showing Boothby Great Wood is the Ordnance Survey 2" survey drawing dating to 1814. These show the northern, eastern and west boundaries of the woodland as they appear today, but with the southeastern boundary visibly changed and the wood along the south side, in part, extending beyond the present day limits to the Boothby to Great Ponton road. The subsequent Tithe Award map (LAO D8) of 1838 also depicts the wood extending southwards (Fig. 3), although the 1904 Ordnance Survey plan shows that the southern extension of woodland had been cleared (Fig. 4).

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The methodology follows that previously used for the Northamptonshire woodlands. This was devised by David Hall (*e.g.* Hall 2000) and outlined in the project brief prepared by G. Cadman (Northamptonshire Heritage) and approved by G. Foard (County

Archaeological Officer, Northamptonshire County Council) and Dr. B. Lott (Asst. County Archaeologist, Lincolnshire County Council). Current Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps were used for plotting with 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey maps of either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> edition used for reference. Each woodland compartment, i.e. the area separated by ridings, was walked at 50m intervals by two fieldworkers which ensured that all the ground was viewed within 30m of each fieldworker.

A record of the visibility of each compartment was produced (Fig. 1). Details of the visibility are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Detail of visibility and ground cover

| Visibility | Colour on Figure 1 | Details  |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Good       | Red                | Clear visibility   |
| Fair       | Blue               | Some ground cover, low relief features may be missed               |
| Poor       | Green              | Moderate ground cover, substantial linear features possibly traced |
| Very poor  | Purple             | Not walked due to extensive ground cover                           |

A handheld GPS (Global Positioning by Satellite) receiver was taken to provide National Grid References for features found. Depending on satellite coverage, a degree of accuracy of approximately plus or minus 5m can be obtained using this system, which was regarded as sufficient for dense woodland where no line of sight, necessary for standard surveying techniques, is generally available and pacing is unsuitable.

#### 4. CURRENT CONDITION

Much of Boothby Great Wood was not suitable for surveying due to recent felling which allowed the development of tall grasses. Good visibility was restricted to a triangular compartment on the eastern side of the wood and a small portion on the western side.

#### 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS

##### *Banks and ditches*

The woodland is ditched all round, although an accompanying bank is only visible on the north, east and west sides and intermittently along a small part of the southern side. There is no visible ridge and furrow within the woodland. Beyond the south side, medieval ridge and furrow is apparent in fields to the south and east. A slight bank is also apparent on the eastern side, where it is 3m wide and 0.5m high. No bank or ditch was encountered along the western portion of the southern boundary which accords well with the former southern extension of woodland recorded on early maps.

Part of the sinuous western boundary follows a small stream. This joins a straight length that follows the parish boundary with Great Ponton where a 2m wide and 1m deep ditch is visible. This is banked on both sides, each approximately 3m wide and 0.3m high.

No archaeological remains were encountered within Boothby Great Wood, although a substantial portion of this woodland was not surveyed due to dense ground cover. A rectilinear arrangement of shallow drains with no accompanying banks was recorded in one compartment and are thought to be recent in origin. Drainage on the east side of the wood is assisted by a stream that runs from within the wood to north of Boothby Pagnell.

## 6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The parish boundary and other external banks are relatively clear of vegetation cover and would not be adversely affected by forestry practices, although some portions of the west boundary may want to be cleared.

The majority of this wood had recently been felled and was not suitable for survey. It will be necessary to conduct a further survey once these felled areas have been replanted and allowed to mature.

## 7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

### *Abbreviations*

- APS Archaeological Project Services  
GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain  
LAO Lincolnshire Archive Office  
SMR Sites and Monuments Record

### *Bibliography*

- Cope-Faulkner, P., 2001, *Forest Enterprise Woodlands in Lincolnshire: Boothby Little Wood Archaeological Survey*, unpublished APS report No. #/01
- Foster, C.W. and Longley, T. (eds), 1976, *The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society 19
- GSGB, 1972, *Bourne; Drift Geology*, 1:63360 map sheet 143
- Hall, D., 2000, *Forest Enterprise Woodlands in Northamptonshire: Wakerley Wood Archaeological Survey*

*Primary sources*

LAO D8, *Tithe Award*, 1838, also held in the Brounlow Muniments and a copy held by Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

**8. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Archaeological Project Services would like to thank Mr K.G. Stannard of Forest Enterprise who commissioned this assessment and survey. The work was coordinated and edited by Tom Lane. Dr. Beryl Lott, of the Archaeology Section, Lincolnshire County Council, kindly provided information and maps from the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). Information was also gained from parish files maintained by Gail Smith, the South Kesteven Community Archaeologist, and the library of Heritage Lincolnshire.

Special thanks go to David Hall for his assistance and expertise throughout this project.

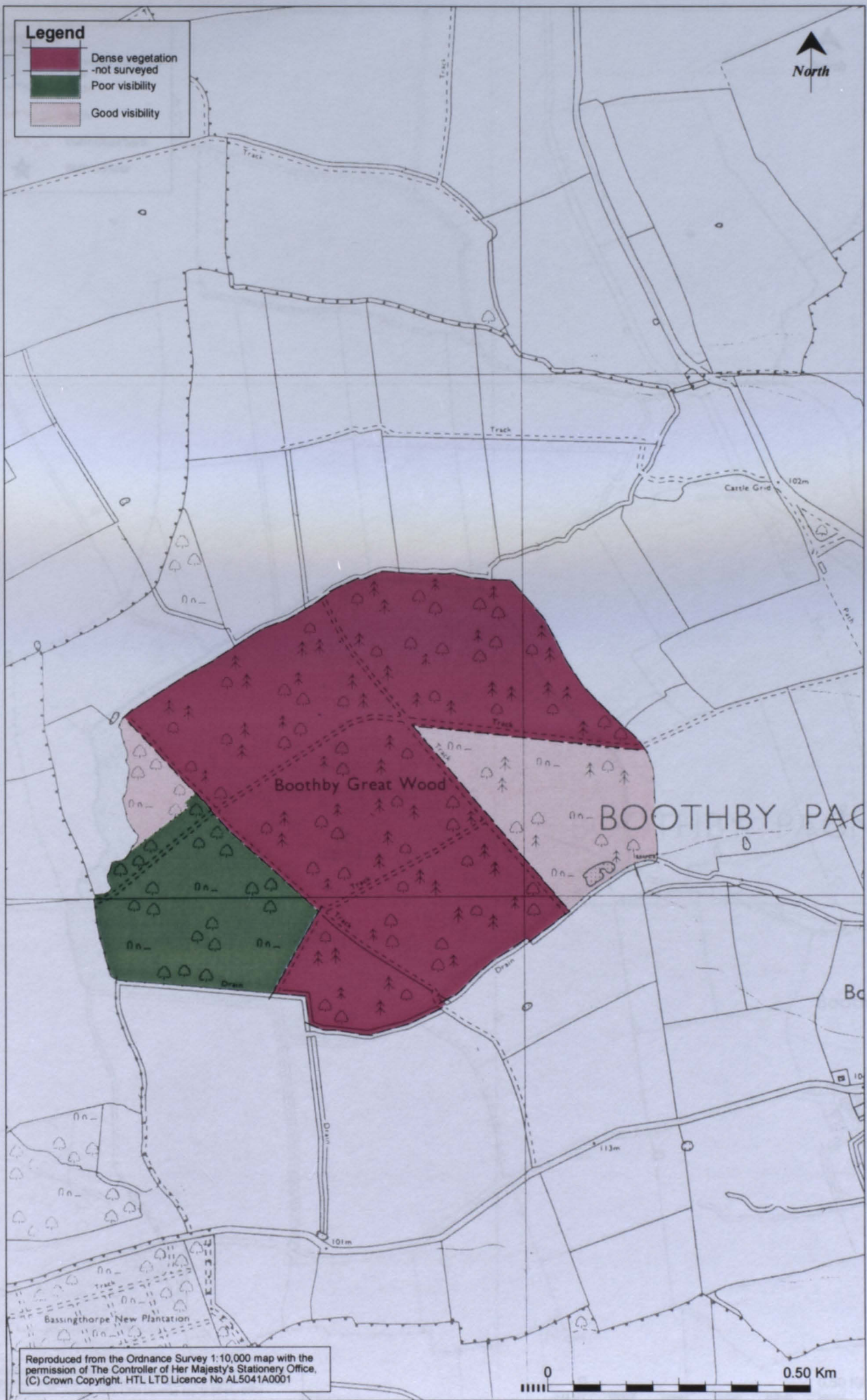


Figure 1 Boothby Great Wood visibility





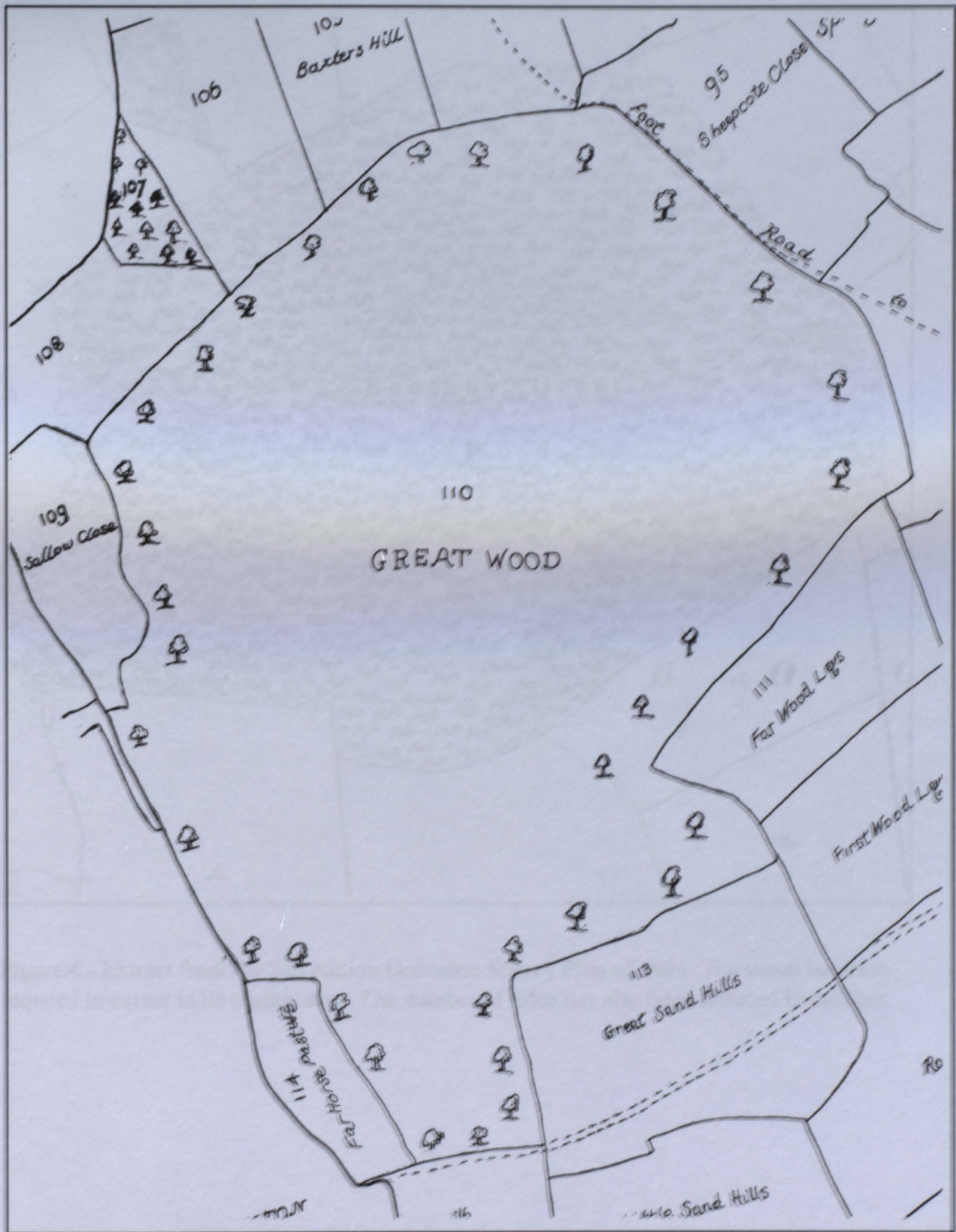


Figure 3 - Extract from the 1838 Tithe Award map of Boothby Pagnell, showing the original extent of Boothby Great Wood

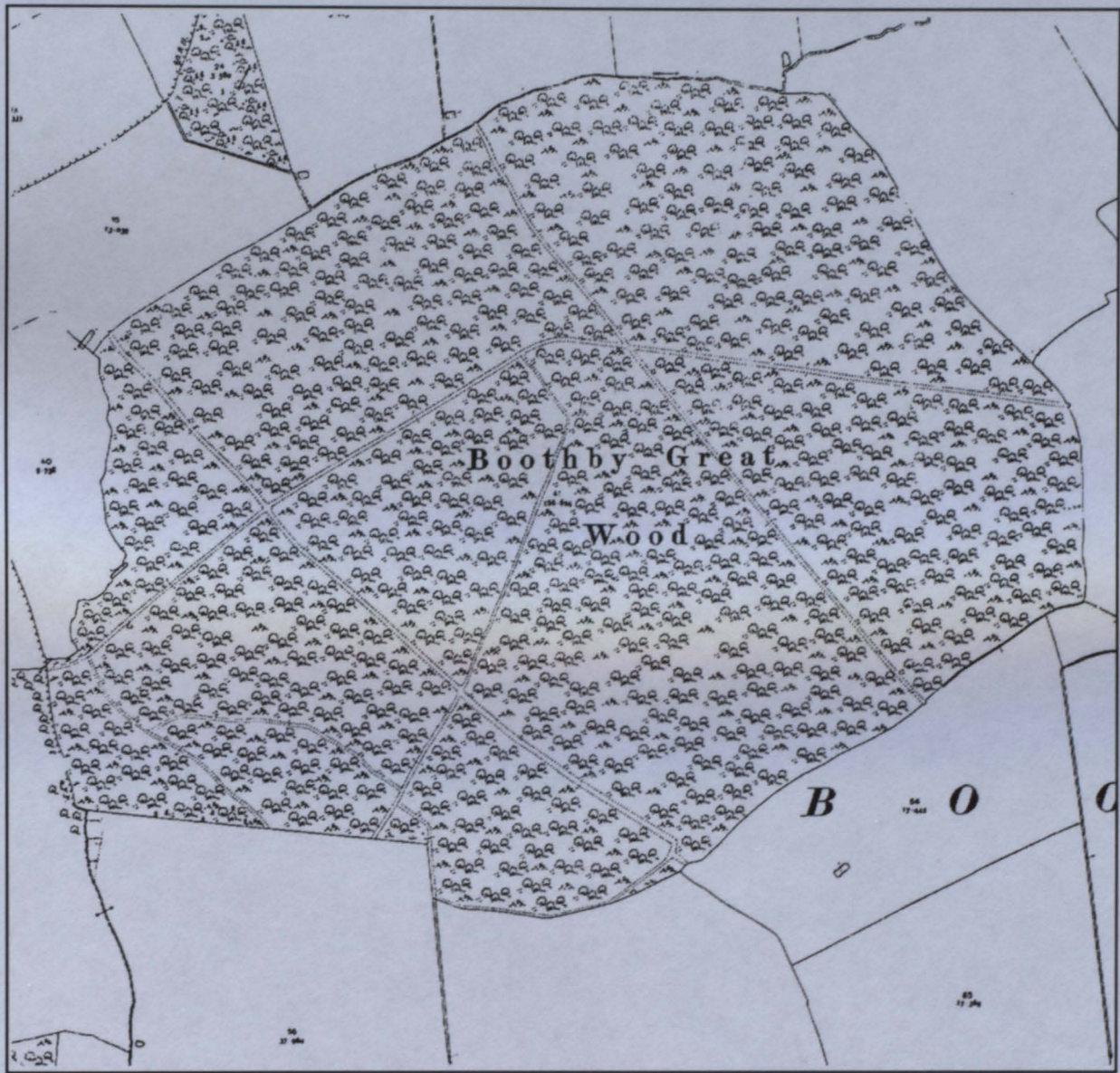


Figure 4 - Extract from the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Plan of 1904. The wood has been reduced in extent to its current area. The number of rides has also been reduced in number.