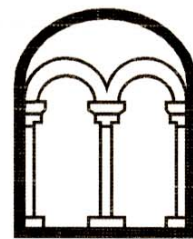


**KING'S WOOD
(SOUTH-WEST LAFARGE COMPARTMENT)
HEATH AND REACH
BEDFORDSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WALK-OVER SURVEY

Albion
archaeology



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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete a summary as possible within the terms of the method statement. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the survey by Chiltern Forestry.

The walk-over survey was undertaken by Stephen Coleman (Central Bedfordshire Council Historic Environment Officer - contracted by Albion Archaeology for his extensive knowledge of the history of the area) and Wesley Keir (Project Officer). This report was prepared by Stephen Coleman and edited by Wesley Keir. All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

BLARS	Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service
CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
HER	Historic Environment Record
OS	Ordnance Survey



Non-technical Summary

King's Wood, Heath and Reach, is the largest surviving ancient woodland in Bedfordshire and is of exceptional nature conservation interest. It is surrounded by a substantial medieval woodbank and archaeological survey across much of the wood in February 2007 identified further internal woodbank divisions (surviving from earlier landscape and woodland management) and evidence for extensive historic quarrying and associated access tracks (Simco 2007). However, not all of the woodland was available for investigation at this time, in particular the compartment in the south-west corner. Subsequently Lafarge Aggregates Ltd have obtained a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) Agreement for the holding known as King's Wood and Rammamere Heath (Natural England Agreement Number AG00307106) which includes the south-west compartment of King's Wood: the Agreement includes the provision for an archaeological walk-over survey of this compartment.

At the request of Chiltern Forestry (on behalf of Lafarge Aggregates Ltd) and Natural England the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeology Team prepared a Brief for the survey. Albion Archaeology was subsequently commissioned to undertake the work and produce a report (this document).

The survey recorded further stretches of the external woodbank, which is very substantial along the western side but less so along the southern edge of the wood where it is also more meandering and has suffered greater damage. Portions of two significant parallel internal woodbanks aligned north-south were mapped in the eastern part of the compartment. These were continuations of features recorded in adjacent compartments by Angela Simco in 2007, whilst shorter stretches of earthwork banks were identified towards the north-west corner. In addition various modern drainage gullies and quarry hollows or pits were noted, mostly towards the north of the compartment. However, the most unusual feature lies in the south-eastern corner of the compartment — a stretch of substantial hollow-way cutting across and through a slight ridge but whose presence in the context of the wood is difficult to explain.



1 INTRODUCTION

King's Wood (grid reference SP 928 298) lies in the north-western part of the parish of Heath and Reach, north of Leighton Buzzard in Central Bedfordshire (Figure 1). It is the largest surviving ancient woodland in the historic county of Bedfordshire (HER 2577) and its western boundary coincides with the county boundary. The underlying geology is the Woburn Sands Formation of the Lower Greensand, covered by a ridge of glacial Boulder Clay which is at its highest at the north end of the wood. The Greensand outcrops on the lower ground in the south-east and south-west of the wood — the latter including the compartment belonging to Lafarge Aggregates Ltd which is the subject of this survey, comprising approximately 25 hectares centred on grid reference SP 9234 2960.

King's Wood has long been recognised as a site of exceptional nature conservation interest. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and much of it is managed as a National Nature Reserve. Apart from the Lafarge compartment, significant areas of the wood are owned by Central Bedfordshire Council and smaller parts by The Wildlife Trust and The Greensand Trust. The remaining fenced area around Kingswood House is in private ownership.

In February 2007 a walk-over survey commissioned by Bedfordshire County Council (owners prior to Central Bedfordshire Council) was undertaken by Angela Simco as part of the development of a management strategy for the wood. The ensuing report (Simco 2007) drew together known historical information and presented the results of the fieldwork for those parts of the wood which were then accessible, including small plots in private ownership, but excluding the Kingswood House and Lafarge compartments. Subsequently Lafarge Aggregates Ltd have obtained a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) Agreement for the holding known as King's Wood and Rammamere Heath (Natural England Agreement Number AG00307106) which includes the south-west compartment of King's Wood. This Agreement includes the provision for an archaeological walk-over survey of this compartment, both to record specific features within it in order to make management recommendations and also to add to the previous archaeological recording in the adjacent woodland to enable a more comprehensive understanding of its history, use and management as a whole over many centuries.

At the request of Chiltern Forestry (on behalf of Lafarge Aggregates Ltd) and Natural England the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeology Team prepared a Brief (CBC 2012) for the survey. Albion Archaeology was subsequently commissioned to undertake the work and produce a report of the results, including assessing the importance of the identified features and suggesting management recommendations.



2 HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Detailed documentary research into the history of Leighton Buzzard and its hamlets (including Heath and Reach) was undertaken by the author of this report as part of Bedfordshire County Council's Archaeological Parish Survey programme in 1980-81 and he has subsequently carried out further research into the landscape history of this particular area on the Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire border (Coleman 1981, 1996, 2010). The following summary has been drawn from the results of this work.

The Heath and Reach area is known to have been well settled by the Roman period. The London to North Wales military supply road which now forms the A5 (Watling Street) runs south-east/north-west and forms the north-eastern boundary of the parish to which King's Wood once extended. Extensive Roman finds from the Double Arches sand quarry to the east (HER 1170) indicate the possibility of a Roman villa in the vicinity (Simco 1984, 106). Much of the land would have been cleared for agriculture by this time; any woodland is likely to have been actively managed.

2.1 *The Medieval Manor*

At the time of the Domesday survey of 1086, Leighton Buzzard (including Heath and Reach) was a large royal manor. A surprisingly small amount of woodland is recorded for what are now five separate parishes – enough to feed 100 swine (perhaps 150 acres or 60 hectares), which is unlikely to represent the true extent of woodland cover at the time.

In 1164, Henry II granted the manor to the French Abbey of Fontevrault. It was intermittently taken back into royal hands during the wars with France of the 14th and early 15th century, and eventually lost to the Abbey in c.1465. In 1479/80 it was granted to the Dean and Canons of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, who held the freehold until the 19th century. The property was leased out to various individuals, most notably to Christopher, later Sir Christopher, Hoddesdon in 1581/82. His daughter Ursula married John Leigh, to whom the lease passed in the early 17th century; it was retained by the Leigh family (apart from a short period when it was seized during the Commonwealth) until the 19th century. Colonel Henry Hanmer acquired both the freehold and leasehold interest in the mid-19th century, but in 1897 the family sold the estate to Joseph Trueman Mills (Bedfordshire and Luton Archives and Records Service (BLARS): CCE 43/14-15,1852; KK401, 1896; *Victoria County History* 3, 1912, 399-417).

In c.1930, King's Wood came into the possession of Herwald Ramsbotham (later Lord Soulbury), who cleared an area in the southern part of the wood for the construction of Kingswood House. He sold to a Mr Long in c.1950, but in the early 1960s most of the wood was divided into small plots and sold to a number of different private owners. In more recent years, Bedfordshire County Council (prior to its abolition in 2009), The Wildlife Trust and The Greensand Trust have purchased plots as they became available.



2.2 **King's Wood in the Documentary Record**

The earliest known reference to the wood is in a charter of 1242, drawn up in connection with a dispute between the Abbess and Convent of Fontevault and John of St Giles, Rector of Leighton. The document mentions land called 'Newstubbinge next to Kingeswode' and 'the tithes of Kingeswude' (*Lincoln Record Society* 29, 1935, 8).

Various medieval documents demonstrate that the wood was actively managed, with the maintenance of a coppice system for small wood and standards for timber. Bailiff's accounts for 1341/42 record a payment: 'for making anew 80 hurdles at Kyngeswode' (*Bedfordshire Historical Record Society* 8, 1924, 30). A lease of the herbage (grazing), dated 1579, stipulates that the lessee is 'not to put any cattle in the coppices till the latter are 6 years old and only colts up to 3 years old until the 9th year of the lease' (BLARS: KK11). In c.1611 timber was transported from the wood for the construction of an arch at the bridge over the River Ouzel in Leighton Buzzard (BLARS: KK 739). This may have been part of the programme of estate wide repairs instigated by Lord Leigh after he had obtained the manor in 1610. This followed decay during Sir Christopher Hoddesdon's tenure after which it was necessary to re-establish good management, including that of the woodlands which would have provided much of the raw materials for the repairs.

In the 16th and early 17th centuries, King's Wood was in the care of woodwards, among whom in the early 17th century were John Wells, Robert Studde or Stods and John Barnes. Their accounts for 1611-14 list the sale of considerable quantities of spires (young trees), bark (for tanning) and underwood (KK 732, 739-750).

The main framework of rides was laid out by the mid-18th century; Jefferys' map of Bedfordshire (1765) shows the NNE-SSW ride and two cross-rides. The complex grid of rides in the north of the wood may have been a development of the later 19th century.

2.3 **King's Wood in the Manorial Landscape**

King's Wood forms part of a larger block of manorial demesne land which runs along the county boundary north-west of Heath and Reach. To its south, and separated from King's Wood by Stockgrove Road, is Baker's Wood (formerly known as Outwood). Further south again is an area marked on the 1841 Enclosure Map as Lords Hill or The Park. The sinuous nature of the boundary of the holding suggests that it marks the original early medieval extent of the woodland.

The north end of King's Wood is separated from Watling Street by a strip of small closes named 'Stockings' (a term derived from the clearance of woodland). These have obviously been carved out of the woodland, possibly following the enactment of the Statute of Winchester in 1285. This legislation required that 'highways from one trading town to another shall be enlarged wherever there are woods, hedges, or ditches; so that there shall be neither ditches, underbrush, nor bushes for two hundred feet on the one side and two hundred feet on the other, where men can hide near the road with evil intent;



yet so that this statute shall not apply to oaks or to any great trees, so long as they are cleared underneath....’

West of the present settlement of Heath and Reach, further small closes have been carved out of the south-east corner of King’s Wood and the east side of Baker’s Wood. This may have occurred during a period of population growth in the 12th and 13th century, to provide additional land for cultivation. Houses lined the edge of the Heath, while the closes behind betray evidence of former strip cultivation in the sinuous reversed-S character of some of their boundaries.

The creation of The Park as a warren sometime in the early to mid 1580’s resulted in a dispute between Sir Christopher Hoddesdon and his tenants. In enclosing land which had formerly been part of The Heath, and parts of the Outwood, the long established common rights of the tenants were disrupted. The dispute rumbled on for several years, even after Hoddesdon’s death in 1610, and was not finally resolved until 1630/31, when the boundaries of the Park were established for good and Sir Thomas Leigh was allowed to enjoy private use of Baker’s Wood in return for the tenants being granted the right to clear The Heath of conies (rabbits) (BLARS: BO 1335, Articles of Agreement; KK29, Copy of Articles of Agreement; *VCH* 3, 1912, 404-5).



3 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Field survey of the compartment was undertaken on the 15th and 16th March 2012. Sunny conditions prevailed on the former date (northern two thirds of the compartment), but conditions were dull on the latter (southern third). The straight ride marking the south-eastern boundary of the compartment was utilised as the main baseline and also allowed accurate recording of features which crossed or adjoined it. Transects at right angles to the ride were established through compass bearings and walked as straight as ground and vegetation conditions would allow with features recorded by pacing later converted to metres. In places where features were visible close to the transect line, paced or measured offsets were utilised to record them. Although even spacing of transects at 50m intervals was attempted, because of the state of much of the woodland floor and the very undulating terrain only rarely was it possible to achieve regular parallel transects in the northern part of the compartment. More regular transects were possible in the southern part where the woodland is more open and the terrain less rugged. Here also some more accurate measured survey was utilised, particularly in the recording of the hollow-way (feature 6; Figure 2) due to its proximity to the main baseline.

Initial recording of the paced measurements was sketch plotted on to a 1:2500 scale OS map base in the field with more accurately surveyed points added where possible. This was then used to produce an annotated drawing at 1:2500 scale which has been deposited in the Central Bedfordshire HER. From this, a reduced summary drawing showing the most significant features (numbered) has been prepared and is included in this report (Figure 2).

Because of the steepness of the terrain in places and the variable ground conditions it was difficult to always maintain consistent pacing. However, some allowance for this has been made in the conversion to metres and overall the measurements seem reasonably consistent.

This report will be uploaded onto the Archaeology Data Service's OASIS website (albionar1-120593).



4 FIELD CONDITIONS

Ground conditions varied across the compartment largely due to more recent management practices. Visibility was excellent in the southern third due to the more open nature of the woodland and the general lack of growth of the ground vegetation at the time of the survey. Some recent felling of conifers in the central southernmost part of the compartment did not significantly obscure the ground.

Further north, in the centre of the compartment extending from the western perimeter woodbank (feature 1; Figure 2) to just east of the northern half of the internal woodbank (feature 3; Figure 2), a larger area of coniferous woodland had recently been felled, leaving timber and much woody debris or brash lying on the surface. Although making it less easy and more hazardous to traverse, visibility was not greatly impaired; in fact the extent and direction of linear features was more readily apparent. On the southern side of this clearance were a few small impenetrable thickets which were easily circumnavigated and did not appear to obscure features. Overall there was more ground vegetation, including dead bracken, present in the northern part of the compartment but visibility was not greatly impaired in respect of significant features.

The state of visibility at the time of the survey across the compartment as a whole was fair to good. It is thus likely that all substantial linear features have been identified as well as many of the slighter features. However, the recognition of all of the slighter features cannot be guaranteed due to the distance between the survey transect lines.



5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES (FIGURE 2)

5.1 Woodbanks

5.1.1 Perimeter woodbank

The bank round the outer perimeter of the wood (feature 1; Figures 2, 3 and 4) is at its most substantial along the western edge of the Lafarge compartment where it also coincides with the county boundary. The bank and external ditch have been entirely removed by a major vehicular access to the wood at the north-western corner of the Lafarge compartment but to the south of this the bank in places reaches 6m in width and a height of 1m internally whilst the ditch is some 4m across and at least 2m deep from the top of the bank. This classic stretch of medieval woodbank may be the largest and best surviving in the county and is covered with bluebells in spring.

The former south-west corner of the wood is visible as a clear bank (though no ditch) through the pasture field opposite the Stockgrove car park. This triangular area was devoid of trees by the beginning of the 20th century but even today bluebells in spring clearly indicate the area formerly occupied by the ancient woodland (Coleman 2010). After first turning eastwards the bank continues to follow an oddly irregular route, very briefly re-entering the Lafarge compartment where it is a slight bank only 1.5m wide dropping steeply into a shallow external ditch. Damage to the bank and ditch is being caused here due to footpath access into the wood. The bank next turns abruptly southwards into a small compartment in different ownership in which it first turns south-westwards and then veers south-eastwards, though this was not viewed in detail due to lack of access.

The bank is more substantial again where it runs along the northern side of Stockgrove Road. It begins to follow the road just inside the small compartment mentioned above and after it emerges south-eastwards into the Lafarge compartment again it is 3.5m wide and 0.75m high where best preserved. The bank is damaged in several places and for 60m has been completely destroyed, although the western part of this stretch comprises a naturally high and very steep drop to the road. The bank reappears again where it deviates substantially away from the road. Here it is 3.5m wide with a height of 0.25m internally and an external ditch 0.75m wide and 1.25m deep from the top of the bank. After turning back towards the road and the entrance gate at the south-eastern corner of the Lafarge compartment the woodbank broadens to 6.5m wide with an external ditch 4m wide at its top and 1m wide at its bottom.

5.1.2 Internal woodbanks

The most substantial of the internal banks (feature 2; Figure 2) is aligned approximately north-south within the north-eastern corner of the compartment. It averages 2m in width with a 2m-wide ditch to the west varying between 1 and 1.5m in depth from the top of the bank. This feature continues to the north and south where it was recorded (as feature 2) by Angela Simco in 2007. To the north she recorded it meeting the external wood boundary and then



continuing with the main wood ditch to the north.

Parallel with and 160m west of feature 2 is a similar internal bank (feature 3; Figure 2) also averaging 2m in width with a 2m wide (though less deep) ditch to the west. It continues across the ride to the south of the Lafarge compartment (recorded by Angela Simco as feature 3), but to the north it fades and terminates just before the ground drops steeply into an east-west aligned valley.

To the north, feature 4 is aligned north-east to south-west and comprises a 1.5m-wide bank with a 1m-wide ditch on the north-west side and *c.* 0.75m deep from the top of the bank. To the north-east this feature fades and terminates about 35m before the ride. The south-western end was not traced.

A 25m-long and 3.5m-wide bank (feature 4; Figure 2) aligned NNE/SSW was located a short distance to the south of feature 4 within the valley bottom.

5.2 *Hollow-way*

The most substantial internal feature recorded lies towards the south-eastern corner of the Lafarge compartment and comprises a 170m-long hollow-way beginning immediately west of the ride where it is joined by a footpath (feature 6; Figures 2, 4 and 5). It first curves gently north-westwards up the slope until reaching the top of the ridge, where it crosses and then turns westwards before ending as the gradient lessens where the ground slopes down again towards a valley bottom. It is shallowest at the top of the hill, but at its widest (14–16m) and deepest (up to 2m) west of the hilltop.

5.3 *Quarrying and Woodland Management*

In the northern and southern parts of the Lafarge compartment a number of hollows and pits of varying sizes and both regular and irregular in shape were recorded (features 7-11; Figure 2). Most are the remains of post-medieval (or possibly medieval) quarrying for sand though the vertical sides of feature 11 suggest this might have a different origin.

No straight modern forestry drains were present, but in the north of the compartment some short and narrow (probably) modern drainage gullies were recorded cut at right angles into the upper parts of the valley sides to assist flow towards the valley bottoms.

During the survey, no particular attention was paid to the composition of the woodland and the character of the coppicing. However, a few particularly impressive coppice stools were noticed, including a very large ancient oak coppice stool (feature 12).

The survey plan (Figure 2) indicates a lack of features in the centre and south western quarter of the Lafarge compartment. As visibility was very good in this part of the study area this seems to be a true reflection of the situation in this less rugged and more open part of the woodland.



5.4 Discussion

The features encountered within the Lafarge compartment of King's Wood are similar to, or continuations of, those recorded in the remainder of the wood in 2007 (Simco 2007). They represent activities typical of medieval and later woodland management and exploitation. The arrangement of woodbanks offers some insight into an early period of the organisation of the landscape. As highlighted by Angela Simco, most notable is that the (now) internal bank (feature 2) which crosses the Lafarge compartment continues and becomes the main external bank of King's Wood north of the south-eastern corner of Bragenham Wood. Also, after being cut by the vehicular entrance at the north-west corner of the Lafarge compartment, the western facing external bank then continues due north to form the western boundary of Bragenham Wood. Angela Simco suggested that Bragenham Wood and the strip of woodland between features 1 and 2, including most of the Lafarge compartment, appear to be a single unit, across which the now southern boundary bank and ditch of Bragenham Wood had been cut. As the latter coincides with the county boundary, she suggested the whole layout reflected a landscape organisation of great antiquity. This is just one of several intriguing and unusual parochial boundary arrangements and oddities of great antiquity in this area on the Bedfordshire/Buckinghamshire border (Coleman 1981, 1996, 2010).

Also unusual are the meanderings of the woodbank (feature 1) at the south-western corner of the Lafarge compartment. Logically the west-facing part of the woodbank might be expected to continue on its north-south alignment along the county boundary right up to Stockgrove Road (as indeed it probably once did) but instead it turns abruptly eastwards 30m short of the road and continues to follow an oddly irregular route, as described in section 5.1.1 above, until it eventually follows the northern side of the road further south east. A "bite" appears to have been taken from the south-western corner of the wood to create an irregularly shaped close further complicated now by a rectilinear pattern of landholding and fencing superimposed in the 20th century. This close was already present by the early 19th century (O.S. 1" First Edition map surveyed 1813-15 (published 1834) and the fact that effort was put into delineating its northern and eastern boundaries with substantial banks suggests it was done at a time when the woodland was in active management and thus it is of some antiquity. When the close was carved from King's Wood and the significance of its original creation is not known (Coleman 2010). Strangely however, it was not shown on the Enclosure Map of 1841 for Heath and Reach (BLARS: MA 62).

The presence of the substantial hollow-way in the south-east corner of the Lafarge compartment is also difficult to explain, although it was clearly cut to ease passage over a natural north-east to south-west ridge by lessening the overall gradient. However, to what it was originally designed to connect to is not now apparent, unless it was just to the adjacent main central ride (if this is of some antiquity); this ride does seem to be indicated on Jefferys' map of Bedfordshire dated 1765 and is certainly present on the OS 1" First Edition map surveyed 1813-15 (published 1834) and at a larger scale on the Enclosure Map (BLARS: MA 62). Strangely the slopes on either side of the ridge are not



particularly steep nor are they difficult to walk over, especially when compared with the steeper and more rugged slopes in this compartment and elsewhere in the wood. Thus, the effort required to create what is a substantial cutting and the fact that there is nothing similar anywhere else in the wood suggests it must have been for some very specific purpose at this location or nearby. It may well have not been intended initially for pedestrians: for most of its 170m length the bottom averages between 3 and 5 metres in width so may have been intended for wheeled traffic. However, such a sandy route would have been difficult at times.

The purpose of features 4 and 5 is also unclear. The former is similar to the other internal woodbanks, but slighter, with a ditch on the north-west side, whilst the latter is a 25m stretch of bank only, set across the valley bottom.

In her 2007 report, Angela Simco noted that no traces of medieval ridge and furrow were visible within that part of the wood she surveyed, unlike in many ancient woodlands in Bedfordshire. Likewise, no ridge and furrow was apparent in the Lafarge compartment.



6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 *Assessment of Importance*

In accordance with the Brief (CBC 2012) the individual features listed in the gazetteer (Table 1) have been assessed as to their archaeological importance under the following categories:

High	At least regionally important with the potential to merit statutory protection
Medium	Locally important, with the potential to contribute regional understanding of woodland management, but would not qualify for statutory protection
Low	Of local interest and important to the development of the wood, but without wider regional significance

The main historic and archaeological significance of the Lafarge compartment lies in the medieval woodbanks and hollow-way and their relationship to the remainder of King's Wood and the wider surrounding landscape. In general they are in a good state of preservation and this is enhanced by association with the exceptionally high natural history interest of the wood. More detailed recording of the largest surviving coppice stools and the nature of the historic coppice stands would enhance our understanding of the relationship between the archaeology and biodiversity here.

The evidence for quarrying serves to demonstrate that the woodland was used for more than just its timber products by the manor and local people. However, it is difficult to date when this was taking place.

Although modern features are few and evidence of management in the recent past is limited in the Lafarge compartment, those features which do occur, such as drainage gullies and ponds, contribute to the character of the wood and at least show some continuing woodland management.

6.2 *Management Recommendations*

The suggestions listed in Table 1 for the management of individual archaeological features have been made in the light of three broad principles:

- Avoid active damage by forestry operations, primarily by careful routing of machinery and extraction lines, by leaving root systems in the ground when undertaking clearance, and by careful design of replanting schemes (with the benefit of specialist archaeological advice, including further evaluation where appropriate).
- Maintain stable native woodland cover where this already exists, and is not causing specific damage (woodbanks have traditionally supported some tree cover, and it may therefore be historically inappropriate to remove it).



- Clear undergrowth and route rides and paths so as to allow presentation of significant features to the public, but without encouraging localised erosion.

In most cases, little active management is needed, except for the control of scrub growth on significant features, and the monitoring and repair of erosion. Any contractors working in the wood, especially with machinery, should be given a plan of the archaeological features to avoid accidental damage.



No	Name	Grid Ref	Description	Importance	Management recommendations
1	Part of perimeter woodbank	SP 9221/2987 – SP 9204/2944 SP 9204/2944 – SP 9209/2938 SP 9209/2934 – SP 9219/2929 SP 9225/2927 – SP 9235/2924	Medieval woodbank (up to 8m x 1.25m) and external ditch to west or south. In places marked only by ditch or steep external scarp. Southern portion less substantial.	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
2	Part of internal woodbank	SP 9255/2980 - SP 9258/2958	Medieval woodbank with ditch to west marking the west boundary of a major sub-division within the wood. Total length identified in whole wood runs between SP 9260 2937 and SP 9250 2997	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
3	Part of internal woodbank	SP 9242/2962 - SP 9244/2936	Medieval woodbank with ditch to west, marking internal sub-division within the wood.	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
4	Internal woodbank	SP 9229/2980 – SP 9237/2988	Medieval woodbank with ditch to north west, marking internal sub-division	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
5	Bank	SP 9228/2978 – SP 9227/2975	?Medieval bank, set across a valley bottom	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
6	Hollow-way	SP 9241/2933 – SP 9226/2938	Substantial east-west hollow-way (up to 16m wide) running up and over/through ridge	High	Avoid machinery damage; monitor and repair footpath erosion; keep scrub under control
7	Sand quarrying	SP 9229/2971	Irregular hollow area marking ?post-medieval sand extraction	Medium	Avoid machinery damage
8	Sand quarrying	SP 9248/2959	Oval hollow marking ?post-medieval sand extraction	Medium	Avoid machinery damage
9	Sand pit	SP 9249/2979	Small sand pit hollow	Medium	Avoid machinery damage
10	Sand quarrying	SP 9228/2994	Elongated quarry hollow cut into back of south bank of hollow-way (6)	Medium	Avoid machinery damage
11	?Sand pit	SP 9236/2928	Vertical sided hollow, purpose uncertain	Medium	Avoid machinery damage
12	Coppice stool	SP 9236/2972	Particularly large example noted during field survey of a very large historic oak coppice stool. A few other large examples also exist	High	Avoid damage; assess overgrown coppice regrowth for any surgery needed; consider potential for interpretation.
13	Pond	SP 9257/2959	?20th-century irregularly shaped pond close to ride	Low	Manage as appropriate for nature conservation interest.



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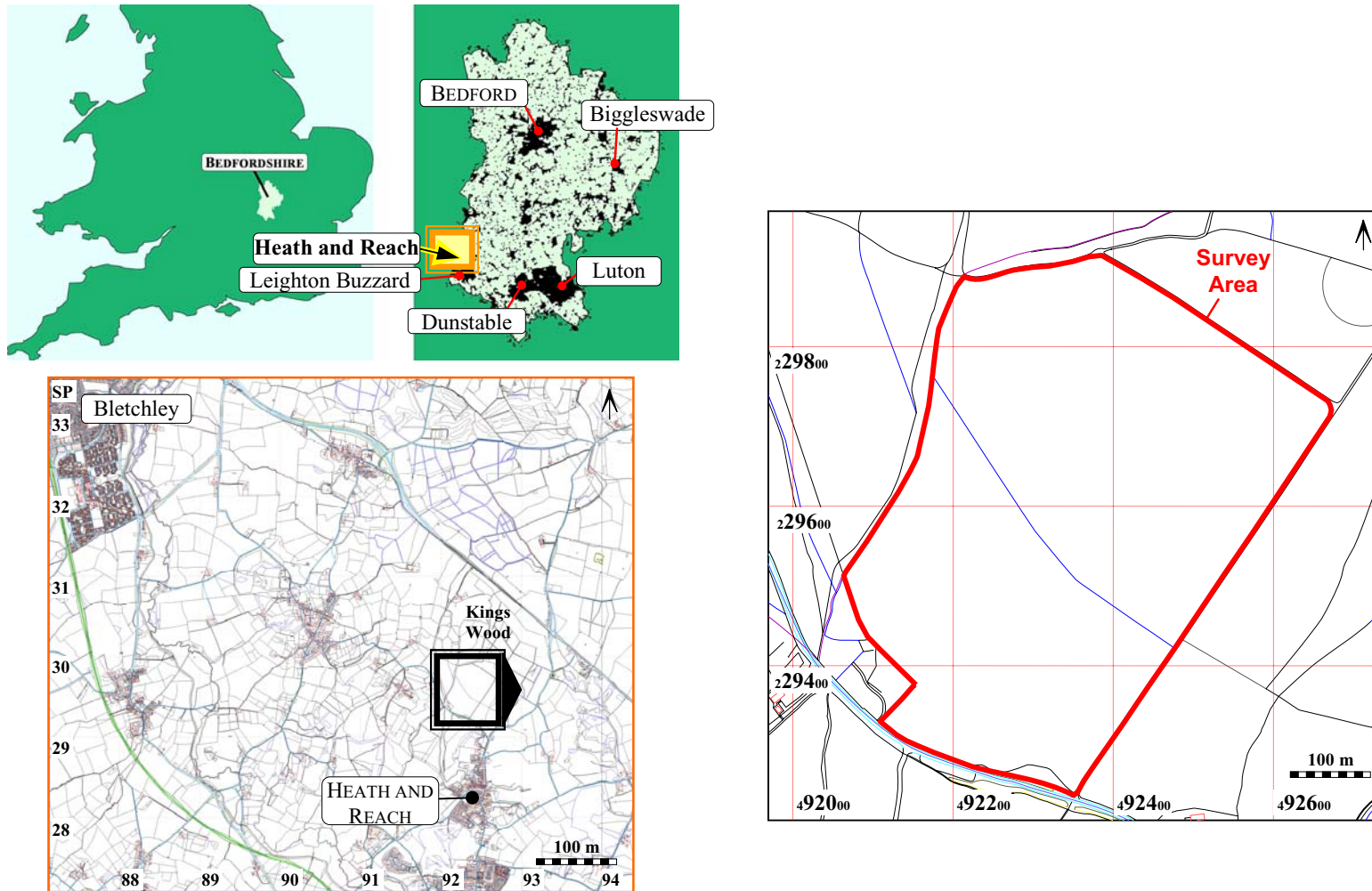


Figure 1: Site location

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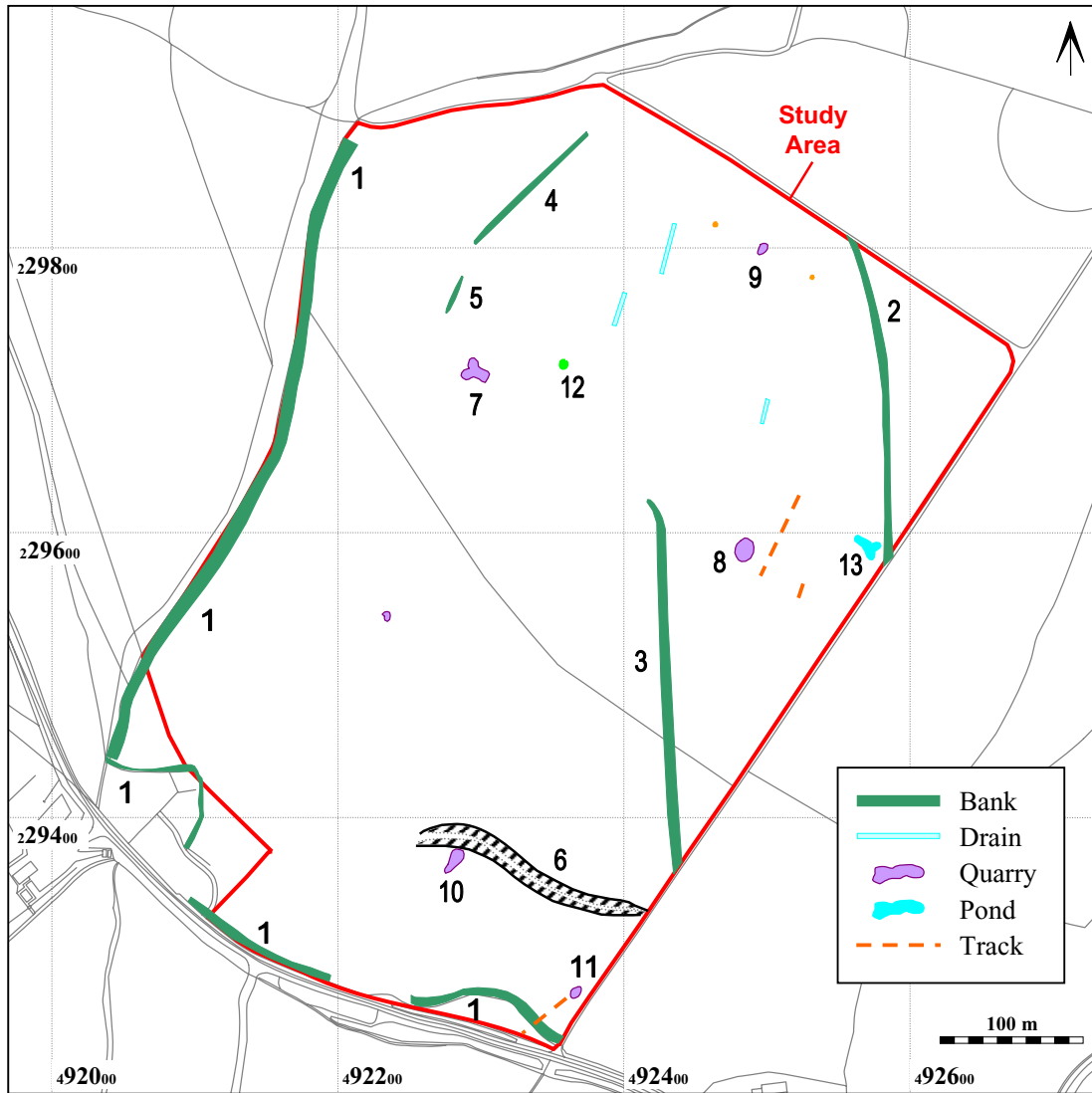


Figure 2: Survey results

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General shot of ancient woodland



South perimeter woodbank (feature 1) looking south-east

Figure 3: Selected photographs



West perimeter woodbank (feature 1) looking south



West end of hollow-way (feature 6) looking east

Figure 4: Selected photographs



Hollow-way (feature 6) looking west from east end



Overgrown coppice stool

Figure 5: Selected photographs



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