



**National
Trust**

Woodland Management Plan Mid-East Sussex & Kent Archaeology

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On behalf of:

The National Trust

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Alongside the maps and tables of both scheduled and unscheduled heritage assets that need to be considered and mitigated for as part of woodland management work, this document provides further details of the heritage assets in Kent and Mid-East Sussex and includes recommendations for features within compartments that would benefit from selected management practices as part of any wider work.

These recommendations primarily focus on clearance of a significant scheduled or unscheduled site as part of general % thinning or felling works when contractors are working in an area.

The suggestions below are based upon on the Historic England Conservation Principles:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/constructive-conservation/conservation-principles/>

As such the suggestions below seek to preserve and promote:

Evidential value: the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity.

Historical value: the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present - it tends to be illustrative or associative.

Aesthetic value: the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.

Communal value: the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

As well as benefiting the monument and archaeology, these approaches further promote access, understanding and wider engagement with our National Trust woodlands and their history and stories.

[Wider comments on Mid-East Sussex & Kent Plan in relation to Archaeology](#)

Although Lidar mapping is now available and has been incorporated in some of the accompanying maps, not all properties within the Mid-East Sussex & Kent Management Plan area have had their archaeological landscape surveys updated and enhanced with additional data within the HBSMR, so heritage mapping information is not all considered accurate at this point in time. However, recent landscape survey work has been carried out as part of the West Kent Conservation Management Plan (2020-21) at Ide Hill, Mariner's Hill, Toy's Hill and Chartwell so information for these areas is more up to date. Information from recent archaeological projects at Oldbury and Cobham still needs to be added to HBSMR. Please check in with the Regional Archaeologist before any woodland management work commences.

[HART monitoring programmes currently in place](#)

There are currently no active archaeology monitoring groups in operation in Mid-East Sussex and Kent, although some initial training has taken place with NT Rangers and archaeology volunteers at Knole. These groups should be considered in management work planning, marking up and monitoring where possible through conversation with Regional Archaeologist, especially with reference to national developments around HART monitoring through 2022-3.

Archaeological Features within Compartments

Bateman's

Compartments: B1-4

Woodland Plans: LTR

Significant Sites: Features recorded in compartments B1, B2 and B4 ([MNA125477](#), [MNA125472](#) and [MNA125466](#)) relate to historic mining for ironstone – undated but potentially 16th century in origin.

Task: No interventions planned.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: N/A

Chartwell

Compartments: CH1-5

Woodland Plans: CH1 SF30, CH2 SF20, CH3 SF30, CH5d FC30, CH5e T30

Significant Sites: Fifty-six archaeological features are recorded within and immediately adjacent to the selected compartments at this property (including Chartwell, Mariners Hill and Crockham Hill). Only one feature has been recorded in CH1 - a springhead [MNA194045](#), which lies to the north of the wooded area where felling is planned. Within compartment CH4 (no works planned) again only a single feature has been recorded – a quarry pit [MNA193660](#) subsequently used for landfill.

Lying immediately adjacent to compartment CH2 (20% selective felling) are features representing early agriculture in the form of linear earthworks (lynchets) – [MNA193999](#) and [MNA194000](#).

In compartment CH3 (30% selective felling) are features relating to boundaries and land division ([MNA193522](#), [MNA193531](#), [MNA193533](#), [MNA193534](#), [MNA193537](#)), commemoration (a bench at viewpoint [MNA193523](#)), pits for extraction and quarrying ([MNA193524](#), [MNA193525](#), [MNA193526](#), [MNA193527](#) and [MNA194002](#)) and a pillow mound ([MNA193532](#)).

In compartment CH5a (no works planned) – known as The Grove - are the remains of the WW2 Canadian military camp ([MNA193655](#)), quarries [MNA193656](#), [MNA193657](#), and boundary features [MNA193659](#), [MNA193701](#) and [MNA193666](#), which crosses into compartment CH5b.

Features in compartments CH5b, c, d and e (known as The Woodlands) are considered together in the following section. The area is criss-crossed and defined by numerous boundary (lynchets, banks and ditches) and trackway features ([MNA193667](#), [MNA193669](#), [MNA193670](#), [MNA193671](#), [MNA193672](#), [MNA193673](#), [MNA193674](#), [MNA193689](#), [MNA193690](#), [MNA193691](#), [MNA193692](#), [MNA193693](#), [MNA193694](#), [MNA193695](#), [MNA193696](#), [MNA193697](#), [MNA193698](#), [MNA193699](#), [MNA193700](#), [MNA193717](#), [MNA193722](#) and [MNA193724](#)). Also of note are a number of quarry / extraction pits in the northern and western parts of the compartment – [MNA193711](#), [MNA193719](#), [MNA193721](#), [MNA193725](#), [MNA193726](#). Water features are also present along the western boundary of the woodland compartment including ponds [MNA193665](#) and [MNA193710](#).

The recently constructed tree house ([MNA193715](#)) lies towards the centre of the compartment and close to a number of features of historic interest including two WW2 bomb craters ([MNA193713](#) and [MNA193727](#)), and undated square enclosure ([MNA193718](#)) and, of most significance, potential evidence for a prehistoric field system [MNA193720](#).

Task: Thinning will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees. This may eventually obscure historic landscape features. Care should be taken with any works across extant earthworks, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways and structural remains. Some consideration of existing and disused routeways in CH5 may also be of benefit during woodland works to define preferred pathways and relationships to historic landscape features. Further archaeological survey of feature MNA193720 is also recommended to better understand this part of the site.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Aesthetic, Evidential & Historical

Cobham

Compartments: C1-4

Woodland Plans: C1a-b, C1d SF30, C1e T30, C2 SF30, C3a SF30, C4b and C4f SF50, C4e SF30.

Significant Sites: This property is currently poorly recorded on NTSMR – a Historic Landscape Survey has never been undertaken and only a single monument is noted (the Darnley Mausoleum [MNA183308](#)). A community archaeology project under the auspices of Kent County Council has been undertaking investigations (geophysical surveys and excavations) in selected areas since 2016. Grey literature reports have not yet been submitted to the NT but interim statements indicate significant surviving archaeology at those locations investigated. This includes artefactual evidence for both prehistoric and early medieval activity (AD850-950) along the holloway aligned northeast to southwest across compartment C1. Historic mapping indicates management of the landscape through the post-medieval period and KCC excavations in compartment C2 have revealed the foundations of 18th – 19th century estate cottages.

Task: 30% selective felling in compartments C1a-b, C1d, C2, C3a and C4e, 50% selective felling in C4b and C4f and 30% thinning in C1e. Thinning in C1e will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees. This may eventually obscure historic landscape features. Care should be taken with any works across extant earthworks, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways and structural remains.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Gover Hill

Compartments: G1

Woodland Plans: FC30

Significant Sites: Property not recorded on NTSMR, however prehistoric artefacts have been recorded in the immediate vicinity (to the north and east) during antiquarian investigations in [1882](#) and [1899-1903](#), when a significant number of Neolithic and Bronze artefacts, including cinerary urns were discovered.

Task: Coppicing across woodland area within NT ownership. Potential for further discovery of prehistoric archaeology in the form of surface finds?

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Ide Hill

Compartments: l1a-e

Woodland Plans: l1a & l1c FC30

Significant Sites: Twenty-two archaeological features are recorded within and immediately adjacent to the selected compartments at Ide Hill. Of these, ten fall in compartments l1b, l1d-e in the northern part of the property: remains relating to Victorian use of the site, previously a miller's cottage and windmill ([MNA193903](#), [MNA193904](#) and [MNA194028](#)), with some structural remains which potentially represent an outbuilding associated with this activity ([MNA194905](#)), area of chert extraction ([MNA194029](#)), and further building remains relating to WW2 use of the area ([MNA193979](#), [MNA193980](#) and [MNA193981](#)). Moving southwards are a lynchet ([MNA193977](#)) and bank ([MNA193976](#)) of medieval – post-medieval date.

Within compartments l1a and l1c, [MNA193969](#) marks the line of a holloway, potentially partially medieval in origin, [MNA193963](#) and [MNA193969](#) are the sites of now missing boundary stones and [MNA193964](#) is a set commemorating Octavia Hill. A quarry ([MNA193902](#)) possibly of 19th century date, lies to the west of the holloway.

The remainder of the features recorded in these compartments relate to natural features – springs ([MNA193960](#)) and slumping ([MNA193962](#)) – note that the latter may preserve evidence for prehistoric activity. Evidence for landscape modification in the form of woodland banks ([MNA193965](#), [MNA193966](#), [MNA193967](#) and [MNA193968](#)) represent banks and ditches created for boundaries and drainage. The last is of particular significance as a surviving medieval feature.

The final record for Ide's Hill represents a chance find of a post-medieval iron spur ([MNA193961](#)).

Tasks: Coppicing across compartments l1a and l1c. Potential for further discovery of prehistoric and post-medieval archaeology in the form of surface finds?

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Nap Wood

Compartments: N1 a-j

Woodland Plans: N1b FC50, N1d FC5, N1e SF15, N1f SF10

Significant Sites: Property not recorded on NTSMR, however the Scheduled Ancient Monument of [Saxonbury](#) (Iron Age hillfort and 19th century folly) lies immediately to the west of the site. Nap Wood itself is criss-crossed with routeways, shown on historic mapping back to the late 18th century but potentially earlier in origin. Landscape surveys of the areas surrounding Nap Wood suggest activity relating to iron working and charcoal burning with metal detecting finds from the 16th – 20th centuries.

Tasks: Coppicing in compartments N1b and N1d, selective felling in compartments N1e and N1f. Potential for finds relating to previous industrial activity to be exposed during felling processes? There is also the potential for unrecorded archaeological features to be preserved within the landscape and care should be taken with any tree removal across banked areas of routeways, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Oldbury

Compartments: O1-5

Woodland Plans: O1a-b SF10, O3b T30, O3c O4a SF10, O4b FC10, O4c SF30, O5 SF10

Significant Sites: Only one record number is currently allocated for this site [MNA181823](#), the large multivallate Hillfort and Palaeolithic rock shelters at Oldbury Hill and Styant's Wood - Scheduled Ancient Monument no. [1007458](#). The site was surveyed in 2016; the project was instigated and funded jointly by the National Trust and the Leverhulme Trust through the University of Leicester's 'In Caesar's Footsteps' project. Further monument numbers will be assigned to describe features identified during the survey in due course but in the meantime the [report](#) and accompanying [site plan](#) from this project should be consulted for detailed information regarding the history of investigation of the site, significant discoveries and key features – including earthworks, routeways, water sources and quarrying. The site preserves evidence for activity from the prehistoric period to the 20th century and is especially significant with regard to Palaeolithic and Iron Age archaeology.

Tasks: Within the scheduled area (compartments O3c-5) 10-30% selective felling is planned, immediately adjacent to this in compartment O3b on the western slope of the hillfort 30% thinning will be undertaken. Compartments O1a-b (10% selective felling) have not been surveyed in detail and there is the potential for unrecorded features in this area and for chance discovery of surface finds. Consultation should be undertaken with Historic England regarding the scope of works and any consents required, especially with reference to tree felling / thinning methodologies and vehicle and machinery movement across the site.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Selsfield Common

Compartments: SE1

Woodland Plans: T30

Significant Sites: Eight archaeological features are recorded at Selsfield. West Sussex County Council have designated a strip along the eastern side of the property (including the entire width south of the reservoir) as an archaeological notification area (DWS8680: Route of the Roman Road through Mid-Sussex). The features recorded relate to routeways, mostly recorded across the northern part of the site ([MNA191418](#), [MNA191421](#), [MNA191425](#) and [MNA191428](#)) of medieval and post-medieval origin, and a further example recorded on the south-western boundary ([MNA191416](#)). A late 19th / 20th century boundary bisects the site ([MNA191426](#)) land divisions of the late 17th century, with two post-medieval quarries lying to the north of this ([MNA191423](#) and [MNA191424](#)).

Tasks: Thinning across the entire property will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees. This may eventually obscure historic landscape features. Care should be taken with any works across earthworks, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Standen

Compartments: S1-9

Woodland Plans: S1 SF10, S2c FC50, S2d SF10, S2e SF40, S5 SF10, S6 SF40, S9 SF10.

Significant Sites: Sixteen archaeological features are recorded within the selected compartments at Standen. Compartment S1 forms part of the designated Registered Park and Garden ([Grade 2](#)). Within S2, the four features recorded relate to post-medieval land division (wood bank [MNA190178](#) and ditch [MNA190182](#)), quarrying (undated [MNA190180](#)) and Victorian infrastructure for water management ([MNA190184](#)).

Within compartments S3, S4, S7 and S8 (no works planned) lie a medieval routeway (Green Lane [MNA190188](#)), an 18th century pond ([MNA190190](#)), Victorian land drainage ([MNA190207](#)) and a post-medieval quarry ([MNA190197](#)).

Another quarry ([MNA190206](#)) and woodbank [MNA190204](#) are recorded within compartment S5 where selected (10%) felling is planned, while feature [MNA190191](#) is an alignment of banks and ditches representing the boundary to Hollybush Wood (extending across numerous compartments and not continuous due to erosion in places). Woodbanks [MNA190198](#) and [MNA190193](#), which form parts of the northern and eastern boundaries of compartment S9 are later extensions to this boundary. Also located in compartment S9 (10% selected felling) are further examples of quarrying ([MNA190194](#)) and land drainage ([MNA194195](#)). Finally, within compartment S6 (40% selected felling) is further evidence for Victorian water management in the form of a brick-built dam ([MNA190203](#)).

Tasks: Care should be taken with any works across earthworks, especially with regard to the already eroded nature of some of these features, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic boundary features and the remains of earlier infrastructure.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Toys Hill

Compartments: T1-16

Woodland Plans: T1a SF30, T1b & T1e T2a T30, T2c SF30, T2d-e T3-4 T30, T7-8 SF20, T9 SF10, T10a & T10d SF10, T10b & T10c T30, T11-12 SF10, T13b SF40, T13c FC20, T13e FC50, T14-15 SF10

Significant Sites: With over 100 archaeological features recorded within sixteen selected compartments, Toys Hill is the most complex of the properties assessed within this document. Given the density of records and the complexity of the woodland plans features are not described individually (as is the case for other properties within this appendix) but examples of 'typical' features within compartments are provided with the full listing of features provided in the accompanying table.

No archaeological features have been recorded in compartments T14, T15 (both 10% felling), T16 (no works planned) and parts of T13 – although this absence of evidence seems to be more likely to be more reflective of a lack of survey than a lack of potential archaeology, given the density of features

recorded in the adjacent compartments. Within T13 (Scords Wood and The Chart) where works are planned (coppicing, felling), archaeological features recorded are indicative of both land and water management during the 18th and 19th centuries, such as a pond ([MNA194026](#)), hydraulic ram ([MNA193848](#)), boundaries ([MNA193841](#), [MNA193846](#)) and trackways (e.g. [MNA193830](#)). There is also evidence for 19th - early 20th century quarrying and extraction, including large areas of pitting such as [MNA194022](#) which extend into compartments T9 and west into T1 – T4.

The site of the 20th century Weardale Manor ([MNA194013](#)) and associated garden features lie adjacent to these areas of industrial activity. The War Memorial by WA Robertson ([MNA193795](#)) is a designated structure ([Grade 2 Listed](#))

Compartments T7 and T8 (Parsons Marsh) are characterised by post-medieval woodland banks and boundary features defining a rectangular area in the woodland e.g. [MNA193888](#), a holloway leading to the area from the south ([MNA193884](#)), a possible charcoal burning platform [MNA193894](#) and the site of an NT boundary marker stone [MNA193895](#), marking the west corner of Parson Marsh with Round Wood (now missing?).

Towards Brasted and Outridge on the westernmost part of Toys Hill, the compartments show further evidence for historic trackways, such as [MNA193769](#) and some agricultural activity (ridge and furrow), potentially representing orchards or hop gardens [MNA194039](#) adjacent to the woodlands.

Tasks: Thinning will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees. This may eventually obscure historic landscape features. Care should be taken with any works across extant earthworks, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways and structural remains.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

Wych Cross

Compartments: W1

Woodland Plans: T30

Significant Sites: Five archaeological features are recorded at Wych Cross, with a further monument number [MNA192966](#) allocated to the property as a whole, reflecting its historic use as a rabbit warren. The features recorded relate to routeways across the northern part of the site ([MNA191311](#) and [MNA191321](#)) likely to be medieval or potentially earlier in date, the southern boundary ([MNA191309](#)) representing land divisions of the late 17th century, and earthworks representing a pillow mound, again of post-medieval date ([MNA191303](#)). An undated platform or terrace feature may represent either evidence for quarrying or charcoal burning ([MNA191318](#)).

Tasks: Thinning across the entire property will open up areas of closed canopy woodland allowing better development of ground flora and natural regeneration of native trees. This may eventually obscure historic landscape features. Care should be taken with any works across earthworks, and with any vehicle movement / machinery near historic routeways.

Benefits for Heritage and Visitors: Evidential & Historical

