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Aims

The purpose of this survey was two fold, firstly to form the basis of a monitoring programme and secondly to produce a record of the vegetation within Downley common. The two aims may sound a little contradictory but they are each important in their own right.

Firstly, the species list for each compartment may be used as a source of reference when carrying out management or for general background information and as a education resource for the site. Secondly, the monitoring system is a means by which vegetation changes may be observed over time in an objective fashion.

Such changes are natural, however management of a particular habitat or compartment may aim to stop the succession of scrub, in which case the monitoring system will be able to tell us if the management is working and more importantly whether it is having the desired effect on the vegetation or not.

Methodology

Species were recorded within each compartment using Staces New Flora of the British Isles. In addition to the Latin or scientific name the English name is given where applicable. Ecological notes are also given describing the situation in which that particular plant is normally to be found. Notes may also be given at the foot of the page and a gap has been left intentionally so that any member of the society may enter information in to this section as and when something is noted within each compartment.

I have also introduced the DAFOR scale in the general species list. D = Dominant, A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional and R = Rare. In addition any one of these may be preceded by L and this stands for Local. Although the DAFOR scale is a very basic form of monitoring it is purely subjective and its aim is purely to give an indication to the quantity of a species within a habitat or compartment.

Purely objective monitoring of separate compartments can be found for two sites within compartment 1 and for one site within compartment 4. These sites were chosen because they contain the greatest botanical interest within the Common and because their vegetation is most at risk of scrub invasion or invasion of *Pteridium aquilinum* (Bracken).

Monitoring of each site was carried out using a series of random points (samples). Their position was achieved using random number coordinates, the pin point then being placed at the point where the 2 number coordinates meet. To achieve this numbers were selected at random from the phone book and two tape measures were placed at right angles within the site to be surveyed.

The sample frame itself is in the form of a pin point. This is placed at a 60° angle from the ground and every plant species is recorded that touches it. The end result is what is known as a frequency score for that particular plant. In other words if 30 samples are taken and the pin touches Bracken 15 times then we can say that the likelihood of finding Bracken within that particular site is 50%.

The survey of the Old Parish Boundary was carried out in a slightly different fashion. Here a two metre quadrat was placed within the ditch at ten metre intervals and each species within the quadrat was then recorded. The end result for this is also a frequency score.

Compartment 1 - Grassland species list, species synopsis and DAFOR score

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Dactylus glomerata	L A	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
Holcus Ionatus	F	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
Hordeum murinum	O	Wall Barley	Common where soil has been disturbed
Achillea millefolium	A	Yarrow	Ubiquitous
Anthriscus sylvestris	L A	Cow Parsley	Ubiquitous
Bellis perrenis	F	Daisy	A successful plant of mown grasslands because its leaves form a low basal rosette
Capsella bursa - pastoris	O	Shepherds Purse	Ruderal (weed) of agricultural areas and disturbed ground
Chamaenerion angustifolium	L A	Rose bay willowherb	A successful plant of waste areas and disturbed ground
Gallium aparine	A	Cleavers	Ubiquitous
Geranium dissectum	F	Cut - leaved Cranes - bill	Common on arable and waste areas
Plantago lanceolata	F	Ribwort Plantain	Common on grassland
Plantago major	O	Greater Plantain	Common, especially on well trodden paths
Polygonum aviculare	L D	Knotgrass	Common on dusty road verges
Pteridium aquilinum	L D	Bracken	Invasive and not under any threat here
Ranunculus bulbosus	A	Bulbous Buttercup	Common to dry grassland
Rumex obtusifolius	O	Broad - leaved Dock	Common to waste areas and field margins
Stellaria media	L A	Common Chickweed	One of the worlds most successful weeds
Trifolium repens	A	White or Dutch Clover	Ubiquitous
Trifolium pratense	A	Red Clover	Ubiquitous
Urtica dioica	L A	Stinging Nettle	Ubiquitous
Under Crataegus monogyna		Hawthorn	Common in scrub and woodland
Alopecurus pratensis	F	Meadow or common Fox Tail	Common in low lying areas
Poa pratensis	F	Smooth Meadow grass	Probably ubiquitous
Festuca ovina	F	Sheeps Fescue	Usually on poor, well drained soil
Lolium perrene	L A	Perrenial Rye grass	Prominant in old pastures and meadows
Sisymbrium officinale	O	Hedge mustard	Common in rough and cultivated places
Bryonia dioica	R	White Bryony	A climbing species common in scrub and woodland edge
Rosa rubiginosa	O	Sweet Briar	Frequently locally common on grassland and scrub
Rubus fruticosus	L D	Bramble	Ubiquitous and often dominant on disturbed ground
Other tree species in grassland			
Betula pendula	O	Silver Birch	A woodland pioneering species
Malus sylvestris	O	Crab Apple	Native of old woods and scrub, here possibly planted
Sambucus nigra	F	Elder	Common in scrub and woodlands
Quercus robur	F	Pedunculate Oak	Here possibly a remnant of the open wood pasture system
Prunus avium	F	Wild Cherry (Gean)	Common in woods and hedges
Salix caprea	O	Goat Willow	Large shrub of woods and hedges
Under Quercus robur		Pedunculate oak	Common tree of lowland Britain
Endymion non - scriptus	L A	Blue Bell	Common in woods and grassland
Glechoma hederaceae	L A	Ground Ivy	Very common in woods and g land
Hedera helix	L A	Ivy	Very common climber

Compartment 1 - Grassland species list and synopsis continued

Under Coppiced Q. robur by roadside	DAFOR scale	English Name	Ecological Notes
Lamium album	L A	White Dead - nettle	Common in open woods
Vicia sativa	F	Common Vetch	Common in grassland, hedges and scrub
Rumex acetosa	A	Common Sorrel	Common in grasslands

Notes: Avifauna and Insects observed at time of sampling

- Great Tit
- Green Woodpecker
- Collard Dove
- Black Bird
- Copper Blue (Lepidoptera)

Compartment 1 - Neutral grassland

Species	Sample											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mosses												
<i>Pseudoscleropodium purum</i>	+	+	+		+	+		+				
<i>Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus</i>		+		+	+					+		
Grasses												
<i>Agrostis tenuis</i>	+	+	+		+		+	+	+	+	+	+
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>												
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>				+	+	+						
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	+	+	+		+	+		+			+	
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>				+								
<i>Lolium perenne</i>				+								
<i>Poa trivialis</i>					+						+	
<i>Phleum pratense</i>			+						+			
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>								+				
Vascular plants												
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	+		+		+							+
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	+											
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>					+		+					
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>											+	+
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>		+										
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>					+					+		
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>												
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>				+								+
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>					+							
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.				+								
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>												
<i>Trifolium repens</i>					+							
Bare ground												
Number of species recorded in each sample	5	5	5	6	11	3	2	4	2	3	4	4
Notes												

Compartment 1 - continued

13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
+	+			+										
			+		+						+			
+		+	+		+	+		+	+		+	+	+	+
						+	+	+		+				
+	+		+		+			+	+	+	+	+		+
						+					+			+
	+			+		+	+				+			
+	+		+	+			+		+	+	+	+		
	+	+									+			
					+									
			+											
			+	+										
			+											+
4	5	2	7	4	5	4	3	3	3	3	7	3	1	4

Notes

Compartment 1 - continued

Percentage frequency measured for the following species			English name where applicable
28	29	30	
			30%
	+	+	26.60%
+			73%
			3%
			20%
+	+	+	67%
			7%
			13%
			10%
			6.60%
		+	23.30%
	+	+	47%
			3%
			7%
			17%
			3.30%
			6.60%
		+	3.30%
			7%
+			10%
			3.30%
			6.60%
			10%
3	3	5	
Notes			

Compartment 1 - Woodland edge species list, species synopsis and DAFOR score

Woodland herbs	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	L A	Cow Parsley	Ubiquitous
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	L A	Rose bay willowherb	A successful plant of waste areas and disturbed ground
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	L F	Pig Nut	Common in dry woods and old grassland
<i>Endymion non-scriptus</i>	L A	Blue Bell	Common in woods and grassland
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	L A	Wood Ruff	Common in woods
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	L D	Bracken	Invasive and not under any threat here
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	L A	Broad - leaved Dock	Common to waste areas and field margins
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	F	Common Dog Violet	Common in woods and grasslands
Low woody species			
<i>Hedera helix</i>	L A	Ivy	Very common climber of woods and scrub
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	O	Honeysuckle	Very common climber of woods and scrub
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	O	Sweet Briar	Common on grassland and scrub
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	D	Bramble	Ubiquitous and often dominant on disturbed ground
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	R	Raspberry	Usually in damp woods
Shrubs			
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	F	Elder	Common in scrub and woodlands
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	L A	Holly	Common in woodland
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	O	Hawthorn	Common in scrub and woodland
Canopy species			
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	F	Sycamore	Introduced in 15th century and now common most situations
<i>Betula pendula</i>	O	Silver Birch	A woodland pioneering species
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	A	Beech	Common on chiltern plateau
<i>Prunus avium</i>	F	Wild Cherry (Gean)	Common in woods and hedges
<i>Quercus robur</i>	A	Pedunculate Oak	Large specimens possibly a remnant of the open wood pasture system
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	F	Yew	Common woodland species but large specimens may indicate an old site

Notes: Insects and mammals observed at time of sampling

Speckled Wood (Lepidoptera)
 Orange tip (Lepidoptera)
 Bee Fly
 Queen Wasp
 Bombus spp. (Bumble Bee)
 Grey Squirrel

Compartment 1 - Old Parish Boundary Ditch

Species	Sample											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mosses												
<i>Dicranella heteromalla</i>												
<i>Fissidens taxifolius</i>					+							+
<i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i>			+		+							
<i>Plagiomnium undulatum</i>												
<i>Polytrichum commune</i>		+				+						
Grasses and Rushes												
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>		+		+								
<i>Luzula</i> sp.		+										
<i>Melica uniflora</i>					+					+		
<i>Poa annua</i>												
Woodland herbs												
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	+	+										
<i>Arum maculatum</i>												
<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>												
<i>Conopodium majus</i>												
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>						+						
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>												
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	+				+	+	+					
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>												
<i>Plantago major</i>												
<i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>												
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>												
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>												
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.												
<i>Vicia sativa</i>		+										
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>		+										
Woody species												
<i>Betula pendula</i>												
<i>Corylus avellana</i>												
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	+	+	+	+		+			+			
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	+	+	+	+		+			+	+		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	+	+	+		+			+	+	+	+	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	+			+	+	+		+		+		
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>						+						
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.			+				+					
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>												
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>												
<i>Quercus robur</i>												
Leaf litter only												

Compartment 1 - Boundary Ditch Continued

28	29	30	English name Where applicable	Notes:
+		+		
+				
			Yorkshire Fog	
			Wood Rush	
			Wood Melick	
		+	Annual Meadow - grass	
			Garlic Mustard	
			Lords and Ladies	
			Rough Chervil	
			Pig Nut	
			Wood Spurge	
			Herb Robert	
			Wood Avens	
			Dogs Mercury	
			Greater Plantain	
			Common Solomons - seal	
			Bracken	
		+	Wood Dock	
			Dandelion	
			Common Vetch	
			Early Dog Violet	
			Silver Birch	
			Hazel	
			Hawthorn	
+		+	Beech	
+			Ivy	
			Holly	
			Sweet Briar	
			Bramble	
			Elder	
			Rowan or Mountain Ash	
			Pedunculate O...	

Compartment 1 and 3 - Woodland Interior species list, species synopsis and DAFOR scores

Species	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Mosses			
<i>Isopterygium elegans</i>	L A	Not applicable	Common to banks, tree trunks and rocks in woods
<i>Mnium hornum</i>	L D	Not applicable	Growing on stumps, banks, as well as the woodland floor
<i>Polytrichum commune</i>	F	Not applicable	Frequent in damp woodland and river bank situations
Woodland herbs			
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	A	Lords and Ladies	Common in woods on base rich soils
<i>Brackypodium sylvaticum</i>	L D	Wood False Brome grass	Grass frequently found in woods
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	O	Hedge Bind Weed	Common to scrub and woodland borders
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	L D	Enchanters - nightshade	Common in shady woods on base rich soils
<i>Dryopteris Dilatata</i>	O	Broad Buckler Fern	Common to shady places on woods and heaths
<i>Dryopteris filix - mas</i>	O	Male Fern	Common woodland plant
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	L A	Wood Ruff	Common in woods
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	F	Wood Avens	Common in woods on less acid soils
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	L A	Ground Ivy	Ubiquitous
<i>Holcus Ionatus</i>	F	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	O	Wood Sorrel	Common in dry oak woods but avoids very chalky soil
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	R	Harts Tounge Fern	Common to shady moist places
<i>Poa annua</i>	A	Annual Meadow grass	Anywhere in partial shade and open situations
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	L D	Bracken	Invasive and not under any threat here
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	L A	Broad - leaved Dock	Common to waste areas and field margins
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	F	Wood Dock	Common in woods and hedges
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	O	Sanicle	Common in Beech woods on lime
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	O	Stinging Nettle	Disturbed ground and nutrient flushed ground
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	F	Common Dog Violet	Common in woods and grasslands
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	F	Early Dog Violet	Common in dry chalky woods
Low woody species			
<i>Hedera helix</i>	L A	Ivy	Very common climber of woods and scrub
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	O	Honeysuckle	Very common climber of woods and scrub
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	O	Sweet Briar	Common on grassland and scrub
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	A	Bramble	Ubiquitous and often dominant on disturbed ground
<i>Rubus Idaeus</i>	R	Raspberry	Usually in damp woods
Shrubs			
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	F	Elder	Common in scrub and woodlands
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	A	Holly	Common in woodland
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	A	Hawthorn	Common in scrub and woodland
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	F	Blackthorn (Sloe)	Common to woods and hedges
<i>Salic caprea</i>	O	Goat Willow	Mainly large shrub of woods ¹ hedges

Compartment 1 and 3 - Woodland Interior species list and synopsis continued

Canopy species

Acer campestre	O	Field Maple	Common in woods
Betula pendula	O	Silver Birch	A woodland pioneering species
Corylus avellana	F	Hazel	Common to woods
Fagus sylvatica	A	Beech	Common on chiltern plateau
Prunus avium	F	Wild Cherry (Gean)	Common in woods and hedges
Quercus robur	A	Pedunculate Oak	Large specimens possibly a remnant of the open wood pasture system
Sorbus aucuparia	O	Rowan (Mountain Ash)	In dry woods usually on acid soils
Taxus baccata	F	Yew	Common woodland species but large specimens may indicate an old site

Notes: Other organisms and features observed at time of sampling

Russula spp. (Fungi)

Incana (Lichen)

Several standard Oaks were noted growing in compartment 1

A large coppiced specimen of Beech was noted growing alongside two small banks.

These run in parallel with each other down the north facing woodland slope of compartment 1, close to and on the left of the Parish boundary, finishing up at the bottom of the valley.

The presence of standard Oak trees within this compartment is quite unusual given that the area was used for grazing.

This is because trees were pollarded to produce growth that was out of reach of the grazing animals, such as can be seen with several of the larger Beech trees within compartment 1.

One may therefore surmise that either the standard oaks were protected from grazing animals by wattled fencing, or that the trees were planted before grazing was introduced to the land.

If this conjecture is true then what was the land used for before the introduction of grazing animals?

The answer to this may be found in the presence of the shallow banks within compartment 1.

Possible evidence of ploughing at one time?

If this is so then perhaps the standard Oaks were used to mark out areas for ploughing.

On the south facing slope of the woodland within compartment 3 is an assortment of features of interest.

Alongside a layered hedge is a coppiced field Maple and close to this a standard Oak.

Close to these are several clay pits, the flora of which is particularly sparse.

The layered hedge looks to be of quite recent origin, however the presence of several clay pits, the occasional standard oak and the coppiced field Maple, would seem to indicate a landscape that was heavily worked at one point, both for clay and to a lesser extent timber.

Grassland between compartments 3 and 4 - species list, synopsis and DAFOR scale

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Grasses			
Agrostis tenuis	F	Common Bent	Common to heaths and poor soils, sometimes dominant
Anthoxanthum odoratum	F	Sweet Vernal Grass	A strong smelling grass, often abundant on heaths and moors
Arrhenatherum elatius	D	Tall or False Oat Grass	A coarse and very common grass
Dactylus glomerata	A	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
Holcus lanatus	F	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
Herbs			
Achillea millefolium	F	Yarrow	Ubiquitous
Chamaenerion angustifolium	L A	Rose bay willowherb	A successful plant of waste areas and disturbed ground
Gallium saxatile	F	Heath Bedstraw	Found mainly on heaths across Br. Isles
Geranium pyrenaicum	F	Cut - leaved Cranes - bill	Common on arable and waste areas
Hypochoeris radicata	F	Common Cats - ear	Very common to grasslands
Leontodon autumnalis	O	Autumn Hawkbit	Common to meadows not often on chalk
Plantago lanceolata	F	Ribwort Plantain	Common on grassland
Rumex acetosa	F	Common Sorrel	Very common in grassland and open woods
Woody species			
Prunus spinosa	F	Blackthorn (Sloe)	Common to scrub and woods
Rosa idaeus	O	Raspberry	Local to wet woods
Tree species in grassland			
Fraxinus excelsior	O	Beech	Common on dry and damp sites but only native to chalk
Sambucus nigra	O	Elder	Common in scrub and woodlands
Quercus robur	O	Pedunculate Oak	Here possibly a remnant of the open wood pasture system
Notes:	<p>Please note that the taller, rank grassland generally found within Compartment 4 and adjoining the paths, has more or less the same species composition and related DAFOR scales.</p> <p>An exception to this is the appearance of Festuca rubra (Strong Creeping Red Fescue grass), which is recorded as F on the DAFOR scale.</p>		

Compartment 4 - Acid grassland

Species	Sample											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mosses												
<i>Brachythecium rutabulum</i>				+	+			+	+			
<i>Campylopus flexuosus</i>	+	+										
<i>Dicranum scoparium</i>											+	
<i>Hypnum jutlandicum</i>		+										
<i>Pseudoscleropodium purum</i>	+											
Grasses and Rushes												
<i>Aira praecox</i>					+							
<i>Agrostis tenuis</i>		+			+	+	+	+	+		+	+
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>			+	+								
<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	+											+
<i>Festuca ovina</i>		+			+			+		+		+
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	+											
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>		+		+	+	+				+		+
<i>Luzula campestris</i>												
Vascular plants												
<i>Galium saxatile</i>		+	+	+	+		+			+		+
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>					+							
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>		+	+		+		+	+	+			
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	+										+	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>		+										
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>							+				+	+
Bare ground								+				
Number of species recorded in each sample	5	8	3	4	8	2	4	4	3	3	4	6
Notes												

Compartment 4 - continued

								Percentage frequency measured for the following species	English name where applicable
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
	+							30%	
								10%	
								10%	
								10%	
+	+			+				15%	
						+		10%	Early Hair grass
+		+	+					55%	Common Bent or Brown Top
+			+		+		+	40%	Sweet Vernal grass
+		+					+	25%	Wavy Hair grass
+		+		+	+	+		55%	Sheeps Fescue
		+			+			10%	Strong Creeping Red Fescue
			+	+			+	50%	Yorkshire Fog
		+			+			10%	Heath Rush
							+	45%	Heath Bedsraw
								10%	Mouse - ear Hawkweed
+	+	+			+	+		13%	Common Cats - ear
		+	+				+	20%	Autumn Hawkbit
								10%	Common Sorrel
	+	+		+	+			35%	Sheeps Sorrel
				+				10%	
6	4	8	4	4	6	3	5		

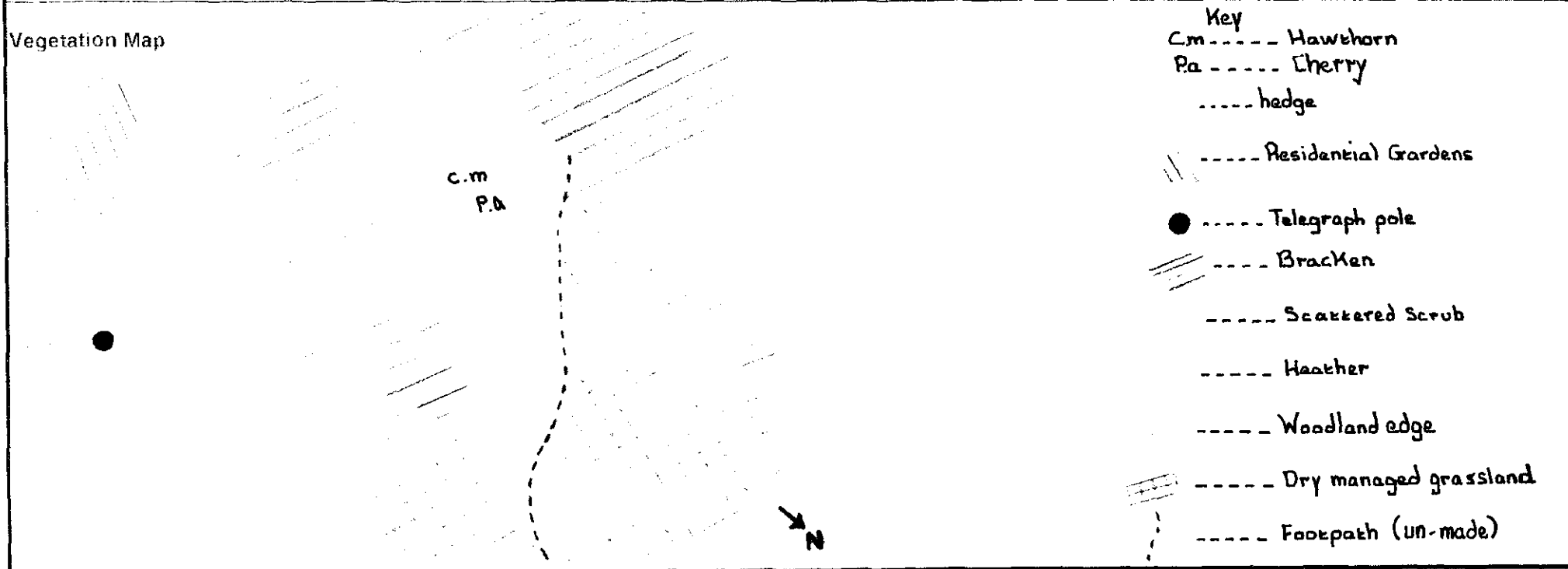
Notes

Vegetation map of Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) patch and Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) patch

Noted at the south western edge of compartment 4 not to scale

Other species include:	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological notes
Grasses			
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	F	Sweet Vernal grass	Often abundant on heaths and moors
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	A	Tall or False Oat grass	Common species
<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	L A	Wavy Hair - grass	Dry areas on acid soils
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	F	Red Fescue	Common grassland species
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	A	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	F	Rough Meadow - grass	Widespread in grassy places
Herbs			
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	L A	Rose Bay Willowherb	Common on waste ground and disturbed sites
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	F	Heath Bedstraw	Common on heathlands and moors, also on chalk
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	O	Mouse ear Hawkweed	Very common to grasslands
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	F	Common Cats - ear	Very abundant species, especially on grass
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	F	Sheeps Sorrel	Common to heaths
Low woody species			
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	L D	Bramble	Ubiquitous

Vegetation Map



- Key**
- C.m ----- Hawthorn
 - Pa ----- Cherry
 - hedge
 - ||||| ----- Residential Gardens
 - ----- Telegraph pole
 - //// ----- Bracken
 - Scattered Scrub
 - Heather
 - Woodland edge
 - Dry managed grassland
 - Footpath (un-made)

Areas of Gorse within compartment 4

Species include:	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological notes
Grasses			
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	F	Red Fescue	Common grassland species
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	A	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
Herbs			
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	L A	Rose Bay Willowherb	Common on waste ground and disturbed sites
<i>Gaium saxatile</i>	F	Heath Bedstraw	Common on heathlands and moors, also on chalk
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	F	Common Cats - ear	Very abundant species, especially on grass
Low woody species			
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	F	Hawthorn	Common to woods and hedges
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	L D	Bramble	Ubiquitous
Shrubs			
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	D	Gorse	On sandy soils throughout Britain

Note: Yellow hammers observed on the Gorse

Roadside (ruderal) species noted on route to compartment 6

Species	English Name
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	Yellow Loosestrife
<i>Matricaria matricarioides</i>	Pineappleweed
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard

Grassland bank between compartment 4 and compartment 5 - species list, synopsis and DAFOR scale

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Grasses			
<i>Agrostis tenuis</i>	F	Common Bent grass	Common to heaths and poor soils
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	O	Wall Barley	Common to rough ground and road verges
<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	F	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
<i>Holcus ionatus</i>	LA	Yorkshire Fog	Ubiquitous
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	D	Tall or False Oat Grass	A common grass often dominant
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	R	Sheeps Fescue	Usually on poor, well drained soil
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	O	Red Fescue	Common to woods and grasslands
<i>Lolium perrene</i>	LA	Perrenial Rye grass	Prominant in old pastures and meadows
Herbs			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	A	Yarrow	Ubiquitous
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	F	Ground Elder	Very common species of waste areas and disturbed ground
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	O	Agrimony	Dry grassy places often on chalk
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	O	Cow Parsley	Ubiquitous
<i>Calamintha sylvatica</i>	O	Common Calamint	Woods, grasslands especially on chalk
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	O	Hedge Bindweed	Common to hedges and waste ground
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	O	Black knapweed	Common on grasslands, especially on poorer soils
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	R	Common Mouse - ear	One of the worlds most successful weeds
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	F	Rose bay willowherb	A successful plant of waste areas and disturbed ground
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	O	Spear Thistle	Ubiquitous, especially on improved grasslands
<i>Galium aparine</i>	O	Cleavers	Ubiquitous
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	R	Heath Bedstraw	Common to heaths and moors
<i>Galium verum</i>	O	Ladies Bedstraw	Common on heaths and chalkgrasslands
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	O	Cut - leaved Cranes - bill	Probably introduced, now common to much of South East
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	F	Hogweed	Very common in woods and grassland, roadsides everywhere
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	O	Common Cats - ear	Very common grassland species
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	O	Common Toadflax	Bare and waste places, grasslands
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	R	Birdsfoot Trefoil	Common species of grasslands
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	O	Black Medick	Common species of grasslands
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	O	Corn Mint	A weed of cultivation
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	O	Ribwort Plantain	Common on grassland
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	LA	Bracken	Common to grasslands and woods
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	O	Sheeps Sorrel	Common to acid grassland
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	O	Common Ragwort	Frequent on waste ground and improved grasslands
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	R	Bladder Champion	Arable and waste ground
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	O	Hedge Woundwort	Common species of woodland edge and hedges
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	O	Stinging Nettle	Ubiquitous
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	O	Common Vetch	Frequently found in grasslands and hedges
Low woody species			
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	A	Bramble	Ubiquitous and often dominant on disturbed ground

Grassland bank between compartment 4 and compartment 5 - species list, synopsis and DAFOR scale continued

Shrubs			
Crataegus monogyna	O	Hawthorn	Common in scrub and woodland
Salix caprea	R	Goat Willow	Large shrub of woods and hedges
Sambucus nigra	F	Elder	Common in scrub and woodlands
Trifolium pratense	F	Red Clover	Frequently found in grasslands on richer soil
Tree species in grassland			
Prunus domestica agg.	O	Domestic Cherry	Common introduction to grasslands and road verges
Quercus robur	F	Pedunculate Oak	Here possibly planted as a feature

Notes: Sheeps Sorrel was noted growing on the ant mound of Lasius flavus (Yellow Field Ant)

Compartment 6a - Grassland species list, species synopsis and DAFOR score

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Grasses			
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	D	Tall or False Oat Grass	A common grass often dominant
<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	F	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	F	Large Leaved Timothy Grass	Common but only native to moist soils
Herbs			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	A	Yarrow	Ubiquitous
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	O	Hedge Bindweed	Common to hedges and waste ground
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	F	Spear Thistle	Common to waste ground and unmanaged grasslands
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	O	Hemlock	Common on waste ground
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	R	Sun Spurge	Common on waste ground and arable sites
<i>Galium aparine</i>	F	Cleavers	Common on disturbed ground
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	A	Ground Ivy	Ubiquitous
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	F	Hogweed	Very common in woods and grassland, roadsides everywhere
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	F	Black Medick	Common species of grasslands
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	F	Ribwort Plantain	Common on grassland
<i>Plantago major</i>	F	Greater Plantain	Common on trodden ground
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	O	Creeping Cinquefoil	On moderately acid soils
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	L A	Bracken	Common to grasslands and woods
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	A	Creeping Buttercup	Common to grasslands
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	F	Hedge Mustard	Common especially by arable land
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	O	Prickly Sow - thistle	Ubiquitous
<i>Tragapogon pratense</i> agg.	F	Goat's Beard	Frequent on roadsides
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	F	Red Clover	Frequently found in grasslands on richer soil
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	O	Stinging Nettle	Ubiquitous
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	O	Common Vetch	Frequently found in grasslands and hedges
Low woody species			
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	F	Field Rose	Very common on heavy soils
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.	L A	Dog Rose	Most common rose in southern Britain
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	L F	Sweet Briar	Common to unmanaged grassland, not liked by grazing stock
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	A	Bramble	Ubiquitous and often dominant on disturbed ground
Shrubs			
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	F	Hawthorn	Common in scrub and woodland
Notes:			

Compartment 6b - Grassland species list, species synopsis, DAFOR score and woodland edge species list

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Grasses			
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	F	Dogs Tail	Common grassland species
<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	F	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	F	Large Leaved Timothy Grass	Common but only native to moist soils
Herbs			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	A	Yarrow	Ubiquitous
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	F	Spear Thistle	Common to waste ground and unmanaged grasslands
<i>Galium aparine</i>	F	Cleavers	Common on disturbed ground
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	F	Hogweed	Very common in woods and grassland, roadsides everywhere
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	A	Birds Foot - trefoil	Frequent to grasslands
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	F	Black Medick	Common species of grasslands
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	O	Marjoram	Common to grass especially with chalky soils
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	O	Ribwort Plantain	Common on grassland
<i>Plantago major</i>	O	Greater Plantain	Common on trodden ground
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	F	Selfheal	Common to grasslands
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	A	Bulbous Buttercup	Common in meadows and grasslands
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	F	Creeping Buttercup	Common to grasslands
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	O	Smooth Sow - thistle	Open woods and hedges
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	F	Red Clover	Frequently found in grasslands on richer soil
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	F	White (Dutch) Clover	Frequent in grasslands
Compartment 6b Woodland Edge			
Species noted:		English Name	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed	<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort
<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	Cocks Foot	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snow Berry
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Cherry	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright Hedge Parsley
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn (Sloe)	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup		
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak		
<i>Rosa avensis</i>	Field Rose		
Note: Incana (lichen) Coppiced Hawthorn and Oak noted			

Compartment 7 and 8 - Woodland edge species list, synopsis and DAFOR score

Grassland sward	DAFOR scale	English name	Ecological Notes
Grasses			
Dactylus glomerata	F	Cocks Foot	Ubiquitous
Lolium perenne	F	Perennial Rye - Grass	Common to Cultivated areas and waste land
Poa annua	F	Annual Meadow Grass	Ubiquitous
Poa trivialis	F	Rough Meadow Grass	Occures sometimes in partial shade
Herbs			
Galium aparine	F	Cleavers	Common on disturbed ground
Galium odoratum	O	Wood Ruff	Common woodland herb
Geum urbanum	O	Wood Avens	Common woodland herb
Heracleum sphondylium	F	Hogweed	Very common in woods and grassland, roadsides everywhere
Plantago major	F	Greater Plantain	Common on trodden ground
Pteridium aquilinum	L A	Bracken	Common in many woodland situations
Ranunculus repens	O	Creeping Buttercup	Common to grasslands
Rumex obtusifolius	F	Broad Leaved Dock	Common to woodland edges
Torilis japonica	O	Upright Hedge Parsley	Common on road verges and woodland edges
Low woody species			
Lonicera periclymenum	O	Honey Suckle	Common climber of woods
Rubus fruticosus	L D	Bramble	Ubiquitous
Shrub species			
Ilex aquifolium	A	Holly	A typical understorey species of woods everywhere
Prunus spinosa	F	Blackthorn (Sloe)	Hedges and woodland edges
Sambucus nigra	F	Elder	Woodland edges and scrub
Tree species			
Acer pseudoplatanus	L A	Sycamore	Introduced in 15th century and now common everywhere
Fraxinus excelsior	F	Ash	Common to woods everywhere
Taxus baccata	F	Yew	Common to woods

Notes: