

Broomley Tree and Plant survey

Carried out by Phil Macari and Honor Shaw of Wildcraft on Wednesday 05 July 2023. (www.wildcrafty.co.uk). This was a walk through and survey of trees and plants at Broomley Grange River woodlands area, with some reflections on future care and management.

1. Method

A general walk through the area to ID the general trees and to a lesser extent flowering plants on the site. We simply recorded what we saw and knew, mostly from the main path with a few excursions into the undergrowth where it was easy to do so. We also reflected on the areas status and an ancient woodland site and best management in the future to maintain and improve it. This was brief and took no more than 1.5 hrs in total. It is not exhaustive or comprehensive, but represents a 'snapshot', but some observations on management from a Nature Recovery point of view.

2. General Thoughts

A very special (but much changed in places) ancient woodland site. Much scope for removal of invasives: Rhodi, Beech, Sycamore and Ground Elder, to open space for other naturally occurring trees and herbs already present. Some scope for careful replanting too, of local native species.

Encouraging ecological connectivity along the site (and to a lesser degree with the whole of Broomley Grange area would be useful.

3. Plant List

Plant 9 (and others) list. 27 tree/shrubs, 33 herbaceous plants.

Tree and Woody Shrubs	Herbaceous Plants
Ash	wood avens
Hazel	daisy
Sycamore	bramble sp
Sessile Oak	nettle
Wild Cherry	garlic

Stocksfield Habitat Survey 2022-23 Appendix 3: Broomley Grange Tree and Plant Survey

Rowan	nipplewort
Bird Cherry	greater willowherb
Alder Possibly two species here? On very tall, straight with deeply fissured bark. Or could just be different forms due to local environment. The other <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> .	sticky jack
Silver Birch	dandelion
Holly	dock
Beech	yellow pimpernel
Elder	wood sorrel
Hawthorn	creeping buttercup
Rhododendron sp.	violet sp
Norway Maple	greater stitchwort
Scots Pine	bugle
Western Hemlock. We think, anyway. It has fragrant, flat spines that are soft.	self heal
Wellingtonia/Sequoia	hedge woundwort
Yew	herb robert
Sitka Spruce	dogs mercury
Pear. Possibly not Wild Pear but a garden variety Callery Pear? <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> . Needs more research. Evidence of suckering from main tree, or saplings from mother tree?	red campion
Western Red Cedar	sorrel sp
Aspen	foxglove
Wych elm	marsh thistle
Wild Privet	enchanters nightshade
Lleylandii?	wheat an escape from local fields?
White poplar	hogweed
	green alkanet
other things	vetch sp
several species of ferns	slender thistle?
hare	rose spirea

weasel	oxeye daisy
sparrowhawk, wren, chaffinch, (heard)	wild radish/white charlock

4. Map and notes by area, and specific suggestions.

Oak and Yew Area

Very mature oaks in here, most mature rowans and Yew, some Rhodi too. Slightly more exposed to wind. It 'feels' very ancient, encourage Oak regeneration. Encourage understory, especially native 'berry' species.

Big trees and Pears Area

Has an open feel, which 'connects' with the lawn that slopes down. 5 Wellingtonia are stunning, and the Pear tree also. Encourage the below path to river natural and native species in this area to ensure connectivity between 'Oak and Yew' area and the 'Entrance Fire and Dens' area.

Entrance Fire and Dens Area

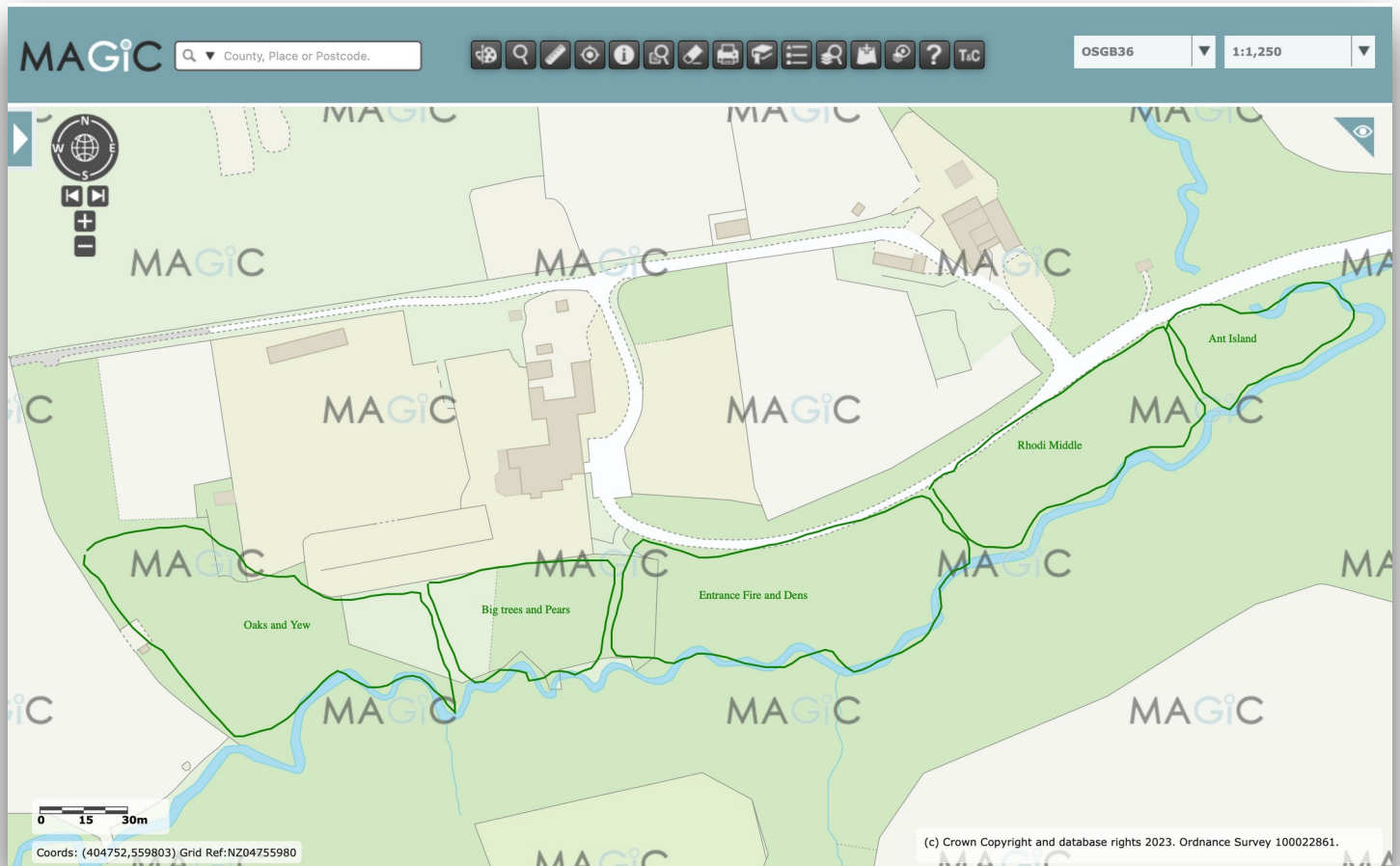
Ash, Oak and Birch regeneration here, and to be encouraged, perhaps by controlling other taller trees around it, especially sycamore which are quite common in this area. Ground Elder (not to be confused with Elder tree) is present and needs to be kept in check/eradicated before it takes hold and outcompetes other plants. Shading might be helping to control it to some extent.

Rhodi Middle Area.

As its name suggests this is the main Rhodi area on the site. It needs to be stopped from spreading and cutting back and killing off on a regular and steady basis. More light on the woodland floor will bring more wildflowers, succeeding to scrub and local trees. Could be a site of extra supplementary planting with local and native species. Signs of more Beech here too, which is worth removing to allow more light in and favour more natural species in the area.

Ant Island Area

Not an island but it does have a lovely ant hill. Flat and with lots of fantastic



decaying wood and with a good understory it feels the most Ancient woodland-
y of the areas and is the most accessible. More beech here too, one small
patch of Rhodi, so these both should be removed to allow the native trees and
herbs to flourish.