

Georgina's Wood

(Plan period – 2020 to 2025)



WOODLAND
TRUST

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Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

“A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife.”

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK’s native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and through independent audit.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.
4. The long term vision for all our ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities to generate income from our Estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we encourage our woods to be used for local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the Estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.
10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

or contact the Woodland Trust

operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/>

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

The Management Plan

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3. Long Term Policy
4. Key Features
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5. Work Programme

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GLOSSARY

1. SITE DETAILS

Georgina's Wood

Location:	Appleby Magna Grid reference: SK316109 OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 128
Area:	0.98 hectares (2.42 acres)
External Designations:	National Forest
Internal Designations:	N/A

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Georgina's Wood consists of a single compartment of just under 1 hectare in size. It sits at the southern edge of the National Forest, in an area that is largely dominated by arable fields with very little woodland cover. The site was formerly a paddock gifted to the Woodland Trust in the mid-1990's by a local individual, Mr Jack Smith, a former Head Master of Appleby Magna School who wanted to see a woodland planted in memory of his late wife, hence the name "Georgina's Wood".

The woodland consists of native broadleaved species, predominantly oak, ash and cherry with some hazel on path edges, all planted in 1996; mature oaks pollarded in 1994 are present in the hedgerow that runs around the edge of the wood. The woodland also has a lovely display of daffodils in the spring. A single grassed path runs through the woodland from the entrance and forms a circular route that incorporates a glade in the centre of the woodland. The site is fairly level and free draining with hedges on all sides.

The key features of this site are informal public access and new native woodland.

3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intention is to create a native, broadleaf, high forest woodland. It will remain fully accessible for people to enjoy for informal recreation throughout. Paths will be cut regularly to facilitate continued access and entrances and signage maintained.

Because of threats to tree health from pests and diseases such as Ash Dieback, periodic monitoring and Woodland Condition Assessments will be undertaken to determine future management interventions. This will ensure the woodlands on-going resilience into the future.

4. KEY FEATURES

4.1 f1 Informal Public Access

Description
A welcome sign can be found at the entrance with a squeeze stile beside the management gate. A circular path leads from the entrance. A central glade is incorporated within this. The woodland is becoming visible in its elevated location within the rather featureless landscape.
Significance
Although small in size, the limited availability of publicly accessible woodland in the locale means that this site is particularly important for local people , some of whom use the site regularly.
Opportunities & Constraints
The woodland does not have large numbers of visitors due to its small size and location, although it is popular with local people. The woodland sits just outside of the National Forest area.
Factors Causing Change
Ash die back is a concern in this woodland as is damage from squirrels. Both of which may cause safety concerns to visitors of the site.
Long term Objective (50 years+)
Low key public access will be maintained at this wood in perpetuity. This will include the maintenance of the current path network, and the Woodland Trust "Welcome" signage and entrances.
Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)
Low key public access will be maintained at this wood. Operations this plan period will include: To mow the paths three times a year in May, July and September, this includes the small glade area. To maintain the Woodland Trust "Welcome" signage at the entrance, to be inspected and cleaned by the contractor in June annually. To maintain the existing pedestrian access point as part of the visits made by the contractor as described above. All of the above to be included in the Estates Management Contract for the property. The Site Manager to monitor and assess the condition of the path and entrance once every 5 years.

4.2 f2 New Native Woodland

Description

The property was planted with native broadleaf trees in 1996, these trees have developed well and have formed a closed canopy. Hedges are present around the whole boundary of the woodland; the Woodland Trust is responsible for the management of the hedges on the northern and eastern boundaries in which mature hedgerow trees are present.

Significance

The site is important as a landscape feature and as a refuge for wildlife in a locale that is dominated by agricultural fields.

Opportunities & Constraints

Opportunities
Colonisation of woodland of more diverse plant species as found in surrounding pre existing hedgerows.
Haven for woodland wildlife in the area.
Ash die back will naturally open up the canopy allowing more light to penetrate and increasing regeneration of tree stock, introducing a more diverse age structure to the woodland.

Constraints
Small parcel bounded by fields.
Little opportunity for change.

Factors Causing Change

Threats from pests and diseases, in-particular ash dieback which could have a significant impact given the large ash component that makes up the woodland. Squirrels may also become a threat to the future of this woodland and their activity should be monitored as part of the regular Woodland Condition Assesments.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

To allow the woodland to develop into native high-forest with trees and shrubs of varying age classes and species types. The woodland will reach this state via natural processes through a minimum intervention management approach. Periodic monitoring and "Woodland Condition Assessments" will inform management going into the future, interventions only taking place if highlighted as necessary by the Woodland Condition Assessments; the aim being to ensure the long term resilience of the woodland in perpetuity.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Monitor the woodland once every two years to assess its health and well being.

Once in the plan period, just prior to the next management plan review, assess the woodland using a "Woodland Condition Assessment" the results of which will inform the next management plan review in 5 years time.

Seek to tie in this site with others to make a silvicultural intervention of this small area of woodland viable.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
2022	SL - Tree Safety Silviculture Work	Retrieving data. Wait a few seconds and try to cut or copy again.	April

APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	0.97	Mixed native broadleaves	1996	Min-intervention		
<p>Georgina's Wood is a 1ha woodland creation site acquired by the Woodland Trust in May 1995. It was donated by Mr Jack Smith, a former headmaster of Appleby Magna School in memory of his late wife, Georgina. The property is roughly square, bordered by Tamworth Road to the north and Measham Road to the east. The site is fairly level and free draining with hedges on all sides. The woodland was planted in 1996 with native, broadleaved trees, these being oak and ash (70%) with cherry, field maple, rowan, crab apple and willow (20%) with hawthorn and hazel (10%). 20% of the site consists of open ground and takes the form of a circular path with a central glade.</p>						

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.

Registered Office:

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