

<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	occasional
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.		occasional
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	locally abundant
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry	occasional
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	Gooseberry	occasional
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	locally frequent
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's-nightshade	occasional
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	occasional
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	occasional
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	occasional
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	abundant
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	frequent
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-Robert	occasional
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel	locally frequent
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	locally frequent
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild Angelica	occasional
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	occasional
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	abundant
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	occasional
<i>Myosotis laxa</i>	Tufted Forget-me-not	locally frequent
<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i> agg. <i>sensu lato</i>		occasional
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground-ivy	occasional
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gypsywort	occasional
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	occasional
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	locally frequent
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	occasional
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common Figwort	occasional
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	locally frequent
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell	occasional
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	occasional
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	occasional
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	occasional
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	occasional
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False-brome	occasional
<i>Bromopsis ramosa</i>	Hairy-brome	locally frequent
<i>Festuca gigantea</i>	Giant Fescue	occasional
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	Creeping Soft-grass	locally abundant
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	locally frequent
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords-and-Ladies	occasional
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	locally abundant
Reptiles and Amphibians (Chordata; Reptilia/Amphibia)		
<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Common Frog	

COUNTY: STAFFORDSHIRE

SITE NAME: BRAKEN HURST

DISTRICT: East Staffordshire

SITE REF: 15WCZ

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified (Under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act) 1981.

Local Planning Authority: STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, East Staffordshire District Council

National Grid Ref: SK 137222

Area: 25.9 (ha.) 64.0 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 128

1:10,000: SK 12 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1968

Date of Last Revision: 1968

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Site boundary alteration (extension & reduction).

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Braken Hurst is one of the largest, least-altered remnants of the once extensive plateau woodlands and wood pastures of the former Crown Forest of Needwood. The full range of types of semi-natural woodland occurring in the locality is represented in a variety of stands including former coppice, wood pasture relics and broadleaved high forest. The site shows evidence for a largely continuous history of woodland cover since at least the Middle Ages. The spatial proximity of stands of different management histories, the variety of soil types and the presence of mature and over-mature timber over a long period are features of intrinsic interest which together sustain a characteristic and diverse flora and fauna; this includes several rare plants and a notable assemblage of moths and butterflies.

Woodland composition reflects the differences in soil and drainage conditions. The major woodland type is hazel-pedunculate oakwood *Corylus avellana* – *Quercus robur* on acid boulder clay with similar stands, largely of sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, on lighter soils. Both oakwood canopies typically contain silver and downy birches *Betula pendula* and *Betula pubescens* over an understory of hazel, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, dog rose *Rosa canina* and honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*. The field layer largely consists of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* with abundant bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis*. Other common herbs include wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, yellow pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* and broad buckler-fern *Dryopteris dilatata*.

On acidic, better-drained sands and gravels a birch-sessile oak woodland occurs with an open, mature canopy and old pollarded hollies, a structure arising from the practice of wood-pasturage. This stand represents a fragment of the widespread 17th century landscape of common grazings. The hollies support a strong colony of the holly blue butterfly *Celastrina argiolus*.

The high forest oakwood of Hawk Hills and Slade Covert is believed to originate through planting and natural regeneration on an ancient, but largely deforested woodland site subject to a long history of grazing. Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and wych elm *Ulmus glabra* are common constituents and locally give rise to distinct stands, however sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* is a vigorous colonist.

The flood plain of the river Swarbourn contains an excellent example of valley alderwood on wet alkaline soils derived from the Keuper Marl. Alder *Alnus glutinosa*, as coppice and

standards, occurs in mixture with ash, pedunculate oak, hazel and shrubs of lesser frequency such as grey willow *Salix cinerea*, guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*, field maple *Acer campestre* and buckthorn *Rhamnus catharticus*. Tufted hair grass *Deschampsia cespitosa* and dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis* are dominant in the field layer whilst the wettest, peaty or flushed situations are botanically very rich with hemp-agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium* and ramsons *Allium ursinum*.

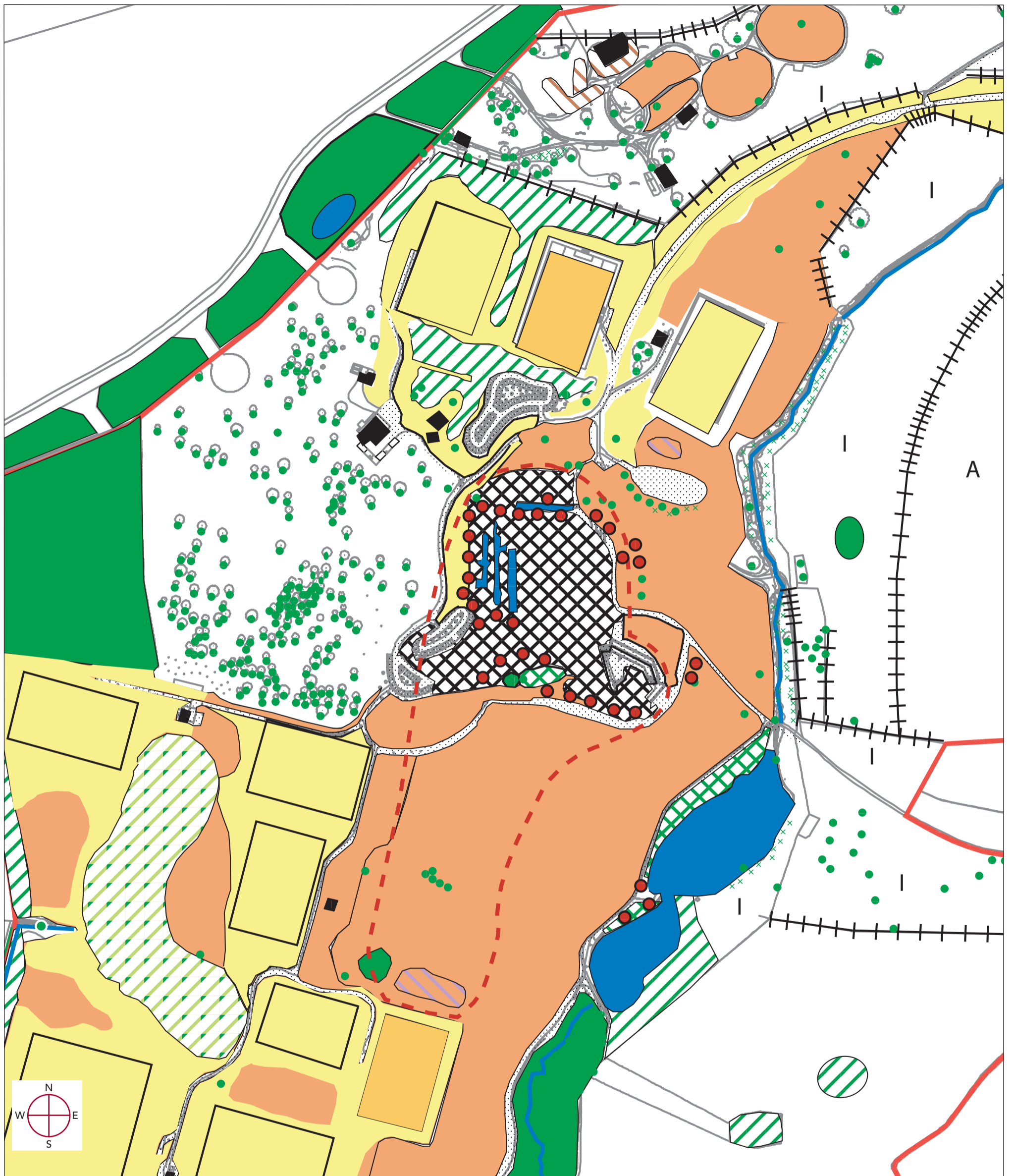
The valley flanks and the oak parkland at Round Hill have a few standards of small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata*. These may represent a vestige of a pedunculate oak-limewood type otherwise lost from Needwood Forest.

The mixed scrub and glades of the 'pylon ride' is attractive to birds and invertebrates and holds a population of wood spurge *Euphorbia amygdaloides* at one of its few Staffordshire locations.

Some of the more notable moths recorded are argent and sable *Rheumaptera hastata*, blomers rivulet *Discoloxia blomeri* and the ruddy highflier *Hydriomena ruberata*.

Several rare species of beetle are associated with the mature oaks.

8 Appendix 3 Phase 1 Habitat Plan & Reptile Mat Location Plan



Legend

	Reptile mat location		Semi-improved neutral grassland		Amenity grassland
	Individual tree		Marshy grassland		Artificial football pitch
	Scattered scrub		Improved grassland		Tall ruderal vegetation
	Species-poor hedgerow		Plantation broadleaved woodland		Ephemeral/short perennial
	Species-poor hedgerow with trees		Plantation mixed woodland		Hard standing
	Running water		Broadleaved woodland		Building
	Fence		Dense scrub		
	Unimproved neutral grassland		Standing water		

**baker
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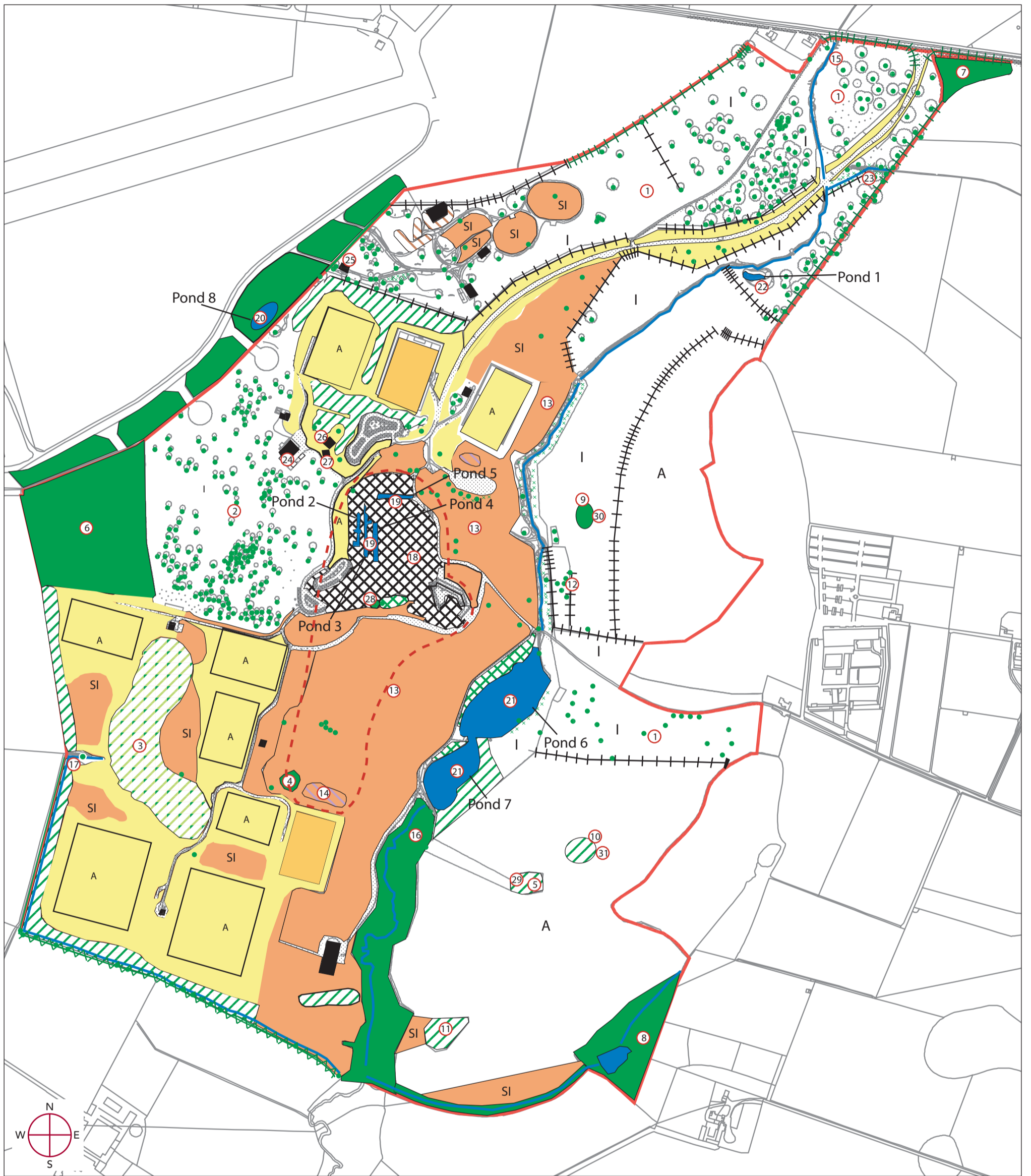
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NATIONAL FOOTBALL CENTRE

Reptile Mat Location Plan

Date	FEB '10	Checked	KS	Scale	NTS
Drawn	LRJ	Approved	KS	Job Ref	3776
Revised	SM				
Status	FINAL	Dwg No.			FIGURE 1



Legend

	Ownership boundary		Unimproved neutral grassland		Standing water
	Target Note reference number		Semi-improved neutral grassland		Amenity grassland
	Individual tree		Marshy grassland		Artificial football pitch
	Scattered scrub		Improved grassland		Tall ruderal vegetation
	Species-poor hedgerow		Plantation broadleaved woodland		Ephemeral/short perennial
	Species-poor hedgerow with trees		Plantation mixed woodland		Hard standing
	Running water		Broadleaved woodland		Building
	Fence		Dense scrub		Development area
	Species-rich hedgerow with trees				

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NATIONAL FOOTBALL CENTRE

Phase 1 Habitat Survey Plan and Pond Location Plan

Date JAN '10 Checked KS Scale NTS

Drawn Amended LRJ SM Approved KS Job Ref 3776

Status FINAL Dwg No. FIGURE 2