

12 Grimesthorpe Allotments



Introduction

Grimesthorpe Allotments is an important local facility, lying next to Osgathorpe Park/Earl Marshall and Whiteways School.

Site details

Site name

Grimesthorpe Allotments

Location

The site is situated at Grid Reference SK 367 898. The allotments are next to Wood Hill, (Smith's Field) (site 29).

Land owner

Sheffield City Council owns the site.

Nearest road/street

Grimesthorpe Road borders the allotment gardens to the southeast.

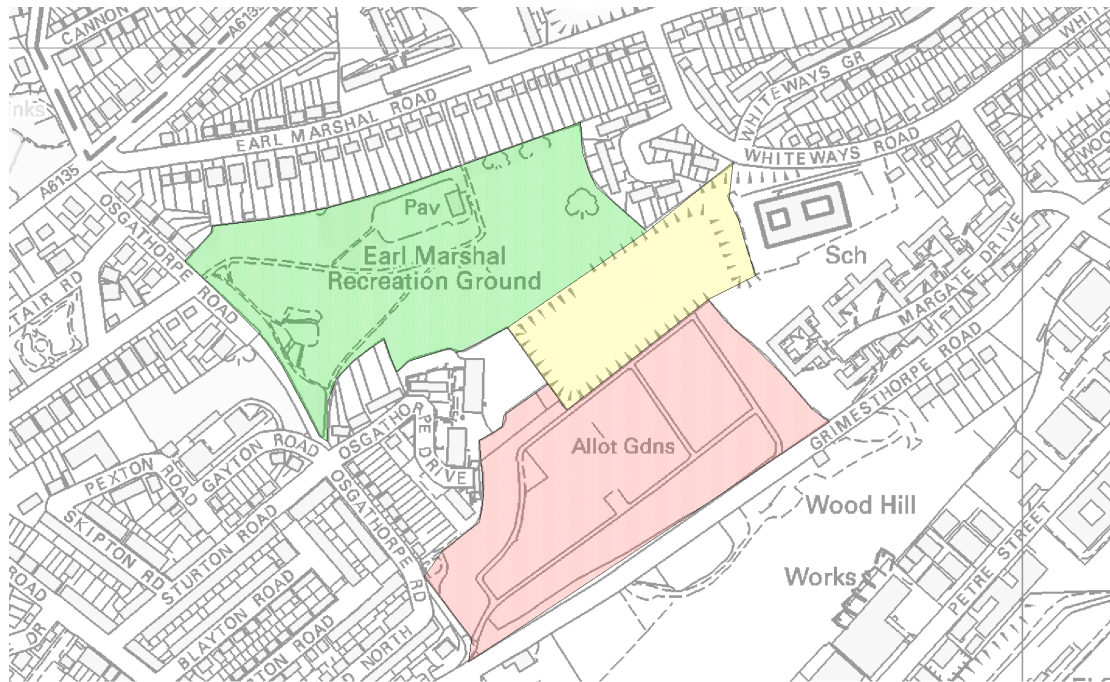
Adjacent land use

Whiteways School and Osgathorpe Park lie to the north; to the south east is Petre Street, a large species rich green space. To the east of the park is Osgathorpe Road Woodlands, a small broadleaved woodland.

Size

The allotments have an area of 4.61287 hectares

Location map



Osgathorpe Park is shaded green, Whiteways school grounds are shaded yellow and the allotments themselves are shaded red.

Ecology

Phase I ecological survey

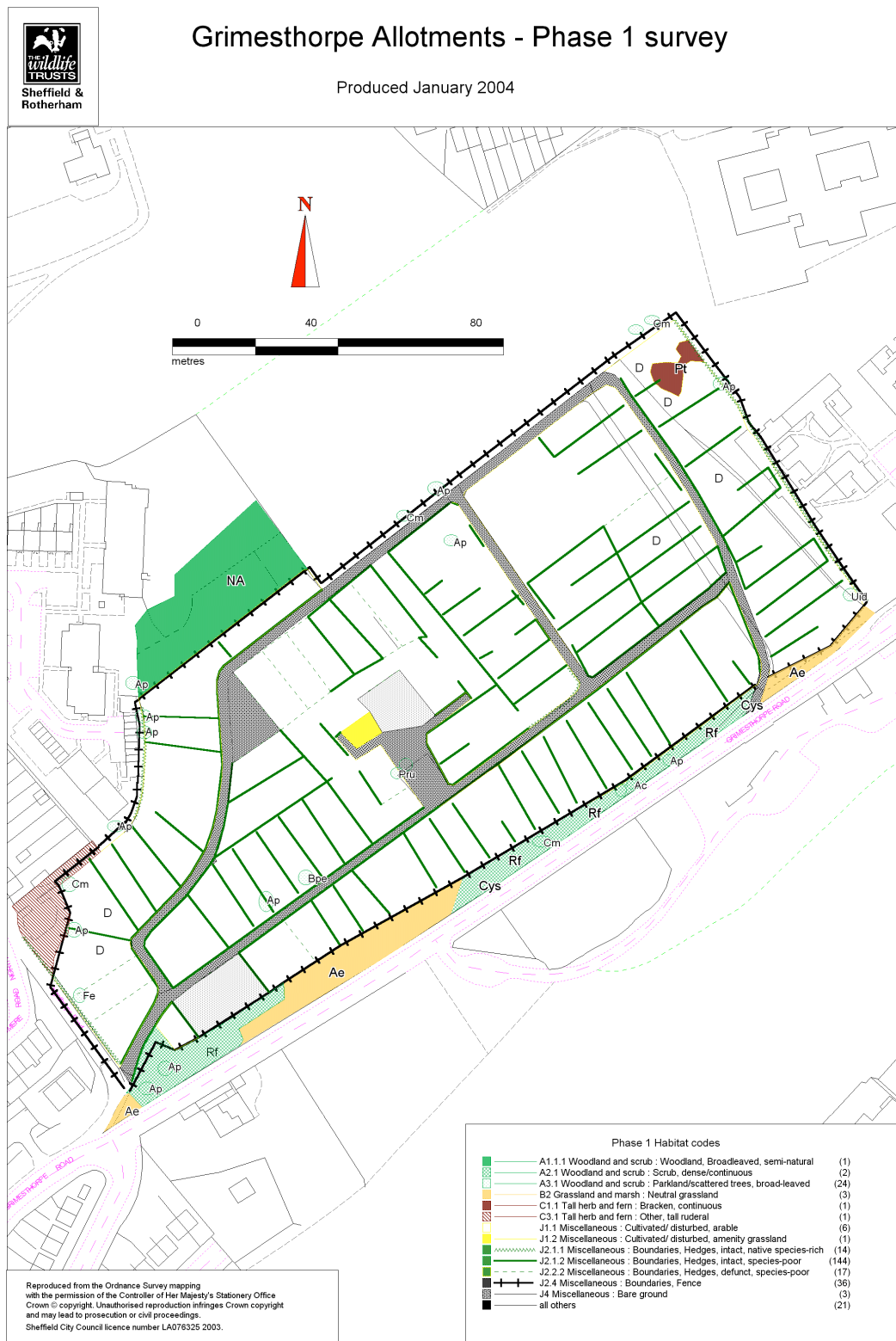
Site description

The allotments are a site that has recently had a lot of work on clearance, improvement and maintenance. The allotments bordering the road, which were used as a dumping ground, have been cleared up and boundary fences erected. The site is padlocked during the day so access is limited. There will be a separate brief survey report on Grimesthorpe Allotments by Roger Butterfield.

Habitats of interest

The allotments contain a range of habitats, many of which are continually changing, the hedges are good for wildlife and the continual planting of food crops will be enjoyed in part by the local wildlife before the allotment grower harvests his crop. The allotments are, naturally, privately run and managed by the allotment grower so individual allotments were not surveyed.

Phase 1 Habitat map (Grimesthorpe Allotments)



Invertebrate survey

A full invertebrate survey was not carried out on this site as, due to limited funding, only a few sites could be chosen. The sites that were surveyed are believed to hold greater invertebrate interest.

A full invertebrate survey is recommended in the future.

Species found include: Orange tip and small white butterfly

Evaluation

The allotments contain a variety of habitats and now they are more secure they should continue to support a variety of species in safety; scrub and overgrown wild areas around the allotments should be allowed to remain.

Species found

(List covers both 12 Grimesthorpe Allotments and 22 Osgathorpe Park/Earl Marshall)

A (tree or shrub)

<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	sycamore
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	horse-chestnut
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	alder
<i>Alnus incana</i>	grey alder
<i>Berberis sp</i>	barberry
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	
<i>Betula pendula</i>	silver birch
<i>Betula sp.</i>	birch
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	sweet chestnut
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	dogwood
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	cotoneaster
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	broom
<i>Fagus sylvatica var. purpurea</i>	copper beech
<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>	forsythia
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	holly
<i>Ilex cultivar</i>	variegated holly
<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	laburnum
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	garden privet
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	sweet gum
<i>Malus sp</i>	apple
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	crab apple
<i>Malus x purpurea</i>	purple crab
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots pine
<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar
<i>Populus nigra</i>	lombardy poplar
<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	western balsam poplar
<i>Prunus 'Kanzan'</i>	
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	cherry laural
<i>Prunus padus</i>	bird cherry
<i>Prunus sp.</i>	cherry
<i>Quercus sp.</i>	oak
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	flowering currant
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	bramble
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	raspberry
<i>Salix x sepulcralis</i>	weeping willow
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	elder
<i>Sorbus aria agg.</i>	common whitebeam
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	rowan
<i>Sorbus intermedia agg</i>	Swedish whitebeam
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	snowberry
<i>Tilia sp.</i>	lime sp.
<i>Tilia x vulgaris</i>	lime
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	wych elm

B (herb)

<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	cow parsley
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	daisy

<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	wavy bitter-cress
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	hairy bitter-cress
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	rosebay willowherb
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	creeping thistle
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	field bindweed
<i>Crocus</i> sp.	cultivated crocus
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	great willowherb
<i>Fragaria ananassa</i>	strawberry
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb-robert
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	wood avens
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	hogweed
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish bluebell
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	cat's-ear
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	red dead-nettle
<i>Linaria purpurea</i>	purple toadflax
<i>Lunaria annua</i>	honesty
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	oregon-grape
<i>Matricaria matricarioides</i>	pinappleweed
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	wood forget-me-not
<i>Myostis</i> sp.	forget-me-not
<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i>	cultivated daffodil
<i>Plantago major</i>	greater plantain
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	gooseberry
<i>rosa</i> sp.	rose
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	sheeps sorrel
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	broad-leaved dock
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	dock
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	common ragwort
<i>Sisymbrium officianale</i>	hedge mustard
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	bittersweet
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	perennial sow-thistle
<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed
<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	feverfew
<i>Taraxacum officianale</i> agg.	dandelion
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	red clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	white clover
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	scentless mayweed
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	common nettle
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	germander speedwell
<i>Veronica persica</i>	common field-speedwell
<i>Viola</i> sp.	violet

C (grass)

<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	common bent
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	meadow foxtail
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernal-grass
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	false oat-grass
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cock's-foot
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	red fescue
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire fog
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	creeping soft-grass
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	wall barley
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	perennial rye-grass
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	timothy
<i>Poa annua</i>	annual meadow-grass
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	rough meadow-grass

Poa pratensis

smooth meadow grass

Habitats/species of nature conservation importance

UK BAP Priority Habitats

None

Sheffield LBAP Priority Habitats

None

UK BAP Priority Species

Linnet At least 2 territories held

Song thrush At least 1 territory held

Sheffield LBAP Priority Species

None

UK BAP Species of Conservation Concern

Goldfinch

Greenfinch

Great spotted woodpecker

Blue tit-At least 1 territory held

Great tit-At least 2 territories held

Chiffchaff-At least 1 territory held

Dunnock-At least 3 territories held

Blackcap

Common whitethroat

Wren-At least 4 territories held

UK Red List Birds

House sparrow

UK Amber List Birds

Dunnoch

Mistle thrush

Local Red Data Book Species

Lepidoptera Grade A Species

Comma

Holly blue

Speckled wood

Previous Surveys

Author/Recorder	Date	Coverage	Location
J.Fox	5/8/87	Sheffield Inner City Phase 1 Habitat Survey –Brief Assessmant	Sheffield Wildlife Trust & Sheffield City Council Ecology Unit- File 137

History and Geology

Geological survey

The site is underlain by sedimentary rocks from the Lower Coal Measures series; this was deposited during the Upper Carboniferous period. The park is situated on a band of shale that separates Grenoside sandstone from Penistone Flags. There are no outcrops on the site.

Archaeological survey

Part of an earthwork was uncovered close to Grimesthorpe Allotments during road widening in 1948. The earthwork is a 230 yard section of a pre-Roman ridge. (City Council archaeology file # 4039, SK 3668 8960.

Historical survey

In the 1880 map the site is open fields. Towards the southern edge is Osgathorpe Cottage, which looks like a few large buildings. Around this the land is dotted with trees. Field systems are plotted on the 1850 map and the trees on the later map mirror the field boundaries. Osgathorpe cottage would have been on the site around the modern park and the allotments. For information on the so-called 'Roman Rig', see archaeological survey above. This ridge was probably built around the same time as the Wincobank Hill, the ridge ran for 11 miles from Rotherham to Tempoleborough. Part of it ran behind the Wicker then alongside Grimesthorpe Road to Wincobank Hill then towards Meadowhall.

Community

Use of the allotments has increased since the Burngreave Green Environment Programme made capital improvements. A community survey was not considered applicable.