

## 26 Open Spaces off Sedan Street



## Introduction

This site consists of four steep grassy banks all close to each other. The sites are on the edge of a housing estate and also provide a green link between Petre Street site (#33), Burngreave Cemetery and Ellesmere Park. There are many mature trees on these mown banks with overgrown areas of bramble/scrub. The trees include lime, ash, birch, rowan, sycamore and cherry. The bank on the corner of Grimesthorpe Road appears to be an old overgrown privet hedge. There is unrestricted access. There are nests in a lot of the trees.

There is a broad range of planted trees; amongst them are Oliver's Lime and some apple trees. Alongside Ellesmere Road are 80 female hybrid black poplars.

The ecology of the site is varied with areas of short mown amenity grassland, scrub, tall avenues of trees and an assortment of individual planted trees. These combine to create a park-like appearance on these small narrow strips of land.

The shrubs and trees that are planted close together provide excellent thickets for nesting birds. Although the scrub areas do not make a continuous link throughout these open spaces, they are important as part of a 'wildlife corridor' to link together other sites such as Ellesmere Park and Wood Hill.

Small areas of uncut grass and 'wild' areas are important habitats for a range of invertebrates. There are a few examples of these habitats around the site

## Recommendations and Suggestions

There is plenty of scope for small-scale improvements on this steep, small site. Areas of bramble thicket, dense trees and shrubs and tall, uncut grassland should be left as they are in order to maintain a diversity of habitats on this small site.

The areas of dense trees and shrubs are a good habitat and food source for birds and invertebrates. Areas of uncut grass are good for invertebrates.

There are old concrete planting beds that have become very overgrown and neglected, these could be cleaned up and replanted with low maintenance herbs and shrubs or left to grow and maintained as pocket wildlife gardens for butterflies. There is scope, (around the beds mentioned above), for extra seating here.

These open spaces provide a pleasant green space on the edge of a housing estate. There is a walkway with steps that is used primarily for passing through the site. As the road beneath the site is a cul-de-sac, children play along the edges. Bird boxes or feeding tables would be good for wildlife and could encourage more ecological interest here.

Because the site primarily consists of steep slopes, the site could be considered free from threat of development. A winding path with a bench or seating halfway up the steep slope may increase use of the site.

The site suffers no serious problems such as fly tipping or vandalism so increased car barriers and extra planting could be built into the site to maintain the positive aspects of the site.

Although not heavily used the site is used by a range of people for dog- walking etc. The steep slopes rule out a lot of possibilities for improvement but a change to a wild flower meadow to part of it would be relatively easy, because of the steep slopes competition from other plants will be slim so maintenance would be relatively easy.

## Site details

### Site name

Sedan Street Green Spaces

### Location

The site is situated at Grid Reference SK 364 8893. It is a close link between Ellesmere, Ella Road/Malton Street, Grimesthorpe Allotments and Wood Hill/Smith's Field.

### Land owner

The land is owned by Sheffield City Council.

### Nearest road/street

Sedan Street to the east, Ellesmere Road to the west, Grimesthorpe Road/Carwood Road junction to the north/ north east.

### Adjacent land use

The site is bordered by houses and gardens but Ellesmere Park is to the south on the other side of Lyons Street.

### Size

Sedan Street has an area of 4.29401 hectares.

## Present management

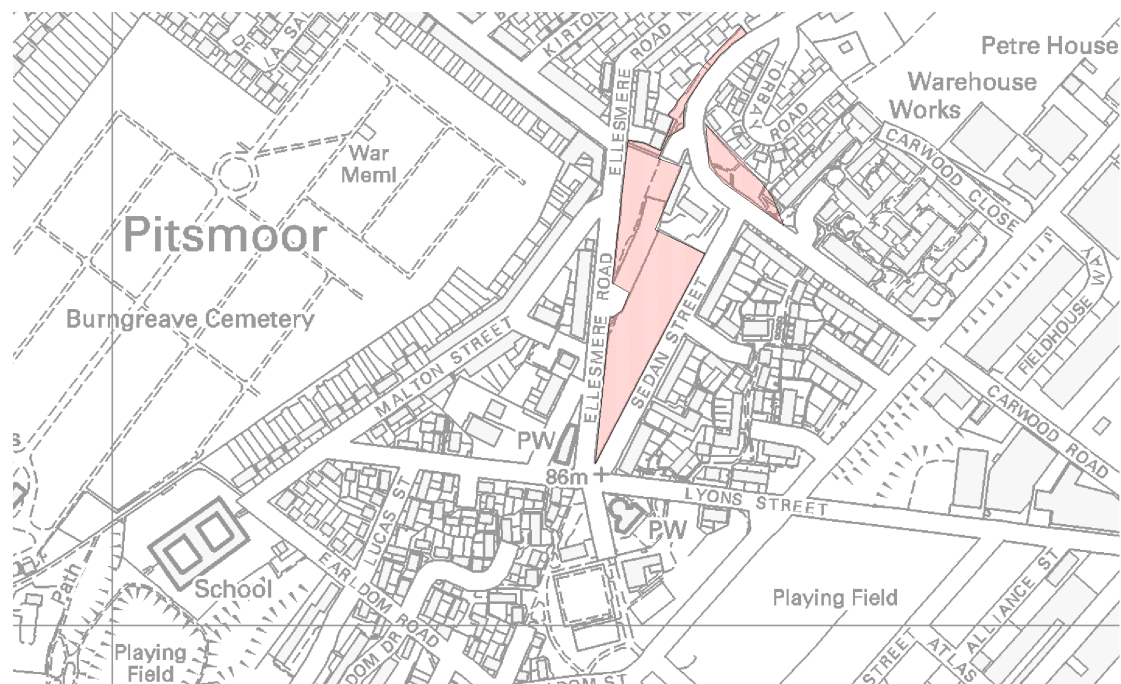
The grass is mown regularly, every 4-6 weeks, and the shrubs at the corner of Ellesmere Road, south of the poplar avenue are regularly cut back.

## UDP designations

Open Space Area, (Leisure and Recreation).

## Location map

The site is to the right of the cemetery between Ellesmere Road and Sedan Street.



## Ecology

### Phase I ecological survey

#### Site description

This site consists of four steep grassy banks all close to each other. The sites are on the edge of a housing estate and provide a green link between Petre Street site (#33), Burngreave Cemetery (Site #4) and Ellesmere Park (Site#8). There are many mature trees on these mown banks with overgrown areas of bramble/ scrub. The bank on the corner of Grimesthorpe Road appears to be an old overgrown hedge. There is unrestricted access.

There is a broad range of planted trees; amongst them are Oliver's Lime and some apple trees.

Alongside Ellesmere Road are 80 female hybrid black poplars.

The ecology of the site is varied with areas of short mown amenity grassland, scrub, tall avenues of trees and an assortment of individual planted trees. These combine to create a park-like appearance on these small narrow strips of land.

The shrubs and trees that are planted close together provide excellent thickets for nesting birds. Although the scrub areas do not make a continuous link throughout these Open Spaces, they are important as part of a 'wildlife corridor' to link together other sites such as Ellesmere Park and Wood Hill.

Small areas of uncut grass and 'wild' areas are important habitats for a range of invertebrates. There are a few examples of these habitats around the site

#### Habitats of interest

The densely planted woodland/scrub areas are excellent for wildlife.

The small patches of un-mown grass around the site will attract more invertebrates than the mown grassland.

#### Species of interest

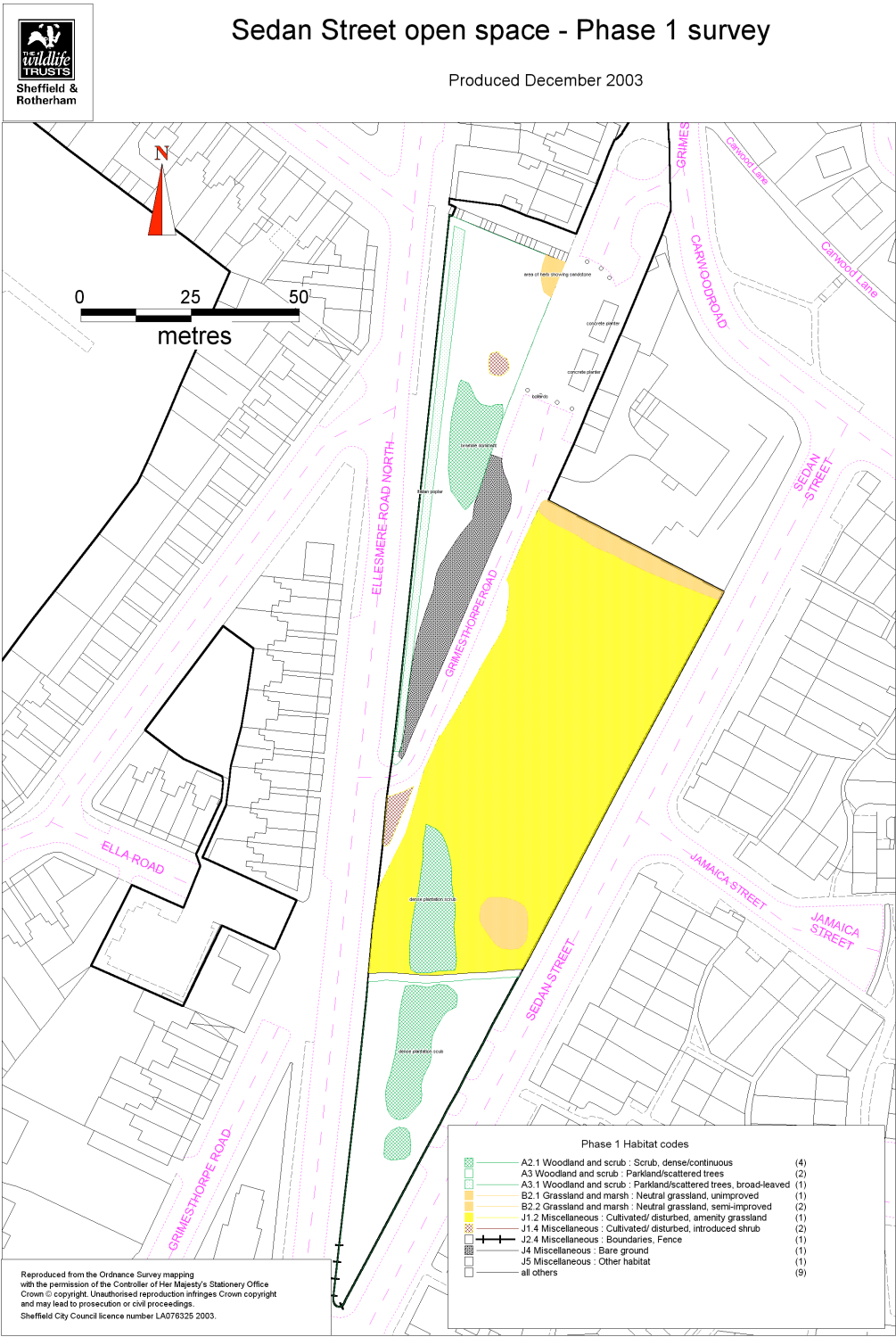
Grade A Local Red Data Book Species: Speckled Wood butterfly.

There is an interesting avenue of black poplars parallel with Ellesmere Road North.

There are a variety of apple trees and an interesting Oliver's lime tree that is uncommon.

## Phase 1 habitat map





## 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. Most of the invertebrates were noted by Cheryl Gibson.



A full invertebrate survey is recommended in the future.

### Butterflies:

Small white

Orange-tip

Small Tortoiseshell (2)

Speckled Wood

Meadow brown

Other invertebrates:

Cinnabum moth

Buff-tailed bumblebee

Hoverfly

## Vertebrate Survey

There were no mammals seen on site. A full vertebrate survey was not undertaken.

### Bird survey

Species recorded on at least one occasion between May & August 2003	Possible Breeding Species <sup>1</sup>	Probable Breeding Species <sup>2</sup>	Confirmed Breeding Species <sup>3</sup>	Number of Territories held by Selected Species
Magpie  Blackbird				

<sup>1</sup> Evidence: present on more than one occasion in suitable breeding habitat.

<sup>2</sup> Evidence: singing/ displaying male in suitable breeding habitat on more than one occasion; pair in suitable habitat showing courtship or territorial behaviour; bird visiting probable nest site; nest building; anxiety calls; recently used nest.

<sup>3</sup> Evidence: Adult carrying food or faecal sac; adult sitting on nest; nest with eggs/young; egg shells found away from nest; recently fledged young.

Further bird surveys need to be carried out on this site.

## Evaluation

The ecology of the site is varied with areas of short mown amenity grassland, scrub, tall avenues of trees and an assortment of individual planted trees. These combine to create a park-like appearance on these small narrow strips of land.

The shrubs and trees that are planted close together provide excellent thickets for nesting birds. Although the scrub areas do not make a continuous link throughout these open spaces, they are important as part of a 'wildlife corridor' to link together other sites such as Ellesmere park, the cemetery and Wood Hill.

Small areas of uncut grass and 'wild' areas are important habitats for a range of invertebrates. There are a few examples of these habitats around the site.

There is plenty of scope for small-scale improvements on this steep, small site. Areas of bramble thicket, dense trees and shrubs and tall, uncut grassland should be left as they are in order to maintain a diversity of habitats on this small site.

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There are old concrete planting beds that have become very overgrown and neglected, these could be cleaned up and replanted with low maintenance herbs and shrubs or left to grow and maintained as pocket wildlife gardens for butterflies. There is scope, (around the beds mentioned above), for extra seating here.

These open spaces provide a pleasant green space on the edge of a housing estate. A walkway with steps is used primarily for passing through the site. As the road beneath the site is a cul-de-sac, children play along the edges. Bird boxes or feeding tables would be good for wildlife and could encourage more ecological interest here.

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The site suffers no serious problems such as fly tipping or vandalism so increased car barriers and extra planting could be built into the site to build on the positive aspects of the site.

Although not heavily used the site is used by a range of people for dog- walking etc. The steep slopes rule out a lot of possibilities for improvement but a change to a wild flower meadow would be relatively easy, because of the steep slopes competition from other plants will be slim so maintenance would be relatively easy. Planting of crocus, snowdrops and a wild flower mix would be attractive and better for wildlife than the amenity grassland that covers the slopes at present.

## Species found

### A (tree or shrub)

<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	sycamore
<i>Alnus cordata</i>	Italian alder
<i>Betula pendula</i>	silver birch
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	butterfly-bush
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	hazel
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	cotoneaster
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	ash
<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	laburnum
<i>Malus sp.</i>	apple
<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>	western balsam poplar
<i>Populus x canadensis</i>	black Italian poplar
<i>Prunus avium</i>	wild cherry
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	cherry laurel
<i>Prunus padus</i>	bird cherry
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	blackthorn
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	firethorn
<i>Quercus robur</i>	pedunculate oak
<i>Quercus sp.</i>	oak
<i>Rosa canina agg.</i>	dog rose
<i>Rosa sp.</i>	rose
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	bramble
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	elder
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	rowan
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	lilac
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	large-leaved lime
<i>Tilia oliveri</i>	Olivers lime
	<i>Tilia x vulgaris</i>
	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>
	lime
	wych elm

### B (herb)

<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	cow parsley
<i>Arctium minus</i>	lesser burdock
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	daisy
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	hairy bitter-cress
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	rosebay willowherb
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	spear thistle
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	great willowherb
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	common fumitory
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers
<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	small flowered cranesbill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb-robert
<i>Geranium versicolor</i>	penciled cranesbill
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	wood avens
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	hogweed
<i>Lamium album</i>	white dead-nettle
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	red dead-nettle
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	ox-eye daisy
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	common bird's-foot trefoil
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	black medick
<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i>	cultivated daffodil
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	ribwort plantain
<i>Plantago major</i>	greater plantain

	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	knotgrass
	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	meadow buttercup
	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
	<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	gooseberry
	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	broad-leaved dock
	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	salad burnet
	<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	greater burnet
	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	common ragwort
	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	groundsel
	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	field madder
	<i>Silene dioica</i>	red campion
	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	hedge mustard
	<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed
	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	common comfrey
	<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i>	feverfew
	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	tansy
	<i>Taraxacum officinale agg.</i>	dandelion
	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	red clover
	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	white clover
	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	common nettle
	<i>Veronica filiformis</i>	slender speedwell
	<i>Veronica persica</i>	common field-speedwell
	<i>Vicia sepium</i>	bush vetch
C (grass)		
	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	false oat-grass
	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cock's-foot
	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	wall barley

## Habitats/species of nature conservation importance

### UK BAP Priority Habitats

None

### Sheffield LBAP Priority Habitats

None

### UK BAP Priority Species

None

### Sheffield LBAP Priority Species

None

### UK BAP Species of Conservation Concern

None

### UK Red List Birds

None

## UK Amber List Birds

None

## Local Red Data Book Species

Lepidoptera Grade A Species

Speckled wood

## Previous Surveys

Author/ Recorder	Date	Coverage	Location
J.Fox	5/8/87	Sheffield Inner City Phase 1 Habitat Survey	Sheffield Wildlife Trust Offices File #135

## History and Geology

### Geological survey

The solid geology of the site lies within the Lower Coal Measures of the Upper Carboniferous period and is characterised by mudstone and flaggy sandstone

### Archaeological survey

No archaeological features were identified in the open spaces between Sedan Street and Ellesmere Road in the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service SMR or English Heritage NMR. However, one feature was shown within the limits of the site on historic maps. A further six features were identified from archive records within the immediate vicinity (i.e. 500m) of the site. These included two Roman coin hoards (SMR 888 and SMR 889), evidence for Romano-British metalworking (SMR 894) and a findspot of an Iron Age quernstone (SMR 882).

A square building is shown towards the southern extent of the open spaces between Sedan Street and Ellesmere Road on Tayler's map of the Town and Environs of Sheffield (1832). This building was labelled as Hall Carr House on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 6" map (1855). On subsequent maps, it lay immediately to the south-west of the terraced housing constructed on Sedan Street and Grimesthorpe Road. Hall Carr House was later demolished, along with the adjacent terraced houses.

### Historical survey

The open spaces between Sedan Street and Ellesmere Road lie either side of Grimesthorpe Road. Grimesthorpe Road is shown on Harrison's map of Southall Soake (1637) where it is labelled as *Tom Crosse Lane*. On this map the site of the open spaces is shown as agricultural land and corresponds to a series of smaller plots, two of which are labelled as *Broomhill Dales*. Part of the site, to the south-east of Grimesthorpe Road (now labelled as *Occupation Road*), is shown as woodland on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 6" map (1855). Subsequently, residential development would appear to have encroached upon the site. Terraced housing is shown within the limits of the site along the southern edge of Grimesthorpe Road and the northern edge of Sedan Street on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 25" map (1905). The north-western extent of the site, to the north of Grimesthorpe Road, is undeveloped and would appear to have remained largely unchanged to the present day.

### Recommendations

The open spaces between Sedan Street and Ellesmere Road are of limited archaeological or historical significance. They would appear to have been used for housing during the early to mid twentieth century. Following the demolition of the housing, the site remained undeveloped and has since become one of the many open or green spaces in the Burngreave NDfC area. Consultation of census records

will help identify former residents of Hall Carr House and the terraced houses on Sedan Street and Grimesthorpe Road. This information may help improve understanding of local social history.

## Community

No community survey was carried out.