

## 33 Great Roe Wood



## Site details

### Site name

Great Roe Wood

### Size

12.62 ha

## History and Geology

### Geology

The solid geology of the site lies within the Lower Coal Measures of the Upper Carboniferous period and is characterised by alternating mudstones and flaggy sandstones.

### History

Great Roe Wood is recognised as an historic woodland. It is shown as part of a more extensive area of woodland labelled as *Cockshott Rowe Wood* on Harrison's map of Southall Soake (1637), though parts of the site appear not to have been wooded at this time. The place name element 'Cockshott' is thought to indicate an opening cut into an area of woodland to allow game birds to be caught in nets. Roe Wood has changed little in extent since the seventeenth century, however a series of allotments were established during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Some were built on the site of Roe Wood Nursery, shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 6" map (1855). Great Roe Wood was presented to the City of Sheffield in 1897 by the Duke of Norfolk to commemorate the opening of the town hall by Queen Victoria when Sheffield was given the status of a city.

### Recommendations

Great Roe Wood is one of the two recognised areas of historic woodland in the study area. It has remained largely unchanged since the seventeenth century. Extensive evidence for past human activity has been identified at the site. Interpretative signage could be considered to outline the history of the site and highlight the rich heritage of Sheffield's woodlands.