

Bluebells carpet most of the woods, while drier parts have yellow archangel and climbing corydalis. Blackberry and bracken are important in this habitat.

***Wet meadows** are dominated by meadowsweet, willowherb and ramsons; purple loosestrife, marsh marigold and lady's smock can also be found.

***Hedgerows**

***Streams and ponds**

Greater broomrape is the rarest plant recorded here. Nationally scarce, this was its last East Anglian site and it was last seen here in 1975. Over 90 species of fungi have been recorded.

Fauna

At Tiger Hill, breeding mammals include badgers, foxes, rabbits, dormice, shrews and bats. Nightingales, warblers, tawny owl and all three native woodpeckers nest in the Reserve. Toads, frogs, newts, grass snakes, lizards and slow worms are all present. Many invertebrates including twenty-three species of butterfly have been recorded.

*"Leave only footprints,
Take only photographs"*



Visiting Tiger Hill

Parts can be seen from the public footpath through Tiger Hill Wood and Long Meadow. Elsewhere, please write for consent first. Educational and research visits are also welcome.

Volunteers can join working parties and help to conserve this special site.

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Please follow the Country Code:

- * Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- * Guard against all risk of fires
- * Fasten all gates
- * Keep your Dogs ~ under close control
- * Protect all wildlife, plants and trees
- * Help to keep the water clean
- * Use paths and stiles where appropriate

Produced with help



Suffolk County Council
Countryside Service

TIGER HILL

LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

Tiger Hill Nature Reserve lies between Bures, Assington, Nayland & Wormingford in the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It is a secluded, varied landscape with a wide range of habitats, full of different plants and animals. Parts are within Arger Fen Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), notified for its valuable wildlife.

Recent History

In the nineteenth century most of the area was kept by the Assington Estate as a rabbit warren and the woodland was used for estate needs.

From 1830 bricks for the Assington estate cottages were made of sand and clay from Tiger Hill. Brick-making continued until 1900 when scrub was allowed to grow up to provide shooting and rabbiting.

In 1935 the best timber, mainly oak and cherry, was felled and the land was sold in plots. From 1936 to 1970, under the management of Dr Grace Griffith and the other owners, natural regeneration, mainly of elm, oak and hazel woodland, was allowed to take place. The wet meadows were purchased in 1985 as a corridor for wildlife.

Current Management

The 22 hectare (54 acre) Local Nature Reserve was set up by the landowners and Suffolk County Council in 1987 to protect wildlife and to maintain the site's landscape character. Since 1970 a committee has met twice a year to monitor management against a ten year plan.

Priorities include:

- *Replant the woodlands affected by Dutch elm disease and the 1987 storm
- *Increase the area of acid heath
- *Cut or graze the wet meadows
- *Control scrub
- *Manage hedges
- *Enhance streams, ponds and ditches

Management is funded and carried out by the landowners - helped by Suffolk County Council, English Nature, the Countryside Agency and other individuals.

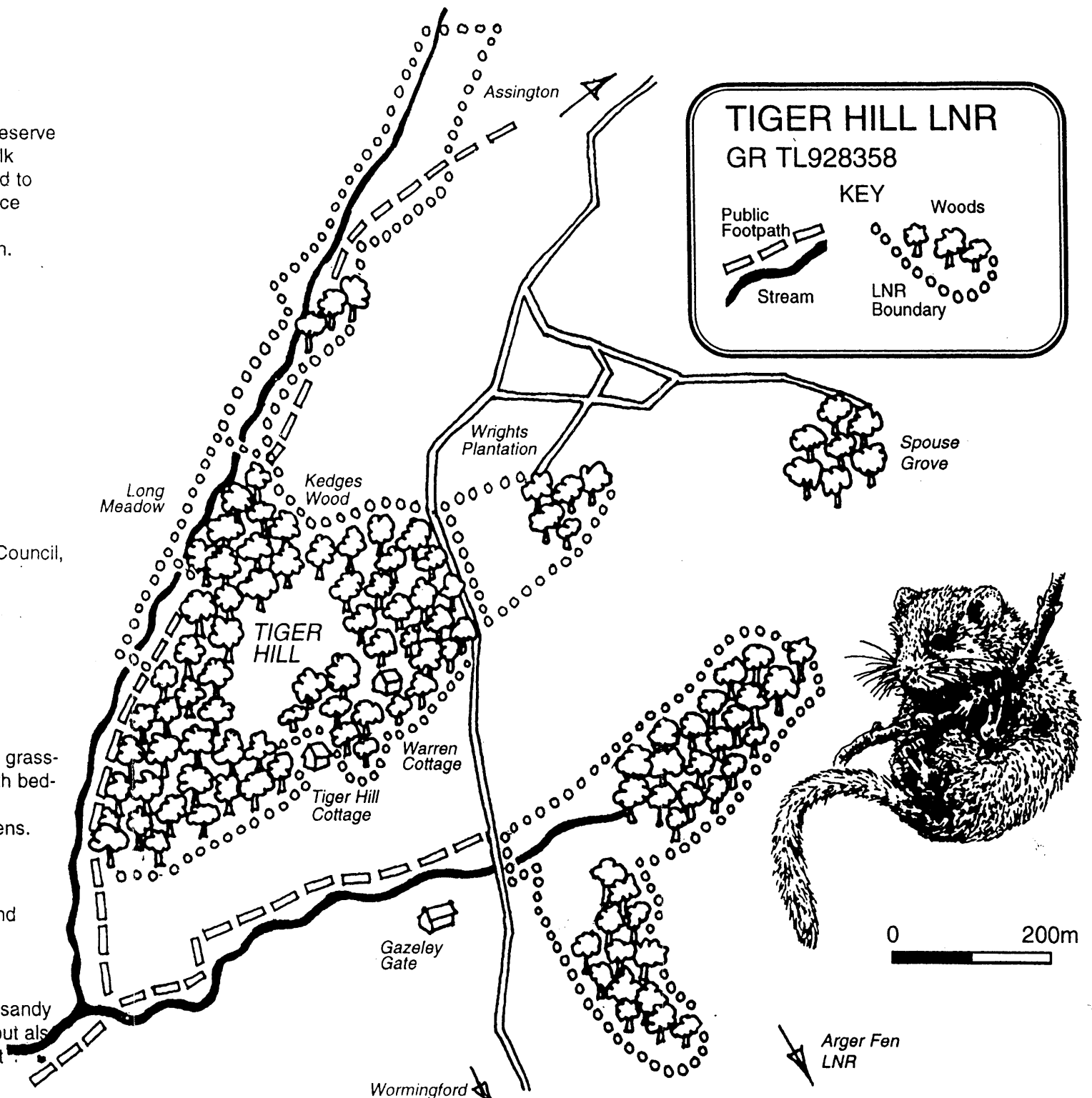
Habitats

Six main habitats are found on the different soils:

***Acid grass-heath** is dominated by bent grasses and fescues, with sheep's sorrel, heath bed-straw and harebell as well as mosses and lichens. It is the only heathland left in south-west Suffolk.




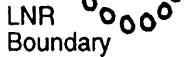
***Wetter slopes**, where great horsetail and golden saxifrage can be found below an alder-dominated canopy.

***Woodland** is found mostly on the drier sandy ground; it is mainly oak, hazel and ash but also contains stands of wild cherry and sweet chestnut, with birch around the margins.



TIGER HILL LNR
GR TL928358

KEY

 Public Footpath	 Woods
 Stream	 LNR Boundary

