

Key:

- - - - Site Boundary

- - - - Trail Path

Low Mobility
Alternative

● 1: Centre and Sun Dial

2: Memorial Tree

3: Community Orchard

4: Den Building Area

5: Amphitheatre

6: The Sun God

7: Rotary Wood

8: Turbine Meadow

9: Wigston Nook

10: Wildflower Meadow

11: Lucas Ponds

12: Hay Meadow

13: Winter Wood

14: Ridge and Furrow Field

15: Ponds

Tree Key:

A. Cherry

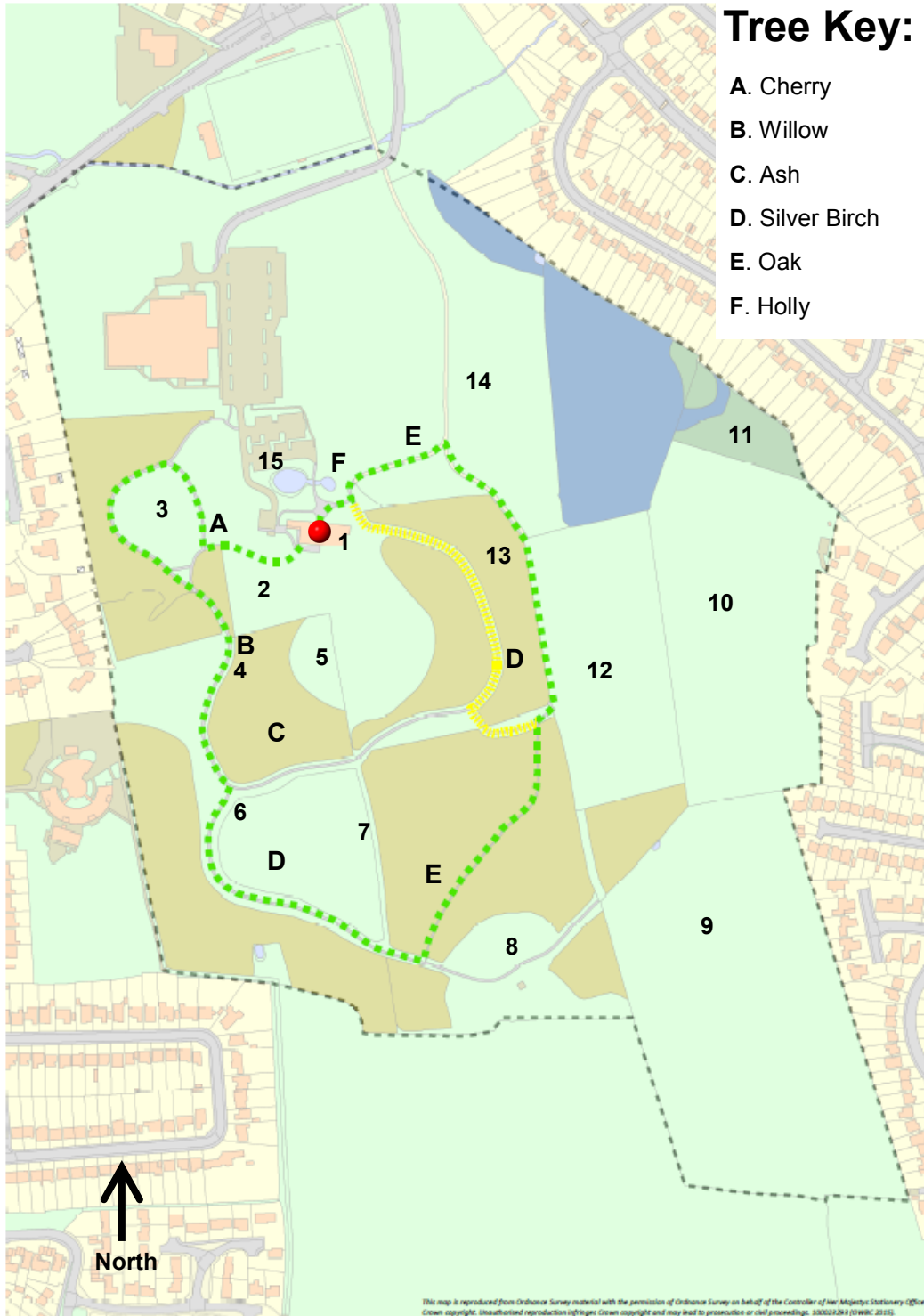
B. Willow

C. Ash

D. Silver Birch

E. Oak

F. Holly



Brocks Hill Country Park and Centre

Trail Series



Brocks Hill
Country Park & Centre

A guided exploration of Brocks Hill
Country Park.

Learn to identify several tree species.

Green Trail

Points of Interest

A. Cherry:

In the Community Orchard, you will find many varieties of fruit and nut trees. One of the most noticeable is the cherry tree which has pink blossom in the spring and then distinctive red hanging berries. It can grow up to 30 metres and has deep, shiny reddish-brown bark with horizontal cream lines. Its green leaves are oval with forward pointing teeth.

B. Willow:

Looking to the left you will see 2 rows of willow leading to the amphitheatre which are bowed over to form an arch at the far end. This native tree can grow to 25 metres with the new growth being golden in colour. It has long pointed alternate leaves with downy white hairs. The flowers appear with the leaves and form seeds surrounded by white 'fluff'. Willow is traditionally used for basket weaving and cricket bats.

C. Ash:

Common Ash is the third most popular tree in Britain. As you follow the path past the Den Building Area you will see our ash wood with a large tree in the centre. Ash is tall and graceful and can grow up to 35 metres with a light brown-grey bark. The twigs are smooth with velvety black buds making it easy to identify in winter. The leaves are pinnate, meaning they are feather-like, with 6-12 opposite pairs of long light green leaflets plus one final leaflet on the end. The winged fruit or 'keys' hang in clusters and fall from the tree early in the year.

D. Silver Birch:

The silver birch colonised Britain soon after the

Ice Age, making it one of the countries oldest species. There is a large number of silver birch trees in Rotary Wood towards the top of the Country Park. A silver birch can grow up to 30 metres and has an open canopy with elegant drooping branches. The bark is white and paper-like becoming black and rugged at the base. The triangular leaves have a toothed edge and attach to the stalk at right angles. The fruiting catkins stay on the trees until winter when the tiny seeds are dispersed by the wind.

E. Oak:

The oak is the most common tree species in Britain and so one of the most recognisable and loved, often used throughout history to symbolise our country. It can grow up to 40 metres tall with a smooth, silvery-brown bark that becomes rugged and deeply fissured with age. The leaves are dark green with 4-5 deep lobes with smooth edges. The green fruit or acorn is held onto the tree in a cup shape and as it ripens it turns brown, loosens and falls from the cup to the ground. The biggest oaks at Brocks Hill can be found in our old hedgerows.

F. Holly:

Another highly distinctive tree is the holly tree, known for its historical association with Christmas. On the other side of the access bridge over the ponds you will find our oldest holly. The holly has dark shiny evergreen leaves with a waxy upperside and spiny edges. They are less spiny the higher up the tree as protection is not needed against grazing animals. It has small white starlike flowers and female trees have bright red berries. The smooth barked holly can grow up to 15 metres.

The Walk

1.2 km long.

Takes 15-25 minutes to complete.

This walk will focus on the different varieties of tree which grow in the Country Park. Following a short but thorough trail through the Country Park you can experience many of the wonderful tree species that make up this natural environment.



Brocks Hill
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While you're enjoying your walk why not take photos and share them with us on our Facebook page for a chance to have it displayed on our photo displays for all to see. Give us a 'like' while you're there.



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