

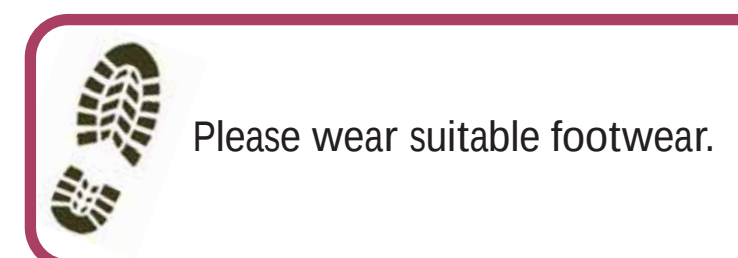


# Walking Through Time...



Most of Sutton Park is a scheduled ancient monument and it contains many well-preserved archaeological remains. If you follow the trail marked on the map, you pass some of these remains left by our ancestors and you will be....*Walking through time*....to see a medieval fishpond, a 16th century woodbank and sawpits, military practice trenches, a mysterious earthwork, and a 19th century estate.

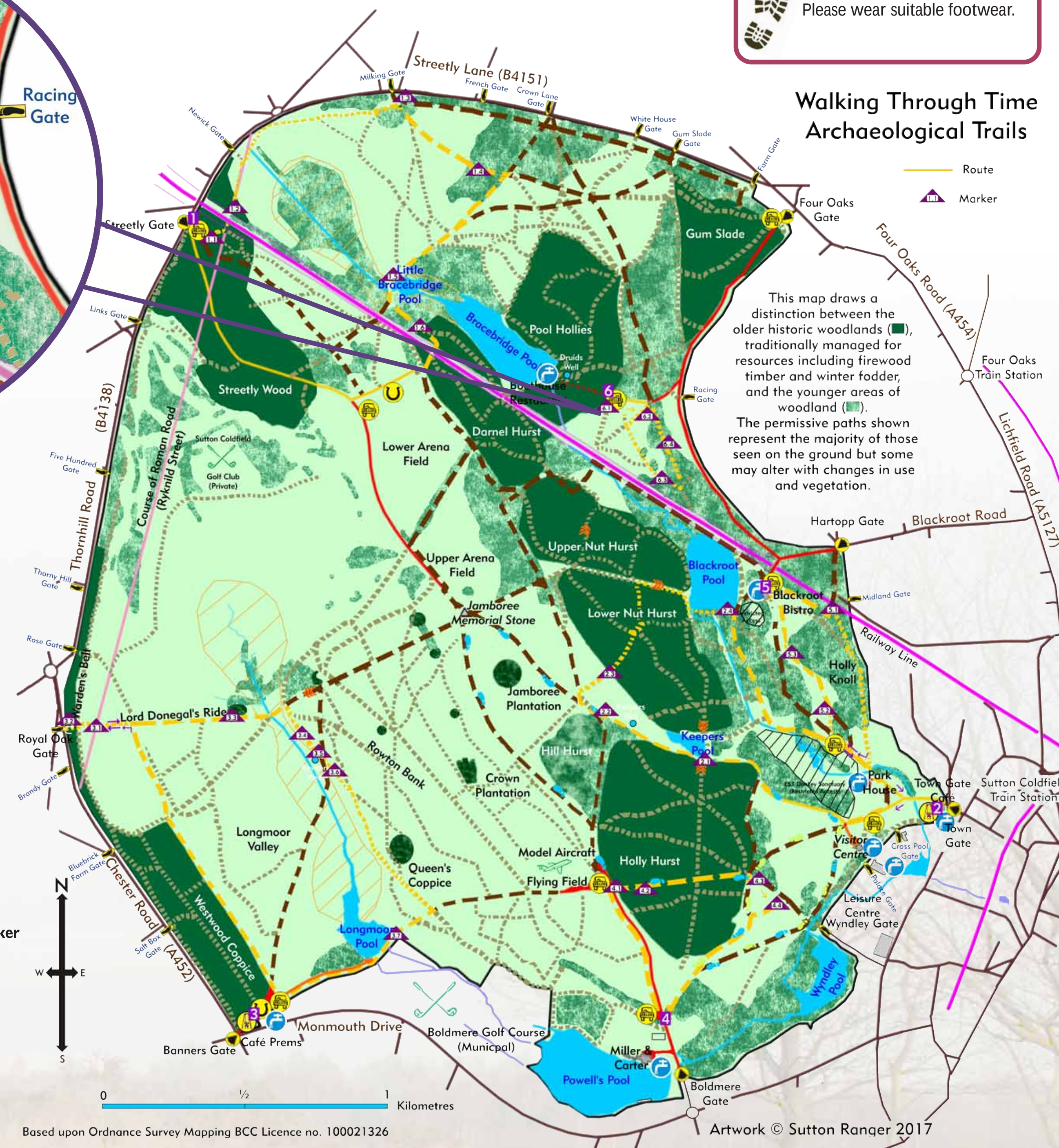
**Bracebridge Pool** was built in the 15th century as a fish pond by Sir Ralph Bracebridge when he rented the manor of Sutton from the Earls of Warwick. The dam was constructed with soil dug from a hollow at the far end of it, near the railway. In 1577 permission was given to build a mill here for sharpening blades or fulling cloth. The channels running into the pool, crossed by many footbridges, are drainage ditches and may have been dug to increase the water supply to the pool.



## Walking Through Time Archaeological Trails

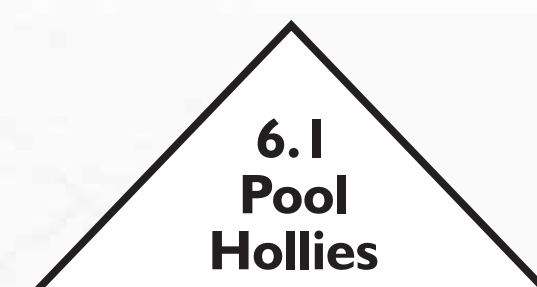


This map draws a distinction between the older historic woodlands (green), traditionally managed for resources including firewood timber and winter fodder, and the younger areas of woodland (light green). The permissive paths shown represent the majority of those seen on the ground but some may alter with changes in use and vegetation.



Based upon Ordnance Survey Mapping BCC Licence no. 100021326

Artwork © Sutton Ranger 2017



### The marker is beside the path

A woodbank consisting of a bank and ditch was constructed around Pool Hollies wood in the 16th century. With a fence or hedge on top of the bank, it kept grazing animals out of the wood, which was managed as coppice. Trees were cut down to the base every few years and shoots which grew up from the stump would be cut when they were big enough. The wood contains many pits where felled trees were sawn up.



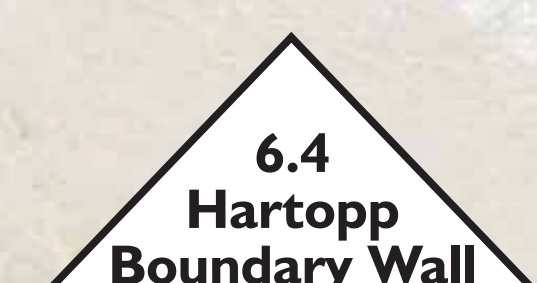
### The marker is on the grass down the slope just beyond the car park

Slight hollows running in zig zags are remains of trenches that were dug for military training, probably during the First World War. They are narrow because they were intended to train soldiers in trench layout rather than trench digging so they were not dug to a full width, and shallow because they were filled in after the training ended.



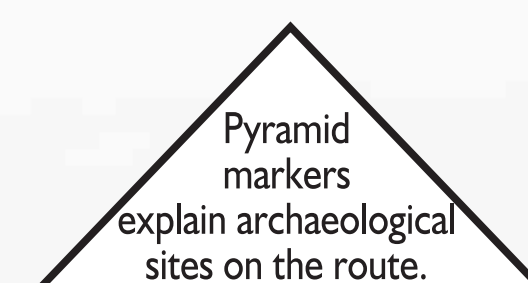
### The marker is beside the path near trees.

The date and purpose of this mysterious site are uncertain. Its hollows and mounds may result from digging gravel only a few centuries ago or might have been dug as part of military training. The slight ditch at the base of the slope may be much older than the hollows and mounds.



### The marker is beside the path at the top of a slope overlooking the wall

The brick wall in front of the modern houses was built by Sir William Hartopp of Four Oaks Hall in 1858 because common folk were starting through the fence around his property. The land around Four Oaks Hall (now Four Oaks estate) was originally within Sutton Park. Part of it was taken out of the Park in 1756 by Simon Luttrell, the then owner of Four Oaks Hall. The rest, including Lady Wood, was taken out by Sir Edmund Hartopp in exchange for Meadow Platt (originally outside the Park) near Town Gate, and fields near Powells Pool.



- Vehicle Entrance
- Pedestrian Entrance
- Minor Path
- Steep Gradient
- Car Park
- Play Area
- Main Path/Bridleway
- Walking Through Time Marker
- Horse Box Parking
- Hand Washing Available
- Golf Course
- Boggy Areas (Take Care)

"Walking through Time" was created by the Friends of Sutton Park Association and the Sutton Coldfield Civic Society. It was funded by FOSPA and made possible by the generous Bequest of Mr. Laurence William Loader.



Please note that most of Sutton Park is a scheduled ancient monument.

It is a criminal offence to damage the archaeological sites or to use a metal detector without prior consent.

There are interpretation panels at **Streety Gate**, **Banners Gate**, **Town Gate**, **Boldmere Gate**, **Blackroot Bistro** and **Bracebridge car park** a self-guided trail can be followed from each of these.

A leaflet about the trails is available from [www.fospa.org](http://www.fospa.org) and can be downloaded from the QR code.

