



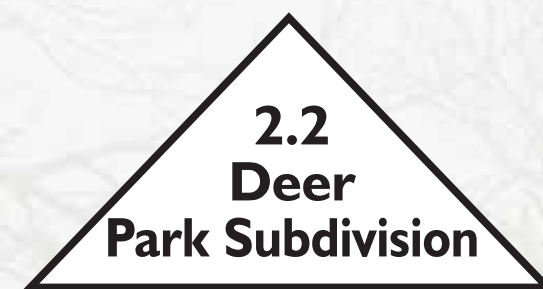
Walking Through Time...



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, banks and ditches subdividing a medieval deer park, a 16th century woodbank and an 18th century millpond.



The marker is on the pool dam near a bench
Keepers Pool was constructed in the Middle Ages as a fish pond within the deer park. You can see the pool as it has been for over 600 years, but the dam was originally made of earth and clay, then reinforced with stone in the 15th century, and is now faced with concrete. You can also see the large quarry at the far end of the dam where the material for the dam was dug out.



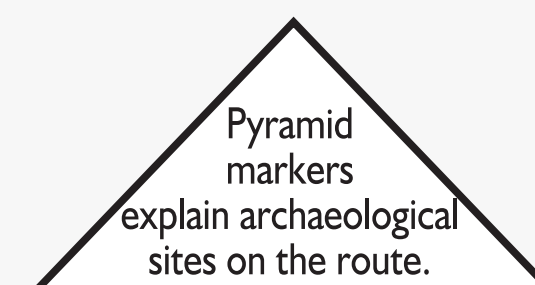
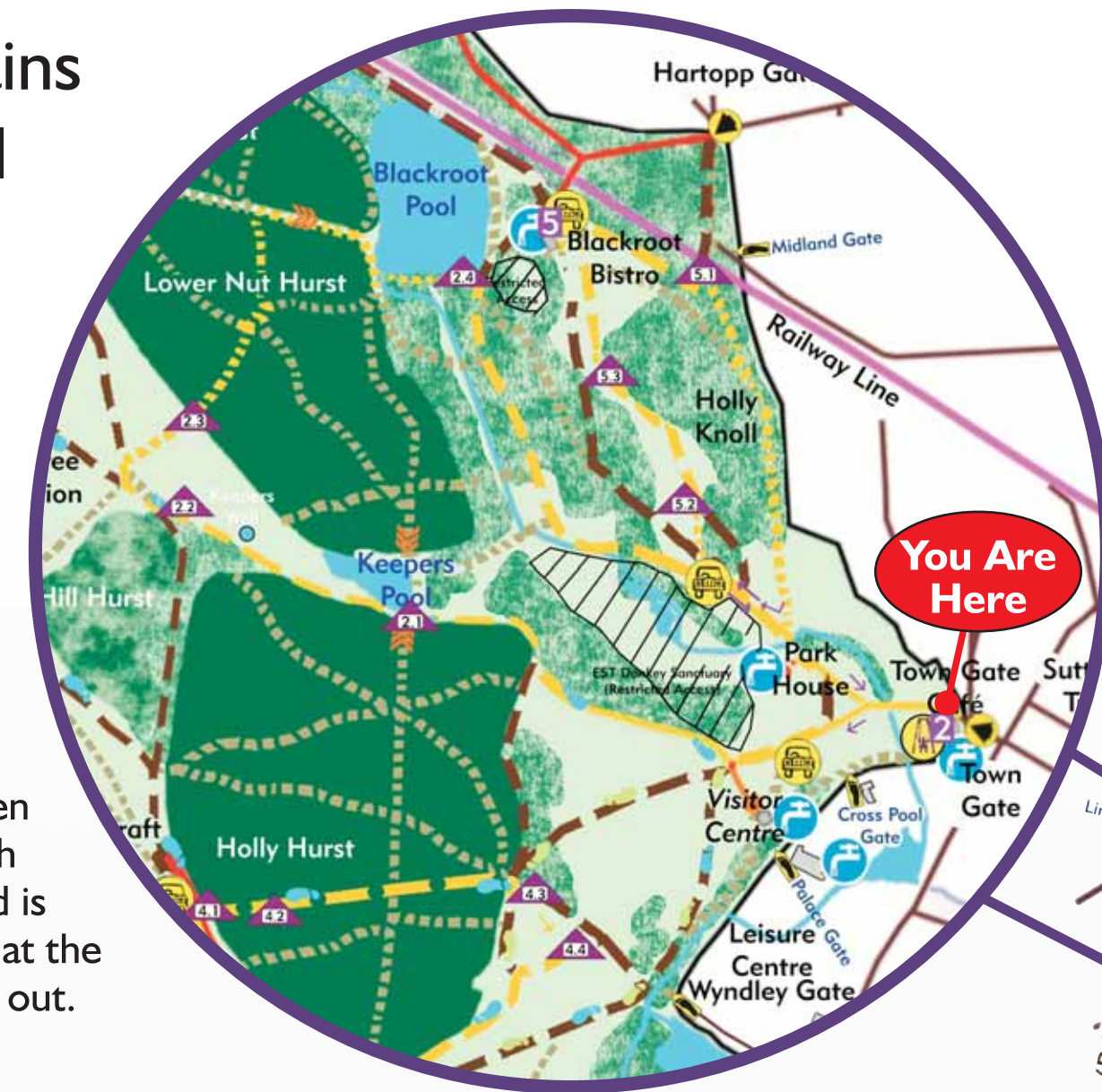
The marker is alongside the road next to one of the bank and ditch boundaries
Sutton Park was created by King Henry I in the 12th century to conserve deer for hunting. It was surrounded by a substantial ditch and bank to prevent the deer escaping, and subdivided by banks and ditches to create enclosures into which deer were rounded up for hunting. The banks would have had a hedge or fence on top of them. Over time the banks have subsided and the ditches have filled in.



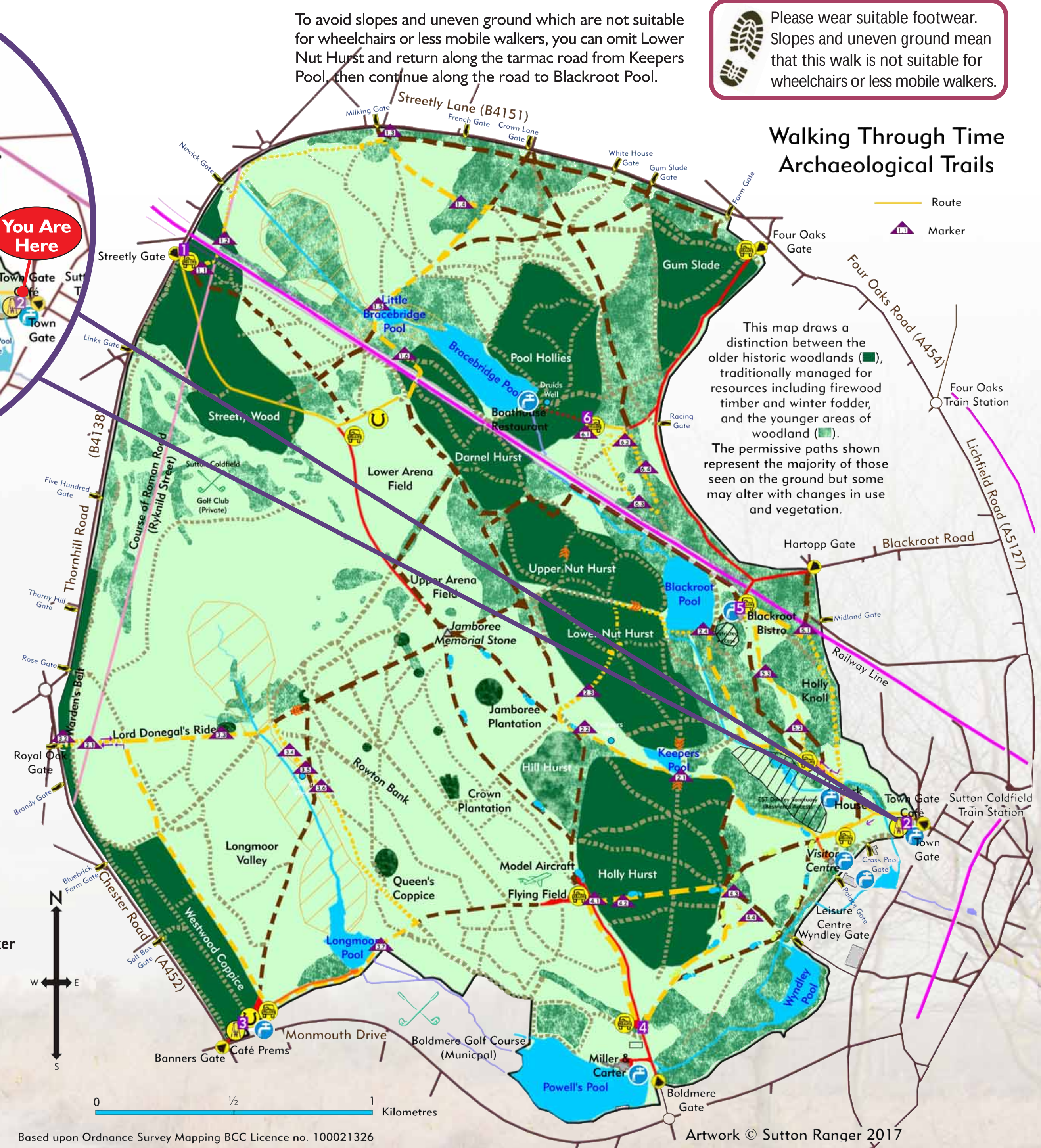
The marker is near the path, next to the woodbank
A woodbank consisting of a bank and ditch was constructed around Lower Nut Hurst in the 16th century. With a fence or hedge on top of the bank, they kept grazing animals out of the wood. Trees were cut down to the base every few years and shoots which grew up from the stump would be cut when they were big enough. The wood contains many pits where felled trees were sawn up. Inside the wood you can see an older bank and ditch that subdivided the medieval deer park.



The marker is at the end of the dam, near the road
Blackroot Pool was formed in 1759 to provide water power to drive a mill for processing leather. The mill stood below the dam near the marker, where a sluice gate was opened to supply water when the mill was in operation. The overflow was at the opposite end. The dam was constructed of sand and gravel from the quarry behind you, where the sawmill stands now, and faced with turf to make it watertight.



- 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)



Please wear suitable footwear. Slopes and uneven ground mean that this walk is not suitable for wheelchairs or less mobile walkers.

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 (blue). The permissive paths shown represent the majority of those seen on the ground but some may alter with changes in use and vegetation.

"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, Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust and Severn Trent Water.



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** and a self-guided trail can be followed from each of these.

A leaflet about the trails is available from www.fospa.org and can be downloaded from the QR code.

