

COUNTY: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

SITE NAME: MATHER WOOD

DISTRICT: NEWARK

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Local Planning Authority: NEWARK DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: SK 724 593                      Area: 8.12 (ha)                      (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 120                      1:10,000: SK 75 N

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1981                      Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1983                      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The site comprises one of the best remaining examples of ash-oak-maple woodland in Nottinghamshire and is representative of semi-natural woodland on clay soils in Central and Eastern England.

Biology

A fine example of an ash-oak-maple wood developed on stiff, rather poorly drained soils derived primarily from the Triassic Keuper Marl. Mather Wood is one of the wetter woods in the Keuper Marl series being dominated by ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, oak *Quercus robur*, birch *Betula* spp. and locally, aspen *Populus tremula*. The shrub layer is characterised by hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegous monogyna* and field maple *Acer campestre*, while the ground flora is dominated by honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and rough meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*. The wood contains a diverse flora typical of ancient clay woods including such plants as primrose *Primula vulgaris*, sweet woodruff *Asperula odorata*, valerian *Valeriana officinalis* and wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*.