COUNTY: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE   SITE NAME: WELDON PARK

District: Corby

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

Local Planning Authority: Corby District Council

National Grid Reference: SP 946901

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 141 1:10,000: SP 99 SW, SP 99 SE, SP 98 NW, SP 98 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1970  Date of Last Revision: 1970

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

Area: 51.4 ha  127.2 ac

Description and Reasons for Notification

One of the largest intact ancient woodlands in the county to have survived unaffected by post-war clearance or plantation forestry. The site is composed entirely of semi-natural vegetation developed on Boulder clay with ash-maple and hazel-ash canopy types of the Rockingham Forest area well represented. The wood has a rich flora for its size, an uncommon vegetation variant on the wettest soils of the south-east quarter, and unspoiled, old grassland in the rides of great botanical interest. The woodland canopy structure provides a varied habitat for birds and insects including the nationally uncommon purple emperor butterfly. The long-documented history is of additional interest.