

Roman Road species list – Notes

Compiled by David J. Barden
Covering up to the end of 2009
Last updated 9 December 2012

Section codes - Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 are the SSSI units, here subdivided to provide a more useful record, primarily for the vascular plants (sections 5-9 are not part of the SSSI).

| Section | Start GR | Description | End GR |
|---------|-------------|--|-------------|
| 1a | TL4928.5456 | Metal gate at Wort's Causeway - Start of beech plantation | TL4949.5441 |
| 1b | TL4949.5441 | Start of beech plantation - Junction with hedge on NE side due S of Hill Farm | TL5009.5396 |
| 1c | TL5009.5396 | Junction with hedge on NE side due S of Hill Farm - Junction with path leading to Wandlebury | TL5053.5364 |
| 1d | TL5053.5364 | Junction with path leading to Wandlebury - Junction with byway E of Copley Hill | TL5114.5317 |
| 2a | TL5114.5317 | Junction with byway E of Copley Hill - Junction with footpath to Fulbourn | TL5166.5278 |
| 2b | TL5166.5278 | Junction with footpath to Fulbourn - Junction with hedge on SW side leading to Signal Hill Plantation | TL5203.5248 |
| 2c | TL5203.5248 | Junction with hedge on SW side leading to Signal Hill Plantation - Metal gate at Mount Farm | TL5269.5200 |
| 3a | TL5294.5184 | Metal gate at Worsted Lodge - Junction with farm track leading SSE to The Grange | TL5335.5155 |
| 3b | TL5335.5155 | Junction with farm track leading SSE to The Grange - Junction with hedge leading NNE due W of Gunner's Hall | TL5411.5102 |
| 4a | TL5411.5102 | Junction with hedge leading NNE due W of Gunner's Hall - Junction with tracks to Hildersham and Gunners Hall | TL5483.5054 |
| 4b | TL5483.5054 | Junction with tracks to Hildersham and Gunners Hall - Hedge leading NE about 200m SSE of top of Deadman's Hill | TL5542.5021 |
| 4c | TL5542.5021 | Hedge leading NE about 200m SSE of top of Deadman's Hill - Hildersham-Balsham road | TL5606.4979 |
| 5 | TL5606.4979 | Hildersham-Balsham road - Linton-Balsham road | TL5744.4916 |
| 6 | TL5744.4916 | Linton-Balsham road - Junction with byway to Balsham | TL5833.4876 |
| 7 | TL5833.4876 | Junction with byway to Balsham - Mark's Grave | TL5949.4832 |
| 8 | TL5949.4832 | Mark's Grave - Horseheath road | TL6147.4775 |
| 9 | TL6147.4775 | Horseheath road - Stream crossing at the county boundary | TL6327.4742 |

Coverage

With the exception of birds (where records often include birds flying over or on adjacent land), I have aimed in these records to apply fairly strict criteria for inclusion of records, as follows:

Included: Hedges (including underneath them); adjacent strips of woodland/plantations; soil "barriers"; waste material.

Not included: Adjacent farmland; the entrance track and small car-park at Wort's Causeway; the section between the two metal gates at Worsted Lodge (thus excluding the A11 bridge and the short section of road outside Worsted Lodge itself); the section running along the county boundary at the far SE end (which is in any case across a ploughed field).

Status codes (for vascular plants)

| Code | Definition |
|------|--|
| P | Present (within the date category indicated) |
| D | Dominant |
| A | Abundant |
| F | Frequent |
| O | Occasional |
| R | Rare |
| L | Locally (as modifier) |
| E | Extinct or strongly suspected to be so |
| ? | Insufficient information |

Nomenclature

Scientific names for vascular plants follow the *New Flora of the British Isles* (Third Edition) by C. Stace (CUP, 2010); for convenience, the names used in the second edition are added in curly brackets where they are different. Common names for mosses and liverworts follow *Mosses and Liverworts of Britain and Ireland: A field guide* by I. Atherton, S. Bosquanet and M. Lawley (British Bryological Society, 2010); scientific names differing from those provided in the records are indicated in curly brackets. Names for birds broadly follow those in *Birds of Britain and Europe* by R. Hume (Dorling Kindersley, 2006). Names for other taxa generally follow that provided in the source document, with some superficial changes to avoid duplication and correct typographical errors, etc. Entries given in *italics* are those for which the accepted scientific names are likely to have been changed since the record was made, and where no attempt has been made to correct them.

Reference codes

| | |
|-------|---|
| BBBW | Survey of singing males carried out by D. Barr, R. Burt, N. Brookes and I. Webb on 13 May 2004, with the Road divided into two halves at Worsted Lodge; results are reported in RRSA. |
| BoC | R. Field, V. Perrin, L. Bacon and N. Greatorex-Davies, <i>The Butterflies of Cambridgeshire</i> (2006), Butterfly Conservation. |
| BRC | Biological Records Centre records. Birds - records made between 2000 and 2008; Butterflies - records made between 1993 and 2008, but mostly between 2002 and 2007; Moths - records made between 2000 and 2005 except where indicated. |
| BSBI | Records extracted by the BSBI vice-county recorder N.P. Millar from the "Recorder" database. |
| CBR | Records extracted from a database kept by the Cambridgeshire bryophyte recorder. |
| CDP | Personal observations made from section 1 in March 2007 by C.D. Preston. |
| CFR | <i>Cambridgeshire Flora Records since 1538</i> , compiled by G. Crompton and available at http://www.cambridgeshireflora.com/index2.html . |
| DJB | Personal observations made in the period 2004-2009 by D.J. Barden. The majority of these have also been submitted to the BSBI v.c. recorder. |
| ISGJ | Survey carried out by I. Scurl and G. Jones from Horseheath to Wandlebury on 29 June 2001, and reported in NL3 and RRSA. |
| IW | Personal observations made in the period 2004-2009 by I. Webb. |
| JD | Personal observations made by J. Dawson on 12 July 2002 [I believe near Lodge Farm, DJB], and reported in RRSA. |
| JDS | Records for Sections 1-8 (divided into Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and "5") made by J.D. Shanklin following surveys in 2006 and 2007. Records assigned to one of the broad sections 1a-d, 2a-c, 3a-b, 4a-c or 5-8 will have been made during this survey. |
| JN | Personal observations made in the period 2003-2009 by J. Napier. |
| NHC | <i>The Natural History of Cambridgeshire</i> (1904), ed. J.E. Marr and A.E. Shipley, Cambridge University Press. Page 223 contains a few general comments about the flora of the chalk area, and mentions the Roman Road by name. |
| NIC## | <i>Nature in Cambridgeshire</i> . Issue 16 (p. 10) contains a short report of a visit to the NW end of the Road on 24 June 1972. |
| NL## | Newsletters of the Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke (no. 1 appeared in 2002, then appearing mostly 3 times annually; no. 30 appeared in November 2009). |
| PL | Bird records from P. Lambert, observed on the basis of "Y/N" monthly sightings from 1995-2009 from the Hildersham-Balsham Road westwards (grid reference given is 555.501). Includes birds seen on adjoining farmland and "some" birds flying over. Percent abundances are derived by taking the total number of months from 1995 to 2009 in which the bird was seen, dividing it by 180 (= number of months in 15 years) and multiplying by 100. |
| RL | Personal observations made by R. Lemon on four occasions from May-August 2002, along the entire length of the Road. Reported in NL8 and RRSA. |
| RRSA | <i>Roman Road Selected Articles</i> - A compilation of articles from the Newsletters of the Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke from August 2001 to August 2005. |
| SH | Personal observations made in the period 2004-2009 by S. Hartley. |
| SL | Botanical survey of Roman Road (with vegetation maps and descriptions) carried out by S. Lambert on 29 July and 19 August 1998. As this falls outside the 2000-2009 time window, information has been provided in the "Notes" field where relevant or interesting, e.g. if a species has not subsequently been seen from a particular subsection, or if its abundance seems to have changed significantly since then. Copies held by D.J. Barden and J. Napier. |