Metadata Elements

Title *	Ancient Woodland - Revision (England) - COMPLETED COUNTIES
Alternative Title	Updated Boundaries of Ancient Woodland polygons. AWI.
Dataset Language *	0
Abstract *	Updated Boundaries of Ancient Woodland polygons covering England. This is the updated spatial dataset that describes the geographic extent and location of ancient woodland in England (excluding the Isles of Scilly). Ancient Woodland features will be approved county-by-county for publication throughout the first year of production until the data product coverage extends across England. Where available this dataset takes precedence over the Ancient Woodland – England dataset. The update revises the inventory to address problems and gaps in the previous iteration. Technological advances mean that small ancient woodlands (0.25-2ha) are being represented within the inventory for the first time as well as wood pasture and parkland being represented as its own category. The inventory identifies ancient woodland sites in England. Ancient woodland is identified by studying the presence or absence of woods from historic maps, information about the wood's name, shape, internal boundaries, location relative to other features, ground survey, and aerial photography. The information recorded about each wood and stored on the Inventory Database includes its grid reference, its area in hectares and how much is semi-natural or replanted. Prior to the digitisation of the boundaries, only paper maps depicting each ancient wood at 1:50 000 scale were available. Attribution statement: © Natural England 2024. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2024. OS AC0000851168. It includes Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW), which retains a native tree and shrub cover; Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS), where the original tree cover has been felled and replaced by planting, often with conifers; Ancient Wood Pasture (AWPP), where the trees are managed in tandem with a long established tradition of grazing, characteristically with at least some veteran trees or shrubs or, Infilled Ancient Wood Pasture (IAWPP) which has become infilled with trees arising from planting or natural regeneration.
Resource Locator	https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/
Data Format	shp, tab, file geodatabase
Resource Type *	dataset
Unique Resource Identifier	AWI

Classification of Spatial Data &

Services

Topic Category *	0
INSPIRE Themes	Habitat and biotopes
Spatial Data Service Type	download
Coupled Resource	n/a

Keyword

Keyword	Geographic Information
Originating Controlled Vocabulary	Natural England Corporate Vocabulary

Geographic Location

Extent *	England
West Bound Longitude *	-6.42°
East Bound Longitude *	1.77°
North Bound Longitude *	55.81°
South Bound Longitude *	51.81°
Vertical Minimum Extent	20

Vertical Maximum Extent	1000
Spatial Reference System *	British National Grid

Temporal Reference

Temporal Extent - Start Date of Data Capture *	2020-01-01
Temporal Extent - End Date of Data	2025-09-30
Capture *	
Date of Creation *	2023-11-01
Date of Last Revision *	2023-11-01
Dataset Reference Date *	2024-01-31
Dataset Reference Type *	revision

Quality & Validity

Quality & Validity	
Lineage *	The ancient woodland boundaries are digitised to OS MasterMap - assessed by licencing staff as suitable for OS Presumption to Publish process. However, the maps that Ancient Woodlands are based upon include the OS 1" First Edition maps, the OS 1:25 000 and the OS 1:50 000 maps. The boundaries cannot be taken as precise, especially where they are surrounded by woodland, and are only precisely comparable with other boundaries at the 1" map scale (1:63 360). The inventory identifies over 22,000 ancient woodland sites in England. Ancient woodland is identified using presence or absence of woods from old maps, information about the wood's name, shape, internal boundaries, location relative to other features, ground survey, and aerial photography. The information recorded about each wood and stored on the Inventory Database includes its grid reference, its area in hectares and how much is semi-natural or replanted. Prior to the digitisation of the boundaries, only paper maps depicting each ancient wood at 1:50 000 scale were available. The datasets consulted: OS MasterMap, OS First Edition Maps (Historic County Series Maps Epoch 1-4), Historic OS Drawings, Aerial Imagery, Original AWI Datasheets, Open Source old historical maps (varies depending on county agreements), BSBI Indicator species data, County Tithe Maps, Forestry Commission National Forest Inventory and Forest Condition Survey. Besides the isolated and modified woodland boundaries derived from OS MasterMap that have been identified Ancient Woodland, additional third party data is viewed for informative purposes only during the creation of the project layer. No data from any other of these third party sources is copied, transferred or viewable in the layer to be published."
Spatial Resolution	10 to 100m
Additional Information Source	Please upload supporting readme document as guidance on using the data
Frequency of Update *	irregular
Equivalent Scale	0

Conformity

Specification	0
Degree	0
Explanation	0

Constraints Related To Access &

Use

Use Constraints *	Other
	OS Derived Data Licence
Limitations on Public Use *	Publically Accessible
Licence*	Publicly accessible: OGL
	0

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Responsible Organisation

Contact Title *	Habitat Inventory Team
Organisation Name *	Natural England
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Web URL:	www.gov.uk/natural-england
Responsible Party Role *	custodian

Metadata on Metadata

Metadata Point of Contact *	Habitat Inventory Team
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E-Mail: *	0
Web URL:	www.gov.uk/natural-england
Responsible Party Role *	custodian
Metadata Date *	2023-11-16
Metadata Language *	eng

Data Management Information

NE Point of Contact	Clare Durose
Data Manager	Nick Thorley