

Keep heading downhill with the fence to your right. Just before the bottom of the hill turn left along a path running above and parallel to the stream.

The path follows a boundary bank **6** to this woodland, which used to belong to the Pippingford estate.

Continue on the path parallel to the stream.

Just after passing a large house on the opposite bank you can see some brickwork in the stream **7**. This was where a sluice would have controlled water flow. The stream uphill from here has been canalised.

Just after the sluice, where the path runs close to the stream, is a raised **platform** on the left **8**. The soil here is very dark and contains charcoal, perhaps stored here after it had been made nearby. Several hollow ways come downhill and cross the stream where there was a ford.

Keep following the path along the stream as it rises.

Look out for three yew trees marking a **charcoal-burning platform** up to the left **9**.

After about 100m, on the left, is a mound containing some sandstone rubble. This may once have been a small **pond bay**, or dam, **10** to provide an extra water supply for the iron forge at Newbridge further downstream.

A little further on, turn right at the path junction and retrace your steps back to the car park.

*Note: in high summer, bracken may obscure some of the features on this walk.*

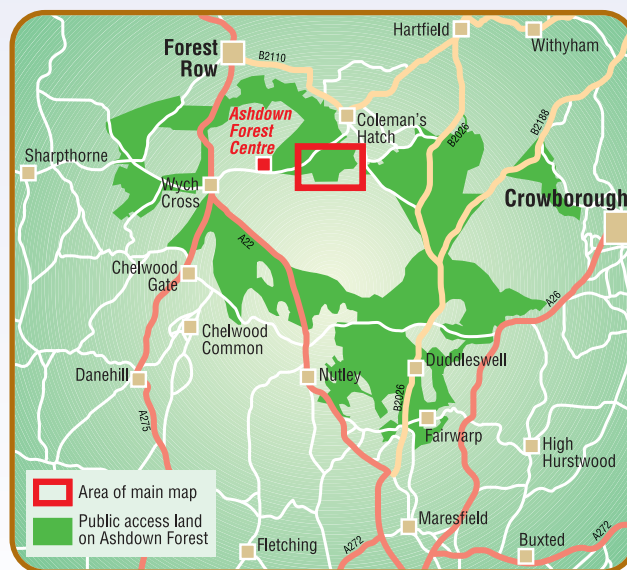
Charcoal depot



## HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY SERIES

Ashdown Forest is a former medieval hunting forest: the largest of four spread between Horsham and Tunbridge Wells in an area known as the Weald Forest Ridge. This is the highest ridge of the High Weald, itself recognised as one of England's Finest Landscapes and designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

At 2,500 hectares (10 square miles), Ashdown Forest is the largest open access space in the South East. Nearly two thirds of it is heathland, one of the rarest habitats in Britain.



Use your smartphone to scan the code for more information.



You can also find out more about the archaeology and history of Ashdown Forest by visiting [www.ashdownforest.org](http://www.ashdownforest.org) and the Ashdown Forest Centre at Wych Cross.



## HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY SERIES

# TABELL GHYLL



## EXPLORING ASHDOWN FOREST ON FOOT - WALK 12

A short circular walk in a beautiful and unusual part of Ashdown Forest because of the wooded landscape.

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# TABELL GHYLL

WALK 12 2.5 miles/4km

made to improve some of the Forest lands for agriculture. The large trees along the bank, one an old coppiced beech tree, were possibly once part of a hedge. The fence to the right marks the boundary of the army training area at Pippingford.

Continue downhill on the path.

Park in Lintons car park, cross the road and walk through Ridge car park. Take the right hand track out of the back of the car park, cross a broad track (once the old road from Wych Cross to Coleman's Hatch) and take the path descending into the wood on the other side. Cross over a small stream and keep on the main path ahead.

Just off the path to the right, opposite a couple of yew trees, is one of the **pillow mounds** ①, which looks like a ditch and bank. These mounds were used for farming rabbits. The path cuts through the pillow mound and another yew tree on the left marks one end.

Turn right uphill by the yew tree at the end of the pillow mound, then left along a track through coppiced chestnut woodland.

After 50m, just off the path on the left, is one of three curved pillow mounds in this area, a moss-covered bank with a ditch in front of it ②. Coppiced chestnut trees have been planted after the pillow mounds went out of use.

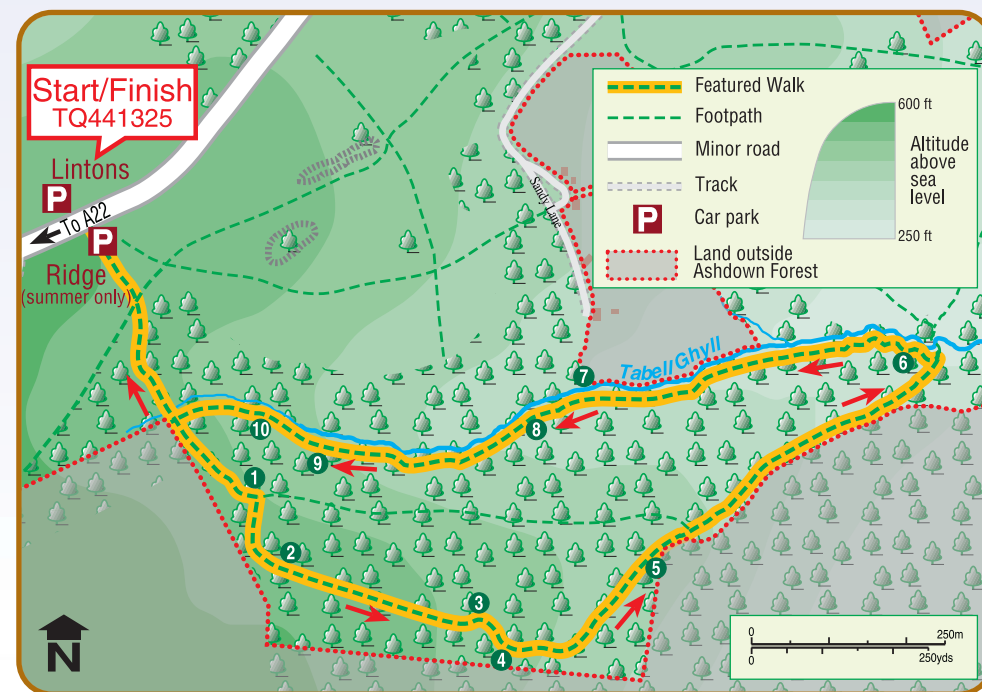
Return to the path. Where the pillow mound turns a corner on the left go straight ahead on the right-hand path.

rectangular hole about 3m by 2m with banks of soil to either side ③. This could be a **saw-pit**, but as the military used this area in the past for training it might be a military feature. Immediately after this, just off the path to the left, are several moss-covered ridges which are the remnants of three disused **ruteways**, or **hollow ways** through the wood. Just after a yew tree, on the right of the track, is another possible **saw pit**, much eroded.

Continue along path and carry on downhill to a more open area.

The very regular-looking bank to the right ④ formed part of one of the late 17th to early 18th century enclosure fields, when attempts were

By a gate, on the corner of the boundary bank, is a good specimen of a **managed beech** acting as a boundary marker tree ⑤.



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After about 200m, on the left just after the path begins to drop, is a mysterious

Coppiced chestnut on a pillow mound



A coppiced Beech at Tabell Ghyll



A LiDAR image of 3 horse-shoe shaped pillow mounds



Hollow way



Boundary bank starting at point 6

