

Listening Posts

By Sam Jukes and Fronde Crennell 2025

Listening Posts invites you to connect with the Reserve in a deeper way. When we exist in a place all of our senses are in play as we travel through it. We are not alone, nor are we the first to have been there; with this work we are asking you to focus your senses and reflect through listening, hear the layers of sounds and the rich complexity of the Reserve and observe the echoes of the past.

Slow down, listen and connect

Hear the environment, from the insects to the planes, from the winds that rustle, to the birds and beasts, the hum of life.

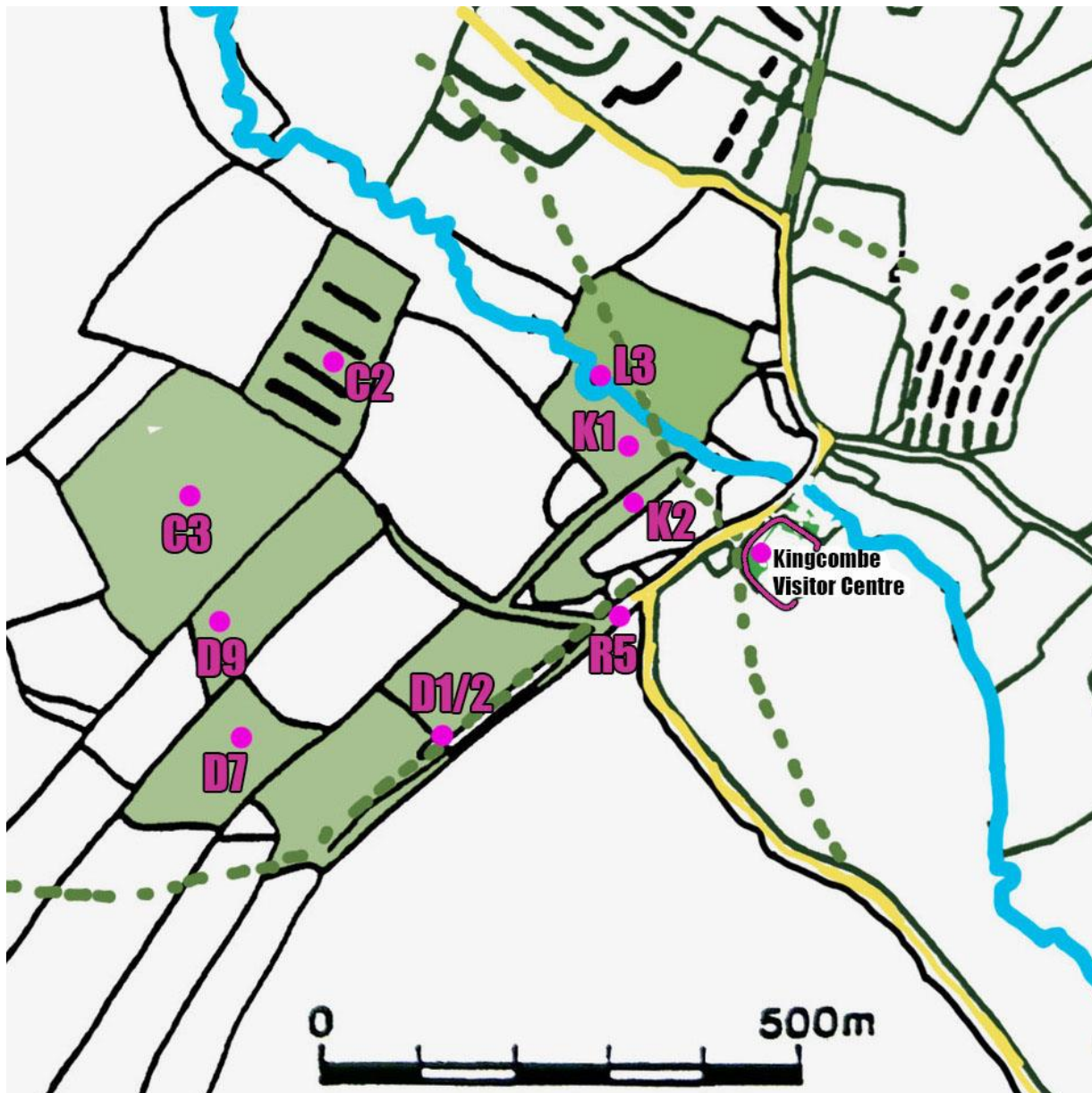
Connect – Listen through your body and be physically present. Beneath and around you is an entangled web of biodiversity as well as the history of our habitation which leaves its trace.

Collaborate – We invite you to sing back to the reserve, to make sounds and contribute through call and response. You may want to echo what you hear, make sounds to compliment the soundscape, or make some sounds that are new. Through your sounds be sonically present.

The more I listen the more I learn to listen. Deep Listening involves going below the surface of what is heard, expanding to the whole field of sound while finding focus. This is the way to connect with the acoustic environment, all that inhabits it, and all that there is.

Pauline Olivera

Listening Posts Map



Post Locations:

K2 Cleaves

K1 Moor

L3 Moor (north of the river Hooke)

C2 Cowlease

C3 New Graf's Ground

D9 Keech's Common

D7 Lower South Hill

D1 / D2 Boundary between Coarse Mead and Long Ground

R5 Mount Pleasant Lane

Listening Posts Information:

K2 Cleaves

Medieval Drove with Powerlines

K1 Moor

During the Roman and Medieval periods, this was home to a water mill, the echo of energy can now be seen by the earthworks which show a substantial building platform in the valley bottom. The mill would have been served by a leat and processed the settlement's cereals and possibly acted as a sawmill. (Alan Hunt, Lower Kingcombe, a survey of archaeology and Historic features, Bournemouth University 1995.) Fig7
Now the ants continue to mound the earth.

L3 Moor (north of the river Hooke)

The formation of an oxbow lake as the Hooke burbles away forming and shaping the land.

C2 Cowlease

Field system earthworks showing as parallel linear field baulks or lynchets, evidence of medieval field divisions. (only visible from the air). Fig 11.

C3 New Graf's Ground

Cattle grazing, birds soaring and below; mycelium rings of the Parasol mushroom grow.

D9 Keech's Common

Cattle trough and crow in a co-axial field (small rectilinear fields in groups sharing a common axis) dating back to the later prehistoric and Roman times.

D7 Lower South Hill

Amidst the trees and the birch entwine the undulations and digging of badgers and humans.

D1 / D2 Boundary between Coarse Mead and Long Ground

Pond, drinking hole, home to newts and nearby there are power lines.

R5 Mount Pleasant Lane

Medieval green lane once an integral part of a medieval settlement, where in the dappled shade spotted orchids and bluebells grow.

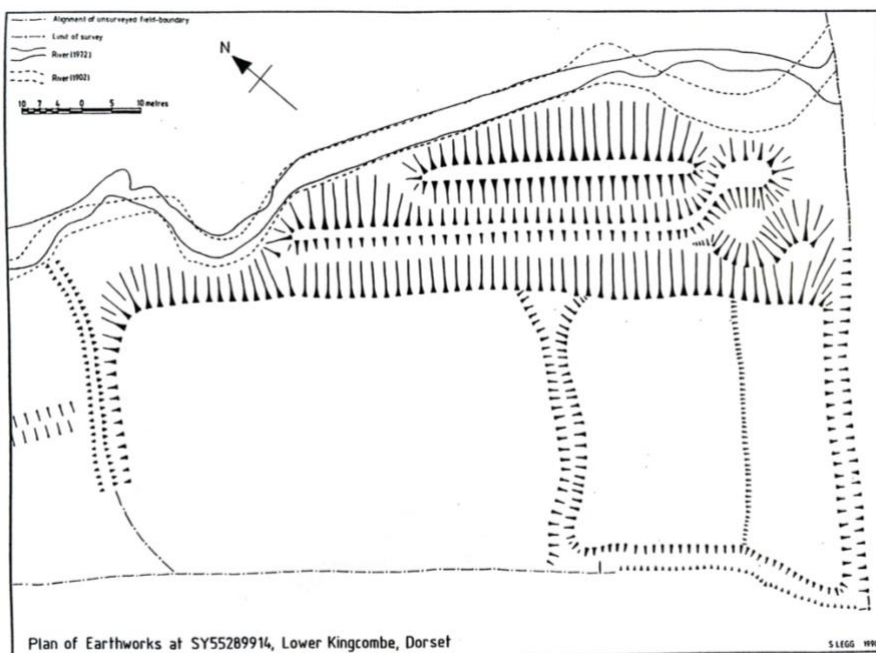


Fig 7: Plan of settlement earthworks EE1

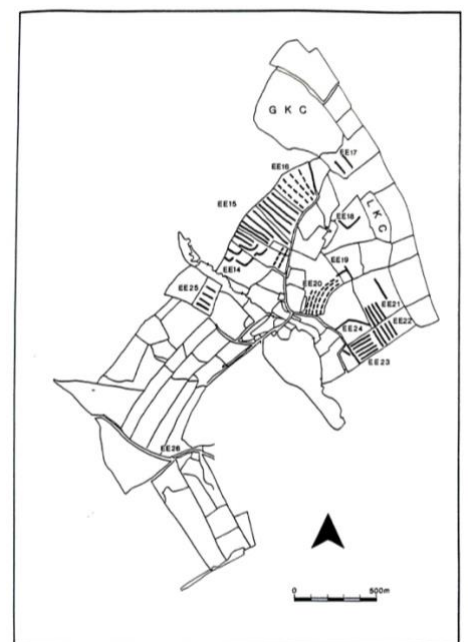


Fig 11: Field system earthworks and ancient woodland. GKC = Great Kingcombe Coppice; LKC = Little Kingcombe Coppice

Media: 10x Wooden posts [210x2.8cm], steel rod, gesso, acrylic paint, the environment, map and instruction manual.

Dimensions variable.

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**All Archaeological information and diagrams gained from:
Hunt, A., 1995. Lower Kingcombe: A survey of Archaeology and Historic Landscape
Features. Bournemouth University for Dorset Wildlife Trust.**

Ecological consultation from Matt Harcourt.