

Leighton Moss Footpath from Causeway Hide towards Lower Hide SD4874

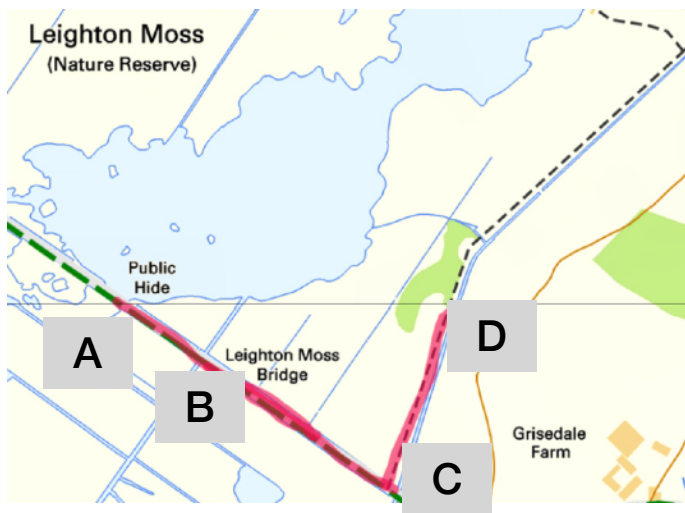
Leighton Moss was farmed for hundreds of years. Great efforts were made to drain the land to make it more productive. Every time sooner or later the dykes and embankments, pumps and sluices failed and the land reverted to marsh and open water. At one time a great causeway was built across the centre to allow the Gillows of Leighton Hall to get to the Yealands and Silverdale. This is the public footpath past the Causeway Hide. In 1964 the land was acquired by the RSPB as a bird reserve. The land is managed mainly for its birds but it also has a very heathy flora.



**Leighton Mosses after the Gale
March 1907. The Causeway**



**Leighton Mosses March 2024.
The Causeway**



The area surveyed is along the path marked in red. Plants are recorded if they can be seen without leaving the path. The area lies within SD4874.



B: Sluice gates on way to rainbow gate to Lower Hide



C: Rainbow gate coming from Lower Hide with dyke on the left



AB from the Causeway hide to the sluice gates is mainly reeds. BC from the sluicegates to the rainbow gate is wet woodland and CD from the gate to the second bench is grass/rushes and a dyke on the other side.

There is no historical data for this small area. The 119 species below were seen between June 2023 and Nov 2024. The recorder was peter Tilley with a couple of records from Ann Kitchen.

Data for 2023 and 2024

taxa	common name	23	24	taxa	common name	23	24
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground Elder		y	Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged Robin	y	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	y		Lycopus europaeus	Gypsywort		y
Alchemia vulgaris	Ladies mantle		y	Lysimachia nemorum	Yellow Pimpernel		y
Allaria petiolara	Garlic Mustard		y	Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	y	
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	y	y	Medicago lupulina	Black medic		y
anemone nemorosa	Wood anemome		y	Mentha aquatica	Watermint		y
Angelica sylvestris	Angelica	y	y	Mercurialis perennis	Dogs Mercury	y	y
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	y	y	Odontites verna	Red bartsia		y
Apium nodiflorum	Fools watercress		y	Oenanthe crocata	Hemlock Waterdropwort	y	y
Arrhenatherum elatias	False oat grass		y	Phleum pratense	Timothy Grass	y	y

taxa	common name	23	24	taxa	common name	23	24
Arum maculatum	Lords and ladies		y	Phragmites australis	Common Reed	y	y
Bellis perennis	Daisy	y	y	Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	y	
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	y	y	Plantago major	Greater Plantain	y	y
Caltha palustris	Marsh Marigold	y	y	Poa annua	Meadow Grass		y
Cardamine flexuosa	Wavy Bittercress		y	Polypodium vulgare	Polypody , Common	y	y
Cardamine pratense	Cuckoo Flower	y	y	Populus tremula	Aspen	y	y
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge		y	Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	y	y
Carex paniculata	Greater Tussock Sedge	y		Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	y	
Carex pendula	Pendulus sedge		y	Prunus padus	Bird Cherry	y	y
Carex remota	Remote Sedge		y	Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	y	y
Carex spicata	Spiked sedge		y	Pulicaria dysenterica	Common fleabane		y
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		y	Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	y	y
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	y		Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	y	y
Cirsium arvense	Field thistle		y	Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup		y
convolvulus arvensis	Field bindweed		y	Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	y	y
Corylus avellana	Hazel	y	y	Ranunculus ficaria	Lssr Celandine		y
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	y	y	Ranunculus lanuginosus	Downy buttercup		y
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested dogstail		y	Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup		y
Dactylis glomerata	Cock'sfoot	y	y	Rhinanthus minor	Yellow Rattle	y	y
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted Orchid	y	y	Ribes rubrum	Red Currant		y
Driopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler Fern	y		Rosa canina	Dog Rose	y	y
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male Fern	y		Rubus fruticosus agg	Bramble agg	y	y
Endymion non-scriptus	Bluebell		y	Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	y	y
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	y	y	Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	y	y
Equisetum fluviatile	Water Horsetail	y		Rumex hydrolapathum	Water Dock	y	y
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle Tree	y		Rumex obtusifolius	Broad leaved dock		y
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp agrimony	y	y	Salix alba	White willow		y
Euphrasia nemorosa	Eyebright		y	salix caprea	Grey Willow		y
Fagus sylvatica	Beech		y	Salix cinerea	Pussy Willow		y
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	y	y	Sambucus nigra	Elder	y	y

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Fraxinior excelsus	Ash		y	Scrophularia nodosa	Common Figwort	y	y
Galium aparine	Cleavers	y	y	Scutellaria galericulata	Skullcap	y	y
Galium palustre	Common marsh bedstraw		y	Silene dioica	Red Campion		y
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	y	y	Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	y	y
Geum urbanum	Herb Bennet	y	y	Stachys palustris	Marsh woundwort		y
Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy		y	Stellaria media	Common chickweed		y
hedera helix	Ivy		y	Tamus communis	Black Bryony	y	
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	y		Taraxacum aggregate	Dandelion	y	y
Hippuris vulgaris	Marestail	y	y	Thalicturm flavum	Common Meadow Rue	y	
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's Wort		y	Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge Parsley	y	
Ilex aquifolium	Holly		y	Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	y	y
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Flag	y	y	Trifolium repens	White clover		y
Juncus effusus	Soft Rush		y	Tussilago farfara	Coltsfoot	y	
juncus tenuis	Slender rush	y	y	Typha latifolia	Bulrush	y	y
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	y	y	Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	y	y
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		y	Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	AK	
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle		y	Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	AK	AK
Lotus corniculatus	Birdsfoot Trefoil	y	y	Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	y	y
Lotus uliginosus	Gt birdsfoot trefoil		y	Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	y	y
				Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	y	y