



An Old Beech, Naphill Common by Philip Hussey (watercolour)

Naphill Common covers 70 hectares. Owned by West Wycombe Estate, it is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest. Once open scrub and grassland, it was grazed until the 1920's. Since grazing ceased it has become increasingly wooded. This painting depicts one of the largest and oldest of the many veteran trees on the common. Artist Philip Hussey explains, "the beech stands on the bank and ditch of a Romano-British farmstead and against a pond that may be of the same vintage."