

University of Sussex boundary walk

From **B**righton, **B**righton **P**ark
The walk starts at Knights Gate Road at the main entrance to the University of Sussex. You then proceed due west down some wooden steps that take you into an old linear mainly beech woodland (Front Belt), and the path runs next to the old ivy clad Pelham flint wall. The Pelhams were the aristocrats who owned the estate before the University was built, and the wall is likely to be in the order of 300 years old, roughly the age of the beech trees in the woodland belt. On Friday 16 October 1987, winds in excess of 100 mph swept across southern England, and many old beeches and elms on campus were damaged or destroyed. The root plates of these trees were heaved up, forming cavities underneath. Many of these cavities are now occupied by badgers, and you can see their excavations on your right as you walk west along the path.



As you proceed west, you cross the Southern Ring Road and the entrance to the Innovation

Centre, then the Southern Ring Road again just after the electricity sub-station. After crossing the road, you walk between a variety of trees that were planted by the original groundsman, Mr Don Collier, after the University opened in 1961, so these trees are all less than about 40 years old. This section of the path takes you to the other University entrance, after passing the Tenant Lain cottages on your right. Further trees are due to be planted along this belt during this year (2008) near the Western entrance.



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Boundary walk

