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Landscape of Legislation: A Photographic Investigation of the Mendip Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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Book 3

Site 2: Banwell Wood

Photographs made around the boundaries of two scheduled monuments within the
Mendip Hills

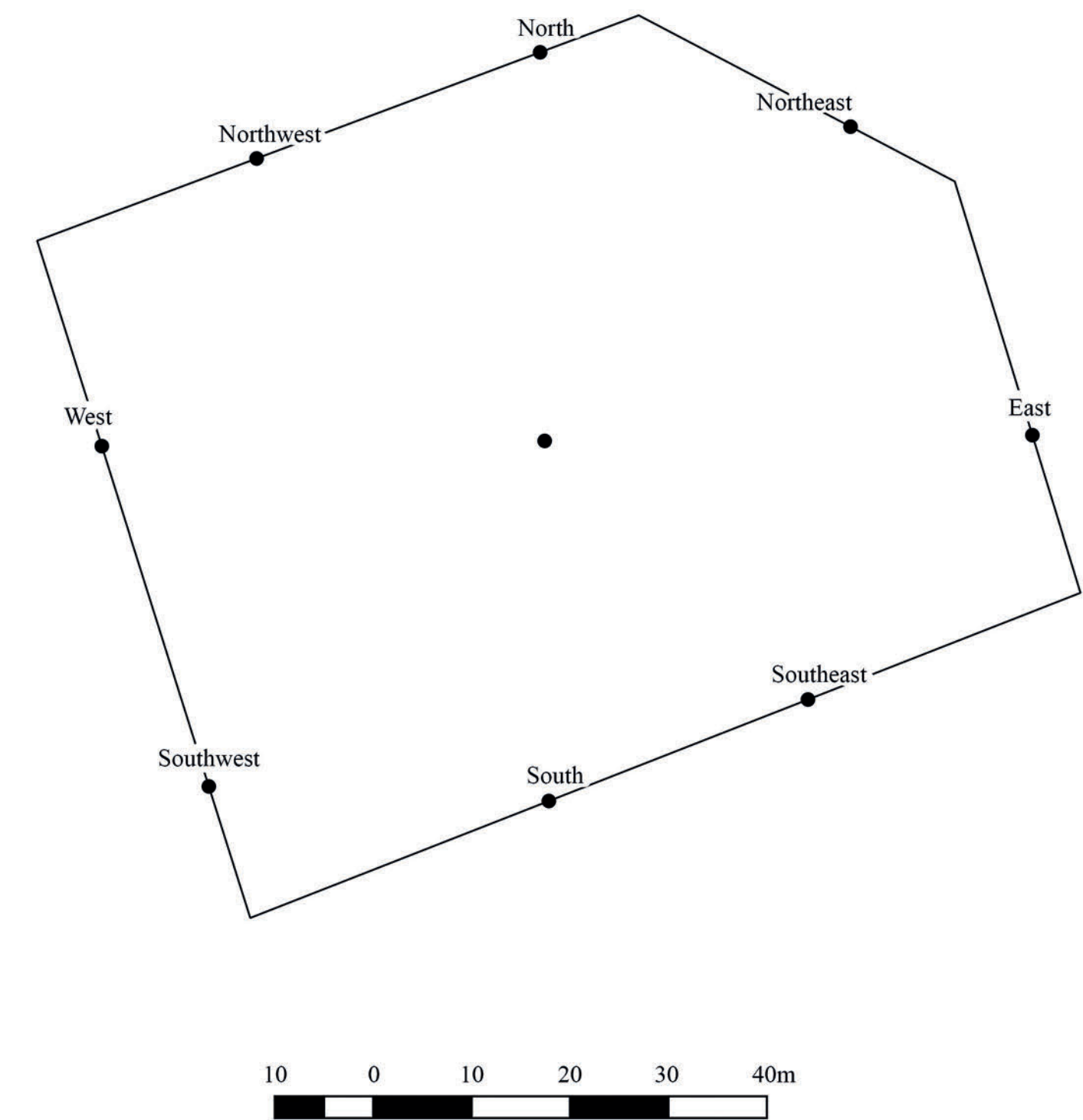
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

This book was a made within the context of a PhD where the visual consequences of conservation legislation are examined within the Mendip Hills. The photographs in this case study are a response to the boundaries of two scheduled monuments within the same geographical area. The work consists of two sets of photographic triptychs, one for each monument, that follow a strict, conformist, pictorial strategy. The practice in this case study is concerned with what happens when aesthetic decisions often made in the field are instead directly informed by the positioning of conservation legislation. The choices of where to set the camera and the direction to point the lens were made in the studio using a series of maps adapted for this study. The photographs were made at the points of intersection between lines drawn along cardinal and inter-cardinal bearings from the centre of each designation and the

scheduled monument boundaries. For the centre frame of each triptych the camera was set using a compass to point along a specific bearing and a photograph was made with a 60° angle of view. Two subsequent frames were then made at each point looking left and right to compile a 180° view from that position. In the first of the sites, ‘A Roman Camp in Banwell Woods’, each triptych represents the view looking toward the centre of the designation. In the second site, ‘Banwell Camp’, the camera is positioned so that the centre of each triptych looks away from the scheduled monument along a bearing perpendicular to the boundary line. The objective of this case study was to begin to question through photography one way in which a conservation boundary might shape how a place is looked at and photographed. The ideas examined in this case study are taken further in books 4 and 5.

A Roman Camp in Banwell Woods

A series of photographic triptychs looking from the boundary towards the centre of
a scheduled monument along the cardinal and inter-cardinal bearings



North point looking south



Northeast point looking southwest



East point looking west



Southeast point looking northwest



South point looking north



Southwest point looking northeast



West point looking east



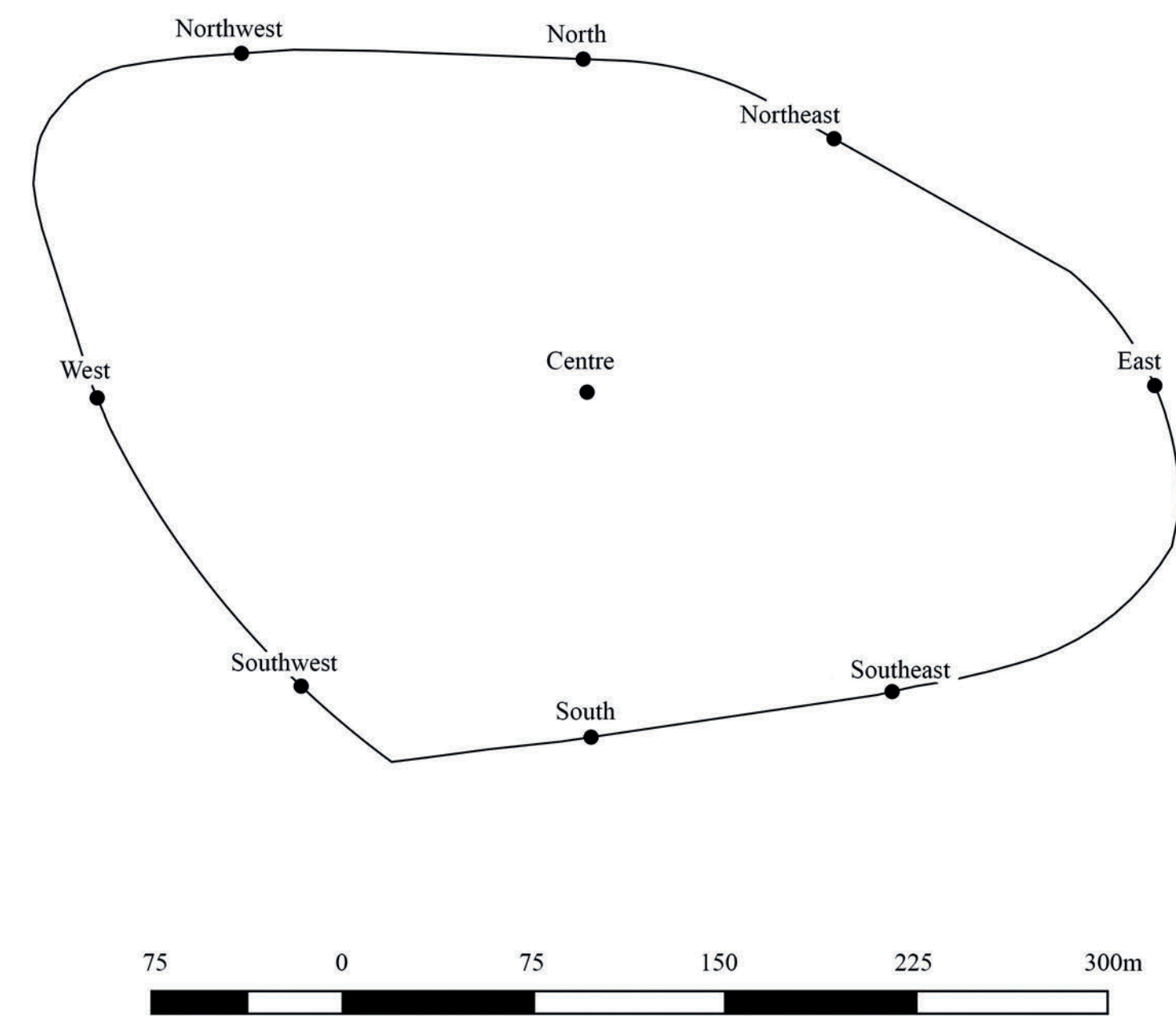
Northwest point looking southeast



Banwell Camp

A series of photographic triptychs looking away from

a scheduled monument perpendicular to the boundary line at each vantage point



North point looking along a bearing of 3°



Northeast point looking along a bearing of 30°



East point looking along a bearing of 68°



Southeast point looking along a bearing of 168°



South point looking along a bearing of 172°



Southwest point looking along a bearing of 224°



West point looking along a bearing of 247°



Northwest point looking along a bearing of 356°



David Wyatt 2018

