

Record Name: Stone circle at Mudbeck Side.
SWAAG ID Number: 120
Recorded Date: 2011-02-06 13:46:22
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Standing Stones / Circles
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2011-02-06
Location: On rising ground at Mud Beck 850m NE of Beck Crooks Bridge..
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NY 9550 0767
Altitude: 384m
Geology: Drift.

Description: Circle of low (<1.0m high) sandstone slabs hidden by rushes and difficult to locate, 18.5m diameter comprising four surviving standing stones (see plan Nos 2,3,4 and 6), one fallen stone (No 1), one stone broken at ground level, the base survives in situ (No 5) and a probable $\frac{1}{2}$ entrance feature on the Eastern perimeter indicated by the presence on the surface of three large slabs of similar sandstone (Nos 7,8 & 9) together with a pit from which a stone has been removed and a number of earthbound rocks. The perimeter of a true circle is well defined through 200 degrees of arc by stones 1-6 and less certainly by the entrance feature, stones 7,8 and 9.

A single cup mark can be seen on the inner face of Stone 2, this may be natural but is made more probable by the existence of an earth fast sandstone slab with three aligned cup marks in turf some 70m check to the WNW. (ARK003).

A single outlying standing stone is located 54m from the centre to the ENE.

Additional Notes: The Mudbeck stone ring was first noticed by the late Ramsey Hutchinson of Langthwaite who was then Game Keeper to the Duke of Norfolk's estate. The stone ring is located at precisely the point where the summit of the Stainmore Pass first becomes visible five km to the NW across the glaciated plain of Stainmore Forest. Arkengarthdale provide the most direct route available in Prehistory from thriving Neolithic/Bronze Age population centres situated to the South and East (on the fertile gravels of Swale and Ure in the Vale of Mowbray) and those to the North and West (in the Vale of Eden).

See Survey plan prepared by A. Thom (Thom, A. 198*).

Reference

A.S. Thom 1988. Mudbeck Ring, North Yorkshire $\frac{1}{2}$. In $\frac{1}{2}$ Records in Stone $\frac{1}{2}$ Papers in Memory of Alexander Thom. Ed. C.C.N. Ruggles. pp375-6.

Last Update: 2011-02-06

plan, some having fallen inwards or outwards and some having been broken. The remainder of the cairn material was largely absent (Henshall: 1963). There are extensive views of the Ben Wyvis range to the north-west and of nearer hills to the south-east.

Prior to the complete removal of the cairn, which was necessitated by construction of the new A9 Trunk Road, complete archaeological excavation was undertaken by D.D.A. Simpson in the summers of 1972 and 1973 (Simpson 1972; 1973). In April 1973 the author surveyed the ring, as shown in Fig. 16.14, with the assistance of Ian Cairns.

At that time all the boulders had been exposed as a result of the first period of excavation, but they are understood to have been in their undisturbed positions. The best fit to the centre of those boulders which were likely to have been in their original positions is given by an ellipse having diameters of $2a = 22$ MY and $2b = 20$ MY. The perimeter is 52.83 MR. The orientation of the minor axis is due north/south. This ellipse could have been constructed on a triangle with sides of 4.5, 10 and 11 MY - a sufficiently close approximation to a Pythagorean triangle for all practical purposes on the ground.

This ring of boulders was re-erected in about 1975 at NH 687450 and re-named *Raigmore Cairn*.

Mudbeck Ring, North Yorkshire. NY 954077 Thom L6/5

The site, 5.9 km east of Tan Hill, is in a prominent position on a ridge of glacial till at the head of a pass, in upper Arkengarthdale, the valley which leads into Swaledale, North Yorkshire. Situated 680 m west of the confluence of Mud Beck and Arkle Beck, and 300 m north of Arkle Beck itself, it lies at 380 m above sea level in wild, open, lush grass moorland with magnificent views in many directions (Tim Laurie, *pers. comm.*).

The stones were first reported in 1982 by Mr William Stubbs, the local shepherd, via Tim Laurie of Barningham, Richmond, to Archie Thom who made a survey in 1983. The results are first published here in Fig. 16.15 at his request. He has recorded five stones in the ring (standing or leaning slightly), three slabs lying outside the ring, one slab buried on the line of the perimeter, and a small stone just inside the ring. Unfortunately none of the stones which remain standing is in the southern semicircle, which slopes gently to the south. It may be surmised that 'quarrying' has taken place and that possibly the three slabs (Stones 3 and 4) were in the process of being dragged away.

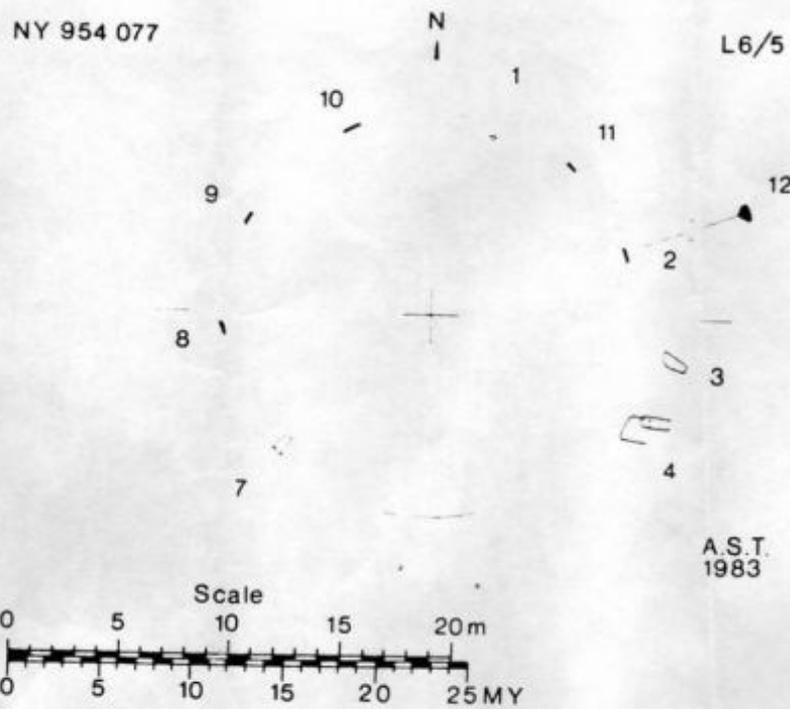


Fig. 16.15. Mudbeck Ring. Circle: diameter 22.53 MY.

One outlying standing stone is located 53.8 m from the centre, towards the ENE.

The best fit, provided by Archie Thom, is a circle of 22.53 MY diameter fitted to the centres of the bases of the 5 standing stones as shown in the figure. The perimeter is 28.32 MR. True north is given on the plan within a tolerance of $\pm 2^\circ$.

Appendix I

Table 16.1 gives a complete list of the sites on the Isle of Lewis which were named and numbered by Professor Thom, with corrections and extensions

Record Name: ELL07 Ellerton Moor. Standing stone above Juniper Gill.

SWAAG ID Number: 391

Recorded Date: 2011-12-09 15:47:43

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Ellerton Moor. Above Juniper Gill.

Civil Parish: Ellerton Abbey

British National Grid: SE 08096 95745

Altitude: 377m

Description: See photos.

Large slab of sandstone set on edge reused as a boundary marker (ELL08).

This standing stone has been described as cup marked on the top surface. (Beckensall and Laurie, 1998 p103). Whereas there are indeed depressions on the top surface of this rock, the writer now considers that these are the result of natural weathering over millennia- perhaps confirming that this rock has been standing since antiquity. The location of this standing slab of sandstone is very significant since it marks the very point where the high Fells which overlook the Eden Valley first become visible across Stainmore to the traveller on foot from the South and East (from the Vale of Mowbray) to the North and West (The Vale of Eden).

The location of this Rock can be seen (if you have good eyesight) on the skyline from the Mud Beck Stone Circle which is KM to the NW and from the modern road at Half Penny House some KM to the SE.

Dimensions: See photos.

Additional Notes: This standing stone appears to be set within the remains of a small cairn. The new drivable track cut through a second cairn just to the north of this rock.

SWAAG Site: Ellerton Moor

Last Update: 2011-12-09



Record Number 391 >>> Image 1: Standing stone above Juniper Gill. The faint hills on the horizon beyond Arkengarthdale and across Stainmore are Little Fell and the Cross Fell Escarpment



Record Number 391 >>> Image 2: Cup marked, perhaps? If in doubt dismiss the idea!



Record Number 391 >>> Image 3: The Standing Stone reused as a Boundary Stone. ED refers to Edward Drax of Ellerton.

Record Name: SWAAG visit to the Vale of Eden, April 2012. Part One: Long Meg and Her Daughters.

SWAAG ID Number: 509

Recorded Date: 2012-05-03 14:33:49

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Northern Britain

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-04-27

Location: Little Salkeld, Cumbria

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 571 373

Geology: Drift over Triassic Sandstone.

Description: Great Stone Circle (The Daughters) with cup and ring and spiral decorated Sandstone Outlier (Long Meg). A total of 69 stones were counted by two careful SWAAG Members but one dissenter was convinced that there are 68 stones, consistent with the legend has it that it is not possible to arrive at the same total twice.

For a full description and the iconography of this impressive stone circle, see:

Aubrey Burl. 1976. 'The Stone Circles of the British Isles.' Yale.

Aerial photography shows the Long Meg great stone circle to be tangential to and to overlie a large ditched enclosure. The stones which overlie this enclosure are all prostrate.

Entrance of double stones to the South-West. Traces of an outer bank attest to its affinities with henges.

'It is surely significant that two vast stones (See photo 9) stand virtually due east and west in the equinoctial positions. They stand at opposite ends of Thom's primary diameter(109.4m). (Thom 1967, fig12.11)It is tempting to believe the circle was planned originally on this axis.'(Burl 1976 p89.)

All members were impressed by the fact that the stone circle was located so as to relate to the surrounding hills. (see for example photo 1).

Dimensions: Stone Ring, (Flattened Circle): 109.4m * 93.0m. Heaviest stone weighs around 28 tons.

Additional Notes: The near by double spiral decorated cairn circle known as Little Meg was visited by Justin. (Photos please, Justin?)

Last Update: 2012-05-07



Record Number 509 >>> Image 1: Blencathra seen from Long Meg Stone Circle.



Record Number 509 >>> Image 2: Animated discussion at Long Meg. She was listening!



Record Number 509 >>> Image 3: The stones.



Record Number 509 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 509 >>> Image 5:



Record Number 509 >>> Image 6:



Record Number 509 >>> Image 7:



Record Number 509 >>> Image 8: Aerial photographs indicate that these prostrate stones overlie an earlier ditched enclosure.



Record Number 509 >>> Image 9: This massive stone marks the eastern end of the main (109.4m) axis of the flattened circle)



Record Number 509 >>> Image 10: The branches of this ash tree within the stone circle have been decorated with coloured ribbons.

Record Name: SWAAG in Eden. Part Two. Greystoke. Standing Stone by the B5288 road.

SWAAG ID Number: 510

Recorded Date: 2012-05-03 16:17:18

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Northern Britain

Site Access: Private

Record Date: 2012-04-29

Location: Close to the north side of the B5288 road 3km west of Penrith

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 480 304

Geology: Drift over Triassic sandstone.

Description: This standing stone was noticed in pasture close by the roadside on our drive from Penrith to Mungrisedale to meet up to walk on Carrock Fell. A long cairn is nearby (not seen).

The impressive standing stone is a glacial erratic of volcanic ash (Borrowdale Volcanic series) and is the sole survivor of what surely was originally a complex of megalithic stones.

There are several stones of megalithic proportions in the adjacent hedgerow and a pair of standing stones in the roadside hedge which may be a remnant of a stone avenue.

It is worth noting that the standing stone is located at the point where Carrock Fell (our planned destination) with its ?Neolithic enclosure and contained stone cairn first becomes visible as an isolated peak on the western horizon.

Dimensions: 1.8m high estimated.

Last Update: 2012-05-07



Record Number 510 >>> Image 1: SWAAG at work on standing stones!



Record Number 510 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 510 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 510 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 510 >>> Image 5: Standing stone. The clasts of the volcanic ash origine of this standing stone are clearly visible.



Record Number 510 >>> Image 6: Pair of small standing stones in the hedge.

Record Name: SWAAG in Eden Part Three. The Penrith Henges: Mayburgh and Round Table Henges.

SWAAG ID Number: 511

Recorded Date: 2012-05-03 16:35:23

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Northern Britain

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-04-29

Location: Penrith. Eamont Bridge. Mayburgh Henge.

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 5192 2843

Altitude: 130m

Geology: Glacial drift 110m south of the River Eamont.

Description: Our visit to the very impressive Mayburgh Henge on a fine clear April Day was a surprising delight to most SWAAG Members who had frequently raced past Eamont Bridge on their way to the Lake District blissfully unaware of the existence of this monumental earthwork, the 'Avebury of the North'.

The dimensions of Mayburgh Henge (extracted from the RCHME Survey, Topping 1992) are worth stating:

'Mayburgh is almost perfectly circular on plan with a level interior measuring some 90m from north to south and 87.5m transversely. The single entrance faces eastward. The surrounding bank, which is composed almost entirely of water rounded cobbles from the nearby River Eamont varies in scale from a minimum of 37.4m wide and 3.8m high on the northern perimeter to a maximum of 45m wide and 7.2m high externally at the entrance'.

SWAAG Members were also impressed by the surviving standing stone within the henge, see photos.

This stone is the survivor of an original quadrilateral setting of four similar stones, and two further aligned stones at each side of the entrance. This stone setting was originally described by Sir William Dugdale in 1664 whose account and sketches were later copied by John Aubrey in his Monumenta Britannica (See also the reference to Topping 1992 below).

A full description of all the two well preserved henge monuments at Eamont Bridge (Mayburgh and Round Table Henges) and of the slight earthwork known as Little Table is available, see:

Peter Topping, 1998. The Penrith Henges: A Survey by the Royal Commission for the Historical Monuments of England. Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 58, pp249-264.

Dimensions: See above

Additional Notes: The Round Table Henge located on the busy A6 Road at the centre of Eamont Bridge was not included on the SWAAG Itinerary but a couple of photos were taken and are included here.

Last Update: 2012-05-07



Record Number 511 >>> Image 1: SWAAG Members at the Standing Stone within Mayburgh Henge.



Record Number 511 >>> Image 2: SWAAG Members at Mayburgh Henge



Record Number 511 >>> Image 3: Mayburgh viewed from the east.



Record Number 511 >>> Image 4: Mayburgh viewed from the east.



Record Number 511 >>> Image 5:



Record Number 511 >>> Image 6: View though the entrance.



Record Number 511 >>> Image 7: Meadow saxifrage (*S. granulata*) on the bank.



Record Number 511 >>> Image 8: The Round Table Henge



Record Number 511 >>> Image 9: The Round Table Henge

Record Name: SWAAG in Eden Part Four. The Cop Stone Alignment. Cairn Circle, Standing Stone and associated Ring Cairn.

SWAAG ID Number: 512

Recorded Date: 2012-05-04 11:02:27

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Northern Britain

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-04-29

Location: Moor Divock

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Geology: Drift over Carboniferous Limestone.

Description: Prominent standing stone known as the Cop Stone located on the perimeter of a very slight stone ring bank 19m diameter interpreted as an enclosed cremation cemetery or ring cairn.

The Cairn Circle shown in the foreground on Photo 1 is recorded separately as SWAAG Record No 513. See M. Waistell Taylor, 'Prehistoric Remains on Moordivock near Ullswater.' Transactions of The Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, 1885. for detailed description of the Cop Stone, Ring Bank, Cairn Circle, The Stone Alignments and other monuments on Moor Divock above Ullswater.

NOTE! Please enlarge Photograph 1 to view the Alignment.

Dimensions: Cop Stone 5ft high and 14ft girth.

Additional Notes: The Cop Stone forms one element in an alignment centred on the small excavated Cairn Circle shown in the foreground of Photo 1 which will be described separately (SWAAG Record No 513).

Last Update: 2012-05-07



Record Number 512 >>> Image 1: The Cop Stone Alignment seen from the Cairn Circle. (Please enlarge to see the alignment)



Record Number 512 >>> Image 2: The Cop Stone and slight stone ring bank denoted by a change of vegetation.

Record Name: SWAAG in Eden Part Six. Moor Divock. The Cockpit Stone Circle.

SWAAG ID Number: 514

Recorded Date: 2012-05-05 07:58:05

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Northern Britain

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-04-29

Location: Westmorland (Cumbria). Askham. Moor Divock

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 4827 2224

Geology: Drift over Carboniferous Limestone

Description: Well preserved embanked stone circle with overlying cairns, close to the sources of Elder Beck and High Street Roman Road.

Ring cairn, burial cairns, two recently recognised burnt mounds and clearance cairnfields nearby.

Last Update: 2012-05-07



Record Number 514 >>> Image 1: THE Cockpit Stone Circle.



Record Number 514 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 514 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 514 >>> Image 4:

Record Name: Mudbeck West cairn / stone circle

SWAAG ID Number: 545

Recorded Date: 2012-06-06 17:23:00

Recorded by: Stephen Eastmead

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-06-06

Location: Mudbeck

Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale

British National Grid: NY 95304 07707

Altitude: 397M

Description: This site is approximately 200m nearly due west of the Mudbeck stone circle. It is situated on top of a terminal moraine knoll and is about 12m higher than the Mudbeck circle. At the centre of the feature are a group of 5 stones which could be the remnants of a cairn. Surrounding the cairn there is evidence of a series of stones that may form a stone circle, although the site appears to be slightly ovoid. Approximate size (pacing) appears to be in the order of 25 x 30 metres. There are a number of surrounding features / stones which appears to add to the site's complexity.

The site needs to be further investigated including a GPS survey.

Additional Notes: This new site was found by SWAAG members lead by Shirley Gale

Last Update: 2012-06-06



Record Number 545 >>> Image 1: Site on top of the knoll



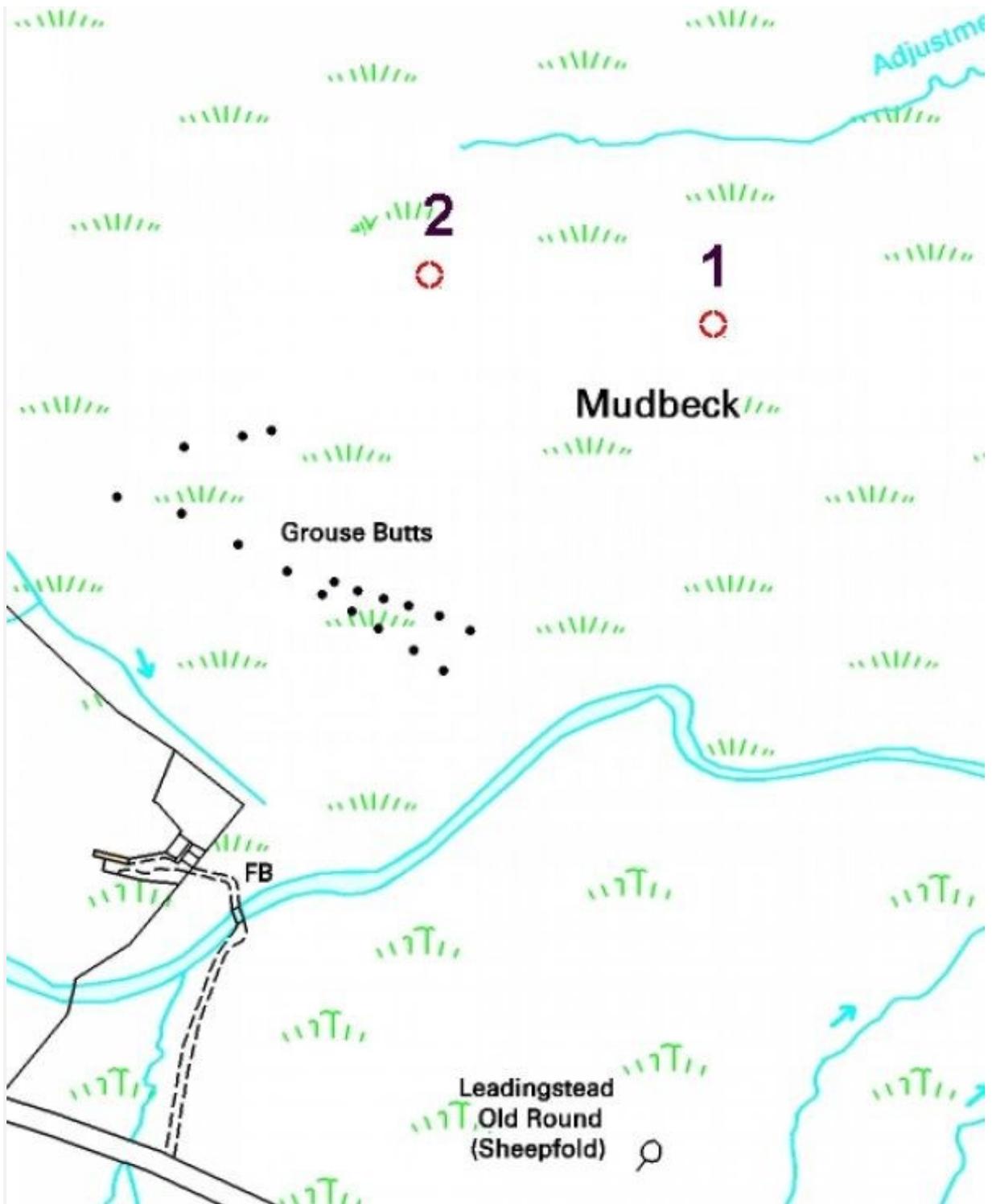
Record Number 545 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 545 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 545 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 545 >>> Image 5: 1 = Mudbeck Circle

2 = Mudbeck West Site

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Record Name: Boundary Stone (possibly reused prehistoric standing stone) at meeting of three moorland parishes.

SWAAG ID Number: 611

Recorded Date: 2012-09-27 15:40:13

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-09-21

Location: Stainmore Forest.

Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale

British National Grid: NY 9724 0982

Altitude: 420m

Geology: Drift over Namurian sandstones.

Description: This small standing stone is located on the summit of Stony Hill close to, but some 40m west of the point where the drystone boundary walls defining the limits of Arkengarthdale, Bowes and Scargill Civil Parishes meet. This stone has a large capital B painted on it and is clearly representing Bowes Moor. All other boundary stones on these boundaries have formal carved lettering, see photo images. This standing stone is heavily weathered and seems to be of greater antiquity than the 19C walls. The idea that this stone could be prehistoric may be fanciful, however let us speculate!

The standing stone marks the place where the summits of Blencathra together with Bowscale Fell and (only on a very a clear day), Carrock Fell, first become visible some 70km to the WNW through the Stainmore Gap. Stainmore is the easiest and most direct crossing of the Pennines and for the traveller on foot the route of the Badger Way following the southern edge of Teesdale is the natural routeway. The Badger Way traverses Gayles Moor, Barningham Moor and Scargill Moor all marked by clusters of cup and ring stones and other prehistoric sites, to reach the glaciated plain of Stainmore and from thence to the Vale of Eden with the Neolithic Monuments near Penrith and further North and West to Galloway and to Ireland.

Carrock Fell, visible to the keenest eye from the Stone is a most impressive igneous rocky summit overlooking the Vale of Eden at the northern edge of the Lake District Fells. Carrock Fell has an interrupted stone dump summit enclosure which is likely to be Neolithic in origin and a large stone round cairn which is more certainly late Neolithic.

Swaledale itself and Wensleydale are cul de sacs and not natural routeways.

Dimensions: See photos

Last Update: 2012-09-27



Record Number 611 >>> Image 1: Standing stone at Stony Hill view through the Stainmore Gap to Blencathra (Saddleback) and Carrock Fell.



Record Number 611 >>> Image 2: Boundary stone with formal lettering: 'Stone in the edge Arkengarthdale'.

Record Name: Some Galloway Stone Circles 1. The Torhouskie Stone Circle.

SWAAG ID Number: 759

Recorded Date: 2013-10-12 14:45:19

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2013-09-29

Location: Galloway, Wigtownshire, Torhouse NX383565, 30m OD.

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Altitude: 30m

Geology: All the stones of the Torhouskie Stone Circle are of local granite erratic boulders brought to the site which is approximately 1km east of and within sight of the River Bladnoch . The landscape of the valley of the River Bladnoch is characterised by many beautiful drumlins.

Description: This fine stone ring (in State Care, by the roadside within a protective fence) is well worth a visit and has been surveyed by Alexander and Archie Thom who interpret it as a flattened circle and they conclude that the three stone outliers located about 140m to the ENE are probably solstitial.

The stone ring surrounds a ring cairn and central three megalithic stone setting. A similar stone setting and probable cairn is located in a pasture at the other side of the road, 140m to the ENE.

Reference:

A & A.S. Thom, 1980. 'Megalithic Rings'. BAR British Series 81

Additional Notes: It may be mentioned that the only instance of a flattened circle in nature is the one day old moon.

The frequent occurrence within the comprehensive and very large body of accurately surveyed stone circle plans published by A. and A.A. Thom of this flattened circle plan within the numerous stone circles of the British Isles may indicate that these structures acknowledged a Moon Deity or The White Goddess (Robert Graves, 1948).

A comparative Note.

By comparison with the megalithic rings of Galloway and elsewhere, the few small free-standing stone rings of the eastern Pennine fringe are very poor relations, but this is not to say that the small Pennine rings are insignificant. These small rings may mark cremation internments at significant places on prehistoric routeways from lowland to upland, as on Carperby Moor and at the head of Lunedale in Upper Teesdale or on the watershed between Dales as at Barningham Moor and at Mudbeck in Arkengarthdale (see previous SWAAG Records).

The ritual and mortuary enclosure characteristic of the Pennine Area is the stone dump ring cairn, some 30 of these slight stone rings being recorded in the Tees/Swale/Ure Uplands. These slight stone dump embanked enclosures are also and most accurately referred to as enclosed cremation cemeteries. as the characteristic burial within these rings are cremations contained within collared or plain urns.

Last Update: 2013-10-13



Record Number 759 >>> Image 1: The Torhouskie Stone Ring and valley of the River Bladnoch.



Record Number 759 >>> Image 2: The western perimeter. All the stones are glacial erratic rounded boulders of local grey granite.



Record Number 759 >>> Image 3: The eastern perimeter.



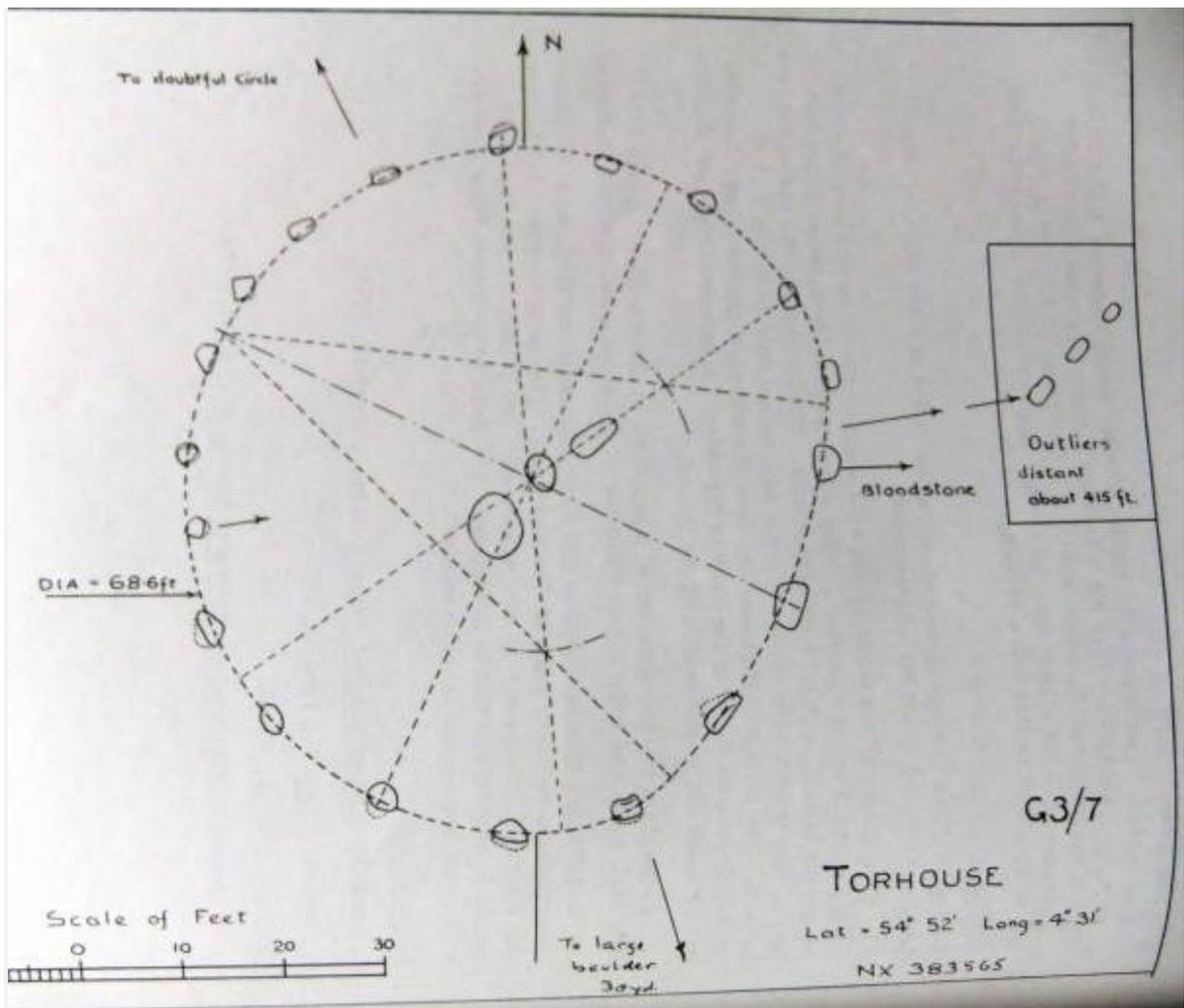
Record Number 759 >>> Image 4: The central three stone setting.



Record Number 759 >>> Image 5: The outlier three stone setting and possible denuded cairn.



Record Number 759 >>> Image 6: The outlier three stone setting and glacial drumlin landscape.



Record Number 759 >>> Image 7: Torhouses Stone Circle. Survey Plan showing geometric construction as an edge flattened circle. Thom A. and Thom A.A. 1980 'Megalithic Rings' B.A.R. British Series 81. pp274,275.

Record Name: Some Galloway Stone Circles 2. Cambret Moor West. Kirkudbright.

SWAAG ID Number: 760

Recorded Date: 2013-10-12 15:50:30

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2013-09-28

Location: Galloway. Kirkudbrightshire. Glenquicken. NX509582, 150mOD

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Altitude: 150m

Geology: Silurian sandstones, shales and grits.

Description: This fine stone ring with centre stone is has been surveyed by A. and A.A.Thom and interpreted as a flattened circle with a diameter of 16.6m. All the stones are glacial erratics of granite and other volcanic rock. The granite centre standing stone is 1.9m high.

Additional Notes: It may be mentioned that the only instance of a flattened circle in nature is the one day old moon.

The frequent occurrence within the comprehensive and very large body of accurately surveyed stone circle plans published by A. and A.A. Thom of this flattened circle plan within the numerous stone circles of the British Isles may indicate that these structures acknowledged a Mood Deity or The White Goddess (Robert Graves, 1948).

A comparative Note.

By comparison with the megalithic rings of Galloway and elsewhere, the few small free-standing stone rings of the eastern Pennine fringe are very poor relations, but this is not to say that the small Pennine rings are insignificant. These small rings may mark cremation internments at significant places on prehistoric routeways from lowland to upland, as on Carperby Moor and at the head of Lunedale in Upper Teesdale or on the watershed between Dales as at Barningham Moor and at Mudbeck in Arkengarthdale (see previous SWAAG Records).

The ritual and mortuary enclosure characteristic of the Pennine Area is the stone dump ring cairn, some 30 of these slight stone rings being recorded in the Tees/Swale/Ure Uplands. These slight stone dump embanked enclosures are also and most accurately referred to as enclosed cremation cemeteries. as the characteristic burial within these rings are cremations contained within collared or plain urns.

Last Update: 2013-10-13



Record Number 760 >>> Image 1: The Cambret Hill Stone Ring and centre stone



Record Number 760 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 760 >>> Image 3: The centre stone and remnant of the internal cairn.

CAMBRET MOOR WEST (Glenquickan North), Kirkcudbrightshire NX509582

(1) A. Thom, G4/12

Class II Survey (1939)

Construction: Type A flattened circle. Diameter 54.3 ft = 19.9 m. Perimeter 61.0 m = 24.4 m. Note the remains of two other sites on a line at 296°.7, but no trace of these remained in 1950.

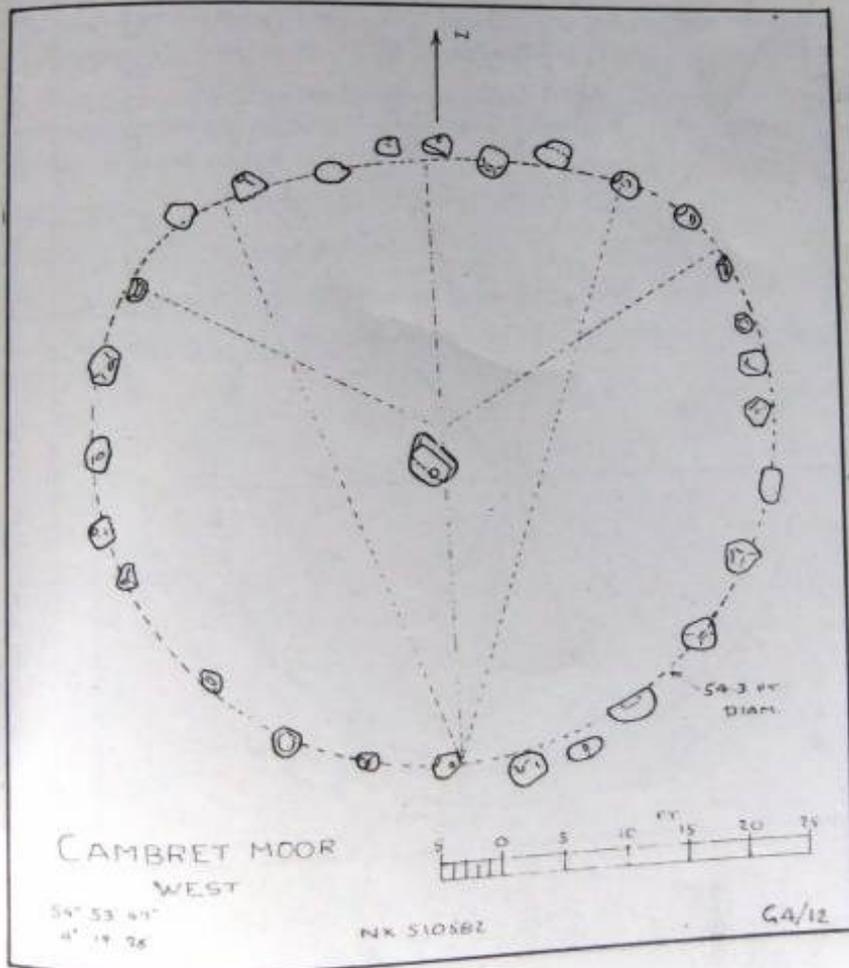
(2) A. Burl (Kirkcudbrigh 7, 8)

This ring stands on a stretch of level grassland just N of Englishman's Burn at a height of 150 m O.D. 1 3/4 miles E of Creetown.

A circle 54 ft 6 ins (16.6 m) across of 29 low, waterworn stones has a tall and thick pillar 6 ft 2 ins (1.9 m) high standing near its centre. Around its base and spread over the interior of the ring is an irregular layer of stones like cobbling. The circle-stones may be graded in height towards the ESE.

Bibliography

F. R. Coles, PSAS 29, 1894-5, 307-9.



Record Number 760 >>> Image 4: Plan of the Cambret Moor Stone ring showing geometric construction as an edge-flattened circle. Thom A. and Thom A.A. 'Megalithic Rings'. British Archaeological Reports 81, 1980. pp284,285.

Record Name: Some Galloway Stone Circles 3. The Cauldside Burn stone circle and associated monument complex

SWAAG ID Number: 761

Recorded Date: 2013-10-13 10:30:30

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2013-09-28

Location: Galloway, Kirkcudbrightshire, Cambret Moor East. (Cauldside Burn) NX529571

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Altitude: 210m

Geology: Glaciated river valley.

Description: This stone circle is located in close proximity with, ie immediately adjacent to a substantial round cairn and ring cairn on the southern side of the Cauldside Burn opposite to the eastern slopes of Cambret Hill. The very fine six turn spiral marking mentioned in SWAAG Record 758 is located on the lower eastern slope of Cambret Hill some 400m to the E on the opposite side of Cauldside Burn. For the context of this spiral and other rock art in Galloway see also SWAAG Record No 758.

The stone circle at Cauldside Burn has been surveyed by Professor Alexander Thom together with his son Dr Archie Thom. Thom A. and Thom A.A 1980. Megalithic Rings, B.A.R.81.

During a full day of field walking in the area of the stone circle, several further prehistoric sites were noticed, namely:

1. Clearance cairnfield with at least 20 stone dump cairns on the southern slope of Cambret Hill uphill of the spiral marked rock. 2. At least three larger well built stone cairns which may be burials in heather moorland east of the stone circle and large round cairn. The largest of these is at NH53243 57173, 225m OD

3. In spite of searching I was unable to locate the fine cup and ring marked rock SW of Cauldside by the Cuttie Burn which is recorded By R.W.B. Morris and located on the 1:50000 OS map.

Additional Notes: The effect of reduced grazing on moorland monument visibility:

This record and the photographs were taken during my second and most recent visit to Cauldside Burn. It was immediately apparent that the stone circle and the ring cairn were obscured by thick moorland vegetation.

The ring cairn and all the smaller stones in the stone circle were practically invisible. Walking across the area was much more difficult than previously.

Alexander Thom devoted 40 years to accurately surveys of all or most of the known stone circles of the British Isles in search for their possible astronomic purposes. His son Archie Thom, Professor of Engineering at the University of Glasgow, also surveyed the then recently recognised stone circles on Barningham Moor and at Mudbeck in Arkengarthdale, in my company during 1979/1980.

Last Update: 2013-10-13



Record Number 761 >>> Image 1: The stone circle and cairn at Cauldside Burn. Only the largest stones are visible ,the smaller stones are obscured in rank vegetation.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 2: The area of the Cauldside Burn Cairn and Monument Complex photographed from Cambret Hill.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 3: The largest stone of the Cauldside Burn Stone Circle and the adjacent Round Cairn



Record Number 761 >>> Image 4: View down towards Cauldside with the largest stone of the Cauldside Burn Stone Circle and the adjacent Round Cairn.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 5: The round cairn.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 6: The round cairn.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 7: Spiral marked rock on the opposing northern side of Cauldside Burn.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 8: The spiral.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 9: The spiral



Record Number 761 >>> Image 10: The ring cairn and central cist obscured by vegetation.



Record Number 761 >>> Image 11: The assumed cist cover slab of the cairn within the ring cairn.

Record Name: Cumbria. Penrith. Long Meg and her Daughters- one of the largest stone circles of the British Isles.

SWAAG ID Number: 762

Recorded Date: 2013-10-13 15:45:42

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2012-04-29

Location: Cumbria. Penrith. 2 1/4 miles N of Langwathby. NY571373

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Geology: Glacial Drift over New Red Sandstone. The 70 large stones of the circle are mostly Shap Granite and Lake District Volcanic erratic boulders. Long Meg herself is an outlier standing stone of red Triassic Sandstone.

Description: This stone circle was visited by SWAAG Members during a three day archaeological visit to the eastern lake district in April 2012. The photographs were taken during this visit. Long Meg (the outlying standing stone) and her Daughters (the boulders of the stone circle) has been surveyed and interpreted as a flattened edge ring which measures 109m*93m overall. John Aubrey reported the existence of two stone cairns within the stone circle, but no trace of these survive today. Reference: Thom A. and Thom A.A.1980. 'Megalithic Rings'. British Archaeological Reports 81. pp42,43.

It is not generally realised that this great stone circle was constructed on the edge of a very large circular ditched (?causewayed) enclosure, only recently identified by aerial photography) which is likely to predate the stone ring and characteristic of enclosures of Earlier Neolithic date. The fallen stones on the western perimeter of the ring may have subsided into the ditch of this enclosure.

The setting of this readily accessible (in State Guardianship) stone circle, with its backdrop of the Pennine escarpment, is magnificent and those not familiar with this monument are recommended to make a visit as soon as they are able.

The south face of the red sandstone Long Meg Standing Stone is decorated with cup and ring marks and with spiral figures together with complicated grooving. See Stan Beckensall 1992. This standing stone may have been quarried from a previously decorated sandstone outcrop.

Dimensions: 109m*93m overall.

Additional Notes: For a description of the Long Meg monument itself and of the monument complex associated with this stone circle and for good detailed drawings of the cup and ring and spiral carvings on the face of the Long Meg standing stone, see Beckensall S.1992. Cumbrian Prehistoric Rock Art. Abbey Press, Hexham ISBN 0 9517590 3 5

Last Update: 2013-10-13



Record Number 762 >>> Image 1: The first view of Long Meg and her Daughters from the access road with ash trees.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 2: Blencathra on the western horizon seen from Long Meg Stone circle



Record Number 762 >>> Image 3: Detail of the stones.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 4: Detail of the stones at the entrance feature with Long Meg herself.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 5: Detail of the stones at the entrance feature with Long Meg herself.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 6: The NW perimeter with fallen stones at the edge of the earlier ditched enclosure.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 7: One of the largest stones, estimated to be in the region of thirty tons in weight.



Record Number 762 >>> Image 8: The stones near the entrance feature with Long Meg.

Record Name: Some Galloway Stone Circles 4. The Twelve Apostles Stone Circle near Dumfries.

SWAAG ID Number: 763

Recorded Date: 2013-10-14 09:43:21

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2013-10-01

Location: Galloway. Dumfries. The Twelve Apostles Stone Circle.NX947794

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Geology: Glacial erratic granite and other boulders of local origin.

Description: The Twelve Apostles Stone Circle is located 2.5 miles NE of Dumfries in pasture close to the Cluden Water River. The stone circle is accessible from the B729 road near the junction with the A74.

Whereas the stone circle is described (e.g. Thom and Thom 1988, pp) as having eleven stones in situ, several large stones of the ring are not earthfast but lie prone on the surface and appear to have been pulled out. There is one fragment of a larger stone and in at least one instance two or three stones lie together as though roughly replaced. In short, the circle seems to have been in part 'rebuilt'.

It has been noted that 'Twelve Apostles' for an eleven stone ring is justified by the removal and destruction of the stone thought to represent Judas.

My view is that the presence of surface boulders grouped together indicates that there were originally many more stones in this damaged ring.

Dimensions: 90m *80m approximately

Additional Notes: This stone circle is comparable in dimensions and probably in concept with Long Meg and her Daughters, near Penrith, (see previous SWAAG Record No 762). The stones of both rings are of similar glacial erratic boulders.

However, Long Meg is probably better preserved and is chronologically and architecturally more complex- having an outlier standing stone (Long Meg herself) which may predate her Daughters, ie the circle, two internal cairns (now long since removed) and an entrance portal feature. Furthermore, Long Meg is an element within an extended contemporary prehistoric landscape complex which included the Mayburgh and King Arthur's Round Table henges, Little Meg cairn circle and most significantly, the large earthwork (causewayed?) enclosure visible on aerial photographs which is immediately adjacent to the Long Meg and her Daughters Stone Ring.

Last Update: 2013-10-14



Record Number 763 >>> Image 1: The Twelve Apostles stone circle from the B729 road. This very large ring can only be photographed from a distance and the image needs a close look to see the stones which are difficult to see in grass pasture.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 2: Detail of the perimeter of the stone circle.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 3: Detail of stones laid on the surface, including a fragment of a larger stone, clearly broken up.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 4: Detail of fallen stone or pulled out.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 5: One of the very large standing stones.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 6: The same stone as last.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 7: Very large standing stone.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 8: Three stones grouped together on the surface. Previously pulled out? The surface holes on the larger volcanic rock are natural and are not cup marks.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 9: Detail of the perimeter of the circle.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 10: Detail of the perimeter of the circle.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 11: Large standing stone



Record Number 763 >>> Image 12: Fallen stone



Record Number 763 >>> Image 13: Detail of perimeter.



Record Number 763 >>> Image 14: The complete 90m diameter ring of stones, difficult to see in grass.

Record Name: SWAAG Walk to Castle Dikes Henge and to Stake Fell via Flout Moor Lane and Thornton Rust Springs

SWAAG ID Number: 774

Recorded Date: 2014-01-24 11:42:37

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2014-01-21

Location: Wensleydale, Aysgarth, from Flout Moor Lane to Thornton Rust Springs and then to Stake Fell.

Civil Parish: Aysgarth

British National Grid: SD 976 870

Geology: Carboniferous Limestones of the Wensleydale Series overlain by Glacial moraines. Flout Moor Springs rise below the Middle Limestone. Thornton Moor Springs rise below strata of the Underset Limestone Series.

Description: This record is of the historic landscapes of Flout Moor, Thornton Rust Springs and of the eastern slopes of Stake Fell seen by a strong group of SWAAG members during a walk on a fine day in January.

Features visited include the very fine and undisturbed Aysgarth Castle Dikes henge monument, the two very large burnt mounds at Flout Moor Springs, the prehistoric undated unenclosed platform settlement and associated field system on Flout Moor, the open cluster of nine burnt mounds on Black Pasture and in the vicinity of the Shooting Hut at Thornton Rust Springs. The Group then walked to visit the smaller of the two unenclosed high level prehistoric round house settlements above Gayle Ing and at Side Well on Stake fell. An, as yet, unrecorded small shieling type settlement of Pre-Conquest or Medieval Character was visited on the way back to the cars.

For Location Maps see Image Nos 6, and brief details of the sites and area visited, see captions to the attached photographic images.

Dimensions: Round trip of approximately six miles.

Additional Notes: The linear morainic ridges and other glacial land forms which contribute to the very fine Upland Wensleydale landscape to the east of the Stake, with Addlebrough Hill and Carperby Moor across the Dale were explained to the Group by John Russell. Lithic scatter sites located and recorded previously, see Laurie 1993 and 2003 (selected lithic finds from the area are on display at the Dales Countryside Museum) together with the two stray lithic finds made during the walk added direct evidence for human activity in this interesting area.

The images include firstly photographs taken during the walk including several contributed by Doug Waugh together with, secondly, a number of photographs taken many years ago to illustrate the great increase in the moorland vegetation following enclosure of the Thornton Rust SSSI and reduction in grazing pressure.

The unpublished Location Maps are copyright Tim Laurie.

References:

Laurie, T.C. 2003 in: T.G. Manby et al. Eds. 'The Archaeology of Yorkshire'. Yorkshire Archaeological Society. Occ.Paper No 3 pp223-253.

Laurie, T.C. 2004 'Burnt mounds in the Yorkshire Dales' in: R.F. White and P.F. Wilson, Eds.'Archaeological Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales.' Yorkshire Archaeological Society. Occ.Paper No 2 pp79-88 and Figure 8.3.

Last Update: 2014-01-25



Record Number 774 >>> Image 1: Castle Dikes Henge. Photo: Doug Waugh



Record Number 774 >>> Image 2: Castle Dikes Henge in winter, TCL previous photograph



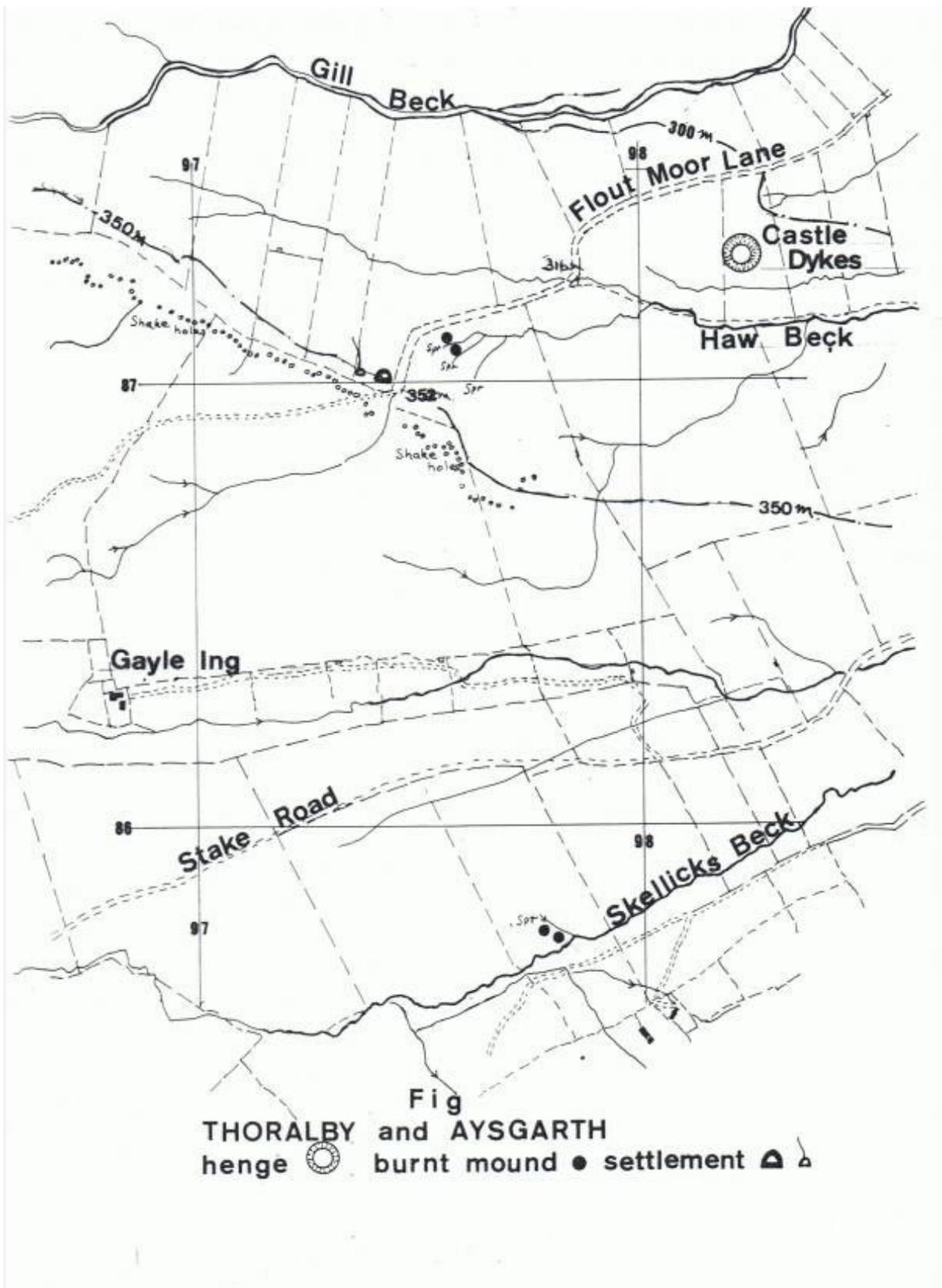
Record Number 774 >>> Image 3: Castle Dikes Henge. A.P. by St Joseph



Record Number 774 >>> Image 4: Castle Dikes Henge with SWAAG members.

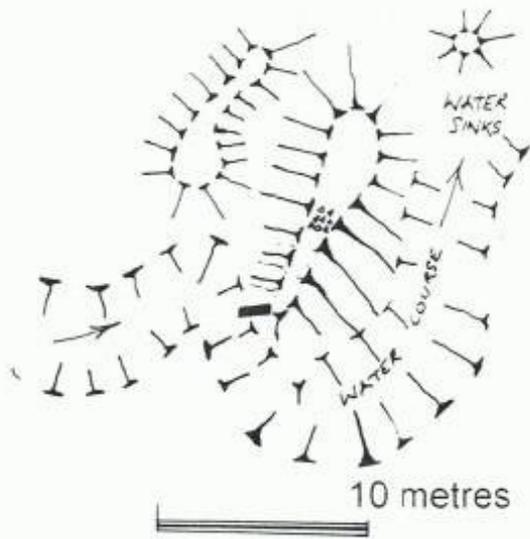


Record Number 774 >>> Image 5: Flout Moor Lane. Ann brings up the rear party.

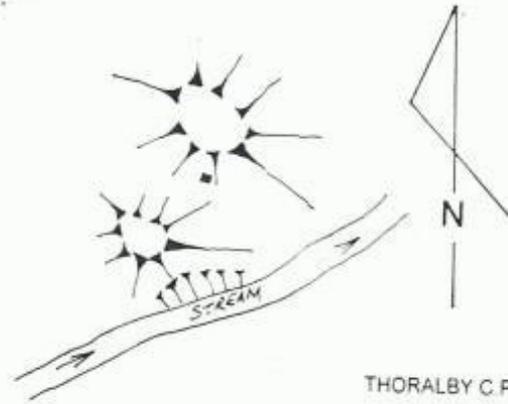


Record Number 774 >>> Image 6: Location Map. Prehistoric sites close to Flout Moor lane.

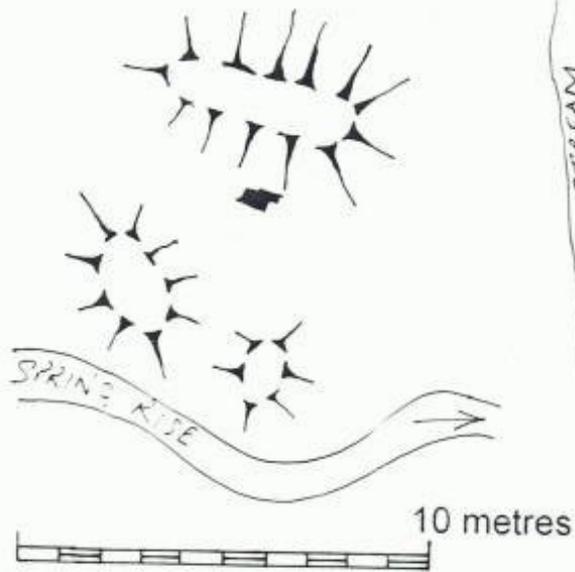
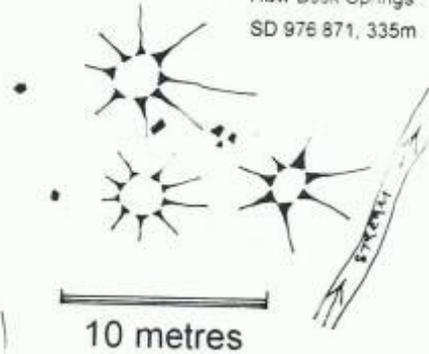
Figure 12 Site plans, burnt mounds.



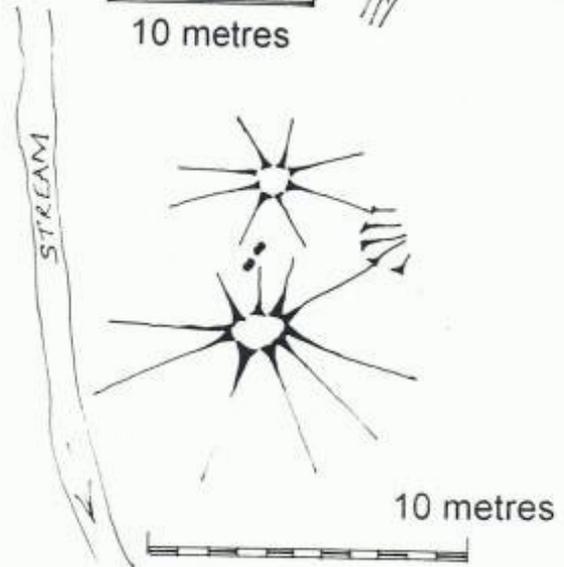
HAWES C.P.
Appersett Site 1 SD 8515 9118, 248m



THORALBY C.P.
Haw Beck Springs 2 Sites
SD 976 871, 335m



BAINBRIDGE C.P.
Countersett Crag



CASTLE BOLTON WITH EAST AND WEST
BOLTON C.P.
East Parks SD 911 879, 400m

Record Number 774 >>> Image 7: Burnt Mounds. Comparative site plans. BMs at Appersett, Thoraby-Flout Moor, Countersett Crag and Castle Bolton: East Parks.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 8: Flout Moor Springs. Burnt Mound Site 1, of two burnt mound sites here.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 9: Thornton Rust Moor. Burnt Mound concealed under thick heather following enclosure of this SSSI Area and reduction in grazing pressure. See below image nos 18-20 for views of this burnt mound before enclosure and rampant growth of heather.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 10: SWAAG search for evidence that there really is a burnt mound below this heather.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 11: Yes there is, here is the evidence! The burnt stone core of the mound, photo Doug Waugh.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 12: Lunch hut, Thornton Rust Moor.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 13: Hut circle, marked by vegetation change from sedge to ling, one of several similar hut circles in the vicinity of the burnt mounds here. Photo Doug Waugh.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 14: SWAAG at Thornton Rust Spring Rise. See below image no 21 for a view of this spring rise with the two burnt mounds clearly visible before enclosure and rampant growth of heather.

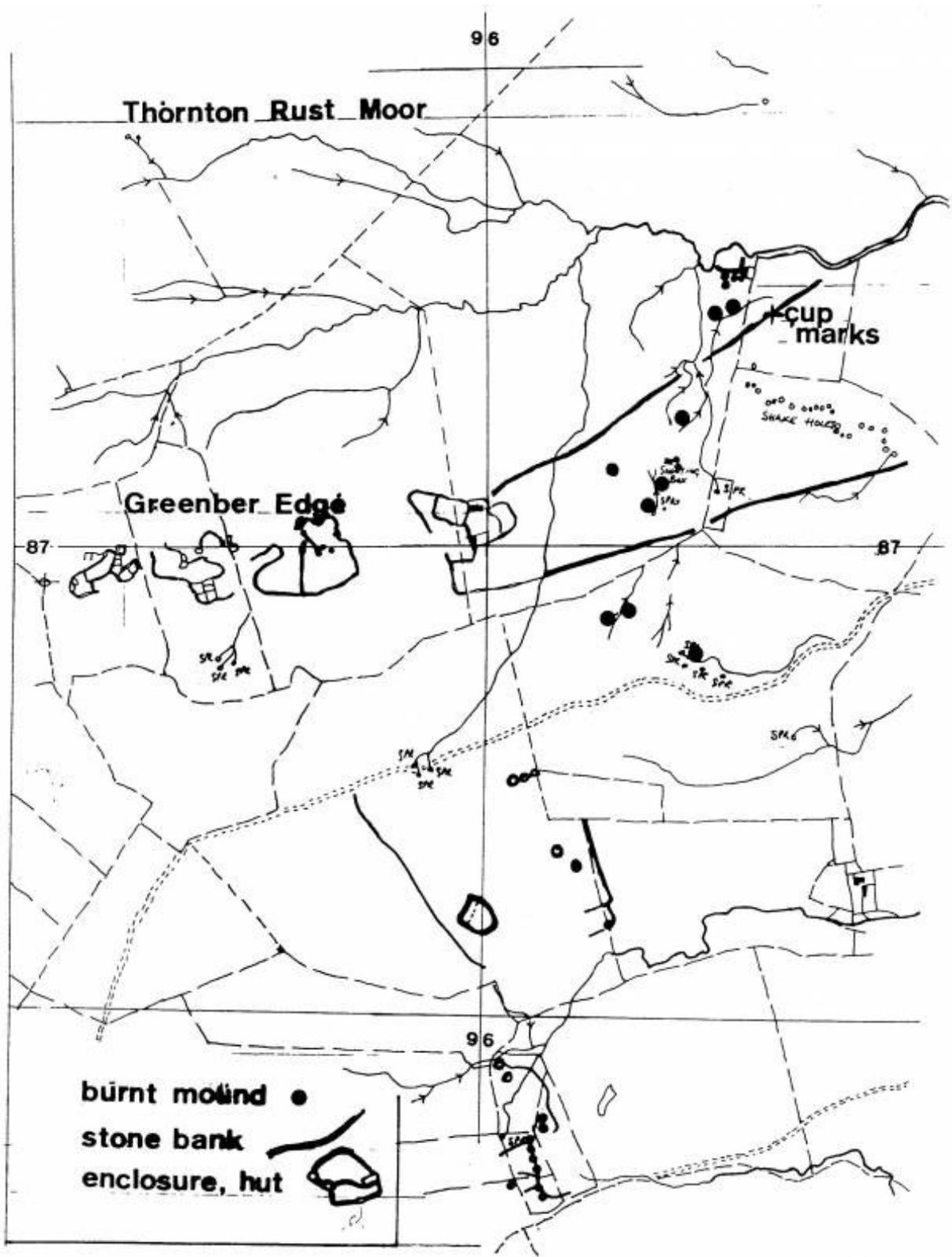


Record Number 774 >>> Image 15: Hugh at burnt mound under thick heather at Thornton Rust Spring

Rise. See below image no 20 for a view of this spring rise with the two burnt mounds clearly visible before enclosure and rampant growth of heather.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 16: Spring stream crossing Black pasture with two burnt mounds.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 17: Location Map Thornton Rust Moor. Nine burnt Mounds at Thornton Rust Springs. Two unenclosed Settlements at Side Well and Gayle Ing Springs.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 18: Burnt mound at Thornton Rust Springs. Photographed before recent enclosure and consequent growth of heather. Compare with Image Nos 9 and 10 above.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 19: As last, earlier field visit.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 20: A second of the nine burnt mounds hat Thornton Rust Moor.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 21: The spring rise above the Shooting hut. Compare with photos 5009 and 5013.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 22: Late Neolithic/early bronze age finds from eroded slope above the Shooting Hut (Musgrove Collection).



Record Number 774 >>> Image 23: Selected finds. Stake Fell Area, for details of the multi period lithic finds from this area see Laurie 2003 figure 65.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 24: Chert core fragment and chert rhomboidal microlith of Later Mesolithic character from area of smaller unenclosed settlement above Gayle Ing. The heavy core fragment shows several flake removal scars, bulb of percussion and extensive pressure retouch to form flake knife. This is of later prehistoric date.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 25: Chert rhomboidal microlith backed on three sides. From the smaller settlement.

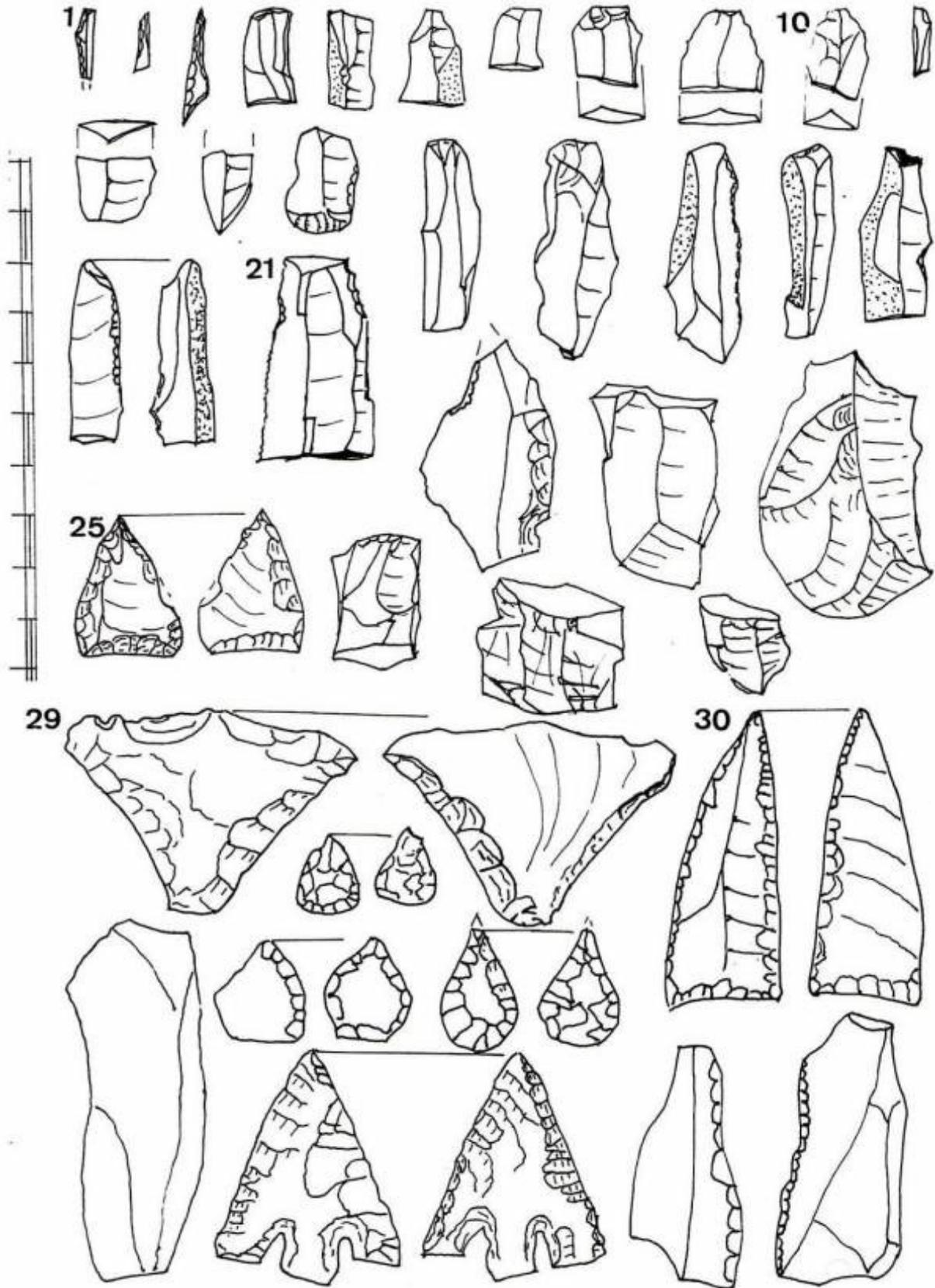


Record Number 774 >>> Image 26: Detail from Location Map, see above image 17, to show detail of the smaller settlement visited by the Group.

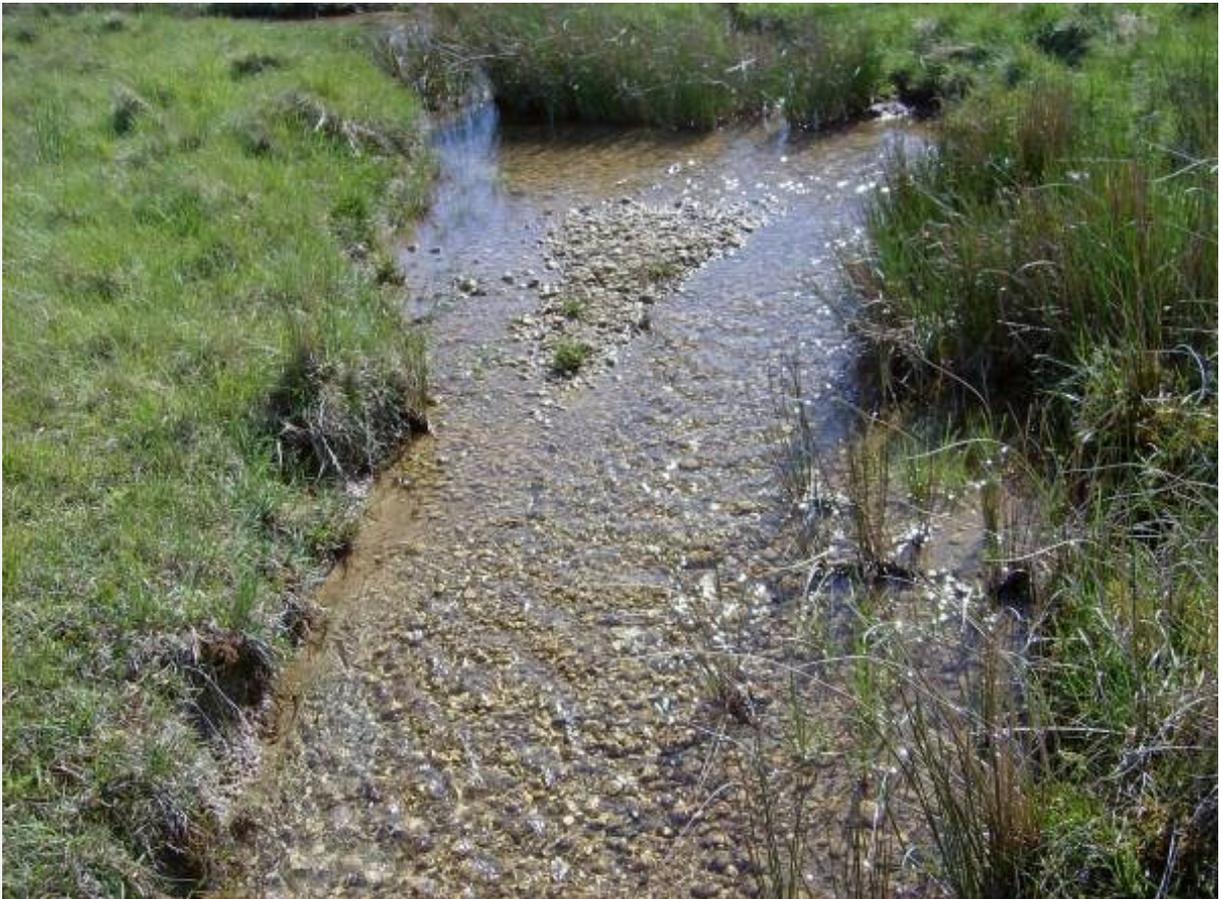


Record Number 774 >>> Image 27: Chert core. From the smaller settlement. Photo Doug Waugh.

Figure 7 Lithic finds from Stake Fell



Record Number 774 >>> Image 28: Lithic finds from Stake Fell Area. For details of the multi period lithic finds from this area see Laurie 2003 figure 65.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 29: Thornton Rust springs. Oncolite rich spring stream.



Record Number 774 >>> Image 30: *Primula farinosa*. Thornton Rust Springs.

Record Name: Historic landscapes of Mid Swaledale visited and seen by SWAAG members during a walk across Ellerton Moor in February 2014

SWAAG ID Number: 776

Recorded Date: 2014-02-08 15:01:25

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2014-02-04

Location: Sharrow Hill, Cogden Heugh and Ellerton Moor

Civil Parish: Ellerton Abbey

British National Grid: SE 060 970

Altitude: 340m

Geology: Limestone, sandstone and shale strata below the Main Limestone. Mineralised faults worked for lead at Black Hill on Ellerton Moor.

Description: Blessed with one of the few fine days during February 2014, a strong and lively group of SWAAG Members walked from Grinton to Sharrow Hill via the Smelt Mill and from thence to Cogden Heugh and Stollerston Beck Head, followed by a traverse of Ellerton Moor below Black Hill and returning by Hags Gill and the unfenced road above Black Hill.

Fine views across the Dale to Reeth through Arkengarthdale to Stainmore and down Dale to Marrick and Downholme were highlights of the walk at all times.

Following a walk across Grinton Moor following the track on Hirst Ridge, a prominent lateral glacial moraine marking the lowest of three pauses in the retreat of the Swaledale Ice to Grinton Smelt Mill, we climbed upwards by the ruined smelt mill flue to the limestone quarry, the 19C lime kilns and the adjacent earlier medieval 'sow kilns' which have produced burnt lime from the exposure of the Main Limestone on Sharrow Hill for the improvement of the lower pastures of Cogden since medieval time. The short walk across Cogden Heugh revealed traces of Bronze Age clearance cairns and banks with the remains of a probable burial cairn at the summit, now the site of a fenced memorial to .

Additional Notes: This is an informal photographic record of a good day on the higher slopes on the southern side of Swaledale with fine views and a landscape full of geological, archaeological and mining interest.

Image Nos 1 to 7 show some of the views across Swaledale. Perhaps the most spectacular of these is the distant view through Arkengarthdale of the snows of Mickle Fell some 30 miles to the NW across Stainmore. This view reinforces the fact the lowest route for the earliest travellers on foot across the Pennines from the Vale of Mowbray, and the South and East - to The Vale of Eden and to Galloway and to Ireland was on the line of the Badger Way which was a series of braided tracks, which lead to Bowes, to Stainmore and to the Eden Valley.

The remainder of the photographic images show details of the archaeological features to be seen on Ellerton Moor.

Last Update: 2014-02-09



Record Number 776 >>> Image 1: The group admiring the view through Arkengarthdale from the probable summit cairn at Cogden Heugh



Record Number 776 >>> Image 2: The view eastward through the glacially enlarged valley of Swaledale from Ellerton Moor Edge to Downholme Moor. John reconstructs the evidence for final retreat of the Swaledale Ice.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 3: Lead mine shaft mound and remains of quarried prehistoric stone cairn (foreground.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 4: Lead mine shaft mound at Black Hill, near Hags Gill Bridge on Ellerton Moor.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 5: View from Black Hill to Fremington Edge



Record Number 776 >>> Image 6: Reeth in winter sun and beyond to Booze Moor from Black Hill.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 7: View from Robin's Cross through Arkengarthdale to the distant snows on Mickle Fell.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 8: Moorland vegetation on Hirst Ridge



Record Number 776 >>> Image 9: Onward and upward!



Record Number 776 >>> Image 10: The climb up to the limekilns on Sharrow Hill by Grinton Smelt Mill Flue



Record Number 776 >>> Image 11: Lime kilns and quarry on Sharrow Hill



Record Number 776 >>> Image 12: The group examine one of six early limestone burning kilns or 'Sow Kilns' on Sharrow Hill. Lime from these kilns would have improved the pastures of Cogden for centuries.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 13: One of the Sow Kilns.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 14: I think I know what this is, I think.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 15: Fuel for the early Sow Kilns. Part burnt coal from the Preston Collieries.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 16: This is the first of the Burnt Mounds to have been recognised. In marsh near Stollerston Beck. Early photo.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 17: The Group at the largest of the Burnt Mounds here.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 18: The largest burnt mound below Black Hill, detail.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 19: The Ellerton Moor peat infilled ice margin channel. The radio carbon dated pollen diagram commissioned by the Swaledale Ancient Land Boundaries Project from this location demonstrated that Calluna (heather or ling) became dominant as late as 200-400AD. Before this and throughout the prehistoric Iron Age the landscape was very different of managed grassland with hazel scrub on steep limestone and upland birch/oak on the chert strata of the high plateau.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 20: The field system extends from Hags Gill to Stollerston Gill and from the limit of present day walled pastures to the upper slopes of Black Hill. Two field boundaries are aligned on the standing stone visible in mid distance.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 21: The standing stone with adjacent field boundaries.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 22: The standing stone showing stone packing or possible structure. This stone, large for the area, predates the field system and may have been set up to mark a grave. Photo Doug Waugh.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 23: Lunch below the Black Hill Lead Mine Level



Record Number 776 >>> Image 24: Entrance to the Black Hill Lead Mine Level



Record Number 776 >>> Image 25: Entrance to the Black Hill Lead Mine Level. Distracted by low flying aircraft.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 26: View across Blaeberry Hill and Stollerston Gill Head from Black Hill.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 27: Trace fossil on block of Richmond Chert, made by an unknown lug worm or similar invertebrate some 300million years ago



Record Number 776 >>> Image 28: The Ellerton Moor radiocarbon dated pollen report was based on a column of peat taken from the peat infilled channel in the foreground.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 29: Small stone dump ring bank on Black Hill. This feature is interpreted as a Ring Cairn or Enclosed Cremation Cemetary, the most usual funerary monument in this area of the Early to Mid Bronze Age. First recognised and recorded by Ric Carter.



Record Number 776 >>> Image 30: Fell End in low winter sun seen from the way back to the cars.

Record Name: Standing stone

SWAAG ID Number: 821

Recorded Date: 2014-07-27 10:31:29

Recorded by: Doug Waugh

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2014-07-24

Location: On the plateau of Ellerton Moor

Civil Parish: Ellerton Abbey

British National Grid: SE 06098 96729

Altitude: 330m

Description: A large standing stone, with small stones at the base and possible linked to a nearby enclosure and to further smaller standing stones.

This stone stands within the unsurveyed coaxial field system and bronze age cairnfield and settlement of Ellerton Moor. It is hoped that a survey of the complex prehistoric landscape on Ellerton Moor will be done and that may show this stone predates the coaxial field system appearing to be aligned on it.

Dimensions: 1m 25cm x 1m x 70cm.

SWAAG Site: Ellerton Moor

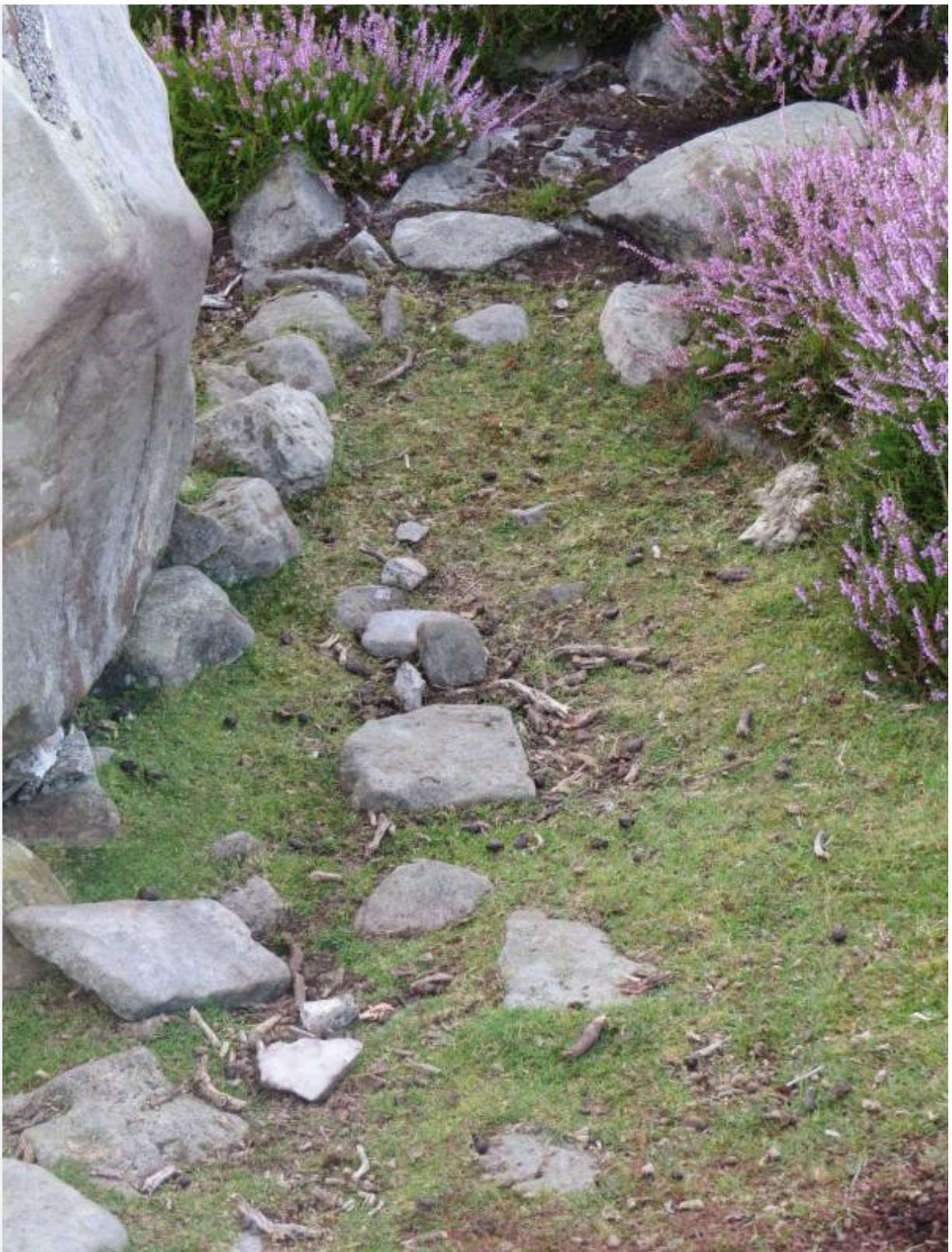
Last Update: 2014-09-15



Record Number 821 >>> Image 1: Looking E showing the stone, the plinth of small stones and the lack of heather close to the standing stone.



Record Number 821 >>> Image 2: This picture - looking S - is to show the link of stones between the standing stone and the large enclosure whose NE corner is 4mtrs from the stone in a SW direction and about 1mtr higher than the ground around the stone. Unfortunately much of the link is hidden beneath the heather, but enough can be glimpsed to understand the situation. See record 822 for details of the enclosure itself.



Record Number 821 >>> Image 3: The area to the W of the standing stone showing a depressed area with lines of small stones very evident on the east and south, less so the west and non-existent to the north.



Record Number 821 >>> Image 4: Looking SW towards the large stone, showing three stones prior to it. Could they be connected?

Record Name: SWAAG in Eden April 2014. Return to Long Meg and a ray of moonshine on some great stone circles.

SWAAG ID Number: 847

Recorded Date: 2015-01-13 15:35:53

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2012-04-00

Location: Various. The Vale of Eden

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid:

Geology: Glacial erratic boulders over drift.

Description: At the beginning of the New Year, it is thought appropriate to remind ourselves of one of the highlights of the 2012 visit by SWAAG members to see spectacular archaeological landscapes of the Vale of Eden and eastern fringes of the Lake District . In so doing we shall cast a faint ray of moonshine on a possible purpose and of the construction of a number of great stone circles.

Dimensions: See photos.

Additional Notes: Theodolite surveys of all known stone circles throughout the British Isles were undertaken by Alexander Thom and his son Archie Thom, both very distinguished Academics in Engineering Science, with the main objective of demonstrating the astronomical significance of their construction. Whether this objective was achieved has been the subject of very considerable discussion and I do not intend to add to this except to say that the theodolite surveys were completed to a very high degree of accuracy by Engineers of high repute.

Following the surveys and drawing of the site plans, each stone ring was analysed to determine the geometric shape of each stone ring and to look for possible astronomic alignments within the stone settings.

The results of this work have been summarised in two publications, namely:

A. & A.S. Thom 1980. 'Megalithic Rings.' British Archaeological reports British Series 81.

Aubrey Burl 1976. 'The Stone Circles of the British Isles.' Yale.

One conclusion which may have hitherto been overlooked in the literature and which may fairly be considered from the analyses of the shapes of the stone rings is the presence of a significant number of stone rings which have one flattened edge. See the examples from A. and A.s. Thom 1980 attached below as photo images nos 7,8 and 9.

This flattened circle exists ONLY in Nature as the face of the Gibbous Moon, at the waxing gibbous and waning gibbous quarters. The flattened circular form of Long Meg and other Stone Rings throughout Britain is exactly similar to the shape of the Moon on the days before and after Full Moon. This suggests the question: 'Were our Prehistoric Ancestors constructing the stone rings to reflect the unique form of the waxing and waning moon?' If so the construction of these rings could have been to honour the Moon Goddess and at the same time construct practical astronomic observatories to mark the seasons.

Sceptical observers will say that the geometry reflects the inability of any primitive labour force to lay out or work to a perfect circle. Individual stones creep down slope through time. Stone rings of perfect circular form are certainly the exception not the rule. Egg shaped and oval shaped rings are usual for the smaller stone rings.

See <http://www.calendar-uk.co.uk/lunar-calendar/>

Last Update: 2015-01-19



Record Number 847 >>> Image 1: Vale of Eden. Blencathra seen from within Long Meg and Her Daughters.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 2: Long Meg and the entrance feature to Her Daughters, the great stone ring.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 3: Long Meg and her uncountable daughters, western perimeter of the ring.



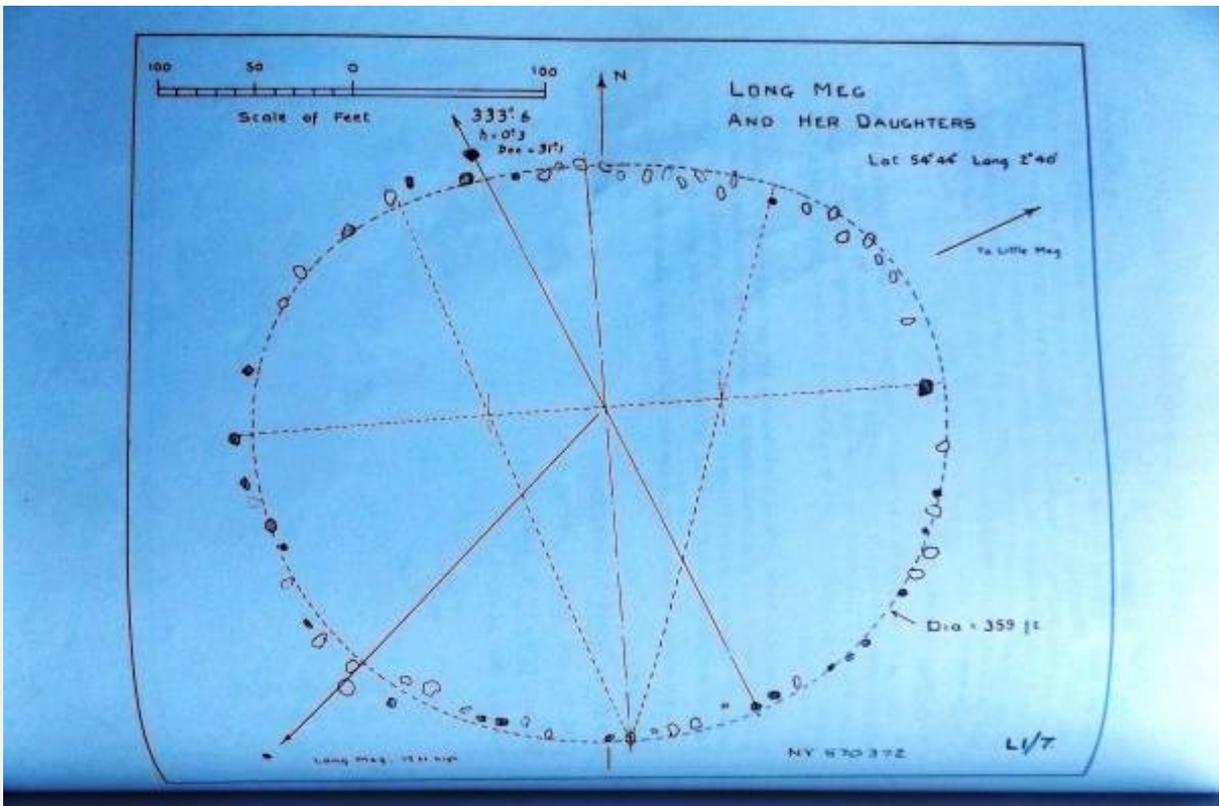
Record Number 847 >>> Image 4: Counting the stones- a hopeless task.



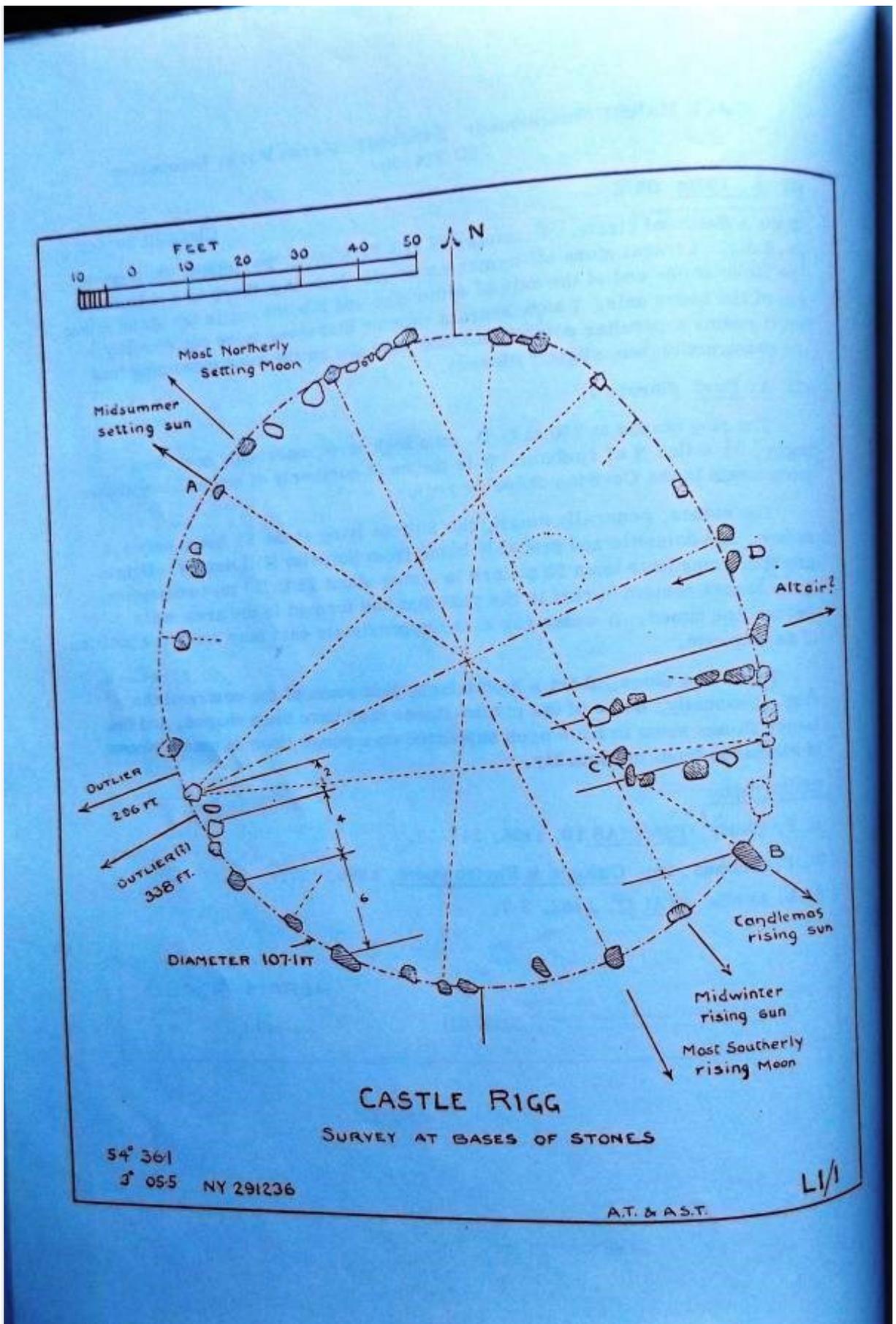
Record Number 847 >>> Image 5: One of the very large stones all of which are glacial erratic boulders, except for Long Meg herself who is a slab of Triassic Sandstone from the cliffs of the River Eden.



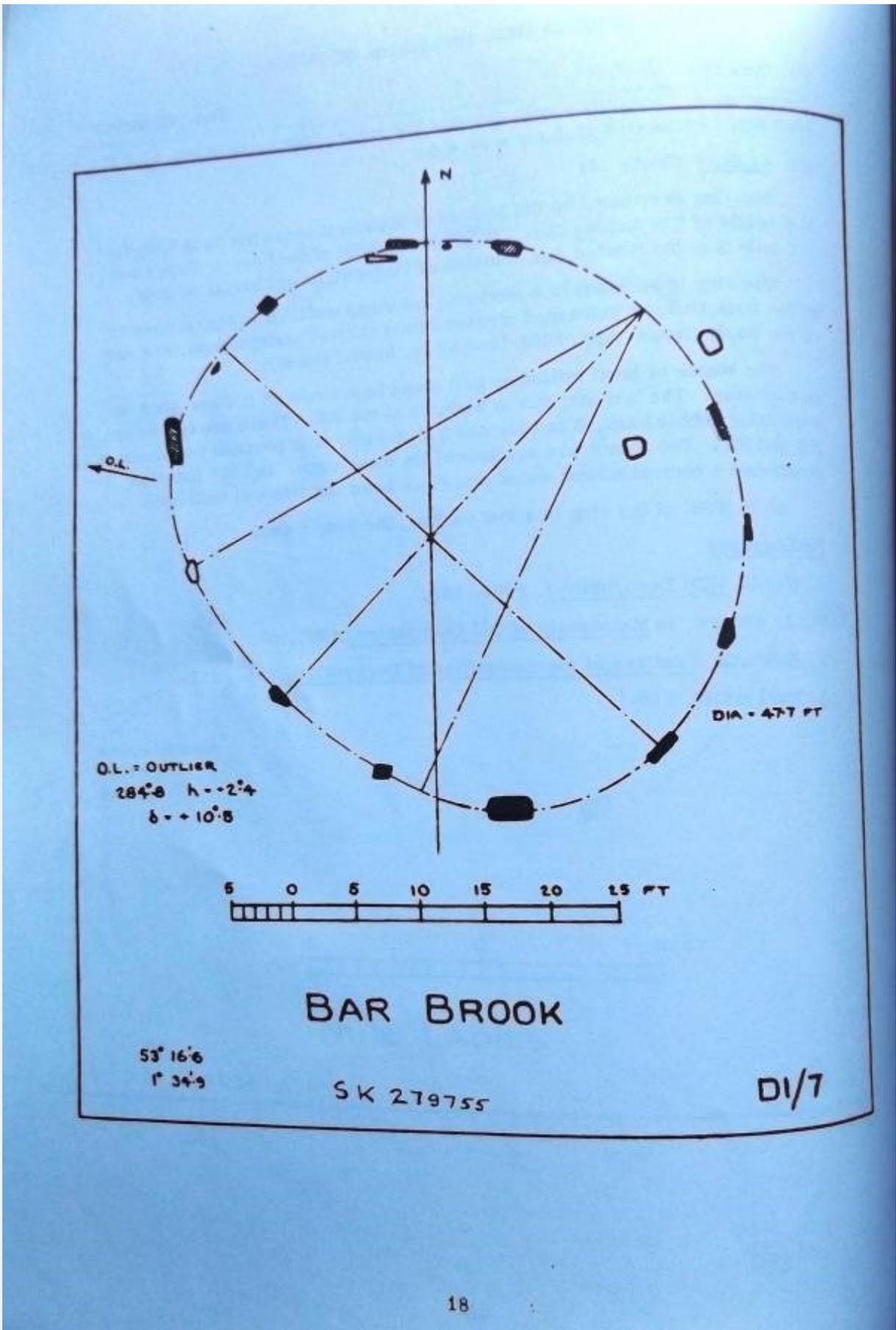
Record Number 847 >>> Image 6: The Great Stone Ring seen from two fine old ash trees by the farm road.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 7: Long Meg and her Daughters. A. & A.S. Thom 1980. 'Megalithic Rings.' British Archaeological Reports British Series 81. Figure L1/7 pp42,43.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 8: Castle Rigg, Keswick. Stone Circle
 A. & A.S. Thom 1980. 'Megalithic Rings.' British Archaeological Reports British Series 81. Figure L1/1
 pp28,29.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 9: Barbrook, Derbyshire.
 A. & A.S. Thom 1980. 'Megalithic Rings.' British Archaeological Reports British Series 81. Figure D1/7
 pp18/19.



Record Number 847 >>> Image 10: The Moon Gibbous Waxing Phase.

Record Name: Carperby Moor. A SWAAG walk to visit Prehistoric and Mining Landscapes on Oxclose and on moorland centred at Thackthwaite Beck Springs and cave

SWAAG ID Number: 852

Recorded Date: 2015-03-11 16:39:44

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2015-03-05

Location: Circular SWAAG walk to Oxclose below Ivy Scar and across moorland above Thackthwaite Beck Springs and collapsed Cave

Civil Parish: Carperby Cum Thoresby

British National Grid:

Altitude: 395m

Geology: Glacial drift over The Main Limestone.

Description: This is a short photographic record of a walk undertaken by a small group of weather hardened SWAAG Members on a fine but very windy day in early March to visit rich archaeological and mining landscapes on Oxclose and on Carperby Moor. The walk was reduced to take account of the gusting to gale force north-west wind but we managed, as planned to reach and lunch in the limited shelter of a ruined wall close above Thackthwaite Beck Spring and collapsed Cave, then to visit the standing stone circle on moorland above the cave. The walk included visits to the Carperby Stone Quarry, to the early field system and embanked stone rings on Oxclose, the extensive and complex mining landscape of the Ivy Scar Mine and the Carperby Basin, early prehistoric occupation sites, the stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck and several stone built settlements of different periods. For details of the geology and mining remains of the Carperby Basin, see: K.C.Dunham and A.A. Wilson, 1985. B.G.S. 'Geology of the North Pennine Orefield' Vol. 2 Stainmore to Craven. For details of archaeological landscape features visited, see the account and map of the survey of prehistoric landscape of Carperby Moor in the Publications Section of this website (Laurie, T.C. 2003). For the distribution of prehistoric sites on Carperby Moor and eastward across West and East Bolton Parks, see the attached map, Image No below. Details of many of the archaeological sites on Carperby Moor and of the lithic finds that were made during this walk will be the subject of further separate detailed SWAAG Records.

Additional Notes: The circular heather covered cairn located at the head of the defile below Wegber Scar and some 400m east of the stone circle. This location at a pass through the hills and close to a stone ring is characteristic of similar burial mounds, eg the cup marked cairn and stone ring above Osmond's Gill on Barningham Moor.

Last Update: 2015-03-14



Record Number 852 >>> Image 1: The road to the Moor with a fine ash tree.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 2: Limestone slab at base of field wall showing surface with Late Carboniferous bivalve fossils (*Gigantoproductus giganteus*)



Record Number 852 >>> Image 3: The Carperby Stone Mine, one section of the interior cavern where the great stone slabs which were the product of this mine had been removed showing self supporting overhead strata with minimal supporting pillars. A tribute to hard work and the days long gone when men were real men.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 4: Oxclose Pasture from Ivy Scar with Penhill in the distance. Early undated field boundary and tangential circular embanked just visible.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 5: 6102 Swaag define the smaller and eastern of two stone embanked rings. This ringwork is attached to a tangential field bank may have enclosed a timber round house.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 6: The Oxclose embanked stone circle and central cairn.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 7: Large burnt mound. Oxclose Pastures. Photo: previous SWAAG Visit.



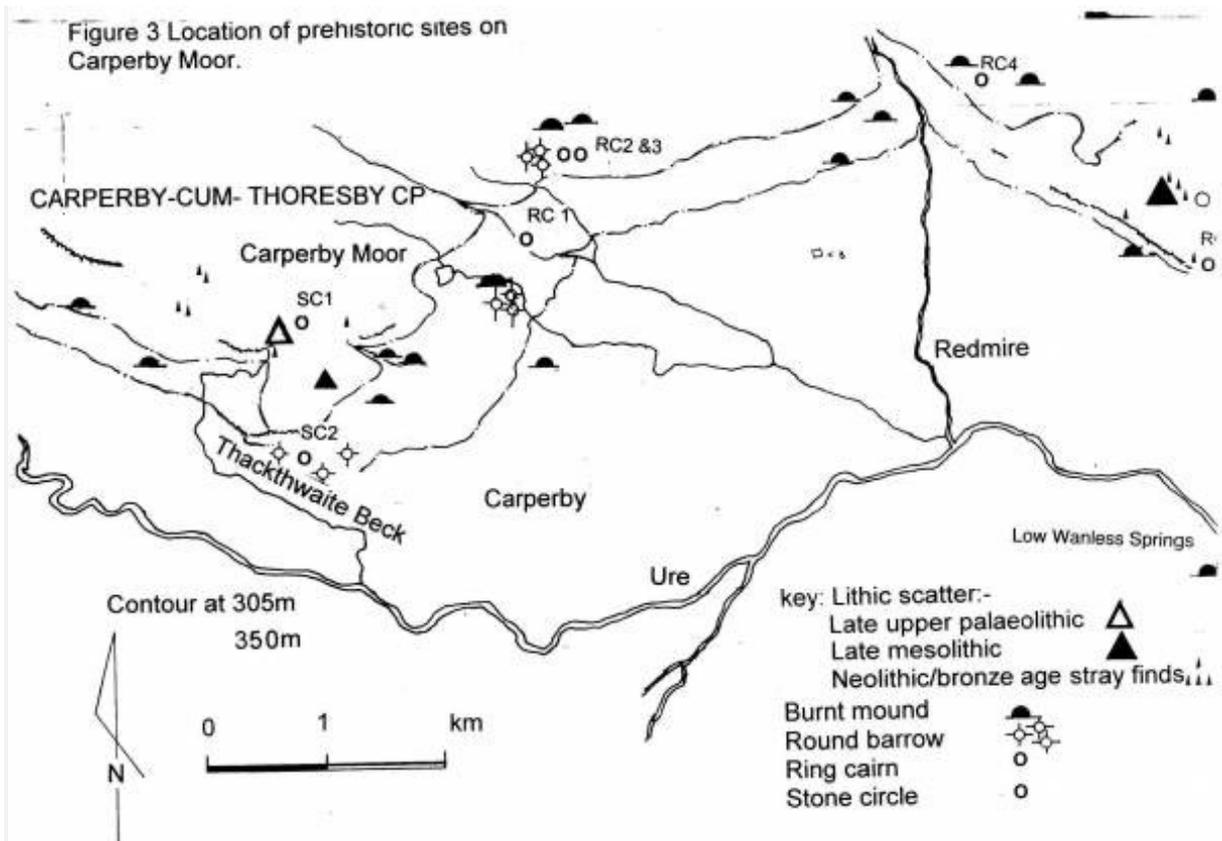
Record Number 852 >>> Image 8: The Ivy Scar lead mine. Note the strata in the Scar dips toward the Carperby depression.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 9: The Ivy Scar lead mine waste reworked for fluorite and baryte.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 10: Industrial remnant from the Baryte extraction operation. Hoist drive case.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 11: Prehistoric sites on Carperby Moor. Location of sites recorded previously. T.C. Laurie, 2003. In: The Archaeology of Yorkshire. An assessment at the beginning of the 21st century. Yorkshire Arch. Soc. Occasional Paper No 3 pp223-253 and Figure 61.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 12: Lead mine spoil heap in the Carperby Basin.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 13: Water leat leading to the Oxclose Mine from Thackthwaite beck.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 14: SWAAG on the march with a tail wind.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 15: Thackthwaite Beck Spring and collapsed cave.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 16: SWAAG pause, but lunch awaits at the Blue Scar Caf   (No blue bells here today, come back and look for them in May.)



Record Number 852 >>> Image 17: SWAAG arrive at the Stone Circle. Five standing stones just visible above the heather.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 18: Hugh has seen a peregrine, very high above the Stone Ring. The archaeology is forgotten.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 19: View westward to upper Wensleydale from the stone ring



Record Number 852 >>> Image 20: Locker Tarn in winter



Record Number 852 >>> Image 21: Locker Tarn in sunshine



Record Number 852 >>> Image 22: Limestone scar, Carperby Moor



Record Number 852 >>> Image 23: Enclosures and hut circles below Ivy Scar



Record Number 852 >>> Image 24: Later prehistoric arrowpoints. Stray finds from Carperby Moor. The Wensleydale Museum, Hawes.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 25: Carperby Moor. Recent lithic finds from two locations. The affinities of these lithic finds will be the subject of separate SWAAG Records.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 26: Early settlement enclosures below Wegber.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 27: Wegber Scar, small building related to the stone quarries.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 28: Burnt mound, obscured by heather near stream below Wegber. One of two here.



Record Number 852 >>> Image 29: Small circular cairn under heather, located at the head of the defile below Wegber Scar and some 400m east of the stone circle. This location at a pass through the hills and close to a stone ring is characteristic of similar burial mounds, eg above Osmonnd's Gill on Barningham Moor.

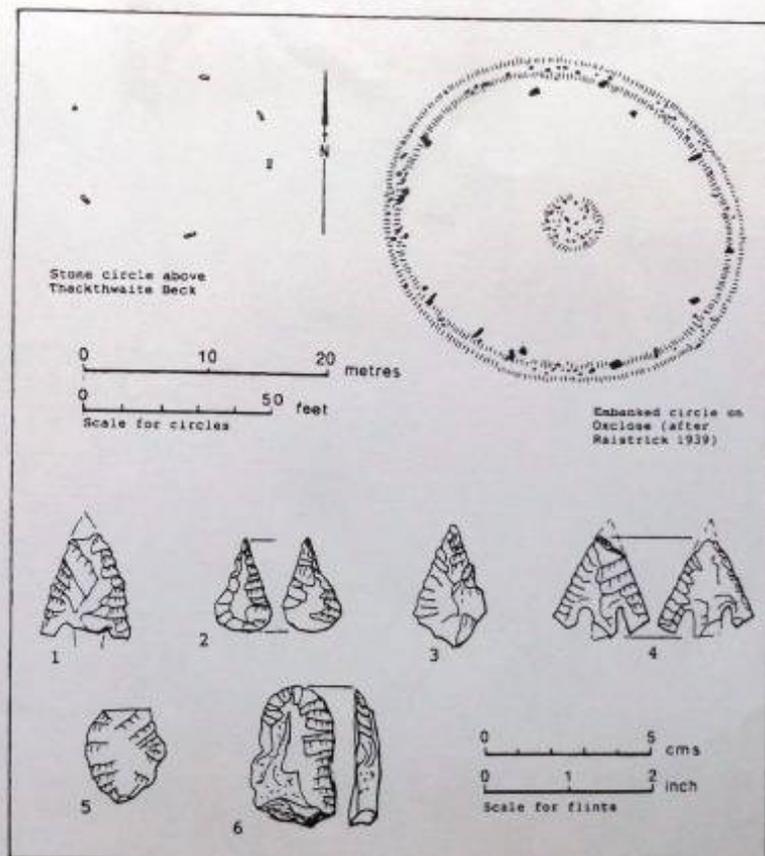


Figure 73: Stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck, embanked circle on Oxclose (after Raistrick 1939) and stray lithic finds from Carperby Moor (1-6)

Record Number 852 >>> Image 30: Stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck, initial survey by Tim Laurie and Robin Minnitt, embanked stone circle on Oxclose (After Raistrick 1939) and stray lithic finds from Carperby Moor.(Laurie, T.C. 2003, Figure 73).

Record Name: The Lune Head Stone Ring, remains of

SWAAG ID Number: 978

Recorded Date: 2017-02-22 17:40:26

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Standing Stones / Circles

Record Type: Archaeology

Record Date: 2017-02-16

Location: Upper Teesdale. Mickleton CP. Lune Head. On south side of the B6276 road from Brough to Middleton in Teesdale.

Civil Parish: Lunedale

British National Grid: NY 85049 20410

Altitude: 444m

Geology: On limestone pavement below eroded blanket peat at the outcrop of the Main Limestone. This area has been extensively worked for lead.

Description: The remains of this small stone ring are located just below the summit of the pass through Lune Dale from Mickleton to Brough. This small stone ring is false crested just below the pass so as to overlook and in turn be visible from the area of known prehistoric settlements at the junction of Lunedale with Teesdale centred at Kirk Carrion.

Kirk Carrion, now a landmark copse of trees, see photo image no was the site of a Bronze Age Round cairn which was completely quarried out to provide stone for the 18/19C stone walled enclosed pastures. The eastern half of this stone ring survives today as a complete semi circle of small earth fast boulders 11.0m diameter overall together with one or two similar but larger boulders on the western perimeter. A large standing stone located at NY85138 20428 is considered to be an outlier to this stone ring.

The presence of other smaller boulders indicates that this stone ring may be more accurately described as the remains of a ring cairn.

Either way this ring almost certainly marks the location of cremation burials and could also be described as an enclosed cremation cemetery characteristic of the early to middle Bronze Age.

Dimensions: 11.0m diameter overall

Additional Notes: This stone ring is set in very wild surroundings below the wilderness of Mickle Fell.

The views from the ring in Winter are forbidding but in Spring are exhilarating. The area has been extensively worked for lead.

The Kirk Carrion Cairn will be the subject of a following Database Record.

Last Update: 2017-02-22



Record Number 978 >>> Image 1: The Lune Head stone ring and view ENE down through Lune Dale



Record Number 978 >>> Image 2: The Lune Head stone ring and view ENE. The outlier stone is visible in the middle distance.



Record Number 978 >>> Image 3: The Lune Head stone ring and view northward towards the wilderness of Mickle Fell.



Record Number 978 >>> Image 4: View over the outlier ENE towards Kirk Carrion



Record Number 978 >>> Image 5: View over the outlier WSW towards the stone ring



Record Number 978 >>> Image 6: View SW from the stone ring towards the wilderness of Little Fell



Record Number 978 >>> Image 7: The site of the destroyed Kirk Carrion Bronze Age round cairn is now marked by a copse of trees. Kirk Carrion is a prominent landmark clearly visible from all parts of Teesdale.