

Record Name: Fell End Scar. Yews with juniper etc on Limestone Scar at 430m

SWAAG ID Number: 123

Recorded Date: 2011-02-06 16:32:20

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2011-02-06

Location: Fremington Edge. Fell End Scar.

Civil Parish: Reeth

British National Grid: NZ 0247 0228

Altitude: 430m

Geology: Sheer cliff formed by the Main Limestone with chert strata over. Scree slope and kame terrace below.

Description: Very large and ancient yews on highly exposed west facing limestone scar and at top of the scree slope below with single juniper, rowan and hawthorn.

The solitary gooseberry bush here may be the highest record for this species in Britain, the previous highest record for gooseberry (*Ribes uva-crispa*) was on Ingleborough at 380m. Ref: Pearmain, D. A. and Corner, R.W.M. 2003. Altitudinal Limits of British and Irish Vascular Plants. BSBI.

Dimensions: N/A

Species: Juniper and Gooseberry

Scientific Name: *Juniperus communis* and *Ribes uva-crispa*

Tree Site: 181

Additional Notes: The largest of the Yews, The Main Yew, a female, see photos, grows at the top of the scree. This fine yew measures 7.1m at the base and has a total of nine stems (trunks) which meet the base of the tree below the level of the scree.

Several of the yews on the face of the cliff are also very large and ancient.

A total of nine ring ouzels have been seen to be feeding on the berries of these yews during the autumn.

Last Update: 2014-02-12

Tree Site ID: 181

Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 123 >>> Image 1: Fell end Scar. Limestone with yew, juniper and blue sky.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 2: Fell End Scar. From the upper kame terrace east of the Hindrake Vein.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 4: The Main Yew. View eastward.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 5: The Main Yew with small elder. Limestone cliff with chert strata over.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 6: The Main Yew. Detail.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 7: Yew at top edge of limestone cliff, with juniper on face of Scar.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 8: Juniper. Single bush on face of cliff with multistemmed yew at top of cliff.



Record Number 123 >>> Image 9: The Fell End Gooseberry. Highest record in Britain for gooseberry (*Ribes uva-crispa*).



Record Number 123 >>> Image 10: Young yew on face of the cliff. The next generation.

Record Name: Large Leafed Lime in Swaledale

SWAAG ID Number: 157

Recorded Date: 2011-03-13 13:53:19

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Private

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Civil Parish: Richmond

British National Grid:

Geology: Underset Limestone

Description: This tree is the first record of Large Leafed Lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*) in Swaledale. Large leafed lime, *T.platyphyllos* in Swaledale is at the southern limit of the known range of this tree in Britain.

Last Update: 2011-11-04

Tree Site ID: 173

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 157 >>> Image 1:

Record Name: Applegarth, Deepdale Lower Scar. Yew on edge of Scar.

SWAAG ID Number: 170

Recorded Date: 2011-03-26 18:37:30

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2010-10-16

Location: Richmond, Applegarth, Deepdale Lower Scar

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NZ 1291 0196

Altitude: 275m

Geology: The Main Limestone.

Description: Stunted female yew at the top edge of Deepdale Lower Scar which is the limestone cliff on the eastern side of Deepdale, at the junction between Deepdale and Whitcliffe Scar. This Scar supports a fine population of yews, together with ash, hazel, rowan, blackthorn, hawthorn. The yews in particular are of interest in that they are predominately female, at one count of 22 yews no less than 19 were female, one male and two inaccessible. This prompts the question whether these trees are clones.

Dimensions: See photos

Additional Notes: This beautiful, small but ancient yew is characteristic of the yew trees of Swaledale which grow in the most exposed situation- at the top edge of westerly facing limestone cliffs or Scars. These trees grow extremely slowly, so slow in periods of cold years, that the tree rings are so narrow that they cannot be separated one from another with the naked eye.

Last Update: 2011-11-04

Tree Site ID: 168

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 170 >>> Image 1: Deepdale Lower Scar. Stunted female yew at top edge of the cliff.



Record Number 170 >>> Image 2: Deepdale Lower Scar. Stunted female yew at top edge of the cliff.  
Detail



Record Number 170 >>> Image 3: Deepdale Lower Scar. Stunted female yew at top edge of the cliff.  
detail.



Record Number 170 >>> Image 4: Deepdale Lower Scar. Stunted female yew at top edge of the cliff. detail.

Record Name: Cliff whitebeam, *Sorbus rupicola*

SWAAG ID Number: 197

Recorded Date: 2011-05-18 15:54:09

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 2011-05-16

Location: White Scar

Civil Parish: Downholme

British National Grid: #SE 115 992

Altitude: 220m

Geology: Sheer cliff formed by the Main Limestone.

Description: Two shrubs at top edge of sheer cliff. Inaccessible, but visible from Downholme Bridge only.

Do not attempt to approach the edge of this cliff!

Leaves collected at base of cliff.

If confirmed, possibly the first and only record of this species in Swaledale.

Last Update: 2011-11-04

Tree Site ID: 224

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 197 >>> Image 1: White Scar. The distinctive foliage of two whitebeams can be seen at the top of the cliff.



Record Number 197 >>> Image 2: White Scar. The Whitebeams grow at the top of this cliff.



Record Number 197 >>> Image 3: White Scar. Leaves of Whitebeam with the snail *Cepaea nemoralis*.

Record Name: Ancient Yew at Clapgate Bank Scar

SWAAG ID Number: 288

Recorded Date: 2011-10-30 12:00:38

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Private

Record Date: 2011-10-28

Location: Clapgate Bank Scar

Civil Parish: Marske

British National Grid: NZ 1200 0230

Altitude: 250m

Geology: Main Limestone cliff at springhead of incutting stream.

Description: Isolated multistem yew on face of limestone cliff estimated to be 5m-6m girth.

The only other trees on this cliff are rowans and a single ash tree.

Dimensions: 5-6m girth estimated

Species: Yew

Scientific Name: *Taxus baccata*

Common Notable Species: Ash, rowan only trees here.

Tree Stems/Girth: 5-6m girth estimated.

Tree Position/Form/Status: Multistem live yew on face of cliff. Ancient tree.

Additional Notes: This is an exceptional specimen yew tree. It is of great girth and, rooted on the face of the cliff must be of great age and extremely slow in growth. It is in good health.

Note that the root system is exposed on the face of the cliff. These great serpent like roots must have penetrated the fine joint fissures of the limestone to expand through time and completely destabilise the cliff causing rock falls. In so doing becoming exposed at the face of the cliff and adding to the scree debris below.

Yews may be poisonous to stock especially to sheep and it is to the great credit that this tree and other yews in this area have been respected by the Land Owner/Farmers.

Cliff Yews are very rare in Wensleydale and may have been removed as a risk to stock.

Last Update: 2012-08-22

Tree Site ID: 287

Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 288 >>> Image 1: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 2: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 3: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 4: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 5: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 6: The Clapgate Yew



Record Number 288 >>> Image 7: The Clapgate Yew

Record Name: Ellerton Scar. Two junipers (*J. communis* ssp *nana*) on detached stack.

SWAAG ID Number: 290

Recorded Date: 2011-10-30 15:12:34

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 2010-05-28

Location: Ellerton Scar West of Spring Scar Wood.

Civil Parish: Ellerton Abbey

British National Grid: #SE 088 019

Altitude: #320m

Geology: Detached rock stack at top of Main Limestone Scar.

Description: Ellerton Scar is rarely visited and probably relatively unknown to the visitor and Swaledale resident alike, in truth the jungle of Borneo is probably more familiar to the general public than is the yew woodland on and below the limestone scars of Swaledale. Ellerton Scar itself is on private land and forms the northern boundary of the Army Range. Walkers on the permissive footpath above the Scar may pass by without noticing this beautiful cliff below with its fine woodland.

Four distinct zones of Ellerton Scar are recognised, each with its own distinctive woodland community.

1. The uppermost fringe of the cliff. See photo ELL.S1.4

Yews and ash are co dominants but with wych elm, oak (on chert strata at the eastern section of the cliff) hazel, rowan, holly, elder, blackthorn, willow.

2. The face and base of the cliff. See photo ELL.S1.5

Again, yews are co-dominant with ash and yews occasionally form a closed canopy at the base of the cliff.

3. The limestone scree. See photo ELL.S1.6

Scattered yew, ash, elders, birch.

4. The consolidated lower talus slope and the kame terrace. See photo ELL.S1.7 Open birch wood with rare oak and holly. Birch does not grow on the face of the limestone cliff, it is present on the overlying chert strata. The well define kame terrace below the scree is fully vegetated grazed grass pasture on mixed glacial clays, sands and gravels which have slumped at the western end to form a very large solifluction lobe (landslide or rock avalanche, see Google Maps image) well seen above Scar Farm at NGR SE086 968.

Species: Juniper, prostrate form.

Scientific Name: *Juniperus communis* ssp *nana*

Additional Notes: If confirmed, this will be the first record for *J. communis* ssp *nana* in Swaledale.

Dwarf juniper may also be present on Oxnop Scar and elsewhere in Upper Swaledale.

Last Update: 2012-02-03

Tree Site ID: 289

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 290 >>> Image 1: *J.comm ssp nana* (two) on detached limestone stack.



Record Number 290 >>> Image 2: *J.comm ssp nana* (two) on detached limestone stack.

Record Name: Melbecks CP. Barney Beck West Bank. Birch wood with aspen grove.  
SWAAG ID Number: 293  
Recorded Date: 2011-10-31 15:27:49  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 2011-09-14  
Location: Barney Beck Woods. West bank.  
Civil Parish: Melbecks  
British National Grid: SE 0016 9959  
Altitude: 308m  
Geology: Stream cut ravine through glacial till.  
Description: Single stem maiden 1.67m girth at 1.5m. This is representative of a cloned grove of ten similar trees here. No regeneration evident, several fallen dead trees.  
Species: Aspen  
Scientific Name: *Populus tremula*  
Tree Stems/Girth: 1.67m  
Tree Position/Form/Status: One of a cloned colony of 10 stems.  
Last Update: 2012-02-03  
Tree Site ID: 292  
Tree Geographical Area: Mid Swaledale



Record Number 293 >>> Image 1: Aspen maiden 1.67m girth at 1.5m. One of ten similar cloned aspens here.



Record Number 293 >>> Image 2: Twin stem aspen one stem fallen



Record Number 293 >>> Image 3: Twin stem aspen



Record Number 293 >>> Image 4: Detail of fallen tree



Record Number 293 >>> Image 5: Detail



Record Number 293 >>> Image 6:

Record Name: Barney Beck, West Bank. Downy Birch.  
SWAAG ID Number: 294  
Recorded Date: 2011-10-31 17:14:56  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 2011-09-14  
Location: Barney Beck  
Civil Parish: Melbecks  
British National Grid: SE 0027 9957  
Altitude: 299m  
Geology: Stream cut ravine through glacial till and Middle Limestone Series.  
Description: Large old birch 2.3m girth at 1.0m representative of many similar trees, with rowan and aspen here.  
Dimensions: 2.3m  
Species: Downy birch  
Scientific Name: *Betula pubescens*  
Tree Stems/Girth: 2.3m  
Tree Position/Form/Status: Coppard  
Additional Notes: Downy birch(*Betula pubescens*) is the native birch in the Dales. Silver birch is planted.  
Last Update: 2012-02-03  
Tree Site ID: 292  
Tree Geographical Area: Mid Swaledale



Record Number 294 >>> Image 1: Barney Beck. West Bank. Birch woodland with aspen and rowan.



Record Number 294 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 294 >>> Image 3: The birch. 2.3m girth. Detail.



Record Number 294 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 294 >>> Image 5:

Record Name: Birkdale Common. Uldale Beck Falls. Isolated Rowan.

SWAAG ID Number: 296

Recorded Date: 2011-11-02 12:31:23

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2011-09-29

Location: Birkdale Common. Uldale Beck Falls

Civil Parish: Muker

British National Grid: NY 81220 03296

Altitude: 525m

Geology: Namurian sandstones and shales above the Crow Limestone. Ravine below waterfall.

Description: A twin stem rowan and a single stem rowan are the only trees here. The three stems probably rise from an ancient common bole.

The acidic moorland vegetation on the cliff by the Falls is dominated by ferns with Hard Fern and Broad Buckler Fern the only species present

Dimensions: See photos

Species: Rowan

Scientific Name: *Sorbus aucuparia*

Tree Stems/Girth: .95m

Tree Position/Form/Status: Multi stem, stunted. Notable tree.

Additional Notes: This isolated rowan is the sole survivor of woodland once more widespread and diverse at the highest elevations close to the sources of the Swale.

Whereas recent woodland was probably confined to the comparative shelter of the steep sided gills, tree remains in peat show that during prehistoric time woodland extended across upland that is now open and treeless moor to the highest ground above 600m.

Tree species preserved below peat identified to date include pine, birch and willow.

Where sheep have been removed from Shunner Fell in an attempt to preserve the arctic alpine flora, self seeded trees are beginning to re-colonise.

Last Update: 2012-02-03

Tree Site ID: 295

Tree Geographical Area: Upper Swaledale



Record Number 296 >>> Image 1: Uldale Beck. Ravine below waterfall.



Record Number 296 >>> Image 2: Birkdale Common. Uldale Beck. The falls



Record Number 296 >>> Image 3: Birkdale Common. Uldale Beck Falls. The multistem rowan.



Record Number 296 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 296 >>> Image 5: Hard fern. The dominant fern at Uldale Beck falls, with Broad Buckler Fern also.



Record Number 296 >>> Image 6: Broad Buckler and Hard Fern growing at Uldale Beck Falls.

Record Name: Deepdale Beck below Crag Bridge. Ancient Holly in Aspen dominated relict woodland.  
SWAAG ID Number: 298  
Recorded Date: 2011-11-02 13:13:51  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Record Date: 0000-00-00  
Location: Lartington CP. Deepdale. From Crag Bridge to Nab Bridge. Upper Cliff with Aspen  
Civil Parish: Not known  
British National Grid: NY 9973 1538  
Altitude: 250m  
Geology: Namurian strata comprising: limestones, shales, coal and mudstones below the Top Crag Limestone.  
Reference:  
Geological Survey of Great Britain. "Geology of the country around Barnard Castle"™. HMSO 1976.

Description: Ancient Holly in the Upper of two small woods (Upper and Lower Aspen Woods), each with aspen. Aspen is present as a component of species rich woodland in the Upper Wood and is the dominant tree in the Lower Wood.  
Elsewhere the banks northern bank of the Beck is sheep grazed and isolated trees and copses indicate that woodland similar to that described above, was once much more extensive here.

Dimensions: See photos

Species: Holly

Scientific Name: *Ilex aquifolium*

Additional Notes: Ancient large multistemmed hollies are fairly widespread throughout the Northern Dales and are the survivors from the period when holly branches were shredded and fed to stock as a supplement to their winter diet.

Last Update: 2012-02-03

Tree Site ID: 179

Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore



Record Number 298 >>> Image 1: Deepdale Beck. Ancient holly at top edge of cliff wood with aspen, alder, blackthorn and hazel etc.



Record Number 298 >>> Image 2:

Record Name: Deepdale Beck. Alder.  
SWAAG ID Number: 299  
Recorded Date: 2011-11-02 15:08:46  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 2011-04-11  
Location: Lartington CP Deepdale Beck below Crag Bridge.  
Civil Parish: Not known  
British National Grid: NY 9965 1535  
Altitude: 250m

Description: Very large streamside alder representative of the many but reducing number of these fine trees which protect the riverbanks from the increasing number of 'once in a hundred year' floods. Every year a number of these irreplaceable-in-our-lifetime trees are lost due mainly to lack of fenced river banks and loss of the other bank binding willows and other trees.

Dimensions: See photos

Species: Alder

Scientific Name: *Alnus glutinosa*

Tree Stems/Girth: See photos

Tree Position/Form/Status: Pollard

Additional Notes: This alder has been pollarded, ie the ongrowth branches have been cropped at intervals of 40-60 years. There would once have been very many similar trees as alder has many economic uses and alderwood makes charcoal best suited for gunpowder manufacture which was in much demand by lead miners and quarrying.

Last Update: 2012-02-03

Tree Site ID: 298

Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore



Record Number 299 >>> Image 1: Lartington CP. Deepdale Beck. Alder pollard.



Record Number 299 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 299 >>> Image 3:

Record Name: Lartington CP. Deepdale Beck. Blackthorn thicket above Nabb Bridge.

SWAAG ID Number: 300

Recorded Date: 2011-11-02 16:35:30

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2011-04-11

Location: Lartington Cp. Deepdale Beck, Nabb Bridge.

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 9998 1545

Altitude: 250m

Geology: Namurian strata comprising: limestones, shales, coal and mudstones below the Top Crag Limestone.

Reference:

Geological Survey of Great Britain. *i*½*Geology of the country around Barnard Castle*½. HMSO 1976.

Description: Lartington, Deepdale, Nabb Bridge. Blackthorn thicket. Best to see in blossom during April or in fruit November.

Dimensions: See photos.

Species: Blackthorn/Sloe

Scientific Name: *Prunus spinosa*

Tree Stems/Girth: See photos

Additional Notes: Blackthorn or sloe is a component of species rich mixed deciduous ash wood on calcareous soils.

Blackthorn grows to 500m at Oxnop Scar in Swaledale.

A recipe for Sloe Gin:

Take a 1 litre bottle of low price gin.

After first frost in early November, pick about 1kg of sloes.

After your walk to collect the sloes Have a couple of G&T's (125ml) at or after 6.00pm, then:

1. Empty 375ml of the gin into a clean screw top wine bottle
2. Top up the half empty bottle of gin with the pricked sloes and a wine glass of sugar and 3. Top up the half empty wine bottle which is also half full of gin with pricked sloes.

Shake up the bottles once a day for a week and once a week until Christmas.

Keep 1 bottle for emergency use in the field.

Last Update: 2012-08-22

Tree Site ID: 179

Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore



Record Number 300 >>> Image 1: Blackthorn thicket with aspens.



Record Number 300 >>> Image 2: Blackthorn in April, detail.



Record Number 300 >>> Image 3: Swaledale sloes in October

Record Name: Wensleydale. Coverdale. Downy Birch at top edge of limestone cliff below Falls.  
SWAAG ID Number: 310  
Recorded Date: 2011-11-04 17:37:53  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Record Date: 2010-11-16  
Location: Carlton Highdale CP. Waterfall Ravine below Great Hunter's Stone Bank.  
Civil Parish: Carlton Highdale  
British National Grid: SD 9995 7771  
Altitude: 370m  
Geology: Stream cut ravine through Main Limestone and underlying shales.  
Description: Downy Birch at top edge of cliff, with ash, hazel, bird cherry and wych elm.  
Dimensions: N/A  
Species: Downy Birch  
Scientific Name: *Betula pubescens*  
Tree Stems/Girth: 3m  
Tree Position/Form/Status: Multi stem, stunted. Notable tree.  
Last Update: 2011-11-04  
Tree Site ID: 309  
Tree Geographical Area: Wensleydale



Record Number 310 >>> Image 1: Downy birch at top edge of limestone cliff below falls.



Record Number 310 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 310 >>> Image 3:

Record Name: Wensleydale. Coverdale Head. Ash coppiced tree.  
SWAAG ID Number: 311  
Recorded Date: 2011-11-04 17:48:52  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Access Land  
Record Date: 2010-10-16  
Location: Wensleydale. Carlton Highdale. Waterfall Ravine below Great Hunterstone Bank.  
Civil Parish: Carlton Highdale  
British National Grid: SD 9990 7763  
Altitude: 370m  
Geology: Main Limestone.  
Description: Ancient coppiced ash. This ash coppice grows in the small ravine above the Falls below Great Hunter Stone Bank.

Last Update: 2011-11-06  
Tree Site ID: 309  
Tree Geographical Area: Wensleydale



Record Number 311 >>> Image 1: Ash coppice above Falls.



Record Number 311 >>> Image 2:

Record Name: Stone Houses.Isolated juniper.  
SWAAG ID Number: 317  
Recorded Date: 2011-11-06 17:46:55  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 0000-00-00  
Location: Birkdale Beck. Stone Houses.  
Civil Parish: Muker  
British National Grid:  
Altitude: 365m  
Geology: Sandstone strata above the Main Limestone.  
Description: Single mature juniper on low cliff with rowan and sallow nearby.  
Type A Site with acidic vegetation not yet recorded.  
Dimensions: N/A see photos  
Species: Juniper  
Scientific Name: *Juniperus commune*  
Common Notable Species: Rowan, Sallow.  
Tree Position/Form/Status: Cliff tree. Isolated.  
Additional Notes: This is the lowest of just three recorded juniper sites on Birkdale Beck and its tributary stream, Little Sleddale Beck.  
Last Update: 2011-11-06  
Tree Site ID: 316  
Tree Geographical Area: Upper Swaledale



Record Number 317 >>> Image 1: Birkdale Beck. Stone Houses. Juniper on cliff.



Record Number 317 >>> Image 2: Birkdale Beck and access track to Stone Houses

Record Name: Gunnerside Pastures, Wych elm coppiced tree.

SWAAG ID Number: 470

Recorded Date: 2012-03-04 16:46:24

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2012-03-01

Location: Strands

Civil Parish: Melbecks

British National Grid: SD 957 980

Geology: Edge of River Swale floodplain, late glacial lake bed. On north bank of small stream.

Description: This fine wych elm is a survivor. It grows on a relict hedgerow with the remains of several other mature elms, all now dead.

This, an ancient coppice which has thrown up three fine cojoined trees, is one of the finest trees in Swaledale and is a significant tree in one of the most photographed landscapes of Swaledale- the Gunnerside fields and barns.

Dimensions: See photographs.

Species: Wych elm.

Scientific Name: *Ulmus glabra*

Additional Notes: The risk to elm trees from dutch elm bark beetle remains ever present and each year one or two surviving mature elms succumb to the deadly threat. It is a salutary thought that our grandchildren may not ever see a fully mature wych elm in their landscape.

A very few elms, such as this tree hopefully, may possess natural resistance to the elm bark fungus. These trees should be treasured and perhaps provide seed or cuttings so that the genetic qualities of resistant trees can be preserved.

Last Update: 2012-03-04

Tree Geographical Area: Mid Swaledale



Record Number 470 >>> Image 1:



Record Number 470 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 470 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 470 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 470 >>> Image 5:



Record Number 470 >>> Image 6:

Record Name: Summerlodge Beck Head. Ancient rowan with exposed root.

SWAAG ID Number: 479

Recorded Date: 2012-03-26 11:08:46

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Summer Lodge Beck Head

Civil Parish: Grinton

British National Grid: SD 96445 95159

Altitude: 392m

Geology: Waterfall ravine through Main Chert

Description: Rowan approximately 2.8m girth with fully exposed root which, having destabilised the rock of the cliff, now runs for a distance of 3m across the turf above the cliff to turn down and enter the cliff at a lower level.

Dimensions: See photographs

Additional Notes: The visible trunks and branches of this tree can be described as ancient on grounds of the girth of 2.8m, its overall appearance and the presence of dead wood, however strictly speaking the visible rowan tree may not live for many decades, perhaps one or two centuries. The rootstock is however truly ancient and will continue to live and to throw up new young shoots to replace the visible tree.

Close examination of this tree reveals a fresh young rowan sapling which will survive and replace the existing tree when all trace of its existence has disappeared.

Question!

Bearing in mind that the very large sepentlike root now exposed, originally penetrated far within the rock as a threadlike root seeking moisture, to grow and expand and in time to completely destabilise the cliff, much of which has now disappeared. How old is this tree?

Last Update: 2012-03-26

Tree Geographical Area: Mid Swaledale



Record Number 479 >>> Image 1:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 5:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 6:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 7:



Record Number 479 >>> Image 8:

Record Name: The Clints Yew  
SWAAG ID Number: 491  
Recorded Date: 2012-04-07 19:35:54  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Private  
Record Date: 2010-09-17  
Location: Marske. Clints.  
Civil Parish: Marske  
British National Grid: #NZ 0978 0160  
Altitude: 270

Geology: Main Limestone

Description: Short stem maiden yew 5.07m girth at .50m above ground level.

This is the largest single stem yew tree recorded to date in Swaledale.

The expsed rootsystem is dramatically large and strong, clasping the block of limestone on which this tree grows with an iron grip.

This root system would originally have been within the limestone which has been destabilised to leave the roots exposed.

Dimensions: See photos

Species: Yew

Scientific Name: *Taxus bacata*

Additional Notes: This tree is in good health and could continue to grow indefinitely.

All very large yews in Swaledale grow either directly from the face of limestone cliffs or on slumped limestone below the cliffs as this example.

There are very many multi stem yews in Swaledale of similar dimensions. These trees grow slowly and fallen branches show an annual growth of not more than 1mm per year and 2-3 years per mm is not uncommon.

Last Update: 2012-04-07

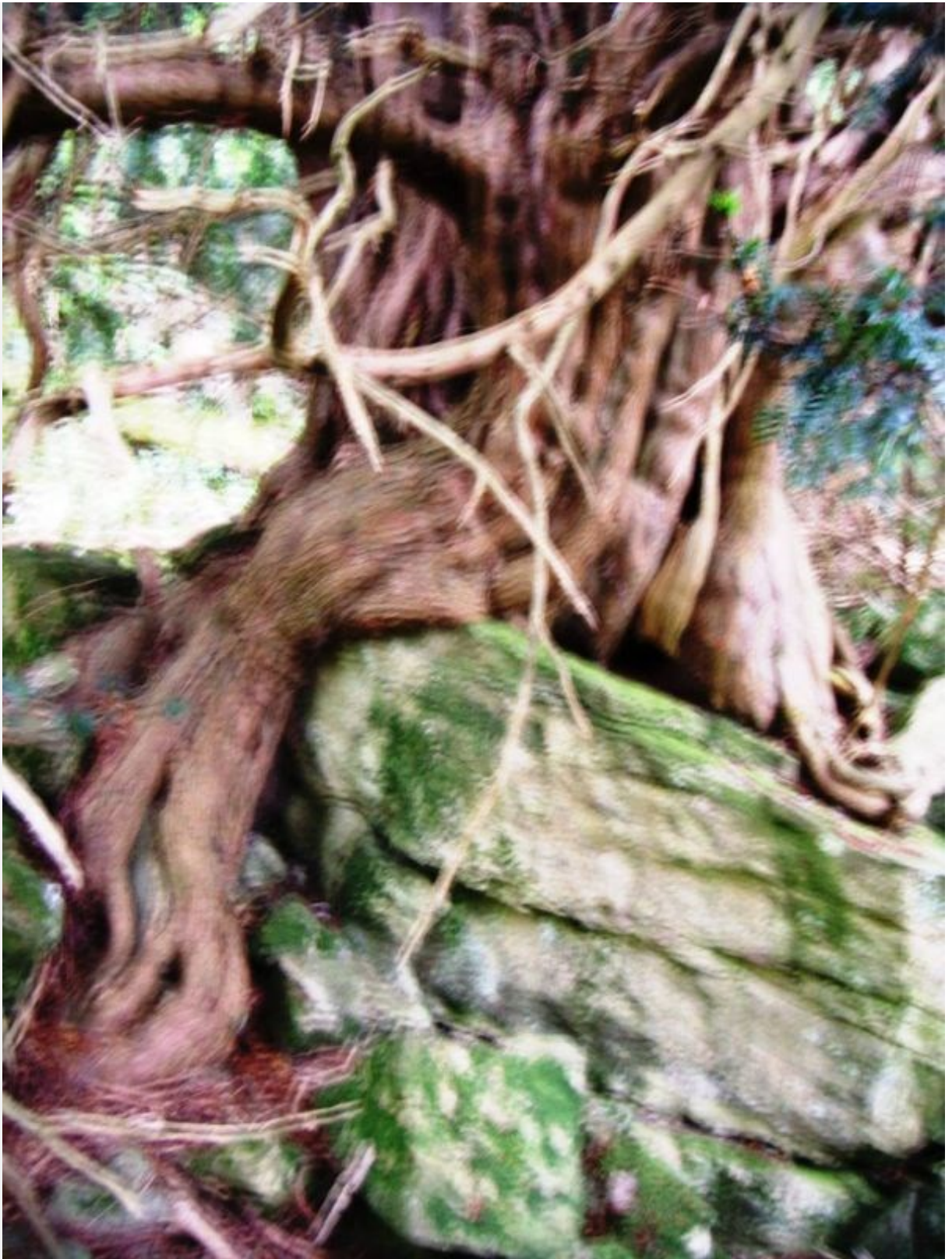
Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 491 >>> Image 1: The Clints Yew clasps the limestone with a grip calculated to last a thousand years!



Record Number 491 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 491 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 491 >>> Image 4:

Record Name: Willances Leap. Large leafed lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*)

SWAAG ID Number: 506

Recorded Date: 2012-04-21 14:03:53

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Whitcliffe Scar. Willances Leap.

Civil Parish: Richmond

British National Grid: NZ 1358 0206

Altitude: 270m

Geology: Sheer cliff formed by the Main Limestone

Description: Large leafed lime (*T. platyphyllos*) at extreme northern limit of its range in Britain. This isolated tree is a very large self or wind coppiced tree growing at the top edge of a sheer cliff. Access is V. Dangerous except when roped. Inaccessible, do not attempt to climb down to this tree!

Species: Large leafed lime

Scientific Name: *T. platyphyllos*

Additional Notes: This tree, the first of this species to be recorded during the current survey, measures 8.5m across the base of the rootstock assuming that the visible gap has been caused by a section of the rootstock falling off the cliff.

The significant population of *T. platyphyllos* in Lower Swaledale is currently being surveyed.

Last Update: 2012-04-21

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 506 >>> Image 1:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 5:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 6:



Record Number 506 >>> Image 7:

Record Name: Eyelash Fungus associated with horsetail in spring flush

SWAAG ID Number: 551

Recorded Date: 2012-06-16 12:01:41

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Stainmore Forest. White Stone Gill

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NY 9303 0910

Altitude: 395m

Geology: Spring Flush below Lad Gill Limestone

Description: *Scutellinia scutellata* or Eye-lash fungus growing in calcareous spring flush with *Equisetum palustre* and *E.fluviatile*.

Note the marginal fringe of brown hairs on this strikingly coloured cup fungus which grows on rotten wood or on wet soil as here.

Dimensions: See photos

Additional Notes: Recognised by Linda Robinson. Identified from TCL photographs by Ric Carter.

Last Update: 2012-06-16

Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore



Record Number 551 >>> Image 1:



Record Number 551 >>> Image 2: *Scutellinia scutellata* or Eye-lash fungus in spring flush with *Equisetum palustre* etc.



Record Number 551 >>> Image 3: *Scutellinia scutellata* or Eye-lash fungus in spring flush with *Equisetum palustre* etc.



Record Number 551 >>> Image 4: *Scutellinia scutellata* or Eye-lash fungus in spring flush with *Equisetum palustre* etc.

Record Name: Low Lane, Low Whita. Ancient Wych Elm stump.

SWAAG ID Number: 553

Recorded Date: 2012-06-29 21:27:51

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Low lane, Low Whita

Civil Parish: Grinton

British National Grid: SD 98482 97599

Altitude: 207m

Geology: Edge of glacial lake terrace

Description: This ancient tree stump, decorated by red campion and wood melick grass is the sad remains of a fine wych elm pollard 7m (25ft) girth wych was probably alive during the reign of Henry 8th. These pollards were alive when first recognised by Andrew Fleming during the 1980's and all were recorded by Tom Gledhill before their sudden death from dutch elm beetle attack. Many of these fine old elms are now throwing up young saplings from their root system which still lives. Question! How old are these young saplings?

Dimensions: 7m girth

Last Update: 2012-06-29



Record Number 553 >>> Image 1: Low Lane, Low Whita. Wych Elm Pollard with Alex Loktionov.



Record Number 553 >>> Image 2: Low Lane, Low Whita. Remains of Wych Elm pollard colonised by red campion and wood melick grass.



Record Number 553 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 553 >>> Image 4: Wych elm bur



Record Number 553 >>> Image 5: Wood melick grass (*Melica uniflora*).

Record Name: Shrubby cinquefoil. (*Potentilla fruticosa*) in flower. Upper Tees.

SWAAG ID Number: 582

Recorded Date: 2012-07-24 19:58:34

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2012-07-24

Location: River Tees above Low Force

Civil Parish: Holwick

British National Grid:

Geology: Dolerite or whin cill. Island and falls in the Tees.

Description: Shrubby cinquefoil (*P. fruticosa*) is one of the Teesdale rarities and has a disjunct distribution in Britain having been recorded only in Teesdale, the Lake District and on the Burren, Co. Clare on the west coast of Ireland.

*P. fruticosa* has an arctic (circum-polar, boreal) alpine world distribution being found often at high altitude, in the Pyrennees, the European Alps, The Maritime Alps and in Scandinavia.

Additional Notes: Cultivars of shrubby cinquefoil are popular garden plants and often seen in public parks. The colours of the cultivated varieties are usually rather muddy compared to the clear yellow of the wild plant.

Following fencing the river banks to keep sheep away, scattered bushes of *P. fruticosa* are to be seen all along the banks and on islands of the River Tees upstream from Wynch Bridge.

Last Update: 2012-07-24



Record Number 582 >>> Image 1: Shrubby cinquefoil in flower, R. Tees Low Force. July 2012.



Record Number 582 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 582 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 582 >>> Image 4: River Tees. Falls and pool above Low Force.



Record Number 582 >>> Image 5: Shrubby cinquefoil (*P. fruticosa*). Isolated bush on the banks of the R. Tees, Low Force area.

Record Name: The Clints Yew  
SWAAG ID Number: 584  
Recorded Date: 2012-07-27 09:34:29  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Private  
Record Date: 0000-00-00  
Location: Woodland below Orgate/ Clints Scar  
Civil Parish: Marske  
British National Grid: #NZ 098 016  
Altitude: 250m

Geology: Slumped limestone block below cliff formed from The Main Limestone.  
Description: This magnificent ancient yew tree whose single trunk measures 5.07m girth grows directly on a large detached block of solid limestone, its exposed root system securely clasping the rock. This yew is the largest single stem yew tree located to date in Swaledale. At 5.07m (17 ft) girth this tree is of similar proportions to the famed Lorton Yews and other ancient churchyard yews. This Clints Yew however grows high on an exposed westerly facing slope directly on limestone, not in deep fertile churchyard soil. The growth rate of this tree will have been very slow. This tree grows within mixed deciduous limestone ashwood with other fine yews. This tree is within private woodland but can be seen from a nearby footpath.

Dimensions: 5.07m girth

Species: yew

Scientific Name: *Taxus baccata*

Tree Stems/Girth: 5.07m

Tree Position/Form/Status: Maiden

Last Update: 2012-07-27

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 584 >>> Image 1: The Clints Yew.



Record Number 584 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 584 >>> Image 3: Clints Woodland seen from Orgate Scar. The large Clints Yews can be seen in woodland below Clints Scar in the distance.



Record Number 584 >>> Image 4: Most of the many very large yews in Swaledale grow in scree and are multi-stemmed, like this example which grows on limestone scree below Orgate Scar.

Record Name: Throstle Gill Scar. Specimen Yew with ash, wych elm, rowan, elder, hawthorn etc.

SWAAG ID Number: 613

Recorded Date: 2012-09-28 15:30:43

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 2006-01-08

Location: Throstle Gill. Limestone Scar on lower dale slope, 100m above east bank of stream.

Civil Parish: Marske

British National Grid: NZ 08517 08565

Altitude: 281m

Geology: Small cliff formed by the Underset Limestone.

Description: This fine yew and the woodland community which also grows on this small cliff is characteristic of the many fine yews to be seen on the smaller and seldom visited or seen limestone scars of the North Bank Tributary streams of the Swale.

Dimensions: See photos

Last Update: 2012-09-28



Record Number 613 >>> Image 1: View of the Scar and yew from the north.



Record Number 613 >>> Image 2: Detail of the base of the multi stemmed yew from above.



Record Number 613 >>> Image 3: View of the Scar and yew from the south.

Record Name: Spindle below Whitcliffe Scar, east of the defended RB Settlement

SWAAG ID Number: 626

Recorded Date: 2012-10-27 17:13:47

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2012-10-24

Location: Whitcliffe Scar

Civil Parish: Richmond

British National Grid: NZ 1390 0197

Altitude: 240m

Geology: Scree talus below cliff formed from the Main Limestone.

Description: Isolated bush of Spindle in secondary woodland after the total loss of Wych Elm.

Dimensions: See photos.

Species: Spindle

Scientific Name: *Euonymus europaeus*

Tree Stems/Girth: Bush not tree

Tree Position/Form/Status: Bush

Additional Notes: Spindle is a rare tree species at or about its Northern Limit in Swaledale, just one other site for spindle is known at present.

Spindle forms a small tree or as in this case a small bush. Spindle is easily seen when in full autumn colour but easily overlooked at other times. The strange pink fruit was not present.

Spindle is not common in Wensleydale, but has been recorded on Leyburn Shawl.

Last Update: 2012-10-27

Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale



Record Number 626 >>> Image 1: The single Spindle Bush as first seen in full autumn colour.



Record Number 626 >>> Image 2: Spindle must be described as Britain's burning bush.



Record Number 626 >>> Image 3: Voew westward towards the defended settlement below Whitcliffe Scar.



Record Number 626 >>> Image 4: Species rich deciduous woodland on Whitcliffe Scar.

Record Name: Spindle at Throstle Gill.

SWAAG ID Number: 627

Recorded Date: 2012-10-27 17:58:24

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 2012-10-09

Location: Feldom Army Ranges. Throstle Gill.

Civil Parish: Marske

British National Grid: NZ 085 034

Altitude: 200m

Geology: Landslip below Richmond Chert

Description: Isolated spindle tree in relict woodland with yew, ash, hawthorn etc on eastern side of Throstle Gill. In full autumn colour when first recognised by Mrs Linda Robinson and T.C. Laurie. No fruit seen.

Dimensions: See photos

Species: Spindle

Scientific Name: *Euonymus europaeus*

Additional Notes: This was the first record of Spindle for the Swale Catchment.

Since this record, a second Spindle has been found below Whitcliffe Scar, see SWAAG Record 636.

Last Update: 2012-10-27



Record Number 627 >>> Image 1: The spindle tree in full autumn colour, below a fine yew tree, as first recognised



Record Number 627 >>> Image 2: Spindle tree.



Record Number 627 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 627 >>> Image 4:



Record Number 627 >>> Image 5: Young spindle seedling growing close by the tree.

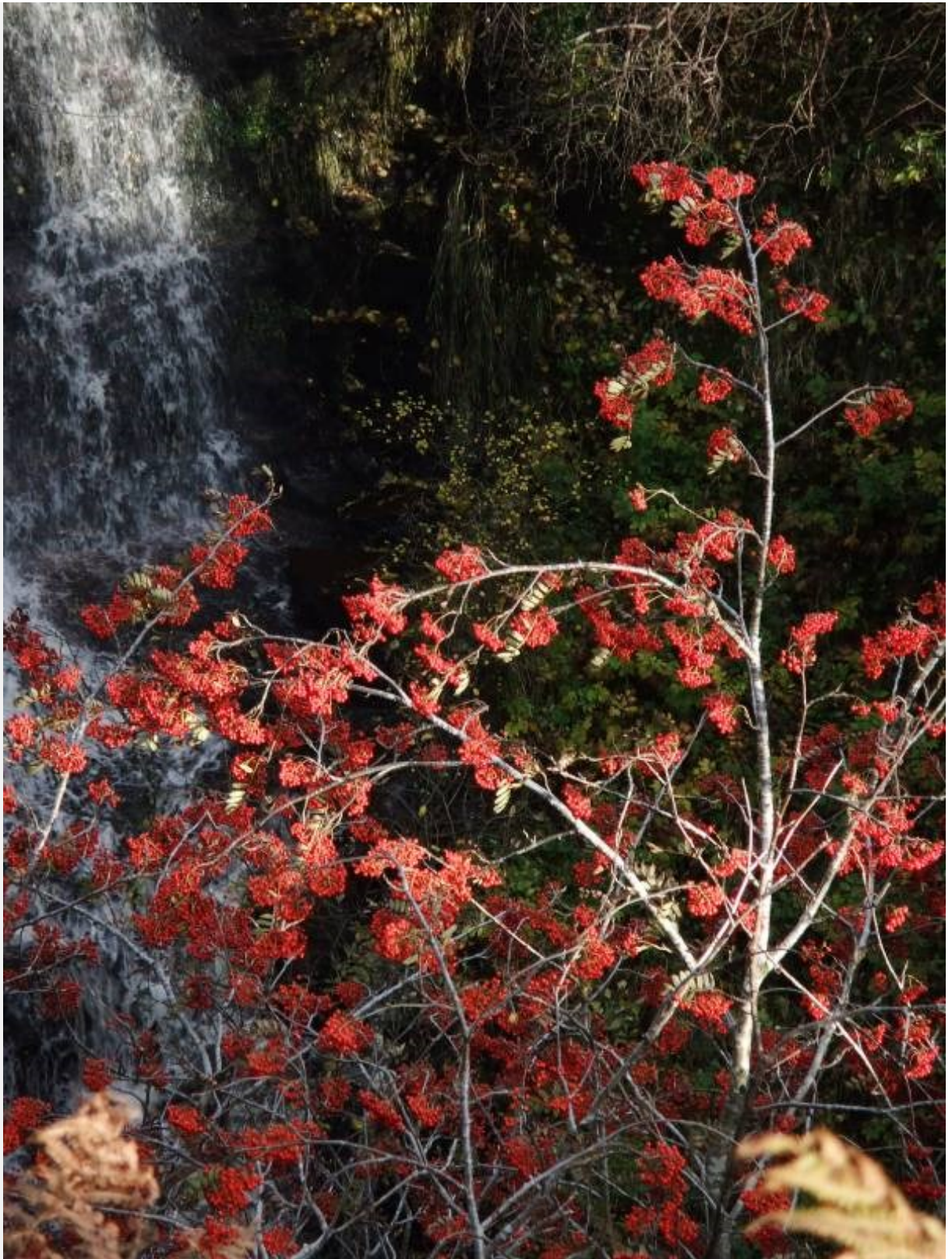
Record Name: Some trees in autumn colour, Upper Swaledale.  
SWAAG ID Number: 630  
Recorded Date: 2012-10-28 11:29:48  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 2012-10-24  
Location: Upper Swaledale  
Civil Parish: Muker  
British National Grid:  
Altitude: Various  
Geology: Various  
Description: See photo captions.  
Last Update: 2012-10-28



Record Number 630 >>> Image 1: Aspen. Skeugh Gill



Record Number 630 >>> Image 2: Aspen. Skeugh Gill.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 3: Rowan at falls. How Edge Scars.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 4: Aspen leaves. How Edge Scars. The leaves of aspen are flame yellow and when growing at tufa springs are red also from trace elements of marine origine.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 5: How Edge Scars. Whitsundale.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 6: Aspens at How Edge Scars, Whitsundale. The leaves of aspen are flame yellow and, when growing at tufa springs, are red also the leaves coloured from trace elements of marine origin.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 7: Aspens at How Edge Scars, Whitsundale.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 8: Aspen with juniper, Whitsundale.



Record Number 630 >>> Image 9: River Swale above Keld.

Record Name: Castle Farm. Veteran ash tree next hog house

SWAAG ID Number: 652

Recorded Date: 2012-12-06 20:30:26

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Arkle Beck, North Bank

Civil Parish: Reeth

British National Grid: NZ 0327 0069

Altitude: 240

Geology: Drift covered dale side.

Description: This fine old maiden ash tree is a survivor and has resisted wind and weather on the lower slopes of Arkengarthdale for very many years. These veteran trees are very vulnerable to wind fall and several are lost each year. Their best hope lies in breaking at around 4-5m above ground level and then throwing up fresh branches, ie becoming self wind pollarded and then, after becoming hollow are mechanically strong and able to resist windfall for another 200 years.

Dimensions: See photographs

Species: ash

Scientific Name: *Fraxinus excelsior*

Tree Stems/Girth: 4.8m estimated

Tree Position/Form/Status: maiden

Last Update: 2012-12-06

Tree Site ID: 651

Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 652 >>> Image 1: Veteran ash tree.



Record Number 652 >>> Image 2: Veteran ash tree in woodland, adjacent hog house and relict hedgerow. Once an actively worked self sufficient small farmstead



Record Number 652 >>> Image 3: The hog house.



Record Number 652 >>> Image 4: The hog house.



Record Number 652 >>> Image 5: Relict hedgerow



Record Number 652 >>> Image 6: Relict hedgerow with hazel, elder and hawthorn.

Record Name: Old crab apple at Storthwaite Hall, Sleigill. One of two coppiced crab apples here.  
SWAAG ID Number: 655  
Recorded Date: 2012-12-08 20:20:20  
Recorded by: Tim Laurie  
Category: Tree/Shrub Record  
Record Type: Botanical HER  
Site Access: Public Footpath  
Record Date: 2012-12-05  
Location: Arkengarthdale, Sleigill, Storthwaite Hall  
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale  
British National Grid: NZ 02718 02121  
Altitude: 254m  
Geology: Middle Limestone  
Description: This coppiced crab apple is 10'0" (3.0m) girth and may have provided apple wood for Storthwaite hall smoke curing hams when all farming communities were self sufficient.  
Dimensions: 10'0" (3.0m) girth  
Species: Crab apple  
Last Update: 2012-12-08  
Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 655 >>> Image 1: Storthwaite hall, Sleigill. Crab apple tree photographed on 17th June 2010



Record Number 655 >>> Image 2: The same crab apple showing coppiced trunks, in winter.



Record Number 655 >>> Image 3:

Record Name: Old crab apple at Storthwaite Hall, Sleigill. Second of two coppiced crab apples here.

SWAAG ID Number: 656

Recorded Date: 2012-12-08 20:35:39

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2012-12-05

Location: Arkengarthdale. Storthwaite Hall, Sleigill.

Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale

British National Grid: NZ 01731 02367

Altitude: 271m

Geology: Middle Limestone.

Description: Old coppiced crab apple tree growing on low cliff on the west bank of Sleigill Beck. This crab apple would have provided the kitchens of Storthwaite Hall with crab apple jelly and also apple wood for curing hams when all Swaledale farms were self sufficient.

Species: Crab apple.

Last Update: 2012-12-08

Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 656 >>> Image 2: Crab apple tree 11'0"(3.35m)girth at the lower end of Sleigill with Fell End lead mine in far distance.



Record Number 656 >>> Image 3: The second crab apple tree at Storthwaite hall, 11'0" girth in winter showing coppiced trunks.

Record Name: Castle Farm. Relict Hegerow landscapes. Ancient layered ash tree.

SWAAG ID Number: 658

Recorded Date: 2012-12-09 15:52:57

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Arkengarthdale. Casle Farm

Civil Parish: Reeth

British National Grid: NZ 02884 00805

Altitude: 228m

Geology: Drift over Middle Limestone

Description: This fine ash tree, some 26'0" (8.0m) girth, was a laid tree within a managed hedgerow and already old when the dry stone walls which define the present day field boundaries around Castle Farm were built.

Dimensions: 26'0" or 8.0m girth

Species: Ash

Additional Notes: This tree is one of the fine specimen trees of the Swaledale Landscape to be drawn by Mrs Jocelyn Campbell. It is imperative that good photographic records are made of the mature ash trees in the Swaledale Landscape which are now under dire threat from the pathogen introduced to Britain recently.

Last Update: 2012-12-09

Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment



Record Number 658 >>> Image 1: Layered ash tree,with Jocelyn.



Record Number 658 >>> Image 2: The Castle Farm Laid Ash. Jocelyn's drawing.



Record Number 658 >>> Image 3: The Castle Farm laid Ash, once within a managed hedgerow.



Record Number 658 >>> Image 4: The Castle Farm laid Ash, once within a managed hedgerow. Careful observation will reveal the presence of other relict hedgerow trees, earlier field banks and lynched boundaries which denote earlier, medieval or Romano-British settlements here.

Record Name: Ivelet Bridge. Jocelyn's ancient hedgerow ash tree, now wind- fallen.

SWAAG ID Number: 679

Recorded Date: 2013-01-14 13:29:22

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Ivelet Bridge, relict hedgerows above north bank of the Swale

Civil Parish: Muker

British National Grid: SD 9331 9787

Altitude: 242m

Geology: Drift over Hardraw Scar Limestone.

Description: This fine relict hedgerow ash tree was the largest and probably the oldest ash tree yet recorded in Swaledale and adjacent areas before having been fragmented when the greater part of this multi-stemmed ancient laid hedgerow tree was blown down during a recent gale. This tree, which was first recognised by Mrs Jocelyn Campbell measured 9.3m girth at 1.10 above ground level. For photographs of this relict hedgerow ash tree before it was blown down see SWAAG Record 278.

This a loss to the historic landscape of the area, since this tree was already very old when it was last cut and laid as a managed hedgerow tree. A preliminary tree ring count suggests that this tree was last laid in a hedgerow approximately 170 years ago. This would be before the construction of the present day dry-stone walled field walls which abut the tree.

Dimensions: 9.3m before fragmented and wind blown.

Additional Notes: The loss of this tree illustrates the necessity of making a good photographic record of all mature trees in the Dales landscape and stresses the fact that all the very old and large ash trees which hitherto have been such a feature of the Swaledale landscape are vulnerable to gales. Several mature ash trees similar to this tree are blown over and lost every year.

It is to this end that the present SWAAG Tree Site and Tree Surveys are in progress. We are indeed most fortunate that Jocelyn has drawn and captured the character of this tree before it was fragmented and that she has drawn so many other fine trees in Swaledale.

Last Update: 2013-01-14



Record Number 679 >>> Image 1: The relict hedgerow ash tree after being blown and fragmented in a recent gale.



Record Number 679 >>> Image 2: Jocelyn at the ash tree before loss of the greater part of the tree in a recent gale.



Record Number 679 >>> Image 3: Jocelyn at the ash tree before loss of the greater part of the tree in a recent gale.



Record Number 679 >>> Image 4: The relict hedgerow ash tree after being blown and fragmented in a recent gale.

Record Name: Fossedale Pike.Remains of Juniper below blanket peat at 538m AOD..

SWAAG ID Number: 726

Recorded Date: 2013-05-10 14:50:37

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Geological HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 2013-05-06

Location: Walden Head. Fossegill Pike.

Civil Parish: Burton cum Walden

British National Grid: SD 96993 78907

Altitude: 538m

Geology: Base of thin (.7m deep)blanket peat over Richmond Chert Strata.

Description: Remains of juniper (identification provisional, pending independent confirmation) visible at base of thin blanket peat in drainage gully at side of shooting track.

Dimensions: See photos

Additional Notes: Juniper has not been recorded recently in Wensleydale but was recorded at four locations in the Ure Catchment in the Flora published by John Percival in 1888. (Millward, D 1988. 'A Flora of Wensleydale'. Yoredale Natural History Soc.). These records have not been recently confirmed.  
Last Update: 2013-05-10



Record Number 726 >>> Image 1: Walden. Fosse Gill Head. Juniper remains below peat at 538m AOD.



Record Number 726 >>> Image 2: Juniper remains preserved under peat. Detail.



Record Number 726 >>> Image 3: Walden. Fosse Gill Head. Juniper remains below peat at 538m AOD.



Record Number 726 >>> Image 4: Walden. Fosse Gill Head. Juniper remains in drain below peat at 538m AOD.



Record Number 726 >>> Image 5: Walden. Fosse Gill Head. Juniper remains below peat at 538m AOD.

Record Name: The Arkle Apple tree.

SWAAG ID Number: 949

Recorded Date: 2016-09-16 16:39:21

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Footpath

Record Date: 2016-09-15

Location: Arkle Beck Pastures. Small west bank tributary stream.

Civil Parish: Reeth

British National Grid: NZ 0260 0105

Altitude: 233m

Geology: Small stream cut ravine.

Description: This fine wild apple tree (*Malus domestica*) now laden with small ripe red fruit (not the small green fruit of the true crab which are <20mm diameter) has the appearance of a small orchard rather than a single fallen apple tree. Who it was that threw their apple core with the pip that germinated at the roots of an even older alder on the side of this small beck, we shall never know. I suspect that this apple which has the taste of crab and clearly has crab apple genes, may be the descendent of the tree that provided apple tart and cider for the early Swale shepherd family whose sheiling homestead (Database record to follow) can be seen in the nearby pastures of East Rawcroft.

Dimensions: 2.60m girth

Additional Notes: The three conjoined trunks (stems) of this apple tree rise from the very edge of this small tributary stream of the Arkle. The three trunks of this apple grow immediately below the roots of an even older coppiced alder tree (to be recorded separately). The three stems conjoin to form a pollard which has fallen across the stream. The apple tree appears first to have been coppiced to throw up three stems, then pollarded at a height off around 2m from the original ground. Finally, after developing a full canopy of mature fruiting branches, the tree fell across the stream but remained rooted. Today, all the fruiting branches are more or less prostrate and supported from the ground surface of the nearby meadow forming the structure of this very large tree.

In the future, I have no doubt that several of the branches of this tree will themselves root where in contact with the ground and will be able to throw up new trees if and when the existing rooted tree is washed out by flooding.

Thus this tree is capable of indefinite existence.

Last Update: 2016-09-17



Record Number 949 >>> Image 1: Approach to the Apple which grows on the beck side close to the public footpath.



Record Number 949 >>> Image 2: Detail of the fallen apple tree and alder at the stream side.



Record Number 949 >>> Image 3: Ancient alders and one very old self sown apple tree line this small

tributary to the Arkle.



Record Number 949 >>> Image 4: The Arkle Apple



Record Number 949 >>> Image 5: The fallen apple, detail.



Record Number 949 >>> Image 6: Canopy of the Apple



Record Number 949 >>> Image 7: Rowan and alder at stream side

Record Name: The largest single stem yew in Swaledale

SWAAG ID Number: 968

Recorded Date: 2016-12-17 17:28:32

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Private

Record Date: 2010-09-17

Location: Swaledale

Civil Parish: Marske

British National Grid: #SE 0978 0160

Geology: Block scree below Limestone Scar

Description: The minimum girth of this fine yew measures 5.07m (16ft 9inches) girth below the first branch. The exposed powerful main roots of this ancient yew grow astride a large block of limestone in block scree below a limestone scar. It is my understanding the roots can only grow through soil and it is clear that the base of this tree is far above present soil level. Does this imply that when this yew tree germinated, the contemporary soil level was above this limestone block on which the tree grows? For full details and very fine pencil drawings of the cliff yews and very many representative drawings of all tree species of Swaledale, see Mrs Jocelyn Campbell's fine and comprehensive book: 'Trees in the Swaledale Landscape' recently published by Stephen Eastmead on behalf of SWAAG.

Dimensions: 5.07m (16ft 9 inches) minimum girth below the first branches.

Additional Notes: This fine ancient yew is the largest single stem yew tree recorded to date in Swaledale. This tree is not necessarily the oldest yew tree in Swaledale. The most ancient trees grow at the top edge of the most exposed limestone scars. These high cliff edge yews grow exceedingly slowly and are multi-stemmed. These cliff edge trees are of considerable width and comprise many individual stems or trunks. They lose many of these stems to high winds and throw up replacements from a root system which extends far into the cliff face. These cliff edge yews can live indefinitely. Unbelievably the annual rings counted from sections cut through wind-blown stems of cliff yews can be as close as 3-4 rings per mm. Single stem yews growing in church yards or at more sheltered locations in Swaledale grow at the much faster rate of one annual ring every 2-3mm.

Last Update: 2016-12-18



Record Number 968 >>> Image 1: The largest yew recognised to date in Swaledale.

Record Name: Ellerton Scar. Two fine prostrate junipers (*Juniperus communis* ssp. *nana*). Swaledale's least and most ancient woody plants:

SWAAG ID Number: 969

Recorded Date: 2016-12-21 16:49:41

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Army Range

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Ellerton Scar

Civil Parish: Ellerton Abbey

British National Grid:

Geology: Isolated stack detached from the vertical face of a sheer cliff formed from the Main Limestone.

Description: These two prostrate junipers provide a complete contrast to the 'mighty' Native Yew whose trunk is in excess of 5.00m girth recorded on the preceding SWAAG Database Record. These two low-growing forms of Juniper grow on the inaccessible summit of an isolated stack of limestone detached from the front of Ellerton Scar. The prostrate form of juniper carpets the summit plateaux of the Cairngorms and will be familiar to those who have hiked across many other exposed and stony high mountain summits in Northern Upland Britain. These junipers or their direct ancestors may have colonised the front edge of Ellerton Scar during the early Post Glacial Period.

The prostrate form of Juniper is recognised by its carpeting habit and by the the needle like small leaves not exceeding 10mm in length\*1.5mm wide.

Dimensions: 30cm (1ft.) in height and less than 1 metre width estimated

Additional Notes: Junipers, including this the prostrate, ground carpeting form of juniper, were among the earliest shrubs to colonise Britain during the first period of climatic warming following the final retreat of the glaciers. During subsequent periods, junipers were almost certainly more widespread throughout Swaledale. I have recorded Junipers at more than 40 separate localities in Swaledale. These Swaledale records include at least six areas of juniper scrub, the largest of these areas being the Harkerside Junipers. Most Juniper localities are however of less than five isolated shrubs. Single ancient Junipers with serpentine twisted and coiled branches, sole survivors of a population more widespread are found at remote waterfalls, often in company with aspen groves.

The 100,000th Ancient Tree to be recorded on the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Inventory is an ancient juniper located in a small stand of similar ancient Junipers above Spring End in Swaledale.

Prostrate Form of Juniper have been recorded at several other localities in Swaledale, notably on Oxnop Scar and at How Edge Scars.

NOTE! Beware! Danger of Death! These cliffs are generally pathless except for sheep tracks and are extremely dangerous especially to anyone who is inexperienced in climbing and who suffers from vertigo.

SWAAG Site: Ellerton Moor

Last Update: 2016-12-21



Record Number 969 >>> Image 1: Ellerton Scar. The two prostrate junipers grow close together on the summit of the detached limestone stack.



Record Number 969 >>> Image 2: The stack photographed from above.



Record Number 969 >>> Image 3: The locality of the two prostrate Junipers photographed from the sheep track at the top of the cliff by Edward (Eddie) Parker, Author of the highly recommended 'Ancient Trees. Trees that live for a thousand years.' Published by Batsford on behalf of Kew, 2012. Eddie has photographed and published many books on the World's most notable Trees.



Record Number 969 >>> Image 4: Ellerton Scar possesses very many wonderful specimen yews and other trees and is surely one of the most beautiful of all the limestone Scars in the Yorkshire Dales



Record Number 969 >>> Image 5: The locality of the two prostrate Junipers being photographed from the sheep track at the top of the cliff by Edward (Eddie) Parker, Photographer of the World's most notable Trees.



Record Number 969 >>> Image 6: Ellerton Scar . Two prostrate form Junipers. Detail of the foliage.

Record Name: Brignall. A fine ash, surely one of the largest in this area

SWAAG ID Number: 975

Recorded Date: 2017-02-01 17:21:44

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Private

Record Date: 2016-11-07

Location: Brignall Banks

Civil Parish: Not known

British National Grid: NZ 077 124

Description: This fine ash tree is in its prime complete with no significant loss of limbs. The tree measures 7.10m girth at a height above ground level is certainly the largest ash of the many that I have seen.

This ash tree is visible from the track down to the Old Church at Brignall

Dimensions: 7.10m girth at 1.50m above ground level.

Additional Notes: This tree has been recorded as Tree No on the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Hunt Database.

Every year one or two trees in all landscapes are victim to windfall and the quality of the landscapes are diminished by the loss of these trees. They cannot be replaced in one, two or even three lifetimes and replacement planted trees will not look the same as they will have a different history.

The objective in making a photographic record of trees and woodland in the Dales landscapes is that when these trees are lost they will be lost to human memory and there will be no other record of their existence.

Last Update: 2017-06-06



Record Number 975 >>> Image 1:



Record Number 975 >>> Image 2:



Record Number 975 >>> Image 3:



Record Number 975 >>> Image 4:

Record Name: Some specimen trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. The Fell End Yew.

SWAAG ID Number: 982

Recorded Date: 2017-03-02 16:51:24

Recorded by: Tim Laurie

Category: Tree/Shrub Record

Record Type: Botanical HER

Site Access: Public Access Land

Record Date: 0000-00-00

Location: Fremington Edge. Fell End.NZ02480228

Civil Parish: Reeth

British National Grid: NZ 0248 0228

Geology: Top of scree slope below sheer cliff formed by The Main Limestone

Description: This yew, in this wild setting, must be one of the finest wild specimens to be seen anywhere in Britain. It has several large trunks each rising from a very large common root bole which is today unseen, buried under limestone scree. The total girth of this multi stem yew tree at ground level but at about 1.0m above the root bole, is 6.0m.

It is female and produces a large crop of red arils (the fruit) which are devoured by flocks of field fares.

Dimensions: See photos

Additional Notes: This yew has been recorded as tree no 61350 on the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Hunt Database.

Other trees on the sheer face and top edge of Fell End Scar include further fine cliff edge yews, a solitary juniper bush (in poor health when last seen and now probably dead, a large gooseberry bush-the highest in Yorkshire!

Last Update: 2017-03-02



Record Number 982 >>> Image 1: The Fell End Yew, view southward.



Record Number 982 >>> Image 2: The Fell End Yew, view northward.



Record Number 982 >>> Image 3: Other trees and shrubs on Fell End Scar include cliff edge yews, a single juniper, a single gooseberry bush and hawthorn



Record Number 982 >>> Image 4: Detail of rootstock at base of the Fell End Yew