Record Name: Trace fossils on sandstone. Slab No Two.
SWAAG ID Number: 602
Recorded Date: 2012-09-03 16:08:57
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2012-09-02
Location: Hope Moor
Civil Parish: Hope
British National Grid: #NZ 010 082
Altitude: above 500m
Geology: Sandstone strata above the Richmond Chert Series.
Description: Trace fossil of worm like soft bodied creature on surface of sandstone slab.
Dimensions: See photos
Last Update: 2014-02-02

Record Number 602 >>> Image 1: Trace fossil of worm like animals is sandstone. Slab No 2.

Record Number 602 >>> Image 2: The same slab, detail.

Record Name: Fan like trace fossil from Chert Strata.
SWAAG ID Number: 603
Recorded Date: 2012-09-03 16:23:46
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2012-09-02
Location: Hope Moor
Civil Parish: Hope
British National Grid: #NZ 012 081
Altitude: Above 500m
Geology: Richmond Chert Srata
Description: Finely preserved fan like trace or plant fossil from Chert Strata.Slab No 3.
Dimensions: See photo.
Additional Notes: This an exceptionally fine example of a fossil which is not uncommon in strata of Namurian Age. Now identified by John Russell as Girtyocoelia, a member of the sponge (Calcispongia) family.
Last Update: 2012-09-05

Record Number 603 >>> Image 1: ow Finely preserved fan like trace or plant fossil from Chert Strata.Slab No 3.

Record Number 603 >>> Image 2: The same slab.

Record Number 603 >>> Image 3: The same slab.

Record Name: Roman lead pigs from Heyshaw, Nidderdale
SWAAG ID Number: 604
Recorded Date: 2012-09-05 17:16:50
Recorded by: Will Swales
Category: Archaeological Find
Record Type: Archaeology
Record Date: 2012-09-05
Location: Heyshaw, near Dacre, Nidderdale
British National Grid: SE 173 618
Description: Two reported finds of Roman lead pigs in Swaledale â€“ at Hurst Mines and at Crackpot â€“ are known to be unreliable because in both cases no proper record was made and the finds do not exist. See details at Additional notes below.

In any search for evidence that could support either story it might be helpful to consider the nature of similar finds in other lead-mining areas. This record relates primarily to the two Roman lead pigs found together near Dacre, in Nidderdale, about four miles from the lead mines on Greenhow Hill. It also includes an image and urls linking to further information about three Roman lead pigs found elsewhere in the country that closely fit the description of the one reportedly found at the Hurst Mines.

Nidderdale find â€“ Arthur Raistrick and Bernard Jennings in A History of Lead Mining in the Pennines (1965) cited an article by the Rector of Ripley in Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society vol. 41 (1735), p560, that describes the Nidderdale find. It related that in 1731 on the side of an old trackway near the hamlet of Heyshaw, a countrymanâ€™s horse slipped when its foot fell into a hole covered with heather. The curious rider thrust his hand into the hole and pulled out two large pigs of lead.

Both became possessions of the Ingleby family of Ripley Castle, and in 1772 one of them was bequeathed to the British Museum, where it remains. See below for image and link to the museumâ€™s online catalogue. The other pig was kept at Ripley Castle until being sold by auction in the mid 1990s. It came up for auction again in 2007 when it was sold for Â£36,000. See below for url linking to Bonhams online catalogue.

The pigs are almost identical, measuring about 58.5cm long, by 13.5cm wide, by 10cm deep, and weighing 70kg. The raised inscription on the top reads IMP CAES DOMITIANO AUG COS VII, which when the abbreviations are expanded becomes IMPERATORE CAESARE DOMITIANO AUGUSTO CONSULE VII, which translates as Emperor Caesar Domitian Augustus seventh year as consul. Another inscription on another face reads [BRI]G, which is thought to be an abbreviation for BRIGANTICUM, the name the Romans gave to the Pennine region.
Additional Notes: The only known report of the Roman lead said to have been found at the Hurst Mines in Swaledale was in Harry Speightâ€™s book Romantic Richmondshire, published in 1897. He wrote (p207-8): â€œThe mines at Hurst are â€¦ believed to be on the site of a Roman penal settlement, to which the Roman commanders sent their convicts to labour. A piece of lead bearing the name of ADRIAN was discovered in one of the oldest workings about 50 years ago, and is now in the British Museum.â€•

However in 1956 Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby in their book The Yorkshire Dales reported (p251) that the pig was now lost, and then in 1965 Arthur Raistrick and Bernard Jennings added in their History of Lead Mining in the Pennines (p3) that all efforts to trace it had failed, and it was feared it had been melted down. At the request of the contributor of this record, another search of the British Museum collection was kindly conducted by one of its curators in 2012, but once again drew a blank.

If the story of this find has any truth to it, a clue to its outcome might lie in Speightâ€™s brief description of the item. He called it a â€˜piece of leadâ€™ not a pig or ingot, suggesting it was a fragment. And his report of the inscription ADRIAN supports the idea. It cannot have been a full inscription, as is indicated

by the inscriptions on complete lead pigs from the period of Emperor Hadrian that are preserved at the British Museum. See the sample image below, together with urls linking to further information on this and two other similar examples at the museumâ€™s online catalogue.

If the Hurst Mine find was a poor quality fragment of a pig, perhaps this was a reason for it to be rejected by the British Museum, and consequently for it to be deemed of little value and melted down. Perhaps it was the last fragment of what had been a small collection of ancient pigs being progressively used up at the mines for some work-related functions, or even systematically plundered by locals.

The second Roman lead pig reportedly found in Swaledale was also described by Hartley and Ingilby in their book of 1956. They told (p251) of the find occurring sometime around the 1870s at Crackpot in the Little Haverdale valley. They reported that its historic value had not been realised and it had been melted down. Later, Edmund Cooper, in his wonderfully succinct book A History of Swaledale (1973), expanded the story, revealing (p15) that this pig was said to have borne the imprint of an emperorâ€™s head and some Roman lettering, and had been found in Crackpot Gill by Mr Francis Garth. Cooper said he had been told by the finderâ€™s daughter, who must have been very old at the time, that her father melted it down â€œto fix iron crooks into stone gateposts.â€•

Given what is known about the several preserved examples of Roman lead pigs from other lead-mining areas, the stories of the Swaledale finds must be considered to have some credibility. The locations and descriptions seem entirely plausible; the sparse, unembellished details have the ring of truth; and it would appear that at no stage has anyone gained from promoting the stories. However, without the finds and without any evidence other than hearsay we can only guess at whether they are true or distortions of something, or merely romantic invention.
Last Update: 2012-09-05

Record Number 604 >>> Image 1: Roman lead pig found at Heyshaw, near Dacre in Nidderdale in 1735, and now at the British Museum. The image is the copyright of the British Museum and reproduced here with permission. The raised inscription on the top reads IMP CAES DOMITIANO AUG COS VII. For further information see the museumâ€™s online catalogue at: http://tiny.cc/ro55jw. For an image and further information on the other pig found at the same time and recently sold at auction see http://www.bonhams.com/auctions/15215/lot/303/

Record Number 604 >>> Image 2: Roman lead pig from the period of the Emperor Hadrian, found in Shropshire in 1795 and now at the British Museum. The image is the copyright of the British Museum and reproduced here with permission. The raised inscription, which is the briefest of the three on lead pigs identifying Hadrian in the museumâ€™s collections, reads IMP HADRIANI AUG. See further information on this at http://tiny.cc/eq55jw; and on two similar finds at: http://tiny.cc/7q55jw; and http://tiny.cc/ur55jw

Record Name: The Dovecote Hole. Scargill High Moor.Rowan and associated flora.
SWAAG ID Number: 605
Recorded Date: 2012-09-09 15:08:07
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-09-08
Location: Scargill High Moor. Dovecote Hole (Shake Hole)
Civil Parish: Scargill
British National Grid: NZ 00698 08742
Altitude: 466m
Geology: Swallow hole with visible pot hole at outcrop of the Main Limestone.
Description: The Dovecote Hole is one of a linear group of a large and deep swallow holes marking the upper limit of the Main Limestone which is beneath a considerable depth of glacial till.
An ancient twin stemmed Rowan is rooted in the limeestone. The vegetation at Dovecote Hole (inf. Mrs Linda Robinson) includes: wood-sorrel (Oxalis acetosella),heath dog violet (Viola canina), hard shield fern (Polistichum aculeatum), brittle bladder fern (Cystopteris fragilis), male fern (Dryopteris filix-mas). Whereas an ancient isolated rowan is the only tree here at present the vegetation includes woodland indicator plants characteristic of the woodland once present here.
Dimensions: See photgraphs
Additional Notes: Dovecote Hole may have received its name as the site of a pigeon house or dove cote. If this seems improbable, pigeons housed in coops at secluded locations on the open moor were used by Game Keepers to attract peregrines and other hawks presumably so that they could be more conveniently killed.
Last Update: 2012-09-09

Record Number 605 >>> Image 1:

Record Number 605 >>> Image 2:

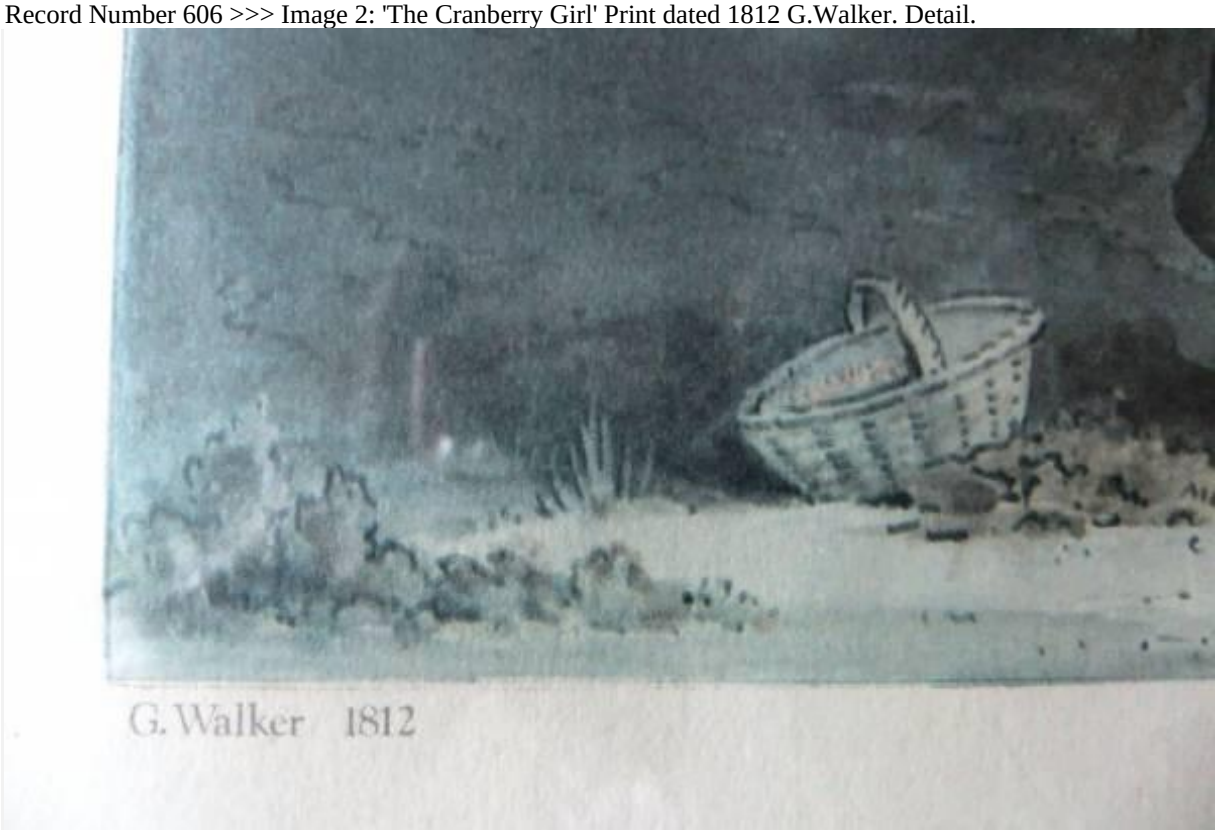
Record Number 605 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 605 >>> Image 4:

Record Name: The Cranberry Mires of Arkengarthdale and Stainmore
SWAAG ID Number: 606
Recorded Date: 2012-09-09 17:49:24
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Flower / Plant Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-09-09
Location: M19 Mires at Adjustment Bottom, West Moor and below Spanham West Hill
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid:
Altitude: Various
Geology: Upland raised peat mires.
Description: Marsh cranberry is scarce to abundant on the surface of M19 raised mires with heather, cross-leaved heath, round leaved sundew, cotton grass, deer grass, sphagnum moss, etc.
Cranberry fruit is today virtually non existent, even where the fine stems of cranberry are extremely abundant.
Whether this inability to set fruit is due to the absence of pollinating insects (?bees) or whether it is due to the previously widespread drainage gripping of all blanket peat bog during the 1970's or to increasing warm winters is debatable.
A very large programme of infilling the drainage grips has recently been completed in Arkengarthdale and will greatly reduce surface drainage through the peat to the advantage of the bog communities.
Cranberry occurs at many locations where blanket peat is wet and just two locations are illustrated here.
Dimensions: N/A
Species: Marsh Cranberry
Scientific Name: Vaccinium oxycoccos
Additional Notes: During the 19th Century, cranberries were sold at markets 'by the cartload' (Sowerby, J. 'English Botany'. 1873) and G. Walker's print 'The Cranberry Girl'from his series on Yorkshire Dales Life which includes the well known 'Wensleydale Knitters' could have been set at one of the Mud Beck Mires in Arkengarthdale with views towards the Tan Hill Uplands.
The girl has collected a heap of cranberries in her apron for her basket and her companion is seen to be very busy picking and abundance of the fruit.
In each of the two bogs illustrated where cranberry stems and leaves are abundant, I recently managed to find just one berry.See photo.
Last Update: 2012-09-10
Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore

Record Number 606 >>> Image 1: 'The Cranberry Girl' Print dated 1812 G.Walker.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 2: 'The Cranberry Girl' Print dated 1812 G.Walker. Detail.



Record Number 606 >>> Image 3: 'The Cranberry Girl' Print dated 1812 G.Walker. Detail.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 4: Scargill Moor. M19 Mire with deer grass (Trichophorum sp) in foreground and cranberry in wet places. Below Spanham West Hill.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 5: Arkengarthdale. West Moor. Adjustment Bottom Cranberry Mire. Moor drainage grip infilled. A job well done!

Record Number 606 >>> Image 6: Cranberry (Vaccinium oxycoccos) Sowerby 'English Botany' 1873. Plate DCLXVIII

Record Number 606 >>> Image 7: Surface of M19 Mire with heather or ling, cross leaved heath, crowberry, round leaved sundew, cotton grass (Eriophorum vaginatum),common cotton grass (E. langustifolium),sphagnum etc.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 8: Cranberry stems and leaves on sphagnum.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 9: Cranberry (the only berry seen) and cranberry stem

Record Number 606 >>> Image 10: Round leaved sundew. (Drosera rotundifolia). Sowerby 'English Botany' 1873.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 11: Arkengarthdale. West Moor. Mire at Adjustment Bottom.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 12: Arkengarthdale. West Moor. Mire at Adjustment Bottom. Surface.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 13: Deer grass. Trichophorum sp.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 14: Deer grass. Trichophorum sp.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 15: Caterpiller of Emperor Hawk Moth.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 16: Bog asphodel.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 17: Sphagnum with sundew.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 18: Sphagnum with massed cranberry stems.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 19: Sphagnum mound with sundew etc

Record Number 606 >>> Image 20: Sphagnum mound with sundew etc. Detail of surface.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 21: The main channelthrough the Mire.

Record Number 606 >>> Image 22: Marsh fern. Thelipteris thelipteroides.

Record Name: Black Scar House. Sheep fold and bield at Uldale Foot..
SWAAG ID Number: 607
Recorded Date: 2012-09-17 13:48:25
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Vernacular Record
Record Type: General HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Birkdale Common
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: NY 8220 0248
Altitude: 450m
Geology: Stream cut Namurian sandstones and shales.
Description: Perhaps the best preserved of all stone built sheepfold bields in the Dales and a very fine advertisement for Swaledale as it is either the first (or last) sign of human habitation to be seen on the B6270 road from (or to) Nateby and Kirby Stephen into (or from) Upper Swaledale.
Dimensions: See photographs
Last Update: 2012-09-17

Record Number 607 >>> Image 1: Black Scar House from the B6270 road

Record Number 607 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 607 >>> Image 3:

Record Name: Tree remains at base of deep peat at Uldale Gill Head.
SWAAG ID Number: 608
Recorded Date: 2012-09-17 14:26:20
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Birkdale Common, Uldale Gill Head, Lodge Hags.
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid:
Altitude: 635m
Geology: Remnants of once continuous 2-4m deep blanket peat peat on Namurian grits.
Description: This record is an introduction to a programme of research currently being undertaken by two Dissertation Undergraduates from the University of York working under the supervision of Dr Rob Marchant designed to throw some light on the vegetational history of Upper Swaledale.
Two seperate peat cores totalling some 4.0m in depth were obtained. Site 2 from the a layer 1.5m deep peat, the remnant of deeper peat partly eroded. This remnant of old deep peat was located immediately above the tree remains at Tarn Level. Pollen Sampling Site 1 was located to core the relatively undisturbed blanket peat on the slope immediately west of the peat infilled tarn- like basin from which Uldale Gill emerges. There were few tree remains below this peat which was around 2.5m deep.
This area is of particular interest in that a very large area of fossil tree remains have been exposed where the overlying peat has been eroded down to but not below the tarn surface water level which is close to the base of the 3-4m deep overlying peat.
Macro remains of scots pine, willow and birch have been identified. All tree remains are very stunted, thin and calloused branch material reflecting the highly exposed and windy conditions of this place which was at or close to the contemporary altitudinal limit of trees.

Dimensions: see photos
Additional Notes: The peat cores will be subjected to intensive study. Pollen samples will be counted at intervals to determine woodland composition and the peat will be examined to determine the varying conditions of deposition. It is to be hoped that this research will reveal the local and general climatic and vegetational development from the onset of peat formation at an early date following the final retreat of the Devensian Glacial Ice.
The existence of Pine, Willow and Birch at this high elevation (635m) is mirrored by similar finds from peat on the summits of the Southern Pennines. The highest record of Pine in this study (on Holme Moss) was at a mere 520m AOD whereas the pine remains at Uldale Head are at 635m AOD! An altitudinal record for this tree in British peat perhaps.
Reference: Tallis, J.H. and Switsur, V.R. Forest and Moorland in the South pennine Uplands in the Mid Flandrian period. Journal of Ecology (1883), 71, 585-600
Last Update: 2012-09-17

Record Number 608 >>> Image 1: Pollen sampling site 2. Remnant peat directly above the tree remains at tarn level

Record Number 608 >>> Image 2: Pollen sampling site 2. Work in progress.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 3: Pollen sampling site 2.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 4: Pollen sampling site 2.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 5: Pollen sampling site 2.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 6: Pollen sampling site 2.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 7: The approach to Uldale head passing remnant islands of peat. Each with a halo of bare un vegetated ground showing rapidity of erosion.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 8: The approach to Uldale head passing remnant islands of peat. Each with a halo of bare un vegetated ground showing rapidity of erosion.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 9: The approach to Uldale head passing remnant islands of peat. Each with a halo of bare un vegetated ground showing rapidity of erosion.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 10: The approach to Uldale head passing remnant islands of peat. Each with a halo of bare un vegetated ground showing rapidity of erosion.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 11: The approach to Uldale head passing remnant islands of peat. Each with a halo of bare un vegetated ground showing rapidity of erosion.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 12: Uldale Beck head. Source of the Swale.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 13: The Tarn

Record Number 608 >>> Image 14: The Tarn

Record Number 608 >>> Image 15: Pollen Site 1

Record Number 608 >>> Image 16: Pine layer. Pollen Site 1 in distance.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 17: Tree remains, all very small- thin and stunted trees grew here at their altitudinal limit.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 18: Tree remains, all very small- thin and stunted trees grew here at their altitudinal limit.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 19: Tree remains, all very small- thin and stunted trees grew here at their altitudinal limit.

Record Number 608 >>> Image 20: Section of pine

Record Number 608 >>> Image 21: Section of pine.

Record Name: Birk Hill Scars above Kisdon Falls. Limestone ashwood with aspen, yew and juniper.
SWAAG ID Number: 609
Recorded Date: 2012-09-20 11:04:17
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-09-19
Location: Muker. Keld, Birk Hill Scars and woodland on south bank of the Swale below track to Kisdon High Force
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: NY 8975 0094
Altitude: 330m-360m
Geology: Vertical north facing cliffs and talus slopes below.Upper reaches of Kisdon Gorge cut by the Swale through Main and Underset Limestones
Description: Species rich limestone ashwood with aspen, yew, juniper, wych elm, hazel,sallow, rowan,elder,rose and a rich ground flora in north facing woodland above the River Swale. Several ancient yews and wych elms on the face of sheer limestone cliffs. Many old birches, bird cherries and hazel coppices on the talus slopes below.
Aspen clones in a species rich ashwood community with ancient wych elms on the top edge of the upper cliff.
On the opposite side of the gorge, stunted oaks (Qu. robur here) are present on the chert strata overlying the limestone at the top edge of the cliffs. Oak is absent from the North Facing cliffs.
Holly appears to be absent from these woods.
Among the ground flora, melancholly thistle is prominent.Harts tongue fern grows on the limestone cliff and mossy saxifrage is present on the scree slopes.
See also Record No 379 for the woodland on the upper cliff at Birk Hill.
Dimensions: See photofile
Species: Aspen, juniper, yew, wych elm, gean.
Additional Notes: The single juniper is on a detached block of chert strata with an estabished acidic vegetation, see photos.
Last Update: 2012-09-21
Tree Geographical Area: Upper Swaledale

Record Number 609 >>> Image 1: River Swale in woodland above Kisdon High Falls.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 2: Fallen limestone block in bed of River Swale above Kisdon High Falls.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 3: The Upper Falls.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 4: View towards Keld from footpath above Birk Hills upper scar with yews, aspen, birch and wych elm.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 5: Birk Hills upper scar with aspen.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 6: Wych elms, both alive and dead at top of Upper Scar.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 7: Wych Elm, detail of the base of this ancient self or wind coppiced tree.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 8: Isolated juniper with rowan, birch and bird cherry on detached block of chert strata in scree.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 9: View down towards the Kisdon Gorge.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 10: Birk Hills. Upper cliff from below with yews, aspen, birch and wych elm.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 11: Ancient yew with exposed trunk which supports the large fallen trunk of a Wild Cherry. There are very few wild cherry (Prunus avium) trees in Upper Swaledale. On the other hand Bird Cherry (Prunus padus) are frequent in most ravines.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 12: Ancient yew with exposed trunk, detail of the base of this extraordinary tree which grows on the cill face. Showing dead, petrified roots of an earlier tree of many centuries in age supporting a 'young offspring, above.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 13: Typical yew on top edge of cliff.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 14: Vegetation on face of the lower cliff.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 15: Harts-tongue fern on face of cliff.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 16: Old hazel 'trees' by the Swale

Record Number 609 >>> Image 17: Detail of last

Record Number 609 >>> Image 18: Prostrate Bird Cherries like this are frequent in most ravines in Swaledale and usually windblown but very much alive.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 19: Detached stack at base of cliff which has survived a recent rock fall.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 20: Detached stack at bse of cliff which has survived a recent rock fall, but seems to have moved away since the last photo was taken...

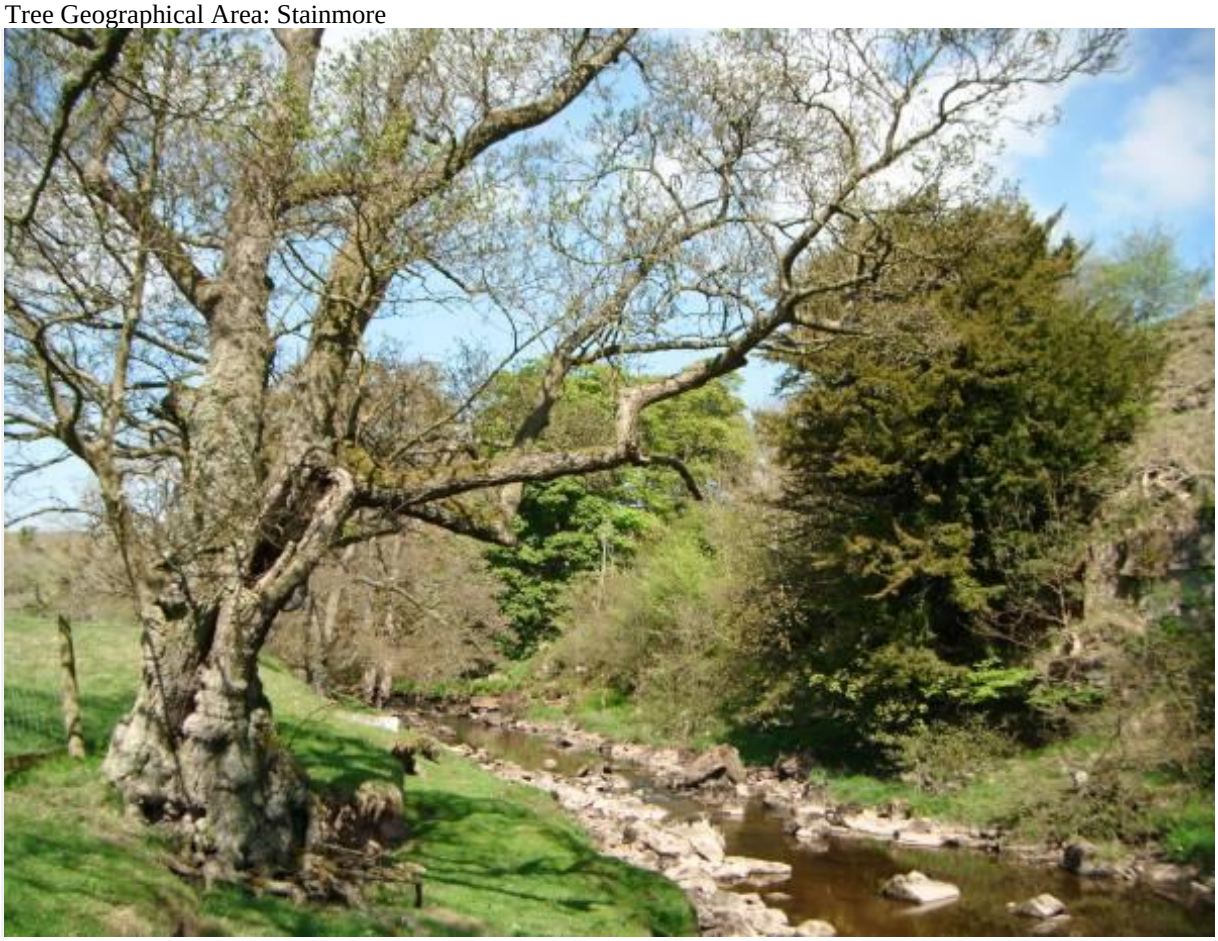
Record Number 609 >>> Image 21: Woodland with downy birch.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 22: Detail of the base of a very ancient coppiced birch tree.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 23: The recent rock fall. This fall has carried down several trees from the cliff.

Record Number 609 >>> Image 24: The Upper Falls, the end of the footpath and end of this photopicture of a fine native Swaledale Wood.

Record Name: Riverside alders and cliff woodland with ancient yew by the River Greta below Rutherford Bridge.
SWAAG ID Number: 610
Recorded Date: 2012-09-21 14:32:45
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2011-04-27
Location: River Greta, North and South Banks below Rutherford Bridge
Civil Parish: Scargill
British National Grid: NZ 0370 1210
Geology: River side banks and low cliffs.
Description: Very fine riverside alders and an isolated ancient north bank cliff yew by the River Greta below Rutherford Bridge.
Dimensions: The girth of the cliff yew is estimated at no less than 5.5m
Species: Alders and yew
Additional Notes: See photographs.
This is a preliminary record and a full vegetation list will follow.
Last Update: 2012-09-21
Tree Geographical Area: Stainmore



Record Number 610 >>> Image 1: River Greta below Rutherford Bridge. View upstream with alders and yew.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 2: The Rutherford Bridge Yew from below.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 3: View downstream, south bank with alders.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 4: Alder.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 5: Alder, detail.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 6: Alder detail with lichen

Record Number 610 >>> Image 7: Hazel with bluebells and early purple orchids

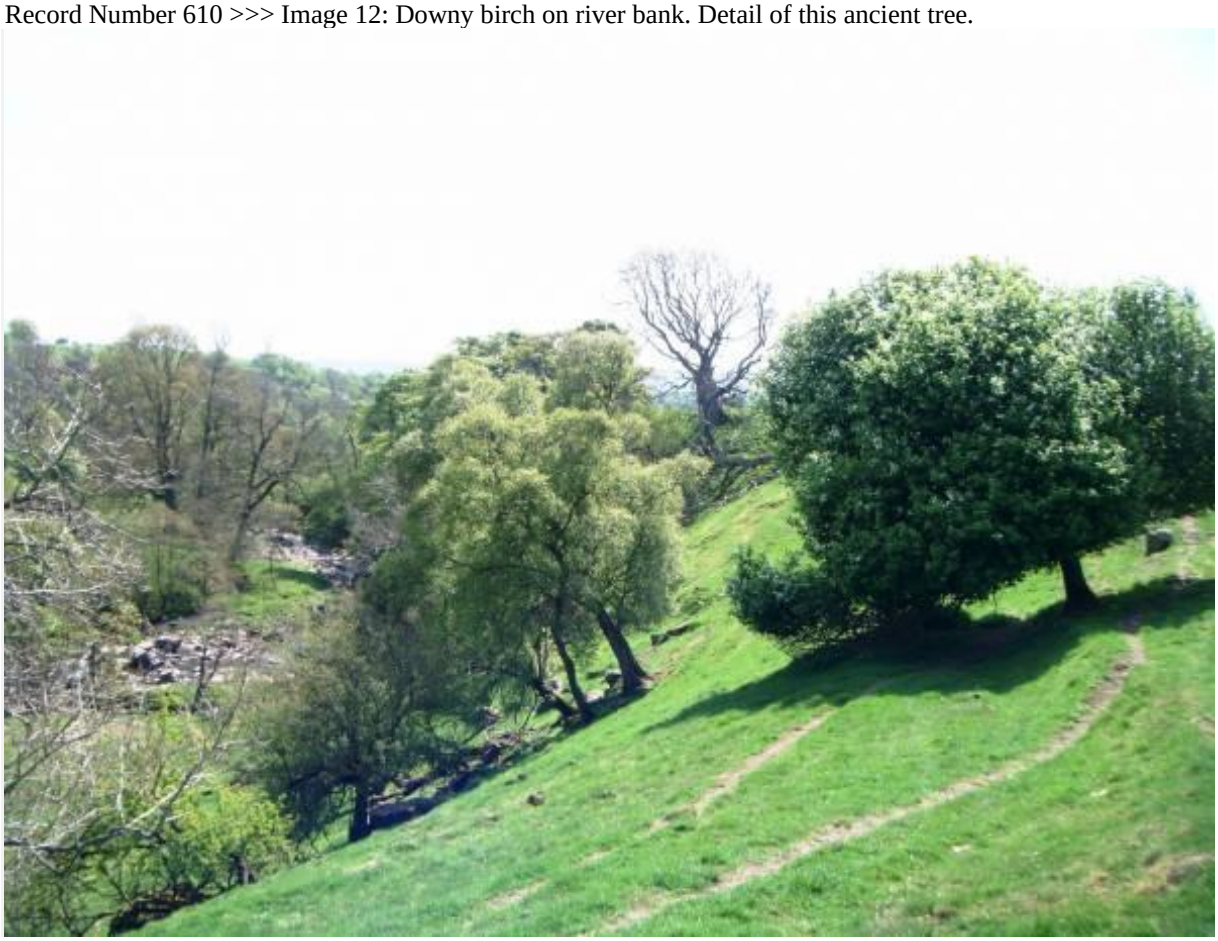
Record Number 610 >>> Image 8: Bluebells and early purple orchids

Record Number 610 >>> Image 9: Early purple orchid. (Orchis mascula).

Record Number 610 >>> Image 10: Ancient self coppiced downy birch (B. pubescens) on riverbank.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 11: Downy birch on river bank. Detail of this ancient tree.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 12: Downy birch on river bank. Detail of this ancient tree.



Record Number 610 >>> Image 13: The Greta below with downy birch, bird cherry, rowan and blackthorn.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 14: The Greta below with downy birch, bird cherry, rowan and blackthorn.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 15: bird cherry in flower

Record Number 610 >>> Image 16: bird cherry in flower.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 17: Bird cherry foliage with moth cocoon. The caterpillers from these cocoons will strip the foliage from these bird cherries.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 18:

Record Number 610 >>> Image 19: Elder, blackthorn, rowan and primroses.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 20: Elder fragment with primroses.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 21: This fragmentary elder is of great antiquity.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 22:

Record Number 610 >>> Image 23:

Record Number 610 >>> Image 24: Rowan, blackthorn in relict hedgerow.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 25: The Greta

Record Number 610 >>> Image 26: Yew with exposed root system originally within the rock face.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 27: Yew with exposed root system originally within the rock face.

Record Number 610 >>> Image 28: ?Hedge bedstraw. (G.mollugo)

Record Number 610 >>> Image 29: Hairy rock cress. (Arabis hirsuta)

Record Number 610 >>> Image 30: Woodland with remains of ancient multi stemmed wych elm on rock outcrop.

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 stes, 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: Southern Hawker Dragonfly egg laying in pool formed by Grip Blocking.
SWAAG ID Number: 612
Recorded Date: 2012-09-28 14:15:11
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fauna
Record Type: Fauna HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-09-20
Location: Arkengarthdale. Mire between Tarnhow Hill and Long Rig
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NY 977 086
Altitude: 420m
Geology: Blanket peat mire over Namurian chert strata.
Description: By chance, during botanical recording on a peat mire, Mrs Linda Robinson noticed a dragonfly vibrating its wings half submerged in the surface film of a pool formed by grip blocking operations.
Additional Notes: A large scale programme of blocking the drainage grips which were cut some 40 years ago across blanket peat mires then to assist drainage and now found to be undesirable, has produced very large numbers of small temporary pools of static water very well suited to Dragonflies , water skaters and other aquatic insects.
The peat mire receives highly calcareous water from springs situated on the hill slopes just above the peat, these spring mounds are carpeted by bright green Cratoneuron commutatum moss and are highly visible. Occasionally these spring mounds are the habitat of rare plants, but when drained as these examples, they lose the calcium rich water and the rare plants requiring these special conditions to survive, disappear.
Last Update: 2012-09-28

Record Number 612 >>> Image 1: Southern Hawker Dragonfly egg laying.

Record Number 612 >>> Image 2: Southern Hawker Dragonfly vibrating its wings in readiness to fly.

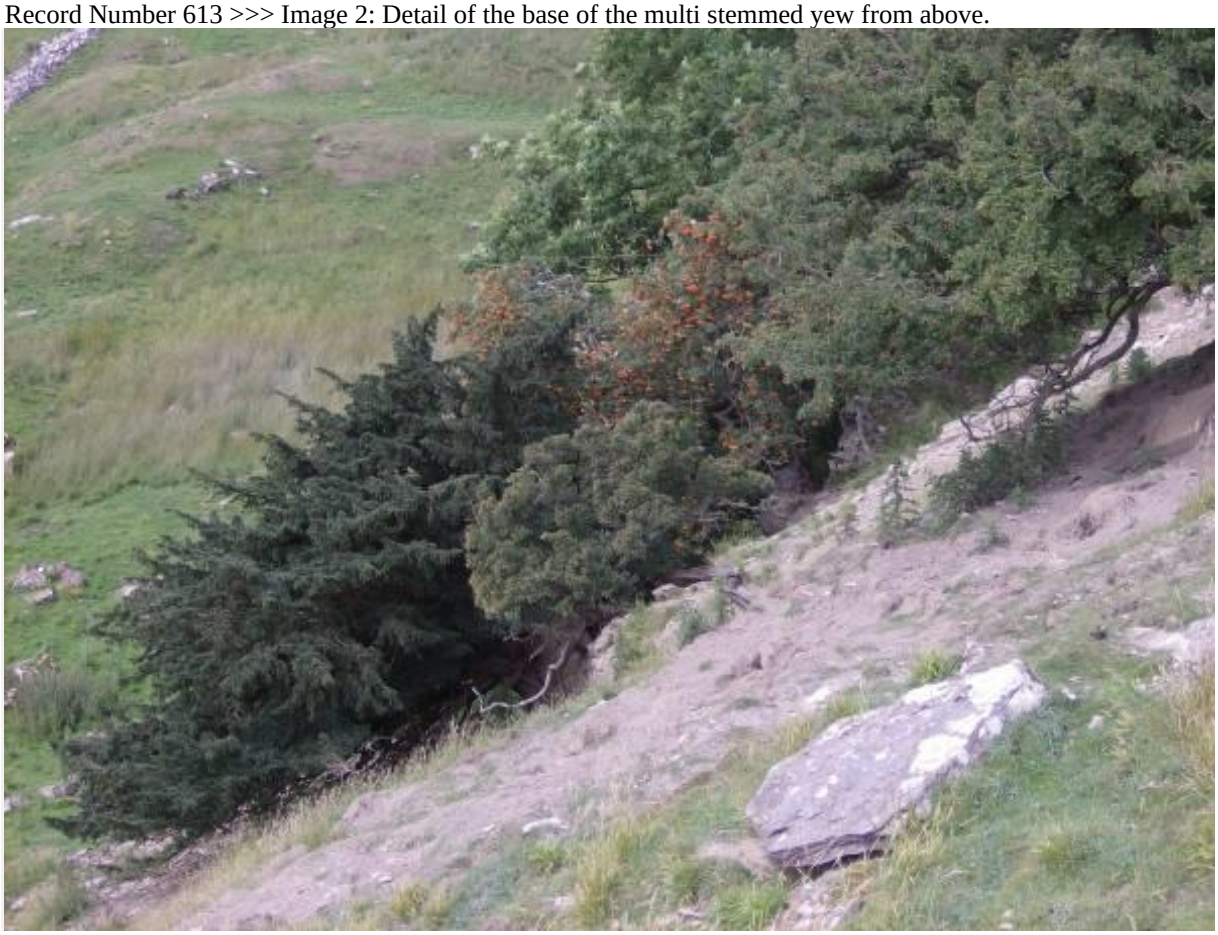
Record Number 612 >>> Image 3: Southern Hawker Dragonfly having dried its wings is about to fly off fast and high.

Record Number 612 >>> Image 4: Recent grip blocking operations have formed many small pools ideal for Dragonflies. Note the bright green Cratoneuron moss carpeted calcareous spring mounds on the slopes above the Peat Mire.

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: Three cup and ring marked rocks below Cock How.
SWAAG ID Number: 614
Recorded Date: 2012-09-29 09:33:27
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Rock Art
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Musgrove or Cleaburn Pasture below Cock How.
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid: NZ 085 002
Altitude: 300m
Geology: Faulted and mineralised Richmond Cherts and Ten Fathom Grits
Description: Two of these rocks were recognised when this area was rough moorland during the late 1970's and mentioned in the excellent Shire Archaeology Series 'Rock Carvings of Northern Britain' Stan Beckensall,1986. The photographs below, which include a third rock (No3) revealed following first ploughing of and seeding of the pasture, were taken during fieldwork by Stan Beckensall and Tim Laurie towards the publication of 'The Prehistoric Rock Art of Co Durham,Swaledale and Wensleydale.' County Durham Books, 1998.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: See Photo captions.
Last Update: 2012-09-29

Record Number 614 >>> Image 1: This rock covered entirely with multi cup marks some of which are enclosed by a pecked groove is one of the most remarkable examples of cup marked rocks in this area.

Record Number 614 >>> Image 2: This earthfast slab of very rough sandstone (a poor rock surface but selected nevertheless) has many cups and cups with single rings.

Record Number 614 >>> Image 3: This rock, which was revealed by ploughing to improve the rough pasture, has cups and two cups with single rings.

Record Name: Muker Common.Three limekilns at West Greenseat.
SWAAG ID Number: 615
Recorded Date: 2012-10-05 15:56:48
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Industrial Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-10-04
Location: Muker Common. West Greenseat Scar.
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: NY 89457 96645
Altitude: 510m
Geology: Main Limestone.
Description: The most prominent and the best preserved of three limekilns at West Greenseat is the very fine example located at the western end of West Greenseat Scar, see photo image nos 1-8.
The second limekiln is more discretely located on the west bank of Greenseat Beck. This second limekiln (No 2) was approached by a wide metalled roadway which passes through the highest pasture wall at Greenseat Gate. The abutment of the arched bridge over Greenseat Gill is visible. This roadway and the limekiln are shown on Photos 9- 16. The slight remains of a third limekiln (No3) can just be detected at the eastern end of West Greenseat Scar, see photo No 17.
Dimensions: See photographs.
Additional Notes: These three limekilns which are all located at a spectacular location on and above 500m elevation on the southern edge of Upper Swaledale illustrate the importance of Lime Production to the productivity of Dales Farms in the years before the availability of oil based fertilisers.
The masonry of Limekiln No 1 is of exceptional quality.
Last Update: 2012-10-05

Record Number 615 >>> Image 1: Greenseat Scar. Limekiln No. 1. The masonry of this fine kiln is of exceptionally high quality.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 615 >>> Image 8: Limekiln No 1 at West Greenseat Scar from below.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 9: The roadway to Limekiln No 2 from Greenseat gate to Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 10: The roadway to Limekiln No 2 from Greenseat gate to Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 11: The roadway to Limekiln No 2 from Greenseat gate to Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 12: Limekiln No 2 from Greenseat gate to Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 13: Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 14: View northward from Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 15: View northward from Limekiln No 2 in Greenseat Beck Gill.

Record Number 615 >>> Image 16: Remains of Limekiln No 3 at the eastern end of Greenseat Scar. This limekiln has been demolished, possibly to provide stones for nearby drystone walls.

Record Name: Muker Common. The Providence Hushes and Providence Mine.
SWAAG ID Number: 616
Recorded Date: 2012-10-06 17:08:59
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Industrial Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-10-04
Location: Muker Common
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid:
Altitude: 500m
Geology: Faulted and mineralised strata (the Providence Vein) at and below the Main Limestone. The Providence Vein can be traced from Cliff Beck in Swaledale to Sargill and beyond the River Ure to cross Burtersett High Pasture to Wether Fell- a total distance of 7.5 miles. (Dunham K.C. and Wilson A.A. 1985.Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2 Stainmore to Craven.p166 and Figure30).
Description: The Providence Mine worked the lead ore deposits (up to 60m wide) on the Providence Vein from three different Levels and also by previous hushing and was in production until 1880. The prominent spoil heaps of highly dolomitised and limonitised limestone typical of flot workings in the zone of oxidation are very extensive.The ores worked includedcrussite-fringed galena,calcite,aragonite and baryt. (Dunham K.C. and Wilson A.A. 1985.)
Additional Notes: Access to this mine involves a lengthy walk and there are remains of a made trackway leading eastward towards West Greenseat, see photo.
Last Update: 2013-01-14

Record Number 616 >>> Image 1: Spoil heaps of the Providence Mine from the east towards Cliff Beck and the Buttertubs Road.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 2: Location of the collapsed portal of one of the main Levels. Stone faces of both walls of the portal just visible. Marked by collapses and by seepage of water draining from the Level.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 3: Spoil heaps and hushes.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 4: Spoil heaps and hushes.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 5: Spoil heaps and hushes.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 6: Mineralised material from the spoil heaps.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 7: Spoil heaps and hushes.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 8: Trackway leading from the Providence mine eastward and upward towards West Greenseat.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 9: View northward from providence Mine towards Thwaite and Kisdon Hill

Record Number 616 >>> Image 10: Alan Mills marks the position of two collapsed boose teams at lower end of the line of spoil heaps.

Record Number 616 >>> Image 11: View eastward towards West Greenseat, visible in distance across the line of spoil heaps

Record Number 616 >>> Image 12: Detail of collapsed walling at the boose teams covered by spoil heap debris.

Record Name: Noon Gill Head. A stream cut ravine through black shales above the Main Limestone.
SWAAG ID Number: 617
Recorded Date: 2012-10-08 12:07:43
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-10-04
Location: Muker Common. Noon Gill.
Civil Parish: Stainton
British National Grid: SD 8940 9645
Altitude: 530m
Geology: Stream cut ravine revealing black shales or mudstone strata with thin interbedded calcareous sandstone beds of Late Pendleian and Arngillian (Namurian) Age. (Dunham and Wilson 1985,p166).
The photographs show the sandstone beds dip sharply down close to the junction with horizontal beds of the Main Limestone indicating that the stream has respected a minor fault in the Providence Vein series of fractures.
Description: Stream cut ravine at the western end of West Greenseat in black shales or mudstones with thin interbedded calcareous sandstone beds of Late Pendleian and Arngillian (Namurian) Age. (Dunham and Wilson 1985,p166).
The photographs show the sandstone beds dip sharply down close to the junction with horizontal beds of the Main Limestone indicating that the stream has respected a minor fault in the Providence Vein series of fractures.
The Tan Hill Coal outcrops at a higher elevation.
Last Update: 2012-10-08

Record Number 617 >>> Image 1: Noon Gill. Ravine cut through black shales above the Main Limestone.

Record Number 617 >>> Image 2: Noon Gill detail showing strata dipping at minor fault close to junction with the Main Limestone

Record Number 617 >>> Image 3: Noon Gill detail showing strata dipping at minor fault close to junction with the Main Limestone

Record Number 617 >>> Image 4: West Greenseat. Line of solution holes mark the outcrop of the Main Limestone east of Noon Gill.

Record Name: Scar Houses. Cliff Beck Upper Waterfall,Ford and Footbridge.
SWAAG ID Number: 618
Recorded Date: 2012-10-08 12:26:28
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geomorphology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-10-04
Location: Cliff Beck.
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: SD 8941 9783
Altitude: 300m
Geology: Hardraw Scar Limestone. Waterfall ravine. BGS Sheet 40.
Description: The access road to Appletree Thwaite House and Pastures crosses Cliff Beck by means of a ford located at the top of a rocky ravine through which Cliff Beck thunders when in spate. In time of spate Cliff Beck must be crossed by means of an ancient stone arched footbridge which is less than a metre in width and has no parapet or guard rail.
Since this footbridge is situated just 3m downstream of the Upper Falls it is possible when standing on the bridge across the ravine to enjoy a unique sensation of risk from the Falls when in flood. The Upper Falls are at same level as the bridge and very close indeed.
Last Update: 2012-10-08

Record Number 618 >>> Image 1: Cliff Beck. Scar House Upper Falls in spate, photographed from the stone bridge..

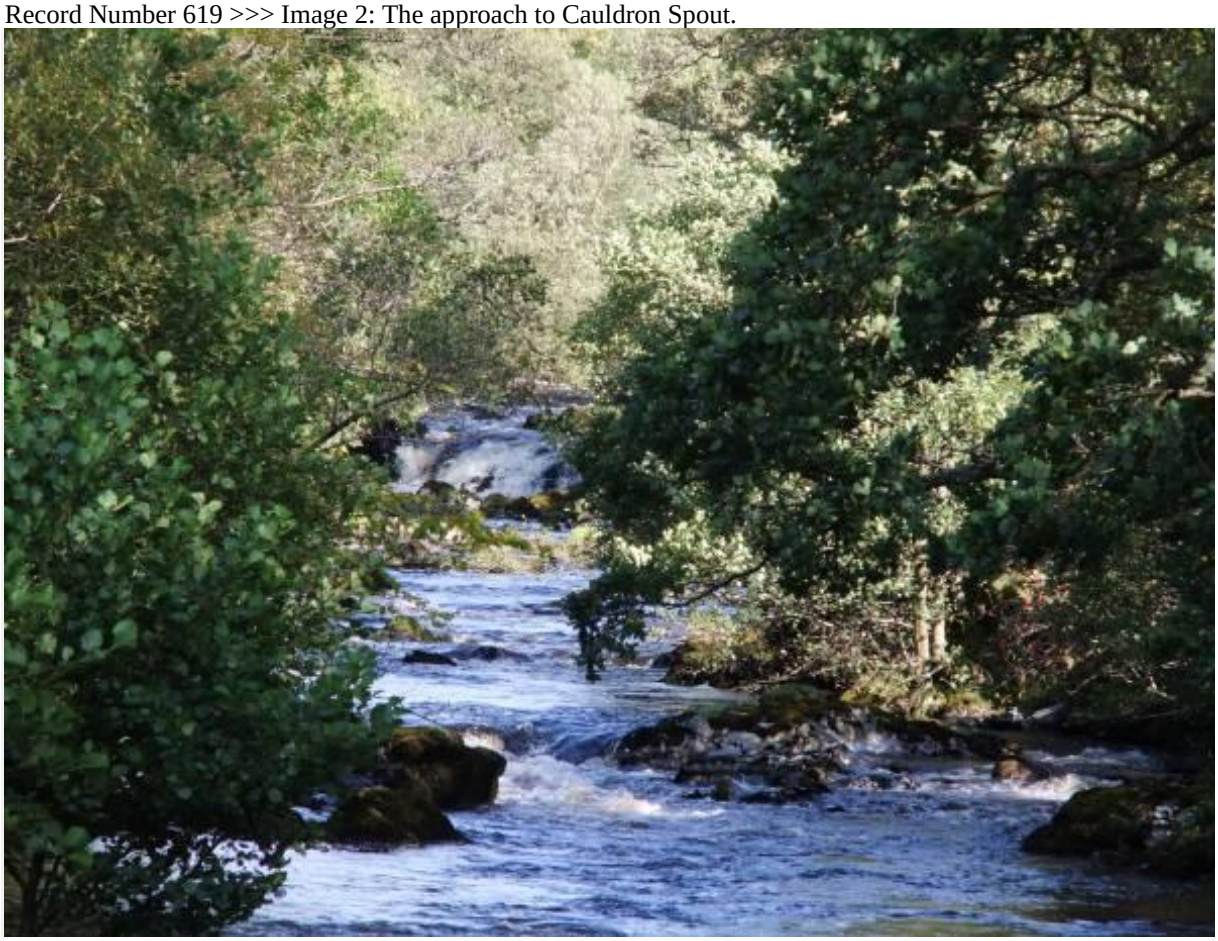
Record Number 618 >>> Image 2: Cliff Beck. Scar House Upper Falls.

Record Name: The Howgill Fells. Cautley Crags,Cautley Spout and Settlement of Romano British character.
SWAAG ID Number: 619
Recorded Date: 2012-10-10 16:09:22
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: Northern Britain
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-10-01
Location: Sedbergh CP. Footpath to Cautley Spout Waterfall.
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid: SD 683 975
Altitude: 310m
Geology: The Howgill Dome. Older Palaeozoic (Pre Old Red Sandstone).
Glacial corrie and hanging valley (Cautley Crags).
Stream cut ravine with continuous waterfalls (Cautley Spout).
Description: Relatively easy hill walk on made trackway to see the impressive glacial corrie and hanging valley at Cautley Crags, Cautley Spout waterfall and ravine (CARE needed here) and to search for and (with the assistance of an information panel), attempt to interpret the earthworks of a Late Iron Age/Native Roman Settlement located on a river terrace and crossed by the Public Footpath. Careful searching is required to identify the ancient trackway which runs through the settlement to the base of the waterfall. This trackway may or may not be contemporary with the Romano British Settlement.
Dimensions: See on site information panel.
Additional Notes: The settlement enclosure consists of a substantial curvilinear stone dump bank with some surviving facing stones. The round houses within the enclosure are defined by circular stone banks or small platforms and by changes of vegetation- but not very easy to interpret on the ground, but an interesting exercise of recently aquired archaeological fieldwork skills! This settlement is one of a number of similar settlements on the fringe of the Howgill Fells.

Last Update: 2012-10-11

Record Number 619 >>> Image 1: Cautley Crags from the bridge over the River Rawthey

Record Number 619 >>> Image 2: The approach to Cauldron Spout.



Record Number 619 >>> Image 3: The River Rawthey from the footbridge.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 4: Approach to the Falls.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 5: The on-site information panel.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 6: The on-site information panel.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 7: The on-site information panel.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 8: Washfold.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 9: The lower ravine with native woodland,including ash, holly,hazel, rowan, and two junipers. Wych elm and Sallows are absent.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 10: ASh coppard.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 11: View downstream.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 12: Holly.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 13: Lower falls and ravine.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 14: Two isolated juniper bushes.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 15: The Falls. Have Care! Approach no closer to the edge than this!

Record Number 619 >>> Image 16: Cautley Crags and the Corrie.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 17: View downstream.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 18: Cautley Crags and the Corrie.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 19:

Record Number 619 >>> Image 20: The trackway at the settlement.

Record Number 619 >>> Image 21: The settlement.

Record Name: Askrig Pasture. Burnt Mound Site 1.
SWAAG ID Number: 620
Recorded Date: 2012-10-19 19:43:01
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Askrig Pasture
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 93518 92754
Altitude: 424m
Geology: Spring rise below the Underset Limestone.
Description: This very large burnt mound, measures some 14m diameter and 1.5m high, is located on the steep west bank of an abandoned spring stream some 15om below the spring rise. It is entirely turf covered but the core of burnt stone is clearly visble at one or two small erosion patches. This site is especially interesting for the presence of a central circular platform which marks the position not only of the trough but also the probable position of a shelter or tentlike structure.
Dimensions: 14m diameter * 1.5m high
Additional Notes: First reported by Laurie T.C., 2004. 'Burnt Mounds in Wensleydale and Swaledale.' in R.F. White and P.R.Wilson Eds. Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales. For details of the landscape setting of this site, see photographs. This burnt mound is, at 424m elevation, the uppermost of an open group of four burnt mounds on Askrig Pasture, see also subsequent Database Records Nos 621,622 and 623.
Last Update: 2012-10-20

Record Number 620 >>> Image 1: The burnt mound.

Record Number 620 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 620 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 620 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 620 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 620 >>> Image 6: Burnt stone core of mound visible in erosion patches.

Record Number 620 >>> Image 7: Burnt stone core of mound visible in erosion patches.

Record Number 620 >>> Image 8: Whitfield Scar, a Scar or cliff formed by the Underset Limestone, as seen from Askrig Pasture.

Record Name: Burnt mound in pasture east of Whitfield Gill Plantation.
SWAAG ID Number: 621
Recorded Date: 2012-10-20 15:15:52
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Askrig Pasture Site 2
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 93475 92382
Altitude: 378m
Geology: Drift over the Middle Limestone
Description: This medium size burnt mound, the second of an open group of four burnt mounds in Askrig pasture, is located on steep sloping pasture some 300m east of Whitfield Gill Plantation and close to a Lead Mine Hush, at an abandoned spring rise. The site comprises two seperate turf covered distinct mounds of burnt stone measuring 11m * 8m overall.
Dimensions: 11m * 8m overall
Additional Notes: First reported by Laurie T.C., 2004. 'Burnt Mounds in Wensleydale and Swaledale.' in R.F. White and P.R.Wilson Eds. Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales. For details of the landscape setting of this site, see photographs.
Last Update: 2012-10-20

Record Number 621 >>> Image 1: Whitfield Gill Plantation.

Record Number 621 >>> Image 2: ASkrig Pasture Burnt Mounds, Site 2.

Record Number 621 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 621 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 621 >>> Image 5:

Record Name: Akrigg Pasture Burnt Mound Site 3.
SWAAG ID Number: 622
Recorded Date: 2012-10-20 16:51:01
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Askrigg Pasture, High Straights lane
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 94372 92326
Altitude: 373m
Geology: Drift over Middle Limestone
Description: This medium burnt mound, is located in rushy marsh and is 7m diameter and 1m high approximately. This site is the third of an open cluster of four burnt mounds situated in Askrigg Pastures above and below the western end of High Straights Lane.
Dimensions: 7m diameter and 1m high
Additional Notes: First reported by Laurie T.C., 2004. 'Burnt Mounds in Wensleydale and Swaledale.' in R.F. White and P.R.Wilson Eds. Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales. For details of the landscape setting of this site, see photographs.
Last Update: 2012-10-22

Record Number 622 >>> Image 1: Askrigg Pasture Burnt Mound No 3.

Record Name: Askrigg Pasture. Burnt Mound Site 4.
SWAAG ID Number: 623
Recorded Date: 2012-10-22 19:55:23
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Askrigg Pasture
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 93628 92539
Altitude: 391m
Geology: Spring stream on drift over the Middle Limestone.
Description: Very large but low burnt mound with much visible burnt stone and visible charcoal. Probably robbed of stone for BM Site 3 which is located in marsh to the east of the modern dry stone wall and further downstream on the same stream some 150m to the east.
Dimensions: 12m * 10m 8 .75m high
Additional Notes: This large but low burnt mound, is located in rushy pasture and is 14m diameter and .75m high approximately. This site is the fourth of an open cluster of four burnt mounds situated in Askrigg Pastures above and below the western end of High Straights Lane.
Last Update: 2012-10-28

Record Number 623 >>> Image 1: ASkrigg Pasture BM Site 4

Record Number 623 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 623 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 623 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 623 >>> Image 5:

Record Name: Ring-barked rowan tree infected by honey fungus
SWAAG ID Number: 624
Recorded Date: 2012-10-26 12:53:50
Recorded by: Will Swales
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-10-26
Location: Dry gill behind Hirst Ridge (between Cogden Gill and Grinton Gill)
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid: SE 047 972
Altitude: 300m
Description: This old rowan tree surrounded by a splendid display of autumnal fungus made a fascinating sight to a townie who photographed it on 25 October 2012 in a dry gill behind Hirst Ridge (between Cogden Gill and Grinton Gill. However, Tim Laurie advises that the images reveal a sorry future for the tree. He writes: â€œthis fine old tree has been almost ring barked by starving rabbits. The tree would be dead if fully ring barked - the usual fate of all isolated trees except ancient hawthorns and self-seeded scots pine. The fungus is Honey Fungus, Armillaria mellea, which is a serious menace to many tree species."

Post script - Tim Laurie's prognosis proved to be entirely accurate. On a SWAAG group walk led by Tim on 4 February 2014, this tree was found dead on the ground, snapped off at its base by the wind - see photograph below.
Species: Rowan
Last Update: 2014-02-05
Tree Geographical Area: Upper Swaledale

Record Number 624 >>> Image 1:

Record Number 624 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 624 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 624 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 624 >>> Image 5: The same rowan tree as it was found on 4 February 2014, snapped off at the base by the wind

Record Name: OS bench marks between Grinton Bridge and How Hill
SWAAG ID Number: 625
Recorded Date: 2012-10-26 12:58:38
Recorded by: Will Swales
Category: Vernacular Record
Record Type: General HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-10-26
Location: Grinton-Redmire road between Grinton Bridge and How Hill
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid: SE 046 985
Description: This record describes the results of a brief survey, conducted on 24 October 2012, of the Ordnance Survey bench marks along a one-mile stretch of the Grinton-Redmire road from Grinton Bridge to How Hill. The reference used was the 1914 OS map of Yorkshire, scale 1:10,560. The map indicates 22 bench marks, which are listed below together with comments. As will be seen only eight were found and photographed, which leaves plenty of opportunity for others to try to fill in the gaps. Contributions to this record are welcome. Some of those not found in this brief survey may be covered in moss or heather, or may have been removed. For an explanation of bench marks see Additional Notes below.

Grinton Bridge â€“ rectangular metal plate - see photo below

Grinton Church â€“ mark on south corner of the tower â€“ see photo below

Near junction with Swale Hall Lane â€“ not found

Gateway to Manor House â€“ not found

Vicarage Bridge â€“ not found

Midway between Vicarage Bridge and Moor House â€“ not found

Footpath beginning next to Moor House â€“ not found

Gatepost near junction of roads from Leyburn and Redmire â€“ see photo below

Footpath crossing from Grinton Lodge to Sheepfold â€“ not found

Bridleway crossing from Grinton Lodge to John Mossâ€™s Chair â€“ not found

Below right-angle bend â€“ not found

Apex of right-angle bend â€“ not found

Above right-angle bend â€“ mark on boulder â€“ see photo below

Near Bridleway crossing at Hirst Ridge â€“ mark on boulder â€“ see photo below

Swinston Brow â€“ mark on boulder â€“ see photo below

Higher on Swinston Brow â€“ mark on boulder â€“ see photo below

Five more locations between 360m and 400m contour lines â€“ not found

400m contour line â€“ mark on boulder â€“ see photo below

Additional Notes: Ordnance Survey bench marks are elements of a system of marking altitudes above sea level that was implemented in the UK between 1841 and 1860. There were various standards of mark representing different grades of reliability; the most reliable being a set of 198 Fundamental Bench Marks (FBMs) constructed with metal plates or rods set in granite and fixed to the bedrock; and the most prevalent being Bench Marks (BMs), which are masonsâ€™ marks of an arrow and bar cut into semi-permanent features such as buildings, gateposts, and boulders. There are thought to be at least

500,000 BMs throughout the UK. In between these two best-known standards of bench mark there are other grades and styles that appear to be later additions to the network. FBMs are still maintained by the Ordnance Survey, but all other standards of bench mark ceased to be maintained in 1972 and were formally abandoned in 2000 in favour of Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Bench marks are not indicated on any modern OS maps, and the absence of maintenance combined with the semi-permanent nature of their hosts means that they are slowly disappearing from the landscape. For these reasons they are worth recording.

Last Update: 2012-10-26

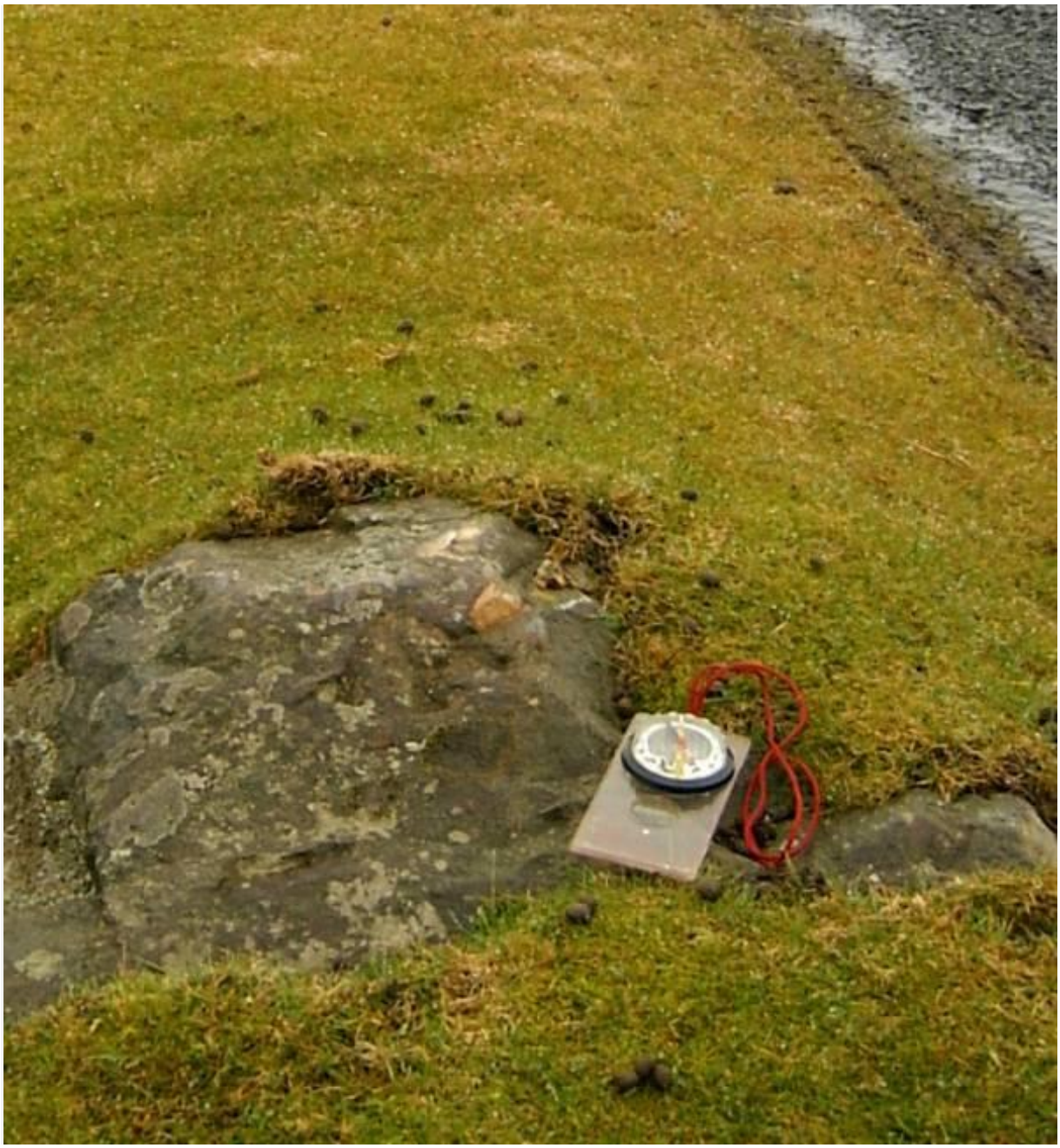
Record Number 625 >>> Image 1: Unusual bench mark in the form of a rectangular metal plate housed in a stone pillar on Grinton Bridge. It might have been intended to have a higher degree of reliability than the general benchmark, and indeed if not a FBM it may at least have been the base against which all other bench marks in upper Swaledale were calculated. Height indicated on the map is 587ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 2: Bench mark on the south side of the tower of Grinton Church. Height indicated on the map is 589ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 3: Bench mark on the solitary surviving gate post by the parking area at the junction of the roads into Grinton from Leyburn and Redmire. Height indicated on the map is 810ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 4: Bench mark by the road side just above the right-angle bend on the Redmire Road. Height indicated on the map is 1002ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 5: Bench mark on the road side just below the bridleway crossing at Hirst Ridge. Height on the map is 1040ft



Record Number 625 >>> Image 6: Bench mark on the road side at Swinston Brow. Height indicated on the map is 1097ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 7: Bench mark on the road side higher on Swinston Brow. Height indicated on the map is 1144ft

Record Number 625 >>> Image 8: Bench mark unusually located 10m away from the road side, around the 400m contour line on the modern map. Height indicated on the 1914 map is 1311ft

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 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 Sindle Bush as first seen in full autumn colour.

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

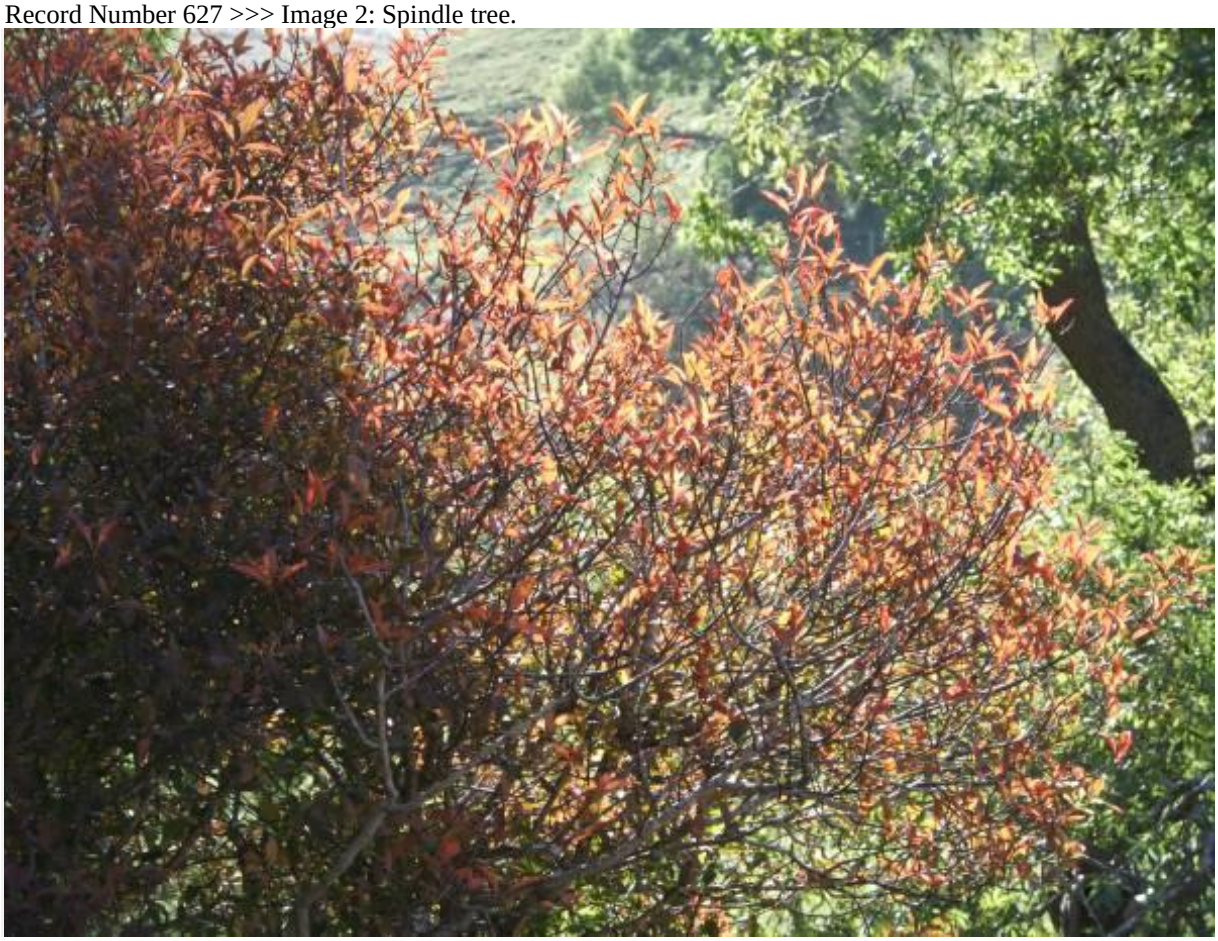
Record Number 626 >>> Image 3: Voew westward towards the defended settlement below Whitcliffe Scar.

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: Islated 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: Peregrine Falcon standing on the wind above Whitfield Scar.
SWAAG ID Number: 628
Recorded Date: 2012-10-27 20:01:43
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fauna
Record Type: Fauna HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2012-10-18
Location: Askrigg. Whitfield Scar.
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 928 928
Altitude: 480m
Geology: Main Limestone
Description: Peregrines will remain motionless for several minutes or 'standing', not hovering as kestrels do, on the wind above cliffs. This bird was one of three seen above Whitfield Scar and were later to be joined by two ravens.
Dimensions: N/A
Last Update: 2012-10-28

Record Number 628 >>> Image 1: Look closely at this image to see the peregrine apparently stationary above Whitfield Scar.

Record Name: Species poor, depleted native woodland on and below Whitfield Scar with mature landscaping plantations.
SWAAG ID Number: 629
Recorded Date: 2012-10-28 10:26:40
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Whitfield Scar (as seen from Askrigg Pasture)
Civil Parish: Askrigg
British National Grid: SD 927 926
Altitude: 440m
Geology: Sheer south facing Scar or cliff formed by the Underset Limestone
Description: This Tree Site Record is intended to provide a comparison and contrasting record from Wensleydale to the species rich cliff woodlands of both Upper and Lower Swaledale. However, the limestone scars of Mid Swaledale are very similar in that the high limestone scars or cliffs located between Reeth and Muker, including the high scars at Winterings Edge above Gunnerside Gill are similar being also virtually barren of trees, supporting only depleted native woodland.
The very few trees on Whitfield Scar are all small rowans which can only be detected by telescopic lens. However the surviving presence of one ancient rowan in a sheepfold below the Scar points to the one-time existence of native woodland here.
The Plantations here are very fine and contribute greatly to the Wensleydale Landscape. Unlike the planted larches below Hooker Mill Scar on Kisdon Side in Swaledale,which have colonised the nearby cliffs, the plantation larches have not self seeded and have not colonised Whitfield Scar. Probably for the reason that Whitfield Scar may be accessible to adventurous and starving rabbits.
Last Update: 2012-10-28

Record Number 629 >>> Image 1: Whitfield Scar and plantations below.

Record Number 629 >>> Image 2: Whitfield Scar with planted larches and ancient native rowan.

Record Number 629 >>> Image 3: Whitfield Scar, detail of larches and rowan.

Record Number 629 >>> Image 4: Whitfield Scar. Small rowan at top edge of the cliff.

Record Number 629 >>> Image 5: Whitfield Scar

Record Number 629 >>> Image 6: Whitfield Scar

Record Number 629 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 629 >>> Image 8: Plantation on Askrigg Pasture.

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.

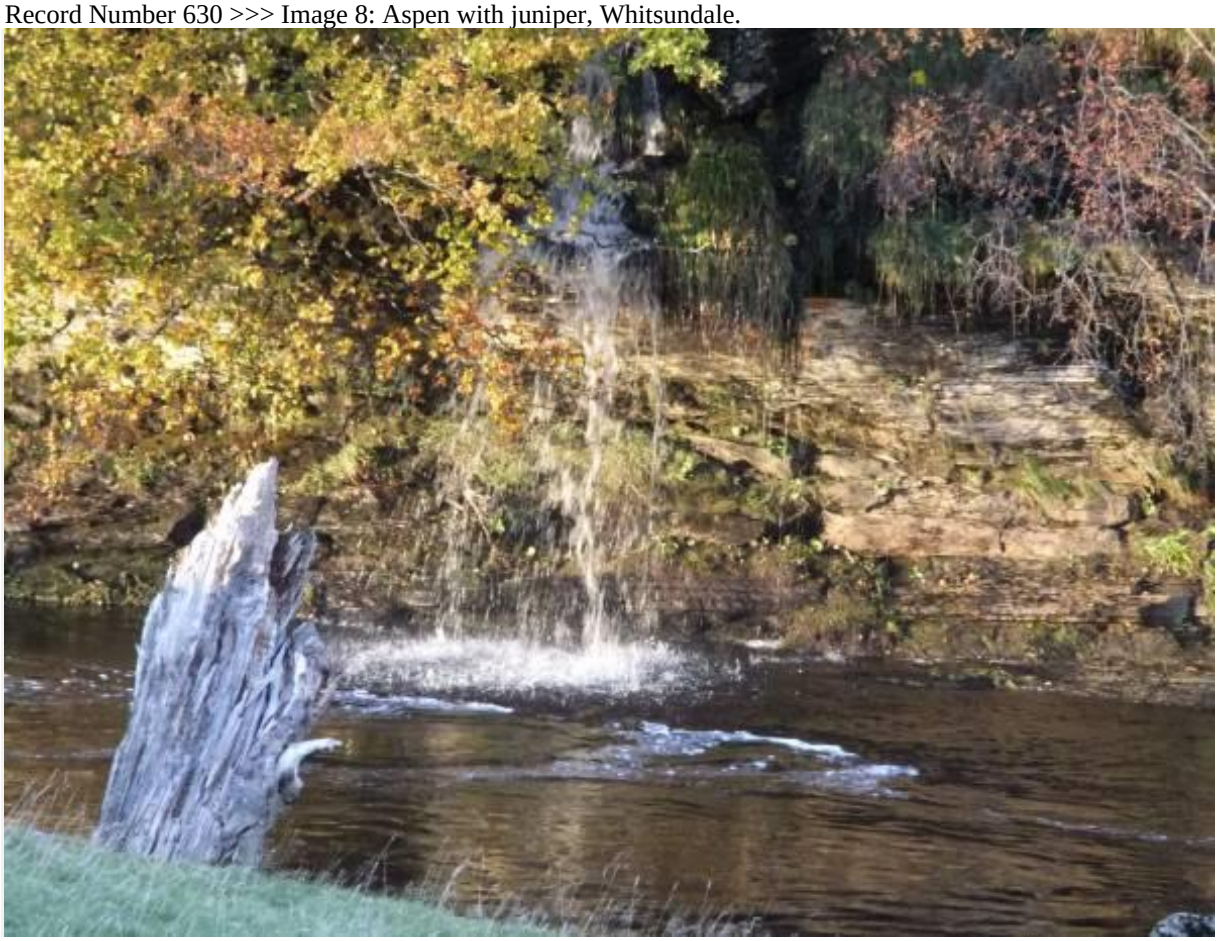
Record Number 630 >>> Image 4: Aspen leaves. How Edge Scars.The leaves of aspen are flame yellow and when growing at tufa springs are red also from trace elements of marine origine.

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: Juniper woodland on Harkerside.
SWAAG ID Number: 631
Recorded Date: 2012-10-31 19:51:39
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-09-16
Location: Harkerside. Slacks. Juniper woodland east of Browna Gill.
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid: SE 010 980
Altitude: 220-320m
Description: This is the first SWAAG Record of one of the larger areas of juniper woodland in Swaledale, well known and familiar to most Swaledale people, residents and visitors alike. As with the junipers of Kisdon, these junipers are a valuable asset in the Swaledale landscape. This is an initial photographic record at Browna Gill at a time when all junipers in Britain are at serious risk from yet another species specific fungal pathogen (Phytopthora austrocedrae)which has already killed large areas of juniper in Upper Teesdale and is expected to spread elsewhere. When photographed in mid September, many of the junipers at the South Western section of the Slacks Junipers many bushes were showing a large number of small brown patches, see for example full size photos 5,6 and 13.
This has not been confirmed as being caused by the pathogen, Phytopthora austrocedrae and the numerous brown patches on these junipers at Browna Gill could be due to a different cause. However should the junipers of Swaledale become infected with P.austrocedrae the loss of large numbers of junipers on the Dale Sides and of the many isolated junipers on cliffs and at waterfalls will be disastrous. Natural England are aware of this situation generally throughout Northern Britain but I understand that there is little that can be done to prevent infection from airborne spores. Grubbing up and burning infected bushes will probably just spread infection further.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: The appearance of tree pathogens, viral and fungal, capable of decimating different species of trees and shrubs native to Britain-elm thirty years ago,now ash and juniper is a potential and ever present threat to ancient native woodland and it is considered highly necessary to record trees and woodland subject to these threats so that future generations will be able to see them as they are today, before their possible infection. All surviving fragments of native woodland in the uplands, subject to several different threats, should be carefully and accurately recorded. This record is a partial current photographic record of the junipers at Browna Gill, further records of remaining areas at Slacks on Harkerside will be added to this database in due course.
SWAAG Site: Harkerside Moor
Last Update: 2012-10-31

Record Number 631 >>> Image 1:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 8:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 9:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 10:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 11:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 12:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 13:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 14:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 15:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 16:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 17:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 18:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 19:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 20:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 21:

Record Number 631 >>> Image 22:

Record Name: White Force Waterfall, the Whin Cill and underlying metamorphosed 'Sugar' Limestone.
SWAAG ID Number: 632
Recorded Date: 2012-11-02 10:24:24
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Northern Britain
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-01
Location: White Force Waterfall
Civil Parish: Holwick
British National Grid:
Altitude: 480m
Geology: The Whin Cill intrusion and metamorphosed 'Sugar' limestone.
Description: White Force is significant as the scene of a visit, on pony with a local guide, by the great pionneering geologist Adam Sedgewick during or before 1827. Adam Sedgwick first to recognised the injected nature of the igneous Whin Cill and that the strata both below and above the Whin Cill had been metamorhosed by contact with the igneous dolerite. (Sedgewick,A.1827. On the association of trap rocks with the mountain limestone formation in High Teesdale, etc. Trans. Cumb. Phil.Soc., 2, 140-196.)
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: During periods of low flow, the waterfall disappears into a fissure within the metamorphosed limestone to re-emerge at the base of the falls. During time of flod the Falls are considered to be extremely impressive, rivalling The High Force!
To those who know me, burnt stones are not infrequently presented as evidence for the heating of water, however the fragments of Sugar Limestone shown on image No xx were heated by contact with the Dolerite Cill some 300M yrs ago, during the Late Carboniferous.
For a detailed discussion on the extent and relative age of the Whin Cill, see Johnson G.A.L. and Dunham 1963. 'The Geology of Moor House- A National Nature Reserve in north east Westmorland.' HMSO.
Last Update: 2012-11-02

Record Number 632 >>> Image 1: Cronkley Fell and The White Force in mid distance from Forest in Teesdale.

Record Number 632 >>> Image 2: The Whin Cill (Upper dark strata) and underlying metamorhosed (light coloured) limestone

Record Number 632 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 632 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 632 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 632 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 632 >>> Image 7: Water rolled cobbles of metamorphosed, fire cracked limestone. The Sugar Limestone.

Record Name: The White Force Mine and ruined Mine Shop.
SWAAG ID Number: 633
Recorded Date: 2012-11-02 14:21:33
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-01
Location: Cronkley Fell, White Force
Civil Parish: Holwick
British National Grid: NY 8528 2808
Altitude: 430m
Geology: Metamorphosed limestone strata immediately below the Whin Cill.
Description: Mine entrance level,extensive mine spoil heaps and ruined building nearby interpreted as the mine shop.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: The well preserved entrance to the mine level has been closed by a metal gate. The ruined mine shop has recently been allowed to fall into a ruinous state following removal of the roof slates. The mining landscapes of Teeesdale are extensive, sometimes remote and well worth the walks necessary in visiting.
Last Update: 2012-11-02

Record Number 633 >>> Image 1: The ruined mine shop. Noon Hill in the background.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 2: The ruined mine shop.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 3: THe mine and White Force from the Mine Shop.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 4: The mine spoil heaps.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 5: The mine entrance.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 6: The mine entrance.

Record Number 633 >>> Image 7: The gated level entrance

Record Number 633 >>> Image 8: The spoil heaps

Record Number 633 >>> Image 9:

Record Name: Upper Teesdale. Small tarns below Cronkley Scar.
SWAAG ID Number: 634
Recorded Date: 2012-11-02 14:54:59
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: Geomorphology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-01
Location: Upper Teesdale. Tarn Dub below Cronkley Scar
Civil Parish: Holwick
British National Grid:
Altitude: 420m
Geology: Small tarns on kame terrace behind prominant protallus rampart at the front of Cronkley Scar.
Description: Small tarns below Cronkley Scar, a hidden lake district!
Dimensions: See photos
Last Update: 2012-11-02

Record Number 634 >>> Image 1:

Record Number 634 >>> Image 2:

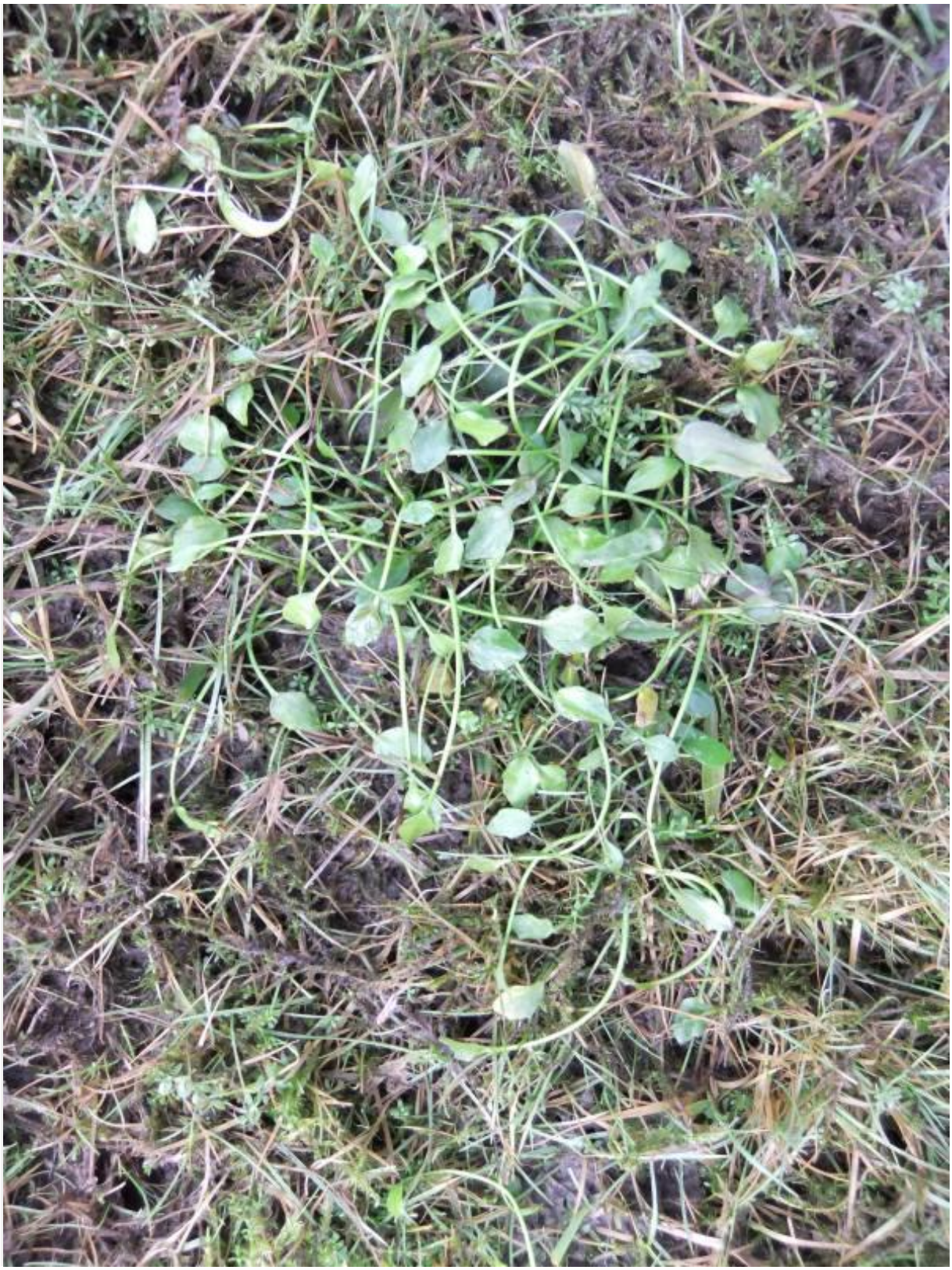
Record Number 634 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 634 >>> Image 4:

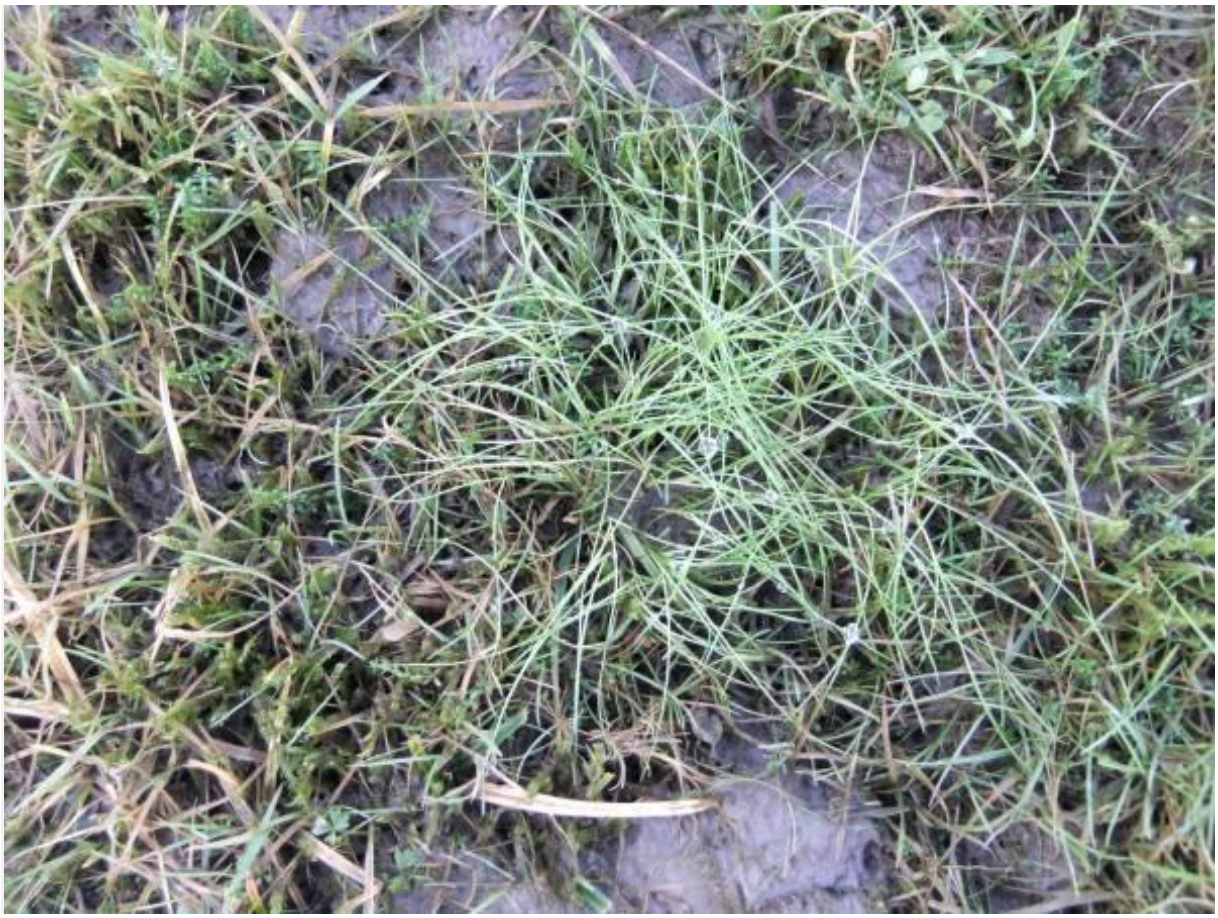
Record Number 634 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 634 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 634 >>> Image 7:



Record Number 634 >>> Image 8:



Record Number 634 >>> Image 9:

Record Name: Iron bloomeries on Cronkley Pasture and on Birk Rigg
SWAAG ID Number: 635
Recorded Date: 2012-11-03 15:22:42
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Northern Britain
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-01
Location: Upper Teesdale, Cronkley Fell, Tarn Rigg
Civil Parish: Forest and Frith
British National Grid: NY 85370 28813
Altitude: 427m
Geology: Glacial lateral moraine or protallus rampart. At edge of terace above small tarns below Cronkley Crags.
Description: This record describes four iron bloomery sites , three on Cronkley Pasture and one on Birk Rig. These bloomeries are representative of the very large number of these sites scattered across the landscapes of Upper Teesdale south of the Tees and notably those on Holwick Fell dated by their relationship to early medieval settlements(which they generally overlie) to an intense episode of iron smelting during the 12th/13C AD (Gledhill, 2003).
Reference: Dr Tom Gledhill, 2003. 'The Charcoal Iron Industry of Upper Teesdale'.In: Past Times in Teesdale. Third Series. pp15-27. Teesdale Record Society and The Bowes Museum.
Additional Notes: These bloomery sites were encountered during a single walk across this area and do not in any way represent a survey. There will be other bloomery sites in this area which are not recorded here. In contrast to the very numerous bloomery sites in Upper Teesdale, bloomery sites are very rare in Swaledale, I have seen just two bloomery sites in Swaledale and those are located close to Throstle Gill Beck directly below the settlement of early medieval character at Dicky Edge.
Last Update: 2012-11-03

Record Number 635 >>> Image 1: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85370 28813, 427m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 2: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85370 28813, 427m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 3: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85370 28813, 427m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 4: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85370 28813, 427m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 5: Slag from iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85370 28813, 427m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 6: Tarn at Tarn Dub, view west

Record Number 635 >>> Image 7: Tarn at Tarn Dub, view east.

Record Number 635 >>> Image 8: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85332 28783, 420m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 9: Iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85332 28783, 420m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 10: Slag from iron bloomery site on Tarn Rigg below Cronkley Scars. At NY85332 28783, 420m

Record Number 635 >>> Image 11: Iron bloomery site on Birk Rig

Record Number 635 >>> Image 12: Iron bloomery site on Birk Rig. White Force in LH distance and to the RH distance, the 'New' Moor Dike constructed by French Napoleonic Prisoners of War (Inf, Mr Roger Redfearn).

Record Number 635 >>> Image 13: Two iron bloomery site mounds on Cronkley Pasture, the second

smaller bloomery is below that in the foreground near the ruined wall which was the Old Moor Dike.

Record Number 635 >>> Image 14: Slag from last site

Record Name: The Upper Teesdale. Whin Cill scenery of the River Tees downstream from Cronkley Bridge to High Force.
SWAAG ID Number: 636
Recorded Date: 2012-11-03 16:41:00
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-07-22
Location: The RiverTees downstream from Cronkley Bridge to High Force.
Civil Parish: Holwick
British National Grid: NY 880 283
Altitude: 350m-270m
Geology: River, valley and gorge scenery dominated by the Whin Cill.
Description: This record shows the nature of the scenery of the River Tees from Cronkley Brifge downstream to the High Force which is dominated by the presence of the dolerite igneous intrusive Whin Cill.
Dimensions: See photofile
Additional Notes: This length of the River Tees above the High Force is not only fine scenery but is, together with Crossthwite Common and Holwick Fell also the location of a wealth of archaeological sites of different periods (Coggins, D. 'Upper Teesdale. Thearchaeology of a North Pennine Valley.' BAR British Series 150, 1986.) and was the scene of an intensive charcoal burning and iron smelting or bloomery industry, (Gledhill, T.2003. 'The Charcoal Iron Industry of Upper Teesdale.'Teesdale Record Society.
The archaeology of this area was surveyed and selectively excavated by the Late Dennis Coggins and by Ken Fairless over many years. A number of settlements sites which have their close analogues in Swaledale were surveyed, investigated and radiocarbon dated. These sites which range from lithic find sites and scatters marking the location of Mesolithic Hunter and Neolithic Period Occupation, the unenclosed round house settlement on Bracken Rig of Middle Bronze Age Date to farmstead settlements of Pre-Conquest Date and shielings of Medieval and Post Medieval date. Examples of these sites will be uploaded to the SWAAG Database with the purpose of encouraging members to visit these sites and to be aware of these sites a the closest references for many as yet undated Swaledale sites.
See photofile captions for brief explanatory details of features photographed.
Last Update: 2012-11-06

Record Number 636 >>> Image 1: River Tees and Dine Holm Scars from the Pennine Way at Bracken Rigg.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 2: River Tees at Cronkley Bridge. View downstream.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 3: River Tees, Calf Holm.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 4: River Tees, Shieling on river bank opposite Calf Holm.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 5: River Tees view upstream towards Currack Wood. One of the few remaining areas of Upland Birchwood - once the prevalent woodland present across Upper Teesdale.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 6: Alders on the riverside, Dine Holm Scars in the background.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 7: Alders on the riverside, Dine Holm Scars in the background.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 8: Alders on the riverside, Dine Holm Scars in the background.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 9: Downy birch with alders above the river.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 10: Bends along the Tees and juniper scrub on the Whin Cill undisturbed at Dine Holm Scar. Quarried further downstream.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 11: Bracken Rigg. Unenclosed round house settlement of MBA date near the Pennine Way.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 12: Iron Bloomery (mound of iron slag) next Skyer Beck, in foreground next the footbridge, with juniper.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 13: River Tees at pasture Foot.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 14: Rectangular building on south bank at Pasture Foot,undated but possibly a shieling or early medieval dwelling associated with the iron smelting industry.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 15: The whinstone cliffs upstream of the quarry,photgraphed from the Pennine Way, with native aspen and juniper.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 16: Juniper on the river bank at Calf Holm. These junipers show signs of infection from the Phytopthora austrocedrae pathogen, although inaccessible to walkers.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 17: The quarry on the whinstone cliffs above the High Force.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 18: View upstream from the High Force, Upland birchwood on north bank.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 19: The falls.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 20: The High Force.

Record Number 636 >>> Image 21: The High Force

Record Number 636 >>> Image 22: The falls and river gorge

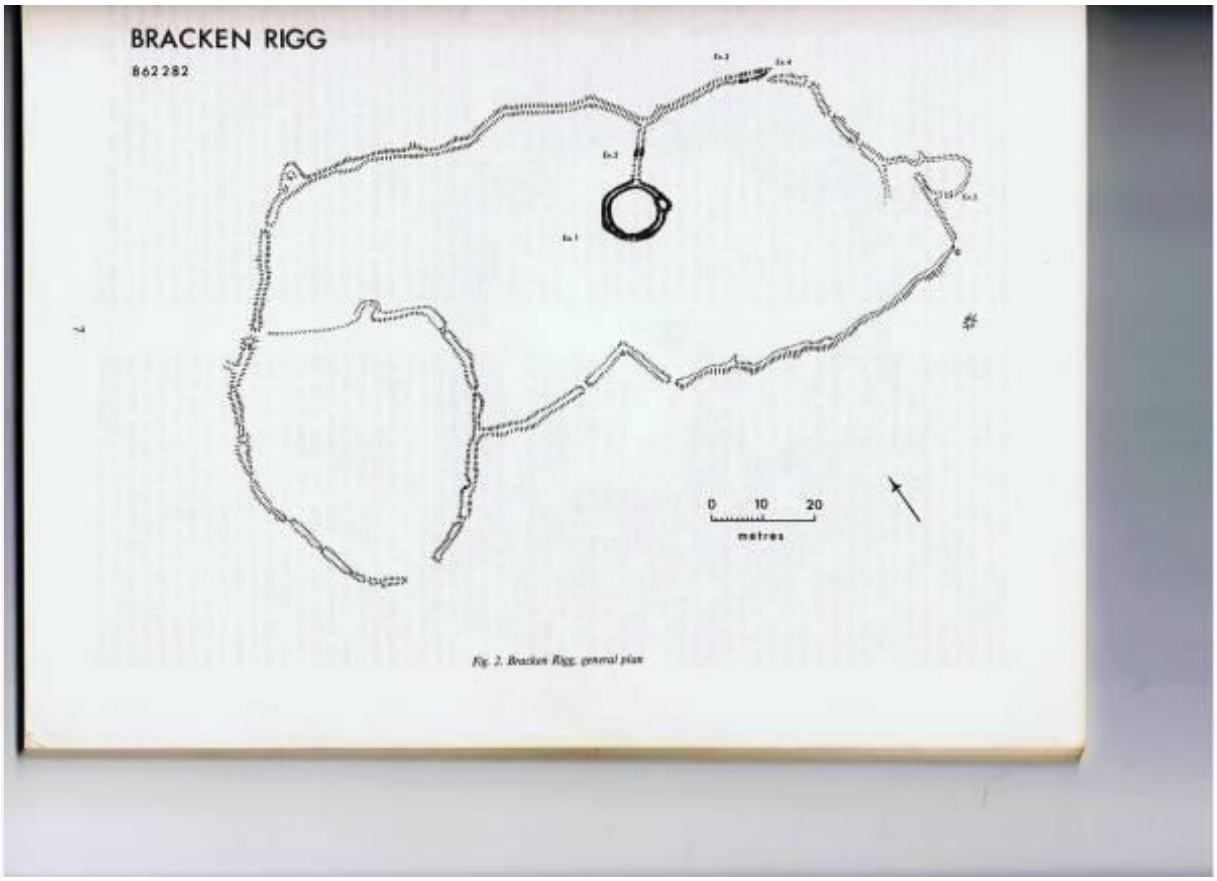
Record Name: Unenclosed round house settlement at Bracken Rigg, Upper Teesdale and the dating of unenclosed settlements in Swaledale.
SWAAG ID Number: 637
Recorded Date: 2012-11-06 17:05:33
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-11-04
Location: Upper Teesdale. Bracken Rigg
Civil Parish: Forest and Frith
British National Grid: NY 882 282
Altitude: 381m
Geology: Morainic ridge.
Description: This settlement consists of an 8m diameter round house within two small paddock like fields located on the summit of a morainic ridge on the southern side of the River Tees and has been radiocarbon dated to the Middle Bronze Age (Coggins and Fairless, 1984.)
This settlement is probably the closest dated analogue and reference for the rather few unenclosed round house settlements located in Swaledale and on the Swale-Tees/Greta Uplands.
Some settlements which can be considered as of similar morphology and date as that at Bracken Rigg are listed below:
1. Three Settlements on Fremington Edge. Site 1. the Radio Mast Site. See site Plan TCL Survey unpublished. Image no 7 below.

More to follow.
Last Update: 2012-11-06

Record Number 637 >>> Image 1: Bracken Rig from pasture Foot, in mid distance. The settlement is on the summit.

Record Number 637 >>> Image 2: The round house.

Record Number 637 >>> Image 3: The round house.



Record Number 637 >>> Image 4: Site Plan. Coggins and Fairless 1984.The Bronze Age Settlement Site of Bracken Rigg. Upper Teesdale. The Durham Archaeologicale Journal 1. pp5-21. Figure 2

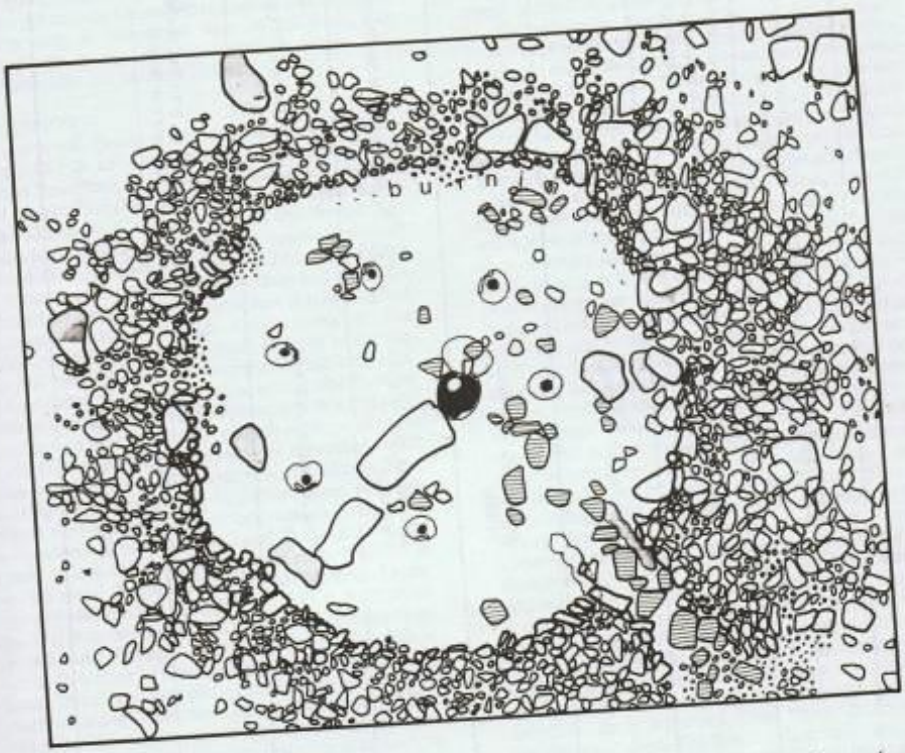


Fig. 3. Bracken Rigg, plan of the central house

Record Number 637 >>> Image 5: The round house after excavation. Coggins and Fairless 1984. Figure 3

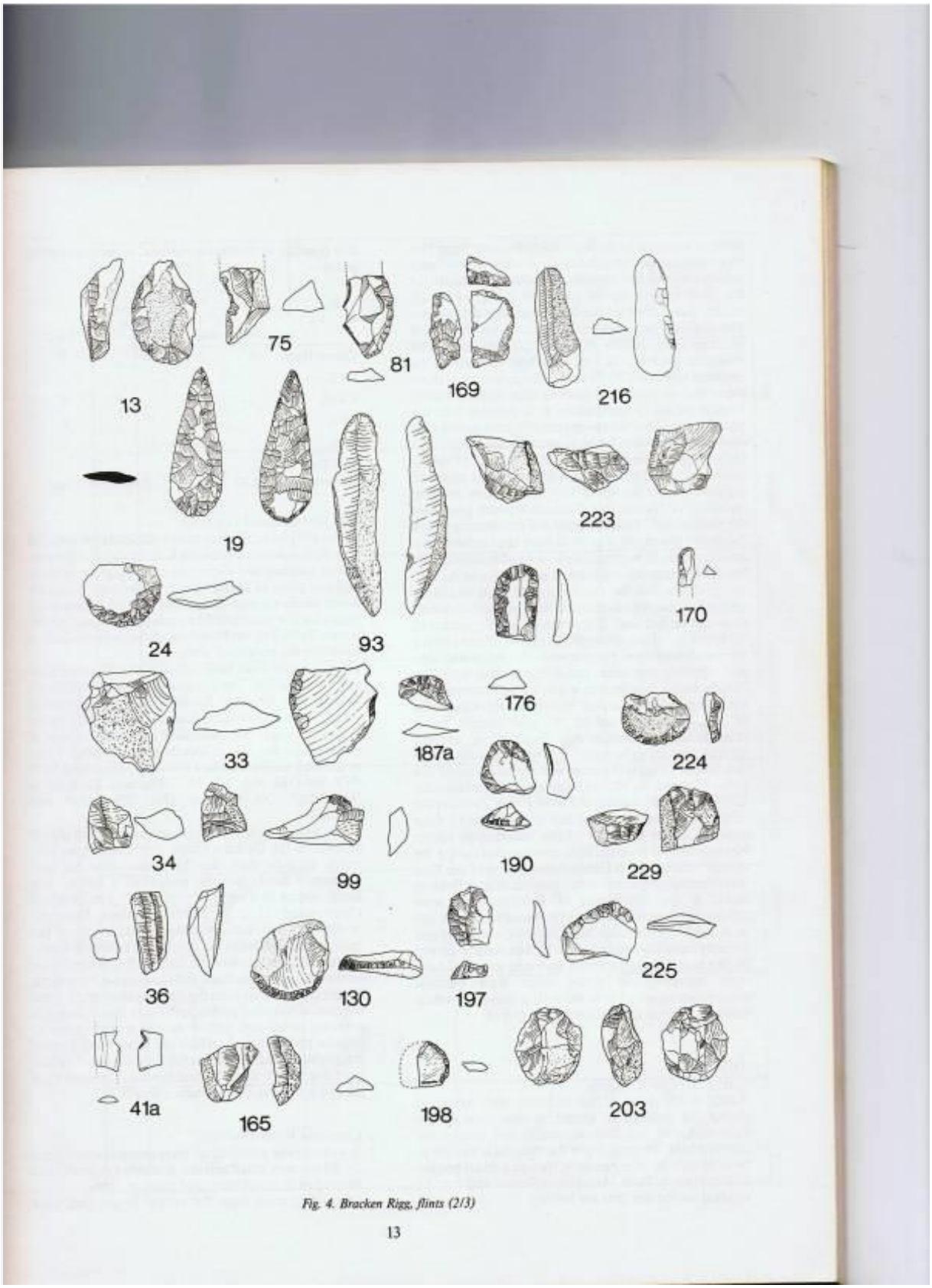
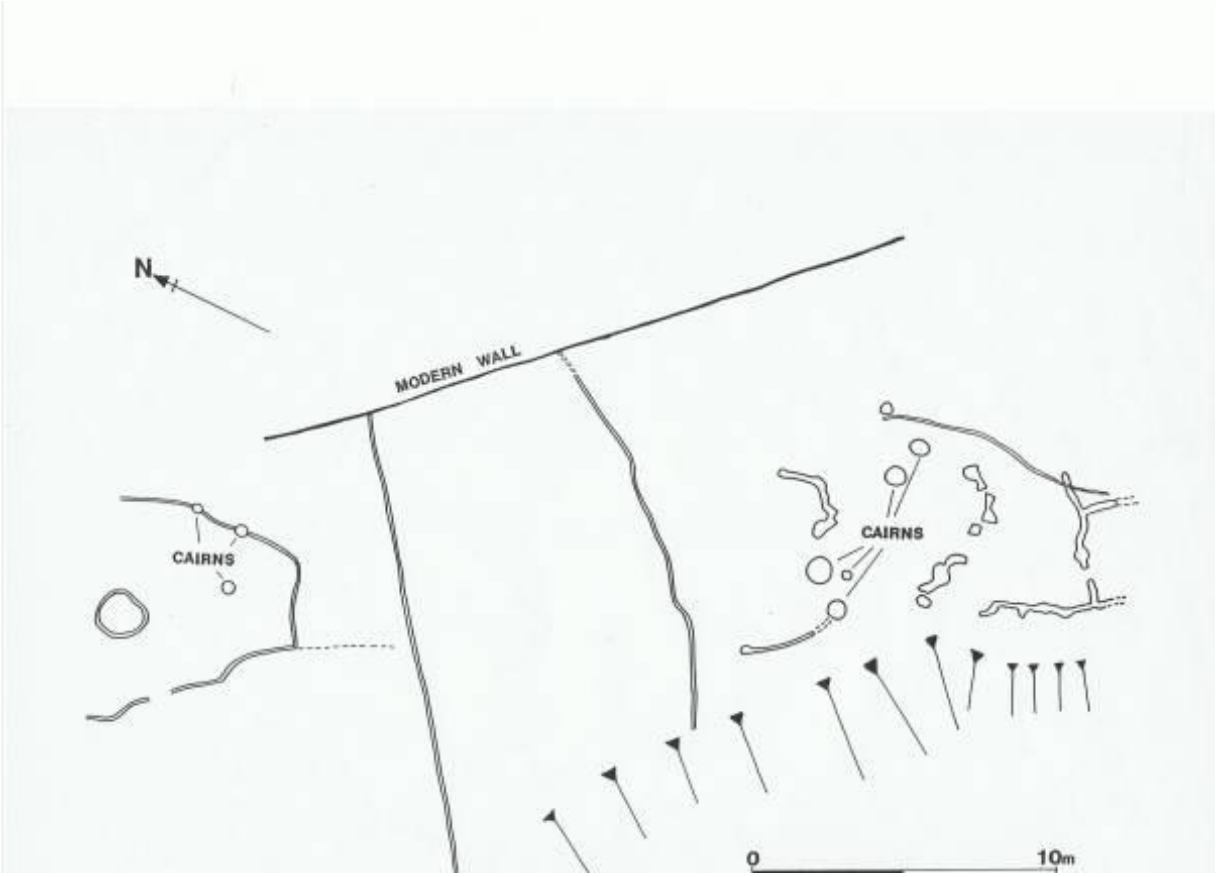


Fig. 4. Bracken Rigg, flints (2/3)

13

Record Number 637 >>> Image 6: Lithic finds from the round house excavations, some possibly residual.



Record Number 637 >>> Image 7: Unenclosed settlement on Fremington Edge, Swaledale. Site plan for comparative purposes.

Record Name: Grinton Church and Bridge from The Hagg, Fremington. Autumn colour.
SWAAG ID Number: 638
Recorded Date: 2012-11-07 21:06:39
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: General HER
Record Date: 2012-11-07
Location: Grinton
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid:
Altitude: 186m
Geology: River Swale
Description: Telephoto images of Grinton,Grinton Pastures and Harkerside Moor from The River Swale to High Harker Hill, on a fine day from the excavations at The Hagg, Fremington.
Last Update: 2012-11-07

Record Number 638 >>> Image 1: Grinton, the Church and Bridge in autumn colour

Record Number 638 >>> Image 2: Grinton, from the Swale to High Harker Hill

Record Name: Some specimen trees at The Hagg, Fremington.
SWAAG ID Number: 639
Recorded Date: 2012-11-08 19:23:21
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2012-11-08
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid:
Geology: Drift covered Yoredale Srata.
Description: The trees at The Hagg Farm are of special interest in that they include a number of fine trees of different species planted to enhance the landscape together with other trees which are relict hedgerow trees and others which are native and which survive in woods and on the slopes below Freminton Edge.
Common Notable Species: Ash, Wych Elm, Hazel, Scots Pine, Alder, Horse Chestnut
SWAAG Site: Hagg Farm
Last Update: 2012-11-08
Tree Geographical Area: Mid Swaledale

Record Number 639 >>> Image 1: Ancient ash.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 2: Ancient ash.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 3: The West Hagg Oak.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 4: Ash in hedgerow.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 5: Ash trees mark the location of a spring below Fremington Edge

Record Number 639 >>> Image 6: Ash tree at spring.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 7: Planted Scots Pine and Larch. A landmark.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 8: The landmark plantation.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 9: The landmark plantation.

Record Number 639 >>> Image 10: The landmark plantation.

Record Name: West Hagg. Lead Bale Site 1 below Fremington Edge.
SWAAG ID Number: 640
Recorded Date: 2012-11-10 17:40:20
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-08
Location: Fremington Edge, slopes below Fremington Edge above West Hagg Pastures
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: SE 05939 99137
Altitude: 337m
Geology: For the two other Bale Sites in this vicinity, See also SWAAG Site Nos 683 and 684.This site is located at around 325m O.D. elevation which is approximately 100m in height below the top of the Main Limestone where the well known lead bales on Fremington Edge are located. These sites are shown on a map dated 1592. (Tyson, L.O. 1989. 'A History of the Manor and Lead Mines of Marrick, Swaledale, Figure 3.')
Site 1 is located close to active springs within an area of disturbed ground- within a cup shaped gravitational slump of early post glacial meltwater origin (Inf. John Russell). (landslip).
Description: This previously unrecorded lead bale is some distance below the series of well recorded lead bales on the top edge of the escarpment, see SWAAG previous record No...
The lead bale is well vegetated although much disturbed by rabbits.
Much slag and charcoal evident. Charcoal of birch has been identified although birch are entirely absent from Fremington Edge today.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: The possibility that this early lead bale site was worked from the Native Settlement at West Hagg of Late Roman Date is intriguing.Site first recorded by John Russell and Tim Laurie playing truant from the hard work in progress at West Hagg excavation site.
Last Update: 2013-02-20

Record Number 640 >>> Image 1: Lead bale above West Hagg.

Record Number 640 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 640 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 640 >>> Image 4: Lead slag.

Record Number 640 >>> Image 5: Richard Smith and Alan Mills (with T.C.L.) at a revisit to this site on 17 February 2013

Record Number 640 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 640 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 640 >>> Image 8:

Record Name: The Deepdale Shap Erratic, John Phillips and the theory of glaciation.
SWAAG ID Number: 641
Recorded Date: 2012-11-12 18:15:07
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geomorphology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-11-09
Location: Barnard Castle. Deepdale Beck
Civil Parish: Cotherstone
British National Grid: NZ 0310 1638
Altitude: 189m
Geology: Very large erratic boulder of Shap Granite on the bed of Deepdale Beck, a south bank tributary of the Tees. This boulder is much the largest in the area but careful search of the stream bed will reveal several other boulders of both Shap Granite and of Borrowdale Volcanics.
Description: Very large erratic boulder of Shap Granite on the bed of Deepdale Beck, a south bank tributary of the Tees. This boulder is the largest in the area but careful search of the bed of Deepdale Beck will reveal several other boulders of both Shap Granite and of Borrowdale Volcanics.
This boulder of Shap Granite was one of the erratics noticed by John Phillips,the pionneering Yorkshire Geologist, who realised that Glacial Ice was the only possible transport of such large boulders and thus contributed to the , then, original and revolutionary idea of Glaciation. For details of John Phillips Life and Works, see .Phillips published his 'Geology of the Mountains, Moorlands and Sea Coast of Yorkshire'.
Additional Notes: The photographs show not only the well known boulder of Shap Granite but other large erratic boulders in the bed of the stream also.
Shap erratic boulders mark the extent of the Stainmore Glacier and are found on the Yorkshire Coast as far south as Robin Hoods Bay and also in the Vale of York.
No Lake District erratics are present in Swaledale as the Swaledale Glacier was fed from local snow fields. The southern limit of Shap Erratics was considered by Raistrick (Raistrick, A. 1929. 'The glaciation of Wensleydale, Swaledale and adjoining areas.' Proc. Yorshire Geol. Soc.20. 390-410). to be on the line of the south bank of the Greta and Gill Beck. However I have found a number of Shap Granites marking a southern limit of the ice stream carrying Shap Granites some 3km further south: on Barningham Moor, including a single small boulder at an elevation of 430m AOD on Eel Hill at the northern edge of the High Moor, see also SWAAG Record No. Shap and Borrowdale volcanics are widespread in the area of the Stainmore Ice and can be looked for at all exposures of boulder clay. There is a boulder mounted by a public building on North Road, Darlington and a large boulder of Shap granite is perched on the summit of Goldsborough Hill on Ctherstone Moor.
Last Update: 2012-11-13

Record Number 641 >>> Image 1: The Deepodale Shap Granite Boulder

Record Number 641 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 641 >>> Image 3: A careful look at the surface of the boulder will identify the large pink rectangular chrystals of Felspar characteristic of Shap Granite.

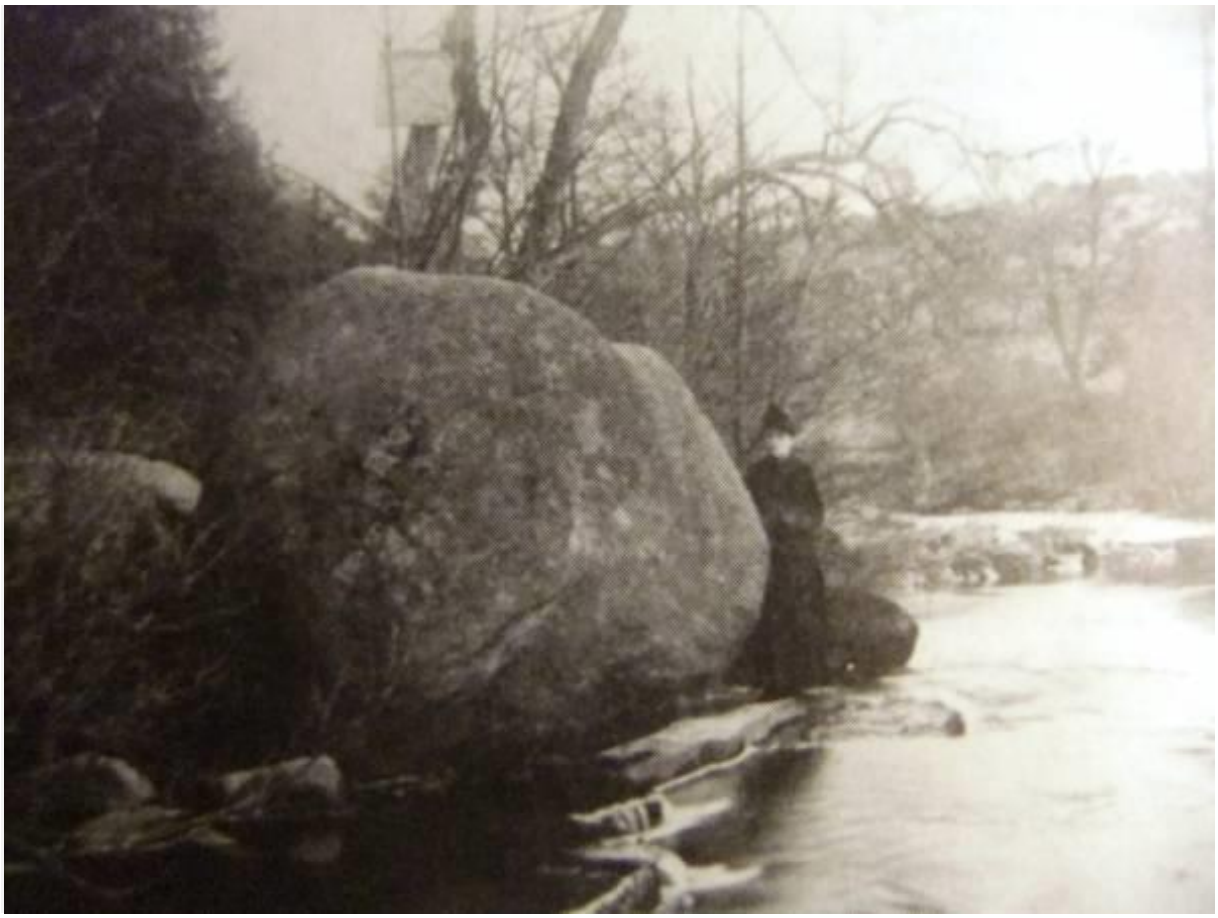
Record Number 641 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 641 >>> Image 5: A second , smaller boulder of Shap Granite in the stream bed.

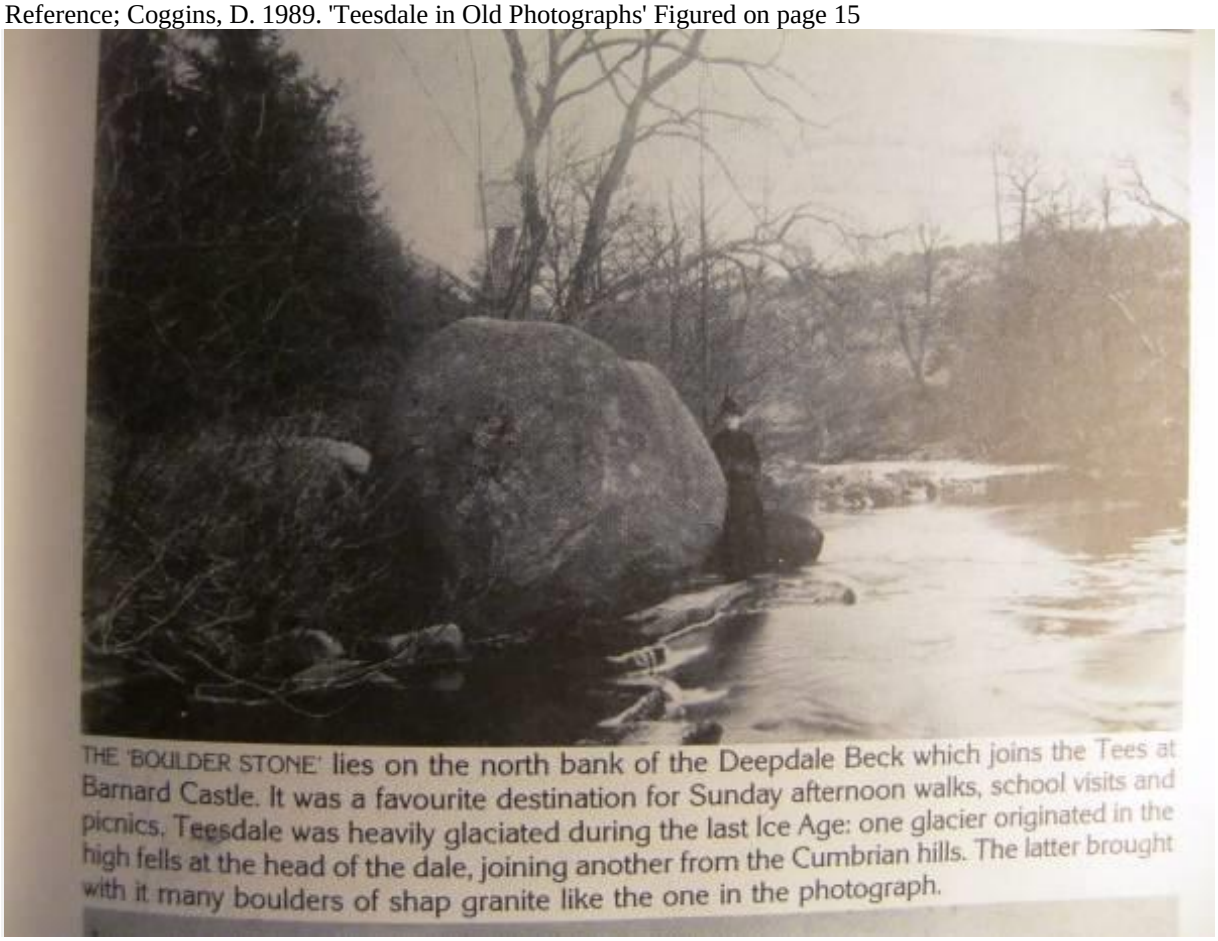
Record Number 641 >>> Image 6: Boulders of Borrowdale Volcanic Rock also.

Record Number 641 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 641 >>> Image 8:



Record Number 641 >>> Image 9: The Deepdale Boulder photographed during the later 19C. Note that the woodland in this area of Deepdale had been clear felled.
Reference; Coggins, D. 1989. 'Teesdale in Old Photographs' Figured on page 15



Record Number 641 >>> Image 10: The Deepdale Boulder photographed during the later 19C. This was

the destination for a popular Sunday Afternoon Walk,School and Museum trips.

Record Name: Relict hedgerow trees on ancient field boundaries in Clapgate Gill
SWAAG ID Number: 642
Recorded Date: 2012-11-14 14:37:09
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Clapgate Gill
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid:
Geology: Drift over Yoredale Limestone series of strata
Description: This record shows the fine ancient hedgerow ash and crab apple which, together with planted larch and oak trees are such a distinctive feature of the landscape of Clapgate Gill. Clapgate, rich in earthworks of medieval and earlier date is surely one of the most picturesque of the tributary dales of Swaledale. Most of these trees are visible from the old road from Richmond to Marske, but careful driving and parking will be needed to see them.
Dimensions: See photos
Species: Ash, crab apple, oak, larch
Additional Notes: It is important that a good photographic record is made of the fine old ash trees which are so distinctive a presence in Swaledale in the sad event that they are infected by the current pathogen threatening the Nation's Ash Trees. However all surviving ash trees in the Dales are and have been reducing in number from wind fall every year. These old trees have enjoyed a long hard life and will not be replaced by mass planting of trees which will always look like plantations and these will have a different future.
Last Update: 2012-11-14
Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale

Record Number 642 >>> Image 1: The Clapgate Oak in winter

Record Number 642 >>> Image 2: The Clapgate Ash

Record Number 642 >>> Image 3: The Clapgate ash, detail.

Record Number 642 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 642 >>> Image 5: Ancient ash and crab apple trees define an ancient Hedgerow.

Record Number 642 >>> Image 6: Ancient ash trees and an ancient crab apple whose trunk measures 4m girth (in full blossom and now windblown but alive) trees define an ancient hedgerow.

Record Number 642 >>> Image 7: Fine oak carefully placed and planted to enhance the landscape

Record Number 642 >>> Image 8:

Record Number 642 >>> Image 9: Clapgate, oak plantation, with larch and scots pine near road.

Record Number 642 >>> Image 10: Clapgate, oak plantation, with larch and scots pine near road.

Record Name: Jingle Pot Level
SWAAG ID Number: 643
Recorded Date: 2012-11-19 18:53:08
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-18
Location: Fremington Edge
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: #NZ 0400 0083
Altitude: 392m
Geology: The outcrop scarp of the Main Limestone
Description: See Dunham and Wilson 1985. Geology of the North Pennine Orefield. Volume 2. Stainmore to Craven. p146 and Figure 27. See also L.O. Tyson 1989. British Mining Monograph No 38. This level was cut to work the Jingle Pot Vein and String in the main Limestone and Underset Limesone which had already been worked from a series of shafts over a distance of 730m 800m NW of the Copperthwaite workings. This Level was subsequently extended for a further distance of 625m below the shallow valley seperating Fremington Edge from Hurst. This further extension, known as the Langstaff Trial connected Fremington Edge with the Hurst Mines.
It would be easy to overlook the comparatively small spoil tailing heap and small bouse teams of this mine level when walking below the high limestone Scars of Fremington Edge, but close examination of the entrance workings to this extensive lead mine working show that:
1. The level has collapsed and is not accessible. See photo image Nos3695 and 3696
2. Small bouse teams were built below the Spoil heap.See photo image Nos 3697, 3698
3. A lead dressing floor or possible lead bale exists just below the bouse team. Much lead vein material is present here. See photo image Nos 3700,3701

Dimensions: See text.
Additional Notes: Considering that tis level extended for a total distance of nearly 1 mile to connect Freminton Edge with the Hurst Lead Veins, the surface remains at the entrance to this lead mine are remarkably discrete and not prominent.
Last Update: 2012-11-20

Record Number 643 >>> Image 1: Fremington Edge, Jingle Pot Level from east.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 2: Fremington Edge, Jingle Pot Level from west.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 3: Jingle Pot Level. The collapsed entrance.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 4: Jingle Pot Level. The collapsed entrance.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 5: Fremington Edge, Jingle Pot Level showing bouse teams below spoil heap.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 6: Fremington Edge, Jingle Pot Level showing bouse teams below spoil heap.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 7: Ore dressing floor?.

Record Number 643 >>> Image 8: Vein material.

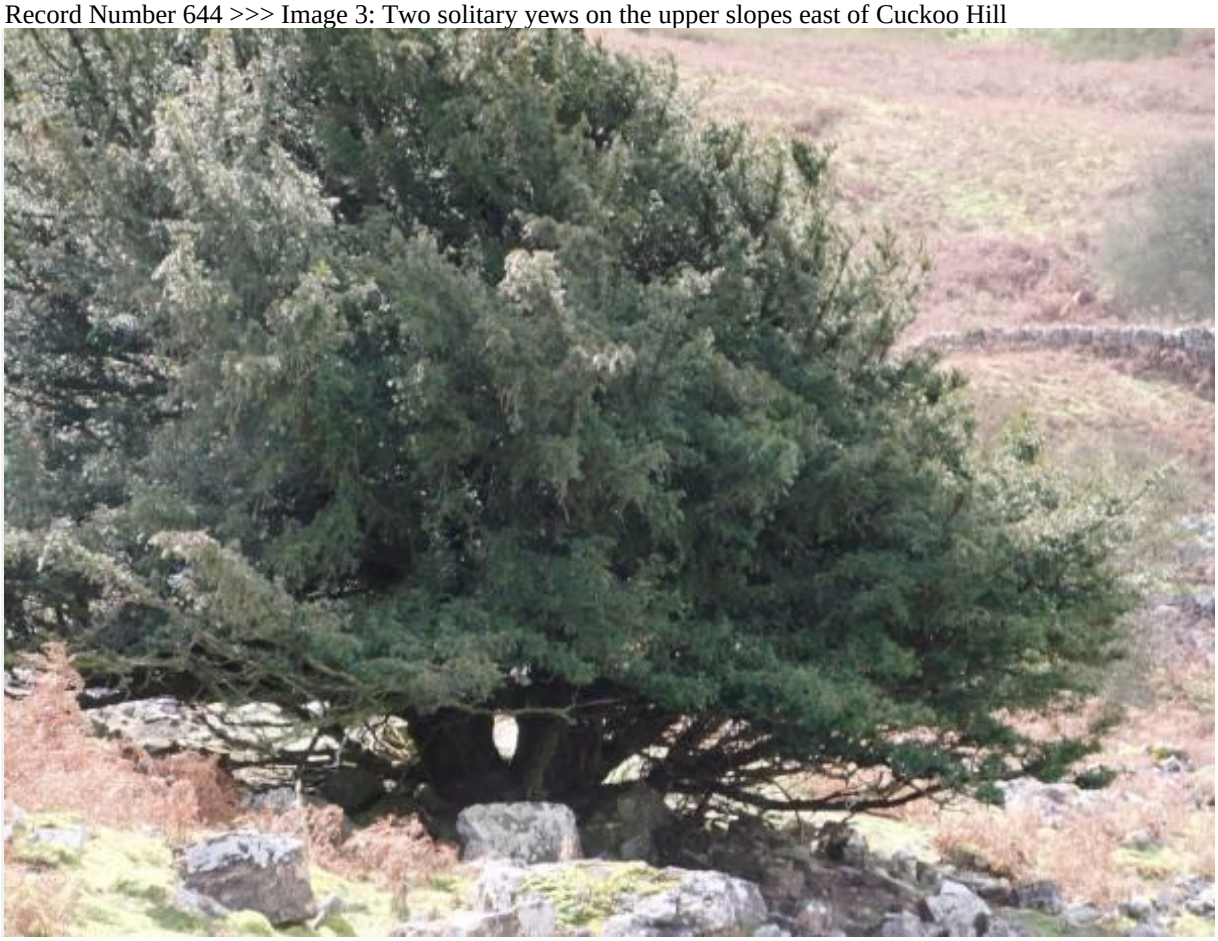
Record Number 643 >>> Image 9: Vein material.

Record Name: Relict yew woodland on the slopes below Fremington Edge
SWAAG ID Number: 644
Recorded Date: 2012-11-22 14:55:57
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2006-03-26
Location: Fremington Edge
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: NZ 0397 0061
Altitude: 400m down to 305m
Geology: Steep talus slope below scarp formed by the Main and Undersett Limestones.
Description: A small yew wood at Cuckoo Hill NZ03970061 (centre) and scattered yew trees on the upper slopes of the escarpment (see photos) together with the relict yews which survive on the limestone scars on Fremington Edge can be considered to provide evidence for the one time existence of species-rich limestone ashwood across the whole of the westerly facing slopes below Fremington Edge. These slopes are now at first glance fairly barren of trees, except for the yews described here and a fair number of very old and isolated hawthorns, for example the ancient thorn at the Hidrake Vein below Fremington Edge photographed below, which have resisted ring barking by starving rabbits. The existence of a number of early lead smelting sites (Lead Bales), including several very large Bale Sites, on the upper slopes indicates that the woodland once present was quickly cleared by early lead smelting operations which required large quantities of wood for fuel. Yews, being resinous, and juniper were avoided by early charcoal burners and may also have been disregarded for lead smelting.
Dimensions: See photos
Species: Yew
Additional Notes: Most yew trees throw up several stems or trunks from a large and ancient root bole which is invisible, hidden below the limestone scree fragments covering it. It is impossible to guess the age of these trees since whenever they lose a branch they can replace it. They are however of very great age.
Trees on the slopes in later secondary woodland in Lower Swaledale, as at Whitcliffe Wood, near Richmond are usually single stem, maiden trees and never very large. All really ancient yews are multi stemmed as these below Fremington Edge. The most ancient multi stemmed yews survive as stunted trees which grow on the top edge of cliffs.
Last Update: 2012-11-24
Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment

Record Number 644 >>> Image 1: Fremington Edge from the road to Hurst and the White House

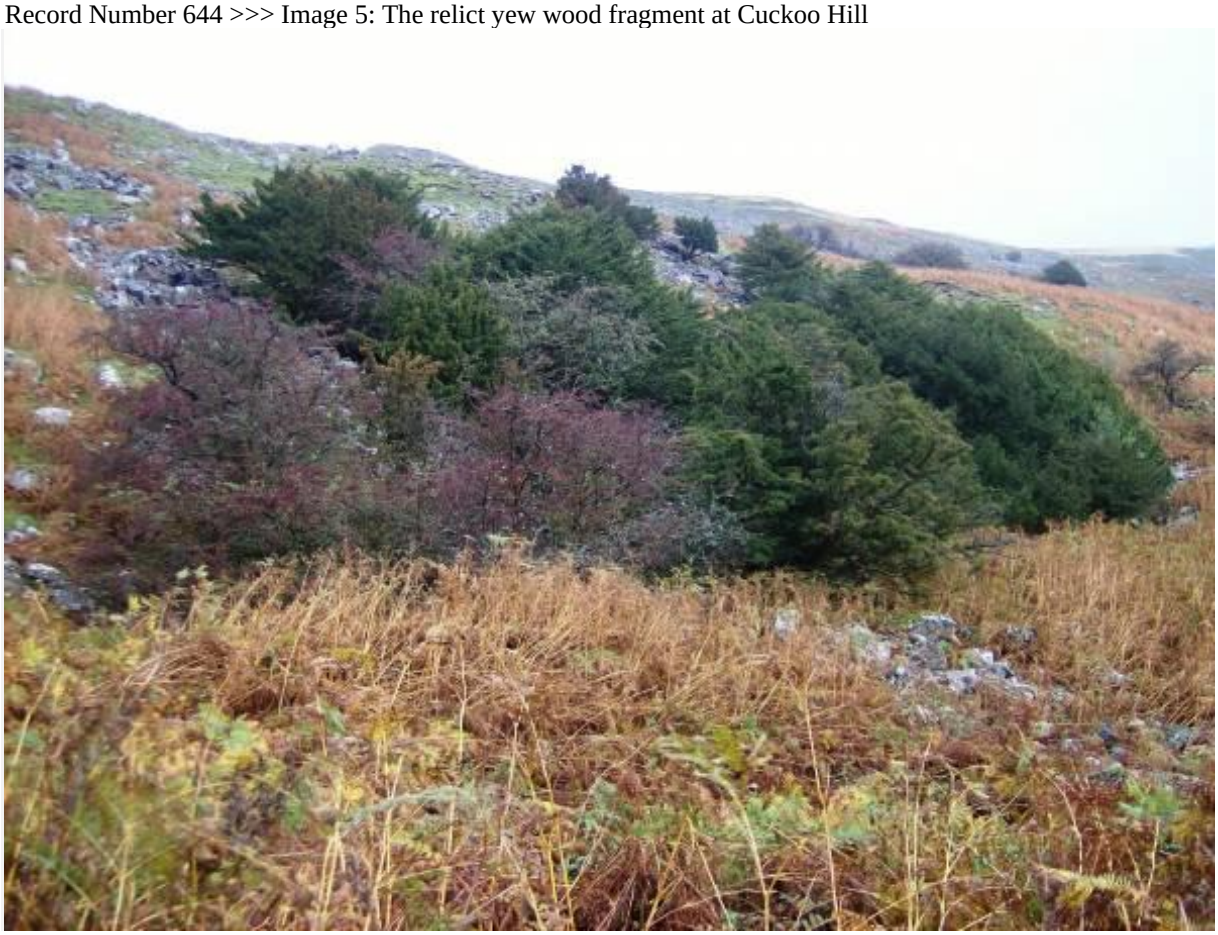
Record Number 644 >>> Image 2: Two solitary yews on the upper slopes east of Cuckoo Hill

Record Number 644 >>> Image 3: Two solitary yews on the upper slopes east of Cuckoo Hill



Record Number 644 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 644 >>> Image 5: The relict yew wood fragment at Cuckoo Hill



Record Number 644 >>> Image 6: The relict yew wood fragment at Cuckoo Hill

Record Number 644 >>> Image 7: The relict yew wood fragment at Cuckoo Hill

Record Number 644 >>> Image 8: The relict yew wood fragment at Cuckoo Hill

Record Number 644 >>> Image 9: Detail of the multi stems of the large yews rising from the scree in the dark interior of the wood.

Record Number 644 >>> Image 10:

Record Number 644 >>> Image 11: Ancient hawthorn at the Hindrake Lead Mine, a survivor of previous mixed woodland once widespread on the slopes below Fremington Edge, perhaps.

Record Number 644 >>> Image 13: Once these ancient thorns disappear, there will be no record of their existence as evidence for the presence of woodland cut to provide fuel for the lead industry

Record Name: Landscape and prehistory on Goldsborough Hill, Cotherstone Moor.
SWAAG ID Number: 645
Recorded Date: 2012-11-24 11:55:41
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: Northern Britain
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-23
Location: Cotherstone Moor, Goldsborough Hill and Goldsborough Rigg.
Civil Parish: Cotherstone
British National Grid: NY 955 177
Altitude: 383m
Geology: Isolated 'nunatak' like hill capped with thick current bedded sandstones and with an elongated attached eastern ridge of boulder clay (crag and tail). This hill may look as though it had diverted the Stainmore Glacier, however the presence of two Lake District erratic boulders on the summit show that the glacier had over topped Shackleborough.
Description: This is a small photographic introduction to Goldsborough Hill, which together with Shacklesborough Hill some 5km further west, are prominent and isolated sandstone capped hills, distinctivelandmark features with special geological and prehistoric interest within a fine Teesdale Pennine Landscape,at the wild northern edge of Stainmore.
Dimensions: See photographs.
Additional Notes: See captions to photographs.
Individual features and archaeological sites on Goldsborough Hill, on Shacklesborough and at West Loups on the Battle Hill Ranges 2km to the east will be recorded severally and in more detail in further following SWAAG records.
Last Update: 2012-11-24

Record Number 645 >>> Image 1: Goldsborough from the Pennine Way, Bowes Diversion.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 2: Goldsborough, the southern crags.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 3: Goldsborough. View westward towards Shacklesborough from the summit.

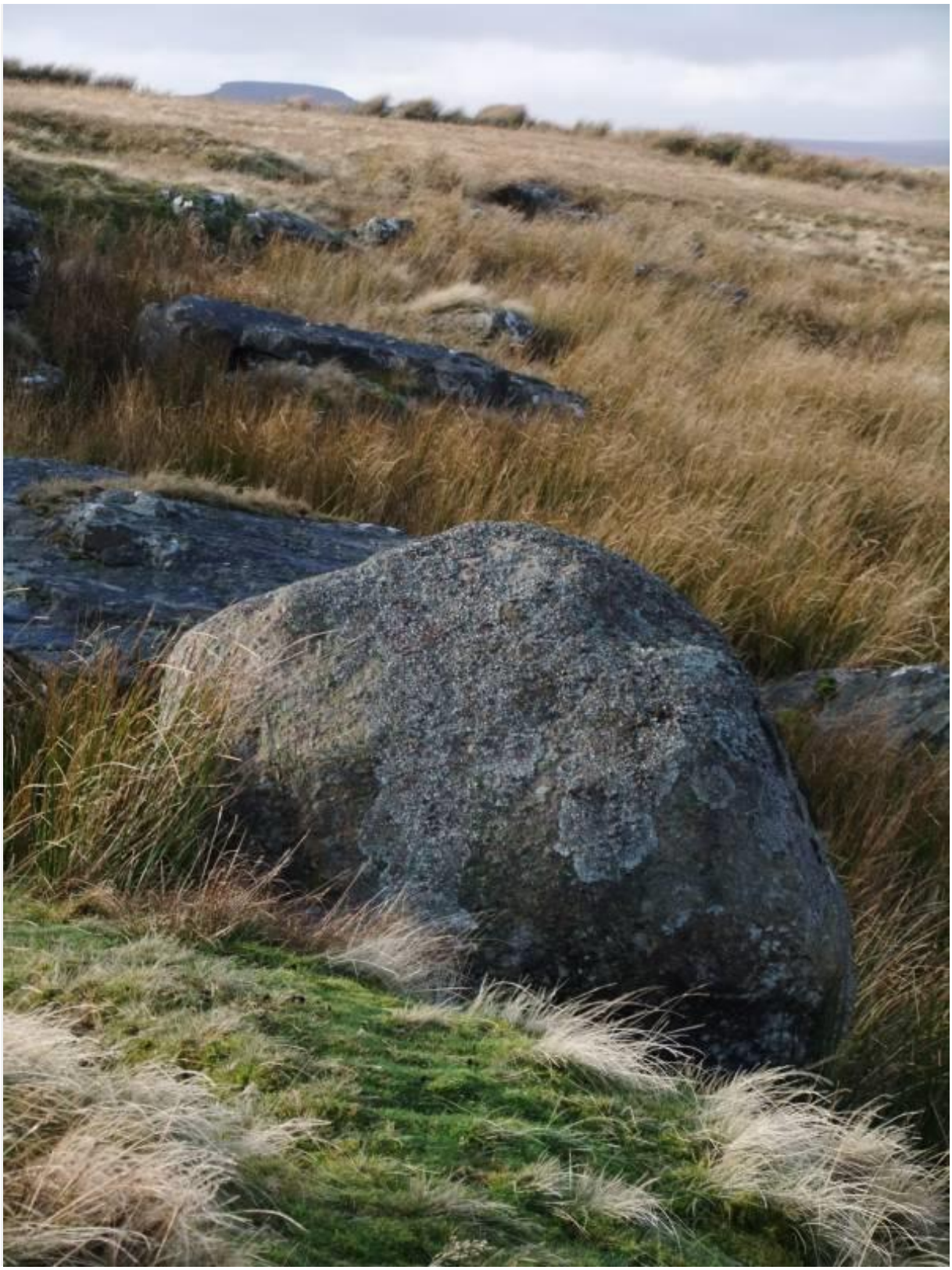
Record Number 645 >>> Image 4: View eastward.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 5: The ring cairn on the summit, part concealed by soft rush growth.
There is a Bronze Age round barrow on Shacklesborough 5km further west.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 6: Goldsborough Rigg. Cup and ring marked rock.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 7: Fourtrack ruts leading straight across the cup and ring marked rock. Perhaps local farmers should be specifically notified of the existence and location of all cup and ring marked rocks.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 8: Goldsborough. Shap erratic boulder and quarried sandstone outcrop.



Record Number 645 >>> Image 9: The Shap erratic boulder perched near an old quarry face on the summit. This very large granite boulder, glacially transported from the eastern edge of the Lake District provides evidence that the Stainmore Ice overtopped this sandstone hillock.

Record Number 645 >>> Image 10: The Shap erratic boulder

Record Number 645 >>> Image 11: The Shap erratic boulder

Record Number 645 >>> Image 12: Small boulder of Lake District volcanic rock (Borrowdale Volcanic ash) glacially transported and deposited on the summit of Goldsborough by the Stainmore Ice stream.

Record Name: Ring cairn on summit of Goldsborough Hill. Cotherstone and the effects on the moorland vegetation of reduction of sheep.
SWAAG ID Number: 646
Recorded Date: 2012-11-25 14:50:09
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Ring Cairns
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-23
Location: Cotherstone Moor. Goldsborough. Summit.
Civil Parish: Cotherstone
British National Grid: NY 95472 17687
Altitude: 387m
Geology: Namurian sandstone capped isolated hill.
Description: This embanked stone faced ring work some 11m diameter overall is interpreted here as a probable ring cairn and is defined by a circular stone dump earthfast bank with occasional unworked facing stones on both inner and outer faces. The Late Dennis Coggins first recorded this ring cairn during fieldwork in the early 1990's leading to the discovery of the grouped rock art sites on Goldsborough and subsequently those at West Loups Farm, see Laurie, T.C. 1992. 'The Archaeology of West Loups' in Catterick and Feldom Conservation Group Monograph Project '92: 'Battle Hill Ranges and Red Scar' pp 5-7 and Figure 1 (attached) and Beckensall and Laurie 1998 'Prehistoric Rock Art of Co. Durham, Wensleydale and Swaledale.' Durham County Books.
This ring cairn, as it is supposed to be, is one of very few similar ringworks not to have been excavated. The majority of these monuments also termed enclosed cremation cemetaries have been investigated by archaeologists, finds from these ringworks typically include cremation burials contained within collared urns, pygmy incense cups and date from the Neolithic through to the Middle Bronze Age.
The rock art sites recorded in this area are likely to predate the ring cairn, but do reflect the seasonal activity of Bronze Age and Neolithic transhumant pastoral family groups in this area.

Two of the most comprehensively excavated and published examples of ring cairns in the NW and NE of England include:
1. The multi period ringwork comprising double concentric ring timber post circle with overlying stone embanked ring cairn at Oddendale , near Shap excavated by Percival Turnbull and Deborah Walsh (Turnbull and Walsh 1997. ' A prehistoric Ritual Sequence at Oddendale, Near Shap.' Trans. Cumberland and Westmoreland A. & A. Soc Vol XCV11, 1997. pp11-44.
2. The ring cairn with standing stone, other ringworks and cairnfield at Danby Rigg on the NYM excavated by Prof. A.F. Harding et al. 1994. (Harding, A.F. et al. 1994. Archaeol. Journal 151 (1994), 16-97.)
Dimensions: 11m diameter overall
Additional Notes: Finally, attention is drawn to the fact that the moorland vegetaion on the summit of Goldsborough is today very different to that which was present when my earlier photo was taken during the 1990's. The stone bank of the ring cairn is clearly visible on the earlier photo which was taken during a field walk lead by me to Cotherstone Moor by members of a University of Leeds Extra Mural Class in the early 1990's. The ring bank is today very difficult to recognise as the moorland vegetation and the soft rushes are much more rampant and luxuriant following reduction in sheep headage and in the reduction of grazing the moor.
Last Update: 2012-11-25

Record Number 646 >>> Image 1: The ring cairn on the summit of Goldsborough photographed on 23 November 2012.

Record Number 646 >>> Image 2: The same ring cairn photographed during a field walk at the same time of year during the 1990's

Record Name: Rock art on Goldsborough Rigg and close to the Pennine Way Bowes Diversion.
SWAAG ID Number: 647
Recorded Date: 2012-11-25 16:51:31
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Rock Art
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2012-11-23
Location: Cotherstone Moor, Pennine Way Bowes Diversion and Goldsbotough Rigg.
Civil Parish: Cotherstone
British National Grid: NY 957 177
Altitude: 360m
Geology: Drift over Namurian Strata.
Description: On being informed by the Late Dennis Coggins that he had discovered a fine cup and ring marked rock on the ridge to the east of Goldsborough Hill, see Beckensall and laurie 1998, page Rock No and Photo Nos 1- 4. On learning this, I walked at the first opportunity from Bowes Village passing the ling-thatched farm at Levy Pool and thence northward along the Pennine Way to see this rock. In so doing I found two fine carved rocks within three yards of the busy Pennine Way track, see Photo Nos.
Later fieldwork with Dennis established the existence of a number of cup marked and cup and ring marked rocks in the vicinity of West Loups Farm within the Battle Hill Army Firing Range. These rocks have subsequently been the subject of further survey and recording.
Dimensions: See photos taken in the early 1990's and also recent photographs.
Additional Notes: The exposed rocks are very weathered although an attempt has been made to protect them and are today mch more difficult to locate than in the 1980's. See old photos attached compared with recent photos. The recent reduction of sheep numbers grazing these wet moors has resulted in the explosion of rushes in the wet pasture to the detriment of the moorland and pasture.
The photograph of the rock below turf (Photo Image 2) was taken during the 1990's soon after the rock was discovered and the fine cups with single rings on the rock were still protected under turf when visited recently.
Last Update: 2012-11-26

Record Number 647 >>> Image 1: The Pennine Way Bowes Diversion. The small rock part below turf in the foreground is decorated with several fine cup and ring motifs.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 2: Photograph taken during the 1990's. For descriptions, photographs and drawings showing the details of this rock and the other cup and ring marked rocks here, see Beckensall and Laurie 1998 pp72-76.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 3: Photograph taken during the 1990's. This decorated slab is also very close to the Pennine Way. Very weathered but clearly visible when this photo was taken in early 1990's. These carvings now almost invisible although protected under loose stone slabs.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 4: The second cup marked rock close to the Pennine Way includes a groupd of cups within an enclosing groove. Very weathered, this photo taken in early 1990's.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 5: Carvings as these were seen 15 years ago, now almost invisible although protected under loose stone slabs.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 6: The same slab as photographed recently.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 7: Carvings now almost invisible although protected under loose stone slabs.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 8: This photograph of the main cup and ring marked rock on Goldsborough Rigg was taken fifteen years ago when sheep density was sufficient to control the growth of rushes (Juncus effusus)'.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 9: The same site as photographed recently, completely invisible, hidden

under rampant rush growth and driven across by a fourtrack.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 10: The same site as photographed recently, completely invisible, hidden under rampant rush growth and driven across by a fourtrack. Perhaps Landowner/Farmers should be briefed on the location of rock carvings.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 11:

Record Number 647 >>> Image 12: Goldsborough Rigg.The main cup and ring marked rock as photographed recently.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 13: Goldsborough Rigg.The main cup and ring marked rock as photographed recently.

Record Number 647 >>> Image 14: Goldsborough Rigg.The main cup and ring marked rock as photographed recently.

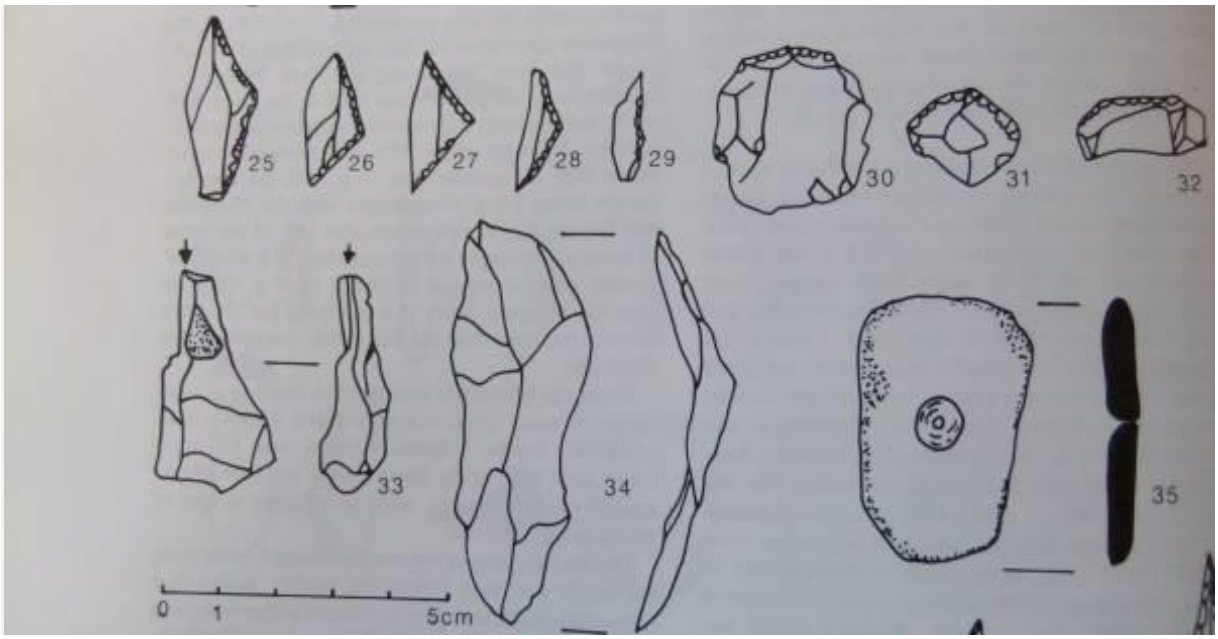
Record Name: Staple Crag. An early post glacial occupation site.
SWAAG ID Number: 648
Recorded Date: 2012-12-03 15:39:06
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Lithic Find / Scatter
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Upper Teesdale
Civil Parish: Holwick
British National Grid: #NY 903 278
Altitude: 260m
Geology: The Great Whin Cill
Description: Lithic finds which include a non-microlithic (tanged) trapeziform backed point of Late Upper Palaeolithic character, large isosceles triangle microliths, rod microliths of Early Mesolithic character. A perforated shale disc was present.The raw material included 75% flint and 25% black Pennine Chert. and flint (75%). These lithic finds were collected during a number of years by the late Dennis Coggins having been washed out at the base of an actively eroding bank of river silts at the lower end of the river gorge below The Low Force.
This site has been consolidated to prevent further erosion.
These finds from Staple Crag are all of similar character and provide evidence for the existence of a small hunter camp below Low Force at around 10,000 years ago (The typology of the lithic finds indicate occupation and activities based on hunting here during the Early Post Glacial (LUP) or Early Mesolithic Period). This lithic evidence, togethere with finds of similar age at a larger site a mile upstream of Barnard Castle, from Towler Hill, is the evidence for the earliest human activity in Teesdale.
Reference: Coggins, D. Laurie, T. and Young, R. 'The Late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic of the Northern Pennine Dales in the light of recent fieldwork.' In: Clive Bonsall,Ed. 'The Mesolithic in Europe.' Papers presented at the Third International Symposium. Edinburgh. 1985.
Dimensions: See photgraphs
Additional Notes: The Early Post Glacial vegetation of Teesdale: open grass land with earliest colonising juniper, willows, dwarf birch and bird cherry was soon to be followed by birch, pine and hazel.
All of these tree and shrub species are to be found elsewhere in Upper Teesdale today, together with the 'Teesdale Arctic-Alpine Rarities' including for example the spectacular yellow flowered Shrubby Cinquefoil (Potentilla fruticosa)which lines the river banks in places, see photos and (very rarely, here)dwarf birch (Betula nana) at its southernmost limit in Britain.
Last Update: 2012-12-03

Record Number 648 >>> Image 1: Scots pine of very native appearance grow on the whinstone at lower of the three waterfalls which comprise The Low Force. Pine birch and hazel woodland covered the whole of Britain during the Early Mesoltihic period around 10,000 years ago.

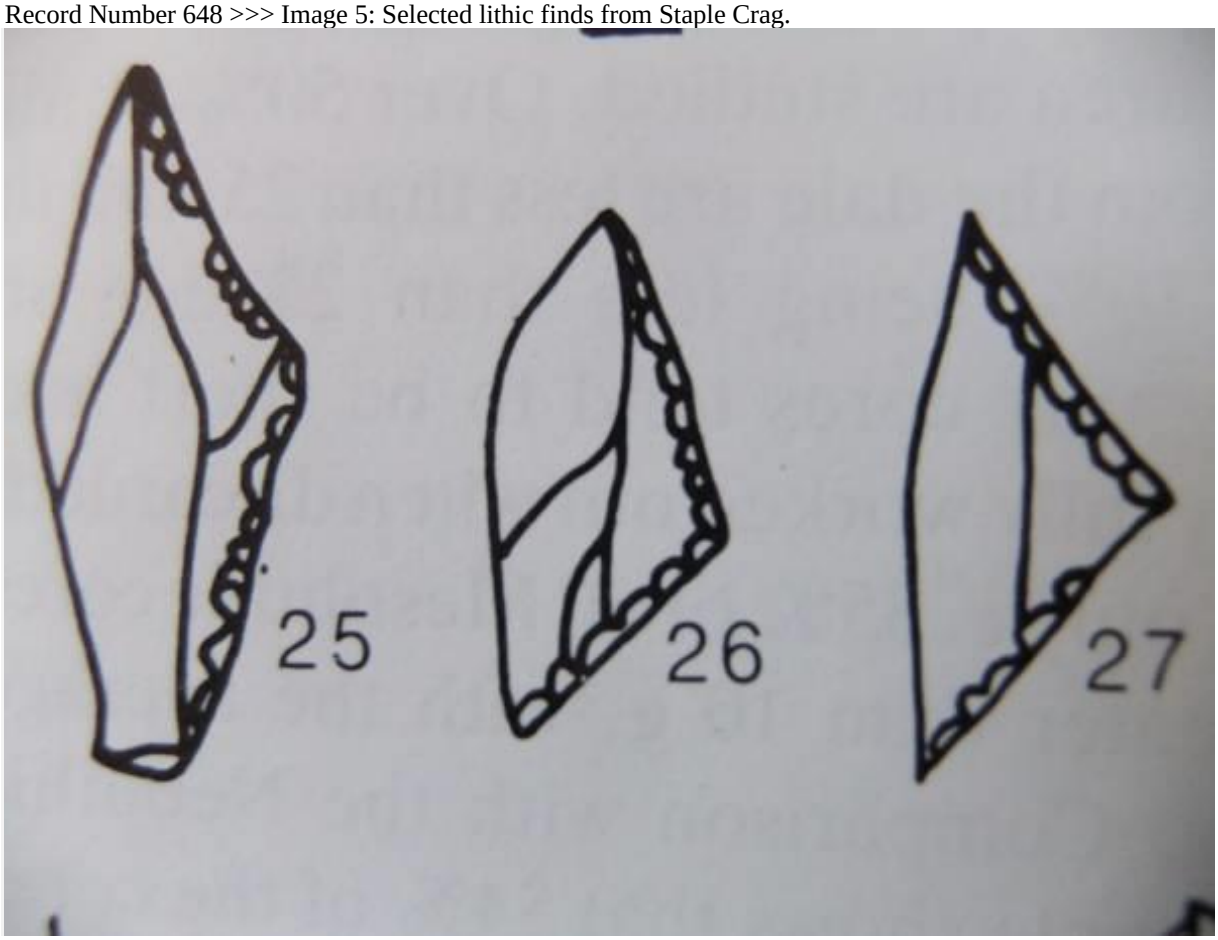
Record Number 648 >>> Image 2: Shrubby cinquefoil can be seen below this, the higher of the three ravine waterfalls at The Low Force.

Record Number 648 >>> Image 3: Shrubby cinquefoil, a late glacial survivor. Now to be seen on the arctic tundra and at very few locations in Britain.

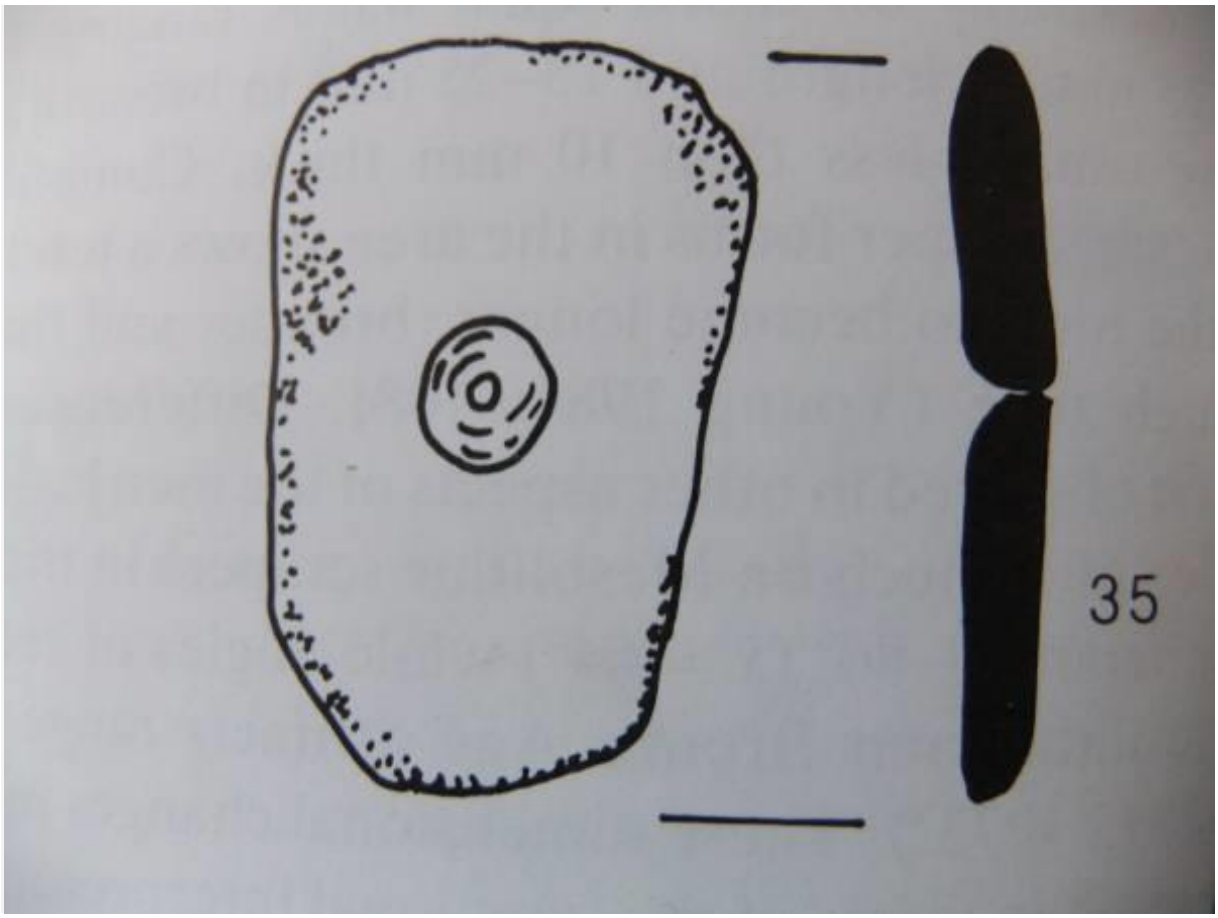
Record Number 648 >>> Image 4: Staple Crag after consolidation of the bank which prevents further erosion (and exposure of finds) of the site.



Record Number 648 >>> Image 5: Selected lithic finds from Staple Crag.



Record Number 648 >>> Image 6: Non microlithic tanged trapezoidal point and tarpezoid microliths from Staple Crag.



Record Number 648 >>> Image 7: Hour glass perforated shale disc from Staple Crag.

Record Number 648 >>> Image 8: Black pennine chert flake with retouched notch from Spaple Crag.
This is the only lithic recovered from the river gravel since consolidation of the site.

Record Number 648 >>> Image 9: The same flake. Flakes with retouched notches, interpreted as spokeshave arrow shaft formers, are a frequent componant of mesolithic (not LUP) sites.
The mesolithic has been defined by the invention of the bow and arrow- a step change in human evolution when the earlier Palaeolithic hunters possed only spears.

Record Name: Cultivation terraces (strip lynchets) below Clapgate Plantation.
SWAAG ID Number: 649
Recorded Date: 2012-12-04 16:36:39
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Private
Record Date: 2010-10-24
Location: Clapgate Plantation.
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid: NZ 108 010
Altitude: 190m
Geology: Boulder clay over Underset Limestone.
Description: Fine series of stepped cultivation terraces which as seen from the old scenic road from Richmond to Marske, are probably the most admired and among the least understood of all Swaledale archaeological landscapes.
Dimensions: See photographs.
Additional Notes: Strip lynchet cultivation terraces are difficult to date but are generally believed to have been in occupation during the medieval and post medieval periods. Their origins may however date as far as the Late Iron Age and to the period of the Roman Occupation. They may have been cultivated continuously or intermittently, with abandonment at times of stress.
There are early settlements in Clapgate which certainly date back to the Late Iron Age and to the period of the Roman Occupation.
Last Update: 2012-12-04

Record Number 649 >>> Image 1: Cultivation terraces, strip lynchets photographed from West Applegarth.

Record Number 649 >>> Image 2: Cultivation terraces, strip lynchets photographed from West Applegarth.

Record Name: Limestone ashwood with many yews on Whitcliffe Scar east of Deepdale, a panorama of views.
SWAAG ID Number: 650
Recorded Date: 2012-12-05 20:54:12
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-12-05
Location: Whitcliffe Scar
Civil Parish: Richmond
British National Grid: NZ 030 020
Altitude: 290m
Geology: Sheer cliffs or Scars formed by Richmond cherts above the Main Limestone.
Description: This is a continuous photographic record of the whole length of Whitcliffe Scar for a distance of 1.5km eastward from Deepdale. The photographs were taken *10 under very good sunlight from the A6108 road on the 5th December 2012. The purpose of this series of photographs is to allow an appreciation of the wealth of mature cliff yews within species-rich limestone ashwood across the whole length of Whitcliffe Scars. These photographs should allow the health of this woodland to be monitored from time to time.
Dimensions: 1.5km eastward from NZ030020
Species: Yew with Limestone Ashwood Community.
Common Notable Species: Ash, yew, wych elm,large-leaved lime,beech, gean, rowan, spindle (rare)
Additional Notes: The mature elms which once grew on the settlement below Willance's Leap were lost to Dutch Elm disease. The small population of Large -leaved lime trees on these limestone cliffs is at the western and northern location for this species in Europe. (Donald Pigott,2012. 'Lime-trees and Basswoods. A Biological Monograph of the genus Tilia.' Fig.8.30.)
Last Update: 2012-12-05
Tree Geographical Area: Lower Swaledale

Record Number 650 >>> Image 1:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 8:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 9:

Record Number 650 >>> Image 10:

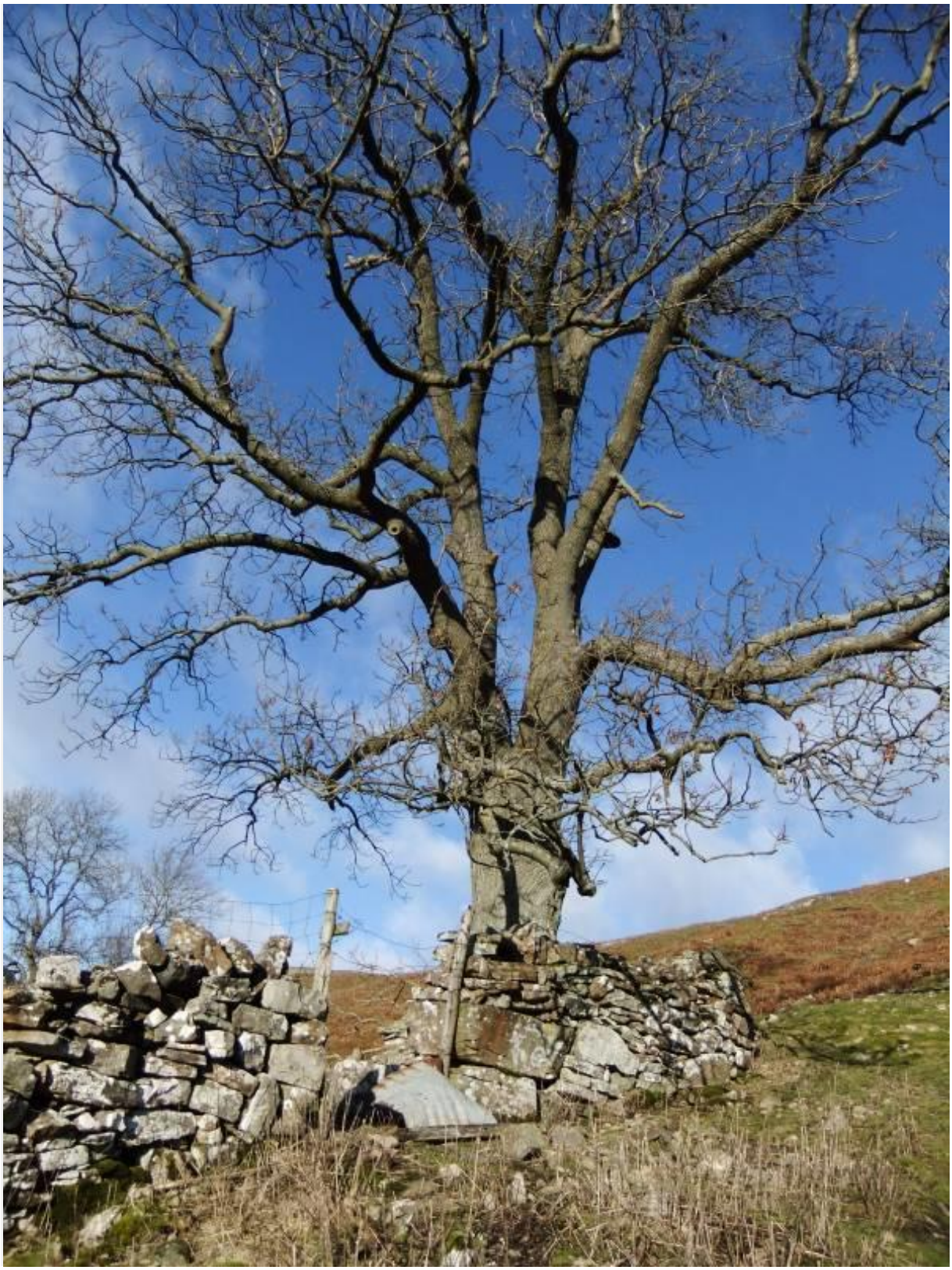
Record Number 650 >>> Image 11:

Record Name: The ashwoods, yew woods and alderwoods of Arkengarthdale
SWAAG ID Number: 651
Recorded Date: 2012-12-06 16:06:15
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2012-12-05
Location: Arkengarthdale, photographed from the track to Castle Farm and from the Moor Edge footpath
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: NZ 030 012
Altitude: 250m
Geology: Drift covered Dale sides and flood plain gravels
Description: This record is of the different woodlands seen on Fremington Edge and by Arkle Beck on a fine winter's day from the track to Castle Farm and from the Moor Edge Footpath. For details of the trees and woods see photo captions.The woodlands seen include Yews on the limestone scars, and on the lower slopes. Ashwoods, ash trees and ancient hawthorns in relict hedgerows on the lower slopes. Alderwoods with self seeded scots pines by the Arkle Beck.
Dimensions: See photographs
Species: Yew woodlandfragments on the limestone scars and lower slopes below Fremington Edge. Ashwoods on the lower slopes. Alderwoods with scots pine by the Arkle Beck
Additional Notes: The very many ancient specimen trees of different species seen will each be recorded seperately on the Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Hunt website at http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/. It is of note that not a single birch tree has been recorded on the slopes above Arkle Beck downstream of Sleigill. In contrast, upstream of Sleigill Downy Birch is the dominant native tree in many places.
Last Update: 2012-12-06
Tree Geographical Area: Swaledale North Bank Catchment

Record Number 651 >>> Image 1: Arkengarthdale from the Moor Edge Path above Castle Farm.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 2: Fell End with very large cliff yews from the Moor Edge Path

Record Number 651 >>> Image 3: The Moor Edge Path with many fine veteran ash trees.



Record Number 651 >>> Image 4: A veteran ash tree whose age is betrayed by the pesence of a very large bracket fungus mid way up the trunk.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 5: A large veteran ash. These trees will be sorely missed if affected by the recent pathogen.

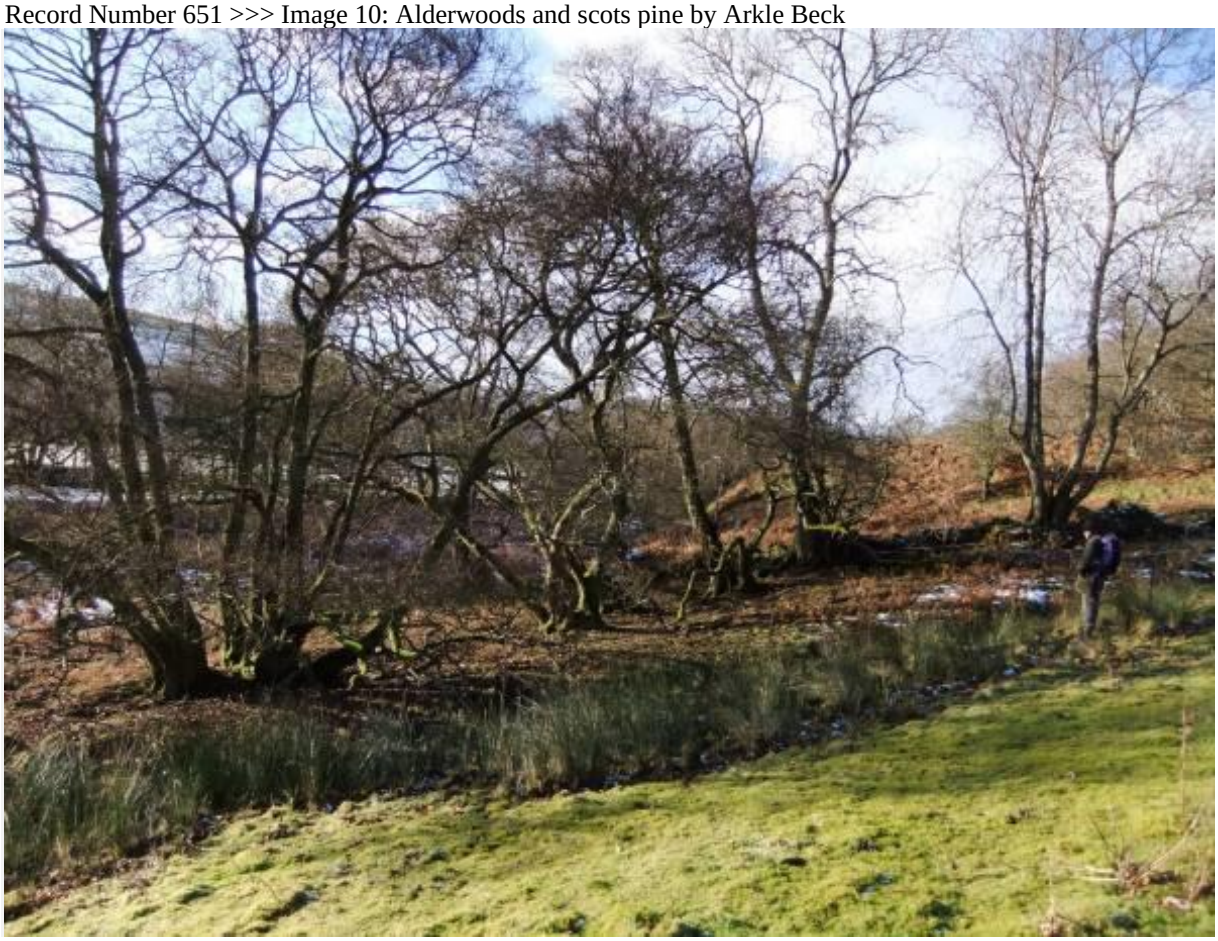
Record Number 651 >>> Image 6: A large veteran ash.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 7: Alderwoods and scots pine by Arkle Beck, below Calverside.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 8: Alderwoods and scots pine by Arkle Beck

Record Number 651 >>> Image 9: Alderwoods and scots pine by Arkle Beck

Record Number 651 >>> Image 10: Alderwoods and scots pine by Arkle Beck



Record Number 651 >>> Image 11: Ancient coppiced alders by Arkle Beck. Alders were highl useful as their wood does not rot in wet ground, was the preferred wood for soles of clogs and when made into charcoal was the best available for gunpowder manufacture.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 12: Detail with milk churn.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 13:

Record Number 651 >>> Image 14: Castle Farm and ashwoods by Arkle Beck form the access track.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 15: Little red Riding Hood live here perhaps.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 16: Castle Farm from the access road with ashwoods and the relict yew wood in the distance.

Record Number 651 >>> Image 17: Relict yew woodland, sole surviving fragment of the woodland which may once have extended across the whole of Fremington Escarpment.