Record Name: Carperby Moor. A SWAAG walk to visit Prehistoric and Mining Landscapes on Oxclose and on moorland centred at Thackthwaite Beck Springs and cave
SWAAG ID Number: 852
Recorded Date: 2015-03-11 16:39:44
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Standing Stones / Circles
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-03-05
Location: Circular SWAAG walk to Oxclose below Ivy Scar and across moorland aboveThackthaite Beck Springs and collapsed Cave
Civil Parish: Carperby Cum Thoresby
British National Grid:
Altitude: 395m
Geology: Glacial drift over The Main Limestone.
Description: This is a short photographic record of a walk undertaken by a small group of weather hardened SWAAG Members on a fine but very windy day in early March to visit rich archaeological and mining landscapes on Oxclose and on Carperby Moor. The walk was reduced to take account of the gusting to gale force north-west wind but we managed, as planned to reach and lunch in the limited shelter of a ruined wall close above Thackthwaite Beck Spring and collapsed Cave, then to visit the standing stone circle on moorland above the cave. The walk included visits to the Carperby Stone Quarry, to the early field system and embanked stone rings on Oxclose, the extensive and complex mining landscape of the Ivy Scar Mine and the Carperby Basin, early prehistoric occupation sites, the stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck and several stone built settlements of different periods. For details of the geology and mining remains of the Carperby Basin, see: K.C.Dunham and A.A. Wilson, 1985. B.G.S. 'Geology of the North Pennine Orefield' Vol. 2 Stainmore to Craven. For details of archaeological landscape features visited, see the account and map of the survey of prehistoric landscape of Carperby Moor in the Publications Section of this website (Laurie,T.C.2003). For the distribution of prehistoric sites on Carperby Moor and eastward across West and East Bolton Parks, see the attached map, Image No below. Details of many of the archaeological sites on Carperby Moor and of the lithic finds that were made during this walk will be the subject offurther separate detailed SWAAG Records.
Additional Notes: The circular heather covered cairn located at the head of the defile below Wegber Scar and some 400m east of the stone circle. This location at a pass through the hills and close to a stone ring is characteristic of similar burial mounds, eg the cup marked cairn and stone ring above Osmond's Gill on Barningham Moor.
Last Update: 2015-03-14

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

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

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

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

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

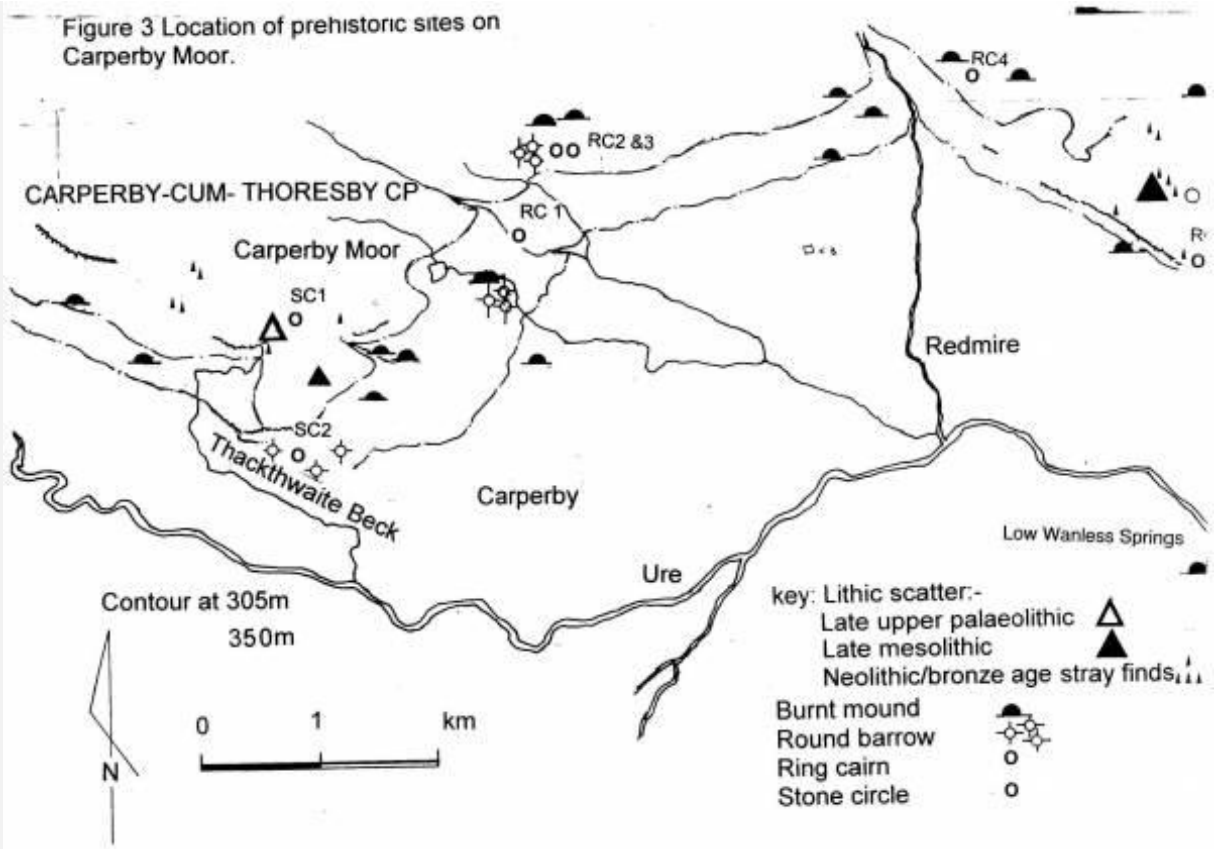
Record Number 852 >>> Image 6: The Oxclose embanked stone circle and central cairn.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

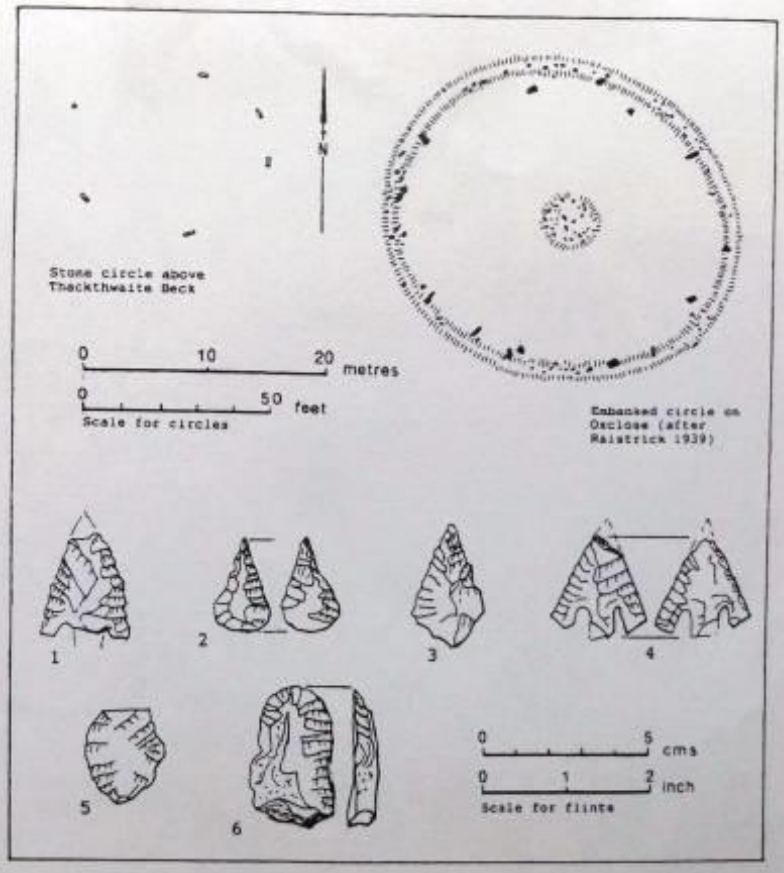


Figure 73: Stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck, embanked circle on Oxclose (after Raistrick 1939) and stray lithic finds from Carperby Moor (1–6)

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

Record Name: Carperby Moor.Ring cairn or round house enclosure below Greenhaw Hut.
SWAAG ID Number: 853
Recorded Date: 2015-03-13 21:48:04
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Ring Cairns
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Carperby Moor. Little Wegber NE Slope Springs.
Civil Parish: Carperby Cum Thoresby
British National Grid: SD 99500 92103
Altitude: 397m
Geology: Valley slope glacial drift over strata below The Main Limestone
Description: Boulder revetted hill slope oval enclosure 16m* 11m overall with no visible entrance, trackway or other nearby structure indicating that this isolated feature was a round house. This isolated enclosure is located on the lower slopes at the head of the steep sided glaciated valley below Greenhow Hut, not named on the OS map, which is drained by a small stream which falls into Locker Tarn. In the first instance this feature is provisionally interpreted as a ring cairn. However as this enclosure is well sited as a dwelling just above the floor of the valley, the possibility that this is an isolated hut circle cannot be ruled out.
Dimensions: 16m*11m overall
Additional Notes: This ring bank was recognised after the survey which resulted in the publication of the Map showing Prehistoric sites on Carperby Moor, within Bolton East and West parks and above Redmire(see: Researching the Prehistory of Wensleydale, Swaledale and Teesdale, pp223-253 and Figure 61, in T.G. Manby et al. Eds. 'The Archaeology of Yorkshire: an assessment at the beginning of the 21st century.'Yorks. Arch. Soc. Occasional Paper No 3.
Last Update: 2015-04-05

Record Number 853 >>> Image 1: View to the ring bank, on slope centre right, from the North

Record Number 853 >>> Image 2: The stone revetted ring work from the North.

Record Number 853 >>> Image 3: View over the site southward over the Vale of Mowbray. North York Moors just visible in distance.

Record Number 853 >>> Image 4: The site is at the head of this shallow valley below GreenHaw Hut.

Record Number 853 >>> Image 5: Green Haw Hut from the edge of Carperby Moor.

Record Name: Late-glacial lithic finds from Carperby Moor
SWAAG ID Number: 854
Recorded Date: 2015-03-15 10:13:55
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Lithic Find / Scatter
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-03-05
Location: Carperby Moor
Civil Parish: Carperby Cum Thoresby
British National Grid: #SD 9900 9100
Altitude: 400m to 450m
Geology: The Main Limestone.
Description: This record is a general introduction to the various finds of flint and chert artefacts from different locations on Carperby Moor which provide rare open-air evidence for an earliest human presence on the eastern Pennine Fringe. The evidence for the earliest human presence in Northern Britain has been recognised and radio-carbon dated from excavated cave deposits and from finds dredged up from the North Sea in the form of characteristic lithic finds and humanly modified and worked animal antler and bone. Open-air lithic finds from the fringe of the area briefly habitable during the 'relatively temperate Allerod oscillation' and short interglacial interlude named after the contemporary steppe-tundra vegetation as the 'Younger Dryas', are very uncommon in Britain. However, occupation sites of the earliest post-glacial hunters who followed herds of reindeer on their annual migration routes have long been recognised from Denmark, from North Germany, Poland and from the Baltic States.(Reference: Grahame Clark, 1975. The Earliest Post Glacial Settlement Of Scandinavia. Cambridge U.P.) A few lithic finds which are characteristic of these early reindeer hunter groups have been recognised from Carperby Moor, from locations centred at Thackthwaite Beck Springs and from other vantage sites which overlook small 'tarns, now infilled by peat. These few characteristic early lithic finds provide evidence for a rather brief and intermittent presence of Reindeer Hunters on the limestone uplands of the NE Pennine Fringe,which some 12,000- 10,000years ago were: 'a range of hills on the western edge of a vast European plain that, before rising sea levels flooded the lower ground to form the North Sea, stretched from the Pennines to the Urals' Reference Jacobi, R.M. 1978. 'Northern England in the Eighth millennium B.C: an essay,, in P.A.Mellars(ed.), The Earliest Postglacial Settlement of Northern Europe',295-332.
A few artefacts from Carperby Moor selected as being characteristic of the Ahrensbergian and Lyngby-Bromme, Northern European reindeer hunter culture dated to the period 12,000-10,000BC will be discussed here. These finds may be considered as, together with further recent finds from a small but increasing number of locations elsewhere in Northern England and from Western Scotland, forming the earliest evidence of post-glacial human activity in Northern Britain.

Dimensions: See illustrations
Additional Notes: Note on the location of early prehistoric occupation sites:
The preferred locations for the occupation sites of Early Prehistoric Hunter groups are centred at the most constant springs, eg close to Thackthwite Beck Spring, or at vantage points on rising ground above open water, ie close to pools of open water or 'tarns' which today are moorland depressions infilled with peat.
The lithic evidence can be categorised as conforming to the known range of artefact forms which are understood to be diagnostic of the Late Upper Palaeolithic (LUP) 'Ahrensbergian' nomadic reindeer hunter cultures whose range extended from the Baltic and Northern Germany across the North Sea, then dry land, to Britain. The collection of artefacts from The Nab NNE of Thackthwaite Beck Springs, shown here on image nos 4,5 and 6 which are to be seen in the Wensleydale Museum Collection, detailed by Laurie (2003), Fig. 60, reproduced here as Image No 6, include a complete tanged point,No 1, the tip of a similar robust non-microlithic point, No 2, points on carefully made blades,for example No 12, good burins and heavy scrapers. The subsequent collections from Carperby Moor, shown as photo Image Nos 7-16, do share the general characteristics of the technology of this culture, but cannot be considered as diagnostic since these lithic forms are also present within the Mesolithic.
The type artefacts of the Ahrensbergian Culture include small, but non-microlithic tanged points which retain the bulb of percussion, and tanged points on carefully purpose struck pointed flakes which require no retouch except to form a basal shoulder or to 'thin' the bulb of percussion to facilitate hafting to the arrow shaft. Several examples of these shouldered flakes,from an occupation site overlooks an infilled glacial lake, which, being suitably light and strong, formed effective arrow armatures are shown on the illustrations below. These small simply struck flake points represent the invention and earliest use of the Bow and Arrow. (Reference: Grahame Clark, 1975. The Earliest Post Glacial Settlement Of Scandinavia. Cambridge U.P.)
Last Update: 2015-04-02

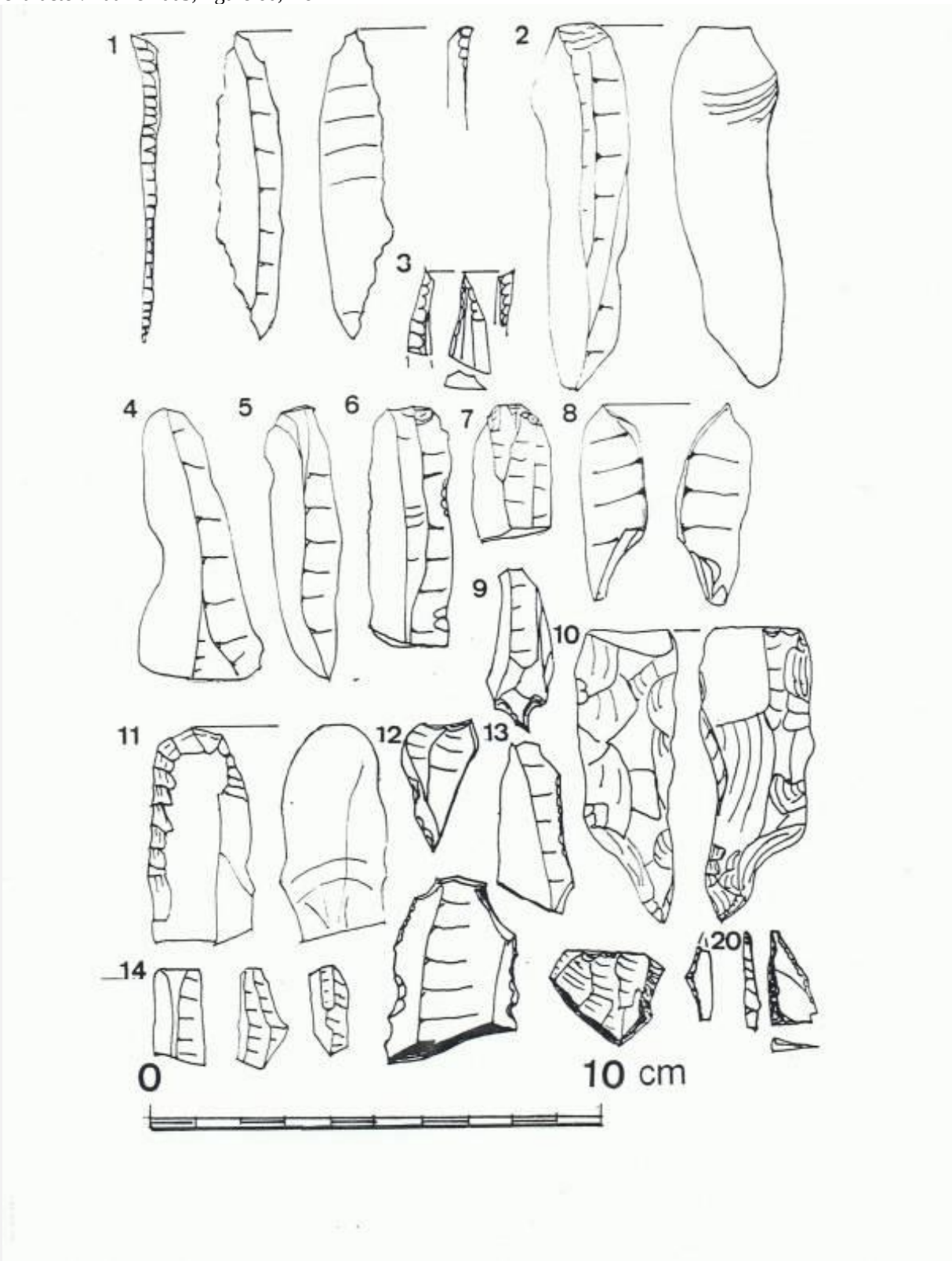
Record Number 854 >>> Image 1: Thackthwaite Beck Cave (collapsed)and spring. This constant spring formed the focus of early post glacial hunter period and later prehistoric settlement at a vantage point which overlooks Upper Wenslydale.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 2: Early post glacial and Mesolithic hunter period occupation sites were located on rising ground overlooked small 'tarns' areas of open water now infilled with peat.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 3: The same infilled tarn seen from below.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 4: Finds of Late Glacial character collected during the last century from Carperby Moor, See Laurie 2003,Figure 60.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 5: Backed flint blade point with semblance of a tang of Late Glacial character. Laurie 2003,Figure 60, No 1



Record Number 854 >>> Image 6: Finds of Late Glacial character collected from two locations NNE of Thackthwaite Beck Springs Carperby Moor, during the last century , Laurie 2003 Figure 60.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 7: Recent Finds from Carperby Moor.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 8: Recent Finds from Carperby Moor. Obverse view

Record Number 854 >>> Image 9: Selected recent finds from this site. Top: Small tanged point on carefully struck pointed flake, black chert.
Left centre: Small tanged burin, flint. Right centre: Tanged chert bladelet with retained bulb of percussion.
Lower centre: Two small robust points or burins on small chert flakes, one with bulb thinned for hafting by removal of a small flake.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 10: The same, obverse view.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 11: Recent finds from an occupation site overlooking the 'Tarn' shown above.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 12: Recent finds from an occupation site overlooking the 'Tarn' shown above.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 13: Recent finds from an occupation site overlooking the 'Tarn' shown above.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 14: Detail. Chert blade.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 15: The same, obverse view.

Record Number 854 >>> Image 16: Blade segment.

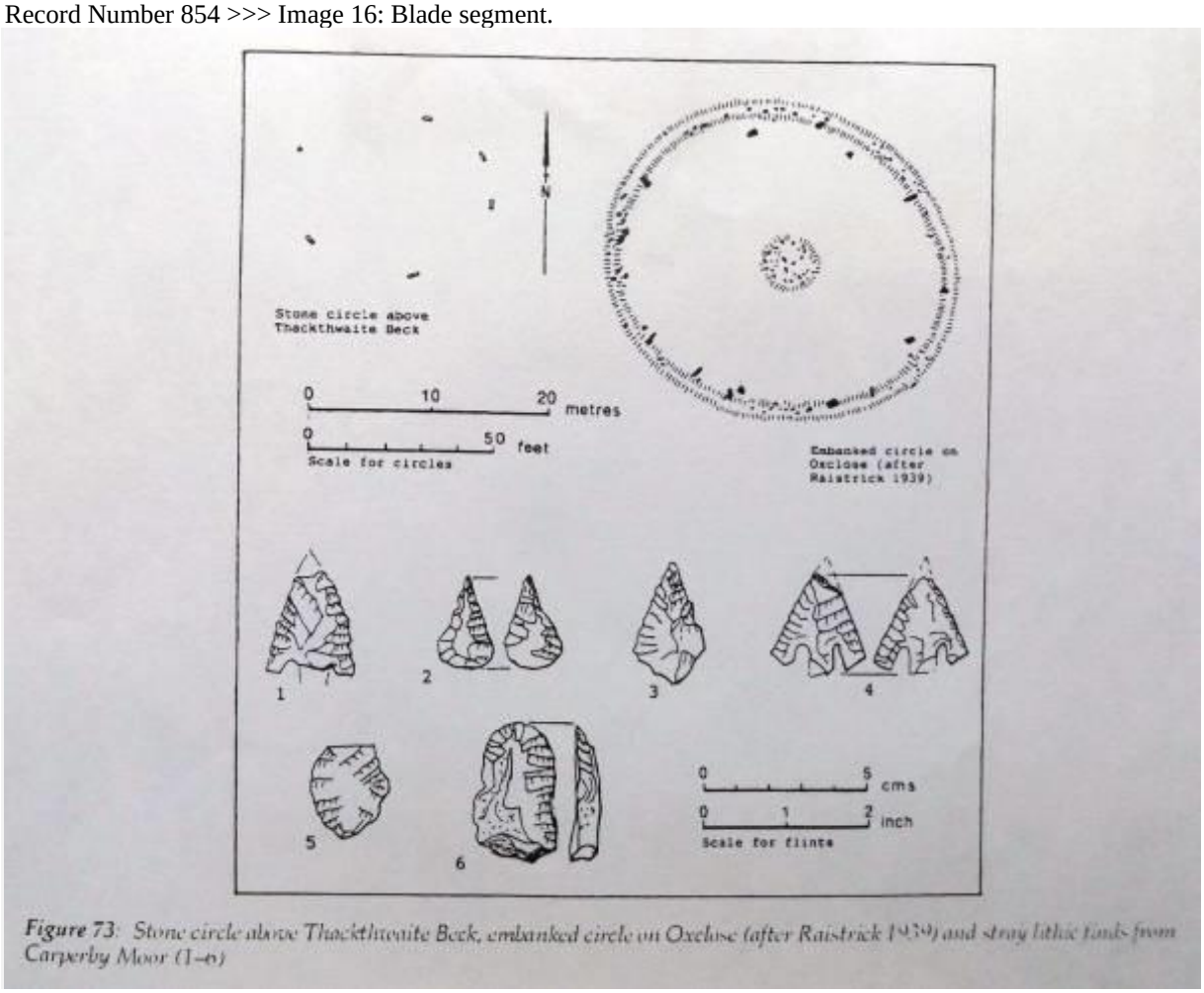
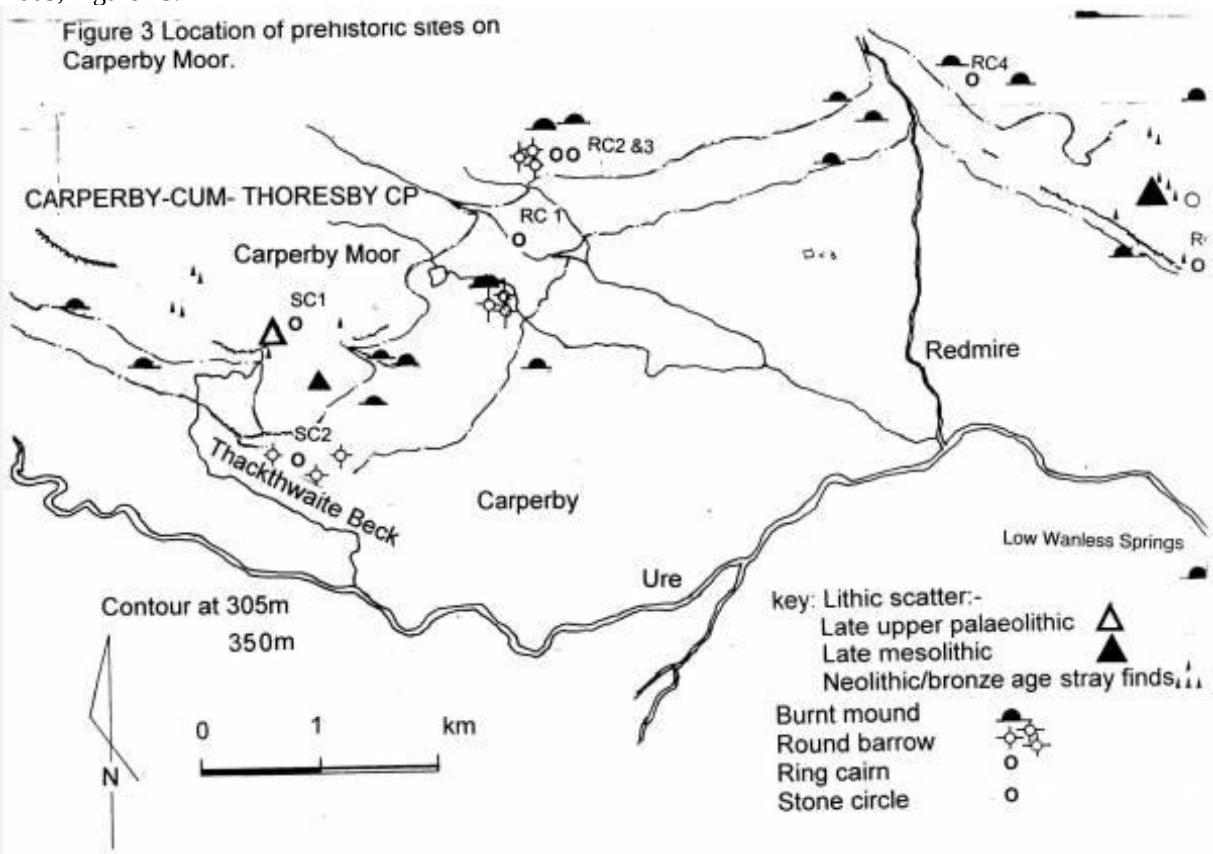


Figure 73: Stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck, embanked circle on Oxclose (after Raistrick 1939) and stray lithic finds from Carperby Moor (1–6)

Record Number 854 >>> Image 18: Stone circle above Thackthwaite Beck Springs, Embanked circle on

Oxclose, after Raistrick 19**, and stray finds of Later prehistoric character from Carperby Moor. Laurie 2003, Figure 73.



Record Number 854 >>> Image 19: Carperby Moor, Location of Prehistoric Sites. Laurie, 2003 Figure 71.

Record Name: Solar eclipse photographed from Darlngton.
SWAAG ID Number: 870
Recorded Date: 2015-03-20 17:06:03
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Photographic Record
Record Type: General HER
Record Date: 2015-03-20
Location: Darlington
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid:
Geology: N/A
Description: A short break in cloud cover allowed a brief glimpse through the bedroom window of the crescent sun at or close to maximum eclipse.
Last Update: 2015-03-28

Record Number 870 >>> Image 1: Solar eclipse seen through breaking cloud at or close to eclipse maximum.

Record Number 870 >>> Image 2:

Record Name: Ring cairn on east side of Beldon Beck. West Bolton Park.
SWAAG ID Number: 871
Recorded Date: 2015-03-28 17:34:54
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Ring Cairns
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-03-05
Location: Bolton West Park. Beldon Beck. East side.
Civil Parish: Castle Bolton with E and W Bol
British National Grid: SE 00806 92112
Altitude: 328m
Geology: Glacial till over limestone.
Description: Ring cairn defined by a continuous, low, circular 1.5m wide turf covered stone bank. No visible entrance. Approximately 12.5m diameter overall. Probably reduced by quarrying for stone. Indications of a central cairn.
This ring cairn is RC1 on the published Location Map (Laurie, 2003. Figure 61: Carperby Moor, Prehistoric Sites).
Dimensions: Approximately 12.5 m diameter overall.
Additional Notes: The siting of this slight ring bank at a vantage view point,the absence of any visible entrance and the small central cairn feature is characteristic of a ring cairn. In contrast,
a second stone ring bank of similar dimensions which is situated at the base of a fairly steep slope some 100m to the NE. This ring bank has an entrance in the SE quadrant and is best interpreted as a small round house associated with the field system on Bolton West Park to be recorded as a later SWAAG Record.
Last Update: 2015-04-03

Record Number 871 >>> Image 1: Beldon Beck Ring Cairn view westward.

Record Number 871 >>> Image 2: Beldon Beck Ring Cairn view northward.

Record Number 871 >>> Image 3: Beldon Beck Ring Cairn view eastward

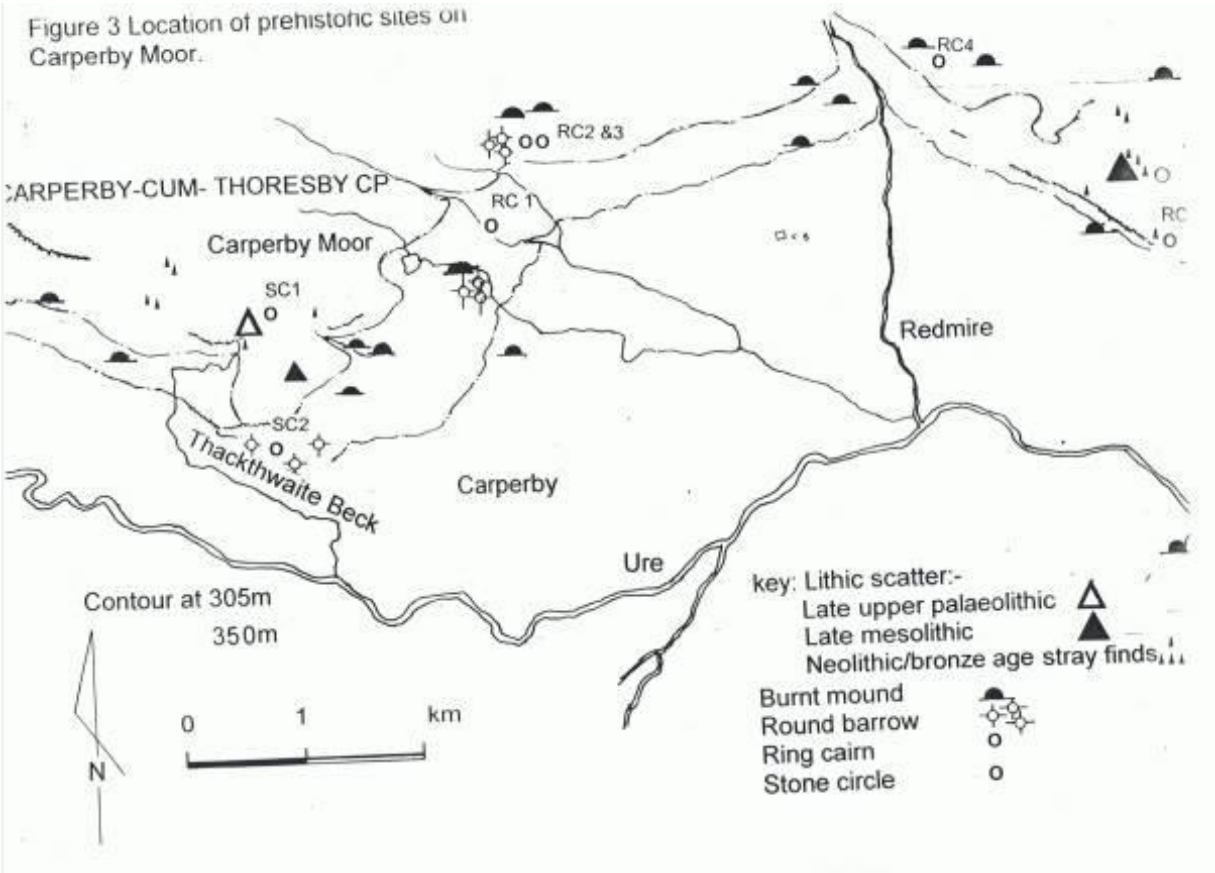
Record Number 871 >>> Image 4: Beldon Beck Ring Cairn view southward

Record Name: West Bolton Parks. Ring cairn or reduced round cairn located 100m NNE of the Beldon Beck Ring Cairn
SWAAG ID Number: 872
Recorded Date: 2015-04-07 17:56:54
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-03-27
Location: West Bolton Parks
Civil Parish: Castle Bolton with E and W Bol
British National Grid: SE 00806 92112
Altitude: 328m
Geology: Glacial drift over limestone.
Description: This small ring bank marked by a ring of boulders some 9m diameter overall is located some 100m NNE of the Beldon Beck Ring Cairn, RC01 on Figure 3 below and Laurie 2003, Figure 61. This ring bank is located at the base of a hill slope and could conceivably be a small ring cairn but is not appropriately located and is more likely to be a substantial round cairn reduced by stone quarrying for an adjacent field bank, part of an extensive field system associated with later settlements nearby, to be recorded separately. The Beldon Beck Ring Cairn located at a viewpoint on the eastern bank of Beldon Beck, has been differently interpreted as a Ring Cairn of earlier Bronze Age character.(see previous SWAAG Record No 871). Despite my remarks above, both of these ring banks could prove to be ring cairns.
Dimensions: 9m diameter overall approximately
Additional Notes: See SWAAG Record 871 for details of the nearby Beldon Beck Ring Cairn.
Last Update: 2015-04-08

Record Number 872 >>> Image 1: Small ring bank located close to the Beldon Beck Ring Bank, RC01 on Figure 3, Laurie 2003.

Record Number 872 >>> Image 2: Small ring bank located close to the Beldon Beck Ring Bank.

Record Number 872 >>> Image 3: Coaxial field bank passes close to the ring bank which may have been reduced by stone robbing for this later boundary.



Record Number 872 >>> Image 4: Carperby Moor and West Bolton Parks. Location Map. This second ring bank is located 100m NNE of the Beldon Beck Ring Cairn, RC1 on this Map (Laurie 2003, Figure 61).

Record Name: Moor Edge above Walker Wife Well. Fragmentary field system and possible unenclosed round house.
SWAAG ID Number: 873
Recorded Date: 2015-04-08 15:47:48
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Coaxial Field Systems
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-04-05
Location: East Bolton Moor. Moor Edge above Walker Wife Well (Spring).
Civil Parish: Castle Bolton with E and W Bol
British National Grid: SE 0213 9335
Altitude: 450m
Geology: Glacial drift over chert strata above the Main Limestone.
Description: The remains of a substantial stone banked field boundary are clearly visible where heather has recently been burned, on the Moor Edge at an elevation of 450m AOD above Walker Wife Well Spring. A possible round house can be detected on level moor just above this boundary.
This ancient boundary is visible from the moor track traversing the southern edge of East Bolton Moor and can be traced further along the Moor Edge on the 450m contour at intervals but is obscured under the heather. This boundary appears to be the upper limit of a coaxial field system rising upslope from West Bolton Parks and may be associated with the Bronze Age cairnfield type settlement evidence in the Park, recorded separately.
Dimensions: Not yet surveyed
Additional Notes: Further work is required to understand the extent and associations of this very high field boundary.
Last Update: 2015-10-18

Record Number 873 >>> Image 1: Field boundary on Moor Edge is only visible where heather burn allows.

Record Number 873 >>> Image 2: View of the stone field bank on the Moor Edge westward from above Walker Wife Well Spring.

Record Number 873 >>> Image 3: Possible round house where a secondary field bank intersects with the main field bank on level moorland at 450m elevation and the presence of a circular structure here is

indicated where the field bank shows slight curve.

Record Number 873 >>> Image 4: Very slight field banks rise upslope from Bolton West Park to intersect with the upper boundary.

Record Name: A SWAAG walk to the Prehistoric Round House Settlement on Harland Hill from Whitrow Farm, in Walden.
SWAAG ID Number: 874
Recorded Date: 2015-04-11 14:56:09
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-04-09
Location: The route of a walk to visit Prehistoric Round House Settlement on Harland Hill from Whitrow Farm in Walden
Civil Parish: Carlton Town
British National Grid: SE 0270 8376
Altitude: 460
Geology: Spring line at base of upper slope of Harland Hill. Concave slope over impervious shales overlooking the wide glaciated ridge covered with glacial hummocky drift between Walden and Coverdale. Harland Hill is formed from hard Namurian chert and sandstone strata streamlined by ice to a characteristic glacial landform, see photos . The Main Limestone with mineralised faults marked by isolated shaft mounds is exposed as a small ravine at the head of the glacially enlarged U shaped Cumma Gill.
Description: On a fine April Day 14 SWAAG members walked from Whitrow Farm in Walden to visit the recently recognised High Level Prehistoric Round House Settlement at Jenkins Folds on Harland Hil,returning via the head of Cumma Gill and the track which follows the Moor Edge above Fleensop Farm.

NOTES
1.For details of the Prehistoric Settlement on Harland Hill See SWAAG Records Nos 807,808 and 809.
2.SWAAG Members on this walk would agree that Walden Dale is a most beautiful and interesting area. A total of 19 SWAAG Records can be accessed (Search the Database for Keyword: Walden) to see examples of the woodlands and settlements located on and below some of the more remote limestone scars at Walden Head.

Dimensions: Jenkins Fold Settlement measures 350m *100. overall. See initial survey plan below.
Additional Notes: The following is a summary of my earlier SWAAG Records No 807-808 and 809 of the previous recording of the enclosures on Harland Hill known as Jenkins Folds which had been interpreted from aerial photography as possibly Romano British in origine possibly reused as medieval and later sheep folds however the 18 round house platforms which are necessary to interpret the site had not been seen:
'Following the previous Initial Record (SWAAG 808) of this site, a further visit has been made to establish the extent of the site and subsequent discussion with Robert White at the YDNP has revealed that this Site had been 'picked up by the OS 6â€• and the Yorkshire Dales Mapping Project and referred to as: â€œ Substantial network of original stone-built enclosures and interlinked folds. The sites are marked as 'Jenkins Folds' on the 1st Edition OS mapping and at least some of the remains surely were used as large stock enclosures through the post-medieval period. In form they are similar to possible prehistoric or Romano-British enclosure systems in the more upland areas of the Park and it is possible that the site had early origins and was then adapted to a purely stock enclosure use during the medieval and post-medieval periods. A survey and ground examination would be beneficial for the interpretation of the siteâ€• . Robert has confirmed that the YDNP Database Record MYD16255 which has now been updated following my visit and the opinion that the site is a prehistoric settlement of at least 18 round house platforms or hut circles. The enclosure banks abut or are tangential to the round houses and I have not seen evidence of intrusive or later stone walling indicative of subsequent reoccupation as sheep fold. In these circumstances the enclosures are considered to be associated and contemporary with the round house settlement. The house platforms and hut circles are shrouded by moorland vegetation and very difficult to recognise from aerial photographs or Google Earth.
Last Update: 2015-04-12

Record Number 874 >>> Image 1: Harland Hill seen from the track from Whitrow Farm.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 2: SWAAG consider a possible round cairn and alignment of four rocks, three set on edge.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 3: SWAAG consider a possible round cairn and alignment of four rocks, three set on edge.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 4: The gate through the Parish Boundary Wall we were hoping to find.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 5: The approach to Harland Hill follows the wall forming the Boundary between the Parishes of Burton cum Walden and CarltonTown/Gammersgill in Coverdale.

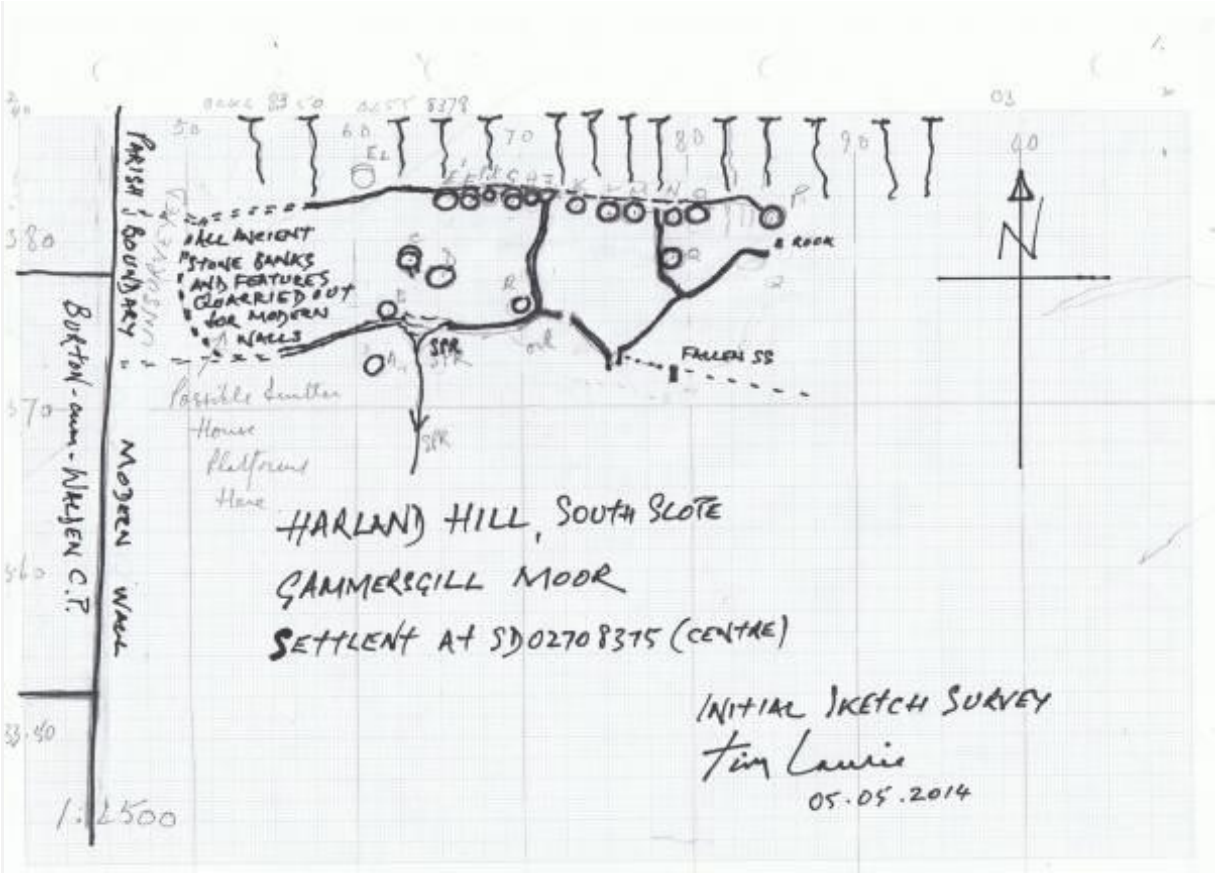
Record Number 874 >>> Image 6: A leisurely walk with a minute to discuss who will win the election

Record Number 874 >>> Image 7: Glacial hummocks of graceful streamlined profile, or small drumlins indicate that the Wensleydale Ice once overrode this ridge.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 8: Most impressive of these glacial landforms is Harland Hill.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 9: Arrival at the first round house.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 10: Swaag stand on the perimeter of the first of the round houses.



Record Number 874 >>> Image 11: Harland Hill. Settlement at Jenkins Folds. Initial walkover survey plan. TCL May 2014. Detailed larger scale survey to follow.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 12: Swaag take lunch in one of the twelve round houses located on the contouring enclosure bank overlooking the enclosures.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 13: The first luncheon party to be held at this address for at least 2800 years!

Record Number 874 >>> Image 14: One of the upper row of house platforms.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 15: One of the two very substantial enclosure banks which separate the three paddock like enclosures.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 16: The lower enclosure bank under consideration.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 17: The lower enclosure bank under consideration.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 18: Round house at the lower edge of the enclosures.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 19: Round house at the lower edge of the enclosures.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 20: Round house at the lower edge of the enclosures.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 21: The substantial enclosure bank and more discussion on the election perhaps.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 22:

Record Number 874 >>> Image 23: Cumma Gill.

Record Number 874 >>> Image 24: Old multi stem ash trees on the limestone scar at Cumma Gill

Record Number 874 >>> Image 25:

Record Name: Lithic - stray find
SWAAG ID Number: 875
Recorded Date: 2015-05-05 09:18:34
Recorded by: Ric Carter
Category: Lithic Find / Scatter
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-04-26
Location: Dry Gill Bottom, Arkengarthdale
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid:
Description: A nicely worked chert scraper, likely neolithic period, found in a recently formed stone hole at Dry Gill Bottom, Arkengarthdale, South East of the Stang Road. The stone hole appears to have been recently formed by the removal of a large boulder to the gated track at the near by quarry workings.
Last Update: 2015-05-05

Record Number 875 >>> Image 1: chert scraper

Record Number 875 >>> Image 11:

Record Name: lithic - stray find
SWAAG ID Number: 876
Recorded Date: 2015-05-05 09:44:41
Recorded by: Ric Carter
Category: Lithic Find / Scatter
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-04-19
Location: Reeth Low Moor, below South face of Calver Hill
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid:
Description: A utilised flint flake, possibly utilised as a transverse arrowhead.
Dimensions: see image scale
SWAAG Site: Reeth Low Moor
Last Update: 2015-05-05

Record Number 876 >>> Image 1:

Record Name: Marker/Boundary Stones
SWAAG ID Number: 877
Recorded Date: 2015-05-05 11:30:40
Recorded by: Ric Carter
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: Miscellaneous
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-04-24
Location: Moresdale Road
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid:
Altitude: See below
Description: Named on the OS Map as "Stony Man or St Andrew's Cross" this Marker Stone at NZ 03201 Bng. 04014 elev. 469m on the Moresdale road bears the inscribed date 1867 (or it could be 1869 - it is not easy to make out the last digit due to erosion) and stands on what is now the Yorkshire/Durham county boundary. A little way off the road to the North (but also on the present county boundary) stands another Marker Stone (also shown on the OS Map but not named) at NZ02974 Bng.04234 elev.487m similarly dated and bearing the inscribed initials "F M". There are numerous cairns and other features to be explored from the Moresdale Road when time and weather permits, although it is a bit of a trudge across the moor from Hurst, or from the Stang Road if approaching from the opposite direction. For the less intrepid, St. Andrew's Cross can just be made out, in good light, on the far horizon to the South East from the vantage point of the public parking area where the county boundaries are signposted on the Stang Road.
Last Update: 2015-05-05

Record Number 877 >>> Image 1: St Andrew's Cross or on the Moresdale Road, West of Hanging Crag

Record Number 877 >>> Image 2: St Andrew's Cross (detail)

Record Number 877 >>> Image 3: un-named Stone inscribed "F M"

Record Name: Wild Flowers - Early Purple Orchid
SWAAG ID Number: 878
Recorded Date: 2015-05-05 12:31:38
Recorded by: Ric Carter
Category: Flower / Plant Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-04-28
Location: Gunnerside, Lodge Green
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid:
Description: These Early Purple Orchids (Orchis mascula) were the first I had seen this Spring (on 28th April) just coming in to flower beside the public footpath at Lodge Green under light woodland cover. According to the Plantlife website, the Early Purple Orchid is the "long purple" of Ophelia's garland as referred to by Shakespeare's Hamlet "of crow-flowers, nettles, daisies, and long purples that liberal Shepards give a grosser name ..." According to my 1973 edition (1978 revision) of the AA Book of the British Countryside the roots of the early purple orchid were once supposed to have aphrodisiac powers!
Last Update: 2015-05-05

Record Number 878 >>> Image 1: Early Purple Orchid

Record Name: Carperby Moor, Swinehaw Hill.Three sub-rectangular structures provisionally interpreted as shielings.
SWAAG ID Number: 879
Recorded Date: 2015-05-22 16:24:29
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Unknown
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-05-22
Location: Carperby Moor. Swinehaw Hill.
Civil Parish: Carperby Cum Thoresby
British National Grid: SD 97774 91699
Altitude: 466m
Geology: The Main Limestone at outcrop. Calcareous grassland with heather on areas of residual blanket peat.
Description: This record will describe three small sub-rectangular stone banked structures averaging 9m*4m but probably with buried stone banks and therefor larger, which, despite the absence of door entrances, are provisionally in the first instance interpreted as small shieling huts. At least one (Structure No 2) and possibly two (No 3) of these 'shielings' may have been adapted from an existing prehistoric ring cairn.
These 'shielings' are located on an area of fine calcareous grassland which would provide excellent summer grazing. In support of the suggestion that these structures are temporary shelters to seasonal pastoralist shepherds (ie transhumant shepherds), the area shows sign of slight improvement or clearance of the pasture in the form of numbers of small grouped rocks, see photo image No below. A more complete survey of this interesting area may provide further insight into the activities represented by these structures.
A fine Barbed and Tanged Arrowpoint was found nearby (See Laurie, T.C. 2003 'Researching the Prehistory Of Wensleydale, Swaledale and Teesdale' in: Yorkshire Arch. Soc. Occasional Paper No 3. pp223-253, Figure 73 No 4.
Dimensions: From SD97774 91699 to SD97860 91659
Additional Notes: Whereas the provisional interpretation detailed above of these structures is of shielings, it can be seen from the photos that the structures are very deeply embedded in soil and vegetation and highly consolidated. This does imply great age and an alternative interpretation of these structures would be as prehistoric structured cairns or ring cairns.
The grouped rocks in the area of the rectangular structures may prove to have been arranged to form a circular or sub-circular enclosure.
Several of these may be the remnant of larger rocks broken up for dry stone walling.
This site was recognised during a reconnaissance for the 2015 Swaledale Festival Walk on Carperby Moor.
Last Update: 2015-05-22

Record Number 879 >>> Image 1: Structure No 1 at SD97774 91699

Record Number 879 >>> Image 2: Structure No 1 at SD97774 91699

Record Number 879 >>> Image 3: Structure No 1 at SD97774 91699

Record Number 879 >>> Image 4: Structure No 1 at SD97774 91699

Record Number 879 >>> Image 5: Structure No 2 at SD97805 91751

Record Number 879 >>> Image 6: Structure No 2 at SD97805 91751

Record Number 879 >>> Image 7: Structure No 2 at SD97805 91751

Record Number 879 >>> Image 8: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 9: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 10: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 11: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 12: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 13: Structure and cairn at SD97860 91659

Record Number 879 >>> Image 14: Calcareous grassland with heather on relct blanket peat and numbers of small grouped rocks, possibly arranged.

Record Name: Glacial erratics and a fine old arched footbridge at Thornsgill. One of Arthur Wainwright's favourite walks.
SWAAG ID Number: 880
Recorded Date: 2015-07-18 20:33:54
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geomorphology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-07-07
Location: Ribblehead; Thorns Gill
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid: SD 775 795
Altitude: 300m
Geology: Thorns Gill is a very attractive small stream-cut gorge which, below the old footbridge, respects the line of a former cavern exposed by glacial erosion of the limestone, see photos below. Perched erratic boulders of limestone carried by ice from bedrock origin further east are a spectacular feature of this walk.
One of these boulders shows shallow shrinkage cracking characteristic of episodic drying-shrinking of the shallow sea bed at low tide during Late Carboniferous Time some 280 Million Years ago (Information, John Russell and see photo nos
Description: Following in Arthur Wainwright's footsteps, a small party of SWAAG Members explored the limestone erratic perched boulders, the rich vegetation and views of Ingleborough at Thorns Gill, Ribblehead.
Reference: Wainwright, A. 'Walks in Limestone Country.'Eighth Impression.Kendal, Westmorland. Gazette, Kendal.
Dimensions: Not more than a couple of miles walking.
Additional Notes: To see the flowers at their best, a walk in spring is recommended.
Last Update: 2015-07-21

Record Number 880 >>> Image 1: John summons his attentive audience to explain 280mya shrinkage cracks on a limestone boulder- a phenomenal geomorphological phenomenum made plain to all.For details of the cracking,see Image Nos 15 and 16 below

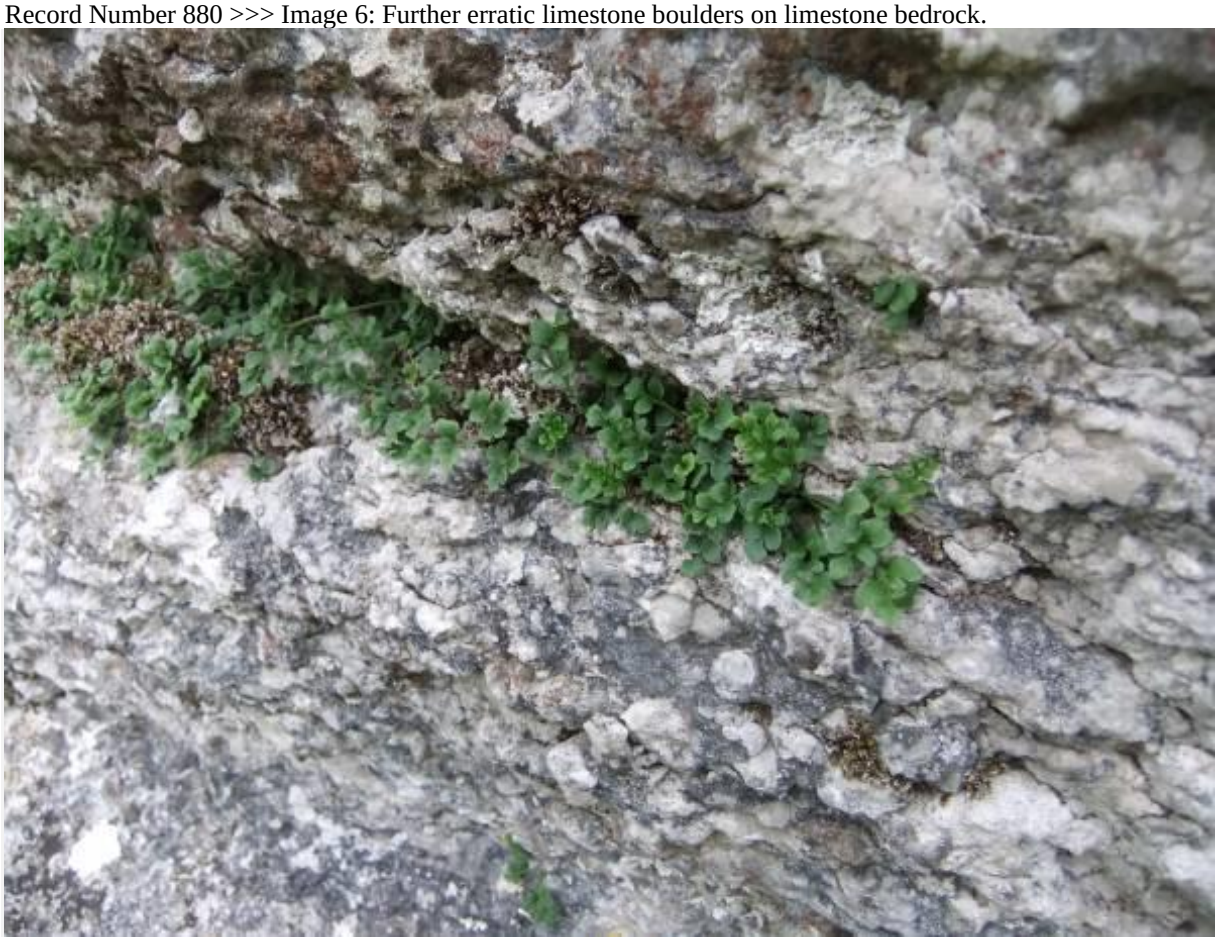
Record Number 880 >>> Image 2: Perched boulder, see also photos and drawings in Arther Wainwright's 'Walks in Limestone Country', Section 22.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 3: Glacially rounded boulder fluted by water during post glacial time. Inglebrough in the background.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 4: John gets close and friendly with an unconcerned glacial phenomenum.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 5: John investigates the bedrock to compare the different rock composition.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 6: Further erratic limestone boulders on limestone bedrock.



Record Number 880 >>> Image 7: The small fern, Wall-rue (Asplenium ruta-mururia)

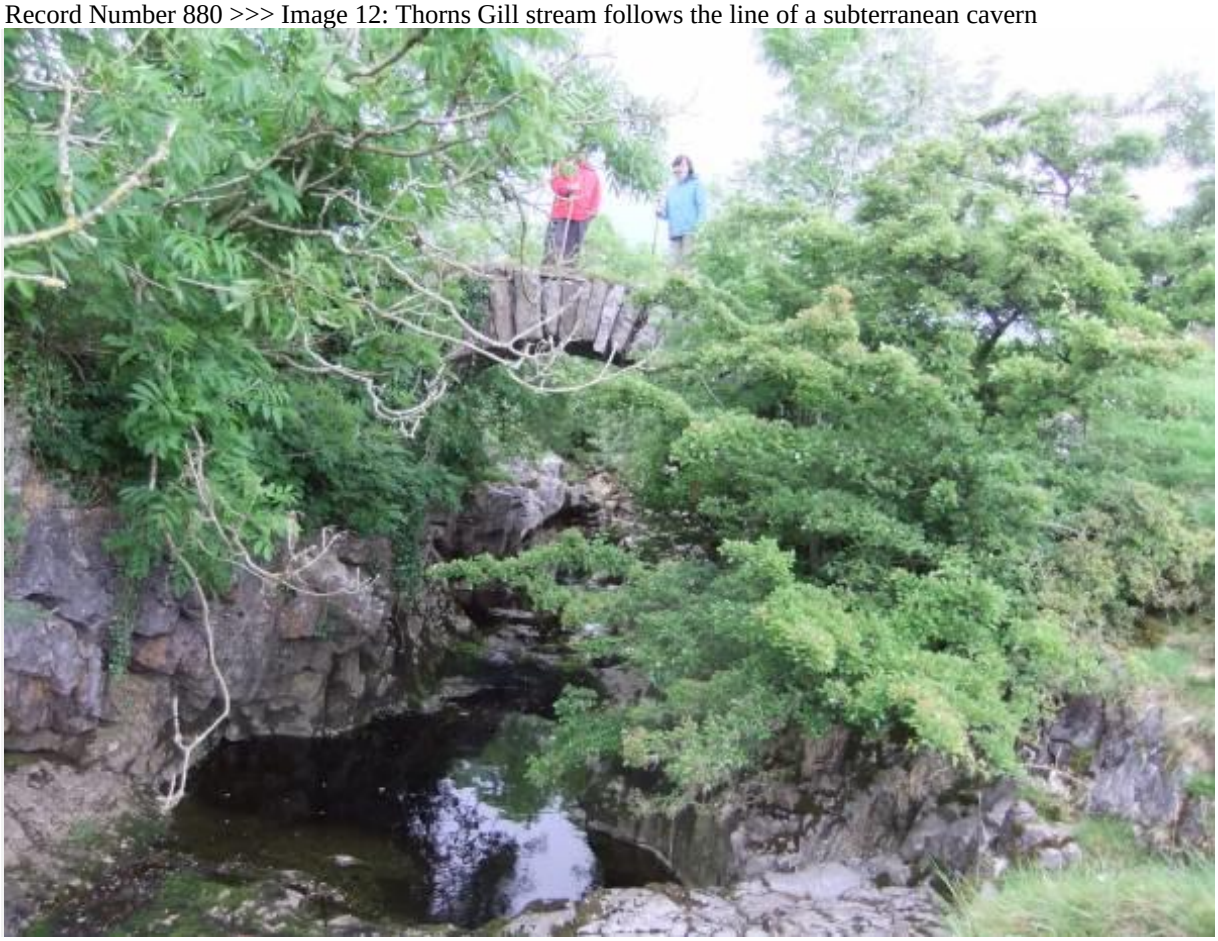
Record Number 880 >>> Image 8: Fluted boulder

Record Number 880 >>> Image 9: Fluted boulder

Record Number 880 >>> Image 10: Fluted boulder

Record Number 880 >>> Image 11: Split boulder

Record Number 880 >>> Image 12: Thorns Gill stream follows the line of a subterranean cavern



Record Number 880 >>> Image 13: The packhorse bridge drawn by Wainwright, see below

Record Number 880 >>> Image 14: Anne and Ric on the Bridge.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 15: John explains the origin of the shrinkage cracks

Record Number 880 >>> Image 16: Detail of the shallow cracks on the face of the boulder, once a surface of calcareous mud exposed to the drying sun between tides.

Record Number 880 >>> Image 17: One of the attractive pools

Record Number 880 >>> Image 18: Ash tree

Record Number 880 >>> Image 19:

Record Name: Satron Tarn. A small, shallow high moorland tarn on eroding blanket peat.
SWAAG ID Number: 881
Recorded Date: 2015-07-21 15:26:11
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: General HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-07-20
Location: Satron Moor
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid: SD 942 948
Altitude: 530m
Geology: Blanket peat over sandstones of Namurian Age.
Description: This small peat tarn is the lonely haunt of gulls and geese whose remains litter the shoreline exposed during the summer drought. The peat exposed during low water conditions show a swarm of eroded sphagnum hummock structures once incorporated within the deep blanket peat.
Some images of the moorland vegetation provided.
Dimensions: See photos
Last Update: 2015-07-22

Record Number 881 >>> Image 1: Satron Tarn from the west.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 2: Remnants of sphagnum hummocks exposed at low water

Record Number 881 >>> Image 3: The eastern shoreline.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 4: Satron Tarn from the North with overflow pipe to limit erosion down stream during floods.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 5: Remnants of sphagnum hummocks exposed at low water

Record Number 881 >>> Image 6: Remnants of sphagnum hummocks exposed at low water

Record Number 881 >>> Image 7: Sphagnum rubellum on peat

Record Number 881 >>> Image 8: Sphagnum moss lines the shoreline.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 9: Gull rissole! Remains of a meal enjoyed by a Great Black Backed Gull, large pellet of feathers and bones of a small black headed gull.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 10: Remains of a black headed gull.

Record Number 881 >>> Image 11: The Tarn seen from the south with sphagnum mound in foreground.

Record Name: Lead mining remains on Satron Moor: Satron Tarn String, the Simon Grooves String and the Beazy String.
SWAAG ID Number: 882
Recorded Date: 2015-07-22 20:34:31
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-07-20
Location: Satron Moor and Beazy Hill
Civil Parish: Grinton
British National Grid: SD 946 946
Altitude: 530m
Geology: Faulted Little and Red Beds mineralised limestones and cherts high above Oxnop Scar worked from shallow shafts on the line of the Satron Tarn String, the Simon Grooves String and the Beazy String. The shallow shaft mounds are visible as islands of calcareous grass within a pathless blanket peat moorland and water filled peat gutters.
This Mining ground is described in detail in: Dunham and Wilson 1985: British Geological Survey Memoirs: 'Geology of the North Pennine Orefield.Volume 2. Stainmore to Craven, Chapter 11, pp167-170. HMSO.
Description: These extensive lead mine operations are today visible as isolated shallow shaft mounds within an area of deep blanket peat. More concentrated mining remains are to be seen at Beazy Hill. Despite searching, no galena was visible in the dressing floors and the mine debris here was generally limonitised limestone with brown partly oxidised carbonate enclosing cerussite crystal-coated galena characteristic of flots. (Dunham and Wilson, 1985 p.167.)
Additional Notes: The brown mineral in photos 2 an3 below could be the brown mineral which BGS Memoir mentions 'limonitised limestone with brown, partly oxidised carbonate enclosing cerussite-coated crystals of galena' and also the presence of 'an unusual dense massive goethite on the Beazy String which Raistrick 1975 p.85 ascribes to replacement of massive iron carbonate,...or from oxidisation of pyrite.'
Last Update: 2015-07-24

Record Number 882 >>> Image 1: Isolated shaft mound within blanket peat

Record Number 882 >>> Image 2: The brown lead ore found at Beazy String is probably that described by Raistrick 1975, p.85 and in the BGS Memoir as: 'partly oxidised carbonate enclosing cerussite-coated crystals of galena' as seen at Simon Grooves'

Record Number 882 >>> Image 3: The lead ore as seen at Beazy String

Record Number 882 >>> Image 4: Wax Cap toadstool on mine debris.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 5: Water filled peat gutter despite the summer drought.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 6: Distant glimpse of Summerlodge Tarn,

Record Number 882 >>> Image 7: Shaft Mound on Simon Grooves.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 8: Bright lichen in mine debris,

Record Number 882 >>> Image 9: Compound coral fossilised in limestone.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 10: Beware! Recently collapsed peat in-filled mine shaft.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 11: Moss vegetation on the mine debris

Record Number 882 >>> Image 12: THe head of Beazy Hill lead mine area

Record Number 882 >>> Image 13: Scurvy grass (Cochlearia offinalis), a common metalophyte on lead mine debris.

Record Number 882 >>> Image 14: Round leaved sundew (Drosera rotundifolia) on wet peat

Record Number 882 >>> Image 15: Mine shaft, the uppermost of three isolated shafts on Beazy string.

Record Name: A walk from Thwaite Bridge to The Mossdale Tunnel on the abandonned Wensleydale Railway to the Mossdale Waterfalls
SWAAG ID Number: 883
Recorded Date: 2015-07-24 20:57:30
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: General HER
Record Date: 2015-07-18
Location: Upper Wensleydale. Thwaite Bridge and Mossdale.
Civil Parish: Hawes
British National Grid: SD 8261 9224
Altitude: 276m
Geology: Glacial Drift over sandstones, shales and limestones below the Main Limestone.
Description: This walk will provide a photographic record of an interesting walk from Thwaite Bridge to the Mossdale Tunnel, which while only 245m in length, was one of the most difficult and expensive sections of the Wensleydale Railway to construct , costing Â£40.000.
From the Railway we recorded the vegetation and relict woodland seen within Mossdale Gill and within the higher waterfall ravines. This area is pathless and seldom visited.
Additional Notes: These gentle landscapes, the higher reaches of Upper Wensledale, provide an easy access across the National Divide, at an elevation of just 312m at the Moorcock Inn, to Sedbergh through Garsdale and to the Vale of Eden throgh Mallerstang and are very different from their equivalent landscapes above Keld in Upper Swaledale, which lead over Birkdale Common to Mallerstang Edge.
Last Update: 2015-07-26

Record Number 883 >>> Image 1: Thwaite Bridge with large colony of Melancholy Thistle. The walk commenced from here.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 2: Marsh Orchid. One of the many variants and in good form in the species-rich road verges.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 3: Marsh Orchid.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 4: The Mossdale Tunnel, eastern entrance.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 5: The Mossdale Tunnel, approach to the western exit entrance.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 6: The Mossdale Tunnel, western entrance.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 7: The bed of the abandoned railway continues towards Garstang.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 8: Mossdale Gill Head. Relict woodland with aspens visible on the low cliff at the head of the Gill below the conifer plantation

Record Number 883 >>> Image 9: The relict woodland with hollies,rowan, aspen,sallows and downy birch on the ravine cliffs contrasts with the conifer plantation.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 10: Relict woodland, Mossdale Gill

Record Number 883 >>> Image 11: Rowans are the only tree higher up at the Falls on Routing Gill

Record Number 883 >>> Image 12: Recording the species rich native woodland at the head of Mossdale Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 13: Aspens in relict woodland on low sandstone cliff at the head of Mossdale Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 14: Deep pool and low fall on Mossdale Beck

Record Number 883 >>> Image 15: Witches brooms on a Downy Birch tree at the head of Mossdale Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 16: Detail of aspen with Hard Fern (Blechnum spicant)on low sandstone cliff at the head of Mossdale Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 17: Native woodland on cliff below larch plantation

Record Number 883 >>> Image 18: Recording moorland vegetation higher up Mossdale Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 19: Recording vegetation with Lemon Scented Fern on low shale cliff overlies the limestone in the bed of the stream, Routing Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 20: Recording vegetation with Lemon Scented Fern on low shale cliff overlies the limestone in the bed of the stream, Routing Gill.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 21: Lemon Scented Fern, detail

Record Number 883 >>> Image 22: Ancient wind blown hollies and rowan on low sandstone cliff.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 23: Time to stop for lunch below the lower falls. Stone mine adit visible on opposite bank.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 24: Carpeting thyme is the most prominent flower on the stream gravels.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 25: The lower falls on Routing Beck. Rowan and downy birch the trees here.

Record Number 883 >>> Image 26: Foxgloves in their prime by the stream

Record Number 883 >>> Image 27: Foxgloves in their prime by the stream

Record Number 883 >>> Image 28: Washfold on Routing Gill

Record Number 883 >>> Image 29: Washfold on Routing Gill

Record Number 883 >>> Image 30: Glacial till or boulder clay exposed by stream erosion directly overlies the limestone bed of Routing Gill.

Record Name: Extended settlement remains below Orgate Scar
SWAAG ID Number: 884
Recorded Date: 2015-07-27 15:18:22
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-07-25
Location: Orgate Scar
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid: NZ 094 021
Altitude: 300m
Geology: Talus scree and kame terrace below sheer cliff formed by The Main Limestone.
Description: The existence of a single round house with associated enclosures on both sides of the 18C dry stone field wall at NZ094001 (centre) had been recognised and photographed from the top edge of Orgate Scar during March 2013, see photos below and also those on SWAAG Record No 700, but no record had been uploaded to indicate the full extent of these features.
A recent visit to Orgate Scar enabled these features to be examined closely in more detail, see photo images below.
No survey or HER record has yet been made of these structures which may represent occupation at different periods.
For further images of the fine yews and relict woodland on and below Orgate Scar, see SWAAG Records Nos 195,584,700,702,706,708,709
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: Thes interesting settlement remains are probably not on record and a small survey is needed to adequately describe them. The visible structural remains include two possible ring cairns, one good round house within a small enclosure to the east of the recent field wall and, to the west of the wall, several very roughly constructed huts with associated enclosures at the base of the scree together with several paddock like fields with clearance cairns which take advantage of the deeper soil on the kame terrace.
Last Update: 2015-07-28

Record Number 884 >>> Image 1: Enclosures at base of scree below the Scar, west of the 18C field wall.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 2: Detail of the enclosure from the field wall at the top of the scree.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 3: Isolated round house with attached enclosure in pasture east of the wall, photographed from the top edge of Orgate Scar.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 4: Closer view of this ring bank interpreted as a round huse. the stone banked enclosure is present but not visible on these photos.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 5: View southward from Orgate SCar, winter.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 6: Enclosure at base of scree as seen from the wall at the base of the cliff.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 7: Enclosure at base of scree

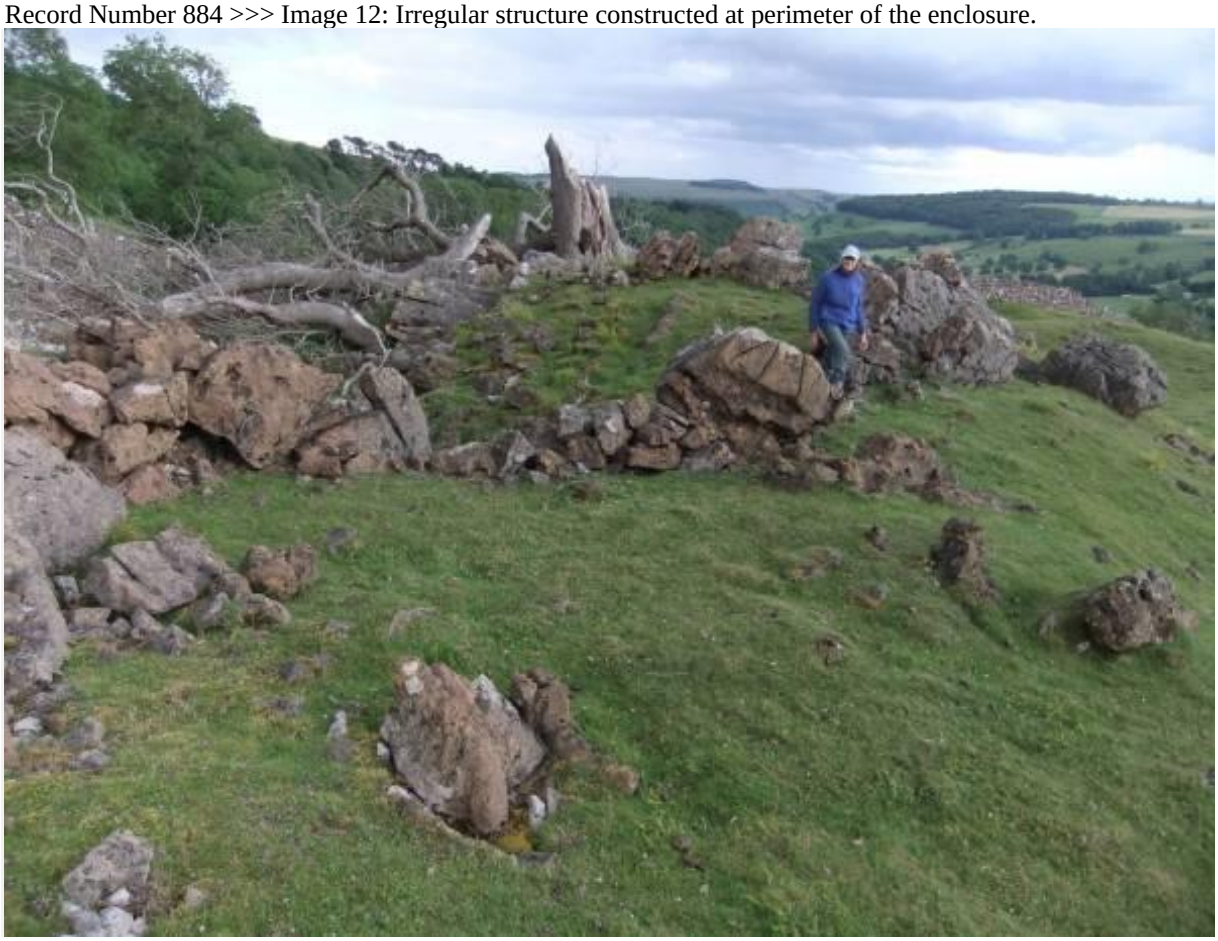
Record Number 884 >>> Image 8: Small ring bank, small hut but no entrance indicates that this may be a ring cairn, close to the settlement enclosure

Record Number 884 >>> Image 9: The same

Record Number 884 >>> Image 10: Entrance through stone banked enclosure leading to cleared paddock with several large clearance cairns

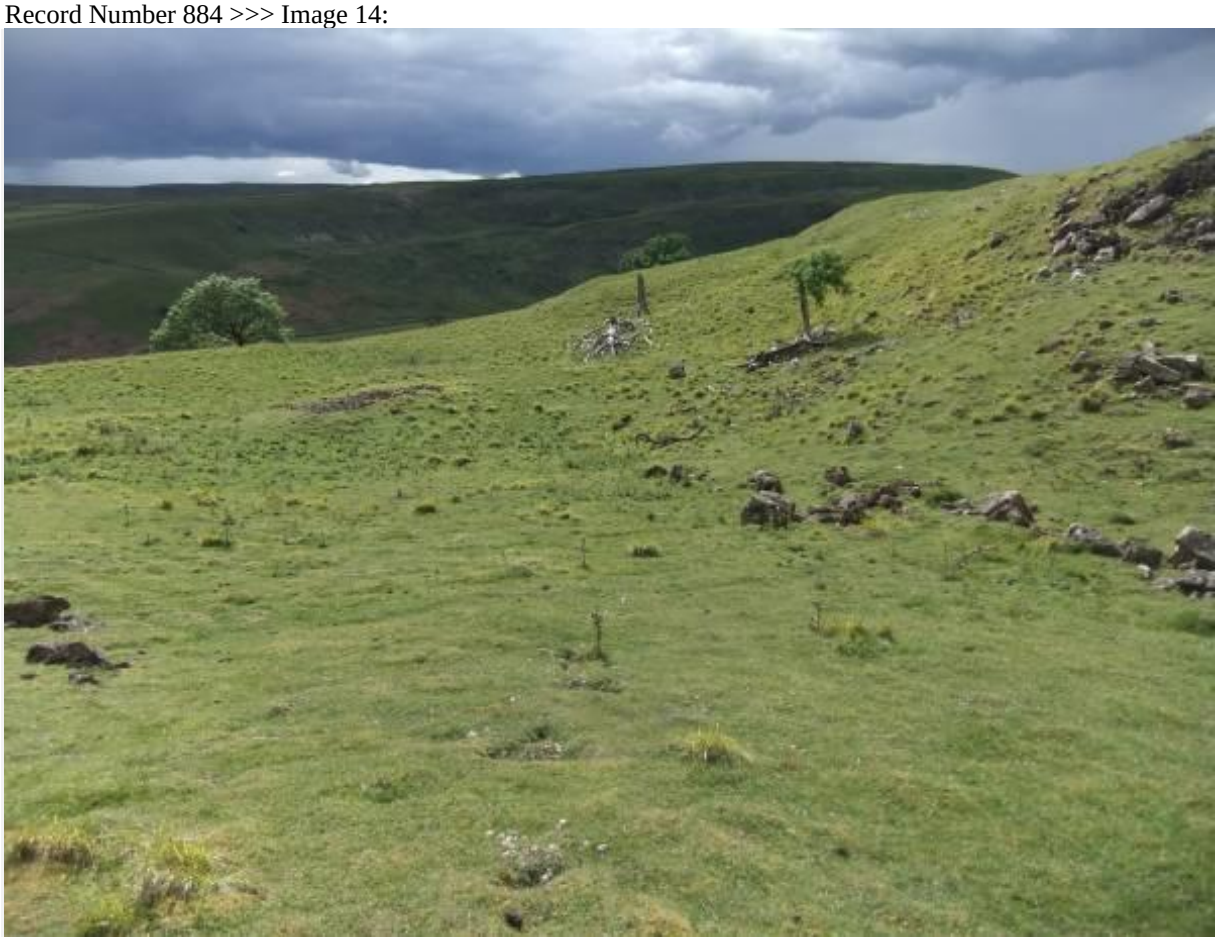
Record Number 884 >>> Image 11: Detail of enclosure bank at entrance.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 12: Irregular structure constructed at perimeter of the enclosure.



Record Number 884 >>> Image 13: Irregular structure constructed at perimeter of the enclosure.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 14:



Record Number 884 >>> Image 15: Cleared field on kame terrace with clearance heaps.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 16: Clearance heap.

Record Number 884 >>> Image 17: Isolated hut circle

Record Number 884 >>> Image 18: Possible ring cairn

Record Number 884 >>> Image 19: Round house platform with later mining delves.

Record Name: Isolated round houses and other settlement evidence in the vicinity of Orgate Farm
SWAAG ID Number: 885
Recorded Date: 2015-07-30 20:45:04
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-07-29
Location: Orgate Pasture above track to the Cordilleras Road
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid: NZ 08929 02353
Altitude: 248m
Geology: Drift over Ten Fathom Grit
Description: The isolated round house at the above grid reference , see photo image numbers 1-4 below, is
one element within an extended linear settlement on the south facing lower slopes of the open and enclosed pastures centred on Orgate Farm. No systematic survey has yet been undertaken of this area but the following settlements have been noted from time to time when walking the track from Marske passing Orgate Farm and up the fell side to the Cordilleras Road:
Extensive stone walled curvilinear round house settlement on a levelled terrace below ie south of the track at NZ0886 0212,180m AOD. See photo image numbers 5-7 below.This settlement has been completely cleared of surface stone within the pasture but a small section survives as disturbed but substantial stone walls on the open moor to the west of the field wall.

Small enclosure, probably the remnant of a larger settlement eradicated by clearance below the wall, crossed by the track and field wall at NZ ,see photo image No 5 below.

Large enclosed stone founded round house settlement of Late Iron Age or Native Roman age character below the track at NZ0960 0145, see photo image Numbers 5-8. This settlement includes stone banked enclosures above the road and has not yet been surveyed.

At least one further round house platform on the terraces between the Beck and below Orgate Farm, at NZ091 018 approximately.

Dimensions: See photos. Not yet surveyed.
Additional Notes: This record should be read in conjunction with SWAAG Record No 884 which notes settlement below Orgate Scar and in Telfit Farm Pastures on the western side of Marske Beck.
None of these features have been surveyed.
NOTE!
The settlements can be seen and photographed from the Public Right of Way but those which are within walled pastures and should not be accessed without permission, hence this record is limited to SWAAG Members only.
Last Update: 2015-07-31

Record Number 885 >>> Image 1: Round house platform above track to Cordilleras, at NZ08929 02353, viewed from south.

Record Number 885 >>> Image 2: The same house platform, viewed from north.

Record Number 885 >>> Image 3: Settlement remains crossed by field wall which survive as stone walls on open moorland
at NZ0960 0145

Record Number 885 >>> Image 4: The same settlement which survive on this natural terrace only as

disturbed earthworks within the cleared pastures of Orgate Farm.

Record Number 885 >>> Image 5: Remnant of an enclosure and possible house platform above the field wall at the limit of the pastures, at NZ09 01

Record Number 885 >>> Image 6: Extensive stone walled settlement complex with round houses and

small enclosures in pastures at NZ0886 0212 as seen from the track to Orgate Farm from Marske.

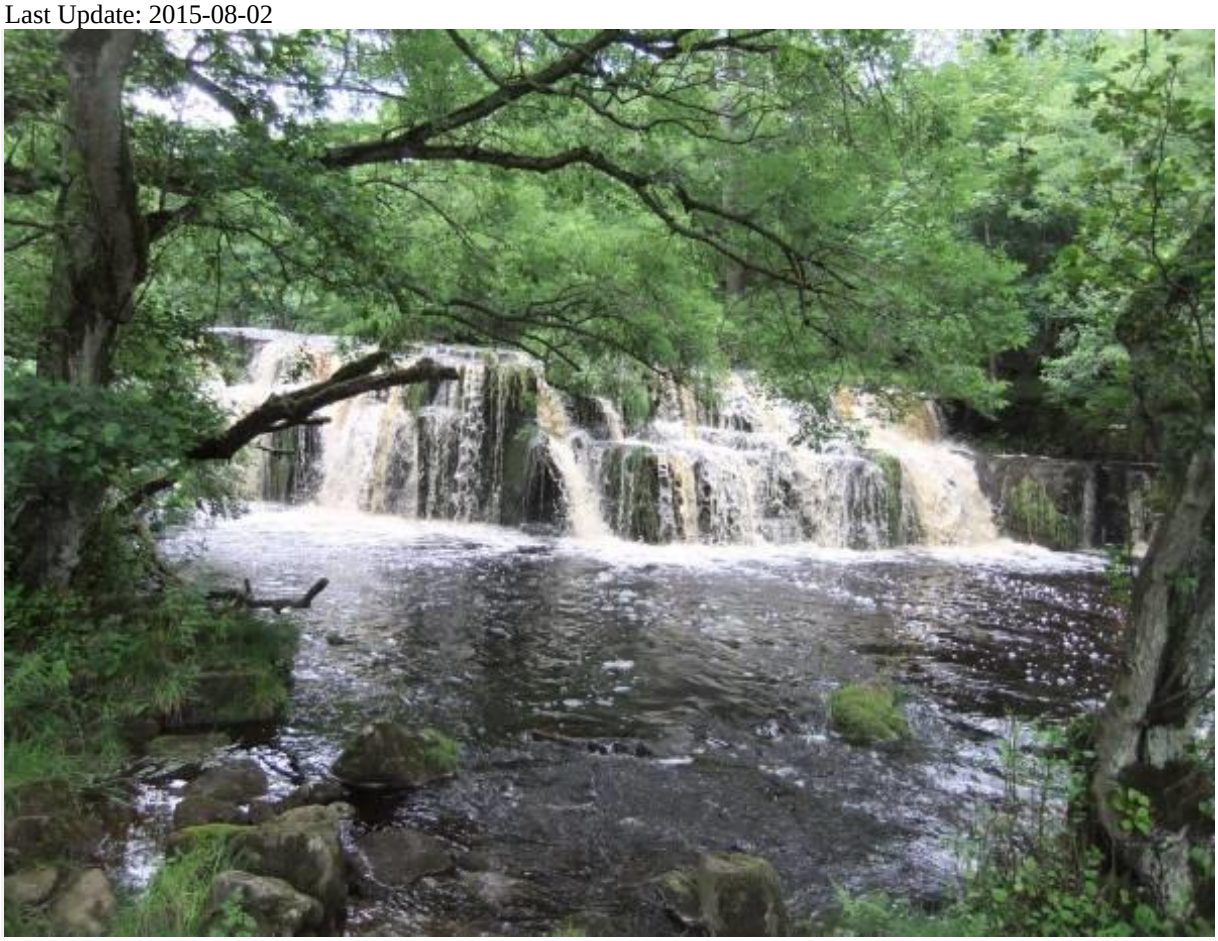
Record Number 885 >>> Image 7: Enclosures or small paddocks associated with the same settlement extends to the open fell side above the track.

Record Number 885 >>> Image 8: Isolated round house platform, one of several perhaps, obscured by

vegetation, located on the slope below Orgate Farm

Record Number 885 >>> Image 9: The same as last.

Record Name: Orgate Falls, the old arched bridge below Telfit Farm and riverside alders upstream of the Bridge
SWAAG ID Number: 886
Recorded Date: 2015-08-02 20:30:17
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Tree Site Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-07-29
Location: Orgate Falls and images of the alders which line the banks of Marske Beck upstream of the ancient arched bridge below Telfit Farm
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid:
Geology: Waterfall formed from hard strata of The Middle Limestone series.
Description: The alders which line the banks of Marske Beck can be viewed at the fine waterfall below Orgate Farm and, by walking on the right of way which passes below Orgate Farm for a distance of 1km further upstream, fine riverside alders and a small alder wood can be seen upstream of the old arched packhorse bridge below Telfit Farm.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: Orgate Falls are well hidden by riverside alders and gorse which line the eastern bank of Marske Beck but can be visited from the access road to Orgate Farm by means of a short path on the west bank of the Beck.
Last Update: 2015-08-02



Record Number 886 >>> Image 1: Falls on Marske Beck after rain at Orgate.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 2: Detail of the Falls

Record Number 886 >>> Image 3: Detail of the Falls

Record Number 886 >>> Image 4: Detail of the Falls

Record Number 886 >>> Image 5: Pack horse bridge near Telfit Farm.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 6: Pack horse bridge near Telfit Farm.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 7: Riverside alders and alder woodland enhance the landscape upstream from the Bridge.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 8: The alders appear timeless but are at severe risk of being cut off and washed out from the increasingly frequent high floods

Record Number 886 >>> Image 9: The root system of this fine alder has been exposed by flood water and the tree is at risk of washing out during the next flood.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 10: Fallen ash and the skeletal remnant of an ancient riverside alder .

Record Number 886 >>> Image 11: Alder woodland, with ancient coppiced alders, on the boundary with the Army Range.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 12: Remnant of a wych elm, long dead from the elm beetle fungal pathogen. Wych elms and ash, now vulnerable to die back, are two other tree species which grow on the banks of dale becks.

Record Number 886 >>> Image 13: Very delicate fungus found in woodland below the alders

Record Number 886 >>> Image 14: Can anyone identify this small fungus?

Record Number 886 >>> Image 15:

Record Number 886 >>> Image 16: Hope for the future! Young shoots spring from the root system of riverside alders which have washed out.

Record Name: The Clints Lead Mine
SWAAG ID Number: 887
Recorded Date: 2015-08-08 09:15:07
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-07-29
Location: Clints Scar
Civil Parish: Marske
British National Grid: NZ 0890 0249
Altitude: 213m
Geology: The Clints Vein which: '....brings down the Main Limestone on the South side against the Ten fathom Grit on the North side'. For a full description of the geology and mining of this locality, see : K.C. Dunham and A.A. Wilson, British Geological Survey.'Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol.2 Stainmore to Craven, pp 151,2 and Figure 25 North Swaledale Mineral Belt.'
Description: This Record will provide a brief image of the surface features which survive on the steep fell slopes on the eastern side of Marske Beck opposite Telfit Farm. The entrances to the the Lower and Upper Levels were driven unsuccessfully into the hillside, 'without finding much ore'.Higher up, on the kame terrace below Clints Scar, extensive areas with shallow pits, delves or 'scrins' mark the earliest evidence for lead mining here. These pits exploited the most readily available lead ore from horizontal deposits or flots, close to the surface, by open cast delves.
No dates are known for these early lead mine delves, a challenge for mining archaeologists and historians.
Last Update: 2015-08-08

Record Number 887 >>> Image 1: Entrance to the lower level, Clints Mine

Record Number 887 >>> Image 2: Detail at the entrance to the Lower Level, with fine crop of Harts Tongue Fern.

Record Number 887 >>> Image 3: Spoil heaps mark the location of the Upper Level, Clints Lead Mine. Very little vein material in these heaps indicates that the Upper Level level was unsuccessful.

Record Number 887 >>> Image 4: Detail of the entrance to the Upper Level

Record Number 887 >>> Image 5: Extensive areas with shallow pits, delves or scrins on the kame terrace below Clints Scar possibly mark the earliest evidence for lead mining here. These pits exploited the most readily available lead ore from horizontal deposits or flots close to the surface by open cast.

Record Number 887 >>> Image 6: The lead mining scrins seen from Clints Scar. Musk thistle in foreground.

Record Number 887 >>> Image 7: The lead mining scrins seen from below Clints Scar. The prominent nick in the cliff marks the line of Clints Fault.

Record Number 887 >>> Image 8: Yellow ochre, a mixture of the iron compound ores limonite and haematite found at Clints Scar.

Record Name: Guelder Rose, Marjoram, Weld and other flowering plants seen on Redmire Scar.
SWAAG ID Number: 888
Recorded Date: 2015-08-09 08:43:44
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Flower / Plant Record
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Preston Scar
Civil Parish: Preston Under Scar
British National Grid:
Geology: Sheer south facing cliff formed from the Main Limestone. The Main Limestone to the rear of the cliff has been quarried away.
Description: This is the first of several records which will show selected trees, shrubs and flowers on and below the named limestone scars which form the top edge of Wensleydale and Swaledale.
Dimensions: See photos
Common Notable Species: Thanks to Wikipedia for the following: Weld,Reseda luteola. See photo image Nos. 6400,6401 below, Reseda luteola is a plant species in the genus Reseda. Common names include dyer's rocket, dyer's weed, weld, woold, and yellow weed.[1] A native of Eurasia, the plant can be found in North America as an introduced species and common weed.

While other resedas were used for the purpose, this species was the most widely used source of the natural dye known as weld. The plant is rich in luteolin, a flavonoid which produces a bright yellow dye.[2] The yellow could be mixed with the blue from woad (Isatis tinctoria) to produce greens such as Lincoln green.[2] The dye was in use by the first millennium BC, and perhaps earlier than either woad or madder. Use of this dye came to an end at the beginning of the twentieth century, when cheaper synthetic yellow dyes came into use.[3] France exported large quantities of weld.[1]

It prefers waste places. Good weld for dye must have flowers of a yellow or greenish color, and abound in leaves; that which is small, thin-stemmed, and yellow is better than that which is large, thick-stemmed, and green; that which grows on dry, sandy soils is better than that produced on rich and moist soils. For the greatest production of coloring matter, the plant should be cut before the fruits show much development, otherwise the pigment diminishes. Dye from weld serves equally for linen, wool, and silk, dyeing with proper management all shades of yellow, and producing a bright and beautiful color.[1]

References[edit]

Wikimedia Commons has media related to Reseda luteola.

1.^ Jump up to: a b c Wikisource-logo.svg "Weld

Additional Notes: Further photographs will be added following further visits. The Guelder Rose, the foliage and berries of Viburnum opulus are best seen in autumn. The Rock Rose carpet is best seen in May and June. The rather different flowers of Redmire Scar will be recorded separately.
Preston Scar is the eastern section of a long continuous Scar with Redmire Scar the western section. Sadly the Main Limestone, a Stategic National Resource, at the rear of the whole length of both of these Scars has been quarried away, leaving just a few feet of living rock more or less undisturbed. We shall, I suppose, need to be grateful that the view from below of the fine northern edge of Wensleydale has not been destroyed.
SWAAG Site: Preston Moor
Last Update: 2015-08-09

Record Number 888 >>> Image 1: Guelder Rose (Viburnum opulus)with Blackthorn at the base of the cliff. Preston Spring.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 2: Guelder Rose

Record Number 888 >>> Image 3: Guelder Rose

Record Number 888 >>> Image 4: Valerian (V. officinalis) on scree below the Scar.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 5: Valerian (V. officinalis) on scree below the Scar.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 6: Marjoram, in fine form above the Scar on the edge of the quarry. This would cost you a lot in a pot!

Record Number 888 >>> Image 7: Marjoram, detail.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 8: Musk mallow

Record Number 888 >>> Image 9: Weld, see above for extract from Wikepedia for the valuable properties of this plant

Record Number 888 >>> Image 10: Weld a colonising plant on waste ground at the edge of the quarry

Record Number 888 >>> Image 11: Wild strawberry

Record Number 888 >>> Image 12: Elder, a shrub frequently seen on the exposed top edge of limestone scars. Mats of rock rose, long since finished flowering, on the edge of the scar.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 13: English stonecrop, Sedum anglicum on the edge of the Scar.

Record Number 888 >>> Image 14: Biting stonecrop, Sedum acre, on the edge of the Scar.

Record Name: Green Lace-Wing on rock rose, Preston Scar.
SWAAG ID Number: 889
Recorded Date: 2015-08-11 15:03:36
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fauna
Record Type: Fauna HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-07-29
Location: Preston Scar
Civil Parish: Preston Under Scar
British National Grid: SE 061 920
Altitude: 340m
Geology: Main Limestone
Description: This angel-winged insect is perhaps the most beautiful and most deceptively rapacious of all flies. The delicate lace wings remind you of spiritual beauty, but one close look at the evil glassy eyes of this creature invokes horror. This flutterer is the Banker of the Insect World, as it injects its defenceless aphid and caterpillar prey with digestive juices from horrendous mouthparts and sucks out the contents with an unsatisfiable appetite.
Do not encourage this to settle on your hand for a closer view of its beautiful wings! You may need an urgent transfusion.
There are reports that it disguises its own green grub like body with the dried skins of its prey.
SWAAG Site: Preston Moor
Last Update: 2015-08-11

Record Number 889 >>> Image 1: Green Lace-Wing on rock rose, Preston Scar.

Record Number 889 >>> Image 2: This flutterer is the Banker of the Insect World, as it injects its defenceless aphid and caterpillar prey with digestive juices from horrendous mouthparts and sucks out the contents with an unsatisfiable appetite.

Record Name: Cinnabar Moth caterpillar feeding on ragwort leaf
SWAAG ID Number: 890
Recorded Date: 2015-08-13 20:18:19
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fauna
Record Type: Fauna HER
Record Date: 2015-08-12
Location: Cobscar Rake
Civil Parish: Redmire
British National Grid: SE 051 930
Altitude: 350m
Geology: Lead mining zone in Main Limestone
Description: This lone caterpillar is usually seen in great numbers devouring the leaves of the ragwort and has been used to control this unwanted weed in pasture. The caterpillar is a prime example of warning colouration. But where are its brothers and sisters? Perhaps not always successful and this, the last one on this leaf may feel rather NERVOUS. Enough of this, Ed.
Additional Notes: Reference: Michael Chinery, 2004. Collins complete guide to British Insects.
SWAAG Site: Preston Moor
Last Update: 2015-08-13

Record Number 890 >>> Image 1: Cinnabar Moth Caterpillar on ragwort leaf. Classic example of warning colouration.

Record Number 890 >>> Image 2:

Record Name: Zoophycos, a trace fossil from the Black Band Chert above the Main Limestone
SWAAG ID Number: 891
Recorded Date: 2015-08-23 09:02:57
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Not known
Record Date: 2015-08-18
Location: Stray find from boulder clay
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid:
Geology: Galcial erratic originating from Namurian Chert strata above the Main Limestone
Description: This fossil is interpreted as the signsture effect marking of the calcareous ooze of a shallow tropical sea during Late Carboniferous Time by the fronds of a ?plant or soft coral organism waving from side to side in tidal currents. Whether this is a n accurate decription of the nature of this fossil is a matter of some doubt as this example seems to include carbon which could imply that the fossil was itself a living organism and not the trace of a mark on the tidal ooze.
Additional Notes: For an excellent account of the Hungry Hush Chert Quarries including details of the strata, nature and uses of chert, see: Hungry Chert Quarries

Last Update: 2015-08-24

Record Number 891 >>> Image 1: An example of Zoophycos, a trace fossil originating from the Richmond Cherts but found as an erratic in glacial Boulder Clay

Record Number 891 >>> Image 2:

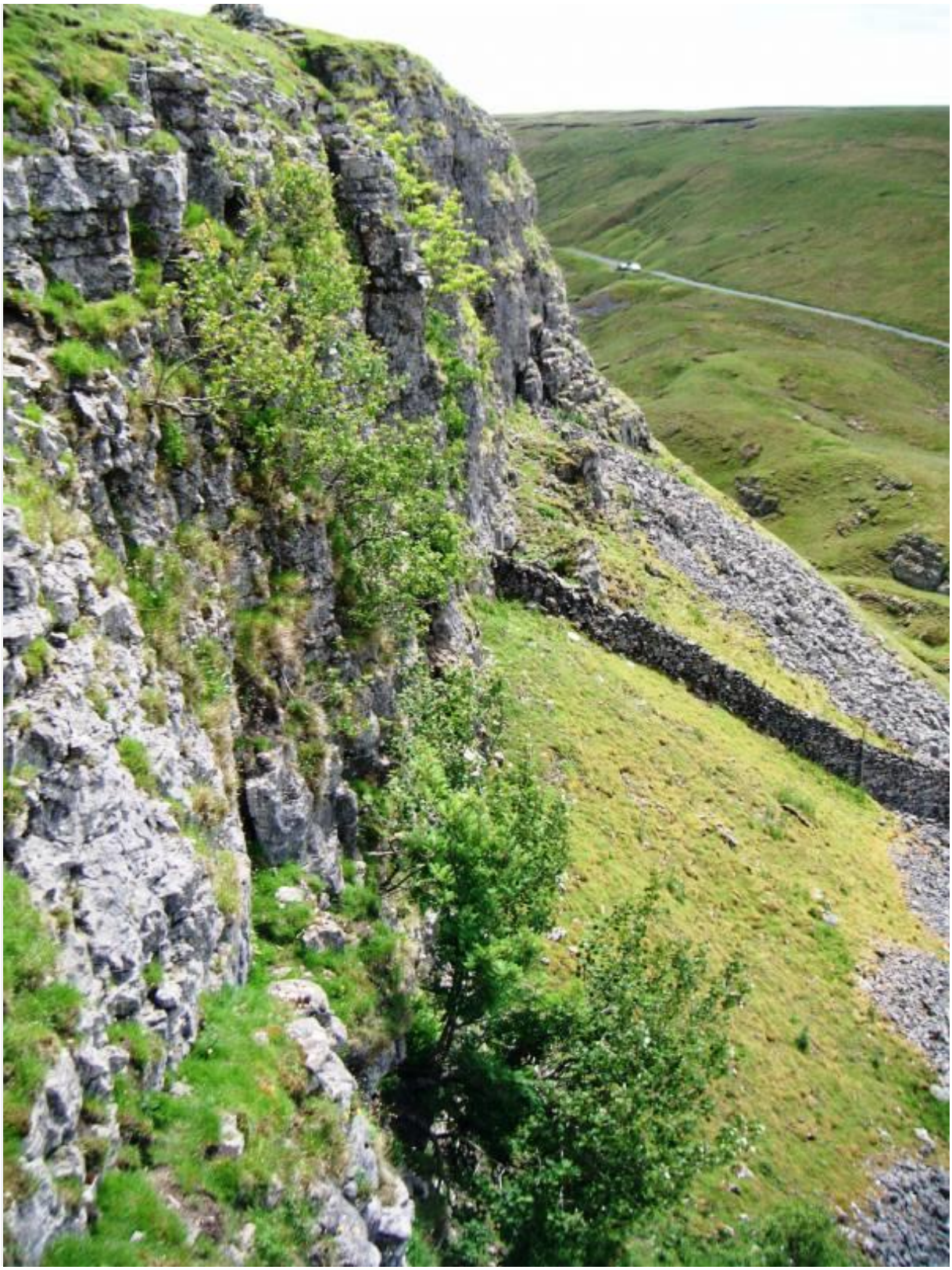
Record Name: Orgate Scar and Satron High Walls. High Swaledale Landscapes and Mining Remains
SWAAG ID Number: 892
Recorded Date: 2015-08-28 17:07:35
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: General HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-08-21
Location: Satron High Walls
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: SD 945 968
Altitude: 490m and above
Geology: For a full description of the complex faulted geological structures and extensive mining remains on Satron High Walls, see British Geological Survey: Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Volume 2, Stainmore to Craven, Chapter 11.
Description: This record is a photographic note on the fine scenery enjoyed and the interesting mining remains visited during a recent walk by a small group of SWAAG members from Orgate Scar to Satron High Walls. The return to Orgate Gill crossed the strange lenticular chert hills on Satron Moor.

Additional Notes: For further general details and images of Oxnop Scar,see previous SWAAG Database Record No 680.
For details of the relict woodland on Oxnop Scar, which includes aspen and juniper together with the associated vegetation see previous SWAAG Database Record No 350. The vegetation on the cliff edge includes ash and Blackthorn at their local altitudinal limit.
SWAAG Site: Grinton Moor
Last Update: 2015-08-30

Record Number 892 >>> Image 1: Satron High Walls. The top of the world!

Record Number 892 >>> Image 2: The walk started from the unfenced road which runs along the top of Oxnop Scar, shown here from below the Scar. View Northward.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 3: Oxnop Scar viewed southward from below.



Record Number 892 >>> Image 4: Aspen Grove on Oxnop Scar. The prostrate juniper which grew with these aspens at the top edge of the Scar and photographed some years ago, see SWAAG Record No , is no longer visible.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 5: View westward down Oxnop Gill from the unfenced road above Oxnop Scar.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 6: View northward down Oxnop Gill from the unfenced road above Oxnop Scar.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 7: Lower of two adjacent lead bale sites seen during the walk.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 8: Lead slag. Black glassy slag present here.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 9: John looks for indications that zinc mineral is present.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 10: The upper of the two bale sites here.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 11: One of the frost shattered chert outcrops seen at the edge of the Moor during the walk.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 12: Ravens! Two of the family group of five ravens seen during the walk.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 13: Satron High Walls

Record Number 892 >>> Image 14: Satron Walls lead mine and hush. The line of this lead vein can be traced down slope to Low Walls

Record Number 892 >>> Image 15: Satron Walls lead mine and hush. A mine with a view.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 16: Iron wedge. Visible evidence for early plug and feather mining here!

Record Number 892 >>> Image 17: Frost shattered and bleached chert surfaces once covered by blanket peat up to 1.0m thick form white isolated rounded hills a contrast to the brown sedge moorland.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 18: John, as always examines the details of the exposed chert strata.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 19: Here, the small lenticular algal fossil structures in the chert are reminiscent of stromatolites and very large oncolites.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 20: John examines the frost shattered surface of the chert which is exposed by erosion of the overlying blanket peat.

Record Number 892 >>> Image 21: Lead mine shaft mounds visited at the head of Stotter Gill during the return walk

Record Number 892 >>> Image 22: Lead mine shaft mounds at the head of Stotter Gill

Record Number 892 >>> Image 23: A fine group of the well named, heavily scented Musk Thistle (Carduus nutans).

Record Number 892 >>> Image 24: Cedar Wax Cap. So named as when stored in a box, it is reputed to smell of aftershave, whatever that smells like.

Record Name: Large lead bale overlain by mine spoil tip from level associated with the Providence Hush System
SWAAG ID Number: 893
Recorded Date: 2015-09-09 19:51:02
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-09-08
Location: Cliff Beck Pastures below Muker Common
Civil Parish: Not known
British National Grid:
Altitude: 400m
Geology: Glacial till and loess over faulted and mineralised strata below the Underset Limestone.
Description: Lead Bale with much slag and burnt barytes forming vegetation free area over-lain by the spoil tip arising from an isolated Lead Mine Adit and Level. This Lead Bale, Mine and Hush is located on the lower slope above the south bank of Cliff Beck some 300m to the South-West of the Providence Lead Mine Hush and is probably related to the same lead vein complex.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: Note the slumped depressions of the hill slope above the adit (Photo 1) which mark the line of the collapsed line of the level into the hill
Last Update: 2015-09-09

Record Number 893 >>> Image 1: The adit to the level above the Bale with Mike, Hugh, Ric and John. Note the slumping marking collapse of the level tunnel.

Record Number 893 >>> Image 2: The lead bale is directly below the spoil tip.

Record Number 893 >>> Image 3: Lead slag and burnt barytese mark the presence of a bale overlain by the spoil tip.

Record Number 893 >>> Image 4: The lead mine and bale site photographed from the Buttertubs road

Record Number 893 >>> Image 5: A rosette of Scurvy Grass (Cochlearia officinalis), a metalophyte (heavy metal tolerant plant) associated with heavy metal (lead) contaminated areas

Record Name: Lovely Seat. Cogill Head Hags. Calcareous concretions at base of marine shale bed.
SWAAG ID Number: 894
Recorded Date: 2015-09-16 16:09:16
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Cogill Head Hags, below Lovely Seat
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: SD 88675 95012
Altitude: 618m
Geology: Namurian. Base of marine shale below Ladgill Limestone exposed in side of peat gutter.
Reference: British Geological Survey, Sheet 40.
Description: The concretions described below were photographed by Tim Laurie during a lone walk across Lovely Seat to Lover Gill Head through Cogill Head Hags. The concretion was one of several seen stratified at the base of an exposure of black shales of Namurian Age at the side of a peat gutter. The shales are probably stratified below the Ladgill Limestone, which is not exposed.

The following detailed description of the concretion, shown in the photographs below, which had weathered from the seam of similar concretions insitu within the shales above the stream bed, has been provided by John Russell:

'The rock (concretion) is very heavy and rust red in colour. These two facts suggest a high iron content. The cracks (in the concretion) are filled with sparry calcite. This type of rock has been described as having a septarian structure. They are believed to have formed during the early stage of the burial of a sediment. They often contain plant or animal remains that influence the biochemical reactions within the sediment.
The rock has an oval or discoidal shape and so it is referred to as a concretion. Irregular shaped bodies like the flints of Flamborough Head are referred to as nodules.
The rock is made of very fine clay minerals. A variety of different minerals can cement the clay particles together e.g. calcite, limonite, siderite, pyrite and silica. At Whitby in the Lower Lias Shales, the concretions can be shown to form just after deposition as the shales drape themselves round the concretion.'
The cracks filled with calcite have caused geologists problems. There are two theories to account for them. The first is syneresis. These are cracks that can occur underwater when the layer contracts-a bit like mud cracks caused by subaerial dessication. Or they may be due to pore fluid pressure during compaction.'
Dimensions: See photos
Last Update: 2015-09-16

Record Number 894 >>> Image 1: The concretion

Record Number 894 >>> Image 2: Detail of concretion in situ at base of shales exposed in the side of the Gutter

Record Number 894 >>> Image 3: Base of shale bed with concretions in situ and fallen on to bed of stream

Record Number 894 >>> Image 4: Concretion fallen from shale to bed of stream

Record Number 894 >>> Image 5: Peat gutter at Cogill Head Hags

Record Name: Apedale Old Smelt Mill and structure associated with slag crushing to recover lead prills.
SWAAG ID Number: 895
Recorded Date: 2015-09-25 17:02:31
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: Apedale, south side
Civil Parish: Castle Bolton with E and W Bol
British National Grid: SE 02564 93995
Description: Apedale Old Smelt Mill located within an earlier hush gulley and above an extensive area of lead slags of differing size and character and probably also of differing age. The small circular stone structure and short wall foundation shown on the photo images was originally thought by me to be a Bale Structure embedded within later slags but has now been identified by Dr Richard Smith as the well preserved base of a structure associated with the recovery of lead prills embedded within crushed black glassy slag. The Old Smelt Mill is located some 500m west of the site of the later Apedale Cat Scar Smelt Mill (now demolished) below Dents Houses. The Old Smelt Mill is shown on 1st Edition OS Maps but not listed or described by Clough in his 'Smelt Mills of the Yorkshire Dales'.
Dimensions: For the Old Mill, See Photo 1. Crusher foundation 4.5m diameter with short length of wall foundation
Additional Notes: My thanks to Dr Richard Smith and Alan Mills for their advice. Any errors are my own.
Last Update: 2015-10-18

Record Number 895 >>> Image 1: Apedale Old Smelt Mill. Remains of the buildings and the possible chimney are not visible from the Apedale Road.

Record Number 895 >>> Image 2: Apedale Old Smelt Mill. Remains of the substantial buildings.

Record Number 895 >>> Image 3: These remains obscured below heather may be the foundation of the Smelter Chimney.

Record Number 895 >>> Image 4: Apedale Old Lead Mill as shown on early OS Map

Record Number 895 >>> Image 5: View across area of slags towards Apedale Head

Record Number 895 >>> Image 6: Detail of slags

Record Number 895 >>> Image 7: Apedale. View towards Dents Houses from the area with slags below the Old Mill. Circular stone structure and short wall foundation embedded in crushed slag fragments.

Record Number 895 >>> Image 8: Detail of the crusher.

Record Number 895 >>> Image 9: Area of crushed black lead slag, all one size together with dumps of uncrushed slags of different appearance and size

Record Number 895 >>> Image 10: Detail of last

Record Name: Very large burnt mound 250m NNW of Kitley Hill
SWAAG ID Number: 896
Recorded Date: 2015-10-04 16:51:06
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-09-25
Location: Faggergill
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NY 9890 0543
Altitude: 420m
Geology: Spring rise in strata above the Main Limestone below boulder clay.
Description: This very large burnt mound which is located on sloping ground close below the spring rise of a small sike or streamlet some 250m NNW of Kitley Hill and, being masked below turf, being very difficult to recognise except by someone familiar with these sites. SWAAG Member, Mrs Shirley Gale identified the burnt mound some years ago and guided me to see it.
The mound is characteristic for these sites being crescentic in form with central trough. The mound measures some 12m diameter overall on plan -a very fine example of these enigmatic sites .
The upslope section of the mound is part buried by solifluction and the full extent of the base of the mound is not visible. The downstream slope of the burnt stone mound extends from the level of the stream upwards for a height of almost 3m.
Dimensions: Visible mound is 12m diameter and up to 3m high overall approximately
Additional Notes: The significance of this burnt mound is two fold.
First, the location of this isolated mound is at the point where the summit of the Stainmore Pass, some 12km to the NW, becomes visible over the trough of Stainmore through the upper reaches of Arkle Beck and of Mudbeck. The existence of this burnt mound, the first to be recognised to date in Arkengarthdale west of the northern slopes of Calver Hill, where the nearest examples have been recorded, confirms the presence and activities of a small pastoralist group on the eastern approaches to the Stainmore Pass during the Late Neolithic to Mid Bronze Age.
Secondly, the trough of this burnt mound is at or close to active spring level and has been constantly saturated. The likely presence of constantly very wet conditions suggests that a timber lined trough could be preserved together with other wood or leather materials/artefacts which may be present.
For a detailed account of the characteristics and distribution of burnt mounds across the Ure,Swale and Tees/Greta Uplands , see Publications Section of this Website.
This is the latest addition to an increasing body of evidence for human activity within and passage through Arkengarthdale, on the eastern approaches to Stainmore, the easiest pass through the Pennines for the traveller on foot from the Vale of Mowbray and the South and East to the Vale of Eden and the North and West, to Galloway and to Ireland.
For details of other Late Prehistoric Monuments in Arkengarthdale, see SWAAG Record Nos 120, 124, 125,126,166,279,391,392,393,432,542,548,590,611
Last Update: 2015-10-04

Record Number 896 >>> Image 1: View of the burnt mound with the elegant glaciated lines of Kitley Hill in the background.

Record Number 896 >>> Image 2: View from the Burnt Mound through the upper reaches of Arkengarthdale beyond Cleasby Hill to Stainmore

Record Number 896 >>> Image 3: The burnt mound is at a secondary spring rise, marked by a large clump of rushes

Record Number 896 >>> Image 4: The burnt mound is located at a secondary spring rise marked by a clump of rushes some 20m below the principle spring rise

Record Number 896 >>> Image 5: The view northward to Cleasby Hill

Record Name: Cluster of sunken stone lined huts interpreted as a high moorland refuge.
SWAAG ID Number: 897
Recorded Date: 2015-10-09 12:24:33
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Stone structure
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-03
Location: Faggergill Moor
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NY 9915 0778
Altitude: 470m
Geology: Thin drift on Namurian Sandstone above the Little Limestone
Description: This unusual earthwork comprises a number of sub-circular excavations several with fragments of stone lined walling, now completely collapsed or quarried out together with interconnecting passage ways which, together are here provisionally interpreted as a clover leaf- on- plan group of sunken huts which were probably roofed with turf or heather thatch as refuges on the line of a natural high level pack horse trackway on the interfluve above the southern edge of Teesdale or through Faggergill to Bowes and the Stainmore Pass now the line of the A66.
The small diameter of the individual 'huts' being determined by the small section timber rafter supports available from any stunted trees present in the area.

Dimensions: Some 30m overall
Additional Notes: The above interpretation must be regarded as provisional as the site could just be a quarry site. However close examination suggests that this is a purpose made group of simple stone huts each recessed into the ground for shelter. There are rather better preserved examples of similar sites at similar localities elsewhere in the Pennines, with well built corbelled circular huts recessed below ground and being close to exposures of good building stone, are often to a large or lesser extent quarried out.
Last Update: 2015-10-09

Record Number 897 >>> Image 1: Faggergill Moor seen from below and from the south

Record Number 897 >>> Image 2: At first sight the site is a mass of quarried stone.

Record Number 897 >>> Image 3: The existence of structures is indicated by long passage ways leading to sunken circular areas.

Record Number 897 >>> Image 4: Curving passage

Record Number 897 >>> Image 5: Possible recessed hut

Record Name: A perambulation of Birkdale Tarn at low water, a mining reservoir with landscape interest.
SWAAG ID Number: 898
Recorded Date: 2015-10-09 14:34:52
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-08
Location: Birkdale Tarn
Civil Parish: Muker
British National Grid: NY 852 018
Altitude: 488m
Geology: Namurian sandstone bedrock with glacial striae and massed tube fossil fragments exposed at low water on the southern side of the 'Tarn'.
Description: Birkdale 'Tarn' is in fact a small reservoir originally dammed to provide water and probably also to provide hydraulic power to the pumps at the deep mines at the lower end of Great Sleddale above Stone Houses. At low water, the surface of the glacially smoothed and striated bedrock is exposed on the eastern shore of the Tarn. Of some further palaeontological interest are the massed fossil tube fragments which cover a short length of the beach of the Tarn. Since these loose tube fragments are only concentrated on the shore within a length of 25m, the strata from which they originate must have a limited exposure. These solid tubular fragments, which are smooth surfaced and average 15mm diameter, approximately, and not more than 75mm in length, are of silica and clearly harder than the shale or sandstone within which they were deposited. The strata from which they had eroded must now exist below water level, as the rock with these tubes in situ is nowhere visible.
The shrunken waters of the Tarn are retained by a very substantial dam , see photographs. When in use the waters could have been considerably deeper, as the present level of the Water is well below the level of the base of the Tarn.

Dimensions: See photographs
Additional Notes: The waters of the Tarn are, today, shallow, windswept and very acid, without any sign of aquatic plants or of the gulls which once nested here. The only birds visible on our visit were a pair of Goosanders.
Last Update: 2015-10-09

Record Number 898 >>> Image 1: Birkdale tarn at low water

Record Number 898 >>> Image 2: Birkdale tarn, first sight from the east

Record Number 898 >>> Image 3: Birkdale tarn, the eastern shore. Mallerstang Edge with High Seat in distance.

Record Number 898 >>> Image 4: Glacial striae on exposed bedrock previously under peat, East Shore

Record Number 898 >>> Image 5: Glacial striae

Record Number 898 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 898 >>> Image 7: Fossil tube fragments like these cover a short 25m length of the eastern shore

Record Number 898 >>> Image 8: Detail of the fragments

Record Number 898 >>> Image 9: Eileen at the eastern Shore. Fossil fragments cover the darker areas of the beach.

Record Number 898 >>> Image 10: Two very small streams feed into the northern end of the Tarn. The silver sand was previously used to sharpen scythes.

Record Number 898 >>> Image 11: Birkdale tarn, the peat embanked western shore.

Record Number 898 >>> Image 12: Birkdale tarn. The substantial and stone slab surfaced dam.

Record Name: Burnt Mound on SW slopes of Penhill, in pasture below Slantgate Well, revisited
SWAAG ID Number: 899
Recorded Date: 2015-10-20 15:04:58
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-17
Location: Carlton Town CP. Spring streamside below Slantgate Well Spring.
Civil Parish: Carlton Town
British National Grid: SE 04683 85309
Altitude: 431m
Geology: Springs rising below Glacial Drift over Namurian Millstone Grit (Colsterdale Marine Band)
Description: This isolated burnt mound is one of five burnt mounds recognised to date at springs on the upper south- westerly facing slopes of Penhill. In contrast to the north- westerly facing slopes , which have been settled during prehistory, no settlements have yet been recognised, probably due to the poor pasture arising from acidic soils over sandstone.
Dimensions: 8m*6m*1m high approximately
Additional Notes: This record will be the first of a series of records arising from fieldwork designed to record burnt mound sites in their present day and contemporary prehistoric landscape contexts and in so doing, to update previous Gazetteers to include a large number of additional sites across the Ure, Swale and Tees/Greta Uplands.
Last Update: 2017-06-06

Record Number 899 >>> Image 1: Views of the burnt mound in its landscape setting

Record Number 899 >>> Image 2:

Record Number 899 >>> Image 3:

Record Number 899 >>> Image 4:

Record Number 899 >>> Image 5:

Record Number 899 >>> Image 6:

Record Number 899 >>> Image 7:

Record Name: The rock art sites of Gayles Moor revisited
SWAAG ID Number: 900
Recorded Date: 2015-11-04 21:03:47
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Photographic Record
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Army Range
Record Date: 2015-10-26
Location: Feldom Ranges, Gayles Moor
Civil Parish: Gayles
British National Grid: NZ 110 060
Altitude: 310m
Geology: Hummocky drift over sandstones with worked coal seam
Description: This record will provide a partial photographic record of a few cup marked and cup and ring marked rocks as they appear today together with photographs of the same rocks taken 30-40 years ago, together with several other features which can be regarded as elements within the same prehistoric landscape. The reduced sheep population and reduction of grazing on moorland across the Pennines generally has allowed the moorland vegetation to recover and become rank, ie to remain un-grazed from year to year. Archaeological features are obscured and much more difficult to recognise than when first recorded, some 40 years ago. furthermore the rock art may be less sharp than when first recorded due possibly to acid rain.
Comparison of these recent images with photo illustrations of the same rocks within Beckensall and Laurie, 1998. 'The Prehistoric Rock Art of Co Durham, Swaledale and Wensleydale.' together with those shown here which were taken some 30- 40 years ago (see also previous SWAAG Record No) will be useful in assessing any changes taking place.
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: Rock reference Nos on photo images are to Beckensall and Laurie 1998.
Last Update: 2015-11-06

Record Number 900 >>> Image 1: The fine cup and ring marked rock below Hill 99, C11, in Craddocks Plantation as it is today.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 2: The same rock photographed some 40 years ago.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 3: Cup and ring marked rock (D3) as it is today.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 4: The same rock photographed some 40 years ago.

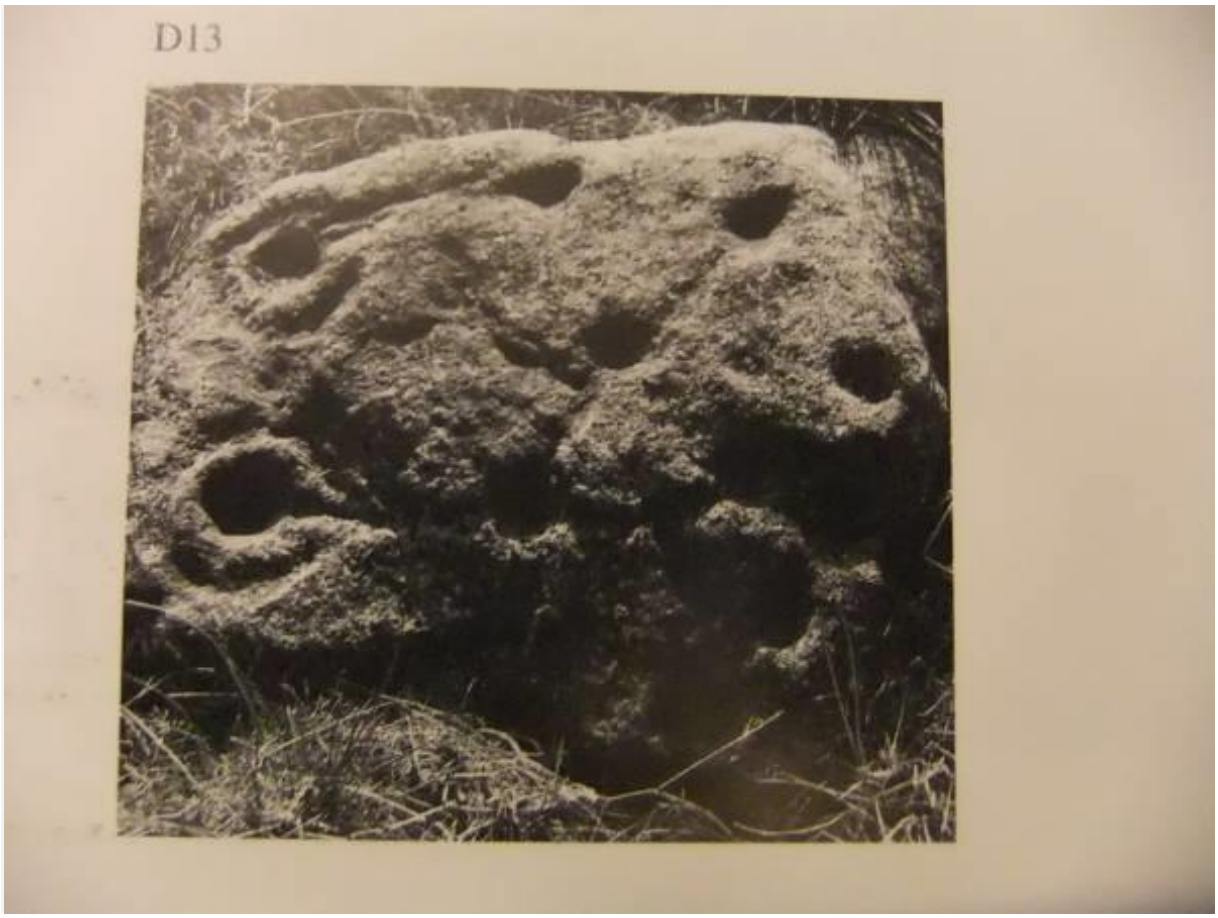
Record Number 900 >>> Image 5: Heavily cup marked slab (D4) as it is seen today.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 6: The same rock photographed some 40 years ago.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 7: Detail of this rock show individual pock marks

Record Number 900 >>> Image 8: Small earthfast rock with cup and ring markings (D7) photographed some 30-40 years ago. This rock is now covered with vegetation and could not be located recently.

Record Number 900 >>> Image 9: Very small cup and cup and ring marked rock with linking grooves (D13) photographed recently



Record Number 900 >>> Image 10: The same rock. D13, as illustration in Beckensall and Laurie 1998.

Record Name: Stainton-Bellerby Army Firing Range. Oval enclosure, field boundaries and stone cairns.
SWAAG ID Number: 901
Recorded Date: 2015-11-07 18:19:10
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Enclosure
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Army Range
Record Date: 0000-00-00
Location: This site straddles the Bellerby/Walburn Parish boundary
Civil Parish: Walburn
British National Grid: SE 1017 9465
Altitude: 270m
Geology: Glacial drift over Richmond Cherts.
Description: This enclosure is at the heart of the Bellerby/Stainton Army Firing Ranges and access is forbidden at any time when the red flags are flying and without prior express permission from the Range Officer.

Bronze Age Settlement complex comprising: stone banked curvilinear enclosure with associated field system (to be recorded separately), cairn field (to be recorded separately)and round barrow (to be recorded separately).
The enclosure, roughly oval 145m x 55m straddles the firetrack and the ruined stone wall which forms the Bellerby, Stainton and Walburn parish boundary.

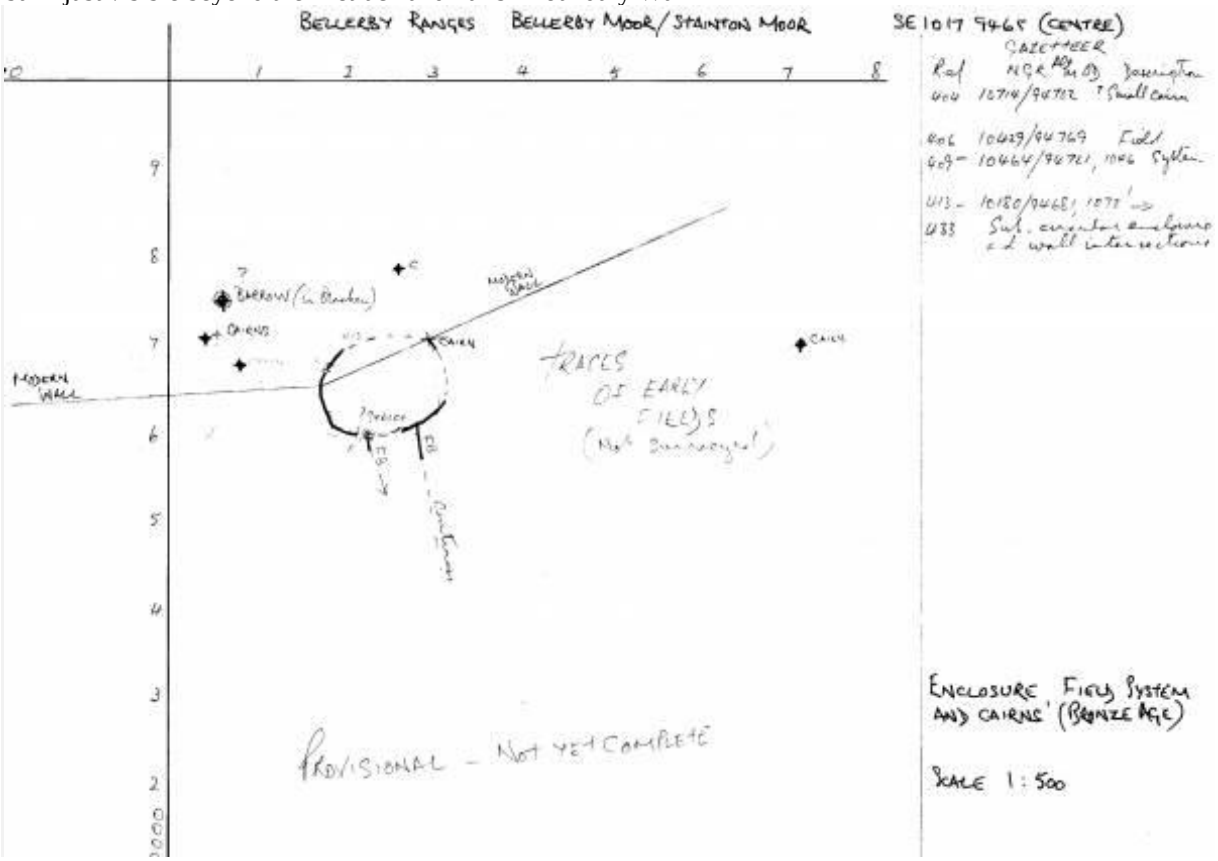
It is partly quarried out for the dry stone wall on the NE quadrant. A few stone cairns or clearance heaps and a large mound which is considered to be a possible round barrow are located to the North of the wall, see plan. Stone dump field banks, the remains of an extensive field system are visibly associated with the enclosure. These field banks which extend over a large area to the east of the enclosure, areas as yet unsurveyed.

The burnt mound at Stainton/Wathgill Cow Park, located at the edge of a recent small arms range and recorded as SWAAG Database Record No 902 should be included within this settlement complex of Mid Bronze Age character.

Dimensions: See sketch survey
Additional Notes: This is a preliminary record and will be revised and updated following a further visit.
Last Update: 2015-11-11

Record Number 901 >>> Image 1: The enclosure can be recognised as the curving heather covered stone

bank just visible beyond the firetrack and Parish Boundary Wall



Record Number 901 >>> Image 2: Initial site survey of the enclosure and associated features which together form a complex characteristic of unenclosed settlements of the Middle Bronze Age

Record Name: Wathgill, Cow Park. Burnt mound at edge of recent small arms range.
SWAAG ID Number: 902
Recorded Date: 2015-11-08 10:59:42
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Army Range
Record Date: 2005-01-01
Location: Army Live Firing Range, Wathgill, Cow Park.
Civil Parish: Stainton
British National Grid: SE 104 954
Altitude: 260m
Geology: Drift over strata below the Underset Limestone. Spring rise.
Description: Medium sized burnt mound located some 18 years ago, during a walkover survey to locate any archaeological features which would be affected by the construction of a recent small arms range.
Dimensions: 8m*6m*.7m high overall approximately
Additional Notes: This burnt mound should be considered to relate to the unenclosed settlement of middle Bronze Age character located some 800m further upslope on open moorland at SE102947, on the boundary between Bellerby and Walburn Civil Parishes. See previous SWAAG Record No 901.
SWAAG Site: Stainton Moor
Last Update: 2015-11-08

Record Number 902 >>> Image 1: The burnt mound receiving very close attention from visiting group of members of the Catterick Training Area Conservation Group

Record Number 902 >>> Image 2: Wathgill Cow Park and site of the burnt mound, prior to construction of a recent small arms range.

Record Name: Four stone prehistoric cairns on Faggergill Scar. One with a visible cist (Cairn Four).
SWAAG ID Number: 903
Recorded Date: 2015-11-08 14:58:05
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burial Mounds and Cairns
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-02
Location: Faggergill Scar
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NY 07604
Altitude: 484m
Geology: Namurian chert and sandstone strata above the Main Limestone and below the Little Limestone
Description: All four cairns which were first recognised by Shirley Gale, are located at fine viewpoints on the front edge of the escarpment with views down through Faggergill. These four cairns will probably be intervisible (to check) with the large round cairn at Little Punchard (see SWAAG Record 166). Each Cairn will be briefly described here and photo images are provided below.
Cairn One. (NY9949907604) is the most easterly cairn being located close to the eastern end of the Scar. Cairn One is oval on plan and measures 9m *6m overall. Since Cairn One is just some 50m distant from the stone quarry close to the track at the eastern end of Faggergill Scar, it is surprising that it has survived relatively undisturbed, although it is somewhat reduced in height by stone robbing.
Cairn Two (NY9945207627) is a very small cairn which measures some 5m*4m on plan and is barely visible in the vegetation at the edge of the Scar.
Cairn Three (NY9844007319) is circular on plan and 6m diameter.
Cairn Four (NY9825407284) is also circular and measures 5m in diameter. Cairn Four has a visible stone lined rectangular cist which has been opened, probably by fox hunters seeking to release their terriers rather than by antiquarians. Two sections of the broken cist cover slab can be recognised as laid on one side.
Dimensions: The cairns vary in size from 5m diametet to a maximum of 9m diameter.
Additional Notes: These cairns are an element within the increasingly interesting prehistoric landscapes of Arkengarthdale and of Stainmore, which includes, inter al. the large burnt mound and small ring cairn located further down Faggergill which were also recognised by Shirley. Further field work will be required to determine the full extent of the prehistoric and later landscapes of Faggergill and of the eastern approaches to the Stainmore Pass.
In view of the sensitivity of cairns with cist burials to interference, this record is restricted to SWAAG Membership.
Last Update: 2015-11-08

Record Number 903 >>> Image 1: Cairn One at eastern end of the Scar. The view south eastward, with Shirley who first recognised these cairns.

Record Number 903 >>> Image 2: Cairn One, the view to the north west.

Record Number 903 >>> Image 3: Cairn One, the view eastward with Eileen.

Record Number 903 >>> Image 4: View eastward across the low, and not prominent Cairn Two towards Cairn One

Record Number 903 >>> Image 5: Cairn Three

Record Number 903 >>> Image 6: Cairn Three

Record Number 903 >>> Image 7: Cairn Three

Record Number 903 >>> Image 8: Cairn Three

Record Number 903 >>> Image 9: Cairn Four. This cairn has a visible cist which has been opened probably during fox hunting to release a terrier.

Record Number 903 >>> Image 10: Cairn Four with visible cist

Record Number 903 >>> Image 11: Cairn Four. The cist, detail.

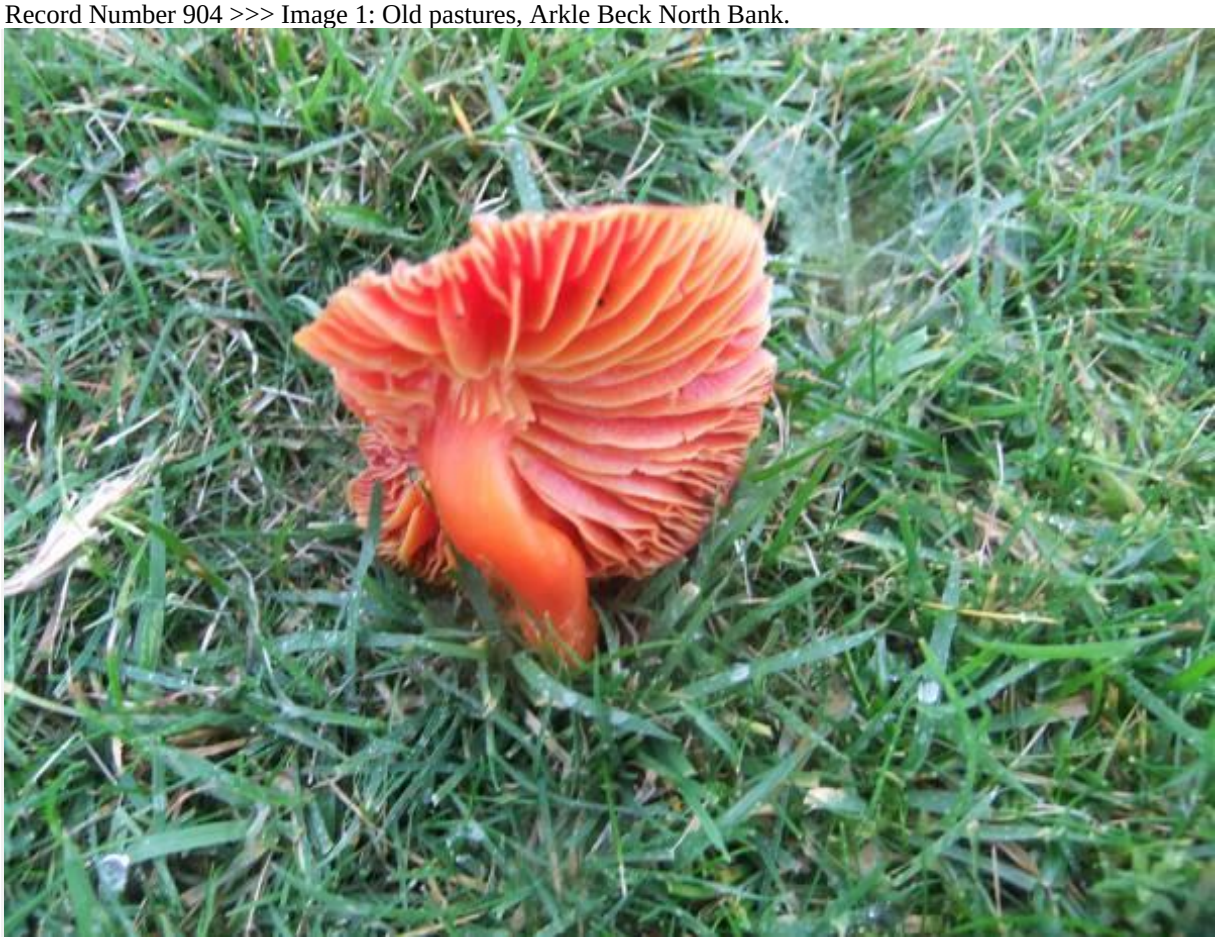
Record Name: Wax Caps in the old pastures above Arkle Beck and the disappearance of wild mushrooms.
SWAAG ID Number: 904
Recorded Date: 2015-11-11 11:25:27
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fungus / Mould
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-10-10
Location: Arkle Beck Pastures
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: NZ 033 006
Altitude: 240m
Geology: River Terraces and solifluction deposits on northern side of Arkle Beck
Description: Wax caps are the brightly coloured fungi which can be seen growing wherever old pastures have not been treated with nitrogen based fertiliser. There are a fair number of different species to be found, some common, some not so common. All are interesting and well worth searching out the best examples for a photograph at this time of year.

See: http://www.first-nature.com/fungi/~hygrophoraceae.php

Photograph, admire but do not eat these bright fungi.

Note!
Final identification of these fungi is a specialist field. My identifications are therefor provisional and revisions are invited!
Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: Whereas inedible bright Waxcaps are relatively common in the Dales (uncommon eldewhere), edible Field Mushrooms and Horse Mushrooms, which were once a treat to be found in the same pastures, have now completely disappeared. I have not seen a single wild edible mushroom in all the upland pastures where these were once common, both on limestone grasslands of the high fell sides and also on in the few remaining small and relatively inaccessible old pastures which were not considered worth the cost of fertiliser. However, in my experience wild mushrooms have during the last few years disappeared, even during the humid damp days of autumn, completely. Very occasional isolated mushrooms may survive somewhere. I understand that the cause of the disappearance of wild mushrooms has been the chemical and residual pharmaceutical content of sheep and cattle urine.
I hope that I am mistaken and look forward to contradiction and to being informed that the once awaited mushroom bonanza still exists somewhere.
Photographs of the underside of the waxcaps are useful in identification and can be taken with the camera on the ground close to, at ground level.
Last Update: 2015-11-11

Record Number 904 >>> Image 1: Old pastures, Arkle Beck North Bank.



Record Number 904 >>> Image 2: Scarlet Waxcap, or possibly the uncommon Crimson Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 3: Scarlet Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 4: Scarlet Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 5: Meadow Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 6: Meadow Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 7: Meadow Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 8: Butter Waxcap

Record Number 904 >>> Image 9: Butter Waxcaps

Record Number 904 >>> Image 10: Snowy Waxcap with Scarlet Waxcaps

Record Number 904 >>> Image 11: Meadow and Scarlet Waxcaps

Record Number 904 >>> Image 12: Scarlet Waxcaps

Record Name: Boxer Peacock's wash basin
SWAAG ID Number: 905
Recorded Date: 2015-11-13 13:07:37
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Vernacular Record
Record Type: Miscellaneous
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2015-11-10
Location: Arkle Beck. Boxer Peacock\'s Cottage.
Civil Parish: Reeth
British National Grid: NZ 35 005
Description: I am grateful to Mike Walton for this information:
This fine salt glazed stoneware drinking fountain located by the track from Fremington to Castle Farm was set up by Boxer Peacock who was the final occupant of the picturesque but now sadly, ruined white-washed cottage known as Boxer Peacock's Cottage. This drinking fountain and hand basin was undoubtedly, then, top of the range and very 'in'. The basin was set up to receive the clean cool water (never known to freeze) from the small spring stream closest to his cottage. As stated by The Major, Boxer Peacock had also set up his shaving mirror in the branches of an overhanging hazel tree. Those were the days, when Swaledale men shaved every morning at 6 o'clock sharp and ensuite really meant a 300 yard walk to the nearest wash basin.
Reference: 'Walking with the Major' an anthology of seven of Major F.T.C. William's walks from Reeth, published by the parishes of the Churches of Swaledale with Arkengarthdale.
Last Update: 2015-11-13

Record Number 905 >>> Image 1: Boxer Peacock's Cottage

Record Number 905 >>> Image 2: Boxer Peacock's Basin

Record Number 905 >>> Image 3: The way to the bathroom (you cant miss it) follows the track down Arkle Beck

Record Name: Fragment of crinoidal limestone with well preseved unidentified linear fossil
SWAAG ID Number: 906
Recorded Date: 2015-11-18 11:47:45
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-12
Location: Brownsey Moor, Stoups Rigg
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: NY 966 987
Altitude: 430m
Geology: Outcrop of the crinoidal Five Yard Limestone.
Description: This small fragment of limestone was found at a molehill in calcareous grassland over the Five Yard Limestone which is highly crinoidal at this location. Whereas the ossicles of crinoids are the dominant visible fossil in this limestone, other marine fossil species do occur. This linear fossil which measures 30mm in length * 4mm wide, has a central stem or vein and paired leaf like structures which may be crinoid ossicles in section, however, this may be a different fossil species.
Dimensions: Linear fossil 30mm*4mm
Additional Notes: Even the smallest limestone fragments can be of interest.
SWAAG Site: Low Row Pastures
Last Update: 2015-11-18

Record Number 906 >>> Image 1: The fragment of crinoidal limestone

Record Number 906 >>> Image 2: Detail of fossil

Record Name: White patinated flint end scraper with some associated artefact finds from this location.
SWAAG ID Number: 907
Recorded Date: 2015-11-18 12:12:41
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Archaeological Find
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-10-12
Location: Brownsey Moor, Stoups Rigg
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: #NY 96595 98688
Altitude: 430m.
Geology: Outcrop of the Five Yard Limestone overlooking a peat infilled mire, once an upland tarn.
Description: This flint end scraper is a fine example of an artefact type which is characteristic of Mesolithic assemblages. Scraper forms of Neolithic Age tend to have retouch which extends over a larger proportion of the perimeter of the scraper.
This artefact is the latest find from a locality which has produced a large assemblage of flint,chert and occasional quartzite artefacts, some of which are shown below.

Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: This fine small scraper was found at a known lithic scatter site which, being at a view point directly above a constant spring on the south side and a peat infilled mire on the north, which during prehistory would have been an open tarn surrounded by woodland, thus conforming to the localities preferred by mesolithic hunter groups.
However, preferred localities like this were re-occupied time and time again through centuries and millennia and the artefacts collected are of different periods, reflecting different lithic technologies and human cultural activities through prehistory.
The very few microliths found here are of Later Mesolithic character being geometric in form (rods and crescents) and extremely small, ie they are minute: being less than 10mm in length and less than 4mm wide, see image nos.
However the presence of several burins and the small shouldered poin indicate an Early Mesolithic presence here also.
SWAAG Site: Low Row Pastures
Last Update: 2015-11-22

Record Number 907 >>> Image 1: End scraper, white patinated flint

Record Number 907 >>> Image 2: Selected artefacts of flint and chert

Record Number 907 >>> Image 3: End scraper, White patinated flint.

Record Number 907 >>> Image 4: Struck flake, Quartzite. Dorsal view.

Record Number 907 >>> Image 5: Struck flake, Quartzite. Ventral view.

Record Number 907 >>> Image 6: Small shouldered point (Pointe a cran).

Record Number 907 >>> Image 7: Broad chert flake suitable as a blank for converting to an arrowhead

Record Number 907 >>> Image 8: Selected artefacts of flint, olive chert of unknown origin and black Pennine chert. Dorsal view

Record Number 907 >>> Image 9: The same selected artefacts of flint and chert. Ventral view

Record Number 907 >>> Image 10: Burin on chert blade and small bladelet with cortex

Record Number 907 >>> Image 11: Selected artefacts

Record Number 907 >>> Image 12: Selected artefacts

Record Number 907 >>> Image 13: Lunate microlith, unpatinated flint retouched on both upper surfaces.

Record Number 907 >>> Image 14: Rod microlith, white patinated flint. Broken.

Record Number 907 >>> Image 15: View from the outcrop of the Five Yard Limestone southward over the springs across and down Swaledale

Record Name: The Barf Side Round Cairn
SWAAG ID Number: 908
Recorded Date: 2015-11-27 21:49:54
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burial Mounds and Cairns
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-11-11
Location: Low Row Pasture, Barf Side
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: SD 96744 98105
Altitude: 367m
Geology: Calcareous grassland over the Middle Limestone.
Description: Remnant of a once substantial, 13m diameter round cairn located on a low limestone knoll in pasture above Barf Side Scar and just some 10m south of the track from Blades to Winterings.
The remnant of this once substantial and prominent round cairn was first identified during 1998 when it was noticed that a continuous deposit of fell sandstone rubble circular on plan and 13m diameter had obscured the surface of the limestone bed rock. It was then realised that this deposit of stone cairn material was the basal structure of a substantial round cairn.
A small struck flake from a Group 6 Langdale Volcanic Tuff Polished Stone Axe was discovered at a rabbit scrape from within the body of this round cairn, see Photo Image Nos 2 -4. A number of other lithic finds, arrow points and scraper forms characteristic of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity have been made elsewhere on the limestone pasture in the vicinity of this cairn.
This cairn is located within a coaxial field boundary system which crosses the limestone pasture .
The archaeological landscape of Low Row Pasture is currently under survey.

Dimensions: The remnant of the round cairn measures 13.4m * 12.3m diameter
Additional Notes: This substantial round cairn is located at a vantage point where the view eastward down through Swaledale is spectacular. The Barf Side Round Cairn is intervisible with the similar round cairns located on Cringley Pasture and on Fremington Edge.
SWAAG Site: Low Row Pastures
Last Update: 2015-11-28

Record Number 908 >>> Image 1: The outline of the Barf Side Round Cairn is defined by a members of a Pre-Swaag Walking Group, Friends of the Swaledale Museum.

Record Number 908 >>> Image 2: Struck flake from a Group 6 Langdale Volcanic Tuff polished axe found on a rabbit scrape at the centre of this cairn

Record Number 908 >>> Image 3: The same, detail

Record Number 908 >>> Image 4: The same, detail

Record Number 908 >>> Image 5: The coaxial field system which crosses the limestone pasture.

Record Number 908 >>> Image 6: The coaxial field system under survey by SWAAG, November 2015

Record Name: Barf Pasture. Two burnt mounds at spring rising below Brownsey House
SWAAG ID Number: 909
Recorded Date: 2015-12-05 15:57:32
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Burnt Mound
Record Type: Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-11-28
Location: Barf Pasture. Spring rise below Brownsey House
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: SD 97072 98625
Altitude: 404m
Geology: Spring rise below the Main Limestone on the line of the Stockdale Fault
Description: Two probable burnt mounds, located on opposing banks of the same stream just below the spring rising to the east of the enclosed fields below Brownsey House. Both burnt mounds are completely vegetated and no eroding fire cracked stone is visible. However these two mounds are so characteristic of burnt mounds that they will be recorded as such. Several lithic finds have been made from molehills in the open pasture immediately above the spring which confirm Later prehistoric activity probably associated with these two sites.
Dimensions: See photographs
Additional Notes: These two burnt mounds were recognised during field walking prior to the GPS Survey of the archaeological landscapes on Low Row and Barf Pastures.
SWAAG Site: Low Row Pastures
Last Update: 2015-12-06

Record Number 909 >>> Image 1: The spring rise has been managed as a water supply.

Record Number 909 >>> Image 2: The upper of the two burnt mounds

Record Number 909 >>> Image 3: The lower of the two burnt mounds viewed from below

Record Number 909 >>> Image 4: The larger and upper of the two burnt mounds seen from below

Record Number 909 >>> Image 5: The larger and upper of the two burnt mounds, the stick marks the site of the trough

Record Number 909 >>> Image 6: Struck flake of chert found at the spring rise

Record Name: A walk above Stang House on a misty day to find the Hurgill Shaft.
SWAAG ID Number: 910
Recorded Date: 2015-12-06 16:20:55
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Industrial Archaeology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2015-11-06
Location: Shaw Side . A walk on the eastern slopes of Hoove
Civil Parish: Arkengarthdale
British National Grid: NZ 008 066
Altitude: 520m
Geology: Faulted and mineralised strata above and below the Crow Cherts east of the Hurgill Shaft
Description: Driven from lower levels by encroaching mist, we walked from the Stang Road on Shaw Side in search of mining remains. The remains of a stone built structure, thought at first to be an early shieling are now interpreted as a probable mine shop related to the Hurgill Shaft. A windproof shelter would be necessary at this high and isolated locality. However the real pleasure of this day was to be high above the mist which filled the lower reaches of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale and at one point engulfed us also.
SWAAG Site: Eskeleth Low Moor
Last Update: 2015-12-08

Record Number 910 >>> Image 1: Looking back the mist advances towards Stang House

Record Number 910 >>> Image 2: The mist is getting close!

Record Number 910 >>> Image 3: We were covered but now we are ok, I think

Record Number 910 >>> Image 4: We had better go down and find some archaeology.

Record Number 910 >>> Image 5: Hurgill Level is somewhere down there.

Record Number 910 >>> Image 6: Remains of a substantial rectangular building. Sheiling or Mine shop related to the Hurgill shaft perhaps.

Record Number 910 >>> Image 7:

Record Number 910 >>> Image 8: A fine well built stone sheepfold at Hart Holes.

Record Number 910 >>> Image 9: The Upper of the two water storage dams above the Stang Mine

Record Number 910 >>> Image 10: The Upper of the two water storage dams above the Stang Mine

Record Number 910 >>> Image 11: Lower and larger of the two storage dams above the Stang Mine

Record Number 910 >>> Image 12:

Record Number 910 >>> Image 13:

Record Name: Gunnerside, Lodge Green, a settlement landscape in winter.
SWAAG ID Number: 911
Recorded Date: 2016-01-22 15:55:30
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Settlement
Record Type: Archaeology
Record Date: 2016-01-20
Location: Gunnerside, Bents
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: #SD 95411 98661
Altitude: 360m
Geology: Faulted strata below the Middle Limestone
Description: SWAAG have commenced a programme of survey of settlements of all periods on the upper pastures of Swaledale which have not been recorded in detail. Previous SWAAG Record Nos 907-909 introduced the early settlement landscape centred on Low Row Pasture under field survey. This record is Part Two of the same programme of fieldwork.
The earliest evidence for human activity on the upper Dale Side between Gunnerside and Low Row are lithic scatters, stone artefact scatters marking occupation sites of Mesolithic and Neolithic Age. These finds, together with stone burial cairns, ring cairns and burnt mounds -all of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age Character together with extensive field systems and settlements of prehistoric Iron Age/Native Roman date have been recognised on these upper pastures. However, of exceptional local interest must surely be the recognition of the open linear settlement of five rectangular buildings of Pre-Conquest, pioneering Norse character located on the 360m contour at Lodge Green. These five 'long' houses may prove to be Gunnar's Saeter and the well known but not proven origin of the place name Gunnerside.
Finally, despite the fine efforts of Restoration Man, the remains of many as yet deserted farmsteads and barns of the Farmer/Miners survive as evocative reminders of their families raised here.

Dimensions: See photos
Additional Notes: This is a preview of the survey which will, when complete include not only archaeological features of all periods from Barney Beck to Winterings,above Gunnerside Gill, but photographs of many ruined agricultural buildings, relicts of the Farmer/Miners who once worked in this area. No attempt will be to provide their histories, rather a snapshot record of their existence and appearance today.
Last Update: 2016-01-24

Record Number 911 >>> Image 1: Rectangular Structure No 1 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 2: Rectangular Structure No 1 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 3: Rectangular Structure No 3 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 4: Rectangular Structure No 4 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 5: Rectangular Structure No 5 at Bents.

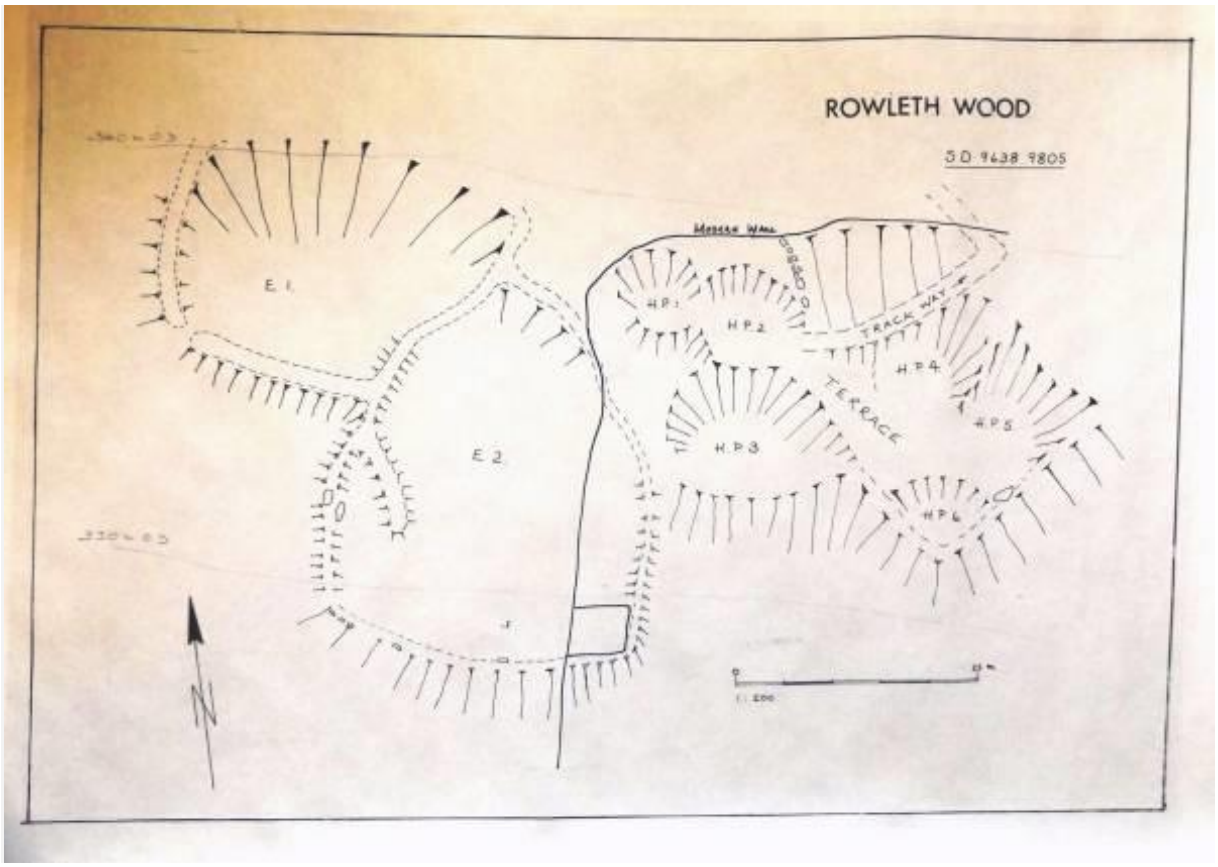
Record Number 911 >>> Image 6: Rectangular Structure No 5 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 7: Rectangular Structure No 5 at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 8: Upper field boundary associated with the the rectangular structures at Bents.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 9: Rowleth Wood. Enclosed platform settlement of prehistoric iron age character, Site Plan

Record Number 911 >>> Image 10: Rowleth Wood. Enclosed platform settlement of prehistoric iron age character



Record Number 911 >>> Image 11: Enclosed settlement at Rowleth Wood. Plane table Survey Plan 1:100 TCL 1994

Record Number 911 >>> Image 12: Remains of an as yet, un-named substantial Dales Farm at Upper Lodge Green reduced to foundations and one quoin.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 13: Barf End.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 14: Farm s occupied and ruined at Lodge Green.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 15:

Record Number 911 >>> Image 16:

Record Number 911 >>> Image 17: Spring in Wall.

Record Number 911 >>> Image 18:

Record Number 911 >>> Image 19: Barn at the uppermost pastures

Record Number 911 >>> Image 20: Structure of unknown purpose.

Record Name: Brignall Banks. Some interesting fungi seen during winter walks through this fine riverside woodland..
SWAAG ID Number: 914
Recorded Date: 2016-02-05 10:59:19
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Fungus / Mould
Record Type: Botanical HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2016-02-04
Location: River Greta, Brignall Banks below Moor House Farm
Civil Parish: Rokeby
British National Grid: NZ 058 112
Altitude: 200
Geology: River gorge cut through Namurian sandstones and marine shales.
Description: This record will show several examples of the spectacular fungi to be seen at this time of year on the long- dead fallen trees and branches which litter the steep sides and level flood plain of the River Greta.
For images of relict hedgerows at Moor House Farm, Brignall and the Old church of St Mary on the north bank of the River Greta, see SWAAG Record Nos 689 and 845.
Additional Notes: For my provisional identification of the fungi, see photo captions. Corrections welcomed!
Last Update: 2016-02-08

Record Number 914 >>> Image 1: Scarlet Elf Cup. Sarcoscypha austriaca. On dead branch.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 2: Scarlet Elf Cup. Sarcoscypha austriaca. On dead branch.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 3: Crested Coral Fungus. On tree bark, usually on ground in wet woodland.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 4: Crested Coral Fungus. Note the droplets of water at the forked extremities of this small fungus.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 5: Crested Coral Fungus. On tree bark, usually on ground in wet woodland.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 6: Crested Coral Fungus. On tree bark, usually on ground in wet woodland.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 7: Unidentified very delicate and small stalked white- cap mushroom fungus on mossy tree bark.

Record Number 914 >>> Image 8: The same

Record Number 914 >>> Image 9: Honey Fungus on stump. A tree killer.

Record Name: Two different fossil coral species found in Carboniferous Limestones of Visean to Namurian Age
SWAAG ID Number: 915
Recorded Date: 2016-02-19 15:38:57
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2016-02-18
Location: Gunnerside Gill, High Scar
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: SD 953 994
Altitude: 520m
Geology: Talus below sheer cliff formed by the Main Limestone
Description: Lonsdaleia floriformis and Syringopora geniculata, two fossil coral species which form large colonies in the hard limestones which form the highest Scars in Swaledale.
Best to look for these fossils in the river and stream bed gravels. The cliffs and mine hush gulley walls where they occur in situ are dangerous places.
Last Update: 2016-02-19

Record Number 915 >>> Image 1: Lonsdaleia floriformis on small limestone fragment in scree

Record Number 915 >>> Image 2: Lonsdaleia floriformis detail.

Record Number 915 >>> Image 3: Syringopora geniculata

Record Number 915 >>> Image 4: Syringopora geniculata

Record Number 915 >>> Image 5: Syringopora geniculata

Record Number 915 >>> Image 6: High Scar, one of the finest high limestone scars in Swaledale. The exposed face of the Main Limestone and extensive actively forming scree or talus slope below.

Record Name: Ripple marked sandstone slab close to footpath into Gunnerside Gill
SWAAG ID Number: 916
Recorded Date: 2016-02-24 16:27:39
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geological Record
Record Type: Geological HER
Site Access: Public Footpath
Record Date: 2016-02-19
Location: Gunnerside Gill
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid:
Geology: Erratic slab of ripple marked sandstone.
Description: This fine ripple marked slab of sandstone shows the shallow water river estuarine origin of the sandstone strata.
Dimensions: See photograph
Last Update: 2016-02-24

Record Number 916 >>> Image 1: This fine ripple marked slab of sandstone shows the shallow water river estuarine origin of the sandstone strata.

Record Name: Gunnerside Gill. High Scar. One of the finest limestone Scars in the Yorkshire Dales.
SWAAG ID Number: 917
Recorded Date: 2016-02-24 17:18:24
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Geographical Record
Record Type: Geomorphology
Site Access: Public Access Land
Record Date: 2016-02-19
Location: Gunnerside Gill, High Scar
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid:
Altitude: 530m
Geology: Vertical cliff formed from the Main Limestone. Lidar images show that High Scar was the source of a vast landslip which extended all the way down slope to Gunnerside Beck. High Scar was once masked by unstable glacial debris and only revealed following this vast land slip caused by unstable glacial deposits slumping during late glacial conditions of high meltwater.
Subsequent freeze-thaw of the face of the thin- bedded limestone Scar has formed the extensive screes below the cliff.
Description: Unlike many other exposed limestone cliffs in Swaledale, for example Whitcliffe Scar, Oxnop Scar, Fell End Scar and Cotterby Scars- no trees grow on the face of this high limestone cliff. The reason may be elevation, aridity and full exposure to the west winds. However trees are able to withstand wind if securely rooted. Unlike the above listed Scars which are massively bedded, the limestone strata of the High Scar above Gunnerside Gill is thin bedded, fractured and cannot support the load of mature trees.
Dimensions: See photographs
Additional Notes: Just one small stone banked enclosure with probable hut circles was noted on the bottom edge of the scree slope (See separate Database Record to follow). Fieldhouse and Jennings (1978) in 'A History of Richmond and Swaledale'. (Phillimore, 1978), noted the absence of prehistoric hut circle settlement below High Scar and on the basis that similar locations, albeit not so high, below Scars in Wharfedale or Wensleydale would show hut circle settlement, concluded that early settlement in Swaledale generally was sparse..
Last Update: 2016-02-26

Record Number 917 >>> Image 1: The approach to High Scar

Record Number 917 >>> Image 2: The High Scar and extensive scree below.

Record Number 917 >>> Image 3: Stone banked enclosure at front of scree.

Record Number 917 >>> Image 4: Detail of the scree and a small stone banked enclosure.

Record Number 917 >>> Image 5: Detail of the scree and a small stone banked enclosure.

Record Number 917 >>> Image 6: Example of the colonial coral fossils in the scree below the Scar

Record Number 917 >>> Image 7: Example of the colonial coral fossils in the scree below the Scar

Record Number 917 >>> Image 8: Example of the colonial coral fossils in the scree below the Scar

Record Number 917 >>> Image 9: View of the Scar, kame and pro-talus rampart from the eastern end.

Record Number 917 >>> Image 10: The approach to the Kining Mine from High Scar

Record Name: The Kining Lead Mine Level spoil heaps, dressed ore dumps and bouse teams
SWAAG ID Number: 918
Recorded Date: 2016-02-26 15:35:54
Recorded by: Tim Laurie
Category: Mining Related
Record Type: Mining
Record Date: 2016-02-19
Location: The Kining Lead Mine Level
Civil Parish: Melbecks
British National Grid: SD 956 993
Altitude: 500m
Geology: The Main Limestone and Ten Fathom Grit on the NE edge of Gunnerside Gill.
Description: The Kining Lead Mine Level and shafts (now filled in) driven on to the Kining Vein. The Kining Vein is one of three SSE trending branches of the Barbara Vein which crosses Gunnerside Gill. The British Geological Survey Memoir (Dunham and Wilson 1985) briefly mentions the Kining Level (p.128 and Figures 25 and 26) and concludes that 'the dumps give the impression that neither this vein nor ite SSE branch, known as the Kining Vein, entered from the Kining Level above Gunnerside Village, were very well mineralised; calcite being the principal mineral associated with galena.' This seems surprising in the light of the very substantial spoil heaps and dumps of dressed vein material, see photos.
Dimensions: See photographs.
Last Update: 2016-02-26

Record Number 918 >>> Image 1: Approach to the Kining Lead Mine from High Scar

Record Number 918 >>> Image 2: The extensive range of bingsteads and dressing floors bely the statement that the Kining Vein was poorly mineralised

Record Number 918 >>> Image 3: Mine Shop and portal to the Kining Level

Record Number 918 >>> Image 4: The Kining Level has collapsed a few metres from the portal

Record Number 918 >>> Image 5: The spoil dumps from above the portal

Record Number 918 >>> Image 6: The spoil dumps and an earlier shaft mound.

Record Number 918 >>> Image 7: Dressing floors, settling ponds,dam walls etc

Record Number 918 >>> Image 8: Spoil heaps from the top of the bouse team

Record Number 918 >>> Image 9: Calcite on the dressing floor

Record Number 918 >>> Image 10: Bing steads and dressing floors.