

## Howden Hill Level 1 Archaeological Landscape Survey

**24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020**



**Report prepared by Andy Curtis, Phil Bowyer & Martin Green**

## Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Northern Area, including Shield on the Wall enclosed settlement
- 3 Mid-West Area, including prehistoric cairns and rock art
- 4 Mid-East Area, including Middle House enclosed settlement
- 5 Southern Areas (SE and SW) including Howden Hill medieval farmstead
- 6 Howden Hill Prehistoric Rock Art
- 7 Discussion
- 8 References

Gazetteer (included as an appendix).

## Acknowledgements

The survey was carried out by members of NOWTAG in, as usual, challenging weather.

Participants were Andy Curtis, Andy Willis, Elaine Vallack, Ian Cooper, Liz Pounds, Lorraine Clay, Malcolm MacCallum, Martin Green, Mike Powell, Pauline Grainger, Phil Bowyer and Will Higgs.

We thank the land-owner, Mr Walton of Greyside Farm, for permission to carry out the survey.

Bing satellite images are copyright Microsoft.

Google Earth images are copyright Google.

Northumberland National Park Authority kindly supplied a map of the National Mapping Project (NMP) data which was Crown copyright.

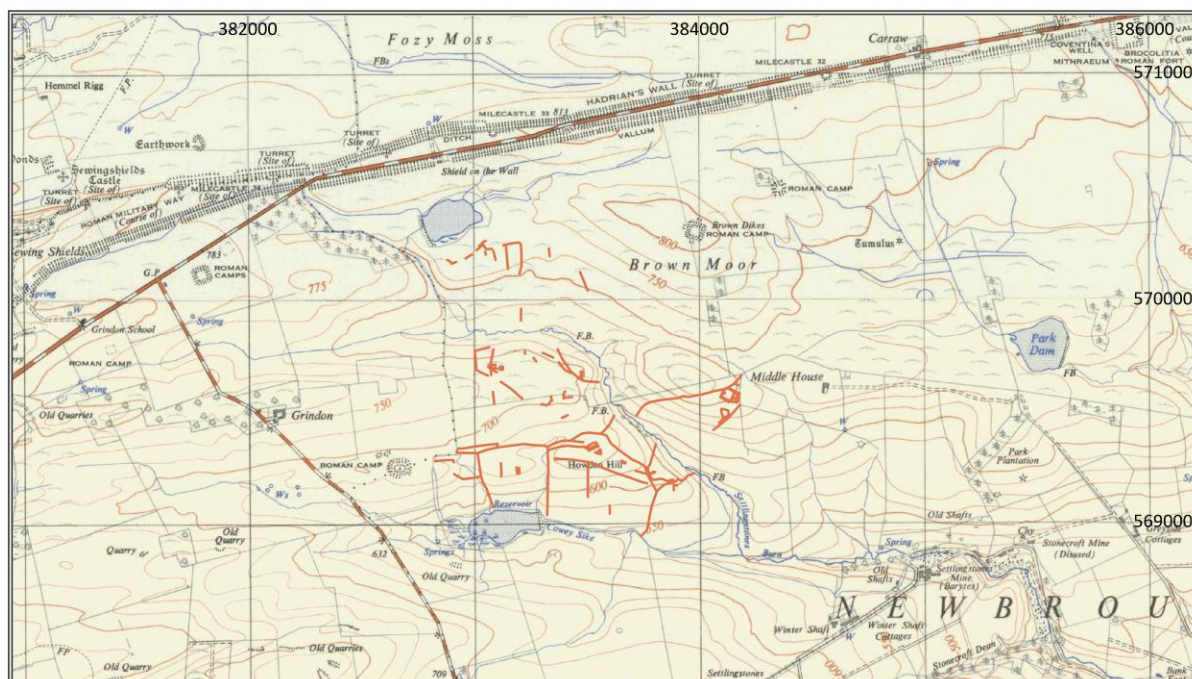
Preparation of plans used QGIS software licensed under the GNU General Public Licenses.

Photogrammetry used Agisoft software.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Survey area

This survey examined an area of rough pasture lying to the south of the Brocolitia to Sewingshields section of Hadrian's Wall. The aim of the Level 1 survey was to identify significant archaeological features in the area, and to examine on the ground features that had only previously been recorded from aerial photography. Known sites in the area include those of a wide range of eras: Bronze Age, Iron Age/Romano-British, Medieval, Post-Medieval, as well as Industrial Archaeology sites.



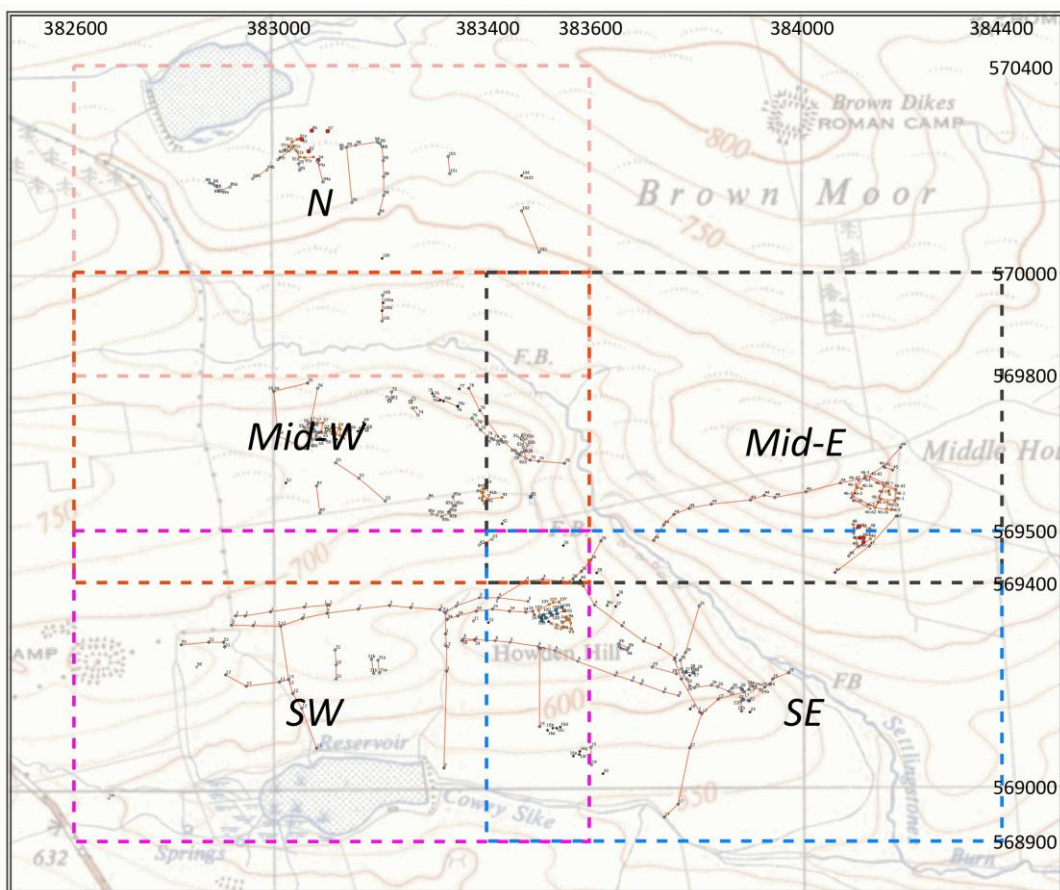
**Location map of survey: banks surveyed shown in orange on the 1953 edition 1:25,000 OS map. Contours are in feet.**

The area lies between Grindon in the west and Middle House in the east, although excluding the improved pasture east of the minor road at Grindon and similar fields west of Middle House. The southern boundary was Cowey Sike, a stream which runs west to east between 180 and 150m above sea level. The northern boundary was south of Hadrian's Wall, the B6318 and the Vallum (at around 230m), taking an undefined line roughly between Shield on the Wall Dam (reservoir) and the Roman Camp of Brown Dikes. This northern zone lies just within the Northumberland National Park whose southern boundary is also undefined across Brown Moor, although picking up a field boundary on the east side between Brown Dykes and Twin Woods.

The area is crossed diagonally from NW to SE by the Settlingstones Burn, the valley of which steepens markedly in the centre of our area and is joined by Cowey Sike at the SE extent. Settlingstones Burn rises in the vicinity of Hadrian's Wall and is also fed by Shield on the

Wall Dam. This artificial reservoir, a similar one (now dry) on Cowey Sike, and smaller dams along the course of the Settlingstones Burn provided a supply of water for Settlingstones Lead Mine.

Howden Hill is a level plateau defined by the 210m contour to the south of Settlingstones Burn. The ruined farmstead named Howden Hill occupies a slightly raised part (with a spot-height of 207m) of a ridge that runs SE from Howden Hill towards the confluence of the Settlingstones Burn and Cowey Sike. Views to the SW are extensive into the Tyne Valley near Fourstones but obscured in other directions by higher land. On the east side of the Settlingstones Burn, just west of Middle House, is an unnamed hill which rises to 222m. Both Howden Hill and this hill are divided by a W-E aligned boundary wall and fence forming a modern field boundary.



**Closer view of survey area, with the sub-areas shown; these will be described individually in the following sections, where larger scale plans of them can be found.**

The survey area has been divided for convenience into five overlapping smaller areas, each 1000m (E-W) x 600m (N-S), as shown on the plan above. The northern and mid-east areas contain probable Iron Age/Roman-British settlements. The mid-west area has features that are typical of the Bronze-Age, and the southern areas have farmsteads probably built in the medieval era. However, all areas have evidence of medieval agriculture such as patches of broad rig and furrow, and all are overlain by a network of banks that divided up the landscape when arable agriculture was succeeded by a largely pastoral economy.

In the discussions of each area, numbers in square bracket, e.g. [92], refer to the gazetteer of monuments recorded in this survey. Reference numbers starting with “N” refer to the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER), accessible at <http://www.keystothepast.info>. In some cases, the National Monument Record (NMR) reference, a sequence of letters and digits, is given, e.g. NY 86 NW 18, and the monument number, e.g.16342; these are both used by <https://www.pastscape.org.uk>. The plans of each area include banks seen on aerial views of the area (Bing Satellite and Google Earth) as well as the banks and areas of rig and furrow recorded in the NMP survey of the Hadrian’s Wall area; we are grateful to the Northumberland National Park Authority for access to this data.

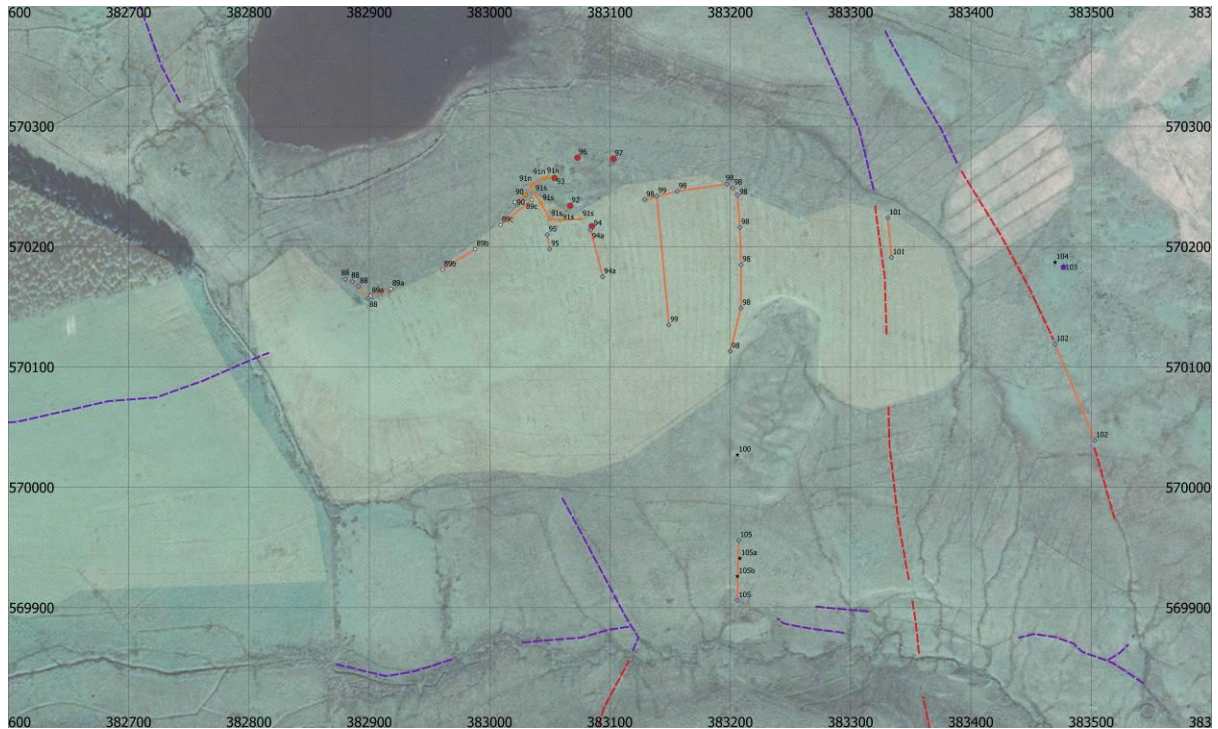
Although we have made extensive use of aerial views provided by the satellite imagery, it was not possible to use LIDAR data, as coverage of our survey area at the time of survey was limited to a narrow zone in the extreme north just south Hadrian’s Wall to the east of Shield on the Wall.

## **1.2 Geology and land-use**

Running W-E just south of Howden Hill is a band of sandstone of the Alston Formation (Carboniferous Period). To the north of this there is a narrow W-E band of Eelwell Limestone which crosses the hilltop just below the Howden Hill farmstead and accounts for the now good grazing of the terraces by the farmstead (formerly ploughed). The same band appears to have been subject to minor quarrying close to Grindon but other evidence of quarrying is sparse and there are few rock outcrops. North of this limestone band is a large area of limestone, sandstone, siltstone and mudstone, again of the Alston Formation. This continues to the north, interspersed with bands of sandstone, although on Brown Moor it is intruded by a broad band of the Great Whin Sill which outcrops east of Shield on the Wall Dam.

The land is now rough grassland, wholly used for grazing cattle and sheep. Large areas of broad rig and furrow and smaller patches of cord rig, identified on aerial photographs, indicate that parts were under arable cultivation in past times.

## 2 Northern Area



Plan of northern area plotted on background of Google Earth aerial view. Rig and furrow areas are in light green and stippled. See key for colour coding of banks. NMP data from a map supplied by Northumberland National Park (© Crown Copyright)

Key to symbols on plans			
	ditch		building base
	bank (earth)		platform
	bank (stony)		cord rig (?)
	boulder		stone row
	cairn		roundhouse
	terrace edge		cist or kerbed cairn
	enclosure bank		stack stand
	rock art		
Banks derived from NMP plans are shown as red dashed lines			
Banks derived from Google Earth are shown as purple dashed lines			
Areas of ridge and furrow on the NMP plan are shown in pale green, stippled			

### 2.1 Shield on the Wall enclosed settlement

Our survey area extended to a ridge on Brown Moor immediately south of Shield on the Wall dam, within 700m of Hadrian's Wall. In his Memoir *"Survey of the Roman Wall 1852-54"*, H. MacLaughlan (1858) notes that south of Shield on the Wall and the reservoir is a mound *"like a tumulus or ancient dwelling"* from which workmen, digging stones for the reservoir, recovered some pottery unspecified, thin sheet lead and pieces of querns. This is recorded on the HER as earthwork mound N7842. Separately recorded as N12600 is 'Shield on the Wall settlement' identified by Tim Gates' aerial survey (*Hadrian's Wall Landscape from Chesters to Greenhead 1999 and 2004*) as faint traces of a probable Roman native

enclosed settlement with two or three probable hut circles lying near the edge of an ill-defined enclosure. The enclosure lies at the edge of an area of broad rig and furrow cultivation. The aerial photographs showed several linear banks which clearly pre-date the medieval ploughing and which may represent the remains of a contemporary Roman field system.

Our survey confirms Tim Gates' assessment from his aerial photographs and places the separately listed earthwork mound N7842 within the enclosed settlement [91] as a probable house platform [92]. There is a low turf-covered bank up to 0.5m high and 1m wide around the edge of the platform. The platform height ranges from 1m to 0.7m on its W side, to 0.5m on its E side. Its location within the perimeter feature [91] supports this interpretation, as does the nature of the finds by workmen during construction of the Shield on the Wall dam in 1850, including the lower stone of a rotary quern and pieces of pottery.

Low stony perimeter banks surround a sunken area west of two raised platform areas, both with low circular banks suggestive of round house constructions. Rows of large stones or boulders [89] and [90] approach the perimeter banks creating an entrance into the sunken area indicative of livestock handling. The raised platforms [92] and [93], up to 1m high, stand well above the now waterlogged sunken area. Outside the enclosed area there are two further indications of round house structures [94] and [95] to the south and east. There is a further stony arc [96] east of the enclosed area which may also be the site of a round house.



**House platform [92] looking north**



**Enclosure bank [91] from west. Figures standing on house platform [92]**

Just to the south of the enclosure there is a circular, stony, turf-covered bank 0.3m high with 7.5m diameter indicative of a probable round house. An adjoining 40m length of low stony bank, up to 0.4m high, runs down the shallow slope immediately S of the round house from NY 83084 70214 to NY 83094 70175. 40m further west lies another length of N-S stony bank from NY 83048 70210 to NY 83050 70198 up to 0.7m wide and 0.3m high. These two banks may well constitute remains of the contemporary field system referred to by Tim Gates.

Also potentially part of this field system are three lengths of intermittent large boulders [89] on a shared alignment towards the enclosed settlement. A length of low curving stony bank [88] that adjoins the western end of the boulder alignment may also be contemporary.

To the east of the enclosed settlement are the possible remains of two further round-houses. At NY 83103 70273 is a low circular bank [97], 7m in diameter, up to 1.2m wide and 0.2m high. At NY 83073 70274 a low stony semi-circular arc [96] may also be the remains of a further round house structure. We found no evidence of enclosure banks to the east of round house platforms [92] and [93].

## **2.2 Boundary banks east of settlement**

A little further east of the enclosed settlement are two more extensive stony banks, [98] and [99] However, their apparent relationship to surrounding broad rig and furrow suggests that they are later medieval boundaries.





**Bank [98] looking south**

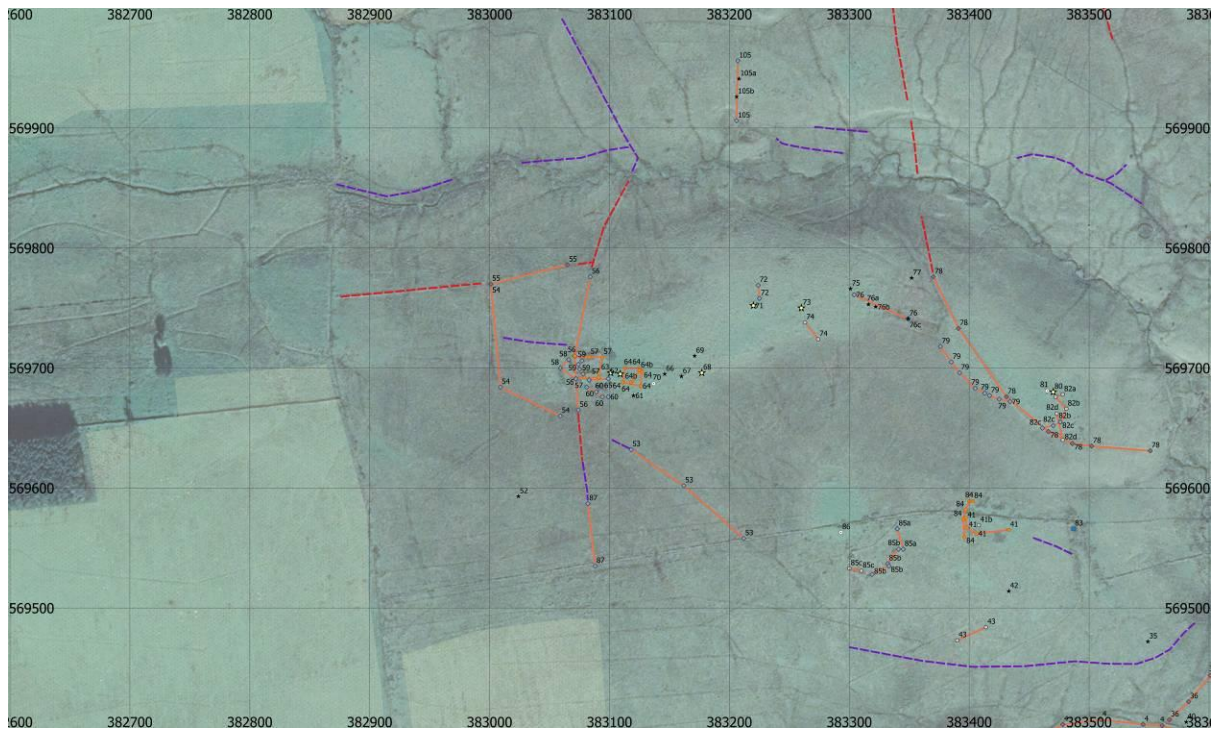
Some 250 metres further south in the valley at NY 83207 69956, on a similar alignment to the N-S section of bank [98], lies a 50m length of stony bank up to 0.5m high with intermediate cairns at NY 82208 69941 (3m x 1.5m x 0.5m high) and NY 83206 69926 (3m x 3m x 0.5m high).

Further east on Brown Moor we recorded part of a long stony boundary bank [102], 1m wide, height 0.3m – 0.5m, that appears to match the description of a 630m long bank and ditch that may have been part of a larger system of land division identified by Tim Gates from aerial photos.



**Bank [102]**

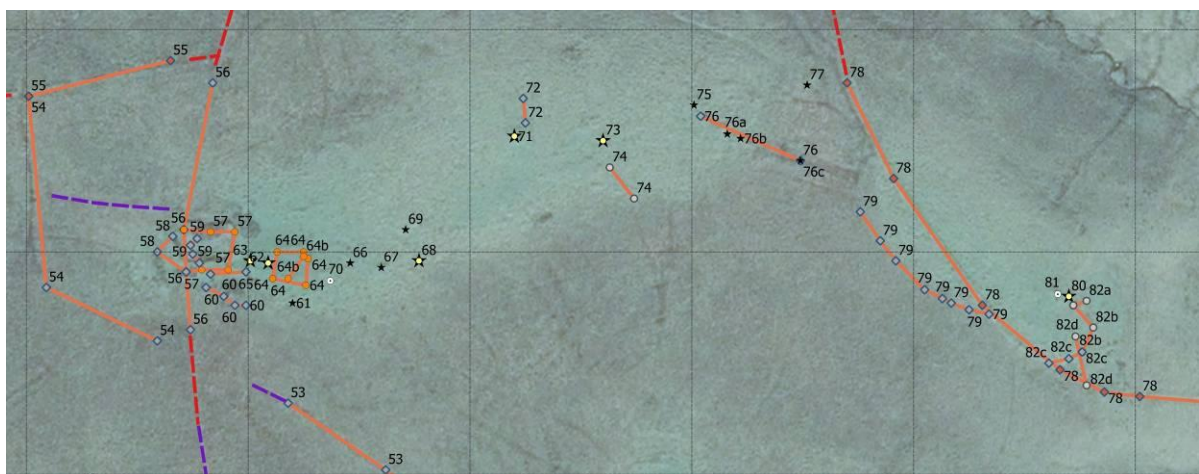
### 3 Mid-West Area



Plan of mid-west area. See Section 2 for key to symbols.

#### 3.1 Prehistoric Rock Art and Burial Monuments

Five Scheduled Monument sites, consisting of two rock art sites and three Bronze Age round cairns are located on the ridge between Howden Hill and Brown Moor, to the west of Middle House. Associations between rock art and prehistoric burial sites have been attested at a significant number of locations.



Monument locations on ridge between Howden Hill and Brown Moor. This is an enlarged portion of the plan of the mid-west area (above). The grid is 100m.

Within the area encompassed by these five scheduled prehistoric sites (round cairns [71], [73], [80] plus rock art [70], [81]), our survey identified a number of additional probable burial features. In close proximity to one another were two stone settings highly suggestive of having had a funerary function. Monument [62] appears to be a cist-like structure, whilst monument [63] has upright orthostats around a small chamber. About 50m to the east lies a probable kerbed cairn [68] and four other cairns ([61], [66], [67], [69]).

Monument [62] has a rectangular chamber, aligned E-W, lined with 3 stone slabs. Internally it measures 1.3m x 0.5m, externally 2m x 0.75m. The internal chamber has a stony base. There are possible remnants of a former cairn mound, especially on its south side.

Monument [63] lies just 8m to the west. It consists of three boulders, each about 0.5m wide, enclosing a 1m wide, 1.2m long chamber. Its external width is 2m. The western upright stone is 0.8m high. 0.5m x 0.4m. There are indications of a possible surrounding mound 2.8m (N-S) by 2.6m (E-W). Although its internal chamber is not as clearly defined as that of monument [62], and its structure not as cist-like, its characteristics and the context of its location are strongly suggestive of it being another small burial monument.



**Probable cist burial [62] from south**



**Probable cist burial [62] from west**



**Probable burial monument [63] from north**

Other archaeological features in the immediate vicinity are of a multi-period character and provide an interesting and challenging task for interpretation to which we will return in the Discussion section. However, a number of these features are potentially prehistoric.

The probable cist burial monument [62] is located quite precisely at the western end of what appears to be the remains of a rectilinear enclosure measuring approximately 20m x 18m.

It is also worth noting that there is a length of low linear bank [65] on roughly the same alignment as the southern side of enclosure [64]. Bank [65] runs from 12m west of enclosure [64] for 16m to the southern edge of the relict stone-walled sheepfold. It appears to continue as a low stony bank that loops inside the western wall of the sheepfold.



**Enclosure [64] from west with probable cist monument [62] in foreground**



**Bank [65] from east towards sheepfold, and from west towards enclosure [64].  
Note burial monuments [63] and [62] beyond, and to left of bank [65].**

On the basis of the visible evidence it can be no more than conjectural to posit any specific relationship between enclosure [64], plus banks [65] and [59], and probable burial monuments [62] and [63], but it is appropriate to draw attention to their locations in relation to each other. The adjacent pair of scheduled cup-marked stones [70] are located 12m east of enclosure [64].



**N27044 Scheduled Rock Art [70], ERA-1414 & 1415. Image from ERA**

The first [66] of four further newly recorded cairns is found at NY 83146 69695, just 10m east of the two cup-marked stones. It measures 5.2m x 4m x 0.6m high.



**Cairn [66]**

Cairn [68] at NY 83177 69696 has characteristics of a kerbed cairn suggesting that it was a burial monument. It is a low flat-topped mound 6.6m x 5m x 0.4m high with large stones forming an apparent perimeter.



**Possible kerbed cairn [68]**

Cairn [67] at NY 83177 69696 is more mounded, measuring 6.5m x 5.9m x 0.5m high, and has a central depression suggestive of robber excavation. Cairn [69] at NY 83171 69710 is a smaller stony mound measuring 3m x 2m x 0.3m high. Of course, it is possible that cairns [66], [67] and [69] are clearance features but their landscape context does make it possible that they are burial monuments.

The three scheduled Bronze Age round cairns are located at NY 83220 69752, NY 83260 69750 and NY 83470 69680 and have diameters of 8m, 9m and 8m respectively. They are fully described in the Scheduled Monument Records and there are summary descriptions in attached gazetteer: [71], [73] and [80]. In addition, our survey revealed linear features apparently aligned to each of them.

### 3.2 Prehistoric linear features.

Immediately north of Round Cairn [71] an 11m length of low stony bank, 0.75m wide x 0.25m high, runs from the eastern edge of the cairn at NY 83225 69758 to NY 83224 69769. To the south of Round Cairn [73] from NY 83274 69724 to NY 83263 69738 there is a line of boulders aligned on the cairn. To the west of this line of boulders the terrain is largely clear of boulders, whilst to the east there is a high concentration of boulders. This is suggestive that this feature represents linear clearance. Whilst round cairns [71] and [73] lie within 35 metres of each other, round cairn [80] lies some 250 metres away to the south-east. Some 50m south-east of round cairn [73] is a cairn [75] of similar size, measuring 10m x 6.6m x 0.6m high. It stands adjacent to a stony bank [76] that incorporates three further cairn-like stony mounds and runs for about 50 metres from NY 83304 69761 to NY 83349 69741 in the direction of round cairn [80].



**Bank [72] to east edge of Round Cairn [71]**





**Cairn [75] at NW end of Bank [76]**

It is also worth noting that the general alignment of bank [76] continues with low stony bank [79] that runs, curving slightly, in the direction of round cairn [80] from NY 83376 69718 to NY 83434 69672, where it today terminates adjacent to the lengthy, probably medieval, sod-cast bank [78].



**Bank [76] with Round Cairn [80] on horizon**



**Bank [79] cut by sod-cast bank [78] in vicinity of round cairn [80]**

We also recorded a single cairn [77] measuring 5m x 4m x 0.5m high lying north of bank [76] at NY 83352 69775.

Around the south-eastern side of round cairn [80] we identified a possible platform, plus a couple of stony linear banks [82] that may be indications of some structuring around the cairn. The SW side of Cairn [80] is steeply sloping down into the valley of Settlingstones Burn. About 10m SE of the centre of the cairn there is an arcing platform that has potentially been augmented by some large boulders. There is a continuous line of stones running between the start of the platform at NY 83472 69676 and the edge of the central cairn structure at NY 83478 69678. To the north of this line of stones, the slope does not appear to be platformed. To the south it runs from NY 83472 69676 via NY 83481 69666 to NY 83476 69655, from where the arc takes the form of a low curving bank continuing via NY 83470 69652 to NY 83461 69650. There is a further possible alignment of stones running towards the centre of the cairn from NY 83478 69640 to NY 83473 69662.



**Line of stones from edge of platform to SE edge of Round Cairn [80]**



**Platform change of slope looking south**

### **3.3 Other possible rock-art in the vicinity**

The gap in the centre of Round Cairn [80] is attributed to partial excavation in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. At the centre of this gap lies a heavily pitted boulder that remains subject to

conjecture as to whether it is the cup-marked boulder recorded as N27044 / ERA 1415 (Howden Hill 3), about which the location is uncertain. It is also open to question as to whether some of its numerous surface indentations are cup-marks rather than natural erosion features. Its position at the centre of the cairn strongly suggests that it was of significance to the Bronze Age builders of the cairn, whether its pitting is entirely natural or had been artificially augmented.



**Boulder [81] at centre of Round Cairn [80]**

At NY 83293 69563 we discovered a small boulder [86], 1m x 0.7m x 0.2m high, with two cup marks of 7cm and 6cm diameters. There is also a groove 25cm long x 2cm wide.



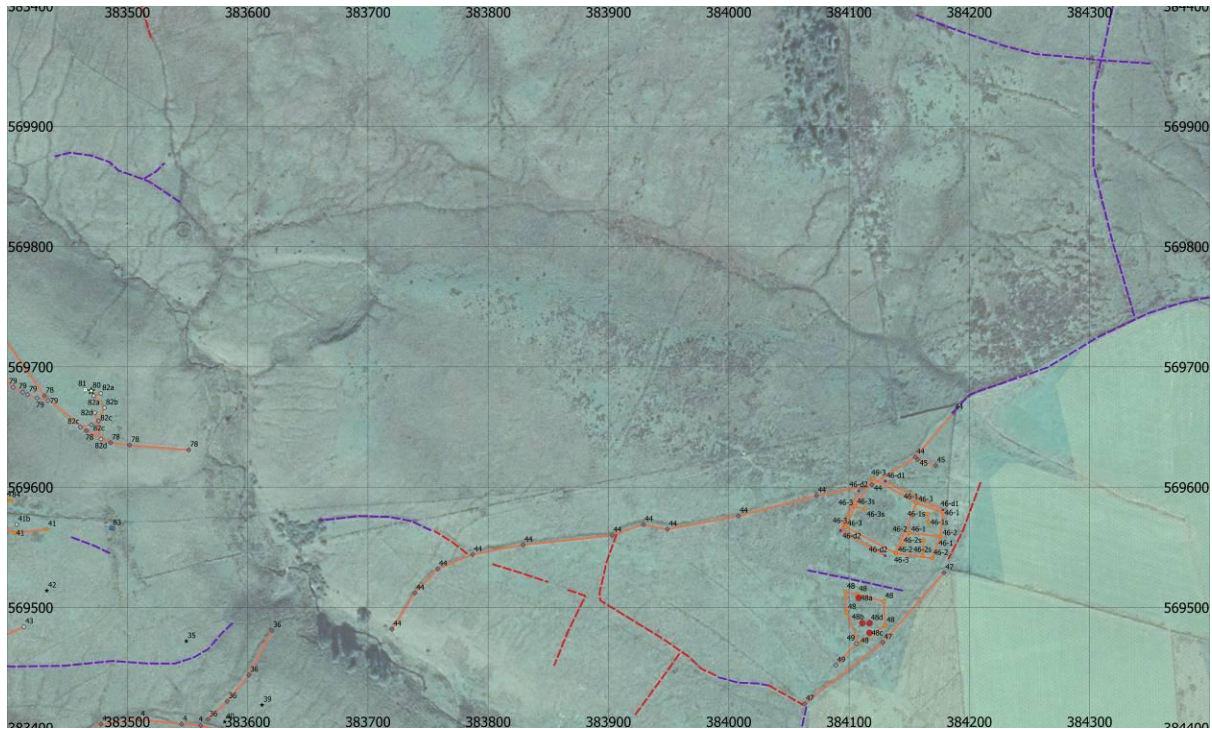
**Cup-marked boulder [86]**

### 3.4 Other features in the Mid-west area

We also recorded other lengths of low stony banks similar in appearance to banks [76] and [79] described above. Bank [53], with a shallow ditch on its south side is visible for about 120m on an SE-NW alignment that suggests that it continues further north-west as bank [54]. The bank continues north, down-slope where the ditch becomes more pronounced, probably due to water erosion. It today terminates at an east-west sod-cast bank that runs between a present-day field boundary to the west and stony bank [56], which appears to be a continuation of a relict stone wall that crosses the valley and continues up the next ridge to the north. Stony bank [56] butts onto the western wall of the stone sheepfold [57] and continues further south on the same alignment. Bank [87] on the same alignment appears to be a continuation of bank [56].

The stone-walled sheepfold [57] appears to have been constructed over the remains of earlier structures. We have noted above the banks visible inside the sheepfold. Abutting its western wall there is a low stony semi-circular bank [58], up to 0.2m high, its arc extending some 14m from the sheepfold wall. Bank [58] runs from the S-W corner of the sheepfold but at its northern end it reaches the sheepfold wall 2m south of its N-W corner. A further low stony bank, [85], follows a looping course about 100m east of the SE end of bank [53]. Sod-cast bank [78] runs from the western side of Settlingstones Burn just to the south-east of Round Cairn [80] and continues north across Brown Moor as far as Hadrian's Wall. It has been previously recorded on the National Mapping Project and is thought to be medieval.

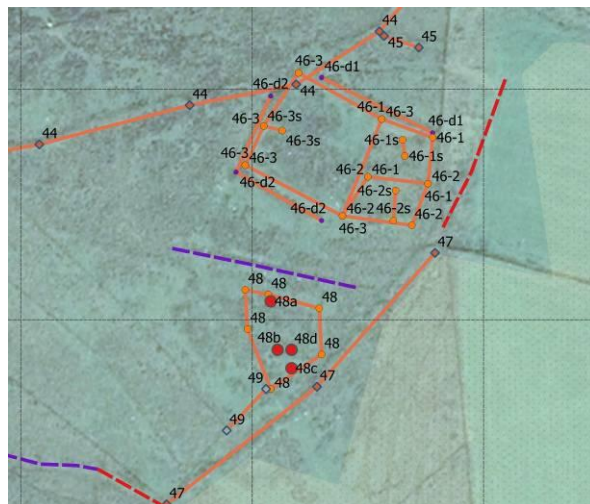
## 4 Mid-East Area



Plan of mid-east area. See Section 2 for key to symbols

### 4.1 Middle House Iron Age/Romano-British Settlement

The settlement lies about 400m west of the currently uninhabited Middle House, just west of the adjacent improved fields and close to the unnamed hilltop, 222m, north-east of the steep valley of Settlingstones Burn. There are two parts to the monument of quite distinct appearance [46] and [48] and there must be some doubt whether they are part of the same structure, and of the same period.



Middle House settlement. An enlarged portion plan of the mid-east area plan. Grid 100m.



**Large northern enclosure. SW corner of bank and ditch. View SW.**

The northern part [46] is an array of sub-rectangular ditched and banked enclosures. The ditches are wide and the banks broad and earthen in construction, enclosing scooped areas, now partly boggy, and probably originally used for stock. They are clearly visible on Google satellite imagery. The southern part [48], in contrast, is of very irregular shape delineated and internally divided by walls of large stones. Circular structures and platforms are presumably hut circles, so it was clearly a settlement. It is hardly visible at all on the Google imagery but the lines of stones show up well on the Bing satellite photos. The overall shape appears somewhat triangular with the apex to the south but could have originally been sub-rectangular with stones preferentially robbed from the eastern side.



**Stone-built southern settlement enclosure wall, View N.**

The settlement was first described by MacLauchlan (1858, footnote p32), in a short discussion of the origin of the name Settlingsstones: “... 2 [furlongs] west of Middle House are some remarkable enclosures on the side of the hill, formed of large stones of an irregular shape; they appear like ancient dwellings.”



#### **Middle House Settlement [46] & [48] on Bing Map satellite image (Microsoft)**

Hogg (1947, p. 176) describes *Middle House* in his list of native sites of Northumberland under his category of irregular sites enclosed with a single rampart. Both these descriptions would be consistent descriptions of the southern settlement.

The northern enclosures were added in to the monument description in the OS Archaeology Division Field Investigation by R W Emsley on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1965, quoted in the Northumberland HER (NSMR03-7570) as: “*This is a probable minor Romano-British native settlement. It is centred at NY 84156958, and consists of a hut circle within a small, nucleated group of enclosures. There are remnants of numerous larger 'pounds' on the north side and an adjoining field-system to the south. The site is partially enclosed by the upcast banks from modern drainage ditches, and the whole is extensively mutilated and poorly defined. Surveyed at 1:2500.*”

<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record?titleId=961676>

The grid reference given is centred on the northern ‘pounds’.

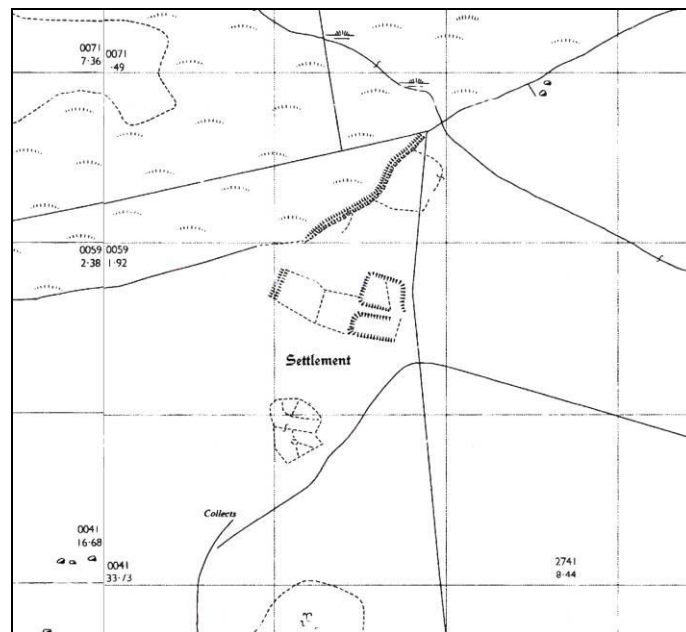
The settlement is first depicted on the OS map at 1:2500 scale in 1969 (shown below). In our observation, the double hachured line shown as starting in the apex of the modern field walls above the ‘pounds’ should not be depicted as part of the settlement as it is a continuation of the long linear boundary that ascends the hillside from the west [44] and no more prominent in that area. We describe it as a boundary bank, 2m wide, 1m high, earthen with occasional large stones, interpreted as a medieval boundary from its meandering course. Its function is now carried out by the straight boundary wall to its north. It appears to have been constructed over a flattened northern part of the bank and ditch that surrounds the large enclosure, as shown in our diagram [46].





**Bank [44] overlying northern enclosure: view E (left) and W (right)**

The dashed line on the map which appears to define another enclosure to the north, may partly correspond to [45]. Its extension into the improved field to the east lay outside our current survey area.



**OS map 1:2500 published in 1969**

PastScape (Monument: 16342, NMR: NY86NW18) additionally references two oblique aerial photos and G Jobey (1960).

*“Iron Age/ Roman field boundaries, enclosures, banks, ditches and hollows are visible as earthworks on air photographs centred at NY 8403 6949.*

*A system of field boundaries defined by low stone walls divide the land into rectilinear units. At NY 8411 6948 is a probable hut circle with a series of small conjoined enclosures surrounding it, again defined by stone walls.*

*At NY 8412 6955 is a large enclosure defined by a broad ditch and measuring 50m by 68m.*

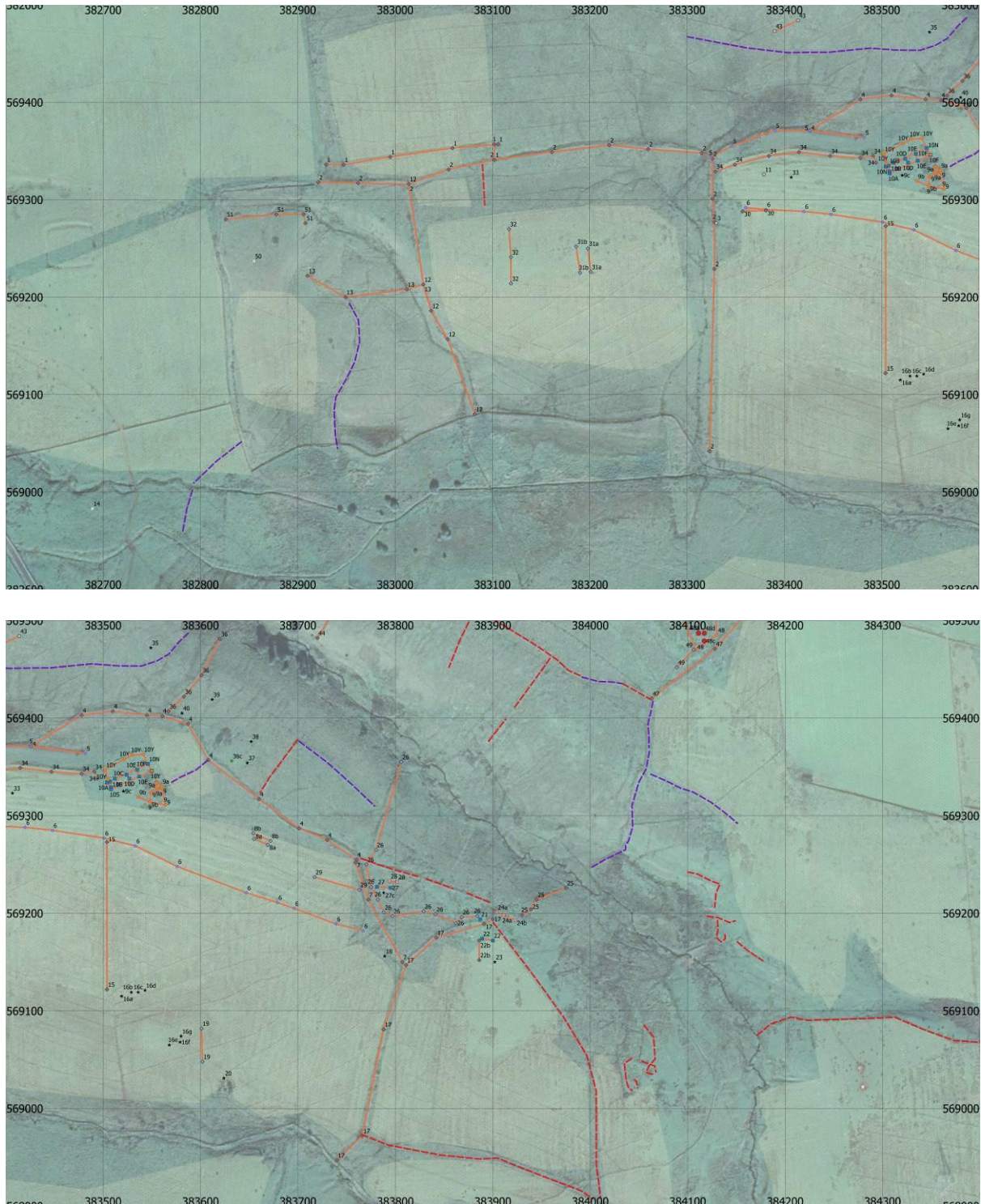
*Two large hollows lie in the eastern half. This type of enclosure was recorded by Jobey and dated to the Romano-British period. This site, however, was not included in the gazetteer. A second enclosure abuts this to the south."*

[https://www.pastscape.org.uk/hob.aspx?hob\\_id=16342](https://www.pastscape.org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=16342)

We agree with the observation of at least one hut circle at the heart of the southern settlement and have tentatively added another three. A low linear stony bank was noted extending south-west from the southern apex of the settlement [49]. It is considered likely to form part of the associated field system described along the north slope above the Settlingstones Burn. This is shown on the NMP (and on the plan at the start of this section) but time constraints did not allow its inclusion in our survey.

One possible conclusion is that the southern enclosure with its construction of large stones corresponds to an irregular shaped Iron Age or Romano-British settlement and is quite likely to be associated with the field system extending south-west. However, the northern enclosures have a very different aspect and may have been stock enclosures from a much later period, possibly medieval. If this is a correct assumption, the enclosures must still pre-date the linear boundary bank that overlies the northern enclosures. This type of bank often overlies rig and furrow, and hence they are known to date from later in the medieval period or from the post-medieval period.

## 5 Southern Areas (SE and SW) – Howden Hill



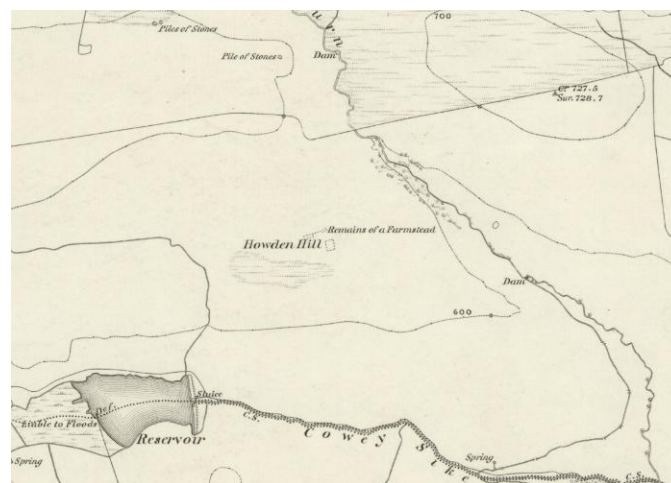
Plans of the Southern area: SW (top) and SE (bottom). See Section 2 for key to symbols

### 5.1 Howden Hill: previous descriptions

Howden Hill farmstead [10] can generally be assigned to the Post-medieval (1540-1901) period but may date back to the Medieval (1066-1540) or perhaps even earlier.

The farmstead occupies a broad ridge extending south-east from higher land to the north-west and is roughly defined by the 200m contour. The land drops steeply into the valley of the Settlingstones Burn on its east side. The highest point (207m) lies just to the west of the farmstead. The aspect of its situation from lower-lying ground on its west side with its substantial linear earth-banks and cultivation terraces certainly give the appearance of older archaeology, perhaps ramparts of a prehistoric hill-fort. However, there is little evidence on the ground for early occupation on the site although a few large boulders and prominent cairn at the hilltop could perhaps be remnants from the Bronze Age.

Howden Hill is shown as a settlement (along with Ridley's Close and Middle House) on John Fryer's Map of Northumberland (approximately 1" to 1 mile) in 1820. Of these three locations, a building (although unoccupied) only remains at Middle House. The first edition Ordnance Survey map (6" to 1 mile; Sheet: Northumberland LXXXIV) published in 1866 shows the site of the linear farmstead in outline annotated '*Remains of a Farmstead*' along with a rectangular feature nearby to the SE, presumably our rectilinear enclosure [9]. The farm is not depicted on the second edition or later maps.



**First edition (pub. 1866). Ordnance Survey map of Howden Hill**

The Northumberland HER (N7566) and Pastscape (Monument: 16330, NMR: NY86NW14) provide further information regarding the interpretation of this site although show some confusion with neighbouring monuments and details of location.

MaLauchlan in his *Memoir of the Survey of the Roman Wall* (1852-54) describes:

*"... 3 [furlongs] south-east of Grindon farm, and about 1 east of the road to Grindon-hill farm, is another small Roman camp, rectangular, measuring about 45 yards by 40, and with apparently but one entrance on the north. It commands a view of the valley towards Newbrough, and perhaps held in check the ramparts at Howdon."*

This camp is the West Howden Hill Romano-British Settlement (a rectilinear ditch and banked enclosure) at NY 8266 6925 (N7554 in Northumberland's HER) just west of our current survey area.

He provides further details in a footnote on p.36:

*“East of this last camp, about 4 furlongs, are remains of a Farmhouse, and some banks about it, like ancient defences ; it has much the appearance of a camp ; there is a cairn [sic] near it, and altogether it looks like a place once more inhabited than at present. Its name also, How-don, seems to point to a similar occupation. This property, and Greyside, towards the east, belongs to the Duke of Northumberland. “John Cumin, of Badenoch, died, (in the 19th of Edward the Second) seized of the hamlet of Hauden, and eight bondages there, which from him passed through female heirs to the Percy family, and by direct lineal descent in blood to its present owner.” Hodgson, H. N. part ii. vol. iii., p. 398.”*

In this, he accurately gives the distance of the farmstead as 4 furlongs (about 800m) east of the Roman camp (not from Grindon, as stated in the HER description). He describes as we do: that it has the *“appearance of a camp”*; the presence of a cairn nearby, and that it *“looks like a place once more inhabited than at present”*. His comment, that the Roman camp *“perhaps held in check the ramparts at Howdon”* reflects this view. However, in our opinion, no clear evidence can be seen (at least on the surface) to indicate that there was actually any native settlement or hill-fort on the plateau occupied by the ruined farmstead.

Both the West Howden Hill rectilinear ‘Roman’ camp and an East Howden Hill ‘irregular’ settlement are given in the list of native sites of Northumberland by Hogg (1947). The location he provides for the latter is somewhat east of the Howden Hill farmstead, close to the junction of Cowey Sike with the Settlingstones Burn.

A further reference (Coombes 1965) is a report of the survey of Langley Barony in 1608. In this year, a large area north of the River South Tyne was Crown Land, formerly in possession of Thomas, Earl of Northumberland. A map suggests that Grindon Common (west of our survey area) was enclosed in 1797. In footnote 30 on page 273 of this report, Coombes states:

*“Mr G Jobey in his Rectilinear Settlements of the Roman Period (AA ser.4 v.38) refers to two sites on Howden Hill as West and East Howden Hill (GR 837 693), the former as an unclassified site and the latter as a deserted medieval village. The first edition of the 6” OS Map 1865 notes the East Howden site as ‘Old Farmstead’ and a farm yielding £4 rent did exist here in 1581 (S.S. CLXIII) so perhaps the West Howden site, some 200 yards further west, may be more accurately described as the village site, the remains here are certainly the more extensive. According to Hodgson (Pt.II, vol III p.398) John Cumin of Badenoch died seized of the hamlet of Howden or Hawdon and 8 bondagers.”*

However, in the paper that he refers to, Jobey (1960, p. 35) gives the position of the West Howden Hill site as NY 826 692, about 1km to the west of the farmstead. This is the grid reference of the banked enclosure which lies outside the current survey area. Jobey also refers (page 33) to a *“quite extensive deserted medieval village”* site at *“East Grindon Hill”*, located at NY 837 693. This name seems to be a mistake: the grid reference corresponds to the farmstead on Howden Hill; Grindon Hill is further south on the other side of Cowey Sike and not in the area of the current survey; although at NY 83560 68650 there is a rectangular

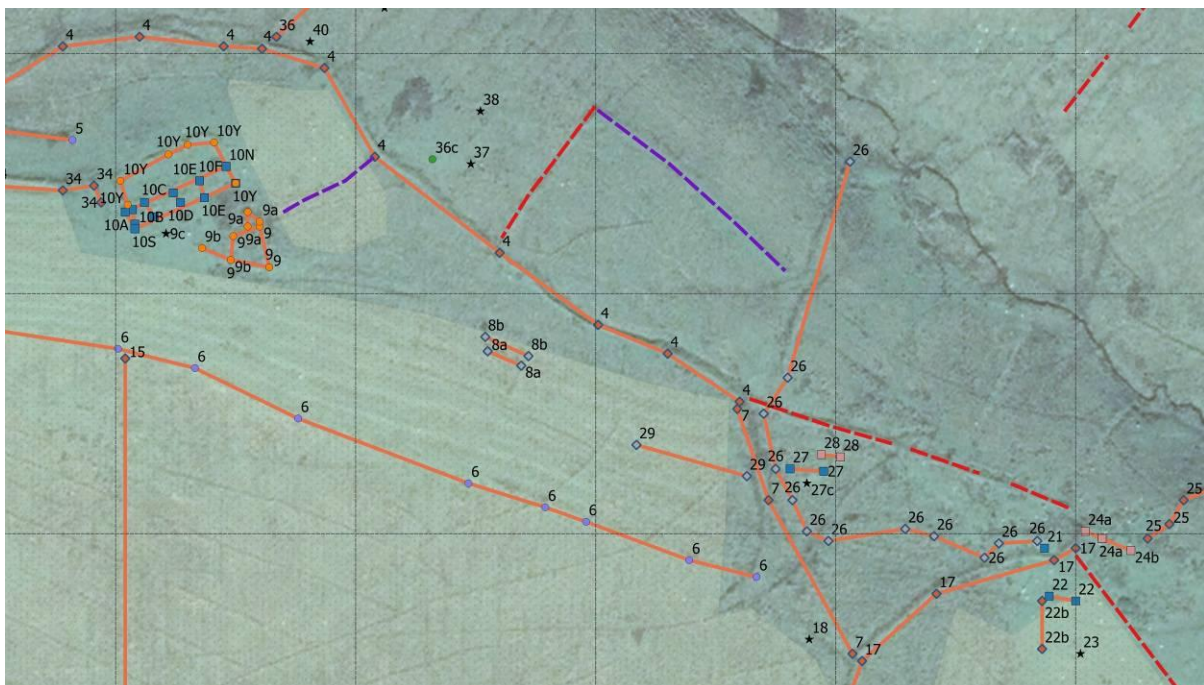
enclosure considered to be the remains of a Roman period native homestead (Northumberland HER N7563).

The reference to a site 200 yards further west is too near for it to be the rectilinear camp, which is 800m distant, and there is nothing resembling any settlement or deserted village in the area to the west of the farmstead.

The farmstead site was subject to an OS Archaeology Division Field Investigation by R W Emsley in 1966 but found no evidence of a deserted medieval village on Howden Hill:

*“There is no sign of an earthwork other than two strong baulks which are upcast from drainage ditches, and which partially ‘enclose’ the farmhouse at NY 8352 6934. The latter (surveyed at 1:2500) is reduced to a group of overgrown, rubble enclosures. It is set in a wide area of fragmentary field baulks, and derelict sheep-folds; but no coherent D.M.V. pattern exists.”*

Our survey did locate further building foundations 300m to the east of the farmstead [21, 22, 27] which may indicate the presence of a small hamlet further east, of which the Howden farmstead could have been a western outlier. Although these other structures also appear to be the remains of rectangular buildings, we cannot be sure they are from the same time period or how many (if any) were houses. It is clear that there is nothing on the ground to suggest a Deserted Medieval Village.



**Howden Hill farmstead with the longhouse [10] at upper left. This is an enlarged portion of the plan at the beginning of this section**

## 5.2 Howden Hill farmstead

The farmhouse referred to in the Field Investigation description quoted above is clearly Monument [10] in the current survey. This is the dwarf-wall remains of a rectangular

structure, containing five compartments in a row. The remains of the walls are about 0.4m high and 0.9m thick. They are un-mortared, of stone and earth. The inner faces, which are in general better defined than the outer faces, survive as neat rows of stone blocks. However, many parts of the walls are absent or fragmentary. The whole structure is about 38m long (east-west), and 5.3m wide (north-south). It lies on the top of the ridge, with the valleys of Cowey Sike to the south and Settlingstones Burn to the NE.



**Howden Hill longhouse [10]. View ENE.**

For this description the compartments are denoted A to E, from west to east; all are about 5.3m wide. A is small (only 2.7m long) and has irregular walls that lack defined faces. Its floor is raised. It is unlikely to be a room of a dwelling. The next compartment, B, is 6.5m long and has well defined walls, although the southern wall is largely absent. C is longer (10.8m) and has a very well-defined north wall, the side walls are lines of rubble, as is the south wall. There are two possible entrances, one at each end of the south wall. D is similar to C, but with a sunken floor and no obvious entrances. E is 8.0m long and is ill-defined, with a sunken floor, and no surviving south wall.

Overall, the impression is that the central compartments (B, C, D) were a longhouse farm building, which had garths or animal shelters (A, E) at each end. External to the central section of the north wall is a small (7m x 3m) enclosure, defined by a low earth bank. The whole area north of the longhouse is a probable yard, surrounded by a curving bank. The yard is about 45m (east-west) by 14m (north-south) and has an entrance at its south-west corner, close to the longhouse.

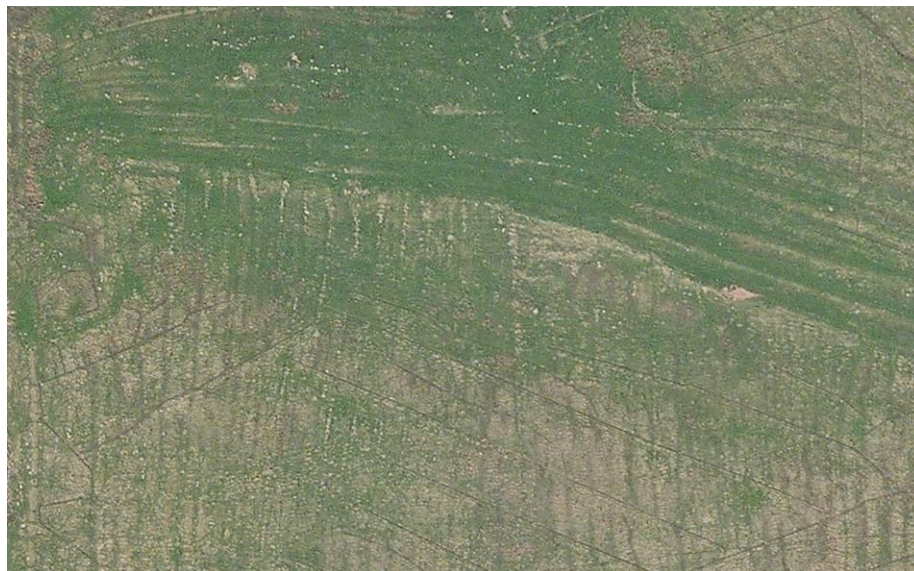
### **5.3 Field systems close to the farmstead**

There is an enclosure 30m south-east of the longhouse [9]: this is defined by stony banks and is noted in the PastScape record for the farmstead as a “*detached curvilinear enclosure*”. It is 19m x 17m, and has a semi-circular annex on its north side, as well as a wing-wall extending west from its south-west corner. There are no definite entrances. It is probably an animal enclosure associated with the longhouse.



**Enclosure SE of Howden Hill longhouse [9]. View E.**

The farmstead lies on the east-west ridge of Howden Hill. The northern edge of the ridge, about 40m north of the longhouse and yard, is marked by a curving bank [4], earthen with some stones, that has a ditch on its north side. It continues a further 200m east of the longhouse. Another curving earthen bank [34] runs westwards from the longhouse, with a gap between it and the longhouse. The gap is 4.5m wide and is a holloway.



**Aerial view (Bing satellite) of the longhouse (top centre) with terraces and ridges**

The area to the south and west of the longhouse shows signs of cultivation ridging, which is seen as terracing on the hillside, particularly to the south of the longhouse. The terraces are irregular, varying from 6m to 8m in width. The southern margin [6] of this area of terracing, is revetted with stones in places and includes some boulders, presumably cleared from the arable area. Other terraces have lines of clearance stones ([8], [29]), and there is an irregular cairn [33] on the top of the ridge. At the extreme west end of the terraces, they curve southwards, typical of the reverse-S shape of medieval ploughing. Hence, they were used for growing crops in that era.



To the south of these east-west terraces, there is north-south 6m wide rig and furrow, running down into the valley. This area is shown in the figure above. Of note is that these north-south ridges also have a classic reverse-S shape, so are probably produced by a medieval plough-team. In some places, running along the west side of the top of each ridge, are lines of stones. These stones are most noticeable at the upper end of the ridges, next to the terraces – clearly seen in the aerial view shown above. The explanation for this isn't clear, but a possibility must be that the lines of stones have been left behind when the soil has been washed from the ridge over the centuries: this erosion effect would be greatest on the windward (west) side of the ridges, and where the slope is steepest at the north end of the ridges. An additional factor may be that at the top end of the ridges, there were more stones anyway, dropped from the plough.



**N-S rig and furrow S of Howden farmstead. View S.**

The north slope ridges have a gap where they cross a wetter band of land, about a third of the way up the slope; this has allowed survival of at least eight clearance cairns, [16a-f] and [20], from a previous phase of land use.

Superimposed on these curving ridges are straight banks that run directly down the slope. One is seen at the extreme east edge of the aerial view: a sod-cast bank [2]. Another, [15], runs down the centre of the image and is a stonier earth bank. Another two sod-cast banks, [12] and [17], similarly run down the side of the valley to the east and west of the farmstead. Overall, these four banks divide the slopes on the north side of Cowey Sike into fields roughly 250m across. Although not examined on the ground, on aerial views the banks do not cross Cowey Sike. These large fields are clearly for livestock and replaced the arable field-system in the post-medieval era.

Similarly, on the NE side of the Howden Hill ridge, both slopes of the Settlingstones Burn Valley are divided by sod-cast banks [25], [26], [36], [44] and others on aerial views, see plan above, into large, roughly rectangular fields. The banks do not cross the Burn in most cases, so the fields on the two side of the valley are not aligned. The sides of the Settlingstones Burn valley do not have evidence of rig and furrow, so were probably used only for grazing

in the medieval period (possibly because of their steepness). This lack of ploughing has allowed preservation of older (probably prehistoric) landscape elements: clearance cairns ([35], [37], [38], [39], [40]) and a possible small area of cord-rig [36c] which is seen on the ground and in the 2002 Google Earth image.

West of the farmstead, the system of sod-cast banks continues to the edge of the survey area ([1], [2], [12], [13]). As in the area close to the farmstead, these banks are clearly built over older rig and furrow, particularly noticeable in the case of bank [1], so demonstrate the post-medieval move from arable/mixed farming to a largely pastoral economy.



**Bank [1]. View east towards the Howden Hill farmstead.**

#### **5.4 Structures at the east end of Howden Hill**

At the east end of the Howden Hill ridge, about 300m ESE of the longhouse [10], are further remains of three possible medieval buildings (already mentioned at the end of Section 5.1). They lie close to, but not on, areas of rig and furrow, and are adjacent to sod-cast banks. All consist of low earth-and-stone dwarf-walls up to 50cm high, with no mortaring. The first is a rectangular structure [27], about 16m (E-W) by 4.5m (N-S). There are no internal partitions. On its north wall, 5m from the east end, is a possible entrance; there is another opposite it on the south wall. There is a large cairn [27c] close to the outside of the south wall. To the north-east of this structure is a 10m square platform, with its north side against a linear bank. The second is a small un-partitioned rectangular structure [21], 6m (E-W) by 3m (N-S), with a linear bank [21] joining its NW corner. The third [22] is an unpartitioned rectangular structure 11m (E-W) by 4m (N-S). It has possible entrances in its east and north walls. A low linear bank [22b] runs southwards from its SW corner.

This group of buildings, like the longhouse [10], are all aligned east-west, all lie beside but not on rig and furrow, and all are closely related to the system of banks which divide the landscape. Hence, they are likely to be contemporary. They do not form a coherent village or hamlet, but seem to be a cluster of agricultural buildings. Two of them, [22] and [27] are large enough to have been used as dwellings, although type of use would probably have

changed over time, spanning the transition from arable to purely pastoral farming, and might have included seasonal occupation.

### 5.5 The landscape to the north of the farmstead

To the north of the farmstead the ground is wetter and there is no rig and furrow. This area is shown in the SE corner of the mid-west area plan at the start of Section 3. There is a clearance cairn, [42], and a row of boulders [43], which may indicate clearance for prehistoric agriculture. About 250m north of the farmstead are banks described on the HER (from aerial photographs) as forming a rectilinear enclosure of Roman or Iron Age date (N27220, NMR: NY86NW74). It is bisected by a modern fenced boundary. On the ground, banks forming the south and west side of the rectangle were identified, [41] and [84]. However, despite a search, the other sides could not be identified, so the type of structure is uncertain.



**Part of enclosure [41]. View N.**

## 6 Howden Hill Prehistoric Rock-Art

### 6.1 Introduction

Although notoriously difficult to date, Waddington (1998) proposed three possible phases for Britain's rock-art: first carving of outcrop rocks and boulders in the landscape during the Early Neolithic (c. 4000-3200 BC); continuation of landscape carving along with incorporation of panels in ceremonial monuments in the Late Neolithic (c. 3200-2400); carvings incorporated in funerary monuments only in Early Bronze Age (c. 2400-1800 BC). It is probably a simplification but it is possible that the earlier phases may have involved more elaborate motifs (cups with multiple rings for example) while later, cups predominate, often carved on more portable rocks within burial contexts (cairns and cists).

Very little rock-art is known in the area between the River South Tyne, west of its junction with the River North Tyne, and Hadrian's Wall. The panels at Carr Edge (subject to recent study by NOWTAG) are only some 5.5km to the east and include one boulder with cup and rings. 5km north from Howden Hill, there is a large concentration of mainly cup-marked stones at Ravensheugh Crag, associated with cairns and the Goatstones four-poster. Two small cup-marked stones found on Fallowfield Fell about 4km NNE are also probably associated with a nearby cairn. There are a few scattered examples north of the Wall near Sewingshields and west to Greenlee Lough. NOWTAG surveys found new cup-marked boulders at Queen's Crag and further west near Edges Green. There is also a cluster of carved stones on Hartleyburn Common, 21km south-west, lying on the border between Northumberland and Cumbria.

### 6.2 Rock-art on Howden Hill

The Beckensall Archive recorded a single panel on Howden Hill. Although the website hosted by Newcastle University is no longer available, one page has been archived here: [https://web.archive.org/web/20150922215300/http://rockart.ncl.ac.uk/panel\\_detail.asp?pi=94](https://web.archive.org/web/20150922215300/http://rockart.ncl.ac.uk/panel_detail.asp?pi=94)

It provides the description: *"Sixteen cup-marks were noted on a boulder that forms part of the Round Cairns west of Middle House (Tynedale) by an English Heritage Field Warden."*

As part of the team who visited the area for the Northumberland & Durham Rock Art Project (N&DRAP), my recollection is that no further information was available and no grid reference, photo or drawing was available. The three round cairns west of Middle House are described in the Northumberland HER (N7568) and are Scheduled Monuments:

- Round cairn 1.1km west of Middle House ([National Heritage List entry 1008420](#))
- Round cairn, 1.36km west of Middle House ([National Heritage List entry 1008421](#))
- Round cairn, 1.34km west of Middle House ([National Heritage List entry 1008422](#))

Visiting the area for the first time in 2007, we explored the three round cairns. Two clearly cup-marked panels were located near the sheepfold in the west (Howden Hill 1 and 2). Both panels are earth-fast sandstone boulders which lie adjacent to each other. They are located about 95m SW of the westernmost of a group of three scheduled Bronze Age round cairns and immediately east of a possible stone-lined cist.

Howden Hill 1 is a rounded boulder about 0.9m across, carved with more than 50 cups, some forming prominent lines, curved arcs or more scattered groups particularly clustered on the south and west sides. Only part of the boulder was above turf cover. Howden Hill 2 lies closely adjacent to its north. It is roughly triangular in shape and dips steeply into the ground from an uncovered high point on its south edge; it is about 0.8m by 0.5m and is oriented east to west and was completely turf-covered. There are about thirty cup marks scattered across the boulder and some appear to form slightly curved or straight lines.

Between the sheepfold and the cup-marked stones lies a setting of large boulders and what appears to be a large and deep stone-lined trough (or cist). It is interesting to speculate that this might have been the site of another burial cairn, subsequently robbed of its stone to build the sheepfold.



**Howden Hill 1 and 2 (photos taken in 2007)**

A large stone lying on its side within the east-most cairn directly above the Settlingstones Burn (Howden Hill 3) was considered the most likely candidate for the Beckensall entry. The panel is heavily eroded with grooves and rounded depressions providing some uncertainty that they were wholly artificial.

The three panels are described on England's Rock Art:

- Howden Hill 1 ([ERA-1414](#))
- Howden Hill 2 ([ERA-1415](#))
- Howden Hill 3 ([ERA-1416](#))



**Location of Howden Hill 3 (boulder at rear, left of centre) within remains of eastern Round Cairn. View of Settlingstones Burn to SW.**

3D models of Howden Hill 1 and 2 were made using Agisoft Metashape Standard, from four and two photos respectively, taken for photogrammetry in 2007 and available for download on the ERA website. Completed models are available on Sketchfab:

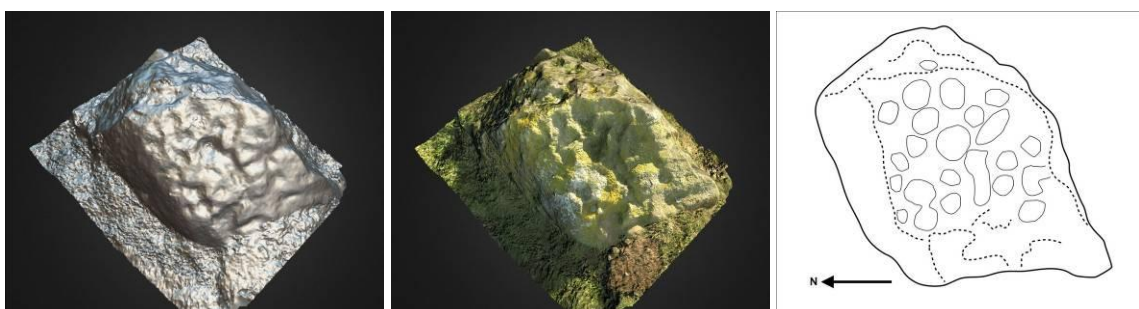
<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/howden-hill-1-0400960dbee94be69995c2b87675bd8a>

<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/howden-hill-2-56b382a4dc66474d8f2b8c880852df05>

A 3D model of the Howden Hill 3 boulder was made from 18 digital photos taken in the course of this landscape survey (March 2020). It is available on Sketchfab at:

<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/howden-hil-3-73fbf908f7374a019661a5d60cee96c6>

The boulder (1 x 0.6 x 0.4m) stands within the disturbed centre of the east-most cairn, located on the edge of the steep valley of Settlingstones Burn. The boulder which may have once stood upright occupies a very exposed location and has been heavily weathered. Being able to examine a 3D surface model with the texture removed helps greatly with interpretation in absence of suitable lighting under natural conditions. A drawing of the relevant surface of this model shows similarity with the other two carved stones and indicates up to 20 cups. The number of cups and its location within a cairn further identifies it with the Beckensall entry.



**Howden Hill 3: 3D model (surface and texture) and drawing.**

At the completion of N&DRAP in 2007, a number of rock art sites in Northumberland became Scheduled Monuments. These included Howden Hill 1 and 2 (list entry: [1418656](#)). The extent of scheduling is a circle with a diameter of 5m in order to include a sample of the archaeologically sensitive surrounding ground. As Howden Hill 3 lies within the scheduling boundary of the easternmost of the three round cairns, Round Cairn 1.1km west of Middle House, (list entry [1008420](#)) it was considered as already scheduled.

*The prehistoric rock art west of Middle House is scheduled for the following principal reasons:*

- *Survival: despite susceptibility to natural weathering, it is reasonably well preserved with the survival of large numbers of relatively well-defined motifs.*
- *Documentation: ritual and religious sites of Prehistoric Britain are without contemporary documentation and hence the value of the archaeological remains as our only evidence of their belief systems is enhanced.*
- *Diversity: these panels displays a complex arrangement of individual cup marks scattered across their surfaces, some appearing to form curved or straight lines; the focus on this individual motif at the expense of a wider variety of motifs is unusual and contributes to their importance.*
- *Potential: it will inform our knowledge of prehistoric society through individual study of its motifs and carving style, and through an increased understanding of the circumstances in which rock art was created and used.*
- *Group value: taken together with the three scheduled Bronze Age round cairns in the immediate vicinity, it will enhance our understanding of wider Bronze Age ritual and funerary practice.*

The rock art on Howden Hill was also subject to a visit in 2017 by NOWTAG as part of the Tynedale Rock Art Project (Part of the Beyond the Wall : Edges Green Project) largely with the aim of reporting on condition

<http://tynedalearchaeology.org.uk/downloadfiles/rockartreport.pdf>

In this survey's gazetteer, Howden Hill 1 and 2 are referenced as [70], and Howden Hill 3 as [81].

### **6.3 New rock-art finds**

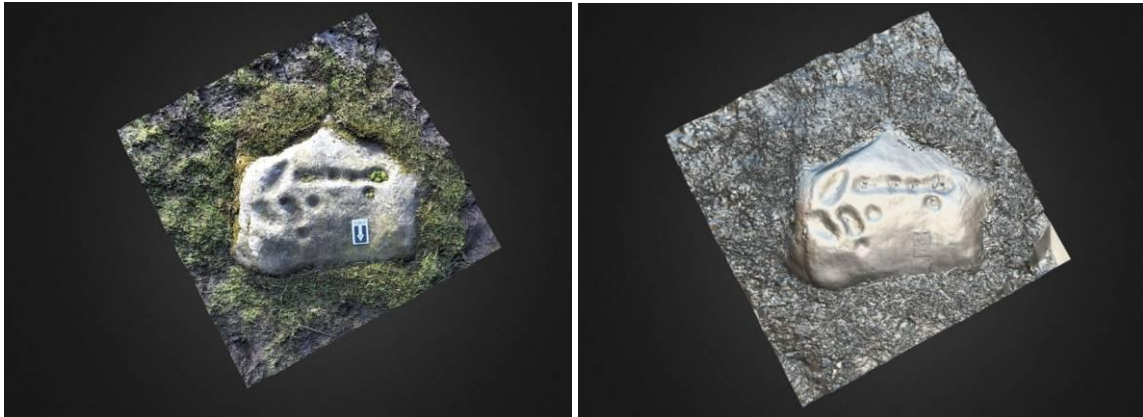
Three further examples of prehistoric rock art were located as part of this survey.

A small earth-fast boulder [14], with LWH: 0.55m x 0.50m x 0.10m, was found in an improved pasture field west of Cowey Sike, south-east of Grindon Farm. Although just outside our survey area, it was discovered on the walk in to our area from the road. It has been carved with cup-marks of Bronze Age type: 4-5 cups made into a linear groove on S side, 3 oval-shaped cups and 3 single cups.

A 3D model was made from 16 digital photos and is available on Sketchfab:

<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/grindon-cb4bd16903014166a303de6ef3a7cf0f>

It has been tentatively named as Grindon to differentiate it from the panels on Howden Hill which are 875m to the north-east.



**Screen captures (textured and untextured surface) from a 3D model of the Grindon panel**

Gazetteer entry [50] records a small boulder 50cm x 25cm x 25cm high with one, possibly two cup marks, on upper face. However, these may be erosion features.

Gazetteer entry [86] records a boulder 1m x 0.7m x 0.2m high with two cup marks of 7cm and 6cm diameters and a groove 25cm long x 2cm wide.



## 7 Discussion

This survey has confirmed that there is a wealth of archaeological features in this area from several different eras. To take the findings in chronological order:

Several Bronze Age cairns and cup-marked boulders had been identified previously. Our survey found two more cup-marked boulders and a possible third. We also identified in the vicinity of the known Bronze Age cairns a further three probable Bronze Age burial monuments, plus three other cairns which cannot confidently be assumed to be clearance features given the quantity of other surface stones nearby. We also found linear banks associated with the cairns, probably remnants of a contemporary field system. In several other parts of the survey area, which had not been ploughed in later eras, there were clearance cairns, which probably dated from this early phase of agriculture.

Our survey confirmed the previously reported enclosed settlements (Iron Age and/or Romano-British) at Middle House and Shield on the Wall. Middle House Settlement was indeed typical of that monument type. At Shield-on-the-Wall Settlement the extant remains of the enclosure bank were only evident west of the two raised round-house platforms and it is possible that the presence of somewhat higher ground to the east suggests that the enclosure bank functioned primarily as a stockade for livestock and that none of the possible round-houses were enclosed. Both settlements did have remains of probably associated field systems. We found evidence of several round-house sites in or near them. In the case of the Middle House settlement, examination on the ground suggested to us that the rectangular enclosures to the north of the settlement were probably later stock enclosures, possibly of the medieval period, rather than parts of the earlier settlement.

Previously there had been a suggestion that there had been a Deserted Medieval Village or prehistoric structure on Howden Hill. We found no evidence of either, but did confirm that a medieval farmstead, centred on a longhouse, had existed there. We found that it had a clearly defined farm-yard, a nearby stock enclosure, and extensive terraced arable fields close by. Further east, there was a dispersed group of three rectangular building structures beside rig and furrow fields: these are probably also medieval, though we couldn't be certain whether these were farm buildings or houses. In that area, and elsewhere in the survey area, there are large areas of broad, curving rig and furrow; presumably in use for growing crops in the peak medieval period (11th to 13th century). Later on, a system of sod-cast banks were constructed which overlie these ridges, dividing the landscape into large compartments. These demonstrate the switch to a largely pastoral economy in the late medieval and early modern era.

The area we undertook to survey is substantial and time constraints prevented us from completing it fully, something not helped subsequently by the lock-down required by the Coronavirus pandemic which closely followed the end of our survey. Further examination is required of three areas: the field system south and south-west of the Middle House settlement; the extreme northernmost area around Shield on the Wall and Brown Moor; and the area to the south-east of the Howden Hill farmstead, near the confluence of the Settlingstones Burn and Cowey Sike.

There is a cluster of recorded monuments on both sides of the Settlingstones Burn in the region around NY 841 692, south of the Middle House settlement, including some long thin enclosures clearly visible on Bing satellite images. These are recorded as “*possible medieval sheep houses, enclosures, boundary banks and a platform*” in PastScape [Monument No. 1445333](#), part of what looks like quite a complex medieval agricultural landscape. This extends eastwards into a large array of west-east orientated agricultural terraces north of the area occupied by Settlingstones Mine.

## 8 References

Coombes, L.C. 1965 The Survey of Langley Barony 1608, *Archaeologia Aeliana Series 4*, **43**, pp 261-274

Jobey, G. 1960 Some rectilinear settlements in Northumberland, *Archaeologia Aeliana Series 4*, **38**, pp 1-38

Hogg, A. H. A. 1947 A New List of the Native Sites of Northumberland, *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle 4th Series*, **11** (part 4), pp 140-179,  
[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zw31sfwt4hww4mg/AAD0fJPj3Vp7-Jl73QYZPCo-a/P4V11-1946-1950/psan411\\_1947-10-00.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zw31sfwt4hww4mg/AAD0fJPj3Vp7-Jl73QYZPCo-a/P4V11-1946-1950/psan411_1947-10-00.pdf?dl=0)

MacLauchlan, H. 1858 *Memoir Written During a Survey of the Roman Wall, Through the Counties of Northumberland and Cumberland, in 1852-1854*. Available at  
<https://books.google.co.uk>

Waddington, C. 1998 Cup and ring marks in context. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* **8** (1), pp 29-54

# Howden Hill Gazetteer

---

## 1. Linear boundary bank

Survey Record Number: 01

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 82929 69336 to NY 83106 69357

Period: ?Post medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank

Description:

Sod-cast bank, width 2m, height 0.7m. Runs straight W-E roughly parallel with bank and ditch [2] to S. Cuts across and probably later than 7m wide rig and furrow oriented N-S. Possibly post-medieval.

W-end (at shallow bend in modern fence which runs N-S) NY 82929 69336; E-end (just E of short N-S section towards parallel boundary) NY 83106 69357. Just W of E end of this bank there is a short (16m) linear section of bank running N-S, from NY 83102 69357 to NY 83102 69341 (just N of ditch on N side of long boundary bank). These two banks and the longer one to the S [2] are shown on 1:2,500 OS map published 1969 (not before).

Images: 1-1 (View E), 1-2 (Short N-S connection, view S).

## 2. Linear boundary bank with ditch on N side

Survey Record Number: 04

HER/NMP: shown on NMP

GPS: NY 82921 69318 to NY 83315 69348; NY 83326 69342 to NY 83323 69042

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank with ditch

Description:

Long linear meandering boundary bank with ditch on N side running W-E. Sod-cast bank with some exposed stones, width 2.5m, height up to 1.5m on N side. W end on modern boundary fence (where it continues W) NY 82921 69318; junction with bank to S at NY 83014 69316; junction with bank to N [1] at NY 83102 69341; corner E of cut by drain at NY 83315 69348. A water-course running E, S of this bank and now replaced by the ditch along the bank, is shown on 1863 1,2500 OS.

Bank turns and continues to S, very straight and parallel to broad rig and furrow on E side, width 1.5m, height 0.3m. N end at NY 83326 69342; junction with bank running E towards farmstead at NY 83326 69301; S end below old reservoir dam on Cowey Sike (from aerial) NY 83323 69042.

Images: 2-1 (View W), 2-2 (View E), 2-3 (N end of N-S section).

## 3. Large earth-fast boulder

Survey Record Number: 05

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83330 69276

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Uprturned boulder

Description:

Boulder appears to have been turned upright, possibly as a marker, 1.5m W-E, 0.5m N-S, height 1m.

Images: 3-1 (View E).

#### **4. Linear earth and stone bank with ditch on N side**

Survey Record Number: 02

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83760 69255 to NY 83426 69371

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear earth & stone bank with ditch

Description:

Runs NW then W to the N of Howden Hill farmstead. Ditch on N side, revetted with coursed stone in places. Height from 1.5m (N side) to 0.5m (S side), width 2 to 3m. Continues further E from first point below. Meandering course (?medieval).

Junction with bank running SE [7] at NY 83760 69255; Junction with lower bank running NE at NY 83660 69317; Junction with lower bank running SW to enclosure near farmstead at NY 83608 69357; Junction with lower bank running NE at NY 83561 69402; gap of 3m (?gate) at NY 83545 69403; low bank at W end where it joins N edge of terrace [5] at NY 83426 69371.

Images: 4-1 (View SE), 4-2 (View NW), 4-3 (View S), 4-4 (View SE).

#### **5. Top edge of N'most agricultural terrace, NW of Howden Hill farmstead**

Survey Record Number: 03

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83482 69364 to NY 83324 69343

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Agricultural terrace

Description:

Terrace runs W-E. Occasional low bank of stones on edge (?ploughing). Terrace 10 – 13m wide.

E end at NY 83482 69364; Junction with bank [4] NY 83426 69371; W end near bank [2] NY 83324 69343.

Images: 5-1 (View NW)

#### **6. Top edge of S'most agricultural terrace, S of Howden Hill farmstead**

Survey Record Number: 06 & 24

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83360 69292 to NY 83767 69182

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Agricultural terrace

Description:

Terrace varies in width 6m to 8m (N-S). Broad rig and furrow runs W-E on the terraces.

W end NY 83360 69292; group of boulders at NY 83420 69288; NY 83533 69269; stone-revetted edge NY 83576 69248; NY 83696 69205; E end (approx.) just W of large bank running NW-SE at NY 83767 69182.

Below the terrace, broad rig and furrow runs N-S. Groups of two furrows are separated by low stony banks about 9m apart, slightly curved (westwards) at the N end where there are often boulders particularly concentrated on the W sides of the ridges. These low banks run parallel with the ploughing for some distance down-slope. 31 of these banks were recorded by GPS at N end.

Images: 6-1 (Group of boulders, view S), 6-2 (View N), 6-3 (View W), 6-4 (View SE from E end), 6-5 (short bank to S), 6-6 (short bank to S), 6-7 to 6-11 (rig & furrow to S), 6-12 (View E from W end).

### **7. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: 06

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83759 69252 to NY 83807 69150

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear bank

Description:

Linear bank running NW-SE from bank [4] at NY 83759 69252 to NY 83807 69150.

Images:

### **8. Two parallel low stony banks running W-E**

Survey Record Number: 07

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83655 69276 to NY 83669 69270; NY 83654 69282 to NY 83672 69274

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Low stony bank

Description:

Probably lower edge of W-E ploughed terraces. Banks 2m wide, height 0.5m (?clearance).

S bank (16m long)	W end	NY 83655 69276
-------------------	-------	----------------

	E end	NY 83669 69270
--	-------	----------------

N bank (15m long, less clear)	W end	NY 83654 69282
-------------------------------	-------	----------------

	E end	NY 83672 69274
--	-------	----------------

Images: 8-1 (View NW).

### **9. Sub-rectangular or reverse D-shaped enclosure, 38m SE of Howden Hill farmstead**

Survey Record Number: 08

HER/NMP: N7566

GPS: NY 83556 69322

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Enclosure

Description:

Possible sheep-fold, 19m N-S, 17m W-E defined by stony banks 1.5m wide, to 0.5m high. Exposed stones particularly on W side. SE corner NY 83564 69311; SW corner NY 83548 69314; NW corner NY 83549 69324; NE corner NY 83560 69328.

Semi-circular annex of less substantial bank and stones on N side, about 9m x 9m at NY 83556 69334.

Low, earth and stone bank extends W from SW corner of enclosure to NY 83536 69319. Possibly originally extended further WNW towards W end of farmstead but only gaps and piles of stones remain e.g. NY 83521 69325.

Images: 9-1 (View E), 9-2 (View S).

### 10. Howden Hill farmstead

Survey Record Number: 09 & M3

HER/NMP: N7566

GPS: NY 83526 69342

Period: Medieval/Post Medieval

Site Type: Structure

Site form: Farmstead building

Description:

Building is a 48m long, 5m wide range of 5 cells oriented SW to NE defined by low walls 0.9m wide standing to heights of 0.25 to 0.5m. Some exposed undressed rounded stone. W'most cell (A; 2.7m) has raised floor and irregular strong walls. Cell B (6.5m) has defined stone inner faces on N and W, S wall unclear with two heaps of stone. Cell C (10.8m) also well defined, S wall lower with two possible entrances. Cell D (10.0m) is slightly sunken with no S wall (only 3 boulders). Cell E (8.0m) is more sunken and the walls less defined, with no wall on S side.

N wall of building runs from NY 83504 69336 to NY 83545 69353.

S wall runs from NY 83506 69331 to NY 83548 69348.

Ill-defined rectangular enclosure in yard to N of building abutting cell C.

W-E elongated oval yard (45m NE-SW, 14m NW-SE) to N side of building with 2m entrance at W end.

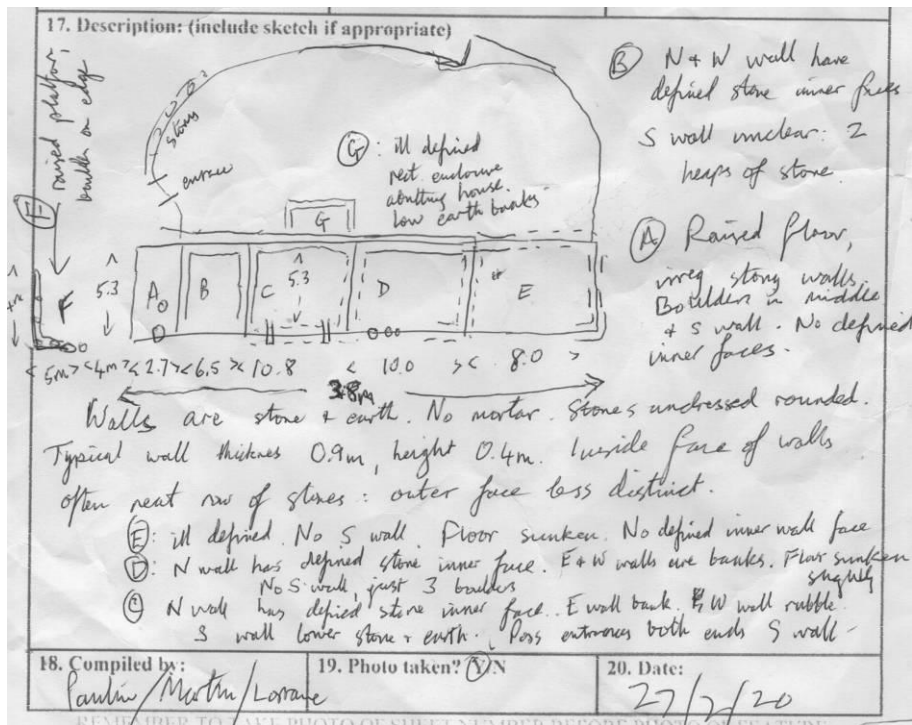
SE end at building NY 83550 69346

NE corner NY 83541 69363

NW corner NY 83502 69347

SW corner at building NY 83505 69337

Kink to S (about 5m) in N boundary at NY 83530 69362, continues at NY 83522 69358. Open on N side. 4m SW of cell A there is a raised platform (5m SW-NE, 4m NW-SE) on the same alignment as the building with W edge defined by boulders.



Images: 10-1 (View E), 10-2 (View W), 10-3 (View W), 10-4 (Yard to N of farmstead, view E), 10-5 to 10-13.

**11. Large standing boulder**

Survey Record Number: 09a

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83379 69326

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Uprturned boulder

Description:

0.75m high, W of hill-top cairn in area of W-E rig and furrow at NY 83379 69326.

Images: 11-1 (View E).

**12. Linear boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: 10

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83014 69316 to NY 83082 69080

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank

Description:

Sod-cast bank, 2m high, 1m wide, runs S from bank [2] at NY 83014 69316; junction with bank running to W NY 83029 69213; S end (at field wall just N of former reservoir on Cowey Sike) NY 83082 69080.

Images: 12-1 (View S).

### 13. Linear boundary bank

Survey Record Number: 10a

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83029 69213 to NY 82910 69222

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form:

Description:

Sod-cast, 1.5m wide, 0.25 – 0.5m high, running W from bank [12] NY 83029 69213; crosses ditch NY 83012 69208; boulder by ditch NY 82949 69200; bend to NW (lost in boggy land) NY 82910 69222.

Images:

### 14. Prehistoric cup-marked boulder

Survey Record Number: 11

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 82689 68983

Period: Bronze Age

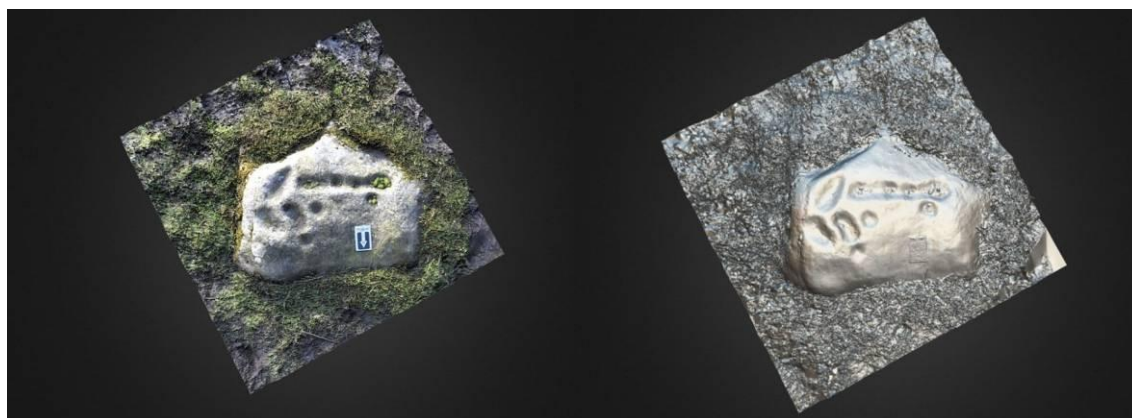
Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Prehistoric rock art

Description:

Carved upper surface of small earthfast boulder (LWH: 0.55m x 0.50m x 0.10m) located in improved pasture field W of Cowey Sike, SE of Grindon Farm. Cup-marks of Bronze Age type: 4-5 cups made into a linear groove on S side, 3 oval-shaped cups and 3 single cups.

Images: 14-1 to 14-3.



Link to [3D model on Sketchfab](#)

### 15. Linear stone and earth bank

Survey Record Number:

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83504 69273 to NY 83504 69122

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form:



Description:

Can be followed S for 150m from edge of W-E terrace S of Howden Hill farmstead, 2m wide, 0.25 to 0.5m height. Some large boulders (clearance) at N end. N end see [6] NY 83504 69273; S end (lost in boggy moorland) NY 83504 69122.

Images: 15-1 (View N).

**16. Clearance cairns**

Survey Record Number:

HER/NMP:12a

GPS: see below

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Cairn

Description:

Stones with turf cover about 0.25m high.

- a. 2m dia. NY 83519 69115
- b. 3m (W-E), 1m N-S NY 83529 69119
- c. 2.5m (N-S), 2m W-E NY 83536 69119
- d. 2m dia. NY 83543 69121
- e. 1m dia. NY 83568 69065
- f. 1m x 2m NY 83579 69068
- g. 1m dia. NY 83580 69074

There is a prominent green grass-covered low knoll among the rough boggy land S and W of the cairns at NY 83553 69072 but no archaeology observed.

Images: 16-1 (cairn a - view E), 16-2 (cairn d - view E), 16-3 (green knoll view W), 16-4 (cairn e), 16-5 (cairn f), 16-6 (cairn g).

**17. Linear boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: 13

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83740 68947 to NY 83900 69194

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank

Description:

Sod-cast bank, running NE then N, 2.5m wide, up to 1m height.

S end next to fence N of Cowey Sike NY 83740 68947; bend to N at NY 83766 68972; bend to NNE at NY 83788 69081; bend to NE followed by curve to E at NY 83811 69147; NY 83842 69175; bend to NE at NY 83891 69189; NE end (10m S of boundary dyke [4]) at NY 83900 69194.

The end here is close to the remains of small rectangular buildings and platforms. Satellite images suggest that the bank may continue NE of the boundary dyke into the valley of the Settlingstones Burn (recorded as feature [25]).

Images: 17-1 (S end, view S), 17-2, 17-3.

**18. Large cairn (probably clearance)**

Survey Record Number: 13a

HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83789 69156  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Cairn  
Description:  
6m N-S x 2.5m W-E  
Images: 18-1

### **19. Low stony bank**

Survey Record Number: 13b  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83601 69082 to NY 83602 69048  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Low stony bank  
Description:  
Runs N-S parallel to broad rig and furrow, just E of grassy knoll [16], width 0.5m, height 0.25m. N end at NY 83601 69082; S end at NY 83602 69048.  
Images:

### **20. Large cairn (probably clearance)**

Survey Record Number: 13c  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83624 69031  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Cairn  
Description:  
3m dia., stones and turf cover.  
Images: 20-1

### **21. Remains of small rectangular building**

Survey Record Number: 14  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83887 69194  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Structure  
Site form: Small rectangular building  
Description:  
Located just N of linear bank [17]. 6m W-E, 3m N-S, defined by low earth and stone banks, 0.25m wide, 0.25m height.  
Bank runs from NW corner [26] NY 83885 69196.  
Images: 21-1 (View E), 21-2 (View S),

## **22. Remains of possible medieval longhouse**

Survey Record Number: 15

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83892 69174

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Structure

Site form: ?longhouse

Description:

Images:

Located on ridge S of Settlingstones Burn, E of linear bank [17].

Defined by low earth and stony banks, 0.25m wide, 0.20m high. Possible entrance at E end and on N side. Rectangular plan of building, 11m W-E, 4m N-S. W end at NY 83889 69174; E end at NY 83900 69172.

Likely levelled platform (?yard) just N of the building.

Low bank extends to S ending from SW corner of building (NY 83886 69172) to NY 83886 69152.

Images: 22-1 (View W), 22-2 (View W), 22-3 (View E).

## **23. Prominent large cairn (probably clearance)**

Survey Record Number: 15a

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83902 69150

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Cairn

Description:

Images:

8m N-S, 5m W-E, stones and turf cover with depression in centre.

Short grass area to S (about 100m square) shows signs of narrow rig and furrow aligned N-S (probably not cord rig) which may overlie broad rig to S and W (shown on Bing aerial).

Images: 23-1 (View W), 23-2 (View S).

## **24. Pair of joined platforms NE of longhouse (22)**

Survey Record Number: 16

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83904 69201 & NY 83911 69198

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Platform

Description:

Built up on edges particularly above wet ground on S side but not enclosed.

a) 6.5m W-E, 6.0m N-S. W end at NY 83904 69201; E end at NY 83911 69198

b) 12m W-E, 6m N-S. W end at NY 83911 69198; E end at NY 83923 69193

Images: 24-1 to 24-3 (View N).

## 25. Earth and stone-revetted boundary bank with ditch on N side

Survey Record Number: 17

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83930 69198 to NY 83975 69226

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Boundary bank & ditch

Description:

May be a continuation of linear bank to W [17]. 2m wide, 0.5-0.75m high. W end at NY 83930 69198.

Runs NE to sharp bend to the N at NY 83939 69204; sharp bend back to NE at NY 83945 69214; ends in valley of Settlingstones Burn close to water leat at NY 83975 69226.

Satellite images suggest sharp bends in this bank and the one to the W are away from its original line and may have been a later change to the boundary possibly in response to needs of the nearby buildings.

The water leat is shown on the OS 1:2,500 (1863) and takes water from a small dam on the Settlingstones Burn (NY 83925 69255), S then W around the SE ridge of Howden Hill. It was conveyed for some of its length at the N end through a ridge in the valley in ceramic pipes which are still partly visible. The leat crosses Cowey Sike, presumably piped or via aqueduct, and continues E on the S side of the burn until above Settlingstones Lead Mine.

Images: 25-1 to 25-3.

## 26. Linear boundary bank

Survey Record Number: 20

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83884 69197 to NY 83806 69355

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank

Description:

Earth and stone bank with many large boulders, width 1.5m, height 0.2-0.5m.

Start at NW corner of building [21] and runs W NY 83884 69197

Bend to S where there is a gap of 5m NY 83868 69196

Bend to W (5m N of bank [17]) NY 83862 69190

Indistinct but runs to large boulders NY 83841 69199

Bend to WSW by boulders NY 83829 69202

Bend to NW NY 83797 69197

Big boulder NY 83788 69201

Sharp kink to W NY 83782 69214

Bend to N NY 83775 69227

Crossed by boundary bank [4] which is presumably later NY 83770 69250

Continues N into valley of Settlingstones Burn NY 83780 69265

N end NY 83806 69355

Images: 26-1 to 26-3

### **27. Remains of small rectangular building**

Survey Record Number: 21

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83781 69227

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Structure

Site form: Rectangular building

Description:

Located just E of boundary bank [26], 16m W-E, 4.5m N-S, defined by stone and earth walls up to 0.5m. No internal partitions, entrance on N side, 5m from E end and another possible entrance opposite to S, close to cairn.

W end

NY 83781 69227

E end

NY 83795 69226

Large cairn close to S wall (3m x 2m, height 1m)

NY 83788 69221

Images: 27-1 to 27-4

### **28. Platform**

Survey Record Number: 22

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83794 69233

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Platform

Description:

Images:

10m square, slightly raised platform due NE of building [27] defined by change of slope, adjacent to large bank on N side. W end at NY 83794 69233; E end at NY 83802 69232.

Images: 28-1, 28-2

### **29. Short W-E bank of earth and stones**

Survey Record Number: 23

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83717 69237 to NY 83763 69224

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Short stony bank

Description:

Width 0.5m, height 0.2m. Probably clearance at the E end of a W-E agricultural terrace.

W end at NY 83717 69237; E end at NY 83763 69224.

Images: 29-1

### **30. Short linear bank**

Survey Record Number: 30

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83357 69288 to NY 83381 69289

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Short linear bank

Description:

Earthbank 1.5m wide, 0.25m high, runs 21m W-E, 4m due S and parallel to edge of terrace at its W end [6]. The N-S rig and furrow starts below and at its at E end. W end at NY 83357 69288; E end at NY 83381 69289.

Images: 30-1 (View W)

### **31. Two parallel low stony banks**

Survey Record Number: 31

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83198 69250 to NY 83201 69226; NY 83186 69252 to NY 83190 69225

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Low stony bank

Description:

Run N-S parallel to rig and furrow, 1m wide, 0.2m high. Visible on Bing aerial.

- |           |                      |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| a) E'most | N end NY 83198 69250 | S end NY 83201 69226 |
| b) W'most | N end NY 83186 69252 | S end NY 83190 69225 |

Images: 31-1 to 31-3

### **32. Low earth and stone bank**

Survey Record Number: 32

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83117 69270 to NY 83119 69214

Period: Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Low stony bank

Description:

Images:

Similar feature to [31] also aligned with rig and furrow.

N end NY 83117 69270

Crosses track NY 83119 69241

S end NY 83119 69214

Images: 32-1

### **33. Cairn W of Howden Hill farmstead**

Survey Record Number: M1

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83407 69323

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Cairn

Description:

Irregular cairn in two lobes of earth and large and medium stones (max 0.9 x 0.9m). 10m N-S, 9m W-E, height 1.5m. No visible kerb.

Images: 33-1 to 33-3

### **34. Linear earthbank**

Survey Record Number: M2

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83329 69329 to NY 83494 69338

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear earthbank

Description:

Earthbank with some stones especially on N side, 2.5m wide, 0.6m high. Located at W end on edge of northern terrace. In centre section has a high scarp on N side. At E end, turns at right angle at entrance to farmstead. Entrance is a slight hollow-way, 4.5m wide.

W end at NY 83329 69329, via NY 83349 69336, NY 83384 69345, NY 83415 69349, NY 83447 69345, just W of large boulder at NY 83478 69343, bend to S at NY 83491 69345, E end NY 83494 69338.

Images: 34-1 to 34-7

### **35. Possible clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number: M4

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83549 69472

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Clearance cairn

Description:

Small, low cairn of large boulders at edge of plateau, length 7m, width 5m, height 0.3m.

Images: 35-1

### **36. Linear earthbank**

Survey Record Number: M5

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83567 69407 to NY 83620 69481

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear earthbank

Description:

Runs NE from bank [4] after 4m gap. 2m wide, 0.5m high, winding course with slight ditch on NW side. SW end at NY 83567 69407, via NY 83583 69422, NY 83601 69444, NE end (approx. location in valley) NY 83620 69481.

Possible small area of cord rig observed on ground at NY 83632 69356.

Images: 36-1 to 36-5

### **37. Clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number: M6

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83648 69354

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Clearance cairn  
Description:  
2.5m dia., height 0.3m. Stone and earth.  
Images: 37-1

**38. Clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number: M17  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83652 69376  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Clearance cairn  
Description:  
2.5m dia., height 0.3m. Stone and earth.  
Images: 38-1

**39. Clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number:  
HER/NMP: M8  
GPS: NY 83612 69419  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Clearance cairn  
Description:  
2m dia., height 0.2m.  
Images: 39-1

**40. Clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number:  
HER/NMP: M9  
GPS: NY 83581 69405  
Period:  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form:  
Description:  
2.3m dia., height 0.2m  
Images: 40-1

**41. Enclosure (part rectangular)**

Survey Record Number: M10  
HER/NMP: N27220; 1445197  
GPS: NY 83397 69575  
Period: Roman/Iron Age  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Partial enclosure  
Description:  
Immediately S of field wall with incomplete earthbanks (2.5m wide, 0.8m high)



NW corner	NY 83397 69575
SW corner	NY 83398 69567
E end of S bank	NY 83406 69562
S end of E bank	NY 83433 69565

Platform, 3m dia., close to SE.  
Group of large boulders inside enclosure  
Images: 41-1 to 41-3

NY 83408 69569

#### **42. Clearance cairn**

Survey Record Number: M11  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83433 69514  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Clearance cairn  
Description:  
2.5m dia., height 0.5m, of large rocks.  
Images: 42-1

#### **43. Row of boulders**

Survey Record Number: M12  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83414 69484 to NY 83390 69473  
Period: Unknown  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Row of boulders  
Description:  
Runs W-E possibly on edge of cleared land.  
E end  
W end  
Images: 43-1 & 43-2

NY 83414 69484  
NY 83390 69473

#### **44. Long linear earthbank**

Survey Record Number: 50  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 84187 69662 to NY 84073 69593 (extends low way W)  
Period: Medieval  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Linear boundary bank  
Description:  
Possible medieval boundary bank, 2m wide, 1m high, earthen with occasional large stones.  
Probably continued E on line of modern field wall, N of Middle House.  
E end (field corner) NY 84187 69662, via NY 84155 69625, NY 84119 69602, NY 84073 69593.  
This feature extends much further W, climbing the ridge S of the straight modern field wall.

Aerial images show its origin by the Settlingstones Burn at NY 83703 69472 with a branch to NW crossing the wall at NY 83738 69572 and back again at NY 83643 69552. The boundary is meandering and satellite views suggest that it overlies the N corner and northern ditch of the large rectangular enclosure (something we had observed on the ground). The bank is thus not a rampart of the Middle House Iron Age Settlement as depicted on the 1:2,500 scale OS map (1969) but likely to be a much later feature.

Images: 44-1 to 44-3

#### 45. Short W-E stone-revetted bank NW of modern field gate

Survey Record Number: 51

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 84157 69623 to NY 84172 69618

Period: ?Post medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stone-revetted bank

Description:

Change in level, higher in S. Could be a relatively modern feature carrying a former track from the field gate over low lying ground.

W end

NY 84157 69623

E end

NY 84172 69618

Images: 45-1

#### 46. Array of sub-rectangular ditched and banked enclosures W of Middle House

Survey Record Number: 52

HER/NMP: N7570; 16342

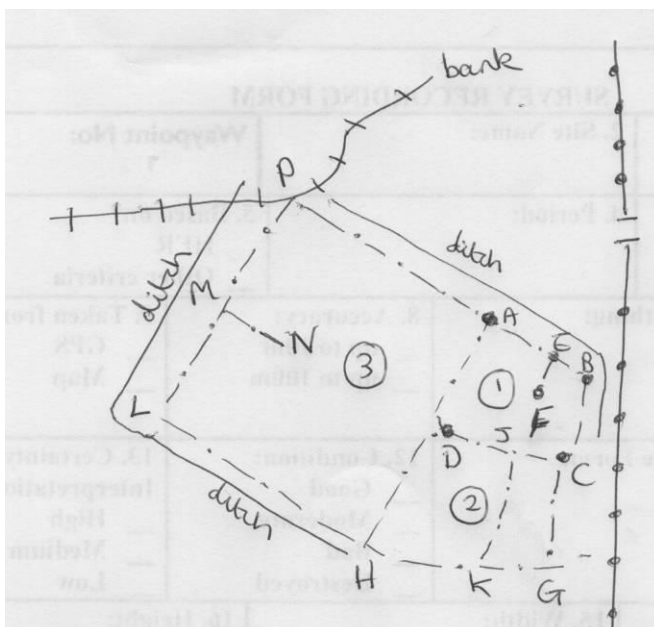
GPS: NY 84135 69575

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British or Medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Array of ditched and banked sunken enclosures

Description:



Ditch, 4m wide, running straight NW-SE on N side of banked enclosures. May have extended into improved pasture field to E or turn S just W of modern field wall.

NW end NY 84130 69605

SE end NY 84178 69581

Very similar in form to the ditches on SW and NW sides of the enclosures:

SE end NY 84130 69543

NW end NY 84093 69564

N end (near boundary bank) NY 84108 69597

The outside banks are very wide and low (4m wide and 0.25m high) and delimit sunken areas which were probably stock pens contained within the larger outer area defined by the ditches.

Lettered points are shown on the plan above.

Sunken enclosure numbered 1 (23m NW-SE x 14m NE-SW)

A NY 84156 69587

B NY 84178 69579

C NY 84176 69559

D NY 84150 69562

Short spur of smaller bank (probably an incomplete or broken subdivision)

E NY 84165 69578

F NY 84166 69571

Sunken sub-rectangular enclosure numbered 2 (25m NW-SE x 14m NE-SW)

G NY 84169 69541

H NY 84139 69545

Subdivided by much smaller curving bank

J NY 84162 69556

K NY 84161 69543

Larger sunken enclosure to NW (approx. 40m NW-SE x 47m NE-SW)

L NY 84097 69567

M NY 84105 69584

P (estimated from satellite image) NY 84120 69607

A NY 84156 69587

Short banked spur runs from M to N NY 84113 69582

Section between M and P has apparently been levelled and less clear on the ground. It is overlaid by the medieval boundary bank [44].

Images: 46-1 to 46-19

#### **47. Linear boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: 57

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 84179 69529 to NY 84063 69420

Period: Unknown

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear boundary bank

Description:

Earthen bank runs NE-SW (then S into valley), 2m wide, 1m high.

NE end (at modern wall/fence junction) NY 84179 69529

NY 84128 69471

Bend to S

NY 84063 69420

Images: 47-1 to 47-3

**48. Middle House Iron Age/Romano-British Settlement**

Survey Record Number: 58

HER/NMP: N7570; 16342

GPS: NY 84114 69492

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Settlement

Description:

Irregular shaped enclosure of approx. 37m N-S and 34m W-E with incomplete boundary defined by large boulders divided internally in a similar way.

SW corner NY 84108 69470

NY 84098 69496

NW corner

NY 84097 69513

NY 84107 69511

NE corner

NY 84129 69505

SE corner

NY 84130 69485

Possible round-houses defined by low stony banks, three about 5m dia. with possible entrance on E side, one possibly larger but less well defined: a) NY 841108 69508; b) NY 84111 69487; c) NY 84117 69479; d) NY 84117 69487.

Images: 48-1 to 48-9

**49. Low linear stony bank**

Survey Record Number: 58

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 84106 69470 to NY 84089 69452

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Linear stony bank

Description:

Runs from S point of settlement enclosure [48] W of bank [47]. Possible remnant of associated field system that has been observed along the N slope above the Settlingstones Burn.

N end NY 84106 69470

S end NY 84089 69452

Images:

### **50. Possible cup-marked boulder**

Survey Record Number: HH 101

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 82855 69237

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Rock Art in the Landscape?

Site Form: Cup-marked stone?

Description: Small boulder 50cm x 25cm x 25cm high with one, possibly two cup marks on upper face. However these may be erosion features.

Images: 50

### **51. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 102

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY82826 69280 to NY 82908 69276

Period: Medieval/Post-Medieval

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Earthen bank

Description: Earthen bank up to 2m wide and 50cm high. Western end at NY 82826 69280 within a metre of an N-S stone field wall. 1m gap in bank at NY 82858 69231. Continues, slightly curving via NY 82878 69285 (now 1m high) to NY 82906 69285 where it bends S to NY 82908 69276. Apparent platform edge continues S for some 50m.

Images: 51a to 51c

### **52. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 103

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83024 69593

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Small cairn 2m x 1m x 0.25m high

Images: 52

### **53. Linear bank and ditch**

Survey Record Number: HH 104

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83118 69632 to NY 83212 69558

Period: Prehistoric/ Medieval?

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Bank and ditch

Description: Low sinuous bank, up to 0.5m high with 1m wide ditch on SW side. Does not appear to be modern drainage. Intermediate GPS NY 83162 69602

Images: 53

### **54. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 105

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83059 69660 to NY 83001 69770

Period: Prehistoric/ Medieval ?

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony linear bank

Description: Stony bank up to 1m wide and 0.5m high with indistinct shallow ditch on SW side. Bends N at NY 83009 69684 and continues down moderate slope. Ditch on W side becomes wider (up to 1.5m) and bank becomes less distinct. Terminates at E-W earthen bank [56].

Images: 54a & 54b

### **55. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 106

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83001 69770 to NY 83065 69786 (Feature continues W on same alignment to meet present-day N-S stone wall)

Period: Medieval/Post-medieval

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Earthen bank

Description: Earthen banks up to 2m wide and 0.5m high running between present-day stone wall at W boundary of the field, to a N-S relict stone wall.

Images: 55a & 55b

### **56. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 107

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83084 69776 to NY 83074 69665

Period: Prehistoric/Medieval

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony linear bank

Description: N-S stony bank on same alignment as relict stone wall shown on NMP map. 0.7m wide and up to 0.3m high. Runs upslope to W edge of sheepfold and continues S to NY 83074 69665

Images: 56a to 56c

### **57. Sheepfold**

Survey Record Number: HH 108

HER/ NMP: 1445455

GPS: NY 83082 69700

Period: Post-medieval

Site Type: Stone structure (with earthworks recorded as [58])

Site Form: Sheepfold

Description: Stone walled sheepfold up to 1m high. N side NY 83071 69710, bends at NY 83083 69709 to NY 83094 69709. S side NY 83872 69691 to NY 83091 69692. Probable blocked entrance between two large orthostats at NY 83079 69692. Internal arced banks and change of slope, plus external stony arced bank recorded as [58].

Images: 57a to 57d

### **58. Linear bank**

Description: Survey Record Number: HH 109 A

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83059 69700

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony bank

Description: Low stony semi-circular bank, up to 0.2m high, abutting W edge of sheepfold [57] from NY 83872 69691, via NY 83059 69700, to NY 83066 69707.

Images: 58a to 58c

### **59. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 109 B

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83077 69706 to NY 83078 69695, and NY 83090 69698 to NY 83084 69698

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony bank and change of slope

Description: Inside the stone walled sheepfold a low stony bank (up to 0.2m high) arcs across the N-S width of the current sheepfold from NY 83078 69695, via NY 83075 69699 NY 83074 69703 to NY 83077 69706. A further low stony bank runs from just S of the south side of the sheepfold at NY 83083 69690 to NY 83099 69691

Images:

### **60. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 110

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83081 69684 to NY 83099 69676

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony bank

Description: A curving low stony bank with some large boulders runs from S edge of sheepfold [57] at NY 83081 69684 via NY 83089 60680 and NY 83094 69676 to a boulder at NY 83099 69676. There are two further boulders, without intermediate sub-surface stones, at NY 83105/69673 and an upright orthostat at NY 83112 69673.

Images: 60a to 60c

### **61. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 111

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83120 69677

Period: Prehistoric?

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Cairn 3m x 2m x 0.4m high

Images: 61

## **62. Possible cist**

Survey Record Number: HH 112

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83109 69695

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Possible Cist

Description: Rectangular chamber, aligned E-W, lined with 3 stone slabs. Internally 1.3m x 0.5m, externally 2m x 0.75m. Stony base. Possible remnants of former cairn mound, especially on S side.

Images: 62a to 62c

## **63. Possible burial structure**

Survey Record Number: HH 113

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83101 69696

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Possible burial structure

Description: Within 8m of possible cist [62], 3 boulders, each about 0.5m wide. enclosing a 1m wide, 1.2m long chamber, external width 2m. Western upright stone 0.8m high. 0.5m x 0.4m. Possible surrounding mound 2.8m N-S by 2.6m E-W.

Images: 63a to 63c

## **64. Enclosure**

Survey Record Number: HH 114

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83120 69692

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Enclosure

Description: Low banked rectangular enclosure immediately E of Cist [62], from NY 83111 69688, via bend at NY 83126 69685 to NY 83127 69697. 2m gap to NY 83125 69700 then low bank, up to 0.25m, continues to NY 83113 69700. There is a possible internal bank running close to the E edge of the enclosure from NY 83125 69698 to NY 83118 69688

Images: 64a to 64e

## **65. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 115

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83083 69690 to NY 83099 69691

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Linear bank

Description: A low stony bank runs from just S of the south side of the sheepfold at NY 83083 69690 to NY 83099 69691



Images: 65a & 65b

#### **66. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 116

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83146 69695

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Stony mound 5.2m x 4m x 0.6m high.

Images: 66

#### **67. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 117

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83160 69693

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Stony mound 6.5m x 5.9m x 0.5m high. Central depression suggestive of robber excavation.

Images: 67

#### **68. Kerbed cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 118

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83177 69696

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Kerbed Cairn

Description: Low flat topped mound 6.6m x 5m x 0.4m high with large stones forming an apparent perimeter.

Images: 68a & 68b

#### **69. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 119

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83171 69710

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Stony mound 3m x 2m x 0.3m high

Images: 69

#### **70. Two cup-marked stones**

Survey Record Number: HH 120

HER/ NMP: N27044 Scheduled Monument

GPS: NY 83137 69687

Period: Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Rock Art in the Landscape

Description: 2 adjacent cup marked stones, one with 50 cups, the other with 30 cups. Full descriptions ERA 1414 and ERA 1415

Images:

### **71. Bronze Age Round Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 121

HER/ NMP: 16336, Scheduled Monument 25059

GPS: NY 83220 69752

Period: Bronze Age

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Round cairn 8m diameter, up to 1m high.

Images: 71

### **72. Linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 121 A

HER/ NMP:

GPS: NY 83225 69758 to NY 83224 69769

Period: Prehistoric ?

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Stony linear bank

Description: Stony bank 0.75m wide, 0.25m high running north from W edge of Cairn [71].

Images: 72

### **73. Bronze Age Round Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 122

HER/NMP: 16336 Scheduled Monument 25060

GPS: NY 83260 69750

Period: Bronze Age

Site Type: Earthworks

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Round Cairn 9m diameter, 1m high

Images: 73

### **74. Stone alignment**

Survey Record Number: HH 122 A

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83263 69738 to NY 83274 69724

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Stone setting

Site Form: Stone alignment

Description: A line of boulders, apparently aligned on Cairn [73]. To the east of the line of stones there is an extensive area with a concentration of surface stones, but to the west there are very few visible stones, suggesting a possible clearance line.

Images: 74

#### **75. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 123

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83301 69766

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Stony mound 10m x 6.6m x 0.6m high situated adjacent to the NW end of a stony boundary which incorporates other cairns.

Images: 75

#### **76. Stony linear bank with cairns**

Survey Record Number: HH 124

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83304 69761 to NY 83349 69741

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Stony linear bank with cairns

Description: Stony linear feature running for 50m incorporating three cairn-like clusters of stones at NY 83316 69753, NY 83322 69751, and 83349 69741

Images: 76a to 76c

#### **77. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 125

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83352 69775

Period: Prehistoric

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Stony mound 5m x 4m x 0.5m

Images: 77

#### **78. Long linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 126

HER/NMP: Shown on NMP map

GPS: NY 83370 69776 to NY 83551 69631

Period: Medieval/ Post-medieval

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Earthen bank

Description: Long earthen bank, up to 2m wide and 0.5 m high, running from SW of Cairn [80]. It continues further north beyond NY 83370 69776 crossing the next valley and continuing up the ridge beyond. Full length is shown on NMP map.

Images: 78

### **79. Stony linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 127

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83376 69718 to NY 83434 69672

Period: Prehistoric?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Stony bank

Description: Stony bank, up to 0.5m wide and 0.15 high. Intermediate points NY 83385 69705, NY 83392 69696, NY 83405 69683 bending at NY 83413 69679 towards Cairn [80], continuing via NY 83417 69677, and NY 83425 69674 to NY 83434 69672 where it meets earthen bank [78].

Images: 79a to 79c

### **80. Bronze Age Round Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 128

HER/NMP: 16336 Scheduled Monument 25058

GPS: NY 83470 69680

Period: Bronze Age

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Cairn

Description: Round Cairn 8m diameter, up to 1m high on E side. Central gap due to 19<sup>th</sup> century partial excavation. Surface of boulder at centre of cairn is heavily pitted with indentations some of which may be cup-marks [81]

Images: 80

### **81. ?Cup-marked boulder**

Survey Record Number: HH 128 A

HER/NMP: N27044 ERA 1415 (Howden Hill 3)

GPS: NY 83465 69681

Period: Bronze Age ?

Site Type: Stone Setting

Site Form: Rock Art ?

Description: Boulder 1m x 0.6m x 0.4m central within Cairn [80]. May once have stood upright. Heavily marked with circular and sub-circular depressions, some of which appear to be erosion features. However some of the circular depressions appear characteristic of cup-marks and the context of this stone within the burial monument would be consistent with at least some degree of artificial decoration.

Images: 81a & 81b

### **82. Stony banks and platform**

Survey Record Number: HH 128 B

HER/NMP: Scheduled Monument 25058

GPS: NY 83470 69680

Period: Bronze Age

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Stony banks and platform.

Description: The SW side of Cairn [80] is steeply sloping down into the valley of Settlingstones Burn. About 10m SW of the centre of the cairn there is an arcing platform that has potentially been augmented by some large boulders. There is a continuous line of stones running between the start of the platform at NY 83472 69676 and the edge of the central cairn structure at NY 83478 69678. To the north of this lines of stones the slope does not appear to be platformed. To the south it runs from NY 83472 69676 via NY 83481 69666 to NY 83476 69655, from where the arc takes the form of a low curving bank continuing via NY 83470 69652 to NY 83461 69650. There is a further possible alignment of stones running towards the centre of the cairn from NY 83478 69640 to NY 83473 69662.

Images: 82a to 82e

### **83. Stone walled structure**

Survey Record Number: HH 129

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83487 69566

Period: Post-Medieval

Site Type: Stone structure

Site Form: Stone walling

Description: Immediately S of present day stone-walled field boundary lies an L shaped stone-walled structure standing up to 1m high. The section parallel to the field wall is 5m long and the section at right-angles is 10m long. There are no signs of tumble elsewhere indicating a more extensive structure. The walling appears to be double-faced.

Images: 83a & 83b

### **84. Partial enclosure**

Survey Record Number: HH 130

HER/NMP:N27220

GPS: NY 83395 69574

Period: Roman/ Iron Age

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Enclosure

Description: Recorded from aerial photography as a rectilinear enclosure of Roman/Iron Age date examination on the ground revealed only partial signs of the structure described. A short length of bank, up to 0.5 high at its S end, runs from NY 83396 69559, via NY 83395 69574 into the adjoining field at NY 83397 69582 and curves via NY 83300 69589 to NY 83403 69589. The bank and ditch becoming less distinct and all signs terminating at NY 83403 69589. The features observed would fit with the NW corner of N27220 but careful searching of the surrounding terrain on both sides of the current field boundary revealed no further evidence of the rectilinear enclosure previously described.

Images: 84a & 84b

### **85. Stony linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 131

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83340 69566 to NY 83319 69528

Period: Uncertain. Prehistoric ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Stony linear bank

Description: Low lying stony bank, somewhat sinuous, Runs from NY 83340 69566 to NY 83345 69549 where there is a gap to NY 83341 69549 and then continues on a curving route to NY 83332 69537, where there is a short turning to NY83333 69535 before continuing to NY 83319 69528. There is a further line of stones from NY 83300 69533 to NY 83310 69531 on an alignment roughly perpendicular to the longer bank.

Images: 85a & 85b

### **86. Cup-marked boulder**

Survey Record Number: HH 132

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83293 69563

Period: Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

Site Type: Rock Art in the Landscape

Site Form: Cup marked boulder

Description: A boulder 1m x 0.7m x 0.2m high with two cup marks of 7cm and 6cm diameters. There is also a groove 25cm long x 2cm wide.

Images: 86a & 86b

### **87. Stony linear bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 133

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83082 69587 to NY 83088 69535

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthwork

Site Form: Stony linear bank

Description: A 50m length of low stony bank 1m wide, up to 0.25 high. It appears to align with the W edge of sheepfold [57] and may be a continuation of bank [56].

Images: 87

### **88. Curving stony bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 134

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 82880 70173 to NY 82899 70157

Period: Uncertain, but possibly Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Curving stony bank

Description: Short length of curving stony bank along top of the ridge near Shield on the Wall Dam. Up to 1m wide and 0.5m high. Intermediate points NY 82886 70171 and NY 82891 70167.

Images: 88

### **89. Stone alignments/ boundary features**

Survey Record Number: HH 135

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 82901 70159 to NY 83035 70239

Period: Iron Age/ Romano-British ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stone alignments/ boundary features

Description: 3 lengths of intermittent large boulders aligned towards enclosed settlement [91]. From NY 82901 70159 to NY82918 70165. From NY 82961 70181 to NY 82988 70198. From NY 83009 70218 to NY 83035 70239.

Images: 89a & 89b

### **90. Stone alignment/ boundary feature**

Survey Record Number: HH 135 A

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83021 70237 to NY 83030 70243

Period: Iron Age/ Romano-British ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stone alignment/ boundary feature

Description: Row of boulders running towards perimeter of enclosed settlement [91].

Roughly parallel with third length of stones [89].

Images: 90

### **91. Enclosed settlement**

Survey Record Number: HH 136

HER/NMP: N12600

GPS: NY 83040 70270

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Enclosed Settlement

Description: Low perimeter banks encircle a sunken area west of two raised platform areas with low circular banks suggestive of round house constructions. Rows of large stones or boulders [89] and [90] approach the perimeter banks creating an entrance into the sunken area indicative of livestock handling. The raised platforms [92] and [93], up to 1m high, stand well above the now waterlogged sunken area. Outside the enclosed area there are two further indications of round house structures [94] and [95] to the south and east. There is a further stony arc [96] east of the enclosed area. S perimeter bank (1m wide, up to 0.4m high) runs from NY 83037 70244, via NY 83043 70236, NY 83050 70223, NY 83059 70222 to NY 83076 70223. The lower N perimeter bank runs from NY 83030 70243 via NY 83036 70252 and NY 83045 70257 to NY 83049 70258.

Images: 91a to 91c

### **92. Round house platform**

Survey Record Number: HH 136 A

HER/NMP: N7842

GPS: NY 83067 70234

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Round house platform

Description: Although recorded on HER as a semi-circular turf covered bank '*its period and purpose are problematical*', the context and our examination suggest a likelihood that it is a

platform for a round house structure of 8m diameter. There is a low turf-covered bank up to 0.5m high and 1m wide around the edge of the platform. The platform height ranges from 1m to 0.7m on its W side, to 0.5m on its E side. Its location within the perimeter feature [91] supports this interpretation, as does the nature of the finds by workmen during construction of the Shield on the Wall dam in 1850, including the lower stone of a rotary quern and pieces of pottery.

Images: 92a & 92b

### **93. Round house platform**

Survey Record Number: HH 136 B

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83054 70257

Period: Iron Age/Romano-British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Round house platform

Description: Platform 0.5m high, with circular low bank around its top. Diameter 6 – 6.5m.

Enclosure bank [91] approaches N edge of the platform

Images: 93

### **94. Round house and adjoining field boundary**

Survey Record Number: HH 137

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83085 70217

Period: Iron Age/ Romano- British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Round house and adjoining field boundary

Description: Located just to the south of enclosure bank [91] a circular, stony, turf-covered bank 0.3m high with 7.5m diameter. An adjoining 40m length of low stony bank, up to 0.4m high, runs down the shallow slope immediately S of the circular bank from NY 83084 70214 to NY 83094 70175

Images: 94a & 94b

### **95. Stony boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 138

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83048 70210 to NY 83050 70198

Period: Iron Age/ Romano- British

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stony boundary bank

Description: 40m W from boundary bank [94] another length of N-S stony bank from NY 83048 70210 to NY 83050 70198. Up to 0.7m wide and 0.3m high

Images: 95

### **96. Low stony arc**

Survey Record Number: HH 139

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83073 70274 to NY 83080 70276



Period: Uncertain. Iron Age/ Romano-British ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Low stony arc

Description: A roughly semi-circular low stony arc, 0.1m high located just E of enclosure [91]. Potentially this could represent the remains of a further round house structure of about 7m diameter.

Images: 96

### **97. Circular bank/?round house**

Survey Record Number: HH 140

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83103 70273

Period: . Iron Age/ Romano-British ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Circular bank. Round house ?

Description: Low circular bank 7m diameter. Width of bank up to 1.2m, up to 0.2m high  
Images: 97

### **98. Stony boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 141

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83129 70239 to NY 83200 70113

Period: Medieval ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stony boundary bank

Description: A long stony bank, up to 1m wide and 0.5m high. That runs W-E and then N-S around extensive area of broad rig and furrow. NY 83129 70239, NY 83156 70246, NY 83197 70252, turning S downslope at NY 83202 70249, NY 83206 70243, NY 83208 70216, NY 83209 70185, NY 83209 70149 to NY 83200 70113 where it terminates at an eroded scoop. Bank is not shown on NMP map.

Images: 98a & 98b

### **99. Stony boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 142

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83139 70242 to NY 83149 70135

Period: Medieval ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stony boundary bank

Description: N –S length of stony boundary bank of similar appearance to [98].

Images: 99

### **100. Oval turf-covered mound**

Survey Record Number: HH 143

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83206 70027

Period: Uncertain

Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Oval turf-covered mound  
Description: Oval turf-covered mound 8m x 3m x 1m high.  
Images:

**101. Low stony bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 144  
HER/NMP:  
Period: Uncertain  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Low stony bank  
Description: Low stony bank 0.8m wide, 0.2m high.  
Images: 101

**102. Stony boundary bank**

Survey Record Number: HH 145  
HER/NMP: 1459476  
GPS: NY 83470 70119 to NY 83503 70039  
Period: Uncertain  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Stony boundary bank  
Description: Long stony boundary bank 1m wide, height 0.3m –0.5m, appears to match description of bank identified by Tim Gates from aerial photos.  
Images: 102

**103. Stack stand**

Survey Record Number: HH 146  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83477 70183  
Period: Post-Medieval  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Stack stand  
Description: Raised platform with low surrounding ditch. 3m x 3m, 0.2m high  
Images: 103

**104. Cairn**

Survey Record Number: HH 147  
HER/NMP:  
GPS: NY 83470 70187  
Period: Uncertain  
Site Type: Earthwork  
Site form: Cairn  
Description: Turf-covered stony mound 2m x 1.5m x 0.5m high  
Images: 104

**105. Stony boundary bank with cairns**

Survey Record Number: HH 148

HER/NMP:

GPS: NY 83207 69956 to NY 83206 69906

Period: Uncertain. Prehistoric ?

Site Type: Earthwork

Site form: Stony boundary bank with cairns

Description: 50m length of stony bank up to 0.5m high. Intermediate cairns at NY 82208 69941 (3m x 1.5m x 0.5m high) and NY 83206 69926 (3m x 3m x 0.5m high).

Images: 105a to 105c