

# Rippon Tor

## Premier Archaeological Landscape, Dartmoor National Park, Devon

A New Survey

July 2015



Southwest Landscape Investigations



Dr Phil Newman MIFA, FSA

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***Moor than meets the eye***  
Landscape Partnership



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Frontispiece: The large cairn on Rippon Tor.

## Summary

An archaeological survey of the Rippon Tor PAL was requested by the Historic Environment Team at Dartmoor National Park Authority in early 2015. The work was commissioned as part of the *Moor than Meets the Eye Landscape Partnership*, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund under programme A5 of the project – ‘Unveiling the Heritage of the High Moor and Forest’. The objective of the work is to provide an up to date, geographically accurate record of archaeology within this sensitive area, in order to help counter a number of key risks to the cultural heritage identified in the project proposals. In particular:

*.. a general threat to the landscape character from changing agricultural practices, with past problems of overgrazing now changing to undergrazing, and an associated spread of gorse and bracken and a general increase in vegetation, which threatens archaeological remains.. (DNPA 2014)*

Following a desktop survey, fieldwork was undertaken to establish the character and extent of previously recorded archaeological sites and to assess the accuracy of data held by the DNPA HER. Also, to investigate any sites of potential interest revealed through the desktop survey, but not previously recorded. This included features transcribed from an aerial photo plot by the RCHME in the 1980s, which had not been ground verified.

Survey was carried out using dual-frequency GPS to produce a 1:2500-scale geo-referenced map, to include all known accessible archaeological features within the PAL. These included prehistoric cairns, hut circles, settlements enclosures and reaves; medieval farmsteads, abandoned fields and cultivation evidence; tinworking and mining from the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods; military remains including evidence of WW2 training.

A number of sites were selected for large-scale survey at scales of between 1:200 and 1:1000, depending on the individual merits of the site. Sites surveyed at large scale, include five cairns, three hut circle settlements, one medieval farmstead and a 20th century rifle range.

Primary documentary sources were not researched in depth. However, antiquarian publications were utilised as well as late 19th-century photographic images and cartographic sources.

The reporting stage includes a summary description of archaeology within the PAL, broken down into manageable areas. Updated locations, descriptions and comments have been prepared (230 in total) for insertion into the DNPA HER, included here as a gazetteer, and all surveyed sites have been output for inclusion in the DNPA GIS. A statement of significance has been compiled for the individual categories of prehistoric sites, specifically their local, regional and national importance, and for some of the medieval and post-medieval remains. Some research and survey priorities are highlighted.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Andy Crabb of DNPA for commissioning the work and for support during the survey process. I am very grateful to Martin and Caroline Bowden for permission to use the rifle range area as a secure location for a GPS base station and for vehicular access to it through the Halsanger Common enclosure. Paul Bowden and Maurice Retallick permitted survey to take place within Horridge Common and Bagtor Down respectively.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Rippon Tor Premier Archaeological Landscape (PAL; see below) covers 820ha of moorland, mostly common land, within the SE sector of Dartmoor National Park (Fig 1).

The moorland terrain is one of undulating ground with impressive rounded hills, topped by granite tors, including Rippon Tor, Buckland Beacon, Top Tor, Pil Tor, Hollow Tor, Tunhill Rocks, Bag Tor and Welstor Rock. Shallow valleys surrounding the tors contain sphagnum bogs, which provide the source of several significant tributaries flowing into the rivers Dart and Teign, including Ruddy Cleave Water, Langworthy Brook and the Rivers Ashburn, Sig and Lemon.

The geology of the area is dominated by granite, being comfortably within the Dartmoor Granite Mass, although the border shales of the Metamorphic Aureole are not far away from the eastern boundary of the survey. The granite is manifest by the weathered outcrops of the tors but also, there is a massive presence of clitter (detached boulders of granite spread over the slopes of the tors) known as moorstone, which has served as a plentiful supply of building material over at least 4 millennia. Granite defines the character of the local vernacular and ecclesiastical architecture, together with the landscape of stone-walled fields that distinguish Dartmoor and its borders.

The PAL includes lands within the parishes of Ashburton, Buckland in the Moor, Ilsington and Widecombe in the Moor. All of the land covered by this report is open to the public but management and access differ within the separate zones. Essentially, most of the area to the west of the Hemsworthy to Ashburton road is open, common, moorland, whereas, east of that road Halsanger, Bagtor and Horridge were enclosed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and although freely accessible, entry and exit is via gateways and stiles. Grazing of sheep, ponies and cattle form the basis of land management in the entire PAL, assisted by occasional swaling (Fig 2).

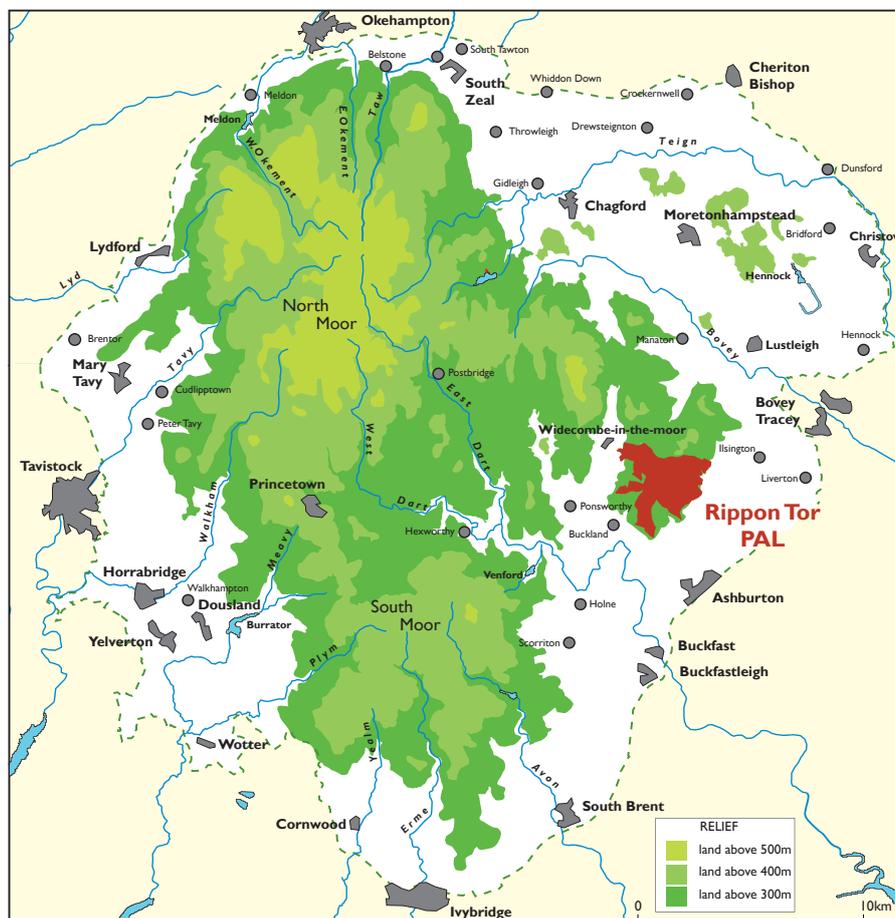


Fig 1 Location of the Rippon Tor PAL.



Fig 2 Swaling on Halsanger Common in 2012 revealed the full extent of surviving prehistoric archaeology.

Vegetation varies over this very large area, but is dominated by low moorland species, of grass, heather, wortleberry, bramble, gorse, etc. In some areas, such as Buckland Common and Horridge Common, gorse has achieved blanket coverage, obscuring important areas of archaeology. However, controlled burns occur regularly and have effectively suppressed some large areas of this species. In the Rippon Tor and Halsanger enclosures, *Molinia* grass dominates some parts, which, in combination with gorse, presents additional problems of visibility. Bracken is extensive in the summer months from late May onwards. Most areas are affected by these ferns but coverage is particularly dense on Buckland Common and the Lower slopes of Horridge Common, where the winter die-back continues to cover hut circles and enclosure walls well into the spring, making recording extremely difficult. In derelict areas of bog land at the head of the River Ashburn, Langworthy Brook and the River Sig, hawthorn and other small tree species are forming thickets, creating some of the least accessible areas of the PAL.

## 2.0 DARTMOOR'S PREMIER ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES (PALS)

The designation of Premier Archaeological Landscapes (PALS) on certain areas of Dartmoor, was agreed as part of the Vision for Dartmoor's Moorland Project in 2005. Under this initiative, 14 areas of the uplands were identified as having high archaeological value, including some of national significance, which require specialist forms of conservation within future moorland management schemes. The agreement, made between the statutory agencies involved (including DNPA, Natural England and English Heritage), states that:

*the management requirements of the historically important features, especially archaeology, will take precedence over that required for their ecology. In addition to protecting the historic environment it is also recognised that the PALS will need to be managed in a way to ensure they can be appreciated in their entirety. Future land management will need to be appropriate.<sup>1</sup>*

Of the fourteen separate PALS, each has a unique combination of elements contributing to its significance, varying from prehistoric ritual, settlement and land division, through medieval farming to post-medieval mineral

extraction. Baseline surveys, which record the archaeological substance of each of the PALs, are an essential basis for their conservation, enabling management decisions to be driven by reliable, consistent data as to location, character and significance of individual features and their group value. With specific reference to the Rippon Tor PAL:

*This PAL contains the SE part of the largest prehistoric field system surviving on Dartmoor, some 4,500 hectares (about 11,000 acres) in total. Long straight parallel field boundaries (reaves) cross the landscape in a NWISE direction. These appear on the ground as low stony, vegetation-covered banks.*

Rippon Tor is one of four PALs which hold the designation, mostly on the basis of their parallel reave systems and round-house settlements, dating from the early-mid 2nd millennium BC (others being Dartmeet, Shaugh Moor and Throwleigh Common). There is also an impressive group of prehistoric round cairns, as well as elements of medieval farming. The Bagtor enclosure is rich with post-medieval streamworks and the remains of the 19th-century Bagtor tin mine.

Nine of the PALs were surveyed to the required consistent standard by the English Heritage archaeological survey team between 2000 and 2009 but the archaeology within the Rippon Tor PAL has never been subject to a thorough, accurate ground survey. Although OS surveyors located and depicted some key monuments, previous survey has been restricted to aerial photographic plotting (see below).

Individual entries in the Devon and Dartmoor HER have not been quality checked or updated for many years; a recent assessment of Halsanger Common, situated within the Rippon Tor PAL (Newman 2013), revealed many inaccuracies of locations and description, and an unacceptable number of duplicate entries. The 2015 survey will offer the opportunity to correct and update this record over the whole of the Rippon Tor PAL.

Other Dartmoor PALs, as yet un-surveyed, include Wigford Down, Walkhampton Common (only part surveyed), Ugborough Moor and the Upper Erme Valley. These remain a priority for future investigations.



*Fig 3 Foale's Arrishes looking NW from Rippon Tor, with Pil Tor (left) and Top Tor (right). Hameldown and Soussons in the middle distance with Fernworthy and northern Dartmoor on the horizon. This image was captured in c.2005, before recent expansion of gorse over the site.*

## 2.1 Other designations

Rippon Tor PAL lies within Dartmoor National Park, though prior to 2000, only some parts were freely accessible to the public; much of the land on Horridge, Halsanger, Mountsland and Bagtor Commons was not officially accessible, except within areas such as Rippon Tor, where an access agreement was in place. Following the Countryside Rights of Way (CRoW) Act of 2000, the entire area is now designated Access Land.

There are 83 monuments within the PAL that are designated as scheduled monuments (SMs), considered of national importance and therefore protected by the state; 74 of the individual HER entries in the gazetteer that accompanies this report, are within a single designation (**1019603**). Within the total SMs, three sites are included in the EH 2014 *Heritage at Risk Register* and considered to be in need of conservation measures (SM Nos 1019604; 1004589; 1003283).

Blackslade Mire is the only sector of the PAL to hold SSSI status, where 68ha to the south of Hemsworthy Gate have been protected on the basis of containing a number of species-rich communities.

## 3.0 THE STUDY AREA

In the following report, this large expanse of land is divided into six smaller areas, designed to be more manageable for descriptive purposes (Figs 11, 17-19, 21, 22). Each contains its own unique set of archaeological remains, but have many features in common, especially the prehistoric parallel reave system, which overlies the natural topography of the PAL, in places like a grid.

### *Blackslade Down and Hollow Tor (Fig 11)*

The north-western sector of the Rippon Tor PAL is dominated by the ridge of high ground known as Tor Hill, crowned by Top Tor (425m above OD) to the north and Wittaburrow (400m above OD) to the south; all lie on open common. Pil, or Pit Tor and Tunhill Rocks form intermediate piles along this ridge, while Hollow Tor lies on the western slope at 365m above OD. West of this tor a steep descent carries the open common land down to meet the enclosed land on the eastern outskirts of Widecombe village. To the SE of Pil Tor is Blackslade Mire, which forms the source of Ruddyleave Water. The Widecombe to Haytor road forms the northern boundary of this area, and of the survey, and the eastern limit of Blackslade Down is defined by the Hemsworthy to Cold East road.

### *Pudsham Down (Fig 17)*

Pudsham Down is a strip of unenclosed common, surrounded by the enclosed lands of Widecombe to the north and Buckland to the south. The eastern sector is a gently domed hill (400m above OD), which is a raised, southern extension of the Tor Hill ridge described above, though lacks an outcrop. West of the Venton lane that bifurcates the Down, the land slopes more gently to the west. Pudsham Down is notable for the rare survival of two WWI anti-glider poles on its slopes.

### *Buckland Common and Welstor Common (Fig 18)*

Buckland Common includes all the open ground south of Blackslade Ford, defined on the east by the Hemsworthy to Ashburton road, and on the west by Ruddyleave Water. The northern sector comprises a west-facing slope descending gently to Ruddyleave Water, whereas south of the Cockingford/Venton road, a ridge, topped with

a modern enclosure wall, separates Buckland Common to the west from Welstor Common on the east. The southern promontory of the ridge is crowned by Buckland Beacon, a large granite outcrop.

#### *Halsanger Common N and S and Mountsland Common (Fig 22)*

Halsanger Common (north) includes the long southern slopes of Rippon Tor, extending down to the expansive mire at the head of the River Ashburn. It is defined on the west side by the Hemsworthy to Cold East road and from there, on the SE edge, by the Bickington road as far as the Rifle Range. The mire occupies much space within Halsanger and divides the northern half of the common from the south. The latter is an evenly sloped dome rising to 350m above OD. Halsanger Common was enclosed in its entirety in the 19th century and is surrounded by a granite drystone wall and numerous modern fences. Langworthy Brook separates Halsanger Common from Mountsland Common, which is on the NE side of the brook. This common was also enclosed in the 19th century and occupies some flattish ground, which has seen much past cultivation, but now includes some boggy ground.

A large and impressive feature of Halsanger Common (south) is the rifle range, built in 1942 and remaining operational into the 1960s. At the northern end of the range the massive stop butt is over 60m long and 9.5m high and is a notable landmark in this locality.

#### *Horridge Common and Rippon Tor (Fig 21)*

The two modern enclosure walls, which contain Horridge Common and Rippon Tor, form a continuous strip of land, 500m wide, with parallel sides, extending 2.4km from Hemsworthy Gate, SE to Horridge. The granite pile of Rippon Tor (473m above OD), the highest within the project area, is topped by a large, stony round cairn, one of a group of five round cairns that crown the summit of this hill. The southern end of the Horridge enclosure contains one of the most impressive reave layouts on Dartmoor.

A feature notably absent from the 1946 APs is a vehicle trackway which has, at some point since that date, been bulldozed from a point near the rifle range, across the SE portion of Halsanger, Mountsland and Horridge Commons into Bagtor Woods, a distance of 1.5km, over which 13 reaves and several medieval field banks have been breached by openings of 3 to 4m.

#### *Bagtor Down (Fig 19)*

Bagtor Down is contained within a large, modern enclosure of the same name, attached to the northern edge of the Rippon Tor/Horridge enclosures. At the western end of this enclosure, a small, miry area is the source of the River Sig, which runs south-eastward towards Sigford, where it joins the River Lemon. The river bed and surrounding land has been heavily worked for tin and is gradually becoming overgrown by trees and scrub. The granite outcrop of Bag Tor is on the south side of the river, in the eastern sector of the enclosure. Two walled fields at the eastern end of the main enclosure also fall within the survey area. The southern field once contained part of Bagtor Wood and was until comparatively recently covered by conifer plantation. This was clear-felled some years ago, and is now a mixture of pasture and heath, with a few remaining trees along the southern border. The northern field (*referred to in this report as the Bagtor inner enclosure*), currently used for grazing, is rapidly yielding to encroachment by tree and scrub species.

## 4.0 METHODOLOGY

A literature search was undertaken, covering published and unpublished archaeological reports and books. Databases, including the National Heritage List (England) and Historic England's Pastscape, were examined via the internet and the Dartmoor HER was provided in digital form by the DNPA HER officer.

RAF vertical aerial photographs from 1946 were re-evaluated, as well as early OS map coverage, including 1st edition (old series) 1-inch (1809) and 1st- and 2nd-edition (1887 and 1905) 25-inch scale. The tithe maps and apportionments for the four relevant parishes were also examined at the Devon Heritage Centre.

The HER material was uploaded into a project GIS to provide a working basis for fieldwork. This material, together with digital versions of RCHME aerial plots (see below), was taken into the field for ground verification.

All sites depicted on aerial photo plots by Butler (see below) and the RCHME, and all sites listed in the Dartmoor Historic Environment Record HER have been investigated in the field. However, the gazetteer (Appendix 1) and the survey maps only list or depict sites that could be located and authenticated on the ground. Omissions from this gazetteer were either duplicate entries, were not found at the location given, or have been re-interpreted as non-archaeological. Updated HER reports with comments, corrections and additions, where needed, have been returned to the DNPA HER officer on completion of the project, including an additional 35 new entries. Results of large scale surveys at Foale's Arrishes, Buckland Common and Rifle Range are described in more detail in the report below.

Following a walkover survey, archaeological features were recorded as lines, points or polygons using dual frequency GPS. Geo-referencing was achieved from base stations established within or near the project area. After processing, the data was downloaded into a CAD environment on a tablet (pen) computer and taken into the field for checking and editing. This technique was used for both the map scale (1:2500) recording and the large scale (1:200; 1:500; 1:1000) earthwork plans, where the level of detail was increased as appropriate.

After completion of all field survey, illustrations for this report were prepared in Adobe Illustrator and output as PDFs. A GIS version of the 1:2500 plan was also prepared for uploading into the DNPA GIS system.

## 5.0 PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Although the area is well endowed with 24 prehistoric round cairns, and most have been disturbed to various degrees, there has, untypically, been only one recorded archaeological intervention into this type of monument. This occurred at the cist on Blackslade Down, where it is recorded that the Messrs Amery of Ashburton examined the interior of the cist in 1871, from which they retrieved wood charcoal and small sherds of pottery (DEC 1897, 150).

Monuments in this area became the focus of attention by the Dartmoor Exploration Committee (DEC) briefly in the summer of 1896, when they excavated a number of hut circles in the Rippon Tor and Haytor area (DEC 1987, 145-65). These included the hut circle within the small enclosure at Tunhill Rocks, eight hut circles at Foale's Arrishes, (Fig 4) and two hut circles within Halsanger Common. The work at the Halsanger huts was cut short, with the intention of returning to these and others on Mountsland Common at a later date, although no such return was recorded. The results from all these investigations were limited by the undeveloped archaeological techniques of the late 19th century, but important artefacts were retrieved, including some useful sherds of mid-Bronze Age pottery, mostly of a type categorised today as Trevisker, plus some flint fragments, including scrapers.

Although the above represents the sum of recorded investigations of hut circles, it seems likely that others were also explored without record, judging by their current condition, including one large hut on Buckland Common,



*Fig 4 Foale's Arrishes Hut I during excavation in 1896. George French sits on the wall of the 'cooking' area. Photo by Robert Burnard (Dartmoor Archive).*

which has a cleared interior. It was recorded anecdotally by the DEC, that Robert Dymond, a local historian and sometime resident of Blackslade in the 1870s-80s, undertook some excavation of hut circles in this vicinity, but the results and locations are unknown.

Twentieth century studies of the Rippon Tor area have contributed greatly towards an understanding of Dartmoor's wider prehistoric landscape, the progress of which has not been without its pitfalls and for which commentary has been provided by Fleming (2008). In 1927, E C Curwen published a survey plan (Fig 5) of Foale's Arrishes (Curwen 1927) in which, apart from the stone hut circles, the large rectangular stone walled enclosure and the parallel stony banks running between Top Tor and Pil Tor were also shown. This plan was adopted in the 1950s by C A Raleigh Radford, in his re-appraisal of Dartmoor's prehistoric settlements. He interpreted those parallel stony banks, which we now know to be prehistoric land divisions or 'reaves', as evidence of medieval strip farming (Radford 1950, 72).

Not far away, at the foot of Rippon Tor's northern slope, Lady Aileen Fox recorded a small single hut settlement within a sub-divided rectilinear enclosure. Fox asserted that the small plots resulting from the sub-divisions, were illustrative of the scale of farming in what she believed to be the Iron Age (Fox 1954, 93). Fox, whose paper was a re-assessment of prehistoric or 'Celtic' fields and agriculture, based on her findings at Kestor on eastern Dartmoor, had, like Radford, failed to make the link between these settlements and the wider contemporary context of the reaves; this would be established by later investigators.

Major progress was made in the interpretation and approximate dating of reaves by E Gawne and J V Somers Cocks in the 1960s (Gawne & Somers Cocks 1968, 277-291). They were the first to recognize that reaves were dissimilar to medieval fields in the manner of their construction and layout, but also in the way they related to other elements of the human landscape and topography, which was different to the medieval fields, and fitted better with surviving prehistoric features, such as the hut settlements. Gawne and Somers Cocks were also the first researchers to adopt the term 'land division', when applied to the reaves, in preference to field boundary. Using RAF vertical aerial photographs to plot the reaves, followed by fieldwork and ground verification, they

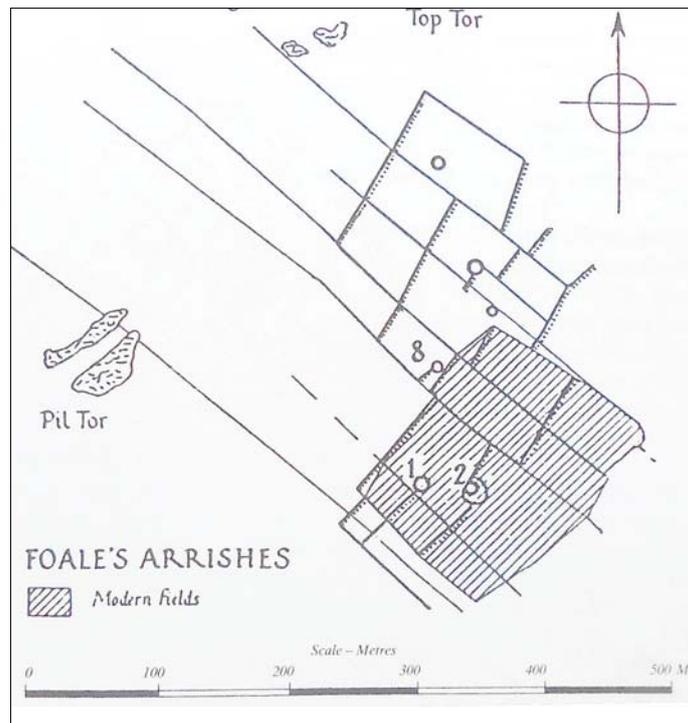


Fig 5 Foale's Arrishes as surveyed by E C Curwen 1927.

produced a plan of the reaves on Rippon Tor, Buckland Common and Blackslade Down, which, although neither accurate or complete, was the first of its kind and formed the basis for future investigations (Fig 6). Although uncertain as to the precise period, they proposed a prehistoric date for the reaves.

Although it was Andrew Fleming and colleagues in the 1970s who brought the Dartmoor reaves to the attention of the wider world, and provided the level of understanding we enjoy today through the Dartmoor Reaves Project, their investigations focussed largely on the Holne Moor area. However, although not surveyed in detail as part of that project, Fleming's discourse necessarily included what he labelled the Rippon Tor parallel reave system. He expanded the area covered by Gawne and Somers Cocks and demonstrated that reaves following the alignment of this system could be traced as far west as Dunstone Down, and north to Black Hill, Haytor and Houndtor Downs (Fleming 2008).

Recording the reaves had been greatly aided by the use of aerial photographic plotting, both by Gawne and Somers Cocks and by Fleming, but more recent AP plotting has revealed many additional elements of the landscape of all dates and types. In the 1980's, the RCHME produced a 1:10,000-scale plot of all of Dartmoor's archaeology visible on historic, vertical RAF APs, as a pilot of the National Mapping Programme. Although for the Rippon Tor area, this produced a reasonably true representation of the whole reave system for the first time, many smaller items plotted were erroneous or misinterpreted, but were entered into the SMR (now the HER) without ground verification.

A more reliable AP plot was completed by Jeremy Butler in the early 1990's, published as a series of atlas volumes, which include many outline surveys at larger scale, based on the aerial findings. This work is about as detailed as aerial reconnaissance is able to achieve and, along with the RCHME survey, has formed one of the main sources of reference for the current survey (Butler 1991).

*An Archaeological Checklist for Buckland in the Moor* was compiled by Pauline Belsey in the 1980s and as a result, a number of important sites were confirmed or added to the Devon SMR. Belsey also undertook measured surveys at two prehistoric settlements on Buckland Common (Belsey 1987), and in collaboration with Bruce and Sykes, surveyed elements of the tinworking remains on that common (Bruce et al 1996).

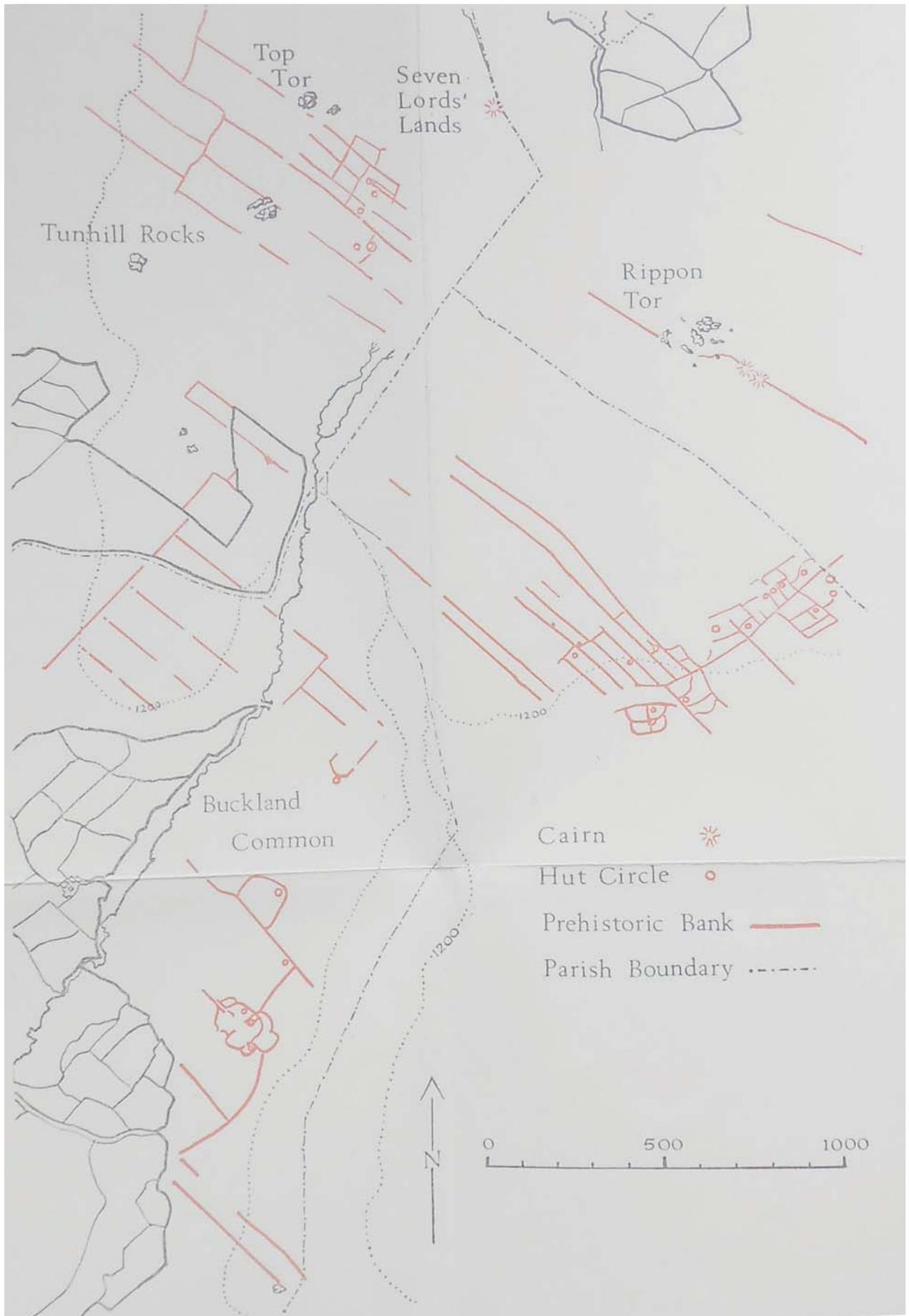


Fig 6 Part of the Rippon Tor parallel reave system and settlements as recorded by Gawne and Somers Cocks (1968).

Unfortunately, no checklist has yet been undertaken for the other parishes covered by the Rippon Tor PAL, but within Widecombe parish, Elizabeth Gawne was an active researcher in the 1960 and 70s and produced a useful paper reporting on abandoned medieval fields and agriculture on the commons surrounding Widecombe (Gawne 1970) as well as her work on reaves covered above.

Earlier in the 1960's, abandoned medieval settlements, specifically the buildings, were investigated by Catherine Linehan. Although this study later expanded to include the whole of the Dartmoor uplands, her earliest fieldwork included the longhouse in the Blackslade valley, which she considered to be the original site of Blackslade Manor (Linehan 1963, 175), and a settlement to the south of Coldeast (Linehan 1966).

Tinworking and tin mining within the district have not been subject to any known archaeological investigation, other than descriptions of material plotted by Butler (1991). Historical evidence for the later mines has been summarized by Hamilton Jenkin (1981).

## 6.0 ARCHAEOLOGY BY PERIOD

*(nb numbers in brackets represent Dartmoor HER UIDs [unique identifiers] and all would normally be prefixed with the letters MDV)*

### 6.1 Prehistoric

#### 6.1.1 Round cairns

The earliest extant archaeological features, or monuments, within the project area are the round cairns or barrows, which may have origins from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> to mid 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC, covering the late Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age. Some were certainly funerary monuments and contained one or more interments (burials/cremations) although there is no certainty that all were used in this way; some may have had other, more subtle roles. Where interments have been discovered and excavated on Dartmoor, the human remains rarely survive but were frequently accompanied by material possessions of the occupants, including weapons, pottery and jewellery, and these have often been retrieved. These cairns vary greatly in size, form and condition: unfortunately the condition dictates, to some extent, what we understand of the form and function of individual cairns, and most in this area have suffered interference or robbing of the stone as a wall building material. Although only one archaeological intervention has been recorded in this area, at Blackslade, it is likely that a number of these cairns were subject to unrecorded investigations in search of artefacts, especially gold, in the three and a half millennia since their abandonment.

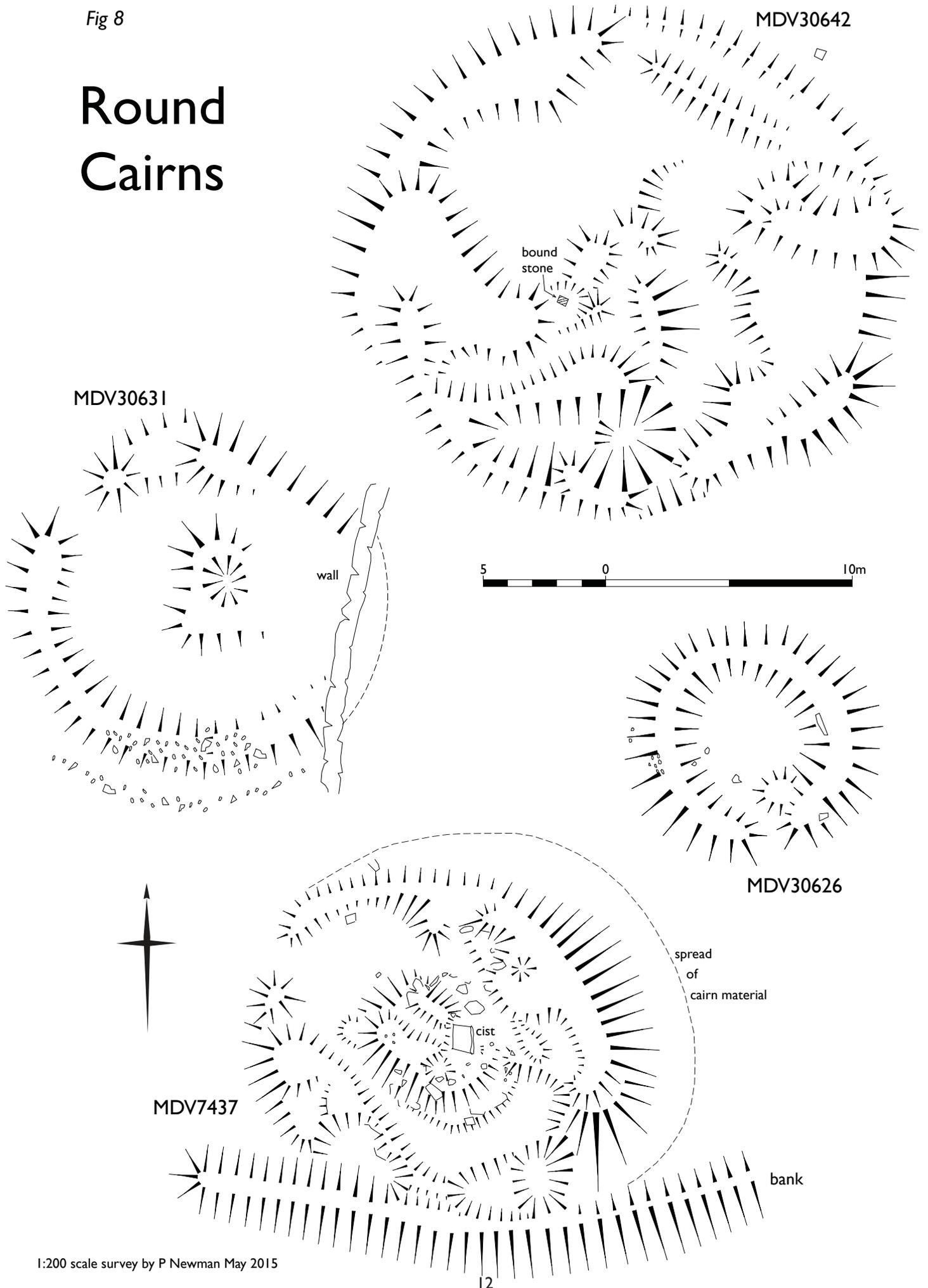
Cairns were unlikely to have been used or perceived in isolation by their builders, and can be seen to have been positioned in groups and alignments, or so located to have had a visual impact on a skyline. The largest examples are found on Rippon Tor and Wittaburrow (Fig 7) and comprise very large stony mounds, positioned to be prominent features of the skyline, visible from surrounding locations. Conversely, the cairns themselves often



Fig 7 The disturbed cairn on Wittaburrow. Rippon Tor and its large cairn are on the horizon to the left.

Fig 8

# Round Cairns





*Fig 9 A much disturbed round cairn, south of the Rippon Tor summit. The south Devon coast, including Teignmouth, is visible on the horizon*

command impressive vistas over the Dartmoor interior and borders and are inter-visible with other prominent examples on Holne Moor and Hameldown. Prehistoric round cairns are relatively numerous on Dartmoor and would once have been common elsewhere in Devon, though examples in the hinterland of Dartmoor and the lowland areas of the county are much rarer.

On Rippon Tor, the most notable example sits on the highest point of the main outcrop (7539; *Fronticepiece*). It is an approximately circular mound of granite boulders, with an overall spread of 27m. The top has been much altered and added to, and the central area hollowed; there is also the more recent addition of an OS trig pillar within the hollow. It is not known if this cairn ever contained an interment.

Seventy-five metres to the SE of the outcrop, a similar though smaller stony mound (13721) sits away from the tor on the crest of the hill (Fig 9), and another (7433) lies 12m beyond. The former is an amorphous and much disturbed cairn of 20m diameter, which, due to interference, now has an uneven profile; the latter is much more spread and partly turf covered. It is likely that both suffered robbing when the Rippon Tor enclosure walls were constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Two smaller cairns within this ridge-top group are sited between the first two. One of these (51162) appears to be a ring cairn surrounding a small free-standing granite outcrop, just east of the main pile. The other (7434) is a 6.2m diameter mound with a hollowed centre. According to Grinsell (1978, 142) it contains a possible cist, or burial chamber, though this is unverified.

Three cairns on Horridge Common, may be considered as part of the Rippon Tor group, sitting on a shelf of land at the foot of the tor, between 950 and 1170m to the SE. Two of the cairns (8100 and 8101) survive as upstanding earth-covered mounds, both rather covered by gorse. Hollows in the fabric of both cairns suggest unrecorded interventions have taken place. Further south, a third cairn (8217) has been massively disturbed and robbed. Its appearance is of an amorphous spread of small granite boulders, with a slightly raised central area. Any circularity in form that the cairn once possessed has been lost.

A prominent, large stony cairn (7537) sits on the summit of Wittaburrow (Fig 7), 100m to the south of the outcrop. Like Rippon Tor, this place possess fine vistas across the surrounding moors and with sight-lines to



*Fig 10 The excavated cist at the centre of a ruined cairn on Blackslade Down.*

other hilltop round cairns. The mound has a 25m diameter at base, but the structure has been much altered, probably robbed, and is now quite low in places. A 'bite-shaped' section is missing from the main mound on the SE side where a smaller cairn, which is unlikely to be an original feature, stands within the original spread of the monument. Two large hollows have been dug into the main mound which, overall, survives in a very uneven state.

An extremely flattened stony feature (25160) on the summit of Pudsham Down, south of Wittaburrow, was also probably once a landmark cairn of the type described, and another (112763) is located 35m SE of Welstor Rock. Both are previously unrecorded as cairns, although that on Pudsham had been noted as a possible military site, but both comprise circular, slightly raised spreads of stone, and although their original character cannot be known due to probable robbing, both are good candidates. The Pudsham example has a diameter of 21m and overlies the course of one of the reaves that runs NW to SE across this hilltop. The chronological relationship is unclear due to the extent of the interference on the cairn, but a similar situation exists on Rippon Tor where the two ridge cairns also overlie a reave. The cairn on Welstor is 24m in diameter, located on the southern end of the Buckland Common Ridge, before the land falls away south-west to the enclosures around Ashburton. Although spread, the cairn appears less disturbed and may have been of different appearance to the taller mounds on the hilltops.

Five cairns of lesser status are spaced along the ridge that defines Buckland Common to the west and Welstor Common to the east, and three others on the same alignment dot the landscape between Cold East and Blackslade Ford. These cairns straddle the boundary between the parishes of Ashburton and Buckland in the Moor. It is surely no coincidence that they were used to mark the boundary in this way and were clearly significant features of the landscape at the time the parish boundaries were established. The boundary today is marked by a series of 19th-century inscribed granite posts, four of which are lodged within ruined cairns.

Of the Buckland Common group, four (30629, 30628, 30631) are set close by the west side of the newtake wall that defines the ridge of the common (and also runs along the parish boundary), while a single cairn (30648) continues the line to the north towards Coldeast. Two (30631 and 30626) are distinctly ring cairns (Fig 8) of 15.7m and 10.5m diameter, but all of this group have become very eroded and spread, in some cases barely discernible, and any variation in design is difficult to observe. A ring of small stones, now turf-covered, encircles the outcrop of Buckland Beacon and may represent remains of a tor cairn (7977).

A larger cairn on this line is close by Coldeast Cross (30642), near the road. Any usable stone that once existed has been removed, perhaps by road builders, and all that remains is a low earthwork, the outline of which is a near perfect circle with a base diameter of 21m, though the interior comprises only irregular hummocks and pits. A parish boundary stone stands upright just west of centre (30643).

Another very ruinous cairn on Blackslade Down (7437) has a central cist, made up of four edge-set, *in situ*, slabs, forming a rectangular chamber of 1m by 0.7m (Figs 8 & 10). This is the cairn investigated by the Amerys in 1871 (DEC 1897). Pottery and charcoal were retrieved but the displaced capstone to cover the cist, reported as lying beside it, is now absent. The 16.5m diameter cairn that covered the cist was probably a mound, but the uneven ground and pitting which surrounds it now, suggests much material was robbed to construct a field boundary, of probable medieval date; this touches and obscures the southern tangent of the cairn.

On the slopes north of Top Tor, three cairns survive, of which 7457 and 7455 are low, turf covered mounds of 24m and 8m diameter. Stones protruding through the surface have previously been interpreted as components of a kerb on both cairns. The third example (7456) is recognisable mainly by four large *in situ* boulders which represent the remains of a substantial retaining circle. However, much of the fabric has been removed leaving only a faint, roughly circular earthwork of 9.5m diameter.

#### 6.1.2 Reaves, settlements and hut circles

The Rippon Tor PAL was designated on the basis of it containing the 'largest prehistoric field system on Dartmoor'. The reaves are the major element of that system, which is better referred to as one of land division rather than a field system, as the latter implies a singularly agricultural purpose, for which reaves may not, in many cases, have been intended.

The purpose and origin of the reaves has been thoroughly discussed by others and there is no requirement to repeat or extend that discussion here. It is sufficient to state that reaves were linear boundaries, or land divisions, constructed from stone, which divided some areas of the landscape into strips of various extent. Surviving reaves are usually as straight as the topography allows, though often ignoring it, running across river valleys and over the rocky outcrops of tors. They usually run in close parallel, hence the term 'parallel reaves' and many parallel reaves following a similar axis can be defined as a system. These systems appear to follow a design, or evolved as a scheme, rather than by piecemeal *ad hoc* additions. Cross-reaves, at 90° to and between the parallel reaves, were often used to form rectilinear plots that vary in extent. Many hut circles (the evidence of prehistoric round houses) in the vicinity of reaves may be identified as having a close chronological relationship with them, either isolated examples or forming neighbourhood groups nestling between the reaves, sometimes within small plots linked to, or incorporating, the reaves.

The prehistoric landscape, was not entirely made up of reaves and associated settlements; other, less regular forms of hut settlements within sub-circular or amorphous enclosures, often isolated, also survive. The construction style of these enclosures was usually very similar to that of the reaves. They were not physically incorporated into reave systems, or formed part of the scheme, though they may have been contemporary or in some cases later, when components of the reave systems may have been adopted within their construction.

Reaves and enclosure walls that have survived are always constructed from stone, either in the form of buried walls built from stacked rock, or as lines of upright orthostats arranged to form a barrier, with smaller stones filling the gaps (Figs 12 & 13). Survival and condition depend on environmental variables, including human intervention. For some, the upstanding granite boulders, although displaced, remain very visible and appear unscathed. However, reaves were often robbed of their useable stones, in which case what remains is a linear rubble line formed by

# Blackslade Down Archaeology

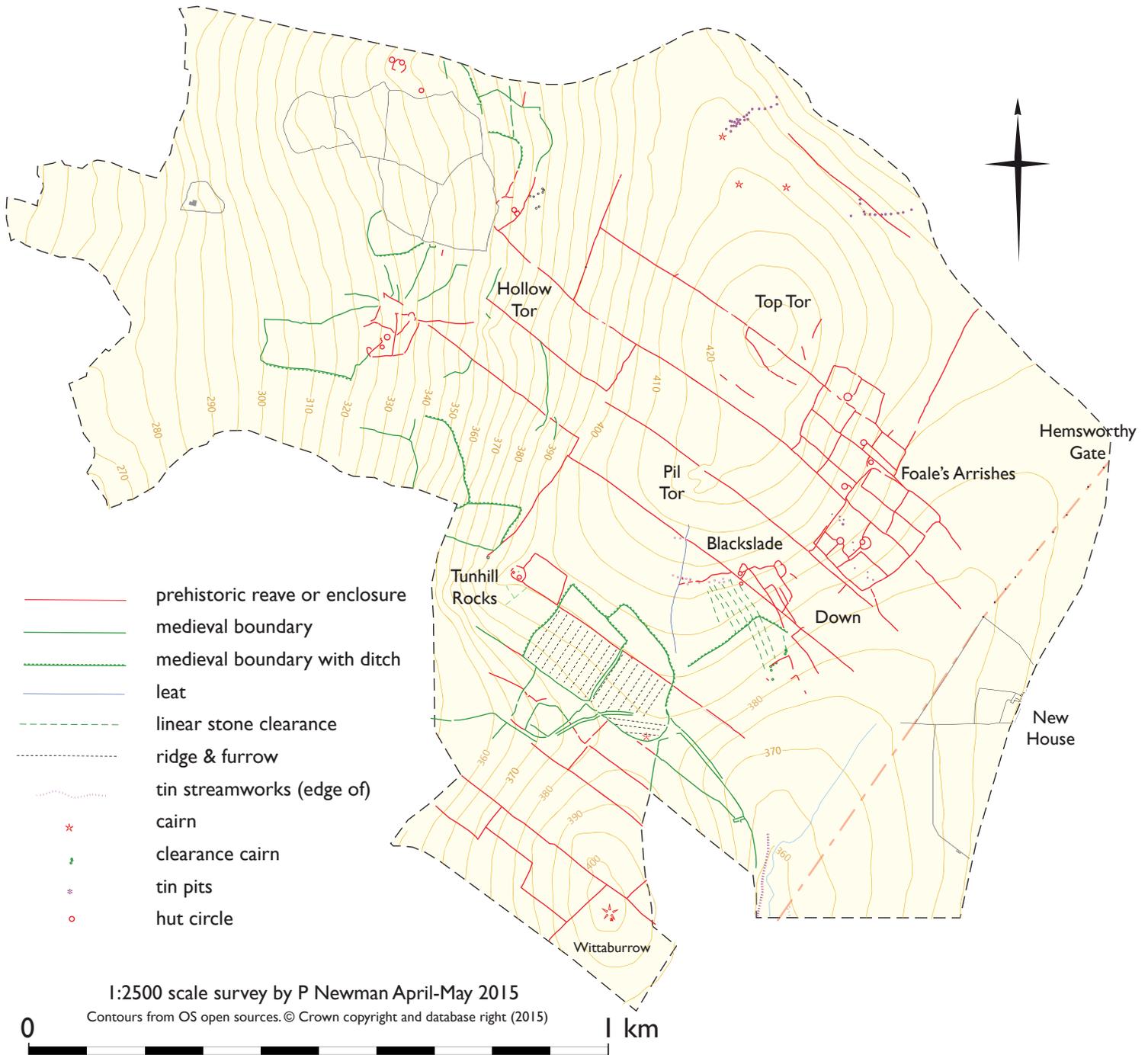


Fig 11 1:2500-scale survey of Blackslade Down showing aspects of the archaeology.

smaller stones, which have become partly or fully turf covered over time. The depth of the turf covering may vary, making some reaves difficult to observe on the ground; differences in vegetation are sometimes the main visible clue as to their presence and alignment. In lower lying ground, the reaves may have become overwhelmed by peat or bog, where little or no trace is currently perceivable. On hillslopes, where reaves run along the contour, soil creep can cause a build-up of earth above the barrier of the stone wall, creating a drop, or lynchet, along the line of the reave.

Within the Rippon Tor system, survival and condition may be observed across this range of variables. It is also the case that some sections of reave became disguised when incorporated into later field banks in the medieval

and post medieval periods. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century enclosure walls on Rippon Tor and Horridge Common, for example, clearly follow the alignment of reaves in the area, which have been fossilized into these later walls.

Fig 40 shows all the archaeology recorded during the 2015 survey. Collectively, the reaves dominate this plan, which is the first to accurately depict all elements of the parallel reave system within the context of the surrounding landscape, demonstrating the close similarity in their axes. Reaves are visible within most sectors of the PAL, and although there are some notable voids, it is clear that the system once affected all of this district, within which, remarkably, the axis is roughly maintained. It should also be noted that further elements of this system aligned on a similar axis, have been recorded on Haytor Down, Dunstone Down and Wind Tor, increasing the extent of the Rippon Tor system well beyond the boundary of the PAL.

The alignment of the parallel reaves is roughly NW to SE, although within the system as a whole, there is a slight, but notable change of direction, which runs uniformly within the reaves from Rippon Tor across Halsanger Common to Buckland Common. This slight kink means that sections of reaves on the NW sector are on a slightly different alignment to the SW section of the same reave. This is further exaggerated on the Horridge Common section by another slight change in alignment, which is also common to all the reaves in that group. A number of hut settlements survive within the PAL, of which the major examples are discussed below.

#### *Blackslade Down and Hollow Tor (Fig 11)*

A large portion of the Rippon Tor reave system traverses these slopes, continuing the NW-trending axis from Rippon Tor and Halsanger, up the west side of Blackslade Down and over the ridge between Top Tor and Wittaburrow. The reaves descend the western slope towards the enclosed lands of Widecombe, wherein little trace of them now survives, while on the open moorland around Hollow Tor, the reaves cannot be traced more than 150m NW of the tor. Enclosures SE of Tunhill Rocks, added in the medieval period, but later abandoned, overlie the reaves in places, though the reave layout is still discernible.

Second millennium BC settlements, comprising hut circles and enclosures, some incorporating elements of the reave system, survive on Blackslade Down and Tunhill Rocks. The settlement known as Foale's Arrishes (7415) (Fig 25) is the most impressive within the Rippon Tor PAL, where reaves have been subdivided into small rectangular enclosures to form plots, and where eight hut circles survive (see separate section). Several of the



*Fig 12 An upstanding stony reave runs up the slope from Foale's Arrishes towards the summit of Tor Hill.*



*Fig 13 A low turf-covered reave running across Rippon Tor.*

Fig 14 Enclosure and hut circle at Tunhill Rocks. 1:500-scale earthwork survey.

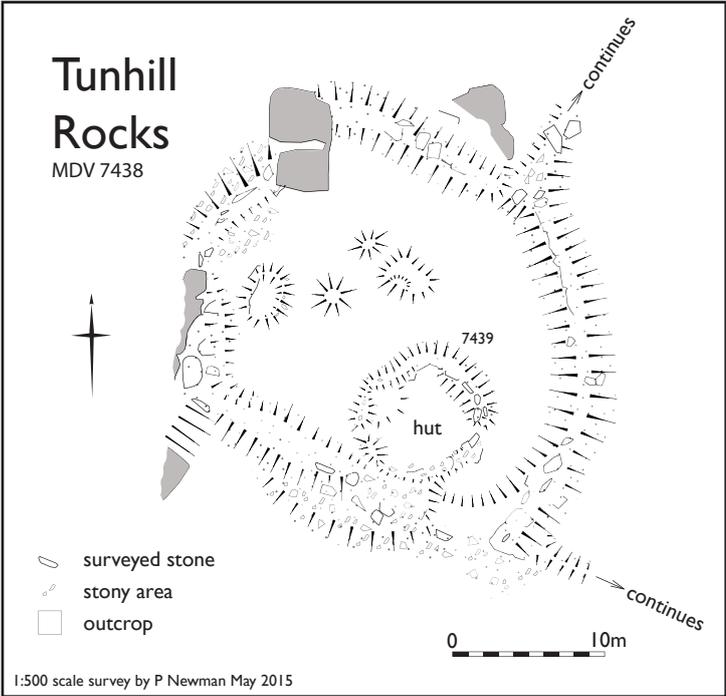


Fig 15 (top) view of the enclosure on Tunhill Rocks looking towards Pil Tor.

Fig 16 (below) the hut circle at Tunhill Rocks looking west.



# Pudsham Down Archaeology

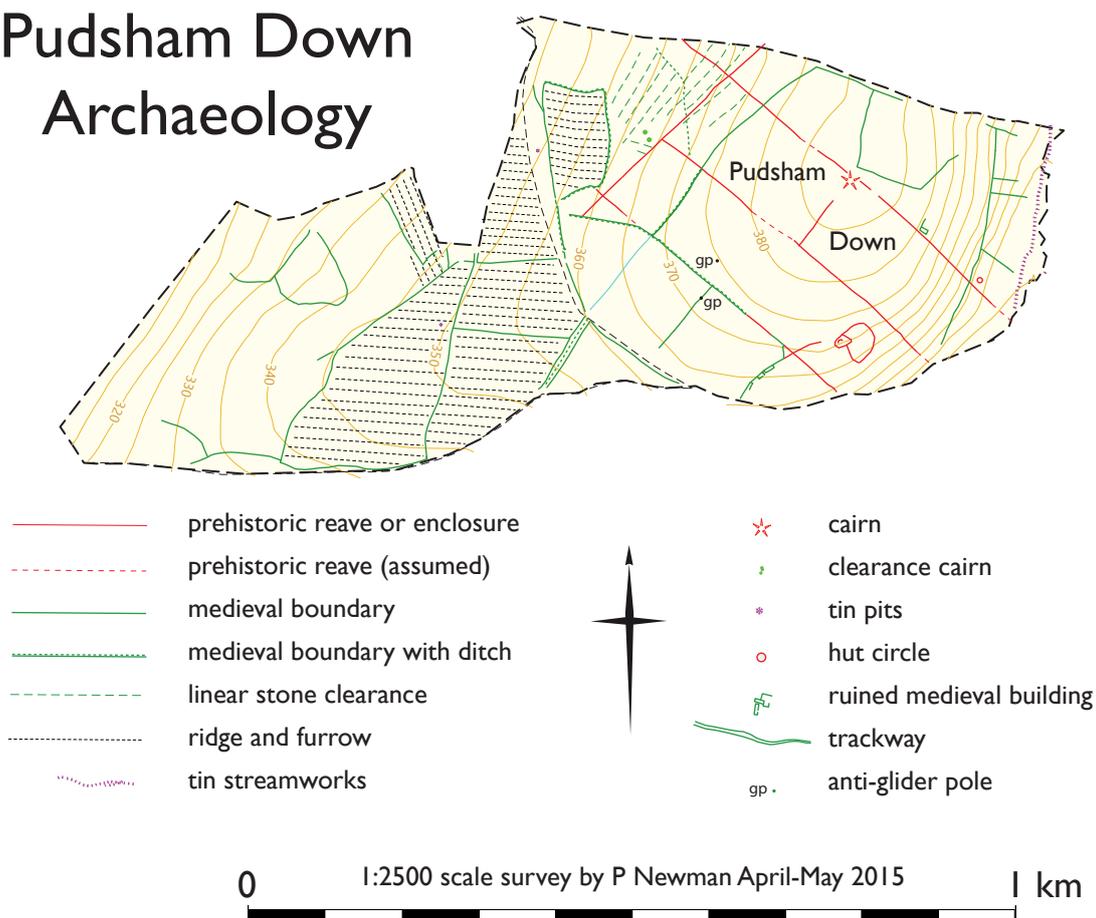


Fig 17 1:2500-scale survey of Pudsham Down showing aspects of the archaeology. Contours from OS open sources. © Crown copyright and database right (2015).

plots were re-used at a later (so far unknown) date, when a stone boundary wall was imposed, enclosing four of the huts and sections of the reaves within a large, rectangular enclosure.

Just south of Foale's Arrishes, a 'D'-shape enclosure with two hut circles has been bolted on to the north side of a reave and two smaller enclosures have, in turn, been added to that.

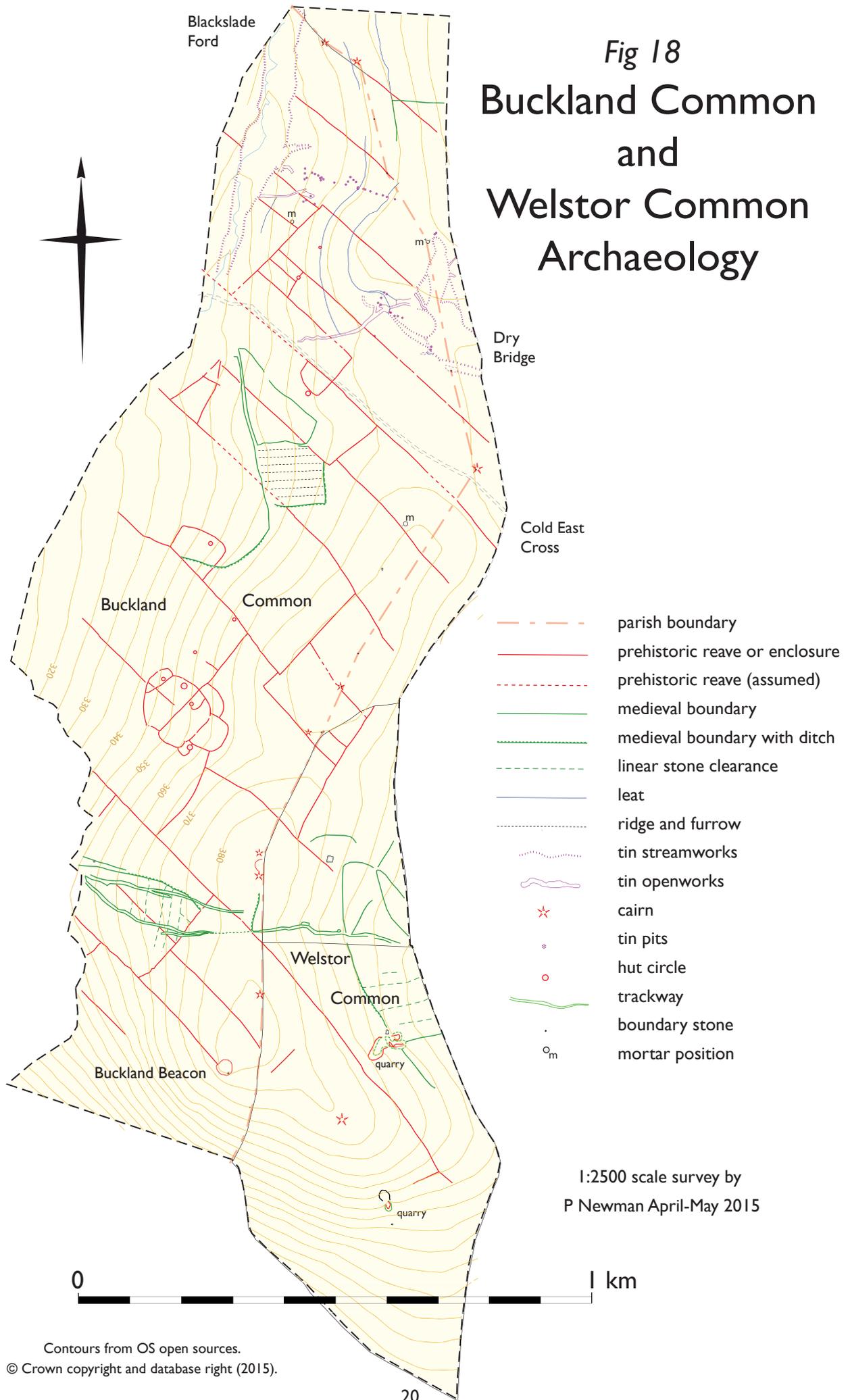
On Tunhill Rocks, a well-preserved oval enclosure (7438) has incorporated sections of the outcrop within its circuit (Figs 14 -16). It contains one large hut circle (43228), excavated by the DEC in 1896 (Fig 4).

Fragmentary walls and a poorly preserved hut circle survive to the north of Hollow Tor (7424). A better preserved pair of huts (7424) exist by the road near the entrance to Tor Croft, but little survives in the way of enclosures. Both sites are likely to have been the victims of robbing to provide material for the walls surrounding Tor Croft. A settlement (26826) with two hut circles, attached to a reave just west of Hollow Tor, has survived a little better, though elements of the enclosure are missing.

## Pudsham Down (Fig 17)

Three parallel reaves, which extend from Buckland Common to the SE, and probably crossed Ruddycleave water, run diagonally across the Down, where two of them halt at a terminal reave on the NW slope. A heavily robbed enclosure (25158) with an earthwork impression of a totally robbed hut circle, represents the only evidence of prehistoric settlement on Pudsham Down. It is notable that all the prehistoric remains on the Down have been extensively robbed of stone. In the case of one of the reaves, where a central section has been removed on the crest of the hill, the robber trench is still visible, suggesting removal was comparatively recent.

*Fig 18*  
**Buckland Common  
 and  
 Welstor Common  
 Archaeology**



1:2500 scale survey by  
 P Newman April-May 2015

Contours from OS open sources.  
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# Bagtor Down Archaeology

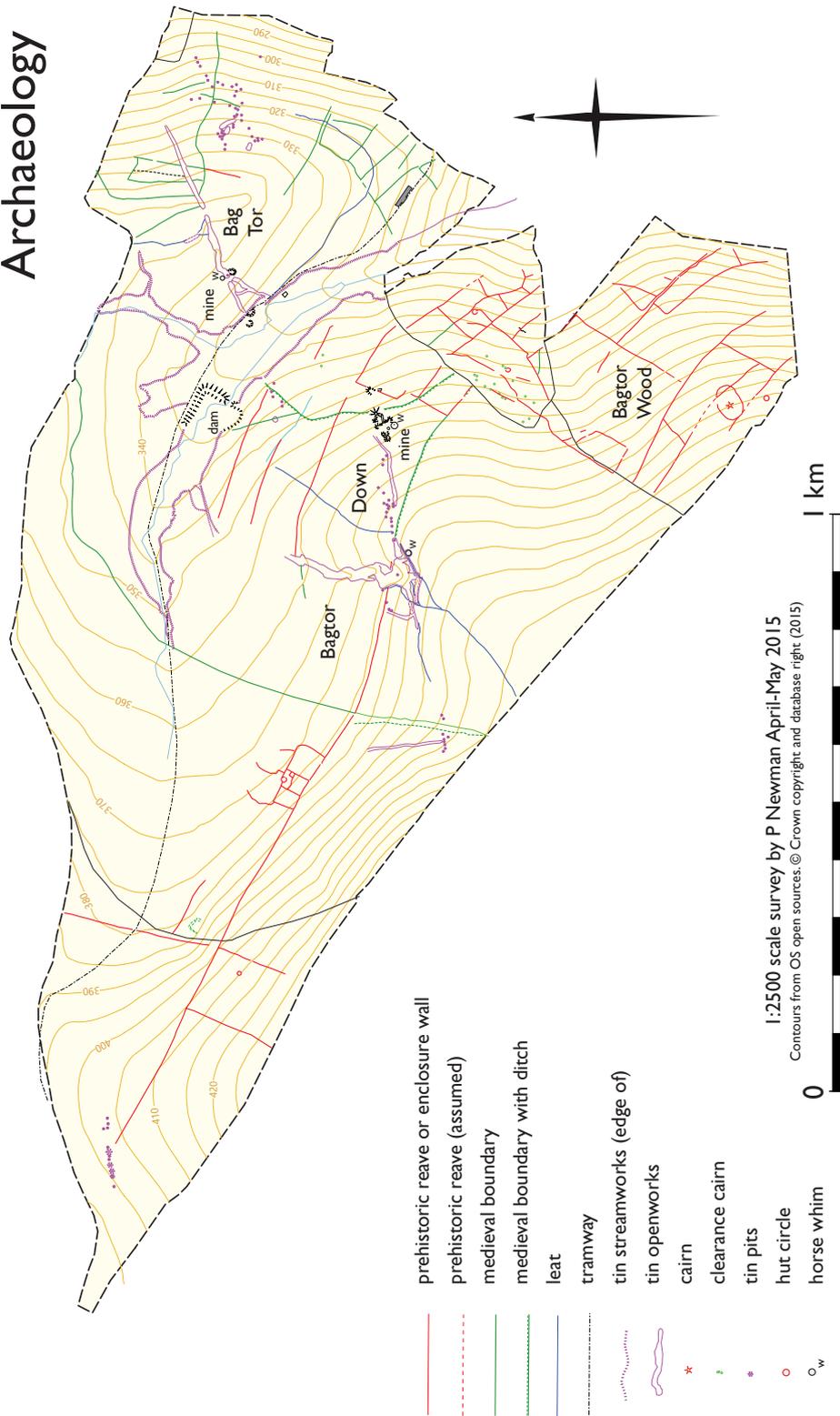


Fig 19 1:2500-scale survey of Bagtor Down showing aspects of the archaeology.

### *Buckland Common and Welstor Common (Fig 18)*

Thirteen reaves cross Buckland and Welstor Commons combined, all following the SE to NW trend of the greater Rippon Tor system, several surviving in part for over 1km, including three that continue beyond Ruddy Cleave Water and across Pudsham Down. There is no uniform spacing between these reaves but they are between 85m and 140m apart. On the northern sector of Welstor Common, the reaves have been truncated and any continuation to the SE has been effaced by 20th century clearance and cultivation. The reaves on the ridge and west slope of Buckland Common are very clear, where sub-division and cross-reaves are also evident. However, a large part of this area was obscured by gorse at the time of survey, preventing a full record.

Two small sub-rectangular enclosures (8038 & 8017) are attached to reaves, and both have associated hut circles. That to the south has the hut circle within the enclosure, whereas the example beside the road sits just outside. A large agglomerated enclosure, with four substantial hut circles, survives in good condition on the western slope of Buckland Common (7995; see separate description below). Its layout suggests at least seven phases of expansion and it appears to have been added to pre-existing components of the reave system (Fig 28).

### *Bagtor Down (Fig 19)*

On Bagtor Down, the reaves are more fragmented than elsewhere but the overall scheme is observable. The adherence to the axis seems a little less disciplined here, as the reaves head west and curve slightly north of the main alignment then south again. This slight deviation may have been to accommodate the topography of the hillside, although the contours on Fig 19 would suggest otherwise.

A single reave, with traceable origins near Hemsworthy Gate, extends the full length of the Bagtor enclosure, its eastern section having been re-furbished as a boundary within a medieval field system. Three fragmentary reaves follow the same alignment, including the curved section, lower down the valley to the north.

Near the western end of Bagtor Down, a small rectangular enclosure (8053), with three internal divisions and a single hut circle, is attached to the northern side of the reave, and was either contemporary with the reave or post-dated it. This was the settlement chosen by Fox to illustrate her 1954 paper, discussed above.



*Fig 20 Hut circle (62318) on Halsanger Common. One of the largest hut circles in the PAL.*

Towards the east of Bagtor Down, some remaining components of the reave system are contained within two inner enclosures of probable 18th or 19th century AD date, bounded by dry-stone walls. Within the northern of these, several parallel reaves follow the prevailing axis, with some sub-division creating smaller plots; a hut circle (62342) sits at the centre of these reaves. Some of these plots are a little irregular in shape and may be later add-ons, or the result of alteration. A steep, irregular lynchet running across the enclosure and a total of 17 clearance cairns are also evidence of later activity (26617).

Within the Bagtor Wood enclosure to the south, past forestry activity has affected the condition of the reaves and other enclosures severely, but fragments have survived, including two parallel stony banks, 3.5m apart, forming an apparent droveway or enclosed track, extending 185m to the SE. There is also a small rectangular enclosure, and one of ovoid form (112867) that appears to overlie two reaves.

#### *Horridge Common and Rippon Tor (Fig 21)*

The modern enclosures that contain Horridge Common and Rippon Tor, form a continuous strip of land, with a consistent width of 500m, which extends 2.4km from Hemsworthy Gate, SE to Horridge Common. The boundary walls, although of 19th-century dry-stone character, follow the exact SE-NW alignment of the reave system, including deviations, and represent the fossilization of former parallel reaves.

One of the longest surviving reaves in the area, sits between those boundary walls and runs in parallel. It may be traced from Rippon Tor, SE to Horridge Common, where it merges into a more complex system of sub-divided reaves and enclosures, a total distance of 2.3km. Beyond Horridge, it may have once continued, though can no longer be traced. A second reave commences on the NW slope of the tor, then runs parallel with the first, 67m to the south, and similarly becomes part of the Horridge complex.

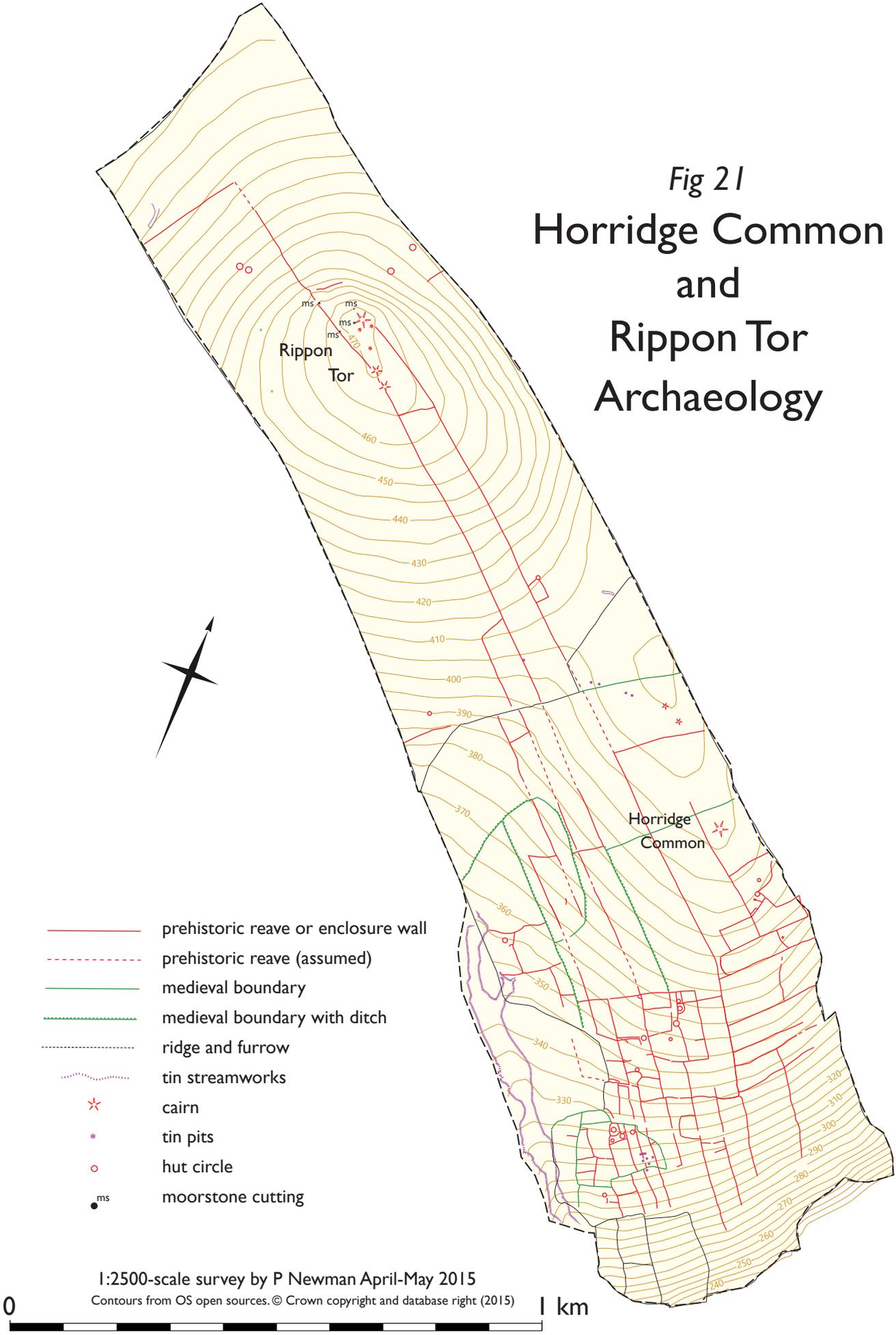
Apart from the examples described above, the Rippon Tor enclosure, contains fewer reaves, or evidence of settlement than neighbouring areas, and appears to have been less developed in the 2nd millennium BC. However, a short section of a transverse reave runs across the slopes NW of the tor and isolated hut circles exist to its west (62353) and north (62355-6). South-east of the Tor, a small rectangular enclosure, with a single hut circle built into the corner (62326), is attached to the north side of one of the long reaves.

Horridge Common represents the most complex and best preserved area of reaves and settlements within the Rippon Tor PAL. It covers an area of approximately 52ha on the moderate south facing slope of the common. The southern section is at the very edge of the modern moorland boundary and the land beyond is woodland and farmland. The reaves, enclosure walls and hut circles are extremely well-preserved, many surviving as clear, upstanding stone walls and banks. On the upper section of the common, six parallel reaves, including the two Rippon Tor examples described above, spaced between 22m and 90m apart, extend down the slope following the prevailing alignment of the system, where the addition of several cross reaves, has created large rectangular plots. The intensity of the sub-division increases further down the slope, where fifteen hut circles are distributed among the smaller plots and enclosures, either in isolation or in groups. Some of these huts are impressive in scale and appearance, being of large diameter (up to c.8m), with clear level floors and containing large upright, edge-set slabs in their wall fabric. There is no known record of excavation within any of these hut circles and most are in a fair to good, stable condition, though inevitably, some have suffered stone robbing.

#### *Halsanger Common (Fig 22)*

Halsanger Common (north) has seven visible though intermittent parallel reaves spaced approximately 46m apart following the prevailing SE to NW axis of the system, between the New House road wall and the mire

Fig 21  
 Horridge Common  
 and  
 Rippon Tor  
 Archaeology



1:2500-scale survey by P Newman April-May 2015  
 Contours from OS open sources. © Crown copyright and database right (2015)





Fig 23 Hut circle (62311) on Halsanger Common.

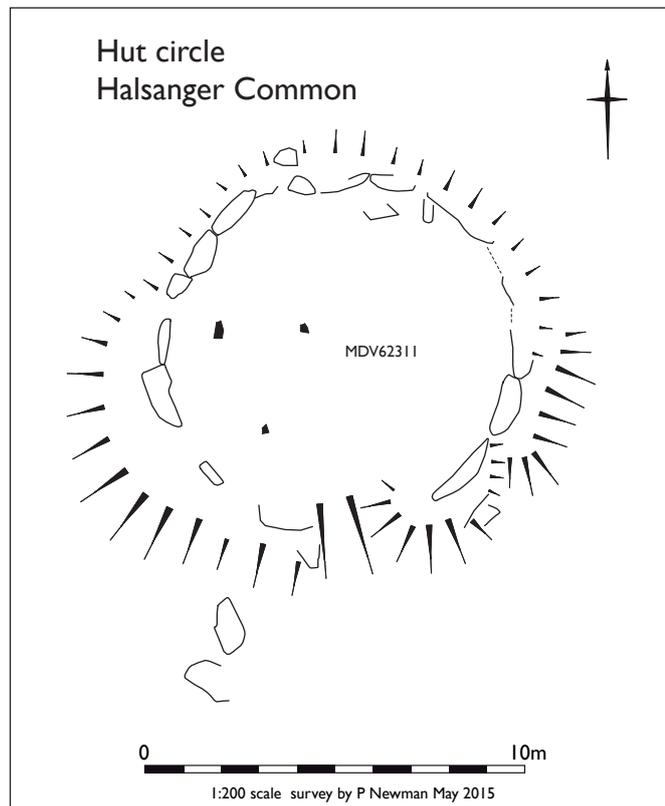


Fig 24 1:200 scale survey of a hut circle (62311) on Halsanger Common.

surrounding the Ashburn. The reaves terminate just north of the mire where a series of cross reaves and a small enclosure have interrupted them. However, the alignment continues on the SE side of the mire, where six parallel reaves (25217) run SE towards the rifle range. It is not known for certain if any reaves ever continued through the area since subsumed by the mire. Although this is a possibility, aerial photographs of 1946, when the mire was less extensive, show no evidence to support this (RAF CP/UK.1824/4-Nov-1946/ 3166).

In the central portion of the modern enclosure (centred SX 7486 7478) is a series of small rectangular plots created by additional shorter reaves with right-angled sub-divisions between them. Although following the same

axis as the longer reaves, and clearly part of the same system, this block of smaller divisions does not appear to extend further up the slope. A sub-divided enclosure (25219) with curving outer walls and a single hut circle, is attached to the southern end of the reave block, just above the level of the mire. Its form does not sit comfortably within the apparent scheme of the surrounding parallel reaves and is a probable later addition.

Amongst the smaller plots and enclosures, is a total of 17 hut circles. Some of these huts are very fine examples being of large diameter (up to c.9m), with level floors and containing large, upright, edge-set slabs in their wall fabric. Some have door jambs surviving *in situ*. All of these huts are in a fair to good, stable condition and appear not to have suffered robbing despite the former presence of 19th century newtake wall builders in the vicinity. However, two of the hut circles (8173; 8174) were hurriedly excavated in 1886 by members of the Dartmoor Exploration Committee (Baring Gould 1897, 156), which has substantially lowered the level of their floors. Finds included some pottery, various stone and flint artefacts and a sample of charcoal.

### **Large-scale surveys**

#### *Foale's Arrishes (Fig 25)*

Foale's Arrishes (7415) is a significant group of eight hut circles, associated with parallel reaves on the eastern slopes of Top Tor and Pil Tor. The location is notable for the later imposition of a rectangular stone enclosure, which incorporated some of the reave elements and hut circles.

Four major reaves of the Rippon Tor system, run NW from the head of Blackslade Mire across Tor Hill between Top Tor and Pil Tor, from where they descend the western slope, before terminating or fragmenting near Hollow Tor. On the east side of the slope, below Top Tor and Pil Tor, the reaves are very clear, parallel, stony banks, spaced 115m to 130m apart. Midway down the slope, eight hut circles survive among the reaves, between the 410m and 390m contours. These are accompanied by a series of divisions between the parallel reaves as well as cross reaves, creating small rectangular plots, containing the hut circles. Some of the cross reaves comprise stony lynchets, where hillside soil creep has caused soil to accumulate behind the stone structures of the reaves, leaving a drop of over 0.5m. The plots are between 0.17 and 0.3 ha in area.

The OS 25-inch map of 1887, depicts nine hut circles on Blackslade Down, two of which can no longer be traced. The DEC blamed the absence on road menders, who had been destroying huts and enclosures on these slopes since the middle of the 19th century. Reaves in the area were still being robbed at the time of the DEC report in 1897 but it seems unlikely there would be no trace of the huts at all only eleven years after appearing on the map so it is possible these two were miss-plotted by the OS.

The DEC excavated eight hut circles: all six at Foales Arrishes, plus two that are associated with a small 'D' shape enclosure (26807) 125m to the SW were dug. The location of most is identifiable from the descriptions in their report (see Appendix I for HER concordance). The work revealed some details of the huts' structures, plus finds of pottery, flint and charcoal, though they failed to retrieve anything of interest from three of the huts (DEC 1897).

The hut circles were all contemporary with the reaves, being either attached to them or linked by shorter walls. Hut 2 (7417) is contained within its own small enclosure and linked back to nearby reaves. The huts, reaves and sub-division all have origins within the early to mid 2nd millennium BC. However, a notable feature of Foale's Arrishes is the addition of a later, rectangular enclosure, which has incorporated reaves and hut circles within its layout. The DEC noted that Foale's Arrishes 'received its name from some squatter who seems to have hazarded its cultivation, for attempts appear to have been made to gather the surface stone in heaps so that a scanty tillage might be pursued between them' (DEC 1897, 151). They did not mention the later enclosure but in 1970, Gawne claimed that the enclosure belonged to the occupants of New House, only 300m to the east, whose family name

Fig 25 Foale's Arrishes. 1:1000 scale earthwork survey.

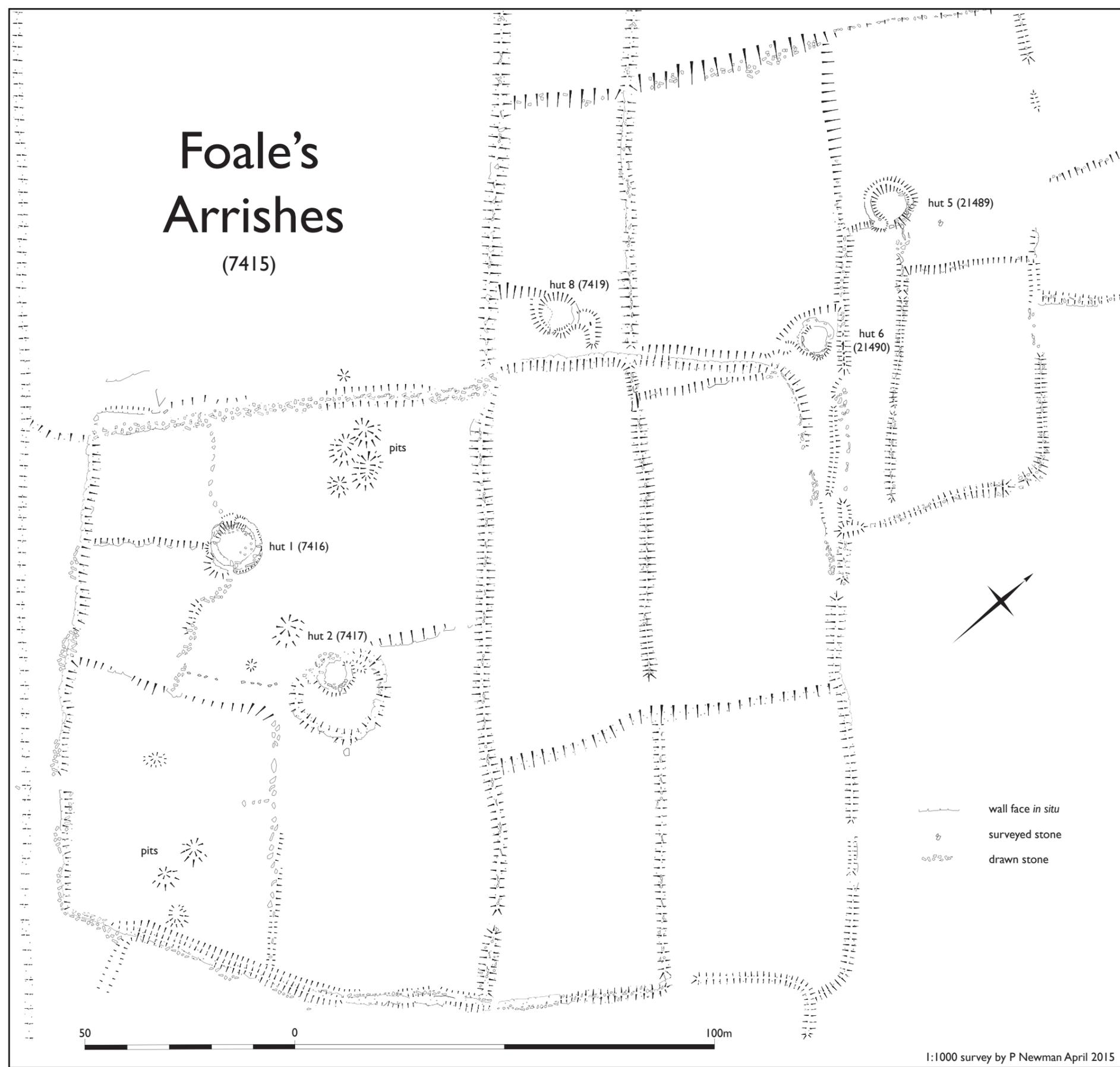




Fig 26 A section of the rebuilt enclosure wall at Foale's Arrishes.

was Foale. New House was occupied in the 19th century only (Gawne 1970, 66), so the enclosure was perhaps in use in that period, although its origin is not known.

The enclosure is an approximate rectangle, which covers an area of 2.53ha. It owes its angular layout to the reaves, which have been reused in its boundaries, in some cases re-furbished. The south, SW and NE walls, were constructed using the faced wall-bank method, where an earthen bank has a vertical stone facing added to its exterior; there are also traces of an external ditch. Much of the stone of the facings remains *in situ*, though the walls stand only to a height of 0.8m on average. The same building technique was probably used on the western wall, and a section of the northern wall, although they appear to have been either demolished, or were unfinished, where short sections of *in-situ* facings are surrounded by masses of tumbled stone. The boundary forming the NW quadrant of the enclosure, does not have the same appearance as these altered walls, though at the time of survey this area was covered by gorse. Some stony fabric is visible, but likely to be an original fabric of the reave, and not part of a rebuild.

Three parallel reaves pass through the enclosure; one still serves as its NE boundary, and a cross reave divides the northern zone into four plots. It is likely that the west and south walls also had origins as reaves, though with slight deviation in alignment. All sections of reave within the enclosure survive to a height that is not usual for reaves in original condition and they may have been reinforced with earth and rubble during the later phases of use. The SW wall may have been built afresh when the enclosure was laid out as it ignores the line of a reave running parallel to it only 8m to the west.

Beyond the approximate first phase of occupation in the 2nd millennium BC, further activity at Foale's Arrishes cannot be dated but it is possible some of the reaves were strengthened in the medieval period to form enclosures, and that the stone facing represents an even later episode, possibly as late as the 18th or early 19th centuries AD.



Fig 27 (left) Hut circle (7416) and (21490) at Foale's Arrishes.

### *Buckland Common Enclosure (Fig 28)*

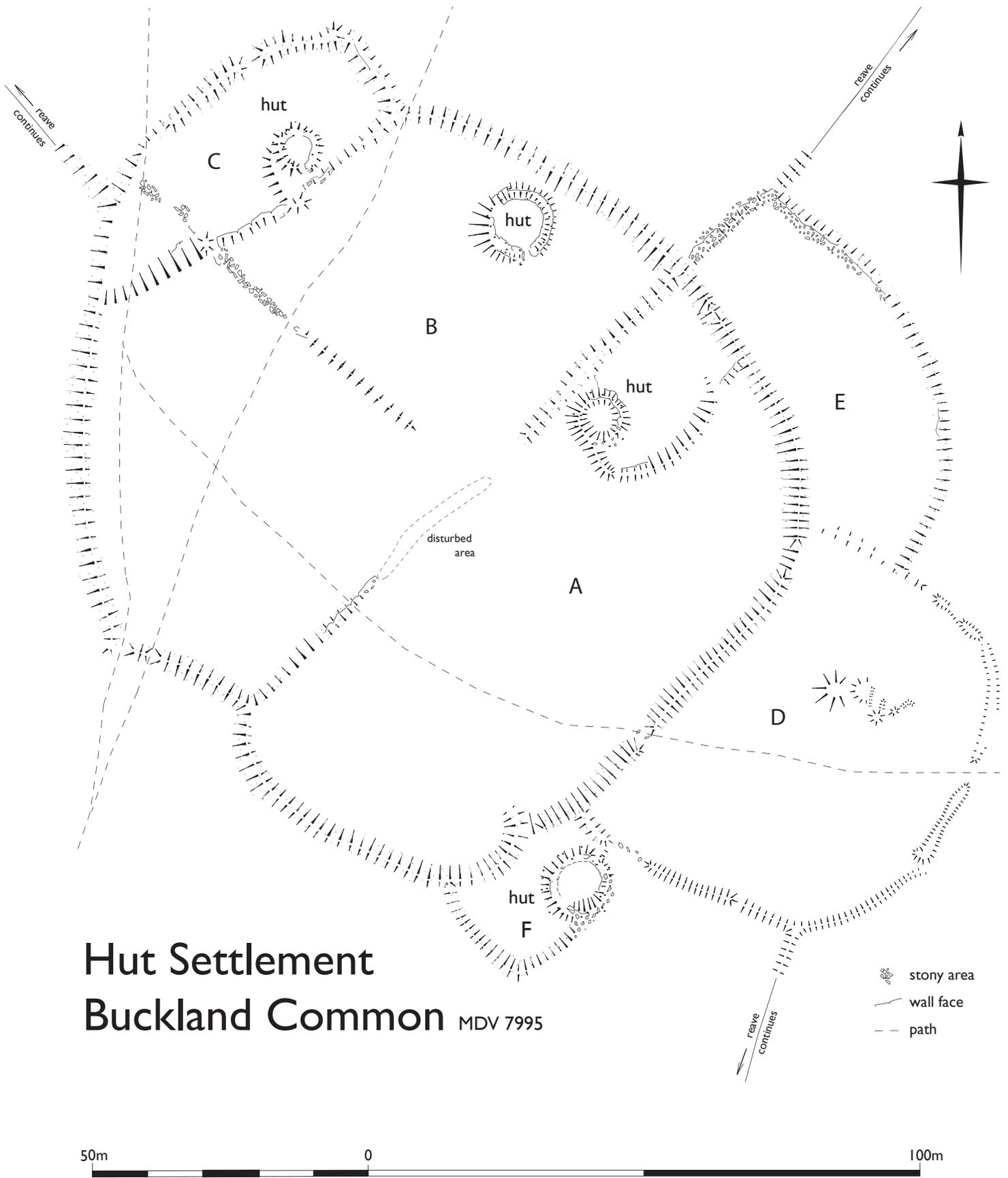
This enclosed settlement (7995) on the west-facing slope of Buckland Common, above Ruddyleave Water, comprises a cluster of attached enclosures, containing four hut circles. The settlement appears to be associated with two reaves, though the chronology of that relationship is not clear. The site has been previously investigated by Belsey (1986).

The large, central enclosure has an irregular outline and covers a total area of 1.3ha. An approximately central wall, which aligns roughly with a reave attached to the eastern exterior, divides the enclosure into two parts, north and south. They appear to represent separate phases, though the sequence is debatable. The southern enclosure (A) has a distinct 'D' shape and its SW corner curves inwards to meet with the junction of the central division and the west wall of the northern enclosure (B), which also has a kink to align it with this junction. On the eastern side, the join between south and north is seamless, but the addition of a smaller enclosure at the far northern end of the site (C) has resulted in another slight deviation. Running from NW to SE, an additional partition wall cuts across both northern enclosures. It appears to align with a reave which is attached to the northern exterior, though in fact they misalign by 3 to 4m.

Three enclosures were added to the SE of enclosure A, and their sequence is a little clearer, though still open for debate. Enclosure D (0.3ha) was the first addition, and to this E (0.17ha) and F (0.085ha) were added later. Alternatively, F came first, to which D was added, then E.

The strength of the enclosure walls varies considerably. The outer walls of enclosures A and B are robust earth and stone banks, which still stand to an impressive height of up to 1.4m and have a maximum spread of 5m. Enclosures D and E were built on a smaller scale with a spread of up to 2m, but a height of less than 0.8m, though some areas are much shallower. The northern corner of enclosure E has a large area of wall facing exposed and much tumbled stone on the ground.

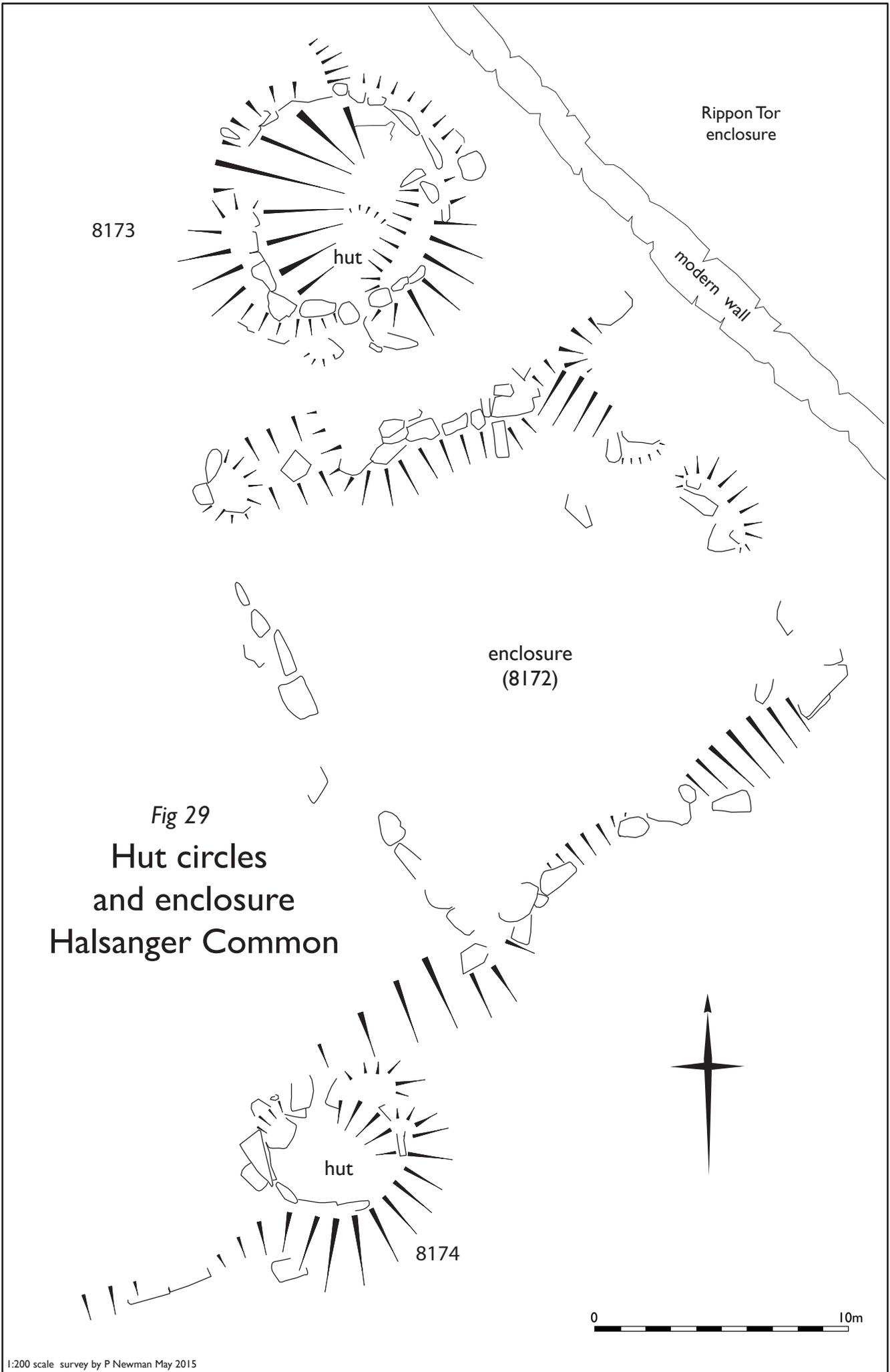
Four hut circles survive. The southern enclosure (A) has one ruined example of very approximately 6.5m diameter in its NE corner, contained within its own small paddock. The northern enclosure contains the largest hut in the group (8.8m), which has a clear entrance on its southern arc. Although there is no record of antiquarian investigation at this site, the interior of this hut appears very clean and level, with the masonry of the walls clear to view; it is possible it has been subjected to an unrecorded investigation. A smaller hut of 5.3m is located close by the wall in the smaller enclosure to the north. The fourth hut is located in the corner of the small southern enclosure F and measures 8.3m. It probably pre-dated the small enclosure, which butts against it, suggesting it was free-standing. A construction sequence for this site was proposed by Belsey (1986), whereby two freestanding huts form the initial phase, to which the large enclosures and further huts were added, followed by the outer



# Hut Settlement Buckland Common MDV 7995

1:1000 scale survey by P Newman May 2015

Fig 28 1:1000-scale survey of the enclosure and hut circles on Buckland Common.



*Fig 29*  
**Hut circles  
 and enclosure  
 Halsanger Common**

1:200 scale survey by P Newman May 2015

enclosures to the south. The findings of the 2015 survey largely concur with this hypothesis, although the place of the reaves within that sequence remains unresolved.

The enclosure and hut circles are severely affected by bracken growth in the summer months, interlaced with bramble in places. Although the survey (Fig 28) took place in April, the previous year's growth restricted the visibility of the features and worthwhile photography was not possible.

#### *Halsanger enclosure and hut circles (Fig 29)*

Two hut circles associated with a small, square enclosure (8172), are close by the modern wall dividing Halsanger Common from Horridge Common. This site was excavated by the DEC in 1897, when pottery, flint and slate artefacts were retrieved, though the work here was never completed.

One of the hut circles (8174) is built in to the south side of a cross reave. This continues NE for another 10m, where the enclosure is attached to it on the north side. The enclosure was built from large boulders, the majority of which have been robbed to build the modern wall only a few metres to the NE; only a few displaced examples remain. The 18m by 19m enclosure is slightly terraced, where the north wall has a drop of approximately 1m. Above it to the north is another hut circle (8173). The hut is also terraced into the slope with a substantial scarp on the north side, exaggerated as a result of the excavations in the 1890s, when the interior was removed. Many stones of the wall survive *in situ* in this hut, which has an interior diameter is 8m. The first hut is smaller (4.8m) and has suffered much at the hands of the wall builders, when most of the masonry on the NE arc of the wall was removed.

## **6.2 Medieval and later**

### **6.2.1 Fields, cultivation and trackways**

Abandonment of the reave systems as organised landscapes, has been dated approximately by Fleming to the mid-2nd century BC but many of the component parts were re-used over the following three millennia. Round houses continued as the dominant form of dwelling on Dartmoor into the Iron Age in the late 1st century BC and it is known that some were re-occupied for use by tanners as late as the 16th century AD (Worth 1935, 124-5). The individual reaves themselves were, in some cases, abandoned while some others were refurbished to form important components of medieval field systems and may survive as parish or manor boundaries. A few reaves continue in use today in a refurbished form, as at Rippon Tor for example.

Trying to identify a date for what was undoubtedly a very gradual process is futile, but it may have been quite late in the first millennium AD that the lower uplands of Dartmoor, in areas such as Widecombe and Buckland, were becoming organised into a form we would recognise as a farmed landscape, with isolated settlements surrounded by fields, open areas of common land and woodland. Most recorded settlements on Dartmoor were in existence by 1350, and we must assume that the accompanying agricultural landscape was equally advanced. Unlike some areas of England, the modern layout of Dartmoor's fields and farms owes only a little to its prehistoric predecessor and, apart from isolated pockets, was largely re-made in the medieval period and later.

On the higher ground and steeper slopes, settlement and farming were more precarious due to the marginal nature of such locations, as a result many became abandoned. The resulting remains of enclosures, buildings and attempts to cultivate the moor, are rare survivals of evidence that is lost within areas of farmland still in use.

Although the layout of medieval fields has an organised appearance in some areas of Dartmoor – at Natsworthy in Widecombe for example, where a strip field layout survives – intakes of land within marginal areas tended

to be more ad hoc. They usually comprise amorphous enclosures, often representing the outer limit of larger blocks of enclosed lands, but are sometimes isolated fields in what is today open moorland. The boundaries differ greatly from that of the prehistoric reaves and enclosures. Medieval boundaries were mostly created by digging a ditch, the upcast from which was used to construct an adjacent bank that would act as the foundation for a hedge. Some of these, usually the ones that endured, had stone facings added to one or both sides of the bank, but others were abandoned in their original condition. In such cases, the ditch sometimes will be silted.

When establishing enclosures in areas already occupied by abandoned reaves, the builders sometimes utilized these pre-existing boundaries, though it may only have been the sections of reaves that survived in good upstanding condition that were worth selectively re-furbishing to fit with new schemes. This was done by adding a ditch to the outside of the reave and piling the upcast onto the reave to strengthen it. At Mountsland Common, although the stony reaves were replaced by hedge banks long ago, the axis and rectilinear layout of the fields in this location has borrowed something from the reaves of the Rippon Tor system.

Droeways or drifts were routes through enclosed lands for the movement of people and livestock. Evidence of these narrow lanes, with banked sides and often sunken in appearance, survive at several points amidst the abandoned fields, with good examples at Blackslade Down and Buckland Common.

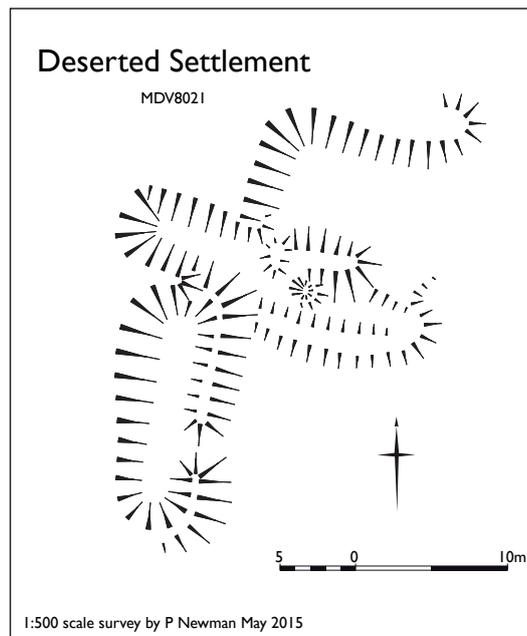
Evidence of cultivation survives in the form of ridge and furrow – the earthwork remains of ploughing, or perhaps cultivation in lazy beds. The ridges found in this area are what may be termed narrow rig (Newman 2011, 124-5), and likely to be medieval, though possibly later. Ridge and furrow, contained within small enclosures, is evident on Blackslade Down (43230), Buckland Common (26806, 25172), Pudsham Down (25151, 25156) and Mountsland Common (25836), but a small freestanding patch also survives east of Dry Bridge (62346).

Earthwork remains of a different form of cultivation is evident at four places within the Rippon Tor PAL at Pudsham Down (112780), Blackslade (15722), Welstor (112772) and Bowden Lane (30654). These were referred to as 'downhill strips' by Gawne (1970, 63) and 'medieval outfields' by Fleming (1994, 112), both of whom mentioned



*Fig 30 Earthwork remains of a longhouse near Blackslade Ford (7468).*

Fig 31 1:500-scale survey of the deserted medieval settlement near Water Rushes.



only the examples at Blackslade within this area. They comprise faint alignments of small stones organised into parallel strips. Within these examples, the spacing of the strips is between 13m and 17m. The stone lines may represent the limits of individual strips but also clearance dumps, so that the areas between could be ploughed or dug with a spade.

Two abandoned settlements have been previously recorded in the study area. One of these, at Blackslade (7468) (Fig 30), is a fine example of a ruined longhouse, set obliquely into the slope, with clear foundation walls and cross-passage entrance. A second, near Water Rushes on Halsanger Common (8021), is a more subtle earthwork, but appears to comprise foundations of two or three buildings with small curtilage. A less likely example sits on the steep eastern slope of Pudsham Down (8001). Two sets of earthworks with potential as medieval buildings have been added as part of this survey. One sits on the south slope of Pudsham Down (112769), where three possible buildings are attached to a disused field boundary, and another is a partly effaced rectangular structure to the south of Tor Croft (112770).

#### *Blackslade Down and Hollow Tor (Fig 11)*

Earth field banks, ditches and faint ridge and furrow are abundant around Blackslade Down and Tunhill Rocks. Foundation remains of a probable longhouse (7468) survive just south of Blackslade Mire and from near the site of this dwelling, a deserted drift lane comprising two approximately parallel earthen banks, leads up the hillside to the west, opening into an area of enclosed fields bounded by earthen banks, some with external ditches. Prehistoric reaves were incorporated into the layout of these fields, several of which contain the earthworks of ridge and furrow. The track can be traced intermittently through the fields, continuing down the western slope towards Blackslade.

Fragmentary evidence of medieval fields, and a possible disturbed building (112770) can be traced to the west, and north of Hollow Tor. One clear enclosure extends from the prehistoric settlement west of the tor where a clear, partially ditched, earth bank has been created within the stony ground on the lower slopes. Other earth banks near the south boundary of Tor Croft may be traced in part, but only one enclosure can be identified, which was a probable southern extension of that settlement.

North-west of Tunhill Rocks, small abandoned fields, just outside the currently occupied lands, were part of a late phase in the expansion of Tunhill. The fields are surrounded by earth banks with accompanying ditches.

### *Pudsham Down (Fig 17)*

The southernmost of the reaves on Pudsham Down, was later integrated into a medieval enclosure, which forms part of a system of abandoned fields and a disused trackway. These cover the mainly central portion of the Down, although further traces exist on the northern and eastern extremities; the latter is adjacent to Ruddyleave Water and now wooded. Ridge and furrow is evident within several of the central enclosures (25151, 25156), and an area of cultivation strips, marked out by parallel, linear, stone clearance and small clearance cairns, survives near the northern boundary (112780). Earthwork remains of three possible rectangular structures (112769), which could be of medieval or later date, survive just east of the Cockingford/Venton road junction.

The western area of Pudsham is generally more level, where several large abandoned fields, delineated by substantive banks with ditches, enclose areas of ridge and furrow (112773; 112774). Parallel banks form a wide lane through these fields, which once lead from Ruddyleave to Pudsham Down, no doubt for the movement of cattle.

### *Buckland Common and Welstor Common (Fig 18)*

This was an active area in the medieval and later period, and there are abandoned earth field banks 450m west of Cold East Cross, where two irregular enclosures, one containing faint evidence of ridge and furrow, sit awkwardly between two reaves, re-using a short length of one of them (25172). Two parallel banks, 7m apart, extend north for 185m from the corner of one enclosure to form a narrow lane or drift (25173).

A series of probable medieval enclosures have been almost ploughed out on Welstor Common but enough survives to identify a partial layout of field banks (112868) and smaller strip plots defined by linear clearance (112772). A sunken trackway has been effaced on the east side of this common but can be retraced as it heads west across the ridge then down the western slope, where it is better defined (25196). Here, several east-west linear hollows descending the hillside are the imprint left by centuries of people and livestock traversing the hill. They lead down to a funnelled entrance into the enclosed lands at the head of a walled lane, which survives to the east of Bowden Farm.

Crossing these hollows at right angles, are narrow cultivation strips defined by linear stone clearance (30654). At least one of these lines traverses one of the hollows and must post-date it. To the north, the strips terminate at an east-west field bank which extends down to Bowden Lane. A second bank runs in parallel with its western section, to form a lane or drift (30601), which also leads down to the head of Bowden Lane.

### *Halsanger Common and Mountsland Common (Fig 22)*

In the northern sector of Halsanger Common, medieval activity is restricted to the evidence of a small settlement at Water Rushes (8021) and a substantial field bank (25212), which runs from near that settlement, north towards Dry Bridge. Not far north of the settlement, faint linear stone lines are likely evidence of strip cultivation, and to the east of Dry Bridge there is an area of ridge and furrow (62346) accompanied by small clearance cairns, but there is no sign of new fields having been created in the medieval period.

Some of the reaves in the southern sector (south of the mire – 25217) were refurbished in medieval and later times to form part of a field system that extended from Halsanger Common into Mountsland Common. Within Mountsland Common, earthen field banks, some with external ditches, define the outlines of enclosures, within which there is plentiful evidence of ridge and furrow (25836). Although some of the enclosures are clearly the result of piecemeal additions, the underlying axis and rectilinear form of many of the fields clearly have origins in

the prehistoric reaves of the Rippon Tor System. It is likely that some of these enclosures continued in use into the 19th century.

#### *Horridge Common and Rippon Tor (Fig 21)*

Medieval and later attempts to utilize the land of Horridge Common included refurbishing some sections of reave and adding new earthen banks to form new enclosures (62350). However, this activity is less intense than the neighbouring Mountsland Common and ridge and furrow or linear clearance are also not evident in this area. Although dense gorse currently covers much of the subtlety of Horridge Common, these features are also absent from 1946 APs, when the land was much more open. At the southern end of Horridge Common, a small enclosed group of hut circles and a number of prehistoric fields have been contained within a free-standing medieval or post-medieval enclosure.

#### *Bagtor Down (Fig 19)*

The large modern enclosure containing Bagtor Down is, like Halsanger, a relatively late addition to the fieldscape of Ilsington parish, but within its interior there is evidence of earlier division on a smaller scale. An earth bank, containing some stone, runs north from the Rippon Tor boundary towards the head of the river Sig then curves east to connect with the outer Bagtor boundary, effectively creating a field within a field (26523). Further east a reave (26618) has been adapted to form a substantial bank with ditch, bifurcated by a later tin openwork, which together with a second bank running north are evidence of earlier expansion in the Sig valley.

In the NE corner of the Bagtor enclosure, some very spread banks and flattened ridges hint at strip cultivation (26537), while within the Bagtor inner enclosure, substantial lynchets and 17 clearance cairns suggest attempts to cultivate this area (26617).

North of Bagtor Cottages, four adjoining, roughly rectangular plots, with stony boundaries may have been abandoned more recently, although they are not depicted on the 1st edition 25-inch OS map of 1887.

### **6.3 Medieval and post-medieval tinworking**

Tinworking occurred in Devon more or less continuously from the 13th century AD, if not earlier, to the early 20th century. The Rippon Tor PAL contains a representative selection of tin working remains, including streamworking, opencast lode working and underground mining. However, only remains from the later period can be confidently dated through documentation. The streamworks and openworks were worked mostly in the medieval and post-medieval periods from when documents are scarce. However, Ilsington Ashburton and Widecombe parishes are all known to have had documented tinworks from this period, including Baggator Yeat and Great Baggatorre, which both date from the 17th century and can be correlated with tinworks in the vicinity of Bagtor with confidence, though precisely which ones is uncertain (Greeves 1981). In the 19th century, the upper valley of the River Sig was the site of a mine known as Haytor Consols and later as Bagtor Mine, and the surface remains of this activity are very clear.

Alluvial streamworks are the earliest type of working to survive as earthworks and could, theoretically, date from the earliest days of the industry. However, it is more likely that the remains that survive come from later episodes, including a period in the 16th century when tin production hit its zenith, or as late as the 18th century, when streamworking is known still to have been a viable method, though used on a very small scale.

Openworks, where lode tin was mined in an opencast trench, may have later origins than streamworks, and are likely to have been most worked from the 14th to 17th centuries. It needs to be stressed that, if undocumented, tinworks of both types are very difficult to date on the basis of type, and the precise origins of both techniques on Dartmoor is somewhat uncertain. The date range is, therefore, likely to be several hundred years.

Streamworks and lode works required a supply of water to wash and dress the ore. This was diverted from nearby river and rainwater sources via shallow leats and collected in reservoirs, created by throwing up a dam made from earth and stone, from which water could be diverted to the working areas.

Prospecting pits, wherein the tanners searched for productive tin grounds are small (1-3m diameter), silted, conical hollows, with waste material piled around their circumference usually on the downslope side. They survive as staggered alignments or clusters in places where tin has been sought. Notoriously difficult to date, they are likely to be contemporary with lode workings from perhaps the 14th to 18th centuries.

#### *Buckland Common and Welstor Common (Fig 18)*

Medieval and post-medieval tinworking took place in the valley bottom of Ruddyleave where a 700m-long streamwork (26951) extends from the mire just above Blackslade Ford, to the south below Ruddyleave Bridge onto Buckland Common. Only the upper section has been recorded as part of this survey, where steep escarpments mark the limit of the working area. It is likely that this tinwork extends further north but the remains are now disguised by Blackslade Mire. North-west of Blackslade Ford an area of disturbed ground on the hillslope may also represent evidence of very shallow streamworking.

A tin streamwork is located on Buckland Common, west of Dry Bridge (61838). This is the upper section of the works which follow the western tributary of the River Ashburn on Halsanger Common to the SE (25213). The edge of the tinwork is defined by a steep scarp and the interior is characterised by linear banks of waste and silted water channels. An earthwork bank on the west side of the tinwork, at SX 7390 7451, is the dam of a former reservoir.

South of Blackslade Ford, a line of silted prospecting pits (25169) runs east to west and an openwork (25171), which is oriented NE to SW, extends for approximately 180m across Buckland Common. At the northern end a reservoir, now dry, and comprising a crescentic earth bank of 32m long, collected water and was supplied by a leat (25166) which diverted water from Blackslade Mire. A second leat (25167) from the same source, follows a parallel course a little lower down the hillside and terminates upon reaching the edge of the openwork.

#### *Halsanger Common N and S and Mountsland Common (Fig 22)*

The River Ashburn (25213), along with Langworthy Brook (25830) and its small tributary on the northern edge of Mountsland Common (25831), have all been affected by medieval or later tanners, who have worked the alluvial deposits of the stream bed. The streamworks have sharply-defined escarpments marking the limit of the working areas; contained within these areas are the waste heaps and channels characteristic of the type. However, the expansion of the mires at the head the Ashburn in particular, has disguised much of what once was visible. Aerial photographs of 1946 (CPE/UK 1824/ 4-Nov-1946 [3166]), confirm that much of this streamwork has since been absorbed by the mire and all three tinworks are today affected by the rapid encroachment of scrub species of hawthorn and blackthorn.

### *Bagtor Down (Fig 19)*

A large area of tin streamworks covers the valley floor of the River Sig, below Bag Tor, and on the slope of Bagtor Down (112764). The edges of the streamworks are still well-defined on the ground today as escarpments, 4 to 5m deep in places, and the interior contains much disturbed ground, with linear heaps of stone waste and silted water channels. The site is becoming overgrown in places by trees and shrubs and the upper, NW extremity of the tinwork is rather boggy.

A narrow, linear tin openwork cuts obliquely across the saddle of the ridge, north of Bagtor (26531). The strike of the lode, and the resulting openwork, followed an approximately SW-NE orientation, running for 350m. The sides of the openwork's interior has many steep rock faces and there is a number of large displaced stones in the gully and evidence of undermining. Spoil heaps of small stone sit on the top of the escarpment along the sides of the tinwork. As the gully extends NE it gradually diminishes in size, fading to nothing at its furthest extent. Water was provided for the tin working processes via a short leat from a boggy area to the north and collected in a 35m-long, linear earthwork reservoir, adjacent to the highest point on the openwork.

A tin openwork, on the NE slopes of Rippon Tor, is oriented approximately N to S (26532). It is up to 30m wide and 6m deep. Evidence of additional working in an approximately E - W direction is found at the southern end, where a cutting extends from the east side. Shallow pits with small crescentic spoil heaps, extend down the eastern slope of the hill and are evidence of prospecting; a narrow gully on a similar alignment to the pits, probably also represents prospecting activity. South of the openwork an impressive reservoir, now dry, comprising an earthwork hollow and linear bank of 60m long, stored water to supply the workings. Faint earthwork leats survive to the south and west, which once diverted water from sources within the locality, including a small spring to the west and a second artificial reservoir to the south near the summit of the hill (103779).

## **6.4 Nineteenth century Bagtor Mine**

In the 1850s and 60s, the upper Sig Valley around Bag Tor was the centre of activity for tin mining, which was taking place among several of the River Lemon's tributaries and the Haytor/ Rippon Tor area. Sometime before 1850, a company called Haytor Consols (or Consolidated) combined several of the mine setts in the area, though the

*Fig 32 Earthwork remains of the tramway which carried tin ore from Hemsworthy Mine, down to the dressing floors of Haytor Consols at Crownley Parks.*



focus of their extractive operation was at Hemsworthy Mine. This company ceased to operate in 1856 (Hamilton Jenkin 1981, 135) but in 1859-60 the setts were taken over by the Great Central Mining Company. GCMC failed after only one year, to re-emerge in 1862 as the Bagtor Mining Company (DRO Brook Index, Ilsington). The latter was wound up in 1866; their activity represented the last documented mining effort in the locality.

The ore from Hemsworthy Mine, which lies outside the PAL at SX 7441 7606, was conveyed via a tramway (Fig 32), along the valley of Bagtor Brook, and eventually to mine dressing floors at Crownley Parks, just NE of the Bagtor enclosure. (SX 7669 7584). This tramway was probably installed by the Great Central Mining Company in 1859 (DRO Brook Index, Ilsington). Its earthwork remains, which comprise a flat-topped linear bank, are very clear south of Saddle Tor, where entering the western end of the Bagtor enclosure through a gateway. This is now blocked but the two gateposts remain *in situ*. From there it can be traced into the mire at the head of the Sig. It becomes difficult to follow through the mire, but becomes clear again near the mine dam, running SE past Bagtor Cottages, after which it enters enclosed land.

Two shafts were sunk into the Bagtor openwork (26531) during this mid-19th century mining episode, both were depicted on the undated mine plan of Bagtor Mine (DRO AMP R54B). Adit Shaft was sunk at SX 76113 75848 and some of the spoil along the side of the openwork may be associated with it. Quickbeam shaft was further down the gully at SX 76051 75822. Although capped, the depression in the base of the gully is still visible and a spoil heap extends south from it. A circular platform to accommodate a horse whim, used for hauling in this shaft, survives to the north with mellior stone *in situ*.

Another shaft was sunk within the south end of the openwork on the NE slope of Rippon Tor (26532). This was probably Western Shaft, as depicted on the mine plan. Although blocked, its position is obvious in the bottom of the gully, visible as a circular hollow. Hauling within this shaft was achieved using a horse whim, the earthwork base of which survives at SX 75570 75513, comprising a level, 9.5m, circular platform cut into the slope of the hill.

Prosper Shaft (112765) was on the southern valley side of the River Sig. A large heap of stony spoil was raised up the shaft and dumped on the hillslope below, forming conjoined, rounded, flat topped heaps. The circular earthwork platform of a horse whim is visible just south of the heaps. It has a diameter of 11.5m and a central mellior survives *in situ*. A small indentation in the ground 7m north of the whim is probably the site of the capped shaft. A rectangular, stone-lined feature lies just south of the biggest heap. It is sunk into the ground and has been totally backfilled with stone. It measures 13.8 by 2.5m and may have been associated with pumping in this shaft via a flatrod system.

A rectangular hollow with a spoil heap sits within the bottom of the river (Sig) valley at (SX 76016 75720). The hollow has evidence of a stone lining though has been mostly backfilled. This may be the site of a large wheelpit depicted on the Mine Plan of Bagtor Mine from the 1860s (DRO AMP R54B Bagtor), which was used to power pumping apparatus in shafts further up the valley.

A large earthwork dam was constructed across the stream bed of the River Sig to create a reservoir in which water was collected to supply the water wheels and other mine processes at Bagtor Mine further down the valley. The dam comprises a bank of 75-80m by 4m high, with a central opening of 9m to contain a sluice, although this may have been widened after abandonment. A second bank runs at right angles to the first on the north side of the river, with which it runs parallel for 85m. The dam may date from 1862 when a large water wheel was installed further down the valley.



Fig 33 An abandoned millstone on Rippon Tor.



Fig 34 An abandoned moorstone trough on Tunhill Rocks.

## 6.5 Moorstone and quarries

Evidence for the cutting of granite, or moorstone, for use as building material and to produce artefacts, such as millstones and troughs, comes in two forms. Pits from where stone was cut from larger earthfast outcrops are common in areas such as Haytor and to the west of Princetown, but in the Rippon Tor PAL there are comparatively few and those that exist are scattered. However, a cluster of these pits, with exposed cut stone edges survive to the north of Hollow Tor (112776). A lack of drill-splitting evidence on the cut faces suggests these may be earlier than c.1800.

Granite artefacts cut *in situ* on the moor than abandoned due to faults in the rock, or through human error, are particularly abundant on Rippon Tor, where an incomplete carved cross (7464) and three mill stones (7540, 7541, 27869) lie on the ground around the outcrop (Fig 33). To the west of Tunhill Rocks is a particularly fine abandoned trough (112768), which appears complete (Fig 34). Why it was abandoned here is an enigma.

Two quarries exist on Welstor Common, which are relatively late additions to the landscape. The northern quarry (25193), known as Cold East Quarry, was referred to as an 'Old Sand Pit' on the OS 25-inch 2nd edition of 1905, but was absent from the 1886 edition. To the south of Welstor Rock is Welstor Cross Quarry (112777), which was not depicted on these maps at either date. It appears to have been a source of granite, and has a large flat-topped heap of waste stone to the south of the quarry face. A small ruined stone building nearby may have been an explosives store or perhaps a shelter for the quarrymen.

## 6.6 Military archaeology

### 6.6.1 Rifle ranges

#### *Welstor Rifle Range*

A rifle range was established on Welstor Common in 1861 for use by the Ashburton Rifle Volunteers and represents the earliest recorded military training within the PAL. It continued in use at least until 1887 when depicted on the OS 25-inch 1st edition, but by the time of the 2nd edition in 1905 it was absent, although William Crossing referred to passing it *en route* in the 1912 edition of *Guide to Dartmoor* (Crossing 1909, 346). The range is aligned north to south, with targetry located at the site of a small quarry, whose spoil dump probably overlies the stop butt depicted on the 1887 map. The firing positions do not survive, but a level platform of ground (25186), west of the firing line, may have supported a timber structure, which might have been associated with the range, although other sources suggest this may have been associated with a small golf course on this common recorded in 1910<sup>2</sup>.

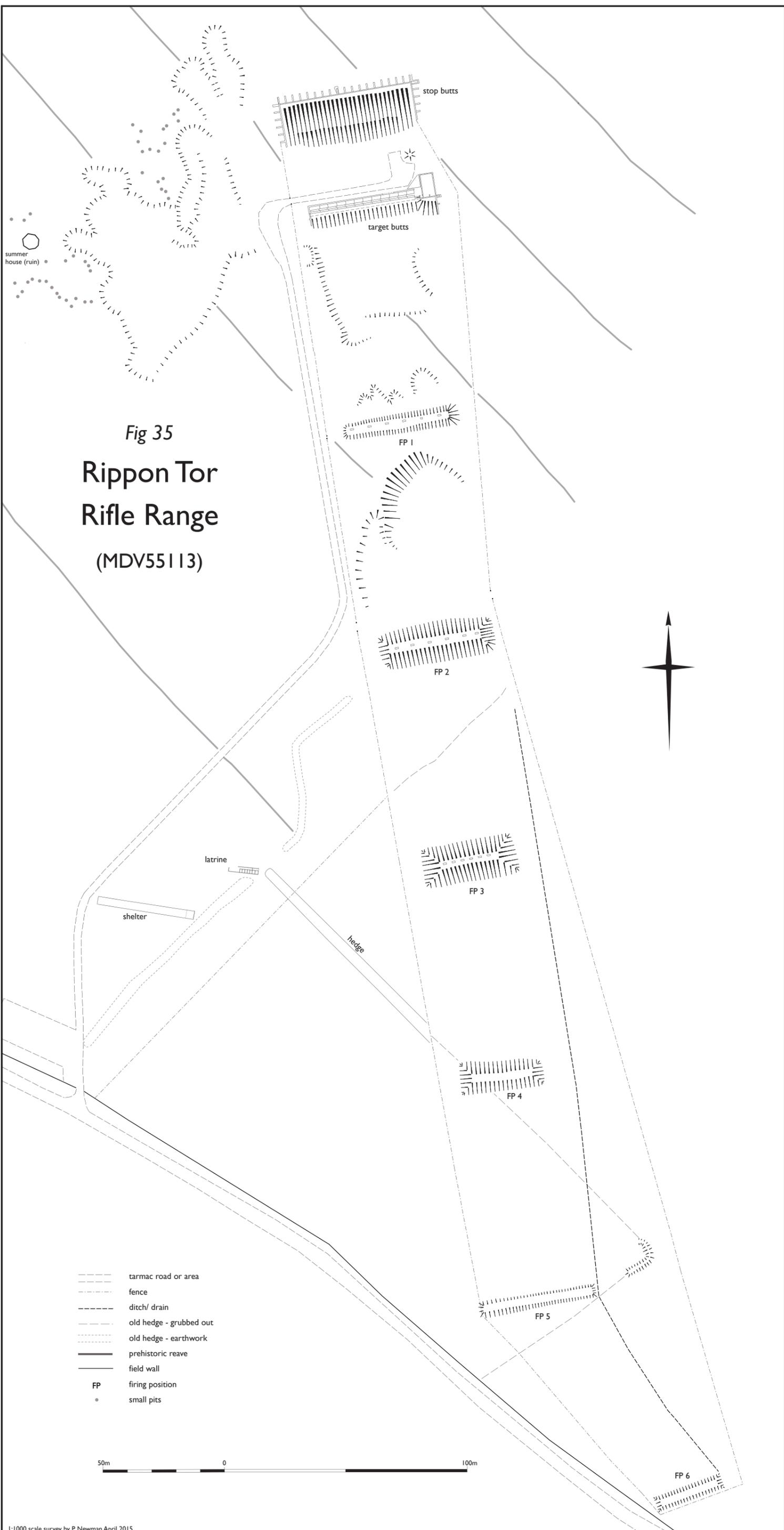


Fig 35  
 Rippon Tor  
 Rifle Range  
 (MDV55113)

- tarmac road or area
- - - fence
- - - ditch/ drain
- - - old hedge - grubbed out
- - - old hedge - earthwork
- - - prehistoric reave
- - - field wall
- FP firing position
- small pits

50m 0 100m

Fig 36 Rippon Tor rifle range stop butts.



Fig 37 Rippon Tor rifle range looking SE towards the firing positions.



Fig 38 Rippon Tor rifle range target butts with remains of targetry mechanisms still in situ.



Fig 39 Rippon Tor rifle range troop shelter towards the southern section of the site.



### *The Rippon Tor Rifle Range (55113) (Fig 35-9)*

The rifle range was installed in 1942 as part of the expansion of military training effort on Dartmoor during the Second World War and used by British and Allied forces; it continued in use until the 1960s.

The range is aligned for firing up the slope, approximately south to north and is located to the east of the hill summit, designed to use the slopes of Rippon Tor and Horridge Common, extending for up to 1.7km to the north, as a safe zone beyond. The range is 600m long by approximately 80m wide. It was originally surrounded by a wire fence supported by concrete posts. The latter mostly survive but the former has long been removed.

The targetry was contained within a long narrow structure with a concrete floor, brick foundation walls and a curved, prefabricated, concrete upper wall and roof. The exterior of the structure is protected by an earthen embankment. The targets were of the pop-up type, raised by a series of pulleys mounted in steel frames. Some components of the targetry mechanisms remain *in situ* though most have been removed, probably for scrap (Fig 38). A roofless building with a large door opening and three window openings, sited at the eastern end of the targetry, probably served as a workshop and store. It was protected by an extension of the earth embankment behind the targetry area.

The stop butt (Fig 36) is one of the most impressive 20th -century military structures to survive within Dartmoor National Park. It comprises a high earthen bank with a wedge profile, which has been reinforced on the long north side and the two ends by a robust brick wall, strengthened by full height, stepped buttresses on the north side set 2 to 3m apart.

Firing points (Fig 37) were on a series of elevated earthwork platforms set at 100 yard intervals between 100 and 600 yards. Five of the embankments are in a line but that at 600yds is offset to avoid it being located in the road. The ground over which the range extends is not flat but rises and falls, so the mounds are of differing height to counter that variation. The tallest is 4.2m and the lowest is 0.3m. The three mounds closest to the targets are each equipped with six sunken, lined boxes equally spaced along the flat upper surface, presumably for the safe storage of ammunition.

The latrine block and troop shelter to the west of the mid-section of the range are both still standing. The latrine is constructed from brick with a concrete roof. A section of the roof appears to have been robbed. The shelter is a prefabricated structure, which is in poor condition with signs of imminent collapse in places. A tree grows from within the small room attached to the eastern end of the shelter (Fig 39).

To the west of the targetry area there are large surface excavations from where the earth and stone needed to construct the butts and firing point earthworks was removed.

### *Mortar positions*

Circular trench-mortar positions, surviving from Second World War troop training in the area, exist on Buckland Common at three locations (31017; 31021; 112762). The sunken circular earthworks are approximately 2.5-3m in diameter and have a low earthen lip around the circumference. Two of these positions still also have evidence of a small ammo storage pit close by the exterior.

### *Anti glider poles*

Tall timber poles were erected on Pudsham Down during the 1940s to prevent enemy gliders landing on this open space. It is not known how many were originally erected but, remarkably, two very decayed examples remain *in situ*, still erect. These are rare survivors but similar to a larger group that survives on Hameldown.

## 7.0 STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE

Dartmoor is the largest upland in southern Britain, with thousands of hectares of open moorland. A lack of intensive farming, development, or modern industries has allowed exceptional conditions of preservation for archaeological features from the 3rd millennium BC to the second world war. The legacy is an accumulated cultural landscape, providing material evidence for many aspects of human expression and the sometimes complex relationships between the periods and diversity of activities that occurred. The archaeology of the Rippon Tor area reflects most periods and types of human activity that are perceivable through field investigation, from 2nd millennium BC round cairns, hut circles, settlement and reaves, through medieval agricultural expansion, tin working and mining, then 20<sup>th</sup>-century military training. All lie within the modern context of a national park, whose remit is, in part, to conserve and protect the cultural remains within it.

Within the Rippon Tor PAL there are at least 22 prehistoric round cairns and several lesser candidates for the title. Cairns of this size and construction type are a familiar feature on Dartmoor and were once common all over Devon, though in the hinterland and lowlands their survival is extremely rare. Grouped hill-top or tor cairns, sometimes referred to as cemeteries, are less commonplace but do exist elsewhere on Dartmoor at Hameldown, Western Beacon and Crownhill Down. However, their overall number is limited, and it is unlikely that for Dartmoor as a whole, many remain unrecorded. Despite damage, the group on Rippon Tor itself must be considered as among the most significant for location, the size of the individual cairns in the group, and their association with the reaves. Hilltop groups of cairns are known elsewhere in south-west England on Exmoor (Riley & Wilson-North 2001) and Bodmin Moor (Johnson & Rose 1994).

The seven cairns located along the ridge on Buckland Common, demonstrate a phenomenon where prehistoric features were deliberately chosen as points to delineate manorial and parish boundaries in the Anglo-Saxon/early medieval period. This phenomenon is observable on Exmoor, where the Chapman Barrows similarly line the parish boundary of Parracombe (Riley & Wilson-North 2001), and closer to home, on Hameldown, three significant barrows or cairns were selected for this purpose. In both cases, the barrows/cairns are large and very visible features of the landscape, whereas those on Buckland Common are very damaged and spread and barely noticeable to an untrained eye. Nevertheless, their size and notability in the past was sufficient for them to be singled out and used to demarcate the boundary between Buckland in the Moor and Ashburton. Their survival as an example of this phenomenon contributes important knowledge to the topic, but also to the group value and landscape impact of prehistoric round cairns in this area as a whole.

The Rippon Tor PAL contains the major portion of the Rippon Tor parallel reave system, as originally defined by Fleming (2008). In particular the reaves on Rippon Tor, Halsanger Common, Horridge Common, Blackslade Down, Buckland Common, Pudsham Down and Bagtor Down. This system is one of several major examples known on Dartmoor; others include Dartmeet, Holne Moor, Shaugh Moor, Throwleigh Common, Wigford Down, Shoveldown. Among these systems, Rippon Tor is one of the best preserved but is also covers the largest area, although it should be noted that the PAL does not include all of its elements, and that as a whole, the system should include Dunstone Down, Black Hill, Haytor and Houndtor Downs.

Reaves and the parallel systems of which they form a part were first identified on, but are not unique to, Dartmoor. Recent research by Yates (2006) has demonstrated that coaxial land divisions dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC can be found at many places elsewhere in the British Isles. Although vestiges of these remains have been identified in lowland areas, they are usually poorly preserved, small, isolated patches, or fossilized within later field systems. It is in the uplands and coastal zones where their survival is at its best and although other moorland examples are known, Dartmoor still provides the clearest, best preserved and most expansive examples, all the more impressive because of their associations with hut settlements and the many other aspects

of prehistoric archaeology, including the ritual and burial monuments. As a whole, the Rippon Tor system is the largest reave system in the UK. Its significance as a close to complete entity and that of its individual component parts is beyond compare.

Although upstanding stone hut circles are common on Dartmoor, elsewhere in the UK their survival is less frequent, even on the upland areas. A few survive on Bodmin Moor and at such places as the Cheviots in northern England, but Dartmoor has over 4000 examples, which collectively makes Dartmoor's hut circles the most significant concentration in Britain. Rippon Tor PAL contains 68 confirmed hut circles, arranged into four distinct groups of eight or more huts, plus smaller groups and isolated examples. Some of the larger examples of up to 9m diameter were constructed using large slabs set on edge to form shell walls onto which a timber and thatch conical roof rested, and are comparable with examples archaeologically excavated at Kestor (Fox 1954) and Holne Moor (Fleming 2008). These huts, particularly where close to modern field walls, were extensively robbed of their stone and many survive only as disturbed earth and stone rings from which much useable stone has been stripped. Several, however, survive in excellent condition, suffering less robbing than others.

As far as is known, antiquarian excavations of hut circles within the PAL are restricted to the eight at Foale's Arrishes and two of the huts on Halsanger Common, which means the archaeological integrity of the remainder may be un-disturbed. It is of course likely that some may have suffered unrecorded interventions.

The earliest archaeologically dated stone hut circle on Dartmoor so far is c. 1800BC at Shaugh Moor (Wainwright & Smith 1980, 119), but this should not preclude the existence of even earlier examples elsewhere on the moor. It is clear from other excavations, however, that the round house format was still in use in this region about 1600 years later, including at Shapley Common during the Iron Age (Gibson 1992). At Shaugh Moor it was also evident that some houses underwent several episodes of occupation over more than a millennia. Precise dating for the origins and occupation of any of the settlement and hut circles at Rippon Tor is not possible, given the lack of data we have and the ambiguity in what little we do know. But it seems most likely that the hut circles came into existence in the 2nd-millennium BC and were occupied by pastoralist farmers who created small coaxial reave systems associated with some of their settlements. Continued occupation of the houses as late as the Iron Age, as at Kestor near Chagford, is a possibility that must also be considered. Despite over 200 hut circles being excavated on Dartmoor, mostly in the 19th century with limited technical expertise, only a small number have been excavated to a modern standard, and only a tiny percentage of these have benefited from modern scientific methods. Although a finite resource, Dartmoor's hut circles may have much more information to reveal under the right conditions.

Dartmoor National Park contains the most significant assemblage of Early to Middle Bronze Age, upstanding stone monuments anywhere in the British Isles, perhaps in the world, but certainly in Europe. A statement as to the significance of any one part or section of that assemblage must also acknowledge its contribution to the understanding of that greater part.

Medieval activity within the PAL area was less intense and consequently less visible than that of the prehistoric period. However, the subtle remains that do survive are representative of an important but probably short-lived episode of marginal land reclamation. This area, and areas like it around the fringes of the upland, represent the interface where the gradual creep of medieval farming enclosures faltered before halting as the marginality of the higher ground made it too demanding for permanent cultivation or occupation. These places are significant for the information they provide and their physical survival illustrates an important phase in the advancement of agriculture and settlement. Such evidence is harder to find in areas of the moor which remained occupied and were later developed to become the modern farming landscape. These marginal areas therefore provide a snapshot into the process of colonizing the upland. Some of the evidence is, however, extremely subtle and not so easily appreciated by the general observer.

As a whole, the importance of the archaeology within this area is recognised through the scheduling of parts of the reave system cairns, hut circles and some medieval features summarized in the following statement:

*The coaxial fields, prehistoric settlements and cairns on Halshanger and Horridge Commons survive very well and are amongst the most visually impressive on the Moor. The field system in particular is well-preserved and will contain important archaeological and environmental information relating to occupation and use of this area during the prehistoric period. This monument represents the best preserved and most extensive part of the largest coaxial field system on Dartmoor. Evidence for continued use of the area in medieval and post-medieval times further enhances the significance of the monument. (SM No. 1019603)*

Surprisingly, however, large portions of the reave system on Blackslade Down, Buckland Common Pudsham Down and Bagtor are unprotected through the scheduling system, which, considering they are well preserved examples, that contribute to the wholeness of this, the largest parallel reave system in Britain, shows inconsistency of approach.

Finally, the rifle range is among the clearest and most intact disused relics of military training on Dartmoor, where many other artefacts of this type have been effaced through conservation and other pressures. Its survival, more or less intact, provides a permanent reminder of a dark period in recent British History but as such is part of an increasingly rare resource within the landscape. It also lies outside of any active military ranges so may be visited without restriction. Although a comparatively modern feature, the rifle range is an important component of the Dartmoor story and of Devon's cultural heritage.

## **8.0 FUTURE RESEARCH AND SURVEY PRIORITIES**

### **8.1 Completion of the Rippon Tor parallel reave system survey**

Although the Rippon Tor parallel reave system covers the largest area of any of its type in Britain, its full extent is not covered by the PAL, consequently much evidence is excluded from this survey. Areas of reaves in the near vicinity of the Rippon Tor PAL, which follow the same or very similar alignment, have been identified on Haytor Downs, Smallacombe, Pinchaford, Saddle Tor, Chinkwell Tor, Wind Tor and Dunstone Down.

Given the premier status of this system, there is now a strong need for additional survey of all reaves, hut circles and settlements within its remaining areas, to provide a geo-referenced and up to date map of the entire Rippon Tor reave system. Other reave systems on Dartmoor, including Dartmeet/Holne Moor, Throwleigh Common and Shaugh Moor have been surveyed in their entirety, and are available within the DNPA GIS.

- **Priority 1:** A survey by the RCHME in the late 1990's covered the majority of the Haytor, Smallacombe Pinchaford area using the same standard of recording as used at Rippon Tor. However, these data do not exist in a GIS format and are therefore not available for any overall inclusion in a holistic analysis of this reave system. These data could easily be upgraded to form part of the GIS as a desktop process.
- **Priority 2:** Although Chinkwell Tor, Wind Tor and Dunstone Down contain discrete areas of reaves, the argument that they form part of the Rippon Tor system is compelling. These areas have never been surveyed, other than through aerial plotting, so ground survey, and inclusion of resulting data in the DNPA GIS, should now be a priority

## 8.2 Further investigation of the medieval landscape

Marginal areas of moorland, such as those just beyond the limit of enclosed land, can tell us much about the advance and retreat of human occupation on Dartmoor, especially from the early medieval period onwards. This topic, however, has been neglected in terms of survey and investigation as, until now, most research effort into the medieval period has been directed at settlements and longhouses.

This survey has revealed the potential extent of abandoned fields within these areas, as well as providing a glimpse into past attempts at outfield cultivation, on the moorland beyond the enclosed lands of the parishes included. The latter is, surprisingly, more common than previous record would suggest, but there is still much to investigate, especially around Widecombe and Buckland.

- **Priority 3:** Recording of marginal areas of moorland, beyond the currently enclosed lands needs to be expanded to include areas not covered in this survey and to other moorland parishes, such as Manaton, Lustleigh, Chagford, North Bovey etc. A useful start could be made on this work by encouraging desk-top survey and fieldwork through the community based research of the 'Moor Medieval' project within *Moor than Meets the Eye Partnership*. The tasks required lie well within the remit and level of training proposed for this project, including the use of map regression, aerial and LiDAR plotting and basic field recording.
- **Priority 4:** LiDAR of a suitable resolution (0.5m or 0.25m) is not yet available for the Rippon Tor PAL, but has proved of use as a reconnaissance tool elsewhere on the high moor within DNP. If and when this resource becomes available, the search for subtle features, such as cultivation strips and ridge and furrow, in the marginal lands of the commons would certainly bear fruit, and would help increase our somewhat meagre knowledge as to the the extent of this activity.

## 8.3 Rippon Tor rifle range – historical context

The Rippon Tor rifle range is arguably the single, most visually striking, Second World War artefact to survive within Dartmoor National Park, ranking in importance alongside Okehampton Battle Camp and Roborough Airfield. The landscape remains are well understood and in good condition. The date of construction and period of use of this facility is entirely within living memory of older residents living in this district and, if traceable, the army recruits who used it. These memories, if tracked down, compiled and archived, could be crucial to the interpretation and future perception of this important monument.

- **Priority 5:** Seek out persons who remember the rifle range when in use, from the 1940s-60s. Record and archive their memories.

## 8.4 Bagtor Mine

The remains of Bagtor Mine are dispersed over a large area, extending from the Bagtor enclosure to Cownley Parks, and Hemsworthy Gate. Within this sett it is known that many shafts, adits, wheelpits, buildings, two dressing floors and other installations survive along with the impressive tramway and earthwork dam recorded above. This mine is relatively well documented for its 19th-century period of operation, but there is also much of interest regarding earlier tinworking in these vallies, including water management and streamworking. However, no study or detailed survey has yet taken place so its full landscape impact remains unrecorded, and its significance as a coherent set of heritage assets is under appreciated.

- **Priority 6:** A bespoke landscape survey of the Bagtor/Haytor mines, including large-scale windows, is essential to establish the full extent of remains at this important tin mine. This should be complemented by thorough documenteray research.

## Abbreviations

AP	Aerial photograph
DNPA	Dartmoor National Park Authority
EH	English Heritage
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
HER	Historic Environment Record
OD	Ordnance datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
PAL	Premier Archaeological Landscape
SMR	Sites and Monuments Register
RCHME	Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England
SSSI	Site of special scientific interest
SM	Scheduled Monument

1. [www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/lookingafter/laf-landmanagement/laf-moorfutures](http://www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/lookingafter/laf-landmanagement/laf-moorfutures)

2. [www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/history/minutes/2004/old\\_ashburton.php](http://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/history/minutes/2004/old_ashburton.php)

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**APPENDIX I – Gazetteer of recorded sites by HER no.**

DNPA HER No.	SUMMARY	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	E	N	SM No.
MDV7415	Hut circle settlement at Foale's Arrishes	A hut settlement with 8 hut circles, set within parallel reaves on Blackslade Down, including the enclosure known as Foale's Arrishes. The hut circles were contemporary with the reaves, being either attached to them or linked by shorter walls. The site is also notable for the later imposition of a rectangular stone enclosure, which incorporated some of the reave elements and hut circles. Excavated by the DEC in 1897. Surveyed at 1:1000 scale May 2015 (Fig 25).	Bracken covered in places and covered by gorse on the E corner but stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273800	76000	1003283
MDV7416	Hut circle 1 at Foale's Arrishes	Hut 1. The largest of the huts within the Foale's Arrishes enclosure. Excavated by the DEC in 1897.. Surveyed at 1:1000 scale May 2015 (Fig 25 & 27)	Bracken covered but stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273748	75852	1003283
MDV7417	Hut circle 2 at Foale's Arrishes	Hut 2. Hut circle with small self-contained enclosure. Excavated by the DEC in 1897. Surveyed at 1:1000 scale May 2015 (Fig 25).	Bracken covered but stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273784	75850	1003283
MDV7418	Hut Circle 3 at Blackslade	Hut 3. A hut circle within a small enclosure, SW of Foale's Arrishes. Excavated by the DEC in 1897.	Bracken covered but stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273574	75796	1003283
MDV7419	Hut circle 8 at Foale's Arrishes	Hut 8. Sits just to the NW of the Foale's Arrishes enclosure. Excavated by the DEC in 1897. Surveyed at 1:1000 scale May 2015 (Fig 25).	Bracken covered but stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273754	75947	1003283
MDV7424	Hut circle 180m north-east of Torcroft	Two hut circles of 9.2m and 8.5m diameter, and fragments of enclosure wall. One hut has some substantive stones in its wall, but the monuments have been robbed by road menders (see DEC 1897).	Stable			1002621
MDV7433	Cairn 100m south-east of Rippon Tor	A much spread and turf-covered cairn of up to 25m diameter, 87m SE of Rippon Tor outcrop.	Declining	274744	75476	1019603
MDV7434	Cairn 30m south-east of Rippon Tor	A 6.2m diameter mound with a hollowed centre, 30m SE of Rippon Tor outcrop. According to Grinsell (1978, 142) it contains a possible cist, or burial chamber, though this is unverified.	Stable	274691	75532	1019603
MDV7437	Cairn and Cist on Blackslade Down	A very ruinous cairn on Blackslade Down has a central cist, made up of four edge-set, in situ, slabs, forming a rectangular chamber of 1m by 0.7m. This cairn was investigated in 1871 (DEC 1897). Pottery and charcoal were retrieved but the displaced capstone to cover the cist, reported as lying beside it, is now absent. The 16.5m diameter cairn that covered the cist was probably a mound, but the uneven ground and pitting which surrounds it, suggests much material was robbed to construct a field boundary, of probable medieval date; this touches and obscures the southern tangent of the cairn. Surveyed at 1:200 scale May 2015 (Figs 8 & 10).	Stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273412	75512	1003285
MDV7438	Prehistoric enclosed hut settlement on the east side of Tunhill Rocks	A well-preserved oval enclosure which has incorporated sections of the Tunhill outcrop within its circuit. It contains one large hut circle (43228). Excavated by the DEC in 1896. Surveyed at 1:500 scale May 2015 (Figs 14-16)	Stable. Evidence of antiquarian intervention	273193	75794	1003286
MDV7454	Ruined buildings remains of New House	Faint earthwork foundations and a few upright granite posts mark the locations of the buildings of New House, adjacent to the Ashburton road. They are set within a series of stone walled enclosures totalling 4.2 ha. Foundations of a ruined granite outbuilding are located at SX7394 7531 (MDV7547).	Stable	274050	75580	
MDV7455	Cairn north of Top Tor	One of a group of 3. A low, turf covered mounds of 8m diameter. Stones protruding through the surface have previously been interpreted as components of a kerb.	Stable	273574	76472	
MDV7456	Cairn north of Top Tor	One of a group of 3, recognisable mainly by four large in situ boulders which represent the remains of a substantial retaining circle. However, much of the fabric has been removed leaving only a faint, roughly circular earthwork of 9.5m diameter.	Stable	273652	76467	
MDV7457	Cairn north of Top Tor	One of a group of 3. A low, turf covered mound of 24m a diameter. Stones protruding through the surface have previously been interpreted as components of a kerb.	Stable	273545	76555	
MDV7464	Unfinished Cross at Rippon Tor	A cross has been cut from a large slab of granite, north of the Rippon Tor outcrop, but was abandoned before completion.	Stable	274630	75580	1019603
MDV7468	Ruined longhouse at Blackslade	A fine example of a ruined longhouse, set obliquely into the slope, below the track near Blackslade Ford. The ruined building has clear foundation walls and cross-passage entrances. Internal dimensions are 18.3 by 4.5m. According to Linehan this was an early site of Blackslade Manor.	Stable	273571	75369	
MDV 7513	Shallow shafts or pit works at Hemsworth Mine	An alignment of shallow shafts or pit works, south of the road near Hemsworth Mine. The pits may represent prospecting or attempts at shallow working of a tin lode. The alignment runs west to east and extends for 125m.	Stable	274528	76026	

MDV7537	A large stony round cairn, south of Wittaburrow	100m to the south of the outcrop. This location possess fine vistas across the surrounding moors and with sight-lines to other hilltop round cairns. The mound has a 25m diameter at base, but the structure has been much altered, probably robbed, and is now quite low in places. A 'bite-shaped' section is missing from the main mound on the SE side where a smaller cairn, which is unlikely to be an original feature, stands within the original spread of the monument. Two large hollows have been dug into the main mound which, overall, survives in a very uneven state.	Declining	273348	75205	1019603
MDV7539	Cairn on summit of Rippon Tor	A cairn sits on the highest point of the main outcrop of Rippon Tor. It is an approximately circular mound of granite boulders, with an overall spread of 27m. The top has been much altered and added to, and the central area hollowed; there is also the more recent addition of an OS trig pillar within the hollow.	Declining due to frequent interference by the public	274657	75573	1019603
MDV7540	Millstone near summit of Rippon Tor	An abandoned, unfinished millstone, close to the SW side of a large cairn on Rippon Tor.	Stable	274640	75560	1019603
MDV7541	Millstone south-west of Rippon Tor	An abandoned, unfinished millstone, SW of the Rippon Tor outcrop.	Stable	274620	75530	1019603
MDV7547	A ruined stone outbuilding at New House	Foundations of a ruined granite outbuilding, or barn, built against the SW side of an enclosure wall 290m SW of New House. Three granite posts used to support the roof survive in situ.	Stable	273949	75310	
MDV7548	Cairn on Horridge Common	Remains of a cairn on Horridge Common. Probably a medieval clearance cairn rather than a prehistoric cairn.	Stable	274454	75226	
MDV 7555	A hut circle north of Rippon Tor	Faint remains of a small prehistoric hut circle are located on the NE lower slopes of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274843	75801	
MDV7977	Buckland Beacon, probable tor cairn.	The tor outcrop is surrounded by small, turf covered stones indicating a possible tor cairn.	Mostly stable but subject to visitor erosion	273500	73100	
MDV7983	Reave System on Buckland Common	Thirteen reaves cross Buckland and Welstor Common combined, all following the SE to NW trend of the greater Rippon Tor system, several surviving in part for over 1km, including three that continue beyond Ruddy cleave Water and across Pudsham Down. On the northern sector of Welstor Common, the reaves have been truncated by 19th-20th century clearance and cultivation. The reaves on the ridge and west slope of Buckland Common are very clear, where sub-division and cross-reaves are also evident.	Stable but affected by dense gorse in places and seasonal bracken growth	273431	74395	
MDV7995	Complex hut circle settlement on Buckland Common	This enclosed settlement on the west-facing slope of Buckland Common, above Ruddy cleave Water, comprises a cluster of five attached enclosures, containing four hut circles. The settlement appears to be associated with two reaves, though the chronology is not clear. The site has been previously investigated by Belsey (1986). Surveyed at 1:1000 scale May 2015 (see Fig 28)	Dense covering of bracken. Much erosion caused by footpaths traversing the walls	273430	73811	1004589
MDV8001	Longhouse on Pudsham Down	A shallow rectangular hollow, with a stony, banked wall along one side on the moderate eastern slope of Pudsham Down. Stones around the edge of the hollow, suggest possible ruined walls.		273375	74776	
MDV8017	Hut circle settlement on Buckland Common	Sub-rectangular enclosure attached to north side of NE-SW reave, with one internal hut circle. A medieval bank and ditch traverses the south corner of the enclosure.	Stable but bracken covered	273440	74110	
MDV8021	Deserted settlement 340 metres south-east of Cold East Cross, Ashburton	Earthwork remains of two, possibly three, adjoining rectangular buildings of probable medieval date. The longer building is 14m by 4.3m with a possible entrance on the east side. Surveyed at 1:500 scale May 2015 (see Fig 31)	Stable but bracken covered	274350	73940	1019604
MDV8024	Hut circle adjoining enclosure on Buckland Common	A 9m diameter hut circle, adjacent to a ruined rectangular enclosure. Walls survive as a stony earthwork bank.	Covered by dense bracken	273667	74434	
MDV8038	Rectangular enclosure on Buckland Common	A rectangular enclosure of 0.2ha, with rounded south corners, attached to the south side of a reave.	Stable but bracken covered	273720	74510	
MDV8039	Hut circle on Blackslade Down	Two hut circles, one attached to a cross reave at 73653 74661, and a second just below a leat at 73693 74721. Both are in poor condition	Declining	273653	74661	
MDV8041	Halshanger Common Parallel Reave System	Seven visible though intermittent parallel reaves spaced approximately 46m apart, following the prevailing NW to SE axis of the Rippon Tor system. The reaves terminate just north of the mire at the head of the Ashburn. At the south end (centred SX 7486 7478) is a series of small rectangular plots created by additional shorter reaves with right-angled sub-divisions between them. See also MDV 25217; MDV 25219 for associated monuments.	Declining	273693	74721	
MDV8050	A hut circle and three small adjacent rectangular enclosures 525m ENE of Rippon Tor	A small rectangular enclosure of 0.48ha, with three internal divisions and a single hut circle (8052), is attached to the northern side of the reave, and was either contemporary with the reave or post-dated it.	Stable but affected by bracken and gorse	274239	75102	1019603
			Stable	275177	75720	1002499

MDV8052	Hut circle attached to a rectangular enclosure 525m ENE of Rippon Tor	A hut circle attached to a rectangular enclosure (8050). The hut has much stone in situ, including large orthostats and the walls are thick 8.5m diameter.	Stable	275152	75250	1002499
MDV8082	Bagtor Tin Mine	Remains of Bagtor Mine, alternatively known as Haytor Consols, a tin mine which attempted to work lodes within the upper tributary valleys of the River Lemon and Sig, mostly in the 1850s and 60s. Evidence within the Bagtor enclosure includes capped shafts with associated spoil and whim plats, also wheelpits and a tramway. (see MDV26531; 26532; 26524; 51797).	Varies	275866	75708	
MDV8100	A cairn on the northern sector of Horridge Common	One of two round cairns on the northern sector of Horridge Common, survives as a turf-covered mound with a base diameter of 11m.	Covered by gorse at time of survey	275465	75119	1019603
MDV8101	A cairn on the northern sector of Horridge Common	One of two round cairns on the northern sector of Horridge Common, survives as a turf-covered mound with a base diameter of 10m.	Covered by gorse at time of survey	275500	75102	1019603
MDV8115	Four abandoned adjoining enclosures NE of Bagtor Cottage	Earth and stone banks of 4 identifiable, abandoned, adjoining, rectilinear fields just to the north of current enclosed land. Of medieval or later date.	Stable	276247	75553	
MDV8116	An earthwork dam across the River Sig	A large earthwork dam was constructed across the River Sig to create a reservoir in which water was collected to supply water wheels and other processes at Bagtor Mine. The dam comprises a bank of 75-80m by 4m high, built across the river, with a central opening of 9m to contain a sluice. This may have been widened after abandonment. A second bank runs at right angles to the first on the north side of the river with which it runs parallel for 85m. The dam may date from 1862 when a large water-wheel was installed further down the valley. See entry for Bagtor Mine MDV8082.	Stable	275834	75831	
MDV8172	Enclosure on Halsanger Common	Two hut circles associated with a small, square enclosure, 18m by 19m, are close by the modern wall dividing Halsanger Common from Horridge Common. This site was excavated by the DEC in 1897, when pottery, flint and slate artefacts were retrieved, though the work here was never completed. Surveyed at 1:200 scale May 2015 (Fig 29)	Stable	275053	74828	1019603
MDV8173	Hut circle north of enclosure on Halsanger Common	An 8m diameter hut circle, terraced into the slope, with a substantial scarp on the north side, exaggerated as a result of the excavations in the 1890s, when the interior was removed. Many stones of the wall survive in situ in this hut and the interior. Surveyed at 1:200 scale May 2015 (Fig 29)	Stable. Evidence of antiquarian investigation	275046	74845	1019603
MDV8174	Hut circle south of enclosure on Halsanger Common	Attached to the south side of a cross reave. The hut is has a diameter of 4.8m and the walls include some large boulders but it has suffered much at the hands of the modern wall builders when most of the masonry on the NE arc of the wall was removed. This site was excavated by the DEC in 1897, when pottery, flint and slate artefacts were retrieved, though the work here was never completed. Surveyed at 1:200 scale May 2015 (Fig 29)	Stable. Evidence of antiquarian investigation	275046	74805	1019603
MDV8215	Hut circle on Horridge Common	A lone hut circle within a small ruinous enclosure, associated within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable and in open grassland	275359	74595	1019603
MDV8217	Cairn on Horridge Common	A probable cairn, has been massively disturbed and robbed. Its appearance is of an amorphous spread of small granite boulders, with a slightly raised central area.	Declining and bracken covered	275640	74940	1019603
MDV13721	Cairn 75 metres south-east of Rippon Tor	Seventy-five metres to the SE of the Rippon Tor outcrop, a stony mound sits away from the tor on the crest of the hill. It is an amorphous and much disturbed cairn of 20m diameter, which, due to interference, now has an uneven profile	Declining	274718	75498	1019603
MDV15722	Linear stone clearance SW of Foales Arrishes - evidence of strip cultivation	A series of parallel stone clearance lines, SW of Foale's Arrishes main enclosure, extend south towards Blackslade Mire and are probable evidence of strip cultivation, first noted by Gawn (1960, 63). Fleming (1994, 113) has depicted 14 such lines but fewer are now visible under the covering of gorse. The visible examples are between 10 and 12.5m apart and up to 175m long.	Stable though partly covered by gorse	273700	76000	
MDV15723	Medieval enclosures and cultivation west of Hollow Tor	Centred SX 72996 76292. A series of stone and earth banks, some with ditches, and shallow lynchets north and west of Hollow Tor, are probable evidence of medieval enclosure and, possibly, cultivation. The evidence is somewhat fragmented and covered by bramble and bracken, beneath which further examples may survive...	Stable though partly covered by gorse	272996	76292	
MDV15725	Evidence of medieval cultivation north of Bagtor.	Evidence of medieval strip cultivation 170m north of Bagtor. The very faint, spread partition banks marking the limits of the plots run north to south. An E-W ruined hedge-bank acts as a southern terminal for several of these banks but one large one crosses it. A later tinwork gully cuts across 4 of these banks.	In open pasture. Stable	276400	75900	
MDV20169	Cairn south of Blackslade Ford	An amorphous pile of large boulders, much disturbed, might have been a cairn, though a large horse-shoe shape section is missing. A modern wall, following the course of a former reave, transects the feature and a boundary stone has been placed on the pile.	Much legacy damage but stable.	273701	75120	

MDV20518	An extant granite building on Welstor Common	An extant, mortared granite building of unknown purpose or date. The footprint of the building is trapezoid and the south end is open. It had a sloping roof, now absent, fixed to the wall with a substantial concrete band. On the northern end of the structure there is a lean-to extension with a doorway on the east side. The approximate overall external dimensions are 8m by up to 5.7m and 3m high. The building seems unlikely to be associated with the nearby quarry, as the former is marked on the OS 1886 1st edition OS map, and the latter is not. The main activity at that time in this vicinity was the rifle range, commenced in 1860.	Declining	272823	73181	
MDV21488	Hut circle on Blackslade Down	Hut 4 at Foale's Arrishes	Stable	273576	75778	1003283
MDV21489	Hut circle 5 at Foales Arrishes	Hut circle 5 at Foale's Arrishes See 1:1000 scale survey (Newman2015)	Stable	273780	76020	1003283
MDV21490	Hut circle 6 at Foales Arrishes	Hut circle 6 at Foale's Arrishes See 1:1000 scale survey (Newman2015)	Stable	273790	75980	1003283
MDV21491	Hut circle 7 at Foales Arrishes	Hut circle 7 at Foale's Arrishes	Stable	273759	76102	1003283
MDV25151	Ridge and furrow on Pudsham Down	Several large abandoned fields, delineated by substantive banks with ditches, enclose areas of ridge and furrow.	Stable	272550	74600	
MDV25152	A ditch on Pudsham Down	A ditch cuts across cultivation strips on Pudsham Down.	Stable	273062	74946	
MDV25156	Ridge and furrow on Pudsham Down	Ridge and furrow is evident within several of the central enclosures on Pudsham Down.	Stable	272800	74750	
MDV25158	A much robbed enclosure of two elements and the site of a single hut circle	Centred SX 73288 74629. A much ruined and robbed prehistoric enclosure of two elements and earthwork evidence of a single hut circle on the SW slope of Pudsham Down. The smaller enclosure is 20m by 15m. The outer, larger enclosure is attached to the smaller one on the east side. It is roughly oval and measures 51m by 42. The walls have been extensively robbed leaving only an earthwork and some smaller stones, but the outline and shape of the enclosures is clear. The hut circle comprises a crescent-shaped earthwork depression only, located centrally within the smaller enclosure.	Much legacy damage but now stable	273287	74631	
MDV25160	Parallel reaves on Pudsham Down	Three parallel reaves, which extend from Buckland Common to the SE, and probably crossed Ruddyleave water, run diagonally across the Down, where two of them halt at a terminal reave on the NW slope.	Stable though robbed	273213	74080	
MDV25164	Small Openwork on Halshanger Common	A very small elongated pit may be an undeveloped tinwork.	Stable	274210	74420	
MDV25166	A dry leat on Buckland Common	The higher of two dry leats, which run approximately south along the contour of Buckland Common. The leat, which comprises a shallow earthwork with an earth bank on the downslope side, is first visible emerging from the eastern side of Blackslade Mire after which it heads south and can be traced intermittently through dense gorse onto the more open ground south of the Blackslade track. Its southern destination was the small openwork and streamworks to the west of Dry Bridge.	Stable where traceable	273790	74620	
MDV25167	A dry leat on Buckland Common	The lower of two dry leats which run approximately south along the contour of Buckland Common. The leat, which comprises a shallow earthwork with an earth bank on the downslope side, is first visible emerging from the eastern side of Blackslade Mire after which it heads south and can be traced intermittently through dense gorse onto the more open ground south of the Blackslade track. It terminates on the north side of a small gully beyond which it cannot be traced to the south.	Partly covered by gorse	273730	74580	
MDV25168	Prospecting pits on Halshanger Common	A short line of tin prospecting pits within the parallel reave system on Halshanger Common, running north-south.	Stable	274322	75008	
MDV25169	Tin prospecting pits on Buckland Common	An east - west alignment of 26 tin pits extending up the west slope of Buckland Common from Blackslade.	Stable	273738	74850	
MDV25171	A tin openwork on Buckland Common	A tin openwork of probable post-medieval date, oriented approximately NE to SW, extends for approximately 180m across Buckland Common. The gully is slightly curved, up to 8.5m wide and a maximum of 2m deep. At the northern end a reservoir, now dry, and comprising a crescentic earth bank of 32m long, collected water used in the tin working processes from a leat (25166) that diverted water from Blackslade Mire to the north.	Stable	273620	74550	

MDV/25170	Tin prospecting pits on Buckland Common	A cluster of tin prospecting pits at the head of a small open cut on Buckland Common.	Stable	273820	74559	
MDV/25172	Medieval enclosure	A rectangular medieval enclosure imposed between two earlier parallel reaves on Buckland Common; sections of reave have been effaced as a result. The south and east boundary banks have an external ditch and in the NW corner a narrow lane, or drift, leads off to the north (MDV 25173). The interior of the enclosure has traces of ridge and furrow.	Declining due to erosion from trackway	273590	74200	
MDV/25173	A narrow lane or drift on Buckland Common	A narrow lane, droveway or drift lane, defined by two parallel earthwork banks approximately 6.5m apart, leads from the corner of an abandoned field towards the bridge over Ruddyleave Water.	Declining due to erosion from trackway	273546	74411	
MDV/25180	Boundary stone on Buckland Common	Hidden by gorse at time of survey	Gorse covered	273910	74150	
MDV/25186	Platform base of a timber or other temporary structure	A rectangular earthwork platform on Welstor Common, measuring 11m by 12m. It may have been the base for a timber or other form of temporary building, probably associated with the rifle range sited here in the late 19th century after 1860, or possible the golf course recorded here in 1910.	Declining due to burrowing animals	273713	73524	
MDV/25193	A disused quarry on Welstor Common	A horseshoe shaped quarry pit, with sloping sides, extends for 46m by 24m. The hollow cuts into the slope and is open at the NE end. Flat-topped spoil dumps up to 25m long are located a few metres to the east. Date not known but the quarry was depicted in a less developed form on the OS 2nd edition 25-inch map of 1905.	Stable	273907	73152	
MDV/25196	Disused trackways running towards Bowden from Buckland Beacon	Not an openwork as previously recorded. A track or routeway running E to W across Welstor Common which was associated with others that continue west over Buckland Common. The track comprises a sinuous gully of up to 7m wide. The eastern end has been partly effaced by modern land clearance.	Legacy damage but now stable	273700	73380	
MDV/25197	Disused trackways running towards Bowden from Buckland Beacon	Not openworks as previously recorded. A series of gullies, some merging together, are evidence of disused trackways connecting the enclosed lands surrounding Bowden to the west, with those of Welstor to the east, crossing the formerly open ground of Buckland and Welstor Commons. The gullies align with the surviving walled lane from Bowden.	Stable	273220	73490	
MDV/25212	Hedge bank on Halshanger Common	Medieval or later hedge bank extending across the Bronze Age parallel reave system on Halshanger Common. An upstanding hedge-bank, which runs from Water Rushes and across the hill north to meet the southern wall of the Horridge/Rippon Tor enclosure. This section of boundary has, for much of its extent, double parallel banks set up to 3m apart, which could represent remains of a narrow droveway or lane. Vestiges of the shrubs that once formed the hedge survive in places along the eastern bank as mature trees.	Stable	274148	74633	
MDV/25213	Tin streamwork on the southern side of Halshanger Common	The upper section of a tin streamworks on Halshanger Common which follows the north-western tributary of the Ashburn. Much of this is now obscured by mire but the upper, western 250m-long section has clear sloping edges and an array of waste heaps contained within.	Declining	274391	74126	
MDV/25215	Parallel reave system on Pudsham Down and Blackslade Down	Three parallel reaves run diagonally across the Down, where two of them halt at a terminal reave on the NE slope. A central section of one of the reaves has been removed on the crest of the hill, a robber trench is still visible, suggesting removal was comparatively recent.	Stable	273405	74848	
MDV/25217	Parallel Reave System on the south-eastern edge of Halshanger Common	The alignment of the reaves on the north side of Halshanger Common continues on the SE side of the mire, where four parallel reaves run SE to the rifle range. It is not known for certain if any reaves ever continued through the area now covered by the mire.	Stable	275027	73901	
MDV/25219	Settlement on Halshanger Common	A sub-divided enclosure, centred SX 7451 7453, with curving outer walls and a central hut circle (MDV 25219). The enclosure is attached to the southern end of the parallel reaves, onto which it does not fit comfortably, and it was a probable later addition.	Stable	274541	74504	1019603
MDV/25220	Small enclosure with hut circle in reave system on Halshanger Common	A cross-reave and two partition walls between parallel reaves have formed two irregular enclosures. A 7m diameter hut circle is attached to the south side of the reave.	Stable	274677	74652	1019603
MDV/25247	Parallel Reave System on Horridge Common	On the upper section of Horridge Common, six parallel reaves, spaced between 22m and 90m apart, extend down the slope following the prevailing alignment of the Rippon Tor system, where the addition of several cross reaves, has created large rectangular plots. The intensity of the sub-division increases further down the slope where fifteen hut circles are distributed among the smaller plots and enclosures, either in isolation or in groups. Some of these huts are impressive in scale and appearance, being of large diameter (up to c.8m), with clear level floors and containing large upright, edge-set slabs in their wall fabric. There is no known recorded excavation within these hut circles and most are in a fair to good, stable condition.	Stable though there are problems with blanket gorse coverage on the northern section and dense bracken south of an E to W track	275104	75094	1019603

MDV/25830	Tin streamworks along the Langworthy Brook,	A shallow streamwork follows the upper section of the Langworthy Brook, is very clear on aerial photographs of 1946 and its southern edge is still well defined on the ground today by an escarpment. However, the interior of the working is now very boggy and in places obscured by impenetrable gorse and many small trees. The date of the streamworks is unknown but documentary evidence suggests the date range of Dartmoor streamworking generally to be between the 12th and 19th centuries with many probably of 16th century date when the industry was at its most prosperous in Devon.	Declining	275100	74089	
MDV/25831	Tin streamworks along Langworthy Brook tributary	Tin streamworks along the upper reaches of the northern tributary of Langworthy Brook, running across Mounstland Common. The area is very clear on aerial photos of 1946 and the edges of the streamworks are still well-defined on the ground today as escarpments. However, the site is now very boggy and obscured in places by vegetation. The date of the streamworks is unknown but documentary evidence suggests the date range of Dartmoor streamworking generally to be between the 12th and 19th centuries with many probably of 16th century date when the industry was at its most prosperous in Devon.	Declining	275500	74380	
MDV/25836	Medieval and later enclosures on Mounstland Common	A series of medieval and later enclosures on Mounstland Common. Elements and orientation of the Rippon Tor parallel reave system can be seen to be underpinning the layout of the fields, but their surviving character, of robust earth bank, some with external ditches is certainly much later. Also, some elements appear to have been added piecemeal rather than fitting any scheme. A high proportion of the fields have clear evidence of ridge and furrow.	Stable	275300	74150	
MDV/25838	Hut circle on Horridge Common	One of two hut circles on Horridge Common, south of Bagtor Wood. The stone and earth ring has a clear entrance on the SE side with two granite jambs in situ.	Stable	275754	74884	
MDV/26523	An earthen bank divides the outer Bagtor enclosure	A disused earthen bank, which may have served as an earlier western outer boundary of the Bagtor enclosure or as a sub-division of it. The southern portion of the bank, about 325m long, has a stone element in its construction but the remaining northern extension is turf only and may have been robbed of stone or never completed. It becomes difficult to follow across the mire at the head of Bagtor Brook but is clearer to the north.	Partly lost in the mire but stable	275350	75800	
MDV/26524	Mine tramway on Bagtor Down	Earthwork remains of the tramway which once extended from mine workings at Hensworthy Mine, along the valley of Bagtor Brook, and eventually to mine dressing floors at Crownley Parks. The flat-topped linear bank is very clear south of Saddle Tor where it enters the Bagtor enclosure through a gateway. This is now blocked but the two gateposts are in situ. From there it can be traced into the mire but becomes difficult to follow. It becomes clear again near the mine dam, SE past Bagtor Cottages before entering enclosed land.	Partly lost in the mire but stable	275200	75880	
MDV/26527	Ditch on Bagtor Down	A narrow, shallow gully probably associated with medieval or later tinworking. Unlikely to be connected with the nearby prehistoric enclosure.	Stable	275234	75542	
MDV/26528	Ditch on Bagtor Down	A narrow, shallow gully probably associated with medieval or later tinworking. Unlikely to be connected with the nearby prehistoric enclosure.	Stable	275273	75511	
MDV/26530	Tinners' leat	Earthwork remains of a dry leat which once channelled water from the tinners' reservoir on the summit of the hill, just south of the Bagtor enclosure, to the tin openwork 300m to the NE (MDV 81116)	Stable	275420	75400	
MDV/26531	Tin openwork mine shafts north of Bagtor	A narrow, linear tin openwork which cuts obliquely across the saddle of the ridge, north of Bagtor. The strike of the lode and the resulting openwork followed an approximately SW-NE orientation, running for 350m. The sides of the openwork's interior has many steep rock faces and there is a number of large displaced stones in the gully as well as evidence of undermining. Spoil heaps of small stone sit on the top of the escarpment along the sides of the tinwork. As the gully extends NE it gradually diminishes in size, fading to nothing at its furthest, northern extent. Water was provided for the tin working processes via a short leat from a boggy area to the north and collected in a 35m-long, linear earthwork reservoir, adjacent to the highest point on the openwork. Two shafts were sunk into the openwork during the 19th-century mining period at Bagtor Mines, depicted on an abandoned mine plan (DRO AMP R54B). Adit Shaft was sunk at SX 76113 75848 and some of the spoil along the side of the openwork may be associated with it. Quickbeam shaft was further down the gully at SX 76051 75822. Although capped, the depression in the base of the gully is still visible and a spoil heap extends south from it. A circular platform to accommodate a horse whim, used for hauling in this shaft, survives to the north with mellior stone in situ, though is obscured by trees.	Stable	276100	75860	

MDV/26532	Tin openwork and mine shafts 850m east of Rippon Tor	A tin openwork of probable post-medieval date, oriented approximately N to S, is up to 30m wide and 6m deep. Evidence of additional working in an approximately E - W direction is found at the southern end in the form of a cutting on the east side. Shallow pits with small crescentic spoil heaps extend down the eastern slope of the hill suggesting further prospecting. A narrow gully on a similar alignment to the pits probably represents additional prospecting activity. South of the openwork an impressive reservoir, now dry, comprising an earthwork hollow and linear bank of 60m long, stored water to supply the workings. Faint earthwork leats survive to the south and west, which once diverted water from sources within the locale, including a small spring to the west and a second artificial reservoir to the south at the summit of the hill (MDV 103779). In the 19th century, a shaft was sunk within the south end of the openwork at SX 75532 75530. This was probably Western Shaft as depicted on the abandoned mine plan for Bagtor Mine (DRO R54b). Although blocked, its position is marked by a circular hollow. Hauling within this shaft was achieved using a horse whim, the remains of which survive at SX 75570 75513, comprising a level, circular platform cut into the slope of the hill.	Stable	275850	75850	
MDV/26533	Tin prospecting pits north of Bagtor	A large cluster of over 40 tin prospecting pits, some conjoined, and a 35m long tinwork.	Stable	276300	75800	
MDV/26534	Disturbed hut circle in Bagtor Inner enclosure	A much altered hut circle on which the NE end has been effaced.	Stable	275960	75350	1019603
MDV/26536	Field bank in Bagtor enclosure	A faint linear earthen bank runs for 280m in a SE to NW direction and was probably associated with other abandoned medieval fields within the Bagtor enclosure.	Stable	276240	75700	
MDV/26537	Field bank and remnant enclosures at Bag Tor	An earth and stone bank, accompanied by a ditch in places, follows a sinuous, approximately east to west course across the NE corner of the Bagtor enclosure. At the western end, several rather spread banks lead off at right angles on the north side to form narrow strips, suggestive of early cultivation of a probable medieval date. All these banks have been cut by a later tinwork.	Stable	276200	75870	
MDV/26617	Reaves within Bagtor inner enclosure	Several parallel reaves follow the prevailing axis, with some sub-division creating smaller plots. Some of these plots are a little irregular in shape and may be later add-ons, or the result of alteration. A steep lynchet running across the enclosure and a total of 17 clearance cairns are also evidence of later activity. A hut circle (MDV 62342) sits at the centre of these reaves.	Stable but in an area where trees are spreading rapidly	275950	75350	1019603
MDV/26618	Parallel reaves on Bagtor Down	A single reave, with traceable origins near Hensworthy Gate, extends the full length of the Bagtor enclosure, its eastern section having been re-furbished as a boundary within a medieval field system. Three fragmentary reaves follow the same alignment, including the curved section, lower down the valley to the north.	Stable. Becoming disguised by bog along one short section	275013	75778	
MDV/26620	Reaves and a possible walled lane or droveway in Bagtor Wood	Reaves and a possible walled lane or droveway, contained within an area of former plantation at Bagtor Wood and badly disturbed as a result.	Legacy damage but now stable	275950	75050	1019603
MDV/26806	Enclosure with ridge and furrow on Buckland Common	Ridge and furrow contained within a 1.3ha enclosure of turf banks, which has been added between two parallel reaves.	Stable	273350	75550	
MDV/26807	'D' shape enclosure, with two associated hut circles, attached to the north side of a reave, SW of Foale's Arrishes	A D shaped enclosure attached to the N side of a reave on Blackslade Common. Two smaller enclosures are attached to the exterior, one contains a hut circle. A second poorly preserved hut circle sits just south of the reave. Both huts were excavated by the DEC in 1897. (See MDV 21488 and 7418).	Stable	273619	75781	1003283
MDV/26826	Settlement west of Hollow Tor	Two clear hut circles survive within a much disturbed and robbed series of enclosures. Clear sections of well-preserved stony banks survive along the south and east of the site, forming one side of an enclosure and a substantial stony lynchet divides the enclosure north to south. Other remaining sections of walls are fragmentary.	Covered by bracken.	272969	76208	
MDV/26829	Tin prospecting pits north of Top Tor	Two alignments of tin prospecting pits running approximately SW to NE down the north slope of Top Tor and terminating just to the south of the Widecombe road. Centred SX7361 7660; SX 7382 7641.	Stable	273650	76610	
MDV/26951	Tin streamworks along Ruddyleave Water	Tin streamworks extending from a short distance above Blackslade Ford to Ruddyleave. 4ha tin streamworks extend south along Blackslade Water from the lower end of the mire. It is likely they once extended further north though the remains have been overwhelmed by the morass	Stable	273630	75130	
MDV/26957	Fragmentary medieval field boundaries NW of Hollow Tor	Fragmentary medieval field boundaries NW of Hollow Tor.	Declining	272800	76200	

MDV26971	Field system with ruined buildings east of Blackslade Mire	Fields bounded by stone walls and ruined buildings on the slope to the east of Blackslade Mire, associated with remains of a small homestead known as New House, a former Inn, abandoned in the 19th-century after burning down according to William Crossing (1912, Guide to Dartmoor)	Stable	274000	75550	
MDV26974	Parallel reaves around Pil Tor	Four reaves traverse the slopes of Top Tor and Pil Tor, continuing the NW trending axis from Rippon Tor and Halsanger, up the west side of Blackslade Down and over the ridge between the tors. The reaves descend the western slope towards the enclosed lands of Widecombe, wherein little trace of them now survives. A number of cross reaves on the NW side of the tors, divide the reaves into blocks. Further blocks on the south side exist in association with the hut circle settlement at Foale's Arrishes.	Stable	273436	75894	
MDV26975	Parallel reaves around Whitaburrow	A block of parallel reaves follow the axis of the Rippon Tor system running across Whitaburrow into Blackslade Newtake.	Stable	273244	75257	
MDV27869	Millstone west of Rippon Tor	An abandoned and incomplete granite millstone among the Rippon Tor outcrops.	Stable	274570	75570	1019603
MDV30589	Boundary stone SE of Buckland Beacon	A boundary stone, not marked on OS 1st edition 25-inch, but referred to on the 2nd edition and by William Crossing (1912) as 'Grey Mare'.	Stable	273550	73030	
MDV30593	A boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone on Buckland Common. One of several that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton. The stone bears the inscription EPB 1837.	Stable	273699	73771	
MDV30594	A boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone on Buckland Common. One of several that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton.	Stable	273695	73769	
MDV30595	A boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton.	Stable	273768	73913	
MDV30596	A boundary stone west of Dry Bridge	A boundary stone west of Dry Bridge built into a curving earthwork One of several boundary stones that define the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton.	Stable	273950	74460	
MDV30598	A boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton sited south of the Blackslade track. One of several stones that define the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton. The stone bears the inscription EPB 1837.	Stable	273890	74730	
MDV30601	Banked lane leading down towards Bowden, on the western slope of Buckland Beacon	Parallel banks form the side of a probable lane leading down to the drift lane to Bowden on the west slope of Buckland Beacon. One of several trackway earthworks descending the slope to Bowden.	Stable	273250	73500	
MDV30607	Boundary Stone SE of Blackslade Ford	Boundary stone built into a cairn, SE of Blackslade Ford	Stable	273700	75110	
MDV30626	A probable ring cairn 25m NW of the Ashburton/Buckland boundary wall	A 10.5m diameter ring cairn close by a reave. Surveyed at 1:200 (Fig 8)	Stable	273670	73769	
MDV30628	Round cairn on Buckland Common	The southernmost of two round cairns adjacent to a bend on the western side of the Buckland/Ashburton boundary wall.	Declining. Erosion caused by footpath	273573	73490	
MDV30629	A round cairn 160m NNW of Buckland Beacon	A flattened round cairn is set close by the west side of the newtake wall that defines the ridge between Buckland and Welstor Commons.	Declining. Erosion caused by footpath	273570	73240	
MDV30631	Round cairn on Buckland Common	The northernmost of two round cairns adjacent to a bend on the western side of the Buckland/Ashburton boundary wall. Surveyed at 1:200 scale May 2015 (Fig 8).	Declining. Erosion caused by footpath	273575	73532	
MDV30632	An arc of stones between two cairns on Buckland Common	An arc of stones is visible through the turf, sitting between and touching two nearby cairns. Date not known.	Declining. Erosion caused by footpath	273574	73511	
MDV30634	Reave at the northern end of Buckland Common.	Not a cairn as originally recorded. This is a section of a reave unrecorded by Butler (1991).	Stable	273820	74868	
MDV30635	Boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone on Buckland Common sitting on a prehistoric reave. One of several that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton.	Stable	273823	74866	
MDV30638	A round cairn SE of Blackslade Ford	Could not investigate due to gorse coverage.	Not known	273765	75086	

MDV30640	A boundary stone on Buckland Common;	One of several boundary stones that define the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton. Could not investigate due to gorse coverage.	Not known	273798	74972
MDV30642	A round cairn, 100m NW of Cold East Cross	A low earthwork, the outline of which is a near perfect circle with a base diameter of 2.1m, though the interior comprises only irregular hummocks and pits. A parish boundary stone stands upright just west of centre. Surveyed at 1:200 scale (Fig 8).	Legacy damage but stable	273990	74280
MDV30643	A boundary stone built into a round cairn, 100m NW of Cold East Cross	A boundary stone built into a cairn that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton. The stone bears the inscription EPB 1837.	Stable	273990	74280
MDV30646	Boundary stone on Buckland Common	A boundary stone built into a cairn. One of several stones that defines the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton.	Stable	273734	73860
MDV30648	Round cairn on Buckland Common	A flattened and spread round cairn straddles the parish boundary between Buckland and Ashburton. A boundary stone is set into the cairn.	Declining. Erosion caused by footpath	273733	73859
MDV30650	Medieval and prehistoric field banks at the eastern foot of Pudsham Down	Survey has demonstrated that all but one of these banks do not conform with the alignment of the field system and most are likely to be medieval. A very turf covered hut circle survives under the trees at SX 73445 74710.	Stable	273480	74900
MDV30652	A probable medieval enclosure of 1.2ha on the eastern slope of Pudsham Down	A probable medieval enclosure of 1.2ha on the eastern slope of Pudsham Down. The trapezoidal enclosure is bounded by earth banks which are clear on the west and south sides but fade away along the eastern side. The northern bank is partly visible but disturbed by erosion from a trackway.	Stable	273356	74892
MDV30653	A boundary bank and ditch	A boundary bank and ditch which forms the western limit of a field system sited mostly within Welstor Common, and has been largely ploughed out. Probably of medieval date.	Legacy damage but now stable	273562	73402
MDV30654	Strip cultivation on Buckland Common	An area of strip cultivation on the moderate western slope of Buckland Common. The strips are defined by parallel lines of stone clearance protruding subtly through the turf. The spaces between the clearance would have contained the cultivation. The distance between surviving examples is 16m to 30m, but some may no longer be visible. These strips are likely to date from the medieval period or earlier.	Stable	273392	73421
MDV30655	Medieval field banks on Pudsham Down	A number of linear earth banks divide up the slopes of Pudsham Down and in places the boundaries have incorporated sections of prehistoric reaves.	Stable	273150	74924
MDV30702	Blackslade Ford	Blackslade Ford, a crossing point over Blackslade Water.	-	273630	75190
MDV30931	Base of a building	A small rectangle of granite boulders on Buckland Common may have been the base of a small building. Post med or modern in date.	Stable	273814	74091
MDV31017	A circular military mortar emplacement on the east slope above Ruddyleave Water	Not a hut circle as previously reported. A military mortar emplacement probably used for training during WW1. Incorrect NGR should be 74771	Stable	273638	74771
MDV31020	Hut circle on the west side of Buckland Common	A poorly preserved hut circle located just south of a reave.	Stable	273526	73990
MDV31021	A circular military mortar emplacement on the ridge of Buckland Common	A military mortar emplacement probably used for training during WW1. Previously recorded as a hut circle.	Stable	273860	74180
MDV31023	Beacon inscribed with the 10 commandments	Two large, faced granite slabs with biblical inscriptions on the SE side of the Buckland Beacon outcrop.	Stable	273500	73100
MDV31062	A heavily robbed round cairn on the summit of Pudsham Down	A much robbed and disturbed round cairn on the summit of Pudsham Down. Believed formerly to be military remains. It comprises a circular, slightly raised, uneven spread of stone with a diameter of 2.1m, and it overlies the course of one of the reaves that runs SE to NW across this hilltop. The chronological relationship is unclear due to the extent of the interference on the cairn.	Stable. Partly gorse covered. Legacy damage.	273279	74839

MDV43230	A field system on the west slope of Blackslade Down near Tunhill Rocks	Earth field banks, ditches and faint ridge and furrow on and around Blackslade Down and Tunhill Rocks. A deserted lane, or drift, comprising two approximately parallel earthen banks, leads up the hillside to the west, opening into an area of enclosed fields bounded by earthen banks, some with external ditches. Prehistoric reaves were incorporated into the layout of these medieval fields, some of which contain the earthworks of ridge and furrow. The track can be traced intermittently through the fields, continuing down the western slope towards Blackslade.	273260	75710	1019603
MDV51158	Feature on reave on Horridge Common	An area of lowered ground on the ridge of Horridge Common. The site was previously designated as a hut platform but this is now thought to be unlikely and that the site is a natural feature.	274930	75320	1019603
MDV51160	Possible enclosure south-east of Rippon Tor	A cross-reave between two parallel reaves SE of Rippon Tor.	274842	75472	1019603
MDV51161	Possible cairn south summit cairn at Rippon Tor	A small stone heap sits close by the main cairn on Rippon Tor.	274650	75550	1019603
MDV51162	Cairn south-east of Rippon Tor	A possible ring cairn that surrounds a small free-standing granite outcrop, just east of the main pile.	274670	75550	
MDV51771	Eleven boundary stones on Blackslade	Eleven unmarked granite posts delineate a section of boundary between Widecombe and Ilington parishes. The southernmost of these is named Grey Goose on OS Maps.	274110	75860	
MDV51805	Old Summer House, Halsanger Common	This structure first appears on the OS Old Series 1-inch map of 1809 and according to Hemery (1983, 699-9) was built in the early 19 <sup>th</sup> century by the Woodleighs of Halsanger as a hide from where rabbits were shot at with shot guns. Although apparently still standing on aerial photographs of 1946, the building has since been demolished and only a rubble platform survives.	274898	73811	
MDV55113	Small arms rifle range	The rifle range was installed in 1942 and used by British and Allied forces; it continued in use until the 1960s. The range is aligned for firing up the slope, approximately south to north and is located to the east of the hill summit. It is 600m long by approximately 80m wide. It was originally surrounded by a wire fence supported by concrete posts. The latter mostly survive but the former has long been removed. The targetry was contained within a long narrow structure with its exterior of protected by an earthen embankment. Some components of the targetry mechanisms remain in situ though most have been removed. A roofless building with a large door opening and three window openings, sited at the eastern end of the targetry, probably served as a workshop and store. The stop butt on the northern end comprises a high earthen bank with a wedge profile, which has been reinforced on the long north side and the two ends by a robust brick wall, strengthened by full height, stepped buttresses on the north side set 2 to 3m apart. Firing points were on a series of elevated earthwork platforms set at 100 yard intervals between 100 and 600 yards. Five of the embankments are in a line but that at 600yds is offset to avoid it being located in the road. The ground over which the range extends is not flat but rises and falls, so the mounds are of differing height to counter that variation. The tallest is 4.2m and the lowest is 0.3m. The three mounds closest to the targets are each equipped with six, sunken, lined boxes equally spaced along the flat upper surface, presumably for the safe storage of ammunition. The latrine block and troop shelter to the west of the mid-section of the range are both still standing. To the west of the targetry area there are large surface excavations from where the earth and stone needed to construct the butts and firing point earthworks was removed. A series of small circular craters to the west may be the result of training with small explosive ordnance.	275056	74012	
MDV61838	Earthwork remains of tin streamworks on Buckland Common	Earthwork remains of shallow tin streamworks on Buckland Common, west of Dry Bridge. The edge of the tinwork is defined by a steep scarp and the interior is characterised by linear banks of waste and silted water channels. An earthwork bank on the west side of the tinwork at SX 7390 7451 is the dam of a former reservoir in which water was stored to serve the working processes.	274000	74500	
MDV62308	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	274280	74720	1019603
MDV62310	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	274302	74745	1019603
MDV62311	Hut circle on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	274468	74696	1019603
MDV62312	Hut circle within reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	274546	74658	1019603
MDV62313	Hut circle in settlement on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	274557	74502	1019603

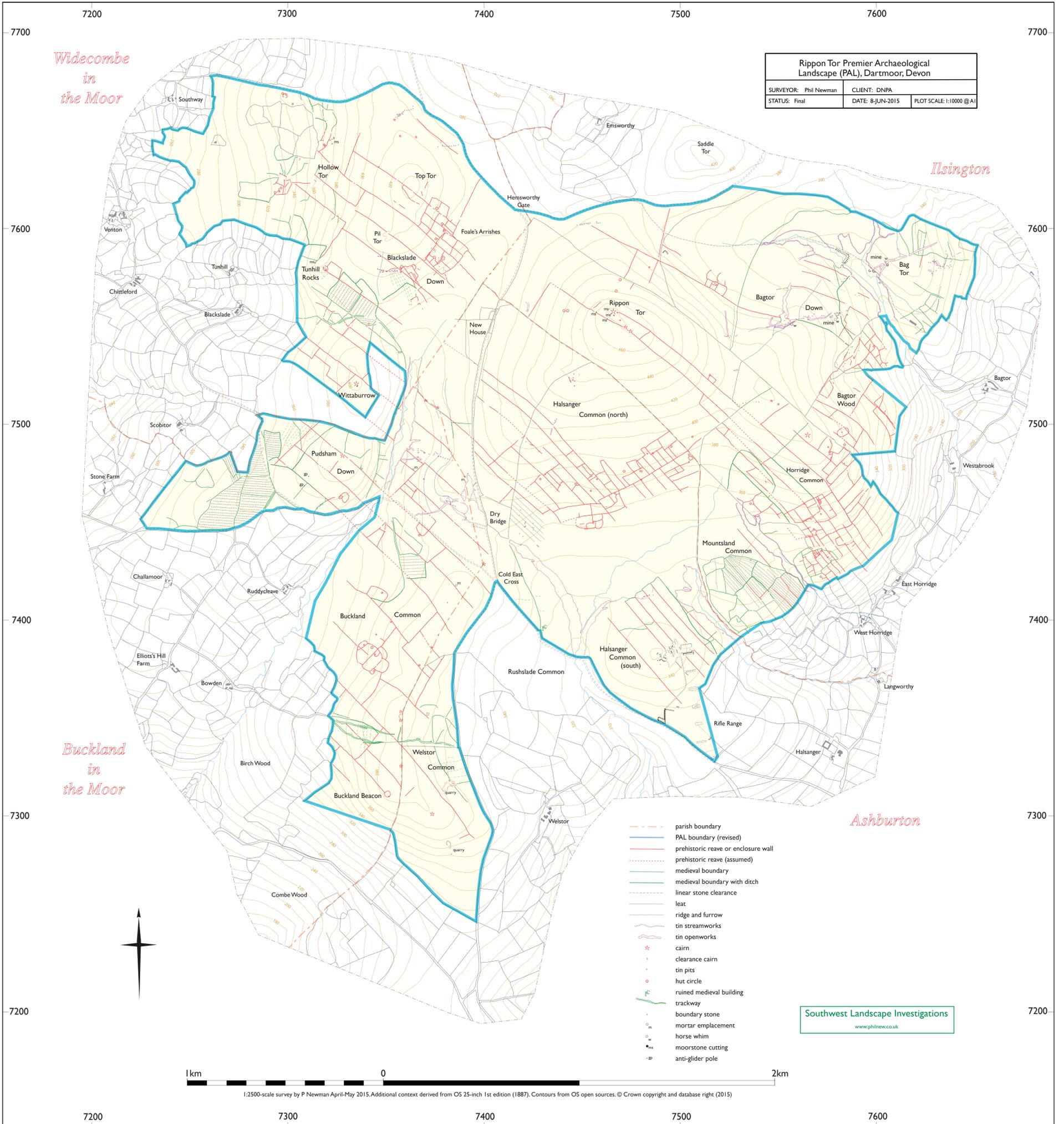
MDV62314	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274544	74736	1019603
MDV62315	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274575	74719	1019603
MDV62317	Hut circle within enclosure in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274665	74647	1019603
MDV62318	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274713	74761	1019603
MDV62319	Hut circle within reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274820	74740	1019603
MDV62320	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274829	74851	1019603
MDV62321	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274861	74851	1019603
MDV62322	Hut circle in reave system on Halsanger Common	A stone hut circle in poor condition located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	274955	74885	1019603
MDV62325	Hut circle on Horridge Common	A stone hut circle in poor condition located within a neighbourhood group of 16 dispersed huts on Halsanger Common, and the western corner of Rippon Tor enclosure, spread over about 7ha amidst the parallel reaves. Some are attached to reaves, though others are free standing.	Stable	275060	74940	1019603
MDV62326	Hut circle on Horridge Common	Turf covered hut circle on the SE slope of Rippon Tor. Built into the corner of a small rectangular enclosure (MDV106556) which is itself attached to a reave.	Stable	275160	75250	1019603
MDV62327	Hut circle on northern sector of Horridge Common	A hut circle, one of two sited just south of the Bagtor Wood enclosure. Two door jambs survive in situ on the SE side.	Stable but gorse covered	275763	74858	1019603
MDV62328	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275704	74614	1019603
MDV62329	Hut circle in parallel reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275711	74601	1019603
MDV62330	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275716	74573	1019603
MDV62331	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275717	74541	1019603
MDV62332	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275671	74524	1019603
MDV62333	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275660	74460	1019603
MDV62334	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of a neighbourhood group of seven huts located within the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable	275690	74440	1019603
MDV62335	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of four hut circles within an enclosed neighbourhood cluster associated within the southern section of the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable but affected by bracken	275685	74342	1019603

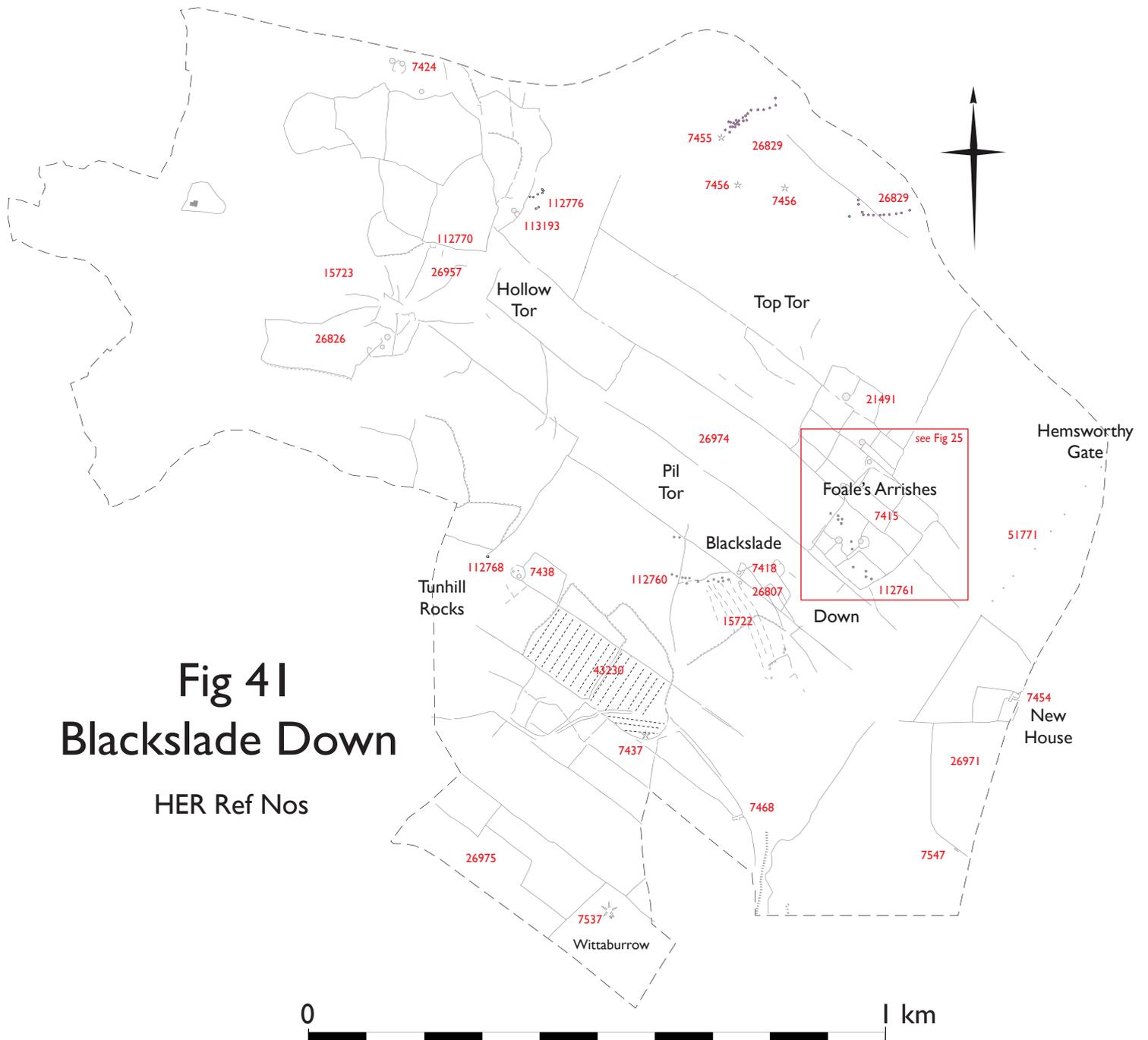
MDV62336	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of four hut circles within an enclosed neighbourhood cluster associated within the southern section of the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable but affected by bracken	275689	74321	1019603
MDV62337	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of four hut circles within an enclosed neighbourhood cluster associated within the southern section of the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable but affected by bracken	275704	74336	1019603
MDV62338	Hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	One of four hut circles within an enclosed neighbourhood cluster associated within the southern section of the reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable but affected by bracken	275718	74353	1019603
MDV62339	Isolated hut circle in reave system on Horridge Common	The southernmost hut circle associated with the Rippon Tor reave system on Horridge Common.	Stable but affected by bracken	275716	74222	1019603
MDV62341	A much ruined hut circle just inside the southern edge of Bagtor Wood	Although most of Bagtor Wood has now been felled, this hut circle lies within a small belt of conifers which remain standing.	Declining	275840	74880	1019603
MDV62342	Hut circle within the inner Bagtor Enclosures.	A large hut circle set into the junction of two reaves within the inner Bagtor enclosure.	Stable	276000	75400	1019603
MDV62344	Alleged but doubtful cairn near the southern edge of Bagtor Wood	A non-descript vegetation covered mound (alleged cairn) lies within an ovoid prehistoric enclosure at 275826 74958. The area has been much disturbed by former plantation activity.	Disguised by vegetation	275826	74958	1019603
MDV62345	Clearance cairns on Halsanger Common	Six clearance cairns on Halsanger Common probably associated with medieval or later ridge and furrow sited nearby.	Stable	274190	74500	
MDV62346	Ridge and furrow on Halsanger Common	Approximately 1.6ha of ridge and furrow earthworks.	Stable	274254	74603	
MDV62347	Prospecting pits on Halsanger Common	A cluster of small tin prospecting pits.	Stable	274260	74590	
MDV62348	Alleged stone structure on Halsanger Common	An amorphous mound of stones of unknown date or purpose.	Stable	274570	74529	1019603
MDV62349	Shelter in reave system on Halsanger Common	An open-ended rectangular structure measuring 3.8m by 2.3m, built into the south side of a reave. A probable shelter, but the date is unknown.	Stable	274820	74700	1019603
MDV62350	Medieval field banks on Horridge Common	Elements of medieval and later enclosures have melded with the prehistoric reaves to form large fields on Horridge Common. Two long sections of parallel reave have been reinforced with earth and had ditches added to them, and a fresh section of curving bank and ditch has created an additional field.	Stable but mostly covered by gorse	275650	74700	1019603
MDV62352	Alleged pound east of Rippon Tor (unlikely)	A line of stones leads off the northern reave on Rippon Tor, just east of the tor and could be interpreted as a wall but is too incomplete to class as an animal pound.	-	274700	75550	1019603
MDV62353	Hut circle 250m west of Rippon Tor	One of two large hut circles on the western slope of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274407	75578	1002499
MDV62354	Hut circle 230m west of Rippon Tor	One of two large hut circles on the western slope of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274426	75579	1002499
MDV62355	Hut Circle 170m north of Rippon Tor	One of two hut circles, heavily disguised by turf on the north slope of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274682	75744	1020377
MDV62356	Hut Circle 115m north of Rippon Tor	One of two hut circles, heavily disguised by turf on the north slope of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274675	75692	1020377
MDV66229	Tin streamworks along Blackslade Water	4ha tin streamworks extend south along Blackslade Water from the lower end of the mire. It is likely they once extended further north though the remains have been overwhelmed by the morass	Declining	273650	75050	
MDV103648	Parallel reave system	Rippon Tor parallel reave system, covering Blackslade Down, Pudsham Down, Buckland Common, Halsanger Common, Mountsland Common, Horridge Common and part of Bagtor Down. Comprising a complex reave system with interspersed hut circle settlements, enclosures and cairns. Further elements of this system, aligned on a similar axis have been recorded on Haytor Down, Dunstone Down and Wind Tor, increasing the extent of the Rippon Tor system.	Varies	2740--	751--	1019603

MDV103779	Tinner's reservoir on Bagtor Down	Small tinner's pond on Bagtor Down for storing rainwater used by the large tinwork to the north. (26532)	Stable	275301	75278	
MDV106561	Small rectangular enclosure on Horridge Common	Small isolated rectangular enclosure attached to the north-east side of a reave across on the SE slope of Rippon Tor within Horridge Common. A hut circle is attached to the N corner (MDV62326)	Stable	275164	75226	1019603
MDV106804	Clearance cairns on Rippon Tor	A low stony mound about 30m south of the hedgebank to southeast of the Nut Crackers logan stone. About 1.5m diameter.	Stable	274480	75251	
MDV106805	Clearance Cairn on the south-western slope of Rippon Tor	Low stony mound circa 1.5 metres diameter on the south-western slope of Rippon Tor.	Stable	274554	75384	
MDV106807	Clearance Cairn on south-west slope of Rippon Tor	Low stony mound about 1.5 metres diameter.	Stable	274491	75483	
MDV106808	Tinwork on the lower western slope of Rippon Tor	Tinwork, possibly undeveloped, comprising a cutting and spoil heap.	Stable	274219	75589	
MDV112759	Hut circle on Horridge Common	A probable small hut circle located amid parallel reaves on the north side of Horridge Common, 100m SE of two other huts. This small circle of stones has a diameter of 3m.	Stable	275837	74801	
MDV112760	Tin prospecting pits on Blacklade Down	A line of tin prospecting pits, sited just north of an area of medieval cultivation, south of Pli Tor.	Stable	273517	75783	
MDV112761	Tin prospecting pits at Foale's Arrishes	A cluster of tin prospecting pits sited within the Foale's Arrishes enclosure.	Stable	273768	75838	
MDV112762	A military mortar pit on Buckland Common	A military mortar emplacement probably used for training during WW1. The sunken circular earthworks are approximately 2.5-3m in diameter and have a low earthen lip around the circumference. A small pit close to the exterior was a probable ammo storage pit.	Stable	273903	74731	
MDV112763	A probable round cairn on Welstor Common	The cairn is 24m in diameter, located on the southern end of the Buckland Common Ridge, before the land falls away south-west to the enclosures around Ashburton. Although the cairn is low, it does not appear to have been extensively robbed of stone.	Stable	273739	73009	
MDV112764	Tin streamworks along the River Sig	9.2ha tin streamworks along the upper reaches of the River Sig, below Bag Tor, and on the slope of Bagtor Down. The edges of the streamworks are still well-defined on the ground today as escarpments. The interior contains much disturbed ground, with linear heaps of stone waste and silted water channels. The site is becoming overgrown in places by trees and shrubs and the upper, NW extremity of the tinwork is rather boggy. The date of the streamworks is unknown but documentary evidence suggests the date range of Dartmoor streamworking generally to be between the 12th and 19th centuries with many probably of 16th century date when the industry was at its most prosperous in Devon.	Declining due to vegetation changes	275901	75814	
MDV112765	Mine spoil heap and whim plat at Prosper Shaft	A large heap of stony spoil was raised up Prosper Shaft and dumped on the hillslope below, forming conjoined, rounded, flat topped heaps. An earthwork whim plat is visible just south of the heaps. It has a diameter of 11.5m and a central mellior survives in situ. A small indentation in the ground 7m north of the whim is probably the site of the capped shaft. A rectangular, stone-lined feature lies just south of the biggest heap. It is sunk into the ground and has been totally backfilled with stone. It measures 13.8 by 2.5m and may have been associated with pumping in this shaft via a flatrod system. See entry for Bagtor Mine (MDV8082)	Stable. Patches of gorse	275786	75545	
MDV112766	Tin prospecting pits on Bagtor Down	A cluster of tin prospecting pits south of the Bagtor Dam.	Stable	275846	75741	
MDV112767	Tin prospecting pits on Rippon Tor east slope	A cluster of tin prospecting pits	Stable	275253	75451	
MDV112768	Stone trough on Tunhill Rocks	A stone trough cut from a large block of granite was abandoned just below the outcrop of Tunhill Rocks on the NW side. The trough has a cleanly cut recess, and appears to have been completed before abandonment.	Stable	273139	75823	
MDV112769	Rectangular building foundations	Earthwork remains of three possible rectangular buildings, attached to an earthwork field bank on the southern edge of Pudsham Down. The remains are very subtle but their rectangular character is clear and all are between 3.5 and 4m wide. The longest of the three is 13m; the others are approximately 9m. These remains have possible medieval origins.	Stable though affected by bracken	273161	74583	
MDV112770	Possible rectangular building	Earthwork remains of two ends and one side of a possible rectangular building just south of the Tor Croft enclosures, disturbed when the enclosure walls were built. Date unknown – medieval or later?.	Stable	273044	76367	
MDV112771	Earthwork 420m north of Rippon Tor	A subtle earthwork of unknown purpose at the foot of Rippon Tor's north slope, within the Bagtor enclosure. The earthwork is built against the slope to form a rectangle with three sides in situ, measuring 20m by 15m and with an opening in the NE corner. The spread condition would suggest this is not a recent feature.	Stable	274925	75877	

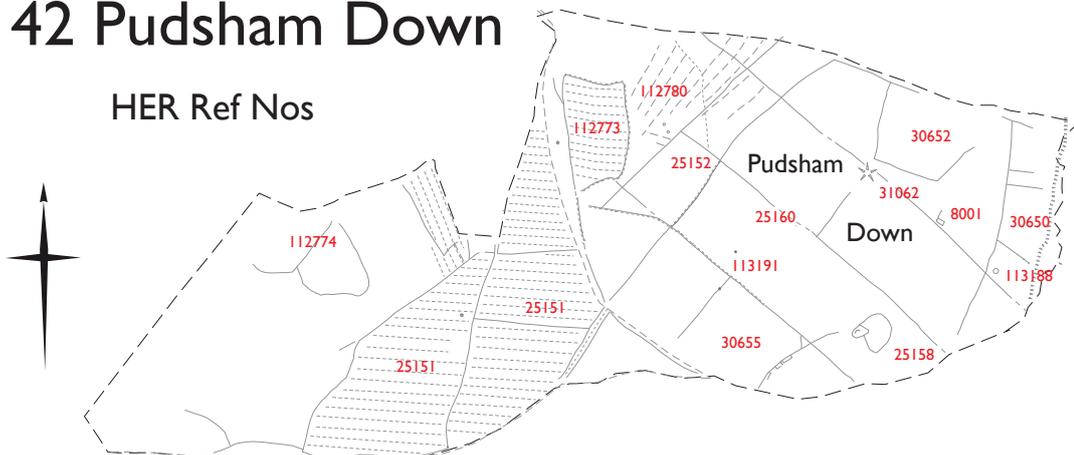
MDV112780	Strip cultivation and clearance on Pudsham Down	An area of strip cultivation on the gentle north slope of Pudsham Down. The majority of strips run approximately NE to SW but two short examples on the southern end run WNW to ESE. All are defined by parallel lines of stone clearance, protruding subtly through the turf, spaced between 13m and 17m apart. Cultivation would have taken place between these lines. Two small clearance cairns are located among the strips. These remains are all likely to date from the medieval period or earlier.	Stable	273057	74954
MDV112772	Strip cultivation on Welstor Common	An area of strip cultivation on the gentle eastern slope of Welstor Common. The strips are defined by parallel lines of stone clearance protruding subtly through the turf. The spaces between the clearance would have contained the cultivation. The distance between surviving examples is 35m to 45m, but some may no longer be visible. These strips are likely to date from the medieval period or earlier.	Stable but gorse covered in places.	273855	73255
MDV112773	An abandoned enclosure with ridge and furrow on Pudsham Down	A 1.05ha enclosure on the west slope of Pudsham Down. The enclosure has a robust earth embanked boundary, with an external ditch, containing ridge and furrow earthworks. Of medieval or later date.	Stable	272925	74898
MDV112774	Small abandoned enclosures on western area of Pudsham Down	Two enclosures totalling 1.4ha. The enclosures are bounded by very slight earthwork banks with external ditches. Of medieval or later date.	Stable	272561	74740
MDV112775	Cutting - purpose unknown	A 20m, elongated cutting has cut through an earlier enclosure wall on Mountsland Common. The cutting is open on the south end and has spoil heaps on either side. Purpose and date unknown but probably recent.	Stable	275351	73966
MDV112776	Moorstone cutting pits north of Hollow Tor	A cluster of small pits containing evidence of stone cutting in the form of cut stone edges from where granite has been removed.	Stable	273226	76450
MDV112777	Small stone quarry on the southern slope of Welstor Common	A semi-circular quarry face 20m by 20m and flat-topped spoil heap to the south. A small, ruined, stone structure south of the spoil heap measuring 2.8m by 1.8m is a likely explosives store.	Stable	273821	72857
MDV112778	Possible wheelpit	A rectangular hollow with a spoil heap at the bottom of the river (Sig) valley. The hollow has evidence of a stone lining though has been mostly backfilled. This may be the site of a large wheelpit depicted on the Mine Plan of Bagtor Mine from the 1860s (DRO AMP R54B Bagtor). See entry for Bagtor Mine (MDV8082)	Stable	276017	75727
MDV112780	Strip cultivation and clearance on Pudsham Down	An area of strip cultivation on the gentle north slope of Pudsham Down. The majority of strips run approximately NE to SW but two short examples on the southern end run WNW to ESE. All are defined by parallel lines of stone clearance, protruding subtly through the turf, spaced between 13m and 17m apart. Cultivation would have taken place between these lines. Two small clearance cairns are located among the strips. These remains are all likely to date from the medieval period or earlier.	Stable	273057	74954
MDV112867	Ovoid enclosure in former Bagtor Wood	An ovoid enclosure of 0.195ha on the southern slope of the former Bagtor Wood. Despite being disturbed by the plantation, which has now been felled, most of the wall circuit is clear as a low stony bank. A central feature may be a ruined hut circle or a cairn but was obscured by vegetation at the time of survey.	Stable but with legacy damage	275838	74958
MDV112868	Medieval field boundaries on Welstor Common	Earthwork banks of a medieval field system are split between the two modern enclosures on Welstor Common. Within the southern area a clear bank runs approximately along the contour for 350m before disappearing under gorse. In the northern field the majority of the banks have been ploughed down leaving only very low, spread earthworks, revealing only part of the layout.	Stable but with legacy damage	273796	73391
MDV112869	Possible strip cultivation on Halsanger Common	Three short, fragmentary lines of small, turf covered stones near the settlement at Water Rushes, are possible evidence of strip cultivation	Stable	274258	74088
MDV112870	Medieval boundary bank on Bagtor Down	An earth bank, containing some stone, runs north from the Rippon Tor boundary towards the head of the river Sig then curves east to connect with the outer Bagtor boundary, effectively creating a field within a field.	Stable though effaced by boggy ground in part	275334	75741
MDV113187	Tin prospecting pits at Horridge Common	A cluster of tin prospecting pits amidst the southern area of fields on Horridge Common.	Stable but bracken covered	275766	74310
MDV113188	A hut circle within the small wood known as the Spinney	A ruined prehistoric hut circle sited just within the western edge of the small wood known as The Spinney. The hut is heavily turf covered and its interior is silted.	Stable but possibly affected by tree roots	273444	74710
MDV113189	Tin prospecting pits on Halsanger Common	An alignment of 10 silted tin prospecting pits and a short gully at the head of the Ashburn tin streamworks.	Stable	274832	74121

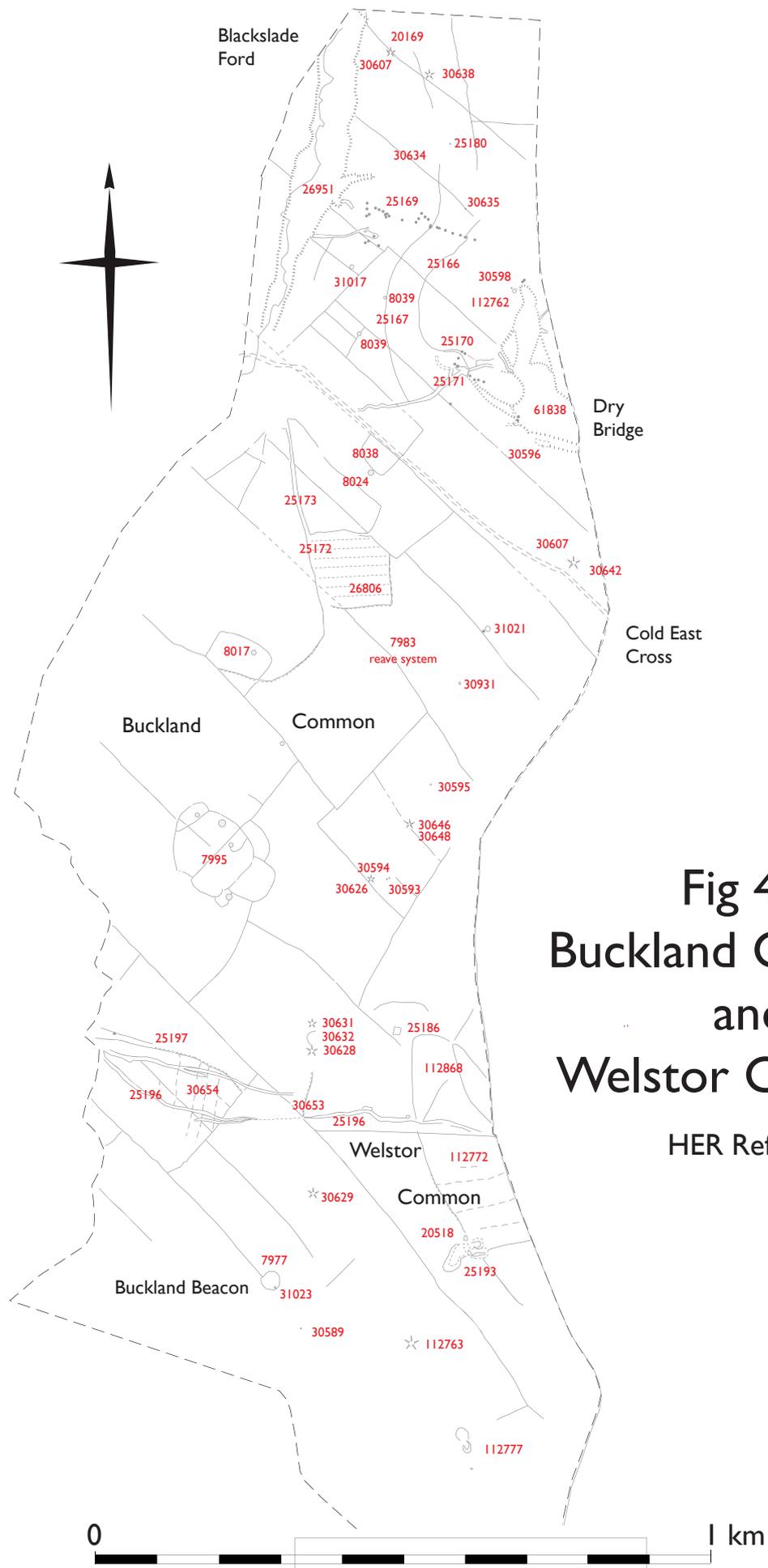
MDV113190	Medieval field boundary on the east slope of the Blackslade Valley	A short section of an earthen field bank survives to the west of Blackslade Brook, probably of medieval date. Its course is interrupted by a later earthwork leat running approximately north to south.	Stable	273887	75007	
MDV113191	Medieval field boundaries in Bagtor enclosure	Various short lengths of earthen banks, some with ditches, represent piecemeal attempts at enclosure with the Bagtor Estate.	Stable	275819	75488	
MDV113192	Two glider poles on Pudsham Down	Two very decayed upright timber posts, approximately 2m tall, on Pudsham Down are the last survivors from a much larger group of anti-glider poles erected here during WWII.	Declining	273105 273084	74686 74685	
MDV113193	A hut circle and ruined enclosure walls east of Tor Croft	A heavily robbed prehistoric hut circle and vestiges of enclosure walls on the flattish land east of Tor Croft and to the north of Hollow Tor. Possibly originally associated with the Rippon Tor reave system but now much effaced.	Stable but with legacy damage	273184	76429	
MDV113194	Tin prospecting pits SE of Rippon Tor	Four large tin pits sited on the lower SE slope of Rippon Tor, within the Horridge Common enclosure.	Stable	275370	75120	





**Fig 42 Pudsham Down**



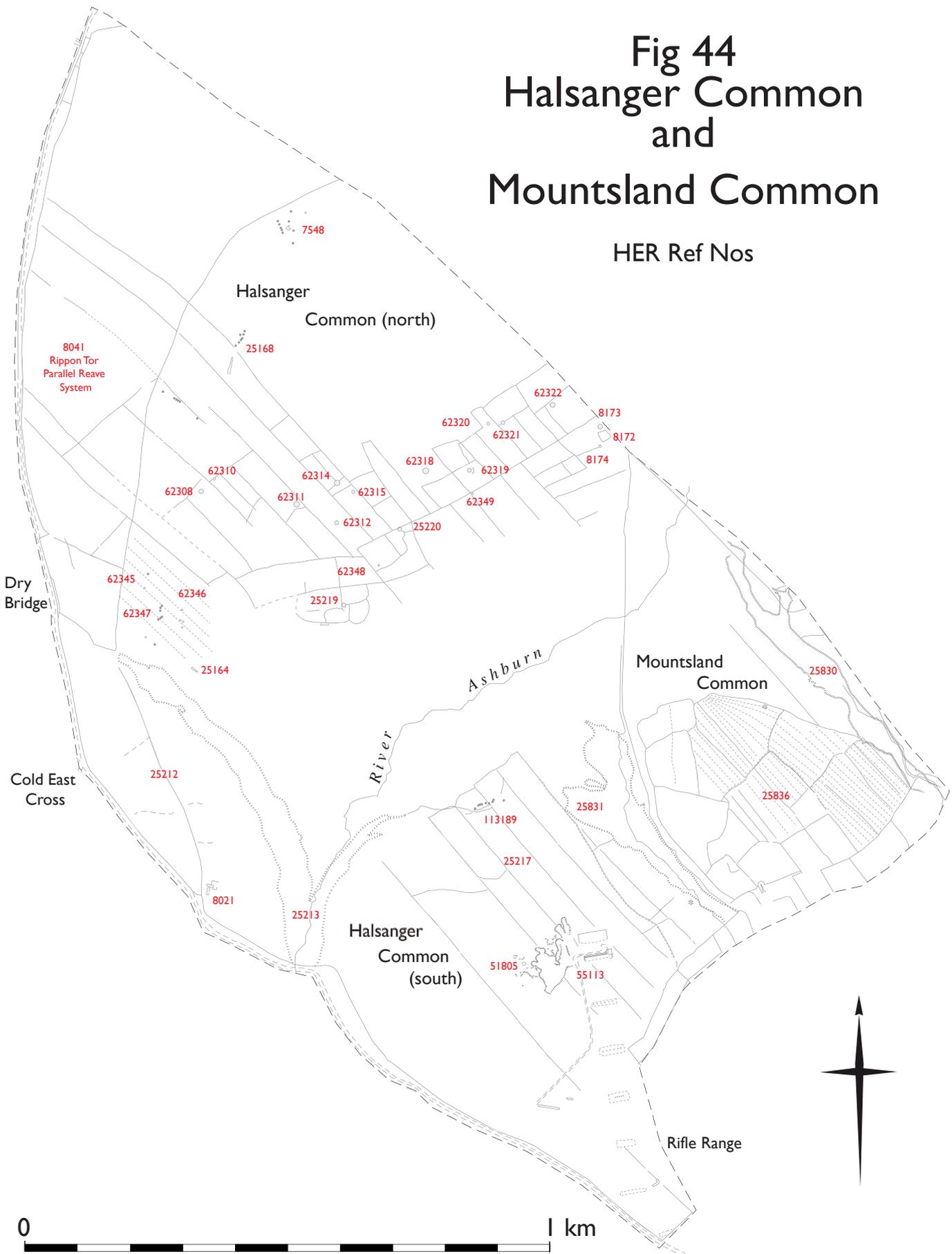


**Fig 43**  
**Buckland Common**  
**and**  
**Welstor Common**

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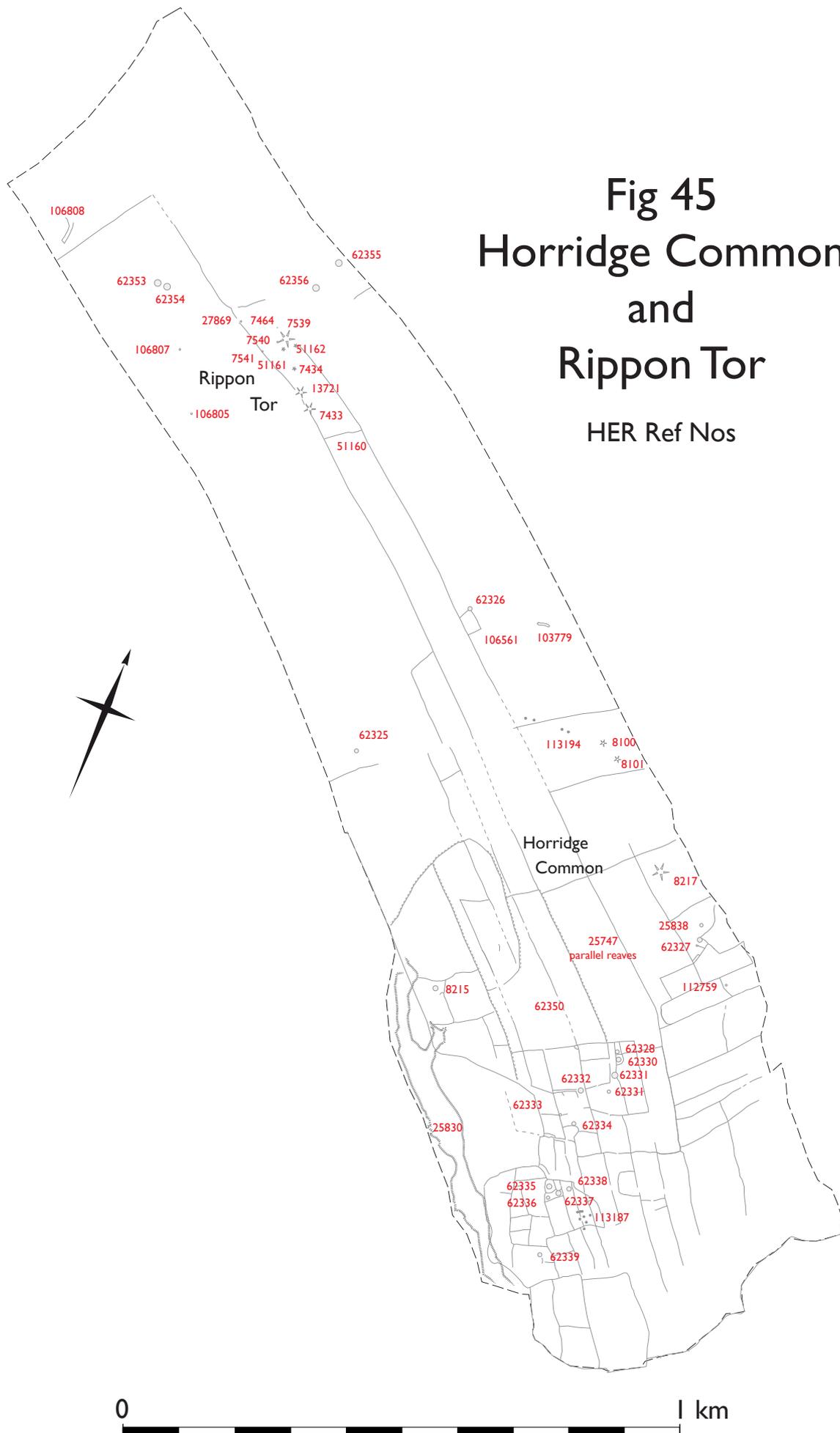
# Fig 44 Halsanger Common and Mountsland Common

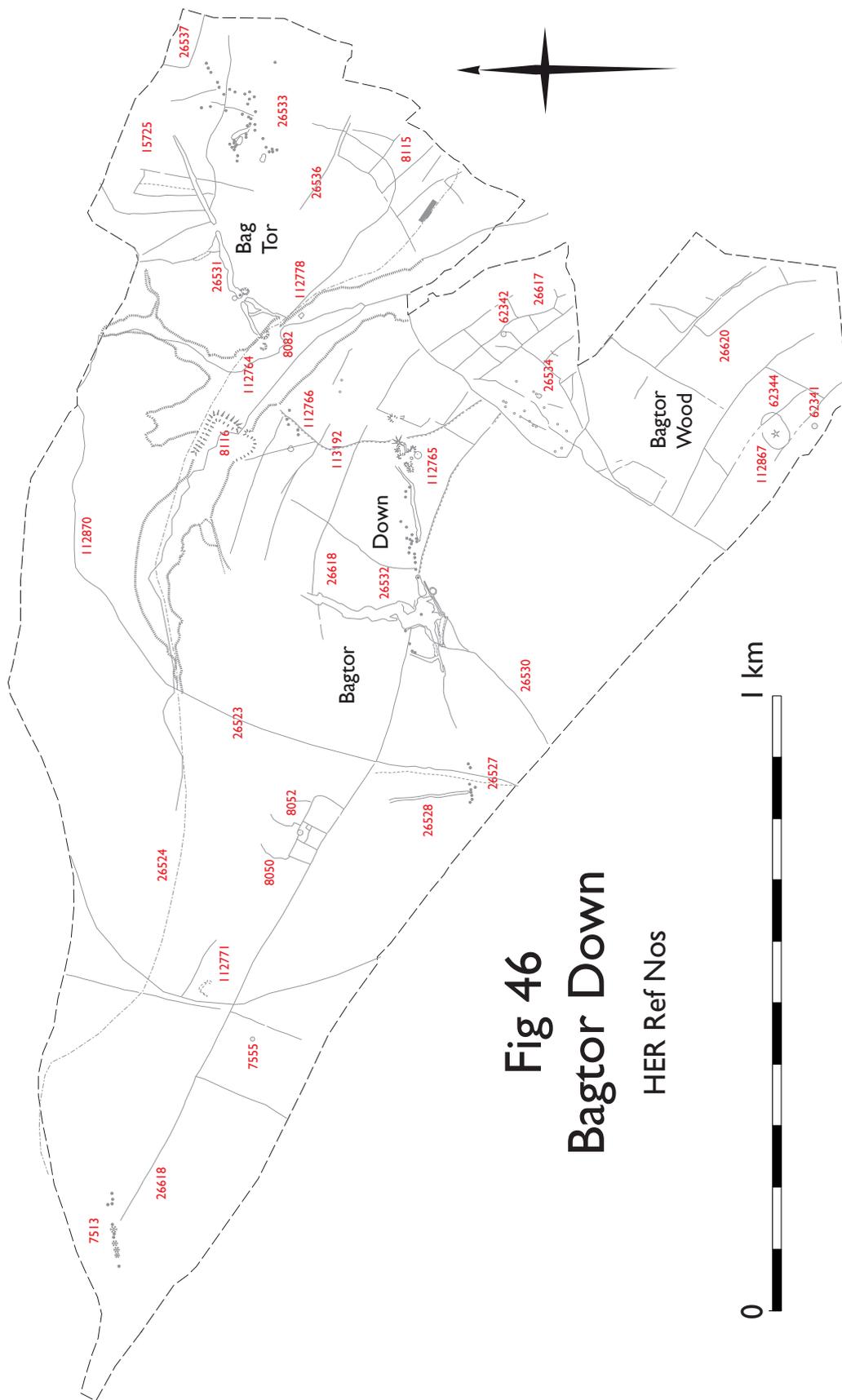
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# Fig 45 Horridge Common and Rippon Tor

HER Ref Nos





**Fig 46**  
**Bagtor Down**

HER Ref Nos