

BRONZE AGE REMAINS ON THE EAST MOORS OF THE PEAK DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

This paper describes the results of fieldwork carried out between 1982 and 1985 on the eastern gritstone moorlands of the Peak District. The aim of the project was to gain as complete a picture as possible of the types and distribution of the extensive bronze age remains on these moors. Many cairnfields and field systems, as well as individual stone circles and cairns, have been documented there in the past, but until now there has been no systematic search of the area as a whole. The relatively continuous expanses of unimproved moorland and the extensive number of sites in this region offer an ideal research area for investigation of how bronze age man utilized his landscape and organized himself within it.

The present paper offers a description and a preliminary discussion of the data. A more interpretative assessment will follow once detailed analysis is complete (Barnatt, in prep.). As a preliminary to fieldwork, a search was made of the extensive documentary evidence for the region. Primary sources included the Derbyshire, South Yorkshire and Hunter Society sites and monuments indexes, and the archives held in Sheffield City Museum, already extensively drawn on by Marsden (1977) and Hart (1981). Several published surveys and excavations of individual sites also provided useful information. The surveys carried out by Leslie Butcher in the 1950s and 1960s (published posthumously in Hart, 1981, and Beswick and Merrills, 1983) proved particularly helpful; where they were available (for Cairnfields 5-9, 11-13, 18-19, 22, 26-28, 30-31, 35-37) they proved the basis of my own plans, and in fact required only minor emendation as a result of fieldwork.

The area studied includes all the moors east of the Derwent, from the A57 (Snake Pass) road to the north, to the B5057 from Darley to Chesterfield in the south. The moors to the north of the study area are extensively peat covered and contain few documented sites. The gritstone escarpments to the south of it are enclosed by intakes, and no recorded sites survive. To the west of the Derwent, near Eyam and Stanton, are two small outlying areas of unenclosed moorland which were also included in the survey. The uplands within the study area cover about 105 square kilometres and the topography is similar throughout. Immediately to the east of the Derwent a precipitous escarpment rises from the valley and forms the western boundary of the main upland for nearly 30 kilometres. At its crest, usually between 200 metres and 300 metres O.D., is a shelf, about 0.5km to 1.0km wide, occupied equally by open moorland and intakes. Above the shelf is a second smaller escarpment, and further east higher moorlands with little intake. These upper moors are typically 2.0-4.0km wide and 250-400 metres high; they rise in the north to over 450 metres O.D. The eastern margins of the moorland are typically defined by relatively steep slopes, dropping to the valleys of the Coal Measure landscape which forms the foothills of the southern Pennines. To the west, between the Derwent and the limestone plateau, the moorlands also consist of high plateau-like areas, surrounded by lower shelves above steep slopes to valleys below.

Fieldwork commenced once documentary data had been assimilated and the geographical limits of study established. It concentrated primarily on the 65.6 square kilometres of open moorland within the chosen area. Some of the 39.3 square kilometres of intakes were also examined but not systematically. Fragmentary evidence for bronze age activity exists here, as the comprehensive cover of intakes above Baslow has demonstrated, but in general little seems to survive above ground in areas covered by present-day fields. The

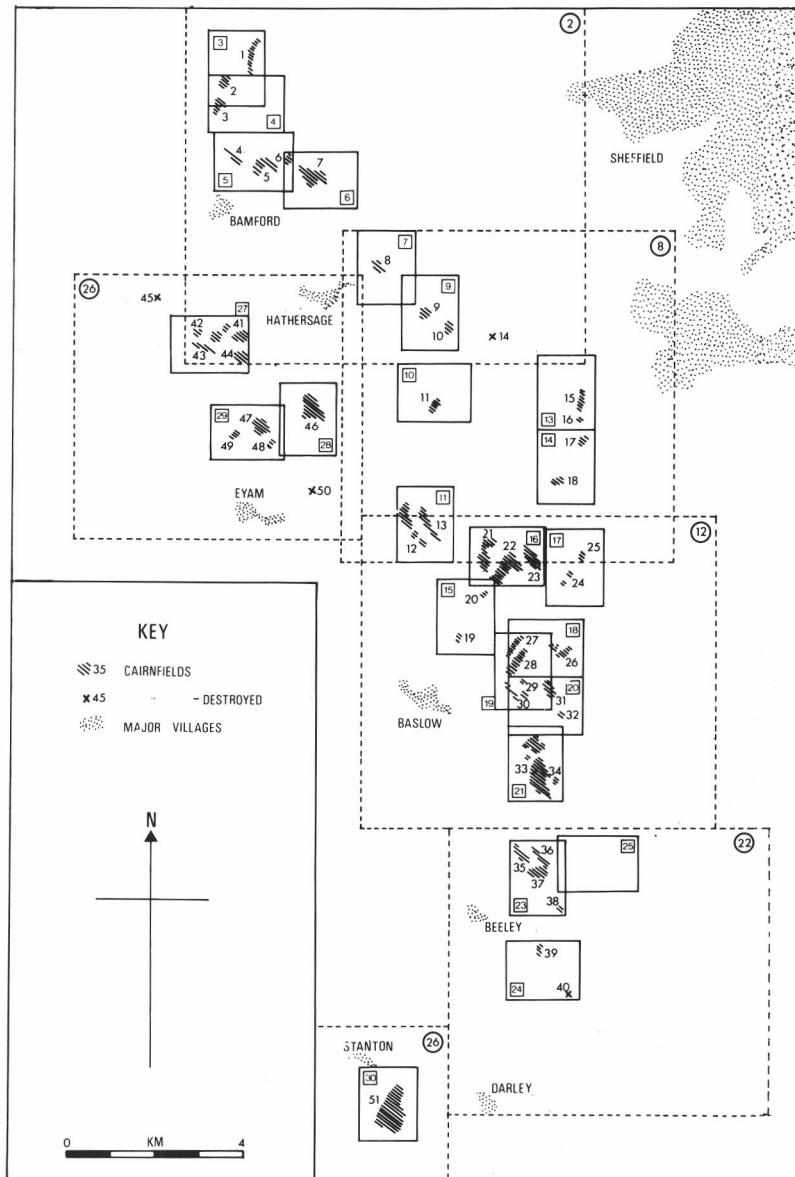


Fig. 1 A key to Figures 2-27, showing the distribution of cairnfields in relation to present settlement.

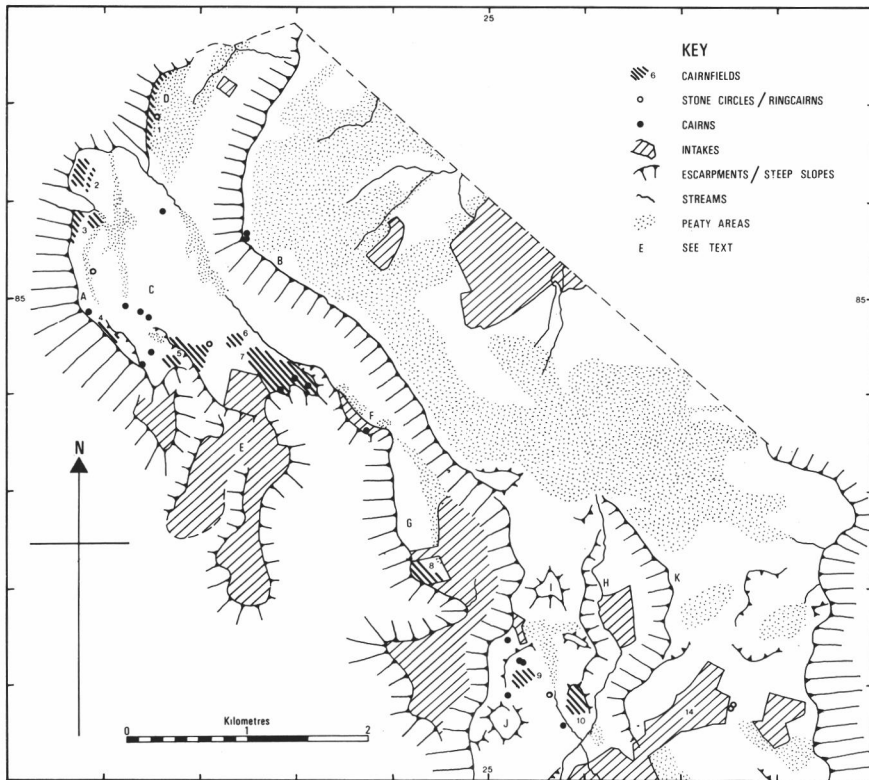


Fig. 2 The distribution of bronze age sites on the northern moors of the study area.

moorland areas were walked systematically so that every point was observed from a distance of no more than 50 metres. In the vicinity of potential sites, indicated by uneven ground and humps in the vegetation, investigation was more intense. Variations in the vegetation cover on the moors may have affected identification rates. In areas where swathes of heather had recently been burnt away coverage was complete. In areas where the heather had not been burnt for years, or where there was well established bracken, small features may have been masked. However, such areas were carefully searched and all irregularities in the undergrowth examined. It can be stated with reasonable certainty that although some individual features have probably been missed, no large monuments or extensive concentrations of small cairns were overlooked by the survey. Thus the distribution pattern of bronze age sites offered here is probably a reliable indication of what survive.

The initial survey of the study area was carried out by the author in 1982 and 1983. Further fieldwork in 1984-5 concentrated on refining surveys of identified monuments and in an investigation of areas of intake in Baslow and Bubnell parish. (The latter was part of an independent project, funded by the Community Programme scheme, examining areas of Derbyshire landscape on a multi-period basis — Barnatt, in prep.). Since most of the surveys were conducted by the author working on his own, some methodological inexactitudes were unavoidable. All concentrations of sites were sketch plotted; details were then cross checked by extensive triangulation between features

(measured in paces). This has probably resulted in some minor inaccuracies in the placing of individual sites, and some overall distortion of plans resulting from cumulative errors over long distances. However, all the plans were checked in the field after completion, and their overall representation of what exists and the relationship of one feature to the next proved correct. Each cairn had its diameter measured with a thirty metre tape — details have been deposited in the relevant Sites and Monuments Records (SMR); and all the stone circles and ringcairns were carefully surveyed and will be published in full (Barnatt, in prep.).

The fieldwork led to several new sites being discovered. Notable amongst these was the large field system and cairnfield on Big Moor located on the dip slope of White Edge (Cairnfield 21), and the extensive cairnfield on Gibbet Moor which covers over 40 hectares (Cairnfield 33). Other small cairnfields were also discovered (Cairnfields 16, 20, 24, 32, 34, 48, 49), and significant additions were made to known field systems and cairnfields on Big Moor, Gardoms Edge and Beeley Warren (Cairnfields 22/23, 29, 35 respectively). Several isolated cairns were identified (Cairns 16, 20, 33, 64, 68-70, 73, 74, 77, 82-4, 88), and four stone circles were found on Gibbet Moor and Eyam Moor (Circles 17, 18, 28, 29). In addition, several known cairnfields were planned for the first time, in particular those on Smelting Hill and Eyam Moor (Cairnfields 43, 46; also 1, 4, 17, 25, 42).

Descriptions are given below of all the sites within the survey area. Several of the terms used require comment. For convenience the term 'cairnfield' is used to describe all discrete concentrations of sites irrespective of whether defined field boundaries exist or not, or whether the cairns are funerary or clearance heaps. Distinctions are not always obvious and this point will be taken up in the Discussion. All stony mounds are referred to as 'cairns' and all prehistoric field boundaries as 'banks'. Although some of the latter may be tumbled walls there is no clear evidence of this and recent excavations have demonstrated that some of them are of earthen construction (Barnatt *et al.*, in prep.). It is sometimes difficult to distinguish clearly between cairns and banks, since several stony features are found which are over twice as long as broad. These appear to be discontinuous stretches of clearance; being similar in width to the banks, they are referred to in this paper as 'linear clearance'.

PREHISTORIC SITES WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

A: Northern Moors (Fig.2)

This northern area of the East Moors has a topography typical of the moors as a whole. There is a high escarpment rising from the Derwent Valley. To the north it runs continuously as Bamford Edge (see Fig.2, 'A': henceforth for topographical features suffixed by a letter refer to the relevant Figure) but further south it is cut through by several small streams. Above the main escarpment, between one and two kilometres to the east, is a second; a relatively flat shelf runs between the two. In this northern zone the upper escarpment, Stanage Edge (B), is a continuous cliff, from the top of which the upper moors drop slowly eastwards until they are cut by streams which descend to the Pennine foothills around Sheffield.

The main shelf is higher in the north than elsewhere further south, rising to over 400 metres O.D. on Bamford Moor (C). This has inhibited settlement at all periods. On the northern slopes of Bamford Moor cairnfields are restricted to small lower shelves below 350 metres O.D. at the very edge of the escarpment (Cairnfields 2, 3), and to the well drained crest of Hordron Edge (D) where the escarpment is lower (Cairnfield 1). On the

southern slopes of Bamford Moor the cairnfields are more extensive and are found at higher altitudes (Cairnfields 4, 5). However, it is only below 350m O.D. that well developed fields are found (Cairnfields 6, 7). These may have been utilized for a longer period than those at higher altitudes. As far as can be seen, the higher areas of Bamford Moor are devoid of prehistoric sites except for isolated larger cairns. There is little thick peat to mask evidence; and the lower shelves at the southern end of the moor are the only areas where intakes have destroyed the pattern of prehistoric activity. Cairnfield 7 could well have extended further west on to the sheltered land below Bole Hill. To the south of it is a lower shelf between 300 metres and 250 metres O.D., now fully enclosed (E), with a similar smaller shelf to the west around High Lees. These were probably extensively utilized in prehistory. A third small shelf to the southeast of Cairnfield 7 (F) is now also enclosed, and was once probably a continuation of this cairnfield.

Further south the shelf rises again to Carhead Rocks (G: 385 metres O.D.). This obviously inhibited settlement, since no prehistoric sites are to be found here. Beyond this the shelf falls once more to between 350 metres and 300 metres O.D., but it is virtually fully enclosed. Only a small area of it has surviving prehistoric fields, at Callow at the northwestern end, where the escarpment is slightly higher (Cairnfield 8). No doubt prehistoric activity was much more extensive.

The steep scarp of the upper escarpment is heavily boulder strewn, as elsewhere on the East Moors. This inhibited prehistoric activity, other than perhaps upland grazing. The gentler slopes below are also boulder strewn and poorly drained, and contain no known sites. The upper moors to the east of Stanage Edge (B) are all above 400 metres O.D. and this again has inhibited settlement. Only two isolated large cairns at Crow Chin, overlooking Bamford Moor, have been identified. Although most of these moors have a thick peat cover, the better drained areas near the escarpment edge show no trace of bronze age structures, and so tell against the existence of hidden sites elsewhere.

The lower shelves to the east of the upper moor are outside the study area. Fragmentary evidence of cairnfields have been visited by the author at Ash Cabin Flat (SK 270863) and near the Head Stone (SK 255873); no doubt others remain to be discovered. To the north, beyond the study area, the upper moors and western shelf are extensively peat covered. However, their high altitude on the whole probably discouraged settlement in the Bronze Age. It is only on the eastern fringes of the moors that settlements are to be expected. Traces of these have been found, notably at Smallfield (SK 250943). However the topography is more dissected and fewer extensive unenclosed areas exist within the appropriate altitude range, making the area less suitable for study.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 1: Hordron Edge (Figs 2, 3; SK 215869)

There are few identifiable sites on this relatively flat shelf which ranges in altitude from 320-340 metres O.D. The best known is the Seven Stones of Hordron, a small freestanding stone circle with ten low orthostats in a ring, 16.0m x 15.0m in diameter (Circle 1; SMR 4620, Addy 1893, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). To both sides of it, along the escarpment edge, stand eight possible cairns, all low and with diameters ranging from 2.0 to 7.0 metres (SMR 4621). Some, if not all, of these could be natural hummocks. The area is unusual in that a relatively thick peat cover, which could mask further remains, encroaches over much of the shelf, frequently to within a few metres of the escarpment. A small 'pond barrow' has been recorded near the stone circle (SMR 4642). This appears to be nothing more than a natural break in the peat cover.

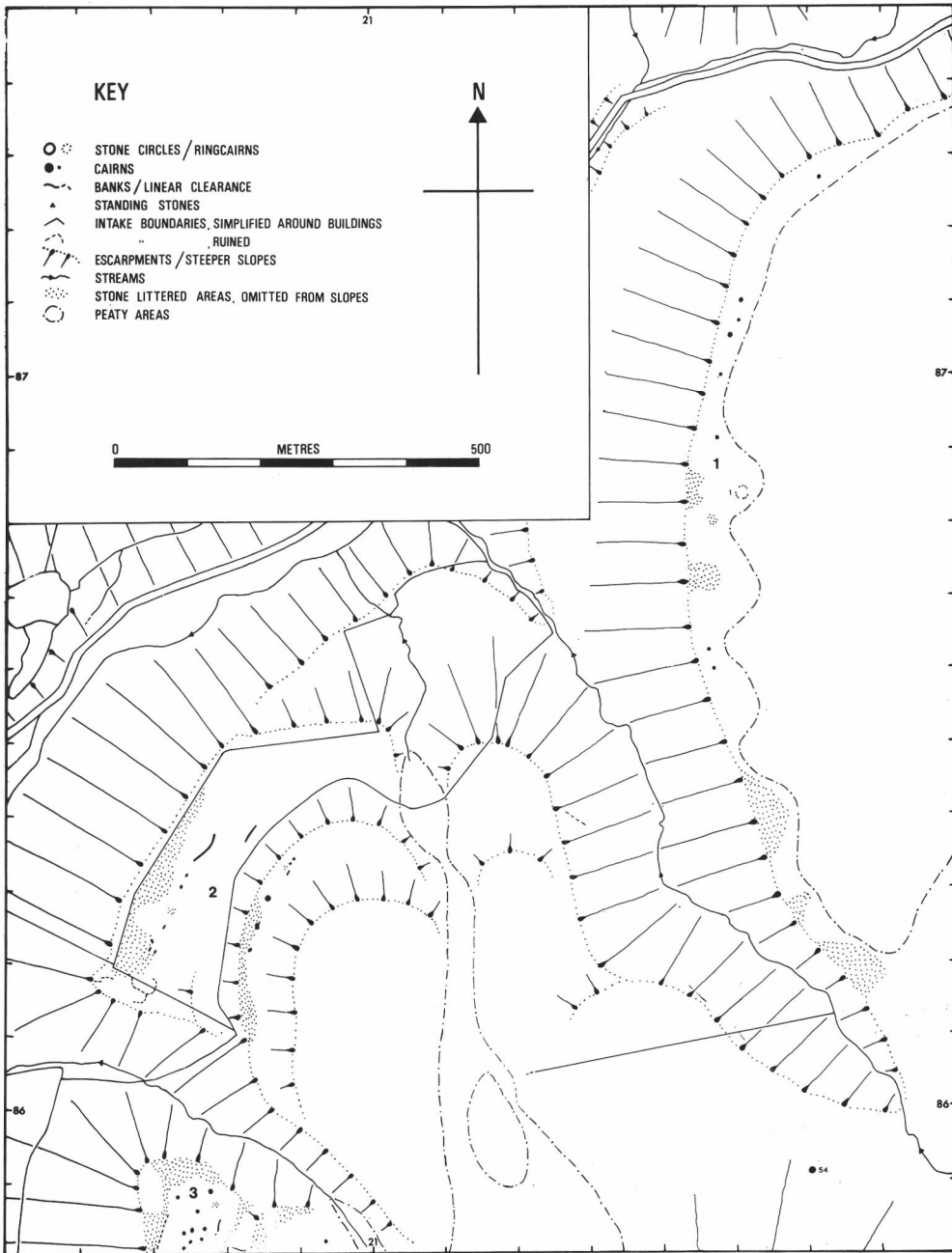


Fig. 3 The cairnfields at Hordron Edge cairnfield (1) and Priddock Wood North (2).

Cairnfield 2: Priddock Wood North (Figs 2, 3, 4; SK 208863)

This small concentration of sites (SMR 1003) spans a relatively flat shelf at approximately 320-325 metres O.D. and a low ridge immediately above it rising to 340



Fig. 4 The cairnfields at Priddock Wood North (2) and Priddock Wood South (3). (For key see Fig. 3.)

metres O.D. The shelf was enclosed in the nineteenth century and some destruction of remains could have taken place. It has a large stone-free area at its centre, the edges of which are defined in part by two short stretches of stony bank, up to four stretches of linear clearance and up to two small cairns. (With regard to several of these features there is difficulty in determining if clearance stones have been added to naturally outcropping stone or not. More dubious examples have been omitted from the plan.) At its southwestern end is a series of orthostatic walls defining two small enclosures (SMR 1004). By analogy these are probably of Romano-British date and their proximity to the other remains on the shelf casts some doubt on the interpretation of the latter as prehistoric. On the ridge crest are between two and five small cairns and a single stretch of linear clearance. The largest cairn is 6.5m x 5.5m in diameter and has had its centre removed. This has led it to be interpreted in the past as either a house (SMR) or a ringcairn (Marsden, 1977). However, traces of an outer kerb to the south, the lack of a formal internal setting and the irregularity of bank width indicate a robbed cairn. The immediate proximity of a stone-free area suggests that these are clearance cairns.

Cairnfield 3: Priddock Wood South (Figs 2, 4; SK 208858)

This group of sites (SMR 1005) can be seen as a continuation of the last, separated by a small but steep-sided valley. The main concentration of sites is on a flat topped spur at approximately 335 metres O.D. Here a stone-free area is defined on two sides by uncleared

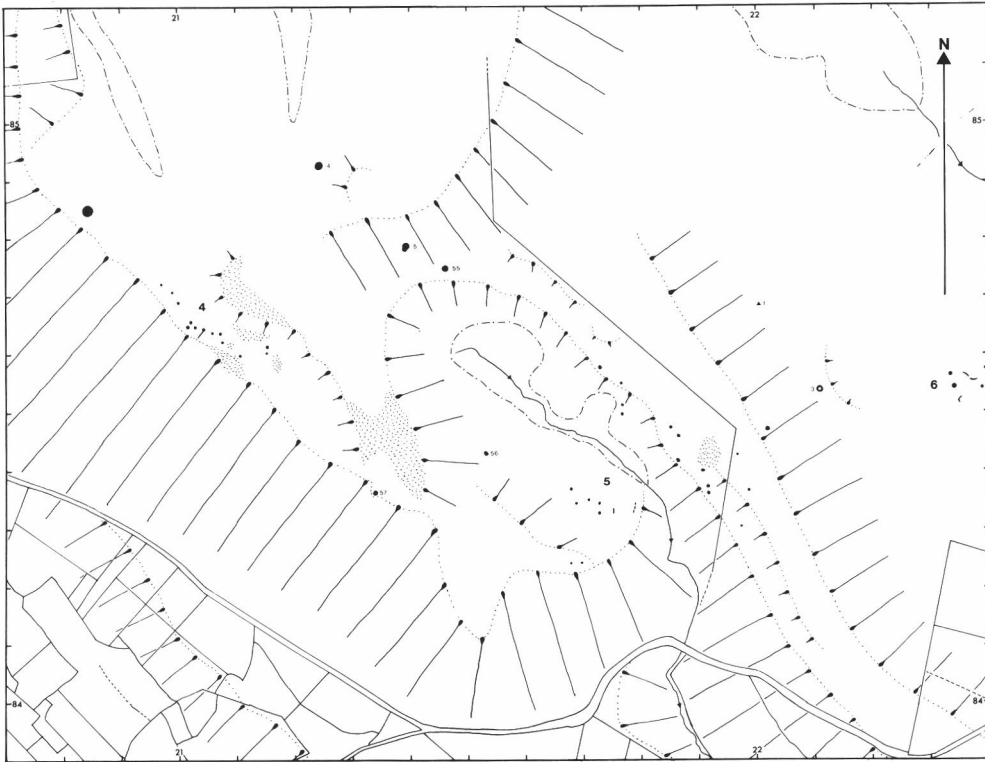


Fig. 5. The cairnfields at Bamford Edge (4), Bamford Moor South (5) and Dennis Knoll Northwest (6). (For key see Fig. 3.)

stony areas and on a third by a short stretch of bank. Within the stone-free area are between seven and ten small cairns, ranging in diameter from 2.0 to 5.0 metres. One of these (SMR 1006) is rectangular, with a kerb of gritstone slabs. To the south, nineteenth century construction of enclosure walls may have destroyed prehistoric remains. Well within these walls are five amorphous clearance heaps 2.0 to 4.5 metres in diameter. On higher land 400m to the south is a large ringcairn with an internal diameter of 22.5m x 24.5m. The proximity of the nineteenth century wall could suggest the robbing of orthostats, but the bank shows no obvious signs of disturbance (Circle 2; SMR 1007, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). Between the ringcairn and the cairnfield is a possible cairn 4.0 metres in diameter, overlain by the wall. This suggests that further cairns have been destroyed by wall builders, and hence that the ringcairn was formerly more obviously associated with the cairnfield. To the southeast of the main cairnfield, beyond a low ridge on a sheltered east facing slope, are from two to four small cairns. These range from 1.5 to 2.5 metres in diameter, and are situated at an altitude of approximately 350-365 metres O.D. The fact that they stand in a stone-free area again suggests that they could be clearance heaps.

Cairnfield 4: Bamford Edge (Figs 2, 5; SK 210847)

This small concentration of cairns (SMR 1009) at 420-425 metres O.D. is sited near the crest of Bamford Edge on a narrow shelf with a low escarpment above it. There are



Fig. 6 The cairnfields at Dennis Knoll Northwest (6) and Dennis Knoll Southeast (7). (For key see Fig. 3.)

between eight and thirteen small cairns, ranging from 2.0 to 5.0 metres in diameter, in a band following the lower escarpment. The group is divided midway along by a short stretch of low bank attached to the edge of one cairn, suggesting that all are clearance heaps. However, one cairn with a disturbed centre has traces of what appears to be an internal kerb. There are the remains of a large cairn (Cairn 3; SMR 1008) 250 metres further along the escarpment to the northwest. Only its rim remains; the centre and one side have been extensively robbed.

Cairnfield 5: Bamford Moor South (Figs 2, 5; SK 218844)

This cairnfield straddles Hurst Brook. To the west of the stream, on a sheltered east facing slope, are between five and seven small cairns ranging from 2.5 to 4.0 metres in diameter, and two possible stretches of linear clearance (SMR 1015). To the northwest, 160 metres away, is a cairn 8.5m x 7.0m in diameter (Cairn 56; SMR 1014). Two large gritstone slabs are the only visible traces of an external kerb. Nearby several other mounds, recorded in the SMR as cairns, are earthen rabbit warrens. To the east of the stream, on the valley side and ridge above, is a second group of small cairns (SMR 1016/11304). There are between eleven and fourteen of these, ranging in diameter from 1.5 to 5.0 metres. The central area of this group is badly disturbed by packhorse trackways, and other cairns might well have been destroyed. Although no banks are associated with either of these groups, their location on sheltered land suggests that they are clearance cairns. At the head of the Hurst Brook Valley, a short distance to the northwest of the second cairn group, is a small

group of sites which are probably ceremonial in character. The nearest of these is a ring of rubble, 10.0 x 9.0 metres in external diameter. This could be a small ringcairn, but its irregular interior and the proximity of a drystone wall suggest a robbed cairn (Cairn 55; SMR 1012, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). Beyond it, 80 metres to the northwest, is a large cairn, 13.0 x 9.5 metres in diameter. Its long axis is aligned SSW/NNE; the southern end is somewhat lower and may be an extension added to an originally circular mound (Cairn 5; SMR 1011). A further 200 metres to the northwest, on the other side of the ridgetop, is a second large cairn. The fact that it cannot be seen from the rest of the cairnfield suggests that it should be interpreted as an isolated feature. It is 12.0m x 11.5m in diameter, 0.5m high, and has steep sides and a flat top; its centre has been dug over (Cairn 4; SMR 1010). Other cairns recorded in the general vicinity of these three sites (SMR, Marsden 1977) are earthen warrens, natural outcrops and damaged shooting butts.

Cairnfield 6: Dennis Knoll Northwest (Figs 2, 5, 6; SK 224845)

These sites are located on the main east facing dip-slope below the crest of Bamford Moor. There are eight cairns with diameters ranging from 2.5 to 6.0 metres. Associated with these are two sinuous stretches of bank, suggesting agricultural activity (SMR 11337). It is unclear whether this cairnfield is an upslope continuation of Cairnfield 7 because the area between them is relatively stone-free and is also disturbed by quarrying and packhorse tracks. At the time of inspection the heather was thick, and could have masked further low cairns. On higher ground to the west, 250 metres from Cairnfield 6, is a small but well preserved embanked stone circle with its original six orthostats surviving. It has an internal diameter of 8.0m x 7.0m and has been terraced into the hillside to give a flat interior (Circle 3; SMR 11306, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). Beyond this, 190 metres NNW, is the Old Woman's Stone, once a 2.4m high menhir which was felled earlier this century to prevent ramblers from using it as a guidestone. Today it lies prostrate next to its stump (Stone 1; SMR 1017/11336, Barnatt 1978). Mitchell recorded that a barrow near the stone circle was dug in 1834, and that several 'rude urns' containing burnt bones were found (Bateman, 1848). It is unclear if this cairn was in Cairnfield 6, or in the eastern half of Cairnfield 5.

Cairnfield 7: Dennis Knoll Southeast (Figs 2, 6; SK 229840)

This extensive complex (SMR 11337, Beswick and Merrills 1983) is situated at the sheltered southeastern end of Bamford Moor on well drained shelves 300-340 metres O.D. The bulk of the remains are on unimproved pasture within large nineteenth century enclosures. On open moorland at the northwestern end of the group are between five and twelve small cairns, all very low, with diameters of between 2.0 and 5.5 metres. There are also low fragmentary banks. Although Butcher's plan of the complex (prepared in the 1960s: Beswick and Merrills, 1983) shows additional small cairns, these could not be traced. Butcher planned other banks and cairns further east, in Dennis Knoll plantation, now also for the most part untraceable. Some destruction may have taken place during recent partial replanting of the wood. The appropriate section of Fig 5 has therefore been based on Butcher's survey. To the south of the wood, on the spur of Dennis Knoll, are eleven low cairns from 2.0 to 9.5 metres in diameter. There is also one larger cairn, 13.0m x 12.0m in diameter (Cairn 6; SMR 11346). The majority of these cairns have been extensively robbed for stone. This has led in the past to the larger cairn being misinterpreted as a ringcairn (Marsden, 1977; Barnatt, 1978). Its very irregular centre argues against this interpretation. The flat shelf of Sheepwash Bank to the east contains the best preserved section of the cairnfield. Here sinuous banks define at least six irregularly shaped



Fig. 7 The Callow cairnfield (8). (For key see Fig. 3.)

fields. There are also two much smaller partially defined yards. Scattered amongst the fields, particularly on the eastern slopes of the shelf, are between 22 and 23 small cairns, from 1.5 to 9.0 metres in diameter, many of which have had stone removed. At the centre

of the spur is a large low cairn, 14.5 metres in diameter, extensively cratered (Cairn 8; SMR 11338). At the northwestern end of the spur and central to the complex as a whole, is a rubble ring of 13.0m x 12.5m in external diameter, its bank broken to the southwest. This could be a ringcairn, but the extensive robbing of cairns nearby and the irregular width of its bank suggest that it too is a robbed cairn (Cairn 7; SMR 11305). Three of the smaller cairns abut the banks; two of them in particular suggest chronological depth. In contrast the two large cairns are central to individual fields suggesting that they are contemporary, acting as focal points for clearance apart from the banks. The relationship of the banks to two clusters of small cairns near Cairn 8 suggests these too are clearance cairns. In prehistory the cairnfield was probably more extensive than it is today. Immediately to the west, well drained, sheltered land is covered by nineteenth century intake. To the southeast a similar shelf to Sheepwash Bank has also been enclosed and only one large cairn survives (Cairn 9 — see below).

Cairnfield 8: Callow (Figs 2, 7; SK 243822)

This isolated fragment (SMR 7424, Beswick and Merrills 1983), on a shelf at 345-360 metres O.D., is surrounded on three sides by intakes. One irregular field is defined by relatively continuous banks. The incorporation of several cairns suggests chronological depth. There is a second similar field defined by short stretches of linear clearance and cairns. To the northwest of these, two short banks define smaller fields. To the southeast there are several cairns, the central location of the largest of which suggesting that these are clearance cairns within a field never defined by banks. In total there are between 18 and 26 cairns, varying in diameter from 2.0 to 7.5 metres.

Other Sites

Isolated high on Crow Chin on the edge of Stanage are two adjacent cairns (Fig 2, Cairn 1: SMR 11307/SY681; Cairn 2: SMR 11308/SY681). Both are flat topped and are not clearly visible from the moors below, where there are the nearest extensive traces of prehistoric activity. The southern cairn has a diameter of 17.0m x 16.5m, while the other is slightly larger, at 19.5m x 18.5m. The latter was excavated in 1973 (A. Fleming, *pers. comm.*). A robbed cist at the centre was covered by a boat-shaped cairn, which in turn lay beneath a turf mound retained by a kerb. Both sites were dug around 1815 by Miss Cheney of Ashford, who recovered 'urns' and human bones (Ward, 1908). Below Stanage on the east facing slope of Moscar Moor is an unusual isolated cairn (Fig 2, 3, 4 Cairn 54: SMR 1001). It is 7.0m x 6.5m in diameter and 1.0m high. At its outer edge are five equally spaced orthostats, four of which still stand between 0.45m and 0.75m high. There is another isolated small cairn on Bamford Edge between Cairnfields 4 and 5 (Fig 2, 5 Cairn 57; SMR 1013). It is low, and not visible from the valley below despite being at the escarpment edge. It has a diameter of 6.5m x 6.0m. Above North Lees at the edge of the escarpment is a large cairn (Fig 2, 6 Cairn 9: SMR 11327) 13.0 metres in diameter. One side has been clipped by a drystone wall and the cairn appears to have been utilized as a bole. This shelf is similar in nature and altitude to those immediately to the northwest, around Dennis Knoll and Sheepwash Bank, where Cairnfield 7 is situated. However, it has been enclosed and the pasture improved, which has resulted in the destruction of any other traces of a cairnfield which might have existed here.

Several sites noted in the past have been excluded from this report. A small cairnfield above Jarvis Clough on Moscar Moor (centred at SK 213864) has been recorded (SMR 1002). This area was inspected soon after heather burning, by the author. Only a short stretch of bank of unknown date on a moderate slope and three dubious small

cairns were found. All other features appeared to be either natural undulations or trial stone-quarrying sites. Four cairns were noted by Butcher centred around SK 221842 (SMR 11303). These appear to be natural outcrops and rabbit warrens; nothing else was found despite extensive searching. A large cairn near Scrapperlow at SK 24628112 is the spoil tip from an adjacent quarry. A small 'standing stone' nearby, at SK 24678108, is probably a slab fortuitously at rest in this position amongst other boulders (SMR 7425).

B: Burbage Brook Watershed(Fig 8)

This area of the East Moors again displays the standard topographic pattern of main escarpment, shelf, upper escarpment and upper moors. However, description is made awkward because Burbage Brook (H) cuts the topographical features from northeast to southwest. With regard to the northern half of the zone, description here is restricted to the upper moors, the shelf below them having been described in the previous section. In the southern half of the zone the main shelf is included but the moors above are in the Barbrook Watershed, dealt with in the following section. In the north the upper moor is deeply cut by Burbage Brook. To the west of the stream, sheltered shelves have been created at 400-300 metres O.D., and were partially exploited in the Bronze Age. Only isolated tors of upper moorland exist, at Higger Tor (I) and over Owlter Tor (J). Although the shelves that surround these are generally at an altitude low enough for utilization, they are heavily boulder strewn and only two small areas were worked (Cairnfields 9, 10).

Not far to the east of Burbage Brook boulder strewn slopes rise steeply to Burbage Edge (K), effectively creating a third escarpment here. East of this lies Burbage Moor, the high altitude of which (on average, above 400 metres O.D.) has restricted settlement. However, on its well drained south facing slopes there is fragmentary evidence for bronze age sites at 350-400 metres O.D. (Cairnfield 14). Unfortunately these have been virtually destroyed by a small area of intake to the northeast of Fox House. At this altitude it would be surprising if bronze age activity was particularly extensive. Further south the upper moor rises slightly again, to Tootley Moor (L) which has again inhibited settlement. The eastern edge of the upper moor in this area drops away steeply to valleys below; the sheltered areas which exist here are small and high, and do not appear to have been utilized in prehistory.

In the southern half of the zone there is a wide shelf above the main escarpment. To the northwest of Burbage Brook the shelf at Lawrence Field (M) is at 250-300 metres O.D., and on the whole well drained and relatively free of boulders. Surprisingly, therefore, it has not produced any good evidence for a bronze age cairnfield. The best land at the southern tip of the shelf has been enclosed by a medieval intake, which may have destroyed remains, but it remains a mystery why bronze age sites are not found elsewhere.

To the southeast of Burbage Brook the shelf is from 0.5 to 1.0 kilometre wide, and runs continuously for five kilometres to where it rises slightly to the watershed. Much of this has been enclosed and very probably extensive bronze age cairnfields have been destroyed. There are four blocks of these enclosures on the best land of the shelf at 250-300 metres O.D.: southwest of Fox House; south of Sheffield plantation; around the Grouse Inn; and on the northern half of Stoke Flat. Between these are small streams flanked by land which is often boulder strewn or very poorly drained, or both. On the whole this would have been unsuitable for utilization at any period. However, small remnants of earlier activity protrude beyond the edges of present fields. There are several fragmentary remains of medieval date, one of which has elements which could be prehistoric (Cairnfield 11).

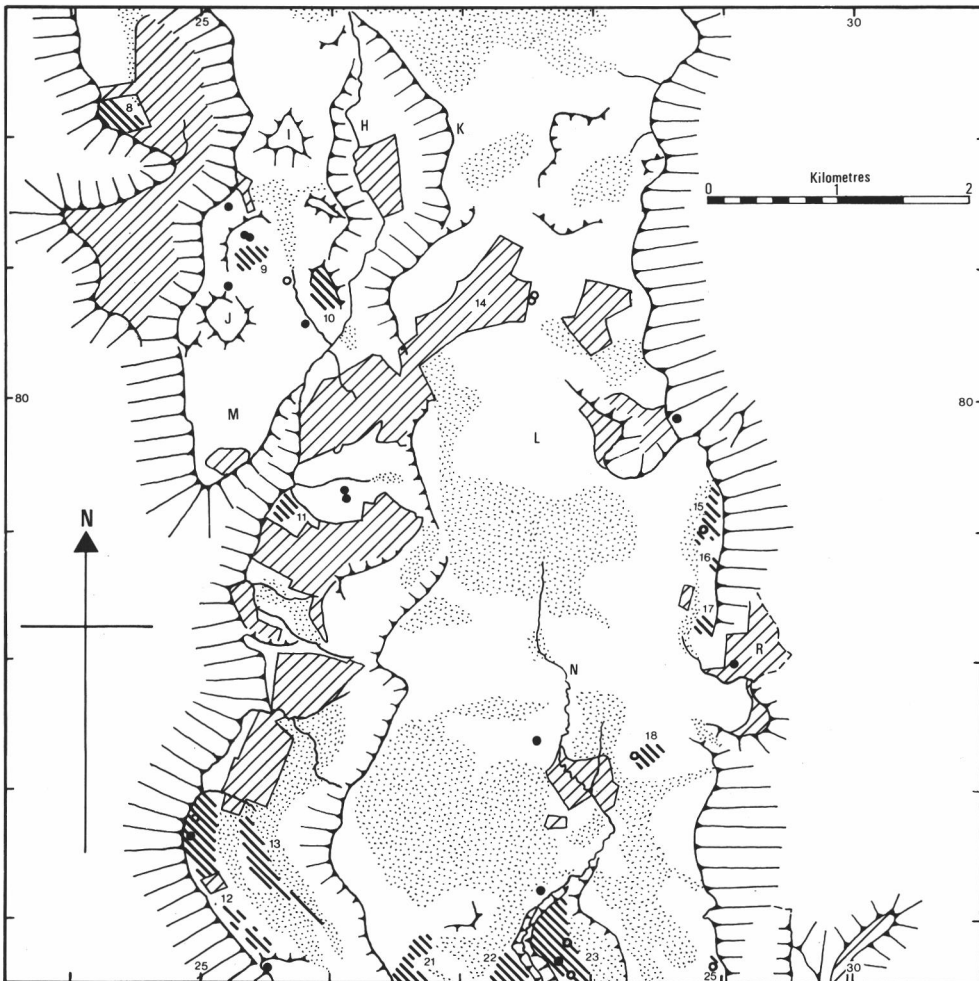


Fig. 8 The distribution of bronze age sites within the Burbage Brook watershed and the northern sector of the Bar Brook watershed. (For key see Fig. 2.)

At the shelf's southern end it rises gently to over 300m O.D. Such a rise on north facing slopes has inhibited recent intake and extensive bronze age cairnfields survive (Cairnfields 12, 13). Together these cover about the same area as each of the enclosed blocks further north, but are very different in character from later field patterns. Rather than covering the full width of the shelf, the bronze age fields are restricted to the well drained edge, and a low ridge to the east. This is a typical pattern for prehistoric activity here: the best land is utilized while poorer drained areas (usually found to the east, where the shelf dips before the upper escarpment starts to rise again) are left uncultivated.

South of these two cairnfields the shelf rises more steeply before dropping again towards the Bar Brook valley. This area has no cairnfields and must have been left as upland pasture. Perhaps its utilization was restricted because it was not needed for intensive exploitation, or because it formed a boundary between different communities.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 9: Winyards Nick (Fig 2, 8, 9; SK 253811)

On the dip-slope below the prominent notch of Winyards Nick, where packhorse tracks have cut deep into the gritstone edge, there is a small sheltered area of cleared land at 345-375 metres O.D. (SMR SY853, Beswick and Merrills 1983). This is surrounded by much stonier terrain; and its southern and western boundary is partially defined by a fragmentary stone bank which is particularly massive to the southwest, where it links three cairns. There are a further fourteen cairns near the edge of the cleared zone, one of which has a low platform attached to its southwestern side. They range from 2.0 to 6.5 metres in diameter. Downslope, the wall turns eastwards and becomes double, as if defining a narrow lane which approaches the cleared area from the stream below. Two more cairns lie 200 metres north of the cleared area, on stonier ground (Cairns 59, 60; SMR SY853). These are both 6.0 metres in diameter and are built abutting each other on a NE/SW axis. That to the northeast is the higher of the two and may be the earlier. Another cairn, 5.0m x 3.5m in diameter, lies 300 metres southwest of the cleared area, at the crest of the gritstone edge (Cairn 61; SMR SY853). Cole and Butcher suggested three other cairns and a hut nearby (Hunter Society Index); these appear to be natural outcrops, but examination of the area when the heather is burnt may be more revealing.

Cairnfield 10: Toads Mouth (Fig 2, 8, 9; SK 259808)

On the gentle south facing slope of the low tor between the Toads Mouth and the Carlwark hillfort is a compact cluster of 70 cairns (SMR SK135, Preston 1951), 2.0-10.0m x 8.5m in diameter. A number of the larger mounds in particular are distinctly oval, being virtually twice as long as broad. Several of the cairns were opened in July 1824 by Mitchell; the only finds were calcined bones (Bateman, 1848). In the northwest corner of the area, where the slope is steepest, there are several short lynchet-like slopes associated with small cairns. Further downslope there are three short stretches of bank. These features suggest that the cairnfield is not purely funerary in character. A small isolated ringcairn stands 250 metres to the northwest of Cairnfield 10 (Circle 4; SMR SY853, Beswick and Merrills 1983). It is located next to the stream, virtually midway between this cairnfield and Cairnfield 9. It has an internal diameter of 7.5m x 5.5m, and there is an entrance to the south. Its small diameter might suggest that it is the footing of a circular house rather than a ceremonial site. However, its isolated location on uncleared land tells against this. Another isolated cairn, 7.5m x 5.5m in diameter, lies 250 metres southwest of the cairnfield, on a low eminence on the other side of the stream (Cairn 62; SMR SY856, Hunter Society Index). The surrounding upright stones noted by Cole and Butcher are fortuitous outcrops.

Cairnfield 11: Sheffield Plantation (Fig 8, 10; SK 256792)

On the relatively flat land near the edge of the main shelf are the foundations of medieval longhouses associated with two banked and ditched enclosures similar to that across the stream on Lawrence Field (SMR 7406, Hart 1981). One of these enclosures has sixteen or seventeen small cairns, 2.0-8.0m x 4.0m in diameter, linear clearance and fragmentary walls associated with it (SMR 7428, Beswick and Merrills 1983). Without excavation these are undateable, but their spread beyond the assart, the truncation of three cairns by the bank and ditch, and the unrelated orientations of the fragmentary walls, suggest an earlier date; hence they could be prehistoric.



Fig. 9 The cairnfield at Winyards Nick (9) and Toads Mouth (10). (for key see Fig. 3.)

Cairnfield 12: Stoke Flat West (Figs 8, 11, 12; SK 250764)

This area of the main shelf has extensive prehistoric remains. Near the escarpment edge is Cairnfield 12 (SMR 1367, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983), parallel to which to the east runs Cairnfield 13. The well drained edge of the main escarpment has a band of sites,



Fig. 10 The Sheffield Plantation cairnfield (11). (For key see Fig. 3.)

just over one kilometre in length. This runs from a stream by later intakes in the north to where the edge rises steeply to higher land in the south. At the centre of this strip is a modern sheepfold which presumably has destroyed a small area of the cairnfield. In the northern half there is a low ridge rising between five and ten metres above the main edge and set back from 50 to 150 metres to the east. The gentle dip-slope of this ridge has eight or more subrectangular fields defined by fragmentary banks. These are laid out coaxially to form a long north-south strip of east-west orientated fields. Near the northern end of these fields, on the crest of the ridge, are two to three small subrectangular yards defined by banks. A little further south is a small subrectangular feature, with one open side attached to a stone bank. There is a thin scatter of small cairns distributed through the fields. Some abut or are aligned to the banks suggesting chronological depth. The regular positioning of others in relation to the banks suggests that they are contemporary with the latter. Between these fields and the main escarpment edge the area is divided into four zones by rock outcrops. Utilization of these as fields is suggested by fragmentary banks and a few cairns. In the northernmost zone, in the northwestern corner of the complex as a whole, is a cluster of fourteen small cairns lying between an embanked stone circle and a large cairn. It is unclear if these are primarily funerary sites or clearance heaps. The stone circle (Circle 5; SMR 5901, Radley 1966, Burl 1976, Barnatt 1978) has an internal diameter of 11.5 metres, with a damaged ring of low orthostats set in a drystone wall, traces of which are still visible. The bank is interrupted by two diametrically opposite entrances flanked by radially set stones (originally four at each entrance). One of the stones in the southwestern entrance is particularly tall. The other entrance has been carefully

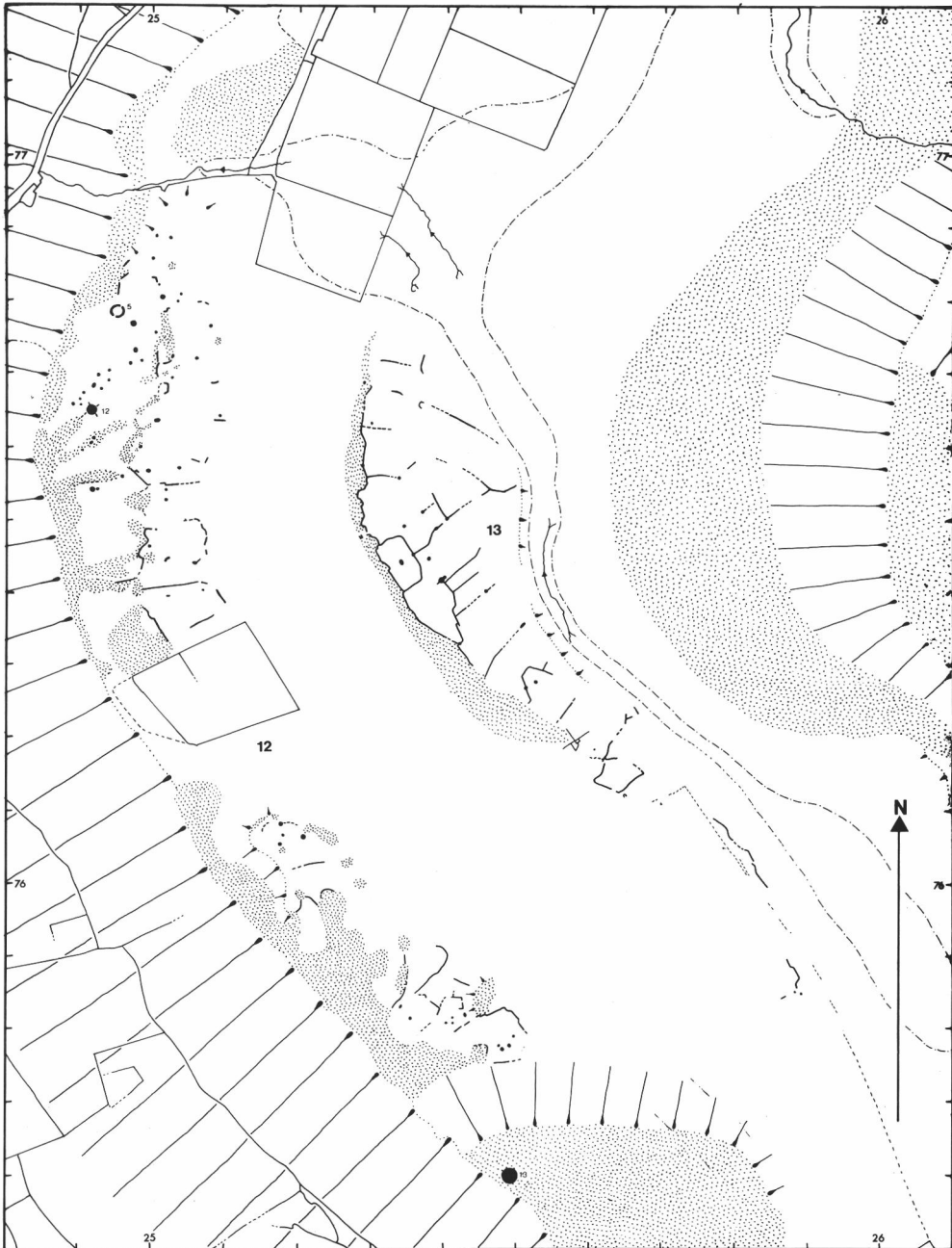


Fig. 11 The cairnfields at Stoke Flat West (12) and Stoke Flat East (13). (For key see Fig. 3.)

blocked with a low bank. An urn and cremation were apparently found in the circle before the 1939-45 War, but are now lost. The large cairn (Cairn 12; SMR 1368) has a diameter of 13.5 metres and has been disturbed at its centre. It is overlain by a small ruined sheepfold with four arms.

The southern half of the cairnfield beyond the large sheepfold has a much stonier surface, most noticeable next to the escarpment edge where there has been no clearance. On the ridge above, several sites have been located and burning of the particularly thick heather may reveal further details. At least six subrectangular and irregular fields can be traced, partially defined by low banks and rock outcrops. Their form is far less regular than further north, but natural obstacles would have prevented the laying out of neat co-axial fields. There are two rectangular yards at the centre of the southernmost cluster of fields. Scattered amongst the fields are several small cairns, most of which cluster in such a way as to suggest that they are clearance heaps, associated with the field boundaries. (No trace was found of a ringcairn documented at SK 25477583 (Marsden, 1977; this may be an inaccurate reference to a semi-circular arc of field bank at SK 25387584.) The cairnfield as a whole has between 53 and 57 small cairns, ranging in diameter from 1.5 to 7.5 metres.

On higher land at 335 metres O.D., immediately southeast of the fields, is a solitary large cairn on the escarpment edge (Cairn 13; SMR 1340). This has a diameter of 17.0 metres and is badly disturbed. It was dug in 1913 when a central cist was found containing a cremation, food vessel sherds, a bronze dagger and a flint scraper (unpublished).

Cairnfield 13: Stoke Flat East (Figs 8, 11, 12; SK 255764)

To the east of Cairnfield 12 there is a low well drained ridge with further extensive remains (SMR 1370, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983). The zone between the two groups is poorly drained with slightly thicker peat. However as no banks disappear under the edge of the peat, it appears this area was unexploited in such a way. There are numerous low banks on the ridge, defining subrectangular and irregular fields. On the ridge crest are two particularly prominent enclosures, the more southerly of which is abutted by three co-axial banks which are much slighter. Such junctions between two field types give a distinct impression of chronological depth. Nearby the bank of the main subrectangular enclosure abuts a cairn, 8.5m x 7.5m in diameter, which reinforces this impression. Other banks to the north and south of this area also run parallel to the co-axial fields suggesting additional fields of this type, modified by subrectangular ones. The northern fields are overlain by deeper peat than usual, and are only partially traceable. To the south, at the base of the gentle slope in a sheltered location just above the stream, is a rectangular yard. Near the three parallel banks is a very small open ended rectangular structure similar to that in Cairnfield 12. At the higher end of the ridge to the southeast are two sinuous banks following the ridge; it is not clear if these are prehistoric. Scattered amongst the fields are from nine to nineteen cairns, ranging in diameter from 2.0 to 8.5 metres. Many of these abut banks suggesting chronological depth, while the location of others at field centres suggests that these are clearance heaps, contemporary with the associated banks. The total number of cairns in the complex seems unusually small.

The particularly clear indications of three chronological phases, and the good preservation resulting from the unusually thick peat cover at the northern end, make this cairnfield a good candidate for selective research excavations.

Cairnfield 14: Burbage Moor South (Figs 2, 8; SK 27.80.)

Little survives here because the sheltered land around Fox House, Parsons House, Stoney Ridge House and Piper House has been enclosed. However, there are two adjacent ringcairns at Ciceley Low (Circles 6, 7; SMR SY852, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978), located just beyond improved pasture at 395-400 metres O.D. These may originally have been closely associated with further remains, as at other ringcairns (a possible cairn, diameter 5.5m x 4.0m, survives next to the southern ringcairn). The northern ringcairn is the larger,

with an internal diameter of 25.5m x 24.0m. The southern, 15.0 metres in internal diameter, is cut by a drystone wall and a track; there is a probable entrance to the south. Neither ringcairn has surviving orthostats; possibly stones were removed when the adjacent wall was built.

Several sites in the general vicinity have been documented, of which there is now no trace; their locations are unknown. Wilson recorded 'some large heaps of stones called Robin Hood's Pricks' (Bateman, 1861). These were destroyed to repair the turnpike in the late eighteenth century, when several 'urns' were found. Another account, probably referring to the same sites, notes two cairns containing four large 'urns' which were destroyed in making the turnpike to Sheffield in 1759 (Pegge, 1785). This road ran eastwards through Longshaw Estate to Fox House and then across Burbage Moor to the Ringinglow toll house. The cairns may well have been close to Fox House, since Robin Hood's Well is nearby (SK 267799). Mitchell noted that further mounds nearby 'placed at regular distances . . . formed nearly a circle' (B.M. MS. No. 28108, fol. 251).

Other Sites

At the edge of the upper escarpment near Higgarr Lodge is an isolated cairn with a diameter of 7.5 metres (Figs 2, 8, 9, Cairn 58; SMR SY853). Cole recorded that 'stone chambers' (ie perhaps cists) were visible in 1926 (Hunter Society Index); these are not apparent today. Cairnfields 9 and 10 are dominated by Carl Wark hillfort (Fig. 9, SK 259814). The fort is situated on a rocky crag and is naturally defended by cliffs on its northern side and eastern end. The steep southern slope has a low wall of massive boulders at its crest. Only the western side is not naturally defensible; here there is a massive rampart with a height of 2.0 metres faced externally by a drystone wall. An inturned entrance in the southwest corner faces the cairnfields. The interior of the enclosure is on the whole too rocky to be suitable for building. The fort is conventionally given either an iron age or a dark age date; however, the paucity of other finds of these dates in the vicinity and the proximity of the cairnfields suggest that an earlier date is possible. Some distance to the east of Cairnfield 11 is a ruined cairn, with an outer kerb 8.0m x 7.5m in diameter. Six larger stones form an inner kerb, which has a diameter of 4.0 metre, and is slightly eccentric to the outer one (Figs 8, 10, Cairn 63; SMR 7429). A possible robbed cairn, 3.5 metres in diameter, lies 80 metres to the north (Figs 8, 10, Cairn 64; SMR 7429). On a low lying shelf immediately east of the upper moorland at Strawberry Lea is a ruined ring of four orthostats (Figs 8, 13, Cairn 65; SMR SY861). Several recumbent slabs are also scattered within the ring. In 1824 Mitchell dug a 'remarkably conspicuous and well shaped tumulus' at Strawberry Lea, but made no finds. The area is now enclosed and it is conjectured that the surviving ring is the last vestige of the tumulus dug by Mitchell. If so, this was a cairn with an orthostatic kerb of approximately eight stones, similar to Cairn 54 on Moscar Moor.

Several sites have been recorded in the past which are rejected here. Just outside the fine medieval assart at Lawrence Field (Hart, 1981), a stone circle has been noted at SK 25247972 (SMR 7426). This is a crude ring, 7.5 metres in diameter, composed of between six and eight low stones set at all angles. It is situated in an area of profuse surface stone and is probably nothing more than a fortuitous arrangement. It is unclear whether a stone circle recorded by Hall in 1853 as being somewhere in the vicinity has now been destroyed or if he was referring to the same structure. On the main shelf at SK 25337829 an enclosure has been recorded (SMR 10504). Only a short arc survives and may well be natural; even if man made, it is too badly damaged to date. Further south on Tumbling Hill, centred at SK 254781, is a group of very small clearance cairns (SMR 10502). Many are in

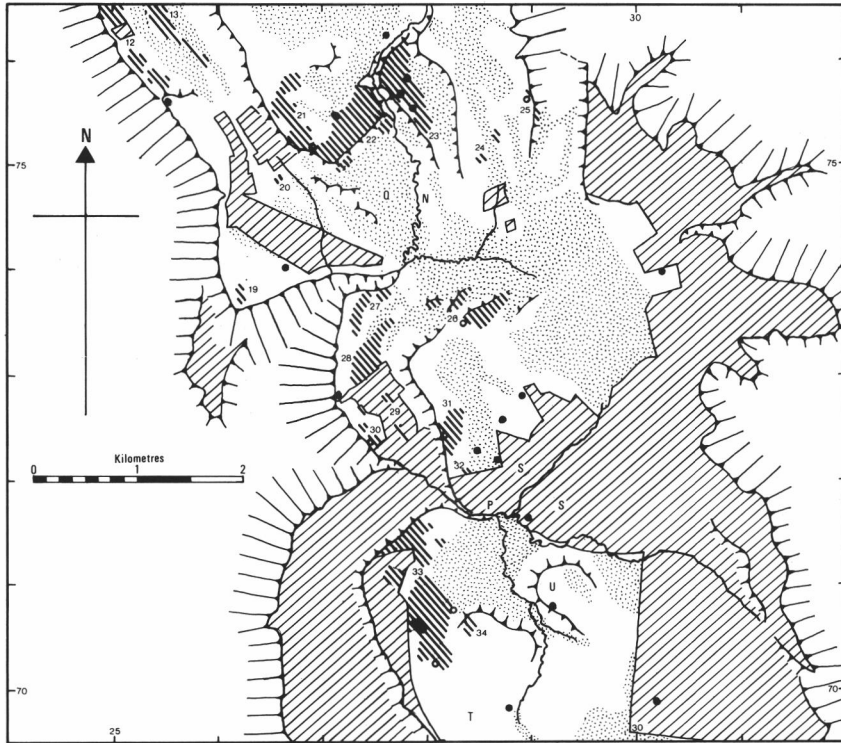


Fig. 12 The distribution of bronze age sites within the Bar Brook and Heathy Lea Brook watersheds. (For key see Fig. 2.)

close proximity to each other, and have indications of recent construction; their function remains a mystery. On the higher land south of Stoke Flat a small cairnfield has been recorded, centred at SK 25797552 (SMR 1372). However, the only mounds in this vicinity are small earthen rabbit warrens. Further south a cairn is recorded at SK 25887508 (SMR 4506); this is a natural knoll. Just below the crest of White Edge, on a shelf below the escarpment at SK 261761, is a subrectangular enclosure defined on two sides by massive banks (SMR 1373). This is undated, but provisionally interpreted as a medieval or post-medieval sheep pound. On the crest of Totley Moor a cairn has been recorded at SK 278799 (SMR 8074). This appears to be a natural outcrop modified by quarrying.

C: Bar Brook/Heathy Lea Brook Watershed (Figs 8, 12)

This extensive area of the eastern moors exhibits the typical topographical arrangement of a major escarpment above the Derwent valley, with a shelf to the east, from 0.5 to 1.0 km wide. Above this, the upper escarpment and upper moors have been breached by two major streams, Barbrook (N) and Heathy Lea Brook (P). Their well developed valleys, with wide shelves cutting the upper moor, made additional land available for bronze age settlement.

The main shelf varies in altitude between 200 and 300 metres O.D. From the high portion of shelf, south of Stoke Flat to the Bar Brook valley, very little evidence of prehistoric activity survives. Most of the well drained, boulder-free areas have later intakes. Only on Eaglestone Flat, which is mostly boulder strewn, has a small cairnfield survived intact (Cairnfield 19); a fragmentary cairnfield (Cairnfield 20) just outside enclosed land

indicates that further settlement areas have probably been destroyed. To the east of Sandyford Brook (Q) the shelf is poorly drained and now peat covered. However, the lower portions of Cairnfield 22 do not appear to run under the peat, and it is therefore likely this area was open pasture; it was perhaps already poorly drained in prehistory. The main shelf between Bar Brook (N) and Heathy Lea Brook (P) provides firm evidence that prehistoric cairnfields once existed in areas of later intake. Because of the high altitude nineteenth century agriculture here found itself at the very limits of viability. Hence the north facing slopes of the shelf are unenclosed while the south facing ones have extensive intakes. In the former area can be found well developed field systems and cairnfields (Cairnfields 27, 28). In the latter only small areas within and near the intakes, where the land was too stony to be worth clearing in the nineteenth century, have prehistoric sites survived (Cairnfields 29, 30).

South of Heathy Lea Brook the whole shelf is at a slightly lower altitude than further north, and has been totally enclosed. No prehistoric remains have been identified, although undoubtedly extensive cairnfields once existed.

The northern portions of the upper moors are dissected by Bar Brook. On the lowest shelves and east facing slopes above the stream, around the 300m contour, extensive field systems and cairnfields survive (Cairnfields 21, 22, 23). There are no later intakes to disrupt the pattern. Virtually no shelf above this altitude has been utilized and it must have been left as open pasture. An exception is to be found along the eastern fringes of the upper moor where there is a series of cairnfields (Cairnfields 15, 16, 17, 24, 25). Here the moors drop off steeply to valleys below, and there are few sheltered shelves at an ideal altitude; only around Owl Bar (R) is there later intake. These cairnfields therefore seem to represent bronze age expansion on to the moors from the east, which was restricted by topography to the tenuous exploitation of higher land: only one of them is located significantly west of the eastern fringe, utilizing a well drained ridge overlooking the upper Bar Brook stream (Cairnfield 18).

Further south between Bar Brook and Heathy Lea Brook the situation is similar to that just described. On north facing slopes overlooking Bar Brook, at a location analogous to that of Cairnfields 21-23, is a smaller, less developed cairnfield at just below 300 metres O.D. (Cairnfield 26). Its exposed situation perhaps led to its being used over a shorter period. To the east is Leash Fen, the largest peat bog on the East Moors, an area probably already badly drained in the Bronze Age, as were several other deep bogs on the upper moors (Hicks, 1972).

In the Heathy Lea Brook valley the situation is identical to that in the Bar Brook valley, but survival is not as good because the shelves are at slightly lower altitudes. On the south facing slopes a well developed field system survives by the upper escarpment (Cairnfield 31). However, the lower slopes and shelves to the east are now covered by nineteenth century intake around Newbridge Farm, Clod Hall Farm, and Stone Low Farm (S), which has undoubtedly destroyed most of the evidence. Only fragmentary remains exist just beyond intakes to indicate what has gone (Cairnfield 32; Cairns 22, 67, 68). On the north facing slopes south of the stream there is relatively little intake because of the aspect, and extensive cairnfields survive (Cairnfields 33, 34). However, field boundaries within the cairnfields are not well developed, and again the aspect may have inhibited the long term utilization of this area. Cairnfield 34 is unusually sited on an exposed ridgetop, and appears to be purely funerary in character. To the south of this region the moors rise to over 350 metres O.D., and since none of these upper moors (T) have cairnfields they were probably used as open pasture. To the east of this area in the heart of the moor, on

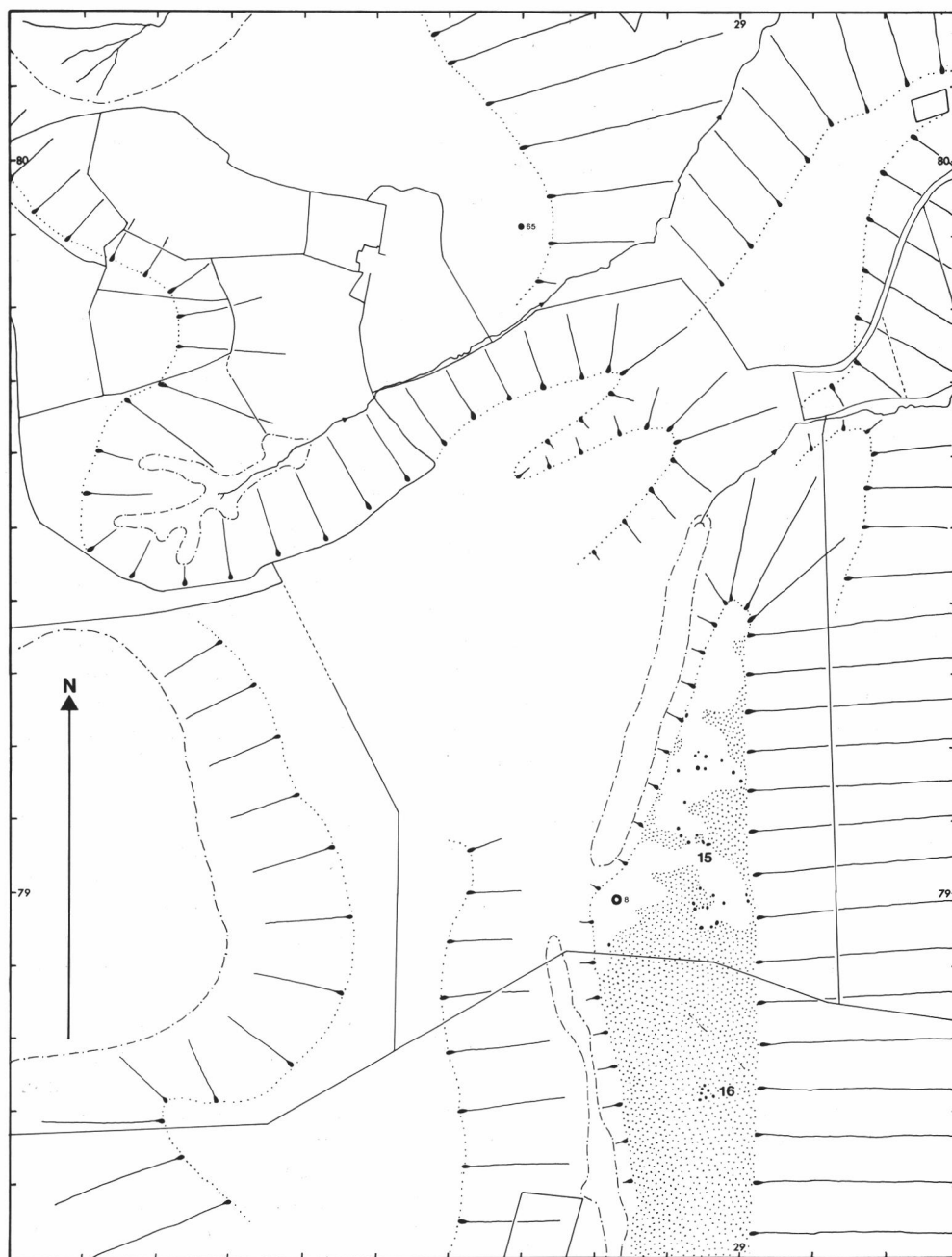


Fig. 13 The cairnfields at Brown Edge North (15) and Brown Edge South (16). (For key see Fig. 3.)

Brampton East Moor (U), ridges at the same altitude as Cairnfield 33 have no corresponding concentrations of sites, an indication that areas away from the moor fringes were never fully exploited in this way.

The eastern fringes of the upper moor differ from those further north in that they are at a lower altitude, being on average below 300 metres O.D. These areas have been totally enclosed by nineteenth century intakes. It is therefore impossible to gauge how extensive prehistoric cairnfields were; presumably at least the lower well drained areas had some occupation.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 15: Brown Edge North (Figs 8, 13; SK 289791)

This long ridge has a cairnfield along its crest and gentle east facing slope (SMR 8075, Radley 1966). Below it the land falls away steeply into the Totley Brook valley. There are two short stretches of linear clearance and from 24 to 28 small cairns, 1.0-6.5m x 4.0m in diameter. The distribution of these cairns, near the edges of stony patches, strongly suggests that they are clearance heaps at the edges of three or four stone-free areas. At the southwestern edge of the area is a ringcairn (Circle 8; SMR 8004, Radley 1966). This was partially excavated in 1963 by Radley. Its internal diameter is 7.5m x 6.0m. Two fallen orthostats originally stood here and others may have been removed and broken up for a nearby drystone wall: the inner edge of the bank of the ringcairn was not excavated to determine if this was the case. The bank is itself unusual, being 3.0 metres wide — about double the usual width. A small oval cairn at the centre of the ring covered three cremations in pits. One of these was accompanied by a pygmy cup and covered by an inverted collared urn. Another was also accompanied by a collared urn, and produced a date of 1050 ± 150bc (BM 177). The third, under a flat stone, was also contained within a decayed urn and produced a date of 1250 ± 150bc (BM 211). Two further cremations were found in pits in the interior of the ringcairn; one of these produced a date of 1530 ± 150bc (BM 212). A hearth, two parallel lines, two arcs and an oval of small stones were also found in the central area. Radley suggested that these were traces of settlement activity dating from before the ringcairn was built, but there was no clear stratigraphy and their interpretation must remain open to question. Large surface collections of flint/chert tools and waste were made near the ringcairn and at two other sites within the cairnfield.

Cairnfield 16: Brown Edge South (Figs 8,13; SK 289787)

Further south along the ridge on a moderate east facing slope are seven small amorphous cairns in close proximity to each other (SMR 8076). Their diameters all fall within the range 2.0m x 1.0m-2.5m x 1.5m. The surrounding area is generally very stony and has not been cleared; hence their function and date are debatable.

Cairnfield 17: Salter Sitch (Figs 8,14; SK 288782)

On a flat shelf at the southern end of the Brown Edge ridge is a small cairnfield (SMR 8077) comprising from twelve to fourteen cairns, with diameters ranging from 1.5 to 3.5 metres. Their distribution, at the edge of a stone-free area where more surface stones might be expected, suggests that they are clearance cairns. A ringcairn has been noted nearby, but is unidentifiable at the map reference given for it (SK 28767818). A small ring at SK 28777825 may be a ringcairn, but is more likely to be debris round a trial quarry.

Cairnfield 18: Barbrook Reservoir (Figs 8, 14; SK 284773)

This cairnfield (SMR 8080) is located overlooking Bar Brook on the crest of a low ridge

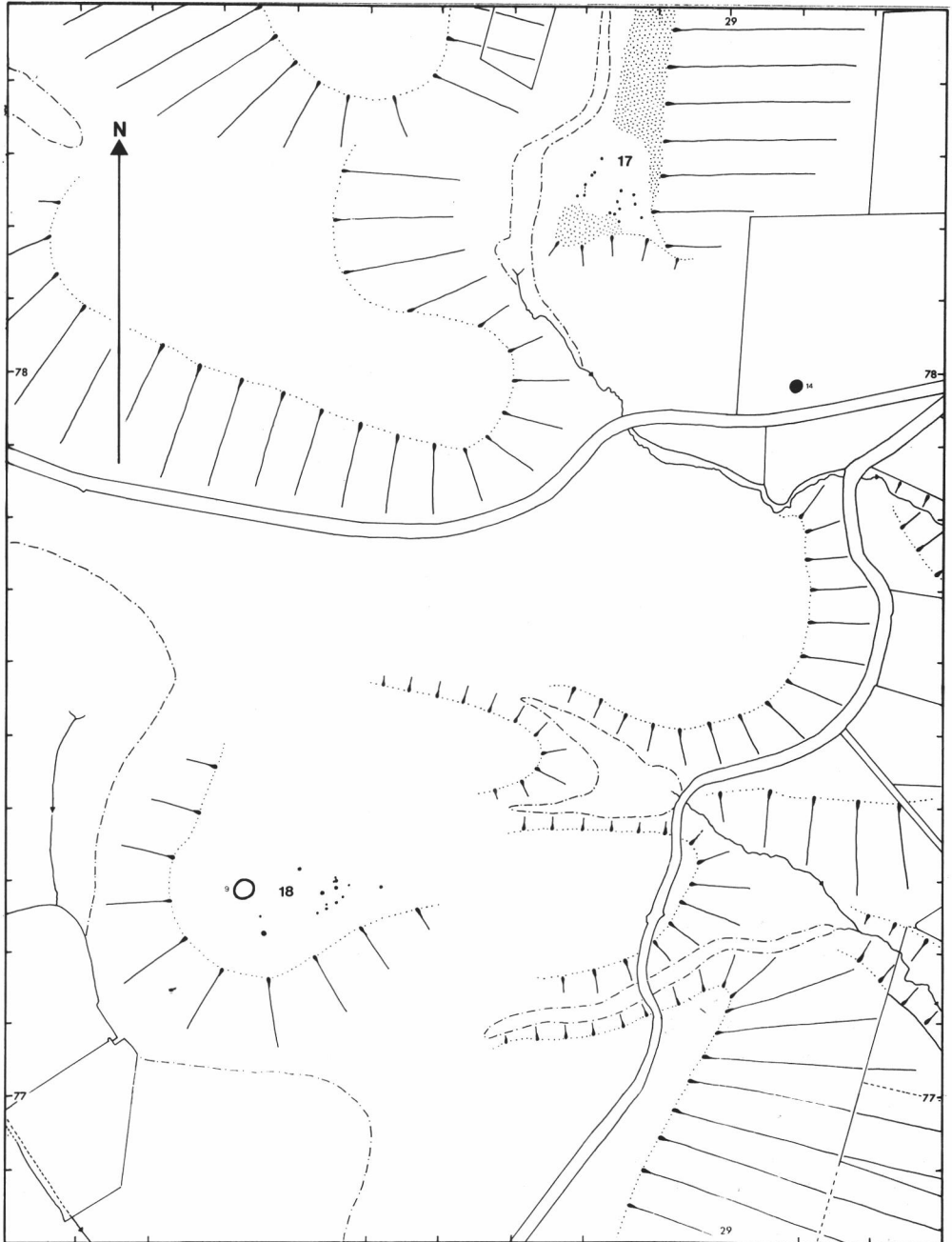


Fig. 14 The cairnfields at Salter Sitch (17) and Barbrook Reservoir (18). (For key see Fig. 3.)

in the heart of the upper moors. There is little visible surface stone in the general vicinity although it may be masked by a thin peat cover. There are between eight and fifteen low cairns in a compact group, with diameters ranging from 2.0 to 7.5 metres. West of them is a large embanked stone circle (Circle 9; SMR 8003, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). Its internal diameter is 26.0m x 23.5m; there is a ring of 21 low orthostats, mostly fallen or leaning inwards. One of these, once standing to the west, was substantially taller than the others. Three breaks through the bank appear to be later disturbance. The largest cairn in the cairnfield is also placed to the west and although it has a diameter of only 7.5 metres it could correspond to larger cairns built alongside stone circles at several other cairnfields.

Cairnfield 19: Eaglestone Flat (Figs 12, 15; SK 262738)

This small group (SMR 4511, Beswick and Merrills 1983) is situated on the flat shelf at the southern tip of Baslow Edge. Much of the surrounding area is very stony and unsuitable for clearance. Immediately west of the Eagle Stone, an impressive natural outcrop, is an irregular enclosure defined by low banks and breaks of slope. South of this are from eight to ten small cairns in a compact cluster, with diameters ranging from 2.5 to 6.5 metres. Two of these are built together so that one abuts the other. The lack of overlap between enclosure and cairns suggests a functional or chronological difference between the two features. It is unclear if the small enclosure is a field or the boundary of a habitation area.

Cairnfield 20: Sandyford Brook (Figs 12, 15; SK 266749)

On a low-lying ridge to the west of Sandyford Brook is a small area of well drained open moor. Here there are two large rectangular enclosures defined by low banks and lynchets, which may well be medieval or early post-medieval in date (SMR 4508). Nearby is a more recent sheep gathering fold. Close by is a sinuous stony bank and a cairn, 2.0 metres in diameter (SMR 4507). These may be the vestiges of a prehistoric cairnfield disturbed by later activity. If so, it may have continued to the northwest, where there are nineteenth century intakes.

Cairnfield 21: Big Moor West (Figs 8, 12, 16; SK 266755)

This extensive series of remains (SMR 1374) on the sheltered east facing slope of White Edge remained unrecognized until 1982, despite the frequent attention given by prehistorians to Cairnfield 22 nearby. The complex is divided into three distinct zones. To the north on a flat shelf is a number of stony banks, which define three or more yards, and fragmentary remains of surrounding irregular enclosures or garden plots. The latter contain two small cairns, each with a diameter of 2.0 metres. Between these remains and those immediately to the south is a small uncleared area. On moderate slopes rising to the crest of White Edge is a series of six co-axial and subrectangular fields defined by relatively continuous stony banks. One of these has a small subrectangular feature attached to it. Only three small cairns exist within the fields, their positioning suggesting that they are clearance heaps. In contrast, just north and southeast of the fields are two small clusters of cairns, 2.0-6.0m x 5.5m in diameter. This arrangement suggests that there was originally a large cairnfield here, the centre of which was cleared away when the two fields were laid out. Further south is an intact cairnfield. In strong contrast with the fields to the north, the only indicators of boundaries are four short stretches of linear clearance. There are from 21 to 24 cairns here, with diameters ranging from 2.0 to 7.5 metres. A curved bank on the edge of the escarpment to the south of the cairnfield has been interpreted in the past as a ringcairn, but is more likely to be a robbed cairn.



Fig.15 The cairnfields at Eaglestone Flat (19) and Sandymford Brook (20). (For key see Fig. 3.)

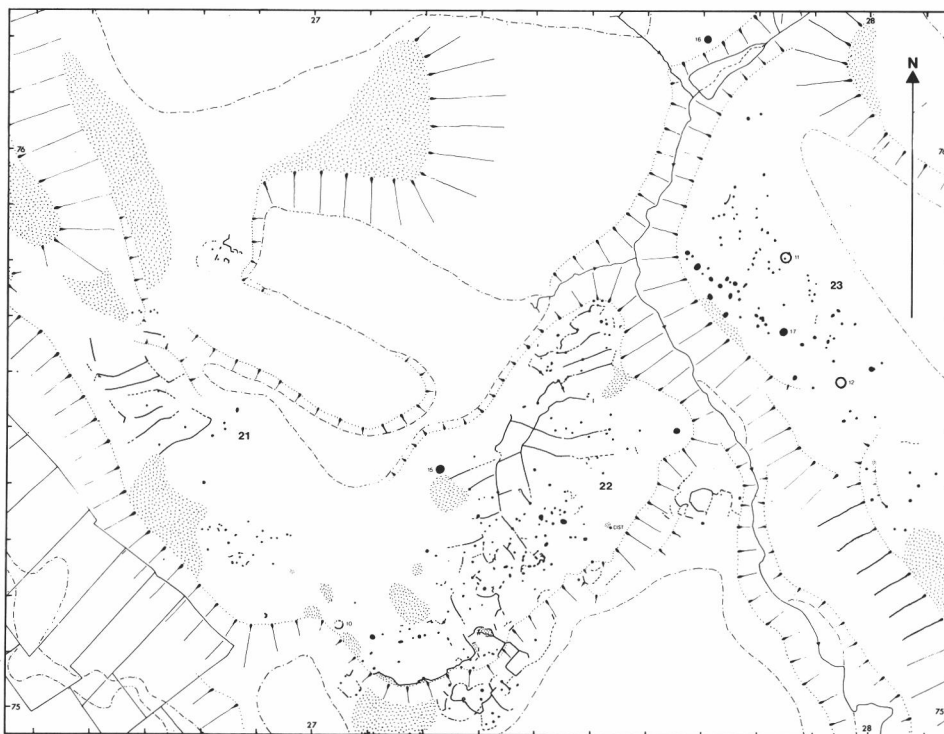


Fig. 16 The cairnfields at Big Moor West (21), Big Moor Central (22) and Big Moor East (23) (For key see Fig. 3.)

Cairnfield 22: Big Moor Central (Figs 8, 12, 16; SK 273754)

This extensive cairnfield (SMR 1376, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983) has attracted more archaeological interest than usual. It extends across the flat top of a well drained shelf and into sheltered areas immediately below. Together with Cairnfields 21 and 23 it forms the most extensive and intact group of prehistoric sites in the southern Pennines, covering over 55 ha.

The three spatially distinct elements found in Cairnfield 21 are here combined in strong contrast in a complex palimpsest. Low banks sub-divide much of the shelf into a large number of fields and enclosures of various types with several indications of chronological depth. In the northern half of the shelf are several co-axial fields defined by parallel banks. In places these abut sub-rectangular fields in a somewhat awkward way, suggesting that they were built at different dates. In the central and southern area of the shelf the banks are less continuous, and they usually define sub-rectangular and irregular fields. In many cases the gaps between short banks and linear clearance appear to be original, suggesting that both followed the courses of primary boundaries defined by hedges or fences. Below the shelf edge the enclosures are smaller and again sub-rectangular or irregular. These appear to be yards and garden plots and are distributed in distinct clusters. That below the southern tip of the shelf is known as Swine Sty and has been partially excavated. The other major group, situated in a sheltered spot by Bar Brook, remained unrecognised until 1982 because of thick bracken cover. Two further small sub-rectangular yards are located by the shelf edge and another two zones of this type of enclosure exist

amongst the fields on the shelf, one at the northern tip of the complex and the other to the northeast of Swine Sty. These yard clusters, four to six in number, may represent habitation areas for different family groups. Scattered amongst the fields there are also several very small sub-rectangular structures, similar to those found at Stoke Flat.

One of the enclosures at Swine Sty was excavated during the 1960s and 1970s by the Hunter Society (SMR 1378, Richardson and Preston 1969, Machin 1971; 1975). This enclosure contained a stone-footed hut only 3.5 metres in internal diameter. There was some evidence that it was preceded by a larger timber house, around 6.0 metres in diameter, built slightly eccentric to the later hut, with the enclosure bank curving to respect it. (Throughout the cairnfield as a whole, particularly in the zones of yards and garden plots, there are several curves and angle changes in banks that, if not interpreted as deviations to encompass timber buildings, are otherwise inexplicable.) The enclosure at Swine Sty was further modified by the addition of a small extension to its southern side; and the original stone bank was removed to leave only a slight lynchet. There was also possible evidence for three or more circular structures comprising small slabs set into the subsoil. It was suggested that these were footings, used to secure tents to the ground. The discovery of two small clearance cairns within the enclosure implied some cultivation in later phases of occupation. Extensive lithic scatters and sherds of domestic pottery of various fabrics were found; and there was evidence for a shale working industry, producing rings and bracelets. Charcoal near the hut provided a date of $1610 \pm 80bc$ (HAR 1233). The nature of the stony banks at Swine Sty was not resolved by the Hunter Society excavations, therefore a small trench, just to the west of the hut, was excavated in autumn 1983 to establish this and to obtain environmental data. Results suggested a rubble bank rather than a tumbled wall. Because the fields on the shelf above are morphologically distinct from those around Swine Sty a second trench was excavated there, at the junction of two banks. This revealed that these were constructed of earth rather than stone. No ditches existed, hence the low banks were presumably built from material derived from very shallow scoops or from turf cutting. A hearth was found in the corner of one of the fields and nearby was a broken and unfinished shale bracelet. The results of environmental and carbon 14 sampling are awaited (Barnatt, Beswick *et al.*, in prep.)

Scattered amongst the fields and enclosures are between 141 and 164 cairns, from 1.5 to 9.5 metres in diameter. Several of these are positioned symmetrically to the fields, as if they were the result of contemporary clearance. However, the majority are clustered, with a large concentration to the south, and smaller groups to the north. Several cairns abut banks; and the general impression given is one of chronological depth. At the western edge of the complex, at the crest of the shelf, is a larger cairn, 13.5m x 12.0m in diameter, and 1.0m in height (Cairn 15, SMR 1380). At the eastern edge of the complex is another high cairn, 9.5 metres in diameter; and there are also two other relatively large cairns at its centre, with diameters of 10.0m x 8.5m and 7.5m x 6.0m respectively.

At the south-western end of the complex is a ringcairn (Circle 10; SMR 1377, Barnatt 1978), the north-western half of which has been ruined by a packhorse track cutting through the site. Its internal diameter is 15.0 metres. Another unambiguous indicator of ceremonial activity amongst the fields is a fine freestanding cist, discovered in 1984 (SMR 1379). This is located to the east of the central cairn concentration, next to a massive earthfast slab surrounded by bracken. The capstone has been moved to one side, collapsing one of the four side slabs in the process. To date, this is the only freestanding cist found on the East Moors.

Cairnfield 23: Big Moor East (Figs 8, 12, 16; SK 278757)

This cairnfield (SMR 8089, Riley 1963, Hart 1981) is situated on a shelf immediately east of Bar Brook, opposite Cairnfield 22 at a similar altitude. There are from 91 to 97 cairns, 1.5m x 1.5m to 9.0m x 7.0m in diameter. At the centre of the group is a larger cairn, 11.5m x 10.5m in diameter and 1.0m high (Cairn 17; SMR 8094). To the north and southeast, equidistant from Cairn 17, are two embanked stone circles. The southeastern is well preserved, with twelve orthostats still standing from an original thirteen, set on the inner edge of a continuous low bank. The diameter of the circle is 14.5m x 12.5m. One stone, to the southwest, is significantly taller than the rest. The central area had two trenches cut across it before the 1939-45 war, but no finds were made (Circle 12; SMR 8001, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). The northern circle was totally excavated by Lewis between 1962 and 1968. He discovered nine low orthostats arranged in a ring, 15m x 13.5m in diameter, within the inner edge of a bank. One of these, to the west, stood higher than the rest; the others would not have risen significantly higher than the bank. This bank was retained internally by a drystone wall and externally by a kerb of small vertical slabs; it was broken in the northeast by a single entrance. This had been blocked by a later cairn, built over a stone filled pit. A cupmarked stone was found nearby. One of the kerbstones of a small cairn, eccentrically placed in the central area was also cupmarked. This cairn covered a pit containing a cremation, accompanied by a collared urn and flints. It produced a date of 1500 ± 150bc (BM 179). Near the cairn was a second pit with a cremation, and also a ruined cist with a cupmarked capstone (Circle 11; SMR 8002, Radley 1966, Lewis 1966, Barnatt 1978, Barnatt and Reeder 1982).

One of the larger cairns to the northeast of Circle 11 was excavated by Riley in 1963. This cairn has a diameter of 7.5 metres and is retained by a well-built drystone wall. Several of the stones of the cairn were decorated with cup and ring art. The central cremation had been disturbed. There was a patch of burnt soil beneath the cairn to the east which was initially interpreted as being associated with the cremation. However, its position beneath a soil layer underlying the cairn suggests it may well predate the cairn (D. Riley, *pers. comm.*). Attached to the kerb to the northeast was a low stone platform, sub-rectangular in shape and measuring 3.0m x 2.0m; it was retained by a kerb and overlay a cremation accompanied by a biconical urn (SMR 8090, Riley 1981). Two small cairns were also excavated, between 1958 and 1962. Both were surrounded by crude kerbs. One had no finds, but covered an empty shallow scoop in the subsoil, the phosphate content of which was not tested (SMR 8091, Henderson 1979). The other, too, had no obvious contemporary deposit, although a Group VI polished axe was found in the old ground surface under the cairn near a small concentration of charcoal (SMR 8092, Henderson 1963). Mitchell dug into ten of the cairns in 1850, but made no finds (Bateman, 1861). Several of the larger cairns in the northwestern sector of the cairnfield have large central disturbances which may be the result of Mitchell's activity. To the northwest of the cairnfield, just across Bar Brook, is a low, flat topped, cairn discovered in 1982. This appears to be undisturbed; it is 13.5m x 12.0m in diameter (Cairn 16; SMR 15807).

The distribution of the cairns within the cairnfield, with larger cairns downslope to the northwest, where more surface stone would originally have existed, and smaller cairns on the flat, relatively stone-free top of the shelf, is an indication that the cairnfield is not purely funerary in nature. The total clearance of surface stone suggests that agricultural activity should also be taken into account. This is supported by the presence of two stretches of linear clearance. The clustering of cairns into linear bands surrounding two relatively cairn-free areas in the northern half of the cairnfield might suggest clearance heaps against original field boundaries which have not survived.

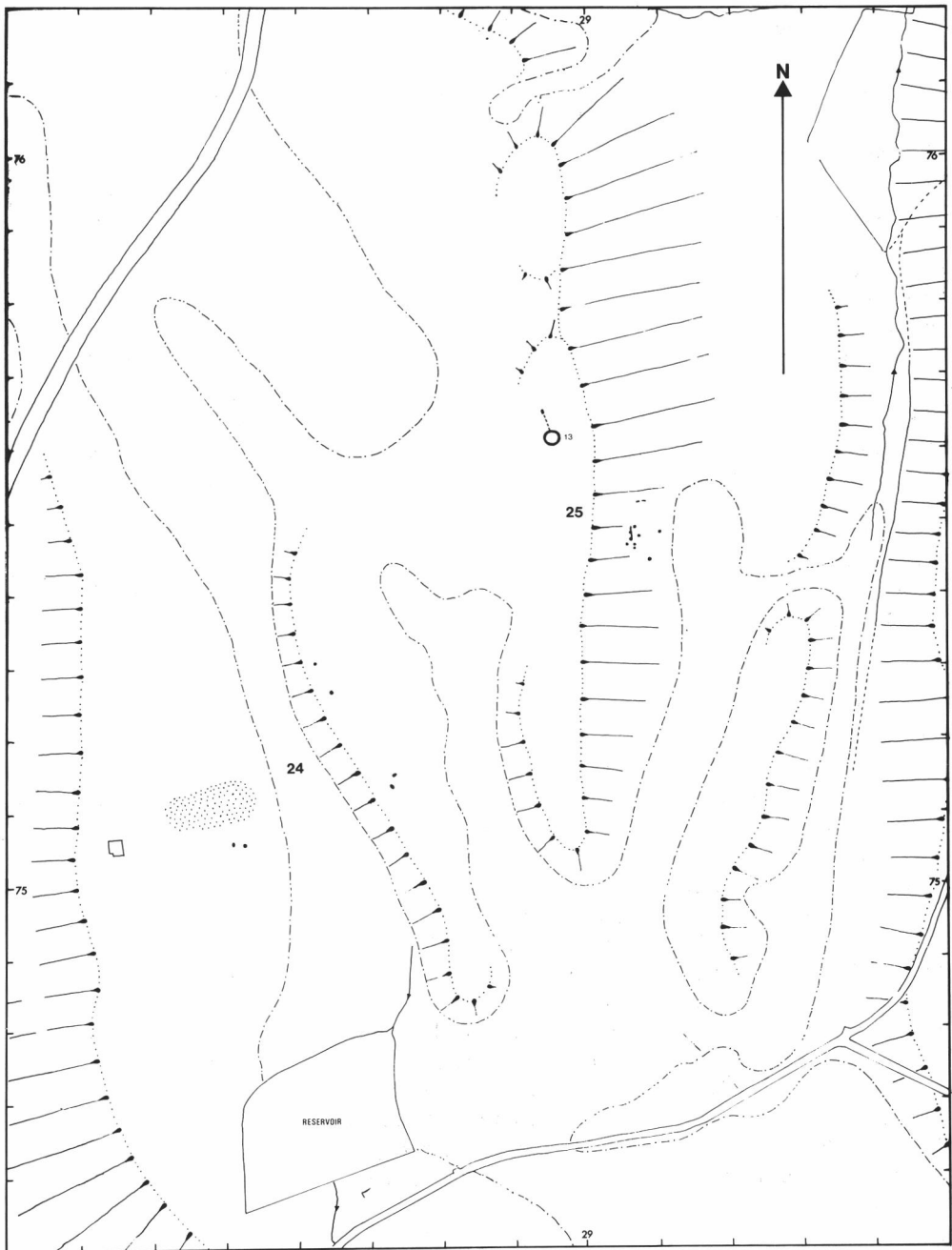


Fig 17 The caimfields at Ramsley Reservoir (24) and Ramsley Moor (25). (For key see Fig. 3.)

Caimfield 24: Ramsley Reservoir (Figs 12, 17; SK 287752)

On the crest of a low ridge to the north of Ramsley Reservoir are from three to four small cairns, 2.0m x 4.0-4.5m in diameter (SMR 8086). Below the ridge, a short distance away



Fig. 18 The Birchin Edge North cairnfield (26) and parts of Gardoms Edge.(For key see Fig. 3.)

to the west on a sheltered east facing slope, are two small cairns, respectively 3.5m x 2.5m and 5.0m x 2.5m in diameter. The surrounding area is relatively stone-free, and several stony patches may have been enhanced by small scale clearance (SMR 8087).

Cairnfield 25: Ramsley Moor (Figs 8, 12, 17; SK 291755)

On a moderate slope on the valley side to the east of Ramsley Moor is a small cleared area (SMR 8085) with from eight to ten small cairns, from 2.5 to 4.0 metres in diameter. Near its upper edge is a short bank to which are attached two small cairns. A short distance to the northwest of the cairnfield, on the moor above, is a probable ringcairn, 19.0m x 16.0m in internal diameter (Circle 13; SMR 8084, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). However, its bank is rather irregular, and there is the possibility it is a robbed cairn. Nearby to the north is a cairn, 4.5m x 2.5m in diameter, linked to the ring by a low lynchet (SMR 8083).

Cairnfield 26: Birchin Edge North (Figs 12, 18; SK 284736)

This cairnfield (SMR 1381) is situated on the well drained edge of the upper escarpment overlooking the Bar Brook valley. The main concentration of cairns is on the flat escarpment top. Here there are from fifteen to twenty small cairns, 1.5m x 1.5m to 7.5m x 5.0m in diameter. Two low parallel banks indicate that the area was farmed, and that co-axial fields may once have existed here. At the southwestern edge of the cairnfield is a low ringcairn 17.5m x 15.5m in internal diameter (Circle 14; SMR 1382, Radley 1966); to the northeast its bank is overlain by a cairn, 3.5m x 3.0m in diameter. On a shelf

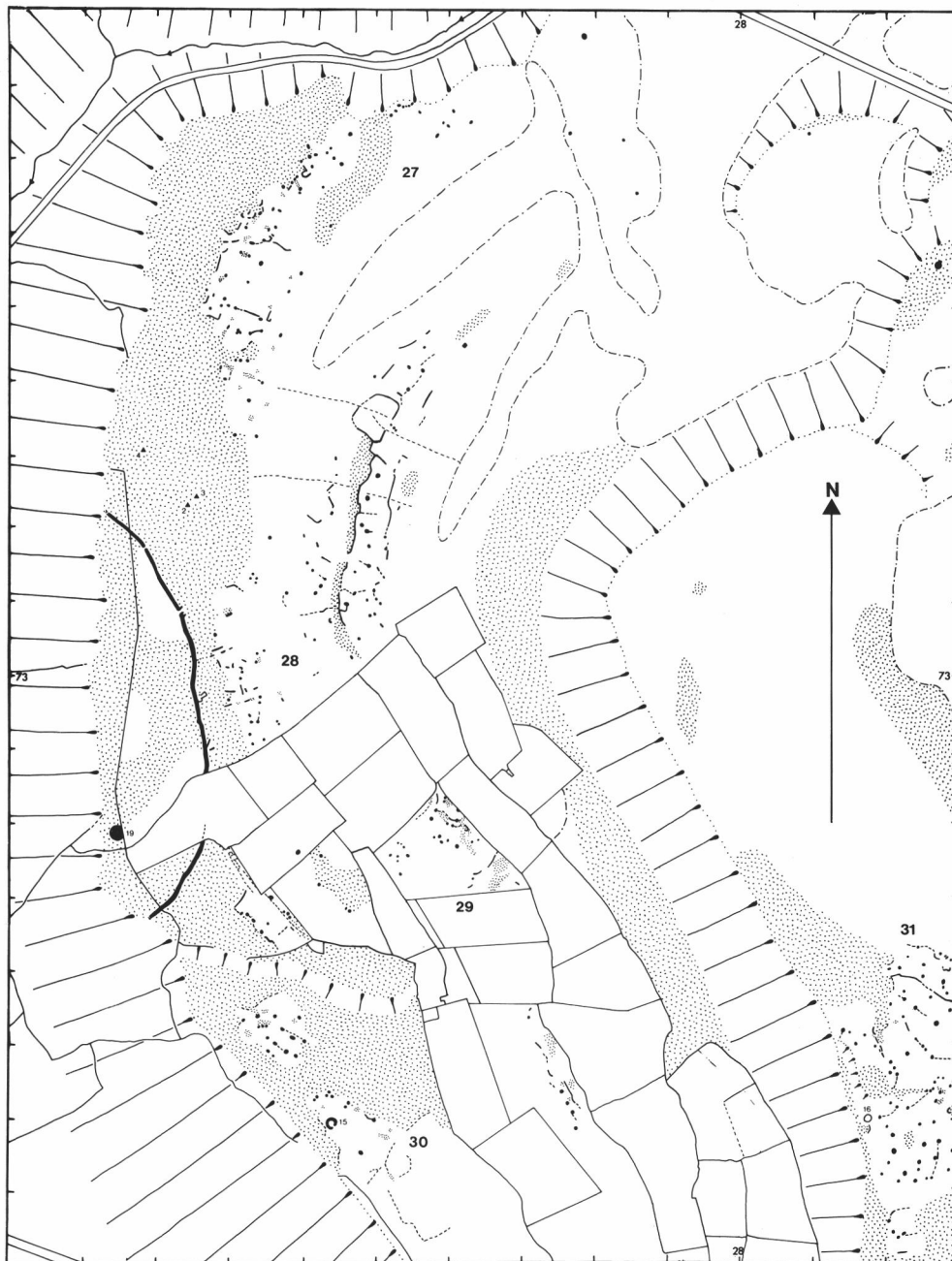


Fig. 19 The Gardoms Edge cairnfields: Northwest (27), Northeast (28), Southeast (29) and Southwest (30). (For key see Fig. 3.)

just below the escarpment top is a solitary cairn on uncleared land, 8.5 metres in diameter (SMR 1383). A low sub-rectangular platform, 2.0m x 1.0m, abuts its northeastern edge. Near the base of the escarpment, on two shelves, are a further three to five small cairns,

2.5m x 2.0m to 4.0m x 4.0m in diameter.

Cairnfield 27: Gardoms Edge Northwest (Figs 12, 18, 19; SK 273736)

This complex (SMR 1384, Beswick and Merrills 1983, Hart 1985a) is located on the main shelf near the northwestern corner of Gardoms Edge. It avoids the escarpment edge, which is particularly stony. There are several discontinuous stony banks which define at least four sub-rectangular fields arranged co-axially. Several smaller yards and very small sub-rectangular features also exist, particularly at the edge of the stone-littered escarpment top. Two of these have been misinterpreted as circular houses (Hart, 1985a). There are many cairns amongst the fields, often abutting the banks and hence suggesting chronological depth. The majority of the others are arranged symmetrically in relation to the field boundaries, indicating well planned field clearance in a grid-like pattern. This includes those cairns abutting the banks, and suggests a first phase of fields, with fences or hedges as boundaries, laid out before the banks. An exception to this pattern is along the northern edge where the cairns extend eastwards as an irregular cairnfield without banks. In total there are from 65 to 73 cairns, with diameters ranging from 1.0 to 7.0 metres.

Cairnfield 28: Gardoms Edge Northeast (Figs 12, 18, 19; SK 275732)

The topography of the Gardoms Edge shelf is analogous to that of Stoke Flat (Cairnfields 12, 13). There is a low, well drained ridge set back from the escarpment with extensive remains (SMR 1384, Feacham 1973, Beswick and Merrills 1983, Hart 1985a); and to the north poorly drained land lying between two cairnfields has no trace of sites. However, to the south, on the higher area of the shelf, the land is better drained and the dividing area was utilized. Further south still the cairnfield is truncated by intakes.

The ridge has at least ten sub-rectangular and irregular fields along its length. They differ from those along the escarpment edge (Cairnfield 27) in that they are smaller and not parallel along their longer axes. There is a small sub-rectangular yard within one of the fields. This has been misinterpreted as a circular house (Hart, 1985a). To the southwest are fragmentary banks which appear to define further fields and sub-rectangular yards. Overlying the prehistoric fields are two later east/west boundaries. The northern one is an unfinished drystone wall, now much ruined, which is probably nineteenth century in date; it has been misinterpreted as prehistoric (Hart, 1985a). The other is a curious bank and ditch, which again appears to be unfinished. Its orientation, parallel to the preceding feature, suggests that they are contemporary. Scattered amongst the fields are 50 to 58 small cairns, 1.0m x 1.0m to 6.5m x 5.5m in diameter. Two of those on the ridge are sub-rectangular rather than sub-circular in plan. The largest cairn on the ridge once incorporated a small boulder decorated with cup and ring art, now in Sheffield City Museum. To the southwest, at the edge of the fields, is a large highly decorated earthfast slab, the best example of this art style in the Peak (Barnatt and Reeder, 1982). The distribution of cairns within the fields is significant. Many of the larger ones are placed centrally within fields suggesting contemporary clearance, while others abut banks indicating chronological depth. Several small cairns cluster in relatively discrete groups, perhaps the result of differential use of individual fields.

Cairnfield 29: Gardoms Edge Southeast (Figs 12, 19, 20; SK 276727)

Unlike the north facing slopes of Gardoms Edge, the southern ones are virtually enclosed by later intakes. However, several small patches of prehistoric sites survive on the least useful and most stony areas. These are treated together here (SMR 1384). Undoubtedly the complex was originally more extensive than it is today, and probably covered most of the southern slopes of the shelf.

Near Gardoms Edge, just beyond the edge of improved pasture, is a small cleared area encroaching on the stony escarpment edge. It is partially defined by stony banks and by small cairns, creating a sub-rectangular field which appears to be prehistoric. Immediately to the east are the footings of medieval or early post-medieval buildings and a walled lane, both of which are overlain by the nineteenth century wall. Within the intake fields to the east is an uncleared stony area which has possibly been enhanced by clearance in four places. In the next field to the north is a possible ploughed-down barrow. Further east, on the southern continuation of the ridge on which Cairnfield 28 is situated, are prehistoric fragments in a field which has been only partially improved. Here there are short sinuous banks and from 11 to 23 small cairns surrounding naturally stony areas. Further down the ridge to the south are traces of sinuous banks and from four to five robbed cairns, lying amid the bell pits and spoil tips of early coal mines which inhibited nineteenth century agriculture. In total there are from 23 to 43 cairns with diameters ranging from 1.0 to 7.0 metres. Not enough data survive to determine the shape of the prehistoric fields.

Cairnfield 30: Gardoms Edge Southwest (Figs 12, 19, 20; SK 274724)

The top of Gardoms Edge is so boulder strewn that much of it is unsuitable for clearance. This inhibited later intake and hence the area has remained unenclosed. On the south facing slope there are two small patches of prehistoric clearance which have survived intact, surrounded on three sides by boulder strewn moorland (SMR 1384, Beswick and Merrills 1983). The northern patch accommodates sixteen small cairns, 2.0m x 2.0m to 6.0m x 4.0m in diameter. These are relatively equally spaced and appear to be clearance heaps. The area seems to be subdivided into three by two parallel lines of boulders linking cairns. The southern patch has from four to eight clearance cairns at its edge, as well as two short stretches of bank. There is also a centrally placed cairn which is somewhat larger than the rest. The cairns range from 1.5m x 1.5m to 5.5m x 4.0m in diameter. Near the western edge of the cleared area is a probable ringcairn (Circle 15; SMR 1389, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). This has an internal diameter of 11.5 metres and hence is small enough to be interpreted alternatively as a large circular house. There is an entrance downslope to the southeast. To the southeast of the cairns is a sub-rectangular field defined by low banks. This is much larger than the typical prehistoric field and the presence of narrow ridge and furrow suggests a medieval or post-medieval date (SMR 1390).

Cairnfield 31: Birchin Edge South (Figs 12, 19, 20; SK 282724)

Above Birchin Edge on the southeast facing slopes of the upper moor, overlooking the Heathy Lea Brook valley, is an intact field system surrounded on all sides by stony ground (SMR 1391, Beswick and Merrills 1983). The northern half comprises four to five parallel fields defined by discontinuous low banks and lines of small cairns. Several other cairns within these fields are arranged in grid-like patterns, suggesting that they are clearance heaps. Several of these abut banks indicating that they were built before the fields were defined by the banks. In the southern half virtually no banks are apparent. The cairns are again arranged in checkerboard fashion, suggesting that they relate to now vanished field boundaries. It is reasonable to suggest that originally the whole area was laid out in such fashion, but that in the northern half more permanent field boundaries were eventually built, in part at least following the earlier layout which may have been defined by hedges or fences. At the southern tip of the area are two smaller sub-rectangular fields or large yards. Near the northern edge of the area is a sinuous bank which could partially define another house site and yard. In total there are from 73 to 78 cairns with diameters ranging from 1.0 to 6.0 metres. Many of the larger ones have been robbed for stone, leaving only their rims. By the western margin of the cairnfield, near the escarpment



Fig. 20 The cairnfields at Birchin Edge South (31), Robin Hood Farm (32), and parts of Gardoms Edge. (For key see Fig. 3.)

edge, is a possible ringcairn (Circle 16; SMR 1392). This consists of a very low sub-circular bank, 10.5m x 8.0m in internal diameter. However, it could be just a fortuitous undulation in the natural surface. A short distance to the northeast of the cairnfield is a low standing stone (Stone 5; SMR 15808). It may be prehistoric; alternatively, it could be a packhorse guidestone.

Cairnfield 32: Robin Hood Farm (Figs 12, 20; SK 283720)

Further south on Birchin Edge, just outside later intake, is a small stone-free area containing a small cairn 6.0m x 4.5m in diameter; a possible second cairn, 2.0 metres in diameter, lies at its edge (SMR 1397). No doubt most prehistoric sites here were destroyed by the creation of intakes to the south. There are from three to six very small clearance cairns in the fields here, but their date is uncertain.

Cairnfield 33: Gibbet Moor West (Figs 12, 21; SK 280709)

This is one of the most extensive cairnfields in the Peak (SMR 1398). Only a small portion of it had been identified prior to 1983. It occupies the northeast facing slopes of the upper moors overlooking the Heathy Lea Brook valley. Much of the land by the escarpment edge has been enclosed by nineteenth century intakes, truncating the cairnfield to the west. This is confirmed in one field not fully cleared because of excessive stone, where there are several prehistoric features. All the well drained slopes on open moorland below 310 metres O.D. have been utilized, except where there is excessive surface stone.



Fig. 21 The cairnfields at Gibbet Moor West (33) and Gibbet Moor East (34). (For key see Fig. 3.)

There are between 210 and 246 cairns here, 1.0m x 1.0m to 10.0m x 6.0m in diameter. Many of these, particularly those in the southern half of the area, appear to be undisturbed, making them choice subjects for research excavation. Much of the area also contains

fragmentary banks and stretches of linear clearance, indicating farming and suggesting that many of the cairns may result from clearance. While taking into account some disturbance of the banks in certain areas by packhorse tracks, the definition of fields is clearly not as well developed as in the other large cairnfields immediately to the north. The exploitation of this north facing slope may therefore have been abandoned at an earlier date than that of more favourable locations. The discontinuous nature of the banks, which rarely define the full perimeter of a field, suggests that originally less permanent field boundaries also existed. In the northern part of the area, where there is more surface stone, the boundaries are at their most complete and here define irregularly shaped fields. Further south indications are that fields were sub-rectangular; there is also a small yard.

At the southern end of the cairnfield is a possible embanked stone circle, with an internal diameter of 13.0m x 10.5m (Circle 18; SMR 1400). One stone stands, and three others appear to define a narrow entrance to the south. However, the location, near the base of a low but steep slope, suggests that the site could be composed of peat covered boulders fortuitously positioned. Near the eastern edge of the cairnfield, on low-lying land, is a small setting of three vertical slabs in a crude square, 2.0m x 2.0m in plan (Circle 17; SMR 15801). This site could be a diminutive version of a 'four poster', an unusual form of stone circle (Burl, 1976). At the northeastern edge of the complex is a massive gritstone block, standing on its end, 1.2 metres high (Stone 6; SMR 15802). Another probable standing stone (Stone 7; SMR 15803) lies in the fields to the southwest, near the surviving cairns. It stands only 1.0 metre high, but erosion at its base has exposed what appear to be packing stones. Further south within the cairnfield, at the crest of a low ridge, are three rubble rings orientated NW/SE (Cairns 25-7; SMR 1399). These have been interpreted in the past as ringcairns (Radley, 1966; Marsden, 1977; Barnatt, 1978). However, the bank profiles (examined when the heather was burnt) suggest that they are extensively robbed cairns. All three have diameters of 13.0 to 12.5 metres. Their positioning on a ridge crest would originally have made them skyline features from much of the cairnfield to the north.

Cairnfield 34: Gibbet Moor East (Figs 12, 21; SK 284706)

To the east of Cairnfield 33, on the crest of a high ridge is a small cairnfield found in 1983 (SMR 15804). There are seven or eight cairns with diameters ranging from 3.0m x 3.5m to 9.0m x 9.0m. The three largest sites are badly disturbed. Three small cairns at the southern end of the group are intact. These are unusual in that each has a low kerb, is flat topped, and has a central fill of earth. These diminutive kerb-cairns, and the exposed location of the group as a whole, suggest that this cairnfield is funerary in character.

Other Sites

At Owl Bar at the eastern edge of the upper moors, on a flat shelf well below Cairnfield 17, is a large cairn, 16.0 metres in diameter (Figs 8, 14, Cairn 14; SMR 8078). It has been misinterpreted in the past as a ringcairn (Marsden, 1977) but its hummocky centre indicates a robbed cairn. It is located within intake and it would not be surprising if it was originally associated with a cairnfield as this is a suitable area for cultivation. On an east facing slope of the upper moors, overlooking Barbrook Reservoir, is a totally isolated small cairn, 3.0 metres in diameter (Fig. 8, Cairn 66; SMR 8081). Its date is questionable since it could be associated with small scale quarrying or packhorse tracks, both relatively close by. On Eaglestone Flat, well to the northeast of Cairnfield 19, is a badly damaged cairn just outside intake (Figs 12, 15, Cairn 67; SMR 4510). It was

discovered in 1984 by Nick Butcher, when a cordoned urn was noticed in the side of a recently cut drainage ditch, the upcast from which masked the cairn. It could be seen from the section that the urn was placed in a pit below a low cairn, 4.5 metres in diameter, somewhere near its centre. The urn contained a cremation; and a second pit with a cremation was also found in the section (K. Smith, *pers. comm.*). The proximity of this cairn to later intake suggests it is the last surviving remnant of a cairnfield in this area. Lithic scatters were found after three of these fields were ploughed in 1985 and then systematically walked as part of a project to study the distribution of prehistoric artefacts surviving in Derbyshire plough soils (J. Barnatt and A. Myers, in prep.). Well to the east of Cairnfield 26 is a possible earthen barrow, 10.5 metres in diameter (Fig. 12, Cairn 18; SMR 1207). It is located on the crest of a low ridge above Leash Fen. Its earthen construction raises some doubt as to its antiquity; it has been suggested it is a rabbit warren (C. Hart, SMR). The majority of the ridge is now enclosed by intake and any possible associated cairnfield has not survived. The field immediately north of the site was fieldwalked when ploughed in 1985; no artefact scatters were found.

At the crest of Gardoms Edge, a short distance from Cairnfields 27-30, is a large defended enclosure first noted by Butcher (Fig. 19, SMR 1386, Hart 1981, 1985a). This is defined by a massive rubble bank, now badly tumbled, 3.0 to 5.0 metres wide and up to 1.0 metre high. There are two breaks to the northeast which could be original entrances; at the larger of these the bank has out-turned terminals. The bank encloses the whole crest of the escarpment, with the latter acting as natural defence to the west. About 5.0 hectares are enclosed, but much of the interior is littered with boulders and only small areas are suitable for habitation. The date and function of this site are unknown. It may well date from the first millennium BC, but an earlier date, contemporary with the nearby cairnfields, should not be ruled out. They are the only associated sites and do not abut the walls only because the land here is excessively stony and was never suitable for clearance. The defences are relatively slight compared with many hillforts and may be better interpreted as forming a defended stock enclosure. Within the enclosure on the edge of the escarpment is a large cairn with a diameter of 17.5m x 17.0m (Figs 12, 19, Cairn 19; SMR 1396). At its summit are three modern cairns known as the Three Men of Gardoms. Just outside the enclosure to the northeast is a pair of standing stones orientated NE/SW (Fig. 19, Stones 2, 3; SMR 1385). The southwestern stone stands 1.95 metres high, the tallest surviving menhir on the East Moors. Its companion was noticed first in 1985. It is now leaning badly, at first sight indistinguishable from numerous naturally placed stones which litter the moor. However, it has a low stump adjacent to it and it once stood about 1.75 metres high. To the northwest of these two stones is a block, 0.5 metre high, which is a third possible standing stone (Stone 4). These stones were clearly visible from Cairnfields 27 and 28 before recent tree growth, and may well be associated with them.

On low-lying marshy ground to the east of Cairnfield 31 is a possible barrow, 10.5 metres in diameter (Figs 12, 20, Cairn 20; SMR 1391). There is little indication of any stone content. At its centre are three vertical slabs set well above ground level, which appear to be the remains of a cist, with an internal length of 0.7 metre. Further east, on the top of a low ridge, are the ruined remains of an isolated cairn, 12.0 metres in diameter (Figs 12, 20, Cairn 21; SMR 1394). This had its centre dug out earlier this century, when a collared urn and a shale disc were found in a cist. Three stones (possibly from the cist) were apparently decorated with cup and ring art; these cannot now be found (Barnatt and Reeder, 1982). On the next low ridge to the northeast of Cairn 21 is a small cairn, 6.0m x 3.0m in diameter (Figs 12, 20, Cairn 68; SMR 1395). There are nineteenth

century intakes nearby and this may be the last remnant of a cairnfield. Further south, next to the intake wall, is a second possible cairn (Figs 12, 20, Cairn 69; SMR 1396). This is very low and somewhat disturbed, with a diameter of 8.0 metres. It may be a fortuitous patch of stones. Among nineteenth century fields on a low ridge in the Heathy Lea Brook valley are vestiges of a large cairn called Stone Low (Figs 12, 20, Cairn 22; SMR 2301). This is virtually destroyed but appears to have had a diameter of about 30 metres. In 1830 the farmer found two large 'urns' with cremation and flints; one urn also contained a pygmy cup (Bateman, 1847). A carved stone was also found (Barnatt and Reeder, 1982).

In a totally isolated location on a ridge to the east of Cairnfield 33 is a cairn, 16.5m x 15.5m in diameter (Fig. 12, Cairn 23; SMR 2302). This was dug over in the mid-twentieth century and is now badly ruined. On a ridge top further to the southeast in the nineteenth century intakes of Rodknoll Farm is a badly ruined cairn (Fig. 12, Cairn 24; SMR 2303). This was excavated by Court in 1940, and by the Chesterfield Archaeological Group in 1953, but remains unpublished. It has been suggested that it is a ringcairn, but is more likely to be a robbed cairn. Another isolated cairn (Fig 12, Cairn 70; SMR 15805) is located in the upper Umberley Brook valley, well to the southeast of Cairnfields 33 and 34. It has a diameter of 6.0 metres.

There are several sites documented in the SMR which have been rejected here. Near the crest of White Edge cairns have been recorded at SK 267785 (SMR 7430), SK 26547771 (SMR 1364), SK 26837764 (SMR 1366), SK 26297589 (SMR 1373), SK 26327578 (SMR 1373) and a ringcairn at SK 26477751 (SMR 1365). All appear to be natural or debris from small scale quarrying. A large fortified enclosure identified at SK 26947564 from air photographs immediately east of Cairnfield 21 consists of fortuitous vegetational changes at the centre of a deep peat bog (SMR 1375). In 1895 it was recorded that a drainage trench cut on the southeast side of Leash Fen revealed 'The strongest marks of former cultivation and two stone circles and two rows of stone built barrows' (*Notts. Derbys. Notes* Vol.3, p.103). This obscure reference is best treated with extreme caution as no archaeologist appears to have seen the remains and it seems unlikely that so much could be seen in a narrow drainage trench. The only drain visible today is near the margin of the fen below a low but steep ridge. Perhaps what was seen was natural boulder tumble under the peat margin. A cairnfield of about 30 cairns has been recorded south of Cairnfield 33, centred at SK 283699. There is nothing here and this is probably a reference to part of Cairnfield 33 which has accidentally been given a spurious map reference. To the east, on Brampton East Moor, eight cairns have been recorded centred around SK 296695 (SMR 2334, Marsden 1977). Nothing is to be found there except old shooting butts and natural outcrops.

D: Southern Moors (Fig. 22)

In the northern half of this area the upper escarpment first turns to the southeast as Harland Edge (V), and then east, as Longside Moor (W), a high ridge which dips gently eastwards. South of Harland Edge the main shelf rises to become, in effect, the upper moors. A low shelf, which starts further north, near Chatsworth, also rises as it comes south and becomes the main shelf.

The upper moors in the northern half of the area are relatively high, being over 350 metres O.D. No cairnfields are to be found, but there is a thin scatter of cairns, presumably funerary in character (Cairns 31, 72-79). The architecture of some of the sites in this vicinity is also unusual (Cairns 72, 75; also nearby Cairn 30). However, explanations of these localized variations are not known. The main shelf is slightly higher here than immediately to the north, being between 250 and 300 metres O.D. The slope is northwest

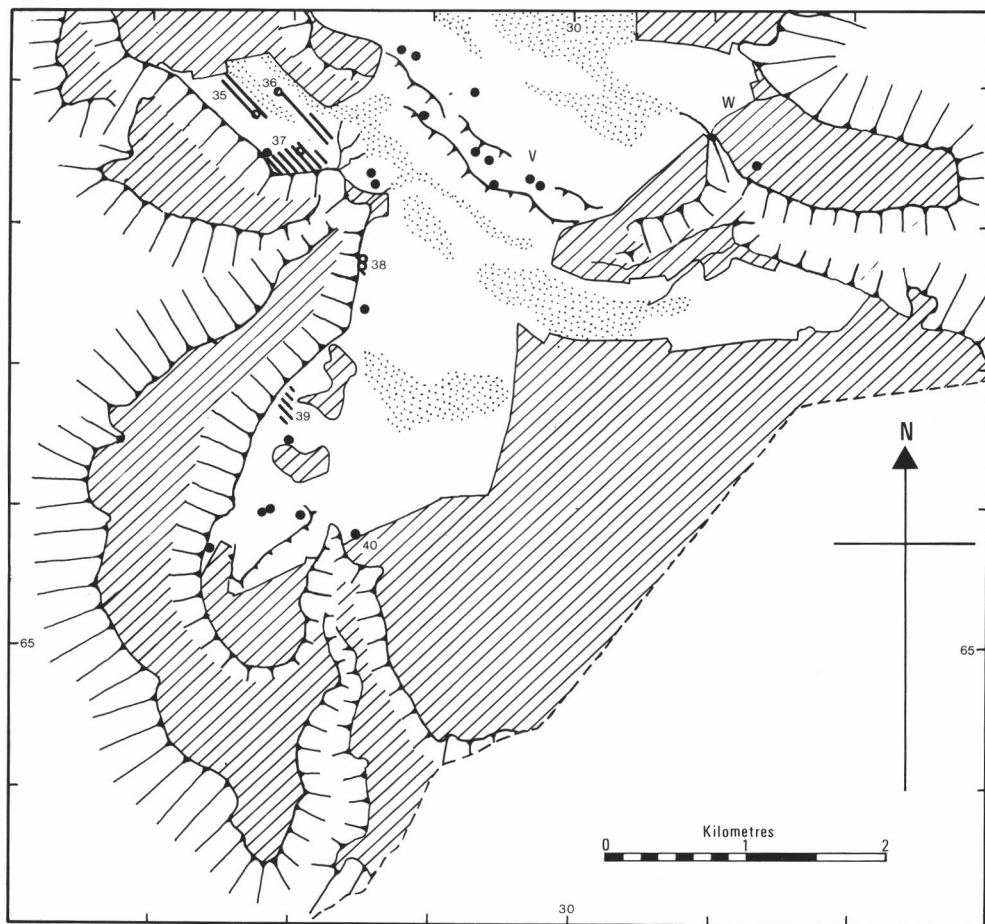


Fig. 22 The distribution of bronze age sites on the southern moors of the study area. (For key see Fig. 2.)

facing, inhibiting intake and hence promoting the survival of cairnfields (35, 36, 37). These, as usual, occupy the best drained land and avoid areas between low ridges.

South of Harland Edge, as the shelf rises to become the upper moor, there are no extensive cairnfields and this area must have remained open pasture. Only one very small settlement area exists on the north facing slopes, located on a sheltered shelf at the escarpment edge (Cairnfield 38). Near the crest of the south facing slopes is a small group of cairns (Cairnfield 39). Its unusual architecture and the exposed location suggest that it is purely funerary in character. Evidence for settlement can be predicted on the lower shelves further south around the 300m contour. However, much of this area has been enclosed by nineteenth century intakes and only a handful of small cairns survives beyond the boundaries of these (Cairns 82-85). Cairnfields may once have existed, as is hinted in the documentation of sites now destroyed (Cairnfield 40).

The shelf below the southern upper moor has an altitude of between 200 and 300 metres O.D. and has been totally enclosed. Presumably extensive bronze age cairnfields once existed. The eastern edge of the upper moors has also been extensively enclosed

and hence assessment of bronze age activity here is not possible.

South of the boundary of the study area the gritstone moors have been virtually fully enclosed, either by intakes on the more sheltered areas or by afforestation on the moor tops. Undoubtedly prehistoric settlement took place although no monuments appear to survive. Hints of this are provided by documentation of destroyed sites such as the Seven Brideron stone circle and associated cairns on Matlock Moor which survived until at least the late eighteenth century.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 35: Beeley Warren Northwest (Figs 22, 23; SK 277688)

This cairnfield (SMR 1440, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983) is located on the northeast facing slope of a low ridge immediately east of the main escarpment. It contains between 45 and 52 small cairns with diameters ranging from 1.5m x 1.5m to 6.0m x 7.5m. Fragmentary banks suggest that these are clearance heaps. At the southeastern end of the ridge is a small ringcairn (Circle 19; SMR 1441, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978), the unbroken bank of which has an internal diameter of 7.0 metres.

Cairnfield 36: Beeley Warren Northeast (Figs 22, 23; SK 282687)

On a low narrow ridge to the east of Cairnfield 35 and separated from it by a marshy area is a second cairnfield (SMR 1440, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983). This consists of a linear band of cairns following the crest of the ridge. It contains 29 cairns, with diameters ranging from 1.5 to 4.0 metres. The irregular nature of the cairns, and an associated low bank, suggest that they are clearance heaps. At the lower, northwestern end of the ridge there is a possible ringcairn (Circle 20; SMR 1443), 6.0 metres in internal diameter. This is covered with well established bracken, and the resulting mould makes interpretation difficult; it could be a robbed cairn.

Cairnfield 37: Beeley Warren South (Figs 22, 23; SK 281684)

On the flat shelf by the escarpment edge is a third cairnfield (SMR 1440, Hart 1981, Beswick and Merrills 1983). In its western half are four narrow co-axial fields defined by sinuous banks. In contrast, the eastern half has sub-rectangular fields, one of which has a rectangular yard attached. There are indications to the west of chronological depth. Running parallel to the escarpment are two fragments of bank and a line of cairns, which suggests a robbed field boundary of the eastern type. Scattered amongst the fields here and to the north are from 42 to 44 cairns, with diameters ranging from 1.5m x 1.5m to 8.0m x 5.5m. One of these was destroyed recently by the construction of a fire break. Several abut banks suggesting chronological depth. Others are placed centrally within fields, suggesting contemporary clearance. At the northern edge of the cairnfield is an embanked stone circle (Circle 21; SMR 1445, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). It has a ring of from ten to fourteen orthostats, 11.5 metres in diameter; the four smallest stones might be alternatively interpreted as a ruined kerb. The largest upright stands to the south and may be cupmarked. The stones appear to be crudely graded in height, with the largest to the south and smallest to the north. To the east the bank is overlain by a cairn, 2.5m x 3.0m in diameter. In the centre is a second ruined cairn, 5.0 metres in diameter, which was badly disturbed earlier this century. Five stones remain of a kerb of inwardly sloping slabs.

A short distance to the west of the cairnfield is a ruined cairn (Cairn 28; SMR 1444), 20.0 metres in diameter. It has been misinterpreted as a ringcairn (Radley 1966, Marsden 1977) but its raised hummocky centre indicates that it has been robbed. One side was recently removed in the creation of the fire break mentioned above. Beyond a small

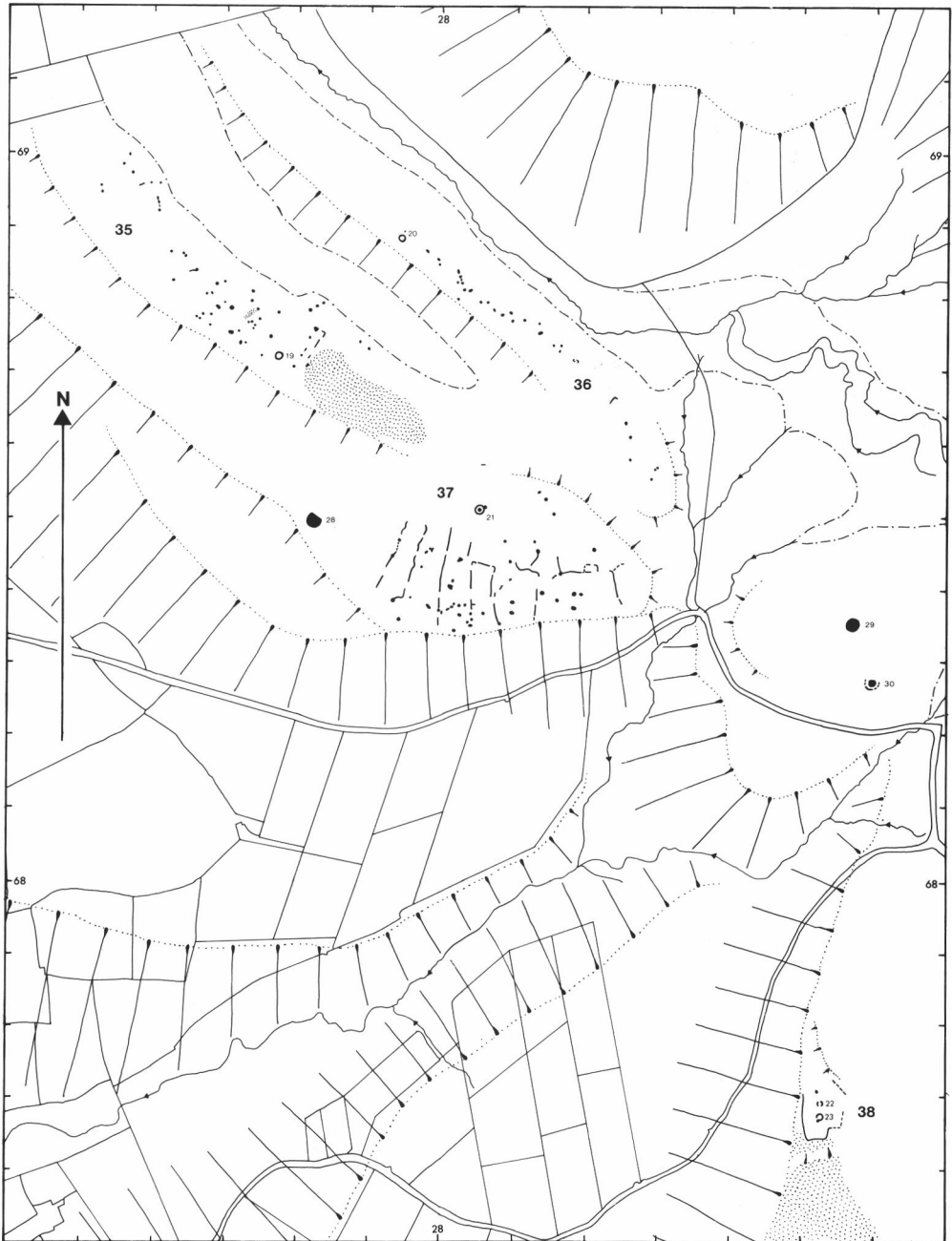


Fig. 23 The Beeley Warren cairnfields: Northwest (35), Northeast (36) and South (37) and the Beeley Moor cairnfield (38). (For key see Fig. 3.)

stream to the east of the cairnfield are two further large cairns. The more northerly (Cairn 29; SMR 1446) has a diameter of 20.0m x 18.0m. It has been interpreted as a ringcairn (Radley 1966, Marsden 1977, Barnatt 1978). However, inspection after the

removal of bracken revealed an irregular interior. This, and the bank profile with its steep inner edge, indicate a robbed cairn. Nearby to the southeast is a more intact cairn with a central disturbance (Cairn 30; SMR 1446). It is 1.0 metre high, and appears to be sub-square in plan, with dimensions of 11.5m x 11.0m. There are traces of a low penannular bank, best preserved to the southwest; a packhorse track has destroyed it to the north. This varies from 1.0 to 2.5 metres in width, and externally is about 22.0 metres from east to west. It is unclear whether these sites are cairns lying outside Cairnfield 37 or the remains of its continuation on this section of the shelf. The area near the escarpment has been afforested and the open moor is heavily disturbed by packhorse tracks, bell pits and quarrying. Several of the bell pits and associated spoil tips have in the past been mistakenly interpreted as ringcairns and cairns (SMR 1447).

Cairnfield 38: Beeley Moor (Figs 22, 23; SK 285677)

Situated on a small shelf at the escarpment edge is an enclosure, partially defined by a low bank (SMR 1451, Radley 1965). Within this area are two possible ringcairns and two small cairns. The more southerly of the rings was excavated by Radley in 1964 (Circle 23; SMR 1459, Radley 1965). It has an internal diameter of only 6.0m x 5.0m, and there is a possible entrance to the southwest. One of the small cairns overlay the bank to the south. Near its centre was a possible cist, containing only a single undiagnostic sherd of prehistoric pottery. Against the inner edge of the ringcairn to the north was a second possible cist which was also empty. Radley concluded that because of the lack of cremations the site was more likely to be a house. However, there was no occupation debris and, if the 'entrance' is interpreted as robbing to build the cairn, the ring may originally have been continuous. A kerbstone across the inner edge of the entrance suggests that this is the case. The interpretation of this site must remain open. The other ringcairn (Circle 22; SMR 1458, Radley 1965) is poorly preserved with two breaks in the circuit. It has an internal diameter of 5.0m x 4.0m. A trench was cut across it by Radley, but the only feature was a patch of burnt soil.

On higher land a short distance to the south of the enclosure is a small but prominent cairn (Cairn 71; SMR 1452), 8.0m x 7.5m in diameter. Its weathered stones distinguish it from quarry spoil tips nearby. These tips, and several small boles, have been misinterpreted as cairns in the past.

Cairnfield 39: Ravens Tor (Figs 22, 24; SK 279667)

This small cairnfield on the southfacing slopes of Ravens Tor has recently been surveyed by the Hunter Archaeological Society (SMR 1453). It is located in a relatively stone-free area next to the escarpment. Extensive quarrying nearby may have destroyed further remains. There are from twelve to fourteen cairns in the group with diameters ranging from 3.0m x 2.0m to 8.0m x 7.5m.

The three largest cairns are joined together in an east/west line, and were excavated by Radley in 1967 (SMR 1454, Radley 1969). The easternmost cairn was defined by a kerb 7.5m x 7.0m in diameter. Its centre had been disturbed but scattered remains of a cremation and a cordoned urn were found. A secondary cremation and urn sherds were found intact in the rubble of the cairn. A collared urn was removed from the site by Gregory in 1963. Abutting the kerb to the southeast was a crude cist which was empty. The central cairn had an external diameter of 8.0m x 6.0m. It had two kerbs set about 1.0 metre apart, which changed angle as they approached and abutted the cairn to the east, indicating that they postdated it. It is possible that the central cairn was built initially as an open ringcairn and later filled in. According to the published sections, the rubble-fills in the outer ring and the

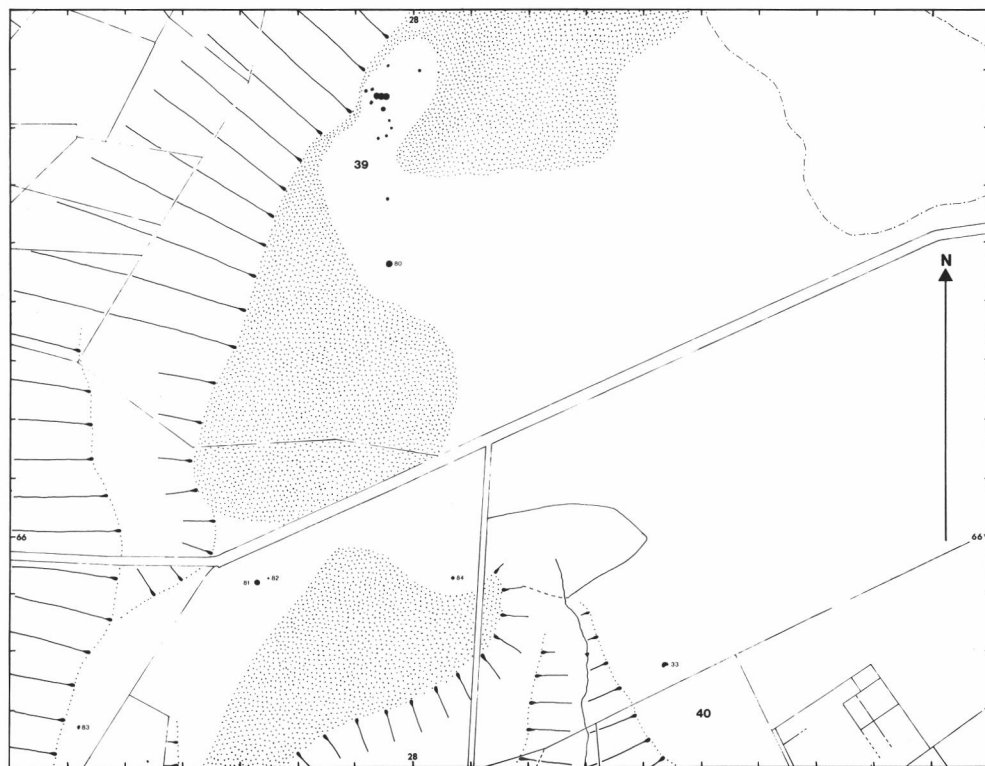


Fig 24 The cairnfields at Ravens Tor (39) and Woodbrook Quarry (40). (For key see Fig. 3.).

centre differed from each other in character; the former had randomly placed stone while the fill of the latter was of carefully laid horizontal slabs. The centre of this middle cairn was also badly disturbed. A ruined cist was found, and nearby was a disturbed cremation and sherds of a cordoned urn in a modern paper bag. The shape of the western cairn indicated that it postdates the central cairn. It too was defined by a kerb, with a diameter of 8.0m x 7.5m. A medieval bole had been inserted into its western edge. Its centre was less disturbed than those of its neighbours. Here there was a crude cist containing a disturbed cremation with a cordoned urn. Nearby in a pit in the subsoil was a second disturbed cremation with a collared urn. A third cremation in a collared urn had been inserted into the cairn southwest of the centre. Outside the kerb to the northeast a biconical urn containing charcoal had been inverted in a small pit. Also outside the kerb, but to the southwest, further urn sherds were found. At the northern junction between the western and central cairns a small rectangular enclosure or platform had been built; under this was a cremation accompanied by a broken urn which has affinities with a food vessel but may well be a cordoned urn.

Radley also excavated a small rectangular cairn just to the northwest of the triple cairn (SMR 1456, Radley 1969). This measured 3.0m x 2.0m and was defined by a crude kerb. Under the cairn was a cremation accompanied by a segmented faience bead. To the southwest of the triple cairn is a second rectangular cairn, measuring 4.0m x 2.5m. Three other cairns in the group, with diameters of 3.0 to 3.5 metres, have circular stone kerbs and flat topped earthen interiors and are similar to those described in Cairnfield 34. The high exposed location and the unusual nature of several of the sites in this cairnfield

suggest that it is primarily funerary in character.

Near the cairnfield to the south is a cairn, 8.0m x 7.5m in diameter (Cairn 80; SMR 1457). It is very near extensive quarrying and has been somewhat disturbed. It has a fine cist built of six slabs exposed at the centre; the capstone is missing. There are traces of two further possible cists elsewhere in the mound.

Cairnfield 40: Woodbrook Quarry (Figs 22, 24; SK 285657)

On a shelf by the escarpment edge above Halldale Brook, a ringcairn and four small cairns were noted before they were destroyed in 1962 by afforestation (SMR 9802). These could have been part of a larger cairnfield that went unrecorded. The ringcairn (Circle 24; SMR 9801) was described as a disc barrow, 11.0 metres in diameter with a number of upright stones in the bank (whether these were kerbstones or orthostats was not specified) and a central mound. It is uncertain if this was a genuine ringcairn or a robbed cairn. Near the site of the cairnfield, but beyond the intake wall to the northwest on the upper moor, are traces of a large cairn (Cairn 33; SMR 9828), about 10.0 metres in diameter. Over half the site has been removed, presumably to build the wall nearby.

Other Sites

On Harland Edge, high above and to the east of Cairnfields 35-38, is a series of scattered cairns. On the crest itself, but just out of sight from below, is Hob Hurst's House (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 72; SMR 1413, Bateman 1861). This unusual site consists of a sub-rectangular central cairn, 8.0m x 7.5m in plan and just under 1.0m high. At its centre is a rectangular setting of contiguous orthostats, five of which still stand. The internal dimensions of this arrangement of stones are 3.0m x 2.0m, and it is about 0.3m deep, although presumably it has filled up since excavated by Bateman in 1853. In the interior of the setting he found extensive traces of burning, and in the southeastern corner a small arc of stones surrounding a cremation and two pieces of galena. The northern end produced further fragments of bone. Surrounding the cairn is a deep ditch and low outer bank. Both are rectangular, with rounded corners. The dimensions of the bank at its crest are 15.0m x 17.0m. The outer edge is indistinct; it measures about 19.0m x 19.5m. The bank and ditch are disturbed to the north where a packhorse track cuts the bank and follows the ditch along its northern side. The ditch is surprisingly steep-sided for a prehistoric monument. However, Bateman's pre-excavation drawing shows it in exactly the same state as it is today, indicating that it was not cleared out by him. It is presumably rock cut and some explanation for its profile is provided on the southern half of the mound, where recent erosion has revealed what appears to be a stone retaining wall at the outer edge of the cairn. A short distance to the southeast is a probable cairn, 3.0 metres in diameter (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 73; SMR 1449). Much further away in this general direction, on the northeast facing dip slope, is an isolated cairn, 4.5 metres in diameter (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 74; SMR 1449). This has had a shooting butt built into one side.

On a narrow shelf just below the crest of Harland Edge are several cairns. Near the northwestern end is a large cairn, 18.5m x 17.5m in diameter (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 31; SMR 1411, Riley 1966). This was excavated in 1961-2 by Riley. The cairn was demarcated by one or two incomplete kerbs and had been disturbed at the centre. In the disturbed material were found burnt bones, sherds from two food vessels, a collared urn, a cordoned urn and a leaf-shaped arrowhead. On the old ground surface at the centre were traces of burning and a scatter of burnt human bones representing several individuals. Also in



Fig. 25 The scattered cairns on Harland Edge. (For key see Fig. 3.)

this area were three pits. The deepest was a 2.0m deep rock cut grave. At its base was the stain of a crouched skeleton, and a flint fabricator; charcoal found throughout the fill gave a date of 1750 ± 150 bc (BM 178). The other two pits were shallow. One contained a large cremation of two or more individuals, with a food vessel inverted over it. It yielded a date of 1490 ± 150 bc (BM 178). Sherds of a second food vessel and three plano-convex flint knives accompanied the deposit. The pit was sealed by a boulder. The second shallow pit contained burnt bones and an inverted food vessel. At the base of the mound was a cremation with an inverted collared urn and two plano-convex knives and a side scraper. The presence of two possible kerbs and multiple deposits suggest the possibility that the cairn was constructed in more than one phase; unfortunately, the central disturbance prevented the full investigation of this hypothesis.

Some distance along the shelf to the southeast is a very unusual cairn, sited below the steep upper section of the escarpment (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 75; SMR 1450). It is oval in shape with a diameter of 7.5m x 5.0m, and has traces of a low kerb. This kerb rises in height to the northeast and southwest, to where there are two entrances to a central area. Each entrance is defined by two radially set portal stones, which originally stood between 0.8 and 1.1 metre high. The flat central area is somewhat ruined but appears to have been boat shaped, 5.0 metres long from entrance to entrance and about 3.0 metres wide. It is defined on the southern side by a contiguous line of orthostats standing 0.4 to 0.6 metre high. Presumably a similar setting to the north has been robbed. This site is apparently unique.

A short distance to the southeast is a cairn, 4.5 metres in diameter (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 76; SMR 1449). Much further southeast in a similar location are two further cairns, 4.5m and 5.0m x 3.5m in diameter respectively (Figs 22, 25, Cairns 78/79; SMR 1449). Between the two groups, but at the edge of the shelf, is a fifth cairn, 4.0 metres in diameter, with traces of a kerb (Figs 22, 25, Cairn 77; SMR 1449). Much further east on the flat topped ridge of Longside Moor is a badly ruined cairn, 13.5 metres in diameter (Fig. 22, Cairn 32; SMR 14608). It could be a ringcairn with a central cairn, but is probably better interpreted as a robbed cairn.

On the shelf above Falling Edge are four small cairns. There is a rubble ring, 8.0 metres in diameter, located in the centre of the shelf on undisturbed moorland (Figs 22, 24, Cairn 81; SMR 9808). This could be a ringcairn but is more likely to be a robbed cairn. Nearby to the east is a very low cairn with a diameter of 2.0 metres (Figs 22, 24, Cairn 82; SMR 9808). This would have gone unrecognized if the heather had not been burnt off; the possibility of other diminutive cairns nearby comprising a small cairnfield should not, therefore, be overlooked. This area has far fewer larger surface stones than usual, and clearance would result in heaps of fist sized stones. To the southwest is another small cairn, 5.0m x 2.5m in diameter (Figs 22, 24, Cairn 83; SMR 9827). Neighbouring intakes may have destroyed further evidence for a cairnfield. To the east of Cairn 81 is another small cairn, 5.0 metres in diameter (Figs 22, 24, Cairn 84; SMR 9826); its centre has been removed.

E: Northwestern Moors (Fig. 26A)

These moors form the largest of the isolated blocks of gritstone moorland to the west of the river Derwent. The area measures 6.0km x 4.0km, and has steep edges dropping to valleys below on all four sides. It is deeply cut from the east by Highlow Brook (B) and its tributary Bretton Brook (A), whose steep sided valleys effectively divide the moorland into three zones.

The northern area is a compact block of unenclosed moorland, divided by parish boundaries into Offerton Moor, Highlow Moor and Abney Moor. It is at its lowest, at just over 300 metres O.D., at its easternmost shelves where intact cairnfields indicate extensive utilization (Cairnfields 41, 42, 43, 44). To the west the moor rises gradually to a height of over 400 metres. Here there are no cairnfields and the area was probably open pasture in the Bronze Age. To the extreme west of the moor, below Shatton Edge, is a narrow shelf, at 350-400 metres O.D. Despite its high altitude and northerly aspect it was utilized in the Bronze Age (Cairnfield 45). However, nineteenth century enclosure destroyed the prehistoric remains.

The central zone is generally lower than the other two. To the east around Abney (C) are extensive well drained gentle slopes between 300 metres and 350 metres O.D. These have been wholly enclosed, and there is evidence of extensive farming from at least as early as medieval times onwards. It is likely that these areas were also the focal point of bronze age activity in the northwestern moors, but virtually nothing survives. To the west the land rises steeply, reaching an altitude of over 400 metres O.D. It is devoid of cairnfields and was again probably open pasture in the Bronze Age.

The southern zone is the largest of the three and has the most complex topography. It is similar to the other areas in that its eastern side is the lower, at 250-350 metres O.D. Here, in the northeast, an extensive cairnfield survives on the most favourable shelves (Cairnfield 46). Further south other land at this altitude was enclosed in the nineteenth century, probably destroying extensive cairnfields. Some documentary evidence of this is provided by the destroyed sites at Top of Riley (Cairnfield 50). To the west these gentle east facing

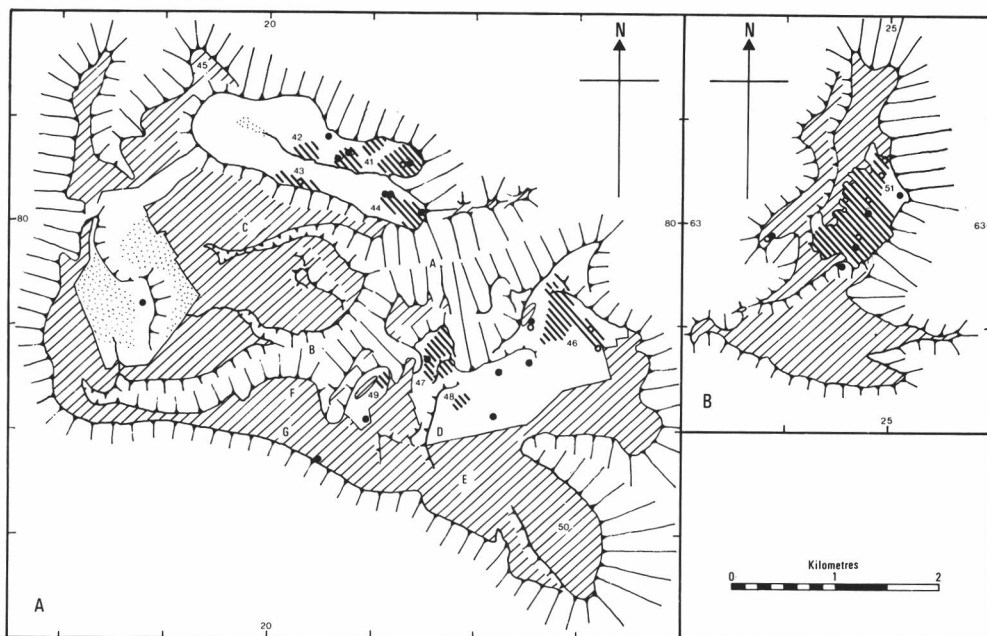


Fig. 26 The distribution of bronze age sites on the northwestern moors (A) and Stanton Moor (B). (For key see Fig. 2.)

slopes rise to Sir William Hill (D), at over 400 metres O.D. On the upper slopes above 350m there is little evidence for settlement. The exception to this is a small cairnfield tucked into a particularly sheltered spot with a southeast aspect (Cairnfield 48). The high slopes to the southeast around Ladywash Mine (E) have been enclosed because of their favourable aspect, and cairnfields may once have also existed here.

To the north and west of Sir William Hill is a series of three small north facing shelves, all around 350 metres O.D. Two of these, at Stanage and Jubilee Plantation, have small cairnfields (Cairnfields 47, 49). The third and largest around Nether Bretton (F) has been enclosed and documentary evidence shows it has been farmed since at least medieval times. Presumably this was also utilized in the Bronze Age. It is unclear if prehistoric farming would have extended as far south as the higher crest of Eyam Edge (G).

The cairnfields in the northwestern moors as a whole have under-developed field banks, which could suggest that they were exploited for a shorter period than others elsewhere on the East Moors. This could be explained by the high altitude of those in the northern zone, and the north facing aspects of those in the southern zone. Longer utilization may well have taken place in those more favourable areas, enclosed today.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 41: Offerton Moor East (Figs 26, 27; SK 211806)

This cairnfield (SMR 11106) is located on the shelf at the lower eastern end of Offerton Moor. It was planned in 1981-2 by Roddie Perrett (Hunter Society Archives). There are from 27 to 29 small cairns in two clusters, separated by a small boulder strewn area. Their diameters range from 1.5 to 7.0 metres. Fragmentary banks in the western area suggest that at least some of the cairns are clearance heaps. Several of the cairns here were dug by

Pennington in the 1870s, but only a few flints and sherds were noted (Pennington, 1877).

Near the eastern end of the cairnfield is a large ringcairn (Circle 25; SMR 11107, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978), with an internal diameter of 23.0m x 18.5m. A break in the bank to the south appears to be the result of disturbance, not an entrance. In 1761 Pegge noted that 'on Offerton Moor was a large circle of stones whereof some stood on end' (Rooke, 1783). The ringcairn is the most likely identification of this now destroyed circle; the stones may have been removed and broken up when a nearby drystone wall was built. Close to the ringcairn to the east is a large cairn (Cairn 34; SMR 11108) with a diameter of 16.0 metres. A shooting butt has been built into its southern edge. It has been misinterpreted as a ringcairn (Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). However, its somewhat irregular interior and distinctive bank profile, with a steep inner face, indicate that it is a robbed cairn. At the western edge of the cairnfield are two large cairns. The northeastern (Cairn 35; SMR 11109) has a diameter of 13.0m x 10.0m; the southwestern (Cairn 36; SMR 11110) has one of 12.5m x 11.5m. The latter was dug in 1862 by Bagshawe, who found burnt bones, charcoal and a flint arrowhead.

Cairnfield 42: Offerton Moor West (Figs 26, 27; SK 203807)

To the west of Cairnfield 41 on a sheltered southeast facing slope is a small cairnfield discovered in 1983 (SMR 11106). There are from five to eight small cairns here, with diameters ranging from 2.0 to 4.0 metres. Their sheltered location suggests they could be clearance cairns.

Cairnfield 43: Smelting Hill (Figs 26, 27; SK 204804)

At the other side of Siney Sitch from Cairnfield 42, on the crest of the gentle northeast facing slopes of Smelting Hill, is a larger cairnfield (SMR 16). The whole area has been badly disturbed by small scale quarrying, and some sites may have been destroyed. Between eleven and fifteen small robbed cairns, ranging in diameter from 3.0 to 7.0 metres survive in two groups. The western group is associated with short fragments of bank, suggesting that it comprises clearance cairns. Nearby there is also an 8.5m long platform terraced into the slope, which may be a house site of unknown date. Between the two groups are wall footings of an angular enclosure which cuts off the eastern end of a narrow shelf. This is unlikely to be prehistoric and could be a medieval or early post-medieval sheep pound. A similar platform and enclosure exist further east, centred round SK 209800. There is a ruined embanked stone circle between the two groups of cairns on a gentle east facing slope (Circle 26; SMR 09, Radley 1966). All that remains is a low arc of bank with an internal diameter c. 7.5 metres, with one low orthostat and a fallen stone. When first visited by Pegge in 1761 there were nine large stones standing equidistantly spaced; by 1783 only four survived on the inner edge of a rubble bank, with an entrance to the north (Rooke 1783, Rooke notebooks — Sheffield City Museum). By the late nineteenth century two more of the stones had been removed.

Cairnfield 44: Highlow Moor (Figs 26, 27; SK 213801)

This cairnfield (SMR 7805) lies further east than Cairnfield 43, on the shelf at the eastern tip of the moor. It is located within a nineteenth century intake which has been only partially improved. An unpublished plan was completed in 1981 by Roddie Perrett (Hunter Society Archives). There are from 31 to 33 small cairns with diameters ranging from 2.0m x 2.0m to 10.0m x 4.5m. They are for the most part situated on the northern crest of the spur; to the southwest later improvement of pasture has destroyed all but a handful of ruined sites. Near the edge of this area is a massive bank and lynchet, the origins of which could be either prehistoric or medieval. At the eastern end of the cairnfield is a large ring of rubble, 17.5 metres in diameter, with a break to the northeast (Cairn 41; SMR 7807).



Fig. 27 The cairnfields at Offerton Moor East (41), Offerton Moor West (42) Smelting Hill (43) and Highlow Moor (44). (For key see Fig. 3.)

the cairnfield is a large cairn (Cairn 39; SMR 7803), 19.0m x 17.5m in diameter and about 1.0m high. Its centre and western side have been robbed, and the intake wall clips the west edge. Joined to the eastern side of this cairn is a second low cairn (Cairn 40; SMR 7803), 11.0m x 10.5m in diameter, also with a robbed centre. Further to the west is a possible standing stone (Stone 8; SMR 7806). This is a slab, 1.2 metres high, located at the junction of two later intake walls. Simple crosses carved on each face suggest that it could be a later boundary stone.

Cairnfield 45: Shatton Edge (Fig.26; SK 19.81.)

Nothing now survives of this cairnfield which was located on a wide shelf near the northwestern tip of Abney Moor (SMR 2618). The area was enclosed in 1850 and is now improved pasture. Bateman noted 'numerous barrows on Shatton Edge overlooking Castleton and Hope' (Bateman, 1848)

Cairnfield 46: Eyam Moor (Figs 26, 28; SK 229791)

This extensive cairnfield (SMR 5473) is located on low north and east facing shelves at the northeastern end of Eyam Moor. Although known for some years, surprisingly it has not been adequately planned until now. There are between 77 and 96 small cairns, ranging in diameter from 1.5 to 6.5 metres, scattered amongst which are from five to six stretches of linear clearance and a single rubble bank, suggesting that some cairns at least are clearance heaps. In the eighteenth century one was dug by Oxley, who found an 'urn' and amber beads (Pegge, 1785); and in 1827-8, Mitchell and Bird opened several cairns and found

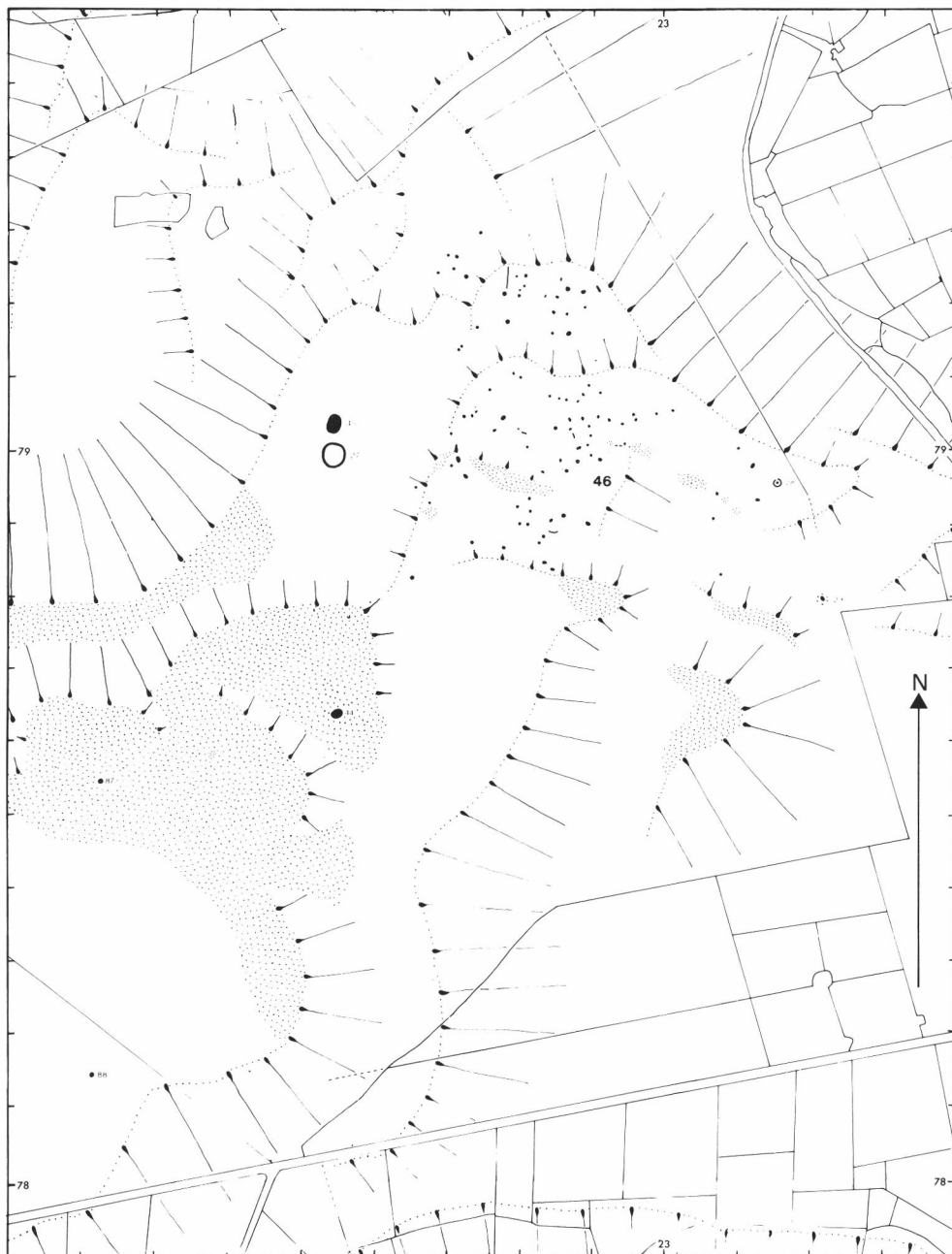


Fig 28 The Eyam Moor cairnfield (46). (For key see Fig 3.)

over 28 'urns' and burnt bones (Bateman, 1848).

A short distance to the west of the cairnfield, on a slightly lower shelf, is Wet Withens. This embanked stone circle (Circle 27; SMR 5452, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978) is the

largest on the gritstone moors, with an internal diameter of 31.0m x 30.0m. Today there are from ten to eleven low orthostats, most of which lean inwards. In 1842 there were sixteen stones (Wood, 1842) and originally there must have been between sixteen and eighteen. Several authors have remarked the presence here of a central cairn and an upright stone. However, there is no mention of these in the earliest accounts of the site. Immediately north of the circle is a large ruined cairn (Cairn 43; SMR 5442). Today this has a diameter of 27.5m x 15.0m, but upcast to one side may have substantially distorted its shape. In the late-eighteenth or early-nineteenth century a cremation, an 'urn', a 'flint arrowhead' and 'other articles' were found here (Rhodes, 1818; Wood, 1842). To the north the shelf is extensively quarried; it is possible that further sites have been destroyed although there is no proof of this.

Between the southeastern end of the cairnfield and intakes are two further stone circles. These were rediscovered in 1983, and appear to be sites noted by early-nineteenth century antiquarians and since assumed to have been destroyed. A detailed description dated 15 July 1852 in Bateman's notebook (Sheffield City Museum) fits them well and he describes them as 'nearer Hathersage' than Wet Withens. Wood (1842) and Wilkinson (1862) describe similar sites south of Wet Withens. Perhaps their memory of orientation was faulty, as there are no traces of any prehistoric sites on the moorland south of the circle. However, in the eighteenth century Wilson noted several circles (Bateman, 1861), suggesting that further sites once existed, perhaps to the southeast, where nineteenth century intakes may have destroyed a continuation of the cairnfield. The more northerly of the two surviving circles (Circle 28; SMR 5474) is next to a well used footpath but is overgrown with dense bilberry and heather. It is embanked, with an internal diameter of 8.0m x 7.5m. Three or four low orthostats stand, out of an original total of nine. There is a probable entrance through the bank to the north and a disturbed central mound, 4.5 metres in diameter. The other circle (Circle 29; SMR 5475) is unusual, being a freestanding ring 13.0m x 12.5m in diameter. Six stones remain, four of which stand between 0.7 and 0.25 metre high. The two fallen ones were probably slightly taller. Originally there were probably eight orthostats. In the central area is an oval cairn, 8.5m x 6.0m in diameter. It is 0.5 metre high, and has had a deep trench dug into its centre.

Cairnfield 47: Stanage (Figs 26, 29; SK 217787)

To the west of Cairnfield 46 is another, located on similarly orientated shelves (SMR 5469). There are between 21 and 32 small cairns, ranging in diameter from 2.5 to 5.5 metres. One small stretch of linear clearance and the irregular nature of many of the cairns suggest that these are clearance heaps. To the west of the cairnfield, in a location analogous to that of Wet Withens and its adjoining cairn, is a large cairn (Cairn 46; SMR 5449), 17.5m x 16.5m in diameter. Its centre has been partially removed, resulting in its misinterpretation as a ringcairn (Radley, 1966; Marsden, 1977). Protruding from the disturbed central area is a slab which is profusely decorated with cupmarks (Barnatt and Reeder, 1982).

Cairnfield 48: Sir William Hill (Figs. 26, 29; SK 219782)

In the sheltered lee of Sir William Hill on a southeast facing slope is a small cairnfield discovered in 1983 (SMR 5470). There are from five to nine small cairns here, with diameters ranging from 1.5 to 4.0 metres. A short stretch of linear clearance suggests that they are clearance heaps.

Cairnfield 49: Jubilee Plantation (Figs 26, 29; SK 211785)

On a northeast facing shelf, similar to those at Cairnfields 46 and 47, is a third small



Fig. 29 The cairnfields at Stange (47), Sir William Hill (48) and Jubilee Plantation (49).
(For key see Fig. 3.)

cairnfield discovered in 1983 (SMR 5811). There are from twelve to thirteen small cairns, with diameters ranging from 2.0m x 1.0m to 3.5m x 3.5m. Further southwest the shelf has been extensively quarried and this may have destroyed further sites. At the southwesterly end of the shelf is the site of a large cairn (Cairn 47; SMR 5801, Bateman 1848, Wood 1865). This was destroyed around 1800 when the land was enclosed; a large 'urn' was found near the centre.

Cairnfield 50: Top of Riley (Fig. 26; SK 23.77.)

Nothing now survives of these sites which were destroyed when the land was enclosed. They were located on an east facing shelf analogous to those of Cairnfield 46. A stone circle (Circle 30; SMR 5476) was recorded here by Wood in 1842, who noted that there was 'recollection of a very large circle of stones of very high unhewn pillars, surrounded by a circular ridge of earth. It had an entrance if not two'. This has been interpreted as a possible circle-henge (Burl, 1976). However, allowing for exaggeration in the telling, the location suggests that it was far more likely to have been an embanked stone circle, similar to Wet Withens. Wood also noted two cairns nearby which were found to contain cremations in 'urns' when they were destroyed. Bateman (1848) noted two urns found at Top of Riley in 1828; one contained 'ashes and arrowheads of flint'.

Other Sites

In an isolated spot on Offerton Moor, well to the west of Cairnfield 41, is a ruined cairn (Figs 26, 27, Cairn 37; SMR 11111), with a diameter of 12.0 metres. Its centre has been badly disturbed, resulting in its misinterpretation as a ringcairn (Marsden, 1977). Somewhere on Abney Moor once stood a very interesting cairn, now lost (Cairn 84; SMR 9826, Pennington 1875; 1877). The Ordnance Survey suggested a site at SK 19488068, but the very low mound here is better interpreted as natural. It was destroyed shortly before 1875 to build a wall, and perhaps stood on lower ground further to the southwest. It consisted of a high mound, 6.0 metres in diameter, surrounded by a penannular low bank with ten low orthostats set on its inner edge. At the centre of the cairn was a cremation on a flat stone accompanied by jet and amber beads, an arrowhead and flakes of flint and chert. An 'urn' with burnt and unburnt bones was also found in the mound. Pennington dug two further cairns (SMR 22) described as 'elsewhere on Abney Moor'. It is not clear whether these are now lost, or are two of those in Cairnfield 43. One was described as small, with a little cist containing bits of bones, an arrowhead and a flint flake. The other was much larger and already disturbed. There were scattered human bones, sherds of two 'urns', a small piece of bronze and a flint flake. Another site (Cairn 38; SMR 7808) opened in the nineteenth century (Jewitt, 1863; Pennington, 1877) and now destroyed, was situated on Highlow. This hill is now enclosed and no trace of the site survives. Workmen dug into it, in the process finding burnt bones, pottery, and two bronze flat axes decorated with chevrons. Another probable lost cairn is one excavated by Salt in 1896 (Cairn 85; SMR 16). This was somewhere on Abney Low Hill, and had a diameter of 3.5 metres; no finds were made (Turner, 1899). In an isolated location on the crest of a high ridge on Abney Moor is a 10.0m diameter cairn with a robbed centre (Fig. 26, Cairn 42; SMR 24); a low mound nearby to the west is probably natural. On the crest of Hucklow Edge, at its southwesterly corner, are the poorly preserved remains of the undated hillfort of Burr Tor (Hart, 1981). This has an internal area of 5.0ha, and is defended by a bank, ditch and counterscarp which appear never to have been finished. This site may well be early first millennium BC in date, but this remains to be proved by excavation.

Cairns once existed on the enclosed crest of Eyam Edge. One of these (Cairn 49; SMR 5812), described as being 'on Eyam Moor not far from Hucklow', was ploughed down in the early nineteenth century and a 'polished stone hammer' was found (Rhodes, 1818). Another site was dug in 1899-1900 by F. Middleton of the Barrel Inn at Bretton. This was described as having a diameter of approximately 20 yards (18.0 metres) and being 4 feet (1.2 metres) high. Within it were four empty rock-cut graves, and a 2.7m long cist containing a food vessel. A two-handled pot, an axe-hammer and flints were also found in the mound. The location of this cairn is uncertain; possibly it is the one surviving cairn on Eyam Edge (Fig. 26, Cairn 48; SMR 5448). This has a diameter of 25.0 metres and is severely mutilated; only its rim remains intact. A ploughed down earthen mound, c. 30.0 metres in diameter, located slightly further east (SK 20797759) has also been thought to be a barrow (SMR 5466). Nearby lead mining offers a more likely alternative explanation. Another cairn was located further east somewhere near the turnpike road between the summit of Sir William Hill and Grindleford. It was known as the Round Hillock (Cairn 45; SMR 5444, Bateman 1861), and was destroyed when the turnpike was built in 1759. A cremation with a large collared urn, a pygmy cup and amber beads were found. A perforated jet pendant was also found at a slightly later date.

On the open moor to the north of the last site, a small isolated cairn was found in 1983 (Figs 26, 28, Cairn 88; SMR 5471). This appears to be intact and has a diameter of 5.0

metres. Further north near the edge of the higher shelf of Eyam Moor, two further sites exist. To the west is a probable cairn (Figs 26, 28, Cairn 87; SMR 5472) with a diameter of 5.5 metres. To the east is a fine large cairn (Figs 26, 28; Cairn 44; SMR 5472). This has a diameter of 13.5m x 12.0m and is 0.5m high with a cratered centre. Three other cairns documented in this general region (Marsden, 1977) appear to be spurious. The area has extensive small-scale quarries and several natural knolls, and some of these seem to have been mistaken for cairns.

F: Southwestern Moors (Fig. 26B)

The areas of gritstone upland west of the Derwent and south of the Northwestern Moor are smaller in area and lower in altitude than the latter. Calton Pasture (SK 240685) is the largest of these but has been fully enclosed and the pasture improved, as have lower areas further north to the west of Baslow. Only a handful of mutilated large barrows survives and hence this region was excluded from the study area. Further south the same applies to Harthill Moor (SK 220625) which has long been enclosed. Here the Nine Stone Close stone circle, a cairn and defended enclosures survive. To the east of Harthill Moor the one kilometre-square summit of Stanton Moor is the exception to the rule, being still open moorland with extensive bronze age remains. This east facing area has an extensive cairnfield with several characteristics which suggest that it is primarily funerary in character, unlike the majority of cairnfields in the region as a whole (Cairnfield 51). The bulk of bronze age settlement was probably on the lower shelves surrounding the moor on all sides except the east. These are now fully enclosed and nothing survives.

GAZETTEER

Cairnfield 51: Stanton Moor (Figs 26, 30; SK 247630)

This extensive cairnfield (SMR 12906, Thomas 1960, Harris 1975, Marsden 1977, Vine 1982, Hart 1985b) is the best known in the Peak District because of the extensive excavations carried out here by Heathcote. It is located on the crest and gentle east facing slopes of the moor. To the west extensive quarrying may have destroyed further sites; and lower lying shelves which are now enclosed no doubt once accommodated evidence of further prehistoric activity. There are from 58 to 70 small cairns on the moor, ranging in diameter from 2.0 to 9.0 metres. (Discrepancies between this survey and that published by Hart in 1985 result from differences in the interpretation of the more ephemeral sites.) The cairns are widely scattered across the moor, occasionally in small clusters but in general with a much lower density than other cairnfields in the region. A large number of these have been excavated, mainly in the early 1930s (Heathcote 1930; 1936; 1939b; 1954). These investigations illustrate the diversity of form and contents to be found in such cairns. Heathcote's original numbering system is retained in the following descriptions:

Site 3 (SMR 12950, Heathcote 1930) was excavated in 1929. It was originally sub-rectangular, 7.5m x 4.5m in plan, and had a kerb; today it is badly ruined. At the centre in a scoop in the subsoil was a cremation with two collared urns 'one inside the other', flints and a bronze knife-dagger. At the eastern end of the mound were four cremations. Of these, a female and child were accompanied by two collared urns, flints, a bronze awl and a bronze bar; the other two (sex and age unknown) each had collared urn sherds.

Site 4 (SMR 12943, Heathcote 1930) was excavated and restored in 1929-30. It has an egg-shaped plan, 4.5 metres in diameter, and is defined by a crude kerb. In a central pit under the cairn was a cremation with thirteen burnt flints and a piece of bronze.

Site 5 (SMR 12942, Heathcote 1930) was excavated and restored in 1930. It is crudely



Fig. 30 The Stanton Moor cairnfield (51). (For key see Fig. 3.)

circular with a diameter of 3.5m x 3.0m. A central pit covered by a stone contained a cremation.

Site 6 (SMR 12929, Heathcote 1936) is 4.0 metres across, and is five-sided with one

side formed by an earthfast slab. There was a disturbed central burial with a smashed collared or cordoned urn. The mound had been enlarged to the southwest where a cremation and a squat collared urn were found. A cremation was also found by the east kerb.

Site 7 (SMR 12925, Heathcote 1936) was excavated and restored. It also is five-sided and is 5.0 metres across. It is flat topped and defined by a kerb formed of two lines of boulders. Under the cairn were three cremations, one accompanied by a squat collared urn.

Site 8 (SMR 12952, Heathcote 1936) was defined by a 4.5m diameter ring of large boulders; there was very little cairn material within this. At the centre a stone covered a pit containing a cremation accompanied by a pygmy cup and a bronze pin. Near the northern edge were two cremations and burnt pieces of bronze.

Site 9 (SMR 12948, Heathcote 1936) had a diameter of 5.5 metres. It cannot now be located and no finds were made.

Site 10 (SMR 12938, Heathcote 1936) was excavated and reconstructed. It is an irregular oval mound, 3.0m x 2.5m in diameter. The only finds were a few burnt bones.

Site 11 (SMR 12941, Heathcote 1936) proved on excavation to be a natural rise.

Site 12 (SMR 12944, Heathcote 1936) was excavated and reconstructed. It has a diameter of 2.0 metres. Traces of a cremation were found to the east under the crude kerb.

Site 13 (SMR 12939, Heathcote 1936) is rectangular with a narrow extension added to the west. Both features are defined by crude kerbs and in total the site is 12.5m x 6.5m in plan. It is orientated east/west and was originally over a metre high. Much of the excavation material has not been replaced. Thirteen cremations were found, five of which were accompanied by collared urns. The finds include six collared urns, sherds of another urn, a pygmy cup, a clay stud and various flints.

Site 14 (SMR 12940, Heathcote 1936) was excavated and restored. It is an irregular, 3.0m diameter mound which contained a small charcoal deposit with nine flint scrapers and 20 split pebbles.

Site 15 (SMR 12937, Heathcote 1936) is trapezoidal in shape with a boulder kerb, 4.5m x 4.0m in plan. There was a crude central cist containing burnt bone. Two other similar deposits were also found.

Site 16 (SMR 12923, Heathcote 1936) is sub-oval and defined by a double boulder kerb with a diameter of 5.0m x 6.0m. At the centre was a disturbed cremation with a collared urn. A jet ring was also found in the mound. To the north a 2.5m x 2.0m rectangular platform had been added to the mound. This covered two cremations, one in a collared urn. To the northwest, a 3.5m x 3.0m five-sided extension had been made to the cairn.

Site 17 (SMR 12916, Heathcote 1939) is oval and was partially defined by a boulder kerb with a diameter of 4.5m x 2.5m. It covered three burials. One of these was accompanied by a collared urn, flint tools and a bone pin. Another had urn sherds and a barbed and tanged arrowhead.

Site 18 (SMR 12918, Heathcote 1939) was excavated and restored. It is sub-oval with a diameter of 3.5m x 3.0m and it covered two cremations, one accompanied by a collared urn. A third cremation was found in a rectangular, 1.0m x 2.0m, addition to the east.

Site 19 (SMR 12919, Heathcote 1939) is immediately to the west of Site 18. It is rectangular, 3.5m x 2.5m in plan, and is flat topped. Under its centre was a cremation.

Site 20 (SMR 12915, Heathcote 1939) was excavated and restored. It is oval and has a boulder kerb, 6.0m x 5.0m in diameter. There were four cremations here, one with a cordoned urn. A charcoal deposit was accompanied by a collared urn. An extension to the north covered a cremation.

Site 21 (SMR 12914, Heathcote 1939) is 4.5 metres in diameter, had a crude cist at the centre, containing a cremation with a biconical urn (with food vessel affinities) together with sherds of a second similar vessel and flint tools. In an irregular, 3.0m x 2.5m, extension to the northeast was a cremation accompanied by a collared urn, a pygmy cup and four scrapers. In a smaller, 2.0m x 2.0m, extension to the southeast was another cremation.

Site 22 (SMR 12932, Heathcote 1939) was excavated and restored. It is sub-circular, 5.5m x 4.5m in diameter, and had a kerb of vertical slabs. Two off-central cremations were found, one accompanied by a cordoned urn.

Site 23 (SMR 12931, Heathcote 1939) is sub-triangular, 3.0m x 2.5m in plan, and had a pile of burnt bones under a stone at the centre.

Site 24 (SMR 12911, Heathcote 1939) was an irregular pile of stones, 5.0m x 2.5m, by a boulder. No finds were made, and it is unclear if the feature is natural or man made.

Site 25 (SMR 12927, unpublished) was excavated in 1938. It is sub-rectangular, 6.5m x 6.0m in plan, and appears to have an internal kerb. At least four deposits were found together with three collared urns.

Site 26 (SMR 12922, unpublished) was excavated and restored in the late 1930s. It is egg-shaped with a diameter of 4.5m x 3.0m. It had already been disturbed, but sherds of a collared urn and fragments of a bronze pin were found.

Site 27 (SMR 12924, unpublished) was restored and is sub-oval with a boulder kerb, 3.0m x 2.5m in diameter.

Site 28 (SMR 12933, unpublished) is now nothing more than a hollow with rubble.

Site 29 (SMR 12951, unpublished) was restored. It is 4.5 metres in diameter, has a kerb and is flat topped.

Site 30 (SMR 12956, unpublished) was 9.0 metres in diameter and has had much of its interior removed. (Presumably Heathcote dug only in the disturbed central area.)

Site 31 (SMR 12949, unpublished) appears to be sub-rectangular, with traces of a kerb, 4.0m x 3.5m in plan. A cremation with a pygmy cup was found.

Site 36 (SMR 12947, Heathcote 1954) was excavated in 1953. In a pit south of the centre was a cremation accompanied by a dolerite battle-axe. (According to Heathcote the site had a diameter of 9.0 metres, and was restored. The cairn shown as No.36 in Fig.27 is only 8.5m x 5.0m in diameter, suggesting that the identification is not entirely certain.)

Many of the other small cairns were at least partially excavated by Heathcote but no finds are recorded from them. Several are worthy of note: sites 44-6 (SMR 12930) are built together as a triple cairn; sites 48, 50, 52 and 53 (SMR 12934, 12957, 12921, 12920) are all flat topped platforms, sub-rectangular in shape, with dimensions ranging from 7.0m x 4.5m to 9.5m x 6.0m. However, in many cases it is not entirely clear how accurately the present reconstructed shapes of excavated cairns reflect their original design and hence their diversity should be viewed with some caution.

Before Heathcote started excavating on Stanton Moor several poorly documented diggings had already taken place. These cannot be related to individual cairns. Notable documented finds include several urns and pygmy cups found at various dates, and a food vessel found in a cist in 1847. In 1926 the Rev. Summerfield found a small cist near the Andle Stone containing a cremation together with a large cordoned urn, a bronze knife-dagger with a bone pommel, two bone pins and three flint scrapers (SMR 12954). At SK 24226275 a flat cremation cemetery was excavated in 1926 by Storrs Fox following accidental discovery by quarrymen. A number of cremations were found, ten of which were accompanied by collared urns, two by urn sherds, four by 'urns' (found by

quarrymen but lost before identification) and three by pygmy cups.

One function of the majority of the small cairns on Stanton Moor was clearly funerary; their possible additional use as clearance cairns is doubtful. There is no incontrovertible evidence for linear clearance or field boundaries associated with them. At the centre of the moor is an unusual rectangular enclosure with massive rubble banks at its narrow ends and slight banks and lynchets forming its sides (SMR 12926). It could have undergone two phases of construction. On analogy with similar shaped enclosures on the gritstone moors it may be interpreted as a medieval or post-medieval sheep pound. In the northwestern area of the moor is a series of unusual fields defined by low rubble banks; horizontal stratigraphy suggests two phases of activity (SMR 12909). They are overlain by a ruined post-medieval drystone wall which appears never to have been completed. The date of these fields is uncertain. However, their form is unlike any of the prehistoric fields described above; and the parallel thin strips at their centre suggest that they too are medieval. Within the fields and overlaying a field bank is a dew pond (SMR 12910). This is now dry but similar ponds in fields nearby still contain water. This has been misinterpreted as a ringcairn despite the fact it is of a totally different construction from all other ringcairns in the region (Hart, 1985b). To the southeast of these fields, near ringcairn 33, is a line of four mounds, excavated by Heathcote, which may be disturbed linear clearance. In the northeastern portion of the moor several stone piles have been suggested to be clearance heaps (Hart, 1985). However, these are more likely to be irregularly distributed, naturally-occurring stones, and are similar in character to the frequent undisturbed stony areas elsewhere on the East Moors.

In the southwestern corner of the moor is an unusual natural pillar known as the Cork Stone. The surrounding area is heavily disturbed by quarrying, but in the late-eighteenth century various sites were documented by Rooke (1789) (SMR 12953). The Cork Stone itself was said to have four very small standing stones around it; this is questionable, and these may have been nothing more than naturally placed stones. Surrounding the Cork Stone was an oval enclosure of unknown date, defined by a bank with a maximum diameter of about 100 yards (33.0 metres) and a noticeably stone-free interior. The bank incorporated three cairns and there were a further two cairns within the enclosed area. None of these survives, and dating must remain conjectural, although one may presume that the cairns were prehistoric.

The lack of obvious evidence for prehistoric field boundaries over most of the moor, combined with the low density of cairns and the presence of several well drained, gently sloping areas where surface stone could easily have been cleared, suggest the central area of the moor was never utilized for cultivation and that much of the cairnfield is purely funerary. Perhaps because Stanton Moor is an atypical small isolated area of high land, the top of the moor was reserved as the only upland pasture available to the communities in the immediate vicinity.

There are several larger ceremonial sites amongst the smaller cairns. At the eastern edge of the moor is a large cairn with a diameter of 15.5m x 14.5m (Cairn 50; Heathcote Site 57, SMR 12913). There is a large central disturbance; earlier this century sherds of a food vessel rim, burnt bones and a barbed and tanged arrowhead were brought to the surface by rabbits. There are no proven smaller cairns nearby and this one seems to have been sited to overlook the Derwent valley.

The other seven large sites are distributed in a crude line NNE/SSW across the moor. This seems more than coincidental although the reasons behind the layout are obscure. At the northern end of the line is a small embanked stone circle (Circle 31; Heathcote Site 61, SMR 12907, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). The bank has an internal diameter of 10.0m x

9.0m. One remaining low orthostat indicates there was probably a stone circle here. There is a second stone flanking one of the two diametrically opposed entrances which are aligned NNE/SSW. There is a disturbed cairn in the central area. This was dug into by Pegge in 1784, who found a cordoned urn together with cremations and a pygmy cup (Pegge, 1787). This cairn was again excavated by Heathcote in 1941 (unpublished). Several deposits were found. A cremation under an inverted collared urn was accompanied by two pygmy cups. Another cremation under a collared urn had a bronze awl and burnt flints. A third cremation was also accompanied by a collared urn, while a fourth had a cordoned urn. An environmental sample-pit was dug by the inner edge of the bank in 1964 (Radley, 1966). A cremation was accidentally discovered, accompanied by two collared urns placed mouth to mouth and a burnt flint. The next site in line is Nine Ladies, an embanked stone circle (Circle 32; SMR 12908, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978, Heathcote 1980), 11.5m x 11.0m in internal diameter. Nine low orthostats are still standing. A tenth fallen stone was exposed in 1977 by a small-scale illicit excavation. Originally there were probably eleven stones. The bank is poorly preserved and it is uncertain if there were originally entrances or not. The unsightly low wall which surrounded the site for many years was removed in 1985. At the centre of the site is the rim of a cairn, 5.0 metres in diameter. This was apparently dug by Rooke in the late-eighteenth century, but no finds were recorded. A pygmy cup in the Ashmolean Museum is said to come from the circle but is more likely to be the one from Circle 31. A small standing stone known as the King Stone is located 40 metres WSW of Circle 32 (Stone 9; SMR 12908). It is a 0.9 metre high slab, set radially to the circle. The third site in line is a large ringcairn (Circle 33; Heathcote Site 56, SMR 12912, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). The internal diameter is consistently 19.5 metres, even though the bank is not circular but somewhat triangular. There are two diametrically placed entrances orientated north/south. Here three slabs survive, indicating that each entrance was originally flanked by four orthostats. These stones also suggest there may have been a stone circle at the inner edge of the bank similar to other sites on the moor. The bank was partially excavated by Heathcote but this work was never published. A segmented faience bead was brought to the surface by rabbits in the central area earlier this century. Near the centre of the site the ground is somewhat irregular, which could suggest there was once a small cairn here. The fourth site in line is a large cairn (Cairn 51; Heathcote Site 55, SMR 12917). This is 16.0 metres in diameter and stands over 1.0 metre high. The centre has been disturbed, and there is a small backfilled excavation trench. The fifth site is another embanked stone circle (Circle 34; Heathcote Site 43, SMR 12928, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). This has an internal diameter of 13.5m x 12.0m and is distinctly triangular. Two low orthostats still stand on the inner edge of the bank, together with one or more fallen stones. There is a single entrance to the south which has one surviving orthostat flanking it. Heathcote again partially excavated the bank but never published. The central area has had a pit dug within it. The sixth is a badly disturbed cairn (Cairn 52; Heathcote Site 2, SMR 12936, Heathcote 1930). It has a diameter of 15.0m x 14.5m and intact sections of the mound to the north stand over 1.0 metre high. Much of the cairn had already been removed when Heathcote carried out extensive excavations between 1926 and 1928. There is an external kerb of boulders and remains of a second about 1.0 metre within it. Near the centre was a cist containing a cremation accompanied by pottery fragments (possibly belonging to a collared urn) and two pieces of bronze. On the capstone were sherds of a food vessel. Several other deposits were found in the mound. Three cremations were accompanied by collared urns; one also had a flint knife. A further two cremations had urn fragments; and a third had a pygmy cup. Two unaccompanied

cremations were also found. Several further finds were made in the disturbed portion of the mound. The last site in line is probably a large cairn (Cairn 53; SMR 12955). This is badly disturbed by the drystone walls which cross it; its present diameter is 15.0m x 10.5m.

On the Doll Tor spur at the western side of the moor is a small stone circle in a plantation (Fig. 26B) (Circle 35, Heathcote Site 1B, SMR 12905, Bateman 1861, Heathcote 1939a, Radley 1966, Barnatt 1978). It has a diameter of 6.0m x 4.5m and still retains all its six orthostats, although two are now fallen. Linking the orthostats is a low ring of slabs which probably formed a kerb for a low earthen mound which may once have filled the whole interior. The centre of the site was excavated by Bateman in 1852. The area was already disturbed, but cremated bones and sherds of from three to four 'urns' (now lost) and as many pygmy cups were found. Bateman noted that the 'urns' were more straight sided than usual (Bateman, 1861), which suggests they were perhaps biconical or cordoned urns. The site was completely excavated by Heathcote in 1931-3. A burnt flint knife was found in Bateman's disturbance. Deposits were found inside the circle near the bases of five of the orthostats. Near the northern stone were two sherds of an urn and four flints. By the northeast stone was an adult male cremation in a pit dug after the stone was erected. This could suggest that the central cairn was also secondary. By the southeastern stone was a child cremation and sherds of two urns, one plain and the other decorated. By the southern stone was a charcoal deposit, and by the southwestern stone was an adult female cremation accompanied by a biconical urn.

Joined to the circle to the east was a low cairn (Cairn 89) which was polygonal, 5.5 metres across and defined by a kerb of small boulders, except along its western edge, where it was delimited by the stones linking the circle orthostats — an indication that the cairn was built after the circle. Here the circle kerb consists of a drystone wall rather than a single course of stones. It is unclear if it was originally built like this round its full circumference and is in a better state here because of the protection of the cairn, or if it was modified when the cairn was built. The cairn itself may have been built in more than one phase: to the southeast there are hints of two kerbs, suggesting modification. At the centre of the cairn is a sub-rectangular setting of low upright kerbs measuring 1.8m x 1.3m internally. It is unclear if this was originally open and only later filled or if it was designed at the outset to be blocked. Under a flat slab within was a cremation and a segmented faience bead. Three other deposits were found under the cairn. To the north was an upright slab with a pit to its side containing an adult cremation with a faience star bead and the head of a bronze pin. To the northwest was a slab covering a child cremation with urn sherds. To the south was a large slab covering disturbed remains of three biconical urns (with food vessel affinities) together with a child cremation and four scrapers. The Doll Tor circle is surrounded by intakes but presumably it was originally associated with further prehistoric sites.

DISCUSSION

Comprehensive analysis of the bronze age sites within the survey area cannot be presented here. What follows is a preliminary survey, to be developed at a later date (Barnatt, in prep.).

Cairnfield Distribution

An examination of the location of the cairnfields reveals that their distribution is not random. There is a distinct preference for land which is well drained, relatively flat and at a low altitude in relation to the moorland as a whole. To the east of the Derwent all the larger cairnfields and field systems are found either on the main western shelf or on equivalent shelves at a similar altitude where the upper moors are cut by major water

courses. In contrast the central core of the area, the upper moors, has few traces of bronze age activity; and even when present this is small-scale (Figs 2, 8, 12, 22). To the west of the Derwent the pattern is similar, the lower shelves to the east having numerous cairnfields and the higher moors very few (Fig. 26). This pattern strongly suggests that the cairnfields, irrespective of whether they have associated field boundaries or not, were closely associated with farming, and were (apart from three possible exceptions, discussed below) not purely funerary in character. The pattern displayed is exactly what might be hypothesised in an upland farming zone on the ecological threshold of agricultural viability. This interpretation is corroborated by a closer examination of the cairnfields. Those in the most favourable locations, in terms of both altitude and shelter from northerly and westerly winds, have better developed field boundaries than those on slightly less favourable land suggesting that they experienced a longer period of use. In the latter, cairns predominate and are only occasionally interspersed with fragmentary banks and linear clearance.

The relationship to later intakes also indicates that the cairnfields are in areas suitable for farming. They are frequently found immediately adjacent to intakes, on land which was just below the threshold of viable nineteenth century agriculture because of its slightly higher altitude or less favourable aspect. This pattern further suggests that bronze age activity was not restricted to the extant remains, but formerly extended over many of the areas now covered by intakes. These are today the most favourable areas for farming, and probably always have been. The occasional survival of fragments of cairnfields within intakes, as at Gardoms Edge (Cairnfield 29) and Gibbet Moor (Cairnfield 33) supports this hypothesis. Fieldwalking of ploughed fields within intakes also confirms prehistoric activity, as was recently demonstrated on Eaglestone Flat (SK 273742) (Barnatt and Myers, in prep.). One may reasonably propose that much of the western shelf was extensively exploited in the Bronze Age, although only small areas of remains survive.

Assuming that most of the intake land was at least as favourable as that of the extant cairnfields and that both these areas were similarly used in prehistory, it may be calculated that about 3,500 hectares of bronze age field evidence have now been lost, as against the 346 hectares of surviving cairnfields. Only to the north, where the shelf rises to higher altitudes, were there large expanses of unimproved upland. The survival rate of cairnfields is higher on the valley shelves of the upper moor: the distribution of cairnfields flanking Bar Brook is complete, while nearly half of those surrounding Heathy Lea Brook survive. The upper moors have virtually no cairnfields and there are few intakes which could have destroyed evidence. In the northern half of the study area, where there are fewer intakes the eastern fringes of the upper moor are at a relatively high altitude and were only utilized for farming on a small scale, as is indicated by the survival of small cairnfields. The lower southern half of the eastern fringe has been extensively enclosed and there are no surviving cairnfields; it is assumed that utilization took place in the Bronze Age, but its scale is unknown. Across the Derwent, the northwestern moors are the only substantial area where later intake has not been so extensive as to destroy the evidence for the pattern of use in the Bronze Age. Here cairnfields probably covered over half of the area in this period, located in the main on the east facing lower shelves. Only a small proportion of these survives, notably in the Offerton Moor area, where the shelves are slightly higher than elsewhere, and on the north facing shelves of Eyam Moor.

However, the pattern of bronze age activity described above was not determined solely by the constraints of altitude. The presence of cairnfields and fields on shelves in the

northern sector, at altitudes well in excess of 300 metres O.D., indicates that farming in a more intensive form than upland grazing was possible here. However, many of the upper moors further south are at a similar altitude but lack cairnfields. This could indicate that, with regard to the south, pressure on land never reached a point where all available areas were improved.

It is likely that bronze age farmers practised mixed farming, with emphasis placed on livestock in uplands such as the East Moors. If each area of these moors is examined in turn it appears that only the best available land was utilized in such a way as to result in cairnfields and fields. It is probable that out of the total area of 105 square kilometres of land on the East Moors only about 35 square kilometres were covered by fields and cairnfields at the period of maximum utilization. The other areas were purposefully left, but presumably not ignored. It is a matter of conjecture as to what extent the fields and cairnfields were designed for arable cultivation, or alternatively to improve the management of stock and the quality of pasture. It would not be surprising if both were practised within these enclosed areas, while the large expanses of moorland which are barren of bronze age structures may well have been used for upland grazing. Indeed, livestock rearing may well have been more productive than arable farming, and the large expanses of upland grazing could be interpreted as the most economic use of these areas. Thus the East Moors may well have been fully exploited rather than under-utilized in the Bronze Age.

Cairnfields

It has been argued above that both the field systems and cairnfields on the East Moors are primarily concerned with farming. Field boundaries speak for themselves, but the nature of the cairns needs further examination as it has often been assumed that they are funerary in character. The frequent occurrence of large numbers of small cairns within fields defined by low banks suggests that the former at least are closely related to the latter. Furthermore, in general terms the majority of the cairnfields are situated in the most suitable land available for agriculture even when no field banks are present, and this is a strong argument that clearance of surface stone was a primary consideration when building small cairns. Clearly, there is some chronological depth in cairnfields accompanied by field banks, but to propose a simple temporal progression, involving funerary cairnfields preceding or being preceded by agricultural activity, is not possible. Indeed, in many cairnfields a number of the cairns within fields are carefully positioned, often central to the individual fields. This suggests that they were contemporary, and functioned as clearance heaps in situations where the disposal of unwanted stone was more economically executed by creating cairns than by carrying it greater distances to field edges. However, we must be careful not to over-stress the farming role at the expense of ceremonial and funerary activity.

The three cairnfields best known through excavation are at Stanton Moor (51) and Big Moor (22, 23). The majority of excavated cairns on Stanton Moor have revealed earlier bronze age burials in carefully constructed cairns, indicating a strong emphasis on funerary practices rather than stone clearance. On Big Moor the traditional interpretation is that the cairnfield to the east of Bar Brook (23) is similar to Stanton Moor and is funerary in character, while that to the west (22), with its extensive field system and excavated enclosure, is primarily agricultural. However, such a dichotomy may well be erroneous, since the western cairnfield has as many overtly ceremonial sites as the eastern, including a ringcairn, a freestanding cist and large cairns. Moreover, the many smaller cairns to both sides of the stream at Bar Brook are indistinguishable from each other: histograms of their diameter range are statistically inseparable. Elsewhere, apart from Stanton Moor,

the same ambiguity holds true. Many other cairnfields with field boundaries contain ceremonial sites, and all cairnfields in the Peak District, irrespective of whether or not they are accompanied by field boundaries, display the same diameter range. The mean cairn size is usually between three and four metres, except where it is distorted by a small sample size. There are only three exceptions where the mean is somewhat larger. At Dennis Knoll (7) and Toads Mouth (10) it may be assumed that there was simply more surface stone, resulting in larger cairns. At Stanton Moor (51) this is not the case, and this cairnfield is also genuinely exceptional in that it comprises far fewer cairns per hectare than any other cairnfield. Elsewhere there is a similar number of cairns per hectare irrespective of whether fields are present or not. The conclusion that must be drawn is that most cairnfields are virtually indistinguishable from each other, and that it would be wrong arbitrarily to divide them into two functionally distinct categories based on the presence or absence of field boundaries. The majority have some indications of ceremonial activity, either as burials revealed by excavation or as suggested by formal architecture and accompanying stone circles. However, most small cairns appear to be amorphous piles of stone and could be clearance heaps, although it must be stressed that this interpretation could be modified by the discovery of more kerbs and burials as a result of further excavation.

There are several indications in cairnfields without extensive field boundaries that an agricultural explanation is equally appropriate here. Their topographical distribution has already been emphasised. The majority also have odd fragments of field bank and linear clearance. In several cases the distribution of cairns within the cairnfield further suggests clearance. Often there are more cairns at the edges of stone-littered areas than elsewhere, as at Brown Edge North (15) and Winyards Nick (9) where this is particularly noticeable. The eastern cairnfield on Big Moor (23) is again a classic case, suggesting that the traditional interpretation here is not likely. The west facing slopes above Bar Brook have larger cairns in an area where more surface stone may be assumed prior to clearance, relative to the flat area further east where smaller cairns are found. This strongly suggests that the cairn builders desired to remove all surface stone from the cairnfield. The cairns here are not randomly placed but fall into several linear bands with areas deficient in cairns between them. This suggests that they originally took their position from field boundaries, perhaps defined by hedges or fences. This type of patterning is also present in several of the other cairnfields.

It seems an inescapable conclusion that the majority of cairnfields had two functions. Primarily the small cairns probably resulted from clearance, intended to improve the quality of pasture or to permit arable cultivation. However, at the same time some, at least, of the cairns within farmed areas were carefully constructed and had burials placed within them. Hence two essential tasks were performed with the minimum of effort. It may not be inappropriate to speculate that in the minds of the builders there was a link between soil fertility and the burial of the dead.

There are three possible exceptions to this general rule, where the cairnfields may well be purely funerary in character. The largest of these is Stanton Moor (51) which as mentioned above has far fewer cairns per hectare than elsewhere. If Heathcote's reconstructions are to be trusted, this cairnfield appears to have many unusually shaped cairns. Virtually all those excavated have contained burials. It could be argued that extensive excavation at any other cairnfield would reveal the same variation in architecture and burial rite. However, unusually shaped cairns are rare elsewhere, suggesting that the distinction made here is real. Two much smaller cairnfields, Gibbet Moor East (34) and Raven Tor (39), may well be similar to Stanton Moor. Both are again unusual in that they have a high proportion of flat

topped cairns and kerbs. The siting of these two cairnfields is also distinctive, both being on exposed ridge tops at relatively high altitudes, unfavourable for agriculture in comparison with surrounding land.

Small Cairns

As a general rule small unexcavated cairns in the cairnfields are amorphous sub-circular mounds, from 1.0 to 6.0 metres in diameter, and no more than 1.0 metre in height. A number of those on Stanton Moor are non-circular, and appear to include seven sub-rectangular, flat topped sites; two five-sided cairns; two polygonal cairns; and one of trapezoidal shape. Many of the others are distinctly ovoid. The Ravens Tor cairnfield (39) also has two small sub-rectangular cairns, one of which has been excavated. Elsewhere unusual cairns seem to be rare, the only apparent examples being three sub-rectangular ones, one at Priddock Wood South (3) and two at Gardoms Edge Northeast (28) respectively. Another architectural characteristic observed occasionally is the addition of small secondary cairns or platforms to the edge of somewhat larger cairns. Five of these have been excavated on Stanton Moor, and several others have been recognized in more typical cairnfields. One on Big Moor (23) has been excavated and there are further isolated examples in the cairnfields at Winyards Nick (9), Big Moor (22), Birchin Edge North (26) and Eyam Moor (46). Typically these lobes are sub-rectangular or polygonal rather than semi-circular in plan, and all the excavated examples have covered cremation deposits. A similar phenomenon is the occasional construction of overlapping mounds to form double or triple cairns. The best known example of this is the excavated triple cairn in the Ravens Tor cairnfield (39). Two other triple cairns are known, one on Stanton Moor (51) and the other on Big Moor (23). There are also three good examples of double cairns, at Toads Mouth (10), Eaglestone Flat (19) and near the Winyards Nick cairnfield (Cairns 58, 59).

Fields

Several of the cairnfields are associated with well preserved field boundaries. In two instances, at Eaglestone Flat (19) and Beeley Moor (38), single enclosures are found in isolation. Normally they are found in the larger cairnfields, in clusters of seven to twenty-two fields. At Big Moor Central (22) there are at least 30. These fields vary in shape, but all are relatively small in area, usually between 0.1 and 0.7 hectare. They are commonly crudely sub-rectangular in shape, with a tendency to become rather round cornered. Such fields are aggregated rather haphazardly together. In contrast, there are small clusters of long narrow fields planned co-axially. At Stoke Flat West (12), Big Moor West (21), Gardoms Edge Northwest (27) and Birchin Edge South (31) these are found in cohesive layouts. However, at Stoke Flat East (13), Big Moor Central (22) and Beeley Warren South (37) such fields abut sub-rectangular ones, and there are indications of chronological depth. Such small scale arrangements of co-axial fields do not compare with the massive, communally planned field systems that are found elsewhere in Britain, for example on Dartmoor (Fleming, 1978; 1983) and in Wessex (Bradley and Ellison, 1975).

Associated with many of the field systems are much smaller enclosures, all under 0.1 hectare, most conveniently interpreted as yards or garden plots. These yards vary in shape from sub-rectangular to irregular, and are found singly and in groups of up to four. The only house with stone footings to be identified with certainty in the region is within one of these. This is at Swine Sty (Big Moor Central 22) and has been excavated. It has an internal diameter of only 3.5 metres and is probably too small to have been occupied by a family group. It therefore seems that, even allowing for other possible examples, stone

footed houses were not the norm, in strong contrast with such areas as Dartmoor, where many houses of this type survive. However, it seems unlikely that farmers would travel daily to the upland farms from the valleys below. The existence of the yards supports the idea that buildings once stood within the fields, especially as they are frequently situated in particularly sheltered locations within the cairnfields. Indeed, there were indications that the hut at Swine Sty was preceded by a much larger timber house with the yard wall curving to avoid it. Elsewhere, several otherwise inexplicable curves in banks also suggest timber houses.

Another type of feature identified in several cairnfields (12, 13, 22, 27, 28) are small rectangular enclosures attached to field banks. These are never more than 3.0 metres across internally and always have one end open. Their function is conjectural. They may have been small folds which could be closed with a gate or hurdle and used for confining single animals during pregnancy or sickness.

Ceremonial Monuments

Thirty-five stone circles and ringcairns have been identified within the study area. The majority of the stone circles are built of low orthostats set on the inner edge of crudely circular banks with internal diameters of between 7.5m x 7.5m and 31.0m x 30.0m. Occasionally the banks are interrupted by entrances, some of which are also defined by additional orthostats. All these sites are similar in design, and more complex typologies which distinguish between embanked stone circles and complex ring cairns are untenable for this region (e.g. Burl, 1976). Only three or four freestanding stone circles exist. Those at Eyam Moor III and Seven Stones of Hordron are similar to the embanked sites in all respects other than their lack of bank. On Gibbet Moor there is a very small sub-rectangular setting which may be a diminutive four-poster. At Doll Tor the small circle may originally have been free standing, or alternatively set on the perimeter of a central cairn. The ringcairns are similar to the embanked stone circles except that they lack orthostats. In some cases these may have been removed by stone robbers. Their internal diameters range from 5.0m x 4.0m to 25.5m x 24.0m, and occasionally they have entrances. Four of the smaller rings interrupted by entrances may be alternatively interpreted as stone-footed houses (Circles 4, 15, 22, 23). However, they are indistinguishable from larger ringcairns both in morphology and siting. One of these (23) has been fully excavated and no domestic debris was recovered. The embanked stone circles and ringcairns are of similar design to those found elsewhere in surrounding regions of the Pennines, the Cheviots, the North Yorkshire Moors and parts of Wales. Only the four-poster on Gibbet Moor is unusual, being typical of central Scotland. However, several examples are found in southern Scotland and isolated sites have been recognised further south in the Pennines and Wales (Burl, 1976).

The function of stone circles has always caused debate because of the minimal remains found within them and the contentious nature of their design. Much of this debate is not pertinent to the present paper and a fuller discussion of the Peak District sites is forthcoming (Barnatt, in prep.). The sites are clearly ceremonial in nature, but the emphasis on funerary rites at small stone circles (Burl, 1976) may have been overemphasised (Barnatt, 1982). Rituals and ceremonies appertaining to various aspects of the local inhabitants' lives were perhaps performed here, although their exact nature is obscure because of the nature of the archaeological record. However, what very clearly emerges from the present study of the stone circles and ringcairns on the East Moors is their invariable close proximity to cairnfields. It is noteworthy that there are as many circles at cairnfields with associated fields as there are at those with only cairns. The close link with

agricultural areas suggests that each local community had its own small circle, built conveniently within or near the heart of its farmland, as the focal point for its ceremonies. The lack of spatial separation between 'ceremonial' sites and 'functional' areas might be taken to indicate no such clear cut distinction between such categories of activity existed in the minds of the builders.

Only six to nine standing stones have been identified within the study area, and they were probably never a common monument form here. Little can be said of these. All are in close proximity to cairnfields, and two are near stone circles. The only pair to be found is on Gardoms Edge (Stones 2, 3), its stones orientated in a line NE/SW.

The only bronze age monuments that are not always located in close proximity to cairnfields are cairns of various types and sizes. Of the 51 of these to have been identified only 29 are truly isolated; the rest, located in, or very near, later intakes may be the last vestiges of destroyed cairnfields. The size of the isolated cairns varies: the ten largest have diameters of 10.0 metres or more. Of the smaller sites, eight are on Harland Edge (Cairns 72-79), an area unique in that it is the only place where there is a scatter of widely spaced cairns. The absence of associated sites around all isolated cairns suggests that they are funerary in character.

There are 54 cairns within the study area with diameters of 10.0 metres or more. This contrasts sharply with the from 1496 to 1774 cairns smaller than this, the vast majority of which are within cairnfields. Of the large cairns, 31 are located in or near surviving cairnfields; and although an overall histogram of cairn diameters indicates that a cut-off point of 10.0m is somewhat arbitrary, each large cairn is usually noticeably very different in scale from the many smaller cairns around it. These large cairns were undoubtedly built as ceremonial monuments. As a general rule they are crudely circular in plan and have frequently been badly disturbed. Little can be said of their construction or contents in the absence of good excavations. Only three have been excavated in recent years, and these display varied architecture and contents. Evidence of multiple burials was found at Harland Edge (Cairn 31) and Stanton Moor (Cairn 52). The double kerbs at both these sites may hint at more than one stage of construction. The large flat topped barrow at Crow Chin (Cairn 1) may also have been enlarged over time as it had a central stone cairn surrounded by a turf mound.

There is a small number of sites with distinctive architectural elements not apparent in the majority of larger cairns. Three of these are centred round Harland Edge (which, as mentioned above, is also unusual in other respects). Two sites here, Hob Hurst's House (Cairn 72) and Beeley Warren (30), are sub-rectangular in plan and surrounded by penannular banks. The only other site in the region which had an outer bank was on Abney Moor, and is now destroyed (Cairn 85). The third unusual cairn on Harland Edge (Cairn 74) has a boat-shaped setting of orthostats at its centre, entered by two entrances defined by portal stones; this site appears to be unique. Two other cairns elsewhere on the East Moors are worthy of note. Both Cairn 54 on Bamford Moor and Cairn 65 at Strawberry Lea have rings of spaced orthostats defining the cairn's perimeter.

One pattern which emerges in respect of stone circles, ringcairns and larger cairns is their preference for certain orientations. The majority of these ceremonial sites situated close to, or at the edge of, cairnfields avoid an eastern location. This is particularly noticeable with the larger cairns which favour western and northwestern orientations. This trend is also detected in the architecture of stone circles and ringcairns, with entrances and larger orthostats often orientated to the west and southwest. These crude orientations should not necessarily be given astronomical interpretations but clearly had some significance for their designers.

Dating and Chronology

Virtually all available data for the prehistoric remains on the East Moors point to an earlier bronze age date. However, this does not adequately cover the full range of sites and the possibility of an extended chronology should be explored further.

The fields and enclosures are poorly dated. Until recently the only excavations to have taken place were within the small irregular enclosure or yard at Swine Sty (Cairnfield 22). This had extensive occupation debris, including pottery and lithics, which indicates an earlier bronze age horizon; a single C14 date of 1610±80 bc (HAR 1233) supports this date. However, this one settlement may not reflect the full duration of occupation elsewhere on the East Moors, and further dates are desirable. In an attempt to provide further data, a small trial excavation within the fields at Big Moor (Cairnfield 22) was dug in 1983 (Barnatt *et al.*, in prep.). The results from C14 samples are awaited but pollen analysis again suggests a bronze age date (D. Roberts, *pers. comm.*).

Dating evidence from small cairns typical of the majority of cairnfields is also sparse. The two small cairns excavated on Big Moor (Cairnfield 23) had no dateable artefacts, although one of them had a Group VI stone axe in the old ground surface beneath the cairn. This might suggest some neolithic activity in the area, as does the handful of other polished stone axes from the East Moors as a whole that have been found by fieldwalking. Far more finds would be needed before a strong case could be made for anything but casual use of the East Moors at this period. A somewhat larger cairn on Big Moor had a small platform added to one side which covered a cremation with a biconical urn. A cordoned urn was recently recovered from a damaged cairn on Eaglestone Flat (Cairn 67) which may originally have been at the edge of a cairnfield now destroyed by intakes.

The only two cairnfields which have produced dateable material in quantity, Raven Tor (39) and Stanton Moor (51), have been argued above to be perhaps atypical, being purely funerary in character. These have both provided extensive evidence for an earlier bronze age date. No C14 dates are available but extensive artefacts have been recovered, including many collared urns and smaller numbers of cordoned urns, biconical urns, pygmy cups, a bronze knife-dagger, a dolerite battle axe and faience beads.

The dating from the cairnfields in general is therefore not yet extensive enough to be certain of the full duration of their use. The close association of earlier bronze age stone circles and ringcairns with many of them suggests extensive utilization at this date. However, continued occupation in the later Bronze Age should not be ruled out, particularly in those cairnfields in favourable locations where field banks are well developed. Similar cairnfields and associated open settlements in the northern Pennines and southern Scotland have produced C14 dates which span much of the second millennium BC and the first half of the first. The only date from a clearance cairn is that from Millstone Hill, Northumberland which is 1690±90 bc (Jobey, 1981). The others are from associated settlements. Two such sites, situated well above 300 metres O.D. at Bracken Rigg, Durham (Coggins and Fairless, 1983) and Standrop Rigg, Northumberland (Jobey, 1983), have produced dates ranging from c. 1300 to 1000 bc. At Green Knowe, Peebleshire (Jobey, 1981), situated at 275 metres O.D., the C14 dates range from c. 1300 to 800 bc, while at Hallshill, Northumberland (Gates, 1982), at a lower altitude of 230 metres O.D., the dates are later, ranging from c. 800 to 500 bc. These dates suggest that settlements at altitudes equivalent to those on the East Moors may have begun to be abandoned by the beginning of the first millennium BC, while those at lower altitudes may well have been in use until much later.

Better dating evidence is available for the ceremonial sites on the East Moors. Carbon 14

dates exist for two stone circles. However, in both cases they derive from central deposits which may post-date the construction of the monument by up to several centuries. Barbrook II (Circle 11) had a cremation with a collared urn which produced a date of 1500 ± 150 bc (BM 179). Similar deposits, accompanied by collared urns and a pygmy cup came from Brown Edge (Circle 8) and gave dates of 1530 ± 150 bc (BM 212), 1250 ± 150 bc (BM 211) and 1050 ± 150 bc (BM 177). The only other dateable material from circles comes from Stanton Moor. Stanton Moor I (Circle 31) has had several collared and cordoned urns removed from its interior at different dates. At the centre of the Doll Tor site (Circle 35) a biconical urn has been found together with sherds of other urns which may well also have been biconical. In a secondary cairn attached to one side of the circle, two faience beads and three urns with biconical affinities were also found.

Several of the large cairns on the East Moors have been dug, although the many nineteenth century excavations provided very poor records of the finds. The range of earlier bronze age artefacts is wider than in the other sites described above. It may be significant that three out of four of the cairns opened this century contained food vessels of classic form, in contrast with the smaller cairns in which none has been found. At one of the largest cairns on Stanton Moor (Cairn 52) were discovered food vessel sherds, at least three collared urns and a pygmy cup. Further food vessel sherds were found on the surface of another large cairn here (Cairn 50). In 1926 a small cist was found in a field to the southwest of the cairnfield, but it is unclear if this was ever covered by a cairn. It contained a large cordoned urn accompanied by a bronze knife-dagger with a bone pommel. The cairn on Curbar Edge (Cairn 13) near Cairnfield 12 had a bronze dagger and food vessel sherds in a central cist.

Several isolated large cairns are worthy of note. The only recent excavation is at the cairn on Harland Edge (Cairn 31) which had a complex series of deposits. A deep rock-cut grave with a crouched skeleton had charcoal in its fill which produced a date of 1750 ± 150 bc (BM 210). Two shallow pits contained burnt deposits. One was accompanied by a food vessel and the second had two food vessels and produced a date of 1490 ± 150 bc (BM 178). A further two food vessels, two collared urns and a cordoned urn were also found. The cairn near Newbridge Farm (Cairn 20) contained a collared urn and a shale disc in a central cist, while nearby at Stone Low (Cairn 22) two large 'urns' and a pygmy cup have been found. A cairn on Highlow (Cairn 38) contained two bronze flat axes. One of the cairns on Eyam Edge (Cairn 48) had several rock-cut graves, one of which contained a food vessel. At the Round Hillock (Cairn 45) a large collared urn, a pygmy cup, amber beads and a perforated jet pendant were found in the eighteenth century.

Close examination of the horizontal stratigraphy of those cairnfields with both cairns and fields provides several indications of chronological depth. The most common is the frequent occurrence of small cairns abutted by field banks, to be found in virtually all the cairnfields under discussion here. In the absence of excavation it is often impossible to determine which was built first. However, it seems logical to assume that, as a general rule, the cairns pre-dated the continuous boundaries. This is given some support at cairnfields such as that on Birchin Edge (31), where a patterned distribution of cairns makes it difficult to postulate that they postdated the field boundaries. In other cases, as at Big Moor Central (22), field boundaries occasionally deviate from a straight course to incorporate cairns, which are thus likely to have predated them. However, this sequence probably does not apply to all freestanding cairns: clearance of stone brought to the surface by ploughing or spade cultivation would continue to be a problem even after the boundaries were defined, if the fields were used for arable. In several instances cairns are placed centrally

in fields, suggesting that they had a direct relationship with their construction or subsequent cultivation (Cairnfields 7, 12, 13, 21, 22, 27, 28, 30, 31, 37). In two cases, at Gardoms Edge Northwest (27) and Birchin Edge South (31), the cairns are particularly interesting in that they form grid-like patterns whose orientation also relates to the field banks. At Birchin Edge South this pattern extends into an area where no banks exist. This strongly suggests that fields following the same general arrangement as those subsequently defined by banks may well have existed, perhaps defined by hedges or fences. This hypothesis is supported by cairns in the grids being occasionally abutted by banks, a phenomenon which can also be observed at other cairnfields (13, 27, 30). Further evidence is provided by several fields which are partially defined by discontinuous banks but have their boundaries defined elsewhere by lines of cairns or linear clearance. A good example of this is to be seen at Birchin Edge South (Cairnfield 31). At Big Moor East (Cairnfield 23) the distribution of cairns in linear bands surrounding relatively cairn-free areas may also be interpreted as relating to former field boundaries.

A second indicator of chronological depth is the dichotomy between the aggregate sub-rectangular fields and the narrow co-axial ones. In three cairnfields, Stoke Flat East (13), Big Moor Central (22) and Beeley Warren South (37), both exist together, often abutting so awkwardly as to suggest different phases of construction. However, it is difficult to determine if one type generally preceded the other. On the one hand, at Stoke Flat East and other cairnfields, the relationship of the co-axial banks to grids of cairns could suggest that these appeared before the sub-rectangular fields, which have no such relationship to the earlier cairns. On the other hand, the co-axial fields at Beeley Warren South appear to overlie a partially destroyed sub-rectangular field. At Big Moor Central the fragmentary co-axial fields appear to be truncated by sub-rectangular ones, but excavation of banks at a junction between the two types in 1983 indicated that a somewhat atypical co-axial bank abutted a sub-rectangular field. Further excavations are needed to clarify this point.

Thirdly, chronological depth is provided by stone circles and ringcairns which have their banks overlain by small cairns. This occurs in four instances (Circles 11, 14, 21, 23). At a fifth, Doll Tor (Circle 35), the circle has a cairn abutting one side. This suggests that these ceremonial sites are early in the chronological sequence, particularly as the cairns at Barbrook II and Beeley Moor South appear to slight the monument. There are eleven instances where cairns occur within the flat central area of a circle. As a rule it is impossible to determine if these are contemporary or secondary. The eccentric placing of the cairn at Barbrook II and the two late C14 dates at Brown Edge might suggest the latter.

In general, there appears to be enough chronological evidence to suggest two phases of activity within the East Moor cairnfields, although it must be stressed that these probably only reflect a general trend, and it is unclear how synchronous this was from cairnfield to cairnfield. In all probability the majority evolved gradually. The initial phase consisted of the construction of numerous small cairns. In some instances at least, these appear to have been within fields defined by hedges or fences. This expansion on to the East Moors probably correlates with clearance episodes in the late third millennium and the first half of the second millennium bc as revealed by pollen analysis (Hicks, 1972). (Three samples were dated to 2120±100 bc GaK 2285, 1790±100 bc GaK 2286, and 1500±110 bc GaK 2287 respectively.) The building of the stone circles, ringcairns and perhaps larger cairns may well belong to this earlier phase. The second phase involved the construction of more permanent field boundaries in the shape of banks of stone or earth. In some instances whole areas of fields were finally defined in this way, while in others the process was far

less developed and this enhancement of existing boundaries was probably little more than a response to the need for clearance of stone in areas where this was most common. This second phase must have begun by the mid-second millennium BC as the C14 date from Swine Sty indicates. The later phase of development did not take place in all cairnfields. Those which have better defined fields are often larger in area than average and also situated in the most favourable locations in terms of altitude and aspect. This probably indicates a longer period of use here, although when they were finally abandoned still remains obscure.

Many general aspects of the interpretation of the East Moor cairnfields and ceremonial sites have not been touched upon here. Their typology and function within a wider geographical context and the nature of the economy and social organization of the people who built them will be discussed in a second paper (Barnatt, in prep.). Suggestions will also be made there as to where future research could most constructively be directed.

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Table 1: Cairnfields and Field Systems on the East Moors

Key

- A: Reference number
 B: Name
 C: SMR reference number (SY indicates South Yorkshire; otherwise Derbyshire)
 D: Map Refence, approximate centre (common prefix SK)
 E: Altitude range in metres
 F: Approximate area in hectares, based on field boundaries (bronze age and recent) or topographic features. In the case of unbounded cairnfields calculations are based on an arbitrary line drawn 50 metres around cairns. Groups truncated by later intake are placed in brackets.
 G: Typology: a: Co-axial fields with sub-rectangular fields and cairns
 b: Sub-rectangular fields and cairns
 c: Clearance cairnfields with fragmentary banks and linear clearance
 d: Probable clearance cairnfields without banks or linear clearance
 e: Funerary cairnfields
 f: Fragmentary cairnfields
 H: Number of small cairns in the cairnfield (≤ 10.0 m in diameter)
 I: Mean cairn size (excluding cairns ≤ 10.0 metres in diameter)
 J: Large cairns within the cairnfield (see Table 2)
 K: Cairns near the cairnfield (see Tables 2, 3)
 L: Stone circles and ringcairns within the cairnfield (see Table 4)
 M: Stone circles and ringcairns near the cairnfield (see Table 4)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
A: NORTHERN MOORS												
1	Hordron Edge	4621	215869	310-325	3.9	f	0-8	—	—	—	1	—
2	Priddock Wood N	1003	208863	320-340	(3.6)	d	3-7	4.2	—	—	—	—
3	" " S	1005	208858	335-365	(3.3)	c	14-20	3.3	—	—	—	2
4	Bamford Edge	1009	210847	420-425	1.7	c	8-13	3.7	—	3	—	—
5	Bamford Moor S	1015, 1016, 11304	218844	350-390	7.1	d	16-21	3.3	—	5,55	—	—
6	Dennis Knoll NW	11337	224845	345-360	2.4	c	8	3.9	—	—	—	3
7	" " SE	11337	229840	300-340	15.8	b	38-47	4.4	6,7, 8	—	—	—
8	Callow	7424	243822	345-360	4.4	b	18-26	4.2	—	—	—	—
B: BURBAGE BROOK WATERSHED												
9	Winyards Nick	SY853	253811	345-375	3.3	c	18	4.4	—	59, 60	—	4
10	Toads Mouth	SY135	259808	305-345	6.1	d	70	4.7	—	62	—	4
11	Sheffield Plantation	7428	256792	280-285	(3.3)	c	16-17	3.6	—	—	—	—
12	Stoke Flat W	1367	250764	275-320	12.4	a	53-57	3.3	12	13	5	—
13	" " E	1370	255764	295-315	10.2	a	9-19	4.5	—	—	—	—
14	Burbage Moor S	SY859	27.80.	395-400	(—)	f	0-1	—	—	—	6, 7	—
C: BAR BROOK/HEATHY LEA BROOK WATERSHED												
15	Brown Edge N	8075	289791	360-380	3.8	d	24-28	3.5	—	—	8	—
16	" " S	8076	289787	360-365	0.5	e	7	1.9	—	—	—	—
17	Salter Sich	8077	288782	350-355	1.8	d	12-14	2.5	—	—	—	—
18	Barbrook Reservoir	8080	284773	300-335	3.7	d	8-15	4.1	—	—	9	—

Table 2: Large Cairns on the East Moors ($\geq 10.0m$ in diameter)

Key

A: Reference number									
B: Name						i: Isolated			
C: SMR reference number (SY indicates South Yorkshire, otherwise Derbyshire)						d: Within or near an area of likely destruction of associated features by later intake			
D: Map reference (common prefix SK)									
E: Dimensions in metres						G: Associated cairnfield (see Table 1)			
F: Location: c: Within a cairnfield						H: Orientation from the cairnfield			
ce: At the edge of a cairnfield						I: Other associated sites			
nc: Near a cairnfield									

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
A: NORTHERN MOORS								
1	Crow Chin	11307/ SY681	22478566	19.5 x 18.5	i	—	—	Cairn 2
2	" "	11308/ SY681	22468562	17.0 x 16.5	i	—	—	Cairn 1
3	Bamford Edge	1008	20848485	18.0	nc	4	NW	—
4	Bamford Moor	1010	21248493	12.0 x 11.5	i	—	—	Cairns 75, 76
5	" "	1011	21398479	13.0 x 9.5	nc	5	NW	Cairns 55, 74
6	Dennis Knoll	11346	22828405	13.0 x 12.0	c	7	—	Cairns 7, 8
7	Sheepwash Bank	11305	23008418	13.0 x 12.5	c	7	—	Cairns 6, 8
8	" "	11338	23148412	14.5	c	7	—	Cairns 6, 7
9	North Lees	11327	23698364	13.0	d	—	—	—
B: BURBAGE BANK WATERSHED								
10	Robin Hood's Pricks	7431	26.80.	destroyed	d?	14?	—	Cairn 11
11	" " "	"	26.80.	destroyed	d?	14?	—	Cairn 10
12	Stoke Flat	1368	24927665	13.5	ce	12	NW	Circle 5
13	Curbar Edge	1340	25497560	17.0	nc	12	SE	—
C: BAR BROOK/HEATHY LEA BROOK WATERSHED								
14	Owler Bar	8078	29107798	16.0	d	—	—	—
15	Big Moor	1380	27137543	13.5 x 12.0	ce	22	W	Circle 10
16	" "	15807	27617618	13.5 x 12.0	nc	23	NW	—
17	" "	8094	27757568	11.5 x 10.5	c	23	—	Circles 11, 12
18	Barlow Moor	1207	30297396	10.5	d	—	—	—
19	Three Men	1396	27147279	17.5 x 17.0	nc	28,29	W	—
20	Newbridge Farm	1393	28487226	10.5	i	—	—	—
21	" "	1394	28727258	12.0	i	—	—	—
22	Stone Low	2301	28977167	30.0	d	—	—	—
23	Brampton East Moor	2302	29207078	16.5 x 15.5	i	—	—	—
24	Rod Knoll	2303	30186986	18.0	d	—	—	—
25	Gibbet Moor	1399	27937068	13.0	c	33	—	Cairns 26, 27
26	" "	"	27957066	12.5	c	33	—	Cairns 25, 27
27	" "	"	27977065	12.5	c	33	—	Cairns 25, 26
D: SOUTHERN MOORS								
28	Beeley Warren	1444	27826849	20.0	nc	37	W	—
29	" "	1446	28576836	20.0 x 18.0	nc	37	?	Cairn 30
30	" "	"	28596827	11.5 x 11.0	nc	37	?	Cairn 29
31	Harland Edge	1411	28916876	18.5 x 17.5	i	—	—	—
32	Longside Moor	14608	31306843	13.5	d	—	—	—

33	Woodbrook Quarry	9828	28446578	10.0	nc	40	NW	Circle 24
E: NORTHWESTERN MOORS								
34	Offerton Moor	11108	21328056	16.0	ce	41	E	Circle 25
35	" "	11109	20788066	13.0 x 10.0	ce	41	W	Cairn 36
36	" "	11110	20678062	12.5 x 11.5	ce	41	W	Cairn 35
37	" "	11111	20558082	12.0	i	—	—	—
38	Highlow	7808	221802	destroyed	d	—	—	—
39	Highlow Moor	7803	21128025	19.0 x 17.5	ce	44	W	Cairn 40
40	" "	"	21148025	11.0 x 10.5	ce	44	W	Cairn 39
41	" "	7807	21488008	17.5	ce	44	E	—
42	Abney Moor	24	18807920	10.0	i	—	—	—
43	Eyam Moor	5442	22557904	27.5 x 15.0	nc	46	W	Circle 27
44	" "	5472	22557864	13.5 x 12.0	i	—	—	—
45	The Round Hillock	5444	23.78.	destroyed	d?	—	—	—
46	Stanage	5449	21547865	17.5 x 16.5	ce	47	W	—
47	Hawleys Piece	5801	20997810	destroyed	nc	49	SW	—
48	Eyam Edge	5448	20477769	25.0	d	—	—	—
49	" "	5812	19.78.	destroyed	d	—	—	—
F: STANTON MOOR								
50	Stanton Moor	12913	25136331	15.5 x 14.5	nc	51	NE	—
51	" "	12917	24826313	16.0	c	51	—	see text
52	" "	12936	24686278	15.0 x 14.5	c	51	—	"
53	" "	12955	24546268	15.0 x 10.5	c	51	—	"

Table 3: Small isolated Cairns on the East Moors ($\geq 10.0m$ in diameter)

Key

A: Reference number	nc: Near a cairnfield
B: Name	i: Isolated
C: SMR reference number (SY indicates South Yorkshire, otherwise Derbyshire)	d: Within or near an area of likely destruction of associated features by later intake
D: Map reference (common prefix SK)	G: Associated cairnfield (see Table 1)
E: Dimensions in metres	H: Orientation from the cairnfield
F: Location: c: Within a cairnfield ce: At the edge of a cairnfield	I: Other associated sites

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
A: NORTHERN MOORS								
54	Moscar Moor	1001	21608591	7.0 x 6.5	i	—	—	—
55	Bamford Moor	1012	21468475	9.5 x 9.0	nc	5	NW	Cairns 5, ?4
56	" "	1014	21538443	8.5 x 7.0	nc	5	NW	—
57	Bamford Edge	1013	21348436	6.5 x 6.0	i	—	—	—
B: BURBAGE BROOK WATERSHED								
58	Higgar Lodge	SY853	25208148	7.5	i	—	—	—
59	Winyards Nick	SY853	25328127	6.0	nc	9	N	Cairn 60
60	" "	SY853	25328126	6.0	nc	9	N	Cairn 59
61	Over Owlter Tor	SY853	25168089	5.0 x 3.5	i	—	—	—
62	Toads Mouth	SY856	25788058	7.5 x 6.5	nc	10	SW	—
63	Longshaw	7429	26097922	8.0 x 7.5	d	—	—	Cairn 64

64	"	"	26107930	3.5	d	—	—	Cairn 63
65	Strawberry Lea	SY861	28707991	7.0	d	—	—	—
C: BAR BROOK/HEATHY LEA BROOK WATERSHED								
66	Barbrook Reservoir	8081	27607740	3.0	i	—	—	—
67	Eaglestone Flat	4510	26667406	4.5	d	—	—	—
68	Clod Hall Farm	1395	28937277	6.0 x 3.0	d	—	—	—
69	Newbridge Farm	1396	28687221	8.0	d	—	—	—
70	Umberley Well	15805	28786982	6.0	i	—	—	—
D: SOUTHERN MOORS								
71	Beeley Moor	1452	28576734	5.0	nc	38	S	—
72	Hob Hurst's House	1413	28756924	8.0 x 7.5	i	—	—	Cairn 73
73	Harland Edge	1449	28866921	3.0	i	—	—	Cairn 72
74	" "	"	29456891	4.5	i	—	—	—
75	" "	1450	29306858	7.5 x 5.0	i	—	—	Cairn 76
76	" "	1449	29386851	4.5	i	—	—	Cairn 75
77	" "	"	29436824	4.0	i	—	—	—
78	" "	"	29646829	4.5	i	—	—	Cairn 79
79	" "	"	29746823	5.0 x 3.5	i	—	—	Cairn 78
80	Raven Tor	1457	27966646	8.0 x 7.5	nc	39	S	—
81	Fallinge Edge	9809	27746591	8.0 x 7.0	i	—	—	Cairn 82
82	" "	"	27756592	2.0	i	—	—	Cairn 81
83	" "	9827	27436566	5.0 x 2.5	d	—	—	—
84	" "	9826	28086592	5.0	i	—	—	—
E: NORTHWESTERN MOORS								
85	Abney Moor	16	19.80.	c.6.0	d?	—	—	—
86	Abney Low	17	20.79.	c.3.5	d	—	—	—
87	Eyam Moor	5472	22237855	5.5	i	—	—	—
88	" "	5471	22227815	5.0	i	—	—	—
F: STANTON MOOR								
89	Doll Tor	12905	23866287	5.5	d	—	—	Circle 35

Table 4: Stone Circles and Ringcairns within the Survey Area

Key

A: Reference number	p...: Possible site
B: Name	...b: With cairn on bank
C: SMR reference number (SY indicates South Yorkshire; otherwise Derbyshire)	...c: with central cairn
D: Map reference (common prefix SK)	F: Diameter of stone circle and/or inner edge of bank in metres
E: Typology; s: Freestanding stone circle	G: Present number of orthostats in the ring
f: Four-poster	H: Estimated original number of orthostats in the ring
e: Embanked stone circle	I: Orientation of tallest orthostat
re: Ruined embanked stone circle or ringcairn	J: Orientation of entrance
r: Ringcairn	K: Associated cairnfield (see Table 1)
/br: Robbed barrow	L: Relationship to cairnfield: i: internal
/h: House	e: at edge
/n: Natural outcrop	n: nearby
d...: Destroyed site	M: Orientation from cairnfield
	N: Other associated sites

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
A: NORTHERN MOORS													
1	Seven Stones of Hordron	4620	21518684	s	16.0x15.0	10	16	SW	—	1	i	—	—
2	Bamford Moor N	1007	20898526	r	24.5x22.5	—	—	—	—	3	n	S	—
3	" " S	11306	22118454	e	8.0x7.0	6	6	—	—	6	n	NW	Stone 1
B: BURBAGE BROOK WATERSHED													
4	Hathersage Moor	SY853	25688094	pr/h	7.5x5.5	—	—	—	S	9/	n	?	—
										10			
5	Stoke Flat	5901	24957678	e	11.5	7+	16+	SW	SW/ NE	12	e	NW	Cairn 12
6	Ciceley Low N	SY852	27528080	r	25.5x24.0	—	—	—	—	14	?	—	Circle 7
7	" " S	SY852	27518078	r	15.0	—	—	—	S	14	?	—	Circle 6
C: BAR BROOK/HEATHY BROOK WATERSHED													
8	Brown Edge	8004	28837899	re,c	7.5x6.0	2	?	?	—	15	e	SW	—
9	Barbrook III	8003	28337729	e	26.0x23.5	21	23-	W	?	18	e	W	—
							25						
10	Big Moor	1377	26957515	r	15.0	—	—	—	?	22	e	SW	—
11	Barbrook II	8002	27757581	e,bc	15.0x13.5	7	9	W	NE	23	i	—	Circle 12, Cairn 17
12	Barbrook I	8001	27857558	e	14.5x12.5	12	13	SW	—	23	i	—	Circle 11, Cairn 17
13	Ramsley Moor	8084	28957562	pr/br	19.0x16.0	—	—	—	—	25	n	NW	—
14	Birchin Edge N	1382	28517346	r,b	17.5x15.5	—	—	—	—	26	e	SW	—
15	Gardoms Edge	1389	27447239	pr/h	11.5	—	—	—	SE	30	e	W	—
16	Birchin Edge S	1392	28177239	pr/h	10.5x8.0	—	—	—	?	31	e	W	—
17	Gibbet Moor N	15801	28217085	pf	2.0x2.0	3	4	—	—	33	e	E	—
18	" " S	1400	28107027	pe/n	13.0x10.5	1+	?	?	?	33	e	S	—
D: SOUTHERN MOORS													
19	Beeley Warren Northwest	1441	27776872	r	7.0	—	—	—	—	35	e	SE	—
20	Beeley Warren Northeast	1443	27946888	pr/br	6.0	—	—	—	—	36	e	NW	—
21	Park Gate	1445	28056851	e,bc	11.5	10-	18-	S	—	37	e	N	—
						14	20						
22	Beeley Moor N	1458	28536769	pr/h/br	5.0x4.0	—	—	—	?	38	i	—	Circle 23
23	" " S	1459	28536767	pr/h,b	6.0x5.0	—	—	—	SW	38	i	—	Circle 22
24	Woodbrook Quarry	9801	285657	dpr/br,c	c11.0	?	?	?	?	40	?	—	Cairn 33
E: NORTHWESTERN MOORS													
25	Offerton Moor	11107	21288054	re	23.0x18.5	0	?	?	?	41	e	E	Cairn 34
26	Smelting Hill	09	20278039	e	7.5	2	9-	?	N	43	i	—	—
							10						
27	Wet Withens	5452	22557899	e	31.0x30.0	10-	16-	—	—	46	n	W	Cairn 43
						11	18						
28	Eyam Moor II	5474	23157895	e,c	8.0x7.5	3-4	9	?	N	46	n	?	Circle 29
29	" " III	5475	23227879	s,c	12.5x11.5	6	8-9	?	—	46	n	?	Circle 28
30	Top of Riley	5476	23.77.	de	?	?	?	?	?	50	?	—	—
F: STANTON MOOR													
31	Stanton Moor I	12907	24946367	e,c	10.0x9.0	2	?	?	SW/ NE	51	i	—	See text
32	Nine Ladies	12908	24916349	e,c	11.5x11.0	10	11	—	?	51	i	—	" "
33	Stanton Moor III	12912	24806327	re,c	19.5	2+	?	?	N/S	51	i	—	" "
34	" " IV	12928	24716290	e,c	13.5x12.0	3+	11?	?	S	51	i	—	" "
35	Doll Tor	12905	23856287	ps/br, bc	6.0x4.5	6	6	—	—	51	?	—	Cairn 89

*Table 5: Sites with affinities to Stone Circles and Ringcairns listed elsewhere in the Tables***Key**

- A: Name
 B: Notes
 C: Reference number

A	B	C
Moscar Moor	Cairn, 7.0m x 6.6m, with ring of five equally spaced orthostats at its outer edge.	Cairn 54
Strawberry Lea	Ruined cairn, 7.0mx7.0m, with an arc of four orthostats at its outer edge.	Cairn 65
Beeley Warren	Sub-rectangular cairn, surrounded by a bank.	Cairn 30
Hob Hurst's House	Sub-rectangular cairn, with rectangular orthostatic setting at its centre and surrounded by a bank and ditch.	Cairn 72
Harland Edge	Cairn, 7.5mx5.0m, with low kerb. At the centre a boat-shaped orthostatic setting; two entrances defined by radial portals.	Cairn 75
Ravens Tor	Cairn, 8.0mx6.0m, within Cairnfield 39; has two kerbs and may be a ringcairn which later had its centre filled.	—
Abney Moor	Destroyed site; consisted of a high cairn, 6.0mx6.0m, surrounded by a 15.0m diameter bank, on the inner edge of which stood ten orthostats.	Cairn 85

*Table 6: Sites mis-interpreted as Stone Circles or Ringcairns in previous Literature***Key**

- A: Name
 B: Notes
 C: Reference number

A	B	C
Priddock Wood	Robbed cairn in Cairnfield 2 (SK 20858628)	—
Bamford Moor	Robbed cairn?	Cairn 55
Dennis Knoll	Robbed cairn	Cairn 6
Sheepwash Bank	Robbed cairn?	Cairn 7
Lawrence Field	Natural boulders (SK 25247972) or possible destroyed circle (SK c.254797)	—
Owler Bar	Robbed cairn	Cairn 14
Salter Sitch	Probable quarry debris in Cairnfield 17 (SK 28807822)	—
Stoke Flat	Sinuuous field boundary in Cairnfield 12 (SK 25387584)	—
White Edge	Natural features (SK 26547771, 26477751)	—
Big Moor West	Robbed cairn or linear clearance in Cairnfield 21 (SK 26827516)	—
Big Moor East	Two robbed cairns or quarries in Cairnfield 23 (SK 27717585, 27737584)	—
Gibbet Moor	Three robbed cairns?	Cairns 25-27
Rodknoll	Robbed cairn?	Cairn 24
Beeley Warren	Robbed cairn	Cairn 28
" "	Robbed Cairn	Cairn 29
" "	Bell pits (SK 28386867, 28396850, 28486844)	—
Longside Moor	Robbed cairn	Cairn 32

Falling Edge	Robbed cairn?	Cairn 81
Offerton Moor	Robbed cairn	Cairn 34
" "	Robbed cairn	Cairn 37
Highlow Moor	Robbed cairn?	Cairn 41
Leam	Lost stone circle: could be one of the existing ringcairns in Table 4	—
Stanage	Robbed cairn	Cairn 45
Stanton Moor	Dew pond (SK 24716341)	—
Cork Stone	Fortuitous stones or destroyed setting (SK 24346278)	—

Table 7: Standing Stones on the East Moors

Key

A: Reference number

B: Name

C: SMR reference number (Derbyshire)

D: Map reference (common prefix SK)

E: Height in metres

F: Associated sites

G: Notes

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A: NORTHERN MOORS						
1	Old Woman's Stone	1017/ 11336	22008468	2.40	Circle 3, Cairnfield 6	now demolished
B: BARBROOK/HEATHY LEA BROOK WATERSHED						
2	Gardoms Edge	1385	27247323	1.95	Stones 3, 4,	Cairnfield 27
3	" "	"	27267324	1.75	Stones 2, 4, Cairnfield 27	broken, part fallen
4	" "	"	27187331	0.50	Stones 2,3, Cairnfield 27	or natural
5	Birchin Edge	15808	28407263	0.90	Cairnfield 31	or guide stone
6	Gibbet Moor	15802	28217145	1.20	Cairnfield 33	
7	" "	15803	27607106	1.00	Cairnfield 33	
E: NORTHWESTERN MOORS						
8	Highlow Moor	7806	21008036	1.20	Cairnfield 44	or boundary stone
F: STANTON MOOR						
9	King Stone	12908	24886347	0.90	Circle 32, Cairnfield 51	

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