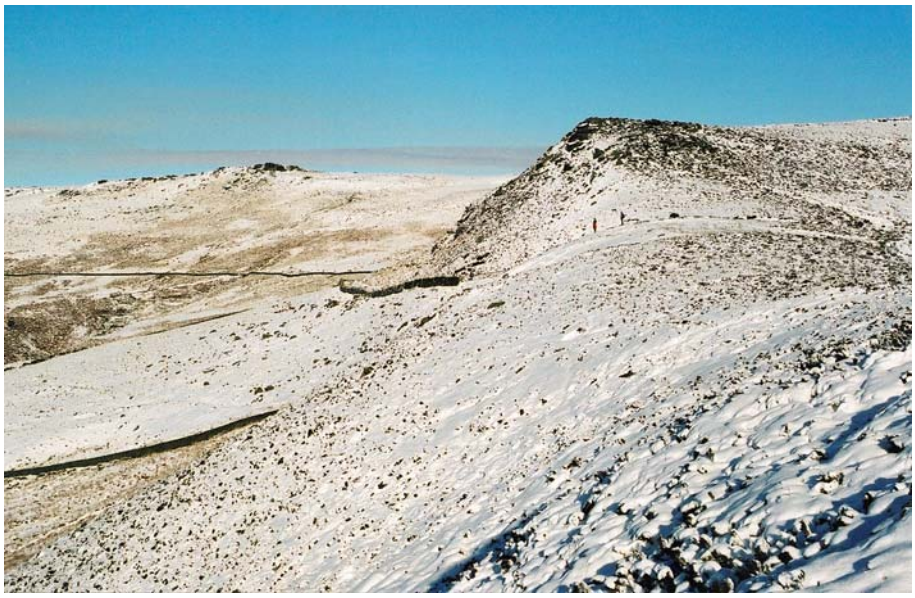
Lobbying and direct action by the likes of Rothman, Ward, Cornish, the Ramblers' Federation and others eventually led to the Access to Mountains Bill being presented to Parliament in 1939. Action taken in the Dark Peak, including the Upper Derwent, was the greatest influence on national decision-making over the issue, and when first tabled the Bill promoted freedom to roam across all moorlands. However, the Bill did not result in a significant opening of access because by the time it became Act it had been amended in favour of landowners' rights by requiring any interested body to apply to the Minister for Agriculture for access to a specific area, against which landowners and other interested parties could appeal (Stephenson 1989). Landowners not only saw the Bill as a risk to their grouse-breeding programmes, they also strongly believed that their rights of ownership over large rural estates would be threatened if access was allowed to the urban working class. This was the class of people created over the previous two centuries by the growth of industrial urbanism, which itself had been stimulated by the estate-based wealth of the landed gentry. Access to moorlands was becoming one of the points of contention over how the landscape was perceived and used, which was being driven by the contrast between city and country.

9.4.2 Peak District National Park

The political debate over access and preservation of rural scenery was reopened after the Second World War. This led to the passing of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act in 1949, which set the basis for the foundation of National Parks in England and Wales and for access to moorlands. The Peak District National Park was created in 1951, the first in the country, with its own planning authority and wardens to help provide an infrastructure for recreation. As with all the National Parks, the original aims were to preserve and enhance natural beauty through the conservation of the Park's distinctive character and to promote their enjoyment to the public through the provision of appropriate opportunities for outdoor recreation (HMSO 1949). In achieving these aims, the Parks had to take into account the social and economic needs of the local community and the interests of agriculture and forestry. Proposed open access to moorland was to be negotiated locally, rather than be imposed nationally. During the debates, the Peak District and the Dark Peak were specifically referred to because of their proximity to millions of people living in cities, when the idea of the area as the 'green lung' of those cities took hold (Stephenson 1989). This was very much an urban perception of the Peaks, placing the region as a rural recreation service to the cities.

As a result of this second Act, the Duke of Norfolk had to concede the right of way along his 'Road' in the Upper Derwent, when the local authority used the new powers of the Act to acknowledge public access along historical rights of way (Hill 1980). Walking is now a popular recreational use of the area, with people attracted to the views, apparent 'wilderness' and relative solitude of the moorlands. The southern stretch of the Pennine Way runs through the north-west of the Upper Derwent, crossing the Snake Pass and Bleaklow. The objective of the early rambling societies – complete freedom to roam, directed nationally by central government rather than negotiated locally – is now being implemented. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, gives public access to open country, registered common land and ground above 600m A.O.D. (HMSO 2000). This is unlikely to have a great impact in the Upper Derwent, where most land under these designations is already open access land.



Photograph 9.9. Walkers 'viewing' the landscape from Derwent Edge

Recreational use of the area has increased dramatically since the days the Clarion Ramblers and gamekeepers fought over the moorlands. Much of the landscape management conducted in the area is directed towards managing those wishing to walk. All of the landowners in the Upper Derwent produce leaflets and waymarkers and undertake footpath repairs both to enable rambling and reduce the impact of numbers of people on the landscape. The desires of walkers, therefore, partly directs the way that the landowners perceive the rural landscape, in addition to their other core objectives, whether conservation or production. The National Trust designates all of the moorland in its

ownership as open access land, where people have the right to roam, and publicises this act widely. For example, the Trust produces a walking guide to its High Peak Estate, which includes the Upper Derwent, with open access areas marked. What the Trust does not broadcast so extensively is that it also closes the moors for grouse-shooting days in late summer and autumn - both ramblers and gamekeepers are still important aspects of the landscape.

9.4.3 Other Recreational Uses

The National Trust lets out all of its moorland areas to a company that arranges corporate grouse-shooting trips. The company's gamekeeper occupies Birchinlee Farm, the residence of the Duke of Devonshire's keeper in the early 20th century, and many of the shooting butts are still used and maintained (Photograph 9.10). Many grouse-shooting days are now corporate hospitality days for well-paid managers working in cities, accompanied by champagne breakfasts, Land Rover rides and traditional picnics. The moorlands are managed to benefit grouse-breeding, partly on the justification that it also benefits other moorland birds as well as sheep grazing. In this instance the Trust sees the potentially competing interests of recreation, conservation and production as complementary and the management of the landscape for each as beneficial to the others.

Photograph 9.10. Grouse-shooting butt maintained and ready for use on Little Howden Moor

Fishing is offered on Ladybower Reservoir by purchase of an annual permit from Severn Trent Water, which has a fisheries office dedicated to servicing fishermen (Photograph

9.3). Cycling in the valley is promoted through the Peak Park cycle hire at Fairholmes and cycling trails follow the reservoir-side access roads built by Derwent Valley Water Board. The biggest group of recreational users of the area are day-trippers, people who have no wish to walk on moorlands, cycle, fish or shoot small birds, but who have come to look at the scenery and breathe fresh air. Most day trippers travel by car and park at one of the numerous roadside car parks. Some never leave these car parks and take in the views from behind the wheel or in a deck chair. Others walk only short distances along the level roads and tracks in the valley bottom. The majority of customers at the coaching inns of Ladybower Inn, Yorkshire Bridge Inn and Snake Inn are now such visitors.

Most visitors are still the occupants of the neighbouring conurbations of Sheffield and Manchester; today joined by people from further afield, who are holidaying in the Peak District. The landscape is managed for their benefit, and in an attempt to control their impact, by the provision of visitor infrastructure. The Peak District National Park's Fairholmes Visitor Centre is the hub and is built on a levelled spoil heap created by the construction of the adjacent Derwent Dam, and named after Fairholmes Farm, which is now abandoned and lies as archaeological remains on the shore of Ladybower Reservoir. The Park Authority, in collaboration with Severn Trent Water, provides a car park screened by trees, refreshments, toilets, cycle hire and the information centre which provides displays, guides, leaflets and books on the wildlife, scenery and history of the area as well as a live video link in spring to one of the woodland goshawk nests. Fairholmes is designed to be the main and first place for visitors to come, where they will find out what the Upper Derwent has to offer, and how to manage themselves in appropriate ways for quiet enjoyment of the countryside. The centre is designed to 'corral' the day-trippers who come to look at scenery, and are thought to have little 'deeper' interest in experiencing the landscape. More adventurous visitors disperse outwards into the landscape along roads and footpaths, on foot and bicycle.

Each of the car parks built along the road between Fairholmes and the A57 provides access to moorland footpaths and reduces roadside parking that is thought untidy and more intrusive. Again, in this 'natural' landscape, the car parks are a mechanism for controlling visitors and the visual impact they have. Cars are restricted on the reservoir-side roads beyond Fairholmes and people with little or no interest in rambling are

encouraged through signs and leaflets to keep to these roads that are wide and well-surfaced. Ramblers, birdwatchers, naturalists, amateur archaeologists or fishermen tend already to know the places or routes where they can enjoy their interests and come prepared with maps. Leaflets and signs are one of the more significant ways of managing the landscape for recreation (see section 9.7).

The Ranger's Tale

"When I retired from the RAF I still needed something to do to keep the mind and body ticking over. Being a part-time Ranger seemed a good way to keep working and thinking. There's a lot of variety and working with people is the bit I enjoy the most, though you get all sorts, a few regular visitors you can have a chat with and others who you wonder why they've come. We see our role as being the public face of the National Park and the representatives of the Park in the local community. We work with all the partners to help look after the valley."

9.5 Conservation: National Parks, National Trusts and National Designations

Conservation in the Upper Derwent is led by four national bodies: the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA), the National Trust, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Countryside Agency. The Peak District National Park was founded in 1951 as a result of the 1949 Act. All national parks are overseen by the government's Countryside Agency. After a government review of national parks at the end of the 20th century, their aims now are to 'conserve and enhance the National Parks' special qualities, and to provide opportunities for their enjoyment and understanding' (PDNPA 2000). How the PDNPA carries out these aims is largely dependent on the Authority working within national guidelines and it has manifested this in the Upper Derwent by designating it as a management area. This aims to bring all interested parties together to better manage the landscape for conservation, as well as recreation and sustainable production. Beyond this, it has little direct influence, and to carry out its remit, it must persuade landowners to its cause.

Conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage is an important factor in estate management by all landowners and by the National Park. The more commercially minded Forestry Commission and Severn Trent Water are both primarily working to make money from producing resources, but the National Park works with them to attempt to persuade them to do so in as conservation-minded a way as possible. Both

have conservation strategies, and Severn Trent is actively managing its woodlands to make them more attractive to wildlife. It also plans tree felling with the National Park Authority to identify how it can avoid damaging archaeological features such as abandoned farmsteads, field barns and charcoal-burning platforms (Photograph 9.12). These have extra costs and there is always a tension between the water company's commercial and conservation aims, though it has recently appointed a forest manager who comes from a conservation rather than a timber background.

Photograph 9.11. National Trust staff plant deciduous tress in the Upper Derwent. National Trust Collection

As well as lying within the Peak District National Park, the area is inside another national designation, DEFRA's North Peak Environmentally Sensitive Area. The Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme was introduced in 1987 to offer incentives to encourage farmers to adopt agricultural practices that would safeguard and enhance parts of the country of particularly high landscape, wildlife or historic value.

Photograph 9.12. Elmin Pitts farmstead. Elmin Pitts is one of only five farmsteads abandoned during the creation of the three reservoirs where substantial building fabric was left standing by DVWB. Like many of the farmstead sites it now survives within a woodland with public access managed by Severn Trent Water. Conifers around many of the ruined farmsteads are being clear-felled to prevent further damage from forestry activity, but the woodland around Elmin Pitts will be left in place because it mainly comprises deciduous species with a high wildlife habitat value

Photograph 9.13. Rebuilding a field wall in the Upper Derwent. National Trust Collection

The National Trust owns all of the farmland and most of the moorland, and is actively planting broadleaf trees. Founded in 1895 by members of the upper-classes horrified at the prospect of industrial and urban expansion into the countryside, it has become more egalitarian in its outlook since the days when one of its founders campaigned against the building of a railway in Borrowdale, Lake District, because of worries over the effects of

large numbers of working-class visitors on the region (Glyptis 1991). It acquired the estate as a result of the Derwent Valley Water Board's land purchases for the construction of the reservoirs. The moorlands were given in separate grants from the Dukes of Devonshire and Norfolk, in lieu of death duties during the 1950s, while most of the farms were bought from Severn Trent since 1980. The Trust has the most conservation-minded ethic of all the landowners. It promotes its conservation work alongside recreation and publicly states that it is dedicated to ensuring that the countryside is protected – for all visitors to enjoy. Landscape is a place of natural beauty to the Trust and purchasing land is its prime aim; it owns 10% of the Peak District National Park.

The Farmer's Tale

> "I have been a shepherd up Derwent Valley now for sixteen years – the last seven of which have seen me installed at Ashes Farm as Tenant to the National Trust. Just short of one hundred acres of steep hillside keeps me busy all year round at weekends when I'm not hill shepherding at the larger farm next door. Hill farming is very close to nature as you follow the seasons as you work. You can never tire of working with hill sheep and cattle. No two months do you do the same type of work. Virtually all the work is outside so waterproof and warm boots and coats are a necessity in the winter months. Whoever decided to build a series of reservoirs in the upper Derwent Valley was a well-read and clever chap. Rainfall is one thing we have rather a lot of."
>
> (Derwent Community 1998)

9.6 Production: Water, Timber and Sheep

Photograph 9.14. Water outlets below Ladybower Dam, a gateway from local to national

For all the recreation and conservation principles of the National Park Authority, the Upper Derwent is dominated by industrial-scale provision of water and timber production. The three reservoirs continue to be important water supplies for the cities that first promoted the Derwent Valley Water Bill in 1899. While Severn Trent is active in protecting and promoting to the public the wildlife and archaeology on its estate, this is undertaken within its primary purpose of supplying, and making commercial profit from, water. The conifer plantations, which were created around the reservoirs to prevent erosion and provide another source of income, are still harvested for their timber crop, and taken to Severn Trent's saw mill above the site of Ashopton hamlet. Beyond these plantations are others created and managed by the Forestry Commission, such as large woodlands near to the top of the Snake Pass and in Alport Dale.

One of the most recent major changes to the landscape occurred in 2000 when Severn Trent Water undertook maintenance and repairs to Ladybower Dam. The dam was subsiding and required heightening and strengthening against the water pressure from the reservoir behind. A huge volume of stone was needed to pile against the reservoir-side of the existing dam and two proposals were put forward by Severn Trent. One was to quarry stone from outside the Park near to Glossop and transport it by lorry. The other was to take stone from within one of their plantations on the north-east facing slope of Win Hill which adjoined the reservoir. Severn Trent favoured the latter because it minimised costs, the company owned the land and so did not have to buy the stone; transport costs were reduced due to the site's proximity. They promised to minimise the quarry's impact on the wider landscape by removing stone in a stepped operation leaving a series of terraces rather than a single high quarry face. They also planned to leave a screen of mature conifers around it, pay for evaluations of archaeological sites and replant the area with native deciduous trees rather than conifers. The Peak Park, as the planning authority responsible for agreeing to or denying this proposal, received numerous complaints on the basis that quarrying below Win Hill would damage the scenic beauty of and affect wildlife in this area of the National Park. The Authority gave permission on the grounds that the other option of bringing stone from outside the Park by lorry, which involved approximately one lorry arriving every 30 minutes, would be too polluting, disturbing and dangerous. This option would be more damaging to the Park's landscape than quarrying under Win Hill and would counter the Authority's aims of

reducing vehicle emissions (PDNPA 2000). The Authority's Ecology Service preferred the Win Hill proposal because the quarry terraces and tree replanting scheme would improve the potential of the area as wildlife habitats. Quarrying took approximately a year to complete and the result is barely obvious from the surrounding area.

Photograph 9.15. Forestry. PDNPA Collection

Clear-felling, as well as changing water levels in the reservoirs, creates the most visible changes in the modern landscape. Felling creates opportunities to alter the landscape by replanting with selected species. Severn Trent is now planting more mixed deciduous species, partly in mind of the potential for good publicity and partly within the context of low timber prices, which mean that there is little profit to be made from wood. The economic viability of the Forestry Commission plantations is also being re-evaluated and those in Alport Dale are now considered too remote to make a profit from their harvest. As a result the Commission and the National Trust are drawing up a plan to fell many of the conifers and enable regeneration of indigenous species in their place.

Despite the flooding of large tracts of land and the abandonment of the majority of farms, the valleys are still occupied. There are eight working farms, all of which are owned by the National Trust and let to tenants. Each practises pastoral agriculture within enclosed improved pasture fields and open moorland grazing. Sheep dominate, usually to the exclusion of any other livestock, and both wool and the sheep themselves are sold on the national and European produce market. The sheep market has been depressed since the 1980s and upland farmers have found it difficult to make a living from their flocks,

resulting in the abandonment of farms across the British uplands. The National Trust has supported its farmers to some extent, by helping with grant applications, providing estate maintenance and keeping rents low, so mollifying the economic effects and helping to sustain the continuation of hill-farming in the Upper Derwent. Boundaries have been lost to increase the size of some fields to reflect modern agricultural ideals but there is still a coherence to the enclosed farmland of the valley sides. Routeways continue in use to move flocks between the farms and moors. This is the remnant of the dominant land-use pattern and dispersed settlement that originated in the 13th century. The National Trust tries to balance its agricultural, conservation and recreation aims through traditional land-use practices, though few tenants have an interest in the latter two objectives. Sheep numbers are one axis of tension, tenants wanting as many as possible to maximise their income, while the Trust has recently started a policy of reducing numbers to prevent over-grazing.

The Forester's Tale

> "I'm not really a proper forester, well I am but that's just a small part of the job. I'm not in the woods everyday and spend more time in the office. When there used to be a forestry team under the last forestry manager he was out driving around the valley a lot, keeping an eye on the woodlands. I seem too busy for that. I can be marking trees for timber extraction, working on management plans, having meetings, discussing interpretation panels. The old manager lives here too, just across from the office so I see him every morning walking his dog or passing on mail that's been sent to him by mistake."

9.7 Signs and Leaflets: a History of Changing Values, Changing Images

The very look of the modern landscape is the biggest indicator of the nature of current land management for production, conservation and recreation. Many visitors, however, do not realise this and perceive the landscape to be natural, traditional and wilderness – notions that emphasise unchanging characteristics in opposition to development and progress, which is conceived as taking place in cities or lowland countryside where prairie farming and urban-edge expansion occurs (Bunce 1994; Glyptis 1991). The creation of the reservoirs and plantations is one very obvious change to occur in the 20th century, but its pre-war date and the natural or historical symbolism evident in the lake-like water, Alpine-style conifers and Gothic dams give them an 'aged' quality which dovetails into this timeless perception.

For many visitors, the more obvious indicator of modern landscape management is in the plethora of signs and leaflets that have manifested, primarily to manage visitors. Words and pictures are a common aspect of today's Upper Derwent and an interpretation of them gives some idea of the ideologies behind the various organisations attitudes to the landscape.

9.7.1 Signposting Whos, Dos and Don'ts

The earliest were the plain text on a green background footpath waymarkers of the Peak District and Northern Counties Footpath Preservation Society discussed above (Photograph 9.7). Green is again prominent in property signs of the Forestry Commission, and is used by the National Trust for lettering on a silver background. It is the colour of the countryside, helping the signs to blend in with the surrounding landscape, and mimics a country estate style, so reinforcing their place as rural landowners. Severn Trent Water has opted for blue to emphasise their water supply, while the National Park signs are on a brown background (Photograph 9.8).

Photograph 9.16a. National Park and National Trust signs at an access point to open access moorland near the Snake Pass owned by the Trust and managed by both the Trust and the Park Authority

Dedications to deceased loved ones made on benches at favourite viewpoints are very popular amongst walkers, and there is a National Park system in place for dealing with requests. Most benches in the Upper Derwent have a name plaque which ties in personal remembrance to looking at the landscape. Even for visitors who do not know the people named in or responsible for the dedication, the plaques associate feelings of enjoying the

Photograph 9.16b. UDOWG interpretation sign for a roadside car park overlooking the site of Derwent Village (copyright UDOWG)

countryside, companionship and mortality. The grandest example of this sort of landscape naming is found at Losehill, where the National Trust have added the name 'Ward's Piece' on their waymarkers and Ordnance Survey names it so on their maps.

Photograph 9.17. Poetic licence. Benches inscribed by National Park Rangers with rhymes linked to the landscape. This is on the line of the aqueduct as it runs along the west side of the valley

At the beginning of the 21st century, two new and completely different styles of signs are appearing throughout the Upper Derwent. The first style is appearing on new waymarkers and benches and is produced in house by Peak Park rangers. Brightly painted direction arrows and carved pictures of people doing country pursuits are replacing the plain wood waymarkers. These are highly prominent with the bursts of colour being more intrusive from much greater distances. This is one of the principle aims. The other objectives are to be humorous, to remove the dowdy appearance

andformal estate style of the traditional signs and to enable signs to be cheaply produced by staff working in the valley. Benches are appearing inscribed by the rangers, with hand-carved poems about the particular area of landscape where they are situated (Photograph 9.17). Reactions to the benches and waymarkers are divided: most urban and young visitors like them, while visitors who are older or more 'serious' in their pursuit of rambling think them intrusive and frivolous.

The second style follows the fundamental change which has occurred in countryside signs – they are becoming more prevalent, more colourful and more overtly 'designed'. Coloured text and pictures are appearing by all the car parks and at a number of access points to National Trust moorlands to inform visitors about the work that the various partners undertake, why it is important and why the landscape is important (Illustration 9.16b). The imagery of the signs no longer harks back to that of landed estates because this is thought to be unlikely to get the messages across to the public. These are expensively designed and manufactured signs in which more modern concerns of public relations, marketing and advertising are now being employed to enhance the visitor experience. These signs are mirrored in revamped leaflets and a study of two recent leaflets will highlight the meaning of modern landscape management in the Upper Derwent, the Peak District and further afield in both rural and urban areas, where tourism is seen as an important economic and social factor.

9.7.2 Leaflets: a Case Study in Imagery of the Landscape

Two leaflet guides to the area have been produced at the beginning of the 21st century, one by the Upper Derwent Officer Working Group and one by the National Trust. These replaced leaflets dating from the 1980s and 1990s, which were thought to be out-of-date and therefore a hindrance to public interpretation. The older leaflets looked very plain, comprising simply laid-out text written in a dry, passive voice alongside black and white line drawings. The designs had altered little since the 1960s, and reflected the simple waymarking signs and noticeboards of the time.

National Trust

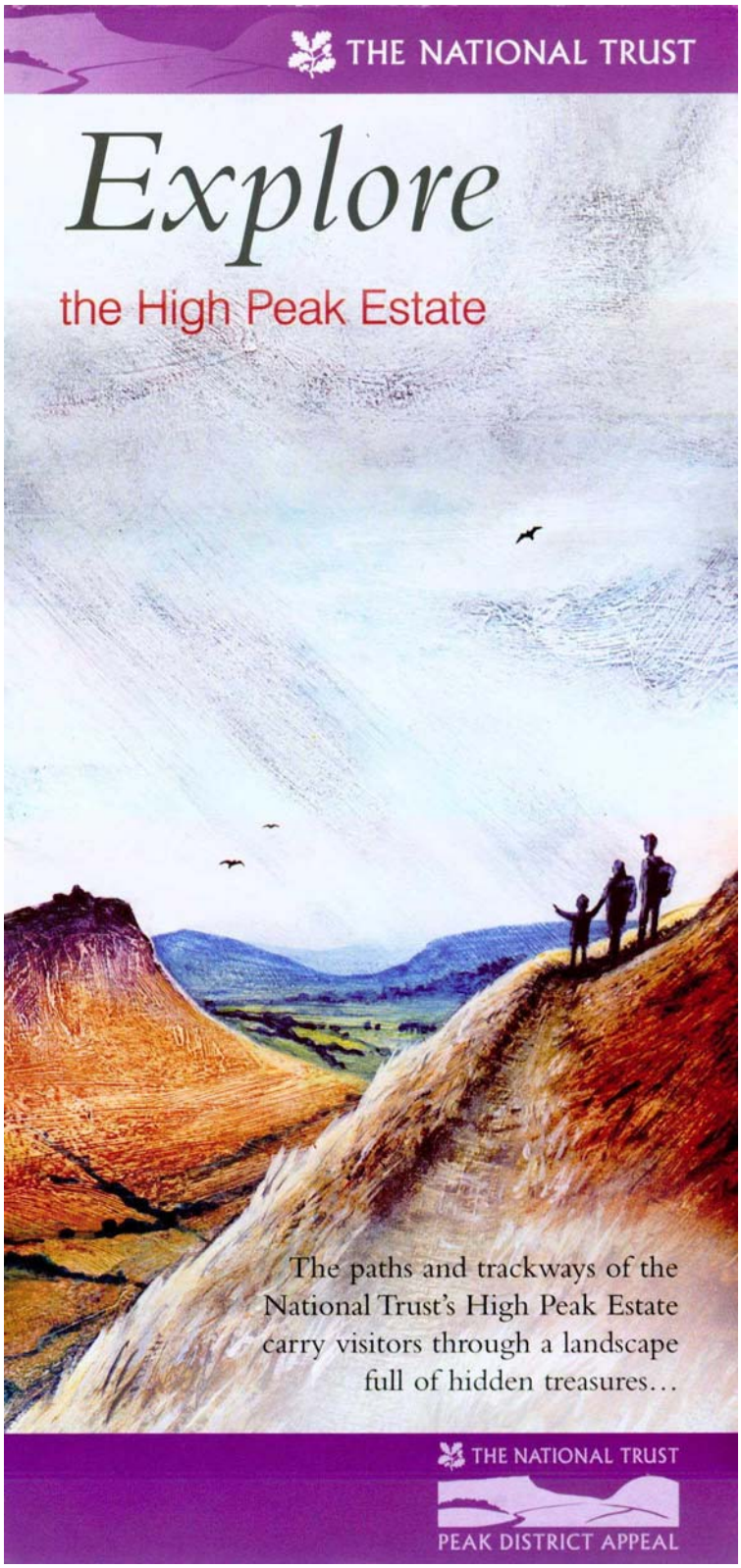


Illustration 9.2. The National Trust High Peak Estate leaflet: cover. Reproduced with the permission of the National Trust

The new National Trust leaflet speaks in a more active voice; it urges the visitor to 'Explore the High Peak Estate'. The cover is a watercolour of walkers enjoying the view of upland scenery with curlews overhead (Illustration 9.2). The key elements of the High Peak landscape: heather moorland, traditional farming, historic land-use, and wildlife habitats for rare species (Illustration 9.3).

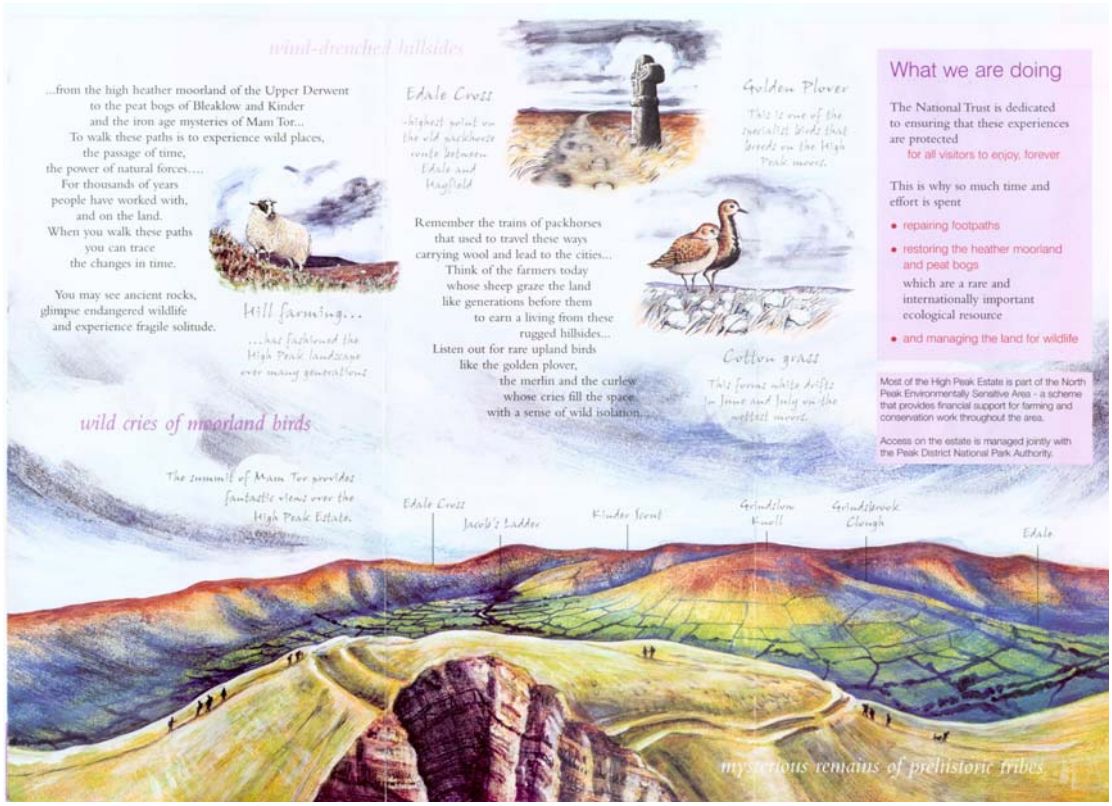


Illustration 9.3. The National Trust High Peak Estate leaflet: inside. Reproduced with the permission of the National Trust

Alongside this, the work of the National Trust is summarised as 'what we are doing' while the visitor is not just a passive viewer of the scenery but someone who 'can take an active part' (Illustration 9.3). Watercolour vignettes depict sheep, golden plovers, the Edale Cross, mountain hare and red grouse. These are the National Trust's emblems of the countryside and of the importance of its work as preserver of nationally important landscapes. The imagery, and a list of ways in which to 'properly' explore the countryside (not shown – on the reverse of the leaflet depicted in Illustration 9.3), such as by avoiding litter, takes us straight back to the art, maps and writings of the 1920s and 1930s (see section 9.4.1).

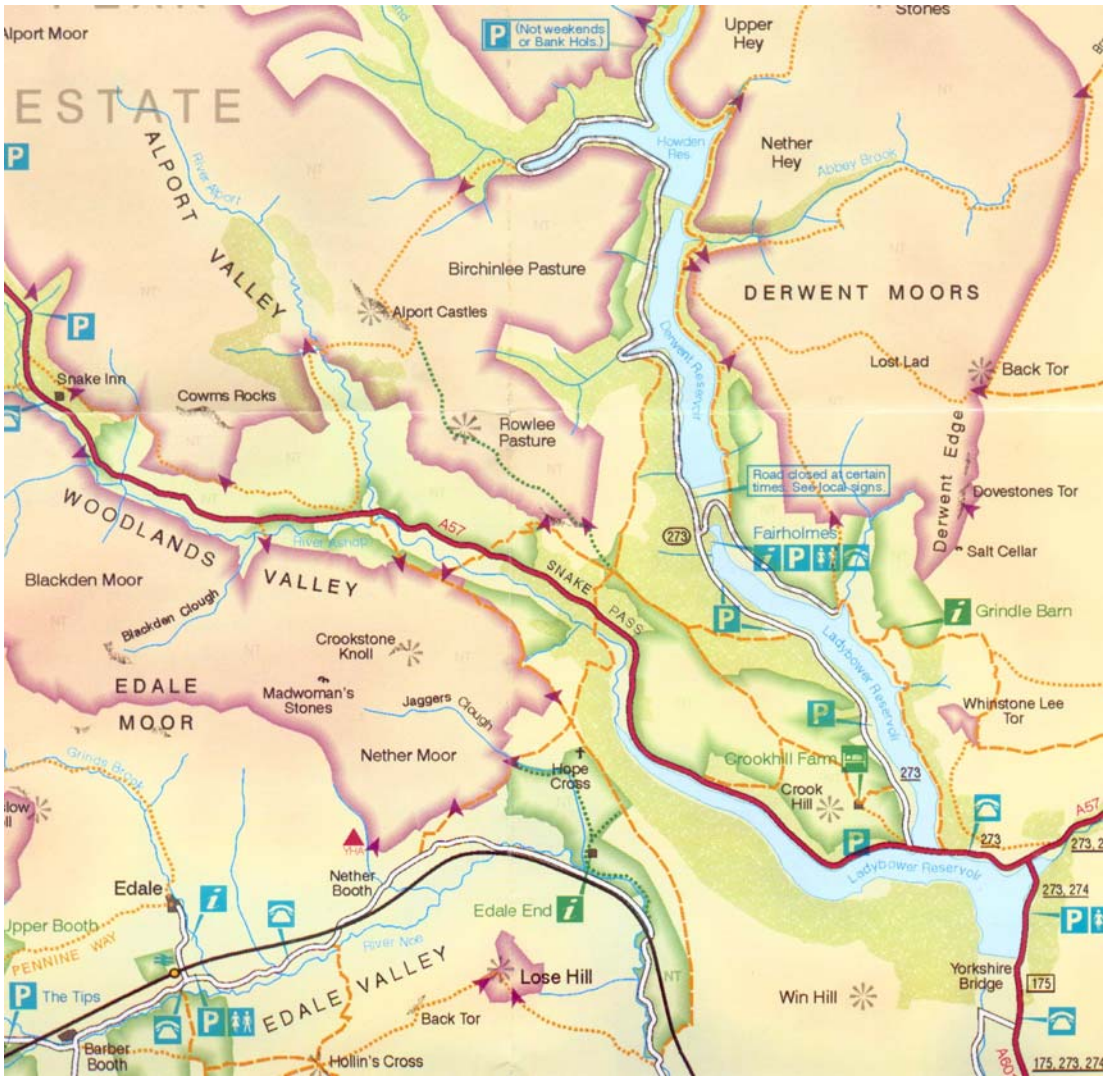


Illustration 9.4. The National Trust High Peak Estate leaflet: section of map. Reproduced with the permission of the National Trust

A map is still central to the visitor's understanding of the landscape and the attractiveness of the symbols used encourages visitors to realise the attractiveness of the High Peak estate (Illustration 9.4). Prominent on the map are open access areas (purple), car parks and tourist information.

Upper Derwent

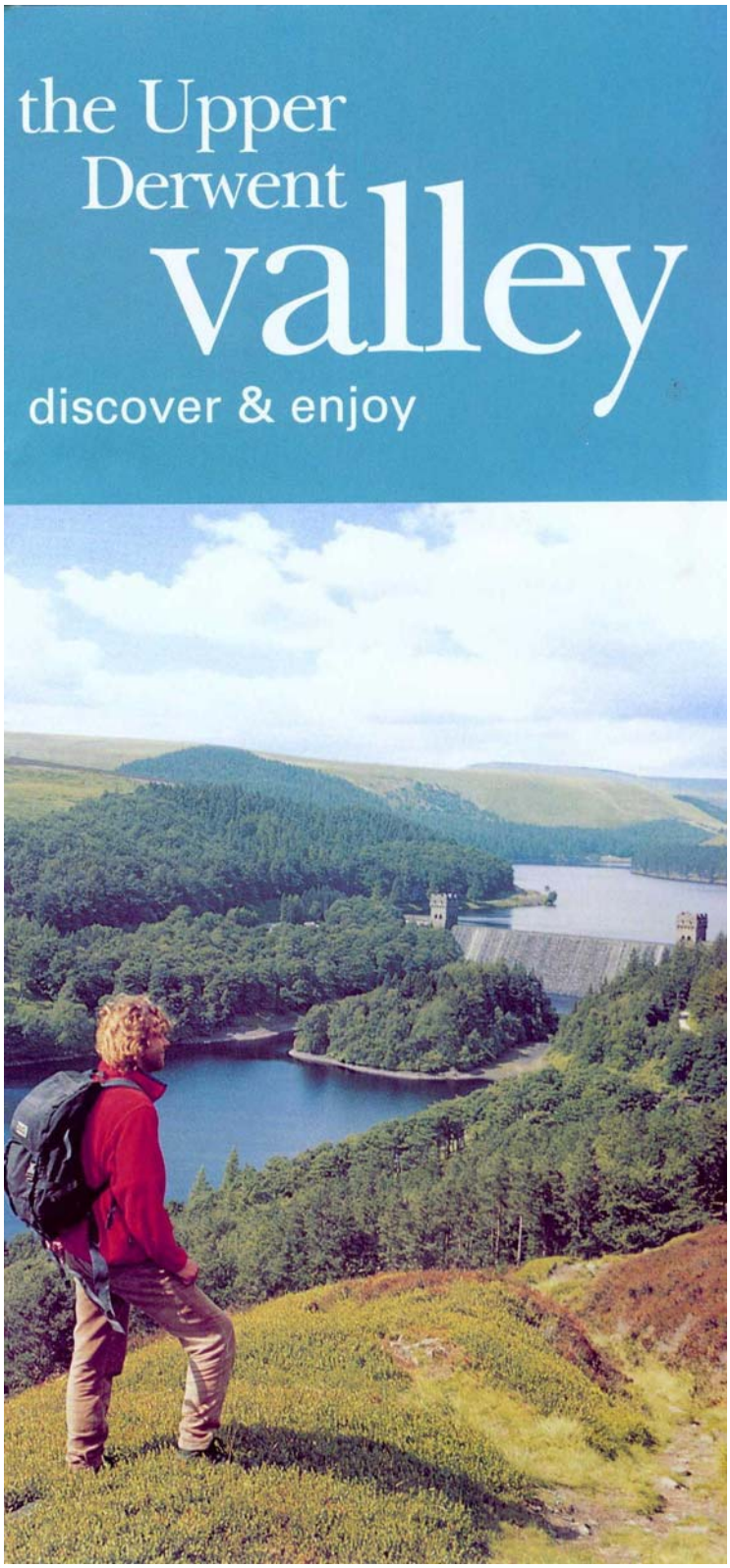


Illustration 9.5. The Upper Derwent ‘Welcome’ leaflet: cover. Reproduced with the permission of UDOWG

The Upper Derwent Officer Working Group has produced a single leaflet to welcome visitors to the area (Illustration 9.5). Entitled 'The Upper Derwent Valley: discover and enjoy', it too uses language which encourages active engagement rather than passive viewing. However, the cover is a photograph of a walker looking at Howden Dam in a scene that includes all many of the defining elements of the Upper Derwent landscape – dam, reservoirs, woodlands, moorland and hollow-way. The walker may be read as a symbol of appropriate 'quiet' enjoyment of the National Park. Central to this leaflet is a series of short texts on what visitors can do (Illustration 9.6). On the rear (not depicted), the point is made that the Upper Derwent is not just a recreational playground but a living and working landscape producing agriculture, water and timber. 'Essential information' details visitor services while 'help to keep it special' is another code of conduct for appropriate behaviour in the countryside.

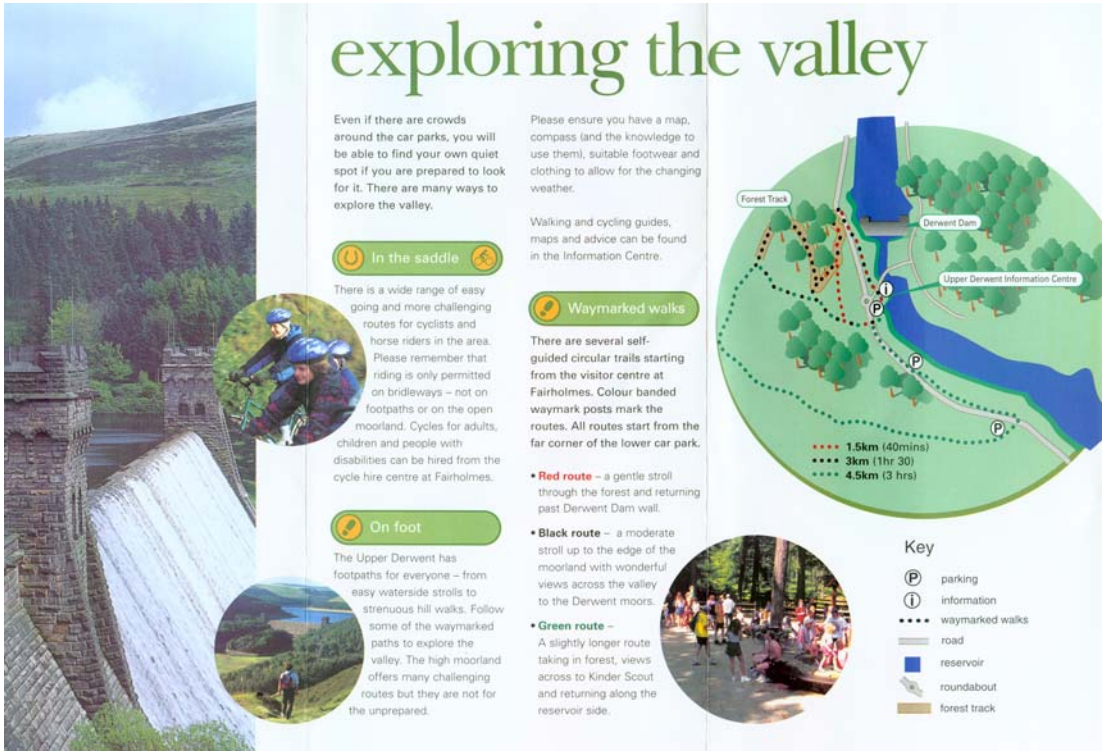


Illustration 9.6. The Upper Derwent 'Welcome' leaflet: inside. Reproduced with the permission of UDOWG

Wildlife, recreation and the work of the partners are given primacy, while references to cultural heritage were reduced on the insistence of the Forestry Commission. Now, the leaflet diverges from that of the National Trust. More publicity is given to the 'unique and award-winning partnership' which 'works with local farmers, residents and visitors' to manage the landscape, so that it can 'remain as attractive as it is now'. This is as much

a public relations exercise as an information guide. The imagery is also very different to the National Trust leaflet, photographs replace watercolours, headings are reminiscent of café bar menus and the maps are styled after 3D views of computer games or GIS systems, a Nintendo-isation of the landscape, where modern relevancy is seen as more attractive than tradition (Illustration 9.7). This is imagery familiar to the urban population, that makes up the majority of visitors, and is now informing their perceptions of the Upper Derwent landscape.

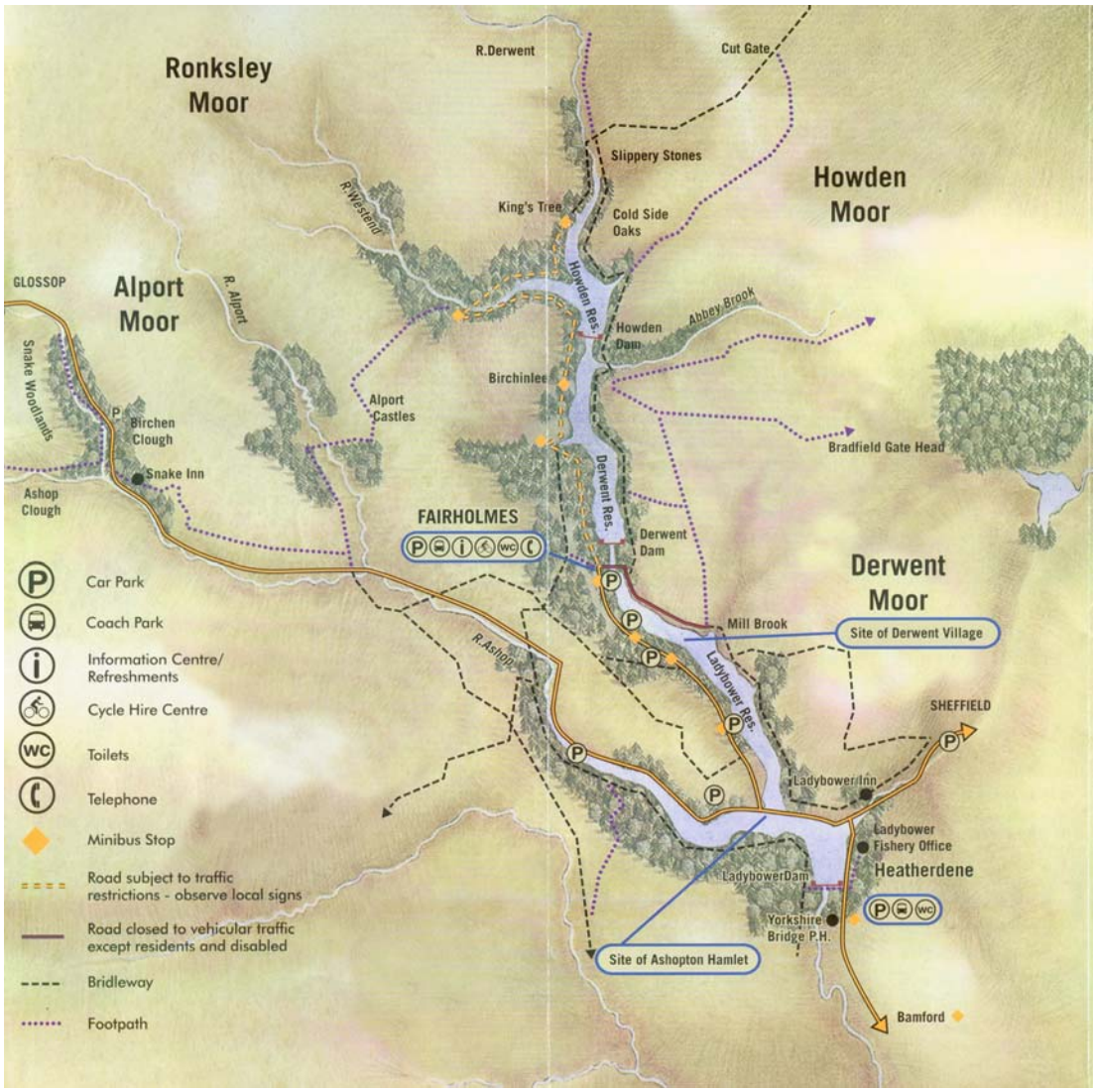


Illustration 9.7. The Upper Derwent 'Welcome' leaflet: section of map. Reproduced with the permission of UDOWG

The Archaeologist's Tale

"I've been working in the Upper Derwent for nine years since I joined the National Park as an archaeologist in 1994. This has been one of my main projects as I've walked over nearly all of it. Its great when the weather's nice but its not been often enough and its distressing the number of days I've left a sunny Sheffield to drive into rain clouds in the Derwent. During the survey seasons it was my workplace and I even think that now the survey's finished and I don't go there so regularly with work. But it's a very beautiful workplace and a very special place to visit, I'm certainly attached to it."

9.8 Historic Landscapes: Archaeology in the Management Jigsaw

This modern landscape which is being actively managed for the benefit of visitors and its own preservation, with substantial resources spent, is the current timeframe of the Upper Derwent's landscape history. Many landowners and conservation bodies overlooked management of the historic landscape, concentrating more on the aesthetic and wildlife aspects of their work in countryside areas. This has changed greatly since the late 1980s with the rise of landscape archaeology as a discipline. Both the National Parks and the National Trust began to reconceptualise archaeological conservation as encompassing the whole landscape rather than just high-profile individual monuments. The change in emphasis is clear in the differences in the base level of archaeological information required by the National Trust for its properties. Up to the 1980s, the standard archaeological management information was provided by surveys of individual sites recorded in the relevant county SMR. Since the inception of the Lake District Historic Landscape Survey in 1988, the first such National Trust project, walk-over surveys encompassing all aspects of the historic fabric of the landscape have been initiated across England and Wales (eg Bevan et al 1990).

In 1994 the Upper Derwent Officer Working Group, at the suggestion of the National Park Authority, initiated the Upper Derwent Archaeological Survey. A comprehensive ecological survey of the area was undertaken in the 1980s, but the only archaeological information was the aforesaid National Trust SMR survey conducted in the same decade. The archaeological survey was the first time that most major landowners in the area obtained a comprehensive database of archaeological features. and, more fundamentally, introduced a shift in perception about what is archaeology. This has changed from highlighting a group of isolated monuments surrounded by modern, archaeologically valueless, land to the whole of the landscape as a historic artefact in its own right. The

survey has taken eight years to complete and is feeding information into management plans, conservation activities, working practices and the local interpretation plan.

> *The Child's Tale*
>
> "The school taxi drops me off at the bottom of the ramp and I get prepared for the long trek up the steep, stoney, usually muddy track. The first part is the most tiresome – it's the steepest. Up and over the first cattle grid. By this time I've usually started singing a song. I look down and see the farmer hanging out his washing accompanied by the yapping of his dogs. Past the wall and ahead of me, I can see yet another cattle grid. The view down the valley opens and I see the tree's reflections on the reservoir but as I go across the cattle grid the wall blocks my view. As I walk past Bullhead there are a variety of animals; wood pigeons clattering out of the trees, pheasants shepherding their young and occasionally you might see a glimpse of a stoat or a weasel. By this time without knowing it I am already at the third and final cattle grid, across it and I am in the field with the sheep. I chase them off the track by imitating a dog (sometime successful, sometimes not). Through the final gate and at last what a relief. I can see home. I run along the last few metres and open the yard gate, pat Matt and Meg, walk past the car and enter the house through the barn, dump my bags on the floor and at last I'M HOME!"
>
> (Derwent Community 1998)

9.9 Discussion

I have chosen to structure this chapter largely around the three main, broad categories of land-use that are practised in the area because these leave clear traces of landscape occupation and are comparable to archaeological evidence for earlier periods. Each is also fundamentally associated with different ways of perceiving the role and importance of the rural landscape in the modern British state – so bringing together local and broader scales of analysis. There are quite definite ways that these forms of land-use are undertaken in the Upper Derwent, how they practically impact on the area. However, they are related to another two important ways that the landscape is conceptualised, which are grounded in modern national and organisational ideals about countryside. *Management*, which puts into practice these ideals through guiding practical land-use, and recommending what are appropriate activities. *Interpretation*, which is created by the organisations to inform the public of how the landscape is managed, what are its special qualities (as defined by those institutions), and what are the suitable ways to enjoy the countryside.

Each individual organisation working in the Upper Derwent has produced local management and interpretation plans to define strategy. They have become the major way for the organisations to conceptualise and describe the landscape. These break down the landscape into different zones, categorise places by values associated with recreation, conservation and production, and ascribe preferred land-use that will determine what the landscape looks like in the future. Values are grounded in information, based on objective analysis and produced by professionals, as evident in the commissioning of ecological and archaeological surveys, and are very much a late 20th to early 21st century 'bureaucratic' way of perceiving the landscape. They not only greatly influence the way the modern Upper Derwent landscape is used and looks, but how it is perceived and understood by those living, working and visiting the area. Signs and leaflets are two publicly visible products of these management plans, both promoting the partners' work and helping to define what is special about the local landscape.

The use of the Upper Derwent landscape during the 20th century can be characterised by the three major trends of recreation, conservation and production of the natural resources of water, timber and sheep. These all bring with them different perceptions of the landscape, and both the inter-links and tensions between them are typical of the upland regions of Britain. One wider concept that connected them all in the early 20th century was that of improvement. Ward printed his slogan – 'A Rambler Made is a Man Improved' – on the cover of the *Sheffield Clarion Ramblers Handbooks*. The conservationist and recreationist writers of the 1930s and 1940s viewed appropriate enjoyment, that is healthy and quiet, of the countryside as a form of improving the education and well-being of the nation (Batsford 1945; Joad 1934; Stephenson 1946). Many of these writers, including Ward, were directly influenced by Ruskin's theories that viewing rural landscapes led to personal development. These ideas of self-improvement in the countryside were linked to similar ideals that resulted in the stipulation of land-improvement in 18th century tenancy agreements, 19th century Parliamentary Enclosure, and the social engineering behind Tin Town in the 20th century. A significant social difference between the application of improvement in agriculture or navvy settlement and its expression in recreation or conservation can be seen in how they were implemented. While the former examples were all imposed on people and so driven 'from above', by landowners or the Derwent Valley Water Board, Ward and his contemporaries perceived them as a means for the individual to take control of their own

character – rather than improving *the* landscape, the landscape was there to be used to actively improve oneself.

Photograph 9.18. Graffiti carved by visitors on the remaining walls of a ruined building in Derwent hamlet during droughts in 1976 and 1995. The 'lost village' attracts hundreds of visitors whenever water levels drop low enough to expose it on the bed of Ladybower Reservoir

At the beginning of the 21st century, ramblers and day-trippers enter a landscape that is divided between four major landowners in the Upper Derwent; the National Trust, Severn Trent Water, the Forestry Commission and a private individual. The first three all have a corporate rationale with clearly stated objectives for acquiring any landholding. The National Trust is led by conservation and providing access to recreation, while Severn Trent and the Forestry Commission are primarily producers of water supply and timber. For the Trust, conservation includes wildlife, scenery, vernacular architecture and archaeological sites, which has now been redefined to the historic landscape. Their ideals of recreation are primarily based on quiet enjoyment, so focus on walking while having a more ambiguous attitude to mountain bikers, yet encouraging grouse-shooting. In one sense, 'quiet' equals 'traditional'.

Divisions between responsibilities and aims are not so clear-cut, however. The National Trust is also a major producer through its ownership of upland sheep farms and needs to balance this with its other aims, which it attempts by perceiving its conservation role as encompassing the protection of traditional hill farming. Severn Trent and the Forestry Commission each facilitate recreation within their landholdings by waymarking

footpaths, and the former allows fishing on Ladybower Reservoir and cycling on its trackways.

The area is not only within the Peak District National Park, the Park Authority also has a physical presence in the landscape through its ranger service, information centre and cycle hire outlet at Fairholmes. The Authority designated the Upper Derwent as a Management Area in 1981. This aims to bring together all interested parties to manage the landscape to further the Authority's aims of conserving and enhancing the Park's landscape while providing opportunities for its enjoyment and understanding. The Authority takes a lead role in managing the numbers of people visiting the area for recreation, which involves it in public interpretation of the landscape, conservation and maintenance of rights of way. The Authority, major landowners and the parish councils work through the Upper Derwent Officer Working Group on issues of landscape management. What we have is a reworking of post-medieval relationships between landownership constituted within the nation state and the local inhabitation of the landscape by occupants, whether residing there or temporarily visiting. Landowners now are corporate and statutory bodies, while inhabitation for the majority of people is brief, and dislocated from residence and daily routines undertaken elsewhere.

This is how the modern landscape of the Upper Derwent is currently being created. The name 'Upper Derwent' is becoming more prominent through its use in publications, signs and guides and is beginning to replace 'Ladybower' as the popular place-name for the area. With naming comes an identity and the Officer Working Group is keen to influence, if not determine, what the perception of this identity may be. It is an identity which mixes nature and history, remoteness and convenience, wilderness and management, traditional rural values with modern urban lifestyles to define a Pennine valley situated within 15km of two of the largest cities in England. Rarely have so many people enjoyed such a heavily managed landscape thinking it to be natural.