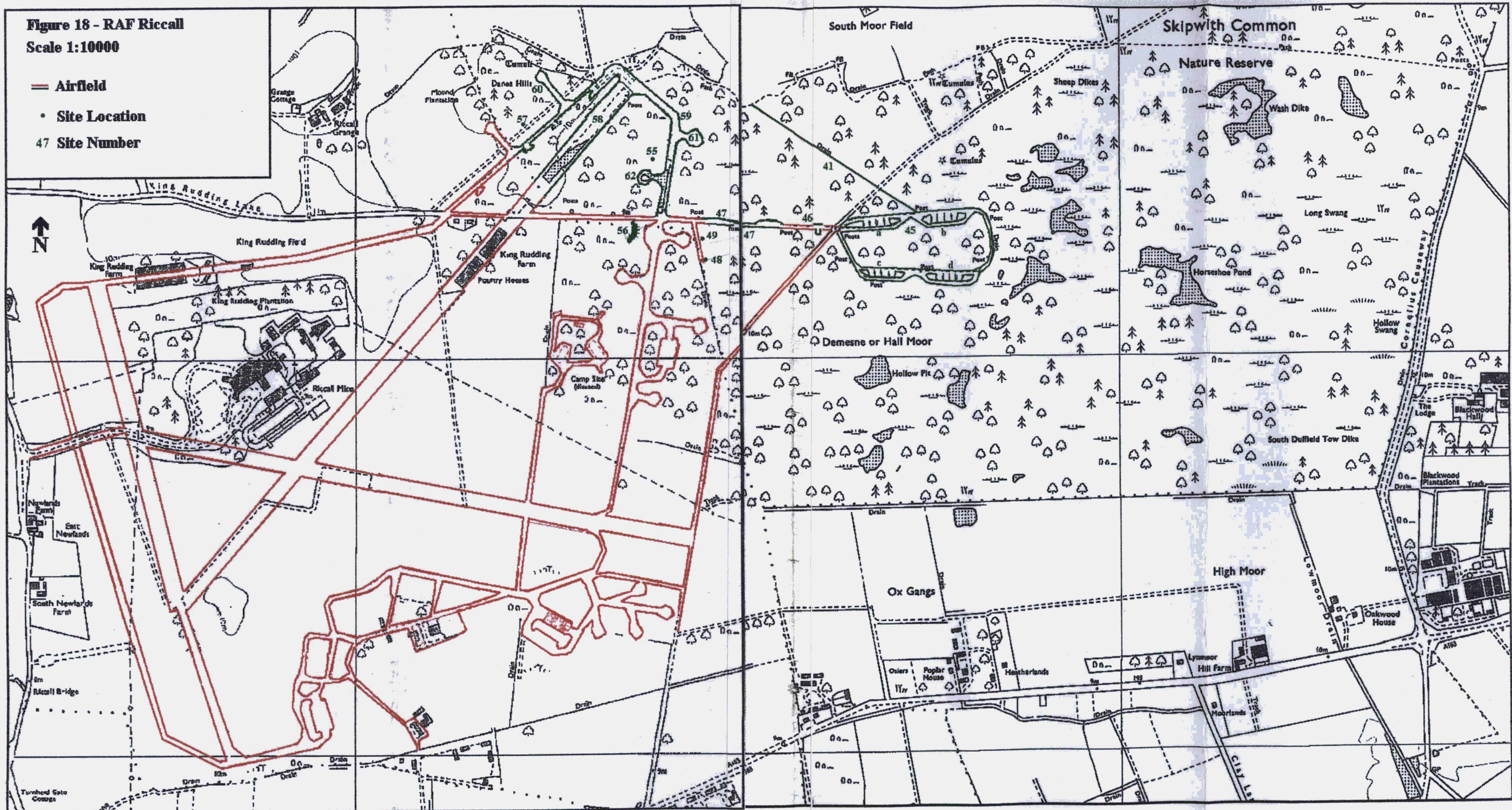


Figure 18 - RAF Riccall
Scale 1:10000

- Airfield
- Site Location
- 47 Site Number



Conclusions

The survey has shown the wealth and depth of archaeological and historical features, of which some still survives on an area of land which is so important in wildlife habitats. To compliment the visible record, research into the history of the Common has produced evidence to show how central the Common was to the economy of the villagers of Skipwith during the medieval and post medieval periods, and even earlier in the Prehistoric, and Roman periods, although the evidence for this still needs further clarification.

The Common is currently undergoing a transformation to how it probably looked in the prehistoric, medieval and post medieval periods. The felling of large tracts of woodland and the associated scrub clearance is opening up areas of land not seen for over 50 years. New and previously known sites will continue to be visible and therefore enhance our current knowledge and hopefully further our understanding of man's management and use of the Common in the past.

The purpose of the survey has two main objectives to produce a report which outlined the previous history of the Common and categorised the types of information which could be used to present the history of the Common to visitors. Many of the sites surveyed during the course of the project hold great potential for presentation and the fact that paths and roads exist in ideal locations make a presentation of these features not only highly desirable but also readily accessible.

Secondly the report was to be used to provide the information required by the Trust to enable them to protect the archaeological and historical features from being damaged; therefore highlighting specific areas of archaeological sensitivity. The management recommendations outlined in the following section have been agreed in principle by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, English Nature, MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd and in the main by English Heritage. The implementation of the recommendations will take a long time in being realised but the advantages to the Common and the preservation of its living history will be preserved well into the next century and hopefully beyond.

Recommendations

Due to the importance in the archaeological and historical elements highlighted by the survey (Fig. 19), two courses of action are recommended:

1. *Presentation.*
2. *Management.*

Consideration has been given to presenting the archaeology to its best advantage without threatening sensitive ecological habitats and damaging the sites.

Presentation

Yorkshire Wildlife felt that more attention should be apportioned to the history and archaeology of the Common; the survey was therefore the vehicle to provide the information required to formulate a design strategy. Aware of the widely varied habitats on the Common the proposals below have been based on the need for strict visitor management control.

A number of suggestions have been made to promote the history of the Common; these include:

- A. The use of a static display, most probably in permanent housing on the site, which could use various display boards outlining the differing periods of use of the Common i.e.

Prehistoric period - burials/cemetery sites.

Medieval period - pasture/flax processing/peat cutting.

Postmedieval period - flax processing/pasture.

Modern period - RAF Riccall.

In addition to the above, photographs of the features could be used to illustrate each period.

- B. The use of display posts which would be conveniently situated close to a specific feature e.g. A round barrow, Wash Dyke or the Bomb Bays. To run in conjunction with these posts would be a leaflet explaining the nature of the feature and a short summary of its use and date (see Appendix 5: Fig. 21).

This method of presentation would form part of a controlled historical walking tour of the Common.

- C. The use of display boards situated as in B. The information on the boards would use sketches, photographs and text to illustrate the feature under consideration. This method allows free movement on the Common and therefore is not so controlled. It is likely to be more costly than B.
- D. Archaeological and Historical guided tours of the Common. Based on a pre-set programme and only to run at specific times of the year when there is access to the sites and when there would be no threat to wildlife breeding patterns.

Management

During the course of the survey it was apparent that the real threat to the archaeology and historical features is the encroachment of trees. The presence of trees threatens the Common and its precious wildlife habitats.

It is understood that the present number of trees on the Common and the alarming regeneration by silver birch, has necessitated that clearance of trees. The need to prevent re-growth has become of paramount importance in the immediate management of the Common.

From the archaeological point of view it is necessary to remove trees from a number of the earthwork monuments on the Common - failure to do so may result in future damage to the sites through shallowly rooted trees being blown over and removing large sections of the site. Unsupervised felling in certain areas of the Common should be prevented:-

The Round Barrows

These sites have already suffered from natural erosion and antiquarian interest/excavations. In addition there is continuing erosion by a footpath on Site 28. The largest of the barrows is situated very close to the areas outlined for felling in the immediate future; whereas Site 27 within sheep enclosure 1 is safe from this process.

Action

The area in which round barrows are situated should be cleared of trees under strict direction and observation by a professional archaeologist. Site 28 has natural regenerated trees on the mound.

The site should be cleared of trees and the felled timber removed by hand and lifted off the site thus preventing damage through dragging.

No brash should be burned on or near the site.

Stumps should be left in situ, but action taken to prevent re-growth.

The footpath effecting Site 28 should be moved to a position (preferably to the north of the site) so that erosion of the site is prevented. Care should be taken that no alternative footpath comes into effect to the south of the site.

Site 29 should be cordoned off using warning tape to prevent any damage during the felling. Prevention taken of the site being used as 'hard' standing by machinery and vehicle.

The Square Barrow Cemetery

These sites have already suffered from natural erosion, antiquarian interest/excavations, rabbit burrowing and recent felling. None of the mounds have been deliberately planted but many act as hosts for naturally colonised silver birch. This important group of sites, many of which are scheduled, needs to be actively protected.

Action

The area in which Danes Hills is situated should be cleared of trees under strict direction and observation by a professional archaeologist.

The sites should be cleared of felled timber by hand and lifted off the site thus preventing damage through dragging.

No brash should be burned on or near the site.

Stumps should be left in situ, but action taken to prevent re-growth.

The Danes Hill area should revert to rough pasture and may in the course of time be given over to sheep grazing.

In the areas where the barrows are covered by bracken, this should be burnt off to reveal the mound and any associated features.

A detailed survey of these features should be undertaken after the felling and burning processes are completed.

Once this work is completed it is likely that more barrows would be revealed, and require additional scheduling.

Excavation of a number of the sites is considered necessary to ascertain their true form and date.

Presentation of the area should be carefully controlled and monitored to prevent unwanted attention by metal detectors.

Mound Plantation: Within this area are 5 barrows which do not form part of the Scheduled Grouping (SAM 289). All the barrows are still visible although they are now only survive as low mounds covered in grass, brambles, and gorse. None of the mounds have trees growing on them but there are established silver birches in close proximity. The trees in this area of the Common are shallow-rooted and a number have been blown over in the past. The tree and root system can remove large sections of the mound. Damage could be caused to any sites in the area of uprooting.

Action

If felling takes place in this area of the Common it is essential that the work is strictly monitored. All sites should be clearly marked out using warning tape and care should be maintained at all times that the sites are not damaged by felling processes, or vehicles.

In addition it suggested that these sites are scheduled (Fig. 20).

Peat Workings

Access to the peat workings is seasonal, wet periods during Autumn, Winter and early Spring, effectively preventing access. Even so during the drier months of the year these features do attract a lot of interest from visitors to the Common including wildlife. The actual features are not felt to be under threat from the general public but from felling programmes within their immediate vicinity.

It is known that such workings do not stand in isolation but were part of a fairly complex group of associated features. These features are likely to still exist and are therefore severely threatened by activities such as felling.

Recent felling on the eastern portion of the Common, to the south of Sand Lane has shown the type of surface damage which can occur; deep vehicle ruts, large areas covered in felling debris and sections of Common used as vehicular access. All the work would have removed any earthworks in this area.

Action

It is essential that where felling occurs near the peat workings that prior to the work the area is rapidly surveyed by professional archaeologists and any potentially threatened sites are cordoned off.

Once felling is completed the area should again be surveyed and any distinct features recorded.

In addition to the above, based on information recently brought to light by aerial reconnaissance by A Crawshaw, it is proposed that the Common is incorporated into a programme of air photography to compliment ground survey work.

Line Ponds

This category of site falls into two distinct geographical groups, east and west.

East: The large collection of features, at the time of the survey, February 1994, were under water and would appear for much of the year to remain in this state. They are not considered to be under threat from felling/clearance of scrub due to their water-logged state. Their water-logged state is currently protecting silts within the features and at the same time providing a beneficial habitat for wildlife.

Should the ponds ever dry out it would be necessary to assess the site with a view to further management and detailed survey.

West: The western group presently stand in a depression along the northern edge of the Common. They suffer to a certain degree from the deposition of modern rubbish and it would be favourable to remove this material to prevent it from attracting more dumping. The use of presentation boards educating people as to the nature of these depressions may prevent such vandalism.

The area also has a number of young but established trees either growing on the sides or in the bottom of the ponds. It is suggested that the trees are felled and stumps left *in situ*; although the more mature trees which border the Common should not be touched, as they do not pose any threat to the line ponds.

Clearance and a general cleaning up of the line ponds (west) would also be beneficial for the presentation recommendations within the report.

Boundary Banks

In the main this category of site is situated away from the more accessible areas of the Common and therefore not directly under threat from the felling programme or visitor erosion. The recent fencing of the Common has been erected onto the banks with very little damage, although removal and reinstatement of the fence posts over a prolonged period of time may cause damage in the future.

Mound Plantation: In this area there is a particularly good length of bank with a number of well established oaks planted into the top and sides of the bank. It is not proposed that these trees be felled as they are part of the character of the feature. However it is suggested that if Mound Plantation is cleared of colonised silver birch the bank is actively protected from damage by vehicles, felled trees and clearance of the area.

Post Mill

Only one post mill site lays within the boundaries of the Common. It is currently obscured by a dense bracken growth. There is no immediate nor foreseeable threat to the site.

To assess the site further at some point it would be required that the dead silver birch which lays across it be removed and the bracken burnt off.

RAF Riccall

A number of constructions from the Second World War exist on that part of Front Common administered by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust; these include runways, dispersal bays, earthworks relating to the bomb bays, fusing points, machine gun harmonisation range and the standing buildings and ruins of air raid shelters and Nissen huts.

The buildings and ruins are all currently situated within woodland and therefore any felling in these areas should take great care not to damage these sites.

The bomb bays and fusing points are visible as standing earthworks and therefore should be given great care. The growth of trees on the earthworks are not conducive to their long term preservation and it is felt that the trees should be cut down, these stumps left *in situ* and all scrub and felling debris be carefully removed. As these two areas hold potential for presentation, such clearance would greatly enhance the features.

The runways: numerous measures are being considered by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and English Nature and therefore no recommendations on management are forthcoming in this document.

Enclosures

This category covers two types of sites, firstly the animal pens/enclosures that may well exist on the Common. The felling programme may provide the opportunity to locate and document such features.

Secondly, the enclosures recorded by Burton and Proctor and their associated features. The general location of these features is known to be east of Danes Hill. Although portions were most probably destroyed by the construction of runways and dispersal bays for RAF Riccall, there is the possibility that these features do still survive. Again the clearance of trees from this area and the associated scrub clearance, which may be obscuring these features at present, would permit further survey and recording of these features.

Action

Controlled felling and clearance of the area where the enclosures and related earthworks, recorded by Proctor, are considered to be.

Field survey with the possibility of excavation to provide evidence of nature and date.

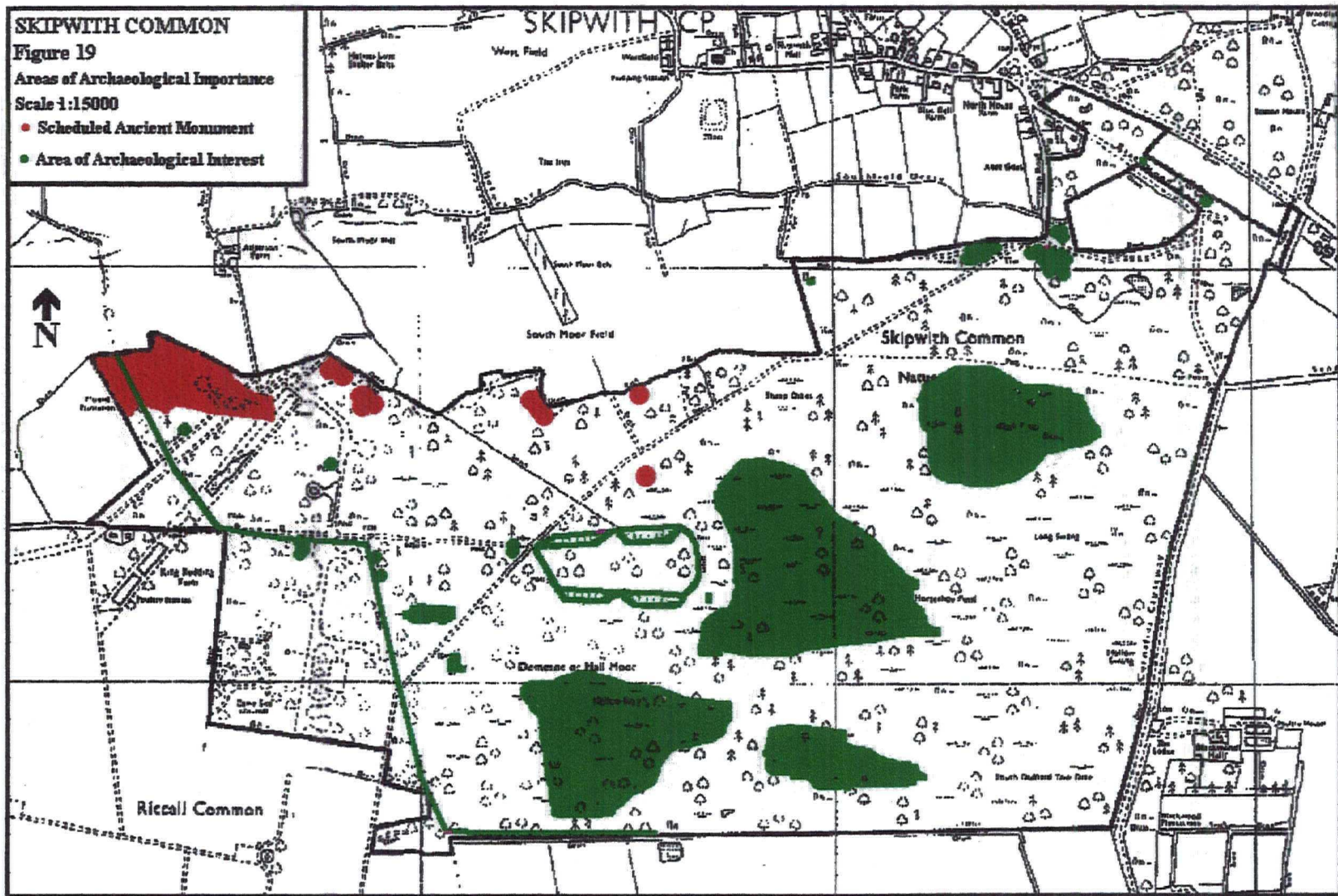
If the features do exist and are considered of sufficient importance, they need to be protected by scheduling.

Conclusions

The management of the archaeological and historical sites as outlined above is not going to be achieved overnight, or without cost. Professional archaeological input to the project is essential if the recommendations are going to be implemented. Satisfactory results will depend on a good working relationship between the archaeologists, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, English Nature, Escrick Park Estate and the felling contractors.

The above has outlined the measures which are felt to be needed to safeguard the archaeology for future generations bearing in mind that only a tiny proportion of the sites are protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The management recommendations have been pitched at a level which is acceptable to those immediately concerned. The funding for the implementation of this design is still to be resolved.

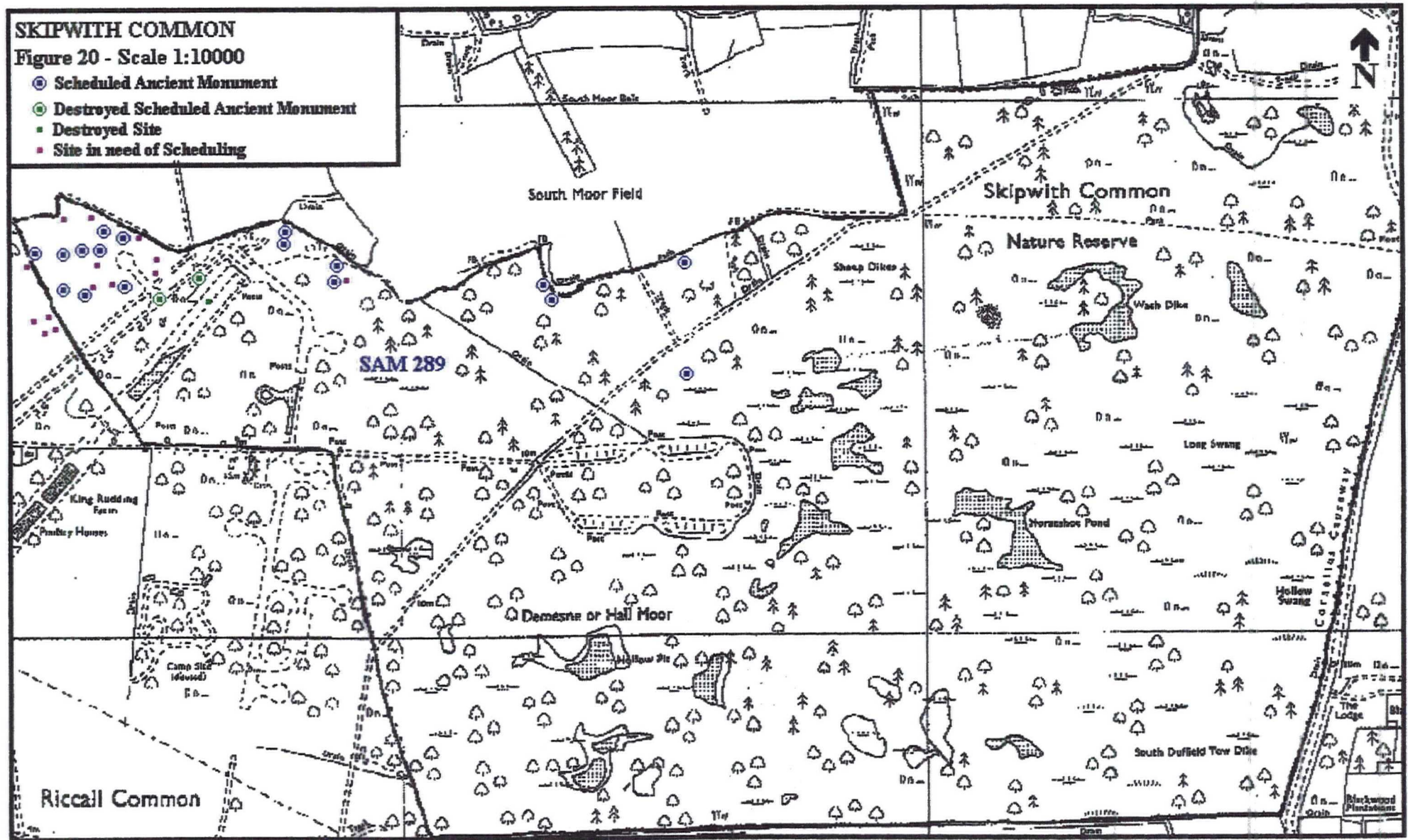
The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust would like to see a 5 year archaeological and historical management programme implemented. Although in theory a good idea, in practise the fact that two parties are involved in the felling for different reasons (the Estate - commercial, the Trust and English Nature - conservation) means that only the latter has a defined programme. It is therefore felt that a laissez-faire approach to actual target zones is adopted. The archaeologists would be available as part of the management programme to advise on the nature and extent of archaeology or standing monuments in any given felling zone as specified by the Trust, English Nature or the Estate.



SKIPWITH COMMON

Figure 20 - Scale 1:10000

- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Destroyed Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Destroyed Site
- Site in need of Scheduling



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- YAS xlv.

APPENDIX 1

Geology

Soil Series Name	Soil Subgroup Symbol	Soil Subgroup Description
Everingham	821	Typical Sandy Gley soils
Formby	821	Typical Sandy Gley soils
Kexby	552	Gleyic Brown Sands
Holme Moor/Sandburn ferric	641/642	Typical Gley-podzols/Gley Humo- podzols
Sulham/Fladbury	851/813	Typical Humic Alluvial Gley soils/Pelo-alluvial Gley soil
Portington	713	Cambic Stagnogley soils
Gilberdyke	861	Typical Humic Sandy Gley soils
Foggathorpe	712	Pelo-Stagnogley soils

Everingham Association

The association is dominated by stoneless, fine sandy permeable soils in aeolian sand, which in many places overlies clay, the most common of which is the fine sandy soils of the Everingham series. Fluctuating groundwater levels used to be the outstanding feature of this association before the advent of effective land drainage. The Everingham soils respond well to drainage by the use of field ditches or pipes.

This type of soil is easily cultivated and suited to a wide range of crops, although cereal crops are the most suitable, although the soil is acidic and therefore requires regular fertilising through the use of lime and other fertilisers.

Kexby Association

This association consists of mainly very permeable stoneless soils in aeolian sand over clay at a depth of 2-3m. Relief in the Vale of York is gently undulating where areas of Kexby series soils may represent fossil dune remnants (Mathews 1971). The soil is very permeable and the use of ditches alone for drainage is usually sufficient.

The soil is easily cultivated and well suited to a wide range of arable and horticultural crops. Wind erosion is very common. All soils of the Kexby association are naturally infertile and acid and without management would revert to heath. Regular dressings of lime and fertiliser are required.

Holme Moor Association

The Holme Moor Association consists of fine sandy stoneless soils, many of which contain hard pan. The sand overlies clay, having been blown from glaciofluvial and lacustrine material in late Glacial times. The Holme Moor series is characterised by subsoil mottling and a distinctive black or ochre-coloured concentration of humus and iron which sometimes forms a hardpan at or immediately below the plough layer.

The Holme Moor series occurs in small patches, usually on the crests of undulations.

Iron pan and humus pans limit the potential of Holme Moor soils for cultivation, unless they are broken up by subsoiling. Trees if planted are likely to be blown over as the pan prevents deep rooting. Equally there is a tendency to plant slow-growing species such as Scots Pine.

The Kexby series is found on the slopes of undulations. The Everingham occurs in depressions where ground water levels are near the surface in winter. The Holme moor series has a hard rust-coloured layer a little below the plough depth and is usually found on crests of low undulations just within reach of ground water, particularly under present or recent heathland.

Fladbury/Sulham Associations

A clayey alluvial soil on the flood plains of major rivers, although in Skipwith parish the Sulham series forms a composite unit with the humic alluvial gley soils of the Sulham series.

The soils tend to be waterlogged and much of the land with this type of soils is under poor permanent grassland known as ings or carrs.

Gilberdyke Series

A typical humic-sandy gley soil in aeolian fine sand and having a humose or peaty topsoil. If the soils are not drained artificially, they tend to be extremely wet soils where the ground water is close to the surface for much of the year.

Cultivation of drained land is productive, uncultivated areas such as Skipwith Common are under birch woodland.

Foggathorpe Association

This association is dominated by slowly permeable clayey, and fine loamy over clayey, stoneless soils in glaciolacustrine clay. The Foggathorpe series has a thin loamy topsoil covering a mottled clay.

Seasonal wetness is the main feature of the soils. Under-drainage is essential. Acidity is likely to occur where liming has lapsed.

Portington Series

The Portington series is widespread in the Vale of York wherever glaciolacustrine clay is covered by a veneer of glaciofluvial or windblown sand. The soils are slowly permeable and seasonally waterlogged. This series tends to be associated with soils of the Foggathorpe and Everingham series.

On large expanses of Foggathorpe Association in the Vale of York, the Portington soils provide the only suitable building land, so usually farms and villages are situated on them.

APPENDIX 2

SMR No.	Location	Classification
	464700 437900	AJC 024/12.13 Traces of field system
	464700 437700	AJC 057/07 Skipwith Common-Danes Hill
	465500 437300	AJC 084/25.27 Skipwith Common-high level
	465300 437000	AJC 095/18.19 Skipwith Common from SSW
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCARC8-17 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUC8FA45-57 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUBVS94-97 Rectangular enclosures
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCC8U60-68 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCCFQ44-52 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCJH21-27 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCK17A113-20 Skipwith Common
6149400000	465500 437800	CUCARC8-17 Skipwith Common
6149400000	465800 437500	CUCRC8CS127-134 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCRC8CS135-141 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCRU24-39 Skipwith Common
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCZX60-76 Skipwith Common
	465300 437900	DNR0877/28 Trackways, ring ditches
6149400000	466000 437000	CUCARC8-17 Skipwith Common
	464600 437900	DNR0880/32 Enclosures complex
	465000 437900	DNR0880/33 Drainage/?fields
	465300 437900	DNR0880/34 Trackways,enclosures,fields
	464500 437800	DNR0533/08-21 Enclosures complex
6063000000	464500 437800	NMRSE6437/18-22 Enclosures complex
6063000000	464200 437800	NMRSE6437/1-6 Enclosures complex
6063000000	464500 437900	NMRSE6437/7/1-7 Enclosures complex
6063000000	464200 437800	NMRSE6437/8/381-3 Complex cropmarks
6063000000	464200 437600	NMRSE6437/9-17 Field system
6063000000	464900 439000	NMRSE6438/2/48-9 Enclosures complex
6063000000	464200 437800	NMRSE6438/3/391-3 Enclosures complex
6063000000	465300 437700	NMRSE6537/1-7 AP
6063000000	465100 437800	NMRSE6537/10/318 Field system
6063000000	465500 437900	NMRSE6537/11/321 Field system
6063000000	465600 437800	NMRSE6537/8/90-91 Field system
6063000000	465300 437900	NMRSE6537/9/8-10 AP
6063000000	465500 438000	NMRSE6538/10 AP
6063000000	465200 438000	NMRSE6538/11/316 Field system
6063000000	465100 438000	NMRSE6538/6/50-51 Rectilinear enclosure
6063000000	465100 438000	NMRSE6538/7/52-54 Field system,encs
6041900000	466300 438200	NMRSE6538/5/247-3 Southfield drain
	465600 438000	PVA0762087 AP
	464800 436700	PVA0762125 AP
	465300 437800	PVA2762009 AP
	465600 438000	PVA2762010 AP
	465500 437700	PVA2762012 AP
	464400 437800	PVA2762024 AP
	464400 437800	PVA2762025 AP
	464700 437800	PVA2762026 AP
	465400 437900	PVA2762027 AP
	465200 437900	PVA2762028 AP
	465400 437900	PVA2762029 AP
	465100 437800	PVA77:4:08/18,21 AP
	465300 437100	PVA77:4:08/25 AP
	464400 437100	PVA77:4:08/26 AP

800000000	464500 437900	PVA77622184	AP
	464500 437900	PVA79:03:01/32	Trackways
555900000	465500 437300	SSSI	
556000000	465280 437670	SB?	
556100000	465290 437640	SB?	
556200000	465550 437710	SB?	
557500000	465540 437500	SB	
557700000	466980 438190	Windmill	
558800000	466000 438000	Urns	
558100000	466840 438500	Windmill?	
559400000	465080 437160	Mound	
560300000	465500 437900	Enclosure system	
560300001	464500 437700	Cemetery:sqaure barrows	
560301000	464500 437700	Cloth	
561700000	464500 437700	Sqaure barrow	
<u>561700001</u>	<u>464760 437630</u>	<u>Enclosure system</u>	
	464760 437630	Sherds	

APPENDIX 3

SKIPWITH COMMON SITE CATALOGUE

Site No.	NGR	Land Use	Notes
1	SE 6453 3765	R	Barrow/Tumuli destroyed by Runway - removed up to 2-3m. Little possibility of sub-surface survival under perimeter track of Riccall Airfield. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 7</i>)
2	SE 6453 3769	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Traces of ditch on north side. covered in bracken and bramble. SW side disturbed, small trench. Burrowed. N-S 6m by E-W 5m, 0.25m. Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris.
3	SE 6453 3774	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Bracken, bramble, nettle and birch rooted. Central excavation trench. No obvious signs of ditch. Area quite disturbed with dumping and excavations near by. N-S 6m by E-W 6m, 0.5m. Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris.
4*	SE 6446 3766	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Bramble and felled trees. Tree rooted with stumps still in mound. Slight mound with ditch to SW. Due to felling, unable to complete survey. >5m across, 0.3m. (<i>Proctor 1</i>) In need of attention.
5*	SE 6445 3768	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Damage by felling, slight vehicle tracks across mound and on n edge. Possible ditch. No signs of burrowing. Excavated. Covered in brambles and felling debris. Edges hard to define because of felling. Length 9m, 0.5m. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 2</i>) In need of attention.
6	SE 6448 3776	W	Distinct Square Barrow/Tumuli. Definite ditch traces, two excavation trenches. Covered in bramble, foxglove, bracken, silver birch and primrose. N-S 8m by E-W 6m, 0.5m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 12</i>) Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris.
7	SE 6443 3778	W	Large Square Barrow/Tumuli in excellent condition. Flat topped, straight sided. Distinct ditch. Covered in bracken, bramble, trees, shrubs, oak and silver birch. Tree rooted. N-S 13m by E-W 13m, 1m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 4</i>) Prevent trees establishing on site or damage to mound.
8	SE 6443 3775	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Fleets mound, squashed in appearance. Small ditch visible. Covered in grass and bramble with oak on perimeter. No burrowing visible but with signs of excavation. N-S 5m by E-W 5m, 0.15m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 13</i>) Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris.
9	SE 6441 3781	H	Site not located in area of dense bracken growth. (SAM 289)
10	SE 6437 3781	H	Large Square Barrow/Tumuli. Clear ditch. Covered with bracken, nettles and brambles. Probable animal burrows. N-S 16m by E-W 14m, 0.4m high. Keep clear of trees, excavation if possible. Site needs scheduling. (<i>Proctor 10</i>)

* Sites 4 and 5: Since original fieldwork Barrows 4 and 5 were monitored during the felling process.

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|---|--|
| 11 | SE 6439 3776 | W | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Hollow to NE, possible excavation. Bracken, bramble and silver birch. Possible remains of ditch on N side. Bracken cover quite extensive. Dimensions not accurate.</p> <p>N-S 7m by E-W 7m, 0.5m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 8</i>)</p> <p>Management of trees to prevent damage to mound, clear of debris.</p> |
| 12 | SE 6435 3775 | W | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Bracken, silver birch covered, established oak on west side. Traces of ditch on west side. Mound size obscured by bracken.</p> <p>N-S 5m by E-W 5m, 0.7m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 9</i>)</p> <p>Protect from damage and prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris..</p> |
| 13 | SE 6429 3775 | H | <p>Site not found in area of bracken tufts. (SAM 289)</p> |
| 14 | SE 6432 3768 | W | <p>Large Square Barrow/Tumuli. Disturbed by excavation and burrowing. Covered in grass, bramble, primrose, silver birch and oak. Flat topped, steep sided mound, fresh rabbit burrow reveals sandy soil. Ditch visible.</p> <p>N-S >10m by E-W >10m, 0.7m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 6</i>)</p> <p>Clear debris and protect from further damage.</p> |
| 15 | SE 6438 3767 | W | <p>Large Square Barrow/Tumuli Excavated in centre and west side. Straight sided to N and W. Ditch noted. Gravel in surface of mound. No burrowing. Bramble, moss and spruce growing on mound, oak and silver birch on perimeter. Dense covering of bramble.</p> <p>N-S 8m by E-W 8m, c.1m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 3</i>)</p> <p>Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris.</p> |
| 16 | SE 6439 3768 | W | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Mound covered in dense bramble, moss and a small amount of bracken, silver birch and oak on perimeter. Burrowed heavily. Some felling debris noted. Possible excavation hollow in centre. Felling taking place near by. Possible ditch on N side.</p> <p>N-S 4m by E-W 4m, 0.5m high.</p> <p>In need of attention to protect from felling process, clear of debris.</p> |
| 17 | SE 6463 3769 | R | <p>Barrow/Tumuli destroyed by Runway - removed up to 2-3m. Little possibility of sub-surface survival under perimeter track of Riccall Airfield. (SAM 289)</p> |
| 18 | SE 6465 3764 | R | <p>Barrow/Tumuli destroyed by Runway - removed up to 2-3m. Little possibility of sub-surface survival under perimeter track of Riccall Airfield. (SAM 289)</p> |
| 19 | SE 6479 3777 | H | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Mound obscured by bracken, in area without tree cover. Ditch on E side of mound. Burrowing or signs of excavation obscured by bracken.</p> <p>N-S 19m by E-W 19m, 0.8m high. (SAM 289)</p> <p>Protect from damage.</p> |
| 20 | SE 6478 3776 | H | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Mound covered and obscured by bracken. Any sign of excavation or ditch not visible. Dimensions difficult to access.</p> <p>N-S >10m by E-W >10m, c.1m high. (SAM 289)</p> <p>Protect site from damage.</p> |
| 21 | SE 6488 3769 | H | <p>Square Barrow/Tumuli. Mound covered and obscured by bracken, in an area devoid of trees. possible ditch on N side. No obvious signs of excavation, burrowing or root damage.</p> <p>N-S 7m by E-W 6m, 0.3m high. (SAM 289; <i>Proctor 16</i>)</p> |

			Protect from damage. Prevent path to the south eroding mound.
22	SE 6486 3766	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Mound with possible ditch to E, S and W. Covered and obscured by bracken, birch and alder in mound. No sign of burrowing or excavation. N-S 6m by E-W 6m, 0.4m high. (SAM 289; Proctor 15)
23	SE 6451 3777	W	Prevent trees establishing on site, clear of debris. Square Barrow/Tumuli. On edge of footpath with concrete water tank on top of mound (1.04m deep). Possibly burrowed. Mound has straightish sides, flatish top and possible ditch. Covered in bracken and grass with oak on perimeter of mound. N-S 10m by E-W 8m, 0.7m high. (Proctor 11)
24	SE 6488 3767	W	Site in need of scheduling. Protect from further damage. Square Barrow/Tumuli. Badly disturbed, stony mound with straight sides, almost flat top and ditch. Burrowed and excavated. Covered in bracken, bramble and grass, with silver birch on perimeter. N-S 5m, E-W 5m and 0.3m high. (Proctor 14)
25	SE 6442 3772	W	Site in need of scheduling and urgent attention. Large Square Barrow/Tumuli. Disturbed mound with straightish sides and possible ditch. Excavated but no sign of burrowing. Dyke to north and area felled to south. Covered in grass, bracken and bramble with silver birch and oak on mound. N-S 10m by E-W 10m, 0.3m high. (Proctor 5)
26	SE 6527 3767	W	Site in need of scheduling. Protect from felling process. Round Barrow/Tumuli. Disturbed mound obscured by bracken cover, rabbit warren and excavation spoil. Silver birch growing on and around monument. Central excavation hollow and possible trench. Ditch on west side. Badly trampled by footpath. N-S 8m by E-W 8m, 0.8m high. (SAM 289)
27	SE 6529 3763	H	Clear area of bracken and trees to see extent of mound. Protect from encroaching footpath. Round Barrow/Tumuli. Located in sheep pen, viewed from fence. Clearly visible mound, covered in bracken. N-S 5m by E-W 5m, 0.7m high. (SAM 289)
28	SE 6554 3771	W	Protect from disturbance associated with sheep pen. Round Barrow/Tumuli. Clearly visible covered in bracken and grass. Silver birch in SE corner of mound and perimeter. Large, deep excavation hollow (0.7m deep). Signs of ditch on east side. N-S 6m by E-W 6m, 1.2m high. (SAM 289)
29	SE 6554 3750	H/W	Preserve site, remove trees with care. Urgent attention over footpath eroding north side. Large Round Barrow/Tumuli. In area of water-logged/flooded heath. Very difficult to approach. c.20m diameter. (SAM 289)
30	SE 6638 3764	W	View in drier conditions. Wash Dyke. Probably once a peat pot, now flooded. Pond bordered by fir, silver birch and grass. Sand subsoil exposed at edges. Steep sided in places. Area of reed may donate drainage ditches draining into Wash Dyke. 170m by 150m. Site not under threat.

31	SE 6660 3763	H/W	Pond. Located east of Wash Dyke. Area of marsh and shallow water. possible peat cutting. Birch and fir recently around pond. 100m by 60m. Site not under threat.
32	SE 6688 3816	H	Site of Post Mill. Mound surviving, covered in bramble and bracken. No sign of central hollow or post setting. Fallen silver birch on mound. 12m diameter, 0.8m high. Further work to estimate extent of remains.
33	SE 6652 3809	W	Sand Pit/Line Pond. Irregular depression, peters out to west. Oak trees on southern bank. Water in base. Grass, bracken and bramble ground cover. Rubbish accumulation. 20m by 9m. Clear of rubbish and preserve.
34	SE 6651 3806	W	Sand Pit/Line Pond. Rectangular depression filled with water. Silver birch, oak, bracken and grass ground cover. 10m by 5m.
35	SE 6434 3780	H	Gate Posts (2). On boundary of Skipwith Common. Wooden cattle gate posts with rounded tops and iron hinges. Only gate of antiquity, noted remaining on common.
36	SE 6627 3807	W	Line Pond. N-S aligned rectangular depression with sloping sides. Filled with rubbish. N edge bordered by fence and agricultural land. Established oak in base and on E nd S slopes. Used for flax production. 14m by 5m. Clear of rubbish and preserve.
37	SE 6626 3804	W	Line Pond. N-S aligned rectangular depression, wider but not in as good condition as 36. Filled with rubbish. Sloping sides. Oak on west side of pond, alder on N, S and E. Area burrowed. Used for flax production. 12m by 7m. Clear of rubbish and preserve.
38	SE 6624 3804	W	Line Pond. E-W aligned rectangular depression with sloping sides. S bank much higher than N bank. Established oak on E slope. W slope only just discernible. Area burrowed. Filled with rubbish. Used for flax production. 16m by 7-8m. Clear of rubbish and preserve.
39	SE 6624 3805	W	Line Pond. E-W aligned rectangular depression, located north of 38. Filled with water. Sides barely discernible. Established sycamore on S side, oak on N, also saplings all around. Used for flax production. 20m by 5m. Clear of rubbish and preserve.
40	SE 6589 3690	H	Peat Working not visited.
41	SE 6534 3761	H	Drain feeding into RAF Riccall Bomb Dump (Site 45).
42	SE 6499 3736	H	Peat Working not visited.
43	SE 6621 3678	H	Peat Working not visited.
44	SE 6529 3678	H	Peat Working not visited.
45	SE 6545 3728	H	RAF Riccall Bomb Dump. Consists of a tarmac sub-rectangular perimeter track (N-S 200m by E-W 400m). Serving four groups of former buildings (a-d). 45a is best preserved, consisting of five earth mounds (N-S 16m by E-W 6m) which formed the walls/blast shields for former Nissen huts - the bomb stores. Parts of corrugated iron

			walls, concrete floors, brick walls and concrete ramps survive. The brick wall and ramp form the loading bay. These wall have iron rings on the outside A drainage dyke runs NW from the N perimeter. Area overgrown with young birch, gorse, brambles and grass. Remove trees from banks.
46	SE 6522 3733	H/W	RAF Riccall Fusing Point. Site bisected by King Rudding Lane, with an E-W aligned bank N of the road (32m by 4m, 1.5m high) and a U-shaped bank of similar height south of the road. May also be Fused Bomb store. 32m by 26m, 1.5m high. Prevent damage to banks.
47	SE 6500 3734	W	RAF Riccall Buildings. Three buildings located N (a and b) and S (c) of King Rudding Lane. Each served by tarmac tracks. 'a' badly overgrowth, originally an explosive laboratory; 'b' and 'c' less overgrown, were both stores. 260m by 30m. Prevent establishment of mature trees.
48	SE 6495 3725	W	RAF Riccall Nissen Hut. Site consists of two earth banks aligned N-S (8m by 2m, 1m high), a gable wall of engineered bricks at N end of banks. Wall is 2m high and survives 20 courses above ground level. Site virtually inaccessible, flooded and overgrown (bramble, grass, silver birch and saplings). Serviced from a track S of King Rudding Lane, running to 49 as well. Wrecked car on side of site. (8m by 9m, 1m high) Prevent establishment of mature trees.
49	SE 6488 3729	W	RAF Riccall Nissen Hut. Site consists of two earth banks aligned N-S (8m by 2m, 1m high) traces of a gable wall of engineered bricks at N end of banks. Site virtually inaccessible, flooded and overgrown (bramble, grass, silver birch and saplings). Serviced from a track S of King Rudding Lane, running to 48as well. Wrecked car on west side of site. (8m by 9m, 1m high) Prevent establishment of mature trees.
50	SE 6654 3809	W/H	Sand Pit/Line Pond. Rectangular, steep sided depression located E of 33. Area covered in bramble, bracken with oak trees on W side. Partially filled with water. No N edge apparent. Burrowed edges. 9m by 7m, 1.5m deep. Preserve.
51	SE 6650 3804	H	Complex of Line Ponds. Silver birch, oak, bracken, reed and marsh grass in vicinity. Ponds full of water fed by drain to west. Several smaller depressions in locality. Made up of interlinked rectangular depressions. Used for flax production. 70m by 40m. Preserve.
52	SE 6622 3804	W	Environmental coring/sampling work if disturbed. Line Pond. Sub-rectangular depression located W of Sites 38/39. W and S edges fairly well defined, but E edge lost. Bramble, grass and primrose ground cover with sycamore and oak on edges and bottom. Used for flax production. 9m by 6m, 1.5m deep. Preserve.

53	SE 6620 3803	W	Sand Pit/Line Pond. Irregular depression with grass and bramble ground cover, also established silver birch and oak. No water present. 10m by 5m. Preserve.
54	SE 6619 3802	W	Sand Pit/Line Pond. Irregular depression with water collecting in base. Grass, bracken, alder, willow growing in base and sides, one oak also noted. 20m by 12m. Preserve.
55	SE 6477 3753	W	RAF Riccall Air Raid Shelter. Earth bank overgrown with brambles and flooded. Engineering brick entrances at SW and NE corner, site aligned N-S. 18m by 8m. Preserve.
56	SE 6472 3735	W	RAF Riccall Harmonisation/Machine Gun Range. Crescent shaped earthen mound extensively used by walker and cyclists. Covered in silver birch, oak, grass and bramble. Area burrowed. 40m by 20m, 10m high. Prevent erosion by trail/mountain bikes.
57	SE 6442 3759	W	RAF Riccall Air Raid Shelter. Earthen mound aligned NE-SW with entrances at N and S corners. Overgrown with bramble. Flooded and N entrance obscured by soil dump. Silver birch and oak growing near mound. 17m by 8m, 1.5m high. Prevent trees establishing on site.
58	SE 6447 3744 - SE 6469 3769	R	RAF Riccall Main Runway. Aligned SW-NE. Concrete track 35m long, tarmac skin. Large wildlife pond 150m long by 20m wide has removed a large part of the runway in the southern part. The runway only survives in area of Skipwith Common, mostly removed elsewhere. 340m by 35m. Preserve as far as possible - deacidifies water and encourages differing wildlife.
59	SE 6442 3753 - SE 6476 3766- SE 6487 3735	R	RAF Riccall Perimeter Track or Taxiway. Built of concrete, 16m wide. A pond has removed part of the track at SE6479 3745. 810m by 16m wide. Preserve as far as possible. Prevent encroaching trees.
60	SE 6450 3769	R	RAF Riccall Dispersal Bay. 70m long concrete track, 14m wide, aligned NW-SE, leading to a concrete apron 30m in diameter. At present being used as a dump for rubble. 70m by 30m. Prevent encroachment of trees.
61	SE 6487 3756	R	RAF Riccall Dispersal Bay. 25m long and 15m wide concrete track, 14m wide, leading eastwards from perimeter track at NE tip of Airfield. Cast iron picket rings in situ. Concrete apron 30m in diameter at E end of track. 55m by 30m. Prevent encroachment of trees. Nesting site of Ringed Plover.
62	SE 6476 3746	R	RAF Riccall Dispersal Point largely removed by wildlife pond.
63	SE 6427 3779 - SE 6530 3662	W	Parish Boundary Bank and Ditch. Survives in patches along Riccall and Skipwith parish boundaries. Oak and silver birch woodland, grass and bramble covered. Up to 0.5m high.

64	SE 6668 3842	W	Preserve, prevent encroachment of trees. Sand Pit – under water, in area of woodland. 10m by 10m.
65	SE 6662 3797	H	Pond – not visited. Possible drainage for Line Ponds.
66	SE 6619 3717	H	Peat Working – not visited.
67	SE 6581 3722	H	Peat Working – not visited.
68	SE 6578 3762	H	Peat Working – not visited.
69	SE 6589 3763	H	Peat Working – not visited.
70	SE 6578 3752	H	Peat Working – not visited.
71	SE 6588 3735	H	Peat Working – not visited.
72	SE 6533 3791	H	Peat Working – not visited.
73	SE 6554 3789	H	Peat Working – not visited.
74	SE 6590 3798	H	Sand Pit located east of footpath in area of heath covered in bracken. 10m by 15m Preserve.

Abbreviations

NGR National Grid Reference

H Heath

W Woodland

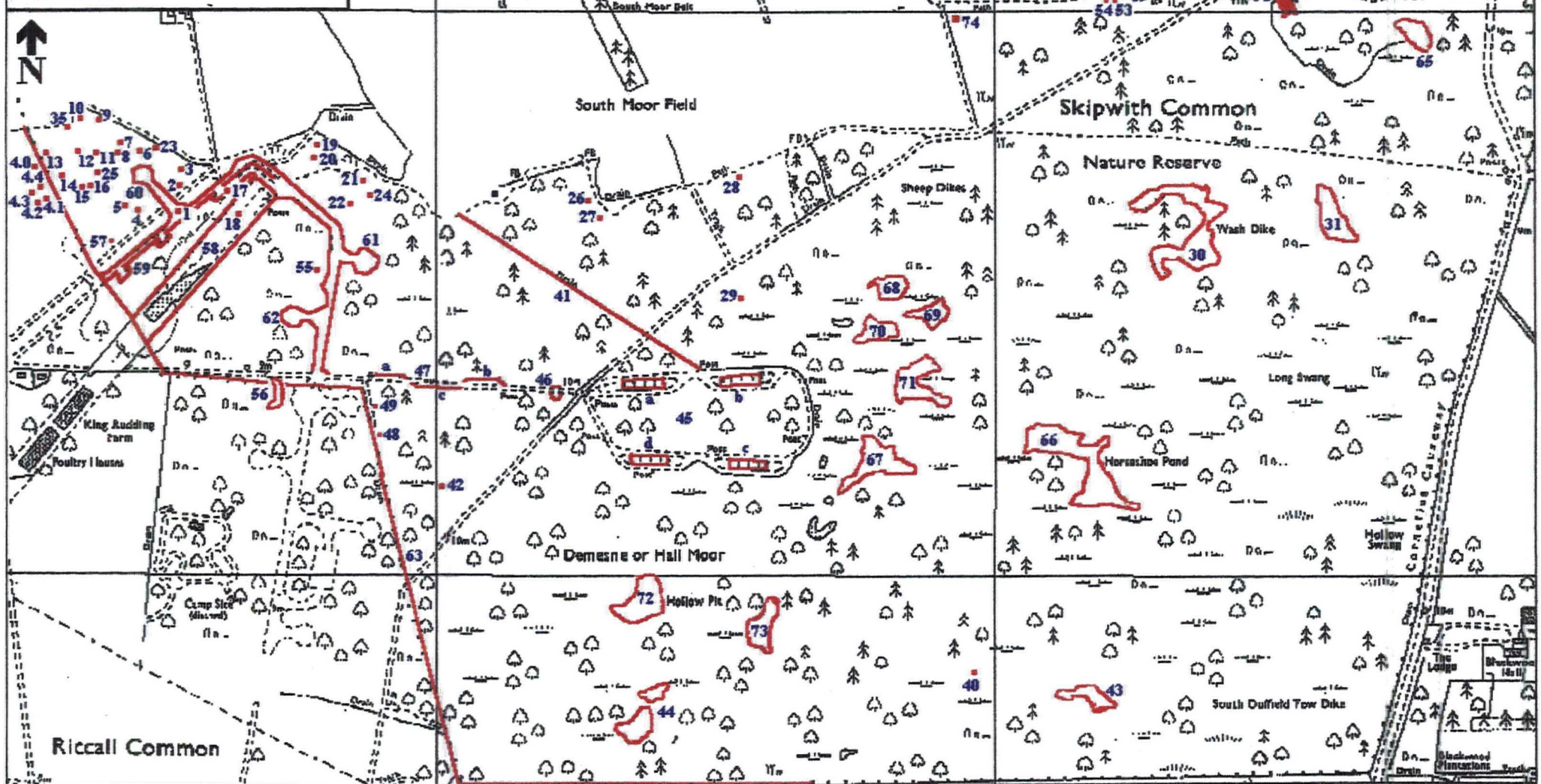
R Runway

SKIPWITH COMMON

Figure 21

Guide to Catalogue

Scale 1:10000



APPENDIX 4

Mound Plantation

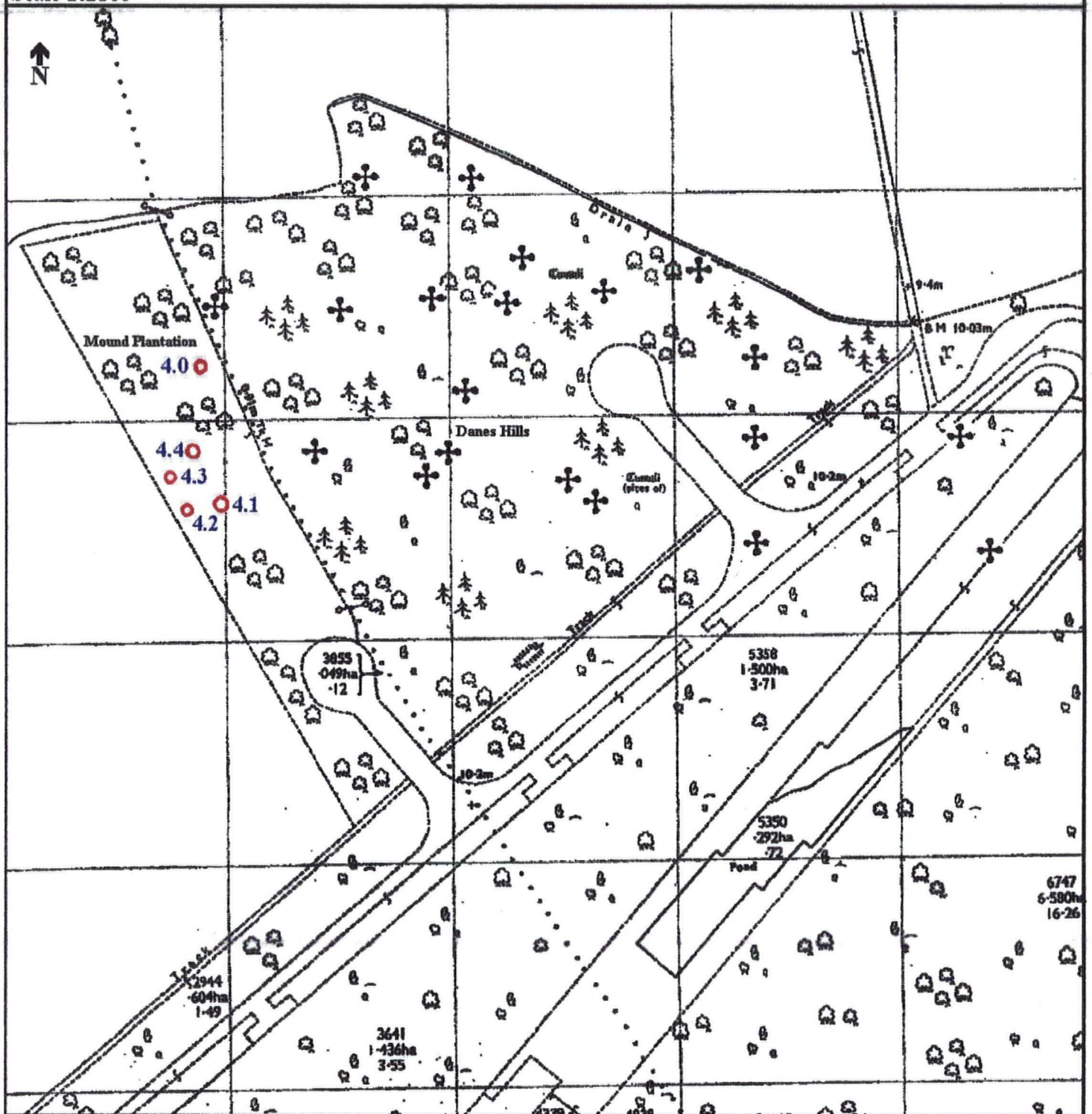
Although these barrows were located outside the defined area of the survey (March 1994), it was felt they should be included as an obvious part of the cemetery.

Site No.	NGR	Land Use	Notes
4.0	SE 6429 3773	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Located in Mound Plantation. Low, square mound with possible excavation hollow. Covered in grass, bracken, bramble and tree debris. Silver birch on mound and perimeter. Ditch surviving. N-S 12m by E-W 12m, 0.7m high. Site in need of scheduling. Clear of trees and debris.
4.1	SE 6431 3765	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Located in Mound Plantation. Low, flat topped, straight sided mound covered in grass, bracken and bramble with silver birch on perimeter. Central excavation hollow. No visible signs of a ditch. N-S 7m by E-W 7m, 0.5m high. Site in need of scheduling. Clear of tree debris and preserve.
4.2	SE 6429 3765	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Located in Mound Plantation. Mound covered in bramble, gorse and grass. Fairly inaccessible. Burrowed with no sign of a ditch. N-S 7m by E-W 7m, 0.5m high. Site in need of scheduling. Clear of gorse, preserve.
4.3	SE 6428 3766	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. located in Mound Plantation. Steep sided mound covered in impenetrable bramble and gorse with grass and established silver birch on N and S sides. No sign of a ditch, excavation or burrowing. Oak on W side. Mound possibly extended over field boundary. N-S 10m by E-W 10m, 0.8m high. Site in need of scheduling. Clear trees and gorse.
4.4	SE 6429 3767	W	Square Barrow/Tumuli. Located in Mound Plantation. Low mound covered in bramble, bracken and grass with silver birch on perimeter and mound. No visible signs of ditch, excavation or burrowing. N-S 7m by E-W 7m, 0.4m high. Site in need of scheduling. Clear of trees, preserve.

Guide to Sites in Mound Plantation

Figure 22

Scale 1:2500



APPENDIX 5

SKIPWITH COMMON

A Guide to the Archaeology and History

The Common as you see today is the result of man's use of the land over the past 5000 years. For much of this time the Common was used for the grazing of sheep, cattle and pigs belonging to the villagers of the nearby village of Skipwith.

Man's impression on the Common can be seen in the numerous monuments still visible on the Common and this leaflet is a guide to the various archaeological sites which you can still see today.

Leaving the parking area you proceed along the trackway which takes you to the north-eastern most part of the Common. Here, in this area (1), is a large group of burial mounds known as Square Barrows. Constructed in the Iron Age, over 2000 years ago, this cemetery extends into the fields to the north of the Common. Excavations in the 18th and 19th centuries revealed remains of cremations, flints and very badly corroded iron objects.

Continuing along the northern boundary of the Common you leave the Iron Age behind to visit one of the surviving Round Barrows which were constructed on the Common (2) in the Bronze Age, over 4000 years ago. The site is a circular mound surrounded by a ditch which was used to provide the material for its construction.

To the east are a series of line ponds which were used in the 16th-19th centuries in the processing of flax. This crop was grown by the villagers, the stems of the flax harvested and placed in the ponds to soak and then sent to a dresser to make into linen. The western group (3) are still visible as deep rectangular depressions, whereas the eastern group (4) are for most of the year under water.

If you continue along Common Road and branch of to Wash Dyke (5) you are able to see one of the many peat bogs worked by the villagers from the 14th century for fuel. The site today is mainly under water all year round and so provides a valuable retreat for wildlife.

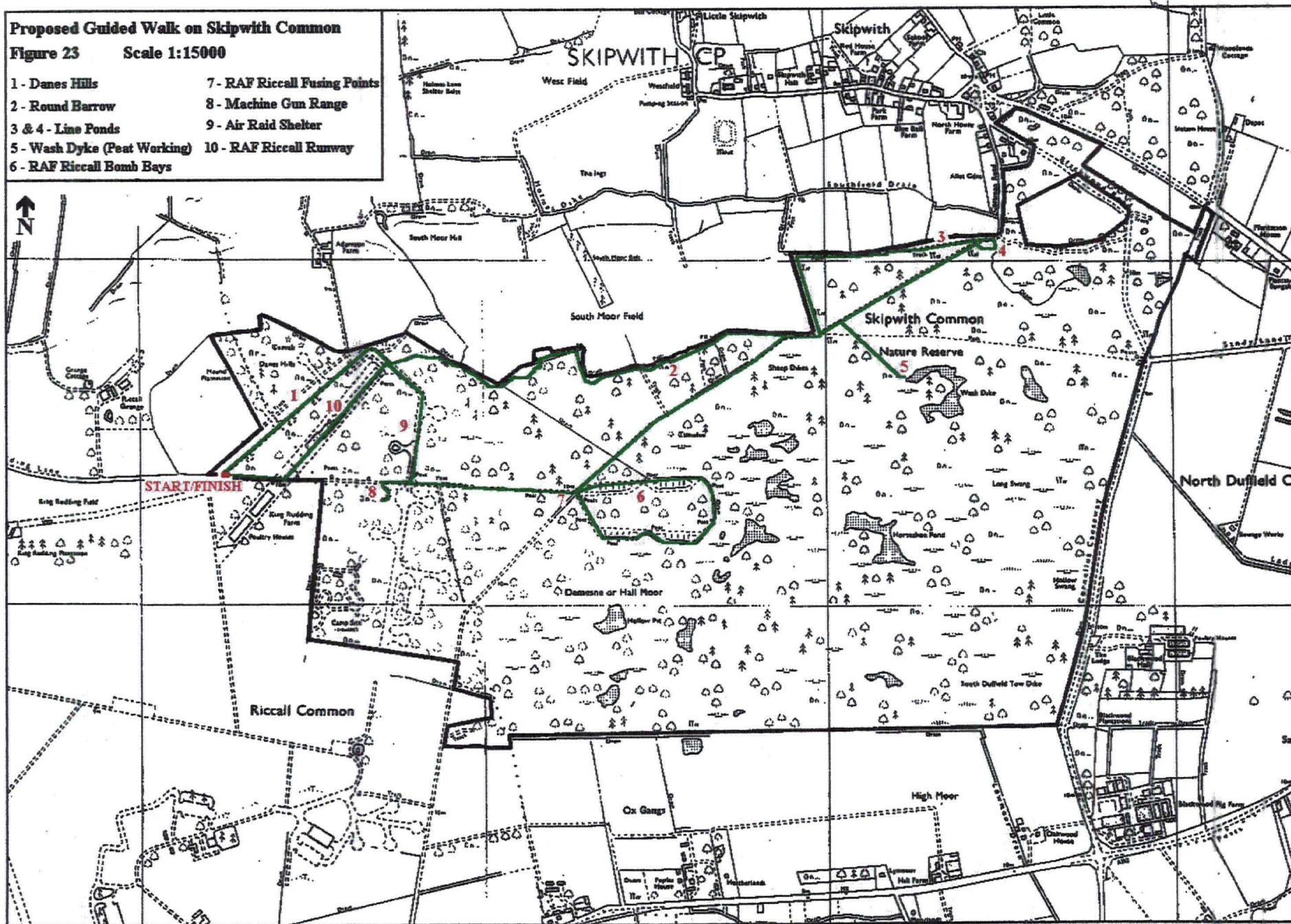
From Wash Dyke you proceed to the Bomb Bays (6). Constructed in the 1940's this is where the bombs and explosives were stored in readiness for the Halifax bombers which flew from RAF Riccall from 1942-1945.

Further monuments from this period can be seen; the horseshoe mound and opposing bank (7) was where the fuses were put in to the bombs, the large mound of earth to the west (8) was the machine gun harmonising range, and one of a number of air raid shelters (9) can be seen amongst the silver birch which all grew up once the air field went out of use. Just to the south of this is an aeroplane dispersal bay, which Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has converted to a wildlife pond.

The return journey to the parking area is via a section of the runway (10). Portions of the runways have been retained as the use of lime in their construction enable the natural acidic soil conditions to be neutralised therefore attracting a whole range of different flora to this area of the Common.

Proposed Guided Walk on Skipwith Common
Figure 23 **Scale 1:15000**

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - Danes Hills | 7 - RAF Riccall Fusing Points |
| 2 - Round Barrow | 8 - Machine Gun Range |
| 3 & 4 - Line Ponds | 9 - Air Raid Shelter |
| 5 - Wash Dyke (Peat Working) | 10 - RAF Riccall Runway |
| 6 - RAF Riccall Bomb Bays | |



APPENDIX 6

Photographic Catalogue

Monochrome prints

1. View of site 2. Square barrow. Facing south-east.
2. View of site 3. Square barrow. Facing south.
3. View of site 4.0. Square barrow. Facing north.
4. View of site 4.1. Square barrow. Facing north-west.
5. View of site 4.2. Square barrow. Facing north-west.
6. View of site 4.3. Square barrow. Facing west.
7. View of site 4.4. Square barrow. Facing north-west.
8. View of sites 4 and 5. Square barrows. Facing south-east.
9. View of site 4 and 5. Square barrows. Facing south-west.
10. View of site 6. Square barrow. Facing south-west.
11. View of site 7. Square barrow. Facing south.
12. View of site 8. Square barrow. Facing north-west.
13. View of site 10. Square barrow. Facing east.
14. View of site 11. Square barrow. Facing north.
15. View of site 12. Square barrow. Facing north-east.
16. View of site 14. Square barrow. Facing east.
17. View of site 15. Square barrow. Facing south.
18. View of site 16. Square barrow. Facing east.
19. View of sites 19. Square barrow. Facing north.
20. View of site 20. Square barrow. Facing north.
21. View of site 21. Square barrow. Facing east.
22. View of site 22. Square barrow. Facing south-west.
23. View of site 24. Square barrow. Facing east.
24. View of site 23. Square barrow. Facing south-west.
25. View of site 25. Square barrow. Facing north.
26. View of site 26. Round barrow. Facing south-west.
27. View of site 27. Round barrow. Facing south.
28. View of site 28. Round barrow. Facing east.
29. View of site 30. Peat working - Wash Dyke. Facing north-west.
30. View of site 32. Post mill mound. Facing south-east.
31. View of site 33. Sand working. Facing north-east.
32. View of site 34. Sandworking/Line pond. Facing east.
33. View of site 35. Gate post. Facing north.
34. View of site 36. Line pond. Facing north-east.
35. View of site 37. Line pond. Facing north-east.
36. View of site 38. Line pond. Facing east.
37. View of site 39. Line pond. Facing north.
38. View of site 45. Bomb bay a - banks. Facing south.
39. View of site 45. Bomb bay b - anchoring points. Facing south.
40. View of site 45. Bomb bay d - banks. Facing south.
41. View of site 46. Fusing point. Facing south-west.
42. View of site 46. Fusing point. Facing east.
43. View of site 48. Nissan hut. Facing north.
44. View of site 49. Nissan hut. Facing west.
45. View of site 51. Line pond. Facing north.
46. View of site 51. Line pond. Facing south-east.
47. View of site 52. Line pond. Facing east.
48. View of sites 53 and 54. Line ponds/sand workings. Facing east.
49. View of site 55. Air raid shelter. Facing west.
50. View of site 56. Maching gun harmonising range. Facing east.
51. View of site 57. Air raid shelter. Facing west.

52. View of site 58. Main runway. Facing south.
53. View of site 61. Dispersal bay. Facing east.
54. View of site 63. Boundary bank. Facing north.
55. View of site 63. Boundary bank. Facing south.
56. View of site 63. Boundary bank. Facing east.

Colour

1. View of sites 4 and 5 . Square barrows. Facing east.
2. View of site 4 and 5. Square barrows. Facing south.
3. View of site 23. Square barrow. Facing south.
4. View of site 28. Round barrow. Facing north-east.
5. View of site 28. Round barrow. Facing east.
6. View of site 36. Line pond. Facing north-east.
7. View of site 45. Bomb bay d - banks. Facing north-east.
8. View of site 45. Bomb bay d - anchoring points. Facing north.
9. View of site 46. Fusing point. Facing south-west.
10. View of site 46. Fusing point. Facing south-west.
11. View of site 41. Bomb bay drain. Facing north-west.
12. View of site 41. Bomb bay drain. Facing south-east.