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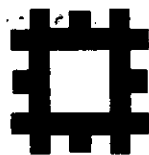
AI/15/2002

Cosgate Hill, Countisbury,
Devon

Elaine Jamieson

DRF 1

SURVEY REPORT



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Cosgate Hill, Countisbury, Devon

An archaeological survey by English Heritage

County:	Devon
District:	North Devon
Parish:	Countisbury
OS Map No:	SS 74 NE
NGR:	SS 7920 4880
NMR No:	SS 74 NE 3, 9-11, 56-69
Surveyed:	Dec 2001-Feb2002
Report by:	E Jamieson
Surveyors:	E Jamieson, H Riley, R Wilson-North
Illustrations:	E Jamieson

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Summary

Fieldwork carried out by English Heritage in partnership with the Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) has recorded a small but interesting group of features on Cosgate Hill. The earliest of these monuments take the form of three linear groups of Bronze Age barrows which can be seen to stretch from east to west across the hill. In the 13th century Cosgate was recorded as one of the boundary markers of the Royal Forest of Exmoor and would have acted as a gateway to the summer grazing grounds which lay within the Forest bounds. Some time in the early post-medieval period Cosgate Hill was enclosed and improved for farming but map evidence suggests that it had been abandoned and had reverted back to moor or heathland by the beginning of the 19th century. The remains of a 19th-century toll gate and toll house lie next to the modern A39 road at the county boundary between Devon and Somerset and combine with several quarries to make up the 19th-century features within the survey area.



Fig. 1. Location Plan.

INTRODUCTION

The ENPA holding of Cosgate Hill lies on a narrow neck of land situated on the northern fringes of Exmoor (Fig. 1). A survey of the archaeological features at Cosgate Hill was requested by the ENPA to aid in the understanding, and subsequent management of the site. The survey was carried out by the Exeter Office of English Heritage between the months of December 2001 and February 2002, using a combination of GPS (Global Positioning System) equipment and graphical survey methods.

LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

Cosgate Hill, Devon, lies within the Parish of Countisbury, *c* 7km to the east of Lynton, and rises to an elevation of *c* 340m above OD. The general topography of the area comprises high, gently rounded hills separated by narrow and steep sided valleys. Cosgate Hill forms a narrow neck of exposed upland, running east west, which drops steeply down to Ashton Cleave on the south and to The Combe, and ultimately the Bristol Channel, on the north. The survey area, centred SS 7900 4880, comprises *c* 0.24km² of heather moor and rough grassland with the A39 Lynton to Minehead road skirting its northern and eastern boundaries (Fig. 2). The East Lyn River and the Devon/Somerset county boundary mark the southern extents of the survey area, with the enclosed pasture fields of Ashton farm to the west. Cosgate Hill is formed from Hangman Grits thought to be of lower Middle Devonian age with Scree forming the eastern slopes of Ashton Cleave (Geological Survey of Great Britain, 1997).

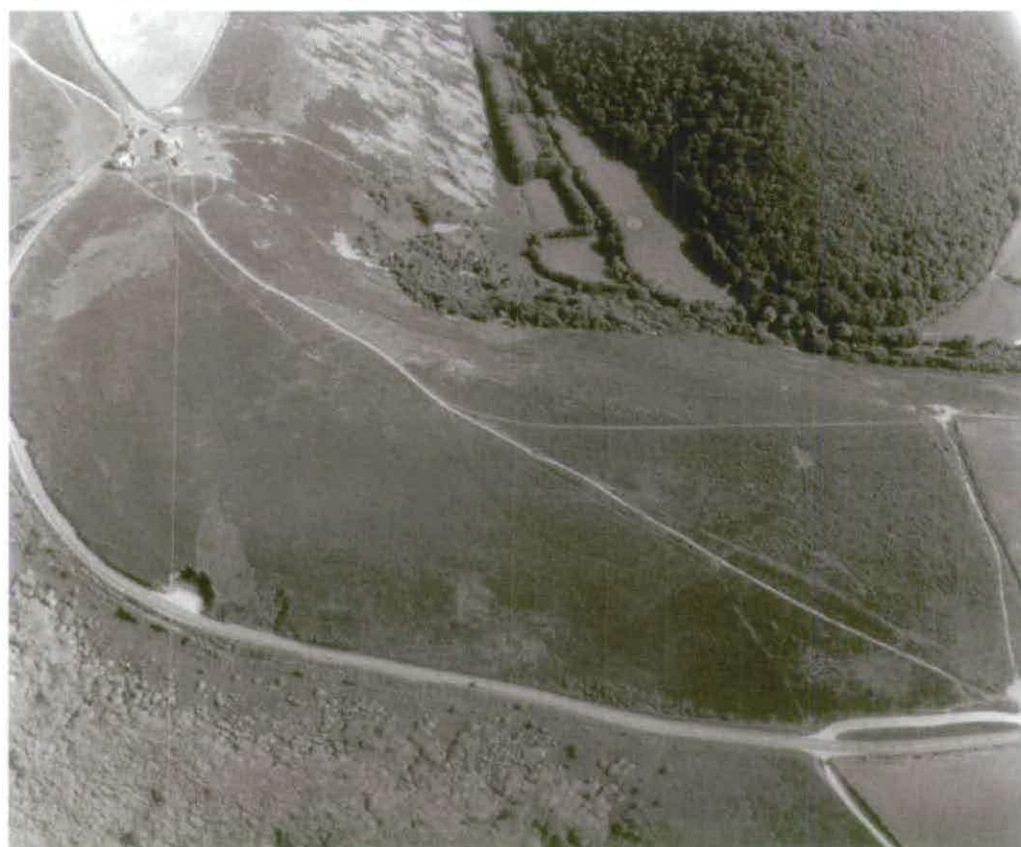


Fig. 2. Aerial photograph showing Cosgate Hill. (NMR 15309/36)

HISTORY

The Royal Forest

The Royal Forest of Exmoor was one of the sixty-seven royal forests of England and its origins may be traced back as far as the Saxon period. The extent of the forest in the early medieval period is unclear, however, MacDermott (1973) concludes that after King John's charter of

1204 the whole of the Exmoor Forest lay within the county of Somerset (MacDermott 1973, 18). During the course of the 13th century there were four perambulations of the Royal Forest for which records survive. The earliest of these documents is undated but is thought to relate to the 1219 perambulation and records the starting point of the route as *Corsneshet*, undoubtedly the modern Cosgates Feet or County Gate. The following three perambulations of 1279, 1298 and 1300 all document *Cornestake*, *Cornesyete*, and *Cornesgate* respectively, again, all of which may be interpreted as Cosgate (MacDermott 1973, 118). Situated on the bounds of the Forest, it is possible that Cosgate Hill may have been part of the Royal Forest prior to this time, though there is little evidence to support this.

The Royal Forest was not solely an area reserved to the King for hunting but was used for the grazing of livestock. One of the earliest references to this can be found in the Domesday book but it may be assumed that the pasturing of livestock on the moor stretched back much further than this. The inhabitants of the bordering hamlets had established rights of common on the moor and turned their animals out to graze in the Forest during the summer months. As one of the gateways into the Royal Forest, Cosgate Hill would have been an important route-way in medieval times. Due to the natural topography it would have acted like a land-bridge connecting the surrounding hamlets with the Forest and their summer grazing grounds.

The extent of the forest was reduced some time between the 14th and 15th centuries to include only the area that is now the present parish of Exmoor. This is not clearly documented until the perambulation undertaken as part of the *Survey of Exmoor* in 1651 which shows the boundary going from Hoar Oak to Black Barrow, excluding the former area of Forest to the east of Badgworthy Water and with it Cosgate (MacDermott 1973, 301).

Map Evidence

The Ordnance Survey 2" map dating from 1804-5 shows Cosgate Hill as an area of unenclosed land crossed by a single trackway. The Tithe map of 1839 also depicts the survey area as an unenclosed stretch of land with the exception of a small enclosure on the steep slopes of Ashton Combe. This is listed in the apportionment as *Ham Garden*, property of John Palfreman owner of Ashton Farm, and is to this day a small wooded area. The Tithe map also shows that the modern A39 road was in place by the late 1830's. The road appears absent on the 1804-5 Ordnance Survey map, though the quality of the depiction is poor. It is possible that the road was constructed in the intervening period.

The 1890 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" and 6" maps (Fig. 3) depict the area in more detail and are the first to show the buildings at Cosgates Feet or County Gate. As they do not appear

on the Tithe map it must be assumed they were constructed some time after 1839. The buildings sit at the county boundary between Devon and Somerset and are thought to have originally been constructed as a toll house with associated buildings. The present A39, which runs from south of Parracombe, via Lynton to Minehead, was never turnpiked, although a coach ran between Minehead and Lynton up until the 1920s. This service is first mentioned in *Kelly's Directory* in 1861 (Bentley 1997, 147), though it may have begun earlier, and it is possible that the buildings and gateway were constructed to collect tolls from passengers using this service.

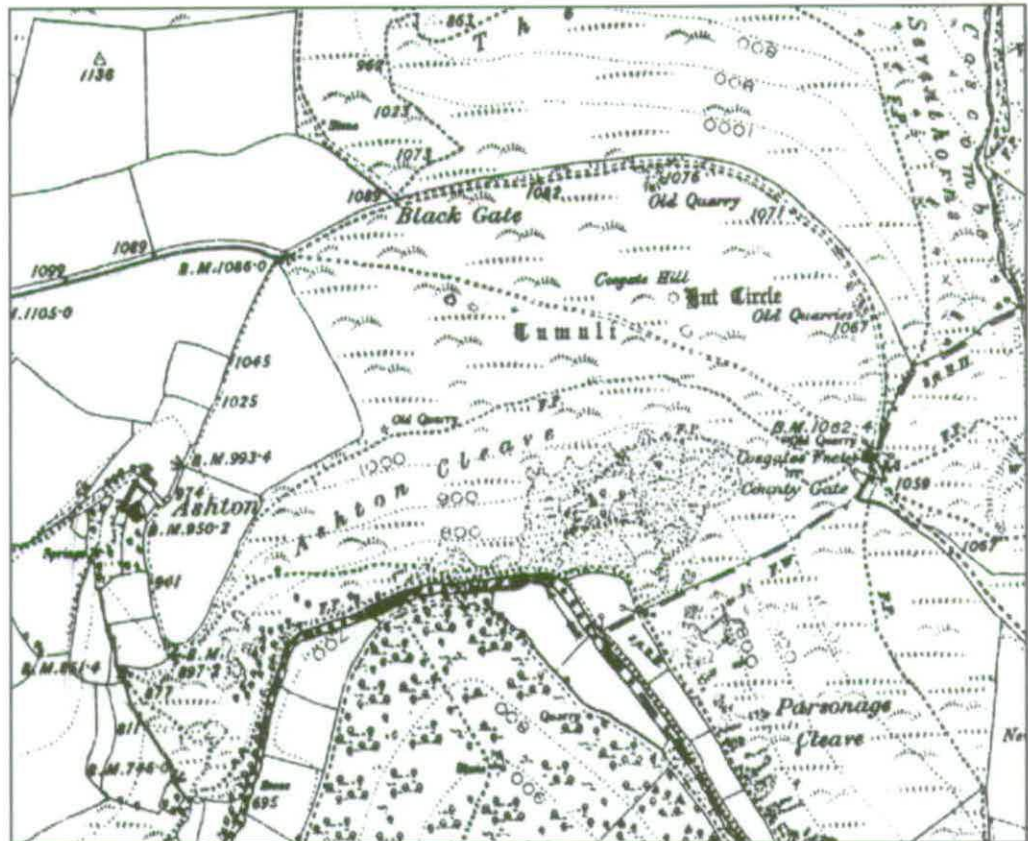


Fig.3. Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" map dating from 1890.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map depicts four features marked as *tumuli* and one annotated *hut circle*; this would appear to be the earliest record of these prehistoric features on Cosgate Hill. There are also several quarries mapped on the 1st edition and annotated *Old Quarries*, suggesting that they were out of use by the time this map was produced in 1890.

Little archaeological work has been carried out over the area. Air photographic transcription at 1:10000 scale was undertaken when the whole of the National Park was mapped in this way (McDonnell 1985) and a watching brief was carried out when a pipe trench was dug along the route of the present trackway (R Wilson-North pers. comm.). There have been no known archaeological excavations in the survey area. Cosgate Hill was purchased by the ENPA in 1977.

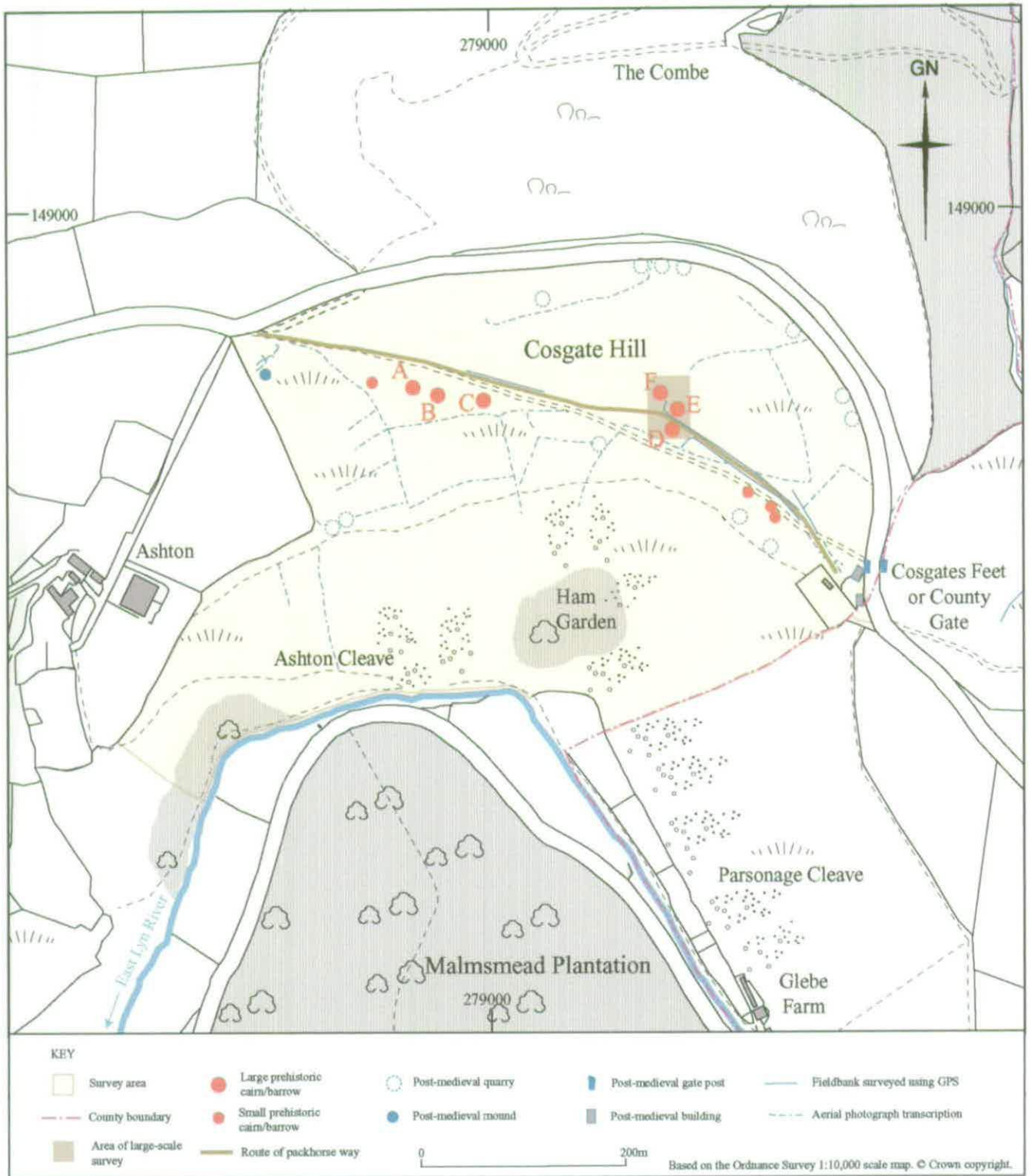


Fig. 4. Cosgate Hill. Archaeology.

ARCHAEOLOGY (Fig. 4)

The following is a summary of the main archaeological features on Cosgate Hill, arranged in to broad chronological periods. Detailed descriptions of individual monuments are contained in the appendix.

Prehistoric Landscape

Several possible Bronze Age barrows were identified and recorded during survey work. The distribution of barrows on Exmoor tends to be concentrated on the high ridges and it is therefore not unusual to find these monuments in a location such as Cosgate Hill. The survey area sits towards the western end of the most northerly of the east-west ridges that cross the moor. There are several cairns or barrows along the length of this ridge with perhaps the greatest concentration to be found on Culbone Hill to the east.

A linear group of four possible barrows (SS 74 NE 3) lies on the western side of Cosgate Hill, south of the modern trackway; three of the features appear on the Ordnance survey 1st edition 25" map of 1890. These three features had previously been recorded in the National Monuments Record as four possible barrows (Grinsell 1961, Stone 1974). Grinsell describes two of the mounds he recorded, 4a and 4b, as being 'confluent' and has therefore interpreted feature B as two barrows (Grinsell 1970, 116). Stone also recorded feature B as two bowl barrows though it is now thought to be a single monument. The three largest features would appear to have suffered extensive robbing and the elongated shape of feature B may simply be the result of this activity. It is worthy of note however, that aerial photographs dating from 1972 show that the area was clearer of vegetation at that time and therefore Grinsell and Stone may have had a better view of the feature as it is now covered in dense gorse. The monuments all sit within an area of post-medieval field banks and are possibly casualties of their construction; the close proximity of the trackway may also be a factor in the poor survival of these monuments. Wilson-North recorded a further possible barrow in 1993 at SS 7888 4884. This turf covered stony mound lies in an area of dense gorse and heather making interpretation difficult but its relationship with the other features in this group strengthens the suggestion that it is a possible Bronze Age barrow.

A second linear group of three possible barrows (SS 74 NE 11) lies to the west of the modern car park, along the line of the trackway and overlooking Ashton Cleave. These mounds were first recorded by Grinsell in 1961 at which time he identified four features in the group, however, the most westerly of these features could not be located during survey work in an

area of dense gorse. All three mounds have a large stone content and their consolidated nature would negate the suggestion that they may be upcast mounds or clearance cairns; they are more likely to be small prehistoric cairns or barrows.

A group of three possible barrows (SS 74 NE 9, SS 74 NE 10) sit on the summit of Cosgate Hill, two of which appear on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map the most northerly of which is annotated *Hut Circle*. The true nature of these features was uncertain and the ENPA requested a large-scale survey to aid in their understanding and interpretation; a 1:200 scale survey was undertaken as part of the archaeological survey of the area (Fig. 5).

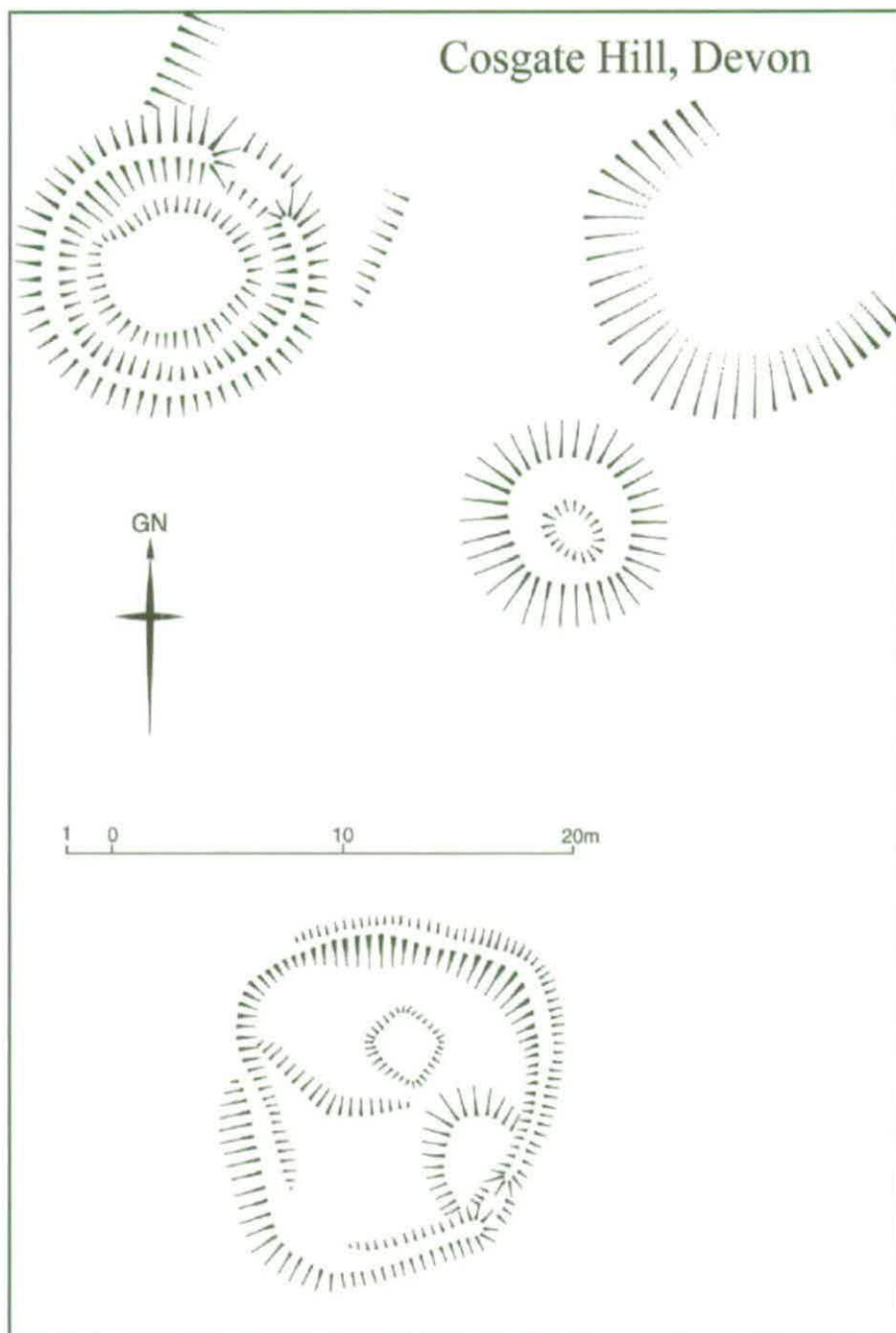


Fig. 5. Cosgate Hill. English Heritage 1:200 scale survey (reduced).

The largest of these features, SS 74 NE 10, lies on gently sloping ground on the main summit ridge of Cosgate Hill. It takes the form of a large hollow, *c* 17.8m in diameter and *c* 1.2m deep at its deepest point, with a low yet well-defined bank, especially prominent on its northern and eastern sides, running round the lip of the hollow. The feature has obviously been extensively quarried to below ground level, however, the presence of the bank would suggest that the feature is more likely to be the remains of a large barrow or cairn which has been almost comprehensively destroyed by later quarrying. This suggestion is further strengthened by examining the course of the packhorse way and field banks which pass close by. They would appear to respect the feature, with the packhorse way passing to the north and the field banks curving southwards to avoid it, perhaps suggesting it pre-dates these features.

To the north of this there are a further two turf-covered mounds, SS 74 NE 9. The smallest of these consists of a flat-topped stony mound 9.2m in diameter and standing 0.4m high; it may possibly represent the remains of a round barrow. To the north west stands a second flat topped mound *c* 7.6m in diameter and 0.3m high surrounded by a shallow internal ditch and low earthen bank. There has been some doubt as to the nature of this monument as the bank is relatively well defined but it is thought most likely that this is the remains of a Bronze Age barrow. During large-scale survey a substantial area of disturbed ground, possibly an area of quarrying, was recorded to the north-east of this feature, with the northern side of the bank apparently overlying or slipping into this area. A similar feature was also recorded to the north of monument E and it is possible that these are stone quarries used during the construction of the barrows. This is not unheard of on Exmoor and has been recorded previously on Dunkery Beacon and Robin and Joaney How (Riley & Wilson-North 2001, 37), however, the area of possible quarrying is much larger than those previously recorded and it is therefore less likely that it is related to prehistoric activity.

Medieval Landscape

As previously mentioned, Cosgate was one of the medieval gateways into the Royal Forest of Exmoor. The Forest was not enclosed but was defined by prominent features in the landscape such as prehistoric barrows and standing stones, natural features such as trees and streams, and a network of boundary stones. It is highly likely there was some form of medieval marker at Cosgates Feet or County Gate which defined the extent of the Forest and the boundary between the counties of Devon and Somerset. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 shows a boundary stone located between the toll house and the main Lynton/Minehead road but unfortunately this stone could not be located during survey work. All that would appear to survive today is a modern boundary marker erected by the ENPA.

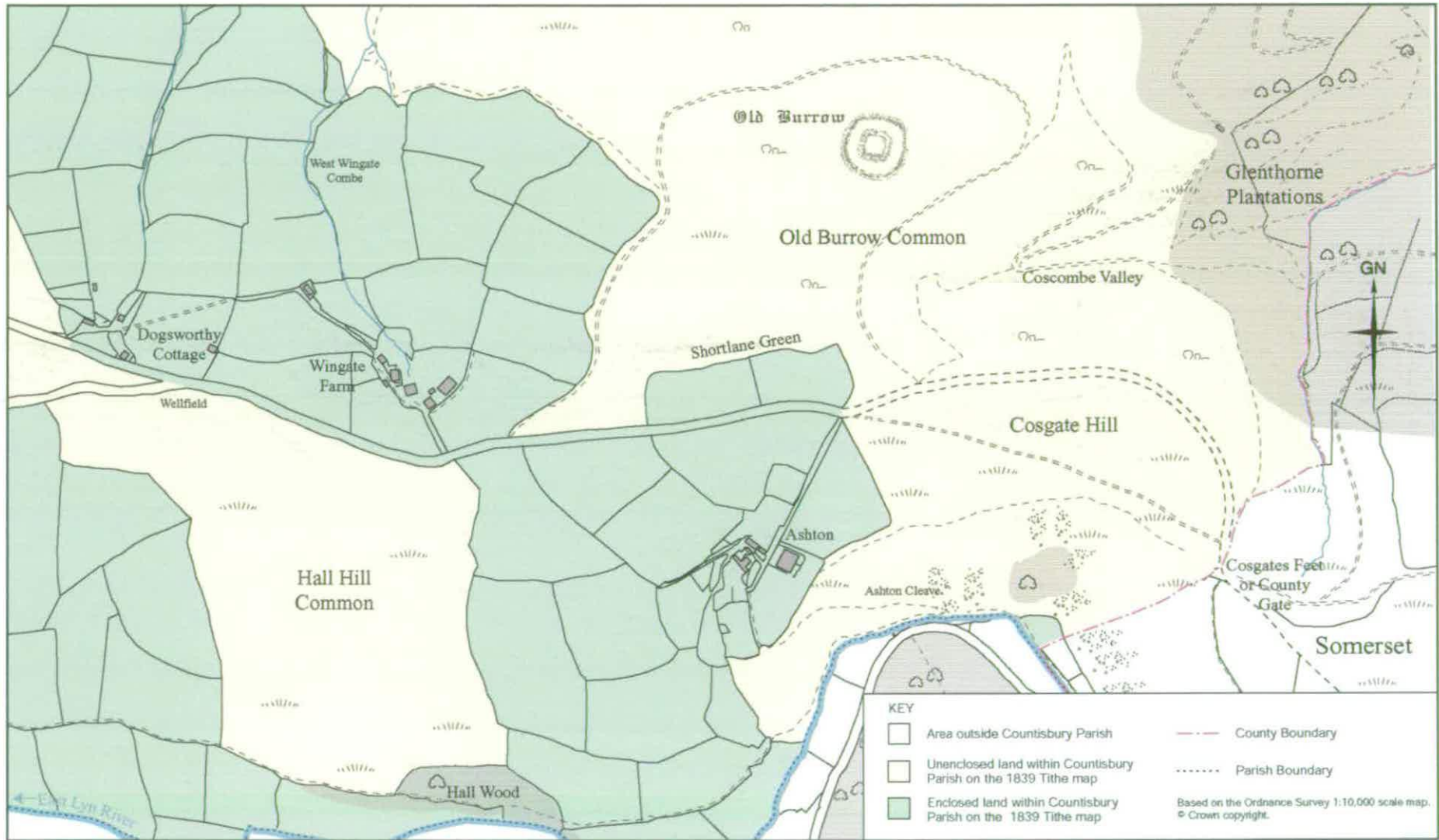


Fig. 6. Areas of enclosed land within Countisbury Parish on the 1839 Tithe Map.

There is little archaeological evidence of medieval activity on Cosgate Hill. This is not surprising as the area was almost certainly part of the commons and would have been used for the grazing of livestock. The only feature that may date from the medieval period is the packhorse way which crosses the hill (SS 74 NE 66). This survives as a substantial earthwork in places and would have been the natural route for the inhabitants of the local hamlets to gain access into the Royal Forest, Yenworthy Common and beyond. Livestock was frequently being moved in this period, driven to market, taken up onto the commons and into the Royal Forest to graze during the summer months. This feature would have been used for many centuries and was probably only abandoned when the A39 was constructed in early/mid 19th century.

Post-Medieval Landscape

The post-medieval landscape of Cosgate Hill can be divided into two main categories:

- *Field systems*
- *19th - & 20th-century archaeology*

Field systems

Map evidence shows that Cosgate Hill was almost certainly common land in the post-medieval period. The 1839 Tithe map shows the area as unenclosed rough ground adjoining Old Burrow Common to the north-west and Yenworthy Common to the south-east (Fig. 6). The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map also shows the area as unenclosed but archaeological evidence shows that the area had been enclosed and improved some time in the post-medieval period. A network of field banks was discovered crossing the area but due to the dense coverage of gorse and heather these features were difficult to record on the ground. Aerial photographs dating from 1946 showed most clearly the extent of the abandoned field system within the survey area and also on some of the surrounding unimproved land. These photographs were used to map the field system on Cosgate Hill (SS 74 NE 64) and also the systems round Old Burrow and Hall Hill which have since largely disappeared under areas of new intake (Fig. 7). These field banks almost certainly represent attempts at enclosing the commons for the cultivation of crops or the pasturing of livestock, a practice which can be seen over many of Exmoor's commons, most prominently on Molland Common, Withypool Hill and Winsford Hill (Riley & Wilson-North 2001, 126). It is interesting to note that the enclosed fields on the commons are almost without exception smaller than those found within the surviving field systems. The field systems on Cosgate Hill and Hall Hill also have packhorse ways through them and would appear to have some form of continuity within the layout of the field banks, indicating some degree of order and perhaps longevity within the field system. It is worthy of note that only the field system on Hall Hill shows signs of ridge and furrow within it. This ridging appears to

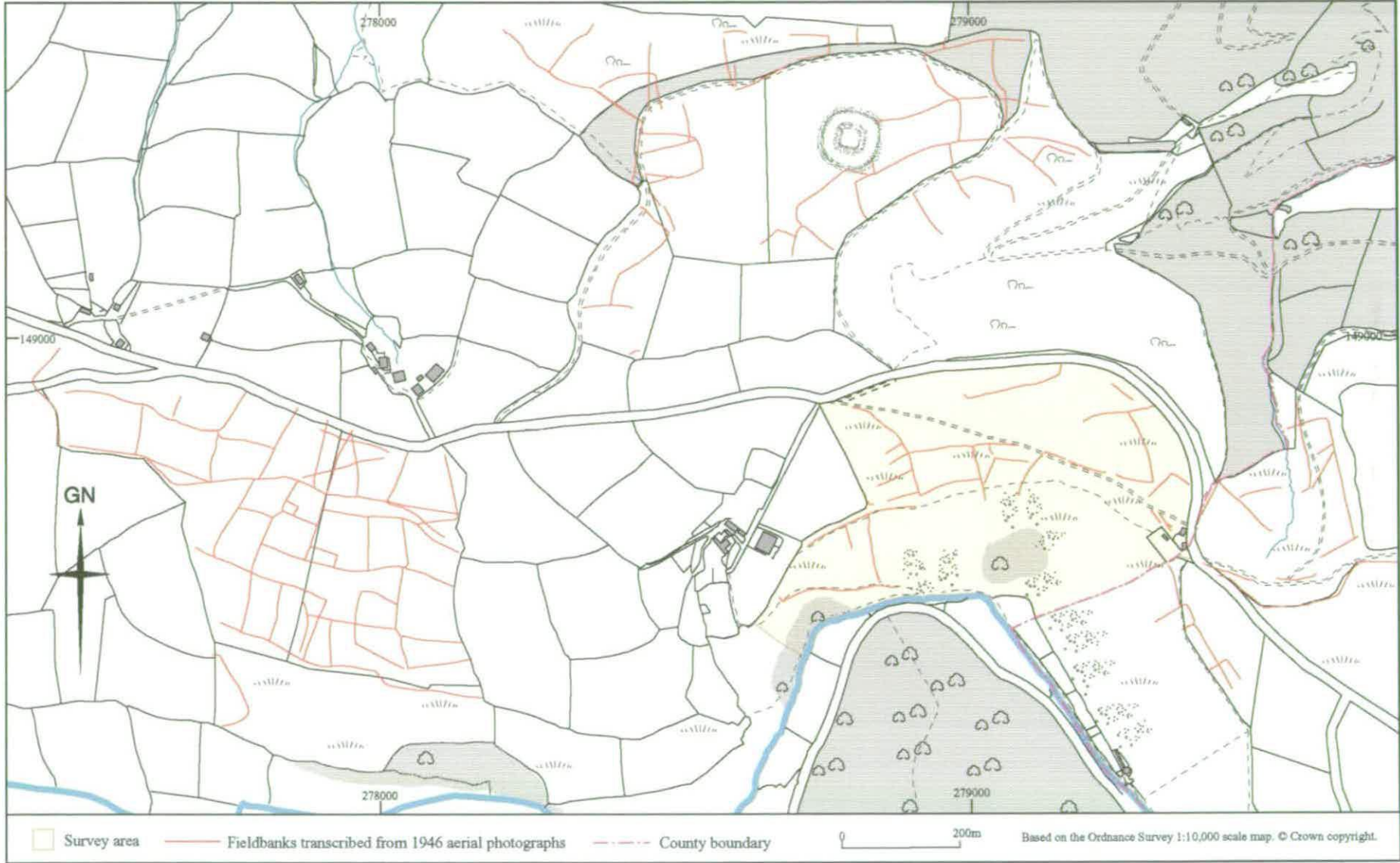


Fig. 7. Field systems transcribed from 1946 aerial photographs

overly some of the field banks however, indicating that it post dates these banks and may represent a later phase of agricultural activity on the common. The lack of ridging within the other field systems might suggest that these enclosed areas were not ploughed and used for the cultivation of crops, alternatively, the cultivation of the area may have been short lived and the evidence so slight it could not be identified during survey work. Although ridge and furrow is evident over much of the previously recorded relict field systems on the commons there are areas within these which are devoid of ridging, such as the top of Withypool Hill (Crutchley 2000, 5). This may suggest that there was a more complex system of agricultural activity going on in these areas which is as yet not fully understood.

It is difficult to know when these areas were under cultivation as there are surprisingly few references in documentary sources to the intake of the commons. In extracts from the Swainmore Court Rolls dated between 1541 and 1559 a group of husbandmen from Withypoole are recorded as having:

'Upon the said Comon and Wast ground called Withypoole Comon Entred, and there twenty Acres thereof with Oxe and plough turned and putt to tillage and the same then enclosed, and made severall from the said Comon' (MacDermot 1973, 450).

This enclosure is said to have taken place in the three years following 1519 and would indicate that areas were being enclosed and separated from the commons at the beginning of the post-medieval period and possibly earlier. The intake of marginal areas may be as a consequence of increased pressure on existing agricultural land due to a number of factors such as population increase, changes in economic climate or changes in social structure. In a wider geographical context such changes are known to have occurred throughout much of the early post-medieval period. Although Exmoor is well known for the production of wool for cloth (Warren 1997, 131), surprisingly little is known about the wider agricultural economy in the early post-medieval period. Some medieval documents such as the Bailiff's Rolls give us an insight into the kind of agricultural activity that was taking place within individual manors during the 15th century (Healey 1901). They show that a mixed agricultural system was being operated and that livestock were being bought and sold, indicating a more complex economic structure than simple subsistence farming. Further research is required however, if a greater understanding as to the changes that were occurring in Exmoor's agricultural economy through the late medieval and early post-medieval period is to be gained.

Most of these field systems appear to have been short lived and only in rare cases are they visible fossilised in 19th-century field systems, such as a small area of fields to the north of Wootton Courtenay (M Gillard pers. Comm.). What can be said about the field systems recorded during this survey is they had been abandoned by the beginning of the 19th century

and the land had reverted back to rough ground by the time of the Ordnance Survey 2" map of 1804-5.

19th - & 20th-century archaeology

Map evidence has shown that the modern A39 was in place by the second quarter of the 19th century. The remains of several quarries were recorded as part of the archaeological survey of the area, of which some are almost certainly related to the construction of this road. There are six quarries of varying size which follow the course of the road (SS 74 NE 59, SS 74 NE 60, SS 74 NE 61, SS 74 NE 62) and were most likely used to supply material for the construction of the road surface. A further six quarries (SS 74 NE 56, SS 74 NE 57, SS 74 NE 58, SS 74 NE 63, SS 74 NE 69) were also recorded on Cosgate Hill and may also have been used to supply material for the road or for the construction of surrounding field banks. Several of these quarries are annotated *Old Quarry* on the OS 1st edition map (SS 74 NE 56, SS 74 NE 59, SS 74 NE 62, SS 74 NE 69) suggesting they were out of use by the 1890s.

The buildings at Cosgates Feet or County Gate would appear to have been constructed around 1840 and originally served as a toll house or gate house. The toll house became part of the Glenthorne Estate in the middle of the 19th century and was referred to in deeds as the *Road House*. The house was used as a dwelling and appears to have initially served as a workers cottage for Ashton Farm. By the second half of the 20th century the property was used as a café and transit stop before being turned into an ENPA visitors centre in 1980 (T Piper pers. comm.).

The OS 1st edition map shows three buildings in the group, consisting of the main house, a rectangular barn or cart shed and a small square building to the rear, possibly a privy. The main house originally consisted of a simple rectangular building with a cellar under the northern half of the structure. An extension has since been added to the rear, in one or possibly two phases, which required a large area of ground to be quarried away in order to accommodate the new structure. It is almost certain that it was at this time the smallest of the three buildings marked on the 1890's map was demolished to make room for the modern extension. The extension was added prior to the building's purchase by the ENPA and can be seen to be in place by the time a series of aerial photographs were taken in 1972. The remaining original buildings are constructed from local stone and have slate roofs, though the smaller of the two buildings, now used as a walkers shelter, has been re-roofed possibly at the same time the extension was added.

In conjunction with the construction of the toll house a gateway was erected across the main road in order to stop travelers and to collect the toll money. Two impressive gate posts (SS 74 NE 65), one standing 1.45m and the other 1.55m in height, are all that survive of this toll gate today.

Several amorphous features (SS 74 NE 68) were recorded in the north-western corner of the survey area, and are possibly the remains of landscaping for an earlier car park.

A small grass covered stony mound (SS 74 NE 67) sits 40m to the south-east of the entrance to Ashton farm. The mound stands 1.5m in height and would appear to be a clearance heap.

CONCLUSIONS

The surviving archaeological remains on Cosgate Hill form a small but interesting group ranging from Bronze Age barrows to a 19th-century toll house. The survey work has highlighted the wealth of prehistoric burial monuments which survive in this small area, recording ten possible barrows or cairns across the site. The large-scale survey has succeeded in producing a better understanding of some of the more complex of these monuments which were until now little understood. Many post-medieval features were also recorded including an extensive area of field system which covers much of the survey area. The work has not only show the extent of the post-medieval field system remains on Cosgate Hill, but has also illustrated that they form part of a much larger process of enclosure which was occurring on areas of common land at this time. The survey has also highlighted the importance of the remains on Cosgate Hill, demonstrating that they form a small pocket of survival within the modern agricultural landscape of Exmoor. Large areas of post-medieval field system have disappeared under new areas of intake as recently as the second half of the 20th century. The survival of features on Cosgate Hill may therefore be largely attributed to its fortunate escape from this modern round of agricultural improvements.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Cosgate Hill was surveyed at 1:2500 scale between December 2001 and February 2002. All features were surveyed using Trimble dual frequency differential GPS (Global Positioning System) equipment and processed using Trimble Geomatics Office survey software. The survey was located to the National Grid using data from the Ordnance Survey web site. The large-scale survey was undertaken using traditional survey methods.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Rob Wilson-North for his help with information held in the ENPA and his assistance with the large-scale survey. The ENPA contributed towards the cost of the survey. I am also grateful to Hazel Riley for her assistance with survey work and the compilation of this report. I must also thank Tony Piper for his help with background information on the ENPA visitors centre and to Martin Gillard for his comments and advice on Exmoor's field systems.

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APPENDIX: SITE GAZETEER

PERIOD: Bronze Age

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 3

NGR: SS 7895 4882

DESCRIPTION: A linear group of four features which lie on the western side of Cosgate Hill, at about 340m above OD. E, SS 7888 4884, is a turf-covered stony mound 7m in diameter and 0.5m high; possibly a barrow. A, SS 7892 4883, comprises a heather and gorse covered stony bank 10.6m in diameter, 0.7m high and 2.4m wide; probably a robbed barrow. B & D, SS 7895 4882, these were previously recorded as two features but are now thought to represent a single robbed barrow. A sub-rectangular bank, 11.6 east/west, 7m north/south and 0.4m at its highest point. C, SS 7899 4882, is a well defined stony mound 10m in diameter and 0.8m high; a hollow 1.6m in diameter has been dug into its top. This is thought to represent a well-preserved round barrow.

SITE CONDITION: The features all lie within an area of dense gorse and heather making them difficult to identify. Features A & B /D have been extensively robbed and survive in poor condition. E is poorly defined and C survives in good condition.

PERIOD: Bronze Age

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 9

NGR: SS 7916 4883

DESCRIPTION: A turf-covered mound, SS 7916 4883, lies just below the summit of Cosgate Hill at about 340m above OD. The stony mound, 7.6m in diameter and 0.3m high, is surrounded by a shallow internal ditch and a well-defined earthen bank, 13.7m in diameter, 2.4m wide and 0.6m high. The feature is thought most likely to be a prehistoric barrow.

A small stony mound. SS 7918 4881, lies in dense gorse and heather at about 340m above OD. The flat-topped mound is 9.2m in diameter and 0.4m high with a small depression at its centre; possibly a barrow.

SITE CONDITION/THREAT: Both features lie in an area of dense gorse and heather and are relatively well preserved.

PERIOD: Bronze Age

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 10

NGR: SS 7917 4879

DESCRIPTION: A large sub-circular feature, SS 7917 4879, lies just below the summit of Cosgate Hill at about 340m above OD. It takes the form of a large hollow, 17.8m in diameter and up to 1.2m deep; a turf-covered stony bank, 1m wide and 0.3m high, runs round the lip of the hollow. The feature has been quarried to below ground level but the presence of the bank would suggest the feature is more likely to be a prehistoric barrow which has been extensively robbed.

SITE CONDITION: The monument survives in poor condition in an area of dense gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Bronze Age

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 11

NGR: SS 7927 4872

DESCRIPTION: Three mounds lie along the line of the trackway overlooking Ashton Cleave. C, SS 7927 4871, is a turf-covered stony mound 5.3m in diameter and 1.1m high, covered in gorse and heather. B, SS 7927 4872, is a stony mound 4.7m in diameter and 0.8m high; the feature is sharp on the northern edge. A, SS 7925 4873, is a heather covered stony mound 6m in diameter and 0.8m high; possibly flat topped or disturbed. The consolidated

nature of the features would suggest they are likely to be prehistoric barrows.

SITE CONDITION: The features lie in an area of dense gorse and heather and their close proximity to the trackway may be the cause of erosion damage on the northern side of mound B.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 56

NGR: SS 7884 4870

DESCRIPTION: Two small quarries lie adjacent to the track on the northern slopes of Ashton Cleave, at about 330m above OD. A, SS 7885 4871, is 5.5m in length and 3.2m in width with a maximum depth of 2.5m; a small spoil heap 1m high lies to the south. B, SS 7884 4870, lies to the south-west and is 4.3m in length with a maximum depth of 3m; a small spoil heap 1m high lies on its south side. These features are both almost certainly post-medieval in date.

SITE CONDITION: Both quarries are well defined and lie in an area of gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 57

NGR: SS 7911 4878

DESCRIPTION: A quarry lies to the south of the main trackway just below the crest of Cosgate Hill, at about 340m above OD. The semi-circular feature is 10.6m in length and 7.5m in width, with a maximum depth of 4m and an entrance visible to the south-west. A spoil bank runs round the rim of the quarry with a further mound at its centre standing 0.6m in height. The feature is most probably of late 19th century date.

SITE CONDITION: The quarry survives in good condition in an area of dense gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 58

NGR: SS 7905 4892

DESCRIPTION: A large quarry was recorded in heathland 30m to the south of the main A39 road, at about 335m above OD. The semi-circular quarry is 18.2m long, 22m wide and has a maximum depth of 6m; a large mound of spoil lies on its northern side and stands 1.5m high. The feature is most probably 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature is very well defined in an area of gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 59

NGR: SS 7915 4895

DESCRIPTION: A large quarry was recorded adjacent to the A39 road, at about 330m above OD. The quarry is 23.2m in length, 17.4m in width and has a maximum depth of 8m. It has an entrance on the north side and there is a mound of spoil at its centre standing 1m high. The feature is almost certainly 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature is very well defined in an area of grass and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 60

NGR: SS 7919 4895

DESCRIPTION: A large quarry, SS 7919 4895, lies adjacent to the A39 road, at about 330m above OD. The feature is 30.1m in length and 13.9m in width with a maximum depth of 7m and an entrance on the northern side. On the western edge lies a second much smaller quarry, SS 7917 4896, which is 7.1m in length, 5.6m wide and 1.5m deep. Both features are probably late 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The features are both well defined in an area of grass and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 61

NGR: SS 7931 4889

DESCRIPTION: A small quarry lies above the A39 road 235m north of County Gate, at about 335m above OD. The quarry is 4.7m long and 3.8m wide with a maximum depth of 2m. The feature is most probably 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature survives in good condition in an area of heather and gorse.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 62

NGR: SS 7935 4882

DESCRIPTION: Two quarries lie adjacent to the A39 road 155m north of County Gate, at about 335m above OD. A, SS 7935 4883, is 10.3m long, 7.9m wide and 3m deep with a small mound of spoil at its centre 0.4m high. B, SS 79364881, is 21.5m long, 13.1m wide and 4m deep. Both features are probably 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: Both features survive in good condition in an area of brambles and gorse.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 63

NGR: SS 7924 4871

DESCRIPTION: A small quarry lies in rough heathland 135m to the north-west of County Gate, at about 320m above OD. The feature is 7.4m long, 6.7m wide and 2m deep with a mound of spoil running round its western lip. The quarry is most probably 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature is well defined in an area of dense gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 64

NGR: SS 7741 4831 to SS 7741 4955 (area)

DESCRIPTION: An area of post-medieval field system was recorded using aerial photographs and covers Cosgate Hill (centred SS 7907 4877, Hall Hill (centred SS 7782 4867), and Old Burrow (centred 7871 4936). The field system on Cosgate Hill comprises low turf-covered banks 1m wide and up to 0.4m high obscured by heather and gorse. There is no indication of ridging within the banks and a packhorse way runs through the field system. Only on Hall Hill are there signs of ridging but this crosses some of the field banks and may therefore be a later phase of activity. The field systems on Hall Hill and Old Burrow sit within an area of modern intake and have been almost obliterated by ploughing. The field system is thought most likely to be early post-medieval in date.

SITE CONDITION: The features survive in poor condition in dense gorse and heather on Cosgate Hill and have been almost completely obliterated on Hall Hill and Old Burrow.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 65

NGR: SS 7937 4866

DESCRIPTION: Two large stone gate posts were recorded on either side of the A39 road at Cosgates Feet or County Gate, at about 335m above OD. Stone A, SS 7936 4866, is situated on the western side of the road and stands 1.5m high, 0.45m wide and has a thickness of 0.2m. A single hole is visible in the upper section of the stone and a large section has recently sheared off on the road side. Stone B, SS 7937

4866, is situated on the eastern side of the road and stands 1.45m high, 0.5m wide and 0.2m thick. The stone has a single hole in its upper section with the remains of an iron gate hanger still visible. The gate post are both of local stone and are almost certainly related to the toll house and are therefore probably mid-19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: Stone A has recently lost a large upper section, probably through frost damage, and both stones are likely to suffer further damage due to their exposed position and the nature of the stone.

PERIOD: Medieval/Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 66

NGR: SS 7892 4885 to SS 7934 4866 (linear)

DESCRIPTION: The earthwork remains of a packhorse way can be seen crossing Cosgate Hill, rising to over 340m above OD. This linear feature takes the form of a sunken trackway 6.7m wide and up to 1m deep. The feature was almost certainly used for many centuries, only going out of use when the A39 road was constructed in the 19th century, and may date back to the medieval period.

SITE CONDITION: The earthwork is relatively well defined in places in an area of dense gorse and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 67

NGR: SS 7878 4885

DESCRIPTION: A small stony mound was recorded 36m south of the main trackway at the western end of Cosgate Hill, at about 330m above OD. The grass-covered mound is 6.4m in diameter and rises steeply to a height of 1.5m. The sharp nature of the feature and the vegetation cover would suggest the mound is modern in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature survives in good condition.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 68

NGR: SS 7878 4886

DESCRIPTION: Several amorphous features were recorded 28m to the south of the modern car park at the west end of Cosgate Hill, at about 330m above OD. The remains take the form of several grass covered linear features standing up to 0.5m high which most likely represent earlier attempts at landscaping for a car park.

SITE CONDITION: Some of the features are well defined in an area of grass and heather.

PERIOD: Post-medieval

NMR NUMBER: SS 74 NE 69

NGR: SS 7927 4868

DESCRIPTION: A small grass covered quarry lies adjacent to the track on the northern slopes of Ashton Cleave, at about 330m above OD. The quarry is 5.2m wide and 5.4m long with a maximum depth of 1.5m. The feature is most probably 19th century in date.

SITE CONDITION: The feature survives in good condition in an area of grass and heather.



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