DigVentures

Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership

Snilesworth Moor Archaeological Walkover Survey Report

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Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as a Walkover Survey Report for the Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership project team working as part of the North York Moors National Park Authority.

This document is intended to provide a summary of the community archaeology walkover survey which took place over the 16th and 17th of February 2022 on a site in the Snilesworth Estate in Hawnby, Ryedale, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 52462 94446).

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Project summary

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We would also like to thank Simon Brown for his assistance and expertise with the initial estate site visits to the Snilesworth Moor.

The fieldwork was managed by Kimberley Teale as Programme Manager, with assistance in the field from Nat Jackson, Project Officer and David Wallace, Community Archaeologist. The report illustrations were created by Nat Jackson, with specialist flint analysis undertaken by Joshua Hogue.

The walkover survey would not have been possible without the fantastic team of North York Moors National Park Volunteers, who's efforts in the snow and hail were very much appreciated. Thanks go to:

Richard Randle, Yvonne Ramage, Bill Ramage, Vera Silberberg, Grant Grieve, Gill Smith, Esme Walton, Peter Bradbury, Elizabeth Sanderson, Antony Fleming, and Meg the dog.

Executive summary

This document details the results of a Community Archaeology Walkover Survey conducted by DigVentures and a team of volunteers as part of the Ryevitalise Project. The survey took place on the 16th and 17th of February 2022 on a site within the Snilesworth Estate in Hawnby, Ryedale, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 52462 94446).

Ryevitalise is a National Heritage Lottery Funded Landscape Partnership Scheme led by the North York Moors National Park Authority and aims to conserve, protect and interpret the cultural and natural landscape of the River Rye. The aims of the archaeological walkover survey were to identify the importance of the site for archaeology and to identify any further works needed before active peatland conservation works are carried out later in the year.

The walkover survey identified three worked flints of a probable Mesolithic or Early Neolithic age and recorded a flint scatter suggested to be debitage washed out from peat deposits higher up the moor. The survey also identified a stone-lined ditch in the south of the survey area, possibly an enclosure ditch and a number of previously unrecorded clearance cairns to the north of the site boundary, lying outside of the scheduled monument extents.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 DigVentures were commissioned by the Ryevitalise project team from the North York Moors National Park Authority (hereafter 'the client') to design and deliver a community-led archaeological walkover survey across a site on the North York Moors.

1.1.2 *Ryevitalise* is a National Heritage Lottery Funded (NHLF) Landscape Partnership Scheme led by the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNPA). The scheme is aimed at conserving, protecting, and interpreting the cultural and natural landscape of the River Rye. The scheme area focuses of the western Rye and involves a number of projects aimed at:

- restoring and enhancing the riparian and aquatic habitats of the Rye and its tributaries, and the rare and threatened species that the river and wider landscape supports;
- improving water quality, addressing nutrient inputs and reducing diffuse pollution;
- creating a more natural functioning river, slowing the flow of water and connecting the river to its floodplain; and
- reconnecting people to the exceptional river landscape, promoting volunteering opportunities and encouraging people to protect their heritage.

1.1.3 As part of the Ryevitalise project, a Project Design was formulated in consultation with the Client (Teale 2021) in which archaeological investigations were proposed to identify the archaeological potential of the site and to identify any work that would be required before active peatland conservation works are carried out later in the year. The investigations comprised of a community-led archaeological walkover survey across a site within the Snilesworth Estate in Hawnby, Ryedale, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 52462 94446). The works had originally been scheduled across two sites within the estate, however the upland site which had been subject to a bog burst in 2015 was inspected in November 2021 and was found to have regenerated, and did not require any intervention.

1.1.4 The archaeological walkover survey was undertaken over two days on the 16th and 17th of February 2022 and involved a team of ten community volunteers from the NYMNPA with members of the Ryevitalise project team. Heavy hail, snow and winds hampered the team on the 16th, but they experienced brighter weather on the 17th.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The walkover survey focussed on an upland peatland site in the Snilesworth Estate in Hawnby, Ryedale, in the North York Moors National Park in North Yorkshire (NGR SE 52462 94446).

1.2.2 The site measures approximately 16.4Ha and is located within an upland setting comprising of areas of bare peat pans interspersed with dry heath, adjacent to an area of scrub (Figure 1). The general topography of the site slopes gently down towards

the south-west from approximately 300m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) to 270m aOD.

1.2.3 The local bedrock is recorded as deposits of Jurassic mudstones of the Scarborough Formation which were laid in an environment previously dominated by shallow seas, adjacent to beds of Jurassic sandstone of the Moor Grit Member, laid in a similar environment, which are overlain by deposits of superficial Quaternary peats formed in an environment previously dominated by organic accumulations (British Geological Survey, 2021).

2 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

2.1 Research context

2.1.1 The site is a 16.4Ha area of bare peat pans and heather scrub, most of which was lost in a wildfire in the 1960s leaving only the very base of the peat deposits exposed. As peat is expected to form at 1mm per year and the peat depth is unknown for this area, it is possible that the peat deposits exposed on this site could be thousands of years old and therefore the potential for exposed archaeological remains is high. The peat deposits could hold clues to help us understand the society and the ecology of the area at the time when the peat started forming (NYMNPA, 2021).

2.1.2 A search conducted through the Historic England List, the NYMNPA historic environment record and Heritage Gateway reveals a surrounding landscape rich in prehistoric archaeological activity, and most of the remains are scheduled by Historic England.

Scheduled sites

2.1.3 There are 19 scheduled sites within a 3km search of the central site grid reference SE 52462 94446 (Figure 2); ten of which are located within 2km of the site and two of which are located within 1km of the site – see Table 1 below.

2.1.4 Within 1km of the site, there is a field system containing over 300 clearance cairns (NHLE 1008861) and a round barrow (NHLE 1012256). NHLE 1008861 lies to the east of the site at Iron Howe, on the south-west facing spur of the southern edge of Snilesworth Moor (NGR SE 52767 94859). The southern extents of the cairnfield lies just 150m from the site boundary. The site is a well-preserved example of an irregular field system comprising several cultivation plots defined by stony banks, with upwards of 300 clearance cairns and two hut circles. The remains indicate some form of settlement associated with the field system, which extend over an area measuring 900m by 300m. Irregular aggregate field systems are one of several methods of field layout known to have been employed in England from the Bronze Age to the Roman period (c.2000 BC-AD 400). Following an investigation of the field system in 1963, the southern cairns lying adjacent to our site were shown to be less concentrated and more widely spaced, and it is not clear if this is because not all of the prehistoric features were recorded during the survey or just those damaged by a fire in 1959 (Dennison 2011).

Search radius	List Entry No.	Description
1km buffer	1008861	Field system including over 300 clearance cairns and two hut circles at Iron Howe
	1012256	Round barrow 450m north-east of Plane Tree Farm
2km buffer	1008585	Round barrow 11m east of Hazel Head Wood
	1008586	Cairnfield on the south-west of Hawnby Moor including a round barrow and a standing stone
	1008590	Three round barrows 500m south-west of Far House
	1008591	Round barrow 450m south of Locker Cottage
	1008592	Round barrow at Sunburnt Nab
	1008593	Round barrow 450m north-west of Far Pasture Wood
	1008441	Round barrow 590m west of Honey Hill Farm
	1008442	Two round barrows at Sour Milk Hills
	1009371	Round barrow 500m north-west of Lower Locker Farm
	1012415	Round barrow 250m north of Far Pasture Wood
3km buffer	1008440	Round barrow 625m north of Moor Gate
	1008443	Round barrow 200m south-west of Sike House
	1008444	Round barrow 180m south-west of Sike House
	1008860	Cairnfield 200m east of Hazelshaw House
	1009358	Cairnfield 500m north-east of Bumper Castle
	1010808	Two round barrows at Joseph Wade's Hut
	1013223	Round barrow 550m south-east of High Cote Farm

Table 1 - Scheduled sites within a 1km, 2km and 3km buffer of the site

2.1.5 Round barrow NHLE 1012256 lies to the west of the site on the south-west flank of Hawnby Moor (SE 51675 94565). Comprising an earthen Late Neolithic to Late Bronze Age round barrow standing 0.9m tall with an infilled 3m wide ditch, the barrow is one of many across the Hambleton Hills. Together with adjacent barrows it is thought to represent a territorial marker. Similar groups of monuments are also known across the north and central areas of the North York Moors, providing important insight into burial practice.

2.1.6 Within 2km of the site, archaeological remains comprise of twelve round barrows and a cairnfield which encompasses a round barrow and standing stone. Many of the round barrows comprise of small clusters of Late Neolithic to Late Bronze Age Bowl Barrows, of which there are over 10,000 surviving examples recorded nationally. They provide evidence of territorial organisation marking the division of land; divisions which remain as some parish or township boundaries. Similar groupings of barrows are also known across the north and central areas of the North York Moors providing important insight into burial practice. NHLE 1008586 is a cairnfield extending over an area of 670m by 140m (SE 53687 93913) encompassing at least 169 clearance cairns, with a standing stone and barrow located in the north-east of the monument. Clearance cairns were constructed from the Neolithic period (from c.3400 BC), although the majority of examples appear to be the result of field clearance which began during the earlier Bronze Age and continued into the later Bronze Age (2000-700 BC).

2.1.7 Within 3km of the site, a further six scheduled round barrows are recorded, as well as a further two cairnfields.

Non-designated sites

2.1.8 Post-medieval ridge and furrow is extant to the south of the site, west of Scotland Farm (HER No. 11431).

2.1.9 To the north of Scotland Farm within an area known as High Intake (SE 52890 94420) adjacent to NHLE 1008861 cairnfield, 40 examples of probable and possible prehistoric cairns were identified during an archaeological survey, including a building complex which is likely part of a medieval sheep farm or bercary (NMR 3515523). The NYMNPA HER also records a further Prehistoric cairnfield and hut circle (HER No. 5710), a Prehistoric long cairn (HER No. 5711) and a medieval grange (HER No. 5713).

2.2 Site reconnaissance visit

2.2.1 A site reconnaissance was conducted on the 10th of November 2021 to assess site access and the suitability of volunteer activities with the Ryevitalise Project team. The site was accessed along an off-road track suitable only for 4x4 vehicles for the most-part. The weather was dry and bright and ground conditions were good.

2.2.2 Two sites on the Snilesworth Estate were selected as the focus for the walkover surveys and site visit. An upland site was selected which had been subject to a bog burst in 2015 which exposed peat hags with pollen records dating back to at least 7500 BP, as well as some archaeological finds. However, upon inspection in November, the site was found to have regenerated with substantial heather growth. As the exposed hags were seen to be either protected under vegetation or had been heavily eroded, it was deemed unnecessary to undertake a walkover survey across the first site.

2.2.3 The second site was found to have large areas of exposed peat pans, adjacent to an area containing possible cairns or former field systems. The decision was made to focus the walkover survey training over this second site and to look for exposed archaeological remains over the 16Ha area.

2.3 Previous investigations

2.3.1 Later Mesolithic flints have been historically discovered across Snilesworth Moor, as well as over 7,000 Mesolithic flints at Parci Gill on Hawnby Moor (Dennison 2011). In addition, archaeological earthwork surveys have mapped the cairnfields to the north of the site at Iron Howe and to the east of the site on Scotland Farm.

2.3.2 Following a period of heavy rainfall in 2005 and a resulting bog burst at the upper site in Snilesworth Moor, large areas of sub-surface peat were washed out into an adjacent beck. Archaeological surveys were conducted during 2006 and 2007 by Manchester and Durham University to investigate protruding peat hags and look for archaeological finds. Following excavation of two trenches as well as environmental sampling, some of the exposed peat deposits were found to contain pollen samples dating back to 7500 BP as well as a horn core.

2.3.3 The lower site which is the focus of the walkover survey reported here has not previously been investigated archaeologically.

2.4 Research framework

The North York Moors National Park Authority Historic Environment Strategy

2.4.1 The site at Snilesworth moor forms one of 20,000 sites of archaeological or historic interest within the National Park, and investigation at the site will contribute significantly to research and knowledge of prehistoric activities across the North York Moors. The Historic Environment Strategy is divided into four themes, which DigVentures will aim to address as follows;

- **Research and understanding** – the archaeological investigations and report will feed directly into the North York Moors HER database, helping the authority to make sound evidence-based decisions for future conservation works. The data from the site will also feed into the development and implementation of the new Research Framework for the moors, to better inform the next theme.

- **Conservation and management** – the archaeological investigations will help to understand the state of preservation for the supposed archaeological remains which will in turn help to understand the conservation and management needs of the site and its immediate environs.

- **Education and engagement** – a key part of DigVentures' ethos is education and engagement for all in archaeology. We actively seek to include local communities from all backgrounds and abilities in our work to help them discover and engage with their local heritage. Our investigations will strengthen participatory engagement and involvement for the NYMNPA and encourage new visitors and new audiences to engage with the conservation of the park and its heritage.

- **Delivery** – the project will not only collaborate closely with the project managers and park rangers, but relationships with other stakeholders and associated projects within the NYMNPA will be sought so as best to fulfil the project brief and aims and to satisfy the nature of the investigations as thoroughly as possible.

3 PROJECT AIMS & OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project aims

3.1.1 The overarching aim of the archaeological walkover survey was to train a group of community volunteers to help identify the importance of the site for archaeology and to identify any work needed before active peatland conservation works are carried out. The findings of the surveys will go on to inform the Peat Restoration Plan.

3.1.2 The aim of the project was to:

- Conduct the walkover survey with the help of volunteers / community involvement
- Report on and record any findings
- Advise on any areas to avoid peatland restoration work, or to avoid in accessing peatland sites, and

- Advise if any further work is needed before any peatland restoration takes place.

3.1.3 The Project Design was articulated as a set of key aims with associated questions/objectives that were refined and developed during the project delivery and have been outlined below:

3.2 Aim 1 - Identify and characterise any archaeological surface finds across the site with a programme of walkover surveys

3.2.1 The community volunteers will be trained in undertaking walkover surveys to explore the 16Ha site in a systematic manner, to address the following questions:

- Q1: Are there any archaeological remains present within the site boundary?
- Q2: Can the nature of the archaeological remains be established?
- Q3: Are the remains comparable with those recorded in the surrounding landscape?

3.3 Aim 2 - Create a written and digital record of any archaeological finds within the site

3.3.1 The community volunteers will be trained in digital and manual recording of any finds they discover during the walkover survey, to address the following questions:

- Q4: If archaeological remains were discovered, do they add to the understanding and patterning of prehistoric archaeological activity across the North York Moors?

3.3.2 The findings from the walkover survey will be compiled in a Gazetteer forming part of the summary report following completion of the works.

3.4 Aim 3 - Make recommendations on areas to avoid peatland restoration works and any work needed prior to the peatland works

3.4.1 The summary report and illustrations will highlight the areas of the moor containing archaeological remains, and it will become apparent which areas will become damaged from peat restoration works either through the works themselves or access to the works. Recommendations will be made for areas to avoid and mitigations that may need to be put in place for the works, such as track mats.

3.5 Aim 4 - Public engagement and communication

3.5.1 This aim was integral to the success of the project and sits with equal importance alongside our research aims. The two-day field school programme will involve participation from volunteers, who will be trained and mentored in the techniques of large-site archaeological walkovers. Our site team will deliver an in-person programme at a ratio of 1:3 throughout the survey, with online social media updates to engage and inform the public about the archaeological discoveries. In summary, the project will offer a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to the area to get involved and learn more about the archaeology of the North York Moors.

3.5.2 Due to the size of the site, the volunteers will be trained and given the tools to continue the walkover survey across the rest of the 16Ha site after the two days of intensive training, and all results will be collated once the surveys have been completed.

3.5.3 Over the course of the project, our targets for engagement were to:

- train a minimum of 10 community volunteers in conducting archaeological walkover surveys
- broadcast online content across multiple social media channels.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological walkover survey

4.1.1 The walkover survey was planned following desk-based research, examination of the NYMNPA HER and the Historic England scheduling list, LiDAR data and in discussion with the Ryevitalise project team. The methodology was planned and approved in a Project Design before commencement of the works (DigVentures 2022).

4.1.2 The survey was carried out over the 16th and 17th of February 2022 by ten community volunteers, three members of the DigVentures field team and two members of staff from the NYMNPA. After volunteers were given an initial health and safety briefing and an archaeological background to the site, the group walked across the 16.4Ha site under guidance and instruction from the DV staff and NYMNPA staff, looking for flints, stones and earthworks.

4.1.3 The team walked across the site in a systematic manner traversing north-south, using a zig-zag methodology. Where findspots, earthworks or areas of interest were identified, the coordinates of their locations were obtained using a GPS, App or Google Maps as well as notes and digital photographs. Where larger remains were discovered, scaled digital photographs were taken and an R10 GPS was used to record points in order to create a detailed digital plan.

4.1.4 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (2008), excepting where statements made below supersede them. All artefacts were retained from exposed contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. All artefacts from the walkover survey were washed, marked, counted, weighed and sent for specialist analysis.

4.2 Lithics

4.2.1 The typo-technological classification follows standard recording procedures (Ballin 2021; Inizan et al. 1999;). A blade is a flake with length at least equal to twice its width; a bladelet is a small blade with a width less than 12 mm; and a blade-like flake is a flake exhibiting traits of a true blade (eg parallel margins, arises), but not fulfilling the metric criteria of a true blade. A chip refers to debitage or indeterminate fragments less than 10mm. A chunk is an indeterminate piece measuring equal or greater than

10mm (cf. Ballin 2000; 2021). All finds from each context were quantified by count and weighed to the nearest 0.1g. All metrical attributes were recorded after Saville (1980).

5 WALKOVER SURVEY RESULTS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 In total, nine sites were recorded during the walkover survey, including a ditched enclosure and eight find spots. The sites identified during the survey are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

5.2 Find spots

5.2.1 A total of eight findspots were identified through the walkover survey. Findspot 001, located in the south of the survey area, was initially identified as a potential flint scatter although analysis suggests it is unlikely that the deposit was found in situ. All the flint observed was 10mm or smaller in size, suggesting that it had been sorted in some way before being found during the survey. This may have been caused by the flint being washed downstream from its original place of deposition and getting caught in an area of heather. A sample of the scatter comprising 148 fragments was taken for assessment, and the results can be seen below (Section 6.3.1). Findspots 002 and 003 were located near 001. These two Findspots were probably related to 001 and consisted of three fragments of flint.

5.2.2 Findspots 004, 005, and 006 were all located in a similar area, to the west of the probable ditch feature discussed below (Section 5.3.1). Findspot 004 consisted of two scrapers dating to the Mesolithic, and Findspot 005 was a blade fragment dating to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. These three pieces were the only identifiable artefacts recovered on site. Findspot 006 consisted of three flint chips.

5.2.3 The final two Findspots, 007 and 008, were located to the north of the probable ditch feature. Two of the flint chips from Findspot 007 were burnt, and a third chip that hadn't been burned was also recovered. Only one flint chip was collected from Findspot 8.

5.3 Features

5.3.1 A single feature was identified during the walkover survey, which consisted of a ditch located in the south of the survey area. The ditch appeared to have been bounded with stones, which were situated either side of the feature and appear to have been deliberately placed. In some places the stones consisted of several layers. Towards the northern end of the ditch, the stones also seem to have been in situ (see Figures 4 and 5). It is possible that the ditch may have continued to the northeast and to the south of the length surveyed in during the walkover survey. The original purpose of the ditch may have been an enclosure, as the area potentially internal to the enclosure appeared to be more level than that external to it.

6 ARTEFACTS – FLINT ASSESSMENT

Dr Joshua T Hogue

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 In total, 163 lithic artefacts, including 158 chips, one blade fragment, two scrapers, and two naturally broken/unmodified pieces were submitted for assessment from the 2021 walkover survey at Snilesworth, North York Moors. A catalogue of material is given in Appendix 1 Table 1 and descriptions of the retouched tools in Appendix 1 Table 2. All clearly naturally broken/entirely unworked material was quantified before discard with counts/weights is given Appendix 1 Table 3.

6.2 Method

6.2.1 The typo-technological classification follows standard recording procedures (Ballin 2021, Inizan et al 1999). A blade is a flake with length at least equal to twice its width; a bladelet is a small blade with a width less than 12 mm; and a blade-like flake is a flake exhibiting traits of a true blade (e.g. parallel margins, arises), but not fulfilling the metric criteria of a true blade. A chip refers to debitage or indeterminate fragments less than 10mm. A chunk is an indeterminate piece measuring equal or greater than 10mm (cf. Ballin 2000; 2021). All finds from each context were quantified by count and weighed to the nearest 0.1g. All metrical attributes were recorded after Saville (1980).

6.3 Results

Locations (001), (002), (003), (006), (007) and (008)

6.3.1 Each of these locations only yielded indeterminate fragments less than 10mm (i.e. chips). Findspot 001 provided most of the recovered chips (n=148) whilst other locations comprised only limited numbers. No evidence of the microburin technique was identified. No burin spalls were identified. No clear evidence for retouching was identified.

Location (004)

6.3.2 A double end-scraper and a fragment of scraper were recovered from Location (004). Based on the size and typo-technological features both finds likely date to the Mesolithic. A description of each in given in Appendix 2 Table 2.

Location (005)

6.3.3 A blade fragment was recovered from Findspot 005. It was typo-technologically consistent with the manufacturing strategies typically associated with the Mesolithic and early Neolithic.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 The above assessment indicates the presence of technology consistent with the Mesolithic was recovered from during a walkover survey near Snilesworth, North Yorkshire. The assemblage was overwhelming dominated by indeterminate fragments less than 10mm (i.e. chips). It is possible that these artefacts reflect an in situ knapping

scatter. However, whilst knapping would normally result in the creation of numerous artefacts of this type, there was limited other evidence consistent with in situ manufacture. It is plausible that other diagnostic objects had previously been collected from the site, leaving only chips behind, although this is speculative. Each of the other finds were consistent with dating from the Mesolithic and contribute to the existing body of evidence from the region (Teale 2022). Given the diminutive nature of the assemblage no further lithic analysis is required.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1.1 The archaeological walkover survey at Snilesworth Moor achieved all of the project aims set out in the project design, as well as the addition of discovering prehistoric archaeological finds which add to our knowledge of the archaeology across the North York Moors National Park.

7.2 Aim 1 - Identify and characterise any archaeological surface finds across the site with a programme of walkover surveys

7.2.1 The walkover surveys identified eight surface findspots across the site, which are suggestive of Mesolithic human activity, as well as a stone lined ditch-like feature relating to a possible enclosure (Q1).

7.2.2 The nature of the ditch-like feature is suggestive of an enclosure, however the true character of the remains can not be understood without intrusive investigations (Q2).

7.2.3 The Mesolithic surface finds, and the possible enclosure ditch are consistent with the prehistoric funerary landscape of clearance cairns and bowl barrows spread across Snilesworth Moor and the surrounding National Park (Q3).

7.3 Aim 2 - Create a written and digital record of any archaeological finds within the site

7.3.1 The volunteers used hand-held GPS devices to capture the find spot locations during their walkover survey, as well as records made with the team's GPS. These records were combined in GIS to produce a digital plan of the eight find spots and ditch-like feature, as well as a photographic record, both of which have formed the basis of this report.

7.3.2 Not only do the results add to our understanding of prehistoric archaeological activity on Snilesworth Moor and by confirming the presence of previously unknown Mesolithic activity (Q4), but they have also added to the knowledge of the scheduled cairn field (List Entry No. 1008861) sat just outside of the site's northern boundary by highlighting that the scheduled area could be extended due to findings by Nick Mason (pers. comm).

7.4 Aim 3 - Make recommendations on areas to avoid peatland restoration works and any work needed prior to the peatland works

7.4.1 The survey report and illustrations have highlighted the areas of Snilesworth Moor containing possible archaeological remains and findspots, therefore highlighting potential areas of archaeological activity. However, as the flints were discovered on the surface and are likely a result of washout, it is not known where the actual area of archaeological activity is within the moor. As a result, it is recommended that the works are undertaken in association with the park archaeologist and that the team undertaking the restoration works are made aware of the possibility of discovering further flints and remains during their works.

7.5 Aim 4 - Public engagement and communication

7.5.1 Recruitment for the community walkover project had a positive response from the pool of National Park volunteers, and ten enthusiastic people were engaged over the course of two days. The group were worked alongside our field team at a ratio of 1:3 professional archaeologists to volunteers throughout each day, and participants were trained and mentored in field survey and flint identification, as well as how to record GPS points or coordinates and orienteering across the moor.

7.5.2 Social media content was broadcast from the surveys across multiple social media channels, allowing people from all over the world to engage in the volunteer's discoveries and the National Park's work.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1.1 The community project successfully achieved its aims and objectives at involving local volunteers in undertaking an archaeological walkover survey, as well as discovering previously undiscovered archaeological remains. The flint assemblage discovered during the walkover survey has helped to develop understanding of the chronological narrative of the site and enhance the understanding of the current state of the archaeological record and survival of the earliest artefacts on Snilesworth Moor.

8.1.2 The results will add to the North York Moors National Park Authority's Historic Environment Record and help in our understanding of prehistoric activity across Snilesworth Moor and its surroundings. The results and digital GIS data will also help to inform the peatland restoration team and their work, notifying them of potentially archaeologically sensitive areas such as the stone lined enclosure ditch and find spots, and making the recommendation that their work is overseen by the park archaeologist.

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Teale, K. 2022. Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership – Snilesworth Archaeological Walkover Surveys – Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation

DigVentures

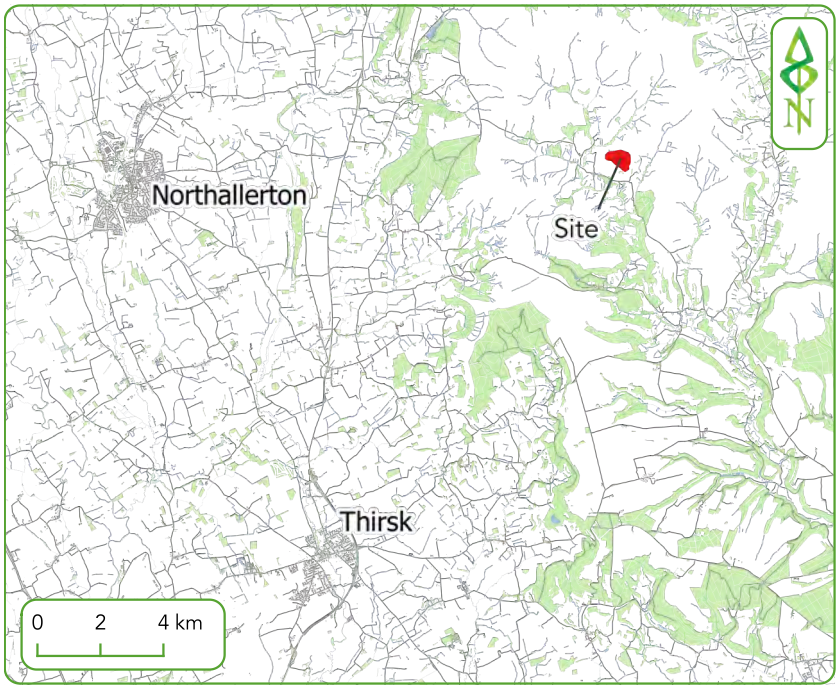

Figure 1. Site location

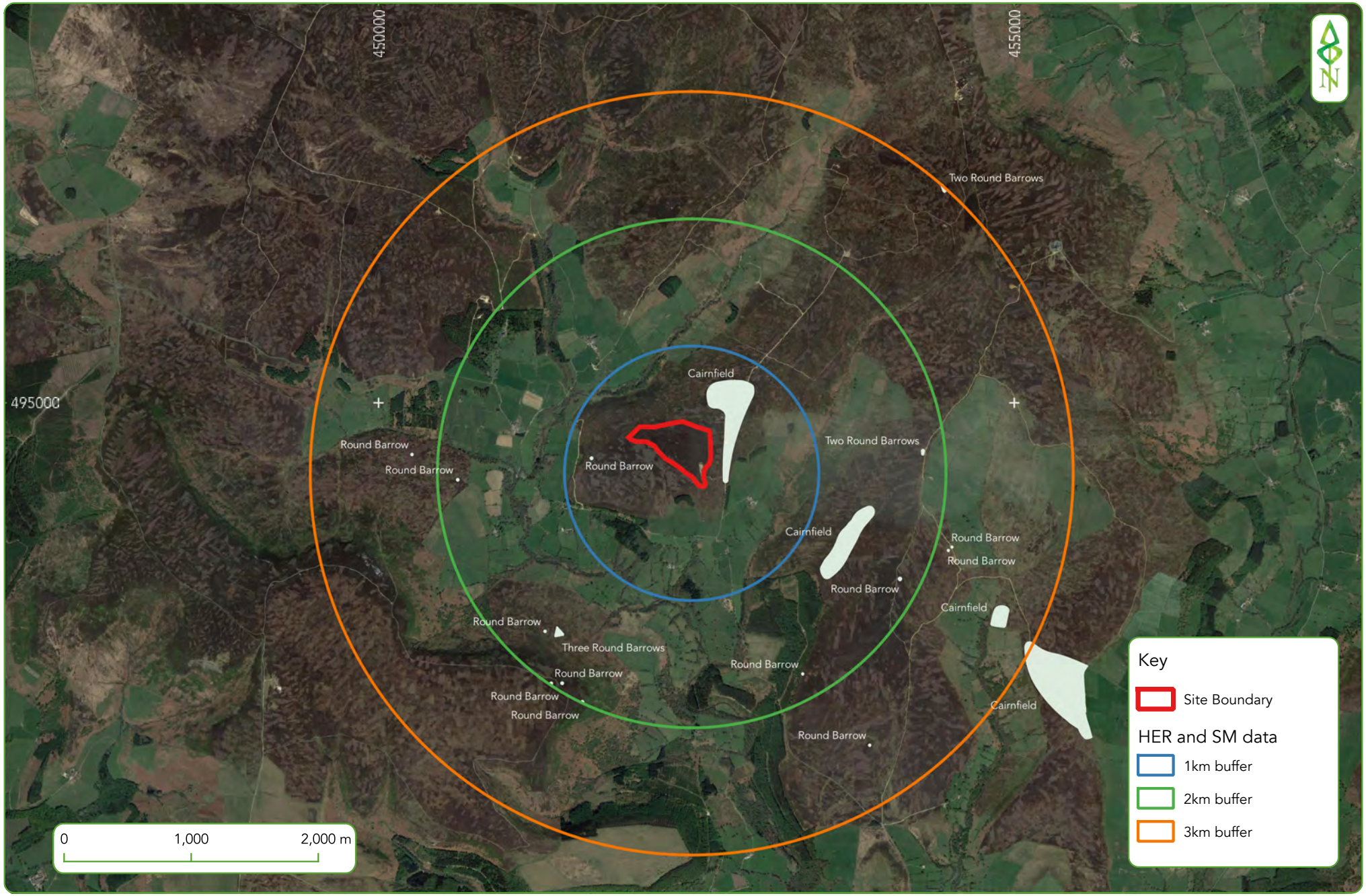

Figure 2. - Location of scheduled monuments within a 1-3km buffer zone

Figure 3. Location of potential archaeology discovered during the walkover survey

Figure 4. Distribution of stones along possible enclosure ditch

Flint Scatter - Findspot 001

Possible stone lining of ditch, 1m scale, looking E

Potential enclosure ditch, 1m scale, looking S

Possible stone lining of ditch, 20cm scale, looking NE

The potential enclosure ditch, showing further stones which may have lined it

Figure 5. Site Photographs

Fieldwalking on the moor

Showing off the finds

A group shot of everyone involved in the walkover survey

Investigating the possible flint scatter discovered in the SE of the survey area

Nick Mason explaining the flints to the volunteers

Taking coordinates and photographing a find spot

Figure 6. Photographs of the Walkover survey

Appendices

APPENDIX A FINDS TABLE

Table 1. Archive Catalogue

Context	Chip	Blade/let fragment	Scrapers	Total Count	Total Weight (g)	Raw material	No. Burnt	Patination	Edge damage	Hammer mode(s)	Systematic blade/let technology	Period(s)
001	148			148	11.6	Flint, undifferentiated	11	-	-	-	-	-
002	2			2	0.2	Flint, undifferentiated	-	-	-	-	-	-
003	1			1	0.4	Flint, undifferentiated	-	-	-	-	-	-
004			2	2	4.3	Flint, undifferentiated	-	Light-Moderate	None	-		Meso
005		1		1	1.4	Flint, undifferentiated	-	Heavy	None	SH>5mm		Meso/Neo
006	3			3	0.6	Flint, undifferentiated	-	-	-	-	-	-
007	3			3	0.3	Flint, undifferentiated	2	-	-	-	-	-
008	1			1	0.1	Flint, undifferentiated	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**158**	**1**	**2**	**161**	**18.9**							

Table 2. Descriptions of retouched tools

Context	Type	Sub-type	Length	Width	Thickness	Period(s)	Notes	Draw
004	Scraper	double	18.2	14.5	5.1	Meso	Fragment of blade? with semi-abrupt fine sub-parallel retouch forming convex scraping edge at proximal end and abrupt scaler retouch forming irregular scraping edge at distal end. Additional very fine edge retouch at both lateral margins. Moderately patinated.	Yes
004	Scraper	fragment	20.9	17.1	6.6	Meso	Fragment of flake with fine abrupt scalar retouch forming at distal end. Break at proximal end. Lightly patinated.	Yes

Table 3. Quantification of naturally broken/unmodified material (prior to discard)

Context	Count	Weight
004	1	0.3
008	1	0.9
Total	1	0.3