

PIKE HOWE ROUND CAIRN, BLAKEY RIDGE,
NEAR HUTTON-LE-HOLE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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On behalf of

North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2017, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mags Waughman, Monument Management Scheme Officer for the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP) to undertake an archaeological survey of Pike Howe round cairn, Blakey Ridge, near Hutton-le-Hole, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 69203 96162). The survey was required to inform proposed remedial action relating to the erection of a modern cairn on top of the historic monument. Pike Howe is a Scheduled Monument, and the extent of the project was defined by a brief produced by Mags Waughman; the project was funded by NYMNP.

Pike Howe is characterised as a round cairn, a type of prehistoric funerary monument dating to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). Such monuments were constructed as stone mounds covering single or multiple burials. These burials may be placed within the mound in stone-lined compartments called cists. Excavation of other round cairns and their earthen equivalents, round barrows, in the region has shown that they demonstrate a wide range of burial rites from simple scatters of cremated material to coffin inhumations and cremations contained in urns, largely dating to the Bronze Age. A common factor is that they were normally used for more than one burial and that the primary burial was frequently on or below the original ground surface, often with secondary burials located within the body of the mound. In some cases the cairn was surrounded by a ditch.

The survey confirmed that Pike Howe appears to be a typical example of a Bronze Age round cairn, located on a prominent watershed setting and perhaps forming part of a chain with adjacent monuments of similar date, to act as a territorial marker as well as being a burial site. The surviving earthwork is broadly circular in plan, and may once have had a total diameter of close to 13.00m, although it has been somewhat truncated by later pedestrian and vehicle activity. The round cairn stood at least 0.90m high, and has a flattened top surface which is now broadly polygonal in plan. The top of the defining scarp may once have been edged or marked by larger stones, up to 1.40m long, although due to vegetation cover these are now only clearly visible in the north-west quadrant. There are two secondary cairns on the surface of the main cairn. The first, to the north side, may be formed by spoil arising from the opening of the interior of the cairn during the 19th century; alternatively, comparison with other prehistoric burial structures in North Yorkshire suggests it could have been added some time after the original Bronze Age construction, but still substantially before the modern period. The second, and more prominent, secondary cairn may have had its origins in the 19th century, although it has been augmented more recently by the removal of stones from the round cairn. Dismantling and removal of this second cairn provided no further definitive dating evidence, but may suggest that it was built over an infilled depression in the surface of the main cairn, perhaps the result of 18th or 19th century antiquarian disturbance.

1 INTRODUCTION

Reasons and Circumstances of the Project

- 1.1 In September 2017, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mags Waughman, Monument Management Scheme Officer for the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP), to undertake an archaeological survey of Pike Howe round cairn, Blakey Ridge, near Hutton-le-Hole, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 69203 96162 centred). The survey was required to inform proposed remedial action relating to the erection of a modern cairn on top of the historic monument. Pike Howe is a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England 1018986), and the extent of the project was defined by a brief produced by Mags Waughman of the NYMNP (see Appendix 2); the project was funded by NYMNP.

Site Location

- 1.2 Pike Howe round cairn is located on Blakey Ridge, an extensive moorland plateau, some 6.50km north-west of the centre of Hutton-le-Hole, North Yorkshire (see figure 1). It lies c.240m east of the unclassified Blakey Road, within heather moorland managed for grouse shooting, at an elevation of c.356.60m AOD. The round cairn is set to the immediate north-west of the intersection of a public footpath and a shooting track. At the time of survey, the round cairn had a dense covering of heather and bilberry.
- 1.3 It is not believed that Pike Howe has been the subject of any detailed survey work prior to the current survey. However, it was visited as part of the NYMNP Cairns Project in May 2015, and its condition and management was then assessed as having a moderate level of intrusion, arising from historic excavation, a spoil heap resulting from the historic excavation, and disturbance from walkers and animal burrowing, with some graffiti.
- 1.4 The site is also recorded as being at risk on the 2017 edition of Historic England's 'Heritage at Risk' register, where it's condition is described as being "Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems", the principal problem being vandalism (Historic England 2017, 32). The site is also included on Historic England's National Record of the Historic Environment (Pastscape 58904; National Monuments Record SE69NE29), and the NYMNP Historic Environment Record (site 2380).

Aims and Objectives of the Project

- 1.5 The aims and objectives of the archaeological survey work were:
- to provide a detailed pre-intervention record of the monument;
 - to gather sufficient information to inform a programme of remedial action which would offset the modern disturbance to the monument.

Survey Methodologies

- 1.6 The archaeological survey work was carried out using a combination of photographic and hand-based techniques, in accordance with the original project brief (see Appendix 2). As far as was possible, the recording conforms to a Level 3 analytical survey as defined by English Heritage (2007) (now Historic England).

Collation of Documentary Material

- 1.7 The NYMNPA did not require any new primary documentary research. However, the collation of existing readily-available published and secondary material was undertaken for incorporation into the survey work.
- 1.8 Information relating to the site and the surrounding area was obtained from the NYMNPA HER and Historic England's National Record of the Historic Environment. This information comprised records/reports of any previous historic research and archaeological activity, aerial photographs, past management and land ownership records, scheduled monument records, and historic maps and plans. A full list of primary and secondary sources consulted are given in the Bibliography (Chapter 5) below.

Archaeological Pre-Intervention Earthwork Survey

- 1.9 The survey area was formed by the Scheduled Monument (the round cairn) and its immediate surrounding area. The survey work took place on the 2nd October 2017, in fine but very windy conditions. Guidance produced by English Heritage and other bodies was followed (English Heritage 2002; RCHME 1999).
- 1.10 A detailed measured earthwork survey of the area was carried out to record the position and form of all features considered to be of archaeological and/or historic interest. The survey was undertaken at a scale of 1:50 using traditional hand-held methods; a grid was set out around the monument using tapes, ranging rods and an optical square. Given that the majority of the monument has a deep covering of heather, an effort was made to establish where the actual breaks of slope and other features lay, rather than where the vegetation cover suggested that they did. Two profiles were also made across the monument, again at a scale of 1:50, using a dumpy level.
- 1.11 Sufficient information was gathered to allow the survey area to be readily located through the use of surviving structures such as trackways and footpaths. The survey recorded the position at ground level of all structures and any other features considered to be of archaeological or historic interest; a representative selection of the larger stones forming the round cairn were recorded, but not all surface stones were noted. The survey also recorded any differences in the exposed surface detritus, such as sorted stone and/or rubble scatters, as well as differences in coarse vegetation, which may aid the functional differentiation and interpretation of the monument. The resulting site survey was produced at a scale of 1:50 and is presented as an interpretative hand-drawn wet ink hachure plan using conventions analogous to those used by English Heritage (2002, 14; 2007, 31-35).
- 1.12 Sufficient notes were taken in the field to provide a detailed written description of the monument. The written description and survey were supported by a small number of digital photographs, including general views and more detailed photographs of specific parts. The colour photographs were taken using an SLR digital camera with 12 megapixel resolution, and English Heritage photographic guidelines were followed (English Heritage 2007, 14); each photograph was normally provided with a scale. All photographs have been clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and were cross-referenced to digital files etc (see Appendix 1).

Dismantling of Modern Cairn

- 1.13 A substantial modern stone cairn present on the upper surface of the main round cairn was dismantled after the pre-intervention survey. The dismantling work was undertaken by apprentice rangers from the NYMNPA, assisted by Dawn Rothwell, and supervised by EDAS. The stone cairn was dismantled by hand, with the larger stones being briefly examined for markings etc before they were removed from site. The removal of the stone away from the round cairn was undertaken by staff from the Farndale Estate, using six wheeled light vehicles suitable for the task. The stone was taken to a location several hundred metres to the south of the monument. Dismantling was stopped when a level approximately equal with that of the rest of the surface of the round cairn was reached; any larger stones which were well embedded were left in place, as were those which were looser but whose removal would have left a void in the round cairn's surface. The dismantling of the stone cairn took place on the 21st March 2018.

Reporting

- 1.14 An EDAS archive survey report has been produced, based on the results of the archaeological fieldwork. This assembles and summarises the available evidence for the site in an ordered form, synthesises the data, comments on the quality and reliability of the evidence, and how it might need to be supplemented by further field work or desk-based research. The report has been illustrated by a reduced version of the survey drawings, historic maps and plans where appropriate, and a selection of photographic plates. The survey report also contains various appendices, including a photographic catalogue.

Survey Archive

- 1.15 A properly ordered and indexed archive resulting from the project was deposited with the NYMNPA at the end of the project (EDAS site code PHC 17).

2 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Pike Howe is characterised as a round cairn, a type of prehistoric funerary monument dating to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC). Such monuments were constructed as stone mounds covering single or multiple burials. These burials may be placed within the mound in stone-lined compartments called cists. Excavation of round cairns and their earthen equivalents (round barrows) in the region has shown that they demonstrate a wide range of burial rites from simple scatters of cremated material to coffin inhumations and cremations contained in urns, largely dating to the Bronze Age. A common factor is that they were normally used for more than one burial and that the primary burial was frequently on or below the original ground surface, often with secondary burials located within the body of the mound. In some cases the cairn was surrounded by a ditch (Scheduled Monument description; Manby, King & Vyner 2003, 88-89).

- 2.2 The name 'Howe' (also 'How', 'Haue' and 'Haw'), derived from the Old Norse *haugr*, is a common one across the North York Moors, and is used to describe a hill, tumulus or mound (Grinsell 1953, 52). It also has a low-key but persistent presence in the Yorkshire Dales, such as at Howber Hill, the earlier name for Beamsley Beacon, near Skipton, where a probable Bronze Age round cairn survives (Luke & Richardson 2010, 57). 'Pike' is also stated to be a generic name for such, but used only occasionally in Yorkshire (Grinsell 1953, 63). There is at least one other 'Pike Howe' on the North York Moors at the southern end of Three

Howes Rigg, 1.4km north of Castleton, whilst again, in the Yorkshire Dales, an 'Old Pike' or 'Howber Pike' named on Beamsley Beacon is a second probable round cairn (Luke & Richardson 2010, 57).

- 2.3 Round cairns and barrows often occupy prominent locations, sometimes comprising chains of individual monuments or clusters in crest line locations on watersheds (Spratt 1989, 31-33; Manby, King & Vyner 2003, 88). Pike Howe, together with the barrows and cairns to the north and south on Blakey Ridge, is one such example. These chains of cairns and barrows are thought to have acted as territorial markers, in addition to their role as burial sites. These boundaries, once established, could persist in the landscape for very long periods.
- 2.4 Pike Howe continued to form part of a boundary into the 19th century. On the 1857 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map, Pike Howe (named "Tumulus") lay on the boundary between Farndale East and Rosedale West parishes, which followed the watershed along Blakey Ridge (see figure 2 top). A "B.S." (for boundary stone) is also shown on the top of the round cairn. A footpath ran close to the southern side of the round cairn. By 1895, the boundary stone was no longer marked, although the footpath was still shown and two small pools had appeared to the north of the cairn. These pools also appear on the 1893 Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile map (see figure 2 bottom). On the 1912 25" to 1 mile coverage, "Piles of Stones" are indicated along the footpath running south of the round cairn; these also appear in 1914 and 1952. The parish boundary is still in use, and it also divides the ridge between the landowners, the Farndale Estate to the west and the Spaunton Estate to the east.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT

Introduction

- 3.1 The monument is described below in a logical sequence, based on the information gathered in the field. Reference should also be made to the survey plan and plates, and the photographic record which appears as Appendix 2; digital photographs are referenced in the following text in square brackets, the numbers before the stroke representing the film number and the number after indicating the frame e.g. [1/32]. Finally, in the following text, 'modern' is taken to mean dating to after c.1945.

Location and Setting

- 3.2 As previously noted, the round cairn is set c.240m east of the unclassified Blakey Road, at an elevation of c.356.60m AOD (see figure 1). It is one of a number of round cairns or round barrows on this part of Blakey Ridge, which forms the Farndale-Rosedale watershed, including Kettle Howe to the north-west, and the Three Howes barrow cemetery to the south-east. Pike Howe is intervisible with some of these.
- 3.3 There are also extensive views of the surrounding landscape from Pike Howe itself, although they are not panoramic. To the north, the ground surface of Blakey Ridge gently rises, with long distance views limited to about 3km. To the west, the western slope of Farndale, some 4.5km away, generally obscures what lies beyond. However, to the east, there are views of c.17.5km to the watershed above RAF Fylingdales (the early warning station being clearly visible), whilst to the south, it is possible to see between 19km to 21km across the Vale of Pickering. However, it should be noted that such views, and indeed the intervisibility of the

cairns and barrows on Blakey Ridge, may not necessarily have been possible when Pike Howe was first built. Pollen analysis has established that the barrows of the Central Watershed of the North York Moors were not constructed in some 'ageless heather moorland', but in a general oak/alder woodland with grassy clearings (Manby, King & Vyner 2003, 88).

The Round Cairn (see figure 3)

- 3.4 The round cairn (or 'main cairn') is broadly sub-circular in plan, with maximum measurements of 12.20m east-west by 13.00m north-south [1/877, 1/879, 1/881, 1/882, 1/885] (see plates 1 and 2). It has clearly been somewhat truncated by the public footpath which curves around the south-western and southern sides, and by the vehicle track which curves around the eastern side. To the south-west of the round cairn, a very slight scarp, containing several flattened stones, visible in the surface of the footpath, may mark the original south-western extent of the monument [1/886] (see plate 3). If this was the case, then the original diameter of the round cairn was probably close to 13.00m. Although there is no encircling depression suggesting a ditch, the excavation of other examples in the region has shown that ditches frequently survive as infilled features (Scheduled Monument description).
- 3.5 The round cairn stands up to 0.90m in height, with all sides defined by relatively spread, gently sloping, scarps. The exception is to the south-east quadrant, where an area measuring c.3.00m north-south by 2.00m east-west has been quarried away from the main body of the monument. It is possible that some material has also been removed from the south side of the monument, leaving a slightly curvilinear scarp, although not as much as to the south-east quadrant. There is a second, narrower, area of disturbance to the scarp on the monument's north side, measuring a maximum of 2.00m long, 1.00m wide by up to 0.80m deep. It has the appearance of either a small exploratory excavation trench (NYMNP 2015), or possibly where a large stone has been removed in the past; it is being augmented by rabbit burrowing. A proto-walkers' cairn (of only a few stones) at an early stage of construction on the north side of the cairn was noted close to this possible trench in May 2015 (NYMNP 2015), but it had been removed before the current survey took place.
- 3.6 The flattened top surface of the round cairn is broadly polygonal in plan, measuring a maximum of 8.70m north-south by 7.00m east-west. The break of slope at the top of the defining scarp may once have been edged or defined by larger stones, up to 1.40m long, although due to vegetation cover these are now only clearly visible to the north-west quadrant. There is nothing in the surviving structure of the round cairn or the surrounding topography to suggest that the monument was formed around a natural rock outcrop, and so it is assumed that all of the stone used in its construction was gathered here specifically. The vegetation cover obscures several gaps between the stones in the surface, leading into significant voids. In May 2015, it was noted that there were at least three examples of voids in the surface of the cairn, where stones had recently been levered out, probably for use in the walkers' cairn on the monument (NYMNP 2015 - see below).
- 3.7 It appears that the top of the round cairn has been subject to some past disturbance, possibly as a result of antiquarian excavation, although no records of such are known. A great number of the cairns and barrows on the North York Moors show signs of earlier digging, often undertaken during the 19th century by unidentifiable persons. Their highly visual and accessible nature attracted barrow diggers, particularly on moorland where crops did not limit accessibility (Manby,

King & Vyner 2003, 88). The central part of the surface is slightly lower than the rest of the top, although there are only clear traces of an edge to the hollow around its north-western side; it is possible that the walkers' cairn (see below) obscures much of the rest of the disturbance. In the south-west part of the top surface, there is a small sub-circular hollow, with one side defined by two stones set at an approximate right-angle to one another [1/887]; this may represent further antiquarian disturbance of a cist.

The Smaller Cairns (see figure 3)

- 3.8 There are two smaller cairns on the top surface of the round cairn. To the north side, there is an oval north-south aligned cairn, measuring 3.50m north-south by 3.00m east-west, and standing up to 0.40m high. It too has a flattened top, sloping very gently downwards from south to north, and it is noticeable that the vegetation cover is different to the rest of the round cairn, comprising mostly lingberry with little or no heather [1/888] (see plate 4). The southern edge of this cairn appears to have been truncated by past disturbance to the interior of the main cairn (see below), with the section exposed comprising tightly packed smaller stones.
- 3.9 The second cairn occupies the south-eastern part of the surface of the round or main cairn. It is sub-circular in plan, measuring a maximum of 3.50m north-south by 4.00m east-west, and has a conical profile, standing up to 1.40m in height [1/889] (see plate 5). As was noted previously, it is highly visible within the landscape (see plates 1 and 2), and is a good example of a cairn that functions as a sighting point, perhaps both for walkers and for those managing the shooting interest of the moor (NYMNP 2015) [1/901]. It is not vegetated, and is made entirely from stone rubble, including one large flat slab, which has had either "E W" or "B W" painted on it in the past [1/890] (see plate 6); the source of these letters is unknown, but they may refer to former or existing landholdings. Modern rubbish, and evidence for use as an informal grit station were noted in May 2015 (NYMNP 2015), but neither was present during the current survey. This second cairn has usually been interpreted as a walkers' cairn, and has been present as a substantial feature on the monument since at least July 2000 (NYMNP 2015); a modern pile of stones was noted on top of the round cairn by Raymond Hayes in 1950 (<https://www.pastscape.org.uk>).

Dismantling of the Larger Stone Cairn

- 3.10 As noted above in Chapter 1, the substantial conical stone cairn, interpreted by the NYMNP Cairn Survey in 2015 as a walkers' cairn, was dismantled by hand on the 21st March 2018 [2/654-2/657] (see plate 7). During the dismantling, no stones with markings of significance were noted. As would be expected, the stones generally increased in size from the upper part of the cairn to the lowest part, with the lowest of the removed stones measuring up to 0.50m square. During dismantling, a number of modern items were recovered from within the cairn, including several used shotgun cartridges, plastic sweet wrappers, part of a car rear indicator light, and a small quantity of grouse grit; none of these were retained. The large voids between the stones making up the cairn mean that these items should not be taken to indicate that the cairn itself is wholly modern; they may have been pushed inside, and then worked their way further down due to water action, for example. Dismantling work was stopped when the stone cairn had been reduced to the general level of the upper surface of the main cairn [2/658-2/660]. Some of the smaller stones were also used to infill some of the voids in the top surface of the main cairn.

- 3.11 Following dismantling, it was noted that the stones beneath the former central part of the stone cairn generally had larger voids between them than those set beneath its former edges, and seemed less well bedded. It is possible that they were infilling an oval depression measuring c.2.60m by 2.00m but of unknown depth, perhaps resulting from 18th or 19th century antiquarian disturbance. After the removal of the large stone cairn, the round cairn was far less visible within the wider landscape [2/665] (see plate 8).

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 Pike Howe appears to be a typical example of a Bronze Age round cairn, located on a prominent watershed setting and perhaps forming part of a chain with adjacent monuments of similar date, to act as a territorial marker, as well as being a burial site.
- 4.2 The surviving earthwork is broadly circular in plan, and may once had a total diameter of close to 13.00m, although it has been somewhat truncated by the public footpath which curves around the south-western and southern sides, and by the vehicle track which curves around the eastern side. The round cairn stood at least 0.90m high, and has a flattened top surface which is now broadly polygonal in plan. The top of the defining scarp may once have been edged or marked by larger stones, up to 1.40m long, although due to vegetation cover these are now only clearly visible to the north-west quadrant. There is nothing in the surviving structure of the round cairn or the surrounding topography to suggest that the monument was formed around a natural rock outcrop, and so it assumed that all of the stone used in its construction was gathered here specifically for the purpose.
- 4.3 The round cairn has clearly been subject to several different phases of disturbance. Material has been removed from the south-western and southern sides of the earthwork. A shallow hollow in the top surface suggests that the round cairn was opened during the 19th century, whilst a linear depression to the north side might be the remnants of an excavation trench.
- 4.4 There are two secondary cairns on the surface of the main cairn. The first, to the north side, may be formed from spoil arising from the opening of the interior of the round cairn during the 19th century. However, its southern end is arguably truncated and it is apparently neatly constructed, and so it remains possible that it might be a much earlier feature. For example, a survey of Keld Bank Neolithic long cairn on Ingleborough, North Yorkshire, revealed a smaller sub-circular cairn, perhaps of the Early Bronze Age date, overlapping the earlier Neolithic cairn (Luke 2012, 28-29). It is possible that this secondary cairn at Pike Howe was added some time after the original Bronze Age construction, but still substantially before the modern period.
- 4.5 The second, more prominent, stone cairn is also difficult to date precisely. Given that a 'boundary stone' was marked on or close to Pike Howe in 1857, it may be that a pile of stones began to accumulate on the round cairn's top surface as early as the mid 19th century. Alternatively, the cairn may have its origins in one of the 'Piles of Stones' marked along the footpath to the immediate south from 1912 onwards. A stone cairn was present by 1950, and it has been augmented in subsequent years by the removal of stones from the main body of the monument. Dismantling and removal of this stone cairn provided no further definitive dating evidence, but may suggest that it was built over an infilled depression in the earlier round cairn, perhaps the result of 18th or 19th century antiquarian disturbance.

5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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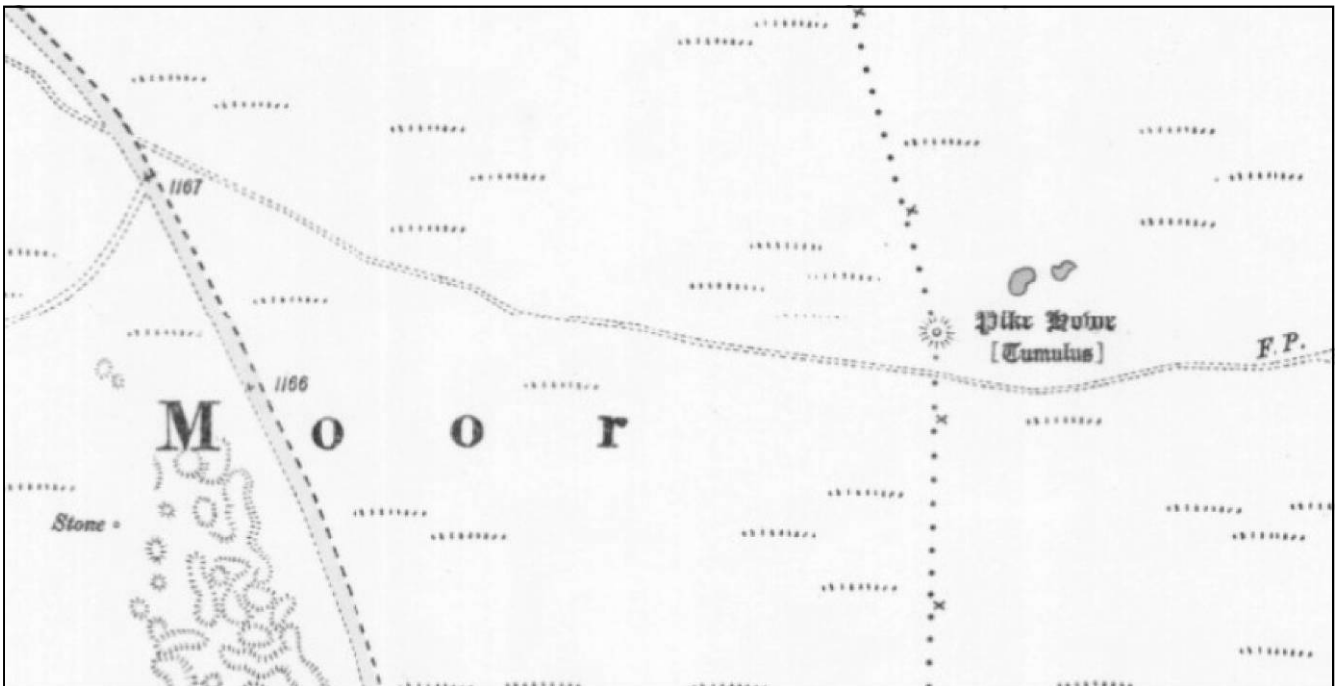
6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1 The archaeological survey was commissioned and funded by the NYMNP, and thanks are extended to Mags Waughman, Monument Management Scheme Officer at the NYMNP for initiating the project and facilitating site access. The west side off the monument is owned by the Farndale Estate, and the east side by the Spaunton Estate. The pre-intervention archaeological recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson and Richard Lamb, and the dismantling work was done by apprentice rangers from the NYMNP, assisted by Dawn Rothwell and the Farndale Estate, and supervised by EDAS. Shaun Richardson produced the fieldwork records and a draft report, and the responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies in the final report remains with Ed Dennison.



Plan provided by NYMNP.

PROJECT		PIKE HOWE CAIRN	
TITLE		SITE LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE	NTS	APR 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	1

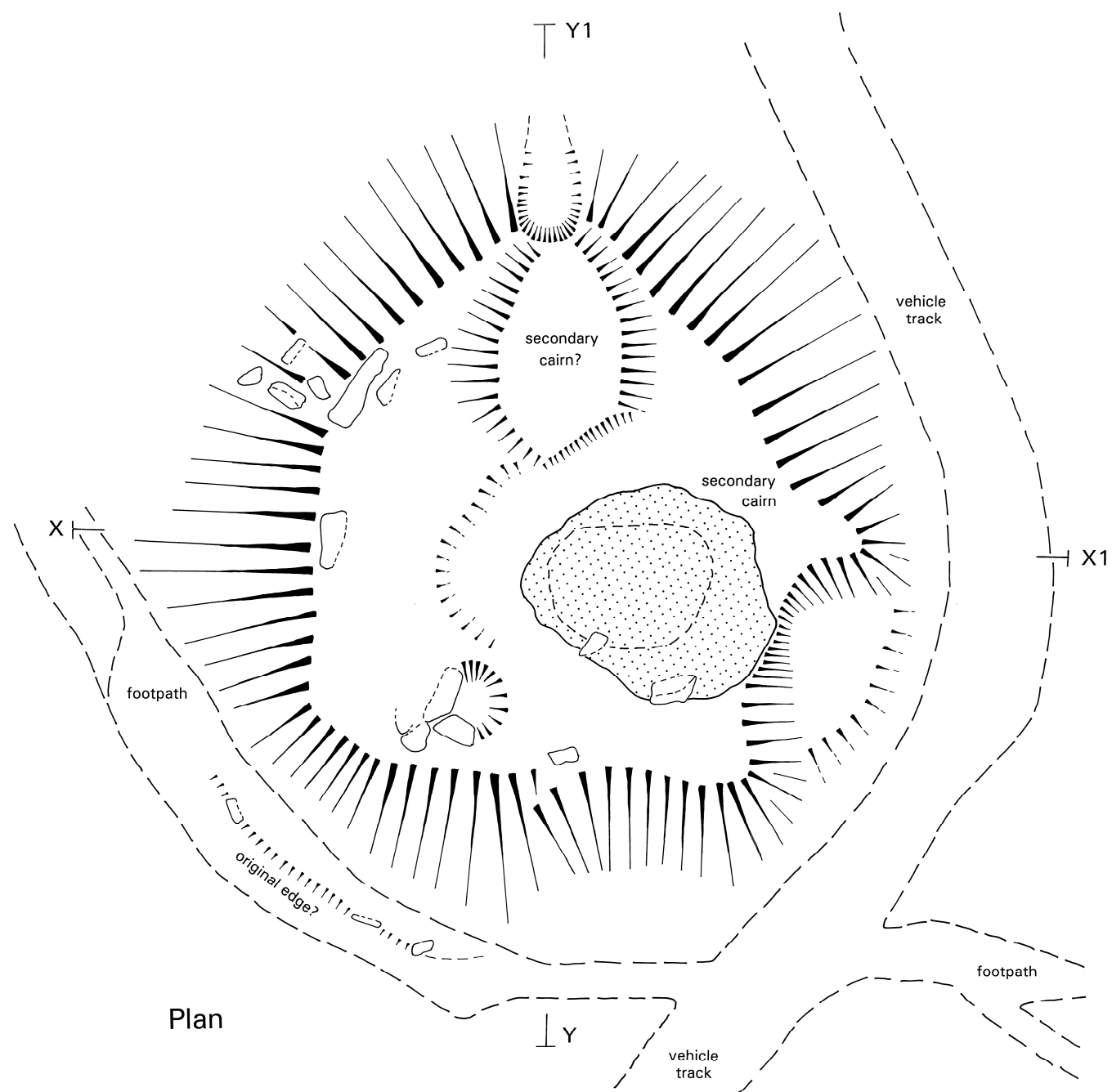


Top: 1857 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 59 (surveyed 1853-54).

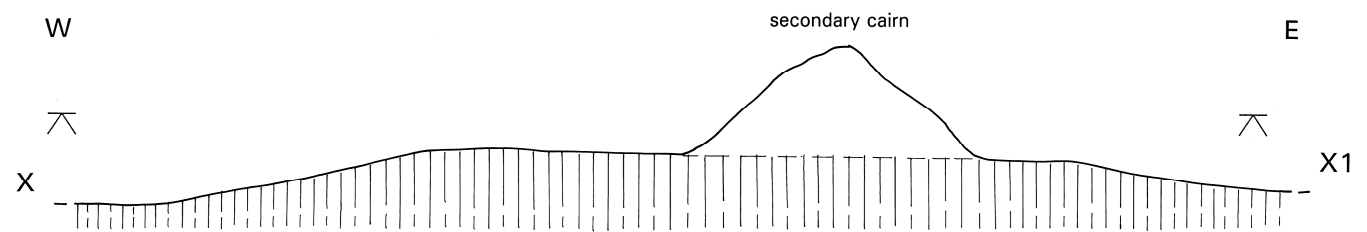
Bottom: 1893 Ordnance Survey 25" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 59/10 (surveyed 1891).



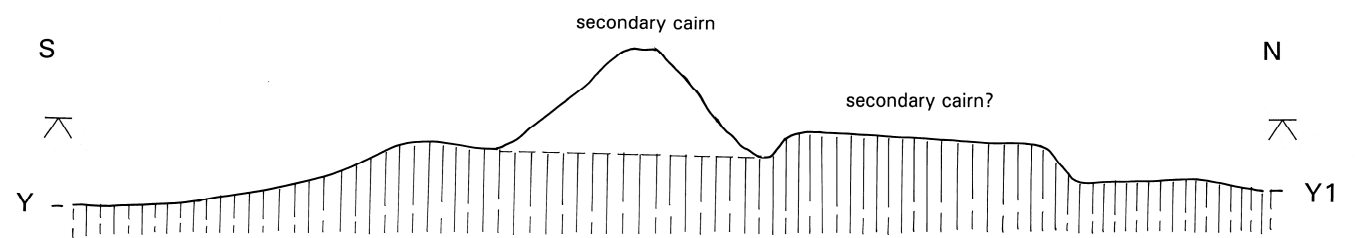
PROJECT		PIKE HOWE CAIRN	
TITLE			
EARLY ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2018
EDAS		FIGURE	2



Plan



East-west profile



North-south profile



PROJECT	PIKE HOWE CAIRN	
TITLE	SURVEY PLAN	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE APR 2018
EDAS	FIGURE	3



Plate 1: Pike Howe, looking E, footpath to foreground (photo 1/877).



Plate 2: Pike Howe, looking N, vehicle track to foreground (photo 1/882).



Plate 3: Pike Howe, possible edge visible in footpath to SW side, looking NW (photo 1/886).



Plate 4: Pike Howe, secondary cairn to N side of top surface, looking N (photo 1/888).



Plate 5: Pike Howe, walkers' cairn, looking NE (photo 1/889).



Plate 6: Pike Howe, walkers' cairn, looking NW, showing slab with painted letters (photo 1/890).



Plate 7: Pike Howe, after removal of walkers' cairn, looking E (photo 2/660).



Plate 8: Pike Howe, after removal of walker's cairn, looking NW (photo 2/655).

APPENDIX 1
EDAS PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE

PIKE HOWE SURVEY - PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE

Film 1: Colour digital photographs taken 2nd October 2017

Film 2: Colour digital photographs taken 21st March 2018

<i>Film</i>	<i>Frame</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	877	Pike Howe, looking E, footpath to foreground	3 x 1m
1	879	Pike Howe, looking W, footpath to foreground	3 x 1m
1	881	Pike Howe, looking N, vehicle track to foreground	2 x 1m
1	882	Pike Howe, looking N, vehicle track to foreground	2 x 1m
1	885	Pike Howe, looking SE, vehicle track to foreground	3 x 1m
1	886	Pike Howe, possible edge visible in footpath to SW side, looking NW	1m
1	887	Pike Howe, possible cist / disturbance to top surface, looking W	1m
1	888	Pike Howe, secondary cairn to N side of top surface, looking N	1m
1	889	Pike Howe, walkers' cairn, looking NE	1m
1	890	Pike Howe, walkers' cairn, looking NW, showing slab with painted letters	1m
1	901	Pike Howe from distance, looking SE along footpath	-
2	654	Pike Howe, looking NW, after removal of walker's cairn	3 x 1m
2	655	Pike Howe, looking NW, after removal of walker's cairn	3 x 1m
2	656	Pike Howe, looking S, after removal of walker's cairn	3 x 1m
2	657	Pike Howe, looking E, after removal of walker's cairn	3 x 1m
2	658	Pike Howe, detail looking NW, after removal of walker's cairn	2 x 1m
2	659	Pike Howe, detail looking N, after removal of walker's cairn	2 x 1m
2	660	Pike Howe, detail looking E, after removal of walker's cairn	2 x 1m
2	665	Pike Howe from distance after removal of walker's cairn, looking SE along footpath	-

APPENDIX 2
NYMNP PROJECT BRIEF

Brief for archaeological work on a Scheduled round barrow on the boundary between Spaunton and Farndale Moors, North York Moors National Park

1. Introduction

Prehistoric burial monuments, largely dating from the Bronze Age, are a very numerous and distinctive feature of the North York Moors landscape which constitute a significant proportion (about 65%) of the 842 Scheduled Monuments within the National Park. These monuments frequently occupy prominent positions which offer fine viewpoints on well-used footpaths, particularly long distance routes where the practice of building and adding to modern walkers' cairns can cause problems for the archaeology. Six of the Scheduled Monuments with walkers' cairns are currently considered to be 'At Risk' from cairn building and a further eight are considered to be 'Vulnerable'. This brief is for archaeological work including pre-intervention survey, required as part of remedial work on a round cairn with a modern walkers' cairn. The work will be carried out as part of the North York Moors National Park Authority's Monument Management Scheme (MMS).

2. Background

2.1 Monument Management Scheme

The MMS was developed as a response to English Heritage's Heritage at Risk surveys, and to address the Authority's Business Plan priority to reduce the risk status of Scheduled Monuments. It is a partnership project using the joint financial resources of the NPA and Historic England (HE – formerly English Heritage), with NPA staff, volunteers and accredited contractors. The current scheme (2015-2018) aims to improve monument condition and in particular to remove monuments from the Heritage at Risk Register.

2.2 Assessment of walkers' cairns on Scheduled Monuments

An assessment of eighteen Scheduled Monuments with walkers' cairns was undertaken by Linda Smith and Miles Johnson in the spring of 2015. This concluded that eight of the monuments had been so badly affected, either damaged by the construction of the modern cairn, completely obscured by the modern cairn or damaged as a consequence of drawing walkers to the modern cairn, as to warrant remedial work as a high priority. It was recognised that simply carrying out remedial work would have limited use, however, because it would do nothing to prevent damage from the same activities in the future. The recommended approach, therefore, was threefold:

- Physical conservation/consolidation work to repair the worst damage;
- Establishment of a volunteer monitoring programme to assess the effectiveness of the remedial work and identify new instances of damaging cairn building;
- A public awareness raising exercise, both within the National Park and at a more strategic level nationally, with the aim of changing the practice of cairn building within the walking community.

2.3 Recent work to address the issue

2.3.1 A new volunteer monitoring programme was established in autumn 2015, using a small number of volunteers drawn from the NPA's Historic Environment Volunteers, Explorer Club and Cleveland Way monitoring groups. Initially the monitoring is being done twice yearly, before and after the spring/summer period of highest visitor numbers, in order to inform a timetable for the programme of remedial work.

2.3.2. Remedial work was carried out on two scheduled monuments with walkers' cairns during the first few months of 2017.

2.3.3 Production of publicity material highlighting the walkers' cairns issue as it relates to Scheduled Monuments was commissioned in 2016 and has been disseminated amongst other National Park Authorities and some walkers' interest groups. This is being used to raise public awareness of the potentially damaging effects of cairn building, with its first release being timed to follow on directly from the first remedial projects, in order to discourage members of the public from rebuilding the dismantled cairns.

3. Pike Howe Scheduled Monument

The subject of this archaeological work is a round cairn on the boundary of Spaunton Moor and Farndale Moor (located at SE 69202 96163):

Pike Howe round cairn (List Entry 1018986, formerly SM 32645).

The monument lies about 10m to the north of a Public Right of Way, but within about the last 15 years the route of the footpath has migrated so that it now skirts the southern edge of the monument. The walkers' cairn is a very prominent feature which dominates the monument. It measures 2.5-3m in diameter and around 1.5m in height and it sits partly within a hollow left by antiquarian excavation. The walkers' cairn assessment observed that although the modern cairn was very well-established and possibly of some age, it appeared to be quite active, with at least three voids evident where stones had been prised from the prehistoric mound beneath, presumably to add to it. Recent additions also included a large, flaggy stone bearing graffiti and a small 'proto cairn' which appeared to be developing on the north side of the monument.

The schedule entry for the monument describes the round cairn as 12m in diameter and up to 0.9m high with a stony composition, and it is this which makes it vulnerable to damage from stone removal.

4. Project aim and scope

The aim of this project is to enable the monument at Pike Howe to be removed from the Heritage at Risk register by slowing or arresting the ongoing damage from cairn building. We will aim to do this in one of two ways (yet to be agreed):

- by dismantling and removing the walkers' cairn in order to remove the temptation for walkers to add to an existing cairn. This may also improve the visibility of the monument so that it can be more easily understood within its landscape setting. Rebuilding a modern cairn in another location or setting up an alternative boundary marker off the monument may be further possibilities which might help to attract attention away from the monument; or
- by removing any very recent additions to the modern cairn, while leaving it as an extant landscape feature, and encouraging more dense vegetation cover across the surface of the round cairn to disguise its stony nature and make it less vulnerable to stone removal. Visible damage to the monument (eg stone voids) would also be repaired.

5. Archaeological work required

Survey

5.1 A measured survey of Pike Howe is required in order to make a pre-intervention record of both the monument and the walkers' cairn. This will be used to inform the subsequent dismantling/partial dismantling of the modern cairn. Actions which are suggested as a result of the survey should be recommended to the MMS Officer as soon as possible after completion of the survey so that they can be taken into consideration.

5.2 The survey should be at a scale of at least 1:100 and should include both a plan and two profiles across the monument.

5.3 The survey should record the full extent of the round cairn, and show the limits of the modern walkers' cairn(s) on top of it. Any areas where the interface between the prehistoric feature and the modern cairn is uncertain should be clearly identified.

5.4 A stone by stone drawing is not required, but if any notable stones are observed (eg as part of a surrounding kerb, or bearing prehistoric rock art) these should be marked on the plan.

5.5 A digital photographic record of the monument with the walkers' cairn should also be made.

5.6 The work should follow current Historic England guidance.

Monitoring

5.7 Dismantling/partial dismantling of the walkers' cairn and repair to the monument will be carried out by a team of NPA volunteers who will be supervised by a member of NPA staff. This element of the project will be organised by the MMS Officer.

5.8 The extent of the dismantling/removal will be agreed after completion of the survey.

5.9 An archaeological presence will be required during the remedial work, in order to:

- Explain the significance of the monument and the purpose of the work to the volunteers;
- Monitor and guide the work to ensure that any dismantling proceeds as agreed beforehand, and that *in situ* prehistoric deposits are not disturbed;
- Inspect stones removed from the modern cairn for signs of prehistoric rock art. If any are found, these should be photographed, recorded and retained;
- Maintain a photographic record of the monument both during and after dismantling the walkers' cairn. This should include some shots of volunteers in action which may be used for publicity purposes.

5.10 Removal of the modern cairn may leave a surface of exposed stone or bare ground which may require further remedial work in order to minimise the risk of future cairn building and erosion. The archaeologist monitoring the dismantling should draw this to the attention of the MMS Officer if this is the case, along with their recommendations for further action.

6. Reporting

6.1 Following completion of the dismantling work, a brief report should be produced. The report should include the following:

- a title page giving project name and name of organisation carrying out the work;
- a map showing the monument location and NGR;
- background information on the project;
- a description of the survey methodology employed;
- a plan and profiles of the monument;
- a description of the monitoring and any archaeological recording carried out;
- a catalogue of photographs, indicating the direction from which each was taken;
- recommendations for further actions, if appropriate.

6.2 Copies of the printed report should be sent to the NYMNPA HER for the attention of

Mags Waughman, Monument Management Scheme Officer, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, York YO62 5BP.

A digital version of the report should also be supplied to the HER as a PDF, as well as digital copies of photographs taken.

6.3 Please note that by depositing this report, the contractor gives permission for the material presented in the document to be used by the NPA, in perpetuity, although the contractor retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as specified in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the NPA to reproduce material, including for non-commercial use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

7. Health and Safety and Insurance

7.1 Contractors are expected to abide by the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act and its subsequent amendments. Appropriate provision of first aid, telephone and PPE as described in the SCAUM manual Health & Safety in Field Archaeology 2002 should be made. A risk assessment must be undertaken prior to any site work.

7.2 It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that they have adequate public and professional insurance cover (see also attached Terms and Conditions).

8. Access and constraints

8.1 Pike Howe is immediately adjacent to a public footpath and can be accessed on foot from the west (about 225m from the Blakey road running between Castleton and Hutton-le-Hole). Vehicle access onto the moor may be possible for 4-wheel drive vehicles with the permission of the two estates; there is unsurfaced vehicle access to two grouse butts which leaves the road at c. SE 6899 9608 and continues towards the monument.

8.2 The monument lies within the North York Moors SSSI. This work is permitted under an Assent granted by Natural England for repairs to historic environment features within the SSSI. In order to comply with the Assent, both survey and dismantling work must take place outside the bird nesting season (1st April to 20th June).

8.4 Work will be taking place in an area with public access so due consideration must be given to safety of members of the public.

8.5 This project is being carried out with the permission of Historic England through the North York Moors Monument Management Scheme (MMS). No variation to the work will be permitted unless it has been agreed by the MMS Officer, Mags Waughman.

9. Timetable

9.1 The survey of Pike Howe monument should be carried out at the earliest date possible so that preparations can be made for subsequent remedial work over the autumn or winter.

9.2 A draft of the survey along with any comments on the proposed cairn dismantling should be supplied to the MMS Officer as soon as possible after completion of the survey.

9.3 The report should be finalised within one month of completion of the remedial work.

M Waughman
September 2017



North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley YO62 5BP
01439 772700

Location Plan of Pike Howe

Printed: 19 September 2017

By: Mags Waughman

Scale: 1:20000



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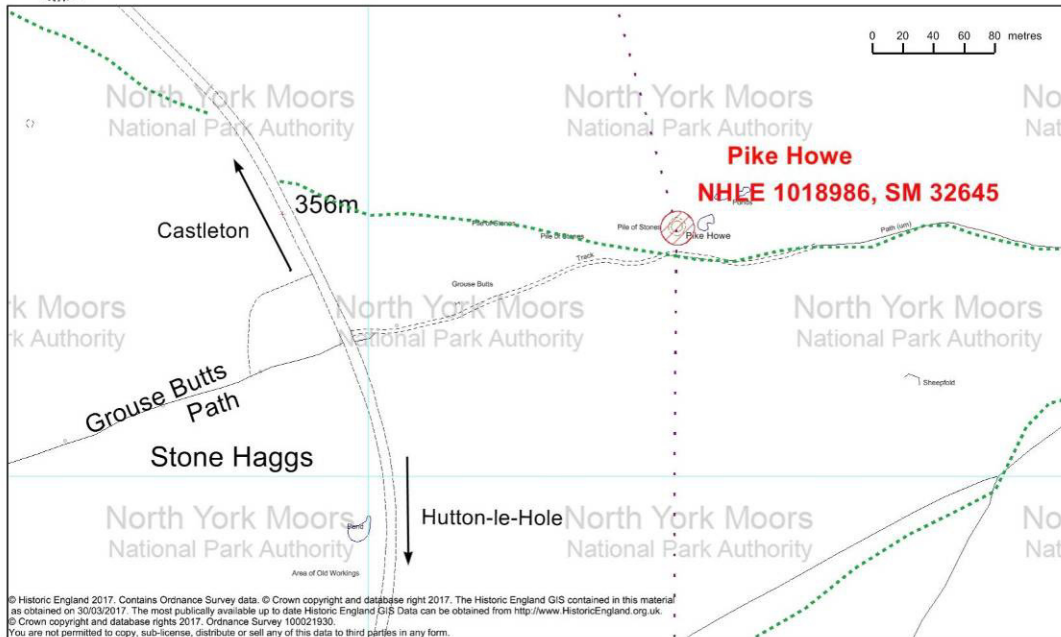


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Location Plan of Pike Howe Scheduled Monument

Printed: 19 September 2017
By: Mags Waughman

Scale: 1:2500



Photograph of 1018986, SM 32645



Above: Photo taken in 2015 from west side of monument, looking along footpath.