SECTION 1

UNDERSTANDING YOUR LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP AREA

> *"Dartmoor, to the casual first-time observer, might appear to be a natural landscape – natural in the sense of being unchanged by the hand of man through the ages of time – or at any rate as natural a landscape as it is possible to find in the rapidly changing land of Britain…..*
>
> *The further one goes the more obvious it becomes that man – industrious man – has been here before"*
>
> Helen Harris (1994)

Moor than meets the eye – the character of the area

From the high moor to the fringe of the lowland plain, the *Moor than meets the eye* area:

> *"…encompasses contrasts between the tor-crowned ridges and peat-filled valleys; moorland waste and agricultural land; royal forest and medieval settlement; which provide a rich diversity of interest. In this area man has assessed and utilised the varied resources of soil, water, woodland and minerals and so created the changing landscape patterns which today are regarded as 'typical' Dartmoor…"*
>
> Brunsden and Gerrard, in Gill, 1970

The area is quintessentially 'Dartmoor' – a rich cultural landscape displaying thousands of years of human interaction – a microcosm of the landscape, both vast and intimate, that creates such a sense of place.

Yet this was not always the case, or at least the sense of place was very different. In 1804, T H Williams, in his *Picturesque Excursions in Devon and Cornwall*, described Dartmoor as:

> *"Dreary in the extreme…presenting nothing of consequence…an increase of building could only improve the appearance of the waste"*
>
> Williams, in Milton, 2006

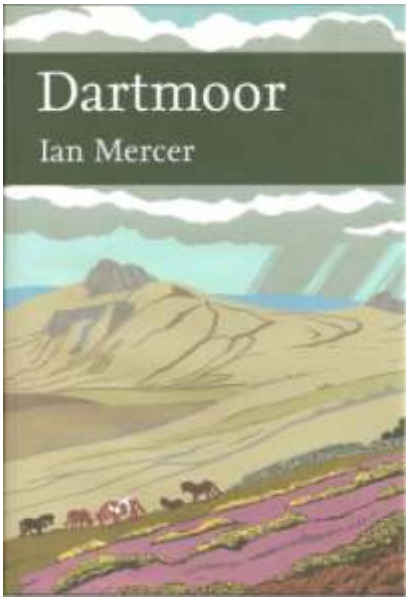
This was only six years before William Wordsworth produced his plea for the Lake District to be adopted as 'a sort of national property' in his *Guide to the Lakes*, a seminal point in the growing appreciation of landscape and the need to protect the

finest of them which culminated, for Dartmoor, in designation as a National Park on the 30th October 1951, as one of the first four to be designated (after the Peak District, Lake District and Snowdonia under the *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949*.

So what is it that creates that sense of place, that identity that is 'Dartmoor'? The Tourism Company survey of users of the Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) Visitor Centres in 2012 found that most visits to the National Park were for general sightseeing, although one-third of respondents cited walking as a primary motivation. Visitors to the East Dartmoor National Nature Reserve (NNR) and the Bovey valley put the area's peace and tranquillity, being closer to nature and wildlife, and to relax significantly ahead of other reasons for visiting the NNR, such as exercise, having a keen interest in something specific, or spending time with family and friends (Measures, 2013). Clearly, the landscape is one that draws people to, and into, it.

More specific questions were asked during the public consultation for the *Moor than meets the eye* Audience Development Plan (Evison and King, 2013). People were asked about which aspects of Dartmoor's history and landscape they were most interested in, using a prepared list of aspects which included an 'Other' option.

The responses show that by a considerable margin, there is greatest interest in natural history. However, there is also substantial interest in pre-history, Dartmoor ponies, industrial history and folklore and legends, and, if all aspects of historical interest are considered, together these represent a very significant level of interest. 'Other' aspects noted included: life on the moor, landscape and scenery, freedom of the moor, streams and rivers, how it was farmed, farm animals, archaeology, Morris dancing, and fauna.



Perceptions of the Dartmoor landscape expressed in picture and words – the cover of Ian Mercer's book in the 'New Naturalist' series, and the word cloud from the Scheme's Audience Development consultation

Looking at perceptions of Dartmoor reflects this. The word cloud showing the words most used to describe Dartmoor, produced at the end of the Audience Development consultation during the Landscape Partnership Scheme's Development Phase, highlights that open-ness and feeling of space, but also starts to delve deeper into how people and landscape have interacted. In one sense, this is a deceptively simple landscape, often described as southern England's 'last great wilderness'. Anecdotally, it is agreed that many responses are quite simple, with the words most often associated by visitors with Dartmoor usually being 'tors', 'ponies', 'prison' and the weather.

In trying to capture that essence of the landscape for the cover of Ian Mercer's book on *Dartmoor* (the second in the *New Naturalist* series following Harvey and St Ledger- Gordon's 1953 volume), three of these four figure prominently, together with the feel of openness and some of the moorland features such as a drystone wall, flowering heather and western gorse.

However, the reality is that this is a much more complex landscape which bears witness to human activity over thousands of years. It is also a landscape that, in the present, can strike such a chord with the onlooker whether they are taking part in some activity or are just a passive observer. The setting of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Conan Doyle (1902) on Dartmoor contributed much to the atmosphere of the story with 'the spirit of the moor sinking into one's soul' and the combination of place and weather providing the backdrop to the final unfolding of events. Clearly, the weather plays an important part in experiencing Dartmoor, with Andrew Cooper (2011) describing how:

> *"Dartmoor stimulates the senses and satisfies the soul. The mere mention of the moor conjures a mix of emotions: scary when cloaked in cloud, dismal when drenched, captivating when bitterly cold, yet spellbinding in the warmth of the sun."*

Eden Phillpotts is, for many lovers of Dartmoor, the writer who gives an unrivalled evocation of the Moor, as, through the eighteen novels of the 'Dartmoor Cycle' he gives a sensitive and intimate portrayal of its landscape, its changing moods and seasons, and the ways of its people. A good example of his evocative writing about the weather is in *The Mother* (1908), where:

> *"a high wind laden with occasional showers flogged the Moor, hummed against the granite and set the dying herbage shivering with waves of colourless light".*

However, much though the open upland moors take the eye, capture the imagination, and offer the space and tranquillity that many seek, the National Park also has other, more intimate, landscapes and the *Moor than meets the eye* area has been chosen to reflect this and how these other landscapes contribute to the special qualities of the National Park.

Dartmoor's special qualities

Designation of National Parks was to manage these landscapes for their 'special qualities'. Dartmoor has a very special place in people's appreciation of Devon and the wider south west of England. The special qualities of the National Park identify what is distinctive about Dartmoor, and help to identify what is most important to be conserved, enhanced and enjoyed.

Dartmoor's special qualities include:

- Open, windswept **upland moors** with far reaching views and a sense of remoteness and wildness, distinctive granite tors surrounded by loose rock or 'clitter', and large expanses of grass and heather moorland**,** blanket bogs and valley mires
- **Sheltered valleys** with upland oak woodland, rhôs pasture and fast-flowing boulder strewn rivers
- Surrounding the moor a landscape of **enclosed farmland** with small irregular pasture fields bounded by dry stone walls and hedgebanks
- a **varied geology**, including the granite bedrock
- a **timeless and unspoilt place** spared many of the intrusions of modern life, with dark night-time skies
- a **tranquil place** where it is possible to find absolute peace, offering spiritual refreshment and opportunities for quiet reflection, escape, and creativity
- unrivalled opportunities to roam at will over the extensive open moorland, and an exceptional **rights of way network** for walking, riding and cycling
- **traditional farming practices**, using the moorland commons for extensive grazing of hardy cattle, sheep and ponies including locally distinctive breeds
- a **source of clean water**, including historic leats supplying water to surrounding settlements, and the peatlands and open water of the reservoirs
- one of the most **important archaeological landscapes** in Western Europe
- a wealth of **historic buildings, structures and townscapes**, including a strong medieval settlement pattern of **scattered farmsteads, hamlets, villages and towns**, set within enclosed farmland surrounding the open moor and linked by an intimate pattern of sunken lanes
- **resourceful rural communities** with distinctive culture and traditions, characteristic ways of life, local crafts, fairs, food and drink
- an **inspirational landscape** of legends and myths that has inspired art and literature through the centuries and continues to inspire
- a place for **discovery, challenge and adventure**

Dartmoor National Park Authority, 2013

A key part of those special qualities is the rich wealth of heritage, particularly its archaeology and so, in places, Dartmoor retains secrets to its past use by people and contains:

> *"…a fascinating diversity of important archaeological sites illustrating many facets of human history. It represents one of the best preserved and most complete upland archaeological landscapes in Britain"*
>
> Gerrard, 1997

The period of prehistoric archaeology for which the upland moor is best known is the Bronze Age. Exploitation may have started by hunters and gatherers much earlier during the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods, although no structures are known to date from this time. The structures that can be dated as the earliest are likely to be from then Neolithic and may include hilltop enclosures, a number of stone rows and burial cairns. However, in the Bronze Age, the moor was densely settled by people and their homes, fields, burial places and religious centres still survive, with archaeologists continuing to add to what is known about this period. The recent excavation of the cist on Whitehorse Hill is a good example of how discovery and interpretation of features continues to increase understanding. There is undoubtedly potential for further features to be discovered in this area of the upland moor.

The different components of this prehistoric landscape have in places remained unaltered since they fell out of use over 2,600 years ago, while in other areas later generations have developed and altered the earlier features to meet their own requirements. The result is often a landscape containing an array of features belonging to several periods where later use overlays that from previous times. This is often referred to as a 'palimpsest', which is like an 'old master' painting where a canvas has been reused several times, and retains older images under newer veneers of paint.

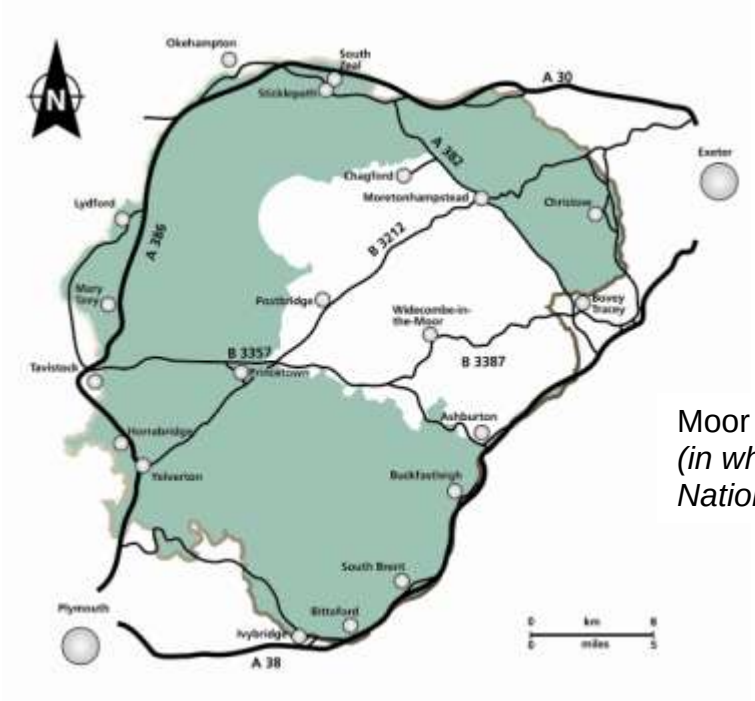
Challacombe Down – an untouched landscape? (Steve Scoffin)

The palimpsest landscape, while at times complex and confusing, also tells the story of how succeeding generations have reacted to the landscape left by the previous one. Examples of palimpsests are abundant throughout the upland moor, no more so than in the parts of the *Moor than meets the eye* area around Dartmeet, and often contain features belonging to the Bronze Age, medieval and post-medieval periods in close proximity. Vag Hill, part of the wider complex on Spitchwick Common, was enclosed with prehistoric rectangular fields and was brought back into use during the medieval period when some of the earlier boundaries were rebuilt and slight ridges formed as a result of ploughing. In the post-medieval period, rectangular mounds (known as 'pillow mounds') were created for rabbits to breed in, with vermin being controlled by X-shaped traps as part of complexes of rabbit warrens.

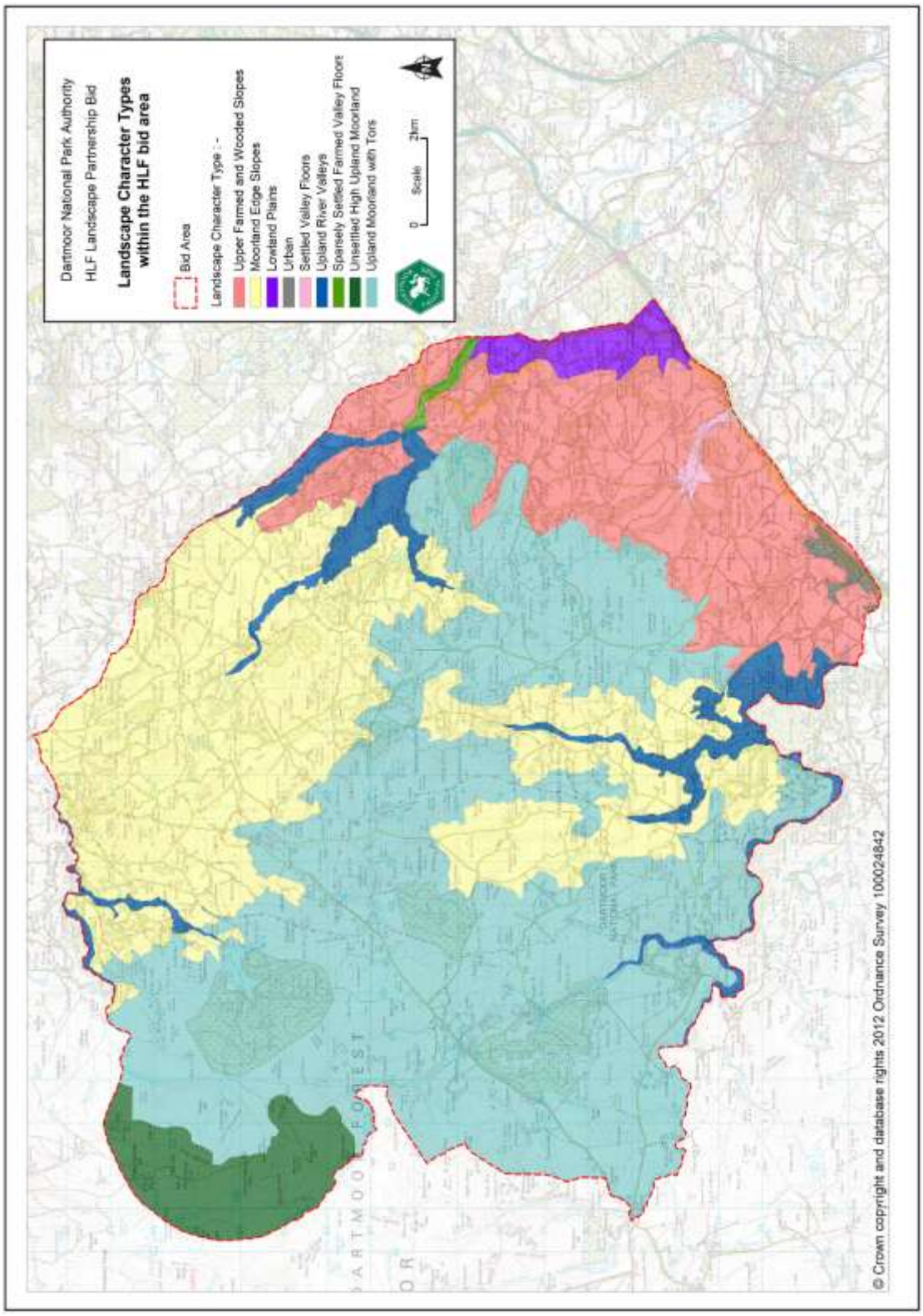
Much of *Moor than meets the eye* therefore is not just about understanding the Landscape Partnership area, but of understanding and interpreting the landscape as there is so much there to tell the story of people and landscape in the period before written records. Therefore the landscape, and the way in which it has been used by people over thousands of years, is not just a backdrop shaped by geology and climate over millions of years, but also testament to human endeavour, ingenuity and creativity over centuries.

Moor than meets the eye **- Landscape Character**

Moor than meets the eye covers the south east corner of Dartmoor National Park, with the high ground of the moorland dominating much of southern Devon. The area is bounded by significant geographical features. Starting at the highest point of Whitehorse Hill (602 m), the northern boundary follows the River Teign as it flows eastwards down to the A382, turning south to follow this to the A38. The southern boundary then follows this until reaching the River Dart, and follows this upstream to the high moor.



Moor than meets the eye *area (in white) as part of Dartmoor National Park (in green)*



Landscape Character Types in the Moor than meets the eye *Landscape Partnership Scheme area*

It contains six primary landscape character types identified in the Landscape Character Assessment for Dartmoor National Park (2010) which are interrelated but have their own distinct characteristics and sense of place, and which are:

- Unsettled High Upland Moorland
- Upland Moorland with Tors
- Upland River Valleys
- Moorland Edge Slopes
- Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes
- Lowland Plain

UNSETTLED HIGH UPLAND MOORLAND

Unsettled High Upland Moorland – Winney's Down (© DNPA; Kerenza Townsend)

This character type is represented in the north west of the Partnership area. It is part of two discrete plateaux separated by the Dart Valley, containing the highest and most remote land in Dartmoor. The highest summits are assumed to be the remains of a plain; weathered and eroded during the Tertiary period (65 million years ago) to form two plateaux. However, many details of the present-day granite areas were created by the cold conditions of the Pleistocene Ice Age (600,000 – 10,000 years ago). A unique and remarkably complex range of periglacial features is still visible today, including the landscape's symbolic tors as well as stone stripes, boulder runs, clitter slopes and patterned ground.

This is an open landscape where large expanses of heather and grass moorland are interspersed with patches of bilberry, purple moor grass, gorse and bracken – extensively grazed by sheep, cattle and ponies.

Broad, uninterrupted skylines are broken by the occasional tor and rock outcrop. The landscape is crossed by a network of streams and valley mires fed by thick deposits of peat and blanket bogs on the plateaux tops – forming the source of many of the

major rivers of Devon and internationally recognised for their nature conservation interest. High levels of tranquillity and remoteness can be found creating a sense of 'wildness'.

The strong time depth of the landscape is reflected in a rich archaeological resource – extensive remains of ancient settlements, cairns and boundaries, particularly associated with the Bronze Age period.

This character type includes the most southerly distribution of blanket bog in Britain, with abundant bog-mosses and associated plants including deer grass, hare's tail cotton grass, cross-leaved heath and unusual species such as cranberry. Internationally rare birds, such as the golden plover and dunlin, use the blanket bog habitats for their breeding grounds. The heather moorland also supports populations of other rare birds such as the skylark, ring ouzel and red grouse.

UPLAND MOORLAND WITH TORS

Upland Moorland with Tors – Bellever Tor (© Adrian Oakes)

Upland Moorland with Tors is a gently rolling large-scale moorland landscape sweeping below the high plateaux and summits associated with the Unsettled High Upland Moorland character type. There is a strong sense of exposure, tranquillity and far reaching, often panoramic views. Smooth outlines are punctuated by many tors and jagged rock outcrops, with slopes often strewn by granite boulders and clitter. Areas of open moorland are fringed by a strong pattern of 18th and 19th century 'newtakes' marked by granite walls containing rough grazing land. Numerous sites and features of high archaeological significance include prehistoric cairns, ceremonial monuments, hut circles, deserted medieval settlements, ancient field systems and boundary markings.

Unlike Unsettled High Upland Moorland, this character type contains small villages and hamlets occupying sheltered locations, often associated with streams and rivers draining from the moor. Local vernacular is characterised predominantly by granite and slate. Settlements are small and clustered around bridging points or crossroads nestled into the folds of the landscape. Isolated farmsteads, often with colour-washed walls, are dotted across the moorland, commonly framed by trees providing shelter from the elements. There are also the remains of former mineral workings and associated buildings dating from the medieval period onwards and 19th century quarries, providing evidence of a long history of a moorland exploited by people. Large conifer plantations create dark blocks with hard edges, contrasting with the smooth muted landscape backdrop. Patches of deciduous woodland are dominated by oak, ash and beech, generally limited to valley sides and around settlements.

Vegetation cover on more elevated areas is of a heathland character with a patchwork of heather and grass moor, Western heath, gorse scrub, tufts of *Molinia* grass, bracken and scattered, windswept trees. Valley mires and blanket bogs thread through the rolling landscape before feeding into fast flowing tributary streams, which grow in size and occupy steep sided valleys off the moor.
The grass moorland is a habitat of significant wildlife value. It is one of only three areas in Britain where the nationally rare high brown fritillary butterfly survives in significant numbers. The grassland moorland also supports populations of pearl-bordered fritillary, a high concentration of breeding whinchat as well as nationally scarce flowering plants such as chamomile and heath violet.

UPLAND RIVER VALLEYS

Upland River Valleys – River Dart (© Derek Entrican)

This landscape character type comprises the spectacular courses of Dartmoor's major rivers as they drain from the central moorland plateaux. The rivers are

characterised by clean, fast flowing water tumbling through steep, woodland cloaked valleys, which form strong physical and ecological connections between the *Moor than meets the eye area* upland core and its surrounding lowlands. The lower reaches of the valleys have a more enclosed character, contrasting with their open and exposed upper courses where they cut through the granite plateaux.

Valley floors are fringed by wet woodland and often Rhôs pasture, whilst valley sides are cloaked in extensive areas of ancient semi-natural woodland dominated by sessile oak and beech of high nature conservation importance. Dartmoor accounts for 20% of the total Rhôs pasture resource in England. It is an important habitat for a number of butterfly species including a major national stronghold for the marsh fritillary and breeding birds such as snipe and reed bunting. Rare flowers, rushes and purple moor pasture provide further wildlife interest within the valleys.

The valleys are varied and colourful, with broadleaved woodlands providing seasonal interest through a range of colours including autumnal reds and oranges, and blankets of bluebells, primroses and wild garlic in spring. The woodlands contain evidence of past woodland management including coppicing and the remains of charcoal burners and hearths.

Medieval granite stone bridges cross the rivers and streams; often forming the historic focus for small hamlets, villages and farmsteads. The unifying vernacular is granite and slate. Small, narrow roads traverse steep valley sides, often enclosed by high hedgerows creating 'tunnels' through the landscape. Some valleys demonstrate links to the industrial past, including an extensive network of leats.

MOORLAND EDGE SLOPES

Moorland Edge Slopes – View over Widecombe in the Moor (© DNPA)

The Moorland Edge Slope character type is characterised by rolling hills and slopes falling away from the high moorland core incised by steep valleys. Pockets of moorland common, marginal pasture and rough grassland define the upper moorland slopes, retaining visual and functional links to the adjacent moorland. There are significant areas of 'heathy' commons on higher ground. In winter months they appear as striking bronze coloured areas, providing a stark contrast with the lush farmland on their lower slopes.

Valleys are often densely wooded and contain tracks of Rhôs pasture (see above) grazed by livestock. Scattered copses and linear woodland strips follow small tributary streams. Patches of coniferous woodland are found on higher slopes.

The landscape is characterised by an intricate pattern of medieval fields with post-medieval hedge banks enclosing small fields of pasture and rough grazing.

A sparse settlement pattern is characterised by small nucleated hamlets and villages, sitting within the farmed mosaic and often sheltered by woodland. The landscape has a strong local vernacular of granite and slate, with colour-washed cob/render. Thatch is also common. Square towered medieval granite churches with ornate pinnacles are prominent features within settlements, acting as focal points in long views.

Sinuous winding narrow lanes and tracks cut across the landscape with a strong sense of enclosure created by high hedgebanks. These hedgebanks are often species-rich with hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, oak, ash and holly and are important habitat and natural corridor for butterflies and moths, farmland birds, bats and dormice. Sunken lanes form tunnels through pockets of woodland.

The area's cultural heritage is reflected in the presence of features relating to past mining activity such as engine houses, as well as evidence of ancient settlement including prehistoric round houses, cairns and ceremonial monuments and deserted medieval settlements.

UPPER FARMED AND WOODED SLOPES
Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes represents a rolling, hummocky landscape which owes its character to a complex underlying geology – cut by small tributary streams at the foot of undulating slopes. The rolling hills and slopes are defined by a strong mosaic of irregular predominantly pastoral fields of medieval origin, frequent semi-natural woodlands and species rich hedgebanks. The close proximity of the moorland is evident in patches of heathy vegetation and bracken in hedgerows and livestock grazed rough pasture on higher ground.

A dispersed settlement pattern is characterised by individual farmsteads of local stone, thatch and colourwash nestled into the folded landform or screened by woodland. Some larger villages are positioned on higher slopes, characterised by nucleated historic cores surrounded by more recent 20th century development. Modern ribbon development lines some rural lanes linking larger settlements.

Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes – Ramshorn Down (© DNPA; Kerenza Townsend)

This is an intimate landscape. Past mining activity from the 16th to 20th centuries is evident along valleys through remnant mining structures and linked industrial remains.

LOWLAND PLAIN

Lowland Plain – Langaller (Steve Scoffin)

The Landscape Partnership area is bordered to the south east by a small area of Lowland Plain. This is a flat undulating plain where upland finally meets lowland. The area is included because the A38 and A382 provide strong, identifiable boundaries for the Landscape Partnership area.

The area provides an important buffer to development outside of the National Park whilst retaining strong visual links with the Dartmoor core.

The threats to *Moor than meets the eye*'s landscape character

A range of threats were identified within the Landscape Character Assessment, with many of them common to the range of landscape character types within the *Moor than meets the eye* area. These can be divided into threats from development or economic change, potential threats affecting the landscape and wildlife from climate change, and further development threats as a response to climate change.

Threats identified from development and economic change include:

- Development pressure from within the National Park and outside, eg areas in close proximity to the A38 road corridor, leading to potential demands for increased water supply (through new reservoirs).
- Continued popularity of the area as a retirement destination and an increase in home working (outside the area) – pushing house prices out of the reach of local people (particularly young farmers) leading to a further decline in upland farming and levels of livestock grazing.
- Ongoing increase in commuting and visitor traffic requiring traffic management and road engineering works out of keeping with the character of the landscape's narrow rural lanes.
- New quarrying activity outside the National Park could be visible in long views from the area.
- Further expansion of china clay extraction, tipping and quarrying outside the National Park, as well as other quarrying sites and land uses to support development – e.g. landfill and energy from waste sites – impacting on views and levels of tranquillity.
- Demand for small-scale quarrying within the National Park – particularly to provide local stone to new development, eg Linhay Hill limestone quarry near Ashburton.
- Uncertain future for the agricultural economy – levels of future funding support and market prices for livestock unknown.
- Continued trend in hobby farming and equine enterprises, people retiring to the area and home working pushing house prices out of the reach of local people (particularly young farmers) leading to a further decline in local skills and farming traditions, particularly in the uplands.
- Continuing decline in rural skills including hedge laying and traditional woodland management, threatening the age and species diversity of semi-natural woodlands.
- Intensification of agriculture on more fertile valley pastures to meet rising food demands, leading to an increased risk of diffuse pollution in watercourses.
- Further recreational demand from expanding urban centres close to Dartmoor, including Plymouth.

Climate change impacts could include:

- Potential drying out of wet heath, blanket bog, valley mires, Rhôs pasture and wet woodland due to an increased frequency and intensity of drought conditions in the summer months. These conditions may also lead to more

frequent and intensive moorland fires and erosion causing damage to archaeological sites.

- Increased autumn and winter precipitation levels could lead to higher water levels in upland streams, mires and tracts of blanket bog, resulting in more frequent downstream flooding, as well as an increase in poaching on river banks.
- Longer growing season and enhanced growth rates of vegetation including bracken, gorse and secondary woodland resulting in a decrease in the area of open heather moorland and a 'scrubbing up' of upland stream valleys.
- Increase in the prevalence of pests and diseases which may affect species such as heather and bilberry.
- Spread of non-native and alien species in response to a changing climate.
- Change in woodland / tree species composition as new pests/diseases spread (particularly *phytopthora* pathogens) and species intolerant of water level extremes die back. Individual trees may become more susceptible to damage from the increasing frequency and magnitude of storm events.

Off the moorland areas, this could include:

- New crops more suited to higher summer temperatures may appear in the landscape (eg sunflowers, navy beans, soya, lupins, borage and evening primrose).
- More frequent drought conditions leading to crop failures and reduced productivity of the farmed landscape.

Threats from climate change responses are identified as:

- Increased demand for wind turbines within the open, exposed landscapes of the moorland, including areas of upland common, as well as outside the National Park visible in long views from the area.
- Higher demand for UK food production potentially leading to an increase in stocking levels on the moorland commons, resulting in overgrazing of upland habitats and a further spread of grassland, pressure for agricultural improvement on the moorland fringes and higher incidences of livestock congregating in woodlands (with consequential impacts of poaching and over-grazing), with potential for further expansion in areas of arable production – potentially leading to field enlargement, loss of Devon banks and impacts on water quality.
- Drive for increased woodland planting and regeneration, including at the heads of stream valleys on the open plateau to enhance flood storage capacity, water filtration and carbon sequestration functions to strengthen the landscape's resilience to climate change.
- Increased demand for bioenergy planting, including Short Rotation Coppice (SRC) as well as a drive towards active woodland management to produce woodfuel as a low-carbon fuel source.
- Planting of non-native woodland species to respond to different growing conditions – altering the species composition of the landscape's oak-dominated valley woodlands.
- Rise in UK-based tourism with an associated increase in recreational demand on the open moorland, potentially leading to erosion on the main rights of way

and demand for car parking on the edge of the moor and at 'honeypot' sites, and, off the moorland areas, demands for new attractions (e.g. golf courses) and infrastructure, as well as an increase in traffic levels, car parking, recreational pressures and farm conversions.

- Further demand for domestic and community-scale renewable energy installations such as solar panels, small wind turbines and ground-source heat pumps.
- Increased pressure to plant further areas of coniferous plantation and woodland (impacting on open character); planted to enhance the landscape's roles in filtering water, minimising downstream flooding, storing and sequestering carbon dioxide and providing low-carbon fuel sources (through coppice management).
- Further demand for harnessing the power of Dartmoor's fast flowing rivers through hydroelectric schemes

Moor than meets the eye's heritage and history

Geology

For more than 100 million years there was a vast process of mountain building over South West England, during the Devonian and Carboniferous periods (about 400 to 300 million years ago) and into the early Permian period.

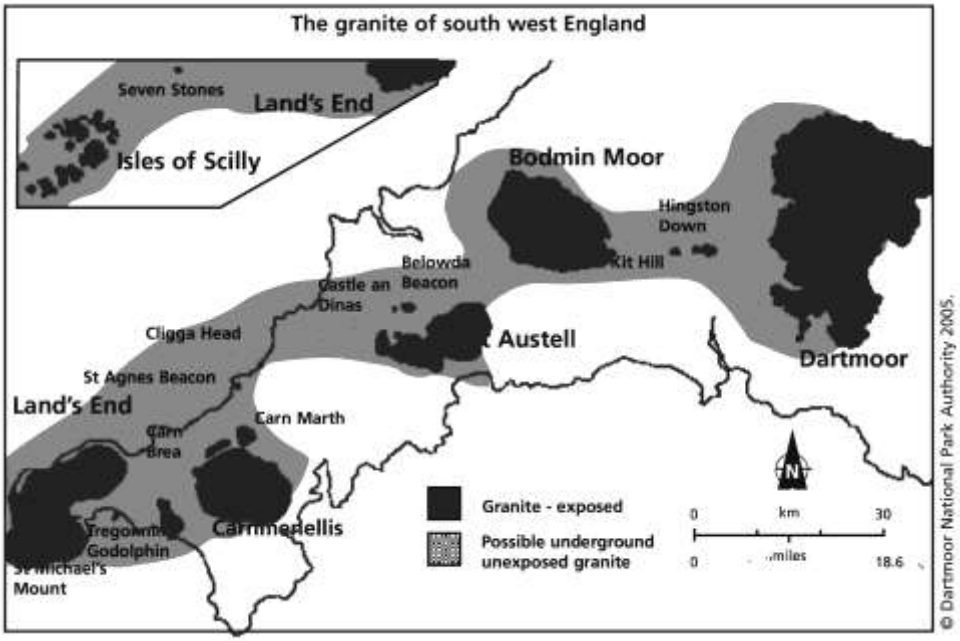
Caused by the collision of moving plates of the Earth's crust – known as 'plate tectonics' or 'continental drift' – deep troughs (or basins) formed below the narrowing sea and received vast volumes of sediments from the erosion of the nearby continents, from land to the north (Wales and North America) and off-shoots from the ancient continent of Gondwana to the south. The sand and mud sediments became deeply buried and turned into rocks, which were then folded and contorted and thrust up into mountains by the dynamic collision of the continental plates. This continued for over 100 million years, during which many kilometres thickness of rocks were formed (slates, mudstones, sandstones, etc). Great reefs of limestones formed along shallow sea ridges and there were also large volcanoes producing volcanic rocks (basalts, tuffs) and sills of dolerite. Later, molten granitic magmas were created deep beneath the mountains to form the granites of Dartmoor and Cornwall. This long period of earth movements and mountain building is known as the 'Variscan Orogeny'. It created a range of high mountains across modern South West England (similar to the modern Alps, Atlas and Rockies), extending from eastern Europe to North America.

Dartmoor's relief, soils, vegetation, farming, many of its buildings and much of its industry have been to some degree influenced by the nature of the area's geology. Most of Dartmoor consists of granite, which was intruded during the late Carboniferous/early Permian Period (around 280 million years ago) into the area we now know as Devon and Cornwall. From the Isles of Scilly to Dartmoor, a number of granite domes are linked within the Earth's crust, where they form a *batholith*, one massive intrusion. Gradually, the overlying rocks have been eroded exposing the granite.

The Dartmoor granite was intruded into Devonian and Carboniferous shales, sandstones, limestones and lavas. These surrounding *country rocks* were altered by the great heat and pressure that accompanied the granite intrusion, resulting in the development of many types of metamorphic rocks, which form an *aureole* around the granite. As the granite cooled, hydrothermal activity led to the local concentration of minerals in both the granite and the country rocks. This mineralization resulted in tin and copper ore veins, as well as arsenic and lead ores, all of which have in the past been worked commercially. Signs of past mining activity are frequent in the Dartmoor area (such as in the Teign valley). Even iron occurs, especially in the Haytor area, although its origin is the subject of much debate. Other metals to be found include zinc and tungsten, with much smaller amounts of cobalt, bismuth, antimony, uranium and gold.

The same hydrothermal activity also led to the formation at depth of the china clay, through kaolinisation of the granite. The ball clay deposits in the Bovey Basin area are sediments produced from the weathering of the Dartmoor granite and

surrounding rocks after their exposure to the atmosphere some 200 million years later.



Tors and clitter slopes

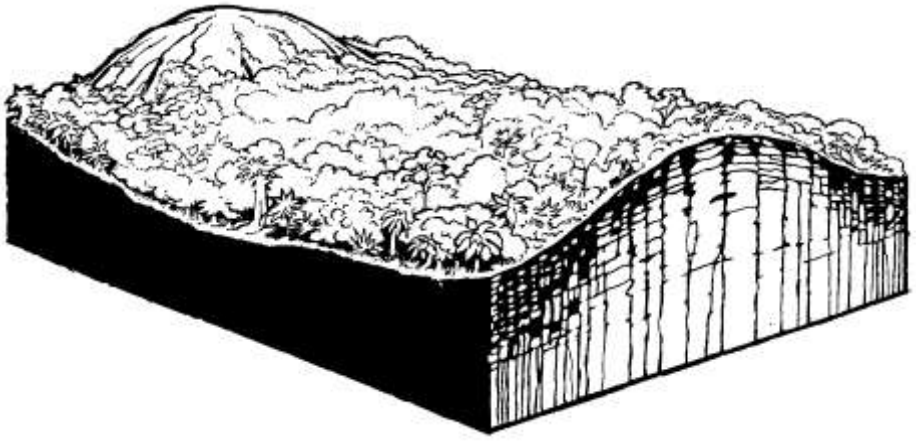
Tors (and clitter slopes) have been formed through the weathering of the granite over at least the last ten million years. They are concentrated where the effects of weathering and erosion have been greatest, ie on summits, valley lips, spur ends and steep valley sides, close to the main river gorges. Tors are the remnants of former landscape surfaces. Weaknesses and joints in these surfaces have been subsequently exploited by acidic waters over a long period and by freeze-thaw action during the four Ice Ages. Blocks of granite are levered away by these processes leaving the tor isolated and exposed and littering the ground below with boulders, thus forming the clitter slopes.

Weathering eventually causes the disintegration of the granite down to individual crystal level. The resultant gravel is called *growan*. During periglacial times it became very mobile – moving down slopes and accumulating on flat ground as *head deposits*. It is the parent material for a number of Dartmoor soil types.

Tor formation

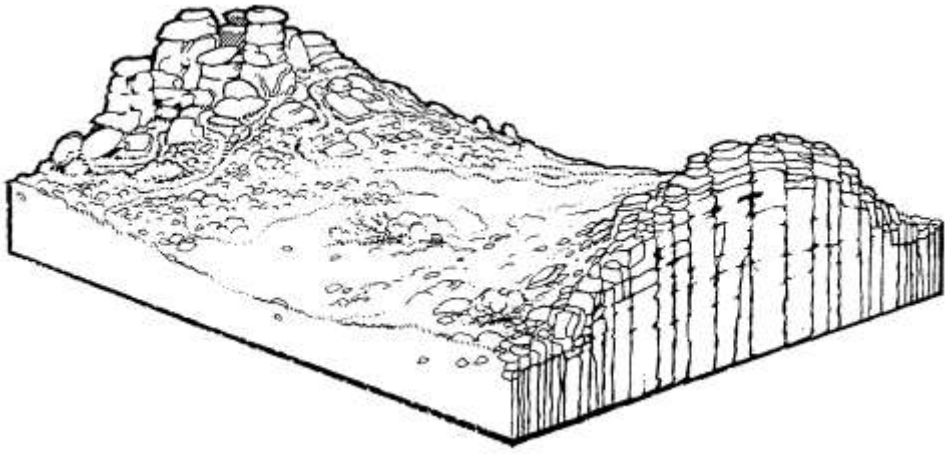
Dramatic rocky outcrops, known as tors, are distinctive features in the Dartmoor landscape. They have been sculpted by weathering into strange shapes. The formation of tors has been the subject of considerable debate, which centres around which type of weathering predominated - sub-surface chemical weathering leaving the corestone to be exposed later, or mechanical freeze/thaw action that can shatter rocks and prise one stack away from another.

Approximately 30 million years ago



For many millions of years Dartmoor was covered in tropical and sub-tropical forests. Tropical rainwater ran down into the underlying granite and along the joints (natural cracks) and ate away the rock. This created a landscape in waiting. Some geologists believe that the granite was also weathered by chemical rotting just after its emplacement.

Present



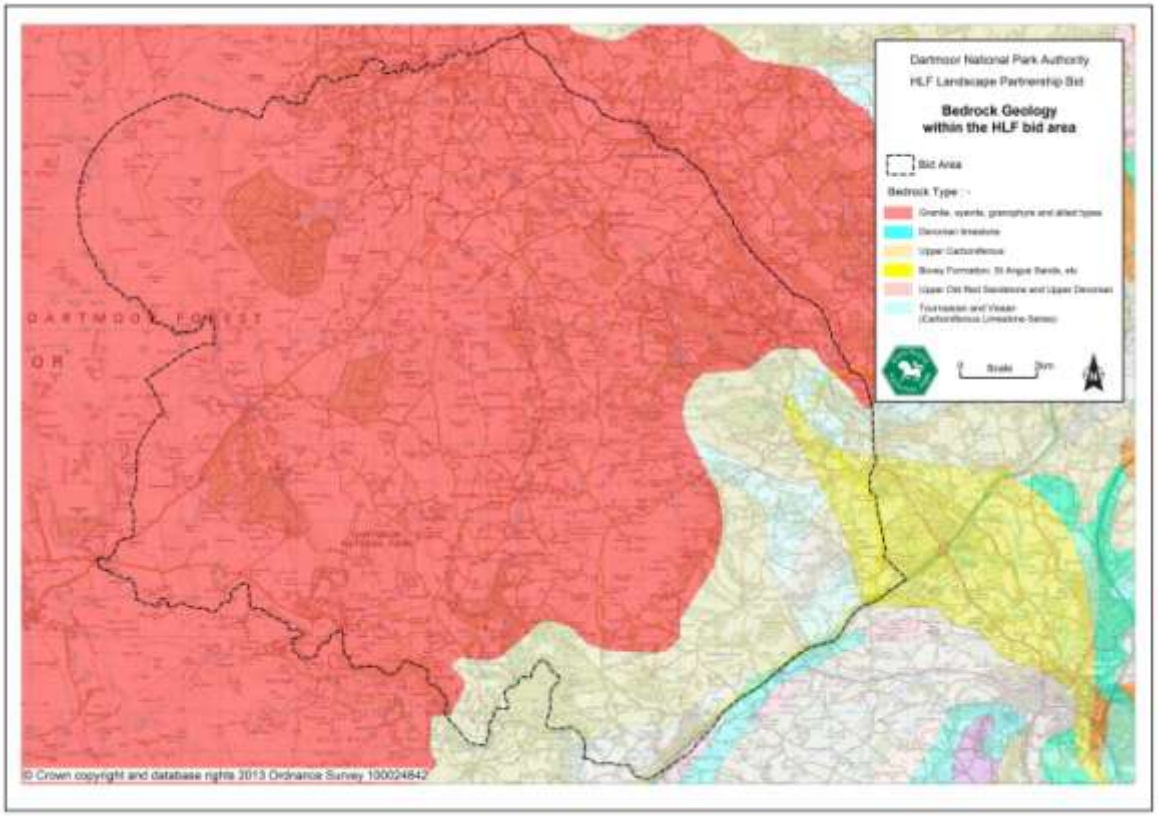
Later, the granite was exposed and during the cold glacial phases, water froze in the joints and prised bits off the rock, forming clitter on the ground. Seasonal freezing still continues to attack the tors. © DNPA

Was Dartmoor glaciated?

The scientific concensus for the past 60 years or so has been that Dartmoor escaped glaciation during the last Ice Age. This position is relatively recent as previously there had been much speculation about glaciation, although there had been no systematic dealing with locations on Dartmoor that might show glaciation evidence. This lack of conclusive evidence has supported the focus on periglacial (freeze/thaw) processes in tor formation.

Evidence put forward by in 2012 by Evans, Harrison, Vieli and Anderson questions how Dartmoor escaped glaciation when the last ice sheet reached as far south as the Scilly Isles and controversially suggest that there is evidence of glaciation, with one of the two best locations for this being within the *Moor than meets the eye* area to the south of Sittaford Tor.

It is suggested that here are terminal and hummocky moraines (the accumulation of unconsolidated glacial debris), meltwater channels and glacially-transported boulders from glaciers flowing from the north and west. This is supported by computer modelling mapping the likely area of the glacier which would result in tors being worn smooth and bearing lines that mark the direction of ice flow (suggested for much of the centre of the north moor) unless the tors were above the level of the ice as 'nunataks' (exposed, often rocky elements of a ridge, mountain, or peak not covered with ice or snow within, or at the edge of, an ice field or glacier), in which case they would be in a classic periglacial environment.



Geology of the Moor than meets the eye *area*

Other rock types

Igneous rocks other than granite occur in the Dartmoor area, notably dolerite dykes and sills and some lavas, among the surrounding rocks. These sites are also important for the study of the Carboniferous Period (about 350 million years ago), when the clays and sandstones of that time (later altered to slates and cherts) were laid down beneath a sea that covered present-day southern Britain. These include:

Devonian Limestones

The Devonian age rocks in Devon, including the limestones, have a complex structure. In the area which became the southern part of Devon, the sedimentary conditions were particularly complex with sedimentary basins largely controlled by geological faults. The relative movement of fault bounded blocks resulted in both shallow and deep water conditions with further complications arising from the formation of volcanic islands. Formation of limestones, in particular of reefs, was

closely related to the shallower water areas or 'highs'. Later ground movements resulted in further disturbance and complex folding, sometimes with blocks of strata overturned and thrust over others and separated into blocks by faulting.

The carbonate and other minerals which make up the limestone are commonly recrystallised during diagenisis (the processes, low temperature and pressure, which affect sediments at or near to the earth's surface) which tends to destroy some of the original characteristics of the rock. However, these processes can result in spectacular coloured patterns with veins of white calcite and streaks of red haematite in the various background shades of grey. This is particularly so in some limestones around Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh and Ashburton, the so-called Ashburton Marble. The stone is not a true marble since it has not been subject to the extremes of metamorphic (deep burial) heating and in this case the fossil corals are uniquely preserved. The iron oxide minerals, in particular haematite, often gives the stone its distinct pink colouration which can, particularly when polished, appear in many shades through to dark red and maroon.

Devonian Slates, Sandstones and Volcanics

In south Devon, slates are widespread, formed by earth pressures on marine mud deposits, and great thicknesses are present in some areas. The oldest rocks in this area are the distinctive red, green and purple Dartmouth Slate, which forms a wide band of Lower Devonian rocks across the South Hams from Dartmouth to Plymouth. Within the slate are a few beds of sandstone and conglomerate that are similar to the Old Red Sandstone, so at that stage deltas from the north may have extended this far south. Britain had a tropical climate during the Devonian, as it then lay south of the equator.

Carboniferous Sandstones and Slates

The Carboniferous rocks across Britain are so named because they contain coal, although in Devon, no economic coal was found because the sediments were laid down in a sea, instead of in tree-choked swamps where more commercial coal forms. The rocks in Devon are dominantly marine shales and sandstones. Away from the main outcrop in north and central Devon, Carboniferous rocks also include those found to the west of Dartmoor in what are often referred to as the Southern Successions. Pebbles of igneous rocks and volcanic ash occur in the lower parts of these successions, indicating a source to the south, and coarser to conglomeratic beds higher up are called the Ugbrooke Sandstone which contains pebbles with Lower Carboniferous fossils – indicating that some tectonic activity was occurring to the south at the time, eroding recently-deposited sediments.

The Sticklepath Fault

During the Eocene and early Oligocene, to at least 30 million years ago, tectonic activity produced a number of major NW-SE faults across Devon, the most famous of which is the Sticklepath Fault which runs from Bideford Bay to Torbay. Movement on this fault created the 'pull-apart' basins of the Bovey Tracey and Petrockstow areas but the system is still active, the last (small) earthquake being recorded in 2012. In the Bovey Tracey area there are a series of clays, sands, gravels and brown coals (or lignites) which were deposited within a large lake basin, lying on the line of the fault and which accumulated a great thickness of sediment. The lake,

which was at least 10 miles long, was fed by mountain torrents coming off Dartmoor and which transported sand and mud together with large amounts of plant debris into the basin

The Fault forms the eastern boundary of the *Moor than meets the eye* area, with Lustleigh Cleave and the Bovey valley having formed due to subsidence along its line.

4,000 years of people and landscape

> *"The moor where the River Dart rises has always been a special place, a high place. Bronze Age settlers divided it meticulously between them; Britons circled it with hill forts; Anglo-Saxons peopled all its valleys, though the Dark Ages were as dark here as anywhere. King John retained its heart as a royal Forest or hunting ground in 1204; his son Henry (III), gave it away as a chase but Edward III got it back and invented the Duchy of Cornwall to hold it in 1337. It still does. All Devonians, bar those in Totnes and Barnstaple, had rights of common grazing on it for at least 1,000 years"*
>
> Mercer, 2009

Dartmoor's landscape is the product of millennia of human activity which has created a rich archaeological heritage. One of the key objectives of *Moor than meets the eye* is to delve into the many layers of history to see how the area has changed, whether it be through occupation, desertion or exploitation.

Some of the key periods and activities that *Moor than meets the eye* will be looking at are outlined below.

Bronze Age

Dartmoor is renowned for having the best surviving and most important Bronze Age landscape in Europe. By this period there had been a gradual change from a previous nomadic hunting and gathering life style to a more settled way of life. The early Bronze Age (4500 years ago) on Dartmoor is characterized by its spectacular wealth of ceremonial monuments still visible in the landscape; these are the free standing stone circles, stone rows, standing stones and some of the burial cairns. By the start of the Bronze Age many of these were already many centuries old, but the tradition of building them was to continue into the early Bronze Age.

The middle Bronze Age (3500 years ago) was to witness the greatest period of settlement ever known on Dartmoor. Over 5000 surviving round houses and associated enclosures largely date to this period, as does the internationally renowned co-axial field system, the Dartmoor reave system, covering over 10,000ha of Dartmoor, much of which can still be seen in the landscape today. It was the use of granite as the main building material, plus the virtual abandonment of the higher slopes in the first millennium BC due to the deteriorating climate, which has contributed to the remarkable survival of this prehistoric landscape.

BRONZE AGE LANDSCAPE OF KESTOR AND SHOVEL DOWN

Shovel Down Stone Row (© DNPA; Kerenza Townsend)

Round Pound and Droveway at Batworthy (© English Heritage)

Reave system near Kestor (© English Heritage)

Medieval

The pattern of Dartmoor's medieval landscape has partially emerged from human occupation rooted in pre-history, overlain by other profound, iconic cultural periods where change shaped a place of unique character, interest and significance. Many generations have left behind an impression of their time and place and the Medieval Dartmoor period is no exception, each layer being more or less visible and where the breadth and depth of this legacy over more than 1000 years has at least high cultural significance.

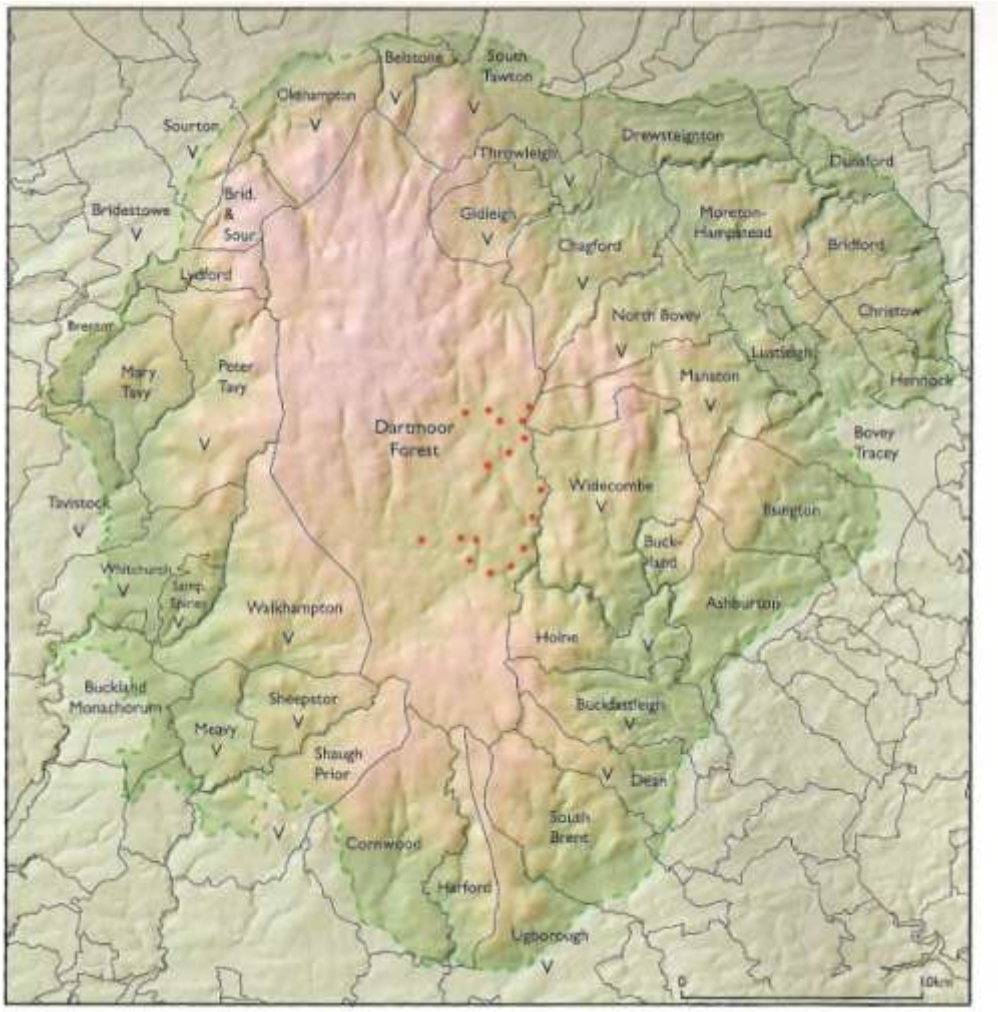
Many connections remain to be made to help re-create the picture of medieval life on Dartmoor from the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons to the Dissolution of the Monasteries. These medieval historic landscapes were shaped by certain significant influences which came from beyond the British Isles and combined with our natural landscape to create substantial wealth from use of land and exploitation of the moor's natural resources.

Whist Dartmoor was sparsely occupied during the Anglo-Saxon period, as the climate warmed so the population increased, and isolated farmsteads and hamlets were established surrounded by fields both on the moorland flanks and around the East and West Dart rivers. Increasingly, establishment and influence of Christian monastic life, abbeys and estates across and around Dartmoor brought a sense of order, whilst the church's most valuable assets, land including woodland, tenant farmsteads and sheep brought great wealth. In particular, there emerged the churches and their parish system, and the Saxon and Norman manorial structure played a key role in land management and for example, movement of stock on and off the moor, a phenomena known today as transhumance. Farming and settlement, water management, monastic estates, churches and parishes, mining and extraction etc have all gradually been woven into a network of human activity to create a unique medieval historic environment and rich palimpsest. The establishment of 'venville' farms bears witness to the gradual change to a more settled pattern of farmsteads, with grazing on the high moor being principally during the day rather than through summer transhumance (Fox, 2013).

Before the Norman Conquest in 1066 much of central Dartmoor became a Royal Hunting Forest reserved for the hunting of deer and other wild animals. This status remained in place until 1239 when Henry III granted the Forest and Manor of Lydford to the Earldom, later the Duchy of Cornwall, and this has remained the case up to the present day. This intensive common grazing of central Dartmoor maintained its open character, whilst sheep grazing expanded to serve the growing wool trade. Off the high moor, small fields were created as plots for cereal cultivation and pasture. The resulting legacy from the medieval period is one of small, irregular fields enclosed by Devon hedge banks with traces of ridge and furrow indicating areas of earlier cultivation.

The main re-occupation of Dartmoor occurred during the 12th and 13th centuries which has left a legacy of medieval farmsteads and associated field systems. Many of these built by those encouraged by a slight improvement in the climate to occupy the higher slopes of the Moor. It is this period which saw the appearance of the iconic Dartmoor longhouse - long rectangular buildings with opposing entrances and

aligned downslope which were home to both humans and animals under one roof. This was a style of building which was to continue over the next few centuries.



Map of Dartmoor showing the Boundary of the Forest of Dartmoor and the ancient tenements within it (see Duchy of Cornwall below), the Dartmoor parishes and the location of the venville parishes, each marked with a 'V' (from Newman, 2011)

By the end of the fourteenth century well over 100 of the homesteads created on the higher contours had been abandoned. A combination of a worsening climate had meant that crops were no longer ripening, animals had become far more prone to disease and the effects of the Black Death, are all seen to have contributed to this abandonment. The exit from the higher slopes was to add yet another layer to Dartmoor's archaeological landscape.

Dartmoor's later medieval prosperity was due mainly to the working of its tin deposits as well as increasing sheep farming, with wool becoming an increasingly important part of the economy. Much of the moorland where sheep were grazed was owned by the three great medieval abbeys situated around the fringe of the Moor, Tavistock, Buckfast and Buckland.

Strip Lynchets on Challacombe (Jane Marchand)

Rabbits play an important economic role in the later medieval period when they were farmed commercially for both their meat and fur. These warren farms have left their own mark in the landscape in the form of pillow mounds, cigar shaped earth mounds where rabbits were encouraged to live, stone built vermin traps to catch the rabbit's natural predators and boundary stones marking out the warren bounds.

The Thirlstone on Watern Tor, one of the original points of the 1240 perambulation that set the boundary of the Duchy of Cornwall land on Dartmoor (© DNPA)

Duchy of Cornwall
The Duchy of Cornwall was created by Edward III in 1337 for his son Edward (later known as the Black Prince), who became the first Duke of Cornwall. Edward III laid down the principle that only the eldest son and heir apparent of a reigning Monarch can inherit the title Duke of Cornwall.

The name of the Estate is derived from the Earldom of Cornwall. Edward elevated the Earldom to a Duchy and endowed it with lands, much of which, including the Duchy's Dartmoor Estate, remains in its ownership today. This is with the exception of the Duchy's land at Chagford which was purchased in 1912.

Ancient tenements
These were a group of farmsteads situated within the central basin of the Forest of Dartmoor and thought to have their origins in the 13th century. Originally there were 35 tenements located on seventeen different sites within the West and East Dart valley.

Their tenants paid a nominal rate for land and were granted certain rights and privileges of turbary (cutting peat), pasturage and, until the late 18th century land enclosure. In return they were bound to carry out service at the Lydford Forest Courts and to assist with the Dartmoor drifts.

A number of the tenements were abandoned long ago whilst others have been subdivided and regrouped into new holdings. Today 14 of the original ancient tenements are still working farms.

Place names
Place names typically have meanings which were significant to the settlers of a locality, although these may not have been the first settlers). Sometimes these meanings are relatively clear, but, more often, elucidating them requires study of ancient languages. Many names predate the radical changes in the English language triggered by the Norman Conquest, and some predate the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons.

In general, place names in England contain three broad elements: personal names (or pre-existing names of natural features), natural features, and settlement functions. However, the combination of these in a single name may not all date from the same period, or the same language. Much of the inferred development of British place names relies on the breaking down and corruption of place names. It is also worthwhile bearing in mind that there may be differences in interpretation of these, and in the source of detail. For example. Lustleigh is recorded in the Domesday Book as *'Sutreward'* but that is not recorded in the *Dictionary of English Place Names* (Mills, 1991), which only refers to 1242, even though many of the other place names here are noted as being in the Domesday Book..

However, bearing that in mind, here the derivations of several local place names in the *Moor than meets the eye* area are given as examples of how they were likely to develop, using those identified by Mills with most of them being predominantly from Old English.

The Derivation of some Local Place Names

Ashburton *Essebretone* 1086 (DB) OE *aesc* + *burna*+ *tun*
'Farmstead or village by the stream where ash-trees grow'

Bickington *Bechintona* 1107 OE personal name + *-ing-* + *tun*
'Estate associated with a man called Beocca'

Bovey Tracey, North Bovey *Bovi* 1086 (DB), *Bovy Tracy* 1276; *Northebovy* 1199
Named from the River Bovey, a pre-English river-name of uncertain origin and meaning. Manorial affix from the de Tracy family, here the 13th cent.

Buckland *Bochelands* 1086 (DB)
A common name from OE '*boc-land*' 'charter land', ie 'estate with certain rights and privileges created by an Anglo-Saxon royal diploma'

Chagford *Chageford* 1086 (DB) OE *ceaga* + *leah*
'Ford where broom or gorse grows'

Challacombe *Celdecomba* 1086 (DB) OE *ceald* + *cumb*
'Cold valley'

Gidleigh *Gideleia* 1156 OE personal name + *leah*
'Woodland clearing of a man called Gydda'

Ilsington *Ilsetintona* 1086 (DB) OE personal name + *-ing-* + *tun*
'Estate associated with a man called Ielfstan'

Lustleigh *Leuestelegh* 1242 OE personal name + *leah*
Probably 'Woodland clearing of a man called Leofgeist'

Manaton *Manitone* 1086 (DB) OE *(ge)maene* or personal name + *tun*
'Farmstead held communally, or by a man named Manna'

Moretonhampstead *Mortone* 1086 (DB), *Morton Hampsted* 1493 OE *mor* + *tun*
A common name 'farmstead in moorland or marshy ground' with later addition which may be a family name or from a nearby place (OE *ham-stede* 'homestead')

Throwleigh *Trule* 1086 (DB) OE *thruh* + *leah*
'Woodland clearing with or near a conduit'

Widecombe-in-the-Moor *Widecumba* 12th cent OE *withig* + *cumb*
Probably 'valley where willow-trees grow'

DB Domesday Book (includes *Great Domesday*, *Little Domesday* and *Exon Domesday*)
OE Old English (the English Language c 450 – c 1100)

Mills AD, 1991

Vernacular architecture

The number and proportion of historic buildings within the National Park is high as there has been only modest amounts of modern development for many years. The contribution these old structures make to the landscape is correspondingly strong, as it remains substantially undiluted. This presence is intensified by the materials used in their construction; like most historic buildings they have a strong local identity or character born out of both the locally available building materials and the way that these have been used to represent changing traditions, fashions and functions over time.

The dominant building material on the high moor is granite, but around the fringes a range of other building materials have also been used, such as high quality limestone in the south (the Ashburton- Buckfastleigh area), or cob, a mixture of subsoil and straw in the northeast corner (in and around Dunsford). Thatch has been used for roofing for hundreds of years; in the earliest surviving examples, rye straw was used, but later combed wheat reed became the traditional material. The dominant architectural style is *vernacular* (local traditional style without grand architectural pretension). Examples of *polite* architecture (following national styles and fashions inspired by architects) are known, though they are more common within the larger settlements.

As mentioned above, one of the best known of Dartmoor's vernacular types is the longhouse, a long low building which humans and animals shared under a single roof, the humans at the higher end the animals at the lower end. They were separated by a passage running across the building which is known as a through or cross passage. The other common medieval farmhouse type was the three-room cross passage house, similar to the longhouse, except that the lower end was occupied by domestic rooms. Some of the oldest of Dartmoor's farmhouses date back to the middle of the 14th century (see Higher Uppacott below).

Dartmoor's historic farmsteads are a very important resource and the National Park Authority has recently concluded a survey of this. Although many early farmhouses survive many of our farm buildings, as in other places, are late 18th or early 19th century in date and include a wide variety of form: barns, shippons (cattle houses), linhays and stables, as well as the smaller pighouses and ash houses. They are a testament to the changes in agriculture as an outcome of the firstly the agrarian and secondly industrial revolution.

Some building types are very particular to Dartmoor, for example ashouses (small commonly round outbuildings in which the farmhouse hearth ashes where collected and then used for fertilization on the farmstead, especially the farm garden and orchard). Others follow regional styles such as the Devon linhays – distinctive two storied open fronted cattle shelters-come-hay stores. However, geology has ensured that these examples are unmistakably Dartmoor.

Within the towns the earliest surviving houses owe their architectural roots to the surrounding rural patterns. However, most town houses are later in date. Much rebuilding occurred in the 17th century as a result of Devon's increasing prosperity

based on mercantile activity, especially the cloth trade. Even the Civil War only caused a short term interruption in this pattern. Another factor influencing the numerous rebuilding was fire. The ensuing damage could be very substantial involving many houses and such fires seems to have been quite frequent. Much rebuilding and or re-fronting has also taken place in the 18th and 19th centuries. Dartmoor has some fine public buildings, particularly its churches, which are predominantly in the style known as Perpendicular, again reflecting the prosperity enjoyed by Dartmoor in the 15th and 16th centuries due to its strong woollen and tin industries.

While it is obvious that vernacular buildings reflect the area in which they are built, where the particular combination of materials, styles and periods of building come together to lend localities their unique character, Longcroft (2007) suggests that the intimate relationship between 'building' and 'place' is often overlooked, creating an unhelpful divide between the built environment and the wider historic landscape, where an emphasis is put on the detail of the structural forms and materials at the expense of examining or explaining the economic and social factors which prompted the buildings' creation and allowed their survival. As Crossing (1905) put it:

> *"The dwellings of the hill farmers and warreners are a feature in a Dartmoor view, especially when they stand in remote places…..Olden associations cling to some, particularly such as are found in those parts of the Forest settled in early times, and this, of course, gives them an interest apart from their picturesque appearance. Though, speaking generally, trees seem out of place on Dartmoor, the sycamores so frequently seen sheltering these hill farms are never so. The reason is that the dwellings have been places in situations where the winter winds cannot smite them, and that is exactly where Nature would have placed the trees."*

Perhaps more importantly, this relationship and reading that wider landscape may be either the best, or the only, way in which to define more clearly how people changed the landscape, as the written record may be poor or non-existent. This may also reflect different rates at which change was adopted. The Dartmoor longhouse captures both as not only do they fit within a Dartmoor farming tradition that spans more than 5,000 years with much of the earlier evidence for this being deeply embedded in a rich archaeological palimpsest that includes the settlement of the moorland fringes in the medieval period, but also reflect a continuing tradition of sharing accommodation with stock which was abandoned later than elsewhere.

Higher Uppacott

The survival of the National Park's historic farmsteads is a substantial and significant cultural heritage resource and a defining aspect of the historic environment character of Dartmoor's landscape today.

Higher Uppacott is unique amongst more than 1100 pre-1914 historic farmsteads on Dartmoor where many have medieval origins and a smaller proportion the added distinction of a longhouse at its core. The Higher Uppacott longhouse owned by Dartmoor National Park Authority dates from the early to mid 14th century and is one of the oldest roofed buildings in Devon.

Whilst there are about 200 extant longhouses in Devon and about 150 of these are located within the National Park only a few of these survive with an intact shippon (cattle space) at the lower end of the farmhouse like Higher Uppacott. These attributes make Higher Uppacott longhouse and surviving farmstead and landscape context a remarkable and very rare survival with international significance.

It has recently been acknowledged by English Heritage that Dartmoor's historic farmsteads comprise some of the highest densities of medieval buildings in their landscapes in Britain and significantly, the highest survival of longhouses (along with Brittany) in northern Europe.

Churches, chapels and crosses

The Venerable Bede, writing *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People* in the early 8th century, recorded the names of many churches in the north and east of England but only goes as far as Malmesbury in dealing with the south-west. There was little recording of the origins of the earliest churches in the region at this time, but despite the lack of written histories, there are good reasons to think that there were some religious centres in Devon from the fifth and sixth centuries (Turner, 2006). A model put forward by Thomas (1971) suggests that the normal sequence of church development was from unenclosed burial ground, to enclosed cemetery, to small church in its graveyard.

In Cornwall, the element '*lann*' within place names with early medieval origins, is thought to represent churches and this. By around 1050, the landscape of Devon was certainly dotted with churches and chapels with a variety of different origins with the churchyard at Lustleigh being an example of a Celtic lann, and it is likely that the earliest church foundations acted as models for increasing numbers of minor churches throughout the period before the Norman Conquest.

Bennett's Cross (© DNPA); the Cave Penney Memorial Cross (Steve Scoffin)

One of the features that became established in the medieval countryside was the cross, which could fulfil a number of roles such as marking boundaries, as

waymarkers or as preaching crosses. Devon has only about 300 remaining of these, few of which show any distinctive pre-Norman decoration, and it is possible that their role reflected more than religious veneration, but also ways of how people understood, divided and controlled the landscape.

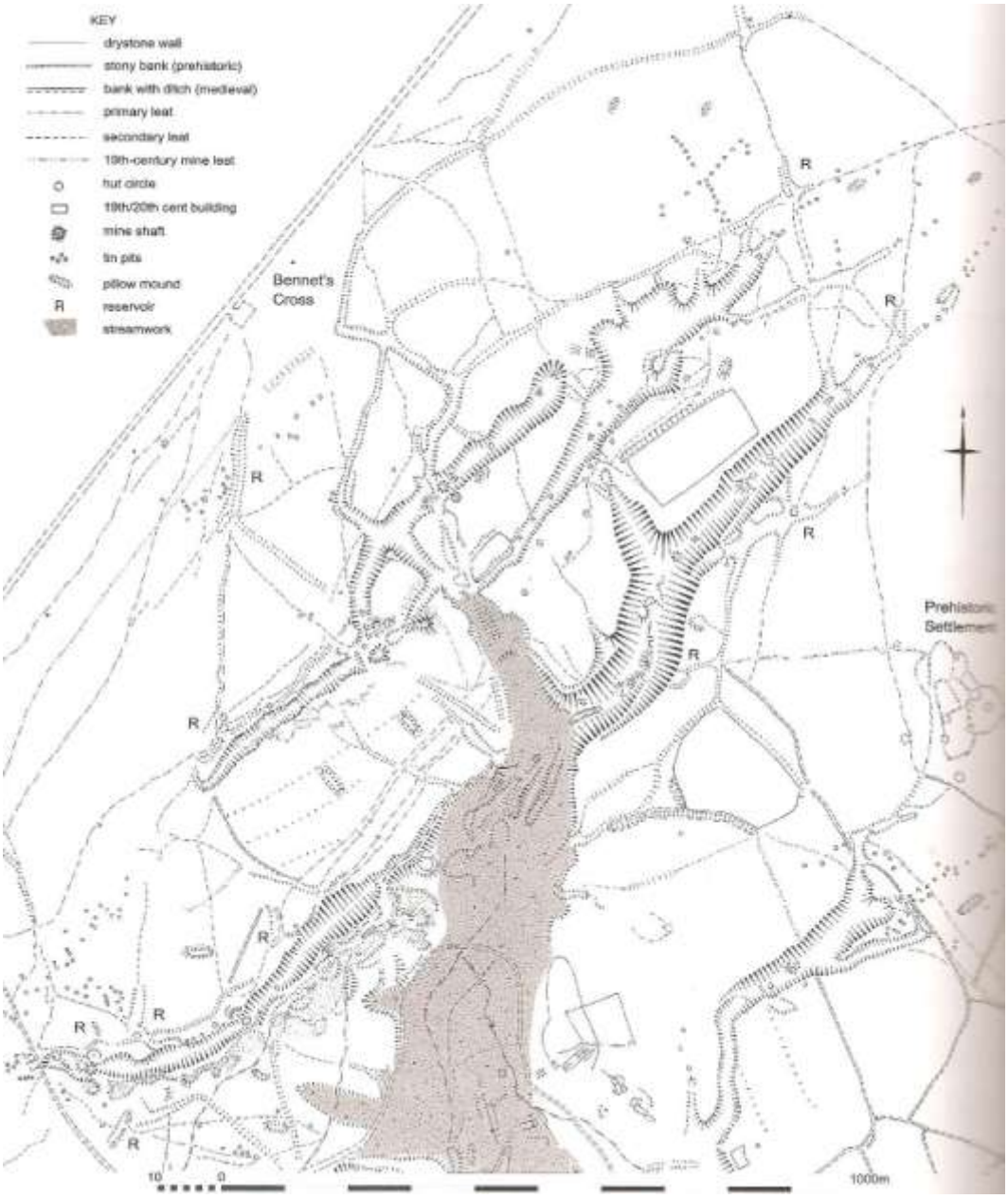
Many of these are identified by Harrison (2001) with over 40 in the *Moor than meets the eye* area. One of the most easily accessible is Bennett's Cross next to the B3212, with others including the cross on Rippon Tor (cut away from a large boulder to leave a cross in relief on the horizontal face) and Sanduck cross discovered in the foundations of the old Sanduck farmhouse when it was burnt down and restored with a new arm. Memorial crosses include the Longstone near Bovey Tracey which was used to commemorate the death of a Royalist officer during the Civil War and the cross which commemorates Lt Evelyn Anthony Cave Penney, killed in Palestine during the First World war. Near to this cross, and included in lists of crosses and tors is the Coffin Stone on the moor above Dartmeet, which is neither, although it does have crosses inscribed in its surface.

While there are a number of churches serving the local community as well as having significance architecturally, it is perhaps the church of St Pancras in Widecombe-in-the-Moor that is best known, and is often referred to as the 'Cathedral of the Moors' in recognition of its 120 foot tower and relatively large capacity for such a small village. The church was originally built in the fourteenth century, in the Perpendicular style (late Gothic), using locally quarried granite. It was enlarged over the following two centuries, partly on the proceeds of the local tin mining trade. Inside, the ceiling is decorated with a large number of decorative roof bosses, including the tinner's emblem of a circle of three hares.

Tinners Gully near the Warren House Inn (Jane Marchand)

Tin working

There is a long history of extracting tin from Dartmoor. The earliest form of extraction was by streaming - taking alluvial tin from the stream and river beds. The first written record of tin streaming dates back to the 12th century. Evidence of these early workings can be seen in most river valleys as heaps of rubble and waste which, in many cases, have become overgrown by grasses and bilberries. The next process was a form of open-cast mining: working on the backs of the lodes (a naturally occurring band (vein) of ore). This method was frequently assisted by using water directed over the desired area to remove the lighter waste. Tin thus obtained - black or unsmelted tin - was then converted to white tin by smelting. Early smelting was very crude until the advent of the blowing house, probably first used in the 14th century.



Part of the RCHME/EH 1:2500 earthwork survey of Birch Tor showing the complexity of the site (from Newman, 2006)

To get some understanding of the extent of the medieval tin industry it is important to distinguish between potential evidence that may be associated with that period and that from the industry's second major period from the late 18th century onwards (Newman, 2006). Deep mining was probably not practised until the early 18th century. Early mines had to be relatively shallow because of flooding. The use of drainage adits was one method of dealing with the flooding problem. Later on, pumping became the accepted method. Waterwheels were frequently used to operate the pumps as were steam engines. Although no waterwheels remain on high Dartmoor, evidence of their use can be seen in the wheelpits that can still be found at various sites (eg Brimpts Farm).

Tin mining continued at certain sites well into the 20th century, and the complexity of some sites, such as the combined operation of the Birch Tor and Vitifer Mines, include an impressive array of features from the medieval to the 20th century. Although the first definite records for these two mines date from the middle of the 18th century, with later records showing Vitifer being successfully worked by the Dartmoor Mining & Smelting Company in the 1780s (Greeves, 1986), there are vast gullies made through exploitation by openworks and by steamworks in the valleys.

Water from the moor

With its high level of rainfall, Dartmoor is a natural source of water, and it worth remembering that the recently adopted National Park Management Plan includes 'a source of clean water, including historic leats supplying water to surrounding settlements, and the peatlands and open water of the reservoirs' as one of Dartmoor's special qualities.

In the words of Len Hill, the former Chairman of South West Water "To step into a disused part of the leats is to step into history; to walk…the leats…is to wonder at the ingenuity and enterprise of man." (Hemery, 1986). Leats, designed to flow through gravity, are numerous on the high moor. Whether abandoned or still in use these were dug for domestic supply or for industrial purposes, and could supply water over long distances.

Apart from the features themselves, the word is etched into the naming of the landscape as the Dartmoor pronunciation of 'leat' is 'late' (as the pronunciation of 'cleave' is 'clave'), and is the origin of Lade Hill (south of Sittaford Tor) which is crossed by the Vitifer leat. This is one of a number of leats in and around the *Moor than meets the eye* area, including the Gidleigh Leat to the north and the Powdermills Leat near Postbridge, and fell into disuse between the wars. Evidence suggests there was work on digging the leat in 1793, which runs for over six miles from open moorland to the mine, and which reflects that the effects of tin working extended some distance beyond the most the spoil heaps and mine remains.

Moving into the 20th century, all the large areas of water on Dartmoor are artificially made, and no natural lakes or natural basins exist in the river valleys. The need for water supplies has been created by the urban populations around the National Park particularly Plymouth, Exeter, Torbay and South Devon, and the summer influx of visitors to Devon. There are now eight reservoirs in the National Park, of which six, including Fernworthy, were built before 1940.

Mills

The abundant source of water from Dartmoor provided an excellent source of energy because of the quantity and the speed in which it came from the moor, and was used to provide a reliable source of power that was both cheap and reliable (Harris, 1994).

Corn mills are amongst the oldest, and, also from an early date were those associated with the woollen industries centred in the number of towns and villages on the edge of Dartmoor. One of the most noteworthy of the former was the main mill for the moor itself, located at Babeny, although this is now no longer standing. According to Helen Harris, this had been newly built in 1302 and the dwellers on the Forest of Dartmoor were obliged to grind their corn there.

The woollen industry on Dartmoor has been based on its use for grazing sheep over the centuries and as a source of water not just for power but also for washing the wool. The industry grew from being domestically based to master weavers, and the selling of roughly woven cloth to fulling or tucking mills in which the cloth was further treated by washing, dyeing and finishing. These were located in nearly all the towns and large villages around the moor, although the industry declined in the 18th century with the growth of mechanisation elsewhere, and most of the old woollen mills have been either demolished or been converted to another use.

Other mills were used to manufacture edge tools, paper and gunpowder. The open space, access to building stone and water power meant provided the ideal location for producing gunpowder at Powder Mills. Started in 1844, gunpowder was produced here until the mills closed down at the end of the 19th century. A number of chimney stacks, buildings and a system of leats still remain, as does the proving mortar which fired an iron ball of 68lb so that the gunpowder could be graded according to how far the ball travelled, and which is next to the track down to Powdermills Pottery.

Charcoal burning

Charcoal was produced from regular coppicing of woodlands within the valleys, but it was also produced from the peat on the open moorland. Here, peat charcoal was produced by carefully stacking the turf blocks onto a circular platform and was then covered with moss and soil before carrying out a controlled burn. Known as 'meilers', the field remains are usually flat-topped, circular mounds, with examples of these being found in clusters on ridge tops (Newman, 2010). The best known of these which gives the clearest example of meilers is the large cluster recorded by Diana Woolner in 1966 on Wild Tor Ridge, just north of the *Moor than meets the eye* boundary near Hangingstone Hill.

Victorians

Apart from the industrial exploitation of Dartmoor, it also experienced the increasing interest in tourism which was growing in England. The changes in taste, whether it be the attraction of places with literary connections, historic houses, ancient monuments and medieval ruins or the natural landscape, reflected the:

'application of general tendencies of thought and cultural attitude to the act of judging one aspect of our environment as interesting, beautiful or otherwise worth attention and rejecting others as not'

Ousby, 1990

Tourism wasn't new in Victorian times, on Dartmoor or elsewhere, but it did increase during that period. Early excursionists to Dartmoor included Sophie Dixon of Billacombe (near Plymouth) who found a wildness and grandeur at Becky Falls in 1830, echoing that area's attraction found in A Devonian's *Devonshire Scenery; or Directions for Visiting the Most Picturesque Spots*. Milton (2006) quotes from this guide published in 1826 for others to follow the same route, in which it is suggested:

> *"Before arriving at the bridge on the Becky, and at the entrance of the common from Manaton, it may be necessary to walk to the summit of the hill on the left, whence the fine part of the vale of the West Teign to Lustleigh cliffs and North Bovey is to be seen, bounded by torrs"*

The 19th century heralded a time of change throughout the British Isles, and the Southwest was no different in this respect. 1836 saw the first toll road in the area, and the Moretonhampstead to Okehampton road was turnpiked and maintained. While the local infrastructure was steadily improving, the benefits remained mainly local and it wasn't until the railway arrived in 1866 that the area was opened up. However, it was to be the coming of the railway that transformed the Wray and Bovey Valleys, the villages along its length and the hills beyond.

The spread of the railways wasn't always met with universal approval. Returning to Wordsworth's *Guide to the Lakes*, it is worth noting that, while he championed the Lakes as a 'national property', he argued strongly against the coming of the Kendal and Windermere Railway in 1844 in letters which raised the spectre of 'cheap trains pouring out their hundreds at a time along the margin of Windermere'. This was obviously not the case in Bovey Tracey where the townspeople had set aside a whole day for celebrating the imminent passing of the *Moretonhampstead and South Devon Railway Act 1862*. The official opening ceremony took place on the 26th June 1866, with the introduction of goods services from the 8th October.

At its peak the railway was a main route for transporting goods and Kingdom and Lang (2004) highlight its use fro bringing in coal and coke, grain, animal feed, fertiliser, food supplies for the Manor House Hotel in Moretonhampstead and horses for the Dartmoor Hunt. Going the other way were cattle, sheep and ponies, rabbits, milk, whortleberries, farm implements, timber, iron and copper, micaceous haematite, pottery products and ball clay.

Alongside this, tourism continued to grow in the Wray and Bovey Valleys, particularly in Chagford and Lustleigh, villages that quickly became known for their picturesque landscape and charming local communities. William Crossing was among those contributing to books that encouraged people to start exploring the moor for themselves, and by the turn of the century there were increasing numbers using the line to reach Bovey Tracey (for Haytor), Lustleigh and Moretonhampstead, where they could take the horse-bus to Chagford.

The 19th century also saw a number of 'Victorian Gentlemen' coming to stay, including successful and wealthy businessmen; such as W. H. Smith II, who together with his father, W. H. Smith I,founded and built the W. H. Smith Empire.

Dartmoor Historic Environment Record
Detailed information about the well preserved archaeological and historical sites on Dartmoor can be found on the Dartmoor National Park Authority Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER contains detailed information for Dartmoor's diverse archaeological and historical resource and includes sites dating from ten thousand years ago up to the 20th century, and currently contains over 18,600 entries. Components of the HER include listed building information, photographs, historical mapping, site reports, evaluations and historical mapping.

Historic Environment Character Assessment
This has been produced by Fiona Fyfe Associates, together with Countryscape and the University of Leicester, with the full report being received in January 2014, which brings together records held by English Heritage and on the HER to produce a series of Historic Environment Character Types (HECTs).

This approach differs from the Landscape Character Types seen in the Dartmoor Landscape Character Assessment in that the HECTs can overlap across Dartmoor rather than having a geographical limit. Produced as a series of map layers on a GIS system, together with a profile outlining the characteristics of each HECT, the gives a spatial distribution of both point and area features which can also be seen against the background topography. This has considerable potential for use in some of the *Moor than meets the eye* projects to identify themes for research, and, by highlighting where historic features are recorded, also might suggest other areas for investigation.

The HECTs identified within the Historic Environment Character Assessment include:

1a	Mesolithic Occupation/ Settlement
1b	Neolithic Occupation/ Settlement
1c	Bronze-Age Occupation/ Settlement
1e	Medieval Occupation/ Settlement
1f	Post-medieval Occupation/ Settlement
1g	Modern Occupation/ Settlement
2c	Bronze-Age Field Boundaries
2e	Medieval Field Boundaries
2f	Post-medieval Field Boundaries
2g	Modern Field Boundaries
3b	Neolithic Ritual/ Religious and Funerary
3c	Bronze-Age Ritual/ Religious and Funerary
3e	Medieval Ritual/ Religious and Funerary
3g	Modern Ritual/ Religious and Funerary
4e	Medieval Common Land and Woodland/ Plantation
4f	Post-medieval Common Land and Woodland/ Plantation

4g	Modern Common Land and Woodland/ Plantation
5e	Medieval Industry, Mineral Working and Water Resources
5f	Post-medieval Industry, Mineral Working and Water Resources
5g	Modern Industry, Mineral Working and Water Resources
6e	Medieval Transport and Communication
6g	Modern Transport and Communication
7e	Medieval Designed Estate Landscapes
7g	Modern Designed Estate Landscapes
8d	Iron-Age Military and Defence
8e	Medieval Military and Defence
8g	Modern Military and Defence
9f	Post-Medieval Rabbit Warrening

Summary

Dartmoor clearly has a wide and internationally recognised range of archaeology, built and cultural heritage. This extends into the 20th century with the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War bringing that conflict once more to the fore in the public gaze. The drain of men from the local communities and the effect that had on both industry and farming are as important in the story of Dartmoor as the horrors of the battlefield and the vast numbers who lost their life are in making sure that the 'war to end all wars' is never to be forgotten.

Memorial for the WWII Hampden Bomber crash near Hameldown Tor (Steve Scoffin)

Less horrific in scale, but no less poignant, is the site on Hameldown where an RAF Hampden bomber came down in low cloud in March 1942. This was by no means the only plane that crashed on Dartmoor in war or peacetime, but its significance is as much in the story that lay behind the crash as in the event itself.

Apart from raising the question of why a plane returning from France to an airfield in Lincolnshire should crash on Dartmoor, the burial of one of the plane's crew in the same cemetery as the pilot, two people from different social classes in a period where class distinction was still important (Lowe, 2012), adds a very human dimension to this crash which is commemorated annually by the Aircrew Association.

As well as showing broad periods of our heritage, *Moor than meets the eye* can help to detail some of the social

history which played its part in shaping us and this landscape. This could include researching the tithe maps, exploring the HER or noting a small plaque on a house near Chagford commemorating the inventor of the jet engine.

Bearing this in mind and picking up on Longcroft's theme of ignoring the wider landscape setting of vernacular buildings at the expense of concentrating on form and materials, it is also important to step back from the detail and see the wider picture of a detailed and complex landscape. It is perhaps easy to over-simplify this, whether it be the importance of one of the 'best preserved and most complete upland archaeological landscapes in Britain', the layers of tinworking which show the development of industrial techniques over the centuries, or the Victorian influence that has left its imprint on the Wray Valley, and consider these as the only significant features worth noting in their respective areas.

However, it is the ability for the landscape to reveal the effect people have had on it over the centuries that makes the *Moor than meets the eye* area so fascinating. The moor may be seen by some as '…so vast, and so barren and so mysterious' (Conan Doyle, 1902), but it is also bears silent witness to the unfolding chapters of human history and its impact on the landscape.

***Moor than meets the eye*'s natural heritage**

Dartmoor has a wealth of wildlife and a range of habitats as reflected in the designation of large parts of the area as Special Areas of Conservation, SSSI and County Wildlife Sites. The Dartmoor BAP and the Landscape Character Assessment provide full detail of the range of interest in the area.

However, there are particular habitats and species that require additional effort or new approaches to ensure they are conserved for the future. *Living Dartmoor – A Strategy to deliver benefits for Dartmoor's Wildlife* is currently being written and will be available on the DNPA website. It will include Habitat Delivery Plans for Key Wildlife Areas including Rhos pastures and Dry grassland, with the latter incorporating haymeadows. There will also be Delivery Plans for Key Species for Conservation Action, which will include ones for Red-backed Shrike, Marsh Fritillary and Bog Hoverfly

Key elements of the natural heritage of the *Moor than meets the eye* area are at risk of damage or extinction and requiring conservation, restoration or enhancement. It is important to see these in the context of landscape and generational connections to increase links between habitats and to increase understanding. These are:

Red-Backed Shrike

This bird has been extinct in England since 1992, and was lost from Dartmoor and Devon in 1970. However, it returned to Dartmoor in 2010. It is Red-listed as a Bird of top Conservation Concern and is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species. It is specially protected in the UK and in Europe. The Red-backed Shrike was once widespread in parts of southern England but declined rapidly last century, thought due to loss of suitable habitats and consequent declines in its large insect prey.

Postbridge Haymeadows

It is estimated that less than 7,500 ha of species-rich neutral grassland survive in England and the decline is continuing due to agricultural improvement, inappropriate management, development and neglect. A survey of neutral unimproved grassland in Dartmoor National Park carried out in 2003/04 has found a total resource of 449 ha of unimproved neutral grassland remaining in the National Park. This represents about 6% of the remaining national resource of this habitat (National Vegetation Classification MG5 grassland).

A haymeadow at Postbridge; Greater Butterfly Orchid (© DNPA)

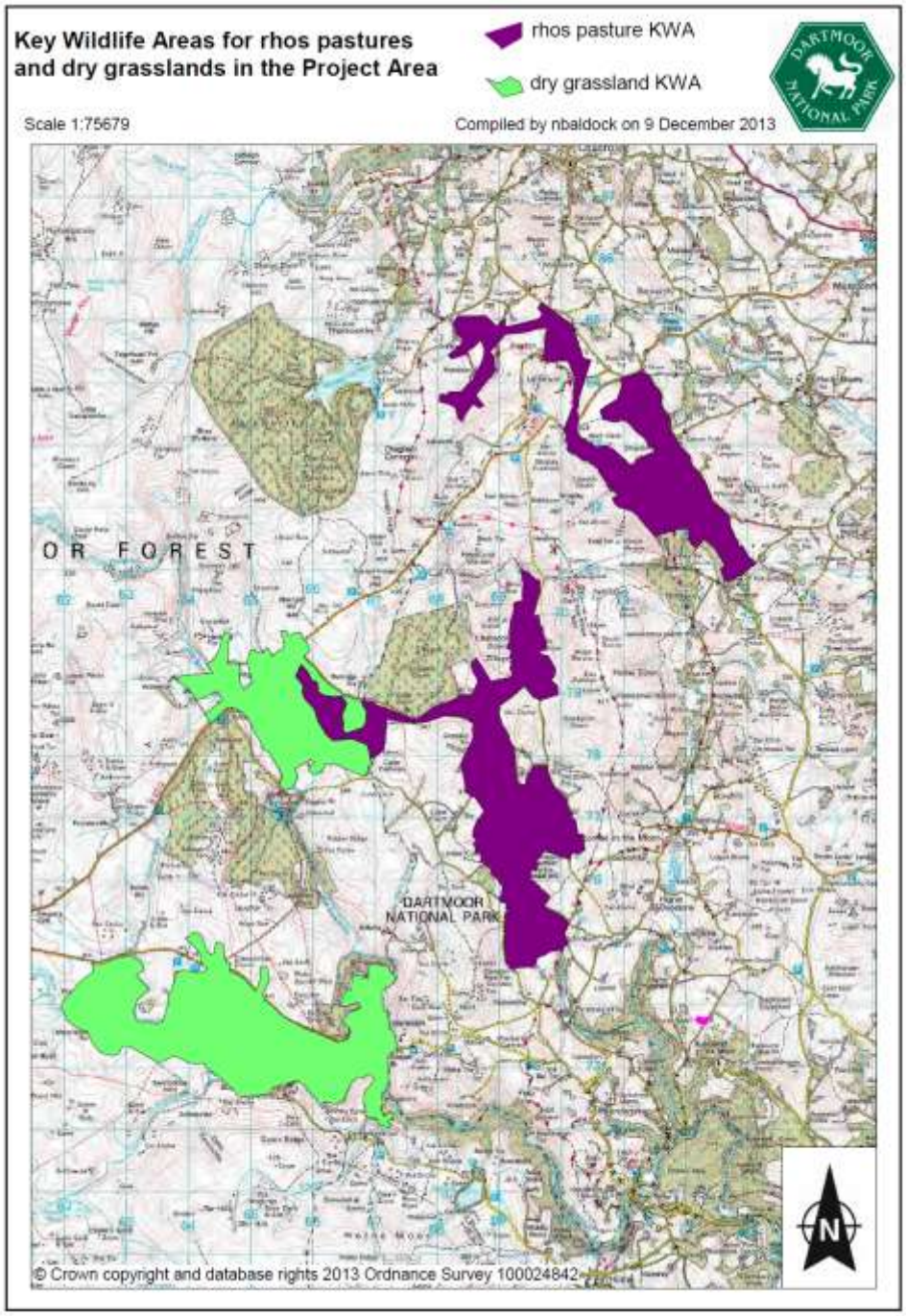
Only about 24 ha (5%) of Dartmoor neutral grasslands are deemed to be in top condition, with another 118 ha (26%) being of good quality. The remaining 311 ha are in need of enhancement. A further resource of about 271 ha of less species rich semi-improved grasslands exists on Dartmoor and will be targeted for restoration. Dartmoor's neutral grasslands include three variants of the crested dog's-tail and notable species such as moonwort, Deptford pink (UK BAP priority species), adder's-tongue fern, greater butterfly orchid, green-winged orchid etc. The presence of some species such as the great burnet, intermediate lady's mantle and pignut are characteristic plants of the upland haymeadow MG3 community, which has a separate UK BAP Action Plan and is a rare habitat protected under the Annex I of the EC Habitats Directive. Some Dartmoor haymeadows may represent a southern upland equivalent of the rare Northern MG3 haymeadow community and may hence be of even greater conservation importance, making them unique in a national context.

Haymeadows are entirely the product of human management and hence are both fascinating and vulnerable. Traditionally, meadows have been left ungrazed from early spring to mid-late July or even August, when a crop of hay was harvested for winter fodder. The meadows were then lightly grazed by livestock until the following spring. Farmyard manure and lime were added periodically to maintain a worthwhile crop of grass.

This traditional management resulted in a flower-rich community of plant species, which in turn supports a diverse community of invertebrates, particularly bumblebees and butterflies and birds, such as the skylark. Depending on a haymeadow's location relative to the farmstead, every haymeadow has a unique management

history and local traditions associated with it. However, today they are suffering from lack of management and neglect.

The proposed *Moor than meets the eye* Community Ecologist will work with local communities and landowners to produce better management on 75 hectares of unimproved meadows and haymeadows, including expansion into new sites where possible. There will be a raising of awareness of haymeadows in the Postbridge area, including their wildlife value and attractiveness to both local people and tourists.



Haymeadows and Rhôs pasture areas as part of Moor than meets the eye

Natural Connections

Existing small fragmented areas of Rhôs pasture in small valleys are currently being managed on an individual basis, if at all. Some are under agreement with the National Park Authority or under management through Higher Level Scheme (HLS). However, there is currently no integrated management plan for all the sites within one valley.

Without proper and integrated management, important wet valley systems will revert to wet woodland resulting in the loss of Rhôs pasture and threaten the delicate mosaic of valuable habitats. The loss of these habitats will result in the disappearance of key BAP species such as marsh fritillaries, which have an internationally important stronghold in the National Park, and bog hoverfly not to be found anywhere else in the UK.

The connected Rhôs pasture valley systems that enable these rare species to survive constitute one of the characteristic moorland fringe landscapes of Dartmoor. They have been created and maintained by local farmers over the centuries and depend upon ongoing extensive grazing with beef cattle or local ponies.

Rhôs pasture (© DNPA)

Without intervention the importance of the habitats and need for ongoing management will not be properly shared with landowners, and the public will not be able to access the sites and enjoy species such as the marsh fritillary butterfly and the narrow-bordered bee hawkmoth.

Through this scheme the proposed *Moor than meets the eye* Community Ecologist will work with local landowners to develop integrated management plans for 195 ha of Rhôs pastures adopting a valley wide approach for two valley systems and involving 16 local farmers. The potential for developing a new approach to agri-

environment schemes will be assessed that would enable small parcels of land not large or significant enough to gain HLS payments in their own right to benefit from a valley-wide agreement, utilising the experience gained from managing schemes of the commons of Dartmoor over many years. Research on key species will be taken forward by volunteers, local Universities and organisations, and a pilot catchment management approach will be developed with landowners in the Barramoor Valley.

Barbastelle Bats

A PhD study was commissioned by the National Park Authority to carry out some initial research into the presence and foraging habitats of the nationally scarce Barbastelle bats (*Barbastelles in the landscape: Ecological Research and Conservation in Dartmoor National Park* – Zeale, 2006). The woodlands of the Bovey Valley proved a key area for maternity roosting of this species on the eastern side of Dartmoor. Radio tracking determined that some individual bats foraged as far as Teignmouth on nightly flights.

This research was undertaken before the most recent thinning to secure ancient woodland remnants. The impact of this felling operation on the bats is unknown although the data collected in relation to colonies and critical maternity trees helped inform how the thinning work was undertaken. Woodland bat species are a useful 'litmus test' of woodland health and the Woodland Trust is keen to develop the 2008 research so this can be fed into their advisory publications on the management of ancient woodland and in particular PAWS restoration. Part of this work is a natural continuation of the earlier research work undertaken by Matt Zeale.

Barbastelle Bat (© Hugh Clark/Bat Conservation Trust)

In addition, through the Devon Bat Group and volunteers, a wider scale conservation enhancement project is proposed across the East Dartmoor NNR and surrounding woodlands, to record and monitor the movement of the barbastelle in the landscape

and to erect/create additional maternity nesting opportunities. As part of *Moor than meets the eye*, the Woodland Trust will undertake research into the roosting habits of barbestelle bats in the Bovey Valley and use this to ensure their habitat is protected for future years.

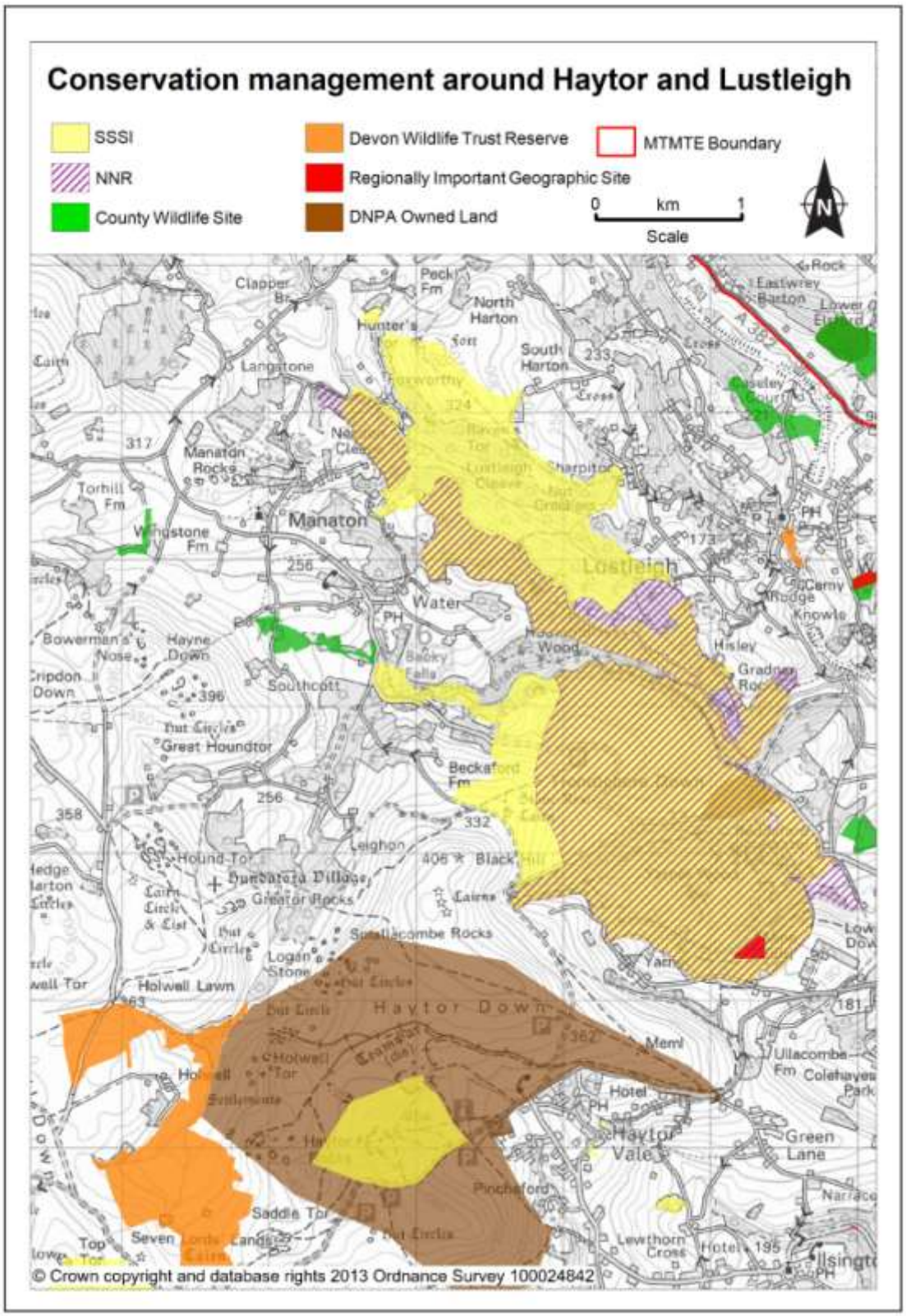
Lichens

A recent re-survey of lichen assemblages within the Bovey Valley (in particular Hisley/Rudge Woods) identified declining light levels as a long term issue affecting rare lichens. In addition to dense conifer canopies, holly and widespread ivy were identified as increasingly common throughout the woodland, reflecting the absence of regular livestock grazing which traditionally would have been a feature of its management. Not only are declining light levels affecting lichen assemblages but also the diversity of ground flora including ancient woodland species. The Woodland Trust will undertake research to monitor the impact of recent woodland management and ensure important maternity roosting sites are protected or enhanced.

East Dartmoor National Nature Reserve (NNR) is one of the best places in the England to enjoy the outdoors and to encounter wildlife. Managed by Natural England and Woodland Trust, the Reserve lies just a stone's throw from the iconic Haytor Rock, straddling the higher open moorland and lower wooded valleys of the River Bovey and Becca Brook. Apart from being England's first NNR, the site is internationally important for its extensive ancient upland oak wood and heathland being legally protected as a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest. The Woodland Trust also owns and manages Pullabrook and Houndtor Woods in the Bovey Valley, which are contiguous with the NNR.

The older broadleaf woodland is managed on a minimum intervention basis while remnant conifer plantation is gradually being restored to native woodland. Trendlebere down is a registered common, sustained by an ancient regime of grazing, swaling and cutting in partnership with the commoners. Public access to the NNR and wider Woodland Trust estate is facilitated by a huge network of rights of way and permissive routes, aided by a modest public engagement and education programme. Scientific study, experimentation and demonstration of practical conservation management techniques have been a key strand of activity since the NNR was declared in 1952.

East Dartmoor National Nature Reserve and the Woodland Trust's landing the Bovey Valley form part of a wider complex of sites managed for wildlife conservation and access which also includes the Dartmoor National Park Authority land at Haytor and the Devon Wildlife Trust reserve at Emsworthy Mires.



Landscape-scale management around Haytor and the Bovey valley for wildlife and access

Moor than meets the eye's cultural heritage
The inspiration of place

> *"... the numerous visitors, who during the summer months are continually exploring the vicinity of Moretonhampstead, but from the want of some assistance, scarcely know in what direction to turn their attention.'*
>
> J P Jones, writing in the 1820s

> *' ... the furrowed face* (of Hameldown) *might be read like some open book, for its heather-clad and snow-clad bosom was a palimpsest, written and re-written, erased and corrected by Time and his children.'*
>
> Eden Phillpotts, 1902

The *Moor than meets the eye* area possesses a remarkable, sometimes elusive, cultural legacy reflected across time, the land and within communities. Creative responses have arisen from what the area holds and offers, and the importance of understanding, explaining and safeguarding its special qualities.

Much of the stimulus and inspiration of this part of Dartmoor is embedded in its atmosphere, its horizons, river valleys, the woods, moorland sweeps, granite forms, the nature of place, the place of nature, settlement and land use past and present, the stories the area holds, a sense of exploration, explanation and discovery, and other on-going cultural interfaces and processes. Through a diverse body of work the area is recorded, interpreted and revealed as being far more than a collection of places; it represents events and experiences that have been and continue to be shared.

A rich **medieval artistic tradition** has been preserved in the churches of the area adding significantly to local distinctiveness including the artisan depiction of the **three hares symbol** in roof bosses in churches at Widecombe-in-the-Moor, North Bovey, Ilsington and Chagford. Over the centuries since, there has been an array of cultural responses arising *from*, *about* and *for* the place. This is reflected in the work of topographers, essayists, journal keepers, novelists, poets, lithographers, engravers, etchers, illustrators and painters, sculptors, print makers, novelists, dramatists, composers and musicians, dancers, photographers, film makers, and in other cultural expressions.

Literary connections

The Landscape Partnership area has inspired writers for centuries. Some writers made their home here, some travelled through, some used it as a backdrop to their stories; others spent considerable time in trying to explain its significance and extol its virtues. Some wrote to defend the area or describe to others how they may explore it.

Early literary associations include **John Ford**, dramatist and poet, born in Ilsington in 1586, and poet **Sidney Godolphin** (1609 - 1643), killed in a Civil War skirmish at Chagford.

We were here once

Diaries, journals and autobiographical writing form a key aspect of the area's literary wealth.

The **Rev John Swete** visited Dartmoor between 1792 and 1800. His descriptive text and primitive watercolours in his journals provide a valuable historic record. In 1795 he visited Postbridge where he ordered his servants to divide the remnants of their meal '*among the poor children of the miners that had flocked around us from the neighbouring houses'*.

John Laskey's *Three days excursion on Dartmoor &c, with some slight remarks on the long intended cultivation and enclosure of the said moor* appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine* spread through several issues for 1795 and 1796; the journey included the Postbridge and Two Bridges area. His only map was a sketch from Donn's map of Devon (l765), and he commented that *'A map (or guide) must be a convenient, useful and agreeable companion to strangers in all moor excursions'*.

In 1799 **Samuel Taylor Coleridge** (1772 - 1834) and **Robert Southey** (1774 - 1843) were on a walking tour of Somerset and Devon. In diaries and journals, both have left impressions of eastern Dartmoor from September of that year. They visited Lustleigh Cleave, Manaton, Becky Falls and Haytor.

In 1830 **Sophie Dixon**'s *A Journal of 18 Days' Excursion on the Eastern and Southern Borders of Dartmoor and the Western Vicinity of Exmoor* was published.

Journals reveal that In 1865 **Gerard Manley Hopkins** (1844 - 1889), visited Chagford in 1865, and in 1867 he visited Hay Tor, Widecombe-in-the- Moor, Manaton and Hound Tor. **Charles Kingsley** (1819 - 1875) was born at Holne. *Charles Kingsley: His letters and Memories of his Life,* edited by his wife and published by Macmillan in 1892, provides valuable insights in to some of his travels in the area:

> *"Dartmoor looks like an enormous alternation of chalk downs and peat bogs, only that the downs are strewn with huge granite stones and capped with 'tors', which cannot be described - only seen"*

The **Revd. W H Thornton** was vicar of North Bovey parish church from 1866 – 1916. His *Reminiscences and Reflections of an Old Westcountry Clergyman* (first published privately in the late 1890s) relates much about the parish and neighbouring area.

Whilst living at Lustleigh, **Cecil Torr** (1857 - 1928) wrote *Small Talk at Wreyland* published in 1918, 1921 and 1923. These were republished by the Cambridge University Press in 1926, and reprinted in facsimile in 1970 by Adams & Dart.

Beatrice Chase, sometimes writing under her real name Olive Katherine Parr, (1874 - 1955) lived at Widecombe-in-the-Moor from 1902 for about 50 years. She wrote popular books which achieved large sales including *The Heart of the Moor* and *Through a Dartmoor Window*. She also wrote poetry, much of it inspired by the

immediate area and she campaigned vigorously for the preservation of Dartmoor. At her peak, her home became a place of pilgrimage for many thousands of visitors.

Open minds – the growth of detail

With the creation of turnpike roads in the later 18th century, and with the publication of the first edition of the 1" Ordnance Survey map of Devon in 1809, the area was to see a burgeoning in written (and artistic) expression and interpretation.

Rev J P Jones' *Guide to the Scenery in the Neighbourhood of Ashburton* and *Observations on the Scenery and Antiquities in the Neighbourhood of Moretonhampstead and on the Forest of Dartmoor* were published in 1823. Jones was curate of North Bovey parish church from 1816 – 31.

In 1830, in the first volume of the *Transactions of the Plymouth Institution* **Samuel Rowe** published his paper 'Antiquarian Investigations in the Forest of Dartmoor, Devon'. This drew together fieldwork carried out in 1827 and 1828. The paper was revised and expanded and published in 1848 as *A Perambulation of the Antient and Royal Forest of Dartmoor and the Venville Precincts*. Rowe's *Perambulation* was the first comprehensive book about the moor. A second edition was published in 1856, and a third in 1896. The publication provides valuable descriptions of much of the *Moor than meets the eye* area and insights in to understanding at the time.

The **Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science Literature and Art** was founded in 1862, and became a vehicle for much investigation on the moor, particularly its archaeology. During the summer of 1893 **Robert Burnard**, an early secretary of the Dartmoor Preservation Association, carried out an excavation at the prehistoric Broadun Ring, Postbridge, assisted by the **Rev Sabine Baring-Gould**. The results were very promising. The **Dartmoor Exploration Committee** was subsequently formed and work started the following year at Grimspound. The written records of these and other exploratory work, much of it carried out in the Landscape Partnership area, represent an important, unparalleled body of early investigatory literature. Baring-Gould (1834 - 1924) was also an important collector of folk songs including the iconic *Widdecombe Fair* (sic).

Father and son **Richard Nicholls Worth** (1837 - 1896) and **Richard Hansford Worth** (1868 - 1950) contributed much to the area's understanding especially its archaeology and the use of moorstone generally. In particular R N Worth wrote over 115 papers on Dartmoor subjects alone, and after his death many of these were brought together and published in 1953 under the title *Dartmoor*.

The area's character has also been captured by a distinctive genre of other writers linking topography to cultural and natural detail. **William Crossing**'s influence on Dartmoor understanding and enjoyment was immense. Much of his work describes the Landscape Partnership area in great detail. He wrote his first published paper about Dartmoor in 1880, *Stone Remains on Dartmoor* (*The Antiquary* Vol 2). His first published book was *Ancient Crosses of Dartmoor* (1884) which was a reprint of two papers he had published in *the Western Antiquary*. *Amid Devonia's Alps, or Wanderings and Adventures on Dartmoor* was published in1889. Several of his series of articles were published later in book form including *A Hundred Years on*

Dartmoor (1901) and *Present Day Life on Dartmoor*. This last series of articles was originally published in the *Western Morning News* in 1903, and was reprinted in book form in 1966 and 1992 with the title *Crossing's Dartmoor Worker.* Crossing's *Guide to Dartmoor* first came out in 1909 and was the first guide book which attempted a comprehensive coverage of the moor. It opened up Dartmoor to many visitors including much of the *Moor than meets the eye* area and provided immense detail of routes and historical information across moorland and down sunken lanes.

Other non-fiction area writers include: **L A Harvey**, **D St Leger-Gordon** (1888 - 1970), **Ruth St Leger-Gordon** (who wrote *The Witchcraft and Folklore of Dartmoor)* and **Eric Hemery** (1914 - 1986). Hemery came to Dartmoor in about 1950 and set up as a Dartmoor guide in Chagford and later Gidleigh and Widecombe-in-the-Moor. His massive work, *High Dartmoor: Land and People*, was published in 1983. Using river valleys for much of its structural content, it remains unique amongst British landscape literature and provides a valuable insight into the Landscape Partnership area.

Jeremy Butler's innovative approach to archaeological landscape and site investigation and interpretation, utilising aerial photography and on the ground survey, was published in five volumes between 1991 and 1997 (Vols. 1, 2 and 5 cover the *Moor than meets the* eye area). In association with English Heritage, **Phil Newman**'s *The Field Archaeology of Dartmoor* published in 2011 describes Dartmoor's landscape history from 4000 BC to the present day and includes valuable information on the Landscape Partnership area.

Poetry of place

In 1821 the Royal Society of Literature offered a 50 guinea prize for the 'best poetical effusion on Dartmoor. **Felicia Hemans** won the prize with her poem *Dartmoor*. In it she asks:

'Yet what avails it, if each moss grown heap
Still on the waste its lonely vigils keep,
Guarding the dust which slumbers well
beneath
... from each cold season's breath?
Where is the voice to tell <u>their</u> tale who rest,
Thus rudely pillowed, on the desert's
breast?'

Right up to the present day (e.g. the current Whitehorse Hill burial investigations) many have tried to answer those and similar questions, or have been inspired to creatively respond to the area's sometimes elusive character.

The **Rev NT Carrington** wrote *Dartmoor: A Descriptive Poem,* published in 1826. Together with **William Burt**'s topographical and historical notes, and the vignettes and etchings with which it is illustrated, some of the work captures the spirit of the Moor than meets the eye area. About Bowerman's Nose he wrote:

'On the very edge
of the vast moorland, startling every eye,
A shape enormous rises! High it towers
Above the hill's bold brow, and, seen from far,
Assumes the human form; - a Granite God!
To whom, in days long flown, the suppliant knee
In trembling homage bow'd. The hamlets near
Have legends rude connected with the spot,
(Wild swept by every wind,) on which he stands –
the Giant of the Moor.'

Edward William Lewis Davies (1819 – 90) wrote the narrative poem Dartmoor Days; or Scenes in the Forest. A Poem. It was published in 1862. It features Brimpts, near Dartmeet - a place 'far from the crowded city's strife' - and provides a descriptive and historical overview of the surrounding moorland area.

Parochial poet **Jonas Coaker** was born in Postbridge in 1801 at Hartland, and spent most of his life in the area, being servant boy, labourer, wall builder and pub landlord. He died in 1890 and is buried at Widecombe-in-the-Moor.

The poetry tradition continues e.g. **Alice Oswald**'s Dart (2002) touches on the Moor than meets the eye area and involved considerable primary and secondary research into the river's history, environment and community; and through the work of **Moor Poets**, in particular farmer **Colin Pearse** (North Bovey) whose Blissful, Restless Dartmoor published in 2011 could only have been written by someone working on and observing the land. The Tarka Country Millennium Awards supported playwright, poet, author and artist **Jane Beeson** to write *Star-eyed Fool* about hill farming on Dartmoor and Exmoor. A substantial part of the publication, through prose and poetry, is devoted to farming in the Manaton area from 1959 - 2004.

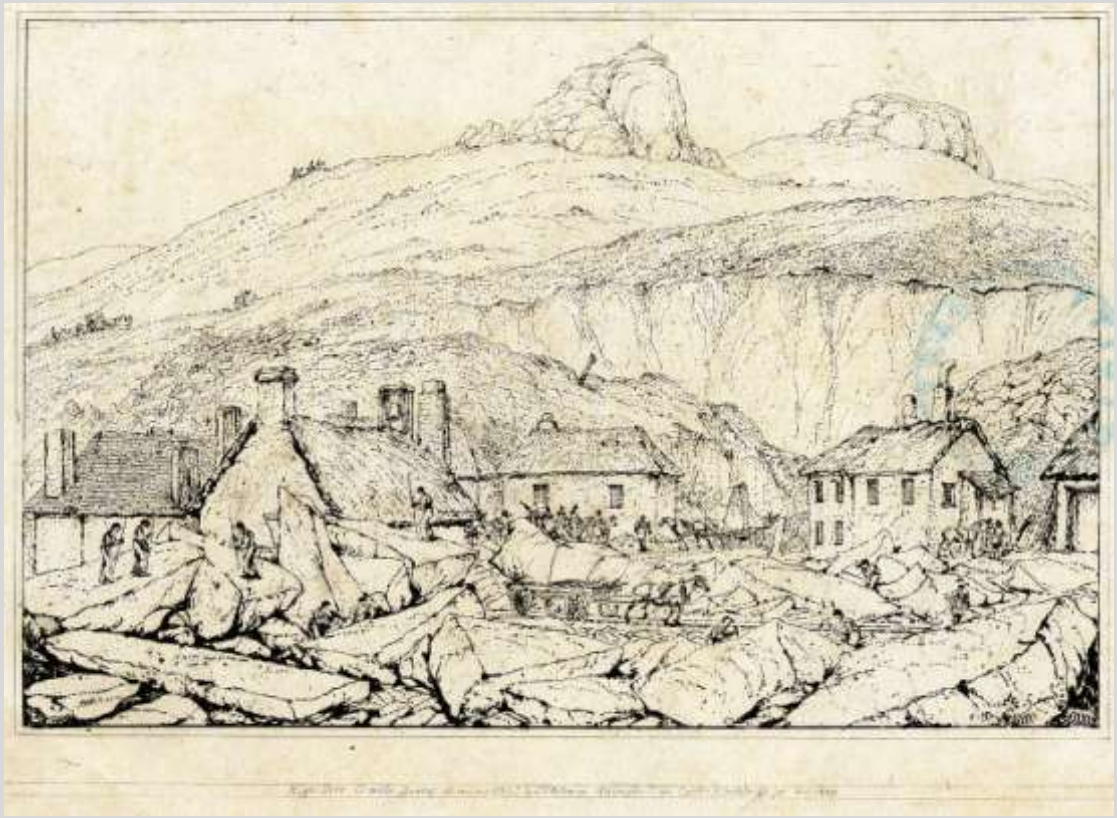
Novel approaches

The area has been a backdrop for many novels. **Richard Dodderidge Blackmore**, author of *Lorna Doone*, wrote *Christowell*, set in north-east Dartmoor in a fictitious village between Moretonhampstead and Lustleigh and it specifically includes references to this area and to Widecombe-in-the-Moor. The book was originally published in three volumes in 1882, and is one of the earliest popular novels about the moor. The well chronicled, real life event of the storm that led to the death of four churchgoers at Widecombe-in- the-Moor in 1638 forms the climax of the novel:

> *"….. the tower was cleft, the church was rent, the people cast like blasted straws ... Pitchy night, and stifling vapour, shrouded all who were unconsumed."*

John Galsworthy (1867 - 1933) lived at Manaton, where he spent the summer months from 1904 – 1919. His short story *The Apple Tree* was an adaptation of the well-known tale of Kitty Jay.

As important as Thomas Hardy was as a writer of *Wessex*, **Eden Phillpotts**' Dartmoor novels have left an important literary legacy. Of his 18 novels that comprise the Dartmoor cycle, eight are set in the *Moor than meets the eye* area: *Children of the Mist* (1898; Chagford); *Sons of the Morning* (1900; Gidleigh); *The River* (1902; West Dart River and Two Bridges); *Thief of Virtue* (1910; East Dart River and Postbridge); *Demeter's Daughter* (1911; Holne/Dart valley); *The Forest on the Hill* (1912; Yarner Wood and Ilsington); *Widecombe Fair* (1913; Webburn valleys); and *Orphan Dinah* (1920; Buckland-in-the-Moor area). Phillpotts was born in 1862 and died in 1960. Much of his other work including short stories, drama and autobiography also drew on the inspiration of Dartmoor.



Haytor Quarry – etching entitled 'High Torr Quarry by and after T H Williams, 1829. © Westcountry Studies Library

"The quarry lies like a gash in the slopes of the hills. To the dizzy edges of it creep heather and the bracken; beneath, upon its precipices, a stout rowan or two rise, and everywhere nature has fought and laboured to hide this wound driven so deep into her mountainside by man. A cicatrix of moss and fern and many grasses conceal the scars of pick and gunpowder; time has weathered the harsh edges of the riven stone; the depths of the quarry are covered by pools of clear water ... one may drink from this cup all the mystery that fills a deserted theatre of man's work and feel that loneliness which only human ruins tell ....."

Eden Phillpotts describing Haytor Quarry in the 1930s

Several of **Agatha Christie**'s (1890 - 1976) detective stories are partly set within the Landscape Partnership area and she had strong associations with the former Moorland Hotel at Haytor. She was familiar with the area from childhood excursions with her parents and she stayed at the hotel to complete her first novel *The Mysterious Affair of Styles* (1920). *The Big Four* (1927) includes specific references to Moretonhampstead, and *The Sittaford Mystery* (1931) is partly set within the moorland scene.

Crime writer **Dorothy L Sayers** used Manaton as a central setting for the novel *Documents in the Case* (1964). Fiction writers **Vian Smith** (1919 - 1969) and **David Rook** (1935 - 1970) in part captured the area in some of their work. Smith wrote five Dartmoor novels between 1961 and his death, several of them set in the Postbridge area in the 19th century. He also wrote eight Dartmoor radio plays. He was particularly appreciated in the USA, and his original manuscripts are held at Boston University. Rook was a young author and artist living at Pizwell Bridge and wrote two Dartmoor novels - *The White Colt* (1967) and *The Ballad of the Belstone Fox* (1970). *The White Colt* was filmed on Dartmoor largely in the Headland Warren area as *Run Wild, Run Free.* **Richard Girling**'s *Ielfstan's Place 15,000 BC – 1919 AD,* first published in 1981, reconstructs the history of the parish of Ilsington through a series of fictionalised accounts. **Jane Beeson** (see above) wrote several Dartmoor novels including *A Winter Harvest* (1984), *Apple of an Eye* (1984), and *Scarhill* (1995) all evoking a great sense of place. **Tania Crosse**'s *Cherrybrook Rose* (2008) and *A Bouquet of Thorns* (2008) are both set in the late 1800s and centre around the Postbridge/Powdermills area.

Views of the land

There is a valuable body of written work concerned with the values we attach to the area which in turn represents a significant cultural legacy. Passions have been roused concerning the whole area or indeed various aspects and locations. For example, after visiting Haytor, P Prudor writing in the *Flying Post* in 1849 observed *'a commodious flight of steps has been formed to enable some ponderous and pinguidinous subject of particular indolence to ascend its summit comfortably.'*!

As Dartmoor became more widely known and understood concerns were being voiced regarding its future, for example in Ashburton in July 1876 **W.F. Collier** presented a paper on Dartmoor (published in the Transactions of the Devonshire Association Vol 8) and asked:

> *"Are supposed economical laws to supersede all other laws, and are the beauties of Dartmoor to fall before the spade and the plough, for the sake of the miserable pittance that can be wrung from her granite and bog?"*

Dartmoor's place in society continued to be reflected in the formation of the Dartmoor Preservation Association in 1883 (12 years earlier than the National Trust), the designation of the Dartmoor National Park in 1951 and the formation of the Dartmoor Society in1998. Behind each lies an important and on-going written record, much reflecting the *Moor than meets the eye* area.

Sight and sound

Several of the oldest visual images of the area are derived from woodcuts associated with the accounting of the Widecombe storm of 1638 described above. In parallel to early writers, the Landscape Partnership area has been significantly portrayed through art over the last 250 years.

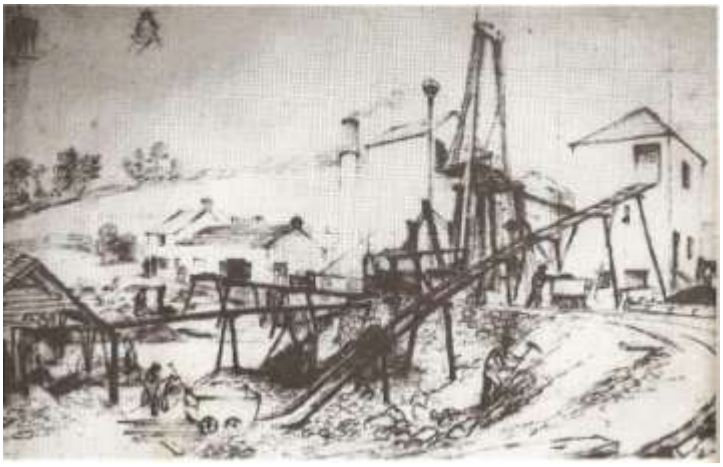
Early impressions

Early illustrations of the area abound. **Philip H Rogers** (1794 - 1853) executed etchings and vignettes used to illustrate N T Carrington's 1826 *Dartmoor: A Descriptive Poem.* The subjects included several Moor than meets the eye area locations including Widecombe church, Crockern Tor, Grey Wethers prehistoric site, Crockern Tor and Dartmeet clapper bridge.

Other illustrations providing an important historic record include: *The Market Place, Ashburton* engraved by **W. Deeble** after **J M Baynes** (1829); *Holwell Tor Granite Quarry* etched by **T H Williams** (1829); *New Bridge near Holne* (1830) engraved by **A McClatchie** after **T M Baynes**; a lithograph of Bowerman's Nose by **P Gauci** after **C F Williams** (1849); and drawings (Scorhill Circle, Grimspound, Postbridge clapper bridge) by Charles F. Williams, lithographed by Paul Gauci used to illustrate Samuel Rowe's 1848 *A Perambulation of the Antient and Royal Forest of Dartmoor.*

Other early artists include: **Rev. John Swete**, watercolourist (see above); **Joseph Farington** (1747 – 1821): topographical painter working in the Ashburton, Buckland-in-the-Moor and Bovey Tracey areas in 1810; Thomas Ronaldson (1756 – 1827): watercolour Picnic on Dartmoor; **Thomas Hewitt Williams** (1800 – 1829): his Haytor Quarry etchings provide an important visual record; **Conrad Martens** (1801 – 1878): one of the expedition artists on the Beagle, painted High Tor (cit), Dartmoor; **Francis Stevens** (1781 – 1822 or 23): Lustleigh Cleave painted in 1820 and on permanent display in the Devon and Exeter Institution, Exeter; **William Turner** of Oxford who painted a watercolour of Lustleigh Cleave which was exhibited it in London in 1862; **William Spreat** (born Exeter 1816): painter, lithographer, publisher – Dartmoor and its borders, an eight lithograph set of the area around Haytor circa 1845; **Peter de Wint** (1784 – 1849): On the Dart, watercolour looking upstream to Holne Bridge; **Henry John Boddington** (1811 – 1865): also capturing the Dart, and the Webburn in the 1840s; **William Snell Morrish** (1844 – 1917): born and died in Chagford frequently painted in the River Teign area; **Frederick Foot** (1831 – 1908): buried in Ashburton churchyard, much of his work a valuable historic record (e.g. *Old Market House, Ashburton*, and *Silverbrook Mine, Ilsington*).

The second half of the 19th century saw the establishment of a number of substantial art magazines. **J. Arthur Blaikie** wrote three articles in *The Magazine of Art* in 1885 about the lower reaches of the River Dart, the last covering the stretch from Buckfastleigh up to New Bridge. Blaikie also wrote in *The Art Journal* in the same year under the heading *On Dartmoor*. Here he concentrated on Ashburton, Widecombe-in-the-Moor and Chagford.



Silverbrook Mine, Ilsington by Frederick Foot (© Torquay Museum) – his artistic contribution is recognised on his gravestone in Ashburton (Steve Scoffin)

Frederick John Widgery (1861 - 1942) was a prolific Dartmoor watercolourist and was the son of artist **William Widgery** (1826 - 1893) the latter capturing Dartmoor through oil paintings. From the Exeter School of Art F J Widgery progressed to the South Kensington Art Schools, then the Academy in Antwerp. He came back to England to study under Hubert von Herkomer at the art school at Bushey, Hertfordshire. He was commissioned to provide twenty-two watercolours for the 1896 revised edition of Samuel Rowe's Perambulation of Dartmoor. Much of his work is held by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter. The Landscape Partnership area is well represented through his many watercolour paintings including the Logan Stone (Rippon Tor), Bowerman's Nose, Grimspound and Postbridge, and various illustrations including Hay Tor and its quarry.

Grimspound , Dartmoor (showing the main entrance from the South) by F J Widgery © Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery and Exeter City Council

Other early 20th century artists who have portrayed the area include **Augustus John** (1878 – 1961) whose *Gypsy encampment on Dartmoor* captures the time he spent on Dartmoor near the Warren House Inn in 1905; and **Walter Sickert** (1860 – 1942), painting in the Chagford area in 1915. Later artists include Cornish artist **Frank Gascoigne Heath** (1873 – 1936), **Cecil Arthur Hunt** (1873 – 1965), who was commissioned by Macmillan in 1927 to provide the illustrations for the *Widecombe edition* of Eden Phillpotts' Dartmoor novels; and **Jack Merriot** (1901 – 1968) commissioned by British Rail to capture the essence of the area to be used in destination promotion material.

Mixed mediums - new interpretations

Studio potter **David Leach** (1911 – 2005), son of Bernard Leach, set up the Lowerdown Pottery near Bovey Tracey in 1955. He exhibited widely in the UK and elsewhere including USA, Germany and Japan. Sculptor **John Skeaping** (1901 - 1980) first came to Dartmoor in about 1937 (his first wife was Barbara Hepworth) and subsequently moved to the Chagford area.

Latter day artists influenced by the area include **Alan Richards** (who specialised in screenprint images e.g. *Powdermills Farm, Dartmoor* (1972), **Michael Honor**, **Garry Fabian Mille**r, **Susan Derges** and **Trevor Felcey**. Much of the imaginative work of **Brian Froud** and **Alan Lee**, the latter the conceptual artist behind the *Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* films, is inspired or influenced by Dartmoor. Both live in the Landscape partnership area, near Chagford.

Richard Long (born 1945) is regarded internationally as one of Britain's most important and original living artists (he received the Turner Prize in 1989 for his contribution to British art). His work reflects a deep love of nature and the experience of making solitary walks. For inspiration he has immersed himself in to many remote areas of the world and some of his earliest work was inspired by Dartmoor including the Landscape Partnership area. His *Two Walks Dartmoor 1972* depicts two lines on a map intersecting at Bennett's Cross, and his *A Walk of Four Hours and Four Circles England 1972* is set just west of Fernworthy Forest. His *A Dartmoor Walk Eight days England 1987* was commissioned in the late 1980s jointly by the Department of the Environment and Conoco in association with the Welsh Office, the Countryside Commission, the Council for National Parks and the V & A. **Brendan Neiland**'s (born 1941) oil on canvas *Dartmoor skyscape across Gidleigh Common 1988* and **Simon Lewty**'s Dartmoor depiction including the Powdermills area and relied on childhood memories of a visit there, were both commissioned for the same project.

A long Dartmoor photographic tradition within the area continues for example through the work of **Chris Chapman** and **Carol Ballenger.**

Internationally renowned sculptor **Peter Randall-Page** (Drewsteington parish resident) has undertaken work in the area including *Granite Song* (1991) sited on an islet in the River Teign near Chagford; other examples of his work abut the Landscape Partnership area.

Peter Randall-Page's sculpture Granite Song *(© Chris Chapman)*

Aune Head Arts, founded in the 1990s, left a considerable impact over 16 years on the way in which collaborative art can be used to develop and portray a sense of place. Projects within the *Moor than meets the eye* area included *Dartmoor changes* (2003 – 04) – a permanent recording of all the peals of bells on Dartmoor; *Dartmoor Sensing* (2004) involving 10 young artists from across the UK with workshops held at Bellever and Brimpts, *Focus on Farmers* (2003 – 05) and *Big Dance on Dartmoor* (2006). Its *Dartmoor Profile* was a collaborative printmaking/bookmaking project developed by **Joanna Radford**.

Moretonhampstead's **Dartmoor Flight** project is a public arts trail of sculptures, mosaics and other works of art built into the town's Conservation Area. A team of 10 artists led by **Roger Dean** created works reflecting the landscape, wildlife and history of the area. Undertaken over a decade ago the project demonstrates how such work can enhance both visual quality and enjoyment. Sustaining the quality of such work remains a challenge.

Composer/folk singer **Seth Lakeman** and composers/musicians **Caroline Hillyer** and **Nigel Shaw** (the latter two living in Postbridge) continue to be inspired by the area and are also adding to its cultural identity. Lakeman's second album, *Kitty Jay* (2004), is largely comprised of songs inspired by stories and legends from Dartmoor, the song Kitty Jay inspired by a suicide's grave near Manaton. *A Dartmoor Cantata* is the work of local composer **William Carnell**, a resident of Lustleigh.

Sparrowhawk - Dartmoor flights arts trail, Moretonhampstead

Dartmoor Symphony – music by Nigel Shaw inspired by Dartmoor (© Seventh Wave Music)

Renaissances – more to share, more to come

Current public interest and involvement in the area's cultural heritage is reflected in the number of active **heritage/local history groups** including those in Ashburton, Bovey Tracey, Chagford, Lustleigh, Moretonhampstead, North Bovey, Princetown and District, and Widecombe-in-the-Moor with **community archives** at Bovey Tracey, Lustleigh, Moretonhampstead and Widecombe. **St Lawrence Chapel**, Ashburton, and the town's Museum provide further opportunities to learn about the area. St Lawrence Chapel was once a grammar school and passing through its doors were John Ireland (1762 – 1841), once Dean at Westminster Abbey and who officiated at the coronations of George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria; Richard Carlile (1790 – 1843), one of the first campaigners for political freedom of the press; and William John Wills - he and James Burke were amongst the first to cross Australia. Their stories continue to be developed.

The Dartmoor Trust's **Dartmoor Archive** is a vast historic photographic resource and many images are of artistic merit in their own right. The *Moor than meets the eye* area is well covered via its on-line access to work of a number of important photographers/collections. The Burnard Collection features approximately 500 images many of the southern and eastern parts of the Moor. They were taken between 1880 and 1910, by **Robert Burnard**, one of the founder members of the Dartmoor Preservation Association. The Archive also features Burnard Notebooks 1 and 2 comprising his personal notes, diagrams, letters and maps, and **T A Falcon**'s *Dartmoor illustrated* photographs (published in 1900). Images from Manaton Community History Group and the Lustleigh Society can also be viewed. Dartmoor National Park Authority's ***Moor Memories*** oral history project and ***Virtual Dartmoor*** also represent significant resources of past and contemporary times.

The on-going work of the **Dartmoor Tinworking Research Group** is revealing much about the area's past tin industry through field investigation, discussions and training. It created the Brimpts Mine Trail, near Dartmeet, and recording projects include the tinners' huts of the Webburn, Bovey and East Dart valleys.

The area has seen a number of artistic engagement initiatives with visitors and local residents to respond to the area's special qualities. As well as displaying art, local

galleries such as **Greenhill Arts** (Moretonhampstead) and the **Devon Guild of Craftsmen** (Bovey Tracey) are actively encouraging public participation in artistic processes. **MED Theatre** (Moretonhampstead) also reflects a community participatory approach drawing much of its inspiration from the immediate area. **Local schools** also draw on the area's special qualities through engagement and project work; for example, the newly built (2008) Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre at Haytor provided the opportunity to involve local school children (Ilsington parish) during and after construction. An innovative community arts project undertaken in 2013, in Ashburton, involved storyworker and community artist **Sara Hurley** (Blazing Tales) exploring the links of residents in a local care home to place through oral history and pottery.

There is a *continuing* tradition of the area as a place of inspiration. A new genre of inspired and professional, semi-professional and amateur writers and artists are helping to portray the area's character. Equally important are the creative personal responses of others including young persons. The area's cultural heritage continues to flourish and like the area itself these responses add to the quality of lives.

The context for *Moor than meets the eye*

As one of 15 National Parks in the United Kingdom, Dartmoor holds a special place as a protected landscape. *Moor than meets the eye* cannot cover the whole of the National Park, but it can show the wide range of landscape, biodiversity and human activity that have come together to make it such a special place.

At 956 square kilometres (369 square miles), Dartmoor is the largest open space in southern England. It has wild open moorland, granite tors and wooded river valleys. At its edge is a landscape of small fields enclosed by stone walls and hedge banks. Dartmoor has been a stock-grazing area for at least 4,000 years and it is, in the main, this kind of farming that has made the Dartmoor landscape worthy of National Park status. The open spaces and sheltered valleys give pleasure to millions of people every year and for the Dartmoor farmers it is their place of work. Dartmoor's blanket bog, upland oak woods, caves and mines are among habitats of international importance. Dartmoor's landscape is also among the richest in western Europe in terms of its archaeological remains. Within the National Park there are many landowners, including public bodies and private individuals. National Parks are places where people live and work and Dartmoor is home to around 34,000 people (DNPA, 2013).

As a tourist or infrequent visitor to Dartmoor the journey by road exposes you to breath-taking open landscape with dramatic views of the wild moor and occasional sightings of the Dartmoor pony, wandering sheep and belted Galloway, yet the *Moor than meets the eye* area is one that is deeply layered and steeped in history. Its unique character has been shaped over millennia. It's important archaeological landscapes reveal a chronology of human activity stretching back over 8,000 years, from ancient field systems to the legacy of tin working; a strong medieval settlement pattern of scattered farmsteads, hamlets, villages and towns set within enclosed farmland surrounding the open moor, linked by an intimate pattern of ancient byways. The interaction between people and landscape has led to a rich palimpsest – people and place are intrinsically linked. Much of this activity has taken place over the last 4,000 years and has shaped a landscape whose story is waiting to be revealed, recorded, cherished and valued.

It is an area where it is still possible to find absolute peace, punctuated by the sounds of nature, and is an inspirational landscape of legends and myths that contains a unique assemblage of wildlife dependent upon the areas distinct habitats, including heathland, blanket bog, Rhôs pasture and ancient oak woodland of international importance.

- However, the area possesses a number of distinct problems, including: archaeological remains and historic buildings at risk;
- fragmentation and isolation of UK BAP habitats leading to loss of biodiversity;
- an unrealised potential to reconnect the landscape with people and livelihoods; and
- areas of intense recreational pressure that threaten the environment and poor access to other areas on a road network without the capacity to absorb an increase in traffic.

There are also parts of the *Moor than meets the eye* area which are isolated and are challenging to reach - these should continue as such, forming an important Dartmoor experience where many of the National Park's special qualities come together.

The *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership aims to address these issues not only by coming together to conserve, restore and enhance the unique natural and cultural heritage, but also to discover and understand more about this landscape and develop the skills and passion to care for it in the future by exploring new and innovative approaches through partnership working to resolve long standing issues.

Working with local communities, businesses and visitors the partnership will deliver a range of integrated projects that will address identified threats to this internationally important landscape. It will ensure that people can more easily discover, understand and cherish this unique place by providing opportunities for physical and intellectual access get them more closely involved in sustaining the heritage.

Through this greater understanding, involvement and engagement the fragile nature of the moor and unique layers of the historic landscape linked with natural environment will be unveiled, valued and protected for the benefit of future generations. The pride and passion created together with the development of key skills and a strong emphasis on linking the landscape with livelihoods will help ensure that the area and its heritage is cared for long into the future.

Management in the *Moor than meets the eye* area
National Park management purposes

Two statutory purposes of National Park designation were set out in the *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949*. The purposes were amended by the *Environment Act 1995* to the following:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage (of the National Parks); and
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities (of the National Parks) by the public

The 1995 Act also states that, in pursuing National Park purposes, National Park Authorities have a duty:

- To seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities (within the National Park) by working closely with the agencies and local authorities responsible for these matters.

National Parks have been confirmed by the Government as having the the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty and the statutory purposes help ensure their continued protection

The Sandford Principle

This concept in the management of protected landscapes in the United Kingdom, is called the 'Sandford Principle' after Lord Sanford who chaired the National Parks Policy Review Committee which reviewed National Parks in England and Wales between 1971 and 1974, and which addressed the two purposes and potential conflict between them. This stated that:

> *"National Park Authorities can do much to reconcile public enjoyment with the preservation of natural beauty by good planning and management and the main emphasis must continue to be on this approach wherever possible. But even so, there will be situations where the two purposes are irreconcilable... Where this happens, priority must be given to the conservation of natural beauty." (Lord Sandford, 1974)*

While remaining a guiding principle, this was not formally adopted in legislation until the Environment Act 1995 which states:

> *"In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in a National Park, any relevant authority shall have regard to the purposes ….. and, if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, shall attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park."*

In March 2010, Defra published the English *National Parks and the Broads: UK Government Vision and Circular*. This sees National Parks as thriving, living, working landscapes where sustainable development is seen in action, with the three 'pillars' of the economy, society and the environment being interconnected, and which included continuing affirmation of the Sandford Principle as part of this.

'Your Dartmoor': National Park Management Plan 2014 – 2019
The Management Plan is the single most important plan for the future of Dartmoor National Park. It provides an opportunity to bring together a wide range of people and organisations around a set of common goals, and responding to the challenges ahead. It is *the* strategic plan for the National Park, one that will guide decisions affecting Dartmoor's future over the coming five years.

The Management Plan is for the National Park as a whole and not just for the National Park Authority, although the Authority, along with many other stakeholders and the local community, will be key to the delivery of the Management Plan. *'Your Dartmoor'* is a Plan for *all* who care about Dartmoor and its future.

The Dartmoor National Park Local Development Framework
A Local Development Framework (LDF) is a set of planning documents containing the objectives and policies for development in a local planning area. It is the Local Plan for Dartmoor, with Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) being the local planning authority for the whole of the designated area of the National Park.

Core Strategy (adopted April 2008)
The Core Strategy outlines 'a spatial vision for the Dartmoor National Park', which includes:

> *Crucial to the future is the relationship between the local communities and the National Park itself. Both the working economy and the National Park's cultural identity are vested in the local people. They provide the continuity, support and living heritage that make each place much more than a mere location on a map. This vision for Dartmoor National Park is therefore one of balance, in which both stability and change are beneficial to local people and visitors alike, and the special qualities of Dartmoor are preserved for future generations as well as for those who visit and live in the National Park today."*
> (DNPA, 2008)

Among the Strategy's Core Strategic Aims are those which cover:

- Landscape Evolution
- Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Built Environment
- Recreation Use
- Tourism
- Farming

Development Management and Delivery Development Plan Document (adopted July 2013)
While the *Localism Act 2011* changed the structure and operation of the spatial planning system in England, putting greater emphasis on local decision-making and having a structure of *national policy – local plan – neighbourhood plan*, the Core Strategy remains the principal local planning document for Dartmoor National Park.

The Development Plan Document provides more detailed policies to supplement the more strategic policies, and as such forms part of the local plan.

These policies include those covering:

- Development management (including a presumption in favour of sustainable development)
- General development management (delivering National park purposes and protecting Dartmoor's special qualities, military-related development, sustaining the quality of places, etc)
- Environment and heritage (landscape, moorland and woodland, built environment, historic environment, archaeology, biodiversity and geological conservation, etc)
- Social and well-being (local services and facilities, etc)
- Health and well-being (public open space, recreation and amenity)
- Economy and transport (sustainable economic growth, agriculture and forestry, farm diversification, etc)
- Transport (car parks, public rights of way, etc)
- Tourism (visitor attractions, development of existing enterprises, accommodation)

There are also settlement policies and proposals which cover the larger settlements of the National Park (the Local Centres) and Rural Settlements. Within the *Moor than meets the eye* area, the relevant settlements are:

Local Centres

- Ashburton (including conserving the town's distinctive character and heritage as a Stannary town)
- Chagford (also an ancient Stannary town)
- Moretonhampstead (including reference to its railway heritage)

Rural Settlements

- Ilsington
- Liverton
- Lustleigh
- Manaton
- North Bovey
- Postbridge
- Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Dartmoor's Biodiversity Action Plan (DBAP)

Living Dartmoor: A Strategy to deliver benefits for Dartmoor's Wildlife is currently being produced by the Dartmoor Biodiversity Partnership and seeks to make good the gains achieved for Dartmoor's wildlife over the past 10 years through the Dartmoor Biodiversity Action Plan and develop new initiatives to deliver benefits for wildlife. It aims to co-ordinate work which will enable a network of healthy, diverse habitats to benefit wildlife, landscapes, people and natural resources over the next ten years. It includes the following objectives that are especially relevant to *Moor than meets the eye*:

- To maintain and where appropriate restore the semi-natural landscapes of Dartmoor;
- To achieve by 2022, an overall objective of 90% of priority habitats in 'good' condition and 90% of populations of key species either stable or increasing;
- To develop natural networks by creating greater habitat connectivity for the benefit of wildlife populations, enabling better adaptation to climate change impacts; and
- To promote greater public involvement in looking after and experiencing Dartmoor's biodiversity

This succeeds *Action for Wildlife: The Dartmoor Biodiversity Action Plan* which was produced in 2001 to establish objectives, targets and actions which were considered necessary to protect and enhance the wildlife heritage of Dartmoor until 2011, and which had targets and actions for 32 key species and 22 key habitats grouped into 20 action plans, including vegetation types and wildlife for which Dartmoor is of either national or international importance.

A review of the Action Plans in the DBAP was carried out in 2006 and again in 2011 at the end of the plan period. This final analysis showed that 64% of the targets set in 2001 were either met or exceeded, with a further 25% where some progress had been achieved but not completely delivered. The most successful delivery occurred through Partnership Projects with joint funding and a Project Officer able to spend the time needed to develop the necessary relationships with land mangers to achieve on the ground benefits for biodiversity.

Areas where the DBAP was somewhat less successful included enabling community or public involvement in biodiversity conservation. Although the difficulties of achieving long-term support for local initiatives are recognised, it was felt that communities and volunteers should be encouraged to be more involved in practical habitat management and surveying work, as well as understanding the aims of wildlife conservation. Given the limited resources to achieve this work, there is a key need to prioritise areas of higher importance to focus efforts.

On the completion of the DBAP, a further exercise was undertaken to assess the recent trends in the populations of key species populations highlighted within that document. This document, *The State of Dartmoor's Key Wildlife 2011* can be viewed from this link:

http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/243852/TheStateofDartmoorsKeyWildlfe.pdf

Production of Living Dartmoor has been influenced by the successes and shortcomings of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, the DBAP, the Dartmoor Vision produced in 2005.

Recreation and Access Strategy

This Strategy has been written within the context of the *Dartmoor National Park Management Plan 2007 - 2012*, which is the key strategic policy document for the National Park. The Strategy builds on the objectives and actions contained within the Management Plan. Whilst the Strategy has been written in a time of financial uncertainty, it identifies a direction of travel upon which we can allocate our resources, create worthwhile partnerships and build funding packages.

The Management Plan identified the need to update the Recreation Strategy and especially identified the need to plan for a shift to more sustainable recreational travel; to promote gateway towns; to consider pulling parking back from remote locations and developing enhanced access to rivers, reservoirs and woodlands where this is consistent with biodiversity objectives.

The Recreation and Access Strategy was developed to ensure that:

- everybody who wants to come and enjoy Dartmoor is able and confident to do so;
- the impact of recreation on the environment and local communities is minimised and the socio-economic benefit for local communities and businesses is maximised;
- visitor behaviour is informed; more visitors develop an understanding of the special qualities of Dartmoor and understand the need for visitor management and the role of farmers in helping to maintain the landscape;
- more visitors arrive and explore the National Park by foot, bicycle, or by shared, or public, transport;
- Dartmoor remains a place where people can continue to find peace and quiet;
- there is appropriate management of recreational activities to ensure that the right activities take place in the right places.

The Strategy shows management zones for recreation and access, all of which are relevant to *Moor than meets the eye* (shown in italics for each zone):

- Areas of Heavy Recreation Use:
  Already attract a wide range of users. High quality visitor infrastructure will be provided at key points within these areas and resources allocated for maintenance. Area management plans will be required to conserve and enhance special features.

  Haytor and Widecombe-in-the-Moor

- Areas for Exploration and Tranquility
  Moorland areas where infrastructure is carefully located at key access points and moor gates. Users will need to navigate and plan their own routes or go with a guide. Events and group activities will be carefully managed, especially in the bird breeding and lambing season.

  Grimspound and Hameldown, and much of the open moor

- Quiet Areas
  These will provide wildlife havens and solitude. Legal access will be maintained bur recreational infrastructure will be minimal. Guided and self-guided walks and events will be discouraged.

  The Cherry Brook corridor

- Areas of Opportunity:
  These areas offer scope for increased use if managed sustainably with improved recreation infrastructure: particularly

  2. Eastern Woods and Reservoirs – to improve opportunities for informal recreation and develop walking and cycling opportunities linked to key market towns and public transport

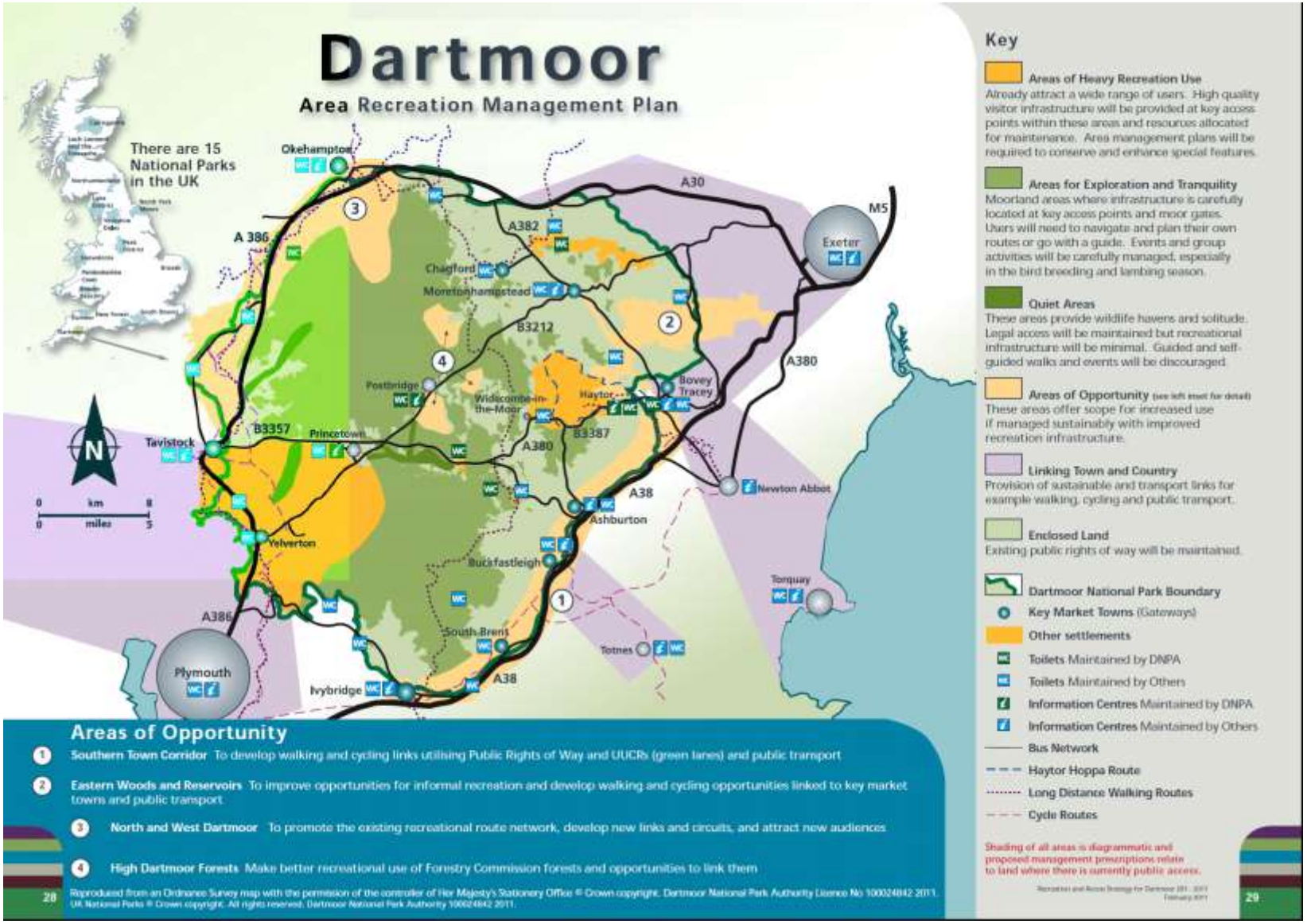
  This takes in the development of the Wray Valley Trail

  4. High Dartmoor Forests – make better use of Forestry Commission forests and opportunities to link them

  Bellever, Fernworthy and Soussons Forests

The Recreation and Access Strategy is set in the context of access legislation under the *Highways Act 1980*, the *Dartmoor Commons Act 1985*, and the *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2001* ('the CROW Act'), which includes the Devon Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2005 - 15) and consultation with the Dartmoor Access Forum.

Recreation on Dartmoor (© DNPA)


Dartmoor
Area Recreation Management Plan
There are 15 National Parks in the UK
Okehampton
A30
M5
Exeter
A 386
A382
Chagford
Moretonhampstead
B3212
A380
Postbridge
Widecombe-in-the-Moor
Haytor
Bovey Tracey
B3357
Princetown
Tavistock
B3387
A38
Newton Abbot
Ashburton
Yelverton
Buckfastleigh
Torquay
A386
South Brent
Totnes
Plymouth
Ivybridge
N
0 km 8
0 miles 5
Areas of Opportunity
1 Southern Town Corridor To develop walking and cycling links utilising Public Rights of Way and UUCRs (green lanes) and public transport
2 Eastern Woods and Reservoirs To improve opportunities for informal recreation and develop walking and cycling opportunities linked to key market towns and public transport
3 North and West Dartmoor To promote the existing recreational route network, develop new links and circuits, and attract new audiences
4 High Dartmoor Forests Make better recreational use of Forestry Commission forests and opportunities to link them
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Key
Areas of Heavy Recreation Use
Already attract a wide range of users. High quality visitor infrastructure will be provided at key access points within these areas and resources allocated for maintenance. Area management plans will be required to conserve and enhance special features.
Areas for Exploration and Tranquility
Moorland areas where infrastructure is carefully located at key access points and moor gates. Users will need to navigate and plan their own routes or go with a guide. Events and group activities will be carefully managed, especially in the bird breeding and lambing season.
Quiet Areas
These areas provide wildlife havens and solitude. Legal access will be maintained but recreational infrastructure will be minimal. Guided and self-guided walks and events will be discouraged.
Areas of Opportunity (see left inset for detail)
These areas offer scope for increased use if managed sustainably with improved recreation infrastructure.
Linking Town and Country
Provision of sustainable and transport links for example walking, cycling and public transport.
Enclosed Land
Existing public rights of way will be maintained.
Dartmoor National Park Boundary
Key Market Towns (Gateways)
Other settlements
Toilets Maintained by DNPA
Toilets Maintained by Others
Information Centres Maintained by DNPA
Information Centres Maintained by Others
Bus Network
Haytor Hoppa Route
Long Distance Walking Routes
Cycle Routes
Shading of all areas is diagrammatic and proposed management prescriptions relate to land where there is currently public access.
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DNPA Recreation and Access Strategy 2011 - 2017	
Theme 1: Sustainability and climate change To promote recreation choices which safeguard Dartmoor's special environment, for future generations to enjoy and contribute to reducing CO_2 emissions.	
Outcomes: • general recreation management will be based on a zonal plan which safeguards the special qualities and tranquility of the National Park, ensures recreation use does not detract from the special features of SACs (Special Areas of Conservation) and promotes the right activities in the right places; • visitor spend on local goods and services is increased; • the impact of recreation on the environment and local communities is minimised; • opportunities for people to enjoy woodlands and reservoirs is increased; • more people choose a sustainable transport option; • that the existing network of promoted walking and cycling routes is well managed and continues to be an important resource for visitors and residents alike	Challenges: 1. To manage recreation on a geographical basis to protect special qualities 2. To reduce the %age of visitors who arrive by and travel around the National park by car 3. To reduce the area where vegetation growth is impeding access 4. To ensure access infrastructure is in keeping with the landscape

Theme 2: Widening participation and improving accessibility To encourage access for all by removing barriers whether physical or perceptual	
Outcomes: • more people are aware of and have confidence to visit Dartmoor • if they want to; • more people without access to a car have transport options; • physical and perceptual barriers to access are identified and removed	Challenges: 1. To improve awareness and confidence particularly amongst young people, and those with special needs and health problems 2. To reduce the use of restrictive field furniture or other obstacles on PRoW and access land

Theme 3: Understanding and enjoyment To raise awareness of recreational opportunities and promote enjoyment and understanding of the special qualities of the National Park	
Outcomes: • more residents, visitors and potential visitors understand and appreciate the special qualities of the National Park and the role of farmers in maintaining the landscape; • more visitors and local people use our web site, our Information Centres and the wider Information Network for information about Dartmoor; • there is greater awareness of and feedback on current recreational opportunities and initiatives provided, maintained or promoted by DNPA; • the amount of litter in the National Park is reduced and DNPA's expenditure on litter collection and disposal is also reduced; • more dog walkers are clear about the advice on walking with dogs and the number of dog attacks on livestock is reduced	Challenges: 1. To improve awareness of DNPA web site as a source of information for visitors and local residents 2. To raise awareness of existing opportunities among communities and users 3. To reduce the amount and cost of litter collection 4. To improve the clarity of messages for dog owners and reduce dog attacks on livestock 5. To provide 'hands on' opportunities for people to enjoy the special qualities of Dartmoor and understanding the role of farming

Theme 4: Active lifestyles Opportunities for recreational activities will be developed, managed and promoted in a positive and sustainable way encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle	
Outcomes: • there is an increase in participation in sustainable outdoor recreation that enhances overall health and wellbeing	Challenges: 1. Maintain existing access land 2. To ensure that all large recreational events are well managed 3. To provide all recreational activities in a sustainable way, increasing opportunities where appropriate

Farming

For over 5,000 years farming has been the main land use on Dartmoor. Working and re-working the land, farmers have created and maintained a large part of the Dartmoor landscape. Today over 90% of the land within the National Park boundary is used for farming. Much of this area is both open and enclosed moorland where livestock is grazed, and the remainder is made up of fringe enclosed farmland which mainly comprises improved grassland. In addition, woods, shelterbelts, wetlands, rough pasture, traditional buildings and archaeological features all contribute to the character of the farmed land.

The well-being of the hill farming community is fundamental to the future of Dartmoor as a National Park in landscape, cultural, ecological and enjoyment terms and for the viability and sustainability of the local rural community. Employment, care for the landscape and the environment, tourism, family structure and life, tradition, rural services and businesses are all inter-related. All these elements come together to give us the Dartmoor we know today

Winter Feeding (© Nick Kendell)

Dartmoor Farming Futures

Dartmoor Farming Futures is an experimental pilot project aimed at developing a new approach to the management of the public and environmental benefits associated with Dartmoor's moorland that:

- Offers farmers and landowners more responsibility for the design and delivery of agri-environment schemes;
- Focuses on the complete range of public benefits (ecosystem services) that are associated with upland farming (from food production to carbon sequestration) and identifies priorities for particular spatial areas; and
- Facilitates a collaborative approach to agreeing the outcomes sought, delivering the management required and assisting with the monitoring of the process.

The initiative was developed by Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) and Dartmoor Commoners' Council (DCC) with support from the Duchy of Cornwall, Natural England (NE), Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB), South West Water (SWW) and the Ministry of Defence. The pilot resulted from a proposal to Defra in 2010 and is being run on two areas of common land: Haytor and Bagtor and the Forest of Dartmoor.

Farming Futures links into and complements the Dartmoor Vision. As part of the work on Farming Futures the original Dartmoor Vision was updated to include valued access, stored carbon and water resources. The vision has been used by the farmers participating in the initiative to design outcomes based on managing the public goods found on their common.

Farming Futures puts farmers at the heart of the process. In the first stage of the pilot farmers identified a range of outcomes that could be delivered from the land – these covered the full spectrum of ecosystem services from food production to water management where applicable. The farmers then used their expertise, experience and in-depth understanding of the land they farm to identify the management required to deliver these outcomes. Critical in this was the freedom to determine livestock numbers/stocking rates and dates for turning out and taking livestock off the common.

Dartmoor Vision
This is an environmental vision for Dartmoor's moorland produced in 2005 by a range of statutory agencies to give a clearer picture of what land management would be required to 2030.

The Vision is for Dartmoor to remain as the largest open space in southern England; for its archaeological remains to be protected and its wonderful wildlife to be conserved and enhanced. The landscape and associated ecological and cultural resources will be managed by farming systems that not only provide environmental benefits but also maintain the farming communities so essential to Dartmoor's future. Importantly, the Vision map identified that the future was a grazed landscape, and confirmed the role that farmers play.

Premier Archaeological Landscapes
The historic environment on Dartmoor is of great importance and value. Much of it is recognised as having international significance and containing archaeological landscapes deemed to be the finest in Europe. Fourteen such areas, described as Premier Archaeological Landscapes (PALs) have been identified.

These need to be protected and kept in their entirety in order to be appreciated and understood both intellectually and visually; consequently they require appropriate land management. The main objective is to ensure that in the PAL area, when land management is under consideration, their historical significance is recognised and respected.

The PALs arose as part of the process of creating a Vision for Dartmoor's Moorland in 2005. The Vision is endorsed by Dartmoor Commoners Council, Dartmoor National Park Authority, Defence Estates, English Heritage, Environment Agency and the ,Rural Development Service.

Those agencies responsible for the Vision have agreed that within each PAL the management requirements of the archaeologically important features, will take precedence over those required for their ecology.

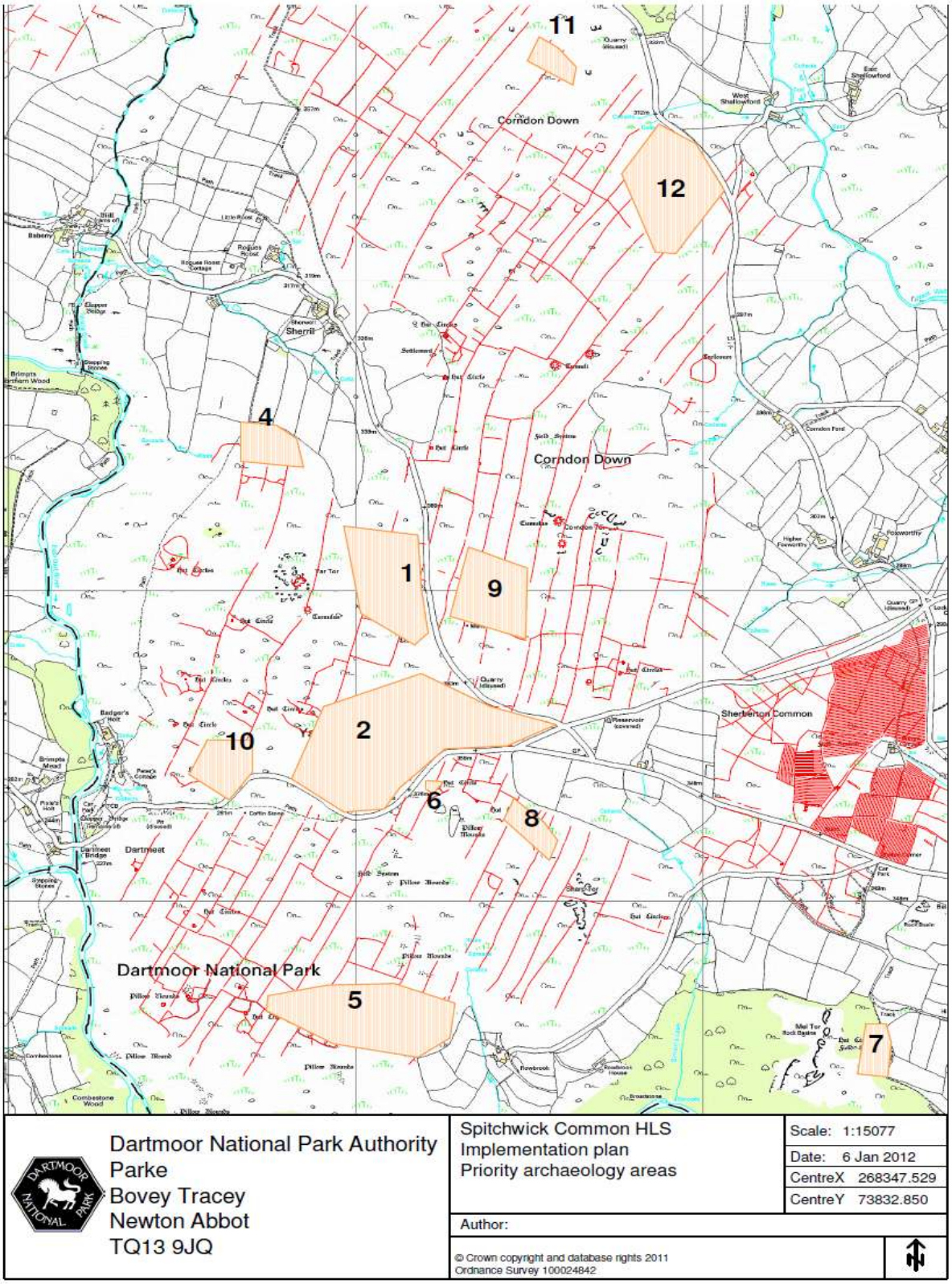
Agri-environment schemes including Higher Level Stewardship
Agri-environment Stewardship Schemes are currently the main funding source for land management within the National Park, with a large budget spent on annual payments. As such, if agreements are well set up and organised, they will enable local farmers to deliver considerable benefits for a wide range of interests associated with the Dartmoor landscape including the historic environment.

Where they are considered appropriate by Natural England, historic options can be used to protect, enhance or interpret features of historic environment interest within a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement.

As an example of using HLS to implement management of archaeological sites, Spitchwick Common is of international significance for its ceremonial sites, its Bronze Age parallel reave system which covers almost the entire Common, as well as having impressive medieval remains and an extensive rabbit warren. The area is part of the Dartmeet PAL, although few of the sites are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM).

The map attached to the HLS Implementation Plan clearly shows the parallel reave system, but also includes the following sites, which are high priority areas for management intervention:

1. Yar Tor - stone row and cairns (SAM)
2. Yar Tor Down- hut circles, reaves and medieval settlement
4. North Yar Tor Down – hut circles, enclosure and reave (SAM)
5. Vag Hill – prehistoric settlement and reaves
6. SW of Oldsbrim Cross – large hut circle (SAM)
7. E of Mel Tor – hut circle (SAM)
8. NW of Sharp Tor – two hut circles, enclosures and reaves
9. Corndon Tor – reave system
10. S of Yar Tor – prehistoric farmstead, including hut circle, enclosures and paddocks
11. N of Corndon Down – prehistoric farmstead, with hut circle and enclosure adjoining a reave



Spitchwick Common HLS Implementation Plan, showing parallel reave system and priority areas for management intervention © DNPA

The future of agri-environment schemes
The Environmental Stewardship Scheme is still open for business in certain, strictly limited, circumstances. During 2014 Natural England will be able to offer HLS agreements to cover SSSI land or other high priority sites with an existing ESA agreement which expires in 2014, and has already written to landowners and farmers that we know to be eligible under these criteria. For the wider upland environment Natural England will also be able to offer Upland Entry Level Stewardship (UELS) agreements to farmers in the LFAs

New schemes are being developed at the moment, further information is available at: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/developments.aspx

The proposed scheme structure will be different to Environmental Stewardship, the major change being that there will be no Entry Level Scheme. Natural England will also be moving to a single annual start date so the first agreements under the new schemes will begin on 1st January 2016. The aim is for the application process for the new schemes to open sometime during 2015.

A consultation has been undertaken on the structure of a reformed CAP. Within that consultation some specific proposals were raised for consideration as part of a new environmental scheme. These were:

- **Site specific agreements:** For designated / protected sites such as SSSIs or scheduled monuments and sites deemed of very high priority or complexity. By invitation only (similar to HLS), with access to full suite of new scheme options and capital items.

- **Area specific and / or landscape scale agreements**: Selection criteria to promote clusters of coordinated agreements to address key targets. Some element of scoring to decide which clusters are most beneficial. Limited list of options to address local priorities.

- **Universal capital grant:** England-wide list of capital items that could be delivered by land managers based on simple on-line guidance. Application rounds including some element of competition.

Ponies on Dartmoor
Ponies have lived on Dartmoor since prehistoric times and form a fundamental part of Dartmoor's heritage. By grazing the moorland they play a vital role in maintaining a variety of habitats and supporting wildlife. The management of Dartmoor's commons is underpinned by grazing livestock and the work of the commoners who maintain the traditional farming skills to help deliver this unique landscape.

Duchy of Cornwall
The Duchy of Cornwall extends to approximately 141,000 acres of land in twenty five Counties. Whilst the Duchy owns a significant area of land in Cornwall, the majority of its land is in Devon and the Dartmoor Estate comprises the largest single land holding of 67,500 acres. This includes 50,000 acres of common together with twenty one equipped farms, a number of separate agricultural lettings, residential and

commercial properties, making the Duchy the largest private land owner on Dartmoor, owning approximately one third of the National Park and one third of the *Moor than meets the eye* project area

The Dartmoor Estate is managed from Princetown where a small team of staff deal with day to day administration. The Duchy is heavily involved in a wide range of initiatives on Dartmoor which seek to support its tenants and the wider Dartmoor community. These include the *Moor than meets the eye* Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Other landowners
While the Duchy of Cornwall is the largest private landowner, there are a number of other larger estates. Spitchwick Manor covers a large part of the south of the *Moor than meets the eye* area, and includes important archaeological sites and areas, important wildlife habitats and areas of heavy visitor use in the Dart valley between Dartmeet and Newbridge.

Military
The Armed Forces train on 12,006 ha, which is about 12.5% of the total National Park area (95,311 ha), and about 25% of Dartmoor's open country. The vast majority of this land falls outside the *Moor than meets the eye* area, with range restrictions applying on 702 ha on that part of the Okehampton range on the high moor around Whitehorse and Hangingstone Hills.

Dartmoor's terrain, climate and isolation all provide a challenging environment to teach and practice individual skills. These are developed through tactical training from crew and team exercises up to the occasional brigade operations involving thousands of personnel.

The *Dartmoor Commons Act 1985* allows public access on foot and horseback over all unenclosed common land on Dartmoor, and the *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000* provides additional access opportunities on open country. For safety reasons, MoD Byelaws limit public access to the Range Danger Areas when live firing is programmed. At all other times, public access is unrestricted by military activities.

Forestry Commission Forest Design Plans
All Forestry Commission (FC) forests have a Forest Design Plan (FDP). These 30-year plans set out management proposals and aim to fulfil a number of objectives:

- Provide descriptions of the woods as they are now,
- Show the process the FC goes through when deciding what is best for the woods in the long term,
- Show how the woods should develop over the next thirty years,
- Specifically show tree felling and re-establishment in more detail for the first 10 years and in outline for the succeeding 20 years.

The aim is to produce a plan that meets the needs of those using the wood, meets the needs of the wildlife of the area and the needs of the FC, as managers of a

multipurpose sustainable resource. Often there are compromises to be made, but these are highlighted and justified in the plan.

The FDP for the FC forests on the high moor is due to be renewed within the life of the *Moor than meets the eye* scheme. This plan encompasses the forests at Fernworthy, Bellever, Soussons and Brimpts, all of which are in the project area. The FC will start work on the renewal in 2014 and the local community will be involved from an early stage. The following key areas will be addressed in the new FDP:

1. Specific thinning works around public roads, car parks and trails to make them more inviting to visitors.
2. Working with English Heritage and Dartmoor National Park archaeologists to plan the clearance of trees from some key archaeological sites. This will improve linkage between the sites, improve visitor access and ensure that the features are not at risk of damage by windblown trees.
3. Identification of alternative species to make the forests more resilient in the face of climate change
4. Softening of forest edges by introduction of some scalloping during the normal thinning cycle.
5. Positive management of existing areas of broadleaves and young broadleaved scrub, for example in river valleys. This will include liaison with the RSPB, to ensure optimum habitat conditions for the Red-backed Shrike.
6. Consideration will be given to the use of Continuous Cover silvicultural systems where appropriate.

The FDP will ensure compliance with the following standards:

- **The UK Forest Standard (UKFS).** The UKFS, supported by its series of Guidelines, outlines the context for forestry in the UK. It sets out the approach of the UK governments to sustainable forest management, defines standards and requirements, and provides a basis for regulation and monitoring.
- **The United Kingdom Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS).** The UKWAS is approved by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) schemes. Compliance with these schemes means that wood and other products from FC forests can display the international FSC and PEFC logos, which guarantee that they have come from well-managed, sustainable forests