

EXMOOR MOORLANDS

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

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THIS DOCUMENT

This paper has been produced by Rob Wilson-North (Exmoor National Park Authority) and Hazel Riley (English Heritage). It is intended to inform the evaluation of Exmoor National Park's moorlands (areas defined as such by Section 3) which is being carried out by Land Use Consultants, on behalf of the Exmoor Society, during 2004. It is a summary document which:

- i. Explains the historical development of Exmoor's moorlands
- ii. Sets out the principal archaeological components of the moorland landscape
- iii. Assesses the significance of the historic environment on the moorlands
- iv. Defines zones or areas which contain outstanding features of the historic landscape
- v. Sets out management recommendations

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ON THE MOORLANDS

- i. On Exmoor, as in other National Parks, the historic environment or the cultural heritage contributes significantly to the special qualities of the place. This reality was recognised in the Environment Act (1995) which gives National Park Authorities explicit duties to conserve and enhance the cultural heritage.
- ii. Within National Parks are concentrations of exceptionally well preserved archaeological monuments and relict landscapes, and the Monuments At Risk Survey (MARS) commissioned by English Heritage during the 1990s found that National Parks contained some of the best preserved archaeological sites in the country.
- iii. The relatively undestructive farming practices in marginal areas have led to the survival of sites and historic landscapes which, in lowland Britain, have largely been destroyed.
- iv. Archaeological sites on moorland in particular have suffered comparatively little.
- v. Cartographic information about the historic environment of the moorlands is summarised as follows:
 - a. A map of the sites and monuments record (ENPA digital data)
 - b. A map showing areas of exceptional historic and archaeological importance (ENPA data)
 - c. A map showing Scheduled Ancient Monuments (EH derived, ENPA digital data)

- d. A map showing the historic character of the landscape (EH derived, based on HLC database)
- e. Maps showing the former Royal Forest, the Commons and the extent of Parliamentary Inclosure (ENPA digital data)

A SUMMARY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXMOOR'S MOORLANDS

Exmoor's moorlands are themselves a product of management, and are therefore a feature of Exmoor's historic environment. They have been caused by a combination of climatic conditions and past farming practices (particularly during the Bronze Age, 2000-700BC).

The earliest evidence for human occupation on Exmoor occurs in the Late Mesolithic, when hunter-gatherer groups hunted across Exmoor. Evidence for this activity survives as flint scatters, the most notable of which is at Hawkcombe Head near Porlock. At this time much of what is now moorland was still woodland and scrub, with only the higher areas being recognisable as moorland. During the Neolithic period (4000-2000BC) standing stones were erected by the inhabitants of Exmoor as a feature of their ownership of the landscape. During the Bronze Age (2000-700BC) the landscape was extensively settled and farmed – cereal crops and pastoralism being practiced across Exmoor, pushing back the woodland. In the Iron Age (700BC-43AD) a deteriorating climate led to a concentration on more sheltered areas, although on Exmoor a number of sites from this period survive on the moorlands. The medieval period (410-1500AD) saw the increasing importance of the moorlands for grazing livestock and as a resource for fuel (peat and furze), and the remains of peat cutting across parts of the moorlands are an important survival from this activity. Many of the moorlands were Commons, and were reserved for the commoners of the parish, but the Royal Forest, created some time before the Norman Conquest, attracted farmers with grazing animals from much farther afield. The creation of the Royal Forest ensured that this area remained unenclosed until the nineteenth century. Also during the medieval period there was sporadic cultivation on parts of the moorlands, known as 'rye banks', especially perhaps during more favourable climatic interludes and as population pressures increased. In some places - Winsford Hill, Molland Common, Withypool Hill – more extensive, and planned field systems developed covering hundreds of hectares. A feature of these particular systems is slight narrow ridge and furrow ploughing, showing that the moorlands were actually ploughed up. During the nineteenth century many of the commons, and the Royal Forest itself, were enclosed by various Acts of Parliament and were transformed into the classic, regular hedged landscapes of that time, many at the instigation of major landowners. On the Royal Forest, this led to the creation of farms (several of which subsequently failed and reverted to moorland), sheep folds, drainage schemes, industrial prospecting and so on. However, parts of the Royal Forest and some of the commons remained unimproved. By the 1870s Holdstone Down was 'enclosed' by the people of Combe Martin in such a way that it remained open moorland in defiance of the Enclosure Commissioners. During WWII the remote areas of Exmoor were requisitioned for military training purposes. The remains of these activities now contribute to the story of how this landscape has been developed, and form important and increasingly rare survivals of this period of our history.

PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS OF THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

Whilst the entire historic fabric of the moorland landscape contributes to its overall character, there are specific principal human achievements that have shaped the landscape. They are:

i. Relict prehistoric landscapes

The absence of medieval and later farming on the moorlands has resulted in the survival of archaeological monuments from the earliest periods. These form a rare and nationally significant resource. The subtle and elusive nature of many of the remains, combined with a lack of previous archaeological research means that these sites are poorly understood and inadequately protected. They comprise:

- Bronze Age settlements (hut circles and enclosures) and field systems (eg Great Hill; Ilkerton; Pinford; Honeycombe Hill)
- Barrow groups (eg Dunkery; Chapman Barrows; Five Barrows)
- Standing stones: stone settings, stone circles, stone rows and isolated standing stones (eg Lanacombe; Almsworthy Common etc). Stone settings occur nowhere else in England, and are therefore a unique resource.
- Iron Age hillforts and enclosures (eg Cow Castle, Bat's Castle, Wind Hill)

ii. Medieval farming systems

The medieval farming landscape has played a major part in shaping the extent and form of the moorlands. Within the area of Section 3 moorland are many well preserved archaeological sites which both illuminate medieval farming practice and which also reflect the economy and structure of the hinterland at that time.

- Field systems and ridge & furrow (eg Winsford Hill, Anstey and Molland Commons, Withypool Hill)
- The relict medieval landscape at Badgworthy
- Peat cutting
- The commons
- The Royal Forest

iii. Parliamentary Inclosure and the Reclamation of The Royal Forest

The process of reclamation (or agricultural improvement) led to the loss of moorland on Exmoor. However, in some cases the moorlands contain evidence of the farming systems for which the moors were being reclaimed. As such these areas contain a record of how these areas were improved and to what purposes they were put – in fact they give us an insight into Victorian farming methods.

- Sheep folds
- Drainage systems
- Gutter systems
- Hoar Oak gate post factory
- Larkbarrow and Tom's Hill
- Industrial workings on the former Royal Forest
- Simonsbath-Porlock railway

- Pinkery Pond

iv. Military training landscapes

During WWII the remoter parts of Exmoor were requisitioned for military training. The archaeological remains in these areas form an important survival because elsewhere in England many such sites have been destroyed or have continued to evolve as modern military training grounds with the loss of earlier phases of use.

- Brendon Common (weapons training range; MacLaren memorial)
- North Hill (tank training grounds)

SIGNIFICANCE

The over-arching feature of the archaeology on the moorlands is the extremely high quality of preservation. This makes the resource as a whole of national importance, and it is as such that it should be regarded. Its chronological and functional complexity means that the entire area of the moorlands is of historic importance.

Some sites are designated Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), which means that they have statutory protection, although the current level of scheduling is inadequate and does not reflect the high quality of what survives on the ground.

The relict prehistoric landscapes are nationally and probably internationally significant. They form a rare and very extensive survival of entire past landscapes across the range of human endeavour: living, farming, religion and burial. These types of landscape are practically non-existent in southern England and are rare across the country as a whole. The survival of these prehistoric landscapes as upstanding remains makes them accessible to the ordinary visitor in a way that many lowland landscapes with flattened sites on private land are not.

These remains often survive in association with significant palaeo-environmental deposits which contain a wealth of information about past environments, and form an integral part of the 'evidence'. In addition to the quality of preservation of these sites and the remarkable concentration of monuments, categories such as stone settings (which are probably late Neolithic/early Bronze Age) are unique to Exmoor and occur nowhere else in Britain.

The combined evidence for medieval farming across the moorlands is probably regionally significant. The extent and preservation of these remains on Winsford Hill, Withypool Common, Molland Common and so on is exceptional, although they may represent a relatively peripheral and short-lived activity. Much more needs to be learnt about these phenomena before their relative importance can be ascertained. The deserted medieval settlements form a nationally important resource and are particularly important where they survive with associated field systems.

The evidence for reclamation – particularly within the former Royal Forest – is locally very significant, and may even be regarded as nationally significant in terms of economic history. Areas such as Larkbarrow and Tom's Hill owe their landscape character and their very special qualities to these activities during the nineteenth century.

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Whilst the overall preservation of sites on moorland is very good, recent monitoring work has demonstrated that considerable pressures exist on the archaeology. For example, the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England's (RCHME) survey of standing stones, which was carried out between 1989 and 1991 found that 10% of the monuments had been lost in the last century (Quinnell & Dunn 1992). More recent monitoring of standing stones on Exmoor National Park Authority owned land and the Badgworthy Land Company estate has shown similar patterns of destruction (Blackmore 2002; Dray 2003). There is no reason to be complacent, just the opposite in fact, as the pressures facing the moorlands change and new challenges emerge. Archaeological sites on moorland can be destroyed with alarming rapidity. The vulnerability of these sites is attested repeatedly. For examples:

- At Hawkcombe Head, flints and other archaeological material dating from the late Mesolithic period, some 7000 years ago, lie only 15 centimetres below the modern ground surface - 4 x 4 vehicles driving across the moor have caused considerable destruction at the site
- Close by at Whit Stones, severe damage to a Bronze Age burial cairn occurred within the space of less than four years. This damage seems to have been caused initially by horses wearing a shallow track over the surface of the moor, this subsequently formed a channel for surface rainwater draining off the surface of the moor, which led to erosion of the burial mound.

Whilst there can be no definitive list of management pressures on archaeological sites and the historic environment in general, it is helpful to summarise the main activities and issues which threaten aspects of the historic environment. Further work is required to fully identify the factors that are driving change, and to ensure that the historic environment is addressed in such processes.

1. Farming

Farming has created, and continues to shape, Exmoor's moorlands. It is fundamental to their survival. However, in recent years, some farming practice has led to the destruction of some sites and the partial loss of others. Good farming practice, which fundamentally values the historic environment, is the key to the proper management of the moors.

- i. Erosion caused by livestock. This is exacerbated by inappropriate feeding and supplementary feeding locations. It is a particular problem with standing stones. Regular monitoring of sensitive sites is required. Care should be taken over the positioning of feeders.
- ii. Vehicle damage. This is usually inadvertent damage caused by vehicles and quad bikes driving over archaeological sites, but is becoming a more frequent problem. It also includes damage caused by mowing, flailing and bracken cutting. Maps showing the location of sensitive sites should be issued, where possible, to those using the moor, especially in the case of contractors (who may not be familiar with the location of sites). Vehicle access should be discouraged unless absolutely necessary. When gateways are located close to

archaeological sites, extreme care should be taken. In extreme cases consideration may be given to erecting temporary markers at sensitive sites.

- iii. Ploughing and ground preparation. On the moorlands this is only likely to be relevant in the case of heather restoration. Any such operations could be extremely hazardous for moorland archaeology and should only be carried out after thorough consultation with the National Park Authority Archaeologist.
- iv. Swaling. This can cause damage to archaeological sites. A firebreak of no less than 5 metres and up to 10 metres should be instated around sensitive archaeological sites (principally standing stones). It is important that those engaged in swaling know the location of archaeological sites and avoid causing damage when driving to and from burning areas.
- v. Drainage works. This not only causes damage to archaeological sites, but can also alter the hydrology leading to a loss of peat and palaeo-environmental deposits. Drainage can also lead to more rapid dispersal of surface water, which in turn can cause damage to archaeological sites further downhill.

2. Visitor pressure

- i. Damage caused by visitors is only a major issue at one site on Exmoor: Dunkery Beacon. However, it is likely that such pressure will increase in coming years. Greater access to the historic environment is desirable for residents of Exmoor and visitors alike, and it is unlikely that great pressure will be felt on many sites over the coming years. However, it is recommended that sensitive sites are monitored and that such monitoring is co-ordinated with other surveys being carried out as a consequence of the Countryside and Rights Of Way Act (CROW).
- ii. Mountain biking. This is not a current problem but may become so in future years. Certain sensitive sites (like some of the hillforts) may require monitoring and remedial action.
- iii. Trail biking. This is becoming an issue on a few sites where damage is beginning to occur.
- iv. Pony trekking and hunting. Localised damage has occurred on some sites. Those responsible for such activities should ensure that care is taken to avoid the location of sensitive sites.
- v. Four x four vehicles. These are causing more widespread damage, especially when used away from rights of way. When this occurs they can cause inadvertent damage to archaeological remains. The use of off-road vehicles by some hunt supporters has caused severe damage at certain sites (eg Hawkcombe Head).

3. Vandalism

- i. Vandalism has been noted on some standing stones where deliberate destruction has taken place (Quinnell & Dunn 1992). In February 2004 a stone was removed from the Porlock stone circle and in a separate and unrelated incident, the Caractacus Stone was painted as a protest against the National Trust. Monitoring with subsequent repair and conservation where appropriate.

4. Vegetation

- i. Bracken. Bracken rhizomes are highly detrimental to archaeological remains. The most sensitive sites on Exmoor are prehistoric and medieval settlements. It is highly desirable that control of bracken is established on these sites.
- ii. Scrub. Given the uncertain future of farming, and the recent history of overgrazing on parts of Exmoor, it is possible that some areas will be at risk from scrubbing up in the future. This is potentially undesirable, in that invasive, unchecked vegetation may cause damage to archaeological remains. 'Scrubbing up' also renders archaeology less accessible to the residents of Exmoor, visitors and for educational visits. It is an undeniable feature of the archaeology of the moorlands that these sites and landscapes can be appreciated and visualised more clearly when they are not covered in deep vegetation. In addition, scrubbing up may lead to the concentration of vehicles and livestock on specific parts of the landscape which may be detrimental to archaeological sites in those areas. A balance of ecological and archaeological needs is required here, one that allows for a mosaic of vegetation. This would favour known archaeological remains (which, on Exmoor, are not as extensive as Bodmin and Dartmoor).

5. Maintaining water tables

- i. A significant aspect of the historic environment of Exmoor's moorlands is the information contained within waterlogged deposits, principally contained within blanket bog and valley mire sites. This takes the form of environmental evidence (pollen and faunal remains) as well as artefacts. For these deposits to survive it is critical that water tables are maintained, and where appropriate restored to former levels. Any such activities should be carried out in a way that does not damage these deposits.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. There is no overall management strategy to protect the historic environment on the moorlands. Such a strategy would be highly desirable.
- ii. It is essential that management plans for parts of the moorlands are fully integrated to ensure sustainable management and conservation of all parts of the environment. There is a lack of integrated land management on the moorlands, fully taking into account all aspects of the landscape. It is imperative that management plans are fully integrated.
- iii. Regular monitoring and condition surveys are a fundamental part of protecting the historic environment, and must be a key part of any future management strategy.
- iv. Due to the lack of previous work many sites are not Scheduled Ancient Monuments and therefore do not receive statutory protection. It should

- be a priority of any management strategy to increase the number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- v. In tandem with iv., other methods of protection/designation should be sought. It would be very desirable to have a local designation which selects the most important sites and areas - using objective criteria. This designation would lead to a List which could be adopted by the National Park Authority.
 - vi. The responsibility to preserve and protect the resource rests with landowners, tenants, DEFRA, English Nature, English Heritage and the National Park Authority. It is clear that even small changes to the management regime can have very detrimental effects on specific sites. Such changes should be adequately explored, at a very early stage, with interested parties to ensure a sustainable future for the historic environment.
 - vii. It is one of three key priorities of the Exmoor Historic Environment Research Strategy 2004-9 to find out more about relict prehistoric landscapes. A better understanding of these areas will inform future management - encouragement should be given to such research.
 - viii. The Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) of Exmoor did not integrate current land use with archaeological data. It would be desirable to develop an integrated HLC for the moorlands as part of an overall management strategy.
 - ix. Any revision of the extent of Section 3 moorland should take account of the historic landscape, especially where areas of exceptional historic and archaeological importance fall partially within and partially outside the area as defined under Section 3. New candidate areas for possible inclusion under Section 3 moorland should be chosen partly with regard to their historic importance and archaeological content which may be a factor in support of their inclusion. However, proposed reversion of areas of former moorland - for example, the commons which were enclosed in the nineteenth century – would have detrimental consequences for the historic landscape character of Exmoor.

AREAS OF EXCEPTIONAL HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

DEFINITION

Forty-seven areas of exceptional historic and archaeological importance have been identified. These have been chosen against a set of explicit criteria, set out below. These areas should be seen in conjunction with the sites and monuments record data and, critically, alongside the list of Scheduled Ancient Monuments. They have been chosen to reflect the best examples and diversity of the historic environment on the moorlands, when set against our current level of understanding.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

A number of criteria were used when considering the areas of exceptional historic and archaeological importance.

1. Numbers

Areas which contain an unusual number, or concentration, of a particular type of monument or monument group

2. Associations

Areas where monuments can be shown to be associated with other groups of monuments, either spatially or (more unusually) temporally

3. Completeness

Areas where the survival of archaeological features is such that a relict landscape of a particular period is preserved, in a largely undamaged form, in a discrete area

4. Complexity

Areas where the survival of archaeological features is such that sites of different time periods are preserved

5. Special degree of preservation

Areas where the degree of survival of archaeological remains is unusually high

6. Special or unique to Exmoor

Areas which make a special contribution to telling the story of Exmoor's past

7. Contributing significantly to the character of the landscape

Areas where the nature of the archaeology contributes directly to the landscape character

1.

LANACOMBE – STONE SETTINGS COMPLEX

A concentration of very well preserved early prehistoric stone settings ranged along the spur known as Lanacombe.

2.

FURZEHILL – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

Group of early prehistoric stone monuments: stone settings and a stone row in association with several small cairns; a very good association of monuments.

3.

CHAPMAN BARROWS – EARLY PREHISTORIC BARROW GROUP

Extensive and very visible linear ridge top barrow cemetery consisting of at least 11 substantial burial mounds and a stone setting.

4.

RADWORTHY – POST MEDIEVAL RELICT FARMING LANDSCAPE

Complete deserted post medieval farmstead and associated relict field system; the farm is mentioned at Domesday.

5.

THE LONG STONE AND WOODBARROW GROUP – EARLY PREHISTORIC BARROW COMPLEX

Exceptional linear barrow group with massive isolated standing stone.

6.

VALLEY OF ROCKS – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

Extensive early prehistoric field system and settlement sites.

7.

COUNTISBURY AND LYN GORGE – IRON AGE AND MEDIEVAL COMPLEX

Iron Age settlement complex comprising, Wind Hill and the Myrtleberrys (North and South). It also includes the medieval spur end complex on Trilly Ridge (Homer's Neck).

8.

SHOULSBURY – IRON AGE HILLFORT

Well preserved Iron Age hillfort located in a dramatic position on the crest of the southern escarpment.

9.

SETTA BARROW – EARLY PREHISTORIC BARROW GROUP

Early prehistoric barrow cemetery, exhibiting a variety of constructional forms.

10.

FIVE BARROWS – EARLY PREHISTORIC BARROW GROUP

Highly visible early prehistoric barrow cemetery.

11.

THORN HILL – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

Early prehistoric settlement and field system.

12.

BADGWORTHY – RELICT MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE

Relict medieval landscape, comprising the remains of a well preserved deserted settlement and extensive field system.

13.

BADGWORTHY HILL – PREHISTORIC COMPLEX

Complex of two prehistoric ritual enclosures.

14.

TROUT HILL & PINFORD – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

Complex early prehistoric landscape comprising: stone settings, field banks, burial mounds and settlement remains.

15.

GREAT HILL – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT FIELD SYSTEM AND HUT CIRCLES

Very well preserved prehistoric field system and three hut circles, forming a coherent and self contained complex.

16.

PORLOCK ALLOTMENT – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

Extensive prehistoric landscape with exceptional density of settlement sites – both enclosed and unenclosed – in conjunction with significant ritual monuments, which include a stone circle and stone row.

17.

HAWKCOMBE HEAD – LATE MESOLITHIC HUNTING CAMP

Exceptionally well preserved Late Mesolithic hunting camp, comprising extensive flint scatters and possible evidence for occupation.

18.

ALDERMAN'S BARROW & MADACOMBE – EARLY PREHISTORIC STONE ROW AND BURIAL MOUNDS

Early prehistoric stone row associated with substantial burial mounds.

19.

HONEYCOMBE HILL – EARLY PREHISTORIC RELICT LANDSCAPE

A complex prehistoric landscape comprising a stone row, standing stones, a burial mound, hut circles, field systems and an enclosure.

20.

ROW BARROW GROUP – BARROW COMPLEX

One of a series of barrow cemeteries along the Dunkery Ridge. This example includes several barrows with complex form.

21.

DUNKERY BEACON – BARROW COMPLEX

One of a series of barrow cemeteries along the Dunkery Ridge. The Dunkery group includes several barrows with kerbing.

22.

ROBIN AND JOANEY HOW – BARROW COMPLEX

One of a series of barrow cemeteries along the Dunkery Ridge. This group form a significant cluster around Robin and Joaney How.

23.

SWEETWORTHY – IRON AGE ENCLOSURES AND DESERTED MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT

A group of Iron Age enclosures and a deserted medieval settlement.

24.

MANSLEY COMBE – PREHISTORIC AND MEDIEVAL RELICT FIELD SYSTEMS

An early prehistoric field system; it is overlain by medieval fields and a deserted medieval settlement.

25.

BURY CASTLE, SELWORTHY – IRON AGE ENCLOSURE

A well preserved Iron Age enclosure with two outworks.

26.

COW CASTLE – IRON AGE HILLFORT

A very well preserved Iron Age hillfort in a dramatic location on a knoll within the Barle valley.

27.

BAT'S CASTLE & GALLOX HILL – IRON AGE HILLFORTS

Two well preserved Iron Age hillforts with outworks, set within Dunster deerpark.

28.

BRENDON COMMON - WWII WEAPONSTESTING SITE

Site of observation building and range; memorial stone to Colonel MacLaren.

29.

BLUE GATE – IRON MINING COMPLEX

Well preserved nineteenth century iron mining site, including shafts, spoil heaps, prospection pits, roads and the sites of several buildings.

30.

CORNHAM FORD & ROMAN LODE – IRON MINING COMPLEX

Very extensive nineteenth century iron mining complex with shafts, spoil heaps, a wheel pit and the remains of several buildings. Roman Lode consists of a 600 metre long mining trench which may date back to the medieval period or even earlier.

31.

LARKBARROW & TOM'S HILL – NINETEENTH CENTURY RECLAMATION

The remains of two nineteenth century farms created by the Knight family as part of their reclamation of Exmoor. It includes the farmsteads, fields, gutter systems and the remains of extensive peat cutting.

32.

WARREN FARM – RABBIT WARREN

A very well preserved and substantial rabbit warren, comprising a number of pillow mounds, perhaps dating from the seventeenth century.

33.

LEY HILL – RELICT MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE

A deserted medieval settlement with associated relict field system; an Iron Age enclosure.

34.

RELICT MEDIEVAL FIELD SYSTEM EAST OF PICKEDSTONES

Very well preserved relict medieval field system with associated drove way leading to former Royal Forest.

35.

MOLLAND COMMON – RELICT MEDIEVAL FIELD SYSTEMS

Very well preserved relict medieval field system.

36.

WINSFORD HILL – RELICT MEDIEVAL FIELD SYSTEMS

Very well preserved relict medieval field system.

37.

WHEAL ELIZA – POST MEDIEVAL MINING COMPLEX

The remains of a nineteenth century iron and copper mine.

38.

GREXY COMBE – RELICT MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE

Two deserted medieval settlements with associated field system.

39.

MOOR WOOD – WWII ACCOMMODATION COMPLEX

WWII accommodation buildings for tank training range and Cold War radar installation.

40.

EAST MYNE - WWII TANK TRAINING RANGE

Comprises target railway and triangular tank circuit.

41.

SELWORTHY BEACON - WWII TANK TRAINING RANGE

Comprises target railway and triangular tank circuit.

42.

BOSSINGTON HILL - WWII TANK TRAINING RANGE

Comprises target railway and triangular tank circuit.

43.

BURGUNDY CHAPEL – RUINS OF MEDIEVAL CHAPEL

Ruins of medieval chapel created by the Luttrell family.

44.

HOLDSTONE DOWN – EARLY PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT COMPLEX

Unusual concentration of hut circles overlooking the coastal cliffs.

45.

HOLDSTONE DOWN – NINETEENTH CENTURY PARLIAMENTARY ENCLOSURE

The main part of Holdstone Down was enclosed c. 1870 by Act of Parliament, by the commoners of Combe Martin who usurped the Parliamentary process to preserve the area as open moorland.

46.

BROCKWELL PITS – EARLY IRON MINING SITE

Early iron mining site.

47.

KITNOR HEATH – EARLY IRON MINING OPENWORK

Early iron mining openwork.

48.

CODSEND MOORS - EARLY PREHISTORIC FIELD SYSTEMS, PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOSITS AND RECLAMATION

This is an area of extensive and exceptionally well preserved multi-phase field systems with evidence of enclosed and unenclosed settlement. There is also excellent palaeo-environmental potential. The area was enclosed in the early nineteenth century, and this phase of reclamation adds to the historical significance.

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