

Under Whitle, Sheen, Staffordshire

Archaeological Field Survey for
the Peak District Environmental
Quality Mark Scheme

2005

Jim Rylatt

Survey Archaeologist

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STAFFORDSHIRE**

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***CULTURAL HERITAGE TEAM
PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY***

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INTRODUCTION

The archaeological survey of this area was carried out in 2004 for Mr & Mrs Walker, the owners, as part of the assessment for The Peak District Environmental Quality Mark Scheme, by staff of the National Park Authority (our ref. FCE 46). The survey area comprised one holding north of Sheen. The principal buildings of Under Whittle (feature 1) are located at Ordnance Survey National Grid reference SK 107 639.

The survey comprised a systematic search of the farmland and discoveries were sketch-plotted on an Ordnance Survey 1:2500 base (the Peak District National Park Authority's Phase 1 survey standard). Time did not allow an extensive archive search to be undertaken and this report should not be taken as a history of the farmland, but one that largely concentrates on the identified archaeology.

The Glossary contains archaeological terms, and their meanings, used in the text.

It should be noted that although Under Whittle was surveyed systematically, this was done rapidly over a short period of time. There may well be some archaeological features which were missed, particularly if the earthworks are low to the ground. This is inevitable since some features are only visible under specific light conditions, for example, when the sun is low or at a particular angle. Vegetation also causes seasonal problems, for example, in spring and summer

A further problem to note is that any archaeological feature visible at the surface may also have buried deposits beneath it. These include foundations, postholes, pits and artefacts. Pits in particular often contain deposits which tell us much about the people who dug them. Where surface earthworks have been levelled, often hundreds of years ago, the buried archaeology can often still remain. Thus, there may well be further important archaeological sites on the farmland that still remain undiscovered.

PROJECT:
Under White, Sheen

ILLUSTRATION No. 1

TITLE: Location of survey area

FIELDWORK DATE: May 2004

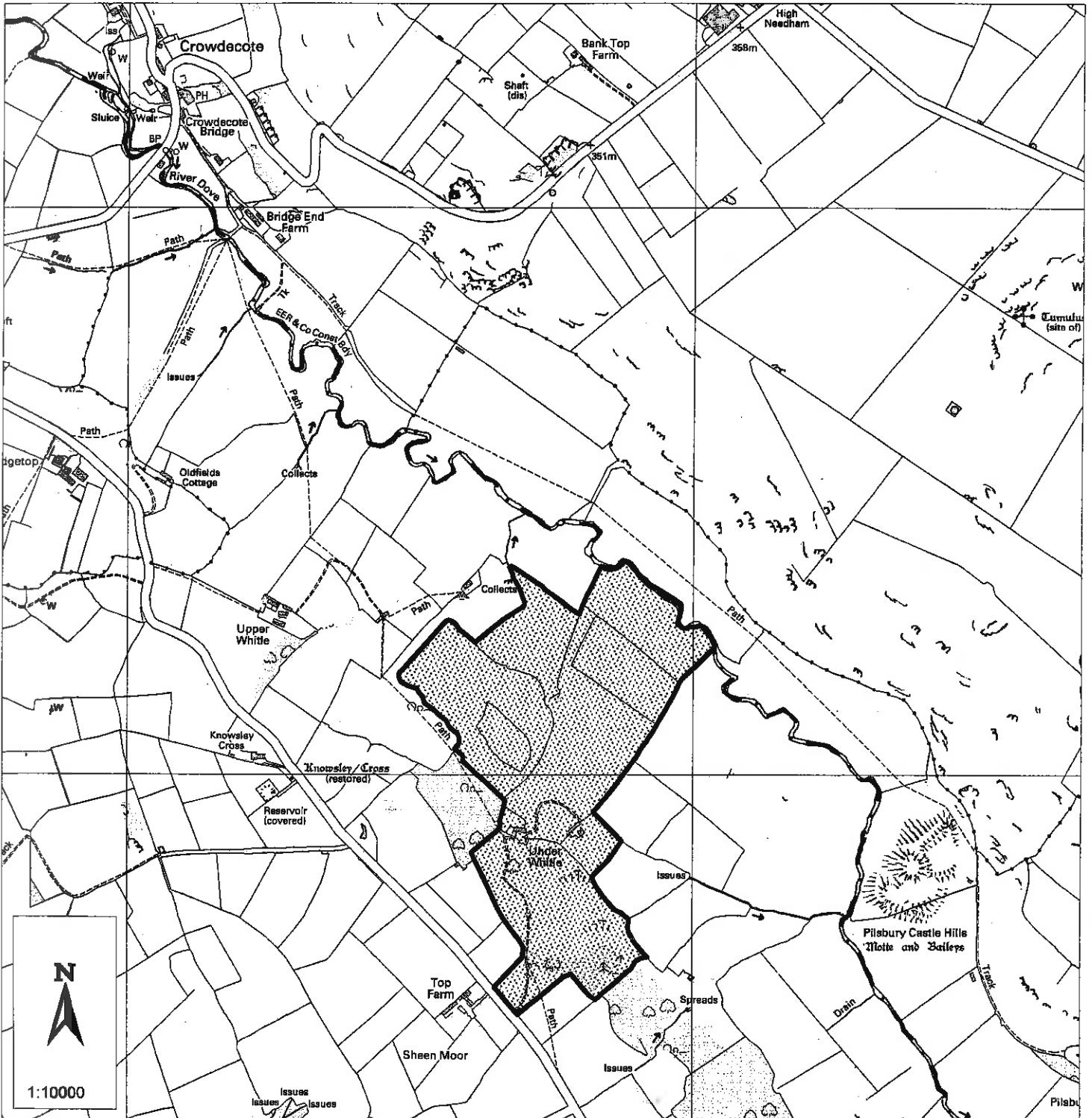
DRAWING DATE: May 2004

DRAFTSPERSON: JR



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CATALOGUE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

Archaeological Features

1. Under Whittle – Farmhouse, Outbuildings, Spring-Head, Sink, Cheese Press and Worked Stone (Illus. 2)

The farmhouse is of 18th or earlier 19th century date, but incorporates some reused 17th century fabric and possibly utilises earlier foundations (photographed). A small traditional outbuilding is located to the north-west of the farmhouse, and another outbuilding of late 19th century date lies to the south (photographed). The farmyard also contains a spring-head and several pieces of worked masonry, including a trough and components of a cheese press (photographed).

The two-storey farmhouse is built from coursed gritstone and sandstone blocks, with large rectangular gritstone quoins and a clay tile roof. Examination of the walls suggests that they result from four distinct episodes of building. The earliest phase survives at the base of the western elevation and the north-west corner of the building where roughly coursed sandstone blocks step out slightly from the line of the superimposed walls. The next phase survives to the top of the ground-floor windows, and in some places to the bottom of the first floor windows, and comprises roughly squared or tabular gritstone and sandstone blocks that were set in slightly irregular courses; the faces and edges of these blocks are weathered and rounded. The third phase consists of regular courses of elongated tabular gritstone blocks, which form the walls of the first floor. The fourth phase comprises the four upper courses of the northern and southern walls and tops of the gables, which are constructed from regular sub-rectangular blocks with tooled surfaces. This latter work is associated with the addition of a garret (attic floor) during a major remodelling of the house in the 1880s (E. Walker, *pers. comm.*). The two ridge chimney-stacks that are situated at either gable end also formed part of this modernisation. They are built from tooled sandstone blocks, with ashlar mouldings forming the chimney caps and a string course at the base of each stack

Examination of the southern side of the building (front elevation) suggests that the farmhouse was utilised as a symmetrical pair of semi-detached cottages for part of its history. There are two first-floor windows and two ground-floor windows, the latter originally flanking a pair of doorways, but the eastern door has been blocked. Each of the south-facing windows has a large gritstone lintel, but the example on the western side of the ground-floor is a reused lintel or sill from a splay-moulded, two-light mullioned window that was originally in a 17th century building. A series of irregular blocks form the jambs of each of these four windows, while the sills are formed from elongated pieces of gritstone. The three windows in the western wall are all situated to the north of the chimney stack. The ground-floor and first-floor windows are of identical construction, their jambs being formed by 'long and short work'. The garret window has a dressed surround that probably formed part of the alterations of c. 1880. Four windows are set into the northern wall of the farmhouse. Two are at first-floor level, the more easterly example being a modern insertion, while the other is located at the centre of the wall and has crude splay-moulding on the jambs and lintel. The narrow window at the western end of the ground-floor is possibly a relatively late insertion, but the eastern example is older and has an oversized lintel, above which there is a crude drip mould formed by a projecting slab. The two ground-floor windows flank a single storey offshut constructed from relatively uniform, coursed sandstone blocks, which are comparable to the stones used to construct the garret in the latter part of the 19th century. A reused 17th century splay-moulded, three-light mullioned window is set into the eastern wall of the offshut.

Another late 19th century window is set into the upper part of the eastern wall of the farmhouse to illuminate the garret. The lower part of the eastern wall is obscured by a one and a half-storey outbuilding constructed from coursed gritstone and sandstone blocks with a clay tile roof. This outbuilding is of later 18th or earlier 19th century date and it was used as a stable until the latter part of the 20th century, when it was converted to form part of the farmhouse, the northern and eastern walls being rebuilt during these alterations. The

southern elevation, the only original wall to survive, has three openings. A door situated at the eastern side of the ground-floor has a large sandstone lintel and jambs formed from big blocks. To the west of this door is a small window, beyond which there is a flight of stone steps leading to a low doorway that provided access to the upper storey of the stable. A small, single-storey stone extension built against the eastern wall of the former stable in the late 20th century provides access to a conservatory.

A number of pieces of worked stone lie upon or are incorporated into a flagged patio area that runs to the south and east of the extension and conservatory. These items include the sandstone base of a cheese press, 1.25m long, by 0.35m wide and 0.15m deep, which is carved with two circular grooves, each of which are divided into quadrants. There is also a weathered fragment of dressed sandstone that probably formed part of a jamb or mullion from a 16th – 17th century window; preserved on one side is a rebate that probably contained and supported the end of a transom. Also located on the patio was a doughnut-shaped piece of dressed sandstone, which could possibly have been used as a weight. It was 0.25m in diameter with a slightly tapering hole, up to 0.05m in diameter, which passed through the centre. There were a number of small circular depressions at regular intervals around the outer edge of one side, while on the other side there were two small square mortises, containing the remains of iron bars, which flanked the central aperture.

A one and a half-storey outbuilding is located in garden immediately to the north-west of the farmhouse. The southern elevation is built from coursed gritstone and sandstone blocks, but the other three walls were constructed with irregular rubble. The corners of the building are formed by large gritstone quoins comparable to those used in the farmhouse. The roof is covered with clay tiles that are topped by three large carved stone ridge tiles that have been salvaged from an earlier building. In the southern wall are a ground-floor door and picking hole at loft level. The lintel for the picking hole is a reused lintel or sill from a splay-moulded, two-light mullioned window from a 17th century building, and a rebate and mortice cut into the lintel above the door suggests that it is also a piece of reused masonry. There is a small vent at ground-floor level in the eastern wall and another in the gable of the northern wall. This outbuilding was used as an outside toilet during the first half of the 20th century, but the presence of a picking hole suggests that this was not its original function.

There is a spring at the western edge of the farmyard, immediately to the south-west of the farmhouse. The water discharges into a small gritstone trough, which is now surrounded by a small decorative structure built by the present owners of the farm. This garden feature incorporates a number of pieces of reused masonry, including a finely carved stone fireback, probably of 19th century date, which was removed from the fireplace at the western end of the farmhouse (E. Walker, *pers. comm.*), and the sill or lintel from a splay-moulded window.

A single-storey outbuilding to the south-east of the farmhouse is built from coursed sandstone blocks with a clay tile roof. It was built as a pair of pigsties and has two doors in the south-west wall that open onto small walled pens, which incorporate feeding troughs. There is a window in the gable of the north-west wall and a carved stone drain exits the north-eastern wall near ground level. An old sandstone sink that was removed from the farmhouse during renovation (E. Walker, *pers. comm.*) now lies adjacent to the north-west wall of the pig pen. A little further to the east, against the wall of the pigsty, is a large block of sandstone that formed the top of a cheese press. To the south-west of the pigsties are two adjoining outbuildings built from coursed sandstone blocks with clay tile roofs. Although both were erected during the 20th century, they incorporate several lintels and sills that have been salvaged from earlier buildings.

Whittle is first mentioned in a document of 1407 and this suggests that there was already some form of settlement here by the early 15th century (Greenslade 1996). The first specific reference to a farm at Under Whittle was made in 1711 in the will of John Hayne, one of two lay rectors in the Parish of Sheen. Hayne had rights to the revenue from a variety of property, including half of the tithes from Under Whittle farm, which from then onwards helped enhance the income of the Anglican curate. In 1744 this share of the tithes totalled 2s 2.5d, and by 1836 this had risen to 2s 6d. The earliest available map of the area shows three buildings or farmsteads located along the edge of the Dove valley at Under Whittle (Yates 1775). However, the scale at which the map was produced (c. 1: 110,000) means it is not possible to

determine whether one of these buildings occupied the site of the present farmhouse. The first Ordnance Survey map of the area, in its initial unpublished form, was also at a relatively small scale of 2": 1 mile (published at 1": 1 mile), but does depict the farmhouse as a small rectangular building with an adjoining garden to the north-west (Ordnance Survey 1837). The farmhouse is also marked on the tithe map of 1845, which is the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon. 1845). This map shows a rectangular building that appears to have a small extension adjoining its eastern end, but it does not show any associated outbuildings. The 1880 Ordnance Survey map of the area shows the farmhouse with the offshut extending to the north and the stable at its eastern end. It also depicts the small outbuilding situated to the north-west of the farmhouse, but the outbuildings to the south have yet to be constructed. The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map indicates that the pigsties were added sometime before 1899 (Ordnance Survey 1880; 1899).

2. Hollow Ways (Illus. 2)

A series of disused trackways cut into the slope above the existing track that provides access to the farmhouse. Four sections of braided hollow way run approximately south-north and appear to be earlier courses of the present track, (2), but two shorter sections run straight downhill and possibly represent part of a different route that ran from south-west to north-east, (2a). Of post-medieval and possibly earlier date.

The widths and depths of these hollow ways vary significantly. The examples that run obliquely down the hill, (2), are approximately 0.5m deep and 2m wide upslope, but become up to 2m deep and 4m wide toward their lower ends. The two hollow ways that run from south-west to north-east, (2a), are up to 1.5m deep and between 2 and 2.5m wide.

The number and size of these tracks indicates that they were either created by heavy use in the post-medieval period or by prolonged use from the medieval period onwards. The First Edition Ordnance Survey map indicates that the course of the present farm track had been established by 1880 (Ordnance Survey 1880). This suggests that these hollow ways were all disused by this date. Although they may have been created purely by livestock and traffic travelling to and from the farm at Under Whittle, it is also possible that these tracks formed part of a public route to a ford across the River Dove, which is located at the northern edge of the farm holding (see feature 31).

The two hollow ways that run straight up the slope, (2a), are orientated toward Hope Cottage Farm. The 19th century Ordnance Survey maps indicate that this farm is a modern foundation centred upon a small traditional farm building, probably either a field barn or a small dwelling, that was constructed between 1845 and 1880 (anon. 1845, Ordnance Survey 1880). It is therefore possible that these hollow ways result from movement between the farmyard and a subsidiary barn or cottage. Alternatively, these tracks may simply represent braids of the earlier route, (2), that ran downhill from the ridge top to Under Whittle and the River Dove.

3. Field Boundary Ditch (Illus. 2)

A short section of shallow gully that runs between the drystone wall defining the western boundary of the farm holding and a deeply incised hollow way (feature 2). It could mark the site of a removed field boundary of post-medieval or earlier date.

The gully is 1.3m wide and up to 0.3m deep, with dense nettle growth along its base.

4. Trough/Spring (Illus. 2)

A small spring issues into a medium sized, sub-rectangular gritstone trough, which is situated immediately upslope from a pronounced bend in the track that gives access to the farmyard (photographed). Of post-medieval date.

The trough has vertical sides and rounded corners, and is partially recessed into the hillside. The water feeds into it via a sandstone slab that has a broad groove carved along its centreline.

5. Field Boundary Ditch and Bank (Illus. 2)

A sinuous gully and two short sections of bank mark the site of a removed field boundary. Of post-medieval or possibly earlier date.

This shallow ditch runs north-eastward down a very steep slope, with preservation and visibility varying according to gradient. At the top of the slope the ditch is c. 1.5m wide and up to 0.5m deep, and has a short section of bank running along its northern edge. The ditch is very shallow or even untraceable down the steepest part of the incline, but becomes clearly visible toward the base of the slope where it is up to 1.5m wide, up to 0.8m deep and has a short section of bank running along its south-eastern edge. The tithe map indicates that this ditch defined a field boundary in 1845 (anon. 1845). However, it had become redundant prior to 1880, by which time a new boundary had been laid out (see feature 6) (Ordnance Survey 1880).

6. Field Boundary Bank and Lynchet (Illus. 2)

A lynchet and bank marking part of a removed field boundary. Of post-medieval date.

The bank is up to 1.5m wide and 0.5m high at its south-western end, but it transforms into a lynchet as it progresses north-eastwards. This bank and lynchet defined part of a boundary that was created between 1845 and 1880 in order to define the north-western edge of a small stand of mixed woodland (anon. 1845, Ordnance Survey 1880). It replaced an earlier boundary shown on the tithe map of 1845 (feature 5).

7. Bank and Ditch (Illus. 2)

A bank/lynchet with a ditch running along its eastern edge. It is possible that it marks part of a removed field boundary. Of post-medieval or earlier date.

The bank is up to 1.8m wide and 0.7m high and is located immediately upslope from a ditch that is generally less than 0.4m deep. The bank transforms into a lynchet as it progresses southwards and eventually merges with the hill slope. This bank and ditch neither join with, nor correspond to any boundary shown on early maps.

8. Mires (Illus. 2)

Two areas of boggy ground that are located at the foot of the steep slope that runs along the western edge of the land holding. These mires preserve peat deposits that could potentially provide significant information regarding past environmental conditions around Under Whittle. Of post-medieval or earlier date.

The larger of the two mires is located at the south-eastern corner of the land holding. Its northern end overlies and obscures the eastern end of a boundary ditch (feature 5) shown on the tithe map of 1845 (anon. 1845). The other mire, (8a), lies 70m to the south-east of the farmhouse.

9. Field Boundary Banks, Ditches and Lynchets (Illus. 2)

A series of four parallel banks, three with associated ditches, that could mark the sites of removed field boundaries of post-medieval or earlier date. A fifth bank and ditch, (9a), still functions as a field boundary. Two lynchets, (9b), one of which is flanked by an upslope ditch, also appear to form part of this system of land division.

The four banks that have adjacent ditches are all between 1.5 and 2m wide and 0.5 to 0.8m high. In contrast, the bank that does not appear to have an associated ditch is larger, being up to 1.3m high and 3.5m wide at the base, with a level top 1 to 1.5m wide. The five banks all run along the contours near or at the bottom of the steep slope, which runs along the western edge of the land holding. This arrangement divides the foot of the slope into two to three long sub-rectangular fields or compartments. Much of the land at the bottom of the slope is waterlogged, because numerous springs emerge at or above this point (see feature 8). Each of the ditches is situated on the up-slope side of the banks and this layout possibly indicates these features were created to minimise the area of land that was subject to water logging, the banks acting as dams and the ditches channelling the retained water away.

The bank and ditch that still acts as the south-eastern boundary of the land holding, (9a), also appeared on the tithe map of 1845, which is the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon. 1845). None of the other banks are shown on any of the available maps, which suggests that they had become redundant prior to the mid 19th century. The elongated plots that these boundaries would have created are very different to the adjacent fields. However, their proportions would have been comparable to two groups of fields situated further to the north and to the east, which both clearly fossilise components of a medieval-type open field system. These similarities raise the possibility that this collection of banks and ditches also formed part of a medieval or early post-medieval field system.

Two relatively short, parallel lynchets, (9b), are situated a little to the north of the more westerly banks and ditches that form feature 9. Each lynchet is 0.5m high and creates a relatively level platform up to 2.0m wide. They are orientated from north to south, and thus run at 45° to the adjacent group of banks and ditches, but this variation reflects a slight change in the topography.

10. Terraced Track (Illus. 2)

Short terraced trackway of cart-width curving around the top of a boggy natural gully (feature 8a). Of post-medieval date.

The trackway, which is approximately 2m wide, is not marked on any available map. This may indicate that it went out of use sometime before 1880, the date of the earliest available map of the area to show details like minor tracks (Ordnance Survey 1880). Alternatively, the need to cross this localised area of soft, boggy ground could mean that this was the only section of an informal local access route to incorporate some form of deliberate construction, the route running southwards from the farmyard along the foot of the steep slope. It is possible that this trackway was used for the movement of livestock and possibly also for woodland management, as the 19th century Ordnance Survey maps show that the hillside was already wooded by 1880.

11. Farm Buildings and Yard (Illus. 2)

A range of post-medieval farm buildings that include a large field barn, and an open-fronted cart shed with a hay loft above (photographed). An enclosed yard runs along the south-eastern side of these buildings.

This range of outbuildings consists of three distinct elements. At the western end is a three-bay, two and a half-storey field barn built from coursed sandstone and gritstone blocks, with large rectangular quoins and a clay tile roof. This building is constructed on a terrace that is recessed into the hillside and consequently parts of the south-western and north-western walls are not visible from the outside. This field barn has been converted into holiday accommodation, but the south-eastern elevation indicates that the ground floor was originally divided into three identical cowsheds or stables, each of which had a doorway with a sandstone lintel and jambs formed by large quoin-like blocks, together with a small square opening to the west of the door that provided additional ventilation. Another five small, simple apertures and three larger vertical slits penetrate the south-eastern wall to provide ventilation to the first floor. The south-western end of the building is abutted by an external stone and concrete staircase that provides a link between the yard and a door giving access to the first-

floor of the barn; this arrangement suggests that the first-floor originally functioned as a hay loft. The south-western wall also has three small square vents on the first-floor, and a picking hole and vent at loft level. The door has a very large gritstone lintel that rests on jambs formed by large sub-rectangular sandstone blocks, but the edges of picking hole are formed entirely from pieces of pecked gritstone. Both the picking hole and the door still have their original wooden shutters. The stone courses that form the south-west wall are more irregular and weathered than the adjoining north-western and south-eastern walls, and this raises the possibility that this gable originally formed part of an earlier building. The north-western wall of the field barn is also abutted by a stone staircase, and this provides access to a second door at first-floor level. This doorway has a pecked gritstone lintel and jambs, the edges of which have a shallow rebate for the original door. There are another five small square vents on the first-floor of the north-western elevation, and two narrow vertical openings penetrate this wall at ground floor level. There is also a door and a window on the north-western side of the ground-floor, but both appear to be relatively modern insertions that were probably created when the building was converted to holiday accommodation. The majority of the north-eastern wall of the barn is obscured by the adjoining outbuilding, but two vertical slits for ventilation are visible at first-floor level.

The north-eastern wall of the field barn is abutted by a one and a half-storey outbuilding constructed from gritstone and sandstone blocks laid in irregular courses, with a clay tile roof. The north-western and south-eastern walls both have a single window at ground level. Entry to this single-bay building is via a door located at the western end of the south-eastern wall, and one end of the lintel above the door is keyed into the field barn. This provides an indication that the smaller outbuilding was erected after the barn, and the fact that large quoins have only been used to strengthen the two corners that do not abut the barn provides further support for this sequence of construction.

At the eastern end of this range is a two-storey building constructed from millstone grit and sandstone blocks, with a stone slate roof. Both the north-western and north-eastern walls are constructed from irregular sandstone and gritstone rubble that has not been laid in distinct courses. The ground-floor is a two-bay cart shed, although each of these bays is potentially wide enough to have accommodated two vehicles, while the upper floor still serves as a hay loft. A blocked doorway at the southern end of the north-western wall may have been a relatively late insertion, as it has a concrete lintel and one of the jambs was made from late 19th – early 20th century bricks. Adjacent to the blocked doorway is a ground-floor window that also has a concrete lintel; its original wooden shutter remains in place, hiding the fact that window has also been blocked. The north-western wall also incorporates seven vents, four of which are located just below the eaves, with the other three half way down the wall. Each vent was made with three ceramic land drains, which are arranged to form a triangular cross-section. These land drains have a small-diameter circular section, which indicates that they were manufactured after 1840 and before the end of the 19th century. There is a picking hole in the gable of the north-eastern wall, along with four small, simple vents. The picking hole has a dressed gritstone lintel and jambs, and the wooden shutter is still in place. Large, carefully dressed quoins form the northern and eastern corners of the building, and identical, carefully worked pieces of red gritstone have been used to build a free-standing, two-storey pillar that divides the two bays of the cart shed. The south-eastern side of the hay loft has been enclosed by the addition of panels of timber cladding.

The yard contains several items of archaeological interest. At the foot of the stone steps at the south-western end of the yard there is a sub-rectangular gritstone trough that is fed by a carved sandstone drain set into the retaining wall (photographed). A sandstone grindstone has been laid horizontally as a decorative garden feature near the north-eastern end of the yard. Close to the grindstone are a number of stone gateposts that have been reused as paving. These gateposts were probably brought into the yard between 1845 and 1880, following the removal of most of the field boundaries that had divided the area to the north of this group of farm buildings.

It is possible that this range of farm buildings could have been one of three groups of buildings or farmsteads depicted on a map of 1775, but this map, the earliest available, was produced at such a small scale that it is not possible to determine the exact location of each cluster (Yates 1775). This range of buildings does not appear on a small-scale, draft

Ordnance Survey map of the area, but it is visible on a tithe map produced 5 years later (Ordnance Survey 1837; anon. 1845). This inconsistency possibly indicates that this was a group of outbuildings that did not have an attached dwelling, and as such they did not satisfy the criteria being recorded by the Ordnance Survey. The tithe map depicts a rectangular structure, the proportions of which suggest that only the south-western and central buildings of the range were in existence in 1845. This observation is supported by the relative dimensions of the range shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map, which also depicts the boundaries of the yard on the south-eastern side of the buildings (Ordnance Survey 1880). In contrast, the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map clearly shows that the cart shed had been added to the north-eastern end of the range prior to 1899 (Ordnance Survey 1899).

It was not possible to determine the original tenurial relationship of these farm buildings from the available documentation. It is possible that they were built as part of the farmstead at Under Whittle, but were sited away from the farmhouse, because the steeply sloping hillside severely restricted the availability of suitable building land. Alternatively, these buildings may have formed an outlying facility for a farm that was situated some distance away. Finally, it is also possible that they represent the surviving component of an entirely separate farmstead where the associated dwelling has been demolished.

12. Gateposts (Illus. 2)

A pair of gritstone orthostats that are both sub-rectangular in cross-section. The example set at the south-eastern side of the gateway is incised with three 'L'-shaped slots for closing bars, while the opposing gatepost is carved with corresponding circular indentations. Of post-medieval date.

This field boundary wall is not shown on 1845 tithe map, but had been constructed prior to 1880 (anon 1845; Ordnance Survey 1880). The style of this matched pair of gateposts predates the mid to late 19th century, and this suggests that they had originally been set elsewhere on the land holding, probably within one of the many boundaries that were removed between 1845 and 1880.

13. Possible Building Platform (Illus. 2)

A relatively level, sub-rectangular platform terraced into the hillside. Probably of medieval or earlier post-medieval date.

This possible building platform is terraced into the foot of the steeper section of slope that runs along the western edge of the land holding. It is approximately 30m long and c. 8m wide, with the long axis running along the contours from north-west to south-east. The rear edge of the platform is very distinct and in places lies more than 1.3m below the original ground level. The front edge is up to 0.5m higher than the original land surface, and it is possible that its north-western end has been removed by a ditch forming the existing field boundary. This relationship suggests that the terracing predates the creation of the present field system, but it not clear if the terrace was deliberately constructed or whether it represents a localised landslide. A building is not shown at this location on any of the available 19th or 20th century maps.

14. Buildings (sites of) and Terraced Track (Illus. 2)

Site of a large 'L'-shaped building that was probably a farmhouse (now gone, except for the cellar) and an adjacent small detached outbuilding that were both documented as existing in the mid-19th century. To the north of the known buildings is a possible building platform, (14a), located just beyond a pronounced turn in the terraced trackway that formerly gave access to this farmstead.

The largest building was 'L'-shaped in plan. The longer axis ran along the contours from north-west to south-east, and a wing projected north-eastwards from the northern end. The site of this building is still clearly visible at ground level. Firstly, earthworks define its north-

eastern (down slope) edge and indicate the exact location of the northern wing. Additionally, the cellar situated beneath the south-eastern end of the building still survives. This cellar is approximately 4.5m long (north-west to south-east) and 1.8m wide, with walls 0.6m thick that are constructed with tabular gritstone blocks and lime mortar. Tabular gritstone was also used to form the vaulted ceiling. The existing cellar void is up to 1.4m deep, but it has been partially filled with mid-20th century domestic refuse. The upper part of the south-eastern wall of the cellar has a centrally-placed opening, with splayed sides, which was probably used either as a coal-chute or to provision a larder. The door into the cellar was at the north-western end and the stone lintel above it is still visible. Another section of wall foundation is visible approximately 5m to the north of the cellar.

This probable farmhouse was constructed sometime before 1837, as the building and its surrounding yard are shown on the first small-scale, draft Ordnance Survey map of the area (Ordnance Survey 1837). The precise layout of the building is much clearer on the tithe map produced 5 years later, which suggests that this building was similar in size to the present farmhouse (feature 1)(anon. 1845). This map also shows a small square outbuilding a little to the north-east of the northern wing, but there is no evidence of this building at ground level. This group of buildings was demolished sometime between 1845 and 1880, which was a period when many of the surrounding field boundaries were also removed (Ordnance Survey 1887). The 19th century maps of the Under Whittle area do not indicate the name of this farmstead.

A track runs north-westward from the western side of the building platform. After 30m it turns sharply toward the east and runs obliquely down the slope, this section being a clearly defined terraced-trackway of cart width. The lower edge of this terrace defined the northern edge of the yard surrounding the 'L'-shaped building (anon. 1845). A second possible building platform, (14a), is terraced into the hillside immediately to the north of the point where these two sections of track join. This platform is approximately 4.5m wide and extends 10m from north-west to south-east.

Another linear terrace runs southward from the 'L'-shaped building, 14, toward the western edge of the garden adjoining the existing farmhouse (feature 1). It probably represents a continuation of the braided hollow-way (feature 2) that runs down the valley side from the ridge top.

15. Ridge and Furrow (Illus. 2)

There are traces of broad medieval-type ridge and furrow in this part of the field.

A relatively localised area of ridge and furrow, with ridges up to 0.15m high. The surviving ridges run down the slope from south-west to north-east. It was not possible to determine the relationship between this ridge and furrow, and boundary earthworks located a short distance to the north-east (feature 16).

16. Hollow-Ways and/or Field Boundary Ditches (Illus. 2)

Possible hollow-ways and/or ditches that would have marked the boundary between adjoining fields or medieval-type cultivation strips. Of post-medieval or possibly earlier date.

The main gully is up to 2m wide and up to 0.4m deep with gently sloping sides. It runs from south-east to north-west, but has a pronounced dog-leg near the centre, which could either define the corner of a post-medieval field or delineate the end of a block of ridge and furrow (feature 15). An adjoining gully runs a short distance eastward from the bend in the hollow-way or boundary ditch. The north-western end of the main hollow-way has a low bank along its north-eastern edge.

These ditches or hollow-ways are not marked on any available map, suggesting that they went out of use sometime before 1845, the date of the earliest available detailed map of Under Whittle (anon. 1845). It is not clear whether these boundary features divided adjacent

blocks of medieval-type cultivation strips (feature 15 and 17), or if they were created as part of a later reorganisation of the landscape that bisected, what were originally, continuous strips.

17. Ridge and Furrow (Illus. 2)

Area of broad medieval-type ridge and furrow. It is low and intermittent to the south-west, but the perpendicular ridges to the north-east are relatively well preserved.

The south-western half of this area contains four shallow, poorly-defined furrows. They are widely spaced, which suggests that only every second or third furrow is still visible. These furrows share the alignment of the north-western and south-eastern boundaries of this part of the field. Both of these field boundaries appear on the tithe map of 1845 (anon. 1845) and they potentially fossilise other elements of the medieval field system. It is possible that the ridges in this area were originally connected to others identified to the south-west (feature 15).

Immediately to the north-east of the poorly preserved ridge and furrow is a group of 8 ridges that run along the contours from north-west to south-east. These ridges are 3.5m wide, up to 0.15m high, and are flanked by boggy furrows. The better level of preservation of these 8 ridges could indicate that they were created somewhat later than the abutting perpendicular ridge and furrow. If so, it is possible that they 'ploughed out' and removed the north-eastern ends of the earlier cultivation strips (see feature 18).

18. Hollow-Way, Field Boundary Bank, Strip Lynchet and Ditches (Illus. 2)

A hollow-way with a bank and ditch along one edge and a strip lynchet, which marked the edge of a medieval-type cultivation strip, defining the other. The hollow-way was probably created by prolonged use from the medieval or early post-medieval periods. It is likely that the bank and strip lynchet running parallel to the hollow-way mark the sites of field boundaries that enclosed this routeway.

The broad gully defining the hollow-way is relatively flat, up to 0.5m deep and varies from approximately 5m wide at the south-eastern boundary to c. 2m wide at the north-west end. The bank that runs along the north-eastern side of the hollow-way is up to 0.3m high and the ditch along its eastern edge is up to 0.2m deep. The tithe map shows that two parallel field boundaries enclosed a narrow strip of land at this location in 1845 (anon. 1845). This suggests that the hollow-way was a drove-way used for the management of livestock.

The boundaries that flanked the hollow-way were removed between 1845 and 1880, but the 19th century Ordnance Survey map depicted the three mature trees that still grow upon the bank to this day (Ordnance Survey 1880). The relationship between this hollow-way and the strip lynchet to the south indicates that the hollow-way was in existence for some time before that field became permanent pasture. When this particular block of ridge and furrow was created is unclear; it may be part of a medieval layout, or possibly it was created within a hedged field laid out during the post-medieval period (see feature 17) Either way, the hollow-way could be a feature of the medieval landscape that was still being utilised long into the post-medieval period.

19. Gatepost (Illus. 2)

A gritstone orthostat with a sub-rectangular in cross-section, which is set at one side of a blocked gateway. Two or three rectangular holes have been cut through this gatepost for closing bars. Of post-medieval date.

This field boundary wall is shown on the 1845 tithe map, the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon 1845). This map suggests that the post formed part of a gateway at the south-eastern end of an enclosed track or hollow-way (feature 18).

20. Small Enclosures/Field-Corner Plantations (Illus. 2)

Two small 'D'-shaped enclosures located at the north-western end of a bank and ditch that forms one edge of a hollow-way (feature 18). The hollow-way defines the south-western side of each enclosure, a field boundary ditch separates them, and curvilinear ditches delineate the other sides. Probably of post-medieval date.

The interior of both enclosures is level and up to 0.5m above the base of the hollow-way that defines their south-western edges. These enclosures are not shown on the earliest available detailed map of Sheen Parish, the tithe map of 1845, but they may have been too insignificant to warrant inclusion (anon. 1845). However, the tithe map does show the boundary that divides the two enclosures and indicates that they were located in adjacent corners of adjoining fields. The more north-westerly of the two enclosures contains a mature tree, also depicted on a 19th century Ordnance Survey map (Ordnance Survey 1880), which raises the possibility that these two 'enclosures' were actually field-corner tree plantings with surrounding ditches.

21. Ridge and Furrow (Illus. 2)

There are traces of broad medieval-type ridge and furrow in this part of the field.

An area of ridge and furrow, with shallow, poorly-defined furrows. The ridges are 4m wide, up to 0.15m high, and run down the slope from south-west to north-east.

22. Headland (Illus. 2)

A broad lynchet that defines the north-eastern end of ridge and furrow 21; probably of medieval date.

This broad lynchet is up to 1.2m high and in effect is a headland. It has formed along the upper edge of the steeply sloping ground that leads down to the River Dove.

23. Field Boundary Bank (Illus. 2)

A broad bank marking the site of a removed field boundary, of post-medieval or earlier date.

The bank is up to 6.5m wide and 0.5m high, with a ditch along its north-western edge that is up to 0.3m deep. This boundary is shown on the tithe map of 1845, but was removed prior to 1880 (anon. 1845; Ordnance Survey 1880). It shares the alignment of medieval-type ridge and furrow to the south-east (feature 21) and consequently could fossilise another element of this field system, such as the edge of a medieval-type cultivation strip.

24. Track (Illus. 2)

Terraced track running obliquely to the contours of the steep slope above the River Dove and possibly providing access to the river; of post-medieval date.

The track is 1.5 - 2.0m wide and becomes wider and more pronounced as it progresses downhill. It is probably a post-medieval trackway, as it cuts through a headland defining the end of medieval-type strip cultivation (feature 22) and also removes a section of field boundary bank running down the slope (feature 25). This field boundary is shown on a map of 1845, which suggests that the track is later, but the track itself is not shown on any of the available maps of the area (anon. 1845).

25. Field Boundary Banks, Ditches and Lynchet (Illus. 2)

Three banks that mark the sites of removed field boundaries defining three sides of a field that occupied the steep slope above the River Dove; of medieval or later date. Ditches run alongside two of the field boundary banks and a lynchet abuts the third.

One of the field boundary banks runs along the contour immediately below a pronounced headland of probable medieval date (feature 22). This bank is 1.5m wide and up to 0.6m high, with an upslope ditch, c. 1.2m wide, that appears to cut into the foot of the headland. This bank and ditch do not extend the full length of the headland and only delineated a little over half of this side of the field. The other two banks run down the slope and terminate at, or close to the edge of the present river channel. The more westerly bank is 2.0m wide and up to 0.3m high, has two mature trees growing on its southern end, and has a silted ditch running along its western edge. The third bank is 2.0m wide and up to 0.15m high, but its south-western end has been removed by a later track (feature 24).

The three field boundary banks enclose an area that is too steep for arable cultivation; this area is partially sub-divided by a 0.6m high lynchet that abuts the eastern bank. These three adjoining field boundaries were shown on the tithe map of 1845, but had all been removed prior to 1880 (anon. 1845 – 'field 55'; Ordnance Survey 1880).

26. Mire (Illus. 2)

An area of boggy ground located at the foot of a steep river cliff close to the River Dove. This mire has developed in a former meander of the river channel and contains peat deposits that could provide significant information regarding past environmental conditions around Under Whittle. Of post-medieval or earlier date.

This former meander has truncated the foot of the slope forming the valley side and has created a curving river cliff c. 12m high. The area of boggy ground is up to 20m wide, which is more than twice the width of the present river channel, thus suggesting that the meander formed over an extended period. The present course of the river is very similar to the channel shown on the tithe map of 1845 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880, which indicates that this meander had become redundant prior to the mid-19th century (anon. 1845; Ordnance Survey 1880).

27. Lynchets and Ditches / Headland / Strip Field Boundaries (Illus. 2)

Four lynchets and three ditches marking the sites of removed field boundaries of post-medieval date, which possibly also defined the edges of medieval-type cultivation strips. The largest lynchet runs perpendicular to nearby ridge and furrow (features 15 & 17) and could possibly be a headland.

The three lynchets with adjacent ditches formed the perimeter of the southern half of a field that existed in the mid 19th century. The two lynchets that run from south-west to north-east are up to 0.6m high. Two mature trees grow on the more easterly lynchet, which is flanked by a ditch up to 0.3m deep. The western lynchet is lined by seven mature trees, with an adjacent ditch more than 1.0m deep that still channels water into a modern pond further downhill. They are connected by a perpendicular lynchet that is 1.2m high and has a down-slope ditch up to 0.3m deep. This very large lynchet could be a headland and it possibly also defines the edge of a westerly continuation of a nearby hollow-way (feature 16). The three adjoining field boundaries are depicted on the tithe map of 1845, the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon. 1845 – 'field 52'). The most westerly boundary is still in use, but the other two probably went out of use sometime before 1880, as they are not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of that date (Ordnance Survey 1880).

28. Building (site of) (Illus. 2)

The site of a rectangular building shown on the 1845 tithe map, the first detailed map of the area (anon. 1845). This building was of post-medieval or earlier date, and was demolished some time before 1880 (Ordnance Survey 1880). A slight lynchet could indicate the location of the western end of this building, but nothing else is visible at ground level.

The tithe map depicts an east-west aligned rectangular building, with a small offshoot or outbuilding attached to its western end (anon. 1845). The map suggests that the ground-floor area of this building was slightly smaller than that of the present farmhouse (feature 1). The alignment of this dwelling or outbuilding was significantly different from nearby medieval-type ridge and furrow (features 15 & 17) and surrounding post-medieval field boundaries (feature 27), which were almost all laid out with respect to the topography. The only element of the landscape with a similar orientation is the present farmhouse (feature 1), but the significance of this relationship is unclear, and it does not necessarily indicate that they were constructed at the same time.

29. Building (site of) (Illus. 2)

A small sub-rectangular building is shown on the 1880 and 1899 Ordnance Survey maps, but has now been demolished (Ordnance Survey 1880, 1899).

The 19th century Ordnance Survey maps show a building occupying the north-eastern corner of a small, irregular enclosure that adjoined the south-western edge of a copse of trees. The size and location of this building suggest that it was a small field barn. The building may have been constructed during the second half of the 19th century, because it is not shown on the tithe map. Alternatively, this building may have been too small and insignificant to have been shown, but the tithe map does show the distinctive outline of the western, south-western and eastern edges of the small enclosure.

30. Strip Lynchets, Ridge and Furrow, Field Boundary Banks and Ditches (Illus. 2)

Six strip lynchets that defined the edges of medieval-type cultivation terraces. Slight traces of broad medieval-type ridge and furrow survive on the broadest terrace. The line of the most easterly strip lynchet is continued by a bank and ditch that run down the steep slope to the River Dove. A second bank and ditch, (30a), marks the site of a removed field boundary that sub-divided the cultivation terraces and is probably of post-medieval date.

The most easterly strip lynchet is 0.7m high and has a number of mature ash trees growing along its lower edge. A later hedge-bank 1.1m wide and up to 0.3m high continues the alignment of this lynchet down the slope, where agriculture was not possible. The most westerly strip lynchet is over 2m high in places, but this may reflect the fact that it flanks a trackway (feature 31). The other strip lynchets are between 0.4 and 0.8m high. The tithe map indicates that this area was divided into four elongated plots in 1845. The long edges of these fields correspond to the locations of the five largest strip lynchets, while the southern boundary was formed by bank and ditch (30a) (anon. 1845 – 'field 24a', '28a' '28' and '29'). All of these small fields were amalgamated prior to 1880, but the Ordnance Survey shows lines of trees running along the three most easterly strip lynchets (Ordnance Survey 1880). The 1845 and the 1880 maps both show a tree-lined boundary that corresponds to the bank and ditch running down the slope to the river.

31. Terraced Trackway (Illus. 2)

A terraced track that leads to a ford across the River Dove, of post-medieval and possibly earlier date. It could possibly represent a northerly continuation of the tracks

and hollow-ways that pass the farmhouse at Under Whittle (features 1, 2), or it may have joined up to possible hollow-ways that are located further to the east (feature 18) or south-east (feature 16).

This track runs from south to north along sloping ground that rises from an area of low-lying land. It occupies a terrace 1.5 to 2.5m wide, which has a pronounced lynchet more than 2.0m high along its eastern edge (see feature 30), while the western side falls up to 1.5m to a small stream at its foot. Although this section of track is not shown on 19th century maps, the Ordnance Survey did depict a route that continued the alignment immediately to the north of the landholding, and this route is still used as a public footpath that leads to a ford across the River Dove (anon. 1845; Ordnance Survey 1880, 1899). Despite this lack of map evidence, there is an oral tradition that this track formed part of a route that fell out of use during the 20th century, which was used by drover's taking livestock to Bakewell market (E. Walker *pers. comm.*)(see also feature 35).

32. Field Boundary Banks, Lynchet and Ditches (Illus. 2)

Three banks, a lynchet and three ditches marking the sites of removed field boundaries that defined three small fields, of post-medieval or earlier date.

Two of these banks are short, poorly defined and less than 0.2m high, and each delineates only part of two boundaries that sub-divided an area of low-lying, damp ground. The third bank/lynchet curves along the south-western edge of this low ground. For most of its length it is 2.0 - 2.5m wide, up to 1.0m high and has an upslope ditch 1.5m wide and 0.7m deep, but its north-western end turns into a hedge-bank 1.8m wide and 0.5m high. All of these field boundaries were shown on the tithe map of 1845, which is the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon. 1845 - 'field 30', '31' and '32'). These small, irregular fields were probably too wet for arable cultivation, and between 1845 and 1880 they were all amalgamated, together with several medieval-type cultivation terraces feature 30), to form a much larger area of pasture (Ordnance Survey 1880). The upper edge of the largest bank formed the south-western boundary of this new field, a function that it continues to serve at the present.

33. Probable Field Boundary Lynchets (Illus. 2)

Two lynchets, the larger of which probably marks the site of a removed field boundary, of post-medieval or earlier date. The smaller lynchet could represent a realignment of the north-eastern end of the larger lynchet.

The larger lynchet is up to 2.0m high. It runs from south-west to north-east, roughly parallel to existing field boundaries, but its north-eastern half curves to end at the junction between three other field boundaries. The smaller lynchet is only 0.2m high and represents a continuation of the straight section of the large lynchet. The boundary, or boundaries, that these lynchets mark is not shown on any available map suggesting that it went out of use sometime before 1845, the date of the earliest available detailed map of Sheen Parish (anon. 1845).

34. Field Boundary Banks and Ditches (Illus. 2)

Two banks, one with a flanking ditch, marking the sites of removed field boundaries that defined the longer edges of a small field, of post-medieval or earlier date.

The banks are 2.0m wide and up to 0.4m high, while the adjacent ditch is 0.3m deep. The field that they defined was elongated, with its long axis sharing the alignment of medieval-type ridge and furrow to the east and south-east (features 15, 17 and 30). It is therefore possible that these boundaries may have fossilised other elements of this field system, such as the edges of medieval-type cultivation strips. However, the ground surface between the two banks is very uneven and does not provide any indication that it has ever been cultivated. These boundaries were depicted on the tithe map of 1845, the earliest available detailed map of the area (anon. 1845 - 'field 34'). Both were removed between 1845 and 1880, but their

locations can be identified on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map, because it depicted four mature trees that were growing upon each bank (Ordnance Survey 1880).

35. Probable Field Boundary Lynchets (Illus. 2)

Two pronounced lynchets that run along the contours parallel to the north-western boundary of the farm-holding. The south-eastern ends of both lynchets originate close to an abandoned farmstead (feature 14) and they run parallel to each other for much of their length, but they converge toward their north-western ends. Of post-medieval and possibly earlier date.

The lynchet higher up the slope is up to 0.8m high and represents a north-westerly continuation of the terrace that the abandoned farmstead was constructed upon (feature 14). Its northern end merges with the north-western boundary of the farm-holding, which is formed by a hedge-bank 2.0m wide and 0.6m high; the latter could be superimposed upon the earlier lynchet. The south-eastern half of the second lynchet is 1.0m high and is located 20m downslope from the first lynchet. Its north-western end turns slightly to run upslope where it also formed the south-western boundary of a small elongated field ('field 34' – anon. 1845) (see feature 34). This section of the lynchet is only 0.7m high, but it also has a ditch, 1.0m wide and 0.3m deep, running along its lower edge.

The northern ends of both lynchets were depicted on the tithe map of 1845 (*ibid.*), but the longer, parallel sections situated toward the south-east do not appear on any available map of the area. The fact that both lynchets are relatively pronounced possibly indicates that they result from some form of cultivation and they could therefore represent the boundaries of small fields associated with the adjacent farmstead (feature 14). It is also possible that they were created at different times, with one replacing the other during a reorganisation of the surrounding landscape.

Non-Archaeological and Other Features

36. Findspot - Spur (Illus. 2)

The findspot of a decorated bronze spur that is probably of 14th century date.

The spur was found very close to the route of the braided track/hollow-way that runs close to the present farmhouse (feature 2) (E. Walker, *pers. comm.*). Its presence raises the possibility that this route was already in existence in the 14th century.

37. Findspot – Fragment of Carved Stone (Illus. 2)

A piece of carved gritstone found in the garden a little to the north of the farmhouse (photographed). It probably formed the left-hand end of a mantelpiece or bressemer (the stone lintel that would have supported the hood of an inglenook fireplace), of 16th or 17th century date.

This piece of stone is approximately 0.35m long, 0.3m high and 0.1m deep. The bottom half of the front-face is dressed and above it is a roll moulding that would have run the full length of the horizontal part of the mantelpiece or bressemer. The upper part of the front face is irregular, suggesting that the projecting part of an integral mantle shelf has been broken off. The back-face of the stone has been altered and discoloured by high temperatures.

This piece of carved stone is likely to have come from a relatively high status building, possibly the same building that also incorporated the 17th century mullioned windows reused in the present farmhouse (feature 1). This building presumably formed the core of the farm that was mentioned in 1711 in the will of John Hayne (Greenslade 1996). It may have stood upon the site of the present farmhouse (feature 1). Alternatively, it is also possible that the 17th century fabric was brought from the nearby house that was demolished between 1845

and 1880 (feature 14), in order to be used in the extensive alterations made to the present farmhouse around 1880.

PROJECT: Under Whittle,
Sheen, Staffordshire

ILLUSTRATION No. 2




























TITLE: Location of
archaeological features

FIELDWORK DATE:
May 2004

DRAWING DATE:
May 2004

DRAFTSPERSON: JDR

KEY

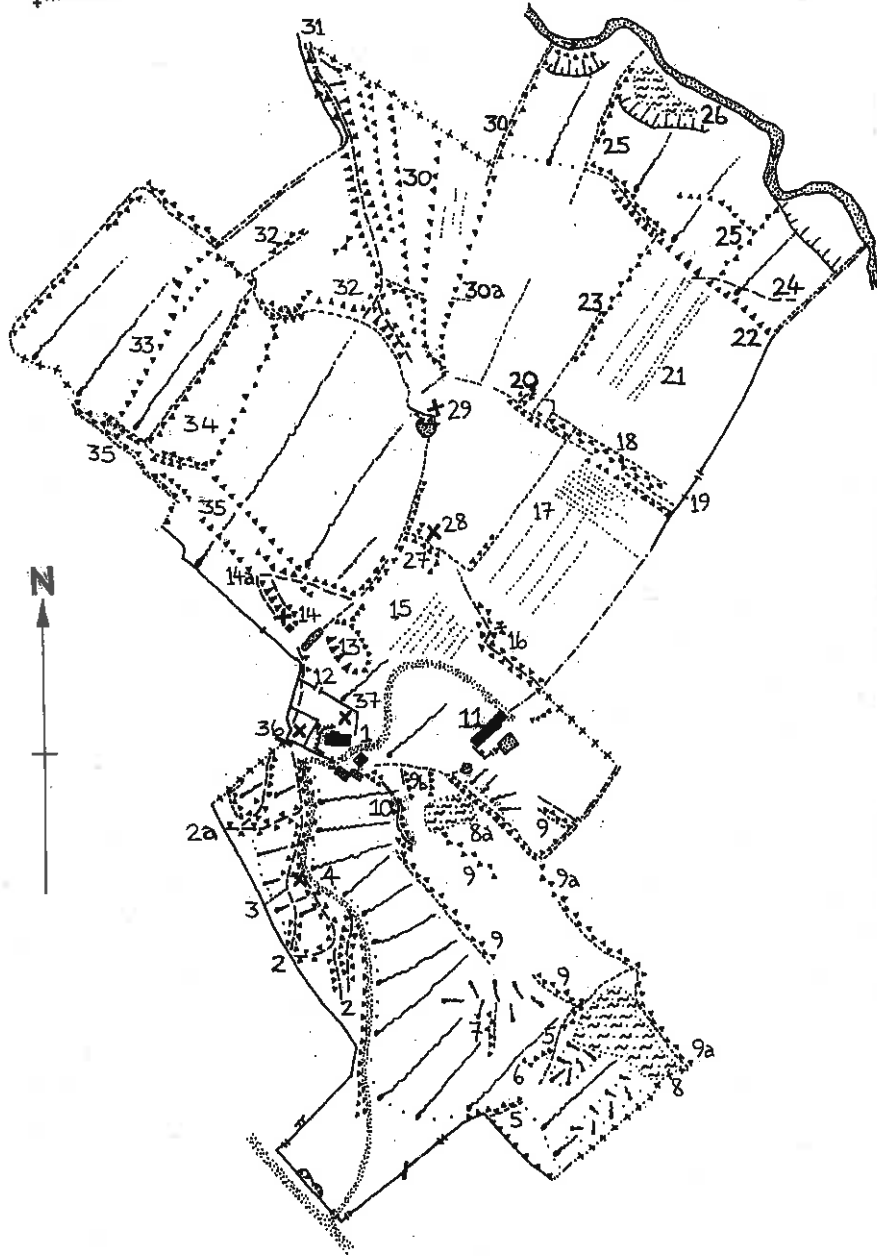
-  TRADITIONAL BUILDING
-  MODERN BUILDING
-  WALL
-  WALL FOUNDATION
-  REVETMENT WALL
-  HEDGE
-  FENCE
-  GATEWAY
-  BLOCKED GATEWAY
-  GATEPOST (SINGLE)
-  STILE
-  SHEEP THROUGH
-  RIDGE & FURROW (BROAD)
-  BANK
-  HEDGE BANK
-  LYNCHET
-  DITCH
-  QUARRY PIT / HOLLOW
-  POND
-  RIVER
-  CLIFF
-  NATURAL SLOPE
-  PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL DEPOSITS
-  ROAD/TRACKWAY IN USE
-  ROAD/TRACKWAY (DISUSED)
-  HOLLOW WAY
-  SITES OF FEATURES/ ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS



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41053635

4103635

UNDER WHITTLE: ASSESSMENT OF RELATIVE SITE IMPORTANCE

The following is an assessment of the relative importance of the archaeological features discovered within the survey area. It is made by the National Park Survey Archaeologists in the light of those archaeological features known throughout the region at the time of the survey.

<u>LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE</u>	<u>FEATURE CATALOGUE NUMBERS</u>
Archaeological Features of National or Regional Importance:	
Good/reasonable condition (or with particularly important sub-surface features)	2, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35
Condition could be improved by a modification to the management regime	14
Poor condition – damage not repairable	5, 6, 7, 21
Archaeological Features of Local Importance:	
Good/reasonable condition (or with particularly important sub-surface features)	3, 4, 10, 12, 19, 20, 24
Condition could be improved by a modification to the management regime	
Poor condition – damage not repairable	29
Standing Buildings of National or Regional Importance	1
Standing Buildings of Local Importance	11
Non-Archaeological and Other Features not to be included in a management agreement	36, 37

Features of National or Regional Importance are all-important to the understanding of the archaeology of the Peak District and in many cases the wider area. Sometimes individual features of lesser importance are classified as regionally important because when they are put together with other features as a group they take on regional importance; notably, this is the case with most of the field boundary earthworks, which form an exceptional example of a now largely-redundant medieval and post-medieval field layout which was changed radically in the 19th century, leaving the earlier boundaries 'fossilised' in the landscape. All features contain valuable information which ideally should be recorded in greater detail than the brief inspection notes made during the rapid survey described here. This would take the form of at least a more detailed survey. If at some future time a feature in this category comes under threat of

damage or destruction, excavation may well be desirable if conservation measures cannot be negotiated. Some of the features in the Nationally or Regionally Important category in the Peak District have been designated as Scheduled Monuments and are protected by government legislation. There are no scheduled sites in the survey area.

Locally-important features are those which are important to the archaeology of the locality. Such features are still important for they contribute to the development and character of the local landscape and in many cases to local distinctiveness.

Standing buildings are listed separately because they present different management problems. In some cases, they are protected under the Listed Building legislation. This separate listing does not mean that many buildings are any less important archaeologically than any of the archaeological features listed as being of National or Regional Importance. There are no listed structures in the survey area.

Condition of features in both importance categories is also assessed. Three categories are used. Those defined as in 'good/reasonable condition' currently have no significant management problems and are in at least a reasonable condition. Also included are sites where there are few or no surface features but where it is likely there are sub-surface archaeological deposits of particular importance. Those listed as 'condition could be improved by a modification to the management regime' have significant problems, as for example active erosion scrapes, active damage created by tree roots or soil churning caused by the placing of feeders or salt licks. Those listed as 'poor condition – damage not repairable' have either been largely removed, are ploughed down to the extent of being barely recognisable, or have been otherwise severely damaged, so that their archaeological value has been significantly compromised. Also included are sites of buildings such as field barns where there are few or no surface features but where it is likely there are sub-surface archaeological deposits of some importance.

The last entry in the table above 'Non-Archaeological and Other Features' includes all those features in the catalogue which for a variety of reasons we recommend should not be included in any conservation agreement. In some cases features are catalogued because they help explain features within the land-holding but they are not themselves on the holding. Examples are, farmhouses or halls that once were the focal point for land management, railway lines that run through a property, and milestones on roadside verges. Past finds of archaeological artefacts, such as small numbers of flint tools, in ploughed fields within the land holding are often random samples of the kind of finds that may well occur over wide areas of the landscape and there is often little value in including these in agreements. In some cases modern or natural features are included in catalogues because they have in the past been wrongly interpreted as archaeological features or because there is a danger that this will occur in the future. For example, some clearly modern mounds may in years to come, once fully vegetated, look much like prehistoric barrows.

SAFEGUARDING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE - WHAT YOU CAN DO

Introduction

Many archaeological features have survived for hundreds or thousands of years. Each feature is a unique record of past human activity, even though it may be similar to others. Once destroyed, it is gone forever.

Archaeology covers all the remains of past human activity, from ancient stone circles to tracks used by our grandparents. It not only includes relics such as churches and castles, but also the walls used by farmers, and the mines and quarries that provided wealth from the ground.

An individual archaeological feature is not only important in its own right. Sometimes it is the general archaeological character of a landscape, including its many features of "local importance" that is archaeologically valuable. The 'humps and bumps' identified as archaeology may be the "tip of an iceberg" where more extensive archaeological deposits of settlement or ritual activity are concealed below ground.

Not all archaeological features or landscapes can be conserved, nor is it desirable that the countryside becomes a 'cultural theme park' where everything is fossilised. However, many features can be safeguarded at little or no inconvenience to landowners or tenants.

Many archaeological features have been destroyed in the past due to lack of knowledge of either their nature or value. Once farmers and other land managers realise that collectively such features tell us much about our past, they are usually happy to safeguard them, particularly if there is no significant conflict of interest with the profitable management of the holding.

Only a small number of the most important features are protected by law against ground disturbance and are designated as Scheduled Monuments by the Department of National Heritage, advised by English Heritage. Other features can be conserved under schemes such as DEFRA's Countryside Stewardship Scheme or the Peak District National Park Authority's Farm Conservation Scheme or the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark Scheme.

Surface Remains

After having survived for hundreds or thousands of years, the safeguarding of archaeological features is often easy - they are usually best left well alone, by continuing the management traditional to the field or moor where they are found. When locating new activities or buildings, conservation of archaeological features can usually be achieved by choosing alternative sites which are of little archaeological importance, but which are no less convenient, agriculturally. Leaving archaeological mounds and hollows, rather than creating flat fields, often has little effect on the way fields are managed or on their profitability. Such a positive approach may be rewarded by conservation payments.

Ploughing and rotovating may sometimes be necessary from a financial point of view, however, fields containing important archaeological features can sometimes be managed as permanent grass and other fields ploughed with equal profit. In some cases, rotovating or direct drilling cause little damage now, because shallow ploughing

has taken place several times over the last two centuries. In contrast, deep ploughing may damage intact burials and other deposits. This said, any ploughing will reduce the height of earthworks.

Livestock damage can be reduced by placing supplementary feeders and licks away from archaeological features, or by moving their locations regularly where remains are extensive, for example, in areas with ridge and furrow.

Tree planting should avoid archaeological features where possible. To avoid damage from pulling or digging out stumps, it is better to cut the trees close to the ground and then to poison the stump and leave it to rot. Trees can seriously damage features through root activity. When trees have to be felled, on or near archaeological features, it is necessary to consider in which direction they will fall, where the brash will be burnt, and the route vehicles will take when removing the timber. With large plantations, archaeological advice should ideally be sought in advance of new planting, replanting, thinning and clear felling. The deep ploughing which is often undertaken when preparing for new moorland planting destroys most archaeological features.

Tipping and dumping (some of which may need planning permission) should be avoided as much as possible as they bury archaeological features, making their recognition and interpretation impossible. If tipping has to take place, a detailed photographic or measured record of archaeological features may be desirable before such takes place.

Vehicles repeatedly crossing an area will quickly cause damage, especially when the ground is wet. If archaeological features cannot be avoided, different routes should be followed each time they are crossed.

Field Boundaries

Walls and hedges are often on old boundary lines which go back hundreds of years, and have archaeological landscape value even when they have recently been rebuilt or replanted. All furniture, such as sheep throughs, field stiles, gate posts and water troughs should be retained when walls are rebuilt.

Buildings

A major exception to easy management of the archaeological resource is the care of standing buildings. Once these have become redundant they are expensive to maintain. If alternative uses or sources of repair grant cannot be found, then there is often little choice but to let them decay or to demolish them. In the sad event of this happening, the Peak Park Survey Archaeologists would welcome the opportunity to do further recording, either by taking photographs, or exceptionally, by making measured drawings.

New buildings (some of which will need planning permission) should, wherever possible, be sited to avoid archaeological features.

Metal Detecting

Metal detecting can cause major damage to a feature and the important information it may contain and should not be allowed to take place on archaeological features. Such activities rarely produce anything of financial value and often the only finds that can date a feature are removed. Knowing that a find is from a feature is usually of little use unless its exact relationship to particular structures and layers is known.

Specialist Advice

The above notes present a few general guidelines on good practice which we hope will help safeguard the archaeology without causing serious inconvenience.

If there are any specific questions about management or planned development then please seek advice from the National Park Cultural Heritage Team. Normally the archaeologists can be contacted through the Countryside and Economy Team advisers, or through Development Control caseworkers.

If buildings have to be demolished or earthworks levelled, then detailed archaeological recording work should ideally be undertaken. If several months notice is given, then this allows a considered course of action to be followed through, and work to be carried out with minimal inconvenience and delay to the landowner.

Ideally a holistic approach to management should be adopted that also includes ecological and landscape considerations. The Authority's Countryside and Economy Team offers guidance on all such issues.

GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL TERMS

- ASHLAR** An architectural term for high quality well-finished smooth stonework used in the superior parts of a vernacular building such as quoins and those around openings. Sometimes also used for main walls as a whole.
- BUILDING PLATFORM** When buildings are constructed, the ground is often levelled by cutting into a slope, and/or by building up one end, to create a level terrace. Often the sites of demolished timber or stone buildings can still be identified by a surviving building platform. Prehistoric examples are commonly circular, while from the Roman period onwards they tend to be rectangular.
- ENCLOSURE AWARD** Between the mid eighteenth and mid nineteenth centuries a large amount of waste and common land was enclosed in the Peak District and other parts of England and Wales. This enclosure movement was undertaken under the strong belief in the need for agricultural improvement amongst landowners at the time. To enclose land the distribution to farmers and other landowners of the newly enclosed fields had to be approved. This approval could be via an Act of Parliament or by private agreement between local landowners and others with traditional land rights. In all legally ratified cases, and some privately agreed examples, an enclosure award setting down the agreed extent and layout of the enclosure in writing and a corresponding plan was drawn up. The level of accuracy and detail that allotment boundaries were planned to is usually good, but in many cases the subdivisions into individual fields were not shown. In the case of Parliamentary Awards these were often done on a parish by parish basis.
- FIELD BARN** One feature of post-medieval field enclosures in many parts of northern upland Britain is stone built barns placed within fields. Often of two, or one and a half storeys, with a cattle byre beneath and a hay loft over. A small cobble yard may be associated with the barn. Such barns were often used for over-wintering stock such as cattle, milk cows and sheep, and also sometimes working horses. Hay taken from the adjacent fields was stored in the loft and fed to the stock by passing it through a chute or trap door to feed troughs or mangers below. For simplicities sake, within this report, all smaller single-storey stone sheds and byres within fields are also referred to as field barns.
- FIELD SYSTEM** Groups of fields can sometimes be recognised as built as discrete units; these are termed here field systems. In the Peak District no prehistoric examples can be cited, as all identified fields of this date appear to be created in gradual aggregated fashion rather than being systematically planned. Planned field systems may start in the Romano-British period, while much of the present farmed landscape comprises medieval or post-medieval field systems.
- FOSSILISED CULTIVATION STRIPS** From at least as early as 1350 AD the cultivation strips within medieval open fields of the Peak District started to be enclosed. Typically these fields survive today as narrow walled enclosures with distinctive curved sides with a reverse-S plan. Taken together, they often allow the extent and character of the medieval open field to be recognised, despite the fact that use of open cultivation strips often ceased long ago. Enclosure of the strip fields usually happened piecemeal, with small parcels created that vary in date from the fourteenth century to the eighteenth century.

- HEADLAND** Usually a low, wide bank running at a right angle to the end of lynchets or ridge and furrow within medieval strip fields. It was the turning area for the oxen or horses and plough, at the end of a furlong or stretch of ploughing. It also often doubled as an access route from the village to the cultivation strips within the field.
- HOLLOW-WAY** The line of a routeway, usually disused, eroded into a gully during its use in the past. Some major routes may be extensive networks of braided tracks running parallel to and crossing over each other. They often pre-date turnpike roads and were commonly used by packhorse and foot traffic, and in some cases by wagons.
- LYNCHET** An artificial bank formed by a build up or loss of soil against a field boundary, or deliberately produced as the downslope edge of a cultivation terrace on a slope. Lynchets are usually found running along slopes and accumulate soil upslope, derived from downward movement of soil after ploughing, which is trapped by the boundary. They also lose soil downslope where ploughing cuts into the slope. Where a boundary has later been removed, a lynchet is often the main surviving evidence that a wall or hedge once existed. Those forming cultivation terraces often appear in groups and date from the medieval period and once lay within strip fields.
- MEDIEVAL** Used here for the period that dates from the Norman Conquest of 1066 AD to approximately 1500 AD. Also known as the Middle Ages.
- MULLIONS** An architectural term for vertical bars dividing lights in a window, which can be of stone or wood.
- OPEN FIELDS** In the Medieval period, probably from the early 10th century and certainly by the beginning of the 12th century, Peak District villages were often surrounded by large open fields. In some cases hamlets also had smaller open fields. While often bounded at their edges by banks and ditches, internally 'open fields' were initially divided into a large number of unfenced cultivation strips. The use of strips allowed a fair distribution of different grades of land between lord and villagers. This system was designed to favour the needs of arable cultivation. It seems to have been introduced into the area from the lowlands of the Midlands. In the Peak District, pastoral farming was of equal or greater importance, particularly after about 1350, and individual strips or parcels of strips were enclosed from an early date. Others, in less favourable locations in what are known as 'outfields', may have only been used in an intermittent way.
- PARISH** The smallest unit of local government today is the civil parish. In some areas this covers the same area as an ecclesiastical parish, which is the area of jurisdiction covered by the parish church. Ecclesiastical parishes, which sometimes are much larger than civil parishes, almost always cover the same ground as medieval manors, especially in rural areas; many have remained unaltered in their boundaries since the medieval period. In the Peak District many civil parishes have boundaries that follow those of traditional townships rather than often larger ecclesiastical parishes.
- POST-MEDIEVAL** The period after the medieval, beginning at approximately 1500 AD and used here to include modern features up to the present day. This period is distinct from the medieval because of the change from a feudal to capitalist society and the eventual rapid development of industrialisation from the 18th century.

- QUOINS** An architectural term for corner stones to the walls of buildings. These stones are squared masonry used where the walling stones are much smaller. Sometimes of ashlar to accentuate the edges.
- RIDGE AND FURROW** In many fields that have not been ploughed in recent years, the land is corrugated by many parallel low ridges, known as ridge and furrow. Earlier examples tend to be wider and more massive and have origins as medieval cultivation strips (see Open Fields). In some instances they continued to be used and modified until as late as the eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries. Narrow ridge and furrow tends to be nineteenth century in date (or from 1939-45 using old ploughs), resulting from ploughing using a fixed mould-board plough. There are rare exceptions to these trends, including pre-medieval ridge and furrow of various forms, wide but straight examples of relatively modern date and hand dug examples of various dates. All types of ridge and furrow tend to occur on heavier, thicker soils, but are rare on the thin soils of the limestone plateau.
- ROLL MOULDING** A plain moulding of semi-circular cross-section.
- SILLS** An architectural term for lines of stonework dividing two storeys to accentuate the line; also called string courses.
- SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORDS** Lists of archaeological sites, and summaries of what is known about them, which in the Peak District are kept by County Archaeologists. That for Derbyshire is held at the County Offices, Matlock Bath.
- TOWNSHIP** A term given to a subdivision of a medieval parish, which have developed into civil parishes in many parts of the Peak District. Such divisions were usually given the name of the principal settlement therein but also included farmland and open pasture attached to that settlement.
- TROUGH** See Water Trough.
- WALL FURNITURE** This term is used to cover such details found in drystone walls as gateposts, stiles, smoots, sheep throughs and water troughs.
- WATER TROUGH** Normally carved from gritstone, water troughs were often originally plumped into a natural spring to provide a source of water for grazing stock. Later ones are now linked to mains water.

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