

A photograph of a snowy moorland landscape. In the foreground, a tall, rectangular stone pillar stands upright, with a smooth, rounded stone resting on top. To the left of the pillar, a low stone wall made of irregular rocks is partially covered in snow. The ground is a mix of snow and dry, brown grass. In the background, a rolling moorland extends to the horizon under a pale, overcast sky.

Historic Environment Assessment

Holcombe Moor, West Pennine Moors, Lancashire

Produced for the National Trust by Ashley A Brogan

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Contents

1. Non-technical summary	5
2. Introduction.....	7
2.1 Project background.....	7
2.2 Site location, topography and geology	7
2.3 Designations	8
3. Methodology	10
3.1 Aims and objectives	10
3.2 Research sources	10
3.3 Study area.....	10
3.4 Significance assessment methodology.....	11
3.5 Impact assessment methodology.....	12
3.6 Criteria for recommended exclusion zones	12
3.7 Scoped out.....	12
4. Relevant policy and legislation.....	13
4.1 Introduction.....	13
4.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).....	13
4.2.1 Designated heritage assets	13
4.2.2 Non-designated heritage assets	14
4.3 Local Development Framework.....	14
4.4 England Peat Action Plan	16
5. Historical context.....	18
5.1 Prehistoric period	18
5.2 Romano-British period.....	20
5.3 Medieval period.....	20
5.4 Post-medieval period.....	22
5.5 The history and development of the Site.....	23
6. Site visit	29
7. Assessment of potential	34
7.1 Introduction.....	34



7.2	Previous archaeological investigation.....	35
7.3	Archaeology and peat	36
7.4	Summary of archaeological potential by period	36
7.4.1	Prehistoric	36
7.4.2	Roman	37
7.4.3	Medieval.....	37
7.4.4	Post medieval	37
7.4.5	Summary	37
8.	Significance assessment.....	38
8.1	Introduction.....	38
8.2	Significance of archaeological remains	38
8.2.1	Historical and archaeological interest	38
	Archaeological interest.....	38
8.2.2	Baseline significance conditions	38
8.3	Significance of the built heritage assets	40
8.3.1	Assessment of Significance Methodology/ Criteria.....	40
8.3.2	Peel Monument.....	40
8.3.3	Holcombe Village Conservation Area	41
8.4	Summary of significance	41
9.	Impact assessment.....	44
9.1	Introduction.....	44
9.2	Proposed restoration techniques	44
9.3	Impact upon archaeological resource within the Site.....	46
9.4	Impact upon the historic landscape	48
9.5	Impact upon the built heritage	48
9.5.1	Location and siting of the restoration scheme	48
9.5.2	The form and appearance of the restoration scheme	48
9.5.3	Wider effects.....	48
9.5.4	The permanence, longer term or consequential effects.....	48
9.5.5	Significance of impact upon built heritage	49
10.	Conclusions.....	50
10.1	Assessment of archaeological remains.....	50



10.1.1	Summary	50
10.1.2	Exclusion zones	50
10.1.3	Recommended mitigation	50
10.2	Assessment of built heritage	51
10.3	Conclusion	51
Sources		52
	Cartographic sources	52
	Bibliography	52
Acknowledgements		55
Appendix 1: ICOMOS guidance		56
	Assessing Value of Heritage Assets	56
	Assessing Magnitude of Change or Impact.....	60
	Assessing the Significance of Impact.....	62
Appendix 2: Gazetteer of Heritage Assets		63
Appendix 3: Figures		76

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1. Non-technical summary

The National Trust appointed Brogan Archaeology to produce a historic environment assessment (HEA) for the land at Holcombe Moor, within the West Pennine Moors of Greater Manchester and Lancashire. The boundary separating Greater Manchester from Lancashire runs approximately northwest to southeast through the central area of the site. Holcombe Moor comprises blanket bog formed over the course of 6000 years. The peat measures at 3m deep in some areas of the moor. The HEA will inform the Nature for Climate Peat Restoration Scheme on aspects of the historic environment and the archaeological potential of the site, as well as the significance of these features and the potential impacts of the restoration scheme. This report has been produced in accordance with Natural England's guidelines for peat restoration (Natural England and Historic England, 2021), national and local planning policy and recognised best practice.

The Stubbins Estate and Holcombe Moor is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Holcombe Village Conservation Area partly overlaps with the site. The proposed restoration area does not include any scheduled monuments or listed buildings. The grade II listed Peel Monument is located on Holcombe Moor, close to the site, and therefore the impact of the scheme upon the conservation area and the listed building has been considered. The setting assessment concluded that, whilst the moor provides a significant backdrop to the designated heritage assets, the proposed restoration works will not affect the significance of the assets and will instead enhance the moorland.

The archaeological potential of the moor has been assessed. Prehistoric remains have been identified at Holcombe Moor. Many of these remains were located outside of the restoration area. A Mesolithic flint site was located at Bull Hill and it has been suggested that the Pilgrim's Cross was built on the site of a Bronze Age cairn. No Roman remains have been identified within the site and very few sites are known in the wider landscape. A pilgrimage route ran through the site during the medieval period and the Pilgrim's Cross was located outside of the boundary of the restoration area. During the post-medieval period, the moor was used for recreational activities and military training. Remains of rifle butts survive within the restoration area. The moor was also exploited for its resources during the post-medieval period and several coal pits and quarries remain as visible historic landscape features within the site.

The assessment demonstrates that the site has moderate archaeological potential and is of some historical and archaeological interest. The site most likely contains non-statutory remains of low (local) and potentially medium (regional) significance. Elements of the historic landscape, such as the sheepfolds, quarries, and routeways, are considered of low (local) significance and any prehistoric remains would be of medium (regional) significance. The intrusive works proposed as part of the scheme have the potential to impact presently unknown archaeological remains within the peat, which may result in a slight adverse impact to the potential remains. The impact upon the identified heritage assets will be negligible and / or minor, which would be of neutral / slight significance.

In order to mitigate the potential adverse effect, further archaeological investigation may be required in advance of the implementation of the restoration scheme. This may include a programme of sampling or intrusive archaeological investigation.



Sampling in the peat cutting areas will allow an understanding of the historic environment to be developed, which will mitigate the harm of disturbing the palaeoenvironmental sequence. The exact scope of the taking and processing of samples can be determined in consultation with the science advisor within Historic England. Further intrusive investigation may take an alternative form to standard trial trenching, such as the implementation of shovel test pits, which would include hand digging and sifting through the soil to identify archaeological remains. Archaeological monitoring during the peat restoration works may also be recommended, which would identify sites and finds during the peat restoration works. The exact scope of any sampling, archaeological evaluation and/or monitoring works should be decided in consultation with LCCHET, GMAAS and the National Trust archaeologist.

Should significant archaeological remains be encountered during the archaeological monitoring or evaluation, further investigation through archaeological excavation would be required to offset the harm of the peat restoration works, in line with the aims of the England Peat Action Plan. Alternatively, the archaeological remains can be recorded as exposed and placed within an exclusion zone. The peat restoration scheme will need to be redesigned to avoid the new exclusion zone.

The action plan states that the restoration scheme will “seek to protect the historic environment of peatlands so the important evidence of our past can be preserved for the future, and ensure that restoration projects deliver cultural heritage, education and enjoyment, alongside other public goods”. It can be concluded that the restoration scheme at Holcombe Moor will achieve this aim through restoring the peatland whilst undertaking appropriate mitigation. The restoration of the peatland will prevent further degradation, which will preserve the remaining peat deposits. Therefore, with mitigation, the scheme will result in an overall beneficial effect on the historic environment.



2. Introduction

2.1 Project background

The National Trust appointed Brogan Archaeology to produce a historic environment assessment for the site at Holcombe Moor, within the West Pennine Moors of Greater Manchester and Lancashire (referred to as ‘the Site’ herein). The assessment will inform the Nature for Climate Peat Restoration scheme on aspects of the historic environment and the archaeological potential of the Site, as well as the significance of these features and the potential impacts of the restoration scheme. This report presents the results of the assessment in accordance with Natural England’s guidelines for peat restoration (Natural England and Historic England, 2021), national and local planning policy and recognised best practice.

2.2 Site location, topography and geology

The Site is located across Holcombe Moor within the West Pennine Moors. The boundary separating Greater Manchester from Lancashire runs approximately northwest to southeast through the central area of the Site. The Site is bounded by Haslingden Moor to the north, Broadhead Road to the west, Moorbottom Road to the south and Moor Road to the east (Plate 1; Figure 1, Appendix 3).

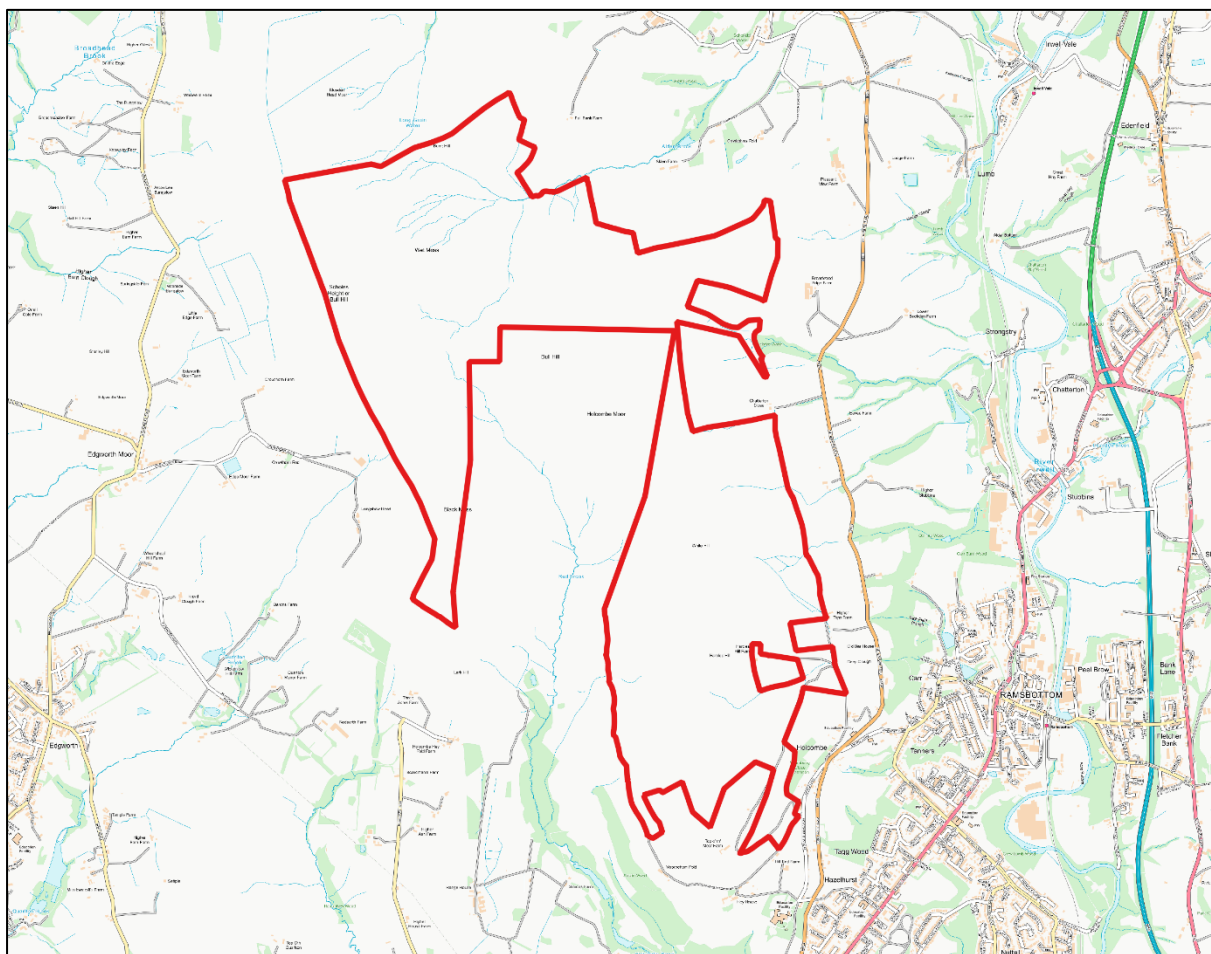


Plate 1 Modern map showing the location of the Site



Holcombe Moor comprises blanket bog formed over the course of 6000 years. The peat measures at 3m deep in some areas of the moor. The peat of the moor has been affected by air pollution and the impact of the industrial revolution, as well as other factors, such as moorland fires, erosion and overgrazing (National Trust, n.d.).

The Site lies across the uplands of the West Pennine Moors, with the summits of Harcles Hill (371m) and Scholes Height (415m) located within the Site boundary. Several small watercourses are located within the Site boundary, including Alden Brook within the northern area of the Site. The River Irwell is located to the east of Holcombe Moor and to the west is the valley of Holcombe Brook.

The underlying geology of the area comprises mostly of Rough Rock Sandstone, which formed between 320 and 319 million years ago during the Carboniferous period. The areas of White Hill and Bull Hill comprise of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation and sandstone of the Woodhead Hill Rock, which both formed between 319 and 318 million years ago during the Carboniferous period (BGS, 2023).

2.3 Designations

The Stubbins Estate and Holcombe Moor is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and was gifted to the National Trust by Colonel Austin Townsend Porritt for public access and pleasure. The Holcombe Village Conservation Area is located to the southeast of the Site and overlaps with the southeastern area of the Site. No listed buildings, scheduled monuments or registered parks and gardens are located within the Site, however, 20 listed buildings are located within 750m of the Site (Table 1; Figure 4, Appendix 2). Peel Monument and the Holcombe Village will be considered throughout the assessment due to the close proximity of the designated heritage assets to the Site.

Site	Designation	List Entry Number	Location
Holcombe Village	Conservation Area	-	377815 415963
Peel Tower	Grade II Listed Building	1163433	377749 416375
Sundial Cottage, Simons Farms	Grade II Listed Building	1067229	376830 416017
Former Farmhouse on the southwest side of yard at Hollingrove Farm	Grade II Listed Building	1163740	377094 415587
Barn with cruck frames on south side of yard at Hollingrove Farm	Grade II Listed Building	1356813	377116 415580
Hey House	Grade II* Listed Building	1067269	377688 415915



Lumb Carr Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	1318230	377989 415454
Range of barns abutting Lumb Carr Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	1067271	378006 415452
Hazelhurst Engineering Works Nos. 258-264	Grade II Listed Building	1067284	378293 415691
Manor House and outbuildings to the south	Grade II Listed Building	1309235	378026 416423
Plant Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	1318228	378097 416515
Barn 11m south of Plant Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	1067272	378102 416489
5 Cross Lane	Grade II Listed Building	1067262	378129 416573
24 and 26 Alba Street	Grade II Listed Building	1067277	378169 416636
1 and 3 Alba Street	Grade II Listed Building	1356788	378182 416632
Shoulder of Mutton Public House	Grade II Listed Building	1067276	378193 416636
Higher House	Grade II Listed Building	1356810	378184 416682
Emmanuel Church	Grade II Listed Building	1163079	378385 416732
Sundial adjacent to Emmanuel Church	Grade II Listed Building	1356794	378389 416721
School House	Grade II Listed Building	1067264	378604 416484
Eaves Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	1072822	378274 418398

Table 1 Designations located within 750m of the Site



3. Methodology

3.1 Aims and objectives

The assessment considers the potential impact of the peat restoration scheme upon the historic environment, including any upstanding heritage assets, features of the historic landscape and potential buried archaeological remains within the Site. The principal aims and objectives of this historic environment assessment are as follows:

- to assess the restoration scheme with respect to the historic environment, cultural heritage and landscape planning policies and guidance;
- to identify and describe historic environment, cultural heritage and landscape assets within the study area and its environs;
- to assess the significance of those assets;
- to determine the likely effect of the proposed interventions upon those assets and their setting; and,
- to make recommendations to mitigate the impact of the proposed interventions on those assets and their setting.

The assessment comprises a desk-based study, which follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) standard and guidance for undertaking archaeological desk-based assessments (CIfA, 2017). This guidance includes recommendations on preparing archaeological desk-based assessments, consulting sources of information relevant to the historic environment and assessing the significance of heritage assets.

3.2 Research sources

The assessment made use of the following sources:

- The Lancashire Historic Environment Record, maintained by the Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Team (LCCHET);
- The Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, maintained by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS);
- The North West England Regional Research Framework;
- The National Heritage List for England;
- National Trust Heritage Records; and,
- Other sources, including cartographic sources, historic documents and photographs.

3.3 Study area

In order to ensure that the historic environment assessment is comprehensive, historic environment record entries within 750m of the Site have been consulted and a broader study of the region has been undertaken. Heritage assets beyond the Site boundary are incorporated into this assessment in order to inform the archaeological and historical context of the Site. A Site visit has also been undertaken to assess the character of the Site,



identify visible historic features and assess possible factors that may affect the survival or condition of known or potential assets.

3.4 Significance assessment methodology

The methodology chosen to assess the significance of the identified heritage assets is the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments, outlined in Annex 1 of 'Scheduled Monuments: identifying, protecting, conserving and investigating nationally important archaeological sites under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979' (DCMS, 2013). The criteria are listed below:

- Archaeological interest
- Historical interest
- Period
- Rarity
- Documentation
- Group value
- Survival/condition
- Fragility/vulnerability
- Diversity
- Potential

The significance assessment also uses the approach to assessing heritage value contained within 'Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties' issued by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in January 2011 (ICOMOS, 2011) (see Appendix 1). The significance of the built heritage is assessed using Historic England's guidance Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets 2019 and Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (2008). The framework for assessing the level of significance of the structures was taken from the ICOMOS guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments (Appendix 1). The criteria for the assessment of significance as outlined in the 2019 Historic England guidance is as follows:

Archaeological Interest

'There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.'

Architectural and Artistic Interest

'These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skills, like sculpture.'

Historic Interest

'An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history, but can also provide meaning for communities derived from



their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.'

3.5 Impact assessment methodology

The statement follows the good practice advice and guidance set out by Historic England 'Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2', issued in March 2015 (Historic England, 2015). This guidance provides clear and detailed approaches to assessing the impact of proposals upon various heritage assets. This historic environment assessment therefore follows these recommendations to ensure the report is conducted within best practice (see Appendix 1).

3.6 Criteria for recommended exclusion zones

Where archaeological sites are identified, exclusion zones are allocated to prevent damage or disturbance to remains. Exclusion zones may protect known archaeological sites or speculative sites which have yet to see archaeological investigation. The allocation of exclusion zones to known and potential archaeological sites prevents the need for intrusive excavation and redirects the peat restoration work the areas of the Site less likely to contain archaeological remains.

3.7 Scoped out

The settings of the majority of designated heritage assets within the vicinity of the Site will not be directly affected and therefore many of these outlined in Table 1 have been scoped out. The Peel Monument and Holcombe Village Conservation Area have been assessed within the report due to their close proximity to the Site and the significance of the moorland in the setting of the Peel Monument.



4. Relevant policy and legislation

4.1 Introduction

This assessment accords with the policies concerning the historic environment outlined in National, Regional and Local guidance. National planning policies relevant to heritage asset management are contained within Section 16 (paragraphs 195-214) of the National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2023).

4.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The significance of the historic environment has been assessed as advised in the revised National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2023). The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies and outlines the presumption in favour of sustainable development, which is defined by three principles: economic, social and environmental. The NPPF states that conserving heritage assets 'in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations' is a core consideration in any decision making that has the potential to impact the historic environment.

Section 16 states that local planning authorities should consider:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and,
- opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

Paragraph 200 states that "local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation."

4.2.1 Designated heritage assets

With regard to designated heritage assets, Paragraph 205 of the NPPF states that "When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more



important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance”.

Paragraph 206 states that ‘Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

- a) Grade II Listed Buildings, or Grade II Registered Parks or Gardens, should be exceptional;
- b) assets of the highest significance, notably Scheduled Monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional”.

4.2.2 Non-designated heritage assets

With regard to non-designated heritage assets, Paragraph 209 states that “The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.”

Paragraph 211 states that “local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible”.

4.3 Local Development Framework

The Site is located within the districts of two local councils: Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and Rossendale. The southern area of the Site falls within the Bury Metropolitan Borough Council district, located within Greater Manchester, whilst the northern half falls within Rossendale, Lancashire. The western boundary of the Site runs along the boundary of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan in collaboration with the Places for Everyone (PfE) joint development plan. The Local Plan Policy Directions therefore currently includes the intended planning policies for the new Local Plan. Policies regarding the historic environment are considered within Section 13, “Built Heritage” (Bury Council, 2018).

Policy BH3 states that *“It is proposed that the Local Plan should include a policy that seeks to ensure that development proposals will not be permitted where they would adversely affect current and future scheduled monuments and their settings.”* Archaeological features are considered in Policy BH5, which states *“It is proposed that the Local Plan should include a policy that recognises the importance of archaeological remains as part of the Borough’s heritage and which seeks the protection of sites of archaeological importance as and where they are found. It is considered that the policy should also specify that, where a development proposal is submitted which will affect an archaeological site, the developer should submit sufficient information on the potential impact of the development to allow the Council to*



make a full and proper investigation into its archaeological consequences as well as setting out the criteria that the Council will consider in dealing with such proposals."

The Rossendale Local Plan was adopted in 2019. The policies regarding the historic environment are included within "Strategic Policy ENV2: Historic Environment", which states, "The Council will support proposals which conserve or, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment of Rossendale.

Particular consideration will be given to ensure that the significance of those elements of the historic environment which contribute most to the Borough's distinctive identity and sense of place are not harmed. These include:

- The historic town centres of Bacup, Haslingden and Rawtenstall; Preindustrial farmhouses and weavers cottages;*
- The legacy of mill buildings and their associated infrastructure including engine houses, chimneys and mill lodges, and the relationship to nearby terraced workers' housing;*
- The fine examples of Victorian Mill Owners' Mansions;*
- The infrastructure associated with the Borough's mining and quarrying heritage;*
- The Nineteenth century institutional buildings including its libraries, institutes, schools and former public baths;*
- The range, wealth and quality of its places of worship;*
- The network of historic open spaces, parks, gardens, and cemeteries; and*
- Historic landscape.*

Proposals affecting a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) should conserve those elements which contribute to its significance. Less than substantial harm to such elements will be permitted only where this is clearly justified and outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal. Substantial harm or total loss to the significance of a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) will be permitted only in exceptional circumstances. Where permission is granted for a development which would result in the partial or total loss of a designated heritage asset, approval will be conditional upon the asset being fully recorded and the information deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER).

Proposals which would remove, harm or undermine the significance of a non-designated heritage asset will only be permitted where the benefits are considered sufficient to outweigh the harm.

The historic landscape of the Borough should be protected and any proposals which would impact on its qualities or functions will be assessed according to policy ENV3.

Where the proposal affects (non-designated) archaeological sites of less than national importance it should conserve those elements which contribute to their significance in line with the importance of the remains. In those cases where development affecting such sites is acceptable in principle, mitigation of damage will be ensured through the preservation of the remains in situ as a preferred solution. When in situ preservation is not justified, the developer will be required to make adequate provision for excavation and recording before



or during development, the findings of which should be deposited with the Historic Environment Record.

Proposals within or affecting the setting of a conservation area will only be permitted where it preserves or enhances the character and appearance of the area, including those elements which have been identified within the conservation area appraisal as making a positive contribution to the significance of that area.

All applications which affect a heritage asset should be accompanied by a Statement of Significance which may form part of a Design and Access statement and/or a Heritage Impact Assessment. This should provide the information necessary to assess the impact of the proposals on the heritage asset and its setting, demonstrating how the proposal has taken into account the elements that contribute to its significance including, where relevant, its architectural and historic interest, character and appearance. As well as fulfilling its statutory obligations, the Council will:

- Seek to identify, protect and enhance local heritage assets;*
- Promote heritage-led regeneration including in relation to development opportunities;*
- Produce conservation area appraisals and management plans;*
- Develop a positive strategy to safeguard the future of any heritage assets that are considered to be “at risk”;*
- Adopt a proactive approach to utilising development opportunities to increase the promotion and interpretation of the Borough’s rich archaeological wealth; and*
- Develop a positive heritage strategy for the Borough”*

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council are advised on archaeological matters by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service and Rossendale Council are advised by the Lancashire County Council Historic Environment Team (LCCHET). Both services have therefore been consulted for this historic environment assessment.

4.4 England Peat Action Plan

The England Peat Action Plan (UK Government, 2021) is considered throughout this assessment. The action plan states that the implementation of peat restoration measures will:

- “Secure our peatlands’ carbon store so they meet their contribution to Net Zero by 2050. This cannot be achieved by only restoring upland peat but will require significant changes to how we manage our lowland peat.
- Deliver Natural Flood Management and improve water quality, to increase drought resilience and the sustainability of our water supplies. Protect and restore our peatland habitats so they are healthy, well-functioning ecosystems rich in wildlife. These wildlife rich peatlands will form a key part of our Nature Recovery Network.
- Drive private investment in peatland restoration through natural capital markets that allow the accreditation and sale of the ecosystems services that healthy peatlands can provide.



- Protect the historic environment of peatlands so the important evidence of our past can be preserved for the future, and ensure that restoration projects deliver cultural heritage, education and enjoyment, alongside other public goods.”

Furthermore, the peatland restoration is required to comply with Nature for Climate Restoration Grant Manual Annex 5, which states the requirement to provide a Historic Environment Assessment (Natural England and Historic England, 2021). This guidance document is jointly authored by Natural England and Historic England and published by Natural England. Annex 5 states:

“AIM: Peatland restoration schemes must deliver long-term protection of historic environment features and palaeoenvironmental remains.

Follow these steps to achieve this aim:

- 1 Always seek to avoid damage to historic environment features and the peat deposits.
- 2 Always seek to minimise damage where this is unavoidable.
- 3 Implement a scheme of mitigation where damage to historic environment features and peat deposits is unavoidable, as approved by Natural England’s Historic Environment Senior Adviser – Peatlands.

You should also include measures to improve public understanding of, access to, and engagement with, the historic environment.”

The assessment has also considers the guidance provided in Natural England’s “Nature for Climate Peatland Grant Scheme: Supplementary guidance on Historic Environment Assessments (HEAs) for Peatland Restoration” (Natural England, 2021) and Historic England’s “Peatlands and the Historic Environment” (Historic England, 2021).



5. Historical context

This section provides a history of the region by period (see Table 2). Sections 5.1 to 5.4 consider the prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Section 5.5 looks at the history of the Site from the earliest documentary and archaeological records to present. Section 7 looks at the archaeological potential of the Site based on the context provided within this section.

Name of period		Date range
Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	Pre-10,000 BCE
	Mesolithic	10,000 BCE to 4000 BCE
	Neolithic	4000 BCE to 2200 BCE
	Bronze Age	2600 BCE to 700 BCE
	Iron Age	800 BCE to 43 CE
Roman		43 CE to 410 CE
Early medieval		410 CE to 1066 CE
Medieval		1066 CE to 1540 CE
Post medieval		1540 CE to 1901 CE
20 th century		1901 CE to 2000 CE

Table 2 Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

5.1 Prehistoric period

During the palaeolithic period, small bands of hunter/gatherer groups were living across the tundra landscape. In the earliest phase of the Mesolithic period, the sea level rose as the ice cap melted and rainfall increased, which led to an increase of woodland vegetation. As the climate improved larger groups of hunter/gatherers began to occupy coastal regions and the lowland river valleys of the North West. It has been often stated that lowland areas nearby rivers and coasts and areas at the interface between different ecological zones were more favourable for prehistoric groups due to the abundance of resources in these areas (Brennand & Hodgson, 2006).

From 5000 BCE, the woodland declined and blanket peat began to develop. Many Mesolithic finds recovered from the region have been found during surface collection and excavation works at the edges of patches of peat or within areas of eroded peat. Concentrations of flint tools have been recovered from upland regions across the Pennines, with many sites identified in the Saddleworth/Marsden area. Occasionally these finds are



associated with the remains of hearths and fire pits. Within the Bury area, most Mesolithic finds have comprised of flint scatters and have been recovered from the upper reaches of the Irwell Valley. These lithic scatters are said to represent the temporary or seasonal settlements of hunter-gather groups within the uplands. Various flints have been recovered from Holcombe Moor since the 19th century. In a paper presented to the Geological Society in 1877, the investigation of Bull Hill was described, which “resulted in the discovery of some fifty or sixty flakes and chips, together with an arrowtip and a flint core”. During the 1880s, several small flakes, a flint scraper, flint flake, a lozenge-shaped flint arrowhead and a ‘finely worked barbed arrowhead’ were found at Bull Hill (HER PRN1074 - MLA1074).

The Neolithic period is characterised by the introduction of domesticated crops and animals and a more sedentary lifestyle, however, hunting and gathering remained important (Brennand & Hodgson, 2006). Forest clearance would have accelerated the woodland decline during this period to make way for agricultural land. Some upland clearance took place during this period, as evidenced by the recovery of grain within a buried soil under a Bronze Age cairn at Rossendale (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001; GMAU, 2008, p. 12). Perhaps the most notable Neolithic site within the wider landscape is the long-chambered cairn known as ‘Pikestones’ on Anglezarke Moor, located 13km to the west of the Site.

During the Early Bronze Age, the climate became more favourable and the population increased. The peatland within the uplands began formation during this period. Bronze Age finds have been recovered in greater numbers within the region than the previous periods. Several funerary monuments are also known from the period, which indicate the existence of settled communities. Examples of funerary sites include St Mary’s Church in Bury, Shuttleworth and Whitelow (GMAU, 2008). The cairns at Whitelow and Shuttleworth both contained the cremated remains of multiple individuals and associated grave goods. Other monuments within the region include the scheduled stone circle at Cheetham Close which is located approximately 4.7km to the west of the Site. The monument comprises a small stone circle with two outlying stones, a ring cairn containing two small cairns within its enclosure, and two small round cairns.

Other Bronze Age remains from the Bury district include bronze and stone implements, most of which have been recovered from the confluence of the rivers Irwell and Roch (GMAU, 2008, pp. 12-3). Finds dating to the Neolithic or Bronze Age have been reportedly recovered from the Bull Hill area of the Holcombe Moor. It has been suggested that the activity identified within this area is associated with a Bronze Age cairn beneath the Pilgrim’s Cross, however, the presence of a Bronze Age cairn has not been confirmed (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001). Furthermore, a circular earthwork at Bull Hill previously identified as a prehistoric monument is now considered modern (HER PRN27138), and therefore it is possible that the prehistoric potential of this area has been previously overestimated. Other possible prehistoric finds from the immediate landscape surrounding the Site include the possible ‘battle axe’, which was discovered in 1904 in the bed of a stream to the south of the Site (HER 3801.1.0).

The valleys surrounding the Site were likely extensively occupied during the Iron Age. Evidence of Iron Age activity within the region includes the promontory site at Castlesteads, Burrs, located 3.7km to the southeast of the Site. The fort was excavated during the mid- to



late 20th century. The excavations revealed an enclosed settlement within a 5m to 8m ditch. Pottery and features possibly representing huts were found within the interior area of the fort. It has been suggested that other late prehistoric sites likely exist within Bury and are most likely to comprise of hilltop enclosures or promontory sites overlooking rivers or streams (GMAU, 2008, p. 13).

5.2 Romano-British period

The region was conquered by the Romans in the 70s CE following the invasion of England, which began in 43 CE. The Lancashire region would have comprised of a largely open and cultivated landscape, with farmsteads located within the river valleys and defended hilltops located within the uplands. Roman settlements were established across the region, with key sites located at Manchester, Ribchester, Lancaster, Wigan and Castleshaw, and a series of roads were laid out to connect the various military bases and provide essential communication links. The Roman road linking Manchester to Ribchester runs through the region, passing through Prestwich, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Ainsworth, Tottington and Affetside. A scheduled section of the Roman road is located approximately 2.5km to the southwest of the Site (List Entry: 1005099) and a possible section of a separate Roman road has been identified through aerial photography at Broadwood Edge Farm, located 400m to the east of the Site (HER PRN1987 - MLA1987). Finds have been recovered from along the route of this road. No villas or towns have been identified within Bury and therefore it is likely that there was a continuation in pre-Roman practices, which mainly comprised of dispersed farmsteads scattered through the landscape (GMAU, 2008, p. 14).

5.3 Medieval period

The early medieval period is characterised as a time of economic decline and administrative collapse, which resulted in a change to the political landscape. Kingdoms and sub-kingdoms were formed and changed due to invasions by the Angles, Saxons and Jutes. Evidence of early medieval settlement within the landscape surrounding the Site comes primarily from placenames due to the lack of archaeological remains. The name 'Holcombe' likely derives from the Saxon word *hol*, meaning 'hollow' and the Celtic word *cwm*, meaning a hollow on the side of a hill, which describes the location of the village (Kathryn Sather & Associates, 2010). Names such as Quarlton, Turton and Edgworth derive from Old English and indicate small settlements within the landscape. The Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester remained a major route throughout the early medieval period and the settlement pattern seen during the Roman period, comprising of dispersed farmsteads, likely continued throughout this period (GMAU, 2008, p. 14).

During the medieval period, the valleys surrounding Holcombe Moor would have comprised of dispersed farms, halls and nucleated hamlets, with a market centre located at Bury. Land-use was likely divided between the uplands and lowlands, with sheep and cattle rearing taking place on the moors and grain production in the valleys. Medieval deer parks were located within Bury, with examples as Musbury, Heaton and Pilkington (GMAU, 2008, p. 15). Recent excavations undertaken by the Holcombe Moor Heritage Group have identified significant remains at Cinder Hill. The remains at Cinder Hill include a bloomery furnace, which has been radiocarbon dated to the Saxon period (877-996 AD). Further investigations have identified a 13th-century primary smithing hearth, where the blooms of



iron produced in the furnace were converted into bars of wrought iron, and a 14th-century furnace. Whilst it is possible that the radiocarbon date associated with the furnace may need reassessment, the investigations prove a significant iron-working site was located within the valley at Holcombe and could have been in operation over several centuries (Holcombe Moor Heritage Group, 2022).

The parish of Bury was likely created as a subdivision of a larger territory prior to 1189. The parish included the townships of Bury, Cowpe-with-Lench, Elton, Musbury, Tottington, Walmersley-with-Shuttleworth, within the Kirkless valleys, and Heap in the Roch valley. Due to the large size of the parish, two chapels of ease were constructed at Holcombe and Edenfield to allow parishioners to more easily access the church. Land within Bury was owned by prominent families, including the Grelley family of Manchester and the Montebegon family in the Upper Irwell. Religious groups also held land in the district, including the Knights of St John (Hospitaliers), Cockersands Abbey and Monk Bretton Priory (GMAU, 2008, p. 15).

A notable medieval site located within 100m of the Site boundary is the Pilgrim's Cross, sometimes known as the Whowell Cross, at White Hill (HER PRN1073 - MLA1073). The cross is referred to in a charter of 1176 and in Roger de Montbegon's grant of land in 1225, where it is named the 'Pilgrim's Cross Slack' and 'Pilgrim's Cross Shaw', respectively. The cross was likely replaced over the centuries, however, the cross shaft in place in the 19th century was reportedly destroyed by two drunken quarrymen (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 10). The socketed base was deliberately broken in 1901. The base was typical of the wayside cross bases found elsewhere within Lancashire and descriptions of the cross claim the base had previously been graffitied with an inscription reading "RP 1842 A 12 REMEMBER" (Plate 2), which is likely a memorial to the plug riots of 1842 where those protesting mechanisation attacked a number of mills in the area and removed plugs from the boilers of steam engines (Dowsett, 1901, pp. 29-30). The presence of the Pilgrim's Cross the route across the moor to a site of pilgrimage, most likely to Whalley Abbey.

During a walkover survey undertaken as part of an archaeological desk-based assessment in 2001, a gritstone block was identified near Moor Road, within the Site boundary (HER PRN27144 - MLA25458). It was noted that the position of the block was at a point where masonry rolling down the slope from Pilgrim's Cross would have been caught. Furthermore, the gritstone block has a different appearance to other gritstone blocks in the landscape, most of which were used as gateposts. The date of the gritstone block is uncertain, however, based on the findings of the walkover survey, it is possible that the block is medieval in date (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 10).

A number of 'Shaw' placenames are associated with Holcombe Moor, which could have derived from the Anglo-Saxon *sceath* meaning 'boundary' or the Anglo-Saxon term *sceaga*, meaning 'small wood' or 'copse'. It is therefore possible that Holcombe Moor was wooded in the earlier medieval period. Furthermore, Roger de Montbegon granted the forest known as 'Holcombe' to the monks of Monk Bretton in 1226, which may have created the land boundaries within the uplands (Farrer & Brownbill, 1911). The grant also included 'three acres of meadows', indicating that enclosures existed on Holcombe Moor during the medieval period, possibly at Booth's Close (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 14). After 1226, the southern part of Holcombe Moor was under monastic control whilst the northern



part was within the manor of Tottington. The Site may have formed part of the free chase and warren of Tottington, which was granted to Edward de Lacy in 1261 (Baines, 1868). The current boundary between Greater Manchester and Lancashire follows the medieval manorial and township boundaries, however it is unclear whether the boundary was delineated on the ground during this period (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 12).



Plate 2 The Pilgrim's Cross foundation stone with graffiti, photographed 1896 (Dowsett, 1901)

5.4 Post-medieval period

A number of recorded farms, halls and hamlets were constructed in Bury during the post-medieval period, which corresponded with the rise in the population. Many of the buildings and enclosure patterns within the region date to the early post-medieval period. Holcombe, along with several other settlements within Bury, developed as a village, with many of the post-medieval buildings surviving within the conservation area. Patterns of land ownership and farming traditions established during the medieval period continued throughout the post-medieval period, with livestock grazing taking place on the uplands and grain production taking place in the lowlands. Many of the farmers in the region supplemented their income with domestic wool weaving (GMAU, 2008, p. 16).

By the 18th century, the organisation of the wool industry had become more sophisticated, which led to changes in the region. The success of the industry had allowed farmers to gain independence from the manorial system. Textile working was the second most-cited occupation in the area after farming by the 18th century, which grew further with the development of the factory system (GMAU, 2008, p. 16). The uplands of Holcombe Moor were unenclosed commons in the post-medieval period, however, attempts were made to encroach on the lands from the 16th century. This led to commission set up by James I to investigate the encroachments on Crown-held unenclosed uplands and in 1618 a decree



was issued referring to the unenclosed land in Tottington (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 13; LUAU, 1995; Dowsett, 1902).

Activities such as quarrying and coal mining were taking place across the uplands and the lowland industrial complexes included many textile factories. Significant industrial sites within the landscape included the now-scheduled coking ovens and coal workings at Aushaw Moss, located 1.7km to the west of the Site, and Higher Mill, a scheduled monument and museum located 1.9km to the north of the Site. The mill was constructed as a wool fulling mill in the late 18th century and represents the significance of the textile industry of the region. Many of the small-scale coal mines and quarries remain visible within the upland landscape of the region. These smaller-scale extraction sites were used for collecting building materials for local buildings and drystone walls and for collecting fuel, such as peat and coal.

Several monument and memorials are located on Holcombe Moor, many of which date to the post-medieval period, although some are modern in date. After the destruction of the Pilgrim's Cross, a memorial stone was erected reading:

"On this site stood the ancient Pilgrims Cross. It was standing in A.D. 1176 and probably much earlier. Pilgrims to Whalley Abbey prayed and rested here."

"In A.D. 1176 and in A.D. 1225 the Pilgrims Cross is named in charters of gifts of land in Holcombe forest. In A.D. 1662 King Charles II gave this manor to General Monk, Duke of Abermarle through whom it has descended to the present lord of the manor."

"Nothing is known of the removal of the ancient cross, but its massive socketed foundation remained here until August 1901"

"This memorial stone was placed here May 24th 1902 by the copyholders of the manor and others"

The Peel Monument is a notable and well-visited monument on Holcombe Moor. The monument is a grade II listed building and was erected in 1851-1852 in tribute to Sir Robert Peel in effecting repeal of Corn Laws (HER 9470.1.0). Other monuments on the moor include the memorial to Ellen Strange. The monument comprises a cairn and carved stone and is located on the northern fringe of Holcombe Moor above the village of Helmshore. It is said to mark the location of the murder of a woman called Ellen Strange, which took place on the moor on 26th January 1761. The carved stone was created by Don McKinlay in the 1970s and was erected as part of a commemoration ceremony in 1978. It has been suggested that the woman's name was Ellen Broadley, though her maiden name may have been Strange. It is not certain that the cairn is on the site of the murder (Holcombe Village Society, n.d.).

5.5 The history and development of the Site

Cartographic sources depicting the region in the 16th century indicate the presence of ancient trackways across the moor. The highway from Bolton to Haslingden is shown on Tupling's copy of a map of Musbury Park, dated to 1580 (Tupling, 1927). By the mid-19th century, this route followed Stake Lane before forming a footpath running northeast-southwest through the Bull Hill and Black Moss area of the Site. The Chapel Gate route is shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. The Chapel Gate was an east-west route



across the moor from the settlements to the west of the Site, such as Holcombe Head, Nook and Hamlets, to the chapel within Holcombe Village. The date of this route across the moor is unclear, however the name likely derives from the Old Norse word *gata*, meaning 'road'. The farms shown on the 19th-mapping are post-medieval in date, however, earlier settlement in this area, if present, could have benefited from the Chapel Gate, which would have provided access to the chapel of ease that existed within Holcombe from the 15th century (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 12).

Moor Road likely replaced the Pilgrim route over the moor as the main north to south route during the post-medieval period, however, the date of the route is unknown. The route must have been established early in the post-medieval period as it was discontinued in 1810 and was referred to as 'Holcombe Old Highway' by the mid-19th century. Despite being discontinued, the route remained in use for access to Moor Gate (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001). Yates' Map of Lancashire, published in 1786, shows some of the main routes over the moor in the 18th century, with the Bolton to Haslingden Highway visible crossing the uplands (Plate 3).

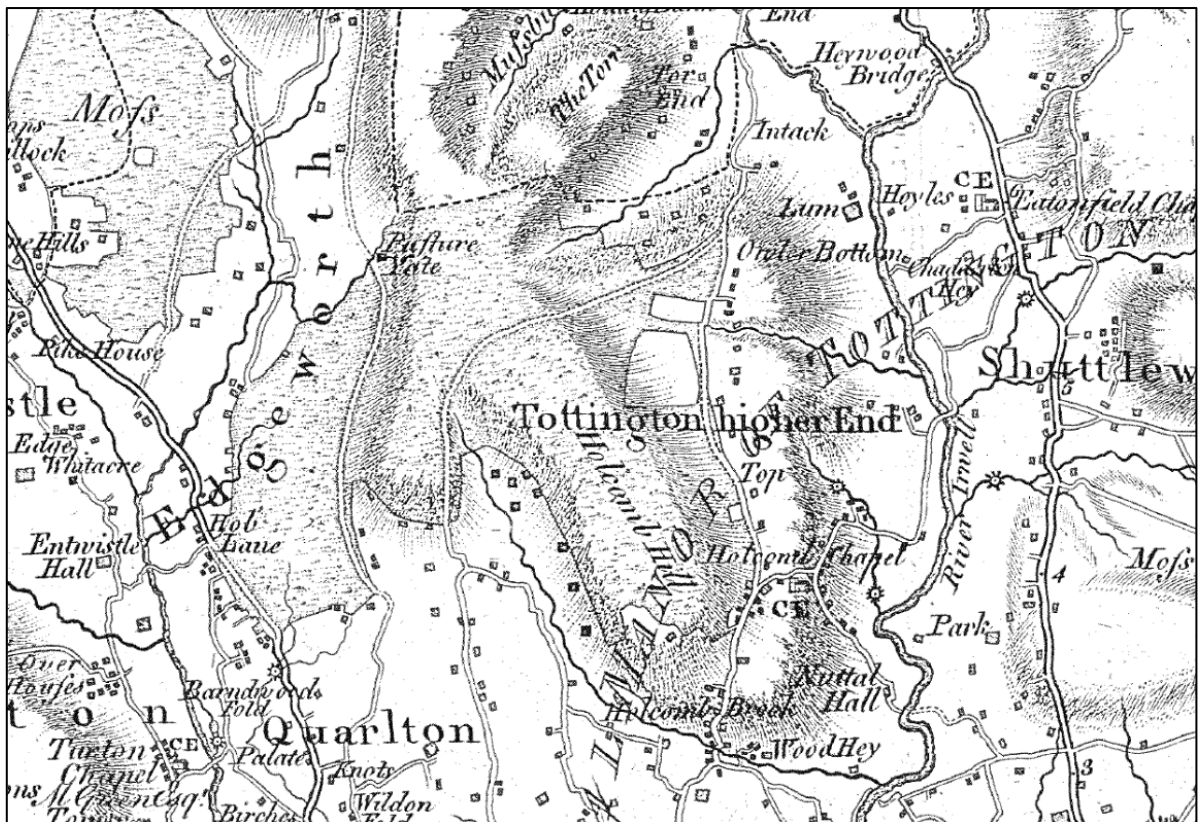


Plate 3 Extract from Yates' map of Lancashire, published 1786

The routeways leading to Holcombe Moor allowed access for extractive activities during the post-medieval period, which can be seen on the 19th-century maps of the area. The dates of some of the earlier mines and quarries on Holcombe Moor is unclear, as there was a long and contentious history of extraction taking place across the moor. No mines or quarries were recorded on the tithe maps of 1838 and 1842, however, the surveyor may have chosen to exclude any extraction industries.



The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1850 is the first to show the various quarries located within the Site (Plate 4; Figure 2). Many of the quarries are labelled as sandstone quarries, and many remained in use into the early 20th century. The 1850 Ordnance Survey map also shows the Ellen Strange monument at Beetle Hill, close to the Bolton to Haslingden routeway. Other routeways shown on the OS map include access to the various quarries and coal pits across the moor. The route known as Chapel Gate can also be seen on the map, which runs east to west across Crowthorn (Plate 5; Figure 2). The route provided access from the farmsteads to the west of the Site to the chapel located within the village at Holcombe.

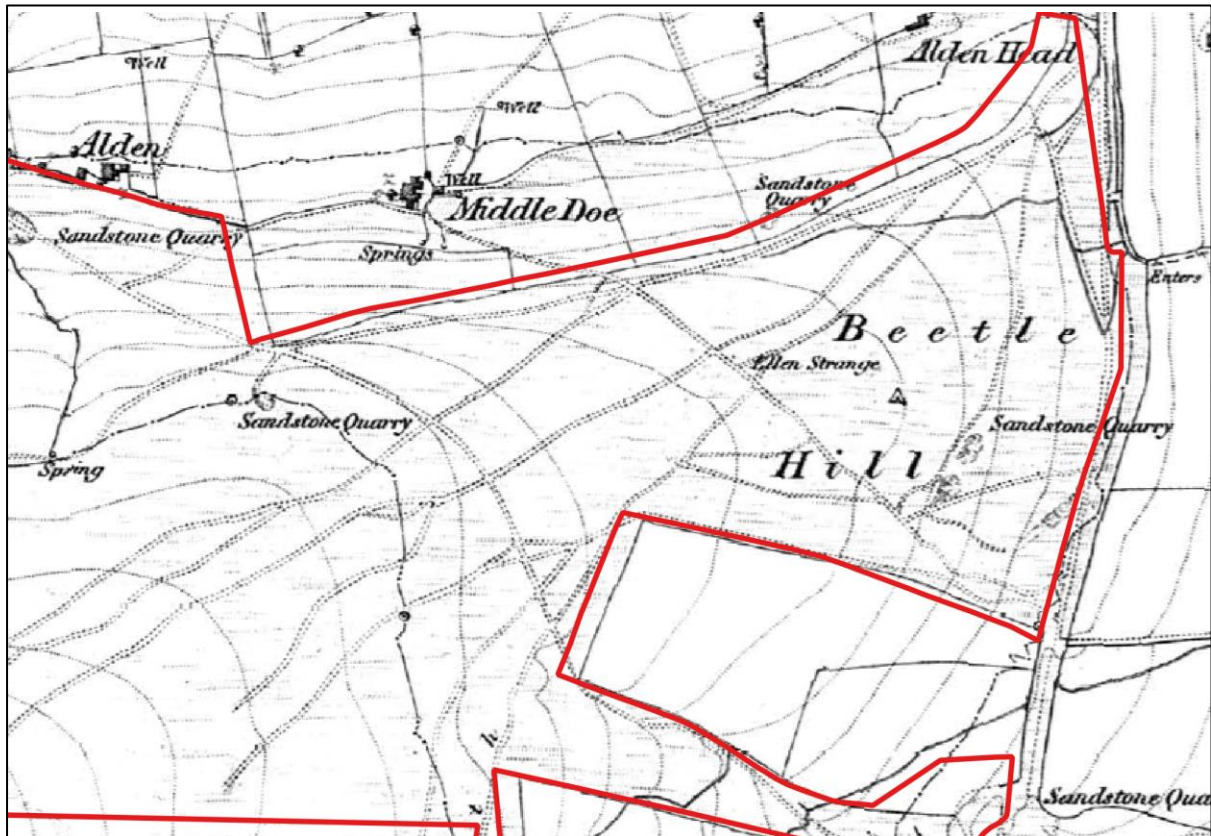


Plate 4 Extract from the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1850 showing the Ellen Strange monument and various sandstone quarries

The Pilgrim's Cross, along with the associated routeway, is shown on the 1850 OS map to the west of the Site. Other features close to the cross site include 'The Troughs', which comprise of four long and irregular mounds, mostly likely to be natural features. Between The Troughs and the Pilgrim's Cross was a 'breathing ground', which was an area used for exercising horses (HER PRN27133).

Holcombe Moor became increasingly popular to tourists looking to take a break from the industrial centres during the 19th century, particularly after The Peel Monument was completed in 1852. Many locals took to the moor for exercise and for fresh air. In addition to the local population's exercise on the moor, the breathing ground, shown on the 1850 OS map (Plate 6), also allowed for the exercise of horses.



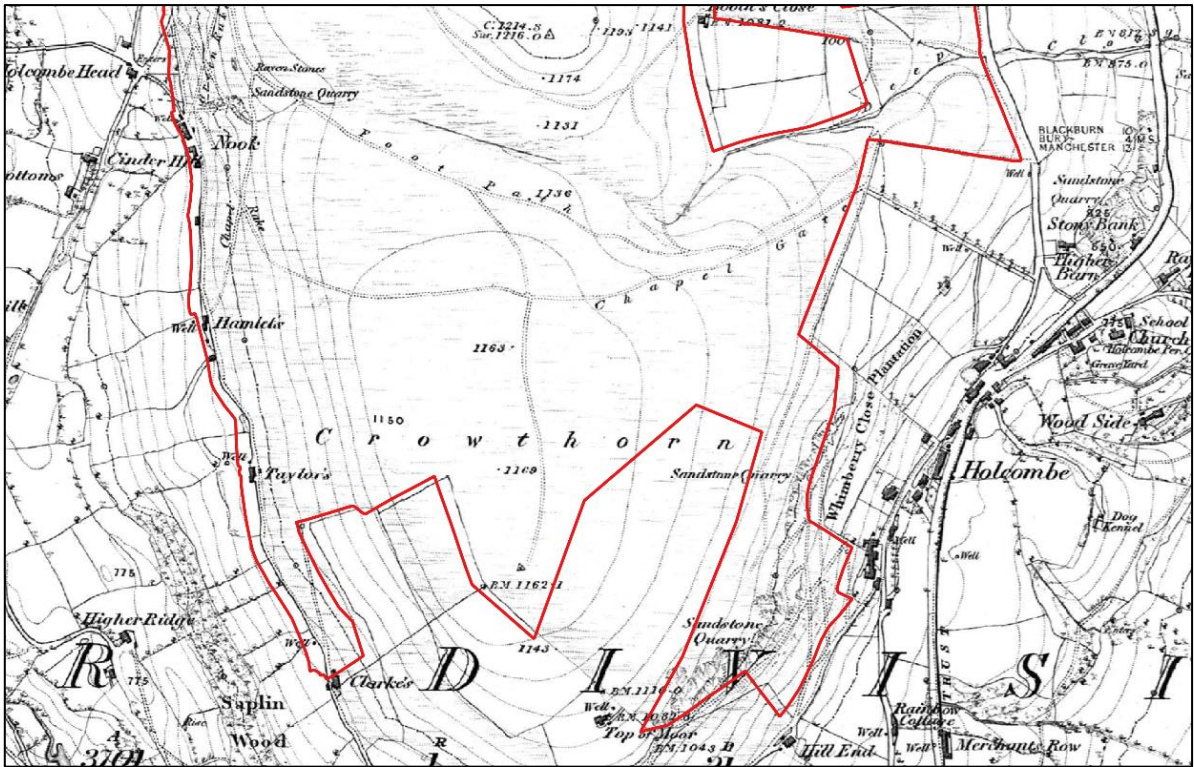


Plate 5 Extract from the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1850 showing the Chapel Gate routeway and various sandstone quarries

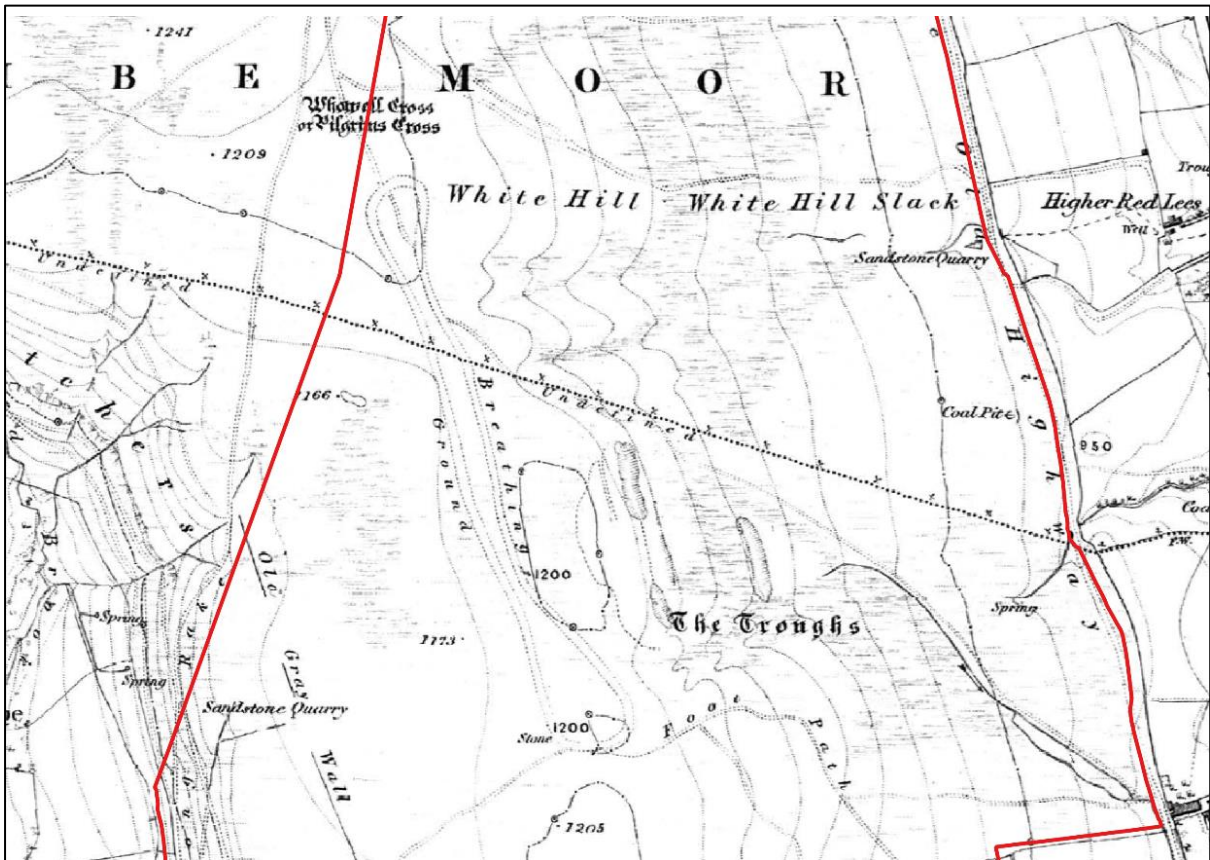


Plate 6 Extract from the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1850 showing the Pilgrim's Cross, breathing ground and The Troughs



The Peel Monument, located just beyond the Site boundary, is first shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1893 (Plate 7), by which time the monument had existed for over 40 years. The 1893 OS map also shows several disused quarries across the Site, with two large 'old' quarries located close to the Peel Monument. Other quarries within the Site remained in use, included that at Deep Clough (Plate 8).

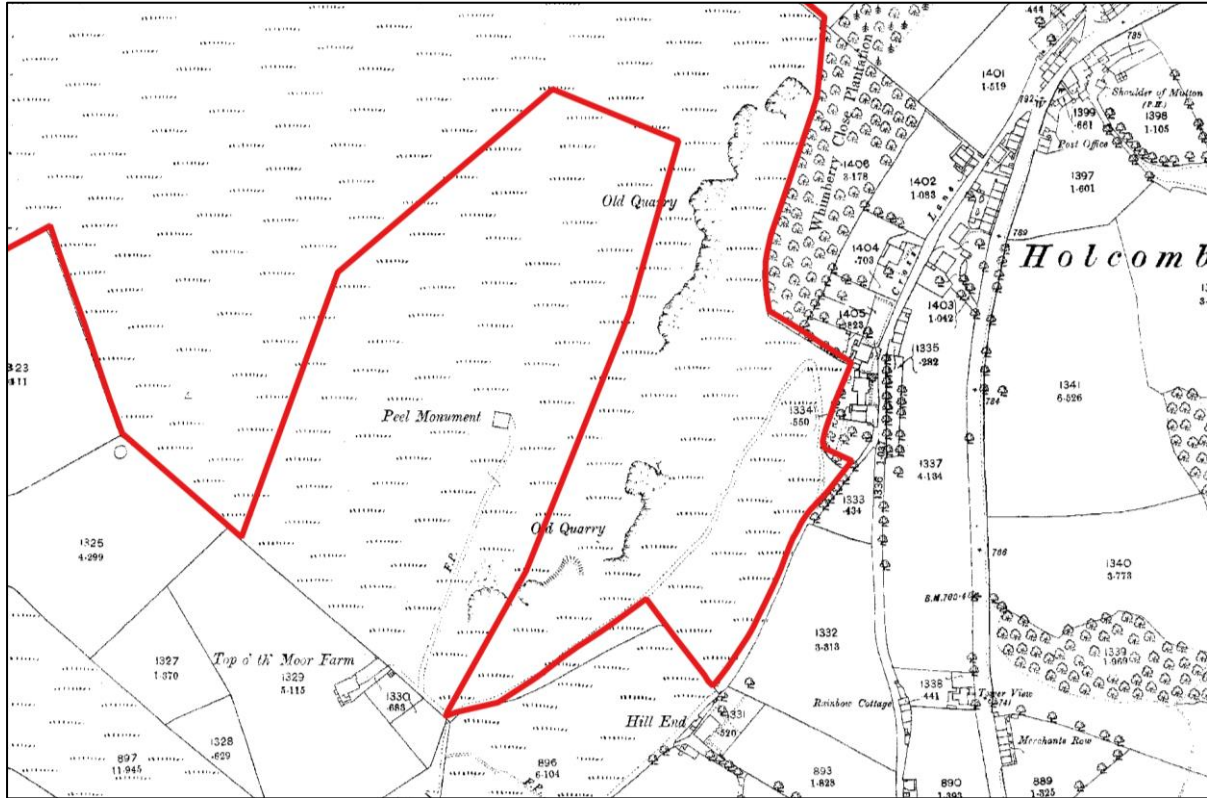


Plate 7 Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1893 showing the quarries and Peel Monument

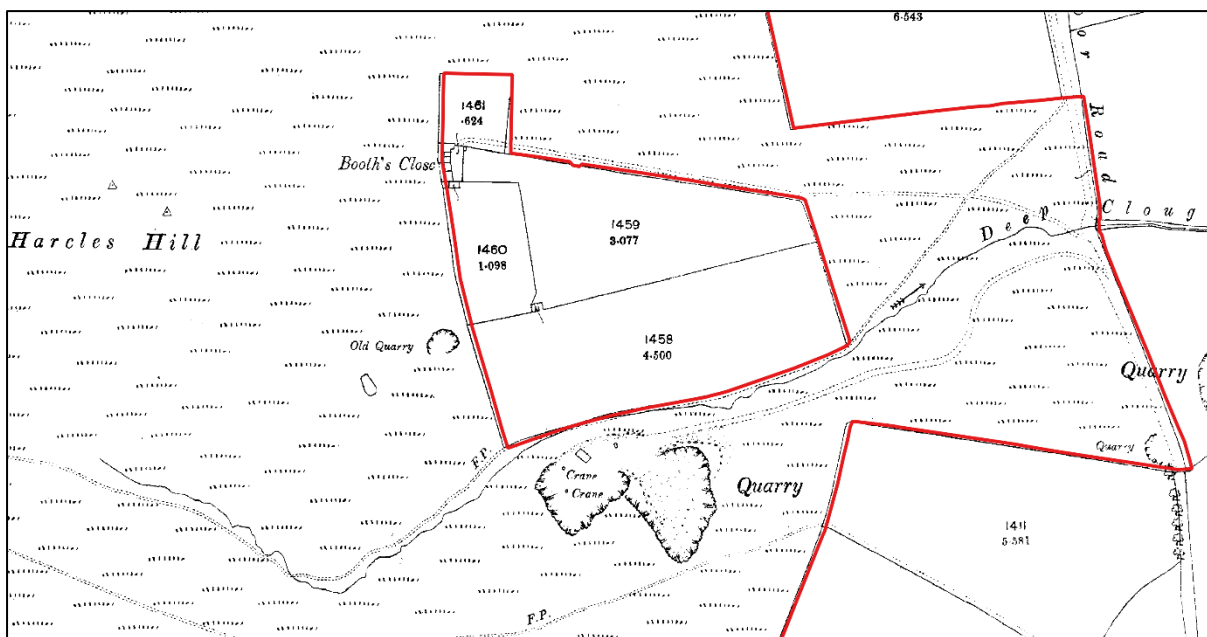


Plate 8 Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1893 showing the quarries at Deep Clough



The use of the moor as a recreational place during the 19th century was compromised in the 20th century due to the use of the land for military training purposes. The first recorded training exercise on the moor took place in the mid-19th century, when soldiers training for the Crimean War were encamped on Harcles Hill (Dowsett, 1901, p. 49). Despite local opposition, a rifle range was in use by the end of the 19th century to the north of The Troughs (Plate 9; Figure 3).

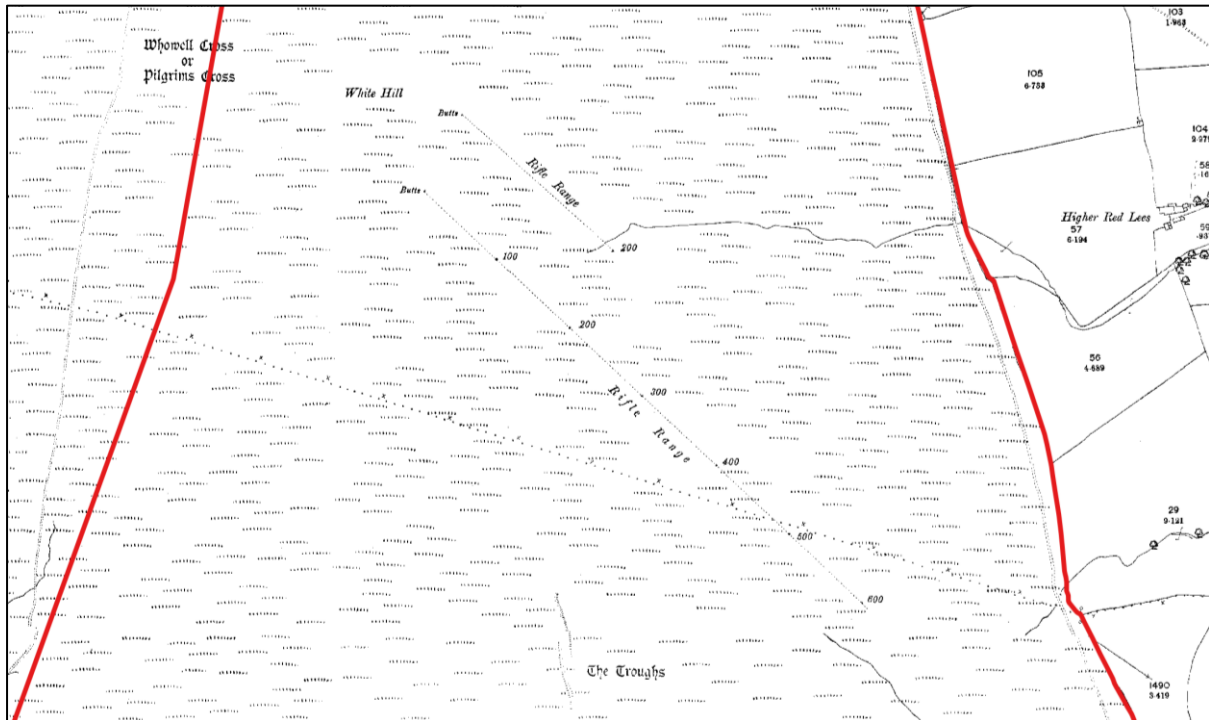


Plate 9 Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1893 showing the rifle range, The Troughs and the Pilgrim's Cross

The military use of Holcombe Moor continued throughout the 20th century and it has been suggested that the military use led to considerable change within the landscape, including the abandonment of many of the local farmsteads (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001, p. 18). Other changed features within the landscape include the monuments at Pilgrim's Cross and the Ellen Strange memorial, which were reconstructed during the 20th century. The remaining quarries of the late 19th century and early 20th century closed over the following decades. The moor continues to be used as a military training camp in areas, and elsewhere the moor has returned to being a popular walking destination.



6. Site visit

A site visit was undertaken in January 2024. The aim of the survey was to assess the character of the Site, identify visible historic features and assess possible factors that may affect the survival or condition of known or potential assets. The Site was accessed via the public footpaths across the moor.

Due to the time of year, the ground surface was not fully visible due to snow cover, however, upstanding features and earthworks within the Site were identifiable. The land within the Site is relatively flat and varies between c 300m and 415m. Long views of the moor are visible from the higher points at Harcles Hill, Scholes Height, and Harcles Hill (Plate 10 and Plate 11). Peel Monument can be seen from Black Moss and Harcles Hill but views of the tower are lost to the north of Harcles Hill, Bull Hill and Beetle Hill (Plate 10, Plate 11 and Plate 12). Earthworks resulting from peat restoration, specifically fishscale bunding, are visible across Wet Moss (Plate 13).

Features identified within the Historic Environment Record were visible within the Site. The 'Old Gray Wall' shown on mid-19th-century mapping was visible (Plate 14). The wall is very low, barely rising above the surrounding vegetation, and comprises loose stone. The monuments at the Ellen Strange Memorial and the Pilgrim's Cross were visited. The Ellen Strange Memorial comprises of a large cairn and a carved stone post (Plate 15). The carved stone depicts the figure of a women with the initials 'E.S', which was carved by Don McKinlay in the 1970s. The Pilgrim's Cross is inscribed on all four sides and is located on a prominent position on the moor (Plate 16). Other features of the historic environment visible within the Site include the rifle butts to the west of Chatterton Close (Plate 17) and the summit cairns at White Hill and Harcles Hill (Plate 18).



Plate 10 View looking east from Black Moss towards White Hill





Plate 11 View looking southeast from Wet Moss towards Harcles Hill



Plate 12 View looking south towards Peel Tower from Harcles Hill





Plate 13 View looking east towards Bull Hill from Wet Moss



Plate 14 View looking south along the 'Old Grey Wall' located to the west of Harcles Hill





Plate 15 The Ellen Strange Memorial stone showing a figure and the initials 'E. S.', carved by Don McKinlay in the 1970s



Plate 16 The Pilgrim's Cross monument





Plate 17 Rifle butts located to the north of White Hill



Plate 18 View of the summit at the cairn of Harcles Hill



7. Assessment of potential

7.1 Introduction

The following section describes the archaeological potential of the Site through the analysis of the historical context provided in Section 5, the known heritage assets within the Site, previous archaeological investigation, and the topography and geology of the Site. The table below outlines the heritage assets identified within the Site (Table 3). The details of the heritage assets are given in Appendix 2: Gazetteer of Heritage Assets and the locations are shown on Figure 5, Appendix 3.

Number of heritage asset	Name of heritage asset
Heritage Asset 01	Peel Monument
Heritage Asset 02	Sandstone quarry on the south-east flank of Holcombe Moor (site of)
Heritage Asset 03	Clarke's Tenement Buildings (site of)
Heritage Asset 04	Quarry to the east of Green Rake (site of)
Heritage Asset 05	Quarry to northeast of Hamlets Farm Cottages (site of)
Heritage Asset 06	Raven Stones
Heritage Asset 07	Quarry at Booth's Close (site of)
Heritage Asset 08	Deep Clough Quarry (site of)
Heritage Asset 09	Circular depression near Deep Clough
Heritage Asset 10	Quarry at Moor Road (site of)
Heritage Asset 11	Quarry east of Long Rake (site of)
Heritage Asset 12	Old Grey Wall (site of)
Heritage Asset 13	Breathing Ground (site of)
Heritage Asset 14	County Boundary marked with stones
Heritage Asset 15	Rifle Range (site of)
Heritage Asset 16	The Troughs
Heritage Asset 17	Gritstone Block near Moor Road
Heritage Asset 18	Coal pit west of Moor Road
Heritage Asset 19	Sandstone quarry on White Hill (site of)



Heritage Asset 20	Quarry south of Chatterton Close (site of)
Heritage Asset 21	Rifle butts west of Chatterton Close
Heritage Asset 22	Sheepfold at Alden Ratchers
Heritage Asset 23	Quarry west of Chatterton Close (site of)
Heritage Asset 24	Beetle Hill Quarry / Quarry north of Chatterton Close (site of)
Heritage Asset 25	Quarry at Beetle Hill, Ramsbottom (site of)
Heritage Asset 26	Ellen Strange Monument
Heritage Asset 27	Quarry, south-west of Middle Doe
Heritage Asset 28	Quarry, south-west of Alden (site of)
Heritage Asset 29	Coal pits at Fall Bank (site of)
Heritage Asset 30	Sandstone quarry at Fall Bank (site of)
Heritage Asset 31	Chapel Gate
Heritage Asset 32	Pilgrim Route
Heritage Asset 33	Bolton to Haslingden Road
Heritage Asset 34	Circular earthwork at Bull Hill
Heritage Asset 35	Bull Hill Mesolithic flint working site
Heritage Asset 36	Pilgrim's Cross
Heritage Asset 37	Quarry at southern end of Holcombe Moor (site of)

Table 3 Summary of heritage assets identified within the Site

7.2 Previous archaeological investigation

No previous intrusive archaeological investigation has taken place within the Site, however, the Site was included within an archaeological assessment of Holcombe Moor, undertaken by Egerton Lea Consultancy in 2001 (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001). The assessment comprised of a desk-based survey and a field inspection, which identified 43 sites, of which 18 were previously recorded on the HER. The majority of the sites dated to the post-medieval period and were associated with quarrying and farming activities. Historic routeways were also identified during the survey, which may have been used as pilgrimage routes. The purpose of the report was to advise on conservation measures, and therefore recommendation included the prevention of tipping into the quarries and further investigation of archaeological sites, such as the cairn beneath Pilgrim's Cross. The report



also suggested the presentation of the historical significance of Holcombe Moor to add to the visitor experience and to promote the conservation of the moor's landscape.

7.3 Archaeology and peat

Important information regarding the historic environment can be contained within peat deposits. The waterlogged conditions allow the peat to act as a time capsule, with exceptionally well-preserved organic remains contained within. Organic remains can include wooden structures (such as trackways), leather, remains of plants and trees, and bog bodies, such as Lindow Man found in Lindow Moss, Cheshire (Natural England and Historic England, 2021). Deposited cultural artefacts, such as tools and weapons, can also be recovered from peatlands. Finds and sites are often better preserved within upland peatlands due to the intensive agricultural activities which often took place at lowland peatlands.

Above-ground/surface-level archaeological sites within peatlands can be identified through walkover surveys, providing the conditions and vegetation have not obscured features. Whilst walkover surveys can identify some archaeological sites, it is important to understand that many archaeological sites may survive as below-ground remains, which may survive within or below the peat. Therefore, the presence of these sites cannot be determined without intrusive excavation. It is anticipated that peatlands have the potential to contain a significant number of presently unknown archaeological sites and find spots, and it has been estimated that 22,500 archaeological sites may survive beneath or within peat deposits (Gearey, et al., 2010). The historic environment records only contain the records of already-identified remains, however, the majority of peatland is unrecorded. Few archaeological investigations take place in peatlands and, when they do, it can be difficult to identify remains due to the conditions and methods used (Natural England and Historic England, 2021).

Peatlands are highly significant landscapes from which to understand and interpret the historic environment and human activity within the past. As Gearey et al (2010, 22) state, "the waterlogged and anaerobic nature of peatland environments results in the exceptional preservation of organic archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains: the survival of this resource is therefore inextricably linked with the fate of the peatlands themselves" (Pryor, 2001; Gearey, et al., 2010). If disturbed, the information of the past environment contained within the peat can be lost forever (Gearey, et al., 2010; Natural England and Historic England, 2021).

7.4 Summary of archaeological potential by period

7.4.1 Prehistoric

There have been reports of Mesolithic to Bronze Age finds being recovered from Holcombe Moor, which may indicate some prehistoric potential within the Site. Some of the sites previously thought to be prehistoric in date have since been proved to be post-medieval. Remains are most likely to include Mesolithic lithic remains located beneath the peat or within areas of eroded peat. The potential for prehistoric remains is therefore considered to be moderate.



7.4.2 Roman

No Roman sites or finds have been identified within the Site and very few finds have been identified within the wider landscape. The Roman roads within the region are located within the valleys and no Roman settlements have been identified within the landscape. The potential for Romano-British remains is therefore considered to be low.

7.4.3 Medieval

Routes across the moor were used during the medieval period, particularly the Pilgrimage route. The Pilgrim's Cross was a medieval cross located just beyond the Site boundary. Few other medieval remains have been identified within the Site, however, significant medieval sites, such as the iron working site at Cinder Hill, have been identified within the wider landscape. The potential for remains dating to the period to be recovered from within the Site is therefore considered to be low-moderate.

7.4.4 Post medieval

Numerous remains dating to the post-medieval period have been identified within the Site, including rifle training areas, stone walls, sheepfolds, quarries, coal pits and routeways. Most of the post-medieval features survive as above-ground remains and many were included on historic mapping. It is therefore unlikely that any additional post-medieval sites of interest would be identified.

7.4.5 Summary

The archaeological potential for archaeological remains is considered to be moderate due to the numerous sites already identified within the landscape despite very little intrusive archaeological investigation. Furthermore, it is possible that sites have not yet been discovered, as Gearey et al (2010) state, "Absence of evidence of archaeological sites and finds from peatlands does not imply evidence of their absence. Indeed, this represents a well-recognised paradox of the historic environment of peatlands: sites such as trackways, and finds such as bog bodies, are only identified when a peatland is damaged or eroding. When archaeological remains are found in such circumstances, these are exposed to oxygen. Inevitably, this means that their state of preservation will be adversely affected. Where mires are healthy and peat-producing, archaeological sites and finds are well protected and continue to benefit from the anoxic burial environment, meaning that organic archaeological remains and the palaeoenvironmental archive can be preserved in near-equilibrium for centuries or millennia. Therefore, the best-preserved archaeological remains, and the best preserved palaeoenvironmental sequences, are those that we do not know their existence of." (Gearey, et al., 2010).



8. Significance assessment

8.1 Introduction

The significance assessment considers heritage assets identified within the Site and the potential of the Site. Aspects of the historic landscape, built heritage and archaeological remains are included in the assessment.

8.2 Significance of archaeological remains

8.2.1 Historical and archaeological interest

Historical interest

The history of Holcombe Moor is tied to the local community of Holcombe and the surrounding farms. There have been several routes across the moor with historic significance, such as the pilgrimage route, and the local community used the moor throughout the post-medieval period for exercise, shooting training and for exercising horses. The monuments on the moor, such as the Pilgrim's Cross, the Ellen Strange monument, and Peel Monument, are all of historic interest and have attracted people to the moor since the 19th century, if not earlier. The Site may therefore be considered of historic interest.

Archaeological interest

The Site is of moderate archaeological interest due to the water-logged nature of the mossland. As discussed in Section 7, peatlands have the potential to contain important information on the past environment and may contain well-preserved archaeological sites and findspots.

8.2.2 Baseline significance conditions

Period

The Site contains possible remains dating to the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. The Site may therefore be considered significant due to period.

Rarity

Well-preserved remains dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods would be considered rare, particularly when placed in the wider context of Lancashire and Greater Manchester. Post-medieval remains may not be considered significant due to rarity.

Documentation / finds

The history and development of Holcombe Moor has been investigated as part of this assessment. Whilst some detail is known of the historic activities undertaken on the moor, very few sources give a full insight into these activities. The Site may therefore be considered significant further investigation of the Site may provide more information on the historic use of the moor.



Group value

Many of the remains within the Site hold group value, such as the Pilgrim's route and the Pilgrim's Cross. Many of the features, such as the quarries, coal pits, routes, and monuments, are contemporary in date, with the majority of the features dating to the 19th century. The features of the moor are therefore linked with the post-medieval use and exploitation of the moor, and the heritage assets may therefore hold some group value.

Survival / condition

Several heritage assets recorded on the HER were visible during the Site visit, such as the rifle butts, quarries and monuments. Other heritage assets are in an unknown condition due to the lack of above-ground remains. The survival/condition of archaeological remains below/within the peat is currently unknown.

Fragility / vulnerability

Peat deposits may be disturbed as part of the peat restoration scheme. Disturbance will be minimal as the aim of the scheme is to restore the peat, however, any movement of peat may damage archaeological remains.

Diversity

The Site likely comprises organic remains from a range of periods. The Site therefore has the potential to be diverse.

Potential

The archaeological potential of the Site is described in Section 7. To summarise, due to the nature of the peatland, the Site is considered to have moderate potential to contain archaeological remains of dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods, and low potential for archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. Several heritage assets dating to the post-medieval period have been identified, however, it is unlikely that any additional post-medieval sites of interest would be identified.

The Site has the potential to address research agendas outlined in the current North West Regional Research Framework ([Prehistory - North West Regional Research Framework \(researchframeworks.org\)](http://researchframeworks.org)); [Late Medieval - North West Regional Research Framework \(researchframeworks.org\)](http://researchframeworks.org)) including:

- PH17: How can a programme of sampling and investigation help to characterise landscape use of the wetlands during the prehistoric period?
- PH18: What can palaeoenvironmental analysis of buried soils tell us about prehistoric environments?
- LM09: How can the analysis of peat and documentary evidence enhance our knowledge of the Right of Turbary?
- GS21: How can we expand our understanding of late Holocene peat sequences?
- GS30: How could the incorporation of detailed sampling strategies be brought into the planning stage of archaeological investigations?



8.3 Significance of the built heritage assets

8.3.1 Assessment of Significance Methodology/ Criteria

This assessment considers the significance of the standing structures potentially affected by the proposed development and is based upon a review of the historic development of the sites and a site survey carried out in January 2024. The methodology and criteria used for assessing significance is outlined in Section 3.4, which states that the archaeological interest, architectural and artistic interest and historic interest will be considered for each heritage asset.

8.3.2 Peel Monument

The Peel Monument was built during the 1850s in tribute to Sir Robert Peel in effecting the Corn Laws (Plate 19). The structure is the only designated monument on the moor, and the only monument visible within long views within the surrounding landscape. The monument is a conspicuous landmark and comprises of a 128ft high tower with a square base and rectangular tower. The structure is battlemented and has numerous mullioned windows. An inscription above the entrance reads 'PEEL'.



Plate 19 The Peel Monument

The setting is formed by Holcombe Moor, which provides a backdrop for the monument and allows the tower to maintain its prominent position as no other monuments or structures compete with the structure. Key views of the tower are therefore located from Ramsbottom, as well as from across Holcombe Moor.



The monument is of low archaeological interest but is of high architectural and artistic interest and moderate historic interest. The tower is regarded as an impressive sight and is a popular visitor attraction due to both the architecture of the tower itself and the location of the monument on the moor with views over Ramsbottom, Holcombe Moor, Manchester, Cheshire and North Wales. As a Grade II listed structure, the tower is of national significance. The building should be assigned medium level of significance when assessed against the framework outlined by ICOMOS.

8.3.3 Holcombe Village Conservation Area

The Holcombe Village Conservation Area comprises an “unspoilt scattered rural village on the shoulder of a hill”. Many of the buildings within the conservation area date to the 18th and 19th centuries and are designated as listed buildings. The structure and distribution of many of the early farms have been retained, however, many have been adapted for domestic use (Kathryn Sather & Associates, 2010).

The setting of the conservation area is formed of a high-quality natural landscape with steeply sloping moorland, pasture and woodland. Significant views into and out of the conservation area include views of the Peel Monument and the church steeple. The conservation area appraisal states that some of the key landscape characteristics are “the steeply sloping character of the land and the views offered to the surrounding area” and the “the rural setting, integrating small and well-dispersed groupings of buildings amidst pasture fields and areas of woodland changing to a more open moorland character on the higher ground” (Kathryn Sather & Associates, 2010).

The conservation area is of moderate archaeological interest, high architectural and artistic interest and moderate historic interest. Due to the designation of the village as a conservation area, Holcombe Village is of national significance. The conservation area should be assigned medium level of significance when assessed against the framework outlined by ICOMOS.

8.4 Summary of significance

The assessment has demonstrated that the Site has low archaeological potential and is of some historic interest. Using the criteria set out in “Annex 1: Scheduled Monuments & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments” (DCMS, 2013) and the “ICOMOS guide for assessing value of heritage assets” (ICOMOS, 2011), the Site most likely contains non-statutory remains of low (local) and medium (regional) significance. Elements of the historic landscape, such as the quarries, coal pits and trackways are considered of low significance (Table 4). The designated Peel Monument is of medium significance.

Heritage Asset	Significance
HA01 Peel Monument	Medium
HA02 Sandstone quarry on the south-east flank of Holcombe Moor (site of)	Low
HA03 Clarke’s Tenement Buildings (site of)	Low
HA04 Quarry to the east of Green Rake (site of)	Low



HA05 Quarry to northeast of Hamlets Farm Cottages (site of)	Low
HA06 Raven Stones	Low
HA07 Quarry at Booth's Close (site of)	Low
HA08 Deep Clough Quarry (site of)	Low
HA09 Circular depression near Deep Clough	Low
HA10 Quarry at Moor Road (site of)	Low
HA11 Quarry east of Long Rake (site of)	Low
HA12 Old Grey Wall (site of)	Low
HA13 Breathing Ground (site of)	Low
HA14 County Boundary marked with stones	Low
HA15 Rifle Range (site of)	Low
HA16 The Troughs	Low
HA17 Gritstone Block near Moor Road	Low
HA18 Coal pit west of Moor Road	Low
HA19 Sandstone quarry on White Hill (site of)	Low
HA20 Quarry south of Chatterton Close (site of)	Low
HA21 Rifle butts west of Chatterton Close	Low
HA22 Sheepfold at Alden Ratchers	Low
HA23 Quarry west of Chatterton Close (site of)	Low
HA24 Beetle Hill Quarry / Quarry north of Chatterton Close (site of)	Low
HA25 Quarry at Beetle Hill, Ramsbottom (site of)	Low
HA26 Ellen Strange Monument	Low
HA27 Quarry, south-west of Middle Doe	Low
HA28 Quarry, south-west of Alden (site of)	Low
HA29 Coal pits at Fall Bank (site of)	Low
HA30 Sandstone quarry at Fall Bank (site of)	Low



HA31 Chapel Gate	Low
HA32 Pilgrim Route	Low
HA33 Bolton to Haslingden Road	Low
HA34 Circular earthwork at Bull Hill	Low
HA35 Bull Hill Mesolithic flint working site	Low
HA36 Pilgrim's Cross	Low
HA37 Quarry at southern end of Holcombe Moor (site of)	Low
Holcombe Village Conservation Area	Medium
Other potential prehistoric, Roman or medieval remains	Medium

Table 4 Significance of identified heritage assets



9. Impact assessment

9.1 Introduction

The following section assesses the potential impacts the restoration scheme will have on the archaeological resource. The Annex 5 of *Peatland Restoration and the Historic Environment* (Natural England and Historic England, 2021) states, “well-meaning peatland management regimes and restoration works can inadvertently cause irreparable damage to the peat and its historic environment features. Where this is the case, mitigation must be put in place to enable a managed and recorded loss. Those designing such work must identify the key areas of historic environment significance in relation to their schemes.” (Natural England and Historic England, 2021). The impact upon the setting of the designated heritage assets is also considered within Section 9.5.

9.2 Proposed restoration techniques

The proposed restoration techniques have been prepared for Holcombe Moor. Some of the restoration techniques have already been undertaken at Wet Moss, and therefore the majority of the below techniques will be located within the Black Moss area of the Site (see Figure 6, Appendix 3). The techniques include shallow surface peat bunds and scallop bunds, the installation of peat dams and stone dams, reprofiling gullies and hags, and sphagnum plug planting. The details of the restoration techniques and their requirements are provided below (Table 5).

Technique	Description	Requirements
Shallow Surface Peat Bunds and Scallop Bunds	750 new bunds will be created. The vast majority will be scallop bunds, arranged in a loose fishscale pattern across the currently featureless plateau but there will be some shallow surface peat bunds created in wide channels and shallow flushes. These bunds will interrupt the surface and sub surface flow on slopes of 5 degrees or less to replicate hummocks and hollows found on healthy peatland.	<p>Scallop bunds are, on average, around 7.5 metres wide between 0.4m and 0.75m high and are placed outside of channels where other interventions have been identified. Scallop bunds are to be fairly evenly spaced in a loosely ‘fishscale’ pattern of varying sizes but generally to a density of 25 bunds per ha.</p> <p>In the appropriate areas, scallop bunds may be joined to create longer (>4m) shallow surface bunds to accentuate natural surface variation to create waterlogging. These are designated as shallow peat bunds rather than scallop bunds and can be created from peat depths of less than 1 metre but greater than 20cms.</p> <p>The peat bunds are therefore an intrusive restoration technique, however, peat beyond 1m in depth is unlikely to be disturbed.</p>



Peat dams	<p>In the less steep gullies and watercourses 53 peat dams will be created. Peat dams are impermeable and will create permanent pools within channels and thereby raise the water table. Dams are created in small to moderately-sized channels where dams can be installed that do not exceed 1m in height and 4m width.</p> <p>Peat dams are more 'sympathetic' to the habitat and are to be used where possible. However, they are considered to be most effective in the less steep gullies that are not eroded to the mineral layer and have a peat depth of at least 1m.</p>	<p>The principal equipment used will be the low ground pressure, wide tracked excavators (x2 max.) and a low ground pressure tracked ATV. This plant is efficient in undertaking the creation of peat dams on upland peat bogs. Wide tracked excavators cause minimal damage to the surface vegetation layer and produce low level of carbon dioxide output. The excavators can carry out the scraping back of the surface vegetation, excavating borrow pits and the building up of the peat dam and the recovering of the dam with the vegetation. There is no need for any other mechanised equipment.</p> <p>Peat dams therefore include some movement of peat and may be considered an intrusive restoration technique, however, only the peat required for the dam will be affected and this will be taken from shallow depth.</p>
Stone dams	<p>In the steeper gullies and watercourses eroded to the mineral layer, 12 stone dams will be created.</p> <p>Stone dams, which are semi permeable, are considered more effective and longer lasting barriers in these steeper gullies but are only used where peat dams will not be effective.</p>	<p>The principal equipment used will be the low ground pressure, wide tracked excavators (x2 max.) and a low ground pressure tracked ATV. This plant has been demonstrated, in previous projects, to be efficient in undertaking the creation of peat dams on upland peat bogs. Wide tracked excavators cause minimal damage to the surface vegetation layer and produce low level of carbon dioxide output.</p> <p>Stone dams are therefore a less intrusive technique as only the surface peat exposed within the gullies will be affected as the dams are installed.</p>
Reprofiling	<p>Gully sides are identified as greater than 1.5 metres in height. Some 1,000 metres of exposed peat on these gully sides will be reprofiled. Reprofiling to between 30 and 45 degrees will stabilise the gully sides engendering a protective surface vegetation layer.</p> <p>Weather edges and hags are identified as less than 1.5 metres in</p>	<p>For all reprofiling, the equipment used will be that used for peat bunds as set out above.</p> <p>The reprofiling may therefore disturb the exposed peat within the gullies and hags and the surface vegetation. This technique is therefore unlikely to affect archaeological remains beneath or within healthy peat deposits.</p>



	<p>height. Some 2,000 metres of exposed peat on these gully sides will be reprofiled.</p> <p>The protective layer is created by 'stretching' the existing sward over the reprofiled slope. This will result in significantly less peat loss and carbon erosion.</p>	
Sphagnum plug planting	Sphagnum is to be planted on both Wet Moss (100ha) and Black Moss (35ha). Sphagnum has characteristics strongly consistent with the overall plan objectives of carbon capture and storage, water retention and habitat improvement through increased surface roughness.	The planting of sphagnum plugs will have little impact on archaeological remains. The planting will only affect surface-level peat and will protect the peat from erosion.

Table 5 Description of restoration techniques proposed at Holcombe Moor

9.3 Impact upon archaeological resource within the Site

Non-intrusive techniques will have a negligible magnitude of change and therefore a neutral impact on archaeological remains within the Site. The proposed intrusive techniques have the potential to affect archaeological remains and features of the historic environment within the Site. The table below outlines the impact of the intrusive techniques (Table 6) in line with the ICOMOS assessment framework for assessing magnitude of change (Appendix 1).

Heritage Asset	Significance	Magnitude of impact of intrusive techniques (bundling, dam installation, reprofiling)	Significance of the impact of intrusive techniques (either adverse or beneficial)
Former quarry sites (HA04; 05;07; 08; 10; 11; 19; 20; 23; 24; 25; 27; 28; 30; 37)	Low	Negligible	Neutral
Former coal pits (HA 18; 29)	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
Historic routes (HA 31; 32; 33)	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA03 Clarke's Tenement Buildings (site of)	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA06 Raven Stones	Low	Negligible	Neutral



HA09 Circular depression near Deep Clough	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA12 Old Grey Wall (site of)	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA13 Breathing Ground (site of)	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA14 County Boundary marked with stones	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA15 Rifle Range (site of)	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA16 The Troughs	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA17 Gritstone Block near Moor Road	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA21 Rifle butts west of Chatterton Close	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA22 Sheepfold at Alden Ratchers	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA26 Ellen Strange Monument	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA34 Circular earthwork at Bull Hill	Low	Negligible	Neutral
HA35 Bull Hill Mesolithic flint working site	Low	Minor	Slight adverse
HA36 Pilgrim's Cross	Low	Negligible	Neutral
Other potential prehistoric, Roman or medieval remains	Medium	Minor	Slight adverse

Table 6 Impact of restoration techniques upon archaeological resource

The techniques most likely to have an adverse effect on the historic environment are those that involve peat cutting, such as the bunding. These techniques are likely to affect heritage assets within the peat / at ground level, rather than heritage assets above-ground level, such as monuments and structures. In areas outside of the peat cutting techniques, the peat restoration scheme will have a beneficial effect on the historic environment. Annex 5 of *Peatland Restoration and the Historic Environment* states, "As peatland habitats degrade these historic features are being lost at an unprecedented rate. In the last half of the twentieth century, it is estimated that nearly 80% of England's known wetland



archaeological resource has been altered or lost and this is ongoing. Immediate action is necessary in order to halt these unsustainable losses." (Natural England and Historic England, 2021; Van de Noort, et al., 2002). The peat restoration scheme will prevent further loss to the historic environment through restoring the peatland and therefore, with mitigation, the scheme will have an overall beneficial impact.

9.4 Impact upon the historic landscape

The peat restoration techniques will have no visible long-term effects on the character of the historic landscape. Historic landscape features, such as the sheepfolds, public footpaths and monuments will be maintained, and the planned restoration has taken into consideration the significance of the historic environment and aims prevent visual changes to the character of the Site.

9.5 Impact upon the built heritage

The proposed development has the potential to affect the settings of the Holcombe Village Conservation Area and the listed building, Peel Monument. The assessment of the impact of the proposed works follows established Historic England guidance on assessing the setting of heritage assets. The Historic England guidance states that the assessment should address the attributes of the proposed development in terms of its: location and siting, form and appearance, wider effects and permanence. Below is an assessment of how these attributes could potentially affect the significance of the identified assets.

9.5.1 Location and siting of the restoration scheme

The peat restoration techniques will take place across Holcombe Moor, with the majority of the remaining work focused at Black Moss. Black Moss is located approximately 2km to the northwest of the monument and the conservation area (see Figure 4 and Figure 6, Appendix 3). The Site forms part of the backdrop for the monument and village and therefore areas of restoration may fall within key views of the designated assets. The restoration techniques will, however, have minimal impact on the character of the landscape and will blend into the landscape. The techniques are therefore unlikely to be noticeable within views of the monument and the village and the character of the moorland will be retained.

9.5.2 The form and appearance of the restoration scheme

The proposed alterations to the Site will not alter the current use and are considered to be minor/negligible. The techniques will restore the peat and therefore maintain the character of the moorland. The restoration techniques are assessed as being appropriate for the historic context of the wider area.

9.5.3 Wider effects

The proposed development will not result in a change of use of the land and the character of the landscape will be retained. There will be no changes regarding 'light spill', noise, accessibility and traffic.

9.5.4 The permanence, longer term or consequential effects

The proposed development of the Site will not constitute a permanent alteration to the settings of the heritage assets, as no change of use or character will occur.



9.5.5 Significance of impact upon built heritage

The table below assesses the significance of the impact of the peat restoration scheme upon the designated heritage assets scoped into the assessment (Table 7). The assessment has demonstrated that the settings of the heritage assets will not be affected and therefore the significance of impact is considered to be neutral.

Heritage Asset	Significance	Magnitude of impact of intrusive techniques (bundling, dam installation, reprofiling)	Significance of the impact of intrusive techniques (either adverse or beneficial)
Peel Monument	Medium	Negligible	Neutral
Holcombe Village Conservation Area	Medium	Negligible	Neutral

Table 7 Impact of restoration techniques upon built heritage



10. Conclusions

10.1 Assessment of archaeological remains

10.1.1 Summary

The assessment has found that there is moderate potential for prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains to be identified within the Site and low potential for Roman remains. If present, prehistoric remains could be of medium significance and therefore the restoration scheme has the potential to cause minor disturbance, resulting in a slight adverse significance of effect. Other archaeological remains and heritage assets within the Site, such as the quarries and coal pits, are considered to be of low significance and it is unlikely that the peat restoration scheme will adversely affect these remains.

10.1.2 Exclusion zones

No exclusion zones are recommended at present. Existing historic landscape features have been taken into consideration during the scheme design and any access to the Site should avoid disturbing these remains.

10.1.3 Recommended mitigation

There is some potential for archaeological remains of medium significance to be identified within the Site. These remains may therefore be adversely affected by the proposed restoration scheme. In order to mitigate the potential adverse effect, further archaeological investigation may be required in advance of the implementation of the restoration scheme. This may include a programme of sampling or intrusive archaeological investigation.

Sampling in the peat cutting areas will allow an understanding of the historic environment to be developed, which will mitigate the harm of disturbing the palaeoenvironmental sequence. The exact scope of the taking and processing of samples can be determined in consultation with the science advisor within Historic England. Further intrusive investigation may take an alternative form to standard trial trenching, such as the implementation of shovel test pits, which would include hand digging and sifting through the soil to identify archaeological remains. Archaeological monitoring during the peat restoration works may also be recommended, which would identify sites and finds during the peat restoration works. The exact scope of any sampling, archaeological evaluation and/or monitoring works should be decided in consultation with LCCHET, GMAAS and the National Trust archaeologist.

Should significant archaeological remains be encountered during the archaeological monitoring or evaluation, further investigation through archaeological excavation would be required to offset the harm of the peat restoration works, in line with the aims of the England Peat Action Plan. Alternatively, the archaeological remains can be recorded as exposed and placed within an exclusion zone. The peat restoration scheme will need to be redesigned to avoid the new exclusion zone.



10.2 Assessment of built heritage

This assessment finds that the restoration scheme will have a neutral impact upon the significance of the surrounding heritage assets, as defined by the ICOMOS guidance for assessing heritage impact. The character of the key views of the identified heritage asset will not be affected by the scheme and the scheme will not have a negative impact upon the elements of the setting of the heritage assets that contribute to the significance of the assets. Through restoration, the scheme will retain and enhance the character of the moorland.

10.3 Conclusion

The peat restoration scheme seeks to “protect the historic environment of peatlands so the important evidence of our past can be preserved for the future, and ensure that restoration projects deliver cultural heritage, education and enjoyment, alongside other public goods” (UK Government, 2021). The peat restoration scheme at the Site will achieve this aim through restoring the peatland whilst undertaking the appropriate mitigation. The proposed peat restoration scheme will be designed around the historic environment features and the restoration of the peatland will prevent further degradation and therefore the scheme will result in an overall beneficial effect on the historic environment.



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Appendix 1: ICOMOS guidance

This assessment has used the methodology outlined in the International Council on Monuments and Site (ICOMOS) Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for the significance assessment and the impact assessment. This methodology is widely used to assess heritage impact upon archaeological remains, landscape features and built heritage. The criteria used for assessing value, magnitude of impact and significance of impact are set out in the below tables.

Assessing Value of Heritage Assets

The value (significance) or sensitivity of a heritage asset is assessed based on existing national and local statutory designations, guidance such as the Historic England Listing and Scheduling Selection Guides and professional judgement based on research and site surveys (Table 8).

Asset Grading	Archaeological Attribute	Built Heritage or Historic Urban Landscape	Historic Landscape	Intangible Cultural Heritage or Associations
Very High	<p>Sites of acknowledged international importance inscribed as WH property.</p> <p>Individual attributes that convey OUV of the WH property.</p> <p>Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.</p>	<p>Sites or structures of acknowledged international importance inscribed as of universal importance as WH property.</p> <p>Individual attributes that convey OUV of the WH property.</p> <p>Other buildings or urban landscapes of recognised International importance.</p>	<p>Landscapes of acknowledged international importance inscribed as WH property.</p> <p>Individual attributes that convey OUV of the WH property.</p> <p>Historic landscapes of international value, whether designated or not.</p> <p>Extremely well preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factors.</p>	<p>Areas associated with Intangible Cultural heritage activities as evidenced by the national register.</p> <p>Associations with particular innovations, technical or scientific developments or movements of global significance.</p> <p>Associations with particular individuals of global importance.</p>



High	<p>Nationally-designated Archaeological Monuments protected by the State Party's laws.</p> <p>Undesignated sites of the quality and importance to be designated.</p> <p>Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.</p>	<p>Nationally-designated structures with standing remains.</p> <p>Other buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations not adequately reflected in the listing grade.</p> <p>Conservation Areas containing very Important buildings.</p> <p>Undesignated structures of clear national importance.</p>	<p>Nationally-designated historic landscape of outstanding interest.</p> <p>Undesignated landscapes of outstanding interest.</p> <p>Undesignated landscapes of high quality and importance, and of demonstrable national value.</p> <p>Well preserved historic landscapes, exhibiting considerable coherence, time-depth or other critical factors.</p>	<p>Nationally-designated areas or activities associated with globally-important Intangible Cultural Heritage activities.</p> <p>Associations with particular innovations, technical or scientific developments or movements of national significance.</p> <p>Associations with particular individuals of national importance.</p>
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Medium	<p>Designated or undesignated assets that can contribute significantly to regional research objectives.</p>	<p>Designated buildings. Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities or historical associations.</p> <p>Conservation Areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character.</p> <p>Historic townscapes or built-up areas with important historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings.</p>	<p>Designated special historic landscapes.</p> <p>Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation.</p> <p>Landscapes of regional value.</p> <p>Averagely well preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factors.</p>	<p>Areas associated with Intangible Cultural heritage activities as evidenced by local registers.</p> <p>Associations with particular innovations or developments of regional or local significance.</p> <p>Associations with particular individuals of regional importance.</p>
Low	<p>Designated or undesignated assets of local importance.</p> <p>Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</p> <p>Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.</p>	<p>“Locally Listed” buildings.</p> <p>Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical associations.</p> <p>Historic Townscape or built-up areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings.</p>	<p>Robust undesignated historic landscapes.</p> <p>Historic landscapes with importance to local interest groups.</p> <p>Historic landscapes whose value is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</p>	<p>Intangible Cultural heritage activities of local significance.</p> <p>Associations with particular individuals of local importance.</p> <p>Poor survival of physical areas in which activities occur or are associated.</p>



Negligible	Assets with little or no surviving archaeological interest.	Buildings or urban landscapes of no architectural or historical merit; buildings of an intrusive character.	Landscapes little or no significant historical interest.	Few associations or ICH vestiges surviving.
Unknown potential	The importance of the asset has not been ascertained.	Buildings with some hidden (or inaccessible) potential for historic significance.	n/a	Little is known or recorded about ICH of the area.

Table 8 Assessing Value of Heritage Assets, adapted from ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments (2011)



Assessing Magnitude of Change or Impact

The magnitude of change or impact is assessed based upon a detailed understanding of how and to what extent the proposed development might impact the specific type of heritage involved (Table 9). It is necessary to have an understanding of the contribution of the setting to the value of the heritage asset as well as an understanding of the key elements or components which contribute to the value or significance of the asset to be able to determine the magnitude of impact.

Impact Grading	Archaeological Attributes	Built Heritage or Historic Urban Landscape Attributes	Historic Landscape Attributes	Intangible Cultural Heritage Attributes or Associations
Major	<p>Changes to attributes that convey OUV of WH properties.</p> <p>Most or all key archaeological materials, including those that contribute to OUV such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to setting.</p>	<p>Change to key historic building elements that contribute to OUV, such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to the setting.</p>	<p>Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; extreme visual effects; gross change of noise or change to sound quality; fundamental changes to use or access; resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit and loss of OUV.</p>	<p>Major changes to area that affect the ICH activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.</p>
Moderate	<p>Changes to many key archaeological materials, such that the resource is clearly modified.</p> <p>Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset.</p>	<p>Changes to many key historic building elements, such that the resource is significantly modified.</p> <p>Changes to the setting of an historic building, such that it is significantly modified.</p>	<p>Change to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape; noticeable differences in noise or sound quality; considerable changes to use or access; resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character.</p>	<p>Considerable changes to area that affect the ICH activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.</p>
Minor	<p>Changes to key archaeological materials, such that</p>	<p>Change to key historic building elements, such that</p>	<p>Change to few key historic landscape elements, parcels or</p>	<p>Changes to area that affect the ICH activities or</p>



	the resource is slightly altered. Slight changes to setting.	the asset is slightly different. Change to setting of an historic building, such that it is noticeably changed.	components; slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape; limited changes to noise levels or sound quality; slight changes to use or access; resulting in limited change to historic landscape character.	associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.
Negligible	Very minor changes to key archaeological materials, or setting.	Slight changes to historic building elements or setting that hardly affect it.	Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; virtually unchanged visual effects; very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality; very slight changes to use or access; resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character.	Very minor changes to areas that affect the ICH activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.
No change	No change.	No change to fabric or setting.	No change to elements, parcels or components; no visual or audible changes; no changes in amenity or community factors.	No change.

Table 9 Assessing Magnitude of Change or Impact, adapted from ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments (2011)



Assessing the Significance of Impact

The table below has been taken from the ICOMOS guidance, 'Assessing the Significance of Impact'. The table uses a matrix to combine the value of the heritage assets with the magnitude of impact (Table 10). This significance of impact can be either adverse or beneficial. A major adverse impact would equate to an assessment of substantial harm, as defined in the NPPF paragraphs 199-200. Other assessments of adverse impact would equate to less than substantial harm as defined in the NPPF paragraph 202.

Value of Heritage Asset	Scale and Severity of Change/Impact				
	No Change	Negligible Change	Minor Change	Moderate Change	Major Change
For WH Properties Very High - Attributes which Convey OUV	Significance of Effect or Overall Impact (Either Adverse or Beneficial)				
	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large/ Very Large	Very Large
For Other Heritage Assets or Attributes	Significance of Impact (Either Adverse or Beneficial)				
Very High	Neutral	Slight	Slight/ Moderate	Large/ very Large	Very Large
High	Neutral	Slight	Slight/ Moderate	Moderate/ Large	Large/ Very Large
Medium	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate/ Large
Low	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Slight	Slight/ Moderate
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Slight

Table 10 Assessing the Significance of Impact, adapted from ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments (2011)



Appendix 2: Gazetteer of Heritage Assets

The tables list the sites and features of the historic environment identified within and within the immediate vicinity of the Site. These heritage assets (HA) can include archaeological sites, features of the historic landscape and upstanding heritage assets. The identification of the heritage assets is drawn primarily from the historic map regression analysis, the National Trust Heritage Records and the HER data. The locations of the gazetteer entries are shown on Figure 5 within Appendix 3.

Heritage Asset 01 Peel Monument			
Site type	Commemorative monument	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	9470.1.0
NGR	SD 7775 1637	Designation	Grade II listed building
Sources	HER; PEEL MONUMENT, Non Civil Parish - 1163433 Historic England		
Description	In tribute to Sir Robert Peel in effecting repeal of Corn Laws. Designed by the members of the Monument Committee: Grant, Ashton, Knowles, Gorton and possibly Cunliffe. At insistence of William Grant, chairman, the tower was built in line with St Andrews church tower as viewed from his own Nuttall Hall. Rubble, partly coursed. 128ft high, originally with 148 steps. Square. Narrow, slightly tapering upper stage, with four storeys of single 2-light mullioned windows to each face and corbelled battlemented top. Conspicuous landmark.		

Heritage Asset 02 Sandstone quarry on the south-east flank of Holcombe Moor (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29855 / MNA149215	HER	-
NGR	SD 77944 16525	Designation	No designation
Sources	MNA149215 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Large sandstone quarry on the south-east flank of Holcombe Moor in use in 1850 and still active in 1930.		



Heritage Asset 03 Clarke's Tenement Buildings (site of)			
Site type	Farmstead; Earthworks	Period	18 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	10053.1.0
NGR	SD 7724 1621	Designation	No designation
Sources	Historic England; HER; MNA118367 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Remains of farmstead. Four ruinous stone structures with surviving walls of 2m. Rubble and timber beams.		

Heritage Asset 04 Quarry to the east of Green Rake (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29880 / MNA149609	HER	-
NGR	SD 77104 17064	Designation	No designation
Sources	MNA149609 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Small sandstone quarry dating from the 19 th century with few features of interest.		

Heritage Asset 05 Quarry to northeast of Hamlets Farm Cottages (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 77134 16858	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	Quarry shown on late 19 th century mapping.		



Heritage Asset 06 Raven Stones			
Site type	Possible boundary marker	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 77153 17104	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	Placename at junction between two routeways. Possible site of boundary marker or path markers.		

Heritage Asset 07 Quarry at Booth's Close (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	20 th century
National Trust ID	29862 / MNA149225	HER	PRN27130
NGR	SD 77775 17064	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149225 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Small quarry of early 20 th century origin.		

Heritage Asset 08 Deep Clough Quarry (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29861 / MNA149223	HER	PRN27129
NGR	SD 77884 16975	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149223 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Moderate sized and well-preserved sandstone quarry of later 19th century date. Good examples of working faces.		



Heritage Asset 09 Circular depression near Deep Clough			
Site type	Possible pond	Period	Undated
National Trust ID	29858 / MNA149218	HER	PRN27128
NGR	SD 78127 17112	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149218 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Circular depression with some evidence of an enclosing bank and possible ditch. Approximately 25m in diameter. Small mound contained within it on the east side. Possibly a pond and perhaps associated with Whirlwind Hall.		

Heritage Asset 10 Quarry at Moor Road (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 78237 16984	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	Quarry shown on late 19 th century mapping.		

Heritage Asset 11 Quarry east of Long Rake (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29878 / MNA149605	HER	PRN27141
NGR	SD 77065 17434	Designation	No designation
Sources	MNA149605 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Small sandstone quarry with few features of interest, dating from the 19 th century.		



Heritage Asset 12 Old Grey Wall (site of)			
Site type	Wall	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	10013.1.0
NGR	SD 7709 1768	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; (LUAU, 1995)		
Description	Marked and shown on 1850 OS map. Not shown on subsequent maps. A slight bank near Pilgrim's Cross may be a continuation of this boundary. Remains of wall run for 460m south-south-east from SD 7709 1769 to SD 7712 1720; it then turns at right-angles and runs for 150m west to the top of a steep west-facing slope. Only the foundation 1m wide remains and this is robbed out in the central section. It is composed of quarried angular gritstone. Superstructure must have been removed - no tumbled stone on site.		

Heritage Asset 13 Breathing Ground (site of)			
Site type	Track	Period	Post Medieval
National Trust ID	29867 / MNA149235	HER	PRN27133
NGR	SD 77394 17766	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149235 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Horse exercising track on top of White Hill. The route can still be discerned on the ground.		

Heritage Asset 14 County Boundary marked with stones			
Site type	Boundary	Period	Pre-19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 76614 18971	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	The boundary between Greater Manchester and Lancashire runs approximately northwest to southeast through the Site. The boundary is undefined in places and marked with stones in others.		



Heritage Asset 15 Rifle Range (site of)			
Site type	Firing range	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	183241 / MNA191464	HER	PRN27134
NGR	SD 7766 1790	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA191464 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	This site is depicted on the 1893 OS map edition but not on any successive editions. The rifle range consists of two separate ranges. The first range to the east is a short firing range consisting of a single butt to the north and a single firing position 200 yards to the south-east. The second firing range to the west is a long firing range and consists of a single butt and firing positions at intervals of 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 and 600 yards to the south-east.		

Heritage Asset 16 The Troughs			
Site type	Natural feature	Period	Undated
National Trust ID	29864 / MNA149228	HER	163.1.0
NGR	SD 7757 1767	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149228 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Four long irregular mounds of varying height, previously considered to have been some form of fortification but now considered to be of natural origin.		

Heritage Asset 17 Gritstone Block near Moor Road			
Site type	Stone block	Period	Medieval/Post Medieval
National Trust ID	29886 / MNA150295	HER	PRN27144
NGR	SD 78105 17554	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA150295 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Medieval/Post Medieval possible cross shaft perhaps derived from the Pilgrim's Cross. Gritstone block approximately 1.5m long and 0.4m wide at base tapering to 0.25m at the top. Circular socket centrally placed at top, 10mm in diameter and 30mm deep, possibly for a metal plug to assist in fixing another segment. No evidence of tenon on base which was damaged. The block may be no more than a gate stop, however.		



Heritage Asset 18 Coal pit west of Moor Road			
Site type	Coal pit	Period	Post Medieval
National Trust ID	29865 / MNA149230	HER	PRN8760
NGR	SD 77975 17834	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149230 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Surface characteristics of a bell pit. Circular mound of spoil around a partially backfilled shaft.		

Heritage Asset 19 Sandstone quarry on White Hill (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN8731
NGR	SD 77928 18033	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER		
Description	Sandstone quarry is shown on the OS first edition 1:10,560 map		

Heritage Asset 20 Quarry south of Chatterton Close (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29866 / MNA149234	HER	PRN27132
NGR	D 77879 18330	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149234 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Small sandstone quarry, probably for supplying Chatterton Close Farm. Partially filled. Not shown in 1850, in existence and possibly in use in 1895 but marked as an old quarry in 1912.		



Heritage Asset 21 Rifle butts west of Chatterton Close			
Site type	Rifle butts	Period	19 th / 20 th century
National Trust ID	29869 / MNA149239	HER	PRN27134
NGR	SD 77304 18454	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149239 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Rectangular walled sunken structure, embanked to the south and with steps at its eastern end. Marked as targets on OS map of 1912.		

Heritage Asset 22 Sheepfold at Alden Ratchers			
Site type	Sheepfold	Period	Post medieval
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 76483 19536	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	Sheepfold shown on the late 19 th -century OS map and present on 20 th -century mapping.		

Heritage Asset 23 Quarry west of Chatterton Close (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	Post Medieval
National Trust ID	29876 / MNA149603	HER	PRN27140
NGR	SD 77374 18825	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149603 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Former small quarry, largely filled in and grassed over. Field inspection carried out. Probably for building dry-stone walls of Chatterton Close.		



Heritage Asset 24 Beetle Hill Quarry / Quarry north of Chatterton Close (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29872 / MNA149248	HER	PRN8728
NGR	SD 77754 18865	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149248 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map, still apparently in use in 1912. Moderately large quarry, but with few exposed faces or other significant features.		

Heritage Asset 25 Quarry at Beetle Hill, Ramsbottom (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN8726
NGR	SD 77769 19180	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; OS mapping		
Description	A sandstone quarry is shown on the OS first edition 1:10,560 map.		

Heritage Asset 26 Ellen Strange Monument			
Site type	Monument cairn	Period	Modern
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 77574 19242	Designation	No designation
Sources	Ellen Strange Cairn - Holcombe Village Society (Lancashire) (holcombesociety.org.uk)		
Description	On the northern fringe of Holcombe Moor above the village of Helmshore there is a cairn and a monument which are said to mark the location of the murder of a woman called Ellen Strange which took place on the moor on 26th January 1761. Actually the monument is modern, erected as part of a commemoration ceremony in 1978. The woman's name was Ellen Broadley, though her maiden name may have been Strange. It is not even certain that the cairn is on the site of the murder.		



Heritage Asset 27 Quarry, south-west of Middle Doe			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29873 / MNA149250	HER	PRN8722
NGR	SD 77185 19215	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149250 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps. Few visible remains.		

Heritage Asset 28 Quarry, south-west of Alden (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29874 / MNA149251	HER	PRN8721
NGR	SD 76964 19364	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER; MNA149251 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps. Few visible remains.		

Heritage Asset 29 Coal pits at Fall Bank (site of)			
Site type	Coal pits	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 76273 19671	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping		
Description	Coal pit shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps.		



Heritage Asset 30 Sandstone quarry at Fall Bank (site of)			
Site type	Quarry	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN8712
NGR	SD 76533 19542	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping; HER		
Description	Sandstone quarry shown on 1850 OS map but not depicted on later maps.		

Heritage Asset 31 Chapel Gate			
Site type	Routeway	Period	Medieval / post medieval
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 77500 16789	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping; (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001)		
Description	<p>The Chapel Gate route is shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. The Chapel Gate was an east-west route across the moor from the settlements to the west of the Site, such as Holcombe Head, Nook and Hamlets, to the chapel within Holcombe Village. The date of this route across the moor is unclear, however the name likely derives from the Old Norse word gata, meaning 'road'. The farms shown on the 19th-mapping are post-medieval in date, however, earlier settlement in this area, if present, could have benefitted from the Chapel Gate, which would have provided access to the chapel of ease that existed within Holcombe from the 15th century.</p>		

Heritage Asset 32 Pilgrim Route			
Site type	Routeway	Period	Medieval / post medieval
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR	SD 77215 18370	Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping; (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001)		
Description	<p>The pilgrimage route across the moor passes the Pilgrim's Cross. The route was likely in use throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods.</p>		



Heritage Asset 33 Bolton to Haslingden Road			
Site type	Routeway	Period	Medieval / post medieval
National Trust ID	-	HER	-
NGR		Designation	No designation
Sources	OS mapping; (Egerton Lea Consultancy, 2001)		
Description	The highway from Bolton to Haslingden is shown on a map dated to 1580. By the mid-19th century, this route followed Stake Lane before forming a footpath running northeast-southwest through the Bull Hill and Black Moss area of the Site.		

Heritage Asset 34 Circular earthwork at Bull Hill			
Site type	Earthwork	Period	Mesolithic
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN1074 - MLA1074
NGR	SD 77260 18790	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER		
Description	Circular bank enclosing an area approximately 5m in diameter. Possibly a small pinfold or less likely to be a hut circle of prehistoric date. More recently interpreted as being 150-200 years old.		

Heritage Asset 35 Bull Hill Mesolithic flint working site			
Site type	Flint working site	Period	Mesolithic
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN1074 - MLA1074
NGR	SD 7678 1873	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER		
Description	During the 1880s, several small flakes, a flint scraper, flint flake, a lozenge-shaped flint arrowhead and a 'finely worked barbed arrowhead' were identified at Bull Hill.		



Heritage Asset 36 Pilgrim's Cross			
Site type	Cross	Period	Medieval / post medieval
National Trust ID	-	HER	PRN1073 - MLA1073
NGR	SD 77170 18190	Designation	No designation
Sources	HER		
Description	Pilgrims Cross, the base of which remained until 1901 and is mentioned as a landmark in 1176, in the Charter of Roger Montbagon in favour of the Priory of Monk Bretton.		

Heritage Asset 37 Quarry at southern end of Holcombe Moor (site of)			
Site type	Quarry (site of)	Period	19 th century
National Trust ID	29851 / MNA148959	HER	-
NGR	SD 77800 16268	Designation	No designation
Sources	MNA148959 National Trust Heritage Records		
Description	Large sandstone quarry in use in 1850.		



Appendix 3: Figures

Figure 1 Site location.....	77
Figure 2 Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1850.....	78
Figure 3 Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1894.....	79
Figure 4 Locations of designated heritage assets within the surrounding landscape	80
Figure 5 Locations heritage assets identified within the gazetteer	81
Figure 6 Area of proposed peat bunding at Black Moss	82



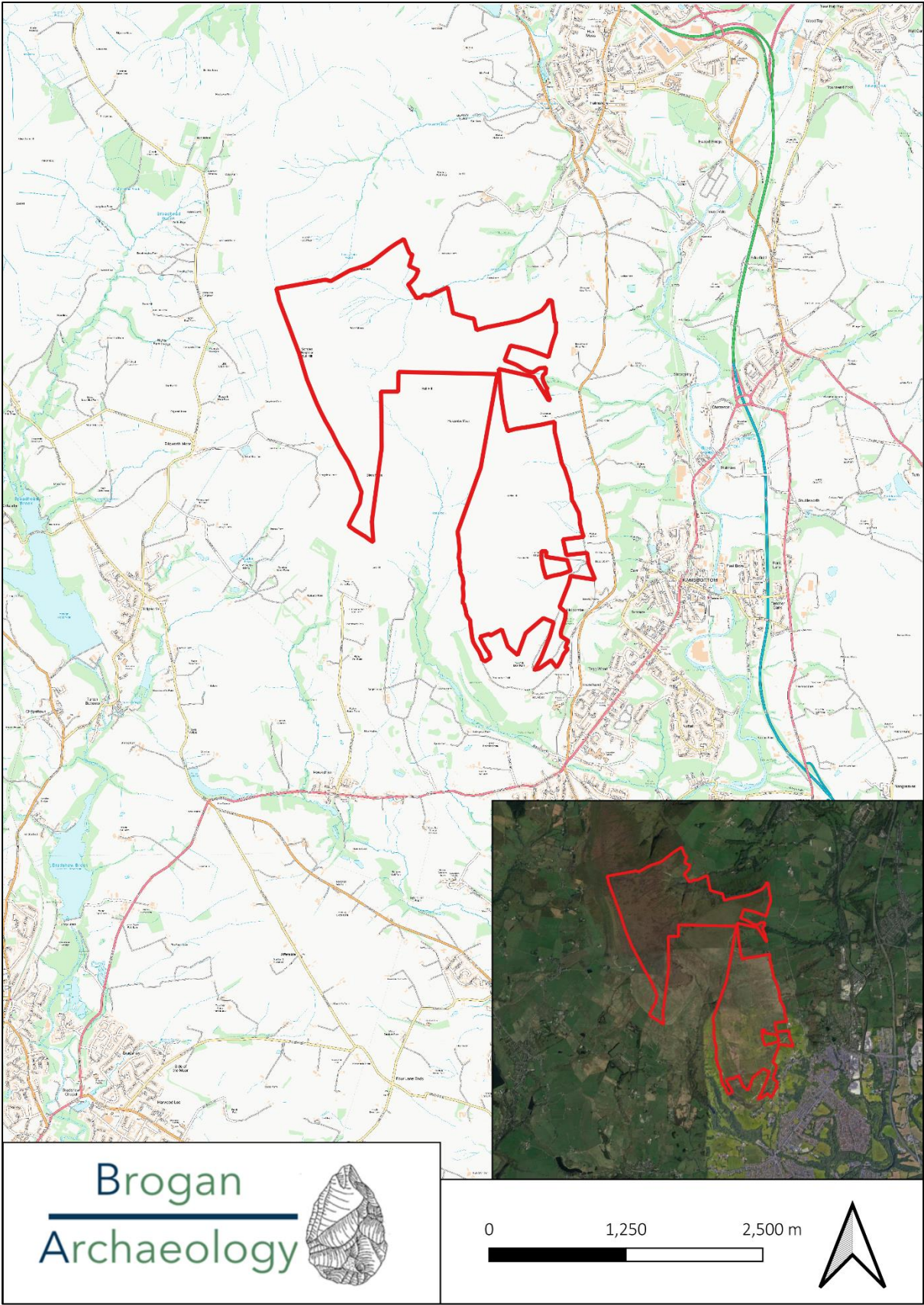


Figure 1 Site location



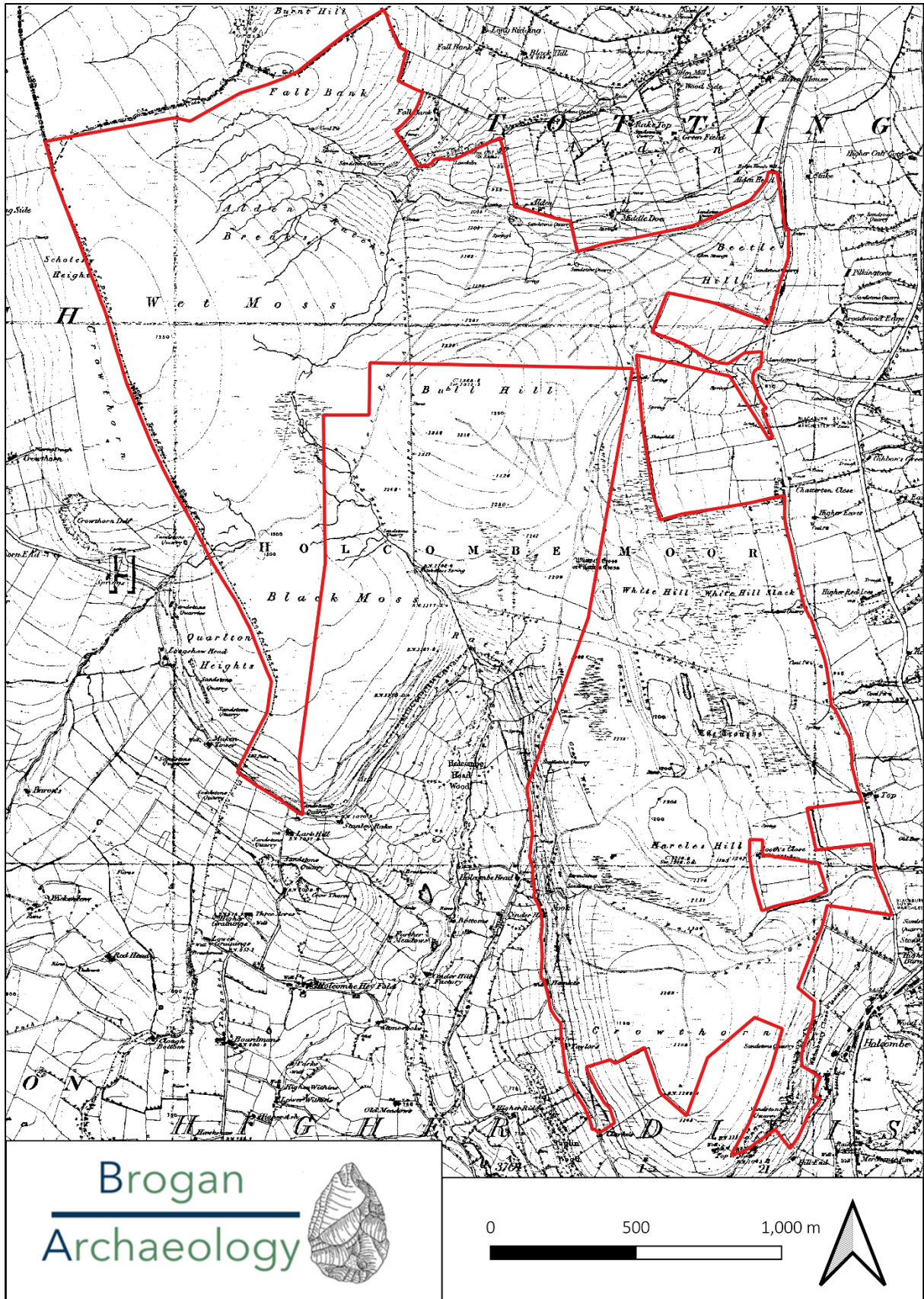


Figure 2 Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1850



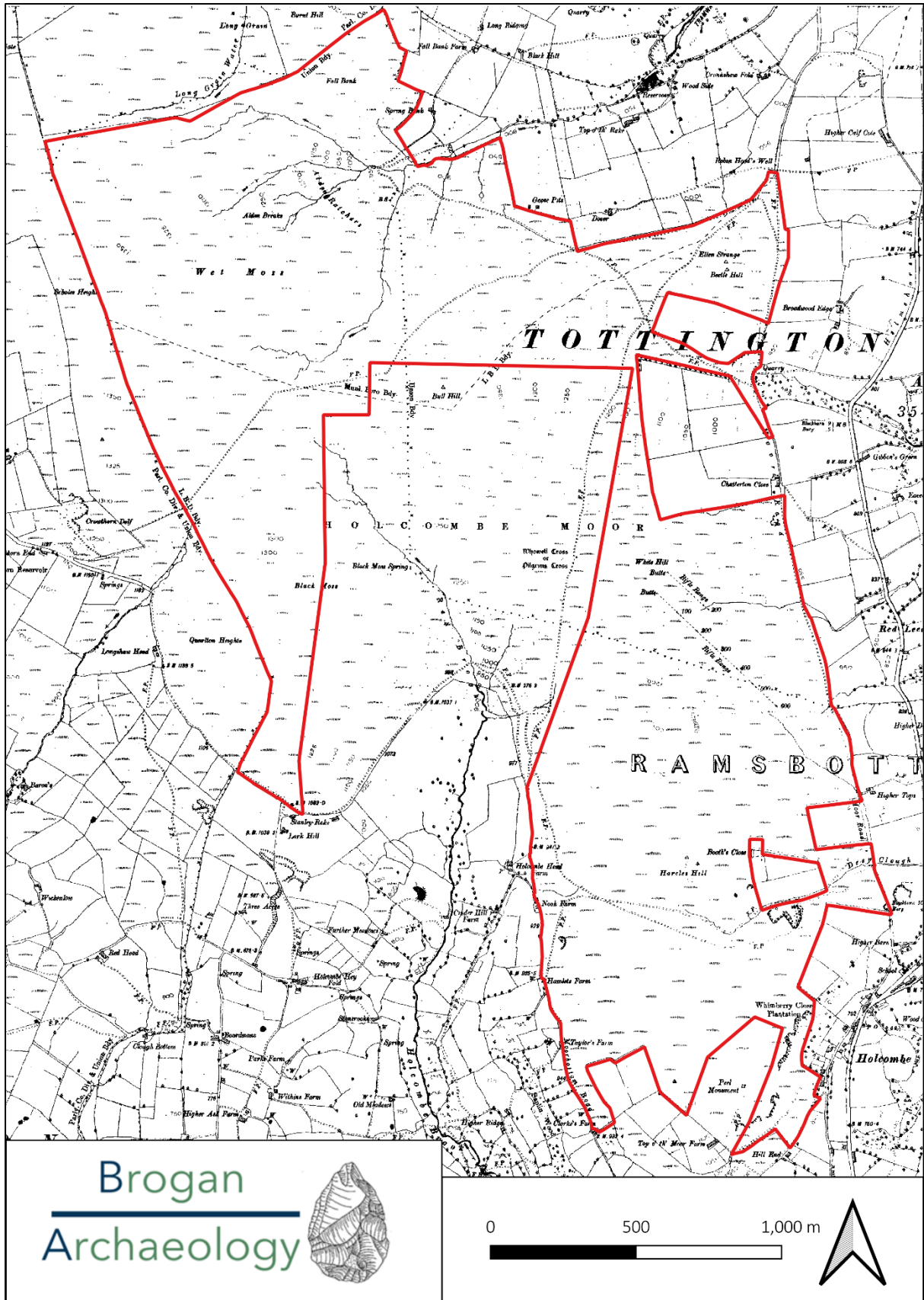


Figure 3 Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1894



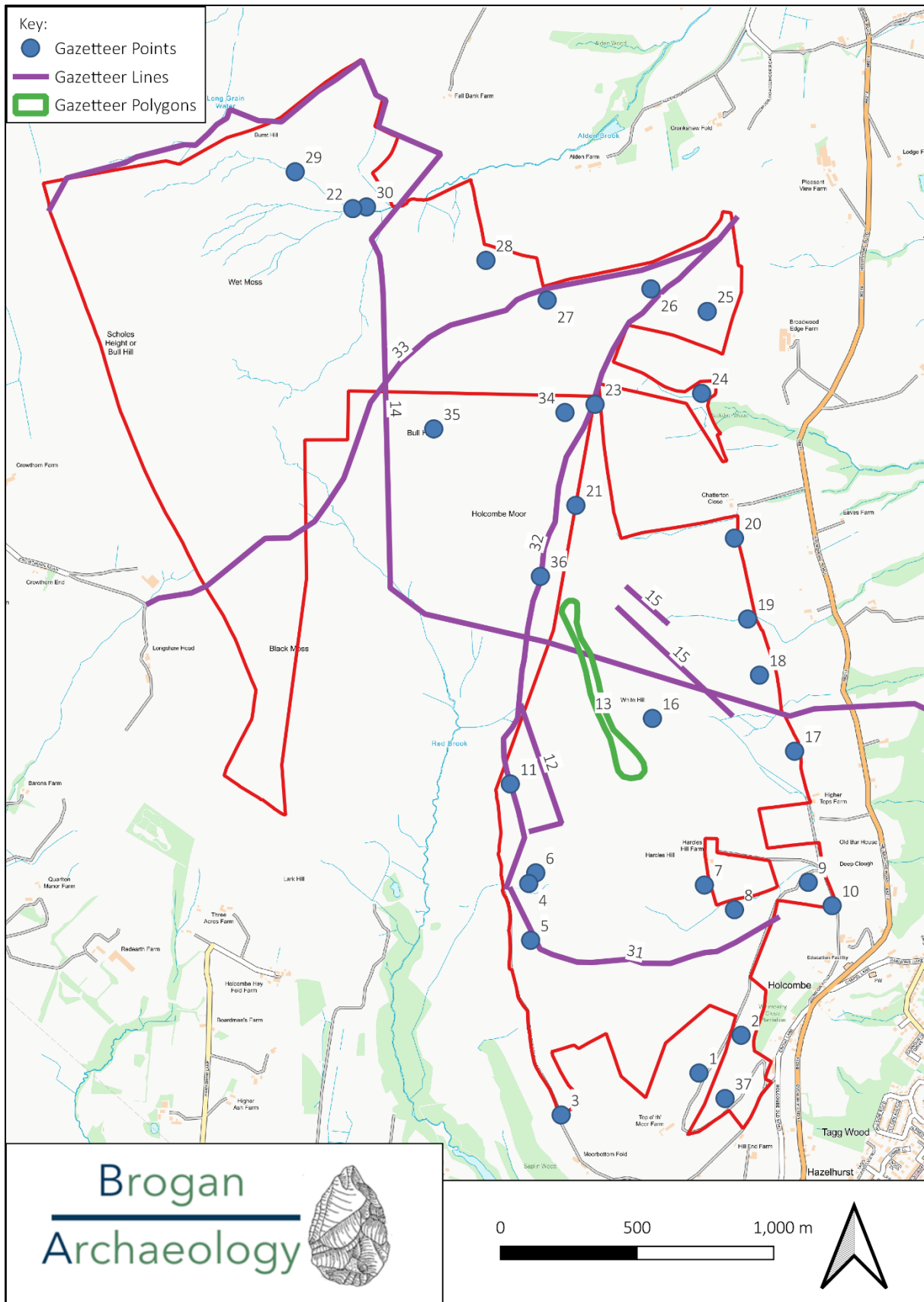


Figure 5 Locations heritage assets identified within the gazetteer



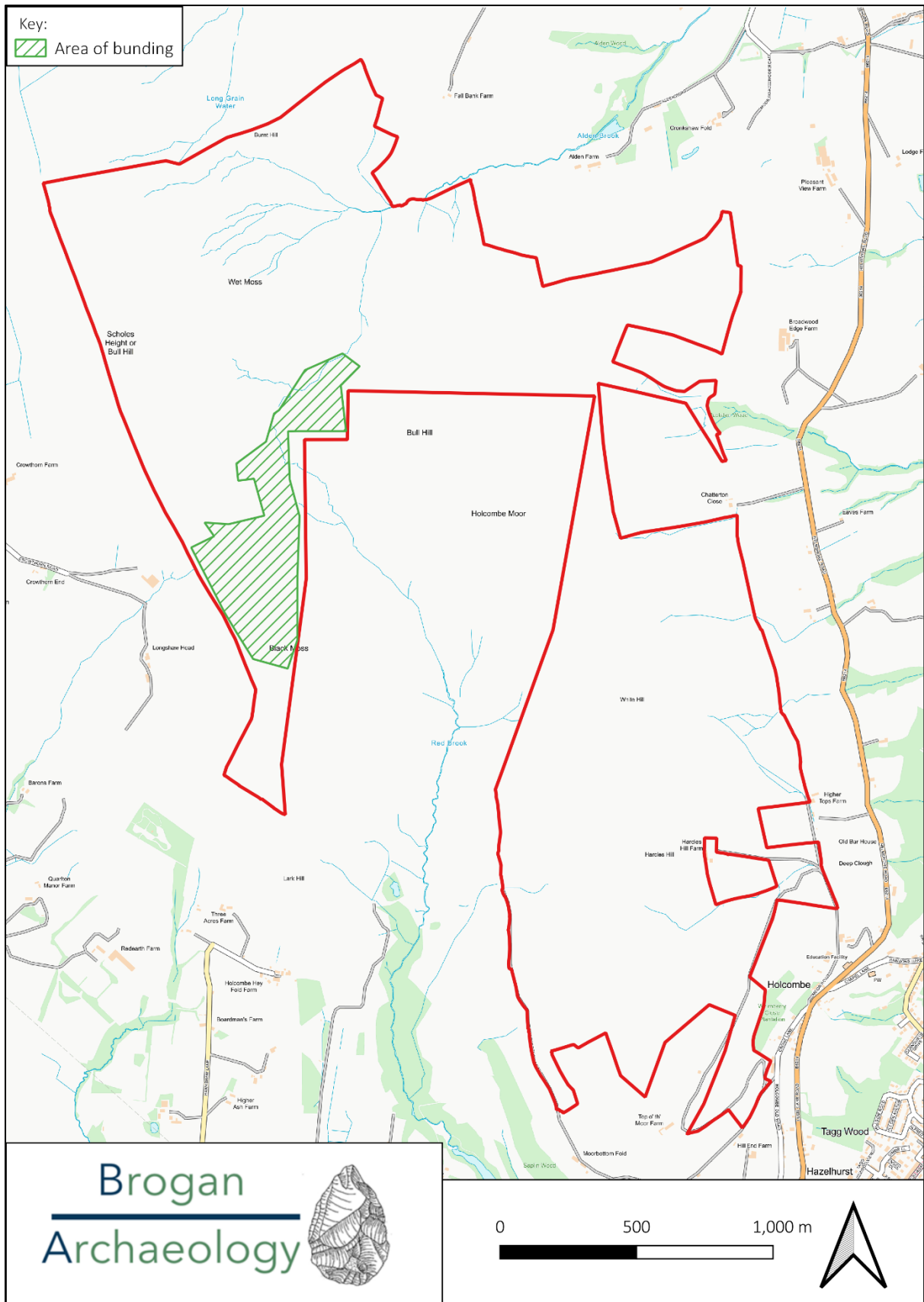


Figure 6 Area of proposed peat bunding at Black Moss

