

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	East Region 8	Sheet 1 of 1
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
23	A B E G	Great Dug Dale	SE 88 49	32	2
Qualifying type	Vegetation Type	Justification for inclusion			
Mountain	Heather Moor	Predominance of qualifying type (M, M, H, D)			
Moor	Rough acid grassland	Contiguous to large parcel of open country			
Heath	Calcareous grassland	*	Contiguous to existing access land or common land		
Down	Scattered trees or scrub	*	Provides clearer physical boundary to larger area		
	Bracken		Local value of small parcel (view, feature, accessible, PRow etc)		
	Rock outcrops		Provides means of access to other access land		
			Steep sided		

This submission supports the inclusion of the area already shown on the draft map.

Description of land submitted

The Great Dug Dale (A B E G) site is a substantial dale running south east between the B1246 at its northern end and a minor road at its southern extremity, thus providing easy access. There is also footpath along the edge of the dale but no public access to the dale itself, although there is a track along its bottom.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

The **Phase II Habitat survey** of areas A, E and G recorded 17 grasses and 48 other herbs, of which 17 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to the NVC CG2a, CG4a/b and CG7a sub-communities (see Table).

Sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* is abundant in the northern part of the dale and plentiful in the south. Tor-grass *Brachypodium pinnatum* is plentiful in the northern part of the dale and sparse further south. The characteristic calcicolous indicator herbs recorded included: devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, wild thyme *Thymus praecox*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, cowslip *Primula veris*, small scabious *Scabiosa columbaria*, clustered bell-flower *Campanula glomerata*, rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca* and hoary plantain *Plantago media*.

Our study of **aerial photographs**, taken in 2000 suggests that areas A, G and E have not been improved since the Phase II survey. It also suggests that area B, has a similar vegetation cover to the other areas, which has led us to add area B to the submission. A site visit (11 Aug 2003) found Tor-grass, quaking grass *Briza media*, burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*, lady's bedstraw and small scabious. Area G, fenced off and therefore ungrazed, contained a rich chalk grassland flora and showed no signs of improvement.

Conclusion

We think the evidence presented here suggests that the area mapped is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

Prepared by:	MB SD TKH	Date:	13 Nov 2003
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