

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
22	A B C	Brig Dale	SE 88 53	**	**
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 and seeks to extend the boundaries of open country.

Description of land submitted

The Brig Dale site starts with a fork at the northern end (A) and runs south along the length of Lavender Dale (B) which ends in a rectangular shaped piece at its southern tip. At present there is no right of way into the area but there are tracks and it is to be hoped that access could be arranged to what is a very attractive area, perhaps linking to Keasey Dale to the north.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

The **Phase II Habitat** survey of these two dales recorded 15 grasses and 51 other herbs, of which 16 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to the NVC CG2c and CG5 communities (see Table).

In Brig Dale, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* was abundant and quaking grass *Briza media* and red fescue *F.rubra* plentiful. The calcicolous indicator herbs were sparse with lady's bedstraw *Galium verum* fairy flax *Linum catharticum* being found in the largest abundance. In Lavender Dale upright brome *Bromus erectus* was abundant and tor-grass *Brachypodium pinnatum* and Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus* plentiful. The commonest herbs were common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*.

Our study of **aerial photographs**, taken in 2000, suggests that areas A and B have not been improved since the Phase II survey. It also suggests that area C has a similar vegetation cover to area B, which has led us to add area C to the submission.

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:	10.2003
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