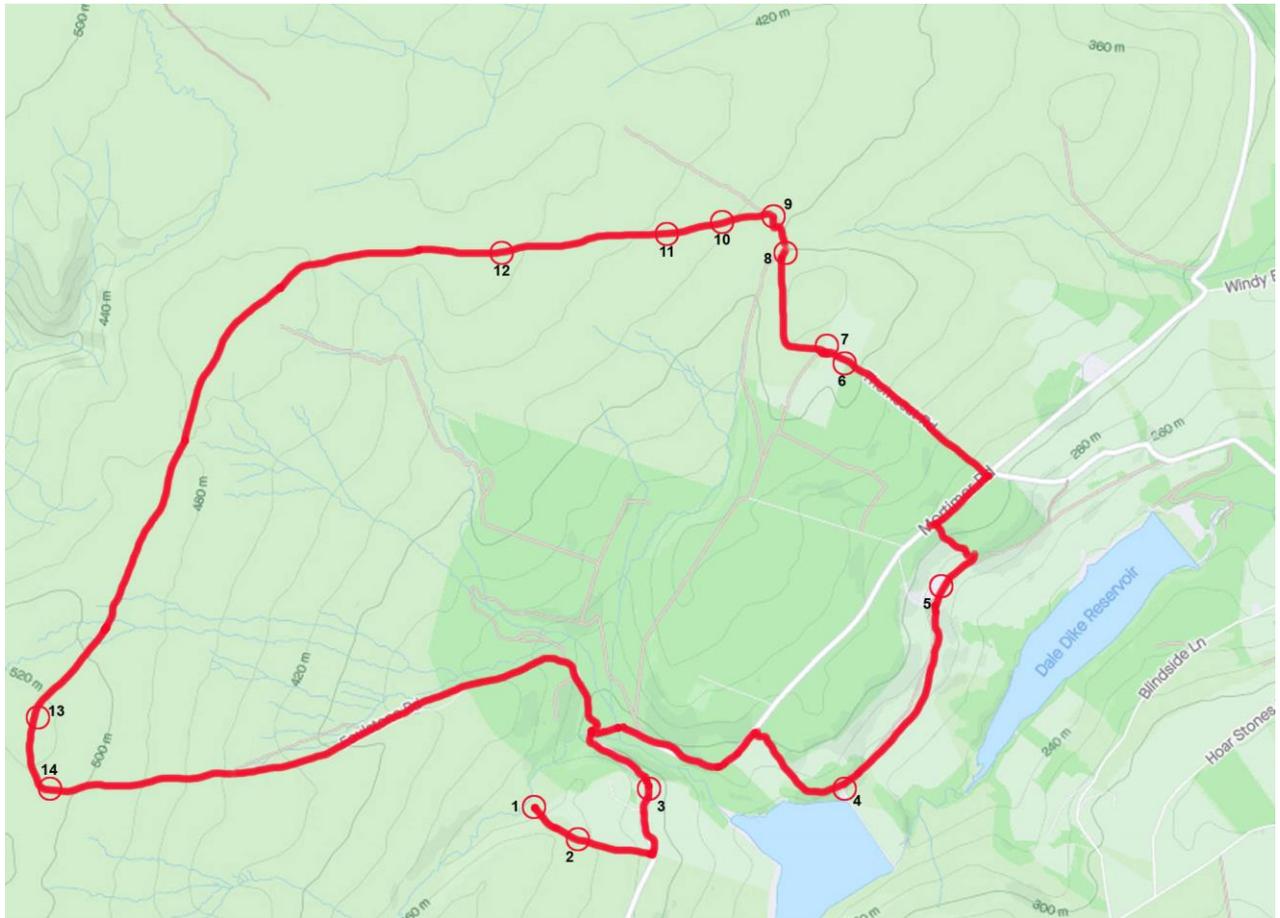


Bradfield and Foulstone Moors Geocross V75

Mike Browell October 2023 (mike.browell@btinternet.com)

Each of the locations can be found on the route below. The locations are listed in order and sufficient background is included to help you triangulate your position to identify the location



Start from The Strines Inn

Location 1 OS ref SK 21850 90559

F T Mappin stone

Contains "dabbing"



Sir Frederick Thorpe Mappin died in 1910. He was one of Sheffield's most distinguished citizens, wealthy, cultivated and philanthropic to public interests. He was known as 'Sheffield's Grand Old Man' and a Liberal MP for 20 years.

His wealth came from a family cutlery business and he was elected the youngest ever Master Cutler in 1885, Later he later moved into steel-making.

Mappin was the chief founder of the Technical School that was to become Sheffield University, and he gifted The Mappin Building to the fledgling university. He also donated many valuable paintings to The Mappin Art Gallery at Weston Park.

This stone is located on part of the Bradfield Shooting Association moors where he and later his son Wilson Mappin held shooting parties.

Location 2 OS ref SK 21995 90485

Shooting butt 2

Contains "silk"



A line of nine shooting butts on Strines Moor Ridge overlooks Strines Moor. These are now managed by the Wentworth Fitzwilliam Estate and have been recently upgraded. These are decidedly 'posh' and have gates.



Shooting butt 8 even has a deck looking west over Foulstone Moor to Derwent Edge.

Location 3 OS ref SK 22286 90693

Take off Stone

Contains "most"



The Strines Inn is a popular moorland pub on Mortimer Road and the last surviving public house left in the upper dale. It started as a farm serving passing packhorse trains, and was extended many times, most notably by the Worrall family of Ughill whose coat of arms with lion rampart and three goblets which can be seen over the door.

Hans Winthrop Mortimer, Lord of Bamford Hall undertook the upgrading of a pre-existing road to a turnpike in 1777. He expected to make large profits from tolls for wagons carrying lead and woolen goods, but ran out of money before the new road was completed. The steep climb out from Strines Bridge usually needed an additional horse to help heavily laden wagons to reach The Strines Inn. The extra horse had to be removed and paid for at the Take off Stone.

Location 4 OS ref SK 23059 9064

Broggin House

Contains "volume"



The many streams on the moors to the west collect into the Strines and Foulstone Dykes. Strines means a meeting of streams and Foulstone Moor and Brogging Moss have more than their fair share. Broggin House is a grade 2 Listed Building and has a date stone of 1718 on the door lintel. It pre-dates the construction of the Strines Reservoir by 150 years.

Strines Reservoir is one of four reservoirs planned and built to supply Sheffield's growing population and industry. Dale Dyke would have been the first had the dam not failed in March 1864 and 700,000,000 gallons of water swept down into the Loxley Valley, destroying everything in its path including the many mills and workers cottages. More than 240 people died and many bodies were never found.

Damflask Reservoir was completed in 1867, Agden and Strines in 1869 and finally the rebuilt Dale Dyke in 1875

Location 5 OS ref SK 23441 91488

Hallfield House

Contains “tanks”



The original house dates from Elizabethan times, before 1560, and has been extended many times. The public footpath passes through the gardens and the front door. The house faces south east and overlooks Dale Dyke Reservoir.

Location 6 OS ref SK 23058 92373

Thornseat Road edge stones

Contains "races"



Thornseat House had its own road, off Mortimer Road. It was a thriving quarry business in the delfts to the west.

Various edge stones are still visible, probably placed to ensure thar carts and animals didn't destroy the footpath on its left side.

Location 7 OS ref SK 22967 92427

Thornseat House gate post

Contains "vibes"



The foundations have been recently excavated showing where the house once stood. The adjacent land is named Thornfield Moor and Thornseat Delf and has been extensively quarried. Thin bedded gritstone has been extracted, used for roofing slates. The quarries were abandoned many years ago.

Location 8 OS ref SK 22830 92825

Shooting cabin

Contains "precluded"



These well constructed shooting cabins are tucked away in a hollow.

Location 9 OS ref SK 22761 92947

Shooting Butt 2

Contains "helpfully"



The open moors above Thornseat House are named Holling Dale and are primarily used for shooting. This is one of nine recently rebuilt shooting butts.

Location 10 OS ref SK 22480 92958

Boundary Marker BJV

Contains “bagels”



Historically Holling Dale moorland was common grazing, but after the 1830s Enclosure Acts it was acquired by members of the Bradfield Game Association for grouse shooting. Primarily owned by the Earl Fitzwilliam, and is now managed by the Wentworth Fitzwilliam Estate. There are many boundary stones with carved initials, this being one of several BJV and appears to be a transplanted more recently carved top to an earlier stone pillar set in a substantial base. There are plenty of other stones on nearby moors including Strines Moor, but these are a 'cut above' the rest.

Location 11 OS ref SK 22197 92993

Boundary Marker WM

Contains "school"



WM is probably Wilson Mappin, son of Sir Frederick Thorpe Mappin.

Location 12 OS ref SK 21611 92870

New Cross base

Contains "diary"



New Cross is a medieval (1066 – 1485) wayside stone cross. It would have been a substantial tall cross, visible from a distance and needed to help travellers find their way over the moors between Derwent and Bradfield. Crosses, a religious symbol, were often placed by monasteries.

Only the base of New Cross remains, the cross itself has probably been used as a boundary marker.

It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

After the 1750 – 1850 Enclosure Acts the new owners of the moorlands did their best to discourage use on this important crossing by taking down the stone cross and other marker stones.

There were five 'Gates' across the Derwent moors, this one has been known about for centuries and appears on the OS map as 'New Cross (rems of)', but the footpath is very hard to find on the ground and it has largely become disused.

The Sheffield Clarion Ramblers Club led by Bert Ward campaigned from 1900 onwards to regain the stolen rights of way resulting from land enclosures. His efforts led to much improved access from the National Parks Act 1949, of which the Peak District was the first designated National Park in 1951, and the 2000 Countryside Rights of Way Act.

Location 13 OS ref SK 19910 90951

Back Tor boulders graffiti

Contains “detonated”



Back Tor is a well known landmark on Derwent Edge, and a popular place for refreshments. Shooting parties probably lunched here, and may have idled their time by carving their initials on their hosts' boulders. One set of initials is dated 1868.



Back Tor trig point has been stuck on top of the tor on a base of concrete, and despite enduring wild gales it has remained in place.

Location 14 OS ref SK 19692 89725

Bradfield Gate Head

Contains "plots"



Bradfield Gate Head is where Foulstone Road crosses the Derwent watershed. This is another of the five 'Gates', routes connecting the east villages of Penistone and Bradfield with Derwent to the west.