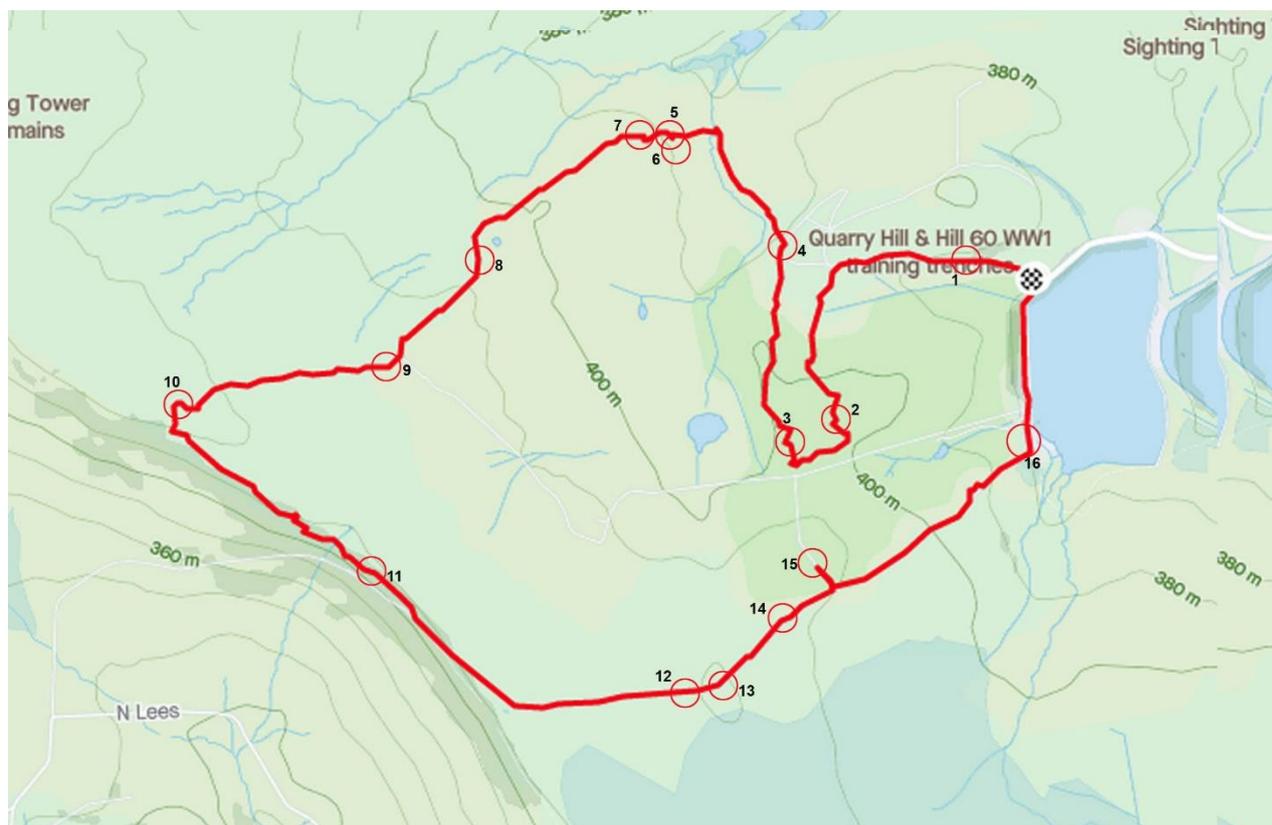


Stanage Pole Geocross V60



Start from Redmires car park.

Location 1 OS ref SK 25530 85721

Old gate stoop - east

Contains "hobby"



These fields were established by the 1791 Enclosure Act. Nearby are the remains of Ocean View Farm, a traditional combination of working farm and public house. The pub opened in 1840 and served the workers who were building the Redmires reservoirs. It closed in 1885 and the farm was demolished along with most habitable buildings within the reservoir catchment.

The hill immediately north is Lord's Seat or Quarry Hill. It later became known as Ocean View, no doubt due to the nearby pub and the view over the waters of Upper Redmires Reservoir.

Formed to fight in World War 1, Sheffield City Battalion, also known as the Sheffield Pals, carried out trench warfare training on land given to Sheffield City Council in 1914 by moorland landowner William Wilson. They renamed Lord's Seat as Hill 61 for military purposes. Hill 60 was to the north.

After intensive training the Sheffield Pals joined up with other 'Pals Battalions' and went into action on 1 July 1916. This was the first day of the Battle of the Somme. They suffered very heavy losses making this the most disastrous day in Britain's military history. There is a memorial sculpture to the Sheffield Pals on Hill 61.

Location 2 OS ref SK 25056 85291

Old Stone quarry – west side

Contains “vouch”



The woods around Redmires reservoirs were first planted by Sheffield Water Works in the 1840s and are now owned by Sheffield City Council. There were three moorland farms, Fairthorn, Ocean View and Lord's Seat. This stone quarry provided the stone used to build Lords Seat Farm.

Location 3 OS ref SK 24925 85201

Lord's Seat farm gates

Contains "shed"



These are the north entrance gates to Lord's Seat farm buildings, which were 100 metres further south. Lord's Seat Farm was close to Long Causeway, and easily accessible from Sheffield. The farm had a small chapel where non-conformist preachers could deliver their teaching outside the boundaries of nearby parishes. Anglican religious authorities prohibited lay preachers within a parish boundary.

Sheffield Water Works (SWW) constructed the three Redmires Reservoirs between 1833 and 1854 to provide clean drinking water to Sheffield after the cholera epidemic of 1832. Water from Redmires reservoirs flowed in an open conduit to smaller reservoirs in west Sheffield.

Most habitable dwellings within the water catchment were demolished when Redmires Reservoirs were filled, to prevent contamination of drinking water. Conifer plantations were planted in the 1840s in the enclosed fields used by Fairthorn Green and Lords Seat farms.

Location 4 OS ref SK 24848 85858

Stile

Contains "wants"



A recently constructed stile gives access from enclosed farmland to open country on Hallam Moors. Walkers have a right of access under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

William Wilson bought the Moscar moorland shooting estate from the Duke of Norfolk in 1897 and set about stopping up traditional footpaths crossing his moor, causing conflict with the growing countryside rambling movement. In particular he erected a three kilometre iron bar fence along the north side of Long Causeway, without any gates, blocking the use of historic paths.

The Sheffield Clarion Ramblers and their founder GHB Ward were activists in lobbying for the reopening of blocked off traditional rights of way.

Location 5 OS ref SK 24555 86098

Shooting Butt 1

Contains "could"



One of several lines of grouse shooting butts on Hallam and Moscar Moors.

Not the prettiest shooting butt.

The Moscar shooting estate has changed ownership several times and is currently owned by the Duke of Rutland.

Location 6 OS ref SK 24566 86081

Shaft between Butts 1 & 2

Contains "factor"



This depression is one of many near to Oaking Clough Plantation. They are named as shafts or shake holes on the OS map. They are the remains of entrance shafts to 'bell-pit' coal mines.

Shallow coal pits occur on the east slope of Stanage Edge. 'Bell' describes the excavated shape below the pit shaft, where coal was worked from the seam in all directions until it became unsafe to dig further. Bell-pits usually occur as a field of many side by side depressions over the winnable shallow coal seam. Most are unfenced and many are filled with water. At one time this was a very active coalfield.

Location 7 OS ref SK 24475 86095

Windsculpted Birch in Oaking Clough Plantation

Contains "socket"



Oaking Clough Plantation is a small walled copse of pine and birch trees. About 30 trees remain and provide valuable habitat for birds on this windswept moor.

The walled enclosures around Redmires date from the 1791 Enclosure Act. This woodland may date from this time.

Before 1900 there were once much larger plantations named as Rape Piece, Gin Piece and Spring Piece, all felled for timber around the time of the first world war.

These windswept trees were not worth felling for timber.

Location 8 OS ref SK 23974 85729

Memorial cairn on stump of veteran vandalised pine

Contains "tooth"



Windswept pine as it used to be

Several windsculpted pine and larch were left behind when Rape Piece plantation was felled for timber in the early 1900s. These were 'edge' trees which were stunted by the wind, and not worth harvesting for timber.

By 2011 these trees were over 100 years old, no use as timber but forming a much loved local landmark and providing roosting sites for birds. Unfortunately they were cut down by a gamekeeper in 2011.

Location 9 OS ref SK 23550 85379

Shooting Butt

Contains "nail"



This is the first in the line of the 'Waterloo' shooting butts. These turf topped shelters are well built and traditional.

Location 10 OS ref SK 23065 85288

Shooting pony shelter

Contains “slap”



Built for William Wilson as a shelter for shooting parties ponies. Nicknamed the ‘Bus-Shelter’ it is now mainly used as a picnic shelter. Nearby is the fenced off shaft of the Waterloo bell-pit coal mine. The Coal Pit House was here, keeping a 24 hour watch on comings and goings at the mine.

Location 11 OS ref SK 23708 84730

Grouse Trough No 1

Contains "achieving"



Sheffield snuff manufacturer William Wilson bought the moorland shooting estate in 1897. He quickly learned that it was a 'dry' moor. Water Engineers had led most of the rainfall water into reservoirs and underground tunnels. Wilson wanted to keep his grouse on his moor, so decided to try providing more drinking water. In 1907 his young gamekeeper George Broomhead began carving 108 numbered grouse drinking water troughs. These are in three sets:-

Stanage Lodge 1–6. These are on fenced off land near Stanage Pole and rarely visited.

Stanage 1–75. This is the first of the 75 troughs which run along the top of Stanage Edge and Crow Chin Rocks. The carving states 'No 1'. Most people think that the line of troughs finishes at Stanage End with No 28. In fact the troughs continue along Crow Chin Rocks and eventually reaches the rarely visited trough 75. Only very determined grouse trough hunters reach number 75!

Over the years some of the numbering has been vandalised by chiseling away so as to deter visitors. A couple of troughs have disappeared completely.

Hallam 1–27 These begin near the Oaking Clough Conduit.

George received 7 shillings and 3 pence halfpenny for each trough. Some are very intricate and unique to this shooting estate.

Location 12 OS ref SK 24514 84414

Long Causeway

Contains "turned"



Long Causeway is what remains of an ancient packhorse road first laid out by Roman surveyors. This formed one of several moorland crossings between the Roman fort at Brough and the navigable river at Templeborough, Rotherham. In Roman times packhorses would have carried lead from Derbyshire mines, destined to be used as waterproof linings to the cisterns and aqueducts of Rome. The original packhorse trail was paved by stones pressed into the ground, and repaired regularly over the centuries. The areas of double flagstones (causeys) were a later addition to make smoother travel for carts. There were milestones, mostly disappeared.

The fenced boundary on the north side was until recently a dilapidated iron bar railing fence erected by the new moorland owner William Wilson, who bought the Moscar moorland shooting estate in 1897. The iron bar railings, and the post and wire fence which replaced them, had no access gates, but there are now three stiles.

Location 13 OS ref SK 24683 84427

Stanage Pole

Contains "chat"



Since 1550, and maybe earlier, a wooden pole has marked the boundary between South Yorkshire and Derbyshire, and is a useful landmark for travelers on this packhorse trail. The tall wooden pole is high enough to always be seen above snowdrifts. It is one of two wooden posts on the Eastern Moors. The current pole was re-erected in 2016. The rocks below have carvings by road surveyors, giving their initials and dates the pole was replaced, and considerable graffiti.

Stanage Pole is a trig point but not the common white concrete pillar type. It is a pre-existing structure used by the OS surveyors and called an 'Intersected Point'. Other types of 'Intersected Points' are church spires, chimneys and flagstaffs, none of which require a concrete pillar.



Stanedge Lodge stands on the bleak moorland to the north of Stanage Pole. It is a purpose built 'shooting box' and summer house which started life as Lumley Lodge in the 18th century. In the 1851 census it was still known as Lumley Lodge. In 1869 Sheffield solicitor BP Broomhead bought Lumley Lodge and extended it and renamed it Stanedge Lodge. A smaller building was built on the one mile long access drive, named Fairthorn Lodge, close to Fairthorn Green farm at Redmires Upper Reservoir, at the corner of Long Causeway. This lodge was used as servants quarters for Stanedge Lodge.

Twelve years later Broomhead Cotton Fox, possibly related, bought Stanedge Lodge and Moors in 1881. Twelve years later again, in 1893 he sold the shooting estate back to the Duke of Norfolk.

William Wilson acquired Stanedge Lodge and the Moscar shooting estate from the Duke of Norfolk in 1897. It was soon a very grand eight bedroomed country house, only occupied in summer and the grouse season. It was never a farm, and neither was Fairthorn Lodge which might explain why they were not demolished by Sheffield Water Works.

In 1981 Brian Hardy bought the semi-derelict Stanedge Lodge for £50,000 and ran it as a clay pigeon shoot for Sheffield Shooting Club. They were not interested in grouse but made a lot of noise shooting clay pigeons. Hardy had a Morgan sports car dealership in Sheffield. These classic cars were hand built on a wooden frame from 1935, and the design has hardly changed since. They are renowned for a very low body and hard suspension and the one mile access drive to Stanage Lodge must have been a severe trial of the suspension of many Morgan sports cars.

Hardie never completed his intended project to modernize Stanedge Lodge, but he did install a very large Aga in the huge kitchen, making this the warmest room in the house.

15 years later a renamed 'Stanage Lodge' changed hands again and was extensively refurbished. A wind turbine was erected in 2005.

In summer 2021 a 'For Sale' sign was placed at Stanage Pole. The asking price was £2,000,000. Buyers were advised to note that the property had no mains water, electricity or gas.

Location 14 OS ref SK 24897 84635

Scots pine survivors on Stanedge plantation corner - gate

Contains "bench"



When Redmires reservoirs were built, all farm dwellings were cleared from the water catchment. Conifer woodlands were planted in the 1840s. In the next 180 years some were felled for timber, others blew down in gales, most recently in 2017.

These stunted pine are not relics of the original plantings but may be around 100 years old. They are standing in the south-west corner of one of the enclosed fields of Fairthorn Green farm. The prevailing wind direction is from the south-west, and these trees have faced many storms in their lifetime. All their weaker neighbouring trees blew down in 2017.

Location 15 OS ref SK 25005 84800

Lords Seat access track gate stoops

Contains "caller"



The earliest farm at Redmires was Fairthorn Green. This farm dates from 1791. It originally had a large enclosed field alongside Long Causeway awarded by the 1791 Enclosure Act. This was subsequently subdivided into seven smaller fields. Lord's Seat Farm had an access track south through the walled fields of Fairthorn Green to the Long Causeway. Beyond that was open moorland grazing for sheep and cattle.

These fields were later planted as conifer plantations by Sheffield Water Works in the 1840s, felled and replanted in the early 1900s, again in the 1950s and again felled and replanted in 2017.

These gate stoops mark one of the field boundaries on the track to Lord's Seat.

Until the woods were felled in 2015 it was possible to follow a boundary wall along a line of Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*) which was said to have been planted by Lord's Seat farm. This is not a common tree and not one of the tree species planted by Sheffield Water Works in the 1840s.

Western Red Cedar is a good evergreen windbreak for exposed uplands. The avenue ran all the way from Lord's Seat farm to this gate, visible from Long Causeway. It may have been deliberately planted sometime after 1791 as a windbreak for visitors to Lord's Seat Farm. Some of the gate stoops were finely carved and suggested rather more importance than a simple farm track. Was this the route taken by worshippers to the non conformist chapel?

Location 16 OS ref SK 25632 85145

Fairthorn Green

Contains "tame"



Steelworks owner Daniel Doncaster lived for a time at Fairthorn Green, sometimes called Fairthorn Lodge. His address in 1905 is given as Fairthorn Lodge Redmires, and in 1909 Mr & Mrs Doncaster held a business meeting of the South Yorkshire Good Templars with 200 guests in a marquee in the grounds of Fairthorn Lodge, overlooking the reservoir and open moorland.

Daniel Doncaster died in 1912. In 1915 his estate of the three bedroom Fairthorn Green Lodge and Farm, and a small grouse moor, were sold at auction. Fairthorn Green was suggested as a small shooting box, but was subsequently demolished, probably due to concerns about water contamination within the reservoir catchment.

He is sometimes wrongly cited as having built or extended Stanedge Lodge.