

# **Chapter 06: Scheduled Monuments**

## **Scheduled Monuments (SAM)**

'Scheduling' is the term given to the process in which nationally important sites and monuments are given legal protection by being placed on a list, or 'schedule', similar to that used for Listed Buildings. The schedule has been running since 1882, and has some 200 different classes of monument (whereas Listed Buildings have just 3). There are over 18,000 entries on the schedule, and over a thousand sites are added annually.

The preservation of SAMs takes precedence over other Land Use issues, and this may sometimes lead to conflicts. The legislation used to protect these sites and monuments is the "Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979". The process of scheduling is the only legal protection specifically for archaeological sites.

The word 'monument' covers a wide range of archaeological sites, and confusingly, scheduled monuments are not always ancient! As such, the word "ancient" has been dropped. Sometimes they may be complete structures, and sometimes they may be buried beneath the ground. However, all of the scheduled sites are of great importance, and are given much greater protection than Listed Buildings.

Scheduled Monuments range from prehistoric standing stones and burial mounds, castles, monasteries, and abandoned villages, through to more recent sites such as collieries and wartime pillboxes. Scheduling is only applied to sites of national importance, and even then only if it is the best means of protection (alternatives may include Listing a building, or developing a culture of archaeological recognition and management).

As with Listed Buildings, English Heritage takes the lead in identifying sites which could be included on the schedule, however the final decision rests with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

### **Criteria for national importance**

Decisions on whether to schedule sites are made in the context of criteria laid down by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, covering the basic characteristics of monuments. These are:

- extent of survival
- current condition
- rarity
- representivity, either through diversity or because of one important attribute
- importance of the period to which the monument dates
- fragility
- connection to other monuments, or group value
- potential to contribute to our information, understanding and appreciation
- extent of documentation enhancing the monument's significance

= these are assessed in the context of national importance

A scheduled monument is protected against disturbance or unlicensed metal detecting and the Secretary of State must be informed about any work which might affect a monument above or below ground. In assessing each application the Secretary of State will ensure that damage is not done to the monument, and any effects from the work are kept to a minimum. Written consent from the Secretary of State must always be obtained before any work can begin on or near a monument, and in many cases planning permission will be required too. Some types of work, generally related to existing agricultural practices, are allowed to continue without consent.

It is illegal to

- damage a scheduled monument by carrying out works without consent
- damage a monument through reckless or deliberate action
- use a metal detector or remove an object found with one without a licence from English Heritage

upon conviction, offenders may face severe fines.

English Heritage employs wardens who can offer more detailed advice on how to manage monuments, which may be through simple maintenance or thorough repair. In addition, there is a range of incentive schemes for owners, including schemes organised by the Department for the Environment, Food and rural Affairs who oversee the Environmental Stewardship. English Heritage also awards grants to assist in major repair projects.

There are 8 SAMs within Stockton Borough compared with 1,384 throughout the North East region (in 2004). Below is a list of those 8 SAMs;

**Castlelevington:**

Castle Hill

Monument No: 8



**Grindon Church**  
Grindon:  
Monument No:18



**Barwick medieval village**  
Ingleby Barwick:, 50m NE of Barwick Farm  
Monument No: 28569



**Round Hill Castle mound and bailey**

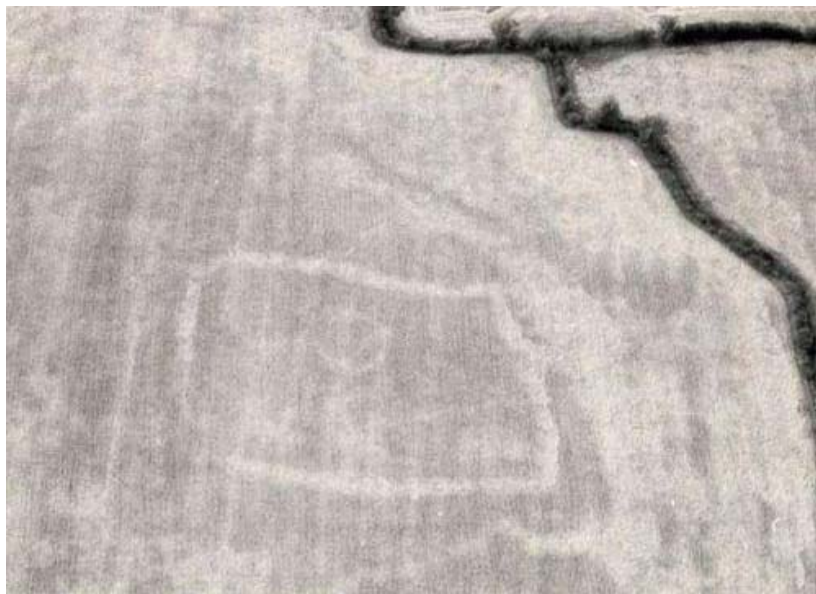
Monument No: 21



**Larberry Pastures settlement site**

Longnewton:

Monument No: 34



**Newsham Deserted mediaeval village**

Newsham:

Monument No: 29



**Stockton Market Cross**

Stockton:

Monument No: 20



**Yarm Bridge**

Yarm:

Monument No: 28

