

## 8. Glaisdale

### 8.1 Location, Landscape Context and Setting

Glaisdale is a hillside village, located on the southern side of Esk Dale, at the mouth of the Glaisdale valley. There is a difference in height of approximately 100m between the lowest part of the village (in the Esk Dale valley floor, by the station) and the highest part (at the western end, near the moorland edge).

The village is surrounded by enclosed farmland and valley-side woodland, with unenclosed moorland extending close to the edge of the village. Therefore, although Glaisdale is located within the Central Valley Landscape Type (LCT 8), its setting is also influenced by Moorland Dale (LCT 2) and Moorland (LCT 1).

### 8.2 Settlement form and character

Glaisdale is a polyfocal settlement with a very dispersed form. Different parts of the village have different names (e.g. Carr End; Lower Under Hill; The Green) reflecting their separate origins as a series of farms, or possibly common-edge settlements, which have gradually merged to form a single village. This has resulted in a very permeable settlement, with low density of buildings, an open feel, and lots of views out. Carr End, in the valley floor at the eastern end of the village, still feels detached, but the other cores have merged to varying degrees. There is still a very strong agricultural influence on village character, with farms, farm buildings, fields and livestock all present, especially at the edges of the village.

The 1857 Ordnance Survey map shows the road pattern largely as it is now, but with fewer houses. In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century ironstone quarries opened nearby, and the village expanded from its agricultural origins to accommodate miners. Several slate-roofed terraces of miners' cottages were constructed at Carr End, along the High Street, and at Glaisdale End and remnants of the ironstone industry remains, most visibly the old powder house just off Upper Under Hill Road. New village facilities included the school (1870s) and the Village Hall (1914).

There has been some 20<sup>th</sup> Century (and later) infill development, including individual properties, a close of council houses, a small bungalow estate at Park View, and some more recent affordable housing. This has increased the building density in some parts of the village, but the dispersed form and views out are still retained. Other small features such as the local-stone kerbs, the lack of formal parking, the wide verges and the stone walls all add to the rural character of the village.

### 8.3 Key views, approaches and gateways

The upper parts of Glaisdale village are high on the hillside, and can be seen over a long distance. Because of its location and orientation, Glaisdale village has a much stronger visual connection with Esk Dale than with Glaisdale valley. It is seen across Esk Dale from the north, and also along the Dale, particularly from the east.

The frequent views out across Esk Dale, seen along roads and between houses, are one of the most distinctive features of the village. These create a constant awareness of the setting, and create a

strong sense of place. Glaisdale village can be approached by road from the east, west and south, and from a path over the moors (part of Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk) from the south-west. In all cases, the approach to the village is very gradual, reflecting the dispersed form of the settlement and low-density nature of development. This makes it difficult to identify clear village gateways. The key differences in the approaches are in their elevations.

From the east, the approach is from the valley floor, past the station and historic 'beggar's bridge'. The road climbs past the pub and terraced cottages at Carr End, before climbing and bending around into the higher part of the village. In this approach, the higher part of the village is seen on the valley side, in a setting of fields and woodland.

From the west, the approach is much more elevated, past a series of dispersed farms and agricultural buildings with long views between them across Esk Dale to Lealholm Moor on the opposite side of the valley.

From the south, along Glaisdale valley, the approach is also very open, with scattered houses and farms. The school is elevated above the road and therefore not visible. The church is a landmark building and creates a stronger sense of arrival on this approach.

The moorland track from the south-west passes scattered houses and Glaisdale Hall before reaching newer development at Park View near the centre of the village.

## 8.4 Settlement edges

Settlement edges are very variable. Often there is no clear edge to the village, with fields running right up to the roads, allowing long views out and a strong sense of permeability. Older properties (mostly farms) do not have edges as such, and some buildings at Lower Underhill back on to woodland. Newer estates are bounded by a mix of garden fences, hedges and walls.

## 8.5 Heritage and nature conservation sites

There are a small number of Listed Buildings, mostly on the peripheries of the village. These include the church, farms, farm buildings and Glaisdale Hall. There are also remnants of the ironstone mining industry – the powder house just off Upper Under Hill Road, and former bridge abutments and piers.

A tree at the junction of High Street at Glaisdale Hall Lane is covered by a Tree Protection Order.

## 8.6 Summary of key elements and features which may be sensitive to development

- The sense of permeability: low density of buildings and lots of views out into the wider landscape, particularly on the north side of the village.
- The agricultural character of the village and its 'undesigned' feel.
- The sloping fields in the centre of the village which are visible over a wide area to the north and east.
- The gradual approaches to the village; new hard village edges should be avoided.

- The nearby moorland and ancient woodland habitats.
- Protected trees; Listed Buildings and their settings.



The upper part of Glaisdale as seen from Carr End, nearer the valley floor

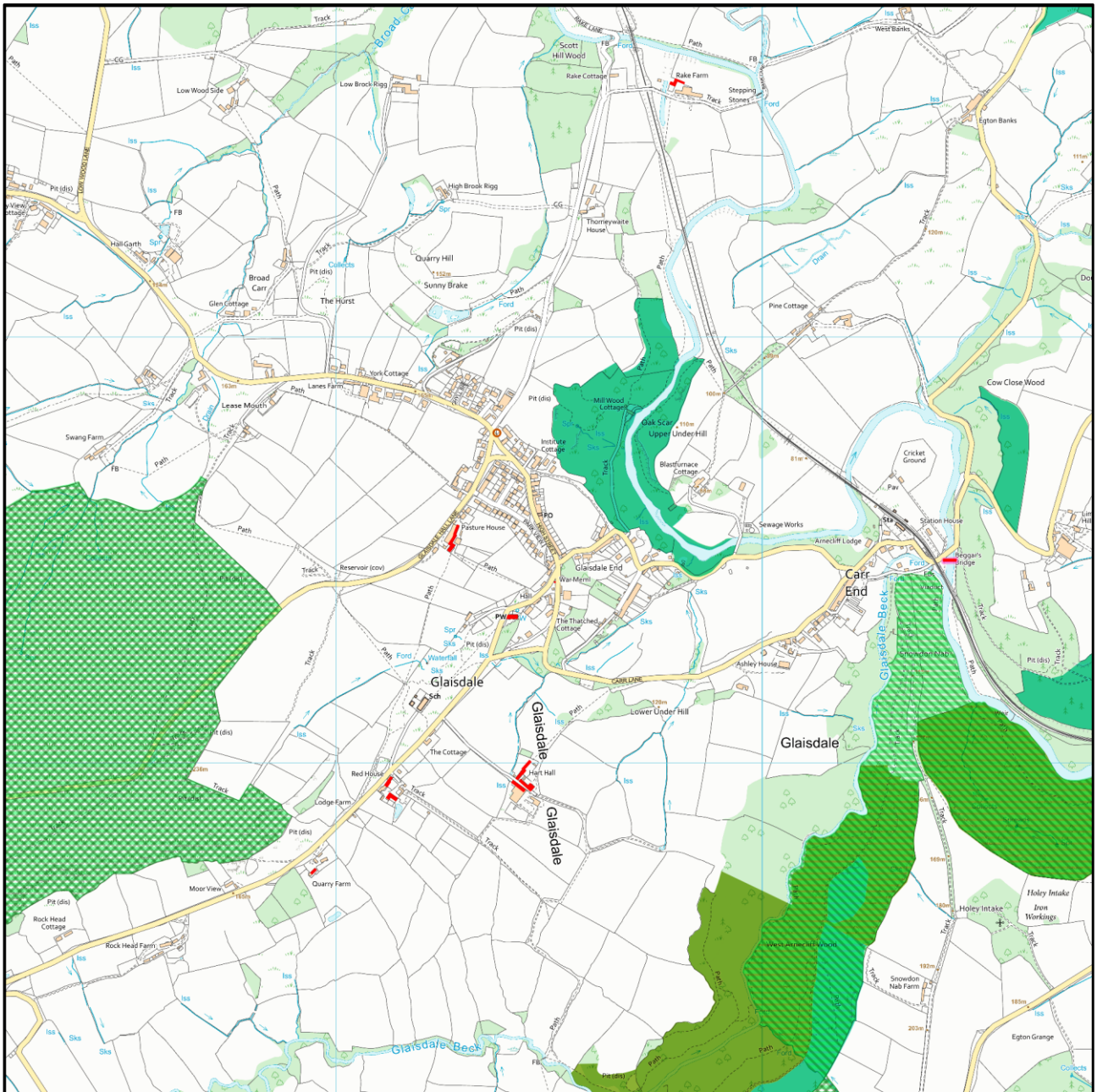


View into Lower Under Hill, with Esk Dale beyond



Agricultural buildings, fields and stone walls on the approach to Glaisdale from the west





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## North York Moors Landscape Character Assessment Update 2021

Settlement Sensitivity Study  
Glaisdale



500 m

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|---|--|---|
|  Scheduled Monuments |  Special Areas of Conservation        |  Ancient Semi-natural Woodlands        |
|  Listed Buildings    |  Special Protection Areas             |  Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites |
|   |  Sites of Special Scientific Interest |  Tree Preservation Orders              |

Map showing designated sites in Glaisdale and its environs