



14 BOUNDARY SURVEY

... some of these markers ... also served as marker stones for demarcating peat cuttings.

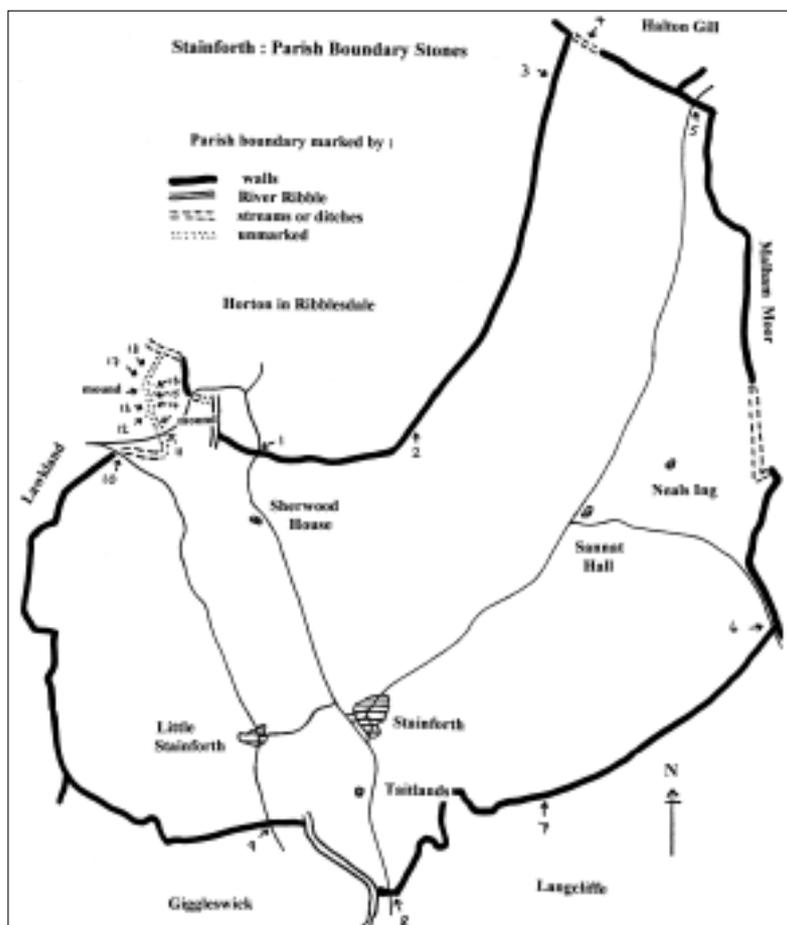
A complete field survey of the Stainforth parish boundary was carried out in July 1999 to:

1. Check the status of the parish boundary, identifying whether the boundary was made up of walls, ditches, watercourses or is unmarked on the ground.
2. Check the status of stone boundary markers. To this end, 19th century editions of the Ordnance Survey maps were consulted, along with the Tithe map.
3. Compare the situation today with what was found during the 1978 *Yorkshire Boundary Survey Project* (source: YAS.DD224/3/63).
4. Record in slide and print form all the boundary markers that were identified.
5. Produce a simple report, copies to be deposited with:
 - Stainforth Parish Millennium archive;
 - North Craven Heritage Trust;
 - *Wayside Features* archive;
 - Yorkshire Dales National Park *Local Historical Features* archive.

The survey was carried out by David Johnson.

Introduction

In some cases, the parish or township boundary follows natural features such as the River Ribble at Helwith Bridge and near the paper mill, or the unnamed stream north of Sherwood House at New Barn. In other sections, dykes were cut to mark the boundary, for example around Fornah Gill and in the Swarth Moor and Helwith Bridge area. The majority of the boundary follows stonewalls—most of these were erected during the Enclosure period—which means that, prior to their construction, the boundary followed other features. An example of this can be seen where the parish boundary crosses Long Lane at the northern extremity of the parish. The boundary now follows enclosure walls north and south of Long Lane, but a ditch and bank feature can be clearly seen parallel to the walls, extending along the boundary where walls were not erected. On Swarth Moor, an area formerly utilised as township peat cuttings, the basins of which can be identified on the ground as particularly boggy areas, it was not possible to build



walls. The northern boundary follows a major dyke, but the rest of the boundary—here with the parish of Lawkland—is unmarked except for a series of stone markers and artificial mounds. An early map marks six stones and three mounds, but the field survey identified seven stones and two mounds.

Wherever the parish boundary crossed a highway stone markers were erected, probably sometime in the later 19th century, with the names of the two parishes engraved onto the front face of each stone. Maps suggest that Stainforth once had 12 such marker stones on road crossings: the field survey identified ten in position. Four of the markers at road crossings are sited on what are now tracks or ‘green lanes’, former highways that went out of common usage as through routes for modern traffic. These highways are

Long Lane, Moorhead Lane and Goat Scar Lane.

One road crossing—Silverdale Road at Dale Head—was marked by a medieval cross base (Ulfkil Cross).

The total length of the parish boundary is 20.96km (13.1 miles).

Each stone marker has been given a reference number to enable cross-reference with the base map and with the photographic record. Each marker is shown on the following pages with annotations concerning the stone itself and the nature of the boundary between it and the next stone.

The decision to start at New Barn and then to proceed clockwise was purely arbitrary.

**B.ST./STA./01 SD 8137 6905 ON THE B6479 HELWITH BRIDGE
TO STAINFORTH ROAD**

This is a flat slab of local slate standing on the Stainforth-Horton boundary opposite New Barn. It was marked as missing in the 1978 survey, probably because it does not stand on the parish boundary. When the road was widened in the mid-1970s, the stone was resited wrongly, about ten metres north of the boundary. The stone is in good condition.

HORTON STAINFORTH

From this stone the parish boundary follows an unnamed stream, paralleled by an enclosure wall to Grid Reference SD 8200 6903, then follows walls to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./02 SD 8239 6923 ON MOORHEAD LANE

This is a flat slab of local slate standing parallel to, rather than across, the parish boundary between Stainforth and Horton. The stone is in good condition.

STAINFORTH HORTON

From this stone the boundary follows walls to SD 8328 7155, then a ditch and bank feature to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./03 SD 8330 7161 ON LONG LANE

This stone is missing, and was recorded as such in the 1978 survey. The boundary continues as a ditch and bank to pick up a wall at SD 8331 7165 that the ditch parallels to SD 8338 7187. From there it continues as a ditch to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./04 SD 8348 7185 ON LONG LANE

This is a single slab of local slate opposite Churn Milk Hole on the Arncliffe-Stainforth boundary. The stone is in good condition, although the Stainforth half of the slab is slightly askew a result of the pull of gravity on the slope.

STAINFORTH ARNCLIFFE

The boundary runs along a ditch to Churn Milk Hole, beyond which it follows walls to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./05 SD 8424 7138 ON SILVERDALE ROAD

The boundary marker here was Ulfkil Cross, first recorded in the Fountains Abbey Chartulary in 1206. The stone base with its cut recess survives intact and is in remarkably good condition. It originally stood at the roadside, but was moved by the local farmer to a more secure position nearby within the last few years. The boundary then follows walls to Fornah Gill at SD 8460 6945, then a dyke to SD 8467 6894, and again walls to join the Henside Road. It follows the wall along the north side of the road to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./06 SD 8496 6794 ON HENSIDE ROAD

The boundary stone stood by the cattle grid near the entrance to Westside House farm, but was marked as missing in the 1978 survey. The boundary then follows walls to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./07 SD 8322 6682 ON GOAT SCAR LANE

The marker stone here, just within Langcliffe parish adjacent to the field gate on the lane, is also parallel to the boundary rather than across it. It consisted of flat local slate slabs, but the Stainforth half of the stone is missing. In the 1978 survey this was described as 'broken'.

(STAINFORTH) LANGCLIFFE

The boundary then follows walls to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./08 SD 8227 6617 ON THE B6479 LANGCLIFFE TO STAINFORTH ROAD

This marker stone—flat local slate slabs—is set alongside the gable end of a small stone building on the roadside, next to the former level crossing entrance to the Hoffmann kiln site. The marker stone is in good condition.

STAINFORTH LANGCLIFFE

The boundary follows walls to join the River Ribble at SD 8219 6608, then follows the centre of the river to SD 8167 6663, and finally a wall to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./09 SD 8153 6660 ON STAINFORTH LANE

This marker stone consists of flat slabs of local slate set on the roadside across the parish boundary. The stone is in good condition.

GIGGLESWICK STAINFORTH

The boundary then follows a series of walls over Smearsett and Pot Scars to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./10 SD 8054 6906 ON THE DRY RIGG TO LITTLE STAINFORTH ROAD

This marker stone, on Sunny Bank, consists of flat slabs of local slate set across the boundary. The marker stone is in good condition apart from slight slippage of the Stainforth slab.

STAINFORTH LAWKLAND

The boundary initially continues as a weak ditch and bank feature, but is then unmarked as it traverses the slope down to the next marker stone.

B.ST./STA./11 SD 8077 6917 ON THE DRY RIGG TO HELWITH BRIDGE ROAD

This marker stone consists of very low set, flat slabs of local slate on the road-side verge on the south side of the road. The marker stone is in good condition.

STAINFORTH LAWKLAND

The boundary then cuts across Swarth Moor.

B.ST./STA./12—18 SWARTH MOOR

The parish boundary with Lawkland across Swarth Moor is unmarked on the ground except for a series of earth mounds and stone markers, as shown on the base map. In sequence, these are:

1. earth mound (SD 8076 6920);
2. rough hewn and thin slate slab, 70cm tall (SD 8065 6924). On the Lawkland face the capital letters TBC are engraved. B.St./Sta./12;
3. rough hewn and thin slate slab, 80cm tall (SD 8067 6938) with no engraving. B.St./Sta./13;
4. rough hewn and thin slate slab, 82cm tall (SD 8067 6945) with no engraving. B.St./Sta./14;
5. rough hewn and thin slate slab, 45cm tall (SD 8065 6946) with the letters JHS engraved on one face. B.St./Sta./15;
6. rough-hewn, thin and very narrow slate slab, 80cm tall (SD 8064 6950) with no engraving. B.St./Sta./16;
7. earth mound (SD 8059 6951);
8. rough hewn, thin slate slab, 50cm tall (SD 8061 6955) with no engraving. B.St./Sta./17;
9. rough hewn and thin slate slab, 60cm tall (SD 8063 6960) with no engraving. B.St./Sta./18.

It is probable that some of these markers, especially Nos. 2 and 5, also served as marker stones for demarcating peat cuttings. It may or may not be coincidence that peat markers corresponded with the parish boundary.

From this point the boundary is unmarked as far as Combs Dyke at SD 8073 6974. It then follows the dyke to meet a wall at SD 8085 6973 and then follows walls, with a ditch for the last few metres, to the next boundary marker stone.

**B.ST./STA./19 SD 8098 6944 ON THE DRY RIGG TO HELWITH
BRIDGE ROAD**

This marker stone consists of flat slabs of local slate. The stone is in good condition, though the Stainforth slab has lost its apex and the letter S. It is sited on the roadside by the boundary ditch immediately west of the row of former quarry cottages, opposite the entrance to the picnic site.

STAINFORTH HORTON

From here the boundary originally followed a small stream, called Lack Water to the River Ribble, but most of the ditch has been obliterated by later industrial activity and is now unmarked. The boundary follows the Ribble from SD 8114 6937 to SD 8116 6910, thereafter following an unnamed stream with adjacent wall to B.St./Sta./01.