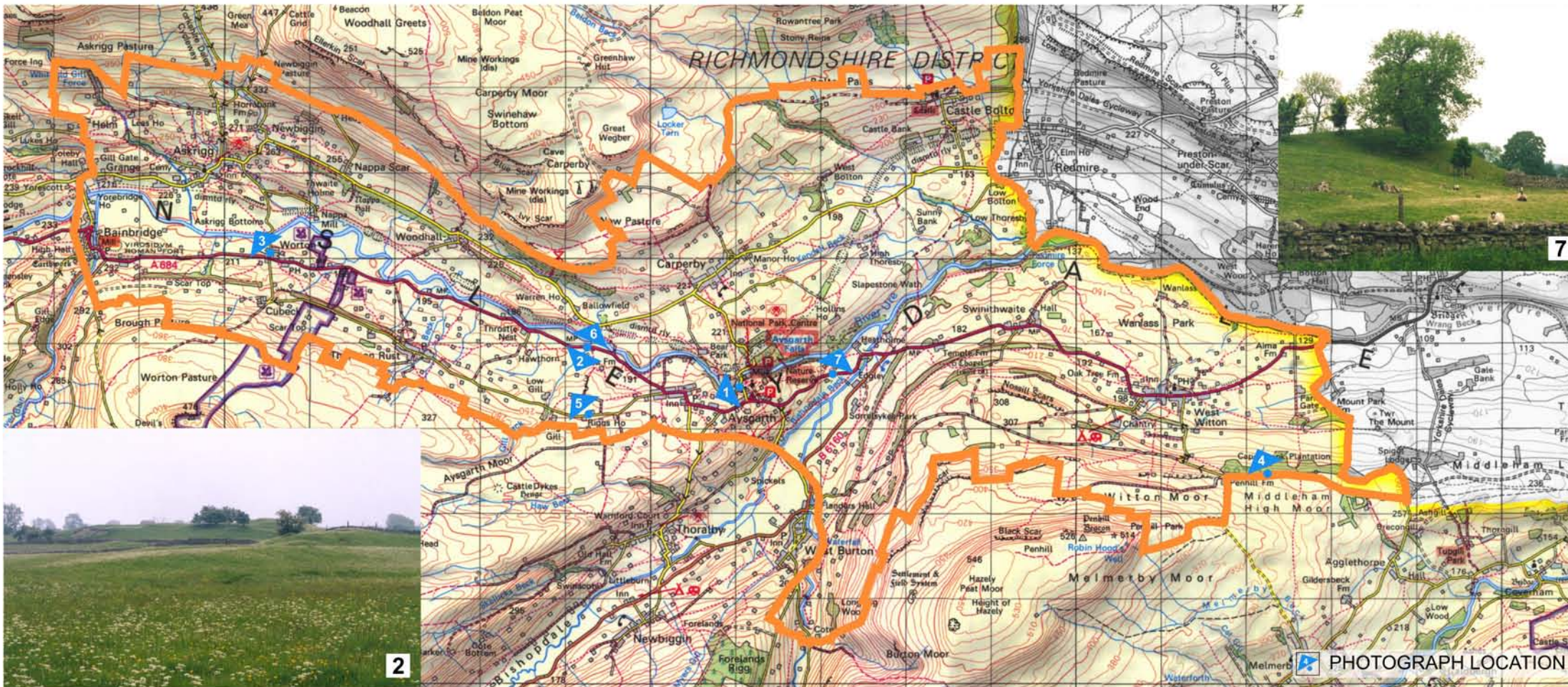
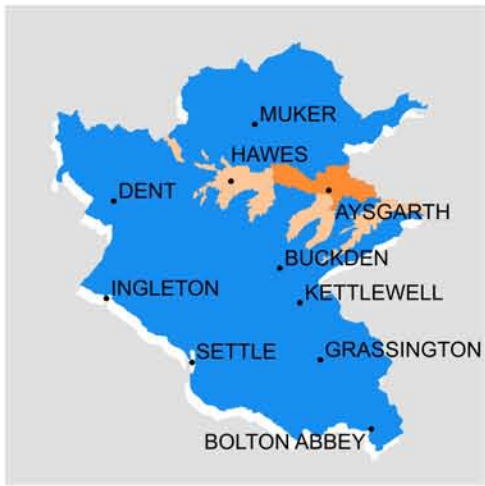


YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK



KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Very broad, large scale, open u-shaped glacial valley, overlying Great Scar limestone and with valley sides formed by rocks of the Yoredale series, forming the lower reaches of Wensleydale.
- Distinctive stepped valley side profile. Horizontal banded stepped outcrops of rocks combined with strips of woodland and screes are a strong visual feature on both sides of the valley.
- Hummocky valley floor with moraines and drumlins give small-scale local enclosure within the valley.
- Wide, gently meandering river, dropping significantly in height east of Aysgarth, with platformed waterfalls forming focal points along its course. Generally wooded and relatively hidden from view within the wider context of the valley.
- Two significant tributary valleys with their own distinctive characters (Bishopdale and Waldendale). The many smaller tributary gills become insignificant within the overall scale of the valley.
- Extensive vegetation generally concentrated on lower valley side slopes and valley floor. Copses and scattered trees on top of hillocks, trees associated with the river, and strong horizontal bands of woodland associated with limestone scars mid-way up the valley sides.
- Strong parkland character at eastern end of the dale with roadside trees a feature of this area.
- Several major villages with distinctive, linear form, constructed from local stone with stone flag roofs. Evidence of infill with modern styles, rendering and gentrification.
- Strong tourism element with provision of Bed and Breakfast establishments, teashops, holiday cottages and car/coach parks.
- Field pattern screened by rolling landform and vegetation varies considerably; generally smaller fields adjacent to settlements becoming larger and more irregular higher up the valley sides
- Field boundaries formed by a mixture of drystone walls and hedgerows and some post and wire fence infill. Generally screened by landform and vegetation, mostly improved pasture with large areas of hay meadows.
- Major tourist/historical attractions at Aysgarth Falls and Bolton Castle. Many other historical sites of interest within the area.
- Distant views of moorland tops to either side of the valley but not a strong influence due to grand scale of immediate river valley.