



## **Resilient Landscapes - applying archaeological survey and understanding to holistic Nature Recovery**

Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November 2026

**Memorial Hall, Pickering & the North York Moors National Park**

The Landscape Survey Group's 2026 conference will combine a day of in-person presentations followed by a field visit to the North York Moors on the second day.

The diverse landscapes of the North York Moors provide a fitting backdrop to this year's LSG conference and its theme *Resilient Landscapes*. A huge moorland wildfire across the central area in 2025 brought this topic centre stage, and local historic environment and conservation teams are working hard to record the impacts, mitigate the damage and prepare for the future. We look forward to welcoming you to North Yorkshire where this place-based decision-making can be seen in practice.

### **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

09.00 for 09.45 Pickering Memorial Hall, Potter Hill, YO18 8AA (Whistler Room, Ground floor)

Andrew Burn (Historic England) and Miles Johnson (North Yorks Moors NPA) *Introduction*

Susie Green (UCL) *Using Convolutional Neural Networks to Map the Fylingdales Fire Site*

Miles Johnson (NYMNP) *Fylingdales After Fire: What Can Landscape Archaeology Tell Us About Recovery?*

Lawrence Shaw & Emma Stockley (Forestry England) *Reading the Landscape to Shape the Future: Using Archaeological Survey to Inform Wild Core Areas, Woodland Creation and Biodiversity Recovery on Forestry England Land*

Dr Nick Pepper (Northumberland National Park) *Sustainable Farming as Part of the Hadrian's Wall Wetlands Landscape Recovery Project*

Ian Cooper & Andy Curtis (Tyneside Archaeology Group) and Dr Jane Harrison & Sarah Miles (Community Archaeology North CIC) *Landscape Survey and Community-focused, Research-driven Excavation as Part of Nature Recovery at Greenlee Lough in the Northumberland National Park*

Paul Murtagh (Archaeology Scotland) *Co-Designing Landscape Futures: Community Archaeology Across Rural and Post-Industrial Scotland*

Lunch and refreshments included in conference fee.

Nick Overton (Oxford Archaeology) *Landscapes of Opportunity: How Archaeological Sites and Knowledge Can Positively Contribute to Nature Recovery*

Janine Young (National Trust/Fearn Heritage) *Learning from the Past to Shape the Future: Archaeology as Opportunity, not Constraint*

Hannah Brown (AOC Archaeology) *Impacts and Opportunities: Landscape-scale Archaeology and Nature Restoration in the Yorkshire Dales*

Dr Emma Stockley (Forestry England / Institute for Environmental Futures, University of Leicester), Dr Laura Basell (Institute for Environmental Futures, University of Leicester), Dr Lee Bray (Dartmoor National Park Authority), Professor Henry Chapman (University of Birmingham) *Predicting and Protecting Lithic Landscapes on Dartmoor*

Clemency Cooper (University of York) *Scene Setting for Scenario Planning: How Can Time Depth Inform Visions of a More Resilient Future?*

Fiona Fyfe *Landscape Character Assessment: Where it all comes together*

Panel discussion and concluding remarks 16.30 to 17.30, followed by wine reception.

Optional evening conference dinner (Venue TBC please express interest).

## **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

Coach trip to Fylingdales Moor and Levisham 09.15 from Pickering with return by 16.45

The morning field trip will visit Sneaton High Moor to explore the archaeological remains of the Second World War bombing decoys and consider how this military landscape has survived within the moorland and in the wake of the recent wildfire. The visit will also look at recent conservation work to the prehistoric cross dyke on John's Cross Rigg, undertaken following the 2025 wildfire, providing an opportunity to discuss the impacts of fire, approaches to archaeological recording and subsequent recovery on vulnerable upland archaeology.

In the afternoon, we will walk across Levisham Moor to Rhumbard Snout, ahead of the Linking Levisham nature recovery project. The route crosses a remarkably rich historic landscape, taking in prehistoric field systems alongside medieval and later iron-working sites, settlement and pillow mounds. The walk will provide an opportunity to consider recent work undertaken by the NYMNPA and how understanding the development of this complex landscape can inform future nature recovery and conservation.

Both walks will be across open moorland, using established tracks with some short but fairly steep gradients at the outset of each walk. Waterproof jacket, warm clothing and walking boots will be essential. Coach included in conference fee but please bring a packed lunch.

**Costs: Both days £30 for LSG members, £45 non-members; Friday only £25 LSG members, £30 non-members: Saturday field trip only (if accompanying a Friday delegate) £15**

Please email LSG's event officer Nathalie Barrett at [landscapesurveygroup@gmail.com](mailto:landscapesurveygroup@gmail.com) for any event information. There is still space for posters or displays that address the theme of the conference, please get in touch to express an interest. Bursaries to assist towards the cost of attendance are also still available. For information about the LSG or to join the group please visit <https://landscapesurvey.org/> or find us on socials #LSG2026.