

## Ancient Monuments in this township

1926 List

### SHAP AND SWINDALE

*Stone circle* etc. :—The " Shap Stones," described in 18th cent.(N. & B. i, 477) as an avenue more than ½m. long, terminated with a circle, 18 ft. diam. Six large stones remain of the circle at Shapsey (½m. S. of railway station) close to the railway on the W., and great stones also at Bracken byre near the Greyhound Inn and at " Karl Lofts," W. of the station and thence in a line running W. of N. to the Goggleby stone, W. of the Grammar School; the tumulus, W. of the church; and the Thunder Stone, 1¼m. N.W. of the station (R. S. Ferguson, o.s. xv, 27).

#### *Tumuli:*

- (a) " Staniraise," near Selside pike, interment and urns (*A. J.* xviii, 33, quoted in Ferguson's *Survey*).
- (b) Tumuli in Ralfland forest, ⅔m. S. of Tailbert (o.s. iii, 253). [The Giant's Grave in Ralfland on the Mardale corpse road is said to be modern (o.s. viii, 118).]
- (c) Double circle, 106 ft. diam., tumulus and cist in centre, S.W. of Gunnerkeld (Greenwell, *Brit. Barrows*, 382; C. W. Dymond, o.s. iv, 537; vi, 177).
- (d) Ring-mounds and enclosures W. of Shap Wells (o.s. iii, 253).

#### *Shap Abbey,*

- (a) St. Mary Magdalene's, Premonstratensian, founded c. 1199 (Canon Weston, o.s. x, 286). Abbey church built c. 1200-1270; extended 14th and 15th cent.; W. tower c. 1500 (still standing) . Remains of church and claustral buildings explored 1888 (W. H. St. John Hope, o.s. x, 298). Three graveslabs (N.s. ix, 2) .
- (b) Abbey Mill
- (c) Keld chapel, 15th cent. (Rev. J. Whiteside, o.s. xv, 142).
- (d) Shap church, earlier than the abbey (N. & B. i, 468) ; in 1540 St. Michael's. S. aisle arcade before 1150; two windows on the N. side are old. Church partly rebuilt 1899 (Rev. J. Whiteside, N.S. ii, 118). Graveslab and two fragments (N.s. ix, 2).
- (e) Swindale chapel built before 1703; restored 1855, 1874. Glass of c. 1400 from Clifton church (Rev. J. Whiteside, N.S. i, 256).

#### *Domestic:*

- (a) Sleddale Grange, lintel of 1691 (N.s. 11, 128).
- (b) Hardendale, birthplace, 1645, of John Mill, editor of Greek New Testament (N. & B. i, 481).
- (c) Spa, Shap Wells, recently found in 1777 (N. & B. i, 481).

*Slate quarries*, Mosedale, " found out . . . not a century ago " (*ibid.* 479). "Slates from Shap," 1693 (N.s. xxiv, 16).

*Old roads:*

- (a) " Stayngate," Kendal-Shap-Brougham, *c.* 1257 (N.s. ix, 271).
- (b) Track to Swindale and Mardale. Grayrigg, by Roundthwaite, Birkbeck and Scales to Shap Thorn;
- (c) the turnpike road, Shap to Orton, after the Act of 1760 (J. F. Curwen, MS).

*Finds*

- (a) Stone celts, stone ring, jet ornament " near Shap (R. S. Ferguson, *Survey*, 45).
- (b) Roman coins, at the Brinns (Hodgson, *Northumberland*, quoted in Ferguson, *Survey*, 46).

See [Pastscape](#) for much more detail on these and more entries.