THE TEXT ON THE STONES

1

In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength

2

Down the dale feel the wet soggy dogs
which have just come out of the river
He's beautiful, golden, white fur, wild,
free, ready to come and go as he pleases

3

Still glides the stream, and shall forever glide
The form remains, the function never dies

4

In late May or June the farmers brought their sheep to wash
their fleeces in this deep pool, burbling, bumbling, bleating
The waters bleat like a flock of sheep it dipped
Dip your ghosts into this hard, cold merky place
Hear their bleat in the water's rush to escape
The foam like wool pulsates
Damp leaves nothing behind but the trees' readiness

5

But when I try to imagine a faultless love
Or the life to come, what I hear is the murmur
Of underground streams, what I see is a limestone landscape

6

Consult the Genius of the Place in all
That tells the Waters or to rise or fall

7

The peace of running water to you

8

To see a world in a grain of sand and a heaven in a wild flower,
hold infinity in the palm of your hand, and eternity in an hour

9

We meet to create memories and depart to cherish them

10

The road up and the road down are one and the same

11

left - right / quick - march / past - enough / earth - to spy
And beat - the bounds / breathless - death / ere - owns

12

Hvivs viae cvram cvratores viarvm non svscepervnt

13

Time, you old gipsy man, will you not stay
Put up you caravan just for one day?

14

Bright Under Green Limestone Edges
With Queen Ann Lace and Cranesbill in her Hedges

15

The rakes and spoils of man's hard toil, has shaped this land

16

A dull sky - Feel the cold - Touch the snow
A lonely landscape - Hear the wind,
See the hills - It's freezing cold and empty

17

Live as if you'll die tomorrow. Farm as if you'll live forever

SITES OF MEANING

Sites of Meaning is a millennium project of Middleton and Smerrill in the Derbyshire Peak. It marks the seventeen entrances to its parish with boundary stones, each inscribed with a text chosen by members of the parish. A public manifestation of private thoughts and feelings at the start of a new millennium.

Started in 1999 and completed in 2006, Sites of Meaning was run by a team of parishioners who raised funds, collected text for the inscriptions, commissioned stones from artists and masons and installed the finished boundary markers. Over two hundred people took part in Sites of Meaning including: the local schools and colleges and regional and national artists.

At first we developed a stone at a time, but as experience and confidence grew, larger projects were initiated. Both a Sculpture Residency in 2002 and Other Stones - Other Meanings worked with Youlgrave Primary School. InscribeNOW completed Sites of Meaning with a photographic residency and workshops, the generation of publicity and educational material, and a final celebration re-uniting all those who had worked on the project.

With seventeen boundary stones completed, an eighteenth stone, situated just off the village square, was commissioned by Middleton and Smerrill Parish Council. It acts as a compass for the whole project.

www.sitesofmeaning.org.uk

SITES OF MEANING

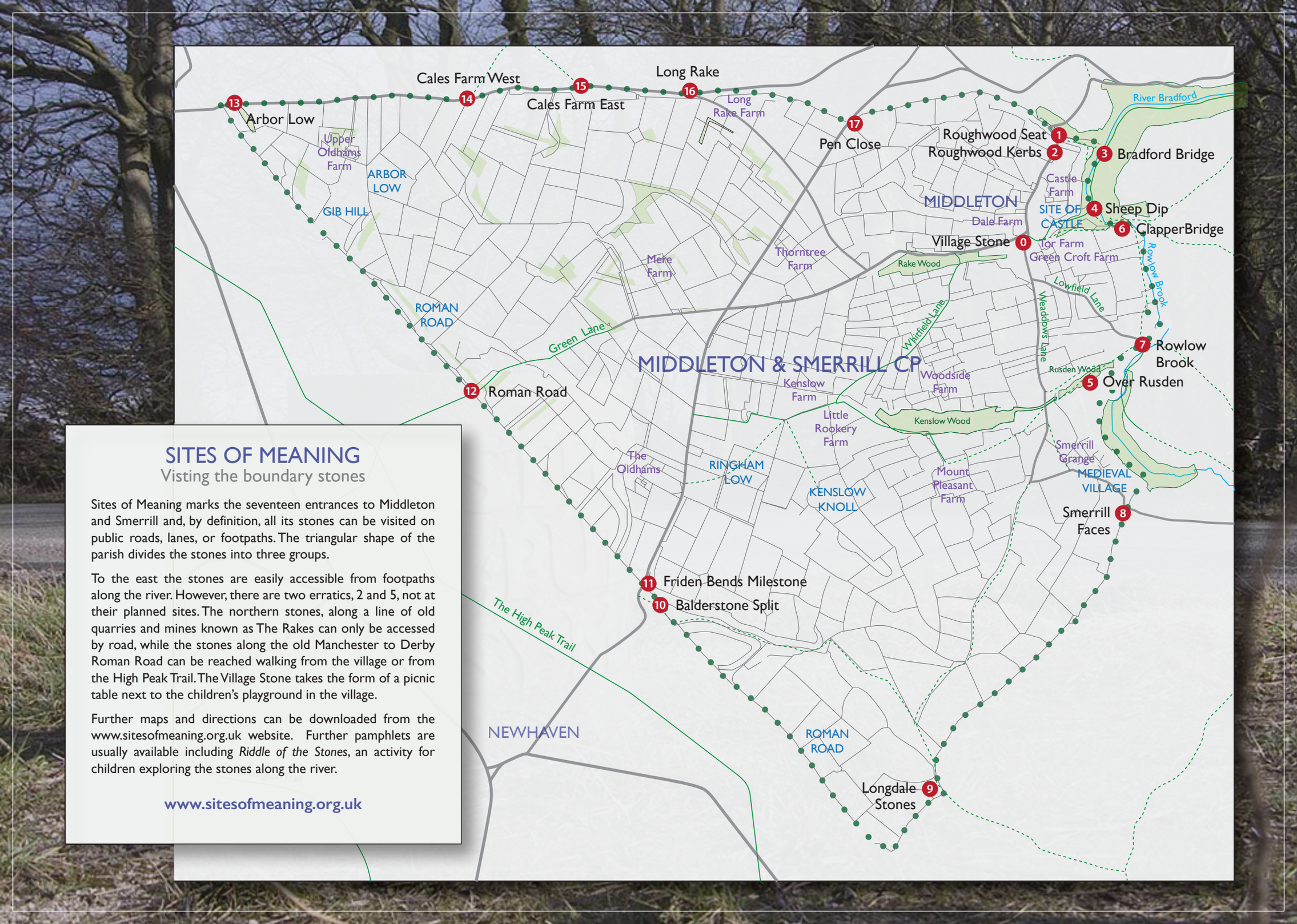
Marking the boundry of Middleton by Youlgrave

£1

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MIDDLETON BY WALKING

A walking activities for all the family



SITES OF MEANING

Visting the boundary stones

Sites of Meaning marks the seventeen entrances to Middleton and Smerrill and, by definition, all its stones can be visited on public roads, lanes, or footpaths. The triangular shape of the parish divides the stones into three groups.

To the east the stones are easily accessible from footpaths along the river. However, there are two erratics, 2 and 5, not at their planned sites. The northern stones, along a line of old quarries and mines known as The Rakes can only be accessed by road, while the stones along the old Manchester to Derby Roman Road can be reached walking from the village or from the High Peak Trail. The Village Stone takes the form of a picnic table next to the children's playground in the village.

Further maps and directions can be downloaded from the www.sitesofmeaning.org.uk website. Further pamphlets are usually available including *Riddle of the Stones*, an activity for children exploring the stones along the river.

www.sitesofmeaning.org.uk