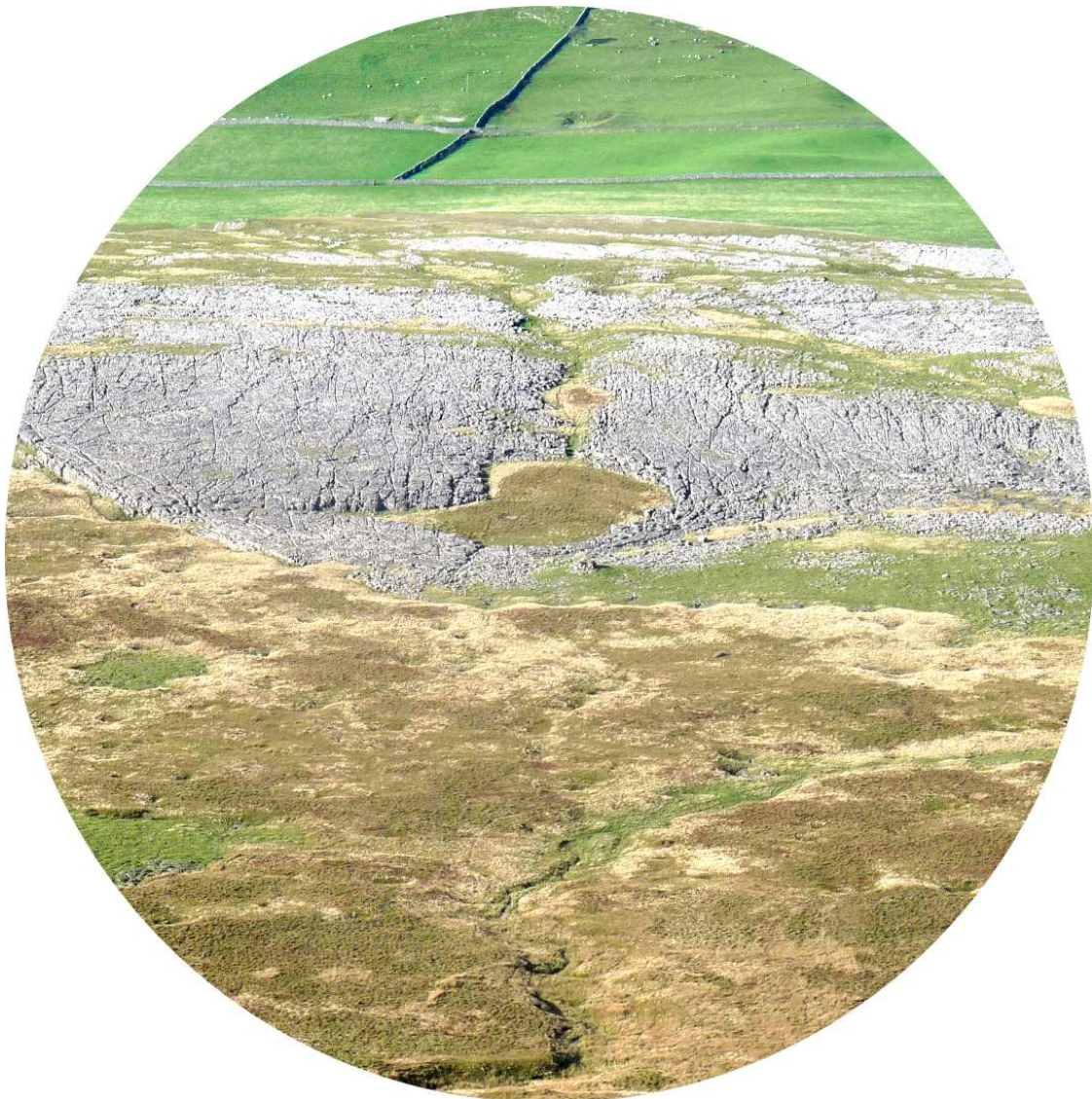


# Harry Hallam's Moss & Harryhorse Stone



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**The front cover shows the area around Harry Hallam's Moss**

*Photograph: Arthur Batty*

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## Harry Hallam's Moss and Harryhorse Stone

There are two named features on the lower slopes of Ingleborough that have been an enigma for a long time. These are Harry Hallam's Moss SD 7369 7575 and Harryhorse Stone SD 7365 7182. Having suspected for some time that these names may not represent those of an individual, but rather something related to unusual landform or the visual perception of something that is not understood. After examining the Parish records, and finding no reference to a Harry Hallam, I believe the name may now have been deciphered.

The word Harry/Old Harry which is a *hypernym* (a word that refers to a broad category of concepts) is thought to be the Devil (Web Ref 1). The second word Hallam in OE means "at the rocks" or "dweller at the rocks" or "at the nook" (Web Ref 2). When you examine the first edition 1852 OS map the name Harry Hallam's Moss is written directly on top of an unusual landform (Plate 1) which is thought to be a pre-glacial doline i.e. a general term for a closed depression in an area of karst topography that is formed either by solution of the limestone surface, or by the collapse of underlying caves. (pers. comm. A Waltham). As the name contains the word "moss" you would have expected the name to be written over the area approximately 100m south west, which is a peat bog, however the area within the doline/rocks can also be described as a moss. I have taken cores within this area (Plate 2) and there is virtually no peat formation between the glacial till and the turf. This could show the area had been a turbary site and the name is specifically referring to the area enclosed by the doline. To the south west there is a feature called Harry Hallam's Fold, the use of the fold and the doline may have been contemporary. We think this suggests the following interpretation "devil in the rocks" or "devil's moss in the rocks".

Harryhorse Stone is a large glacial orthostat (Plate 3), shaped like a horse's head, on the southern slopes of Ingleborough. Using the above derivation the name would translate to "devils horse stone". This research is ongoing and will be updated in due course.

### References:

Web Ref 1 <http://www.audioenglish.net/dictionary/harry.html>

Web Ref 2 <http://hallamfamily.co.uk/hallam/hallam-the-meaning.html>



Plate 1. 1st Edition O.S. Map at map ref: SD 7369 7575. The red dot marks the position of the doline.



Plate 2. This photograph shows (a) Harry Hallam's fold and (b) the doline

*Photograph: Arthur Batty*



Plate 3. Harryhorse Stone .

*Photograph: Arthur Batty*