

The 'Spechscaflade'



Arthur and Anita Batty

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Spechscaflade Update

In a previous publication “The Spechscaflade” (Batty& Batty 2009) we investigated the word *Spechscaflade* to see if the word had anything to do with speaking places or inauguration sites for leaders or dignitaries, expecting it to be embedded in the language of the day. As we know there was a constant changing of the people in power, any use of poles or staffs relating to speeches of inauguration carried out on elevated places would probably have a descriptive word embedded in the language of the day.

The point at which the ‘*Spechscaflade*’ is located (the term used in 13th century boundary perambulations) is replaced in later centuries, by ‘*Spinescarr Loud*’ or ‘*lade*’ (1683); ‘*Cawdwell Kutt*’ (1739) and these terms were considered in our previous publication (*ibid*) . Since then we have identified another, later term for the same point from a boundary perambulation of Ingleton Manor dated 1805:-

..... *then to the Hurdle of Stones upon the Green Place and so to Grey Syke Head, then to the Hurdle of Stones on Little Ingleborough so on the East Side of Limestone Head and across Ingleborough and down Fair Weather Syke to Meer Gill and down the same to Bold Haw,*
..... This perambulation locates ‘*Fair Weather Syke*’ to the same location as ‘*Spechscaflade*’, ‘*Spinescarr Loud/Lade*’ and ‘*Cawdwell Kutt*’.

Interpreting Fair Weather Syke as a narrow channel of flowing water (*syke*) that continues to flow after long periods of dry weather (*fair weather*). All these terms have a common derivative and are in keeping with our previous assumption that they describe natural features, and have nothing to do with the actions and rituals of human beings with no suggestions of poles, staffs or speeches. The names apply to the short length of stream that rises below the Limestone Knoll and falls down the steep northern-western side of Ingleborough adjacent to the footpath from Chapel le Dale, (Plate 1) it then joins Merebeck at the bottom, which is the next point on the boundary perambulations.

The evidence shows that this stretch of the boundary has existed for centuries and comments on the Ingleborough Archaeology Group website that the boundary proposed in the Spechscaflade is “inconceivable” is ignoring the perambulations and map evidence. Fig 1 shows a section of Ingleton Manor boundary marked in green that was also the Southerscale boundary in the 13th century. The boundary marked in blue is the present Horton in

Ribblesdale boundary that follows the wall and goes to Spechscaflade. In the 13th Century boundary perambulation for Selside and Southerscales (marked in red on the map) the walls did not exist so the boundary was marked by topographical features i.e. streams, large boulders, crests of hills, or man made features (i.e. earth mounds and piles of stones) and goes along the upper crest of *'Langhals'* to the summit of Ingleborough (2 topographical features) with the limestone knoll representing part of the upper crest of Langhals as previously shown in "The Spechscaflade" (ibid).

The modern wall did not follow this line, because it diverted around a peat bog and took the boundary line with it, and it can be clearly seen that the old Selside and Southerscales boundary did not go by *'Spechscaflade'*. Again, as stated in "The Spechscaflade" this boundary is shared by the Southerscales boundary on its return to the summit of Ingleborough and is the reason it is not mentioned in the 13th Century perambulation.

This further evidence also seems to confirm our previous comments that all boundaries terminating on Ingleborough are set out to provide access to the summit.

Plate 1

Behind the photographer is the 13th Century Selside Boundary. The points shown are (1) Spechscaflade; Spinescarr Loud/Lade; Cawdwell Kutt; Fairweather Syke. (2) Ingleton Manor Boundary (3) Horton in Ribblesdale modern boundary . (4) is the present day footpath from Chapel le Dale.

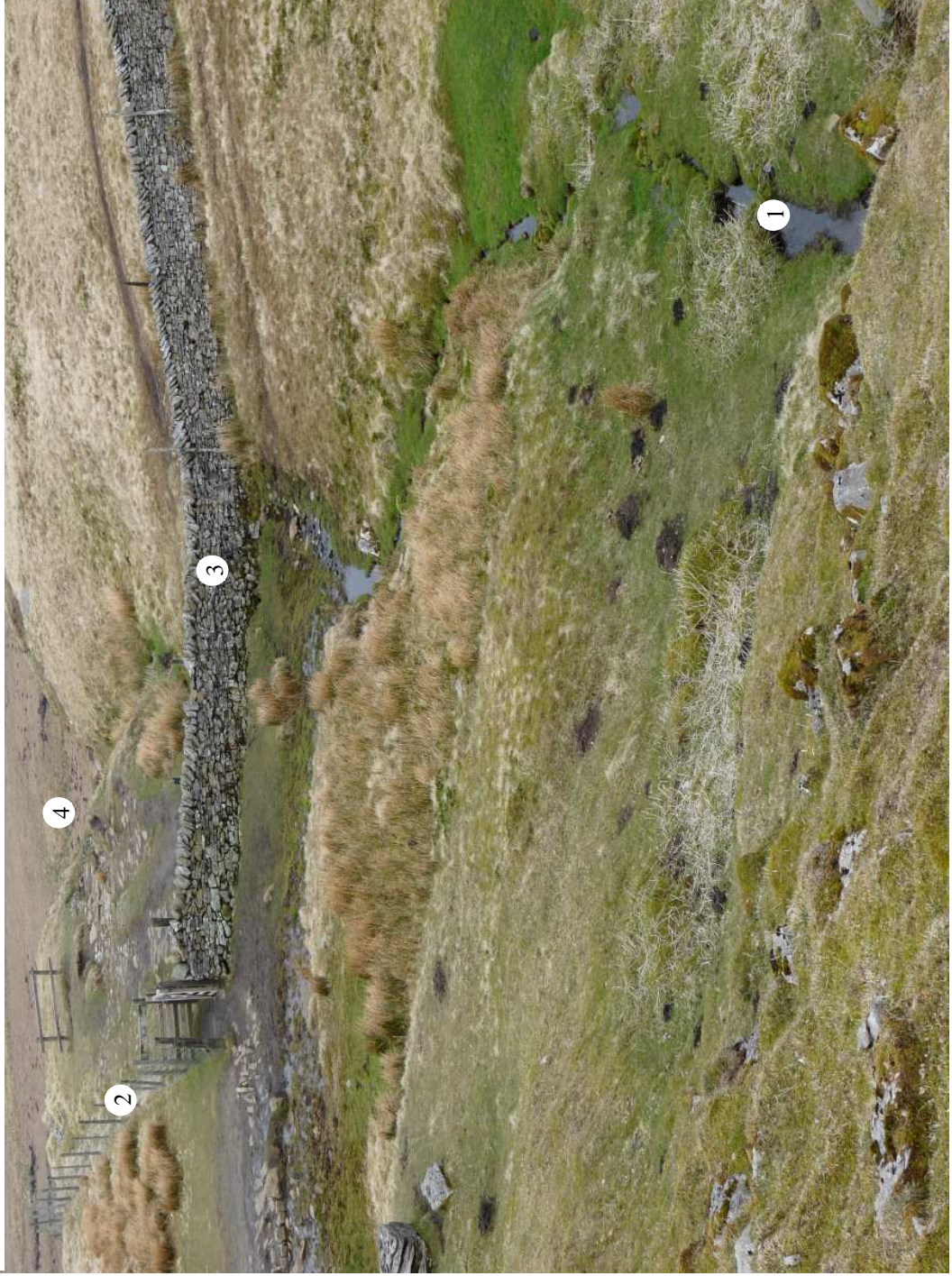
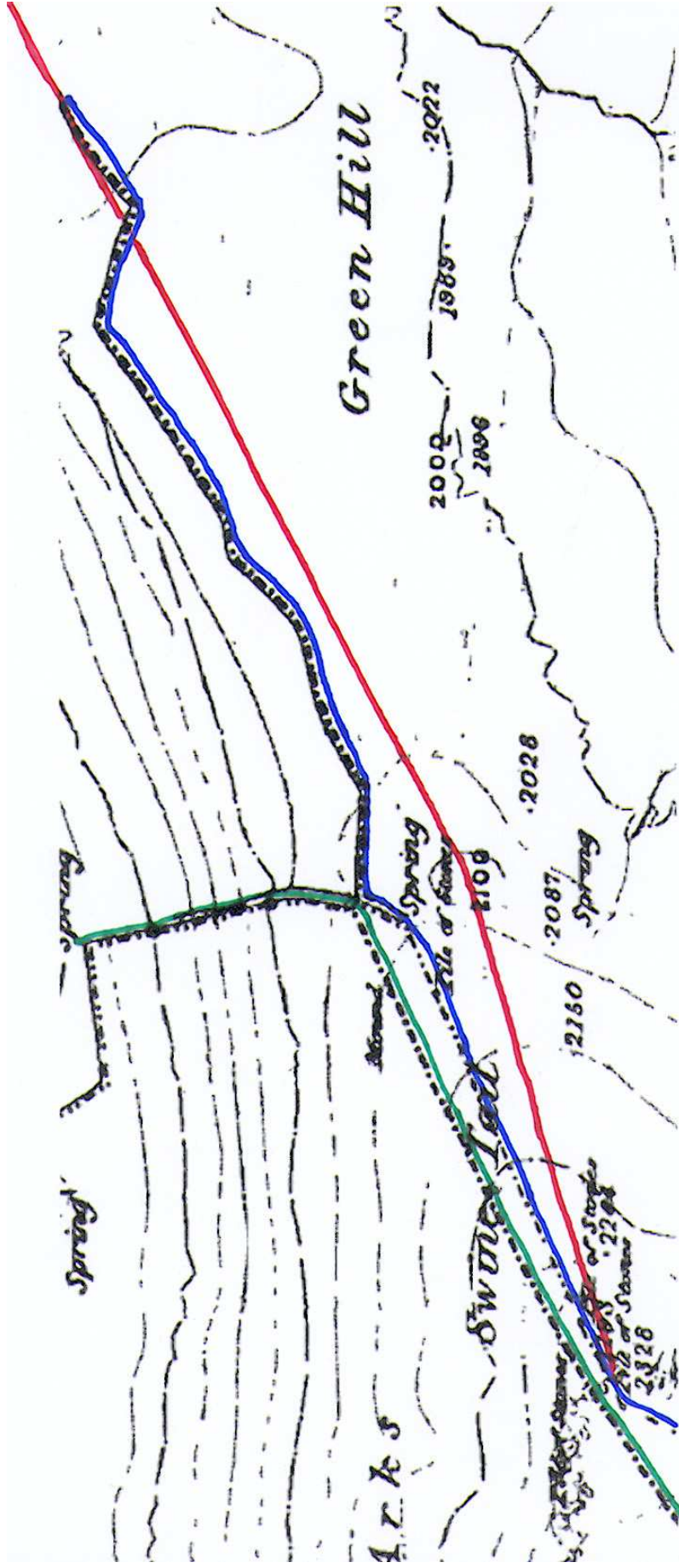


Fig 1: 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1851



13th Century Selside/Southercales Boundary

1805 Ingleton Manor Boundary

Present day Horton in Ribblesdale Boundary

Bibliography

Batty, A., and Batty., A. (2009) *The 'Spechscaflade' - proposed translation and location.* Batty & Batty

Boundaries of the Manor of Ingleton

The writers were given a copy of the Boundaries of the Manor of Ingleton that were transcribed by a Mr. Eli Simpson from an original held by Mr Alan Hyslop, who was a solicitor in Skipton during the 1940s. The whereabouts of the original document today is unknown.

Photographs

Front Cover - showing 'Spechscaflade from the footpath to Ingleborough Summit coming from Chapel-le-Dale and Plate 1 both photographed by Arthur Batty