

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Strasbourg, le 31 août 1965

Addendum 1 au
EXP/Nat/WP2/P (65) 2

iii.

COMITE D'EXPERTS POUR LA SAUVEGARDE
DE LA NATURE ET DU PAYSAGE



COE036399

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF NATURE AND LANDSCAPE

Groupe de Travail n° 2
Working Party n° 2

Sous-groupe sur l'octroi d'un Diplôme Européen
Panel on the award of a European Diploma

Objets proposés pour l'octroi d'un "Diplôme Européen"
Propositions du ROYAUME UNI et de la NORVEGE

Subjects proposed for the award of the "European Diploma"
Proposals from the UNITED KINGDOM and NORWAY

R O Y A U M E - U N I

U N I T E D K I N G D O M

Country : UNITED KINGDOM

Proposals for the award of a European Diploma to:

PROTECTED LANDSCAPES:

PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

(a) Type of landscape and usual name of the area:

Peak District National Park.

(b) Characteristics and justification for conservation:

The Peak District of England is the southernmost portion of the Pennine Hills, and consists almost entirely of rocks of Carboniferous age, with some superficial deposits. In the northern half the chief rock is millstone grit (Middle Carboniferous) and in the southern half limestone (Lower Carboniferous); these two rocks give rise to different and contrasting types of scenery (Photographs 1 and 2). Many of the limestone dales are dry, and in others there are disappearing rivers. There are several caves.

The vegetation of the Grit is chiefly heather moor (Callunetum) and bog on thick peat (Eriophoretum); the limestone has grassland (Festucetum with Agrostis dominant in places) and many of the valleys are covered with ash woodland (Fraxinetum). The flora of the limestone is very rich in species, some of which, such as Saxifraga hypnoides, have a disjunct distribution in the British Isles and in continental Europe, and are probably glacial relics.

The justification for preservation is that this is a fine landscape which, in spite of relatively heavy human settlement from Neolithic times onwards, retains large areas of uncultivated seminatural woodland and moor. It is almost surrounded by densely populated industrial towns: the estimated population within 60 miles of its borders is 16 millions.

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(c) Description of geographical position, and/or sketch or tracing on map (scale : 1 : 500.000 or approximately) :

1 : 625,000 map attached

(d) Photographs (two, 18 x 24 cm, glossy):

No. 1 of gritstone edge

No. 2 of limestone dale

(e) Conservation measures taken so far:

The conservation of nature and landscape in the U.K. must be considered in the light of the very extensive legislation which directly or indirectly serves this end (see Addendum 1 to Document EXP/Nat (63) 44). The Peak District National Park was designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949 on December 28, 1950. It is administered by a Board of 27 members, of whom 18 are appointed by the appropriate local authorities severally, and 9 by these authorities jointly on the nomination of the Minister. There is a part-time Clerk (the legal officer, who is also Clerk of the Derbyshire County Council) and a full-time Director and Planning Officer, who has under him a staff of about 40. It has an annual budget of some £80,000.

Particular measures for conservation already taken are :

A declaration of policy to purchase suitable woodlands as they become available. (272,165 acres have already been purchased under this declaration and are managed in the interests of amenity by the Board's own forestry department).

The conclusion of agreements for public access on 47,748 acres of moorland in private ownership, and the enactment of byelaws to control this access.

The appointment of 5 full-time and 80 part-time wardens to enforce these byelaws and generally to assist the public. They are assisted by a corps of trained voluntary wardens.

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The appointment of an information officer to assist in educating the public in matters concerning the Park and conservation generally.

(f) Bibliography.

Peak District : National Parks Guide 3. Ed. Patrick Monkhouse. London, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1960.

The Vegetation of the Peak District. C.E. Moss. Cambridge 1913.

Annual Reports of the Peak Park Planning Board, 1951.

N O R V E G E - N O R W A Y

"Du fait que l'établissement d'aires protégées est encore dans une phase initiale et que l'administration a encore très peu d'expérience dans ce domaine, nous pensons qu'il est juste de ne faire aucune proposition cette année."

"Because establishing of protected areas is still at an initial phase and the administration as yet has gained very little experience, we don't think it right to make any proposal this year."