

THE PEAK DISTRICT AND NORTHERN COUNTIES  
FOOTPATHS  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

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REPORT

OF THE

COUNCIL

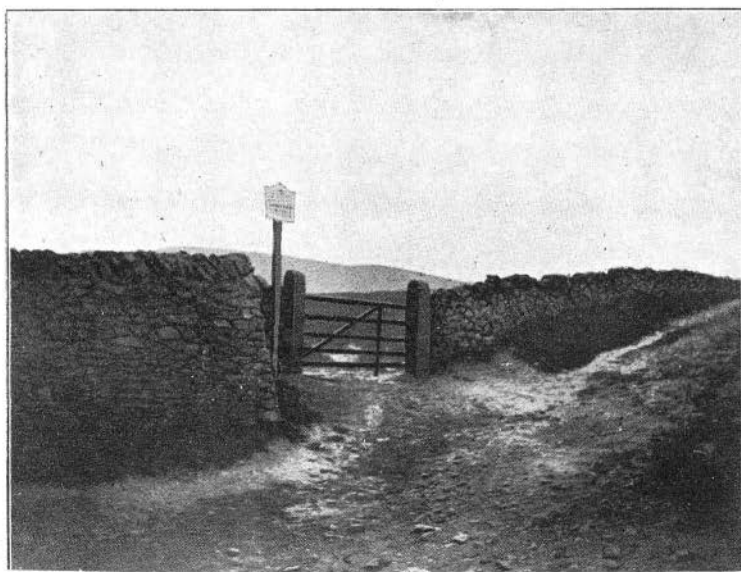
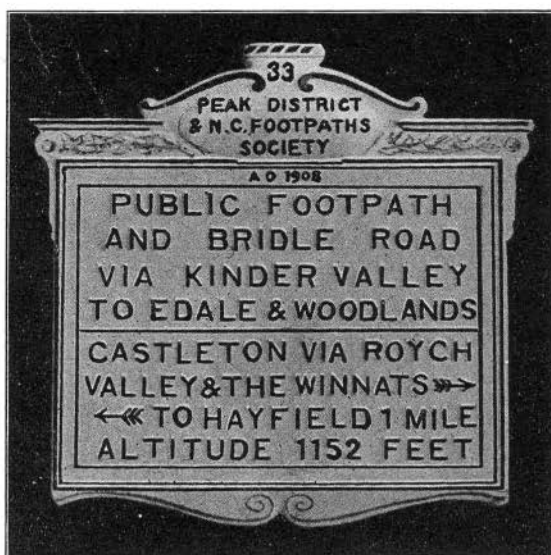
*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1908.*

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MANCHESTER:  
ABEL HEYWOOD & SON, 56 & 58 OLDHAM STREET.

1909.

## Illustrations of Notice Boards.



# THE PEAK DISTRICT AND NORTHERN COUNTIES FOOTPATHS PRESERVATION SOCIETY,

1908.

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## President :

SIR WILLIAM H. BAILEY, Sale Hall, Cheshire.

## Vice-Presidents :

P. H. ASHBERRY, Goldthorpe, Sheffield.

W. P. BYLES, M.P., 3 Northumberland Street, Higher  
Broughton.

T. CARR, Atherton, Manchester.

Colonel CANDLIN, Heaton Chapel.

T. SKELTON COLE, Sheffield.

ABEL HEYWOOD, J.P., Manchester.

Rev. Canon HICKS, M.A., Salford.

GEORGE MILNER, M.A., J.P., Manchester.

J. H. NODAL, Heaton Chapel.

Hon. F. STRUTT, J.P., Derby.

JAMES WATTS, Abney Hall, Cheadle.

Sir E. LEADER WILLIAMS, C.E., Manchester.

Colonel H. T. CROOK, C.E., J.P., Manchester.

HENRY J. WILSON, M.P., Sheffield.

HERMAN WOOLLEY, F.G.S., Manchester.

Councillor HAROLD ELVERSTON, Cheadle Hulme.

**Council :**

- WILLIAM BROOKES, Parkfield, Hale, Alfrincham.  
 ROBERT BURN, 1a Charlotte Street, Manchester.  
 LUKE GARSIDE, Hayfield.  
 J. OGDEN HARDICKER, Northern Assurance Buildings.  
 ALFRED E. HANSON, c/o J. Ogden Hardicker.  
 ABEL HEYWOOD, J.P., Oldham Street, Manchester (Chairman).  
 EDWARD G. HILLER, 22 St. Ann's Square, Manchester.  
 T. A. LEONARD, College House, Brunswick Street, Manchester.  
 A. W. MASSEY, 33 Dale Street, Manchester.  
 THOMAS MOWER, Torr Street, New Mills.  
 WILLIAM TATTERSALL, Manchester.  
 J. H. WRIGLEY, 23 St. Clement's Rd., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.  
 WM. INGHAM, Cromwell Buildings, Blackfriars Street,  
 Manchester.  
 ROWLAND MOWER, Buxton Road, New Mills.

Together with the Honorary Officers of the Society.

**Hon. Solicitor :**

L. CARADOC EVANS, Town Hall, Salford.

**Hon. Treasurer :**

J. B. ELVERSTON, St. Albans Villa, Heaton Chapel.

**Assistant Hon. Treasurer :**

F. W. WIGELSWORTH, 19 Derby Road, Heaton Chapel.

**Hon. Surveyor :**

Col. H. T. CROOK, M.Inst.C.E., J.P., Lancaster Avenue,  
 Manchester.

**Hon. Auditor :**

WILLIAM GREGSON, Edge Lane, Stretford.

**Hon. Secretary :**

ARTHUR R. MOON, Solicitor, Prudential Buildings,  
 King Street, Manchester.

**Inspector of Footpaths :**

THOMAS MOWER, Torr Street, New Mills.

# REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1908.

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The Council have pleasure in submitting to the members of the Society the Report for the year ending 31st December, 1908.

There have during the year been no matters of any prominence, and the work of the Society has been rather in the direction of conserving and solidifying the work done in the past.

Your Council have to report a change in the *personnel* of its officers. Mr. J. Ogden Hardicker, who has been for some years Honorary Secretary to the Society, and Mr. Alfred E. Hanson, the Assistant Honorary Secretary, asked during the year to be relieved of their posts. Your Council accepted these resignations with much regret, and placed on record their appreciation of the services rendered by these gentlemen to the Society, coupled with the hope that their services would not be lost, but it is a matter of gratification that in pursuance of the sincere desire of the Council they have consented to be members of the same, and their interest in the Society and their experience in dealing with its objects are still available.

The Council have appointed Mr. Arthur R. Moon, LL.B., Solicitor, Prudential Buildings, 78, King Street, Manchester, to be Honorary Secretary of the Society, and his address is now the place where all communications are to be sent, and from which the Society will as heretofore gladly and willingly transact the business.

It has been a continued matter of regret that Mr. Thomas Mower, Inspector of Footpaths, has through continued indisposition been compelled to take a less active part in the work of the Society during the last year. The work of Mr. Mower for the Society is invaluable, and your Council are glad that an arrangement has been come to whereby Mr. Mower, junior, shall assist his father in the work of the Society. Your Council have elected Mr. Mower, junior, as one of their members, and he is now assisting Mr. Thomas Mower, as deputy, in his work, and your Council are glad to think that the attention and interest in the work, and particularly the supervision of the guide-posts, will be attended to, and with that keen interest in the Society which has always been so characteristic of Mr. Thomas Mower. The work of the Society in this direction is perhaps not as much appreciated as it ought to be. Ramblers in the Peak District who come across the now well-known white signs on red posts do not realize that these posts are erected and maintained at the cost of the Society, and are under the personal supervision of Mr. Mower. There are now no less than 36 of these guide-posts, each of which has been painted during the summer. The following are the particulars of the guide-posts erected during the past year and the descriptions they bear:—

- No. 33. Public Footpath and Bridle Path *via* the Kinder Valley to Edale and the Woodlands, Castleton *via* the Roych Valley and the Winnats. Hayfield, 1 mile. Altitude, 1,152 feet.
- No. 34. Public Footpath to Froggatt Curber, Calver Bridge, and Chatsworth. Bakewell, 6½ miles; Sheffield, 9½ miles. Altitude, 427 feet.

No. 35. Public Footpath to Hope, down the lane opposite. Keep to the track. Altitude, 592 feet.

No. 36. Public Footpath to Castleton. Keep to the track. Altitude, 549 feet.

The illustration in the Report shows one of the new guide-posts, No. 33, from a near view and in position.

Your Council much regret that one of the posts, No. 21, Edale to Castleton, during the past year has been cut down and removed. They appeal to the public to assist them in preserving and maintaining these guide-posts, which are invaluable, both as public conveniences and as a means of protecting rights which might otherwise be lost.

#### **Snake Inn Path.**

Applications to the County Council to repair this path having proved useless, it was done by and at the cost of your Society a few days previous to and during the August Bank Holiday week, during which week the foreman on the job estimated that quite 300 persons passed.

#### **Froggatt Edge.**

Your Council have under consideration the obstruction of the old bridle path, which undoubtedly was a public highway and the continuation of the Sir William Road from Hucklow to the eastern side of the Derwent Valley, where it joined the Holmsefield Road near the Old Masons Arms.

#### **Doctor's Gate.**

The negotiations with Lord Howard of Glossop have not yet reached any conclusion, but your Society are hopeful of an amicable arrangement being come to.

### Walshaw Dean Footpath from Blake Dean to Stanbury.

The Council have much pleasure in reporting that a settlement has been come to in these very protracted negotiations, on the basis that for a period of five years the public shall be allowed to cross Walshaw Dean Valley by means of the roadway over the embankment of the middle reservoir. At the end of five years the matter is to be a subject of rearrangement. The public are asked to assist the carrying out of this agreement by adhering strictly to the defined path, as the settlement is contingent on this. In this connection it is instructive to note that the whole of the seven sheets of the six-inch ordnance map comprising the whole of the path between Hebden Bridge and Haworth have been mounted, and have been on view in the neighbourhood; and, further, that the pupils in Stanbury School are being instructed by Mr. Jonas Bradley, the master, in the topography of their native wilds and moorlands. Your Council hope shortly to arrange for the mounted map to be exhibited in some public place in Manchester.

Your Council have throughout the year received many letters and applications for advice, which have been dealt with by the Honorary Secretary. They are at all times willing and anxious to assist applicants. Any suggestions as to providing guide-posts will be carefully considered.

Above all things the Society exists for the protection of ancient rights, and its work would be greatly facilitated if the public would let the Honorary Secretary know at once of any cases of obstruction, so that they may be promptly dealt with.



**Finance.**

The funds of the Society show a balance in hand. This is satisfactory, but it must be borne in mind that at any time the Society might feel compelled to embark in costly litigation in the interests of the public, and their reserve might soon be exhausted. They appeal, therefore, to all lovers of the open country and all interested in the preservation of ancient rights to continue their subscriptions and to induce others to do the same. In this way, not only would the Society be strengthened financially, but it would be strengthened in exerting that diplomatic persuasive skill in negotiation which its standing now entitles it to.

**DEATH OF MR. J. B. ELVERSTON.**

Just before going to press your Council have learnt with the deepest regret of the death of the esteemed Hon. Treasurer to the Society, Mr. J. B. Elverston. Mr. Elverston had been connected with the Society from the commencement, and his interest in it extended far beyond those duties which as Hon. Treasurer he so faithfully and zealously performed. Your Council desire to record their gratitude for these and their deep sense of the loss which the Society has sustained.

