

BEFORE THE ROMANS

The village of Wheatley Hill is located in an area of gently undulating terrain known as the Central East Durham Clay Plateau which consists of glacial clay deposits and sands and gravels which sits above the soft magnesian limestone



The Meltwater Channel at Thornley Hall

Formed at the end of the last ice age about 10,000 years ago. The shape of this channel indicates that it was formed not by the gradual flow of water but by a large scale, maybe catastrophic release of large bodies of water



This is a dry valley created when Glacial Lake Wear melted suddenly to gouge out a valley, over 10,000 years ago

The period before the Romans in our area has only a few isolated monuments, mainly cropmark sites visible from the air and a few mounds which could be burial sites

Ancient Burial Sites in the Wheatley Hill Area

Other ancient burial sites in this area can be found at Kelloe, Trimdon Grange and Sherburn



Long Cairn burial site between Old Wingate and Wingate Grange

DEFINITION OF A LONG CAIRN:
A long rectangular mound of stone heaped over human remains (usually disarticulated bones of many individuals)

Round Barrow burial site at Old Wingate

DEFINITION OF A ROUND BARROW:
Hemispherical mounds or earth and/or stone raised over a burial place



coal under the limestone