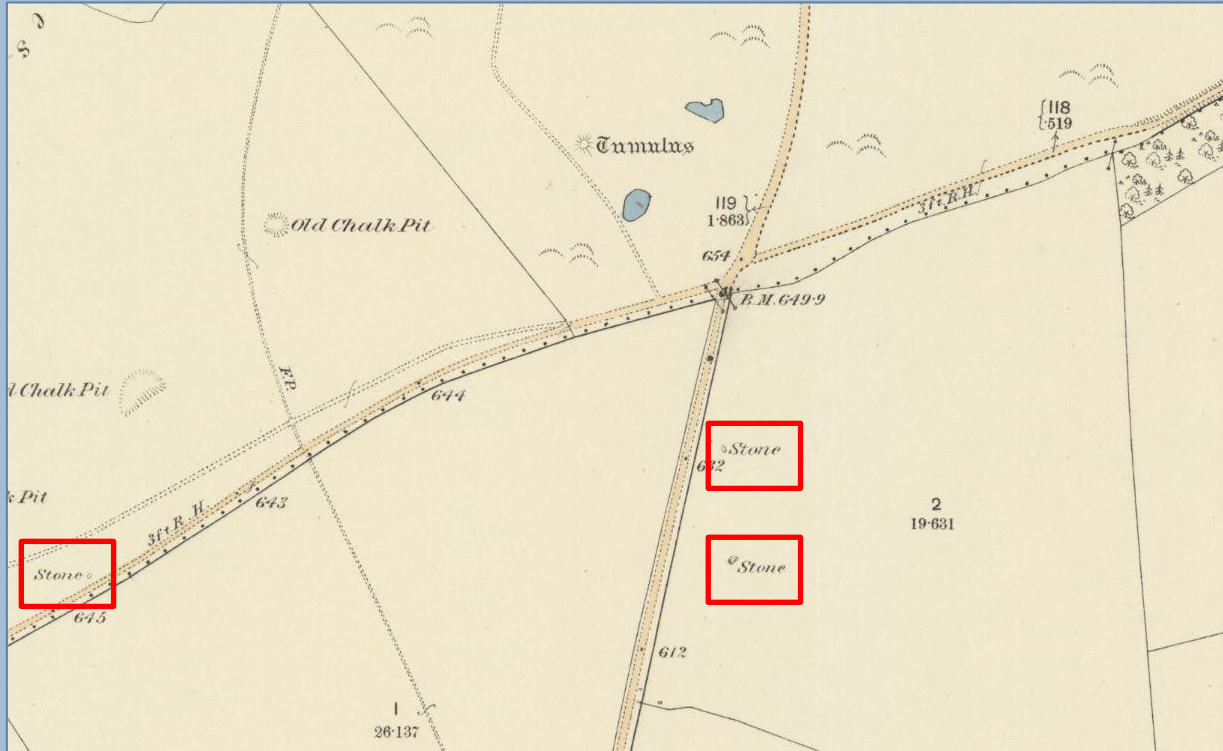


# Living Amongst the Sarsens

## Desk-based Sarsen Mapping Survey



# Introduction

Photo © Historic England

This project is part of a larger project, Living Amongst the Sarsens: Revealing the Hidden Heritage of the Valley of Stones. This has been made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with thanks to National Lottery players.

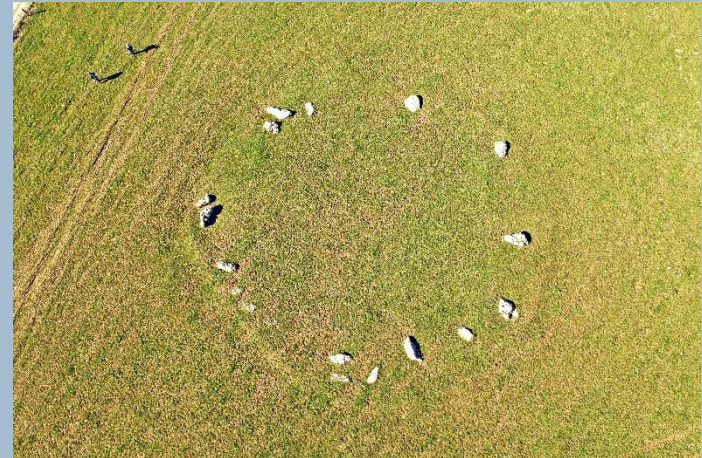


Volunteers are currently recording all the sarsen stones within the Valley of Stones, looking for evidence of use.



# Introduction

However the Valley of Stones is set within a bigger landscape, and this too will also contain evidence of the sarsen stones. We are interested in where they occur naturally and how they were used by people in the past.

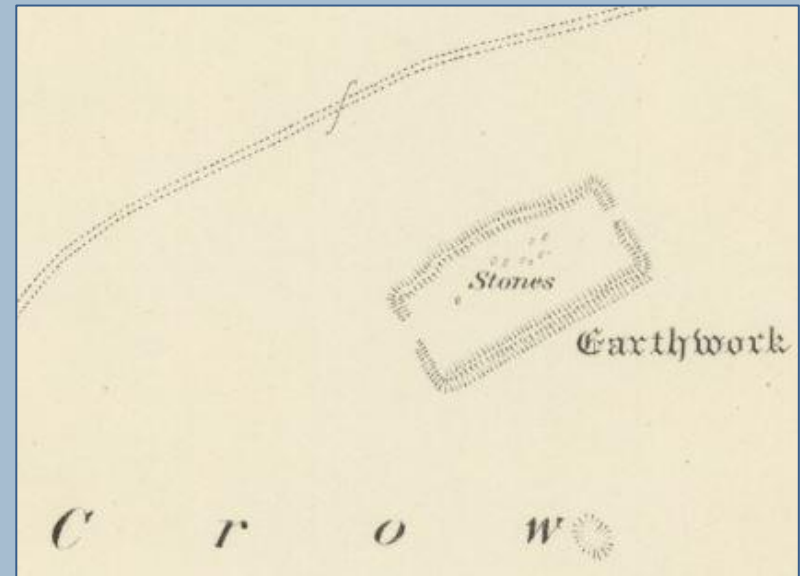


For example we know that many of the prehistoric monuments in this area were built using sarsen stone.

# Introduction

You can make a valuable contribution to this project by helping us to establish the distribution of sarsens in the wider landscape beyond the Valley of Stones.

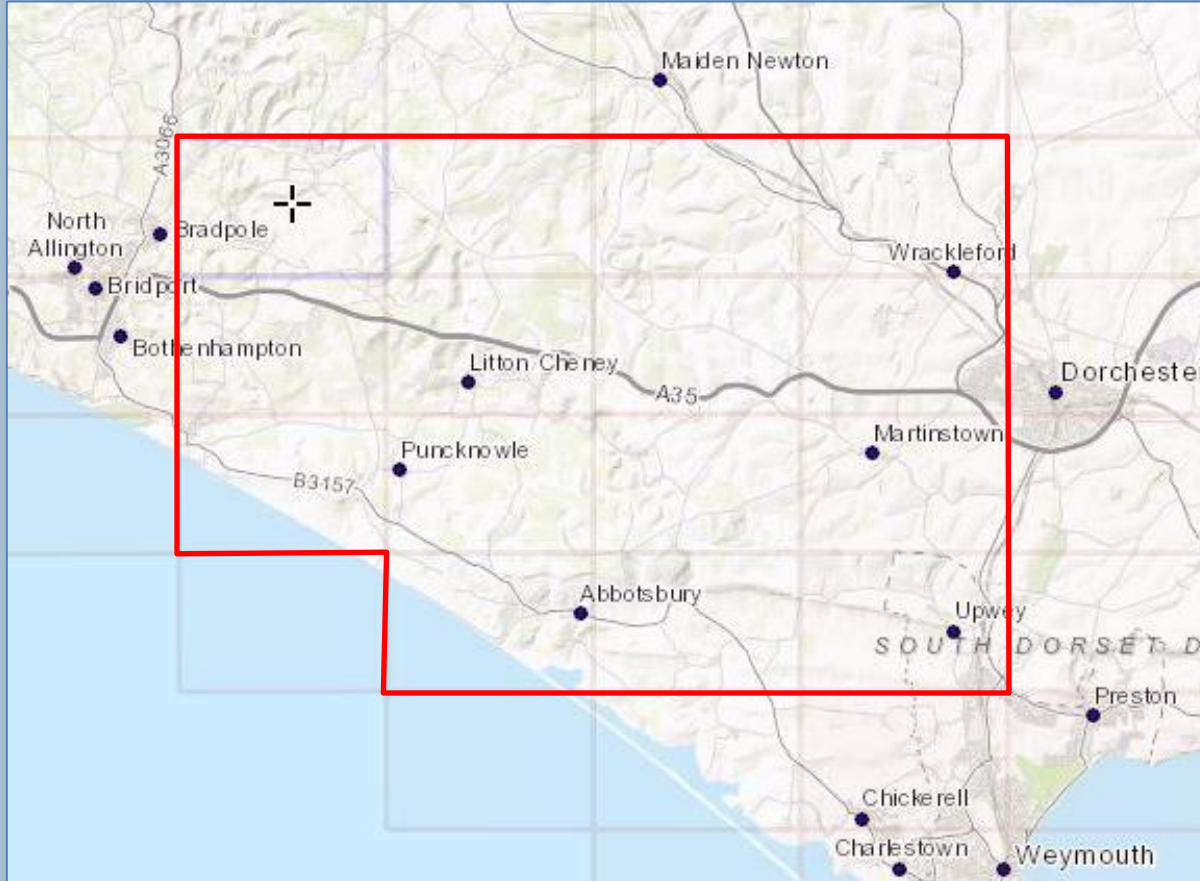
An examination of old Ordnance Survey maps will indicate the location of some of the larger sarsens in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



At a later stage we will ground-truth the stones to establish

- if they are sarsen,
- if they are still in situ (i.e. naturally deposited),
- if they have been moved by people,
- and if so, is there any indication as to when this happened.

# The Survey Area



The map survey will focus upon the area surrounding the South Dorset Ridgeway.

This is the area bounding Charminster toward the north-east; Upwey to the south-east; Lodgers to the north-west; and Burton Bradstock to the south-west



# The Maps

The sarsen mapping survey will focus upon the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch to the mile (1:2,500) maps produced in the late 1890s and early 1900s.

These (along with the 6-inch which volunteers have already looked at) represent the earliest comprehensive large scale map coverage, which is detailed enough to depict individual stones.



If you're interested in helping out please email [Hayley@pastparticipate](mailto:Hayley@pastparticipate) for the current list of maps.

# Accessing the Maps

You will be examining old Ordnance Survey maps depicting the survey area, which are accessible online via the National Library of Scotland website:

<https://maps.nls.uk>

This opens an interface with access to multiple datasets:

Select 'Map Finder with Outlines'  
(this will enable you to select specific map sheets)

The screenshot shows the 'Map Images' page of the National Library of Scotland website. The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories such as 'Ordnance Survey maps', 'Maps of Scotland', 'Estate Maps', 'Town Plans and views', 'Coastal / Admiralty charts', 'Military maps', 'Series maps', 'Bridges / Canals / Railways', 'Air Photo mosaics', 'Bathymetrical Survey', 'International / non-UK maps', and 'Atlases'. The main content area displays a grid of map-related options, including 'Map Finder - with Marker', 'Map Finder - with Outlines' (highlighted with a red box and a red arrow), 'Explore Georeferenced Maps', 'Side by side viewer', 'Browse by Mapmaker', 'Roy Military Survey viewer', 'OS sheet records viewer', and 'Boundaries viewer'. The background of the page is a historical map.

# Selecting Maps

Next, from the 'Choose maps'

Box:

select either 'OS Six-Inch' or 'OS 25 Inch' from the drop down menu

(this will enable you to select specific map sheets)

National Library of Scotland  
Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba

Map images

Map Finder | [Explore georeferenced maps](#) | [Side by Side](#)

[with Marker Pin](#) [with Outlines](#)

[Maps home](#) > [Ordnance Survey](#) > Six-inch [Scotland, 1843-1882, 1892-1960](#); [England and Wales, 1842-1952](#)

Search Places  UK  World  
Type a modern placename... or  
Search by National Grid Ref:  
Type Grid Ref...  
Search County: Choose...  
Show my location?

Background map - ESRI World Topo

Choose maps: (select from both lists)

Great Britain, Ordnance Survey

- OS Six-Inch, 1840s-1960s
- OS Six-Inch, 1840s-1960s
- OS 25 inch, 1850s-1960s
- OS One inch, 1850s-1970
- OS / GSGS 1:20K-25K, 1920s-1970s
- OS 1:1,250-1:10,560, 1944-1971
- Ten Mile Planning Maps, 1944-1960
- All Ordnance Survey maps

200 km

Change transparency of boxes:

Help



# Selecting Maps

Next, zoom in to survey area by using the 'Search Places'

Box and typing a place name – e.g., Puncknowle

Or  
By using the scale buttons and drag the map

The screenshot displays the National Library of Scotland Map Finder interface. At the top, there are navigation links: "National Library of Scotland", "Map images", "Map Finder", "Explore georeferenced maps", and "Side by Side". Below these are buttons for "with Marker Pin" and "with Outlines". The main content area shows a map of a region in Dorset, England, with a grid overlay. A search box is highlighted with a red rectangle, containing the text "Search Places" and "Type a modern placename...". Below the search box, there are fields for "Search by National Grid Ref.", "Type Grid Ref.", "Search County", and "Show my location?". A "Choose maps" dialog box is open, showing a list of map series: "Great Britain, Ordnance Survey" and "OS 25 inch, 1850s-1960s". A red arrow points from the text "By using the scale buttons and drag the map" to the "Change transparency of boxes" and "Zoom to selected map extents?" controls at the bottom of the dialog box. The map itself shows various locations, with "Puncknowle" highlighted by a blue box.

# Selecting Maps

Now click on one of the map tiles to select it

The screenshot shows a web-based map interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'With Marker Pin' and 'with Outlines'. Below that, a dropdown menu shows 'Scotland, 1855-1882 ; England and Wales, 1841-1952'. The main map area displays a grid of map tiles. A red box highlights a tile in the center, and a red arrow points from it to a results panel on the right. The results panel is titled 'Results - 2 maps: (1887 - 1901)' and contains two entries: 'Dorset XLVI.1' (Series: Ordnance survey, 25 inch to the mile, Surveyed: 1887, Published: 1889) and 'Dorset XLVI.1' (Series: Ordnance Survey, 25 inch to the mile, Revised: 1901). A red arrow also points from the text 'Now click on one of the map tiles to select it' to the highlighted tile.

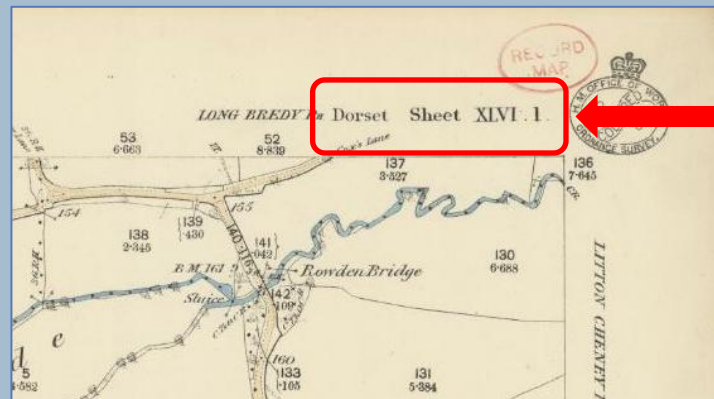
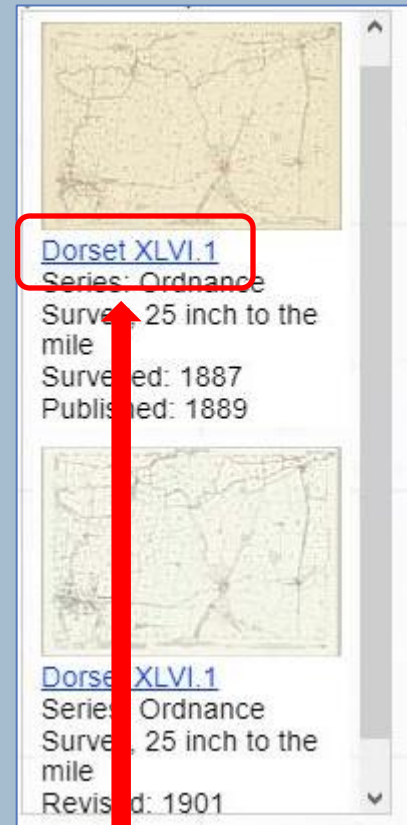
This will bring up a drop down box with the available map sheets. Click on one of the blue hyperlinks to select the map (if available, select the First Edition map from the 1880s).

# Selecting Maps

Please contact Hayley by email, phone or WhatsApp to discuss which maps sheet(s) you will look at so that she can maintain a list of the areas that are being examined and try to avoid repetition (although this can be useful).

[Hayley@pastparticipate.co.uk](mailto:Hayley@pastparticipate.co.uk)

07955084661

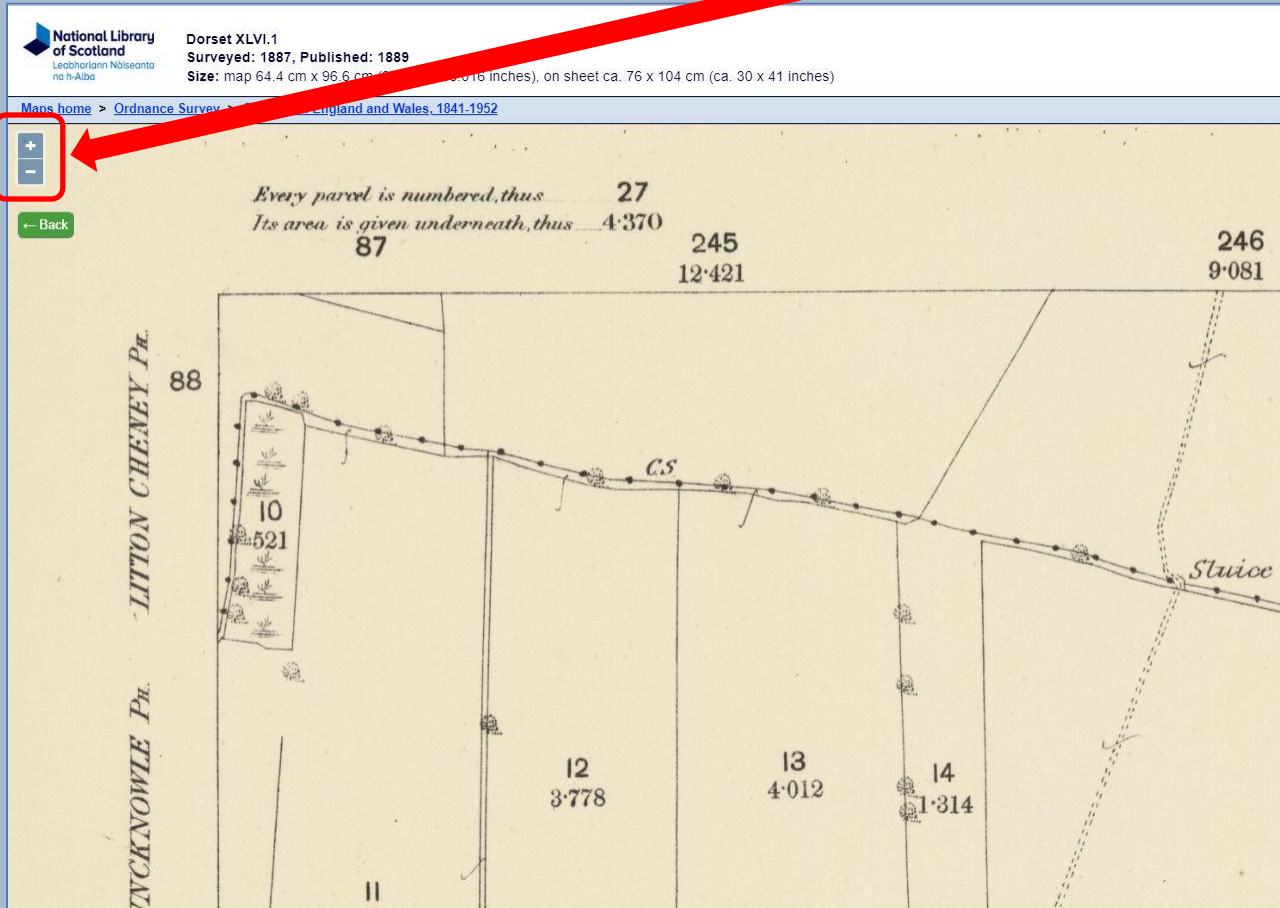


Sheet numbers  
can be found here



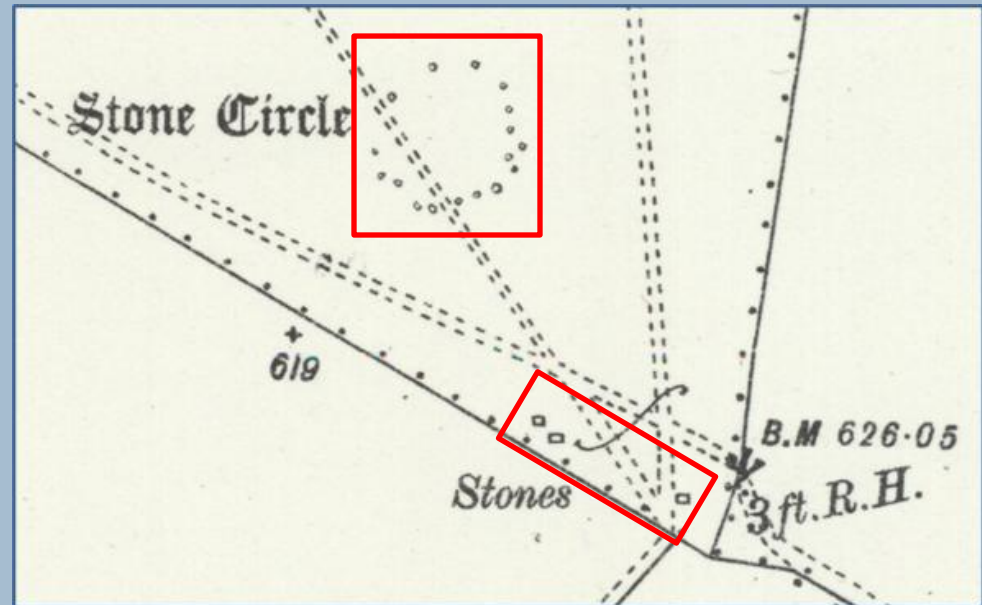
# Data Collection

Once you have selected a map sheet, zoom in until you can see all of the detail.



Use a systematic way to search the entire map – e.g., look in overlapping bands from left to right or from top to bottom.

# Data Collection



You are looking for anything labelled *Stone* or *Stones*, which generally occur in the middle or at the edge of fields, but can also be found in and around settlements.

Rectangles or more irregular sub-ovals mark the locations of individual stones.

# Data Collection

If you find a stone, the 'Draw' tab at the bottom of the page will open a pop up window that allows you to create an outline to highlight it.

National Library of Scotland  
Leabhrairinn Nàiseanta na h-Alba

Dorset XLVI.7  
Surveyed: 1887, Published: 1889  
Size: map 64.4 cm x 96.6 cm (25.344 x 38.016 inches), on sheet ca. 76 x 104 cm (ca. 30 x 41 inches)

[Maps home](#) > [Ordnance Survey](#) > [OS 25 inch England and Wales, 1841-1952](#)

124  
34-222

*Black Down Barn*

125  
297

Stones

*Old Chalk Pit*  
Stone

*Old Chalk Pit*

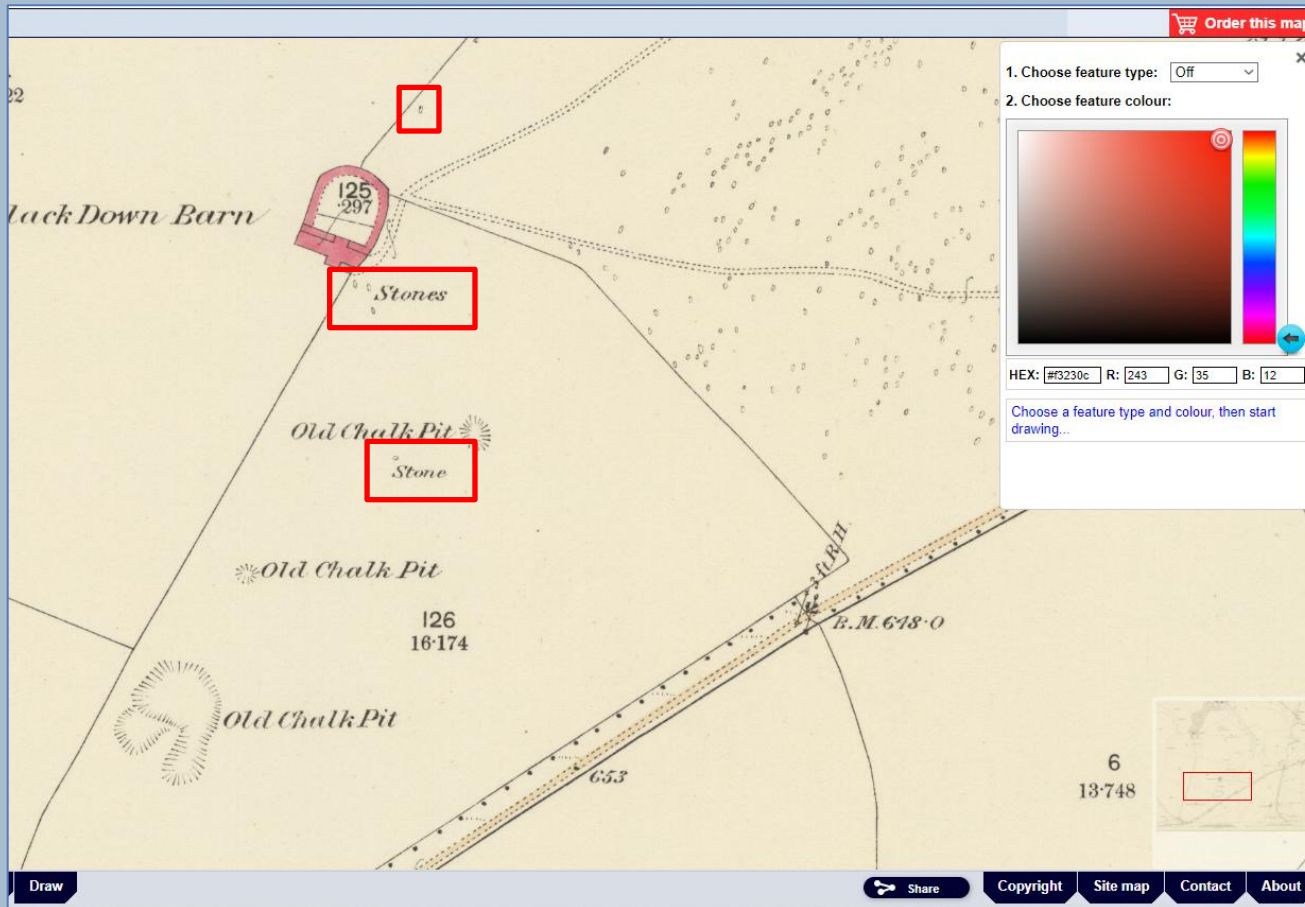
126  
16-174

*Old Chalk Pit*

Help Enquiries & Copies Download PDF Link to this view Show location Show III Draw



# Data Collection



From the 'Choose feature type' drop down list select 'Polygon' or 'Circle' (Polygon allows you to position each corner and can follow the alignment of any text).

You can now draw on the map.

*NB: note that the top box on this map highlights a stone without any labelling.*

Select a high contrast colour (red works well against the white or cream background).

# Data Collection

After you have drawn around all of the stones that you have identified on the map, please **zoom out so the whole map is visible**.

Now click on the 'Download PDF' tab.

This will save a file called 'map'.



National Library of Scotland  
Leabhrairinn Nàiseanta na h-Alba

Dorset XLVI.7  
Surveyed: 1887, Published: 1889  
Size: map 64.4 cm x 96.6 cm (25.344 x 38.016 inches), on sheet ca. 76 x 104 cm (ca. 30 x 41 inches)

[Maps home](#) > [Ordnance Survey](#) > [OS 25 inch England and Wales, 1841-1952](#)

Click and drag on drawn features if you want to move them

A historical Ordnance Survey map of Dorset, England, showing a network of roads, fields, and buildings. Two red rectangular boxes are drawn on the map, highlighting specific features. A red arrow points from the 'Download PDF' button in the bottom navigation bar to the map area.

# Data Collection

Every annotated map tile will save as 'map', so it will be necessary to change the file name.

Please create a unique filename by using the map sheet number, followed by the date of publication (from the accompanying List of Maps), and also add your initials (in case someone else has also examined the same map).



Ordnance Survey. Six-inch to the mile maps

Column	Map sheet	First Edition		Second Edition	
		Surveyed	Published	Surveyed	Published
1	Dorset XXXVIII.NE	1887	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XXXVIII.SE	1887	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XLV.NE & XLV.SE	1887	1888	1901	1903
2	Dorset XXXIX.NW	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XXXIX.SW	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XLVI.NW	1886	1888	1901	1903
3	Dorset XLVI.SW	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XXXIX.NE	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XXXIX.SE	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XLVI.NE	1886	1888	1901	1903
4	Dorset XLVI.SE	1886	1888	1901	1903
	Dorset XL.NW	1887	1888	1900-01	1903
	Dorset XL.SW	1886	1888	1900-01	1903
	Dorset XLVII.NW	1886	1888	1901-02	1903
	Dorset XLVII.SW	1886	1888	1901	1903

e.g., for the First Edition of the highlighted map sheet the file name would be:

**Dorset XXXIX.SW 1888 (JDR)**

Name

 Dorset XXXIX.SW 1888 (JDR)