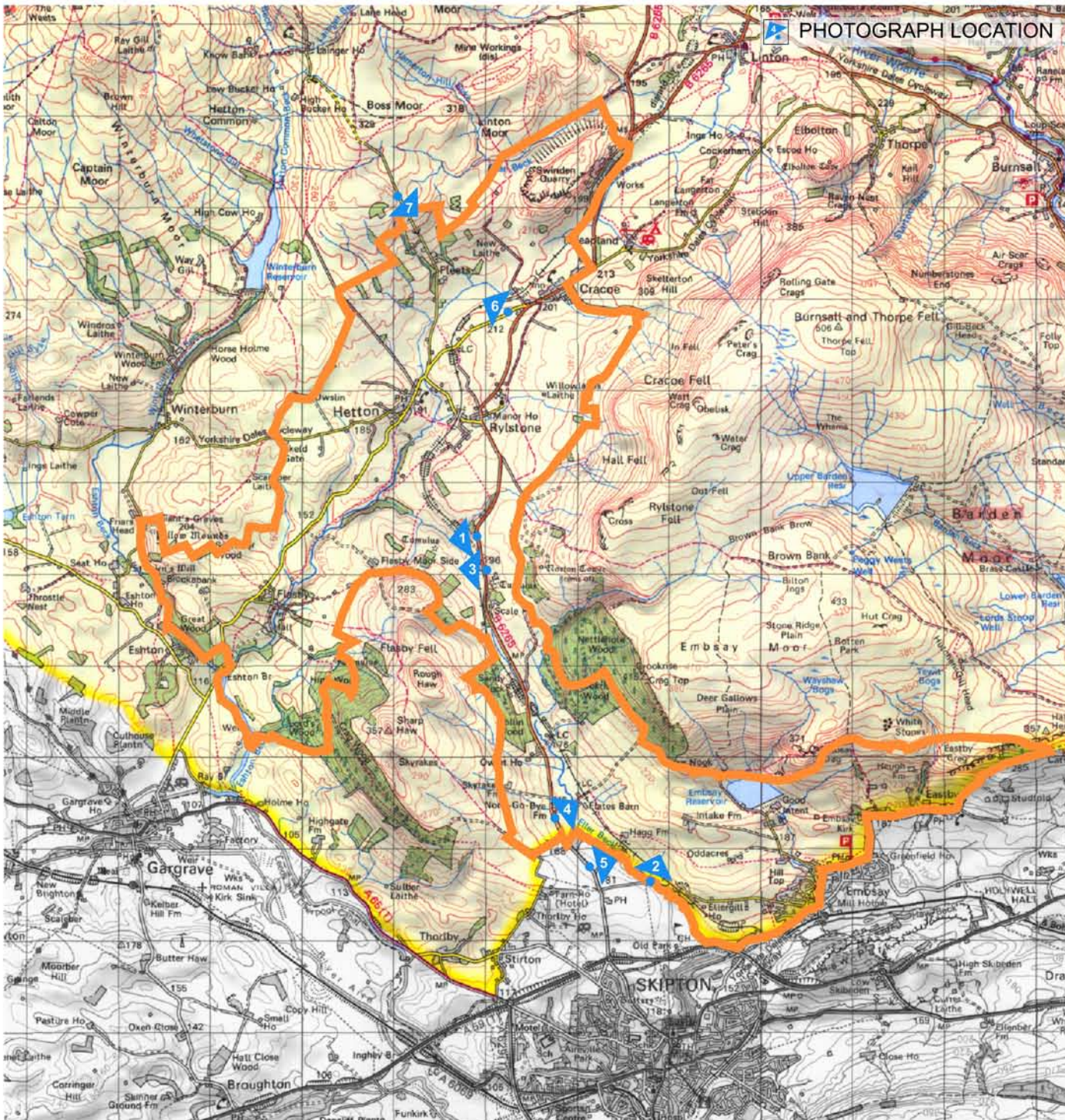
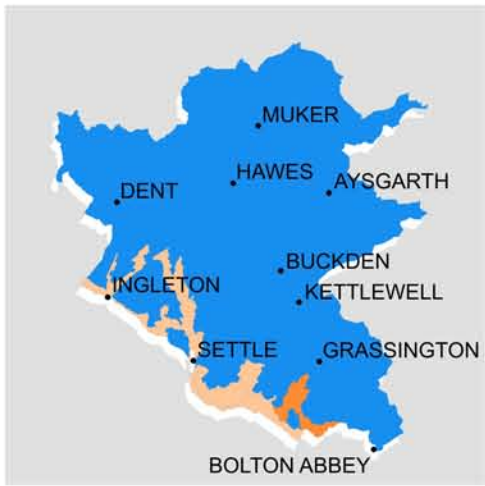


YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK



KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Valleys overlying limestone and gritstone masked by glacial deposition and enclosed by gritstone fells, whose character dominates.
- Wooded craggy gritstone outcrops on the fell sides and skyline topographic features on fells lend character to the valleys.
- Valleys lack strong character and have gentle longitudinal gradient with no distinct dalehead, each flowing almost imperceptibly into the next, although pockets of quiet, unspoilt landscape occur.
- Valleys act as transportation corridor for roads and the mineral railway. Unscreened limestone quarries at Swinden and Embay detract significantly; other detractors absorbed in distant viewpoints by tree cover.
- Strong natural pattern of deciduous woodland (some ancient) following gills and becks supplemented by small, regularly shaped blocks of coniferous and mixed woodland on the valley side and extensive conifer plantations on fell sides give a densely wooded effect, contrasting with open fell tops.
- Regularly shaped fields of fell sides more apparent than historic fields near settlements whose pattern is often masked by tree cover.
- Small areas of designed parkland landscapes occur.
- Settlements, constructed in gritstone with stone slate roofs, have their character diluted by modern buildings on their outskirts.

