

Deborah Griffiths

Prehistoric climate change on Dartmoor.

Also standing in the middle of these prehistoric features we're looking at a bit of evidence for ancient climate change; prehistoric people were able to live up here because the climate then was warmer than it currently is today and the soils were more fertile so that meant that they were able to come up here, live up here, even perhaps grow some crops up here, and then a change occurs in the first millennium BC, so that we begin to get cooler, wetter weather and that, associated with the growth of more acidic soils, actually drove people off the moor and caused them to abandon settlements like this.