Dartmoor National Park contains the largest unenclosed rural landscape in the south of England. My book project, *Quartz and Feldspar*, is an attempt to write an intertextual history of the discursive frameworks that shaped how this landscape has been encountered over the past two hundred years. Though strongly informed by the cultural turn’s problematizing of the romantic tradition of (English) landscape writing and historiography, axiomatic to my approach is a determination to keep in view the material Dartmoor—the barely perishable Dartmoor of granite—that lies beyond the “Dartmoor” of text and representation. As a consequence, my work is much concerned with specificities of place and the overlapping responses places provoked, be they poetic, antiquarian, racial, archaeological, mythic, folkloric, religious, preservationist, commercial, and so on.

*Quartz and Feldspar* will be divided into four sections. The first two focus on the nineteenth century, and are concerned with how Dartmoor was subject to “improvement,” became a site of incarceration, and attracted the interest of antiquarians and archaeologists. By the early years of the nineteenth century, Dartmoor came to be considered a resource in quite novel ways and, as a consequence, became a problem of public policy and planning. This will be the subject of the third section of the book, which I plan to draft during the period of my fellowship. Under particular consideration is how government ministers, facing the statutory requirement to protect Dartmoor as an “amenity,” contended with the demands of the military, the local water authorities, forestry interests, the social and economic needs of local communities, and the BBC. Could a landscape designated a National Park also be an artillery range; could its valleys be dammed and flooded; could its distinctive hills be shrouded in conifer plantations; could a television mast, visible for miles around, be erected at its center? Indeed, could an airport be located within its boundaries? Whitehall correspondence reveals that answers to these questions were provided on a case-by-case basis. If this gave some credence to the claims made by amenity societies that the protective aspect of the National Parks legislation was too weak, it was far from clear what the alternative approach might be. By treating these questions historically, I hope to achieve three things: First, to offer an historical account of how the present physical state of the National Park came to be; second, to delineate the ways attempts to protect this and other landscapes generated problems of local, regional and national governance, recognizing how the management of the National Parks played an important role in the development of the postwar British state; and, third, to identify the roots of present thinking, including “sustainability,” the panacea of our times.
the Dartmoor granite and bears a chemical resemblance (data not. presented) to the Wott er granite (G. 2. Â probably represents a stage in the crystallization history of the C. 3. granite during which the magma was enriched in boron and water. Â Initial crystallization of. alkali feldspar, biotite and quartz, containing need les of sillimanite. (?), was terminated by the crystallization of a fine-grained ground-. mass composed of quartz-orthoclase-albite-white mica-tourmaline. What is modern Dartmoor and what should it be? Did druids officiate here? Can the bog be drained and crops grown? Â The quality of research is impeccable and denotes a historian of great abi 'Quartz and Feldspar' is a sophisticated historical analysis of how a much loved British landscape was shaped by human agency. Kelly presents a nuanced collage of the contesting visions of Dartmoor conceived by imagination, politics and agriculture, as a mystical space, grim prison, means of making a livelihood, store of natural resources in service to the local community, and, most importantly, a place of natural beauty. The quality of research is impeccable and denotes a historian of great ability and expertise. The Dartmoor granite is. composed of interlocking crystals of white orthoclase feldspar, clear quartz and shiny black flakes of biotite mica. The feldspar crystals, whether exceptionally large (e.g. megacrystic), or not, are commonly well formed and frequently aligned parallel with the flow of the crystallising magma. Â Mapping of modern hydrothermal convection cells provides information which can lead to the prediction of hidden metalliferous mineralisation and china clay deposits, and has important implications for the efficient exploitation of geothermal energy. Â Durrance, E.M. and Laming, D.J.C. (Editors) 1982 (reprinted 1985, paperback, and 1993). What is modern Dartmoor and what should it be? Did druids officiate here? Can the bog be drained and crops grown? Is it the place for a prison? And what of its peopleâ€™s future, and the fate of its ponies, cows and sheep? For three hundred years such questions have been asked of the moor. Quartz and Feldspar does not so much provide answers as unearth those who did and the arguments they provoked. Quartz and Feldspar is for sale here. Share this: Twitter. Legendary Dartmoor gives a detailed account of its use and history – see here. It is best accessed from SX752733 â€“ have wandered around in circles I think this might be the only way in and out â€¦. It is a huge striking structure which divides opinion â€“ eyesore and an interesting relic for military history. There are 19 buttresses on the back of it. And six on the side. Â However the history of forestry on Dartmoor tells a very different story which is beautifully described by Matthew Kelly in Quartz and Feldspar. In essence decades of the 20th century saw huge battles between the FC and various preservationists led by the Dartmoor Preservation Association. Had it not been for their efforts the conifer plantations may have stretched continuously from Bellever to Fernworthy!