

Beast of Bodmin

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The Beast of Bodmin turned a possible big cat into a persistent Cornish presence. A 1995 investigation found ordinary-animal explanations, while witnesses continued to dispute what the moor had shown them.

STATUS	Investigated reports; 1995 evidence favored ordinary animals
CLASSIFICATION	STR
MATERIAL	Cornwall, England
DISPOSITION	PUBLIC / SOURCED STORY
CATEGORY	Strange Files
RECORD TYPE	Cryptids
STORY HISTORY	Cornish reports prominent in the 1990s; official investigation in 1995

THE ACCOUNT

On Bodmin Moor, accounts described a large cat moving through a landscape of open ground, gorse and farms. Livestock deaths and uncertain images made the reports harder for residents to set aside. Farmer Rosemary Rhodes told the press that she had filmed pumas and rejected the suggestion that her footage showed ordinary cats. By 1995, the stories had prompted a government investigation. The imagined creature needed no wings or impossible body; a powerful predator where one was not expected was enough.

FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

Contemporary Associated Press reporting describes a six-month review of livestock remains, video and prints. Officials concluded that the material examined pointed to domestic cats and dogs, rather than a threatening exotic big cat. That finding has a defined scope: the evidence reviewed in that investigation. It does not prove what every person saw on every later occasion. The same report preserves witnesses' objections, allowing disagreement to remain visible without treating it as proof of a puma.

WHY IT STAYS WITH US

This story troubles the boundary between wild and domestic. A distant cat can seem to belong to either side until scale becomes clear. The moor supplies plenty of space for that uncertainty, and very few reliable objects beside the moving shape with which to compare it.

WHERE THIS TELLING COMES FROM

Is the beast of Bodmin Moor a pussy cat?

Associated Press, archived by Cayman Compass

<https://www.caymancompass.com/1995/07/25/is-the-beast-of-bodmin-moor-a-pussy-cat>

RETURN TO THE STORY

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<https://u225x.com/record/STR-CRYPT-049>