

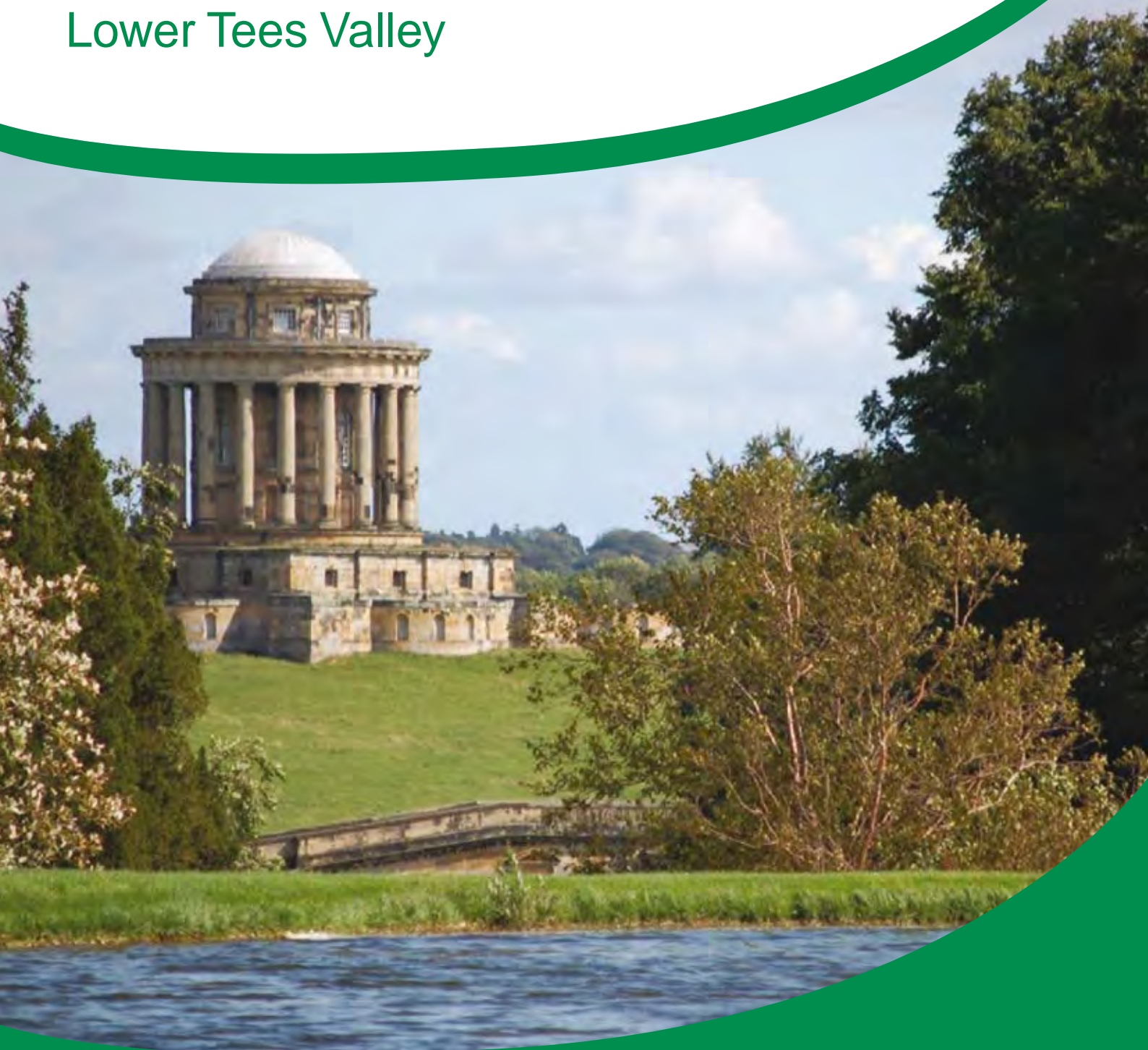


North

Yorkshire County Council

Historic landscape character

North Yorkshire, York and the
Lower Tees Valley



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**The North Yorkshire & Lower Tees Valley
Historic Landscape Characterisation**

**Final Report
December 2010**

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Economic and Rural Services
North Yorkshire County Council
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Front Cover: View of Castle Howard Mausoleum (L Bassindale, NYCC)

The North Yorkshire & Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation

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Errata

Figure 14, p 36, Figures 15 & 16, p39, Figure 18, p42, Figure 72, p125, Figure 86, p133 and Figure 174, p193.

Spelling should read "Middlesbrough".

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Summary

Between 2005 and 2010, North Yorkshire County Council, with extensive partnership support from English Heritage, North York Moors National Park Authority, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, City of York Council and Tees Archaeology, undertook an Historic Landscape Characterisation Project for North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley. The aim of this project was to use the methodology of Historic Landscape Characterisation to gain a better understanding of the historic dimension of the current landscape within the project area.

The project began by characterising four pilot areas (Filey, South of Selby, Vale of Mowbray, Middlesbrough and Great Ayton) to develop and finalise the methodology that would be employed. The characterisation process involved identifying an area of the landscape where the historic character was shared and defining the extent of that i.e. where it changed to another historic character. For example, with enclosed land an area of fields defined by straight boundaries may be defined as having shared historic character distinct from an area of enclosed strip fields with reverse 'S'-shaped curved boundaries that is adjacent.

The highest level of classification used is the broad type. This includes such categories as 'Enclosed Land', 'Settlement' and 'Industrial' broad types. The broad types allow the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC to be compared to other projects nationally. Below each broad type there are a number of HLC character types, for example 'Planned Large Scale Parliamentary Enclosure', 'Intake' and 'Piecemeal Enclosure' types. These HLC character types are created to refer to the specific historic character of the project area. The decision about which HLC character type to use is based upon the attributes; up to eight attached to each record. These add a further dimension to each record, allowing the database, and the historic character of the landscape, to be interrogated in a variety of ways.

The project utilised the HLC module within HBSMR software developed by Exegesis Spatial Data Management Ltd. This is a bespoke piece of software that uses, in the case of North Yorkshire County Council, Microsoft Access and MapInfo Professional GIS software¹ to manage the data of the Historic Environment Record. This allowed the project to use comprehensive text fields enabling the HLC project officers to record more detailed information. The HLC digitises the landscape at a scale of 1:10000 with a lowest digitising area threshold of two hectares.

In the Lower Tees Valley, a slightly different approach was adopted to pick up the detail of the urban areas. This was possible due to the contribution of officer time by Tees Archaeology. In other settlement areas, a broader approach was used, which involved defining the historic town core based on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

In total, the project has created 15461 descriptive records in the database, with associated polygons in the GIS, providing an added dimension to our understanding of the historic landscape within the project area.

North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley is a complex landscape with a variety of environments both in terms of the physical topography and the land management

¹ <http://www.pbinsight.eu/uk/products/location-intelligence/mapinfo-professional/mapinfo-professional/index.html>

employed. There are two National Parks, two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the City of York with an extensive time depth to these landscapes. When taken into account with the urban areas of the Lower Tees Valley, there is a high degree of variation in the historic character, and the legibility of that historic character.

The aim of this report is not to present all the evidence collected within the project, for that is the purpose of the database and GIS records, but to demonstrate the types of analysis which can be carried out with the HLC data. This is illustrated in several ways, firstly by exploring the broad types and highlighting some of the trends in the HLC character types. The report then moves on to look at broad trends that can be seen for each local authority area within the overall project area.

One of the important aspects of HLC is how it can relate detailed information on the historic character of the landscape to the broader national character areas defined by Natural England. This report analyses the HLC for three national character areas: the Vale of Pickering, the Humberhead Levels and the Sothern Magnesian Limestone.

The final section of the project carries out a rapid study of the parish of Scrayingham to show how HLC can enhance our understanding at a local scale.

Acknowledgements

The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Project was carried out between April 2005 and March 2010 by staff from the Historic Environment Team, North Yorkshire County Council, with Tees Archaeology undertaking characterisation of urban areas within the Lower Tees Valley. The results form part of the Historic Environment Records/Sites and Monuments Records of the five partner authorities involved. This report has been prepared by Stephen Toase, Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Officer, Historic Environment Team, North Yorkshire County Council.

North Yorkshire County Council would like to acknowledge the financial and management support, comments and advice provided by the project's management team, which comprised representatives from the six partner organisations involved with the project. Special thanks are due to English Heritage, the main project sponsor, in particular to Graham Fairclough, Head of Characterisation and Dave Hooley, Inspector, English Heritage Characterisation Team. We would also like to acknowledge the support, advice and guidance from project partners: Graham Lee (Senior Archaeological Conservation Officer, North York Moors National Park Authority), Robin Daniels (Archaeology Officer, Tees Archaeology), John Oxley (Archaeologist, City of York Council) and Robert White (Senior Conservation Archaeologist, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority). The production of the HLC has also benefited from conversations with, and feedback from, Paul Jackson (AONB Manager, Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and Paul Burgess (Nidderdale AONB Officer, Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty).

The project has not been an individual undertaking. Special thanks and appreciation must go to Melanie Partlett, Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Assistant, North Yorkshire County Council, for all her hard work and dedication to the project in its final two years; and to Peter Rowe (Historic Environment Record Officer, Tees Archaeology) for his detailed work on the characterisation of the urban areas of the Lower Tees Valley.

This project would not have been possible without the support of present and former colleagues at North Yorkshire County Council, in particular Gail Falkingham, Historic Environment Team Leader, for providing management and support during the latter half of the project and Nick Boldrini, Historic Environment Record Officer for all his technical and IT assistance throughout. Graham Townsend, GIS Manager, provided valuable support and guidance on GIS and mapping matters. Neil Campling, former Principal Archaeologist at North Yorkshire County Council, prepared the original project design with Robert White of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and their guidance during the initial stages of the project is much appreciated. Bob Sydes, former Heritage and Environment Manager with North Yorkshire County Council, contributed to project management. Thanks are also extended to Linda Smith, Rural Archaeologist, for her contribution to the geology, topography and thematic overview sections in Chapter 2 and to Liz Forster, former IfA Bursary Holder in Rural Archaeology and Neil Willmets, former Bradford University Archaeology Placement Student, with North Yorkshire County Council, for their contributions to the concordance of the Craven area Lancashire HLC data.

The project has drawn on the methodologies established in previous HLC projects. Particular thanks must go to Dan Ratcliffe, Andy Lines and Jennifer Marchant from

the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Characterisation Project, who provided valuable advice on structure and terminology during the set-up phase of the project. Thanks must also go to Miles Johnson, Countryside Archaeological Adviser, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, for sharing his knowledge and expertise regarding HLC.

During the set-up phase of the project, various specialists were invited to input into the terminology which would be utilised in the database. Thanks go to Val Hepworth of the Yorkshire Gardens Trust, as well as Martin Roe and Mike Gill of the Northern Mine Research Society. Thanks are also extended to the Lancashire County Council Archaeology Service for provision of HLC data from the Lancashire HLC project, which included the Craven area of North Yorkshire, outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

1. Introduction to the project

1.1 The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation Project

The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Project was begun in April 2005 and the digitisation completed in January 2010. The project area encompasses the whole of North Yorkshire as well as the Lower Tees Valley, a total area of over 891,100 hectares. This covers a number of local authority areas: the county of North Yorkshire, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority², the North York Moors National Park Authority, the City of York and the unitary authority boroughs of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees. Also included are the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and that part of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty that lies within North Yorkshire (see Figures 1, 2 and 3). This means there is an exceptional variety in the character of the landscape, in terms of the topography as well as the historic and natural environment.

The project steering group comprised representatives of all the above local authorities (with Tees Archaeology representing the unitary authority boroughs of the Lower Tees Valley) and English Heritage, who sponsored the project as part of their national programme of Historic Landscape Characterisation.

The project was carried out by an Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Officer employed by North Yorkshire County Council for the duration of the project, and an Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Assistant for the final twenty months of the project. Additional support was provided by Tees Archaeology, who undertook the characterisation of the urban settlement areas of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Billingham.

The project has been a five year undertaking to gain a better understanding of the surviving historic character of the modern landscape, recognising that this historic character is the product of landscape changes over many centuries. Such information and understanding has a variety of applications and can be used to inform landscape management, landscape character assessment and strategies, spatial planning, and learning and outreach³.

The main product of the project has been the creation of a body of data identifying, mapping and characterising the distinctive historic dimension of the present urban and rural environment of the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley area. This is a comprehensive product in database and geographic information system (GIS) format, created using a number of sources of information, including digital historic maps and aerial photographs. Having identified aspects of the natural and built environment that have been shaped by human activity in the past, attributes have been grouped together using a classification of broad character types, which in turn have been subdivided into more detailed HLC types of current and previous historic character.

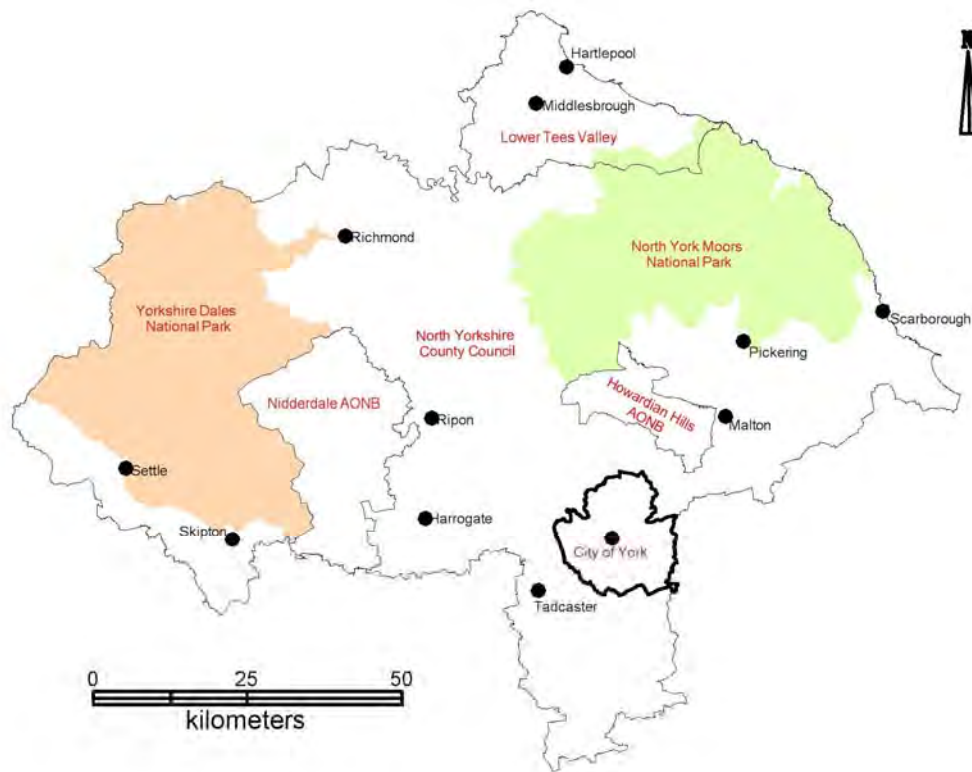
² Excluding that part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park that lies within Cumbria. This had been covered by Miles Johnson as part of the Cumbria HLC project and data for this area is held within the YDNPA HER and by Cumbria County Council.

³ Clark, Darlington and Fairclough 2004



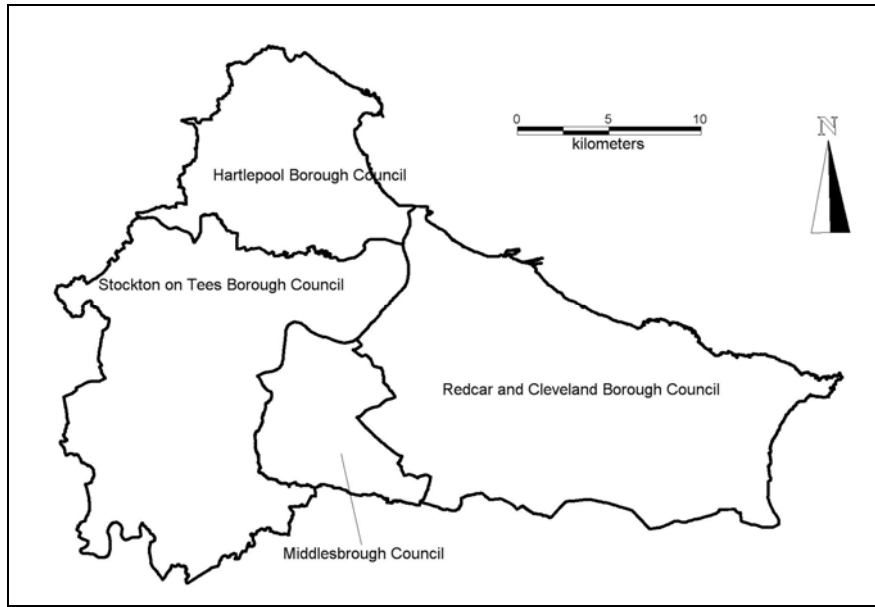
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Figure 1 Area covered by the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project (in grey) in relation to the UK



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Figure 2 North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project area showing local authorities, AONBs and main settlements



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Figure 3 The unitary authorities of the Lower Tees Valley

Particular patterns or groupings of areas of similar current historic character have been mapped as GIS polygons with linked database descriptions. Additional details about the project methodology and sources of information used can be found in Section 3.

1.2 Scope of the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Characterisation Project Report

As mentioned above, the main products of the project are the digital data in database and GIS format. The amount of data collected on historic landscape character for the project area, and as a result the physical character of the landscape, is vast. The total number of HLC types recorded within the project itself totals 205, although some occur only once. The total number of records in the database is 15461. Digital data has been disseminated to each of the project partners and is held within the respective local authority Historic Environment Records (formerly known as Sites and Monuments Records).

Whilst the historic characterisation and mapping has covered every part of the project area, this report does not aim to identify and describe every aspect of this information, for this will be found in the database and GIS data. The Historic Landscape Characterisation database can be queried in an almost endless amount of ways. The report does not aim to produce a definitive account of the historic landscape character of North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley landscapes, rather it is to demonstrate the ways in which the data can be interrogated and explore some of the broad trends that emerge.

Section 4 of this report will explore each broad character type, exploring distribution, survival and form. Chart 1 provides a broad overview of the total percentage of each broad type within the project area. Each broad type is discussed with a brief summary of the main HLC character types. In some cases, for example planned

enclosure, the results for a number of HLC character types are presented together, to allow more meaningful analysis to be carried out.

To show how this data can be used at a more focussed level, Section 5 of the report will use the HLC data to examine the historic landscape character of each of the partner areas: the two National Parks, the City of York, Lower Tees Valley and the North Yorkshire HER area, drawing out the broad trends that are visible within these contrasting landscapes. A similar approach has been applied to three of the National Character Areas which fall within the project area, and the two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Howardian Hills and Nidderdale.

To show the flexibility of use of HLC data at different scales and for different purposes, the report also looks at a specific parish, Scrayingham, to show how HLC can inform our understanding of the historic character of a modern parish landscape. A specific estate, that of Birdsall, is also studied, which formed one of the earliest areas to be characterised within the project in 2005 and was used subsequently to inform the development of a farm environment plan.

1.3 General introduction to Historic Landscape Characterisation

Characterisation is an important tool which allows us to expand our view away from individual monuments and buildings to gain an understanding of the wider historic landscape. As an approach, characterisation has its origins in the 1960s, and the concept of 'character' outlined in the 1967 Conservation Area legislation⁴. Other influences include Landscape Character Assessment⁵ and the English Heritage Historic Landscape Project carried out between 1992 and 1994⁶. Following the highlighting of characterisation in both Planning Policy Guidance note 7 on 'The Countryside - Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development'⁷ and Planning Policy Guidance note 15 on 'Planning and the Historic Environment'⁸, it was used as an approach in the Countryside Character Map, produced jointly by the Countryside Commission, English Heritage and English Nature⁹.

The methodology for Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) was pioneered in Cornwall¹⁰, following an invitation from the Government for English Heritage to produce a list of special historic landscapes. It was felt that as the whole landscape is the product of human, historic activity a methodology was needed which encompassed the historic environment in its broadest sense. A number of methodologies were trialled before HLC was decided on as an approach.

Before HLC, no method existed for assessing the historic character for the whole landscape. Many of the studies that existed at the time, carried out on a local basis, were excellent but focussed in on particular areas. HLC differs in that it takes an holistic approach to the landscape, allowing it to be assessed on its own terms, including the typical and commonplace rather than just perceived 'high value' areas.

⁴ HMSO 1967

⁵ Swanwick and Land Use Consultants 2002

⁶ Fairclough *et al* 1999

⁷ DoE 1997

⁸ DoE 1994

⁹ Countryside Commission and English Nature 1996

¹⁰ Herring 1998

At its heart, HLC has nine guiding principles:¹¹

- Present not past
- Landscape not sites
- All aspects of the landscape
- Human landscape - biodiversity is a cultural phenomenon
- Interpretation not record, perception not facts
- People's views
- Management of change, not preservation
- Transparency
- Jargon free, easily accessible
- Integration

HLC projects are carried out, in the main, by local authorities in partnership with English Heritage. This has meant that there has been flexibility to the methodology allowing it to be adaptable to local character. At the time of writing, nearly 90% of the historic characterisation of England has either been completed or is underway¹².

On the 1st March 2007 the European Landscape Convention came into force, following ratification on the 21st November 2006¹³. HLC is fully compliant with the aims and aspirations of the Convention.

1.4 Previous Landscape Character Assessment in the Project Area

Prior to, and during the life of, the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project, a number of landscape character assessments have been undertaken for areas which fall within the project area. The earliest of these date to the early 1990s, and the most recent is a landscape character assessment for North Yorkshire undertaken in 2009/10¹⁴. Details can be found in the online Landscape Character Network 'Database of Landscape Character Assessments in England'¹⁵.

Within the Lower Tees Valley, there has been landscape character assessment or landscape assessment for Redcar and Cleveland¹⁶, the Cleveland Community Forest¹⁷ and Hartlepool¹⁸. Within the City of York there has been a landscape appraisal¹⁹. There has been a landscape character assessment of the Yorkshire Dales National Park²⁰, and North York Moors National Park²¹, as well as for a North York Moors Upland Land Management Initiative²² and the CAN DO Hambleton and Howardian Hills Landscape Partnership Area²³. The Howardian Hills Landscape has

¹¹ Clark, Darlington and Fairclough 2004

¹² <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/characterisation/historic-landscape-character/>

¹³ Council of Europe 2000

¹⁴ Chris Blandford Associates forthcoming

¹⁵ <http://landscapecharacter.org.uk/db/index.html>

¹⁶ Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council 2006

¹⁷ Cleveland Community Forest 1992

¹⁸ Hartlepool Borough Council 2000

¹⁹ City of York Council 1996

²⁰ Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority 2001

²¹ White Young Green 2003

²² North York Moors National Park Authority 2000

²³ The Hambleton and Howardian Hills CAN DO Partnership in association with the North York Moors National Park Authority 2007

also been assessed by the Countryside Commission²⁴, and elsewhere in North Yorkshire, there have been landscape assessments for Northern Ryedale²⁵, Selby District²⁶, Scarborough Borough²⁷, Harrogate Borough²⁸ and Hambleton District²⁹. Part of Craven District was covered by a landscape character assessment for Lancashire commissioned in 1999³⁰ and the area of Craven outside the National Park studied in 2002³¹. More recently, landscape character assessment has been carried out for the Forest of Bowland AONB³².

Currently in production is the 'North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment' which North Yorkshire County Council commissioned Chris Blandford Associates to produce in late 2009³³. This work has been informed by the full HLC digital dataset.

1.5 The National Character Areas³⁴

The HLC project area covers fifteen national character areas, see Figure 4. These give us an insight into the broad character of the landscape, and each national character area has been defined taking the cultural aspects of the landscape into consideration.

The definition of the national character areas used a methodology developed from a pilot in the South West, which was subsequently rolled out nationally. This utilised twelve national datasets, seven of which are explicitly concerned with the historic landscape: farm types, settlement patterns, woodland cover, field density and pattern, visible archaeology, industrial history and designed parkland.

These datasets were combined using a system of statistical analysis to provide an overview of the character. Each square kilometre in the country was assigned an attribute for each dataset. The process then worked on the principle "...that all the kilometre squares in the sample (the whole of England) can be divided up into a number of groups on the basis of the presence or absence of a particular attribute. This subdivision continues until an appropriate number of end groups are reached, each of which will contain kilometre squares with similar attributes. The map which resulted from this then informed the definition of character areas³⁵."

²⁴ Countryside Commission 1995

²⁵ Gillespies 1999

²⁶ Woolerton Dodwell Associates 1999

²⁷ Scarborough Borough Council 1994

²⁸ Harrogate Borough Council 2004

²⁹ Hambleton District Council 1991

³⁰ Environmental Resources Management 2000

³¹ Landscape Design Associates 2002

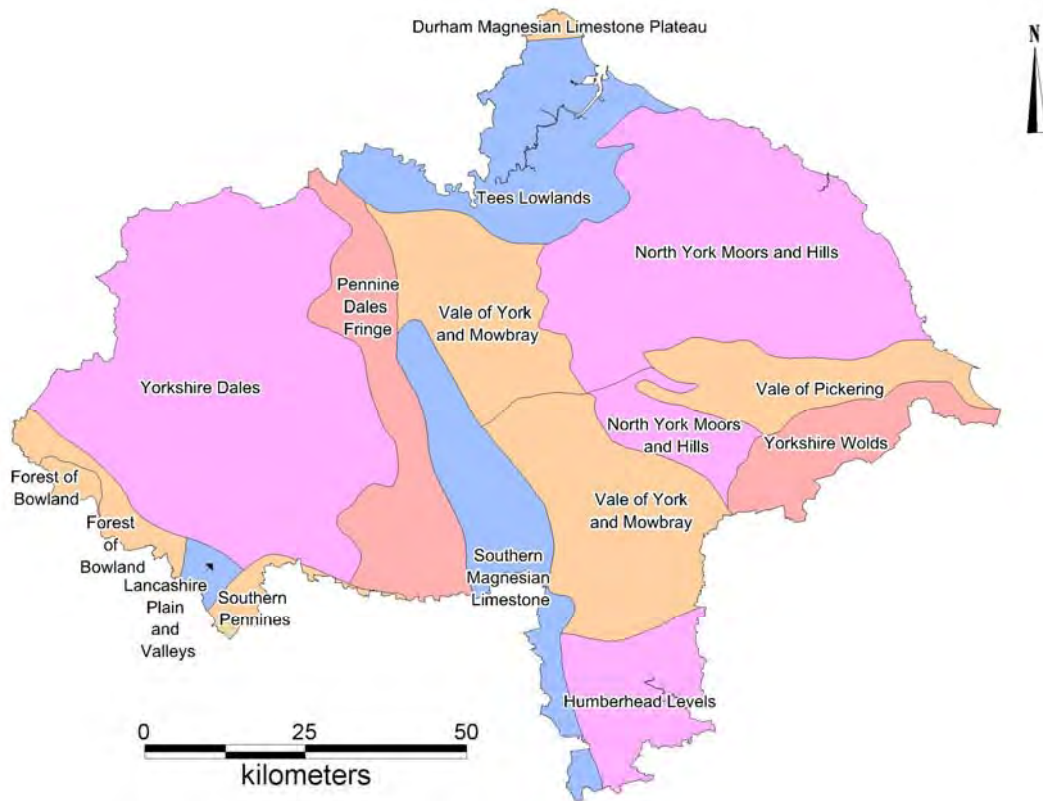
³² Lancashire County Council 2009

³³ Chris Blandford Associates forthcoming

³⁴ Countryside Commission 2005 and

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/englands/character/areas/default.aspx>

³⁵ Countryside Commission 1998, 8-9



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Figure 4 National character areas within the HLC project area

1.6 Applications of HLC

HLC has many different applications within the management of the historic environment. A key application is to address the need to build a landscape-based approach into our understanding of the historic environment. As communities, both now and in the past, engaged with the landscape and each other, they have a wider impact than can be expressed purely by the study of monuments. Over the past twenty years, the heritage community has become increasingly aware of a need to develop a landscape-based approach. This can take many forms, and has many tools at its disposal; for example aerial survey, topographic survey, rapid field survey, map regression and documentary evidence. All of these techniques add a different body of information to the way the historic landscape can be assessed. HLC provides a further approach to contribute to, and enhance, these other methods.

Due to its broad-brush approach, the use of HLC information allows a rapid assessment to be made of the historic character of landscapes to inform decision making and planning at a strategic level. Whilst it would be desirable for rapid field survey, at the very least, to be carried out for as much of the historic landscape as possible, this is an enormous task. To survey the whole of the area covered by the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project on foot, working on the basis of coverage of approximately 1 hectare per half a day, it would take approximately 2,225 years to complete. What HLC can do, is provide a starting point, a framework for more detailed work to be undertaken thereafter.

HLC takes a comprehensive approach to the landscape, considering all aspects as contributing to the historic character. This means that the information collected is especially well placed to inform positive landscape management³⁶. The compilation and maintenance of HLC data in a GIS system allows a large amount of complex and in depth information to be provided rapidly for a variety of landscape management outputs.

Within local government, the historic environment services provided by the local authorities who are partners in this HLC project regularly provide historic environment data and advice to inform a wide range of schemes, from those requiring planning permission to those concerning land management, and those for which grants are available through national agencies, such as Natural England and Defra.

The availability of HLC data to be included in the information provided to inform agri-environment schemes, for example farm environment plans as part of higher level stewardship³⁷, can enhance the scope, depth and understanding of the historic environment within a particular land holding. In the same way, the holistic approach which HLC embodies means that it has a particular role to play in the management of woodland, and the allocation of English woodland grant schemes³⁸. As will be shown later in the report, the woodlands identified during the project are a product of human activity whether through passive or active management.

Due to the scale at which HLC is carried out, it sits neatly between different levels of landscape assessment. It can inform and enhance landscape character assessment at different scales, from county-wide approaches, such as the North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment³⁹, to district-wide approaches to support the evidence base for local development frameworks, such as the special qualities study of Ryedale's market towns⁴⁰.

Other applications of HLC include its role in informing spatial planning and strategies, including for example, strategic environment assessments and sustainability appraisals and minerals and waste development frameworks, as well as area management plans, such as those for an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty⁴¹. All this work can be underpinned by the information provided from the HLC project, enabling the historic environment to be considered from a landscape perspective.

HLC provides an excellent opportunity to develop partnerships, both internally and with external partners. Because the data collected is inclusive, in terms of geographical extent and time depth, it provides a mechanism to start dialogue with many different groups. Because HLC data records aspects of the natural environment, for example in terms of boundary type, woodland character and unenclosed land ground cover, it provides a mechanism to develop close working between natural environment and historic environment colleagues. HLC can inform the creation of green corridors to ensure that they enhance and respect the historic character of the landscape.

³⁶ Clark, Darlington and Fairclough 2004; 13

³⁷ <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/es/hls/default.aspx>

³⁸ <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs>

³⁹ Chris Blandford Associates forthcoming

⁴⁰ Ryedale District Council 2010

⁴¹ Howardian Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee 2009

In recent years, there has been a rise in interest in local distinctiveness, with organisations such as Common Ground engaging with communities to draw out these themes. HLC can, on a local level, provide a framework through which there can be a dialogue about local character and distinctiveness, complementing or enhancing the understanding of the historic landscape gained from the project.

The historic character of the landscape forms an important aspect of what attracts people to the region, which in turn feeds into the local economy. HLC can enhance our understanding of the historic character in these areas, for example the wider environs of the City of York Authority. It can also draw attention to the historic character of the wider landscape, promoting these as possible destinations.

2. Overview of the project area

2.1 Geology

This section provides a brief overview of the solid and drift geology, together with their dominant industries which have had an impact on the landscape. Solid and drift geology maps are reproduced in Figures 5a and 6.

Solid geology⁴²

The extraction of lead, and sometimes copper, from the Carboniferous limestones of the Pennines from the Medieval period onwards heavily modified the landscape. In some areas they are interbedded with sandstones which contain narrow beds of coal which was also extracted. These hard limestones have also been extensively quarried for buildings and the characteristic dry stone walls of the Dales for many centuries whereas the soft Permian-period Magnesian limestone which runs north-south through the county is an important modern quarry product used crushed for construction and other purposes. Calcareous springs in this strip led to the creation of the spa towns at Harrogate and Ripon in the 18th century. The complex lower and middle Jurassic strata of the North York Moors yield a variety of uses, including Whitby jet utilised for jewellery, an iron industry from the late prehistoric period to the 19th century, coal mining (also in the Howardian Hills) and finally alum and cement working on the eastern and northern fringes. It is used as a building stone which gives the houses and farm buildings of the area their soft creamy colour. Wold chalk, although very soft, is easily cut and was used as a domestic and farm building stone usually with brick corners, window and door surrounds. Small farm quarries are very common; there was an industrial chalk quarry and limekilns near Wharram station.

Drift geology

The topography of the study area is best understood in relation to its glacial history, the last glaciation being so severe it wiped out most of the earlier deposits⁴³ except in some caves at the southern edge of what became the Yorkshire Dales. Ice came into the area from upper Teesdale and the Cheviots, sweeping south past the hard rocks of the uplands, one arm moving through the Vales of Mowbray and York, the other down the Tees Valley and skirting east of the North York Moors; thus the central area of lowland and the sharp cliffs of the coast were created, whilst incursions inland created the Vale of Pickering, Esk Valley and Robin Hoods Bay⁴⁴.

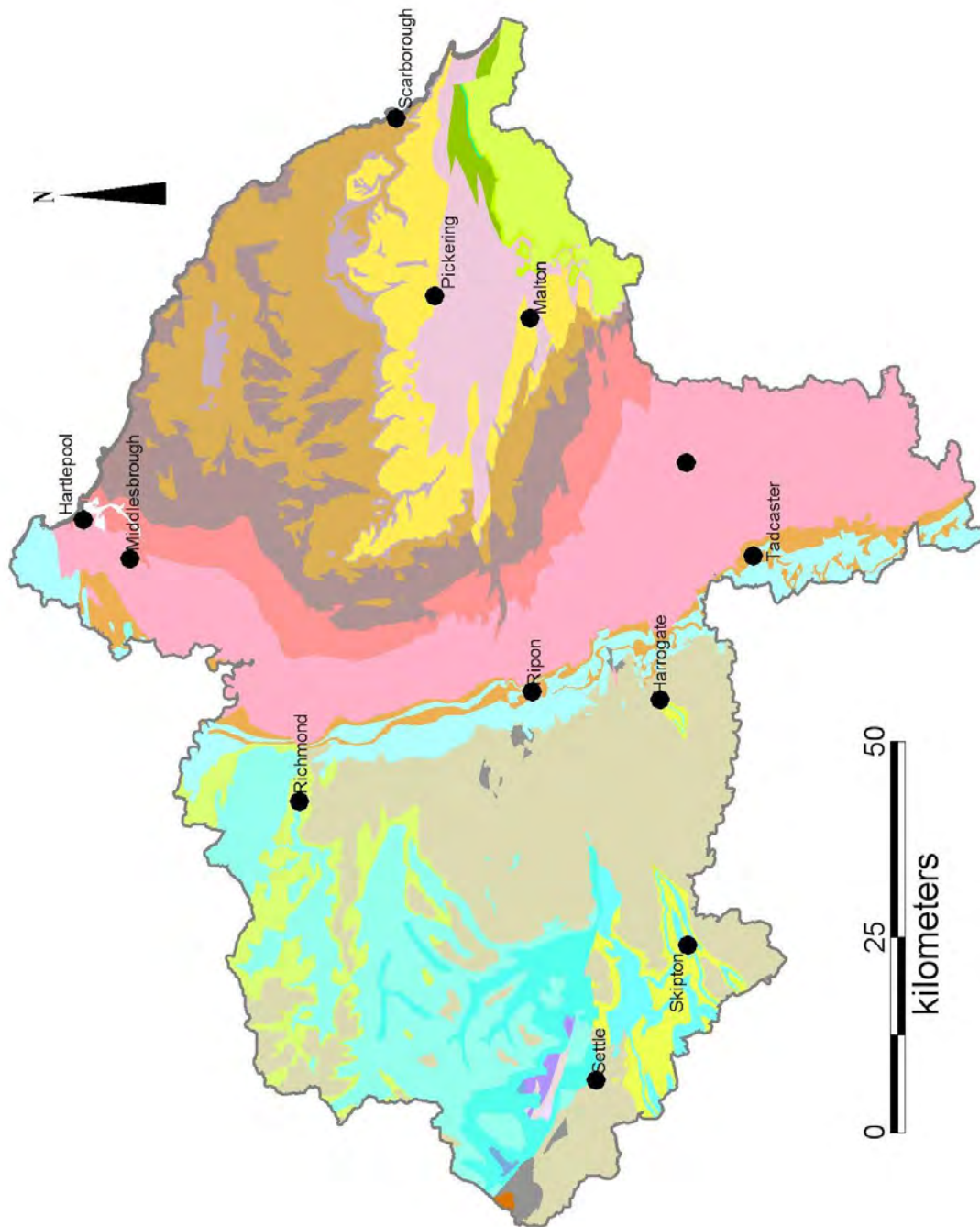
Glacial till or boulder clay was deposited by the ice on much of the lower ground and shows the limits of the ice sheet against the harder rocks of the uplands. It created the undulating topography in parts of the Vale of York seen today and terminal moraines marking the retreat of the ice-blocked valleys creating lake-flats in many of the Pennine dales⁴⁵. Ice had a scouring effect too, deepening and widening valleys in Littondale, upper Swaledale and elsewhere in the Pennines where it bared the limestone, creating pavements of bare rock and removing any signs of earlier human activity.

⁴² Taylor 2003, 8-10

⁴³ Atkinson 2003, 10

⁴⁴ Atkinson 2003, 11

⁴⁵ Atkinson 2003, 12



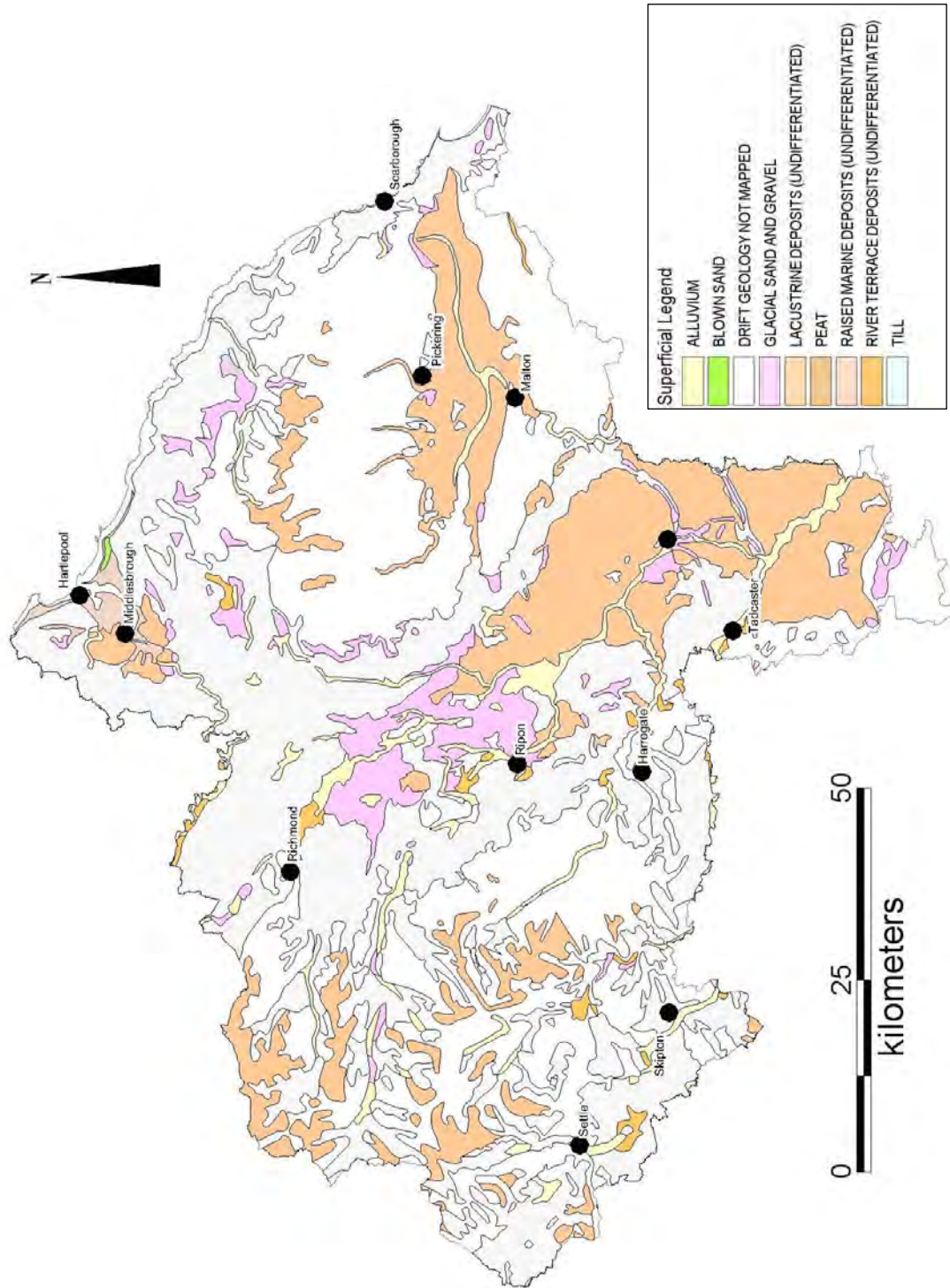
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Figure 5a Solid geology within the HLC project area (see Figure 5b for key)

CRETACEOUS		WEALDEN GROUP - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
CRETACEOUS		GAULT FORMATION AND UPPER GREENSAND FORMATION (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SANDSTONE AND LIMESTONE
CRETACEOUS		WHITE CHALK SUBGROUP - CHALK
JURASSIC		WEST WALTON FORMATION, AMPHILL CLAY FORMATION AND KIMMERIDGE CLAY FORMATION (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MU
JURASSIC		CORALLIAN GROUP - LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND MUDSTONE
JURASSIC		KELLAWAYS FORMATION AND OXFORD CLAY FORMATION (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
JURASSIC		RAVENSCAR GROUP - SANDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND MUDSTONE
JURASSIC		LIAS GROUP - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE, LIMESTONE AND SANDSTONE
TRIASSIC		TRIASSIC ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
TRIASSIC		TRIASSIC ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - SANDSTONE AND CONGLOMERATE, INTERBEDDED
PERMIAN		PERMIAN ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
PERMIAN		PERMIAN ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - SANDSTONE AND CONGLOMERATE, INTERBEDDED
PERMIAN		ZECHSTEIN GROUP - DOLOMITISED LIMESTONE AND DOLOMITE
CARBONIFEROUS		PENININE LOWER COAL MEASURES FORMATION AND SOUTH WALES LOWER COAL MEASURES FORMATION (UNDIFFERENTIATED)
CARBONIFEROUS		MILLSTONE GRIT GROUP [SEE ALSO MIGR] - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
CARBONIFEROUS		YOREDALE GROUP - LIMESTONE WITH SUBORDINATE SANDSTONE AND ARGILLACEOUS ROCKS
CARBONIFEROUS		BOWL AND HIGH GROUP AND CRAVEN GROUP (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - LIMESTONE
CARBONIFEROUS		BOWL AND HIGH GROUP AND CRAVEN GROUP (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
CARBONIFEROUS		YOREDALE GROUP - LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND MUDSTONE
CARBONIFEROUS		DINANTIAN ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - LIMESTONE WITH SUBORDINATE SANDSTONE AND ARGILLACEOUS ROCKS
SILURIAN		SILURIAN ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
SILURIAN		WENLOCK ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - SANDSTONE AND CONGLOMERATE, INTERBEDDED
ORDOVICIAN		ASHGILL ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE
ORDOVICIAN		ORDOVICIAN ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED) - MUDSTONE, SILTSTONE AND SANDSTONE

Figure 5b Key to solid geology map in Figure 5a

Modern exploitation of drift geology has impacted upon the landscape, for example the large-scale sand and gravel extraction in the Vale of Mowbray. The glacial till has been quarried for building stones in the area for hundreds of years, many buildings and walls or wall footings showing large cobbles of mixed material. In contrast, the impact of centuries of peat cutting for domestic and industrial (lead smelting) fuel in the uplands and Vale of Pickering are as yet only poorly mapped and even less understood.



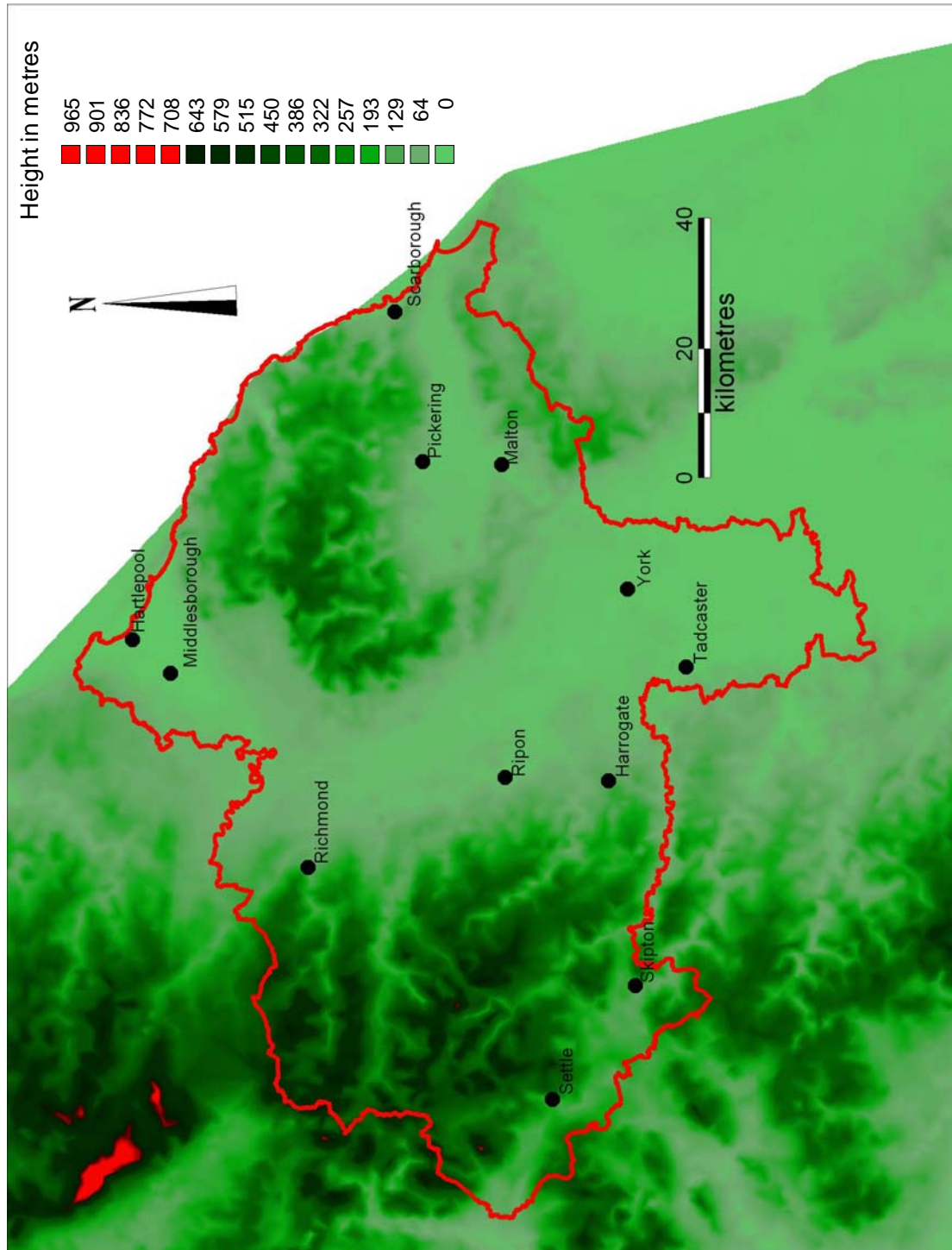
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Figure 6 Drift geology within the HLC project area

2.2 Topography

The width of the project area covers 93 miles (150km) from east to west, stretching almost from coast to coast from Scarborough and Filey on the east coast to just beyond Settle in the west, less than 12 miles (18km) from the west coast at Morecambe Bay. From north to south, the area extends for 76 miles (122km) from north of Hartlepool to below Tadcaster, just below the M62 motorway in the south. Given these dimensions, it is not surprising that the topography of the area is highly varied, being a product of geology and geological processes, creating here a series of well-known rich and varied landscapes, from the rugged coast of the North York Moors on the east to the Selby lowlands in the south, see Figure 7. Two main areas of upland draw the eye, the Pennine chain in the west dominated by the limestone Three Peaks of Whernside (736m), Pen-y-Ghent (694m) and Ingleborough (723m) in the south and Rogan's Seat (672m) and Angram Common (716m) further north. The North York Moors massif is lower, achieving a maximum height of 454m on Cockayne Ridge and 433m on Westerdale Moor but with notable outliers of the Eston and Upleatham Hills (183m and 179m respectively) between Guisborough and the Tees estuary and the Howardian Hills with 172m on Yearsley Moor. Frequently unnoticed as an upland block are the Yorkshire Wolds which reach 220m at Wharram Percy Farm.

Some areas are sharply defined by scarp slopes, such as the northern edges of the North York Moors and Wolds and the dramatic rise of the Carboniferous limestone on the south side of the Dales but elsewhere the hills fall more gently down to the broad lowlands where the many rivers running off the uplands and down valleys slow down and deposit their load in the shallow north-south lowland created by the ice. Two estuaries, the Tees and the Esk, outfall on the coast. There is no estuary at the eastern end of the Vale of Pickering because it is blocked by a moraine, forcing the river systems to flow inland. South of York, the Humberhead Levels create a broad low-lying area with low topography and often wet soils.



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Figure 7 Topography of the HLC project area (outlined in red)

2.3 Thematic overview of the Historic Environment of the Project Area

An area with the size and geographical complexity of North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley does not lend itself easily to a summary overview, which inevitably leaves out more than it could ever include. However, it is felt important to provide some sort of assessment for the user and so a thematic approach has been taken, covering the themes of settlement, religion and ceremony, communication, industry, defence and agriculture, with examples from all periods spread throughout the project area. The emphasis is on elements visible in the current landscape, reflecting human activity for over 5,000 years.

Settlement

Prehistoric activity, generally, is not difficult to find but upstanding settlement is rare and tends to be most obvious on the thin limestone soils of Craven, for example the hut circles on Malham Moor⁴⁶, although other sites do exist for example the Bronze Age enclosure on Westerdale Moor, Castleton⁴⁷. One of the most visible prehistoric settlements is the late Iron Age site at Stanwick, north of Scotch Corner, where large earthwork embankments encircled an oppidum or proto-town and have been incorporated into later park and field boundaries⁴⁸.

Scarborough possibly has the earliest origins of any extant town in the area, developing from a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age promontory fort⁴⁹ closely followed by a Roman signal station, both making use of the natural promontory. However these do not constitute major settlement whereas Roman York, which was founded around AD 71, developed into an important legionary fortress and civilian settlement⁵⁰.

The towns of York, Hartlepool and Whitby have important Saxon monastic settlements which possibly included control of markets and/or maritime trade at river mouths or crossings⁵¹.

Small market towns tend to be situated in the rural lowlands/upland fringe except where river valleys contained settlements and communication routes as at Hawes in upper Wensleydale, Reeth in Swaledale and Egton in Eskdale⁵². Whitby and Hartlepool were positioned differently, being on the coast, and they had the multiple benefits of monastic settlement, market and port. Many other market towns began life as Saxon settlements but may have been remodelled in the 12th century with broad main streets to accommodate markets as at Yarm and Stockton and Northallerton whereas Thirsk, Richmond and Skipton were influenced in their plans by the development or insertion of a castle. Harrogate had a late start, developing from a scattered collection of hamlets into a well-established spa town by the end of the 18th century⁵³.

⁴⁶ White 1997, 27 and fig 15

⁴⁷ Crosthwaite 1986, 29

⁴⁸ Wheeler 1954

⁴⁹ Pearson 2005, 2

⁵⁰ Butler *ed.* 1971

⁵¹ Petts and Gerrard 2006, 65

⁵² Daniell 2003, 103

⁵³ Morrison 2003, 203

The largest settlements today are in the Tees estuary industrial conurbation from Hartlepool to Redcar, whilst York, Harrogate and Scarborough continue to flourish as modern business and commercial centres.

Religion and ceremony

Throughout the project area are many good stone sources but perhaps curiously there is very little in the megalithic tradition that elsewhere typifies prehistoric ceremonial and funerary sites. Exceptions include the Devil's Arrows standing stones at Boroughbridge, stone circle(s) at the High Bride Stones on Sleights Moor and the Yockenthwaite stone circle in Littondale. Stone was used for rock art which tends to be found in specific areas where suitable rock types are found, such as the lower Wharfe valley (millstone grit), Fylingdales Moor (Jurassic sandstone)⁵⁴ and on Feldon Ranges above Richmond. For large ceremonial monuments earthen features banks with stony fills were often used for henges, as at Thornborough east of Masham, Castle Dykes near Aysgarth and Yarnbury⁵⁵ near Grassington.

Most evident in this theme are the medieval and post-medieval parish churches, especially in rural areas where they are most visible, towering above the village often in an elevated position as at Pateley Bridge or set apart as at Great Ouseburn. Selby and Whitby abbeys, Ripon, St Hilda's at Hartlepool and York Minster form notable landmarks, some with their origins as Saxon minsters.

Communication

In this area of well-defined topography, with high plateaux cut by rivers and broad lowland valleys in between, communication routes in the pre-modern era were determined by the availability of river crossings, condition of flood plains and density of wood and scrub. Prehistoric routes can be seen in some co-axial field systems in the Dales⁵⁶ and from the air as cropmarks in many parts of the project area. A number of Roman roads have been recorded in the study area (see Figures 8 and 9). The present A1(M) road through North Yorkshire follows the course of Roman Dere Street for much of its length, an important part of military infrastructure to aid the movement of troops north to Hadrian's Wall⁵⁷.

The Great North Road (actually a series of trade routes) has long been a major north-south communication route linking the south of England with Scotland. East-west routes were also important for transporting goods to and from the coastal ports of the Tees, Whitby and Scarborough, the river at York (with connections to the road system) and bringing wool and lead from the Pennines and alum and ironstone from the North York Moors. Drove roads and pack horse routes such as the paved trod or medieval pannier way on Lealholm Rigg, North York Moors are relatively rare survivals in unforgiving territory, sometimes with wayside crosses as markers⁵⁸.

The great Cistercian monasteries created an extensive network of trackways to connect the abbeys with their granges and lands and to transport goods from the uplands down to the mother house on lower ground. The most extensive series of

⁵⁴ Brown and Chappell 2005, 32

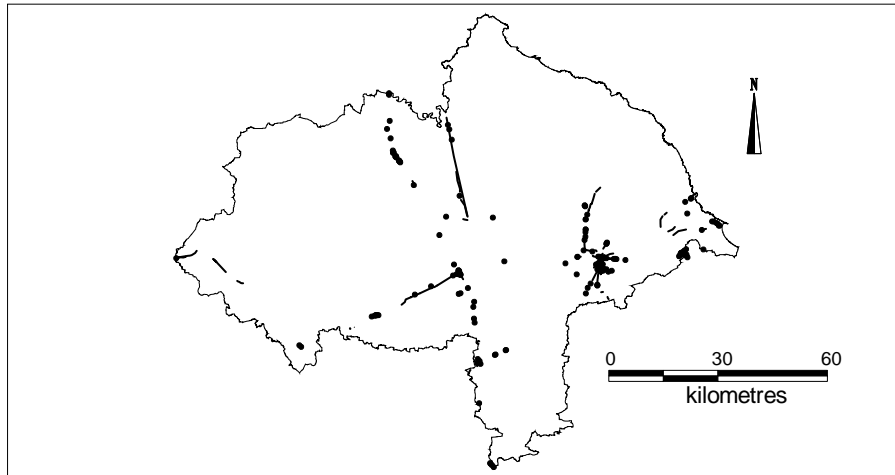
⁵⁵ <http://www.outofoblivion.org.uk/record.asp?id=518>

⁵⁶ <http://www.outofoblivion.org.uk/roads.asp>

⁵⁷ Wilson 2003, 48

⁵⁸ Daniell 2003, 101-104

new roads were created from the mid 18th century onwards in the form of turnpikes which facilitated commerce between both manufacturing and market towns⁵⁹.



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Figure 8 Roman roads identified within the project area



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Figure 9 Probable course of the Roman road from Northallerton northwards to the Tees, seen in the field boundaries slightly to the east of the bright green line.

Canals followed and, together with rivers, were the best option for moving heavy goods until the creation of the railway network in the 19th century. From its beginnings at Stockton on Tees, the rail network grew to have considerable influence on the landscape ranging from major engineering works and the headquarters of the dominant North Eastern Railway in York to the tunnels and viaducts such as the

⁵⁹ Sheils 2003, 128-9

famous Ribbleshead Viaduct on the Settle to Carlisle route⁶⁰. Hundreds of miles of lines stretched across the countryside connecting rural areas, villages and towns and a whole architectural style was created in the building of stations, hotels, signal boxes and crossing-keepers houses.

Industry

The complex geology in the project area supported extractive industries for obtaining a variety of raw materials including lead, lime and coal from the eastern Pennines and ironstone, coal, alum and lime from the North York Moors and Eston Hills. Salt, lead and coal were probably exploited early, there are Roman lead ingots from near Pateley Bridge, otherwise our knowledge comes from documents from the great monastic houses at Fountains and Rievaulx which describe rentals and agreements for both lead and iron, industries whose importance continued for several hundred years as well as the surviving remains. In the post medieval period alum production dominated the north east part of the Moors and ironstone from there was taken to the Tees estuary foundries for production into finished goods⁶¹.

Textiles became industrially important in the 18th and 19th centuries with manufacture impacting on the landscape as flax mills clustered on the western side of the North York Moors and wool, worsteds and cotton mills dominating the wetter south-west from Skipton to Ingleton⁶².

Defence

Earliest visible defensive structures may be the late Bronze Age/Iron Age palisaded enclosures as at Eston Nab⁶³ in Redcar and Cleveland and Staple Howe in Ryedale, though whether built to defend against animals or people is uncertain. There are many Roman forts such as Elslack, the legionary fortress at York and later Roman signal stations on the coast which signify the strategic importance of the area.

Medieval castles abound due to Norman military consolidation (Knaresborough), Scottish raids (Northallerton), and royal building (Middleham)⁶⁴. Some made big impacts on the landscape by influencing the development of the town as at Richmond or forcing considerable reorganisation of existing settlement as at Cawood and Helmsley.

The Second World War had a great impact on the area, when the Vale of York became virtually one huge landing strip with airfields every few miles⁶⁵. The low-lying parts of the east coast are vulnerable to invasion and attack, prompting the creation of signal stations as early as the Roman period and measures such as Heugh Gun Battery at Hartlepool were installed in the 19th century but continued in use until 1944⁶⁶. Catterick Camp has developed, since 1915 when troops first occupied it⁶⁷, to

⁶⁰ Sheils 2003, 132

⁶¹ Lee and White 2003, 163-190

⁶² Lawton 2003, 186-188

⁶³ http://www.teesarchaeology.com/new/eston_hills.html

⁶⁴ Matthieu 2003, 82-84

⁶⁵ Halpenny 1982, 7

⁶⁶ http://www.teesarchaeology.com/new/heugh_indepth.html

⁶⁷ <http://www.richmond.org/guide/history.html>

become the Army's base in the northern UK⁶⁸, with extensive ranges on the edge of Swaledale as well as built development with barracks and other buildings.

Agriculture

In North Yorkshire agriculture has been an important influence for over 5, 000 years and continues to be so today as the county remains predominantly rural. Much visible early farming is confined to the uplands where subsequent activity has not obliterated it, such as the co-axial field systems on Calverside Moor, Swaledale⁶⁹, Westerdale Moor⁷⁰ and Lofthouse (Nidderdale). Cropmark evidence reveals large areas of field systems in the lowlands but by its nature does not contribute to the visible landscape character today. Best places for upstanding sites of this type in the lowland are the few remaining commons in the Humberhead Levels such as Skipwith Common to the south of York which also has post-medieval line pits for retting flax.

The medieval period is clearer, with fossilised strip fields at Middleton (Pickering), ridge and furrow fields such as at Stainsby⁷¹ Middlesbrough, Poppleton Ings York and probably the piecemeal enclosure at Timble⁷².

There are a large number of planned and model farmsteads in the old North Riding which has more dating from 1750-1790 than any other area⁷³, and consequently is likely to have had an impact on field patterns though research would be needed to establish if this is the case. A good example of this farm building type is at Birdsall Home Farm, with an early 19th century example at Demesne Farm Fylingdales and five planned farmsteads in Kirkleatham parish all built 1760-1770 with eighteenth century enclosures strongly visible around.

⁶⁸ Archaeological Services Durham University 2007, 2-3

⁶⁹ White 1997, 20-21

⁷⁰ Crosthwaite 1986, 29

⁷¹ http://www.teesarchaeology.com/new/stainsby_indepth.html

⁷² HLC record HNY1803

⁷³ Wade Martins 2002, 222

3. Methodology

3.1 Background

The North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) has been a five year project which aimed to study, record and analyse the historic character of the current landscape for five adjoining partner authority areas: North Yorkshire, the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the North York Moors National Park, the Lower Tees Valley and the City of York. During the planning stages of the project, a pilot study was carried out by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, which looked at a 1km square area of Swaledale to test the methodology and used MasterMap Ordnance Survey mapping and MapInfo Professional GIS software.

3.2 Evolution of the HLC Project Methodology

The methodology used is based on the nationally-accepted approach, outlined by Aldred and Fairclough⁷⁴. Following the appointment of the HLC Project Officer in April 2005, based with North Yorkshire County Council, it was decided to use the HLC and MapLink modules within the HBSMR database⁷⁵, software utilised by the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (HER), to carry out the characterisation. This would have several advantages in that the HLC digital data would be fully integrated within the Historic Environment Records for North Yorkshire County Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park, which also used the same software. Since 2008, the City of York Council has also used HBSMR to manage its historic environment data. The HBSMR software, utilising a Microsoft Access database and associated MapInfo Professional⁷⁶ GIS capability has allowed for data to be exported for use by the other project partners who are not using the software, for incorporation into their record systems and GIS. In addition, the HLC record form within HBSMR contains text fields which have the potential for a substantial amount of comment and critical analysis to be recorded, if necessary. HBSMR also allows the use of textual descriptions, rather than codes, to record the data.

At the beginning of the project, the HLC Project Officer held discussions with officers of the partner authorities and other HLC projects to discuss methodology, in particular the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Characterisation Project, in progress at that time. Whilst the South Yorkshire methodology differed slightly due to the high concentration of urban areas in that project area, HBSMR software was being used as a framework. This provided examples of how the forms would be set up, the scope of the software and the most efficient way of recording information, which heavily influenced the methodology for the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project.

To establish the structure and terminology for more specialist Broad Types, such as Extractive and Designed Landscapes, the HLC Project Officer engaged in discussion with the Yorkshire Gardens Trust⁷⁷, as well as the Northern Mines Research Society⁷⁸. This enabled a set of useful and appropriate terms to be developed for use

⁷⁴ Aldred and Fairclough 2003

⁷⁵ © exeGesIS SDM Ltd

⁷⁶ © Pitney Bowes Business Insight

⁷⁷ <http://www.yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk/>

⁷⁸ <http://www.nmrs.org.uk/>

in the project, which would be of relevance to future researchers. Details of these terms can be found in the technical user guide for the project⁷⁹.

Figure 10 provides a screenshot of the HLC module data entry form in the HBSMR software used by the project, which shows how textual descriptive information can be recorded in the database record for each HLC polygon⁸⁰.

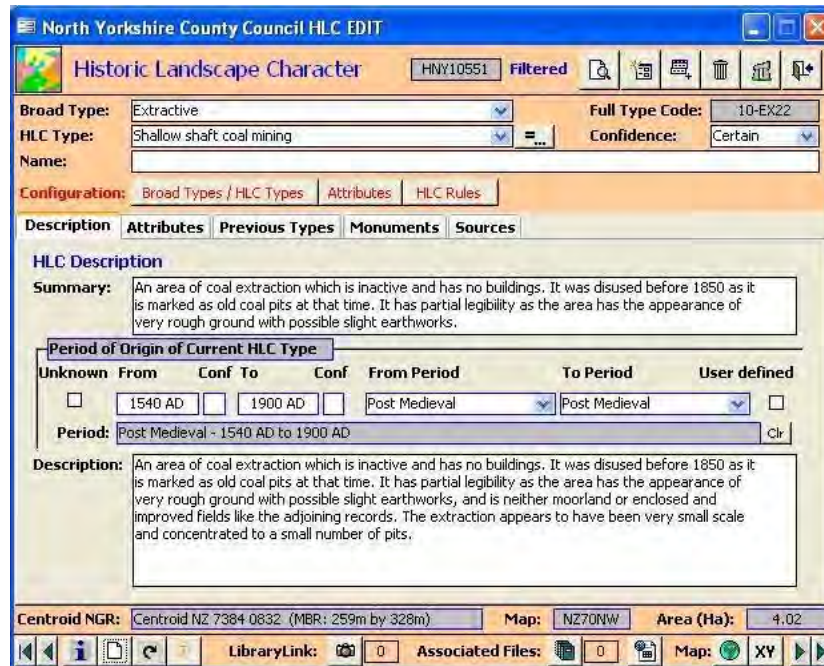


Figure 10 The HLC module data entry form in HBSMR software⁸¹ used by the project

HBSMR utilises a Microsoft Access database which links records to a GIS vector polygon using the Maplink module⁸².

Initially, during the pilot phase of the project, it was decided that there needed to be a lower cut off point for the size of polygon recording. This was initially set at one hectare with nothing below this size given its own record. Following several months of using this as the lower digitising limit it was decided that this was still not completely practical within the available time and resources. The lower digitising limit was thus set at two hectares. This was in line with the data acquired for the Ancient Woodland Inventory⁸³, and still provided a sufficiently fine grain to pick up the subtleties of historic character, while maintaining a broad-brush approach.

The information collected within the HLC project has a very specific hierarchy, from broad type, through HLC character type to specific attributes. The broadest

⁷⁹ Toase 2010

⁸⁰ exeGesIS SDM Ltd 2010, 106-115

⁸¹ © exeGesIS SDM Ltd

⁸² <http://www.esdm.co.uk/hbsmr.asp>

⁸³ http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/gis/gis_register.asp

classification is broad type; this sits at the top of the hierarchy and is common to, and interchangeable with, other HLC projects in the country. Below this are the HLC character types. For each broad type there will be a number of different HLC types which can be selected (see tables at start of each broad type description in Section 4). For example, under the broad type of 'enclosed land' an HLC type of 'strip fields', 'unknown planned enclosure' or 'intake' could be assigned (see Table 2). The attributes record the information which has been used to inform the HLC type⁸⁴.

The process of characterising an area involved the creation of a record in the database, and then identifying the extent of the polygon that needed to be drawn. This was done by establishing an area of similar character until interrupted by an area of different character. Where this can be identified during the digitising process, past historic character can also be recorded, enabling an understanding of the dynamic character of these areas. The database also allows the recording of a confidence level by the officer. There are over 200 possible HLC types to choose from. A number of these, for example 'smallholdings', were only used once during the pilot stages of the project.

The district of Craven, North Yorkshire lies within the project area but had already been characterised as part of the Lancashire HLC project⁸⁵. It was one of the aims of the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley project to bring this data into the same database and GIS system. Rather than characterising the areas from scratch, and to establish some continuity, the polygons from the Lancashire HLC project were captured, attached to a record in HBMSR and populated by information held in the Lancashire records.

Four pilot areas were initially established. These were selected to cover the wide variety of landscapes and character types within the project area. These were Filey, the Vale of Mowbray, Selby and Great Ayton. As discussed in section 7.3, the Birdsall Estate within Ryedale District of North Yorkshire was characterised as a fifth pilot area during the early stages of the project.

The HLC project has utilised several map resources almost exclusively in digital format. This has allowed them to be fully integrated into the GIS system. These digital resources will be discussed below.

3.3 Resources Used During the Project

3.3.1 Ordnance Survey Vector Mapping (2003-2010)

The main, base vector mapping resource used as part of the project has been Ordnance Survey MasterMap⁸⁶ data. This is a digital mapping resource provided by the Ordnance Survey which is based around polygons rather than lines. This has two very clear benefits, the first that it allows polygons to be captured and combined together to form the HLC polygons. This has the advantage over the previous use of vector line mapping in that a 'better fit' to the landscape can be achieved. The second advantage is that each polygon has metadata attached to it which provides historic information in itself. This has enabled it to be used in combination with the

⁸⁴ Toase 2010

⁸⁵ Ede and Darlington 2002

⁸⁶ <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/products/osmastermap/>

aerial photographs (see 3.3.2 below) to determine the date of particular landscape features. This has been particularly useful in relation to very modern features such as modern plantations or housing estates, which have been established since the year 2000.

There have been some challenges with using the MasterMap data. Probably the most significant is the capture of map polygons which extend beyond the HLC polygon being defined, due mainly to the capture of roads during the digitisation process. This involved a programme of trimming and editing the polygon to make sure it fitted the appropriate area of historic character.

3.3.2 Vertical Aerial Photography

North Yorkshire County Council holds high quality colour digital vertical aerial photographs for the whole of the County Council area⁸⁷. These enabled the historic character of the current landscape to be analysed visually, from an office base, particularly to confirm details such as boundary type and ground cover.

This dataset consists of nearly 17,000 individual images, each photograph covering an area of 1km. These digital images were accessed as a seamless map layer within the project GIS. Where aerial photographic coverage of partner areas was not held by the County Council, for example in the Lower Tees Valley area, this imagery was kindly supplied by the partner authorities for the duration of the project.

3.3.3 Historic six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey Mapping

To understand the historic character of the landscape, and establish how dynamic the landscape has been, the use of historic mapping has been essential. Two types of historic map were utilised in particular across the project area. These were the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), and second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99).

In the urban area of the Lower Tees Valley characterised by Tees Archaeology, a number of other editions of historic Ordnance Survey mapping were available, (see section 3.4 below). The third edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1919-1920) and the fourth edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1930-1953) were also used for the rural areas of the Lower Tees Valley to create a consistent data set for this part of the project area.

The georeferencing of the maps, which were in imperial measurements, to a metric system meant that in many cases the match with the modern mapping was not exact, however, the similarity of form was clearly visible on visual examination.

In the central urban area of the City of York, the six-inch mapping was not of a scale to enable the detail required for characterisation to be seen. Therefore, the City of York Authority, for the duration of the project, kindly supplied digital 60" to 1 mile mapping of the city, dating to 1852, which enabled accurate assessments to be made of the historic character of the present urban area.

Within the project timescale, it was not feasible to utilise archive cartographic materials, such as tithe and enclosure maps. The digital historic mapping, similar to

⁸⁷ © UK Perspectives

the vertical aerial photographic coverage, was accessed as a seamless map layer in the project GIS.

3.3.4 Ancient Woodland Inventory

One of the main datasets used within the project was the ancient woodland inventory data, maintained by and downloaded from Natural England⁸⁸. This provided information on the character of the woodlands identified within the project area. By their inclusion or exclusion from the ancient woodland inventory, a decision was reached regarding the probable date. The two hectare cut off point provided the lowest limit for the size of polygon to be digitised, therefore areas of woodland less than two hectares in size were not characterised individually.

During the initial stages of the project, the ancient woodland inventory GIS information was found to be indicative, with the polygon often covering both the woodland and surrounding areas. One of the initial aims when digitising areas of woodland for the HLC project was to 'tighten' the boundary to the woodland, using the basemap data.

In addition, using the Ordnance Survey vector mapping and the aerial photography, it was possible to establish if areas of woodland had been cleared since the creation of the ancient woodland inventory, in effect creating an up to date assessment of the character of ancient woodland in the project area.

3.3.5 Published And Unpublished Works

Many published and unpublished works were used during the course of the project. These can be found in Section 8 of this report. Some of these works are general histories of the area, others are specific to a particular industry or location. In relation to enclosed land, the project relied heavily upon the work of Barbara English on Yorkshire Enclosure Awards⁸⁹. This provides information on all the parliamentary awards within the historic three ridings of Yorkshire, and enabled the project to establish a specific date range for each area of planned enclosure, where an award existed.

3.3.6 Other digital datasets

A number of other datasets were utilised throughout the course of the project. Many of these sit within the Historic Environment Record such as:

Listed building records

Listed building records, downloaded from the English Heritage National Monuments Record 'Download Spatial Data' website⁹⁰, are held in the respective Historic Environment Records, and were used to provide a quick overview of the time depth of settlements. This could then be used to cross reference with images of listed

⁸⁸ http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/gis/gis_register.asp

⁸⁹ English:1985

⁹⁰ <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/archives-and-collections/nmr/spatial-data/>

buildings, accessible via the Images of England website⁹¹ to confirm the character of settlements.

Registered Parks and Gardens records

By referring to the data on registered parks and gardens, similar to the listed building records, available in the respective HERs and derived from English Heritage datasets, it was possible to establish the extent of the designated parkland and ensure this was adequately reflected in the HLC record. In some cases the character within the registered area was different, for example agricultural land. In these cases the character could be described in such a way to reflect this. These helped provide additional information and enhance the assessments made based on the digital mapping.

One other specific resource, worthy of special mention, is the Yorkshire Dales and Cleveland mines data from the Northern Mine Research Society⁹². This allowed the date and longevity of an area of mining to be determined. Similarly, the on-line data base of the Durham Mining Museum⁹³ was used when characterising the extractive areas of the Lower Tees Valley and the North York Moors.

3.3.7 Online resources

During the course of the project, it was often desirable to confirm the character of a particular area, however, time constraints and the extensive size of the project area made site visits impractical. Therefore, other online resources were used to enable the historic character of the landscape to be verified.

Geograph.org.uk⁹⁴ is an online resource with the stated aim to have at least one photographic image for each kilometre grid square within the British Isles. By using the Geograph online resource, the character of boundaries, settlements and woodland at ground level could be visually assessed without making a site visit. Some of the photographs used from this resource can be found in Appendix B, subject to the Creative Commons Licence reproduced below the list of plates in the report contents section, and within Appendix B.

During the latter half of the project, Google Streetview⁹⁵ came online for the British Isles. This allowed sites to be visited virtually, enabling the officer responsible for characterisation to 'walk' down streets and confirm the character of settlements. This was only available within the more urban areas within the project, but became invaluable during the characterisation of the City of York.

Access to Archives⁹⁶ provided some excellent resources for the project. Genuki.org.uk⁹⁷ also provided a large amount of detail, specifically a dictionary of Yorkshire dialect which was useful in interpreting place and field names on the historic mapping.

⁹¹ <http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/>

⁹² <http://www.nmrs.org.uk/main.html>

⁹³ <http://www.dmm.org.uk/mindex.htm>

⁹⁴ <http://www.geograph.org.uk/>

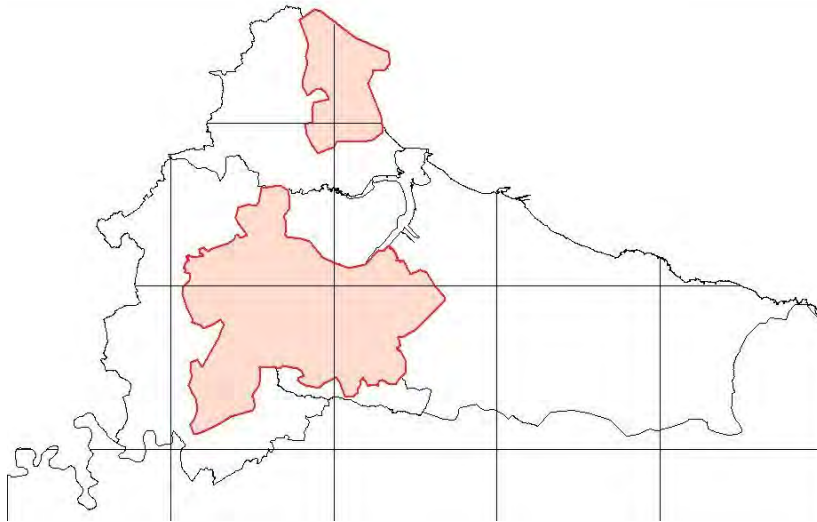
⁹⁵ <http://maps.google.co.uk/intl/en/help/maps/streetview/>

⁹⁶ <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/>

⁹⁷ <http://www.genuki.org.uk/>

3.4 Characterising Urban Settlement Areas of the Lower Tees Valley (contribution by Peter Rowe, Tees Archaeology)

Early in the project, Tees Archaeology offered to provide additional officer time towards characterising the urban settlement areas of the Lower Tees Valley, including Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Billingham and Stockton-on-Tees, see Figure 11. This enabled the urban historic character of these areas to be characterised in further detail than for the rest of the project area. A finer level of detail was recorded, almost on a street by street basis.



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Figure 11 The extent of the urban settlement areas characterised by Tees Archaeology in the Lower Tees Valley area

The principal sources used to plot the development of the townscapes were GIS-based historic Ordnance Survey maps, the Tees HER (including listed buildings data), written histories, aerial photographs (where there were significant gaps in the Ordnance Survey map data) and local knowledge. During the project, a series of current, oblique aerial photographs were made available on line by Windows Live (now Bing.com⁹⁸). These covered most of the urban areas and enabled digital, remote visual inspection of individual buildings at a very useable scale. The images can be rotated and viewed from each of the four principal points of the compass. This allowed the townscape to be assessed on a building by building basis if necessary.

The available historic Ordnance Survey maps allowed changes to the landscape to be recorded, practically on a decade by decade basis, for much of the 20th century. The maps consulted are set out below: -

Ordnance Survey six-inch to the mile County Series Maps:

First edition	Durham	1857-1861
First edition	Yorkshire	1853-1857

⁹⁸ <http://www.bing.com/>

Second edition Durham	1898-1899
Second edition Yorkshire	1895
Third edition Durham	1923-1924
Third edition Yorkshire	1919-1920
Fourth edition Durham	1932-1950
Fourth edition Yorkshire	1930-1953

1:10000 National Grid Series

Fifth edition	1952-1958
Sixth edition	1962-1970
Seventh edition	1971-1980
Eighth edition	1981-1990
Ninth composite edition	1974-1995

Using these tools and resources, it was possible to zone individual settlements into broad areas on paper maps, see Figure 12, and to then plot the results en-block on the GIS and database. The average polygon size is significantly smaller than for rural areas as many represent smaller open spaces, such as bowling greens and schools, or small blocks of housing that are often less than two hectares in extent but are significantly different from their environs, see Figure 13.

Results

In general terms, it was noted that the area was still largely agricultural in the mid 19th century with the townscapes really only developing in the second half of the 19th century and early decades of the 20th, and even then in relatively discrete areas such as West Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton, see sections 4.7 and 5.4. The dominant surviving urban character type from this period is terraced housing of various styles. These could be most easily distinguished from each other by their external spaces and several new character types were introduced.

The most basic type was the terraced house with direct frontage onto the street with a small yard to the rear. These are normally plain fronted, perhaps with some detailing to windows and porches. These were presumably built to house the majority of the workforce in a gridiron of housing, see Plate 1.

Larger terraced houses were noted to line the main routes into towns and these usually have small forecourt front gardens and perhaps a longer yard or small plot to the rear. They usually benefit from additional features such as bay windows to the main elevation. These are likely to have housed small business owners and the lower professional classes.

Much larger terraced properties were also apparent in the suburbs to the towns. These often have more extensive open spaces to the front and rear and approach villa-like proportions. Bays might be in stone rather than wood and additional features, such as balconies, might appear on the principal elevations. Larger houses of this type might be two-and-a-half storey.

Very large detached villas are also built in this period to house the many entrepreneurs attracted to the area. These are usually individually designed houses, rich in architectural detail, and with extensive grounds, often with ancillary buildings

such as stables and groundskeepers quarters. They often line major roads into towns or were developed in discrete areas within the suburbs.

Many institutional buildings are constructed in this period including town halls, schools and hospitals, many of which were large enough to be given their own character type. Gifts of land for public parks in this period, such as Albert Park, Middlesbrough and Ward Jackson Park, Hartlepool help to punctuate the largely urban character with open space as do municipal cemeteries. Many commercial buildings such as banks, and public houses, within current town centres contribute significantly to their character.

Terraced housing continues to dominate the area until the outbreak of the First World War when there is a hiatus in development. Following the end of hostilities, the urban character type changed, with semi-detached properties beginning to appear in once rural areas, particularly along the main approach roads into towns. There is an emphasis on private open space and details such as bow windows and hipped roofs become common, see Plate 2.

The first municipal estates begin to appear in the area in this inter-war period. These often aspire to the Garden Village movement with elements of open space built into the street plan and gardens to each of the properties, such as at Grove Hill, Middlesbrough. It is presumed that features such as indoor toilets and bathrooms begin to be added to most housing stock in this period. Cul-de-sacs begin to appear in favour of the more traditional grids of housing. At the same time there are extensive clearances of older terraced houses in some of the more central areas.

World War II forces a second hiatus in the development of urban housing. In a number of cases small estates and cul-de-sacs are left unfinished for several decades. Following the end of hostilities construction of new housing begins again. There is a marked difference in style with buildings becoming more functional and lacking architectural details such as projecting bow windows, presumably reflecting the scarceness of raw materials. Slate tends to stop being used altogether as a roofing material at this period, a difference that is very evident from aerial photography. Rapidly erected pre-fabricated buildings were noted in a number of locations including both bungalows and two storey dwellings but their survival is rare, see Plate 3.

Despite all of this urbanisation, the area is still relatively compact at the beginning of the 1950s. It is not really until the 1960s and 1970s that large planned estates, both municipal and private, usually of detached or semi-detached houses, begin to radiate from the cores of the original settlements, see Plate 4. This is apparent in towns such as Billingham where a new town centre is constructed with civic facilities such as its own theatre. High rises begin to appear in this period, often on municipal estates or as infill within town centres. Clearances of earlier terraces in the centre of towns continue with housing generally replaced with commercial premises such as shopping centres and industrial estates. Institutional architecture also changes considerably at this time. For example, school complexes become much larger and are built largely in glass with distinctive coloured fascia panels.

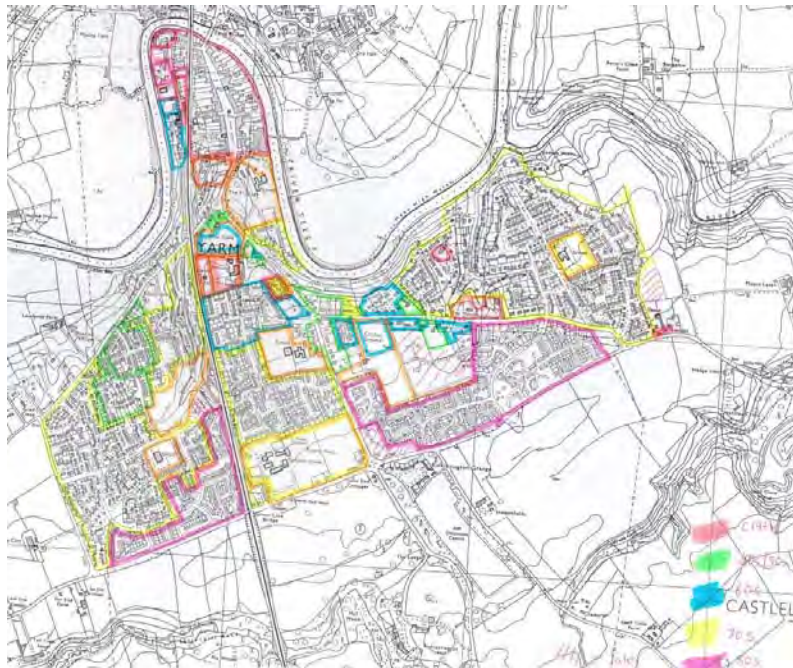
The building of housing estates continues into the 1980s with new planned settlements such as Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough and Ingleby Barwick, Stockton-on-Tees spreading onto former agricultural land. These often have their own neighbourhood centres. These estates continue to develop in the 1990s and 2000s

with new settlements established at Middle Warren, Hartlepool and a large executive housing development at Wynyard, Stockton-on-Tees.

The early 2000s sees the introduction of smaller blocks of apartments within urban areas. These often appear in the former gardens of larger Victorian houses or on cleared institutional sites such as hospitals and schools. As a result the urban areas are becoming more and more residential in character, see Plate 5.

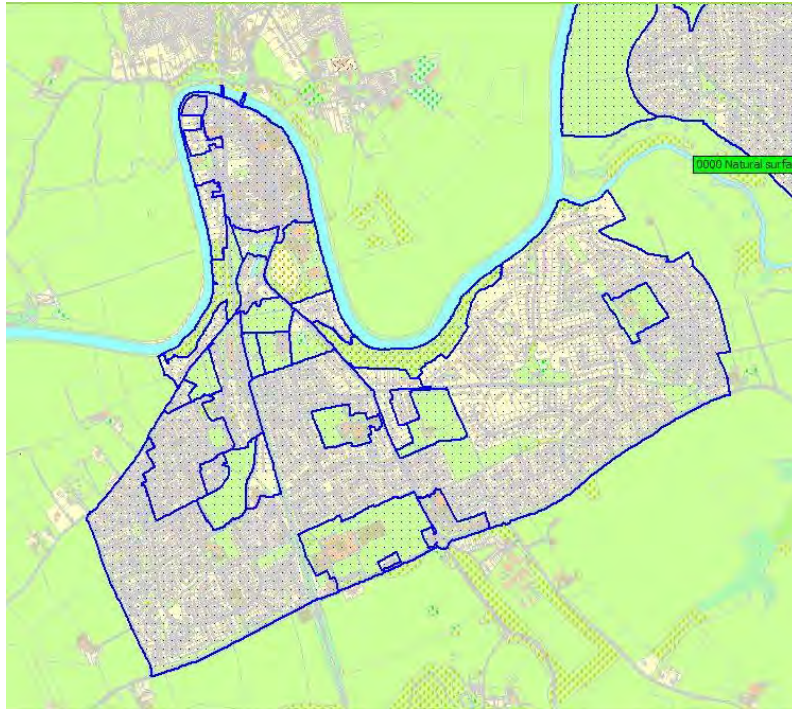
Outcome

The more intensive HLC within the urban areas of Teesside has already been used to build cases to retain key elements of character that fall outside of designated areas, such as conservation areas. This is particularly the case in suburban areas where there is pressure for back-land development and demolitions, see Plate 6. It is hoped that the urban HLC will be used by a broad range of local authority departments to assess the local distinctiveness and importance of different areas.



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Figure 12 Initial definition of historic areas of urban settlement using hard-copy map prior to digitisation (see Figure 13)



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Figure 13 Digitisation of select areas on the GIS, as initially identified on the hard-copy base map (see Figure 12)

3.5 Legibility

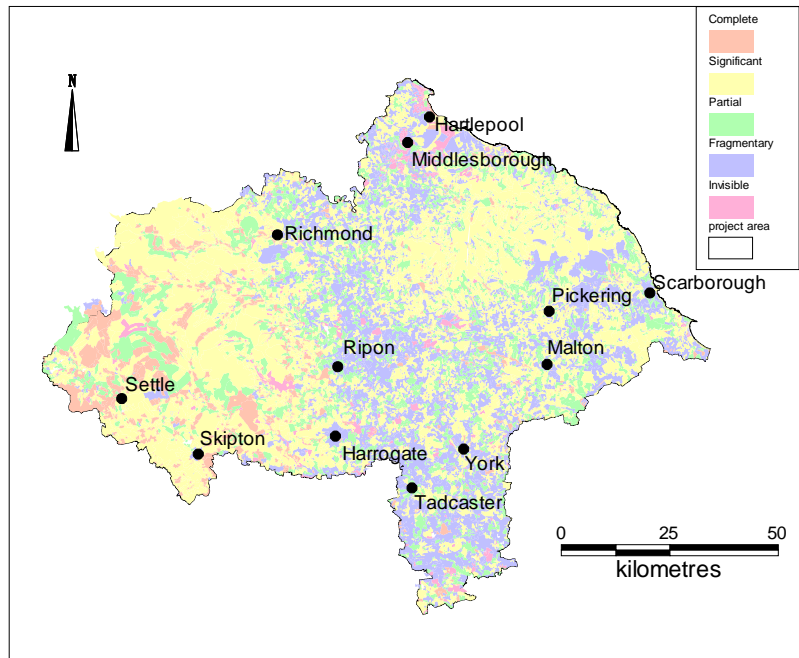
Legibility is one of the attributes that has been recorded in the project for every polygon characterised, but is probably one of the hardest to define. This attribute is used in relation to all broad types and aims to classify, in a relatively subjective fashion, the degree to which the previous historic character visible on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) remains visible in the current landscape.

Table 1 lists the values used to describe legibility and their associated scope notes from the database.

Legibility is a subjective assessment of how dynamic a landscape is, that is how much change has occurred by comparing the modern Ordnance Survey vector mapping (2003-2010) with the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). In the case of enclosed land, for example, legibility has been assessed by the amount of change in boundaries which has occurred since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This may be indicated by boundary loss, or possibly an increase in boundaries subdividing existing fields. In relation to settlement, the legibility assessment may be based on the increase in dwellings (which in terms of modern estates can have a fairly dramatic impact on the historic character) or the amount of infilling in established settlements.

HLC Legibility Attribute Value Description	Scope Note
Complete	Used where the present landscape character type has historic value
Significant	There are many elements of the previous historic character within the landscape forming prominent landscape features
Partial	Evidence relating to previous character types is visible within the present environment but is, on the whole, discontinuous
Fragmentary	This term is employed where the previous historic character is only slightly visible within the landscape, for example where field boundaries have largely been removed but the external boundaries are preserved, eg in the shape of a housing estate
Invisible	This term is used where the previous historic character is not visible at all. For example, where development has completely replaced an earlier field system

Table 1 HLC legibility attribute value descriptions



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Figure 14 Legibility of the HLC of the project area

Figure 14 shows the legibility as recorded for the whole project area. This highlights areas of the landscape where change in the legibility of the HLC type has been more dynamic in comparison to areas where there is more time depth, for example with little change in boundaries.

This shows that the most accelerated change (as defined by areas of fragmentary and invisible legibility) has occurred in the central part of the HLC project area, away from the National Parks and AONBs, particularly focussed on the Vales of Mowbray and York and the Lower Tees Valley. However, upon closer inspection of the data, it is clear that there are areas within this wider pattern which have seen very little change, for example smaller areas of landscape which have seen no change in their character type since the 1850s.

Legibility has an important strategic role to play in the management of the historic character of the landscape. In the Highways Agency's guidance on assessing the effect of road schemes on historic landscape character, for example, there is specific reference to legibility. In order to inform the screening or scoping report for a road scheme, questions of how the proposed scheme would affect the HLC and the future legibility of existing time-depth should be considered⁹⁹.

3.6 Confidence

The project was undertaken as a desk-based exercise using only the sources described in section 3.3. Due to the large extent of the project area and the time constraints, it was not possible to verify historic character interpretations on the ground. Over the five year duration of the project, inevitably, information recorded by the mapping and aerial photographic sources used may have become out of date. Where discrepancies were identified between sources, these were noted in the database record and the latest dated source was used to inform the characterisation. The project results, therefore, represent an interpretation of historic character at the point in time at which each record was created.

The confidence of decisions made by the project officers about their interpretation of the historic character of an area is recorded in the database using the terms certain, probable or possible. This allows the interpretations to be assessed on their likelihood. Similarly, in the database fields recording the confidence of start and end dates of date ranges (Year from confidence; Year to confidence), uncertainty is recorded with a question mark.

The project records, therefore, provide a starting point; a framework for more detailed work to be undertaken thereafter, which may refine or amend the interpretations.

⁹⁹ Highways Agency 2007

4. Overview of Historic Landscape Character Types

4.1 Enclosed Land

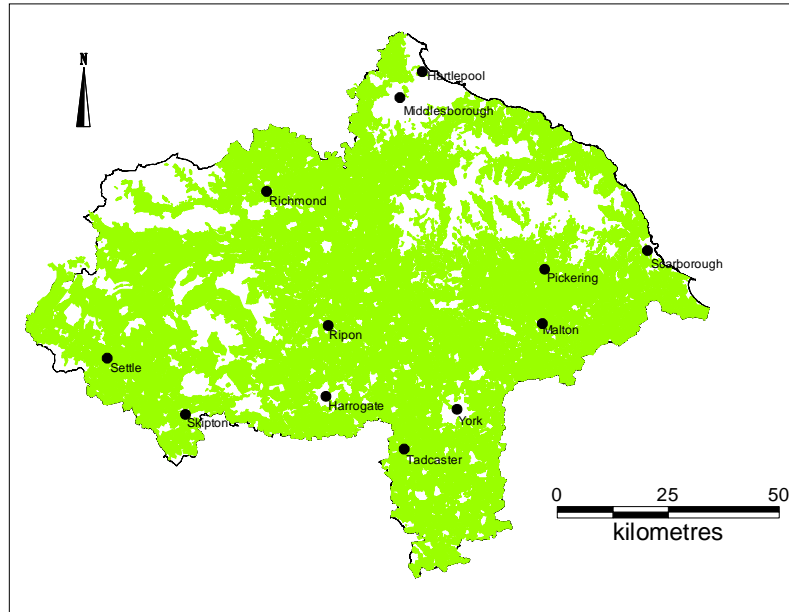
Broad Type	HLC Type
Enclosed land	Ridge and furrow - previous type only
	Lowland intakes
	Planned large scale parliamentary enclosure
	Smallholdings
	Pasture
	Demesne
	Large scale private enclosure
	Unknown planned enclosure
	Intake
	Lynchets
	Lowland meadow
	Modern improved fields
	Cow pasture
	Piecemeal enclosure
	Open field
	Assart
Early field system	
Crofts associated with settlement	
Strip fields	

Table 2 HLC types within the enclosed land broad type

Description

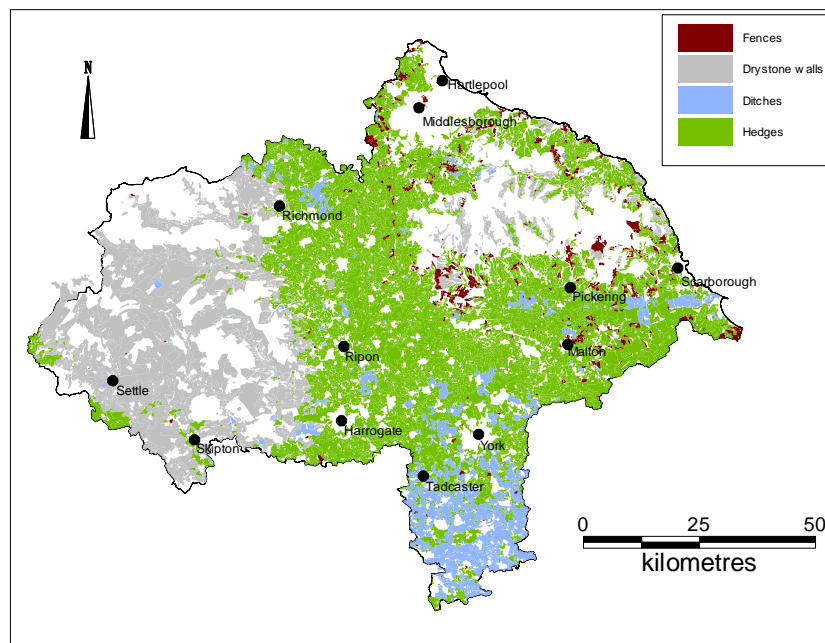
The overall percentages of each broad type throughout the project area, by hectare, can be seen in Chart 1. From this, it can be seen that enclosed land accounts for over 70% of the landscape studied, while unenclosed land defines 13%. What this enclosure represents in human terms is an undertaking to divide up and manage the landscape. It is very easy to see the field systems as abstracted, especially in a study so extensive in area as this. However, it is worth bearing in mind that each field represents the intention to change the landscape, and has encapsulated within it many hours of digging ditches, laying hedges or building dry stone walls. Enclosed land does not just represent one single understanding of the landscape, and within this study we have been able to characterise many types of field systems, as can be seen from the HLC types listed in Table 2. Each type of field system, from the creation of strip fields in the medieval period to the creation large modern improved fields, has contributed to the landscapes in which we live and work today. In basic terms, within the HLC project, an area has been characterised as enclosed land where it has a series of fields defined by internal and external boundaries, see Plate 7.

The following section will explore the field systems of North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley, drawing out the broad trends that emerge from the project results within the enclosed land broad type. The different character types which have been recognised and recorded will also be explored in more detail.



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Figure 15 Distribution of enclosed land throughout the project area



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Figure 16 Distribution of internal boundaries throughout the project area, mapped by character

Distribution

The distribution of enclosed land is widespread throughout the project area. Notable exceptions are the areas within the two national parks and areas of urban settlement and industry, particularly evident in the Lower Tees Valley, see Figure 15.

Survival

Field systems within North Yorkshire and the Lower Tees Valley take many forms. The results of the HLC project have shown how much they dominate the landscape. In total, covering all periods, enclosed land covers 70 percent of the area, a total of 627,700 hectares. The character of these field patterns varies tremendously, and has a huge impact on how the landscape is perceived. This perception can also be influenced by the character of the boundaries and the extent of boundary loss.

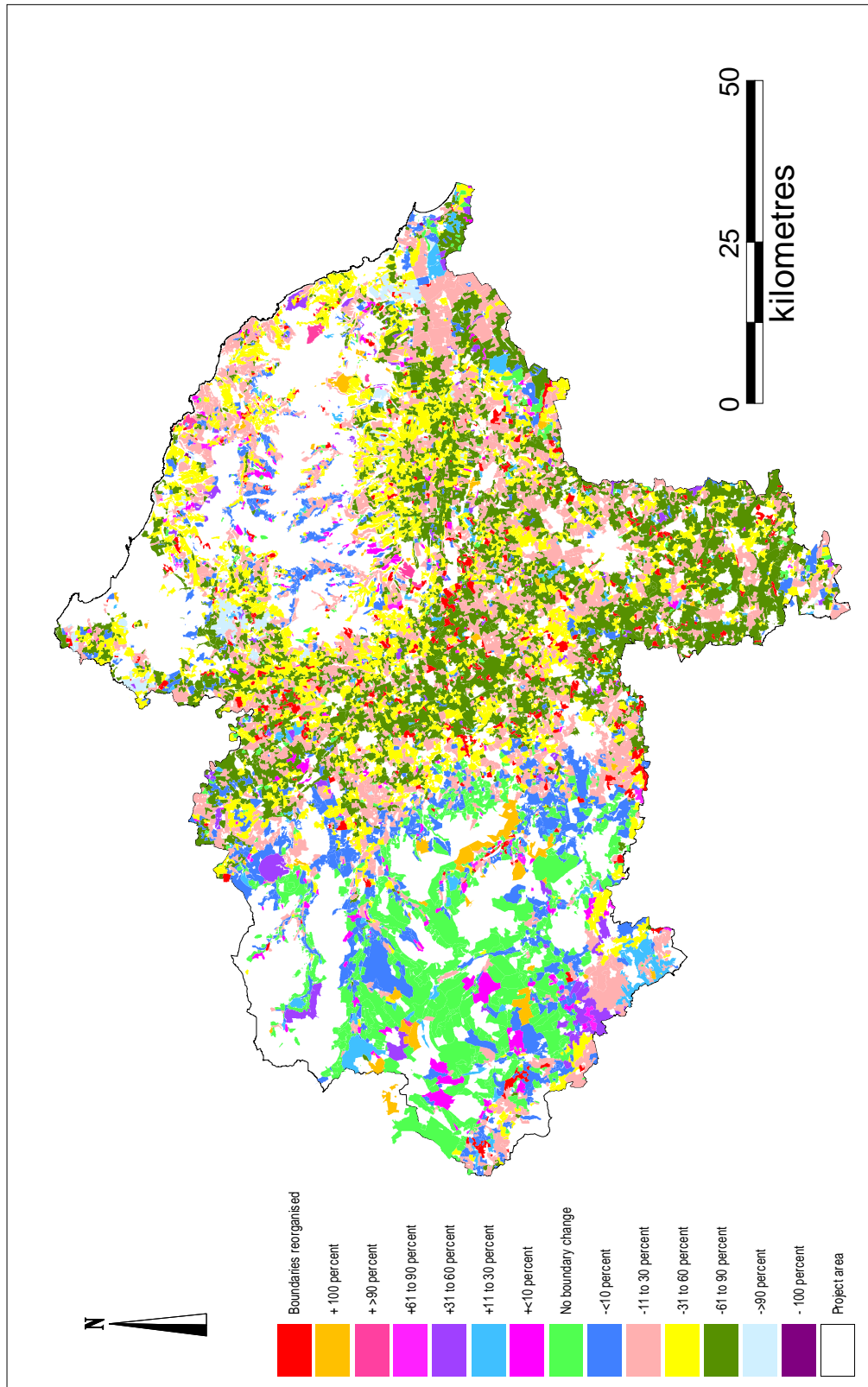
Figure 16 shows trends in boundary type, whether hedges, dry stone walls or ditches, for field boundaries of all periods. The overall pattern reflects how people are responding to their physical environment in different ways, utilising the resources available to them. For example, in the lower-lying areas of North Yorkshire, the field boundaries are often ditches, where the high water table can be utilised as a physical boundary defining property. In upland areas, such as the Yorkshire Dales, field boundaries within the landscape are often dry stone walls. Neither of these types of field boundary are static, requiring maintenance whether through the dredging of ditches or the repair of walls, so too, hedgerow boundaries require active management to maintain coherence.

Key statistics

Boundary change can describe several different processes. This can refer to boundary loss, for example reflecting the removal of hedges due to changes in agricultural practices in the 20th century. It can also refer to boundary creation, leading to the subdivision of larger units, as a result of changes in use. 'Reorganised boundaries' refers, specifically, to areas where the boundary pattern has been completely changed since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This might be as a result of a completely different field system being imposed, or the straightening of field boundaries. Chart 2 shows the amount of enclosed land boundary change within the project area which has occurred since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). The greatest trend is towards boundary loss with 81% of enclosure within the study area showing some degree of boundary loss. By contrast, 11% of the field systems have seen no boundary loss whatsoever since 1850. This covers an area of approximately 80,000 hectares.

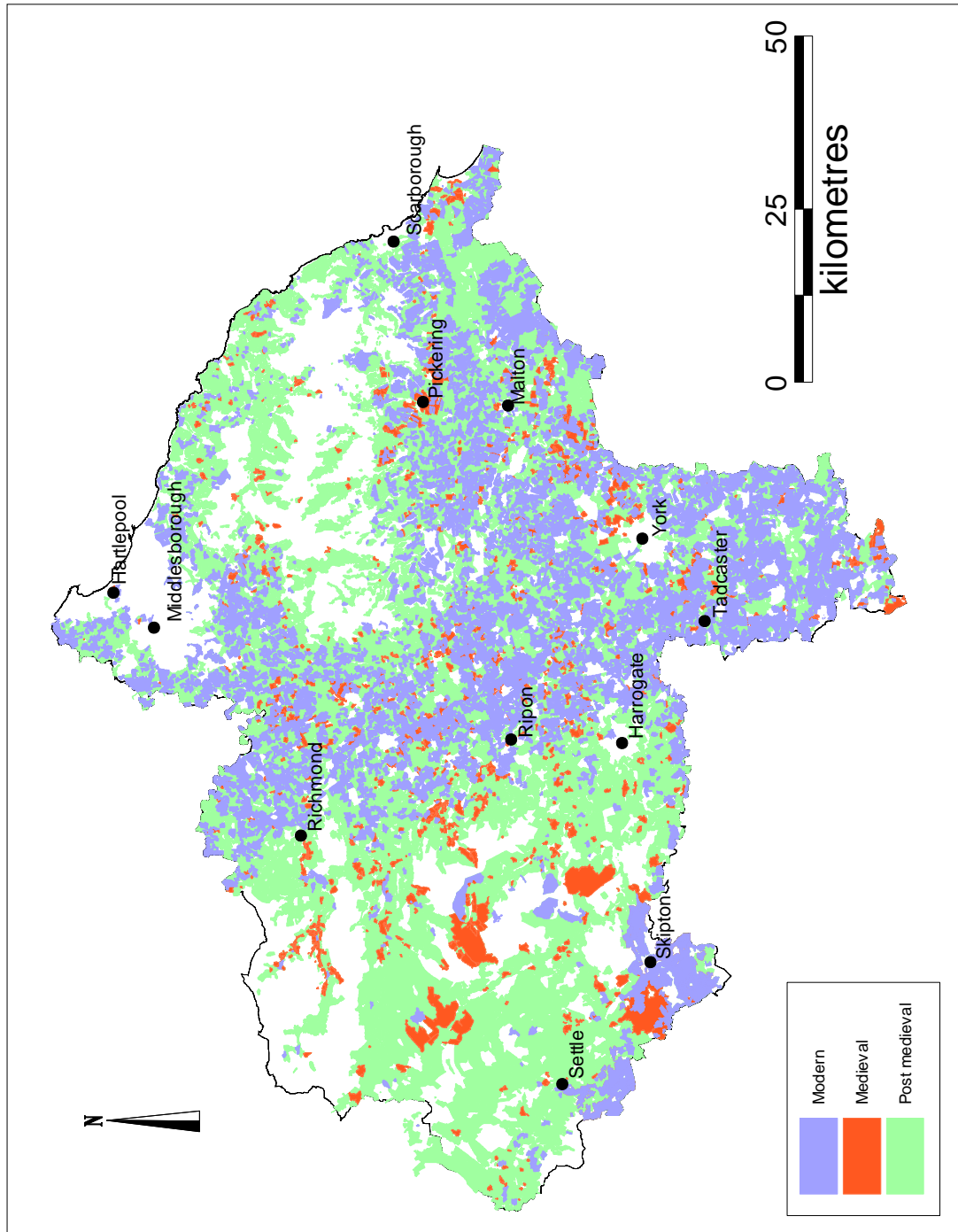
The map below in Figure 17 shows broad trends in the character of boundary change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). There is a pattern emerging, with the central area displaying the most dynamic activity in relation to boundary change. There is a clear trend of significant boundary loss within the central area of the county, with many field systems showing 61-90 percent boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

Figure 18 shows the enclosed land by period of origin showing the time depth of the enclosed land within the project.



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Figure 17 Distribution of boundary change and reorganisation



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Figure 18 Enclosed land mapped by period of origin

4.1.1 Planned enclosure

Description

All types of enclosure require a degree of planning, however planned enclosure refers to a specific series of historic events that occurred in the post-medieval period, broadly between AD 1750 and 1850. To quote Richard Muir, “in numerous parishes and regions of England parliamentary enclosure was the most important single factor in shaping the modern countryside”¹⁰⁰.

During the early 18th century there was an increased move towards enclosure, however enclosure by private agreement was not an easy process so more and more landowners turned to the mechanism of private act of Parliament¹⁰¹. Following the first Yorkshire Parliamentary enclosure act, in 1726, at Fangfoss cum Spittle, there followed many more enclosure acts across the region. In 1836 the passing of Public General Acts¹⁰² streamlined the system.

Generally characterised by fairly regular fields, defined by straight boundaries, (see Plate 8) these field patterns occur across the whole of the project area. The actual character of the boundaries, whether they are hedges, dry stone walls or ditches seem to be a response to local conditions of topography and geology. The field patterns have been classed as either large scale private enclosure, or planned large scale parliamentary enclosure, where it has been possible to establish this. These have generally been used where the existence of an Act or agreement can be demonstrated, usually with reference to Barbara English’s Book *Yorkshire Enclosure Awards*¹⁰³ or the Access to Archives website¹⁰⁴. For the Lower Tees Valley, the publication *A Domesday of English Enclosure Acts and Awards*¹⁰⁵ was used. Where it was not possible to identify a specific award for an area of planned enclosure, the character type unknown planned enclosure was used.

¹⁰⁰ Muir 2004, 200

¹⁰¹ English 1985: xi

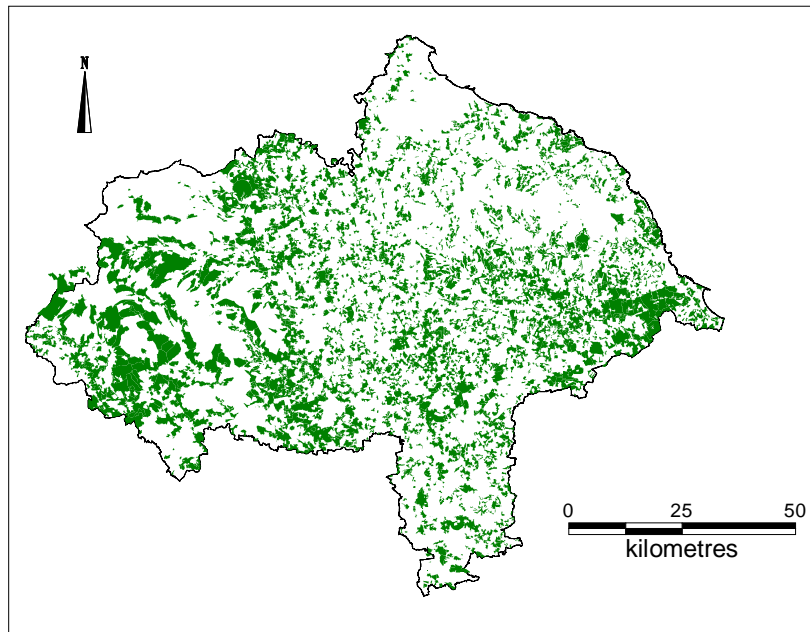
¹⁰² Ibid

¹⁰³ English 1985

¹⁰⁴ A2A.org.uk

¹⁰⁵ Tate and Turner 1978

Distribution



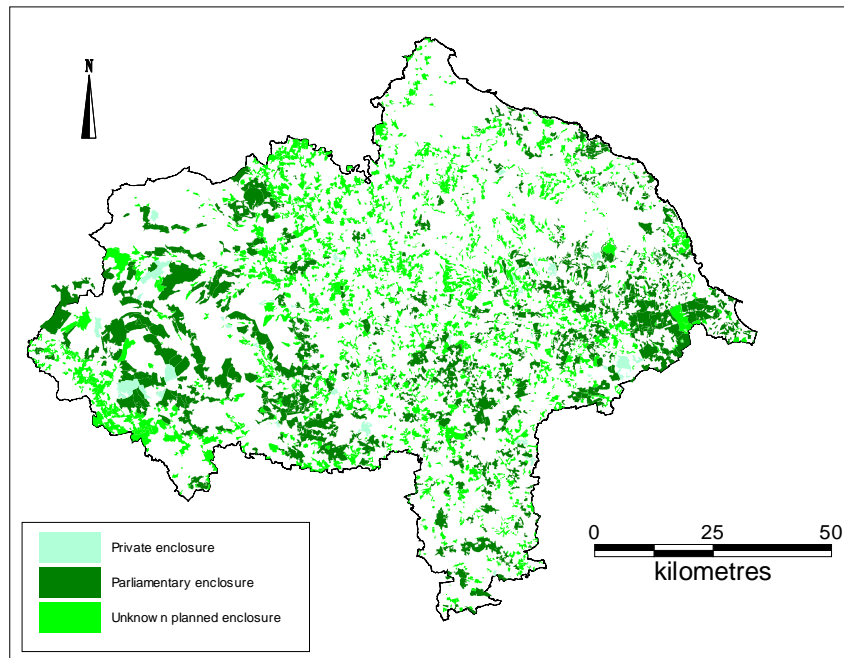
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Figure 19 Distribution of planned enclosure within the project area

Planned enclosure was characterised across the project area, however it is concentrated in the lower areas. For example, in the Yorkshire Dales it is found in the valleys, while they are not so evident in the higher moorland areas. There is a particular concentration in the Vale of Pickering towards Filey. 817 field systems could be linked to known parliamentary awards. This has allowed the dating for these areas to be tied in to the dates laid out in Barbara English's book (see footnote 103). Planned enclosure has survived well in the protected areas represented by the two National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. As agricultural practices have changed, particularly in the lower lying areas, there has been a large degree of boundary loss. This has led in some areas to the agglomeration of fields into very large enclosures, normally over 10 hectares (these will be discussed in more detail below, under the modern improved fields section).

Survival

The survival of the planned enclosure field systems is good throughout the majority of the project area. 154,000 hectares of planned enclosure has seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). Planned enclosure is found across the whole project area.



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Figure 20 Different types of planned enclosure.

The distribution shown in figure 20 highlights several trends. In the western part of the project area, the areas of parliamentary enclosure tend to be much more extensive in size. There is also a concentration around Staxton (TA 0079) and Ganton (SE 9777) to the east in the Vale of Pickering.

Planned enclosure has been recorded as one of three types, depending on the supporting evidence. The following charts show the relative size of these areas, county wide.

Key statistics

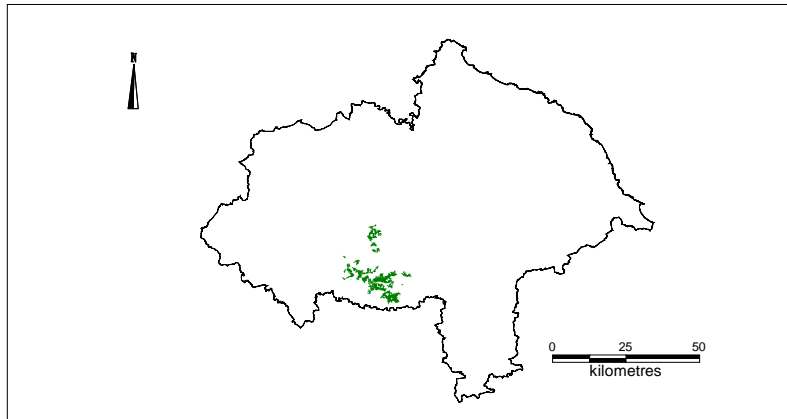
Chart 3 shows the number of areas characterised as each type of planned enclosure. From this it can be seen that the predominant type of planned enclosure is for those areas where a specific award wasn't possible to identify, and is therefore Unknown Planned enclosure. The next largest number of areas is for parliamentary enclosure followed by a small number where land has been planned by private agreement.

Chart 4 shows the total hectareage for each type of planned enclosure, which broadly reflects the trends in Chart 3.

The earliest identified parliamentary enclosure, within the project, is in the parish of Rillington in Ryedale (SE 8375) and dates between 1657 and 1780.

While it is generally accepted that parliamentary enclosure dates approximately between 1750 and 1850, (these dates have been used for planned enclosure where an award could not be identified.) there are a number of awards within the project area which fall before this date range.

Probably the most substantial area of parliamentary enclosure is the Forest of Knaresborough award. This dates from 1770 to 1778, (with amending awards in 1774, 1789 and 1795) and covers an estimated area of 20000 acres (approximately 8093 hectares)¹⁰⁶. This is an extensive planned landscape and includes 11 constabularies within the Harrogate area. As part of this study the large scale planned enclosure that was identified within this area was characterised as parliamentary enclosure and seems to have captured most of the extent of the award.



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Figure 21 Forest of Knaresborough parliamentary award.

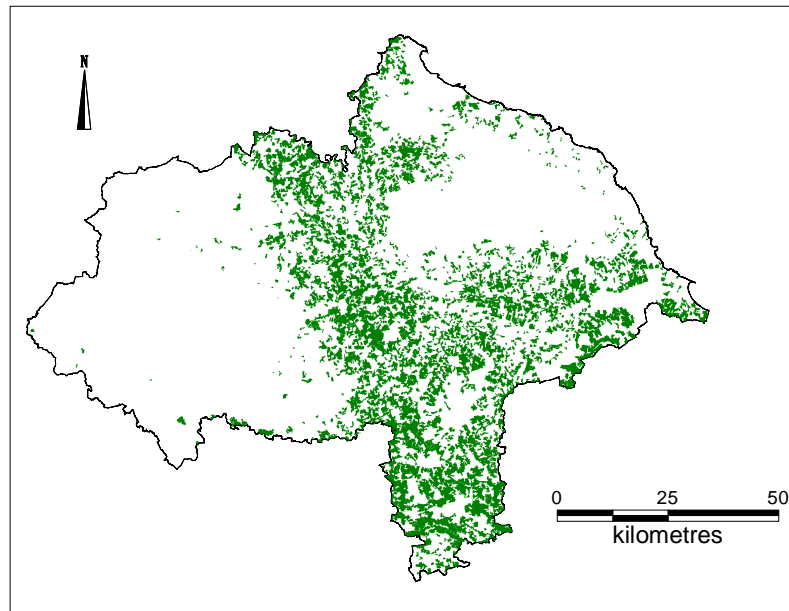
¹⁰⁶ English 1985

4.1.2 Modern Improved Fields

Description

“Modern improved fields” has a very specific definition within the scope of the project. This refers to areas of enclosure which have seen a large degree of boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) to create large enclosures over 10 hectares, see Plate 9. These were normally defined by identifying areas of large fields on the modern mapping and then establishing whether this was the original field pattern or as a result of boundary removal. This boundary loss has occurred between 1900 (broadly the date of the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99)) and the modern MasterMap (while a number of versions have been utilised during the life of the project this 2003 can be taken as a cut off date). The creation of these large fields needs to be seen within their historic context, particularly the role of the Common Agricultural Policy and the aims and ambitions of the Mansholt Plan¹⁰⁷. The Mansholt Plan aimed towards consolidation which led to three European directives in 1972, one of which was aimed at the modernisation of agricultural holdings.

Distribution map



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Figure 22 Distribution of modern improved fields within the project.

Survival

Modern improved fields are mainly restricted to the lower lying Vales of the North Yorkshire landscape. This is supported, and recognised in the national character area key characteristics for this area. Natural England, in the key characteristics for the Vale of York, refers to “medium- to large-sized open fields intensively cultivated

¹⁰⁷ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Agricultural_Policy

for arable crops but with some dairy farming¹⁰⁸.” This can also be seen in the Vale of Mowbray, Vale of Pickering, Humberhead Levels, on some areas of the Southern Magnesian Limestone as well as in limited areas on the Yorkshire Wolds. These field patterns are large scale and extensive reflecting the intensification of arable agriculture in the 20th century in response to modernisation of farming methods as a result of initiatives such as the common agricultural policy. While the mapping only enabled the project to really characterise this process as being broadly 20th century, it is likely that it mainly dated to the latter half of the century.

Key statistics

In total modern improved fields account for 175,064 hectares of the project area. Modern improved fields are derived from other, earlier character types. Chart 5 compares the amount by area of the previous HLC. By far the largest proportion was previously enclosed land, with 106,600 hectares (60% of modern improved fields) originally planned enclosure.

54,270 hectares (31% of all modern improved fields) were originally piecemeal enclosure. It is useful to compare the current extent of piecemeal enclosure at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) with the area that is now modern improved fields. In 1850, 242,380 hectares were piecemeal enclosure. This suggests that 22% of piecemeal enclosure has seen significant enough boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) to become modern improved fields.

¹⁰⁸ http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/jca28_tcm6-5682.pdf

4.1.3 Enclosed strip fields

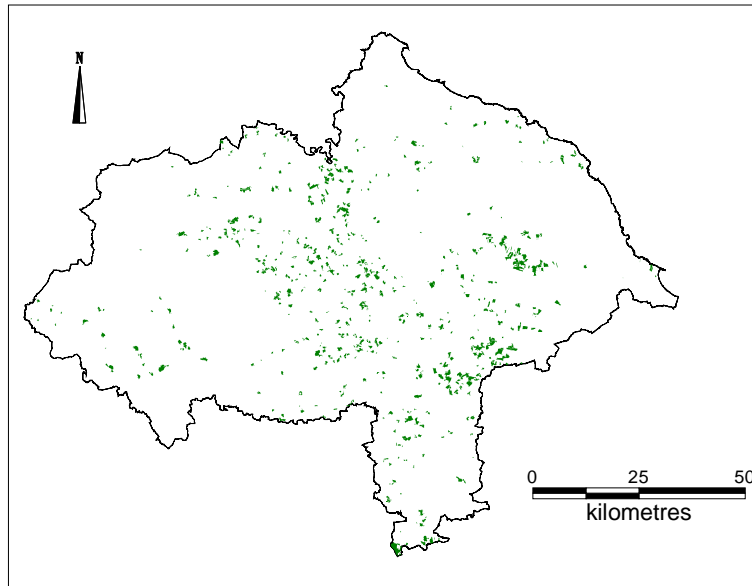
Description

Strip fields, at the time of the open field farming system, formed the basic unit of farming and tenancy¹⁰⁹. These have been identified by the characteristic reverse S-curve of the boundaries. The current field pattern normally results from the grouping together of strips within the open field system and the formalising of the boundaries in the later part of the medieval period. These strips, originally open become defined by more formal physical boundaries, see Plate 10. The character of the boundaries can take many forms, depending on more local conditions. The overall trend is for medium sized fields (between two and ten hectares) although a fairly significant percentage of the fields (30%) are small in size. The enclosed strip fields identified during the HLC project have a good level of survival, with 404 field systems identified having less than 30% boundary loss.

Outside the large areas of unenclosed land and extractive landscapes medieval strip field systems have a fairly even distribution across the project area. However there are some concentrations that can be recognised, even at a county level; for example around the Pickering area. There is also a particularly high density of strip field systems in the Vale of York, to the south west of the Howardian Hills AONB.

Due to the acceleration in mechanised farming methods since the beginning of the 20th century, as well as the major expansion of settlement there has been a large amount of strip field systems which are no longer visible within the landscape. The map below shows the extent of enclosed strip fields in the current landscape.

Distribution map



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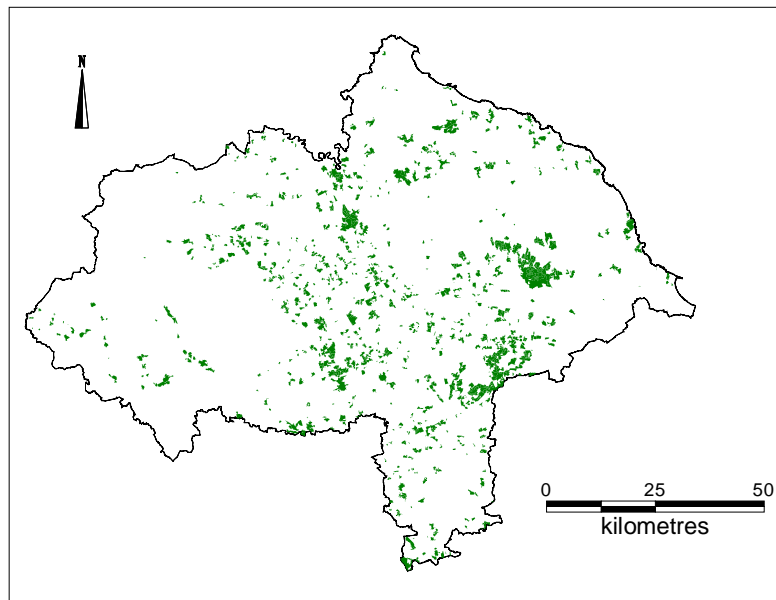
Figure 23 *Distribution of strip fields.*

¹⁰⁹ Muir 2004: 245

Survival

This section will briefly discuss the survival of the character type within the project. The map below shows the extent of strip fields at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). Since 1850, 31,990 hectares have been lost. However by analysing the amount of boundary loss we can look at the amount of change since first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

1,923 hectares have seen no boundary change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), with 9,750 hectares seeing less than 30% boundary loss. 6617 hectares have lost between 31 and 60% of their boundaries since 1850, while 1,352 hectares have since a much higher degree of boundary loss, between 61 and 90%. The field systems with the higher levels of boundary loss show a bias towards the eastern side of the project area, particularly in the vale of Pickering and the Vale of Mowbray.



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Figure 24 Extent of enclosed strip fields at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) .

Key statistics

The vast majority of the strip field systems within the project have medium sized fields. However a third of the strip fields recorded are small, less than two hectares in size.

As part of this study, a small pilot area was looked at to determine the distribution of enclosed strip fields in relation to settlement. This involved looking at a number of settlements in the environs of Ripon and using the GIS software to establish a buffer of half a kilometre around the settlements. Out of 198 strip field systems within this area, 136 lay within half a kilometre of a settlement, and 182 within a kilometre. This type of analysis is important in two ways. The first is that it helps us understand better the relationship between settlement patterns and field systems within the Ripon area. This lies within Roberts and Wrathmell's CHUTE sub province and supports the relationship between settlements and enclosed strip fields recorded by them¹¹⁰. Due to their position in such close vicinity to the villages in this area, and the aspirational drive for rural life in the late 21st century an understanding about the complex, and close relationship between settlement and these fields with their origin in the medieval period is necessary. This will allow effective development management to enhance the character and relationships characterised here.

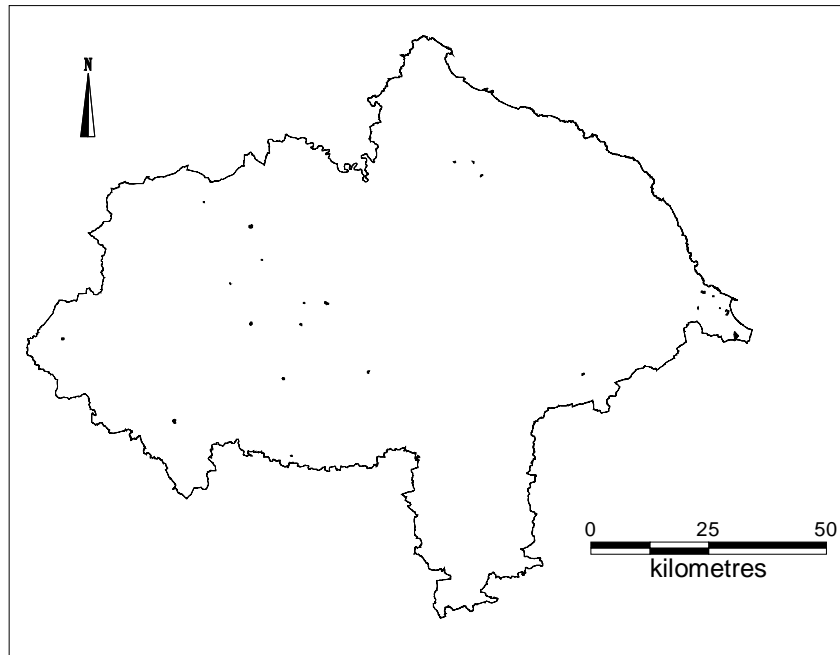
¹¹⁰ Roberts and Wrathmell 2000; 46

4.1.4 Open fields

Description

Following on from a discussion of enclosed strip fields within the project, it is necessary to summarise the results for open fields. Open fields, as their name suggests, consist of large open enclosures divided up into furlongs, in turn separated into strips. The key difference between enclosed strip fields and open fields, is the presence of internal divisions between the enclosed strip fields. 27 possible open fields have been recorded within the project.

Distribution map



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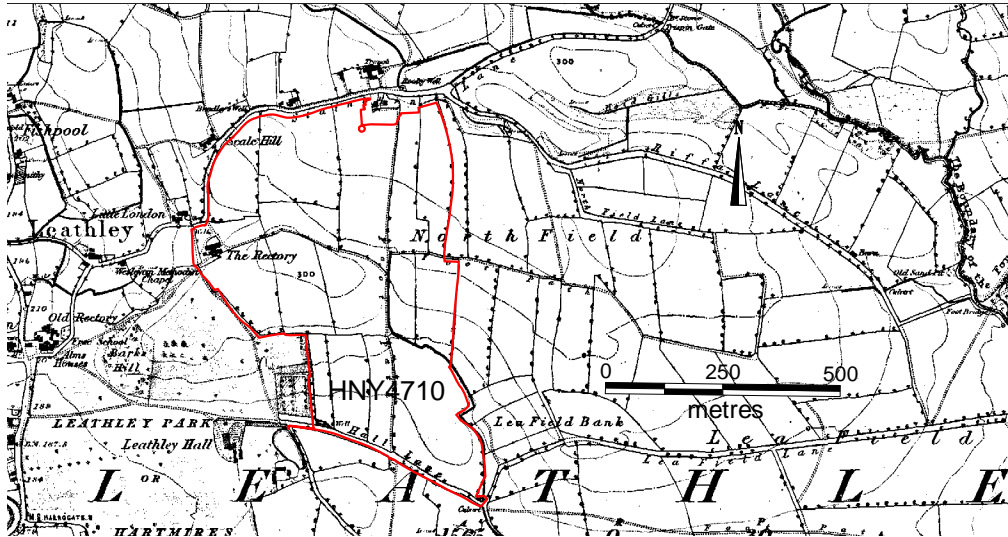
Figure 25 Distribution of open fields

Survival

Open fields have a very limited distribution within the project, been confined to very specific locations. There are none within the central part of the project area; the Humberhead Levels, Vales of York and Mowbray, the North York Moors or the Howardian Hills. The highest concentration is in the peripheral areas of the Yorkshire Dales.

Open fields have normally been recorded as the previous historic character where there is supporting evidence, for example in field name evidence. This can normally be seen on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) where a place name of 'Field' runs across several enclosures.

This can be seen with record number HNY 4710, where the previous character is defined by the open field. As we can see in figure 26 below, by reference to the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) this area is shown as 'North Field' giving a strong evidential case that it was previously open field in character.



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Figure 26 Image showing area known as north field indicating that prior to its current character as enclosed strip fields it was an area of open field agriculture.

Key Statistics

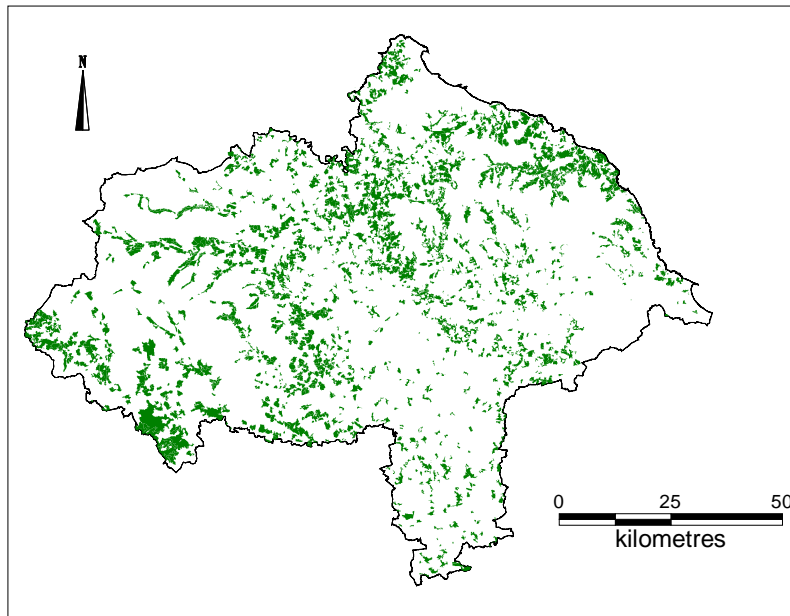
Out of 27 areas identified, nine have complete legibility while fourteen have significant legibility. This may reflect the fact that to be identified as open fields suggests very little change, and the enclosure of the strips would lead them to be characterised as enclosed strip fields.

4.1.5 Piecemeal enclosure

Description

In the early post-medieval period (approximately AD 1540 to 1750) the character of enclosure throughout the study area seems to change. In contrast to the open fields we see smaller scale, less organised enclosure which seems to be less formalised and has no planned layout. They can often be accretive, with field patterns being expanded as new areas are added to the fieldscape. These seem to date before the extremely regular pattern of the planned enclosure, which comes later in the post-medieval period. The field systems also contrast with the more structured field patterns from the medieval period. The boundaries vary in character reflecting the cumulative process by which these field systems were created. Over half (1,183) of the field systems which have been characterised have an irregular field pattern, with 788 having a semi irregular field pattern. As with many of the field patterns identified in this project, the character of the boundaries responds to local conditions.

Distribution map



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Figure 27 *Distribution of piecemeal enclosure.*

Survival

Piecemeal enclosure is found across a much larger area of the project. 79,320 hectares have seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). The survival is better in the upland areas and the Craven District with more field systems with less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), approximately 44900 hectares. There are areas which have seen greater than 60% boundary loss. These are spread throughout the project area;

however this does seem to be more common around the eastern side of the Vale of Mowbray.

Key statistics

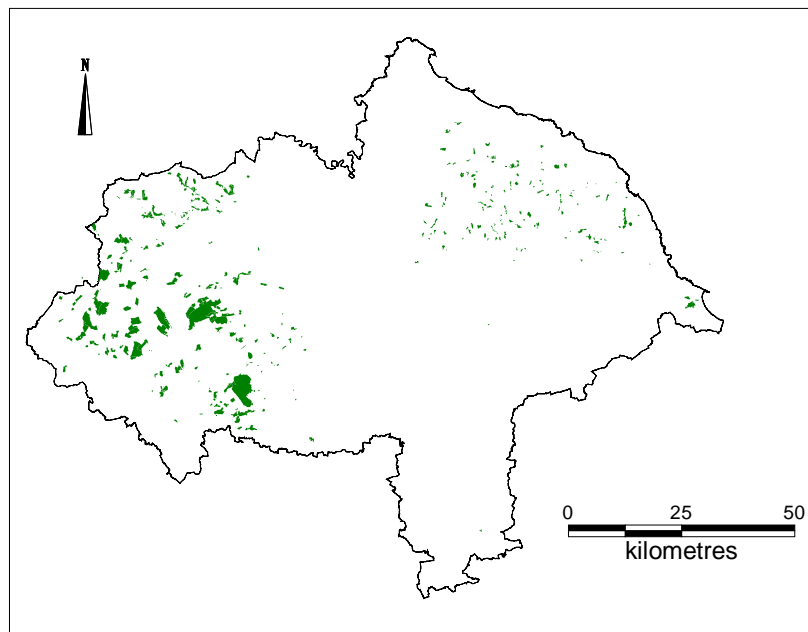
Over the whole project area piecemeal enclosure covers an area of 131,676 hectares. This accounts for 14% of the project area.

4.1.6 Intake

Description

Intake refers to a very specific type of enclosure which tends to be found in the more moorland environments. Richard Muir in his *Landscape Encyclopaedia* defines intake as “land enclosed from common, usually from its margins, and often without the consent of other parties concerned”¹¹¹. Intakes have been defined in a number of ways, firstly through the form of the fields, normally with a very well-defined coherent external boundary and secondly through place name evidence. Intake can also be ‘overtaken’ by later enclosure, and exist as islands within later parliamentary enclosure. Intake has a very specific distribution almost totally limited to the upland areas of the project.

Distribution map



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Figure 28 Distribution of intake

Survival

The intakes within the project area are extremely well preserved, (see key statistics below). Whether this is a result of their position in upland areas, which tend to be more pastoral and not is affected by the mid 20th century movement towards larger fields, or whether it is a result of most of the areas of intake being located within areas of the project protected since the 1950s, is unclear. 153 (35%) of the areas of intake have a curvilinear external boundary. This may reflect the way in which land was taken in from common land and unenclosed land.

¹¹¹Muir 2004: 136

Key Statistics

Out of 433 areas identified as being intake 344 have less than 30% boundary loss, 204 (46%) intakes have seen no boundary change at all since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), with 89 (20%) having less than ten percent boundary loss.

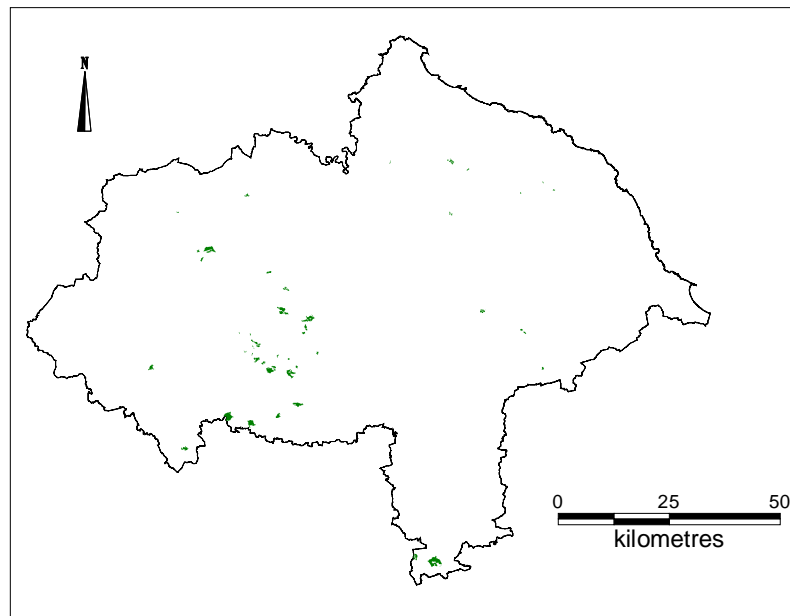
4.1.7 Assart

Description

The term assarting is used in a very specific way in the project, and refers to enclosure which has been created by the intake of woodland. In some contexts it is used as a general term for intake, however the two terms are used separately here to differentiate between the different form, context and motivation.

Assart normally has a close relationship with woodland, sometimes with irregular or curved boundaries reflecting the individual events of enclosure which are normally accretive. However the woodland may, itself, no longer be visible within the current landscape. In these cases an area of assarting has been identified from reference to the historical mapping sources to gain clarity in current evidence.

Distribution map



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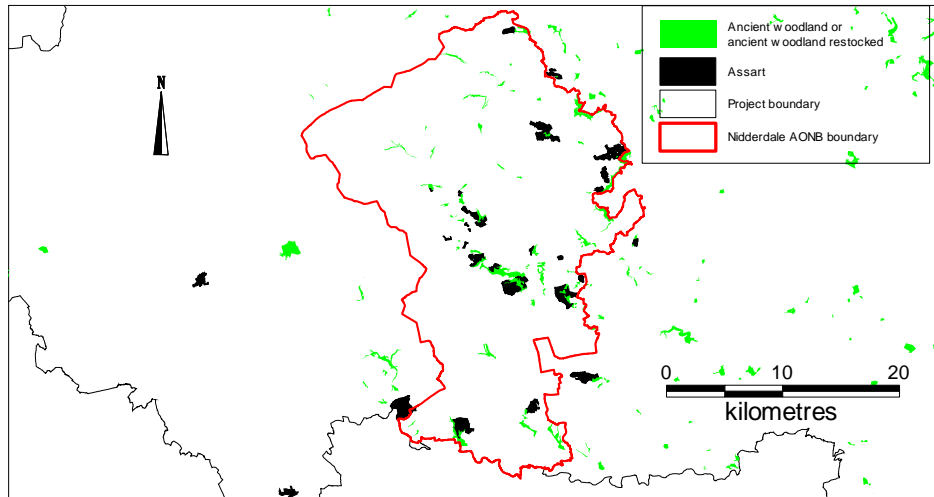
Figure 29 Distribution of assarting within the project.

Survival

The survival of assarts is good but fairly limited in terms of geographical distribution. It may be that due to woodland loss some of the assart within the county has gone unrecognised and has been characterised as piecemeal enclosure.

The records show that a number of areas characterised as assart at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), are returning to woodland with modern plantation occurring in the same locations. This reflects changes in land management and the role of woodland in society.

The most concentrated area of recognisable assarting is in the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. To set the assarting more within its landscape context the distribution was analysed in relation to ancient woodland.



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Figure 30 Showing the relationship between assart and ancient woodland

Also See Plate 11

Key statistics

Out of 68 areas of assarting recorded within the study 28 have seen no boundary change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), with another 34 seeing less than 30% boundary loss.

Most of the areas of assarting have been characterised as dating between the medieval period and AD 1750. This is to reflect the fact that assarting, or the enclosure of woodland in its purest definition, isn't just a medieval phenomenon and may well have continued into the post-medieval period

4.1.8 Cow pasture and stinted pasture

Description

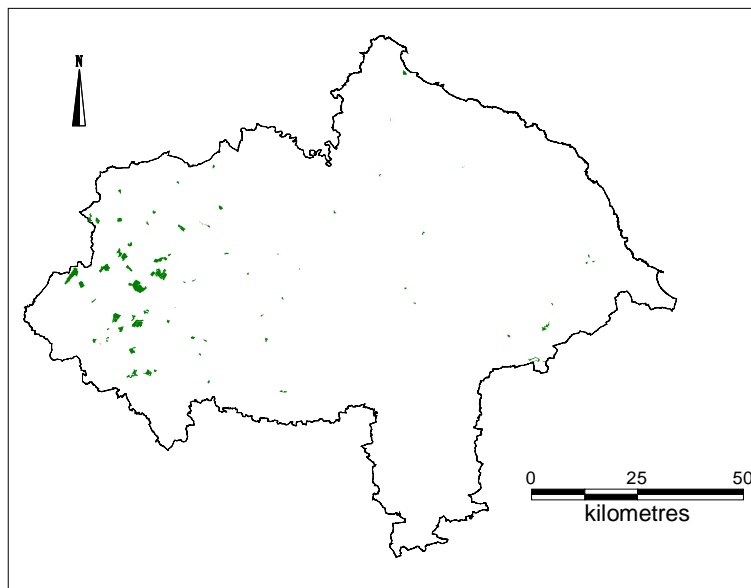
While a large amount of the enclosed land within the project area is pasture, in terms of ground cover, within the project the use of pasture as a character type has a very specific meaning. This refers to areas, particularly found in the uplands of the project area, which are stinted pasture described by Richard Muir as an area of common where "...the grazing was reserved for farmers ('gate holders') who had specific rights to pasture a given number of animals"¹¹². The pasture was normally managed in a system of transhumance with the use of the pasture on the dale sides and valley floor used for overwintering¹¹³.

The basic unit for administering the gates was the sheep with the price for other animals set as a multiple of these, for example one cow equalled five sheep gates.

Technically, cow pasture is also stinted pasture, however the difference is cow pasture was set aside for milk cattle whereas many different types of livestock would be grazed on stinted pasture¹¹⁴.

During the project, these enclosure types were normally identified through place name evidence with a 'pasture' name indicating stinted pasture, particularly in the uplands of the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale. Similarly, cow pasture was used to record the historic character where the place name was identified through map analysis.

Distribution map



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Figure 31 Distribution of cow pastures and stinted pastures

¹¹² Muir 2004:238

¹¹³ Dave Hooley Pers. Comm

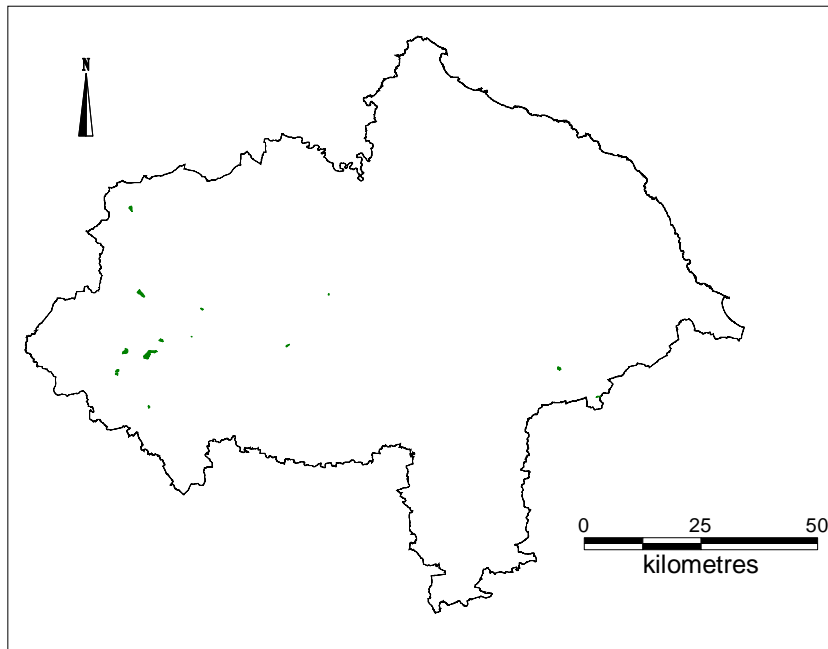
¹¹⁴ Muir 2004.: 51

Survival

As can be seen from the distribution map above pasture and cow pasture does not occur at all in the centre of the county, and is mainly limited to the uplands of the study. Because of the fact that this character type mainly drew on place name evidence due to the difficulty of distinguishing it from the upland unenclosed land it maybe that the full extent of stinted pasture has not been recognised. Out of 78 areas identified 51 had no boundary change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) which is one of the highest rates of survival in the project, while nine had less than 30% boundary loss.

The surviving areas of stinted pasture within the project range in size from two hectares up to over 600 hectares. This can reflect the changes in enclosure in the surrounding landscape which has led to the survival of small areas.

If we look at just the cow pastures recognised during the digitisation phase the distribution is even more limited, with only two out of the fourteen lying outside the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale.



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Figure 32 Distribution of cow pastures within the project area

Key statistics

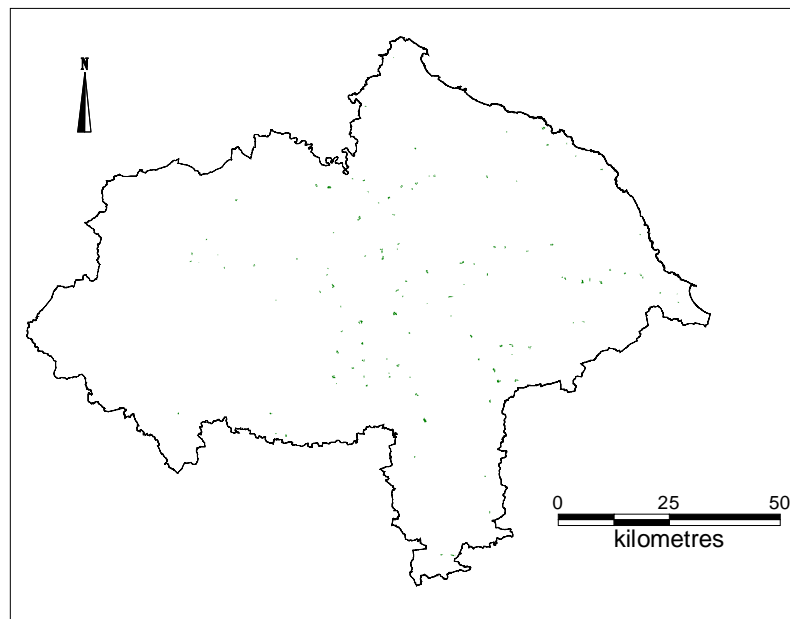
The character of these areas is extremely well preserved. Out of 78 identified 51 (65%) have seen no boundary change since the mid 19th century with 9 (11%) seeing less than ten percent boundary change (either boundary loss or creation) since AD 1850. 53 (67%) are defined by dry stone walls with 46 (58%) having regular external boundaries.

4.1.9 Crofts associated with settlement

Description

There are a large number of settlements within the project area which have their origin in the medieval period, and while the physical character of the village or town is now post medieval there are many traces of earlier activity within the surrounding landscape. One of the most significant is the presence of enclosures which are associated with the property boundaries within the settlement or town. These display some of the characteristics which are visible with enclosed strip fields (a large number have s curved boundaries). The main distinction is the relationship with the villages and towns they can be found associated with. 82% of the areas of crofts identified are made up of small enclosures, with 69% defined by overgrown hedges.

Distribution map



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Figure 33 Distribution of crofts associated with settlements

Survival

There is a good rate of survival of the crofts, although these tend to be affected by further development and infilling. 17 areas have complete legibility with 96 having significant legibility, see Chart 6. An excellent example of these can be seen at Brompton (SE 379964) which are extremely well defined, with only a small amount of boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). These are medieval in character and are associated with properties in the linear part of Brompton (SE 3796), with the back of these enclosures defined by the Stokesley Road (the A684).

Key statistics

Chart 6 shows the legibility of Crofts associated with settlement, while Chart 7 records the internal boundary types of the crofts. The predominant boundary type is shown to be that of overgrown hedgerows, followed by hedgerows and dry stone walls. Fences and are ditches very rarely used for this character type.

4.2 Unenclosed land

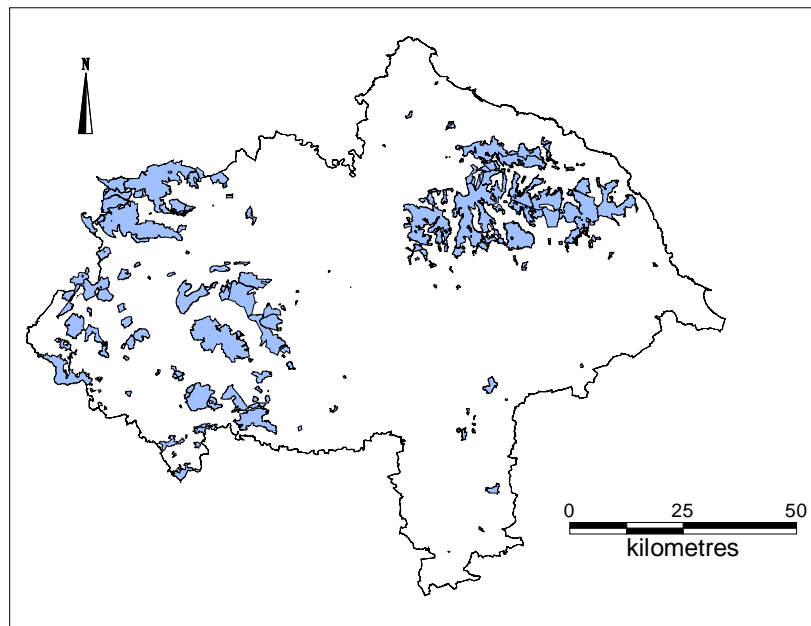
Broad Type	HLC Type
Unenclosed land	Commonland (upland)
	Commonland (lowland)
	Freehold moorland
	Greens
	Reverted moorland
	Moorland

Table 3 HLC types within the unenclosed land broad type

Description

There are large areas of the North Yorkshire landscape which can be described as unenclosed land. From the moors of the Yorkshire Dales to The Stray in Harrogate, there are many open areas of the landscape. Many, at first glance, appear to be natural. However, all are shaped by human activity. Even in the extensive areas of moorland, there are traces of extraction which are too dispersed to be characterised on their own terms. Many are now managed as shooting areas largely for red grouse. If it has been possible to identify the character of the unenclosed land, such as common land, this has been recorded in the database.

Distribution



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Figure 34 Distribution of unenclosed land broad type within the project area

From Figure 34, it can be seen that unenclosed land is situated mainly in the North York Moors National Park to the east, and in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Nidderdale AONB and Craven District to the west.

Survival

Unenclosed land forms a large percentage of the landscape within the project area. Of 111,200 hectares of unenclosed land within the project area, 105,000 hectares is located within either a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. These consist of moorland (including freehold moorland) as well as common land. Unenclosed land does occur in lowland locations as well, for example Harrogate Stray (SE 301550).

There are also a number of areas which have been identified as greens within the project. Village greens tend to be smaller and help define the historic character of the settlements in which they are found, however there are a number of large areas of unenclosed land which can be defined as greens distinct from the settlements in which they are found, for example the strays in York, which form a number of the city's green wedges (ECUS 2000).

Key statistics

Unenclosed land tends to comprise the larger polygons within the HLC project GIS. These can sometimes total thousands of hectares in extent.

From Chart 8, it can be seen that of the categories of legibility for this broad type, significant legibility is the highest, followed by complete, partial, fragmentary and invisible.

From Chart 9, it can be seen that of the character of the ground cover of the unenclosed land, the greatest percentage is heather, closely followed by rough grassland. Managed grassland and woodland are the two lowest categories.

Chart 10 shows that where this can be identified, and in the majority of cases it could not, the modern management regime for unenclosed land is mainly grouse moor, followed by nature reserve, peat cutting and military use.

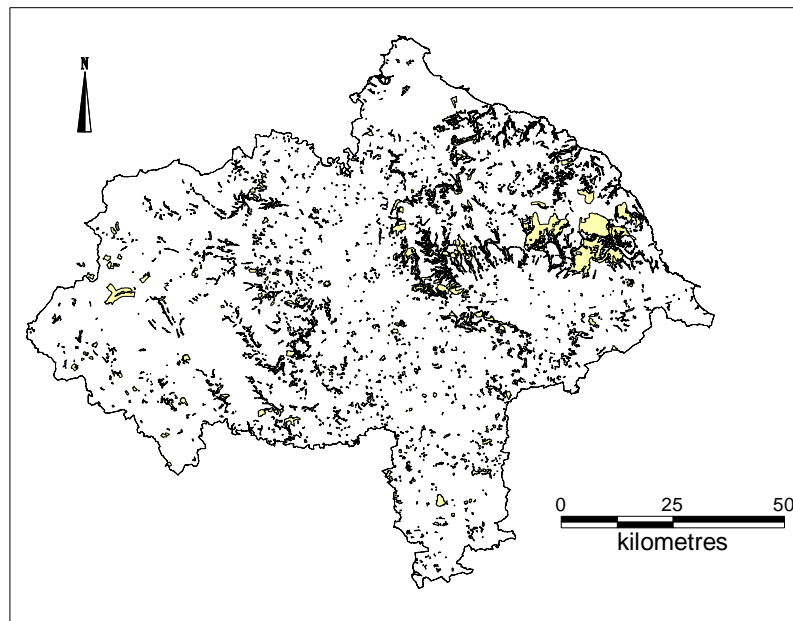
Chart 11 shows that the dominant dispersed industry of unenclosed land with the project area, where this can be identified and in the majority of cases it could not, is sandstone quarrying, followed by lead mining and coal mining. There are a wide range of other dispersed industries, including limestone, ironstone and jet quarrying, for example.

4.3 Woodland

Broad Type	HLC Type
Woodland	Wood pasture
	Mixed plantation
	Orchard
	Coniferous plantation
	Ancient and semi-natural woodland (asnw)
	Ancient and semi-natural woodland (restocked)
	Broad-leaved plantation
	Wet woodland
	Spring wood
	Covert
	Ornamental plantation

Table 4 HLC types within the woodland broad type

Distribution map



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Figure 35 Distribution of woodland in the project area

Description

It is very easy to dismiss woodland as a natural feature and lying outside of the remit of the study of historic landscape, however all woodland is a result of conscious management, sometimes continuing over several hundred years.

In addition to the ancient woodland which has been mapped there are also extensive areas within the project where the historic character is a result of large scale commercial woodland management, for example the large scale coniferous plantations in the North Yorks Moors National Park.

HLC has used several data sources to define the extent of woodland. The starting point, as with all the HLC types has been the MasterMap data. Other very specific data sources have also played a role, particularly the ancient woodland inventory data available from Natural England¹¹⁵. This has been used in combination with the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) and second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99) to establish the date and extent of the woodland. Where possible the Millennium vertical aerial photos, held by North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Authority and Tees Archaeology were also utilised.

To be classed as woodland as part of the HLC project an area had to be over two hectares and display fairly dense woodland cover.

Survival

The character of the woodland varies considerably across the project; the development of large scale forestry in the 20th century has changed the character of woodland across the county. This is particularly noticeable in the uplands of the project area, and represents significant changes to the relationship with the landscape; both in terms of the way it is managed and experienced. However it is not a simple picture, where all coniferous plantations are modern. There are 144 areas which have been characterised as coniferous plantation which were in the landscape by 1901, for example SE 66124682 and SE 47099020. Some of these are associated with the abandonment of extraction sites, others with changes in woodland management practices.

The ancient woodland inventory mapped the woodland from the AD 1920s Ordnance Survey mapping. The HLC has been able to establish the current extent of ancient woodland. For example at grid reference SE 40665967 the ancient woodland has been significantly affected by 20th-century aggregate quarrying.

It has also helped us gain a better understanding of its landscape context which may have contributed to its survival. For example at grid reference SE 292678 the ancient woodland seems to sit within the designed landscape of Markenfield Hall which has almost certainly contributed to its character in the current landscape.

In other areas we have seen an expansion of ancient woodland with modern plantation (whether broad-leaved or coniferous). This can sometimes be easy to separate out, for example at SE 281633. In other parts of the landscape it is more difficult to tease out the historic events from each other. For example the ancient and semi-natural woodland at SE 29696345 has seen about 50% expansion since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) but this has not been as straightforward as a creation of adjacent plantation, with the new woodland becoming more embedded with the ancient woodland. This highlights

¹¹⁵ http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/gis/gis_register.asp

areas where the HLC can contribute to a more detailed understanding of the cultural and historic aspects of the ancient woodland inventory.

Key statistics

Chart 12 shows the legibility of the woodland in the project, the majority of which is evenly distributed between both significant and fragmentary legibility, followed by partial and complete legibility, also evenly distributed. Woodland areas with Invisible legibility represent the least number.

It can be seen from Chart 13 showing the proportion of woodland by hectare, that the largest areas are covered by coniferous woodland, followed by broad-leaved plantation and mixed plantation. The area covered by ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked) covers the next largest area, and this is larger than the ancient semi-natural woodland which has not been restocked. Much smaller areas are covered by woodland identified as spring wood, covert and wood pasture.

Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland

Description

The definition of ancient semi-natural woodland used in the project is derived from the ancient woodland inventory. This is an area which has had continuous woodland cover since before AD 1600 and may be:

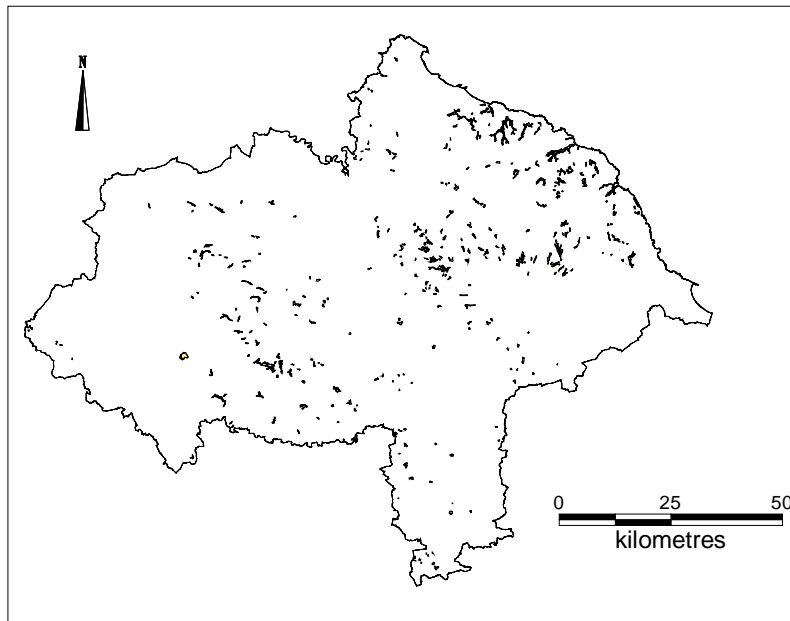
“Ancient woodland sites that have retained the native tree and shrub cover that has not been planted, although it may have been managed by coppicing or felling and allowed to regenerate naturally”¹¹⁶.

The ancient woodland inventory only digitised woodland which was over two hectares on the AD 1920s mapping. Two hectares has also been the lower cut off point for digitising areas within the HLC project making the ancient woodland inventory an excellent resource to utilise. What we have aimed to do is confirm the definition of ancient and semi-natural woodland, confirm its current extent and track the change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This provides an excellent dataset which can be used by natural environment colleagues to confirm the modern extent of these environments.

The character of ancient and semi-natural woodland within the county has changed since AD 1600, moving into different frames of reference over the intervening 400 years. For example woodland that would have been seen as a resource is now viewed within a heritage and biodiversity management context.

¹¹⁶ http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/gis/tech_aw.htm

Distribution map



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Figure 36 The distribution of ancient semi-natural woodland

Survival

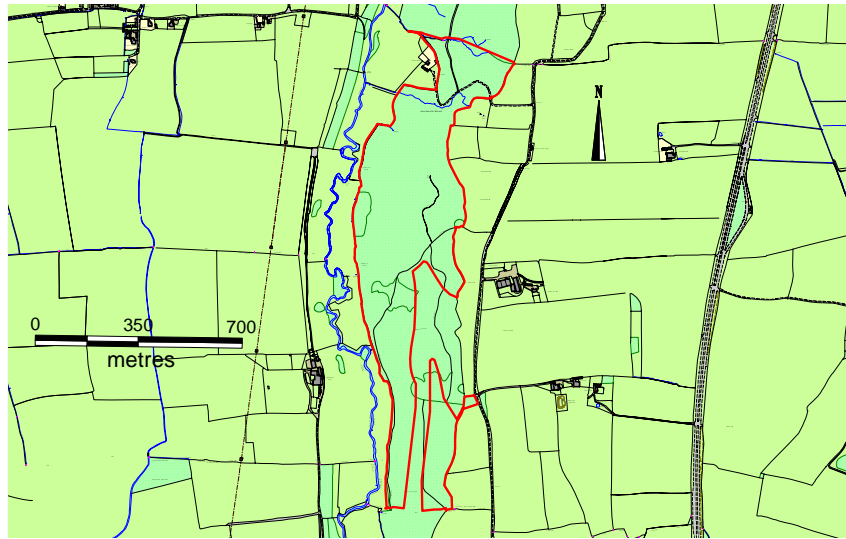
By implication the presence of ancient and semi-natural woodland suggests good survival. Ancient and semi-natural woodland is extremely well represented within the landscape and has seen very little change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). There are, visible from the mapping above some clear distributions with concentrations on the eastern sides of the North York Moors and the Nidderdale AONB.

Key statistics

There are 413 areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland that have been identified within the project, totalling an area of 6,162 hectares. This means that the areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland tend to be fairly small, an average of 14 hectares. 45% of the ancient semi-natural woodland within the project lies within the North York Moors National Park, covering 2,830 hectares. There are a few in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, with only 30 identified as part of the project. 145 of the ancient and semi-natural woodland lie outside the National Parks and AONBs, and cover an area of 1,971 hectares. All these figures must come with the caveat that the project has only recorded woodland which is over two hectares in size and it is likely that there are pockets of ancient semi-natural woodland which are smaller than this, and therefore fall outside the project's remit.

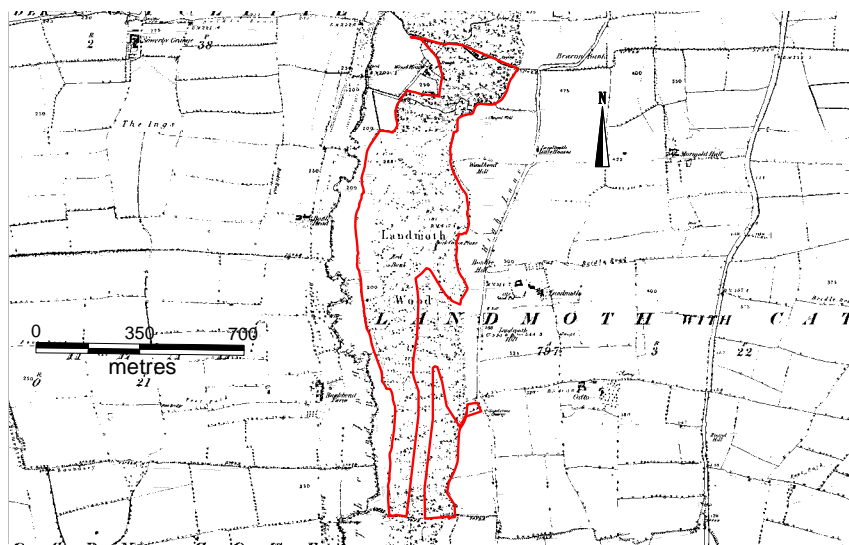
An excellent example of ancient semi-natural woodland is Landmoth Wood, which lies to the West of Northallerton (SE 4292), see Plate 12.

Landmoth Wood contains both ancient and semi-natural woodland and post-medieval broad-leaved plantation. The ancient and semi-natural woodland occurs in two blocks within the wider woodland, as can be seen below.



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Figure 37 Landmoth Wood



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Figure 38 Landmoth Wood at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

As can be seen by looking at the historic Ordnance Survey Mapping above there has been very little change in the physical character, at a landscape scale, since the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

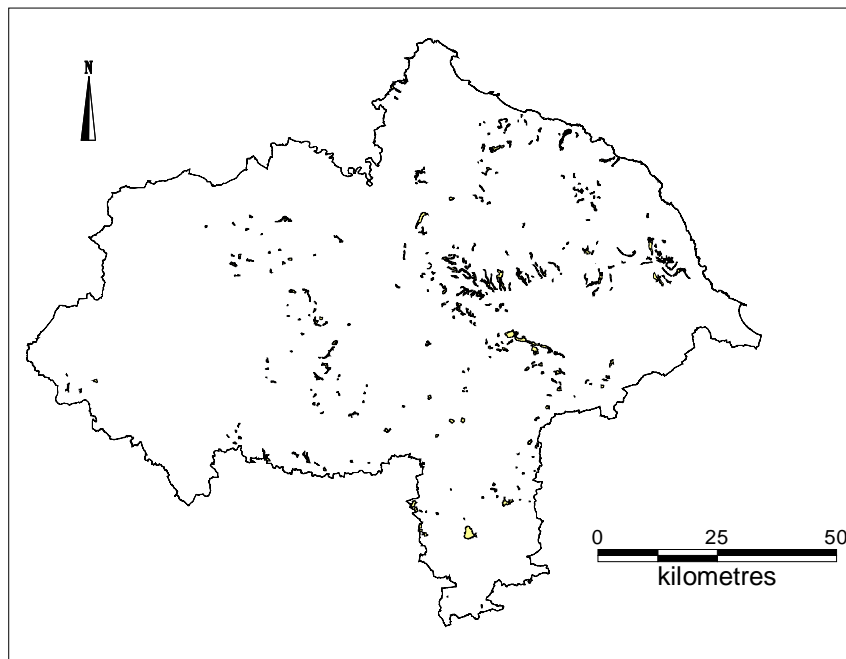
One of the highest concentrations of ancient and semi-natural woodland is within the Nidderdale AONB. With 768 hectares of ancient semi-natural woodland in 40 locations it accounts for 1.28 percent of the AONB's landscape. This compares with 0.68 percent over the whole project area. There is a particular concentration around the Guisecliff area with around 180 hectares of ancient and semi-natural woodland in a very small area, see Plate 13.

Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (restocked)

Description

Ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked) also uses the ancient woodland inventory as its primary reference. The ancient woodland inventory defines ancient replanted woodland as “ancient woodland sites where the original native tree cover has been felled and replaced by planting, usually with conifers and usually this century”¹¹⁷.

Distribution map



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Figure 39 The distribution of ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked).

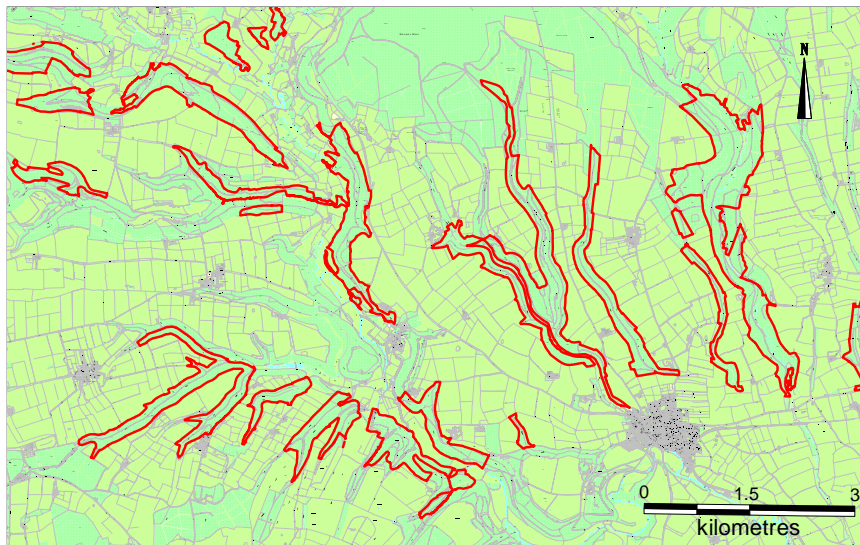
Survival

It is difficult to determine the survival of ancient and semi-natural woodland (restocked) because by its very character it is a dynamic feature of the landscape, indicating the change from ancient woodland to more plantation based cover. It is important that it is mapped where possible separately from the plantation woodland

¹¹⁷ http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/gis/tech_aw.htm

in the project area, as it is a good indication to the previous presence of ancient and semi-natural woodland. There are some definite trends within the distribution of the woodland that can be recognised from the above map. Again there seems to be very little evidence for ancient and semi-natural woodland (restocked) over two hectares in the west of the project. There are clear concentrations around the edge of the Vale of Pickering, particularly in the Howardian Hills to the west, and Tabular Hills to the north, see Plate 14, some of these blocks are very substantial, totalling over 200 hectares in size.

The map below shows the density of ancient and semi-natural woodland (restocked) around Helmsley. Most of this woodland seems to date before the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), suggesting a date between AD 1600 and 1850 for the restocking of species.



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Figure 40 The density of ancient and semi-natural woodland (restocked) around Helmsley.

Key statistics

Ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked) accounts for 8,889 hectares of the total study area (0.9%) with 340 areas, and an average size of 26 hectares.

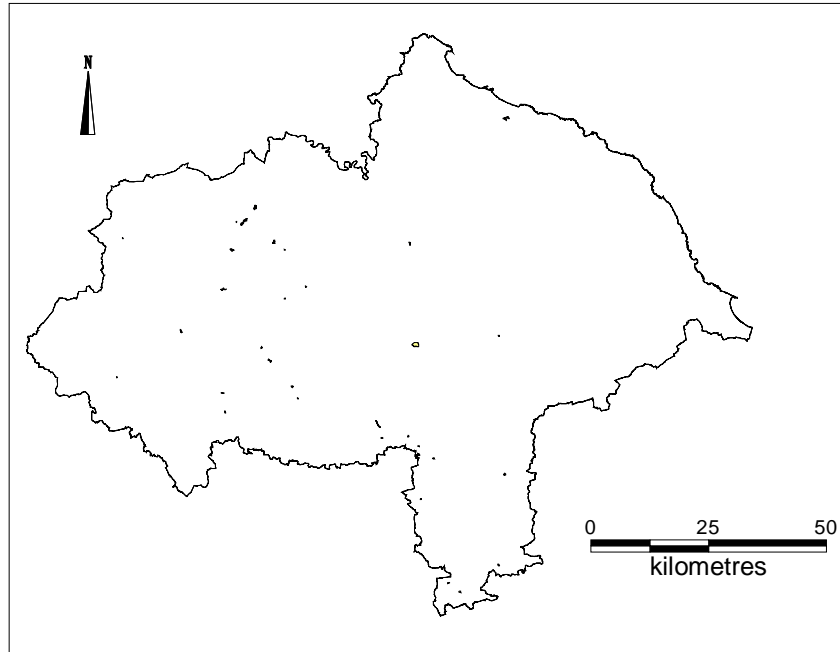
Spring Wood

Description

It is rare to be able to identify a specific historic woodland management system at the scale of this project. We can generally recognise the presence of woodland with different time depth, but to gain an understanding of the utilisation which has maintained that woodland can be problematic. There is one case where we have been able to recognise this within the current landscape. Spring wood is a very specific term which occurs in the north of England and refers to wood which historically has been managed by coppicing. This does not suggest that they are still managed as coppiced woodland; rather it is the management for coppicing which has

created their current historic character. These areas have normally been identified by place name evidence from the modern mapping, see Plate 15. Both coniferous and broad-leaved species are also evident. This does not map all of the historic evidence of coppicing, which may have occurred historically even in many areas of woodland, but does start to pick up the pattern of this woodland management method within the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC.

Distribution map

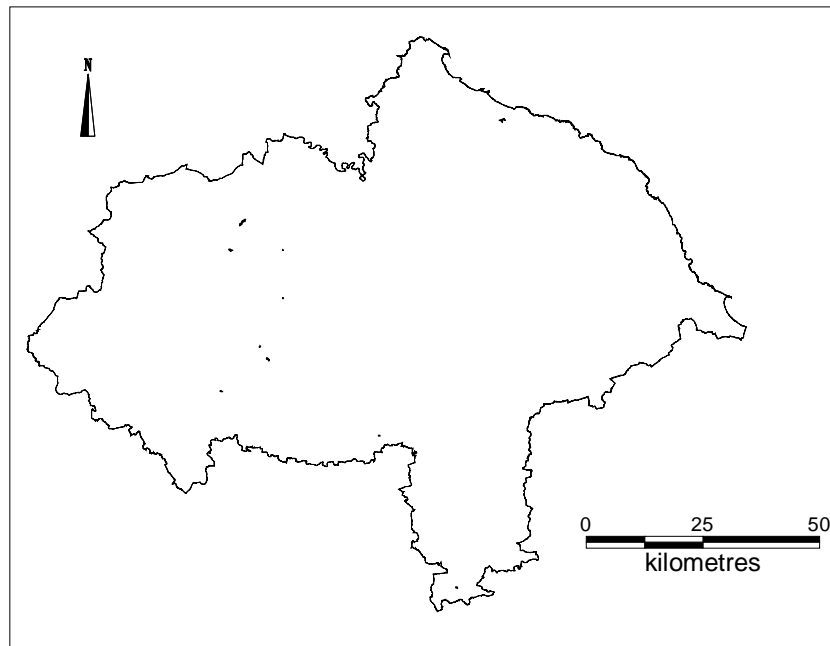


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Figure 41 The distribution of spring wood.

Survival

There is a very clear distribution of Spring Wood across the county. 23 out of 35 of the areas identified as spring wood, which are over 2 hectares, lie in the west of the project area. Twelve of the spring woods characterised date before AD 1600 and, of these, nine are in the west of the project area. It is a limited character type and more work is needed to understand which historic management processes have created the current character of woodland in the project area.



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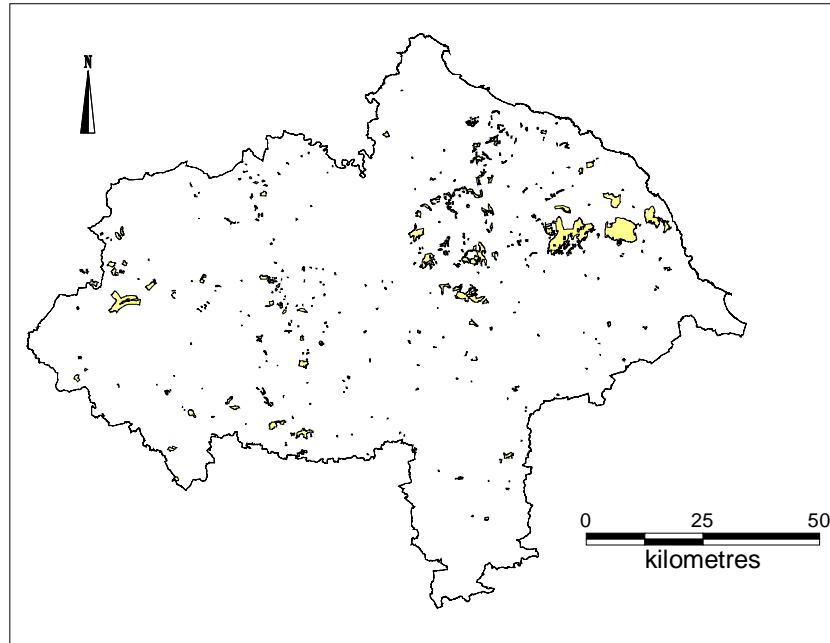
Figure 42 Spring wood pre AD 1600

Coniferous plantation

Description

Coniferous plantation, within the scope of the project, consists of areas over two hectares in size which are defined by an external boundary and the woodland cover is made up of coniferous species, see Plate 16. To be classed as plantation woodland these date after AD 1600. Coniferous plantation accounts for 19,670 hectares in total, often concentrated in very large plantations covering several hundred hectares. These large areas of managed forestry plantation have a significant contribution to the historic character of the areas in which they can be found, for example in Langstrothdale where the valley is almost completely forested. At the other side of the project area the Cropton Forest covers an area of 3,036 hectares. Most of the coniferous plantation recorded dates to the modern period. 1,556 hectares dates before AD 1850. These tend to be smaller areas of woodland with an average size of 17 hectares. In contrast there are nearly double the numbers of modern coniferous plantations with an average size of 47 hectares. The external boundaries are influenced more on their locality within the project area and reflect wider patterns visible within the field patterns across the study area. There are a small number of coniferous plantations which date between AD 1850 and 1900. These follow the same trends which we can see with the pre AD 1850 coniferous woodland of smaller blocks of plantation.

Distribution map



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Figure 43 The distribution of coniferous plantation

Survival

Coniferous plantation tends to be modern in date and reflect the large scale management of woodland within the landscape.

Key statistics

Chart 14 shows that the dominant legibility type for coniferous plantation is fragmentary followed by partial, invisible, significant and complete.

4.4 Water

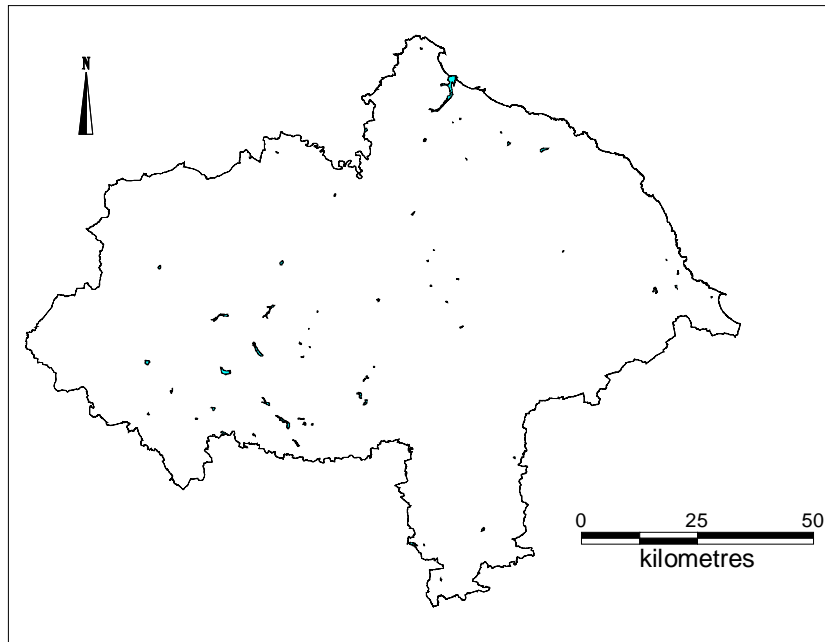
Broad Type	HLC Type
Water	Natural lake
	Estuary
	Reservoir
	Man-made lake

Table 5 HLC types within the water broad type

Description

There are a number of areas characterised by the presence of major water features. These include natural bodies of water such as Malham Tarn (SD 893666) as well as man-made lakes and reservoirs. These mainly consist of large bodies of water that are over two hectares in extent. The man-made water bodies such as Fewston reservoir (SE 184538) have a major impact, not only in terms of the physical changes to the landscape but also in social changes. During construction these reservoirs often acted as focal points for navy settlements, and in the long term they also created complex social relationships with the urban settlements which they were designed to supply. It has been outside the scope of this HLC project to define the extent of rivers and canals as their own character type.

Distribution



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Figure 44 Distribution of water broad type within the project area

Survival

There are several significant areas which have been characterised as water. This is particularly noticeable within the Nidderdale AONB where there is a very high density of reservoirs, dating mainly to the late 19th century. These have had a major impact on the character of the landscape.

While the natural bodies of water may seem to have been more stable within the landscape, this does not appear to be the case. How these water bodies have been utilised and managed has changed greatly over the past 150 years. Many lakes now have a recreational aspect to them, while some, such as Malham Tarn (SD 893666) are now national nature reserves¹¹⁸. The Tees estuary is a modified landscape due partly to the need to dredge regularly.

Key statistics

Chart 15 shows that the majority of areas characterised under the broad type of water have invisible legibility, followed by fragmentary and complete.

From Chart 16, it can be seen that of the four water HLC types, reservoir and man-made lake are dominant, followed by natural lake and estuary.

In the majority of cases, the type of leisure use of water areas is not known. However, where it is, as shown in Chart 17, the majority are used for fishing, followed by water sports and bird watching.

¹¹⁸ www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-malhamtarnmoor

4.5 Military

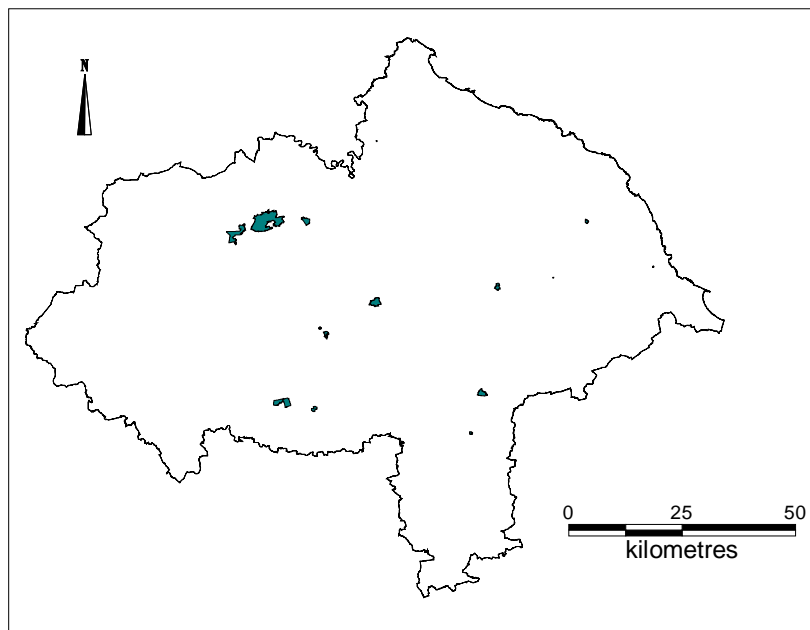
Broad Type	HLC Type
Military	Training
	Communications
	Accommodation
	Airfield
	Battery

Table 6 HLC types within the military broad type

Description

Military sites, within the scope of the project, refer to areas with a specific military function, rather than being in military ownership. For example, there are significant areas of the landscape which are owned by the Ministry of Defence which are characterised as field systems. The areas under discussion here tend to be military accommodation, training or communications. Many of the sites will have multi-use functions, for example elements of the Catterick military complex are concerned with both training and accommodation, however the aim has been to define the most dominant.

Distribution



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Figure 45 Distribution of military broad type within the project area

Survival

The military has a long history within the project area, however due to changes which have occurred in the character of the military during the 20th century, there are few areas which date to the post-medieval period. There is a large concentration of military sites around the Catterick Garrison area within the Richmondshire District of North Yorkshire. This is the focus of much of the earlier military activity; however its previous character is planned enclosure.

Key statistics

The majority, eight, of the military sites have fragmentary legibility, as can be seen in Chart 18, whilst four have partial and three significant legibility.

Chart 19 shows that by number of records, the greatest types of military character area are accommodation and communication, followed by training. Chart 20 shows that by hectarage, accommodation is the dominant military character area, followed by communications and training.

4.6 Coastal

Broad Type	HLC Type
Coastal	Coastal cliffs
	Seafront
	Saltmarsh
	Sands
	Rocky foreshore
	Mudflats
	Coastal slopes
	Boat landing
	Marsh
	Harbour
	Sand dunes

Table 7 HLC types within the coastal broad type

Description

The North Yorkshire coast has an important role to play in the history, economy and leisure of the region. This is reflected in the designation of 50km of the North Yorkshire and Cleveland coast as Heritage Coast¹¹⁹. The significance of this coastline has also been highlighted in the recent work of the Historic Seascapes Characterisation (HSC) project¹²⁰ and the North Yorkshire Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment (RCZA) project¹²¹, this was complimented by the North East Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment (NERCZA) which ran from Whitby to the Tweed¹²².

The HSC project complements the work of the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC by taking a marine perspective, adding an additional level of detail to our understanding of the coastal landscape. The HSC project has not only been concerned with characterising marine areas, but also taking a marine perspective on the historic landscapes of the landward side of the coast.

The North Yorkshire HLC has characterised the whole coast within the project area, using mean low water as its eastern extent.

The coastal broad type forms a framework to try and understand a complex landscape which is semi-natural in character with evidence of human activity, mostly transitory and small scale, sometimes more permanent. For example, the sands which are found along the coast form essentially semi-natural environments, but sit within a complex and constantly shifting pattern of cultural use. This can be seen in the record for North Bay Sands at Scarborough:

“This is an area of beach at North Bay with one permanent structure which is a sloping concrete sea defence along the sea front. It has significant legibility with the

¹¹⁹ <http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/heritage-coast-448/>

¹²⁰ Baker, Tapper, Johns and Herring 2007

¹²¹ Buglass and Brigham 2008

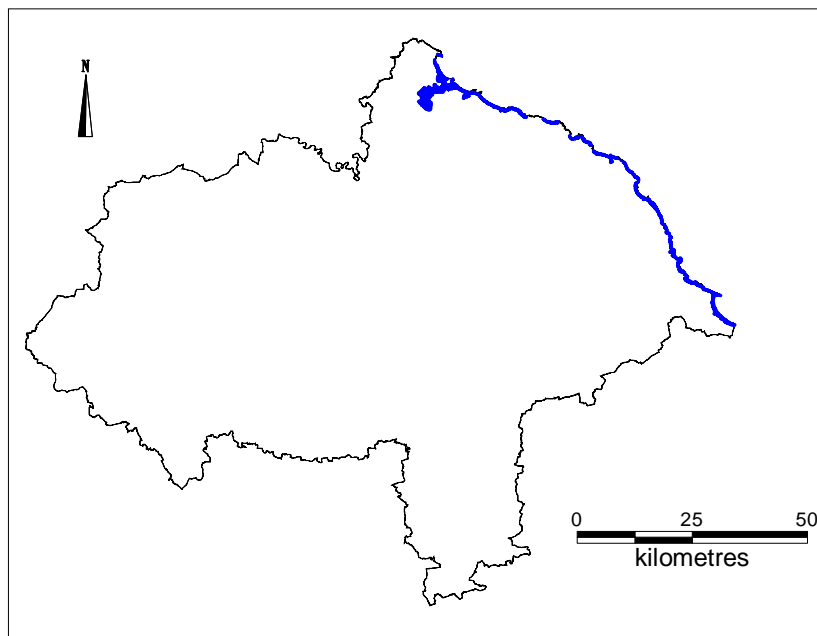
¹²² Tolan-Smith 2008

sea defence being the only change since AD 1850. The sands run alongside the coastal slopes of North Bay and have been used by the public as a tourist facility since the 19th century. Although physically in its natural form it is highly significant in the history of leisure and tourism in this area in the late 19th and early 20th century, which are represented by transient features and events.”

There may be concern that the coastal broad type seems limited in its scope, for example the only two HLC character types considered here that aren't semi-natural are harbours and seafronts. However, it must be borne in mind that areas within the marine environment fall under other broad types. For example, the docks at Hartlepool (NZ 517338) are an important element of the marine character of the North East. These fall under the industrial broad type. Another example would be the number of towns found along the coast which have an important, but changing, role to play in the marine landscape. For example, Whitby (NZ 897109) has a harbour which falls into the coastal broad type, but the majority of the town, which also has an important role to play in the historic marine landscape character, is recorded under the settlement broad type. A similar situation can be seen with the alum industry, which contributes significantly to the historic character of the coast, but is recorded under the extractive broad type.

During the characterisation of the Filey pilot area, a boat landing was identified and characterised (TA 120809), however this was only 0.54 hectares in extent. Once the wider project methodology was agreed, with a minimum extent threshold of two hectares, this fell below the threshold for characterisation. This meant that further examples of boat landings outside the Filey area will not have been characterised individually, but will have been included in the wider area HLC type in which they are located.

Distribution



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Figure 46 Distribution of coastal broad type within the project area

Survival

This is a fairly dynamic environment which impacts on the historic character of the landscape. For example, the cliffs in the Scarborough area (TA 0486) are prone to erosion, as was seen when the Holbeck Hotel fell into the sea in 1993 as a result of heavy rainfall¹²³. Similarly, the historic landscape of Whitby headland has been affected by landslip (NZ 902113). However, large stretches of the coast show a significant amount of time depth and cultural complexity. For example, the Marsh at Seaton Snook (NZ 5228) shows evidence of activity related to salt extraction with a medieval character, see Plate 17.

Four harbours were characterised within the area. Staithes harbour (NZ 783189) has permanent structures represented by the slipway and breakwaters, with partial legibility. It was used initially as a boat landing for fishing boats, then developed into a harbour. There is evidence of continuity here as the HLC records the previous character as a medieval boat landing. Scarborough harbour (TA 048886) by contrast has significant legibility with many of the structures visible evident on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). Whitby has two harbours, the Upper and Lower Harbour (NZ 900106 and NZ 900114 respectively) separated by a swing bridge. There have been some changes since AD 1850 including the building of additional wharves and quays.

Two seafronts were characterised as part of the project. The first consists of the sea defences and promenades along the south side of Hartlepool Headland (NZ 527335), and the second is the coastal open space along the shoreline at Seaton Carew (NZ 525300). The Hartlepool seafront has significant legibility with elements of the historic character having their period of origin in the medieval period, however the Seaton Carew coast has a very different character. This appears to be land reclaimed from the foreshore in the inter-war period (1925-1938).

Key statistics

Coastal areas account for 2,610 hectares within the whole project. This accounts for less than 0.3% of the total project area. Sixteen of these areas have complete legibility and 52 have significant legibility. These areas are difficult to assign a date to due to the semi-natural character of these areas.

¹²³ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holbeck_Hall_Hotel

4.7 Settlement

Broad Type	HLC Type
Settlement	Burgage plots
	Semi-detached housing
	Nucleated village
	Planned estate
	Shrunken medieval village
	Nucleated hamlet
	Low-rise flats
	Private housing estate
	Detached housing
	Grange
	Ring fenced farm
	Elite residence
	Navy camp
	Green village
	Deserted medieval village
	Vaccary
	Hamlet
	Historic town core
	Single ancient farm
	Squatter settlement
	Ancient settlement
	Terraced housing (with direct street frontage)
	Linear village
	Terraced housing (with forecourt front garden)
	Terraced housing (with front and back garden)
	Bungalows
	High-rise apartments
	Estate village
	Farm complex
	Linear hamlet
	Green hamlet
Villa	
Through terraces	

Table 8 HLC types within the settlement broad type

Description

The project area includes many varied types of settlement. From the City of York, to the large urban centres of the Lower Tees Valley and the dispersed villages of the Yorkshire Dales, the term settlement has a wide scope.

In their study published in 2000, Roberts and Wrathmell chronicled the patterns of rural settlement in 19th-century England¹²⁴. This information was used to define three broad provinces within the country, which were then divided into sub provinces. Several of these sub provinces can be found within the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project area. These are the Northern Pennines (WPENN), Pennine Slope (CPNSL), Humber-Tees (CHUTE), East Yorkshire (CEYKS)¹²⁵.

Roberts and Wrathmell's work forms a starting point to look at broad trends in settlement patterns in the 19th century, and draws out distinctive patterns of settlement distribution in relation to each of the sub provinces. HLC changes the focus slightly and looks at the distribution of settlement within the current landscape to help gain an understanding of the current character and the time depth which has created this.

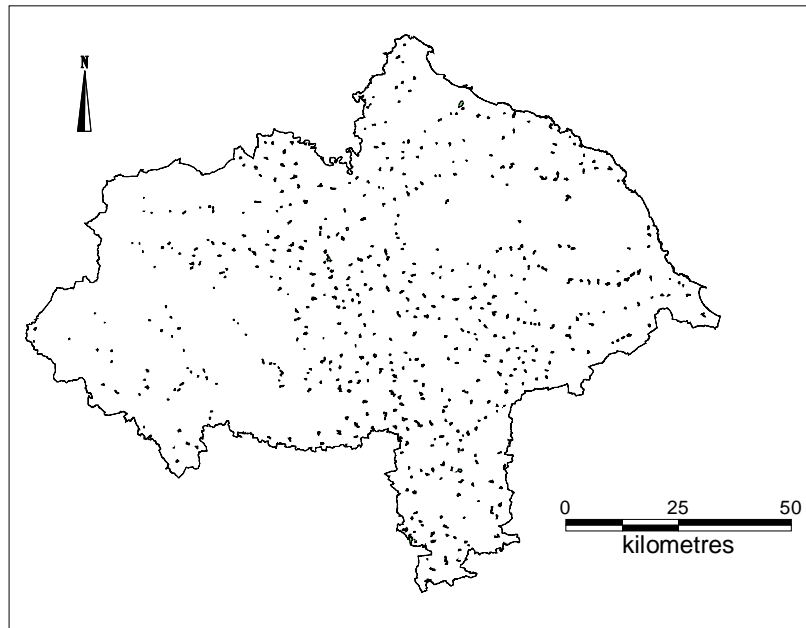
During the characterisation of the settlement pattern, it has been the aim to record sufficient detail to pick up the historic character, development and form. In areas of large scale settlement, for example Harrogate and York, the project has utilised a tripartite system of characterisation. This has digitised the historic core (as represented by the extent of settlement shown on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)), the late post-medieval expansion (as shown on second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping 1889-99) and the modern development (as represented on the modern mapping). Using the tripartite system we have been able to recognise some interesting patterns, particularly enabling us to identify the smaller villages around York, such as Acomb, which have become surrounded by the modern expansion of York.

To reflect the denser settlement pattern in the Lower Tees Valley area, a more detailed methodology was employed which was finer grained in its characterisation, see section 3.4 above. Due to the difference in methodology the following discussion will consider these settlement patterns separately, see section 5.4.

¹²⁴ Roberts and Wrathmell 2000, 1

¹²⁵ Roberts and Wrathmell 2000, 3

Distribution



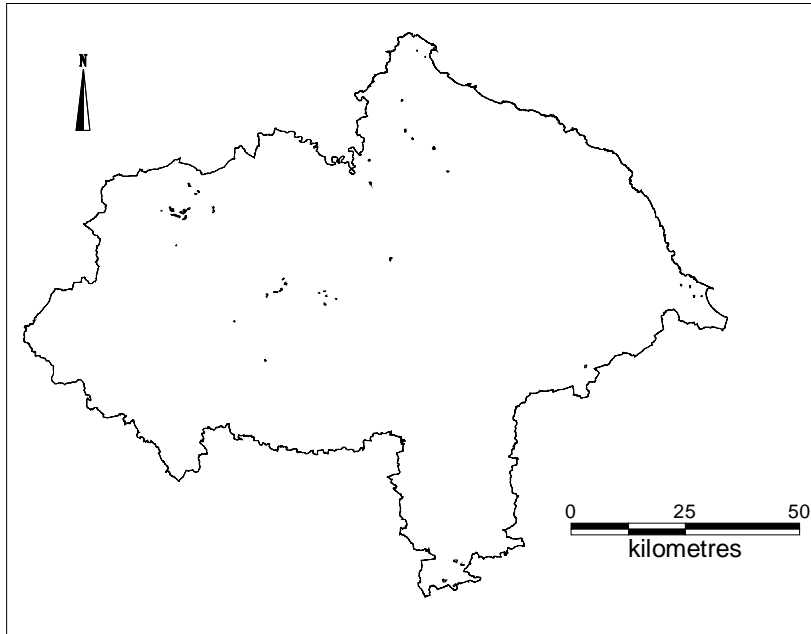
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Figure 47 *Distribution of villages within the project area*

Survival

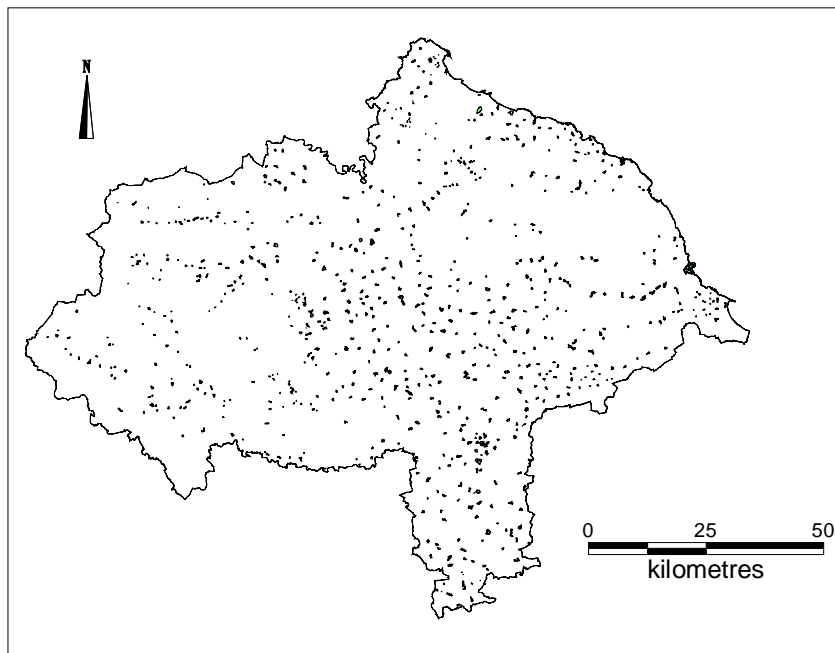
Many settlements within the project area have a medieval origin. In particular, this can be seen in the planned forms of linear and green villages. A question identified during characterisation was whether these places have a medieval character in their current form? It was determined, however, that the majority of the villages characterised comprise of buildings which date back to the post-medieval period and this stage in their development and form needs to be recognised within the study. To address this, the current character has generally been recorded as post medieval, while the issue of their origin, the creation of the settlement plan, is reflected in the previous character type recorded. Looking at the distribution of settlement across the project area by period of origin, trends can be seen to emerge. Settlement that could be characterised as still having a medieval character is very limited. There is a definite concentration of medieval settlement around the Swaledale area, reflecting the single ancient farms which are found within the valley.

There is a fairly even distribution of post-medieval settlements across the area with no particular concentrations. Out of 826 post-medieval settlements recorded, 632 have either complete or significant preservation, suggesting a good level of preservation across the project area. Many of these have a previous character type of medieval settlement, defined by form.



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Figure 48 The distribution of settlement still believed to have a medieval character in the current landscape

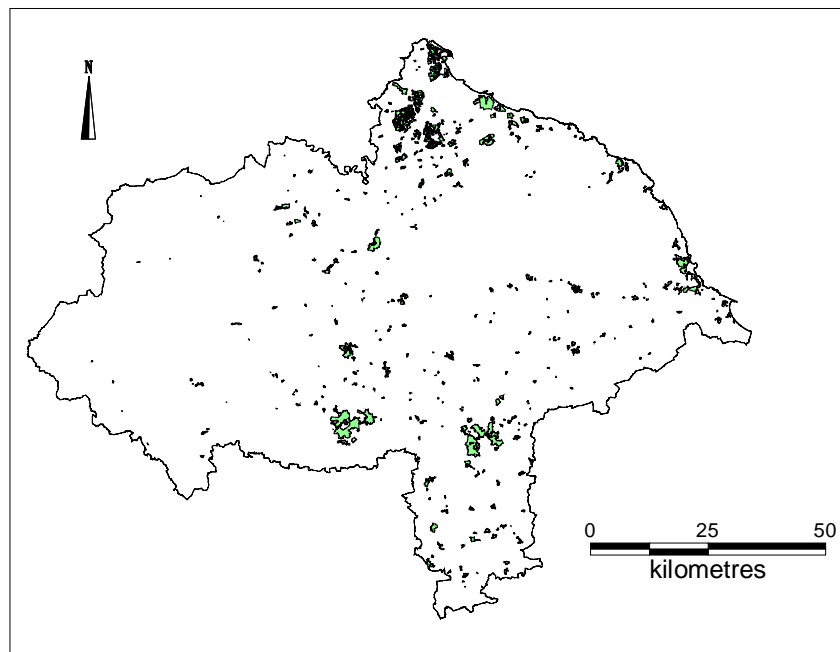


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Figure 49 Post-medieval settlement distribution

Modern settlement (those areas of settlement which have their origin in the 20th and 21st century) has several definite concentrations, such as Harrogate, York and Middlesbrough. However, it is clear that modern settlement is not limited to the larger towns. As can be seen in figure 50, there are numerous areas of settlement which have expanded in the 20th century. This will be discussed in more detail below. Due to this expansion, there has often been a large amount of change in the surrounding landscapes. This is reflected in the legibility of modern settlements where 871 have fragmentary or invisible legibility.

804 (85%) of the modern settlements were previously enclosed land, and it is interesting to note that in some cases it is possible to recognise the shapes of former fields in the external boundaries of modern estates. This often reflects the sale of land for construction, but also shows that even in the most developed landscapes some traces of the previous historic character can be evident



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Figure 50 Modern settlement pattern

Key statistics

Settlement across the project area takes many forms. This section will take a broad overview of the types identified within the project. For the purposes of this analysis the list has been simplified. The section on the Lower Tees Valley area will explore the patterns that have resulted from a more detailed approach to the settlement pattern, see section 3.4.

Chart 21 shows the number of areas identified for each type of settlement. The high number of planned estates in comparison to other character types is reflected here and also in Chart 22 which shows the total hectareage for each type of settlement.

Chart 23 shows patterns of settlement by number of occurrences of each type. While linear and nucleated forms are well represented the cul-de-sac pattern occurs the most frequently.

Chart 24 shows the legibility of settlements. There has been some change in most settlements since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), reflecting changes in the way settlement is created and a response to the changes in 20th century society, particularly the changes in transport patterns.

Chart 25 shows public space which is a difficult aspect of the built environment to quantify. It is evident that there is space which is accessible to most groups within society, for example roads and pavements. By accepting that settlements had routes of access present what this attribute attempted to record was the occurrence of public space intentionally created to enhance social interaction. In some settlements this was hard to define, but was probably present. With these settlements the public space was recorded as not being discernable.

The final chart in this section Chart 26 shows density of housing. Low-density housing is less than 25 homes per hectare; medium-density housing is between 25 and 55 homes per hectare and high-density housing is more than 55 homes per hectare. It can be seen that the majority of settlement in the project area is of low-density.

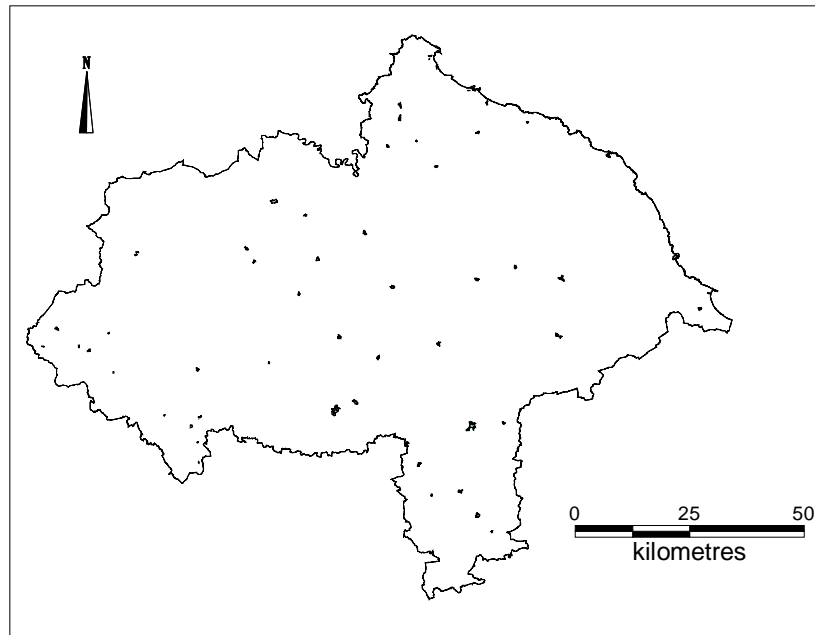
Historic Town Cores

Description

The historic town core is normally defined by reference to the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This shows the extent of the settlement at approximately AD 1850 and provides a good reference to define late 19th century and 20th century expansion. There are undoubtedly modern dwellings and shops within this area, for example York or Harrogate, however from a landscape perspective this provides a useful level in which to define the early extent of settlement. These are generally post medieval in character and take a variety of forms, ranging from the linear form of Northallerton, to Knaresborough, the layout of which is nucleated on the market place.

The actual form that the historic cores of the towns take varies greatly. For example, Ripon and Settle are nucleated around a central market place. Northallerton also has a weekly market; however this has a very different form, with two rows of shops and dwellings on either side of a central linear street, and burgage plots running away behind the properties. In contrast, Harrogate has seen a completely different development with two historic cores, based around Low Harrogate and High Harrogate, see Plate 18. York has a very different pattern, with the main city's historic core defined by the city walls. However, as the city has seen large-scale 20th century expansion it has absorbed a number of villages in the suburbs, such as Acomb and Poppleton. These could have been characterised as historic cores, however to capture the historic depth they have been defined as villages, to enable the recording of their form, for example whether they are linear or nucleated. By doing this, the HLC project is also able to reflect the different identities that each area of settlement has, and how they form part of the wider York settlement pattern but yet are distinct from it.

Distribution map



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Figure 51 Distribution of historic town cores

Survival

The survival of historic town cores is good, although there is definitely evidence of infilling and change in the function of the buildings within the cores. It is also clear from figure 51 that the larger historic cores are found within very specific geographical locations, being located outside the main upland areas. There are some surprising exceptions, for example the historic core of Grassington (SE 00376423) covers an area of over 20 hectares and has significant legibility, while the historic core of Leyburn is 20.94 hectares. These are more extensive than the areas of Harrogate (Low Harrogate (SE 29805529) and High Harrogate (SE 31015564).) It is in the subsequent period between AD 1850 and 1900 that Harrogate significantly expanded.

Key statistics

There are no historic town cores with complete legibility. This probably reflects the fact that town centres tend to attract some level of development, even in those which seem to have a high degree of time depth, but while there has been some change a high proportion have maintained their character with 52 having significant legibility. Only six have partial legibility, reflecting a high degree of change in the 20th century, while three have fragmentary legibility, see Chart 27.

Chart 28 shows that while there are areas which are extremely open and others fairly densely developed (11 and 10 historic town cores respectively) the vast majority have medium-density housing which suggest a more open pattern of settlement.

Villages

Description

Villages form one of the key types of settlement in the project area. Found across the whole of the project area, they take three broad forms: green villages, linear villages and nucleated villages.

Green villages are those which have a village green which can be identified from the mapping. These normally have a nucleated form, although a number are more linear with the green either side of the road.

Linear villages are defined by the English Heritage thesaurus as “A group of related buildings, primarily with a domestic function, which is arranged along a principle axis such as a main road or route way”¹²⁶. Linear villages can occur in two key types, with either single or double rows. Sometimes, they display a back lane, and often have tofts associated with the dwellings.

Both green villages and linear villages show evidence of planning, which may well have its origins in the medieval period¹²⁷.

Nucleated villages may well be planned (green villages could be recorded as nucleated villages), however there are examples where the village has developed over time. This is particularly noticeable where there is a key junction in the road network that has seen an inn develop, and then a number of other dwellings being built.

There is a fourth type of village which was recorded as part of the project, although limited in use. Estate village was used as a term where it could be demonstrated that the village had a direct relationship with a large-scale country estate, for example Studley Roger (SE 29027016). Due to the difficulty in establishing this relationship, there are only seventeen villages of this type recorded throughout the whole project area.

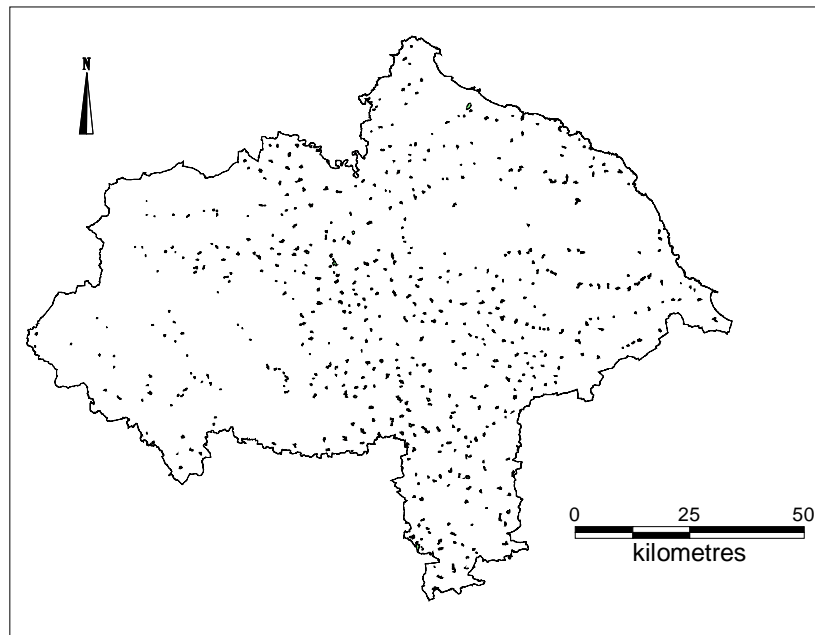
All the types of villages are found throughout the project area; however by looking at the four types individually, some patterns do start to emerge. While linear villages such as Grinton, Askrigg and West Witton are found in the Yorkshire Dales, and likewise Sleights, Castleton and Ugthorpe in the east of the project area, there is a clear density to the pattern in the Vale of Mowbray/ Vale of York central part of the project area. This pattern is even more pronounced when looking at the distribution of green villages, with 52 out of 130 identified by the project located in the central part of the project area.

Out of 581 villages characterised by the project, 414 have an historic character which is post medieval, of which 305 have a previous historic character which was settlement, suggesting a clear medieval origin. Of these 414 villages recorded as having post-medieval character, 347 have complete or significant legibility, suggesting very little change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

¹²⁶http://thesaurus.english-heritage.org.uk/thesaurus_term.asp?thes_no=1&term_no=68988

¹²⁷ Muir 2004: 272-273

Distribution map



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Figure 52 *Distribution of villages in the project area*

Survival

The villages within the project area have an excellent level of legibility. Eleven have complete legibility, which indicates almost no change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), while 418 (71%) have significant legibility, see Chart 30. Thirteen villages are modern in character. These normally represent villages where the degree of change has been significant enough to change the historic character. An example of this is Bishop Thornton which is shown to be, at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), a small hamlet. The current character for 441 of the villages dates to the post-medieval period, with the form of the buildings dating after AD 1540, and largely before 1900. Within this group of 404 villages with a post-medieval character, there are 306 which can be seen to have a previous medieval character. This is normally expressed in the street plan of the village. Nucleated villages have seen a slightly higher level of change (73% have significant legibility), while 95% of green villages have significant legibility.

Key statistics

From Chart 29, it can be seen that the greatest percentage of villages are in a linear form, followed by nucleated and green villages. Estate villages are in the lowest category.

From Chart 30, it can be seen that of the categories of legibility for this character type, significant legibility is by far the highest, followed by partial and fragmentary legibility. Those with complete legibility or invisible are in the lowest category.

Chart 31 shows the density of housing in villages. Low-density housing is less than 25 homes per hectare; medium-density housing is between 25-55 homes per hectare and high-density housing is more than 55 homes per hectare. The majority of villages consist of low-density housing.

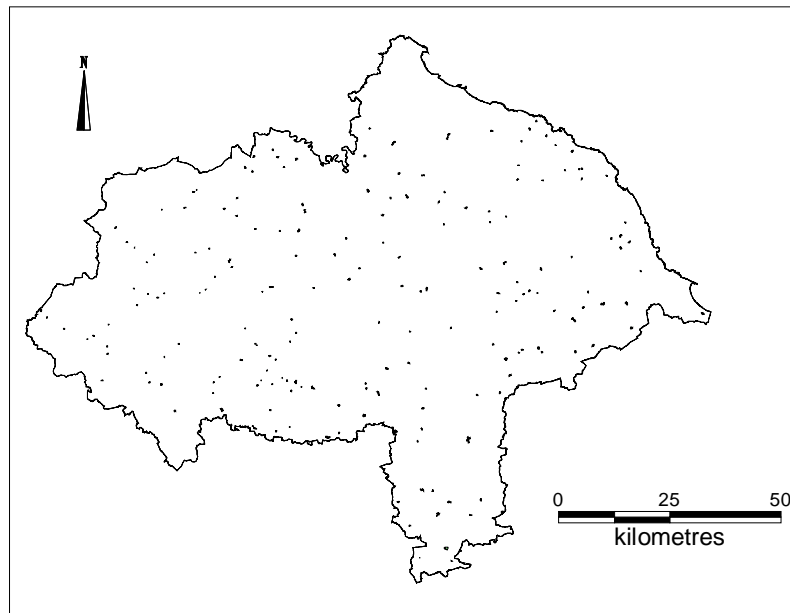
Hamlets

Description

Hamlets are defined by the English Heritage thesaurus as “small settlement with no ecclesiastical or lay administrative function”¹²⁸.

There are a number of different types of hamlets which have been recorded as part of the project. These follow broadly the same types as the villages with nucleated, green and linear villages having been recorded. However, where some hamlets only consist of a small number of dwellings, it has not been possible to determine whether they are nucleated or linear in form.

Distribution map



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Figure 53 Distribution of hamlets in North Yorkshire

Survival

There are 202 hamlets identified within the project area, 173 of which date exclusively to the post-medieval period. Eight of the hamlets have complete legibility with 145 having significant legibility. The majority of the hamlets identified, 107, are characterised as being nucleated. These are generally focussed around a road junction.

¹²⁸ http://thesaurus.english-heritage.org.uk/thesaurus_term.asp?thes_no=1&term_no=68985

Key statistics

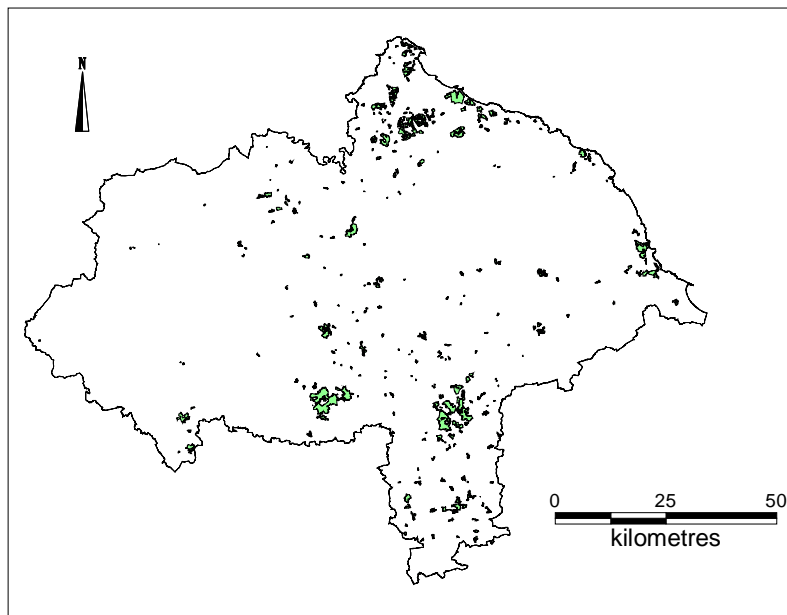
Charts 32 and 33 demonstrate that the majority of all forms of hamlet have significant legibility and that there are a higher number of hamlets which are in a nucleated form than any other.

Planned estates

Description

Planned estates are fairly easy to identify within the landscape as they generally have a very distinctive form, with the houses being arranged on a cul-de-sac pattern. These date to the 20th-21st century and represent the modern expansion of many existing towns and villages, see Plate 19. They have been dated as modern due to their absence from the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99). In the Lower Tees Valley area, it has been possible to refine these dates further due to the availability of two more editions of historic Ordnance Survey mapping. The estates are recorded as planned estates, private housing estates or bungalows. These normally have medium-density housing with private space defined by gardens, normally front and back. Public space tends to be more limited, either defined by car parking or not able to be identified at the scale of the characterisation being undertaken.

Distribution map



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Figure 54 Distribution of planned estates

The map above shows the distribution of planned estates within the project area. As might be expected, there is a fairly high correlation with the denser areas of settlement such as York and Middlesbrough. These will be discussed in more detail under the respective area analyses, see sections 5.4 and 3.4. A number of smaller planned estates were identified within the project. These seem to be attached to smaller settlements such as Huby (SE 56686611) or Brafferton and Helperby (SE

43707001). This change in settlement patterns may have resulted, partly from the influence of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947¹²⁹. In the late 20th and early 21st century, there has also been a rise in small housing estates being developed in more rural locations, possibly as a reaction to aspirations for rural living.

Survival

Planned estates are very much a 20th-century phenomenon, reflecting a particular tradition in the construction and development of settlement. These normally have a very formal planned arrangement, with provision for the use of the car, with the majority also having private space defined by front and back gardens.

Key statistics

From Chart 34 showing legibility of planned estates, it can be seen that the majority of these have fragmentary or invisible legibility to the previous HLC type.

Chart 35 shows that the previous character of planned estates was mainly that of enclosed land.

¹²⁹ DoE 1947

4.8 Designed Landscape

Broad Type	HLC Type
Designed landscape	Ornamental parkland
	Municipal cemetery
	Allotments
	Public park
	Deer park
	Unidentified parkland
	Country estate
	Gardens and pleasure grounds
	Private burial ground

Table 9 HLC types within the designed landscape broad type

Description

Designed landscapes can reflect many aspects of society, from the wish to improve urban conditions to the social trends for the picturesque. The broad type of designed landscape covers several different features characterised within the HLC project. The most obvious, and one that is particularly significant to the North Yorkshire landscape, is the country estate and park, which can be seen throughout the project area. However, the term designed landscape also includes municipal designed landscapes such as town parks, cemeteries and allotments. The uniting principle for all these landscapes is the starting point of a large-scale design, whether at the behest of a municipal authority or individual landowner.

Designed landscapes have an important role to play in defining historic character. Often inherently, and clearly, the result of historic processes themselves, they also provide areas where earlier features may be particularly well preserved.

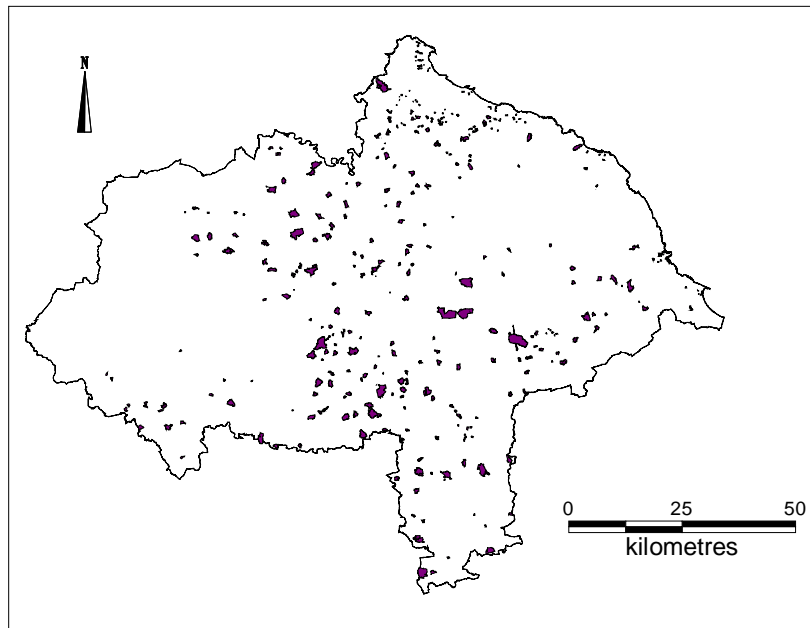
There are several, well-known large estates, such as those at Castle Howard and Studley Royal, which have had a significant impact on the landscape and form an important aspect of the historic character of the area. Through the HLC project, a number of less extensive designed landscapes, such as those clustered around the south eastern part of the Howardian Hills AONB, have been identified and characterised.

In the following discussion, the designed landscapes will be explored in two groups, based on one of the attributes defined during the project, whether commissioned by private individuals or families, or whether they were created as a result of municipal design. In this way, trends throughout the project area will be identified and discussed.

Distribution

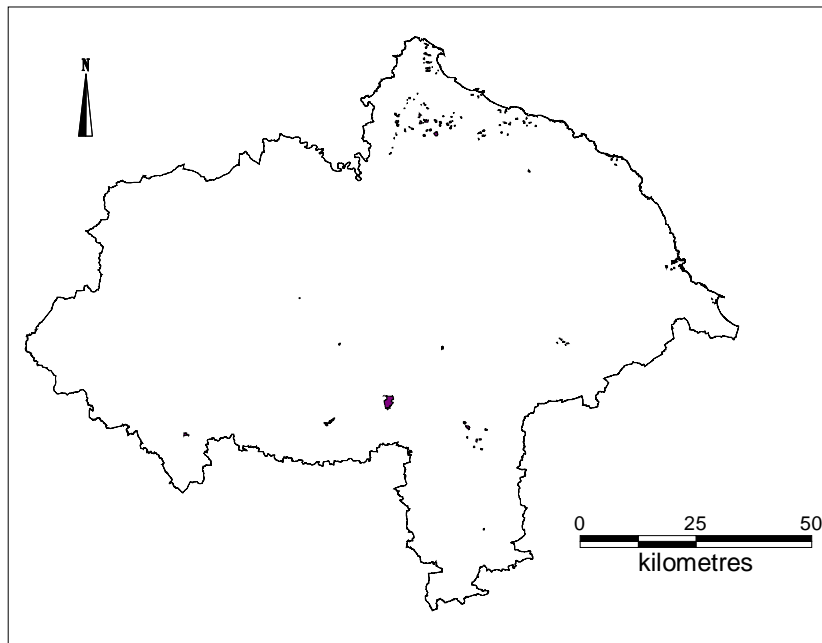
Figure 55 shows the overall distribution of designed landscapes within the study area. Figures 56 and 57 distinguish between those which are municipal, and those which are private. From these, it can be seen that the private designed landscapes are the more prevalent and have a wider distribution. The municipal designed landscapes are particularly located in the areas of the larger concentrations of

settlement, for example in the Lower Tees Valley area, around York and the coast.



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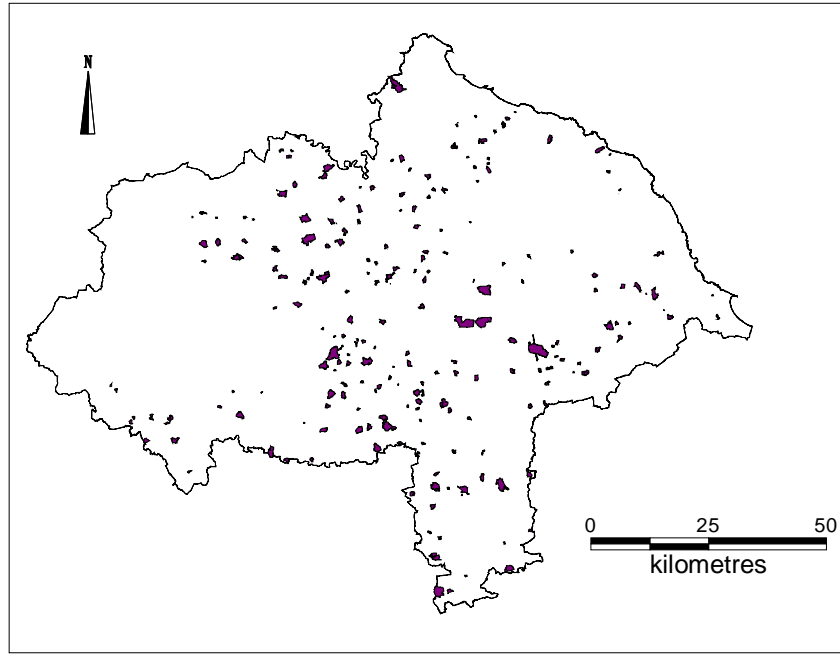
Figure 55 Distribution of designed landscape broad type within the project area



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Figure 56 Distribution of municipal designed landscapes within the project area

Figure 57 shows the distribution of designed landscapes which have been commissioned by private individuals or groups. These tend to have a wider distribution, but their survival does show some evidence of clustering in particular parts of the project area. For example, there seems to be very little evidence of private designed landscapes in the central area of the Yorkshire Dales, but there is a particular concentration within Wensleydale. Similarly, there is little evidence for private designed landscape upon the North York Moors.



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Figure 57 Distribution of private designed landscapes within the project area

Survival

The overall survival for this historic landscape character type is good. There have been some changes to the designed landscapes, particularly with reference to the earlier medieval deer parks, for example the Ripon Parks, which were still indicated by place name at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), but had been enclosed by that time. The private designed landscapes form significant features of the North Yorkshire landscape, although their role has often shifted from a private role within the landscape to one that reflects modern tourism.

Key statistics

As can be seen from Chart 37, the greater numbers of designed landscape are private. Chart 36 shows that these private designed landscapes tend also to be larger in extent than their municipal equivalents.

4.8.1 Municipal Designed Landscapes

Description

The term municipal designed landscape covers a variety of landscapes which have resulted from municipal investment and planning. These cover allotments, parks and cemeteries. These are very different from the private areas but reflect a similar process of design and intention, albeit on a different scale and are often later in date than private designed landscapes. This may reflect several social changes within the project area in the late 19th and early 20th century, particularly the change in urban design, and the creation of social spaces. This sits within a network of wider social concerns, for example the rise in allotments.

Distribution

As can be seen in Figure 56, the municipal designed landscapes have a more limited distribution than the private designed landscapes, with a high-density in the York and Lower Tees Valley areas as well as the coastal resorts.

Survival

The concentration within the Lower Tees Valley may reflect the granularity of the HLC characterisation in the area. Most expressions of this type of landscape tend to be smaller than two hectares, which falls below the threshold for them to be characterised individually as part of this project.

Key statistics

As can be seen from Chart 38, the vast majority of municipal designed landscapes are still active. Charts 39 and 40 show the number and hectareage of municipal designed landscapes by their legibility. By number of areas, a greater number have fragmentary legibility, but by hectareage, a greater number have significant legibility. As can be seen, there has been a fairly high level of change in reference to these landscapes.

4.8.2 Private Designed Landscapes

Description

Private designed landscapes are defined as those which were created by individuals or families. This covers several character types including country estates, deer parks, unidentified parkland, ornamental parkland and gardens and pleasure grounds. In addition, there are two areas of allotments and a public park which have been defined as having been built by private commission; these will be discussed below.

The HLC project area has a large number of designed landscapes. Within the North Yorkshire County Council area alone, there are 44 designed landscapes on the English Heritage 'register of historic parks and gardens of special historic interest in England', assessed to be of national importance¹³⁰. During the digitisation phase of the HLC project, a total of 244 private designed landscapes have been identified, characterised and recorded within the project area.

These take a wide variety of forms and have a fairly wide spread of dates, ranging from medieval deer parks to the large-scale estates of Studley Royal and Castle Howard, however many are much smaller, less than ten hectares in extent. These landscapes have been recognised by a variety of means, including place-name evidence, the presence of managed grounds, often a main house which forms an integral part of the landscape, as well as a coherent external boundary.

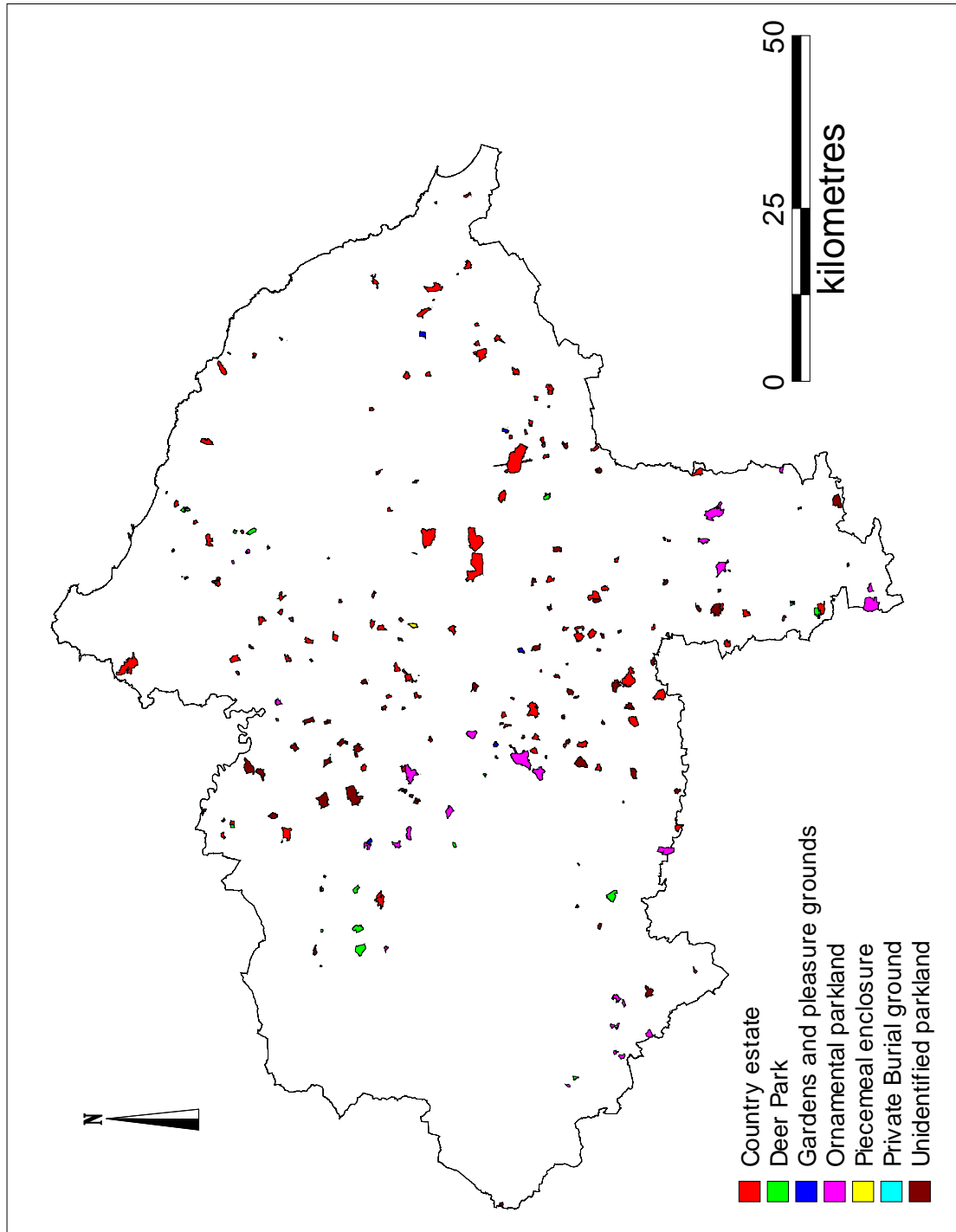
The area recorded during the historic landscape characterisation may not reflect the full extent of each estate within the landscape, rather it has recorded those areas which appear visibly to fall within this category based upon the sources used to inform the HLC project. It is likely that estate holdings extend beyond the boundaries defined by the HLC, however many of these areas will fall into other historic landscape character types and will have been characterised as such. The boundaries of the designed landscape can be seen as being in flux and permeable, for example the influence of estates may extend into the wider landscape, with elements such as the agricultural regime and woodland pattern influenced by plans originating from the estates. For the historic landscape characterisation, the extent of the designed landscape is taken as the area that can be seen to have an evident prior design which has been imposed on the existing landscape.

Whilst these landscapes represent continuity in form, their role in the landscape, particularly with regard to how the public interact with these spaces, has changed greatly due to shifting perceptions and roles within 20th-century culture.

Distribution

As Figure 58 shows, the number and distribution of private designed landscapes is greater than those which are municipal. Those which are largest in extent are the country estates; their distribution is notable in the central and eastern parts of the project area, excluding the North York Moors.

¹³⁰ <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/listing/what-can-we-protect/registered-parks-and-gardens/>



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Figure 58 Distribution of private designed landscapes within the project area, by HLC type

Survival

The survival of the private designed landscapes within the project is good with 154 out of 244 having significant legibility and another 24 having complete legibility. There seems to be a trend, particularly around the southern end of the Howardian Hills AONB, for the designed landscapes to cluster around larger designed landscapes. In the case of the Howardian Hills, this is around the country estates of Castle Howard and Newburgh Priory. There are seventeen deer parks which have been identified as part of the project. These tend to have significant or complete legibility, with only one having fragmentary legibility, suggesting a high degree of change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). These tend to be in more moorland locations. It is unclear whether this reflects the original distribution or a result of later enclosure patterns; certainly the Ripon Parks have become enclosed in the post-medieval period.

The country estates identified vary in size greatly. The largest estates can be over 500 hectares in size. Castle Howard, for example, is over 700 hectares in extent. At the other end of the scale are smaller estates, which may only be ten hectares in size. These smaller areas may not have been recognised previously.

Deer parks were characterised where they could be recognised as defining the current historic character, however there were many examples where this had seen subsequent changes in the landscape, for example in the subsequent planned enclosure of areas in the post-medieval period. This meant that in many cases, where only traces of deer parks are found within the landscape, they are recorded in the database as a previous HLC type. Regardless of size, there are several shared characteristics with the country estates, particularly the presence of the main house.

Key statistics

Chart 41 shows private designed landscapes by HLC type. From this, it can be seen that by far the most common are country estates, accounting for half of all private designed landscapes, followed by unidentified parkland, ornamental parkland, deer parks and gardens and pleasure grounds. As Chart 42 shows, the vast majority of private designed landscapes are still active; although ownership may have changed, for example the world heritage site of Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal is now managed by the National Trust¹³¹.

¹³¹ <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-fountainsabbeyandstudleyroyalwatergarden>

4.9 Industrial

Broad Type	HLC Type
Industrial	Mixed commercial
	Ceramic building materials
	Mill hemp
	Fuel distribution
	Smelt mill
	Ash pile
	Sewerage treatment centre
	Steel works
	Chemical industry
	Metal working
	Utilities (Including gas, electric etc)
	Shipyard
	Industrial estate
	Nursery
	Mill unidentified
	Mill cereal
	Ironworks
	Docks
	Chemical works
	Water processing/pumping/sewerage
Reclaimed industrial land	
Engineering works	
Scrap yard	
Tannery	
Rubbish tip	
Food processing	

Table 10 HLC types within the industrial broad type

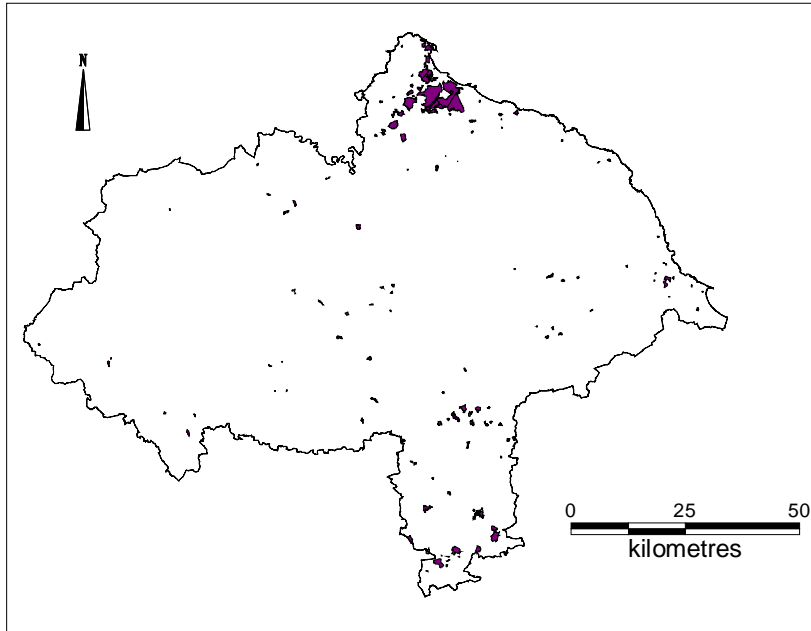
Description

It is very easy to see the North Yorkshire part of the project area as a rural landscape with a predominantly agricultural economy. However, from the evidence of historic landscape characterisation, a different picture emerges, one of a county which has had a dynamic industrial base. In the Lower Tees Valley area, the evidence shows a huge growth in settlement in the late 19th century, predicated on the presence of many diverse large scale industries, which are still very visible today. The industrial broad type covers a wide range of activities, as can be seen from the variety of narrower HLC types in Table 10.

The issue with many of the industrial areas within the project area is that they are too small to be characterised in their own right as they are smaller in extent than the two hectare threshold required for them to be recorded. This means that only industrial areas larger than two hectares have been characterised as industrial.

Distribution

As can be seen in Figure 59, the distribution of industrial areas, whilst mainly concentrated in the Lower Tees Valley area, can also be seen dispersed through the central part of the project area, with notable gaps in the areas of the two national parks. There are also lesser concentrations within the southern part of the project area, within Selby district of North Yorkshire, and in the area around the city of York.



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Figure 59 Distribution of industrial broad type within the project area

Survival

The industrial character of the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley landscapes takes many forms. From post-medieval mills to the large-scale chemical works of the Middlesbrough area, these industries form an important aspect of the story of this landscape.

There are three main concentrations noted above which reflect changes and contrasts in the industries of these areas. In the Lower Tees Valley, the industrial character is defined mainly by heavy industry such as chemical and metalwork manufacture, whereas in the Selby area it is the 20th-century development of the utilities industry. This can be seen in the Drax and Eggborough power stations and associated features like the Gale Common ash disposal site, which have developed in the southern part of North Yorkshire. Around York, the change in transport links, particularly with the construction of the York outer ring road, has seen the growth of industrial estates around the periphery of the city.

Key statistics

The vast majority of the areas defined as industrial are modern in character. Only ten of the areas characterised as industrial are post medieval in date, seven of which are mills. Whilst it is difficult to generalise with such a small group, these are more common in the western part of the study area.

As can be seen in Chart 43, the majority of industrial areas have fragmentary legibility, followed by invisible, partial and significant. The minority have complete legibility.

Chart 44 shows the number of areas recorded for each HLC type. From this, it can be seen that the majority are industrial estates, followed by mixed commercial. Following these uses, there are a broadly similar number of areas characterised as utility, sewerage treatment centre, rubbish tip, nursery, unidentified mill and food processing.

4.10 Extractive

Broad Type	HLC Type
Extractive	Alum extraction
	Mine refractory materials
	Quarry chalk
	Quarry aggregates
	Quarry sandstone
	Quarry flooded
	Ironstone working
	Jet working
	Mine unknown
	Mine stone
	Deep-shaft mine coal
	Mine copper
	Salt extraction
	Shallow-shaft coal mining
	Open cast mine coal
	Reclaimed mine coal
	Clay pits brick works
	Quarry limestone
	Quarry other
	Mine lead
Peat extraction	

Table 11 HLC types within the extractive broad type

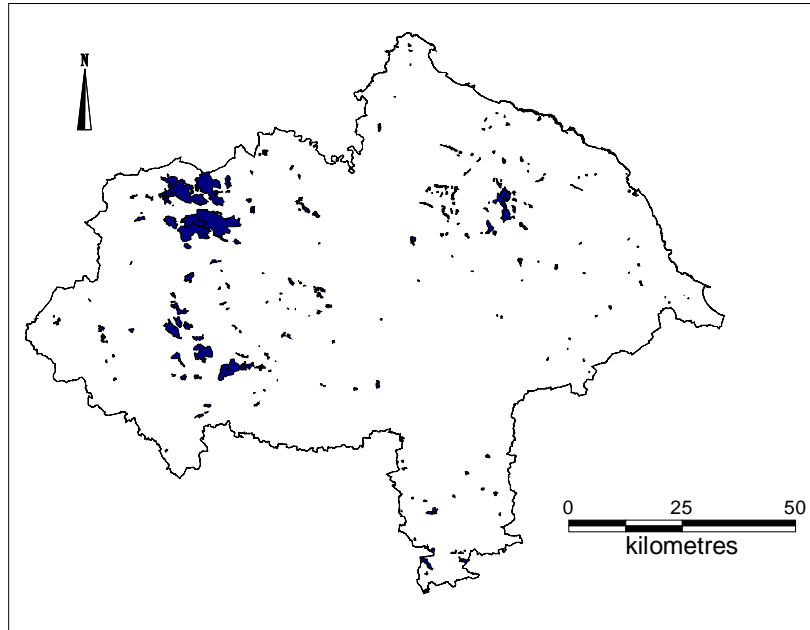
Description

The historic landscape character of extractive industries can be seen across the study area. From the lead mines of the Yorkshire Dales to the alum workings of the east coast and the Selby coalfield, evidence for mining and quarrying can be found within the landscape. This extraction can be fairly small scale, accumulating over decades to create larger complexes of workings. In other areas, the extraction is focussed and intensive.

The extractive broad type covers mining, open cast, deep shaft and shallow shaft as well as quarrying. The range of these narrower HLC types can be seen in Table 11. The following sections will focus upon a discussion of lead mining and quarrying, with a focus on alum extraction and coal mining.

Distribution

The distribution of extraction as an historic landscape character broad type, as shown in Figure 60, can be seen to focus upon the upland areas of the North York Moors, the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale, and in Selby district to the south. There is limited extraction in the Lower Tees Valley, and in the central parts of the project area, such as the Vales of York and Mowbray.



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Figure 60 Distribution of extractive broad type within the project area

Survival

The post-medieval activity in the lead-rich areas of the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale has shaped the landscape, leaving traces which are still evident across thousands of hectares. There are several different types of works which have been recorded within the landscape. These have been recorded by type (whether they are quarrying, or mining) as well as by the product (see Charts 45 -47).

Within the HLC project area, many locations were recognised as having evidence of small-scale quarrying or mining, however these areas were often too small to define individual historic landscape character, as they fell below the two hectare threshold. One of the ways this was addressed was through the inclusion of an attribute called 'dominant dispersed industry' under the unenclosed land broad type.

The frequency of extractive landscapes will be discussed in more detail below, however, what is clear is that while quarrying may be more frequent as individual areas within the landscape, the sheer scale and complexity of the mining landscapes has had a significant impact in shaping historic landscape character.

The Greenhow lead mining complex (SE 088631) provides an excellent example of this. Covering an area of 1,223 hectares, the Greenhow system consists of many individual mining events across a wide variety of physical landscapes. It is particularly noticeable that a large number of the mine workings have occurred within a series of field systems. This raised the issue during the digitisation phase of the project as to whether to characterise the area on the basis of the lead mining or the enclosure. After consideration, it was felt that the lead mining defined the historic character of the current landscape, and was therefore recorded as such. This landscape has a long history of extraction dating from the medieval period up until the AD 1970s.

Key statistics

Charts 45 and 46 show the relative proportions of quarrying and mining within the project area. Areas characterised as mining have the greatest extent by hectarage (16,540 to 5,809), yet the number of areas identified are more limited; areas characterised as quarrying are greatest in number (201 to 74).

Chart 47 shows the number of extractive historic landscape character areas by product. As can be seen, the most common type of extraction product is limestone, followed by aggregates and sandstone.

Chart 48 shows the previous character of extraction landscapes. From this, it can be seen that there are a variety of previous character types. The greater number of areas were previously enclosed land, followed by unenclosed land.

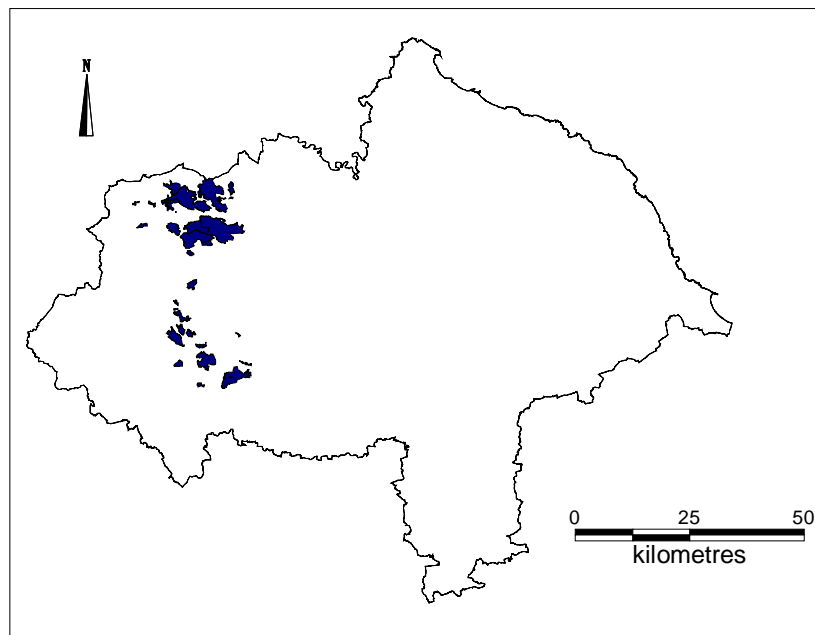
With regard to legibility, it can be seen from Chart 49 that the majority of extractive landscapes within the project area have significant legibility, followed by partial and fragmentary.

4.10.1 Lead mining

Description

Lead mining has been described as the most important extractive industry in the Yorkshire Dales¹³². The lead was recovered from small unpredictable runs of galena which were found in the underlying rock. In terms of the HLC project, lead mining refers to areas which have been characterised by the extraction of lead, to the degree that it dominates the historic landscape character. There is evidence of lead mining in the area dating back to the Iron Age period¹³³. The main lead mining activity dates to the post-medieval period, with the mining generally following the veins. Evidence for the mining can be found in the surrounding landscape, whether it is enclosed land or moorland. A process of assessing the density of the extraction informed the characterisation. The lead mining varied over time in the character of the workings, creating landscapes with an intricate level of time depth expressed within the physical character. While the need for lead to be present is an obvious prerequisite for the industry, the scale, intensity and location of workings is also influenced by other factors such as price, developing technology and speculative discovery. The right to work the vein and extract the lead was sometimes regulated so that the first person to discover it could extract the mineral for two meres, with subsequent miners able to work in adjacent meres¹³⁴. This may explain some of the relationships that are seen between the enclosed and extractive elements of the landscape.

Distribution



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Figure 61 Distribution of lead mining within the project area

¹³² White 1997, 78

¹³³ Greenhow Local History Club 2005, 7

¹³⁴ White 1997, 80

As can be seen from Figure 61, the distribution of lead mining within the HLC project area lies exclusively within the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale.

Survival

The survival of the lead mining remains is good and they have a major influence on the historic landscape character. They are found within the areas of Greenhow (SE 088631) and around Swaledale, for example at NZ 077043. Within both landscapes there is a lot of evidence of onsite processing. There is some evidence of buildings associated with the lead mining; about 50% of the lead mining areas identified had structures associated with them. The extraction seems to be a fairly evenly split between concentrated and dispersed extraction, although the overall hectarages seem to be at a very different scale, with concentrated extraction covering a total area of 499.7 hectares, whereas dispersed extraction covers a total area of 14,570 hectares.

The lead mining landscapes have excellent legibility, with 39 of the areas identified having significant legibility, suggesting very little change in the physical character since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

Key statistics

As can be seen from Chart 50, the legibility of the majority of areas characterised as lead mining is significant. In terms of the concentration of this lead mining, the areas characterised are mainly either, dispersed, or concentrated, followed by nucleated, as shown in Chart 51. In terms of scale of mining, Chart 52 shows that the highest numbers are similar between moderate, small and large, followed by very large, with a small minority being very small in extent.

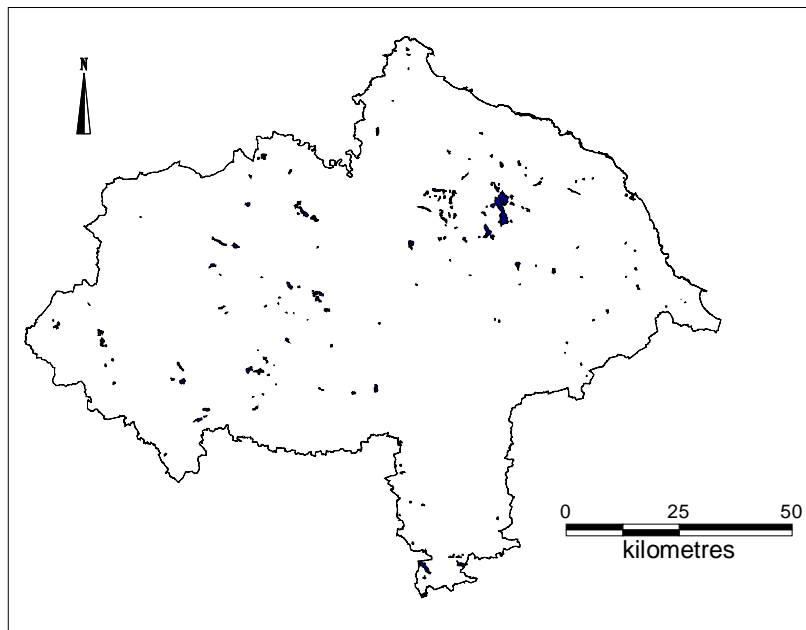
4.10.2 Quarrying

Description

There is a long history of quarrying within the HLC project area, ranging from small-scale localised quarrying for limestone to feed lime kilns, up to the large-scale aggregates quarries which can be seen today. There are a wide range of products from the quarries, ranging from limestone in the Yorkshire Dales to chalk extraction in the Yorkshire Wolds, see Chart 47.

Distribution

As can be seen in Figures 60 and 62, the distribution of quarrying within the HLC project area is similar to that for extractive industries as a whole, spreading across the eastern, western and far southern parts of the project area, with a more limited distribution in the central parts of the HLC project area, such as the Vales of York and Mowbray.



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Figure 62 Distribution of quarrying within the project area

Survival

The project has identified 156 quarries within the study area. Of these, the vast majority are modern in date. In 68 of the quarries identified, the previous character was enclosed land. In one example, the previous character was designed landscape. Four of the quarries recorded were woodland before extraction began. Fourteen show evidence of previous quarrying in the same area, which has subsequently been removed, whilst ten were located on previously unenclosed land. As the distribution map in Figure 62 shows, the quarrying is largely located in the upland areas, although there is limestone quarrying on the Southern Magnesian Limestone, while at the southern boundary there is evidence of aggregates extraction. The building materials produced by this quarrying have had a major impact in shaping the built historic environment, for example the use of material from quarries on the Southern Magnesian Limestone in the buildings of medieval York, while in the Yorkshire

Dales material from small quarries is used in local building materials such as roofing flags¹³⁵.

Key statistics

As can be seen from Chart 53, the legibility of the majority of areas characterised as quarrying is significant, closely followed by partial, with a smaller number with fragmentary legibility. In terms of the products of this quarrying, as can be seen in Chart 47, the most common type of extraction product is limestone, followed by aggregates and sandstone.

¹³⁵ Toase 1999

4.10.2.1 Alum quarrying

One of the most significant industries in the eastern part of the study area, and the earliest in date, relates to the extraction and processing of alum. Within the outcrops of Jurassic shales, easily accessible in the coastal cliffs, the shale can be found to the north and south of Whitby. There are also a number of outcrops which were recognised further inland. Regarded as one of the earliest chemical industries in the country, the alum was used to fix dye in the wool industry. Prior to the development of the domestic processes, the alum had to be imported from the Middle East.

The search for alum in the British Isles started in the reign of Henry VIII in the late 15th century, however it was in the 17th century when the industry started to emerge in this region. The first recorded evidence for alum works in the project area refers to Slapewath, which seems to have become active in 1604. The industry appears to have gone through several stages, with the growth of the coastal works starting in the early 17th century at Sandsend¹³⁶.

The production process of alum extraction was relatively inefficient, with only one tonne of alum recovered for every 20 tonnes of material excavated. This has meant that the mining waste products have had a significant, physical impact on the landscape that is still visible today.

The project has identified seven areas which are associated with this industry, two of which are inland, while the remainder are on the coast. The two inland areas are at Carlton Moor (NZ 5202) and Slapewath (NZ 6316). Carlton is a large area of fairly nucleated extraction. There is no longer evidence for buildings on the site, although there are remnants of on site processing. The quarry was active from approximately AD 1680 to 1780. In addition to the shale extraction on Carlton Moor, there is also evidence for jet mining and sandstone quarrying. The jet mining follows the 1,000ft contour line (on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)) and dates to the 19th century, following the abandonment of the alum works.

Slapewath similarly does not have any evidence for buildings, but there are remains from onsite processing. Slapewath is a smaller site with less extraction, although it seems to have been active in the 19th century. It is unclear if this is the site of the original 17th-century extraction or whether this has been removed by later activity.

The majority of the evidence for alum workings is located along the coast. The HLC project has characterised four such areas. At Boulby (see Plate 20) and Loftus (HNY 5445), there is a long history of alum extraction which has reshaped the coastal slopes, cliffs and rocky foreshore. Active between AD 1650 and 1800, alum quarrying here is large scale and dispersed. The buildings that were present at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) have now gone. There is some evidence of jet working in the vicinity, but not large enough to be characterised on its own terms.

At the Peak alum works, see Plate 21, there is evidence of buildings which were associated with the processing of material. Brow alum quarry, by contrast, has no evidence of buildings and quarrying seems to have occurred on a smaller scale.

¹³⁶ Miller 2002

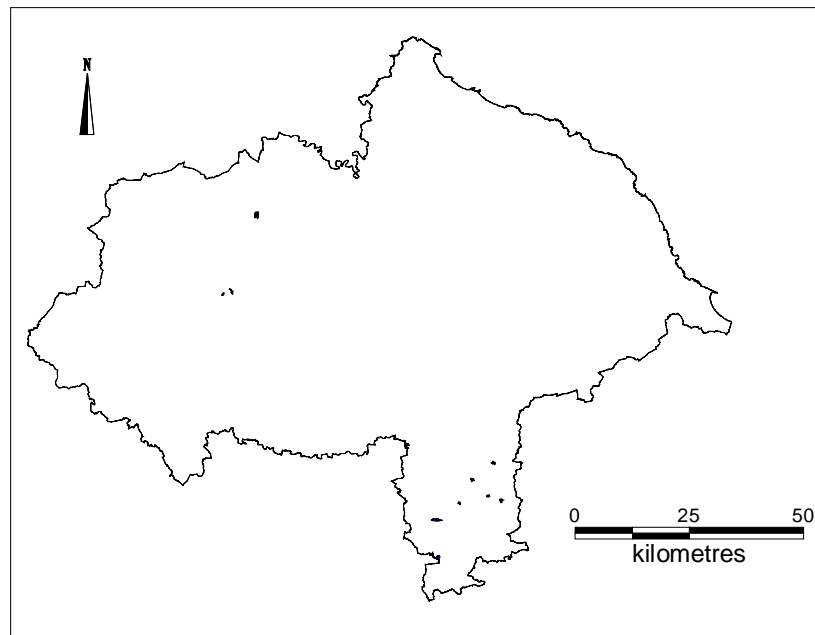
With extraction finishing in AD 1862, the alum works are mainly overgrown now. There is some evidence for small-scale extraction closer to the coastal area, but due to the small scale of the remains, these are not extensive enough to be characterised on their own, and are included within the coastal slope record.

4.10.3 Coal mining

Description

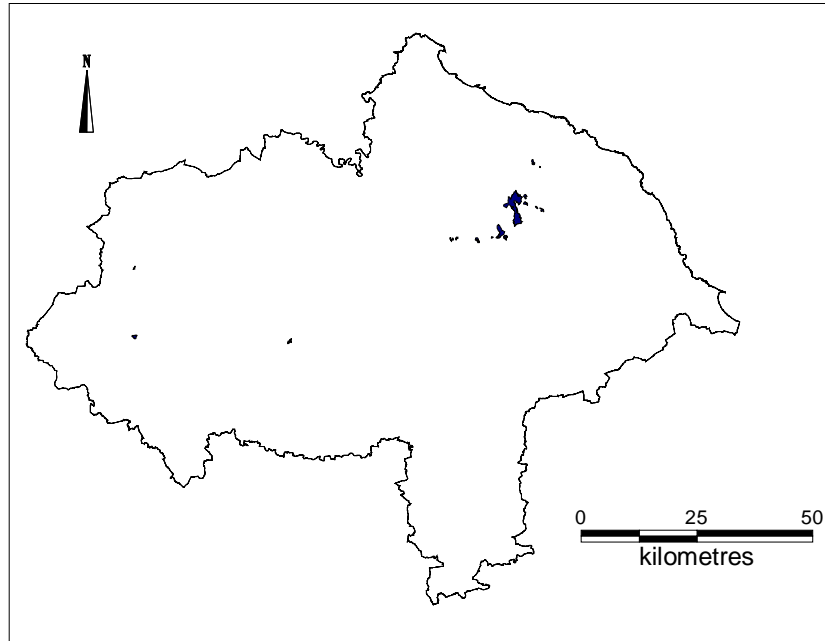
Coal mining has a long history in the project area, although the scale has changed dramatically over time. This mining can be broadly divided into three forms: open cast, deep shaft and shallow shaft. The examples of deep-shaft coal mining are mainly in Selby district and the Yorkshire Dales, whilst the shallow-shaft mining is located mainly in the North York Moors, see Figures 63 and 64. There is one example of possible coal extraction by quarrying. This is at Thorpe Edge to the east of Hudswell (NZ 124003).

Distribution



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Figure 63 Distribution of deep-shaft coal mining within the project area



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Figure 64 Distribution of shallow-shaft coal mining within the project area

Survival

There are two examples of deep-shaft coal mining in the Yorkshire Dales, however the largest concentration is in the Selby area, and is mainly represented by the physical remains of the sites associated with the Selby coal field. These are all modern in date reflecting the change in technology that allowed the coal to be accessed.

The shallow-shaft mining has a very different distribution. Out of 18 areas identified 17 date exclusively to the post-medieval period. Again there are a handful of sites within the Yorkshire Dales, however the highest concentration is in the central area of the North York Moors. This covers an area of 1,536 hectares, with the largest area at Blakey Ridge (SE 679994) and Rudland Rigg (SE 652944).

Only three of the coal mines are active, all located in the Selby area, while 25 are inactive, showing the changing nature of the extractive industry in the project area.

Key statistics

As Chart 54 shows, the legibility of coal mining areas is predominantly significant, or partial. Relative to areas by number, the predominant type of coal mining is shallow shaft (18), followed by deep shaft (10) and open cast (1), as can be seen in Chart 55. By hectareage, the proportions are fairly similar, with the greatest extent being covered by shallow shaft (1,632 hectares), followed by deep shaft (414.2 hectares) and open cast (80.62 hectares), see Chart 56.

4.11 Recreational

Broad Type	HLC Type
Recreational	Public open space
	Greyhound racing track
	Leisure farm
	Golf course
	Rugby union ground
	Sports fields
	Horse racing course
	Recreation centre
	Motor racing track
	Football ground
	Bowling green
	Bingo hall
	Caravan park
	Car park
	Recreation ground
	Spa resort
	Amusement park
	Holiday park
	Cricket ground
	Tennis courts
Playing fields	

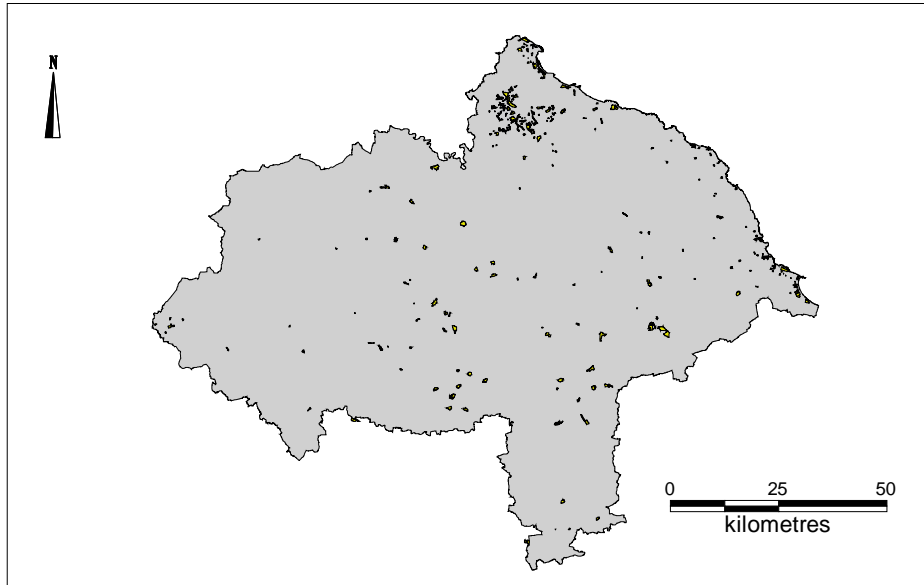
Table 12 HLC types within the recreational broad type

Description

The Recreational broad type covers a wide variety of activity from golf courses and horse racing tracks to caravan parks. The growth in leisure pursuits has had a significant impact on the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley landscape. As people have seen a growth in leisure time and mobility in the 20th century, there has been an increased demand for activities and accommodation to support this. As a secondary issue, recreational landscapes such as golf courses are well managed areas without intensive activity and sometimes show signs of well preserved archaeology, for example ridge and furrow earthworks can often be evident.

Distribution

There are clusters of recreational areas in the Lower Tees Valley and along the coast line, as can be seen in Figure 65. Elsewhere, the distribution is fairly dispersed through the central part of the project area.



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Figure 65 Distribution of recreational broad type within the project area

Survival

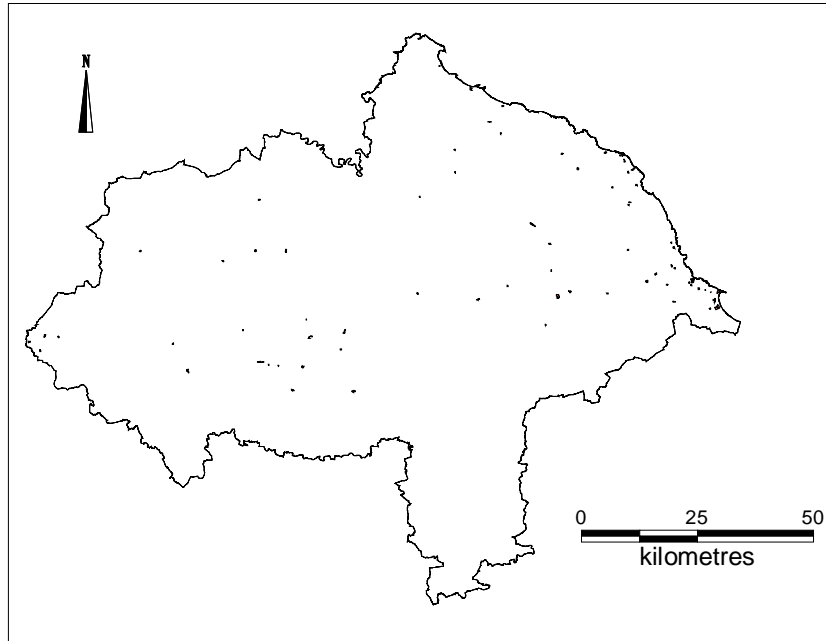
Recreational areas take two broad forms; the first tends to occur within settlements mainly to serve the communities within them, the second involves recreational destinations, to which people usually travel for days out and holidays, such as the national parks and the coast. There is, of course, overlap between these.

There are a number of areas within the project that reflect early recreational character, such as Richmond racecourse which dates to the period between AD 1765 and 1891. This is an excellent example as although now inactive as a racecourse, it is still visible in the landscape.

A second example of post-medieval recreation is the Filey spa resort, which was established at Filey Brigg between AD 1800 and 1853. This is now disused, but represents the way that leisure time was spent in the 19th century, and how this has changed in the past 150 years. The vast majority of the recreational areas characterised during the HLC project date to the 20th century. For example, 81 caravan parks have been characterised within the project area, see Figure 66 and Chart 58.

The characterisation of recreational areas and their distribution and survival illustrate changes in how recreational time has been spent since the 19th century, particularly with the rise of the railways and, more recently, private vehicle ownership.

As can be seen in Figure 66, the distribution of caravan parks is dispersed, but shows a slight tendency for them to be clustered around coastal areas, such as the coastal resort towns of Filey and Scarborough. The smaller caravan parks, with an extent of less than two hectares, fall below the size threshold to be individually recorded, and will sit within other character areas which have the dominant character type.



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Figure 66 Distribution of caravan parks throughout the project area.

Key statistics

Chart 57 shows that the dominant legibility type for recreational areas is fragmentary, followed by invisible, partial, significant and complete.

As can be seen in Chart 58, the dominant HLC type within the recreational broad type is caravan parks, followed by golf courses and public open space.

4.12 Communications

Broad Type	HLC Type
Communications	Air unidentified
	Train yard
	Road junction (other)
	Motorway services
	Bus station
	Road (Roman) - previous type only
	Road unidentified
	Rail unidentified
	Water unidentified
	Road junction (motorway)
	Lock system
	Canal basin
	Railway station
	Train depot

Table 13 HLC types within the communication broad type

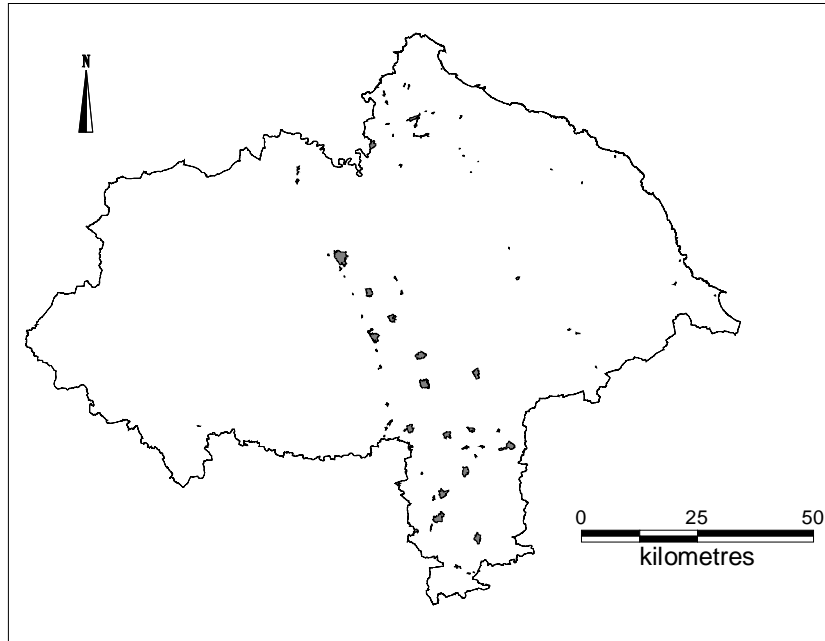
Description

Communication networks, such as canals and railway lines, form an important element of the historic character of the landscape. Within the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC it was found that they formed parts of other, more extensive, character types. Whilst it was outside the scope of the project to characterise individual routes (see section 7.3, potential for future research), it was often possible to characterise the 'nodes' along these routes which enabled their character to be drawn out. In other cases, particularly with linear routes, it was possible to explain the role that they had played within the character of the wider historic landscape through the descriptive text fields of the records.

As can be seen in Figure 67, there are particular occurrences where communication networks are larger than two hectares and have been characterised within the scope of the project. This has enabled one of the main north-south routes through the project area, the A1 road, to be identified in the communications network distribution, see Figure 67. Communications has also played a role in highlighting the 20th-century heritage of the project area, particularly the airfields which can be found in the central and southern areas of North Yorkshire.

Distribution

As can be seen in Figure 67, there is a marked concentration of areas characterised within the communications broad type distributed through the central part of the project area. This corridor includes the A1 road and a number of airfields in the Vales of Mowbray and York.



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Figure 67 Distribution of communications broad type within the project area

Survival

The road network was very hard to pick up as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation project, as it is difficult to characterise such relatively narrow, linear areas of the communications network without fracturing other HLC areas. Therefore, the distribution shown in Figure 67 does not reflect the overall survival of the broad character type, rather that which is visible at the scale of the project, that is above the two hectare extent threshold. The road junctions along the A1 show an excellent level of survival, and in many cases reflect the expansion of earlier road features, which formed part of earlier road networks, rather than completely new networks.

It was recognised early in the 20th century that the low lying, flat landscape of the Vales of Mowbray and York were suitable for airfields. Consequently, there is a high density of airfields within this landscape, covering over a hundred years of aviation. Out of seventeen airfields characterised within the project area, eight are active, four are inactive and five have been reused.

Whilst the vast majority of communication areas date to the modern period a significant minority (26%) have their origins in the post-medieval period.

Key statistics

As can be seen in Chart 59, the legibility of communications areas is mixed. The dominant legibility is fragmentary, with invisible legibility a close second. These are followed by significant, partial and complete.

Chart 60 shows that the vast majority of communications areas are active in status. Chart 61 shows the numbers of communications area by HLC type, from which it can be seen that the majority types are road junctions (motorway and other), followed by air unidentified and railway stations.

4.13 Commercial

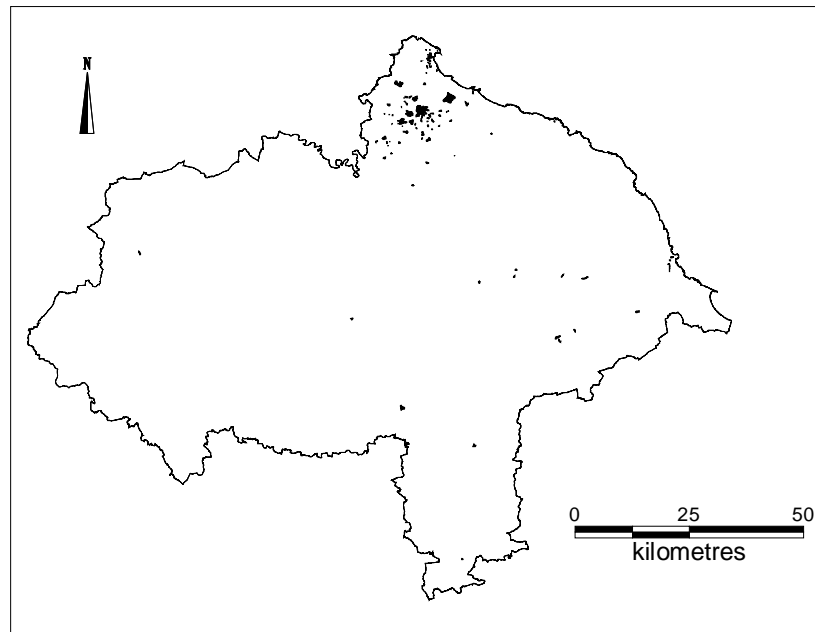
Broad Type	HLC Type
Commercial	Retail unidentified
	Business unidentified
	Distribution depot
	Auction mart

Table 14 HLC types within the commercial broad type

Description

The commercial broad type reflects the growth, in the late 19th century and 20th century, of discreet areas of the landscape consisting of business or retail use. The distribution is mainly concentrated in the Lower Tees Valley, which is discussed in more detail in section 5.4 of this report. Elsewhere in the project area, there are no particular concentrations, although it is noticeable that there is little evidence of commercial areas in the central and western parts of the project area

Distribution



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Figure 68 Distribution of commercial broad type within the project area

Survival

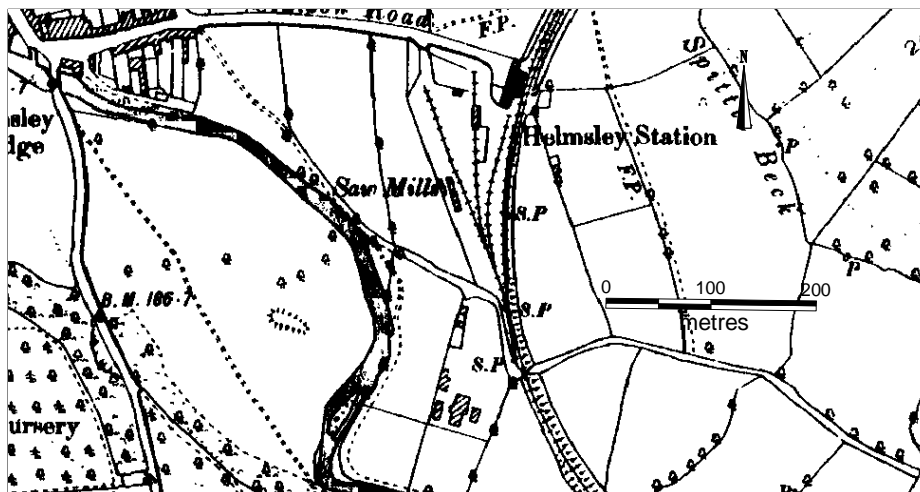
The commercial areas of the landscape tend to be modern and reflect 20th century expansion. As these areas have developed, they have changed the landscape areas significantly from that which existed at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). An example of this can be seen in the town of Helmsley, where the creation of the commercial units have replaced the

previous historic character, see Figures 69 and 70. This area was previously the railway station, and before that an area of piecemeal enclosure.



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Figure 69 Commercial estate to the south east of the town of Helmsley (centred at SE 617834)



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Figure 70 Previous character of the area shown in Figure 69, as shown on the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping of 1894

Key statistics

It can be seen from Chart 62, that the majority of commercial areas have an invisible legibility, with a large number having fragmentary legibility.

Chart 63 shows the comparative number of commercial areas for each HLC type. There are a nearly even number of retail and business (unidentified), whilst very few distribution depots have been characterised, and only one auction mart was large enough to be characterised individually within the project.

4.14 Institutional

Broad Type	HLC Type
Institutional	Educational active
	Civil and municipal active
	Civil and municipal inactive
	Civil and municipal reused
	Medical active
	Medical inactive
	Medical reused
	School
	College
	Church (general)
	University
	Educational inactive
	Fire station
	Prison
	Animal facility
	Educational reused
	Religious active
	Religious inactive
	Religious reused
	Military active
Military inactive	
Military reused	

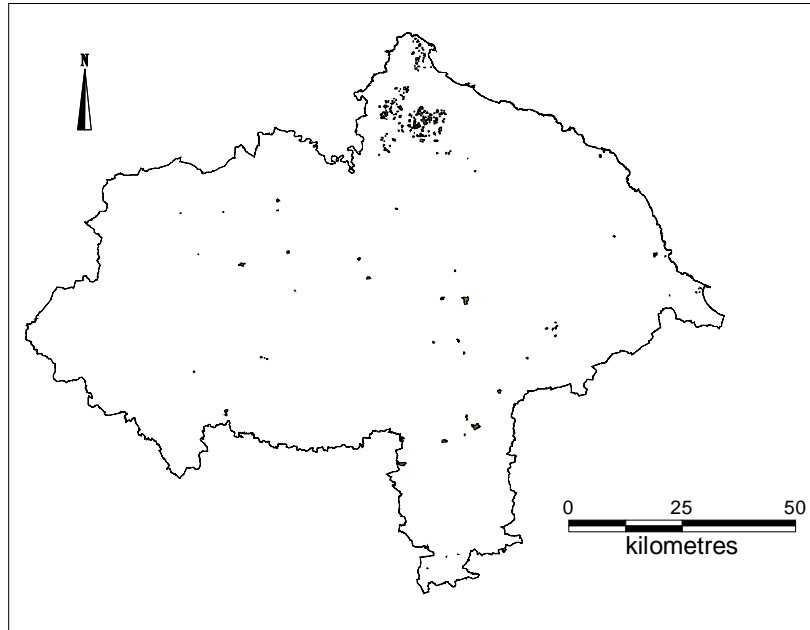
Table 15 HLC types within the institutional broad type

Description

The term institutional within the scope of the project refers to organisations such as schools, churches and civil/municipal institutions.

Distribution

Institutional areas tend to be concentrated in those areas with the highest concentrations of population. As can be seen in Figure 71, there is a particular concentration in the urban settlement areas of the Lower Tees Valley. Elsewhere, there is a fairly even spread throughout the project area. This pattern is skewed by the exclusion of institutional areas which are less than two hectares and therefore fall below the threshold to be recorded individually. Most of these smaller areas will have been included with their respective settlements.



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Figure 71 Distribution of institutional broad type within the project area

Survival

All of the institutions which have dates before AD 1850 are religious. The vast majority of Institutions large enough to be considered in this project, date after AD 1900. The largest concentration of institutions lies within the extensive settlement areas of the Lower Tees Valley.

Key statistics

The greatest number of areas characterised as institutional have an invisible legibility, followed by fragmentary and partial/significant, as can be seen in Chart 64.

Chart 65 shows numbers of institutional areas by HLC type, from which it can be seen that the largest number are educational, followed by religious, civil and municipal, and the lowest number are military.

From the status of institutional areas, as shown in Chart 66, it can be seen that the greater number are active, with a lower, similar number inactive or reused.

5. Overview of the Historic Landscape Characterisation

This section of the report will identify and discuss some of the broad trends observable in the HLC data. Due to the scale of the project area, different landscape designations and classifications, and the number of project partners representing different local authority areas, the data has been analysed in different ways, at local authority scale, at AONB and national character area scale, and at parish and estate level.

As discussed in earlier sections of this report, the key outputs from this project are the digital database and GIS and it is these digital records which contain the details specific to any particular location. Any report can only summarise this information, and identify trends at a very broad level using a number of different examples. As the digital data may be queried in many different ways, depending upon the nature of the interest of the user, there is tremendous scope for further analysis of the digital data and for different observations and conclusions to be drawn. The content of this and the following sections 6 and 7, therefore, should be seen as a broad summary and overview of the HLC information for each of the areas analysed, rather than a comprehensive description.

5.1 The Area of North Yorkshire covered by the North Yorkshire County Council Historic Environment Record¹³⁷

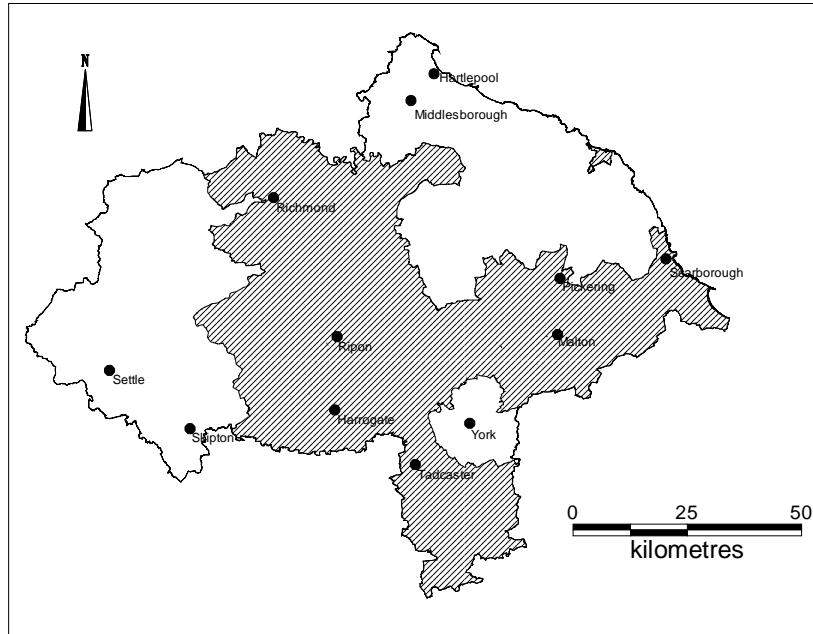
The Yorkshire Dales National Park, the North York Moors National Park and the City of York, each maintain their own Historic Environment Records (HERs) and are independent local authorities. The Lower Tees Valley comprises four separate unitary boroughs, with an HER for all maintained by Tees Archaeology. Each of these four areas, which fall outside the area covered by the North Yorkshire HER, is discussed separately below.

Within the North Yorkshire HER area, due to its relationship with the Forest of Bowland AONB, part of which lies within the Craven district of North Yorkshire and part within the adjoining area of Lancashire, Craven district (which includes the towns of Skipton and Settle) has already been characterised as part of the Lancashire HLC project¹³⁸. Therefore, this section of the report will concentrate on summarising the historic character of the rest of the county of North Yorkshire (excluding the two national park areas), which is very distinct in historic landscape character compared to other areas covered by the project.

Following a brief overview of the North Yorkshire HER area, as identified in Figure 72, the following sections 5.1.1 and 5.1.2, will look at the two AONBs which fall entirely within this area of North Yorkshire, the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty respectively. The contents of Section 6 also discuss parts of the project area that fall within the North Yorkshire HER area – the national character areas of the Vale of Pickering, the Southern Magnesian Limestone and the Humberhead Levels.

¹³⁷ Excluding the district of Craven which has already been covered in Ede & Darlington 2002

¹³⁸ Ede & Darlington 2002



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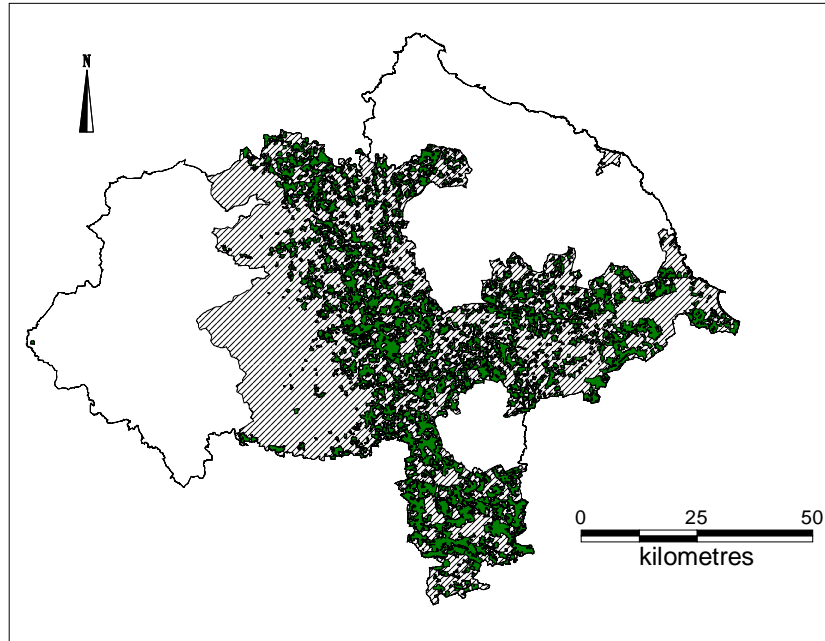
Figure 72 Area covered by the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (hatched) in relation to the overall project area¹³⁹

One of the key aims of the HLC project has been to gain a better understanding of the historic character of North Yorkshire, especially of those areas lying outside the designated areas of the two national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty. The low-lying nature of most of this area means that the historic character is very different to that which is seen in the upland, national park areas of the project.

One of the historic processes to have a major impact within this part of North Yorkshire is the change in farming practice during the 20th century. The agriculture in the area is mainly arable and, due to the increase in mechanisation, there have been changes in approaches to farming, which have seen a trend towards larger field units. This has seen the removal of hedges to create larger fields, normally over ten hectares, sometimes much larger in size.

In total, modern improved fields account for 145,200 hectares of this part of North Yorkshire, which is 37% of the whole project area. As can be seen in Figure 73, there is a fairly even distribution of these field systems, except in the west, which is the area lying within the Nidderdale AONB and to the west of the town of Richmond, which are more upland areas. In some cases, the change in boundaries has been fairly limited with the fields becoming joined and relict boundaries remaining between, in others the change has been much more dramatic.

¹³⁹ Excluding the district of Craven in the south west part of the project area, which has already been covered in Ede & Darlington 2002



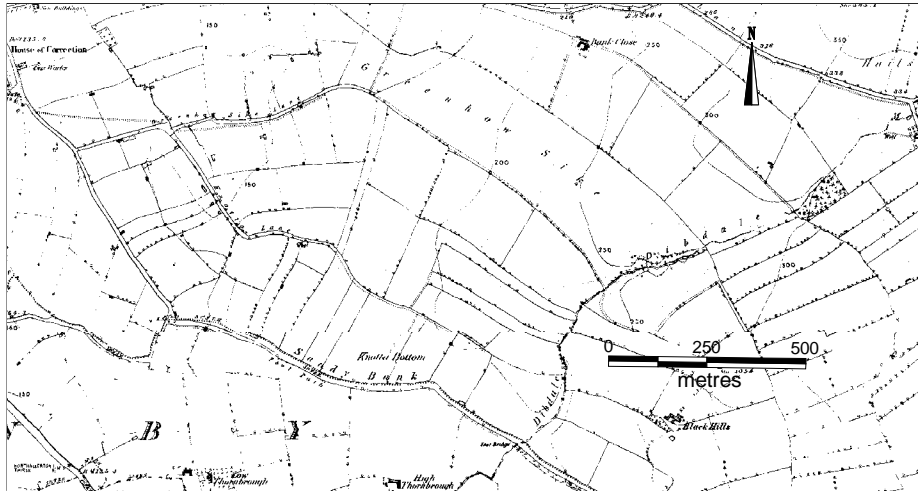
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Figure 73 The distribution of modern improved fields (in green) within the area covered by the North Yorkshire HER (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

Figures 74 and 75 show the visible impact of these changes on an area of fields lying to the east of the town of Northallerton. Figure 74 shows the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping of AD 1857, where the character of the fields appears to be that of strip fields, formerly part of the open field system. Figure 75 shows the same area as seen in recent vertical aerial photography. The considerable nature of the change in enclosure can be seen particularly clearly in the area at the centre of the aerial photograph.

Whilst this demonstrates loss of historic character, the removal of field boundaries to create larger fields needs to be placed within the historic context of the development of agriculture, and is probably one of the most recognisable elements of the 20th century mechanisation of farming. Whilst in the past hedgerows had little protection, since AD 1997, the Hedgerow Regulations¹⁴⁰ have required that if a landowner wishes to remove a hedgerow that is not exempt, a hedgerow removal notice must be served in writing upon the local planning authority. The local authority may then determine whether or not the hedge is considered 'important' under the regulations, and if so, whether or not to issue a hedgerow retention notice.

¹⁴⁰ HMSO 1997



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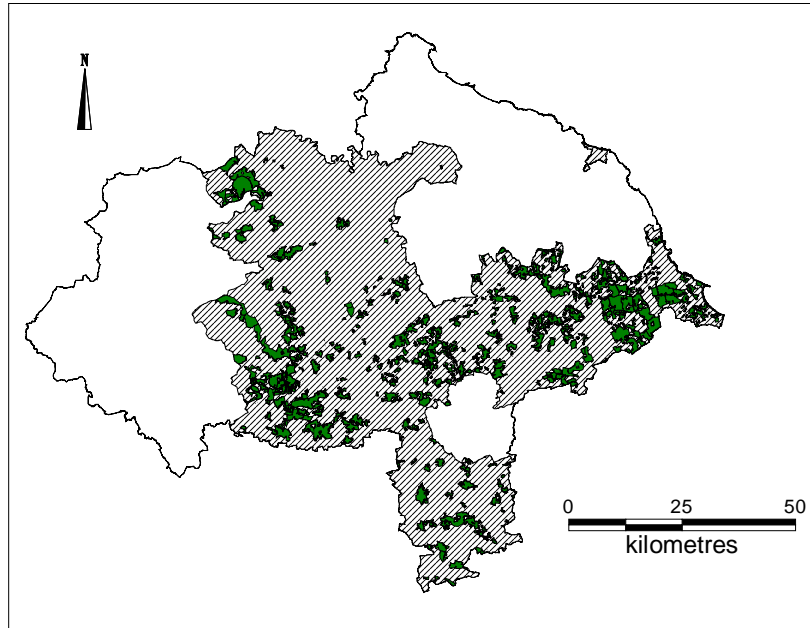
Figure 74 Strip fields surviving in AD 1857 in an area to the east of the town of Northallerton (centred at SE 382933)



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

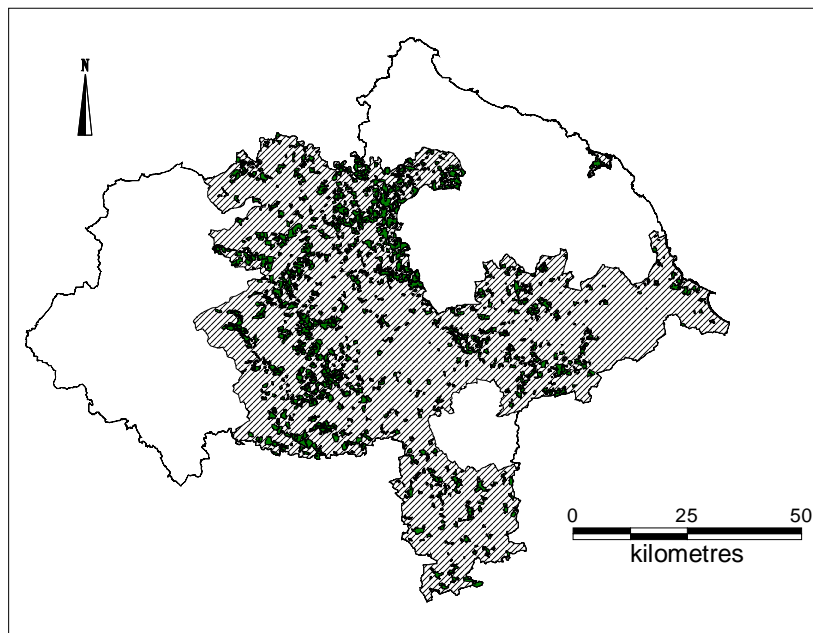
Figure 75 Recent vertical aerial photograph of same area as that shown in Figure 74 showing boundary loss since AD 1857

The impression given by the summary of modern improved fields above may be one of a homogenous landscape of large-scale prairie fields. In fact, the landscape of North Yorkshire displays a complexity of field systems rarely seen. There are many surviving examples of planned enclosures within North Yorkshire; the project has characterised and recorded 509 areas of parliamentary enclosure, covering 72,720 hectares, see Figure 76. Positively identified with known parliamentary awards, these reflect the expansion of field systems in the mid to late post-medieval period. There are also substantial areas of planned enclosure which could not be tied in with an award. Covering 60,500 hectares, these are also characterised by a fairly regular plan and straight boundaries. They tend to occur as smaller field systems, with 1,065 such field systems identified.



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Figure 76 The distribution of parliamentary enclosure (in green) within the area covered by the North Yorkshire HER (hatched) in relation to the overall project area



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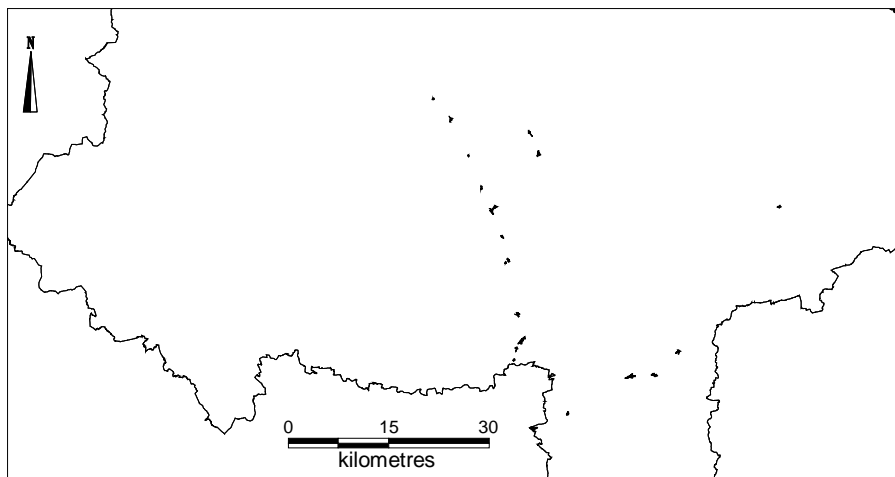
Figure 77 The distribution of piecemeal enclosure (in green) within the area covered by the North Yorkshire HER (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The earlier part of the post-medieval period has had a major impact on the landscape. Piecemeal enclosure, consisting of more irregular fields defined by regular or erratic boundaries, is found throughout this part of the landscape, covering 52,700 hectares see Figure 77.

The central area of the North Yorkshire landscape, focussed on the Southern Magnesian Limestone and the Vales of Mowbray and York, has long provided a focus for transport and communications networks. The following paragraphs will briefly look at two elements of this, firstly the road network, with particular attention to the A1, and secondly the number of airfields found in the central part of the county.

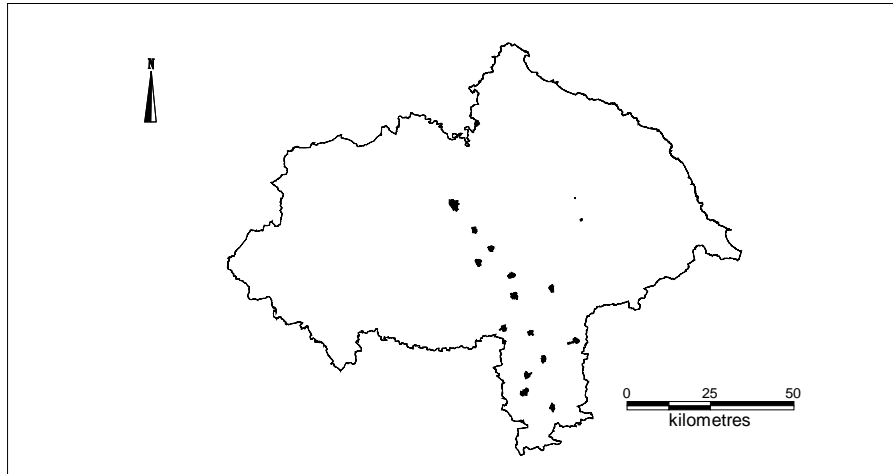
There has been a routeway running through the central part of the county since at least the Roman period and likely before, with the Great North Road following this route from the medieval period onwards, eventually becoming part of the main postal road from London to Berwick. In the present day, travel north and south through this part of North Yorkshire is served by the A1 road. As mentioned in section 4.12 on communications, whilst roads form an important aspect of historic character they fell under the size threshold for characterisation within the methodology of this project. However, several of the junctions and services were large enough to be characterised and this has allowed us to trace the route of the A1 through the central area of the county, see Figure 78.

Other major junctions reflect changes to traffic management in the area surrounding York and are a product of 20th-century urbanism, reflecting some of the changes in the nature of mobility. These patterns reflect several wider social changes, particularly the rise in private car ownership and the movement of freight from the rail and canal systems to the road in the 20th century.



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Figure 78 The distribution of areas characterised as the HLC type 'road junction', which clearly show the route of the modern A1 road (aligned NW to S)



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Figure 79 The distribution of areas characterised as the HLC type 'airfield'

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the Vale of York and Vale of Mowbray, along with the Humberhead Levels, have been landscapes which have attracted airfields. Only three airfields are found outside this area, two small private airfields in the North York Moors and the Durham Tees Valley International Airport. The airfields found in the central area of the county have their foundations in the AD 1930s and 1940s, and range in size from 143 to 570 hectares. There are six of them still active, while a number have been reused, for example as trading estates. These airfields play an important role in the social and physical history of the areas in which they are located.

In contrast to the rest of project area, where the settlements tend to be more dispersed (with the exception of the Lower Tees Valley), in this area of North Yorkshire, the settlements tend to be larger and more nucleated. These include the towns of Harrogate, Northallerton, Ripon, Thirsk, Boroughbridge, Malton, Pickering and Selby. The layouts of these settlements vary widely, however with nearly all, it has been possible to define their development since the mid AD 1800s through examination of the first and second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) and (1889-99) .

In the example of Northallerton, the historic core of the settlement is focussed on the main street with the form influenced by the medieval layout of the town, with burgage plots forming the property boundaries. In the late 19th century, the town sees an expansion in the settlement pattern with the building of South Parade and the terraces running off Malpas Road and Romanby Road. This shows that there is only a small amount of change between AD 1850 and 1900, compared, for example, with Middlesbrough and York. In the modern period, a third stage of expansion can be seen, which is mainly comprised of planned estates arranged on a cul-de-sac street pattern. This expansion in the settlement in the 20th century is ten times larger in extent than the original historic core. By contrast, the town of Selby sees no real change in the late 19th century, with the first real expansion in settlement occurring during the 20th century, see Figures 80-85.

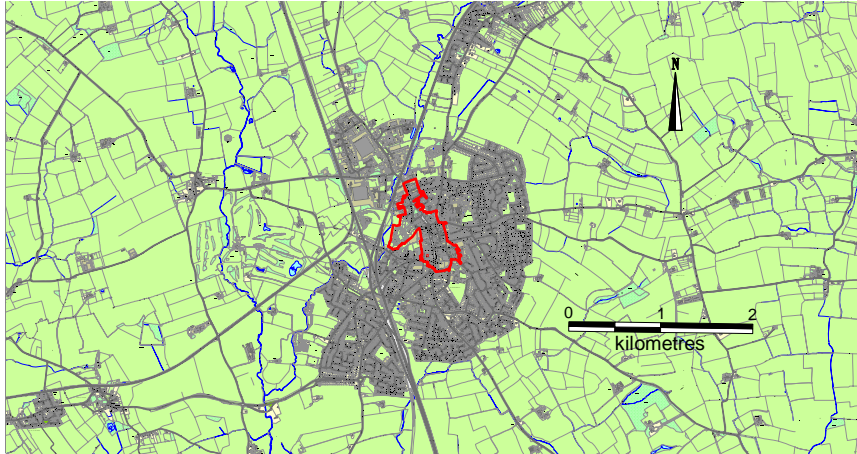


Figure 80 The historic core of Northallerton (outlined in red)

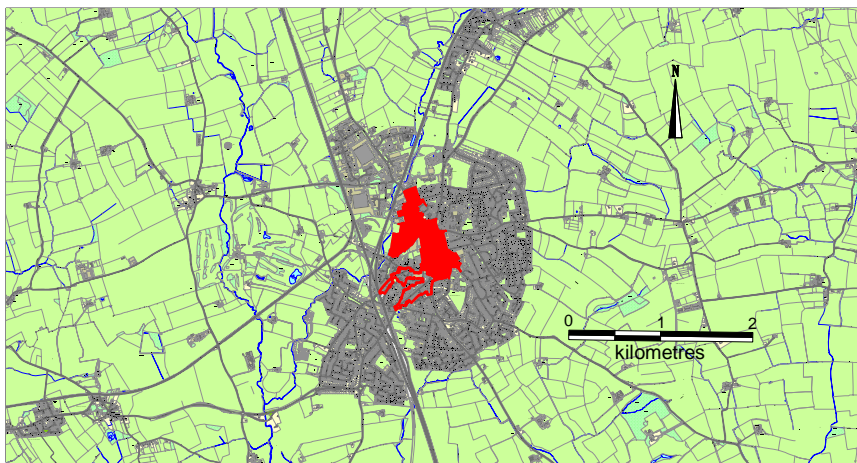


Figure 81 Expansion of settlement (outlined in red) in Northallerton between c. AD 1850 and 1900 in relation to the historic core (shown in solid red)

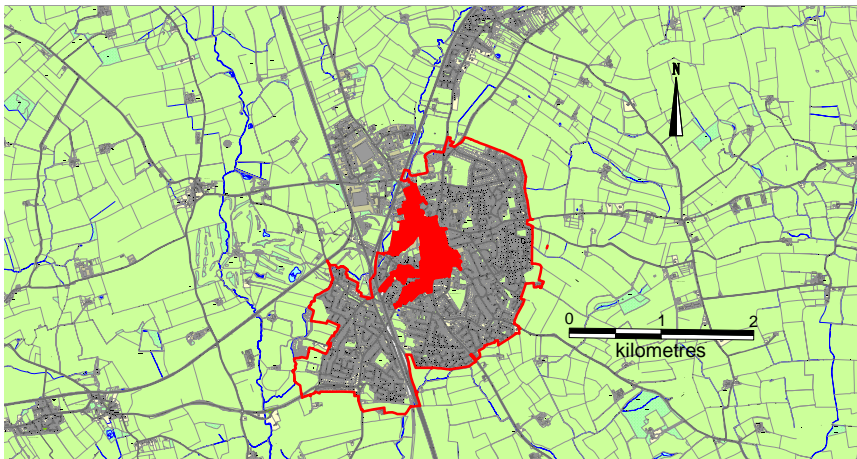


Figure 82 Modern expansion of settlement (outlined in red) in Northallerton in relation to the pre-AD 1900 areas of settlement (shown in solid red)

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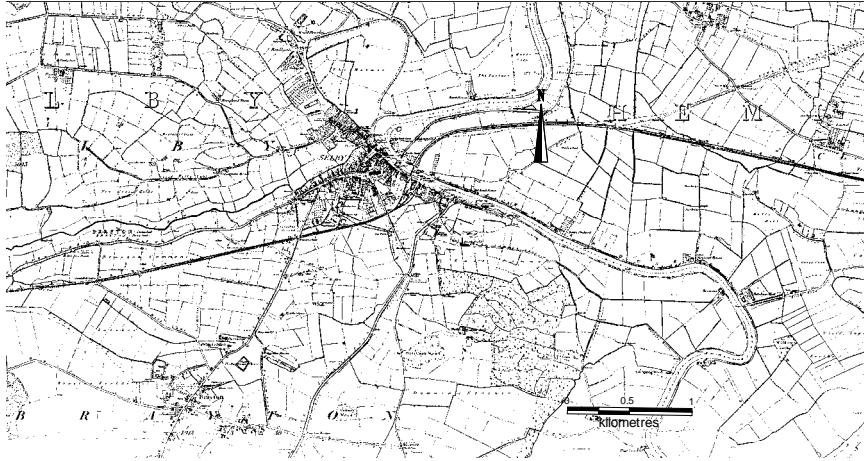


Figure 83 Extract from the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) showing the town of Selby

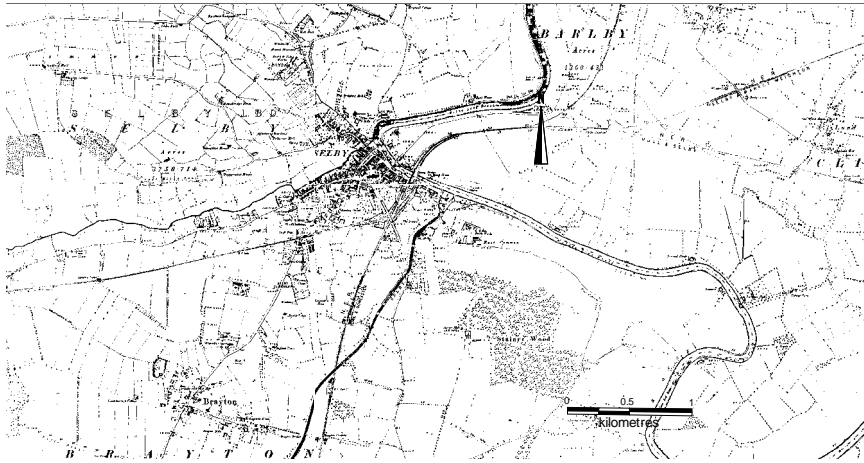
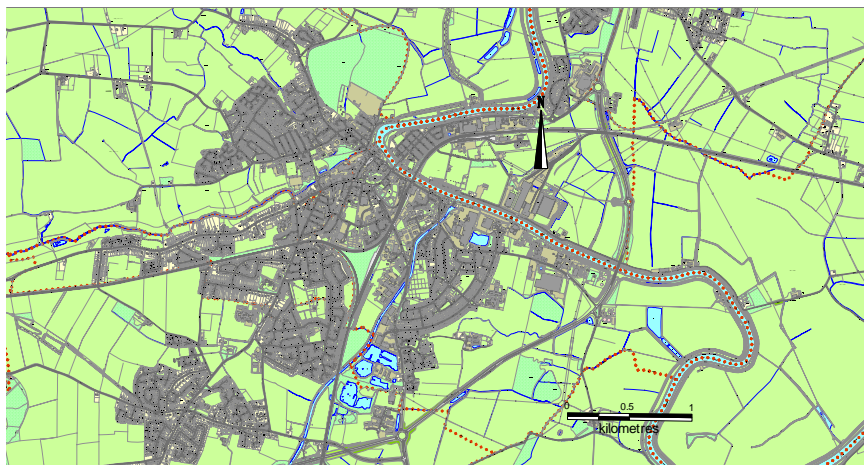


Figure 84 Extract from the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99) showing the town of Selby

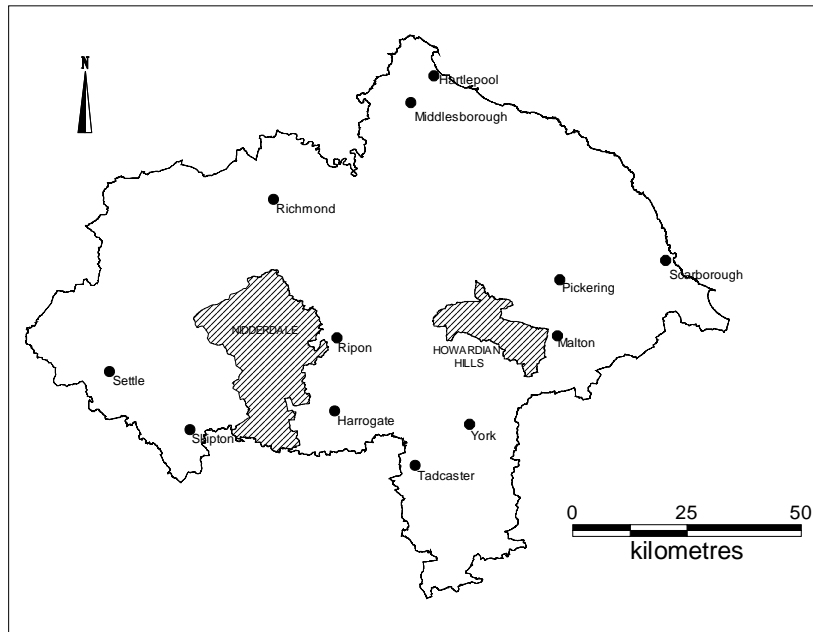
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Figure 85 Modern extent of settlement in Selby

The Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty



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Figure 86 The Nidderdale (to the west) and Howardian Hills (to the east) Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

This section will give a brief overview of the historic character of the Nidderdale and Howardian Hills Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Whilst the designation refers to the natural beauty of the area, it has become clear through this study that the historic character of these areas is largely the product of human activity.

5.1.1 Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Running between the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Wolds, the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) forms one of the seven protected landscape areas in North Yorkshire and forms a high ridge of land between the Vales of Pickering and York. Covering an area of 20,350 hectares, the AONB was confirmed in October 1987¹⁴¹.

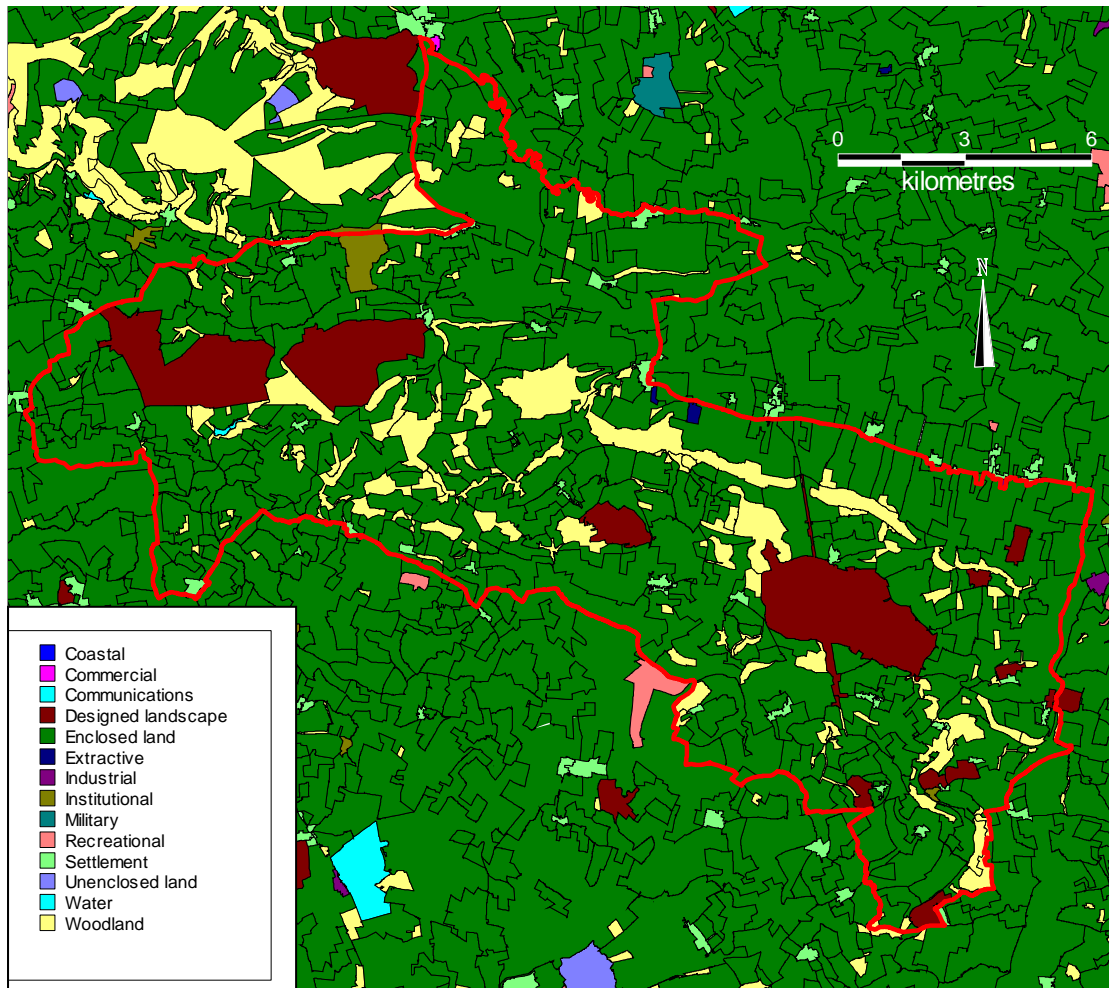
The HLC project is explicitly referred to in the AONB management plan as a priority to assist with understanding the components of the present landscape. Furthermore, by incorporating the results of the project into the local landscape priorities, this will help to ensure that the defining elements of the historic landscape are conserved or enhanced¹⁴². The Howardian Hills has a very distinctive historic character. Figure 87 shows the historic landscape character for the Howardian Hills mapped by broad type.

Even at a broad scale, some trends start to become visible. For example, there is a particular concentration of woodland within the central area of the AONB. The distribution of ancient semi-natural woodland within the AONB is relatively restricted, forming small, dispersed land parcels, see Figure 88. These surviving areas of

¹⁴¹ Howardian Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee 2009, 11

¹⁴² Howardian Hills AONB Joint Advisory Committee 2009, 47

ancient semi-natural woodland demonstrate a continuity of character since before AD 1600.



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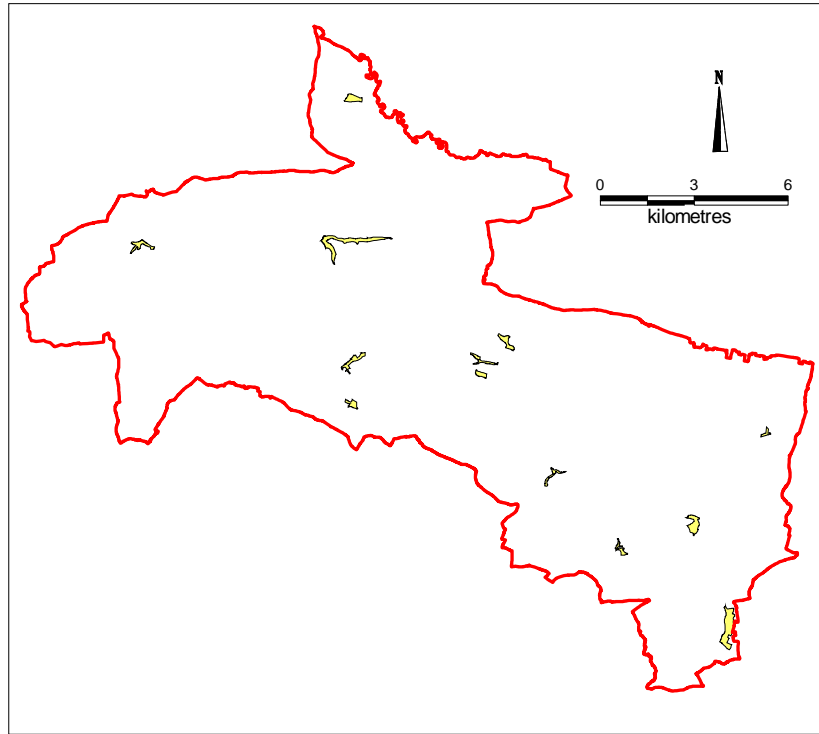
Figure 87 The historic landscape character of the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (outlined in red) mapped by broad type

The distribution of plantation woodland, however, is more widespread, and displays a certain degree of clustering, see Figure 89. It is possible that this is a reflection of particular landscape management regimes in these areas, potentially in relation to the larger estates.

The most prevalent type of woodland characterised with the Howardian Hills AONB is ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked), see Figure 90. This character type covers a total area of 1,215 hectares, that is 6%, of the area of the AONB. This is six times more prevalent than through the entire project area. Ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked) is found mainly on the northern slope of the AONB, mainly between SE 633753 and SE 757703.

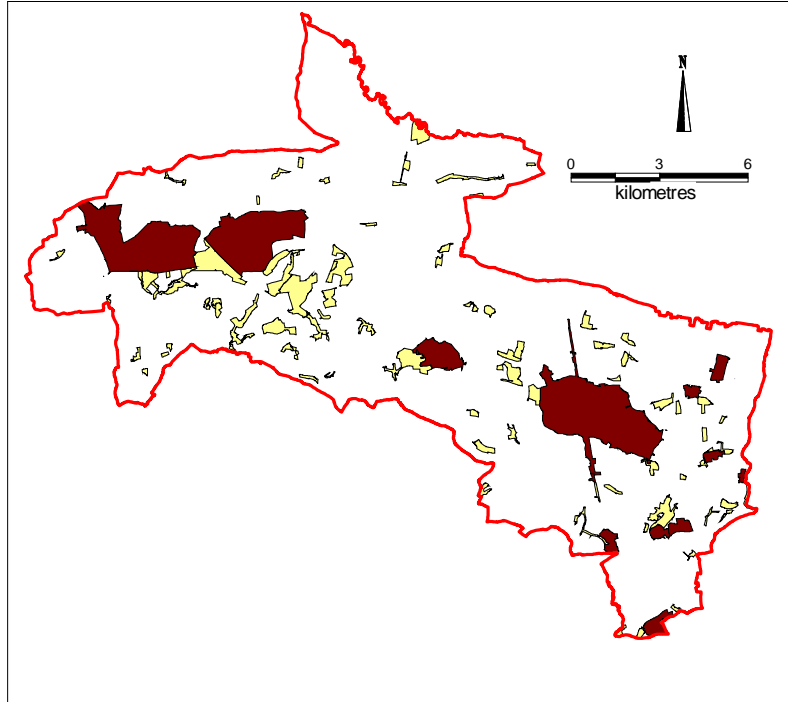
The historic landscape within the AONB is also characterised by a large number of designed landscapes, see Figure 89. Three of the larger of these are at Castle Howard (centred at SE 715704), Gilling Castle (SE 598758) and Newburgh Priory (SE 558759).

There is also an interesting pattern to the distribution of designed landscapes at the eastern end of the AONB, which lies to the east of the Castle Howard estate. Within an area of 3,000 hectares, there are eight privately commissioned designed landscapes, a density ten times higher than the average for the whole project area.



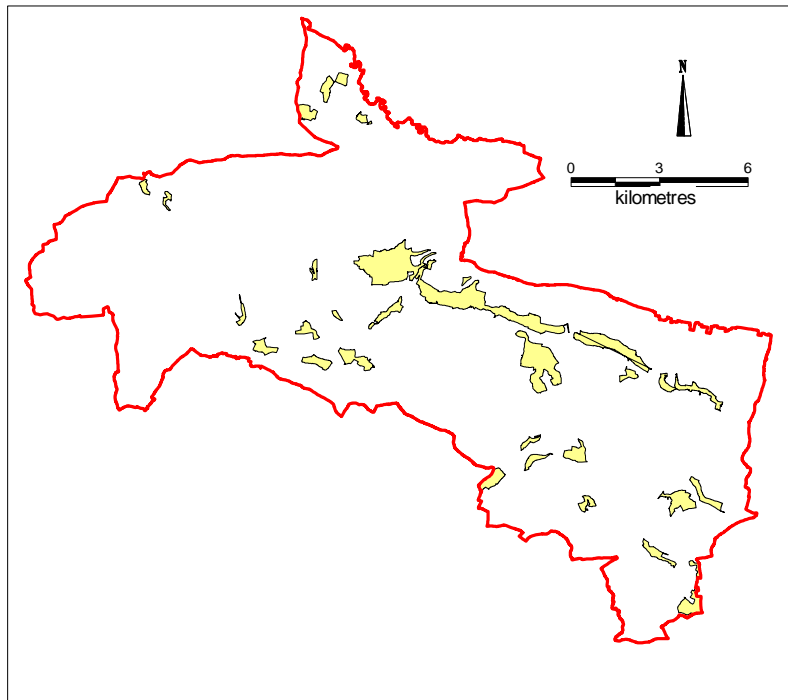
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Figure 88 Ancient semi-natural woodland in the Howardian Hills AONB



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Figure 89 The distribution of plantation woodland (in yellow) in relation to designed landscapes (in brown), indicative of the large estates within the Howardian Hills AONB



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Figure 90 The distribution of ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked) in the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

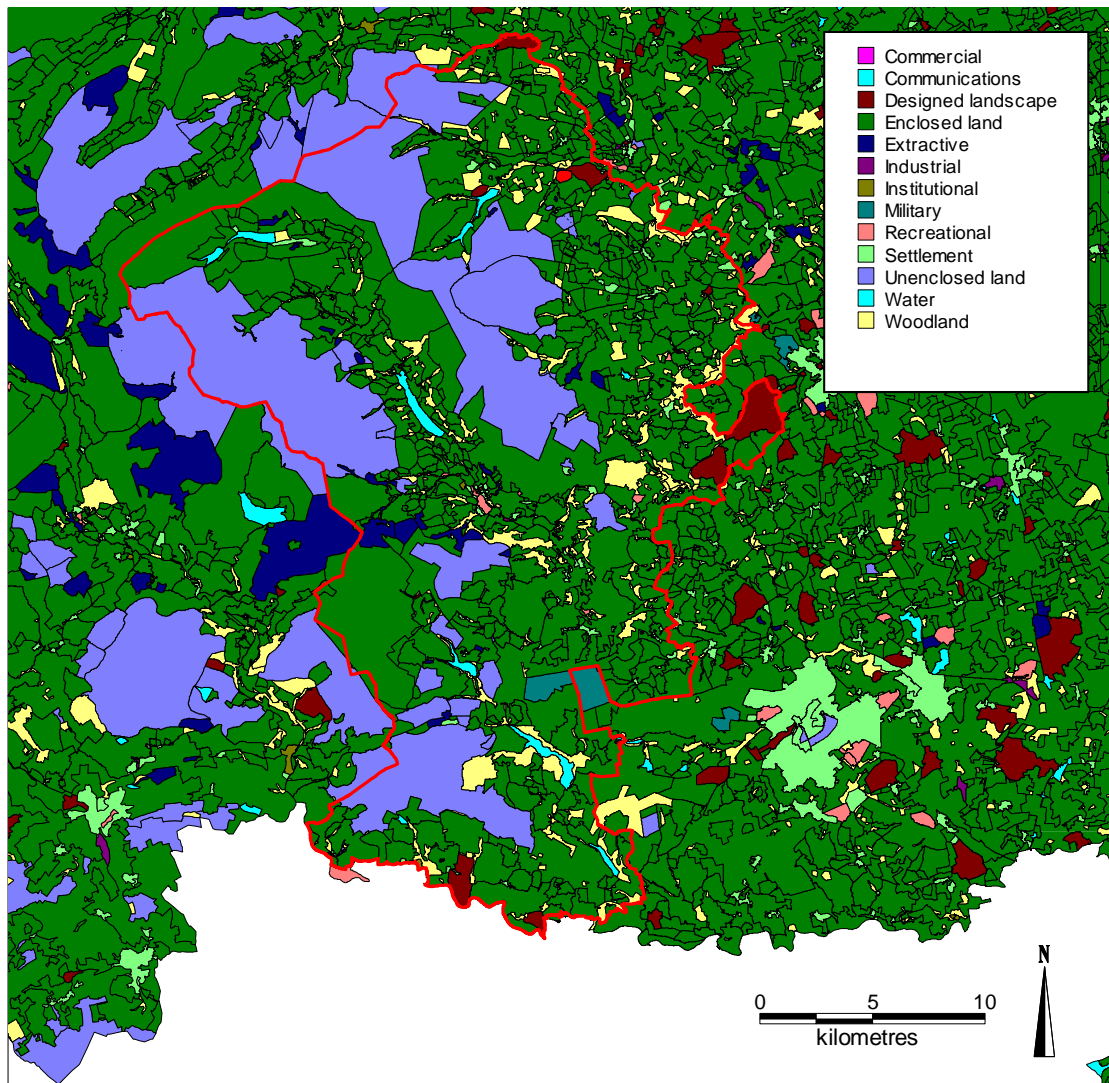
5.1.2 Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

The Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) was confirmed in February 1994¹⁴³ and covers an area of 6,030 hectares, sharing a common boundary with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority which adjoins to the west. Nidderdale is also a landscape shaped by centuries of human activity, the central feature of which is the valley of Nidderdale itself, with a remote gritstone landscape to the west and a more pastoral landscape to the east.

The AONB demonstrates a certain degree of continuity with the Yorkshire Dales National Park, yet there are areas of distinctive historic landscape character that are unique within the project area. Figure 91 shows the historic landscape character for the Nidderdale AONB mapped by broad type. The distribution of enclosed land within Nidderdale demonstrates some interesting patterns which are not really found in the wider project area. The key element of this is a major change which seems to occur in the late 19th century.

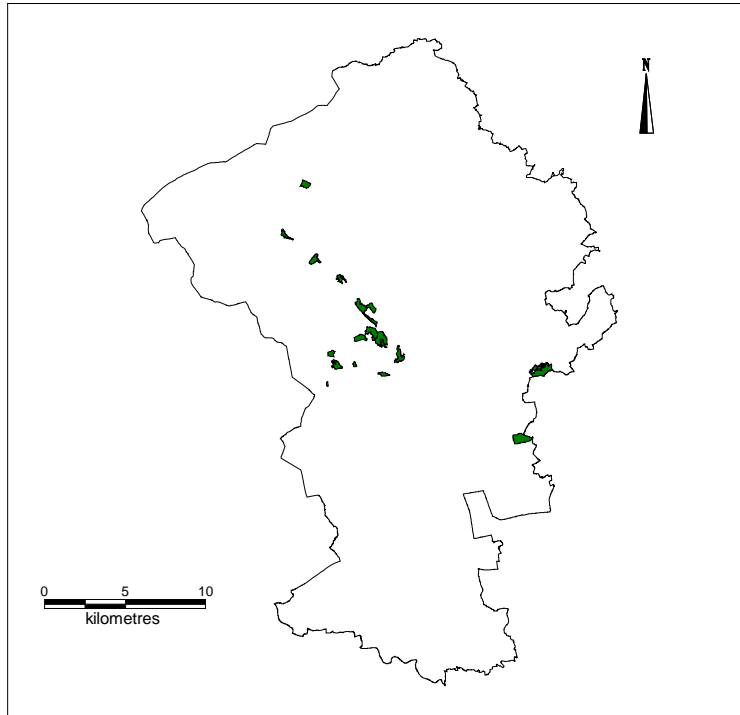
In several areas of the AONB, erratic field patterns as depicted on the first edition six inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) indicate piecemeal enclosure. Subsequently, by the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99) these erratic boundaries have been removed and straight boundaries created, see Figure 92. The straight boundaries keep broadly the same field size as the preceding piecemeal enclosure. The author could not find evidence for a parliamentary award to explain this change, which is still visible within the current landscape. The conclusion drawn is that this straightening of boundaries is a private undertaking, perhaps by a particular landowner who has holdings throughout Nidderdale, or by a group of landowners. Further research may shed more light on this. What is clear is that it is an aspect of the historic landscape in Nidderdale which is distinct from the other upland areas in the project.

¹⁴³ Nidderdale AONB Joint Advisory Committee 2009, 5



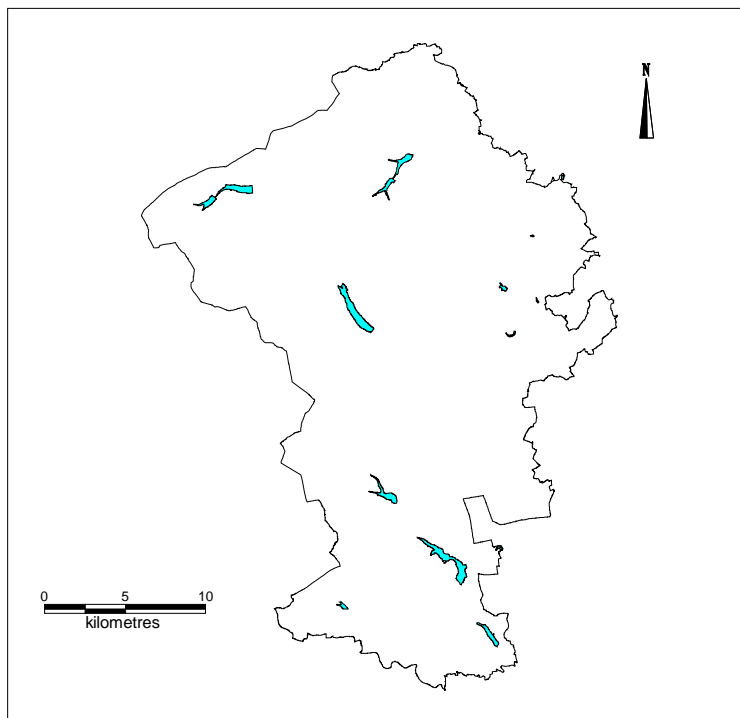
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Figure 91 The historic landscape character of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (outlined in red) mapped by broad type



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Figure 92 Field systems within the Nidderdale AONB which change from piecemeal enclosure to planned in the latter half of the 19th century



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Figure 93 Man-made lakes and reservoirs within the Nidderdale AONB

The Nidderdale AONB also has the highest concentration of reservoirs within the project area, see Figure 93. There are 11 reservoirs with three man-made lakes lying within the AONB boundary. Generally dating to the latter half of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, these reservoirs represent a major change in the physical character of the landscape. Angram and Scar House reservoirs (centred at SE 047767), completed in AD 1919 and 1936 respectively, were built to supply water to the Bradford area of West Yorkshire¹⁴⁴. Fewston and Swinsty reservoirs, located in the Washburn Valley, see Figure 94, were completed earlier, in the AD 1870s.

One of the most striking aspects of the historic character of the AONB is the lead mining, which is found particularly around the Greenhow area. This has a complex relationship with the enclosed land in the area, with evidence for mine workings and shafts extending beneath boundaries, see Figure 95. Following the cessation of mining in these areas, the land has been enclosed as a result of a change of use. This made it an extremely complex area to understand in terms of the historic landscape character, as before it could be characterised it was necessary to establish whether the lead mining or the enclosed land was the dominant element of the historic character.



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Figure 94 Vertical aerial photograph showing the area of Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs (centred at SE 184538)

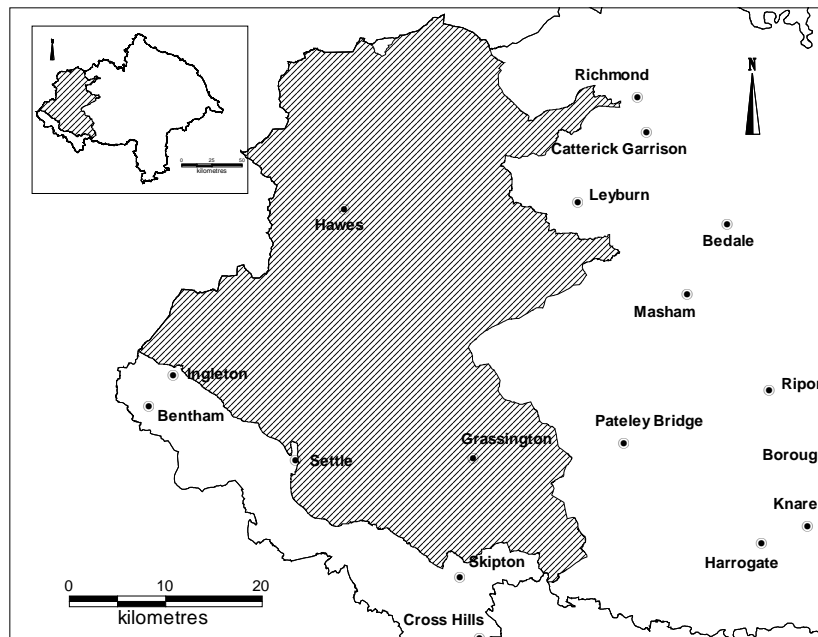
¹⁴⁴ Bolt, AC 2007



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 95 Vertical aerial photograph showing the relationship between lead mining remains and field boundaries in the Greenhow lead mining complex (centred at SE 110637)

5.2 The Yorkshire Dales National Park¹⁴⁵



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Figure 96 Area covered by the Yorkshire Dales National Park (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

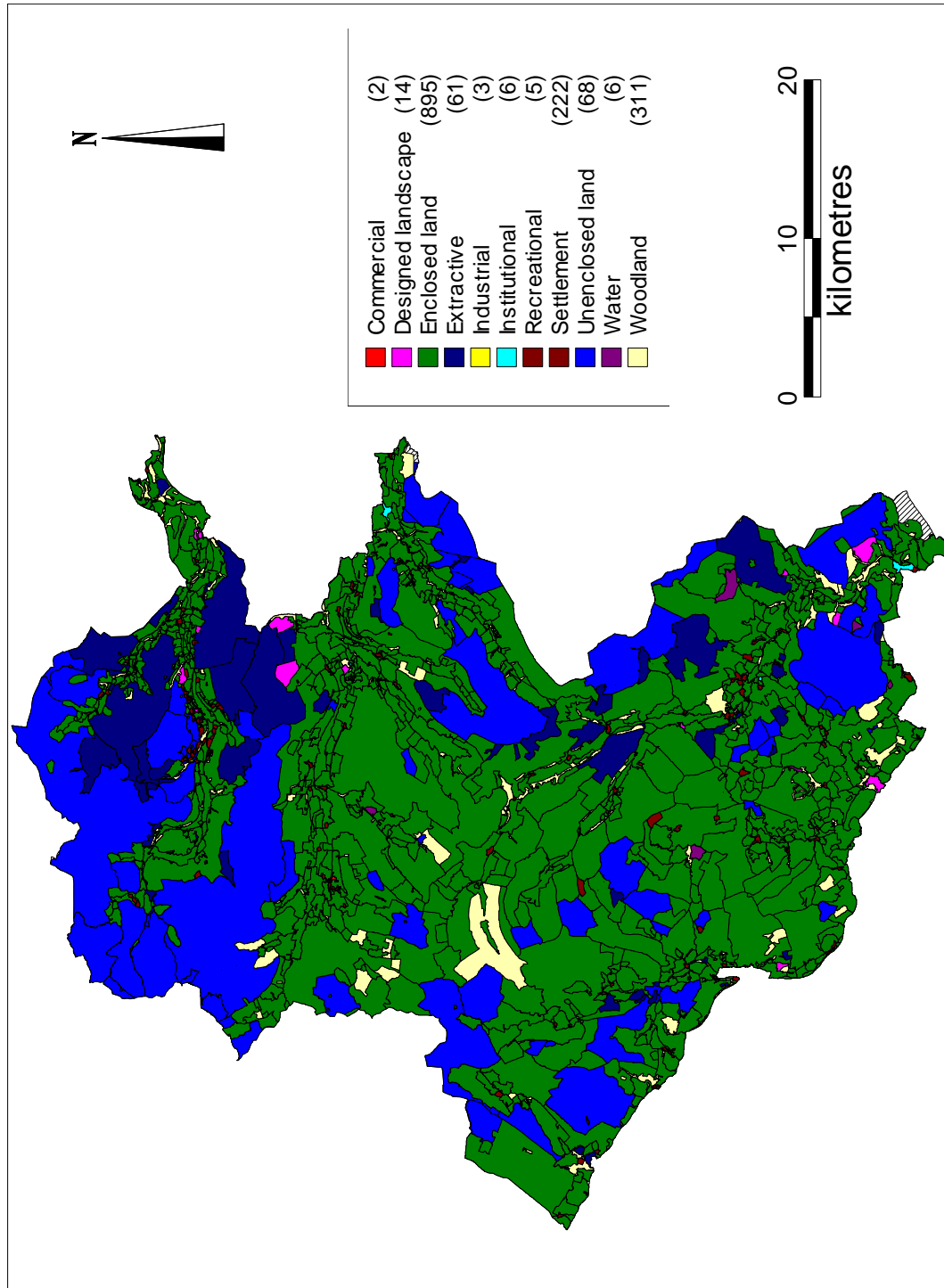
The Yorkshire Dales National Park lies at the western edge of the project area and covers a total area of 176,200 hectares. The National Park was established in AD 1954¹⁴⁶, and has a complex and rich landscape history. Each dale within the National Park has its own character, as does the moorland that rises between them and the fields and villages that lie in the valley bottoms. This section of the report aims to discuss some of these themes and explore what the HLC can add to our understanding of this landscape. Figure 97 shows the historic landscape character of the National Park mapped by broad type.

One of the key features of the Yorkshire Dales National Park is the open moorland, however the image above clearly shows the complexity of field systems which can be found in the national park. This also highlights the scale of the field systems, which are fairly small and complex in the valley bottoms, becoming much more extensive as they move up the valley sides. It is also clear that extraction has played a significant role in the shaping of the historic character of the Yorkshire Dales with extensive areas identified in the north of the authority, around Swaledale, as well as on the border with the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Woodland is found throughout the area, tending to occur in smaller parcels. This is reflected in Charts 67a and 67b. These show that whilst woodland only accounts for 5,716 hectares of the National Park, this is found in 311 distinct areas.

¹⁴⁵ Excluding that part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park that lies within Cumbria.

¹⁴⁶ <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/index/specialplace/yorkshiredalesnationalpark.htm>

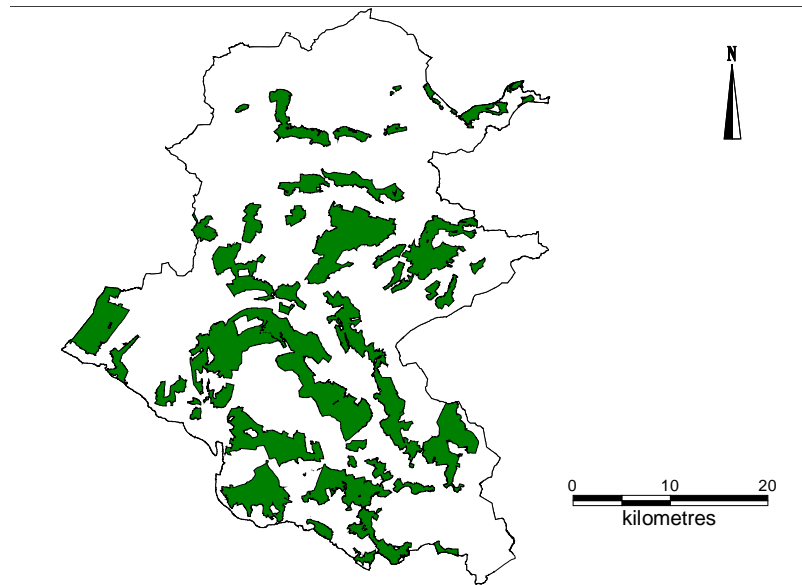


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Figure 97 The historic landscape character of the Yorkshire Dales National Park mapped by broad type

Within the Yorkshire Dales, unenclosed land accounts for 39,170 hectares, which is 25% of the area characterised. Whilst in some cases the moorlands form somewhat isolated landscapes, these are managed, whether as landscapes for shooting or for rough grazing.

Planned enclosure is evident throughout the Yorkshire Dales, see Figures 98 and 100. Such enclosure is central to the study of land ownership and tenure in the late post-medieval period. There were several mechanisms by which land was divided into regular parcels; agreement, private enclosure or act of parliament. These enclosure awards have a wide range of dates; the earliest identified originates in AD 1768 with evidence of enclosure up until the end of the 19th century¹⁴⁷. Figure 98 shows the distribution of parliamentary enclosure within the Yorkshire Dales.



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Figure 98 The distribution of parliamentary enclosure in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

Within the Yorkshire Dales National Park, 96 areas have been identified which can be linked to an enclosure award. These cover a total of 37,860 hectares. In terms of extent, and with the exception of the Forest of Knaresborough award, the individual awards in the National Park seem to be larger than enclosure awards in other parts of the project area. It is also evident that the size of fields seems to be related to perceptions of land quality, for example fields lower down in valleys tend to be smaller, whilst those on semi-improved land are much larger. The parliamentary enclosure found in the area of Worton Pasture, for example, see Figure 99, consists of fields with a wide variety of sizes, from 33 hectares on the pasture itself (centred at SD 944888), to 5 hectares at grid ref SD 949863.

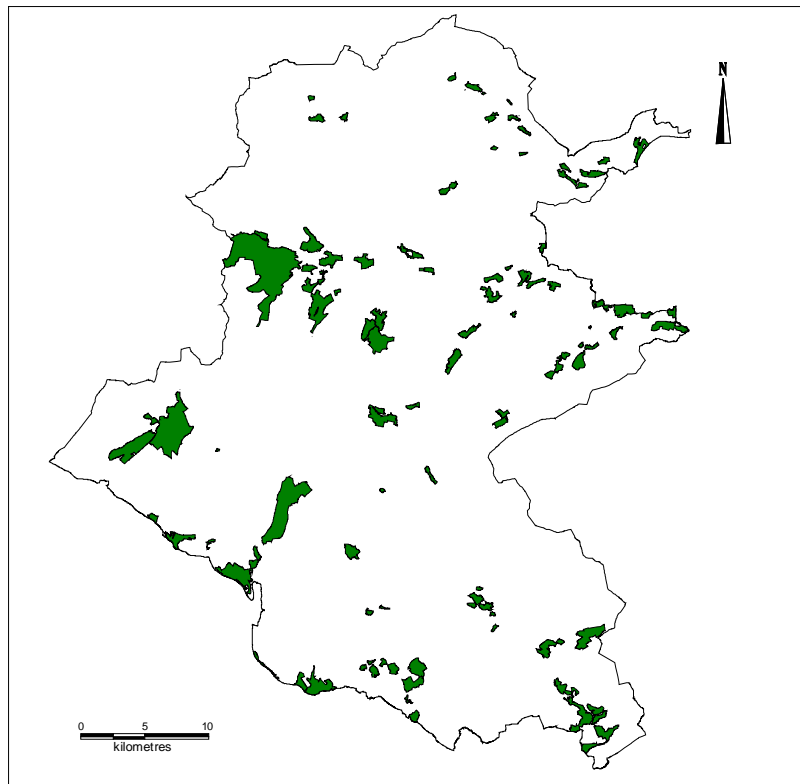
The HLC type of unknown planned enclosure has been used where the form of post-medieval planned enclosure could be recognised, but there was no evidence of a related, specific award in the sources being used for the project. Such enclosure takes the form of straight boundaries representing a formal parcelling of the landscape, often not reflecting the topography of the landscape, see Figure 100.

¹⁴⁷ Tate and Turner 1978, and English 1985



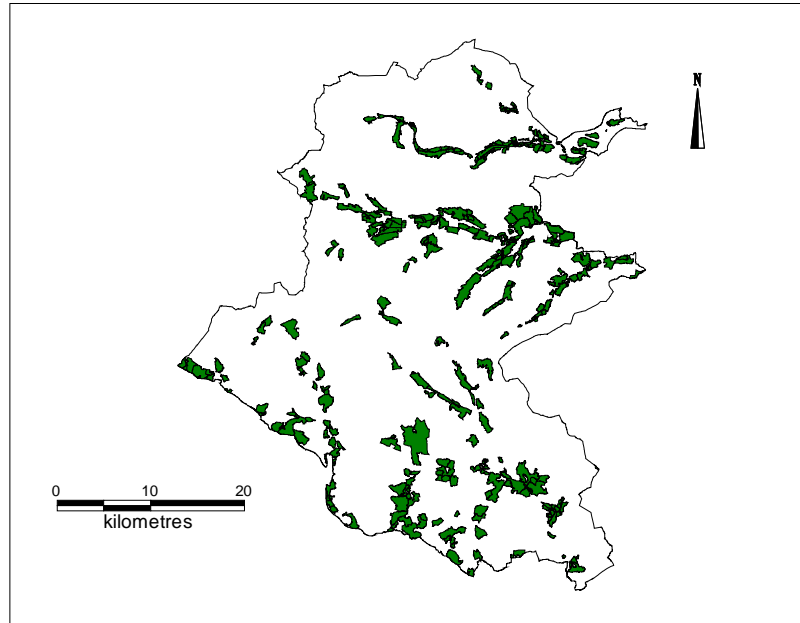
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Figure 99 Parliamentary Enclosure around Worton Pasture (SD 945 888)



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Figure 100 The distribution of unknown planned enclosure in the Yorkshire Dales National Park



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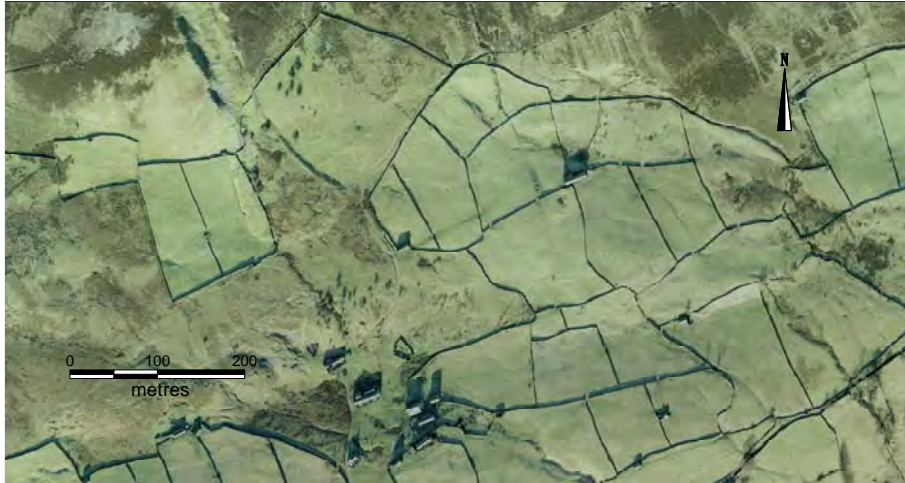
Figure 101 The distribution of piecemeal enclosure in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

No areas of private enclosure have been identified. It may be that the distribution of unknown planned enclosure reflects areas of fields created by private undertaking. This may be why the extent of these enclosure groups tends to be smaller as they may relate to individual land holdings.

During the earlier part of the post-medieval period (AD 1540-1750), a different type of enclosure occurs within the Yorkshire Dales. This is located more on the valley floors, and tends to occur as a process of accretion, small groups of fields being enclosed as individual events over time. The field boundaries tend to be less regular, representing a piecemeal approach to enclosure. This represents a significant break from the strip fields of the open fields of the medieval period and the planned enclosure that followed. This piecemeal enclosure has the feeling of being created 'within' the landscape rather than being imposed on it.

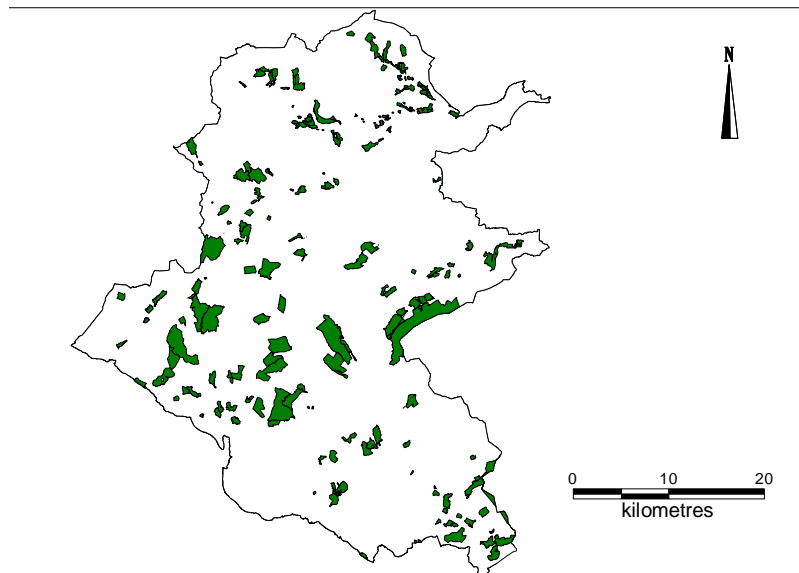
Intake seems to be broadly contemporary with the piecemeal enclosure that we see in the early post-medieval period, but has seen very specific distinctions in how it is perceived, both at the time of its creation and in the contemporary landscape. Whereas piecemeal enclosure is found in the valley bottoms, intake is found on the valley sides encroaching upon and 'improving' the moorland. This sits within a complicated framework of perception of ownership and tenure, especially where the encroachment occurred onto common land. Intake could be sanctioned, Muir¹⁴⁸ talks of lords of the manor allowing miners to build cottages on the edge of the moor and enclose areas to supplement their income. Later, small intakes were allowed if the intention was announced and not challenged. Figure 102 shows intake in Swaledale, where the character of the accretion of such fields and the 'improvement' of moorland can be seen.

¹⁴⁸ Muir 2004, 136-137



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Figure 102 Area of Intake in Swaledale (SD 981986)



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Figure 103 The distribution of intake in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

There are 205 areas in the Yorkshire Dales National Park which have been characterised as intake. Due to their accretive nature, each occurrence of this character type may represent a number of events within the landscape, which has created a complex pattern of fields.

The management and creation of enclosure within the medieval landscape was heavily tied to the structure and social fabric of the medieval townships. The most common areas of enclosure with a medieval origin are enclosed strip fields.



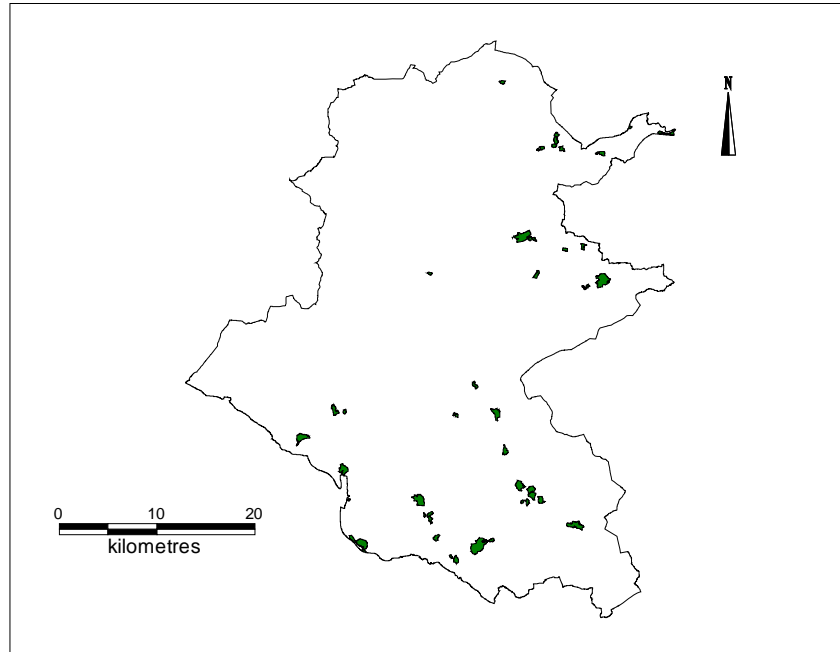
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Figure 104 Area of enclosed strip fields to the north west of Carperby (SE 003899)

There is a clear distribution of enclosed strip fields evident in Figure 105, with a bias towards the southern and eastern areas of the National Park. Where these enclosed strip fields survive, the legibility is excellent; 69% of these areas have seen no boundary loss since the mid 19th century. This not only gives us an insight into the medieval management of this landscape, but a better understanding of the impact of management strategies since AD 1850, particularly since the creation of the National Park in AD 1954.

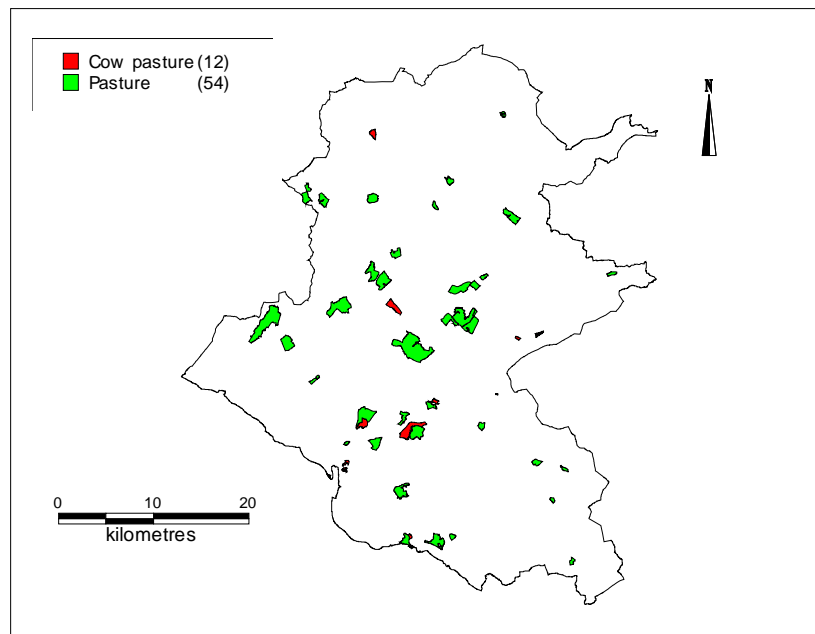
One of the most distinctive elements of land management within the Yorkshire Dales National Park is the use of stinted pasture, see Figure 106. Stinted pasture was a method of controlling access of livestock to upland areas through the purchase of gates, with one gate equalling a sheep, and multiples of this used to calculate the cost for large livestock. As this is more of a conceptual understanding of the landscape, rather than one with a physical expression in terms of distinctive boundaries, it is very hard to characterise from the physical form of the landscape alone. Therefore, place-name evidence has been used to determine the extent of land managed in this way. There is potential for further research outwith this HLC project, to determine the full extent of land which is managed as stinted pasture within the National Park. Cow pasture appears to have been managed in a similar way, at a similar time, and seems to have been used for milk cattle¹⁴⁹.

¹⁴⁹ Muir 2004, 51



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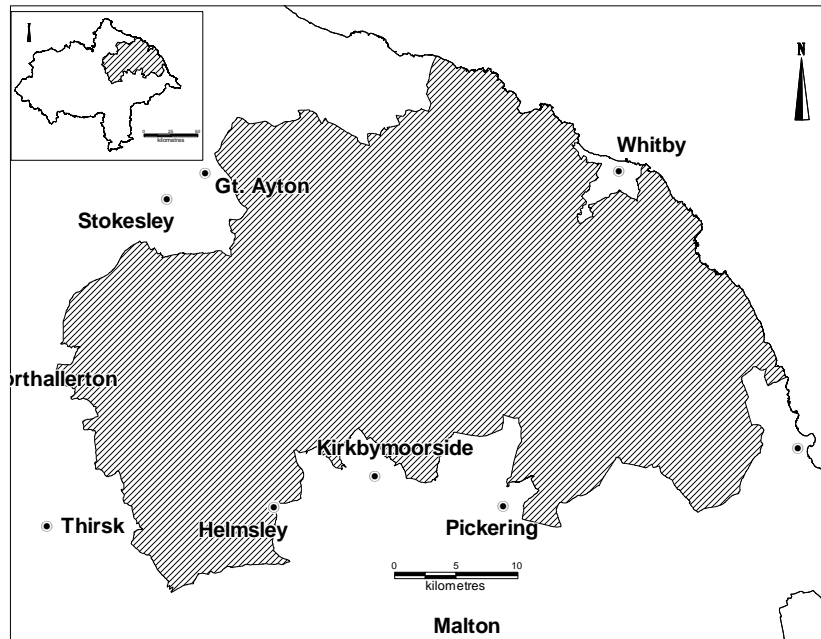
Figure 105 The distribution of strip fields in the Yorkshire Dales National Park



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Figure 106 The distribution of stinted pasture and cow pasture in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

5.3 The North York Moors National Park



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Figure 107 Area covered by the North York Moors National Park (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The North York Moors National Park was designated in AD 1952¹³⁷ and encompasses an area of mainly upland which covers 143,600 hectares. It is an upland plateau underlain by Middle Jurassic sandstones and mudstones, while to the south the geology consists of calcareous sandstone and limestone of the Upper Jurassic series. There are also areas of land which are undulating in form due to the underlying glacial till, sands and gravels. This landscape is bisected by deep dales which can be wide and steep river valleys.

There is no denying the role that the moorland plays in the character of the North York Moors. The moor is a complex landscape with much detail that can be drawn out. Even the moorland is much more involved than first appears, sitting within various management regimes, and being maintained as a result of different historic processes.

Unenclosed land accounts for 44,750 hectares, however this is just over a third of the total area of the National Park. While this is a far higher percentage than most of the rest of the county it is clear that the landscape is a lot more varied than first appears. Within those 44,750 hectares there is also a fairly high degree of variation.

¹³⁷ <http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/key-facts-and-figures/>



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 108 Extensive area of moorland (SE 471968, HNY 6763)



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Figure 109 Extensive area characterised as shallow-shaft coal mining along Blakey Ridge (SE 682992), Farndale Head and Rosedale Head

This can be seen in the record for HNY 6763, see Figure 108. “This is an extensive area of heather moorland lying to the far west of the National Park which has significant legibility with little change since AD 1850. The current management regime is that of grouse moor. The upland area is mostly unchanged and around the edges the area is characterised by some steep banks often planted with trees or areas of rough grassland, bracken and gorse on the edges of the unenclosed land. There are some disused small scale sandstone and limestone quarries identified dispersed across the area, and some jet mining around the very edges of the moor. There is also an area of disused coal pits used for coal mining and small areas of plantation less than 2h in area included in this record. The moors are used extensively for sheep grazing and contribute significantly to the character of the area and provide a vast open space which has retained its natural beauty. The Bilsdale television transmitter mast is a dominant landmark, and a small gliding club is situated in the north of the area at Carlton Bank. There are numerous prehistoric round barrows mainly situated on the highest points and in a mainly featureless landscape. Other prehistoric remains are not so obvious. This gives it a further dimension to its historic character going back at least to the Bronze Age”.

As we can see this has a highly detailed and varied development with leisure use, some intake and evidence of very small scale extraction. By contrast, if we look in more detail at this area we can see areas around the moor which are smaller and have been recorded as reverted moorland, for example to the north of Hawnby we have a series of reverted moorlands. Bumper Hagg (HNY 7838) forms one of these and was previously post-medieval intake which was intake prior to the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

It is not clear whether the land within this area has been improved, but it is evident that it has now reverted to moorland. In contrast to the extensive moorland recorded as part of record reference HNY 6763 (SE 471968), there is no evidence of modern management or extraction.

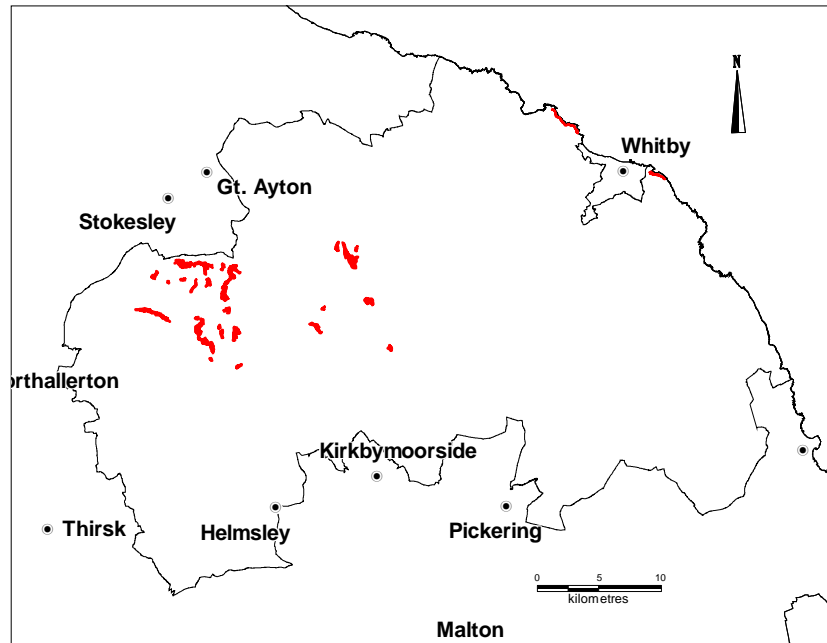
There are some areas within the National Park where the density of extraction is such that this has come to define the historic character. The character of this extraction is extremely varied and includes jet and ironstone working, alum extraction, shallow-shaft coal mining and quarrying for sandstone, limestone and aggregates.

The North York Moors has one of the highest concentrations of shallow-shaft coal mining in the project area, covering 1,536 hectares. Some of the most dense concentrations are around Farndale Moor (NZ 662001) and Danby Head (NZ 673009). Covering over a thousand hectares, these areas are extensive and fairly dispersed, although there are very specific concentrations along Blakey Ridge, for example at SE 682992, NZ 672006 and NZ 679005. The extraction has a linear nature, following the location of the mineral. Whilst there is evidence of mining in this area throughout the post-medieval period before AD 1850, there appears to have been an increase in activity between AD 1850 and 1900. There are areas of coal mining in this area as well, lying mainly to the south.

One of the most distinctive aspects of the landscape history of the North York Moors National Park is the extraction of jet. Sharing its texture with amber and colour with coal, jet is fossilised timber from the *araucaria* genus¹³⁸. This material doesn't follow

¹³⁸ Cook 2003;189

a regular seam in the geological material, meaning that the character of extraction is not continuous, and occurs randomly throughout the Upper Lias shales (ibid). As these shales lie above ironstone deposits, there are close relationships in some areas (see below). Jet as a material is particularly synonymous with this part of the country, and particularly with jewellery from Whitby.



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Figure 110 Jet working areas (in red) within the North York Moors National Park

The HLC project has characterised twenty nine areas where jet working defines the historic landscape character, see Figure 110. These areas show a distribution which is relatively limited along the coast, with a higher concentration of extraction inland, further west. This distribution of surviving historic character contrasts with the historical and geological evidence for the industry. The distribution map accompanying Cook's¹³⁹ article, for example, shows a very high concentration of jet mining running along the coast. The HLC project only identified a 3km stretch of jet mining to the north of Whitby, and a second, 1.5 km stretch of jet mining to the south.

One of the issues with characterising areas as jet working is the discontinuous character of the activity, which means that in some cases it does form an aspect of other historic landscapes. This is particular noticeable when it occurs with other forms of extraction. For example, the length of coast that runs from the north of Whitby to the border of the North York Moors National Park does show evidence of jet extraction; however the dominant historic character within this area is alum extraction, represented by Kettleless alum works. This area shows evidence of jet mining on the western side, as well as ironstone working.

¹³⁹ Cook 2003;189

This can also be seen in the 4km stretch of coastline near Port Mulgrave (NZ 811161 to NZ 783187). Here, again, there is evidence of jet mining, however this is interspersed in a landscape which is dominated by ironstone mining, so the coastline here is characterised as such. We can also see similar occurrences inland where areas of jet mining has occurred in a wooded area, for example Smithy Bank Wood (NZ 83020507) which dates before AD 1850 and has some evidence of jet mining within it.

Another issue has to be the dynamic character of the coastline, which has led to some areas becoming unstable and collapsing. In some areas, this may have been exacerbated by the amount of extraction¹⁴⁰. An example of coastal movement occurred in AD 1829 with the villagers rescued by the alum ships¹⁴¹.

This may partly explain why the pattern of the historic landscape character types does not reflect the known pattern of jet extraction. However, it does show areas of concentration. The previously mentioned area between Whitby and grid ref. NZ 836159 is described by the project as “an area of large scale jet working with partial legibility having an almost continuous line of holes and small caves along the base of the cliffs and coastal slopes mined for the extraction of jet direct from the vein where it is exposed in the cliff edge. The holes run along approximately 3km of the coast from Kettleness to Deepgrove Wyke, there are no buildings or other remains. The previous HLC is recorded as cliffs, coastal slopes and rocky foreshore because along this stretch the coastline varies between these types, and remains partially in its natural form which has been altered by the jet mining along this length, and is very visible.”

Contrary to the known pattern of extraction, the HLC shows the greatest concentration away from the coast. These workings seem to occur on the slopes of the valleys that cut through the moorland. For example, on the eastern side of Bilsdale there are two areas characterised by jet working (NZ 570010 and SE 575998). Both of these seem to be associated with the extraction of jet by following the 800ft contour line on this side of the dale.

A similar pattern can be seen on Dromond Bank (NZ 53850347), where the north-facing slope has been quarried between the first and second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)-(1889-99), which would date the highest concentration of activity broadly between AD 1850 and 1900. Here we seem to have the opposite issue from the one mentioned above. On Dromond Bank, the dominant extraction, as identified from the mapping, is jet; whereas alum quarrying has occurred, but on a much smaller scale.

Along with moorland, some of the most familiar features of the North York Moors National Park are the extensive areas of woodland. Woodland, of all types, covers over 30,000 hectares of the National Park's landscape. This accounts for 21% of the area. Whilst the common perception is that the woodland consists of plantation woodland, the picture is much more complex.

There are several large modern plantation woodlands, for example Langdale Forest, which have seen an increase of over 90% since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). Covering over 2,500 hectares, this plantation is managed by the Forestry Commission. Prior to this area becoming

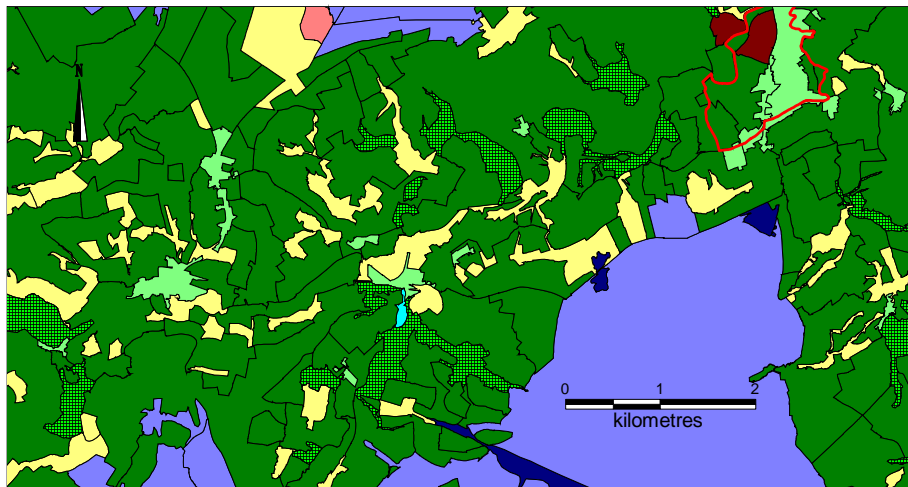
¹⁴⁰ Buglass Pers. Comm

¹⁴¹ Lee and Pethick 2003; 18

forested, it was characterised as intake, probably dating to the early part of the post-medieval period. Before this, the area was moorland.

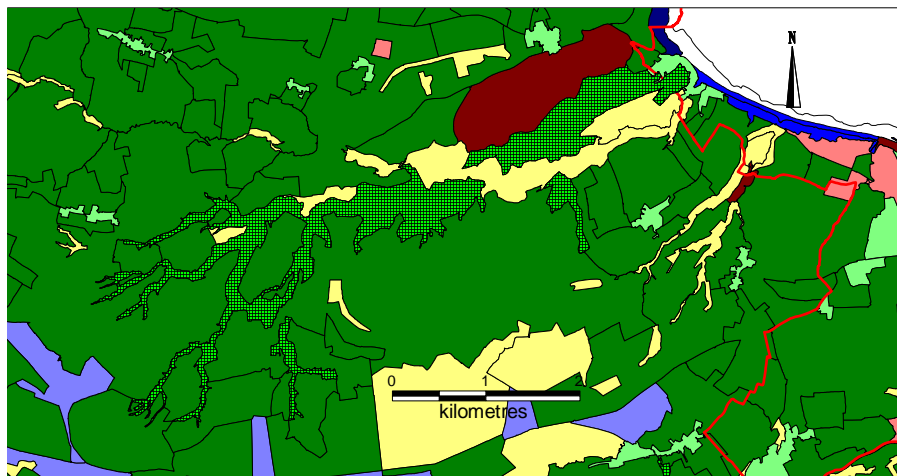
The woodland character within the National Park is much more complex. Within its boundaries there are 183 areas of ancient woodland which date before AD 1600. These are normally found in the valleys, and are fairly evenly spread across the area. There is a particularly high concentration in the north east of the National Park, around Grosmont, shown in crosshatch in Figure 111 below.

One of the largest areas of ancient semi-natural woodland lies just to the north of this area, running inland from Sandsend. This consists of two large blocks of woodland, totalling 254 hectares, both sitting within a larger wooded area and both have seen very little change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).



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Figure 111 Ancient woodland around Grosmont, defined by the green hatched areas



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Figure 112 Extensive area of ancient woodland near Sandsend, defined by the green hatched areas

In terms of frequency, rather than area, the most common type of woodland identified within the project is broad-leaved plantation. These areas have a very different character to the large scale plantations such as Langdale Forest, tending to be smaller in size and more dispersed throughout the landscape and date between AD 1600 and 2009. For example, in Bilsdale, there are several small plantations which are less than ten hectares in size, and can generally be found between blocks of fields.

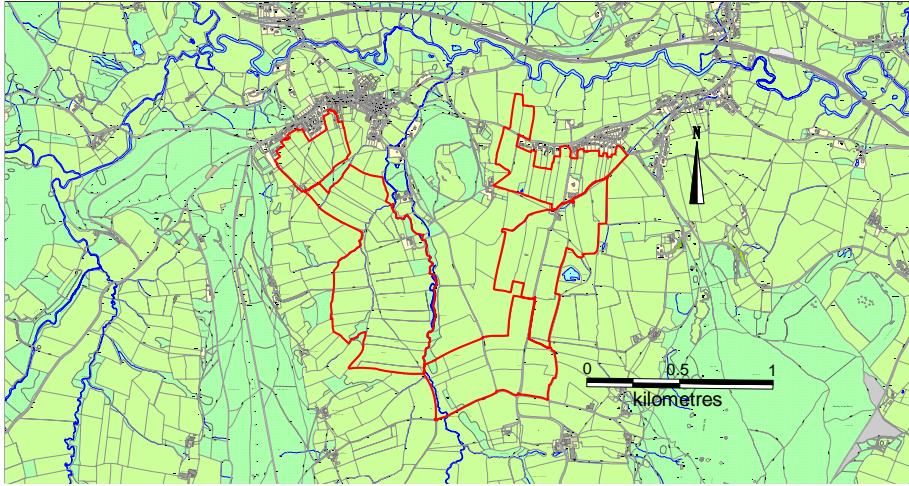
The enclosure patterns within the National Park are influenced heavily by the physical form of the landscape. There are 183 areas which have been identified with a parliamentary enclosure award. The highest concentration of these lies in the north east of the National Park around Mulgrave, Hinderwell, Mickleby, Barnby and Goldsborough. These blocks of fields, characterised by straight hedgerow boundaries, tend to cover areas from 40 to 400 hectares. Most of this seems to be part of the same award which dates between AD 1776 and 1782.

The modern improved fields within the National Park seem to be limited to the surrounding low lying areas, rarely located in the valleys. There is a particular concentration to the north of East and West Ayton. These tend to occur in smaller blocks than the large-scale modern improved fields more common in the Vale of Pickering to the south.

One of the very distinctive aspects of enclosure within the National Park is the relationship between enclosure and the moorland. In common with the Yorkshire Dales National Park, in the west of the county, the project has identified a large degree of intake where land is enclosed from moorland. These have generally been dated to the period AD 1540 to 1750, reflecting the form which suggests that they are occurring after the medieval period, but prior to the adoption of large-scale planned enclosure. Found generally around the edge of the moorland, these field systems vary in size from a four hectares up to 90 hectares in the case of the intake at SE 950965. As mentioned in section 5.1.5, some of these intakes have reverted to moorland.

Enclosed strip fields, fields enclosed from open fields and defined by reverse 'S'-shaped curved boundaries, are found in the National Park but are less common. There are two particular concentrations which are apparent from the HLC. The first lies to the south of Castleton and Ainthorpe, see Figure 113. These have significant legibility with little boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). A second concentration of enclosed strip fields lie between Appleton le Moors and Spaunton. Defined by hedgerows, this is a particularly high density of medieval activity. Some of these fields have seen little boundary loss, but others have only partial legibility due to boundary removal since AD 1850, for example at SE 753876.

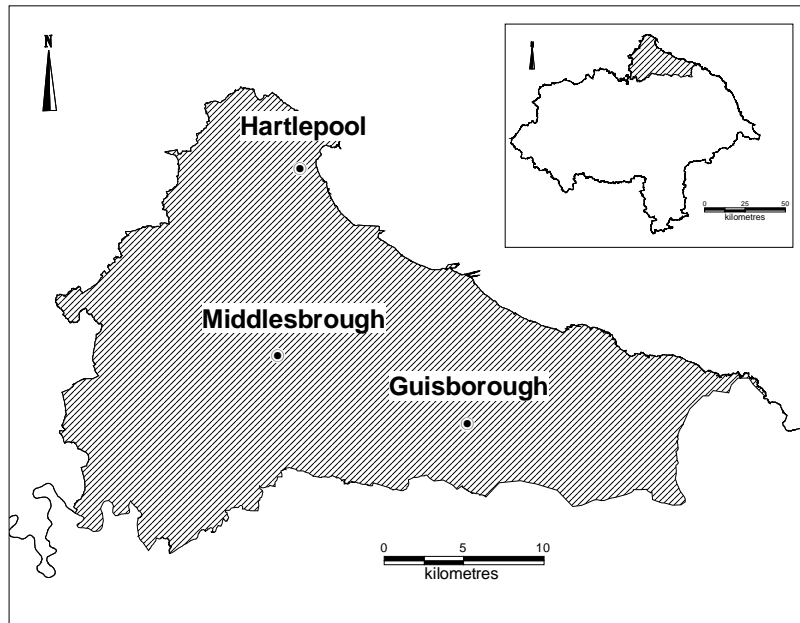
The settlement pattern within the North York Moors has a very distinct, dispersed form. The only historic core identified is the town of Helmsley. The majority of the other settlements identified are villages, 82 in total. While the current character is post medieval, many have a previous character which is medieval. There is a definite trend within the character of the villages, with 39 having a linear form. These usually have two rows of dwellings on either side of a main street with a back lane. There does seem to be a marked distribution of the linear villages with twelve in the south west area of the North York Moors, and a second group to the north of Whitby.



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Figure 113 Distribution of enclosed strip fields near Castleton

5.4 The Lower Tees Valley



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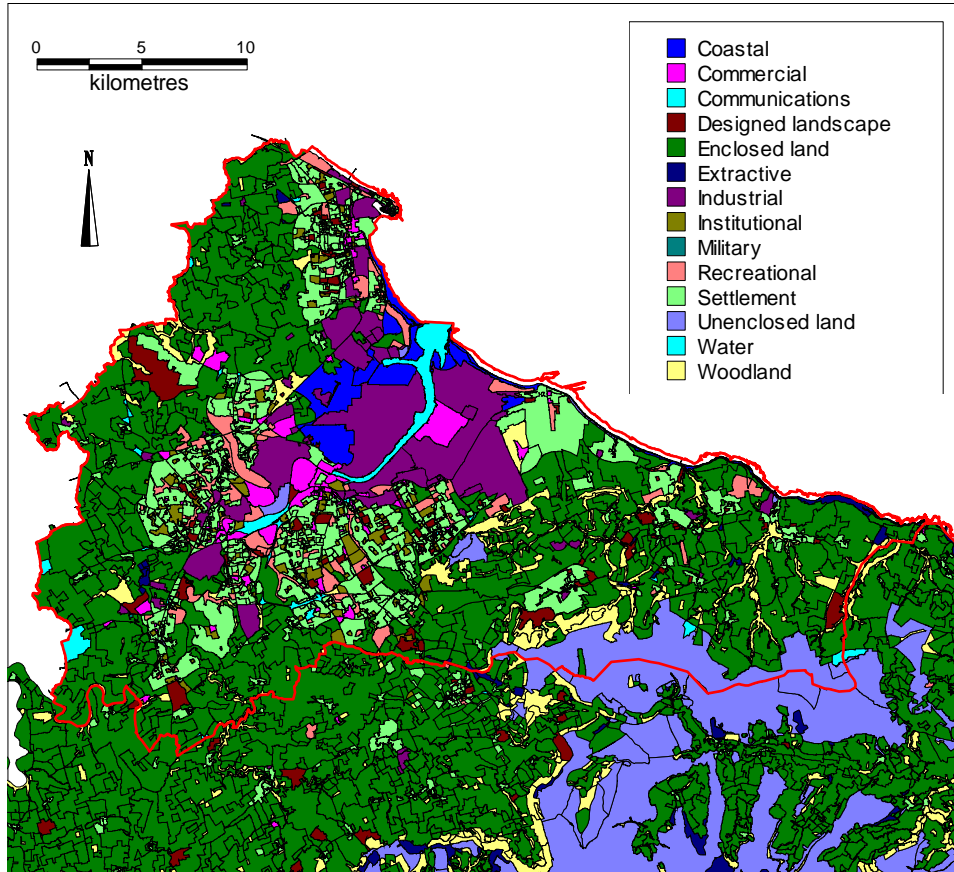
Figure 114 Area covered by the Lower Tees Valley (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The area referred to as the Lower Tees Valley, (see Figure 114 above) comprises of four unitary authorities; Stockton-on-Tees, Redcar and Cleveland, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, and covers a total area of 61490 hectares. This area was the non-metropolitan county of Cleveland between AD 1974 and 1996 when it became the four unitary authorities.

As previously mentioned in the methodology, section 3.4, the project employed a different approach in the urban areas of the Lower Tees Valley area. This was to enable the drawing out of much more historic information relating to the more extensive settlement and industrial character of this area. To put this in perspective, settlement accounts for 17% of the total area of the Lower Tees Valley, whereas it accounts for 3% of the rest of the HLC project area. The aim of this section of the report is to summarise the results for the Lower Tees Valley and draw out the specific trends that can be recognised.

An examination of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) shows the degree of expansion which has occurred in the late 19th and 20th century. At the time of this mapping, the core settlement of Middlesbrough covered an area of approximately 88 hectares. 2,781 hectares is now covered by Middlesbrough's settlement. This is an expansion of 3,180%, not including the industrial, recreational and institutional elements of Middlesbrough. Hartlepool and Stockton have also seen major 20th-century expansion, see section 4.7.

The character of enclosed land within the Lower Tees Valley area is also distinctive from the rest of the county. This section will draw out the broad trends and patterns which make the area distinctive and significant, see Figure 115.



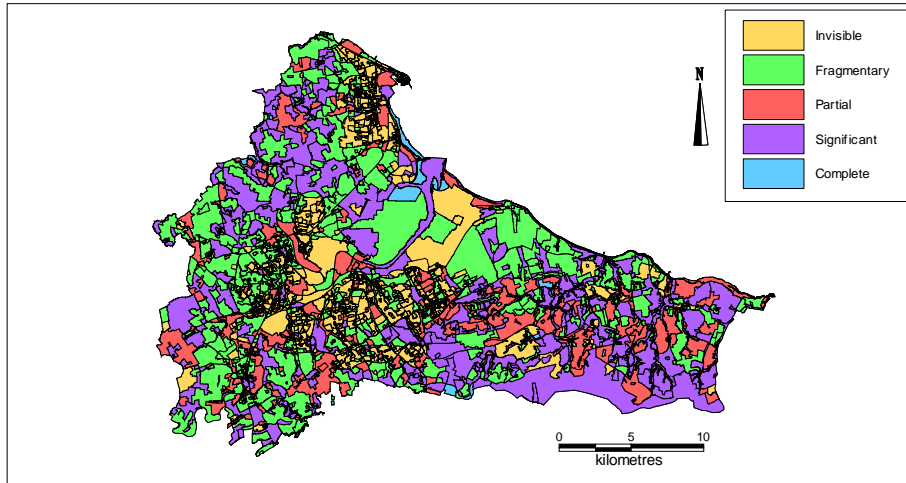
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Figure 115 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley mapped by broad type

Figure 116 shows the legibility of the Tees area, giving an initial overview of how dynamic the landscape has been. As can be seen this is a landscape which has seen a lot of change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), particularly centred on the settlements. There has also been a fair degree of change within the field systems. These will be discussed in more detail below.

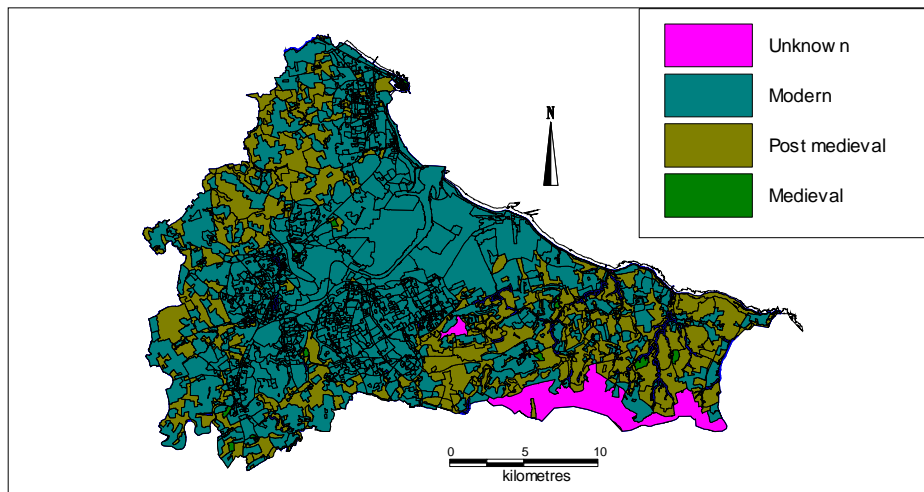
Figure 117 shows the broad distribution of the records within the Tees area by period. This has been mapped based on very broad dates. Some areas are blank on this figure due to the method used for querying the information, which relies on records falling exclusively between two dates. The figure highlights general trends within the origin of the historic character of the Lower Tees Valley. It uses dates based on MIDAS which defines the standard information to be recorded about heritage assets¹⁴². HBSMR, the software used to create this historic landscape characterisation uses MIDAS as the basis for how information is recorded.

¹⁴² www.midas-heritage.info



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Figure 116 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley mapped by legibility



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Figure 117 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley by historic period. Blank areas indicate areas whose period of origin does not fall exclusively within the periods mapped

Enclosed land

Whilst we may think of the four unitary authorities as being essentially urban areas, examination of the project results shows that there are large areas which are still characterised by enclosed land. To put this in context, enclosed land accounts for 27,500 hectares, or 45%, of the Lower Tees Valley area. This shows that the enclosed land of the area forms an important aspect of the historic character.

The character of the boundaries differs from the rest of the project area, see Figure 118. Only 13 areas of enclosed land have internal boundaries defined by dry stone walls, whereas 65 areas of enclosed land are defined by fences. This is a much higher concentration than any other area within the project. The dry stone walls in the

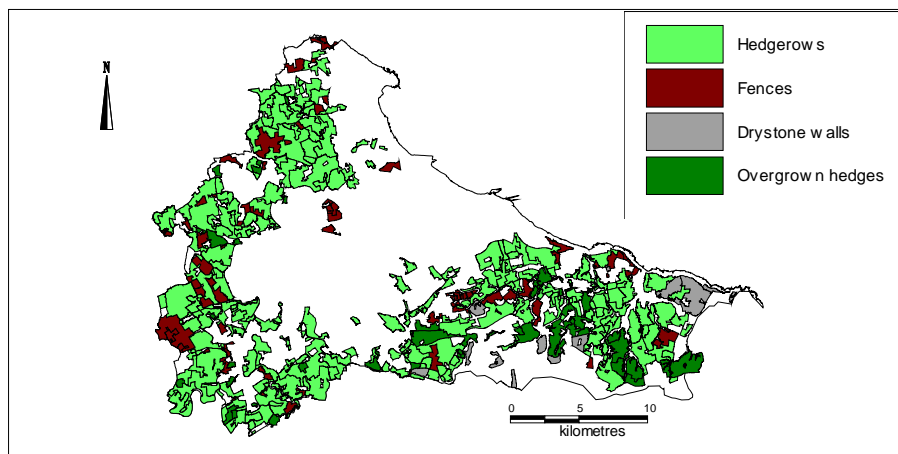
area are very limited, focussed mainly around Easington (NZ 74481799) and Staithes (NZ 78261881).

Since AD 1900, the loss of boundaries within the Tees area has had a major impact on the historic character with the removal of boundaries changing the character. As with other parts of the project, such as the Vale of Mowbray, the Tees area has seen this degree of boundary loss at least partially in response to the increased mechanisation of arable agriculture. This accounts for 9,786 hectares which is 35 percent of the enclosed land within the area.

Figure 119 shows the previous character of the modern improved fields. In contrast to the rest of the study area most of the boundary loss has been in field systems dating to the early post-medieval period.

Planned enclosure accounts for 7,370 hectares, or 26% of the enclosed land. The blocks of planned enclosure tend to be smaller than in the rest of the county, with many less than 20 hectares in size, see Figure 120. In contrast to the rest of the study area, there is very little evidence for parliamentary enclosure, see Figure 121. During the characterisation, only five parishes out of twenty two were found to have a parliamentary award. These parishes were Easington High Moor in AD 1817, Moorsholm in AD 1864, Skelton in AD 1844, Marske in AD 1756 and Kirkleatham in AD 1850.

This suggests that there is a high degree of private enclosure being undertaken within the area, although more research on a parish by parish basis would be needed to establish this.



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Figure 118 The distribution of different types of internal boundaries within the Lower Tees Valley

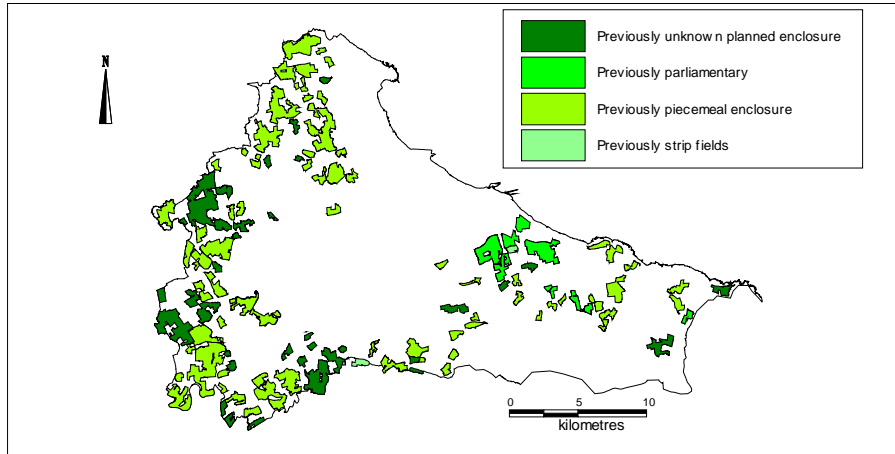


Figure 119 The distribution of previous character of modern improved fields within the Lower Tees Valley

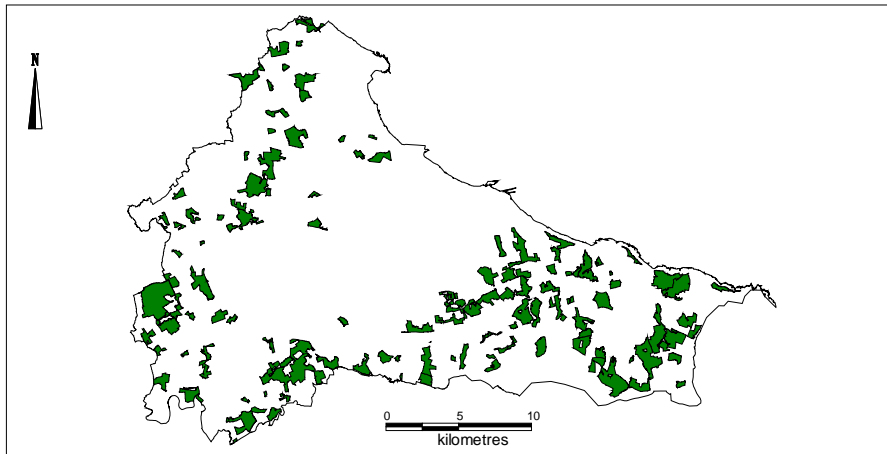


Figure 120 The distribution of planned enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley

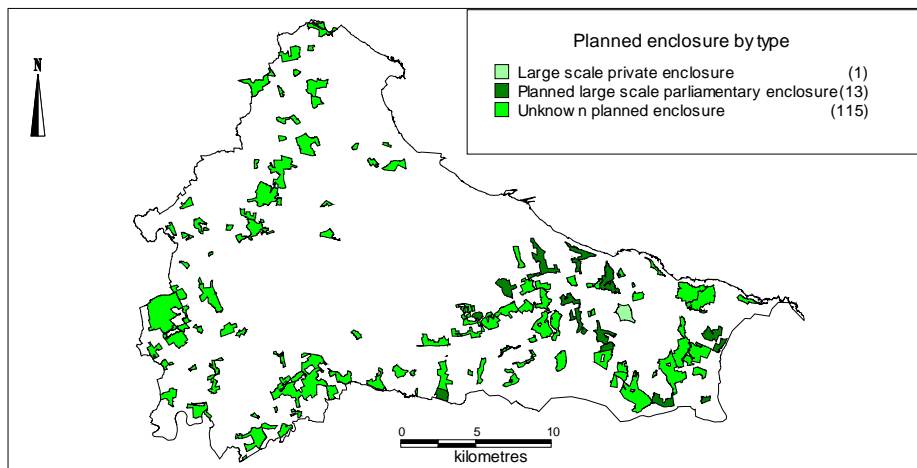


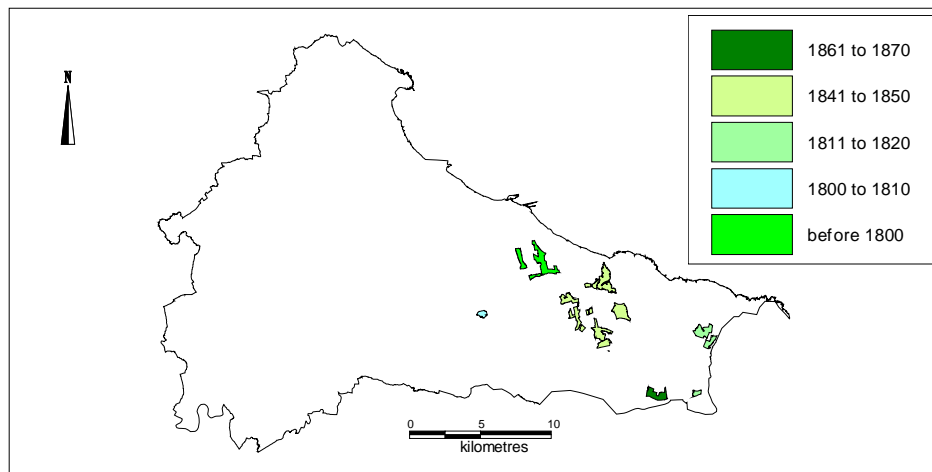
Figure 121 The distribution of planned enclosure by type within the Lower Tees Valley

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Figure 122 shows the parliamentary enclosure mapped by decade. These enclosures have a very specific distribution, all located in the south eastern corner of the Lower Tees Valley area.

A large area of the enclosed landscape has been characterised as piecemeal enclosure, see Figure 123. Broadly dated to the early part of the post-medieval period (after the end of the medieval period, but before the onset of planned enclosure), this covers 10,370 hectares of the Tees landscape. Out of this, 4,172 hectares have seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), see Figure 124.

There is limited evidence for medieval enclosure within this area. This is represented by nine areas of enclosed strip fields, see Figure 125. These are spread throughout the area and mostly display reverse 'S'-shaped curved boundaries, with hedges being the most common type of boundary. This should not be taken as the original extent of medieval agriculture in the area; rather it shows where this is still visible within the present landscape. It is likely that enclosed strip fields were originally much more extensive around the settlements. Indeed the amount of field pattern change can be seen in the Marske area (NZ 612217), where the enclosed strip fields are now modern improved fields.



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Figure 122 The distribution of parliamentary enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley, by date.

Settlement

The work carried out on the settlement patterns within parts of the Lower Tees Valley area has been extremely detailed. Due to the urban and suburban character of core areas, a more detailed level of characterisation was undertaken to gain a more complex understanding of these areas. This section will summarise some of these results.

The settlement pattern before the 20th century was extremely limited. Fourteen historic town cores were identified as part of the project. These are shown in Figure 126.

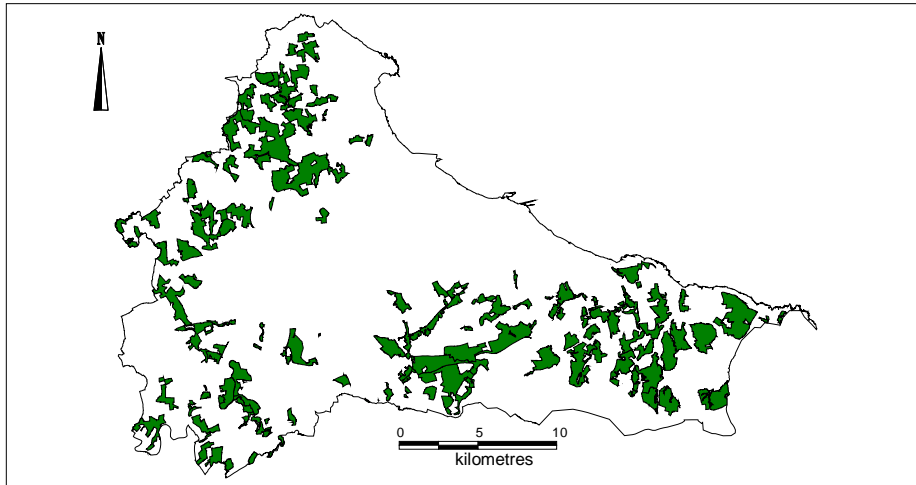


Figure 123 The distribution of piecemeal enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley.

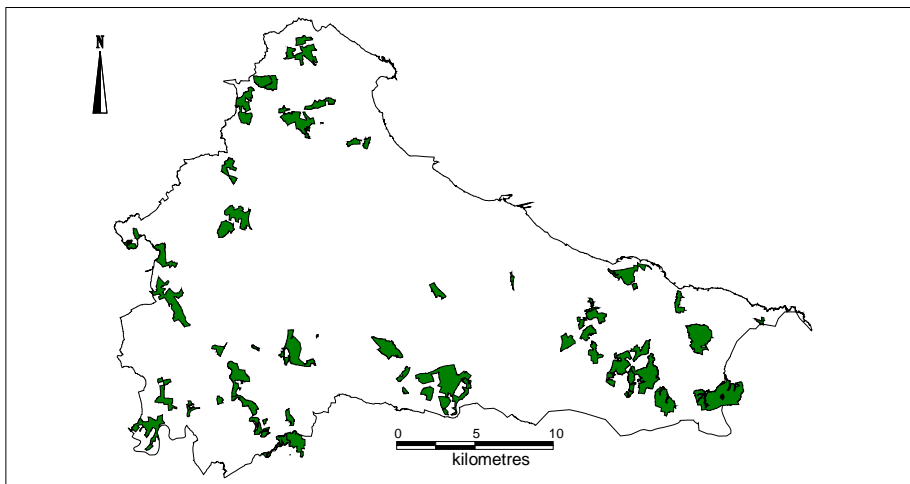


Figure 124 Distribution of piecemeal enclosure, showing areas with less than 30% boundary loss since the mid 19th century

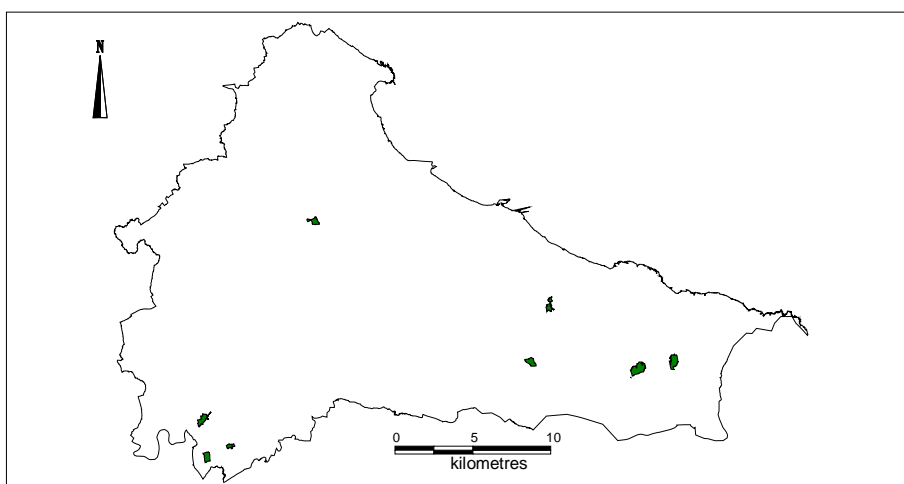


Figure 125 The distribution of enclosed strip fields within the Lower Tees Valley

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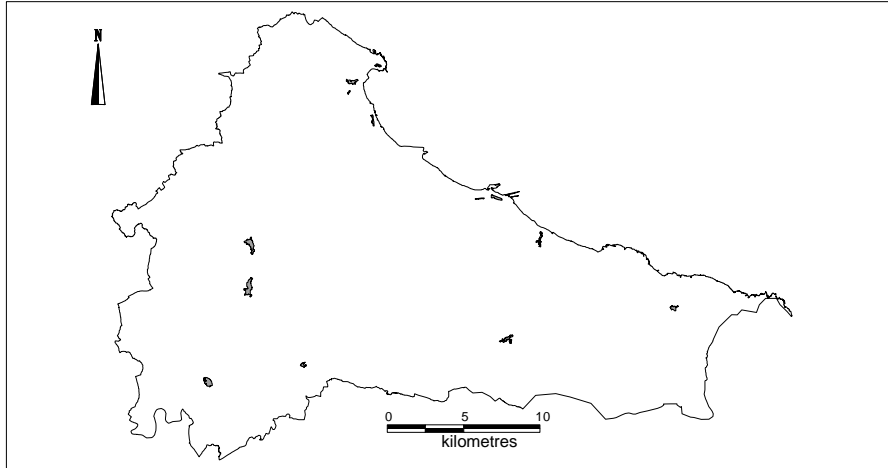
These are mainly post medieval in date although there are medieval elements evident particularly in the layout of the settlements. This can be seen with Yarm where the medieval burgage plots are still visible even though there has been later development. In contrast, the Middlesbrough historic core, as visible at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), was replaced in the AD 1980s by a housing estate. However, change had started to shift the focus in the town as early as the late 19th century, due to the exponential growth in the settlement, and industry at the time. This can be seen by comparing the first and the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) and (1889-99) respectively, for the core of Middlesbrough, as shown in Figures 127 and 128.

There are a several areas which date exclusively prior to AD 1850, see Figure 129. It is particularly noticeable that Hartlepool had seen several developments by the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). The historic core dates originally to the medieval period. However, by the time of the 19th century, the town started to expand. This is seen with the construction of terraced housing, such as Moor Terrace and Cliff Terrace, which consist of medium-density housing with the housing arranged on a grid system and private space defined by the back yards. Similarly, in Middlesbrough at Netherby Gate we see the conversion of the farm to a residential complex with the settlement based on the existing farm and the private space formed by a courtyard.

Between AD 1850 and 1900, settlements can be seen to expand, see Figure 130. This is not just in the larger towns, such as Middlesbrough, but also villages such as Skelton. Between AD 1873 and 1890, an area of terraced housing is built in Skelton, consisting of medium-density housing, and seems to be a continuation of the high street, with the previous character of this area having been the green village. This is likely to be a response to the increase in industry in the area.

It is in the 20th century that the greatest expansion in settlement is seen, see Figures 131 and 132. Consisting mainly of small blocks, less than 10 hectares, of semi-detached or detached housing, the first half of the 20th century sees the development of the larger towns. These normally have private space defined by front and back gardens with a variety of street patterns, some arranged on geometric grid patterns; however more and more cul-de-sac street patterns emerge, such as at Brinkburn Court in Hartlepool, which dates to AD 1925. A large number of this early 20th-century development is around Stockton on Tees, particularly Norton, Billingham and Oxbridge. By the latter half of the 20th century, the size and extent of settlement has increased significantly and there are a wide variety of different settlement forms.

The overall picture that the urban settlement characterisation in the Lower Tees Valley area paints is of very piecemeal development of the townscapes with significant hiatus' caused by global events such as the two World Wars. Housing character changes significantly following World War I, with bow-windowed semi-detached houses with gardens replacing bay-windowed terraces. These bay windows vanish after World War II, to be replaced with more resource conscious plain-fronted designs which persist throughout the later half of the 20th century. In most cases the principal 'previous type' was enclosed land; there was surprising legibility to this in the form of relict hedgerows. There has also been redevelopment and clearances of large areas of 19th-century terraced housing and replacement with industrial estates and other commercial uses. Legibility to these previous types is usually low.



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Figure 126 The distribution of historic town cores within the Lower Tees Valley



Figure 127 Middlesbrough in the mid 19th century

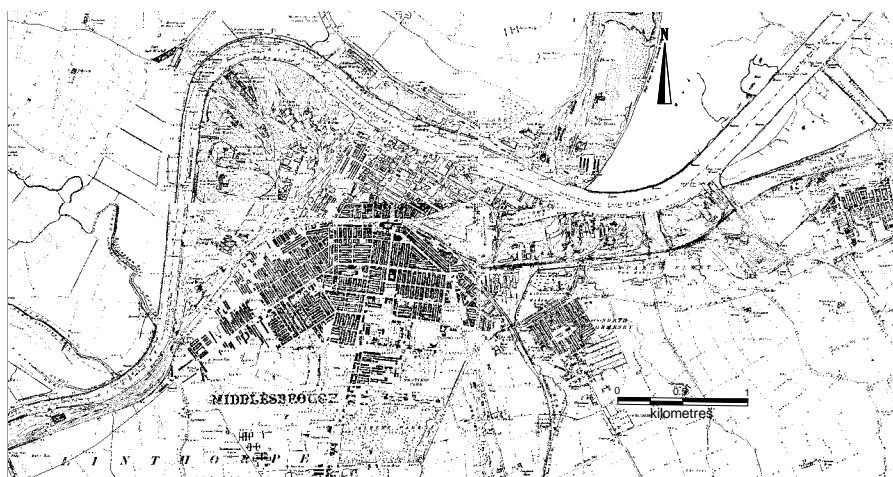


Figure 128 Middlesbrough c. 1900

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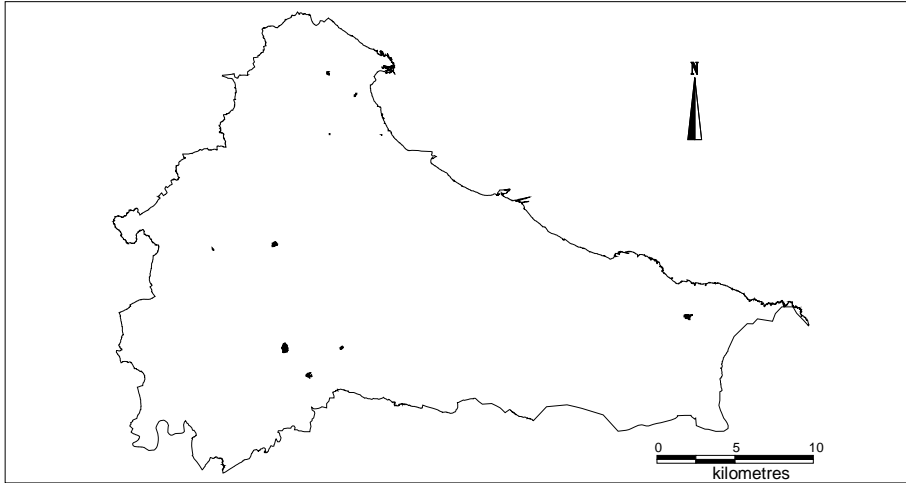


Figure 129 The distribution of settlement prior to the mid 19th century

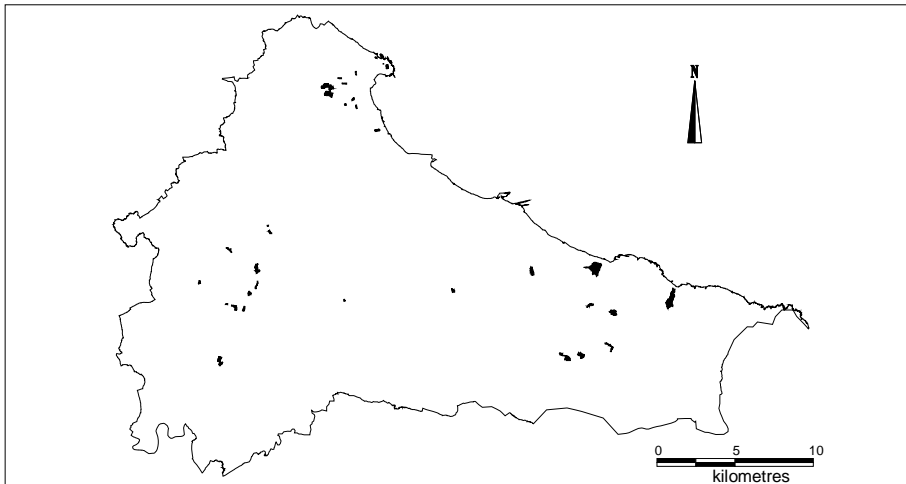


Figure 130 Settlement AD 1850 to 1900 in the Lower Tees Valley

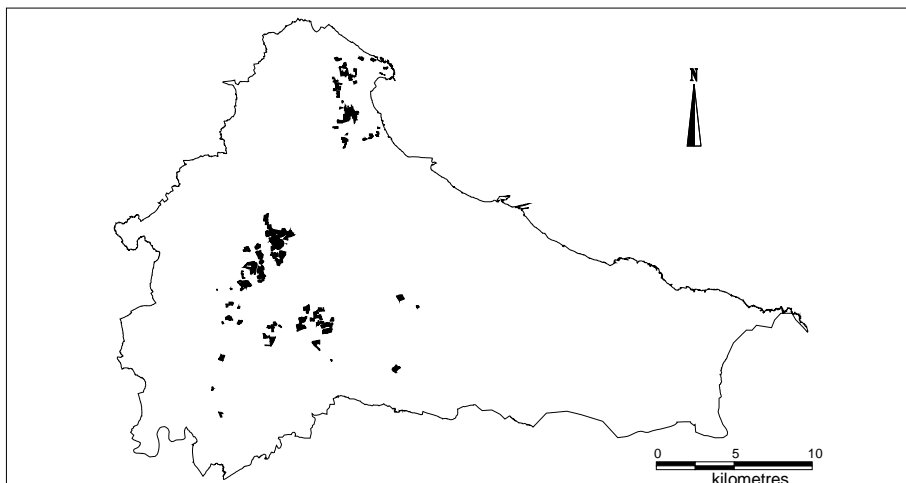
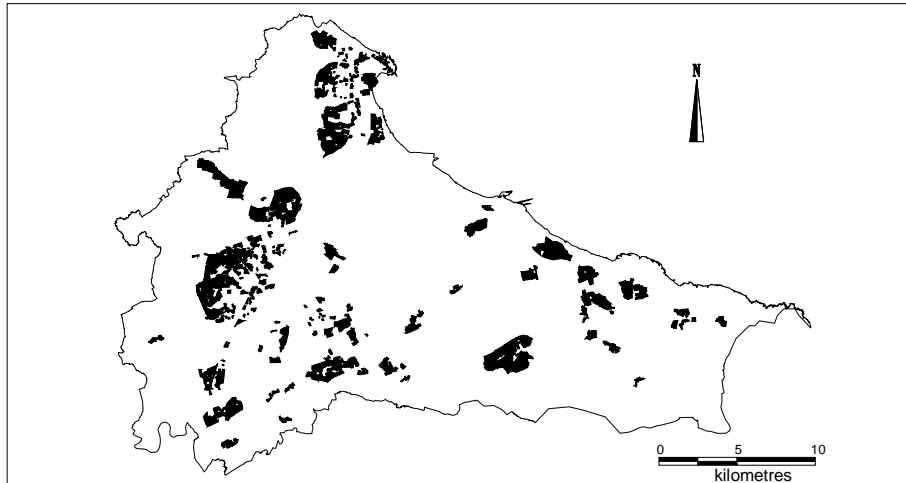


Figure 131 Settlement AD 1900 to 1950 in the Lower Tees Valley

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Figure 132 Settlement AD 1950 to 2000 in the Lower Tees Valley

The biggest changes in the character of settlement is a move towards planned estates, sometimes totalling hundreds of hectares, semi detached housing and low rise flats. See Figure 133. There is a particular rise in cul-de-sacs as a way of organising settlement often associated with detached or semi detached housing. A fairly extensive example of this is Mallowdale and Clevegate in Middlesbrough which has medium density housing with private space defined by front and back gardens.

Industry

One of the major historic developments, particularly within the Redcar/Cleveland and Middlesbrough areas, has been the rise in industrial activity since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This has had a major influence on the character, not only in the areas which it is located, but also in terms of influencing settlement. This section will draw out the trends within the information recorded as part of the project.

The earliest industrial area identified as part of the project is the Fish Quay/Victoria Harbour area of Hartlepool. Dating to the period between AD 1830 and 1872, this area has partial legibility. The area is still active and the HLC database record description gives a good summary of the character:

“This large character area represents the industrial docklands of Hartlepool. The facilities include the Fish Quay, Victoria Harbour and North Basin. The area is occupied by heavy industrial and import/export facilities although the majority is disused land. The dock facilities were established from the AD 1830s with the construction of Middleton Jetty in AD 1835 (rebuilt in the 1990s) and opening of Victoria Dock in AD 1840. Victoria Dock became tidal again in AD 1910 and amalgamated with the adjacent Tide Harbour. New water areas were added at the Timber Ponds in AD 1856, which are now backfilled. Later still were Central Dock and North Basin of AD 1872 of which only the North Basin Survives. During the 19th and first half of the 20th century, the area was covered by engineering works, shipbuilding facilities, rail sidings and railway infrastructure. Dock facilities would have existed along the Fish Quay and Northgate/Bond Street/Commercial Street on the Headland from the medieval period onwards. These have been identified in

archaeological excavation at Southgate. Prior to development of the docks the area was marshland known as 'The Slake'. This was natural salt marsh that had developed following tidal inundation in the Mesolithic period (circa 6000 BC). The area is underlain by peat deposits of these later prehistoric periods.

It is in the latter half of the 19th century that industry really starts to develop. This sees the growth of several large scale sites such as Lion Brewery in Hartlepool and the Jones and Saddler's chemical works. The largest industrial influence on this area is the Teesside steel works. Covering an area of over 1,000 hectares, the steel works dates back to AD 1872 when the agreement to reclaim the salt marsh for redevelopment was made. The vast majority of the features which make up its current character have developed through its use in the intervening period, particularly since the fourth edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1930-53). This is an extremely important aspect of the historic character of Teesside and has played a major role in the social, as well as the physical, history of the area.

The 20th century, particularly the latter half, has seen a rise in the number of industrial estates around the major settlements. These are used for a combination of industrial and commercial outlets, normally light industry. They normally consist of warehouse units, quite often small divisions of larger warehouse buildings.

As there has been a move away from heavy industry in the late 20th century, there are a number of areas which reflect this and are characterised as reclaimed industrial land.

Commercial

One of the other significant aspects of 20th-century historic character, is the growth in commercial areas, particularly large mixed retail and commercial areas such as Portrack Lane Business Park and Teesport, the latter of which defines the character for an area of nearly 300 hectares. The majority of these areas date to the latter half of the 20th century, see Figure 134.

Woodland

There are extensive areas of woodland which lie within the Lower Tees Valley area, covering 3,700 hectares, see Figure 135. 2,317 hectares are plantation woodland, with 1,153 hectares dating before AD 1850.

There are 46 areas of ancient woodland, dating before AD 1600 that have been characterised. The highest concentration of ancient woodland within the area lies between the settlements of Saltburn (NZ 66212056) and Staithes (NZ 78261881). These areas are mainly defined externally by erratic boundaries. The largest area of woodland covers an area of 98 hectares and is located within a steep valley. The majority of woodland appears to be located within the steep valleys in this area, in contrast to the open, large-scale plantation woodlands found to the south in the North York Moors National Park.

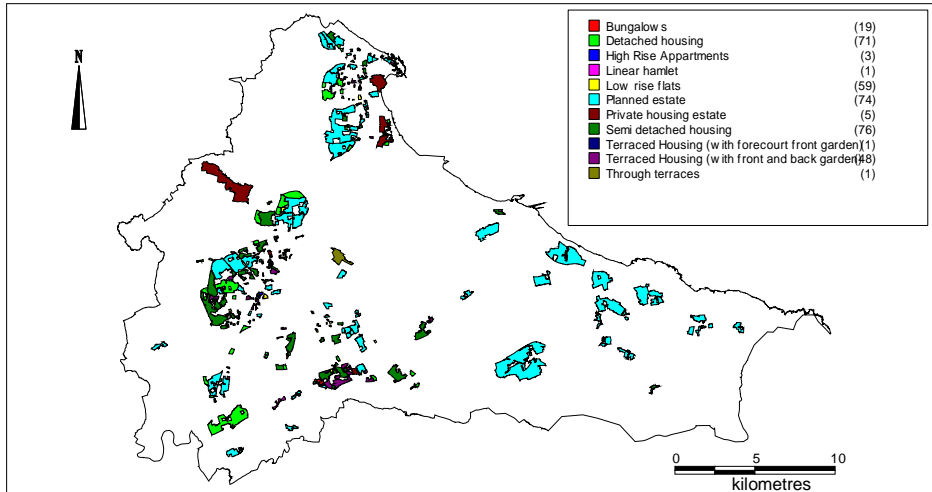


Figure 133 Settlement character type in the Lower Tees Valley area

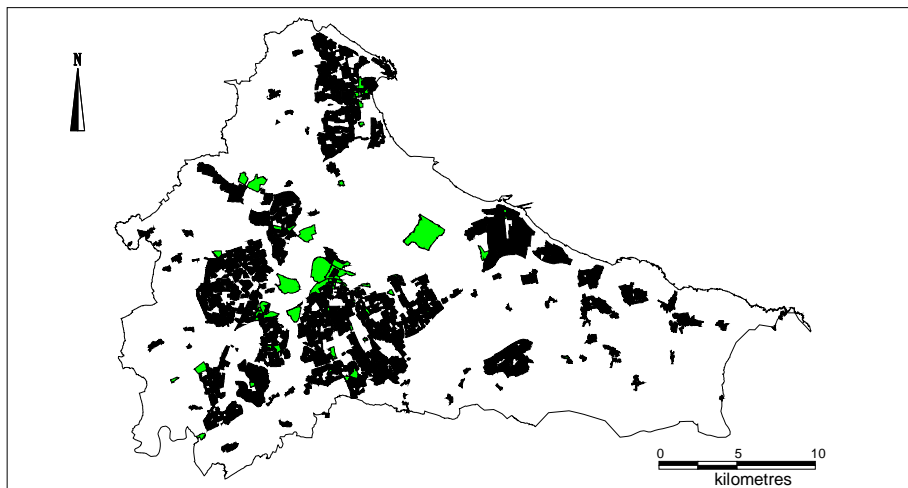


Figure 134 Position of commercial sites, shown in green, in relation to settlement

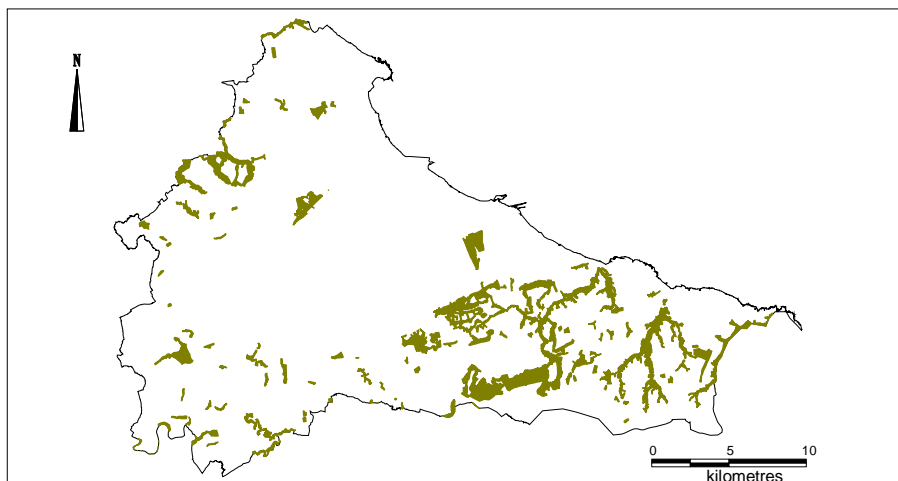
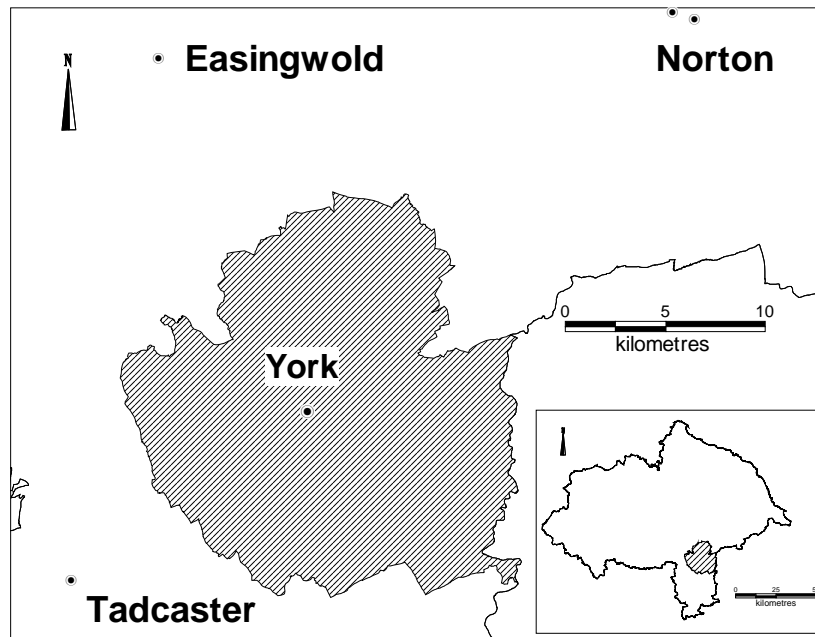


Figure 135 Distribution of woodland in the Lower Tees Valley area

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5.5 The City of York



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Figure 136 Area covered by the City of York (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The area defined by the City of York authority covers an area of 27,110 hectares, lying at the southern end of the Vale to which it gives its name. Figure 138 shows the City of York defined by legibility; there has been a lot of change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), particularly in the areas of enclosed land surrounding the city. Whilst some of this is due to the urban expansion of York, this may also reflect patterns of boundary loss seen throughout the Vales of Mowbray and York. There are, however, a number of areas which have seen no boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

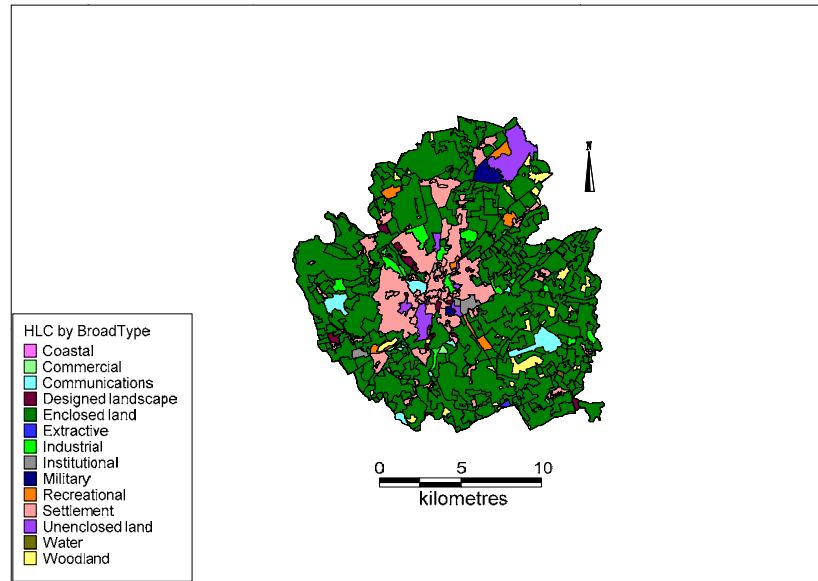


Figure 137 Historic landscape character of the City of York mapped by broad type

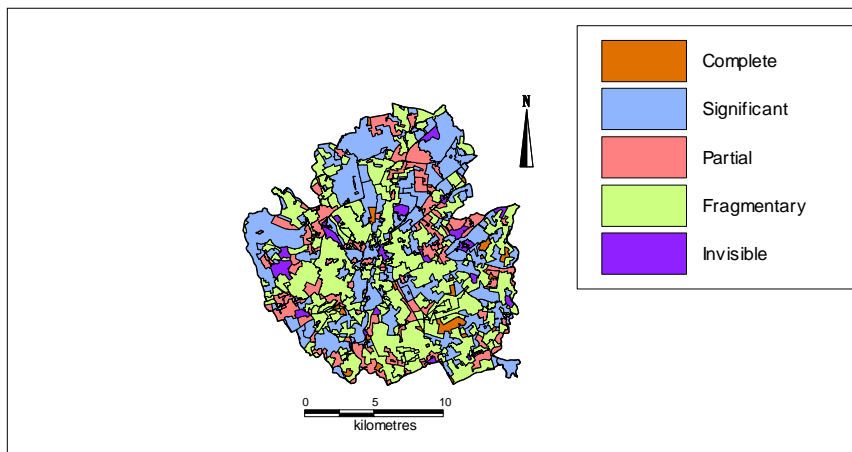


Figure 138 The City of York authority by legibility

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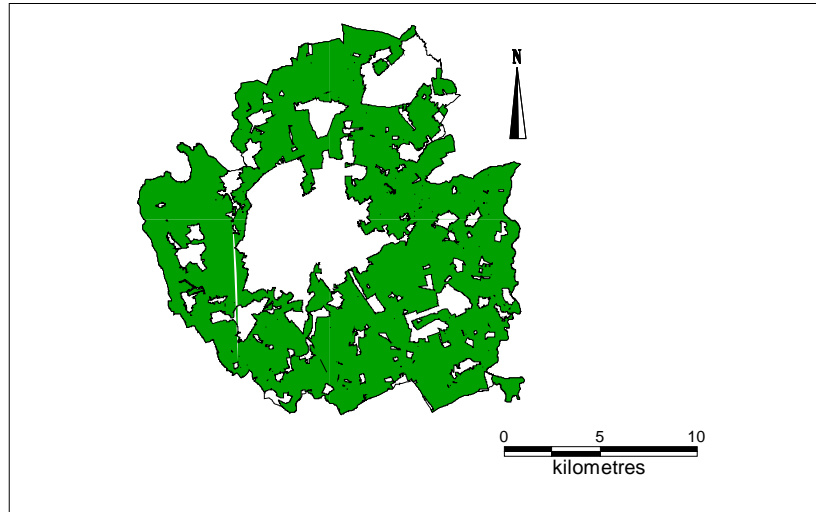


Figure 139 Enclosed land in the City of York authority area

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Enclosed land

The main aspect of historic character that comes to mind when one thinks of York is the historic city itself. However, within the City of York Council boundary, 71% of the landscape is dominated by enclosed land; the total area for the City of York authority is 27,110 hectares with enclosed land accounting for 19,320 hectares, see Figure 139. Of the 19,320 hectares, only 110 have seen no boundary loss whatsoever, see Figure 140, however four of these are areas of medieval enclosed strip fields. The largest block of these lies outside Bishopthorpe (SE 582476).

Out of 19,320 hectares which have been characterised as enclosed land, 7,636 hectares have seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), indicating very little change in the historic character since then, see Figure 141. When placed in the context of large areas of boundary loss due to the agglomeration of fields, the areas where the boundary loss hasn't been as marked become more noticeable.

The medieval past of York is evident even today, in the layout of the streets, the buildings such as York Minster and the surviving archaeological deposits. Fields with a medieval origin form part of the historic character of the City of York authority landscape. As part of the HLC project, several, fairly extensive, areas of medieval enclosed strip fields were characterised, totalling 1,546 hectares, see Figure 142. The highest concentration of these field systems lie to the north east of the city and generally consist of medium-sized fields defined by reverse 'S'-shaped curved hedges. Some of these field systems are extensive and well preserved, with very little boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). An example of this is at Sutton on the Forest (SE 665565) where the enclosed strip fields are found to the east of the village. Covering an area of 109 hectares, these have significant legibility with less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

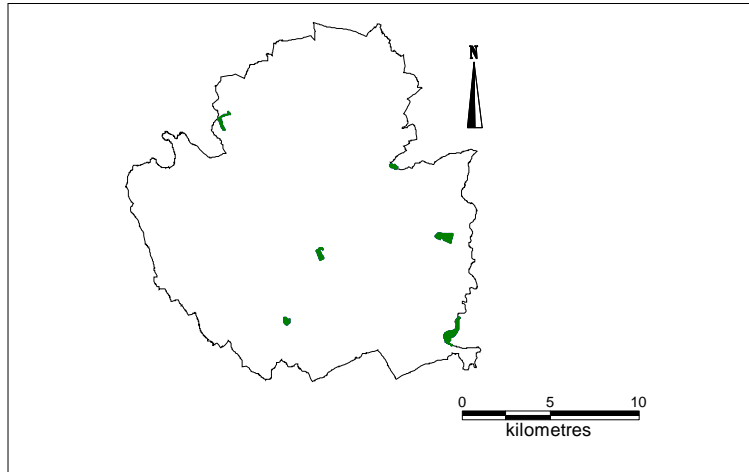


Figure 140 Areas within the City of York with no boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

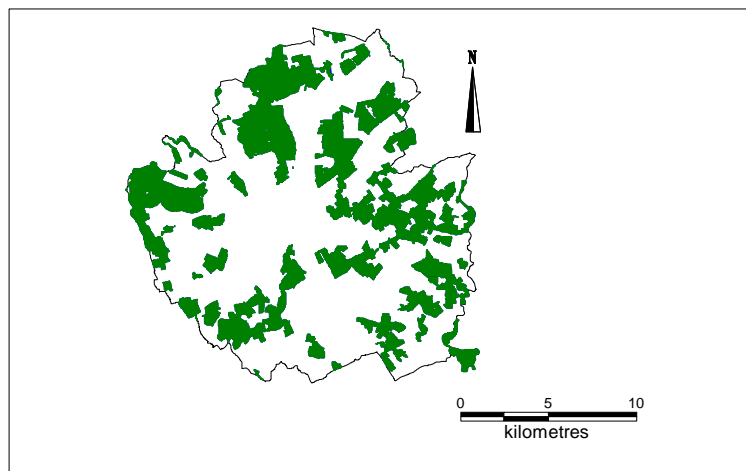


Figure 141 Areas with less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

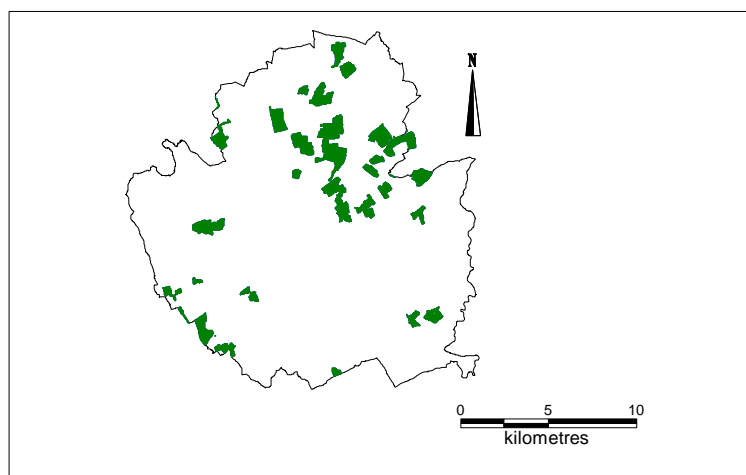
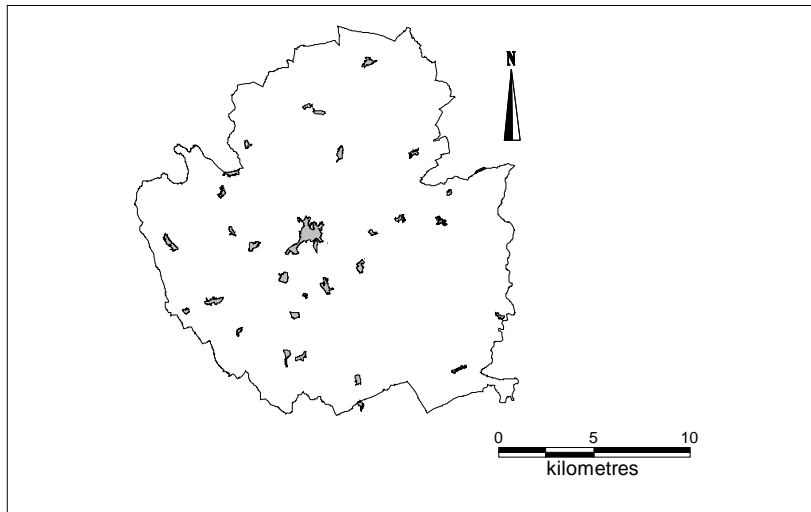


Figure 142 Enclosed strip fields found within the boundaries of the City of York
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Settlement

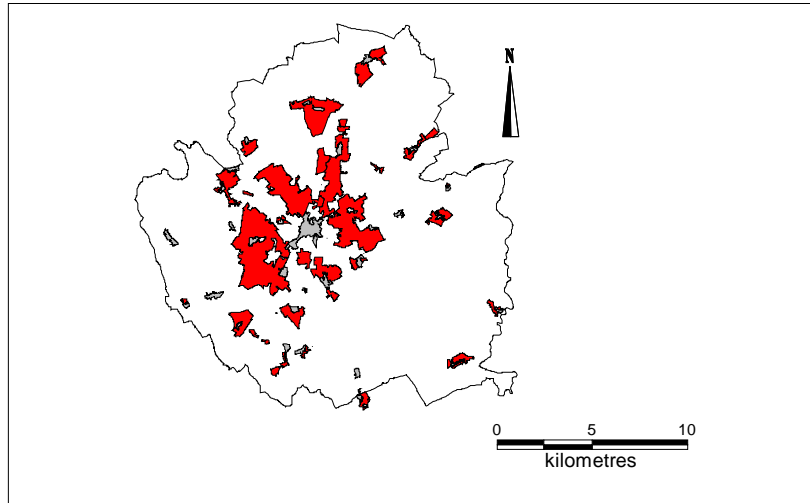
The main settlement within York is the city itself. The historic core covers an area of 134 hectares and has been defined from the AD 1852 Ordnance Survey mapping. It covers the area that lies within the city walls, as well as some parts of Bootham and Micklegate. This area has a high density of dwellings, with much of the medieval street plan still evident in the layout. This area has elements which date back to the Anglo Saxon period, although the vast majority of the buildings in the core are medieval and post medieval in date.

Moving away from the core, there are nearly thirty other settlements within the City of York Council area. The character of the smaller villages tends to be post medieval, with their origins in the medieval period, see Figure 143. In the 20th century, York has seen a large degree of expansion with the creation of planned estates. One of the effects is that a number of villages have become absorbed into the urban conurbation of York, for example Acomb. However, the original village can still be recognised and characterised separately. The modern expansion of York covers an area of 3,143 hectares, which represents an increase in settlement of 690% since AD 1850. This can be seen in Figure 144.



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Figure 143 Map of City of York showing settlement with a post-medieval character



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Figure 144 Map showing the expansion of York settlement in the 20th century (in red) in relation to settlement with a post-medieval character (in grey).

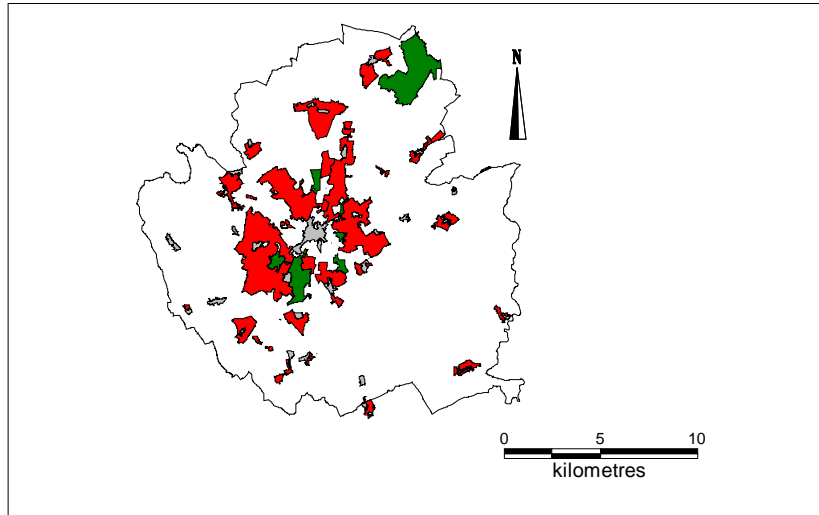
Unenclosed land

One of the important factors of the York landscape, particularly in the core of the city, is the presence of the strays, commons and green wedges¹³⁷, which form open unenclosed land, see Figure 145. There are a number of these, ranging in size from the extensive area of Strensall Common, a military area covering 522 hectares. There are six areas which have been identified as greens, or strays, mostly in the centre of the city.

An example of this is Bootham Stray. Covering an area of over 44 hectares this runs into the city from the north and consists of an open area covered in rough grassland. The area shows little change since AD 1850. As the city has grown up around the green, it has incorporated a small area of enclosed strip fields to the south and a number of planned enclosure fields becoming incorporated within this area, showing the complexity of continuity and change embodied within these landscapes.

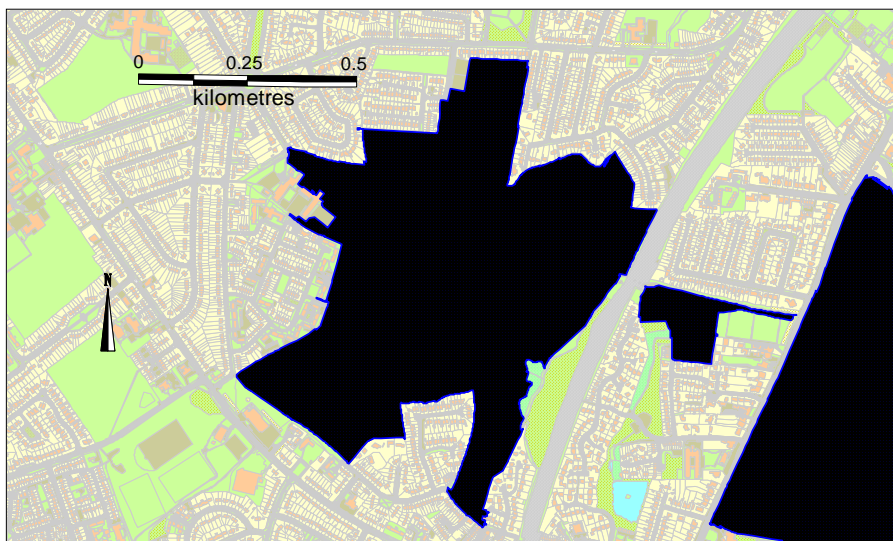
A second example of the green open spaces in York is Hob Moor. Forming part of Micklegate Stray, Hob Moor has become surrounded by development. However, even though the surrounding character has changed since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), the legibility is complete. This can be seen in Figures 146 and 147.

¹³⁷ ECUS 2000



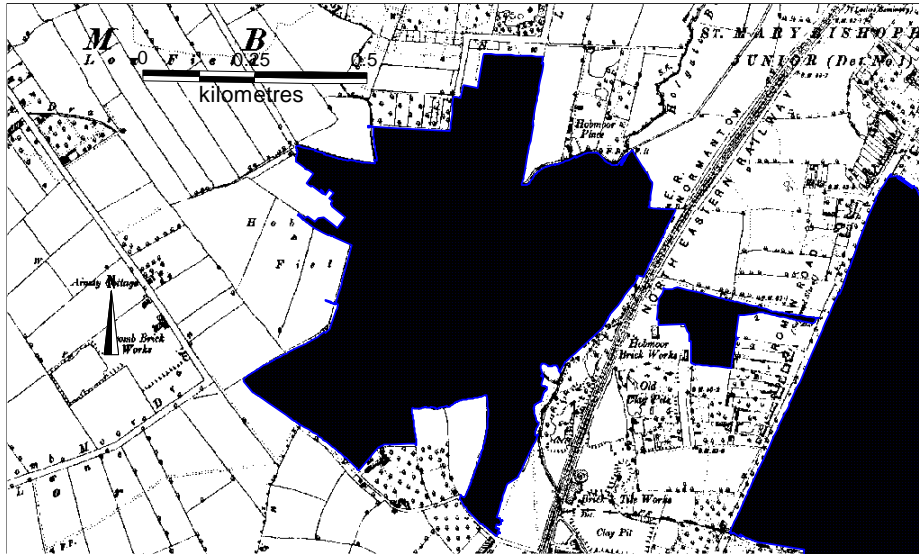
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Figure 145 Greens and commons in the York area (in green) in relation to the settlement, post-medieval (in grey) and 20th century expansion (in red)



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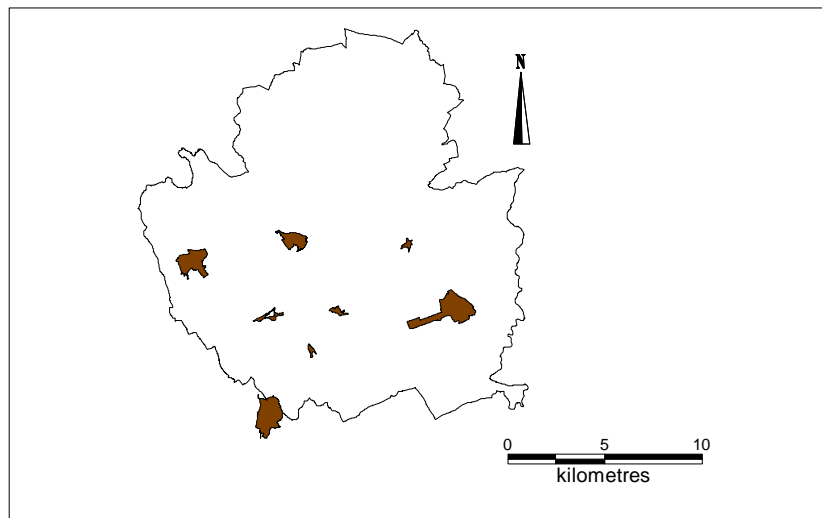
Figure 146 Hob Moor in York



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Figure 147 Hob Moor at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

Communications



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Figure 148 Areas characterised as communication in the City of York

Communications have had an important effect on the historic character of York, which has formed a hub on many routes, a role it has fulfilled since the Roman period. There are two main ways this can be seen within the landscape of the area. The first is in the growth of the railways in the late 19th and 20th century. This is demonstrated in Figures 149 to 151 below. At the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), the railway is limited to the area just to the west of the city walls (SE 593514). By the time of the second edition

six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99), approximately AD 1900, the growth has been so substantial that the area of railway covered an area of 86 hectares. The current overall historic character has not changed greatly and the railway still defines the area. The main change in this area, which can be recognised from the current landscape, is that there has been a growth in settlement. However this is embedded within the communication broad type area.

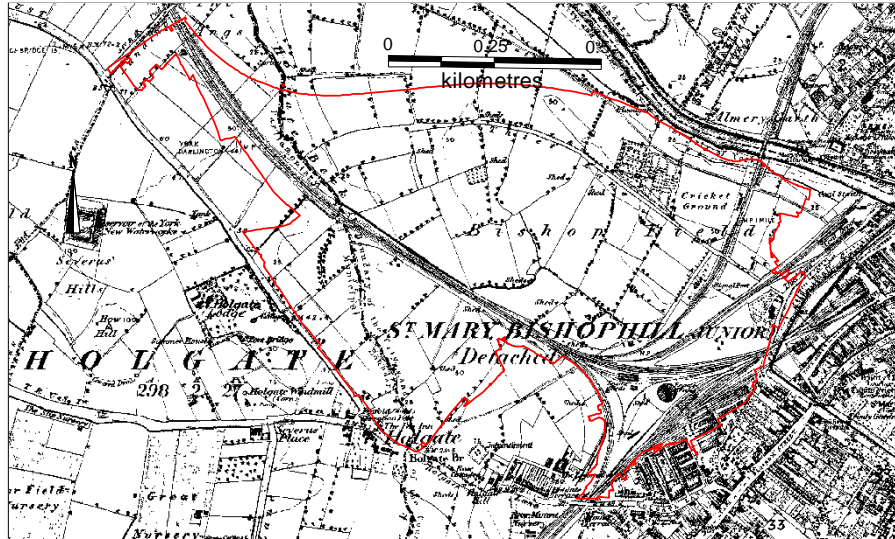


Figure 149 The area of York railway station at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

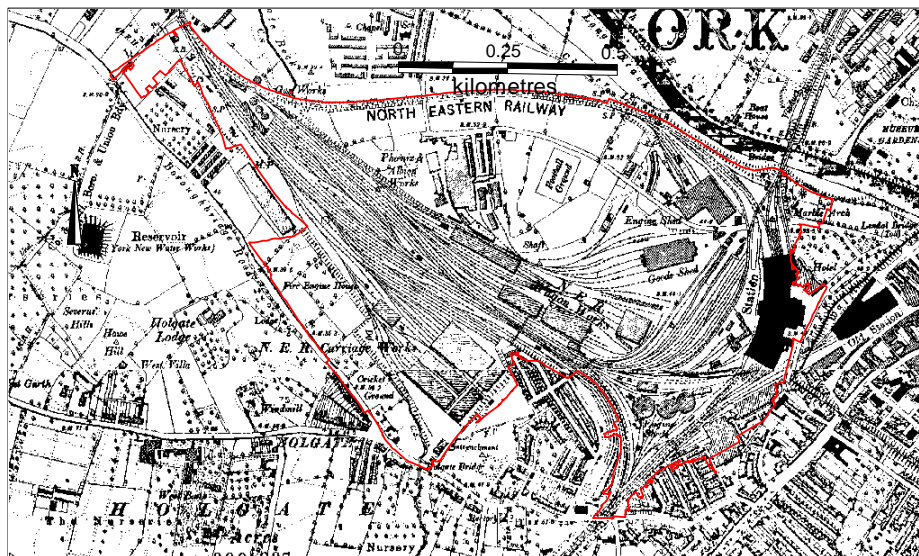
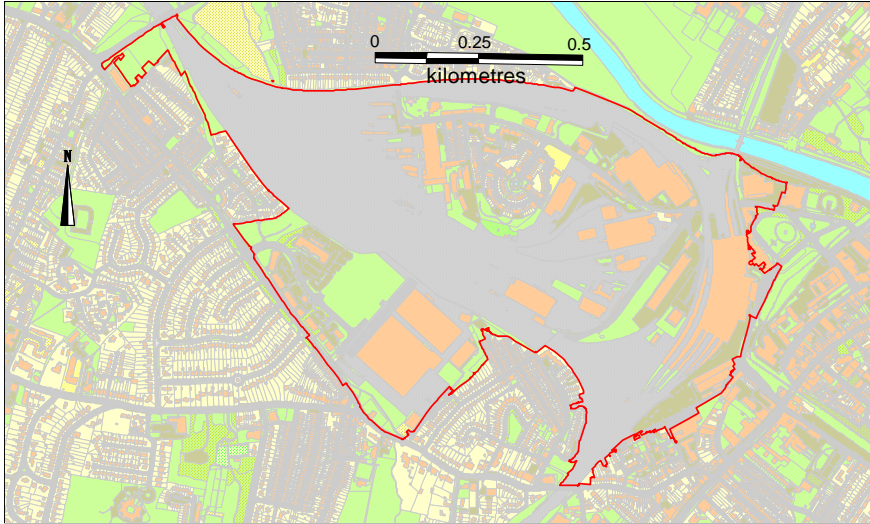


Figure 150 York station at the time of the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99)

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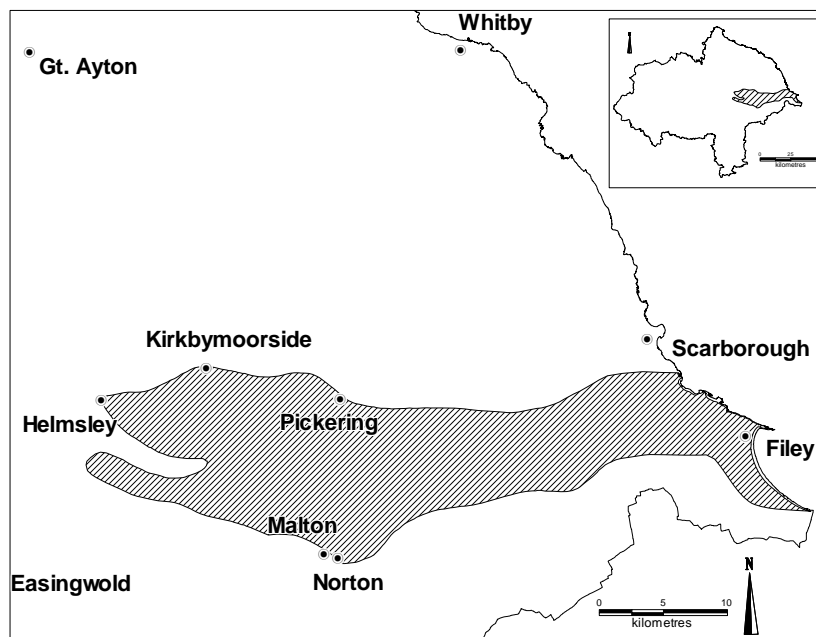
Figure 151 York station as depicted on the current MasterMap Ordnance Survey mapping

6 Overview Of the HLC For Three National Character Areas

This section will look in more detail at the historic landscape character for three of the national character areas within the project area: the Vale of Pickering, Southern Magnesian Limestone and Humberhead Levels. In so doing, it will focus on a more local scale and show how historic landscape characterisation can allow us to draw out trends and patterns to inform landscape management. The HLC project also provides information that allows us to build on the description of the joint character area statements, refining them for particular locales due to the historic landscape characterisation process being carried out in detail.

6.1 The Vale of Pickering National Character Area

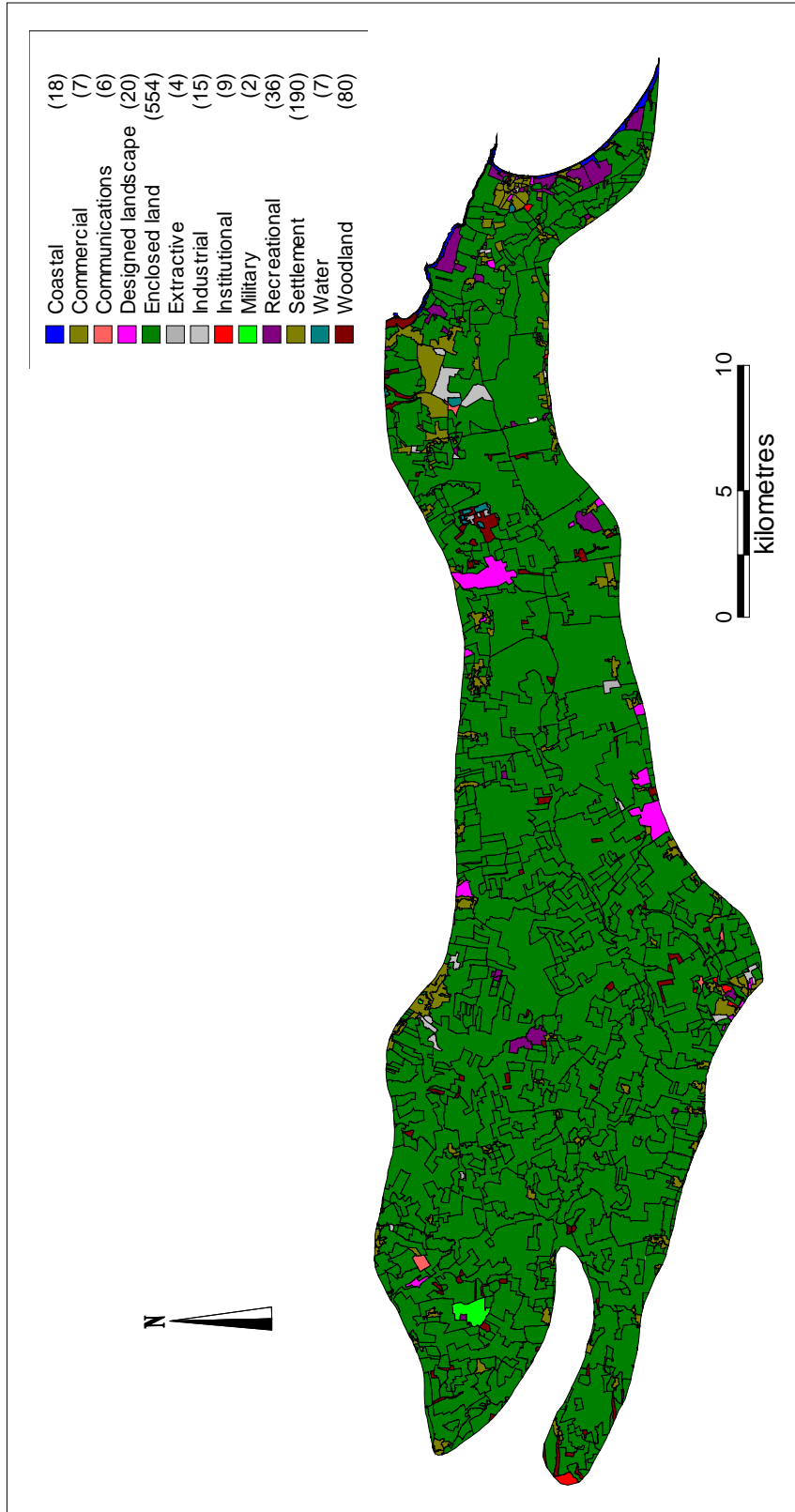
The Vale of Pickering covers an area of 42,930 hectares and lies in the south east of the study area, within the districts of Scarborough and Ryedale, and wholly within the HLC project area. The national character area statement describes the Vale of Pickering as a low lying undulating area which is bordered by the North York Moors and Cleveland Hills to the north, the Howardian Hills to the west and the Yorkshire Wolds to the south and runs all the way to the east coast¹⁵⁷.



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Figure 152 The area of the Vale of Pickering national character area (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

¹⁵⁷ Countryside Commission 2004



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Figure 153 The historic landscape character of the Vale of Pickering national character area mapped by broad type

The superficial geology is a product of the former Lake Pickering, which occupied most of this area during and following the last glaciation. This consists mainly of glaciolacustrine clay, gravel peat and sand. The underlying geology within this area is from the Jurassic Series and consists of Kimmeridge Clay.

A study by period

Modern

The figures below show the distribution of historic character by period. The way that these figures have been generated is by searching the database for all HLC records that fall fully within a date range such as medieval (AD 1066-1539) or post medieval (AD 1540-1900). Some areas do not fall into such neat selections, for example straddling post medieval and modern dates.

Figure 154 shows the distribution of areas which are characterised as modern. Some of these are very large areas, from 500 to 1,200 hectares, and tend to be where there has been large-scale boundary removal in the 20th century. As can be seen from Figure 155, modern improved fields account for 84% of the landscape which has a modern character within the Vale of Pickering.

Figure 156 shows a number of areas which are modern planned enclosure. These tend to be areas which have been reorganised since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

This can be seen in the example shown in Figures 157 and 158 at SE 702850. At the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), this area was characterised by piecemeal enclosure. By the time of the modern mapping, the field system had been reorganised and is now defined internally by straight hedges.

Modern settlement covers an area of 930 hectares and the vast majority is characterised as planned estates, representing the modern expansion of existing settlements, see Figure 159.

The most significant areas seem to be to the south of Scarborough (TA 02238886) with the planned estates of Eastfield (TA 04388405) and Osgodby (TA 05748530). Many smaller villages also show evidence of expansion in the modern period, for example at Staxton (TA 01767918) where the settlement has expanded from 3.7 hectares at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), to a size of nearly 20 hectares, see Figures 160 and 161.

The story of settlement patterns within the 20th century is not just one of modern housing estate development. The project has also recorded the character of Irton Manor, see Plate 22. This is a large individual residence that sits in its own extensive grounds, and dates after the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99).

Figure 162 shows Irton Manor in the current landscape, Figure 163 shows the area at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

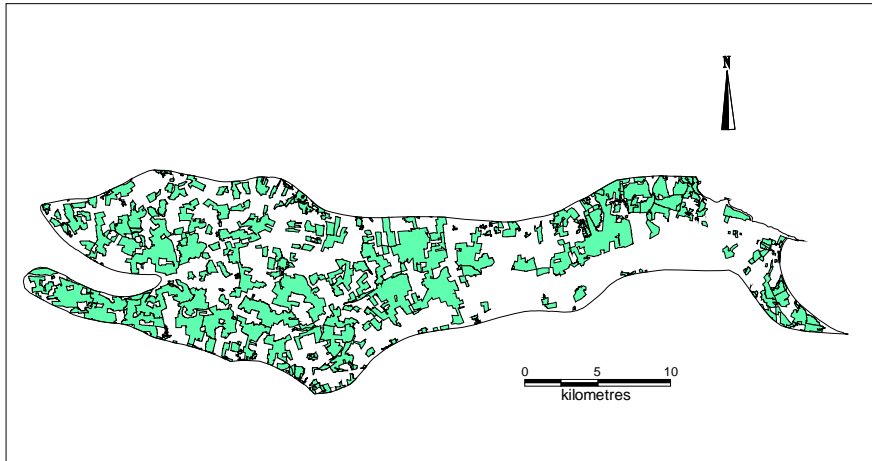


Figure 154 Modern areas within the landscape in the Vale of Pickering

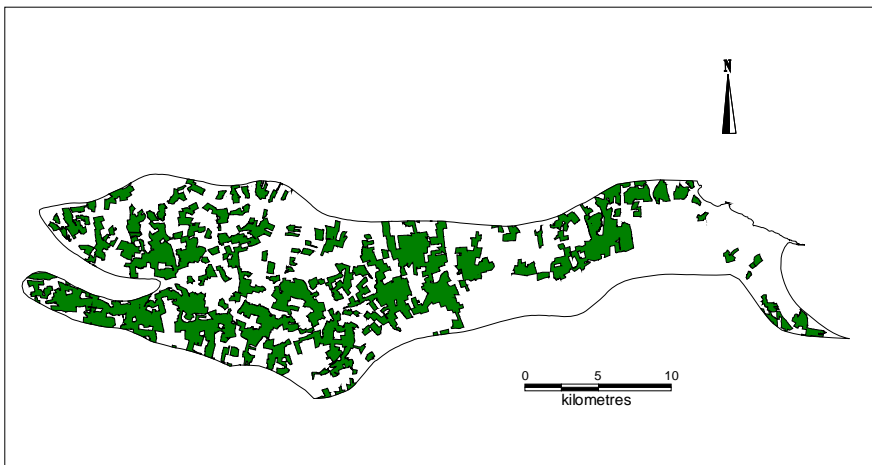


Figure 155 Modern improved fields in the Vale of Pickering

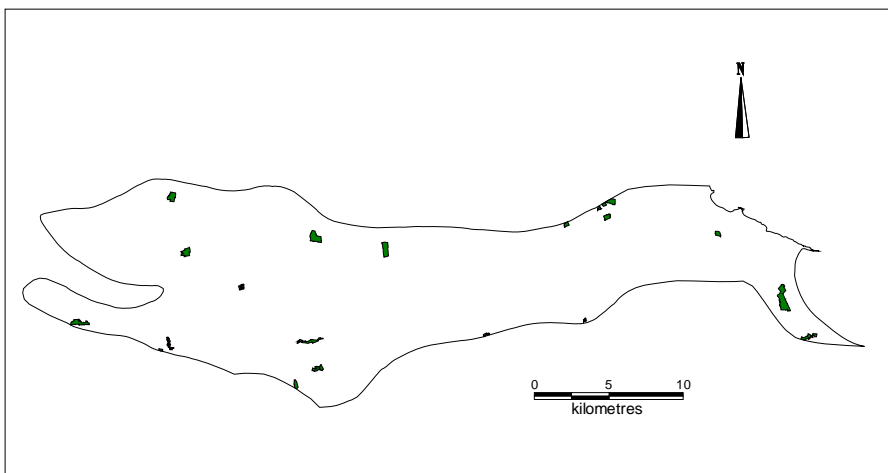
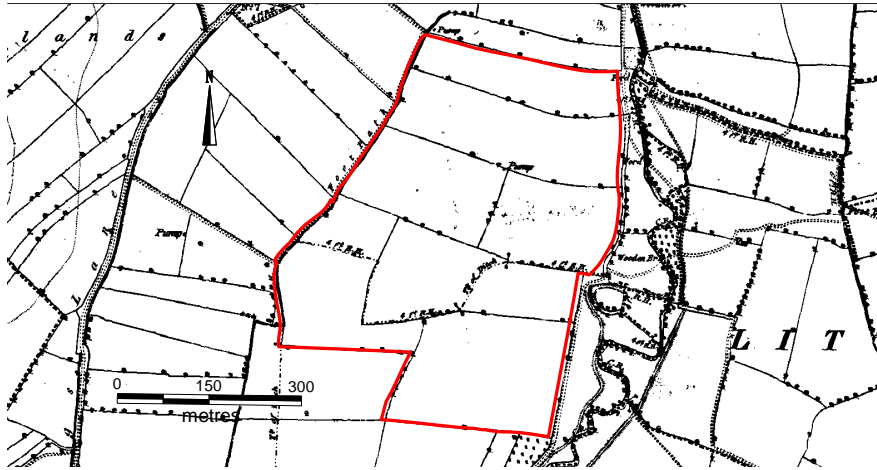


Figure 156 Modern planned enclosure in the Vale of Pickering

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Figure 157 First edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), fields replaced by planned enclosure at SE 702850

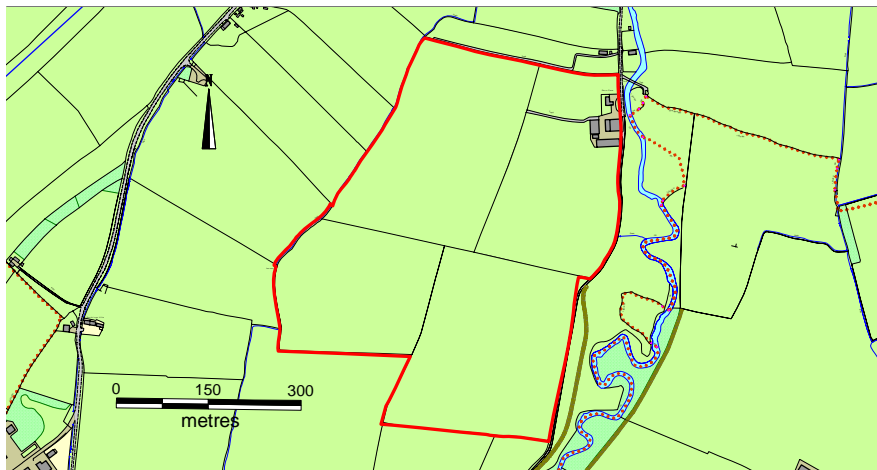


Figure 158 Modern planned enclosure at SE 702850

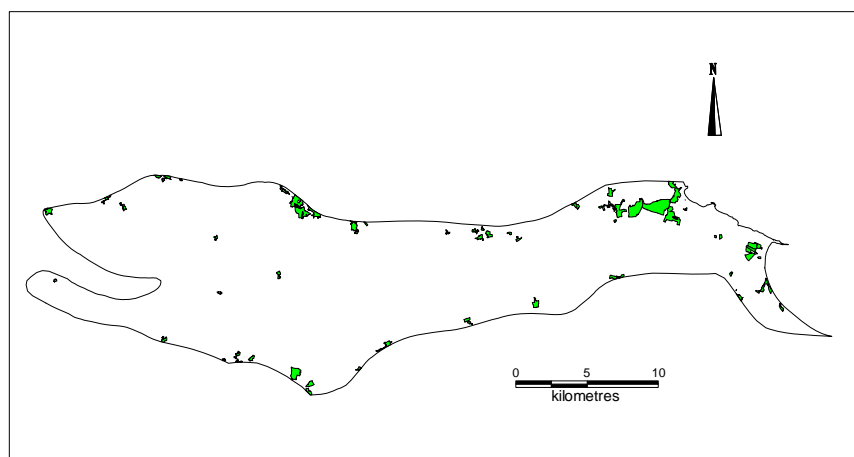
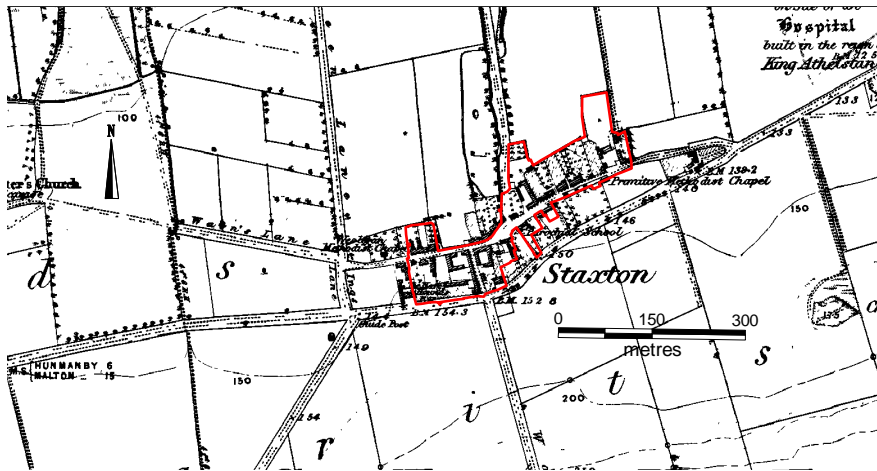


Figure 159 Modern settlement in the Vale of Pickering

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Figure 160 Staxton at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

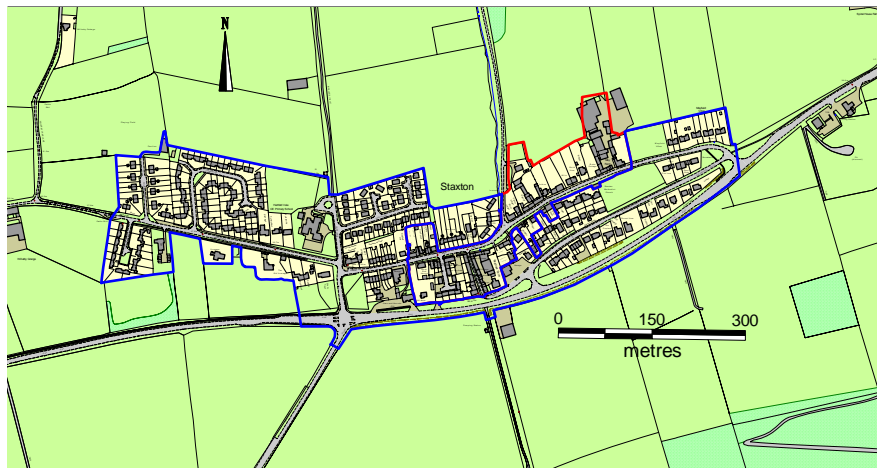


Figure 161 Modern Staxton village

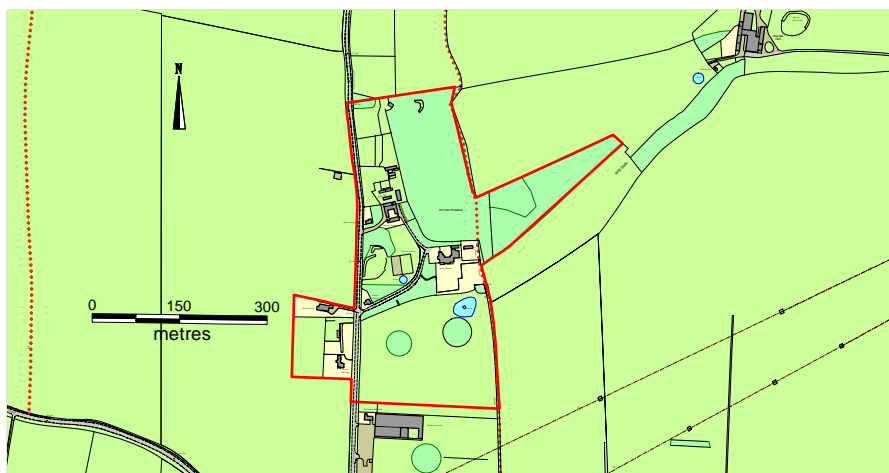
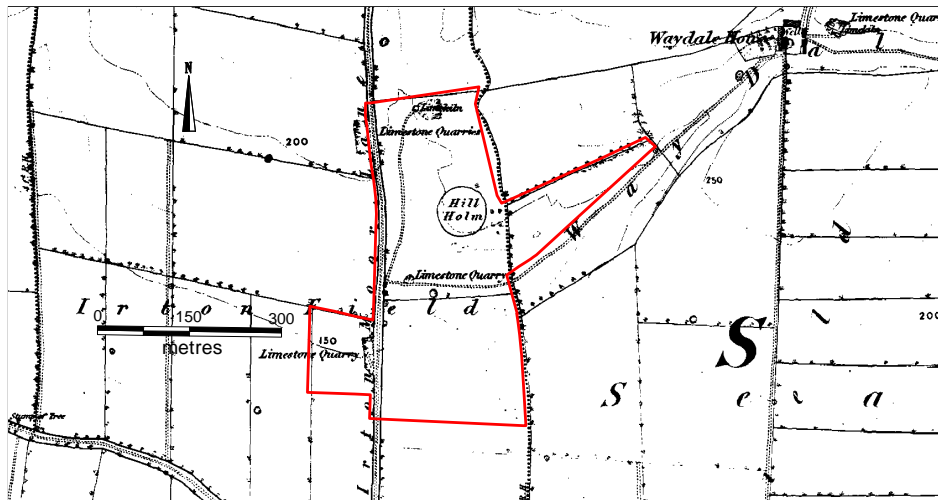


Figure 162 Irtton Manor on the modern mapping

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Figure 163 Irton Manor at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

Post medieval

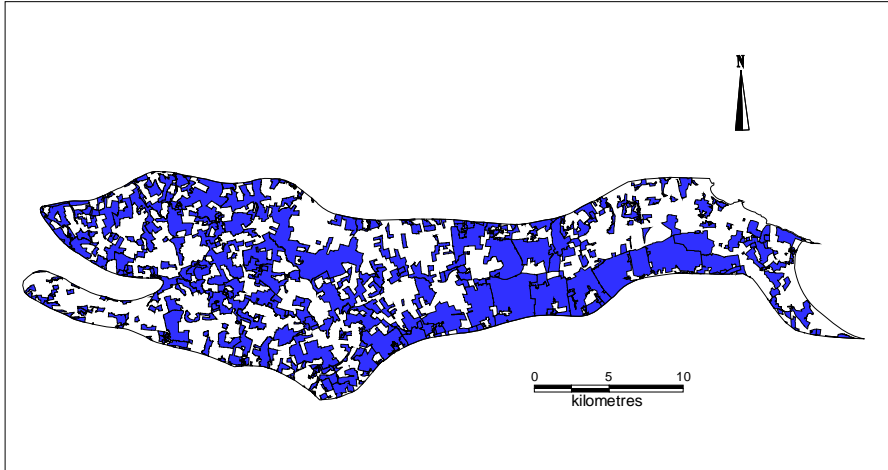
The majority of the current landscape in the Vale of Pickering has a post-medieval character. Figure 164 below shows the location of these areas.

Accounting for 40% of the current landscape, post-medieval planned enclosure is extremely common within the vale, see Figure 165. The vast majority of the post-medieval planned enclosure identified within the project (183 of 185 areas characterised) dates between AD 1750 and 1850. The earliest area of enclosure (where an award could be identified) lies to the north of Nunnington, within the parish of Wombledon. This dates to AD 1670.

What is clear from Figure 166 is the amount of large-scale parliamentary enclosure which is still visible in the current landscape.

Most of the planned enclosure within the Vale tends to be made up of medium sized fields. There is one area, however, where this isn't the case. Including the parishes of; West Heslerton (SE 91107593), East Heslerton (SE 92557684), Sherburn (SE 95847681), Ganton (SE 98787775), Ebbertson (SE 90618362), Yedingham (SE 89297955), see Figure 167.

They form an area where the planned enclosure is characterised by large fields. In many parts of the project large fields (over 10 hectares) have resulted from large scale boundary loss in the 20th century. By contrast these fields were planned to be over ten hectares and have seen very little boundary loss since mid 19th century.



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Figure 164 *Post-medieval landscape in the Vale of Pickering*

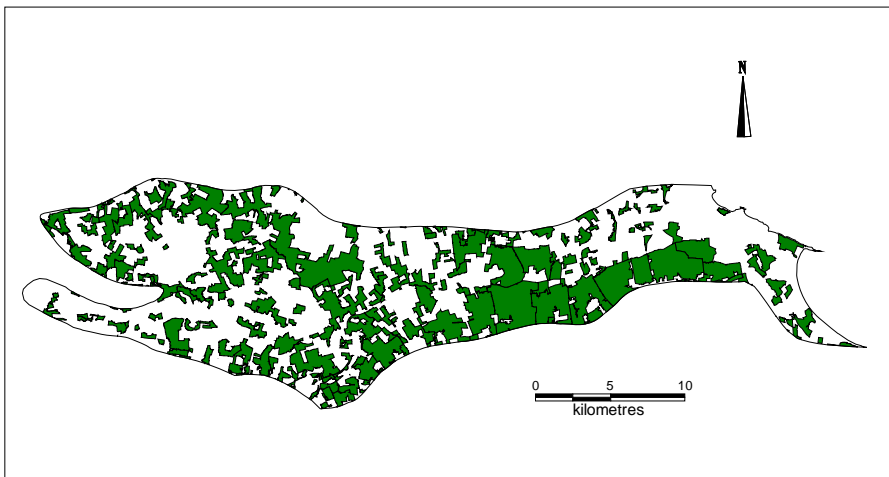


Figure 165 *Planned enclosure in the Vale of Pickering*

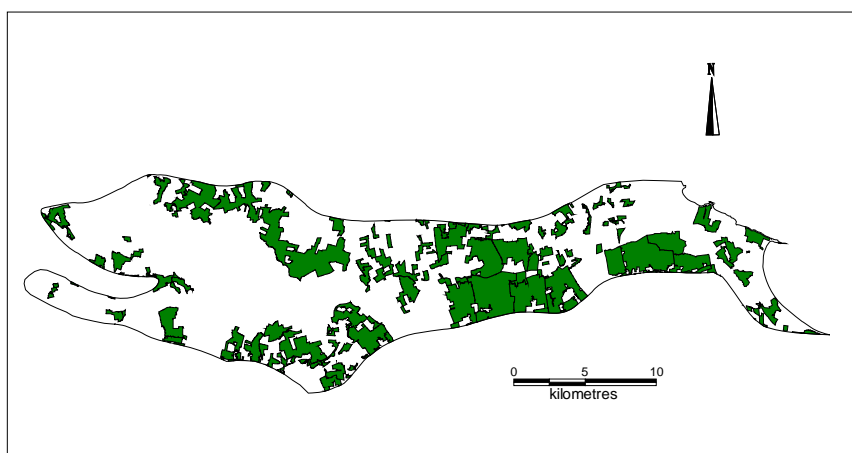


Figure 166 *Parliamentary enclosure in the Vale of Pickering*

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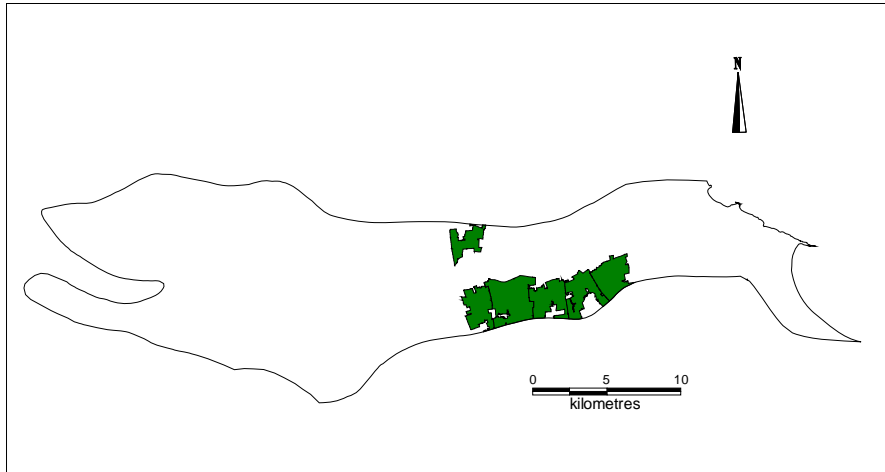


Figure 167 Distribution of planned enclosure, in the Vale of Pickering, which consists of large fields (greater than 10 hectares)

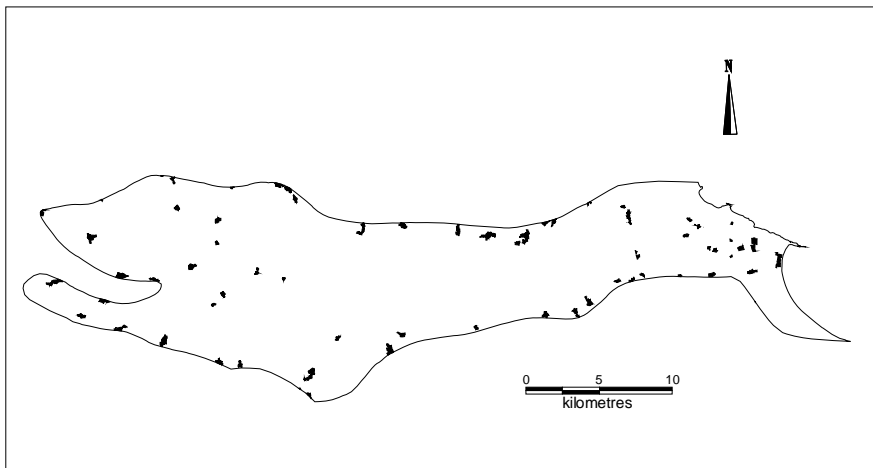


Figure 168 Post medieval settlements identified within the Vale of Pickering

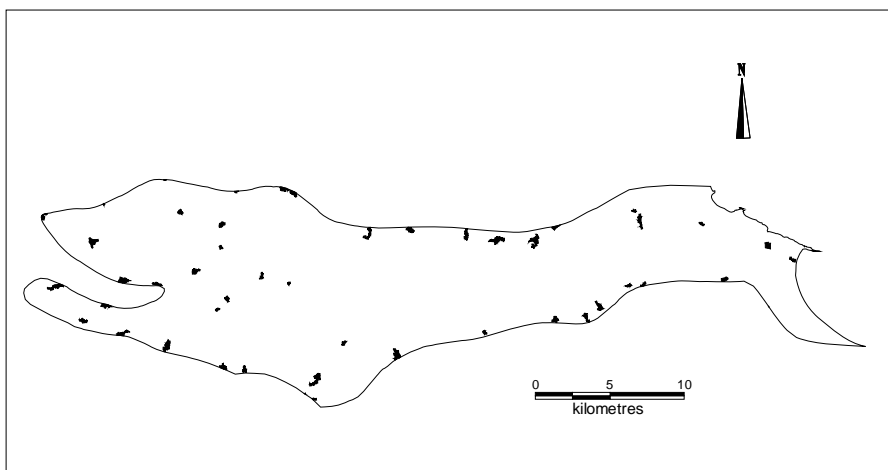


Figure 169 Settlements with a medieval origin in the Vale of Pickering

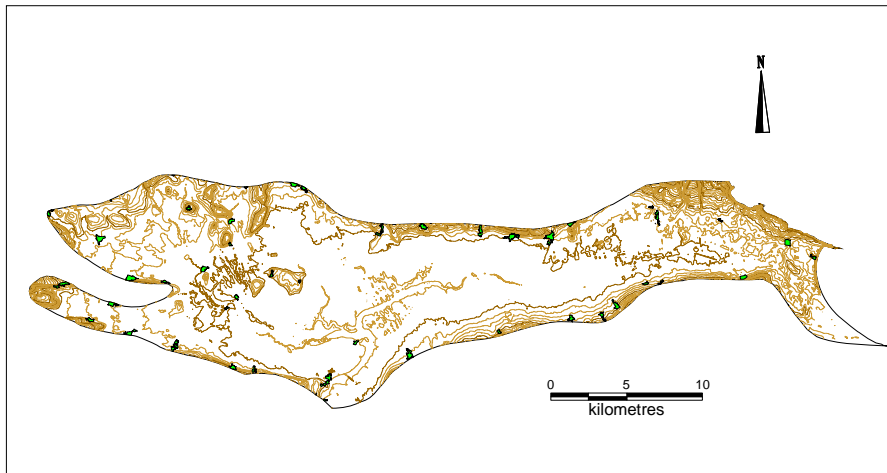
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The settlement pattern within the Vale of Pickering is interesting and reflects wider patterns of drainage, which can be seen within the area. This improves access and increases the potential for the expansion into new areas.

Figure 168 above shows the pattern of settlement which has been characterised as post medieval. There appears to be a very definite distribution, with many villages located around the edge of the area. This pattern becomes more pronounced when we look at the settlements which are post medieval in character, but have a previous character of medieval, as shown in Figure 169.

The correlation between the settlement pattern and the topography of the Vale of Pickering can be seen with the map below in Figure 170, which shows the position of post-medieval villages with a medieval origin in relation to the contours.

As can be seen there is no evidence for settlement over two hectares, within the central area of the Vale. Figure 171 shows the areas of the current landscape which have a medieval character.



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 Figure 170 Distribution of villages with a medieval origin in relation to the contour mapping

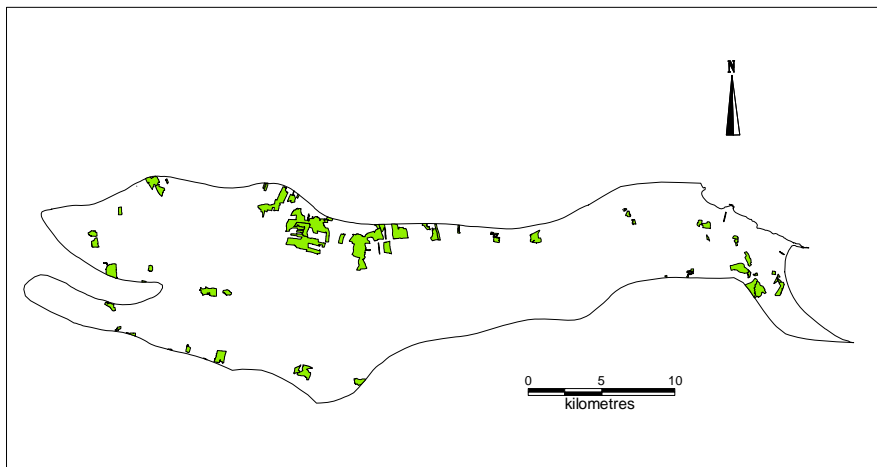


Figure 171 Areas of the landscape which have a medieval character

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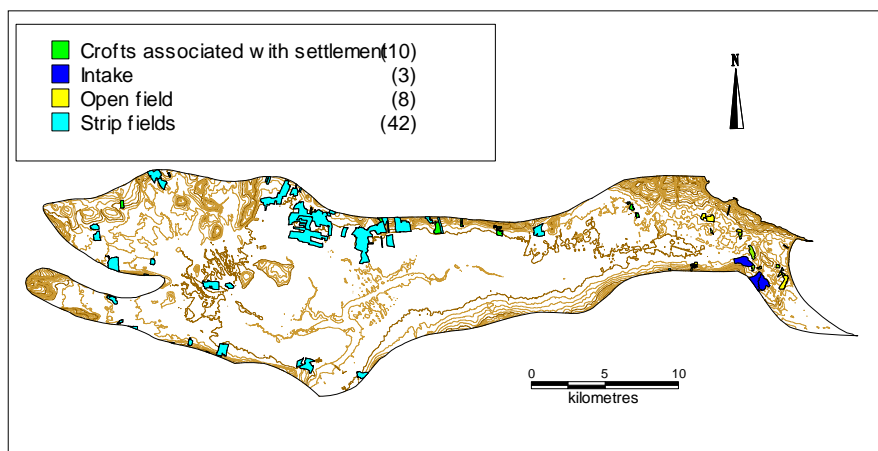
Within the Vale of Pickering, there are a number of areas which show a fairly high density of medieval enclosure. These fall into four HLC types: enclosed strip fields, intake, open fields and crofts associated with settlement, see Figure 172. This displays a similar distribution to the settlement, mostly being located on the higher ground, but there are some areas which seem to differ from this pattern.

This is particularly noticeable around the Pickering area, where there are a number of large strip field systems, which appear to be found across the lower parts of the Vale. This may suggest earlier phases of drainage within this area, making the landscape more suitable for agriculture at an earlier date.

The woodland pattern within the Vale shows that the existence of pre AD 1600 woodland is limited to the eastern end. This may be as a result of clearance, or may suggest that ancient and semi-natural woodland across the rest of the character area consists of areas of woodland smaller than two hectares.

The historic character of the Vale of Pickering is dominated by enclosed fields, to the degree that there is no unenclosed land within the whole of the character area. The character changes throughout the area, with larger HLC character areas in the centre of the Vale, becoming smaller to the west, and towards the coast.

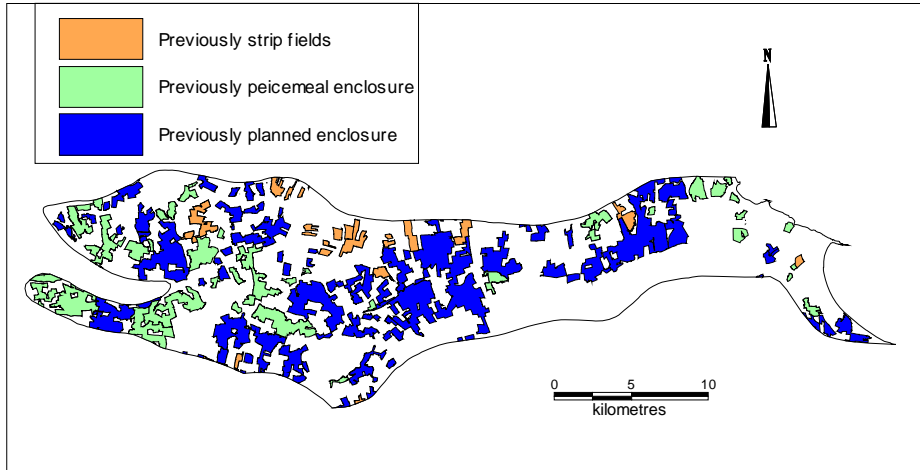
There is a lot of evidence of boundary loss within the vale, covering over 15,000 hectares. 11,320 hectares of these modern improved fields have been derived from planned enclosure, whilst 4,077 hectares were previously piecemeal enclosure and 1,096 hectares were previously enclosed strip fields, see Figure 173.



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Figure 172 Distribution of medieval field systems by HLC type compared to the contours of the Vale of Pickering



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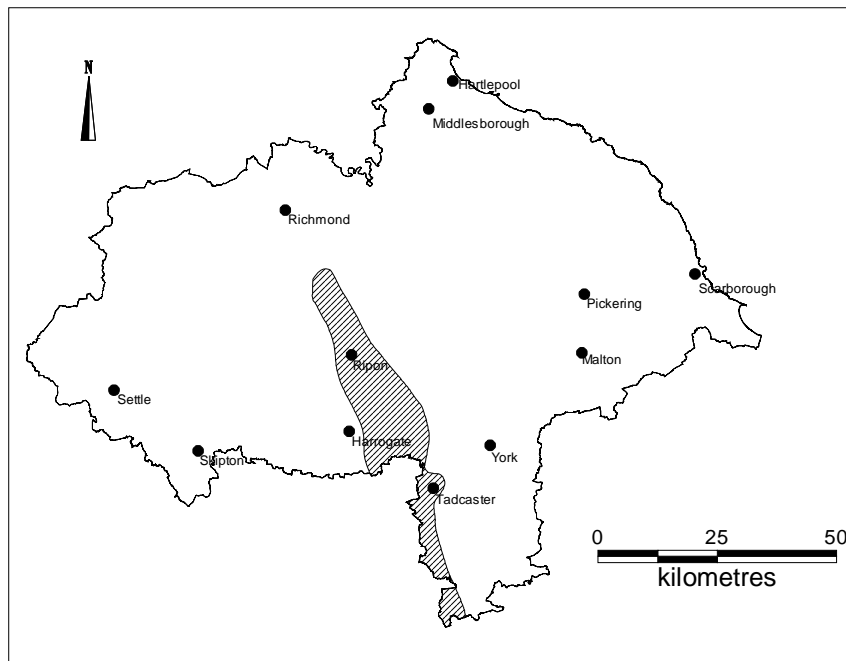
Figure 173 Previous character of modern improved fields

6.2 The Southern Magnesian Limestone National Character Area

The landscape of the Southern Magnesian Limestone is defined by the escarpments of the Upper and Lower Magnesian Limestone, which runs from Bedale at the Northern end, through Ripon, Boroughbridge and Knaresborough and continues to the south of North Yorkshire, ultimately extending at a point near Nottingham. 76 km long and 14 km at its widest point in North Yorkshire, it forms the landscape which lies between the Pennine Dales fringe, and the lower lying areas, represented in national character area terms, by the two Vales of York and Mowbray and the Humberhead Levels, see Figure 174. Within the project area, the Southern Magnesian Limestone covers a total area of 53,890 hectares. The national character area description describes this landscape as one which is mainly arable in character, although these have suffered from increased boundary loss due to the rise in boundary removal in the 20th century.

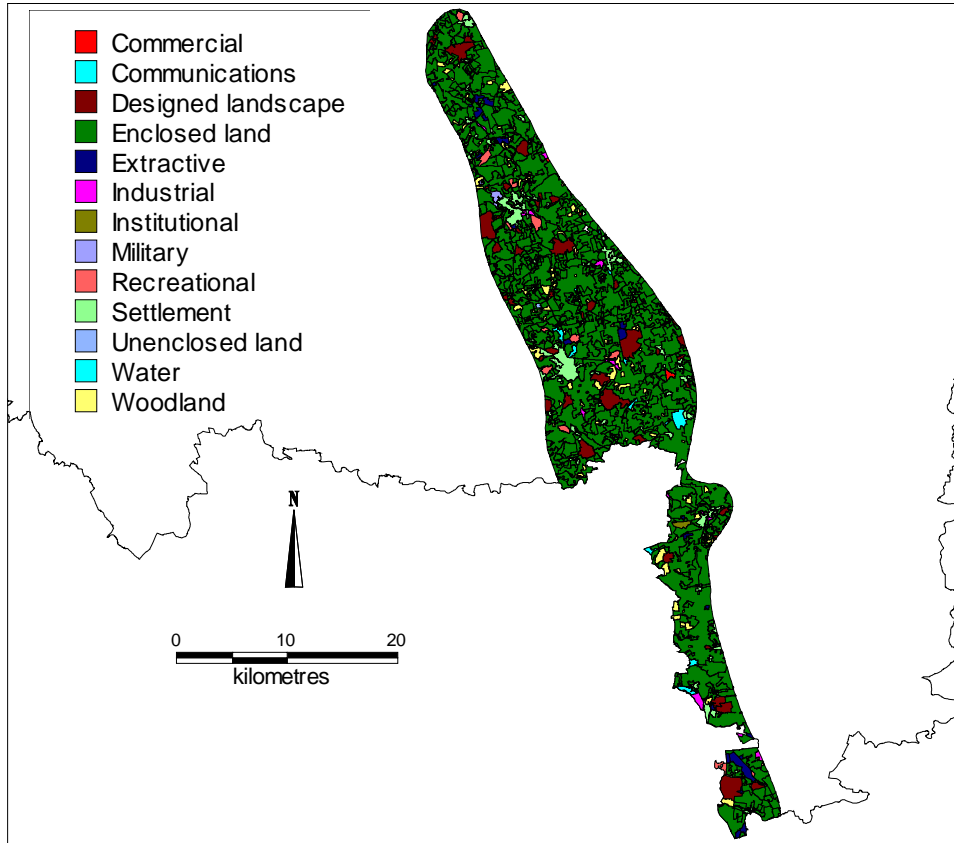
Due to its role as a major north-south transit route, the area attracts development, particularly focussed on the A1 road corridor. This has been seen over the past decade with the partial upgrade of the A1 road to a motorway, a process that has been steadily moving northwards over the past few years.

This section of the report will give a brief overview of the broad types within this national character area, before exploring some of the HLC types in much more detail.



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Figure 174 The area of the Southern Magnesian Limestone national character area (hatched) that lies within the project area



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Figure 175 The historic landscape character of the Southern Magnesian Limestone national character area mapped by broad type

The national character area statement comments that “although covered in many places by drift deposits, the limestones have a unifying effect on the landscape because of their widespread use as a building material and because of their effect on ecological character”¹⁵⁸.

Within the character area, the vast majority of land is enclosed land, covering a total area of 43,060 hectares, or 80%. There are a number of significant settlements which can be found within this area, accounting for 2,832 hectare, or 5%, shown in Figure 176. It is interesting to note from Figure 177, that designed landscapes cover 3,422 hectares, or 6.3% of the land. The woodland in the character area is fairly dispersed and tends to consist of smaller areas, rather than the more extensive plantations seen in some other parts of the county.

¹⁵⁸ Countryside Commission 1998

Broad type trends

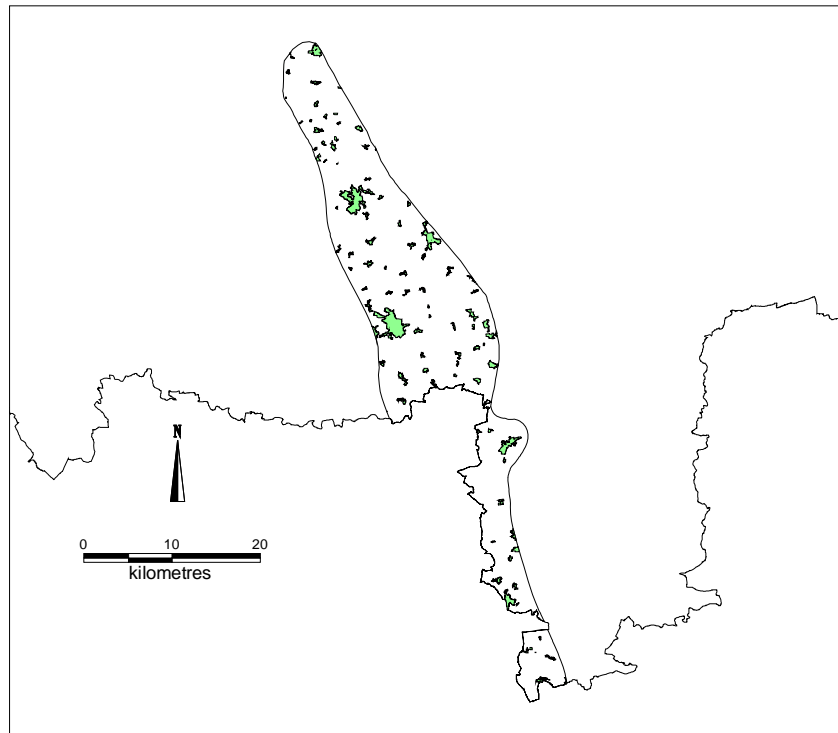


Figure 176 *Distribution of settlements in the Southern Magnesian Limestone*

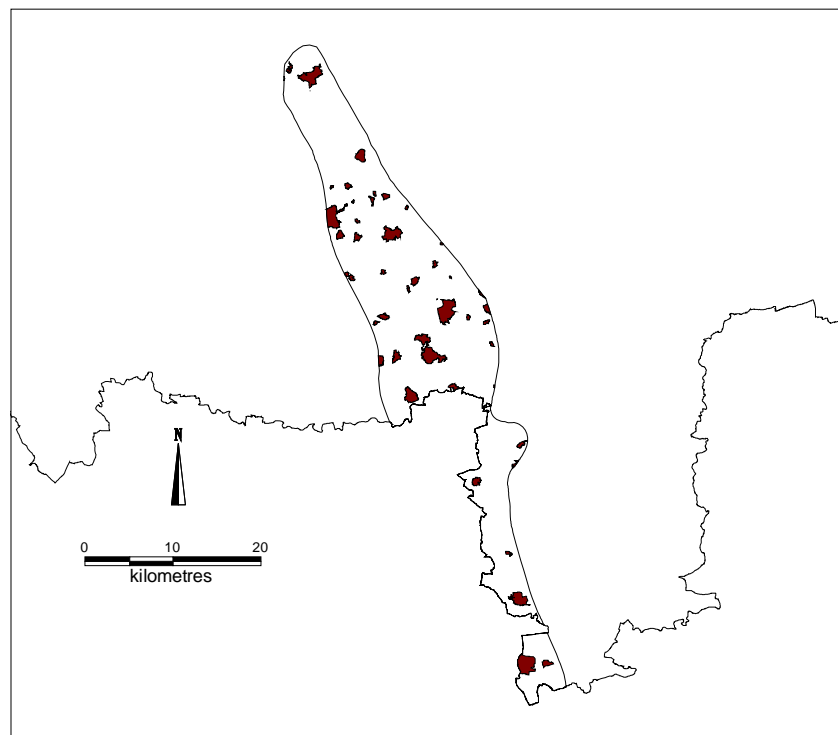


Figure 177 *Distribution of designed landscape in the Southern Magnesian Limestone*

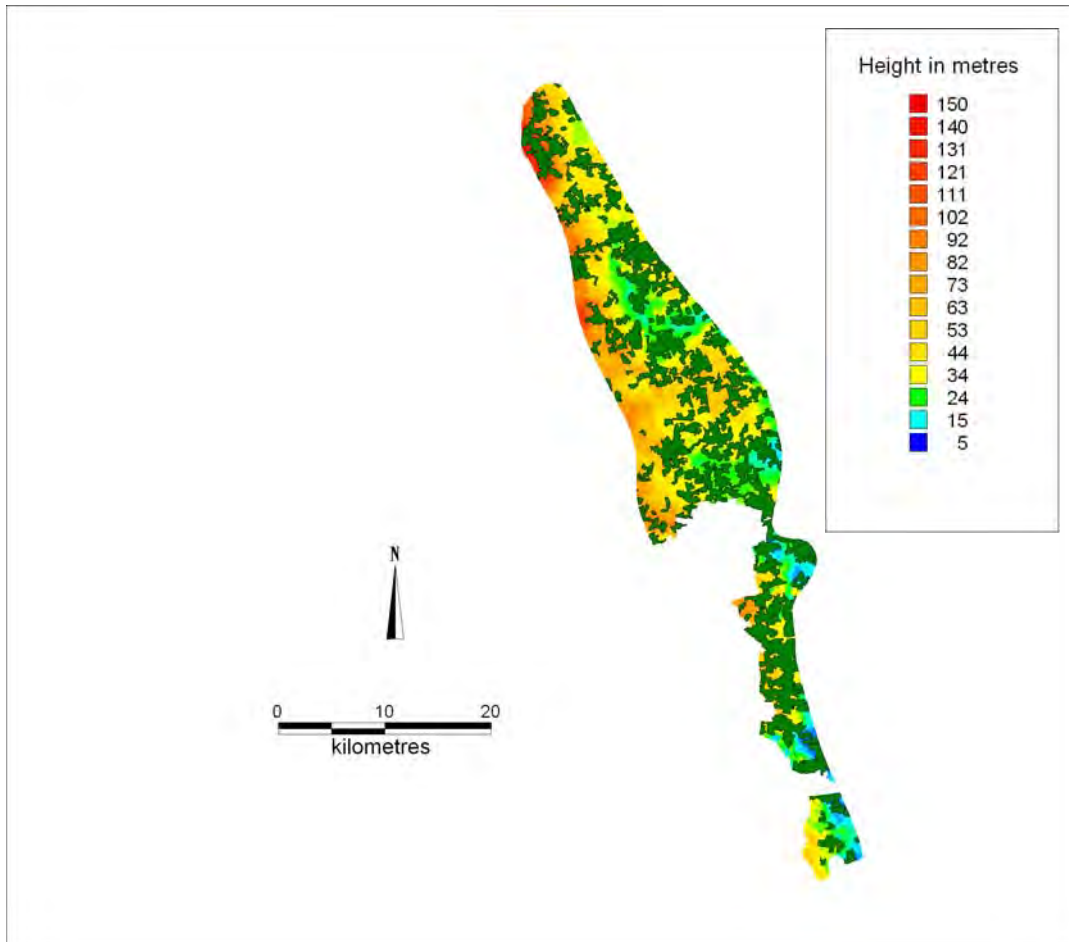
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Enclosed land

As referred to above, the national character area statement refers to the enclosed land as “most of the farming in this area is intensive and arable. The fields are usually large and geometric in pattern, with long straight roads dating from relatively late planned enclosure. Elsewhere, around some villages, there are small- or medium-sized fields of irregular pattern dating from earlier periods of enclosure of open fields or common grazing.

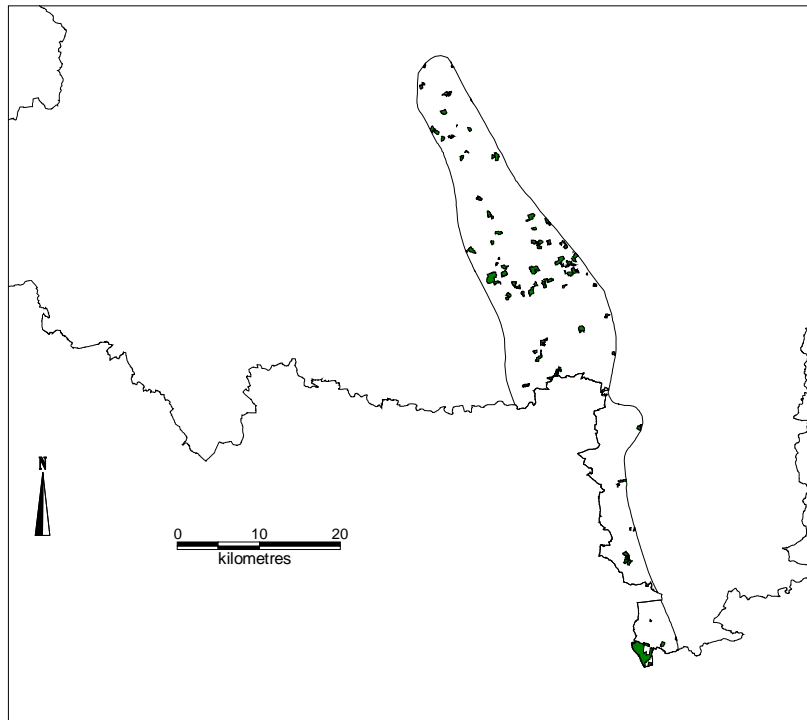
The HLC clearly illustrates the influence that boundary loss has had on the area. The following map, Figure 178, shows the distribution of modern improved fields within the character area, demonstrating that the change in boundaries has accelerated since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

Modern improved fields cover a total area of 22,280 hectares and account for 41% of the character area. Due to the extensive area which they cover, it is hard to draw out any specific trends, however it is noticeable that there seems to be a higher concentration on the eastern side, which forms the lower part of the scarp slope, running down into the Vales.



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Figure 178 Distribution of modern improved fields in relation to the topography of the Southern Magnesian Limestone



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Figure 179 Distribution of enclosed strip fields in the Southern Magnesian Limestone national character area



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 180 Strip fields defined by overgrown hedges to the east of Roecliffe

Numerous enclosed strips, or strip fields, form a significant aspect of this landscape, with a distribution that stretches right through the national character area, see Figure 179. There is a particular concentration around the central area, for example SE 3864. This area is also worthy of comment for the fact that out of thirteen groups of strip fields defined by overgrown hedges, seven are found in this area, see Figure 180. These fields are medieval in character and form an important part of the historic character of the Southern Magnesian Limestone national character area. Out of all the 83 areas of strip fields 42 have significant legibility.

Even though boundary loss has had an impact, particularly on the planned large-scale parliamentary enclosure, the enclosure patterns within the landscape can still be seen; 45 areas are still extant. The advantage of the parliamentary enclosure is that due to the dates of the awards being known, the project could closely date the enclosure of these areas of the landscape, with twenty dating to between AD 1750 and 1800 and a further thirteen positively dated between AD 1801 and 1850. 39 of the enclosure awards are defined by hedges, with four defined by overgrown hedges, reflecting the national character area description which states: "large fields bounded by low-cut thorn hedges creating a generally large-scale, open landscape"¹⁵⁹.

Whilst the settlement pattern is broadly defined by smaller dispersed villages, there are a number of larger towns within the national character area. To the south Tadcaster sits on an east-facing spur in the limestone, overlooking the Vale of York. Boroughbridge lies on the eastern side, and Knaresborough lies on the other side of the character area, with the ground rising to the west. These towns have a long history, Tadcaster and Boroughbridge, or its neighbouring settlement Alborough at least, have a strong link to the Romano-British period. All the major settlements identified have a market charter dating to the medieval period. These form the nucleus of the towns, and normally form an important focal point within the town as well as being tied heavily to the historic character.

Whilst it is clear that Bedale, Boroughbridge, Knaresborough, Ripon and Tadcaster have all been heavily influenced by medieval activity, the current character owes much to the post-medieval period. The project was able to define the historic core of each town, as visible on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), before recording each subsequent expansion. This can be seen with Knaresborough. Figure 181 shows the extent of the historic core which is still evident in the current landscape.

¹⁵⁹ Countryside Commission 1998, 60173 Vol 3

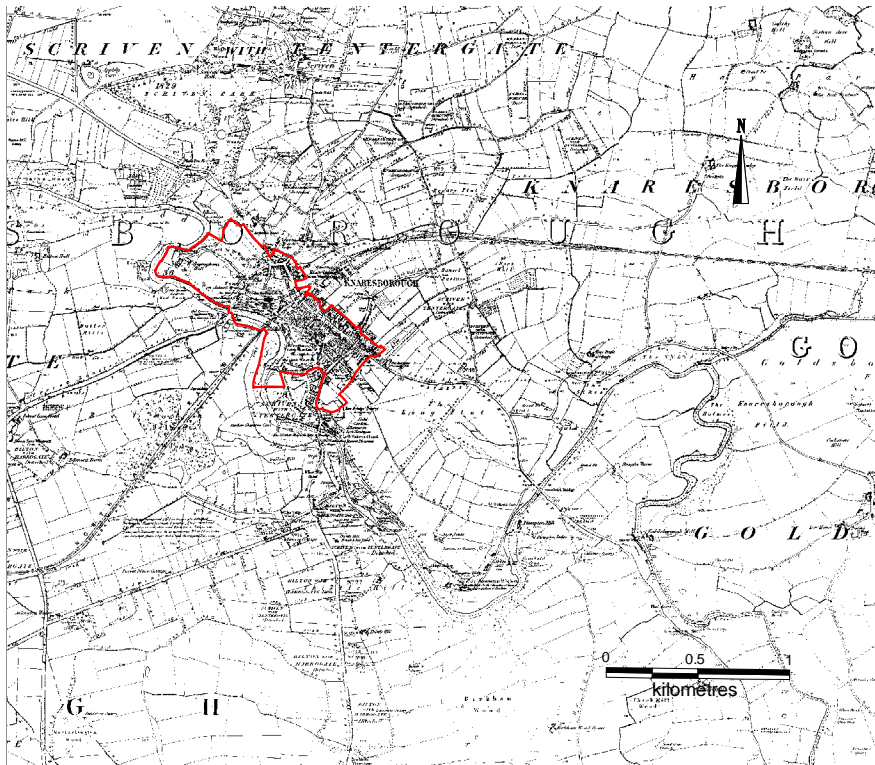


Figure 181 The extent of the historic core of Knaresborough still evident in the current landscape

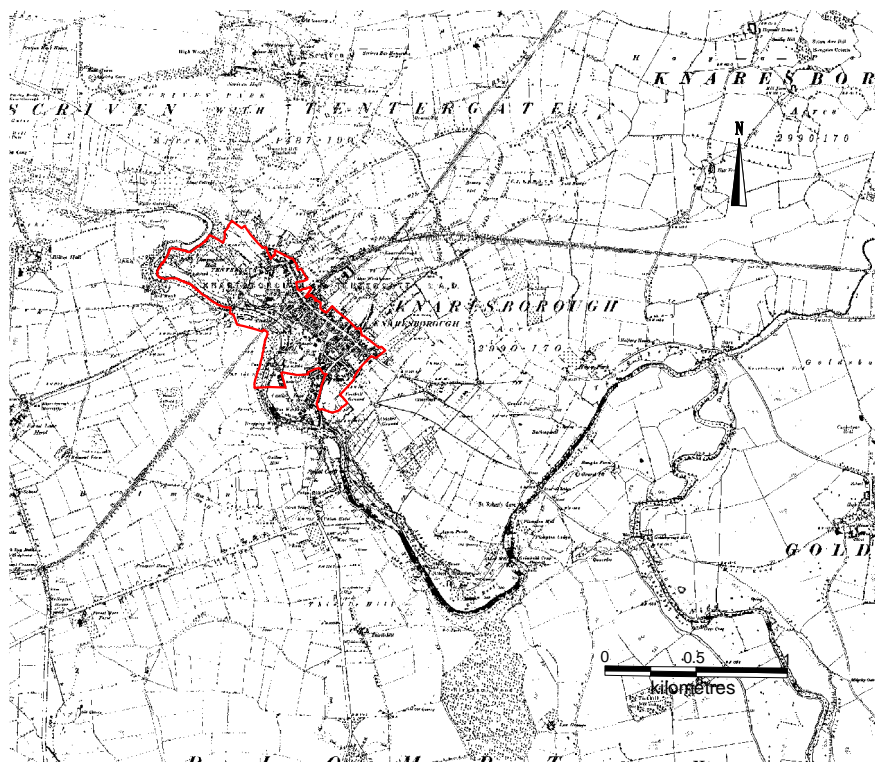
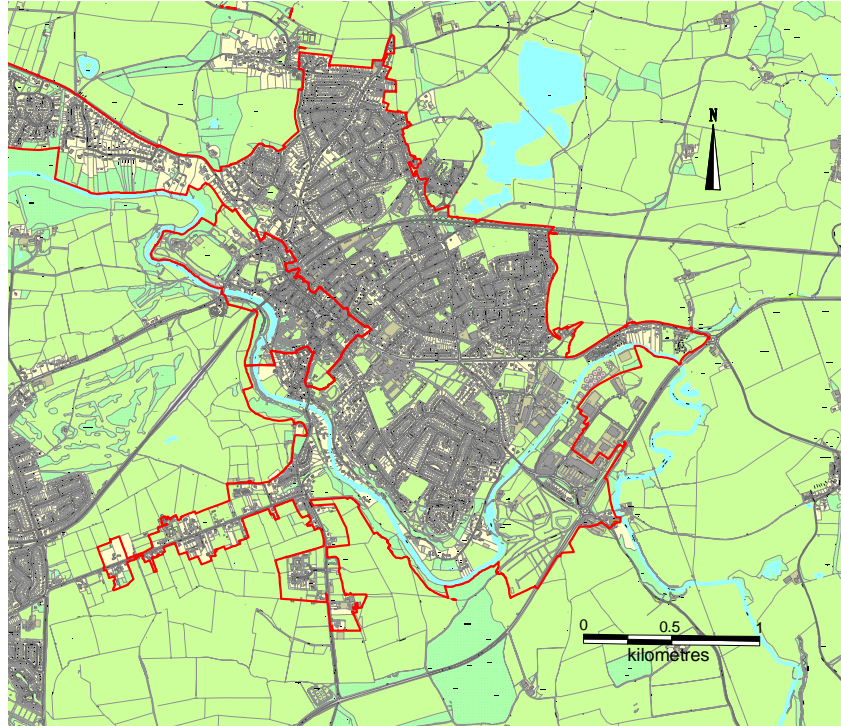


Figure 182 Knaresborough at the time of the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99)

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Figure 183 *The modern expansion of Knaresborough*



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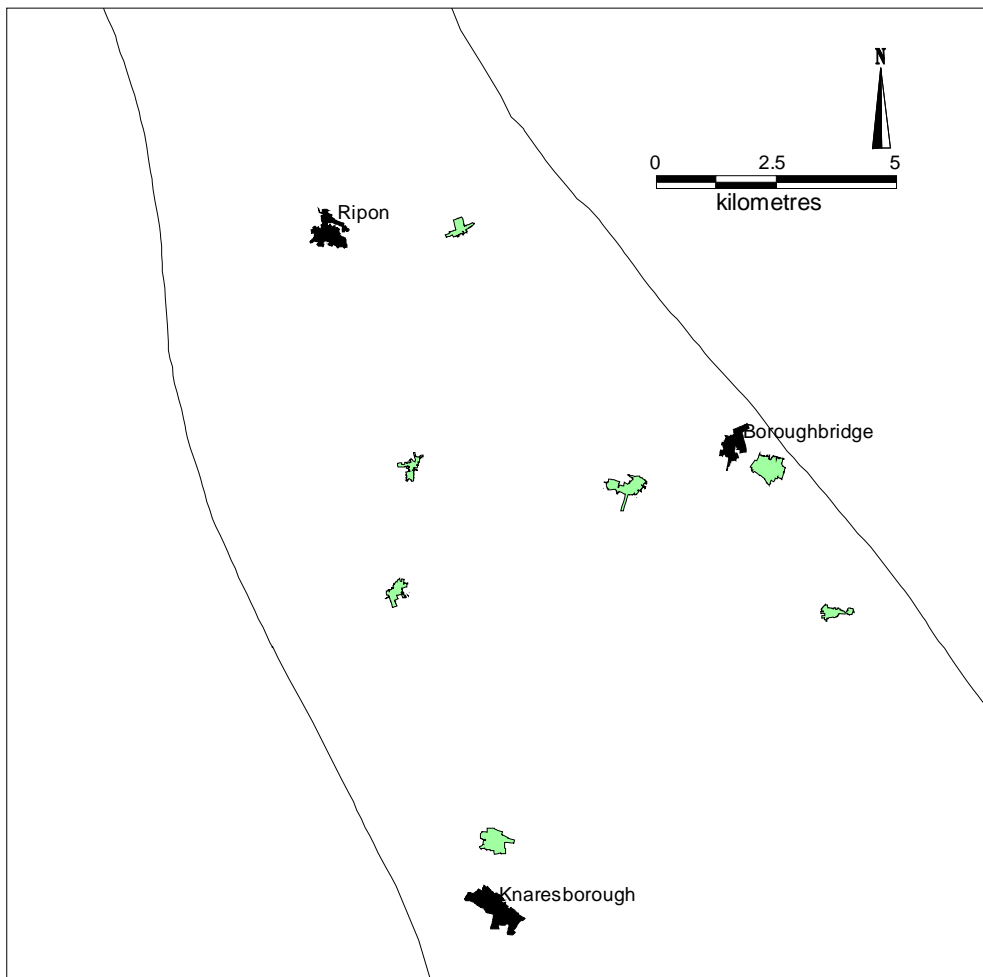
Figure 184 *Brearton village, SE 321 6095*

Figure 182 shows that by the time of the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99), there had not been much change in the character of the surrounding landscape, with the town still fairly nucleated. Figure

183 shows the extent of the modern expansion, which has increased the size of the settlement by about ten times its AD 1850 size.

The vast majority of settlements within the area are much smaller, with 61 out of the 145 areas of settlement characterised defined as villages. Of these villages, nearly half were linear in form. These have a much wider distribution. There is some variety in the linear villages, many of them show a two row form. For example, Brearton (SE 32136095) is a small two row village lying between Ripon and Harrogate, see Figure 184. This consists of two rows of houses, one on either side of the road. There is no back lane to the property boundaries, as can sometimes be seen with linear villages, but there are clear crofts associated with houses in the village. There are four listed buildings in the village with the earliest, East View, dating to the late 18th century. This shows us a situation that has been noted in various other parts of the project area, where there are villages with a medieval origin, that have a current historic landscape character which is post medieval.

By contrast, green villages have a very distinct distribution with six out of the thirteen lying in the area between Boroughbridge, Knaresborough and Ripon. The southernmost green village, Sicklinghall, is right on the border with West Yorkshire.



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Figure 185 The concentration of green villages between Knaresborough, Boroughbridge and Ripon.

Extraction

The national character area description highlights the use of the Magnesian limestone as a building material as a unifying factor in the character of the area. 62 limestone quarries were identified throughout the whole project area. Of these, 19 (30%) are located within the Southern Magnesian Limestone character area. However, 15 have a post-medieval origin and 11 are still active. One quarry, Quarry Moor in Ripon (SE 30856930) has been reused, in this case as a nature reserve, whilst seven are inactive. The active limestone quarries are fairly evenly spread with four of them having their origins in the post-medieval period.

Database record HNY 589 (SE 51602062), shows that the Darrington quarries around Cridling Subbs in Selby district are is now an extensive area of limestone extraction. Figure 186 below, shows the current extent of the extraction, while Figure 186 shows the extent at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), the extant quarries are marked with black circles. Whilst it may be argued that there is continuity within this landscape, it is clear that the scale of quarrying has increased greatly in the last 150 years changing the historic character significantly. Whereas in AD 1850 the quarries were embedded within the fieldscape, now they have come to dominate it completely.

Designed landscapes

The national character area key characteristics for the Southern Magnesian Limestone description includes “large numbers of country houses and estates with parkland, estate woodlands, plantations and game coverts”¹⁶⁰. This is very apparent within the part of the character area which lies within this HLC study. There are fifty designed landscapes which have been identified on the Southern Magnesian Limestone. These designed landscapes cover a larger area within the national character area than the identified settlements. It should also be understood that in terms of the HLC project, designed landscapes refers to the extent of the more formal landscapes, whilst the influence of the country estates extends beyond to holdings which lie within the more extensive fieldscapes and woodlands, which will be characterised as their respective HLC type. Out of the fifty designed landscapes identified, 48 were commissioned by private individuals or families, with 39 still active and seven reused, the main house being used, for example, as schools or hotels, which has enabled the greater part of the historic landscape character of the surrounding grounds to be preserved. For example, the former Thorpe Underwood estate is now used as Queen Ethelburga’s School. Whilst there has been some change to the designed features, such as the formal gardens and pleasure grounds, as well as the pools found in the grounds, they are all still visible within the landscape. Similarly, with Hazelwood Castle, a country estate dating to between AD 1850 and 1900, now reused as a hotel, the historic character of the grounds is well preserved.

In addition, there are a number of very large estates, for example Studley Royal, including the remains of Fountains Abbey and now a world heritage site, which has a detailed and complex development, with an influence that extends far beyond the extent of the current parkland.

¹⁶⁰ 60173 Vol 3 Countryside Commission 1998

In the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the project noted that there was a pattern of clustering, with smaller designed landscapes found within the vicinity of the more extensive estates. This can also be seen on the Southern Magnesian Limestone, particularly around Allerton Park and Studley Royal.

The national character area statement makes specific reference to the influence of these estates in the creation of game coverts. Eleven were large enough to be recorded as part of this project, and eight lie within 1.5km of a designed landscape. It may well be that there are more within the landscape, however due to the project methodology being to only characterise areas larger than two hectares, some may well fall below that threshold, leading to them becoming incorporated into other historic character types.

Woodland

The woodland found on the Southern Magnesian Limestone forms an important part of the landscape character, and indeed the cultural character.

Muir states that “when associated with a wood, ‘spring’ almost invariably denotes a coppice rather than a seasonal reference”¹⁶¹. Within the national character area, spring wood (identified through the name) has an extremely limited distribution with five identified lying between Knaresborough and Tadcaster. It is unlikely that these are the only examples of coppiced woodland in the character area. It may be that other, more local, terms have been used. It is also possible that spring wood forms an element of more extensive woodland (see below). There are two examples of ‘Hag’ being used as a woodland name; these two are located in the area between Knaresborough and Tadcaster. ‘Hag’ is a northern English dialect word used to describe an enclosed piece of wood or a copse.

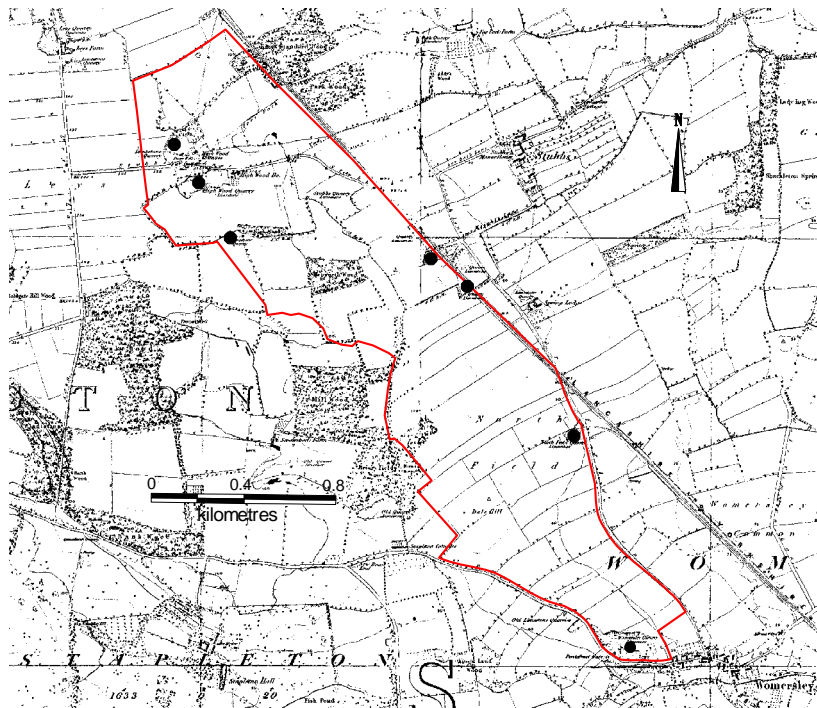
Ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) has a much more dispersed distribution within the character area. Whilst many of the ancient semi-natural woodlands identified within this area are fairly small, for example less than four hectares, a number are far larger. The woodland at SE 329581 covers an area of 72.85 hectares, and adjoins an extensive area of ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked). Within the woodland at this location, there are several elements including Coal Pits Wood, Gates Wood and Spring Wood, showing the complexity of woodland and the need to effectively manage the historic character as well as the ecological character. The woodland name evidence at this location suggests that within the woodland different areas were fulfilling different functions to the communities that utilised it.

¹⁶¹ Muir 2004; 46



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 186 The extensive area of limestone extraction at SE 51602062



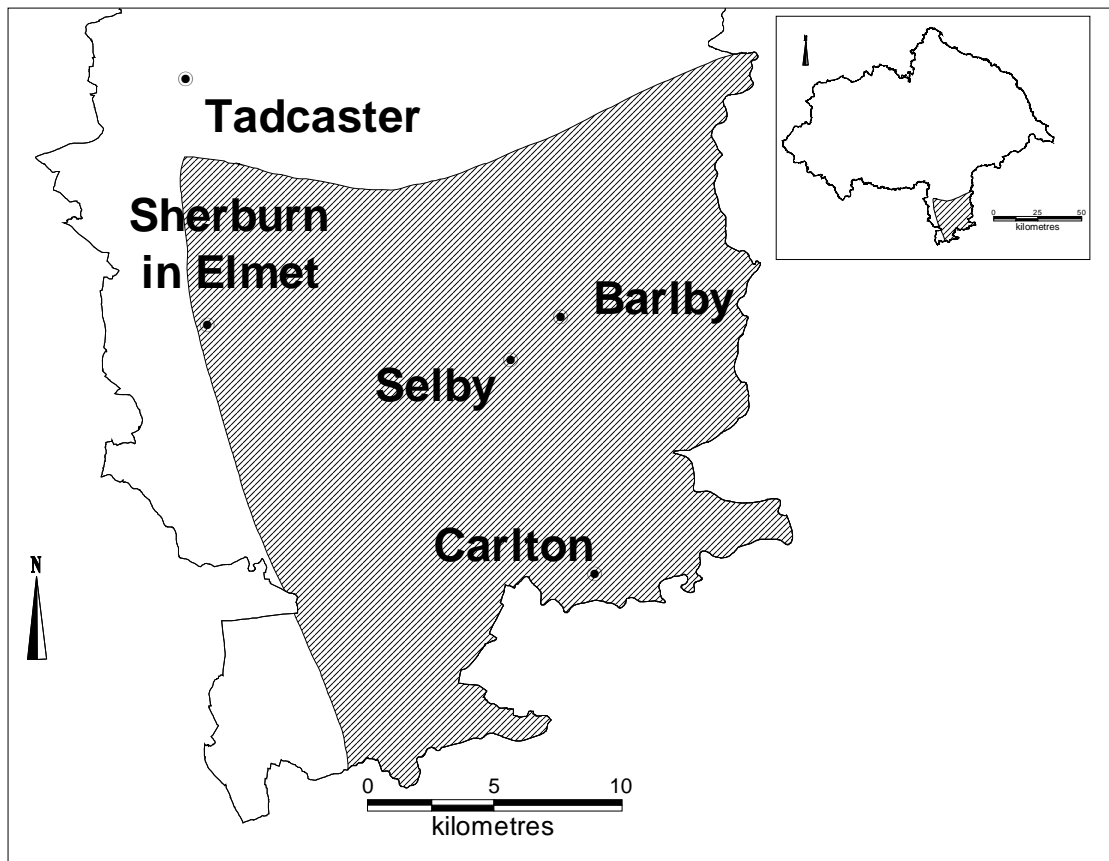
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Figure 187 The location of limestone quarries on the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) at SE 51602062

6.3 The Humberhead Levels National Character Area

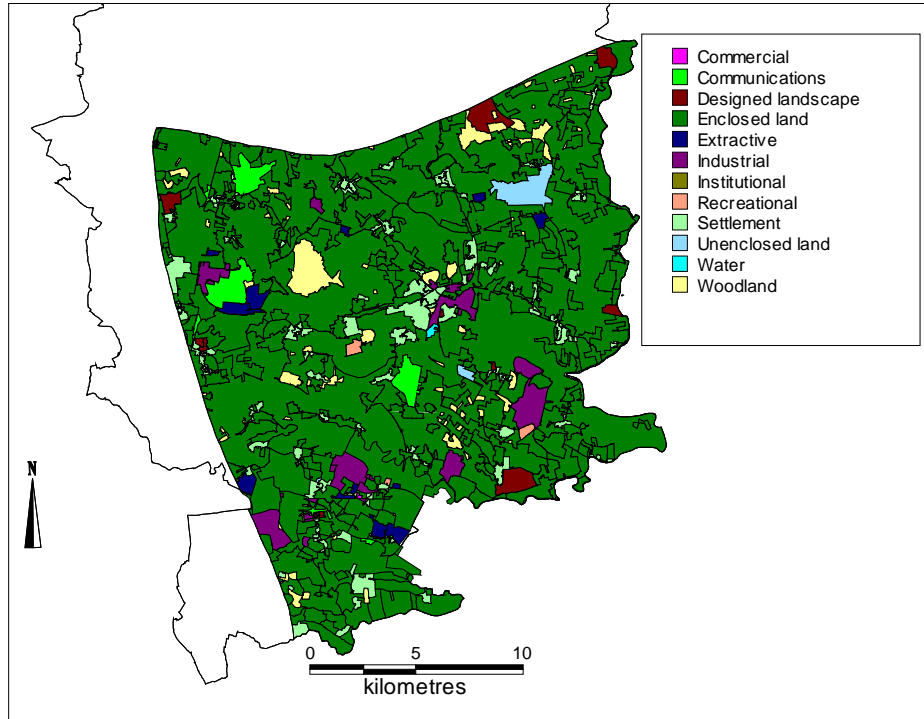
The Humberhead Levels, which lies within the southern section of the project area, is low lying with surface deposits characterised by drift deposits; glacial tills, clays, peat, sand, gravel and windblown sand. The whole character area extends south beyond North Yorkshire, through South Yorkshire and down to Retford in Nottinghamshire. Within the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project area, it is bordered to the south by the River Went and the River Aire, to the east by the River Derwent, and to the west by the Great North Road, see Figure 188.

The character of enclosure within the Humberhead levels is very different from other parts of North Yorkshire. Whereas the uplands have a high number of dry stone walls, and hedges dominate in the Vales of Mowbray and York, within this national character area fields are normally defined by drainage ditches, see Figure 190 and Plate 23. This gives the landscape a very different character, and it is probably the ability to carry out drainage on agricultural land which has had the greatest impact on the historic landscape character.



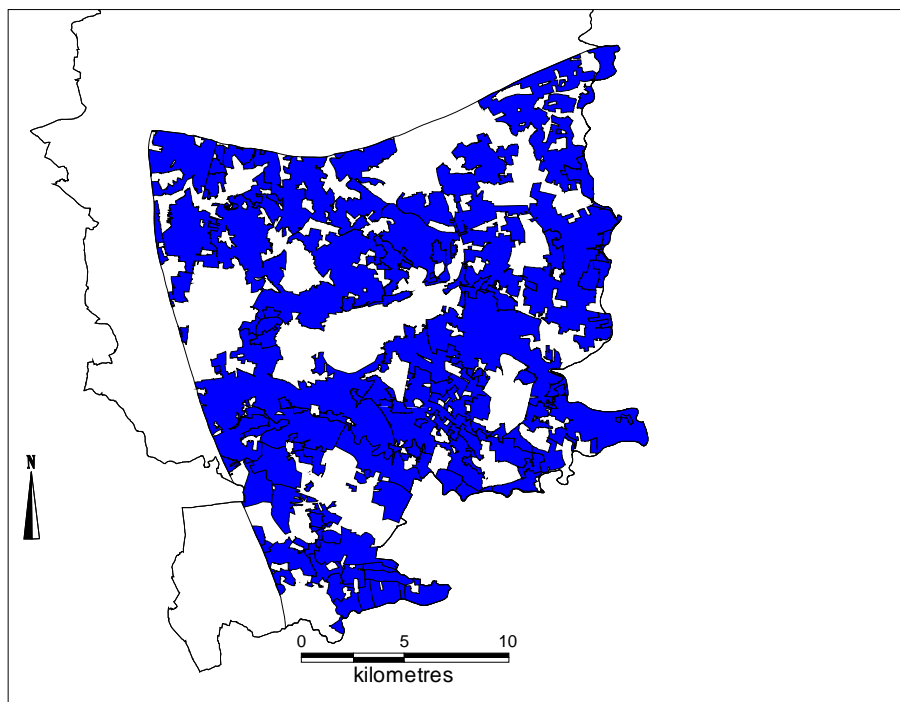
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Figure 188 The area of the Humberhead Levels national character area (hatched) that lies within the project area



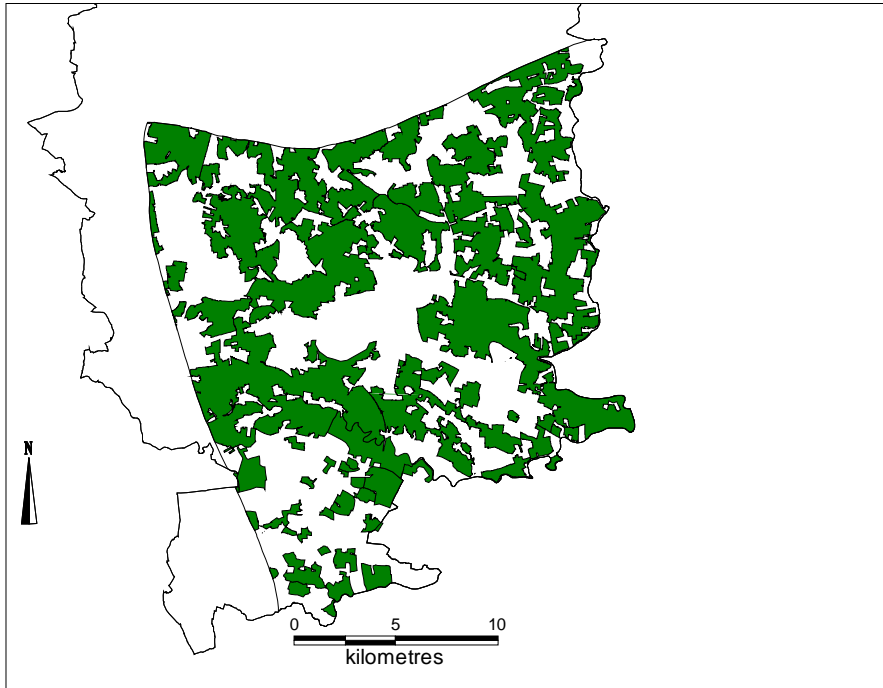
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Figure 189 The historic landscape character of the Humberhead Levels national character area mapped by broad type



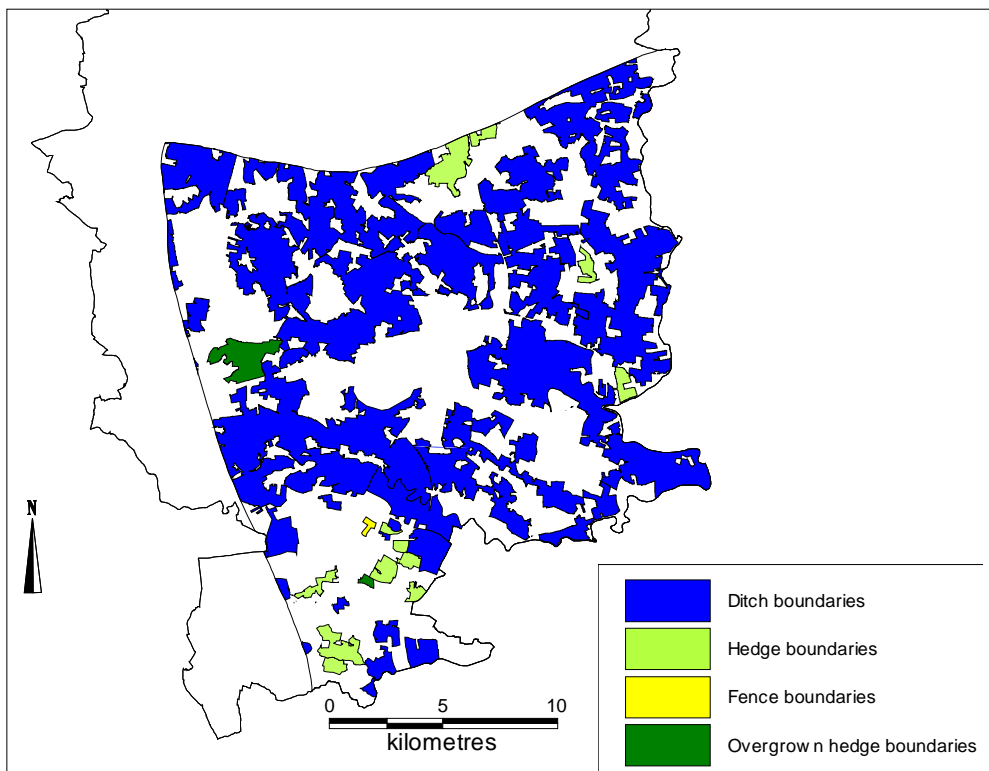
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Figure 190 The distribution of fields defined by ditches within the Humberhead Levels national character area.



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Figure 191 The distribution of modern improved fields within the Humberhead Levels national character area



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Figure 192 The distribution of modern improved fields within the Humberhead Levels national character area by boundary type

This is a landscape which could be seen as consisting mainly of modern improved fields and industry, and there is no denying the impact that they have had on this area. However, the landscape here is much more complex with a high level of time depth, which the HLC project has aimed to capture.

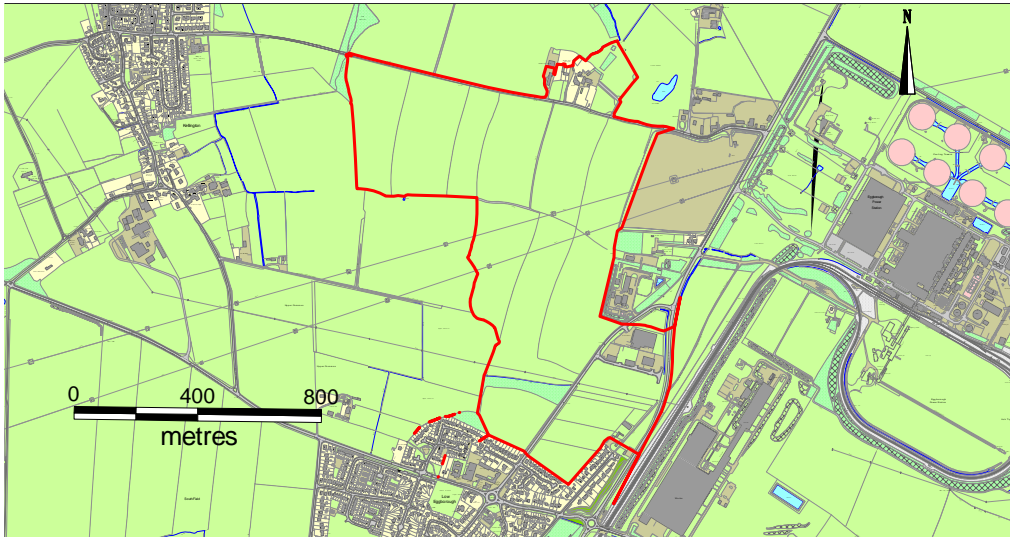
In total, modern improved fields cover 20,590 hectares of the part of the Humberhead Levels national character area that lies within the project area. This accounts for 51% of the area, see Figure 191. The character of these does vary; although the vast majority of these fields are defined internally by ditches, there are blocks of fields with other types of field boundary, see Figure 192.

Within the Humberhead Levels, there are several large areas of parliamentary enclosure. These are well preserved with little boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). One of the best examples of this is the Brayton parliamentary award. Dating between AD 1799 and 1805, the Brayton parliamentary field system consists of medium sized regular fields defined by straight hedges. In total, it covers an area of 1,035 hectares. The earliest parliamentary award in the Humberhead Levels dates to between AD 1770 and 1775 and seems to be part of the Sherburn/Church Fenton award. There has been some boundary loss but 2,668 hectares have significant legibility. There are 2,830 hectares of unknown planned enclosure within the levels. These tend to be smaller in size.

However, the enclosed landscape within the Humberhead Levels character area is not purely weighted towards the post-medieval and modern periods. There are several areas of enclosed strip fields which have been characterised, some fairly substantial. There is a particular concentration in the parish of Balne.

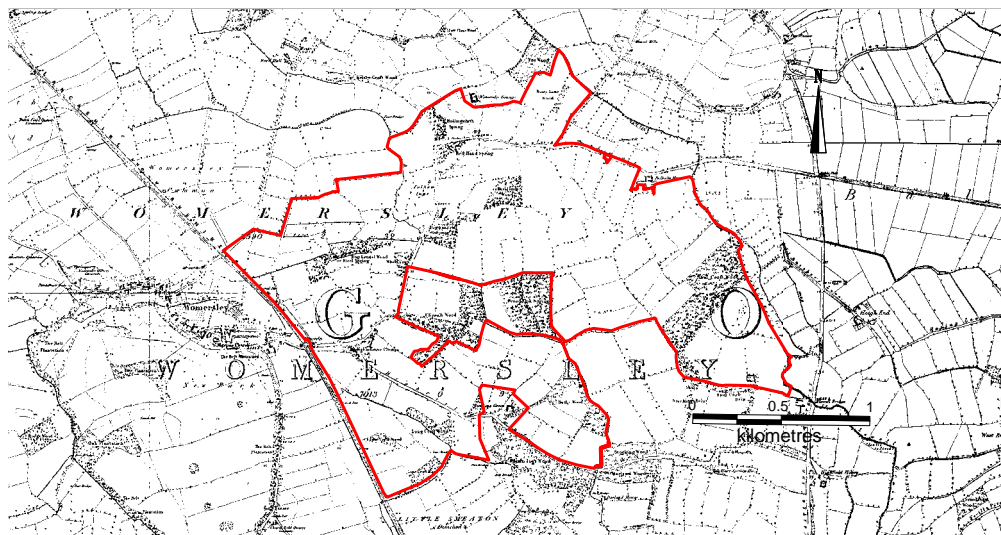
These consist of medium-sized regular fields defined by revers 'S'-shaped, curved hedges and are medieval in character. However, it is not just in the more rural settings that enclosed strip fields are found. At grid reference SE 564245 there are some exceptionally well-preserved enclosed strip fields. Defined by drainage ditches, with a semi irregular field pattern, these lie within 300m of Eggborough Power Station, see Figure 193.

The presence of identifiable assarting within the Humberhead Levels is much more limited, reflecting a pattern seen throughout the project area, and only one area has been definitely confirmed. This lies in the parish of Womersley, and covers an area of 360 hectares. The fields are generally irregular, but it is the position of the woodland which supports the interpretation of assarting. Located in the corners of fields, and along boundaries, the woods are generally mature and suggest the creation of fields from existing woodland. A number of these woodland areas have been removed; however by looking at the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) it can be seen that there was a higher density. An example can still be seen at SE 545200, see Figure 194.



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Figure 193 Enclosed strip fields near Eggborough



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Figure 194 Location of assarting in the parish of Womersley at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

Settlement

The settlement pattern is fairly dispersed, with Selby as the main town in the area. There are three other historic town cores which have been characterised, including Church Fenton, Cawood, (see Plate 24) and Barlow.

All have seen major expansion in the last hundred years, ranging from 73% in the case of Cawood, to 400% in Selby. The historic cores of these towns are

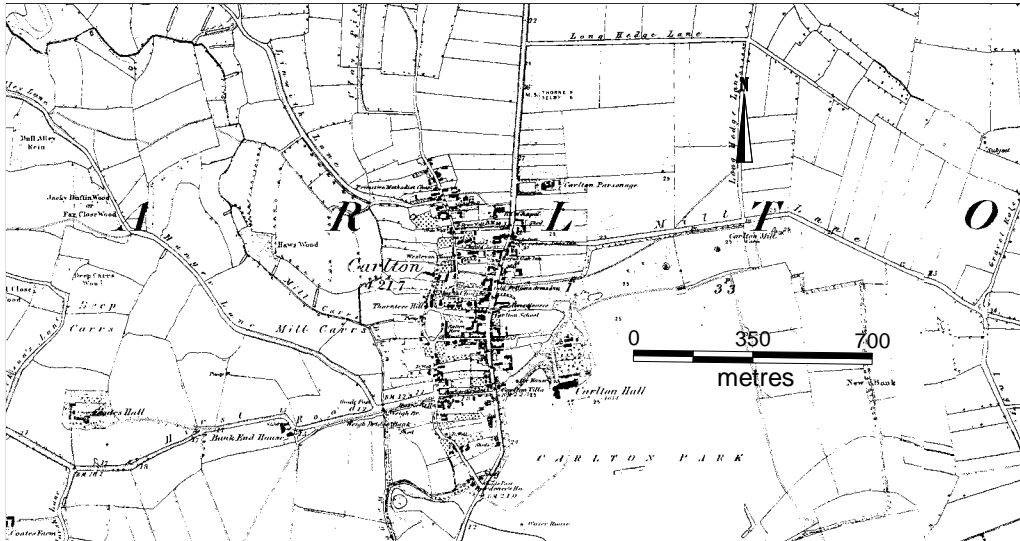
generally well preserved, although Selby has seen some infilling and change of use. By contrast, it was not possible to define an historic town core for Sherburn in Elmet. The HLC record for this settlement states:

“This is the settlement of Sherburn, which has fragmentary legibility of the previous HLC type. This was previously a nucleated village, however it has not been possible to derive an historic core from the village, which has medium-density housing and public space defined by the shopping arcade. Private space is a combination of front and back gardens. This historic core area can be recognised from the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63); it is focused on the town cross. However, there seems to be no real survivals of buildings from this period to define an historic core. While it is clear that the historic antecedent to Sherburn is the nucleated village, the previous HLC type for the area digitised here was previously piecemeal enclosure, possibly created from the subdivision of strip fields”

There are only four green villages in the national character area. Gateforth (see Plate 25), North Duffield and Brayton all have the green at the centre of the village, whilst the green at Skipwith is at the eastern end. These four villages all have a post-medieval character, however there has been a fairly high degree of change, with areas of infilling and expansion.

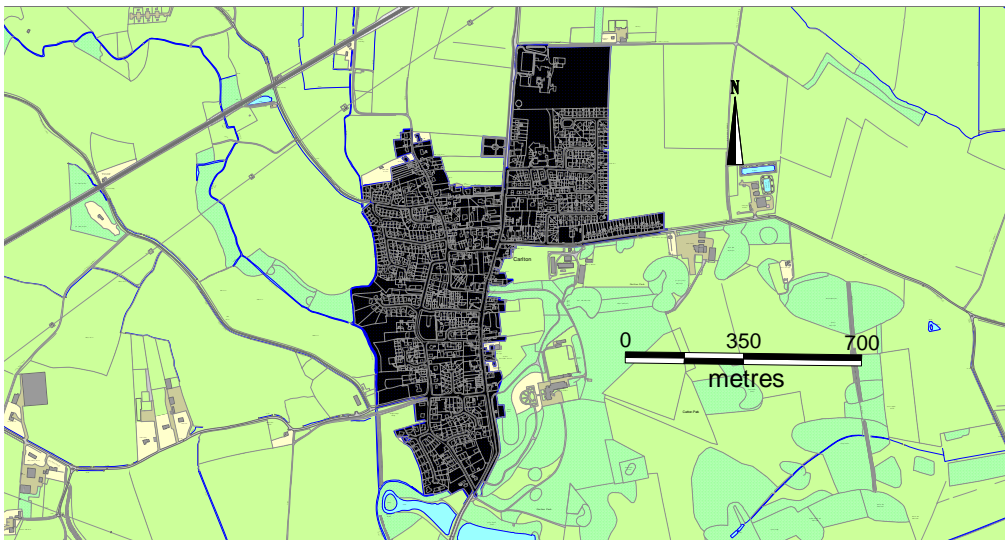
Most of the villages characterised are linear, defined by dwellings running either side of a main street. These sometimes have back lanes running behind the properties, an example being Hemingborough, where the extent of the original village is defined by Garthfields Lane. Many of the linear villages sit at the core of extensive modern expansion. Again, looking at Hemingborough, it can be seen that the original village was a quarter of the size of the current settlement.

The expansion of 20th-century settlement has had a major impact on the landscape within this area. In most cases, these planned estates represent the expansion of existing settlements; however in some areas this has been significant enough to subsume the previous settlement. An example of this can be seen at Carlton (SE 645242). Figure 195 shows Carlton at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), and the linear form is very clear, with the properties on either side and the crofts running off from the frontages. By the time of the present mapping, the modern planned estates have expanded to such a degree in Carlton that they now define the historic character, see Figure 196.



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Figure 195 Carlton at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)



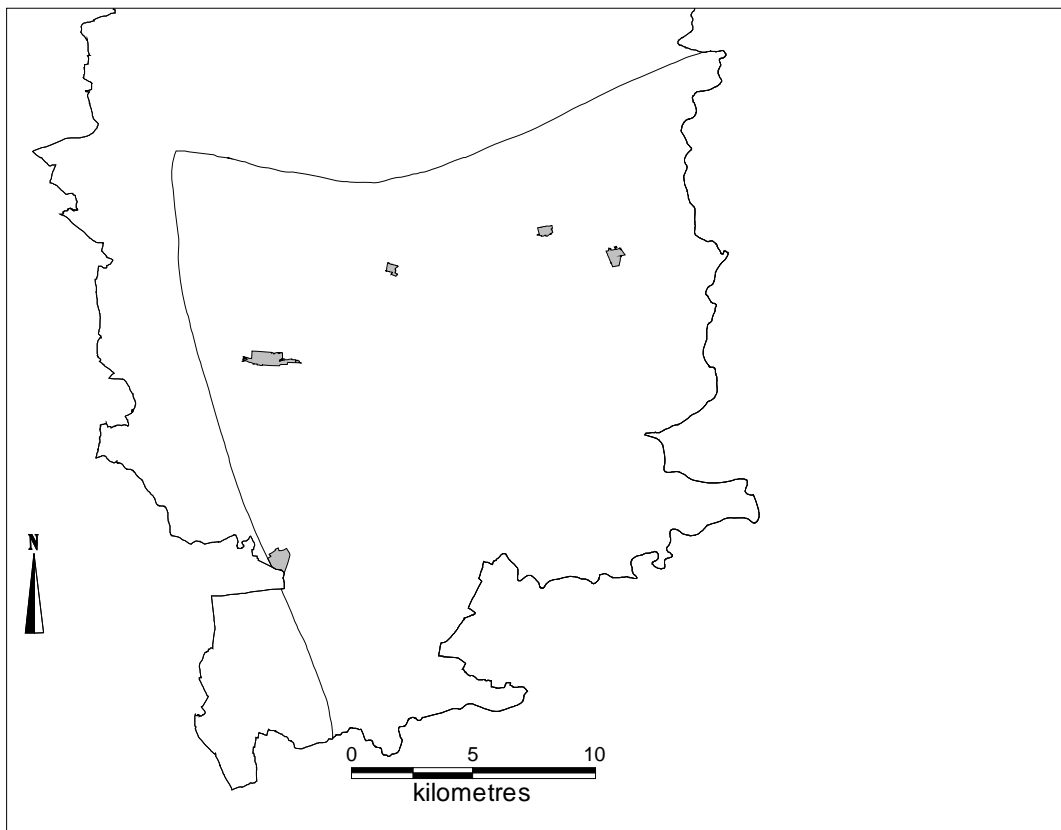
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Figure 196 Modern Carlton village

Over the 20th century, the Humberhead Levels have seen the growth in heavy industry. These take two forms, influencing and complementing each other.

The first is the mining of the Selby coalfield, see Plate 26 and Figure 197. Probably the latest coalfield to be mined, extraction started in the AD 1970s and was closed in 2004 with the Riccall mine being the last mine to close. The significance of the features associated with the Selby coalfield is twofold. Firstly, it has an important place within the history of mining nationally, as the last deep-shaft mine to be opened. Secondly, the mining gear was designed to have as limited impact on the landscape as possible. The mining head gear was constructed to be surrounded by brick walls. This gives it a very distinctive appearance compared to the more usual architecture of mining.

The second major industry represented within this landscape are the power and utilities installations. There are two of the largest power stations in the country within this area, at Drax and Eggborough see Plate 27. In addition to the actual sites, which cover a combined area of 450 hectares, there is also the associated features and infrastructure. Gale Common and Drax ash disposal sites are both substantial features within the landscape. Gale Common ash disposal site has been landscaped and now functions as a nature reserve, see Plate 28.



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Figure 197 Distribution of coal mining in the Humberhead Levels

7. Other examples of HLC data analysis and potential for further research

As stated earlier in this report, there is tremendous scope for the digital characterisation data to be analysed in a variety of ways, and this report presents just some examples of these. The following sections provide examples of how the data can be analysed at parish and estate level.

7.1 Analysis of Scrayingham Parish

The parish of Scrayingham lies within the district of Ryedale, close to the south-eastern boundary of North Yorkshire, see Figure 198. It covers an area of 1,108 hectares and is generally low lying with the settlement at Leppington situated upon slightly higher ground.

The two main settlements within the parish are the villages of Scrayingham and Leppington. Both are similar in form, a two row village either side of a main road. However there do seem to be differences between them. For example, at Scrayingham there are clear areas of enclosures associated with the dwellings in the village¹⁵⁷. At Leppington, there is no clear evidence in the current landscape for such crofts. There are a couple of boundaries at SE 765610 and SE 764612, which may be part of these enclosures, but they seem to be part of the overall pattern of enclosed strip fields that lie to the east of Leppington.

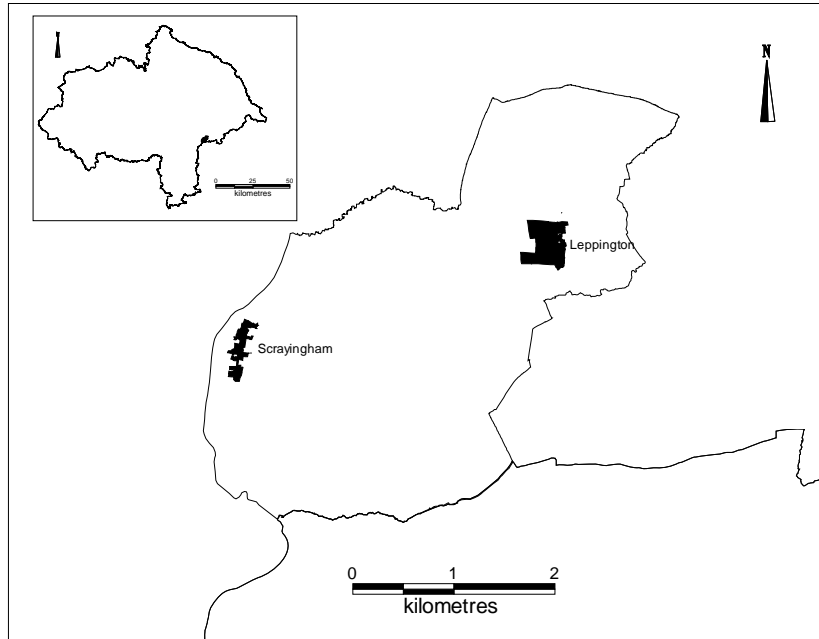
There has been some expansion in Leppington, which has seen the building of a small number of detached houses at the north end of the village, as well as a number of houses built to the west of the main street. At Scrayingham, there has been less expansion, with the building of some new houses, as well as the construction of agricultural buildings associated with farms in the village.

Both villages currently display a post-medieval character. The earliest building in Scrayingham is the former rectory which dates to AD 1704, whilst the north wall of the church was built in the 14th century. However, whilst the villages have seen changes since the end of the medieval period, they both originate in the medieval period. This is reflected in the wider landscape with the presence of enclosed strip fields. There is supporting evidence in the fact that both villages are mentioned in the Domesday Book of AD 1086; Scrayingham is referred to as '*Escr(a)ingham/Screngham*', whilst Leppington is '*Lepinton*'¹⁵⁸.

Areas characterised as the HLC type of enclosed strip fields cover 280 hectares of the parish, see Figure 199. These can be seen throughout the fieldscape between the two villages, and to the south of Scrayingham village. Defined by reverse 'S'-shaped, curved hedges, they almost certainly represent the previous location of open fields. At the grid reference SE 747604, the 'S' curve of the field strips is followed by the road, suggesting that the road was established at the same time as, or later than, the field system. Two very well-preserved fields can be seen at SE 733595.

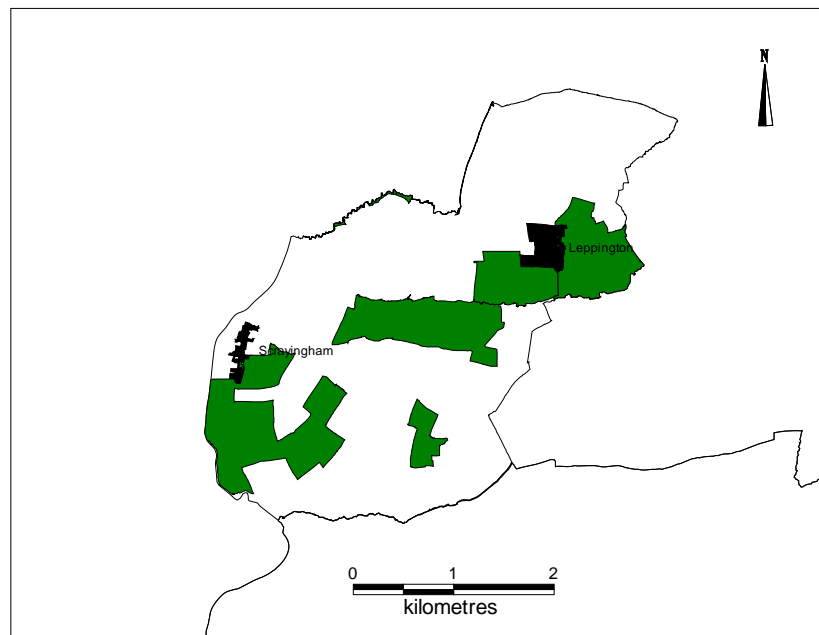
¹⁵⁷ HLC records HNY 24510 and HNY 24511

¹⁵⁸ Smith 1970



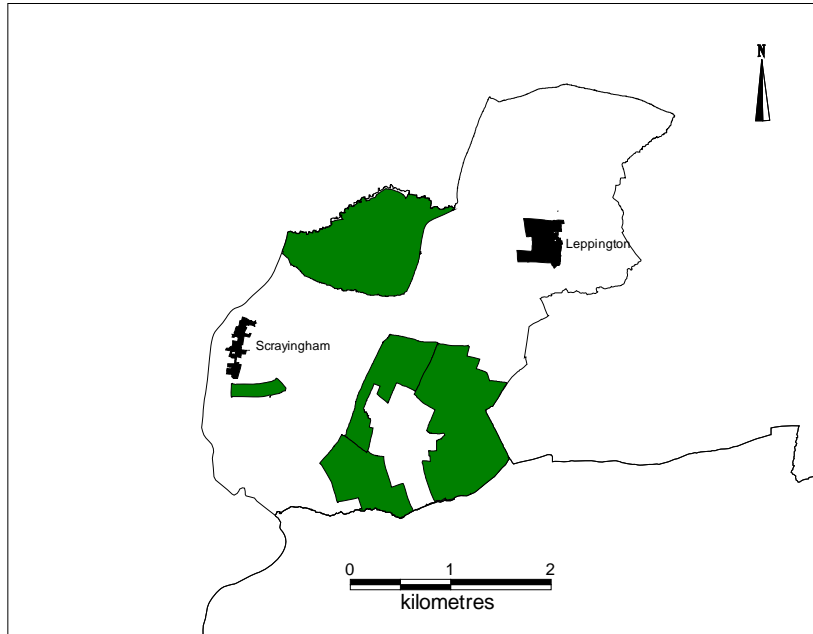
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Figure 198 *Scrayingham parish, including the two main settlements of Scrayingham and Leppington, with inset showing location in relation to the wider project area*



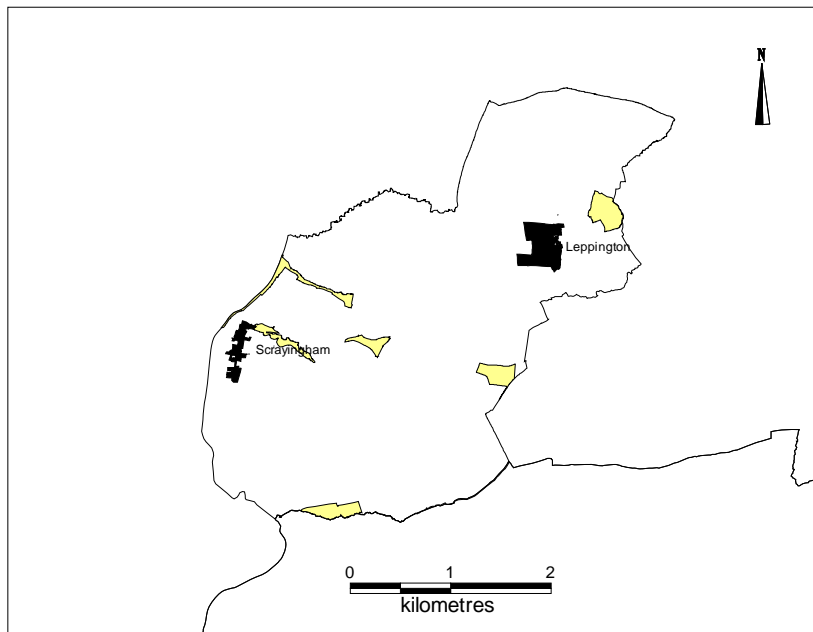
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Figure 199 *Distribution of enclosed strip fields within Scrayingham parish*



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Figure 200 *Distribution of unknown planned enclosure within Scrayingham parish*



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Figure 201 *Distribution of woodland within Scrayingham parish*

There are no areas of piecemeal enclosure within the current landscape of the parish, although there are some areas that have seen boundary loss and which have been characterised as modern improved fields.

There is no act of parliament for the enclosure of the parish of Scrayingham, there are however extensive areas of planned enclosure which are broadly contemporary, dating between AD 1750 and 1850. An example of this is the fieldscape that surrounds Plaster Pits (SE 743612), which comprises regular, medium-sized fields defined by straight hedges. One of the interesting aspects of this field system is the fact that it is defined on three external sides by shelter-belt-style plantation woodland.

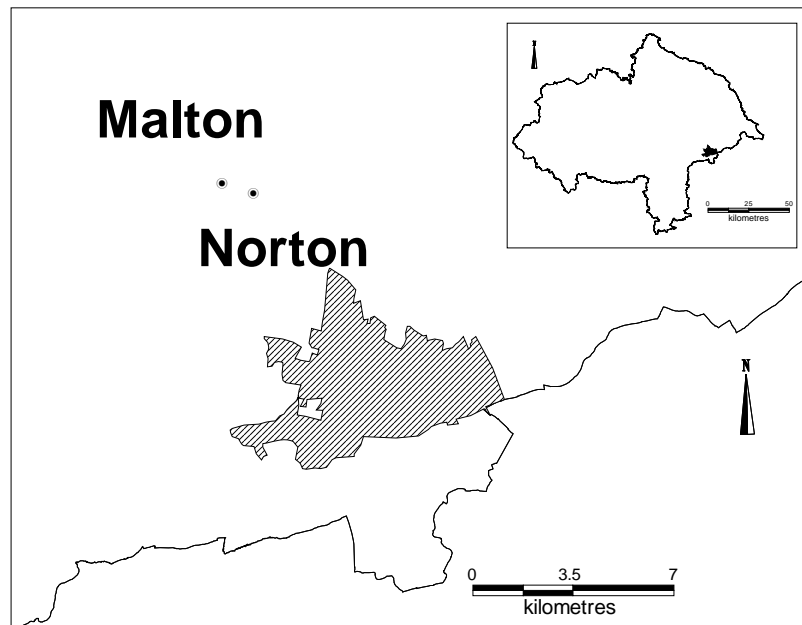
There are six areas of woodland of a size large enough to be characterised by the project, see Figure 201. The oldest of these is Leppington Wood which lies to the north east of the village, see Figure 202. Consisting of non-coniferous species defined externally by erratic hedges, this is an area of ancient woodland which dates before AD 1600. With very little change since the first edition six inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), this is an excellent example of where the natural environment can be understood in terms of human activity. The woodland is defined by a watercourse that runs to the north and east. To the west, between the village and the woodland, is an area of enclosed strip fields, and from its form, the woodland appears to pre-date these.



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 202 Leppington Wood, to the north east of Leppington village, also showing areas of enclosed strip fields

7.2 Analysis of the Birdsall Estate



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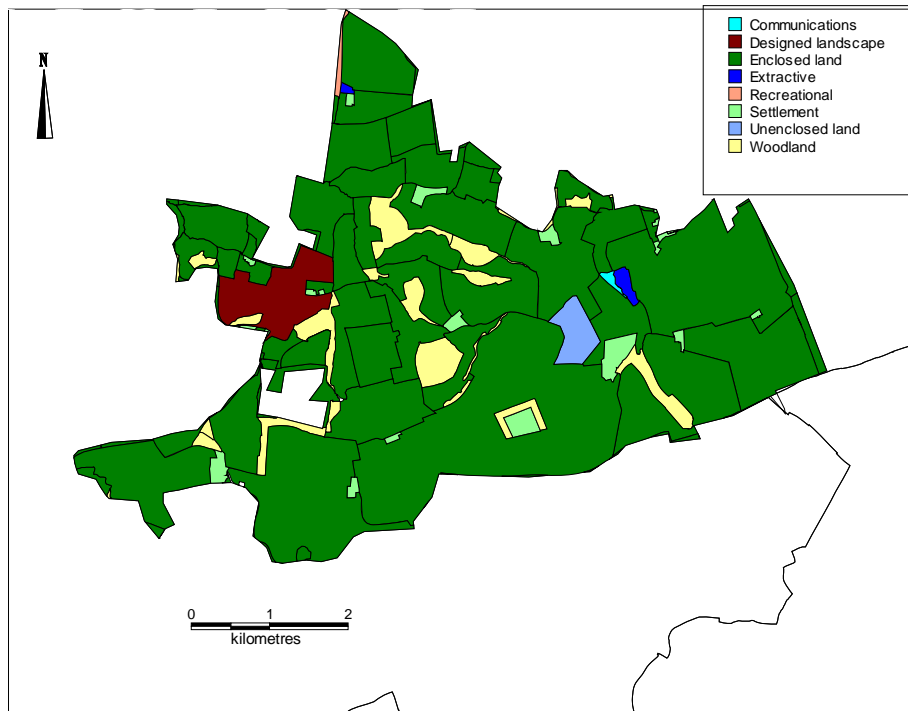
Figure 203 Birdsall Estate (hatched), with inset showing location in relation to the wider project area

The aim of this section is to focus on one area in some detail, and show how the information recorded by the HLC project can be utilised in the day to day work of a local authority historic environment team. The guidance for the completion of farm environment plans, as part of the higher level stewardship agri-environment schemes promoted by Natural England, makes explicit reference to the use of HLC data, where available¹⁵⁹. Early on in the North Yorkshire and Lower Tees Valley HLC project, North Yorkshire County Council's historic environment team received a request for information for a large-scale farm environment plan related to the Birdsall Estate. This provided an opportunity for this area to be characterised in order to assist with the stewardship scheme. As such, as a landscape with a very different character to the other pilot areas characterised at the beginning of the project, this work was done before the HLC methodology was finalised. As a result, there are a number of areas characterised which are less than two hectares in extent. Once the methodology was formalised, areas below two hectares were not characterised individually for the remainder of the project area. As the estate holdings straddle a number of areas with different geologies, the estate area also enables discussion of the roles that geology and topography play in the historic character of a landscape.

Covering 2,908 hectares, the Birdsall Estate lies on the northern edge of the Yorkshire Wolds, see Figure 203. The southern half of the estate sits on white chalk deposits, whilst to the north there are deposits of Corralian material, consisting of mudstone, limestone, siltstone and sandstone. At SE 842660, there is an outcrop of white chalk with a band of grey chalk defining the outer edge. This is surrounded by deposits from the West Walton formation, Kimmeridge Clay and Ampthill Clay (WWKCAC) deposits, see Figure 205. This geology influences the topography of the

¹⁵⁹ Natural England 2010a and 2010b

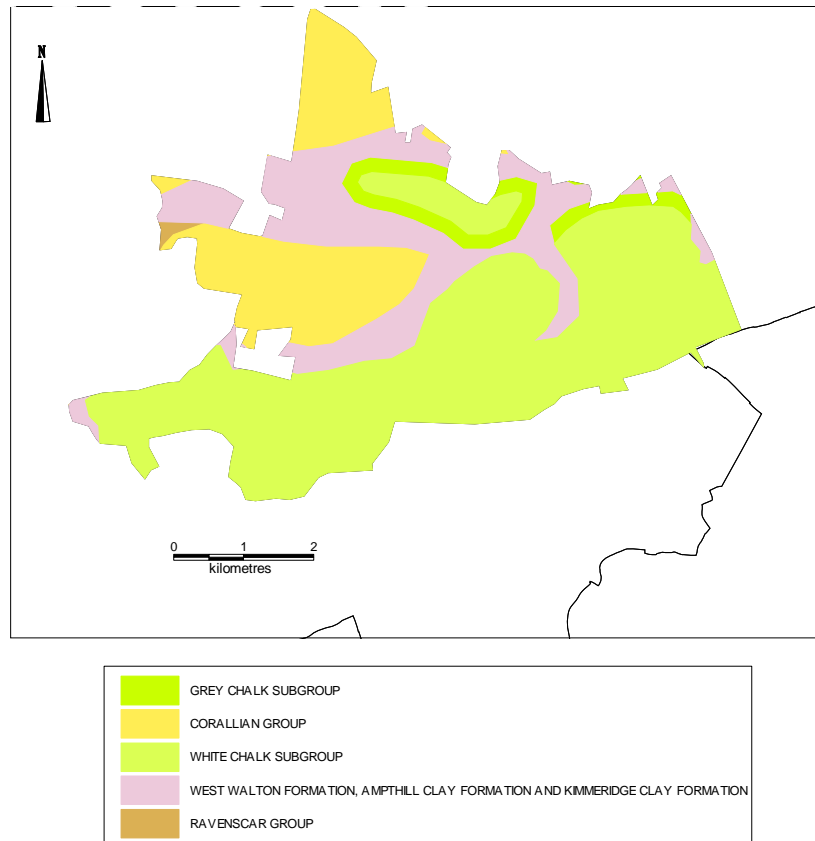
area, with the mudstone, sandstone and siltstone of the WWKCAC deposits defining the scarp slope and the ground rises up at the point of the outcrop of white and grey chalk. There are a number of small, steep valleys running into this scarp, which form significant features in the physical character of the landscape, see Figure 206.



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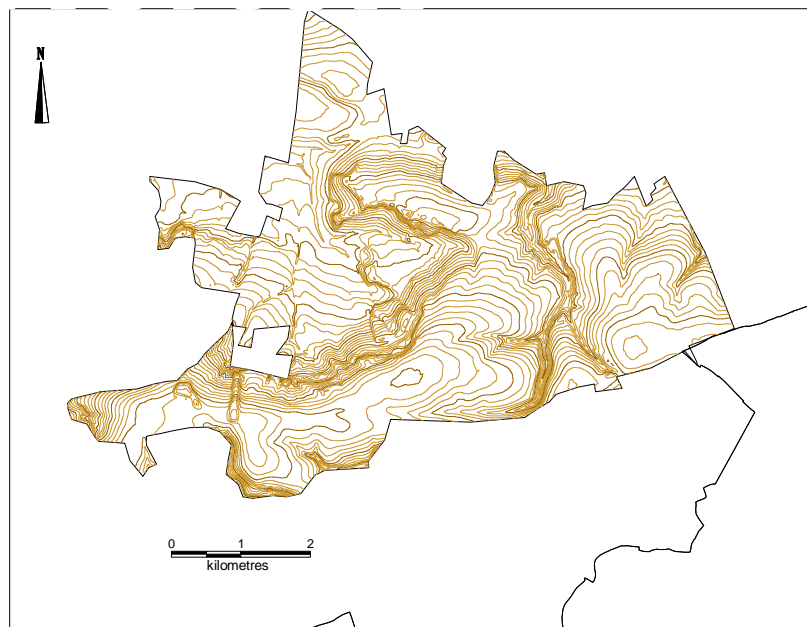
Figure 204 The historic landscape character of the Birdsall Estate mapped by broad type

Enclosed land dominates the historic landscape character of the Birdsall Estate, accounting for 2,503 hectares or 86% of the area, see Figure 204. However, there is wide variation within the character of this enclosure. There have been 20th-century changes to the fieldscapes, particularly on the lower-lying sedimentary geology. There are two areas of modern improved fields found on the higher, white chalk series, accounting for 450 hectares, where boundaries have been lost. The highest concentration of large, planned fields is in the northern part of the estate, around Dale Bottom (SE 825670). These changes in the type of enclosure reflect changes in the management of the landscape and changes in agricultural practice.



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Figure 205 The geology of the Birdsall Estate



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Figure 206 Contours of the land in the Birdsall Estate

7.3 Potential areas for further research

Whilst the project has carried out a fairly intensive study of the whole project area, it is evident that the characterisation has thrown up as many questions as it has answers. This section will outline some of the potential areas for future study which could be taken forward on the basis of the HLC work undertaken to date.

Settlements

With the exception of the urban settlement areas of the Lower Tees Valley, a relatively broad-brush approach has been taken in relation to the characterisation of the settlements throughout the rest of the project area. This is an area which would benefit from further detailed study, for example along the lines of the extensive urban survey programme sponsored by English Heritage¹⁶⁰. There is also scope for further detailed analysis of village origins, morphology and development.

Planned enclosure

A large number of areas were characterised as post-medieval planned enclosure during the course of this project. However, as it has been beyond the remit of the project to pursue additional sources to those outlined in Section 3, it has not been possible to determine, in more detail, the origin of these areas. For example, there is potential for further research to identify whether these enclosures are as a result of private agreement or individual landowners, through investigation of tithe maps, enclosure awards and other archives.

Such an approach would be particularly beneficial within the area of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. As identified in Section 5.1.2, following analysis of the characterisation results for the AONB, it has emerged that there appears to have been a particular historic process occurring in the latter half of the 19th century. Areas of piecemeal enclosure were having their erratic boundaries replaced with straight boundaries. Whether this is a result of an individual landowner, or other groups within the community, is unclear. This would require more detailed study of the archives for this area.

Transport networks

One of the key elements of the landscape that has fallen outside the remit of this HLC project is the road network. Roads contribute greatly to the historic character of the project area and there are several elements which have great antiquity, for example the Great North Road having its origins in at least the Roman period. Later networks, such as the railways and canal system, reflect the historic character of the post-medieval period. There is scope for these networks to be characterised, using a similar methodology to that developed for HLC, to further enhanced understanding of these networks.

Assarting

A number of areas characterised within the project demonstrate evidence of assarting. Further work into this historic character type needs to be twofold: both in relation to management and research.

¹⁶⁰ <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/characterisation/townscape-character/>

Assarting is particularly vulnerable to losing its current historic landscape character through the removal of the small areas of fieldside woodland, which help to define it. This can be seen in the parish of Womersley in Selby District, for example, where a number of these small woodland areas have been removed since the mid 19th century. To maintain their historic landscape character, these areas require effective, proactive management, which has a joint natural environment and historic environment approach.

More research needs to be carried out to establish areas of assarting which may not have been identified during this project, due to either the broad scale of the study or woodland loss since the mid 19th century.

Extractive landscapes

One of the limitations of the HLC project has been the ability to characterise extraction, particularly where it is dispersed, due to the small-scale nature of the surviving evidence. Examples of this include the jet working in the North York Moors National Park, and the extensive small-scale quarrying found throughout the project area. More work could be done to characterise the landscapes of these industries, in particular to provide an historic narrative for current mineral extraction within the study area.

The influence of country estates

During the HLC project, characterisation of areas of designed landscapes and their surrounding areas has thrown up a number of questions as to the influences that large country houses and their estates had upon the surrounding landscape.

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Abbreviations

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CAN DO	Cultural and Natural Development Opportunity
DoE	Department of the Environment
ECUS	Environmental Consultancy University of Sheffield
GIS	Geographic Information System
HBSMR	Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record
HER	Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Characterisation
HLS	Higher Level Stewardship
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Charts

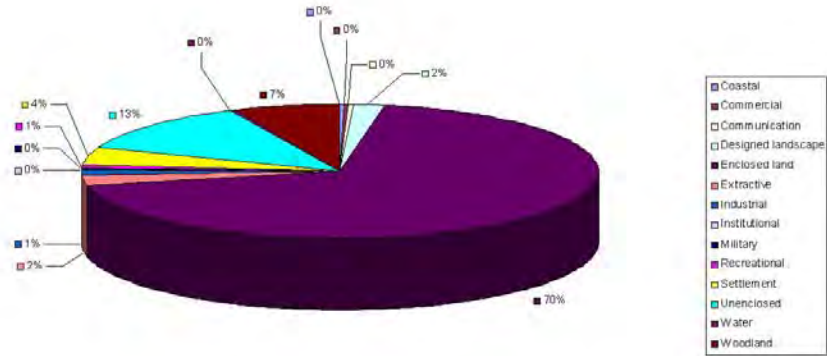


Chart 1 Total percentage of each broad type within the project area, by hectare

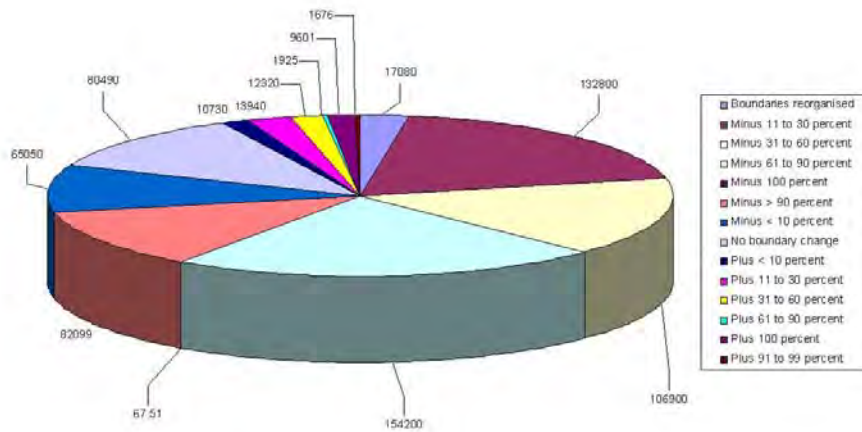


Chart 2 Boundary change and reorganisation within the project area

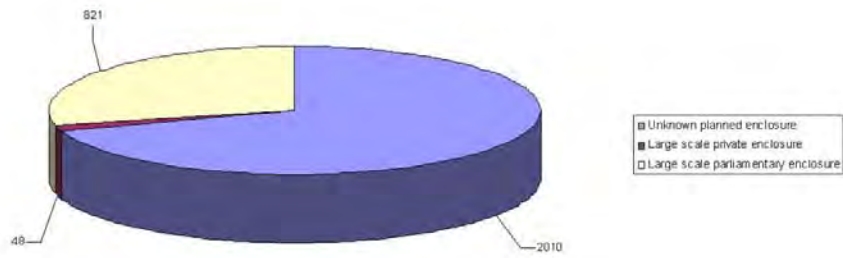


Chart 3 The number of areas characterised as each type of planned enclosure

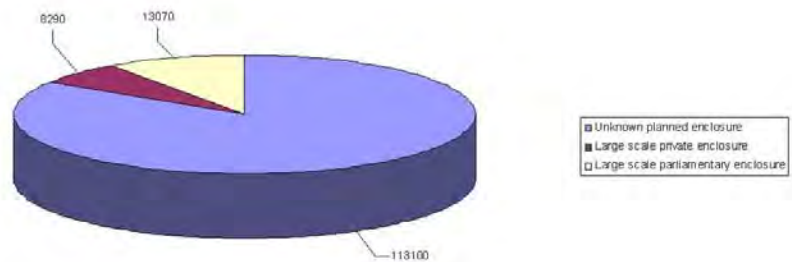


Chart 4 The total hectareage for each type of planned enclosure

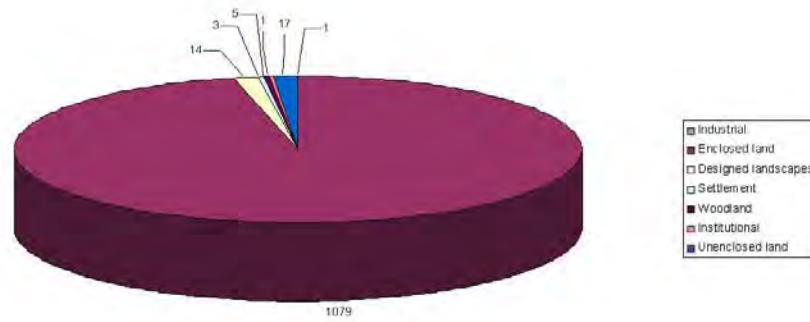


Chart 5 Previous character of modern improved fields

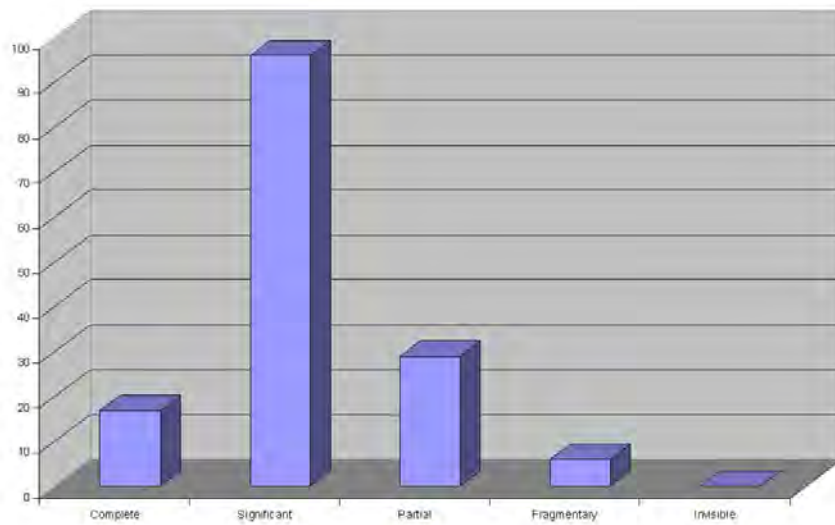


Chart 6 Legibility of crofts associated with settlement

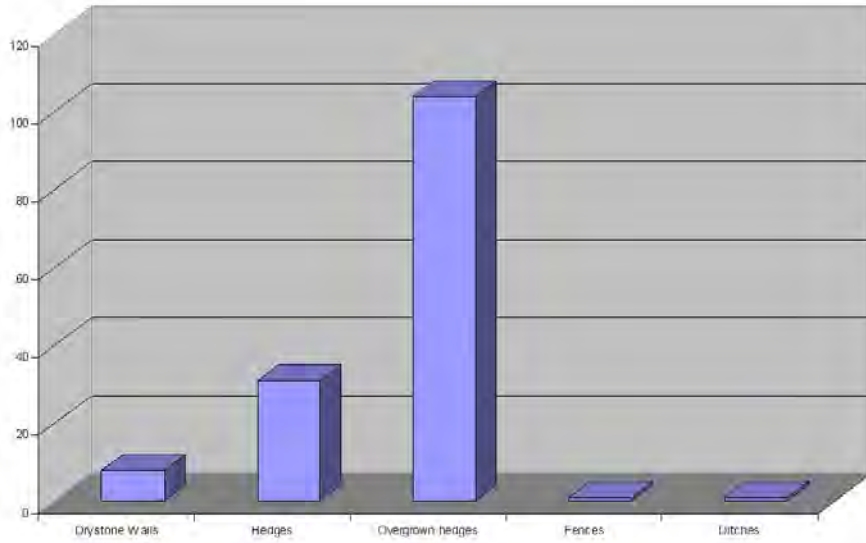


Chart 7 Internal boundary types

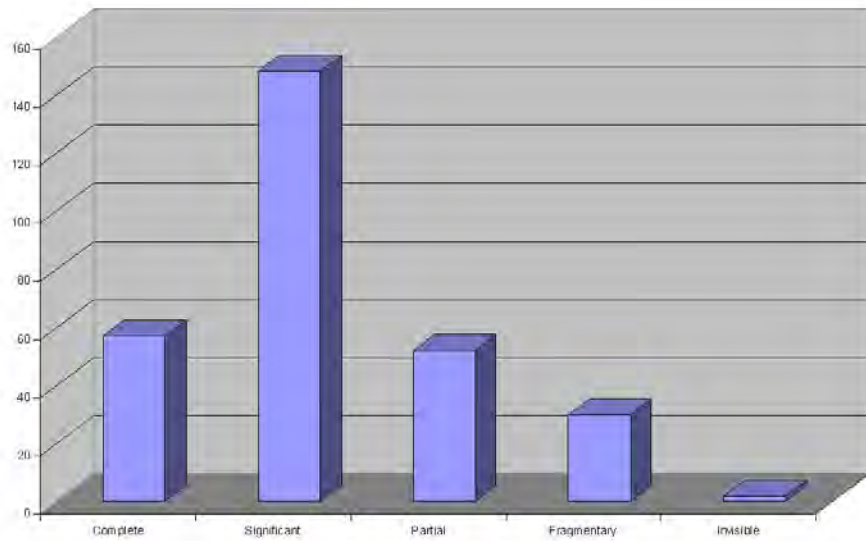


Chart 8 Legibility of unenclosed land within the project area

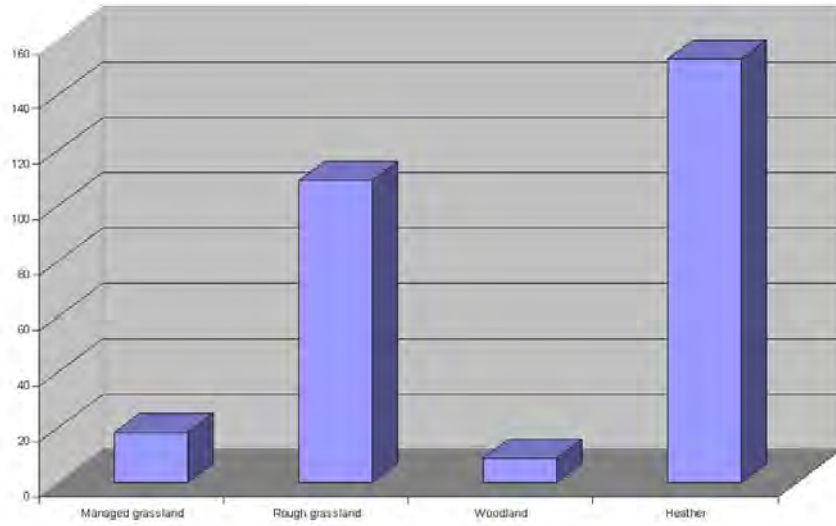


Chart 9 Character of ground cover of unenclosed land within the project area

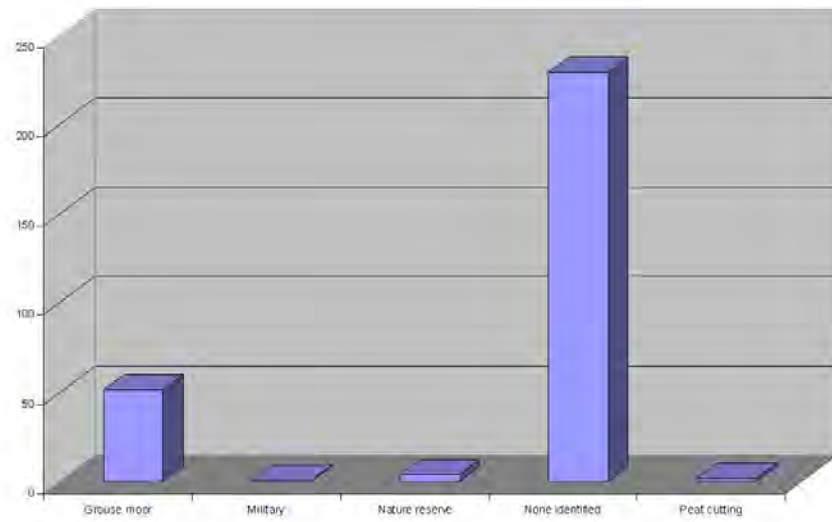


Chart 10 Modern management regime of unenclosed land within the project area

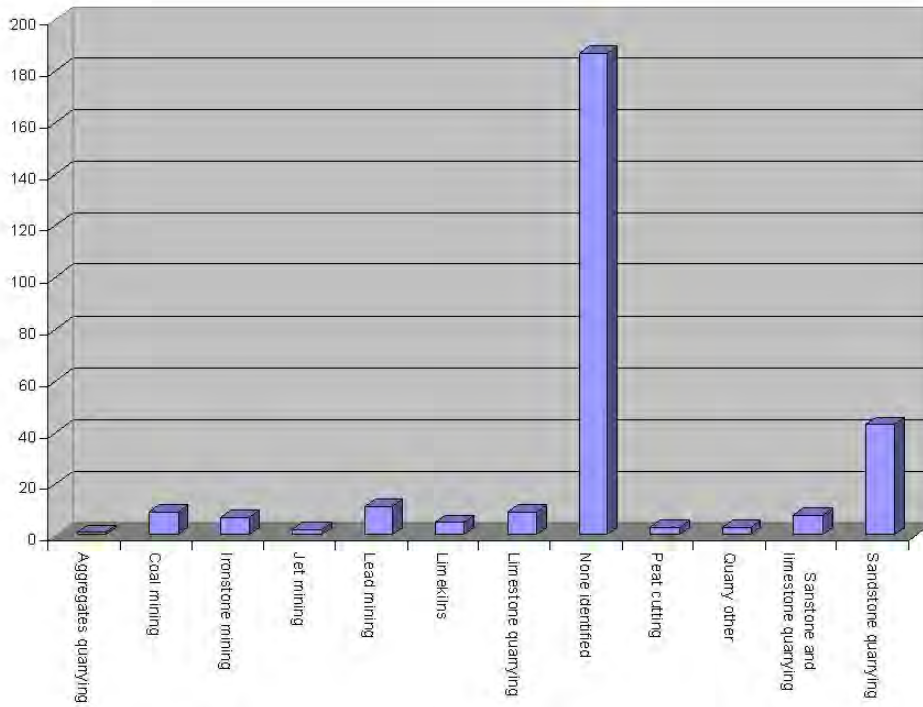


Chart 11 Dominant dispersed industry of unenclosed land within the project area

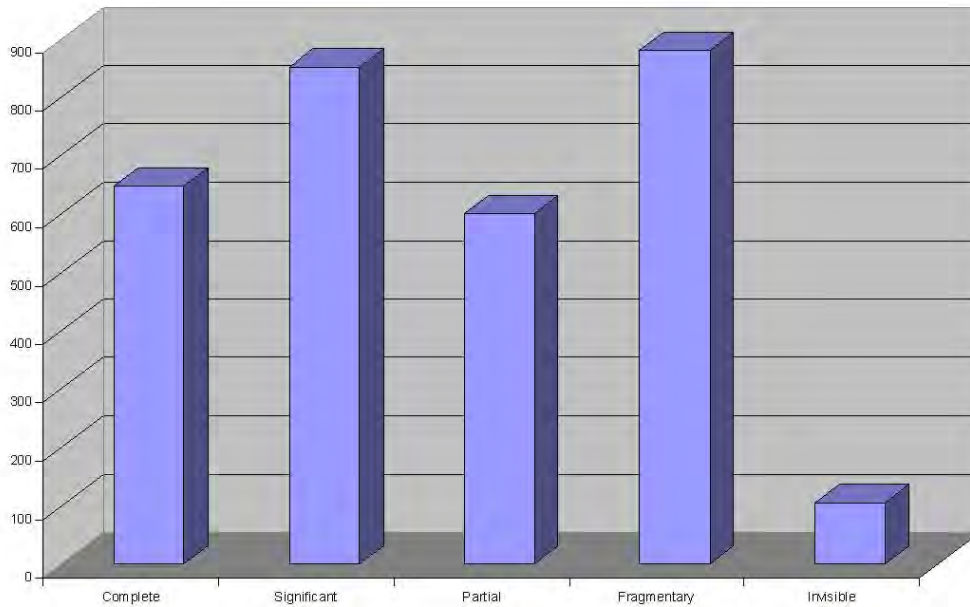


Chart 12 Legibility of the woodland in the project area

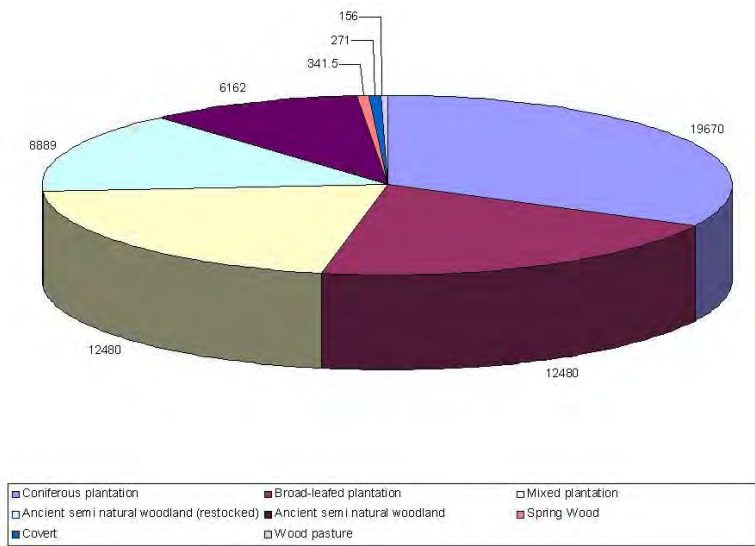


Chart 13 Proportion of woodland by hectareage

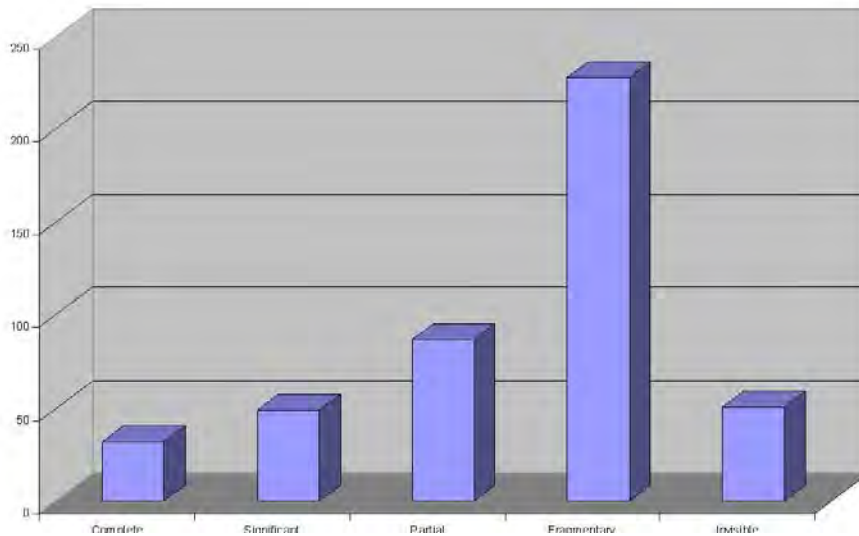


Chart 14 Legibility for coniferous plantation

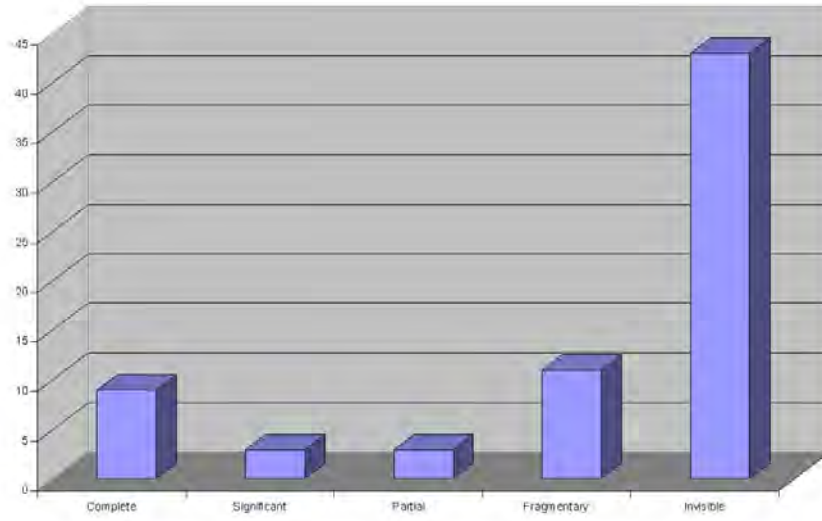


Chart 15 Legibility of water areas within the project area

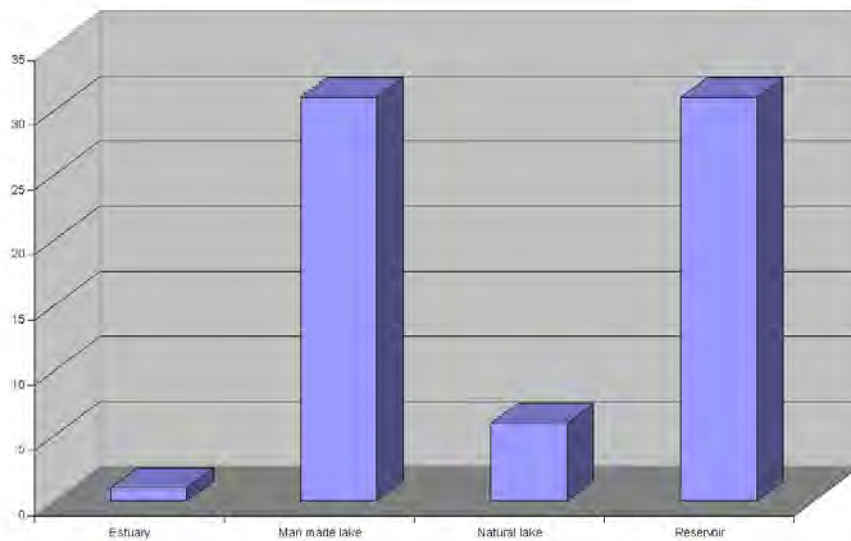


Chart 16 Water HLC types, by number within the project area

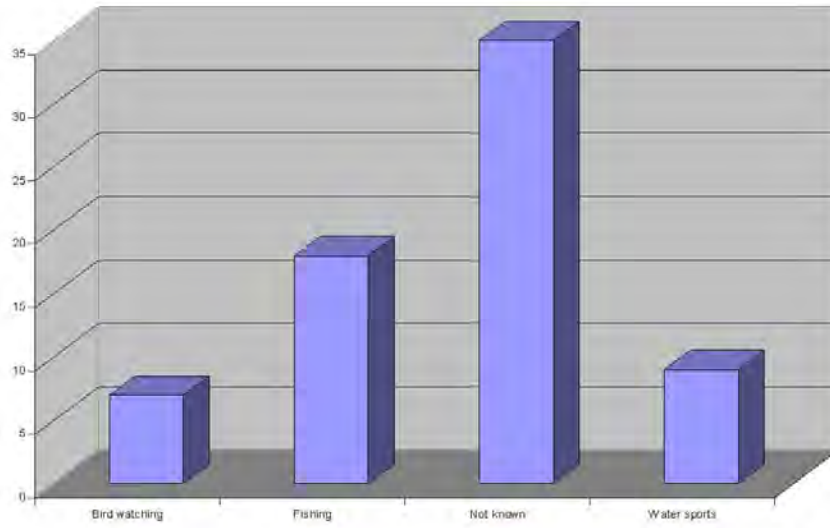


Chart 17 Types of leisure use of water areas within the project area

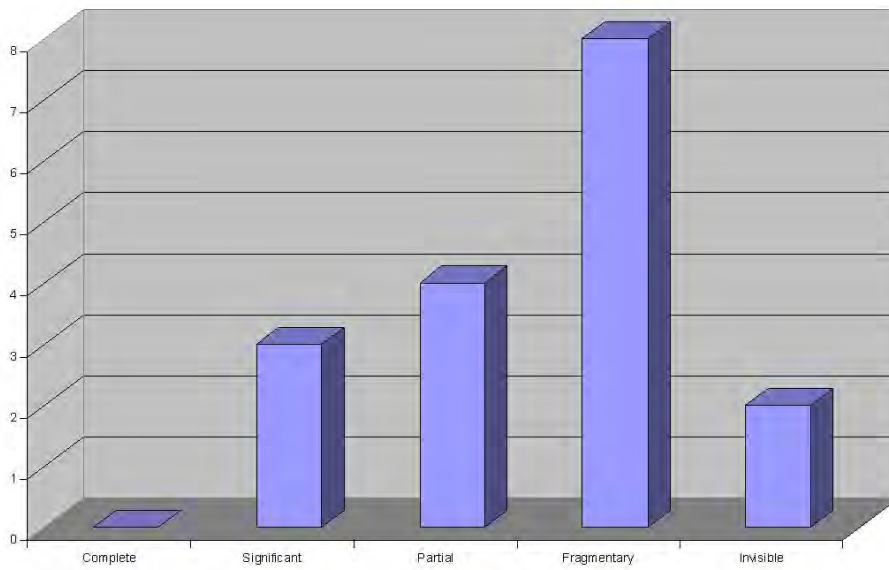


Chart 18 Legibility of military areas within the project area

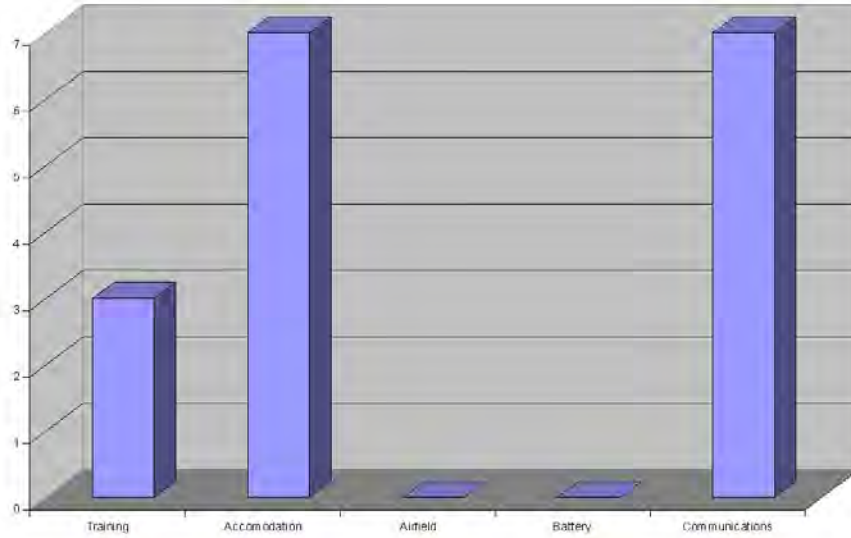


Chart 19 Type of military character area by number within the project area

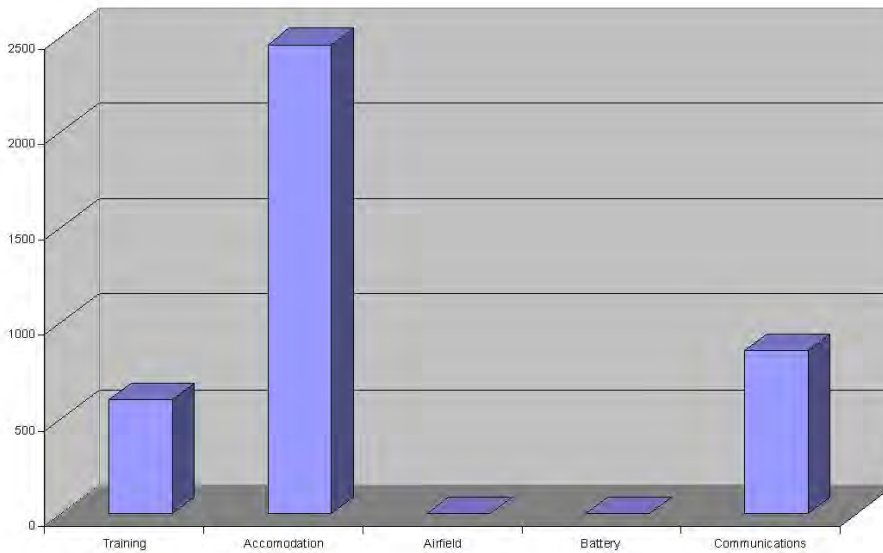


Chart 20 Type of military character area by hectareage within the project area

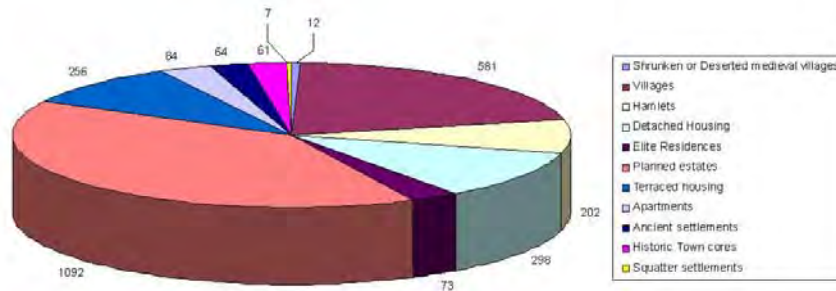


Chart 21 Number of areas identified for each type of settlement

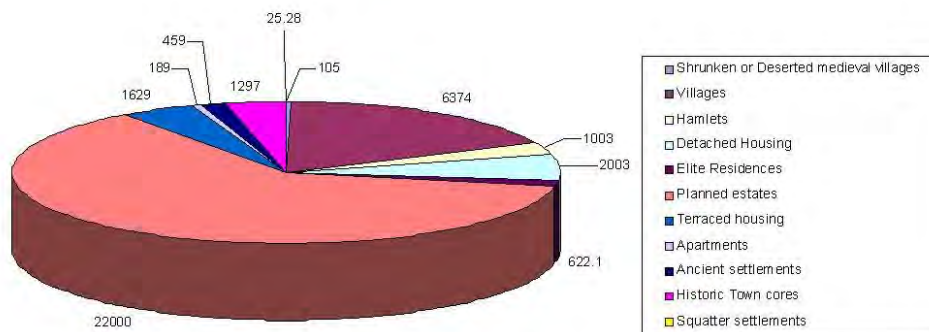


Chart 22 Total hectareage for each type of settlement

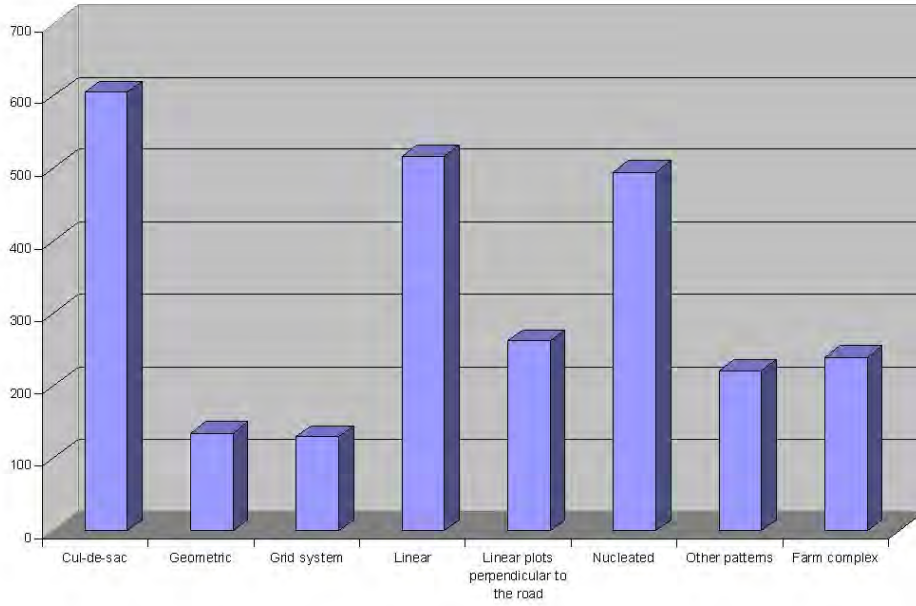


Chart 23 Patterns of settlement by number of occurrences

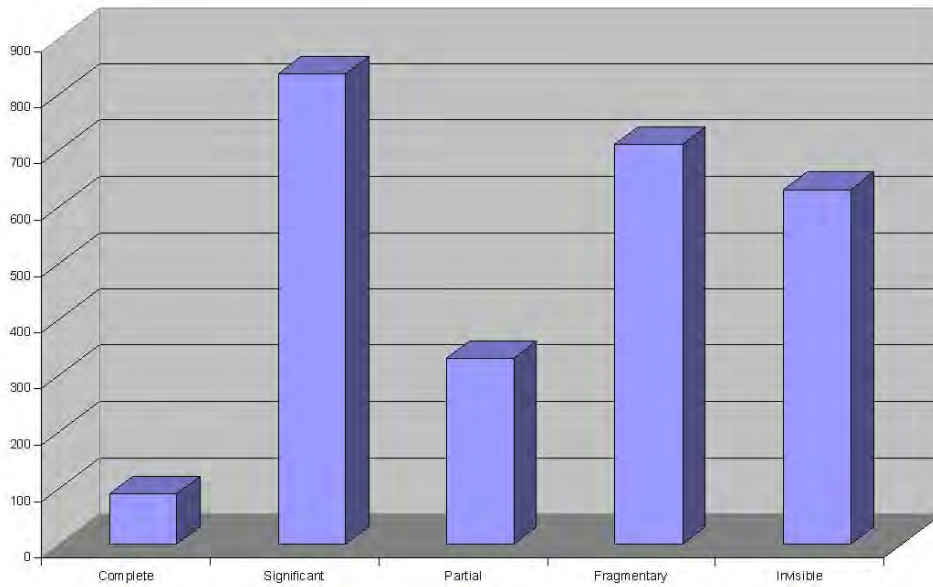


Chart 24 Legibility of settlements

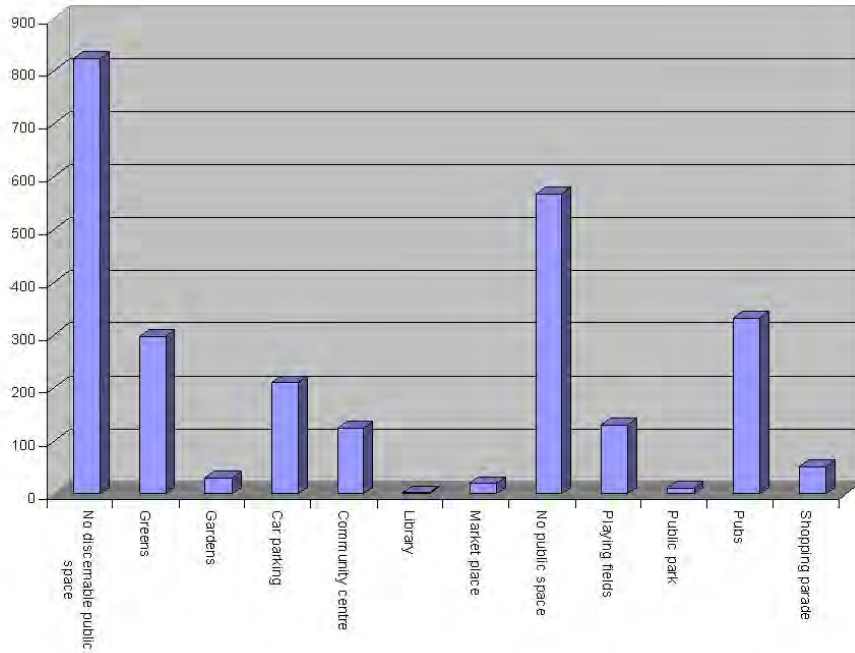


Chart 25 Type of public space

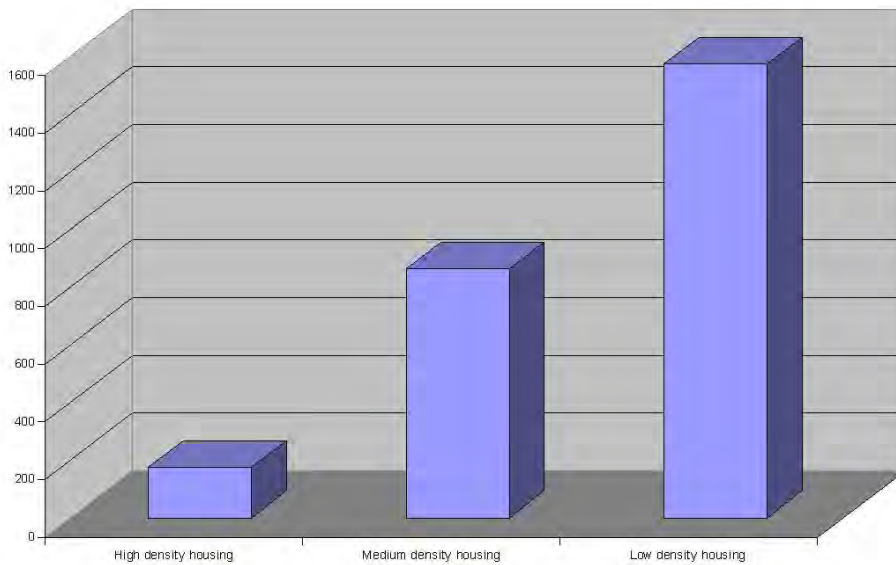


Chart 26 Showing density of housing: low-density housing (<25 homes per ha) medium-density housing (25 - 55 homes per ha) high-density housing (>55 homes per ha)

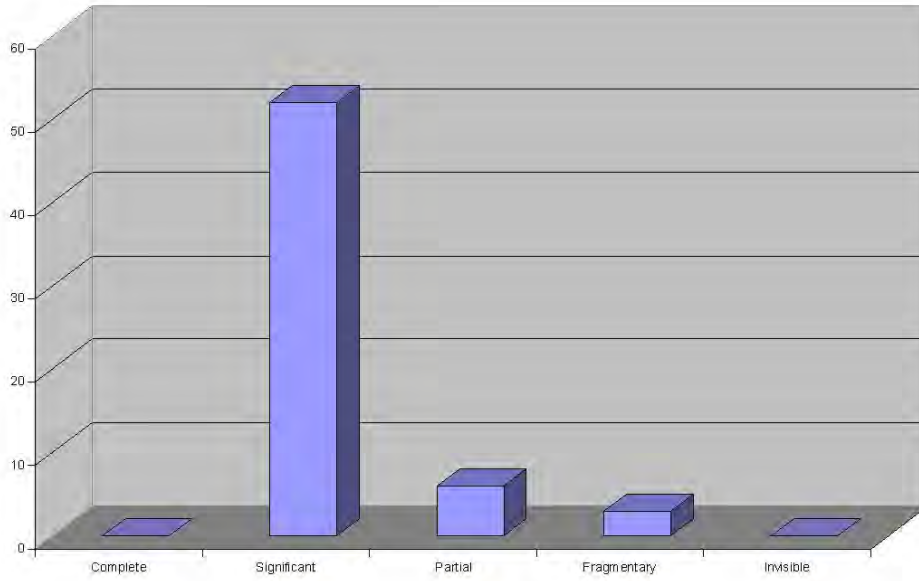


Chart 27 Legibility for historic town cores

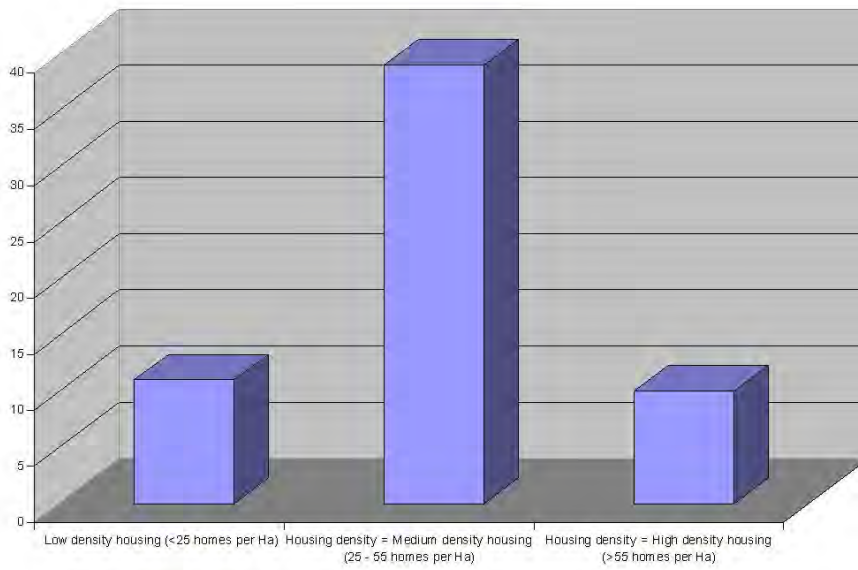


Chart 28 Housing density for historic town cores

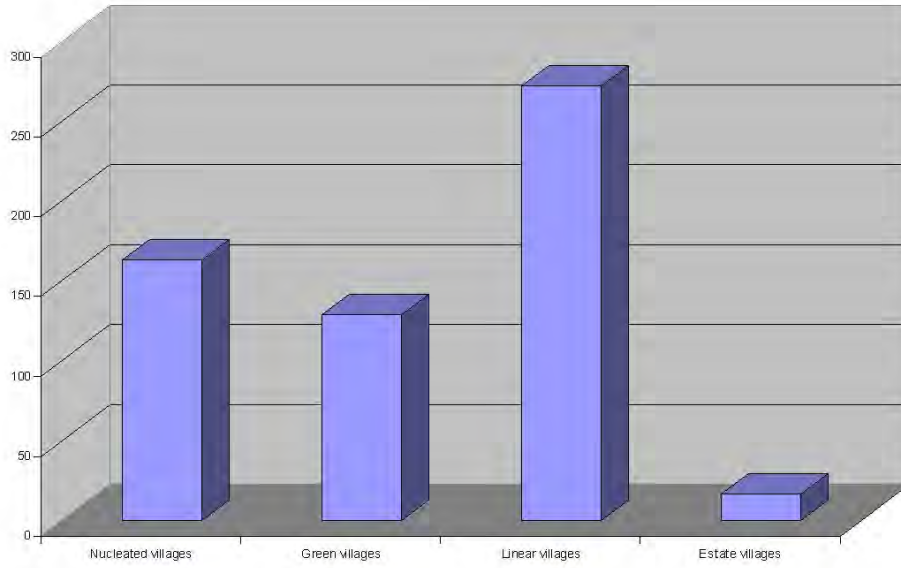


Chart 29 Number of types of village

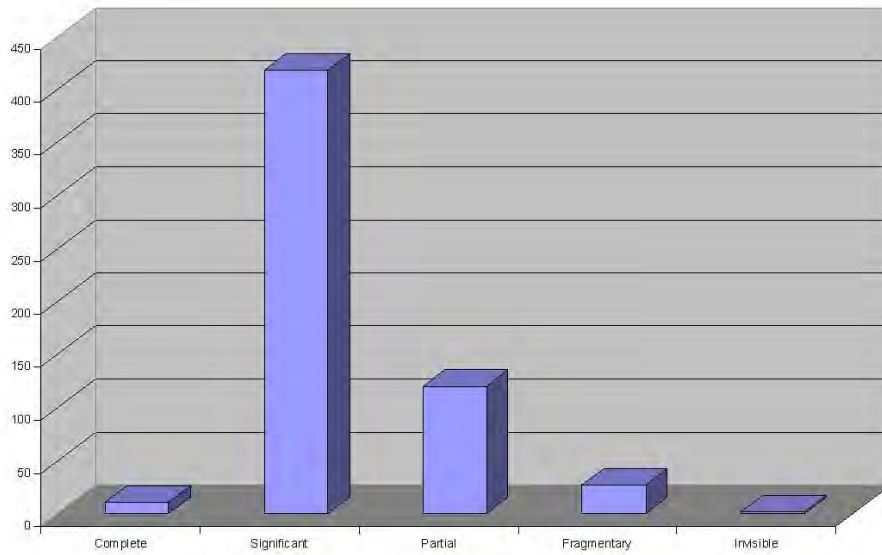


Chart 30 Legibility of villages

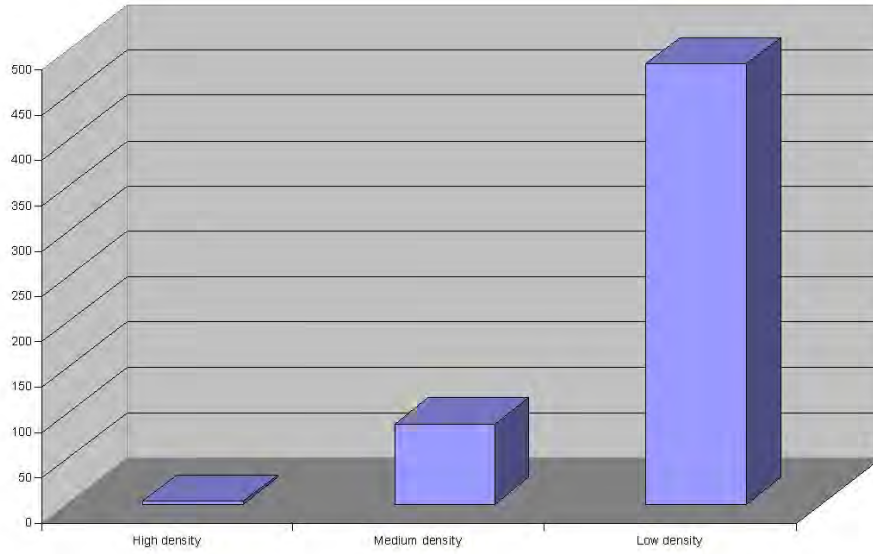


Chart 31 *Density of housing in villages: low-density housing (<25 homes per ha) medium-density housing (25 - 55 homes per ha) high-density housing (>55 homes per ha)*

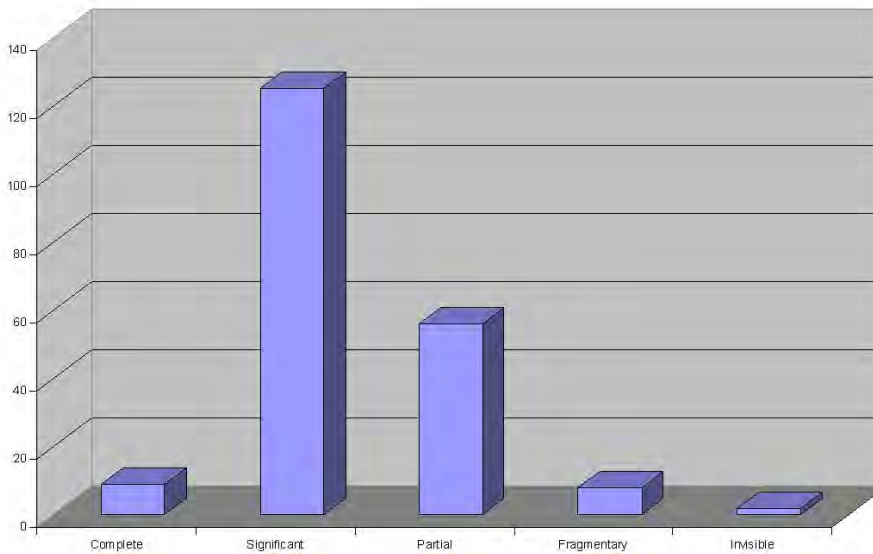


Chart 32 *Legibility of hamlets*

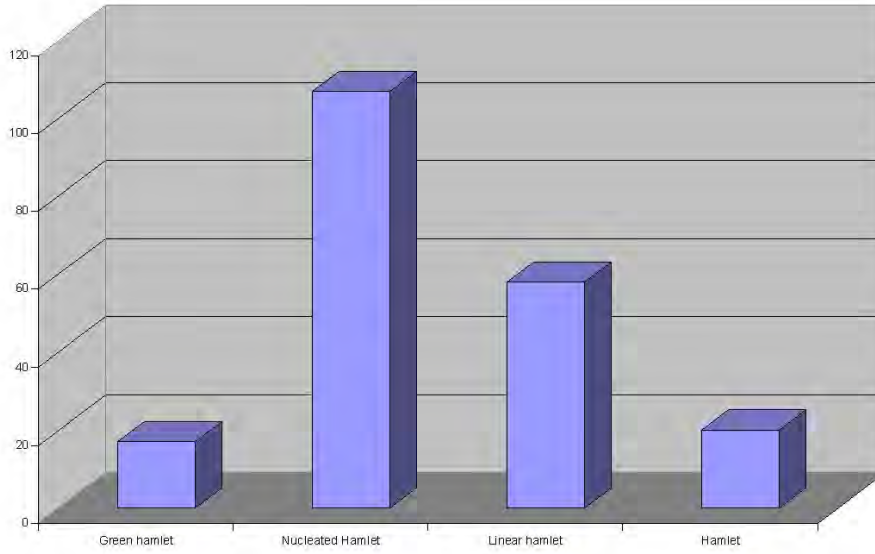


Chart 33 Number of each type of hamlet

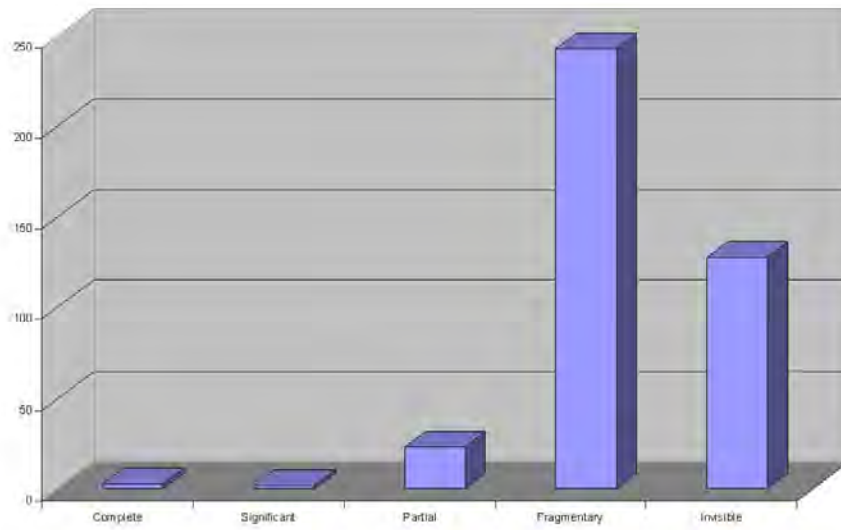


Chart 34 Legibility of planned estates

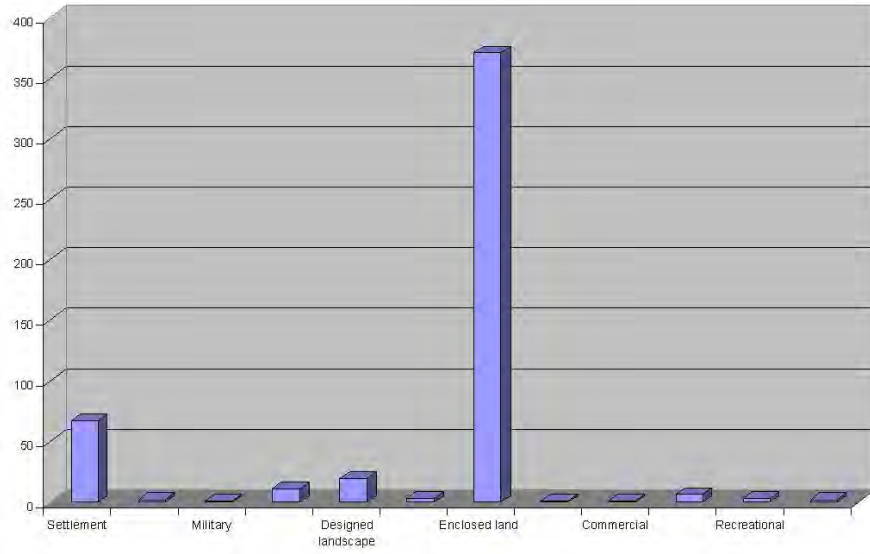


Chart 35 Previous character of planned estates

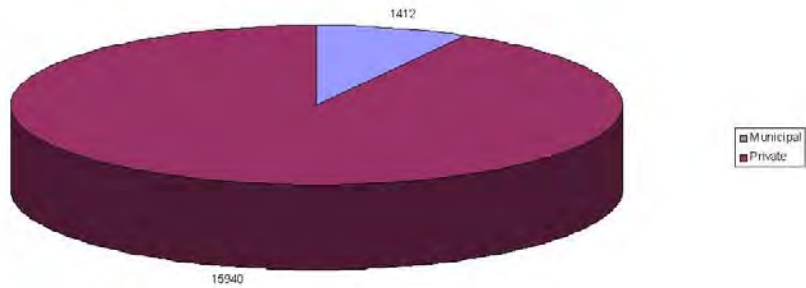


Chart 36 The proportion, by area, of private and municipal designed landscapes identified within the project area.

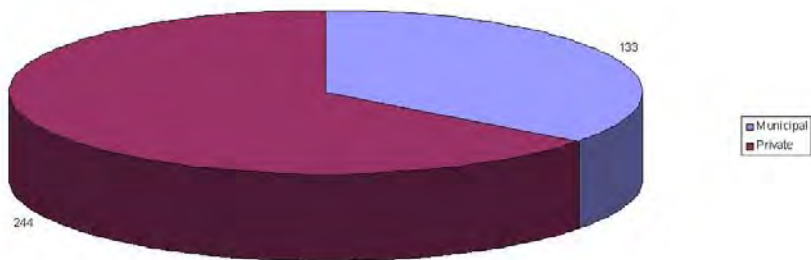


Chart 37 The proportion, by number of areas identified, of private and municipal designed landscapes within the project area.

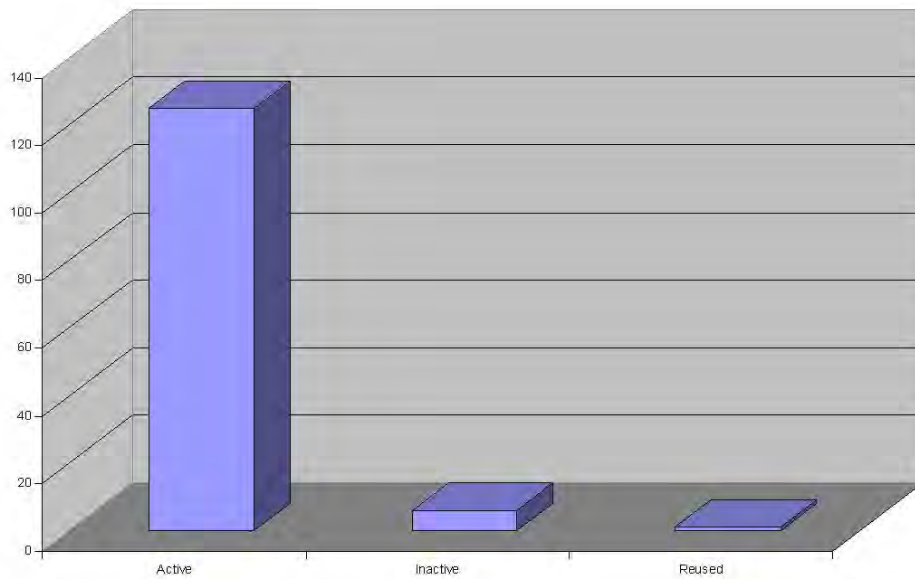


Chart 38 Status of municipal designed landscapes within the project area

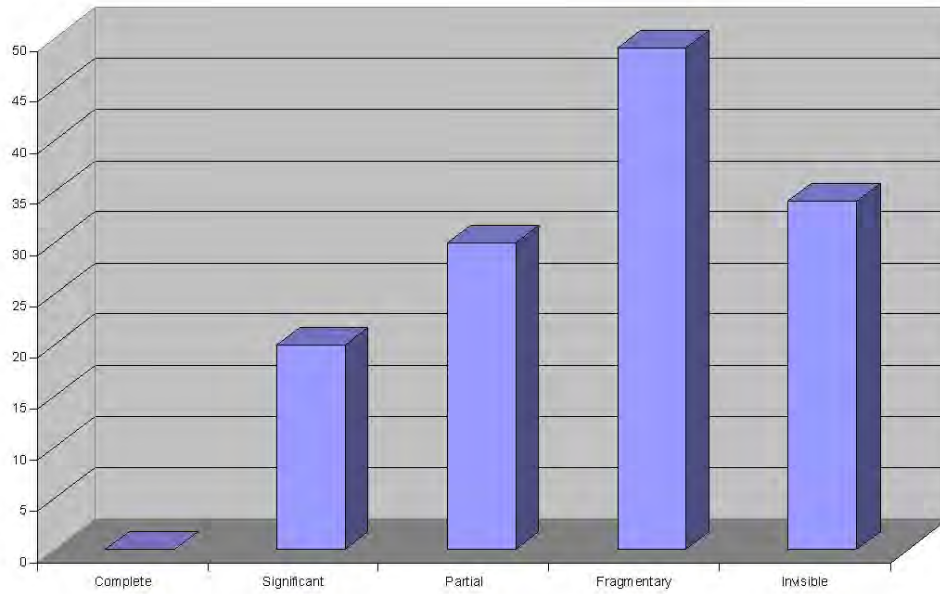


Chart 39 *Legibility of municipal designed landscapes within the project area, by number of areas*

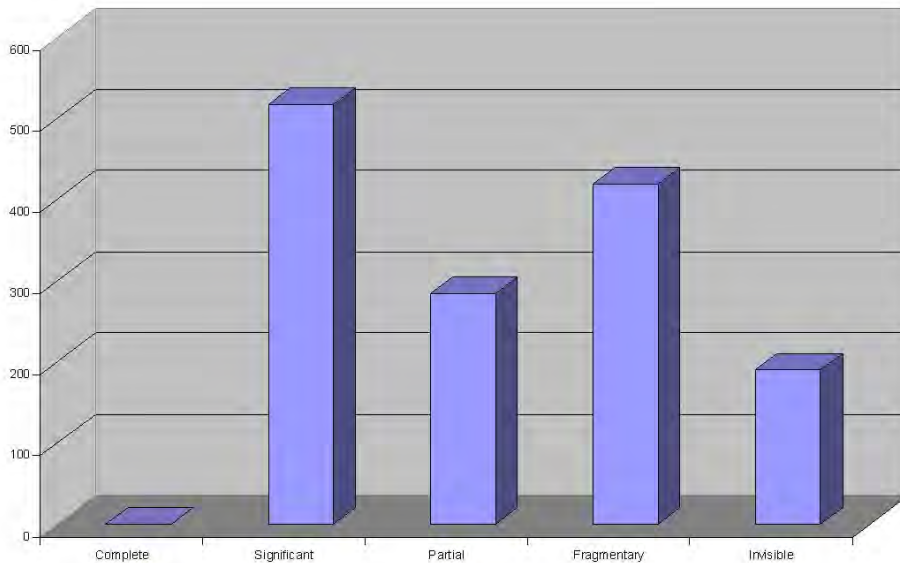


Chart 40 *Legibility of municipal designed landscapes within the project area, by hectareage*

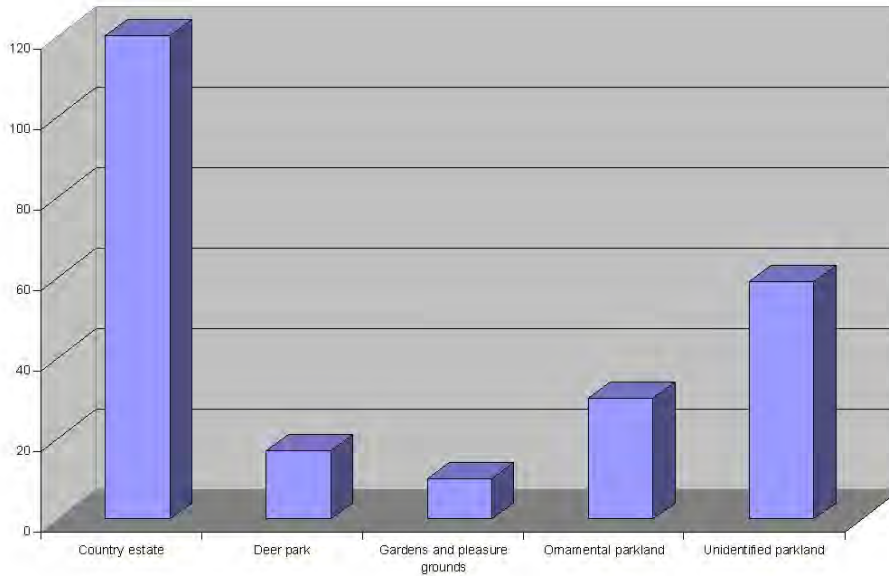


Chart 41 Number of private designed landscapes within the project area, by HLC type

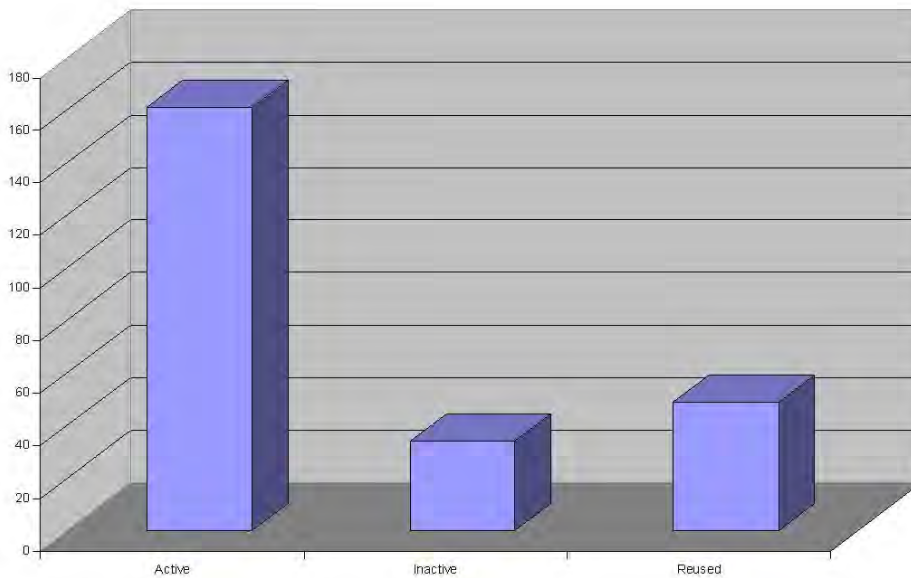


Chart 42 Status of private designed landscapes within the project area

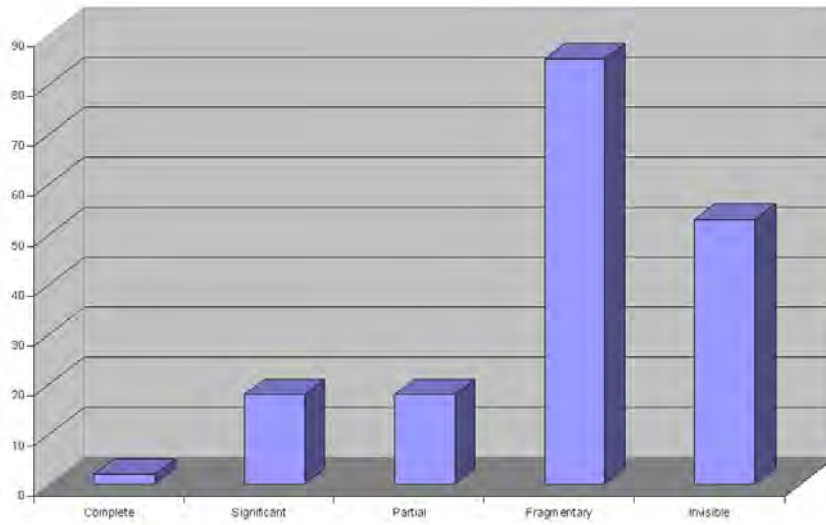


Chart 43 Legibility of industrial areas within the project area

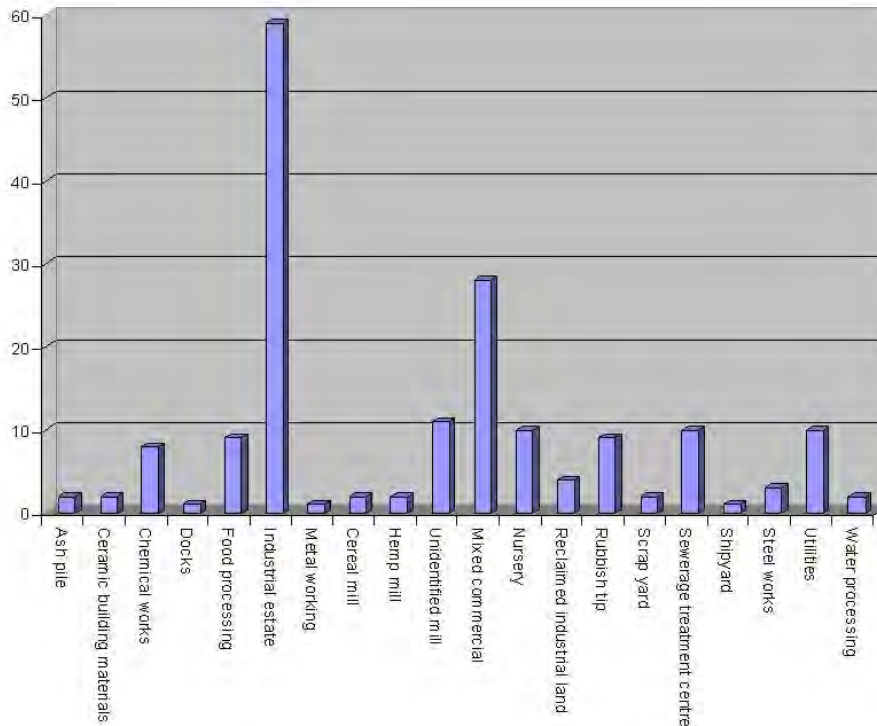


Chart 44 Number of areas recorded for each HLC type within the broad type industrial

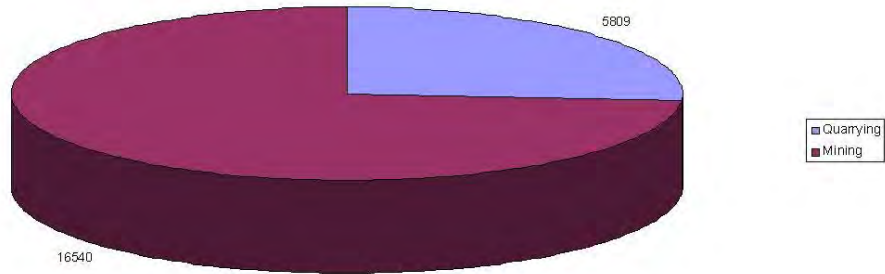


Chart 45 *Relative areas of quarrying and mining, by hectareage, within the project area*

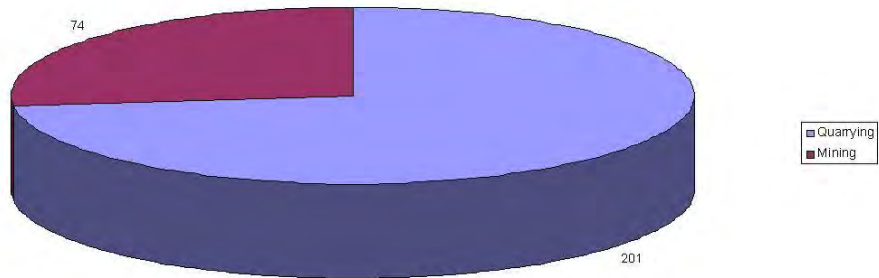


Chart 46 *Relative numbers of areas of quarrying and mining, within the project area*

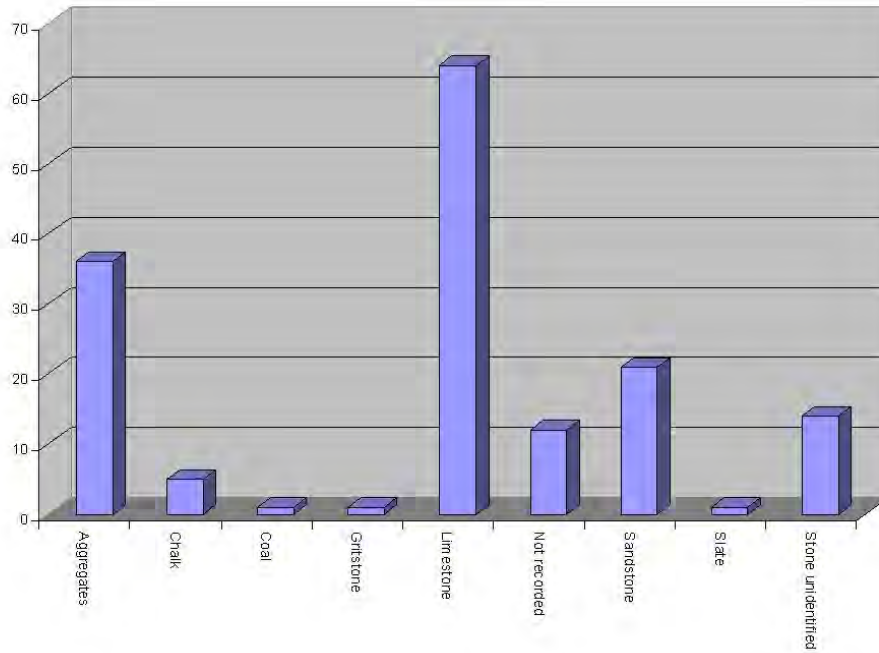


Chart 47 Products of extractive landscapes within the project area

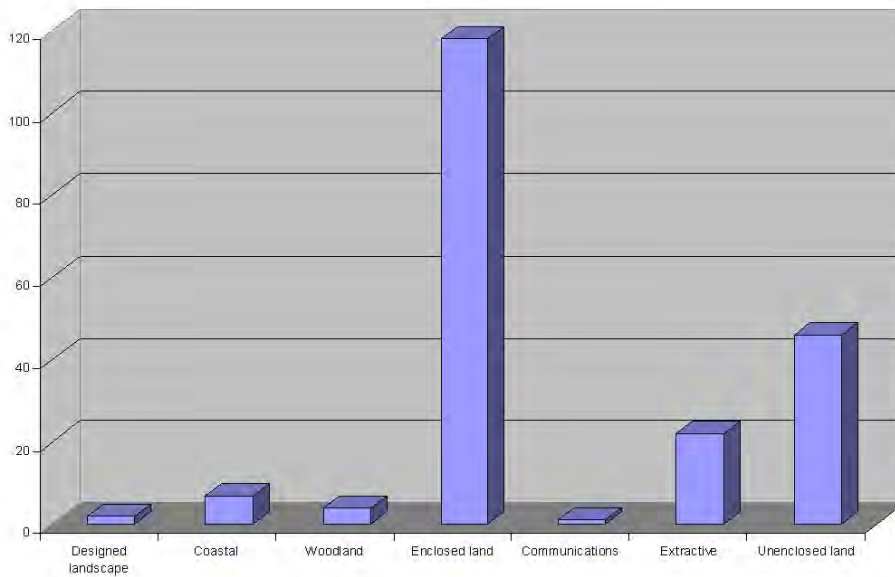


Chart 48 Previous character of extractive landscapes within the project area

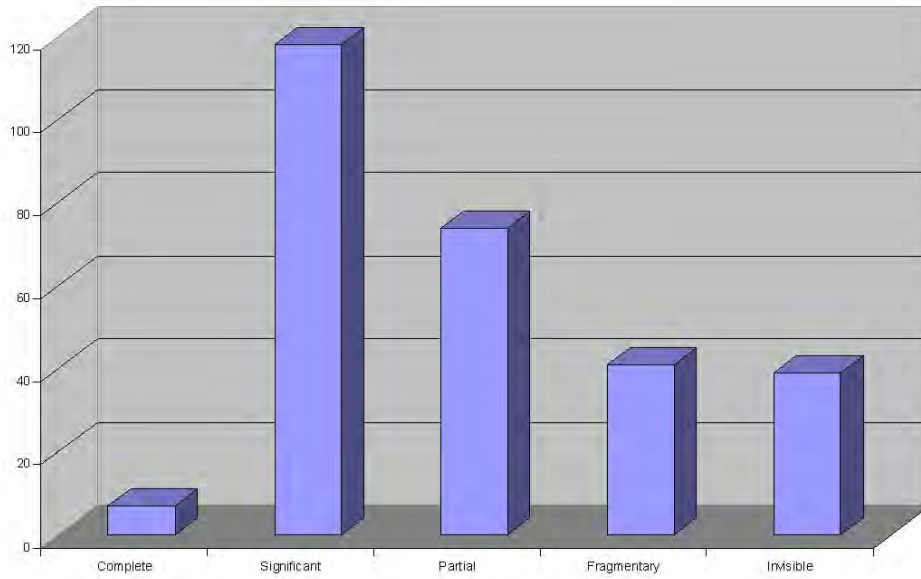


Chart 49 Legibility of extractive landscapes within the project area

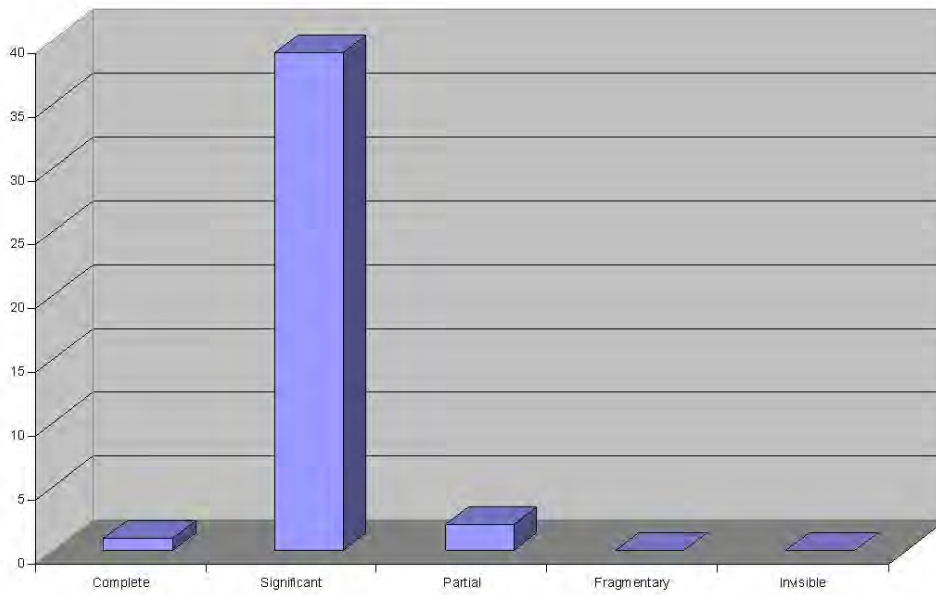


Chart 50 Legibility of lead mining within the project area

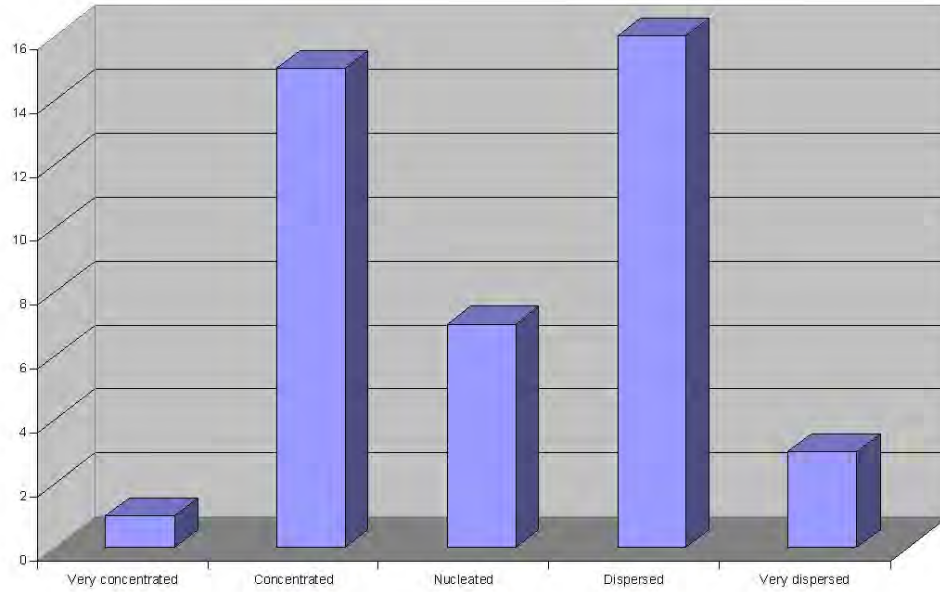


Chart 51 Concentration of lead mining within the project area

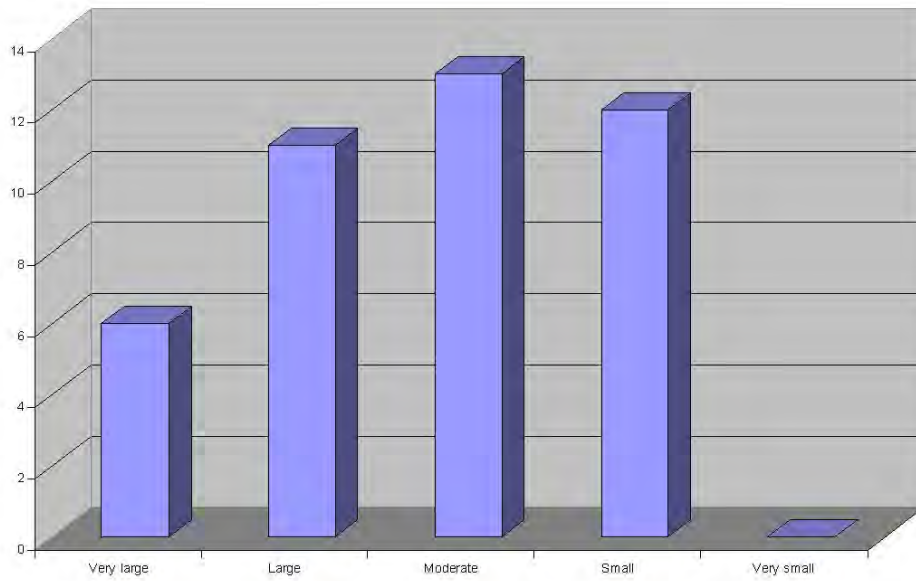


Chart 52 Scale of lead mining within the project area

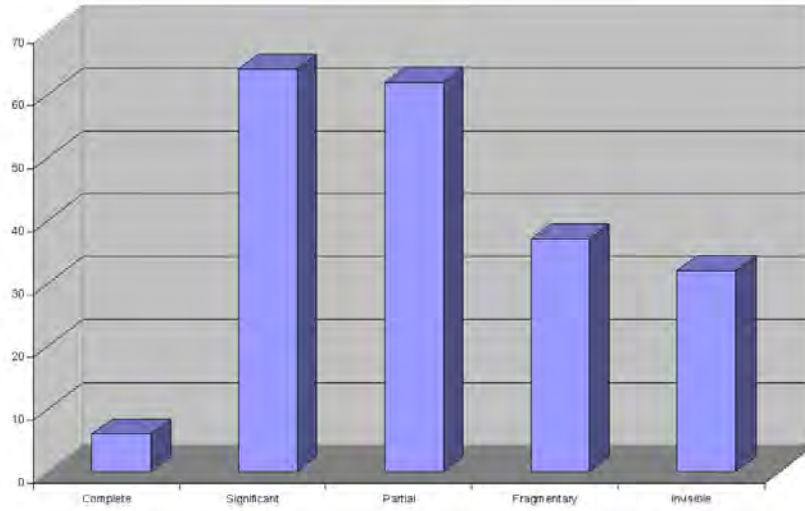


Chart 53 Legibility of quarrying within the project area

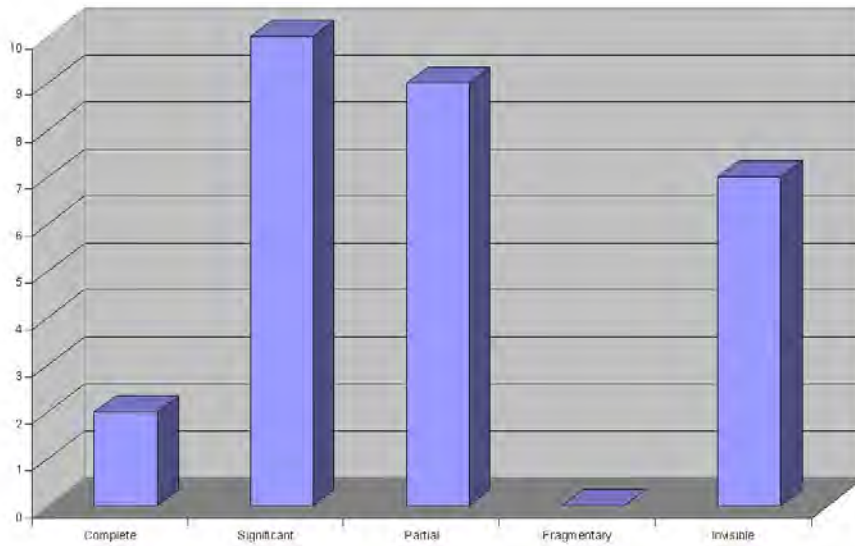


Chart 54 Legibility of coal mining within the project area

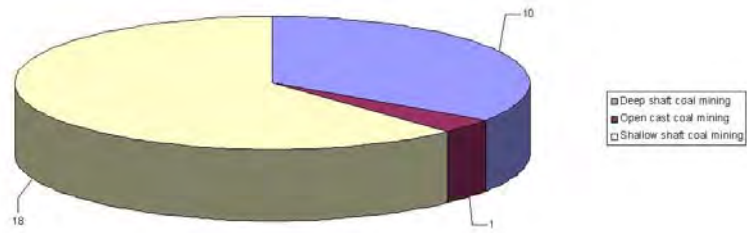


Chart 55 Relative numbers of different types of coal mining within the project area

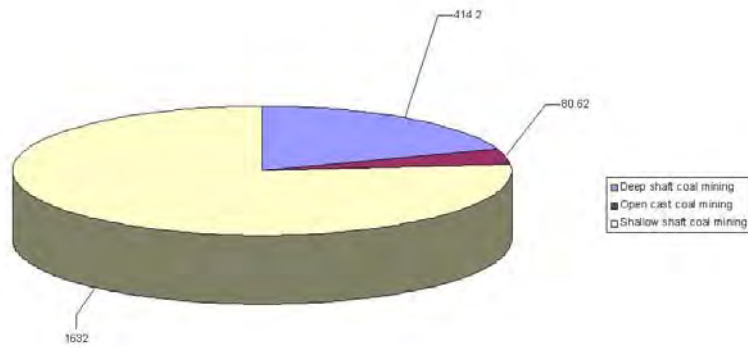


Chart 56 Relative areas of different types of coal mining within the project area, by hectare

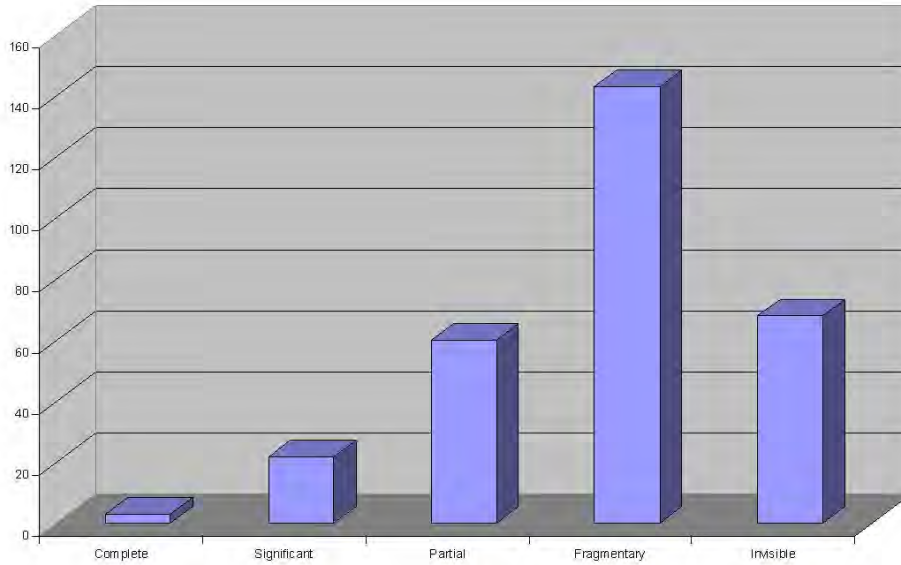


Chart 57 Legibility of recreational areas within the project area

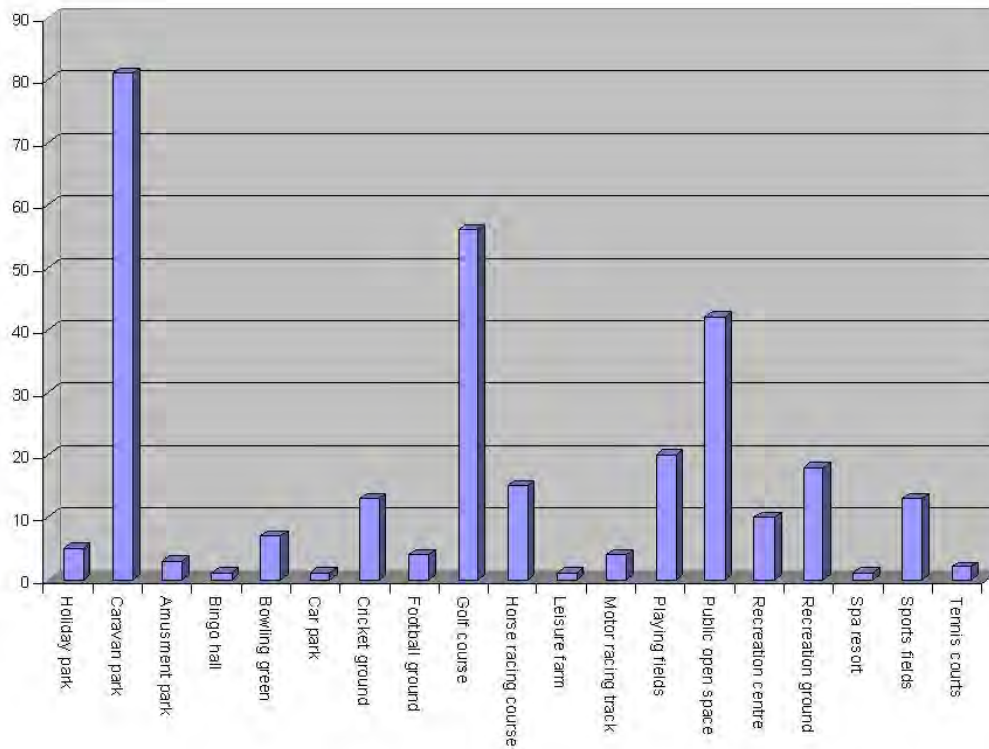


Chart 58 Numbers of recreational areas within the project area by HLC type

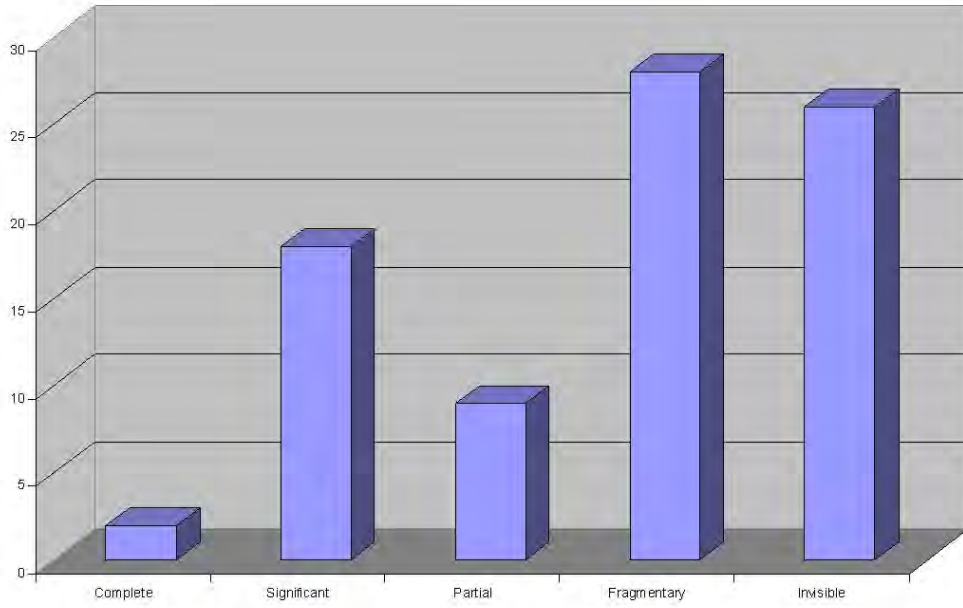


Chart 59 Legibility of communications areas within the project area

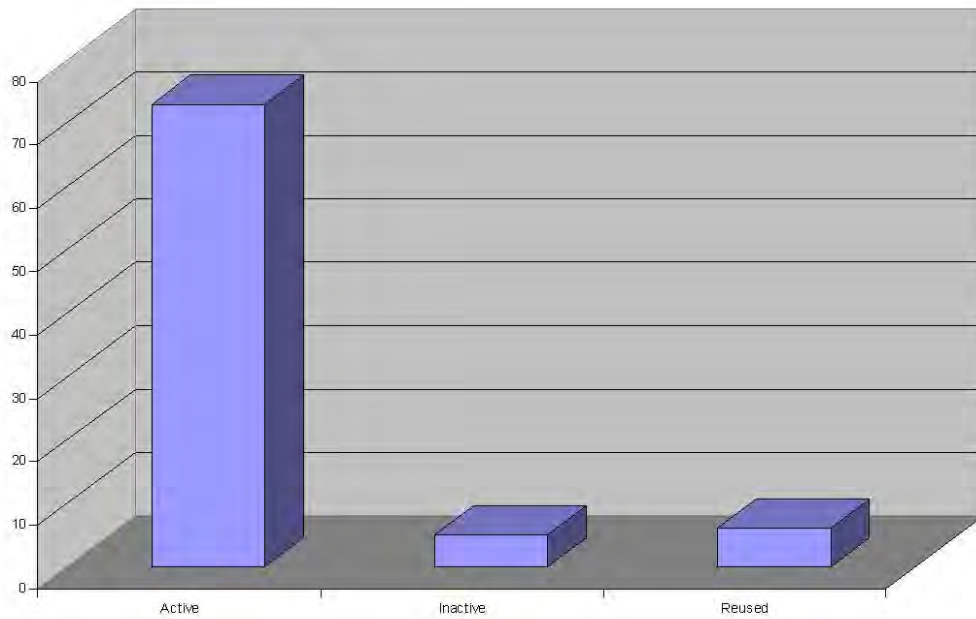


Chart 60 Communications areas within the project area by status

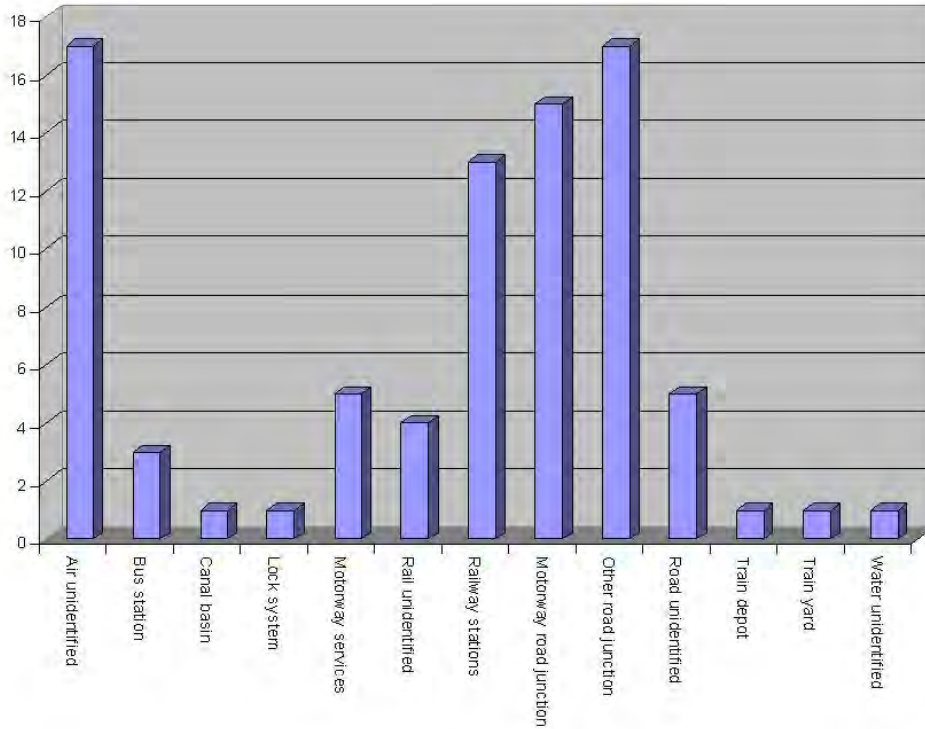


Chart 61 Numbers of communications areas within the project area by HLC type

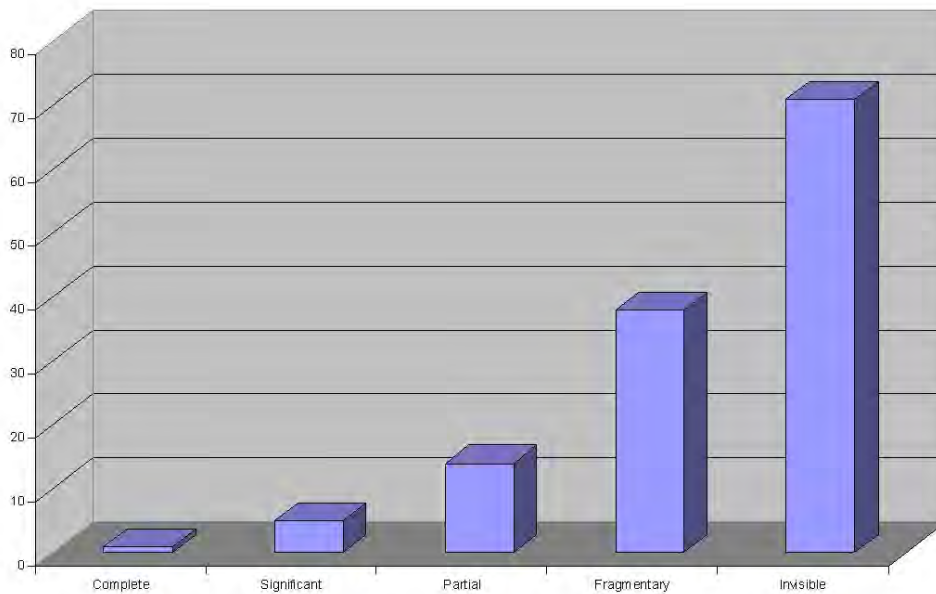


Chart 62 Legibility of commercial areas within the project area

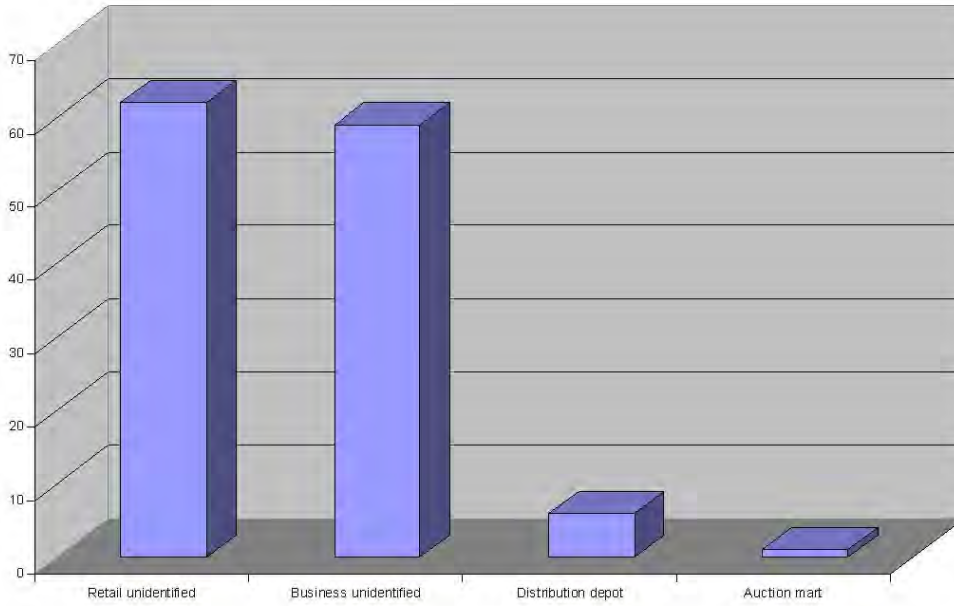


Chart 63 Numbers of commercial areas within the project area by HLC type

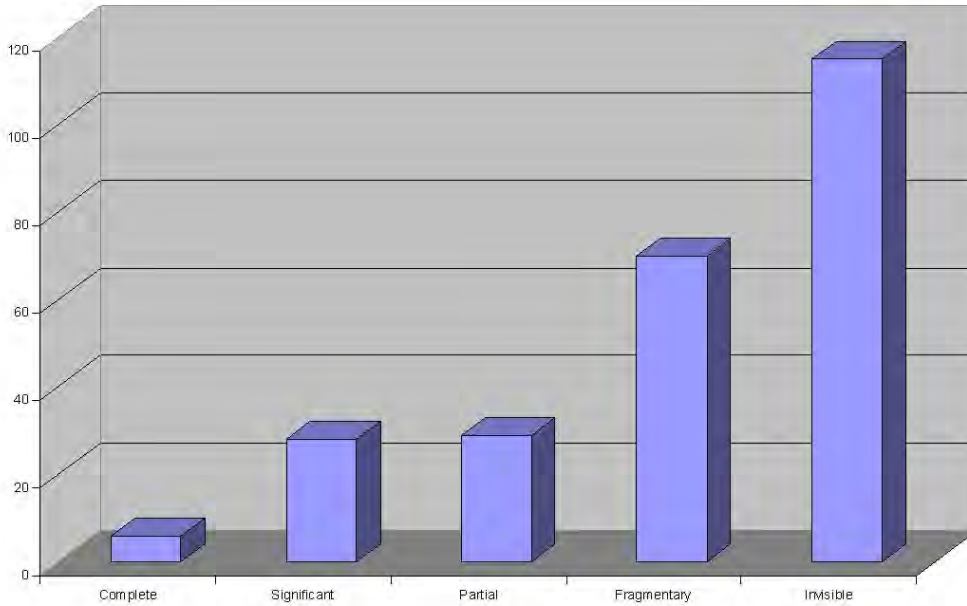


Chart 64 Legibility of institutional areas within the project area

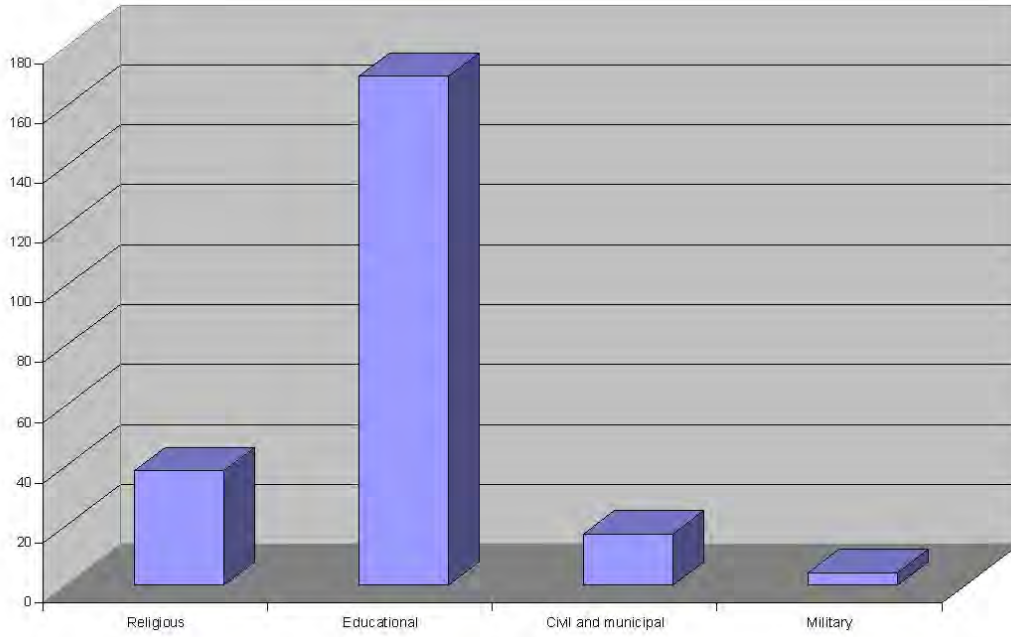


Chart 65 Numbers of institutional areas within the project area by HLC type

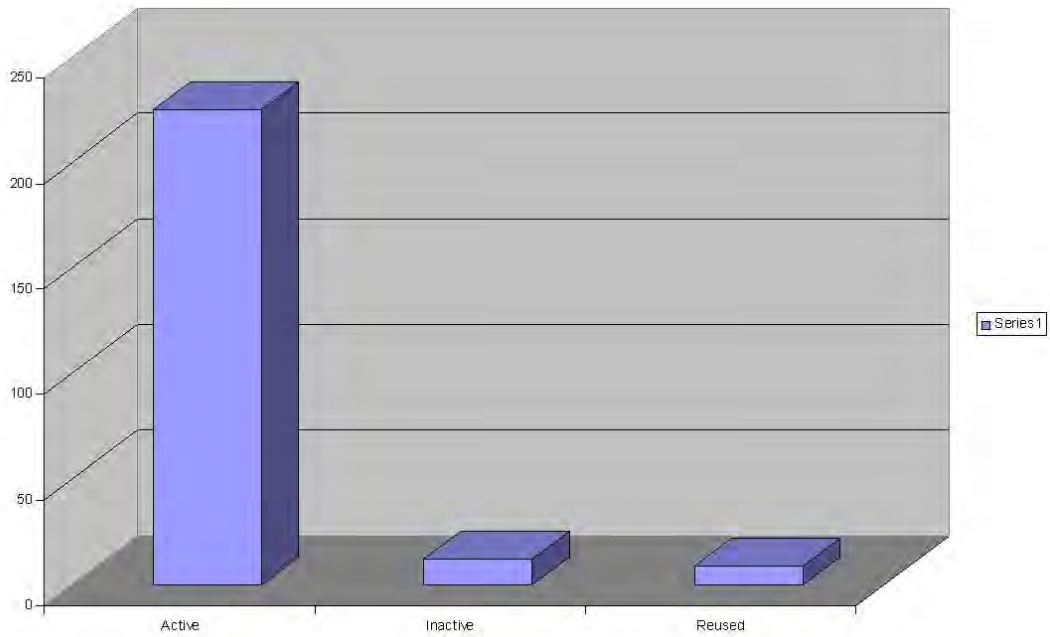


Chart 66 Status of institutional areas within the project area

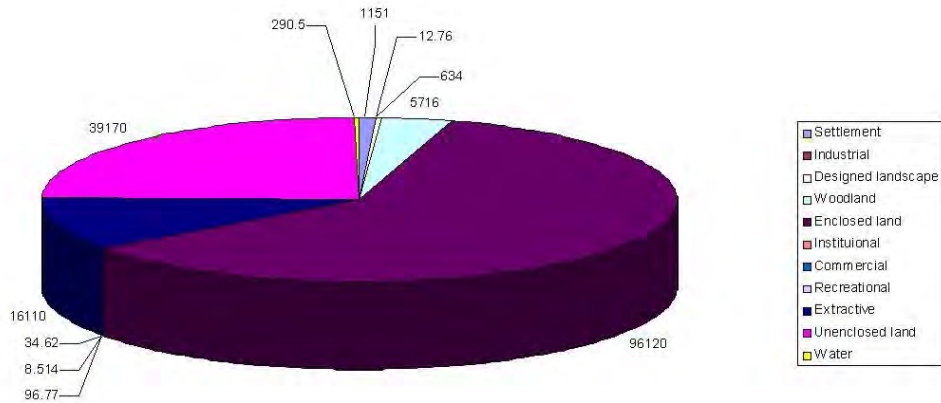


Chart 67a Numbers of hectares covered by each historic landscape character broad type for the Yorkshire Dales National Park area

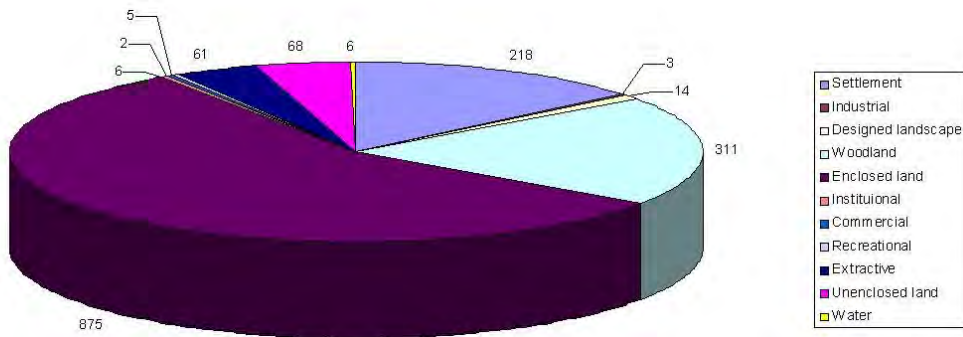


Chart 67b Numbers of records for each historic landscape character broad type for the Yorkshire Dales National Park area

Appendix B: Plates



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Plate 1 Terracing of the first decades of the 20th century at King Edwards Square, Middlesbrough recently renovated as student housing by the University of Teesside



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Plate 2 Inter war semi-detached housing at Gypsy Lane, Marton, Middlesbrough. Note the hipped roofs, bow windows, quoin stones and former recessed porches



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Plate 3 Prefabricated houses such as this example at Kathleen Street, Hartlepool (demolished since HLC) were erected immediately after World War II



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Plate 4 Planned estates of the 1960s to 1990s dominate large areas of the Tees Valley



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Plate 5 Large apartment blocks replaced many institutional buildings such as Middlesbrough General Hospital in the early 2000s.



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Plate 6 Early 20th-century planned estates are now undergoing clearance in many urban areas

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Plate 7 *Enclosed land at Harkerside Place*



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Plate 8 *Stainburn from Almscliffe, planned fields*



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Plate 9 *Farmland off Nidd Road (SE 2959)*



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Plate 10 *Enclosed strip fields*



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Plate 11 *View from possible assarting into South Wood, an area of ancient woodland.*



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Plate 12 *Landmoth Wood*



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Plate 13 *Guissecliff Wood*



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Plate 14 *Hovingham Wood ancient semi-natural woodland (restocked)*



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Plate 15 Entrance into Brafferton spring wood



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Plate 16 Wharfedale near Skyreholme



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Plate 17 A pond in the marsh of Seaton Snook



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Plate 18 Houses on Devonshire Place Harrogate, part of the historic core of High Harrogate



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Plate 19 *Mallinson Lane / Leadhall Lane, Harrogate*



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Plate 20 *Boulby alum works*



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Plate 21 Peak alum works



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Plate 22 Entrance to Irton Manor



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Plate 23 Drainage ditches defining a large arable field on the Humberhead Levels



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Plate 24 17th-century house in Cawood



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Plate 25 Gateforth village green



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Plate 26 Gascoigne Wood mine



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Plate 27 Drax power station



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Plate 28 Gale Common ash disposal site

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