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CRAVEN DISTRICT OUTSIDE THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AND FOREST OF BOWLAND AONB

LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL

Final Draft

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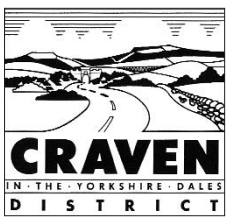
CRAVEN IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES DISTRICT



APPENDICES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Study Area within Craven District

The Study Area comprises those sections of Craven District that lie outside of the statutory national landscape designations of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB. It is a predominantly rural landscape extending across 296 km², and comprises two separate areas. A smaller area is located on the western perimeter of the District centred around Ingleton, Burton-in-Lonsdale, High and Low Bentham. The settlement of Clapham extends up to the eastern limit of this area. The larger area extends across the southern and south-eastern perimeter of the District and includes the settlements of Settle in the north, and south-eastwards to Hellifield, Gargrave, Skipton and to the south at Cowling and Glusburn and Sutton-in-Craven.

The Study Area is confined to the rural landscape of this sector of the district and excludes the principal settlements. Those settlements excluded from the study are listed in Appendix 1. The extent of the Study Area is illustrated on Figure 1.

1.2 The Brief

Landscape Design Associates was appointed by Craven District Council (CDC) in March 2002 to undertake a landscape appraisal of the Study Area. The study is in response to the requirements of the Local Plan to undertake a rigorous landscape appraisal of the Study Area sector of the District, and in accordance with current assessment methodology.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The principal purpose of the landscape appraisal is to provide CDC with a document that provides:

- a detailed assessment of landscape character types for the Study Area;
- a qualitative assessment of the landscape in Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB; and
- written justification for the inclusion of landscape character types within particular landscape quality classifications;

Arising from this overall purpose, the more specific objectives and areas of reference for the Landscape Appraisal are to:

- provide a rigorous assessment of the landscape character and quality as a basis of future local plan policy and implementation of development control;
- provide the basis for CDC to review landscape policy and, in particular, the continued definition of Special Landscape Area status;
- set the landscape character assessment of the Study Area within the national and regional landscape character context;
- define and describe 'landscape character types' at a district level, mapped at 1:10,000 scale;
- identify the past, current and future forces of change in the Study Area;
- provide a robust and clear assessment of the landscape quality of the landscape types within the Study Area based on landscape condition and strength of landscape character;
- prepare landscape guidelines for the Study Area, identifying opportunities for enhancement, intervention measures to counter threats to landscape character, priorities for action, and methods of implementation; and

- classify landscape quality and identify appropriate strategies for each landscape type.

1.4 Methodology

The methodology for the Landscape Appraisal has been developed from the Project Brief provided by Craven District dated February 2002; Landscape Design Associates proposal dated February 2002; presentation notes dated 15 March 2002; and further discussions with Matthew Collins, Project Supervisor at Craven District at the Project Inception meeting on 28 March 2002.

The methodology has been undertaken in accordance with the *'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland'* published jointly by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage in April 2002. The new guidance provides updated advice on the methods and techniques for landscape character assessment, building on the approach described in the *'Interim Landscape Character Assessment Guidance'* 1999. In addition to examining the process of characterisation in detail, the guidance also develops the importance of an integrated approach in the context of sustainable development, and the linkage to wider initiatives, notably the Quality of Life Capital and Environmental Impact Assessment.

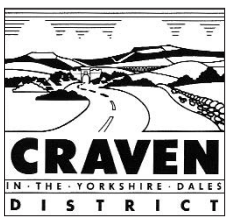
Making judgements based on Landscape Character and Quality, and in particular the preparation of landscape management guidelines and strategies, is discussed in relation to a number of examples. As a departure from the 'Interim Guidance', the use of a matrix approach for the evaluation of management strategies is no longer included in the new Guidance, although it is inherent in a number of the examples shown. In the section on 'Making Judgements based on Landscape Character', the importance of developing a clear rationale for identifying a range of enhancement strategies and priorities is highlighted. The Guidance indicates a number of detailed Topic Papers that will be reviewed in the future, and it is anticipated that further details, and the methodology and approach to character and quality evaluation and determining enhancement strategies, will be reviewed and confirmed at this stage.

At this transitional stage, prior to the establishment of a more defined guidance on the methodology to determining landscape quality and management strategies, the continued use of a matrix approach has been retained in this study in order to provide a transparent and objective basis for evaluation. This is expanded further in Section 6 of this report.

1.5 Structure of the Report

The report presents the findings of the landscape appraisal in the following sections:

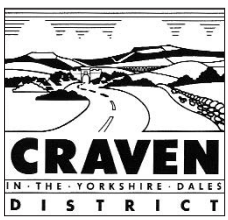
- Overview of the Landscape Development of the Study Area
- Review of existing Baseline Documents
- Classification of Landscape Types
- Forces for Change
- Evaluation of Landscape Quality of Landscape Character Types



- Landscape Management Strategies

1.6 Field and Desk Studies

The findings of this study were based on field assessments undertaken in late April and early May 2002. The desk studies and consultations were undertaken during the period April to July 2002. Appendices 2 and 3 provide details of the Schedule of Consultees used and the Field Survey Form respectively.



2.0 OVERVIEW OF THE LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA

2.1 Introduction

The Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, Adopted 1999, summarises the physical environment of Craven District Study Area, and in paragraph 3.2.2 states:

'In Craven outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park there are a number of distinct regions largely defined by their respective geologies. The topography of South Craven results from the underlying millstone grit of the South Pennines, whilst to the west and north west are the undulating lowlands shaped during the last ice age and the natural corridors of the Ribble Valley and Wenning Valley dividing the dales from the upland fells of the Forest of Bowland.'

2.2 Physical Influences

Note: Details of terms used in Section 2.2 are included in Appendix 7: Glossary

2.2.1 Geology

The Study Area is underlain by a wide succession of rocks, although more recent 'drift' deposits mask much of the solid geology. A simplified geological map illustrating the general pattern of solid rocks and drift deposits is shown on Figure 2. Structural faults arising from the effects of major earth movements are particularly well displayed in the Study Area, resulting in the juxtaposition of strata of different geological periods and characteristics. While the underlying solid geology is responsible for the principal pattern and elevation of the landform, it is the effects of processes and deposition of material during the most recent Quaternary geological era, during and at the close of the Pleistocene period Ice Ages, that has been particularly important in moulding and modifying the more local landform patterns.

The Pennine uplands on the north-eastern perimeter of the Study Area are principally underlain by sedimentary rocks of the Carboniferous period. Horizontally bedded Great Scar Limestone and Yoredale series form a distinctive limestone upland landscape, with summit areas capped by the harder coarse sandstone of the younger Millstone Grit. The Carboniferous series are very thick, and lie unconformably over an older eroded former mountain chain. In contrast to the simple bedding of the younger overlying Carboniferous strata, these older 'basement' rocks dating from the Ordovician period are tightly folded and metamorphosed. To the west and south of the Study Area the underlying bedrock is principally Millstone Grit and Coal Measures.

Major earth movements occurring many millions of years ago have been responsible for the creation of major fault lines, known as the Craven Faults, and form a principal feature within the Study Area. The South Craven Fault follows a north-west to south-east alignment, running through the settlement of Ingleton, and linking into the east-west aligned Mid Craven Fault at Settle. A further major fault line, the North Craven Fault, occurs to the north of the South and Mid Craven Faults although this lies beyond the limit of the Study Area. The effect of these earth movements has been dramatic with land to the south-west of the fractures slipping downwards while the land to the north east was uplifted. Particularly dramatic movements some 40 million years ago resulted in a downward throw to the south of the fault line of over 1500m. As a result of this huge vertical displacement to the south of the South Craven fault line, a succession of younger rocks of the Coal Measures and Millstone Grit of the Upper Carboniferous period are juxtaposed against the Lower Carboniferous Limestone series. The effects of these earth movements are particularly well displayed in the vicinity of Ingleton to Settle, with a notable escarpment defining the

two contrasting geological regions brought into juxtaposition, and closely followed by the A65.

The series of Ice Ages have had a significant effect on local landform characteristics. In addition to the modification of the hills and valleys by the movement of the glaciers, extensive and deep areas of boulder clay were deposited within the moving ice, and plastered and moulded onto the underlying solid geology in the form of drumlins. These form distinctive elongated oval shaped hillocks, typically 20 - 30 m high, with their long axis generally aligned to the direction of flow of the ice. There are also notable deposits of morainic material notably glacial sands and gravels, as well as alluvial deposits within the principal river valleys, and river terrace deposits. On the western side of the Study Area, and across the South Pennines fringe, there are also extensive deposits of peat.

2.2.2 Topography and Drainage

The landform and drainage pattern of the Study Area is a surface expression of the underlying solid and drift geology, and particularly the structural geology arising from the effects of earth movements. Glaciation has also been a significant factor, particularly in respect of the deposition of morainic material and the formation of drumlin fields.

The topography of the Study Area is illustrated on Figure 3.

The smaller, western section of the Study Area comprises a broad basin gently dissected and drained by the parallel east west courses of the River Greta and River Wenning. These flow westwards into the River Lune. The area is contained by rising land to the south-west extending up to the moorland fringe of the Forest of Bowland. To the north and west of this area, the land rises again to the distinctive limestone uplands of the Yorkshire Dales section of the Craven Pennines.

Within the larger, eastern part of the Study Area, there are three distinct but interrelated sections.

Southwards from Settle to Hellifield the broad, flat floodplain of the River Ribble forms a notable feature within this sector of the Study Area. The river flows along a north-south alignment with rising, undulating land extending to the west of Ribblesdale merging into the moorland fringe of the Forest of Bowland. This land has been dissected by a series of tributary streams draining eastwards into the Ribble. To the east, the boundary to the open river valley is more distinct and immediate, defined by the escarpment of the limestone uplands that follow the northern side of the South Craven Fault.

Between Hellifield and Skipton there is a well defined drumlin landscape with the characteristic moulded rolling hills forming a distinctive pattern within the Craven Lowlands. The drumlin fields are particularly well established in the vicinity of Coniston Cold and southwards to Thornton-in-Craven.

The eastern part of the Study Area comprises the valley of the River Aire. Rising above Garsdale, the river flows in a predominantly north-west / south-east course. The broad floodplain of the river is contained by rising land extending up to the moorland fringe and plateaux of the South Pennines. Underlain principally by Millstone Grit, this area has a contrasting character to the distinctive limestone uplands of the Yorkshire Dales to the north.

2.3 Human Influences

Note : The references identified in this section are included as a separate section in Appendix 6: References

2.3.1 Pleistocene Period and Palaeolithic Influences (c. 500,000 - 8,000 BC)

During the Pleistocene Ice Age the entire region incorporating the Study Area was covered in ice on more than one occasion. The last of the Ice Age glacial periods is believed to have occurred between 25,000-13,000 years ago. After the last glacial retreat, the *'desolate wastes of rock and glacial debris were soon colonised by mosses and grasses, with new plant species spreading from the south'* [1]. With progressive climatic warming, by about 10,000 years ago, many parts of Britain were covered in the 'Wildwood'. Continuous woodland would therefore have extended across the whole of the Study Area, as well as across the surrounding upland areas. The woodland cover encouraged animals to roam the land.

Although Stone Age man had occupied southern Britain for a considerable time, early settlers of this period did not venture into the area until around 9,000 BC. They first settled in the bleak Pennine Hills because *'the limestone country was the main attraction, where he lived in the caves, fished in the many small lakes and hunted and gathered in the forests.'* [2]

2.3.2 Mesolithic Influences (c. 8,000 - 4,000 BC)

During this period of time the climate became progressively warmer encouraging the further northward retreat of the glaciers.

'The improved climatic conditions suited settlements by large numbers of people and bands of hunter gatherers roamed the upland and lowland landscapes.' [3] During this period of hunting and gathering the Mesolithic people started to burn and cut down parts of the 'Wildwood', and created open land for animal grazing. Trackways were created during this period as the people established a more stable pattern of existence.

With the progressive loss of tree cover, the ground became considerably wetter. *'The exposed soil was also leached to form hard pans in the lower layers and so reduce the drainage.'* [4] These encouraged the development of blanket bog. The climate did not arrest the process, as from 6,000 to 4,000BC the climate became exceptionally warm and wet. Consequently many of the trees could not survive these conditions and therefore died, leaving the ground even wetter.

2.3.3 Neolithic Influences (c. 4,000 - 2,500BC)

Neolithic man had a significant impact on the landscape compared to the earlier generations of Mesolithic man. There was a shift from the pattern of hunting and gathering to a more settled environment and social lifestyle.

They were thought to be the first farmers in the area and archaeological investigations have found examples of querns, sickles, polished stone axes, knives and pottery. Their later pottery was *'characterised by beautifully shaped clay beakers which have been found in many of the caves'* [5] in the region.

The farmers had permanent homes made out of timber and turf as these materials were readily available in the area. Some of the people occupied the caves along the southern limestone margin, but the use of caves was mainly restricted to burial sites.

The cooler wetter climate, and the continued widespread clearance of the forests for animal grazing encouraged the further development of blanket bog. This marked a trend that has continued throughout the rest of man's occupation of the area.

Neolithic man was the first community to establish more permanent tracks and routeways due to their settled existence. The precise line of the track was often determined *'in response to the local conditions. They skirted puddles and other wet places, they avoided obstructions such as fallen trees'* [6]. The routes were often through higher areas but some valley routes were also used although these were more susceptible to local diversions.

2.3.4 Bronze Age Influences (c. 2,500 - 750BC)

The discovery of bronze heralded the commencement of the Bronze Age. In this period many of the skills and technology gained were derived from continental Europe.

The climate was cooling slightly at this time, driving settlements down from the high levels of the Dales and the Pennines into the lowlands. As a consequence the Craven Area became a more settled place with the progressive establishment of communities. Although the hilltops were still farmed this was mainly confined to the warmer months.

During the Bronze Age, settlements started to grow substantially in size. This was reflected in the social and economic state at the time, with burial sites in the form of barrows and ceremonial sites in the form of henges and earth works becoming ever more numerous. In the late Bronze Age the people also started to use cemeteries. These places are the main sources of artefacts and help to tell us more about the lifestyle during the Bronze Age. Jars, bowls and cups in many new ceramic styles were found amongst the remains and are indicative of the emergence of a more sophisticated society.

The trackways were being used more steadily now and some were even possibly being used to move *'bronze and gold artefacts from Ireland to eastern England in the later Bronze Age.'* [7] A typical route is believed to have followed the lowland gap linking the Ribble and Aire valleys.

2.3.5 The Iron Age Influences (c. 750BC - AD79)

The population grew steadily in this period. *…'competition for land and the development of a more territorial society, hill forts and defensive enclosures were manifestations of this social shift.'* [8] This is thought to have led to a mixture of tribal groups and immigrant groups forming within the area and living amongst the farmers.

Many Iron Age settlements have been found within the limestone region of the southern Dales and Craven area. Their ancestors had already cleared these areas of the forests and laid the area to pasture, but Iron Age man took this process further and *'the pastoral communities enclosed more and more fields around their huts, and these steadily grew into vast tracts of Celtic fields'* [9]

The Iron Age opened up the area and helped many of the settlements to grow and develop a better social and domestic understanding. This further affected the appearance and character of the landscape. Very little of the earlier forest cover was now left, with the main pockets confined to the sides of gills and steeper slopes. The blanket bog and heath that had taken hold earlier on in man's existence was now *'firmly established on the higher fells, and the summit landscapes were much as they are today.'* [10]

2.3.6 The Roman Influences (AD 49-410)

The Roman period began later in this area of Britain, and the Yorkshire Dales and the surrounding areas were never widely colonised. The Romans occupied key points within the area, and controlled the main routes. Some of the tribes retreated to the hills until the Romans left. Generally, however, the farmers and Romans occupied the land in a peaceful co-existence.

The Romans bought many new technologies with them. Their prowess in road building was particularly significant, and the development of a more sophisticated network of routeways provided wider access to many places within Britain. Iron Age man had mainly used mud tracks but the Romans established substantial roadways in stone with cambered surfaces. This enabled the Romans to move their soldiers, food and equipment more easily throughout the country.

These routeways were very straight, direct routes to larger settlements, and it was therefore natural that the routes would be exploited by the locals for trading of their various goods. *'The Ribble Valley formed an important Roman communication route to York'* [11].

2.3.7 Saxon and Scandinavian Influences (AD 410 - 1066)

This period is not heavily documented so the main sources of information for this time have come from artefacts found, and place names of settlements. An examination of settlement names suggest that in the seventh and eighth century, the area was highly populated with British speaking people.

The communities were converted to Christianity during the 7th century. Place names ending in *'tun'* e.g. Halton *'indicates centres of importance containing early churches which governed wide tracts of the surrounding countryside.'* [12] This occurred when the Angles first infiltrated the area. It was probably their descendants that established the first villages here, which could be attributed to the beginning of the settlement patterns of today.

The Roman Military road system was used for many centuries after the Romans had left, and the local population added to these roads. More routes were created and a vast network of path and roads began to evolve. Although the people of this time are believed to be settled folk, further research indicate that they travelled far and wide if it was needed.

2.3.8 Medieval Period Influences (AD 1066 - 1500)

The Domesday Book provides an invaluable record of Britain for the year 1086 and an immense source of evidence about Norman England and social life for this period, and how the feudal system worked.

'The medieval period was one of great prosperity with economic expansion and rapid population growth'[13].

Communities carried out an extensive amount of work on the land. The main change was the switch from livestock farming to arable farming. A lot of the uninhabitable and untouched land was also developed and made more usable for everyday purposes.

In the 14th century the population underwent a rapid decline, mainly due to the spread of the Black Death, and also as a result of the effect of a succession of poor harvests. Instability and wars also broke out. With the population decline, there was a shift from the emphasis on arable farming to livestock rearing.

Sheep farming was favoured in the area, as textile manufacturing had begun to emerge as an important local industry. Lancashire and Yorkshire were considered to be ideal areas for these activities to establish, as a consequence of the many streams and rivers that could support a local mill, plus the extensive amount of land available for sheep grazing. These areas were also easily accessible, and as a result .. *'There was extensive commercial and social traffic on Lancashire's roads during the medieval period'* [14]

Many castles and towers were also established in the area during the medieval period to protect the land from invaders. Skipton Castle, built over 900 years ago, is a prime example of a medieval castle. Originally it had a watchtower and a moat protecting it. This was considered to be one of the most important features of the castle's defence and explains why it has survived in such good condition.

2.3.9 Early Modern Influences (AD 1500 - 1750)

These next two centuries marked the transition from medieval to modern times. The period encompassed the Civil War and local governments were also set up during this time. Settle and other villages began to make major advances in trade, and therefore prospered. Within this period *'the building of most of the old stone houses seen in the parish today'* [15] took place, as stone and brick became the preferred building material.

By the 17th century irregular stone walls enclosed most of the meadows and arable land close to the settlements, creating small fields. *…'the open field system gave way to a system in which each villager farmed a small holding'* [16] , and heralded the start of the enclosure system. This lead to the creation of walled tracks and lanes to the moorland and fell tops, as access was needed for summer grazing.

The roads were generally in good condition in this period as the manor houses and religious houses within the area maintained them. At the end of the period, however, there was a major increase in traffic due to the beginning of industrialisation. This resulted in overuse and congestion, and the condition of the roads deteriorated. The manor houses could not keep up with the repairs resulting in the enforcement of the Turnpike or 'toll' roads.

2.3.10 Industrialisation and the Modern Period Influences (AD 1750 - 1900)

Industrialisation was in full development in this period with the shift from a predominately rural to a more urban based economy. As a result, even greater pressures were placed on the land with demands for quarrying, and further development of the transport network. Many textile mills and textile factories were set up during this period and it is believed that every town and village contained at least one mill.

This placed pressures on the land. Its capacity to provide productive arable and pastoral areas resulted in the parliamentary Enclosure Acts of the 18th century. These fields were larger than the previous ones with

strong regular patterns, again enclosed by stone walls. *'It is probable that many old stone monuments were destroyed in making'* [17]. In the 19th century more enclosures were enforced. These *'resulted in a dramatic new landscape of large square fields enclosing areas of previously open moorland'* [18]. The largest enclosures were laid out in a very geometric fashion.

Mining and quarrying have been an integral part of the area for a long period but the demand for coal, lead, slate and stone rose dramatically and nowadays many of *'the valley sides bear the scars of extractive industries'* [19] that took place in this period. Some of these quarries are still in operation.

Coal outcrops along the south western side of the Craven Fault, and by the mid 19th century there were a series of small mines in the vicinity of Ingleton, commencing at first as small bell pits and adit mines. The New Ingleton Colliery flourished, and was at its height by 1920, subsequently declining due to geological difficulties.

The turnpike network functioned throughout this period until around the 1870s. This was a very important road system as it ensured that they were kept in good condition. The act enabled trusts to be set up that employed people to collect a set fee for the use of the road. The money collected was put towards the maintenance of that particular stretch of road. This system had a lasting impact upon what is considered the modern road system. By the 18th century *'Carriers and mail services ran regularly along a network of long distance routes, which had London in its hub'* [20]

In 1770 the arrival of the Liverpool and Leeds Canal brought even more industrial growth to the area. Skipton benefited especially as extensive amounts of cloth making was able to take place within the area. The canal took 46 years to complete, and followed the contours within the region, to avoid tunnels and cuttings.

The establishment of the railways bought increased growth to the area as well, but this fostered a decline in the roads, and the end of the turnpike trusts, as both the canal and the railway proved to be more efficient forms of transport. The canals and railways worked with each other and prospered throughout the 19th century. They were used to transport many goods throughout the region; some of the more important goods were stone, coal, woollen products and cotton.

In addition to the renowned Settle to Carlisle railway line, which follows the Ribble Valley within the Study Area, the North West Railway Company constructed a line from Skipton to Ingleton in 1849. This gave easy access for day trips by people working in the nearby industrial centres within the West Riding, and marked the beginning of the popularity of the area for excursions and leisure use.

2.3.11 Present Day Influences (1900 - onwards)

The invention and progressive expansion of motorised transport has had a significant impact. In response to this more mobile society, many more roads were built and the original ones repaired. *'The lorry finally saw commercial traffic on the Leeds and Liverpool canal dwindling, traffic continued along the main canal until 1964.'* [21] After this, the fast and easy services that the railways and roads provided left the canals unused, until the latter part of the 20th century when leisure activities started to become popular.

Industrialisation continued in the early part of this period, but began to decline quite rapidly as Britain started to import various goods from its colonies. These were much cheaper than anything that could be produced in Britain. The two world wars also had a great effect on the economy.

Today *'Craven is one of England's most outstanding scenic areas, with a wonderful mix of natural limestone and millstone grit landscapes, moorland, fells and meadowland, unspoilt villages and historic market towns.'* [22] with an exceptionally rich historic past. Agriculture and quarrying are now the main industries that remain from the past; all the textile mills have now closed down. This has provided opportunities for many new smaller industries to establish in the area and even use the former mill sites and their buildings.

Much of the lower fringes of the district are covered in sprawling settlements, which contain large mills and chimneys at their heart. They often have *'extensive rows of terraces clinging on to the hillsides'* [23] followed by more modern housing. *'Ornamental garden plants, garden fences, driveways car parking and power lines all contribute to the suburbanised character'* [24] of these villages and towns.

Craven District is very accessible with a network of roads connecting the various towns and villages. There are three principal roads in the area, the A65, A59 and A629, all of which have recently received de-trunking orders and are in the process of, or have now achieved, a revised status to main County roads. In addition to these three roads, there are three railway lines within the Study Area.

2.4 Recent Influences

In recent decades the Study Area has been affected by a range of influences that have resulted in changing patterns in the landscape character. The effects of urbanisation, increased mobility and leisure time, and changes in agricultural land management have been particularly significant. Other more recent influences such as pressures for renewable energy, notably wind power, and waste disposal requirements bring new pressures on the landscape and the need for careful planning control. In comparison to national trends, however, these changes have generally been slower and the effects more subtle and localised in their impact.

Set against these development trends, more recent national, regional and local policy guidance promotes the principle of sustainable development, and in particular the requirement to balance the social, economic and environmental assets of the area in order to enhance the quality of life. Thus, any potential changes must be balanced against the potential effect on the irreplaceable environmental capital that is an integral part of the Study Area.

Both the existing and potential forces for change that stem from recent influences on the landscape are considered in more detail in Section 5.

2.5 Policy Context

Craven District is renowned for its outstanding landscape quality. Two thirds of the District is within the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The upland fells of the Forest of Bowland are designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The quality of Craven District's landscape outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB was previously recognised as an 'Area of Great Landscape Value' under the West Riding County Development Plan. Subsequently, in 1991, North Yorkshire County Council's Conservation Strategy identified areas of the County where the landscape quality is high and worthy of recognition in a regional or county context. This document indicates a 'Special Landscape Area' (SLA) across the whole of Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB.

2.5.1 **The Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, Adopted July 1999.**

As part of the preparation of the Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, account was taken of the North Yorkshire Conservation Strategy by designating all areas outside settlement development limits and the Forest of Bowland AONB as a Special Landscape Area (SLA). This approach was taken for both the pre-deposit consultation draft and deposit draft local plans, published in July 1995 and June 1996 respectively.

Following the completion of a landscape character assessment in 1997, alterations to SLA boundaries were proposed and subsequently adopted, as part of the local plan inquiry (to consider objections to the deposit draft local plan) and proposed modifications. These alterations were carried forward into the adopted local plan as provisional SLA boundaries, subject to the completion of a rigorous landscape appraisal. The local plan was adopted in July 1999.

Within the adopted local plan there is a particular policy that relates to the SLA: Policy ENV4 "Special Landscape Area". Policy ENV4 states that:

'Within the Special Landscape Area shown on the Proposals Map and Inset Maps, development will not be permitted if it adversely affects the visual character of the Special Landscape Area. The scale, siting, design and materials of development in the SLA should be sympathetic to its character.'

The policy is supported by the following justification (Aspects of particular interest are highlighted):

4.1 North Yorkshire County Council's Conservation Strategy has identified areas of the County where the landscape quality is high and worthy of recognition in a regional or county context. This document shows a "Special Landscape Area" across the whole Plan Area of Craven District Council. The quality of Craven's landscape was also previously recognised as an "Area of Great Landscape Value" under the West Riding County Development Plan.

4.2 ***The 'special' qualities of much of the landscape in the Plan Area derives from the generally unspoilt nature of the countryside and the variety of high quality landscape types. For example, the northern part of the plan area is characterised by a broad basin between the Craven Pennines and the upland fringe of the Forest of Bowland. The extensive valley bottom of the Ribble valley, followed to the south by the undulating drumlin landscape around Coniston Cold characterise the centre part of the Plan Area. Further south, the upland Pennine landscape and the Aire valley are characteristic of a high quality rural landscape, although this is tempered in places by urban development in the valley bottom. The main purpose of the designation of these areas as Special Landscape Areas is to recognise in a regional context the value of their visual qualities.***

4.3 A landscape character assessment of the Plan Area outside the Forest of Bowland AONB has been carried out which identifies the characteristics of the landscape and confirms the detailed boundaries of the Special Landscape Areas. A copy of the landscape character assessment is available from Craven District Council Offices, Granville Street, Skipton.

4.4 ***The purpose of this designation is not to unduly restrict acceptable development and economic activity in the countryside. It offers recognition in a regional context of the special qualities of the landscape of the Plan Area outside the Forest of Bowland AONB and seeks to ensure that the visual impact of development on the character of the landscape is sympathetic to these qualities****. Policy ENV4 therefore complements the criteria established in Policies ENV1 and ENV2 which will also be applied when considering development proposals within the Special Landscape Area.*

4.5 *The Council acknowledges that the completion of a landscape character assessment is only a preliminary stage in undertaking a rigorous landscape appraisal. A full landscape appraisal will be undertaken as a matter of priority when the local plan is reviewed. The boundaries of the Special Landscape Area designation will therefore be regarded as provisional until a full landscape appraisal has been completed and the boundaries have been reviewed within the context of it.*

The key aim of Policy ENV4 is to ensure that, where development within the SLA is permitted in principle, the design, siting and scale of the proposals are such that landscape character and appearance is enhanced where possible or at least not degraded as a result.

3.0 REVIEW OF EXISTING BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION

3.1 Introduction

This assessment has been undertaken against the background of a number of other landscape assessment studies. The landscape character assessment uses as a starting point the Countryside Agency's Character Map of England, and incorporates as far as possible information from a number of other landscape assessments carried out across the county, as well as making reference to studies in adjacent areas.

3.2 National and Regional Landscape Assessments

3.2.1 Countryside Agency: Countryside Character Areas

The Countryside Agency and English Nature, with support from English Heritage, have produced the Character of England Map. This combines English Nature's Natural Areas and the Countryside Agency's Countryside Character Areas into a composite map of Joint Character Areas. *The Character of England Map* and supporting descriptions provides the top tier of the hierarchy of Landscape Character Assessment in England and a national context for regional and local landscape and ecological assessments. In particular it provides a comprehensive understanding of landscape character from a national and regional perspective.

The Countryside Character Volume 2: The North West, and Volume 3: Yorkshire & The Humber, confirms that the Study Area extends across, and shares characteristics of the following five Character Areas:

- Character Area 21: Yorkshire Dales
- Character Area 33: Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill
- Character Area 34: Bowland Fells
- Character Area 35: Lancashire Valleys
- Character Area 36: Southern Pennines

This transitional character is principally a result of the complex geological stratigraphy of the area, and the succession of underlying rocks, together with the further effect of overlying drift deposits. These geological variations have been a principal factor in the development of the current landform and land use.

Although the Study Area lies at the juxtaposition of five Landscape Character Areas, it is the Yorkshire Dales to the north east, the Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill to the west, and the Southern Pennines to the south east that form the principal Character Areas that contribute to the transitional landscape character. Typical features of these three Character Areas that are particularly pertinent to its key characteristics at a national and regional level, are summarised below.

Yorkshire Dales:

- *Large-scale upland of high, exposed moorland dissected by dales which are often deep;.*
- *Striking contrast between wild, remote moors and sheltered dales, each with its own distinctive character;*
- *Marginal agriculture arising from relatively high altitude and poor climate, creating a landscape of little or slow change;*
- *Visible evidence of historic land use arising from conservation of features from all periods;.*

- *Great Scar Limestone in the south and west giving rise to classic glacio-karst landscape with cave systems, outcrops, scars, gills, gorges and pavement;*
- *Pattern of bleak sweeping moorlands of heather or extensive blanket bog on plateaux, with rough grazing on upper slopes, permanent pastures on dale sides and fields cut for hay or silage on more fertile land in the bottom of the dales;*
- *Very strong patterns of dry stone walls, with very large rectilinear enclosures on most fell tops, much smaller enclosures in the dales, and often older, irregular patterns around settlements;.*
- *Very limited tree cover, confined to villages, sycamore clumps around farmsteads, streamsides and steep slopes;*
- *Sparse, ancient, broadleaved woodlands on steep gill and dale sides.*

Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill:

- *Undulating rolling landscape with local variation created by both numerous river valleys and outlying upland features of Beacon Fell, Longridge Fell and Pendle Hill;*
- *Strong outcrops of 'reef knolls' and limestone form distinct landscape features in the Ribble and Hodder Valleys;*
- *Meandering and commonly tree fringed rivers with oxbow lakes form prominent features within the predominantly pastoral landscape;.*
- *Extensive semi-natural woodland, much of which is ancient, on both main valley bottoms, side valleys and ridges.*

Southern Pennines:

- *Large-scale sweeping landform with an open character created by exposed gritstone moors at an altitude of 400m-450m, deeply trenched by narrow valleys and wooded cloughs;.*
- *Mosaic of mixed moorland and blanket bog with enclosed pasture of varying qualities at lower elevations, largely defined by dry stone walls;*
- *Densely populated valley bottoms with stone buildings extending along valley sides set against the backdrop of the moorland tops;*
- *Gritstone towns centred around key features of industrial heritage such as textile mills and older industrial development mainly in the valleys but with a group of older settlements on the moorland fringe;*
- *Main road, rail and canal routes located along valley bottoms. Historic packhorse trails traversing the exposed moorland tops;*
- *Intrusive features, including windfarm developments, numerous transmission masts, overhead powerlines and sandstone, gritstone and clay quarries mainly on the fringe of the area.*

3.3 County Landscape Character Assessments

3.3.1 North Yorkshire Conservation Strategy (1991)

In 1991, North Yorkshire County Council undertook the North Yorkshire Conservation Strategy. The study noted:

'A number of broad landscape zones have been identified outside the National Parks, based upon an analysis of topography, land use, tree cover, field pattern and urban influences. Although the boundaries of

these areas are often not precise, they each have their own individual character which is quite distinct. Nine landscape zones have been identified each of which can be further subdivided into areas with a more local character.'

Two landscape zones were identified within the Study Area:

- **7: The Craven Uplands:**
  'A complex upland fringe landscape on the edge of the Pennines'
  The study identified four local landscapes, comprising: 7a Draughton; 7b South Pennines; 7c Coniston; and 7d Forest of Bowland Fringe.

- **8. Craven Valleys:**
  'The open flat floodplains of upland rivers'
  The study describes the key characteristics of two local landscapes, comprising: 8a Aire; and 8b Ribble.

3.3.2 **Lancashire Landscape Strategy: Landscape Character Assessment, Craven District; and Landscape Strategy, Craven District (2000)**

In October 1999, Environmental Resources Management (ERM) was commissioned by Lancashire County Council, in partnership with the Countryside Agency, District Councils, Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authority, North Yorkshire County Council and Craven District Council, to undertake a comprehensive integrated landscape and townscape assessment of Lancashire and to produce a landscape strategy informed by the landscape character assessment process.

The study consisted of two separate but interrelated reports comprising a Landscape Character Assessment and a Landscape Strategy. The Landscape Character Assessment provided an objective description and classification of the Lancashire landscape, including the Craven District, and formed the basis for the evaluation and guidance provided in the landscape strategy.

The Landscape Character Assessment identified 21 landscape types and 81 landscape character areas. Seven of the landscape types were located within the Study Area, as follows:

- **1. Moorland Plateaux**
  (Landscape Character Area: 1a South Pennines)

- **4. Moorland Fringe**
  (Landscape Character Area: 4a Trawden Fringe)

- **5. Undulating Lowland Farmland**
  (Landscape Character Area: 5f Lower Ribblesdale [Gisburn to Hellifield])

- **6. Industrial Foothills and Valleys**
  (Landscape Character Area: 6a Calder Valley)

- **11. Floodplain Valleys**
  (Landscape Character Areas: 11b Long Preston Reaches; and 11c Aire Valley)

- **13. Drumlin Field**
  (Landscape Character Areas: 13a Gargrave Drumlin Field; and 13b Bentham- Clapham)

- **14. Rolling Upland Farmland**
  (Landscape Character Areas: 14a Slaidburn-Giggleswick; and 14b Lothersdale and Cringles)

3.4 District Council Assessment

3.4.1 Landscape Character Assessment for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB (1997)

A landscape character assessment of the Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB was undertaken in 1997. The study identified the characteristics of the landscape and confirmed the detailed boundaries of the Special Landscape Area (SLA). The principal landscape character was described for each parish, with particular reference to the relationship between the SLA boundary, and the settlement development limits.

The study confirmed that:

'much of Craven District outside of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB is of sufficient high landscape quality to be designated as Special Landscape Area. There are relatively few areas of the District outside of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, which are of an insufficient quality to merit this designation. These include the larger settlements where their urban character dominates the natural landscape, and a small number of areas adjacent to settlement development limits which either have an adverse effect on the special qualities of the landscape, or relate more to the urban settings of these settlements than the rural landscape.'

The principal purpose of the study was to confirm the high landscape quality of the area and its justification for designation as a SLA. Following on from this, the study undertook a detailed examination and definition of the SLA boundary in relation to settlements within the Study Area. A more comprehensive assessment of the pattern and distribution of landscape character types across the Study Area, and local distinctiveness, was not undertaken.

3.4.2 Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, Adopted July 1999

In Section 3 of Chapter 3, The Rural Environment, the Local Plan describes the landscape of the District. Section 3.1.2 of the Local Plan provides a summary description of the landscape character of the Study Area.

'In Craven outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park there are a number of distinct regions largely defined by their respective geologies. The topography of South Craven results from the underlying millstone grit of the South Pennines, whilst to the west and north west are the undulating lowlands shaped during the last ice age and the natural corridors of the Ribble Valley and Wenning Valley dividing the dales from the upland fells of the Forest of Bowland.'

Further reference to the 'special' qualities of the landscape is developed in Section 4 of the Local Plan with reference to the designation of the area as a 'Special Landscape Area'.

3.5 Landscape Assessments within Contiguous Areas

Two landscape assessments have been undertaken for the nationally protected landscapes that extend up to the perimeter of the Study Area. The principal objectives and findings of these assessments are summarised below.

3.5.1 The Forest of Bowland Landscape (1992)

The Forest of Bowland Landscape Study was undertaken by Woolerton Truscott in 1992 on behalf of the former Countryside Commission. The study had two broad objectives: to raise awareness and appreciation of the outstanding scenic qualities of the area, confirming the national status of the landscape and the need to protect it from damaging change; and secondly, to inform the preparation of a management plan for the AONB in response to the particular management requirements and priorities.

The study identified a number of landscape types. Those extending up to the perimeter of the Study Area, and notably within the River Wenning Valley comprise Lowland fringe farmland; and Upland fringe farmland. Beyond these two Character types there is a progression to Moorland hills; and areas of Wooded landscape - coniferous; and Wooded landscape - broadleaved.

3.5.2 Landscape Character Assessment of the Yorkshire Dales National Park (2001)

A Landscape Character Assessment of the Yorkshire Dales National Park was undertaken by Estell Warren Landscape Architects between April and July 2001. The study identified 40 landscape character areas within the National Park and described the key characteristics of each of these. The following seven landscape character areas extend up to the north eastern perimeter of the Study Area:

- 21. Ingleton Glens
- 28. The Southern Valleys enclosed by Winterburn Moor, Rylstone Fell and Flasby Fell
- 29. South Western Dales Fringe
- 30. The Southern Dales Fringe
- 34. Mid Wharefdale
- 39. Limestone Moors
- 40. Southern Gritstone Moors and Fells

3.6 Overview

Within the last decade, a number of landscape character assessments have been undertaken either within or extending up to the Study Area. Each has been prepared for a particular purpose or scale of assessment and, with the exception of the 1997 Craven District (Study Area) Landscape Character Assessment, have formed part of a wider study. The latter assessment focused on the identification of landscape quality and on a parish basis, leading to the classification of a SLA and its detailed boundary in relation to settlement development limits.

A detailed assessment based on the distribution of landscape character types at a local level within the Study Area has not, therefore, been prepared. Furthermore, a number of the earlier assessments were undertaken before the emergence of the landscape character assessment methodology developed by the former Countryside Commission, and its more recent status as the Countryside Agency. Following the

'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Wales' in 2002 by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage, this Guidance now provides the benchmark and current methodology on which this current study has been based.

4.0 CLASSIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF LANDSCAPE TYPES

4.1 Introduction

Landscape types comprise distinctive types of landscape that are relatively homogeneous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different parts of an area whether at a local, regional or national level. Where they do occur, however, they share the same combination of geology, topography and drainage patterns, as well as characteristics in respect of vegetation, land cover, historic landscape and settlement pattern.

22 landscape character types were identified within the Study Area, encompassing a range of distinctive but generic characteristics that can recur in different areas; for example, a particular type of land use, sense of enclosure or historic field pattern. The boundaries of the landscape character types were mapped in the field to an accuracy to 1:25,000 scale, and further refined to 1:10,000 scale. These are illustrated on Figure 4.

A number of the boundaries between the landscape character types are transitional and not, therefore, represented by clearly defined lines or features on the ground. This is particularly evident in the transition between the Valley Landscapes, Lowland and Intermediate Landscapes. In contrast, the boundaries to the Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe landscape are more easily defined, generally following field boundaries. In the case of transitional boundaries, however, the mapping of the landscape character types has been plotted to the centre line of the transition between the types, and drawn to the nearest definable boundary, for example road lines, field boundaries and woodland edges.

4.2 Schedule of Landscape Character Types

Valley Pasture Landscapes

1. Flat Open Floodplain
2. Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls
3. Flat Semi-enclosed Floodplain
4. Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley
5. Small Scale Drumlin Valley
6. Settled Valley

Semi-enclosed Lowland

7. Undulating Lowland Farmland
8. Rolling Drumlin Field Pasture

Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

9. Managed Pastoral Landscape
10. Pasture with Wooded Gills & Woodland
11. Drumlin / Upland Fringe Pasture

Open Upland

12. Open Upland Pasture / Drumlin
13. Open Upland Pasture / Unenclosed
14. Open Upland Pasture / Regular Stone Walls
15. Open Upland Pasture / Irregular Stone Walls
16. Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops
17. Open Upland Drumlin Pasture and Moorland Mosaic
18. Open Upland Pasture and Moorland Mosaic

Open Moorland & Moorland Fringe

19. Moorland Fringe
20. Moorland
21. Moorland Plateaux

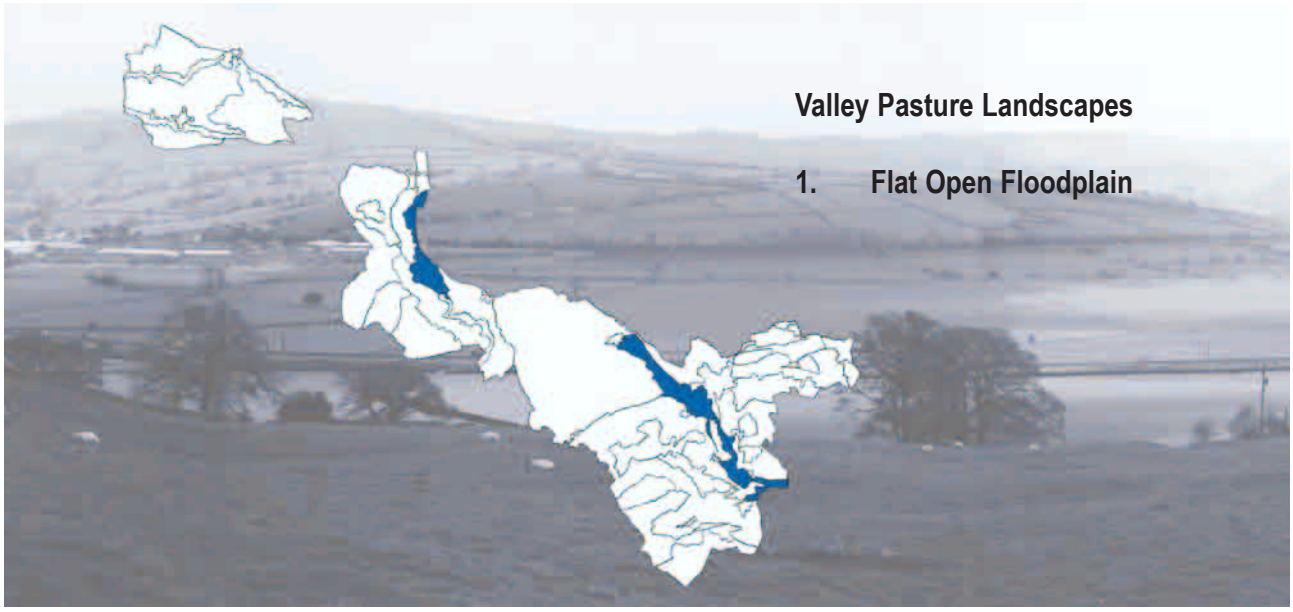
Modified Landscapes

22. Disturbed Landscapes

Valley Pasture Landscapes

4.3 These six landscape character types are associated with river valleys and are therefore generally linear, ranging from broad, open and flat floodplain areas alongside the Rivers Ribble and Aire, to narrow, more confined and complex river valleys where the Rivers Greta and Wenning meander between drumlin forms. There is a general absence of development within the valley pasture landscapes.

1. Flat Open Floodplain
2. Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls
3. Flat Semi-enclosed Floodplain
4. Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley
5. Small Scale Drumlin Valley
6. Settled Valley



Valley Pasture Landscapes

1. Flat Open Floodplain

4.3.1

Key Characteristics:

- Distinctive flat alluvial floodplains containing meandering river channels;
- Broad, open floodplain valley providing extensive views framed by high ground;
- Large-scale pastoral landscape with very limited vegetation and an open character;
- Medium to large-scale fields of improved pasture bounded by fences and occasional walls or gappy, grown out hedgerows;
- Open valley contains important transport corridors, with floodplain often bounded by road, rail, and canal, marking the boundary to higher ground;
- River banks are often artificially raised.

Description:

The flat open floodplain landscape types comprise areas of extensive, broad alluvial floodplain containing the meandering course of the rivers Ribble and Aire. The rivers meander gently within their broad floodplains and contain floodplain features such as meanders, islands and flood defences. The rivers have fairly steep banks, often artificially raised, with limited riverside vegetation. The landscape is large-scale, open, and flat with very limited vegetation, providing extensive views along the valley bottom, framed by high ground rising to either side. Mainly flat, or slightly undulating improved pasture forms the principal land use within the floodplain to the rivers Ribble and Aire, and is subject to periodic flooding. Medium to large-scale open fields of improved pasture are enclosed by fences, occasional dry-stone walls and hedgerows, providing fertile grazing land.

There are two main areas of flat open floodplain. The most extensive comprises a long, linear area within the River Aire valley extending between Gargrave and Glusburn. The other area is part of the River Ribble valley between Settle and Long Preston, a section of which is designated as the 'River Ribble: Long

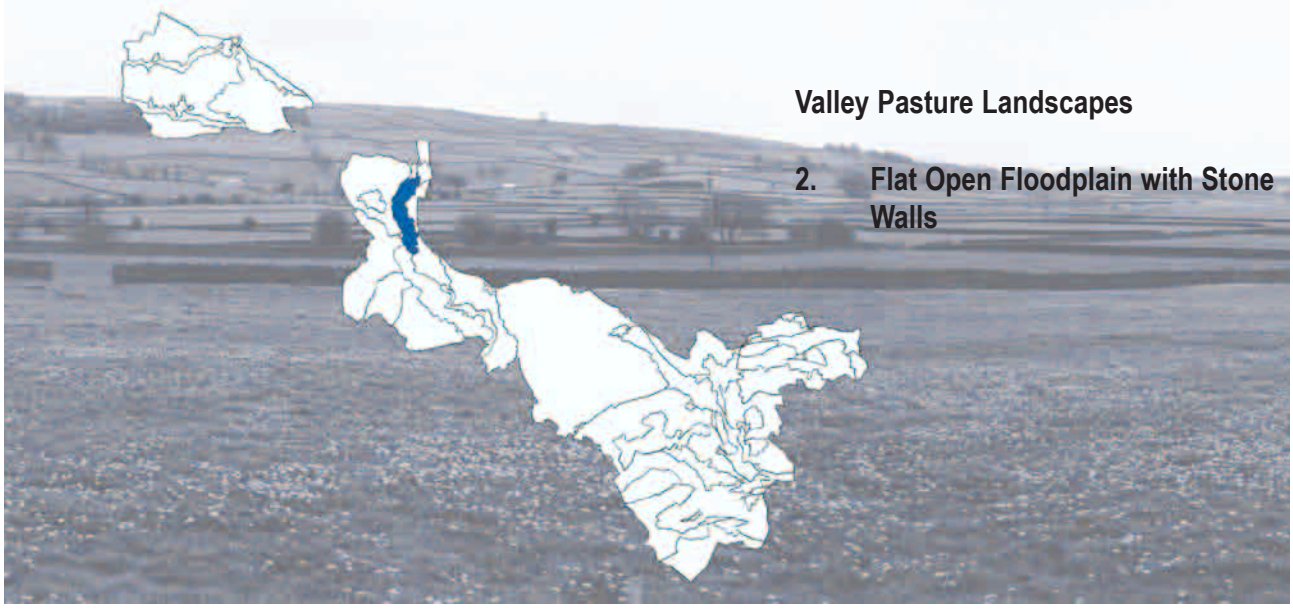
Preston Deeps' Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), (see Appendix 4).

'The Long Preston Deeps section of the River Ribble is noted for its unusual physical nature in that it traverses a flat floodplain in the upper half of its catchment. This contrasts with most other river systems, where the flat meandering form only develops in the lower reaches. This unusual situation, combined with the base-rich water and fine river deposits, results in the River Ribble supporting a unique aquatic flora, an assemblage found here at its upstream limit for an English river. In addition, the flood plain is an important breeding area of wading birds, including snipes, redshank and lapwing. The fine material on the river bed is derived from alluvium and river terrace deposits and boulder clay from the valley bottom. The meandering structure of the river produces steep sandy cliffs on the eroding banks of the meanders and these provide nesting sites for kingfisher, sand martin and goosander. The rough marshy grassland adjacent to the river which undergoes periodic flooding forms an ideal nesting habitat for waders, in particular snipe, redshank and curlew.'

Stone bridges mark ancient bridging points of the rivers (Inghey Bridge, Heslaker Bridge, Carleton Bridge, Mill Ing Bridge, Cononley Bridge, Kildwick Bridge along the Aire, and Cow Bridge along the Ribble). The floodplain has largely remained free of built development, with the exception of a factory east of Gargrave. The areas are bounded by industrial development at both Skipton and Glusburn.

Viewpoint 1: View from north Cononley looking north to north-east across Airedale

Aerial Photograph of Flat Open Floodplain LandscapeCharacter Type.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

2. Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls

4.3.2

Key Characteristics:

- Distinctive flat alluvial floodplain containing meandering river channel;
- Broad, open floodplain valley providing extensive views framed by high ground;
- Medium to large-scale landscape with limited vegetation and an open character;
- Strong pattern of medium-scale fields of lush improved pasture enclosed by a network of dry-stone walls;
- Limited vegetation of isolated and scattered trees along field boundaries and river;
- Open valley contains important transport corridors, and floodplain is often crossed or bounded by road, rail, and canal, marking the boundary to higher ground;
- Some river banks are artificially raised.

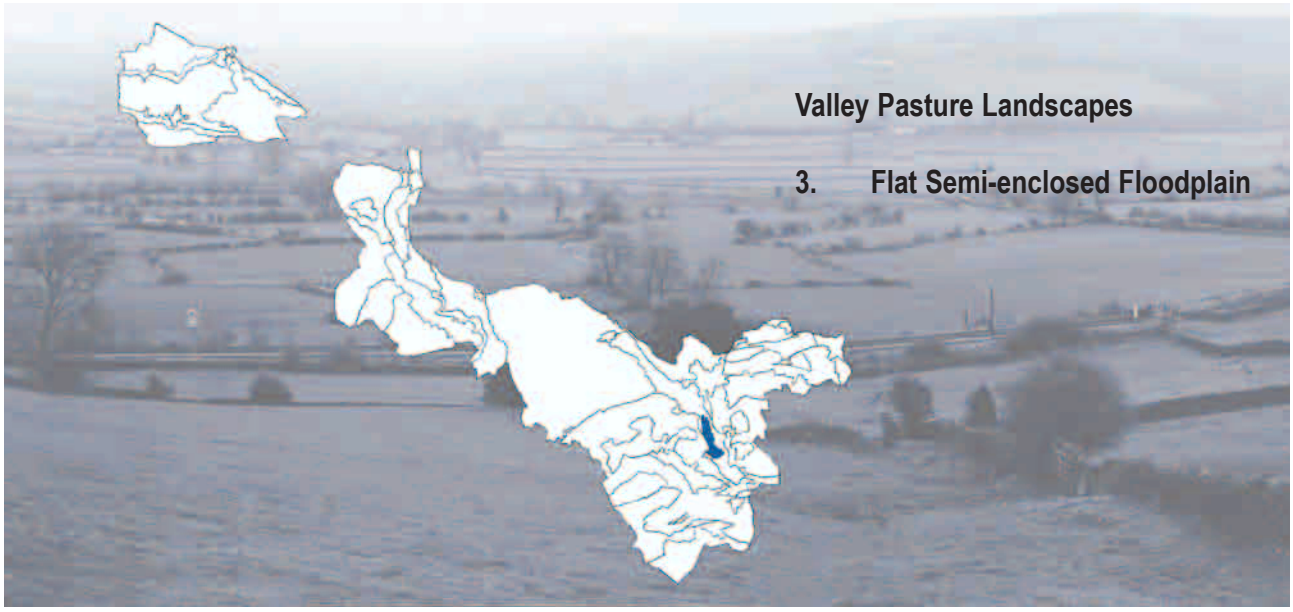
Description:

The flat open floodplain with stone walls type comprises an area of extensive, broad alluvial floodplain within the River Ribble valley. This linear area follows the meandering course of the River Ribble, and extends from Settle to just south of Rathmell. The floodplain landscape contains river floodplain features such as meanders, weirs and flood defences. The river has fairly steep banks, often artificially raised, and limited riverside vegetation. The floodplain landscape is medium to large-scale, open, and flat with limited vegetation, providing extensive views along the valley bottom, framed by high ground rising to either side. Mainly flat, or slightly undulating improved pasture forms the principal land use within the floodplain to the River Ribble, and is subject to periodic flooding. Medium-scale fields of improved pasture are enclosed by a strong structure of dry-stone walls, providing fertile grazing land. Limited vegetation of isolated and scattered trees occur along field boundaries and the River Ribble.

Part of the area is within the 'River Ribble: Long Preston Deeps' SSSI (see Appendix 4). The 'Ribble Way' crosses the area and follows the course of the River Ribble to Giggleswick and Settle. There are no river crossing points within the area, other than the A65 which crosses the area south of Settle. A small road borders the floodplain valley between Giggleswick and Rathmell. The floodplain largely remains free of built development, but is bounded by industrial development along the southern perimeter of Giggleswick and Settle.

Viewpoint 2: View from south of Rathmell near the Rathmell Beck looking north to north-east

Aerial Photograph of Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls Landscape Character Type.



4.3.3

Key Characteristics:

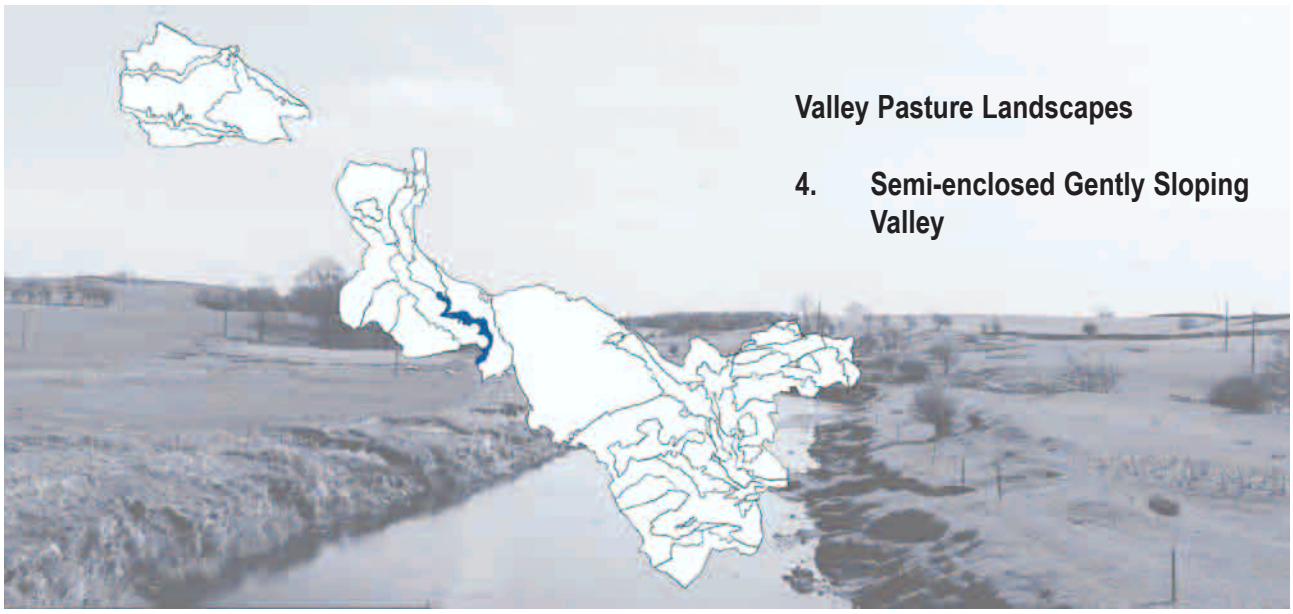
- Distinctive flat alluvial floodplain alongside meandering river;
- Semi-enclosed landscape with views of surrounding higher ground;
- Small-scale pastoral landscape with semi-enclosed, intimate character;
- Small-scale irregular fields of improved pasture enclosed by hedgerows with hedgerow trees and occasional dry-stone walls;
- River banks artificially raised.

Description:

A flat, semi-enclosed floodplain landscape type occurs alongside the River Aire, and is subject to periodic flooding. It comprises a small linear area near to Cononley village, contained by the River Aire to the east and the railway embankment to the west, marking the boundary to higher ground. The river has artificially raised banks. The landscape is medium to small-scale pastoral landscape with views of surrounding higher ground. Small-scale, very irregular fields are contained by hedgerows and occasional dry-stone walls and provide fertile grazing land. The small-scale irregular fields are indicative of an ancient field pattern. Moderate tree cover of hedgerow trees and vegetation along the River Aire, along with the small-scale landscape, provide a sense of enclosure and create an intimate character. A single lane crosses the area.

Viewpoint 3: View from road north of Cononley near Cononley Woodside looking north to south-east.

Aerial Photograph of Flat Semi-enclosed Floodplain Landscape Character Type.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

4. Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley

4.3.4

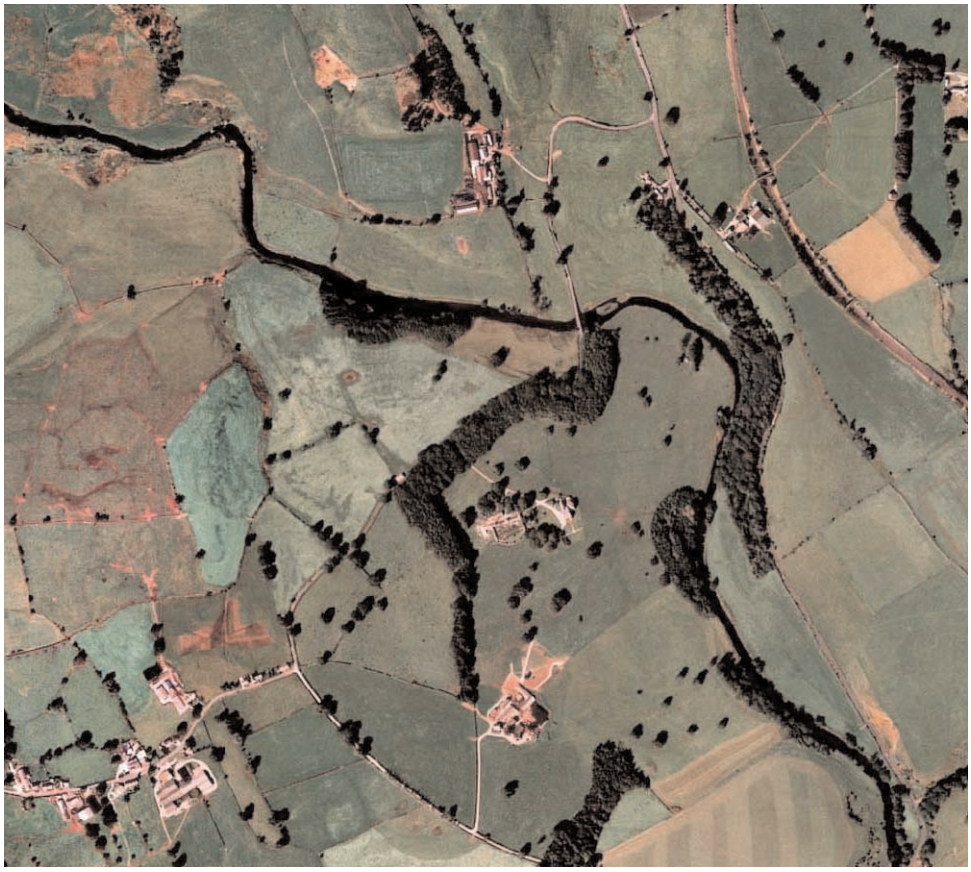
Key Characteristics:

- Gently sloping alluvial river valley containing meandering river channel;
- Semi-enclosed medium-scale landscape with views along meandering river channel;
- Pasture and rough grazing rise from the river banks, enclosed by fences;
- Medium tree cover scattered along river and on valley sides, including clumps and small areas of woodland;
- Gently sloping topography and medium vegetation cover provide enclosure and limits some views;
- River banks eroding.

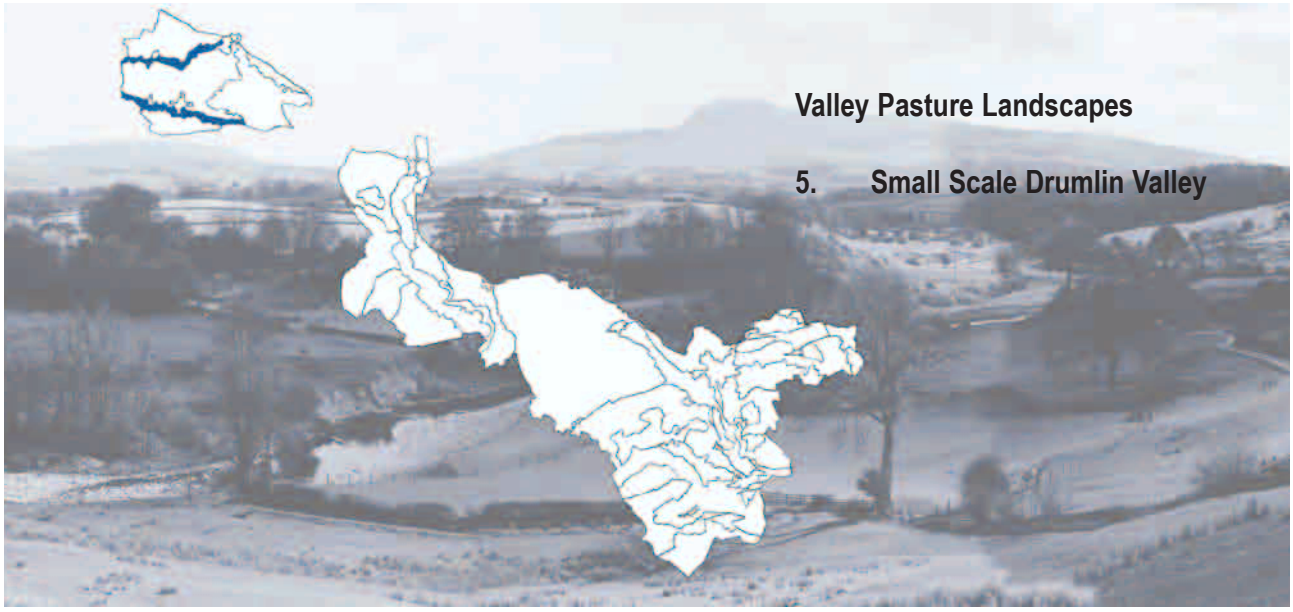
Description:

The semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley type comprises a linear area following the course of the River Ribble as it meanders through an undulating pastoral landscape, creating a gently sloping river valley. The valley has medium vegetation cover, including a 5 ha area of Ancient Woodland, Arnford Wood, located to the west of Hellifield. The combined effect of the vegetation cover and gently sloping topography provides a semi-enclosed feel to the landscape. The landscape is medium-scale, with views along the river limited by gently undulating slopes, vegetation and meanders. Many sections of the river banks are eroding. There is a lack of access to the river.

Viewpoint 4: View from B6478 at Cow Bridge, south-west of Long Preston looking south-east



Aerial Photograph of Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley Landscape Character Type.



4.3.5

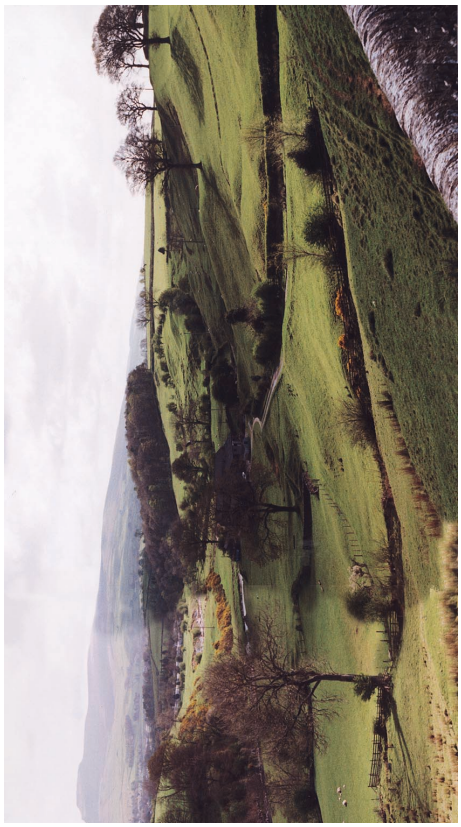
Key Characteristics:

- Narrow river valley between drumlin landforms;
- Varied topography with drumlin landforms rising either side of the river;
- Limited extent of floodplain, forming varied topography with hummocky form;
- Small to medium scale landscape;
- Long distance views contained by topography;
- Varied vegetation along river and valley provides a generally well-wooded character;
- Gravel / shingle beaches on inside of river bends;
- Individual scattered buildings.

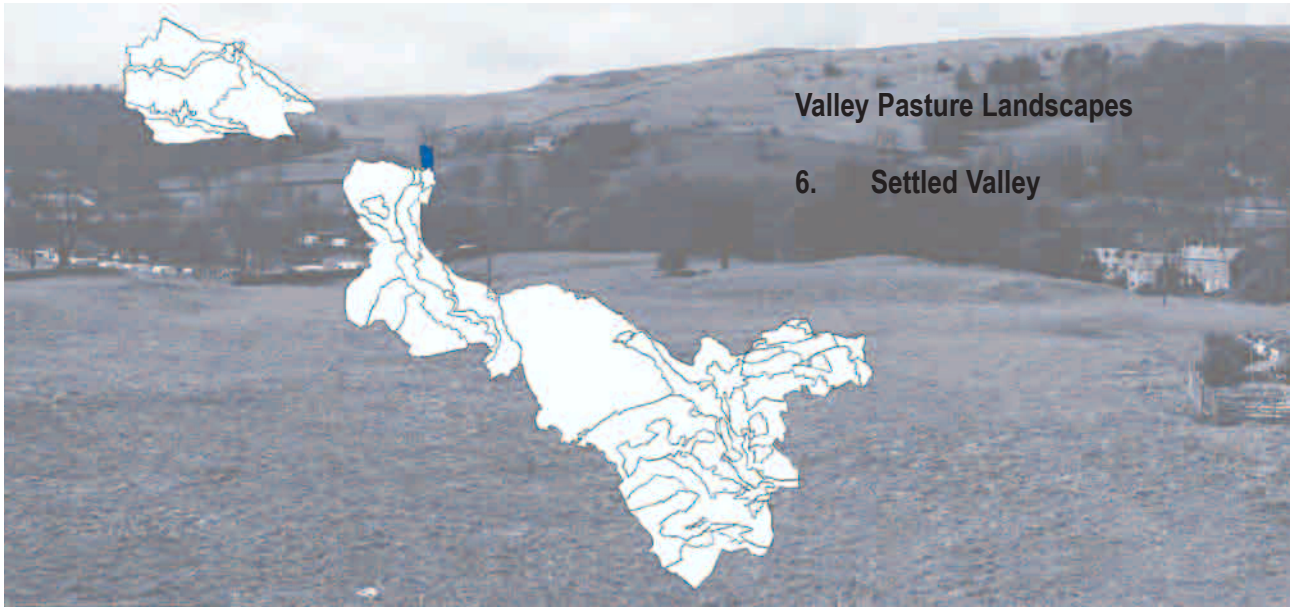
Description:

This distinctive and varied small to medium scale river valley landscape is followed is by the courses of the Rivers Greta and Wenning. Land rises either side of the rivers which meander between the base of drumlin hillocks. The topography of river valley is varied and hummocky, resulting in a small to medium-scale landscape. Valleys are well-vegetated with isolated trees, clumps of trees and pockets of woodland, including Ancient Woodland at Greta Wood/ Scaleber and Clifford Gill Wood to the south west of Burton-in-Lonsdale, and Meregill Wood to the south east of High Bentham. Pasture fields are contained by a combination of dry-stone walls, hedgerows and fences. Adjacent to the meandering rivers there are shale / shingle beaches of glacial sand and gravel. Villages and towns associated with the valleys comprise Burton-in-Lonsdale, Low Bentham, High Bentham and Ingleton. A medium-scale static caravan park is situated within the River Greta valley.

Viewpoint 5:View from Fourlands Hill to the south-east of Burton in Lonsdale looking north to east across the River Greta



Aerial Photograph of Small Scale Drumlin Valley Landscape Character Type.



4.3.6

Key Characteristics:

- Gently sloping valley with land rising steeply to each side;
- Transition between upland limestone landscape character of Yorkshire Dales National Park and flat expansive floodplain;
- Pasture enclosed by dry-stone walls;
- Well settled valley landscape with settlement edge land uses such as playing fields and intermittent development.

Description:

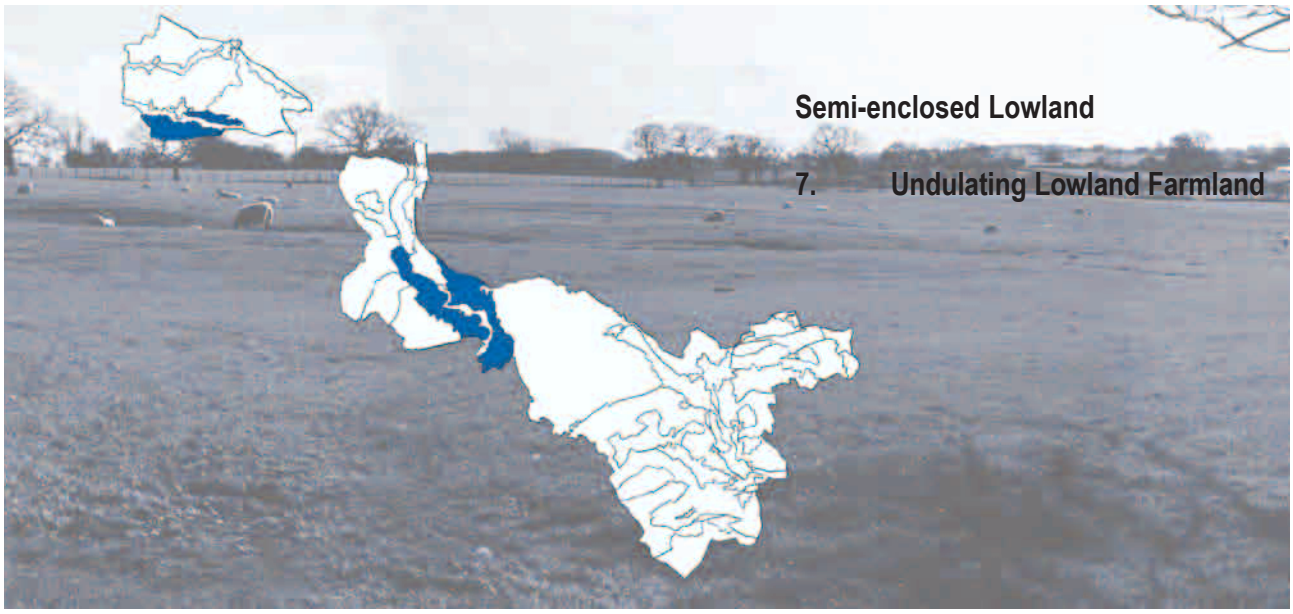
The gently sloping settled valley on the edge of Settle and Giggleswick is located between the upland landscape of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the expansive flat floodplain landscape. The valley landscape is made up of a mosaic of pasture enclosed by dry-stone walls, with clumps of trees and woodland in the valley bottom, and edge of settlement land uses such as playing fields on the edge of Settle and Giggleswick. North of Settle, the valley contains the course of the River Ribble. The valley is well settled with dispersed houses, mill buildings and associated reservoir, and a small-scale caravan park located close to the river. The valley forms a transport route with a railway and road running along the valley side.

Viewpoint 6: View from Bridge across Settle to Carlisle Railway west of Langcliffe looking south to south west towards Christies Mill and Caravan Park

Aerial Photograph of Settled Valley Landscape Character Type.

4.4 The semi-enclosed lowland landscape character types lie between the river floodplain and upland landscape, generally below 150m AOD. However, there is no strongly defined boundary between this type and the intermediate and upland landscapes. Hedgerows are more common field boundaries than dry-stone walls. The lowlands are also well-wooded landscapes, with trees, woodlands and hedgerows creating a semi-enclosed character. As a result of the vegetation enclosure and lower elevation the lowlands are generally sheltered and much less exposed than higher areas. A number of settlements, encompassing villages, hamlets and dispersed farms extend across the lowland character types.

7. Undulating Lowland Farmland
8. Rolling Drumlin Field Pasture



4.4.1

Key Characteristics:

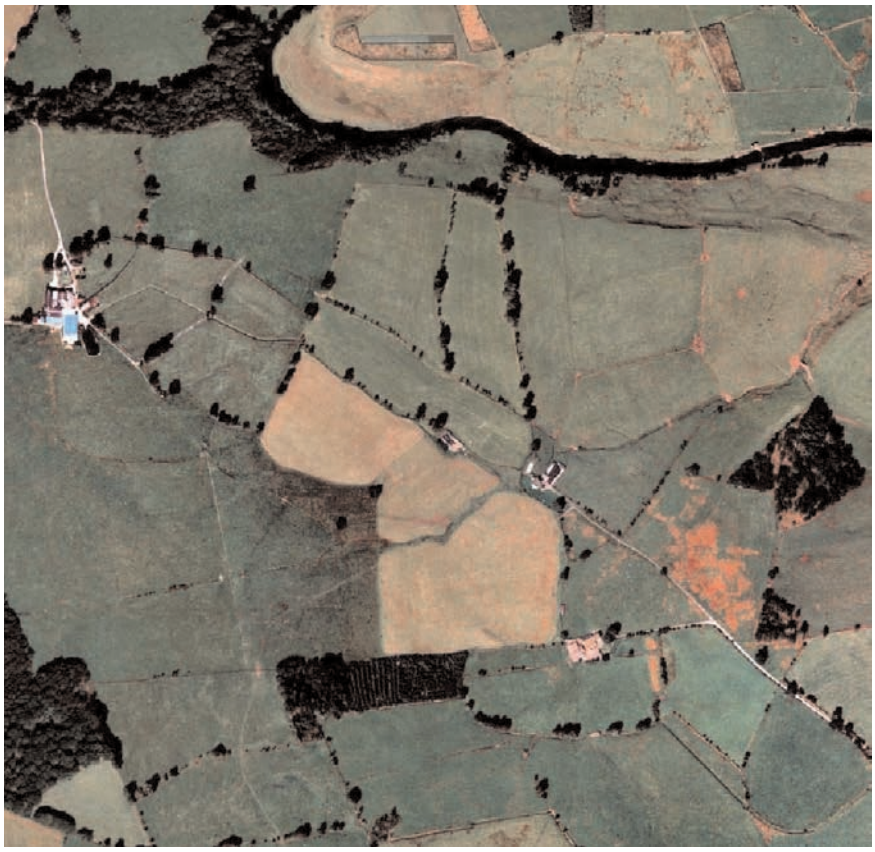
- Gently undulating pastoral landscape;
- Lower fringes of uplands, adjacent to river or river floodplain;
- Small to medium scale pastoral landscape;
- Lush green fields with fences, hedgerows and occasional dry-stone walls defining the field pattern;
- Hedgerows more common field boundaries than dry-stone walls;
- Intermittent wooded character with hedgerow trees and small pockets of woodland, which contribute to the overall appearance of a 'wooded' farmland.

Description:

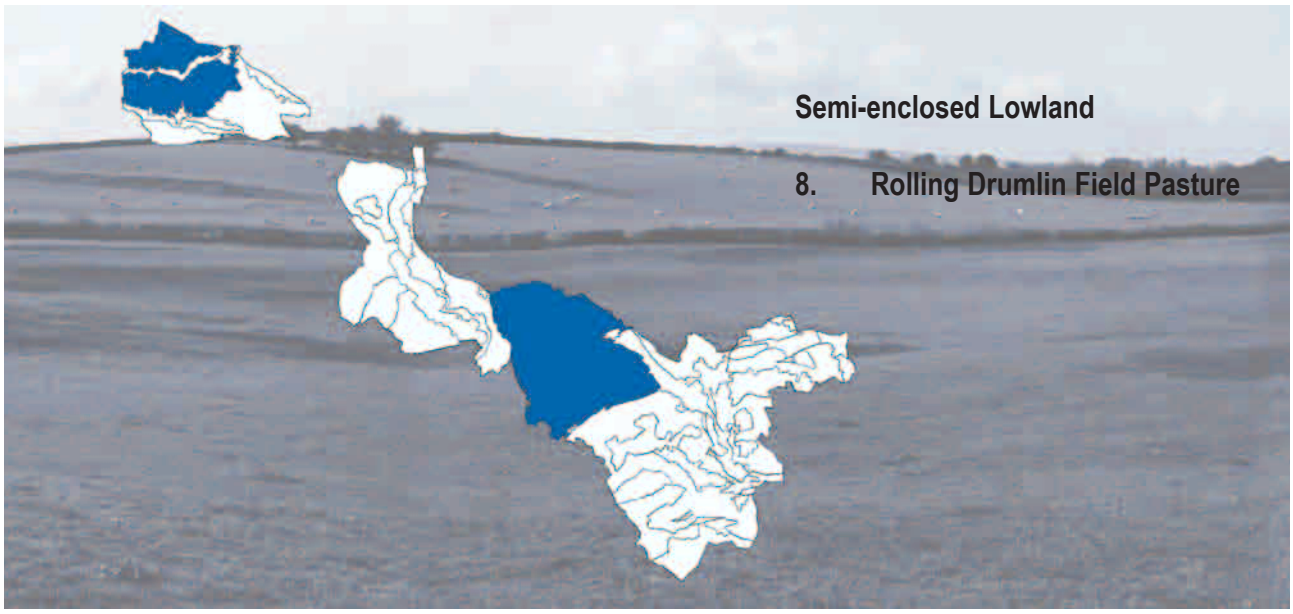
The undulating lowland farmland landscape liesbetween the rolling upland farmland and the river floodplain, generally below 150m AOD; however, there is no strongly defined boundary between this type and the intermediate/ upland landscapes. It comprises a small-scale pastoral landscape with gently undulating landform. Hedgerows are more common field boundaries than dry-stone walls, and the landscape is well wooded, with trees, woodlands and hedgerows giving these areas an essentially 'lowland' character. It is generally sheltered and much less exposed than higher areas and is therefore more comfortable and hospitable. Vegetation cover reduces visibility over much of the area and provides a variety of interest, and seasonal colour effects.

There are a number of Ancient Woodlands within the undulating lowland farmland: Eskew Lane Wood, south west of Low Bentham; Mewith Lane & Branstone Beck Wood, south of High Bentham; Gill Brow Wood, south east of High Bentham; Hollow Gill Wood, south of Rathmell; and Swindon Gill Wood, south east of Hellifield (see Appendix 5). A 2.4 ha area south west of Hellifield, 'Pan Beck Fen', is designated a SSSI (see Appendix 4). Pan Beck Fen supports an outstandingly rich community of fen species, including an important colony of the narrow-leaved march orchid, and is one of only four such sites known in the Yorkshire Dales.

Viewpoint 7: View from minor road between B6478 and A682, south of Long Preston looking south-west to east



Aerial Photograph of Undulating Lowland Farmland Landscape Character Type.



4.4.2 **Key Characteristics:**

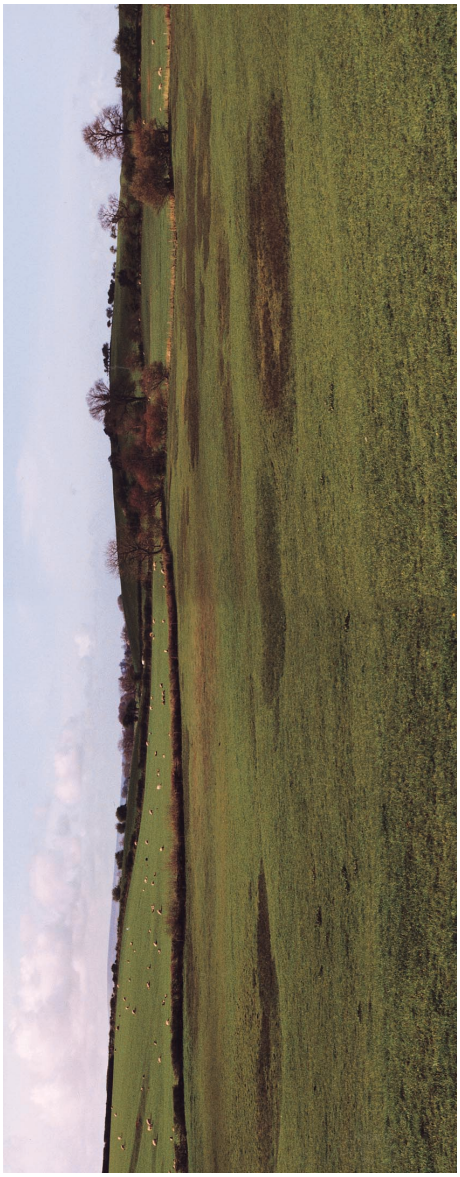
- Distinctive landscape of a 'field' of rolling drumlins;
- Low, markedly undulating, landscape of interlocking rounded hills, with consistent orientation giving the landscape a uniform grain;
- Undulating drumlin topography limits views from within and provide views from drumlin tops;
- Small to medium-scale irregular fields, enclosed by a mixture of dry-stone walls and hedgerows, which accentuate the relief of the hills, and enhance the landform;
- Medium tree cover, with boundary and hedgerow trees, clumps and small pockets of woodland;
- Boggy areas between drumlins;
- Sparse road network with roads winding through area enclosed by trimmed hedgerows and walls;
- Settlement scattered in small hamlets and villages, built in local stone.

Description:

The Rolling Drumlin Field Pasture type comprises a 'field' of elongated, oval shaped drumlin forms. The succession of regular hillocks with steep sides and broad rounded tops create a distinctive, undulating topography. The consistent orientation of interlocking hillocks gives the landscape a uniform grain, although sometimes difficult to appreciate from within the field. The landscape has a semi-enclosed character with short distance views from within the drumlins due to the varied landform, and a feeling of openness and exposure from the drumlin tops. A low, markedly undulating, medium-scale pastoral landscape, with medium tree cover of boundary and hedgerow trees, clumps and small pockets of woodland. This includes areas of Ancient Woodland at Black Wood, south west of Burton-in-Lonsdale; Old Wood, west of Burton-in-Lonsdale; Bentham Wood, east of High Bentham; and Langber Wood, south west of Coniston Cold (see Appendix 5). Designed landscapes associated with large country houses contribute to the rural wooded character of the rolling drumlin pastoral landscape.

There are two Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest within the Study Area, comprising Broughton Hall and Gledstone Hall, which are both located within the rolling drumlin field pasture landscape character type near Gargrave.

Small to medium-scale irregular fields are contained by a mix of dry-stone walls and hedgerows, which rise up over the hillocks accentuating the relief of the hills. Hilltop copses on the skyline enhance the rolling drumlin landform. The intricate sequence of pasture, hedgerows, and small copses and woods, superimposed on an undulating landform makes this landscape particularly distinctive. This combination of landform, hedgerow matrix and woodland creates a small, intimate scale landscape with a sense of enclosure. The rolling drumlin field pasture is generally sheltered and much less exposed than higher areas and is therefore more comfortable and hospitable. Settlement is scattered in small hamlets and villages built in local stone. The road network is sparse with roads enclosed by trimmed hedgerows and walls winding through the area.



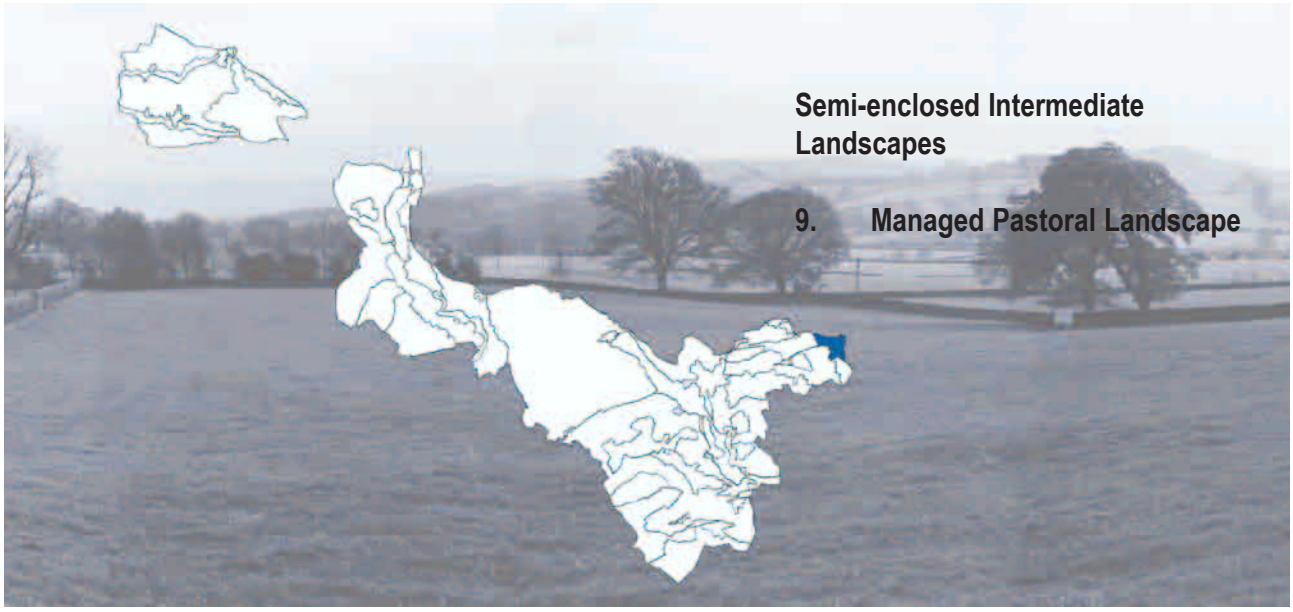
Viewpoint 8: View from Selber north of Burton - in - Lonsdale looking south to west.

Aerial Photograph of Rolling Drumlin Field Pasture Landscape Character Type.

Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

4.5 There are three semi-enclosed intermediate landscape character types that lie between the lowland and upland areas, and display characteristics of both; there is no strongly defined boundary between this type and the lowland and upland landscapes. The intermediate landscapes are generally more sheltered and less exposed than higher areas, within predominantly gently rolling grazed hills, and a combination of hedgerows, dry-stone walls and fences as field boundaries. Narrow roads wind throughout the area, often bounded by stone walls, giving a sense of enclosure and obscuring views.

9. **Managed Pastoral Landscape**
10. **Pasture with Wooded Gills & Woodland**
11. **Drumlin / Upland Pasture Fringe**



4.5.1

Key Characteristics:

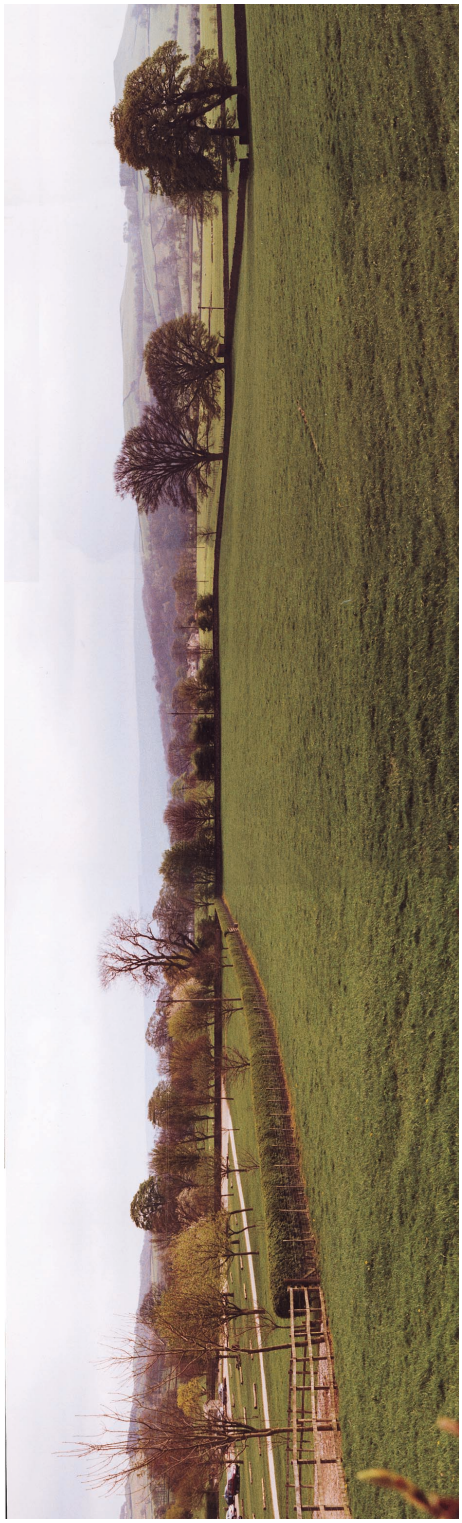
- Small to medium-scale landscape;
- Lower fringes of uplands;
- Flat or gently undulating;
- Estate managed pastoral landscape;
- Scattered mature trees give sense of semi-enclosure whilst still providing long distance views of surrounding upland hills;
- Well maintained stone walls enclosing improved pasture;
- Medium-scale fields.

Description:

The Managed Pastoral landscape type extends across a generally flat or gently undulating landform and forms the lower slopes of the upland landscape. Fields of improved pasture are enclosed by well-tended dry-stone walls and trimmed hedgerows. There is medium vegetation cover of scattered individual or small groups of mature trees close to field boundaries. Scattered mature trees give a sense of semi-enclosure whilst still enabling long distance views of the surrounding upland hills. The estate management practices associated with the Devonshire Estate, which extends across this landscape type, has had a significant influence on the character.

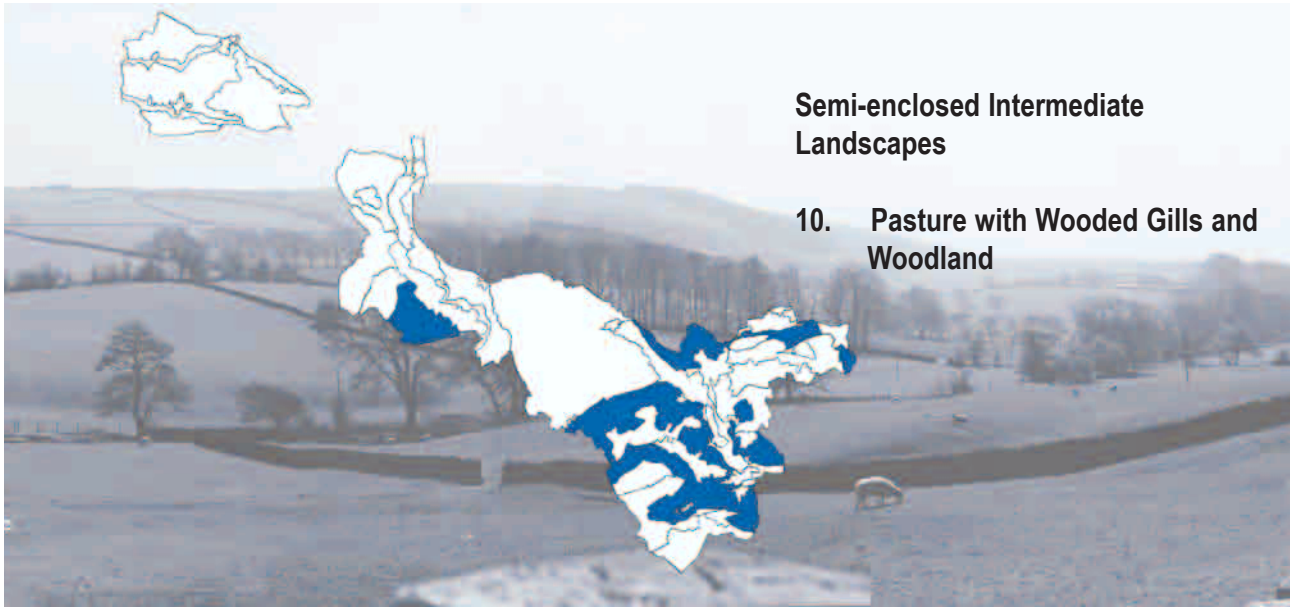
The area includes a SSSI at 'Hambleton Quarry' identified as of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review.

'This site shows a fine section through the marine Carboniferous Limestone of the Craven Basin. This is a critical site of an understanding of the depositional processes and palaeoenvironments present in the Craven Basin in later Dinantian times.' (see Appendix 4)



Viewpoint 9: View from gated road west of Bolton Abbey looking south to south-east.

Aerial Photograph of Managed Pastoral LandscapeCharacter Type.



Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

10. Pasture with Wooded Gills and Woodland

4.5.2

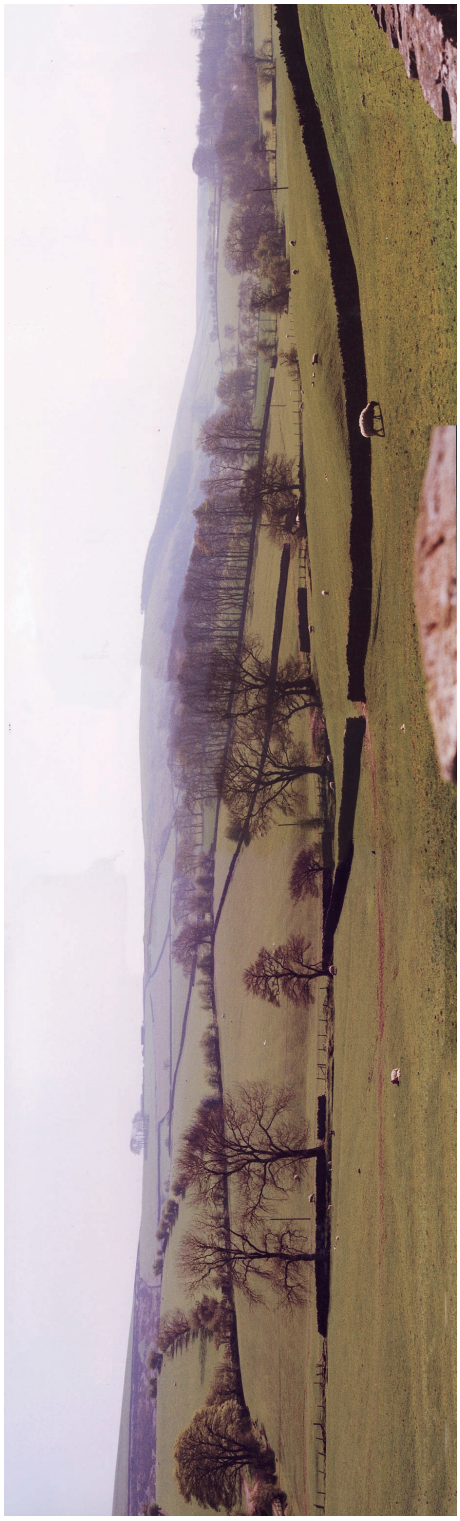
Key Characteristics:

- Rolling pastoral landscape generally within the lower slopes and along valleys;
- Small-medium scale fields enclosed by a network of dry-stone walls;
- Medium vegetation cover with some scattered vegetation and concentrations of vegetation within wooded gills;
- Small linear settlements and villages situated within valleys.

Description:

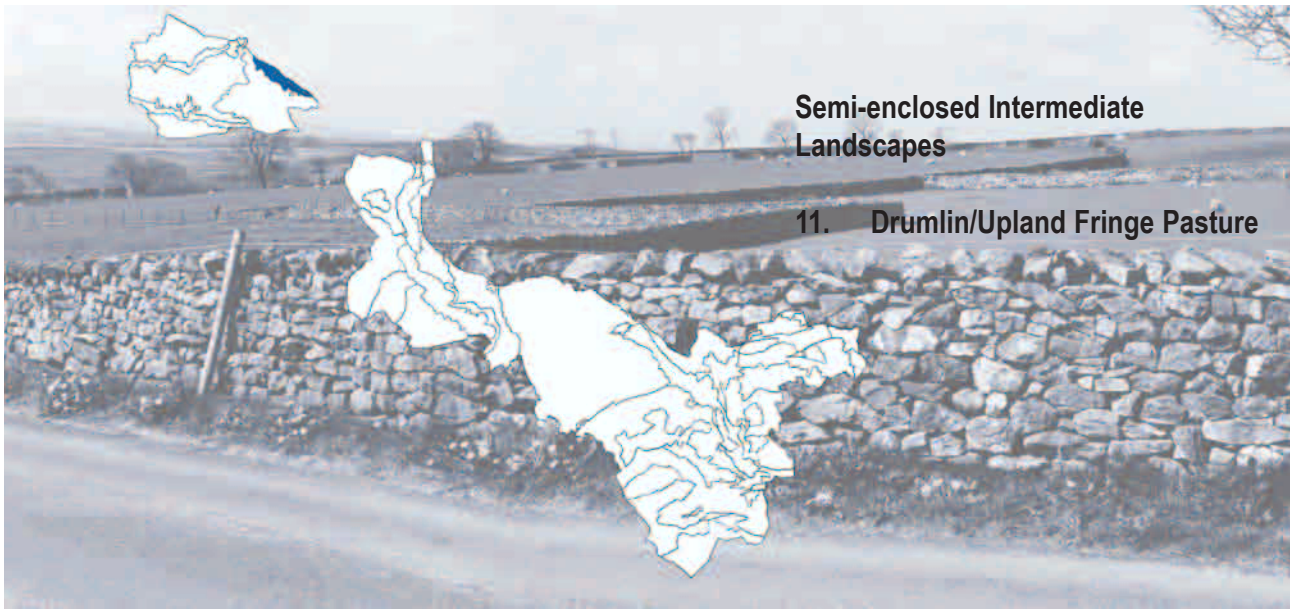
This rolling, pastoral landscape of medium sized fields is enclosed by an intact network of dry-stone walls, which impose a strong pattern on the landscape making a significant contribution to landscape character. Deciduous woodland along becks follows the topography of steep sided gills, creating a distinctive element within the landscape. A number of wooded gills and pockets of woodland are Ancient Woodland (see Appendix 5), for example: Lumb Clough, south of Sutton-in-Craven; Sugden Wood, west of Crosshills; Green Gill and Raygill Wood, west of Lothersdale; Yelliston/ Croft Wood and Catlow Gill Wood, west of Carleton-in-Craven; Park Gill/ Carlow Beck Wood, south Carlton-in-Craven; Cononley Beck Wood, west Cononley; Halton Gill Wood, east of Halton; Lob/ Huffa Wood and Eller Carr Wood, east of Draughton; and Castle Wood, north of Skipton. Intermittent areas of vegetation along field boundaries, and small pockets of woodland, often enclosed by walls, are scattered across the landscape. The medium tree cover provides a degree of enclosure to the open upland pasture. Small linear settlements and villages situated within the valleys are common within this landscape character type. Narrow roads wind throughout the area, often bounded by dry-stone walls, giving a sense of enclosure and obscuring views. North of Skipton the area contains Skipton Castle and Skipton Woods. Holy Well Bridge, south east of Embsay, is designated a SSSI, notified for its geological interest.

'Holy Well Bridge shows the best exposure of Courceyan Age in the Craven Basin, with a sequence through the Haw Bank Limestone, Skipton Castle Shale and Skipton Castle Limestone.' (see Appendix 4)



Viewpoint 10: View from The Fold west of Lothersdale looking south to south-west

Aerial Photograph of Pasture / Farmland with Wooded Gills and Woodland Landscape Character Type.



Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

11. Drumlin/Upland Fringe Pasture

4.5.3

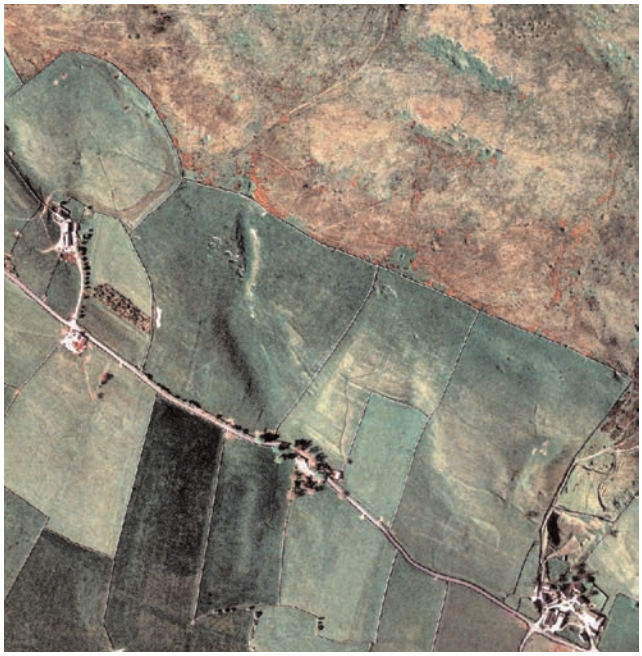
Key Characteristics:

- Rolling pastoral landscape, with some subdued drumlin topography;
- Transition between lowland drumlin and rolling upland landscapes;
- Medium-scale fields bounded by a combination of dry-stone walls, hedgerows and fences;
- Semi-enclosed character with medium vegetation cover including some mature trees.

Description:

This landscape type extends across the lower slopes of the adjacent upland areas and forms a transition between the rolling upland pasture above, and lowland drumlin pasture below. It comprises a rolling, pastoral landscape with medium-scale fields enclosed by a combination of dry-stone walls, hedgerows and fences. The vegetation cover is principally confined to small to medium scale mature trees. Some of the drumlin forms have a more subdued topography.

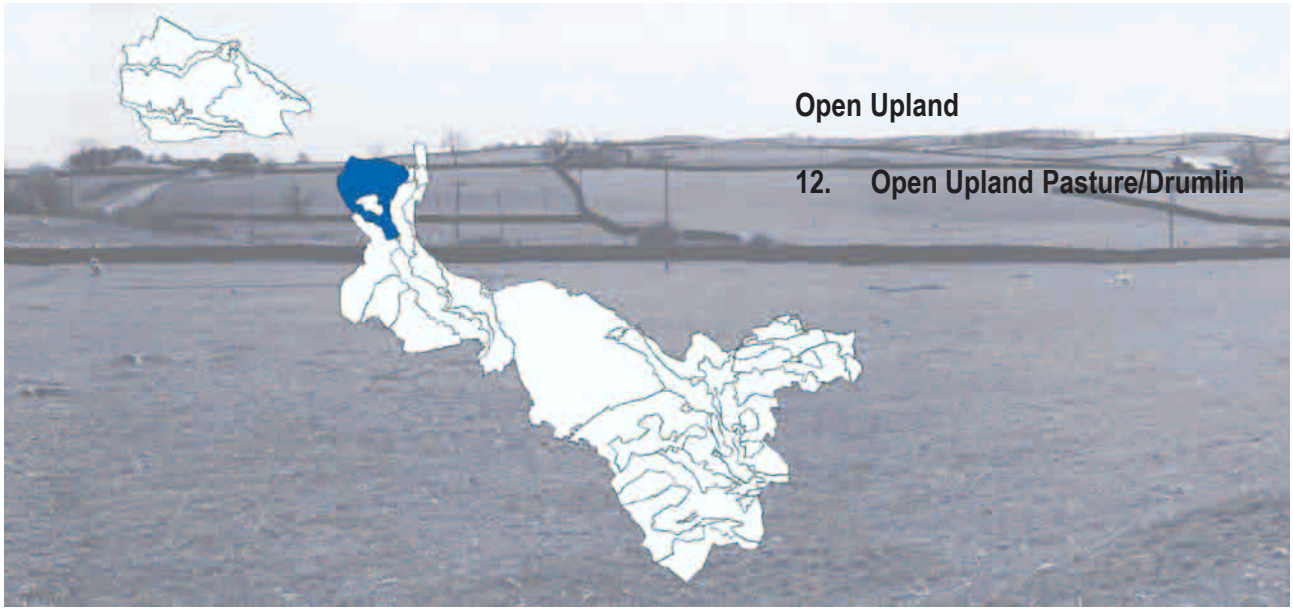
Viewpoint 11: View from road between Newby and Newby Cote west of Clapham, looking south to south-west



Aerial Photograph of Drumlin/Upland Fringe Pasture Landscape Character Type.

4.6 Seven types of open upland landscape character types have been identified within the Study Area. These landscapes are characteristically open, providing views of the nearby moorland and hills. They also have a general sense of elevation, isolation and exposure, providing a distinctive 'upland' character. Predominantly pasture, the open upland landscapes extend to rough grazing with occasional moorland fringe areas on the tops. They can contain prominent knolls and rock outcrops on the exposed hill slopes, in sharp contrast to the gentler rolling form of the grazed hills. Apart from moorland tops, the land is under grassland, ranging from transitional rough pasture on the moorland edges to more productive grassland (improved and semi-improved pasture) at lower elevations. Fields are bounded by an intact network of dry-stone walls which make a particularly significant contribution to landscape character imposing a strong pattern on the landscape. Narrow roads wind throughout the area, often bounded by stone walls, giving a sense of enclosure and obscuring views. Settlements consist of scattered farms and well-dispersed small hamlets, with small linear settlements and villages situated within valleys. Open upland landscapes are favoured sites for quarries, forestry plantations, wind turbines, reservoirs and telecommunications equipment. Development is limited to individual farmsteads, hamlets and villages.

12. Open Upland Pasture/ Drumlin
13. Open Upland Pasture/ Unenclosed
14. Open Upland Pasture/ Regular Stone Walls
15. Open Upland Pasture/ Irregular Stone Walls
16. Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops
17. Open Upland Drumlin Pasture and Moorland Mosaic
18. Open Upland Pasture and Moorland Mosaic



4.6.1 **Key Characteristics:**

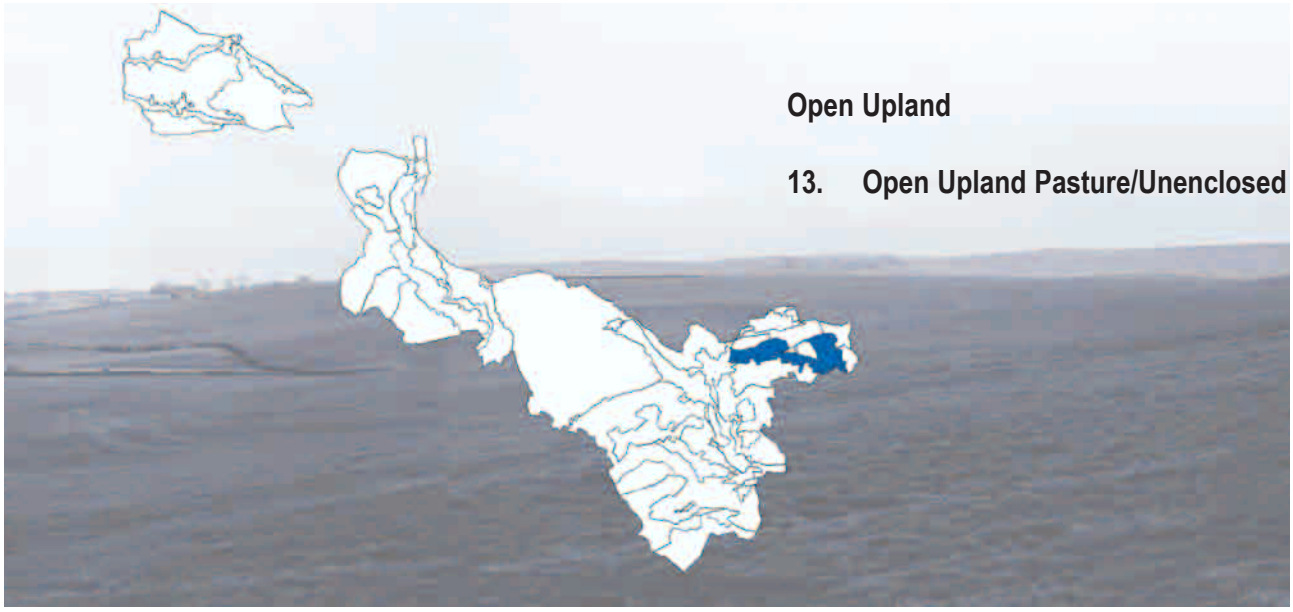
- Rolling pastoral landscape, interspersed with some subdued drumlin topography;
- Open, exposed upland feel;
- Medium-scale fields enclosed by a network of dry-stone walls;
- Minor rock outcrops in some fields;
- Limited vegetation cover of occasional scattered trees, or small clumps of trees;
- Limited development with individual farmsteads, hamlets and villages.

Description:

This landscape type comprises a rolling, upland landscape with intermittent subdued drumlin landforms superimposed across the area. This has resulted in further local variations in the topography. It has an open, exposed feel. Medium sized regular fields are enclosed by a network of dry-stone walls. Rough grazing and minor rocky outcrops in some fields enhance the upland character. The landscape is open with occasional scattered trees or small clumps of trees often enclosed by walls. Narrow roads wind throughout the area often bounded by dry-stone walls, giving a sense of enclosure and obscuring views. Settlement is limited to individual stone farmsteads, hamlets and villages.

Viewpoint 12: View from minor road off A65, near Low Paley Green west of Giggleswick looking south to south-west

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture / Drumlin Landscape Character Type.



4.6.2

Key Characteristics:

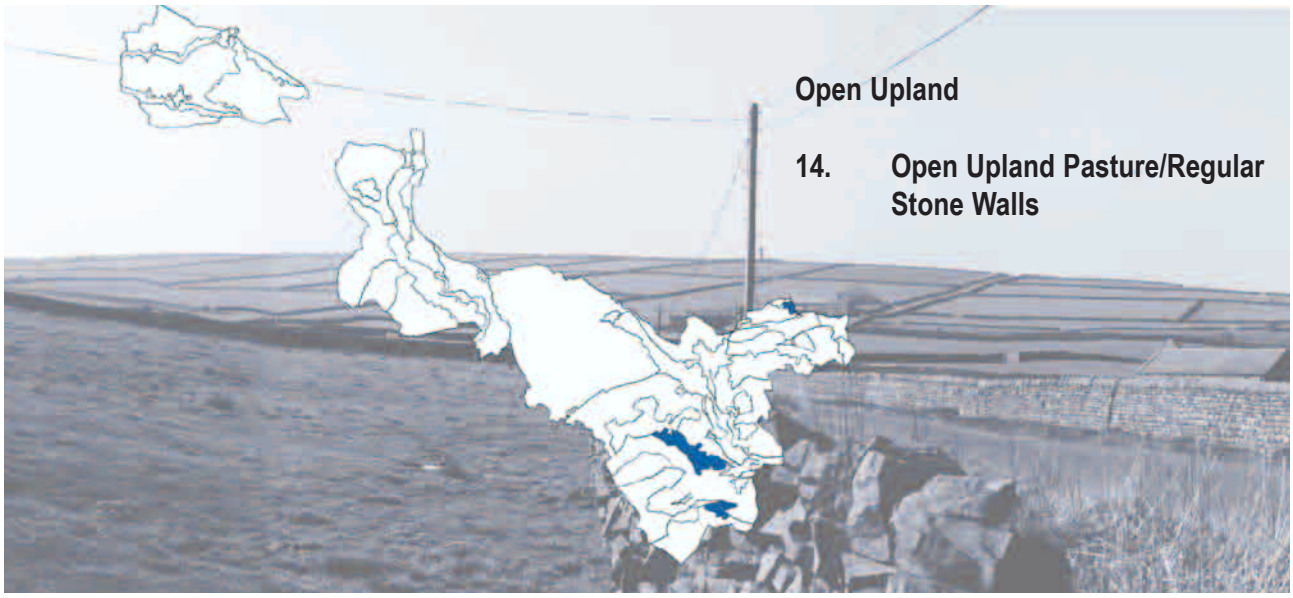
- Expansive, open, unenclosed rolling landscape;
- Large-scale pasture fields bounded by dry-stone walls;
- Lack of trees and vegetation.

Description:

This undulating upland landscape has an open, expansive and exposed character due to the large-scale fields and very limited vegetation cover. The pasture fields are bounded by dry-stone walls and occasional hedgerows, with their large scale resulting from the probable amalgamation of smaller fields associated with former areas of ancient and post mediaeval enclosures within this. The combination of the large fields, lack of vegetation and subdued landform gives an open, unenclosed character lacking structure or definition. This area contains the reservoir and four wind turbines at Chelker.

Viewpoint 13: View from A59 looking south to east towards Draughton.

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture/Unenclosed Landscape Character Type.



Open Upland

14. Open Upland Pasture/Regular Stone Walls

4.6.3

Key Characteristics:

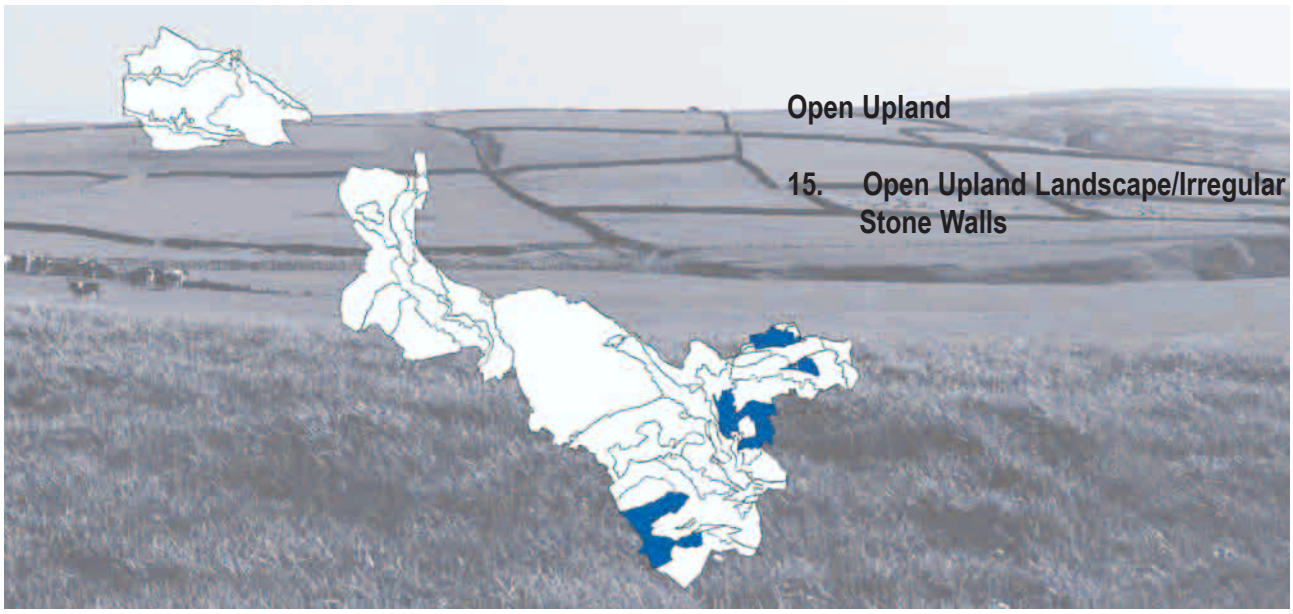
- Rolling landscape, mainly confined to hill tops;
- Open, exposed upland character;
- Trees mainly absent;
- Strong network of dry-stone walls enclosing small to medium-scale rectilinear pasture fields, resulting in a distinctive regularity of form;
- Evidence of former mine workings.

Description:

This rolling upland landscape is confined mainly to hill tops and sides. The medium-sized pasture fields are enclosed by rectilinear network of stone walls, typical of parliamentary enclosure period. The intact network of regular dry-stone walls make a particularly significant contribution to the landscape character imposing a strong, pattern on the landscape. Trees are absent apart from occasional scattered windswept individual trees, creating a sense of exposure and openness. There is a disused mine, known locally as Cononley Lead Mine within this landscape type. The spoil heaps associated with the mine form a notable local feature at Lower Weasal Green, and stand out as a scar against the pattern of regular dry-stone walls.

Viewpoint 14: View from Hill Top on Sutton Moor, south of Sutton- in- Craven looking west to north-west

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture/Regular Stone Walls Landscape Character Type.



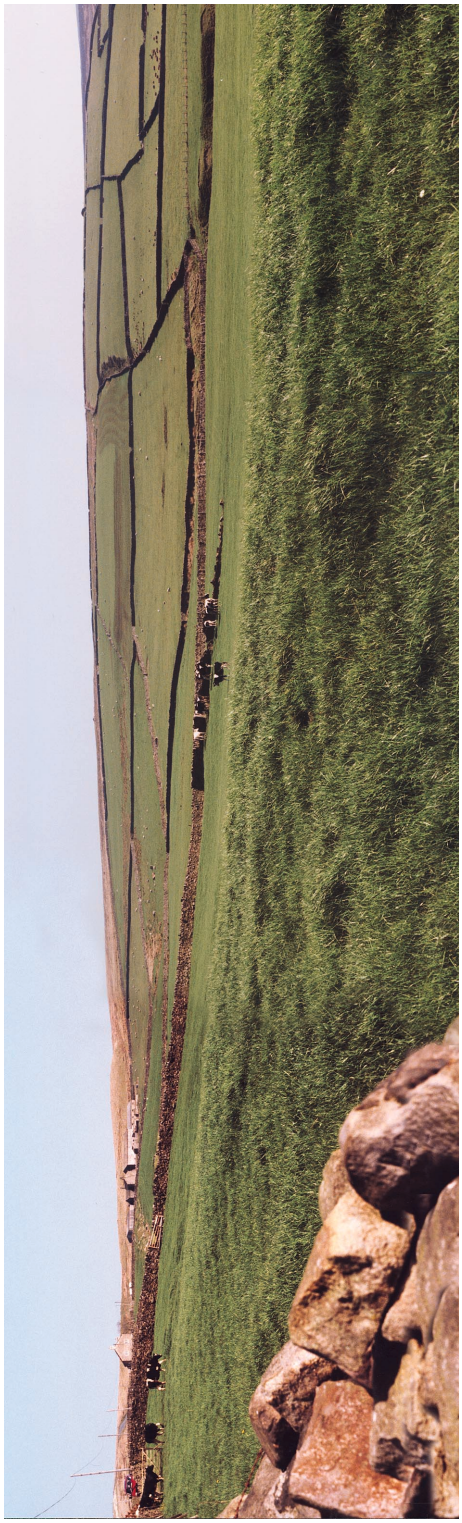
4.6.4

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling landscape mainly confined to hill tops;
- Open, exposed upland character;
- Trees mainly absent;
- Strong network of dry-stone walls enclosing small to medium scale irregular shaped pasture fields.

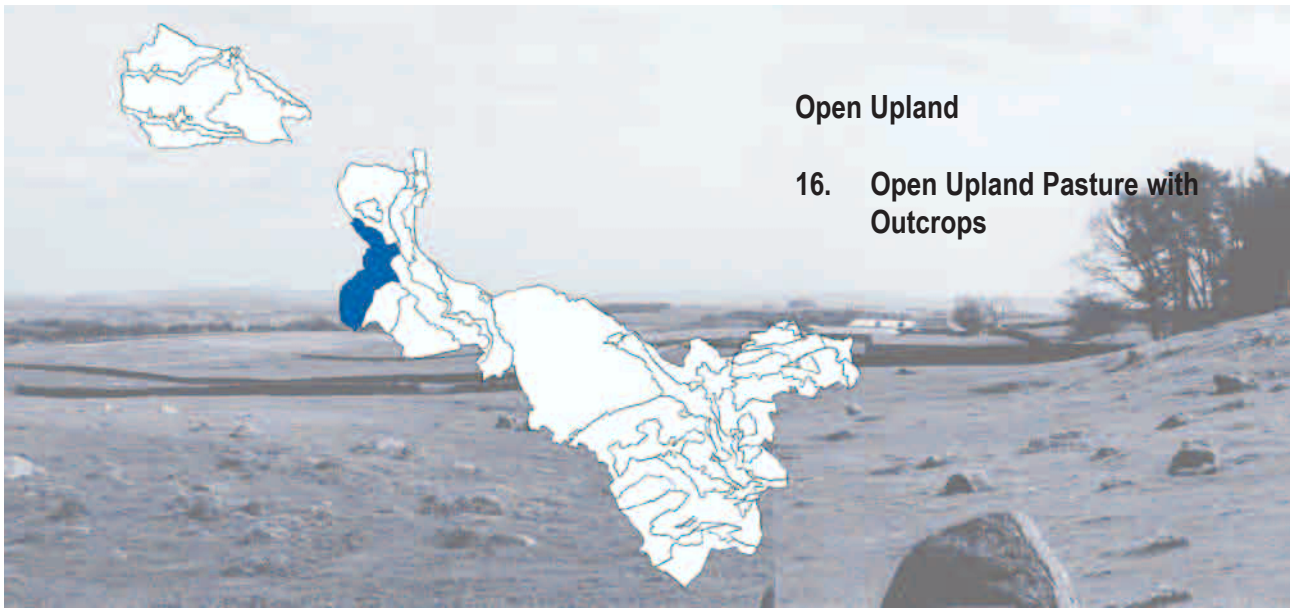
Description:

The landscape type comprisesa rolling upland landscape mainly confined to hill tops and sides, with irregular shaped medium-sized pasture fields enclosed by a network of stone walls. The intact network of dry-stone walls make a particularly significant contribution to the landscape character imposing a strong, pattern of irregular fields on the landscape. Trees are absent apart from occasional scattered windswept individual trees, creating a sense of exposure and openness. There is a coniferous plantation block with a reservoir alongside the A6068 on the edge of the Study Area, which breaks the pattern of walls. There is also a quarry/ works between Halton East and Embsay. The area contains a SSSI, 'Stonehead Beck ('Gill Beck')' identified as of international importance in the Geological Conservation Review. *'A 40m sequence of shales with seven marine beds is exposed in the bank of Stonehead Beck, a tributary of 'Gill Beck*'.' (see Appendix 4)



Viewpoint 15: View from Road above Cowling to the south-east, looking south to south-east towards Stott Hill Moor

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture/Irregular Stone Walls Landscape Character Type.



Open Upland

16. Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops

4.6.5

Key Characteristics:

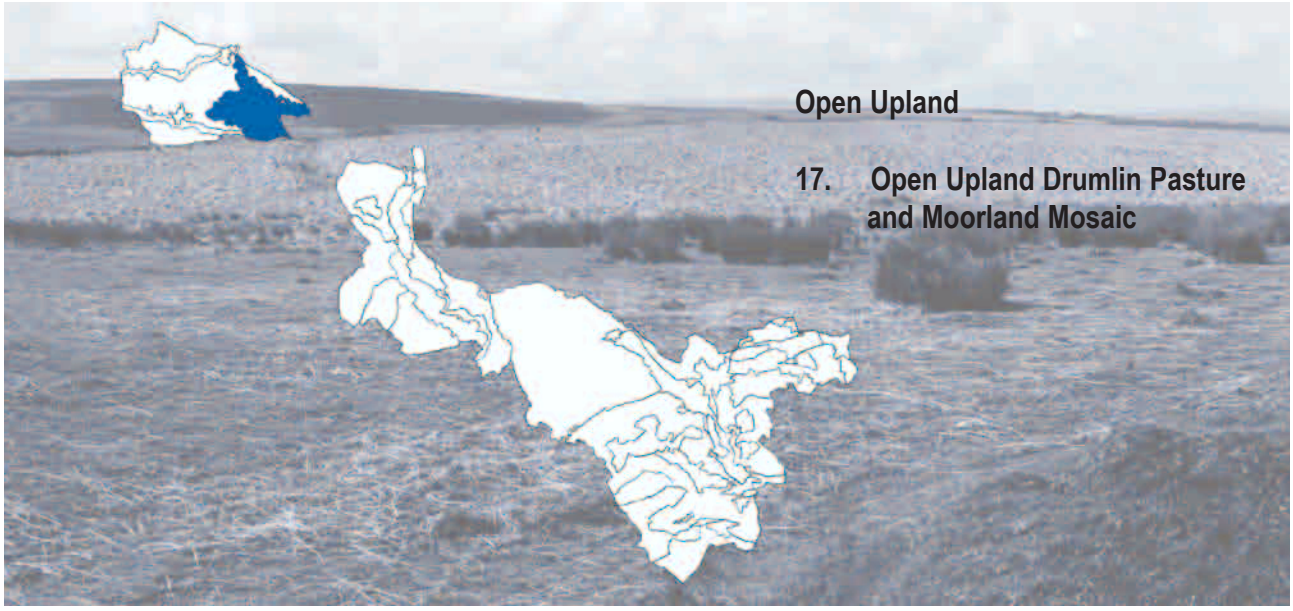
- Rolling upland landscape;
- Rugged landscape with scattered rocky outcrops and boulders;
- Network of dry-stone walls enclosing small to medium-scale pasture fields;
- Limited vegetation, with occasional groups of trees.

Description:

The landscape type comprises a rolling upland landscape of pasture and rough grazing, with occasional groups of trees. Scattered rocky outcrops and boulders create a rugged character which contrasts with the gentler rolling form of the grazed hills. Crow Trees Leisure Park, a medium-scale static caravan park, is located within the southern half of the area adjacent to Tosside Beck.

Viewpoint 16: View from Hensley Hill west of Rathmell looking east to south-east towards Cappleside.

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops Landscape Character Type.



4.6.6

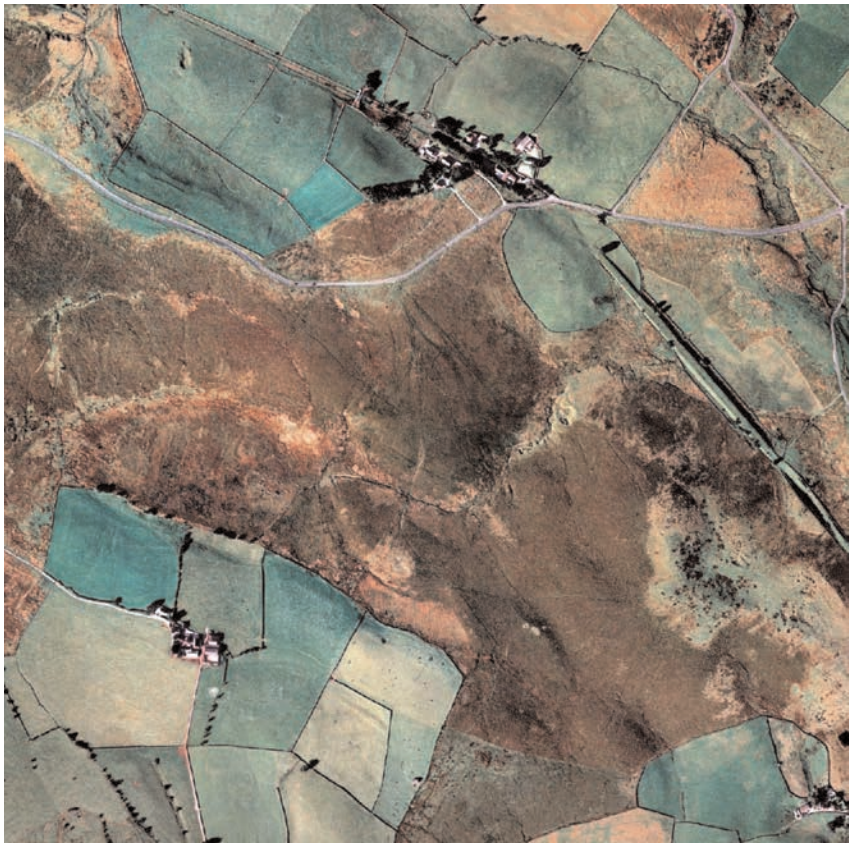
Key Characteristics:

- Rolling topography with subdued drumlin landform;
- Mosaic of pastoral landscape with network of dry-stone walls enclosing small to medium scale fields, contrasting with unenclosed tops to hills with moorland vegetation;
- Elevated moorland tops provide a feeling of openness and exposure;
- Limited vegetation, with occasional groups of trees.

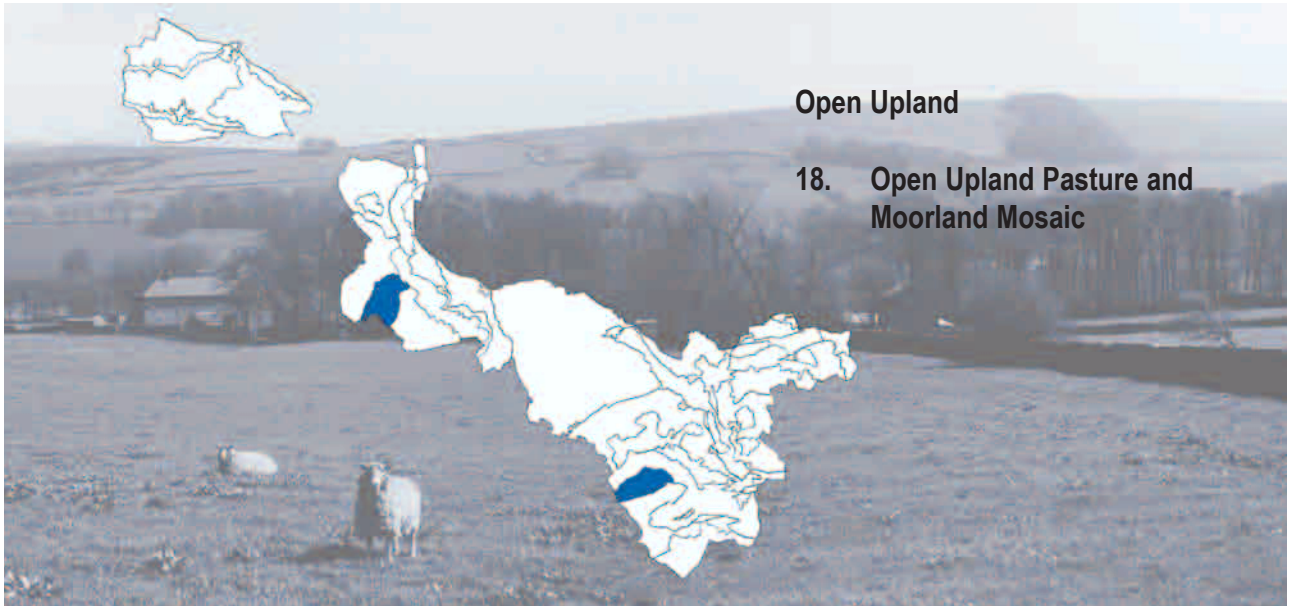
Description:

This landscape type is characterised by a rolling landscape, with a subdued drumlin form, attributable to a washed out drumlin. (Individual drumlin forms are not always pronounced due to partial drowning of the drumlin field.) It comprises a pastoral landscape with small to medium scale fields enclosed by dry-stone walls. More elevated areas are unenclosed and covered in moorland vegetation, with moorland grass, gorse and heather and some boggy areas. Newby Moor is designated as a SSSI (see Appendix 4). *'Newby Moor supports an outstanding complex of wetland communities reflecting a wide variation in land form, soil and water conditions. The traditional management of the area as common land has maintained the extensive mosaic of habitats in an otherwise modified lowland grassland setting. The site as a whole is of interest for breeding birds with snipe, redshank, curlew, lapwing, reedbunting and linnet recorded.'* The Moorland tops create a mosaic of habitats and land use. The vegetation cover is limited, with occasional groups of trees. The topography and limited vegetation creates a feeling of openness and exposure from the drumlin tops.

Viewpoint 17: View from B6480 between Clapham and High Bentham looking east to north-west



Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Drumlin Pasture with Moorland Mosaic Landscape Character Type.



4.6.7

Key Characteristics:

- Rolling topography;
- Pastoral landscape with network of dry-stone walls enclosing small to medium scale fields contrasts with unenclosed tops to hills with moorland vegetation;
- Elevated moorland tops provide a feeling of openness and exposure;
- Limited vegetation, with occasional groups of trees.

Description:

Rolling upland landscape of pasture, extending to small areas of moorland fringe and moorland areas on higher summits. The fields are bounded by an intact network of dry-stone walls. The landscape is medium scale with an exposed feel on tops, with expansive views. There is a quarry and associated reservoir within the valley west of Lothersdale.

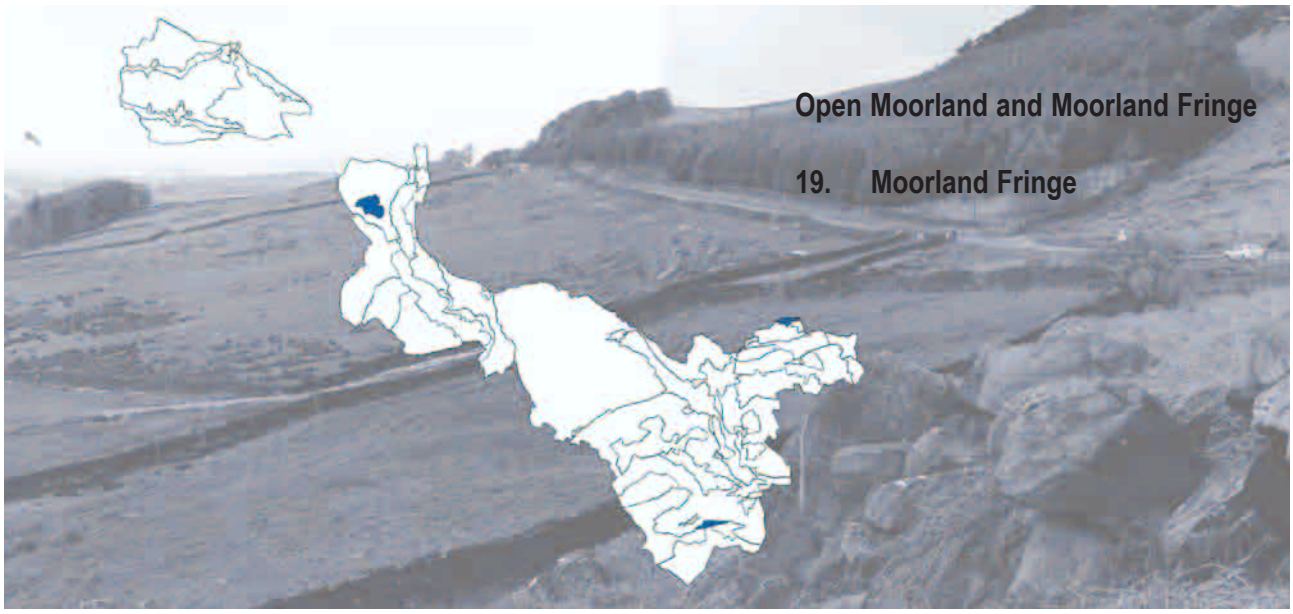
Viewpoint 18: View from road west of Lothersdale looking south-east to south-west towards Raygill House

Aerial Photograph of Open Upland Pasture and Moorland Mosaic LandscapeCharacter Type.

Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe

4.7 Three types of open moorland and moorland fringe landscape character types have been identified. These landscapes are typically open, often unenclosed land, generally on the tops of slopes and summits. They consist of land above the enclosed improved pasture, although these landscapes often provide rough grazing, and are characterised by moorland vegetation and a lack of trees. There is a general lack of development.

19. Moorland Fringe
20. Moorland
21. Moorland Plateaux



4.7.1

Key Characteristics:

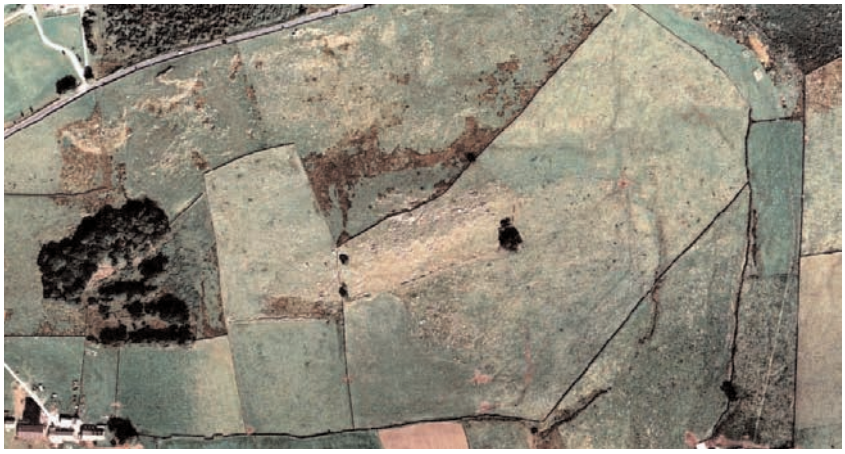
- Linear transition zone between managed pasture on lower slopes and moorland on higher ground;
- Open landscape with extensive views across lower slopes to adjacent hills;
- Rugged landform, steep in places, with rocky outcrops, crags and boulders;
- Moorland fringe vegetation of rough grassland merging with moorland vegetation;
- Trees generally absent with only occasional stunted trees;
- Some areas enclosed by dry-stone walls forming irregular fields.

Description:

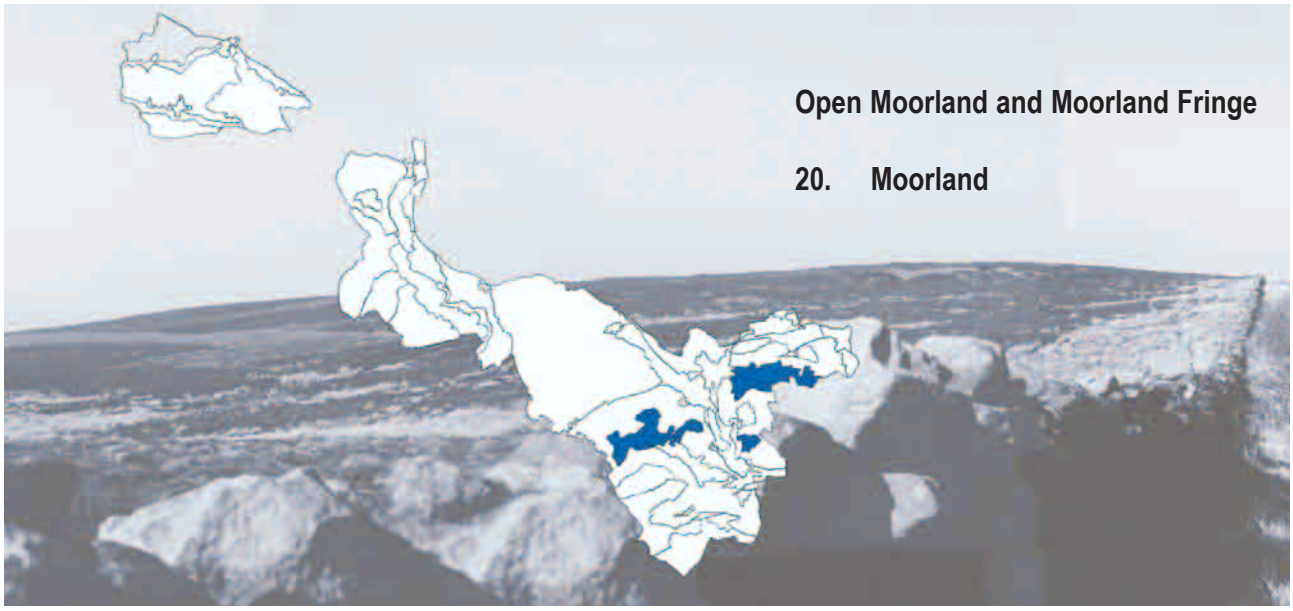
The Moorland fringe landscape types are linear areas forming the transition between the more ordered and improved pasture fields on the lower slopes, and wild areas of moorland above. The undulating topography is often steep in places. The landform is rugged with solid rock outcrops occurring where the underlying bedrock is exposed, together with crags, scree slopes and scattered boulders. These areas are above the improved pasture and are either unenclosed, or irregular fields are enclosed by dry-stone walls. Moorland grasses and bracken merge into rough grassland often providing rough grazing. Trees are often absent with occasional stunted trees. The landscape has an open feel with extensive views across the pastoral landscapes below.

To the south east of the Study Area, and to the south of Cowling, the area of moorland fringe borders the moorland plateaux landscape to the south. The outcrop is particularly steep and has been heavily influenced by man, containing two disused quarries and two structures, Lunds Tower and Walnmans Pinnacle, from which there are extensive views across the surrounding valleys and hills. Another area of moorland fringe landscape, to the east of Embsay, fringes the moorland landscape of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. To the north of the Study Area, an area of undulating topography within the moorland fringe landscape also has a drumlin form. Part of this latter area, south west of Giggleswick, is designated as 'Cocket Moss' SSSI, (see Appendix 4). *'Cocket Moss is the only notified example of a valley bog in the Yorkshire Dales, and is of importance for the species-rich mire communities of which it is comprised.'*

Viewpoint 19: View from Low Crag, north of Halton East looking west to south-west



Aerial Photograph of Moorland Fringe Landscape Character Type.



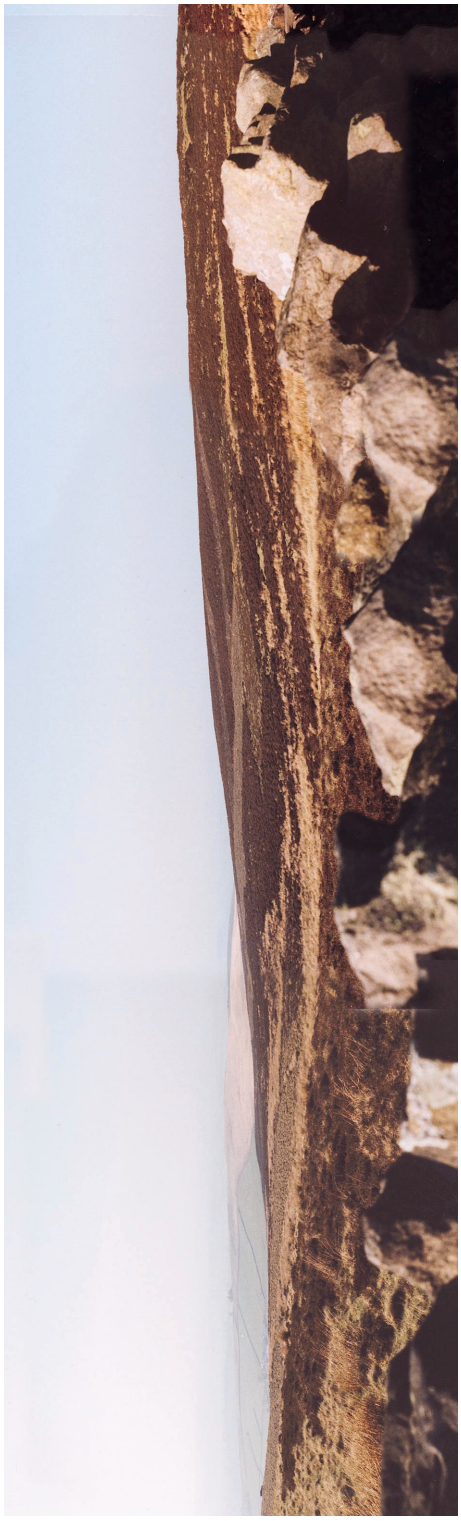
4.7.2

Key Characteristics:

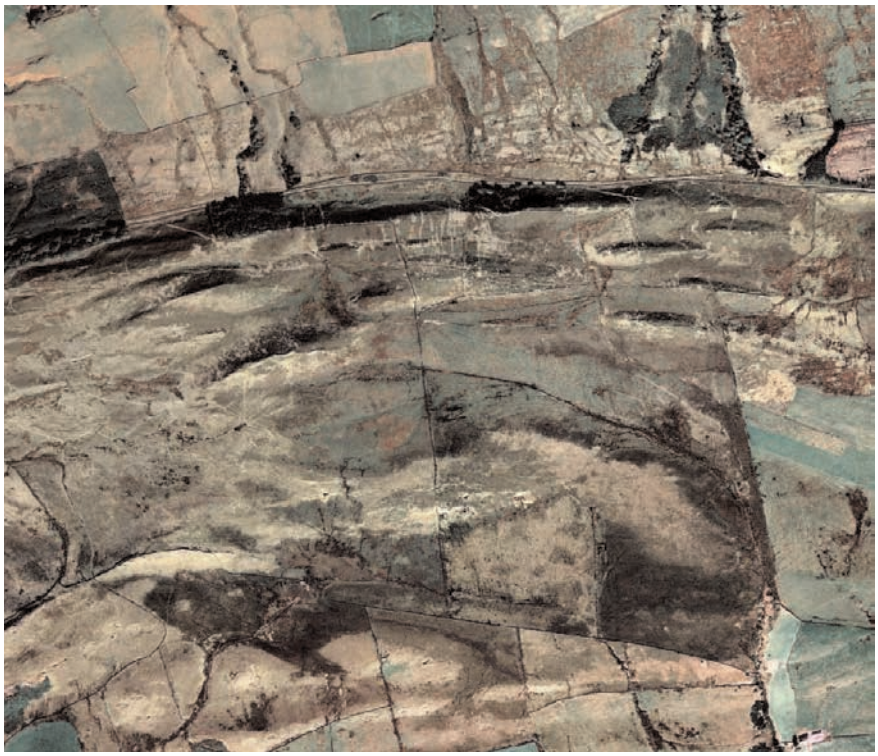
- Gently rolling landform on high fell tops;
- Unenclosed upland moorland habitats of acid moorland vegetation often dominated by moorland grass;
- Trees mainly absent with occasional wooded gills following topography;
- Large-scale, open, exposed landscape with expansive views over surrounding hills;
- Sense of elevation, isolation and exposure.

Description:

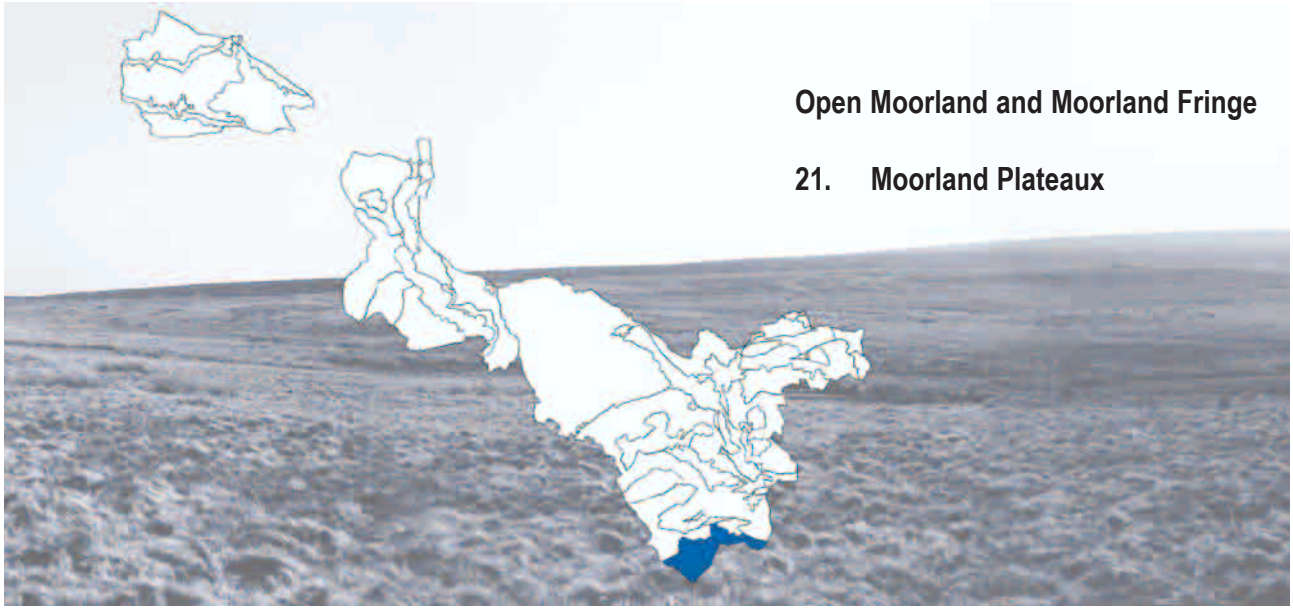
The exposed moorland landscape types extend across the summit tops, above the limit of enclosed pasture. The landcover is predominantly acid moorland vegetation often dominated by acid grassland. Trees are generally absent although there are occasional wooded gills following the topography, and occasional small plantations in some areas. The landscape is large-scale and simple, and characterised by a sense of elevation and openness, with extensive and uninterrupted views across the surrounding countryside with a dominance of sky. Sounds are from mainly natural sources, such as the wind and birdsong. Colours are monochrome and generally muted, providing a variety of texture and colour in the landscape at different seasons. Weather and changing visibility can transform the scenery and contribute greatly to the mood and atmosphere of the landscape. Access is fairly limited with few roads through the moorland areas.



Viewpoint 20: View from road from Carleton west of Lothersdale looking north to north-west



Aerial Photograph of Moorland Landscape Character Type.



Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe

21. Moorland Plateaux

4.7.3

Key Characteristics:

- Landform generally level or very gently rolling on high fell tops, above the break of slope of the moorland flank;
- Unenclosed upland moorland habitats of blanket bog;
- Trees are absent;
- Large-scale landscape with a sense of openness and elevation providing expansive views over large area of moorland plateaux;
- Sense of wilderness, remoteness and space.

Description:

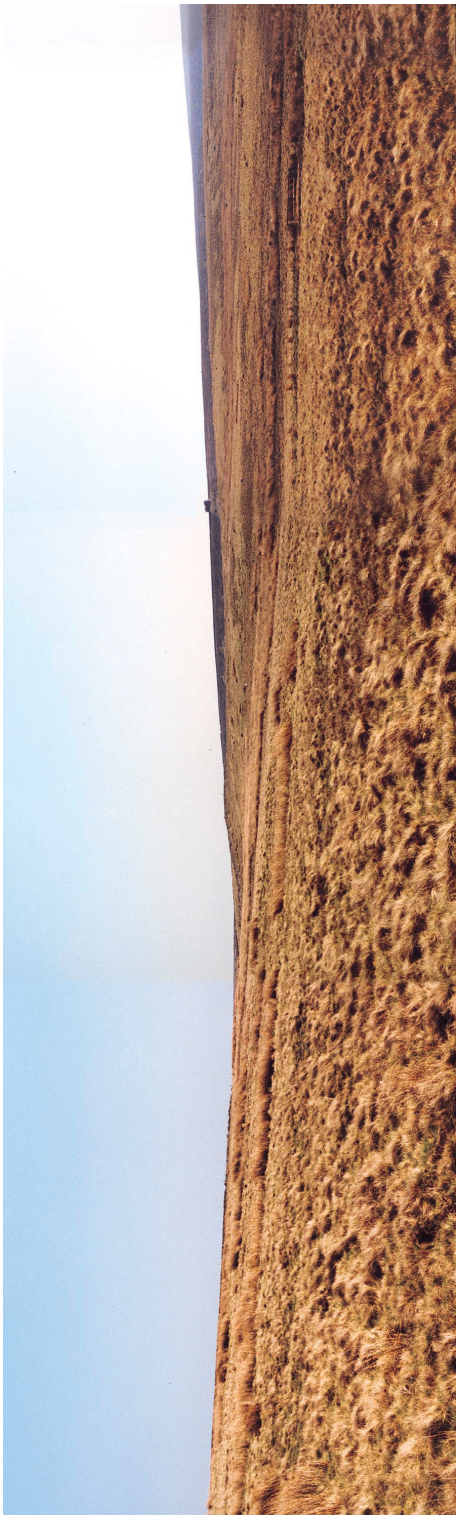
The Moorland Plateaux landscape character type extends across the high fell tops, at an elevation above 300m AOD, where the landform is generally level or very gently rolling, above the break of slope of the moorland flanks. The landcover is predominantly blanket bog with the vegetation cover typical of acid moorland (dwarf shrub heath, purple moor grass, cotton grass etc.) There are extensive areas of heather dominated moorland (the 'black moor'), which in places is degraded to a vegetation cover dominated by acid grassland. Trees are absent.

The landscape is large-scale and simple, and characterised by a sense of elevation and openness, with extensive and uninterrupted views across the surrounding countryside with a dominance of sky. Wide open, extensive areas of moorland plateaux provide a sense of wilderness, grandeur, remoteness and space, more remote from human habitation. Sounds are from mainly natural sources, such as the wind and birdsong. Colours are monochrome and generally muted, providing a variety of texture and colour in the landscape at different seasons. Weather and changing visibility can transform the scenery and contribute greatly to the mood and atmosphere of the landscape.

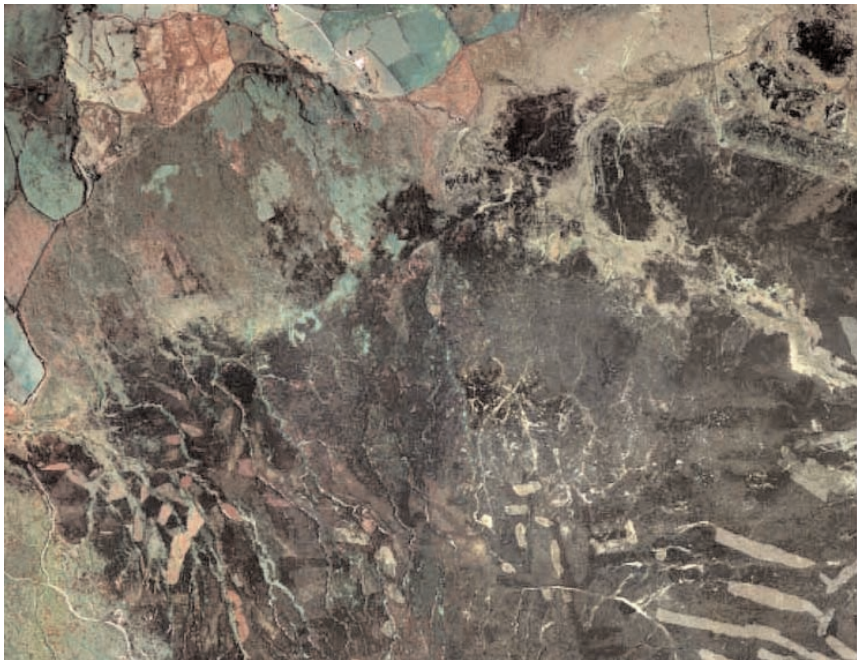
Access is very limited within the moorland plateaux. There are few roads, and only a small number of footpaths cross the area. Within the Study Area the moorland plateaux forms the edge of the South Pennines, from which there are extensive views over the surrounding moorland plateaux areas.

The majority of this landscape type falls within the South Pennine Moors SSSI designation, a 20,938 ha area within West and North Yorkshire, Lancashire and Greater Manchester (see Appendix 4). *'The site is the largest area of unenclosed moorland within West Yorkshire and contains the most diverse and extensive examples of upland plant communities in the county. This mosaic of habitats supports a moorland breeding bird assemblage which, because of the range of species and number of breeding birds it contains, is of regional and national importance.'*

The South Pennine Moors SSSI includes land classified as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds. It also includes land designated as a Candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) under the EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna. These international designations reflect the importance of the South Pennine Moors natural habitat for wild flora and fauna and in particular the conservation of wild birds.



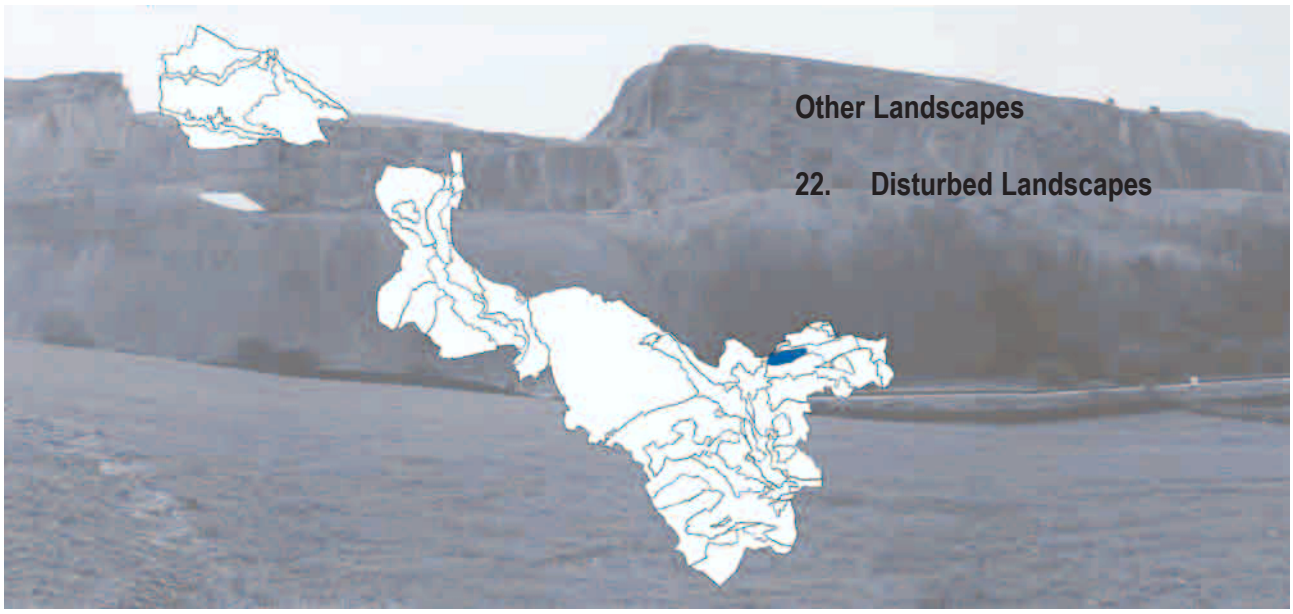
Viewpoint 21: View from road above Cowling to the south-east, looking east to south-east towards Sutton Moor



Aerial Photograph of Moorland Plateaux Landscape Character Type.

4.8 Modified landscapes occur where the landscape has been physically altered by man and has lost its original grain and character. The topography, vegetation cover and field patterns have often been obscured or significantly altered. These modified landscapes may have a large visual influence over the surrounding area.

22. Disturbed Landscapes



4.8.1

Key Characteristics:

- Man-made modified landscape associated with quarry extraction creating a distinctive area of disturbed land;
- Scar or intrusion within the landscape.

Description:

The disturbed landscapes type comprise areas where the landscape has been physically altered by mineral or landfill operations and has lost its original character. The quarry to the north east of Skipton at Skibeden has created a significant scar on the landscape. The disturbed landscape forms a prominent vertical rock face cut out of the bedrock and natural profile of the rolling uplands, resulting in an unnatural horizontal and vertical profile.

Viewpoint 22: View from road between Embsay and Halton East looking south to south-west towards Skibeden Quarry

Aerial Photograph of Disturbed Landscape Character Type.

5.0 FORCES FOR CHANGE

5.1 Introduction and Overview

The landscape of the Study Area has evolved from the combination of many centuries of man's use of the land and the inherent geological, topographical and hydrological characteristics of the area. In recent decades the pace of change nationally has greatly increased due to pressures for urban expansion, increased mobility and leisure time, and changes in land management. Within this context, the changes to the landscape of the Study Area have been slower, more contained and more localised in their impact. That is not to say that the landscape has not changed over the last fifty to hundred years, but the Study Area has not experienced the significant urbanisation of its neighbours, the Leeds and Bradford western fringes and northern Lancashire, nor has it experienced the same level of demand from tourism found within the Yorkshire Dales.

It is difficult to assess whether the pace of change will be substantially different in the immediate future. The Study Area has been and will continue to be affected by forces outside its control at the global (for example global warming), international, (such as agri-environmental policy dictated by the European Union) and at national level. Changes in policy or demand for the natural resources of the Study Area may lead to increased or decreased pressure for mineral resources, renewable energy, new farming practice, faster and better transport and communication links, industrial growth, new leisure and tourism opportunities, and open land for development. On the other hand, the importance of sustainable development, and the conservation and enjoyment of national landscape, ecological and historical assets is well established, leading to a landscape which is better managed, assisting to halt the decline in landscape and ecological diversity and enhancing historical assets.

Change in the landscape of the Study Area can be both positive and negative. Different interest groups will take a different view of those changes and what is seen as an eyesore by one may be a symbol of prosperity or good management by another. The traditional landscape of the Study Area is generally highly valued but new elements, especially when well designed and managed, can in time come to be regarded as valued landscape features.

This section examines the driving forces behind landscape change in the Study Area at the present time. It is based upon a desk review of relevant planning and policy documents and upon wide consultation with agencies and interest groups. A Schedule of Consultees is listed in Appendix 2. More specific references of relevance to the text in this chapter are included as footnotes.

5.2 Agriculture and Land Management

Agriculture represents the major land use in the Study Area to the extent that non agricultural land uses are, with some notable exceptions, mostly fairly small scale, well contained and dominated by the surrounding farmland. Agriculture therefore has the most significant role in safeguarding the environment and shaping the future landscape. Permanent pasture for livestock predominates, varying in its character from the river floodplains to the moorland fringes.

Changes in farming practice are gradual and generally have depended on the circumstances of individual landowners and farmers[1] . Trends that started before the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in 2001 are expected to continue, with the consequences of the disease having mostly localised and short term effects. To date land ownership has changed little with the result that a long term view of the land continues. Investment in the land is, however, often dependent on money from outside the agricultural community.

[1] Country Landowners Association. Telephone conversation with Mr WJ Henderson May 2002

Dairy:
Consultation with the CLA and NFU representatives have confirmed that in recent years the size of dairy herds has been increasing, and on a fewer number of farms. This has led to the need for larger agricultural structures, a trend that is expected to continue as and when funds become available for investment. A further effect of this trend is an increase in hard metalled cow tracks that can be a prominent feature in an otherwise pastoral rural landscape. These changes have potential implications for visual amenity and local field patterns. Despite this general pattern, however, there is anecdotal evidence that the corollary is also occurring on some of the farms within the Study Area, with a retraction to smaller herds.

Beef cattle and sheep:
In general more extensive farming practices are being encouraged which is expected to result in changing field sizes and in some cases the removal of recently introduced post and wire fences.

Non food production:
An increase in the use of land for grassland for retail sale and paddocks has arisen with the lower returns from food production. This could potentially change the character of the landscape in closer proximity to urban centres and within commuting distance of the conurbations. Opportunities for the production of bio-energy crops are being considered which could potentially have a significant effect on land use and landscape character.

Diversification:
There is a growing trend for farmers and landowners to diversify into alternative sources of production in order to supplement a declining profitability and income from the main farming business. There is evidence of a number of new uses associated with diversification, including the adaptation of redundant farm buildings for tourist accommodation.

Countryside Stewardship:
A number of farms across the Study Area are within the Countryside Stewardship Scheme but the take up has not been high and many farmers and landowners find the scheme too restrictive. It is not expected at the present time that the scheme will have a significant impact on the landscape.

5.3 Forestry and Woodland Planting

The landscape is typical of well farmed estates with woodland copses of no great size but forming an important element in the landscape. Forestry and woodland planting in the Study Area is owned and managed by either local landowners or the Forestry Commission and is predominantly either mixed or deciduous woodland with a small number of large plantations.

Existing woodland receives active management[2] through Woodland Grant Schemes and selective felling by local landowners but new planting is being introduced on an ad hoc basis, mainly to provide shelter belts, game copse and for leisure pursuits. However, there has not been a measurable increase in woodland creation as an alternative to traditional farmland practices following the foot and mouth outbreak. This may be partly due to the lack of funds targeted for this area.

[2] Forestry Commission. Consultation response 20.5.2002

A number of woodlands within the Study Area, are classified as Ancient Woodland (see list in Appendix 5). The following are examples of the most notable areas of Ancient Woodland:

- Swindon Gill Wood 12 ha (south east of Hellifield)
- Park Gill/ Carlow Beck Wood 11 ha (south of Carleton-in Craven)
- Lumb Clough 11 ha (south of Sutton-in-Craven)
- Yellison/ Croft Wood 8 ha (west of Carleton-in-Craven)
- Castle Wood 8 ha (north of Skipton)
- Halton Gill Wood 8 ha (east of Halton)
- Black Wood 8 ha (south of Burton - in - Lonsdale)

5.4 Built Development

Increased personal mobility and advances in telecommunications technology have made all rural areas relatively accessible. These trends, in combination with an enhanced perception of rural life and a decline in the importance of agriculture in the rural economy, are placing increasing pressures upon the Craven District landscape to accommodate new built development. The quality of life within the Study Area also encourages demand for the expansion of the built form to meet local needs.

In recent years Craven District Council have successfully defended its settlement boundaries and contained development within the settlements and on brownfield sites. As a result, with some exceptions at Skipton and Glusburn, the contrast between the urban and rural landscapes has been largely maintained, reducing the landscape and visual impacts of urban sprawl and urban fringe uses.

However, the quality of the local landscape and greater restrictions on development within the National Park and AONB, will continue to attract inward migration of both residents and commercial interests. Investment into the area will also attract increased demand. Unfettered market demand for development within the Study Area could be a significant force for change.

In recognition of the generally high environmental quality of the Study Area, the land use planning response has been to pursue a policy of development restraint. This is set out in the adopted North Yorkshire County Structure Plan Alteration No.3. The policy of development restraint is translated at the local level through the adopted local plan, which sets out where development would occur for the plan period 1991 to 2006. Subsequent to the adoption of the local plan (July 1999), a raft of revised planning policy documents have emerged that will influence how this force for change is addressed in the future.

Regional Planning Guidance (RPG), which was adopted in October 2001, places strong emphasis upon achieving sustainable patterns of development. Policy P1 of the RPG sets out the locational principles for strategic patterns of development within the region. Of particular significance to the Study Area is the location of new development within built up areas, prioritising the re-use of previously developed land in preference to greenfield locations, and then, if necessary, locating new development along public transport corridors. When viewed in isolation, the locational strategy may result in increased development pressure within existing settlements and established public transport corridors. However, paragraph 4.34 of the RPG sets out that the overall expected level of new development within the North Yorkshire sub-region to 2016 will be at a lower level than during previous plan periods.

The overall approach to development at the regional level is yet to be translated into local planning policy via a revised joint Structure Plan and Local Plan review. However, the change in the locational strategy may result in the landscapes surrounding public transport corridors being prone to change. The degree to which this may apply, however, is dependant upon the level of new development up to 2016 being accommodated on brownfield land, in sustainable locations. Policy H1 of the RPG sets a provisional target of 53% of all new housing for the period to 2016 to be accommodated on previously developed land for the North Yorkshire Sub-region. Within the Study Area, further work is ongoing that will establish the potential of brownfield land to accommodate new development. It is unlikely that all new development requirements will be accommodated on brownfield land, within settlement boundaries. As such, there may be pressure for new development around settlements and this may have an impact upon surrounding landscapes.

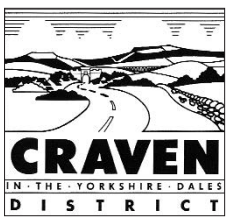
The settlements of Sutton and Glusburn/Crosshills require specific comment. The situation in South Craven is unusual and quite unique within the Study Area in that these two settlements that lie in close proximity to each both retain a distinctive character and identity. Great emphasis is placed upon this character and distinctiveness to the extent that the areas of undeveloped land that remain between Sutton and Glusburn/Crosshills are designated as "Green Wedge" in the adopted local plan[3]. Policy BE3 of the local plan is relevant in this case and sets out the aim to retain and reinforce the individual character and identity of Sutton and Glusburn/Crosshills.

The proximity of Sutton and Glusburn/Crosshills to the boundary of the Study Area with West Yorkshire has resulted in some acknowledged development pressure in this area, some of which would have compromised the Green Wedge and its aims. There is no apparent indication that such pressure will abate over time. However planning policy has so far been successful in preventing inappropriate new development in the Green Wedge through both refusing planning permission and winning subsequent appeals.

Some of the smaller settlements in the Study Area have experienced relatively substantial suburban expansion. However, at the local plan inquiry, the Inspector commented in his report [1998] that he did not regard this as a valid reason to allow further development. The allocation for new dwellings is at present relatively low[3] and has been accommodated without damage to the open countryside but as readily suitable sites are developed the pressure for greenfield sites outside the settlement boundaries may increase. For this reason a clear understanding of the capacity of the rural landscape of the Study Area to absorb different types of development is essential to minimise the impact on visual amenity and the distinctive landscape character of the area.

The Study Area is noted for the comparative retention of its local distinctiveness both in its built form and landscape character, although this has been eroded to some degree on the fringes of Skipton, Glusburn and some smaller settlements. The development of standardised or non local varieties of design, particularly to meet lower cost demands, still remains a threat to the distinctive characteristics of the area.

Lighting:
The landscape and visual impact of lighting is now an important environmental issue but the means of measuring that impact is in its infancy. The lack of visual intrusion from lighting is a major factor in the identification of our nation's tranquil areas[4]. Outside the settlements, the Study Area has a low level of lighting and experiences little skyglow impacts. However, at the edge of some settlements and in particular in relation to employment development, lighting and the potential for light pollution at a local level is becoming an issue.



[3] Craven District Local Plan (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Adopted July 1999
[4] CPRE : Tranquil Area Maps - Yorkshire and Humberside

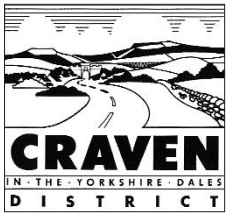
The design of lighting has improved considerably in recent years and is guided by current standards[5]. However, the introduction of higher lighting requirements to meet safety and operational needs, still means that lighting to highway schemes, new transport facilities, new development, public utilities and sports venues may have a significant night-time impact on visual amenity and rural tranquillity. On the positive side, the gradual replacement of street lighting within the settlements with modern light fittings will considerably reduce the existing night-time visual impact from settlements, particularly sky glow.

5.5 Infrastructure

Transport[6] :
A principal transport corridor (of two distinct parts) traverses the Study Area. Firstly, the lower Aire Valley south of Skipton contains a principal road (A629) that links Skipton and South Craven to the West Yorkshire Conurbations, the Leeds/Bradford to Skipton railway line, the River Aire and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal (although these watercourses no longer carry commercial traffic). To the north of Skipton the transport corridor generally follows the northern boundary of the Study Area with the Yorkshire Dales National Park. This part of the corridor contains the A65 (a main route through the Study Area linking the main settlements and providing a through route for traffic), the Skipton to Settle/Carlisle railway line and the Skipton to Lancaster/Morecambe railway line. Here, the corridor generally runs north-west to Lancashire, Cumbria and beyond. This part of the transport corridor also includes part of the River Ribble, although like the River Aire and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, is no longer used for commercial traffic. Skipton forms a hub in the corridor from which other road transport corridors radiate east and west (notably the A59 and the A65 towards Leeds). It is, however, the principal transport corridors, with their open landscapes and variety of transport modes that may become vulnerable to transport related development in the future.

Roads:
In addition to the A65, the A629 and A56 are the two other main routes through the Study Area. All of these roads are heavily used, particularly in summer. Although until recently classified as trunk roads, all three roads have de-trunking orders against them and have been, or are about to be reverted to main County roads. Substantial upgrading of these major routes has been undertaken over recent years and by-passes continue to be considered for the villages of Gargrave, Coniston Cold, Hellifield, Long Preston, and Thornton- in- Craven. At present these are on hold but if they are constructed, considerable care will be needed to protect the character of the rural fringes of these settlements. The Local Transport Plan 2000 concentrates on improvement through traffic management schemes and local safety measures. Outside the settlements there may be local changes to the landscape of these 'A' routes through junction improvements, sight line realignments and minor carriageway widening. There are no proposals for other roads in the Study Area. The pressure for additional road side services is an issue along all the main routes and could have a potentially damaging effect on the landscape of the road corridor and the wider landscape character of the area. As demands from the travelling public continue to rise, the balance of need against the potential landscape and visual impact will be a key issue.

Bus and Rail:
The development of better public transport infrastructure is a priority throughout the Study Area. The Local Transport Plan 2000 identifies improved rural bus services, and the reopening of the railway station at Crosshills. In addition, and although not identified within the Local Transport Plan, the issue of resolving congestion caused by a level crossing at Crosshills is likely to result in a force for change in the locality. These measures are likely to have some localised impact on the landscape. With regard to the disused rail



[5] DoE and Countryside Commission. Lighting in the Countryside: Towards Good Practise 1997 Institute of Lighting Engineers. Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Light Pollution 1994/1997/2000
[6] North Yorkshire County Council. Local Transport Plan 2000

tracks, their further removal is now discouraged by Craven District Council. These will therefore remain as landscape features and provide an opportunity for landscape enhancement, improved pedestrian and cycle access, or to accommodate other forms of transport development.

Cycle Routes:
The Local Transport Plan 2000 sets out the commitment to prepare cycling strategies. It should be noted, however, that these are primarily urban based and hence fall outside of the boundary of the Study Area. However, the Local Transport Plan also makes reference to the creation of cycle routes in rural areas, principally as part of the ongoing development of the national cycle network, such as the proposed West Craven Cycle Way and the proposed Pennine Cycle Way Link. At the time of writing, however, funding to progress these particular projects is being sought. As such it is unclear whether such projects will be a force for change in the near future. Notwithstanding this, any impact the development may have upon the landscape is likely to be localised in nature.

Overhead Transmission Lines and Telecommunication Masts:
Overhead transmission lines are particularly prominent in open and remote landscapes and can have an urbanising visual effect. Equally telecommunications masts, if badly sited, can be visually intrusive and, if allowed to proliferate, will impact on local landscape character. It is not clear whether there will be increased growth in masts as this will depend on new developments in the telecommunications industry and government directives in respect of renewable energy. Craven District Council recognise the benefits of these services and seek to minimise the impact on the landscape.

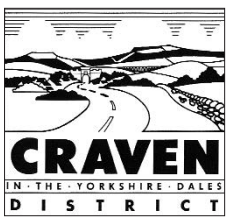
Utilities:
Although there is a need for improvement to, or extension of, existing facilities, this is not expected to materially affect the rural areas, although settlement fringes may be vulnerable to visual intrusion. The introduction of any major facilities in the rural landscape could have a visual impact and in some cases a significant urbanising effect on the local landscape character. At the present time no major facilities are proposed.

5.6 Recreation and Tourism

The Study Area lies between two major tourism and recreation areas - the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB. Despite the lower controls on development outside these nationally designated areas, the Study Area has not experienced a high level of pressure for tourism and recreational facilities, except in a number of honey pot locations on the fringes of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Canals:
The rising popularity of canal holidays, and use of towpaths for long and short distance walks and cycle routes, has brought an increase in visitors to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Craven District Council are keen to encourage tourism and recreation along the canal route whilst recognising the importance of conserving the landscape character and historic and wildlife assets of the canal. A significant increase in boating activity and canal related facilities may cause conflict with nature conservation interests and undermine the existing tranquillity of the rural sections of the canal.

Equestrian Centres and Horse Pasture Management:
As farmers diversify, an increase in the number and size of equestrian centres can be expected. Where these are extensive, and include indoor facilities, they may erode landscape character. Areas of horse



pasture, with miscellaneous fencing and structures, can also be intrusive. At particular risk are rural areas on the fringes of settlements.

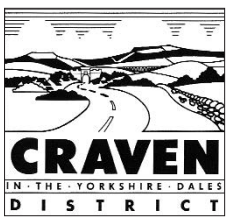
Tourist Accommodation:
The development of a wide variety of tourist accommodation is being encouraged within the Study Area, subject to controls to limit the impact on the landscape. The conversion of existing rural buildings, including those of historic value, is not discouraged and will continue to change the character of rural buildings, moving away from a predominance of agricultural buildings but also preventing unnecessary dereliction. The impact of conversions is likely to be widespread but local in its effect and with careful design will have a low visual impact. Static and touring caravan and camping sites, chalet sites and holiday villages may potentially intrude on the rural landscape to a much higher degree. Large scale sites are likely to be intrusive and, in remoter rural areas, could have a significant impact on the landscape character. Sites on the periphery of settlements can have the effect of extending the settlement into the countryside and eroding the landscape setting, which is often very sensitive to change.

Tourism and Recreational Development:
To date the pressure for tourist facilities has been modest in scale with little adverse impact on the landscape. Although tourism is being encouraged in the Study Area it is unlikely that large scale schemes would be acceptable. However, the Study Area is vulnerable due to the restrictions on development in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB and the proximity of the Yorkshire and Lancashire conurbations. A rise in larger scale tourist projects, and increases in traffic, litter, tourist signage and parking, could threaten visual amenity and landscape character. A proliferation of small scale schemes may also have an adverse impact on the landscape, especially in the remoter areas.

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000:
The Study Area lies within one of the first of two regions to be mapped by the Countryside Agency to identify areas of open country and commonland which fall within the definition of the Act. Draft maps for the Lower North West area were published by the Countryside Agency in November 2001 and are now subject to public consultation. The draft maps show a number of areas of 'Open Country' and 'Registered Commonland' across the Study Area, with extensive areas between Glusburn and Thornton in Craven and at Skipton Moor east of Skipton.

Provisional maps are due to be issued by the end of 2002, and landowners and tenants will have an opportunity to appeal against inclusion of their land. Conclusive maps will be issued between 6 and 12 months after the issue of the provisional maps in each area, but this is subject to the appeals process. The final conclusive map will indicate those areas of open country and commonland where the public will have a new right of access on foot. These rights will include activities like walking, sight seeing, bird watching, picnicking, running and climbing, but will have some built in limitations.

The effect of the Act on the landscape is as yet unknown. Increased public access may bring pressures from increased traffic and roadside parking and at worst erosion and changes in farming practice. However, this will depend on the popularity and accessibility of the land for recreation. Management of any increase in public access, to minimise any adverse impacts, is anticipated in the Act and will be important to safeguard the landscape character of these areas.



5.7 Parkland and Historic Landscapes

There are two Registered Parks and Gardens of Special and Historic Interest within the Study Area at Broughton Hall and Gledstone Hall. The majority of Conservation Areas apply to settlements which have been excluded from the Study Area. However, of the 25 settlements (see Appendix 1), 19 have Conservation Areas which extend beyond the Development Limits. There are also Conservation Areas at the smaller rural settlements of Eastby, Kildwick Grange, Lothersdale and East Marton which are located within the Study Area. In recognition of the importance of the Settle to Carlisle Railway line, a Railway Conservation Area has also been designated, and runs through the Study Area north of Settle to Hellifield. A significant number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments are identified in the eastern half of the Study Area as far west as Hellifield. In addition there are local sites of historic landscape importance.

PPG15 identifies the need to not only protect recognised historical assets but also their landscape setting where that setting contributes to the historic context of the site. The sphere of influence of these parks, Conservation Areas, SAMs and listed buildings, as well as local historic assets, therefore goes beyond their designated boundaries and into the rural hinterland. Proposals which affect these areas and their landscape setting may have a localised but significant effect on landscape character.

With the development of the historic landscape character approach by English Heritage, the two disciplines of landscape and cultural heritage are increasingly integrated so that the cultural heritage is viewed in its landscape context, and the historic significance of the landscape is also appreciated.

5.8 Hydrology and Water Bodies

In recent decades, the Environment Agency (formerly the National Rivers Authority) has introduced flood control measures for sections of the River Aire and River Ribble. These have generally resulted in localised artificial channels and flood banks. Current policy is to re-create more natural profiles where possible, to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives. The Environment Agency[7] does not, however, anticipate further change to the riverine landscape in the near future. Extensive sections of the Rivers Ribble, Aire, Wenning, and a small section of the River Greta are flood risk areas. These areas often have a distinctive landscape character that can be easily damaged by development, drainage, and flood control measures.

In addition to the potential for flood control measures, the potential for the management of water catchment areas to control levels of run off, and percolation to water courses, could represent a force for change in the Study Area. It is acknowledged that many water catchment areas for the watercourses and rivers that run through the Study Area lie outside of it. However, the implementation of measures to control water run off within the Study Area's water catchment areas (such as afforestation, for example), could have a significant impact upon landscape character.

The Study Area contains one major reservoir at Chelker. There is no indication at present of any proposals to construct further reservoirs in the area.

The greatest pressures on water features comprise the potential loss of ponds, wetland and flood meadows arising from changed land management practices; potential erosion of banks along rivers and canals from increased tourism and leisure development; higher water abstraction levels to meet increasing demand from urban areas; and damage to local drainage and watercourses from increases in farm slurry

[7] Environment Agency. Correspondence dated 15.02.2002
8 Telephone Conversations with Minerals Officers at North Yorkshire County Council May 2002

production and residences not linked to the sewerage system. At present these pressures have not had a significant impact on the landscape but will need to be carefully monitored to avoid adverse impact on the landscape.

The future effect of global climate changes is difficult to predict. In the last decade the Study Area has experienced the effects of changing weather patterns. The fear of drought, exposed river and reservoir beds, and over extraction in the 1990s has been superseded by concerns over flooding and excess run-off in the late 1990s and early 2000. Nevertheless, these are short term oscillations in relation to longer term climate change, and its potential effect on the Study Area's hydrology.

5.9 Mineral Extraction

The Study Area is a source of Carboniferous Limestone and there are a number of existing quarries, two of which are located to the north-east of Skipton (Skibeden and Skipton Rock). These have had a major impact on the landscape. *The North Yorkshire Minerals Plan* identifies an extensive Area of Search between Hellifield in the north and Broughton in the south.

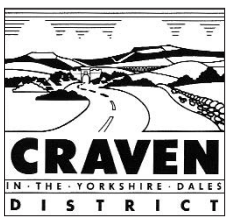
It is becoming increasingly unlikely[8] that there will be a major increase in demand for limestone extraction from the Study Area. Reserves of Carboniferous Limestone from existing quarries are sufficient to meet current demand and it is expected that the government will reduce the targets for future supplies. Therefore, although greater restrictions may be imposed on extraction from the Yorkshire Dales National Park, it is unlikely that sites within the Area of Search will come forward. There are no current plans to expand existing operational quarries. However, should the position change, any major increase in extraction in new sites or extensions to existing sites may have a significant visual impact and an adverse impact on the landscape character.

5.10 Waste Disposal

North Yorkshire County Council's *Waste Management Strategy* (Final Draft, March 2002) is a local strategy, developed within the legislative framework of the EU Landfill Directive and the UK Government's vision for waste management set out in its Waste Strategy 2000. Of particular significance are the national stepped targets for recycling and recovery of waste, including a reduction in landfilling of biodegradable municipal waste to 35% of the level carried out in 1995. The vision embraces a shift away from disposal, to options that encompass the reduction and recycling of waste.

The principal thrust of the *Waste Disposal Strategy* is to stabilise and ultimately reduce the amount of municipal waste generated, and engender a change in perception and sense of responsibility by householders to support this vision. At the top end of the waste hierarchy, the need to develop schemes for maximising re-use, recycling and composting is also emphasised. While the *Waste Disposal Strategy* is confined to the processing of municipal waste, the significant quantity of waste generated by industrial and commercial establishments is also noted, the disposal of which is the responsibility of producers.

The emerging changes in waste management bring new opportunities and threats to the landscape, and potential effect on landscape character. In particular, the closure of landfill sites may represent an opportunity to restore the landscape character within those areas affected by such land uses. The emerging Waste Disposal Strategy brings other forces for potential change in the landscape, however, through a greater focus on 'green' waste recycling and waste to energy processing plants. The siting of



such plants is of considerable importance, in order to minimise potential impact. Such development also generate an increase in vehicles transporting the waste with further impact on local as well as main roads. Other effects of the Strategy will be a reduction in the pressure on, and hence impact of, rural landfill sites, countered by more limitations on means of restoring minerals extraction sites.

Increased charges for the disposal of waste can also have a negative effect on the rural landscape, through the increasing problem arising from the effects of unauthorised tipping. The management of both authorised and unauthorised waste disposal, to meet the needs of the Study Area and neighbouring urban communities, is therefore a key issue in protecting the rural landscape.

5.11 Renewable Energy: Wind Farm Development

At present the Study Area has one small wind farm adjacent to Chelker Reservoir, supporting four wind turbines. In view of the elevated and exposed nature of many parts of the Study Area, it has the potential to provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. Changes in government policy to further encourage renewable energy in accordance with defined national targets, together with developments in wind turbine technology, may also enable a wider variety of sites to be considered. As a consequence, the pressure for wind farm development in the Study Area may increase.

Further development of wind farms would be potentially very intrusive in the open landscapes of the Study Area, with the effect compounded if cumulative impact occurs where more than one farm is visible. As well as the potentially wide visual impact, such developments, either singly or in combination, would have a significant effect on landscape character.

6.0 EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

6.1 Introduction and Methodology

6.1.1 The Landscape Appraisal for the Study Area has been undertaken in accordance with the methodology for landscape character assessment as set out in *'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Wales'* 2002, Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage.

6.1.2 The terms used in the Appraisal are consistent with those included in the Guidance. For further clarification, however, a glossary of landscape technical terms is included in Appendix 7.

6.1.3 Evaluation Methodology

The field survey stage of the assessment provides the most important source of data to guide the process of making judgements based on landscape character, and in particular the evaluation of quality (or condition), and subsequent determination of appropriate management strategies. The evaluation of the landscape character types is based on the following:

- Classification of the strength of landscape character within each landscape character type into categories of ***strong, moderate or weak*** based on the overall strength of the key characteristics;
- Classification of the landscape condition into categories ***good, declining or poor*** based on overall condition of the key characteristics;
- Identification of potential impact of key forces for change on the landscape type and its key characteristics, both positive and negative;
- Identification of the sensitivity of the landscape type to change without unacceptable adverse effects on its character.

In respect of landscape quality, paragraph 7.8 in the *'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance'* (2002) states that: *'Landscape quality …. is based on judgement about the physical state of the landscape, and about its intactness, from visual, functional, and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of individual features and elements which make up the character in any one place.'*

In line with the Countryside Agency's Guidance, therefore, the determination of the landscape quality for each landscape character type is based on the interaction of the **condition** of the landscape and the **strength of character**, the correlation of which is summarised in the matrix below. These broadly correlate with five quality categories, which in turn guide the identification of alternative management strategies and actions.

		Landscape Quality Category		
Condition	GOOD	3	2	1
	DECLINING	4	3	2
	POOR	5	4	3
		WEAK	MODERATE	STRONG

Strength of Character

The five categories are summarised below and described more fully in Section 6.2.

Landscape Quality Category 1 - Conservation
Landscape Quality Category 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement
Landscape Quality Category 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration
Landscape Quality Category 4 - Restoration / Creation
Landscape Quality Category 5 - Creation

The matrix provides a helpful tool in the process of guiding the determination of the appropriate landscape quality and management strategy. In order to strengthen the robustness of the judgement and final evaluation, however, it is essential to triangulate the findings of the comprehensive field survey, and the matrix evaluation, with the rigorous examination and judgement of experienced practitioners in the landscape profession. As a consequence, there will be occasions when adjustments need to be made to the matrix findings to ensure that the landscape type is assigned the appropriate management strategy. Where this occurs, appropriate explanatory text and justification must accompany any adjustment to the management category evaluation, to ensure full transparency.

6.2 Landscape Quality and Management Strategy Descriptions

6.2.1 Landscape Quality 1: Conservation

This strategy applies where landscape character and sense of place is particularly strong or where individual features are particularly notable for their landscape, ecological, historical and/or cultural value. Although these landscapes would benefit from management and enhancement, intervention is likely to be modest.

6.2.2 Landscape Quality 2: Conservation / Reinforcement

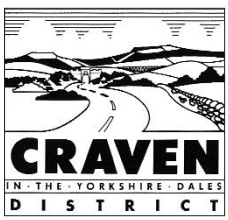
This strategy applies in areas where landscape character is still reasonably strong and worthy of conservation, but where some or all of the individual features or overall structure are showing some decline. In these areas, a modest degree of intervention is required to bring these landscapes back into good condition, involving a combination of the conservation of existing character, and reinforcement of character where it is being lost.

6.2.3 Landscape Quality 3: Reinforcement/ Restoration

This strategy applies in areas where landscape character is declining and worthy of conservation, but where some or all of the individual features are showing a noticeable decline. In these areas, a more comprehensive degree of intervention is required to bring the landscapes back into a good condition. This will involve the reinforcement of the character where it is being lost, together with a more focused restoration of those elements that have declined, in order to bring these landscapes back into good condition.

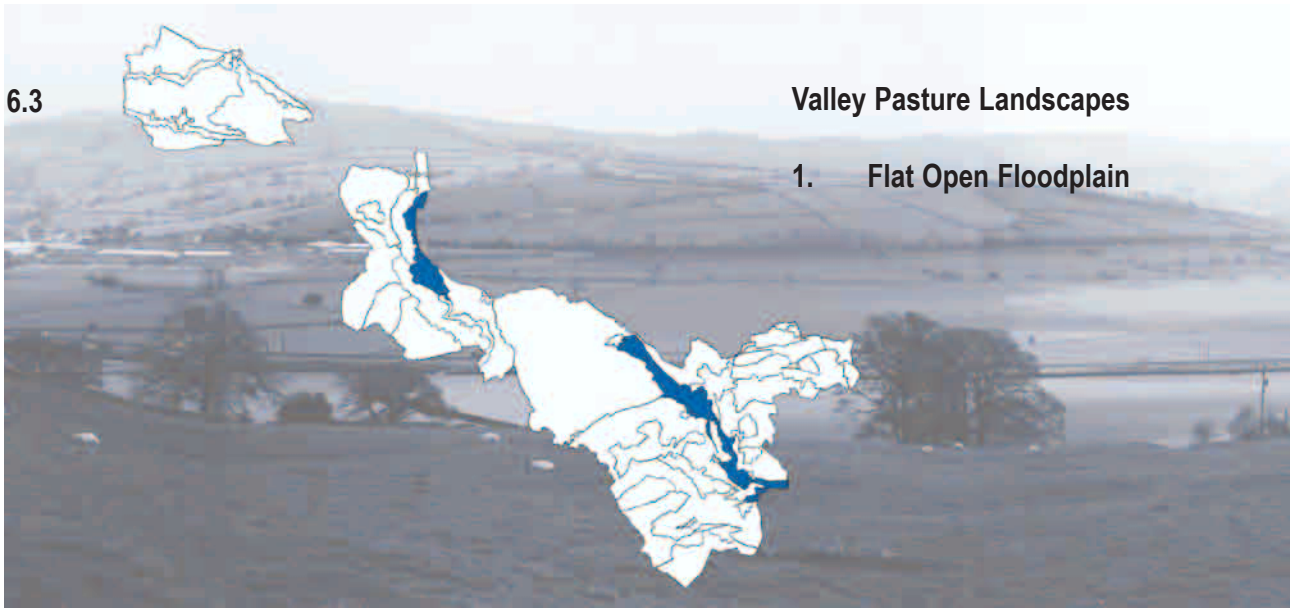
6.2.4 Landscape Quality 4: Restoration/ Creation

This strategy applies in areas where landscape character and structure are often quite seriously degraded, although there are some discernible remnants of former character which could be restored through intervention. Typically, these areas are those where intensive agricultural practices have resulted in widespread loss of hedgerow and woodland structure, or where the landscape has lost its rural character and become visually degraded because of intrusive built development, around the urban fringes or along transport corridors. It involves the combination of restoration of character where it is being lost and the creation of new desirable character where present character and condition is poor.



6.2.5 **Landscape Quality 5: Creation**

This strategy applies in areas where present character and condition is poor, where the landscape has been so modified by human activity that it no longer bears any resemblance to its former character, and where major intervention is required to establish a new character and strong sense of place.



6.3 Valley Pasture Landscapes

1. Flat Open Floodplain

6.3.1

Character: WEAK - MODERATE

- Strong topography defines the limits of the floodplain creating a distinctive area of open, flat landscape;
- Weak landscape character lacking structure or definition, with little vegetation, lost field boundaries, low grown out or gappy hedges, open ditches and fences;
- Weak landscape character to rivers, with lack of riverside vegetation, unnatural bank profiles in places with steep, eroded banks to rivers.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining due to loss of field boundaries, unmanaged or badly managed hedgerows and erosion of riverbanks.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the pastoral floodplain landscape. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the floodplain landscape.

- Built Development:

The majority of the area is designated as 'Flood Risk Area' in the Local Plan, which provides some protection against development (Policy ENV15). The SSSI designation also offers extra protection from development (Policy ENV6).

- Infrastructure:

River corridors may become vulnerable to transport related development in the future, due to their open landscapes and variety of transport modes (road/ railway/ canal).

- Recreation and Tourism:

There could be potential erosion of banks along the Leeds to Liverpool Canal due to increased tourism and leisure development. There may be potential to allow future access along the rivers, which would potentially increase the recreational use of the area.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

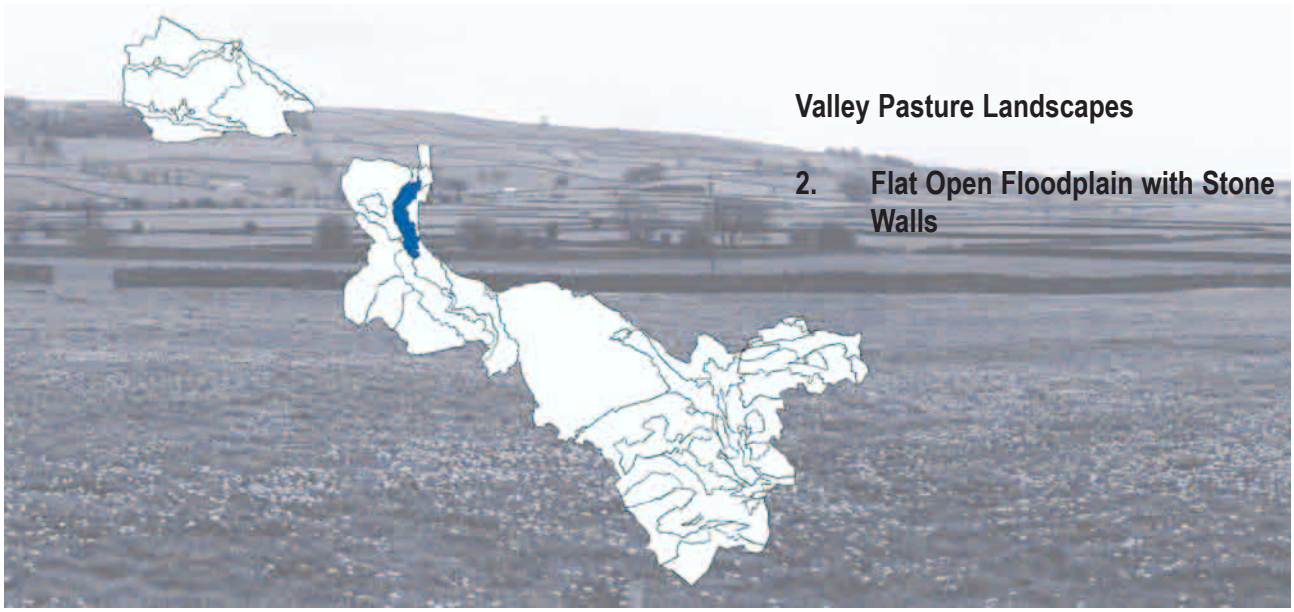
The courses of the Rivers Aire and Ribble have been altered by the introduction of flood control measures, such as artificial channels and flood banks, with potential contribution to a loss of flood meadow and riverside habitats, and erosion of river banks. Current policy is to re-create, where possible, more natural profiles to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives, which could involve the reinstatement of flood meadow and riverside habitats.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Floodplain landscapes are very visible from the surrounding elevated landscape;
- The landscapes of the A65 / river corridor are particularly vulnerable to change;
- The floodplain landscape is vulnerable to change by development, drainage and flood control measures.
- The SSSI provides important habitats for wildlife which are sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration:

- Conserve the open, undeveloped nature of the floodplain landscape;
- Consider re-creation of more natural river profiles where possible, to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives;
- Consider restoration of lost field boundaries to strengthen the existing landscape structure;
- Restore pastoral floodplain character by considering reinstatement of lost field boundary hedgerows, including replanting hedgerow trees, and reinforcement of existing hedgerows with replanting and management;
- Consider reinstatement of lost dry-stone walls;
- Consider opportunities for habitat creation along rivers, to reinforce existing riverside planting and restore riverside vegetation;
- Consider opportunities for provision of riverside walks, which could enhance access to, and enjoyment of, the floodplain landscape;
- Conserve and manage existing SSSI;
- Conserve historic stone bridges which are features of the landscape.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

2. Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls

6.3.2

Character: STRONG

- Strong topography defines the limits of the floodplain creating a distinctive area of open, flat landscape;
- Strong network of dry-stone walls enclose a well defined field pattern;
- Weak landscape character to some sections of the rivers, with lack of riverside vegetation, and unnatural bank profiles in places with steep, eroded banks.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- The landscape condition is good with a strong network of dry-stone walls;
- Declining condition of river is due to the loss of riverside vegetation and erosion of riverbanks.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the pastoral floodplain landscape. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the floodplain landscape.

- Built Development:

Floodplain areas may be vulnerable to pressure for built development on the perimeter of the floodplain beyond the flood risk area on the edges of Giggleswick and Settle. The majority of the area is designated as 'Flood Risk Area' in the Local Plan, which provides some protection against development (Policy ENV15). The SSSI designation also offers extra protection from development (Policy ENV6).

- Infrastructure:

River corridors may become vulnerable to transport related development in the future, due to their open landscapes and variety of transport modes (road/ railway/ canal).

- Recreation and Tourism:

There could be potential erosion of river banks along the 'Ribble Way' and of banks along the Leeds to Liverpool Canal due to increased tourism and leisure development. There may be potential to allow access along the rivers, which may increase the extent of recreational use of the area.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

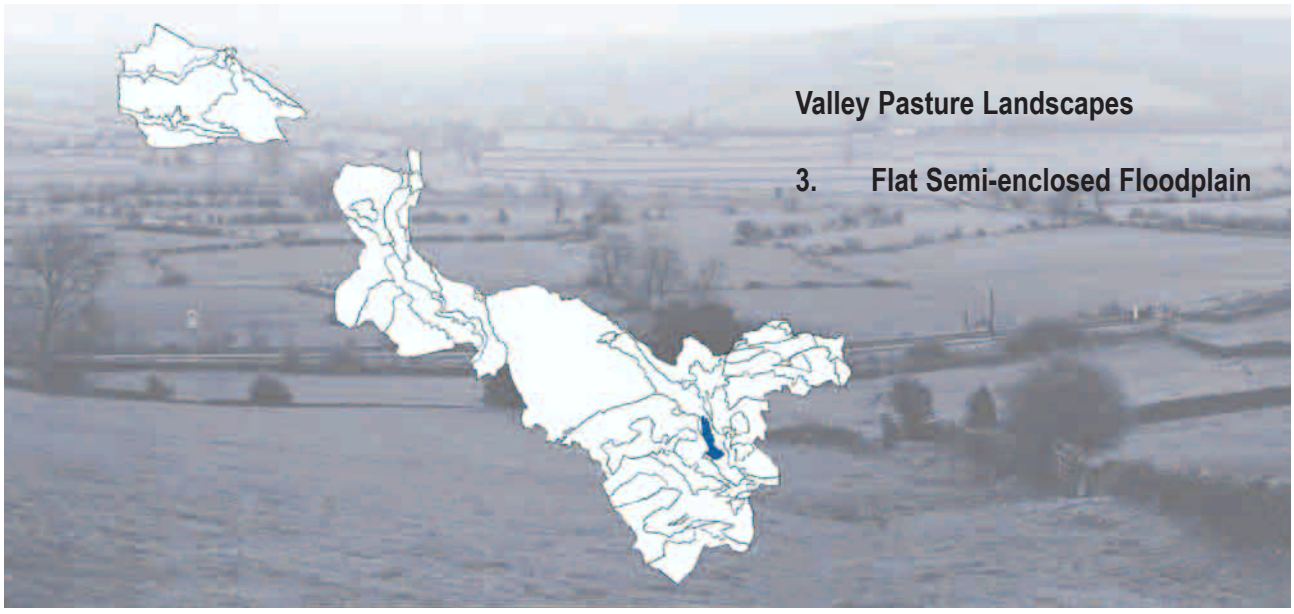
The courses of the Rivers Aire and Ribble have been altered by the introduction of flood control measures, such as artificial channels and flood banks, with potential contribution to the loss of flood meadows and riverside habitats, and erosion of river banks. Current policy is to recreate, where possible, more natural profiles to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives, which could involve the reinstatement of flood meadow and riverside habitats.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Floodplain landscapes are very visible from the surrounding elevated landscape;
- The landscapes of the A65 / river corridor are particularly vulnerable to change;
- The floodplain landscape is vulnerable to change by development, drainage and flood control measures.
- The SSSI provides important habitats for wildlife which are sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the open, undeveloped nature of the floodplain landscape.
- Conserve the network of dry-stone walls.
- Consider re-creation of more natural profiles where possible, to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives.
- Consider opportunities for habitat creation along rivers, to reinforce existing riverside planting and restore riverside vegetation.
- Consider opportunities for provision of riverside walks, which could enhance access to, and enjoyment of, the floodplain landscape.
- Conserve and manage existing SSSI.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

3. Flat Semi-enclosed Floodplain

6.3.3

Character: MODERATE

- Strong topography defines the limits of floodplain creating a distinctive area of open, flat landscape;
- Moderate pastoral landscape character with a network of hedgerows and hedgerow trees enclosing an intimate, irregular field pattern, with occasional fences and walls;
- Moderate vegetation cover creating an intimate semi-enclosed character;
- Weak landscape character to rivers, with lack of riverside vegetation, unnatural bank profiles in places with steep, eroded banks to rivers.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining, with many gappy hedgerows in poor condition threatening potential loss of the small-scale irregular field pattern and semi-enclosed pastoral character;
- Declining condition of river due to loss of riverside vegetation and erosion of riverbanks.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the pastoral floodplain landscape. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, reduction in management, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the floodplain landscape.

- Built Development:

Floodplain areas may be vulnerable to pressure for built development on edge of Cononley village. The majority of the area is designated as 'Flood Risk Area' in the Local Plan, which provides some protection against development (Policy ENV15). The SSSI designation also offers further protection from

development (Policy ENV6).

- Infrastructure:

The railway runs through or along the edge of the area. River corridors may become vulnerable to transport related development in the future, due to their open landscapes.

- Recreation and Tourism:

There could be potential erosion of banks along the Leeds to Liverpool Canal due to increased tourism and leisure development. There may be potential to allow access along the rivers, which may increase the amount of recreational use of the area.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

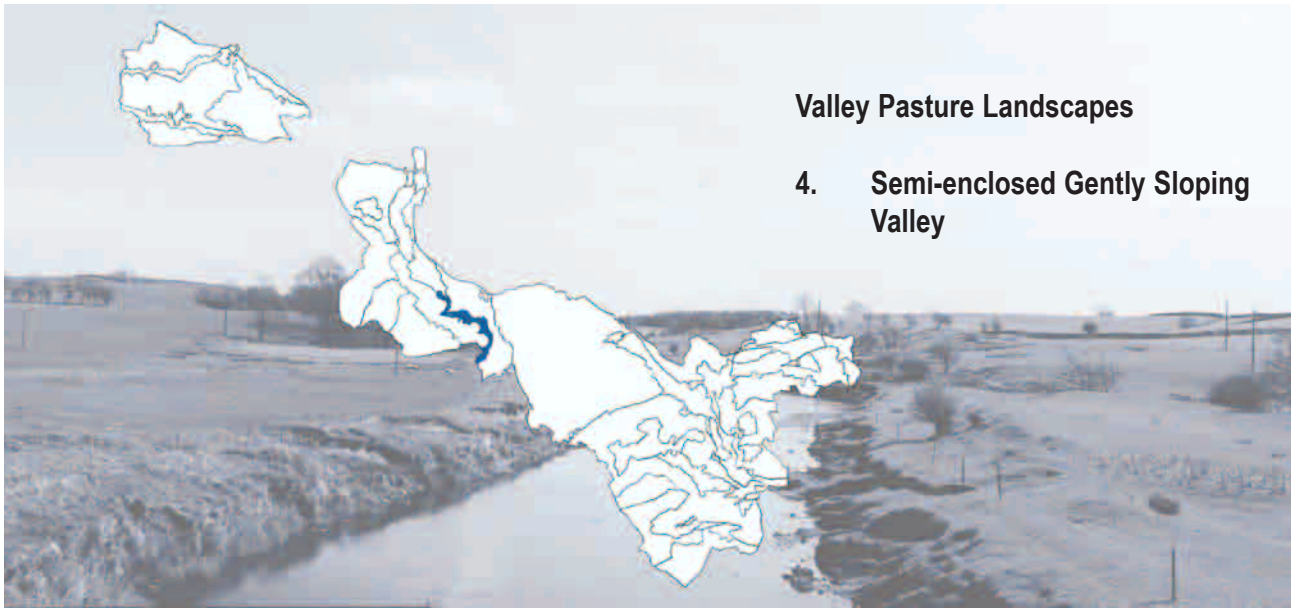
The courses of the Rivers Aire and Ribble have been altered by the introduction of flood control measures, such as artificial channels and flood banks, with potential contribution to the loss of flood meadows and riverside habitats, and erosion of river banks. Current policy is to re-create, where possible, more natural profiles to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives, which could involve the reinstatement of flood meadow and riverside habitats.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Floodplain landscapes are very visible from the surrounding elevated landscape;
- The landscapes of the river corridor are particularly vulnerable to change;
- The floodplain landscape is vulnerable to change by development, drainage and flood control measures.
- Pastoral character is sensitive to change i.e. removal or inappropriate management of hedgerows.

Landscape Quality 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration:

- Conserve the open, undeveloped nature of the floodplain landscape;
- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern - hedgerow and wall conservation;
- Reinforce the pastoral floodplain character by considering replanting and management of hedgerow trees to strengthen the existing landscape structure;
- Consider re-creation of more natural river profiles where possible, to meet flood management, landscape and ecological objectives.
- Consider opportunities for habitat creation along rivers, to reinforce existing riverside planting and restore riverside vegetation.
- Consider opportunities for provision of riverside walks, which could enhance access to, and enjoyment of, the floodplain landscape.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

4. Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley

6.3.4

Character: MODERATE

- Moderate landscape character created by gently sloping valley topography containing a meandering river channel;
- Moderate vegetation cover including small blocks of woodland creating an intimate semi-enclosed character;
- The river has a weak landscape character with lack of riverside vegetation and erosion of river banks.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining with gappy, poorly managed hedgerows, loss of traditional field boundaries, and introduction of fences;
- River condition declining with loss of riverside habitats and erosion of river banks.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have an effect on the pastoral landscape of the semi-enclosed gently sloping valley. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the pastoral valley landscape.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

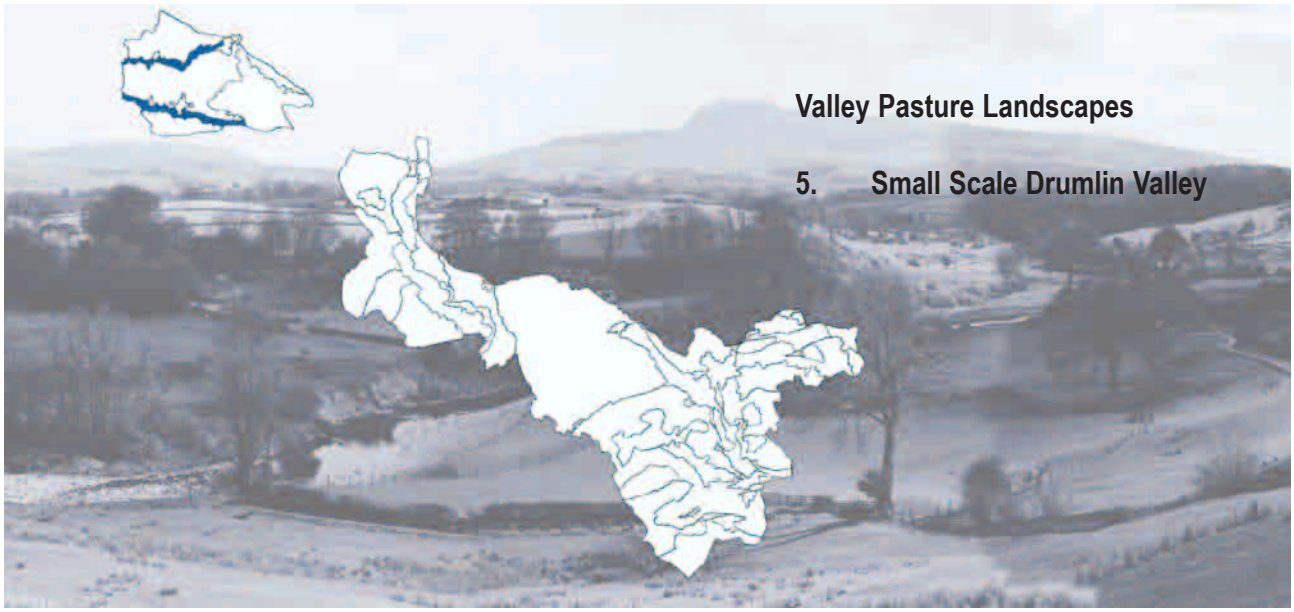
Further erosion of river banks and loss of riverside habitats would further degrade the river landscape. Changes upstream could affect the hydrology of the river within the gently sloping river valley landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Land rises away from the river providing views of the gently sloping river valley from higher ground, although the meandering nature of the river and the vegetation cover prevent many views from within the valley;
- The river landscape may be vulnerable to change by development, drainage or flood control measures upstream;
- Important habitats of nature conservation value such as the areas of Ancient Woodland are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern through hedgerow conservation;
- Reinforce the pastoral character by considering replanting and management of hedgerow trees to strengthen the existing landscape structure;
- Consider reinstating lost field boundaries;
- Conserve and manage areas of Ancient Woodland/ woodland;
- Consider opportunities for habitat creation along the river, to reinforce existing riverside planting and restore riverside vegetation;
- Consider opportunities for provision of riverside walks, which could enhance access to, and enjoyment of, the river valley landscape.



Valley Pasture Landscapes

5. Small Scale Drumlin Valley

6.3.5

Character: STRONG

- Distinctive varied topography with drumlin landforms defining narrow valleys containing meandering river channels;
- Strong landscape character created by a mosaic of woodland, trees, hedgerows, dry-stone walls and fences extending across a varied topography.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining with gappy, poorly managed hedgerows and the potential loss of irregular field boundaries;
- Loss of some landscape features arising from siting of caravan park within valley.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have an effect on the pastoral landscape of the river valleys. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the valley landscapes.

- Recreation and Tourism:

Existing Caravan Park located in the River Greta valley is indicative of the potential effect of future recreational developments, and the need for sensitive siting and mitigation of impact.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

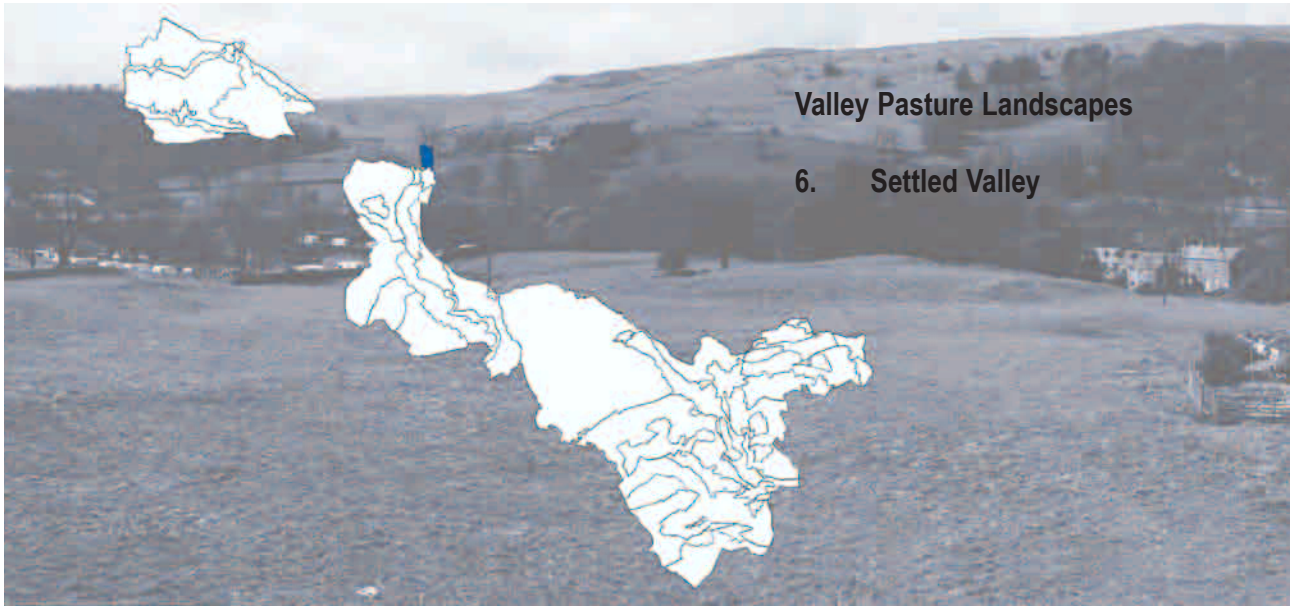
Changes upstream could affect the rivers.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Rivers enclosed by topography are fairly well contained, and not very visible from within the valley or from the surrounding landscape;
- River landscape may be vulnerable to change by development, drainage or flood control measures upstream;
- Important habitats of nature conservation value such as Ancient Woodlands are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern through hedgerow and wall conservation;
- Conserve and manage areas of Ancient Woodland/ woodland;
- Reinforce the pastoral character by considering replanting and management of hedgerow trees to strengthen the existing landscape structure.



6.3.6

Character: MODERATE - WEAK

- Variable pattern of moderate to weak character extends through the mosaic of land uses that characterise the settled valley landscape adjacent to Settle and Giggleswick. The area includes the transport corridor between Settle and the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Condition: DECLINING

- Evidence of some decline in the landscape fabric arising from the influence of the road/rail transport links, and the combination of built development, and caravan park facilities.

Forces for Change:

- Built Development:

Located on the edge of Settle and Giggleswick, and forming part of a transport route between Settle and the Yorkshire Dales National Park, this area may be vulnerable to future development pressures. The existing mill buildings may need future use.

- Infrastructure:

Valley corridor may become vulnerable to transport related development in the future, due to the link between Settle and the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and combination of road and railway routes.

- Recreation and Tourism:

There is an existing small static and touring caravan site within the area. The proximity to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Settle may create pressures for further tourism and recreation developments in

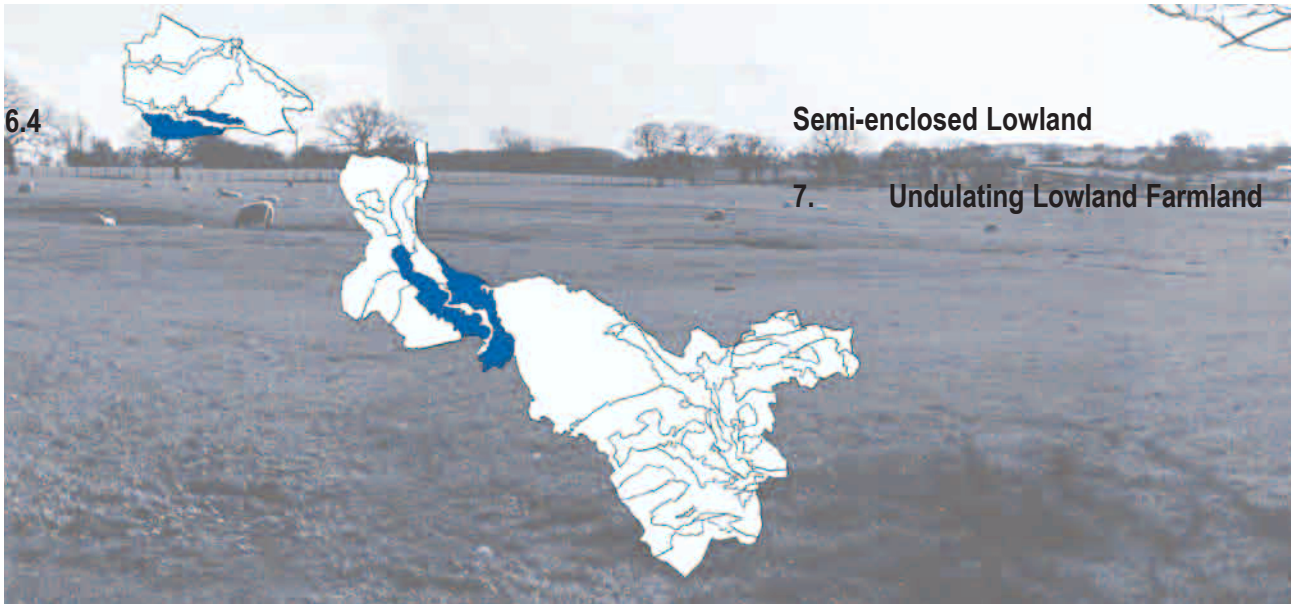
the area.

Sensitivity to Change:

- The area is sensitive to change due to close proximity to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Settle;
- Landscapes along road/rail transport corridor may be particularly vulnerable to change.

Landscape Quality 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration:

- Conserve and reinforce the existing field boundary pattern through dry-stone wall conservation;
- Conserve and manage areas of woodland;
- Manage existing recreation and tourism facilities;
- Conserve existing mill buildings.



6.4 Semi-enclosed Lowland

7. Undulating Lowland Farmland

6.4.1

Character: MODERATE- STRONG

- Moderate landscape character of gently undulating pastoral lowland landscape forming the lower fringes to the upland landscapes;
- Strongly defined and distinctive well-wooded character with trees, woodlands and hedgerows giving the landscape a 'lowland' character;
- Settled character containing a number of settlements, villages and hamlets.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining with a number of gappy hedgerows in poor condition;
- Some field boundary hedgerows have been removed and replaced by post and wire fences.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the mainly pastoral lowland landscape of small to medium-scale fields. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the lowland landscape.

- Forestry and Woodland Planting:

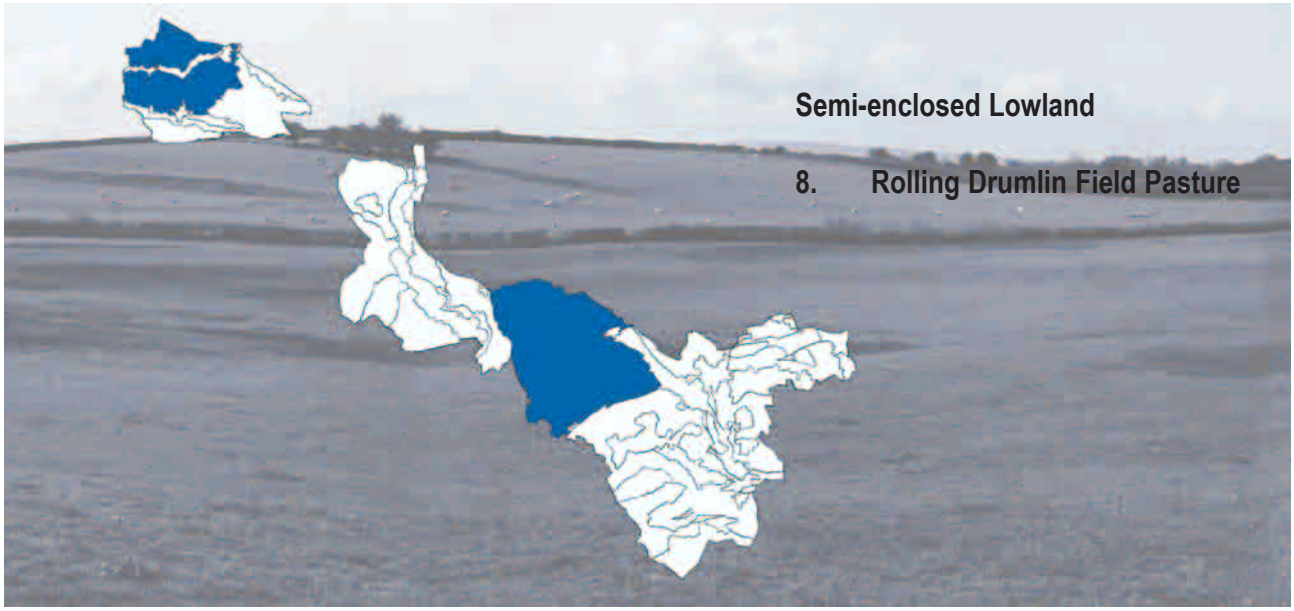
The lowland landscape has the potential to absorb further areas of copses and small scale woodland planting.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Settled, semi-enclosed character may be less sensitive to development than more open and exposed areas.
- Pastoral character sensitive to change through the loss of hedgerows and trees, which would reduce the semi-enclosed 'lowland' character of the area.
- Important habitats designated as SSSI and Ancient Woodland are particuarly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern through hedgerow and wall conservation;
- Conserve and reinforce the semi-enclosed pastoral lowland character by considering replanting and management of hedgerow trees to replace fencing and strengthen the existing landscape structure;
- Conserve and manage areas of Ancient Woodland/ woodland;
- Conserve and manage existing SSSI;
- Conserve the settled nature of the lowland landscape.



6.4.2

Character: STRONG

- Strong landform pattern associated with undulating drumlin topography of interlocking rounded hills;
- Distinctive landscape of intricate sequence of pasture, hedgerows, small copses and woods superimposed on an undulating landform, accentuating relief of the hills.

Condition: DECLINING

- Structure of landscape declining with traditional field boundaries being lost and the size of some fields increasing;
- Condition of some hedgerows is declining through the lack of, or inappropriate management.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the mainly pastoral rolling drumlin field landscape of small to medium-scale fields. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the rolling drumlin field pasture landscape.

- Forestry and Woodland Planting:

Rolling drumlin field landscape has the potential to absorb further areas of copses and small-scale woodland planting.

- Parkland and Historic Landscapes:

The designation of the two Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Broughton Hall and Gledstsone

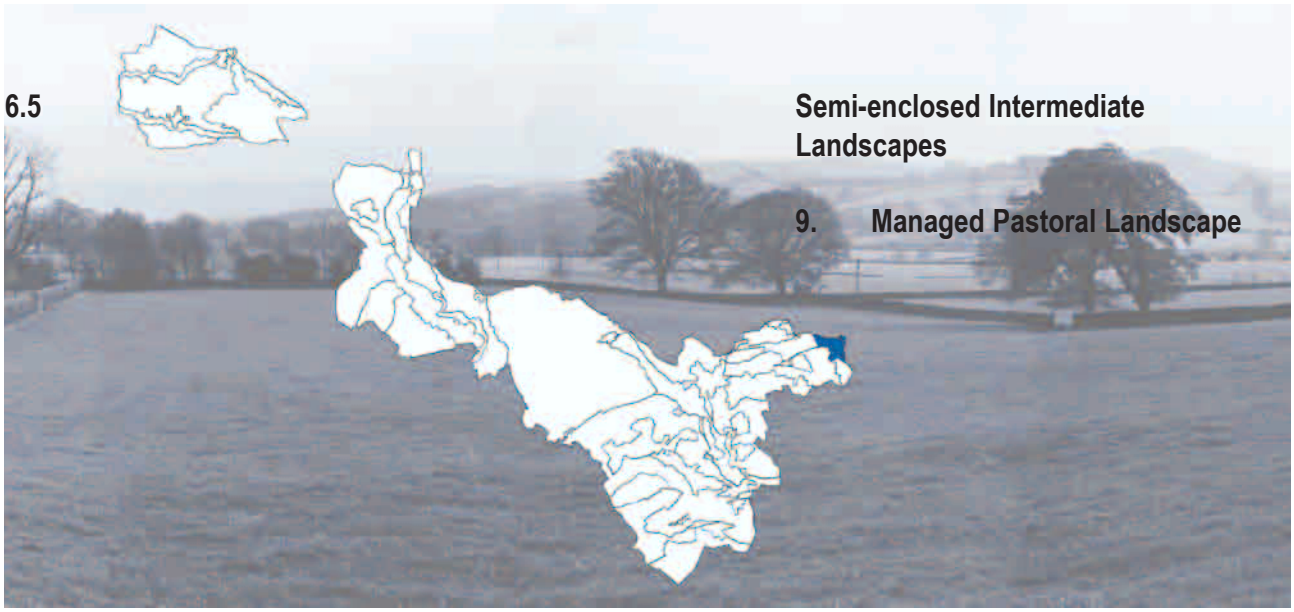
Hall, provides some protection against development (Policy BE9);

Sensitivity to Change:

- Views are generally limited as a result of the varied topography although drumlin tops have expansive views across the rolling drumlin field landscape;
- Lowland areas are less sensitive to development;
- Copses and field boundaries rising over hillocks are very visible from surroundings and would be sensitive to change;
- Important habitats of nature conservation value such as Ancient Woodlands are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern, which gives the landscape a strong pattern and structure, through hedgerow and dry-stone wall conservation;
- Reinforce the pastoral character by considering replanting and management of hedgerow trees to strengthen the existing landscape structure;
- Consider reinstatement of lost hedgerows;
- Conserve and manage areas of Ancient Woodland/ woodland;
- Ensure survival of characteristic hill top copses;
- Conserve the site and setting of the two Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.



6.5 Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

9. Managed Pastoral Landscape

6.5.1

Character: STRONG

- Strong well managed character to pastoral landscape with well-tended walls and hedges;
- Scattered large mature trees create a distinctive semi-enclosed character.

Condition: GOOD

- A well maintained landscape in good condition.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in the estate management practices undertaken by the Devonshire Estate could have a significant effect on the managed pastoral landscape of medium-scale fields. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, reduction in management regimes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the rolling drumlin field pasture landscape.

- Recreation and Tourism:

The Bolton Abbey area may be affected by changes or increases in tourism, which may lead to greater pressure on the area.

- Parkland and Historic Landscapes:

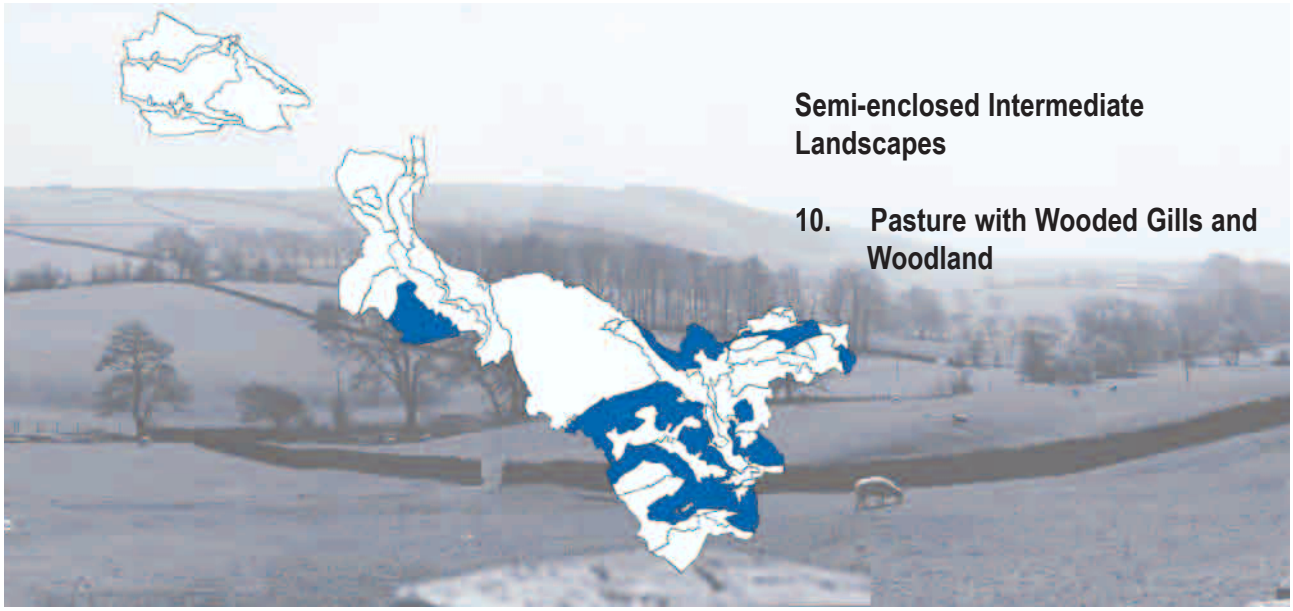
Bolton Abbey is located within the managed pastoral landscape, and areas may therefore be classed as the setting of this historic site, providing some protection against development.

Sensitivity to Change:

- The estate managed pastoral landscape would be subject to change and potential decline, if current management practices altered.

Landscape Quality 1 - Conservation:

- Conserve and retain the existing estate management regime for the land;
- Conserve the existing network of dry-stone walls;
- Conserve and manage mature tree cover, and consider selective tree planting as a long term management objective;
- Conserve and manage existing SSSI.



Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes

10. Pasture with Wooded Gills and Woodland

6.5.2

Character: STRONG

- Rolling pastoral landscape with distinctive pockets of woodland and wooded gills following the topography;
- Distinctive settled character containing a number of linear settlements, villages and hamlets in valleys.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- Generally good landscape condition with signs of localised decline in some areas, for example sections of dry-stone walls.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the mainly managed pastoral landscape of medium-scale fields. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, reduction in management regimes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the pasture landscape.

- Forestry and Woodland Planting:

Pasture landscape with wooded gills and woodland areas has the potential to absorb pockets of new woodland planting.

- Built Development:

The area includes many settlements within the valleys, and the landscape could be vulnerable to development pressures from these settlements. Within these settled valleys there may also be issues of

the future use of industrial buildings, mills etc.

- Hydrology and Water Bodies:

There are a number of existing small existing reservoirs contained within the landscape.

- Mineral Extraction:

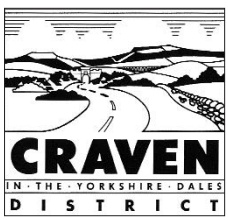
There are a number of small disused quarries and areas of former mineral workings within the area, which may have potential for reclamation. There could be issues arising from future mineral extraction.

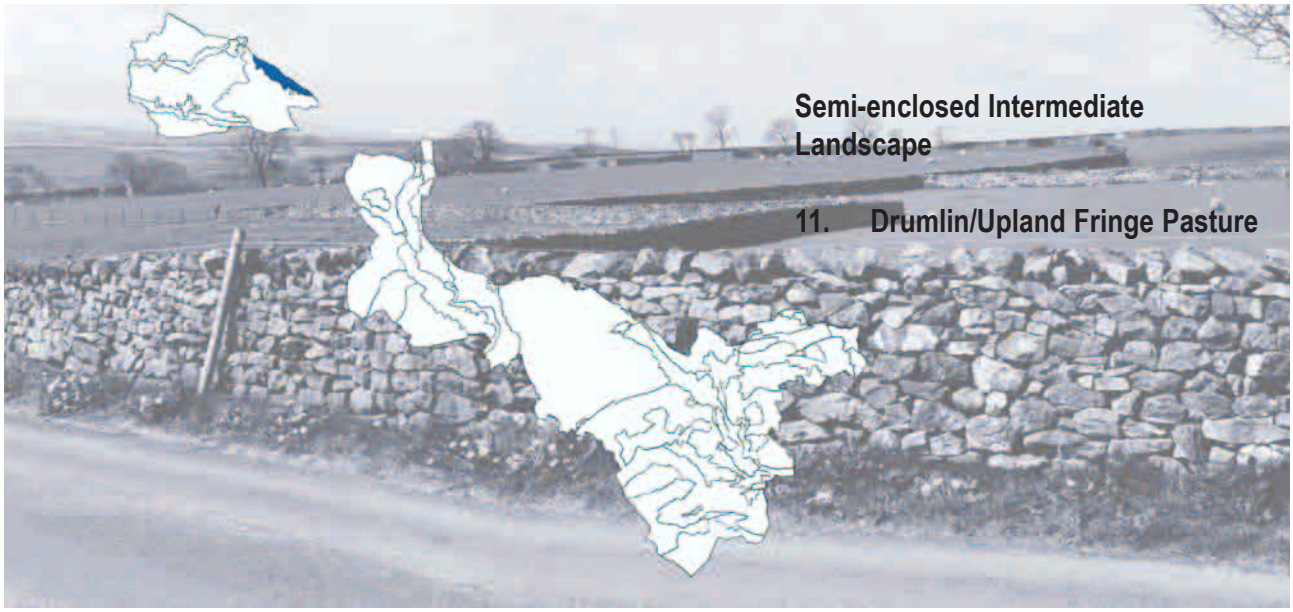
Sensitivity to Change:

- With a setting confined mainly to valley sides, these areas are highly visible from large areas of the surrounding landscape;
- Sites of nature conservation value such as Ancient Woodlands are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern through conservation of dry-stone walls;
- Conserve and manage areas of Ancient Woodland/ wooded gills/ woodland pockets;
- Restore disused quarry sites sensitively;
- Conserve and manage existing SSSI.





6.5.3

Character: STRONG - MODERATE

- Moderate landscape character derived from subdued drumlin topography;
- Semi-enclosed character arising from medium vegetation cover including some mature trees.

Condition: DECLINING

- Landscape condition declining due to the loss of some traditional field boundaries and the introduction of post and wire fencing. Some hedgerows are gappy and in poor condition.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the pastoral landscape of medium-scale fields. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the drumlin/ upland fringe pasture landscape.

- Wind Turbines:

The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland pasture may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

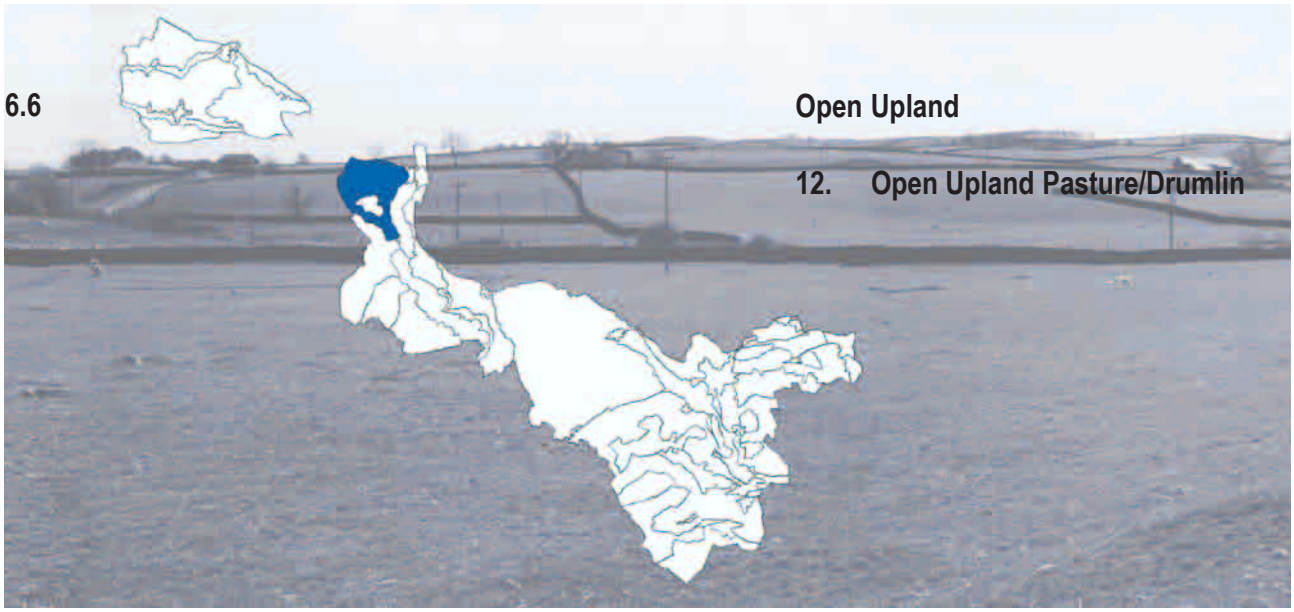
Sensitivity to Change:

- Rising ground is fairly elevated and visible from surrounding landscape;

- Pastoral character could be further degraded by loss of traditional field boundaries, hedgerows and boundary trees.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the existing field boundary pattern of hedgerows and walls;
- Consider reinstatement of lost field boundaries;
- Consider reinforcing landscape structure with tree planting in hedgerows and along boundaries.



6.6 Open Upland

12. Open Upland Pasture/Drumlin

6.6.1 **Character:** STRONG

- Strong upland character created by open exposed feel and network of dry-stone walls with some distinctive drumlin topography;
- Strong rugged character to landscape with rocky outcrops and areas of rough grazing;
- Distinctive clumps of trees enclosed by dry-stone walls.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- Good network of dry-stone walls, with some declining.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture landscape.

- Wind Turbines:

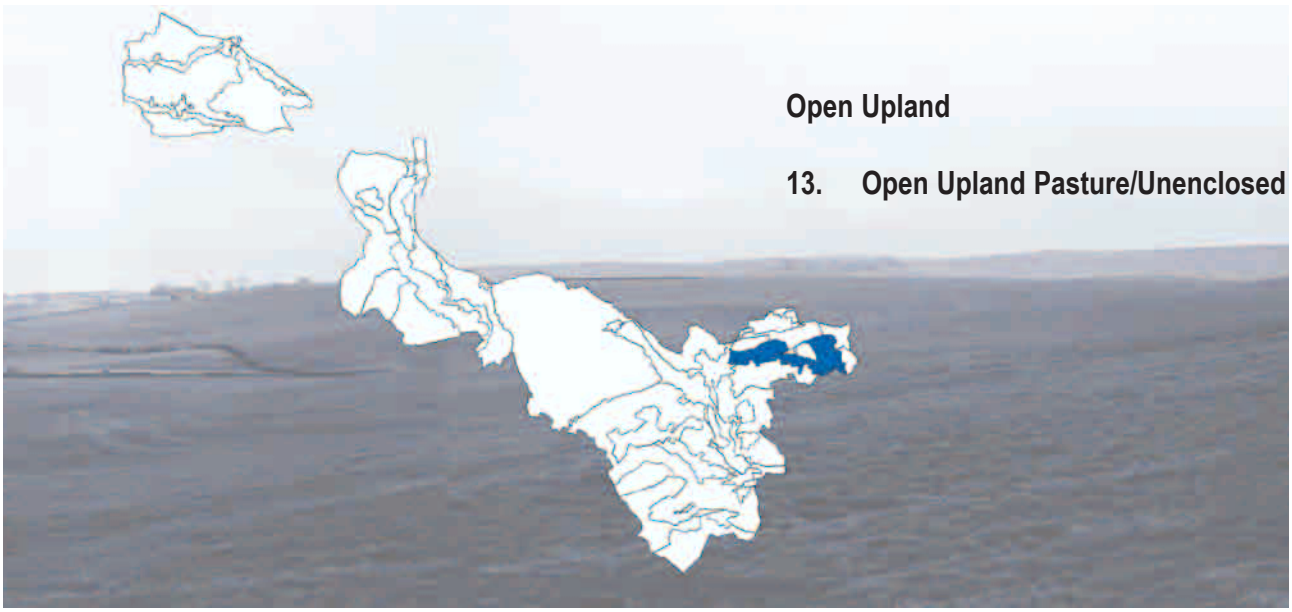
The relatively elevated nature of the open upland pasture may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Elevated area, often visible from surrounding landscape.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation/ Reinforcement:

- Conservation of network of dry-stone walls;
- Continuation of grazing of rugged areas and retention as pasture;
- Conserve and maintain distinctive clumps of trees.



6.6.2

Character: WEAK - MODERATE

- Expansive landscape character.
- Lack of enclosure.
- Absence of a strong or well defined structure of field boundaries which are typical of adjacent upland pasture landsapes.
- A featureless, bland landscape lacking structure or definition.

Condition: POOR - DECLINING

- Loss of hedgerows and trees and amalgamation of fields has created a poor structure to the landscape.
- Condition shows evidence of further decline with some gappy hedgerows in poor condition.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the open, expansive character of the open upland pasture landscape.

- Wind Turbines:

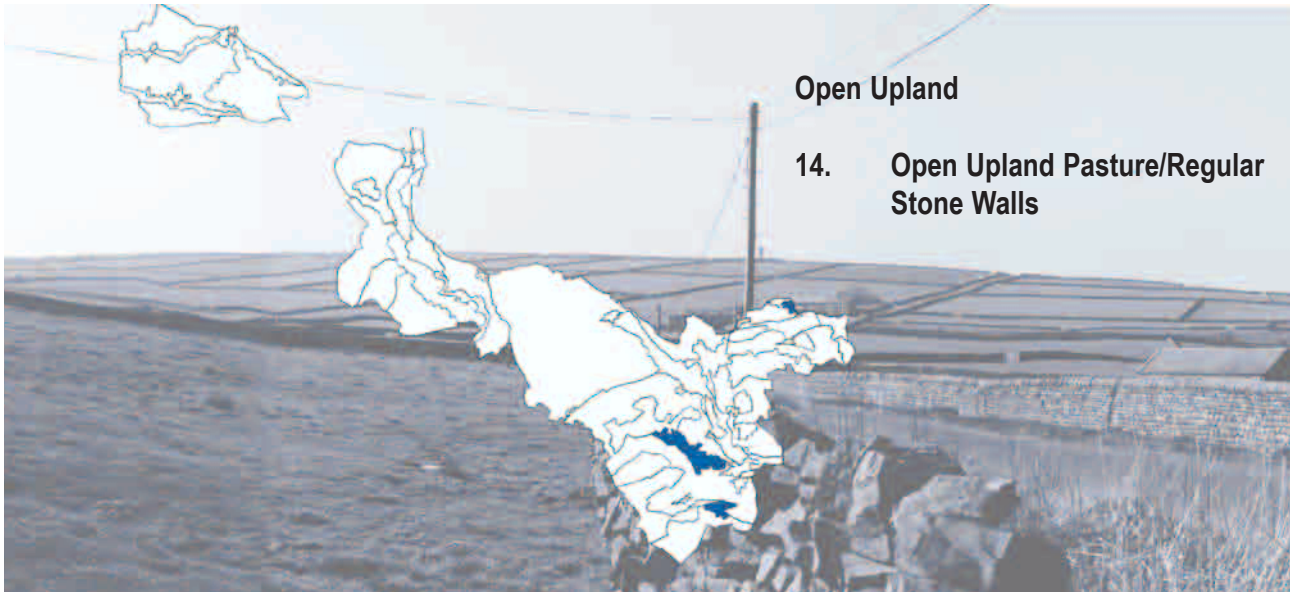
This area contains the existing wind farm within the Study Area, at Chelker reservoir. The elevated and exposed nature of the unenclosed open upland pasture may have the potential to provide further suitable sites for additional wind farms. These may be intrusive as a result of their wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape. The potential effect of cumulative impact will also be a consideration in the event of proposals to introduce additional wind farms.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Open, expansive elevated landscape is visible from the surrounding landscape.

Landscape Quality 3 - Reinforcement / Restoration:

- Retain existing field boundaries;
- Conservation of dry-stone walls;
- Consider reinstating lost field boundaries- hedgerows and dry-stone walls, to reduce size of fields and reinstate traditional field sizes, in scale with surrounding field pattern;
- Consider planting occasional scattered hedgerow and boundary trees.



Open Upland

14. Open Upland Pasture/Regular Stone Walls

6.6.3

Character: STRONG

- Irregular network of dry-stone walls impose a strong pattern on the distinctive open upland landscape.

Condition: GOOD

- Intact network of regular dry-stone walls.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture landscape. Changes effecting the network of dry-stone walls would have a significant impact on landscape character.

- Wind Turbines:

The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland pasture may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

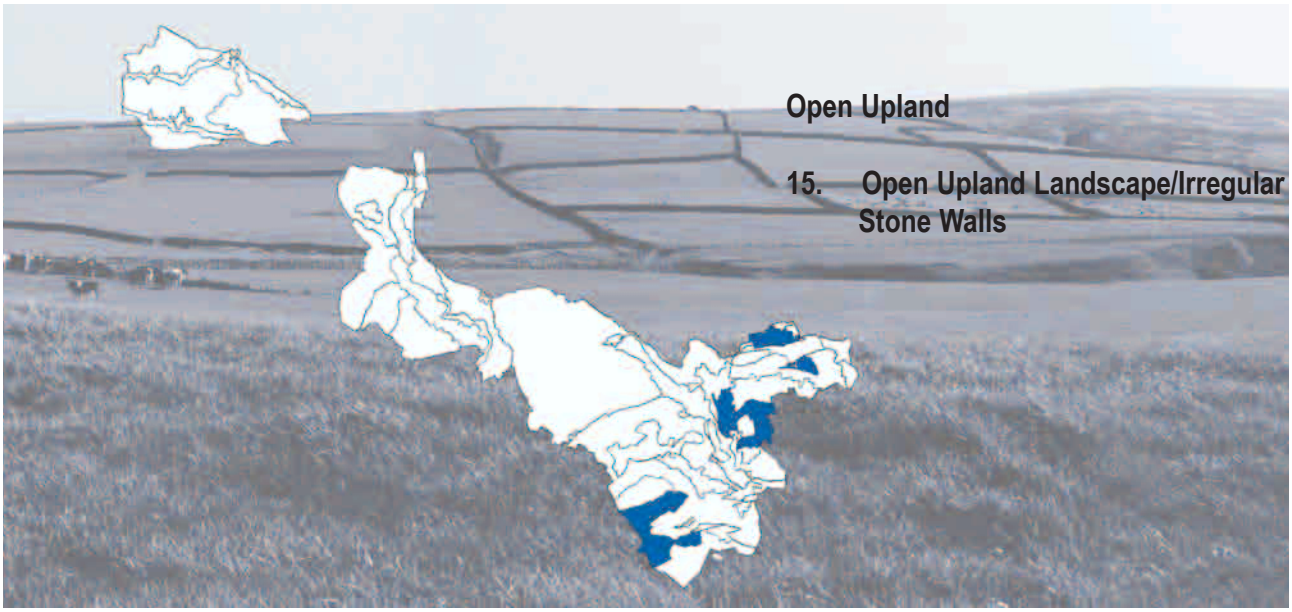
Sensitivity to Change:

- Open character of the area is particularly sensitive to development and is visible from the surrounding area;
- Character is derived from the network of regular dry-stone walls which are vulnerable to changes in

agricultural practice.

Landscape Quality 1 - Conservation:

- Maintain open character;
- Conservation of dry-stone walls to retain existing regular field boundary pattern.



6.6.4

Character: STRONG

- Irregular network of dry-stone walls impose a strong pattern on the distinctively open upland landscape.

Condition: GOOD

- Intact network of irregular dry-stone walls.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture landscape. Changes affecting the network of dry-stone walls would also have a significant impact on landscape character.

- Wind Turbines:

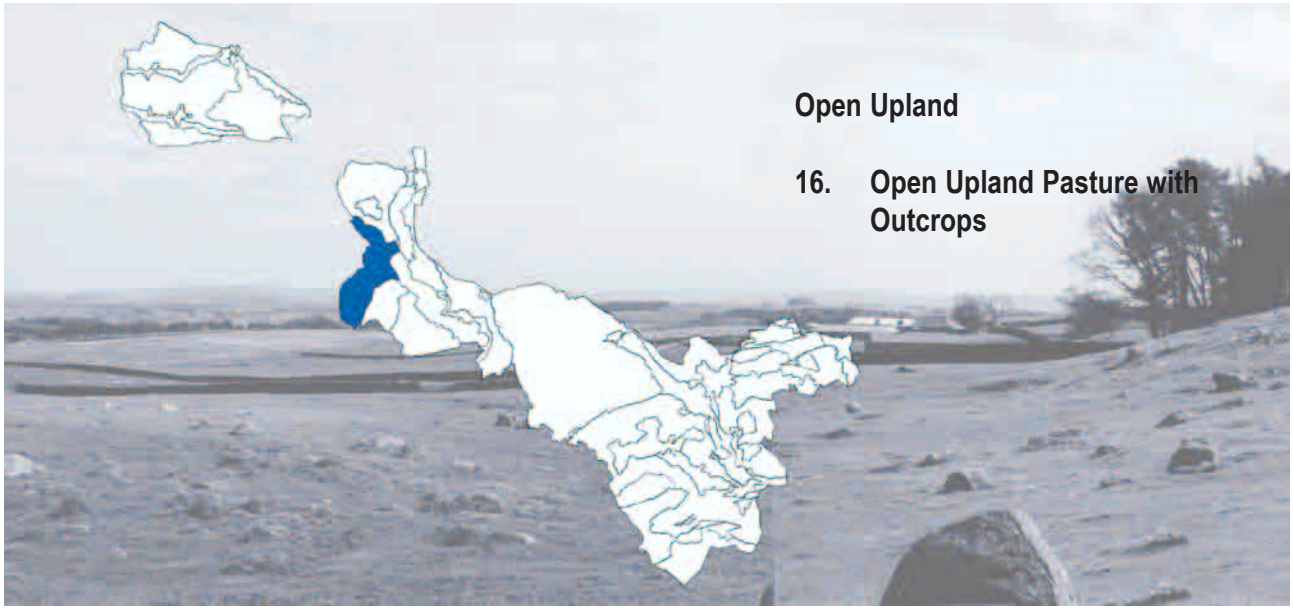
The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland pasture may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would also be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- The character of the area is particularly sensitive to development and is visible from the surrounding area;
- Character is derived from the network of irregular dry-stone walls which are sensitive to changes in agricultural practice.

Landscape Quality 1 - Conservation:

- Maintain open character;
- Conservation of dry-stone walls to retain existing irregular field boundary pattern;
- Reclamation of disused quarries that occur within the area;
- Conserve and maintain existing SSSI.



Open Upland

16. Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops

6.6.5

Character: MODERATE - STRONG

- Moderate to strong rugged landscape character with dry stone walls, scattered rocky outcrops and boulders.

Condition: GOOD

- Landscape condition good, with an intact network of dry-stone walls.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture. Diversification of farms, changes in use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture landscape.

- Recreation and Tourism:

There is an existing static caravan park within the area. Increase in tourism in the area may place further demands on the site and surrounding area.

- Wind Turbines:

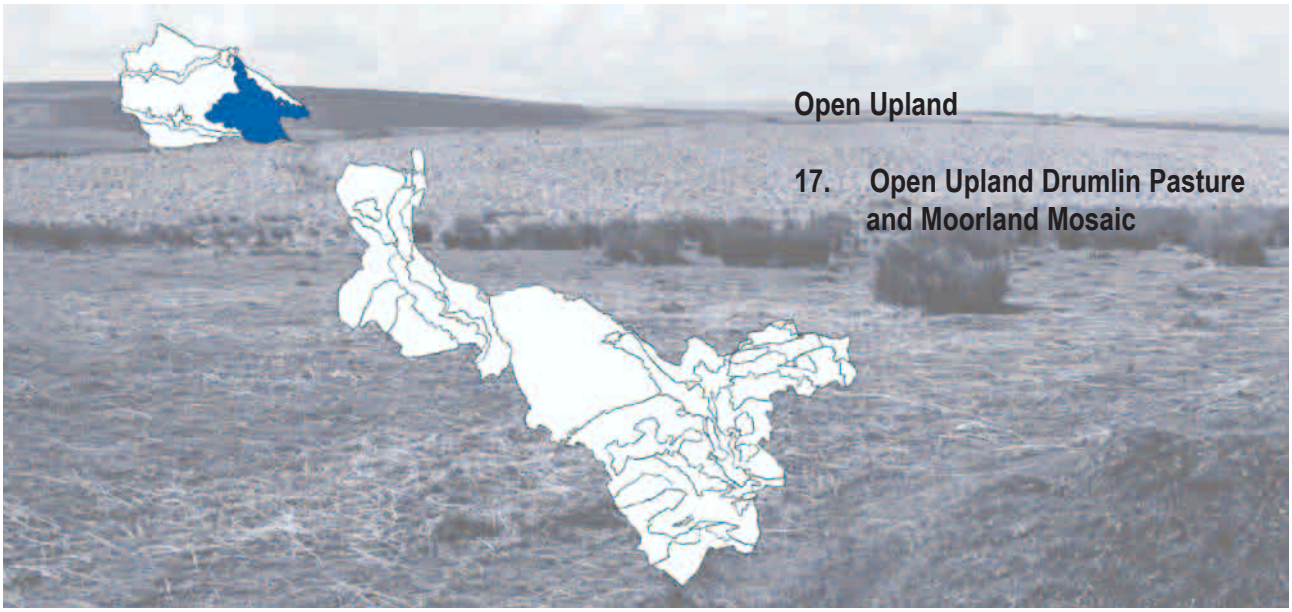
The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland pasture may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Upland location with views from the surrounding area.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conservation of irregular field boundary pattern through dry-stone wall conservation;
- Conservation of pasture through continuation of grazing.



Open Upland

17. Open Upland Drumlin Pasture and Moorland Mosaic

6.6.6

Character: MODERATE - STRONG

- Open upland character with distinctive drumlin forms and a feeling of openess and exposure;
- Distinctive mosaic of dry-stone wall enclosed pasture with unenclosed moorland tops to hills.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- Mosaic landscape contains a variety of habitats in good condition; however, fringes of moorland areas may be declining.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture and moorland mosaic. Diversification of farms, changes in land management, use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture and moorland mosaic landscape.

- Recreation and Tourism:

Newby Moor is shown on the Countryside Agency's draft map as 'Registered Common Land' under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. There are also a number of small areas of Registered Common Land throughout the area. This designation allows a new right of access to the public on foot and the consequences of this will have to be closely monitored. Additional access could potentially create problems such as erosion, depending on demand, and may need careful management.

- Wind Turbines:

The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland drumlin pasture and moorland mosaic may

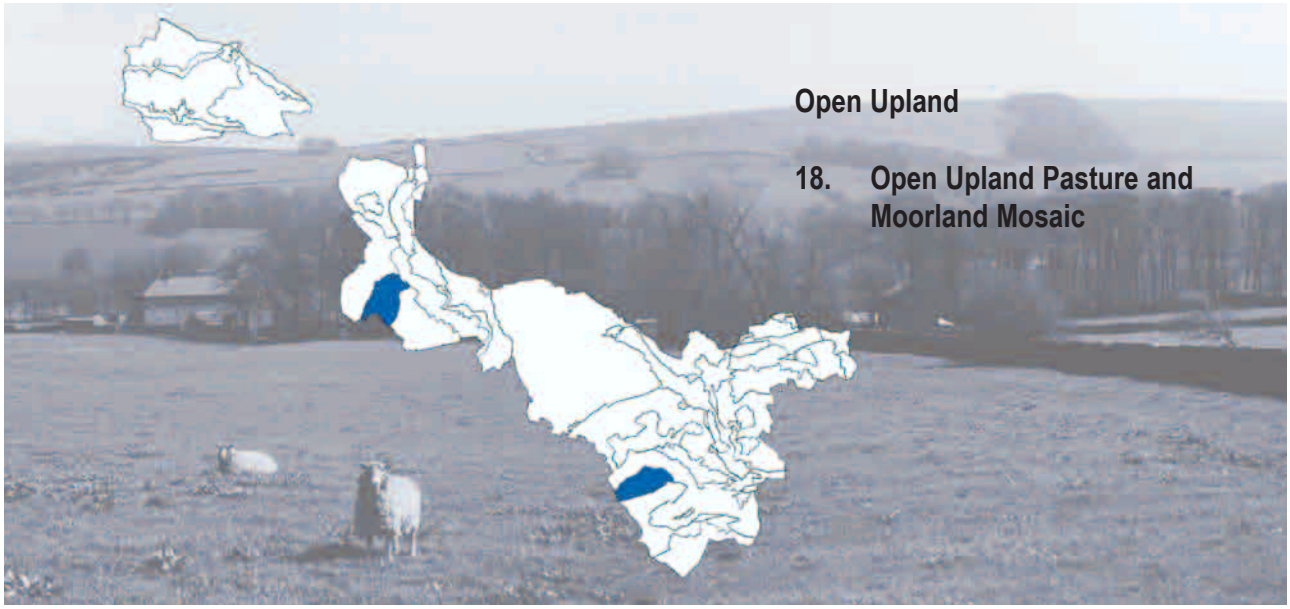
provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Small areas of moorland are particularly vulnerable to change;
- Moorland areas contain important habitats (reflected in the SSSI designation) which are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve existing dry-stone walls;
- Conserve and manage the moorland habitat on drumlin tops;
- Conserve and reinforce the definition of the moorland edge, by continued management of grazing patterns etc;
- Conserve and maintain existing SSSI at Newby Moor;
- Reinforce areas of degraded moorland.



6.6.7

Character: MODERATE - STRONG

- Mosaic of dry-stone wall enclosed pasture, with unenclosed moorland areas to tops to hills;
- Elevated and expansive upland character with a strong sense of openess;

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- The condition is generally good, but some areas of moorland are degraded and form areas of acid grassland;

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

Changes in farming practice could have a significant effect on the open upland pasture and moorland mosaic. Diversification of farms, changes in land management, use of fields, field patterns and increased field sizes, and the addition of large agricultural structures could have a potentially adverse effect on the character of the open upland pasture with moorland mosaic landscape.

- Recreation and Tourism:

Some areas of moor designated as 'Open Country' on the Countryside Agency's draft map under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

- Mineral Extraction:

There are a number of small disused quarries/former mineral workings across the area, which may have potential for reclamation. There could be issues on future mineral extraction.

- Wind Turbines:

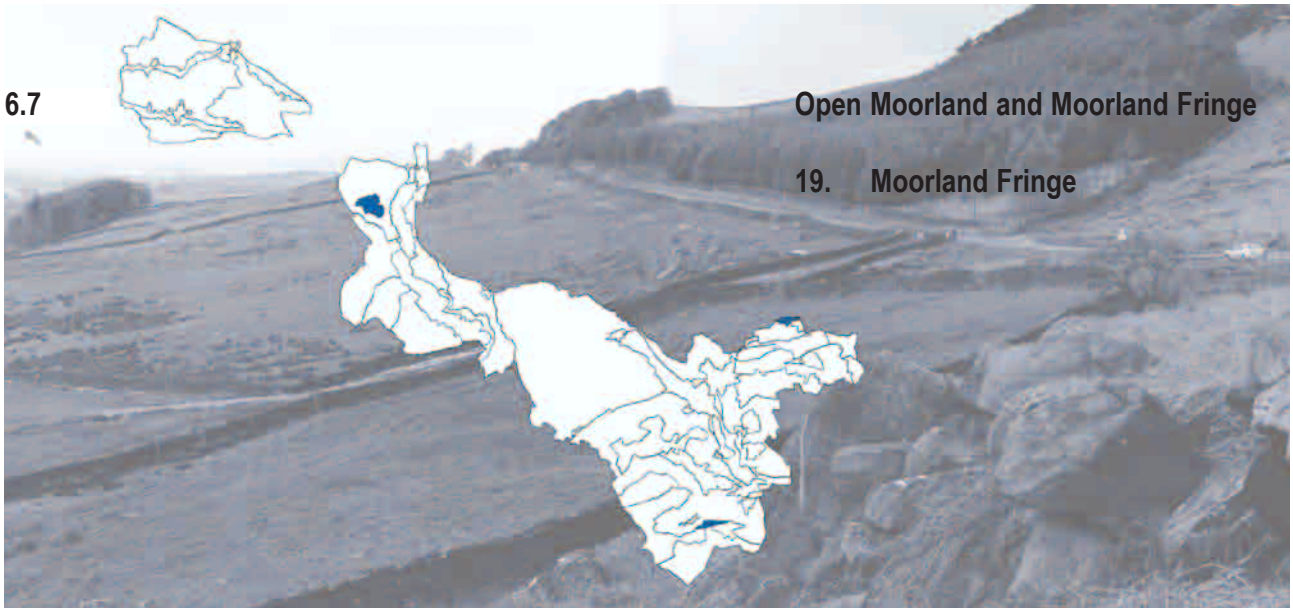
The relatively elevated and exposed nature of the open upland pasture and moorland areas may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on views from the surrounding landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Small areas of moorland are particularly vulnerable to change;
- Moorland areas contain important habitats which are particularly sensitive to change.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the network of dry-stone walls;
- Conserve and manage the moorland habitat;
- Conserve and reinforce the definition of moorland edge, by continued management of grazing patterns;
- Reinforce areas of degraded moorland;
- Potential restoration of disued quarries/former mineral working areas.



6.7 Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe

19. Moorland Fringe

6.7.1 **Character:** STRONG

- Distinctive moorland fringe vegetation characteristic of the zone of transition between managed pasture and open moorland landscapes;
- Combination of unenclosed areas and fields enclosed by dry-stone walls;
- Distinctive rugged landform with outcrops, crags and boulders, and steep topography in places.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- Good landscape condition with some areas degraded and dominated by acid grassland.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

The future use of moorland fringe areas for rough grazing will affect the management of the fringe habitat.

- Recreation and Tourism:

The Moorland Fringe area at Lunds Tower and Waldman's Pinnacle, south east of Cowling, is designated on the Countryside Agency's draft map as a combination of 'Registered Common Land' and 'Open Country' under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. These designations allow a new right of access to the public on foot and the consequences of this will have to be closely monitored. Additional access could potentially create problems such as erosion, depending on demand, and may need careful management.

- Mineral Extraction:

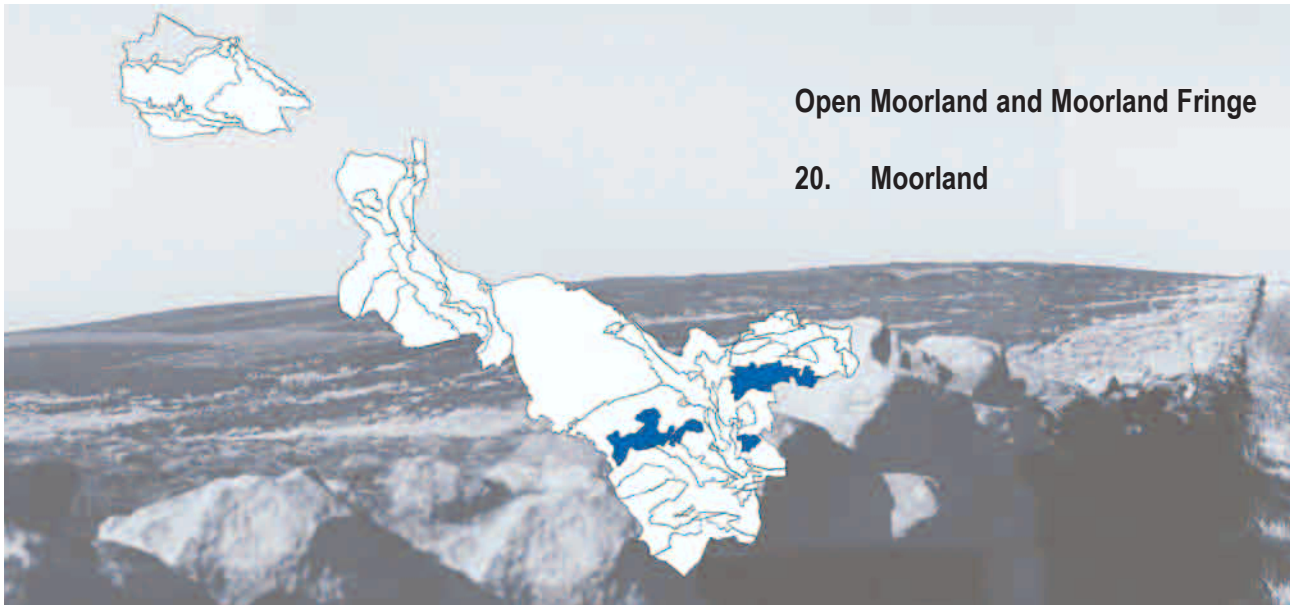
There are a number of small disused quarries/former mineral workings across the area, which may have potential for reclamation. There could be issues on future mineral extraction.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Moorland fringe habitats represent a stage in the successional process and are therefore sensitive to changes in land management.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the open, undeveloped nature of the moorland fringe areas;
- Conserve the transition between enclosed pasture and un-enclosed moorland;
- Conserve existing dry-stone walls;
- Conserve and manage the moorland fringe habitat;
- Conserve and manage the existing SSSI at Cocket Moss;
- Reinforce areas of degraded moorland fringe;
- Potential restoration of disused quarries/former mineral working areas.



6.7.2

Character: STRONG

- Unenclosed moorland areas with no trees have a distinctive open and exposed landscape character.
- The strong sense of openness and elevation provides extensive and uninterrupted views over the surrounding landscape.
- Moorland habitats often form the distinctive 'black moor', recognisable on the hill tops from the surrounding landscape.

Condition: GOOD - DECLINING

- Some areas of moorland vegetation are degraded and have become dominated by acid grassland.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

The future land management regimes for the use of moorland areas for rough grazing will affect the management of the moorland habitat.

- Recreation and Tourism:

Areas of moor are designated on the Countryside Agency's draft map as either 'Registered Common Land' or 'Open Country' under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This allows a new right of access to the public on foot and the consequences of this will have to be closely monitored. The main areas of moorland shown as Open Country are Skipton Moor, east of Skipton and Thornton, Elslack and Carleton Moors, between Thornton in Craven and Cononley. Additional access could potentially create problems such as erosion, depending on demand, and may need careful management.

- Mineral Extraction:

There are a number of small disused quarries/former mineral workings across the area, which may have potential for reclamation. There could be issues on future mineral extraction.

- Wind Turbines:

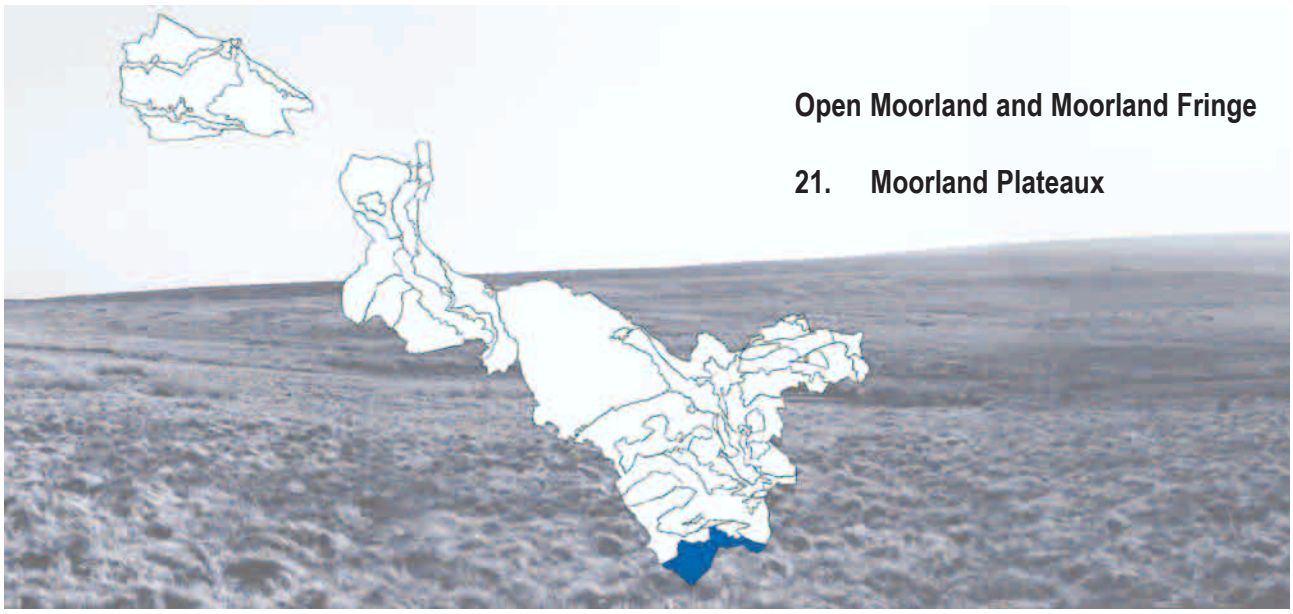
The elevated and exposed nature of the moorland areas may provide suitable sites for additional wind farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on expansive moorland areas as well as extensive areas of surrounding landscape from which the moorland tops are visible.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Moorland landscapes are very visible from the surrounding landscape;
- The open character of moorland areas is sensitive to development;
- Moorland habitats are sensitive to change and vulnerable from development, drainage and land management regimes, for example over grazing;
- Smaller areas of moorland are sensitive due to their isolated location and limited size.

Landscape Quality 2 - Conservation / Reinforcement:

- Conserve the distinctive remote character of the un-enclosed moor;
- Conserve the open, undeveloped nature of the un-enclosed moorland;
- Conserve and manage the moorland habitat;
- Reinforce areas of degraded moorland;
- Potential restoration of disused quarries/former mineral working areas.



Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe

21. Moorland Plateaux

6.7.3

Character: STRONG

- Large-scale extensive areas of elevated moorland plateaux create a distinctive landscape with a strong sense of wilderness and remoteness;
- The unenclosed plateaux areas have a strong sense of openness and elevation providing extensive and uninterrupted views.

Condition: GOOD

- Good landscape condition with a mosaic of important moorland plateaux habitats.

Forces for Change:

- Agricultural and Land Management:

The future use of moorland areas for rough grazing will affect the management of the moorland plateaux habitat.

- Recreation and Tourism:

The majority of the area is shown on the Countryside Agency's draft map as either 'Registered Common Land' or 'Open Country' under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This allows a new right of access to the public on foot and the consequences of this will have to be closely monitored. Additional access could potentially create problems such as erosion, depending on demand, and may need careful management.

- Wind Turbines:

The elevated and exposed nature of the moorland plateaux may provide suitable sites for additional wind

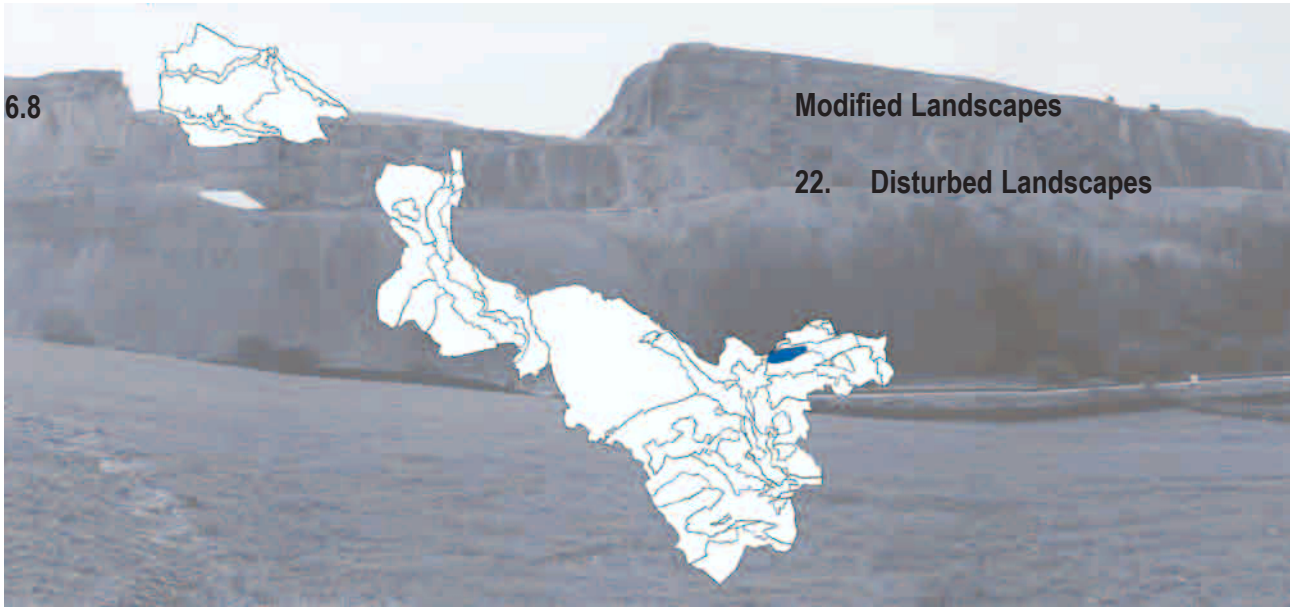
farms. These would be potentially intrusive having a wide visual impact on the expansive areas of plateaux as well as other elevated areas with views to the moorland plateaux landscape.

Sensitivity to Change:

- Moorland landscapes are often very visible from the surrounding landscape;
- The open, remote character of moorland plateaux areas is sensitive to development;
- Moorland landscapes are vulnerable to change by development, drainage and land management regimes, for example over-grazing.
- The moorland plateaux landscape consists of a mosaic of important habitats which are sensitive to change. The SPA, cSAC and SSSI designation reflects the significance of these habitats, which support moorland breeding birds of regional, national and international importance.

Landscape Quality 1 - Conservation:

- Conserve the distinctive remote character and undeveloped nature of the open, unenclosed moorland plateaux;
- Conserve and manage the moorland plateaux habitat;
- Conserve and manage the existing South Pennine Moors SSSI/SPA/cSAC.



6.8.1

Character: STRONG

- Mining operations have obscured the original grain of the landscape, including the topography, vegetation cover and field patterns, creating a distinctive modified landscape which forms a prominent scar on the pastoral landscape and has a major impact on its surroundings.

Condition: POOR

- The quarry has created a prominent area of disturbed land, which is in poor condition due to the disturbed state of the landscape.

Forces for Change:

- Forestry and Woodland Planting:

Existing new planting on the south and west sides of the area will change the landscape in the future. The potential for future planting as part of any restoration proposals for the creation of a new landscape will also affect the area.

- Mineral Extraction:

Potential for further extraction, plans for reclamation and future use of the existing quarry site at Skibeden will all affect the future of the site.

- Waste Disposal:

Plans for waste disposal at the existing landfill site at Skipton Rock, and planned future use and reclamation of landscape will also affect the future of the site.

Sensitivity to Change:

- The disturbed landscape has a wide visual influence over the surrounding area and impacts on adjacent areas in terms of visual amenity, noise and traffic.

Landscape Quality 5 - Creation:

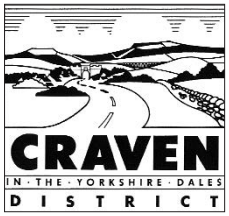
- Management plan for restoration scheme to restore the land sensitively and create a new landscape structure appropriate to the surroundings.

The correlation of a Strong landscape character and Poor Condition results in a landscape quality category 3, and a Reinforcement / Restoration management strategy. This evaluation has been adjusted to Category 5 : Creation, however, to reflect the particular characteristics and long term management requirements for the quarry and landfill site.

6.9 Summary

The landscape of the Study Area has evolved from the combination of many centuries of man's use of the land and the inherent geological, topographical and hydrological characteristics of the area. Essentially an upland landscape, the Study Area contains a number of different landscape character types ranging from broad, open and flat floodplain landscapes in the valley bottoms to areas of unenclosed moorland and moorland plateaux on the hill tops. The land in-between forms a transition from the ‘lowlands’ to the ‘uplands’; however, there is no strongly defined boundary between these landscapes. The majority of the Study Area is pastoral, with subtle differences between areas. The lowlands are well-wooded landscapes with trees, woodlands and hedgerows giving the landscape an essentially 'lowland' character. In contrast, the upland landscapes are characteristically open, and have a general sense of elevation, isolation and exposure, providing a distinctive 'upland' character. Fields are generally bounded by an intact network of dry-stone walls which make a particularly significant contribution to the upland landscape character. The Study Area also contains the disturbed landscape of the quarry to the north east of Skipton which has had a significant impact on the surrounding landscape.

The landscape of Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB is generally a high quality landscape (see Figure 5). There are a number of landscape types of particularly high quality within the Study Area, where the strength of landscape character and condition is particularly high, and which should be conserved. These areas have a well defined sense of place. The majority of the Study Area is classified within the landscape quality category 2, where a combination of conservation of the existing character, and reinforcement of character where it is being lost, is required. There are some areas in the landscape quality category 3 which have been identified as particularly vulnerable landscapes. These areas require reinforcement of the character where it is being lost, together with a more focused restoration of elements that have declined, in order to bring these landscapes back into good condition. There are no landscapes in the landscape quality category 4 and only one area has been identified in the landscape quality category 5. This comprises the principal quarry / landfill site within the Study Area, which has a significant impact on the surrounding landscape. Major intervention is required to restore the quarry and establish a new character and strong sense of place.



Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Location

Study Area Boundary

B6255
A687
Ingleton
Burton-in-Lonsdale
A65
Bentham
B6480
Clapham
FOREST OF BOWLAND AONB
LANCASTER DISTRICT
A65
Settle
YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
RIBBLE VALLEY DISTRICT
Long Preston
B6478
Hellifield
A65
A682
Gargrave
B6265
B6160
A59
A65
Skipton
A59
A59
A56
Thornton-in-Craven
BRADFORD DISTRICT
A629
PENDLE DISTRICT
A6068
Cross Hills
Cowling

North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

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Figure 1

LANDSCAPE DESIGN ASSOCIATES

CHKD. SJD APP. SC DATE October 2002

SCALE 1:150,000 STATUS Final DWG.No. 1621LO/01

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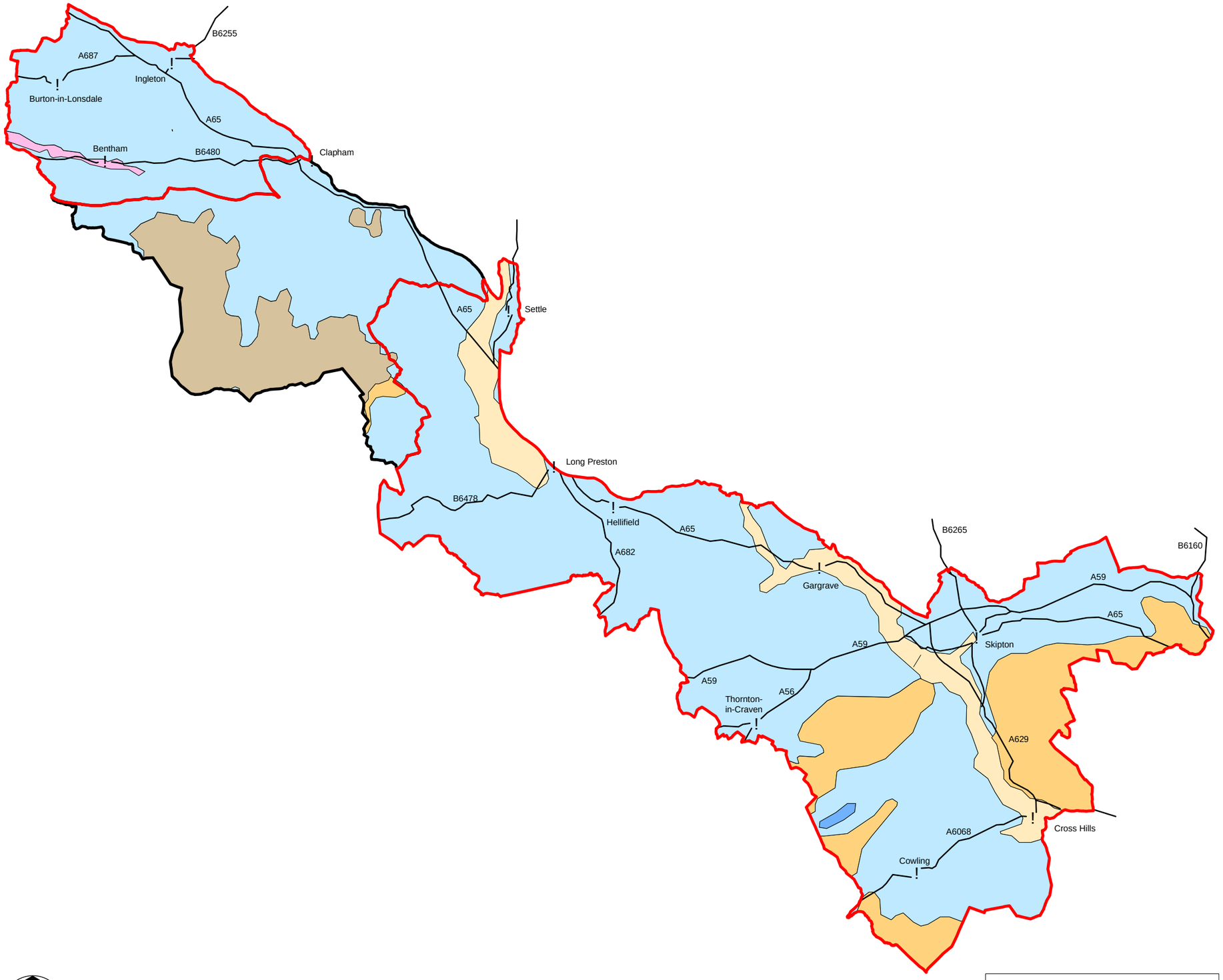
Oxford
Tel: 01865 887050

Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Solid and Drift Geology



Study Area Boundary

Solid Geology

Carboniferous Limestone Series

Millstone Grit Series

Drift Deposits

Boulder Clay/Glacial Till

Glacial Sand and Gravel

Peat

River Alluvium and Terrace Deposits

North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10

Kilometres

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Figure 2

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Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Topography

- Study Area Boundary
- 0 - 20m
- 20 - 40m
- 40 - 60m
- 60 - 80m
- 80 - 100m
- 100 - 120m
- 120 - 140m
- 140 - 160m
- 160 - 180m
- 180 - 200m
- 200 - 220m
- 220 - 240m
- 240 - 260m
- 260 - 280m
- 280 - 300m
- 300 - 320m
- 320 - 340m
- 340 - 360m
- 360 - 380m
- 380 - 400m
- 400 - 420m
- 420 - 440m
- 440 - 460m
- 460 - 480m
- 480 - 500m
- 500 - 520m
- 520 - 540m
- 540 - 560m
- 560 - 580m
- 580 - 600m
- 600 - 620m
- 620 - 640m
- 640 - 660m
- 660 - 680m
- 680 - 700m
- 700 - 720m

North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

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Figure 3

LANDSCAPE DESIGN ASSOCIATES

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SCALE	1:150,000	STATUS	Final	DWG.No.	1621LO/03

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Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Landscape Character Types

- Study Area Boundary
- Valley Pasture Landscapes
  1. Flat Open Floodplain
  2. Flat Open Floodplain with Stone Walls
  3. Flat Semi-enclosed Floodplain
  4. Semi-enclosed Gently Sloping Valley
  5. Small Scale Drumlin Valley
  6. Settled Valley
- Semi-enclosed Lowland
  7. Undulating Lowland Farmland
  8. Rolling Drumlin Field Pasture
- Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes
  9. Managed Pastoral Landscape
  10. Pasture with Woodland Gills & Woodland
  11. Drumlin / Upland Fringe Pasture
- Open Upland
  12. Open Upland Pasture / Drumlin
  13. Open Upland Pasture / Unenclosed
  14. Open Upland Pasture / Regular Stone Walls
  15. Open Upland Pasture / Irregular Stone Walls
  16. Open Upland Pasture with Outcrops
  17. Open Upland Drumlin Pasture and Moorland Mosaic
  18. Open Upland Pasture and Moorland Mosaic
- Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe
  19. Moorland Fringe
  20. Moorland
  21. Moorland Plateaux
- Modified Landscapes
  22. Disturbed Landscapes
- Excluded Settlements

Ingleton
Burton in Lonsdale
Low Bentham
High Bentham
Newby
Clapham
Giggleswick
Settle
Rathmell
Hellifield
Coniston Cold
Gargrave
West Marton
Thornton-in-Craven
Embsay
Halton East
Draughton
Skipton
Carleton
Low Bradley
Cononley
Farnhill
Glusburn
Sutton in Craven
Cowling

North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

Figure 4

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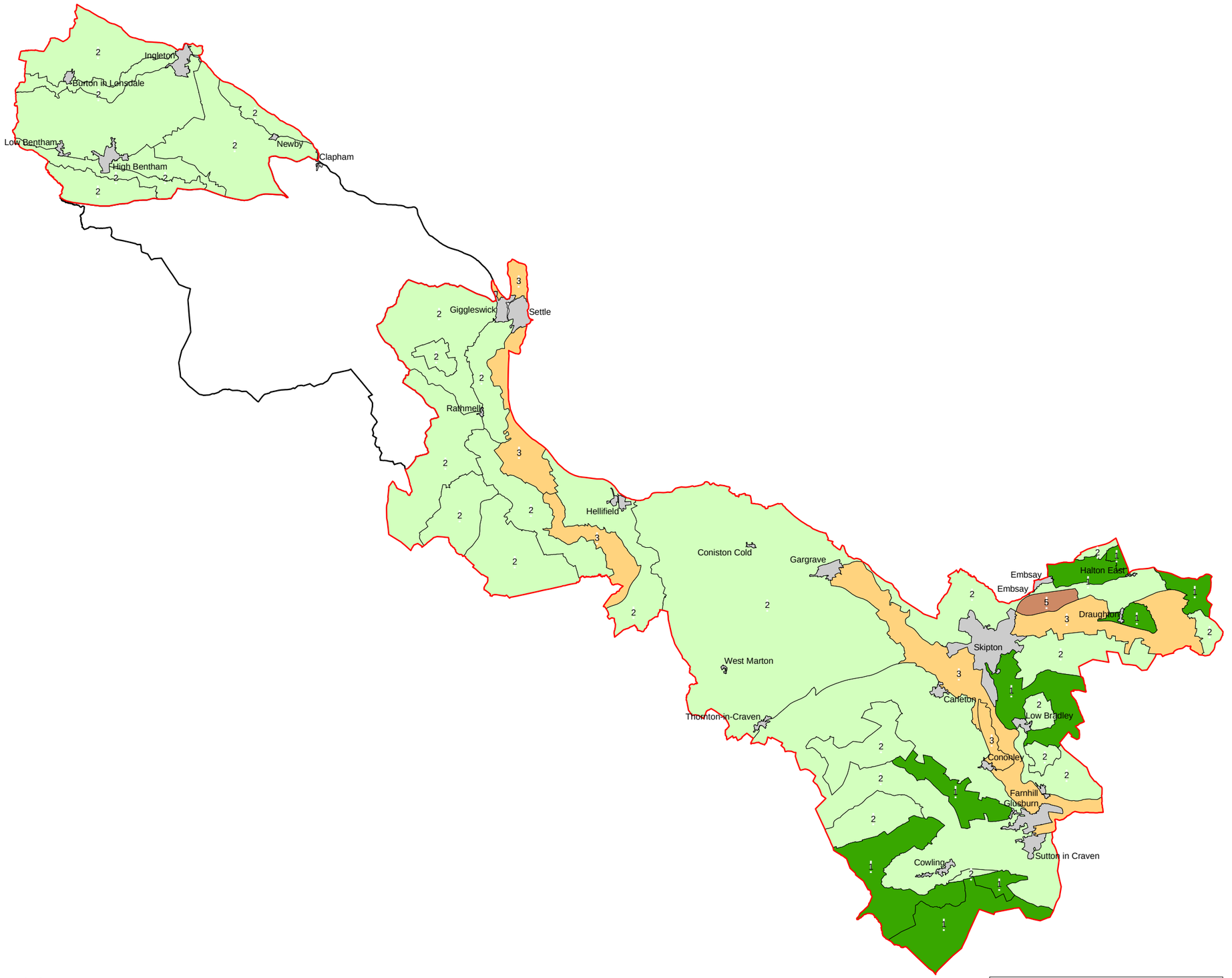
Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Landscape Management Strategies



Study Area Boundary

1. Conservation

2. Conservation / Reinforcement

3. Reinforcement / Restoration

4. Restoration / Creation

5. Creation

Excluded Settlements

North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

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Figure 5

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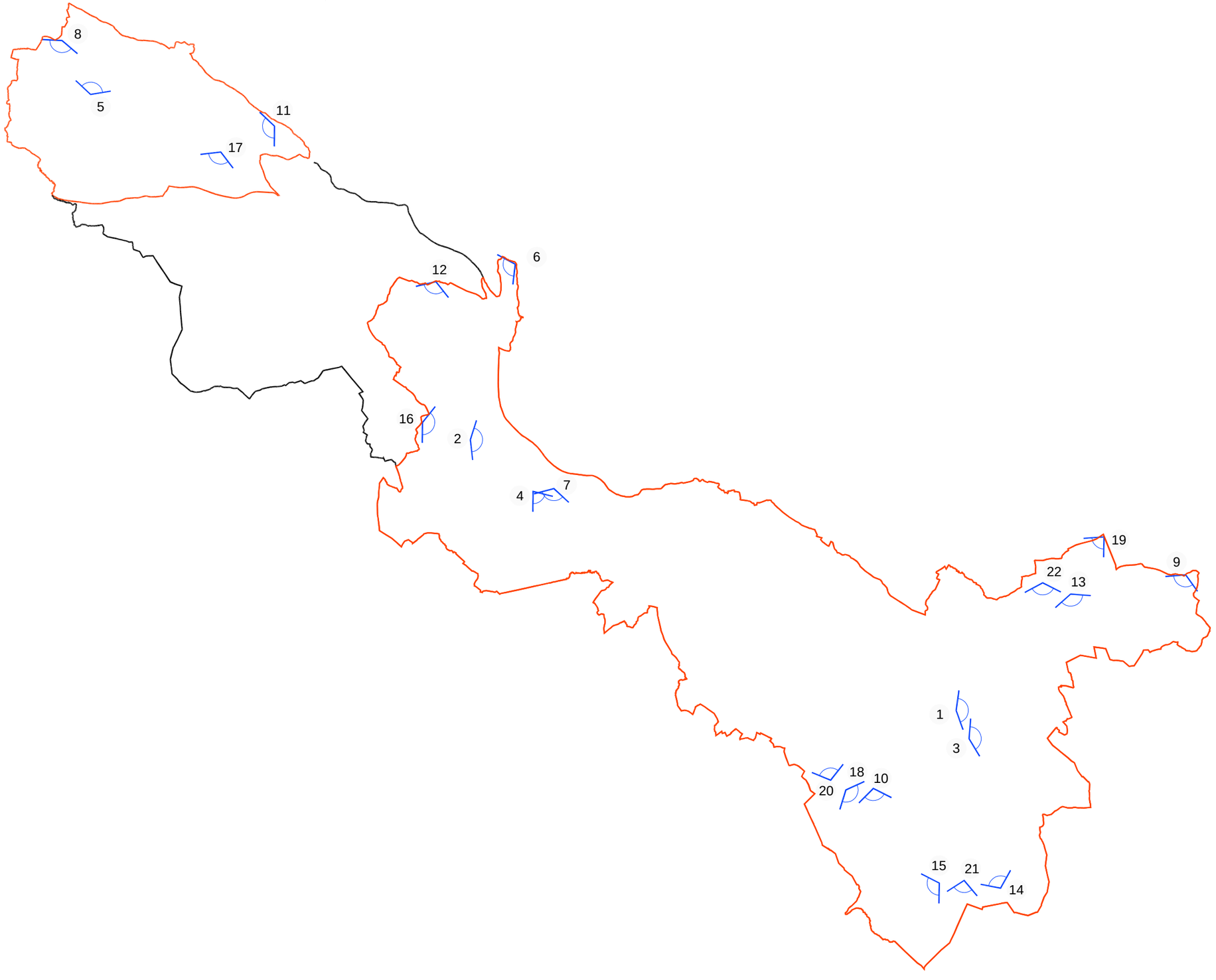
Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB

Landscape Type Photograph Viewpoint

Study Area Boundary

Photograph Viewpoint



North

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

Figure 6

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SCALE 1:150,000 STATUS Final DWG. No. LO/06

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APPENDIX 1: SCHEDULE OF SETTLEMENTS EXCLUDED FROM THE STUDY AREA

The following settlements have been excluded from the Study Area:

Skipton
Embsay
Draughton
Halton East
Carleton
Glusburn and Sutton (including Crosshills)
Low Bradley
Cononley
Farnhill & Kildwick
Cowling
Ickornshaw
Gargrave
Coniston Cold
Thornton - in - Craven
West Marton
Settle
Hellifield
Rathmell
Giggleswick
Clapham
Newby
Ingleton
High Bentham
Low Bentham
Burton - in - Lonsdale

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE OF CONSULTEES

Company	Name
British Waterways	Kevin Holmes - Assistant Development Team Manager Philip Smith Mr D Blackburn Alan Bates - Waterways Manager
Council for the Protection of Rural England	David Joy
Country Land and Business Association	Emma Atkinson
Country Landowners Association	Yorkshire Regional Secretary Mr Henderson
Countryside Agency	Stuart Pasley
DTLR, Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Office	
Environment Agency	Jenny Lowe - Planning Liaison Officer Sue Whittam - Customer Contact
English Heritage	Kate Wilson - Inspector of Ancient Monuments
English Nature	Mr P Evans Becky Rooley
Forest of Bowland AONB	Mr D McKay - Countryside Management Service
Forestry Commission	Graham Haddock - Planning & Partnership Manager
FRCA	
Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber	David Shaw - Senior Rural Advisor
Highways Agency	Alex Miller - Maintenance Manager Brian Dobson - Project Manager
National Farmers Union	David Collier Tim Palmer
North Yorkshire County Council	Malcolm Barnett - Heritage Unit Chris Millns - Head of Environmental Enhancement Alwen Shaw - Minerals Planning Elwyn Williams - Highways, Forward Planning
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Clive Kirkbride - Environmental Policy Officer
Yorkshire Forward, Regional Development Agency	Marjory Davy
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	Mr S Warburton - Conservation Manager

APPENDIX 3: FIELD SURVEY FORM

Field Survey Form : Craven District Council Landscape Appraisal

Viewpoint No:

Location:

Sketch

Date:

Weather Conditions:

Panoramic Photo Nos:

Landscape Character Type:

Geology:

Topography:

Flat
Undulating
Rolling
Steep
Vertical

Plain
Rolling lowland
Rolling upland
Plateau
Scarp / Cliffs
Upland Hills
Crags
Drumlins Type A
Drumlins Type B
Drumlin Type C

Dry valley
Narrow valley
Broad valley
Deep gorge

Drumlin Descriptions

Type A

Type B

Type C

Dominant Landcover and Landscape Elements:

BUILDINGS:	HERITAGE:	FARMING:	LANDCOVER:	WOODLAND/TREES:	HYDROLOGY	COMMUNICATIONS:
Farm buildings domestic	Vernacular buildings	Stone Walls	Designed parkland	Deciduous woodland	River	Major Road
Farm buildings industrial	Country house	Fences	Scrub	Coniferous plantation	Stream	Minor Road
Village / Hamlet	Field systems	Hedges	Marsh	Mixed woodland	Dry valley	Footpath
Isolated Buildings	Prehistoric ritual	Fields	Peat bog	Shelterbelt	Drainage ditch	Track
Industry	Canal architecture	Arable	Moorland/	Coppice	Pond	Lane
Urban	Ecclesiastic	Improved pasture	Heathland	Orchard	Lake	Railway operational
Caravan Sites	Monuments of War	Rough grazing	Rough grassland	Clumps	Reservoir	Railway disused
Follies	Ancient Coppice	Hedge banks	Water meadows	Isolated trees	Canal	Military
Wind Turbines	Hill top enclosure / fort	Orchard	Grassland	Hedge trees		Pylons
Pylons	Industrial archaeology	Small Fields	Species rich	Parkland trees		Communication masts
Masts/poles		Medium Fields	grassland	River / Stream edge		
Military		Large Fields		vegetation		
		Irregular Fields				
		Linear Fields				

Brief description: (including main elements, features, attractors, and detractors)

Key characteristics :
Distinctive features

Key Characteristics / good condition

Key Characteristics / poor condition

Rarity

Condition Good Declining Poor

Strength of Character Weak Moderate Strong

Visual Assessment Criteria

PATTERN (2D)	Dominant	Strong	Broken	Weak
SCALE:	Intimate	Small	Medium	Large
TEXTURE:	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very rough
COLOUR:	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish
COMPLEXITY:	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex
REMOTENESS:	Wild	Remote	Vacant	Active
UNITY:	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
FORM (3D):	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous
ENCLOSURE:	Expansive	Open	Enclosed	Constrained
VISUAL DYNAMIC:	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled

Perception:

SECURITY:	Intimate	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
STIMULUS:	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Challenging	Inspiring
TRANQUILLITY:	Inaccessible	Remote	Vacant	Peaceful	Busy
PLEASURE:	Unpleasant	Pleasant	Attractive	Beautiful	

Architecture / Buildings: (Note condition/quality)

Vernacular Style (window style/roof pitch)

Local Materials- (stone type, colour/texture etc, brick (colour/size/render)

Combinations- (stone and brick patterns etc)

Settlement Form (village greens, clustered, military, scattered)

Additional Comments: (Note evidence of pollution, erosion, bare or disturbed ground, condition of historic features, new planting restoration work.

Forces for Change

APPENDIX 4: SSSIs WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Site Name	Parish	Grid Ref.
Cocket Moss	Rathmell	SD 787 618
Hambleton Quarry	Draughton	SE 058 533
Holywell Bridge	Halton East/ Skipton	SE 028 533
Newby Moor	Clapham cum Newby	SD 725 664
Pan Beck Fen	Hellifield	SD 848 559
River Ribble: Long Preston Deeps	Long Preston/ Rathmell/ Settle	SD 809 621 - 827 570
South Pennine Moors	Cowling (partly)	SD 920 300
Stonehead Beck (Gill Beck)	Cowling	SD 947 432

Source: Craven District Council, *Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan*, Adopted July 1999

Site sheets for each site on following pages
Source: www.English-Nature.org.uk

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Cocket Moss

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council.

National Grid Reference: SD 787618

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 98 **1:10,000:** SD 76 SE

Area: 20.0 (ha) 50.0 (ac)

First Notified: 1955* **Date of Revision:** 1985

Description:
Cocket Moss is the only notified example of a valley bog in the Yorkshire Dales, and is of importance for the species-rich mire communities of which it is comprised.

The mire itself lies in a shallow basin running north-south through the centre of the site. On either side the ground rises in low gritstone hillocks which support grazed acidic grassland dominated by purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*, and blanket bog dominated by hare's-tail cotton-grass *Eriophorum vaginatum* and bog mosses *Sphagnum* spp. In the western sector there are wetter pockets with common cotton-grass *E. angustifolium* and these give rise to a stream which issues into the north west corner of the central basin.

It is the mire vegetation of this central basis which comprises the principal scientific interest of the site, though its water catchment and the surrounding grassland and blanket bog are also of additional importance. The mire is bisected by a west-east causeway through which a slow-flowing watercourse is culverted, running southwards from the site. To the north of the causeway is a swamp dominated by bottle sedge *Carex rostrata* with bog mosses *Sphagnum* spp., part of which, in the absence of grazing, has developed into willow carr *Salix* spp. The remainder of the mire is composed of common cotton-grass with a rich bog flora including bog rosemary *Andromeda polifolia* and lesser bladderwort *Utricularia minor,* while to the south of the causeway there is grassland dominated by purple moor-grass.

* Under Section 23 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.

Date Notified: 28/2/91

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Hambleton Quarry

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council

National Grid Reference: SE 058533

Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50,000: 104 **1:10,000:** SE 05 SE

Area: 12.28 (ha) 30.34 (ac)

First Notified: 1991

Description:
This site shows a fine section through the marine Carboniferous Limestone of the Craven Basin. This consists of the Asbian Draughton Limestone and Draughton Shale, the former including the best section of Tiddeman's Breccia, a turbiditic deposit containing reworked sediments and fossils derived from the shallow-water reef-belt on the southern edge of the Askrigg Block. This is a critical site of an understanding of the depositional processes and palaeoenvironments present in the Craven Basin in later Dinantian times.

Other Information:
This is a new site which has been identified as of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review.

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Holy Well Bridge

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council

National Grid Reference: SE 028533

Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50,000: 104 **1:10,000:** SE 05 SW

Area: 1.7 (ha) 4.2 (ac)

First Notified: 1986

Description:
Holy Well Bridge shows the best exposure of Courceyan Age in the Craven Basin, with a sequence through the Haw Bank Limestone, Skipton Castle Shale and Skipton Castle Limestone. The last named unit contains algal deposits, including *solenopora garwoodi* nodules, which are taken to mark a regressive phase at the top of the last Courceyan 'cycle'. Much recent research has been carried out on the micropalaeontology of these beds. This is an important locality for stratigraphic studies of the earliest Carboniferous Limestone.

Other information:
This site is listed within the Geological Conservation Review.

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Newby Moor

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council

National Grid Reference: SD 717692

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 98 **1:10,000:** SD 76 NW, SD 77 SW

Area: 276.83 (ha) 684.05 (ac)

First Notified: 1990 (July)

Description:
Newby Moor supports an outstanding complex of wetland communities reflecting a wide variation in land form, soil and water conditions. The traditional management of the area as common land has maintained the extensive mosaic of habitats in an otherwise modified lowland grassland setting.

There are several basin mires with a number of different fen communities distributed according to base status and hydrological regime. On Hardacre Moss, the most extensive and species-rich mire, wet heath dominated by cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* at the northern edge grades into mire characterised by bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum,* round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia,* cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos* and bog-myrtle *Myrica gale* with tussocks of purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea* and hummocks of bog mosses *Sphagnum* spp. In the wettest areas bottle sedge *Carex rostrata* is abundant with bogbean *Menyanthes trifoliata* and marsh cinquefoil *Potentilla palustris*. There are also open pools colonised by pondweeds *Potamogeton* spp., and small-sedge dominated hollows where the scarce bog-sedge *Carex limosa* occurs. Near Gill Sike an extensive population of the greater tussock-sedge *Carex paniculata* supports other plants within the tussocks including wild angelica *Angelica sylvestris* and narrow buckler-fern *Dryopteris carthusiana*.

Many of the shallow slopes on Newby Moor are covered with rushy grassland and acidic flushes with abundant purple moor-grass and star sedge *Carex echinata.* Marsh violet *Viola palustris* is common in close association with nectariferous plants such as ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi* and marsh thistle *Cirsium palustre* providing ideal habitat for the locally scarce small pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly.

The steeper-sided valleys to the north of the site are dominated by beds of yellow iris *Iris pseudacorus* and lesser pond-sedge *Carex acutiformis.* Several valley sides have a distinct ridge and hollow form with base-rich flushes in the hollows. These support a number of nationally and locally uncommon species including bird's-eye primrose *Primula farinosa*, bog pimpernel *Anagallis tenella,* grass-of-Parnassus *Parnassia palustris,* common butterwort *Pinguicula vulgaris*, flat-sedge *Blysmus compressus* and lesser clubmoss *Selaginella selaginoides*.

Purple moor-grass and mat-grass *Nardus stricta* dominated grasslands form the matrix for the fens and flushes, and vary in character from near heathland communities to more species-rich grassland with scarce herbs such as dyer's greenweed *Genista tinctoria.*

Ponds, streams and old mine spoil heaps provide additional features of interest and the pond in the disused quarry supports the locally uncommon narrow-leaved water-plantain *Alisma lanceolatum.*

The site as a whole is of interest for breeding birds with snipe, redshank, curlew, lapwing, reedbunting and linnet recorded

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** Pan Beck Fen

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council

National Grid Reference: SD 848559

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 103 **1:10,000:** SD 85 NW

Area: 2.5 (ha) 6.1 (ac)

First Notified: 1985

Description:
Pan Beck Fen is one of only four such sites known in the Yorkshire Dales. It supports outstandingly rich community of fen species including an important colony of the narrow-leaved march orchid *Dactylorhiza traunsteineri.*

The wetland occupies a shelf bounded on the west by a steep slope from which base-rich water is derived, and on the east by Gallaber Syke, a tributary of Pan Beck.

A series of wetland communities is present: beside the stream is an area of reed grass *Phalaris arundinacea* with alders *Alnus glutinosa*; to the west are stands of lesser pond sedge *Carex acutiformis* which grade into an extensive community dominated by blunt-flowered rush *Juncus subnodulosus* and also containing sharp-flowered rush *J. acutiflorus,* meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, watermint *Mentha aquatica,* lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*, fen bedstraw *Galium uliginosum* and in places marsh cinquefoil *Potentilla palustris* and bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata*.

Within the blunt-flowered rush community are base-rich flushes which are characterised by the presence of stonewort *Chara* sp., and a "brown moss" carpet. These areas are particularly species-rich, with for example marsh lousewort *Pedicularis palustris*, yellow sedge *Carex lepidocarpa*, marsh arrowgrass *Triglochin palustris*, marsh helleborine *Epipactis palustris*, common cotton-grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, and tawny sedge *Carex hostiana*. There are several large tussocks of bog rush *Schoenus nigricans* on which a secondary community has developed including purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*, carnation sedge *Carex panicea,* marsh valerian *Valeriana dioica*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, butterwort *Pinguicula vulgaris*, and bird's-eye primrose *Primula farinosa*. These tussocks form the habitat for the narrow-leaved marsh orchid, and are an outstanding feature of the site providing a link with fen systems elsewhere.

County: North Yorkshire **Site Name:** River Ribble (Long Preston Deeps)

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council

National Grid Reference: SD 809621 - SD 827570 **Area:** 168.8 (ha) 417.12 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 98, 103 **1:25,000:** SD 85, 86

First Notified: 1987

Description:
The Long Preston Deeps section of the River Ribble is noted for its unusual physical nature in that it traverses a flat floodplain in the upper half of its catchment. This contrasts with most other river systems, where the flat meandering form only develops in the lower reaches. This unusual situation, combined with the base-rich water and fine river deposits, results in the River Ribble supporting a unique aquatic flora, an assemblage found here at its upstream limit for an English river. In addition, the flood plain is an important breeding area for wading birds, including snipes, redshank and lapwing.

The river catchment is dominated by Carboniferous Limestone and the river is underlain by limestone with Millstone Grit at the northern end. The base-rich character of the water is illustrated by the occurrence of spiked water-milfoil ***Myriophyllum spicatum***, brook water-crowfoot ***Ranunculus penicillatus*** var *calcareous* and blanket weed *Cladophora glomerata.*

The fine material on the river bed is derived from alluvium and river terrace deposits and boulder clay from the valley bottom. Species characteristic of such fine sediment and slow flowing water include yellow water-lily *Nuphar lutea*, perfoliate pondweed *Potamogeton perfoliatus*, curled pondweed *P. crispus*, broad-leaved pondweed *P. natans*, lesser pondweed *P. pusillus,* water plantain *Alisma plantago-aquatica* and bulrush *Schoenoplectus lacustris.* Canadian pondweed *Elodea canadensis* and river water-crowfoot *Ranunculus fluitans* are common on the faster flowing stretches. The site is also important for the presence of the nationally rare northern spike-rush *Eleocharis austriaca*, which grows in flooded backwaters and shallows at the riverside.

The upper River Ribble is of high water quality, and is a healthy salmonid migratory river: salmon and sea trout pass through the Long Preston Deeps on their way up river to spawn and the river supports a good population of brown trout. The slow flowing waters are also used by a variety of coarse fish including grayling, chub, dace, pike, roach, lamprey, minnow, bullhead and stoneloach. The piscifauna is, like the flora, very atypical for this area.

The meandering structure of the river produces steep sandy cliffs on the eroding banks of the meanders and these provide nesting sites for kingfisher, sand martin and goosander.

The rough marshy grassland adjacent to the river which undergoes periodic flooding forms an ideal nesting habitat for waders, in particular snipe, redshank and curlew, while other areas are used by oystercatchers and lapwing. In winter, the floodland is frequented by a variety of waterfowl and waders including whooper swan, pink-footed goose, wigeon, teal, shoveler, tufted duck, water rail and dunlin. Other birds such as black-tailed godwit and ruff use the area on passage.

County: West Yorkshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, North Yorkshire.

Site Name: South Pennine Moors

District: Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds, Craven, Burnley, Pendle, Oldham, Rochdale.

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981

Local Planning Authority:
Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Kirklees Metropolitan District Council
Leeds City Council
Craven District Council
Burnley District Council
Pendle District Council
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

National Grid Reference: SD 920300

Area: 20,938.05 (ha)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 103, 104, 109, 110

1:10,000:
SD 82 NE
SD 83 SE
SD 91 NW, NE, SW, SE
SD 92 NW, NE, SW, SE
SD 93 NW, NE, SW, SE
SD 94 SW, SE
SE 00 NW
SE 01 NW, SW
SE 02 NW, SW
SE 03 NW, SW, SE
SE 04 NW, SW, SE
SE 14 NW, NE, SW, SE

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 26 September 1994

Date of Last Revision: -

Other Information:

1. This site incorporates the existing Haworth Moor, Derby Delph, Pule Hill and Standedge Road Cutting SSSIs.
2. This site includes land which has been proposed for designation as a Special Protection Area under the EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds.

Description and Reasons for Notification:
This site forms part of the Southern Pennines lying between Ilkley in the north and the Peak District National Park boundary in the south. The majority of the site is within West Yorkshire but it also covers areas of Lancashire, Greater Manchester and North Yorkshire. The largest moorland blocks are Ilkley Moor, the Haworth Moors, Rishworth Moor and Moss Moor.

The underlying rock is Millstone Grit which outcrops at Boulsworth Hill and on the northern boundary of Ilkley Moor. The moorlands are on a rolling dissected plateau between 300m and 450m AOD with a high point of 517m at Boulsworth Hill. The greater part of the gritstone is overlain by blanket peat with the coarse gravely mineral soils occurring only on the lower slopes.

The site is the largest area of unenclosed moorland within West Yorkshire and contains the most diverse and extensive examples of upland plant communities in the county. Extensive areas of blanket bog occur on the upland plateaux and are punctuated by species rich acidic flushes and mires. There are also wet and dry heaths and acid grasslands. Three habitat types which occur on the site are rare enough within Europe to be listed on Annex 1 of the EC habitats and Species Directive (92/43) EEC. These communities are typical of and represent the full range of upland vegetation classes found in the South Pennines.

This mosaic of habitats supports a moorland breeding bird assemblage which, because of the range of species and number of breeding birds it contains, is of regional and national importance. The large numbers of breeding merlin *Falco columbarius*, golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria* and twite *Carduelis flavirostris* are of international importance.

The southern end of the site has good exposures of the Millstone Grit series and three localities are described under the heading 'Geology'.

Vegetation:
The blanket bogs of the South Pennine Moorlands are dominated by cotton-grass *Eriophorum* spp., and heather *Calluna vulgaris*. Other dwarf shrubs such as crowberry *Empetrum nigrum* and bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus* occur in varying amounts. Crowberry is abundant on the eroding margins of the blanket bogs of the South Pennine Moors. Unusually it is also abundant in some areas of the cotton grass and heather moors. This crowberry dominant moor is restricted to the South Pennines and is particularly extensive on Ilkley Moor. Areas of wet heath containing cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos* have also developed on the blanket mires.

The lower slopes are dominated by heather moorland with large areas of acid grassland. Some parts of the heather moors are burnt for red grouse *Lagopus lagopus* and sheep management. Other dwarf shrubs occur on the heather moors including bilberry, crowberry and the locally uncommon cloud berry *Rubus chamaemorus*.

The large areas of acid grassland on former heathland reflect patterns of heavy grazing and burning. These grasslands are dominated by mat-grass *Nardus stricta* and wavy hair-grass *Deschampsia flexuosa*. On wet slopes purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea* is dominant with the wettest areas supporting heath rush Juncus squarrosus.

The most species rich and diverse habitats are the acidic flushes, mires and seepage lines. The more acidic flushes on the blanket peat are dominated by cotton-grass *Eriphorum vaginatum* with sedges like carnation sedge *Carex panicea*, star sedge *C. echinata* and commons sedge *C. nigra* present. In some of these flushes bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* is present or even dominant amongst the moss *Sphagnum* spp/*Polytrichum* spp carpets which also often have dense populations of cranberry. The majority of flushes are less acidic and soft rush *Juncus effusus* tends to dominate in these wetlands with a few herbs like marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre* or bog stichwort *Stellaria alsine* present. Where the waters are richer in minerals, e.g. below springs, a wider range of herbs occur. Marsh violet *Viola palustris*, marsh pennywort *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* and blinks *Montia fontana* are most common but in a few places rarer species like bogbean *Menyanthes trifoliata* and round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia* occur. The latter is now very rare in West Yorkshire. The most notable species in these flushes is the pale forget-me-not *Myosotis stolonifera*. This nationally scarce plant is found in only 32 1km squares in Britain, but occurs at two locations on the South Pennine Moors.

There are several regionally important plant communities within the site. Green Withins holds the largest population of bog pondweed *Potamogeton polygonifolius* within West Yorkshire and Ilkley Moor has the only known locality for chickweed wintergreen *Trientalis europaea* in the county. The latter is close to the site where the famous 17th century botanist John Ray found this species in the 1600s. Crags within the cloughs have ungrazed ledge communities which include ferns not found in other parts of the moors. The beech fern *Phegopteris connectilis* which is now very rare in West Yorkshire survives in at least on clough at the southern end of the site.

Birds:
The moorlands support nationally important numbers of golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, curlew *Numenius arquata,* merlin *Falco columbarius* and twite *Carduelis flavirostris*.

These species and the rest of the moorland breeding bird assemblage require the mosaic of habitats and large area of the moors for their survival. The blanket bogs are the main breeding grounds for the golden plover and dunlin *Calidris alpina*. These birds need relatively short vegetation to nest in and access to wet areas to feed, a combination provided by the blanket mires. The South Pennine Moors hold 1.3% of the British breeding population of golden plovers. The very large number of meadow pipits *Anthus pratensis* nesting on the bogs are a major food source for the merlin.

The deeper cover provided by the heather provides nest sites for a range of other species. The merlin population of the South Pennine Moors is particularly important. 4.7% of the British population nests on these moors and the numbers appear to be increasing. Merlin prefer nest sites in the older leggy heather, bracken beds or small trees on the moorland edge and they feed on skylarks *Alauda arvensis* and meadow pipits. Most reliant on the heather moors are the red grouse *Lagopus lagopus scoticus* a sub-species of the willow grouse restricted to the British Isles. Their stronghold is on the managed moors of the Haworth Moors complex. Golden plover are also known to nest on recently burnt areas of heather.

Curlews favour the wet acid grasslands and semi-improved areas on the edge of the moors to breed. A significant number (0.8%) of the British curlew population breed on the South Pennine Moors sharing this habitat with lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* and in the wettest areas snipe *Gallinago gallinago* and redshank *Tringa totanus*.

Twite *Carduelis flavirostris* on the South Pennine Moors represent 1% of the British breeding population. These birds are an isolated southern out-post of the race *pipilans* that occurs only in Scandinavia and the British Isles and is itself isolated from the rest of the world population in the mountains of Central Asia. The birds on the South Pennine Moors are vital to maintain the present world distribution. Twite use virtually all the moorland habitats at different stages of their lifecycle. They prefer heather for nesting but also use bracken, boulder screes, grass tussocks and dry stone walls. Feeding on small seeds they utilise grassy areas throughout the moorlands, weedy areas on the moorland edge, semi-improved pastures and even areas of burnt *Molinia* grassland.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus* nest in small numbers on suitable crags and disused quarries and up to three pairs of short-eared owl *Asio flammeus* have nested in recent years. The moors also support wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*, whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*, ring ouzel *Turdus torquatus* and in some years stonechat *Saxicola torquata*.

The large reservoirs within and adjacent to the site provide feeding areas for moorland nesting birds like dunlin as well as nesting habitat for common sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* and grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea.*

Two more unusual species that nest on the reservoirs are the little ringed plover *Charadrius dubius* and the shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. The pair of shelduck nesting at Blackstone Edge reservoir are believed to be the highest altitude (1100 feet) nesting birds of this species in Britain. The streams draining the reservoirs and the moors support small numbers of dippers *Cinclus cinclus*.

Geology:
Three locations of special geological interest are identified within the South Pennine Moors: two areas of deltaic sedimentary rocks and a type locality for two diagnostic fossils.

Derby Delph Quarry (SE 017161). This quarry is of considerable sedimentological interest, it displays sandstones of Namurian age displaying two distinct bed form types, one consisting of large scale cross-bedded units and the other showing undulatory bedding. The latter type of structure was first described from this locality, and its relationship to the cross-bedded units is clearly visible. The interpretation of these structures has been a key factor in establishing a model for coarse sediment deposition in distributary channels, and thus for deltaic sedimentation as a whole.

In layman's terms, the quarry and rock outcrops within this site provide excellent exposures of sandstone layers of the Namurian Series, formed during the Carboniferous Period of geological history, about 315 million years ago. The sandstones originally accumulated on the bed of a major river delta, perhaps comparable to the modern Mississippi delta. The form of the sandstone layers is remarkably well displayed and detailed research here has enabled geologists

to understand for the first time some of the characteristics of sand deposits formed in river deltas. This is thus an important site for geological study of the Namurian which has made a significant contribution to the understanding of river-bed deposits.

Standedge Road Cutting (SE 018095-023098). This site provides one of the most complete sections through the Namurian Kinderscout Grit, almost in their entirety, with the Butterly Marine Band intervening. The readily accessible sequence presents an excellent example of deltaic cyclotherms, with shales and sandstones capped by seat earths and thin coals.

A key section of great sedimentological interest in a thick stratigraphically important sandstone sequence.

In layman's terms, this road cutting provides important exposures of the Kinderscout Grit which formed during the Carboniferous Period of geological time, about 320 million years ago. The rock sequence consists of thick sandstone layers separated by layers of shale, clay and thin coal seams. The rocks accumulated on a large river delta and contain important layers rich in the fossilised remains of marine animals which accumulated during periods when the delta became flooded by the sea. The rock layers accumulated in a repeated (or cyclic) sequence characteristic of sediments formed on a river delta. This is an important site for geological study of the Namurian series, and is of special interest as a reference section for comparative purposes.

Pule Hill (SE 032112-0321117). The section here exposed contains the Namurian Pule Hill Grit, at its type locality, overlying a sequence of goniatite-bearing shales. These constitute the type locality of the stratigraphically diagnostic goniatites *Reticuloceras bilingue* and *R. gracile*. The Pule Hill Grit is of particular interest at this locality for containing abundant bivalve and gastropod fauna. A key locality for studies of Upper Carboniferous goniatites with important implications for stratigraphic studies of the late Namurian (Marsdenian Stage).

In layman's terms, the quarry faces and rock outcrops within this site provide excellent exposures of rocks of the Namurian Series originally formed during the Carboniferous Period of geological history, about 320 million years ago. The rocks consist of shales overlain by a thick sandstone layer known as the Pule Hill Grit, both rock-types containing fossils of particular interest. The most important fossils here are the remains of marine animals known as goniatites which can be used to accurately date the rocks for the purposes of comparison with rock sequences elsewhere in Britain and overseas. Pule Hill is the locality where two particularly useful goniatites were first found and described. This is an important site for geological study of the Namurian Series especially in respect of the fossils used for dating rocks of this age.

County: North Yorkshire **Site name:** Stonehead Beck ('Gill Beck')

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended.

Local Planning Authority: Craven District Council.

National Grid Reference: SD 947432

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1: 50,000: 103 **1: 10,0000:** SD 94 SW

Area: 0.58 (ha) 1.43 (ac)

First Notified: 1986

Description:
A 40M sequence of shales with seven marine beds is exposed in the bank of Stonehead Beck, a tributary of 'Gill Beck', (by which name the site is internationally known to geologists), clearly demonstrating the boundary between the E 2 and Hg goniatite zones. The marked difference in goniatite and bivalve faunas between the two is well seen here, as is the transition in miospore floras. Gill Beck has been proposed as the boundary stratotype for the base of the Chokerian Stage, a chronostratigraphical unit to be adopted throughout western Europe. Since this horizon may also be used as the dividing line between the upper and lower Carboniferous subsystems (equivalent to the Mississippian-Pennsylvania boundary in North America, and the lower-middle Carboniferous boundary in the U.S.S.R.), Gill Beck is a site of considerable international importance.

Other Information:
This site is identified as of international importance in the Geological Conservation Review.

APPENDIX 5: ANCIENT WOODLANDS WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Woodland	Size (Ha)	Grid Ref.
Eskew Lane Wood, Low Bentham	1.2	SD 643 691
Mewith Lane	0.2	SD 662 675
Branstone Beck Wood	1.0	SD 677 682
Bowtham Wood	1.0	SD 679 684
Gill Brow Wood	2.0	SD 685 681
Black Wood	8.0	SD 641 712
Greta Wood / Scaleber	2.0	SD 640 718
Clifford Gill Wood. Greta Woods	2.5	SD 648 716
Old Wood, Burton-in-Lonsdale	3.0	SD 644 722
Higher Lumb Gill Wood	2.0	SD 796 597
Meregill Wood	5.0	SD 704 684
Hardacre / Askew Wood	6.0	SD 714 678
Brackney Brow Wood	5.0	SD 795 615
Hollow Gill Wood	4.0	SD 801 585
Arnford Wood	5.0	SD 833 564
Swindon Gill Wood	12.0	SD 864 540
Langber Wood	2.0	SD 897 538
Raygill Wood	2.0	SD 943 454
Yellison / Croft Wood	8.0	SD 950 495
Green Gill Wood	4.0	SD 960 464
Catlow Gill Wood	6.0	SD 962 490
Park Gill / Carlow Beck Wood	11.0	SD 975 488
Cononley Beck Wood	2.0	SD 980 464

Sugden Wood	3.0	SD 990 447
Castle Wood	8.0	SD 991 526
Lumb Clough	11.0	SE 008 429
Halton Gill Wood	8.0	SE 053 530
Lob / Huffa Wood	6.0	SE 069 524
Eller Carr Wood	4.0	SE 070 520

Source: Craven District Council, *Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan*, Adopted July 1999

APPENDIX 6: REFERENCES

General References **Methodology, Landscape Strategy and Character Assessments**

Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage, *'Landscape Character Assessment Guidance'*, May 2002

Countryside Commission, *'Countryside Character Volume 2: The North West'* (CCP 536), 1998

Countryside Commission, *'Countryside Character Volume 3: Yorkshire & The Humber*' (CCP 537), 1998

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Craven District Council, '*Landscape Character Assessment for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB*', 1997

Estell Warren Landscape Architects, '*Landscape Character Assessment of the Yorkshire Dales National Park',* Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority2001

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Text references **Archaeological, Historical and Local References (Section 2.3)**

1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, — Webb and Bower (publishers) Ltd, Waltham, Tony; *'Yorkshire Dales National Park'*, 1987 - pg. 39 (1,2); pg. 40 (4,5); pg. 45 (9); pg. 44 (10)

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15, 17 — Halton and Company Ltd: Brayshaw, Thomas and Robinson, Ralph, *'A history of the ancient parish of Giggleswick'*, 1932 - pg. XV (15); pg. 8 (17)

21 — http://www.penninewaterways.co.uk/ll/ll2.htm

22, 25 — http://www.cravendc.gov.uk/about.html

APPENDIX 7: GLOSSARY

Geological Terms

Boulder Clay	A deposit of clay and boulders left behind by a melting ice sheet or glacier.
Carboniferous Period	The youngest geological period of the Upper Palaeozoic era occurring from approximately 350 to 270 million years ago.
Drift Geology	Geologically recent material overlying the solid geology and including glacial and fluvio-glacial deposits remaining after the retreat of ice sheets and glaciers, and material deposited by rivers, including river terrace deposits, and peat.
Drumlin	An elongated oval shaped hillock of boulder clay deposited and shaped under moving ice. The long axis of the hillock is aligned parallel to the direction of the ice flow. Drumlins usually occur in 'fields' or 'swarms'.
Fault	A fracture in a rock or series of rocks that has brought about a permanent displacement.
Fluvio-glacial	Processes and landforms related to the action of glacial meltwater.
Geomorphology	The scientific study of the origin of landforms.
Ice Ages	A cyclical period of four very cold conditions that occurred during the Pleistocene period of the Quaternary era during which extensive ice sheets and glaciers prevailed.
Morainic Material	Rock material that has been transported and deposited by ice.
Outcrop	The area where a particular rock appears at the surface.
Ordovician Period	The middle geological period occurring during the Lower Palaeozoic era occurring from approximately 500 to 440 million years ago.
Pleistocene Period	The oldest geological period of the Quaternary era occurring from approximately 1 to 2 million years ago until the current Recent period, and loosely corresponding to the cycle of Ice Ages.
Quaternary Era	The current and most recent geological era occurring from approximately 1 to 2 million years ago.
Solid Geology	The distribution of solid rocks, with details of their horizontal and vertical distribution.
Stratigraphy	The study of layered rocks particularly their sequence, character and correlation.

Throw The amount of vertical displacement between two sides of a fault.

Unconformity An unconformity is a line separating younger rocks above from older rocks below, the line representing a period of time during which sedimentary rocks were deposited elsewhere. The break is caused by the uplift, folding, and erosion of the older rocks, and the subsequent deposition of sedimentary material over the eroded rock strata. Commonly, but not always, the older rocks dip at a different angle from the overlying younger rocks.

Landscape Technical Terms

Character A distinct pattern or combination of characteristics that occurs consistently in a particular landscape.

Characteristic An element or group of elements that are typical of a particular landscape.

Classification A process of sorting the landscape into different types, each with a distinct, consistent and recognisable character but without attaching relative values to different sorts of landscape.

Description Verbal description of what a landscape looks like. This is usually carried out in a systematic manner, but it may also include personal reactions to the landscape.

Diversity The number of landscape components and the way in which they inter-relate, creating complexity or uniformity in the landscape.

Element A component part of the landscape (eg. hedges, roads, woods).

Enclosure The density and arrangement of structural elements in the landscape (eg. landform, trees, hedges, woods, walls) so that they enclose space and create visual and physical containment.

Evaluation The process of weighing up and attaching a (non-monetary) to a particular landscape, usually by the application of previously agreed criteria, including consultation and third party documents, for a particular purpose (e.g. designation or in the context of the assessment).

Feature A prominent, eye-catching element (eg. wooded hilltop, church spire).

Floodplain The very flat land adjacent to a river or watercourse, generally underlain by alluvium and which would be naturally prone to flooding without specific flood alleviation measures (NB this definition is broader than that issued by the Environment Agency to define the Statutory Flood Plain).

Enhancement strategy	The most appropriate type of landscape improvement or management (conservation, repair, restoration or reconstruction) based on intrinsic landscape quality and condition and enhancement needs.
Landcover	Combinations of land use and vegetation that cover the land surface.
Landform	Combinations of slope and elevation that produce the shape and form of the land surface.
Landscape	The term refers primarily to the visual appearance of the land, including its shape, form and colours. However, the landscape is not a purely visual phenomenon; its character relies on a whole range of other dimensions, including geology, topography, soils, ecology, archaeology, landscape history, land use, architecture and cultural associations.
Landscape Analysis	The process of breaking the landscape down, usually in descriptive terms, into its component parts in order to understand how it is made up.
Landscape Assessment	An umbrella term used to encompass all the many different ways of looking at, describing, classifying and analysing landscape.
Landscape Capacity	The degree to which a particular landscape character type or area is able to accommodate change without unacceptable adverse effects on its character. Capacity is likely to vary according to the type and nature of change being proposed.
Landscape Character	The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape and how it is perceived by people. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation land use, and human settlement. It creates the particular sense of place of different areas of the landscape.
Landscape character area	A unique geographic area with a consistent character or coherent identity.
Landscape Sensitivity	The extent to which a landscape can accept change of a particular type and scale, without unacceptable adverse effects on its character.
Landscape structure	Structural components of the landscape, e.g. hedgerows, trees, woods, walls etc.
Landscape character type	A generic term for a landscape with a consistent homogeneous character, resulting from different combinations of landform, landcover, and human influences.
Landscape Quality	Based on judgements about the physical state of the landscape and about its intactness, from visual, functional and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of repair of individual features and elements which make up the character in any one place.

Land Use	The primary use of the land, including both rural and urban activities.
Landscape Value	The relative value or importance attached to a landscape, (often as a basis for designation or recognition) which expresses national or local consensus, because of its quality, special qualities, including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wildness, cultural associations or other conservation issues.
Methodology	The specific approach and techniques used for a given study.
Local distinctiveness	The special character of a place or area which gives it a particular and recognisable identity.
Rolling	Landform which is characterised by pronounced topography of soft hills.
Sensitivity to change	A subjective overall assessment of landscape sensitivity and vulnerability to change, based on a combination of factors including landscape quality and visual sensitivity.
Undulating	Landform which is characterised by gentle topography of shallow hills and valleys.
Visual sensitivity	The degree to which the landscape is open and enclosed by landform or vegetation and therefore exposed to views.

Other Technical Terms

Ancient woodland	Woodland area that has been covered with trees for many hundreds of years. It is an extremely valuable ecological resource, with an exceptionally high diversity of flora and fauna.
Blanket bog	Peat bog formed under conditions of high rainfall and low evapo-transpiration. It extends over and obscures all topographic features and supports rough wet moorland or marshland vegetation.
Enclosure (or Inclosure)	Legally, the extinguishing of common rights over a piece of land, rather than the act of physically enclosing and dividing it with fences, ditches walls and hedgerows which usually accompanied it.
Mesolithic	An archaeological term meaning 'middle stone'age and used to describe the culture achieved during the early Post Glacial period when mankind had moved from the herd hunting practices of the early **Palaeothic**, but had not yet discovered or adopted the use of agriculture. **Mesolithic** inhabitants frequently lived along coasts, rivers or lake shores and may have used fire to clear forested land for semi-permanent villages.
Neolithic	An archaeological term used to mean 'new stone' age which describes the culture

achieved during the middle Post Glacial when mankind had begun to polish and grind artefacts (an advance from bashing and flaking of the **Palaeothic** and **Mesolithic**). The Neolithic also saw the introduction of agriculture by crop cultivation and the domestication of animals.

Open-field system An area of arable land with common rights after harvest or while fallow. The fields date from the medieval period and are usually without internal divisions (hedges, walls or fences).

Palaeolithic An archaeological term used to describe the earliest human culture, when mankind fashioned the earliest human artefacts, especially from flint. The earliest toolmakers lived during the Pleistocene period in Britain, after the end of the Ice Ages and the principal glacial periods had receded.

Sustainability The principle that the environment should be protected in such a condition and to such a degree that ensures new development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Turnpike Roads A gated road on which a toll must be paid to allow access. Turnpikes were administered by turnpike trusts, which were authorised by a private Act of Parliament to levy tolls for maintenance of the highway.

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Officers:

Sian Watson - Planning and Development Manager
Matthew Collins - Planning Policy Officer

Panel Members of the Working Group:

Councillor Doyle
Councillor Hart
Councillor Ireton
Councillor Turner
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