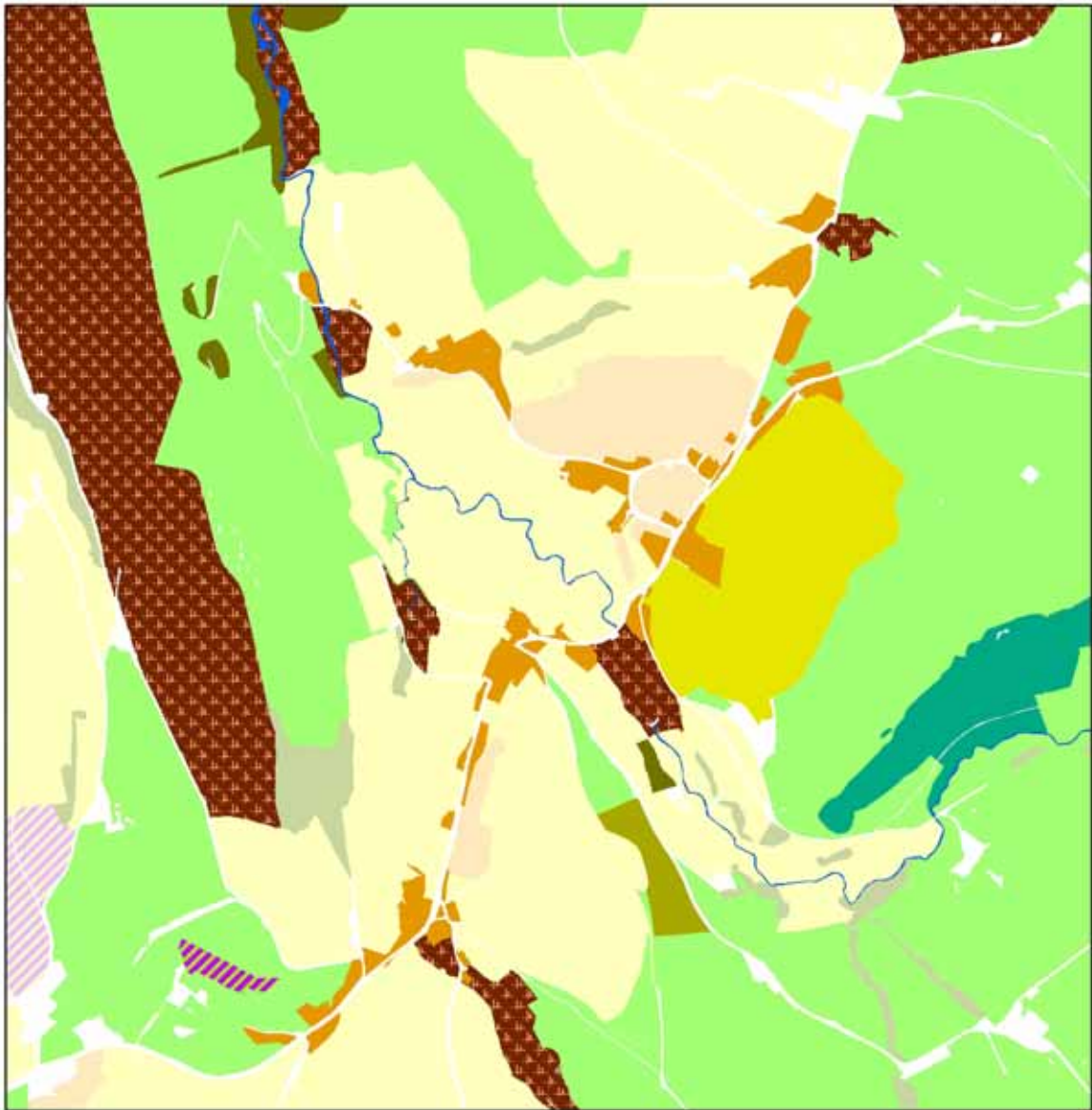


The Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation



Managing Historic Landscapes

A Gazetteer of the HLC Classification and Management
Recommendations

Cheshire County Council & English Heritage

The Cheshire
Historic Landscape Characterisation

Managing Historic Landscapes
A Gazetteer of the HLC Classification and Management Recommendations
Final Report
November 2007

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Managing Historic Settlements

This HLC Group is divided into two HLC Types:

- Post Medieval Settlement
- C20th Settlement

This HLC Group aims to define the extent of settlement and therefore areas of potential, rather than characterise the built environment by type of housing, etc. The reports for those towns examined for the Cheshire Historic Towns Survey¹ should always be considered in addition to the HLC dataset. The area of the Wirral not designated as green belt is part of a much wider characterisation of the built environment of Merseyside. It is intended that the results of this survey will supersede the Cheshire HLC dataset for this area.

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within this HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. great crested newts may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Settlement HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Areas of Archaeological Importance
- Listed Buildings
- Conservation Areas
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monument Record/Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Locally listed buildings; these are buildings which do not qualify for statutory listing, but are considered by the Borough Councils to be of local importance.
- HLC Types in this group may coincide with, or form a component part of, Areas of Archaeological Potential².

¹ Cheshire County Council 2002 a-q

² Cheshire County Council 2002 a-q

Post Medieval Settlement

This HLC Type represents the extent of settlement as defined by the Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps, produced between 1904 and 1909. It covers c.3% (7447 hectares) of the project area. This defines the maximum extent of each characterised settlement by the end of the nineteenth century, but does not guarantee the continuity of structures. Many of these settlements have earlier origins, which in some cases stretch back to the Roman period.

This HLC Type is not intended to replace the level of detail used in the Cheshire Historic Towns Survey³. Historic Landscape Characterisation should never be used to define Areas of Archaeological Potential, as centres of early settlements may not be related to the nineteenth-century urban cores, as for example at Middlewich.

This type can also be used to highlight areas of dispersed settlement which have been subsumed into larger settlements. This enables the consideration of an isolated historic building in relation to an earlier settlement pattern preserved within the modern settlement.

Post Medieval Settlement may potentially contain:

Historic buildings, locally distinctive building types, historic property boundaries and street layouts, and sub-surface archaeological remains.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of settlement areas and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to historic buildings, associated historic features and sub-surface archaeological remains.
- ❑ To promote good quality building design for all new developments, which respect and enhance the layout of the adjacent settlement, for example, developments which would significantly increase the nucleation in an area of dispersed settlement should be resisted.
- ❑ To promote good quality building design for all new developments, which respect and enhance the traditional building styles and local distinctiveness of the locality.
- ❑ To increase awareness and understanding of the historical development of towns, including their buried archaeological heritage and the part that former areas of dispersed settlement play in the overall palimpsest of the settlement. Where possible this historic settlement pattern should be preserved.
- ❑ To promote the urban heritage as a cultural resource, whether as a focus for community-based projects or in the development of visitor attractions.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps (1904-9)
Cheshire County Council 'Cheshire Historic Towns Survey'⁴

³ Cheshire County Council 2002 a-q

⁴ Cheshire County Council 2002 a-q

C20th Settlement

This HLC Type represents the extent of the settlement as defined by the modern (c.2002) Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps. It defines the expansion of each settlement since the 3rd edition of the Ordnance Survey County Series maps (produced between 1904 and 1909) and the start of the project. Recent aerial photography (flown 1999-2001) has been used to refine this definition. This type covers c.9% (23,957 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Settlement may potentially contain:

Historic buildings overtaken by urban expansion, in addition to buildings and structures dating from the twentieth century, which have been designated for their architectural and historical value and sub-surface archaeological remains

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of settlement areas and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to historic buildings, associated historic features and buried archaeological remains.
- ❑ To promote good quality building design for all new developments, which respect and enhance the layout of the adjacent settlement, for example, developments which would significantly increase the nucleation in an area of dispersed settlement should be resisted.
- ❑ To promote good quality building design for all new developments, which respect and enhance the traditional building styles and local distinctiveness of the locality.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps (1904-9)
Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps
Cheshire County Council Cheshire Historic Towns Survey⁵
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council Aerial Survey (1997)
GetMapping.com (Cities Revealed®) Aerial Survey (1999-2001)

⁵ Cheshire County Council 2002 a-q

Managing Woodland Heritage

The Woodland HLC Group has been divided into four types:

- Ancient Woodland
- Post Medieval Plantation
- C20th Plantation
- Other Woodland

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those that commonly occur within this HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Woodland HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Woodland may form part of an ornamental landscape. Ornamental landscapes considered to be of national importance have been included on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens.
- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record or Historic Environment Record.
- High quality habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Habitats included on the Inventory of Ancient Woodland⁶ or Cheshire Habitat Inventories.

⁶ English Nature 2000

Ancient Woodland

This HLC Type represents all woodland dating from before to 1600AD and covers c.0.8% (2131 hectares) of the project area. It is largely found along the mid-Cheshire Ridge, Weaver Valley and the eastern parts of the project area. These woodlands range in size from 1 to 123 hectares and are largely irregular in shape with sinuous or curving edges.

Woodlands of this HLC Type are for the most part defined by the Inventory of Ancient Woodland⁷. The Inventory does not include woodlands of less than 2 hectares, but this project has identified a small number of woodlands of this size which would meet the Inventory's criteria.

Woodland included on the Inventory is defined as an area continuously wooded since 1600 and including ancient semi-natural woodland, (i.e. areas that have never been cleared or replanted) and ancient replanted woodland (i.e. ancient woodlands that have been replanted for forestry). Less than 1% of the woodland in the project area is classified as ancient semi-natural woodland; however this type of woodland comprises approximately 80% of all woodland included on the Inventory of Ancient Woodland in the project area. Hence, these woodlands are now a very rare landscape type.

Woodlands of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features including those relating to medieval and later exploitation and management of woodlands (e.g. wood banks, internal boundaries and ancient coppice stools), together with those forming part of the wider landscape, such as, former boundary banks and field systems.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of woodlands and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

English Nature 'Inventory of Ancient Woodland'⁸

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'⁹

⁷ English Nature 2000

⁸ English Nature 2000

⁹ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Post Medieval Plantation

This landscape type represents deliberately created woodland post-dating 1600AD and covers c.1.5% (4010 hectares) of the project area. Areas of large-scale forestry are mostly found along the mid-Cheshire Ridge and the more sizeable former heaths and forests of the project area. Smaller areas of woodland associated with field sports, together with coniferous plantations and those surviving from former parks are also dispersed throughout the project area. All these woodlands are predominantly regular or semi-regular in shape with straight edges and range in size from under 1 hectare up to 175 hectares. They may comprise solely deciduous trees or conifers (often Scots pine), or a mixture of the two.

Woodlands of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features, including those relating to the medieval and later exploitation and management of woodlands (e.g. wood banks, internal boundaries, saw pits and indications of charcoal burning), together with those forming part of the wider landscape, such as boundary banks and field systems. Features within former designed parks may also survive, including earthwork and structural remains, and indications of planting schemes of native and exotic trees.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of woodlands and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'¹⁰

¹⁰ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

C20th Plantation

This landscape type represents deliberately created woodland dating from the twentieth century and covers c.0.5% (1408 hectares) of the project area. Areas of large-scale forestry are mostly found along the mid-Cheshire Ridge and the more sizeable former heaths and forests of the project area. Smaller areas of woodland, created with the help of Woodland Grant Schemes and other landscaping measures, are dispersed throughout the project area.

Woodlands of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features, such as, relic features from the pre-plantation landscape.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of woodlands and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To promote the use of locally derived species and methods of planting for the design of new plantations and for other landscaping work.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Other Woodland

This type includes areas of regenerated woodland, woodland scrub and woodlands of unknown origin within the project area and covers c.0.6% (1447 hectares) of the area.

Woodlands of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features, such as relic features from the pre-plantation landscape.

This HLC Type is divided into two HLC subtypes:

Post Medieval Other Woodland

This sub-type includes areas of woodland which predate the twentieth century (those which are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd editions of the County Series maps) and covers 0.3% (901 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Other Woodland

This sub-type includes areas of woodland which date from the twentieth century and covers 0.2% (546 hectares) of the project area.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of woodlands and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To promote the use of locally derived species and methods of planting for the design of new plantations and for other landscaping work.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Managing Non-improved Landscapes

The Non-improved Land HLC Group has been divided into three HLC Types:

- Unimproved Land
- Unimproved Coastal Land
- Flashes

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those that most commonly occur within the Non-improved Land HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species, protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Non-improved Land HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Special Protection Areas
- Ramsar Sites

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers that record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record or Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Natural Habitats included on the Cheshire Habitat Inventories.

Unimproved Land

This type includes mosses, heath and moorland and covers c.0.5% (1,248 hectares) of the project area. It contains a wide range of archaeological remains covering every period since the Mesolithic, together with significant palaeo-environmental remains. These landscape types are now rare within the project area.

Landscapes of the Unimproved Land HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features, including those relating to their exploitation (e.g. chance finds, burial structures) and geological deposits of significant palaeo-environmental value

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of unimproved land and its immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features, and palaeo-environmental remains.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st edition County Series maps (1870-5)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Penny Anderson Associates 'A Peatland Inventory for Cheshire'¹¹

S Clarke 'Cheshire Heathland Inventory'¹²

North West Wetlands Survey¹³

English Nature 'Sites of Special Scientific Interest'¹⁴

¹¹ Penny Anderson Associates 1994

¹² Clarke 1995

¹³ Leah et al 1997 & Cowell & Innes 1994

¹⁴ English Nature 2004

Unimproved Land Coastal

This type includes salt marsh, tidal mud and sand banks, estuarine marsh and sand dunes. It covers c.3.7% (9,616 hectares) of the project area (including estuarine areas), and is restricted to the Wirral coast, and Mersey and Dee estuaries. The shifting sand dunes of the northern end of the Wirral peninsula were previously more extensive, but they still have the potential to overlie earlier sites.

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the Mersey and its estuary experienced rapid industrialisation and expansion associated with the port of Liverpool. Therefore, all landscapes within this type could potentially include finds and features relating to the industrial and seafaring heritage of this area.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features, including those relating to their exploitation (e.g. fish traps) and the rich industrial and seafaring heritage of the Wirral (e.g. wrecks) and geological deposits of significant palaeo-environmental value.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of unimproved land and its immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st edition County Series maps (1870-5)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Northwest Wetlands Survey¹⁵

¹⁵ Leah et al 1997 & Cowell & Innes 1994

Flashes

This type covers less than c.0.1% (253 hectares) of the project area. Flashes are the result of subsidence associated with the extraction of brine from halite deposits. They are often filled with water, but may have been utilised as limebeds for the disposal of the lime waste from the chemical industry.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with the salt industry, relict features from the pre-subsidence landscape and rare alkaline habitats.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of unimproved land and its immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st edition County Series maps (1870-5)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 maps

Managing Historic Ornamental Landscapes

This HLC Group is divided into three HLC Types:

- Deer Parks
- Post Medieval Ornamental Parkland
- C20th Ornamental Parkland

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the Ornamental HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Ornamental HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Buildings
- Conservation Areas
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Hedgerow Regulations
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Ornamental landscapes considered to be of national importance have been included on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens.
- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record or Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Locally listed buildings; these are buildings which do not qualify for statutory listing, but are considered by the Borough Councils to be of local importance.
- Habitats included on the Inventory of Ancient Woodland¹⁶ or Cheshire Habitat Inventories.

¹⁶ English Nature 2000

Deer Parks

Where this HLC Type is recorded in the modern landscape, it does not indicate a functioning deer park; rather a park that retains much of its former character and has not had a later field system superimposed. The former pale and any internal boundaries are likely to be surmounted by hedges. These hedges have the potential to contain a rich variety of plant species. This type covers less than 0.1% (32 hectares) of the modern landscape of the project area.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features created specifically for these parks, such as the park pale and internal boundaries. These may be associated with species rich hedgerows, historic ecofacts such as pollards and features associated with the pre-park landscape, such as relict field boundaries.

This HLC Type is divided into two HLC Subtypes:

Medieval Deer Parks

This HLC Sub-type comprises deer parks created in the medieval period and covers 19 hectares of the project area.

Post Medieval Deer Parks

This sub-type comprises deer parks created in the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and covers 14 hectares of the project area.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Scheme.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of deer parks and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical significance and archaeological potential of this landscape type in all forms of planning strategy documents.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'¹⁷

English Heritage 'Register of Parks and Gardens'¹⁸

E Bennis & J Dyke 'Historic Cheshire Landscapes'¹⁹

Local Authority Historic Environment Records

¹⁷ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

¹⁸ English Heritage 2001

¹⁹ Bennis & Dyke 1995 & 1996

Post Medieval Ornamental Parkland

This type comprises ornamental parkland created prior to the twentieth century. It includes extensive landscape parks associated with large country houses and small parks and large gardens surrounding nineteenth-century villas. This HLC Type covers 2.5% (6,621 hectares) of the project area and c.42% of parkland of this type depicted on nineteenth century Ordnance Survey maps has been lost.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological, historic landscape features and buildings created specifically for these parks, such as follies or lakes, historic ecofacts such as pollards and planting schemes of native and exotic trees. Also features associated with the pre-park landscape, such as relict field boundaries and pales associated with Deer Parks.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Scheme.
- ❑ To undertake any landscaping work, including new planting, in a sensitive manner to enhance existing features.
- ❑ To carry out any building work, including repairs to historic structures, in a manner which will not detract from their existing design.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of ornamental parks and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase public access to, and appreciation and understanding of these landscapes.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'²⁰

English Heritage 'Register of Parks and Gardens'²¹

E Bennis & J Dyke 'Historic Cheshire Landscapes'²²

Local Authority Historic Environment Records

²⁰ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

²¹ English Heritage 2001

²² Bennis & Dyke 1995 & 1996

C20th Ornamental Parkland

This HLC Type comprises landscape parks created in the twentieth century and covers less than c.0.1% (144 hectares) of the project area.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological, historic landscape features and buildings created specifically for these parks, such as follies or lakes, and planting schemes of native and exotic trees. Also features associated with the pre-park landscape, such as relict field boundaries

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship schemes and the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Scheme.
- ❑ To undertake any landscaping work, including new planting, in a sensitive manner to enhance existing features.
- ❑ To carry out any building work, including repairs to historic structures, in a manner which will not detract from their existing design.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of ornamental parks and their immediate surroundings where threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase public access to, and appreciation and understanding of these landscapes.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Managing Ancient Fieldscapes

The Ancient Fieldscapes HLC Group has been divided into three HLC Types:

- Ancient Field Systems
- Medieval Townfields
- Anciently Enclosed Parkland

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur in this HLC group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Ancient Fieldscapes HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Hedgerow Regulations
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers that record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.

Ancient Field Systems

This HLC type represents enclosures dating from prior to 1600AD. It covers c.14.7% (c. 38,740 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits and ridge and furrow are common features, occurring in 55% and 11% (respectively) of the area covered by this HLC Type. The average field size is small with 92% of this type having an average field size of four hectares or below. Significant loss of field systems of this type has occurred, with an area larger than Congleton Borough (c.27,400 hectares) lost or significantly degraded in the twentieth century.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as farm buildings, earthworks associated with field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

This HLC Type is further divided into three HLC sub-types:

Regular

This sub-type comprises a regular network of fields with straight boundaries. It covers c.2042 hectares of the project area and comprises c.5% of the Ancient Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 62% of the area covered by this sub-type and to ridge and furrow is recorded in 15% of the area. The average field size is small, with 89% of the fields having an average size of 4 hectares or below.

Semi-regular

This sub-type comprises a field system laid out in a manner suggestive of some form of overall organisation or plan. The sub-type covers c.18,964 hectares of the project area and comprises c.49% of the Ancient Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 58% of the area covered by this sub-type and ridge and furrow is recorded in 9% of the area. The average field size is small, with 94% having an average size of 4 hectares or below.

Irregular

This sub-type comprises a field system with predominantly curving and sinuous boundaries laid out seemingly at random. This sub-type covers c.17,472 hectares of the project area and comprises 45% of Ancient Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 51% of the area covered by this sub-type and ridge & furrow is recorded in 14% of the area. The average field size is small, with 89% of the fields having an average size of 4 hectares or below.

Moss Rooms

This sub-type is defined by a distinctive long, thin pattern of fields associated with mosses (and former mosses), whose survival within the project area is very rare. These fields result from the enclosure of the rooms or strips of moss from which an individual had the right to extract peat. It is worth noting, however, that moss rooms are multi-period in date, though the social organisation preserved within their boundaries is likely to be of some antiquity. This sub-type covers c.263 hectares of the project area and comprises less than c.1% of the Ancient Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 29% of the area covered by this sub-type. The average field size is very small, with 100% having an average size of 2 hectares or below.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type, especially former township boundaries, and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems (ridge and furrow) and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character of much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation, to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To have regard for the dispersed form of settlement often associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as, Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Medieval Town Fields

This HLC Type represents a distinctive style of enclosure, which may relate to Medieval Open Field Arable. This type covers c.2.8% (c.7348 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area, though it is more prominent in the west. Marl pits occur in 60% of the area covered by the Medieval Town Fields Type, and ridge and furrow is recorded in 26% of the area. The average field size is small, with 94% having an average size of 4 hectares or below.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as farm buildings, earthworks associated with field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type, especially former township boundaries, and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems (ridge and furrow) and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character of much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation, to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To have regard for the dispersed form of settlement often associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as, Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

J McN Dodgson The Place-Names of Cheshire²³

²³ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Anciently Enclosed Parkland

This HLC Type represents fields created from the enclosure of a deer park for arable (see Ornamental). Within these field systems features such as the former park pale, a substantial bank and ditch, or internal divisions may be preserved. Where the physical feature is not preserved, its former course can often be traced in the boundaries of the new field system.

This type covers less than 1% (c.498 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits occur in 62% of the area covered by this type. The average field size is small, with 98% having an average size of 4 hectares or below.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with the former deer park, such as the park pale as well features associated with the later field systems; such as, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type, especially the former park pale and any other associated features and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems (ridge and furrow) and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character of much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation, to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To have regard for the dispersed form of settlement often associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as, Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'²⁴

²⁴ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Managing Post Medieval Fieldscapes

The Post Medieval Fieldscapes HLC Group has been divided into four types:

- C19th Field Systems
- Post Medieval Field Systems
- Late Post Medieval Agricultural Improvement
- Post Medieval Enclosed Parkland

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur in this HLC group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations which offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Post Medieval Fieldscapes HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Hedgerow Regulations
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.

C19th Field Systems

This HLC Type represents enclosures dating from the late eighteenth century. It covers c.3.2% (c.8382 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits occur in 20% of the area covered by this HLC type and average field size is small, with 86% below four hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as model farms and associated structures and features, earthworks associated with field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, including that created by steam ploughing, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

This type is divided into four HLC sub-types:

Parliamentary Enclosure

This HLC sub-type comprises field systems enclosed through an Act of Parliament and is typically a surveyed geometric field system of regular rectangular fields with straight quickset hedgerows or, in the Peak fringe, dry stone walls. Within the project area, areas of Parliamentary Enclosure can vary greatly in size from the c.3,600 hectares of Delamere to the c.16 hectares at Hargrave. This sub-type covers c.1.2% (c.3120 hectares) of the project area and comprises 37% of the C19th Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 15% of the area covered by this HLC sub-type, in addition localised clusters can often be found nearby in small plantations. Field size is small, with 83% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below and with 15% between 4 and 8 hectares.

C19th Planned Enclosure

This HLC sub-type comprises regular planned field systems created in areas depicted as unimproved, unenclosed or woodland on Burdett's 1777 map of Cheshire²⁵ and Yates' 1786 map of Lancashire²⁶. This HLC Sub-type typically comprises a surveyed geometric field system of regular rectangular fields with straight quickset hedgerows or, in the Peak fringe, dry stone walls. However, the regularity of the field system will be tempered by constraints such as topography and ownership and where they are associated with the reclamation of moss, the field system will often be defined by a strong pattern of straight drains. This HLC Sub-type covers c.1.5% (3862 hectares) of the project area and comprises 47% of the C19th Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 26% of the area covered by this HLC sub-type and average field size is small, with 84% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares.

C19th Planned Enclosure of Marsh

This HLC sub-type comprises regular planned field systems created in areas depicted as unimproved or unenclosed estuarine marsh on Burdett's 1777 map of Cheshire²⁷ and Yates' 1786 map of Lancashire²⁸, such as the Frodsham marshes. This HLC sub-type typically comprises a surveyed geometric field system with straight, often deep, drainage ditches, with few hawthorn hedgerows and predominantly occurs in large cohesive blocks which retain a strong unenclosed character. This HLC Sub-type covers

²⁵ A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester PP Burdett 1777

²⁶ The County Palatine of Lancaster W Yates 1786

²⁷ A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester PP Burdett 1777

²⁸ The County Palatine of Lancaster W Yates 1786

c.0.3% (876 hectares) of the project area and comprises 10% of the C19th Field Systems HLC Type. Average field size is small with 94% of this sub-type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below.

C19th Enclosure

This HLC sub-type comprises field systems formed through the piecemeal encroachment of township common and waste in areas depicted as unimproved or unenclosed estuarine marsh on Burdett's 1777 map of Cheshire²⁹ and Yates' 1786 map of Lancashire³⁰. These field systems lack the regularity of the other HLC sub-types of the C19th Field Systems HLC Type and are often associated with areas of dispersed settlement. This HLC Sub-type covers c.0.2% (524 hectares) of the project area and comprises 6% of the C19th Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 30% of the area covered by this HLC sub-type and average field size is small with 96% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type and maintain them in good condition.
- To retain the remains of former cultivation systems and any associated relict field boundaries.
- To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees, except in areas of the C19th Planned Enclosure of Marsh HLC Sub-type. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character of much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- To have regard for the dispersed form of settlement associated with areas of C19th Enclosure HLC Sub-type when proposals are made for development.
- To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

DP Burdett's 1777 Map of Cheshire³¹

W Yates' 1786 Map of Lancashire³²

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'³³

²⁹ A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester PP Burdett 1777

³⁰ The County Palatine of Lancaster W Yates 1786

³¹ A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester PP Burdett 1777

³² The County Palatine of Lancaster W Yates 1786

³³ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Post Medieval Field Systems

This HLC type represents enclosures dating from post 1600AD and pre-dating the late eighteenth century. This HLC Type covers c.8.3% (c.21,784 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits occur in 36% of the area covered by this HLC Type and average field size is small with 86% below 4 hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as model farms and associated structures and features, earthworks associated with field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, including that created by steam ploughing, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

It is divided into three HLC Sub-types:

Post Medieval Planned Enclosure

This HLC Sub-type comprises regular planned field systems created by the enclosure of heath or moss and the clearance of woodland. It typically comprises a surveyed geometric field system of regular rectangular fields with straight quickset hedgerows or, in the Peak fringe, dry stone walls. However, the regularity of the field system will be tempered by constraints such as topography and ownership and where they are associated with the reclamation of moss, the field system will often be defined by a strong pattern of straight drains. This HLC Sub-type covers c.5.5% (c.14,443 hectares) of the project area and comprises 66% of the Post Medieval Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 38% of the area covered by this HLC sub-type and average field size is small, with 83% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares.

Post Medieval Planned Enclosure of Marsh

This HLC Sub-type comprises regular planned field systems created by the enclosure of areas of estuarine marsh such as Ince Marshes. It typically comprises a surveyed geometric field system with straight, often deep, drainage ditches, with few hawthorn hedgerows and predominantly occurs in large cohesive blocks which retain a strong unenclosed character. This HLC Sub-type covers c.0.4% (c.1111 hectares) of the project area and comprises 5% of the Post Medieval Field Systems HLC Type. Average field size is small with 91% of this sub-type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below.

Post Medieval Enclosure

This HLC Sub-type comprises field systems formed through the piecemeal encroachment of township common and waste. These field systems lack the regularity of the other HLC Sub-types of the Post Medieval Field Systems HLC Type and are often associated with areas of dispersed settlement. This Sub-type covers c.2.4% (c.6238 hectares) of the project area and comprises 29% of the Post Medieval Field Systems HLC Type. Marl pits occur in 35% of the area covered by this HLC sub-type and average field size is small with 94% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees, except in areas of the Post Medieval Planned Enclosure of Marsh HLC Sub-type. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character for much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To have regard for the dispersed form of settlement associated with areas of Post Medieval Enclosure HLC Sub-type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

DP Burdett's 1777 Map of Cheshire³⁴

W Yates' 1786 Map of Lancashire³⁵

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'³⁶

³⁴ A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester PP Burdett 1777

³⁵ The County Palatine of Lancaster W Yates 1786

³⁶ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Late Post Medieval Agricultural Improvement

This HLC Type comprises field systems which have been created by the re-organisation and enlargement or replacement of earlier field systems, due to the rationalisation and improvement of land holdings to facilitate changes in agricultural practice. This type covers c.15.6% (c.41,054 hectares) of the project area and is widely distributed. Marl pits occur in 52% of the area covered by this HLC type, and ridge and furrow cultivation remains are recorded in 10% of the area. The average field size is mostly small with 63% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below and with 30% of this type between 4 and 8 hectares.

This HLC Type has the potential to contain relict features or boundaries relating to a wide range of landscapes. Therefore, the preceding HLC Type should be considered in areas of Late Post Medieval Agricultural Improvement.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as model farms and associated structures and features, earthworks associated with relict field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, including that created by steam ploughing, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain infield trees, many of which will provide indications of former field patterns.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character for much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of Late Post Medieval Agricultural Improvement HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Post Medieval Enclosed Parkland

This HLC Type represents the field systems created upon the enclosure of deer parks and designed parkland, with conversion to a landscape where agricultural production is the primary purpose. Within these field systems former parkland features or earlier remains relating to previous land use may survive. Where former boundary features are not preserved, their course can often be traced in the boundaries of the new field system. This HLC Type covers less than c.0.7% (c.1829 hectares) of the modern landscape and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits occur in 61% of the area covered by this HLC type. The average field size is mostly small with 68% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below and with 28% of this type between 4 and 8 hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with the former deer park or designed parkland, such as the park pale and tree plantings as well features associated with earlier and later agricultural exploitation; such as, field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow and species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and pursue options for the restoration of designed parklands.
- ❑ To retain boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type, such as the former park pale or follies and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems (ridge and furrow) and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of the historic and landscape character of much of the project area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of a new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series map (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

J McN Dodgson 'The Place-Names of Cheshire'³⁷

³⁷ Dodgson 1970a-b, 1971, 1972 & 1981a-b

Managing C20th Fieldscapes

The C20th Fieldscapes HLC Group has been divided into three types:

- C20th Field Systems
- C20th Agricultural Improvement
- C20th Enclosed Parkland

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the C20th Fieldscapes HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment, specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations which offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the C20th Fieldscapes HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Hedgerow Regulations
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.

C20th Field Systems

This HLC Type comprises the large modern fields, typically over 8ha created by extensive field enlargement and the creation of new field systems to facilitate mechanisation and other changes in agricultural practice. Little of the previous landscape character is expected to survive in these areas.

This HLC Type covers c.5.5% (c.14,534 hectares) of the project area and is distributed throughout the project area. Marl pits survive in 48% of the area covered by this HLC type, and ridge and furrow in 8%, though probably only as subsurface archaeological remains. Field size is large, with 85% having an average field size of over 8 hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with earlier landscapes, however the vast majority of archaeological sites will only survive as below ground features.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type and maintain them in good condition. Any restoration of modern boundaries should reflect their existing form, rather than historic patterns.
- To retain the remains of former cultivation systems and any associated relict field boundaries.
- To retain infield trees, many of which will provide indications of former field patterns.
- To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series map (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

C20th Agricultural Improvement

This HLC Type comprises field systems where enlargement and re-organisation has taken place in the twentieth century to support mechanisation and improvements in agricultural techniques. Although the character of these field systems has been substantively changed they still retain features and elements of their previous character. These field systems have the potential, with sensitive boundary restoration, to recapture some of their former historic character. Therefore, the preceding HLC Type should be considered in areas of this HLC Type.

This HLC Type covers c.9.8% (c.25,626 hectares) of the project area and are distributed throughout. A wide range of field shapes exist within these field systems, although they are mostly semi-regular. Marl pits survive in 37% of the area covered by this HLC Type, and ridge and furrow remains are recorded in 5% of the area. The average field size is largely small, with 61% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below, and 39% between 4 and 8 hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features: such as farms and associated structures and features, earthworks associated with relict field boundaries, former township boundaries, historic field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow, species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- To retain field boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type and maintain them in good condition.
- Promote sensitive boundary restoration in areas where this would serve to strengthen its historic character.
- To retain the remains of former cultivation systems and any associated relict field boundaries.
- To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the project area.
- To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees, where applicable. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of historic and landscape character for much of the study area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- To retain infield trees, many of which will provide indications of former field patterns.
- To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- To have regard for the type, form and function of farm buildings associated with areas of this HLC Type when proposals are made for development.
- To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series map (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

C20th Enclosed Parkland

This HLC Type represents the regular and semi-regular field systems created upon the enclosure of deer parks and designed parkland, with conversion to a landscape where agricultural production is the primary purpose. Within these field systems former parkland features or earlier remains relating to previous uses of the land may survive. Where former boundary features are not preserved, their course can often be traced in the boundaries of the new field system.

This HLC Type covers c.0.6% (c.1538 hectares) of the project area. Marl pits occur in 18% of the area covered by this HLC Type and ridge and furrow remains are recorded in 5% of the area. The average field size is mostly small with 59% of this type having an average field size of 4 hectares or below and 29% of this type between 4 and 8 hectares.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with the former deer park or designed parkland, such as the park pale and tree plantings as well features associated with earlier and later agricultural exploitation; such as, field boundaries (drystone walls, hedgerows and ditches), ridge & furrow and species rich habitats, historic ecofacts and a wide range of archaeological sites.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes and pursue options for the restoration of designed parklands.
- ❑ To retain boundaries and features associated with this HLC Type, such as the former park pale or follies and maintain them in good condition.
- ❑ To retain the remains of former cultivation systems (ridge and furrow) and any associated relict field boundaries.
- ❑ To retain former marl pits. Marl pits are a defining characteristic for much of the study area.
- ❑ To encourage the planting of hedgerow trees. Hedgerow trees are a vital part of historic and landscape character for much of the study area. These trees are generally over mature and the planting of new generation to become their successors, is to be encouraged.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of field systems and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical importance of this landscape type in planning strategy documents, such as Parish Plans, Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series map (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Managing the Military Heritage

The Military HLC Group has been divided into two HLC Types:

- Other Military
- C20th Military

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the Military HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Military HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record.
- High quality habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.

Other Military

This HLC Type includes all pre-twentieth century military installations and fortifications and covers less than c.0.1% (c.26 hectares) of the project area. It predominantly comprises prehistoric fortifications and medieval castles.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological deposits, historic buildings and structures and historic landscape features, relating to the site (e.g. earthworks, walls, fortified positions) and the wider landscape.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of military sites and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to wildlife, and to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase awareness and understanding of the historical development of military structures, including their buried archaeological heritage.
- ❑ To promote the military heritage as a cultural resource, whether as a focus for community-based projects or in the development of visitor attractions.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st edition County Series maps (1870-5)

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Records

C20th Military

This HLC Type covers all twentieth and twenty-first century military installations and covers c.0.3% (803 hectares) of the modern landscape. This includes a wide range of sites from Second World War airfields to small accommodation blocks associated with the nuclear bunker near Nantwich.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological deposits, historic buildings, structures and features relating to the site (e.g. hangers, fortified positions). Also isolated buildings, structures and features which form part of a wider system of defence (stop-lines, anti-aircraft defences).

This HLC Type has been divided into two HLC Subtypes:

C20th Military Active

These are active military sites and cover less than 0.3% (c.205 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Military Inactive

These are disused military sites whose character still defines an area due to the survival of associated buildings and features such as runways, bomb stores, etc. This HLC subtype covers 0.9% (c.598 hectares) of the project area and is largely made up of Second World War airfields and a number of much smaller barracks and depots.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of military installations and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to structures and associated features.
- ❑ To increase awareness and understanding of the historical development of military structures, including their buried archaeological heritage.
- ❑ To promote the military heritage as a cultural resource, whether as a focus for community-based projects or in the development of visitor attractions.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Records/Historic Environment Records

Council for British Archaeology 'Defence of Britain Project'³⁸

B Lowry 'Twentieth Century Defences in Britain: an introductory guide'³⁹

C Dobinson 'AA Command. Britain's Anti-aircraft Defences of the Second World War'⁴⁰

WD Cocroft & RJC Thomas 'Building for the Nuclear Confrontation 1949-1989'⁴¹

³⁸ www.britarch.ac.uk/projects/dob/index.html

³⁹ Lowry 1995

⁴⁰ Dobinson 2001

⁴¹ Cocroft & Thomas 2003

Managing the Historic Communication Network

The Communications HLC Group has been divided into two HLC Types:

- Post Medieval Communications
- C20th Communications

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the Communications HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations that offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Communications HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Buildings
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers that record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record or Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.

Post Medieval Communications

This HLC Type comprises all railways, canals and river navigations constructed prior to the twentieth century (those which are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd editions of the County Series maps). They cover c.1% (c.2,611 hectares) of the project area. It is important to note that many of the structures and buildings associated with this type have distinctive styles of 'railway' or 'canal' architecture.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological and historic landscape features associated with canals, including bridges, iron aqueducts like those at Congleton and Nantwich, weirs and water management features, locks, inclines and a large number of wharves and warehouses, with the vast majority of this infrastructure still in use today. Features and structures associated with railways range from large bridges, tunnels and cuttings, stations, signal boxes and freight marshalling facilities to signals and crossing gates.

This HLC Type is divided into two HLC Subtypes:

Post Medieval Communications Active

These are active canals and railways dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and cover c.0.9% (2,281 hectares) of the project area. Many of the waterways included in this group are still actively used for recreational purposes.

Post Medieval Communications Inactive

The majority of this subtype is made up of disused railway lines, with a small proportion of disused canals. This subtype covers c.0.1% (331 hectares) of the project area. In places these features have found new uses as footpaths and bridleways, and have even been considered for modern light railway and tram systems. The routeways within this subtype generally retain many of the associated features, such as bridges and signal boxes, and some, such as stations, have found new uses. Moreover, much of the major civil engineering elements are preserved and will retain their character.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To promote transport heritage as a cultural resource, wherever this is practicable, whether as a focus for community-based environmental projects or in the development of visitor attractions.
- ❑ To promote the retention and re-use of associated buildings and features, wherever this is practicable, especially those displaying the distinctive canal or railway architecture.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of communications and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd editions County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Records/Historic Environment Records

C20th Communications

This HLC Type comprises all railways, roads and airfields/airports constructed in the twentieth century (which post-date the Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps). They cover c.0.9% (c.2,276 hectares) of the project area.

This type largely comprises large modern roads such as the M6, M56 (including service areas), dual carriage-ways and bypasses and associated landscaping. It also includes small airfields and those parts of Manchester Airport that lie within the project area, plus a small amount of modern railway construction.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- To promote the use of locally derived species and methods of planting when undertaking new landscaping work.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map

Managing the Industrial Heritage

The Industry HLC Group has been divided into two HLC Types:

- Post Medieval Industry
- C20th Industry

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the Industry HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations which offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Industry HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Buildings
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Locally listed buildings; these are buildings which do not qualify for statutory listing, but are considered by the Borough Councils to be of local importance.

Post Medieval Industry

This HLC Type comprises industrial facilities constructed prior to the twentieth century (those which are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series maps) and covers c.0.6% (c.1,666 hectares) of the project area. This type includes a wide range of structures and industrial facilities, such as mills, mines, quarries, salt works and the larger model farm building complexes.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological deposits, historic buildings and structures and historic landscape features relating to the site (e.g. mill ponds, tramways, earthworks).

This HLC Type is further divided into three HLC sub-types:

Post Medieval Industry Active

These are active industrial facilities whose sites have been in use since at least the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although the continuity of function cannot be guaranteed. This sub-type covers c.0.4% (c.1,053 hectares) of the project area.

Post Medieval Industry Inactive

These are inactive or derelict industrial facilities, which date from at least the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This sub-type covers c.0.2% (c.510 hectares) of the project area.

Post Medieval Agri-Industrial

These are agri-industrial facilities such as nurseries and the larger farm building complexes, which have been in use since at least the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although the continuity of function cannot be guaranteed. This sub-type covers less than c.0.1% (c.103 hectares) of the project area.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of industrial sites and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to historic buildings, associated historic features and buried archaeological remains.
- ❑ Surrounding buildings and structures, especially the wider social fabric such as housing, associated with an industrial site should be given due consideration in relation to any development proposals or change in land use which may impinge upon them.
- ❑ To promote the retention and re-use of industrial buildings and associated industrial features, wherever this is practicable, especially those relating to the distinctive industries of the area, such as textile making and salt production.
- ❑ To increase awareness and understanding of the technological developments and social changes relating to these industries.
- ❑ To promote the industrial heritage as a cultural resource, wherever this is practicable, whether as a focus for community-based environmental projects or in the development of visitor attractions.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Records/Historic Environment Records

C20th Industrial

This HLC Type comprises industrial facilities constructed in the twentieth century (those which post date the Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps) and covers c.4.3% (c.11,325 hectares) of the project area. This type includes a wide range structures and facilities from the Stanlow oil refinery and manufacturing sites, to nurseries and larger farms.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological deposits, historic buildings and structures and historic landscape features relating to the site and from the pre-industrial landscape.

This type is subdivided into four HLC sub-types:

C20th Industry Active

These are active industrial facilities which have been constructed in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This sub-type covers c.3.3% (c.8,757 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Industry Inactive

These are inactive or derelict industrial facilities which have been constructed in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This sub-type covers c.0.2% (c.433 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Agri-Industrial

These are agri-industrial facilities such as nurseries, fisheries and the larger farm complexes dating from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. However, the latter has a high potential to contain agricultural buildings from earlier periods. This sub-type covers c.0.6% (c.1,670 hectares) of the modern landscape.

C20th Salt Gas Cavity Storage

These are facilities which store natural gas in cavities in the underlying halite (rock salt). In Cheshire these tend to be former mines. However, cavities can be made for the purpose by brine pumping. Although a largely subterranean industry, a complex of small structures and roads are made on the surface, changing the character of the existing landscape. Therefore, sites of this sub-type have the potential to contain relict features or boundaries relating to a wide range of former landscapes. This sub-type covers c.0.2% (464 hectares) of the project area.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake assessments of industrial sites and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to historic buildings, associated historic features and buried archaeological remains.
- ❑ Surrounding buildings and structures, especially the wider social fabric such as housing, associated with an industrial site should be given due consideration in relation to any development proposals or change in landuse which may impinge upon them.
- ❑ To promote the retention and re-use of early twentieth century industrial buildings and associated industrial features, wherever this is practicable, especially those relating to the distinctive industries of the area, such as textile making and salt production.

- To undertake assessments of Salt Gas Cavity Storage sites where developments are proposed, in order to examine any structures or features relating to the pre-industrial landscape.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Managing the Recreational Heritage

This HLC Group is divided into three HLC Types:

- Post Medieval Recreation
- C20th Recreation
- Golf Course

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within the Recreation HLC Group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations which offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Recreation HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Buildings
- Conservation Areas
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Hedgerow Regulations
- Tree Preservation Orders

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Ornamental landscapes considered to be of national importance have been included on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens.
- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Locally listed parklands; these are parks and ornamental landscapes which do not qualify for statutory listing but are considered by the Borough Councils to be of local importance.
- Locally listed buildings; these are buildings which do not qualify for statutory listing but are considered by the Borough Councils to be of local importance.

Post Medieval Recreation

This HLC Type comprises recreational facilities constructed prior to the twentieth century (those which are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd editions of the County Series maps) and covers less than c.0.2% (c.456 hectares) of the project area. This type includes town parks, such as Birkenhead Park (Birkenhead) and Queens Park (Crewe), racecourses, for example the Roodee (Chester), and many other small recreation sites.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological, historic landscape features and buildings created specifically for these parks, such as follies or lakes, historic ecofacts such as pollards and planting schemes of native and exotic trees. Also features associated with the pre-park landscape, such as relict field boundaries.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake any landscaping work, including new planting, in a sensitive manner to enhance existing features.
- ❑ To carry out any building work, including repairs to historic structures, in a manner which will not detract from their existing design.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of post medieval recreational sites and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To promote public enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of historic recreational sites.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

English Heritage 'Register of Parks and Gardens'⁴²

⁴² English Heritage 2001

C20th Recreation

This HLC Type comprises recreational facilities constructed in the twentieth century (those which post date the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series maps) and covers c.1.1% (c.2,887 hectares) of the project area. This type includes recreation grounds and parks, sports grounds, marinas, camp sites and entertainment complexes.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological, historic landscape features and buildings created specifically for these parks, such as follies or lakes, ecofacts such as planting schemes of native and exotic trees. Also features associated with the pre-park landscape, such as relict field boundaries.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To undertake any landscaping work, including new planting, in a sensitive manner to enhance existing features.
- ❑ To carry out any building work, including repairs to historic structures, in a manner which will not detract from their existing design.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of recreational sites and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To promote public enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of historic recreational sites.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps (1904-9)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Golf Course

This HLC Type includes all golf courses and covers c.1.4% (c.3,600 hectares) of the project area.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological deposits, historic buildings, structures and features relating to the course and the preceding landscape.

This HLC Type is divided into two HLC Sub-types:

Post Medieval Golf Course

This type includes all golf courses constructed prior to the twentieth century (those which are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition County Series maps) and covers less than c.0.1% (353 hectares) of the project area.

C20th Golf Course

This type includes all golf courses constructed in the twentieth century (those which post date the Ordnance Survey 3rd edition County Series maps) and covers c.1.3% (3,247 hectares) of the project area.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ On courses of the Post Medieval Golf Course HLC Sub-type; to undertake any landscaping work, including new planting, in a sensitive manner to enhance existing features.
- ❑ On courses of the Post Medieval Golf Course HLC Sub-type; to carry out any building work, including repairs to historic structures, in a manner which will not detract from their existing design.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of courses of the Post Medieval Golf Course HLC Sub-type and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to wildlife and to historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Managing the Historical Aspects of Water Bodies

The Water Bodies HLC Group has been divided into three HLC types:

- Natural Water Bodies
- C20th Artificial Water Bodies
- Other Artificial Water Bodies

The following lists of statutory protections and material considerations are not intended to be exhaustive, but those which most commonly occur within this HLC group. It is also important to note that a number of species protected by law e.g. badgers and great crested newts, may reside within these landscapes. In all matters concerning the management of the natural and historic environment specialist advice should be sought.

Statutory protection

There is a range of designations which offer statutory protection to the landscape areas or features contained within the Water Bodies HLC Group.

- Scheduled Monuments
- Listed Buildings
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Material Considerations

There is a range of non-statutory lists and registers which record natural and historic environment features. Although this does not bring additional statutory controls, local authorities are required by central government to consider the importance of such features when determining planning applications, funding allocations and strategies that may affect them.

- Archaeological sites, finds, historic buildings and historic landscape features recorded on the relevant local authority Historic Environment Record.
- High quality natural habitats recorded on the relevant local authority Register of Sites of Biological Importance.
- Natural Habitats included on the Cheshire Habitat Inventories.

Natural Water Bodies

Natural water bodies cover c.0.4% (c.1,005 hectares) of the project area. No sites have been designated for their archaeological or historical value, but a number have been designated for their nature conservation value. This HLC Type includes the larger glacial meres and major rivers of the project area.

Many of the natural water bodies within the county have the potential to preserve chance archaeological finds, sites or landscapes buried by alluvium. Several log boats dating from the early medieval period have been recovered along the Mersey, and a prehistoric example has been found at Baddiley Mere. Many of the meres have extensive deposits which contain palaeo-environmental information on land use and landscapes of up to 12,000 years ago. The potential of these sites can be further demonstrated through the work of the North West Wetlands Survey⁴³ and is illustrated by the extensive waterlogged remains of Roman and medieval date found adjacent to the River Weaver in Nantwich.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological sites and palaeo-environmental remains sensitive to erosion, changes in water levels, water quality and development or changes in land use in adjacent areas.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of water bodies and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to wildlife, archaeological and historic landscape features, and palaeo-environmental remains.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the history and archaeological potential of water bodies.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

North West Wetlands Survey⁴⁴

Cheshire County Council Glacial Meres GIS Dataset

⁴³ Leah et al 1997; Cowell & Innes 1994

⁴⁴ Leah et al 1997; Cowell & Innes 1994

C20th Artificial Water Bodies

C20th Artificial Water Bodies HLC Type cover less than c.0.1% (c.221 hectares) of the project area. It includes features such as reservoirs, flooded quarries and balancing ponds associated with modern development and industry.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological sites and landscape features surviving from earlier landscapes.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of water bodies and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to wildlife, and to archaeological and historic landscape features.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps

Other Artificial Water Bodies

This HLC Type covers less than 0.1% (188 hectares) of the project area. It includes features such as reservoirs, flooded quarries and larger mill ponds and other water bodies associated with industry.

Landscapes of this HLC Type may potentially contain:

Archaeological sites and landscape features surviving from earlier landscapes and archaeological remains, historic buildings and structures associated with the management and exploitation of the site.

Recommended historic environment management

in addition to any statutory controls

- ❑ To pursue active management through Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Schemes.
- ❑ To undertake assessments of water bodies and their immediate surroundings where they are threatened by development or changes in land use, in order to mitigate any potential damage to wildlife, and to archaeological and historic landscape features.
- ❑ To increase awareness of the historical and archaeological potential of water bodies. Upstanding archaeological remains (monuments) and other historic structures could be used as a focus for community-based environmental projects.

Key Indicative Sources

Ordnance Survey 1st & 3rd edition County Series maps (1870-5 & 1904-9, respectively)

Local Authority Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Records

Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Data

The Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation is part of a national programme developed and funded by English Heritage and encompassed the County of Cheshire, Boroughs of Halton and Warrington and the Metropolitan Borough of the Wirral.

Human activity and social organisation have an impact on the landscape which is often visible today. Historic Landscape Characterisation involves the examination of the modern landscape, in order to infer the historic processes that have formed that landscape as it is seen today. The modern landscape, field shape, settlement patterns etc, is systematically assessed and compared to 19th century Ordnance Survey maps to assess change and time depth. The collated data is held in a database, which can be analysed to produce broad or detailed historic landscape classifications, answer specific questions or map change and whose results can be displayed through a Geographic Information System to produce map based interpretative models.

Historic Landscape Characterisation aims to improve our understanding and appreciation of the historic landscape; by interpreting how past communities have contributed to its form and appearance. It creates an important body of knowledge and a tool to help make informed decisions on conservation and development proposals from a strategic level, feeding into Cheshire's Landscape Character Assessment, to a more local level, through Local development Frameworks and Agri-Environment schemes. The project has identified a range of historic landscape types and has made recommendations for their future management, in addition to creating a wide data set which can be used as a start point for research into Cheshire's historic landscape. The project report is available as a .pdf, via the Historic Environment Teams web site:

http://www.cheshire.gov.uk/Planning/NaturalHistoricEnvironment/Historic/NHE_Historic_Index.htm

Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Polygon Data

Data can be provided as an ArcView Shape-file (.shp) or Personal Geo-database with the following attribute data. In addition the Personal Geo-database holds each HLC Group as an individual feature class.

Attribute	Description
HLCUID	HLC Unique Identifier
HLCGroup	HLC Group
HLCType	HLC Type
HLCSubtype	HLC Sub-type
Management	A hyper-link to the description/management recommendations
Shape_Length	Perimeter of the polygon in Meters
Shape_Area	Area of polygon in Square Meters

Both versions contain a hyper-link to the Cheshire County Council web site, which enables quick and easy access to the descriptions and management recommendations for each HLC Group, Type and Subtype straight from the GIS.

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