

Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB  
Historic Landscape Characterisation Project

# HISTORIC LANDSCAPE TYPE DESCRIPTION:

## TYPE 8 INDUSTRY



ENGLISH HERITAGE

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## Industry in the AONB: An Introduction

***“The reason why these churches are built of stone instead of the usual flints becomes apparent to us when we see the quarries, a mile to the south of the road between Teffont and the next village westward, Chilmark. They are very ancient and very famous, were probably known to the Romans, and certainly supplied the stone for Sarum Cathedral”***

(From Hutton, E. (1917) Highways and Byways in Wiltshire. London: Macmillan and Co. Ltd. Pgs 185-86)

Industry in the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Down AONB has tended to be small scale and local as befits a predominantly rural area, utilising local geology and materials. Several quarries are still operational today providing greensand stone, chalk and the famous Chilmark stone mentioned by Hutton back in 1917. Several other relic quarries survive, including the Pen Pits found to the west of Zeals which may well have prehistoric origins. These relic quarries are accompanied by the footprint of a disused brick and tile factory to paint a picture of small scale local industry serving local villages and farms and the surrounding market towns. These have had minimal impact on the landscape of the AONB and those that remain are an important source of traditional building materials.

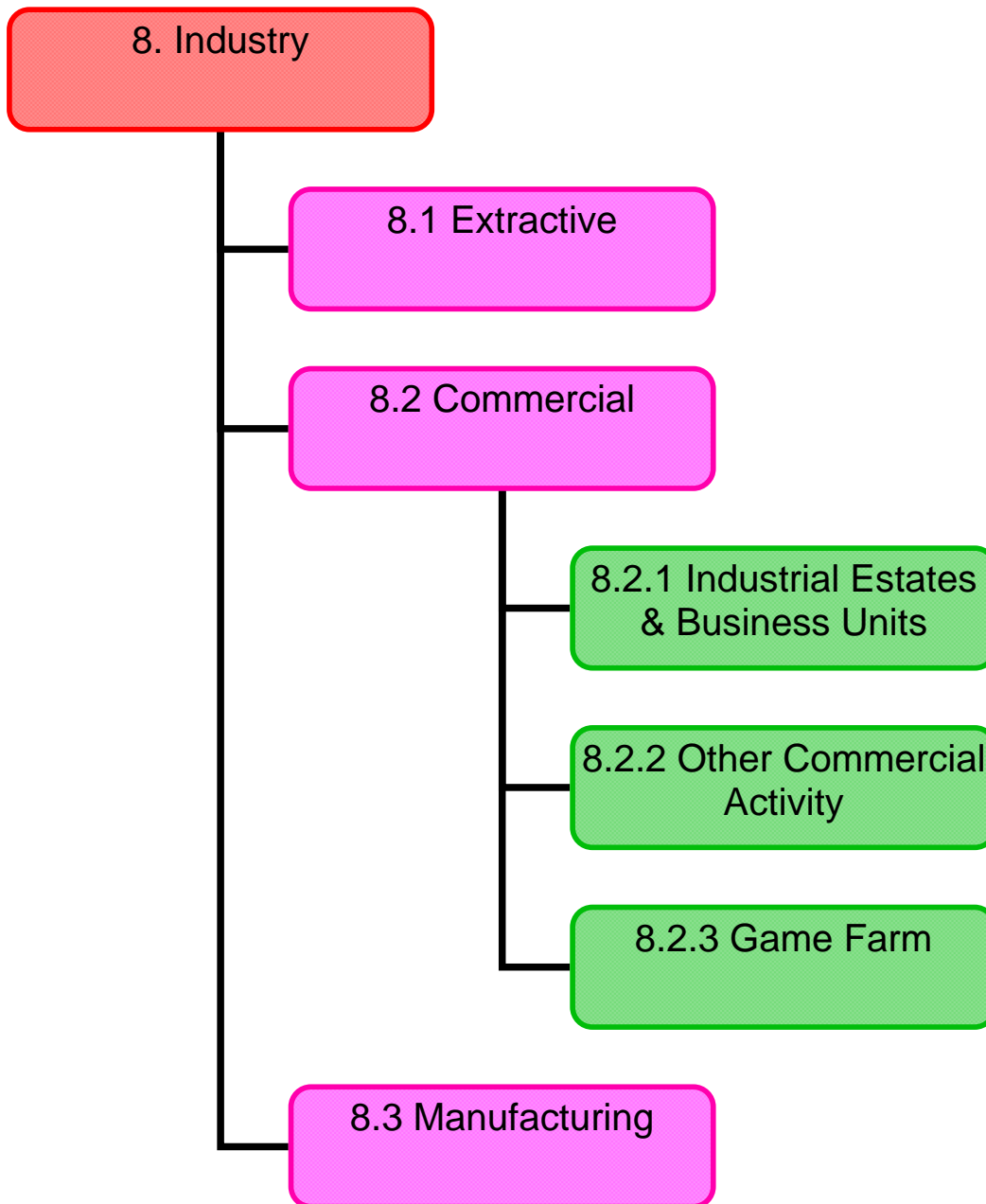
The industrial development of the AONB in the 20<sup>th</sup> century has followed a slightly different course, with the expansion of small scale commercial endeavours situated away from villages and farm complexes. This includes a wide range of activities including modern telecommunications, game farms, granaries and commercial chicken farming. Military activity is dealt with in a separate section.

The greatest impact has been from the creation of purpose built trading estates, business units and distribution centres with the importation of associated urban infrastructure, including new traffic systems, street lighting and signage. Examples can be found at Dinton and on the outskirts of Blandford.

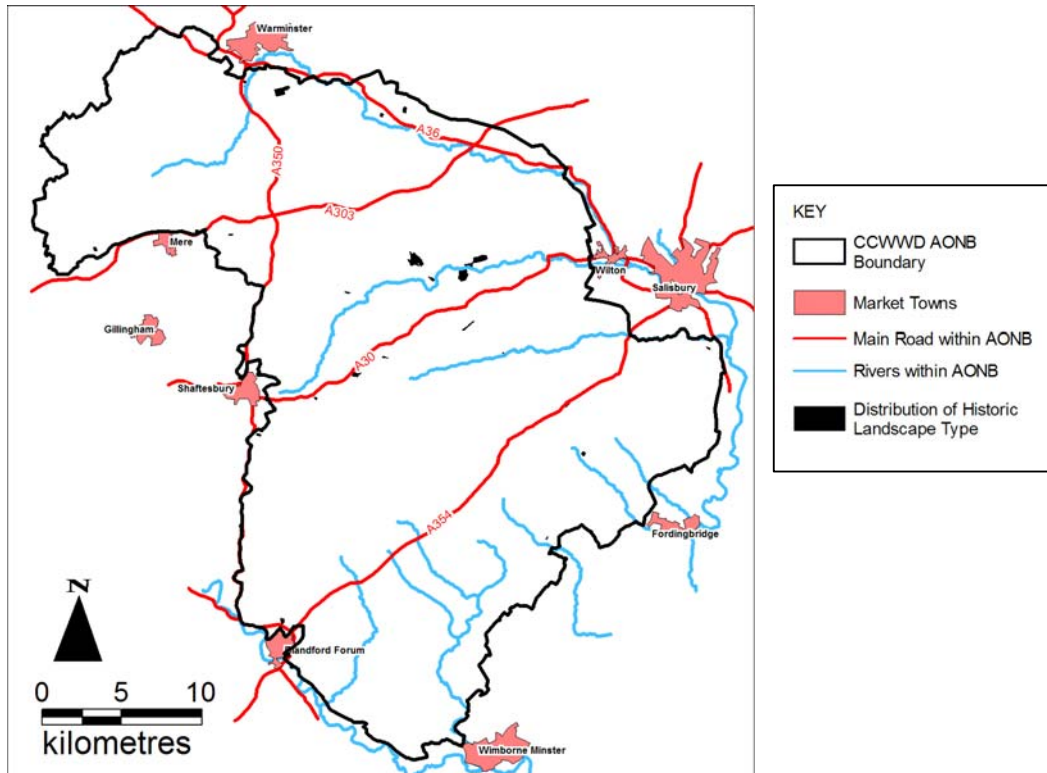


© Countryside Agency - Photographer Nick Smith 02-8119

Organisation Chart illustrating nested Historic Landscape Types



## Type 8 Industry



### Introduction

Areas set aside, or used in the past, for Industry. These have been identified on the modern day Ordnance Survey and aerial photographs. In the present day they account for 229 hectares or 0.22% of the AONB. They include sites for extraction, manufacturing and commercial ventures such as industrial estates. This project has only recorded those sites which are over 1 hectare so the individual location of smaller sites, such as disused lime kilns for example, would not have been recorded. In addition, only those sites which are clearly industrial have been recorded. For example, farm barns being used for industrial purposes would not be identified using this method, and would only be identified through ground truthing.

### Distribution

The identified industrial sites have restricted distributions, and tend to cluster in the Nadder and Wylde Valleys, or are sited along the routes of major roads, such as the A30.

### Principal Historical Processes

Some of the industry recorded in the AONB has a well established history. There is a long tradition of quarrying in the area and the majority of recorded quarries tending to be as early as post medieval in date and some even earlier. Other sites, such as industrial estates, are linked to a process of increasing industrialisation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and can be seen as a purely modern phenomenon.

## Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

This type features a wide range of morphologies but within each class there are similarities. The quarries, for example, are all associated with similar features that include disturbed ground and exposed stone faces. The more modern commercial sites are more varied, but are often associated with new roadways and other urban infrastructure, such as street lighting and power lines.



### Rarity

This type is scarce in the AONB and has a low impact on the landscape. Its impact in individual localities, however, can be high.

### Survival

The majority of the industry in the AONB is 20<sup>th</sup> century in date, and it represents an ongoing process. There are exceptions, such as the brick works near Dinton, which represent a previous type only.

### Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape, although the exact uses of some of the industrial sites may be unclear.

### Past interaction with other types

The type is associated with the modern edges of villages, and communication routes, including the river valleys, main roads and train lines. The location of extractive industry is also determined, of course, by the location of the stone or clay that is being worked.

### Evidence for time-depth

Just over half of the industrial sites retains traces of previous land uses. This would typically be on the edge of these sites and involved the survival of woodland or relic field boundaries. Traces of 10 relic quarries have also been recorded.

### Contribution to the present landscape character

The current level of impact of the industry in the AONB is currently very low.

### **Key Statistics**

Total Area:	229 hectares, 0.23% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 30 polygons, 0.68% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 7.66 hectares in size.
Occurrence:	Scarce.
Previous Coverage:	229 hectares, 0.23% of AONB was Industrial at the point when this type was at its most prevalent
Total Recorded Coverage:	The total recorded coverage of this type is 287 hectares, 0.29 % of the AONB.

### **Constituent Types**

[8.1 Extractive](#)

[8.2 Commercial](#)

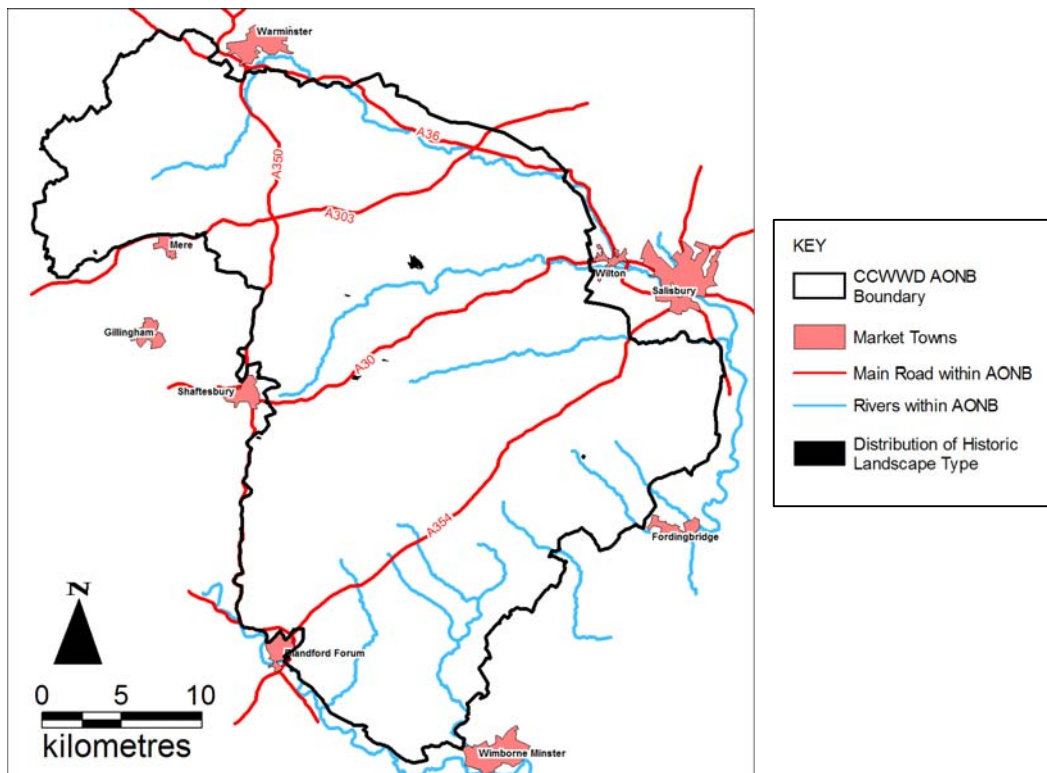
[8.3 Manufacturing](#)

### **Parent Type**

None



## Type 8.1 Extraction Sites



### Introduction

Areas set aside for the extraction of limestone, greensand and chalk. These have been identified on the modern day Ordnance Survey and aerial photographs. In the present day they account for 76.25 hectares or 0.08% of the AONB. The HLC has identified 3 locations where quarrying is ongoing, a group at Chilmark, at Mere and near to Melbury Abbas, and a further 5 disused quarries. The majority of these are less than 1 hectare in size, the exception being the Chilmark stone quarry which covers an area of 45 hectares.

### Distribution

Quarries or extraction sites have a very restricted distribution. They are primarily concentrated in the Vale of Wardour.

### Principal Historical Processes

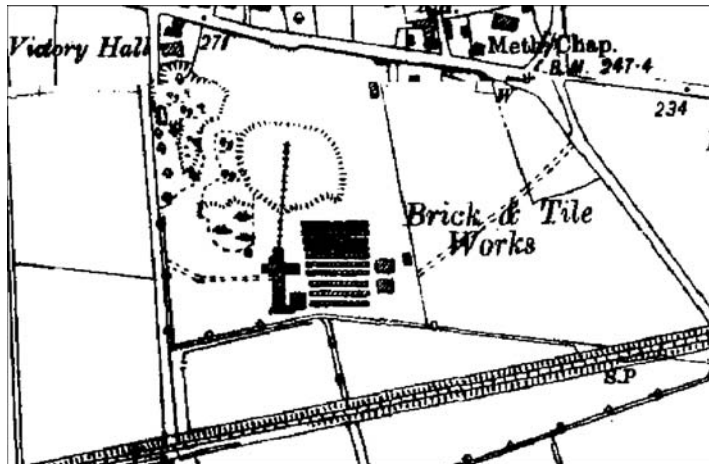
There is a long history of small scale extraction in the area. This has traditionally been, and remains to this day, very low impact. The largest groups of quarries at Chilmark are very restricted in their activities today and are also an important source of local traditional building materials. Chilmark stone is being used in ongoing restoration at Salisbury Cathedral. Similarly, the greensand stone quarry at Manor Farm near Melbury Abbas also provides a source of another traditional building material. There is a long tradition of quarrying in the area, the Pen Pits to the west of Zeals are collapsed pits covering 700 acres and are accepted as being pre-Norman quern quarries, probably of more than one period, extending back to the Iron Age



(Somerset HER Record 54382). The other recorded quarries tend to be at least as early as medieval in date and some, especially the flint and chalk pits, may be earlier. Further traces of 10 more quarries have been recorded as previous types which are now areas of woodland or settlement. Their locations follow the trend for these small quarries, located in the Vale of Wardour or on the greensand terrace, showing the importance placed on the local extraction of Chilmark stone and greensand stone in the past. This is supported by the high numbers of stone buildings in the Vale of Wardour. They also demonstrate the former importance of chalk quarries for the extraction of raw chalk and for the production of quick lime. This was an important resource which was used to counteract acidity on agricultural land. Finally, in the Wylve Valley the nature reserve of Langford Lakes came into existence as a result of gravel extraction at this location.

### **Typical Historical/Archaeological Components**

This type demonstrates some variety in size but the morphology is very similar, typical features include disturbed ground and exposed stone faces. The active quarries will feature heavy machinery, spoil heaps, access routes for HGVs and ancillary buildings. Disused quarries may be obscured by trees, scrubs and undergrowth.



### **Rarity**

This type occurs rarely in the AONB and has a low overall impact on the landscape. The extracted material is for local use only. It has a large impact on its immediate surroundings.

### **Survival**

Quarrying is an ongoing business in the AONB, with specialist and fairly secure markets, so it is likely that the remaining quarries will remain open in the near future.

### **Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components**

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape, although the relic quarries may be obscured by tree and scrub growth. Access would be limited for health and safety reasons.

### **Past interaction with other types**

The type is associated with other evidence of industrial activity in the landscape, including lime kilns and other manufacturing centres. They would have been historically important sources of raw material for construction in the surrounding villages and farms. This is demonstrated by the area known as The Quarry in Tisbury, which settlement has subsequently expanded into.

### **Evidence for time-depth**

Just under half of the quarry areas retain traces of previous land uses. This would typically be on the edge of the quarrying activity or affecting the siting of the quarrying and includes evidence of previous open land, woodland and even older pre 1800 fieldscapes.

### **Contribution to the present landscape character**

The current level of extraction in the AONB is primarily for local use, the quarries do have a large impact to the areas surrounding them. The three active quarries provide an important source of traditional locally sourced building materials, reflected to a degree in the forms of buildings found in local settlements, and so making a direct link between extractive industry and local landscape character.

### **Key Statistics**

Total Area:	76.25 hectares, 0.08% of the AONB.
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 10 polygons, 0.23% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 7.63 hectares in size.
Occurrence:	Rare.
Previous Coverage:	107.07 hectares, 0.11% of AONB was Quarries at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.
Total Recorded Coverage:	The total recorded coverage of this type is 129.9 hectares, 0.13 % of the AONB.

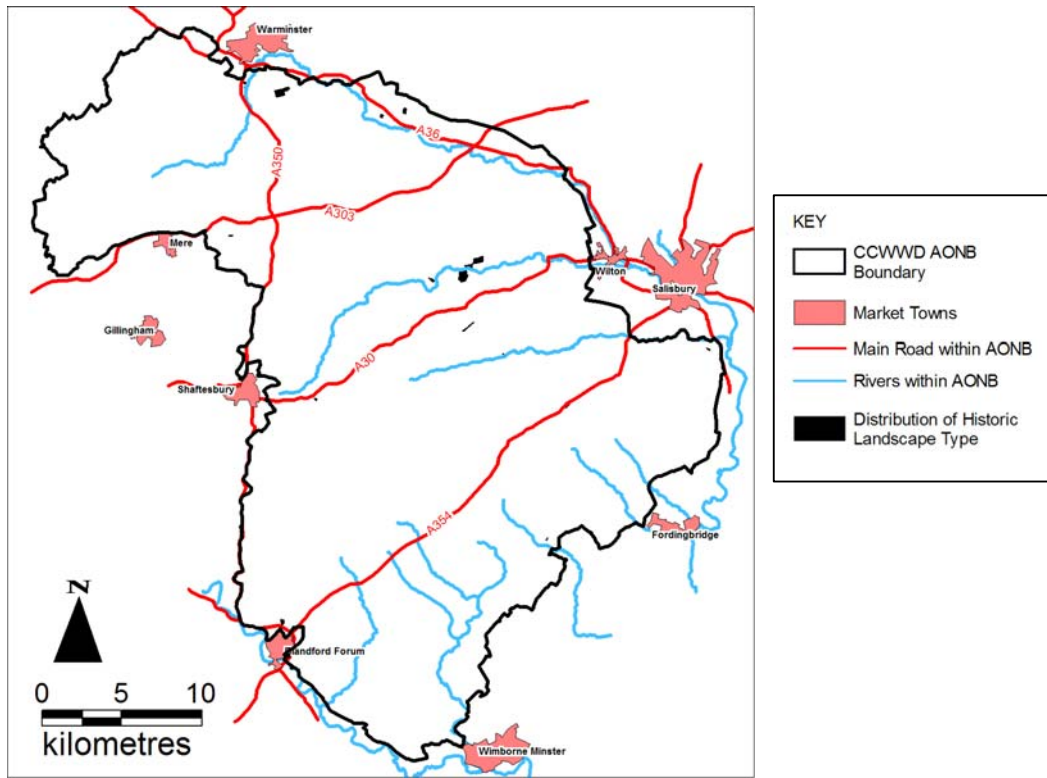
### **Constituent Types**

None

### **Parent Type**

[8. Industry](#)

## Type 8.2 Commercial



### Introduction

Areas created for commercial enterprises in the AONB, some of these sites derive from earlier MOD and farm use. These consist of business units, storage complexes, light industrial facilities, granaries, and high intensity farming practices. These all date to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and 19 sites have been recorded across the AONB. These have been identified on the modern day Ordnance Survey and aerial photographs. The majority of these sites are very small, less than 3 hectares, but there are two larger sites, one at Dinton and the other on the outskirts of Sutton Veny.

### Distribution

This type has a very restricted distribution occurring primarily in the Nadder and Wylde Valleys.

### Principal Historical Processes

These commercial sites are linked to a process of increasing industrialisation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They are often a direct result of the planning system and the zoning of activity within specific areas. They mark a departure from the historical pattern which would have seen small scale commercial endeavours occurring within villages or within existing farm complexes.

## Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

These demonstrate a range of morphologies but are often associated with new roadways and other urban infrastructure such as street lighting and power lines. Components include large standardised buildings, yards and parking areas.



### Rarity

This type is scarce in the AONB and has a generally low overall impact on the landscape. It can have a high local impact.

### Survival

These commercial ventures represent one of the most recent Historic Landscape Types in the AONB.

### Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape, although the exact use of a site may be unclear.

### Past interaction with other types

The type is often associated with other 20<sup>th</sup> century features, such as settlement, as well as other industrial types.

### Evidence for time-depth

Over 55% of the sites recorded maintain traces of previous land uses. These tend to be evidence for enclosed land or woodland. This represents evidence on the fringes of these sites, through the retention of old boundaries.

### Contribution to the present landscape character

In general this type has a negative impact on landscape character, introducing urban phenomenon into an otherwise rural setting.

### Key Statistics

Total Area:	147 hectares, 0.15% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 19 polygons, 0.48% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 7.75 hectares in size.

Occurrence: Scarce.

Previous Coverage: 147 hectares, 0.15% of AONB was Commercial at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.

Total Recorded Coverage: The total recorded coverage of this type is 147 hectares, 0.15 % of the AONB.

### **Constituent Types**

[8.2.1 Industrial Estate and Business Units](#)

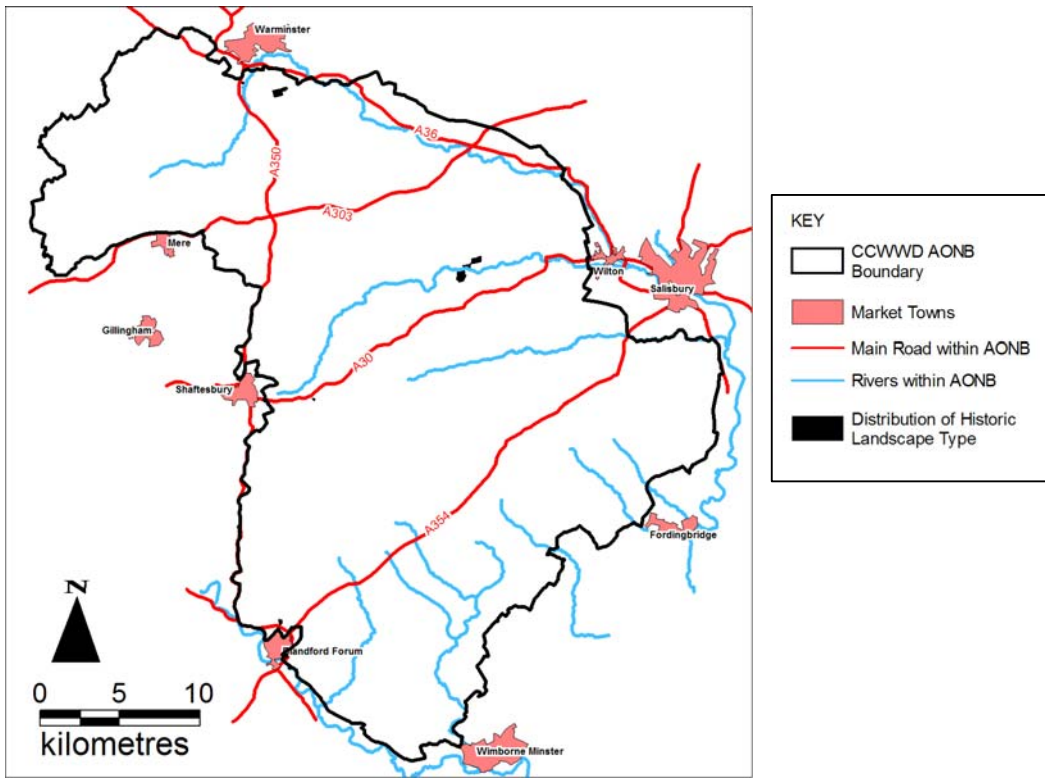
[8.2.2 Other Commercial Activity](#)

[8.2.3 Game Farm](#)

### **Parent Type**

[8. Industry](#)

## Type 8.2.1 Industrial Estate and Business Units



### Introduction: Defining/distinguishing Criteria

Areas set aside for the creation of business units, storage complexes and light industrial facilities, some of which have been created on MOD land. These all date to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and 7 sites have been recorded across the AONB. These have been identified on the modern day Ordnance Survey and aerial photographs. The majority of these units are very small, less than 2 hectares, but there are two large facilities one at Dinton and the other on the outskirts of Sutton Veny.

### Distribution

This type has a very restricted distribution, only occurring in 7 locations across the AONB.

### Principal Historical Processes

The creation of purpose built areas for light industry and business units is a late 20<sup>th</sup> century phenomenon in the AONB. They are a direct result of the planning system and the zoning of activity within specific areas. The creation of industrial estates occurs because they are seen as presenting the opportunity for new business opportunities, local employment, and the reuse of redundant sites, and allow for the provision of dedicated infrastructure.

## Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

Typical components include new evenly spaced buildings, new roadways and other urban infrastructure, such as street lighting and power lines.

### Rarity

This type is scarce in the AONB and has a general low impact on the landscape, apart from in the environs of Dinton where it has an obvious presence.



### Survival

Industrial Estates are modern phenomena and represent one of the most recent phases of land use history in the landscape of the AONB.

### Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape, although usually would only be visited by workers and customers.

### Past interaction with other types

The type is associated with other modern industrial phenomenon, including other types of commercial activity.

### Evidence for time-depth

Over half of the industrial estates/business units recorded maintain traces of previous land uses. This may be preserved in the area within which these units are sited, and through the retention of old boundaries. These traces include pre 20<sup>th</sup> century fields and woodland, and evidence for earlier industrial activity.

### Contribution to the present landscape character

In general this type has a negative impact on landscape character, introducing urban phenomenon into an otherwise rural setting.

### Key Statistics

Total Area:	118 hectares, 0.12% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 10 polygons, 0.23% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 11.82 hectares in size.



Occurrence: Scarce.

Previous Coverage: 118 hectares, 0.12% of AONB was Industrial Units at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.

Total Recorded Coverage: The total recorded coverage of this type is 118 hectares, 0.12% of the AONB.

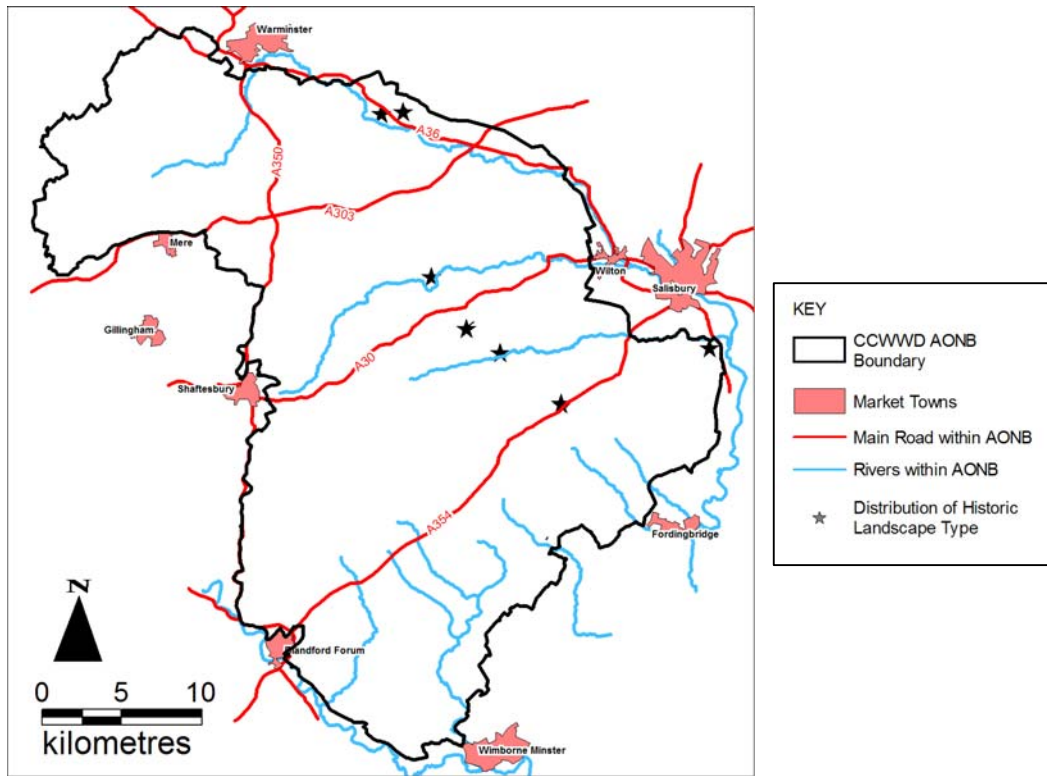
**Constituent Types**

None

**Parent Type**

[8.2. Commercial](#)

## Type 8.2.2 Other Commercial Activity



### Introduction

Commercial activity in the AONB, but which cannot be characterised as forming a purpose-built multi-occupancy business unit or industrial estate, with 8 sites being identified across the AONB. They have a broad spectrum of uses, including intensive chicken farming, crop research areas, large scale granaries and areas set aside for the erection of phone masts and other telecommunications infrastructure. The majority of these date to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, though one is early 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. These have been identified on the modern day Ordnance Survey, modern aerial photographs and through comparison with historic Ordnance Survey mapping.

### Distribution

This type has a very limited distribution but occurs to the North and East of the AONB alongside major roads or rivers.

### Principal Historical Processes

These commercial sites are linked to a process of increasing industrialisation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They mark a departure from the historical pattern which would have seen small scale commercial endeavours occurring within villages or within existing farm complexes.

## Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

Typical components include non residential buildings, hard standing for vehicles, new tracks and roads and other modern infrastructure, such as lighting and masts.



### Rarity

This type occurs rarely in the AONB and has a general overall low impact on the landscape; it has the potential to have a high impact in the immediate surroundings of where it is sited.

### Survival

These commercial ventures are a modern phenomenon and represent one of the most recent phases of land use in the landscape.

### Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape in the sense that it would present itself as a commercial venture; its exact use may be unclear.

### Past interaction with other types

The type is often associated with older farm complexes but tends to be situated away from the edges of settlement.

### Evidence for time-depth

Only one of these commercial sites preserves traces of previous land uses, occurring within a parliamentary field, the boundaries of which are preserved. The rest mark a departure from earlier land uses.

### Contribution to the present landscape character

In general, this type has the potential to have a negative impact on landscape character, introducing urban phenomena into a rural setting.

### Key Statistics

Total Area:	27.09 hectares, 0.03% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 8 polygons, 0.18% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 3.39 hectares in size.

Occurrence: Rare.

Previous Coverage: 27.09 hectares, 0.03 % of AONB was Commercial Units at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.

Total Recorded Coverage: The total recorded coverage of this type is 27.09 hectares, 0.03 % of the AONB.

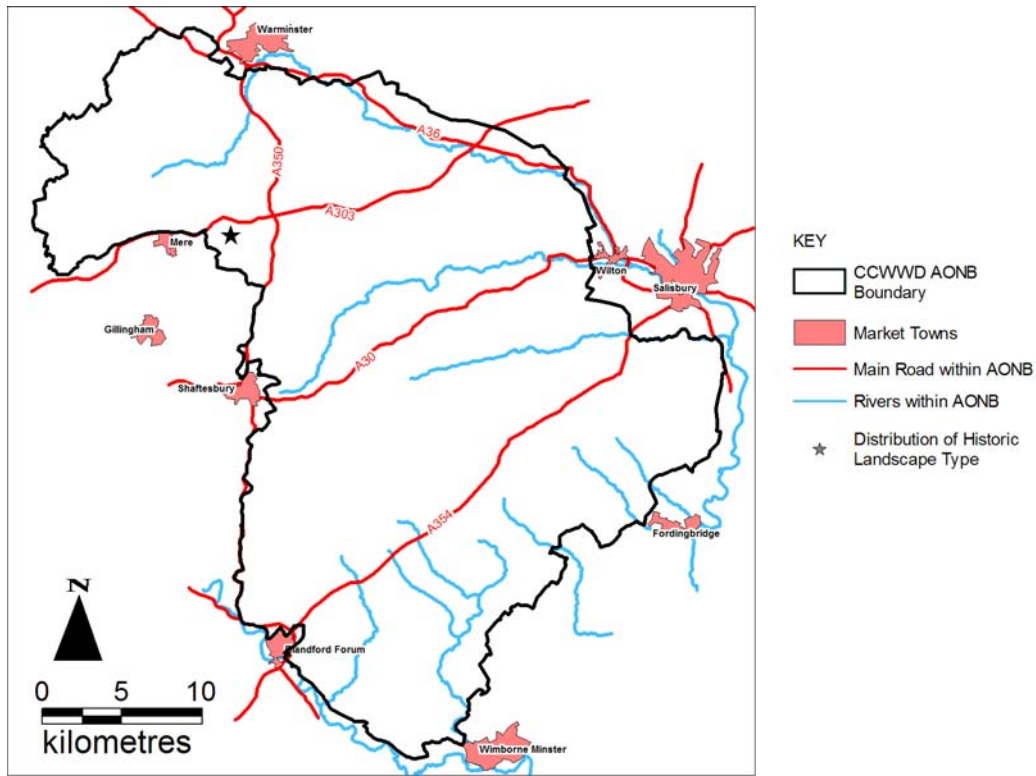
**Constituent Types**

None

**Parent Type**

[8.2. Commercial](#)

## Type 8.2.3 Intensive Game Farm



### Introduction

Late 20<sup>th</sup> century Game Farm at West Knolye, for the rearing of chicks and game birds. This has been identified from the modern day Ordnance Survey and modern aerial photographs. This farm represents a larger and more structured example of game rearing areas found on individual holdings.

### Principal Historical Processes

This commercial farm is linked to the rise in popularity of game shooting in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the AONB has a large number of both partridge and pheasant shoots.

### Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

Game farms lead to a very distinctive fenced field layout of regularly spaced small rectangular enclosures, approximately 25m by 15 m, with a track in the middle.

### Rarity

This type occurs very rarely in the AONB and has a low impact on the landscape in general; it has the potential to have a high impact in the immediate surroundings of where it is sited.

## Survival

This is a modern commercial venture and is likely to remain a feature of the landscape of the AONB for the foreseeable future.

## Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape in the sense that it would present itself as a commercial venture; its exact use may be unclear to outsiders.



## Past interaction with other types

This type has no interaction with other types.

## Evidence for time-depth

This type has no time depth and is a new imposition on the landscape.

## Contribution to the present landscape character

In general this type has a negligible impact on landscape character being very small in scale.

## Key Statistics

Total Area:	1.92 hectares, less than 0.01% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 1 polygon, 0.02% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 1.92 hectares in size.
Occurrence:	Very Rare.
Previous Coverage:	1.92 hectares, less than 0.01% of AONB was Game Farm at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.
Total Recorded Coverage:	The total recorded coverage of this type is 1.92 hectares, less than 0.01 % of the AONB.

## Constituent Types

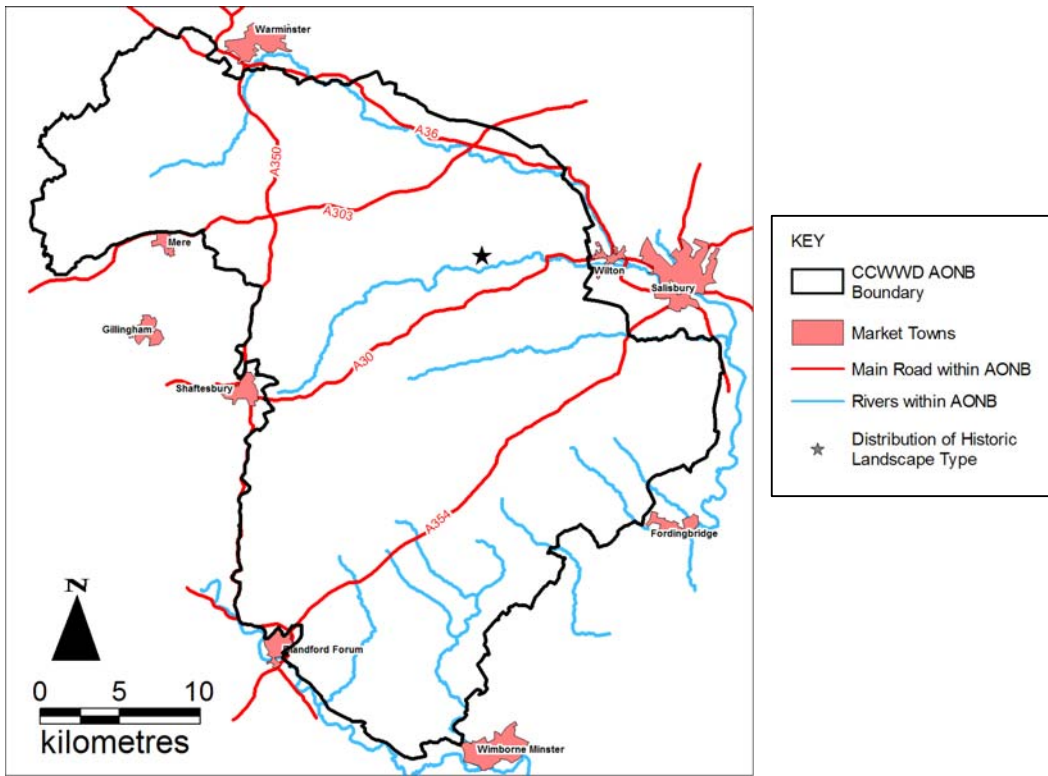
None

## Parent Type

### [8.2. Commercial](#)



## Type 8.3 Manufacturing



### Introduction: Defining/distinguishing Criteria

Footprint of old brickworks on the outskirts of Dinton used today for light industrial purposes.

### Principal Historical Processes

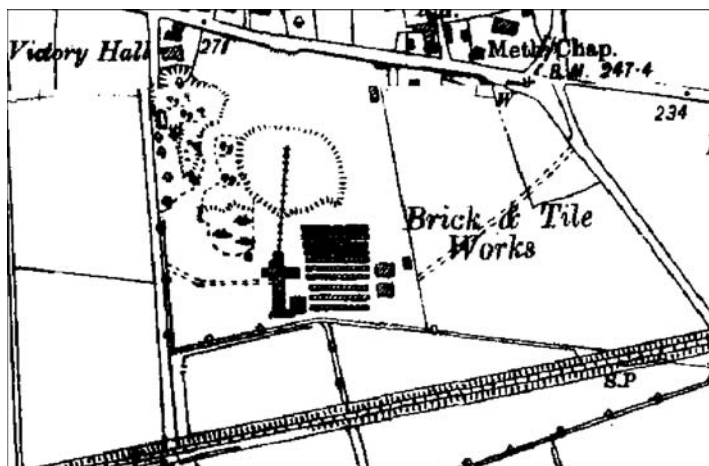
This surviving footprint of early 20<sup>th</sup> century relic brickworks is the only trace of large-scale manufacturing recorded in the dataset.

### Typical Historical/Archaeological Components

Industrial units, buildings and hard standing on the footprint of former brickworks with associated clay pit.

### Rarity

This type occurs rarely in the AONB and has a general low impact on the



landscape as it is very fragmentary, and today forms part of the wider Dinton Industrial Estate.

### **Survival**

The remains of the former brickworks are very fragmentary and are being obscured by modern commercial activity on the site.

### **Degree of surviving coherence of the historic landscape components**

This type would be very recognisable in the landscape in the sense that it would present itself as a commercial venture; its exact use may be unclear to outsiders.

### **Past interaction with other types**

This type has no interaction with other types.

### **Evidence for time-depth**

This type has no time depth and is a new imposition on the landscape.

### **Contribution to the present landscape character**

In general this type has a negligible impact on landscape character, being very small in scale.

### **Key Statistics**

Total Area:	6.21 hectares, 0.01% of the AONB
No. of Polygons:	This Subtype is comprised of 1 polygon, 0.02% of the total number of polygons digitised.
Av. Polygon Size:	Each polygon averages 6.21 hectares in size.
Occurrence:	Rare.
Previous Coverage:	6.21 hectares, 0.01 % of AONB was Brick Works at the point when this type was at its most prevalent.
Total Recorded Coverage:	The total recorded coverage of this type is 6.21 hectares, 0.01 % of the AONB.

### **Constituent Types**

None

### **Parent Type**

[8. Industry](#)