M2

Background  Area  Theme  Supplementary  Method

# Historic Environment
# Action Plans

## Creating and Describing
## Historic Environment Areas

This document forms part of a suite of documents which together comprise the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Historic Environment Action Plans.

The HEAPs provide a summary of the key characteristics of the historic environment of the AONB at a landscape scale, they then set out the significance, condition and forces for change affecting the historic fabric and character of this special landscape and identify proactive actions to conserve and enhance these special characteristics. These summaries are divided into two groups:

1.    Summaries of the historic environment of the AONB by area
2.    Summaries of the historic environment of the AONB by theme

These core documents are accompanied by documents which provide background information, supplementary information and detail on the methodologies used to create these documents.

A series of icons help you navigate this suite of documents:

**Background** - Provides an introduction to the AONB Historic Environment Action Plans and provides background information on the history and archaeology of the landscape **(B1 to B10)**

**Area** - Summarises key characteristics of discrete geographical areas within the AONB, they then set out the significance, condition and forces for change affecting the historic fabric and character of each area and identify proactive actions to conserve and enhance its characteristics **(A1 to A12)**

**Theme** - Summarises key characteristics of historic environment themes, each document then sets out the significance, condition and forces for change affecting the historic fabric and character of each theme and identify proactive actions to conserve and enhance its characteristics **(T1 to T14)**

**Supplementary** - A series of documents which explore supplementary issues of relevance to the Historic Environment Action Plans **(S1 to S2)**

**Method** - Introduces the methodology behind the production of the Historic Environment Action Plans **(M1 to M3)**

## Contents

## Summary

*The Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB has created Historic Environment Action Plans for the AONB landscape. The action plan at the core of this work was derived from newly created summaries of the key characteristics of the historic environment in the AONB. These summaries set out the significance, condition and forces for change affecting the historic fabric and character of this special landscape. These summaries were divided into two groups:*

1. *Summaries of the historic environment of the AONB by historic character area*
2. *Summaries of the historic environment of the AONB by theme*

*This document outlines the process through which the summaries of the AONB by historic landscape character area were created.*

*It outlines existing methodologies for creating historic character areas, trials various approaches before describing the final methodology which was adopted by the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB. It then goes on to outline the process through which the written descriptions for each Historic Character Areas were prepared.*

## Introducing Historic Character Areas

**The creation of Historic Character Areas provides a method of consolidating historic characterisation data, and other sources such as Historic Environment Records into a more generalised dataset based on geographically specific areas.**

All historic characterisations (landscape, urban or seascape) form detailed, often complex, datasets which record the historic dimension of the present day. This complexity derives from the interrelation of several factors:

1. The characterisation dataset is often formed of many thousands of individual parcels of land each associated with a large amount of data.
2. The primary unit of these characterisations often called the Historic Landscape Character Type is usually not geographically specific. They often occur across the full geographical range of any given landscape. This forms a complex spatial pattern of interrelated types.
3. More recent characterisations record information on previous as well as present character

It is sometimes desirable to rework the datasets to provide a synthesis of the complex characterisation based on discrete geographical areas. This can be undertaken for three main reasons:

1. To allow the broad assessment of the historic and archaeological dimensions of the landscape.
2. To create areas that can be more easily engaged with and recognised by local people.
3. To aid in the creation of Historic Environment Action Plans and other management tools.

The creation of Historic Character Areas has often been used as a first step in the study of sensitivity and significance of a given area or the creation of wider Historic Environment Characterisations (see Existing Methodologies below).

***Once an Historic Character Area has been identified it needs to be accompanied by text which identifies and describes the main characteristics of each area.***

This description should include both the nationally important and unique but also commonplace and locally distinctive. It should encapsulate the main features of the Historic Environment in its widest form and include both the archaeological and historical, the very old and the more recent. It should aim to be comprehensive but also in the interests of usability concise. The descriptions for each area should be consistent in order to allow easy communication. They should also capture the imagination of the reader, creating a mental picture of the area in question.

### Existing Methodologies for creating Historic Landscape Character Areas

A literature review of projects which have created Historic Character Areas demonstrates that a wide range of approaches has been used. These approaches are summarised in Table One.

The first thing that this review reveals is that existing projects which have created Historic Character Areas which have very different stated aims have utilised similar methodologies in their creation. This means that whatever the particular driver for the creation of Historic Character Areas (HCAs), the methodology adopted need not be radically different as the aim of synthesising the given historic characterisation remains the same.

*Table One: Historic Environment Projects which have created Historic Character Areas*

| Name | Who? | When? | What? | Why? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Historic Seascape Characterisation (HSC) Method Statement** | English Heritage & Cornwall County Council *(Tapper, B.)* | 2008 | Methodology for future Historic Seascape Characterisation (HSC) | To produce consolidated HSC method for whole coastline and UK controlled waters |
| **Historic Seascape Characterisation Scarborough to Hartlepool** | English Heritage & Cornwall CC *(Val Baker, M. et.al.)* | 2007 | Pilot HSC for a particular stretch of coastline | Provide historic environment context for traditional records |
| **Historic Seascape Characterisation Liverpool Bay** | Wessex Archaeology | 2006 | Pilot HSC | Develop New methodology for HSC |
| **Historic Environment Character Assessment** | Staffordshire County Council | 2008 (draft) | Overview of Historic Environment | To integrate HLC and HER – Analysed for Significance |
| **Isle of Wight HEAP** | Historic Environment Service for Isle of Wight Council | 2008 | Historic Environment Action Plan | Management of historic Environment |
| **Black Country HLC** | Wolverhampton City Council *(Quigley, P.)* | 2007 | Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) | To allow wider generalisations to be produced based on the fine grain HLC |
| **West Berkshire HEAPS** | West Berkshire Archaeological Service *(Conway, M. Unpub.)* | 2006 (draft) | Historic Environment Action Plans | To provide a more comprehensive account of the historic environment resource |
| **Rochford District Historic Environment Characterisation** | Essex County Council | 2006 | Create Historic Environment Characterisation | Tool for input into Local Development Framework (LDF), facilitate conservation and enhancement |
| **Vale of Aylesbury Historic Environment assessment** | Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service | 2005 | Analysis of sensitivity to major development feed into Environmental Character Assessment | Management of development with Growth Areas |
| **Milton Keynes Urban Expansion Historic Environment Assessment** | English Heritage | 2004 | HLC combined with HER data to undertake location assessments | Preparation of LDF, assessment of impact of proposed growth area |

3

| Name | Who? | When? | What? | Why? |
|------|------|-------|-------|------|
| **Thames Gateway Historic Environment Characterisation** | Chris Blandford Associates | 2004 | New Methodology for combining HLCAs, archaeological resource and urban landscape | Overview of character and sensitivity to major development to influence strategic and detailed response to proposed change. Also feed into detailed local characterisations |
| **Kent HLC** | Oxford Archaeology Unit | 2001 | HLC | Enable analysis of HLC data |
| **Devon HLC** | Sam Tuner | 2007 | HLC | Historic character areas used to look at generic patterns |
| **Cornwall HLC** | Cornwall CC *(P Herring)* | 1998 | HLC | HLAs used to inform Cornwall LCA |

Analysis and study of these methodologies has led to the identification of five broad approaches which have been utilised by the various projects:

> Approach 1 – Using personal perception and engagement with the landscape
> Approach 2 – Using the analysis of the attributes of Historic Landscape Character Types
> Approach 3 – Using broad understanding of an area's historical development
> Approach 4 – Using boundaries of existing areas, such as Landscape Character Areas
> Approach 5 – Using Homogeneity and dominant Historic Landscape Types

All these approaches take an existing Historic Landscape/Urban/Seascape Characterisation as their starting point when identifying Historic Character Areas. In some instances other datasets such as HER data were subsequently used to modify these areas or alternatively this additional data was not used until the areas were split into sub-areas. The division of areas into sub-areas or zones is not undertaken by every methodology and is not always undertaken systematically. It is often used to provide greater detail or refinement for targeted areas. Many projects use a combination of more than one or all of the five approaches.

Discussions of the character of areas created by these approaches often focus upon their relative 'heterogeneity' versus 'homogeneity', that is to say whether it is comprised of different Historic Landscape Character Types (heterogeneous) or of similar or identical Historic Landscape Character Types (homogeneous). The different approaches differ in their emphasis on the relative importance on the similarities and differences both within areas and between them.

Regarding the boundaries of any given area created. Some projects have applied soft or fuzzy boundaries to the edge of HCAs. Some projects' HCAs boundaries do not tie in with the Historic Landscape Character Type boundaries. In the earliest example creating HCAs from HLC, in Cornwall, the possibility of creating areas with overlapping boundaries was also considered (Herring 2008).

**Assessing the different methodologies for the creation of Historic Character Areas**

In order to assess these different methodologies, and the differences between the areas which they created each methodology was applied to a sample area of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Historic Landscape Characterisation.

*Figure 2: Map of the AONB showing location of the Trial Area*
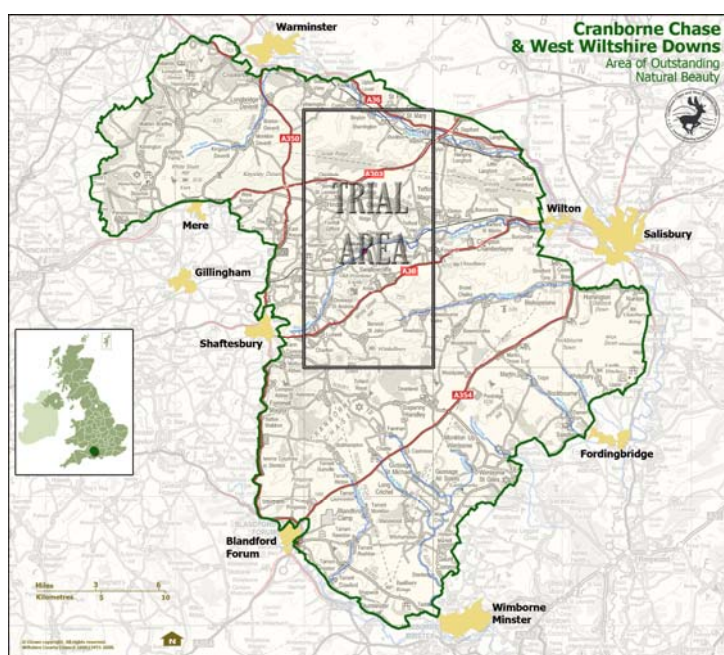


The sample area crossed a range of landscape character areas and Historic Landscape Character Types (HLCTs). It also encompassed an area – the Vale of Wardour – with the greatest range of HLCTs. This area is very complex and heterogeneous in character, and therefore provided a good of test of how well each approach deals with an area of complex historic character.



**Approach 1 – Using personal perception and engagement with the landscape**

This approach argues that Historic Character Areas should be based on personal perception and an overview of the historic character of the area.

This would be achieved through consultation and engagement with local people and other key stakeholders.

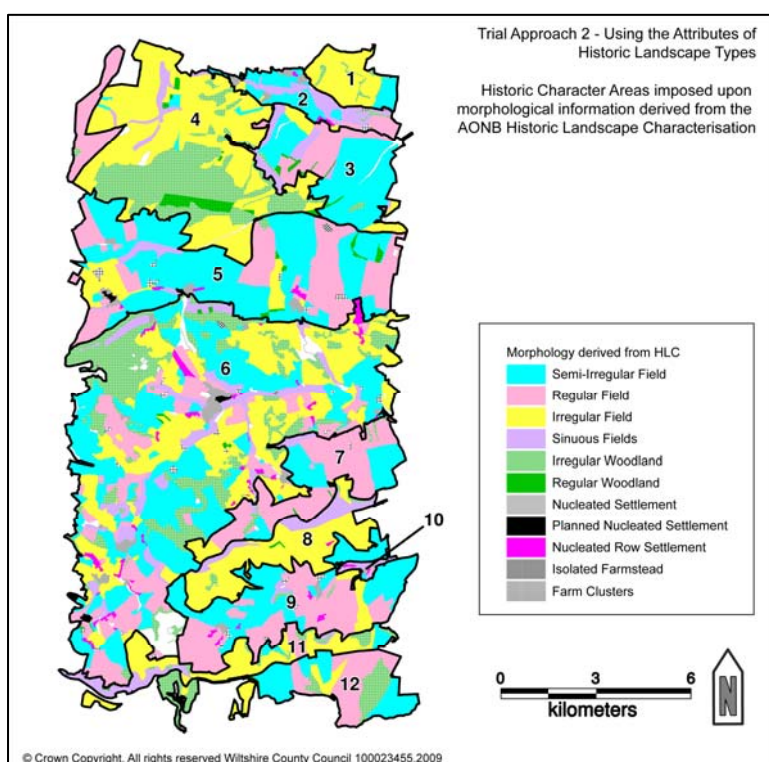(See *Val Baker et.al. 2007; Herring 1998; Tapper 2008*)

The positive attributes of this approach are that it provides an opportunity to involve wider communities.

It is the most difficult approach to replicate as a trial without undertaking lengthy public consultation. The trial used as a proxy, groupings of modern parishes, replicating the idea of neighbourhood 'areas' – within which an individual would have an intimate relationship with the landscape in which they live.

The first issue with such an approach is to define exactly who would be the target of any consultation. For example, local people already engaged with parish councils may identify very different areas than those from other subsections of the community. In addition visitors to the area or those who regularly interact with the landscape in question but do not live within it may have a more wide ranging perception of the landscape but less ability to recognise individual facets and may identify very different areas. There is also the problem of a lack of an objective view of the historic environment and the resultant inability to justify coherence of area or reason for choice. Any individuals consulted would bring their own implicit perceptions of value which may be difficult to qualify and which could vary widely.

The ability of Historic Character Areas to provide a more understandable synthesis of Historic Landscape Characterisation data would also be lessened as the areas created might not engage directly with this data as a starting point.

The creation of character areas using such a top down approach has been undertaken for the Scarborough to Hartlepool Historic Seascape Characterisation (Val Baker et.al. 2007). However despite the fact that these areas are described in the related report as unique areas that local people may recognise and readily identify with the areas themselves were not been created in consultation with local people. The practicalities of undertaking this approach remain therefore untested



Trial Approach 2 - Using the Attributes of Historic Landscape Types

Historic Character Areas imposed upon morphological information derived from the AONB Historic Landscape Characterisation

Morphology derived from HLC
- Semi-Irregular Field
- Regular Field
- Irregular Field
- Sinuous Fields
- Irregular Woodland
- Regular Woodland
- Nucleated Settlement
- Planned Nucleated Settlement
- Nucleated Row Settlement
- Isolated Farmstead
- Farm Clusters

0    3    6
kilometers    N

**Approach 2 - Using the analysis of the attributes of Historic Landscape Character Types**

This approach would create character areas which are amalgamations of similar sub attributes of Historic Landscape Character Types (e.g. field morphology, boundary loss and gain).

This results in areas which are homogenous in character. This method was used in seascape characterisation, but if extrapolated to HLC an

area could be created based on the occurrence of fields with a similar morphology. If large homogenous areas existed place name evidence would be used instead. One study used the visible attributes of the heritage to guide the creation of HCAs.

*(*See *Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service 2005; Wessex Archaeology 2006)*

This approach can also draw on other facets of the Historic Landscape Characterisation dataset such as the degree of boundary loss and gain.

The positive aspects of this approach are that the characteristics used to define each area can be clearly seen in the landscape and can be closely associated with a systematically gathered dataset, increasing confidence in the usefulness of the areas.

More problematic aspects of the approach are that areas of landscape grouped together may not have a



Trial Approach 2 - Using the Attributes of Historic Landscape Types

Historic Character Areas with amount of boundary loss and gain

Boundary Changes 1880 to present
Boundary Loss
Boundary Gain

0    3    6
kilometers

© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved Wiltshire County Council 100023455.2009

common historical trajectory. Over a large scale groupings may include such diverse HLCTs as 20th century enclosure and regular pre 1800 enclosure which have arisen at different times and for different historical reasons. More generally the identification of HLCTs involved the grouping together of areas of land with similar morphology and historic development. This approach for the creation of HCAs only focuses on one aspect of this process, which means that time depth and historic process are not taken into account. This approach picks up major groupings of boundary loss and gain relating to landscape change since 1880 but is less effective at identifying older groupings of fields. In addition areas of landscape which have experienced piecemeal change or spasmodic change and therefore are more mixed in character would not be effectively characterised.
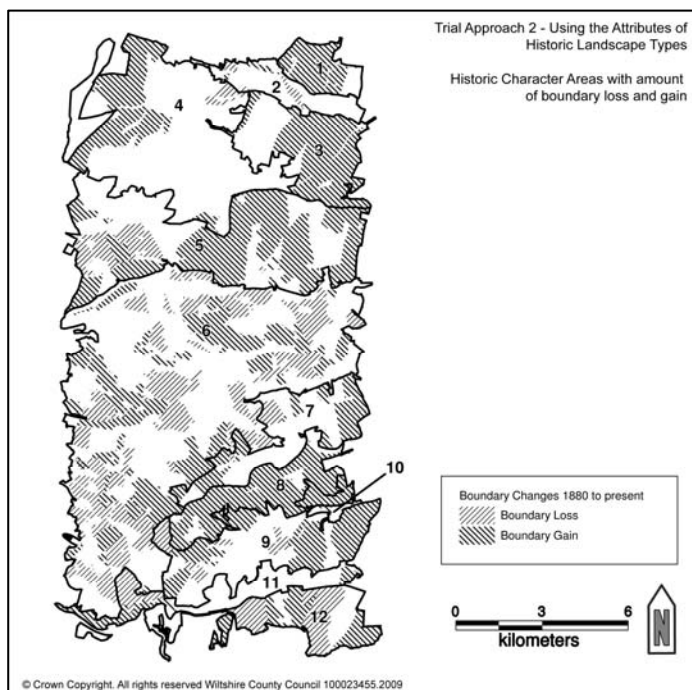
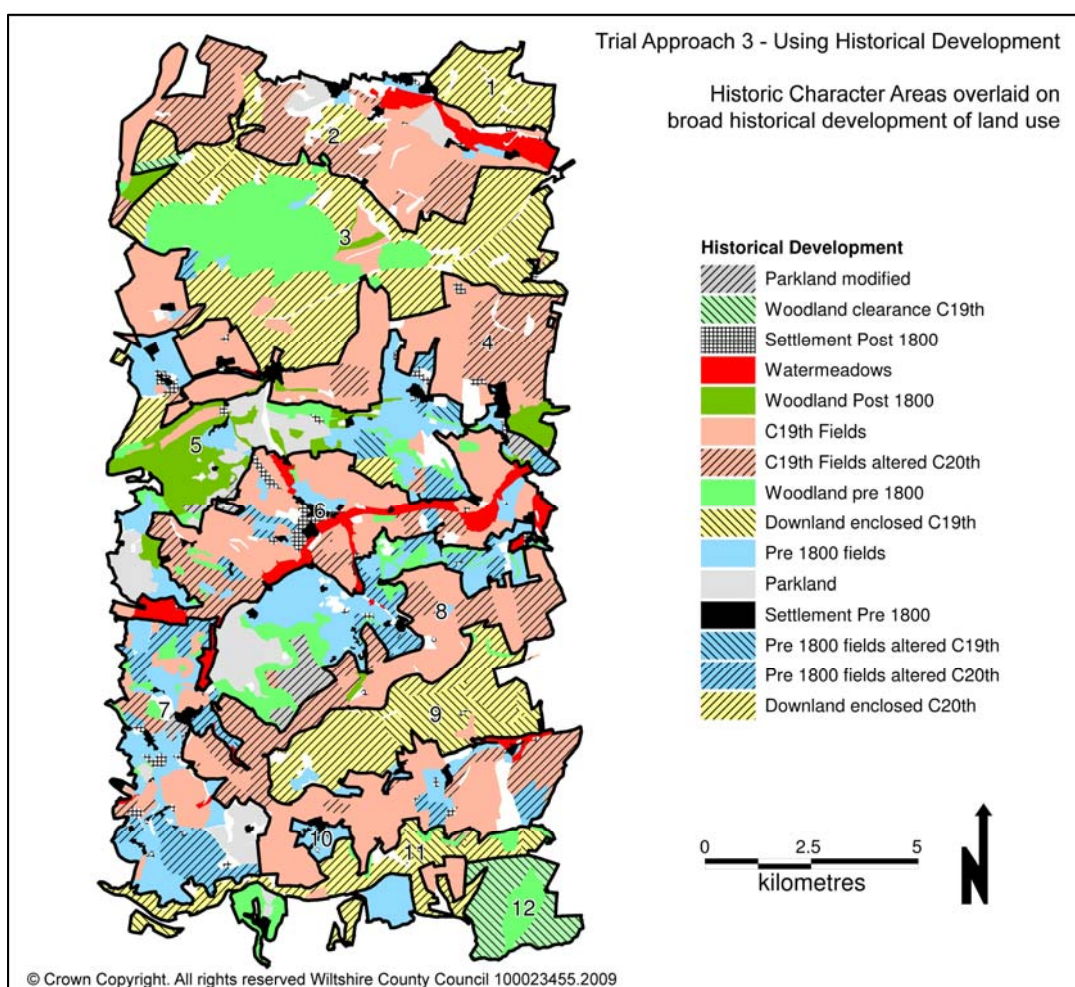**Approach 3 – Using broad understanding of an area's historical development**

This approach identifies contiguous areas which have undergone the same broad historical development. The resultant Historic Character Areas could be either heterogeneous or homogenous in character. For example an area of landscape might be identified that represents the creation of regular enclosures in the 18th and 19th Century which has obscured earlier traces of land use, in contrast an area of landscape might be identified which has a mixed pattern of pre 1800 Historic Landscape Types, such as common land, ancient fields and veteran woodland..

A possible variant of this approach is to combine particular kinds of historical development, e.g. enclosure patterns, with other factors such as geology and topography.

(See *Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service 2005; Conway Unpublished; Essex County Council 2006; Isle of Wight 2008b; Staffordshire County Council 2008*)

This approach creates fairly complex areas which can be combined into non contiguous areas or areas which combine a range of different historical trajectories (for example, 18th Century Landscape Parkland, surrounded by downland enclosed in the 20th century). Some of the areas created may cut across topography and landscape character areas, as some of the most dominant groupings of historical development, for example Parliamentary Enclosure, can represent large scale enclosure imposed on the landscape.

The positive aspects of this approach are that the key elements of Historic Landscape Character are emphasised – time depth and historic process. It also clearly differentiates between areas where a single historic landuse dominates versus areas of landscape which display a more mixed range of human activities and more evidence of timedepth. The more problematic aspects of this approach are that areas which have undergone piecemeal change or different kinds of change over a long period may not be recognised. In addition the groupings may not represent the visually dominant historic character of the landscape as it appears today.



Trial Approach 3 - Using Historical Development

Historic Character Areas overlaid on broad historical development of land use

**Historical Development**
- Parkland modified
- Woodland clearance C19th
- Settlement Post 1800
- Watermeadows
- Woodland Post 1800
- C19th Fields
- C19th Fields altered C20th
- Woodland pre 1800
- Downland enclosed C19th
- Pre 1800 fields
- Parkland
- Settlement Pre 1800
- Pre 1800 fields altered C19th
- Pre 1800 fields altered C20th
- Downland enclosed C20th

8

**Approach 4 - Using boundaries of existing areas, such as Landscape Character Areas**

Many of the projects analysed used existing boundaries such as Landscape Character Areas, Local Authority Boundaries or Parish Boundaries. These could be adopted unaltered or alternatively newly created areas could be subsequently adjusted or divided to fit within existing administrative boundaries. Such boundaries are often important to enable the practical adoption of areas or to allow comparison with existing datasets such as Landscape Character Assessment.
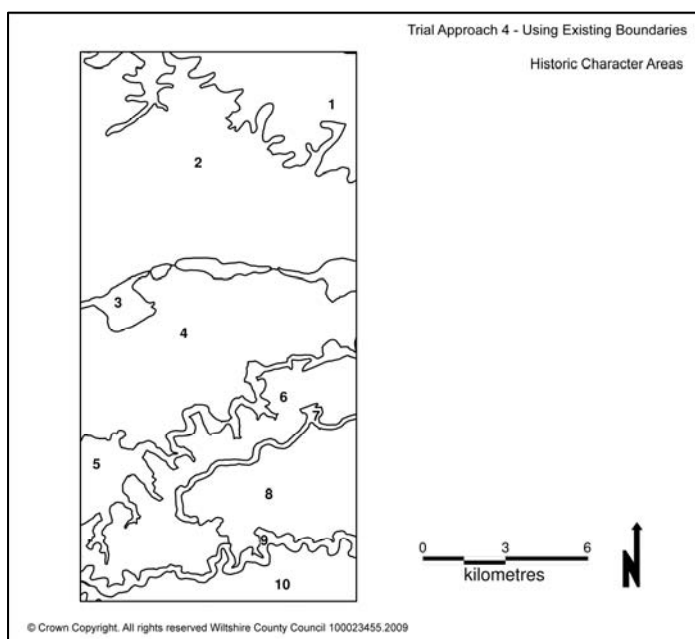


The positive aspects of this approach are that the mapping is familiar to many users and can exist within existing administrative boundaries. The more problematic aspects of this approach are that it does not reflect the underlying usefulness of the characterisation approach and may not have a close fit with any other aspect of the historic landscape. It may therefore be more effective to apply one of the other approaches and then subsequently overlay the existing boundaries needed and make justifications for or against the changes needed to make them match. This would lead to a more detailed understanding of how and why the identified areas differ.

(See *Conway Unpublished; Herring 1998; Isle of Wight 2008b; Quigley 2007*)

**Approach 5 – Homogeneity and dominant Historic Landscape Types**

This approach creates areas based on the most commonly occurring (or dominant) single aspect of the historic landscape as recorded in mapping of a category, broad type, or historic landscape type. The argument is that "the success of a system of character areas might be measured by the extent to which each area captures the distinctive feature or features of an individual part of the landscape" *(Quigley 2007: 3)*. Several approaches have aggregated settlement as a first step. In one instance the areas were subsequently subdivided using the occurrence of less 'common' types.

The process of undertaking this approach is to group together areas which are homogenous in character e.g. Area 1 or 3 representing an area of 20th century fields, leaving areas such as Area 2 which are much more mixed in character. The approach creates a fairly complex pattern of areas which could be combined into non contiguous areas or into areas which group together a range of present day character types.
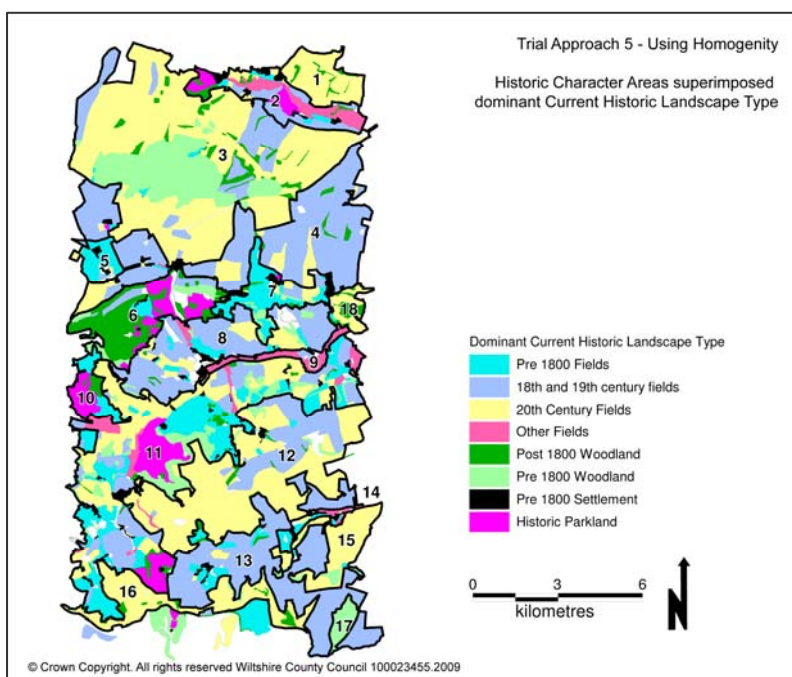
The positive aspects of this approach are that the areas created visually recognisable in the landscape, and can be easily explained and justified.

The more problematic aspects of that approach are the identification of parts of the landscape that have experienced piecemeal change or spasmodic change and are heterogeneous in character.

(See for example: *Chris Blandford Associates 2004; Conway Unpublished; Essex County Council 2006; Quigley 2007; Turner 2007; Herring 1998*)

**Relationship between the areas identified by the five approaches and the AONB Landscape Character Assessment areas**

*The AONB has already commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment which it has promoted widely. It is therefore interested in the 'fit' between any proposed HCAs and the Landscape Character Areas.*

Focusing on the approaches which derive their areas directly from the Historic Landscape Characterisation Dataset shows a range of visual 'fit' with the Landscape Character Assessment.

Approach Two (HLC attributes) provides a fairly good fit with Landscape Character Areas perhaps due to the fact that morphological and topographical considerations are often interrelated



However Approaches Three (Historical Development) and Five (Homogeneity) fit less well. This reflects the complexity of the Historic Landscape Characterisation data with the West Wiltshire Downs, for example, being divided into several areas.
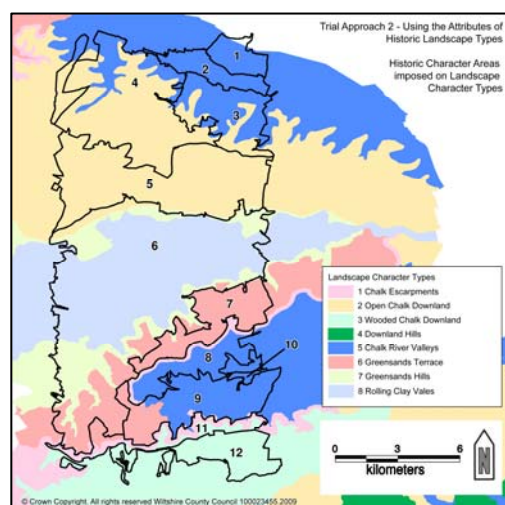
**Existing methodologies for describing Historic Character Areas**

A literature review of projects which have created and described Historic Character Areas demonstrates the wide range of attributes that have been captured. These approaches are summarised in Table Two. Unsurprisingly the most recent description of Historic Character Areas undertaken for the Isle of Wight HEAP is the most comprehensive. This is due to the fact that the creation of Historic Character Areas involves a continually evolving methodology. The descriptions outlined here similarly follow this more comprehensive approach.

As these descriptions represent a final product there is not a clear separation between the separate the descriptive elements *'the what, and the where,'* e.g. Historical Development, from the analytical *'the so what'*. The actual process of creating the descriptions, however, should consist of two separate steps. The first step is a descriptive process, which for example describes the heritage designations present in an area, or the features which are of particular value to a community drawn from parish plans. The second step is to start to draw inferences from these descriptions about appropriate actions which may be undertaken. This second step will have the effect of imposing, if not values, then priorities onto a given piece of landscape. This document aims to outline a transparent method through which the first step is undertaken where the features of a given area are *described,* before the process of creating Historic Environment Action Plans is begun

*Table Two: Historic Environment Projects which have created Historic Character Areas*

| | Summary | Legal Designations | Geology | Topography | Current Character | Previous Character | Use | Historic Development | Archaeological Potential | Relationship to other | Time-depth | Research, Documentation | Amenity, Education | Perceptions, Values | Vulnerability, coherence, rarity, condition | Forces for Change* | Management Issues* | References |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Black Country HLC (*Quigley; 2007* | x | x | x | x | x | x | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scarborough – Hartlepool HSC (*Val Baker et.al: 2007*) | | | x | x | x | | | x | | x | | | | | | | | |

| | Summary | Legal Designations | Geology | Topography | Current Character | Previous Character | Use | Historic Development | Archaeological Potential | Relationship to other | Time-depth | Research, Documentation | Amenity, Education | Perceptions, Values | Vulnerability, coherence, rarity, condition | Forces for Change* | Management Issues* | References |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Liverpool Bay HSC *(Wessex Archaeology 2006)* | | | | | x | x | x | | | | | | | x | | | | x |
| Isle of Wight HEAP *(Isle of Wight Council: 2008)* | x | x | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | |
| West Berkshire HEAPs *(Conway: Unpub)* | | | x | x | x | x | | | x | | | | | | | | x | |
| Rochford HEC *(Essex CC: 2006)* | x | | | | x | x | | | x | | | | | | | | | |
| Thames Gateway HLCA *(Chris Blandford Associates: 2004)* | | | x | x | x | x | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aylesbury HEA *(Bucks CC: 2005)* | | x | | | x | x | | | | | | | | | x | | x | |
| Cornwall HLZs *(Herring: 1998)* | x | | | | x | x | | x | | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | |
| Lichfield DC HECA *(XXX;XXX)* | x | x | | | | | | x | | | | x | x | | x | | x | |

12

### Formulating a new approach to the creation of Historic Character Areas

The methodological review and trial of the various approaches used to create HCAs has been combined to formulate a new approach to the creation of Historic Character Areas.

### Guiding Principles

Based on the above analysis of the potential ways of creating Historic Character Areas, and the review of methodologies used in their creation it is possible to suggest a series of fundamental principles which should underlie the creation of any Historic Character Areas. These follow closely the guiding principles of both Historic Seascape and Historic Landscape Characterisation.

- Each area should reflect a unique locally distinctive part of the wider landscape with its own particular characteristics and historical trajectory
- It is the historic aspects of the present day landscape which in the first instance defines each areas, with subsequent reference made to factors such as groundcover or topography
- One of the most crucial characteristic of any area is its time depth.
- All parts of any given area are important, not just special or designated sites, though the quality of a given area is also crucial.
- The boundaries and characteristics of any area should be derived from the available historic characterisation dataset
- The process of the creation and subsequent description of HCAs should be transparent and easily understandable
- Wider public perceptions of areas should be considered where feasible alongside more expert views

In addition a balance needs to be struck between capturing the detailed information available from the Historic Landscape Characterisation and maintaining an overview of the area as a whole. This is mirrored by the balance struck between using an expert view and incorporating a wider range of viewpoints

### General Approach

The attributes used to identify an area should reflect the key information available in the Historic Characterisation, that is data on the present day historic landscape character and the surviving evidence of the historical development of that area of landscape. These two exist in a recursive relationship, both contributing to the character of the present day landscape:

Present Day Historic Landscape Character　　　　　Time depth historic development

It is felt that the morphological characteristics of each parcel of land are not an appropriate attribute to use in its own right as the present day historic landscape character types, already include morphology as a key attribute. This is because during the HLC process the allocation of each separate parcel of land to an individual Historic Landscape Type was derived from both its morphology and present day character. In addition these morphological patterns become less meaningful at a larger scale due to

the presence of areas of land with similar visual characters created through very different processes and therefore with subtly different historic character. Two maps were created therefore, one showing the present day Historic Landscape Character in the AONB Landscape and the other demonstrating the evidence of previous land use surviving in the landscape.

**CCWWD AONB HEAP Methodology for creating Historic Character Areas**

The methodology used to map, create and identify Historic Character Areas has eight distinct stages.

*Step One: Mapping the Present day Historic Landscape Character*
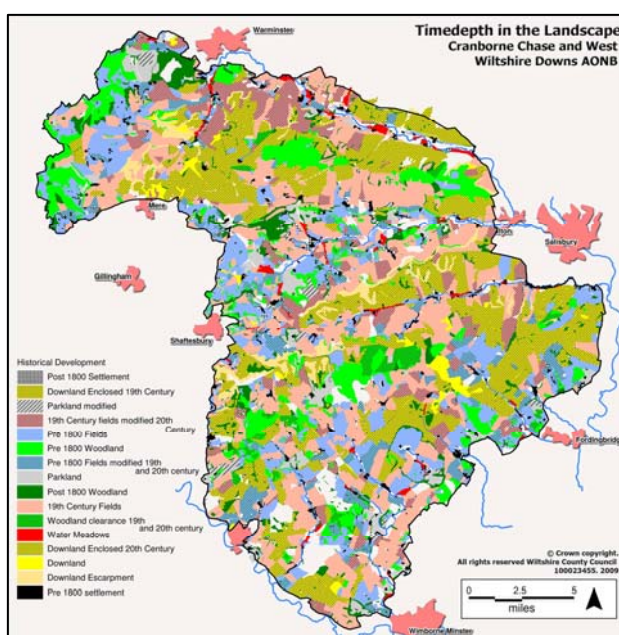


This map displayed the main categories of current Historic Landscape Types existing in the present day landscape, at an appropriate scale for the whole AONB. This includes:

- Pre 1800 Fields
- 19th Century Fields
- 20th Century Fields
- Assarts
- Open Land
- Parkland
- Old Woodland
- Recent Woodland
- Settlement
- Other Fields
- Water meadows
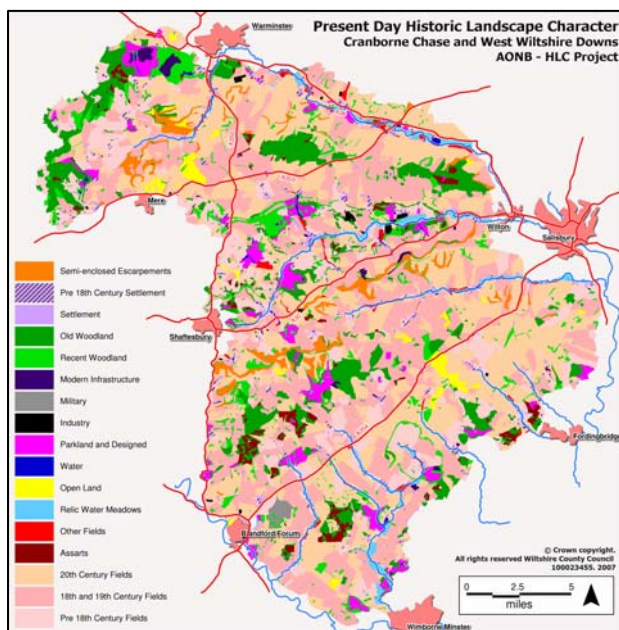


When looking at this dataset at a more detailed scale these categorise can be broken down into their constituent sub types to look at more local trends in the data.

*Step Two: Mapping Time depth in the Landscape of the AONB*

This map highlighted the main traces of past land use that survive in the landscape. For example fields that have traces of pre 1800 boundaries are all one colour and are shaded differently depending on whether they are substantially unmodified (unshaded), modified in the 19th

century (left hatching), or modified in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (right hatching). This allows spatial patterns to be distinguished at an AONB scale.

### Step Three: Identifying trend areas

These two maps were used in combination in a GIS system and as paper based print outs to identify areas in the landscape with common historic landscape attributes representing a combination of the visually Dominant current Historic Landscape Types present and the patterns of past landuse.

The areas selected could be either homogenous in character, with similar current Historic Landscape Types or similar evidence for time depth of past human land use (represented by areas of the maps that are all one colour) or heterogeneous in character reflecting an area which has a large variety of current Historic Landscape Types or a variety of previous land uses (represented by more mixed areas on the maps).

Naturally an area could be comprised of a combination of any one of these (e.g. similar current Historic Landscape Type but with a mixed pattern of previous land uses) and professional judgement supported by the principles of HCA formation, outlined above, is used to determine which trends to follow; the rationale for each decision made can be set down to maintain transparency of method. These trend areas were then captured in a GIS dataset. These areas could be cut by other areas where appropriate. The trend areas created were geographically seamless and at this stage their edges matched the underlying Historic Landscape Characterisation polygons. The boundaries were treated as an approximation at this stage. This step produced 25 separate trend areas

### Stage Four: Grouping trend areas
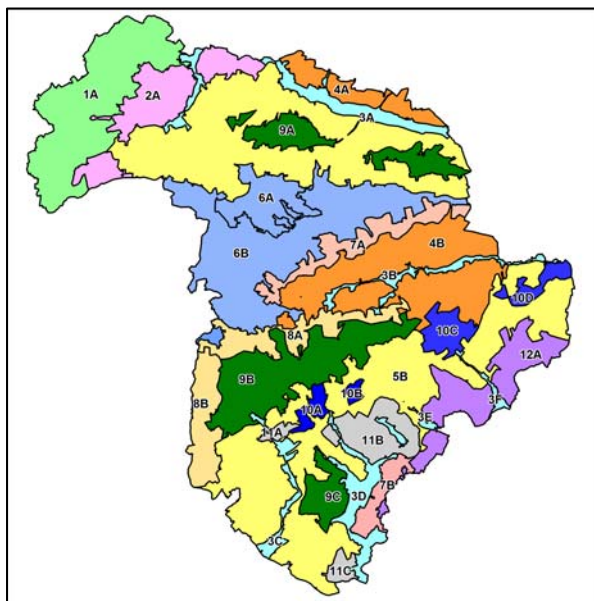


The final number of Historic Landscape Character Areas needs to be governed by the striking a balance between capturing detail and effective communication. The trend areas where therefore grouped together by allocating areas with similar characteristics a common number e.g. 4A and AB, and a common colour. These groupings not necessarily geographically contiguous, but were instead used to identify a common type.

*Stage Five: Gathering other material to assess and justify grouped areas*

The coherence of these grouped areas then needed to be tested. This was achieved by gathering together a range of relevant material to assess whether the tentative grouping retained coherence. These included the AONB Landscape Character Assessment and information extracted from the relevant SMR/HER datasets on the main classes of archaeological site. This was collated through undertaking a rapid written description of each area, e.g. 1 A, 11 B. Information was recorded in a table as follows:

| Name of Area | *Potential descriptive name* |
|---|---|
| **Number** | *1A or similar* |
| **Linkages** | *Other areas in grouping, potential combinations with other areas, issues with the coherency of the area* |
| **Present day HLC** | *Main features of the present day historic landscape groupings of the area* |
| **Previous HLC** | *Main features of time depth in the area, and traces of previous land uses* |
| **Key Places** | *Key settlement, places, woodlands etc within the area* |
| **Homogenity** | *Is the overall character homogenous or heterogeneous?* |
| **Settlement Pattern** | *What is the settlement morphology?* |
| **Archaeology** | *Notable archaeological sites or trend* |
| **Built Character** | *Notable trends in the built character of the area* |
| **Landscape Character** | *Landscape Character areas within which the areas are located* |
| **Geology** | *Dominant geology* |
| **Topography** | *Dominant topographic features* |

*Stage Six: Modifying the Grouped Areas*

The assessments and descriptions were used to list potential issues with the coherency of the draft areas and their boundaries.

At this stage it was considered whether it was appropriate to create sub areas or zones nested within the areas.

An overview of possible changes at this stage was undertaken and a series of draft Historic Character Areas created. These were each accompanied by a modified summary description of each area justifying its coherence. This description also detailed the reasoning for any boundary differences between the areas and the AONB Landscape Character Areas

*Stage Seven: Wider consultation on the draft Historic Character Areas*

Maps of the potential draft areas and their supporting summary descriptions were then sent to expert consultees whose opinions were sought on the appropriateness of the areas and the supporting justifications. Changes were then made to the areas and their boundaries as appropriate.

## Stage Eight: Wider engagement

The draft areas used in the creation of this approach were used as a starting point for the seeking of other view points. It was not practical in the course of this project to engage a wider audience in the identification of boundaries of possible areas; rather the areas were used as a way of honing wider perception of the priories and actions which could potentially be incorporated into Historic Environment Action Plans.

## The result
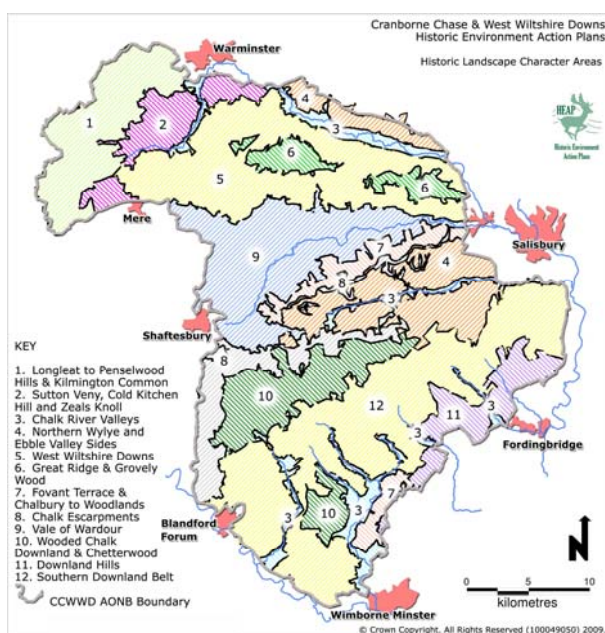


This process lead to the identification of twelve distinct Historic Landscape Character Areas in the AONB.

The next step was to produce written descriptions that provided an overview of each area which encapsulates the main features of the Historic Environment present and include both the archaeological and historical, the very old and the more recent.

## CCWWD AONB HEAP methodology for describing Historic Character Areas

### Stage One: Review and collation of Comprehensive Datasets available

Any descriptive framework depends on the sources of information which are available. It is important that the individual Historic Character Areas are described in a comprehensive and systematic manner therefore as a first stage descriptions information was collated from datasets which cover the whole AONB. These datasets should also be available for any area of England.

- **Nationally Designated Heritage**

The national system of heritage protection has two parts, firstly identifying heritage through designation and secondly protecting it through the planning system by using different kinds of consent. These datasets can be used to identify nationally important historic and archaeological features, sites and buildings in the AONB.

Nationally Designated Heritage includes:

- **Scheduled Ancient Monuments** - Scheduling is the only legal protection specifically for nationally important archaeological sites. The word 'monument' includes 200 classes of features ranging from burial mounds to modern features such as pillboxes. The current legislation, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, supports a formal system of Scheduled Monument Consent any work to a designated monument. A GIS dataset of SAMs can be obtained from English Heritage and this was cropped for the AONB. There are 556 SAMs in the AONB.

  *The text should describe the quantity of SAMs in an area, their distributions, the monument types represented. It should highlight 'iconic' sites those that are well researched, well know or highly visible.*

- **Listed Buildings** –These are nationally important buildings of special architectural or historical value, which have a group value or have close historical association with important buildings or events. These buildings are protected through the used of Listed Buildings Consent. Listed buildings are given one of three categories.
    - Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important.
    - Grade II* buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest.
    - Grade II buildings are nationally important and of special interest.

  A GIS dataset of Listed Buildings can be obtained from English Heritage and this was cropped for the AONB. This includes details on the buildings name, ref number and grade. There are 2015 Listed Buildings in the AONB, 77 Grade I and 106 Grade II*.

  *The text should describe the numbers of listed buildings in an area, their distribution and character. Any key associations should be noted. It should highlight 'iconic' sites as with SAMs.*

- **Register of Parks and Gardens** - National record of the historic parks and gardens, known as the Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England. Inclusion of an historic park or garden on the Register in itself brings no additional statutory controls, but they should be recognised in Local Authority plans. A GIS dataset of List Buildings can be obtained from English Heritage and this was cropped for the AONB. There are 16 Parks and Gardens in the AONB on the Register.

  *The text should describe the number of Registered Parks and Gardens in a given area, their location, their key features and associations and their contribution to historic landscape character.*

- **Protected Wreck Sites** – the AONB has no coastline. World Heritage Sites –

  there are no World Heritage Sites in the AONB.

- **Register of Battlefields –** the AONB has no historic battlefields.

- **Conservation Areas** - Local authorities have the power to designate as conservation areas in any area of 'special architectural or historic interest' whose character or appearance is worth protecting or enhancing. This 'specialness' is judged against local and regional criteria, rather than national importance as is the case with listing. Within a conservation area the local authority has extra controls over demolition, minor developments and the protection of trees. Local authorities hold GIS datasets of their Conservation Areas which can be combined and cropped to the AONB boundary. There are 63 Conservation Areas in the AONB.

  *The text should describe the number of Conservation Areas in a given area, their location, main features and associations.*

▪ **Heritage at Risk**

The aim of the English Heritage at Risk Registers is to understand the overall state of England's heritage to identify those components that are facing the greatest pressures and threats. The At Risk Registers focuses on nationally designated buildings, archaeological sites (Scheduled ancient Monuments), Parks and Gardens (Register of Designed Landscapes), Battlefields, Shipwrecks, and for the first time in 2009 Conservation Areas. Each of these components has been assessed in a slightly different way: -

- **Buildings at Risk** – only Grade I and II* Listed Buildings have so far been assessed. Only those assessed at being 'At Risk' appear on the Register and there are 6 of these in the AONB. This data was provided to the AONB from English Heritage as an Excel spreadsheet pre cut to the AONB boundary detailing the monument no., name, grade, category of risk and providing a national grid reference. This grid reference can be used to create a spatially referenced dataset in GIS. The online English Heritage Register of Buildings at Risk includes further details such as condition of monument and ownership.

  *The text should highlight those areas with a building on the At Risk Register where possible the reasons for this status should be described.*

- **Scheduled Ancient Monuments at Risk** – all Scheduled Ancient Monuments can be perceived as the equivalent of Grade 1 Listed Buildings and as such have all been given an At Risk Category (Low, Medium and High). This data was provided to the AONB from English Heritage as a excel spreadsheet pre cut to the AONB boundary detailing the monument no., name, category of risk and providing a national grid reference. This grid reference can be used to create a spatially referenced dataset in GIS. The dataset holds no information on the reason why a particular category has been given. However the regional English Heritage teams hold spreadsheets for each county detailing why each Medium and High categories has been assigned to a particular SAM. The information for each county was combined and added to the GIS dataset using the unique reference for each SAM. The dataset now detailed a main vulnerability for each monument, as well as detailed notes on exact risks for some monuments. This project is particularly interested in gaining a landscape scale overview of the causes of risks to SAMs, so the 'Main Vulnerability' was simplified in new column to one of 10 possible categories: Animal Burrowing,

Arable Clipping, Arable Ploughing, Collapse, Forestry, Management, Scrub/Tree erosion, Vehicle Damage, Visitor Erosion and Other.

*For each area the text should look at the number of SAMS at medium and high risk and their distributions. The reasons for their 'At Risk' status should be described.*

- **Parks and Gardens at Risk** - The new 'at risk' register for parks and gardens draws on a suite of indicators that were selected to describe change (whether beneficial or detrimental), active conservation planning, and neglect for every registered site. As yet this At Risk Register registers has not been made publically available, but when available this information will be added to the descriptions.

- **Battlefields at Risk** – There are no Battlefields with the AONB but this register may be of relevance to other protected areas. The Register of Historic Battlefields was established by English Heritage to encourage local authorities, owners and others to understand the importance of these sites. Currently there are 43 battlefields on the register; each has been allocated a risk category of with low, medium or high. A map of Battlefields at risk is available on the English Heritage Website, and this links to further details on each battlefield.

- **Shipwrecks at Risk** - The AONB has no coastline but this register may be of relevance to other protected areas. Currently there are 45 protected wreck sites; each has been allocated a risk category of with low, medium or high. A map of Shipwrecks at risk is available on the English Heritage Website, and this links to further details on each Battlefield.

- **Conservation Areas at Risk** - English Heritage's new campaign will reveal how many of England's 9,300 Conservation Areas are at risk and from what. Each Local Authority in the country to fill in a questionnaire on the condition of their Conservation Areas and the results will be published in June 2009.

  *The text should describe which Conservation Areas are at risk and begin to try and understand the reasoning behind this status and the wider implications for the built environment of the AONB.*

▪ **Sites and Monuments Record and Historic Environment Records**

The AONB covers four counties Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire. These each have their own archaeological record which is either called a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) or a Historical Environment Record (HER). These are the same kinds of database, HER being an augmentation of an SMR containing a wider scope of data, such as information on buildings or the inclusion of Urban Archaeological Databases. SMRs commonly evolve into HERs when a certain data standard is reached. Most HERs/SMRs maintain three types of records: monuments (sites and finds), events and sources/archives. Only those records relating to monuments have been made aviable to the AONB. Sites within a SMR/HER are given a monument type. These are compiled using the MIDAS (A Manual and Data Standard for Monument Inventories) data standard (MIDAS Heritage: 2007), in association with other shared reference data such as National Monuments Record *The Thesaurus of*

*Monument Types* (English Heritage 1999)*.* This means that there will be a high level of similarity between the databases of different HERs/SMRs. The details of each of the relevant HERs/SMRs are as follows: -

1. Dorset County Council has a Historic Environment Record. This contains 1235 entries for the AONB.
2. 2. Hampshire County Council has a Historic Environment Record. This contains 405 entries covering the AONB
3. 3. Somerset County Council has a Historic Environment Record. This contains 43 entries covering the AONB.
4. 4. Wiltshire County Council has a Sites and Monument Record. This contains 2368 which are in the AONB.

Each county's SMR/HER record is available in electronic format and can be imported into GIS (Geographical Information Systems). Each of the SMR/HER datasets was acquired as a GIS extract cut to the AONB from the relevant county as data files. They were then manipulated as follows:

1. Dorset. The Dorset HER data was provided via email as four separate .csv files. These were opened in Excel and recombined using the unique monument reference number in each file to create a new spreadsheet (.xls). The new datasheet contained two columns containing an easting and northing for each entry; this meant that new .xls sheet could therefore be opened in MapInfo and points created in a map layer. Erroneous points which lay outside the AONB were removed and the data was then reexported as a .txt file so it could be combined with the Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire Data.

2. Hampshire. The Hampshire data was provided as ArcMap .shp files; these were translated to a .tab file in MapInfo. These did not have columns containing easting and northing information so these were created. The table was exported as a .txt file so it could be combined with the Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire Data.

3. The Somerset HER only contains 43 points which are inside the AONB boundary. The details of these were created from the information available online on the SMR and a new .txt file created.

4. The Wiltshire SMR was provided as ArcMap .shp files; these were translated to a .tab file in MapInfo. The Wiltshire SMR also provided a .dxf file from AutoCAD which was imported into MapInfo and provided additional line based information such as transcriptions from aerial photographs.This table did not have columns containing easting and northing information so these were created. The table was then exported as a .txt so it could be combined with the Dorset, Hampshire and Somerset Data.

Each of the files was then opened in Excel and combined into one spreadsheet. This involved the removal of additional fields which were not common to all four datasets.

This process left the following fields: -

| FIELD NAME | DESCRIPTION |
| --- | --- |
| ID_NO | The unique HER/SMR number imported from each dataset |
| COUNTY | The County the data belongs to |
| NAME | The name of the monument/find in some cases this is the type of monument and a location or in some cases just a location |
| DATE_FROM | The date of the monument or find |
| DATE_TO | The Dorset HER contained a date to field which provided a date range. This has been left in but is blank for Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire data. |
| TYPE | The Type of Monument or finds allocated to each point |
| TYPE_NEW | Amalgamated category (see below*) |
| E | The easting for each point |
| N | The northing for each point |

With regards to the type of monument or find allocated to each point (the field named TYPE), there were noticeable differences between the four datasets. This was due to the fact that:-

▪ The descriptions of different monument types varied in their detail: not all datasets record the morphology of round barrows or enclosures for example.

▪ The four datasets do not have records of the same monument types. This is because some monument types are location specific and because they may not as yet feature in the relevant dataset.

In order for the spreadsheet to be useable a new field* was created (TYPE_NEW) which amalgamated various monument types. Although this lost detail from the dataset, it did allow direct comparisons to be made across the counties. This resulted in the following 49 monument types/categories being created: -

1. Amphitheatre
2. Animal Cemetery
3. Battlefield
4. Boundary Feature
5. Bridge
6. Building
7. Burial
8. Castle
9. Causewayed Enclosure
10. Cemetery
11. Circular Feature
12. Cursus
13. Deer Park
14. Ecclesiastical Site
15. Enclosure
16. Fence
17. Field System
18. Finds
19. Fort
20. Garden
21. Garden Feature
22. Gate
23. Henge
24. Hill Figure
25. Hillfort
26. Industrial Site
27. Linear Feature
28. Long Barrow
29. Military
30. Mill
31. Moat
32. Parkland
33. Pillow Mound
34. Pit
35. Pond
36. Pump
37. Racecourse
38. Round Barrow
39. Routeway
40. Settlement
41. Signal Station
42. Stocks
43. Stonework
44. Telegraph Pole
45. Temple
46. Unknown Feature
47. Water meadow
48. Watermill
49. Well

*In the textual descriptions the main characteristics of the known archaeological record for each area should be described. The text could look at the age range of particular features; some areas for example may display concentrations of medieval sites for example. Locally distinctive features should be highlighted.*

▪ **Historic Landscape Characterisation**

The Historic Landscape Characterisation was completed for the AONB in June 2009. It maps and describes the historic dimension of the present day landscape of the AONB and identifies time depth. It formed the basis for the identification of the discrete Historic Character Areas, and therefore also forms a major component in the description of these areas. More information on the Historic Landscape Characterisation can be accessed from www.historiclandscape.co.uk.

*Information of interest to be included in the text based description of each area includes the distribution of Current historic Landscape Type; Previous Historic Landscape Type and time depth; Place Name evidence; and the morphology of fields, settlement and woodland including boundary information.*

▪ **Portable Antiquity Scheme**

The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a voluntary scheme to record archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. It comprised a database recording details of each find, and the founder. This dataset was kindly made available to the AONB by the British Museum and the grid reference recorded for each find used to create a GIS dataset which was cropped to the AONB.

*This dataset can be used to gain an overview of metal detecting in the AONB, and the recovery of finds through other means. It can also be used in the identification of possible location for important sites which have not been formally recorded in the SMR/HER. The Portable Antiquity Scheme has been shown for example particularly helpful in pinpointing Saxon activity, for example, which has been absent from the more traditional archaeological records.*

**Stage Two: Review and collation of other datasets available**

Once the individual Historic Character Areas have been described systematically using information from datasets which cover the whole AONB, information from other data sources was used to supplement the descriptions.

▪ **Conservation Area Appraisals**

Following designation, local planning authorities have a duty from time to time to draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. These proposals take the form of Conservation Area Appraisals. Currently only 16 of the 63 Conservation Areas in the AONB have CAAs, though many of the Local Authorities are undertaking rolling programs of CAA creation.

*Where they exist Conservation Area Appraisals form a useful source of information on the history of settlements in the AONB, and descriptions of their main historic features which can be used to augment Historic Character Area descriptions.*

▪ **Parish Plans and other documents**

Parish Plans are documents produced by the local community living within a particular parish. They are designed to be "holistic" or comprehensive in scope and should set

out a vision of how the community wants to develop, and identify the action needed to achieve it. They can include everything that is relevant to the people who live and work in the community, from employment and playgrounds to the design of new buildings and protection of hedges and ponds. They can include any social, environmental or economic issues.

*They often identify heritage features of value to a local community which can be incorporated into the Historic Character Area Descriptions, though the comprehensiveness of the plans is very variable. The AONB has access to 16 Parish Plans covering the AONB.*

Village Design Statements are another useful reference document. These are a practical tool prepared by communities to help influence decisions on design and development.  Prepared correctly, a VDS will provide a clear statement of the character of a particular village or town against which planning applications may be assessed. The AONB is aware of one VDS for the AONB.

*These should also indicate the historic features which are particularly locally important.*

▪ **Local Lists**

Some Local Authorities maintain list of buildings of local interest and have in some instances begun to indicate which of these are at Risk. These can be used to look at the locally distinctive characteristics of buildings in the area.

*These can be used to look at the locally distinctive characteristics of buildings in an area.*

Both the Dorset and Wiltshire Gardens Trust maintain written lists of historic Parks and Gardens of local interest which have been transformed into a GIS dataset.

*The lists can be used to describe Parks and Gardens of Interest with Historic Character Areas not on the English Heritage register.*

▪ **Other Management Plans**

Include National Trust strategies and individual estate management plans.

**Stage Three: Writing and organising the Historic Character Area descriptions**

Clarity and ease of comparison are key factors influencing the legibility and usability of the Historic Character Areas descriptions. As discussed above these descriptions should seek to be transparent and the sources of information clearly related. For ease of reference the descriptions should have the same layout though obviously the variable availability of data will affect the length of any given section.

*Title*

This should capture the imagination and the main features of the area, drawing on local features and place names.

### *Introducing the Historic Character Areas*

Brief overview describing historic landscape character areas, their scale, location and how they were derived

### *Location, Geology, Land Use and Topography*

Describes the location of the area, its topography and dominant geology and soil. The main land use in the area is described and linkages to other historic landscape character areas identified

### *Location Map*

The map should show the outline of the area and the adjacent areas imposed on a suitable scale mapping. In the case of the AONB a 50K raster base was used.

### *Summary*

For ease of reference summaries of the main sections in the document were included as bullet point lists. These were:

- Summary of Key Characteristics in the Area
- Summary of Statement of Significance
- Summary of Forces for Change
- Summary of State of the Historic Environment
- Summary of Historic Environment Actions

### Linkages to other areas/themes

Important linkages to other historic landscape character areas and themes were listed

### History and context

The main archaeological periods of activity present in the area were idenitified. Key historical events which shaped the historic landscape character of the area were described.

### Key Sources

Outlined the key sources which were used to compile the description

- Landscape Scale Characteristics and components

A two or three sentence summary of the historic and archaeological character of the area.

### *Landscape Scale Characteristics and Components*

This should describe:

- The main archaeological components present in the area, notably visible sites, iconic sites of those which have been subject to research and the main features from the Portable Antiquity scheme
- The main Historic Landscape Character Types present and their contribution to the historic landscape character of the present day.
- Important Previous Historic Landscape Types
- Time depth in the landscape should also be noted along with major historical developments and processes which have impacted on the landscape.
- Particularly important morphological features should be described e.g the visual aspects of the fields and woodlands.
- The character of the historic built environment,  the pattern of settlement, local building materials and features and notable buildings of interest
- The character of historic routeways, the main historic routeways present and linkages with the RoW network.
- Designed aspects in the landscape
- 20$^{th}$ century activity in the landscape

In the case of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Historic Landscape Character Area description this section was slpit into a series of subheadings which allowed easy cross reference with the 'theme' statements. These were:

- Ancient Boundaries and Land Ownership
- Farms and Farming in the Landscape
- Fields in the Landscape
- Historic Parks and Gardens in the Landscape
- Hunting Landscapes
- Industry in the Landscape
- Landscapes of Militarism, Commemoration and Defence
- Landscapes of Prehistory
- Late 20$^{th}$ century activity in the Landscape
- Open Land
- Routeways in the Landscape
- Settlement in the Landscape
- Water in the Landscape
- Woodland in the Landscape

### *Statement of Significance*

Each area had its own statement of significance which assesses the key historic environment characteristics of the area systematically in terms of local, regional and national contexts using standard criteria. The statement of significance for each area was split up into the following sections:

- Introduction

    Overview of the significance of the area

- Coherence, local distinctiveness, rarity and time depth

Typical degree of surviving coherence of historic landscape character
Features which contribute to the local distinctiveness of the area
Key components which are particularly rare
The extent to which layers of human activity can be read in the landscape

- Typical surviving components

Survival covers both survival of historic landscape patterns, main historic components, and archaeological features.

- Nationally Protected Landscape

Number, extent and type of SAMs in the area
Number, extent and type of listed buildings in the area
Number, extent and type of historic park and garden in the area
Number and extent of Conservation Areas

- Archaeological fieldwork and research

Archaeological fieldwork and historical research which has been carroed out in the area

- Value (evidential, aesthetic, communal, and historical)

The value of the historic characteristics of the area as a whole and the value of individual components. The approach adopted by the AONB used English Heritage's 'Conservation Principles Policy and Guidance (2008) and identified four different kinds of value:

Evidential Value – this derived from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity

Historical Value – this is derived from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. This can be *illustrative* or *associative*. The way the area illustrates aspects of history or prehistory depends on visibility in a way that evidential value does not. Associative value is the way in which the association with a notable family, person or place gives historical value a particular resonance.

Aesthetic value – this is derived from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from place.

Communal value – this is derived from the meanings of a place for the people which relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

### *State of the Historic Environment*

Each area has its own state of the historic environment report including:

- Introduction

Overview of the state of the historic environment in the area

- Current knowledge

  Summarise the extent of current knowledge and then discuss the gaps in knowledge and the potential for further research in certain fields.

- Existing levels of protection and heritage at risk

  Outlines existing levels of protection of designated assets and the extent to which they are at risk

- Loss and condition

  Summaries the features which have been lost in the area oer the last 100 years Describes the condition of key characteristics in the area

- Coherence

  Describes the landscape scale coherence of the area and summaries the extent to which people can enjoy and understand the key characteristics of the area both on the ground and intellectually.

- Forces for change

  Assess effects of main forces for change enacting on the historic environment in the area

- Summary of key threats

  List of key threats to the historic character of the area.

*Actions*

List of actions included in the Historic Environment Action Plans and of relevance to the area.

*Pictures and Illustrations*

Photographs and images capturing views of the historic landscape and key archaeological and historic features in an area.

*Linkages*

Where appropriate links should be added to the description to:
  - Background documents
  - Theme Statements
  - Other area statements
  - Methodological statements
  - Supporting documents

## Conclusion

The AONB Historic Character Areas are based on information in the AONB Historic Landscape Characterisation. The HLC provided two key pieces of information: -

1. The present day historic landscape character present in the AONB.
2. The surviving evidence of the historical development of the area.

This analysis lead to the identification of 12 Historic character areas in the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB.

Each Historic Character Area is accompanied by a comprehensive and concise description of its main historic and archaeological components, a statement of significance and a state of the historic environment report.

These descriptions will form the basis for identifying actions for the Historic Environment in the AONB.

## References

Baker, M. V. *et.al*, 2007 *England's Historic Seascapes, Scarborough to Hartlepool and Adjacent Marine Zone*. English Heritage

Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service, 2005 *Aylesbury Environs Study Historic Environment Assessment* Buckinghamshire County Council

Conway, M., Unpublished *West Berkshire Historic Environment Character Zoning: Project Methodology*. West Berkshire Council.

Chris Blandford Associates, 2004 *Thames Gateway Historic Environment Characterisation Project*. English Heritage, Kent County Council and Essex County Council.

English Heritage 2004 *Milton Keynes South Midlands Study Historic Environment Assessment* Buckinghamshire County Council, English Heritage and Milton Keynes Council.

English Heritage 2008. *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment*. English Heritage: London.

Essex County Council, 2006 *Rochford District Historic Environment Characterisation Project*. Essex County Council and Rochford District Council.

Herring, P., 1998 *Cornwall's Historic Landscape Characterisation: Presenting a method of Historic Landscape Character Assessment*. Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Isle of Wight County Archaeology and Historic Environment Service, 2008a *Historic Environment Action Plan Isle of Wight Overview* Isle of Wight Council

Isle of Wight County Archaeology and Historic Environment Service, 2008b *An Introduction to the HEAP The Isle of Wight Historic Environment Action Plan* Isle of Wight Council

Oxford Archaeology Unit, 2001 *Kent Historic Landscape Characterisation*. Kent County Council & English Heritage.

Quigley, P., 2007 *The creation of Character Area Boundaries through the analysis of HLC Polygons: A Technical Paper*. Black Country Archaeological Service

Staffordshire County Council, 2008 *Historic Environment Character Assessment. Final Report for Lichfield District Council (Draft)* Staffordshire County Council.

Tapper, B., 2008 *England's Historic Seascapes National HSC Method Statement.* Cornwall County Council & English Heritage.

Turner, S., 2007 *Ancient Country: The Historic Character of Rural Devon* Devon Archaeological Society.

Val Baker, M. *et.al*, 2007 *England's Historic Seascapes, Scarborough to Hartlepool and Adjacent Marine Zone.* English Heritage

Wessex Archaeology, 2006 *England's Historic Seascapes.* English Heritage

# Historic Environment Action Plans

## www.historiclandscape.co.uk

This document forms part of a suite of documents which together comprise the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Historic Environment Action Plans, or HEAPs for short. The HEAPs provide a summary of the key characteristics of the historic environment of the AONB at a landscape scale, they then set out the significance, condition and forces for change affecting the historic fabric and character of this special landscape and identify proactive actions to conserve and enhance these special characteristics.

ENGLISH HERITAGE

AONB Office,
4 Castle Street,
Cranborne,
BH21 5PZ
Tel: 01725 517417
email: info@cranbornechase.org.uk

www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk