

THE CLWYD POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

# ***Radnorshire LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect***

Technical Report



CPAT Report No 675

CPAT Report No 675

# ***Radnorshire LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect***

**Technical Report**

**W J Britnell and C H R Martin**  
September 2004

Report for Powys County Council

**The Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust**

7a Church Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DL

tel (01938) 553670, fax (01938) 552179

email [trust@cpat.org.uk](mailto:trust@cpat.org.uk)

web [www.cpat.org.uk](http://www.cpat.org.uk)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Historic Landscape aspect of the Radnorshire LANDMAP identified 85 separate aspect areas, ranging in size from 0.2 to 107 square kilometres and representing 10 different landscape patterns (at Level 3 in the current LANDMAP Information System handbook). The patterns represented are *Irregular fieldscape* (26 areas), *Regular fieldscape* (13 areas), *Other fieldscape* (16 areas), *Woodland* (8 areas), *Marginal land* (10 areas), *Water & wetland* (1 area), *Nucleated settlement* (7 areas), *Other settlement* (1 area), *Extractive industry* (2 areas) and *Designed landscape* (1 area). The overall pattern is dominated by large areas of mixed field enclosures that occupy most of the central lower lying areas. With the exception of the land surrounding the Elan Valley reservoirs in the west of Radnorshire, much of the area's upland is covered by relatively modern field systems resulting from the enclosure of former common land. Unenclosed upland and other marginal land is generally confined to the south of the area, where it occupies the four northeast-southwest parallel ridges separating that area's main river valleys. Areas of forestry are also limited, with the main concentrations being the Radnor Forest upland block and around Abbeycwmhir. Regular, single-phase field systems are, by and large, confined to the eastern part of Radnorshire where they survived around key medieval settlements. Exceptions to this pattern are the river valleys of the Wye and Marteg which both contain distinctive, but dissimilar, regular field systems.

Historic Landscape aspect areas were identified using a number of digital and paper data sources, verified by rapid field visiting and drawn as a digital map against a 1:10,000 OS map background attached to a database of supporting information. These digital elements and this Technical Report contain the results of the Radnorshire LANDMAP study and were submitted to Powys County Council and the Countryside Council for Wales on completion of the project.

## **CONTENTS**

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>HISTORIC LANDSCAPE BACKGROUND</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>ANNEX A: SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODS</b>	<b>14</b>
	<b>ANNEX B: BASE-LEVEL POLYGONAL DATA: DESCRIPTION AND SOURCES</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>ANNEX C: PROVISIONAL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS: SOURCES</b>	<b>17</b>
	<b>ANNEX D: SUMMARY LIST OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS</b>	<b>18</b>

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Radnorshire *LANDMAP* is the second project undertaken as part of the wider Powys *LANDMAP*, and forms part of an ongoing pan-Wales project of landscape assessment.

The area studied extends over approximately 1226 square kilometres of central Powys. The Historic Landscape Aspect work, the subject of this report was undertaken by The Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) working on behalf Powys County Council with the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW).

## **2. HISTORIC LANDSCAPE BACKGROUND**

### **Historical and archaeological aspects of the landscape**

History and archaeology form important visual components of the present-day landscape of Radnorshire, illustrating many aspects of human activity since the end of the last glaciation.

There are many diverse sources of evidence that inform us about how the landscape of Radnorshire came into being. In addition to the prominent field monuments that are visible in the landscape, information is also to be gleaned from historic buildings, parks and gardens, industrial sites, and transport history, as well as from historic documents and maps. Other important sources include environmental and vegetation history provided by the study of pollen and plant remains, the evidence of settlement and land use obtained by an analysis of settlement and field patterns, and buried archaeological sites revealed by aerial reconnaissance or geophysical survey.

We are still very much at an early stage in beginning to identify the forces that helped to create Radnorshire's distinctive landscape. Relatively little analytical fieldwork has yet been undertaken in many areas of Radnorshire, for example, and much undoubtedly also still remains to be learnt from an analysis of early cartographic and historical sources.

### **Outline history**

The following provides a brief outline of the historic landscape of Radnorshire (see also summary of historical and archaeological periods in Annex A).

- *Early Prehistory* The earliest evidence of human activity in the area during the Late Upper Palaeolithic period is represented by lithic scatters, which seem to represent seasonal camps occupied during the late glacial period by communities of hunters in pursuit of migrating herds of game. Seasonal occupation by hunter-gatherer groups is also evident during the succeeding Mesolithic Period, together with evidence for woodland clearances in some areas, perhaps relating to hunting practices. Permanent human settlement had been established in at least the major lowland valleys by the early and middle Neolithic Period when a number of farming communities had come into existence. The impact of human activity was clearly considerable in areas like the Walton basin where large ritual complexes were being created in the early third millennium BC, involving the felling of considerable areas of native oak woodland.
- *Later Prehistory* The widespread distribution of Bronze Age funerary and ritual monuments throughout Radnorshire provides clear evidence for the growth in population, and though little is yet known in detail about settlement or land use at this period it is probable that a system of farming emerged during the later prehistoric period based upon individual farmsteads depending upon a mixed farming economy, with access to arable land, grazing and woodland. Defended hillforts and enclosures probably emerged during the later Bronze Age and Iron Age periods, reflecting the emergence of tribal groups. It seems likely that the hillforts themselves represent tribal centres of this period and that most of the contemporary population occupied dispersed farmsteads in the surrounding countryside, though few of these sites have yet been identified.
- *Roman Period* The period of Roman occupation is represented by a number of conquest-period forts, the establishment of a Roman road system, and the construction of a series of more permanent military bases accompanied by small commercial centres to serve their garrisons. Radnorshire, like much of Wales, failed to develop large or enduring nucleated settlements during this period, however, and consequently appears to have continued to have been administered by the Roman army throughout much of the Roman period. Though few

civil sites have yet been identified it seems likely that the local economy continued to develop from the mixed farming economies that had already emerged during the later prehistoric period.

- *Early Medieval and Medieval Periods* The end of Roman administration saw the emergence of a number of political entities from which eventually gave rise to the early medieval kingdom of Powys, probably based on estates and holdings that had arisen during the later Roman period. A pattern of small nucleated church settlements had emerged throughout much of the lowland areas of Radnorshire by the medieval period, many representing early manorial centres with open arable fields, with dispersed farmsteads in the surrounding hillier countryside. The medieval kingdom was replaced by marcher lordships following the Norman Conquest. This also led to the creation of a number of Anglo-Norman castle-boroughs such as Rhayader, Builth, Knighton, Presteigne, and New Radnor, which became important market towns and from which the territory was administered. Large ecclesiastical estates were managed by the Cistercian monasteries at Cwmhir and Strata Florida. The richer lowland areas became the focus of extensive open fields specialising in arable agriculture, with a growth in freehold farms specialising in first cattle and then sheep farming on the surrounding hill land, much of which remained unenclosed.
- *Post-medieval, Industrial and Modern Periods* The new county of Radnorshire was created as an administrative unit at the Act of Union in 1536. The growth of freehold farms and estates between about the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries had a significant impact upon Radnorshire's lowland rural landscape, involving the enclosure of medieval open fields, the growth of country house estates, parks and gardens, and various agricultural improvements including the introduction of land drainage and the continued piecemeal enclosure areas of pasture around the upland margins. Large-scale enclosure of the upland commons took place during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, giving rise to extensive areas of improved and semi-improved pasture that form such a distinctive landscape type in the northern and eastern areas of the county. Existing centres of population which had emerged during the medieval period continued to expand, with increasing administrative and commercial functions and the development of local industries and transport infrastructure often in relation to local agricultural production. Llandrindod Wells was created as a Victorian spa town. A number of relatively large-scale stone quarries began operation during the later nineteenth and earlier twentieth centuries, principally for road and building construction. Some of these continue in operation to the present day but have generally only had a fairly discrete impact upon the landscape, which remains essentially rural in character. The industrialisation of the towns and cities of south Wales and the Midlands contributed to rural depopulation and the abandonment of many of the more remote rural dwellings. The continued growth of the industrial towns of the West Midlands, particularly Birmingham, resulted in the construction of a number of reservoirs at the end of the nineteenth century and during the twentieth centuries, most notably in the Elan Valley, where an extensive designed landscape was created around the margins of the reservoirs both to preserve the purity of the water and to provide an attraction for day visitors. The years since the Second World War saw the expansion of forestry plantations, some overlying relict farmland, farm amalgamations, the growth of agricultural diversification, wildlife conservation, the exploitation of wind power, and a rise in the tourist industries and countryside pursuits, all of which have had a visible impact upon the modern landscape.

### **3. METHODOLOGY**

#### **Overview**

The study involved the following processes, which are described in more detail in the following sections.

- Preparation
- Generation of base-level polygonal data
- Definition of provisional historic landscape aspect areas
- Field evaluation
- Finalising boundaries of historic landscape aspect areas
- Database entry
- Quality Assurance monitoring
- Local User Information Group meetings

#### **Preparation**

The geographical limits of the project were set by a MapInfo table supplied by Powys County Council. Digital mapped sources that were used were the Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:10,000 and 1:50,000 raster maps and OS Landline and contour vector data for the whole of the study area. Digitally geo-referenced vertical aerial photography of Radnorshire supplied by GetMapping was used under licence from CCW was also used as a mapping source, and in addition to this occasional reference was made to the four editions of early OS mapping available as geo-referenced digital data from Landmark, here used by arrangement with the National Assembly for Wales. A set of OS 1:25,000 folded maps was also consulted for additional topographical information.

Land-use information used for the project included polygonal data for Radnorshire Commons shown on the mid nineteenth century Tithe Surveys, previously prepared by the CPAT, used in conjunction with large-scale paper maps of modern Common land. The GetMapping AP data also proved particularly useful for identifying (relatively) current land use, vegetation types and land cover as well as helping to identify the nature of many boundary features.

The primary source of historical and archaeological information was the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), maintained by CPAT. Much of the information in this record is point data, but it also included some polygonal data derived from a number of paper-based sources. These documentary and manuscript sources that were consulted included lists of listed buildings, the register of historic parks and gardens in Powys, and the historic landscapes registers, the historic landscape characterization reports for the Middle Wye valley and the Elan Valley, and reports on historic settlements (see bibliography below).

A decision needed to be made at an early stage about the scale and significance of landscapes to be included in the study, the principal criteria for inclusion being that an historical or archaeological element should have a sufficient visual presence in the landscape. It was considered that this ruled out all individual buildings and archaeological monuments, many of the smaller settlements, a number of the smaller registered gardens, historically and culturally significant places with little landscape definition and small or isolated unenclosed commons of less than about a square kilometres.

#### **Data collection and recording**

At the beginning of the project it was decided that wherever possible data collection and recording should be undertaken digitally. From the outset all mapping was compiled digitally (using head-up digitising), as was all database compilation. The limited programme of field visiting was designed to check decisions already taken in the desk-based assessment rather to record new data. Adjustments were made to the digital data set on a portable computer in the field and therefore did not generate a



paper-based record. No photography was undertaken during the field visiting. Consequently, there are no paper record forms, hand drawn maps or photographs submitted with this report.

Mapping was undertaken in MapInfo Professional Version 6.0. A database was created in version 2.0.7 of the XML based LANDMAP Collector software supplied by CCW. Associated texts were prepared in Word 2000, and submitted as both hard copy and Adobe Acrobat (version 5.0) PDF files.

### **Base-level polygonal data**

A preliminary series of 86 contiguous polygons were drawn from the sources listed above according to a discrete list of classes, to which a limited amount of data was attached. These are listed in Annex B. The polygons (which might perhaps be considered to fall between Level 3 and Level 4 data in *LANDMAP* terms) were drawn from a variety of map sources and were used as the basis for defining provisional historic landscape aspect areas. Some of these base-level polygons, particularly those representing more specialist landscape types such as parks and gardens or settlement, could have been used to define Aspect Areas at Level 4. However, as the requirement here was to define a uniform aspect map at Level 3 this was not done, though this data could be refined and drawn on for such a purpose in the future.

The use of base-level polygons identifying landscape types, although not prescribed by the *LANDMAP Information System*, has been trialed in Wales by CPAT to create similar base-level data from which to define *Historic Landscape Character Areas* in *Historic Landscape Characterisation* projects promoted by Cadw and CCW, and as a means of presenting historic landscape information within *Tir Gofal*. In many respects it is a similar process to that currently used to define landscape types in *Historic Landscape Characterisation* projects promoted by English Heritage.

The accuracy of the base-level polygonal data has not subsequently been checked against a single map-base or verified against definitive sources, however, and has not been supplied with the other digital data produced by the project. This data is illustrated in Annex B.

### **Definition of provisional historic landscape aspect areas**

A total of 85 Level 3 historic landscape aspect areas were mapped generally by a process of selection, amalgamation and subdivision of the base-level polygonal data described above, and ascribed to the appropriate *LANDMAP* Level 3 Pattern. The general process by which these polygons were derived is summarised in Annex C.

Initially many of the Level 3 polygons were created by copying and amalgamating adjoining base-level polygons. Like the base-level polygonal data, the historic landscape aspect areas varied considerably in size, the smallest being about 0.2 square kilometres and the largest about 107 square kilometres.

A number of particular difficulties were encountered in defining the provisional historic landscape aspect areas at Level 3 that it may be helpful to document here.

- With regard to fieldscapes it was felt that although insufficient study had been undertaken to define different types of fieldscape at Level 4 (historic landscape detail), it would be unsatisfactory to define over 50% of the study area as only three areas at Level 3. The decision was therefore made to follow the methodology trailed in the Brecknock *LANDMAP* study and to define aspect areas on the basis of the different fieldscape types represented in the base-level polygonal data (i.e. floodplain fieldscapes, organised fieldscapes, regular fieldscapes, piecemeal enclosure), and then to allocate each of these to one of the three fieldscape classes, but not to conflate adjoining areas of differing types even if they the same pattern at Level 3.

## **Radnorshire LANDMAP: Historic Landscape Aspect, Technical Report**

- Unlike many areas of Wales much of Radnorshire's upland has been enclosed leaving little or no open moorland (except for the area forming the Elan Valley catchment) and indeed little marginal land of any kind. After some consideration it was decided that there were sufficient grounds to identify these enclosed upland areas as a distinct type of 'Other fieldscape'. These landscapes are characterised by large, often but not exclusively, regular sided fields (often defined by post and wire fences) probably originally dating from the later nineteenth century.
- Two areas were defined that fell outside the Radnorshire boundary. The larger area, Broad Heath (PWYSHL207), is an area of well-defined medieval field system belonging to the two adjacent settlements of Presteigne and Norton. This area is clearly a single system that would have been cut in two if the national boundary had been used to trim the area. It was felt that splitting this coherent system into two separate areas would not be a sensible approach. The second area, Cnwch (PWYSHL974), is in fact the northern tip of the Brecknock area Llanwrthwl (PWYSHL728) that is cut off by the Radnorshire boundary. PWYSHL974 should perhaps be attached to PWYSHL728.
- A number of other pairs of areas along the Brecknockshire / Radnorshire boundary should in fact single areas, although they have been recorded separately in each study and therefore have separate numbers and database entries. These areas have been edge matched and consideration should be given to joining them together to form single combined areas.

### **Field Evaluation**

Two full days were spent in the field following the definition of the provisional historic landscape aspect area boundaries. Additional time in the field would have been desirable but was not considered essential in order to complete the tasks in hand at the level of detail required, given our background knowledge from working in the area for many years and the fact that we were not required to carry out evaluation, provide management recommendations or to assess tolerance to change.

Rather than attempting to visit each of the provisional historic landscape aspect areas (a task that would probably have required many weeks of work), time in the field was spent in checking a number of specific points of detail that could not be resolved more remotely.

The principal issues that it proved helpful to check in the field were firstly the degree to which there was a sufficiently meaningful visual expression of historical and archaeological processes at particular points in the landscape which would enable boundaries to be defined more closely, and secondly whether some of the smaller provisional aspect areas had a sufficient landscape dimension.

In several instances points in the landscape were sought and which would enable otherwise diffuse aspect areas to be split on rational topographic grounds.

The fieldwork generally tended to confirm the desktop analysis, though a number of relatively minor changes were made including the redefinition of several aspect area boundaries, the amalgamation of several adjacent areas and the subdivision of several others.

### **Finalising boundaries of historic landscape aspect areas**

A number of relatively minor changes were made to the provisional aspect area boundaries as a result of fieldwork, as noted above.

Slight boundary changes were also made as a result of checking the distribution of archaeological sites in the Regional Sites and Monuments Record, to avoid unnecessarily placing neighbouring sites that are functionally or chronologically related to each other into different aspect areas.

## **Radnorshire LANDMAP: Historic Landscape Aspect, Technical Report**

Polygonal boundaries for historic landscape aspect areas for a number of earlier *LANDMAP* studies in contiguous unitary authority areas were made available by CCW, enabling edge matching to be undertaken. Data was made available in this way for Carmarthenshire and Brecknock. Data for the remaining contiguous area of Montgomeryshire was not available at the time the study was undertaken.

There was generally a close fit with these earlier studies though slight amendments were made in one or two instances to correspond with previously defined aspect areas.

As noted above (see section above on base-level polygonal data) various sources of OS mapping (namely LandLine vector data, 1:10,000 raster data, and 1:25,000 paper maps) and other digital data (GetMapping aerial photography) were used for the definition of aspect areas. Consequently the aspect areas defined in this study do not correspond precisely to any single source of mapping. Care was taken to ensure, however, that the drawn boundaries would be visibly accurate to at least the required scale of 1:10,000.

Unfortunately the overall digital boundary of Radnorshire supplied for the project did not match that previously supplied for Brecknock and thus edge trimming of the aspect areas to fit the study area had to be done using a variety of digital data sets – the existing Brecknock Historic Landscape Aspect Areas, OS Landline data, OS Community boundary data and fresh digitisation from OS raster 1:10,000 sources and GetMapping APs.

### **Database entries**

Database entries were created for each of the historic landscape aspect areas in version 2.0.7 of the LANDMAP Collector software provided by CCW. Unfortunately, a number of problems were encountered using this software. The automatic number generating routine persisted in re-using numbers and therefore overwriting files with consequent data loss. The limited editing functions also prevented the correction of some mistakes in the data. For example, where a Level 4 Class had been entered into a level 3 record by mistake and then could not be deleted, or where fields within the database do not have a null entry level and wrongly entered data could not be excised.

### **Quality Assurance Monitoring**

The GIS data, associated database and draft of this report have been submitted to the Quality Assurance panel appointed by CCW.

### **Local Information User Group (LIUG) meetings**

A short PowerPoint presentation outlining the approach to the project and illustrating its progress was submitted to the first LIUG meeting. Shorter written and verbal reports were given to the two subsequent meetings.

#### 4. SUMMARY OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS

##### Hierarchy of Level 3 classes represented in the area of study

A summary list of historic landscape aspect areas is given in Annex D. The classes that are represented are as follows, the Level 3 classes being described in greater detail in the following sections.

LEVEL 1: STRUCTURE	LEVEL 2: LAND USE	LEVEL 3: PATTERN	
Rural environment	Agricultural	Irregular fieldscape	
		Regular fieldscape	
		Other fieldscape	
	Non-agricultural	Woodland	
		Marginal land	
		Water & wetland	
	Built environment	Settlement	Nucleated settlement
			Other settlement
		Industrial	Extractive
Other built environment		Designed	

##### Summary description of Level 3 classes represented in area of study

###### *Irregular fieldscape*

A total of 26 irregular fieldscape areas are included, which varied in size from between about 0.2 to 51 square kilometres. The classification of these areas is perhaps the least satisfactory element of the current *LANDMAP* classification system. It is felt that the term Irregular fieldscape was somewhat of a misnomer and that perhaps Mixed fieldscape might be more appropriate - with the term Mixed/evolved fieldscape, found in Level 4, being altered to Evolved fieldscape.

Areas identified are; Bachawy PWYSHL256, Brynhafod PWYSHL808, Cantel PWYSHL396, Cefnlllys PWYSHL825, Cnwch PWYSHL974, Cwmaran PWYSHL990, Cwmdeuddwr PWYSHL426, Cwmhir PWYSHL123, Edw PWYSHL914, Fedw PWYSHL950, Ffridd PWYSHL785, Llanddewi PWYSHL996, Llandegley PWYSHL673, Llanstephan PWYSHL469, Llanyre PWYSHL194, Llwyn-barried PWYSHL120, Norton Brook PWYSHL171, Pen-y-fforest PWYSHL569, Pentre PWYSHL235, Rowley PWYSHL941, Trecoed PWYSHL141, Upper Ithon PWYSHL613, Upper Lugg PWYSHL259, Upper Teme PWYSHL806, Wern-fach PWYSHL822, Weythel PWYSHL765.

*Regular fieldscape*

A total of 13 regular fieldscape areas are included, which varied in size from between about 3.7 to 22.5 square kilometres in extent. These fieldscapes fall into two distinct types. The majority of these were areas of medieval field systems associated with settlements, with a smaller number of relatively recently divided valley floors. In both cases it may have been possible to define these at Level 4, but this as not done here for sake of consistency with the rest of the study.

Areas identified are; Afon Marteg PWYSHL285, Black Nursery PWYSHL900, Broad Heath PWYSHL210, Heyop PWYSHL318, Llandrindod Common PWYSHL237, Lugg Valley PWYSHL265, Middle Wye PWYSHL993, Nant Melan PWYSHL122, Stannage PWYSHL748, Upper Arrow PWYSHL949, Upper Wye PWYSHL874, Upper Wye Valley PWYSHL264, Walton Basin PWYSHL763.

*Other fieldscape*

A total of 16 other fieldscape areas are included, which varied in size from between about 2.3 to 48.2 square kilometres in extent. These are exclusively areas of enclosed upland almost all of which is former common land.

Areas identified are; Beacon Hill PWYSHL984, Beddugre Hill PWYSHL870, Black Hill PWYSHL723, Bwlch-y-sarnau PWYSHL975, Camlo Hill PWYSHL298, Castle Hill PWYSHL801, Clyro Hill PWYSHL501, Drysgol PWYSHL643, Gelli Hill PWYSHL427, Gwastedyn Hill PWYSHL577, Hergest Ridge PWYSHL908, Litton Hill PWYSHL985, Maelienydd PWYSHL762, Pen Ithon PWYSHL997, Radnor Forest PWYSHL828, Storling Bank PWYSHL269.

*Woodland*

A total of 8 woodland areas are distinguished which vary in size from 0.9 to 11.9 square kilometres in extent. The areas are almost exclusively modern coniferous plantations, though in some instances the areas encompass contiguous areas of natural, semi-natural or replanted broadleaved woodland.

Areas identified are; Cregiau PWYSHL309, Cwmysgawen Common PWYSHL979, Forest Wood PWYSHL317, Glasdir Hill (Radnor Forest) PWYSHL361, Graig Wood PWYSHL932, Great Park PWYSHL994, Knill Wood PWYSHL387, Mynydd yr Eithin PWYSHL332.

*Marginal land*

Ten marginal land areas are included which vary in size from 1.7 to 107 square kilometres in extent. Apart from the largest of these areas (the Elynudd area around the Elan Valley) the majority of these lie along the series of unenclosed northeast – southwest orientated ridges in the south of the area.

Areas identified are; Aberedw Hill PWYSHL244, Carneddau PWYSHL304, Disgwylfa Hill PWYSHL349, Elenydd PWYSHL412, Glaschw Hill PWYSHL371, Kerry Ridgeway PWYSHL121, Rhos-swydd PWYSHL566, Rhosfallof PWYSHL441, The Begwns PWYSHL564, Ysgwd-ffordd PWYSHL330.

*Water & wetland*

Only one area of open water – the northern half of the Claerwen reservoir an area of some 1.6 square kilometres – was included in this class.

The area identified is; Claerwen PWYSHL656

*Nucleated settlement*

Seven of the areas larger nucleated settlements are included, varying from 0.2 to 2.8 square kilometres in extent. They comprise Knighton, New Radnor, Presteigne, Rhayader, which originated

as medieval political and administrative or market towns, Crossgates and Howey, which have more recent origins, and Llandrindod Wells which although it originates as a small medieval settlement owes its present size and influence to its rise as a spa town in the nineteenth century.

Areas identified are; Crossgates PWYSHL756, Howey PWYSHL173, Knighton PWYSHL746, Llandrindod Wells PWYSHL992, New Radnor PWYSHL630, Presteigne PWYSHL419, Rhayader PWYSHL490.

*Other settlement*

Only one area was classified as *Other Settlement*. This was the Royal Welsh Showground complex at Llanelwedd which although not an area of habitation has a distinctive built-up character of its own and covers an area of some 0.7 square kilometres.

The area identified is; Llanelwedd PWYSHL139.

*Extractive*

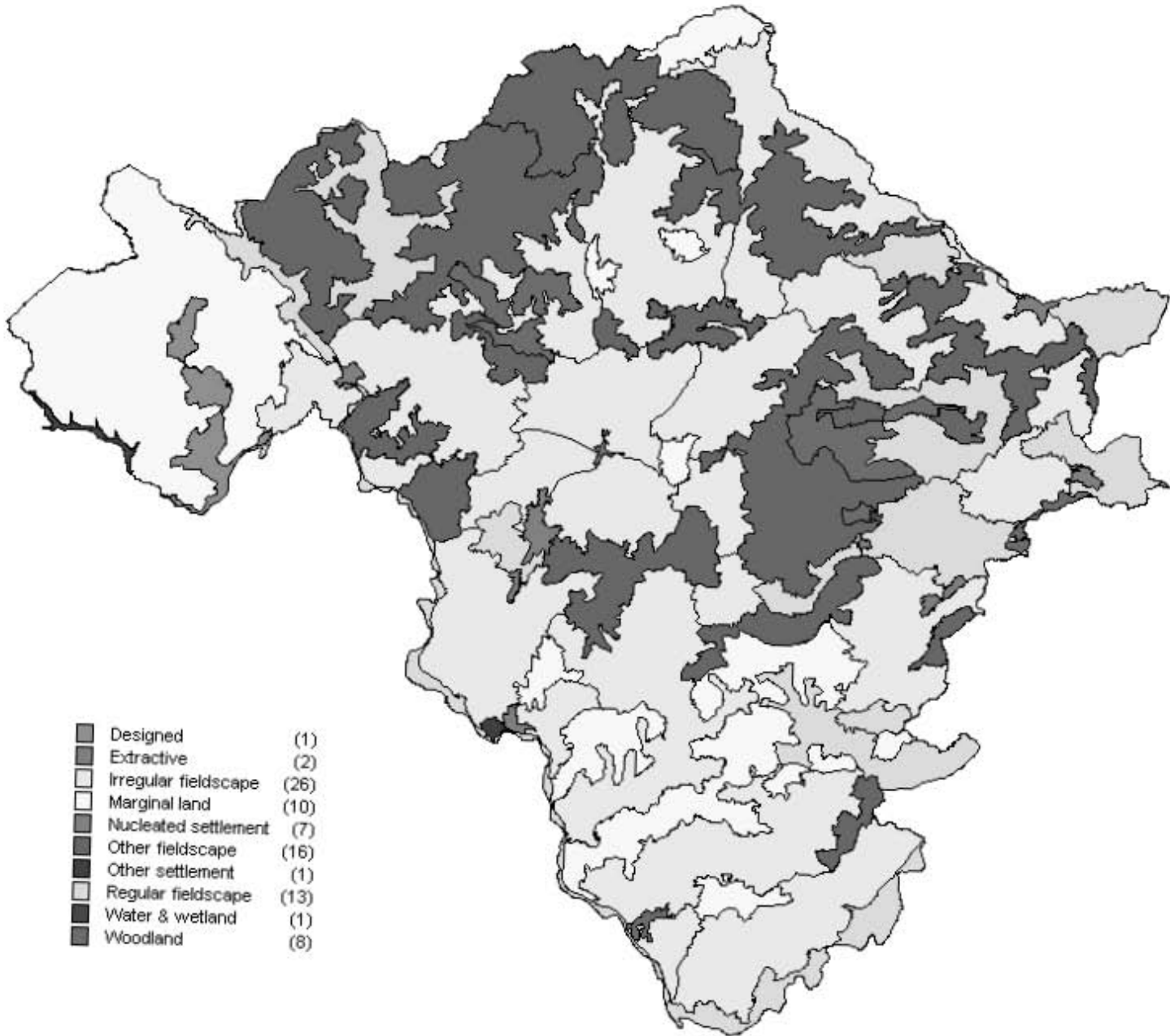
Two working quarries, at Llanelwedd and the conjoined workings at Old Radnor and Dolyhir and Strinds – covering 0.8 and 1 square kilometres respectively, have been classed as extractive. He extinct/dormant quarry at Rhayader was considered to have ‘reverted’ into its surrounding landscape.

Areas identified are; Llanelwedd quarry PWYSHL268, Old Radnor Hill PWYSHL493.

*Designed*

Only one designed landscape was identified in this study. This area comprises the Elan Valley reservoirs and the immediately adjacent landscape. It covers some 12.1 square kilometres.

The area identified is; Elan Valley PWYSHL532.



**Historic Landscape Aspect Areas defined at Level 3 for Radnorshire LANDMAP**

**Extent and relative proportions of the Level 3 classes represented in the area of study**

The extent and relative proportions of the Level 3 classes represented in the area of study are given in the following table.

LEVEL 3: PATTERN	TOTAL AREA SQ KM	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AREA
Irregular fieldscape	518.39	42.3%
Regular fieldscape	137.60	11.3%
Other fieldscape	300.56	24.6%
Woodland	28.70	2.4%
Marginal land	195.45	16.0%
Water & wetland	1.69	0.3%
Nucleated settlement	7.19	0.6%
Other settlement	0.76	0.3%
Extractive	1.91	0.4%
Designed	12.16	1.1%



**5. REFERENCES**

*Radnorshire Historic Settlements*, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Report No 92, 1994

*Elan Valley Historic Landscape: Historic Landscape Characterization*, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Report No 613, 2004

*Middle Wye Valley: Historic Landscape Characterization*, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Report No 420, 2001

*Powys: Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales*, Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, 1999

*Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*, Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, 1998

*Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales*, Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, 2001.

*The LANDMAP Information System*, Countryside Council for Wales, 2001.

*The LANDMAP Information System* (draft handbook), Countryside Council for Wales, 2003.

**ANNEX A**

**SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODS**

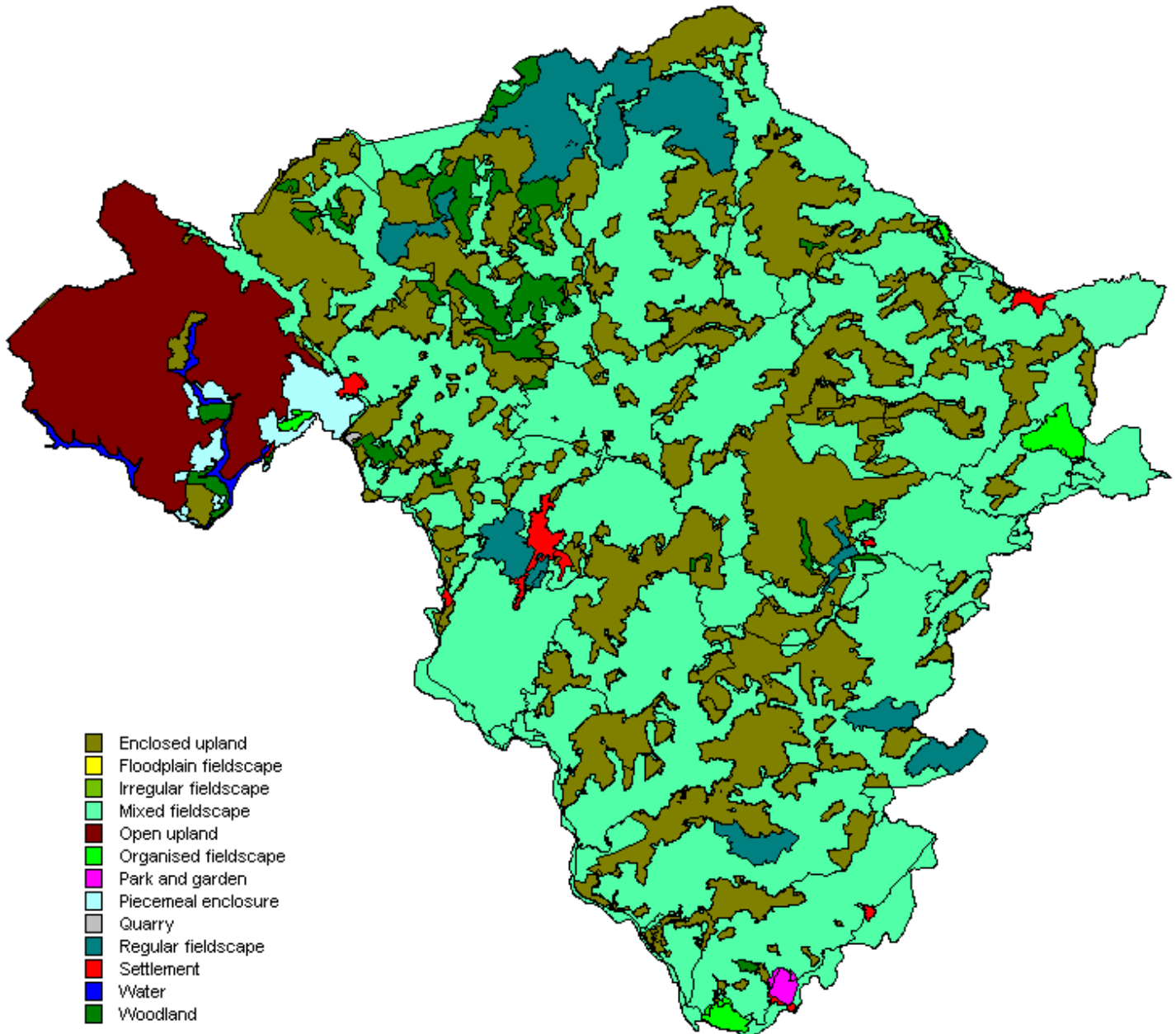
The following provides a summary of the dating of the historical and archaeological periods used in the narrative accompanying this study:

Palaeolithic	50,000 – 10,000 BC
Mesolithic	10,000 – 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 – 2,300 BC
Bronze Age	2,300 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Roman	AD 43 – AD 450
Early Medieval	AD 450 – 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 – 1547
Post-Medieval	AD 1547 – 1700
Industrial	AD 1700 – 1900
Modern	AD 1900 onwards

**ANNEX B**

**BASE-LEVEL POLYGONAL DATA: DESCRIPTION AND SOURCES**

CLASS	DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE
<i>open upland</i>	Unenclosed upland areas, including small commons on lower land, mapped from polygonal data defining registered modern commons and commons shown on the Tithe survey.
<i>enclosed upland</i>	Larger enclosed areas of marginal land, often with straight-sided boundaries, lying on and around the edge of open upland areas, generally assumed to have been enclosed in modern times (since about the latter half of the 18th century), sometimes somewhat arbitrarily distinguished from more anciently enclosed land on lower ground. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps
<i>water</i>	Larger reservoirs and dams, including ancillary works such as treatment works, water works, filter beds and access roads, mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps.
<i>quarry</i>	Larger surface quarry workings and opencast workings, tips, levels, disused and in use and ancillary structures including limekilns, dismantled mineral railway, roads and other quarrying infrastructure. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps.
<i>settlement</i>	All larger settlements of all periods, generally of more than about 20 houses. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 maps.
<i>woodland / forestry</i>	Larger coniferous plantations, mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps, and a small number of larger areas of broadleaved woodland mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps. Generally only in blocks >1km <sup>2</sup> .
<i>parks &amp; gardens</i>	Larger gardens and parks, mapped from polygonal data within the SMR transcribed from the register of historic parks and gardens in Powys, sometimes including and sometimes excluding the boundaries of 'essential setting'.
<i>floodplain fieldscape</i>	Irregular floodplain fields, river meanders, cut-offs etc, including late enclosure represented by straight-sided fields, mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps.
<i>organised fieldscape</i>	Lowland fieldscapes, characteristically including larger and more rectilinear fields with areas of strip fields and reorganised strip fields suggesting, medieval open field cultivation. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps, generally only in blocks >1km <sup>2</sup> .
<i>regular fieldscape</i>	Contiguous areas of squarish or large strip-shaped fields on upland edge, having the appearance of enclosed former open pasture or possibly reorganised formerly irregular field patterns, generally laid out in relation to the contours. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps, generally only in blocks >1km <sup>2</sup> .
<i>piecemeal enclosure</i>	Areas of more irregularly-shaped fields generally on upland edge, hillside locations and in valleys, suggesting gradual piecemeal woodland clearance and enclosure. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps, generally only in blocks >1km <sup>2</sup> .
<i>irregular fieldscape</i>	Areas of irregular fields representing discrete field systems but without regular structure. Mapped from OS 1:10,000 raster maps.
<i>mixed fieldscape</i>	Areas of mixed and organic fieldscapes representing combinations of different, sometimes relict, systems



Landscape Class polygons used to derive Historic Landscape Aspect Areas at LEVEL 3 for Radnorshire LANDMAP.

ANNEX C

PROVISIONAL HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS: SOURCES

LEVEL 3 PATTERN DERIVED FROM BASE-LEVEL POLYGONALY DATA

LEVEL 1 Structure	LEVEL 2 Land use	LEVEL 3 Pattern	FROM BASE-LEVEL POLYGONAL DATA
Rural environment	Agricultural	Irregular fieldscape	Mapped from <i>piecemeal fieldscape</i> ; some <i>encroachment</i> ; some <i>enclosed upland</i>
		Regular Fieldscape	Mapped from <i>organised fieldscape</i> ; <i>regular fieldscape</i> ; some <i>enclosed upland</i> ; <i>floodplain fieldscape</i>
		Other fieldscape	Mapped from Mixed fieldscape; some organised <i>fieldscape</i> ; some <i>regular fieldscape</i> ; some <i>enclosed upland</i>
	Non-agricultural	Woodland	Mapped from Selected areas of woodland / forestry
		Marginal land	Mapped from <i>open upland</i> ; selected areas of <i>enclosed upland</i>
		Water & wetland	Mapped from <i>water</i>
Built environment	Settlement	Nucleated settlement	Mapped from <i>settlement</i> (selected larger more nucleated settlements)
		Other settlement	<i>settlement</i> (selected larger forms other than nucleated settlements)
	Industrial	Extractive	Mapped from <i>quarry</i>
Other built environment	Designed		Mapped from single area surrounding Elan Valley reservoirs including some types of enclosure, areas of forestry and open water

ANNEX D

SUMMARY LIST OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS

AREA NUMBER	AREA NAME	LEVEL 3 CLASS (LANDSCAPE PATTERN)	AREA (SQ KM)
PWYSHL120	Llwyn-barried	Irregular fieldscape	38.44
PWYSHL121	Kerry Ridgeway	Marginal land	8.87
PWYSHL122	Nant Melan	Regular fieldscape	4.68
PWYSHL123	Cwmhir	Irregular fieldscape	15.99
PWYSHL139	Llanelwedd	Other settlement	0.77
PWYSHL141	Trecoed	Irregular fieldscape	36.78
PWYSHL171	Norton Brook	Irregular fieldscape	7.05
PWYSHL173	Howey	Nucleated settlement	0.51
PWYSHL194	Llanyre	Irregular fieldscape	13.90
PWYSHL210	Broad Heath	Regular fieldscape	11.88
PWYSHL235	Pentre	Irregular fieldscape	7.47
PWYSHL237	Llandrindod Common	Regular fieldscape	5.91
PWYSHL244	Aberedw Hill	Marginal land	11.97
PWYSHL256	Bachawy	Irregular fieldscape	42.17
PWYSHL259	Upper Lugg	Irregular fieldscape	19.15
PWYSHL264	Upper Wye Valley	Regular fieldscape	7.69
PWYSHL265	Lugg Valley	Regular fieldscape	22.51
PWYSHL268	Llanelwedd quarry	Extractive	0.83
PWYSHL269	Storling Bank	Other fieldscape	2.32
PWYSHL285	Afon Marteg	Regular fieldscape	21.81
PWYSHL298	Camlo Hill	Other fieldscape	5.62
PWYSHL304	Carneddau	Marginal land	4.58
PWYSHL309	Cregiau	Woodland	3.13
PWYSHL317	Forest Wood	Woodland	1.75
PWYSHL318	Heyop	Regular fieldscape	7.84
PWYSHL330	Ysgwd-ffordd	Marginal land	2.27
PWYSHL332	Mynydd yr Eithin	Woodland	0.95
PWYSHL349	Disgwylfa Hill	Marginal land	1.72
PWYSHL361	Glasdir Hill (Radnor Forest)	Woodland	11.93
PWYSHL371	Glascwm Hill	Marginal land	48.39
PWYSHL387	Knill Wood	Woodland	1.97
PWYSHL396	Cantel	Irregular fieldscape	8.60
PWYSHL412	Elenydd	Marginal land	107.59
PWYSHL419	Presteigne	Nucleated settlement	0.99
PWYSHL426	Cwmdeuddwr	Irregular fieldscape	10.58
PWYSHL427	Gelli Hill	Other fieldscape	21.85
PWYSHL441	Rhosfallog	Marginal land	2.11
PWYSHL469	Llanstephan	Irregular fieldscape	6.04
PWYSHL490	Rhayader	Nucleated settlement	0.88
PWYSHL493	Old Radnor Hill	Extractive	1.08
PWYSHL501	Clyro Hill	Other fieldscape	4.54
PWYSHL532	Elan Valley	Designed	12.16
PWYSHL564	The Begwns	Marginal land	5.20
PWYSHL566	Rhos-swydd	Marginal land	2.75
PWYSHL569	Pen-y-fforest	Irregular fieldscape	38.74

## Radnorshire LANDMAP: Historic Landscape Aspect, Technical Report

PWYSHL577	Gwastedyn Hill	Other fieldscape	17.21
PWYSHL613	Upper Ithon	Irregular fieldscape	42.63
PWYSHL630	New Radnor	Nucleated settlement	0.21
PWYSHL643	Drysgol	Other fieldscape	28.93
PWYSHL656	Claerwen	Water & wetland	1.70
PWYSHL673	Llandegley	Irregular fieldscape	9.98
PWYSHL723	Black Hill	Other fieldscape	22.38
PWYSHL746	Knighton	Nucleated settlement	1.25
PWYSHL748	Stannage	Regular fieldscape	11.55
PWYSHL756	Crossgates	Nucleated settlement	0.47
PWYSHL762	Maelienydd	Other fieldscape	7.71
PWYSHL763	Walton Basin	Regular fieldscape	21.08
PWYSHL765	Weythel	Irregular fieldscape	27.73
PWYSHL785	Ffridd	Irregular fieldscape	10.73
PWYSHL801	Castle Hill	Other fieldscape	12.97
PWYSHL806	Upper Teme	Irregular fieldscape	30.47
PWYSHL808	Brynhafod	Irregular fieldscape	0.67
PWYSHL822	Wern-fach	Irregular fieldscape	3.63
PWYSHL825	Cefnlllys	Irregular fieldscape	19.94
PWYSHL828	Radnor Forest	Other fieldscape	48.20
PWYSHL870	Beddugre Hill	Other fieldscape	2.36
PWYSHL874	Upper Wye	Regular fieldscape	9.08
PWYSHL900	Black Nursery	Regular fieldscape	3.48
PWYSHL908	Hergest Ridge	Other fieldscape	2.65
PWYSHL914	Edw	Irregular fieldscape	51.73
PWYSHL932	Graig Wood	Woodland	1.22
PWYSHL941	Rowley	Irregular fieldscape	13.94
PWYSHL949	Upper Arrow	Regular fieldscape	18.25
PWYSHL950	Fedw	Irregular fieldscape	7.06
PWYSHL974	Cnwch	Irregular fieldscape	0.24
PWYSHL975	Bwlch-y-sarnau	Other fieldscape	48.24
PWYSHL979	Cwmysgawen Common	Woodland	3.18
PWYSHL984	Beacon Hill	Other fieldscape	30.84
PWYSHL985	Litton Hill	Other fieldscape	2.64
PWYSHL990	Cwmaran	Irregular fieldscape	25.09
PWYSHL992	Llandrindod Wells	Nucleated settlement	2.89
PWYSHL993	Middle Wye	Regular fieldscape	13.65
PWYSHL994	Great Park	Woodland	4.58
PWYSHL996	Llanddewi	Irregular fieldscape	29.63
PWYSHL997	Pen Ithon	Other fieldscape	42.09

**Radnorshire LANDMAP: Historic Landscape Aspect, Technical Report**



**Historic Landscape Aspect Areas defined at Level 3 for Brecknock LANDMAP**