

THE CLWYD POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

# *Flintshire LANDMAP*

## *Historic Landscape Aspect Evaluation*

Technical Report



CPAT Report No 999

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Report for the Countryside Council for Wales

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The LANDMAP Historic Landscape aspect of the study area identified 48 separate aspect areas, ranging in size from 0.8 to 58 square kilometres and representing 12 different landscape patterns. These 48 areas were examined and each was evaluated against five pre-set criteria – *Integrity, Survival, Condition, Rarity and Potential* - and given one of five scores – *Unassessed, Low, Moderate, High or Outstanding*. Each set of resulting scores were then amalgamated and a overall evaluation score for each area obtained. The distribution of these scores are as follows,

<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>11 (23%)</b>
<b>High</b>	<b>21 (40%)</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>13 (31%)</b>
<b>Low</b>	<b>3 (6%)</b>
<b>Unassessed</b>	<b>0</b>

## CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	METHODOLOGY	4
3	OVERALL EVALUATION OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS	11
4	REFERENCES	15

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Flintshire *LANDMAP* forms part of an ongoing pan-Wales project of landscape assessment. The area studied extends over the whole of Flintshire and covers approximately 490 square kilometres of north east Wales. The Historic Landscape Aspect work was undertaken by The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) on behalf Flintshire County Council and the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) in 2005. This original study was carried out in accordance with the 2003 LANDMAP methodology which did not require the evaluation of aspect areas defined at Level 3 areas. In order to bring the Historic Landscape Aspect into line with other LANDMAP aspects, new guidance allowing for evaluation at Level 3 was produced in 2008, and in 2009 CCW issued a series of contracts to evaluate these previously defined areas. The evaluation exercise for the Flintshire LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect was carried out between October 2008 and March 2009 by CPAT.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

### Overview

This is an assessment of the intrinsic value of Aspect Area defined in the Flintshire LANDMAP. The Historic Landscape Aspect criteria for the identification of this intrinsic quality have been adapted from those used to evaluate the impacts of development on historic landscapes found in the *Guide to Good Practice on Using The Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process* (known as AISIDOHL2 as of 2007) These are *Integrity, Survival, Condition, Rarity and Potential*.

Using the guidance, each aspect area was assessed against the five criteria and allocated one of four ‘scores’ – *Low, Moderate, High, Outstanding*. For each assessment criterion, scores of 1-4 were allocated, with 1 corresponding to Low and 4 to Outstanding, as follows:

Score	Evaluation
4	Outstanding
3	High
2	Moderate
1	Low

No area was scored as *Unassessed*.

A total score was then obtained by adding the scores for each criteria and an Overall Evaluation allocated according to the following table.

Total Score	Overall Evaluation
17-20	Outstanding
13-16	High
9-12	Moderate
5-8	Low

The Evaluation scores were recorded in the Evaluation Matrix section of the LANDMAP Collector database.

### Data collection analysis and recording

Digital mapped sources that were used were the Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:10,000, 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 raster maps, OS Landline and contour data and latterly OS Mastermap data for the whole of the study area. Digitally geo-referenced vertical aerial photography (AP) of Flintshire supplied by GetMapping and that produced by COWI supplied by CCW, and used under their licence, were also used as a mapping source and in addition to this occasional reference was made to editions of early OS mapping. The GetMapping and COWI AP data, and oblique aerial photography also proved useful for identifying (relatively) current land use, vegetation types and land cover as well as helping to identify the nature of many boundary features and therefore for assessing integrity, condition and survival

The primary source of historical and archaeological information was the Historic Environment Record (HER), maintained by CPAT. Much of the information in these records is point data, but it also includes 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, and the historic landscapes registers together with the historic landscape characterization report for *Holywell Common and Halkyn Mountain*.

Where possible the assembled data were examined and analysed digitally using MapInfo Professional 7.8 GIS software. Initial assessments of each aspect area against the five evaluation criteria were made using the GIS. A very limited programme of field visiting was undertaken to check decisions taken in the desk-based assessment, but heavy reliance was also placed on detailed field data collected as part of the various Cadw pan-Wales assessment projects undertaken by CPAT over the past 10-15 years.

A database was created in version 5.0.16, 5.0.17 and 5.0.18 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 9.0) PDF files.

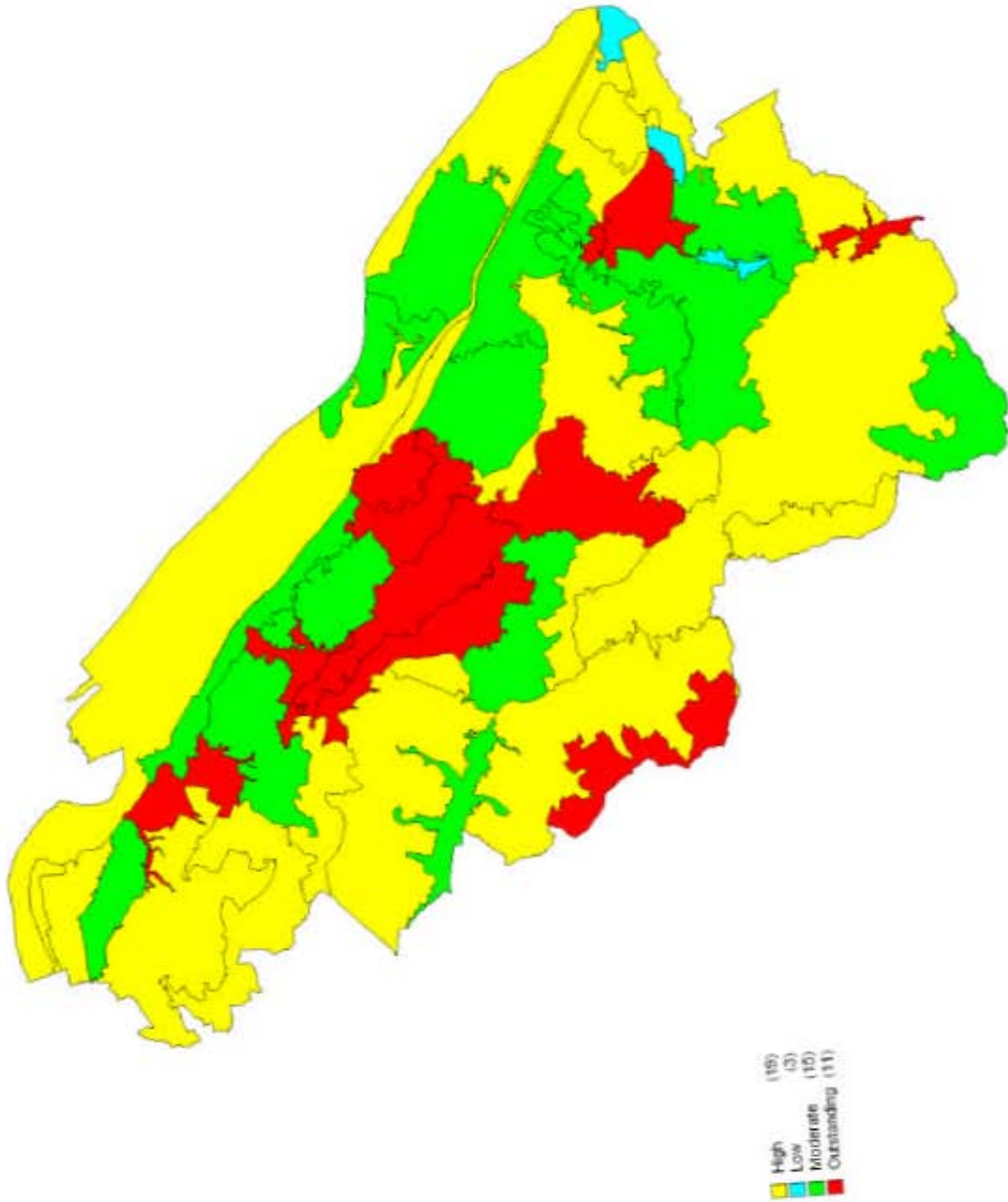
### 3. OVERALL EVALUATION OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS

The following table summarizes the overall evaluations awarded to Historic Landscape Aspect Areas, in line with the LANDMAP 2008 guidance. The derivations of these overall scores can be found for each area in the Collector database.

OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Lower Soughton	FLNTHL347
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Halkyn	FLNTHL731
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Maes Gwyn	FLNTHL207
Outstanding	Marginal Land	Moel Arthur	FLNTHL269
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Caergwle & Hope	FLNTHL579
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Flint	FLNTHL860
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Hawarden	FLNTHL354
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Hollywell	FLNTHL390
Outstanding	Extractive	Halkym Mountain	FLNTHL417
Outstanding	Designed	Hawarden Castle	FLNTHL396
Outstanding	Designed	Mostyn Hall & Downing	FLNTHL262
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Axton	FLNTHL712
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Babell	FLNTHL622
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Helyg	FLNTHL716
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Kinnerton	FLNTHL745
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Lleeswood	FLNTHL349
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Northop Hall	FLNTHL213
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Penbedw	FLNTHL850
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Alyn Valley	FLNTHL183
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Nercwys Mountain	FLNTHL376
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Pantasaph	FLNTHL608
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Pen Ucha"r Plwyf	FLNTHL594
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Sealand	FLNTHL603
High	Regular Fieldscapes	St Deiniol's Ash & Aston Hall	FLNTHL538
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Talacre	FLNTHL590
High	Regular Fieldscapes	The Rakes	FLNTHL487
High	Reclaimed land	White Sands	FLNTHL718
High	Marginal Land	Point of Ayr	FLNTHL124
High	Communications	Broughton Airfield	FLNTHL756
High	Water & Wetland	Dee Estuary	FLNTHL326
High	Nucleated Settlement	Mold	FLNTHL953
High	Non-nucleated Settlement	Rockcliffe Marsh	FLNTHL572



OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Gadlys	FLNTHL222
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Leadbrook	FLNTHL825
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Padeswood	FLNTHL636
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Saith Ffynnon	FLNTHL421
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Trellyniau	FLNTHL757
Moderate	Irregular Fieldsapes	Wheeler Valley	FLNTHL794
Moderate	Regular Fieldsapes	Gwernato	FLNTHL947
Moderate	Regular Fieldsapes	Gwespyr	FLNTHL204
Moderate	Regular Fieldsapes	Penymynydd	FLNTHL581
Moderate	Nucleated Settlement	Shotton Mills	FLNTHL743
Moderate	Non-nucleated Settlement	Connah's Quay	FLNTHL456
Moderate	Non-nucleated Settlement	Mostyn & Bagillt	FLNTHL789
Moderate	Other Settlement	Buckley & Ewloe	FLNTHL846
Low	Nucleated Settlement	Broughton	FLNTHL766
Low	Non-nucleated Settlement	Penyffordd	FLNTHL555
Low	Non-nucleated Settlement	Saltney	FLNTHL826



**Historic Landscape Aspect Areas evaluation scores for Flintshire LANDMAP**

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