Montgomeryshire LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect Evaluation

Technical Report



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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 102 separate aspect areas, ranging in size from 0.27 to 129.99 square kilometres and representing 12 different landscape patterns. These 102 areas were examined and each was evaluated against five pre-set criteria – *Integrity, Survival, Condition, Rarity and Potential* - and given one of five scores – *Unassesed, 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,

Outstanding 24 (19%)
High 39 (42%)
Moderate 28 (28%)
Low 11 (11%)
Unassessed 0

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Montgomeryshire *LANDMAP* forms part of an ongoing pan-Wales project of landscape assessment. The area studied extends over the whole of Montgomeryshire and covers approximately 2175 square kilometres of mid Wales. The Historic Landscape Aspect work was undertaken by The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) on behalf Powys County Council and the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) in 2006. 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 Montgomeryshire 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 Montgomeryshire 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 Montgomeryshire 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 reports for *The Tanat Valley, The Vale of Montgomery, The Caersws Basin* and *The Clwyedog Valley*

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.

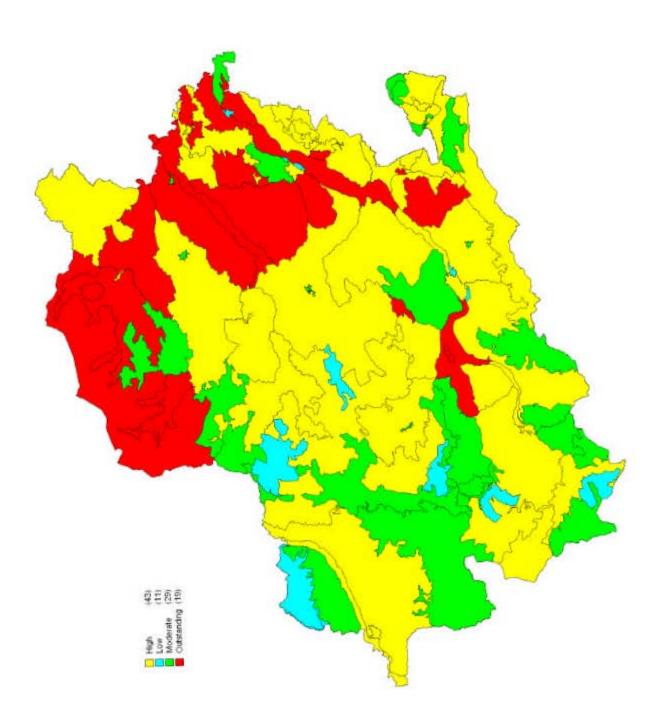
3. OVERALL EVALUATION OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS

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 Outstanding Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Breidden Hills Brooks	MNTGMHL966 MNTGMHL719 MNTGMHL672
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Bryngwyn Burgedin	MNTGMHL835
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Cefn-y-coed	MNTGMHL833
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Lower Tanat	MNTGMHL923
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Maesmawr	MNTGMHL248
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Rhos Common	MNTGMHL115
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Mule	MNTGMHL630
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Tanat	MNTGMHL648
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Arddleen	MNTGMHL501
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Caersws basin	MNTGMHL902
Outstandin g	Regular Fieldscapes	Dyffryn Meifod	MNTGMHL715
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Lower Severn Valley	MNTGMHL441
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Middle Severn Valley	MNTGMHL620
Outstanding	Other fieldscapes	Kerry Hills	MNTGMHL124
Outstanding	Marginal Land	Southern Berwyn	MNTGMHL570
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Caersws	MNTGMHL827
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Montgomery	MNTGMHL294
Outstanding	Designed	Gregynog	MNTGMHL649
Outstanding	Designed	Lake Vrynwy	MNTGMHL900
Outstanding	Designed	Leighton Hall	MNTGMHL116
Outstanding	Designed	Powis Castle Park	MNTGMHL386
Outstanding	Recreational	Llanymynech Hill	MNTGMHL482
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High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Allt Fawr	MNTGMHL559
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Buttington / Middletown	MNTGMHL310
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Dolanog	MNTGMHL419
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Ffrydd Faldwyn	MNTGMHL541
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Forden / Trelystan	MNTGMHL514
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Gelli Hill	MNTGMHL970
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Hyssington	MNTGMHL770 MNTGMHL289
High High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Is-y-coed	MNTGMHL289 MNTGMHL403
High High	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Llanfihangel	MNTGMHL403 MNTGMHL952
High High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Lower Clywedog / Upper Severn Middle Banwy / Upper Rhiw	MNTGMHL932 MNTGMHL433
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Mochdre	MNTGMHL433
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Moelfre	MNTGMHL840
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Penbedw	MNTGMHL820
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Pentrenant	MNTGMHL741
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OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Trewylan	MNTGMHL309
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Trelydan	MNTGMHL129
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Banwy	MNTGMHL352
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Wye	MNTGMHL225
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Cwmdulla Dovey valley Long Mountain Salt Bridge Upper Severn valley Wernddu	MNTGMHL423
High	Regular Fieldscapes		MNTGMHL288
High	Regular Fieldscapes		MNTGMHL707
High	Regular Fieldscapes		MNTGMHL980
High	Regular Fieldscapes		MNTGMHL989
High	Regular Fieldscapes		MNTGMHL856
High	Woodland	Hafren Forest	MNTGMHL691
High	Woodland	Leighton Woodland	MNTGMHL785
High	Marginal Land	Ffridd Rhyd Ddu	MNTGMHL859
High	Marginal Land	Roundton Hill	MNTGMHL705
High	Marginal Land	Trannon Moor	MNTGMHL704
High	Marginal Land	Y Drum	MNTGMHL301
High	Nucleated Settlement	Guilsfield	MNTGMHL614
High		Llanidloes	MNTGMHL453
High		Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant	MNTGMHL140
High		Machynlleth	MNTGMHL979
High		Newtown	MNTGMHL427
High		Welshpool	MNTGMHL936
High	Other Settlement	Four Crosses	MNTGMHL231
High	Designed	Lymore Park	MNTGMHL359
Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate	Irregular Fieldscapes	Afon Laen / Nant Twmyn Braichyfedw Coedway Cwmbelan Garth Mynydd Garth-pwt Nant y Dugoed / Cwm Tafalog Upper Trannon	MNTGMHL768 MNTGMHL177 MNTGMHL779 MNTGMHL771 MNTGMHL587 MNTGMHL152 MNTGMHL673 MNTGMHL673
Moderate	Regular Fieldscapes	Alport	MNTGMHL372
Moderate	Other fieldscapes	Brynposteg	MNTGMHL573
Moderate	Other fieldscapes	Rhiwlas Hill	MNTGMHL832
Moderate	Other fieldscapes	Waun Lluestowain	MNTGMHL661
Moderate	Other fieldscapes	White Grit	MNTGMHL341
Moderate	Woodland	Dyfnant Forest	MNTGMHL926
Moderate	Woodland	Esgair Ychion	MNTGMHL361
Moderate	Marginal Land	Corndon Hill	MNTGMHL624
Moderate	Marginal Land	Glasgwm	MNTGMHL437
Moderate	Marginal Land	Glasllyn	MNTGMHL503
Moderate	Marginal Land	Moel y Llyn	MNTGMHL819
Moderate	Marginal Land	Mynydd Glandulas	MNTGMHL478

OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
Moderate	Marginal Land	Mynydd y Cemmaes	MNTGMHL117
Moderate	Water & Wetland	Llyn Clywedog	MNTGMHL250
Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate	Nucleated Settlement	Carno Churchstoke Kerry Llanfair Caereinion Llanfyllin Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	MNTGMHL278 MNTGMHL981 MNTGMHL267 MNTGMHL940 MNTGMHL178 MNTGMHL865
Low Low Low	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Banc y Groes Foel Fawr Nant Dulas	MNTGMHL861 MNTGMHL747 MNTGMHL843
Low	Other fieldscapes	Pant-gwyn Hill	MNTGMHL895
Low Low Low	Woodland Woodland Woodland	Carnedd y Cylch Dyfi Forest Esgair Hill	MNTGMHL790 MNTGMHL646 MNTGMHL320
Low	Extractive	Criggion Quarry	MNTGMHL992
Low Low Low	Processing/Manufacturing Processing/Manufacturing Processing/Manufacturing	Newtown Industrial area north Newtown Industrial area south Welshpool Industrial Area	MNTGMHL303 MNTGMHL805 MNTGMHL592



Historic Landscape Aspect Areas evaluation scores for Montgomeryshire LANDMAP

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