Radnorshire 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 85 separate aspect areas, ranging in size from 0.2 to 107 square kilometres and representing 10 different landscape patterns. These 85 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 18 (19%)
High 31 (38%)
Moderate 20 (25%)
Low 16 (19%)
Unassessed 0

CONTENTS

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

1. INTRODUCTION

The Radnorshire *LANDMAP* forms part of an ongoing pan-Wales project of landscape assessment. The area studied extends over the whole of Radnorshire and covers approximately 1226 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 2004. 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 Radnorshire 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 Radnorshire 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 Radnorshire 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 Elan Valley, The Middle Wye*.

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.

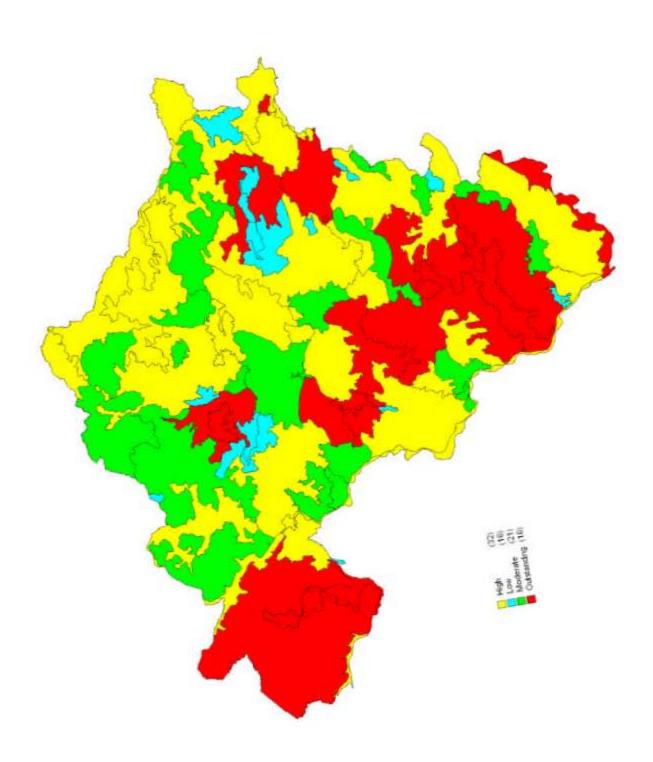
3. OVERALL EVALUATION OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ASPECT AREAS

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	Bachawy	RDNRHL256
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Cwmhir	RDNRHL123
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Edw	RDNRHL914
Outstanding	Irregular Fieldscapes	Llanyre	RDNRHL194
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Llandrindod Common	RDNRHL237
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Lugg Valley	RDNRHL265
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Middle Wye	RDNRHL993
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Stannage	RDNRHL748
Outstanding	Regular Fieldscapes	Walton Basin	RDNRHL763
Outstanding	Other fieldscapes	Gelli Hill	RDNRHL427
Outstanding	Woodland	Great Park	RDNRHL994
Outstanding	Marginal Land	Elenydd	RDNRHL412
Outstanding	Marginal Land	Glascwm Hill	RDNRHL371
Outstanding	Marginal Land	Rhos-swydd	RDNRHL566
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Llandrindod Wells	RDNRHL992
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	New Radnor	RDNRHL630
Outstanding	Nucleated Settlement	Presteigne	RDNRHL419
Outstanding	Designed	Elan Valley	RDNRHL532
High High High High High High High High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Cefnllys Cwmaran Cwmdeuddwr Fedw Llanstephen Llwyn-barried Pen-y-fforest Rowley Trecoed	RDNRHL825 RDNRHL990 RDNRHL426 RDNRHL950 RDNRHL469 RDNRHL120 RDNRHL120 RDNRHL569 RDNRHL941 RDNRHL141
High	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Upper Ithon	RDNRHL613
High		Upper Teme	RDNRHL806
High	Irregular Fieldscapes	Weythel	RDNRHL765
High	Regular Fieldscapes	Afon Marteg Broad Heath Heyop Nant Melan Upper Arrow Upper Wye Upper Wye Valley	RDNRHL285
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL210
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL318
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL122
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL949
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL874
High	Regular Fieldscapes		RDNRHL864

OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
High High High High	Other fieldscapes Other fieldscapes Other fieldscapes Other fieldscapes	Beacon Hill Black Hill Maelienydd Radnor Forest	RDNRHL984 RDNRHL723 RDNRHL762 RDNRHL828
High	Woodland	Knill Wood	RDNRHL387
High High High High	Marginal Land Marginal Land Marginal Land Marginal Land	Aberedw Hill Carneddau Kerry Ridgeway The Begwns	RDNRHL244 RDNRHL304 RDNRHL121 RDNRHL564
High	Water & Wetland	Claerwen	RDNRHL656
High High	Nucleated Settlement Nucleated Settlement	Knighton Rhayader	RDNRHL746 RDNRHL490
Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Cantel Llandegley Llandewi Pentre Upper Lugg Wern-fach	RDNRHL396 RDNRHL673 RDNRHL996 RDNRHL235 RDNRHL259 RDNRHL822
Moderate	Regular Fieldscapes	Ffridd	RDNRHL785
Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate Moderate	Other fieldscapes	Beddugre Hill Bwlch-y-Sarnau Castle Hill Clyro Hill Drysgol Gwastedyn Hill Hergest Ridge Pen Ithon	RDNRHL870 RDNRHL975 RDNRHL801 RDNRHL501 RDNRHL643 RDNRHL577 RDNRHL908 RDNRHL997
Moderate	Marginal Land	Rhosfallog	RDNRHL441
Moderate	Nucleated Settlement	Crossgates	RDNRHL756
Moderate	Other Settlement	Llanelwedd	RDNRHL139
Moderate	Extractive	Llanelwedd Quarry	RDNRHL268
Low Low	Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes Irregular Fieldscapes	Brynhafod Cnwch Norton Brook	RDNRHL808 RDNRHL974 RDNRHL171
Low	Regular Fieldscapes	Black Nursery	RDNRHL900
Low Low	Other fieldscapes Other fieldscapes	Litton Hill Storling Bank	RDNRHL985 RDNRHL269

OVERALL EVALUATION	LANDSCAPE PATTERN	AREA NAME	AREA UID
Low	Woodland	Cregiau	RDNRHL309
Low Low	Woodland Woodland	Cwmysgawen Common Forest Wood	RDNRHL979 RDNRHL317
Low Low	Woodland Woodland	Glasdir Hill (Radnor Forest) Graig Wood	RDNRHL361 RDNRHL932
Low	Woodland	Mynydd yr Eithin	RDNRHL332
Low Low Low	Marginal Land Marginal Land Marginal Land	Camlo Hill Disgwylfa Hill Ysgwd-ffordd	RDNRHL298 RDNRHL349 RDNRHL330
Low	Nucleated Settlement	Howey	RDNRHL173
Low	Extractive	Old Radnor Hill	RDNRHL493



Historic Landscape Aspect Areas evaluation scores for Radnorshire LANDMAP

4. REFERENCES

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