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Hampshire Historic Landscape Assessment

Final Report

Volume 1: Main Report

By

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Chapter 1

Introduction

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Background

1.1 In spring 1998 The Oxford Archaeological Unit and Scott Wilson Resource Consultants were commissioned by Hampshire County Council, and English Heritage to undertake an historic landscape assessment of the county. The context of the study has been both to supplement and enhance the County Council's existing landscape assessment work and to form part of English Heritage's national programme of helping local authorities to produce historic landscape character assessments.

1.2 This report has been divided into two volumes for ease of use. Volume One is the main report of methodology, findings and discussion, together with a bibliography and illustrations, while Volume Two presents the Appendices containing descriptions and map extracts of the Historic Types developed in the course of the study.

1.3 The Brief (see Appendix 1) sought an approach based closely on the model adopted for the studies of Cornwall and Avon, and more recently the Cotswolds AONB and elsewhere. All these have drawn on the conclusions reached by the English Heritage research project on approaches to historic landscape assessment carried out by SWRC (then Cobham Resource Consultants) and The Oxford Archaeological Unit in 1993-94.

1.4 The main aims of the project were to produce a digital map of Hampshire's historic landscape characteristics, which would

- in conjunction with the county-wide landscape assessment, to set a framework for future district historic landscape assessment within the county

- help to inform the county's structure planning, development control and countryside conservation activities
- provide a supporting explanatory report and digital and hard copy archive.

1.5 The key technical objective of the study was that the assessment should be compatible with the county planning department's Geographic Information System (GIS) and be interactive.

1.6 A full county-wide landscape assessment of Hampshire was completed in 1993 and part of the Brief was to provide information which would allow the county's existing Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types to be analysed for their historic characteristics.

Principles

1.7 Historic landscape assessment is about recognising the ways in which the present countryside reflects how people have exploited, changed and adapted to their physical environment through time, with respect to different social, economic, technological and cultural aspects of life (Fairclough Lambrick and McNab forthcoming; Countryside Commission 1996).

1.8 The core premise against which this study has been developed is the recognition that landscape is dynamic and ever changing. The key policy issues are how present day society wishes to engage with and influence the direction and pace of future change in ways currently perceived to be desirable for maintaining links with the past in a way that enriches the present environment.

1.9 Historic landscape character is, thus, partly about characteristic patterns of change and important relics of past change, and

partly about how the resultant pattern of physical features in the countryside consistently vary from one place to another. Such patterns can be seen to reflect a complex combination of local or regional long- or short-term socio-economic factors, and varied underlying influences of geography, history and tradition.

1.10 In order for the assessment to be useful there is an obvious need to focus on output which is of practical use for strategic structure planning for:

- Housing
- Commercial & industrial development

Approach

1.11 Hampshire has already been well covered by conventional landscape and ecological and historic assessment and characterisation at various scales (from national to local) which have been undertaken at different times and by different organisations. While on the one hand this can provide a rich source of different perspectives on a subject where there is no single 'right' answer, there is also the danger that adding yet another perspective could lead to unnecessary confusion of previous work if not taken into account.

1.12 The approach adopted is firmly based on seeing historic landscape assessment as a process of enrichment and refinement of landscape characterisation, rather than as a separate or rival approach. In essence, it should ideally enrich the traditional approach (which tends to see the landscape from the perspective of a static present-day snapshot in time) by putting more emphasis on time-depth and how different areas reflect different patterns and rates of change.

1.13 A further probable source of difference between the two approaches is that the historic landscape assessment is primarily desk-based using maps and air photographs: historic landscape assessment, thus, differs significantly from conventional Landscape assessment because it has a "vertical" rather than "horizontal" viewpoint. This tends to produce results which are less easy to appreciate on the ground but which are nonetheless valid, not least, because the approach allows greater attention to be given to causal relationships through both time and space.

1.14 It is envisaged that there would need to be a dynamic, interactive relationship between the present study and previous landscape assessment work in Hampshire. Previous work could provide both part of the foundations on which this study builds, and a sounding board against which to test and compare results, by which real differences arising from the historic landscape approach can be distinguished from minor discrepancies.

1.15 During the course of the study this type of interaction was directly demonstrated by input to three other landscape studies at more local level (on the setting of Winchester, the Forest of Bere and the Forest of Eversley). The consultants for the Winchester study reported excellent correlation between conventional and historic landscape approaches, which provided useful independent confirmation of the potential for inter-active use of the approach to support other types of landscape assessment.

1.16 The presentation of results does not attempt to amalgamate the results of this study with previous ones, but provides a description and commentary on the

conventional county assessment's Landscape Character Areas before discussing particular aspects of the historic character of the Hampshire landscape and its development.

1.17 The study also points the way to future use of the results for developing strategic planning and advice in a number of ways through providing examples or suggestions of how it can be applied.

Geology, Topography and Landscape Change in Hampshire

1.18 Hampshire consists of five main geographical blocks of land, reflecting the geology of the county (Figure 1.1). There is a central broadly rectangular block of chalk with varying degrees of clay-with-flints cover. The north of the chalk there is an area of tertiary sands and clays forming the northern margin of the county. To the east is the western end of the Weald, consisting of Upper Greensand, Gault Clay and Lower Greensand. To the south of the chalk there is another broad band of tertiary sands and clays. These also form the underlying strata of the New Forest, occupying the south-west corner of the county. The fifth area is another small area of chalk, representing part of the eastern edge of Cranborne Chase.

1.19 While there is evidence of mesolithic and earlier hunter-gatherers, especially on the sands of eastern Hampshire, most of the earliest evidence of early human impact on the landscape comes from the chalk. Here there are extensive traces of people's activities from the Neolithic onwards. This area of relatively good soils was extensively settled by the late prehistoric and Roman period, by when it is likely to have been a

predominantly agricultural landscape, possibly as clear of trees as it is today.

1.20 The sands and clays of the remaining areas tend to be less resilient to agricultural exploitation, and the more acidic soils in particular are prone to over-exploitation and exhaustion. This can be demonstrated to have happened as early as the Bronze Age in the New Forest. Nevertheless, these areas too have a long history of exploitation. The New Forest was an important centre for pottery making in the later Roman period, and in the north of the county Silchester was one of the main Roman Cities of Britain, though it is less clear how fully its hinterland was exploited.

1.21 Hampshire was not among the earliest areas of Saxon settlement. In the early Middle Ages a high proportion of the county was Royal Forest, though this principally meant that it was subject to Forest Law. Nevertheless, substantial areas of heathland and woodland formed parts of the area designated as Royal Forest and much of the character of the New Forest has resulted from the survival of the special status that this imposed. In general Hampshire is particularly well provided with woodland.

1.22 Over almost the whole of the county except the most open chalklands, there is evidence of the clearance of woodland in the form of "assart" field patterns resulting from the gradual encroachment of open farmland into areas of woodland or wood pasture.

1.23 Although Hampshire did have open fields in the middle ages many of these were enclosed early, before the general parliamentary enclosure movement. Much of the chalk was open downland up till the late 18th century, although much of this area had

been arable in late prehistoric and Roman times.

1.24 Large parts of the county have field systems that reflect informal, mainly pre-parliamentary enclosure.

1.25 During the 19th century large parts of the chalk were enclosed or re-enclosed with medium to large straight sided fields, and it was at this time that much of the open downland, heathland, woodland and extensive wood pasture of the former Royal Forests was enclosed. It was these areas that were most extensively and radically changed during the last 200 years. It is the New Forest that has retained par excellence the older historic patterns of open shared grazing lands mixed with scattered settlement and occasional villages which were once generally the character of the heathland areas of the county.

1.26 Parts of west Hampshire, especially bordering open areas of downland, as at Martin Down on the edge of Cranborne Chase, are the areas that now most clearly retain the medieval and post-medieval historic character of the chalkland areas of the county.

1.27 During the last 125 years or so general processes of industrialisation, and the expansion of trade have also had a major impact on the character of the county. It was in this period that large scale urbanisation took place, expanding from key, long-standing centres of defence and trade at Portsmouth and Southampton. The growth of London, and of defence establishments on the Surrey heaths have also had their effect on the proliferation of urban and sub-urban growth in north-east Hampshire.

Acknowledgements

1.28 The study has been jointly funded by Hampshire County Council and English Heritage.

1.29 The study was conducted under the guidance of members of a joint English Heritage and Hampshire County Council working party consisting of:

- Graham Fairclough (EH)
- Linda Tartaglia-Kershaw (HCC)
- Ray Smith (HCC)
- Peter Atkinson (HCC)
- David Hopkins (HCC)

1.30 We would particularly like to thank the five members of the working party for their general interest and support, for the provision of extremely useful source data held by the county, and for their helpful suggestions, guidance and constructive criticisms.

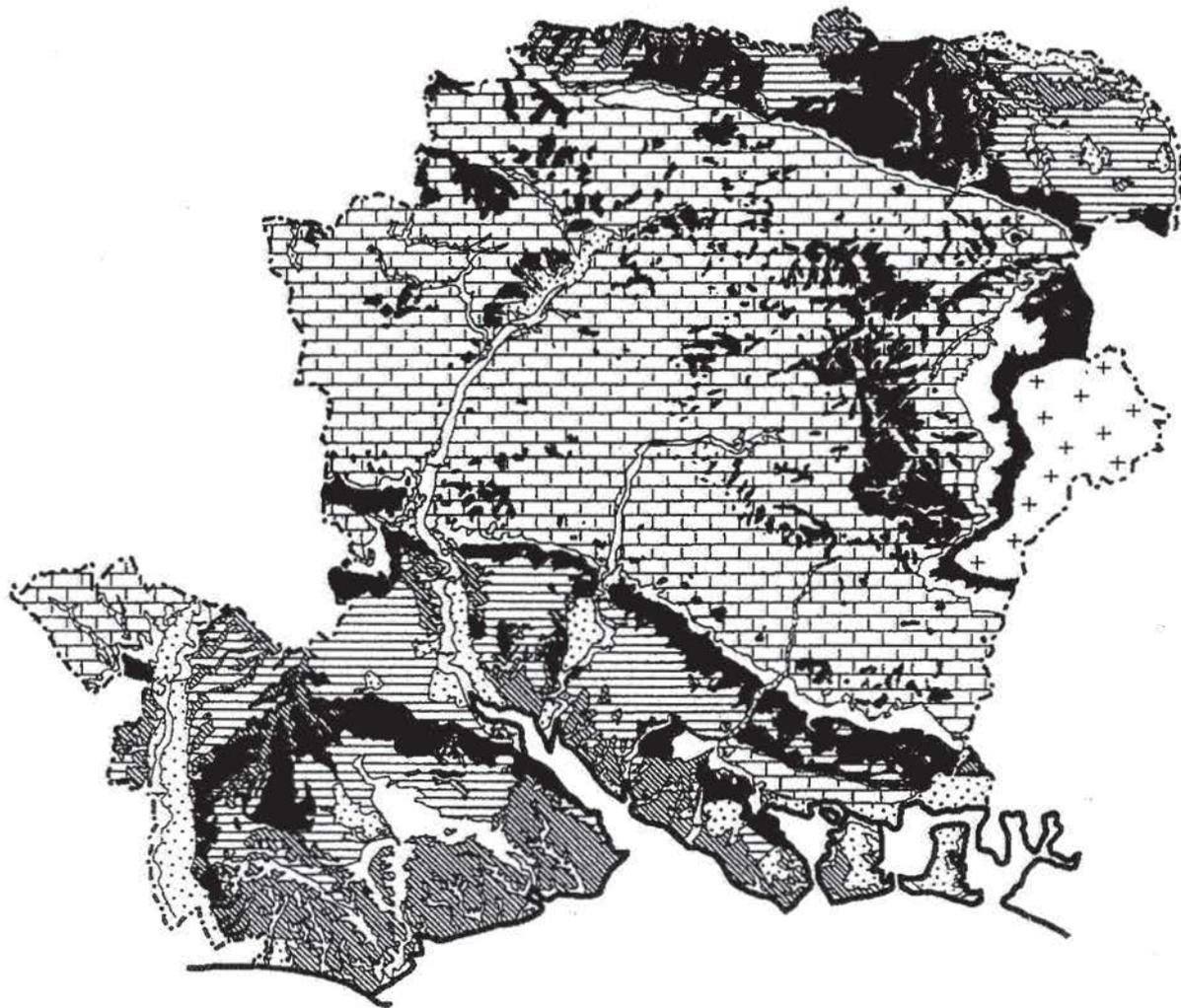


Figure 1.1 Hampshire's solid and drift geology (after Darby and Campbell 1971, The Domesday Geography of South East England Figure 90)

Chapter 2

Approach and Methodology

Sources and Base Date	1
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Sources and Base Date

2.1 The sources used in the compilation of the assessment are referred to briefly below, and in more detail in the definition of the Historic Landscape Types (HLTs) presented in Volume 2.

2.2 The mapping was carried out using the latest "Explorer" and New Forest "Outdoor Leisure" series of OS 1:25,000 maps, which covered the whole county except for a very few minor parts of north Hampshire for which the earlier "Pathfinder" series were used.

2.3 The "Explorer" series are all 1997 revisions of the earlier 1:25,000 coverage, and the edition of the New Forest "Outdoor Leisure" series that was used was the 1996 revision. The base date of the study is therefore 1996/7.

General Rationale for the Definition of Historic Landscape Types

2.4 The underlying rationale adopted for the definition of Historic Landscape Types incorporates a number of principles and practical considerations. These were as follows:

- The assessment should characterise the present day countryside
- The whole county should be mapped seamlessly
- The historic characteristics recognised should reflect different types of human interaction with the environment
- Such interactions should be capable of being mapped reasonably comprehensively as distinct areas of

countryside (this effectively excluded coverage of linear communication routes and religious complexes)

- The assessment should incorporate distinctions between landscape types which reflect change through time
- The assessment should be capable of mapping areas not only according to current land use characteristics but also relict land use where this has left a substantial impact on visible landscape character
- Conversely, the assessment should not map characteristics that can only be derived from historical or archaeological evidence (e.g. whether areas were subject to parliamentary enclosure; evidence of subsoil archaeology such as Roman field systems, or distributions of sites and monuments)

2.5 With regard to the last point, there are obviously legitimate and potentially fruitful areas for future work comparing and analysing the distribution of archaeological features, and of historically recorded areas of landscape change or tenure (e.g. enclosure, estates, Royal Forests), in relation to the mapped Historic Landscape Types.

2.6 In defining the range of Historic Landscape Types to be mapped, no particular limit was set on the number of variants that might be defined within these broad principles.

2.7 The basic approach to the final decision of what range of variants should be defined was pragmatic based on the following criteria:

- The morphological, spatial, functional or chronological, distinctions within the broad types should be useful for analysis
- The types should be identified and mapped reasonably easily using the sources available

- There should be a sufficient range of types to avoid having to make difficult choices about "lumping" areas into inappropriately general categories, losing useful distinctions
- There should not be so many types, that impossibly fine distinctions would be required which could not readily be discerned from the sources

2.8 In effect this meant that the final definition of Historic Landscape Types to be mapped was based on what would both achieve the objectives of the study and was comfortable to work with in terms of the constant choices and decisions needing to be made in the mapping process.

2.9 A total of 85 Historic Landscape Types were defined and these were grouped into 14 broad categories and used in the mapping. These are listed below and explained in more detail in the next section. Type descriptions with illustrative map extracts are provided in Volume 2: Appendix 2. The sources used are listed in Volume 2: Appendix 3.

2.10 The Historic Landscape Types used in the mapping are as follows.

1 Field Patterns	
1.1	Small irregular assarts intermixed with woodland
1.2	Medium irregular assarts and copses with wavy boundaries
1.3	Large irregular assarts with wavy or mixed boundaries
1.4	Regular assarts with straight boundaries
1.5	Enclosed strips and furlongs
1.6	Medium to large regular fields with wavy boundaries (?late medieval to 17th / 18th century enclosure)
1.7	Small irregular rectilinear fields with straight boundaries

1.8	Regular "ladder" fields (long way boundaries subdivided by straight cross divisions)
1.9	Small regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
1.10	Medium regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
1.11	Large regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
1.12	Variable size, regular fields with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)
1.13	Not Used
1.14	"Prairie" fields (19th century enclosure with extensive boundary loss)
1.15	Fields bounded by roads, tracks and paths
1.16	Small rectilinear fields with wavy boundaries
2 Commons	
2.1	Common heathland
2.2	Common downland
2.3	Other commons and greens
2.4	Wooded over commons
3 Horticulture	
3.1	Orchards
3.2	Not Used
3.3	Nurseries with glass houses
4 Woodland	
4.1	Assarted pre-1810 woodland
4.2	Replanted assarted pre-1810 woodland
4.3	Other pre-1810 woodland
4.4	Replanted other pre-1810 woodland
4.5	19th century plantations (general)
4.6	pre-1810 hangers (scarp & steep valley-side woodland)
4.7	Post 1810 hangers
4.8	Pre 1810 heathland enclosed

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	woodland
4.9	19th century heathland plantations
4.10	Pre 1810 wood pasture
4.11	19th century or later wood pasture
5 Heathland	
5.1	Unenclosed heathland and scrub
5.2	Enclosed heathland and scrub
5.3	Purlieus and other enclosed heathland pastures
6 Downland	
6.1	Downland
7 Valley Floor and Water Management	
7.1	Miscellaneous valley floor fields and pastures
7.2	Valley floor woodlands
7.3	Marsh and rough grazing
7.4	Water meadows
7.5	Unimproved hay meadows or pasture
7.6	Watercress beds
7.7	Fishponds, hatchery complexes, natural ponds and lakes
7.8	Watermills, mill ponds and leats
8 Coastal	
8.1	Coastal wetlands
8.2	Salt marsh
8.3	Salterns
8.4	Reclaimed land
8.5	Harbours and marinas
8.6	Shingle and dunes
8.7	Mud flats
9 Settlements	
9.1	Scattered settlement with paddocks 1810 extent
9.2	Scattered settlement with paddocks (post 1810 extent)
9.3	Common edge settlement 1810 extent
9.4	Common edge settlement (post 1810 extent)

9.5	Not Used
9.6	Post 1810 settlement (general)
9.7	Village or hamlet 1810 extent
9.8	Not Used
9.9	Town or city 1810 extent
9.10	Not Used
9.11	Caravan sites
10 Parkland and Designed Landscape	
10.1	Pre-1810 parkland
10.2	19th century and later parkland
10.3	Deer parks
11 Recreation	
11.1	Racecourses
11.2	Golf Courses
11.3	Major sports fields and complexes
12 Extractive and other Industry	
12.1	Active and disused chalk quarries
12.2	Active and disused gravel workings
12.3	Industrial complexes and factories
12.4	Modern large scale industry (power stations; oil terminals etc)
12.5	Reservoirs and water treatment
12.6	Dockyards
13 Inland Communication Facilities	
13.1	Station and sidings complexes
13.2	Not Used
13.3	Airfields
13.4	Motorway service areas
14 Military and Defence	
14.1	Prehistoric and Roman (hillforts, other defensive enclosures and roman forts)
14.2	Medieval (motte and baileys, ring works)
14.3	Post medieval (1500-1830)
14.4	19th century (1830-1914)
14.5	20th century (1914-)

Methods of Identifying and Mapping Historic Landscape Types

Field Patterns

2.11 The OS 1:25000 'Explorer' and 'outdoor leisure' maps formed the basis of the enclosure mapping where identification was primarily by means of visual observation of enclosed shape and size of fields.

2.12 The classification was developed as follows:

- Consideration of fairly standard interpretations of field pattern morphologies (e.g. Taylor 1975)
- an initial appraisal of the variety of patterns discernible on current 1:25,000 maps
- a more detailed assessment of six pilot areas
- distinctions that emerged during the course of the mapping of the types

2.13 The classification took account of both shape and boundary form. It is generally intended to reflect a combination of factors that have affected field patterns, so far as these can be detected from their morphology alone. These include their age, topographical context, and origin in relationship to woodland clearance, enclosure of strip fields or downland and other land use activities.

2.14 At an early stage of the study, it appeared that it would be possible to use Chapman and Seeliger's (1997) mapping of enclosures to distinguish parliamentary type fields. However, it soon became apparent not only that there are many parliamentary type field patterns that are not in areas inclosed by Act, but also that not all areas that are

documented as having been inclosed exhibit "parliamentary type field patterns. Since the project is concerned with mapping morphologically distinguishable characteristics of the landscape, it was decided to map types as they appeared, rather than the process by which inclosure took place (which is excellently presented in Chapman and Seeliger's book).

Assarts

2.15 Old Assarts, Historic Landscape Type (HLT) 1.1-1.3 were identified as enclosures of very irregular form with wavy boundaries. They form an irregular field pattern with no discernible major common boundaries within the pattern. Assart fields usually contain scattered small woods & copses and may have associated assarted woods.

2.16 HLT 1.4 was used to distinguish assarts with evidence of later modifications or origins. It includes assarts with a significant proportion of straight boundaries, which are thought to reflect 19th century or later modification of earlier assarts, or in some cases 19th century assarting in the same manner as earlier assarts. In addition, this type includes some areas of fields where there is clear map evidence of recent clearance of woodland where this has not been replaced by parliamentary-type field systems. These fields were often distinguished by the association of woodland showing evidence of being assarted since the OS 1st Ed. 1" series map, for most of the county dated 1810.

2.17 The older Assarts were subdivided into three sizes: up to 2-3 hectares; 2-3 to 12 hectares; and over 12 hectares. In practice the field patterns were composed of a variety of field sizes, but it was relatively

easy to decide which of these ranges was predominant. This was not done for HLT 1.4 as it would have generated an over-complicated set of criteria.

2.18 In retrospect HLT 1.4 might more usefully have been divided between those areas which appear to be merely modified versions of HLT 1.1-1.3 and those which appeared to be cases of late assarting. But this distinction would not be easy without more detailed analysis of historic maps and documentary sources.

Enclosed strips & furlongs

2.19 Enclosed strips and furlongs (HLT 1.5) were identified as fields bounded by relatively long, gently curving boundaries of reversed 'S' form, especially where the field shapes still retain a long narrow form, and where small "steps" in boundaries correspond to the width of furlongs or strips. A combination of such features was needed for a group of fields to be mapped as this category. There are likely to be other areas mapped as 1.6 or 1.16, which probably do originate from strip fields.

Wavy-edged pre-parliamentary type fields

2.20 Field pattern HLT 1.6 consists of fields whose boundaries are wavy in form but whose overall shape is more regular than that of assarts. They are usually larger and were further distinguished from assarts by the lack of scattered small woods & copses typical of assart field patterns.

2.21 HLT 1.16 is a small version of HLT 1.6, and is composed of moderately regular fields with wavy boundaries; however, these fields are about 10ha in area.

Fields defined by rights of way

2.22 After the main mapping had begun a specific type of field pattern which did not readily fit into other categories was identified (HLT 1.15). These fields are irregular in pattern and shape, their boundaries being defined by public footpaths, bridleways and roads or other tracks and paths that are not rights of way. The pattern almost entirely lacks internal boundaries dividing the fields into smaller enclosures, and this is their chief distinguishing characteristic. Occasional boundaries may be straight or wavy. It is possible that some are the result of boundary loss (i.e. prairie types – see below). However they mostly lack the remnant boundary features characteristic of prairie fields and the density of tracks and roads suggests that they derive from the enclosure of downland by the simple expedient of using the numerous downland tracks as boundaries.

2.23 A version of this type of pattern was also found to occur on the coastal plain, which may reflect a rather different origin, possibly market gardening.

"Ladder" type fields

2.24 "Ladder" type fields (HLT 1.8) consist of long unbroken wavy parallel boundaries (often tracks roads or footpaths), with the area between them sub-divided into fields by regular straight boundaries. Where the "rungs" of the ladder were also wavy (which was not frequently) the pattern was classified as HLT 1.6. This field pattern usually follows the grain of the topography up chalk spurs or dry valleys on the chalk. The long wavy parallel boundaries usually made this category readily distinguishable from other types.

Parliamentary type enclosures

2.25 These field patterns are characterised by straight surveyed boundaries and usually regular shapes, often rectilinear when topography is not a key influence. In many cases they do derive from 19th century Parliamentary Enclosure Acts, but this is by no means always evident.

2.26 Parliamentary-type enclosures were divided into three size categories; less than 6-8 hectares (HLT 1.9), between 6-8 to 20-25 hectares (HLT 1.10); and over 20-25 hectares (HLT 1.11). Exact size categories proved impractical. As for assart fields systems, individual field size varied within particular pattern and identifying a 'predominant' field size was more practical.

2.27 A fourth category of graded variable size (HLT 1.12) was noted as a specific category frequently occurring on the chalk, where the full range of size categories is represented, increasing in size with distance (normally upslope) away from a settlement. This type of graded variable-size field pattern was generally considered to end at the parish boundary in order to define its extent in relation to other parliamentary enclosed types. Field systems comprising a mixture of parliamentary-type enclosure sizes not adhering to this particular gradation of size were assigned to predominant sizes.

2.28 A specific pattern of small, irregular rectilinear fields with straight boundaries is represented by HLT 1.7. They are very similar to HLT 1.9 small fields but have a distinctively irregular, rectilinear pattern of interlocking shapes, and appear to be associated with flat riverside locations.

Prairie Fields

2.29 These fields (HLT 1.14) are those with at least one boundary over 1 km in length and which are the result of either very large parliamentary enclosure or more usually extensive boundary loss. These were usually mapped if even only one field was present to due their large size. Distinguishing characteristics include the presence of remnant field boundaries.

2.30 In general this category occurs only within patterns of fields that are already quite large, and while most probably originate from parliamentary-type fields, there are examples that seem likely to have originated from pre-parliamentary types (HLT 1.6).

Commons

2.31 Commons were identified using the HCC 'National Policy Constraints' map which shows large areas of common land, and from 'The Common Lands of Hampshire' (Tavener 1957). Some areas indicated by Tavener were found to be no longer common land according to the 'National Policy Constraints' map, but others appear to have been too small for the 'National Policy Constraints' map to show. Wooded-over commons (HLT 2.4) were identified as those which specifically still exist as common land rather than ex-common land which had reverted to woodland.

2.32 Common land within the New Forest was distinguished from open heath where specifically recorded, or specifically named as a 'common' on the OS 1:25000 map. These areas are discernible on the 1:25,000 maps because tracks and paths across heathland commons are shown as rights of way,

whereas they are not shown as such where they cross open heathland.

Horticulture

2.33 Horticulture types were mapped directly from the OS 1:25000 base maps, and were identified by the presence of orchard (HLT 3.1) or glasshouse symbols (HLT 3.2).

2.34 There may well be more extensive areas of horticulture, either in small fields (e.g. HLT 1.16, 1.7, or 1.9) or large open areas on low ground (e.g. HLT 1.10, 1.11 or 1.15 where it occurs on the coastal plain). The general category is thus very likely to be under-represented. Comparison with the HCC Landscape Types mapped as "Horticulture and Smallholdings" shows no correspondence with the orchards mapped here, but rather with a range of the other types noted above.

Woodland

2.35 The identification of woodland within the New Forest was achieved by reference to *Maintaining the Ancient and Ornamental Woodlands of the New Forest* (Peterken, Spencer and Field 1996) which gives accurate mapping of both enclosed & unenclosed woodland. The 1789 map of the New Forest woodland was used to gain the "pre-1810" information in preference to the 1st edition 1" OS map, leaving a twenty-year period in which accounted change could have occurred, but enhancing the reliability of the data.

2.36 Otherwise three sources were used to identify the various woodland types: the OS 1:25000 maps themselves; Hampshire Inventory of Ancient Woodland (HCC and

English Nature 1995); and OS 1st edition 1" maps.

Pre 1810 woodland

2.37 Such woodland was identified on the basis of its presence on the OS 1st Edition 1" map and by being recorded as ancient woodland in the Ancient Woodland Inventory. Absence on the Ancient Woodland Inventory does not however mean that a wood is post-1810, since the official definition of 'ancient' is pre-1600, and it would be classified as pre-1810 if shown on the OS 1st edition 1" map. If a wood is absent on the 1st edition 1" map, but recorded as ancient woodland in the Inventory, the Inventory was taken as being correct.

2.38 Where pre-1810 woodland was not assignable to one of the more specific morphological or land use-related types below, it was mapped as "other pre 1810 woodland" (HLT 4.3) or if replanted, HLT 4.4. Post-1800 woodland or plantation (HLT 4.5) was identified as being those areas that were neither present on the Ancient Woodland Inventory nor on 1st edition 1" map.

2.39 Where possible woodland was further subdivided based on its land use or socio-economic associations, as follows.

Replanted woodland

2.40 This type was identified by being recorded as replanted in the Ancient Woodland Inventory, and/or by the presence of conifer symbols on the OS 1:25000 maps.

Assarted woodland

2.41 In general, woods were deemed assarted (HLT 4.1-4.2) if their outline was

sufficiently irregular, showing the appearance of being eaten away. This was most evident where they were adjoined by assart field systems. However, it is clear that often the field systems could have been rationalised up to the woodland edge at a later date, and the presence of assarts was not seen as necessary for this identification.

2.42 Definite evidence of recently cleared woodland (often in effect clearly assarted in its shape) was clear if the extent of a wood had decreased from that indicated on the 1st edition 1" map as compared with the current 1:25000 map. Occasionally such clearance was also evident from the depiction of unenclosed belts of uncleared trees shown on the modern map.

Hangers

2.43 Hangers (HLT 4.6-4.7) were identified on the basis of their topographical location, normally on chalk or greensand, being generally linear irregular features situated on steep hillsides and scarps. Where they were clearly associated with heathland, they were mapped as the appropriate heathland category.

Heathland woods and plantations

2.44 Heathland associated woodland was identified as such both within heathland areas and immediately adjacent to heathland if the surrounding or land within the forest was of a heathland nature.

2.45 Old enclosed heathland woods (HLT 4.8) were only identified for the New Forest (see above). Heathland plantations (HLT 4.9) were identified as for other plantations.

Wood Pasture

2.46 Wood Pasture (HLT 4.10-4.11) was identified from the current OS 1:25000 as being shown as unenclosed. Small isolated unenclosed woods however were not considered as being wood pasture except where they were within open heathland (effectively only in the New Forest).

Heathland

2.47 The Hants C.C map of 'Heathland 1991' was used to indicate the location of heathland areas. The precise location & extent of heathland (HLT 5.1) was identified on OS 1:25000 maps by their name or by the presence of heathland & scrub symbols. Where these occurred within fields adjacent to or clearly once part of an area of open heathland they were classified as enclosed heathland (HLT 5.2)

2.48 Purlieus (HLT 5.3) were identified as distinct heathland features differing from enclosed heathland by their consisting of a number of small fields or paddocks shown without symbols, heathland being relatively older in origin (often shown on the 1st edition 1" OS map) and by sometimes being associated with small settlements.

Downland

2.49 The location of downland (HLT 6.1) was indicated by reference to the H.C.C. map of Downland (1991) and by H.C.C 'Chalk grassland survey 1980-1982'. Confirmation of downland extent was checked by examination of the aerial photographs. Areas observed on aerial photographs of unimproved grassland associated with downland were also recorded as downland.

Valley floor & Water Management

2.50 The extent of the valley floor was mapped according to the limits of the flat valley ground either side of streams or rivers where field boundaries are shown as water-filled ditches on the 1:25,000 maps. It was usually the case that features such as field boundaries, roads, and tracks defined the valley floor area. When this was not the case and the limits passed through a field contours were followed.

2.51 Within the valley floor areas defined in this way, a variety of specific valley floor or water-associated land uses were mapped as individual valley types. This included HLT 7.6 (watercress beds); HLT 7.7 (fishponds, hatchery complexes, natural ponds & lakes); and HLT 7.8 (watermills, mill ponds and leats). Lakes formed by gravel extraction were mapped separately as features related to extractive industry.

2.52 The scale of some of these features (especially watercress beds and mills) was too small for all to be mapped. Small watercress beds, fishponds and mills without a substantial associated mill pond were generally not recorded.

2.53 Of the larger scale valley floor types, valley floor woodland (HLT 7.2) and marsh and rough grazing (HLT 7.3) were identified by the appropriate map symbols.

2.54 The recording of water meadows (HLT 7.4) was restricted to those consisting of the most substantial & patterned system of ditches. Areas with sparsely located ditches could sometimes also be identified as watermeadows where the pattern of ditches seemed likely to reflect the presence of former water meadow systems, but it is likely

that the results may under-represent the full extent of areas of simpler (and possibly older) watermeadow systems.

2.55 Valley floor areas of SSSI (as indicated by the HCC National Policy Constraints map) which were not marsh or rough grazing were assumed to be unimproved grassland which may be meadow or pasture (HLT 7.5).

2.56 After identifying the above specific categories, the remaining valley floor landscape was recorded as 'miscellaneous valley bottom paddocks and pastures' (HLT 7.1). These enclosures tend to vary considerably in their morphology of field shape and boundaries. Initially it merely seemed impractical to try to distinguish distinct patterns within this variation given the very narrow floodplains of the Hampshire rivers. However, in practice it increasingly became evident that this variability is an inherent characteristic of valley floor enclosures. Their form tends to be affected by the existence of a mixture of natural channels, imposed field patterns, and drainage ditches that may result in selective straightening of sinuous boundaries. In the area of extensive fields north of Selborne, which at first seemed extremely difficult to categorize, it was found that once this type of variable valley floor pattern was identified, it immediately became clear what types of field pattern lay either side of it.

Coastal

2.57 Most coastal landscape types were mapped directly from interpretation of the OS 1:25000 maps according to the appropriate mapping conventions. Types for which this was possible were mud flats (HLT 8.7), shingle and dunes (HLT 8.6), harbours of

marinas (HLT 8.5), and salt marsh (HLT 8.2). Coastal wetland (HLT 8.1) could be confused with valley floor marsh and rough grazing, or with salt marsh, which are also shown with the same marsh symbols. Salt marsh was identified however by its highly irregular shape and consisting of many small creeks. Coastal wetlands were distinguished from valley floor marsh where the adjacent rivers were tidal, or they were immediately adjacent to the coast though not within the inter-tidal zone.

2.58 Reclaimed land (HLT 8.4) was characterised by its low elevation adjacent to the coast and was identified by comparing the present coastline with that indicated on the OS 1st ed. 1" series. Typically these areas have much straighter seaward boundaries than the natural coast and tend to lack field boundaries or are industrialised.

2.59 The location of salterns (HLT 8.3) were identified using the HCC map of 'Meads and Salterns', and the 1810 OS 1st ed. 1" map. Salterns that had become obscured by modern development were not mapped.

Settlements

2.60 A basic distinction was made between pre- and post-1810 extent of settlement. In effect, this can be seen as a rough approximation to pre- and post-industrialisation. Deserted settlements were not mapped, largely because of their very small size and lack of impact on the present character of the landscape. However, it would be possible, and perhaps fruitful, to consider their distribution in relation to the Historic Landscape Types (especially in comparison to the pattern of pre-1810 settlements) using digital plotting of locations

from the County Sites and Monuments Record.

2.61 Settlements were also divided between a number of morphological types.

2.62 Scattered settlements with paddocks (HLT 9.1 pre-1810; 9.2 post-1810) represent areas with dense dispersed settlement in and amongst very numerous, very small fields and paddocks. The post 1810 version of this includes areas of "stockbroker belt" detached houses with large gardens.

2.63 Common edge settlements were identified where clearly related to extant or former commons (HLT 9.3 pre-1810; 9.4 post-1810). These reflect some of the difference in settlement morphology between areas dominated by heathland and woods and more open farming countryside.

2.64 Originally, hamlets and villages pre-1810 were mapped as distinct HLTs, namely HLT 9.5 and 9.7. However, since at the level of analysis being undertaken there was no obvious and robust basis for distinguishing smaller hamlets from villages it became apparent that they were better grouped under one HLT: accordingly they were combined as HLT 9.7 and HLT 9.5 was not used further. Post-1810 village expansion was mapped as a general late settlement type (HLT 9.6).

2.65 Towns (HLT 9.9 pre-1810, 9.6 post-1810) were mapped in the same manner as villages.

2.66 Caravan sites (HLT 9.11) were recorded as a settlement type when they were of a substantial permanent nature, and included surfaced roads & static caravans. Camping sites were not included when they

were annotated by a tent symbol alone and did not consist of a network of roads.

Parkland & Designed Landscape

2.67 The basis for identifying areas of parkland was the HCC map of 'Designed Historic Landscape' which includes deer parks and landscape parks. Confirmation was achieved by reference to Hampshire Countryside Heritage 5 – Historic Parks & Gardens Appendices I and II, which list historic deer parks and designed parks and gardens in Hampshire and/or by reference to OS 1:25000 and 1:50,000 maps. Parkland extent was also checked by examination of HCC vertical aerial photographs. If parkland indicated by the HCC map of 'Designed Historic Landscape' was seen subsequently to be no longer of a 'designed' nature and obscured by more recent development or land uses it was not recorded as parkland.

2.68 Woods and valley floor areas situated within parkland areas were mapped as parkland rather than as the relevant woodland or valley floor types.

2.69 Many historic deer parks (HLT 10.3) are known from boundary features only and have lost their parkland character, in which case they have been mapped as whatever type reflects their current nature. The original distribution of deer parks may be established by cross-reference to the Sites and Monuments Record. Whether individual cases have survived as parks will have depended as much as anything on the vagaries of fortune of individual families and their estates, which may have been affected by political and economic vicissitudes with little or no connection to the local landscape.

2.70 Pre-1810 parkland (HLT 10.1) has been distinguished from later parkland by its depiction on the OS 1st edition 1" maps.

2.71 Post-1810 parkland (HLT 10.2) includes a few areas of estate-type landscape where a particularly strong element of design is evident in copse plantations, shelter belts etc.

Recreation

2.72 Recreation features (HLT 11.1-11.3) were mapped directly off the OS 1:25000 maps. There are hardly any Racecourses (HLT 11.1) as such in Hampshire, but this type includes gallops and associated stables etc. The extent of golf courses (HLT 11.2) was confirmed by examination of aerial photographs. The mapping of sports fields & complexes (HLT 11.3) was restricted to those of a larger size. Smaller sports fields/areas associated with schools were not recorded.

Extractive & Other Industry

2.73 Extractive & other industrial HLTs were identified & mapped directly from OS 1:25000 maps. Chalk & gravel quarries (HLT 12.1-12.2) were distinguished by their geological location. Active & disused quarries were mapped which included those now flooded and those used as refuse sites. While these are visually very different, they represent landscape features that are distinctive of the after-use of quarries. Current workings were not distinguished separately on the basis that these are transitory phases of quarry landscapes.

2.74 Modern large-scale industry (HLT 12.4) was distinguished from smaller industrial complexes & factories by being

named on OS 1:25000 maps as oil refineries, power stations etc., and by their large scale. Industrial complexes & factories situated within urban areas were recorded as general post-1810 development. Dockyards were mapped as large-scale industry, rather than coastal.

Inland Communication Facilities

2.75 It was possible to identify and map the inland communication facilities directly off the OS 1:25000 maps. Military based airfields were recorded as 20th century defence sites (see below).

2.76 Other airfields (HLT 13.3) were identified from the 1:25,000 maps and checked by examination of aerial photographs, and were mapped to include associated buildings. Disused airfields were included if they were still evident as former airfields from relict runways etc influencing the field pattern.

2.77 Railway yards (HLT 13.1) etc and motorway other major road service areas (HLT 13.4) were identified from the OS 1:25000 maps.

2.78 No canal basins (HLT 13.2) were identified of sufficient extent to be of a scale that could be mapped.

Military and Defence

2.79 Military and defence-related areas were mapped based on whether they are sufficiently large and distinctive to make, or to have left a distinct impact on the landscape. This therefore includes prominent disused prehistoric hillforts as much as disused military airfields where they have clearly influenced the landscape, but does not

include either if they have been obliterated with no clearly visible relict character. In the case of hillforts (HLT 14.1), there was some discussion of whether they should be mapped as distinct from the character of their current land use. An alternative HLT category has been included in an additional field in the database at English Heritage's request.

2.80 Very small features, such as pill boxes have not been mapped, even where forming parts of large scale defence systems.

2.81 The grouping of defence sites by date has been based on information from the HCC Sites and Monuments Record.

Project Execution: Technical Methods and IT Facilities

Introduction

2.82 At the beginning of the project it was an objective to develop a full GIS that would have considerable flexibility and power of analysis. It is fundamental to the study that this facility is essentially interactive, and this is the real core of its value rather than this report or its hard copy output of maps. All the maps in this report illustrate what the digital map-base can produce to illustrate and help analyse particular issues or queries. In a sense, there is no single definitive map. Because of the highly flexible interactive use that can be made of the assessment, it is important that users should understand how the facility was developed so that they may recognise its limitations as well as its strengths. This may be best achieved by outlining the stages and procedures that were adopted in compiling the assessment.

2.83 In many ways it has been somewhat innovative, and there are certainly details of the procedures that with hindsight we would have done differently. But in every case these are details of how to avoid hitches and glitches, not the broad thrust of the method which proved generally satisfactory and reasonably efficient.

Team Structure and Roles

2.84 The study was jointly directed and managed by George Lambrick (OAU) and Paul Bramhill (SWRC) who, jointly, also wrote the report. Paul Miles (OAU) provided computing and IT development, training and support. The work on settlement patterns using postcode data was carried out by Professor John Shepperd and his colleagues at the South East Regional Research Laboratory, Birkbeck College. Claire Harper of Atlantic Consultants provided support with the visual field checking at the pilot stage of the study.

2.85 The bulk of the mapping and detailed work on developing examples of the historic landscape types, digitising, compilation of appendices and was undertaken by two researchers, Rob O'Shea (SWRC) and Matt Ridley (OAU) under the supervision of George Lambrick. George Lambrick also checked and where appropriate amended the mapping prior to digitising.

2.86 The decision to use two researchers working together on the mapping, rather than one, was considered with some care. It could be argued that one person doing the mapping would achieve greater consistency, but the disadvantage of this is that any particular bias or blind spots in this relatively subjective process would tend to be reinforced.

2.87 Using two people had the obvious potential disadvantage of introducing systematic inconsistencies reflecting their particular perceptions and interpretations, but it also had several distinct advantages. It meant that:

- there was automatic checking for consistency when edge matching was carried out for different overlays mapping
- there was continuous, mutually supportive discussion of instances of difficult interpretation with the back-up of a third opinion
- there was flexibility to share more tedious tasks helping to maintain morale
- the execution of the mapping was faster than it would otherwise have been.

2.88 The checking and amendment process provided a third internal checking mechanism, which was carried out on the basis of agreement with the two researchers, so that the final map is in effect a three-way consensus of interpretation.

Pilot Study

2.89 The first stage of the study consisted of the identification of sources, the drafting of the list and character of Historic Landscape Types, and the testing of the mapping procedures, together with checking air photographs and some field observation.

2.90 Six 10 km squares were mapped for the pilot, covering different representative parts of the county. This successfully showed that the typology was useable and led to various refinements in the types defined.

2.91 The visual assessment consisted of a day's field trip, mostly concentrating on areas on the west side of the county. The principal

conclusion from this was that generally the Historic Landscape Types do not conflict with landscape character, but that they often represent finer distinctions that may be relatively difficult to see. This was particularly the case with some field patterns where the shape of fields may be very difficult to discern on strongly undulating ground. This reflects a difference between conventional landscape assessment, which includes the "horizontal" viewpoint of field assessment, compared with the essentially "vertical" viewpoint of the almost entirely map-based historic landscape assessment.

Mapping

2.92 Mapping of the Historic Landscape Types was carried out manually in pencil on drafting film overlays pre-printed with 10 km square referencing points and a series of check boxes to record the checking and revision process. Up to two adjoining 10km squares were mapped on each overlay. The overlays consist of a continuous mosaic of polygons representing areas assigned to the Historic Landscape Types, each identified by the appropriate type code number.

2.93 The mapping was carried out at 1:25,000, with the film overlays directly positioned over the latest editions of the 1:25,000 OS maps ("Explorer" series all 1997 revisions except New Forest Outdoor Leisure map, 1996).

2.94 A major advantage of carrying out the mapping using original 1:25,000 maps rather than reduced copies (as used for the Cornwall Study) or large scale digital black and white digital mapping, is that the colour greatly helps interpretation. This was especially the case with the Woodland and

Valley Floor and Water Management types described above.

2.95 The use of drafting film over original maps also minimised possible distortion, though some slight movement of overlays did occur. The effects of such movement only really became apparent later when the digital version was overlaid on the raster 1:50,000 maps. The worst discrepancies arising from this were removed digitally in the final correction process (see below).

2.96 Commentaries on the mapping of each 10 km square were completed as the work proceeded in order to make a record of points of interpretation or to explain the rationale for particular category choices.

Checking

2.97 A good deal of cross checking with particular sources was carried out as the mapping proceeded, as part of the interpretative process, and a constant process of checking also formed aspects of the day to day teamwork and supervision of the mapping as it proceeded.

2.98 Once substantial parts of the mapping were complete all the overlays were systematically checked and amended. Amendments were marked in red and the 10 km square descriptions were up-dated. When complete these checks were noted in the check-boxes on the overlays.

Digitising, Topology Building and Polygon Colour Coding

2.99 After the checking was complete, the film overlays were scanned and cropped to create raster map tiles which were then joined together by geo-referencing two 10

km square intersections for each tile. With hindsight, the use of four reference points would have been better as there was some minimal distortion from this process in a few cases.

2.100 The polygons were then digitised "head-up" drawing vector lines over the raster scans. The polygon topology was then created, cleaning up overshoots and undershoots at node points. The resultant polygons were then labelled.

2.101 In order to create a visually effective map the polygons were then colour-coded according to their Historic Landscape Types, each type being assigned a separate layer within the drawing so that any combination could be switched on or off. The figures included in this report illustrate a small selection of possible combinations.

2.102 Other map data sets were added to the digital map, including the post-code classification of settlement pattern provided by SERRL. For the purposes of the study Hampshire County Council made available their digital mapping of Landscape Character Areas and Landscape Types, modern Civil Parish and District boundaries, and the 1:50,000 OS raster base map.

2.103 Overlaying the Historic Landscape Type boundaries on the 1:50,000 OS map revealed some discrepancies of geo-referencing. These arose from the combined effects of minor inaccuracies in tracing over boundaries in the original mapping, slight movement of the film overlays during mapping, slight discrepancies in geo-referencing of scanned overlays and digitising over original scanned HLT boundaries. Possible differences between

the 1:25,000 and 1:50,000 scale maps have not been explored.

2.104 The most serious of these discrepancies have been rectified to a substantial extent by "rubber sheeting" or selectively stretching parts of the drawing to achieve a better match between the HLT polygon boundaries and relevant boundaries shown on the OS 1:50,000 map. The resultant margin of error in the position of polygon boundaries in relation to the 1:50,000 raster map is less than 25m on the ground, which for use at County or District scale is considered acceptable in relation to the scale at which the mapping was carried out.

Data structure and GIS analysis

2.105 The data attached to each polygon are its number, the Historic Landscape Type code, an alternative HLT code for small defence sites; centroid grid reference, and area.

2.106 The GIS capability of the map has been successfully tested by combining polygon area data for the Historic Landscape Types and the Hampshire Landscape Character Areas and Parishes respectively in order to compare the proportion of different Historic Landscape Types that occur in each Character Area or Parish. The resultant breakdown of historic landscape attributes of these areas was exported to Excel spreadsheets, which form part of the digital archive of the project.

2.107 The digital version of the map also contains several layers generated during the creation, correction and analysis of the map, including for example the raster scans of the film overlays.

Settlement Pattern Data

2.108 The settlement pattern data derived from post code information is represented by a layer within the digital map. The original data on which it is based is not supplied and may only be used under licence (for this study held by SERRL).

2.109 The data analysis was originally carried out by SERRL with some advice from OAU for part of the English Heritage input to the Countryside Character Mapping programme. The analysis is based on a statistical calculation of the density and distribution of individual postal delivery points (letterboxes) per kilometre square. The problem of settlements straddling the boundary of more than one square was overcome by applying an automatic "smoothing" formula which would scan the characteristics of the surrounding squares to adjust that of the square being plotted.

2.110 The data used relates only to domestic addresses (some commercial town centres therefore appear remarkably blank). The data was converted to a kilometre grid square basis and maps can be generated indicating the degree of nucleation based on statistical formulae applied to the postcode data. The map is generated according to thresholds defined by the user for settlement typology. The data presented in Figure 5.13 has been sorted to characterise the settlement pattern of every kilometre square in terms of the number of postal delivery points and the degree of dispersal or nucleation. It thus provides a measure of density of settlement, and also give an indication of the dispersal of the addresses.

2.111 The digital archive for this material consists only of the digital map layer, not the

underlying data, but it should nevertheless be possible to carry out further analyses. For example, it should be possible to measure and compare the varying coverage of the 1 km squares attributed to different categories of settlement pattern for a range of different spatial entities. This would facilitate comparisons of the settlement pattern of different Parishes, Landscape Character Areas, Landscape Types or Historic Landscape Types (though the last of these would require significant computing power if it were to be attempted as a single operation).

Chapter 3

Historical Attributes of the Hampshire Landscape

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Overall Historic Landscape

Attributes of Hampshire

3.1 This Chapter briefly describes the historic character of Hampshire and more particularly of the Hampshire Landscape Character Areas that have been defined by the County Council (Figures 3.1, 3.2).

3.2 The basic categorisation of Historic Landscape Types provides a very generalised land-use related division of the Hampshire landscape, and Figure 3.3 gives the percentage land cover of these groups.

3.3 52% of Hampshire is covered by field patterns, woodland accounts for 18%, and settlements and urban areas 13%. Heathland occupies 5%, and Valley floor and Parkland each account for 3%. Coastal areas (including intertidal foreshore areas) account for 2%.

3.4 The remaining broad types (Horticulture, Commons, Recreation, Communication nodes, Defence-related sites and Industry) account for less than 1% each. However, it should be noted that some of these are not fully represented (for example much manufacturing industry is subsumed within the urban areas under settlement and linear communication routes were not mapped).

3.5 This broad categorisation of Historic Landscape Categories and Types is presented in the first chart in Figure 3.3. However these categories do not really reflect the historic character of the Hampshire landscape, which can be more clearly indicated by combining individual Historic Landscape Types into groups that are more sensitive in reflecting historic

character, as presented in the second chart in Figure 3.3.

3.6 But no characterisation of Hampshire as a whole reveals the significant spatial variation that actually occurs in the distribution of the Historic Landscape Types, and the rest of this chapter and the next are devoted to exploring some of this spatial variation.

3.7 In the following sections of this chapter the historic character of the HCC Landscape Character Areas is discussed. In each case the predominant HCC Landscape Types which occur within the Character Area are noted, followed by the main description of their historic landscape attributes.

3.8 The overall pattern of Historic Landscape Types across Hampshire in relation to the Hampshire Landscape Character Areas is shown in Figure 3.2, which also shows the HCC Landscape Character Areas being described.

3.9 Figures 3.4 and 3.5 present the proportions of area covered by grouped Historic Landscape Types for each Landscape Character Area. These are based on the same grouping as that used for the whole county in the second chart in Figure 3.3.

3.10 All these charts have been generated using the GIS facility of the map, by measuring the area of every HLT polygon or part polygon occurring within the area being studied, exporting these figures to a database, totalling the figures for all polygons of each Type, and then grouping the Types. The charts were then generated from a spreadsheet using this summary form of some extremely large data sets.

Hampshire Downs: Landscape Character Area 1

Introduction

3.11 This Character Area, covering the northern and eastern parts of the Hampshire chalk, together with the eastern margin of Salisbury Plain, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Chalk and Clay
- Open Arable
- Clay Plateau
- Urban Areas

3.12 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

Description

3.13 The majority of the field patterns are of parliamentary character, represented mainly by medium to large fields (36%). But older types, represented by medium to large assarts (5%) and large and small wavy-edged fields (16% and 5%), together with small parliamentary types (4%) represent getting on for half the total field coverage. These older and smaller field patterns predominate in the eastern part of the Character Area (roughly east of a line running south from Basingstoke).

3.14 The south east part of the Character Area and smaller areas west of Andover and south-east of Basingstoke, have significant areas of small scale field patterns of both pre-parliamentary and parliamentary type, which, together with the assarts and woodland cover, tends to create a much smaller-scale mosaic of landscape features

than is typical of the more western and northern parts of this Character Area

3.15 There is a small amount (1%) of surviving downland, notably at Beacon Hill (Burghclere), in Shipton Bellinger south east of Tidworth, and in Over Wallop (continuing west into Wiltshire as Boscombe and Porton Downs).

3.16 There are also significant areas (5%) of fields bounded by paths, tracks and roads (HLT 1.15), that are likely to derive from the enclosure of open downland. The latter are particularly characteristic of the west end of the North Downs, broadly east of Basingstoke, with smaller areas elsewhere.

3.17 There are some significant areas (4%) of "ladder" type fields, also typical of the chalk, mainly amongst the parliamentary type fields in the more westerly part of the Character Area.

3.18 Woodland represents a significant element in the Character Area, much of it assarted (5%). There are significant clusters of hangers at the north-west and south east extremities of the Character Area close to the edge of the chalk west of Highclere, and along the chalk and greensand scarps north and west of Petersfield. These areas are also where the most extensive assarted field patterns occur. Two major areas of woodland occur more centrally within the chalk at Harewood Forest and Micheldever Wood. Part of Harewood Forest is shown unenclosed on the OS maps, and has been mapped as wood pasture (HLT 4.10).

3.19 Parkland represents a significant element (3%), which is scattered across the Character Area, mainly in valley or valley side locations.

3.20 There is a fairly significant proportion of modern settlement (6%), represented chiefly by Basingstoke and Andover, with smaller centres at Alton, Liss and Four Marks. The area around Four Marks has a significant occurrence of late scattered settlement and paddocks (or gardens) associated with small parliamentary-type fields (HLT 1.9).

Mid Hampshire Downs: Landscape Character Area 2

Introduction

3.21 This area of west and central Hampshire, HCC Character Area 2, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Open Arable
- Chalk and Clay

3.22 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

Description

3.23 This Character Area is very strongly dominated by medium to large, or graded parliamentary type fields, which account for nearly 75% of land cover. A very substantial proportion of this Character Area consists of a very large coherent block of graded-size fields west of the River Test. Open "prairie" type fields are also a noticeable feature of the open undulating chalk downs.

3.24 "Ladder" fields make up a substantial proportion of the remainder with some large wavy-edged fields.

3.25 No other Historic Landscape Types are significant in terms of land cover, but a few particular points may be noted.

3.26 A significant area of horticulture has been identified immediately south west of Andover, and an area of orchards lies north-east of Stockbridge.

3.27 Woodland is especially sparse, but there is a notable cluster of woods associated with large assarts east of Stockbridge, and a smaller cluster south of Andover.

3.28 There is a particularly noticeable clustering of old settlements west of Andover and more generally a strongly riverine distribution of settlements. Whitchurch represents the only significant area where there has been most expansion of modern settlement, since both Andover and Winchester lie just outside the Character Area

3.29 There are a number of airfields.

South Hampshire Downs: Landscape Character Area 3

Introduction

3.30 This area of south-east and central Hampshire, HCC Character Area 3, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Chalk and Clay
- Clay Plateau
- Open Arable
- Scarps: Downland

Description

3.31 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

3.32 Overall, the proportions of historic landscape types in this Character Area are extremely similar to Landscape Character Area 1. (Figure 3.4)

3.33 The overall coverage of woodland is very similar to Character Area 1 (10% compared with 11%), with a greater area of hangers (3%) but less assarted woodland (4%), despite significantly more assart field patterns (9% as opposed to 5%).

3.34 The hangers mainly occur on the South Downs south of Petersfield, though with sporadic occurrences through much of the rest of the Character Area.

3.35 The "assarted woodland" occurs mainly in the western part of the Character Area between Romsey and Winchester, with some other significant areas.

3.36 A significant majority of the field assarts 64% are large (HLT 1.3), 13% are medium and 8% small, the remaining 13% being recent or regular assarts (HLT 1.4). This is very similar to Character Area 1, except that Character Area 1 has rather less of the large assart Type and much less of the small assarts (the corresponding figures are 50%, 29%, 4% and 18%).

3.37 There are also some noticeable differences in the proportion of different types of field pattern. In particular Character Area 3 contains a significant proportion of ex-downland fields bounded by paths, tracks and roads (10%). These are especially characteristic of the western end of the

South Downs (which form the south east corner of the chalk in Hampshire), though significant areas also occur west of the River Meon and west of the River Itchen to the south of Winchester.

3.38 Ladder fields are noticeably few compared with the rest of the chalk (less than 1%), but the area covered by medium to large parliamentary field patterns is very similar to Character Area 1 (32% as against 36%)

3.39 Overall the proportion of fields is almost identical for Character Areas 1 and 3 (75% and 76% respectively). The older field patterns (assarts, small and large wavy-edged fields and fields bounded by tracks and roads) account for a rather larger proportion of Character Area 3 than in Character Area 1, at 37% and 31% respectively. Character Area 3 also has a higher proportion of the smaller field types (assarts, and small pre-parliamentary and parliamentary type fields) at 22% as against 14% for Character Area 1.

3.40 In most of these respects, Character Area 3 is very similar to the eastern part of Character Area 1.

3.41 The remaining characteristics of Character Area 3 are very similar to Character Area 1, with slightly less parkland and old settlement.

Cranborne Chase: Landscape Character Area 4

Introduction

3.42 This small area forming the westernmost tip of Hampshire, HCC Character Area 4, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Open Arable
- Chalk and Clay
- Scarps: Downland

Description

3.43 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

3.44 This very small area, occupying what has been left as an outlying peninsular of Hampshire as a result of local government boundary change, is a fragment of the extensive Cranborne Chase chalk landscape of Wiltshire and Dorset. Although small in extent, this Character Area exemplifies several of the chalkland Historic Landscape Types.

3.45 The area lies west of the Avon valley, which firmly separates it from both the New Forest and the chalk of West Hampshire. It consists of largely open chalkland, with downland areas to the west, and woodland is mainly restricted to the clays in the south. Settlement is sparse and concentrated in the valley floor.

3.46 This Character Area consists mainly of medium to large parliamentary-type fields (57%). Older, sinuous edged fields and small enclosures also occur (HLT 1.5, 1.6 and 1.16), but only as a very small proportion (2% each for the smaller and larger types). There is a rather higher occurrence of small parliamentary-type fields (7%).

3.47 The upland chalk was traditionally open downland, and the Character Area includes the eastern end of the very extensive Martin Down, accounting for a relatively large proportion of the Character Area (6%). Much downland enclosure was of

relatively recent origin. This may be reflected in the significant occurrence in the area of fields bounded by paths tracks and roads (7%) and "ladder" type fields, partly bounded by tracks leading up to the downs, (also 7%), as well as by the predominance of parliamentary-type enclosure.

3.48 The area around Martin provides an unusually good insight in to the relationships between different Historic Landscape Types typical of the downland. To the west lies the edge of Martin Down, an exceptionally large area of ecologically rich common downland (HLT 2.2), most of which lies beyond the county boundary.

3.49 Martin itself is a small medieval village which has remained much the same size (or if anything has shrunk) over the last 200 years. In the immediately adjacent area around Martin there are a few fields which still reflect the enclosure of medieval strip fields (HLT 1.5) which were probably created as a series of closes in the early post-medieval period, and are now fragmentary. It is clear that there has been significant loss of the definition of these fields since 1945 through a process of rationalisation into a larger scale pattern of smallish wavy edged fields (HLT 1.16) (Chapman and Seeliger 1997, 3-4 and figure 2).

3.50 Tracks extending out from the village up to the downland provide the framework for 'ladder' type enclosures (HLT 1.8), which seem likely to have been created to bring either downland or surviving open fields into enclosure. To the north-east there are also examples of large irregular fields bounded by tracks and roads which represent former communication routes across, or into the higher parts of the downs (HLT 1.15).

3.51 The remaining fields at Martin are medium to large parliamentary type enclosures (HLT 1.10 and 1.11). Around Rockbourne the parliamentary-type enclosure takes the form of increasing field size with distance away from the settlement (HLT 1.12).

3.52 The only pre-1800 woodland present (accounting for 4% of the Character Area) is that lying to the south of Martin, which has been replanted but shows signs of having been assarted. Recent afforestation (accounting for 1% of the Character Area) has been in the form of a handful of small plantations and shelterbelts.

North Hampshire Lowland and Heath: Landscape Character Area 5

Introduction

3.53 This area of north Hampshire, HCC Character Area 5, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Mixed Farmland and Woodland
- Pasture and Woodland: Heath Associated
- Heathland and Forest
- Open Arable on Clay
- Urban Areas

3.54 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

Description

3.55 Heathland plantation makes up 9% of the Character Area, with a further 2% surviving as open heathland.

3.56 Most of the heathland occurs in the extreme north east corner of the Character Area, representing the heathland area of the Forest of Eversley. This extends west to the River Hart and south to Ewshot. A few small areas of enclosed pre-1800 heathland woodland (HLT 4.8) survive, and only scattered and relatively small areas of open heath now remain. Between Fleet and Aldershot there is a large area of unenclosed post-1810 wood pasture or open plantation (HLT 4.11).

3.57 The extensive post-1810 general heathland plantation has also been subject to change in the form of recent assarting and in the excavation of gravel quarries (HLT 12.2). Another recent development brought about by the large urban settlement has been creation of several golf courses.

3.58 The smaller heathland area around Silchester has similarly been subject to 19th and 20th century plantation.

3.59 Assarted woods represent 6% of the Character Area, and other old woods account for 1%. General post-1810 plantation has generally taken place on a small scale throughout the Character Area and accounts for 2% of its land cover.

3.60 However, these figures for mainly non-heathland woodland (totalling 9% of the Character Area) do not really reflect its overall woodland character, which is also reflected to a substantial extent through the high proportions of assart field patterns. These represent by some way the most extensive Historic Landscape Type in the North Hampshire Character Area (26%).

3.61 Of the total assarts, a significant majority (57%) are medium size (HLT 1.2), with a further 13% small (HLT 1.1), 17%

large (HLT 1.3), and 14% recent or regular assarts (HLT 1.4). The predominance of medium and small assarts also means that these areas contain numerous small copses and woods below the threshold of mapping, so that total actual woodland cover is greater than indicated.

3.62 Much of the western part of this Character Area appears at one time to have been heavily wooded. The Royal Forest of Pamber was situated within the western part of the Character Area, with an area of the woodland core still surviving as a very large block of ancient assarted woodland south west of Silchester. Pamber Forest itself is surrounded by small straight sided, parliamentary type fields (HLT 1.9), but a substantial part of the whole area to the south and west of this is characterised by the particularly common occurrence of the assart field systems and remnants of assarted ancient woodland in this area.

3.63 A further significant area, which is dominated by assarted woods and fields, corresponds to western end of the Forest of Eversley, north-east of Basingstoke.

3.64 Apart from the assarts, a further significant proportion of fields is composed of small pre-parliamentary and parliamentary types (HLT 1.16 and 1.9) which respectively account for 2% and 5% of the Character Area.

3.65 To the east of Silchester a large area of more open arable land exists, comprised mostly of large wavy-edged fields (HLT 1.6) which are probably derived from enclosed strips and furlongs. Together with a few other areas of these types, these field types make up 8% of the Character Area.

3.66 The scale of the sinuous edged fields east of Silchester, partly resulting from later boundary removal, means that only two small areas in the centre of this area are now sufficiently distinctive to be classified as being derived from enclosed strips and furlongs (HLT 1.5). Examination of the HCC air photographs showed that recent boundary loss had reduced the area of one of these compared with what was initially mapped from the 1:25,000 OS map. A few patches of former strip fields (HLT 1.5). Further to the east, alongside the River Blackwater north of the Forest of Eversley, there is another area of fields, whose boundaries reflect the enclosure of former strip fields (HLT 1.5).

3.67 Small areas of medium to large parliamentary type enclosure are also present in the Character Area, but at only 5% of total land-cover these are not an important feature of this Character Area compared with others. Such areas tend to be small isolated patches and are predominately concentrated around settlements in the west and along river valleys in the east. Their chief significance appears to be that many mark areas of former common shown on the 1st edition 1" OS map.

3.68 Another feature of this Character Area is the relatively extensive parkland, accounting for 6% of the total Character Area. By area, over three quarters of the parkland is pre-19th century in origin, with about a third (by number and area) originating as former deer parks (HLT 10.3). By number just over half of the parks are post-1800 in origin and quite small (HLT 10.2).

3.69 Numerous, but small scale pre-1800 settlements occur throughout the Character

Area, many of which may be medieval in origin, though possibly as scattered manorial complexes rather than villages. The Character Area has a high density of dispersed settlement.

3.70 Commons form a relatively significant proportion of the total Character Area (2%). Most of these commons and greens have since been wooded over, particularly in the west (HLT 2.4). Formerly there were even more (as noted above in relation to the incidence of medium to large parliamentary-type fields). In addition some of the smallest greens were not big enough to be mapped, so that overall the mapping of commons and greens here probably under-represents both their historic incidence and detailed survival.

3.71 A further indication of this is the unusually large proportion (25%) of the pre-1800 settlements that have been classified as common-edge settlement (HLT 9.3), being situated round areas of common land. This is particularly characteristic of the Forest of Eversley area.

3.72 Overall 15% of the Character Area is made up of post-1810 settlement, most of which occurs in the major conurbations of Fleet, Aldershot, Farnborough and Blackwater that have encroached on the heathland at the eastern end of the Character Area. Unlike many other large urban areas in Hampshire (Basingstoke, Andover, Winchester, Southampton or Portsmouth) these were not historic towns (Hughes 1976).

3.73 More generally there is some significant post-1800 settlement in the form of more modest enlargement of older settlements. There is a significant amount of post-1800 scattered settlement (HLT 9.2),

much of it represented by large houses and gardens typical of many heathland areas further east into Surrey.

3.74 Valley floor areas are very limited, mainly occurring in the east where a number of river valleys extend into the mixed farming landscape, where they are often bordered by some of the larger, later field patterns.

3.75 Defence sites represent 2% of the Character Area, most of it 20th century establishments at Farnborough and Aldershot, though this does not include the extensive areas of barracks which form part of the post-1810 urban settlements of this area.

Western Weald Lowland and Heath: Landscape Character Area 6

Introduction

3.76 This area of eastern Hampshire, HCC Character Area 6, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Mixed Farmland and Woodland
- Pasture and Woodland: Heath Associated
- Heathland and Forest
- Hangers on Greensand
- Pasture: Hangers Associated
- Open Arable on Greensand
- Urban Area

3.77 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.4.

Description

3.78 This Character Area contains part of the former Royal Forest of Wolmer. There is a significant area of heathland plantation with only relatively limited areas of surviving open heathland, some of which is used as defence sites.

3.79 There is a significant proportion of other woodland. Hangers (3%) characterise the Greensand scarp. Assarted woods (6%) occur particularly at the northern end of the area, south-west of Farnham, at the foot of the Greensand scarp north-east of Selborne, and in the southern part of the area north-west of Petersfield.

3.80 Binswood, north-west of Oakhanger is a notable example of common wood pasture (4.10). Other wooded common land has been mapped as wooded over commons, which are particularly characteristic of the area north and east of Wolmer Forest.

3.81 Assarted fields (9%) are mainly small to medium size (HLT 1.1 and 1.2) and characterise the area at the foot of the chalk scarp north and west of Petersfield.

3.82 Extensive areas of small fields, of both pre-parliamentary (14%) and parliamentary (9%) type, (HLT 1.16 and 1.9) strongly characterise the more open areas at the foot of the chalk in this area. These types of small scale field patterns also characterise much of the non-heathland and common areas in and around Wolmer Forest.

3.83 Larger fields, mainly of pre-parliamentary type with wavy boundaries (HLT 1.6) characterise most of the north west part of the Character Area, with some parliamentary types and fairly extensive miscellaneous valley floor areas on the clay.

This is also evident in less extensive valley floor areas immediately east of Petersfield, and along the foot of the North Downs (the western end of which form the north-east corner of the chalk in Hampshire).

3.84 Medium to large parliamentary type fields are not a significant element of the landscape, the main areas being on open flat areas around East Worldham and west of Blackmoor.

3.85 There is a significant area of orchards east of Selborne, typically occupying an extensive well-drained rise in the Greensand bench above the heavier clays of the Low Weald.

3.86 Parkland is not especially common in the Character Area.

3.87 Older settlements are mainly situated in scarp-foot or springline, rather than riverside, locations. Within the area around Wolmer Forest a number of common-edge settlements occur. There is fairly extensive recent urbanised settlement, especially at Bordon (much of it military-related), Headley and Liphook in the Wolmer Forest area, with Petersfield representing the other main town. Recent scattered settlement and paddocks or large gardens is also characteristic of parts of the Wolmer Forest area.

South Hampshire Lowland and Heath: Landscape Character Area 7

Introduction

3.88 This area of southern Hampshire, HCC Character Area 7, is composed

predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Mixed Farmland and Woodland
- Pasture and Woodland: Heath Associated
- Pasture on Clay
- Horticulture and Smallholdings
- Scarps: Downland
- Open Arable
- Urban Area

3.89 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.5.

Description

3.90 A very high proportion of the Character Area (29%) is recent urban development.

3.91 Much of the rest of the Character Area consists of assarts (18%) and assarted woodland (10%), reflecting the importance of the Forest of Bere and woodland areas either side of the Test valley in the area around Romsey.

3.92 Most of the main blocks of woodland in the Forest of Bere are either replanted old woodlands (eg West Walk) or substantially new plantation (eg Creech Woods).

3.93 Of the assart fields, about a third each (32% and 34%) are medium and large size (HLT 1.2, 1.3), 10% are small (HLT 1.1) and the remaining 13% are more recent and regular assarts (HLT 1.4).

3.94 Apart from the assarts, most field patterns are small pre-parliamentary and more particularly parliamentary types (6% and 13% respectively). This particularly

characterises the central section of the Character Area, north-east of Southampton between the River Itchen and the River Hamble.

3.95 The downland-associated fields bounded by paths, tracks and roads (HLT 1.15) occur on the north side of Portsdown Hill, where there are also small areas of downland (HLT 6.1).

3.96 Portsdown Hill is also notable for its prominent string of earlier 19th century forts (HLT 14.4).

3.97 There are only very few areas of larger pre-parliamentary type fields (2%), and sporadic areas of medium to large parliamentary types (6%), mainly in more open areas, where there may have been longer standing fields, or perhaps resulting from enlargement of the smaller parliamentary fields through selective boundary removal.

3.98 There is a small amount of horticulture mapped (1%), mostly from the occurrence of glass houses rather than orchards, and this may well be significantly under-represented in the area where outdoor vegetable and fruit growing are not immediately evident from the maps and other sources used.

3.99 Parkland occurs sporadically (3%), mainly in the western part of the Character Area.

3.100 Recreation, especially in the form of golf courses is relatively common (2%), as is recent scattered settlement and paddocks or large gardens, both of which reflect the proximity of large urban areas.

New Forest Lowland and Heath: Landscape Character Area 8

Introduction

3.101 This area of south-western Hampshire, HCC Character Area 8, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Heathland and Forest
- Pasture and Woodland: Heath Associated
- Mixed Farmland and Woodland
- Urban Area

3.102 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.9.

Description

3.103 Open heathland (including heathland commons and purlieus) accounts for 37% of this Character Area, with old woodland, most of which is heathland wood pasture or old enclosures, accounting for another 7%. Heathland plantations account for 17%,

3.104 The heathland commons occur around the western and northern edges of the main heathland block, adjacent to settlements in the neighbouring river valleys, notably the Avon. Heathland commons do not appear to characterise the eastern or southern margins of the New Forest heathland, possibly as a result of older encroachment and inclosure.

3.105 These heathland and woodland types represent a massive triangular central core of the New Forest Character Area, generally with the woodland at the centre and the heathland more peripheral. This core very

closely corresponds to the Heathland and Forest Landscape Type and the RAMSAR/SPA and Special Conservation Area designations.

3.106 The heathland and woodland core of the New Forest is divided north-south by a discontinuous corridor of other historic landscape types, which occur in the headwaters of the Beaulieu and Lymington Rivers. These areas include small areas of small fields, parkland and assarted woods and fields, together with Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst, the two main settlements within the core of the New Forest.

3.107 Other settlements within the core of the New Forest are sparse, but distinctive. Typically they consist mostly of old (and more recently expanded) scattered settlement and paddocks (like Burley or Fritham) which are often associated with old purlieus, or are common edge settlements (like East Boldre) usually at the very edge of the heathland core.

3.108 The more peripheral parts of the Character Area surrounding the main core of the New Forest are quite variable in character, and account for the majority of the other historic landscape types occurring within the Character Area.

3.109 Assarted woodland and assart field patterns are particularly characteristic of the area round Beaulieu on the south side of the Forest and around Bramshaw and Cadnam in the north and north east. These areas are interspersed with small patches of small parliamentary type fields.

3.110 Assart fields account for 6% of the Character Area as a whole, and of the assarts 49% are small (HLT 1.1), 29% medium (HLT

1.2), 7% large (HLT 1.3) and 16% recent or regular (HLT 1.4).

3.111 The small pre-parliamentary (HLT 1.16) and parliamentary (HLT 1.9) type fields are the predominant characteristic of the area bordering the Forest core on its southern side west of the Beaulieu River, and parts of the eastern margin south and west of Marchwood and west of Totton. Overall these respectively make up 4% and 7% of the total Character Area.

3.112 Larger parliamentary type fields are conspicuous for the extremely low level of occurrence (only 1% of the total Character Area).

3.113 There is also some parkland in the Character Area surrounding the Forest core, notably at Exbury Gardens.

3.114 The inclusion in this Character Area of Totton, Ashurst, Marchwood, Hythe, Holbury and Blackfield, on the east side of the New Forest, means that recent urban settlement accounts for a significant part (10%) of the Character Area. There is also a small but significant industrial element from the Fawley oil refinery.

New Forest Coast: Landscape Character Area 9

Introduction

3.115 This area of southern Hampshire, HCC Character Area 9, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Enclosed Coastal Plain
- Open Coastal Plain
- Cliff Coastline

- Coastline
- Urban Area

3.116 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.5.

Description

3.117 Coastal types predominate in this Character Area accounting for 23% of the total, most of which is intertidal mud flats though with some salt marsh, saltings and marinas.

3.118 Recent urban settlement is another significant element (14%) represented by New Milton, Barton-on-Sea, Milford-on-Sea and Lymington.

3.119 Woodland accounts for only a limited part of this Character Area, occurring mainly as small scattered blocks of assarted woods (3%) and copses or new plantations (4%). The main area of woodland, and of assart field patterns (5%), is along the Beaulieu River.

3.120 The predominant field patterns, like the peripheral areas of the New Forest are the small pre-parliamentary and parliamentary types (HLT 1.16, 1.9) accounting for 7% and 18% respectively. Assarts only account for 3% of the Character Area, of which 45% are recent or regular (HLT 1.4), and 36% large (HLT 1.3), almost all the rest being medium size.

3.121 There are more large fields in this Area than Character Area 8, but these still make up less than the smaller fields (large wavy-edged fields 5%; medium to large parliamentary types 8%). Nearly all these areas of larger fields occur in the areas

south of Beaulieu and south of Exbury and Blackfield.

3.122 Horticulture is noticeable feature of the Character Area from the occurrence of glass houses, and as with Character Area 7, at 1% of the total Character Area, may be under-represented.

3.123 Fields bounded by paths, tracks and roads (HLT 1.15) is another noticeable element (3%) possibly associated with horticulture or market gardening on the coastal plain.

South Hampshire Coast: Landscape Character Area 10

Introduction

3.124 This area of southern Hampshire, HCC Character Area 10, is composed predominantly of the following HCC Landscape Types:

- Enclosed Coastal Plain
- Open Coastal Plain
- Cliff Coastline
- Coastline
- Urban Area

3.125 The proportions of grouped Historic Landscape Types occurring within this Character Area are shown in Figure 3.5.

Description

3.126 By far the largest component of the Character Area is modern urban settlement, accounting for 45% of the Character Area.

3.127 Coastal types make up another 25%, most of which is intertidal mud flats, though with some salt marsh, saltings and marinas.

3.128 Defence sites (4%) and industry (3%) are further significant elements. The defence sites include major post-medieval and more recent facilities at Portsmouth and Gosport.

3.129 Old settlements account for 2%, including the main medieval and post-medieval defence-associated towns of Portsmouth and Gosport representing a significant element of this.

3.130 Recreation is a further urban related element of this Character Area.

3.131 The remaining 20-21% of the Character Area consists of a fairly typical mixture of rural Historic Landscape Types similar in their relative proportions to Character Area 9, though with a negligible amount of assarts, a smaller proportion of small fields (totalling 6%), and greater predominance of parliamentary types among the larger fields (6%). Fields bounded by paths, tracks and roads again figure in their coastal plain form (2%).

Avon, Test, Itchen and Meon River Valleys: Landscape Character Area 11

Introduction

3.132 This Character Area differs from the others in being particularly associated with one topographical land form, of which four main examples effectively cut across the other Character Areas. Overall this Character