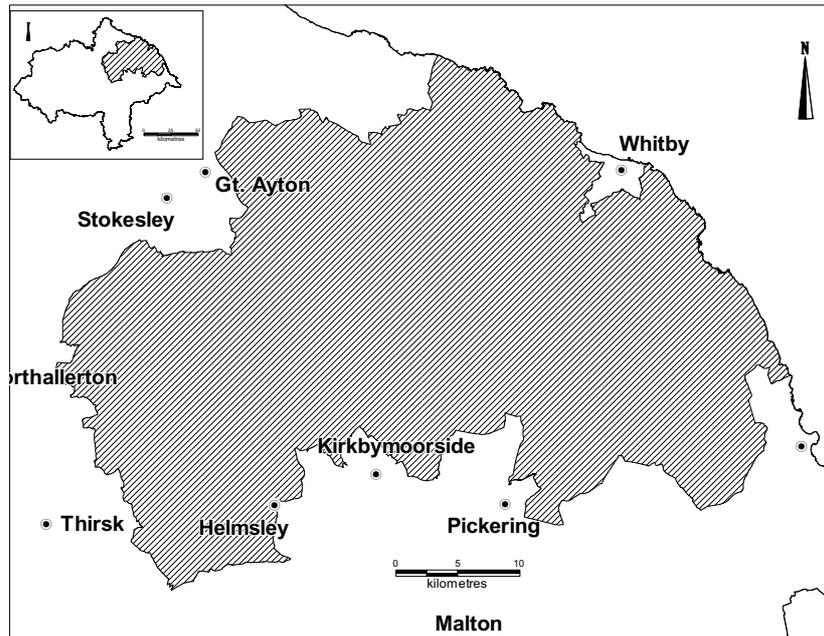


5.3 The North York Moors National Park



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Figure 107 Area covered by the North York Moors National Park (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The North York Moors National Park was designated in AD 1952¹³⁷ and encompasses an area of mainly upland which covers 143,600 hectares. It is an upland plateau underlain by Middle Jurassic sandstones and mudstones, while to the south the geology consists of calcareous sandstone and limestone of the Upper Jurassic series. There are also areas of land which are undulating in form due to the underlying glacial till, sands and gravels. This landscape is bisected by deep dales which can be wide and steep river valleys.

There is no denying the role that the moorland plays in the character of the North York Moors. The moor is a complex landscape with much detail that can be drawn out. Even the moorland is much more involved than first appears, sitting within various management regimes, and being maintained as a result of different historic processes.

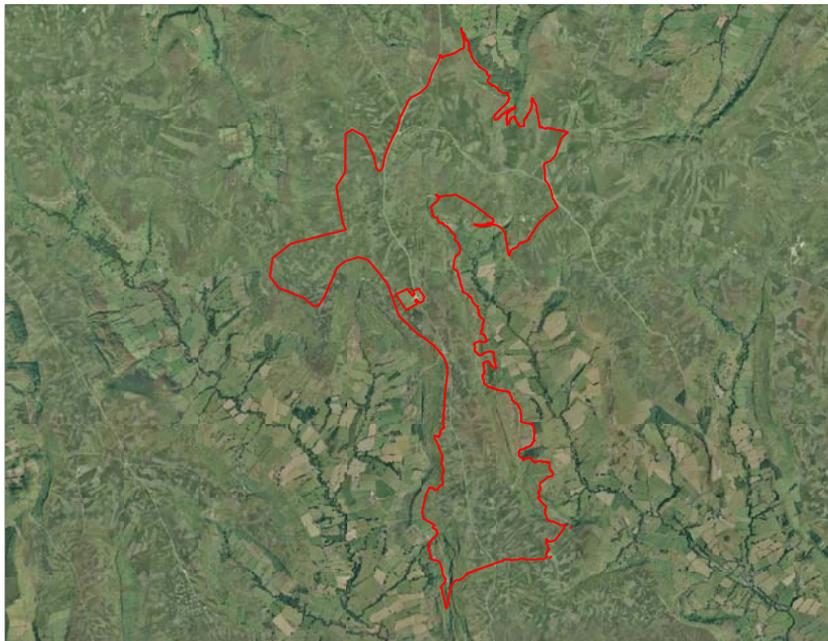
Unenclosed land accounts for 44,750 hectares, however this is just over a third of the total area of the National Park. While this is a far higher percentage than most of the rest of the county it is clear that the landscape is a lot more varied than first appears. Within those 44,750 hectares there is also a fairly high degree of variation.

¹³⁷ <http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/key-facts-and-figures/>



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 108 Extensive area of moorland (SE 471968, HNY 6763)



High Resolution Aerial Imagery of the UK © ukperspectives.com 2003

Figure 109 Extensive area characterised as shallow-shaft coal mining along Blakey Ridge (SE 682992), Farndale Head and Rosedale Head

This can be seen in the record for HNY 6763, see Figure 108. “This is an extensive area of heather moorland lying to the far west of the National Park which has significant legibility with little change since AD 1850. The current management regime is that of grouse moor. The upland area is mostly unchanged and around the edges the area is characterised by some steep banks often planted with trees or areas of rough grassland, bracken and gorse on the edges of the unenclosed land. There are some disused small scale sandstone and limestone quarries identified dispersed across the area, and some jet mining around the very edges of the moor. There is also an area of disused coal pits used for coal mining and small areas of plantation less than 2h in area included in this record. The moors are used extensively for sheep grazing and contribute significantly to the character of the area and provide a vast open space which has retained its natural beauty. The Bilsdale television transmitter mast is a dominant landmark, and a small gliding club is situated in the north of the area at Carlton Bank. There are numerous prehistoric round barrows mainly situated on the highest points and in a mainly featureless landscape. Other prehistoric remains are not so obvious. This gives it a further dimension to its historic character going back at least to the Bronze Age”.

As we can see this has a highly detailed and varied development with leisure use, some intake and evidence of very small scale extraction. By contrast, if we look in more detail at this area we can see areas around the moor which are smaller and have been recorded as reverted moorland, for example to the north of Hawnby we have a series of reverted moorlands. Bumper Hagg (HNY 7838) forms one of these and was previously post-medieval intake which was intake prior to the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

It is not clear whether the land within this area has been improved, but it is evident that it has now reverted to moorland. In contrast to the extensive moorland recorded as part of record reference HNY 6763 (SE 471968), there is no evidence of modern management or extraction.

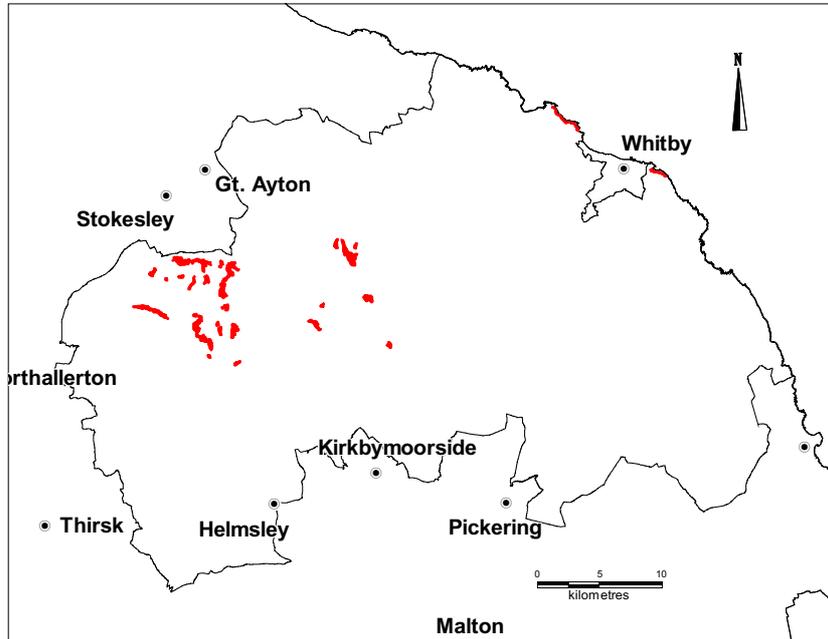
There are some areas within the National Park where the density of extraction is such that this has come to define the historic character. The character of this extraction is extremely varied and includes jet and ironstone working, alum extraction, shallow-shaft coal mining and quarrying for sandstone, limestone and aggregates.

The North York Moors has one of the highest concentrations of shallow-shaft coal mining in the project area, covering 1,536 hectares. Some of the most dense concentrations are around Farndale Moor (NZ 662001) and Danby Head (NZ 673009). Covering over a thousand hectares, these areas are extensive and fairly dispersed, although there are very specific concentrations along Blakey Ridge, for example at SE 682992, NZ 672006 and NZ 679005. The extraction has a linear nature, following the location of the mineral. Whilst there is evidence of mining in this area throughout the post-medieval period before AD 1850, there appears to have been an increase in activity between AD 1850 and 1900. There are areas of coal mining in this area as well, lying mainly to the south.

One of the most distinctive aspects of the landscape history of the North York Moors National Park is the extraction of jet. Sharing its texture with amber and colour with coal, jet is fossilised timber from the *araucaria* genus¹³⁸. This material doesn't follow

¹³⁸ Cook 2003;189

a regular seam in the geological material, meaning that the character of extraction is not continuous, and occurs randomly throughout the Upper Lias shales (ibid). As these shales lie above ironstone deposits, there are close relationships in some areas (see below). Jet as a material is particularly synonymous with this part of the country, and particularly with jewellery from Whitby.



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Figure 110 Jet working areas (in red) within the North York Moors National Park

The HLC project has characterised twenty nine areas where jet working defines the historic landscape character, see Figure 110. These areas show a distribution which is relatively limited along the coast, with a higher concentration of extraction inland, further west. This distribution of surviving historic character contrasts with the historical and geological evidence for the industry. The distribution map accompanying Cook's¹³⁹ article, for example, shows a very high concentration of jet mining running along the coast. The HLC project only identified a 3km stretch of jet mining to the north of Whitby, and a second, 1.5 km stretch of jet mining to the south.

One of the issues with characterising areas as jet working is the discontinuous character of the activity, which means that in some cases it does form an aspect of other historic landscapes. This is particular noticeable when it occurs with other forms of extraction. For example, the length of coast that runs from the north of Whitby to the border of the North York Moors National Park does show evidence of jet extraction; however the dominant historic character within this area is alum extraction, represented by Kettleless alum works. This area shows evidence of jet mining on the western side, as well as ironstone working.

¹³⁹ Cook 2003;189

This can also be seen in the 4km stretch of coastline near Port Mulgrave (NZ 811161 to NZ 783187). Here, again, there is evidence of jet mining, however this is interspersed in a landscape which is dominated by ironstone mining, so the coastline here is characterised as such. We can also see similar occurrences inland where areas of jet mining has occurred in a wooded area, for example Smithy Bank Wood (NZ 83020507) which dates before AD 1850 and has some evidence of jet mining within it.

Another issue has to be the dynamic character of the coastline, which has led to some areas becoming unstable and collapsing. In some areas, this may have been exacerbated by the amount of extraction¹⁴⁰. An example of coastal movement occurred in AD 1829 with the villagers rescued by the alum ships¹⁴¹.

This may partly explain why the pattern of the historic landscape character types does not reflect the known pattern of jet extraction. However, it does show areas of concentration. The previously mentioned area between Whitby and grid ref. NZ 836159 is described by the project as “an area of large scale jet working with partial legibility having an almost continuous line of holes and small caves along the base of the cliffs and coastal slopes mined for the extraction of jet direct from the vein where it is exposed in the cliff edge. The holes run along approximately 3km of the coast from Kettleless to Deepgrove Wyke, there are no buildings or other remains. The previous HLC is recorded as cliffs, coastal slopes and rocky foreshore because along this stretch the coastline varies between these types, and remains partially in its natural form which has been altered by the jet mining along this length, and is very visible.”

Contrary to the known pattern of extraction, the HLC shows the greatest concentration away from the coast. These workings seem to occur on the slopes of the valleys that cut through the moorland. For example, on the eastern side of Bilsdale there are two areas characterised by jet working (NZ 570010 and SE 575998). Both of these seem to be associated with the extraction of jet by following the 800ft contour line on this side of the dale.

A similar pattern can be seen on Dromond Bank (NZ 53850347), where the north-facing slope has been quarried between the first and second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)-(1889-99), which would date the highest concentration of activity broadly between AD 1850 and 1900. Here we seem to have the opposite issue from the one mentioned above. On Dromond Bank, the dominant extraction, as identified from the mapping, is jet; whereas alum quarrying has occurred, but on a much smaller scale.

Along with moorland, some of the most familiar features of the North York Moors National Park are the extensive areas of woodland. Woodland, of all types, covers over 30,000 hectares of the National Park's landscape. This accounts for 21% of the area. Whilst the common perception is that the woodland consists of plantation woodland, the picture is much more complex.

There are several large modern plantation woodlands, for example Langdale Forest, which have seen an increase of over 90% since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). Covering over 2,500 hectares, this plantation is managed by the Forestry Commission. Prior to this area becoming

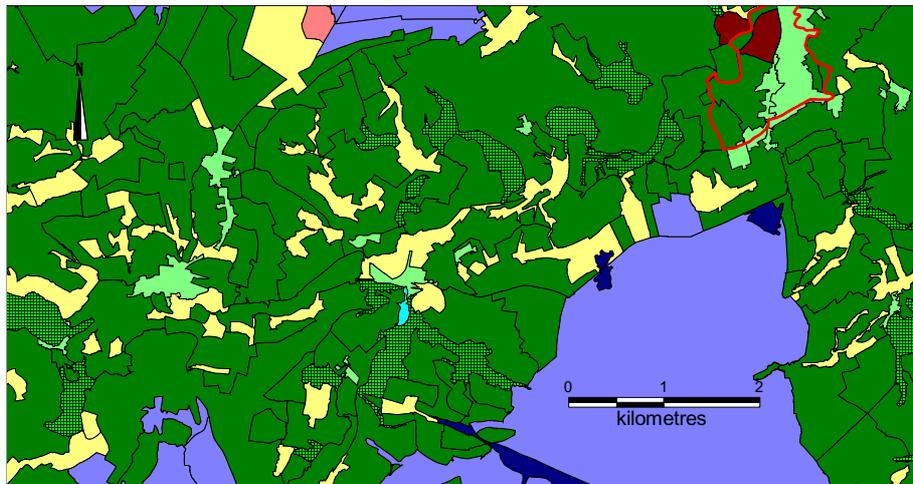
¹⁴⁰ Buglass Pers. Comm

¹⁴¹ Lee and Pethick 2003; 18

forested, it was characterised as intake, probably dating to the early part of the post-medieval period. Before this, the area was moorland.

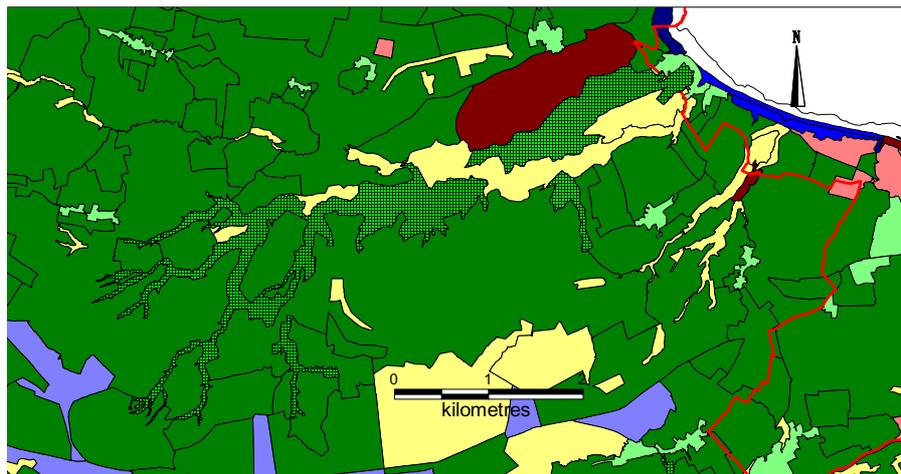
The woodland character within the National Park is much more complex. Within its boundaries there are 183 areas of ancient woodland which date before AD 1600. These are normally found in the valleys, and are fairly evenly spread across the area. There is a particularly high concentration in the north east of the National Park, around Grosmont, shown in crosshatch in Figure 111 below.

One of the largest areas of ancient semi-natural woodland lies just to the north of this area, running inland from Sandsend. This consists of two large blocks of woodland, totalling 254 hectares, both sitting within a larger wooded area and both have seen very little change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).



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Figure 111 Ancient woodland around Grosmont, defined by the green hatched areas



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Figure 112 Extensive area of ancient woodland near Sandsend, defined by the green hatched areas

In terms of frequency, rather than area, the most common type of woodland identified within the project is broad-leaved plantation. These areas have a very different character to the large scale plantations such as Langdale Forest, tending to be smaller in size and more dispersed throughout the landscape and date between AD 1600 and 2009. For example, in Bilsdale, there are several small plantations which are less than ten hectares in size, and can generally be found between blocks of fields.

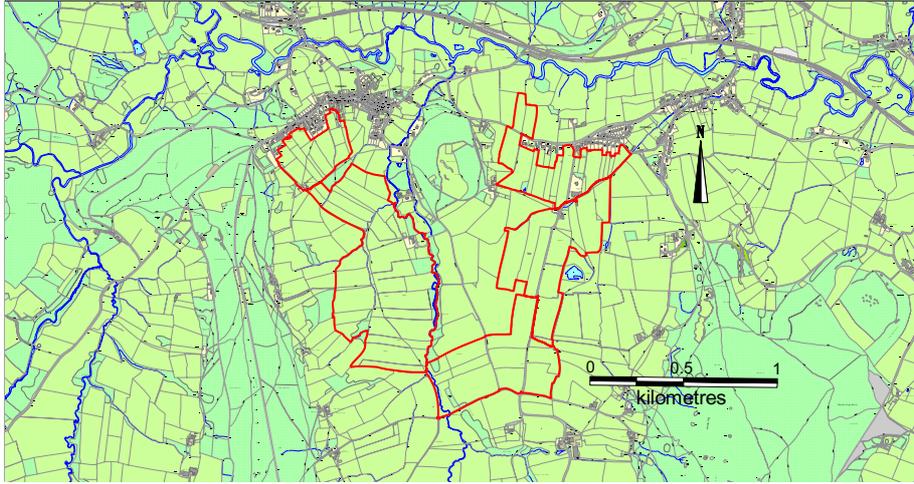
The enclosure patterns within the National Park are influenced heavily by the physical form of the landscape. There are 183 areas which have been identified with a parliamentary enclosure award. The highest concentration of these lies in the north east of the National Park around Mulgrave, Hinderwell, Mickleby, Barnby and Goldsborough. These blocks of fields, characterised by straight hedgerow boundaries, tend to cover areas from 40 to 400 hectares. Most of this seems to be part of the same award which dates between AD 1776 and 1782.

The modern improved fields within the National Park seem to be limited to the surrounding low lying areas, rarely located in the valleys. There is a particular concentration to the north of East and West Ayton. These tend to occur in smaller blocks than the large-scale modern improved fields more common in the Vale of Pickering to the south.

One of the very distinctive aspects of enclosure within the National Park is the relationship between enclosure and the moorland. In common with the Yorkshire Dales National Park, in the west of the county, the project has identified a large degree of intake where land is enclosed from moorland. These have generally been dated to the period AD 1540 to 1750, reflecting the form which suggests that they are occurring after the medieval period, but prior to the adoption of large-scale planned enclosure. Found generally around the edge of the moorland, these field systems vary in size from a four hectares up to 90 hectares in the case of the intake at SE 950965. As mentioned in section 5.1.5, some of these intakes have reverted to moorland.

Enclosed strip fields, fields enclosed from open fields and defined by reverse 'S'-shaped curved boundaries, are found in the National Park but are less common. There are two particular concentrations which are apparent from the HLC. The first lies to the south of Castleton and Ainthorpe, see Figure 113. These have significant legibility with little boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). A second concentration of enclosed strip fields lie between Appleton le Moors and Spaunton. Defined by hedgerows, this is a particularly high density of medieval activity. Some of these fields have seen little boundary loss, but others have only partial legibility due to boundary removal since AD 1850, for example at SE 753876.

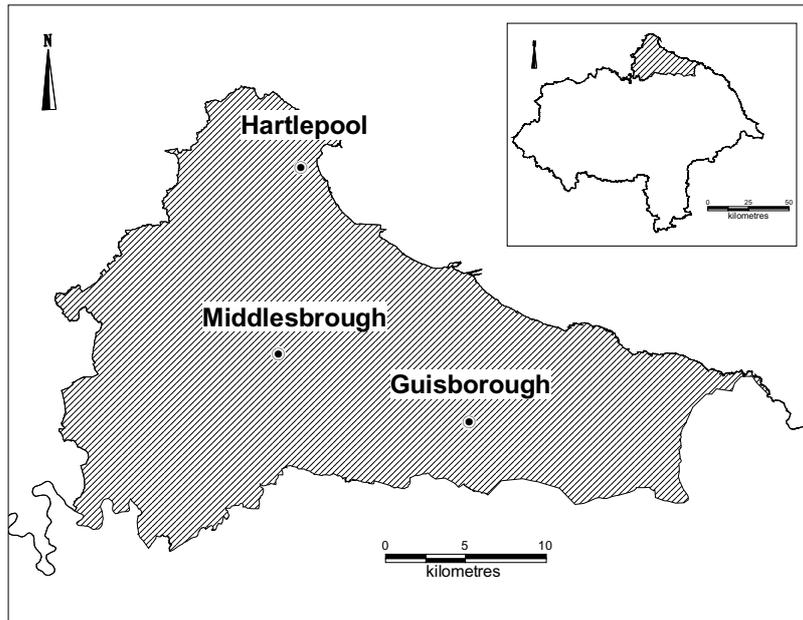
The settlement pattern within the North York Moors has a very distinct, dispersed form. The only historic core identified is the town of Helmsley. The majority of the other settlements identified are villages, 82 in total. While the current character is post medieval, many have a previous character which is medieval. There is a definite trend within the character of the villages, with 39 having a linear form. These usually have two rows of dwellings on either side of a main street with a back lane. There does seem to be a marked distribution of the linear villages with twelve in the south west area of the North York Moors, and a second group to the north of Whitby.



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Figure 113 Distribution of enclosed strip fields near Castleton

5.4 The Lower Tees Valley



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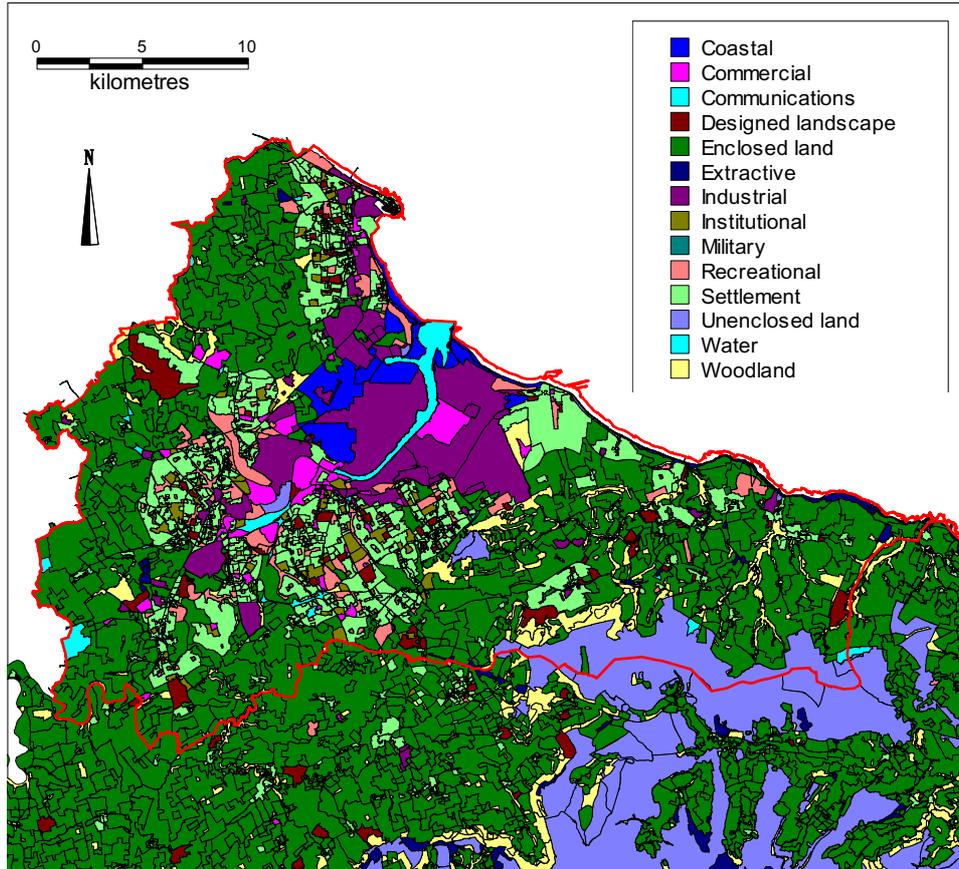
Figure 114 Area covered by the Lower Tees Valley (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The area referred to as the Lower Tees Valley, (see Figure 114 above) comprises of four unitary authorities; Stockton-on-Tees, Redcar and Cleveland, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, and covers a total area of 61490 hectares. This area was the non-metropolitan county of Cleveland between AD 1974 and 1996 when it became the four unitary authorities.

As previously mentioned in the methodology, section 3.4, the project employed a different approach in the urban areas of the Lower Tees Valley area. This was to enable the drawing out of much more historic information relating to the more extensive settlement and industrial character of this area. To put this in perspective, settlement accounts for 17% of the total area of the Lower Tees Valley, whereas it accounts for 3% of the rest of the HLC project area. The aim of this section of the report is to summarise the results for the Lower Tees Valley and draw out the specific trends that can be recognised.

An examination of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) shows the degree of expansion which has occurred in the late 19th and 20th century. At the time of this mapping, the core settlement of Middlesbrough covered an area of approximately 88 hectares. 2,781 hectares is now covered by Middlesbrough's settlement. This is an expansion of 3,180%, not including the industrial, recreational and institutional elements of Middlesbrough. Hartlepool and Stockton have also seen major 20th-century expansion, see section 4.7.

The character of enclosed land within the Lower Tees Valley area is also distinctive from the rest of the county. This section will draw out the broad trends and patterns which make the area distinctive and significant, see Figure 115.



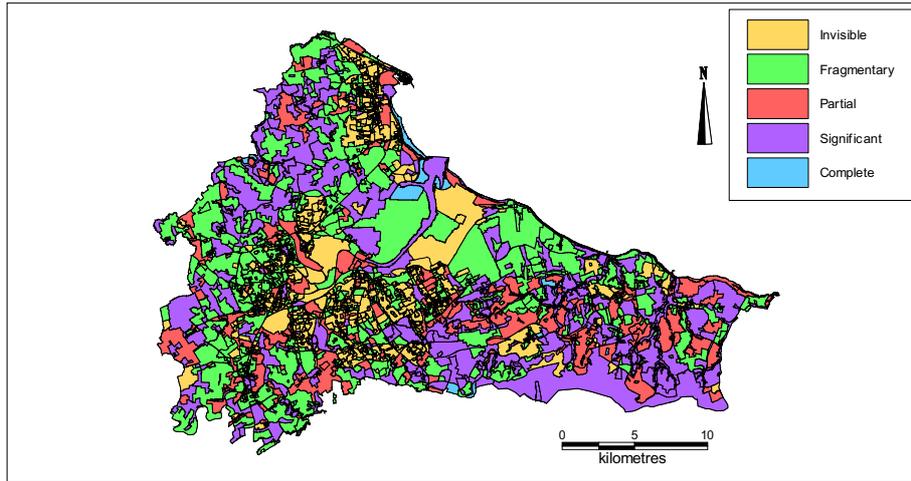
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Figure 115 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley mapped by broad type

Figure 116 shows the legibility of the Tees area, giving an initial overview of how dynamic the landscape has been. As can be seen this is a landscape which has seen a lot of change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), particularly centred on the settlements. There has also been a fair degree of change within the field systems. These will be discussed in more detail below.

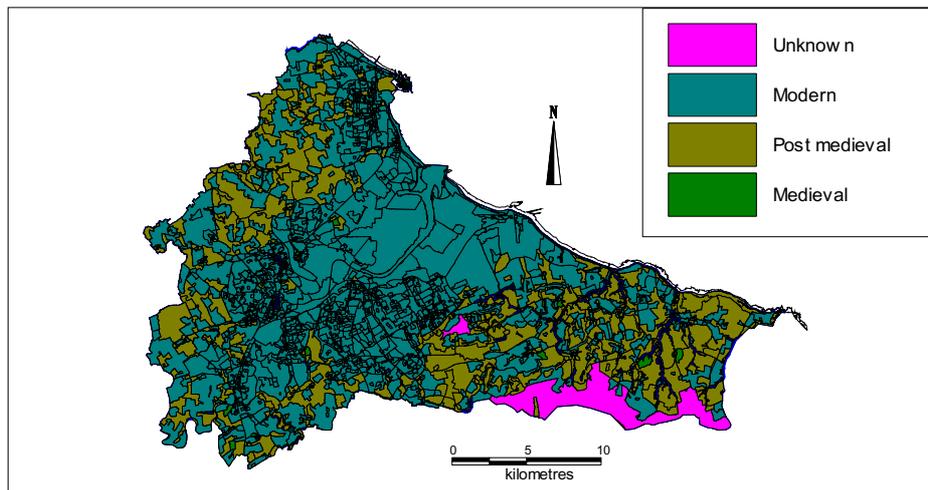
Figure 117 shows the broad distribution of the records within the Tees area by period. This has been mapped based on very broad dates. Some areas are blank on this figure due to the method used for querying the information, which relies on records falling exclusively between two dates. The figure highlights general trends within the origin of the historic character of the Lower Tees Valley. It uses dates based on MIDAS which defines the standard information to be recorded about heritage assets¹⁴². HBSMR, the software used to create this historic landscape characterisation uses MIDAS as the basis for how information is recorded.

¹⁴² www.midas-heritage.info



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Figure 116 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley mapped by legibility



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Figure 117 The historic landscape character of the Lower Tees Valley by historic period. Blank areas indicate areas whose period of origin does not fall exclusively within the periods mapped

Enclosed land

Whilst we may think of the four unitary authorities as being essentially urban areas, examination of the project results shows that there are large areas which are still characterised by enclosed land. To put this in context, enclosed land accounts for 27,500 hectares, or 45%, of the Lower Tees Valley area. This shows that the enclosed land of the area forms an important aspect of the historic character.

The character of the boundaries differs from the rest of the project area, see Figure 118. Only 13 areas of enclosed land have internal boundaries defined by dry stone walls, whereas 65 areas of enclosed land are defined by fences. This is a much higher concentration than any other area within the project. The dry stone walls in the

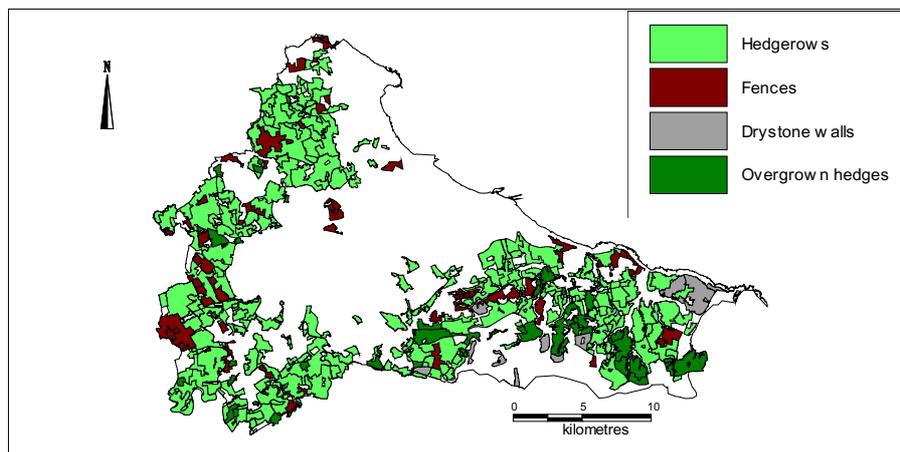
area are very limited, focussed mainly around Easington (NZ 74481799) and Staithes (NZ 78261881).

Since AD 1900, the loss of boundaries within the Tees area has had a major impact on the historic character with the removal of boundaries changing the character. As with other parts of the project, such as the Vale of Mowbray, the Tees area has seen this degree of boundary loss at least partially in response to the increased mechanisation of arable agriculture. This accounts for 9,786 hectares which is 35 percent of the enclosed land within the area.

Figure 119 shows the previous character of the modern improved fields. In contrast to the rest of the study area most of the boundary loss has been in field systems dating to the early post-medieval period.

Planned enclosure accounts for 7,370 hectares, or 26% of the enclosed land. The blocks of planned enclosure tend to be smaller than in the rest of the county, with many less than 20 hectares in size, see Figure 120. In contrast to the rest of the study area, there is very little evidence for parliamentary enclosure, see Figure 121. During the characterisation, only five parishes out of twenty two were found to have a parliamentary award. These parishes were Easington High Moor in AD 1817, Moorsholm in AD 1864, Skelton in AD 1844, Marske in AD 1756 and Kirkleatham in AD 1850.

This suggests that there is a high degree of private enclosure being undertaken within the area, although more research on a parish by parish basis would be needed to establish this.



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Figure 118 The distribution of different types of internal boundaries within the Lower Tees Valley

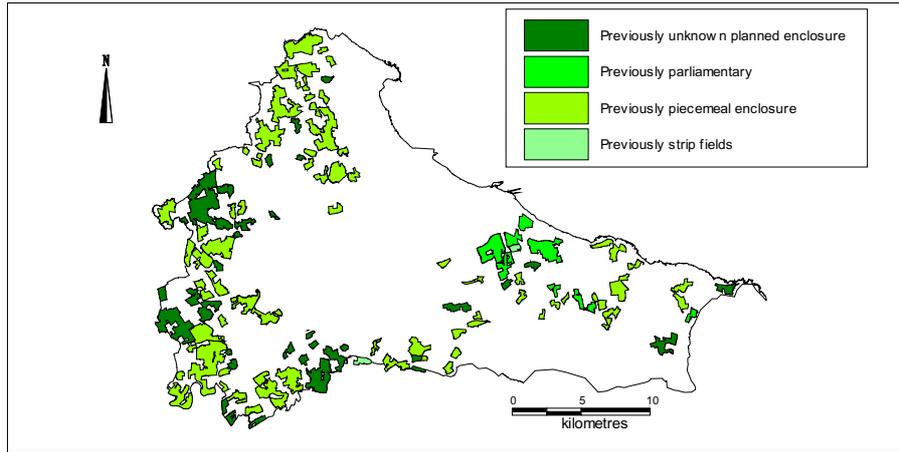


Figure 119 The distribution of previous character of modern improved fields within the Lower Tees Valley

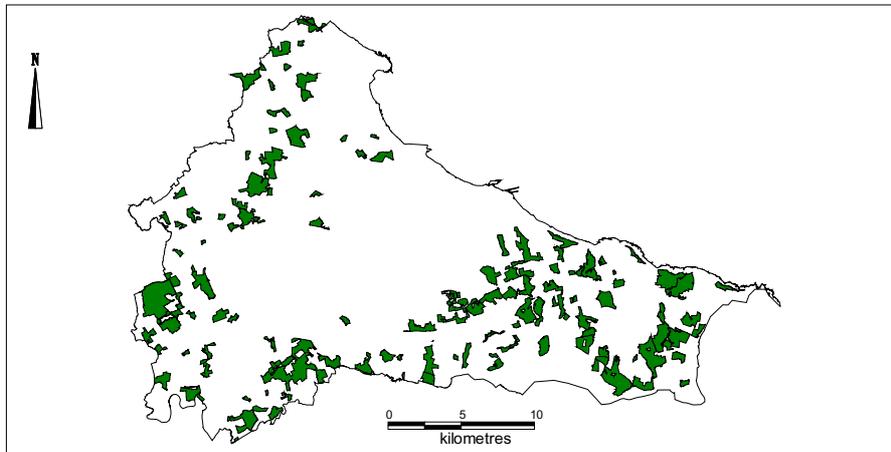


Figure 120 The distribution of planned enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley

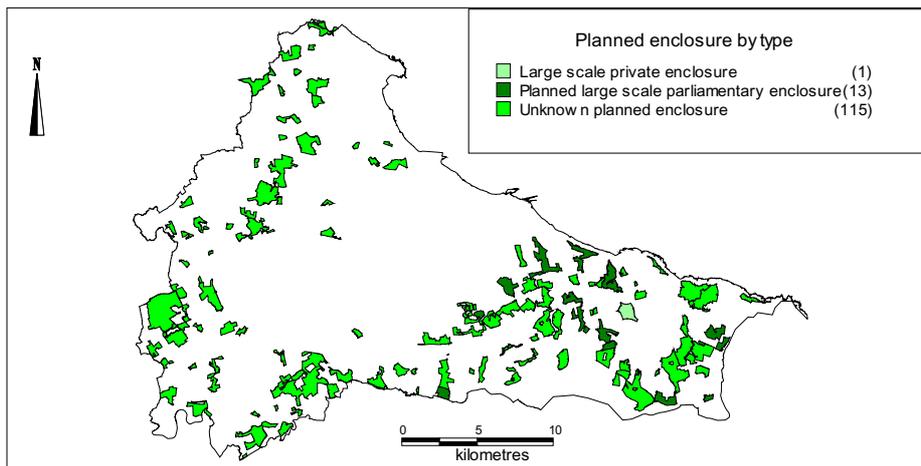


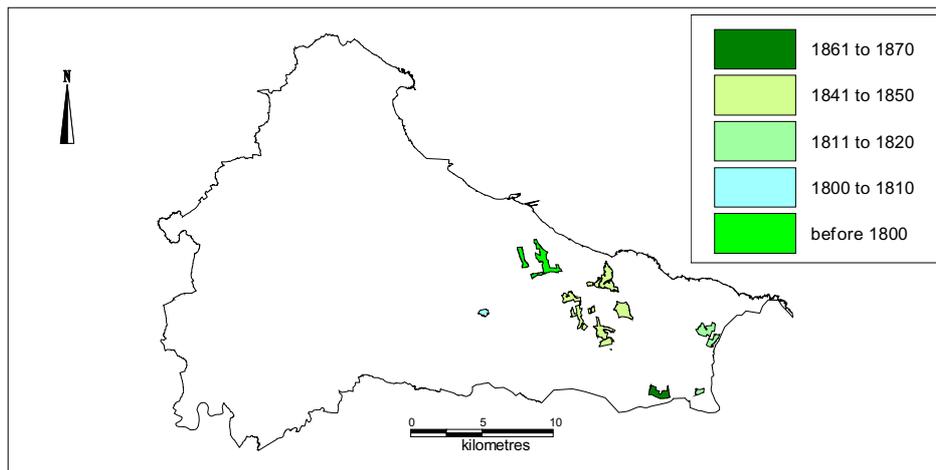
Figure 121 The distribution of planned enclosure by type within the Lower Tees Valley

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Figure 122 shows the parliamentary enclosure mapped by decade. These enclosures have a very specific distribution, all located in the south eastern corner of the Lower Tees Valley area.

A large area of the enclosed landscape has been characterised as piecemeal enclosure, see Figure 123. Broadly dated to the early part of the post-medieval period (after the end of the medieval period, but before the onset of planned enclosure), this covers 10,370 hectares of the Tees landscape. Out of this, 4,172 hectares have seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), see Figure 124.

There is limited evidence for medieval enclosure within this area. This is represented by nine areas of enclosed strip fields, see Figure 125. These are spread throughout the area and mostly display reverse 'S'-shaped curved boundaries, with hedges being the most common type of boundary. This should not be taken as the original extent of medieval agriculture in the area; rather it shows where this is still visible within the present landscape. It is likely that enclosed strip fields were originally much more extensive around the settlements. Indeed the amount of field pattern change can be seen in the Marske area (NZ 612217), where the enclosed strip fields are now modern improved fields.



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Figure 122 The distribution of parliamentary enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley, by date.

Settlement

The work carried out on the settlement patterns within parts of the Lower Tees Valley area has been extremely detailed. Due to the urban and suburban character of core areas, a more detailed level of characterisation was undertaken to gain a more complex understanding of these areas. This section will summarise some of these results.

The settlement pattern before the 20th century was extremely limited. Fourteen historic town cores were identified as part of the project. These are shown in Figure 126.

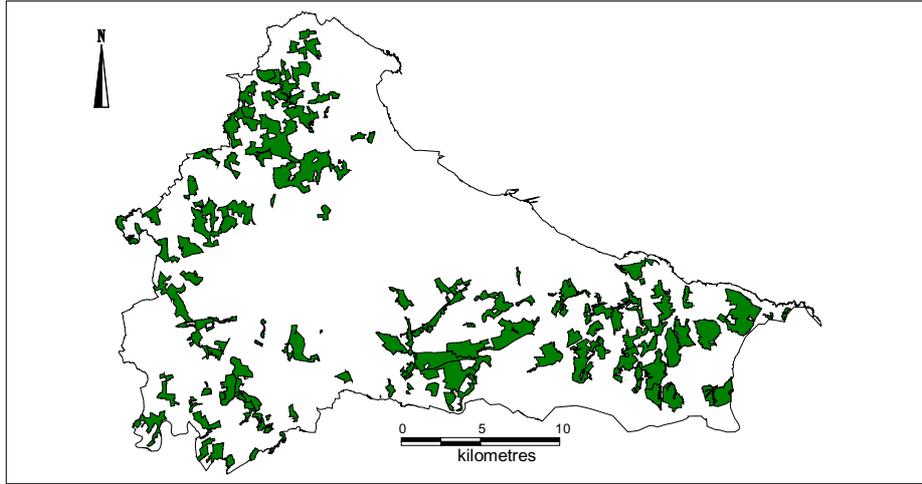


Figure 123 The distribution of piecemeal enclosure within the Lower Tees Valley.

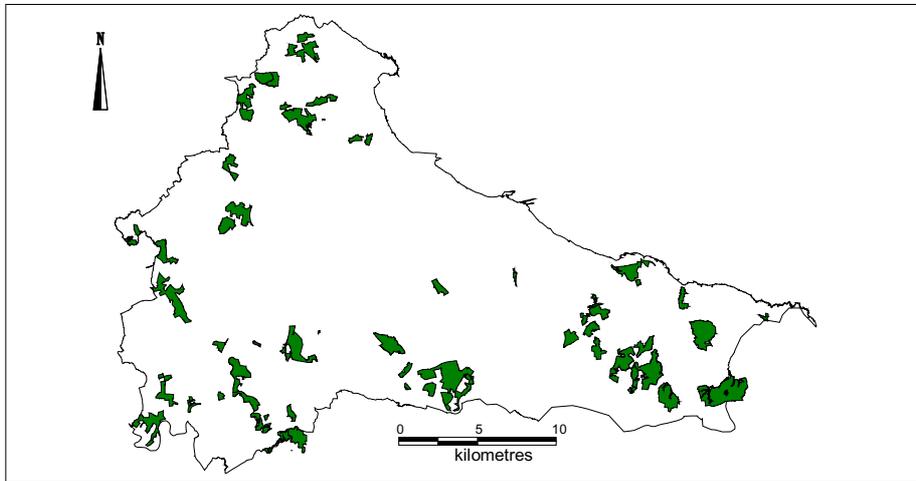


Figure 124 Distribution of piecemeal enclosure, showing areas with less than 30% boundary loss since the mid 19th century

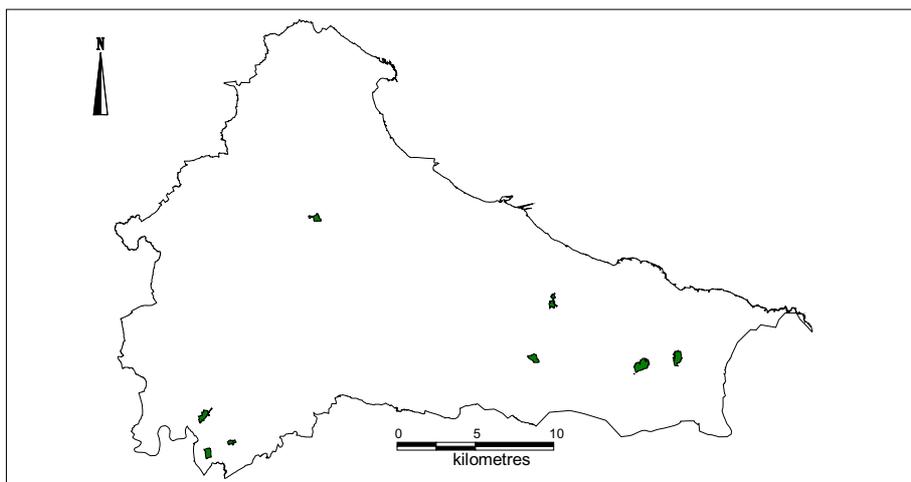


Figure 125 The distribution of enclosed strip fields within the Lower Tees Valley

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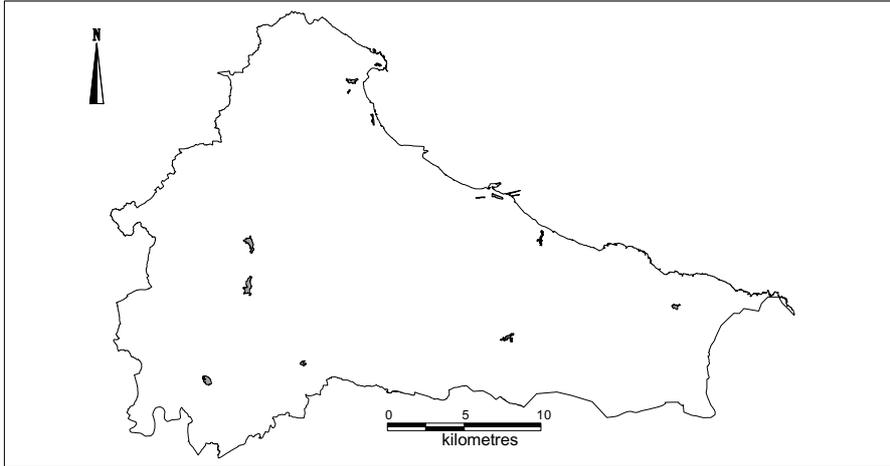
These are mainly post medieval in date although there are medieval elements evident particularly in the layout of the settlements. This can be seen with Yarm where the medieval burgage plots are still visible even though there has been later development. In contrast, the Middlesbrough historic core, as visible at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), was replaced in the AD 1980s by a housing estate. However, change had started to shift the focus in the town as early as the late 19th century, due to the exponential growth in the settlement, and industry at the time. This can be seen by comparing the first and the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63) and (1889-99) respectively, for the core of Middlesbrough, as shown in Figures 127 and 128.

There are a several areas which date exclusively prior to AD 1850, see Figure 129. It is particularly noticeable that Hartlepool had seen several developments by the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). The historic core dates originally to the medieval period. However, by the time of the 19th century, the town started to expand. This is seen with the construction of terraced housing, such as Moor Terrace and Cliff Terrace, which consist of medium-density housing with the housing arranged on a grid system and private space defined by the back yards. Similarly, in Middlesbrough at Netherby Gate we see the conversion of the farm to a residential complex with the settlement based on the existing farm and the private space formed by a courtyard.

Between AD 1850 and 1900, settlements can be seen to expand, see Figure 130. This is not just in the larger towns, such as Middlesbrough, but also villages such as Skelton. Between AD 1873 and 1890, an area of terraced housing is built in Skelton, consisting of medium-density housing, and seems to be a continuation of the high street, with the previous character of this area having been the green village. This is likely to be a response to the increase in industry in the area.

It is in the 20th century that the greatest expansion in settlement is seen, see Figures 131 and 132. Consisting mainly of small blocks, less than 10 hectares, of semi-detached or detached housing, the first half of the 20th century sees the development of the larger towns. These normally have private space defined by front and back gardens with a variety of street patterns, some arranged on geometric grid patterns; however more and more cul-de-sac street patterns emerge, such as at Brinkburn Court in Hartlepool, which dates to AD 1925. A large number of this early 20th-century development is around Stockton on Tees, particularly Norton, Billingham and Oxbridge. By the latter half of the 20th century, the size and extent of settlement has increased significantly and there are a wide variety of different settlement forms.

The overall picture that the urban settlement characterisation in the Lower Tees Valley area paints is of very piecemeal development of the townscapes with significant hiatus' caused by global events such as the two World Wars. Housing character changes significantly following World War I, with bow-windowed semi-detached houses with gardens replacing bay-windowed terraces. These bay windows vanish after World War II, to be replaced with more resource conscious plain-fronted designs which persist throughout the later half of the 20th century. In most cases the principal 'previous type' was enclosed land; there was surprising legibility to this in the form of relict hedgerows. There has also been redevelopment and clearances of large areas of 19th-century terraced housing and replacement with industrial estates and other commercial uses. Legibility to these previous types is usually low.



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Figure 126 The distribution of historic town cores within the Lower Tees Valley



Figure 127 Middlesbrough in the mid 19th century

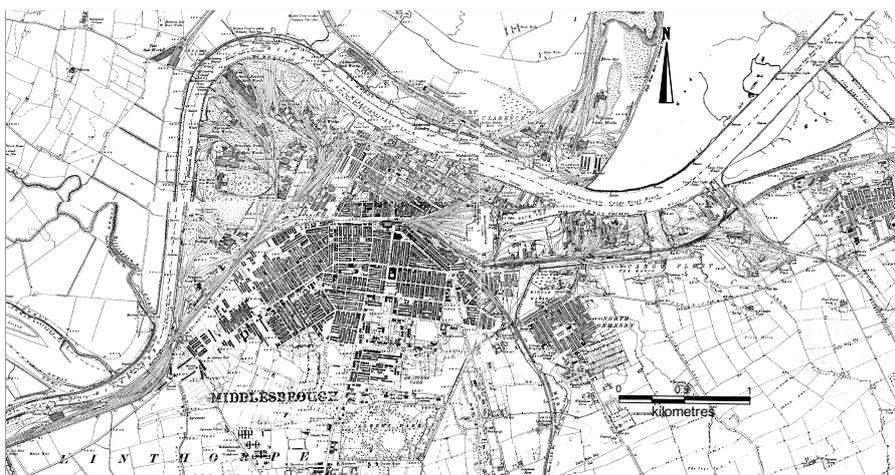


Figure 128 Middlesbrough c. 1900

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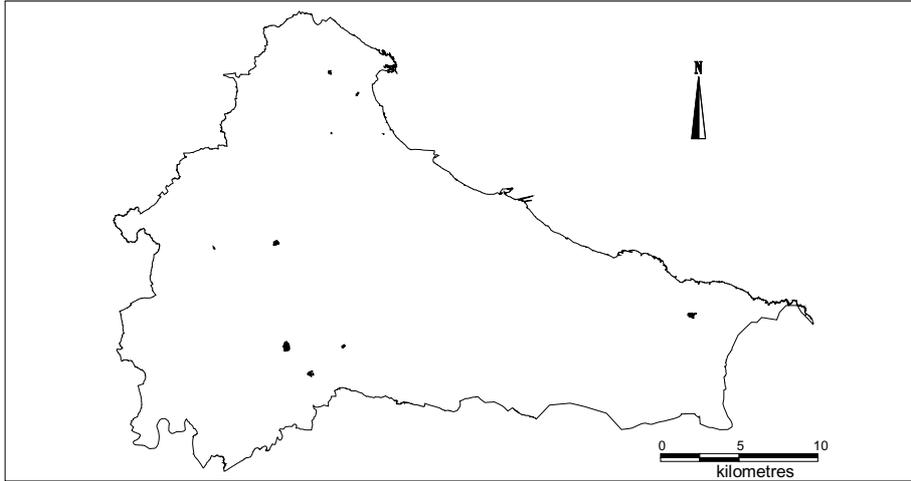


Figure 129 The distribution of settlement prior to the mid 19th century

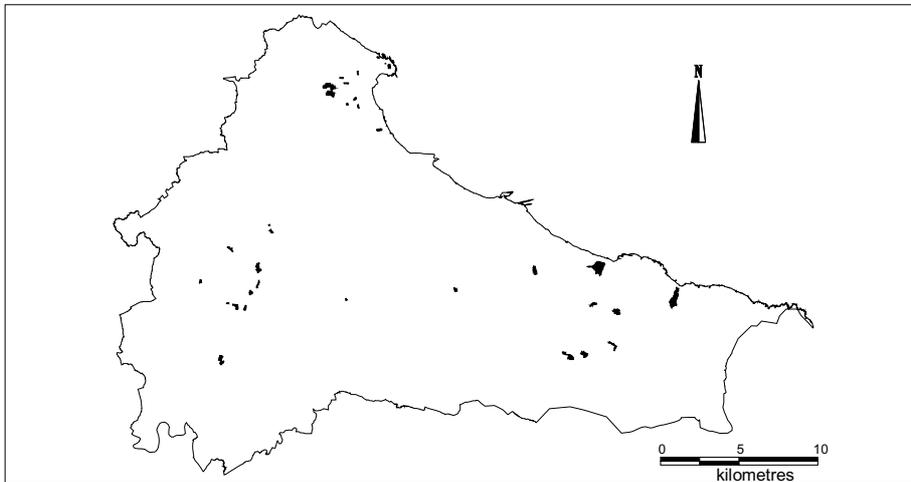


Figure 130 Settlement AD 1850 to 1900 in the Lower Tees Valley

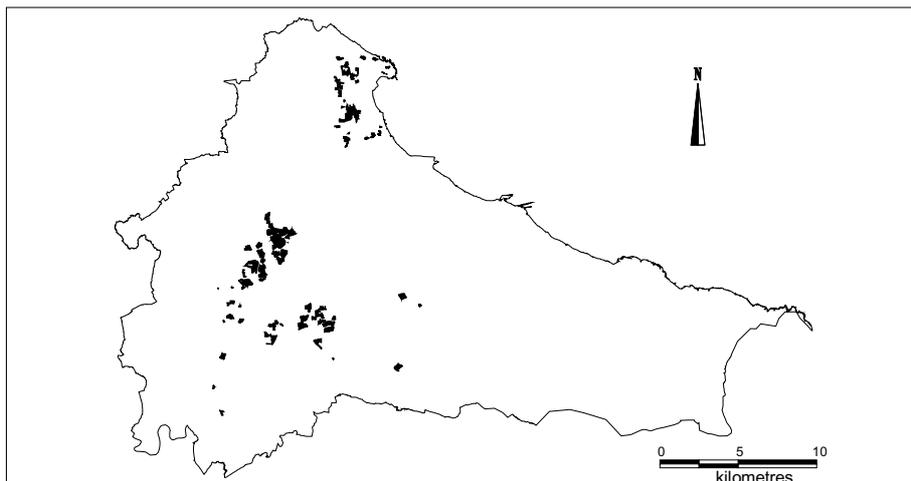
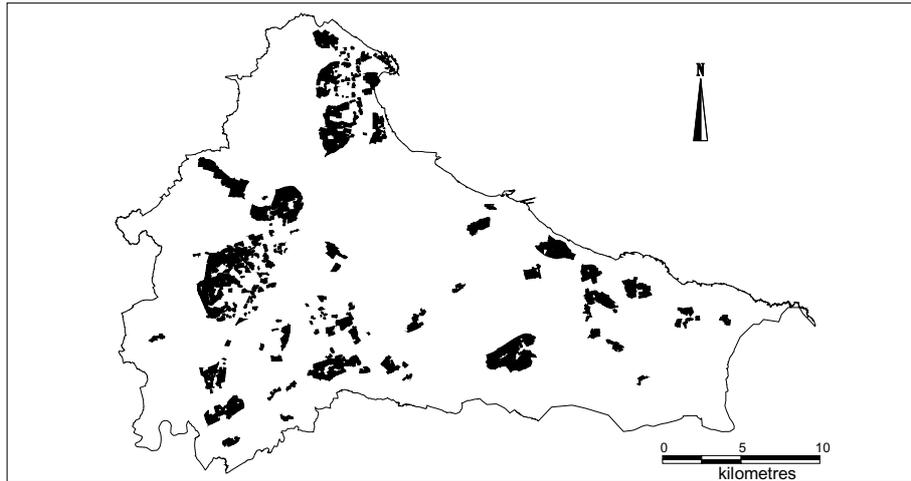


Figure 131 Settlement AD 1900 to 1950 in the Lower Tees Valley

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Figure 132 Settlement AD 1950 to 2000 in the Lower Tees Valley

The biggest changes in the character of settlement is a move towards planned estates, sometimes totalling hundreds of hectares, semi detached housing and low rise flats. See Figure 133. There is a particular rise in cul-de-sacs as a way of organising settlement often associated with detached or semi detached housing. A fairly extensive example of this is Mallowdale and Clevegate in Middlesbrough which has medium density housing with private space defined by front and back gardens.

Industry

One of the major historic developments, particularly within the Redcar/Cleveland and Middlesbrough areas, has been the rise in industrial activity since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). This has had a major influence on the character, not only in the areas which it is located, but also in terms of influencing settlement. This section will draw out the trends within the information recorded as part of the project.

The earliest industrial area identified as part of the project is the Fish Quay/Victoria Harbour area of Hartlepool. Dating to the period between AD 1830 and 1872, this area has partial legibility. The area is still active and the HLC database record description gives a good summary of the character:

“This large character area represents the industrial docklands of Hartlepool. The facilities include the Fish Quay, Victoria Harbour and North Basin. The area is occupied by heavy industrial and import/export facilities although the majority is disused land. The dock facilities were established from the AD 1830s with the construction of Middleton Jetty in AD 1835 (rebuilt in the 1990s) and opening of Victoria Dock in AD 1840. Victoria Dock became tidal again in AD 1910 and amalgamated with the adjacent Tide Harbour. New water areas were added at the Timber Ponds in AD 1856, which are now backfilled. Later still were Central Dock and North Basin of AD 1872 of which only the North Basin Survives. During the 19th and first half of the 20th century, the area was covered by engineering works, shipbuilding facilities, rail sidings and railway infrastructure. Dock facilities would have existed along the Fish Quay and Northgate/Bond Street/Commercial Street on the Headland from the medieval period onwards. These have been identified in

archaeological excavation at Southgate. Prior to development of the docks the area was marshland known as 'The Slake'. This was natural salt marsh that had developed following tidal inundation in the Mesolithic period (circa 6000 BC). The area is underlain by peat deposits of these later prehistoric periods.

It is in the latter half of the 19th century that industry really starts to develop. This sees the growth of several large scale sites such as Lion Brewery in Hartlepool and the Jones and Saddler's chemical works. The largest industrial influence on this area is the Teesside steel works. Covering an area of over 1,000 hectares, the steel works dates back to AD 1872 when the agreement to reclaim the salt marsh for redevelopment was made. The vast majority of the features which make up its current character have developed through its use in the intervening period, particularly since the fourth edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1930-53). This is an extremely important aspect of the historic character of Teesside and has played a major role in the social, as well as the physical, history of the area.

The 20th century, particularly the latter half, has seen a rise in the number of industrial estates around the major settlements. These are used for a combination of industrial and commercial outlets, normally light industry. They normally consist of warehouse units, quite often small divisions of larger warehouse buildings.

As there has been a move away from heavy industry in the late 20th century, there are a number of areas which reflect this and are characterised as reclaimed industrial land.

Commercial

One of the other significant aspects of 20th-century historic character, is the growth in commercial areas, particularly large mixed retail and commercial areas such as Portrack Lane Business Park and Teesport, the latter of which defines the character for an area of nearly 300 hectares. The majority of these areas date to the latter half of the 20th century, see Figure 134.

Woodland

There are extensive areas of woodland which lie within the Lower Tees Valley area, covering 3,700 hectares, see Figure 135. 2,317 hectares are plantation woodland, with 1,153 hectares dating before AD 1850.

There are 46 areas of ancient woodland, dating before AD 1600 that have been characterised. The highest concentration of ancient woodland within the area lies between the settlements of Saltburn (NZ 66212056) and Staithes (NZ 78261881). These areas are mainly defined externally by erratic boundaries. The largest area of woodland covers an area of 98 hectares and is located within a steep valley. The majority of woodland appears to be located within the steep valleys in this area, in contrast to the open, large-scale plantation woodlands found to the south in the North York Moors National Park.

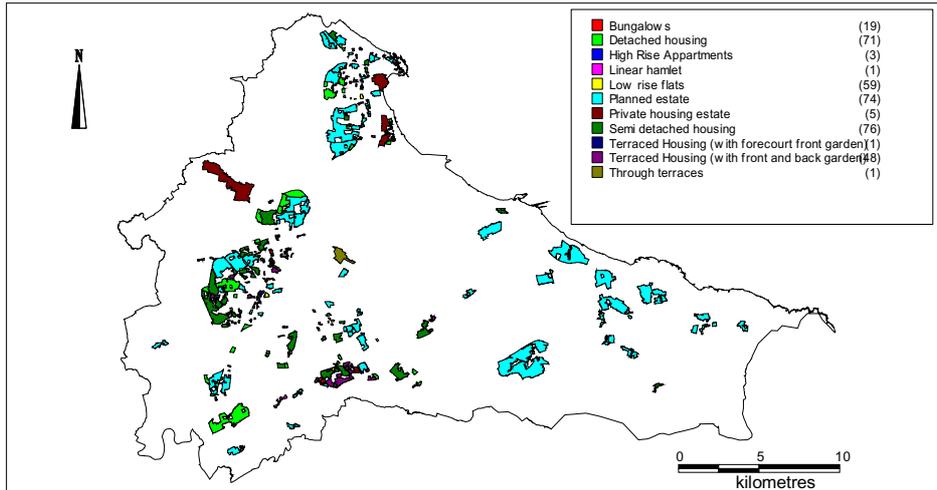


Figure 133 Settlement character type in the Lower Tees Valley area

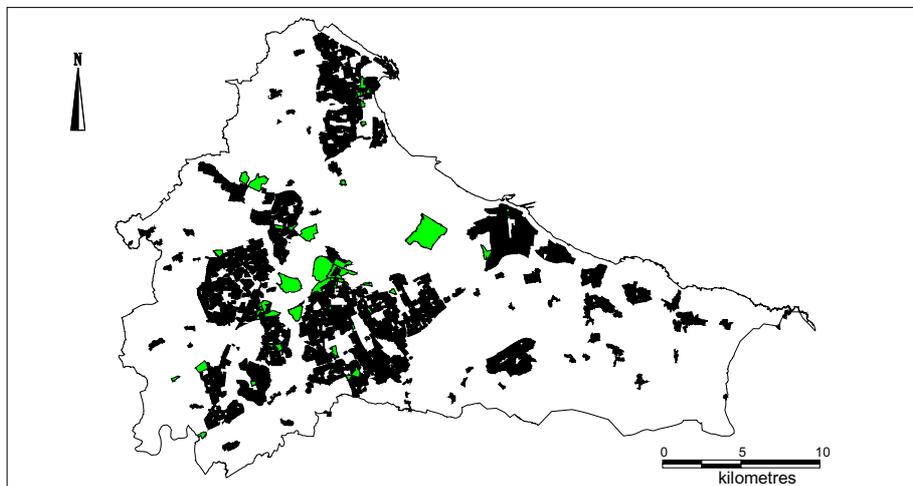


Figure 134 Position of commercial sites, shown in green, in relation to settlement

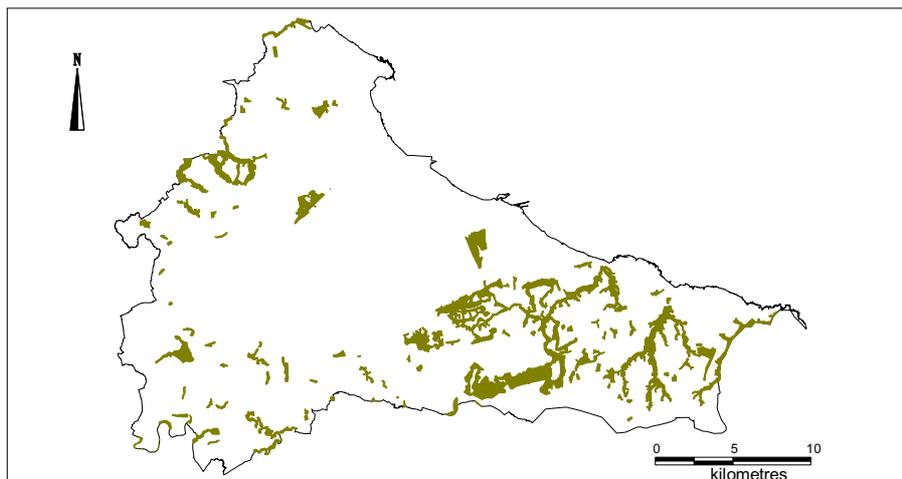
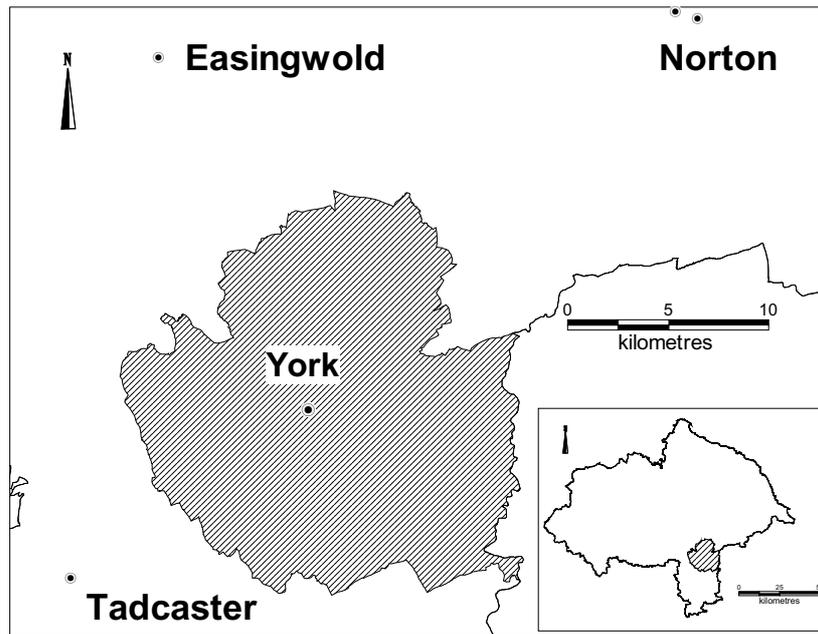


Figure 135 Distribution of woodland in the Lower Tees Valley area

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5.5 The City of York



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Figure 136 Area covered by the City of York (hatched) in relation to the overall project area

The area defined by the City of York authority covers an area of 27,110 hectares, lying at the southern end of the Vale to which it gives its name. Figure 138 shows the City of York defined by legibility; there has been a lot of change since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), particularly in the areas of enclosed land surrounding the city. Whilst some of this is due to the urban expansion of York, this may also reflect patterns of boundary loss seen throughout the Vales of Mowbray and York. There are, however, a number of areas which have seen no boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

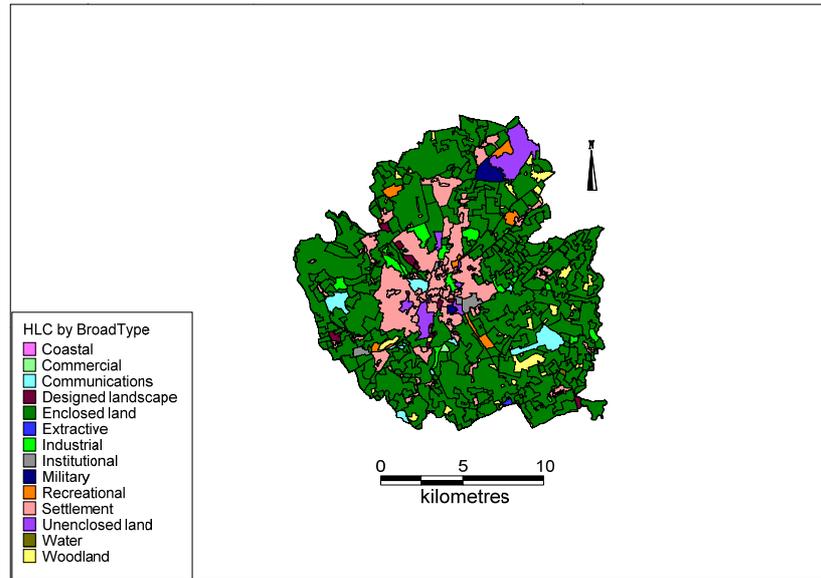


Figure 137 Historic landscape character of the City of York mapped by broad type

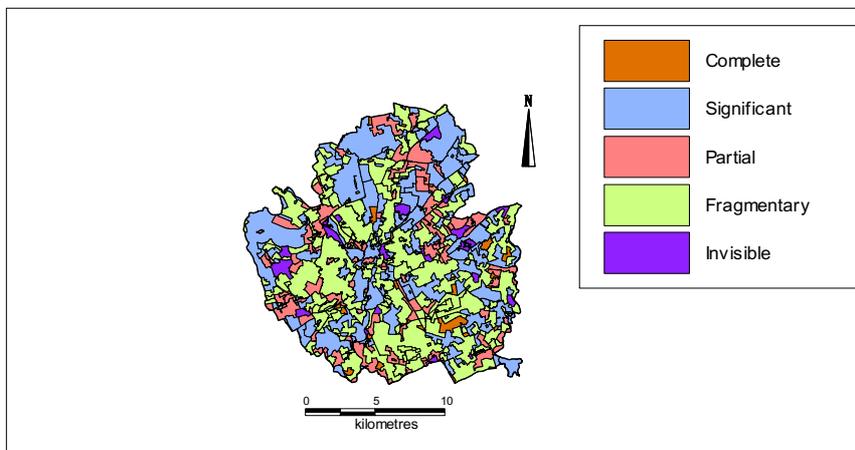


Figure 138 The City of York authority by legibility

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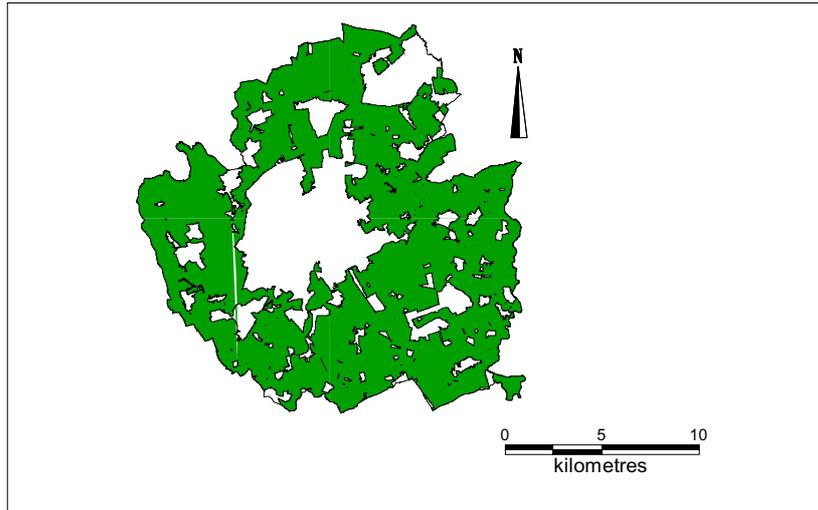


Figure 139 Enclosed land in the City of York authority area

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Enclosed land

The main aspect of historic character that comes to mind when one thinks of York is the historic city itself. However, within the City of York Council boundary, 71% of the landscape is dominated by enclosed land; the total area for the City of York authority is 27,110 hectares with enclosed land accounting for 19,320 hectares, see Figure 139. Of the 19,320 hectares, only 110 have seen no boundary loss whatsoever, see Figure 140, however four of these are areas of medieval enclosed strip fields. The largest block of these lies outside Bishopthorpe (SE 582476).

Out of 19,320 hectares which have been characterised as enclosed land, 7,636 hectares have seen less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), indicating very little change in the historic character since then, see Figure 141. When placed in the context of large areas of boundary loss due to the agglomeration of fields, the areas where the boundary loss hasn't been as marked become more noticeable.

The medieval past of York is evident even today, in the layout of the streets, the buildings such as York Minster and the surviving archaeological deposits. Fields with a medieval origin form part of the historic character of the City of York authority landscape. As part of the HLC project, several, fairly extensive, areas of medieval enclosed strip fields were characterised, totalling 1,546 hectares, see Figure 142. The highest concentration of these field systems lie to the north east of the city and generally consist of medium-sized fields defined by reverse 'S'-shaped curved hedges. Some of these field systems are extensive and well preserved, with very little boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63). An example of this is at Sutton on the Forest (SE 665565) where the enclosed strip fields are found to the east of the village. Covering an area of 109 hectares, these have significant legibility with less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63).

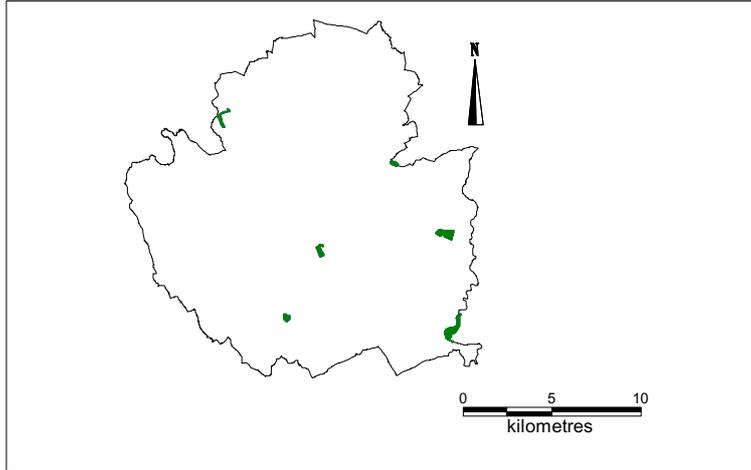


Figure 140 Areas within the City of York with no boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

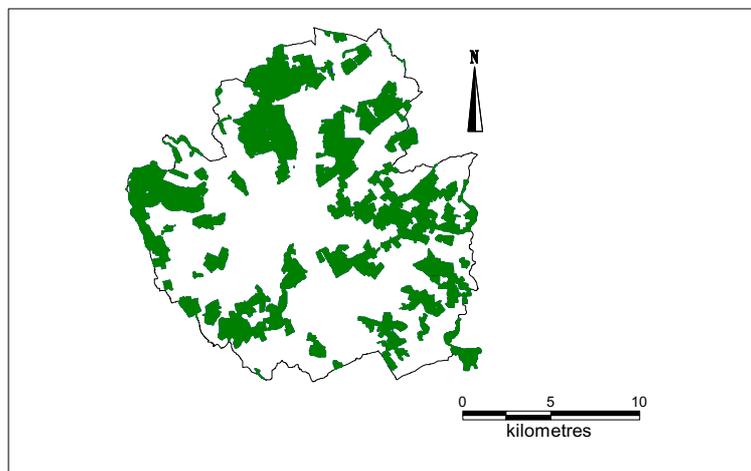


Figure 141 Areas with less than 30% boundary loss since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

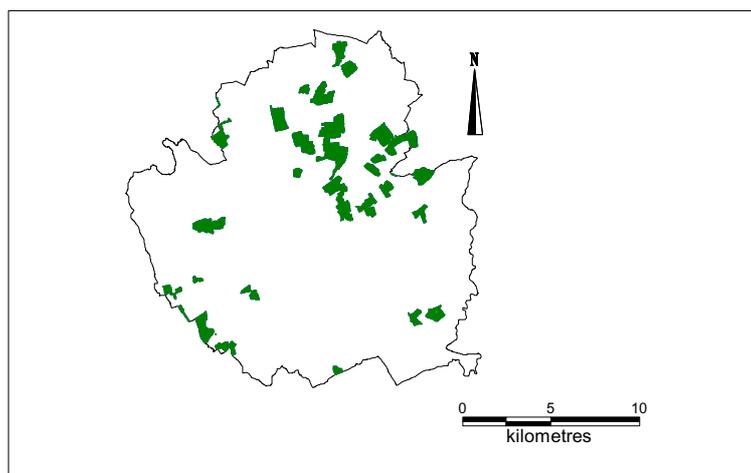
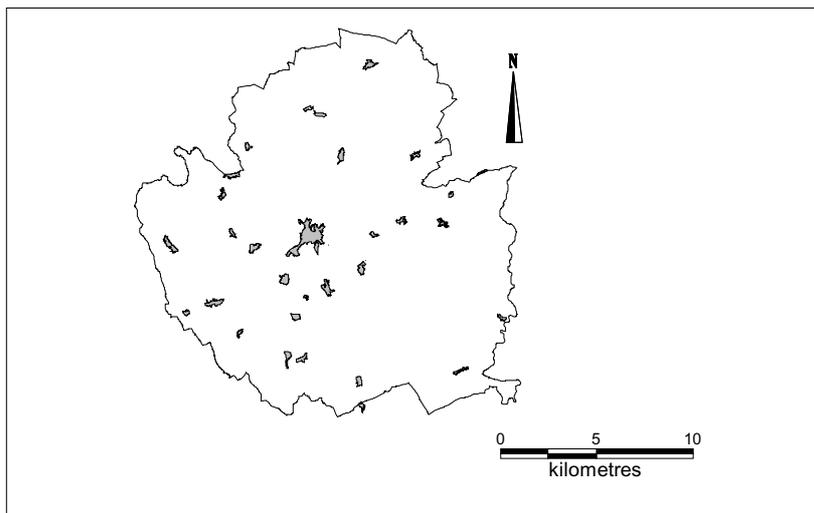


Figure 142 Enclosed strip fields found within the boundaries of the City of York
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Settlement

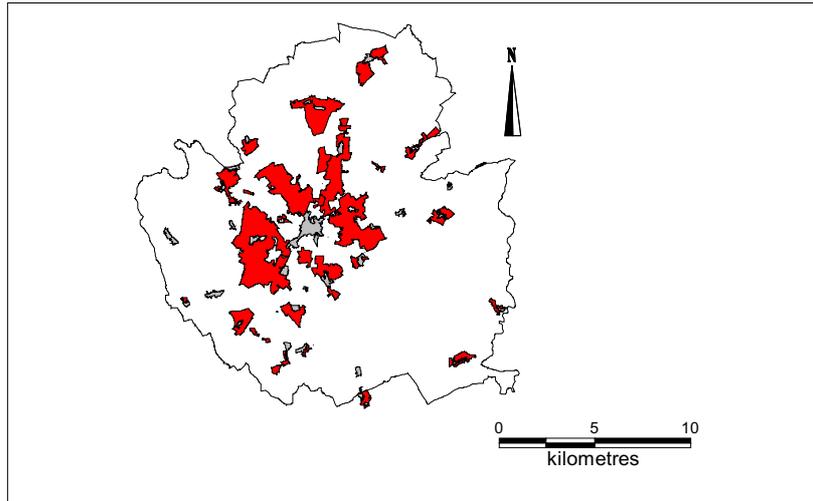
The main settlement within York is the city itself. The historic core covers an area of 134 hectares and has been defined from the AD 1852 Ordnance Survey mapping. It covers the area that lies within the city walls, as well as some parts of Bootham and Micklegate. This area has a high density of dwellings, with much of the medieval street plan still evident in the layout. This area has elements which date back to the Anglo Saxon period, although the vast majority of the buildings in the core are medieval and post medieval in date.

Moving away from the core, there are nearly thirty other settlements within the City of York Council area. The character of the smaller villages tends to be post medieval, with their origins in the medieval period, see Figure 143. In the 20th century, York has seen a large degree of expansion with the creation of planned estates. One of the effects is that a number of villages have become absorbed into the urban conurbation of York, for example Acomb. However, the original village can still be recognised and characterised separately. The modern expansion of York covers an area of 3,143 hectares, which represents an increase in settlement of 690% since AD 1850. This can be seen in Figure 144.



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Figure 143 Map of City of York showing settlement with a post-medieval character



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Figure 144 Map showing the expansion of York settlement in the 20th century (in red) in relation to settlement with a post-medieval character (in grey).

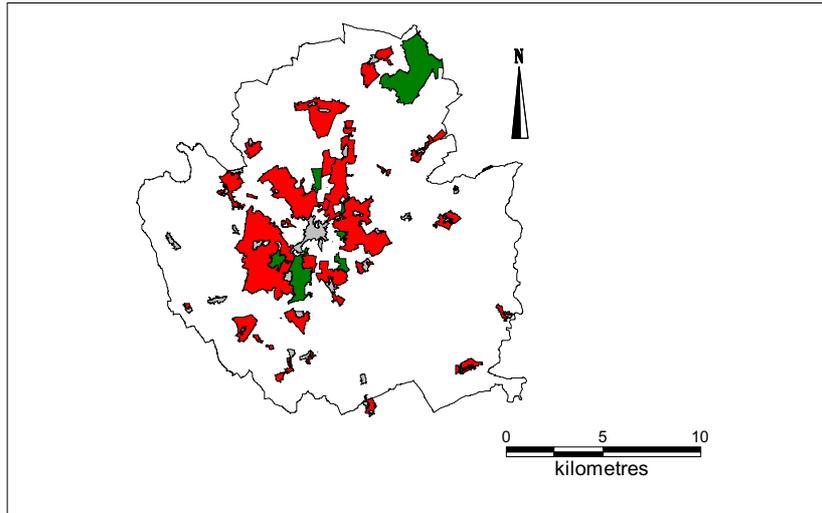
Unenclosed land

One of the important factors of the York landscape, particularly in the core of the city, is the presence of the strays, commons and green wedges¹³⁷, which form open unenclosed land, see Figure 145. There are a number of these, ranging in size from the extensive area of Strensall Common, a military area covering 522 hectares. There are six areas which have been identified as greens, or strays, mostly in the centre of the city.

An example of this is Bootham Stray. Covering an area of over 44 hectares this runs into the city from the north and consists of an open area covered in rough grassland. The area shows little change since AD 1850. As the city has grown up around the green, it has incorporated a small area of enclosed strip fields to the south and a number of planned enclosure fields becoming incorporated within this area, showing the complexity of continuity and change embodied within these landscapes.

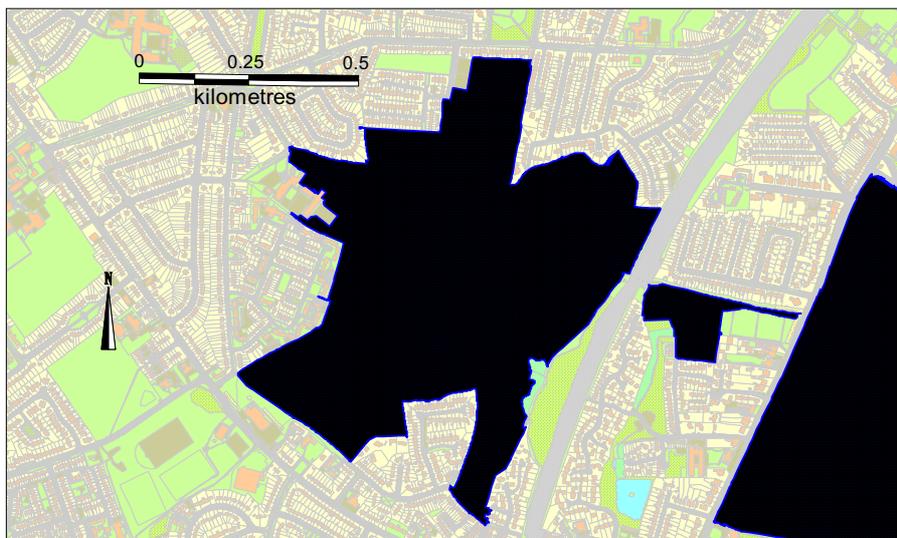
A second example of the green open spaces in York is Hob Moor. Forming part of Micklegate Stray, Hob Moor has become surrounded by development. However, even though the surrounding character has changed since the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), the legibility is complete. This can be seen in Figures 146 and 147.

¹³⁷ ECUS 2000



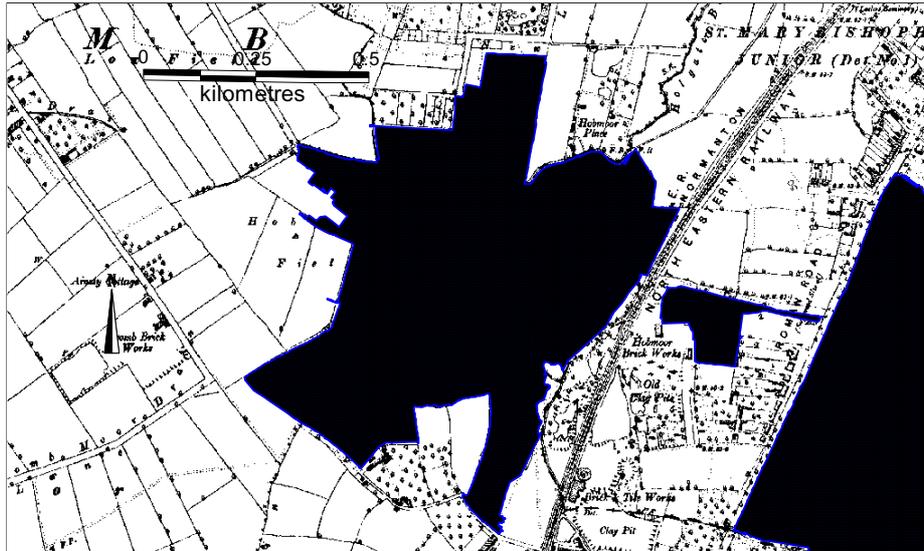
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Figure 145 Greens and commons in the York area (in green) in relation to the settlement, post-medieval (in grey) and 20th century expansion (in red)



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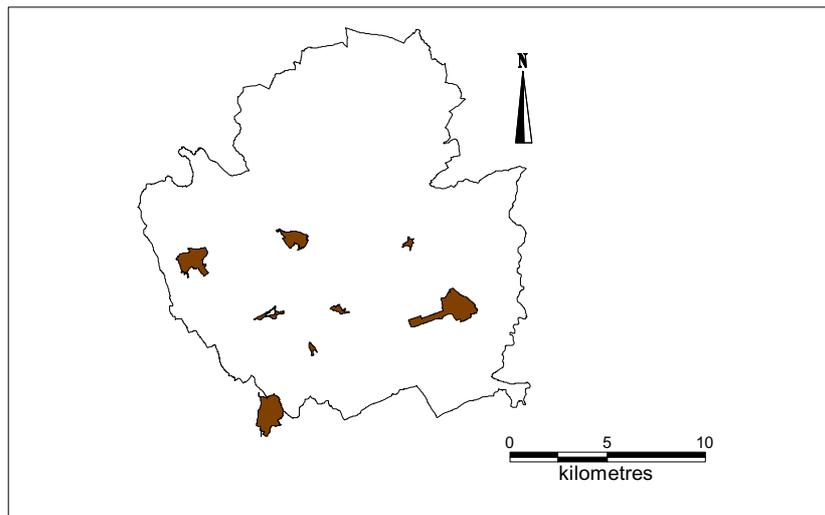
Figure 146 Hob Moor in York



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Figure 147 Hob Moor at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

Communications



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Figure 148 Areas characterised as communication in the City of York

Communications have had an important effect on the historic character of York, which has formed a hub on many routes, a role it has fulfilled since the Roman period. There are two main ways this can be seen within the landscape of the area. The first is in the growth of the railways in the late 19th and 20th century. This is demonstrated in Figures 149 to 151 below. At the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63), the railway is limited to the area just to the west of the city walls (SE 593514). By the time of the second edition

six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99), approximately AD 1900, the growth has been so substantial that the area of railway covered an area of 86 hectares. The current overall historic character has not changed greatly and the railway still defines the area. The main change in this area, which can be recognised from the current landscape, is that there has been a growth in settlement. However this is embedded within the communication broad type area.

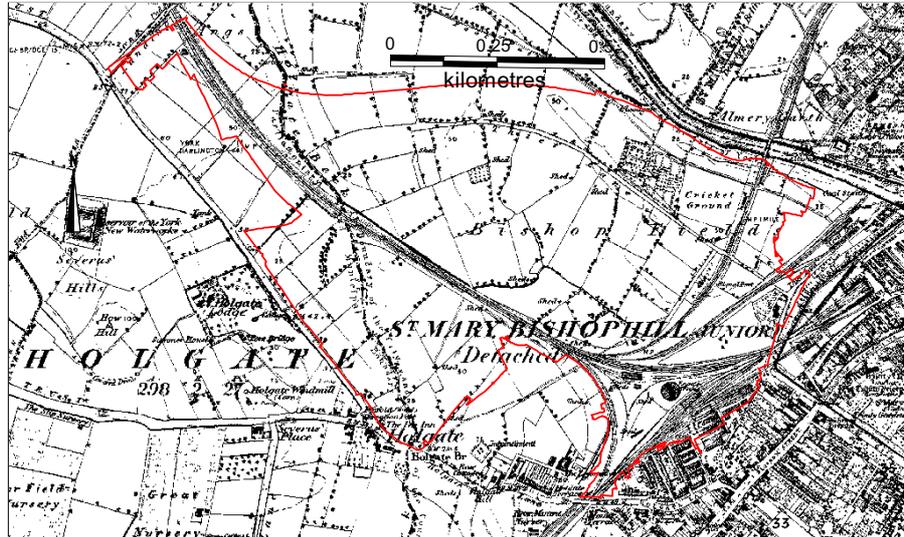


Figure 149 The area of York railway station at the time of the first edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1846-63)

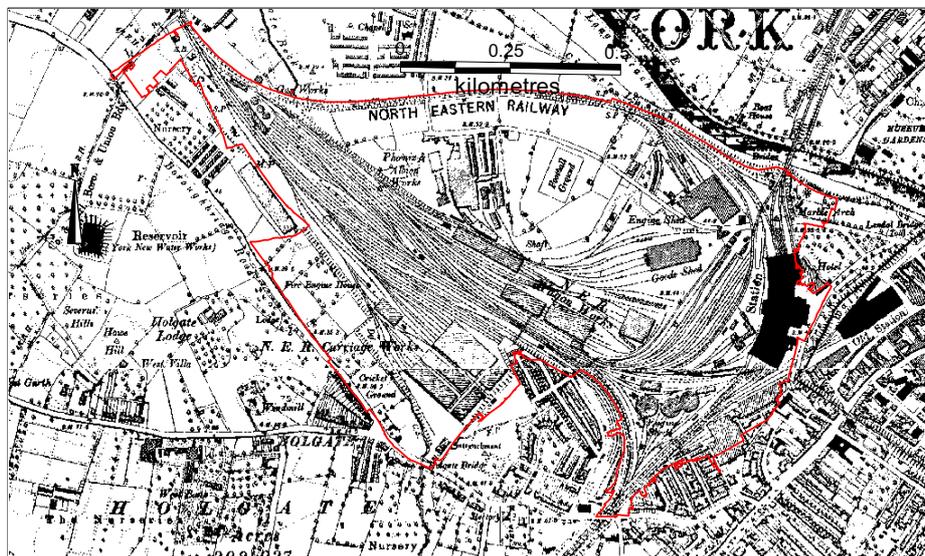
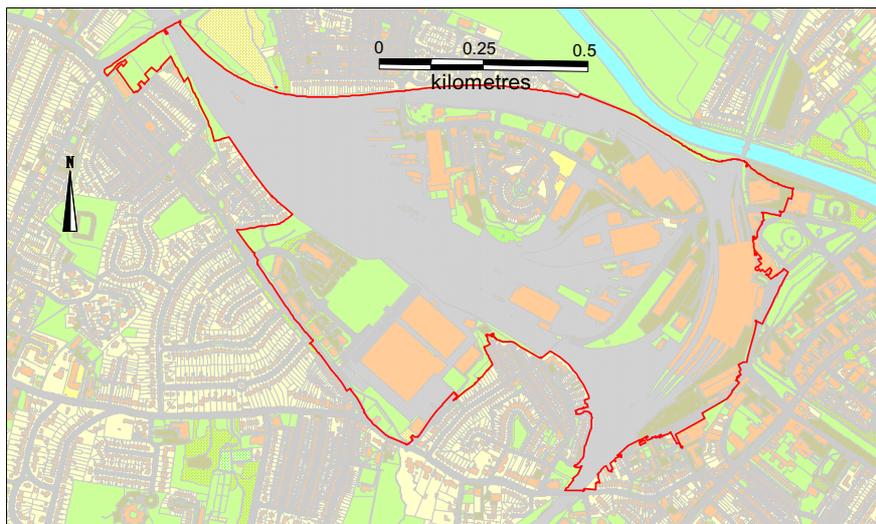


Figure 150 York station at the time of the second edition six-inch County Series Ordnance Survey mapping (1889-99)

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Figure 151 York station as depicted on the current MasterMap Ordnance Survey mapping