

LANCASHIRE
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
CHARACTER TYPE

ANCIENT & POST-MEDIEVAL
INDUSTRY

Definition: Land that has been or still is in industrial use, originating before c.1850. The type typically comprises quarries (disused and in use), textile mill complexes, areas of hushing and mining. Individual mills or industrial features of insufficient extent (e.g. < 4ha.) are not included, but may found as attributes of other HLC types.

Typical historical and archaeological components

There are likely to be structures and features associated with different phases and processes of the relevant industry, for example limekilns in the limestone hushings of Burnley and Colne, or abandoned tramways and railways in the stone quarries of the Rossendale Valley. The features associated with this HLC type may abruptly interrupt older landscape elements such as previously existing tracks, banks and field systems. The rock faces today may be valuable geological sites and protected as such as SSSIs or RIGs.

Enhancing and safeguarding the type

- *Conserve* and *enhance* the remains of Lancashire's early industrial landscape. The industrial heritage of Lancashire remains one of the county's defining characteristics, providing instantly recognisable local distinctiveness for those living both in and outside of the county. Such heritage, particularly when measured against its international contribution, has much to offer that is unique and special to the county. Whilst much of this character is present as individual buildings and structures within other HLC types (especially **Settlement** and **Moorland**) the concentration of surviving or relic industry in the industrial type indicates a significant resource that may be retained for economic and social benefit as well as in its own right.
- *Pursue* opportunities for heritage-led regeneration in areas through tourism and sustainable reuse of key industrial buildings and areas. The *Heritage Conservation in Lancashire* strategy document (LCC 1999) provisionally identifies the following priority industrial landscape areas: Lancashire's textile and related heritage, and the quarry heritage of the Rossendale valleys. To this may be added the landscape of limestone hushings at Burnley and Colne, copper and ironworking areas in Silverdale and the leadworking at Rimington and Anglezarke.
- *Ensure* that the historic dimension of industrial landscapes is properly assessed during proposals for change. Industrial landscapes are vulnerable to change both through neglect and through programmes of land reclamation. Initiatives such as quarry reclamation schemes, derelict land programmes (for example the REMADE in Lancashire programme and the Small Sites programme, LCC 2002), contaminated land strategies and environmental improvement projects may all coincide with areas of former industrial heritage. These should be informed by appropriate levels of information in order that decisions can be made to conserve important assets, record others and to ensure that the historic environment may act as a positive catalyst for change.
- *Increase* awareness of the historical basis and context for **Ancient and Post-Medieval Industry** landscapes in order to improve perception and appreciation. Priority will be given to establishing an inventory of textile working sites to match surveys already completed in Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and Cheshire, and within Pendle District, and to completing an audit of Rossendale quarry heritage.