

LANCASHIRE
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
CHARACTER TYPE

REVERTED MOORLAND

Definition:

This type is characterised by rough moorland vegetation within enclosures, usually drystone walled. Much of the type originates from fairly short-lived intakes from moorland dating from the late 17th to mid-19th century. However, there are indications in the placename record and enclosure pattern that suggest a sizeable proportion of these may date to the medieval period if not earlier.

Typical historical and archaeological components

Drystone walls, stone buildings, water-management structures, plantations and other features relating to past agricultural activity are common here. There are ridge and furrow earthworks within some enclosures. These mainly respect enclosure boundaries, but where they do not they indicate an earlier phase of agricultural activity and re-organisation of the landscape.

Enhancing and safeguarding the type

- As for the **Moorland** HLC type
- Many of the features in these areas such as drystone walls and buildings are derelict and collapsing. Roofs and stonework have often been taken to be re-used on other buildings and walls. Assessment is required to understand this resource and the magnitude of threats to it into the future in order to devise appropriate strategies to protect it.
- Potentially Reverted Moorland provides an attractive resource for recreation and education. Such use and promotion could help in its future protection.