

LANCASHIRE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	WATER
Definition:	
<p>The type includes natural and man-made water bodies. Natural features include one lake (Hawes Water), and three rivers (Lune, Ribble and Wyre). The man-made includes 56 reservoirs, flooded quarries (8) and 10 man-made ponds of varying sizes.</p>	
Typical historical and archaeological components	
<p>Visible components in the HLC type relate mainly to the man-made features and include bridges, levees, dams, weirs, jetties and quays, fishtraps, overflow leats, silt traps and waterwork buildings (reservoir towers, pumping stations and supervisors' accommodation). Invisible and relic archaeological features include land surfaces and evidence for occupation buried beneath alluvium, and structures and finds deposited within them by humans (boats, stray finds etc). On many occasions the waterlogged conditions provide for excellent organic preservation. The natural features may well include deposits that contain palaeoenvironmental information which could hold clues to past landscapes and human activity.</p>	
Enhancing and safeguarding the type	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special consideration needs to be paid to water-edge features, be they on riverbanks or on the side of man-made water bodies. These areas are the most sensitive to change (through erosion or through exposure during periods of drought or flood) and contain the greatest concentration of features of historic or archaeological interest. Improved management through river corridor survey, establishment of good practise guidance and monitoring should be maintained and enhanced in partnership with the Countryside Agency, the Environment Agency, English Nature and North West Water. • Improve management visibility. The type has considerable potential for buried and hidden archaeological remains, either within pond or reservoir sediments, under expanses of water (submerged buildings) or within and below alluvial deposits. Awareness raising with the appropriate authorities (particularly of the historic dimension of the Water Act 1973), the maintenance of high water levels and alluvial deposits are all considered to be priority measures for implementation. • For projected new schemes that would fall into this category, such as reservoir construction, early consultation with the archaeological curator for Lancashire will be required to formulate a mitigation strategy. 	