

GLOSSARY

Analysis - the separation of a landscape into its constituent parts for individual study. The study of these parts and their interrelationships in making up a landscape.

Attributes – the individual elements or parts which define landscape character such as landform, geology, soils, type of vegetation, settlements.

Ancient woodland - woodland which has been in continuous existence since at least 1600 and is identified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory for England. Most tend to be a rare and valuable ecological resource, with an diverse range of plants and animals.

Brownfield site – an area of land which has previously been developed. It may or may not still contain buildings or areas of hard standing.

Characterisation – the systematic process of creating an understanding of landscape character and identifying areas of unique character.

Character Area - a individual discrete area of landscape with a unique identity which lies within a specific landscape character type.

Character Type - a generic term for landscape with a consistent, uniform character. Landscape character types may occur in different parts of the country, but share common combinations of geology, landform, vegetation or human influences.

Characteristic - an element or attribute that contributes to a sense of place or local distinction (e.g. prominent hill, mature woodland, river, parkland or hall).

Copse – a thicket of small trees or shrubs.

Core Strategy – a plan which sets out the long-term vision for a local planning authority's area. Includes broad objectives and policies to achieve this vision.

Covert – a small planted woodland established as cover for game.

Description – written text explaining what a landscape looks like.

Element – an aspect of the landscape such as a hedge, wall or pond.

Evidence base – a series of documents which provide up-to-date information covering the social, economic and environmental aspects of an area. This enables the production of sound and informed Local Development Framework.

Feature - a notable aspect often prominent (e.g. hill, church spire, power station).

Field pattern – a configuration of fields, hedgerows, roads and trackways which have been formed as a result of specific historic actions.

Ground type - soil forming environment which determines the surface pattern of vegetation and land use.

Horsiculture - term used to describe areas which are dominated by horse paddocks, stable buildings and associated equipment, often on the urban fringe.

Irregular geometric field patterns – geometric layouts which are less regular (less linear or rectangular) than regular geometric layouts (see below). Mostly associated with Parliamentary enclosures during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Joint Landscape Character Area – refers to the broad landscape character areas that describe the character of England on Natural England's Character Map of England.

Landscape – an area as perceived by people whose character is the result of action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

Landscape Condition – is a consideration of the state or intactness of landscape features and characteristics and how these combine to form a positive visual impression. This includes elements such as hedgerows, woodlands, field pattern, urban influences and restored landscapes.

Land cover - combinations of land use and vegetation that cover the land surface.

Local Development Document – are a set of documents specified in planning law that a Local Planning Authority prepares to describe their strategy for development and use of land in their area of authority.

Local Development Framework - a suite of local development documents that outlines how land use planning will be managed in an area.

Local Plan – a document that sets out planning policies and land allocations for a local authority area. These are now being replaced by Local Development Frameworks.

Modern modified field patterns – fields of modern origin. Patterns present on 19th century maps are no longer evident. Frequently but not entirely associated with responses to post World War II agricultural policies and technology.

Patterns reflecting open fields – field patterns with strong linear dominants, often sinuous, which originate in enclosure of strips in open fields. Usually early enclosure prior to parliamentary enclosure acts.

Physiography – expression of the shape and structure of the landscape as influenced by both nature of the underlying geology and geological processes

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) - government guidance to explain statutory provisions and provide guidance to local authorities and others on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.

Planning Policy Statements (PPS) – a replacement for PPGs which explain statutory provisions and provide guidance on planning policy and operation of the planning system.

Outcrop - a portion of rock protruding through the soil level.

Regional Spatial Strategy - provide a regional level planning framework for the regions of England. It is used as an overarching framework and basis for local planning authorities in the preparation of Local Development Frameworks.

Regularly laid out large geometric field patterns (Regular Geometric) – large geometric enclosures commonly associated with Parliamentary Enclosures during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Riparian habitat - riverbank habitat.

Rough grazing – land often associated with poor soils with low intensity grazing of grasslands by animals.

Semi-regular field patterns – patterns which are loosely geometric in layout, involving linear, rectangular or square arrangements but that are less sharply defined than geometric layouts. There is no definite date when these fields were enclosed and date from the Middle Ages to the 19th Century.

Senescence – the process of aging, defined as the start of old age.

Settlement pattern - is the structural component of the cultural landscape reflected in the distribution of settlements; historic enclosure; and size of tenure of agricultural holdings.

Topography - combinations of slope and elevation that produce the shape and form of the land surface e.g a floodplain or a hill.

Vernacular - buildings constructed in a local style, from local materials and using specific building techniques. This term relates to all buildings in similar groups usually within villages or older town and city centres.