

North West Landscape Character Framework

Final Report
Appendix 5: Glossary and References
August 2009

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Glossary

Term	Definition
Alluvium	Soils or sediments deposited by a river/ water.
Ancient woodland	Woodland dating from 1600 or earlier where there has been continuous woodland cover. Often associated with a rich ground flora and understorey.
Assart	An enclosure or field formed by the clearance of woodland.
Bastle	A bastle is a two-storeyed, roughly built, defensible farmhouse with the main living area on the first floor and storerooms/ animal shelter below. Bastles are characterised by their thick walls, small doorways and narrow slit-windows on the ground floor. They are found only in northern England along the Scottish Border.
Beck	Stream
Booth	Cleared areas originally designed to provide temporary shelter and pastures, now often more permanent in character.
Burn	Stream or creek (from the celtic)
Cairn	Human constructed pile of stones, usually in the uplands and often conical in shape, often marking summits or regular intervals.
Carboniferous	290 to 354 million years ago. The start of the Carboniferous was marked by a major rise in sea-level. A gradual shallowing of the sea and formation of extensive deltas led to the establishment of terrestrial conditions by the end of the Period.
Carr woodland	Wet woodland
Clough	Small, often steep, valley forming on slopes and often with a stream
Dale	A valley
Drove road	Route for moving livestock along, often characterised by being wide, in contrast to packhorse routes which were often narrower
Drumlin	An extended, oval hill or ridge of compacted sediment deposited and shaped

	by a glacier. Drumlins are typically about 30 m high and are longer than they are wide. They have one steep and one gentle slope along their longest axis, which is parallel to the direction of the glacier's movement. The steepest slope faces the direction from which the glacier originated, and the gentler slope faces the direction in which the glacier was advancing.
Enclosure Acts	The Inclosure/ Enclosure Acts were a series of Acts of Parliament which enclosed open fields and common land in the country, meaning that the rights people once held to graze animals on these areas were denied.
Flash	A waterbody, often large, formed in areas where coal mining took place and subsidence has since occurred.
Glacial till	Unsorted glacial sediment deposited directly by a glacier and comprising clay, sand, gravels and boulders.
Gleyed soil	Bluish green soil developed in wetland conditions.
Gritstone	Gritstone is a sedimentary rock composed of coarse sand grains with inclusions of small pebbles. It is a coarser version of sandstone.
In take	Land that has been 'taken' from the moorland to form agriculturally cultivated land.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors'.
Landscape Character Assessment	Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is an approach to understanding the differences between landscapes, and can serve as a framework for decision-making that respects local distinctiveness. It is a way of 'unpacking' the landscape and understanding how its distinctive elements contribute to sense of place.
Landscape Unit	A finer grained division of the North West region comprising areas of landscape that share broadly similar physical characteristics.
Limestone	Limestone is a sedimentary rock composed largely of the mineral calcite (calcium carbonate). The deposition of limestone strata is often a by-product and indicator of biological activity in the geologic record.
Lough	A body of water/ lake (from Anglo-Irish).
Mill race	Small canalised channel or stream used to divert water for power e.g. to power a waterwheel.

Mire/ mere	A bog or wetland area
Montane	Inhabiting an upland/ mountainous location
Mudstone	Mudstone (also called mudrock) is a fine grained sedimentary rock whose original constituents were clays or muds.
Ordovician	Age: 443 to 495 million years ago. At the beginning of the Ordovician, the part of the continental plate that is now England lay about 600 S and formed part of the supercontinent of Gondwana. Following break-up of Gondwana this part of the plate (known as Avalonia) gradually moved northwards to about 350 S by the end of the Period.
Podsol	Soil often associated with heath or coniferous woodland
Regional Landscape Character Area	Regional Landscape Character Areas are distinct geographical areas that describe recognisable areas of landscape.
Regional Landscape Character Type	Regional Landscape Character Types occur in several locations across the region and landscapes share similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement pattern.
Riparian	Along the edge of a waterway/ the interface between a river and the land.
River cobbles	Large stones which have been smoothed and rounded by river water.
Romano-british	The period of Roman occupation of Britain - 43 to 410 AD.
Sea Pen	Sea pens are colonial marine cnidarians belonging to the order Pennatulacea. Sea pens are grouped with the octocorals ("soft corals").
Shieling	A hut, often within an enclosure, found singly or in groups in areas which may be considered upland or marginal in relation to their local environment. They were originally constructed to provide temporary summer accommodation for herdsmen and their families.
Shelterbelt	A shelterbelt is a plantation usually made up of one or more rows of trees or shrubs planted in such a manner as to provide shelter from the wind and to protect soil from erosion. They are commonly planted around the edges of fields on farms.
Silurian	Age: 417 to 443 million years ago. The time period covered by the Silurian documents the assembly of two continental elements and closure of the Iapetus

	Ocean to form the continental landmass from which the British Isles were later formed.
Secondary woodland	Woodland that has developed on land that at sometime in the past was not wooded.
Strip lynchets	A bank of earth that builds up on the downslope of a field ploughed for a long period of time. The disturbed soil slips down the hillside to create a positive lynchet while the area reduced in level becomes a negative lynchet.
Tarn	A small upland lake, sometimes formed from glaciers (from old Norse)
Undulating	Rising up and down sharply in a uniform manner, like waves
Wave base	The wave base is the maximum depth at which a water wave's passage causes significant water motion. For water depths larger than the wave base, bottom sediments are no longer stirred by the wave motion above.
Wet flush	An area of marshy vegetation, often on a slope and often associated with a spring.

GIS Data Sources

The table below shows key GIS datasets referred to in the development of the NWLCF. In addition GIS data relating to Landscape Character Assessments and Historic Landscape Characterisation studies were used. These studies are listed in the References section of this report.

Dataset	Supply date / version	Supplier
1:25,000 Raster	2008	Ordnance Survey
1:250,000 Raster	2008	Ordnance Survey
1:50,000 Raster	2008	Ordnance Survey
Agricultural Census parish summaries	1995	MAFF
BAP Priority Habitat Inventory	2008	Natural England
Boundary Line	2008	Ordnance Survey
Moorland Line	2007	Defra
DiGMapGB-50	2008	British Geological Survey
Draft National Landscape Typology	2002	Natural England
England's Historic Seascapes	2006	English Heritage
National Inventory of Woodland and Trees - Interpreted Forest Type	2007	Forestry Commission
HydroSpatial	2009	SeaZone
National Character Areas	2009	Natural England
National Soil Map (NATMAP) 1:250,000	2008	National Soil Resources Institute
Natural Areas	2009	Natural England
National Tranquillity Map	2006	Natural England and CPRE
Land Cover Map 2000	2002	Natural Environment Research Council, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
NextMap Britain 5m DTM	2009	InterMap Technologies
Predicted EUNIS Habitats	2008	Mapping European Seabed Habitats (MESH)
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	2009	Natural England
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	2009	Natural England
Special Protection Areas (SPA)	2009	Natural England
UKSeaMap Seabed Landscapes	2006	JNCC

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