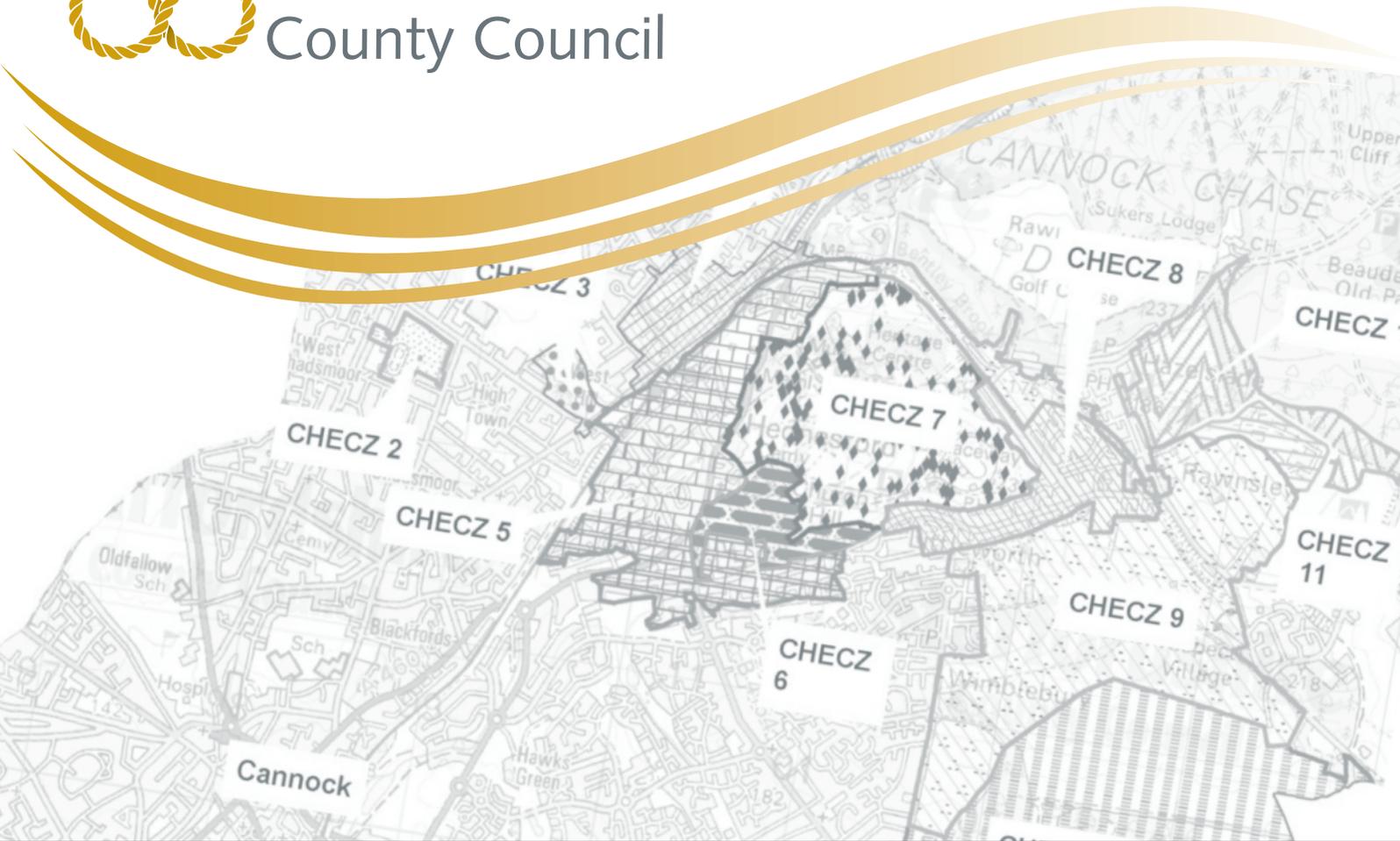
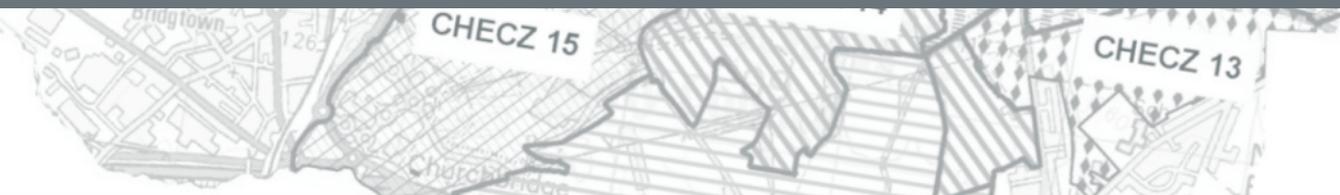




Staffordshire
County Council



Historic Environment Character Assessment



For Cannock Chase District Council
October 2009



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Appendix 1: The scoring of Historic Environment Character Zones (adapted from Essex County Council)

1. Introduction

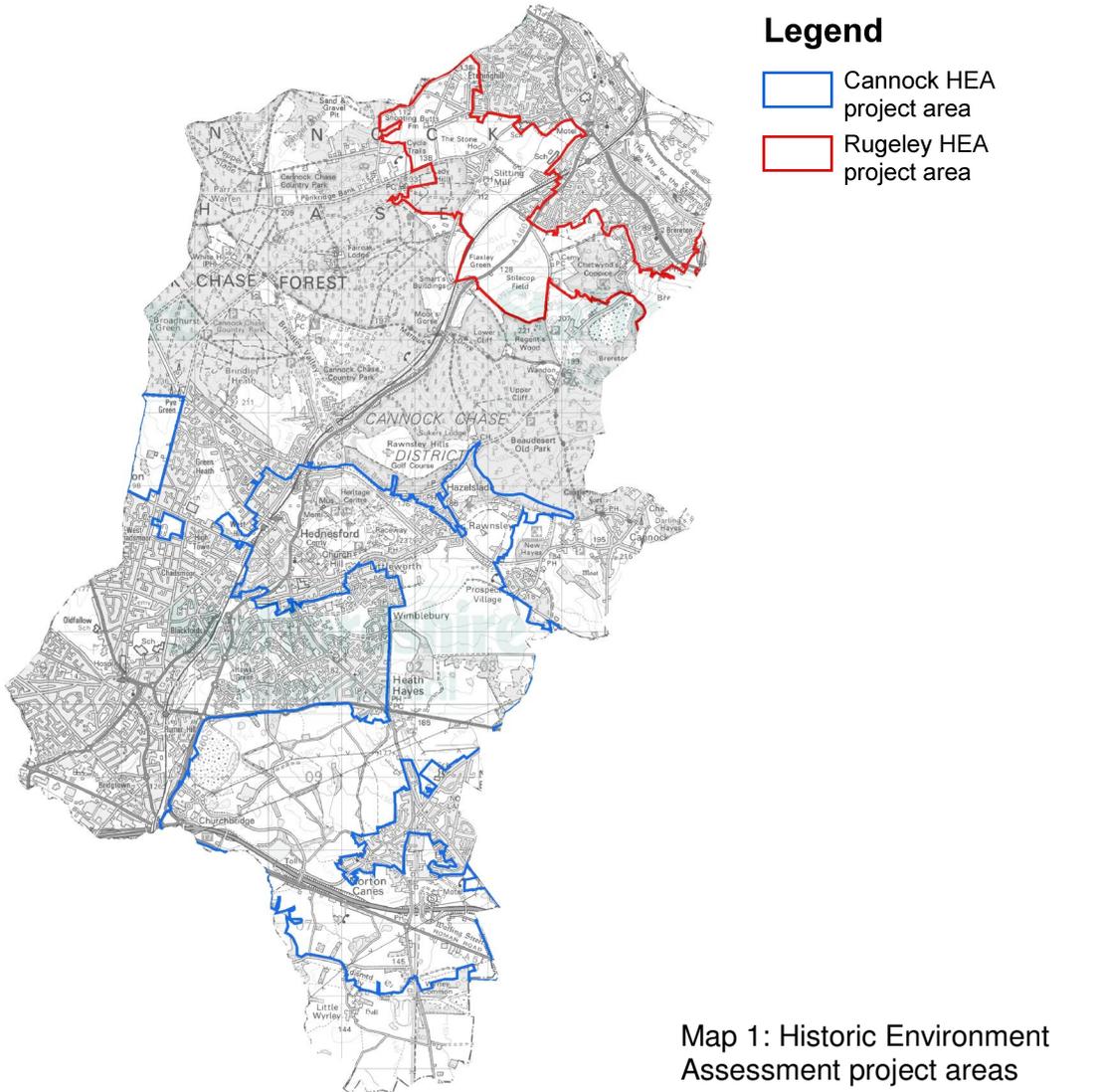
1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This project was commissioned by the Local Plans and Policy section at Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC) to form part of the evidence base for the options assessment of their Core Strategy.
- 1.1.2 A methodology for assessing historic environment information has emerged from work carried out in the southern counties of England in response to proposed large scale housing developments. The particular aim of these projects was to integrate the Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) information with the more site based data held by the Historic Environment Records (HERs). Historic environment assessments were pioneered by the Thames Gateway Project, which was further developed by Essex County Council for two of its districts. More recently Shropshire County Council undertook a historic environment assessment for the Shrewsbury New Growth Point area. This work was assessed using the criteria produced by Essex County Council.
- 1.1.3 Staffordshire County Council (SCC) in conjunction with Lichfield District Council and English Heritage produced a Historic Environment Assessment (HEA) for Lichfield, Burntwood and Tamworth in February 2009. This followed the methodology used by Shropshire County Council taken from the 'Shrewsbury New Growth Point Historic Environment Assessment: Project Design'. The Lichfield project was followed by a similar project undertaken for Stafford Borough Council during 2009.
- 1.1.4 It was agreed between the SCC Cultural Heritage Team, English Heritage and Cannock Chase District Council that the historic environment assessment for the District would largely follow the methodology used in the Lichfield District Historic Environment Assessment and the Stafford Borough Historic Environment Assessment.
- 1.1.5 The HEA has focused upon two project areas, Rugeley and Cannock, which were largely based upon the housing and employment areas identified by CCDC (cf. map 1). The towns of Cannock and Rugeley have been excluded from these projects as they will both be characterised in greater detail under the Extensive Urban Survey (EUS), which is currently being undertaken by SCC for the recognised medieval towns of Staffordshire. It was also agreed between CCDC and SCC that the areas under forestry and those built up areas outside of Cannock and Rugeley would not be covered by the project as they are unlikely to be immediately affected by whole-scale housing or employment redevelopment. However, Hednesford forms the exception and parts of the town are included in the project. This was due to the fact that Hednesford is not covered by the EUS and it is a focus for urban development alongside Cannock and Rugeley urban areas.

1.2 Historic Landscape Character (HLC)

- 1.2.1 The HLC project forms part of a national mapping project. It was carried out by SCC in partnership with English Heritage, over three years and was completed in March 2006. The aim of the HLC was to produce a broad assessment of the historic and archaeological dimensions of the county's landscape as it exists today, which was produced upon a GIS-based digital map supported by a database. The HLC data sits within the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) database. The HER holds information on the county's archaeological and historic sites, monuments and buildings.
- 1.2.2 The HLC is a dynamic model for the county and subsequent to its production the dataset has been assessed to produce refined maps and a map of the late medieval landscape of the county. Both of these maps have been used to understand change within the county and they were both used in the development of this project.
- 1.2.3 The HLC and HER data form the basis of the Historic Environment Assessment for Cannock Chase.

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2. Aim

2.1 The aim of the project was to provide a detailed assessment of the historic environment character for the two project areas identified between SCC and CCDC (see map 1). The assessment included a scoring system to evaluate the impact of medium to large scale housing development upon each of the zones.

3. Project Methodology

3.1 Historic Environment Character Zones

3.1.1 The methodology follows that established by the Lichfield District HEA using the Essex County Council model for assessing significance (see appendix 1). This produced a scoring system based upon set criteria. A GIS layer was also produced naming the zones and identifying their historic environment significance. It is important to emphasize that a low significance does not mean that there are no historic environment considerations to take into account regarding development. Each of the zone reports includes a

statement of significance which highlights the recommendations for the historic environment.

3.1.2 Each report comprises a brief description of the historic environment of the zone. This is followed by a summary table which also assesses the potential for impacts that medium to large-scale development may have upon the historic environment expressed as an Overall Value. The zones are assessed upon seven themes: Survival, Potential, Documentation, Diversity, Group Association, Amenity and Sensitivity to change (specifically relating to development expansion & infrastructure for CCDC). Each of these areas was scored 1 to 3 and these were finally added together to provide the Overall Value expressed as total scores:

7-9 = Low;

10-12 = Low/Moderate;

13-15 = Moderate;

16-18 = High/moderate

19-21= High.

3.1.3 The methodology for this assessment is included as Appendix 1.

3.2 Potential uses for the document

3.2.1 The assessment was produced specifically for the Cannock Chase District housing and employment potential development areas and has identified areas where the historic environment is a consideration when assessing the most appropriate location for new development. The summary of each report provides a short paragraph on the importance of the historic environment in each zone along with guidance or advice on the ways in which development may have an impact upon the historic environment.

3.2.2 The documents can be used to identify historic environment considerations at an early stage in the planning process within each zone. The reports summarise the potential historic environment impacts and opportunities that would need to be taken into account to ensure the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment assets within the District.

3.2.3 The project provides an initial assessment of the potential for the historic environment within each zone. However the assessment is not intended to replace the need to consult the SCC Cultural Heritage Team at an early stage to identify potential impacts and the possible need for mitigation on individual development sites or areas.

4. Cannock Chase District

4.1 The area administered by Cannock Chase District Council is in the central southern part of the county. The authority shares borders with South Staffordshire District to the west, Stafford Borough to the north and Lichfield District to the east. The district also shares its southern border with the metropolitan district of Walsall. In terms of area, 7,888.22 ha, it is the second smallest planning authority within the county.

- 4.2 A large proportion of the district is covered by industrial development (5.73%) and settlement (26.33%). Cannock, on the south-west edge, is the largest urban area in the district and developed through an amalgamation of several small mining settlements. The other large urban area in Cannock Chase District is Rugeley, which lies to the north east. The land between Cannock and Rugeley falls almost entirely within Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is heavily wooded much of which is plantation woodland owned and managed by the Forestry Commission.
- 4.3 The Cannock Chase AONB covers approximately 6,509ha of the District Council.

5. Designated sites

5.1 Scheduled Monuments

- 5.1.1 There are five Scheduled monuments within the District boundary: Castle Ring hillfort¹; Conduit Head, High Green²; Church Yard Cross, St Luke's³; Moated site & Bloomery in Court Banks⁴; Rugeley Camp Practice Trench⁵. None of these monuments lie within either the Cannock or Rugeley project areas. However, where there is the potential for development to impact upon the setting of any of these monuments English Heritage should be contacted for advice.

5.2 Conservation Areas

- 5.2.1 There are 8 Conservation Areas Brereton (154); Bridgtown (131); Cannock Town Centre (123); Rugeley Town Centre (051); Rugeley – Church Street (124); Rugeley – Sheepfair/Bow Street (156); Rugeley – Talbot Street/Lichfield Street (155); Trent & Mersey Canal (083). None of the Conservation Areas lie within either of the two project areas. However, five Conservation Areas (numbers 051, 124, 154, 155 and 156) lie adjacent to the Rugeley project area. Where there is a potential for development to impact upon the Conservation Areas or their setting then CCDC's Conservation Officer should be contacted.

5.3 Listed Buildings

- 5.3.1 There are 67 Listed Buildings within the District. However, five are located within the Cannock project area and six in the Rugeley project area.

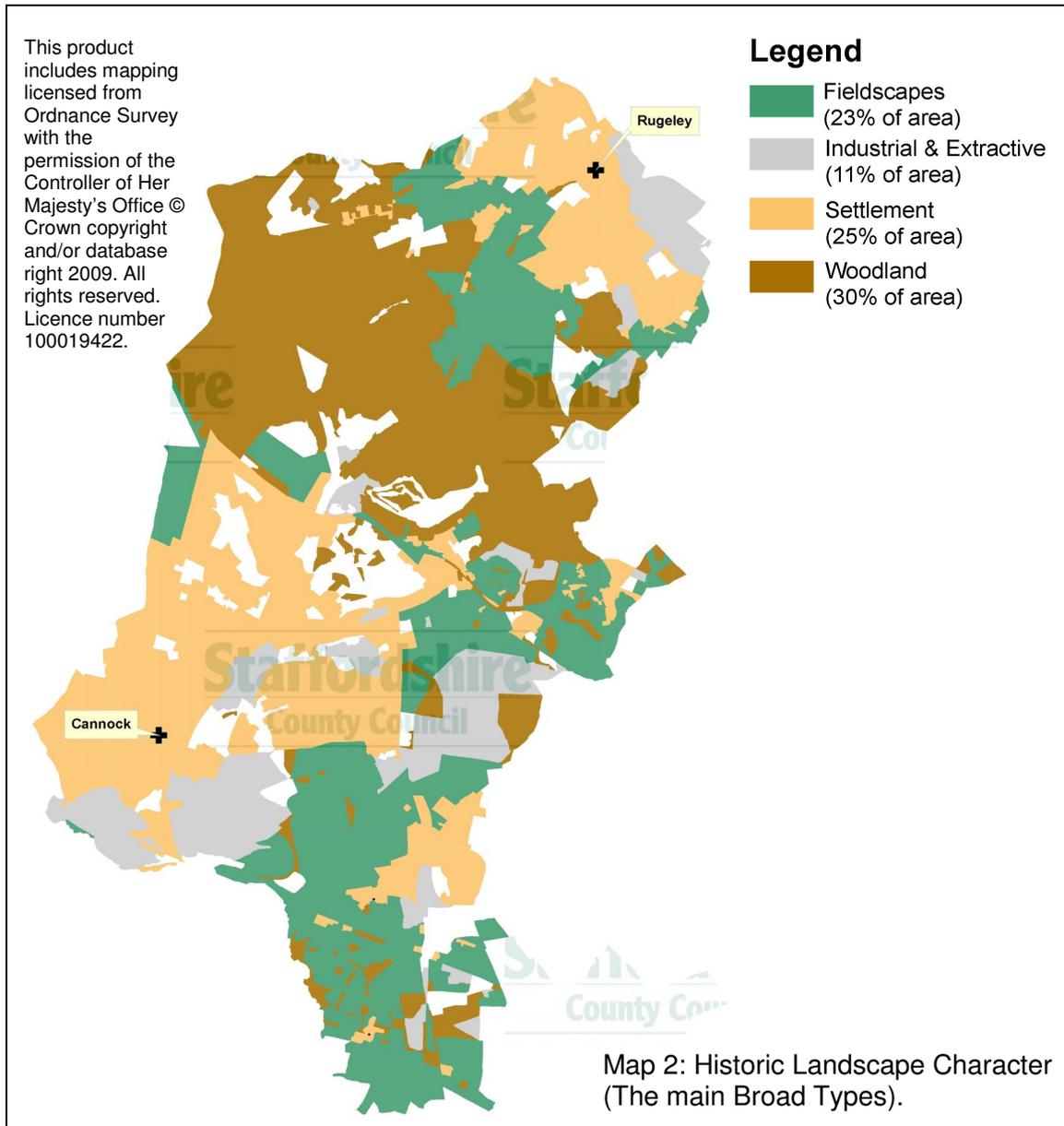
¹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00025; English Heritage: SM 21635

² Staffordshire HER: PRN 00066; English Heritage: SM 50

³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00067; English Heritage: SM 21595

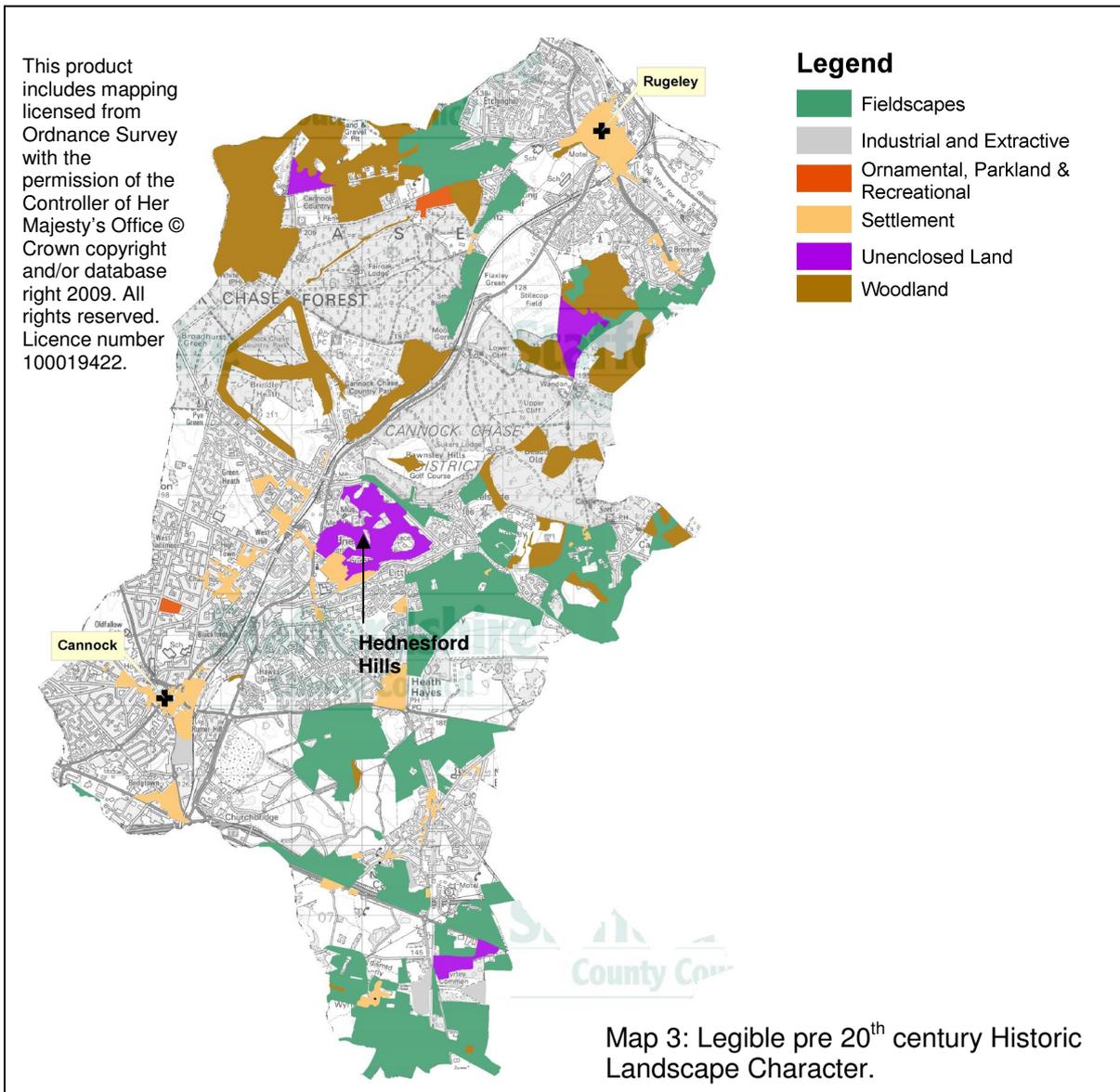
⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00221, PRN 00222 & PRN 01012; English Heritage: SM 241

⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05523; English Heritage: SM 35861



6. Historic Landscape Character

- 6.1 The modern historic landscape character of the District is dominated by three historic landscape character types (cf. map 2). Woodland represents approximately 28% of land use within the District and much of this woodland is managed by the Forestry Commission; coniferous woodland accounts for 61% of all the woodland. Settlement represents 23% of the land use and 89% of it was constructed within the 20th century. If Industrial & Extractive land use is included under Settlement then the coverage is approximately 34% of the District. Fieldscales cover 26% of the District.
- 6.2 However, the aim of historic landscape characterisation is to identify surviving historic patterns. Map 3 shows those areas where the historic landscape character is still legible within the landscape, although this is not to state that historic environment assets or character are entirely absent from the remaining areas.



6.3 Cannock Forest

6.3.1 Forest in the medieval period was not a term which described land use, but was an area of land which was designated by royal decree where Forest Law applied. This law was introduced by King William I following the Norman Conquest (1066) and was a means of restricting rights of hunting game, particularly deer, to the Crown. The Crown also reserved the right to timber and minerals within these areas⁶. During the 12th and 13th century Forests had become an important means of revenue for the Crown mostly through the imposition of fines.

6.3.2 Cannock Forest had probably existed since at least the 11th century, although it was not recorded by this name until the 1140s⁷. It is likely to have been composed of a mosaic landscape of woodland and heath land much as the landscape of the Hednesford Hills is in the 21st century (cf. map 3 & 8.7

⁶ Rackham 1986:130; Studd 2000: 125

⁷ Greenslade 1967: 338

CHECZ 7 below). The presence of the forest has had a significant impact upon the development of the landscape of the District since that period. Domesday Book (1086) records few places within the area of Cannock District perhaps suggesting that the landscape had been heath land and woodland from earlier in its history (cf. map 4 & 7.4 below).

- 6.3.3 However, it is clear that the development of Cannock and Rugeley during the medieval period also had an impact upon the landscape. In Domesday Book both places are recorded as having plough lands associated with them suggesting arable agriculture formed part of their economy from at least the late Saxon period (see map 4).

6.4 Cannock Chase

- 6.4.1 Cannock Chase was formed out of Cannock Forest in the late 13th century and was granted to the Bishop of Lichfield as a private hunting forest. The bishop's interest in Cannock Forest had begun by the 11th century when he is recorded making illegal assarts within the Royal Forest. His activities were legitimised by King Richard I in the late 12th century in return for a fine, which the King required to help fund a Crusade. The King also granted the manors of Rugeley and Cannock to the bishop at this time. However, the King retained the rights to take deer from this area of the Forest. From the beginning of the 13th century until 1290 the bishops claimed the rights to take deer and entered into conflicts with the Royal forestry officials until the situation was resolved with the creation of the Chase⁸.
- 6.4.2 It is not clear where the bishop was creating assarts during the 12th century within the area of the Forest, but it is likely to have mostly occurred within Lichfield District. However, documentary records suggest that the bishop continued to assart within the Chase throughout the medieval period, which may account in part for the extensive areas of arable open fields associated with Cannock and Rugeley. There are further areas of open field towards the south of the District around Norton Canes and Little Wyrley (cf. map 4).
- 6.4.3 The bishop was also responsible for the creation of Beaudesert deer park which existed from at least the early 14th century and which clearly dominated the landscape to the east of the District (cf. map 4). A possible hunting lodge survives as an earthwork within the Scheduled Castle Ring hillfort⁹. The parkland survived into the 19th century¹⁰.
- 6.4.4 The post medieval landscape of the District was largely unchanged from the medieval period. However, documentary sources suggest that this was a period of substantial tree felling associated with increasing industrial activity which relied upon water power and charcoal for fuel (see 7.5 below). Associated with this activity is the increase in Squatter Enclosures as people were attracted to these remoter places by the resulting economic

⁸ Greenslade 1967: 342-3; Birrell 1990: 24 & 44

⁹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00025

¹⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01013

opportunities (see also 6.5 below). The other large scale change was the piecemeal enclosure of the arable open fields.

6.5 Settlement pattern

- 6.5.1 Other than the two towns, Cannock and Rugeley, which are covered by the Extensive Urban Survey, the settlement pattern was predominantly one of scattered farmsteads and small hamlets. The historic farmstead survey identified 82 such complexes within the District (although over half have been demolished since the late 19th century). The form of the majority (83%) of these farmsteads suggests that they developed incrementally over a period of time. Consequently it is possible that many of these may have had medieval origins and could have been associated with some of the assarting episodes recorded above.
- 6.5.2 Squatter enclosure, which is generally associated with industrial activity such as 19th century coal mining, has been identified in a number of areas across the District (155ha) and it is a particularly sensitive landscape. Since the late 19th century over half of this extent has been lost. Slitting Mill appears to have originated as a squatter settlement from the 17th century onwards (see also 9.3 RHECZ 3 below).

7. Historic environment summary

7.1 Prehistoric

- 7.1.1 There has been little archaeological work been carried out upon the Prehistoric period within the District, consequently what is known is mostly from chance finds or through well known sites. Arguably the most significant Prehistoric site within the District is the Scheduled Monument, Castle Ring Hillfort, which survives as an earthwork to the south of Beaudesert Park and overlooks the landscapes to the south, towards Burntwood and east towards Lichfield¹¹. Whilst it is likely to date to at least the Iron Age, other hill forts in the West Midlands region have been proven to have their origins in the Neolithic period. However, no substantive archaeological work has been carried out at Castle Ring to confirm whether there is evidence of earlier occupation here. However, a geophysical survey carried out in the 1980s identified the probable location of roundhouses within its interior¹². The extent of the impact of the hill fort on the surrounding landscape is currently unknown, partly because the adjacent landscape is largely under plantation woodland. However, it is likely that the hillfort would have provided a cultural, economic and administrative focus serving a hinterland of dispersed settlement. Consequently, it is unlikely that the hillfort was constructed within a landscape of dense woodland.
- 7.1.2 Evidence for earlier human activity has been found within the District and the earliest site is a Mesolithic/Neolithic flint scatter discovered at Court Banks

¹¹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00025; English Heritage: SM 21635

¹² English Heritage: Scheduling information (SM no. 21635); RCHME 1987-96

Covert between 1910 and 1917¹³. The site included at least 28 recognizable implements and has been interpreted as a flint knapping floor. This evidence suggests at least sporadic occupation within the District during this period. A number of other Neolithic/Bronze Age finds, comprising a flint scraper, two 'barbed and tanged' arrowheads, two axeheads and two flakes, have been discovered across the District and are testimony to a human presence at this period¹⁴. Unfortunately these finds do not significantly add to an understanding of how this landscape was being exploited during this period.

7.1.3 Eleven burnt mounds have been identified along several streams and rivers within the District. All but one lie to the north east towards Rugeley¹⁵. These features are generally dated to the Bronze Age and are comprised of a mound of fire-cracked stones usually associated with a buried trough thought to have contained water. There have been various interpretations on their function including being associated with cooking or for bathing. One, and possibly two, burnt mounds have been discovered at Cannock Wood, approximately 300m to the south of Castle Ring¹⁶. This latter provides evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity of the hillfort.

7.1.4 Environmental data from across the West Midlands has provided an understanding of the development of the landscape of the region during the prehistoric period. The evidence suggests that it had mostly been heavily wooded until at least the Bronze Age, when some clearance may have begun to take place to support a small scale pastoral economy. The evidence for human activity which is known within the District appears to support the available environmental data.

7.2 Roman

7.2.1 The line of the Roman road of Watling Street crosses through the southern portion of the District on a roughly south east-north west alignment¹⁷. Within Staffordshire the road links the two Roman forts/settlements of *Letocetum* (Wall) in Lichfield District and *Pennocrucium* (south of Penkridge) in South Staffordshire District. However, little is otherwise known about the Roman period within the District other than unstratified findspots. These include five coins and four brooches found near Prospect Place, approximately 3.2km north east of Watling Street¹⁸. Two Roman coins and a bucket mount have also been found within the District¹⁹.

7.2.2 It is likely that there was a degree of continuity of activity from the Prehistoric to the Roman period, but the nature and extent for either period is currently poorly understood.

¹³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01007

¹⁴ Staffordshire HER: Scraper PRN 00971; Barbed & tanged arrowheads PRN 01042 & PRN 01806; Axe heads PRN 01621 & PRN 04171; Flake PRN 01888

¹⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRNs 00998, 01001, 01002, 04042, 04051, 04052, 04053, 04172, 04181, 04182 & 04183

¹⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04053

¹⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01140 & PRN 05153

¹⁸ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04297

¹⁹ Staffordshire HER & Worrell 2007: 312-3

7.3 Early Medieval

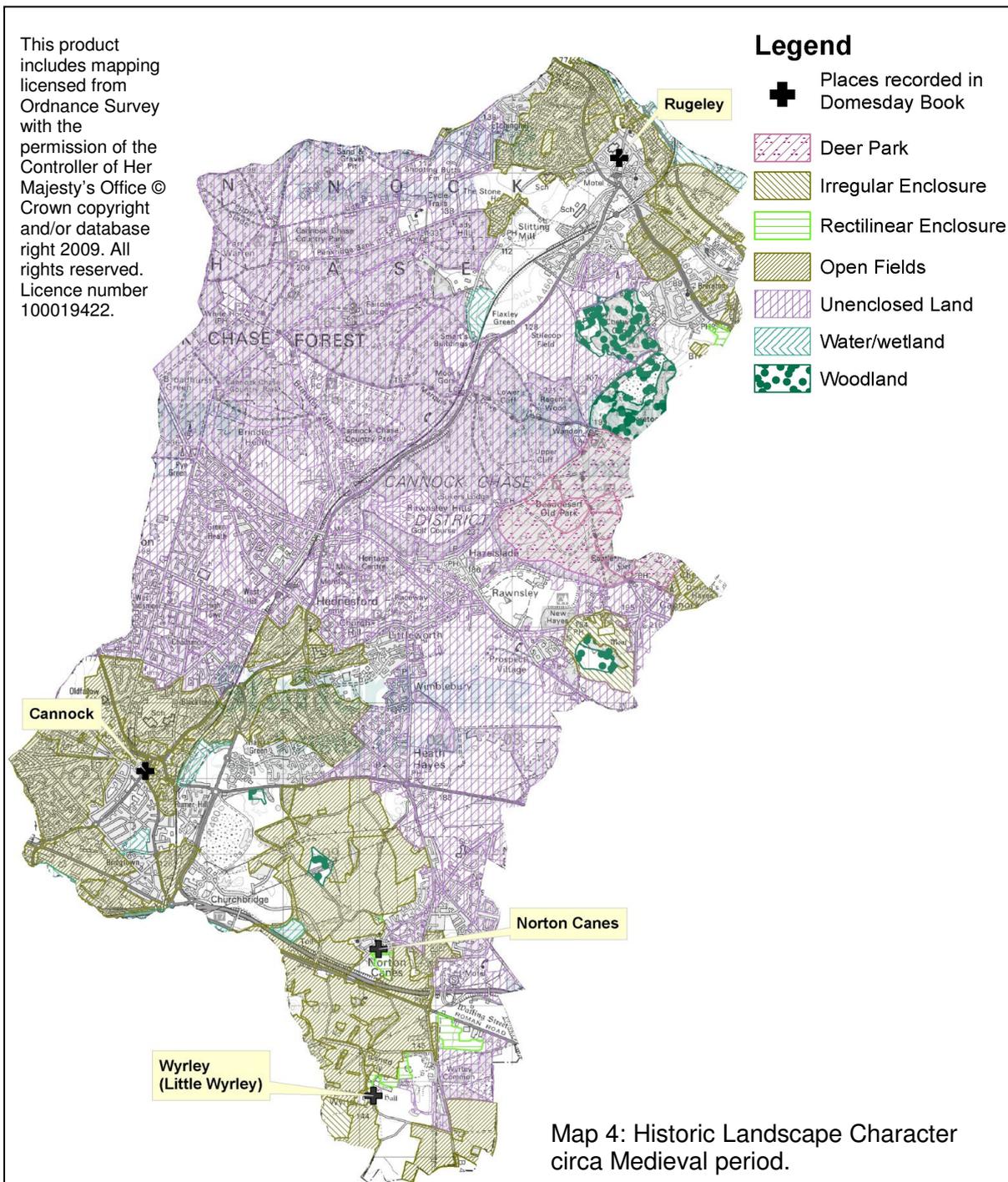
7.3.1 There is little recorded evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity within the District although this paucity may represent a largely aceramic society relying upon organic-based products rather than an absence of activity in this area.

7.2.2 Domesday Book (1086) provides an insight into the District in the late Saxon period (see also 6.2 above). Both of the manors, which had been held by Algar, the Earl of Mercia during Edward the Confessor's reign (1042 – 1066)²⁰. Their economy included arable and woodland; at Rugeley there was also meadow perhaps lying to the north towards the Trent Valley²¹ (see also map 4).

²⁰ Morris 1976: Rugeley 1:22; Cannock 1:25

²¹ Ibid

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Map 4: Historic Landscape Character circa Medieval period.

7.4 Medieval

7.4.1 Domesday Book (1086) appears to support the theory that much of Cannock Forest had existed prior to the Conquest as very few entries are to be found within the area now forming Cannock Chase District (cf. map 4). The two significant places recorded are Cannock and Rugeley both being held by the King at this date (see also 7.3 above). Two further places, Wyrley and Norton Canes are recorded together as forming part of the Bishop's Lichfield manor and are described as 'waste'. It has been argued that in this instance these places are 'waste' within Domesday Book because they had not changed

ownership since 1066 and consequently did not fulfil the requirements of the survey rather than having no income²².

- 7.4.2 A number of extant settlements appear to have their origins in the medieval period including Hednesford, Leacroft, Hagley and Brereton²³. Hagley appears to have formed a separate manor from Rugeley since the 11th century and an extant moat indicates the site of the medieval manor house²⁴. The sites of two moats, probably also associated with manor houses, are located adjacent to Norton Canes²⁵ (see 8.16 CHECZ 16 below for further detail).
- 7.4.3 At Redmoor/Radmore an abbey was established in 1141, but moved to Stoneleigh, Warwickshire in the early 1150s²⁶. The precise location of the abbey is unknown, but it is believed to have stood near Courtbanks Covert, near Cannock Wood where a Scheduled moated site and bloomery survive²⁷. The moat is believed to represent the site of a Royal Hunting Lodge which is mentioned in documentary records in 1156 and between 1162 until at least 1215²⁸.
- 7.4.4 There are documentary references for industrial activity within the District from the medieval period including a coal mine held by the Bishops of Lichfield in Beaudesert Park in the 14th century²⁹. Within the park there are the remains of numerous bell pits, from which coal and/or ironstone was extracted. These features have not been closely dated, but the origins of some of them may date to the medieval period and be associated with the industry recorded from the 14th century³⁰.
- 7.4.5 There is a Scheduled site of a bloomery and a probable associated pond bay at Courtbanks Covert, which has not been dated. However, it is possible that it formed part of an iron working industry which appears to have been supported by the bishop in this area during the medieval period. Iron working is recorded within the District by the mid 13th century and there has been a suggestion that this may have been taking place within the bishop's manors of Cannock and Rugeley; a forge is specifically mentioned at Rugeley in 1298³¹. In 1990 further evidence of iron working was located in Beaudesert Park which has been suggested may be the site of a medieval or post medieval forge³².

²² Studd 2000: 130-1

²³ Horowitz 2005: 146, 290, 309 & 355

²⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01807

²⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01087 & 01088

²⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 50591

²⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRNs 0221 & 0222; English Heritage SM no. ST241

²⁸ Greenslade 1959a: 57

²⁹ Taylor 1967: 72

³⁰ Staffordshire HER: PRNs 20048, 20576, 20578 to 20580, 20584 to 20588, 20590 to 20595, 2097 to 20600, 20701 to 20703 & 20705

³¹ Johnson 1967: 108

³² Staffordshire HER: PRN 04184

7.5 Post Medieval

- 7.5.1 The manors of Cannock and Rugeley, along with Beaudesert Park, passed to the Paget family following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the mid 16th century. The Paget's continued to support the growing industrial activity within the District and by the end of the 16th century many of these sites had passed directly into their hands. Industrial activity appears to have intensified from this period onwards and it is probable that the mining sites mentioned under 7.4.3 date to this period. Other bell pits have been identified on aerial photographs around Rawsley and Prospect Village (see 8.9 CHECZ 9 below for further detail).
- 7.5.2 The known sites of probable Post medieval iron working, which required water power, are concentrated upon several brooks towards the north of the District; notably upon Rising Brook³³. These industrial sites required substantial amounts of fuel, in the form of charcoal, and research into the likely location of woodland on the Chase during this period has been previously carried out³⁴. Earthwork banks at Chetwynd's Coppice may date to the post medieval period and relate to previous woodland management associated with the industrial activity³⁵.
- 7.5.3 The site of a slitting mill lying to the south west of Rugeley was possibly the earliest in the West Midlands³⁶ (see 9.3 RHECZ 3 for greater detail).

7.6 Industrial period

- 7.6.1 The greatest changes occurred during the 19th century when much of the Unenclosed Land was finally enclosed following three Acts of Parliament to enclose the landscape by a means of planned enclosure³⁷. The Acts also enabled land owners to claim rights to the minerals found within the former chase notably the coal seams. From the mid 19th century there appears to have been a dramatic increase in the number of collieries across the District which was followed by settlement expansion particularly around Cannock and Hednesford, the latter developing as a coal mining town.
- 7.6.2 The expansion of industry during the 19th century was closely connected with the development of transportation in the form of canals and railways. Many tramways and mineral railways were also constructed criss-crossing the District linking the collieries to the Wyrley & Essington Canal and the mainline railways.

³³ Staffordshire HER: PRNs 00999, 01003, 01010 & 01011

³⁴ Welch 2000: 17-73

³⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 53376, 53387 & 53397

³⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 04985

³⁷ Cannock 1868 (SRO Q/RDc 103); Norton Canes 1870 (SRO Q/RDc104) & Rugeley 1885 (SRO Q/RDc 105)

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Aerial Photographs

Hunting Surveys Ltd. 1963. Black & white vertical aerial photographs of Staffordshire.

Mapping

Yates, J. 1775. Map of Staffordshire – held by Staffordshire Record Office (SRO); digital copy held by Staffordshire HER.

Appendix 1: The scoring of Historic Environment Character Zones (adapted from Essex County Council)

Essex County Council based scoring upon the system used by the English Heritage Monuments Protection Programme (MPP). The system was adapted to consider broader landscapes.

They used the following seven criteria:

- Diversity of historic environment assets
- Survival
- Documentation
- Group Value Association
- Potential
- Sensitivity to change
- Amenity Value

Each of the criteria has been scored for each of the zones with a rating of 1, 2 and 3, with 1 being the lowest.

Survival

This relates to the state of completeness of the range of HEAs within the character zone. The zone may be relatively well preserved or it may have been disturbed by particular land-use/development and/or erosion. Even where such factors have adversely affected assets within a zone there may be potential for well preserved but deeply buried deposits.

1 = Zone extensively disturbed by for instance quarrying or development. The likelihood is that whilst many of the assets have been disturbed or destroyed there is the potential for survival in some areas or of some types of asset.

2 = Zone has moderate disturbance, but there are few known assets, or where there are many known assets but there has been some adverse effects from, for instance, development, quarrying or ploughing.

3 = Zone contains little disturbance and known assets which are well preserved.

Potential

The potential is assessed with reference to the expected average circumstances within the zone. The score considers the nature of the HEAs based on current evidence and indicates the likelihood of further assets being present.

1 = The potential for surviving HEAs within the zone has been significantly reduced e.g. by quarrying or development

2 = There are limited known HEAs however the landscape has not been significantly disturbed and current lack of knowledge is probably the result of lack of investigation rather than poor preservation

3 = Current evidence and little disturbance indicates that a range of high quality assets probably survive within the zone or there is a high potential for deeply stratified deposits to survive.

Documentation

The level of documentation for a zone reflects the extent of investigations that have taken place. HER data includes grey literature, find spots, the Domesday survey and broad brush county wide surveys, such as that on the Historic Farmsteads. Other surveys are separated out as having only been undertaken in certain parts of the county or within certain landscape types.

1 = Little or no documentation

2 = A range of documentation including field work, historical documentation, aerial photography

3 = A wide range of documentation

Diversity of historic environment assets

This indicates the range of HEAs within the zone, which may be chronologically diverse. A zone with many would score highly.

1 = Very few known assets or many assets of a limited range of categories

2 = Contains a range of assets of different date and character

3 = Contains a wide range of assets both in character and date.

Group Value Association

Two forms of association are considered either HEAs of a similar nature or HEAs of a similar date.

1 = Contains few HEAs of a similar date or nature

2 = Contains a limited range of HEAs which are related or of a similar date

3 = Contains a range of HEAs which are related such as settlements with well preserved field systems.

Amenity Value

Relates to the actual and/or potential amenity value of the historic environment of the zone and this is indicated in the description box. If there are specific elements which

would warrant enhancement these are also indicated in the description box. The score may relate to uniqueness, historical associations, key landmarks, good access, and interest for visitors and educational value etc.

1 = The historic environment does not lend itself to display or visitor attraction. Current knowledge gives limited potential for the historic environment to play a significant role in creating a definable and promotable identity to the area.

2 = The historic environment could or does help to define a sense of place for the area. There may be specific elements which are, or could be, promoted such as woodlands, castles etc.

3 = The historic environment plays or could play a key role in the zones sense of place for the local people and visitors. Contains assets which, are or could be, promoted for the benefit of local people and visitors.

Sensitivity to Change

Each HEZ is assessed with regard to the sensitivity of the area to medium to large scale development; specifically housing expansion. The score is an indication of the vulnerability of the HEAs within the zone to this type of change. A lack of sensitivity should not be taken as an indication that no historic environment mitigation would be required to accommodate development.

1 = The historic environment of the zone could accommodate medium to large scale development; however, specific HEAs may suffer adverse effects.

2 = Medium to large scale development is likely to have a moderate impact on the historic environment character of the zone.

3 = The zones historic environment is highly sensitive to medium to large scale development.

Overall value

The overall values will be assigned as follows:

Overall value	
7 to 9	Low
10 to 12	Low/moderate
13 to 15	Moderate
16 to 18	Moderate/high
19 to 21	High