

Land Between Lodge Road and Tape Lane, Hurst, Wokingham, RG10 0EG

Appellant's Landscape and Visual Proof of Evidence

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Volume 2: Appendices

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R004_2507 Landscape and Visual Proof of Evidence



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Appendix 1: Extract of Table 1 from Technical Guidance Note 02/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations.

Assessing landscape value outside national designations



Guidance for assessing landscapes for designation as National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England);

- The term ‘landscape condition’ is used in place of ‘landscape quality (condition)’;
- ‘Rarity’ and ‘representativeness’ are combined into a newly-named factor ‘distinctiveness’; and
- A new factor, ‘function’ is included which addresses the value attached to landscapes which perform a clearly identifiable and valuable function.

2.4.3 It should be noted that the factors are not presented in order of importance.

2.4.4 As with Box 5.1 in GLVIA3, **Table 1** is not intended to be an exhaustive list of factors to be considered when determining the value of landscapes, but to provide a range of factors and indicators that could be considered. This TGN is intended to be complementary to GLVIA3.

Table 1: Range of factors that can be considered when identifying landscape value

Factor	Definition	Examples ¹¹ of indicators of landscape value	Examples of evidence ¹²
Natural heritage	Landscape with clear evidence of ecological, geological, geomorphological or physiographic interest which contribute positively to the landscape	Presence of wildlife and habitats of ecological interest that contribute to sense of place Extent and survival of semi-natural habitat that is characteristic of the landscape type Presence of distinctive geological, geomorphological or pedological features Landscape which contains valued natural capital assets that contribute to ecosystem services, for example distinctive ecological communities and habitats that form the basis of ecological networks Landscape which makes an identified contribution to a nature recovery/ green infrastructure network	Landscape character assessment LANDMAP Geological Landscape and Landscape Habitats Aspects (in Wales) Ecological and geological designations SSSI citations and condition assessments Geological Conservation Review Habitat surveys Priority habitats Nature recovery networks/ nature pathways Habitat network opportunity mapping/ green infrastructure mapping Catchment management plans Ecosystem services assessment/ schemes Specialist ecological studies
Cultural heritage	Landscape with clear evidence of archaeological, historical or	Presence of historic landmark structures or designed landscape elements (e.g. follies,	Landscape character assessment

¹¹ These examples are not exhaustive.

¹² Evidence may be set out in development plans (or evidence that sits alongside development plans). Online mapping may also provide useful information (see ‘useful data links’ at the end of this TGN).



Factor	Definition	Examples ¹¹ of indicators of landscape value	Examples of evidence ¹²
	cultural interest which contribute positively to the landscape	monuments, avenues, tree roundels) Presence of historic parks and gardens, and designed landscapes Landscape which contributes to the significance of heritage assets, for example forming the setting of heritage assets (especially if identified in specialist studies) Landscape which offers a dimension of time depth. This includes natural time depth, e.g. presence of features such as glaciers and peat bogs and cultural time depth e.g. presence of relic farmsteads, ruins, historic field patterns, historic rights of way (e.g. drove roads, salt ways, tracks associated with past industrial activity)	LANDMAP Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape Services Aspect (in Wales) Historic environment and archaeological designations Conservation Area appraisals, Village Design Statements Historic maps Historic landscape character assessments¹³ Historic Land Use Assessment¹⁴ and Historic Area Assessments¹⁵ Place names Specialist heritage studies
Landscape condition	Landscape which is in a good physical state both with regard to individual elements and overall landscape structure	Good physical condition/ intactness of individual landscape elements (e.g. walls, parkland, trees) Good health of elements such as good water quality, good soil health Strong landscape structure (e.g. intact historic field patterns) Absence of detracting/ incongruous features (or features are present but have little influence)	Landscape character assessment LANDMAP condition and trend questions (in Wales) Hedgerow/ tree surveys Observations about intactness/ condition made in the field by the assessor SSSI condition assessments Historic landscape character assessments/ map regression analysis
Associations	Landscape which is connected with notable people, events and the arts	Associations with well-known literature, poetry, art, TV/film and music that contribute to perceptions of the landscape	Information about arts and science relating to a place Historical accounts, cultural traditions and folklore

¹³ Historic Landscape Characterisation has developed as a GIS mapping tool to capture how land use has changed and the 'time-depth' of the present-day landscape.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/research/methods/characterisation/historic-landscape-characterisation/>

¹⁴ Mapping of Scotland's Historic Landscape: <https://hllmap.org.uk/>

¹⁵ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/understanding-place-historic-area-assessments/>



Factor	Definition	Examples ¹¹ of indicators of landscape value	Examples of evidence ¹²
		Associations with science or other technical achievements Links to a notable historical event Associations with a famous person or people	Guidebooks/ published cultural trails LANDMAP Cultural Landscape Services aspect (in Wales)
Distinctiveness	Landscape that has a strong sense of identity	Landscape character that has a strong sense of place (showing strength of expression of landscape characteristics) Presence of distinctive features which are identified as being characteristic of a particular place Presence of rare or unusual features, especially those that help to confer a strong sense of place or identity Landscape which makes an important contribution to the character or identity of a settlement Settlement gateways/approaches which provides a clear sense of arrival and contribute to the character of the settlement (may be ancient/historic)	Landscape character assessment LANDMAP Visual & Sensory question 3 and 25, – Historic Landscape question 4 (in Wales) Guidebooks Observations about identity/ distinctiveness made in the field by the assessor
Recreational	Landscape offering recreational opportunities where experience of landscape is important	Presence of open access land, common land and public rights of way (particularly National Trails, long distance trails, Coastal Paths and Core Paths) where appreciation of landscape is a feature Areas with good accessibility that provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and spiritual experience/ inspiration Presence of town and village greens Other physical evidence of recreational use where experience of landscape is important Landscape that forms part of a view that is important to the	Definitive public rights of way mapping/ OS map data National Trails, long distance trails, Coastal Paths, Core Paths Open access land (including registered common land) Database of registered town or village greens Visitor surveys/ studies Observations about recreational use/ enjoyment made in the field by the assessor



Factor	Definition	Examples ¹¹ of indicators of landscape value	Examples of evidence ¹²
		enjoyment of a recreational activity	
Perceptual (Scenic)	Landscape that appeals to the senses, primarily the visual sense	Distinctive features, or distinctive combinations of features, such as dramatic or striking landform or harmonious combinations of land cover Strong aesthetic qualities such as scale, form, colour and texture Presence of natural lines in the landscape (e.g. natural ridgelines, woodland edges, river corridors, coastal edges) Visual diversity or contrasts which contributes to the appreciation of the landscape Memorable/ distinctive views and landmarks, or landscape which contributes to distinctive views and landmarks	Landscape character assessment LANDMAP Visual and Sensory scenic quality question 46 (in Wales) Protected views, views studies Areas frequently photographed or used in images used for tourism/ visitor/ promotional purposes, or views described or praised in literature Observations about scenic qualities made in the field by the assessor Conservation Area Appraisals Village Design Statements, or similar
Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)	Landscape with a strong perceptual value notably wildness, tranquillity and/or dark skies	High levels of tranquillity or perceptions of tranquillity, including perceived links to nature, dark skies, presence of wildlife/ birdsong and relative peace and quiet¹⁶ Presence of wild land and perceptions of relative wildness (resulting from a high degree of perceived naturalness¹⁷, rugged or otherwise challenging terrain, remoteness from public mechanised access and lack of modern artefacts) Sense of particular remoteness, seclusion or openness Dark night skies	Tranquillity mapping and factors which contribute to and detract from tranquillity Dark Skies mapping Wildness mapping, and Wild Land Areas in Scotland Land cover mapping Field survey LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Aspect

¹⁶ More about tranquillity can be found in Landscape Institute Technical Information Note [01/2017](#) (Revised; Landscape Institute, 2017).

¹⁷ Relating to extensive semi-natural vegetation, presence of wildlife and presence of natural processes/ lack of human intervention.



Factor	Definition	Examples ¹¹ of indicators of landscape value	Examples of evidence ¹²
		A general absence of intrusive or inharmonious development, land uses, transport and lighting	
Functional	Landscape which performs a clearly identifiable and valuable function, particularly in the healthy functioning of the landscape	Landscapes and landscape elements that contribute to the healthy functioning of the landscape, e.g. natural hydrological systems/ floodplains, areas of undisturbed and healthy soils, areas that form carbon sinks such as peat bogs, woodlands and oceans, areas of diverse landcover (benefits pest regulation), pollinator-rich habitats such as wildflower meadows Areas that form an important part of a multifunctional Green Infrastructure network Landscapes and landscape elements that have strong physical or functional links with an adjacent national landscape designation, or are important to the appreciation of the designated landscape and its special qualities	Land cover and habitat maps Ecosystem services assessments and mapping (particularly supporting and regulating services) Green infrastructure studies/strategies Development and management plans for nationally-designated landscapes, Local Plans and SPDs Landscape character assessments

The practical application of factors in coming to a judgement on landscape value

2.4.5 The following bullet points provide some advice on the practical application of the factors in Table 1:

- *The factors to be considered are not fixed as they need to be appropriate to the particular project and location. It is recommended that the factors used to assess landscape value in a particular assessment are, where appropriate, discussed with the relevant planning authority or statutory consultees.*
- *The indicators of value should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account what they contribute (positively or negatively) to a specific landscape. The relative importance to be attached to each indicator is likely to vary across different landscapes. Once evidence for each factor has been collated and assessed, it is important to step back and judge the overall 'weight of evidence' in coming to an overall judgement on landscape value.*
- *There are likely to be overlaps between the factors, as well as overlaps with other specialist studies for example in relation to natural and cultural factors. These overlaps should be acknowledged and considered when presenting conclusions on the overall value of the landscape.*
- *While condition/intactness of a landscape is one factor that can influence value, poor landscape management should not be a reason to deny a landscape a valued status if other factors indicate*

