# FOREST OF BOWLAND

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



# PENDLE HILL LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT PART 2: Landscape Character Types





Report commissioned by Lancashire County Council with financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Carried out by Robin Gray Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute.

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Forest of Bowland AONB The Stables 4 Root Hill Estate Yard Whitewell Road Dunsop Bridge Clitheroe Lancashire BB7 3AY

Email: bowland@lancashire.gov.uk Web: www.forestofbowland.com



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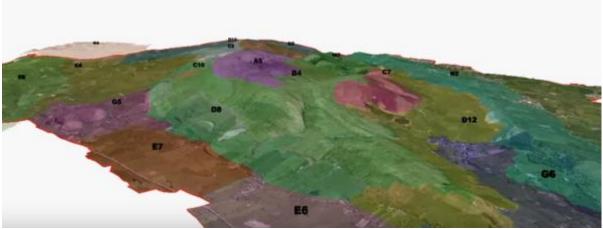
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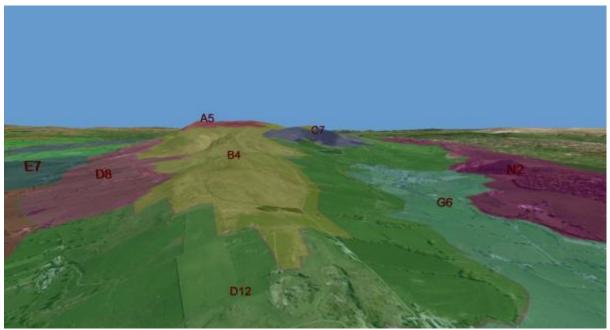
#### **4.0 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES**

Within the immediate environment of Pendle Hill are a number of varied landscapes that encompass remote moorland plateaux, pasture bounded by hedges or moorland fringe. These are represented by a number of landscape types (map#6) which are described in section 4 below.

Each generic landscape type has a distinct character with similar physical influences (underlying geology, land form, pedology) and indeed a common history of land management such as the enclosure of moorland edges to create 'in-bye land'.

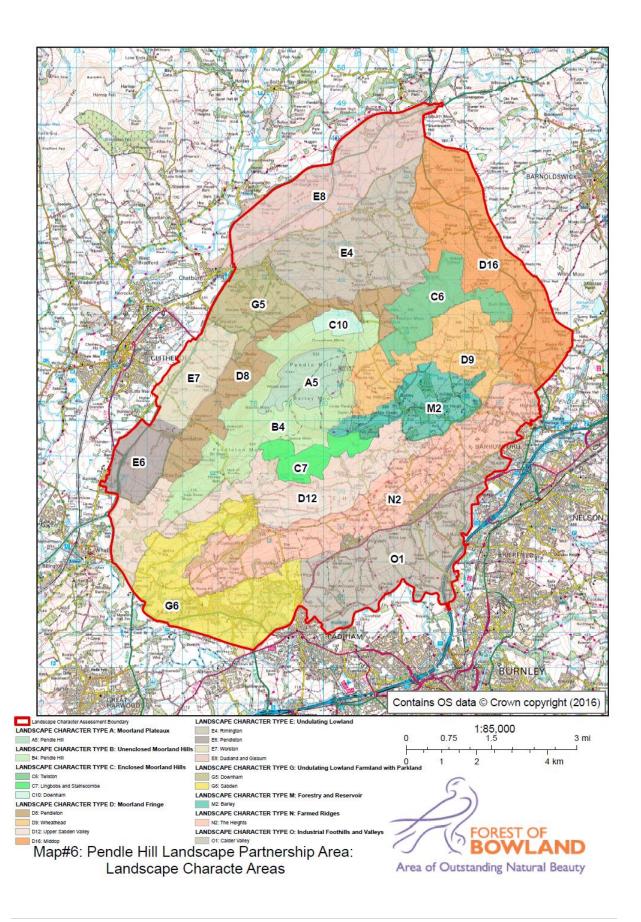


A birds-eye view of Pendle Hill in relief identifying some of the landscape types described within the report.



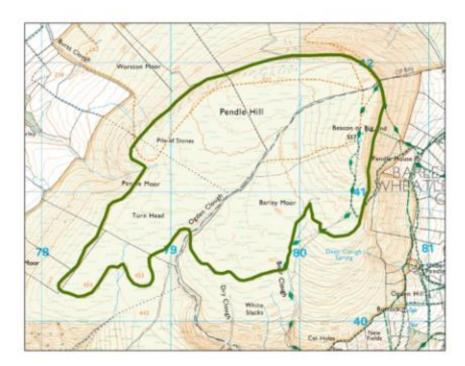
The landscape character types identified in the report radiate from the moorland plateau of Pendle Hill.







#### **A5 PENDLE HILL MOORLAND PLATEAU**



High plateaux with panoramic views. A dramatic backdrop to East Lancashire towns.

When Pendle wears a woolly cap
The farmers all may take a nap
When Pendle Hill doth wear a hood
Be sure the day will not be good

#### **Key characteristics**

- This Landscape Character Area forms a dramatic skyline backdrop to several views towards Pendle Hill from adjacent Landscape Character Types;
- The colour of the landscape changes with the seasons, from muted browns and greens in Spring and Summer, to vivid purple when the heather flowers in late Summer and white in the Winter months when the plateaux are snow covered;
- Strong sense of openness, remoteness and tranquillity;
- The sweeping, heather clad moorland and blanket bog is windswept and exposed;
- The distinctive 'go back' calls of Red Grouse, the mournful cries of Golden Plover, the bubbling calls of Curlew, the cascading calls of Meadow Pipit and trilling calls of Skylark contribute to recognisable sense of place;
- The distinctive pattern of stone walls (mostly from the 19<sup>th</sup> century) contributes to recognisable landscape pattern;
- The deep valley of Ogden Clough is a key landscape feature which incises the plateau which feeds Upper Ogden Reservoir.
- There is a lack of manmade structures on the moorland plateau (aside from the occasional cairn, walls & paths) which create a feeling of tranquillity and remoteness).



- The moorland plateau is mostly common land which is grazed by sheep. As part of the water catchment water quality is important with erosion increasing the extent of Dissolved Organic Carbon.
- The plateau is open access moorland.



The summit cairn at 557 metres with panoramic views southwards across Lancashire, north-eastwards across the Yorkshire Dales and eastwards to the Central and South Pennines. Dramatic views north-westwards across the Ribble Valley.

#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

Upland heath is a UK biodiversity action plan habitat.

The distinctive steep northern escarpment and flat plateau top determine that this area is an instantly recognisable landmark within views from much of the surrounding landscape, contributing to a local sense of place and providing orientation.

The British word 'penno' means a prominent steep ended hill. Pendle Hill can literally be translated to 'hill hill' as the Saxons added the suffix 'hill' to its original British name 'Penno' producing Pennehill, which was later corrupted to Pendle and which has become known as Pendle Hill.

Pendle Hill was important in the religious revolution of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. George Fox, founder of the Quaker movement, climbed Pendle Hill in 1652 where he had his vision of a 'great people' waiting to be gathered.



A5 PENDLE HILL MOORLAND PLATEAU		
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Gritstone plateau and terraces; glacial action has smoothed these features or meltwater has created new features.	
Elevation	Summit cairn at 557 metres	
Topography	A high, exposed flat topped plateau with steep escarpments. Moorland spurs radiate from the central plateaux, incised by Ogden Clough.	
Pedology	Thin soils, podsols, gleyed clays and peat	
Vegetation	Upland heath dominated by Purple Moor Grass & heathers. Elements of blanket bog with cotton grass species and sphagnum.	Erosion of existing peat has created areas of thin soils and bare peat which can further increase run-off and discolour water supplies (Dissolved Organic Carbon).
Notable	Merlin, Peregrine, Golden Plover, Skylark,	These species are vulnerable
Species	Raven	to greater disturbance.
Management	Rough pasture: sheep grazing on common land.  Water catchment management.	Past history of overgrazing.  Need to consider water quality in any restoration.
Designation	UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat	
Cultural Heritage	These hills represent the summer hunting for Mesolithic hunters evidenced by the microliths discovered on the plateau derived from black cherts (glacial deposits) found on the escarpment of Pendle Hill.  Possible Bronze Age round barrow.	High archaeological value requires consideration in any ecological restoration.
Built environment	Marked by its absence. Occasional drystone walls and cairns (i.e. Big End). Scout Cairn (commemorating a former Clitheroe Doctor and Scout District Commissioner) is a familiar landmark for orientation.	
Views and inter visibility	As an outlier Pendle Hill has far ranging 360 ° views across to the Yorkshire Dales and East Lancashire.	Inter visibility makes Pendle Hill special. Large scale infrastructure elsewhere can impact views
Recreation	Pendle Hill is one of the most visited sites within Lancashire attracting over 200,000 walkers to the summit.	Localised erosion at Ogden Clough and the summit area where there are thin soils.



Ecosystem Services	The Hill has been designated open access moorland since the Countryside & Rights of Way Act, 2000.  Carbon sequestration: Peat is the largest terrestrial store of carbon- retaining peat 'in situ' is a priority.  Water supply: Ogden Clough is within the catchment for the Upper Ogden Reservoir.  Internationally important habitats and species.	Local issues around erosion i.e. mountain biking & unauthorised 4 by 4 access.  Greater risks from extreme events associated with climate change i.e. drought, flash floods and wildfire.
Pressures	Grazing by sheep (although this is reducing). Wildfire. Economic pressures on hill farming	

#### What should be done?

- Restore upland hydrology by blocking natural gullies and reintroducing sphagnum.
- Restore areas of bare peat.
- Encourage a more varied plant assemblage including dwarf shrubs.
- Manage grazing (but aware of the impact of fences) to allow regeneration.
- Celebrate and conserve cultural heritage including cairns and shelters.
- Manage recreational pressure including mountain bike use.

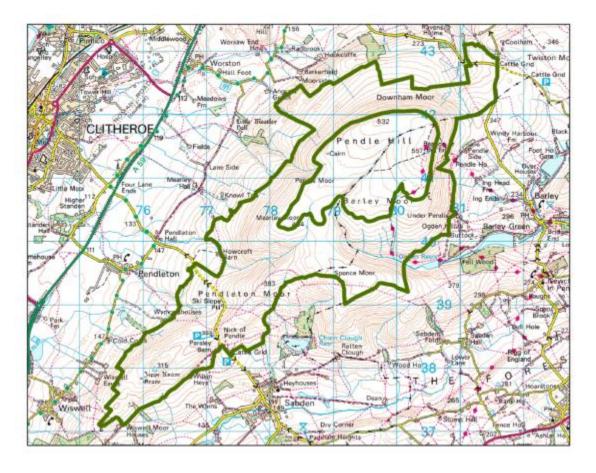




The remote Ogden Clough in the heart of the moorland plateau.

#### **B4 PENDLE HILL - UNENCLOSED MOORLAND HILLS**

The moorland margin is the transitional zone between high gritstone moors and the adjacent major river valleys and plains. It typically slopes steeply from the moorland plateaux as seen in the north sides of Pendle Hill down to more gentle lower slopes that merge into the till lowlands and river valleys. The boundary between the moorland margin and till lowland is often unclear, with glacial deposits and mass movement features.



And the next day we passed on, warning people as we met them of the day of the Lord that was coming upon them. As we went I spied a great high hill called Pendle Hill, and I went on the top of it with much ado, it was so steep: but I was moved of the Lord to go atop of it: and when I came atop of it I saw Lancashire sea: and there atop of the hill I was moved to sound the day of the Lord; and the Lord let me see atop of the hill in what places he had a great people to be gathered.

George Fox, founder of the Quaker movement, 1652.

When George Fox had his vision from the top of Pendle Hill he was inspired by the extensive views and he was refreshed for several days by taking water from the well-known Robin Hood's Well which is still there today.



Although it can be seen as one landscape type there is a change in the nature of this landscape from the severe escarpment of Big End and its shallow soils and dominance by molinia grasses to the south west escarpment which is more sheltered and dominated by bracken.

#### **Key characteristics**

- Dramatic, panoramic, open views northwards across the Ribble Valley (and Clitheroe) towards the Yorkshire Dales and the central Bowland Hills;
- Panoramic open views across the industrial towns of the Calder Valley with the backdrop of the South Pennines to the south;
- Footpaths and sled tracks are landscape features within this area; in addition to old quarry workings on the northern face of the hill;
- Common land and rough grazing is a major element of this area



The distinctive northern profile of Pendle Hill

#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

Open and exposed character, with a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity, stone walls and fences are occasional features, but do not dominate landscape pattern. Dramatic cloughs or valleys are incised into the hillsides and often contain fast flowing streams.

The scars of Ashendean, Ogden and Mearley Cloughs are key landscape features within views towards this area.

The Devil's Apronful is a former cairn written into local myth. The Devil wanted rid of Clitheroe Castle. So he picked up various large stones and put them in his apron then threw them towards the castle. Most of them missed, which made him angry and in a rage he accidentally dropped a great pile of rocks on the south side of Pendle Hill.

The intersection of the parishes of Pendleton, Sabden and Whalley shows a feature known as Jeppe Knave Grave. Jeppe was supposed to be a medieval character who was so wicked that no one wanted him to be buried locally. Each parish agreed to take one- third of him. In truth the grave is a plundered Bronze Age cairn



The Nick O Pendle



B4 PENDLE HILL – UNENCLOSED MOORLAND HILLS		
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Coarse cemented sand (plateau) separated by weaker shales ( fells) Occasional crags Glacial action	The strata revealed in Little Mearley Clough are designated as SSSI.
Elevation	200 to 500 m	
Topography	Rounded profiles through glacial action	
Pedology	Thin soils, podsols, gleyed clays and peat	
Vegetation	'Grass moor', wet flushes and acid grassland Blanket bog and heather.	Encroachment by bracken in the south west of area.
Notable Species	Meadow Pipit, Skylark, Grouse, Curlew, Brown Hare	
Management	Rough grazing. Common land or in the ownership of United Utilities or the Assheton Estate.	The need to balance the needs of upland farming and grazing levels that sustain botanical interest.
Designation	Little Mearley Clough Site of Special Scientific Interest/ Local Geological Site	
Cultural Heritage	Royal Hunting forest, (Forest law) Quarrying (northern face of the hill) Nick of Pendle. Bronze Age Cairn – 'the Devil's apronful' Robin Hood's Well.	
Built environment	Marked by its absence however Wellsprings Restaurant/ the Pendle Ski Centre is a notable exception that does have a wider landscape impact including floodlighting.	The impact of this development could be better mitigated.
Views and inter visibility	Long range views of the Ribble Valley, Yorkshire Dales, South Pennines	Intervisibility issues i.e. of communications masts, built development.
Features	Landmarks: cairns, earthworks, trackways	
Ecosystem Services	As Pendle Hill A5	
Pressures	Highway issues on the Clitheroe Road.	
Recreation	Most of the area is Open Access moorland and does attract significant numbers of walkers. Hang gliders, runners and cyclists also use this area. Nick of Pendle is a focal point with highway and erosion issues. Big End is a well-loved vantage point attracting significant visitors each year.	Visitor management at particular points. Footpath erosion. Mountain bike use.



#### What should be done?

- Restore upland hydrology by removing drainage gullies and reintroducing sphagnum.
- Greater awareness of the cultural heritage of these areas i.e. of the Neolithic and Mesolithic finds and the industrial archaeology.
- The need to prevent illegal use of footpaths (motorbikes access and mountain bikes) (see the Visitor Management Plan).
- Visitor management at particular points i.e. the Nick o' Pendle, Barley Road, and Pendleside where there are road safety concerns about informal parking.
- Conservation of features i.e. cairns, drystone walls that orientate the visitor to this area.
- Explore opportunities for limited woodland planting in steep woodland cloughs.



Nick of Pendle: Tour of Britain





The view from the Nick O'Pendle: Panoramic views across the Sabden Brook Valley

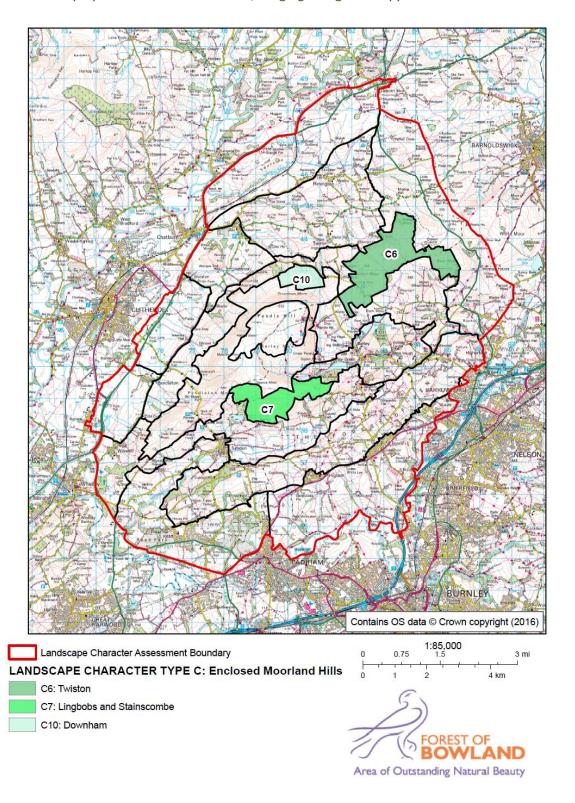


The view from the Nick O'Pendle: Looking north towards Pendle Hill.



#### **C ENCLOSED MOORLAND HILLS**

Open and exposed in character. Distinctive network of stone walls, which contribute to landscape pattern and divide areas of rough grazing into 'copy's'.







Affliction sore, long he bore;
Physicians were in vain:
Till God did please by death to cease:
And ease him of his pain

(Epitaph Twiston Quaker burial ground)

#### **Key characteristics**

- Dramatic, panoramic, open views northwards towards the peaks of Ingleborough and Pen Y
   Ghent within the Yorkshire Dales provide recognisable sense of place at Twiston;
- The enclosed moorland hills are considered to have a very high visual sensitivity overall as a result of the strong sense of openness and generally uninterrupted skylines, coupled with strong intervisibility with adjacent Landscape Character Types.
- The overall condition of this Landscape Character Type is considered to be moderate to good (LCC, 2009).
- Non nucleated settlement pattern.



Twiston Moor.



#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

- Twiston has some of the oldest settlements within the area with isolated farmsteads that trace their roots back to at least the twelfth century.
- Strong cultural heritage whether this is the association with the Quakers or prehistoric structures of unknown function.
- Drystone walls and occasional structures of roughly hewn blocks are strong features in otherwise open moorland.



The view from Downham Moor.

C ENCLOSED MOORLAND		
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Gritsone with glacial features	
Elevation	250 metres reaching up to 350 metres	
Topography	Broad moorland (Rimington & Twiston) incised by occasional cloughs (Wood House Clough).	
Pedology	Thin soils, podsols, gleyed clays and peat	
Vegetation	Acid grassland ('white moor'), heather, blanket bog	Reduce dominance of Purple Moor Grass with regeneration of a more varied plant assemblage of heathers, Bilberry and Crowberry.
Notable	See B4 - Unenclosed Moorland	
Species		
Management	Rough grazing.	Use of in bye land to take pressure off moorland.
Designation	None	
Cultural	Moorland was enclosed and cultivated during	In places, walls and stone
Heritage	the parliamentary enclosures of the 18th & 19th centuries with social impacts upon upland communities such as Twiston.	buildings are in disrepair.
Built environment	Twiston, in particular, has many fine vernacular farm buildings, outbarns, sheepfolds and boundary walls.	Deterioration and subsequent increase in fencing reduce the quality of boundaries. Suburbanisation or move away from farming.
Views and inter visibility	Uninterrupted skylines not restricted by walls.	Moderate to high visual sensitivity to distant development i.e. communications masts
Ecosystem Services	See B4	Climate change could increase extreme events (incidents of wildfire, surface water flooding) and changes in vegetation.
Pressures	Marginal grazing in some areas with intensification in grass elsewhere.  Drainage	Farming is highly marginal here and depends upon agrienvironment funding.



#### What should be done?

Agri environment schemes offer opportunities to reduce grazing and capital grants to restore features such as dry stone walls

Conserve original features of the agricultural community, vernacular buildings and use of traditional materials.

Research distinctive features - boundary markers, earthworks and sheepfolds.

The botanical interest of some of the fields has been lost to various agricultural improvements aimed at increasing yield through two to three silage cuts each year. Conserve existing species rich grassland and, where possible, allow the reversion of 'improved' grassland through managing grazing.

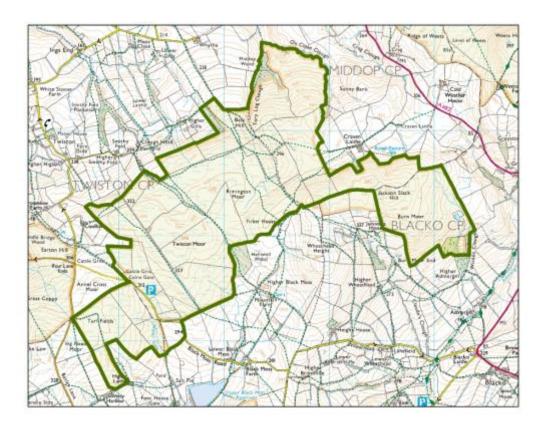
Promote responsible enjoyment of the Open Access Land (i.e. recognise the threats to ground nesting birds from dogs).

Encourage access to the countryside through promotion and investment in the existing Rights of Way network



#### **Landscape Character Area C6: Twiston**

Common land on Twiston Moors, an open landscape; rarely visited.



Twiston has many attractive farm buildings amongst the oldest buildings in the area. The isolated farmsteads of Twiston create a haunting atmosphere with a history that goes back to at least the twelfth century. Twiston had many Quakers, among them James Whipp, husbandman, who refusing to take the oath, was excommunicated and sent to goal in 1668. Two years later James appeared in court 'for not bringing his wife and child to be buried in the chapel but burying them in the field.'

- Distinctive network of stone walls, which contribute to landscape pattern and divide areas of rough grazing into 'copy's';
- Isolated stone buildings and features punctuate the underlying 'white' moor;
- Strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity throughout;
- Dramatic, panoramic, open views northwards towards the Yorkshire Dales;
- Glimpse views to expanses of water within reservoirs close to Barley.
- Tenants of the Assheton Estate retain a strong sense of estate identity.





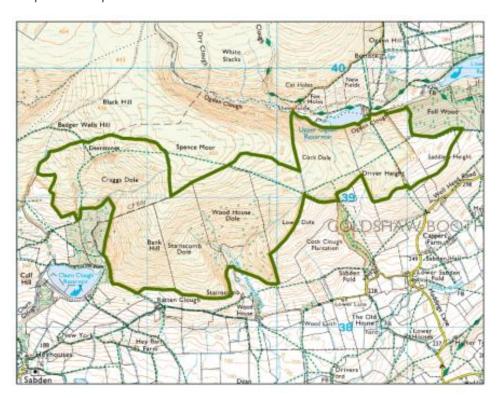




Twiston Moor.

### Landscape Character Area C7: Lingbobs and Stainscomb

Open and exposed in character.



- Open views towards the expanses of water within Churn Clough reservoir, which provides an instantly recognisable landscape feature;
- Fast flowing water within Ogden Clough introduces a source of noise and movement within this landscape, which has a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity.
- The quarry on Deerstones supplied stone for the Churn Clough Reservoir.



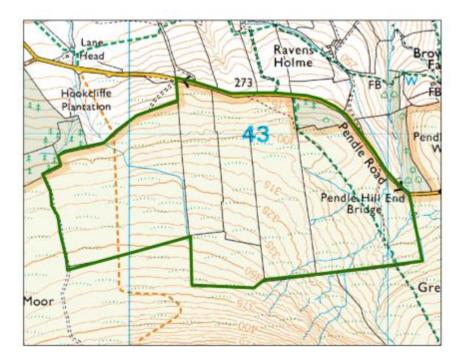
Spence Moor from Black Hill, above Sabden



#### Landscape Character Area C10: Downham

This Landscape Character area is distinguishable from the moorland fringe only in the sense that it is defined by (enclosed) gritstone walls from the time of enclosures of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The disposition to carry the plough much nearer to heaven than was ever dreamed of before (Christian Curwen, 1812).



The agricultural revolution of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, driven by a increasing demand for food and advances in techniques such as field drains enabled farmers to realign natural drainage. This later enclosure led to a more rectilinear landscape of walls visible from a distance such as that above Downham. Despite the significant investment required, cultivation could not be sustained on such marginal land and it has reverted to unimproved in bye dominated by soft rush.

- Large straight edged allotments enclosed by drystone walls running straight up the fellside.
- Panoramic open views northwards towards the Yorkshire Dales and also north-westwards towards the central Bowland Fells provide recognisable sense of place and orientation;
- Dramatic views across the patchwork of pasture fields surrounding the estate village of Downham to the north.
- On the shelf of land known as Stoney Bank there is an unusual horseshoe shaped raised stone embankment of unknown date. The enclosure is around 25 metres in diameter.



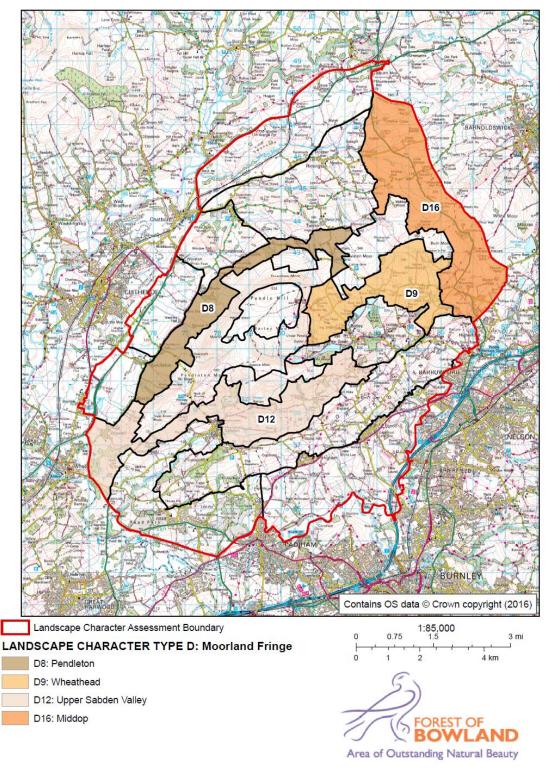


Jon Royle/ Geograph

Downham Enclosed Moorland

# **D: MOORLAND FRINGE**

A transitional rolling enclosed landscape of the moorland fringe defined by early human activity and retaining its medieval field boundaries.



#### **Key Characteristics**

- Traditional stone field barns are a recognisable landscape feature.
- Dry stone walls of rough hewn blocks create strong patterns within the landscape and reflect the underlying geology.
- Sheep grazing is the predominant land use, interspersed in places with a patchwork of traditionally managed meadows, wet rushy pasture, in-bye and acid grassland.
- Isolated farmhouses and winding roads bounded by drystone walls are key features of this landscape. They are amongst the oldest buildings in the area.
- There are a few small woodland copses.
- Traditional meadows, where they exist, are rich habitats (with Marsh Marigold, Yellow Iris, Ragged Robin, and Marsh Thistle).

The overall condition of the Moorland Fringe Landscape Character Type is considered to be moderate. Stone walls are generally well maintained, although there is evidence of a lack of management in places with the incorporation of post and wire fencing. There are however pressures on the vernacular farmsteads with a general 'suburbanisation' and incorporation of unsympathetic gardens or extensions to former agricultural buildings and barns.



**From Black Moss to Firber House**: Evidence of clough planting through agri-environment funding.

#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

The Clitheroe Reef Knolls and Little Mearley Clough are distinctive geological features that are designated SSSIs.

Isolated farmhouses are distinctive in the landscape, often; they are the original vaccaries (see section 2.0) sites of human habitation that can be traced as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> century.



In the 15<sup>th</sup> century the relaxation of Forest Law leads to new settlements. Newchurch, as the name suggests, refers to one of these settlements.

Enclosure grew apace in the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> centuries and continued into the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century through the enactment of the parliamentary enclosure acts. These later boundaries can be seen strong and straight heading up into the hillside.

Diversification in income through weaving in the distinctive 'weavers' cottages and thence to mills i.e. Newchurch in Pendle brought income to a marginal agricultural economy.

Families were imaginative in seeking incomes such as the cottage industry of producing hats from rabbit skins. (Note: Warren Hill between Worston and Downham).

The transportation of salt, lime and wool lead to the extension of a network of packhorse ways reflected today in the network of winding roads and hilltop passes. Indeed, the Pennine Bridleway runs through this area following the Coal Pit Road -an ancient route that was used by Cromwell in 1648.



Wheathead

D MOORLAND FRINGE		
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Millstone Grit Series and subsequent glacial action. Little Mearley Clough is both a Local Geological Site and SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). Drumlin field – rounded hills formed when glaciers retreat near Todber.	
Elevation	200 – 250 metres	
Topography	Rolling enclosed valley surrounded by steep escarpments.	
Pedology	Varying thickness of soils depending upon slope (the more sheltered slopes have the thicker boulder clays soils).	
Land cover	Unimproved pasture traditionally used as in bye land for winter grazing and to supply hay in the summer in combination with the open moor.	Improved pasture – reduction in botanical interest. Potential to recreate species rich grassland and protect wet flushes.
Vegetation	In bye pasture for sheep or cattle. Some improved grassland. Occasional marshy hollows and flushes.	
Notable species	Hare, wetland species, Lapwing, Curlew, Redshank, Snipe, Badgers, Skylark.	
Designation	Little Mearley Clough SSSI has rock layers of national importance.	
Cultural Heritage	Archaeology tends to be preserved as a result of low input agriculture.	Lack of awareness of the value of archaeology.
Built environment	Dispersed settlement: laithes and field barns. Farm buildings, outbarns, sheepfolds and boundary walls. Site of the Roman Road (Howgill Lane).	Walls deterioration and increase in cheaper fencing. Suburbanisation or move away from farming impact on built environment.
Views and inter visibility	Dramatic open views from the flanks of these hills towards the villages and the valleys of the lowlands.  Fine views of Pendle Hill and Yorkshire Dales.  To the west of Whalley, the Martholme viaduct is a key landscape feature.	High visual sensitivity  Impact of communications masts on distant views.  Caravan sites and solar farm have impacts on this landscape.
Ecosystem Services	Food production (sheep). Water supply ( Whitehead) Biodiversity interest of species rich grasslands.	Climate change could increase extreme events (incidents of wildfire particularly on grasslands).







ALBERT ST

Geograph/ Houldsworth

Spring Wood Country Park: Well visited walks and (potential) gateway to the wider countryside.



#### What should be done?

Amalgamation of farm holdings can lead to a rationalisation of field boundaries. Seek to retain the network of drystone walls, hedges and small copses.

Conserve original features of the agricultural community, vernacular buildings and use of traditional materials. Raise awareness of the distinctive features – boundary markers, earthworks and sheepfolds.

The botanical interest of some of the fields has been lost to various agricultural improvements aimed at increasing yield through two hay cuts each year. Conserve existing species rich grassland and, where possible, allow the reversion of 'improved' grassland through managing grazing (possibly through Countryside Stewardship).

Consider access improvements including maintenance/ upgrading of the present Pennine Bridleway.

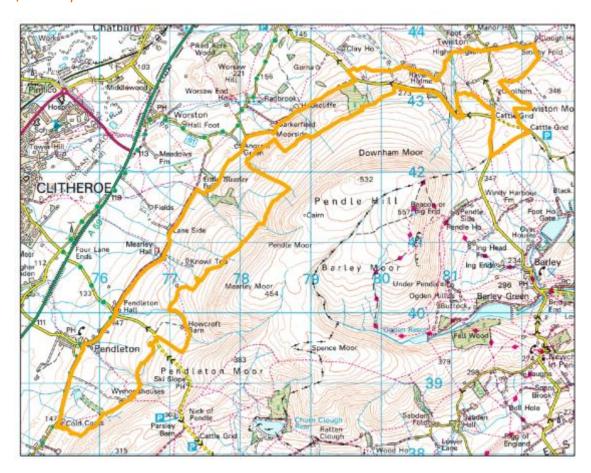
Potential for new woodland linking existing woodland fragments within the wider landscape or small field corner copses.

Consider developing Spring Wood as a gateway to the Landscape Partnership Scheme.



#### **Landscape Character Area D8: Pendleton**

Outside the village land was enclosed around isolated farmsteads from an early time as irregular fields were literally carved out of the moor. Enclosure stretched across centuries involving the exchange of strips between individuals to consolidate holdings into fewer shares. Boundaries still reflect this piecemeal enclosure.



- Patchwork of pastoral fields delineated with stone walls and hedgerows;
- The line of farmsteads and settlement following the stream line at around 200 metres is distinctive and contains historic buildings such as Little Mearley Hall.
- Dramatic views north west across the Ribble Valley encompassing Clitheroe, Waddington Fell and the nearby Worsaw Hill.
- Unimproved pasture traditionally used as in bye land for winter grazing and to supply hay in the summer
- Traffic can intrude, however the overall sense of tranquillity and remoteness is strong.
- Historic Landscape Characterisation highlights 'ancient enclosure' around Pendleton and Twiston.





**Little Mearley Clough**: The stream draining the clough has cut down through the rock strata to reveal features of considerable geological interest.

Little Mearley Clough provides excellent exposure of rock layers originally laid down during the Namurian period of geological history about 320 million years ago.

The sequence spans the entire duration of the oldest subdivision of the Namurian, named the Pendleian Stage after Pendle Hill on which this section occurs.

In recognition of the importance of this section, Little Mearley Clough has been proposed as the standard for this interval of geological time. It is thus a site of national geological importance (Natural England, 2016).

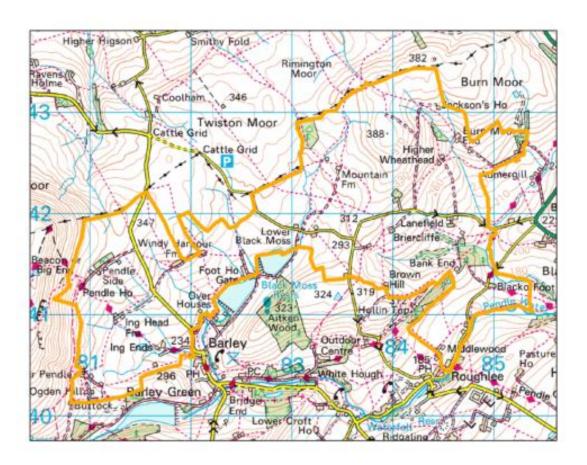


Moorside: glacial meltwater channels



#### Landscape Character Area D9: Wheathead

A landscape of steep lanes and rounded hills. The area feels remote especially around Mountain Farm on the approach to Firber House.



- Patchwork of pastoral fields delineated with stone walls and hedgerows;
- Areas of new hedgerow have been planted through agri-environment grants.
- There is extensive new woodland creation on the slopes of Wheathead Height which will radically change the eastern aspect of the hill.
- There are a number of attractive isolated farmhouses connected by narrow lanes: some of these farmhouses retain their original features; some have been suburbanised.
- Despite traffic on Black Moss Road overall sense of tranquillity and remoteness is strong;
- Dramatic views southwards towards the expanses of water within Lower Ogden and Lower Black Moss reservoirs, against a backdrop of patches of coniferous woodland.





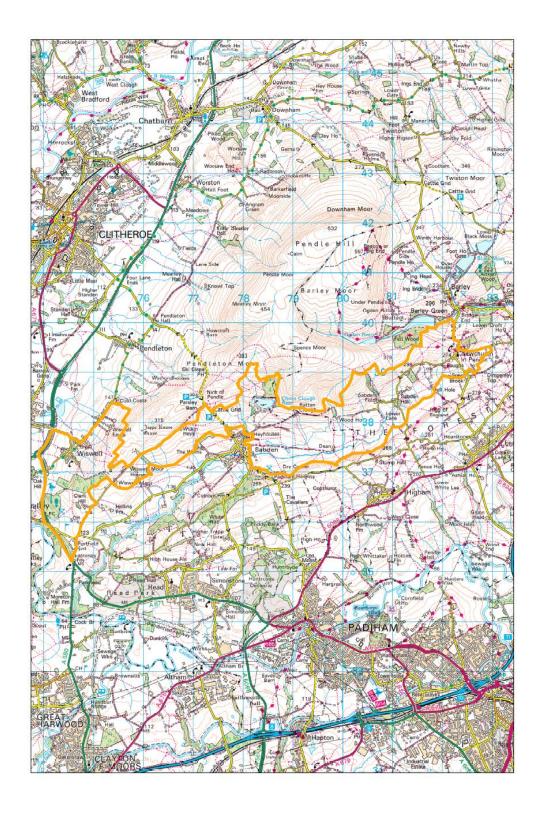
Blacko Foot: semi improved and improved grassland used as rough pasture.



Mountain Farm, Wheathead Height looking north: Extensive new woodland creation

# Landscape Character Area D12: Sabden Brook Valley

The distinctive glaciated valley that contains the Sabden Brook is a hidden gem within the area; isolated by the farmed ridge to the east.





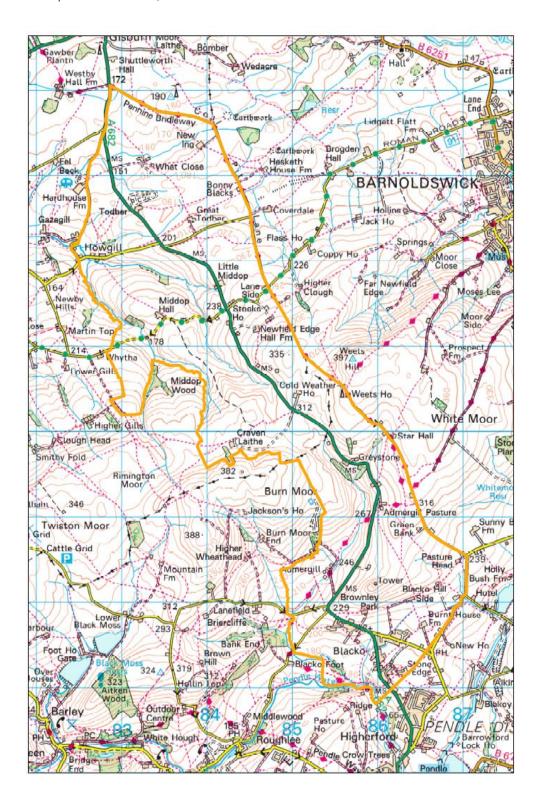
- The landscape has been defined by its medieval roots with evidence of three vaccaries located in the valley (Over Goldshaw, Nether Goldshaw and Over Roughlee);
- The village of Newchurch in Pendle, with its rows of white cottages is a feature within views across this area; as is the small settlement of Spen Brook with its mill tower, nested against the rising moorland hill backdrop with patches of coniferous woodland;
- The traditional field barn at Sabden Fold is a key landscape feature;
- The landscape is delineated by a network of drystone walls and electricity poles are also a feature in places;
- A highly textural landscape; gorse, rushes, wind-blown trees and upland stone walls all contribute to the character of this area;
- Ancient farmsteads (for example, the remains of the vaccary at Sabden Fold) and old houses are a feature of this area;
- The wide floodplain of Sabden Brook contains distinctive patchwork of both improved grassland with extensive areas of soft rush.
- The wireless mast on Wiswell Moor is a notable feature.
- Portfield Iron age hill fort occupies a strategic location on a south facing promontory overlooking the River Calder (the Whalley 'Gap'), the earthwork actually contains evidence of habitation from many different eras reflecting its strategic position above the River Calder with Roman remains discovered and in 1966 a hoard from the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC with two gold items was unearthed.



Looking across the Sabden Valley

### Landscape Character Area D16: Middop

The landscape is predominantly cloaked by a patchwork of marginal pasture fields. In the north of the area, these fields provide the transition between the higher Moorland Hills and the more open, lower drumlin fields to the east;





- Small copses of mixed woodlands punctuate the landscape and provide visual foci.
- Rounded drumlins create a distinctive rolling 'basket of eggs' topography cloaked in a patchwork of pastoral fields around Todber;
- The A682 a cross country road signposted to Kendal (45 miles away!) from Barrowford is a
  dominant feature within the landscape here with an impact in terms of noise and
  disturbance.
- The intimate valley of the Admergill Water is attractive with existing clough woodland and some more recent woodland planting.
- Within views westwards from this area, the rising mass of Pendle Hill is a dominant landscape feature, which provides instantly recognisable sense of place and orientation;
- Looking eastwards, there is a relatively strong sense of enclosure as a result of the White Moor hills.
- In the north of the area, Middop Hall has open views from an unfenced road across lower undulating farmland and drumlin landscapes;
- Occasional isolated farmsteads are dotted within this landscape, which is otherwise devoid of settlements. Admergill Hall dates from 1611 and is grade II listed.
- An enclosure to the north of Roman Road a Romano British camp from the 4th century AD exists (Bomber Camp) just outside the area.



Todber: The origin of the fields is medieval

The old turnpike road that connects the Old Gisburn Road / Coal Pit Road follows the high ground high above Admergill and the present A682. It is a high road with a strong feeling of remoteness. Cromwell would have passed this way in 1648 to meet the Scots army at Preston. The outlier Weets Hill at 397metres offers distant views to Pendle Hill.



Roman Road from Ribchester to Elslack crosses from east to west along Howgill Lane. Unfenced road and possible link to Roman Road around Howgill Hall

The current Pennine Bridleway uses this route but there are many areas which have poor drainage and are in need of maintenance.

The current Malkin Tower Farm is only one of several contenders for the Malkin Tower (or Malking Tower) that was the fateful home of the Demdikes/ Device household. Other contenders include sites in Newchurch and Barley.

The Stansfield Tower on Blacko Hill was built by local grocer, John Stansfield as his own personal viewing point. It is prominent from many directions. It is believed that Stansfield wished to view Ribblesdale from his circular tower, but if this was the case, then he would have been disappointed.

Admergill is the name of the hamlet next to Admergill Water. The land here was subject to a long standing dispute between the monastic houses of Kirkstall and Sawley (Clayton, J. 2005). The land eventually reverted to the Crown in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. There was until recently a building known as the monastery next to Admergill Hall and evidence that the land around was managed as a former grange and/or vaccary. The present building dates back to 1611; however the origins of the settlement go back much further.

The name Admergill possibly relates to the Saxon Eadmer. Eadmer's (or Aedmer's) Mount a little to the west is on an old route linking Roughlee and is a low but elevated mound in the middle of a field surrounded by a ring-work defensive ditch. The mound is more or less flat topped measuring 100 feet in diameter.



The Old Gisburn Road: a strong feeling of remoteness.





The view from Weets Hill to Pendle Hill.

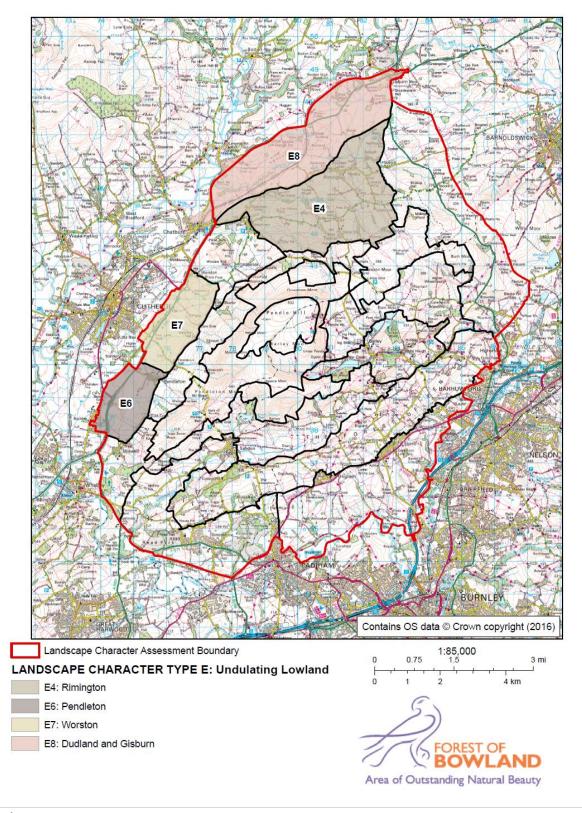


Coal Pit Lane (Pennine Bridleway)



## **E: UNDULATING FARMLAND**

This enclosed landscape comprises a rich patchwork of pastures, mixed farm woodlands, copses, hedgerows and scattered picturesque villages.



The rising mass of Pendle Hill provides a strong sense of enclosure and recognisable sense of place. Field boundaries are predominantly lined with hedgerows, which often contain hedgerow trees and provide an intermittent sense of enclosure.

Overall, visual sensitivity is considered to be moderate. In places, woodland and hedgerows limit views. However the cultural and historic features are sensitive to inappropriate change.

There are some large modern residential developments and ancillary buildings around Rimington and Newby that create a visual impact.

The A59 has a visual impact and source of noise.

These have been areas where dairy farming has traditionally dominated. With the financial pressure on dairy farms there has been further intensification and amalgamation with an impact on field boundaries and a potential loss of botanical interest in pasture.

#### **Key Characteristics**

- Open views towards the Unenclosed and Enclosed Moorland Hills, and the Moorland Plateaux Landscape Character Types.
- Many mixed farm woodlands, copses and hedgerow trees.
- Intricate tapestry of grazed fields.
- A patchwork of wood and pasture when viewed from the fells.
- The value of streams, hedgerows and mature trees as potential visual and ecological corridors linking Botanical Heritage Sites is of key importance.



Rimington



### Why is this landscape distinctive?

- With their deep soils around the River Ribble, these areas were amongst the first to be settled and the network of farms, villages linked by deep hollow ways remain today. Much of what can be seen in the patchwork of fields is medieval in date. During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries there was a period of agricultural intensification with lime imported to the area or where present lime kilns created lime for local supply.
- Lead mines from the 17<sup>th</sup> century are of national significance.



David Kitching/ Geograph

South of Rimington are surface remains of silver, lead and barytes mines. With at least 25 individual features dating back as far as the 1660s and including later remains of a possible cog-and-rung gin and 'clamp' limekilns these remains are of national significance.



	E UNDULATING LOWLAND FA	ARMLAND
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Limestone and grit overlain by deep boulder	-
<i>3,</i>	clay deposits	
Elevation	Largely less than 150 metres	
Topography	Gentle topography in contrast to the fells.	
Pedology	Heavy boulder clays deposited by glacial	
	action.	
Vegetation	Pasture – agricultural improved.	Most pasture is improved.
	Copses	Lack of botanical interest.
		Occasional wet flushes are
		worthy of conservation.
Notable	Brown Hare, Lapwing, Skylark, Lesser	
Species	Spotted Woodpecker, Cuckoo, Willow	
- Species	Warbler,	
Management	Pasture – dairy and beef.	
Designation	Some of the valley features are Biological	
	Heritage Sites	
Cultural	Quarries and mines including silver and lead	Lead mines are of national
Heritage	from the 16th century south of Rimington.	significance.
	Traditional features including boundary	
	markers and old highway signs.	
Built	Nucleated villages with strong stone built	Loss of local distinctiveness
environment	terraces, built around the chapel and church.	and materials in built environment.
	Stone walls, stone bridges. Small lime kilns	environment.
	Estate railings	Introduction of red brick into
	Listate rannigo	what were stone villages.
		'Suburbanisation' of the
		villages.
Views and	Strong inter visibility with the higher	Conserve views of other
inter	landscapes, unenclosed and enclosed	character types and awareness
visibility	moorland hills and moorland plateau of	of the need to retain rural
	Pendle Hill.	setting of existing villages.
	The A59 and railway intrude into this area.	
Ecosystem	The hedgerows and copses are of importance	
Services	as networks and 'ecological corridors' within	
Services	largely improved grasslands.	
	Dairy is key to this land use (i.e. the	
	importance of food production).	
Pressures	A decline in mature hedges and hedgerow	Chalara and loss of ash trees
	trees.	could have a significant impact
	Uncertain future for dairy farming.	on these landscapes.
	Highway improvements and service provision	
	Potential new development (wind turbines,	
	solar farms, caravan parks, road haulage).	



Potential new residential development on the	
edge of existing villages affecting the rural	
setting of villages.	

#### What should be done?

Celebrate the vernacular architecture and use of local materials in the built environment. Encourage the retention and restoration of historic and vernacular building materials and details and the careful design of new buildings.

Raise awareness and conserve distinctive features – i.e. the sites of mines at Rimington and the limekiln on Twiston Lane.

Retain the corridor of hedges, woodland and mature trees through management. The role of hedgerows and small streams as an ecological network could be enhanced further through the creation of buffer strips linking existing Biological Heritage Sites.

Create new opportunities for woodland creation (field corners, copses).

The network of lanes, together with the rich roadside verges should be maintained and enhanced.

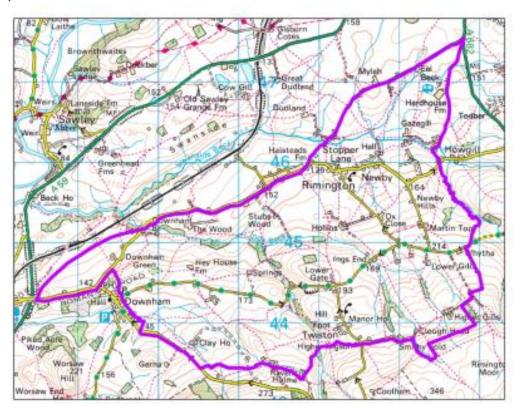


Newfield Barn near Downham: Utilitarian agricultural buildings framed by mature trees (ash and sycamore) are attractive elements of the landscape.



### **Landscape Character Area E4: Rimington**

The rising mass of Pendle Hill provides a strong sense of enclosure and recognisable sense of place within views southwards from this area of undulating, predominantly pastoral farmland. A network of valleys with some local Biological Heritage Sites and networks of woodland create an intricate landscape.



- Looking northwards across the area there is a greater sense of openness, resulting from views into the gently meandering corridor of the River Ribble to the north;
- Landscape pattern comprises a patchwork of relatively small, regular and irregular fields, which are divided by a network of hedgerows and drystone walls with an enclosed feel.
- Mature deciduous trees, both within fields and hedgerow boundaries create texture within the landscape and are striking landscape features;
- The landscape is crossed by a network of narrow rural lanes, which provide access to the small, traditional linear hamlets of Rimington and Newby, in addition to occasional scattered farmsteads.
- Salem Chapel, Martin Top simple congregational chapel. In the centre of the facade is a sundial tablet inscribed 'Time flies swift away.'
- In contrast to Downham, many of the original features in Rimington have been diluted by more recent housing and use of brick and other materials that look out of place in the context of the area. By contrast the more dispersed settlement around Twiston contains some of the oldest buildings in the area.
- The 'lost' section of Roman road from Downham to Howgill runs through this area.
- The surface remains of the silver and lead mines at Rimington are of possible national importance.





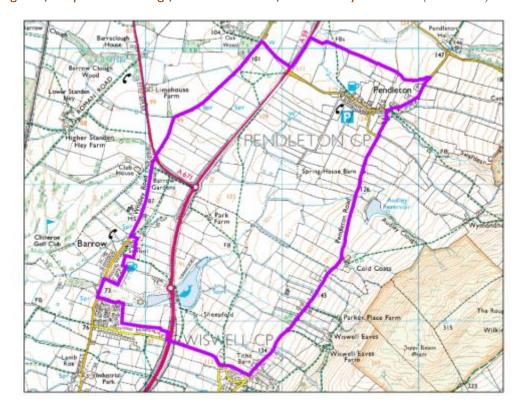
The network of fields and hedges with the backdrop of Pendle Hill



Winding lanes lined by hedgerows and mature trees are a key feature of this landscape.

### Landscape Character Area E6: Pendleton

This Landscape Character Area is situated outside the boundary of the AONB, like Rimington, it is an area of undulating lowland farmland, however its landscape feels and looks quite different with more regular field patterns dating from a later era of 17<sup>th</sup> century enclosure (1618-19).



- This area encompasses a distinctive pattern of narrow, linear pastoral fields, the pattern of which extends from the adjacent moorland fringe at the eastern edge of Pendle Hill;
- These fields are lined with a network of hedgerows which often contain hedgerow trees. These corridors of vegetation create texture and visual interest within the landscape; although there has been a loss of hedgerow and mature trees leading to a loss of character.
- To the east, the instantly recognisable profile of Pendle Hill contributes to recognisable sense of place;
- The small, linear village of Pendleton, with its rows of traditional stone-built terraces provides the main settlement within this landscape;
- Several minor rural roads run east-west across the landscape, connecting Pendle Hill and other settlements to the south and east, with the town of Clitheroe to the northwest;
- The sense of tranquillity within this area is greatly disturbed by its proximity to the A59 main road corridor to the northwest and Pendleton Road to the southeast;
- Views of the urban edge of Clitheroe are also characteristic of views northwards across this landscape.





The attractive village of Pendleton with buildings of different styles and ages: the estate fencing is a feature of the village.



Fields south of Pendleton: evidence in decline of field boundaries.



### Landscape Character Area E8: Dudland and Gisburn

Situated immediately to the south of the Ribble Valley corridor, this area contains a series of meandering narrow stream corridors (becks and sykes), which feed the main river. In places these are lined with belts of mature deciduous woodland, which highlight the corridors as features within the surrounding patchwork of pastoral fields;



- Views into and across the Ribble Valley, whilst Pendle Hill, to the south, provides a distant sense of enclosure;
- Field boundaries are predominantly lined with hedgerows, which often contain hedgerow
  trees and provide an intermittent sense of enclosure some very neglected around Dudland
  and south west of Gisburn;
- Area associated with the monastic grange of the nearby Sawley Abbey.
- At the eastern end of the area, the medium-sized linear village of Gisburn, situated at the junction of the A682, A62 and A59 main road corridors, contains an assortment of traditional stone and white painted buildings;
- Cattle market of regional importance;
- Home of the Lister family, Gisburne Park is a fine 18th century country house and parkland to the north of this area. The entrance is particularly ornate.
- Within the remainder of this area, settlement pattern is dispersed;
- Sense of tranquillity is greatly disturbed within the main A59 road corridor which crosses the landscape contrast with more tranquil Rimington lanes;
- The railway and its associated embankments bisect this area



John Darch/ Geograph





Swanside Beck: 17th century grade II listed packhorse bridge

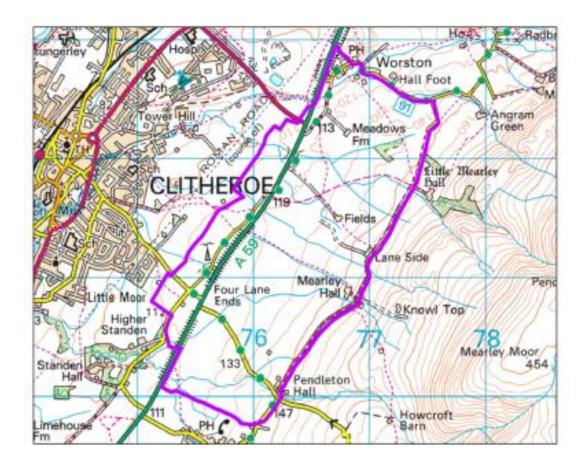
Swanside Laithe



**Dudland Hollins** 

## Landscape Character Area E7: Worston

The patchwork of regularly shaped pastoral fields are lined with a network of hedgerows, which often contain hedgerow trees — these features are in parts neglected and in need of management.



- In views north-westwards from this area, the urban edge of Clitheroe is a recognisable feature, set against the rising backdrop of Pendle Hill;
- Sense of tranquillity within this area is greatly disturbed by its proximity to the A59 main road corridor to the northwest and Pendleton Road to the southeast;
- Within views south-eastwards from the area, the dramatic profile of Pendle Hill contributes to recognisable sense of place and orientation;
- The small, traditional linear village of Worston, in addition to one isolated farmstead, is the only settlement within the area.
- Buildings (i.e. Castle cement works and chimney) associated with the industrial quarries between Chatburn and Clitheroe are dominant within views westwards.





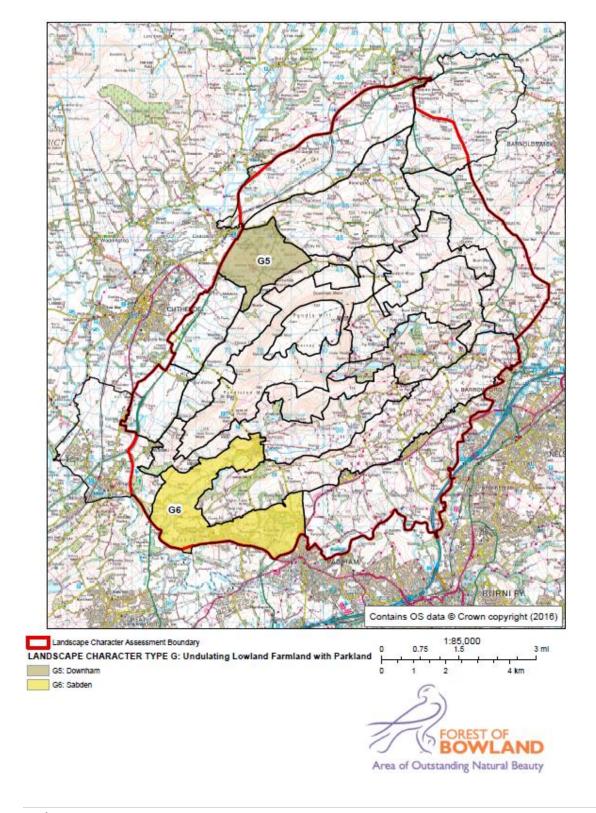
David Kitching/ Geograph

Little Mearley Hall under the escarpment of Pendle Hill about half a mile to the north of Mearley Hall on what Dr. Whitaker called a 'lingula of land formed by the rocky channels of two torrents'.

It is now a farm-house but retains some of its 17<sup>th</sup> century features.

### G: UNDULATING LOWLAND FARMLAND WITH PARKLAND

Mature parkland trees and other ornamental designed landscape features contribute to the 'designed' estate character. Gently undulating topography. Remnant boundaries of former parkland are also visible features.



In landscape terms the relatively recent development of 'designed' landscapes dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and is related to the relative prosperity generated in the neighbouring mill towns of East Lancashire and the consequent development of the country houses and estates.

George Webster (1797- 1864) a popular architect practicing in the north west and influenced by Greek and Gothic revivals of the 19<sup>th</sup> century designed both Read and Downham Halls. Formal gardens with lawns, plantations and fishponds can be found in the project area at Downham, Read and Huntroyde. However the appreciation of a 'romantic' landscape became fashionable.

Beyond these features the impact on the wider countryside is significant within the wider estate; tenanted under 'model farms' developed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. For example, the Read Estate compromised of 22 farms. Coverts for shooting, woodland shelter belts and planted avenues also ensured significant areas of woodland (over 100 hectares) within this area which contrast with the rest of the project area. Much of this existing woodland has significant areas of Rhododendron (a feature of designed landscapes) which tend to dominate and would benefit from control.



Read Hall: Single parkland trees and pasture



#### **Key Characteristics**

- Mature parkland trees, avenues and hedgerows and other ornamental designed landscape features contribute to the 'designed' estate character.
- Gently undulating topography.
- Remnant boundaries of former parkland are also visible features. Patches of deciduous
  woodland and single mature deciduous field trees contribute to an intermittent sense of
  enclosure within views across this landscape;



The view from Worsaw Hill: Worsaw Hill is a distinctive limestone outcrop (reef knoll) at 221 metres with views across the Ribble Valley, the surrounding parkland and to Pendle Hill.

### Why is this landscape distinctive?

Designed landscapes have both a historical and biological interest. This area contains the most significant areas of woodland.

These 'designed' landscapes contain built structures, 'eyecatchers' and gatehouses that are of architectural interest.

The 'reef knolls' and associated road cutting are important sites for the study of the Carboniferous period.



GU	NDULATING LOWLAND FARMLAND V	
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Millstone grit, shale and limestone. Distinctive limestone outcrops at Downham (Clitheroe Reef Knolls).	
Elevation	Less than 150 metres with occasional hills i.e. the distinctive Worsaw Hill (221 metres)	
Topography	Low lying and gently rolling valleys.	
Pedology	Glacial drift, limestone outcrops.	
Vegetation	Farmland with extensive specimen trees, woodland as well as designed landscapes of pasture and ornamental planting.  Hedge, flushes and fen are also present.	Parkland trees are reaching maturity. Covets would benefit from woodland management. Invasive species including Himalayan balsam present especially around watercourses. Hedges tend not to be managed.
Management	Formal parkland and agricultural pasture.	
Designation	Downham: Clitheroe Reef Knolls SSSI.  Developed during the Chadian Stage in the Craven Basin, the nature and origins of the reefs have always been matters of controversy.	The 'knolls' and associated road cutting are important sites for the study of the Carboniferous period.
Cultural Heritage	It is likely these areas were amongst the earliest to be settled; yet as a result of cultivation and development little remains from these eras.	Features: avenues, estate fencing, ornamental planting and woodland date from the 19th century.  Bronze Age burial mound on Worsaw Hill
Built environment	Country Houses are a feature of this landscape.  Downham Hall dates from 1835 designed by George Webster.  Read Hall dates from 1818.  The Estate Village of Downham is attractive with many listed buildings.	
Views and inter visibility	Views are intimate and formal in contrast to the rest of the project area.  Worsaw Hill is a significant viewpoint.  The view down the main street in Downham is a classic view of Pendle Hill.	The view from Downham has been 'preserved' by the actions of the estate to prevent intrusions (i.e. telegraph poles, satellite dishes).



Pressures	Potential impacts of development (residential	
	or leisure ) on parkland features ( i.e. golf	
	courses)	

#### What should be done?

Raise awareness of designed landscapes and conserve distinctive features such as the gateway features, eye catchers and estate fencing at Huntroyde.

Consider the impact of amalgamation of landholdings with particular reference to the dairy industry and potential impact of new agricultural buildings.

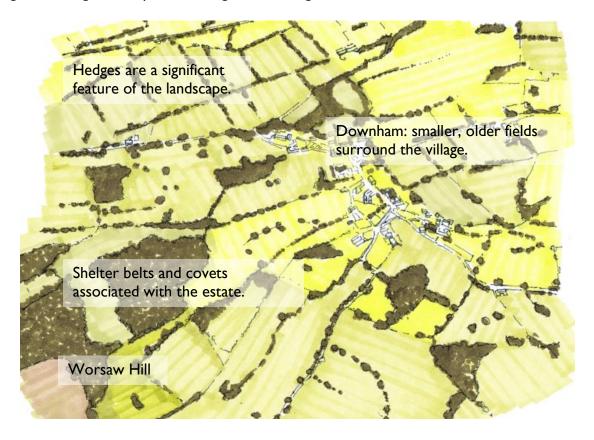
Conserve or restore neglected landscape features in designed parkland especially veteran trees, avenues and plantation. In particular, consider succession planning for those trees (i.e. Beech) reaching maturity and consider the potential impact of Chalara or Ash dieback.

Patches of mature deciduous woodland and single parkland trees in fields and lining water courses should be conserved. Retain the corridor of hedges, woodland and mature trees through management as an ecological network.

Control invasive species (Rhododendron, Himalayan Balsam) within woodland in an effort to promote regeneration and native ground flora species.

Create new opportunities for woodland creation (field corners, copses).

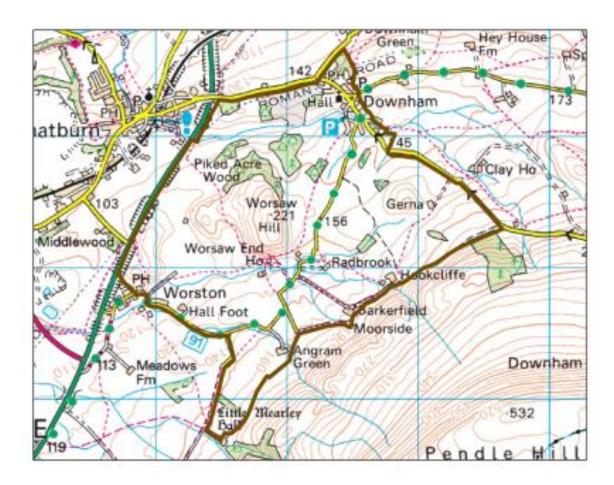
Encourage the retention and sensitive restoration of historic buildings through the planning regime. Manage the impact of changes in building use,





### Landscape Character Area G5: Downham

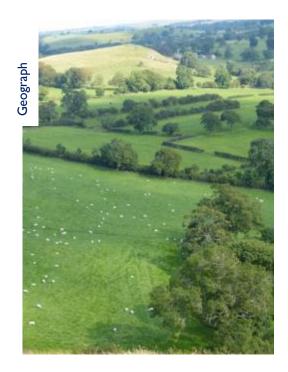
In the ownership of the Assheton Family since the 16<sup>th</sup> Century – this landscape is marked by continuity. This is particularly the case in Downham Village where restrictions on building materials and infrastructure including telegraph poles create a classic view of Pendle Hill. Parkland features include estate walls and frequent copses on limestone reef knolls between Worston and Twiston;



- The linear estate village of Downham, with its strongly recognisable sense of place, resulting from the combination of stone buildings, bridges and the church is a key feature within several views across this area.
- Dramatic, open views southwards towards moorland on Pendle Hill;
- Open views northwards across the wide valley of the River Ribble;
- Patchwork of pasture fields lined with stone walls and mixed hedgerows and interspersed with mature deciduous hedgerow trees;
- Relatively tall, estate style, predominantly limestone walls are also a feature, lining some of the minor road corridors; in other places, mixed hedgerows line road corridors.
- Traditional stone field barns are a feature in places (for example at the side of Twiston Lane);
- Lime kilns and quarries are also visible landscape features;
- Distinctive feature of hills which rise from the landscape (Worsaw, Warren & Gerna Hill).







The village of Downham is almost unique in its setting, its iconic view of Pendle Hill and its buildings, many of which are listed. Without telegraph poles, satellite dishes, it has become a popular venue for filming

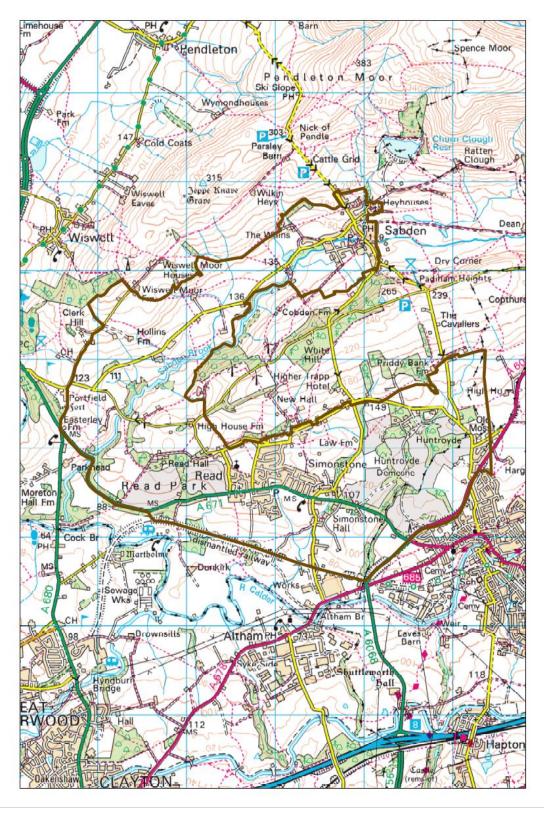


Worsaw Hill: Shelter belts and covets associated with the estate frame views within this landscape.



### Landscape Character Area G6: Sabden Valley & designed landscapes of Huntroyde and Read

Designed landscapes, such as Huntroyde and Read Park, are important locally to the visual and cultural qualities of this character area; they also contribute an important wooded element to the landscape.





There have been mills in Sabden since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. "Extensive factory and print grounds of Messrs Miller, Burys & Co" Britton mentioned the remoteness of the site, and that the owners had built a company shop and chapel for the employees (Britton, 1801). The water quality in the valley suited the calico printing industry and printworks developed along Sabden Brook. At one stage there were seven mills in the village employing over 2,000 people. The last mill closed in 1931 (Moorhouse, C. 1978)

The Hall at Read dates from 1818/25 and was designed by the architect George Webster of Kendal. The commission was for John Fort who was a wealthy partner in a Sabden Calico printing firm. Traditionally the home of the Nowell family since 1384, it was Roger Nowell who as a magistrate sent the Pendle 'witches' to trial. Read Park's landscape was developed in the early-19th century. Features of the landscape include a waterfall, lower and upper lake, parkland and woodland. There is also a rockery, rose garden and terrace. On the front lawn, there is a fountain and gardens, which total 10 hectares. The estate at Huntroyde Demesne with its shelter belts and veteran oak trees is still managed in hand for shooting.

The road between Whalley and Padiham has always been a major route of passage predating the current turnpike. In the Civil War it was briefly the front line between Parliament and the Crown with a small force of only 400 repulsing the Earl of Derby and his 4,000 men at Old Read Bridge in April 1643.

At Huntroyde the manor house dated from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century was rebuilt in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and partially demolished after WW2. After 1945 most of the estate was sold. The ha-ha, yew walk and walled garden remain which now a nursery.

- The relatively wide corridor of the Lower Sabden Brook which is lined by patches of mature woodland is a significant landscape feature;
- Sabden is a traditional village with attractive mills; nestled at the foot of Pendle Hill, it encompasses a combination of traditional buildings and more modern buildings;
- Views northwards are dominated by the dramatic backdrop of Pendle Hill with its distinctive profile;
- Read Park designed landscape and deer park.
- A network of hedgerows line field boundaries and drystone walls;
- Mature single deciduous trees are also a feature of this landscape which contribute to landscape pattern;
- B roads and minor road corridors which cross the area are lined with a combination of stone walls, estate fencing and hedgerows;
- Red painted gates are a key feature of farms on the Huntroyde Estate at Sabden.
- There is evidence of the industrial heritage of this area, including mills and terraces;







Huntroyde towards Priddy Bank Farm: wooded and designed parkland.



Huntroyde gatehouse known as Arbory Lodge (1790)





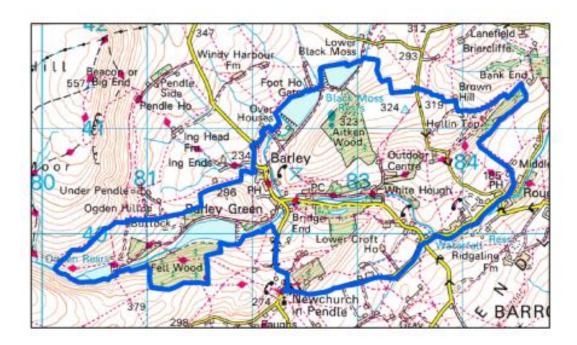
Sabden, a traditional mill town set within a remote valley, workers to the calico printworks might walk miles to work in the town often across the farmed ridges to the east.



Union Mill, Sabden

### **M2: FORESTRY AND RESERVOIR: BARLEY**

Once rolling upland farmland, human interventions of forestry and water supply now dominate these landscapes; although there are also large areas of pastoral fields and small patches of broadleaved woodland. Open water is present in this project area.



Barley, known as Barelegh in 1324, means the infertile lea or meadow. There was a small mill at Narrowgates and one at Barley Green, which is now the site of the water treatment plant. At its height Barley Green Mill worked 200 looms, until floods destroyed the building in 1880. A cotton twist mill at Narrowgates was built by William Hartley to spin cotton warp thread.

The small, linear village of Roughlee at the eastern edge of the area encompasses traditional gritstone cottages and terraces. Roughlee Old Hall was reputed to be the home of Alice Nutter. There was a corn mill here from 1598 and later spinning mills but its influence was eclipsed by Barrowford and Nelson by the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the rural nature of the landscape was transformed by the appropriation of significant land to supply water for the growing industrial towns of East Lancashire. water bodies



#### **Key Characteristics**

- Landscape pattern is dominated by a pattern of small reservoirs (including Upper and Lower Black Moss and Lower Ogden) and regular-edged blocks of coniferous plantation woodland, which overlay a pattern of pastoral fields;
- Smooth, pasture fields extend to the edges of the reservoirs;
- The network of minor road corridors that cross this landscape are often lined with stone walls:
- The dramatic valley of Ogden Clough is a striking landscape feature to the north of Barley although largely invisible from the village.
- Expanses of open water are a feature of this area.



Barley: Plantation woodland is the backdrop to this landscape.

#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

- A utilitarian landscape driven by the 19th and 20th century needs of our town and cities namely for textiles, timber and water
- The structures relating to the water supply industry are industrial archaeological features worthy of conservation.
- This area has accommodated day trips from the milltowns for over a century and continues to attract visitors today for active recreation or just to relax.



	M2 FORESTRY AND RESRVOIR : BARLEY	
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Underlying sandstone softened by the effects of glacial gravels	
Elevation	320 to 180 metres	
Topography	The combined presence of sandstones and limestone has created a gentle landscape of rolling hills.	
Pedology	Clay deposits, occasional rock outcrops.	
Vegetation	Broadleaved woodland at Boothman Wood and numerous conifer plantations.	Potential to reduce dominance of conifer and replant with native broadleaved woodland. New planting should respect existing topography.
Species	Goldcrest, Nuthatch, Coal Tit & Siskin can be found in the dense canopy of plantation woodland.	Redstart and pied flycatcher are occasional visitors. Numbers would increase in broad leaved woodland.
Management	Management by utility companies for forestry and water supply. Grazing.	
Designation	None	
Cultural Heritage	Reservoir structures of dams, spillways and ancillary buildings.  Relic farmsteads and buildings pre-date the water supply function of the area.	Potential for community archaeology based on the media interest generated from relic farmhouses.  The story of navvies.
	Roughlee Old Hall is associated with Alice Nutter and the Pendle witch story.  The Clarion hut is one of the last remaining buildings of its type of significant local and national interest.	The story of havvies.
Built	Barley and Roughlee are attractive Lancashire	Note unsympathetic residential
environment	villages. Note traditional Weavers cottages. Roughlee Old Hall is a fine 16 <sup>th</sup> century building	development next to Roughlee Old Hall.
Views and inter visibility	Open views towards Pendle Hill to the north provide recognisable sense of place; Pendle Hill is a dominant backdrop to Barley.	
Services	Water supply is important within this landscape and water quality is critical – land management can assist i.e. reducing nitrate run off from agricultural activities and reducing the extent of dissolved organic carbon.	
Pressures	The area receives significant visitors indeed Barley in particular is a popular 'honeypot site'	See visitor management plan.



with a well patronised café, car park and toilet facilities.

#### What should be done?

Potential to restock existing plantations with more native species and re-design woodland compartments to be sympathetic with the existing topography.

Potential for new woodland whether as new clough woodland or linking existing woodland fragments within the wider landscape or small field corner copses.

Conserve the network of lanes, hedgerows and drystone walls which contribute to a diverse landscape pattern.

Celebrate and conserve traditional local features i.e. boundary walls, limekilns, sheepfolds, etc.

Barley Car Park is a very busy gateway site to the area. There can be parking issues on busy days with parked cars throughout the village. Investment in heavily used paths such as from Barley to Pendle Hill.



The narrow valley of Pendle Water: The reservoirs and woodland blocks are instantly recognisable landscape features





The Clarion House: Developed by Nelson Independent Labour Party in 1912, the Clarion House was part of a national movement to promote a socialist society. It was built as both a retreat and to inspire new generations. It is still used by the community and is proud of its radical past. ('Clarion' means to loudly proclaim).

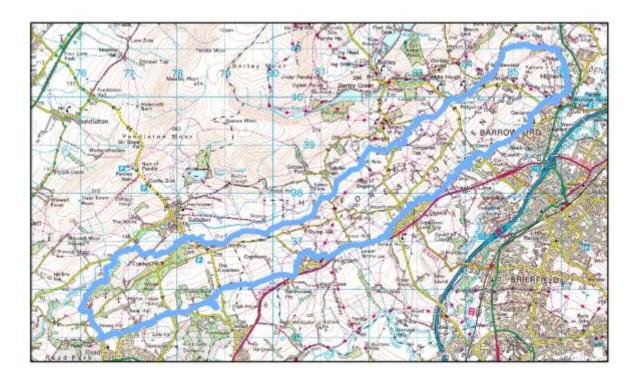


Car Park and café at Barley: The starting point for most walkers to Pendle Hill and a popular destination



# **N2: FARMED RIDGES: THE HEIGHTS**

A unique ridge that offers dramatic views. Views southwards and eastwards across the lush, improved pastures of the Calder Valley, with a network of hedgerows and post and wire fences on the lower slopes towards urban areas of Barrowford and Colne to the southeast are open and panoramic. Views northwards towards moorland on Pendle Hill provide a dramatic backdrop;



#### **Key Characteristics**

- Low stone walls often delineate field boundaries.
- The road on the summit is narrow and enclosed.
- Settlement pattern of isolated stone farmsteads often modernised/ suburbanised.
- Rounded ridge profiles with gritstone outcrops.
- Panoramic views southwards across the East Lancashire valleys to the South Pennines, for example, Black Hill;
- Open views across the glaciated U-shaped valley of Sabden Brook, which is lined with patches of mature trees. Stronger sense of openness to the east of Sabden;
- Neglected boundaries and rough grazing.



# Why is this landscape distinctive?

Although not as prominent as Pendle the ridge is distinctive in its own right and creates a sense of enclosure to the Sabden Brook valley to the west.

Black Hill offers extensive views to the south over East Lancashire and to the north to Pendle Hill.

The ridge has a history of forestry and quarrying.

The enclosed, wooded southern side of the ridge provides the setting to the village of Sabden



Rough grazing and steep escarpments of the farmed ridge

N2 FARMED RIDGES		
Subject	Description	Challenges
Geology	Harder gritstone outcrops modified and smoothed by glacial action.	
Elevation	140 to 230 metres	
Topography	The ridge is narrow and steep and creates a sense of enclosure for the Sabden Valley.	
Pedology	Largely boulder clays.	
Vegetation	Improved and semi improved grassland with areas of soft rush.  Rough scrub, gorse and rough grassland is the predominant land cover;	Many of the field boundaries (particularly the hedgerows are of a poor quality).
Management	Rough grazing	
Cultural Heritage	St Chad's Well was visited by the 7th century saint according to local legend.  The ridge road was a 'pilgrim's route' to Whalley Abbey.	
Built environment	Isolated farmhouses are a key feature of this landscape.	Prominent communications mast.
Views and inter visibility	The elevated nature of the ridges and the excellent views of the valleys and East Lancashire.	
Pressures	The narrow roads between Sabden and Padiham carry significant traffic.	The car park at Black Hill is in a poor state of repair.



#### What should be done?

Black Hill car park is in a poor state of repair in need of investment.

Many of the boundaries are in poor state of repair. Hedgerows are gappy and tend to be replaced by post and wire fencing.

Seek to retain the network of lanes, drystone walls, hedge and small copses.

The botanical interest of some of the fields has been lost to various agricultural improvements.

Conserve existing species rich grassland and, where possible, allow the reversion of 'improved' grassland through managing grazing.

Potential for new woodland linking existing woodland fragments within the wider landscape or small field corner copses.



The elevated nature of the ridges gives excellent views of the valleys and East Lancashire.



The view from the 'Ridge' across the Sabden Valley towards Stainscomb & Spense Moor through to Newchurch

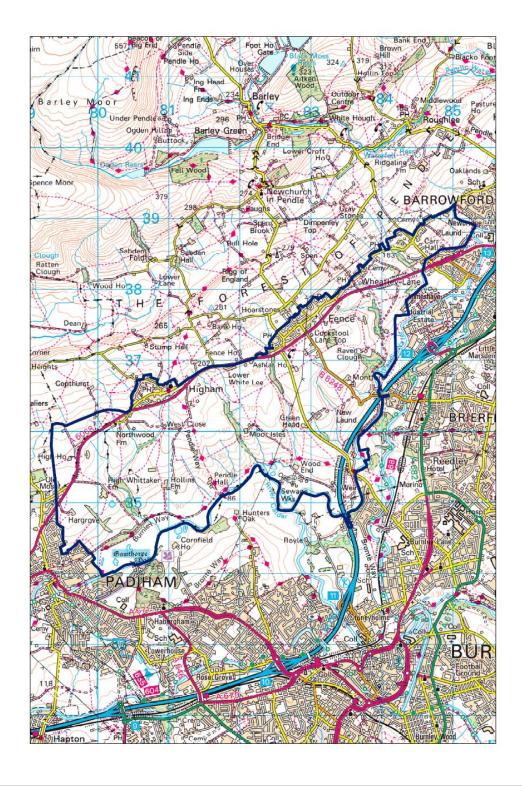


The view from the 'Ridge' up Sabden Brook across Newchurch to Saddlers Height



# **OI: INDUSTRIAL FOOTHILLS AND VALLEYS: CALDER VALLEY**

The Industrial Foothills and Valleys are a complex transitional landscape of relatively small scale with intensive settlement. This landscape character area encompasses the landscape of the broad valley of the River Calder outside the urban settlements.





## **Key characteristics**

An area defined by the River Calder to the south and the gentler contours to the north before the harsher landscape of the 'farmed ridges.' The area has a gentler landform and varied vegetation cover than that of the nearby higher ground. The area has undergone significant change with quarrying, open cast mining and critical infrastructure (sewage works and the M65 occupying the flood plain).

- Mostly improved pastures utilised for dairy farming as well as sheep grazing.
- Frequently hedgerows and post and wire fencing are the common features on the lower slopes and valley bottom.
- The landscape is well populated; there are many houses, footpaths and large farms.
- Larger farmhouses (usually on the site of earlier houses that are a feature of the landscape).
- The historic village of Higham and the greatly expanded village of Fence are prominent, particularly more recent residential developments on the edge of the settlements which tend to dominate the long distance views.
- The urban fringes of Colne, Nelson and Burnley exert an influence over the landscape; close to the urban edge there are pockets of neglected land and urban fringe land uses such as horse paddocks and retail or industrial buildings.
- Linear cloughs (partially wooded) run north west to south east to the Pendle Water and the River Calder.
- The River Calder is substantially altered from its original course and not connected to its original floodplain.
- The area is defined by its southern boundary at the River Calder (with fine views across to Gawthorpe Hall) and at its northern boundary where the steeper slopes of the Farmed Ridges north of Higham and Fence.



eograph

Near High Whittaker Farm looking towards the Calder Valley, extensive fields and a lack of field boundaries create open, panoramic views.



Note: The influence of the former mill towns of Padiham and Barrowford are key to the area. Their influence is noted below. It is not possible to adequately reference the built environment features in this report (see Padiham Heritage appraisal, Burnley Borough Council, 2007).

With its origins as a small settlement overlooking the River Calder, Padiham is first mentioned in 1294 (Padyngham). Padiham's development is based on the three pillars of 19<sup>th</sup> century urban growth in East Lancashire, namely, cotton, coal and engineering. The town has a long association with the Shuttleworth Family.

Gawthorpe Hall on the south bank of the River Calder is jointly managed by the National Trust and Lancashire County Council. It was originally a medieval peel tower built to be defended from Scots invaders. It was substantially altered by Sir Charles Barry in the 1850s. Barry is the architect famously associated with the rebuilding of the Houses of Parliament.

Higham is the traditional heart of the Forest of Pendle with Higham Hall being the site of the court where the De Laceys would send their representative every year to take payments. The current hall is 17<sup>th</sup> century however there has been a Hall here since at least 1327. The attractive village still has many original features such as the pinfold and the 'spout' (natural spring). Higham had a colliery from 1912 to 1930 and the Fir Trees Drift Mine was worked until 1966.

Barrowford, where the Pendle Water meets the Calder represents the historical bridging point over the rivers. The Toll House from the 1804 Turnpike Road to Gisburn still occupies a prominent position. The town's development was associated with textiles with the last vestige of that industry (the East Lancashire Towel Company) departing as recently as around ten years ago.

#### Why is this landscape distinctive?

The landscape here is substantially altered, not only through the loss of field boundaries and original landscape elements but through quarrying (Padiham quarry was operational throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century) and coal whether this was part of the collieries (there is a history of coal mining in Padiham since the 17<sup>th</sup> century) or more recently open cast mining both here and at West Close, Higham.

The River Calder is substantially altered from its natural course (in part to accommodate for open cast coal mining). These works not only altered the course of the river but disconnected it from its floodplain.





Pendle Hall, substantial farmhouse set within the gentle escarpment of the River Calder.



**Grove Lane** 



OI: INDUSTRIAL FOOTHILLS AND VALLEYS: CALDER VALLEY			
Subject		Challanges	
Subject	Description	Challenges	
Geology	Millstone grit, shale and limestone.		
Elevation	Less than 150 metres		
Topography	Low lying and gently rolling valley escarpment		
1 opogrupny	and low lying flood plain.		
	Occasional wooded clough i.e. Moor Isles,		
	Spurn, Old Laund & Ravens Cloughs.		
Pedology	Glacial till with areas of former quarry		
	(Padiham) and worked land associated with		
	open cast coal mining.		
Vegetation	Farmland pasture with copses and hedgerow	There has been substantial	
	features.	amalgamation of fields in the	
	Occasional plantation (Grove Lane)	past.	
	Clough woodlands (Biological Heritage Sites)		
	are a defining feature in the landscape, here.	Hedges and boundaries tend	
Managamant	Hedge, flushes and fen are also present.	to be poorly managed.  Woodland creation	
Management	Agricultural pasture for sheep and diary.		
	Former elements of Estates are scant.	opportunities.  Management of existing	
	Torrier elements of Estates are scart.	plantations and woodland	
	Degraded/ derelict land.	cloughs (some of this work	
	<b>6</b>	was carried out as part of the	
	The training ground for Burnley Football Club.	Forest of Burnley project).	
Cultural	Links to the designed landscape of Gawthorpe	Opportunities to research and	
Heritage	(across the River Calder) and the Manor of	undertake restoration of	
	Ightenhill although little remains of the latter.	Estate features.	
	Individual features such as the medieval		
	Pinfold at Higham (enclosure kept to retain		
	stray stock).		
	There is the small family run Woodend Coal		
	Mining Museum based on the colliery (1912-		
	1959).		
Built	Substantial farmhouses within the area (High		
environment	Whitaker Farm, Hargrove, Pendle Hall, Moor		
	Isles Farm). The more recent buildings occupy		
	the site of earlier buildings.		
	Higham & fence are old settlements. Higham		
	Hall was the site of the court of the Forest of		
	Pendle.  Rarrowford and Padiham (outside the project		
	Barrowford and Padiham (outside the project area) are industrial villages.		
Views and	Significant views across the Calder to the	Substantial intrusion into the	
inter visibility	parkland surrounding Gawthorpe Hall.	floodplain by infrastructure	
,		(the M65 motorway or the	
		sewage farm)	
Pressures	Potential impacts of development (residential		
	or infrastructure)		



#### What should be done?

The wide open nature of much of the landscape here could accommodate extensive woodland creation. Such planting could link and buffer the existing woodland within woodland cloughs. This would have to be strongly supported by the landowners here.

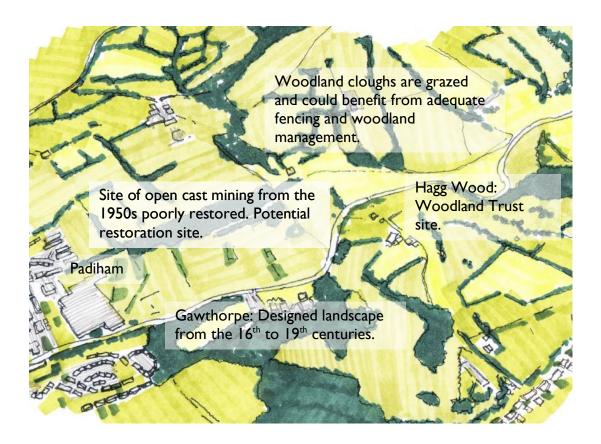
Copses and planting trees in existing hedgerows could better frame the views to the 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape of Gawthorpe. Research could suggest where interventions might best reflect historical field patterns or planting.

Existing plantations and woodland cloughs could be protected from grazing pressure and deer damage through fencing.

Encourage the retention and sensitive restoration of historic buildings through the planning regime. Manage the impact of changes in building use.

Protect existing woodland from deer and sheep grazing. Selective thinning to increase regeneration and ground flora

The poor quality restoration of the open cast mining within the flood plain offers an opportunity for an ecologically guided restoration that could have a beneficial impact in terms of downstream fluvial flooding, although this would need to be guided by hydrological modelling of the site within the context of the overall catchment.







The landscape has a mixture of boundary types: hedges, drystone walls and post and wire fencing. Many of the boundaries are poor in condition.



Sewage works next to the Calder: the floodplain contains significant infrastructure vital for East Lancashire towns.



#### 5.0 PROPOSALS

#### Landscape threats/ proposals

#### Landscape opportunities

#### Changes in agriculture

- Changes in agri environment grant regimes impact upland farming.
- Potential abandonment & amalgamation of fields.
- Increased intensification i.e. increases in improved grassland to maintain yields and incomes.
- Increased use of fields for paddocks with changes in grazing and ancillary buildings.
- Increasing loss of soil and soil fertility through erosion and grazing pressures.
- Lack of management of existing boundaries: hedge lines, shelterbelts and drystone walls.

- Offer advice to farmers and landowners.
- Potential to encourage species-rich hay meadow restoration.
- Promote traditional skills i.e. hedge laying or dry stone walling through apprenticeship and training.
- Encourage the retention of field boundaries.

## Woodland

- Existing conifer plantations are reaching maturity.
- Residual woodland is threatened by grazing (deer and sheep).
- Extent of woodland creation and management is dependent upon access to grants through the existing agri- environment grant regime.
- Invasive species such as Rhododendron has encroached into shooting copses.
- Potential to restock existing conifer
  plantations with more native species and redesign woodland compartments to be
  sympathetic with the existing topography.
- Reduce grazing pressure in woodlands through stock proof fencing.
- Potential for new woodland whether as new clough woodland or linking existing woodland fragments within the wider landscape or small field corner copses.
- Protect existing woodland from deer and sheep grazing. Selective thinning to increase regeneration and ground flora.
- Survey and control invasive species.



# Plant health - Potential impact from Chalara

- Loss of ash from woods and hedgerows.
- Survey where the greatest impact will be as part of a wider survey of ancient and veteran trees.
- Commence a programme of replacement.

## Invasive species Bracken, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed

- Increase dominance at the expense of native ground flora.
- Need to survey invasive species to ascertain extent of the problem.
- Need for resources/financial incentives to control their spread.

#### **Built environment**

- Unsympathetic use of materials and loss of vernacular features within built environment.
- Lack of awareness of the distinctive features within the area.
- Encroachment from new residential development on the edge of existing villages.
- Increased 'suburbanisation' and loss of local distinctiveness in the conversion of existing farms or highway developments.
- Impact from small scale wind turbines.
- Impact from solar farms, large scale wind farms, etc.

- Increase awareness of local distinctiveness and 'sense of place.'
- Celebrate and conserve traditional local features i.e. boundary walls, limekilns, sheepfolds, etc.
- Increase awareness of unique landscape features i.e. the vaccary boundaries, the Clarion building, the churches and Rimington silver mines.
- Promote use of local materials.
- Enforce planning restrictions within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- Ensure Environmental Impact
   Assessments take in to account zone of visual impact within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

# Recreation

- Increasing demand to enjoy the landscape.
- Increasing popularity of mountain biking.
- Encourage access to the countryside through promotion and investment in the existing Rights of Way network.
- Investment in heavily used paths such as from Barley to Pendle Hill.



- Issues around informal parking.
- Manage informal parking, i.e., Nick o' Pendle.
- Promote responsible enjoyment of the Open Access Land (i.e. the threats to ground nesting birds from dogs).
- Promote gateway sites, i.e. Spring Wood.
- Provide and promote suitable facilities for mountain biking (i.e. Gisburn Forest).

# Climate change Potential for more extreme weather including drought and extreme rainfall events.

- Increased surface water fluvial flooding (i.e. Whalley & Padiham) and localised landslips (i.e. Ogden Clough).
- Greater focus on catchment scale planning for flood events and Natural Flood Management working with natural systems right into the upper reaches of the catchment.
- Increasingly restricted range and quality of upland species.
- Look to link and buffer priority habitats to ensure that they are resilient to future change.
- Potentially damaging wildfire on grassland and open heath.
- Co-ordinate response through emergency services and landowners through Lancashire Fire Operations Group.

#### Water environment

- The main rivers within the area are highly modified watercourses where there are significant barriers to migration and a lack of hydrological connectivity between the main river and its floodplain.
- Look to restrict barriers to migration of fish and invertebrates where possible.
- Opportunities to investigate flood plain attenuation and wetland creation.
- Encourage greater hydrological connectivity between rivers and their environs i.e. encourage wet woodland or water meadows.



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## Appendix I: Where to draw the boundary: a sense of place

The team took the decision to review the project area rather than taking the immediate boundary of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as an article of faith. The original landscape designation of 1964 avoids some of the valleys and landscapes associated with the Hill. Some notable communities in the shadow of the Hill were excluded from the landscape designation (Rimington, Pendleton, Wiswell and Higham). One of the key tests of any boundary is whether it is one that 'makes sense' to its residents.

Having decided to draw in the wider apron of landscapes that radiate from Pendle Hill, there is a need to say how wide the project boundary should be drawn. After all, Pendle Hill can be seen from as far afield as Rossendale and the Yorkshire Dales Three Peaks.

We have been guided by the pre-exiting Landscape Character Assessment commissioned by the Forest of Bowland and carried out by Chris Blandford Associates (LCC, 2009) and used the existing landscape types as boundaries. We tested our findings with the landscape character of adjacent areas (i.e. do they feel similar?) and whether this is a boundary with the support of residents and visitors (i.e. does this boundary make sense?).

Broadly speaking we have sought to draw the line where there is a step change in the landscape character and a reduction in the influence of the Hill. To the north and south the valleys of the **Ribble** and the **Calder** are obvious boundaries. To the east the **Whalley Gap** has historically been seen as a major physical barrier that in no small measure defined the nature of both East Lancashire (urban) and the Ribble Valley (rural).

To the east of the gap was chosen for the great transport endeavours of the industrial age: the Leeds Liverpool Canal and the Railway which formed the communications for the great expansion of urban growth of the East Lancashire milltowns. In a former era, the Ribble Valley had been relatively more important with the Roman Road and the commanding fortress of Clitheroe Castle standing testament to the strategic importance of the Ribble Valley.

To the west, we include the Admergill valley as far as the outlier of Weets Hill and the associated Pennine Bridleway. To this end the ancient **Gisburn Old Road** and **Coal Pit Road** have been used here as a western boundary rather than the current A682. To a certain extent this is an arbitrary landscape boundary but they do allow one of the reputed sites for the famous (infamous) Malkin Tower and the local landmark of Stansfield Tower on Blacko Hill to be considered within the project.

The major milltowns of Padiham and Barrowford have been excluded from the project. These are significant townscapes that a Landscape Partnership would be ill resourced and equipped to address. Although it is not intended to be carrying out physical works in the surrounding towns: Padiham, Barrowford, Clitheroe, Nelson, and Colne it is recognised that this urban hinterland is integral to the project and reaching out to the communities, many of which, never set foot on Pendle Hill is a key challenge for the project which it intends to address.

There are a number of smaller settlements that are within the project which are small, picturesque and rural (Downham, Higham, Fence, Barley, Pendleton and Wiswell) or small and former industrial hamlets (Spen Bridge and Sabden). The scale of these settlements is consistent with the Landscape Partnership approach and engendering a 'sense of place' amongst residents as well as visitors.



