Broad HLC group: Woodland

Legend:
- Coppice
- Deciduous
- Deciduous plantation
- Coniferous
- Coniferous plantation
- Mixed
- Mixed plantation
- Other woodland
- Scrub
- Osier bed
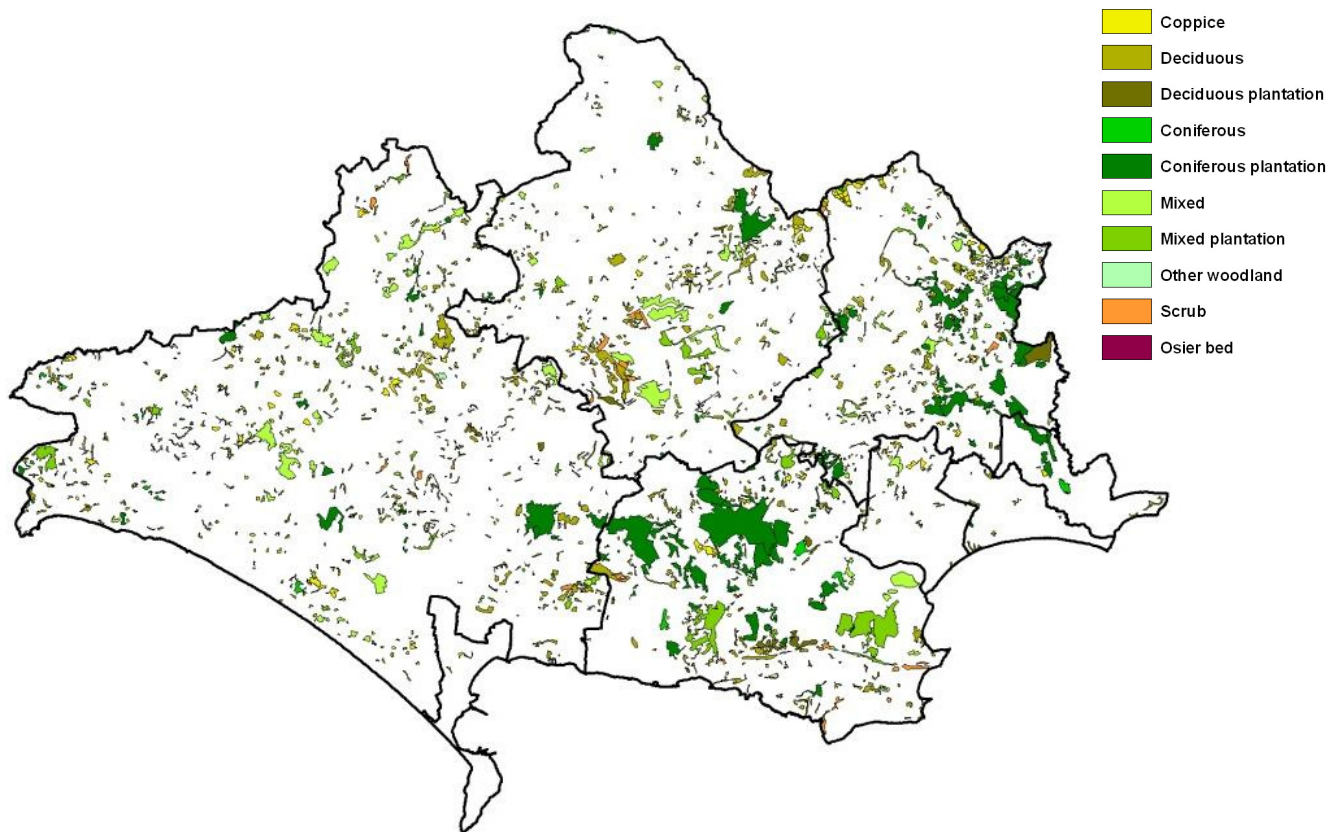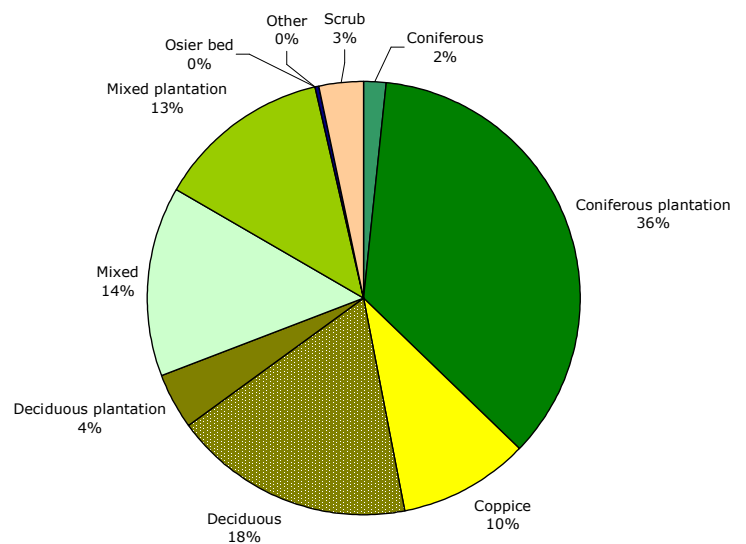
Woodland covers 9.89% of Dorset. The average woodland cover for England is %, and % in the South West. There are important and large areas formally designated as *Ancient Woodland*, and extensive areas of modern plantation.

Woodland has been important to man from earliest times as a location for hunting, and an environment which is the source of a variety of foodstuffs and raw materials.

Consideration of the composition and morphology of areas of woodland allows us to draw some conclusions about their probable period of origin and the processes which led to their current form. Wavy-edged woodland may result from assarting of a once larger area of woodland. Regularly-shaped, straight-edged woodland is likely to be deliberately planted, probably for commercial purposes, though may be contemporary with enclosure. Conversely, the apparent regularity of a piece of woodland may be derived from adjacent fields, it being a remnant of an older wood around which planned enclosure has taken place.

Pie chart:
- Other 0%
- Scrub 3%
- Coniferous 2%
- Osier bed 0%
- Mixed plantation 13%
- Coniferous plantation 36%
- Mixed 14%
- Deciduous plantation 4%
- Deciduous 18%
- Coppice 10%

Wood or wood-based materials can be used for a wide range of building, industrial and domestic purposes. Woodland planted around estates and managed as pleasure grounds. Needs of industry, for large timber in particular. Charcoal for domestic and industrial use eg tanning, glass making. In the twentieth century government encouraged tree planting to provide a source of timber; this led to the creation of large plantations, often in the form of regimented coniferous trees.

Woodland: *plantation, coniferous*
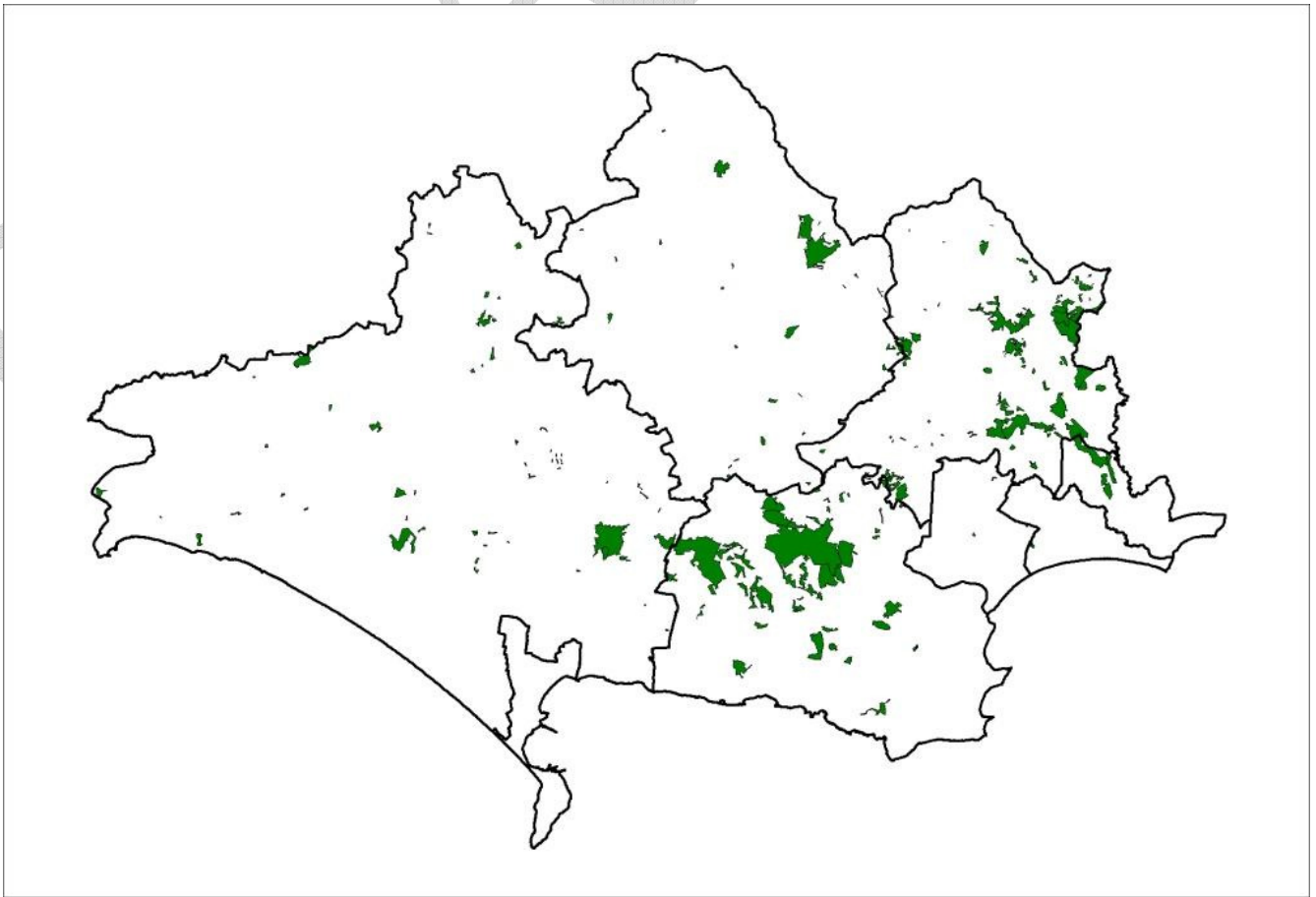
Description: Planned planting, usually in large rows by the Forestry Commission. Plantations (19th century) laid out for aesthetic (parkland), recreational (fox coverts) or economic (forestry) purposes on previously farmed, enclosed land.

**Postulated period of origin**: Modern (AD 1901 – 2050)

Rarity: Uncommon

Capacity to absorb change:

Archaeological potential: High

Sensitivity:

Identifying characteristics: Straight-edged, regularly-shaped blocks of trees of similar age and a limited number of species. Modern coniferous plantations may contain earthworks in the form of straight, parallel ridges and grooves, generally covering large areas, caused by a 'prairie buster' in advance of planting, or by the use of machinery for planting; in some cases these can be discerned on aerial photographs. The plantations generally take the form of straight rows of regularly spaced trees, with the rows at regular intervals, both as a product of mechanical planting (or, indeed, systematic planting by hand) and to facilitate management. Usually have internal trackways, which tend also to be straight, and broad, straight unplanted areas which serve as fire breaks. Though enclosures are generally regular, they may nevertheless 'fossilise' within them the original field shape. Can be confused with extensive

planting on heaths, and also regenerated and plantation heathland woodland, especially where they occur in close proximity. The presence of field boundaries shows the enclosed nature of the land prior to planting.
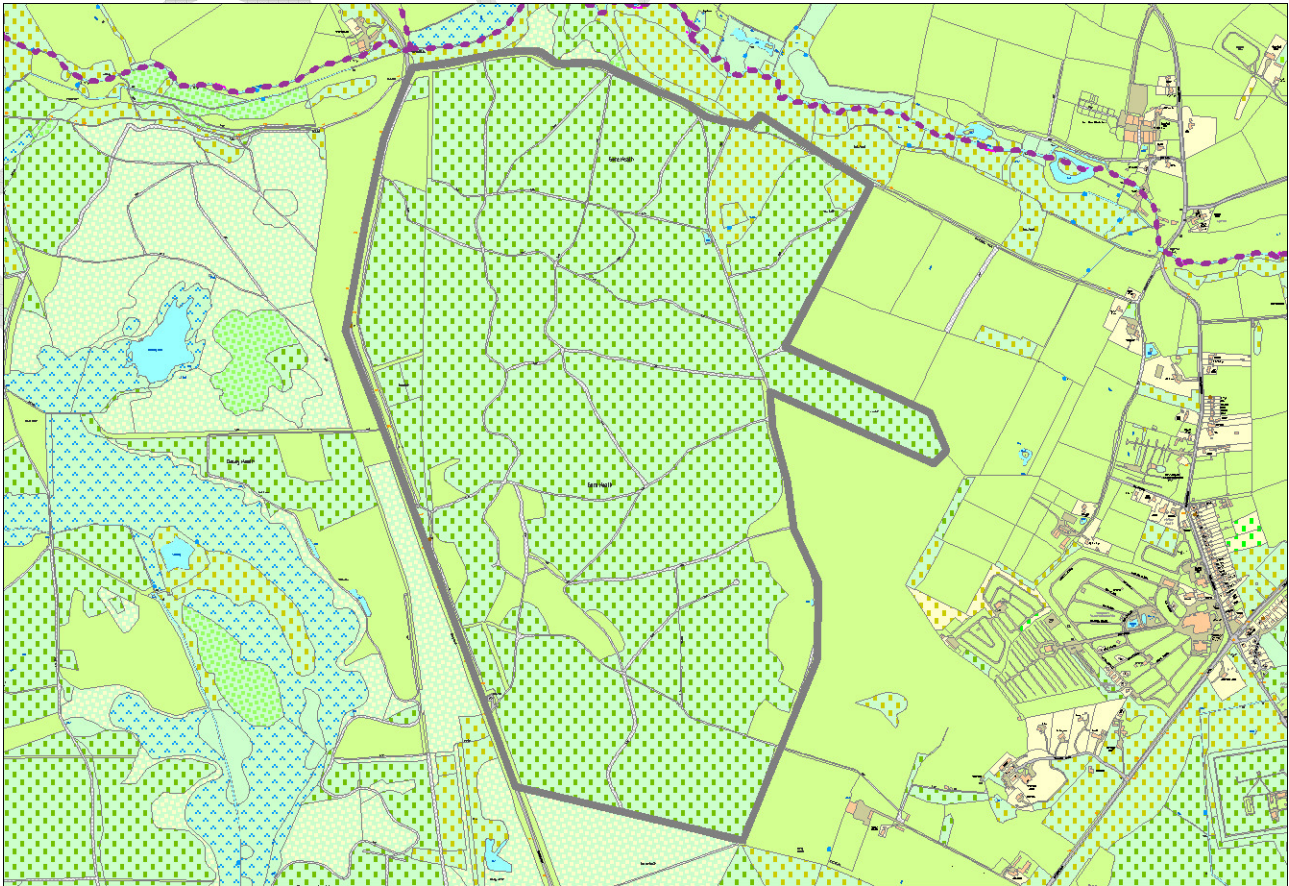
Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: Little. Most coniferous plantations are known or likely to have been planted in the twentieth century, in the inter-war period. Plantations created solely for aesthetic purposes more likely to be deciduous. Commercial. Game. Fox hunting.

Past interaction with other types: Parkland, parliamentary enclosed fields.

Distribution: Concentrated in East Dorset and Purbeck, on the fringes of Poole Harbour, and adjacent to surviving heath. May envelop or abut older areas of woodland. Close to large estates and farms, the downs, and on the enclosed edges of waste such as heaths and commons.

Rarity: 94.63 km^2 are recorded coniferous plantation. This is 35.65% of all land recorded as woodland and 3.52% of the county as a whole. This type can therefore be categorised as *uncommon* (between 1% and 5% of the county).

Contribution to the present landscape: Woodland in general makes a strong contribution to the landscape, on both the local level and on a larger scale. The height and texture of trees brings a new dimension to our perception. Plantations, though somewhat forbidding in character, can be particularly significant local landscape features. This type provides a niche habitat for very specialised plant and animal species of national importance. Woodland is generally perceived as a wholly natural phenomenon, and the anthropogenic origin and human influence on the present condition of woodland are not always appreciated by the layman. Surviving features such as boundary banks can be particularly obscured in areas of coniferous plantation. Not only can it be difficult to appreciate large-scale features when they are covered

with trees, but planting methods will have caused significant disruption. Woodland has enormous amenity value, and great potential as a resource for education and tourism; this can be enhanced if the historic environment aspect of woodland is promoted.

Change: Since coniferous plantation is commercial in character, the most profound change will be brought about by the inevitable felling of trees. Lack of management may bring about a gradual deterioration through, for example, the encroachment of invasive species such as rhododendron. Other factors influencing change in woodland in general include climate change and disease. Excessive and unsympathetic use for leisure activities may bring about change in certain areas, particularly in woodland close to settlement. There may be gradual encroachment of agriculture and development.

The capacity of this type to absorb change is

Archaeological potential: High. There is considerable potential for survival of as-yet-unrecorded archaeological remains, associated both with the recent management and exploitation of the area as woodland, and with the landscape before the woodland was planted. In Dorset, this was often either heathland or less intense woodland which had itself been planted on heathland.

Features associated directly with the type itself are few. However, planting may have necessitated the creation of new roads, foresters' houses or drainage ditches. Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century plantation may have associated ancillary sites such as sawmills or even, on a smaller scale, saw pits, particularly in locations where a plantation has been created to meet a local need, perhaps on a larger farm or estate, rather than to serve the wider market. They may also be located in proximity to local industrial sites, for which they may have provided fuel and/or raw materials. Modern plantations may also conceal landscape features from earlier periods, such as field boundaries, trackways, enclosures and farmsteads.

Since many of the very large coniferous plantations created by the Forestry Commission in the twentieth century were on heathland, their recorded archaeology tends to be very similar to that of heath, with numerous round barrows and scatters of flint working waste and flint tools. It is to be anticipated that there are as-yet-unrecorded prehistoric funerary monuments, and the remains of field systems and farmsteads, as well as evidence of industrial activity and features associated with past management and exploitation of the area as woodland or former heathland, or past industrial use represented by features such as disused quarries or brickworks. In places, particularly on the fringes of surviving areas of heath, there may be several phases of evidence reflecting the ebb and flow of reclamation and regeneration, natural or deliberate, of woodland. Wetter areas may preserve archaeological remains in the form of objects of organic material, and palaeoenvironmental deposits. Pollen in particular has the potential to provide information about past environments, past crops, and how they have changed over time, including the formation of the heath itself.

There are numerous possible topics for further research. There has been no large-scale research or survey of woodland in Dorset, and there are many gaps to fill. The recorded archaeology generally takes the form of isolated monuments, largely round barrows, and occasional surface scatters of waste from flint working and flint tools. Research is required to evaluate the impact of the modern planting methods on the survival and 'readability' of archaeological features in areas of former heathland in particular. Features associated with the relatively recent management and exploitation of woodland are poorly represented in the Historic Environment Record.

Sensitivity: Significant historic interest. Distinctive landscape features in their own right.

Management: Conserve historic woodland features and relict landscape features now covered by woodland. Systematic survey required, to improve our understanding of historic woodland management features (woodbanks, pollards, saw pits, charcoal burning, hurdle making sites),

which are exceptionally poorly represented in the Historic Environment Record, and to identify opportunities for educational, recreational and tourism benefit. Encourage appreciation of the historic origins and value of woodland. The historic environment aspect tends to be under-appreciated and overlooked in day-to-day management and in the creation of management plans.

Woodland: *coniferous*
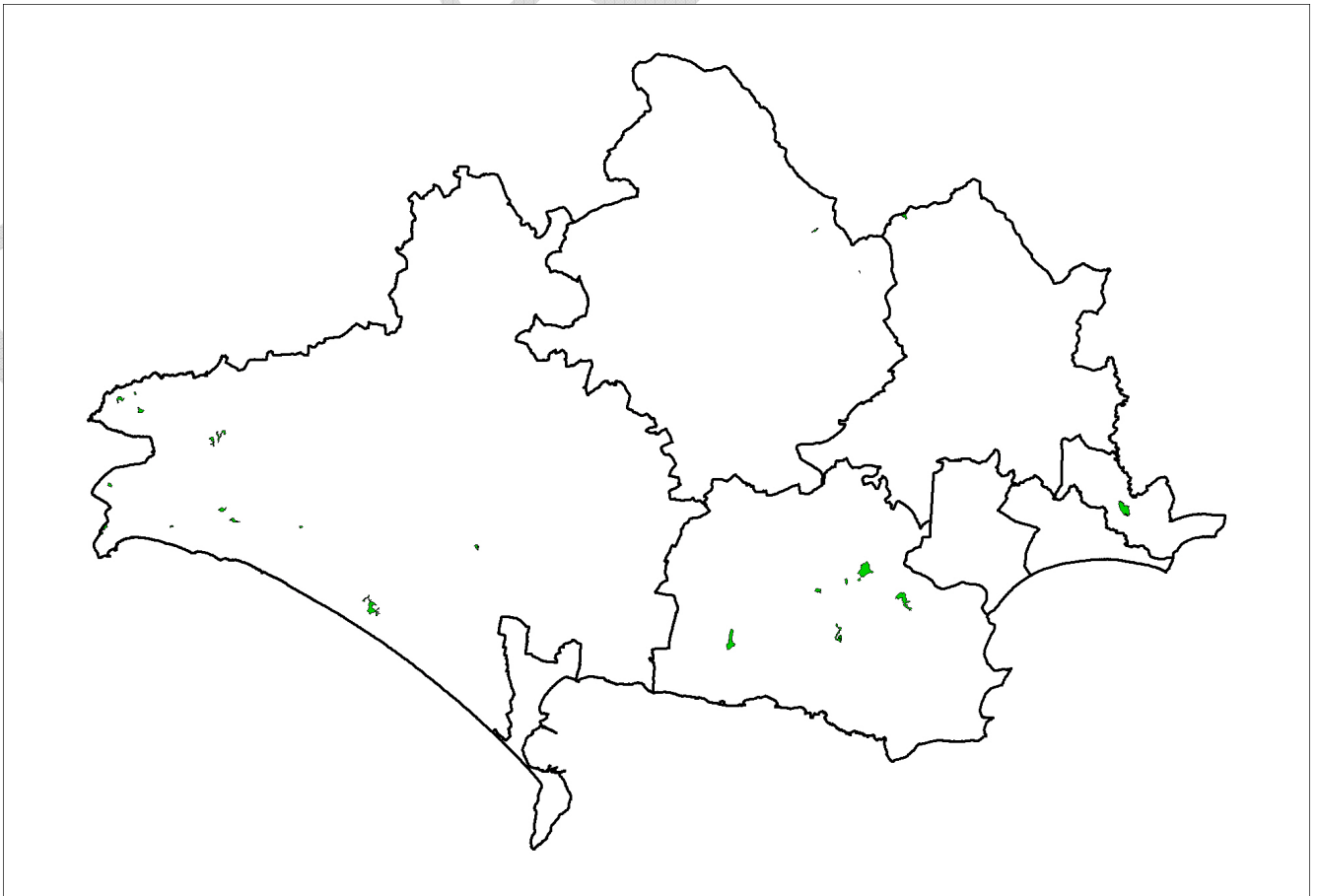
Description: An area of coniferous woodland.

Postulated period of origin: Modern (AD 1901 – 2050)
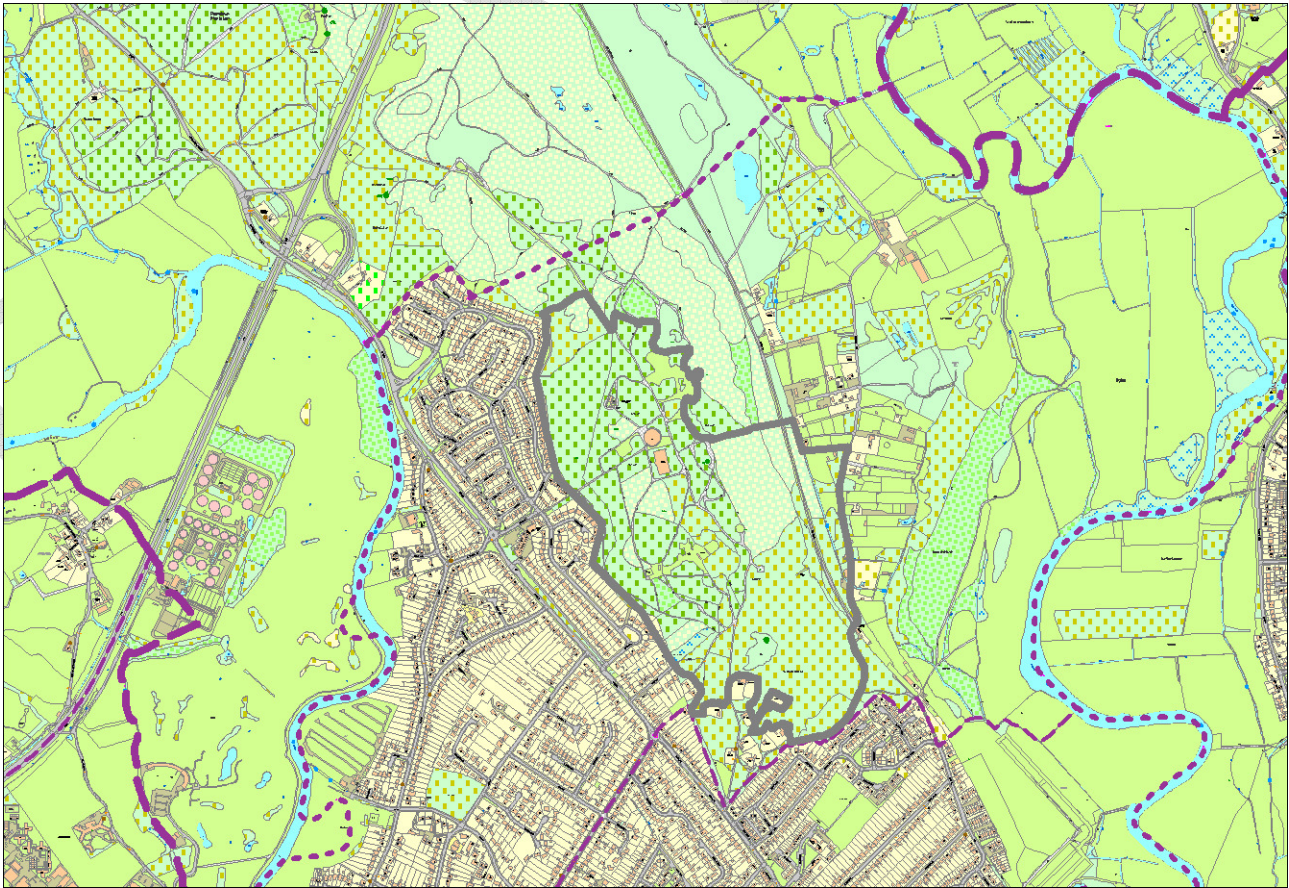
Rarity: Uncommon

Capacity to absorb change:

Archaeological potential:

Sensitivity:

Identifying characteristics: An area of coniferous woodland without the distinguishing features, such as trees of similar age planted in straight rows, of plantation. These areas are likely to have boundaries, both internal and external, that are sinuous rather than straight.

Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: There are a variety of possible interpretations of this type. In areas close to coniferous plantation, it may represent earlier woodland that has been enlarged by more systematic planting. The presence of sinuous or otherwise irregular boundaries supports this interpretation, and in these instances it may be possible to identify *Woodland, deciduous* as a previous type. This later planting is most likely to have occurred in the twentieth century, particularly in the inter-war period, and to be commercial in origin.

Smaller blocks of this type, in areas away from coniferous plantation, are likely also to represent commercial planting, albeit on a smaller scale, since plantations created solely for aesthetic purposes are more likely to be deciduous or mixed. In reality, a sole purpose is unlikely - these areas are more likely to have been planted to serve a variety of purposes – commercial, aesthetic, and recreational (game, fox hunting).

Interaction with other types: This type may be found in proximity to areas of *Woodland, deciduous* or areas which can be categorised as plantation.

Distribution: There is a limited occurrence of quite isolated pieces of land which can now be categorised as coniferous woodland, most in a broad scatter across the southern part of the county. It is conspicuously absent from the chalk, occurring in areas of more mixed geology and poorer soils. In the eastern part of the county, this type tends to occur close to areas of coniferous plantation.

Rarity: 4.54 km^2 are recorded as coniferous woodland. This is 1.71% of all land recorded as woodland and 0.17% of the county as a whole. This type can therefore be categorised as *scarce* (between 0.1% and 1.0% of the county).

Contribution to the present landscape: Woodland in general makes a strong contribution to the landscape, on both the local level and on a larger scale. The height and texture of trees

brings a new dimension to our perception. Coniferous woodland can be a particularly significant local landscape feature. This type provides a niche habitat for very specialised plant and animal species of national importance. Woodland is generally perceived as a wholly natural phenomenon, and the anthropogenic origin and human influence on the present condition of woodland are not always appreciated by the layman. Surviving features such as boundary banks can be obscured by tree cover. Woodland has enormous amenity value, and great potential as a resource for education and tourism; this can be enhanced if the historic environment aspect of woodland is promoted.

Change: Since *coniferous woodland* is likely to be commercial in character, the most profound change will be brought about by the inevitable felling of trees. In the meantime, lack of management may bring about a gradual deterioration through, for example, the encroachment of invasive species such as rhododendron. Other factors influencing change in woodland include climate change and disease. Excessive and unsympathetic use for leisure activities may bring about change in certain areas, particularly in woodland close to settlement. There may be gradual encroachment of agriculture and development.

The capacity of this type to absorb change is

Archaeological potential: This type may have been created by re-planting of older woodland, and so may preserve within it some evidence of Features associated with the type itself are few. Planting may have necessitated the creation of new roads, foresters' houses or drainage ditches. Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century plantation may have associated ancillary sites such as sawmills or even, on a smaller scale, saw pits, particularly in locations where a plantation has been created to meet a local need, perhaps on a larger farm or estate, rather than to serve the wider market. They may also be located in proximity to local industrial sites, for which they may have provided fuel and/or raw materials. Modern plantations may also conceal landscape features from earlier periods, such as field boundaries, trackways, enclosures and farmsteads. Since many of the very large coniferous plantations created by the Forestry Commission in the twentieth century were on heathland, their recorded archaeology tends to be very similar to that of heath, with numerous round barrows and scatters of flint working waste and flint tools. It is to be anticipated that there are as-yet-unrecorded prehistoric funerary monuments, and the remains of field systems and farmsteads, as well as evidence of industrial activity and features associated with past management and exploitation of the area as woodland or former heathland, or past industrial use represented by features such as disused quarries or brickworks. In places, particularly on the fringes of surviving areas of heath, there may be several phases of evidence reflecting the ebb and flow of reclamation and regeneration, natural or deliberate, of woodland.

Research

Sensitivity:

Management:

Woodland: *plantation, deciduous*
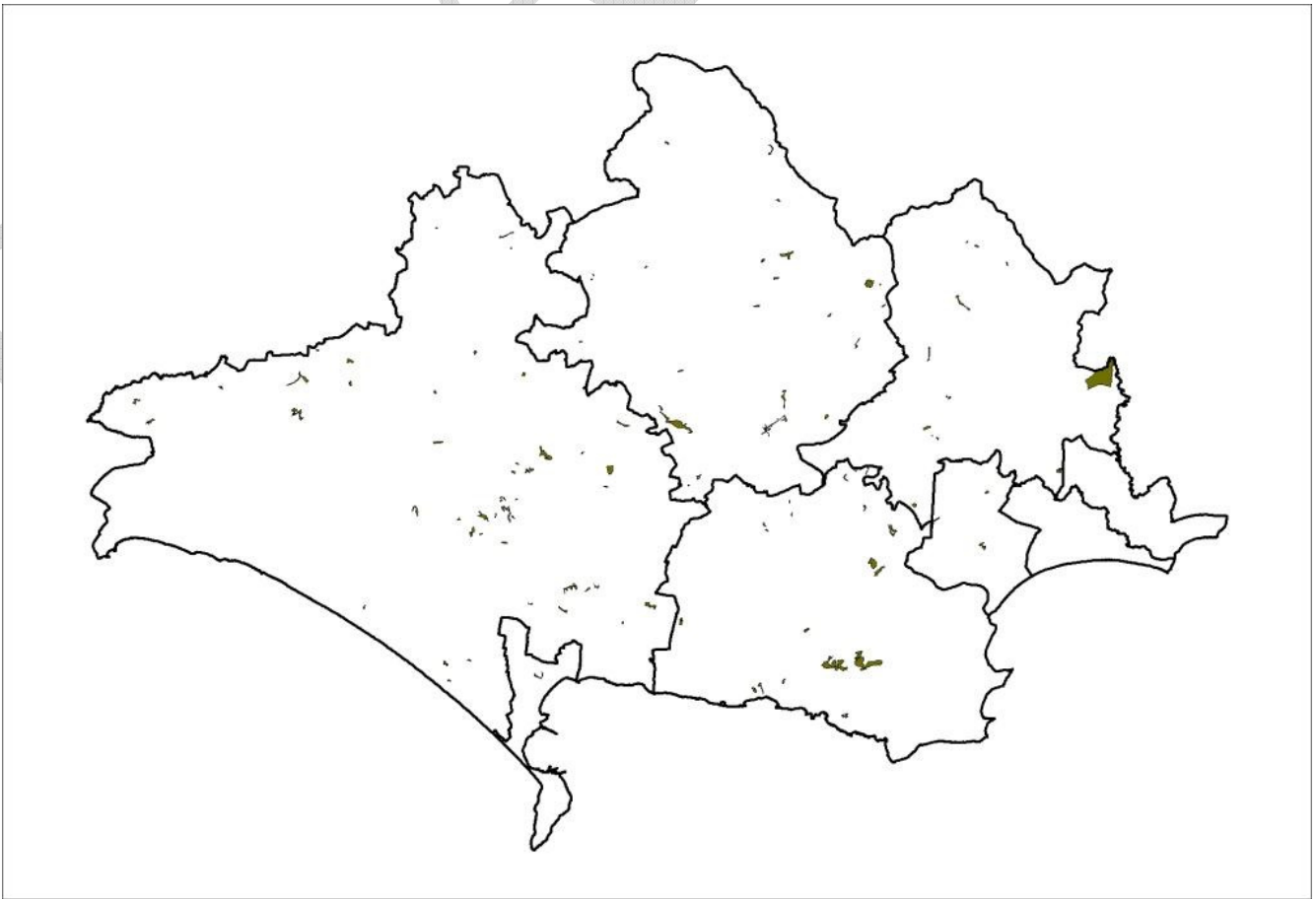
Description: Broadleaved woodland that displays evidence of deliberate planting.

Postulated period of origin: Industrial (AD 1801 – 1900)
Modern (AD 1901 – 2050)

Rarity: Scarce

Capacity to absorb change:

Archaeological potential:

Sensitivity:

Identifying characteristics: Straight-edged, regularly-shaped blocks of trees of similar age and a limited number of species. The plantations generally take the form of straight rows of regularly spaced trees, with the rows at regular intervals, both as a product of mechanical planting (or, indeed, systematic planting by hand) and to facilitate management. There may be internal trackways, which tend also to be straight, and broad, straight unplanted areas which serve as fire breaks. Though enclosures are generally regular, they may nevertheless 'fossilise' within them the original field shape, where plantation has been created on land that was formerly enclosed.
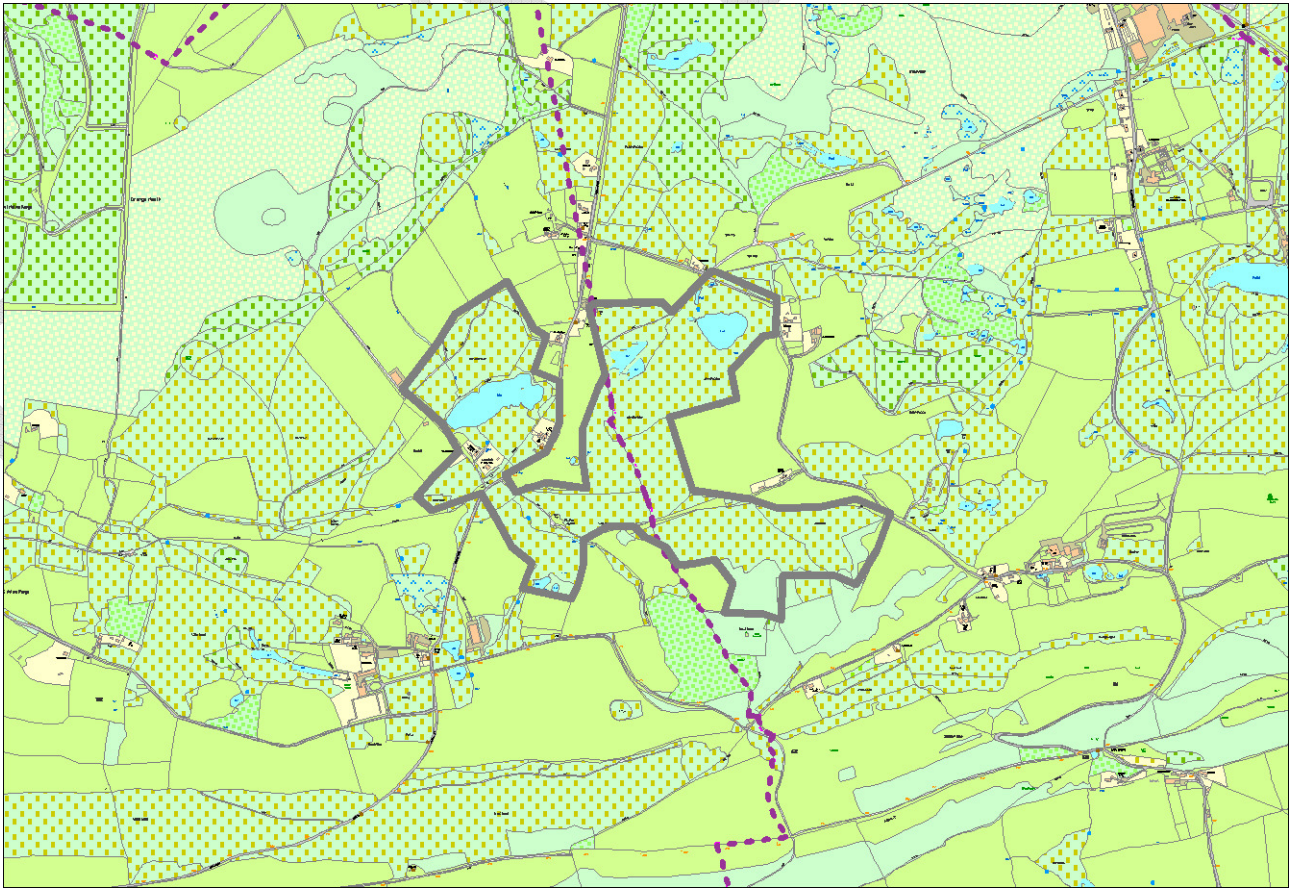
Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: The current form of this type suggests that the woodland has been created through deliberate planting on a relatively large scale for commercial purposes. A less regimented approach may be taken to more recent planting, though species composition should nevertheless betray the artificial nature of the woodland.

Interaction with other types:

Distribution:

Rarity: 11.46 km^2 are recorded deciduous plantation. This is 4.32% of all land recorded as woodland and 0.42% of the county as a whole. This type can therefore be categorised as *scarce* (between 0.1% and 1.0% of the county).

Contribution to the present landscape: Woodland in general makes a strong contribution to the landscape, on both the local level and on a larger scale. The height and texture of trees brings a new dimension to our perception. In this type, this effect is embellished by the seasonal changes seen in deciduous trees. This type, being created through deliberate planting, is likely to consist of trees of the same or a limited range of species, of similar age. As a result, it is less varied both in terms of appearance and consequent impact upon the landscape, and biodiversity. It may, nevertheless, provide a niche habitat for very specialised plant and animal species. Woodland is generally perceived as a wholly natural phenomenon, and the anthropogenic origin and human influence on the present condition of woodland are not always appreciated by the layman. With the exception of features such as coppice stands or boundary banks, this tends to manifest itself in a subtle way difficult for even the trained eye to detect, and it can be difficult to appreciate large-scale features when they are covered with trees. Woodland has enormous amenity value, and great potential as a resource for education and tourism; this can be enhanced if the historic environment aspect of woodland is promoted.

Change: Factors influencing change in deciduous woodland are

The capacity of this type to absorb change is

Archaeological potential:

Research:

Sensitivity:

Management:

Woodland: *coppice*
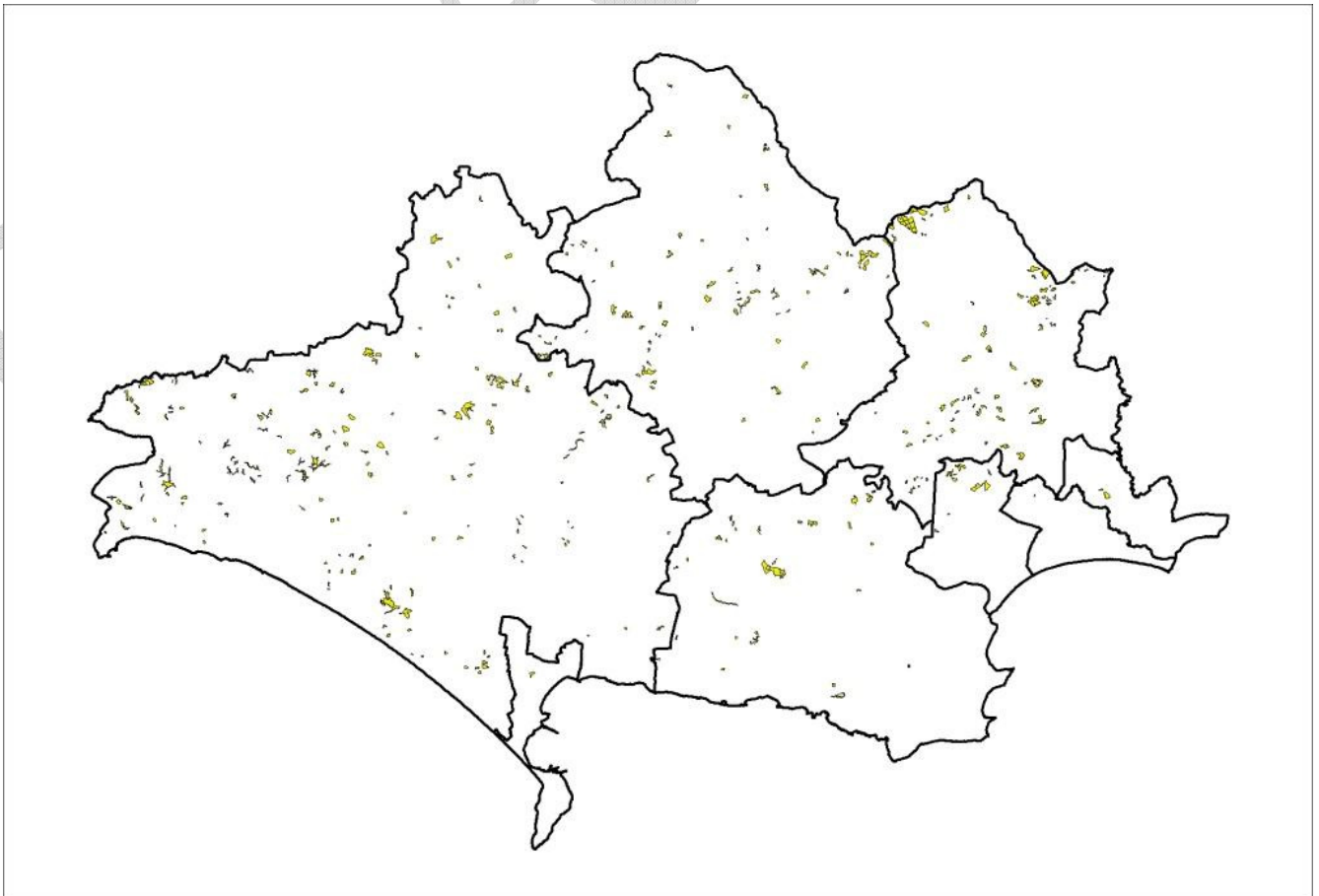
Description: Coppicing is the traditional method of managing woodland for a continuous supply of underwood.

Postulated period of origin: Medieval (AD 1066 – 1539)
Post-medieval (AD 1540 – 1800)
Industrial (AD 1801 – 1900)
Modern (AD 1901 – 2050)

Rarity: Scarce

Capacity to absorb change:

Archaeological potential:

Sensitivity:

Identifying characteristics: Appearance of the '*coppice*' or '*copse*' element in the name of a wood on the early map layer (approximately 1900) is taken to indicate that coppicing was practiced, or that the wood was created (or possibly just named) with that purpose in mind. Apart from the occurrence of an indicative name, coppice cannot be distinguished from other deciduous woodland types when viewed on maps, though the woods tend to be relatively small. Areas of active (or recently-active) management can be identified from aerial photographs.
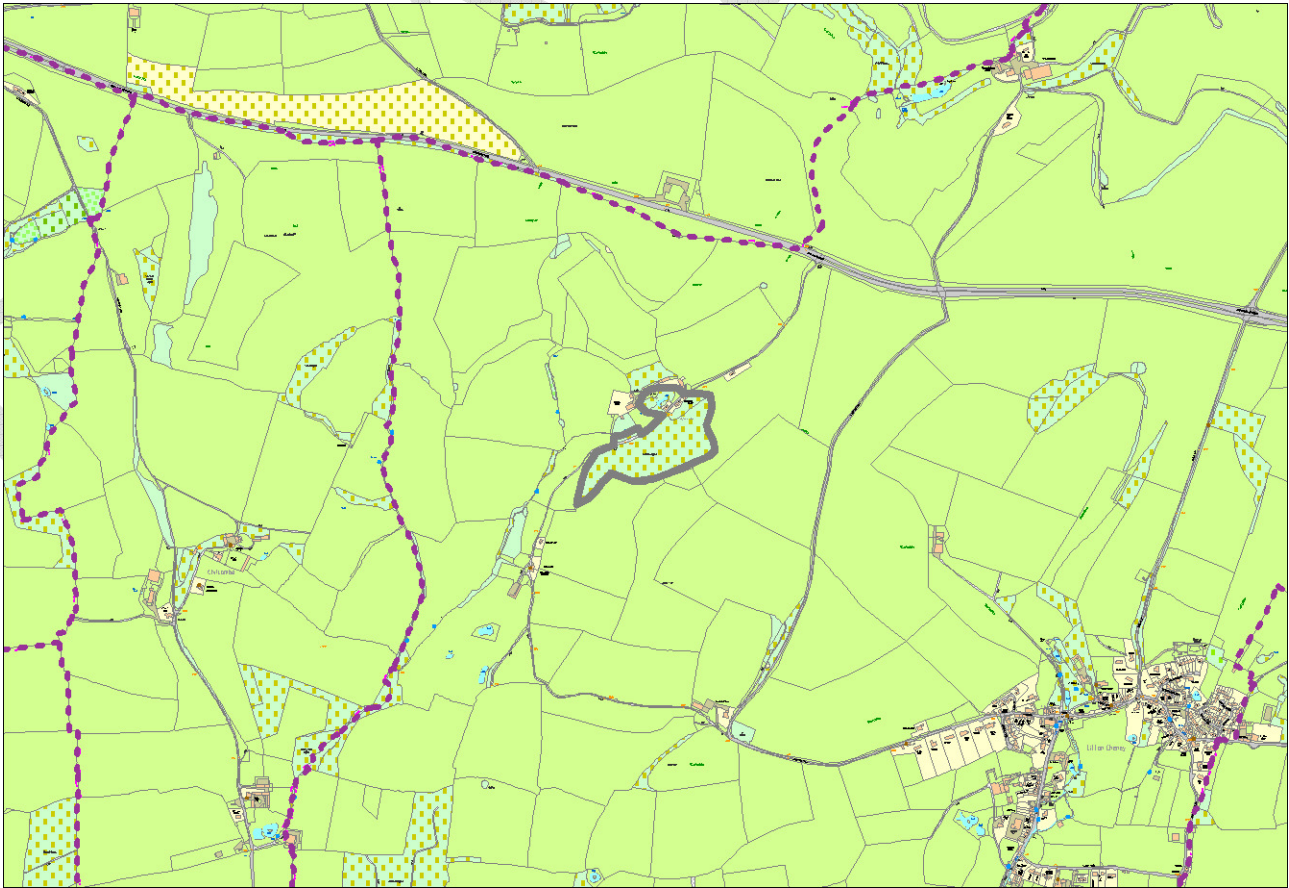
Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: The practice of coppicing declined sharply in the 20th century as the demand for wood dropped, and woodland matured. Coppice management is being reinstated on limited scale in some areas by local specialists in response to cultural and financial incentives.

Interaction with other types: Often intimately associated with ancient assarted and other woodland, and re-planted woodland.

Distribution:

Rarity: 25.64 km^2 are recorded coppice. This is 9.66% of all land recorded as woodland and 0.96% of the county as a whole. This type can therefore be categorised as *scarce* (between 0.1% and 1.0% of the county).

Contribution to the present landscape:

Change: Factors influencing change in areas of coppice are

The capacity of this type to absorb change is low

Archaeological potential:

Research:

Sensitivity:

Management:

Woodland: d*eciduous*
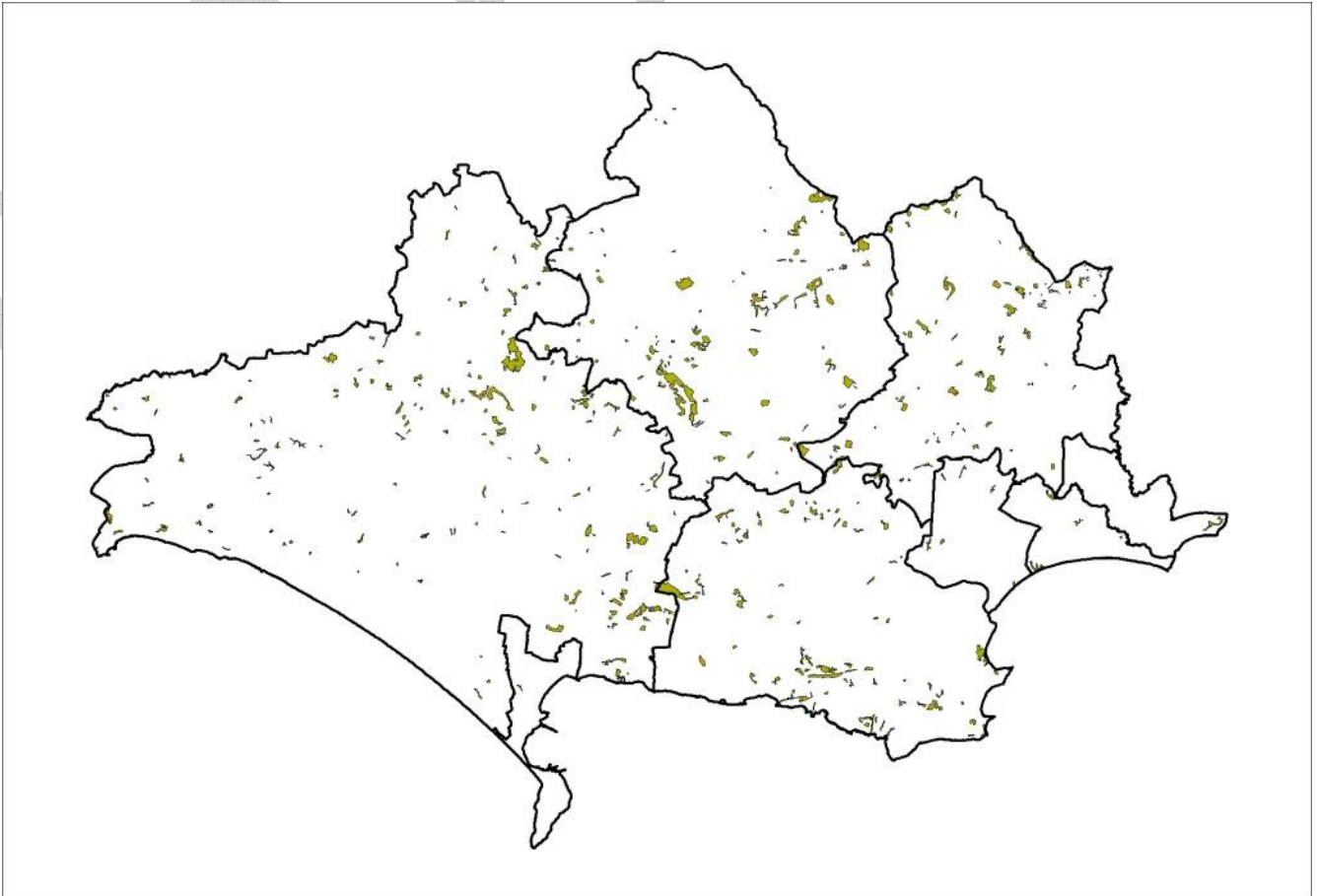
Description: Area of deciduous woodland. Mixed natural or semi-natural deciduous or semi-natural deciduous and coniferous woodland.

Postulated period of origin:

Rarity: Uncommon

Capacity to absorb change: Low

Archaeological potential: High

Sensitivity: High

Identifying characteristics: Broadleaved woodland that is mature, does not display any evidence of deliberate planting (such as trees of the same age in parallel rows), and contains tree and other plant species in a combination that is essentially native in character.

Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: This type is most likely to correspond to areas of ancient woodland, that is areas designated by Natural England as *Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland*, which is defined as having had continuous tree cover since at least the beginning of the seventeenth century. Areas of this type may therefore be contemporary with episodes of post-medieval enclosure; it may be man-made in the sense of

being deliberately planted or very extensively managed for long periods of time, but is now 'naturalised' to the extent that this origin is not apparent (at the scale at which this HLC has been carried out). Overall, though, it is presumed that this woodland is broadly natural in origin, though it may subsequently have been managed for commercial or aesthetic purposes. This management may have taken the form of coppicing or felling of individual trees for large timber, and have been allowed to regenerate naturally.

Areas of this type may have been used as wood pasture; that is grassland or heath grazed by domestic animals, deer or rabbits. In these areas trees may in the past have been managed by pollarding, but are likely to have been subject to natural regeneration and so are not easily distinguished from general broadleaved woodland. The presence of long-established compartments with banks may be evidence of former use as wood pasture, though most older woodland is likely to have been used in this way at one time or another, but particularly in the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Interaction with other types: This type may be adjacent to areas of *Woodland, mixed*, where formerly deciduous woodland has been subject to colonisation by or deliberate planting of coniferous species. This deliberate planting may have been for aesthetic effect, or to improve the recreational use of a piece of woodland, and so may be contemporary with wider ornamental landscaping in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in particular. Areas of this type may also be adjacent to areas of *Plantation, deciduous* or *Plantation, coniferous* which have been created by large-scale re-planting of woodland, generally for commercial use. This type may also represent surviving pockets of older woodland which has been cleared and is now enclosed land, for example *Assarts*, or *Planned clearance.*

Distribution: This type is very widely scattered across the county. There is an apparent concentration of rather larger areas on the fringes of the chalk. The more widely scattered smaller blocks of this type are generally on poorer and more mixed soils.

Rarity: 47.42 km^2 are recorded deciduous woodland. This is 17.86% of all land recorded as woodland and 1.77% of the county as a whole. This type can therefore be categorised as *uncommon* (between 1% and 5% of the county).

Contribution to the present landscape: Woodland in general makes a strong contribution to the landscape, on both the local level and on a larger scale. The height and texture of trees brings a new dimension to our perception. In this type, this effect is embellished by the seasonal changes seen in deciduous trees. This type has a rich flora and fauna, which may include plant and animal species of national importance. Woodland is generally perceived as a wholly natural phenomenon, and the anthropogenic origin and human influence on the present condition of woodland are not always appreciated by the layman. With the exception of features such as coppice stands or boundary banks, this tends to manifest itself in a subtle way difficult for even the trained eye to detect, and it can be difficult to appreciate large-scale features when they are covered with trees. Woodland has enormous amenity value, and great potential as a resource for education and tourism; this can be enhanced if the historic environment aspect of woodland is promoted.

Change: Factors influencing change in deciduous woodland include climate change, disease and general lack of management leading to excessive browsing and grazing by deer and livestock, the encroachment of invasive species such as rhododendron. Local agricultural practices may lead to changes in factors such as nutrient levels in soil and groundwater, which may adversely affect particular areas or species, bringing about a change in composition of the woodland. Excessive and unsympathetic use for leisure activities may bring about change in certain areas, particularly in woodland close to settlement. There may be gradual encroachment of agriculture and development.

The capacity of this type to absorb change is low.

Archaeological potential: High. There is considerable potential for survival of as-yet-unrecorded archaeological remains, associated both with the recent management and exploitation of the area as woodland, and with earlier landscapes. Even in areas of ancient woodland which may be of great age, there may have been fluctuations in tree cover or episodes of clearance, occupation of open areas, followed by natural regeneration. So, we may find evidence of prehistoric, Roman and medieval settlement and agricultural or industrial activity as below-ground archaeology, perhaps in some cases surviving as earthworks. Indeed, the woodland may have served to preserve such earthworks in better condition than elsewhere. There will also be evidence of earlier woodland management regimes, in the form of banks and ditches, and evidence of activities such as charcoal burning, coppicing, and hurdle making. As well as direct archaeological evidence of human activity, there may be pockets of palaeoenvironmental evidence of woodland development, or local clearance and regeneration. In places we may find the remains of quite recent industrial activity on a small-scale such as timber processing, with saw-pits and so forth, or brickmaking.

It is difficult to recognise and understand historic environment features in woodland. The Historic Environment Record, and is .

Research:

Sensitivity: High.

Water association: *watermeadows*

Description:

Postulated period of origin: Post-medieval.

Rarity:

Capacity to absorb change:

Archaeological potential:

Sensitivity:

Identifying characteristics: Developed semi-natural flood plain or valley floor areas with a system of flood control for the production of hay. Generally found in areas of the valley bottom that would, in any case, have been prone to flooding. Distinguish between constructed systems and areas subject to flooding. Networks of channels, controlled flow to give improved early grazing and yields of hay.

Principal historical processes and evidence for time depth: Rudimentary systems of controlled irrigation may have existed in the medieval period, but the main period of development of watermeadows was the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Gutter or catch-meadow system allowed sloping fields to be irrigated through provision of leats. Main period of development and use was the nineteenth century.

Interaction with other types:

Distribution:

Rarity: km^2 are recorded as . This is % of all land recorded as settlement and % of the county as a whole. In terms of area, therefore, this type can be categorised as

Contribution to the present landscape: Watermeadows have a profoundly unique character. The inter-leaving ridges and channels have a distinct and unmistakeable appearance. Tend to have developed a highly varied flora, and used by a variety of wildlife but in particular provide a refuge for breeding (or just young?) fish. High recreational and aesthetic value. Form natural flood storage reservoirs.

Change: Factors influencing change include Silting up and loss of channels. Lack of management. There are no watermeadows in Dorset which are managed in the traditional fashion, with the constant attention of a drowner. Economic considerations played a large part in the going out of use of watermeadows, which required regular attention and were consequently expensive to run and maintain. Sand and gravel extraction. Installation of fences to control stock, clearance of drains without consideration of their original form and function, creation of scrapes for wildlife. Fragmentation of once large systems through divergent management of adjacent areas. The capacity of this type to absorb change is Low. The character of watermeadows is easily altered by change in management or development.

Archaeological potential: Watermeadows are an important archaeological feature in their own right. Drowners' huts. May also coincide with prehistoric/Romano-British settlement, which is often found on the 'lip' of the flood plain and in adjacent areas. Enormous potential for survival of below-ground archaeological remains. Preservation of organic material may be high, giving rise to anticipation of survival of artefacts and structures of wood in particular, associated with the exploitation and management of the water course. Environmental material preserved in palaeochannels offers the prospect of significant palaeoenvironmental material, of particular significance in the context of understanding climate change.

Research: Distribution and function. Morphological and chronological development.

Sensitivity: High. Particularly susceptible to change. Combination of great archaeological potential with high diversity value.

Management: Proper maintenance of channels and associated structures. Management may focus on channels at the expense of the more subtle earthworks which are an integral part of the system.
Whitehead, B J, *Management and Land-Use of Water Meadows in the Frome Valley*, PDNH&AS, 89 (1968)

Appendix 2

Detailed methodology[3] (Philip Markham)

The methodology developed for use in Dorset was based upon the *Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Template* provided by English Heritage, and borrowed extensively from the Devon and Shropshire methods. It has attempted to keep each section of the data separate for future use and analysis. There is a basic data flow from basic information to detailed morphology, which leads to the character interpretations. This not only separates blocks of data for analysis but also helps focus the mind to the interpretation. A worked example area follows the detailed methodology.

A project officer under the guidance of a senior archaeologist will undertake the HLC for Dorset. The project will be produced on a lap top computer which will have copies of Mapinfo, MasterMap, Access 97, Word and all of the necessary data layers incorporated as it is envisaged that the project officer will work from home due to office space, interruptions and noise considerations in view of the time scale the project demands. It is likely that the main data layers will be MasterMap, air photography, early map, ancient woodland, soil type, geology and the two Areas of Outstanding natural Beauty (AONB) layers. For security the work will be backed up each day to an external source such as a zip drive or at least a CD/DVD. It will be a requirement that the work is downloaded onto Dorset County Council's main frame computer once a week, which will also enable the project officer to catch up with administration.

3.1   Overview of Methodology

Data Level One   = the polygon
Data Level Two   = recorded morphology
Data Level Three   = current character
Data Level Four   = previous character

a.   Data Level One   The Polygon

Defining the polygon

The definition of the polygons will be based on the modern map evidence from MasterMap. This data represents the landscapes present visible form and these can be differentiated by their different characters. These different character areas may be derived from medieval enclosure, an ornamental landscape or industrial activity. Morphological (boundary shape or appearance) interpretation and analysis of the modern map supported where appropriate by consultation of historic maps and air photography will be the primary tools.

The HLC polygon is the basic unit of data capture, interpretation and analysis. Each polygon covers a discrete geographical area that contains a particular combination of historic landscape character that allows it to be assigned to a single historic landscape character broad group. These broad groups are not equivalent to the Countryside Agency Landscape Character Assessment 'character areas', because they can recur in different areas. Like Character Areas, however, although much smaller in size, they will usually be defined by one or more predominant attributes in the midst of combinations of other attributes, rather than being wholly homogenous, monolithic or single theme.

The polygons are defined as groups of modern land parcels, each group possessing in general the same historic landscape character - in other words, the character of defined polygons will be heterogeneous, not homogenous but generalised. Minor diversity will be overlooked in favour of the broad picture. The use of MasterMap, with its ability to ascribe attributes to all

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[3] DATE?

its TOID defined polygons indiscriminately will require discipline to ensure that the characterisation remains sufficiently generalised.

Small areas are rarely digitised separately, given the county scale of the work. A rule of thumb is that the polygon will be greater in area than one hectare (0.1Km x 0.1Km) unless there are exceptional reasons to make it smaller. Small areas should be amalgamated into neighbouring or surrounding polygons if they do not determine landscape character at county scale and in their specific geographical context. For example, small areas may be worth defining as separate polygons where they comprise recent areas of expansion within or around the fringes of a settlement. They may not be worth defining as separate polygons where, for example, small plantations of trees that are an inherent feature of an 18th century enclosure pattern (where the presence of regular field corner trees can be an attribute of a much larger polygon). The houses and gardens of dispersed rural settlement are always likely to be too small to be represented meaningfully in a county level historic landscape characterisation and need to be treated in separate projects using other methodologies.

It is likely (where it is either certainly known such as through easily accessible documentary or cartographic evidence, or where it can reasonably be assumed by interpretation, comparison or extrapolation) that previous historic landscape character will also influence the definition of polygons. The factors that determine what is included within a polygon are that:

- Most areas included within it possess characteristics that can be assigned to the same broad group (eg Enclosed, Unenclosed, Woodland, Industrial etc.).

- Most areas included within it share a common set of other attributes. (For example, all of the woodland included within the polygon is broad-leaved and has one or more sinuous external boundaries etc; or that it shares the same predominant character, ie 'regular', 'irregular' or boundary morphology, ie 'sinuous', 'ruler straight', 'straight', 'curvilinear' or 'none').

- Most areas within it can be interpreted as having the same previous landscape character (ie all of the field within the polygon contain evidence of medieval strip fields).

- The polygon itself will be greater in area than one hectare (0.1Km x 0.1Km) unless there are exceptional reasons to make it smaller.

The overriding concern is to obtain sufficient data for future analysis while maintaining a county side broad brush approach which fits into a sensible time scale for the project. The data structure for data level one is indicated below.

Data Level One Structure

Unique Identifier	(P0001)
Parish	(Name)
Compiler	(Name)
Creation Date	(Day/Month/Year)
Reviser	(Name)
Alteration Date	(Day/Month/Year)
Primary Character	(Rural/Settlement)

This general or low level data is recorded, as the HLC is a stand alone and live data set that is envisaged to be up dated by different people. In essence these details are for administrative purposes. The unique identifier will enable a link to the database. The Parish is included for future administration and analysis as many Historic Environment Record (HER) queries are parish based. The compiler and reviser together with their respective dates are included for

future administration. The primary character enables a greater working within the later data levels.

b.   Data Level Two - recorded morphology

This data level records the size, shape and geographic detail of the polygon and whether the polygon is a single element (eg a wood) or a series of features (eg a fieldscape).

There are a series of tables for the recording of polygon morphology and these are 'Size and Character', 'Boundary' and 'Geographic'. Where data is not applicable it will be left blank.

Within the first table the area of the polygon is recorded in square kilometres. This may aid future analysis by indicating more or less extensive areas of HLC. The morphology of the polygon is recorded by describing its attributes, such as a series of fields, 'predominant character', that is whether they are regular or irregular. For the purposes of the HLC 'regular' indicates a series of similar features which may have a line of symmetry; 'irregular' indicates that the features (usually fields) do not follow any pattern. The 'predominant shape' records whether the features are angular, curvilinear or mixed. This usually refers to the general shape of the fields. With angular selected there is a sharp and or more 'blocky' feel to the fields while with curvilinear selected there is a 'softer', rounded feel. Mixed obviously records features where angular and curvilinear features are present in approximately equal amounts. The 'secondary shape' records whether the features are approximately square, rectangular, triangular, round, oval, elongated or multifaceted. For the purposes of HLC some five-sided fields within an area may be square or rectangular as it is the overall impression which is important. Elongated would usually be used where the feature is twice or more long as it is wide. The next entry for the 'size and character' table records the features predominant size X and Y which records in metres the average length and breadth of the fields within the polygon. The last entry records the average area of a field within the polygon.

The 'boundary' table records the boundary details of the polygon. The data for this table includes the primary boundary morphology and the percentage that this occurs. For this entry one type is chosen from the 'primary boundary table'. This table includes, sinuous, straight, none etc. Secondary boundary morphology is also recorded, again from the 'primary boundary table'. The next two entries are 'other internal boundary morphology' and 'other external boundary morphology'. For both of these one type is chosen from the 'other boundary table', which includes 'settlement edge', 'line of communication', watercourse' etc. The last two entries for this section record whether the data has one or two degrees of parallinity. This potential level of recording of the boundary detail is provided as it is expected that this will be the most informative morphological data.

The 'geographic' table records the polygon location, position and whether it remains active. This last table of data level two begins with whether the polygon is active or not. If industry is present it may or may not still be in use, likewise fields may be present but they may or may not be presently farmed. The next data entry is whether the polygon is a single feature and therefore discrete. This can occur where the polygon records a wood. The next two data layers record the polygons central Ordnance Survey grid reference and its aspect. Although the data base will be linked to the Mapinfo Geographic Information System (GIS) it is sensible for the database to be able to stand alone where possible. The aspect is taken from the 'aspect table' that includes coastal, hilltop, ridge, valley floor etc. During the analysis the aspect may prove valuable information for certain HLC. For the same reason the average height of the polygon will be recorded to the nearest ten metres. It is also envisaged that the soil type and geology will be recorded to aid future analysis. These data tables or Mapinfo layers have not yet been identified. A free text field is also included.

Throughout the recording it is the general overview that is required and time should not be lost in minute detail such as deciding if a field is square with rounded corners or round with straight sides. The basic structure of data level two is indicated below.

Data Level Two Structure

Size and Character Detail

Area of Polygon	(Square Kilometres)
Predominant Character	(Regular/Irregular)
Predominant Shape	(Angular/Curvilinear/Mixed)
Secondary Shape	(Square/Rectangular/Triangular/Round/Oval/ Elongated/Multifaceted)
Predominant Size X	(Metres)
Predominant Size Y	(Metres)
Average Polygon Area	(Km Square)

Boundary Detail

Primary Boundary Morphology	(Primary Boundary Table)
Percent which is primary	(000%)
Secondary Boundary Morphology	(Primary Boundary Table)
Other Internal Boundary Morphology	(Other Boundary Table)
Other External Boundary Morphology	(Other Boundary Table)
Parallel x 2	(Two boundaries are parallel)
Parallel x 4	(Four boundaries are parallel)

Geographic Detail

Active	(Yes/No)
Discrete	(Yes/No) (A Single Element)
OS Grid Reference	(XX 000 000)
Aspect	(Aspect Table)
Average Height	(To nearest 10m)
Soil Type	(From?)
Geology	(From?)
Free Text	(………..)

c.   Data Level Three - current character

This data level interprets the current character of the polygon. This reflects the actual landscape that can be seen as one walks or drives around the county. There are tables for the recording of the polygon character, human geography and evidence of change. Where data entry is not applicable it will be left blank.

Under character the first entry is 'character group' where one type is chosen from the 'character group table'. This table includes 'enclosed' (eg fields etc), 'unenclosed' (heaths etc), 'military', 'recreation/ornamental' etc. Under the next entry, 'character group interpretation' these are sub divided. For example under 'enclosed' includes piecemeal, planed enclosure, modern field amalgamation amongst others. This would be chosen from the morphological evidence taken from MasterMap. A period is entered for the polygon from the period table. This is followed by a confidence table that applies to the interpretation. The choices here are 'certain' which indicates that there is no doubt about the interpretation, 'probable' which suggests that the interpretation is highly probable and 'possible' where the interpretation is likely to be correct but is by no means certain. It is likely that probable and possible will be more regularly used than certain. The last data entries for this table record the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Character from the Dorset AONB layer and the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Character from its layer. (These layers are not presently available).

The human geography table records the present human activity occurring within the polygon. This includes the background settlement, type and period of farms, boundary composition, indicative features and whether the feature(s) is/are man made. The first data entry for this table records the background settlement that is taken from the settlement table. If applicable this is likely to be dispersed as any larger settlement will probably be recorded under settlement in the character table. The type of farm, from the farm table records whether the farms within the polygon, if present, are arable, pastoral, horticultural etc. The period of farms is again taken from the period table. This may be recognisable from the morphology and or place name evidence from the map. With dispersed farms set amongst ruler straight rectangular fields the farms are likely to date around 1800 AD. The composition of the boundary is an important feature and is recorded from the boundary type table. This includes none, bank, hedge, wall amongst others. It is envisaged that this detail will be available from the air photography layer as well as local knowledge. Indicative features are recorded from the indicative features table. This data entry helps to determine the character or previous character of the polygon. An example of this is where 'dog leg' changes in direction of field boundaries may indicate earlier medieval open fields. The last data entry for the human geography table is whether the features within the polygon are man made. This is entered as 'yes' or 'no'. This is useful when details of a lake have been entered.

The evidence of change table for data level three records changes in the landscapes which have occurred since earlier mapped evidence and or other sources of evidence. This table includes whether the current detail was present on earlier maps and its extent on earlier maps. The change in the number of fields of the polygon is also recorded, as is the presence of ancient woodland. The first data entry for this table records whether the polygon features are present on the early map layer (a mix of 1st and 2nd edition OS maps in Mapinfo). This is recorded as 'yes' or 'no'. The area indicated on the early map is also noted in Km squares. The number of fields lost or gained is also recorded from the evidence of the early map layer. As noted above the presence on the ancient woodland Mapinfo layer is recorded as 'yes' or 'no'. The main source of evidence is also recorded from the source table. This could be the MasterMap layer itself, the air photography layer or a tithe map etc. A free text field is also available. The basic structure of data level three is indicated below. (not all of these layers are presently available).

Data Level Three Structure

Character

Character Group	(Character Group Table)
Character Group Interpretation	(Character Group Interpretation Table)
Period	(Period Table)
Confidence	(Confidence Table)
AONB Character Dorset	(AONB Layer Dorset)
AONB Character Wiltshire	(AONB Layer Wiltshire)

Human Geography

Background Settlement	(Settlement Table)
Type of Farms	(Farm Table)
Period of Farms	(Period Table)
Type of Boundaries	(Boundary Type Table)
Indicative Features	(Indicative Features Table)
Man Made	(Yes/No)

Evidence of Change

Presence on Early Map Layer	(Yes/No)
Area on Early Map Layer	(Km Square)

Number of fields lost since Early Map
  Layer   (000)
Number of fields gained since Early Map
  Layer   (000)
Presence on Ancient Woodland Layer   (Yes/No)
Source   (Source Table)
Free Text   (………..)

d.   Data Level Four - previous character

This data level interprets the previous character(s) of the polygon where it is possible to recognise them. These are recorded by attributes that indicate one or more successive previous types of historic landscape character. These are drawn from historic maps, interpretations and extrapolations from localised archaeological surveys where they exist. They might, for example be land that was common or woodland prior to enclosure, earthwork remains of abandoned prehistoric or medieval settlement that indicates past enclosure in unenclosed land etc or mineral extraction prior to the restoration of field boundaries and before that parliamentary enclosure. Indicators of previous HLC may include dog leg boundaries, ridge and furrow, marl pits and some types of field or farmstead name. These indicators are listed in the 'indicative features table'. This data level provides increased time depth for the HLC. It will, however, not always be possible to obtain data for all these attributes, and in this case the appropriate attribute will be left blank.

Data level four uses the same tables as data level three, the current character. Here the tables for the recording of the polygons previous character are, 'previous character', 'previous human geography' and 'previous evidence for change'. As the tables are designed for the current character some of the attributes will not be applicable to any previous character. The following description is basically the same for data level three but is obviously for the recording of previous character.

Under previous character the first entry is 'character group' where one type is chosen from the 'character group table'. This table includes 'enclosed' (eg fields etc), 'unenclosed' (heaths etc), 'military', 'recreation/ornamental' etc. Under the next entry, 'character group interpretation' these are sub divided. For example under 'enclosed' includes piecemeal, planned enclosure, modern field amalgamation amongst others. This would be chosen from the morphological evidence taken from MasterMap or other sources. A period is entered for the polygon from the period table. This is followed by a confidence table that applies to the interpretation. The choices here are 'certain' which indicates that there is no doubt about the interpretation, 'probable' which suggests that the interpretation is highly probable and 'possible' where the interpretation is likely to be correct but is by no means certain. It is likely that probable and possible will be more regularly used than certain. The last data entries for this table record the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Character from the Dorset AONB layer and the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Character from its layer. (These layers are presently not available).

The previous human geography table records the previous human activity occurring within the polygon. This includes the background settlement, type and period of farms, boundary composition, indicative features and whether the feature(s) is/are man made. The first data entry for this table records the background settlement that is taken from the settlement table. If applicable this is likely to be dispersed as any larger settlement will probably be recorded under settlement in the character table. The type of farm, from the farm table records whether the farms within the polygon, if present, are arable, pastoral, horticulture etc. The period of farms is again taken from the period table. This may be recognisable from the morphology and or place name evidence from the map. With dispersed farms set amongst ruler straight rectangular fields the farms are likely to date around 1800 AD. The composition of the boundary is an important feature and is recorded from the boundary type table. This includes none, bank, hedge, wall amongst others. It is envisaged that this detail will be

available from the air photography layer as well as local knowledge. Indicative features are recorded from the indicative features table. This data entry helps to determine the previous character of the polygon. An example of this is where 'dog leg' changes in direction of field boundaries may indicate earlier medieval open fields. The last data entry for the human geography table is whether the features within the polygon are man made. This is entered as 'yes' or 'no'. This is useful when details of a lake have been entered.

The previous evidence of change table for data level four record changes in the landscapes which have occurred since earlier mapped evidence and or other sources of evidence. This table includes whether the current detail was present on earlier maps and its extent on earlier maps. The change in the number of fields of the polygon is also recorded, as is the presence of ancient woodland. The first data entry for this table records whether the polygon features are present on the early map layer (a mix of 1st and 2nd edition OS maps in Mapinfo). This is recorded as 'yes' or 'no'. The area indicated on the early map is also noted in Km squares. The number of fields lost or gained is also recorded from the evidence of the early map layer. As noted above the presence on the ancient woodland Mapinfo layer is recorded as 'yes' or 'no'. The main source of evidence is also recorded from the source table. This could be the MasterMap layer itself, the air photography layer or a tithe map etc. A free text layer is also available. The basic structure of data level four is indicated below.

Data Level Four Structure

Previous Character

Character Group	(Character Group Table)
Character Group Interpretation	(Character Group Interpretation Table)
Period	(Period Table)
Confidence	(Confidence Table)
AONB Character Dorset	(AONB Layer Dorset)
AONB Character Wiltshire	(AONB Layer Wiltshire)

Previous Human Geography

Background Settlement	(Settlement Table)
Type of Farms	(Farm Table)
Period of Farms	(Period Table)
Type of Boundaries	(Boundary Type Table)
Indicative Features	(Indicative Features Table)
Man Made	(Yes/No)

Previous Evidence of Change

Presence on Early Map Layer	(Yes/No)
Area on Early Map Layer	(Km Square)
Number of fields lost since Early Map Layer	(000)
Number of fields gained since Early Map Layer	(000)
Presence on Ancient Woodland Layer	(Yes/No)
Source	(Source Table)
Free Text	(………..)

Where further previous characters are to be recorded they will follow the same structure as data level four. Further previous character levels are possible but are unlikely to be that common when considering the whole county.

The following section details the tables available and their contents. They have not been detailed previously so that they can be kept within one section for easier reference. The tables usually follow the form of the table attribute followed by a description or definition of that attribute. The attributes listed are not exhaustive but are the most common or generalised so that the database structure may be fairly simple and that of data entry and query. It is worth re-stating that this is a county overview and with time considerations already detailed the data has to be fairly generalised, whilst retaining adequate detail to be meaningful.

e.   Tables

Table: Primary Boundary

None	No boundary is visible/applicable.
Mixed	A component of a boundary or the boundary itself that has more than one attribute.
Curvilinear	A single boundary or a series of enclosed areas in which the predominant boundaries have no angular changes in direction. May indicate a single curve.
Ruler Straight	A component of a boundary which has no deviation in direction and is obviously rigorously planned and constructed.
Straight	A component of a boundary which has no deviation in direction.
Sinuous	A component of a boundary which curves and re-curves along its course.

Table: Other Boundary

None	No boundary is visible/applicable.
Mixed	A component of a boundary or the boundary itself that has more than one attribute.
Curvilinear	A single boundary or a series of enclosed areas in which the predominant boundaries have no angular changes in direction. May indicate a single curve.
Ruler Straight	A component of a boundary which has no deviation in direction and is obviously rigorously planned and constructed.
Straight	A component of a boundary which has no deviation in direction.
Sinuous	A component of a boundary which curves and re-curves along its course.
Settlement Edge	A component of a boundary which defines part of a settlement.
Line of Communication	A component of a boundary that defines a line of communication. (road or railway etc).
Edge of Wood	A component of a boundary that defines part of a wood.
Water Course	A component of a boundary which defines part of a water course.
Co-Axial	A series of boundaries which have a common plane of origin.

Table: Aspect

Coastal	The attribute has a coastal location.
Hill top	The attribute is located on the top of a hill.
Ridge	The attribute is located on a ridge.
Upland	The attribute has an upland location.
Slope	The attribute is located on a slope.
Lowland	The attribute has a lowland location.
Valley Floor	The attribute has a valley floor location.
Mixed	The attribute covers more than one aspect.
Other	The attribute does not fit into the above.

Table: Character Group

Enclosed	An area that is surrounded by a boundary.
Unenclosed	An area which is not enclosed.
Woodland	An area which is defined as woodland.

Orchard	An area of intensive apple/pear production.
Industrial	An area of industrial activity past or present.
Military	An area used or once used by the military.
Recreation/Ornamental	An area used for recreation and/or cultural importance.
Settlement	An area of permanent habitation. (village etc).
Water Association	An area that is associated with water.
Communication	Man made areas or routes and their associated attributes used for travel.
Visible Archaeology	Up standing man made features of an historical nature.
Coastal	An area which has attributes of a coastal area.

Character Group Interpretation Tables

Table: Enclosed

Agglomeration	A series of enclosures that have developed over time and are usually in the form of fish scales.
Assarts	Areas of small regular or amorphous fields that appear to have been created through woodland clearance.
Paddocks/Closes	Small regular or amorphous fields close to the settlement edge. Probably represent small meadows and paddocks.
Squatter	Small regular or amorphous fields that result from the enclosure of common land. May be associated with industrial activity.
Piecemeal	The gradual unplanned expansion of fields.
Open Field Enclosure	Shows evidence of the informal enclosure of open fields. May include S curves and or dog legs.
Planned Clearance	Large or small fields with a regular rectilinear appearance with predominantly straight boundaries. The fields appear to have been created through woodland or heathland clearance.
Planned Enclosure	Regular field layout with predominantly straight boundaries giving a rectilinear planned appearance. Usually from the Medieval period onwards.
Parliamentary enclosure	Regular rectilinear fields with ruler straight boundaries.
Modern field amalgamation	Very large fields created through the amalgamation of smaller fields since those identified on the Early Map Layer. Usually are post 1945 and are for intensive arable cultivation.
Strip Fields	Medieval elongated fields.
Other Regular	Regular fields which do not fit into the above.
Other Amorphous	Amorphous fields which do not fit into the above.

Table: Unenclosed

Down Land	Undulating chalk upland areas with minimal boundaries usually used for grazing but increasingly used for intensive arable agriculture.
Heath Land	Lowland uncultivated areas with poor sandy soils which may be covered with heather and birch.
Pasture	Extensive areas of grazing for sheep or cattle.
Common	Land which is or was used in part communally rather than by private individuals.
Open Fields	Medieval strip field farming. May be associated with ridge and furrow, S shaped field boundaries and or dog legs.
Raised Bog	Extensive upland areas typified by heather, ling and bilberry.
Rough Ground	Areas of general rough ground.
Drained	Lowland wetland
Other	Unenclosed areas which do not fit into the above.

Table: Woodland

Ancient	Area of ancient woodland indicated on the ancient woodland layer.

Coniferous	Area of coniferous woodland. (Evergreen eg pine)
Deciduous	Area of deciduous woodland. (Lose their leaves eg oak). Mixed Natural or semi-natural deciduous and coniferous woodland.
Scrub	Patchy area of trees and shrubs.
Plantation Coniferous	Planned planting usually in large rows by the Forestry Commission.
Plantation Deciduous	Planned planting usually in large rows.
Plantation Mixed	Planned planting usually in large rows.
Coppice	Area of woodland which indicates coppicing was practiced.
Osier Bed	Willow produced for basket work etc.
Withy Bed	A traditional woodland industry.
Other	Woodland areas which do not fit into the above.

Table: Orchard

Unknown	An orchard whose type is unknown.
Apple	An orchard which specialises in apple production.
Pear	An orchard which specialises in pear production.
Other	An orchard of known type but is not apple or pear. Its type may be recorded in the free text.

Table: Industrial

Quarry Peat	Extractive industry for fuel.
Quarry Stone	Extractive industry usually for building stone.
Quarry Sand/Gravel	Extractive industry usually for roads/building ballast.
Quarry Mineral	Extractive industry usually for ball/china clay production.
Spoil	Areas of industrial waste associated with extractive or manufacturing industries.
Oil	Extractive industry for fossil fuel.
Factory	Areas of nucleated industry with single or multiple buildings.
Pottery	Clay based industry for the production of industrial and domestic products.
Brickworks	Clay based industry for the production of building and industrial bricks.
Textile	Traditional county industry specialising in the production of rope and nets. The nets are for the fishing and football industries.
Lime Kiln	Burning lime for the building industry or farming.
Industrial Estate	Area of small businesses.
Other	An area of industry which does not fit into any of the above.

Table: Military

Airfield	Enclosed area of relatively flat ground used for the taking off, landing and maintenance of military aircraft. Usually date from 1939 - 1945.
Barracks	A building or building complex used to house soldiers.
Depot	An enclosed area with numerous buildings used as the headquarters of a regiment. It can also be a dedicated stores facility.
Range	Area used for weapons testing or practice.
Other	An area of military activity which does not fit into the above.

Table: Recreation/ornamental

Deer Park	An area enclosed by a park pale for the stocking of deer.
Garden	An area of ground with ornamental planting, usually publicly owned for use by the general public.
Municipal Park	A public open space used for various types of recreation.
Sports Field	An area of ground used for organised sporting activities.
Race Course	An enclosed area used for racing (horses, dogs, cars, etc)
Golf Course	An enclosed area used for the game of golf.
Nature Reserve	An area set aside for the protection of flora and fauna and open to the public.

Camping Site	A usually fairly level area used for the pitching of tents or the parking of caravans for holiday use.
Holiday Cottages	Cottages rented out for holidays.
Theme Park	An area used for the recreation of the public and may include rides which is organised around a central theme.
Sea Side	The coastal area used for public recreation and is usually the sandy beaches and associated activities.
Recreation Ground	A public area for recreation (usually for children).
Playing Field	An area for children to play.
Other	An area of recreation/ornamentation which does not fit into the above.

Table: Settlement

None	There is no settlement present.
Urban	A large area of settlement (two km square and larger)
Nucleated	An area of settlement with a central core.
Linear	The settlement follows the line of a road.
Dispersed	An area of settlement without a central core and has loosely developed.
Historic Core	The initial development of the existing settlement which is identified from the Early Map Layer or other available evidence. The historic core is usually centrally located.
Grid Layout	An area of planned development usually from the industrial period and includes terraced housing.
Complex	An area of planned housing with avenues and cul-de-sacs of semi detached housing forming large suburban areas. These areas which can be quite extensive usually date from the post 1914 period.
Estate	Modern planned development with mixed housing with small and complex road networks.
School Municipal	A state school (comprehensive, grammar etc)
School Public	A private school (Eaton, Harrow etc).
Country House	A large house in or once in a rural area.
Municipal Facility	Hospital/prison/cemetery/crematorium etc.
Other	An area which does not fit into the above.

Table: Water Association

Open Water	Large areas of sea water such as large estuaries.
Reservoirs	Large natural or artificial areas of water used for supply.
Lakes	Large natural or artificial areas of water.
Rivers	Large, wide rivers which have a large impact on the landscape.
Water Meadows	Developed semi natural flood plains or valley floor areas with a system of flood control for the production of hay.
Water Cress Beds	Usually valley floor rectilinear system for watercress production.
Reed Beds	Usually low lying areas used for the production of reed for thatch.
Valley Floor	The area at the base of the valley usually with a water course.
Flood Plain	The area of the base of a valley which has been levelled by the regular flooding of the river.
Sewage Works	An industrial process for water purification.
Other	An area which does not fit into the above.

Table: Communication

Airfields	An enclosed area of relatively flat ground used for the taking off, landing and maintenance of commercial and general aviation aircraft. Usually date from 1939.
Roads/Service Areas	Large service areas for cars and lorries which have a large impact on the landscape.
Railway Station	Railway stations which have a large impact on the landscape.

| Railway Yard | Rail yards which have a large impact on the landscape. |
| Other | An area which does not fit into the above. |

Table: Visible archaeology

Henge	A Neolithic ritual monument which is circular to oval in shape with a bank and inner ditch. They usually have one or two entrances and are from 45m to 500m across.
Cursus	A Neolithic structure of unknown function which has two parallel banks with ditches to the outside. These monuments can be over 10 Km in length.
Long Barrow	A Neolithic elongated mound raised over a number of burials. They usually have or had an external ditch.
Stone Circle	A Neolithic ritual monument which comprises a series of large stones arranged in a circular pattern.
Standing Stone	A single standing stone which may date from a number of periods.
Dyke	A linear bank and ditch or a series of banks and ditches. These may date from a number of periods and may extend from a few hundred yards to 80 Km.
Round Barrow	A Bronze Age approximately circular bank raised over a single or a number of burials. Usually situated on a ridge or hilltop.
Barrow Cemetery	A series of round barrows usually found on a ridge or hill top.
Hillfort	A defendable enclosure consisting of a bank and ditch or a number of banks and ditches. They are usually found on a hill top and of Iron Age date.
Field System	A series of distinct fields recognised in the landscape but no longer used as individual units. They appear in different forms according to the period they date from. The prehistoric "Celtic Fields" are usually rectilinear while Medieval Open fields often have a sinuous appearance.
DMV	Deserted Medieval Villages (DMV) are often attributed to the Black Death but economic decline is now favoured for these low mounds and ditches covering a field or two.
Castle	A Medieval fortified building or mound on which a building was constructed. These monuments vary considerably in size and design from the early to late medieval period.
Other	Visible archaeology but not defined by one of the above.

Table: Coastal

Sand	A coastal area comprising sand.
Dunes	A coastal area comprising sand dunes.
Shingle	A coastal area comprising shingle.
Mudflats	An area of coastal mudflats.
Salt Marsh	An area of coastal salt marsh.
Beach	A sand or pebble area of the shore.
Other	A coastal area which does not fit into the above.

Period LUT

None	N/A (not applicable)
Unknown	Unknown
Modern	AD 1901 – 2050
Industrial	AD 1801 - 1900
Post Medieval	AD 1540 – 1800
Medieval	AD 1066 – 1539
Early Medieval	AD 410 - 1065
Roman	AD 43 - 409
Iron Age	800 BC - AD 42
Bronze Age	2350 – 801 BC

Neolithic	4000 - 2351 BC

Confidence LUT

Certain	Indicates that there is no doubt about the interpretation.
Probable	Suggests that an interpretation is highly probable.
Possible	Suggests that the interpretation is possible but by no means certain.

Farm Type LUT

None	No farm is present.
Arable	A farm predominantly undertaking crop production.
Pastoral	A farm predominantly undertaking the production of livestock.
Mixed	A farm that undertakes arable and pastoral activities.
Horticulture	Garden farming. Intensive production of labour intensive crops.
Intensive	Intensive pastoral farming eg battery hens, piggery etc.
Other	A farm which does not fit into the above.
Unknown	A farm of unknown type.

Boundary Type LUT

None	No boundary is present.
Bank	Boundaries are predominantly comprised of linear raised mounds of earth or stone.
Bank and Ditch	Boundaries comprising both bank and ditch.
Ditch	Boundaries that are predominantly comprised of linear excavated channels.
Fence	Boundaries comprising posts linked with wire or wood.
Ha-Ha	A ditch with a wall on its inner side below ground level, forming a boundary without interrupting the view.
Hedge	Boundaries predominantly comprising closely growing shrubs and bushes.
Wall	Boundaries predominantly comprising dry stone walling.
Other	A boundary which does not fit into the above.

Indicative Features LUT

None	There are no indicative features present.
Marl Pits	The extraction of sub soil to fertilise the different upper layer. Usually in the centre of the field and date from the 18th century. They can however date to the Saxon period.
Field/Animal Sheds	Indicate planned enclosure from the Post Medieval onwards.
Ridge and Furrow	Linear banked and ditched undulations formed by Medieval ploughing in the open fields.
Strip Fields	Fields comprising a number of strips of land from the Medieval period. May or may not contain ridge and furrow.
Dog Legs	Boundaries with angular changes in direction. May indicate Medieval open fields.
'S' Shaped Boundaries	May indicate Medieval open fields.
Field/Place Name	May indicate the activity or period of an area.
Grid Pattern	Fields with ninety degrees between boundaries indicate planned enclosure. With ruler straight boundaries it may indicate Parliamentary enclosure.
Other	An indicative feature which does not fit into the above.

Map Source LUT

None	Not applicable.
OS Master Map	The GIS based Ordnance Survey land parcel layer.
Early Map Layer	The GIS based layer of mixed first and second edition OS maps.
Air Photo Layer	The GIS based layer of colour vertical air photography from 1999.
Ancient Woodland	The GIS based layer of woodland over 400 years old.

Tithe Map   Parish maps for the church tax system held at the Record Office.
Enclosure Award   Maps and documents describing a Parliamentary enclosure.
Other   A source which is not listed above.