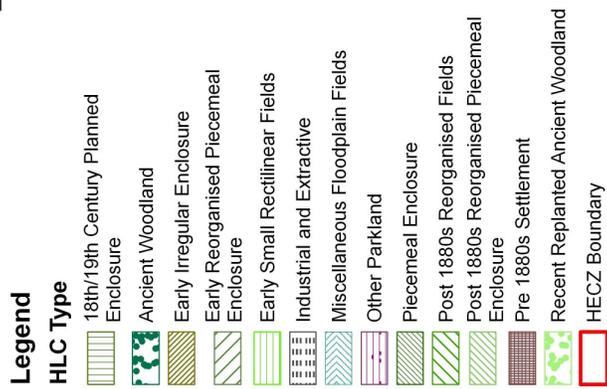
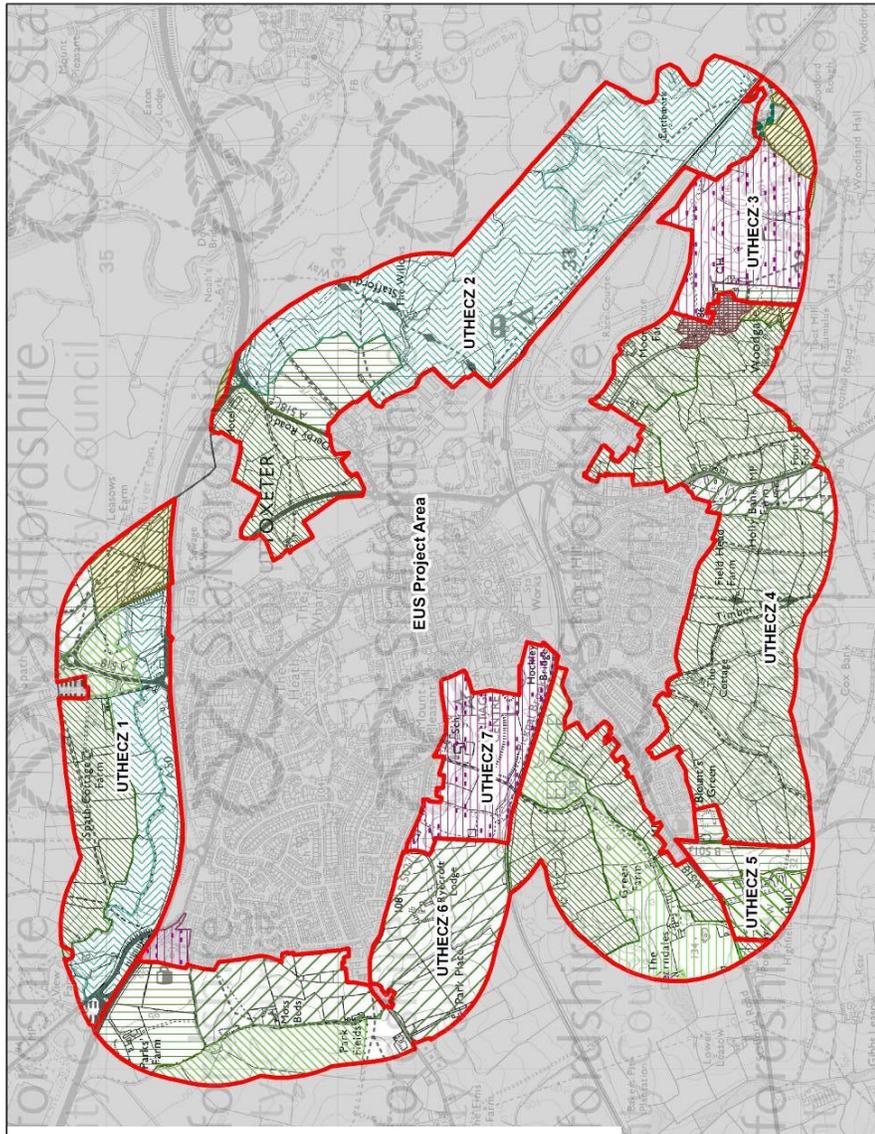


APPENDIX 3: Uttoxeter

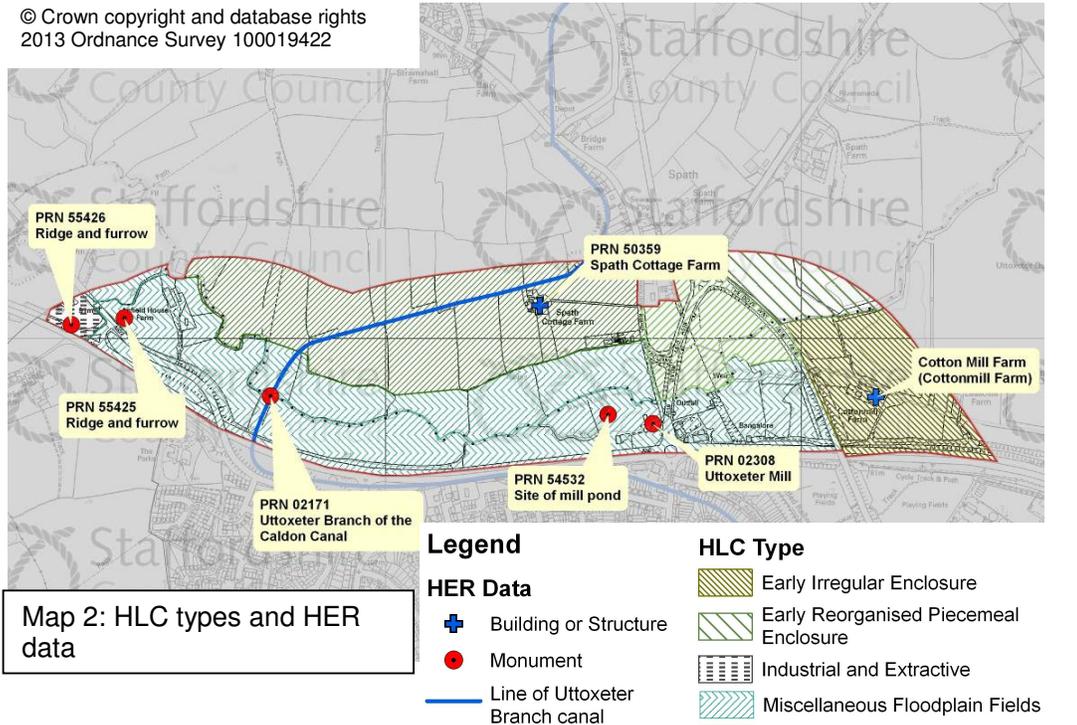
1. Uttoxeter



Map 1: Uttoxeter HECZ boundaries and HLC types

1.1 UTCHECZ 1 – North of Uttoxeter

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1.1.1 Statement of heritage significance

The zone lies along the valley of the River Tean which flows eastwards towards its confluence with the River Dove approximately 0.75km to the east. The topography reflects this valley location in being relatively flat lying between 81m and 88m AOD from east to west¹. The land rises more steeply to the north to approximately 100m AOD within the zone, but continues to finally reach 120m AOD to the east of Stramshall beyond the HECZ boundary. The bedrock geology is comprised of Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstone) overlain by deposits of alluvium along the length of the River Tean, by River Terrace deposits (sand and gravel) to the north east and Glacioufluvial Deposits (sand and gravel) to the south². There has been substantial evidence for prehistoric and later activity elsewhere within the river valleys of eastern Staffordshire and in particular along the Trent Valley (cf. 5.2 in HEA report). There is currently little evidence for such activity within the Tean Valley, although a possible Roman site (a camp, fortlet or farmstead) has been identified on aerial photography to the north of the zone near Stramshall³. A double-ditched 'D' shaped enclosure nearby may be associated with this site and other undated cropmarks suggest further activity located within this area. The lack of evidence in the wider area may be partly due to the fact that the valleys around Uttoxeter have been dominated by grazing since at least the 17th century. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

¹ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

² British Geological Survey 2012 web: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

³ Staffordshire HER: PRN 03643

The predominance of grassland within this landscape has secured the survival of large areas of ridge and furrow earthworks across the zone (cf. map 2). These features represent the legible remains of agricultural strip farming which dates to at least the medieval period and which formed part of Uttoxeter’s open field system (cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). The well preserved field system lying to the north of the River Tean also fossilises in its boundaries the line the ox-plough took across the open field in the form of ‘S’ curves and dog-legs. The legible field system (HLC type ‘Piecemeal Enclosure’ on map 2), was created through individual landholders consolidating their individual strips which were scattered across the open fields probably between the 14th and 18th century⁴. This process of enclosure may be associated with cattle farming from at least the 17th century onwards (from the 18th century this became predominantly for dairying) for which the Dove Valley is famed (cf. 5.4 in HEA report). The establishment of two farmsteads within the zone, Spath Cottage Farm and Cottonmill Farm, may have been associated with this change within the agricultural economy in either the post medieval or slightly later period. Both had been established as small farms, whose plan forms suggest that they may have developed incrementally, although both have been substantially altered during the 20th century.

The fields along the River Tean (HLC Type ‘Miscellaneous Floodplain Fields’ on UTHECZ 1 map) may have originated as meadow during the medieval period. The enclosure date of these fields is currently unknown, although it is largely unaltered from the late 19th century.

The importance of arable agriculture to the local economy is reinforced by the mention of a corn mill in the 14th century. The precise location of this building is unknown, but it may have been located on the site of the later Uttoxeter Mill which stood, along with its millpond, within the zone. The mill pond was backfilled in the early 20th century⁵. The mill itself appears to have continued to operate as a corn mill until at least the 1940s and by 2006 survived as a ruin.

The line of the late 18th century Uttoxeter Branch of the Caldon Canal also crosses the zone and is legible in part as an earthwork cutting across the ridge and furrow (cf. map 2). The areas of earthwork are also lined by parallel mature hedgerows, which heighten its legibility within the zone. The canal had a short lifespan closing in the late 1840s⁶.

1.1.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone sealed beneath both the alluvium and the sands and gravels.	Medium
Historical value: The legible heritage assets of the zone, both the well preserved ridge and furrow, canal earthworks and the field pattern, contribute to different phases of Uttoxeter’s economic history.	High

⁴ Shaw and Taylor 2011: 2.4.6.2 and 2.5.5.1

⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 02308 and PRN 54532 on map 2

⁶ Shaw and Taylor 2011: 2.6.7.2

<p>Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic character is well preserved in the survival of the historic field pattern and the closely associated ridge and furrow earthworks.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>Communal value: There is good access to this landscape via the Public Rights of Way network; one of which lies parallel with the line of the former canal. There is the potential to interpret the history of this landscape for the benefit of the community and visitors.</p>	<p>Medium</p>

1.1.3 Recommendations

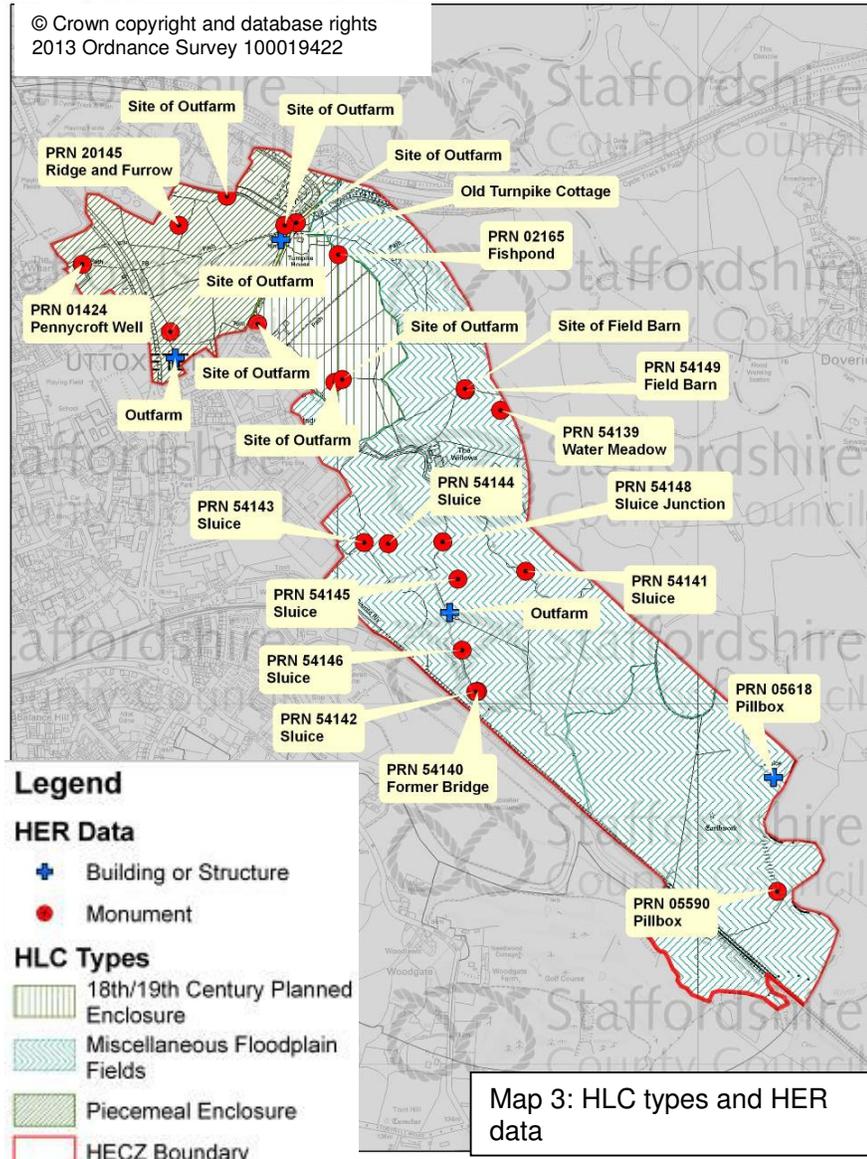
The heritage significance and values have identified the survival of heritage assets within the HECZ which contribute to the history and local character of the area.

- The conservation of the fabric of the historic landscape, notably the field boundaries and the earthworks relating to both the ridge and furrow and the Caldon Canal, is recommended. Maintenance and/or enhancement of the historic landscape fabric in this area would contribute significantly to the areas unique ‘sense of place’ and would ensure the continued legibility of the local historic character for the benefit of present and future generations.
- Should land within the zone be allocated for development any proposals should seek to complement the low settlement density which is characteristic of the landscape to the north of the zone and the conservation of the fabric and legibility of the historic landscape character as stated above. Any such development should also be designed to enhance the local distinctiveness and respect the local vernacular in terms of its scale and architectural form (cf. Bullet Point 4 of para. 17 (Core planning principles) and Bullet Point 4 of para. 58 in NPPF)⁷.
- There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Where development may result in the loss of these heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance; this is supported in paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF⁸.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012.

1.2 UTHECZ 2 – East of Uttoxeter



1.2.1 Statement of heritage significance

The zone lies within the broad Dove valley which comprises a flat topography lying between approximately 71m AOD (to the south) and 75m AOD (to the north)⁹. The geology also reflects this valley landscape with the Mercia Mudstone (Mudstone) bedrock entirely overlain by superficial deposits of alluvium associated with episodic flooding¹⁰. There is evidence from elsewhere within the Dove valley for prehistoric activity, which is a notable feature of the broad valleys in eastern Staffordshire, particularly the along the Trent. The lack of evidence for such activity within the zone is probably partly due to the fact that the valleys around Uttoxeter have been dominated by

⁹ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

¹⁰ British Geological Survey 2012 web:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

grazing since at least the post medieval period. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

The historic character of the zone is dominated by the well preserved remains of an extensive water meadow system which may pre-date the 18th century (particularly associated with HLC Type ‘Miscellaneous Floodplain Fields’ on map 3, but it also extends across other HLC Types)¹¹. From the 17th century onwards grazing around Uttoxeter became the predominant element of the local agricultural economy and was closely tied to the economy of Uttoxeter itself (cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). By the later 17th century Uttoxeter’s market was one of the three main markets in northern Staffordshire trading in cattle and sheep. In the 18th and 19th centuries, by which date the dairy industry dominated the local agricultural economy, Uttoxeter’s market was renowned for its butter and cheese¹². The surviving water meadow features comprise the earthwork remains of the panes and drains as well as numerous sluices and footbridges (cf. map 3). A large number of outfarms¹³ once survived across this landscape, all but two of which have been lost. These structures were probably associated with the farming of the water meadows which were particularly labour intensive (cf. map 3).

To the north of the zone the historic field pattern has been identified as HLC Type ‘Piecemeal Enclosure’ which fossilises earlier land management within its field boundaries many of which take a reverse ‘S’ curve or dog-leg form. This was a landscape enclosed, probably in the post medieval period, but which had earlier formed part of Uttoxeter’s open fields from at least the medieval period (cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). ‘Ridge and furrow’ earthworks, the legible remains of the strips within the open field system created by the passage of the ox-plough across the land, survive within this area¹⁴. It is possible, given that much of this landscape formed part of the dairy industry that these earthworks were adapted to form part of the later water meadow system.

Other features within the zone include a fishpond, which dates to at least the mid 19th century, and is probably associated with a property which stood on the Derby Road known originally as ‘Old Turnpike’¹⁵. This property appears to have been replaced by the extant house at some point during the 20th century. Old Turnpike Cottage standing opposite is probably of at least late 19th century date and has been identified as originating as a small farmstead, although its plan form has subsequently been altered (cf. map 3). It may also be associated with the rise of grazing and of dairy farming in particular from the 17th century onwards.

To the south east of the zone, adjacent to the River Dove, at least one, and possibly two, pillboxes were constructed in 1940-1941 as part of the Western

¹¹ Birmingham Archaeology 2008: 77-80; Staffordshire HER: PRN 54139, PRN 54140, PRN 54141, PRN 54142, PRN 54143, PRN 54144 and PRN 54148; Shaw and Taylor 2011: 2.5.5.1

¹² Kettle 1979: 68 and 75; Shaw and Taylor 2011; 2.5.5.2 and 2.6.4.3

¹³ Outfarm: agricultural buildings without a farmhouse including single barns as well as more complex arrangements

¹⁴ Staffordshire HER: PRN 20145 on map 3

¹⁵ Staffordshire HER: PRN 02165 on map 3

Command Stop Line No. 5 which ran from Tamworth to Burton-upon-Trent and then via the River Dove to Ashbourne)¹⁶.

1.2.2 Heritage values:

<p>Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone sealed beneath the alluvium. There is also the potential for other Second World War defences to survive associated with the Stop Line and in particular with pillbox sites. Such remains could include defensive ditches and fox holes, further concrete defences secreted in hedge lines and mortar positions.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
<p>Historical value: The majority of the legible heritage assets within the zone, from the earthworks and structures (including the two surviving outfalls) associated with the water meadows as well as the ridge and furrow form an important part in understanding Uttoxeter's economic history. The survival of the pillbox(s) is testimony to the strategic importance of the river valley during the Second World War.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic character of the landscape is well preserved in the remains of earthworks associated with the water meadows as well as with the 'Piecemeal Enclosure' and ridge and furrow earthworks to the north.</p>	<p>High</p>
<p>Communal value: The HECZ has much to offer in terms of the interpretation of the numerous and related legible heritage assets. Areas of the landscape are accessible via the Public Rights of Way network.</p>	<p>High</p>

1.2.3 Recommendations

The heritage significance and values identifies that the historic character of the HECZ is well preserved and legible heritage assets relating to historic land management proliferate.

- The conservation of the fabric of the historic landscape, notably remains of the water meadow system (including the structures) as well as the field pattern and ridge and furrow to the north is recommended. Maintenance and/or enhancement of the historic landscape fabric in this area would contribute significantly to the areas unique 'sense of place' and would ensure the continued legibility of the local historic character for the benefit of present and future generations. The interpretation of the features and their location in association with the Rights of Way network could be used to promote sustainable tourism and health and well-being.
- Should land within the zone be allocated for development any proposed development should seek to complement the existing low settlement density and the conservation of the fabric and legibility of the historic landscape character as stated above. Any such development should also be designed to enhance the local distinctiveness and respect the local vernacular in terms of its scale and architectural form (cf. Bullet

¹⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 05590 and PRN 5618 on map 3

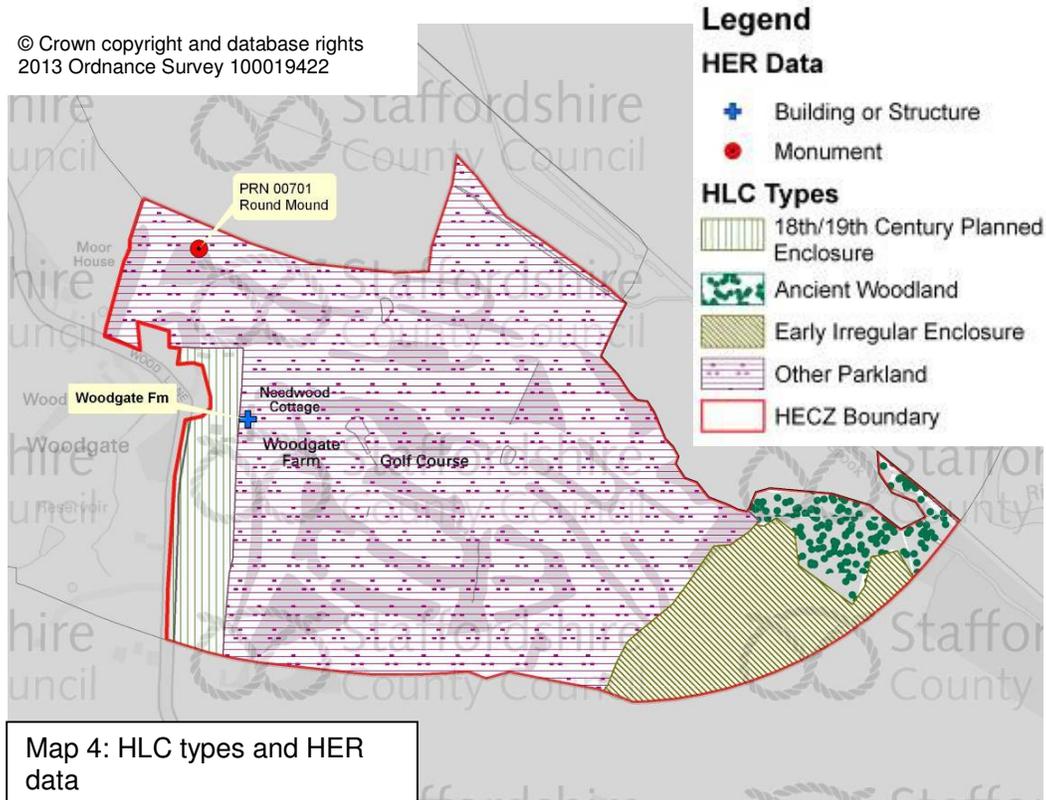
Point 4 of para. 17 (Core planning principles) and Bullet Point 4 of para. 58 in NPPF)¹⁷.

- There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive across the zone. Where development may result in the loss of these heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance; this is supported in paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF¹⁸.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012.

1.3 UTHECZ 3 – East of Woodgate



1.3.1 Statement of heritage significance

The topography of the zone rises sharply southwards out of the Dove valley from around 72m AOD to 113m AOD on the flank of Toothill (beyond the project area and reaching around 135m AOD) where there is a Scheduled Bronze Age barrow¹⁹. The bedrock geology is comprised of Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstone), which is overlain by mid-Pleistocene superficial deposits of Glaciofluvial sands and gravels to the north and of till to the south²⁰. There has been substantial evidence for prehistoric and later activity elsewhere within the river valleys of eastern Staffordshire and in particular along the Trent valley. There is currently little evidence for such activity within or beyond the zone, with the exception of the Scheduled barrow on Toothill and a large mound lying within the north western portion of the golf course (cf. map 4)²¹. The origins and function of the latter is, however, unclear although it has been variously interpreted as a Bronze Age barrow or a pillow mound; the latter interpretation predicated on the fact it was ‘infested with rabbits’ in the late 19th century. An excavation carried out by school boys in 1957 failed to find any archaeological deposits or finds. The lack of evidence in the wider area may be partly due to the dominance of grazing from at least the 17th century. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

¹⁹ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum; Staffordshire HER: PRN 00144; English Heritage National Heritage No. 1008710

²⁰ British Geological Survey 2012 web:
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

²¹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00701 on map 4

The historic character of the zone is dominated by a large golf course (HLC Type 'Other Parkland' on map 4) which was laid out in the later 20th century. Beyond the golf course there survives a small area of fields to the west whose straight boundaries suggest that they were created in the 18th or 19th century by surveyors ('18th/19th Century Planned Enclosure' on map 4; cf. 5.4 in HEA report). This HLC type extends southwards and south westwards beyond the project area and dominates the landscape of 'High Wood'. In circa 1775 High Wood still formed an area of heathland, although its placename suggests that it had previously been wooded possibly by the medieval period. To the east of the zone the fields have been identified as 'Early Irregular Fields', which lie adjacent to an area of 'Ancient Woodland'. Both the woodland and the field pattern extend southwards beyond the project area. The well preserved field pattern incorporates two isolated properties; the 17th century Woodford Hall and the (probably) later Woodland Hall. The names and presence of ancient woodland in this area suggest that the 'Early Irregular Fields' had originated as assarting in either the medieval or post medieval period (and therefore possibly associated with the creation of Woodford Hall)²². This then would suggest that the higher land lying to the south of the zone had once formed part of a large woodland, probably part of the Uttoxeter Ward of Needwood Forest (cf. 5.3.2 in HEA report). This Ward was mostly enclosed during the 17th century, although clearly High Wood was not enclosed until a later date.

Few buildings lie within the zone with the exception of Woodgate Farm, which forms part of the small settlement of Woodgate (cf. UTHECZ 4). It is a well preserved small farmstead which was established in the late 19th century.

1.3.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone sealed beneath both the alluvium and the sands and gravels. The historic properties also have the potential to retain fabric within their structures which could contribute to an understanding of the history of the wider landscape.	Medium
Historical value: The legible heritage assets comprise the large mound which may represent the remains of a Bronze Age barrow. The remains of the fields systems and the ancient woodland contribute to an understanding of the development of the wider landscape.	Low
Aesthetic value: The historic character is dominated by a modern golf course. The woodland and historic field systems contribute to the overall historic character which extends southwards beyond the project area.	Low
Communal value: There is the potential to interpret the history of this landscape for the benefit of the community and visitors. However, only one Public Right of Way provides access into part of this landscape.	Low

²² Assart: the felling of woodland to create farmland

1.3.3 Recommendations

The heritage significance and values has identified that the historic character is dominated by a modern golf course, although the surviving field systems and ancient woodland extend beyond the project area and contribute to the wider historic character and history of the landscape.

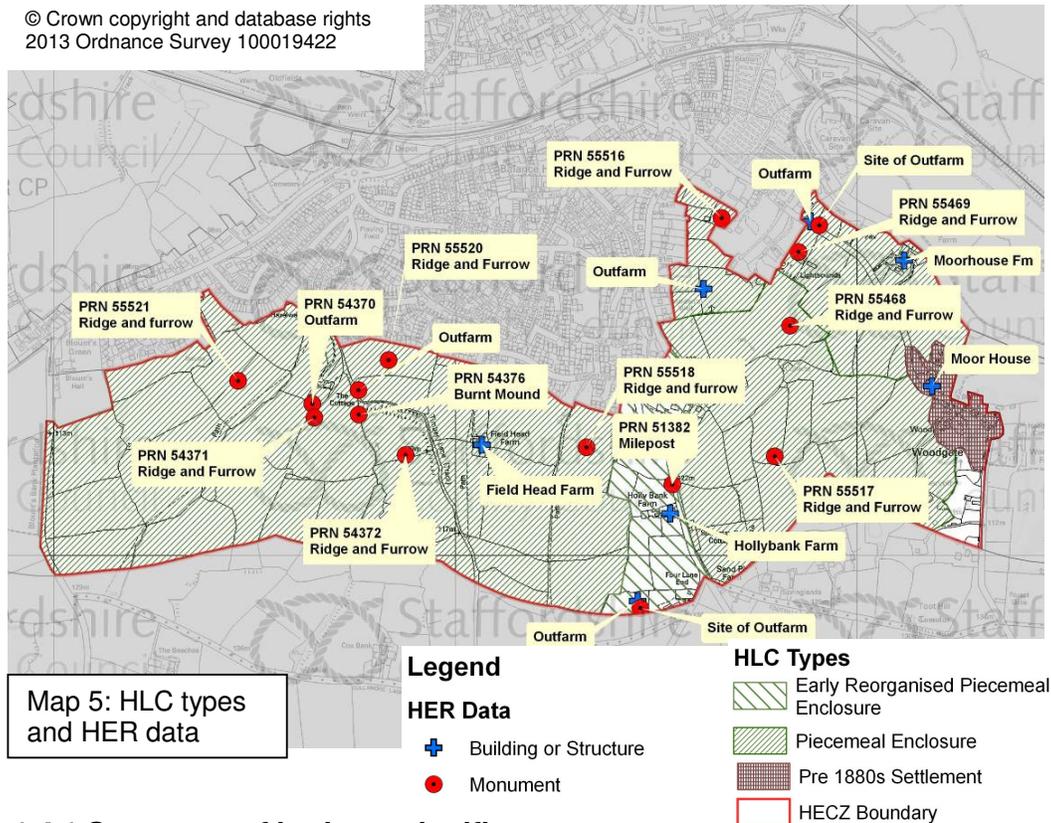
- There is the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive within the HECZ. Where development may result in the loss of these heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance; this is supported in paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF²³.
- Should land within the zone be allocated for development any proposed development should seek to complement the existing low settlement density and the conservation of the fabric and legibility of the historic landscape character as stated above. Any such development should also be designed to enhance the local distinctiveness and respect the local vernacular in terms of its scale and architectural form (cf. Bullet Point 4 of para. 17 (Core planning principles) and Bullet Point 4 of para. 58 in NPPF)²⁴.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

1.4 UTHECZ 4 – South of Uttoxeter

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1.4.1 Statement of heritage significance

The topography of the zone generally rises southwards. To the north east the land lies around 76m AOD rising to 135m AOD at Toothill, whilst to the north west the land lies at around 90m AOD rising to the south west to approximately 131m AOD at Highfield Hall²⁵. In this western portion of the zone, three shallow valleys each carry a small unnamed brook from the high land towards Uttoxeter to the north. The bedrock geology comprises Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstones), but is overlain by alluvium along the three valleys. The eastern portion of the zone is dominated by superficial deposits of mid-Pleistocene till, with small areas of Glaciofluvial sands and gravels to the far east and in isolated pockets to the south²⁶. The degree of exploitation of this landscape in the prehistoric and Roman periods is currently unknown. There is archaeological evidence in the wider landscape for prehistoric activity in the form of a Scheduled Bronze Age barrow which stands approximately 200m to the south on Toothill²⁷. A further possible barrow may survive within UTHECZ 3. The lack of evidence in the wider area may be partly due to the predominance of grazing in the landscape around Uttoxeter from at least the 17th century. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

²⁵ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

²⁶ British Geological Survey 2012 web:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

²⁷ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum; Staffordshire HER: PRN 00144; English Heritage National Heritage No. 1008710

The historic landscape character is dominated by a field pattern created piecemeal during the post medieval period (cf. HLC type ‘Piecemeal Enclosure’ on map 5; cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). The creation of this ‘Piecemeal Enclosure’ suggests a change in the agricultural economy of this landscape from a rotational system incorporating arable to predominantly pasture during the post medieval period. The morphology of this field system includes distinctive boundaries forming reverse ‘S’ curves and dog-legs indicating that the zone had previously formed part of Uttoxeter’s medieval open field system. The reverse ‘S’ pattern was formed through medieval plough teams working the open fields; at the time of enclosure field boundaries inserted into the open fields followed these plough lines. The presence of open field cultivation in the zone is also attested by the survival of ridge and furrow earthworks which have been identified from aerial photographs (cf. map 5)²⁸. The overall field pattern retains its legibility as post medieval ‘Piecemeal Enclosure’ reinforced by surviving mature hedgerows. The landscape is accessed from the north by Timber Lane (named as such on Yates’ map of 1775) which survives as a tree and hedge lined track, possibly originating in the medieval period to provide access to the fields and into High Wood to the south east (cf. UTHECZ 2). The dispersed settlement, comprising four historic farmsteads, is probably associated with the changing agricultural economy from the post medieval period onwards when the landholders sought to site their homes within their newly consolidated holdings. All four were small farmsteads with Field Head Farm and Holly Bank Farm retaining their historic plan forms. A number of outfarms survive within the zone, although many more have been lost. Their presence is probably associated with the rise in grazing and dairy farming within the landscape from the post medieval period onwards (cf. UTHECZ 2).

The origins of the hamlet of Woodgate is unclear but it probably originated as squatter or common-side settlement with access to the land resources of the High Wood common which lay to the south until at least the late 18th century. The name ‘wood-gate’, recorded in the mid 17th century refers to the entry point into High Wood²⁹. Yates’ map (1775) suggests that the earliest settlement lay to the north of the lane where a number of cottages survive standing off the road. To the south the properties are probably 19th century in date including the large detached house known as Woodlawn (known as ‘Wood Villa’ in the late 19th century).

1.4.2 Heritage values:

<p>Evidential value: There is some potential for prehistoric activity within the zone. The historic properties, particularly the farmsteads, also have the potential to retain fabric within their structures which could contribute to an understanding of the history of the wider landscape.</p>	<p>Medium</p>
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²⁸ Staffordshire HER: PRN 01448 and PRN 40275 on map 2

²⁹ SRO D786/20/15 (1626/7-1657) viewed on Access 2 Archives web 15/05/2013
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Historical value: There are numerous legible heritage assets within the zone including historic buildings and a dispersed settlement pattern, as well as the associated post medieval field pattern of mature hedgerows and the earthwork remains of ridge and furrow evidence of the medieval land management.	High
Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic character is well preserved within the zone in the form of the historic field systems and settlement pattern.	High
Communal value: There is good access to this landscape, particularly to the west of Highwood Road, via the Public Rights of Way network (which includes Timber Lane). There is the potential to interpret the history of this landscape for the benefit of the community and visitors.	Medium

1.4.3 Recommendations

The heritage significance and values have identified the contribution of the landscape and heritage assets to the historic character and history of the area.

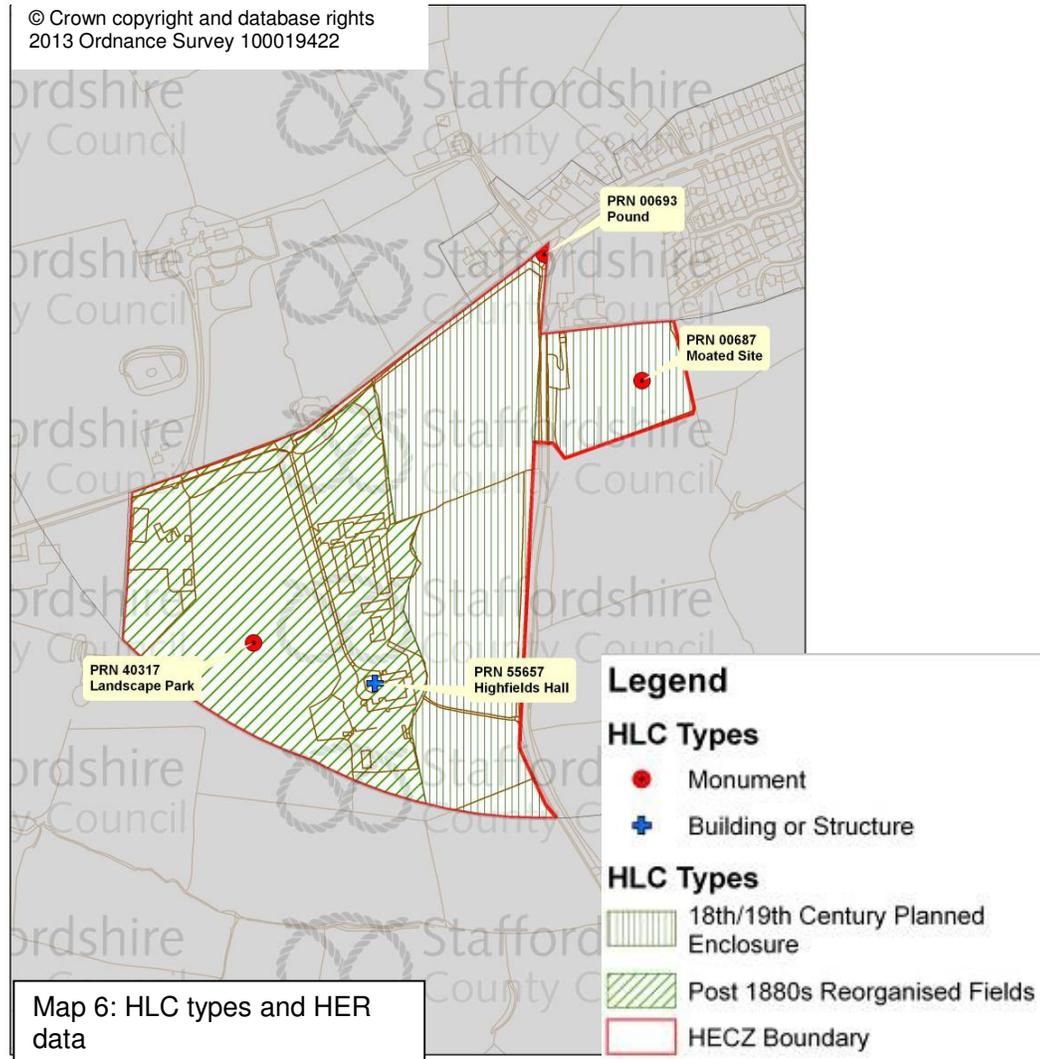
- The conservation of the fabric of the historic landscape, notably the field boundaries, the ridge and furrow earthworks and the dispersed settlement pattern, is recommended. Maintenance and/or enhancement of the historic landscape fabric in this area would contribute significantly to the areas unique ‘sense of place’ and would ensure the continued legibility of the local historic character for the benefit of present and future generations. The interpretation of the features and their location in association with the Rights of Way network could be used to promote sustainable tourism and health and well-being.
- Should land within the zone be allocated for development any proposals should seek to complement the low settlement density which is characteristic of the landscape to the north of the zone and the conservation of the fabric and legibility of the historic landscape character as stated above. Any such development should also be designed to enhance the local distinctiveness and respect the local vernacular in terms of its scale and architectural form (cf. Bullet Point 4 of para. 17 (Core planning principles) and Bullet Point 4 of para. 58 in NPPF)³⁰.
- There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Where development may result in the loss of these heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance; this is supported in paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF³¹.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012.

- The undesignated historic buildings should be reviewed to identify whether they may fit the national listing criteria. Where this does not apply they should be considered for local listing in line with the recent English Heritage guidance document entitled ‘*Good Practice for Local Heritage Listing*’ (2012)³².

1.5 UTHECZ 5: Highfields Hall



1.5.1 Statement of heritage significance

The land rises from around 106m AOD at Blount’s Hall to the east to around 129m AOD at Oakhill in the north west and around 131m AOD at Highfields Hall in the south³³. The bedrock geology comprises Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstones), with mid-Pleistocene deposits of till overlying the higher land to

³² English Heritage 2012

³³ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

the west³⁴. The degree of exploitation of this landscape in the prehistoric and Roman periods is currently unknown. There is archaeological evidence in the wider landscape for prehistoric activity in the form of a Scheduled Bronze Age barrow which stands approximately 200m to the south on Toothill³⁵. A further possible barrow may survive within UTHECZ 3.

The historic character of this small zone is now dominated by field systems, but until the late 20th century the western portion had formed a landscape park associated with Highfields Hall (the area now defined by HLC type 'Post 1880s Reorganised Fields' on map 6). By 2006 this land was under cultivation, with few surviving features from the parkland, and the hall itself had been largely demolished with a new building being constructed to the south in the mid 1980s. Highfields Hall and its parkland were probably established in the early 19th century³⁶. The fieldscape to the east may be the result of a reordering of the landscape associated with the insertion of the parkland and country house into the landscape in the early 19th century (HLC Type '18th/19th Century Planned Enclosure' on map 6).

The site of a medieval moat lay to the east of the zone; it survived as an earthwork until the 1960s when it was backfilled³⁷. However, there remains the potential for below ground archaeology to survive associated with this site. It appears to have been the property of a branch of the Blount family, but by the late 17th century was being tenanted by a yeoman farmer³⁸. The hall which stood within the moat is said to have been rebuilt by the late 16th/early 17th century and had been demolished by circa 1777.

A Grade II Listed animal pound is located to the north east of the zone associated with the hamlet of Blount's Green³⁹. The pound probably dates to the late 18th century and probably reflects the predominance of grazing in the local agricultural economy at this date. However, it is unclear as to whether this is its original location, although it has been standing on this site since at least the late 19th century.

1.5.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: There is the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive particularly associated with the moated site.	High
Historical value: The legible heritage assets comprise the field pattern to the east and the Grade II Listed pound.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The historic character of the zone has been impacted to a large degree by the change in use of the land to the west from historic parkland to agricultural use.	Low

³⁴ British Geological Survey 2012 web:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

³⁵ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum; Staffordshire HER: PRN 00144; English Heritage National Heritage No. 1008710

³⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 40317 and PRN 55657 on map 6

³⁷ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00687 on map 6

³⁸ Ibid; SRO D786/17/7 1681 viewed on Access 2 Archives web 15/05/2013

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

³⁹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 00693 on map 6

Communal value: There is no access into the landscape along the Public Rights of Way network.	Low
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1.5.3 Recommendations

The heritage significance and values have identified the potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive associated with the medieval moat. The legible heritage assets include the Grade II Listed pound.

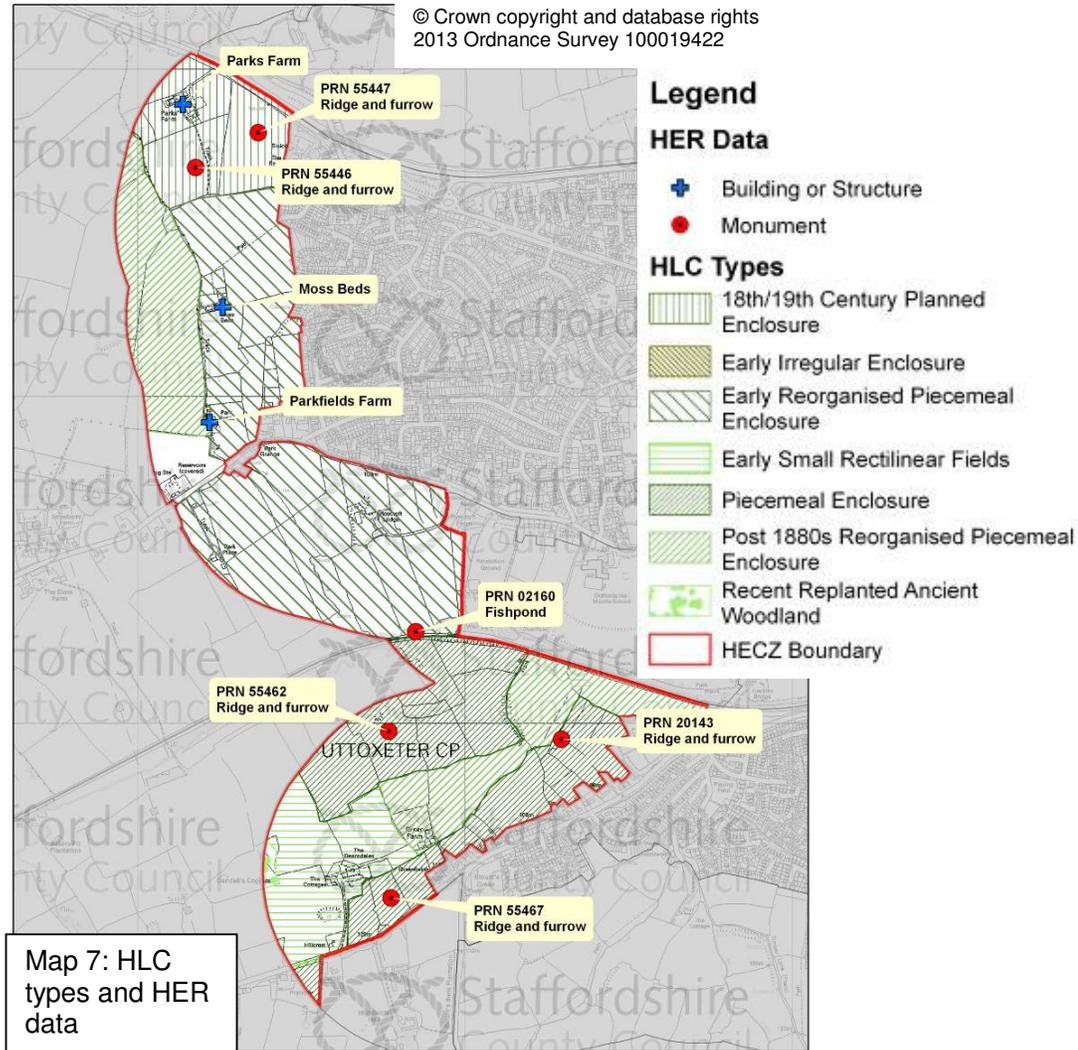
- There is a high potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive within the zone. Where development may result in the loss of these heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance; this is supported in paras. 128 and 141 of NPPF⁴⁰.
- Where alterations or changes are proposed to the Listed structure the applicant should consult East Staffordshire Borough Planning Delivery team in the first instance⁴¹. All of designated heritage assets and their settings are covered under para. 132 of NPPF⁴².

⁴⁰ Department for Communities and Local Government 2012.

⁴¹ East Staffordshire Borough Council 2009 Web viewed 28/02/2012

⁴² Department for Communities and Local Government 2012. Web: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

1.6 UTHECZ 6: West of Uttoxeter



1.6.1 Statement of heritage significance

The topography of the zone is undulating; the valley of the Picknal Brook crosses from west to east through the centre of the zone at around 85m AOD⁴³. From here the land rises to both south and east; it reaches around 134m AOD to the south at The Cottages and to 108m AOD at Roycroft Lodge to the north. Once out of the valley to the north the topography drops away again towards the River Tean (cf. UTHECZ 1). The bedrock geology comprises Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstones) overlain by superficial deposits of alluvium within the Picknal Brook⁴⁴. On the higher land to the south of the brook and for a large area to the north the bedrock is overlain by mid-Pleistocene deposits of till⁴⁵. There is little evidence for human activity during the prehistoric and Roman periods in the landscape to the west of Uttoxeter. However, the presence of the Tean valley to the north, and to

⁴³ AOD – Above Ordnance Survey

⁴⁴ British Geological Survey 2012 web:
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

⁴⁵ Ibid.

some extent the Picknal Brook, may suggest there is the potential for archaeological deposits to survive. The lack of evidence in the wider area may be partly due, to the predominance of grazing in the landscape around Uttoxeter from at least the 17th century. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

The predominance of grassland within this landscape in the past is evidenced by the historic character of the field systems within the zone. Large areas reveal their origins as having formed part of Uttoxeter's open field system by at least the medieval period (cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). The mature hedgerows, particularly to the south, fossilise the course of the ox-plough across the landscape in the form of reverse 'S' curve and dog-leg boundaries. The extant field pattern has been identified as 'Piecemeal Enclosure' and 'Early Reorganised Piecemeal Enclosure' (cf. map 7); the former was probably enclosed in the post medieval period, whereas the latter includes straight boundaries suggesting that the earlier field pattern was partly re-ordered in the 18th/19th century, although earlier field boundaries survive. To the west the landscape reveals a similar history, but has been more intensively farmed during the second half of the 20th century (HLC Type 'Post 1880s Reorganised Piecemeal Enclosure' on map 7).

Further evidence of the open fields was identified on aerial photography in the form of ridge and furrow earthworks, which are particularly clear across a large area to the north of the zone around Park's Farm⁴⁶. Their survival in this area may be due to the evidence from the surviving field pattern which suggests that it was enclosed at a later by surveyors probably in the 18th century as 'Planned Enclosure' (cf. UTHECZ 6 map). This suggests that ploughing by oxen survived to a later period in this area than elsewhere across this landscape.

Three historic farmsteads survive to the north of the zone and their plan forms appear to reflect the origins of the field patterns in which they lie. Parkfields Farm and Moss Beds are small farmsteads, although both have been somewhat altered during the course of the 20th century, which are associated with a field pattern first enclosed in the post medieval period, although reworked at a later date (HLC Type 'Early Reorganised Piecemeal Enclosure' see above). To the north, Parks Farm has a plan form which suggests that it was laid out in a single phase probably during the 18th or 19th century (known as a 'regular courtyard plan form) and was probably established to farm a new holding laid out at this period (HLC Type '18th/19th Century Planned Enclosure' see above). The complex has considerably expanded during the 20th century.

A dispersed settlement pattern of isolated properties is also reflected to the south of the zone and includes the houses Park Place and Ryecroft Lodge both of which probably date to the 19th century. Further south The Dearndales includes buildings of at least 19th century date whilst Green Farm was established in the 20th century.

⁴⁶ Staffordshire HER: PRN 55446 and PRN 55447 on map 7

1.6.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: The potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive relating to prehistoric or Roman activity is currently poorly understood for this landscape.	Low
Historical value: The legible heritage assets of the zone which comprise the well preserved ridge and furrow, associated field patterns and dispersed settlement pattern contribute to an understanding of the social and economic history of this landscape.	High
Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic character is well preserved within the zone in the form of the historic field systems and settlement pattern.	High
Communal value: There is access into this landscape via the Public Rights of Way network. There is the potential to interpret the history of this landscape for the benefit of the community and visitors.	Medium

1.6.3 Recommendations

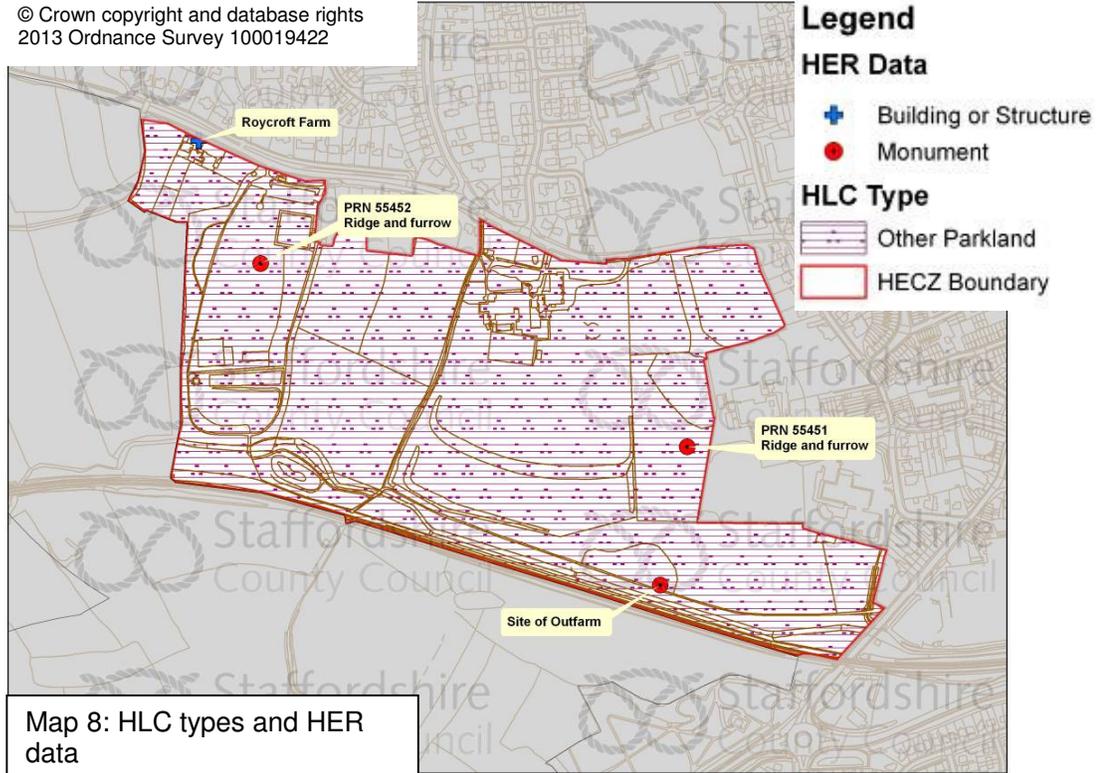
The heritage significance and values have identified the contribution of the landscape and heritage assets to the historic character and history of the area.

- The conservation of the fabric of the historic landscape, notably the field boundaries and the ridge and furrow earthworks is recommended. Maintenance and/or enhancement of the historic landscape fabric in this area would contribute significantly to the areas unique ‘sense of place’ and would ensure the continued legibility of the local historic character for the benefit of present and future generations.
- Should land within the zone be allocated for development any proposals should seek to complement the low settlement density which is characteristic of the landscape to the north of the zone and the conservation of the fabric and legibility of the historic landscape character as stated above. Any such development should also be designed to enhance the local distinctiveness and respect the local vernacular in terms of its scale and architectural form (cf. Bullet Point 4 of para. 17 (Core planning principles) and Bullet Point 4 of para. 58 in NPPF)⁴⁷.
- There is a poor understanding of the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive across this landscape. However, further research may alter our understanding of this potential and where development may be deemed to result in the loss of heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance. This is supported in para. 141 of NPPF⁴⁸.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

1.7 UTHECZ 7: Oldfields



1.7.1 Statement of heritage significance

This small zone stands on the northern side of the Picknall Brook where the land rises northwards from around 84m AOD (to the south) to around 100m AOD at Stone Road (to the north)⁴⁹. The bedrock geology is comprised of Mercia Mudstones Group (mudstone), which is overlain by mid-Pleistocene superficial deposits of Glaciofluvial sands and gravels to the north and by alluvium to the south along the Picknall Brook⁵⁰. There is little evidence for human activity during the prehistoric and Roman periods in the landscape to the west of Uttoxeter. The lack of evidence in the wider area may be partly due to the predominance of grazing in the landscape around Uttoxeter from at least the 17th century. Understanding the potential for prehistoric archaeological deposits is restricted by the fact that cropmarks are only visible under grassland in certain circumstances.

The character of the zone is dominated by parkland comprising a recreation ground to the west and school playing fields, which incorporates the buildings of the mid/late 20th century Oldfields Hall Middle School, to the east (HLC Type 'Other Parkland' on map 8). Despite this overall character, mature hedgerows survive between these two areas, which fossilise the form of the earlier field pattern in the form of reverse 'S' curve boundaries. This represents the remains of 'Piecemeal Enclosure' which once dominated the

⁴⁹ AOD – Above Ordnance Datum

⁵⁰ British Geological Survey 2012 web:

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/digmap50wms.html>

landscape to the south and west of Uttoxeter (cf. UTHECZ 6). This field pattern was created in the post medieval period through the incremental enclosure of Uttoxeter's open fields (cf. 5.3.1 in HEA report). Further evidence of the open fields was identified on aerial photography in the form of ridge and furrow which appears to survive, particularly to the west, as faint earthworks⁵¹.

An historic farmstead also survives lying to the north west of the zone. Roycroft Farm exhibits a regular courtyard plan form which may suggest that it have been constructed in a single phase possibly in the 18th or 19th century.

1.7.2 Heritage values:

Evidential value: The potential for below ground archaeological remains to survive relating to prehistoric or Roman activity is currently poorly understood for this landscape.	Low
Historical value: The legible heritage assets of the zone comprise mature hedgerows which fossilise an earlier field pattern as well as the faint earthworks of ridge and furrow. These features all contribute to an understanding of Uttoxeter's economic history and its development.	Medium
Aesthetic value: The integrity of the historic character of the zone has been impacted by the creation of the parkland, although the surviving field boundaries and ridge and furrow contribute to the local character of the area.	Medium
Communal value: There is access into this landscape via the Public Rights of Way network and the recreational ground. There is the potential to interpret the history of this landscape for the benefit of the community and visitors.	Low

1.7.3 Recommendations

The heritage significance and values have identified that the mature hedgerows and ridge and furrow continue to contribute to Uttoxeter's local character and history

- The conservation of the fabric of the historic landscape, notably the field boundaries and the ridge and furrow earthworks is recommended. Maintenance and/or enhancement of the historic landscape fabric in this area would contribute significantly to the areas unique 'sense of place' and would ensure the continued legibility of the local historic character for the benefit of present and future generations.
- There is a poor understanding of the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to survive across this landscape. However, further research may alter our understanding of this potential and where development may be deemed to result in the loss of heritage assets (whether wholly or in part) archaeological evaluation and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance. This is supported in para. 141 of NPPF⁵².

⁵¹ Staffordshire HER: PRN 55451 and PRN 55452 on map 8

⁵² Ibid.

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