

# Part One: Landscape Character Descriptions

## 4. Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield



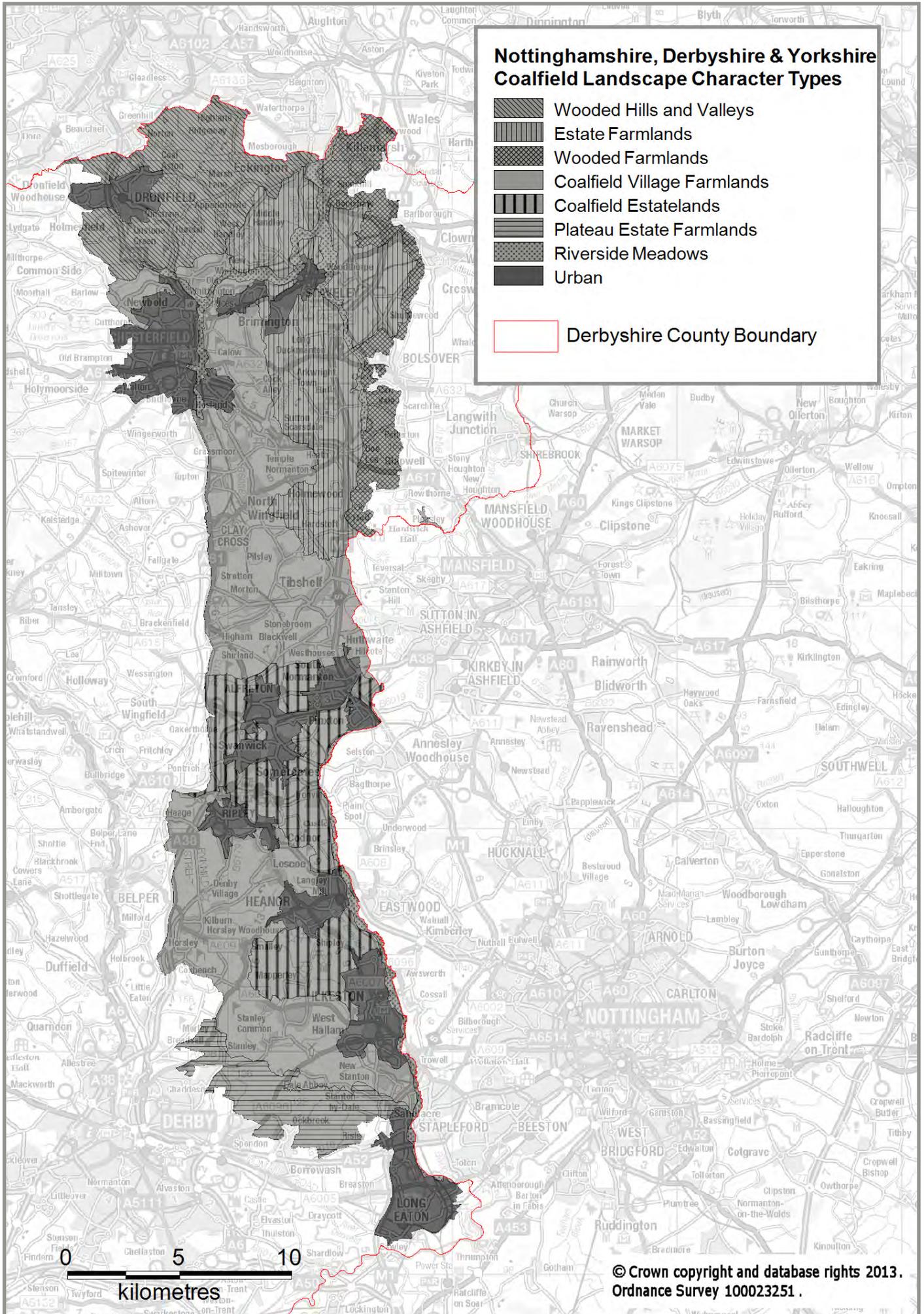
### Landscape Character Types

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## Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire & Yorkshire Coalfield Landscape Character Types

-  Wooded Hills and Valleys
-  Estate Farmlands
-  Wooded Farmlands
-  Coalfield Village Farmlands
-  Coalfield Estatelands
-  Plateau Estate Farmlands
-  Riverside Meadows
-  Urban

 Derbyshire County Boundary



# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## CHARACTER AREA 38

Densely settled and industrial lowland characterised by mining settlements, mixed farming and woodland.

### Landscape Character Types

- Wooded Hills and Valleys
- Estate Farmlands
- Wooded Farmlands
- Coalfield Village Farmlands
- Coalfield Estatelands
- Plateau Estate Farmlands
- Riverside Meadows

*"The trucks thumped heavily past ... as she stood ... trapped between the jolting black waggons and the hedge; then they curved away towards the coppice where the withered oak leaves dropped noiselessly, while the birds ...; made off into the dusk that had already crept into the spinney ... The fields were dreary and forsaken, and in the marshy strip that led to the whimsy, a reedy pit-pond, the fowls had already abandoned their run among the alders ... The pit-bank loomed up beyond the pond, flames like red sores licking its ashy sides, in the afternoon's stagnant light."*

*p98 D. H. Lawrence 'Odour of Crysanthemums'*

### Introduction

The Derbyshire Coalfield is located in the east of the county, stretching from the outskirts of Sheffield in the north, to the Trent Valley in the south and is a broad belt of low-lying land, approximately 10km wide and 45km in length. It forms part of the greater Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield region, which embraces the major industrial centres of Sheffield, Wakefield and Leeds. The Derbyshire Coalfield character area exhibits physical, historical and ecological characteristics that are similar throughout most of its landscape types.

### Physical Influences

The geology of the Derbyshire Coalfield was formed in extensive swamps on the edge of a warm tropical sea 350 million years ago. A process of vegetation growth and sediment deposition occurred as the land subsided and the sea repeatedly inundated the land. The rhythmic process is now fossilised in the alternating bands of sandstone, shale (compacted clay), mudstone and coal (ancient peat), known collectively as Coal Measures. These rock layers were then uplifted, folded and over time

eroded away to form the characteristic ridges (sandstone) and valleys (shale, mudstone and coal) seen in the region.

There are two major subdivisions to the Coal Measures, the Middle and Lower Series. The Middle Series consists of narrow bands of sandstone and many coal seams. It encompasses the majority of the Coalfield region, creating a broadly undulating landscape of small ridges and valleys. The Lower

Series consists of greater amounts of sandstone and fewer seams of coal. It occurs towards the north-western edge of the Coalfield defining the *Wooded Hills & Valleys* where it forms rising ground.

The Coalfield soils are predominantly heavy, seasonally waterlogged, and traditionally support dairy farming. In places, where soils are free-draining over sandstone, there is a stronger presence of arable cropping.



## Natural Influences

Widespread industrialisation in the coalfield has severely altered the landscape's visual and ecological integrity, yet the underlying natural character remains evident and distinctive. Many habitats within the coalfield are small fragmented remnants of the pre-industrial landscape. A few have come about through recent changes created by coal mining and dereliction.

Ancient semi-natural woodland is a key characteristic of the *Wooded Hills & Valleys* but also occurs as isolated relic patches in other parts of the area. Defined by irregular outlines and with mixed broadleaved tree species, woodland is associated with the steeper slopes or valley bottoms where soils have been difficult to cultivate. Some areas may have remained heavily wooded well into the medieval period. Place names like Horsley Woodhouse indicate late settlements formed in woodland assarts. Elsewhere, the occurrence of semi-natural woodland is patchy. In some cases the replanting of commercial conifers has obscured ancient origins and provides limited wildlife value. Although ancient woodland is not extensive, the existence of mature oak trees in hedgerows may represent remnants of a once more extensive ancient wooded landscape. As a key characteristic in the *Wooded Hills & Valleys* and *Wooded Farmlands*, mature oak trees are often associated with older field boundaries. Elsewhere, the occurrence of mature oaks in hedgerows is more fragmented.

Plantations are characterised by their regular outline and mix of broadleaved and coniferous tree species. Though of less value to wildlife than broadleaved woodland, mixed plantations are a key characteristic within many estate landscapes including the *Coalfield Estatelands*, *Plateau Estate Farmlands* and to a lesser extent *Estate Farmlands*.

Secondary woodland and scrub provide additional habitat and are well represented throughout the area, often occurring along railway embankments, road verges and in derelict and industrial wastelands. Delineating man-made elements, many of these habitats are isolated or poorly connected with other habitats. Plantations of young trees are also a feature in many landscapes, particularly the *Coalfield Village Farmlands* and *Coalfield Estatelands*, where former open cast coal sites have been restored.

Although there are few remaining areas of heathland, the underlying geology, particularly the occurrence of sandstone, enables 'heathy' habitats to occur in places. In the past these would have been more widespread, occurring on the ridges, hill summits and on the steeper slopes. Place names like Heather Lee and Moor Top indicate this former habitat. Patches of 'heathy' vegetation remain in the *Wooded Hills & Valleys*, and occur locally in other parts of the area.

Parkland is an important habitat in the *Coalfield Estatelands* and *Plateau Estate Farmlands*, but occurs as isolated features within other landscape character types.

The Coal Measures give rise to poor soils which traditionally support pasture for dairy farming with localised arable cropping. Arable cropping predominates within the *Estate Farmlands* although most of the coalfield remains essentially pastoral. This pattern is becoming more variable with the balance shifting towards arable farming in some areas. Pasture is important in the region because it can potentially support many different habitats. Although current farming practices tend to inhibit ecological diversity, fields occupying steeper slopes or on heavier, waterlogged soils are often left unimproved. Thus in the *Wooded Farmlands* and *Wooded Hills & Valleys*, as well as in other landscape types locally, there

remain valuable grassland habitats. Some are species-rich, others are damp rush pasture supporting ground nesting birds.

Rivers, streams and wetland are important habitats in the area, often of county importance for wildlife. Within the *Riverside Meadows*, and locally in other landscape types, habitats created by mining subsidence, derelict canals and abandoned industry are a particular characteristic.



Waterbodies created by mining subsidence

Due to industrial pollution in the past, their condition has been seriously affected, although in recent years the situation has improved. Development adjacent to river courses has led to fragmentation of habitats.

## Human Influences

Clearance of the original forests led, by medieval times, to a landscape of villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads, with former common land characterised by small clusters of wayside cottages. Open fields were created around settlements in the east with more irregular woodland clearance further to the west. Hunting forests and deer parks were established, which along with the open fields and commons, were gradually enclosed, privately at first, and later by Parliamentary Enclosure Acts. The field pattern is variable throughout the area reflecting this diverse history of enclosure.

Village buildings were constructed of local sandstone and have Staffordshire blue clay tiles or Welsh slate roofs. Mature tree groups are often associated

with villages and help create their distinctive character. Most settlements were subject to industrial expansion in the 19th century, developing rapidly to house the new industrial population. Historic villages were subsumed by colliery workers' red brick terraces, although most still retain their historic core.

More recent development has extended these settlements further and large housing and industrial estates have led to the amalgamation of some villages into larger urbanised areas. This is most evident in *Coalfield Estatelands*, causing them to lose their individual identities.



*Industrial urbanisation*

Within the proximity of Chesterfield and Derby, satellite settlements have also developed. Villages

remain a key characteristic of the *Coalfield Village Farmlands* but, with the demise of the mining industry, there are intense pressures for further development and historic settlement patterns are rapidly becoming overlain and disguised by modern development.

The landscape is rich in industrial archaeology resulting from exploitation of underlying minerals and, in particular, coal. The coal mining industry developed dramatically, relying initially on canals and roads and then on the expanded railway network system for transport. Industrial remains include bell-pits, colliery spoil, old



*Morton tip*

railways and tramways, canals and bridges. Although coal mining and heavy manufacturing have declined, new industrial activity is evident

with the expansion of light industry, technology and related industries. In the north, woodlands often contain evidence of former industry associated with coal and ironstone mining, also woodland industries like charcoal and whitecoal production.

The older road network is simple yet extensive, with narrow lanes connecting the many villages and farms scattered throughout the landscape. Where the topography dictates, the lanes are often winding with irregular width verges. These historic lanes retain a distinctive rural character, but many are inadequate for the volume of traffic they carry, and are now being subjected to road improvements. Modern roads, in contrast, superimpose their large structures on to the landscape. Often delineated by ribbon development, they truncate older routes and disregard local boundaries. The M1 motorway in particular, has had a major impact on the surrounding countryside truncating many east to west routes.

#### Other Considerations

- The Lowland Derbyshire BAP

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED HILLS AND VALLEYS

A broadly undulating upland with a strongly wooded character, defined by woodland, mixed farming and sparsely scattered settlement.



### Key Characteristics

- Upland area with broadly undulating topography
- Moderately steep slopes, becoming steeper along stream valleys
- Mixed farming, predominantly pasture
- 'Heathy' vegetation visually prominent in many road verges
- Densely scattered patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland
- Woodland bands along stream valleys and on steep slopes
- Dense riverside trees and scattered mature hedgerow trees
- Medium to large fields, enclosed by hedgerows
- Late enclosure on hill summits
- Network of small irregular lanes
- Sparsely scattered settlement of farmsteads and hamlets

### Geology and Landform

In close proximity to the Peak District the landform is higher and broadly undulating, dissected by moderately steep valleys. The underlying Lower Coal Measure Series consist predominantly of massive sandstone and mudstone. There are localised seams of coal that outcrop in this area, some of which have been worked out many years ago. Typically small scale operations, these mines now have little impact on the wider landscape.

### Soils and Land-Use

Broad rounded hills and free-draining sandstone soils have created a mixed farming landscape. Geographical variations in landform have influenced the prevailing land-use so that pasture is dominant in the steeper, more undulating land to the north and west, and arable cropping is more widespread in the gentler, lower lying land in the south and east.

### Ecology

The undulating topography and

steep valley slopes provide considerable ecological diversity. Despite the immense pressures of development, with Sheffield abutting this landscape character type to the north, the area has remained essentially rural and intact. Ancient, semi-natural woodland persists in many areas, particularly notable in the Moss Valley, which has been designated as a Conservation Area. In the valleys the low intensity pastoral farming, watercourse and woodland bands create important habitat corridors. A good network of hedgerows and hedgerow trees still prevails, but it is becoming patchy in areas of intensive arable cropping. There is evidence of 'heathy' vegetation with widespread bracken and localised gorse along road verges, on the steeper slopes, and hill summits.



Heathy vegetation - gorse and bracken

Place names such as Moortop Farm and Heatherlee Farm make reference to their former character. Now only remnants, heathland habitats probably once covered much larger areas.

## Tree Cover

Ancient woodland and mature hedgerow trees are a key characteristic in this landscape type, creating a strongly wooded landscape further emphasised by undulating topography. Many patches of ancient semi-natural and wet woodland persist on steeper slopes or along valleys, where the steep gradient and poor soils have inhibited farming. The woodlands tend to be small to medium in size, with irregular outlines. The typical range of upland broadleaved trees are characteristic, with alder being particularly common in wet woodlands. Older hedgerows of holly and hazel are widespread in the north-west with mature oak trees as strong visual components. The ancient woodland and hedgerow trees may be indicative of a more extensive ancient wooded landscape. Oak and ash trees are found scattered along most hedges. In the south-east, thorn hedgerows prevail. Beside streams on gentle slopes, there is usually a continuous line of trees, mostly alder. There are localised areas of higher ground, which are sparsely wooded. As a result, these areas exhibit a very distinctive open

character in contrast to the rest of the landscape.

## Enclosure

This is a landscape of medium to large fields enclosed by hedgerows of a semi-regular to regular pattern. Thorn hedgerows dominate, but there are also many mixed species hedgerows associated with older field boundaries. The presence of holly, as a major component in these hedgerows, is particularly noticeable. Within this landscape there are distinctive areas of former common, now enclosed and farmed. Usually occupying the higher ground, these areas exhibit a regular field and road layout characteristic of late parliamentary enclosure. There is occasional dry-stone walling in gritstone.

## Transport

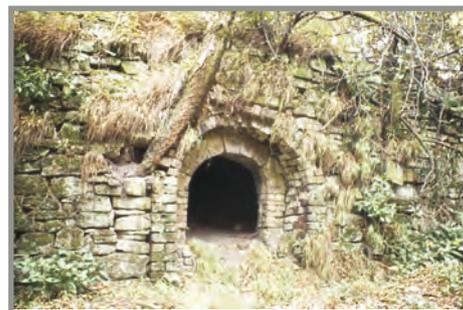
Due to the rural character of the landscape, roads are few and tend to be narrow and winding, occasionally sunken on the steeper slopes. The construction of the A61 linking Chesterfield with Dronfield and Sheffield has truncated many of these older lanes.

## Built Environment

This essentially rural landscape exhibits three distinctive settlement patterns; in the north and north-west there are many scattered

farmsteads, whilst in the south and south-east, settlement is predominantly nucleated with hamlets and small villages. There are also localised clusters of houses, associated with former commons, but which are now enclosed and farmed, and occasionally small water-powered corn mills and metal industry workshops, particularly in the northern valleys. Traditional buildings are constructed of Coal Measure Sandstone with Welsh and stone slate roofs.

This landscape was important for early industry, particularly edge tool making and iron and coal working. The valleys, especially the Moss Valley, have much surviving evidence of these industries and their water management systems. Woodlands also contain evidence of associated industries such as charcoal burning and white coal production.



*Summerley Colliery coke oven*

## Summary

The Wooded Hills and Valleys landscape character type is a broadly undulating upland area dissected by small streams. Mixed farming predominates with pasture and arable cropping occupying the north-west and south-east respectively. The undulating topography and steep valley slopes have helped preserve numerous patches of ancient, semi-natural woodland. Mature hedgerows and watercourse trees further emphasise this strongly wooded character and may be indicative of a more extensive ancient wooded landscape. Significant ecological interest exists in association with the diversity of tree cover and steep slopes.

Late enclosure is a feature on hill summits, with sparse tree cover creating an open character. In the wider landscape, a semi-regular to regular field pattern exists.

Settlement is sparsely scattered with farmsteads, hamlets and small villages connected by a simple network of small winding lanes. Despite the immense pressures of development with Sheffield abutting to the north, as a result of planning constraints, the landscape has remained essentially rural and intact.

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED HILLS AND VALLEYS

### Planting and Management Guidelines

An undulating landscape with many semi-natural woodlands, some of ancient origin, along steep slopes and valley sides with scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Densely scattered small-medium woodlands
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Densely scattered hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups.
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Widespread small-medium woodlands
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Densely scattered hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups.

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 20ha	small-medium
<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Organic/linear	

- Small-medium scale woodland planting.
- Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species.
- Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting.
- Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting.
- Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland.
- Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.
- Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.
- Where opportunities arise, the removal of coniferous plantation woodland should be encouraged.
- Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED HILLS AND VALLEYS

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
‡ <i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
‡ <i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
‡ <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### More Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† **Watercourse Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

‡ **Amenity Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as amenity trees associated with settlement, or other locally occurring large woodlands species.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Occasional 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
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##### Occasional 0-5%

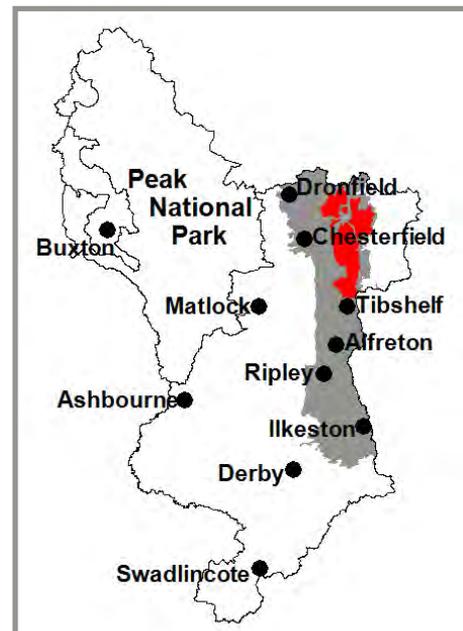
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: ESTATE FARMLANDS

A broad, gently undulating landscape characterised by mixed farming and sparse tree cover.



### Key Characteristics

- Broad, gently undulating landform
- Mixed farming dominated by arable cropping
- Localised woodland blocks and occasional trees
- Hedgerows enclose medium size, semi-regular fields
- Small villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads constructed from local Coal Measures Sandstone, some expanded with red brick former mining terraces
- Open landscape with long distance views

### Geology and Landform

Formed by the Middle Coal Measure Series, the landform of low ridges and valleys reflect the alternating bands of sandstone, shale, mudstone and coal. This landscape is visibly broader and more gently undulating than other parts of the coalfield.

### Soils and Land-Use

These soils have traditionally supported a mixed farming system, but owing to the gentle and more subdued landform, arable cropping has dominated. Pastoral land is a local occurrence reflecting slightly greater undulations in landform and is particularly notable in the south.

Pasture also exists around Renishaw Park and Stainsby, which may indicate the influence of traditional estate management.

### Ecology

This landscape is ecologically poor owing to intensive arable cropping, coal mining, lack of tree cover and urban expansion. Broad tracts of land, which were mined for coal, have now been restored. Converted to farming or woodland and managed within a country park, they offer limited ecological interest at this early stage. Small woodlands offer limited value due to their mixed species composition and their isolated occurrence. Renishaw Park in the north still supports valuable semi-natural

habitats. The spread of housing development is also having an impact, for example around Staveley, most notably at Hollingwood Estate where the urban fringe is engulfing many important habitat areas.

### Tree Cover

There is a paucity of tree cover within this landscape. The few trees that are to be found, principally ash with the occasional oak, are sparsely scattered along thorn hedgerows. Scattered trees occur along most watercourses and are comprised of willow with some alder. The distinct lack of trees, allied with the gentle relief, creates an open landscape with long distance views interrupted only by landform. Where woodlands do occur, they form small woodland blocks, remnants from an estate managed landscape. Patches of ancient semi-natural woodland are often associated with locally steep slopes, becoming visually prominent around Heath and north of Temple Normanton. The restoration of former colliery sites, as seen at Poolsbrook, has resulted in the creation of new woodland.

## Enclosure

Fields are generally medium in size with a semi-regular to regular field pattern bounded by thorn hedgerows. Many parts have been affected by open cast coal extraction, particularly in the north. Restoration schemes have created large fields laid out in a more regular pattern.

## Transport

The traditional pattern is simple with narrow, winding lanes connecting small villages and farmsteads. The M1 motorway has interrupted and severed east-west routes throughout this landscape. Not only visually intrusive, the motorway and link roads have attracted further urbanisation. The landscape

contains a number of railway lines left derelict after the coal industry declined. Some of these have now been restored as multi-user routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

## Built Environment

The traditional settlement pattern is characterised by small villages, hamlets and scattered farmsteads.



*Traditionally built cottages at Heath*

Heath, Hardstoft and Sutton Scarsdale are good examples of historic villages that have retained many traditional buildings.

Other settlements, like Barrow Hill, were purpose built to accommodate the local coal mining and iron-working labour force. The red brick terraces and factories impart a distinctive character, contrasting with older villages constructed of local Coal Measure Sandstone with Welsh slate or red clay pantile roofs. More recently, there has been an expansion of modern housing estates, most noticeably at Brimington and Staveley. Now satellite settlements to Chesterfield, they are under considerable development pressures and continue to encroach into the countryside.

## Summary

The Estate Farmlands landscape character type is a broad, gently undulating and industrial landscape. The soils have traditionally supported a mixed farming system but, owing to the gently rolling landform, arable farming has dominated.

A distinct lack of hedgerow trees, allied to the gentle relief, has created an open landscape with long distance views only interrupted by landform. Being an intensively managed landscape, it has little ecological value. Blocks of woodland occur locally but often only contain coniferous species.

Red brick former mining terraces are a distinctive attribute of many villages. Essentially rural in character, the Estate Farmlands have, in the past, been severely impacted upon by industrialisation such as open casting for coal, development of major transport routes and expansion of villages.

Since the decline of the coal industry, the area is still under pressure from new development and this is likely to continue to impact on the rural character of the landscape.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: ESTATE FARMLANDS

### Planting and Management Guidelines

An open arable landscape with very few trees and woodlands.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Thinly scattered small plantations and occasional remnant ancient woodlands
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Scattered watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Occasional medium-large plantations
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Scattered watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	15 - 35ha	medium-large
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<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Regular plantations
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- Medium to large scale woodland planting.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
‡ <i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
‡ <i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
‡ <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† **Watercourse Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

‡ **Amenity Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as amenity trees associated with settlement, or other locally occurring large woodland species.

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
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##### Occasional 0-5%\*y

<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED FARMLANDS

A small scale undulating landscape rising to the magnesian limestone plateau. Characteristically well-wooded, sparsely settled and dominated by mixed farming.



### Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform on land rising to the magnesian limestone plateau
- Mixed farming with pasture and occasional arable cropping
- 'Heathy' vegetation associated with steeper slopes
- Prominent tree cover with dense watercourse trees and scattered hedgerow trees
- Species-rich hedgerows and trees associated with older boundaries
- Ancient enclosure and remnant medieval strip fields
- Sparsely scattered farmsteads and wayside cottages

### Geology and Landform

The Wooded Farmlands are sited on a scarp slope which rises to the magnesian limestone plateau approximately 170m above sea level. For the most part, the slope is gently undulating, reflecting the underlying Middle Coal Measure Series. However, in the south and around Bolsover, the scarp slope is distinctly steeper. The combination of rising ground and undulating landform has created a small scale landscape with restricted views to the east. Associated with the steeper slopes, views are often panoramic towards the west.

### Soils and Land-Use

Pasture is the primary land-use throughout this landscape. Arable cropping becomes more widespread at the foot of the scarp slope and on the gentler slopes in the north. In the south particularly, the steep scarp slope has hindered industrial development and this may account for the extent of tree cover. In recent years, open cast coal extraction, housing and industrial development has affected many low-lying areas in the north, particularly around Renishaw.

### Ecology

The steep scarp slopes and heavy soils have impeded farming practices, enabling the mature tree cover to survive in many places. Small remnants of ancient semi-natural woodland are of particular importance within this landscape. There is localised heathy vegetation on steep slopes. Now only relict, this vegetation suggests a former, more extensive habitat. Traditional parkland, associated with Hardwick Hall and Balborough Hall, also provides significant woodland and other semi-natural habitats.

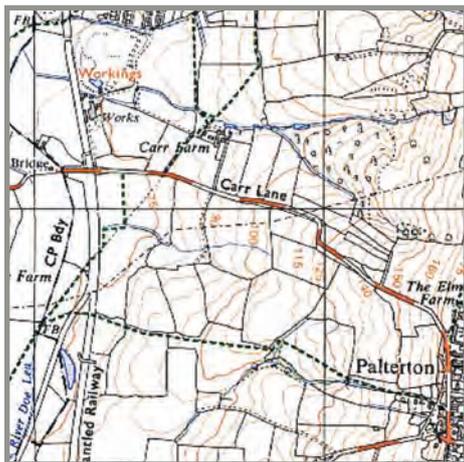
### Tree Cover

This is a well-wooded landscape consisting of trees, hedgerows and small woodlands. Densely scattered willow trees occur along watercourses with scattered mature hedgerow trees of oak and ash. Holly and elm hedgerows are well represented in the south and near Barlborough in the north. A strong component in many historic boundaries, they may indicate a previously more extensive wooded landscape. Small ancient semi-natural woodlands are found

clinging to steep slopes or along minor tributary valleys. The undulating landform and tree cover help to filter or block views through the landscape.

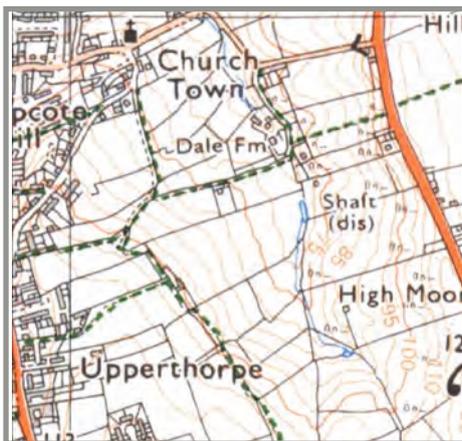
## Enclosure

There is a wide variation in field pattern, reflecting the diverse history of enclosure. Ancient enclosures with irregular shaped fields are particularly prominent to the south of Bolsover.



*Irregular field patterns indicate ancient enclosure*

Remnants of medieval strip fields are associated with the fringes of some villages, seen clearly at Killamarsh and south of Clowne.



*Fossilised strip fields associated with the nearby village of Killamarsh*

Some medium size, semi-regular to regular fields occur at the foot of the scarp slope and in the north. The amalgamation of smaller field units for arable use may be accountable for these patterns.

## Transport

Few roads cross this landscape. Lanes tend to be narrow, winding and often sunken, with irregular width verges.

## Built Environment

This landscape is traditionally sparsely settled with only scattered farmsteads constructed from the local Coal Measure Sandstone with Welsh slate or red clay pantile roofs. However, the post-war development of Bolsover and Glapwell has led to the expansion of these villages into this landscape type. The development of Doe Lea and Bramley Vale as mining settlements, further impacts upon the traditional settlement pattern. Former mining activity is still evidenced by colliery tips at Bolsover and Glapwell although these are now largely reclaimed.

Bolsover Castle, located at the top of the scarp slope to the magnesian limestone plateau, is an imposing landmark overlooking this landscape character type.

## Summary

Situated on the scarp slope, which rises towards the magnesian limestone plateau, the Wooded Farmlands is a small scale undulating landscape.

Heavy soils, together with steep slopes, have minimised agricultural improvements, retaining the inherent pastoral land-use, mature hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and small woodlands. The mature tree cover gives the impression of a well-wooded landscape with many views being blocked or filtered by trees. Elm and holly hedgerows with mature oak trees are well represented and may indicate a previously more extensive ancient wooded landscape. The mature character of the tree cover in this landscape is of particular importance for nature conservation.

The landscape is characterised by old field enclosures with small to medium fields and an irregular to semi-regular field pattern. Remnant medieval strip fields are particularly distinctive around the fringes of some villages located on the limestone plateau.

Sparsely scattered sandstone farmsteads are the traditional settlement pattern. Although the mining industry has had a major impact upon this landscape character type, predominately in the form of spoil heaps and urban expansion, the area as a whole maintains a degree of visual unity with many field boundaries still intact.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED FARMLANDS

### Planting and Management Guidelines

A well-wooded landscape of small, organic woodlands, some of ancient origin, with scattered hedgerow and dense watercourse trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Thinly scattered small woodlands
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Thinly scattered hedgerow trees and dense watercourse trees
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Widespread small-medium woodlands
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Densely scattered hedgerow and dense watercourse trees

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 20ha	small-medium
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<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Organic
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- Small-medium scale woodland planting.
- Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species.
- Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting.
- Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting.
- Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland.
- Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.
- Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: WOODED FARMLANDS

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### More Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† Watercourse Trees - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
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##### Occasional 0-5%\*

<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: COALFIELD VILLAGE FARMLANDS

A broad industrial landscape characterised by villages, dairy farming and small woodlands.



### Key Characteristics

- Gently undulating landform
- Dairy farming with pasture and localised arable cropping
- Relict ancient semi-natural woodland, copses and linear tree-belts
- Dense watercourse trees and scattered hedgerow trees
- Towns and villages on ridge lines surrounded by remnant medieval strip fields
- Network of small irregular lanes between larger urban roads
- Small villages with sandstone buildings expanded by red brick terrace housing and ribbon development

woodlands, copses, linear tree-belts and hedgerow trees. Isolated remnants of ancient semi-natural woodland exist. These are most prominent in the south around Dale Abbey. Trees, especially willow and alder, are densely scattered along watercourses. Scattered mature trees are found along field boundaries, principally oak and ash, which may suggest an ancient, species-rich hedgerow.

Notably around villages, such as Pilsley, hedgerows tend to be more species-rich, with elm and holly.

### Geology and Landform

Situated on the Middle Coal Measure Series, this undulating landscape of low ridges and valleys reflects the alternating bands of sandstone, shale, mudstone and coal.

### Soils and Land-Use

The heavy Coal Measure soils traditionally support dairy farming. Pasture has remained the dominant land-use, with arable crops grown locally on freer draining soils.

### Ecology

With the exception of the impact from open cast coal extraction, the small scale undulating topography and uncultivable soils have helped preserve some ecological value in this landscape. Around the urban fringes of the villages, where the small strip fields have not been intensively managed, the species-rich hedgerows and mature trees have survived, providing a refuge for wildlife.

### Tree Cover

This is essentially a small scale, organic landscape with small



*Mature hedgerow trees in areas of early enclosure*

The restoration of former colliery sites has resulted in the creation of new woodlands at Williamthorpe and Grassmoor. Large in size, this woodland planting contrasts with the small scale landscape that surrounds it.

## Enclosure

Visually prominent medieval strip fields occur around the urban fringes of many villages, notably at North Wingfield, Pilsley and to the east of Shirland.



*Medieval strip fields associated with settlement*

This enclosure pattern is particularly distinctive and prevalent in this landscape type. Small irregular fields, suggesting an even older origin of field enclosure, are also evident around Dale Abbey in the south. In the wider landscape, the pattern is more complex, reflecting a diverse history of enclosure and the impact of open cast coal extraction. There are a few large

areas of former common, which were enclosed during the era of parliamentary enclosure. Many areas, particularly in the north, have been affected by open cast coal extraction. Now mostly restored, they exhibit medium to large fields, enclosed by thorn hedgerows, creating a regular field pattern.

## Transport

A simple yet extensive network of minor roads connects the many villages and farmsteads scattered through the landscape. Avoiding the poorly drained valleys, roads often run along the sandstone ridges. These are now delineated by more recent ribbon development and often truncated by modern roads such as the M1, A38 and the A61.

## Built Environment

This is a settled landscape characterised by towns, many villages and a moderate dispersal of farmsteads. The historic cores of villages are constructed in local Coal Measure Sandstone. Later

extensions of terraces in brickwork, to house colliers and their families, give a clear indication of how the landscape developed over time.



*Red brick mining terrace*

More recent housing built on the urban fringes of these villages is beginning to dilute their individual identity.

Many of these villages had an associated colliery and supplied a local workforce; all the mines are now closed.

In the south, at Dale Abbey, there is evidence of a former monastic landscape. Only part of the east wall and window of the Abbey, constructed of the local Bunter sandstone, remains.

## Summary

A broad, gently undulating landscape, the Coalfield Village Farmlands is characterised by pastoral farming with localised arable cropping.

Small villages retain a distinct character; their historic cores constructed of local sandstone. Red brick former mining terraces and small strip fields give a clear indication of how the settlement and landscape has developed over time.

Small relict woodland occurs on the steeper slopes, with mature trees found scattered along hedgerows and beside watercourses. Ecological interest is largely associated with the strip fields around the villages. Here, mature oak trees, species-rich hedgerows and unimproved grassland provide an important refuge for wildlife.

The diverse history of enclosure and industrialisation has created a patchwork of land-uses. Widespread industrial and housing development has subsumed many of these villages and new development continues to impact upon their distinctive character.

### Planting and Management Guidelines

A small scale landscape of small organic woodlands, some of ancient origin, copses and linear tree belts with scattered hedgerow and dense watercourse trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Thinly scattered small woodlands
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Thinly scattered hedgerow trees and dense watercourse trees
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Densely scattered small woodlands
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Densely scattered hedgerow and dense watercourse trees

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 10ha	small
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<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Organic
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- Small scale woodland planting.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting.
- Encourage the management of scrub and secondary woodland to link with existing habitats and woodland.
- Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.
- Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: COALFIELD VILLAGE FARMLANDS

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### More Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† Watercourse Trees - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
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##### Occasional 0-5%\*

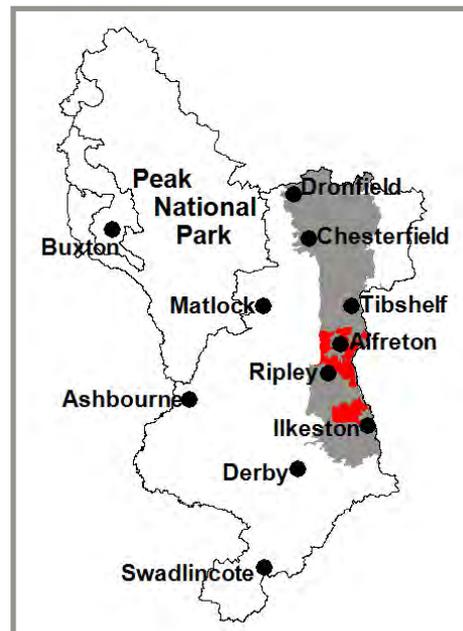
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: COALFIELD ESTATELANDS

A heavily industrialised and urbanised landscape characterised by settlements, parkland, woodland and dairy farming.



### Key Characteristics

- Gentle undulating landform
- Dairy farming dominated by pasture
- Plantation woodlands, tree belts and coverts
- Fields of medium size defined by hedgerows
- Extensive areas of existing and relict parkland
- Occasional country houses with associated parkland trees
- Villages and towns with red brick former mining terraces and ribbon development

### Geology and Landform

Formed by the Middle Coal Measure Series, this undulating landscape of low ridges and valleys reflects the alternating bands of sandstone, shale, mudstone and coal.

### Soils and Land-Use

The coal industry and associated expansion of villages and towns has engulfed many parts of the countryside, creating a heavily industrialised and urbanised landscape. The Coal Measure soils traditionally support dairy farming on pasture with occasional arable cropping confined to the better drained soils. There are also

extensive areas of amenity parkland at Shipleigh and Alfreton, and relict parkland east of Codnor.

### Ecology

The Coalfield Estatelands are ecologically poor, owing to the impacts of coal extraction, industrial expansion and urbanisation. However, the reclamation of some derelict land has provided the opportunity for ecological enhancement, particularly wetlands and woodlands. Patches of ancient woodland occur alongside numerous plantation blocks. They often contain a mixture of non-native and broadleaved species. The extent of pasture is an important attribute within this landscape. However, much of this

tends to be intensively managed and has little ecological value.

Overall, the prominent tree cover provides the greatest native conservation value and continuity in an otherwise ecologically fragmented landscape.

### Tree Cover

Tree cover is a key characteristic of this landscape type. Woodlands form small to medium size plantation blocks, tree belts and small coverts. Formally managed by estates, they often exhibit a regular outline and a mixed species composition with some commercial stock. Patches of ancient semi-natural woodland still persist, most notably around Shipleigh Park. Mature trees also contribute to this wooded character, chiefly represented within parkland and around settlement.



Woodlands around Codnor Park

Boundary trees, notably ash and some oak, are found scattered along hedgerows, whilst continuous and scattered trees, predominantly willow, line watercourses. Visually prominent throughout the landscape, the tree cover plays an important role in mitigating the impact of modern development.

### Enclosure

Fields tend to be of medium size with a semi-regular to regular field pattern. Large fields occur in areas associated with restored open cast sites such as at Shipley and Butterley Park. Isolated remnants of ancient enclosure are seen near Riddings and within the suburbs of Swanwick.

### Transport

The pattern that has emerged through rapid industrial expansion is notably complex. Roads such as the A38, M1 and the A6007 dissect earlier transport routes. Their presence has attracted industrial and housing expansion. The underlying historic pattern of winding lanes connecting the many villages and farms in the landscape is now inadequate for the volume of traffic and often subject to road improvements. There are also many railway lines, mostly derelict since the coal industry declined.

### Built Environment

The traditional settlement pattern is comprised of many village clusters, and a moderate scattering of farmsteads. Traditional buildings are constructed of the local Coal Measure Sandstone with Welsh slate roofs. Modern housing and industrial estates, often coalescing into larger urbanised areas, for example at Alfreton and Somercotes, have now subsumed these villages. Although their village character has been lost, their historic cores remain recognisable. There are also occasional country houses and estate buildings with associated parkland.

### Summary

The Coalfield Estatelands landscape character type is heavily industrialised and urbanised. Reflecting the underlying Coal Measures, the landform is gently undulating with low ridges and valleys. Heavy, seasonally waterlogged soils support dairy farming, with pasture as the dominant land-use.

Extensive areas of parkland, small to medium size plantation blocks, discrete tree belts and small coverts provide some ecological continuity in an otherwise built-up and disparate landscape.

Many traditional villages have been subsumed by modern urbanisation. More recent building development, associated with modern housing and industrial estates, is widespread, overwhelming many areas and creating a new urban edge to the countryside.

### Planting and Management Guidelines

A well-wooded, urbanised, estate landscape of small to medium plantations, coverts and tree belts with scattered hedgerow, dense watercourse and localised amenity tree groups, including parkland trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Thinly scattered small plantations
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Thinly scattered hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Densely scattered small woodlands
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Densely scattered hedgerow trees, dense watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 15ha	small-medium
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<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Regular plantations
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- Small-medium scale woodland planting.
- Conserve and restore all ancient woodland sites and restock with locally occurring native species.
- Promote linked extensions to ancient woodland by natural regeneration and planting.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting.
- Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.
- Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.
- Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: COALFIELD ESTATELANDS

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
‡ <i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
‡ <i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
‡ <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### More Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† **Watercourse Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

‡ **Amenity Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as amenity trees associated with settlement, or other locally occurring large woodlands species.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
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##### Occasional 0-5%\*

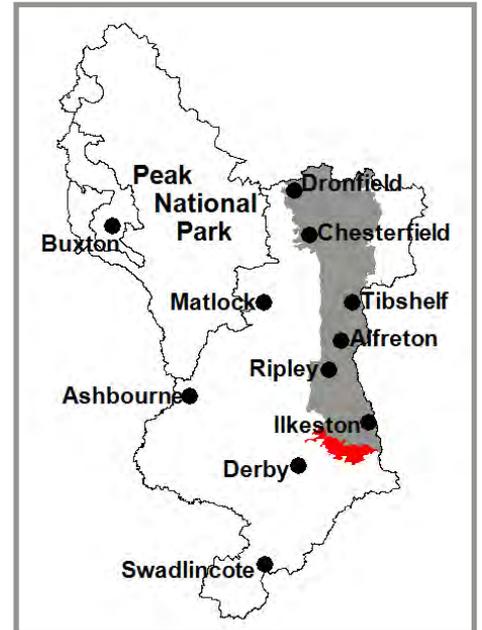
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: PLATEAU ESTATE FARMLANDS

A gently undulating plateau of mixed farming characterised by dispersed settlement, small estate plantations and parkland.



### Key Characteristics

- Upstanding, gently undulating plateau
- Mixed farming
- Scattered hedgerow trees, predominantly oak
- Small plantations
- Parkland and ornamental tree belts associated with country houses
- Medium to large fields
- Relict parkland and former commons now enclosed and farmed
- Dispersed estate farmsteads and cottages, built of red brick with clay tiles and Welsh slate roofs
- Sense of elevation with long distance views

rich but heavy to work. Over boulder clay, they deteriorate further, becoming heavier and prone to seasonal waterlogging. On steep ground, over sand and gravel deposits or sandstone, the soils are poorer and freer draining. Collectively, these soils have traditionally supported a mixed farming system but, owing to the gentle topography and farming improvements, there has been a gradual shift towards arable cropping.

### Geology and Landform

The Plateau Estate Farmlands is situated at the southern limit of the Derbyshire Coalfield Character Area. Whilst part of this nationally defined area, the landscape is actually defined, not by Coal Measures, but by mudstone and sandstone that were laid down in a desert environment, during the Triassic Period. As a result, this landscape has evolved very differently from the rest of the Coalfield. The rocks were later covered by boulder clay, sand and gravel, deposited at the end of the Ice Age. The easily eroded mudstones and glacial deposits

make up the gently rolling landform of the plateau. The more resistant sandstones account for the steeper ground, including the escarpment that abuts the Coal Measures in the north. Higher than the Coalfield to the north and the Trent Valley to the south, the plateau has a distinct sense of elevation with long distance views over the surrounding lower lying land.

### Soils and Land-Use

The soils are locally variable depending on the underlying geology. With mudstones predominating, the soils tend to be

### Ecology

This landscape is ecologically poor owing to the intensive nature of modern day agriculture and the increasing shift towards arable farming. Traditional parkland at Locko Park provides a significant area of woodland and other semi-natural habitats. In addition, the network of hedgerows and mature hedgerow oaks retains a degree of ecological value, most significant in pastoral areas. Ancient semi-natural woodlands remain in a few places but the planting of coniferous trees has obscured and suppressed their ancient origins.

## Tree Cover

The pattern of tree cover strongly reflects the traditional nature of estate ownership within this landscape. Small plantations are characteristic. Ancient semi-natural woodland exists in isolated places, such as near Spondon. Many plantations, typical of this estate landscape, exhibit a mixed species composition, often containing coniferous trees. Reinforcing the estate character are areas of parkland, such as Locko and Risley Parks, which provide significant tree cover including ornamental tree belts and parkland trees. Scattered willow trees occur beside watercourses, with sparsely scattered oak trees along hedgerows. Mature oak trees are visually prominent along older field boundaries, creating filtered views through the landscape. Their presence may be indicative of a formerly ancient wooded

landscape. Tree cover diminishes around Chaddesden and Ockbrook, reflecting the former presence of commons and also in areas where arable cropping is most intensive. Here views are often uninterrupted, except by the undulating landform.

## Enclosure

This is a landscape that displays a diversity of enclosure patterns. Large, regular fields enclose relict parkland at Risley and around Locko Park. On hill summits, medium, regular fields enclose former common land. Other fields tend to be medium in size but with a semi-regular field pattern. Intensive arable cropping may be accountable for the latter, with the removal of hedgerows to increase field productivity. A large area of unenclosed land is also evident within Locko Park.

## Transport

There are few lanes that cross this landscape. Many roads are tracks or 'no through roads' leading to isolated farmsteads.

## Built Environment

This is inherently a dispersed and sparsely settled landscape, represented by estate farmsteads and cottages built mostly of red brick with Staffordshire blue clay tile or Welsh slate roofs. The occasional country house, such as Locko Park set in parkland with ornamental tree belts, is representative of the key characteristics of estate management in this landscape. Its sparsely settled character is now being eroded by the expansion of many nearby villages like Spondon and Ockbrook. New housing estates and ribbon development often form a hard urban edge to the countryside and are invariably unsympathetic to the inherent character of the landscape.

## Summary

The Plateau Estate Farmlands is a gently undulating plateau formed by soft mudstones and glacial deposits. Higher than the Coalfield to the north and the Trent Valley to the south, the plateau has a distinct sense of elevation with long distance views over the surrounding lower lying land.

The soils have traditionally supported a mixed farming system but, owing to the subdued landform and agricultural intensification, arable cropping has dominated. Small plantations and parkland trees reflect the traditional estate ownership of the landscape, with mature oak trees possible indicating a once more extensive ancient wooded landscape. Late enclosure is widespread, enclosing relict parkland and former common land. The nature of modern day agriculture and the increasing shift towards arable farming is slowly altering the mixed farming practices of this landscape and beginning to impact on trees, field boundaries and wildlife habitats.

Although inherently sparsely settled, occasional estate farmsteads and cottages are scattered through the landscape. Located adjacent to the urban fringes of Derby and its satellite villages, the landscape is under intense pressure from housing development and any expansion could seriously jeopardise the current settlement pattern and rural character.

### Planting and Management Guidelines

An upstanding plateau of thinly scattered small plantations and coverts with scattered hedgerow and watercourse trees, and localised amenity trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Thinly scattered small plantations
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Thinly scattered hedgerow trees, scattered watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Thinly scattered small plantations
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Thinly scattered hedgerow trees, scattered watercourse trees and localised amenity tree groups

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 5ha	small
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<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Regular plantations
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- Small scale woodland planting.
- Re-establish and enhance physical links between existing isolated woodland and hedgerows.
- Ensure the management and enhancement of hedgerow trees, through selection and natural regeneration, or by planting.
- Conserve and enhance the tree groups that occur within and around rural settlements and isolated farmsteads.
- Conserve and renew ornamental plantations and individual parkland trees.
- Ensure the conservation and management of mature/veteran trees within hedgerows.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: PLATEAU ESTATE FARMLANDS

### Woodland Species Mix

#### Neutral/Slightly Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
‡ <i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
‡ <i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
‡ <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

###### Minor

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn

###### Minor

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### More Acidic Soils

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

#### Waterlogged Conditions on all soil types

##### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

##### Secondary Tree Species 20%

###### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

###### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

##### Shrubs 10-30%

###### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

###### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

##### Open space 0-20%

† **Watercourse Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

‡ **Amenity Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as amenity trees associated with settlement, or other locally occurring large woodlands species.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
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##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash

##### Occasional 0-5%\*

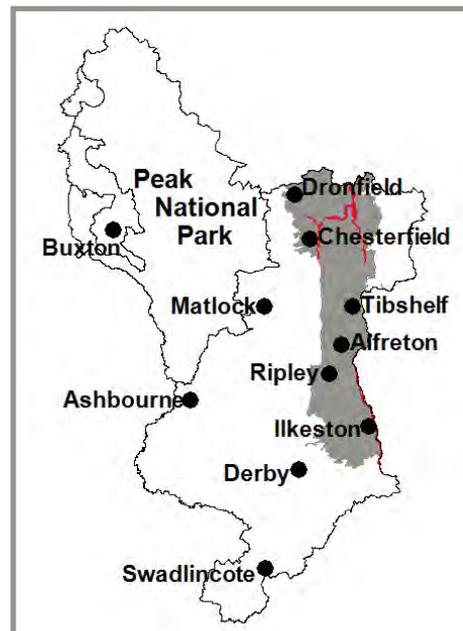
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan
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\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

# Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire Coalfield

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: RIVERSIDE MEADOWS

A flat, riverside landscape characterised by dairy farming, wetland, watercourse trees and a legacy of industrial heritage.



### Key Characteristics

- Narrow rivers meander along flood plains of variable width
- Remnant riverside vegetation, wetland and unimproved grassland
- Dairy farming dominated by pasture
- Dense tree cover along river channels
- Scattered tree cover along boundaries
- Strong association with transport routes due to the presence of canals, railway lines and roads

### Ecology

The dense riverside trees create a sense of visual and ecological continuity along the length of the river, further emphasised by flood plain grazing marsh, and lowland meadows. Mining activities have created important wetland habitats, including subsidence flashes and reed-beds, of particular value along the River Rother and its tributaries.

### Geology and Landform

The principal rivers in the coalfield are the Erewash, Rother and the Doe Lea. The River Erewash flows southwards towards the Trent Valley, through the industrial centres of Heanor and Ilkeston. The River Rother flows north through Chesterfield, picking up the River Doe Lea as it flows out of the county. The riverside meadows sit upon alluvium deposits that were deposited during times of flood. The flood plains are generally flat in profile, with localised hollows reflecting the past course of the river. Hidden underneath these alluvium deposits of silt, mud and gravel are the Coal Measures (Middle Series). In the past, coal was deep mined, but these

workings are now abandoned, leaving behind a legacy of pit heaps and industrial dereliction some of which impinges on these flood plains.

### Soils and Land-Use

The gravel acts as an aquifer, drawing water from the adjoining land into the river. As a result, soils are heavy to work and seasonally waterlogged, sustaining permanent pasture. Significant industrial development in the river corridors has fragmented the agricultural landscape. Many fields are isolated and neglected resulting in a scrubby appearance to the landscape.



*Subsidence flashes*

The meadows and wetland habitats along the River Erewash are also of county importance for wildlife, as are other water features, created by industrial workings such as disused canals and ponds. In the past, industrial activity and pollution has severely contaminated the rivers, destroying habitats. The situation has improved in recent years but

many rivers still remain in poor condition. Industrial developments continue to have a detrimental effect on this rural landscape. There are also many areas of under managed grassland along these rivers, particularly in urban fringe areas.

### Tree Cover

Dense to scattered willow and alder occur along the riverbanks, marking the course of the river.

There are also occasional mature trees, particularly ash and some oak, along field boundaries. Many areas of neglected grassland are being colonised by scrub. Woodland is not a characteristic of this landscape.

### Enclosure

Enclosure is not a prominent feature. Thorn hedgerows enclose medium sized, regular shaped fields. A sinuous hedge often defines the limit of the flood plain, suggesting the area was once open meadow.

### Transport

Traditionally the river meadows would have had few roads. The older lanes that still exist run along the edge of the flood plain, raised upon embankments to reduce the risk of flooding. The occasional road crosses the river, over bridges constructed from local sandstone or red brick. There has been a considerable impact on this landscape by industry and deep coal mining, and notably through the development of transport routes. Since the industrial revolution, there has been a significant expansion of rail and canal routes, mainly to supply coal pits and to transport goods. The flat landform of the flood plain became an ideal location for canal, rail and road routes.



*Meadows fragmented by modern transport links*

Most sections of the flood plain carry a railway line. These are still largely in use except for minor tracks, which have been left derelict. Canals are prominent features on the flood plain and mostly follow rivers. They are no longer in use, but sections have been preserved for recreational purposes.



*Erewash Canal*

### Built Environment

Due to the risk of flooding, this landscape historically would have been sparsely settled. In recent times, development has disregarded these earlier practices and encroached onto the river meadows.

## Summary

Narrow meandering rivers flow through the Coalfield Riverside Meadows dissecting the Coal Measures to form flood plains of variable width.

Heavy, seasonally waterlogged soils have prohibited arable cropping and traditionally supported low intensity permanent pasture, grazed by cattle. Once open meadow, the flood plain is now defined by late enclosure with thorn hedgerows. Delineated by dense willow and alder, the rivers have provided ecological continuity and support important wetland habitats. Due to the risk of flooding this landscape, would have been unsettled.

With the advent of the industrial revolution, these river valleys were completely transformed. The flat valley floor provided transport corridors accommodating the construction of canals, roads and railways. More recent large scale residential and industrial development has encroached onto the flood plain. Following the decline and abandonment of coal production, the landscape is now punctuated by redundant and derelict remnants of a once predominant industry.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: RIVERSIDE MEADOWS

### Planting and Management Guidelines

An open flood plain with scattered watercourse trees.

<b>Primary woodland character:</b>	Unwooded
<b>Primary tree character:</b>	Dense watercourse trees
<b>Woodland vision:</b>	Occasional small wet woodlands
<b>Tree vision:</b>	Dense watercourse trees

<b>Typical woodland size range:</b>	0.5 - 5ha	small
<b>Woodland pattern:</b>	Organic/linear	

- Ensure the use of indigenous tree and shrub species, including a proportion of large, long-lived species.
- Ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland planting and areas of nature conservation value.
- Enhance the visual and ecological continuity of river corridors by management, natural regeneration and planting of riparian trees.

## LANDSCAPE TYPE: RIVERSIDE MEADOWS

### Woodland Species Mix

Waterlogged Conditions  
on all soil types

#### Primary Tree Species 50%

† <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
† <i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow

#### Secondary Tree Species 20%

##### Major

<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak

##### Minor

<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan

#### Shrubs 10-30%

##### Major

<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow

##### Minor

<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

Open space 0-20%

† **Watercourse Trees** - tree species most appropriate for planting as watercourse trees.

### Hedgerow Species Mix

#### Suitable hedgerow plants

##### Primary 85-100%

*Crataegus monogyna* Hawthorn

##### Occasional 0-5%

*Corylus avellana* Hazel  
*Frangula alnus* Alder Buckthorn  
*Prunus spinosa* Blackthorn  
*Rosa canina* Dog Rose  
*Viburnum opulus* Guelder Rose

#### Suitable hedgerow trees

##### Primary 70-75%

*Fraxinus excelsior* Ash  
*Quercus petraea* Sessile Oak  
*Quercus robur* Pedunculate Oak

##### Secondary 25-30%

*Acer campestre* Field Maple

##### Occasional 0-5%\*

*Sorbus aucuparia* Rowan

\* only to be used if occurring locally within the landscape character type

