

Appendix 3 - Data Parameters and Caveats

- For the EUS areas and both parts of the WHS the polygons' minimum size threshold was 1Ha.
- For the rest of the project area the polygons' minimum size threshold was 2Ha.
- For areas with mixed character which could not be easily divided, only the dominant character (whether current or previous) was recorded.
- Only one character type (broad and associated narrow) was recorded per period per polygon. In some instances there were multiple character types (particularly for the modern era) and so only the dominant one was recorded. This was necessary due to the search mechanic of the HBSMR database and to allow the production of time-slices.
- Period dates for Post-medieval and Modern periods given to HLC records relate to the sources and so are not necessarily factually correct. For other periods (those that are earlier than post medieval) the MIDAS thesauri date ranges have been adopted. The dates used comprise:

Non EUS/WHS Areas

- o Modern = 2012 (Project start date)
- o Late post medieval period = 1872 to 1894 (1 Ed 6" OS map date)
- o Early post medieval period = 1540 to 1871 (1 Ed 1" OS map date)
- o Medieval period = 1066 to 1539 (MIDAS date)
- o Saxon period = 410 to 1065 (MIDAS date)
- o Roman period = 43 to 409 (MIDAS date)
 - Iron Age = -800 to 42 (MIDAS date)
 - Bronze Age = -2350 to -701 (MIDAS date)
- o Neolithic = -4000 to -2351 (MIDAS date)

EUS/WHS Areas

- o Modern = 2012 (Project start date)
- o 1950s-1960s = 1961 (5 Ed 6" OS map date)
- o 1920s-1940s = 1910 to 1933 (3 Ed 6" OS map date)
- o 1890s-1910s = 1897 to 1914 (2 Ed 6" OS map date)
- o 1870s-1890s = 1872 to 1894 (1 Ed 1" OS map date)
- o Pre-1870s/Early post medieval period = 1540 to 1871 (1 Ed 1" OS map date)
- o Medieval period = 1066 to 1539 (MIDAS date)
- o Saxon period = 410 to 1065 (MIDAS date)
- o Roman period = 43 to 409 (MIDAS date)
- o Iron Age = -800 to 42 (MIDAS date)
- o Bronze Age = -2350 to -701 (MIDAS date)
- o Neolithic = -4000 to -2351 (MIDAS date)
- Non-modern linears (such as roads and railways lines) were purposely not identified or recorded as part of the project. (N.B. Some historic linears like canals are recorded).
- A mixture of legible and non-legible (but identifiable from sources) character types have been recorded. The separation between those that can still be discerned in the landscape and those that have been inferred from the sources has been achieved through the confidence level attribute, using the following values:

- o Certain = the character type is clearly legible in the modern landscape and can be identified by type on present day maps/photographs.
 - o Probable = the character type is partially legible in the modern landscape and can be identified by type on present day maps/photographs.
 - o Possible = the character type is not legible in the modern landscape and has been inferred from the historic maps and sources.
- Where the number of instances of Narrow Types was very low (under 5 for both present and previous character) then the types were combined into a mixed type (e.g. plant nurseries and garden centres).
- The ridge and furrow attribute was only applied to areas that once had either strip fields or open fields as a previous character type.
- In some instances the 'field count' attribute has been used as a proxy for a parcel/delineated area count – so the number of parcels of allotment gardens for example.
- The urban settlement broad type was principally applied to the EUS areas and associated expansions of these towns.
- The Wiltshire and Swindon HER was used as a source – but the HLC project (its polygons and records) only records archaeological/historical features that exist at a broad scale.
- Pre-post medieval dates were only applied to settlements where there was clear and legible early character – place names (for example the presence of the settlement in Domesday) were not used to determine age of origin.
- All HLC polygons are intended to be contiguous, with no gaps between them to ensure consistent coverage and analysis. However, in some rare instances there may be tiny gaps or overlaps between the polygons – but such instances are likely very limited in number and difficult to easily identify and rectify.
- Each broad type has a maximum of 8 associated attributes when using the Exegesis HBSMR HLC module. Fewer can be used, but no more can be added.
- A smallish number of sources were deliberately used to create the polygons to help ensure rapidity of characterisation. This means that the data is fairly broad brush and is intended to be viewed in the main on a large area/county scale.
- The numeric type codes assigned to each of the narrow types do not have associated meaning – they are purely numeric values.
- Each HLC record only has one polygon attached to it, so there are no dispersed or multiple area polygons. This helps with consistent analysis of type distribution and area.
- The area and limits of each HLC polygon have been defined by existing, present day features and boundaries (i.e. field boundaries, roads, woodland etc.). This is because the HLC is intended to be a regression from the present day back.
- All of the character areas identified and mapped as polygons have been kept as large as possible (within the parameters of characterisation as set out in the methodology section).
- Where an ornamental polygon has no garden, a null value has been left in the garden type attribute.