



Mallard Pass

Solar Farm

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Environmental Statement Volume 2 Appendix 8.2: Cultural Heritage - Assessment Methodology November 2022

PINS Ref: EN010127

Document Ref: EN010127/APP/6.2

Revision P0

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations
2009 - Reg 5 (2) (a)

Appendix 8.2 Cultural Heritage Assessment Methodology

Introduction

- 1.1.1. This appendix sets out the approach for the assessment of impact to Cultural Heritage brought about by the Proposed Development.

Study Area

- 1.1.2. The study area utilised for the baseline assessment extends to 1km from the Order limits.

Sources of Information

This assessment has been informed by the following baseline surveys;

- ***Appendix 8.4: Heritage Desk-Based Assessment*** [EN010127/APP/6.2]; and
- ***Appendix 8.5: Geophysical Survey*** [EN010127/APP/6.2].

- 1.1.3. Sources of information used to inform the baseline and assessment methodology include:

- National Heritage List for England;
- Rutland and Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER);
- Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (HER);
- Lincolnshire Record Office or Leicester and Lincolnshire Archives;
- Lidar Imagery obtained via Defra Data Services Platform (environment.data.gov.uk);
- Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS);
- Genealogist, Envirocheck, National Library of Scotland and other cartographic websites;
- British Geological Survey (BGS) website;

- Site walkovers undertaken in September 2021 and June 2022.

1.1.4. The methodological approach to the geophysical survey can be found in Appendix 8.5.

Assessment Criteria and Assessment of Significance

1.1.5. This section sets out the approach to the assessment of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the Cultural Heritage resource, comprising archaeological remains, built heritage, and historic landscape ('heritage assets').

Receptor Sensitivity/Importance/Value

1.1.6. The assessment of heritage value has been guided primarily by the policies and guidance contained in Historic England's 'Conservation Principles' (Ref 1). This defines the value of a heritage asset with reference to the following four key forms of value set out in Table 1.

Table 1 Heritage values

Values	Description
Evidential	Derives from 'the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity' and is primarily associated with physical remains or historic fabric
Historical	Derives from 'the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present'. This can derive from particular aspects of past ways of life, or association with notable families, persons, events or movements

Values	Description
Aesthetic	Derives from sensory and intellectual stimulation and includes design value, i.e. 'aesthetic qualities generated by the conscious design of a building, structure or landscape as a whole'. It may include its physical form, and how it lies within its setting. It may be the result of design, or it may be an unplanned outcome of a process of events
Communal	Derives from 'the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it'. Communal value derives from the meanings that an historic asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it the asset features within their collective experience / memory. It may be commemorative or symbolic

- 1.1.7. Criteria for assessing heritage sensitivity / importance are set out in Table 2 . As well as considering the principles above, this takes account of paragraph 189 of the NPPF (2021) (Ref 2) which defines heritage assets of the 'highest significance' namely: World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, and Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens. The term *significance*, as adopted by EN-1 and the NPPF, and referred to in the preceding sections of this Appendix, to describe the interests or values of a heritage asset or assets, has been avoided here to save confusion with the EIA terminology of significance criteria and 'significant effects'.

Table 2 Heritage Importance

Importance of resource / asset	Description
High	<p>World Heritage Sites and heritage assets of acknowledged international importance, or that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives. Historic landscapes of international sensitivity (designated or not) and extremely well-preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence, time depth, or other critical factor(s).</p> <p>Scheduled Monuments and undesignated assets of Schedulable quality and importance, according to the non-statutory criteria for scheduling ancient monuments utilised by the Secretary of State. Heritage assets or groups of assets that can contribute substantially to acknowledged national research objectives. Historic landscapes exhibiting considerable coherence, time depth or other critical factors and displaying considerable evidential, historic, aesthetic and communal value as identified by Conservation Principles. Grade I and II* Registered Parks/Gardens.</p> <p>Grade I and II* Listed Buildings or other Listed Buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or associations not adequately reflected in their Listing grade, or undesignated structures of clear national importance. Conservation Areas containing very important buildings.</p>
Medium	<p>Heritage assets, or groups of assets or landscapes, that contribute to regional research objectives. Historic landscapes exhibiting reasonable coherence, time depth or other critical factors (including degree of preservation) and displaying evidential, historic, aesthetic, and communal value as identified by Conservation Principles. Grade II Registered Parks/Gardens. Grade II Listed Buildings or historic buildings which can be shown to be of comparable significance. Conservation Areas containing important buildings which contribute significantly to their historic character, or historic townscapes with important historic integrity.</p>

Importance of resource / asset	Description
Low	Heritage assets displaying limited evidential, historic, aesthetic, or communal value as identified by Conservation Principles. Heritage assets, or groups of assets, that contribute to a limited degree to regional research objectives. Historic landscapes exhibiting limited coherence, time depth or other critical factors. Historic landscapes whose sensitivity is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Locally Listed buildings and unlisted buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association.
Uncertain	Heritage assets, the importance of which has not yet been ascertained.
Negligible	Heritage assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest. Heritage assets or groups of assets that cannot appreciably contribute to acknowledged regional research objectives. Historic landscapes exhibiting little or no coherence, time depth or other critical factors and displaying evidential, historic, aesthetic, and communal value as identified by Conservation Principles. Buildings of no architectural or historical note.

Magnitude of Impact

- 1.1.8. The magnitude of impact upon heritage assets is defined as the change resulting from the proposed development that affects the asset. The classification of the magnitude of change on heritage assets is rigorous and based on consistent criteria. This takes account of such factors as the physical scale and type of disturbance anticipated and whether features or evidence would be lost that are fundamental to their historic character and integrity. Changes may be adverse or beneficial. Depending on the nature of the change and the duration of development, effects can be temporary and/or reversible or permanent and irreversible. Change in itself, however, may not necessarily be harmful to heritage assets. For example, judgements (such as paragraph 45 of the judgement by Lindblom J in R (Forge Field Society) v. Sevenoaks DC [2014] EWHC 1895 (Admin)) have clarified that in the context of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act

1990 ‘preserving’ means doing ‘no harm’; and does not necessarily mean ‘no change’. Similarly, Historic England’s Conservation Principles defines ‘preserve’ as ‘to keep safe from harm’ (Ref 1).

- 1.1.9. This will include the consideration of such issues as: which, and how many, elements of an asset are affected; whether the change physically modifies the asset or whether it comprises changes in visual aspects, noise or access that would alter its setting; and whether the change in the value of an asset will be adverse or beneficial.
- 1.1.10. In terms of the assessment of effects arising from change to an asset’s setting, the guidance provided by Historic England in *Good Practice Advice in Planning: Note 3 (GPA3): The Setting of Heritage Assets* (2017) (Ref 3) makes clear that ‘analysis of setting is different from landscape assessment. While landscapes include everything within them, the entirety of very extensive settings may not contribute equally to the significance of a heritage asset, if at all.’
- 1.1.11. The magnitude of impact on each individual heritage asset is assessed using the criteria in Table 3. Changes may be adverse or beneficial; however, in the most part the descriptions offered below focus on adverse change.

Table 3 Magnitude of Impact

Magnitude of Impact	Description
High	Change to most or all key archaeological or historic building values, such that the asset is totally altered. Total changes to valued components of the setting of archaeological or historic building assets. Change to most or all key valued historic landscape elements, parcels or components; changes to valued sound quality; fundamental changes to valued use or access.

Magnitude of Impact	Description
Moderate	Changes to many key archaeological or historic building elements, such that the assets values are noticeably modified. Changes to the valued settings of archaeological or historic building assets, such that it is noticeably modified. Changes to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; noticeable differences in valued sound quality; considerable changes to valued use or access.
Low	Changes to key archaeological or historic building elements, such that the values of the asset are slightly modified. Changes to the valued settings of archaeological or historic building assets, such that it is slightly altered. Change to a few key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; some limited changes to valued sound quality; slight changes to valued use or access.
No Impact	Inconsequential changes to archaeological or historic building elements or their settings; to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; to sound quality; to use or access.

Significance of Effect

1.1.12. The significance of effect upon any heritage asset is a product of the importance of the asset, and the magnitude of change upon its values. This is summarised in Table 4. Where two alternatives are given in the table, professional judgement is used to decide which best reflects the significance of effect.

Table 4 Criteria for Significance of Effect

Magnitude of Impact	Heritage Asset Importance			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Major Adverse / Beneficial	Major Adverse / Beneficial	Minor to Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Neutral
Medium	Major to Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Minor to Moderate Adverse/ Beneficial	Minor Adverse / Beneficial	Neutral
Low	Minor to Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Minor to Moderate Adverse/ Beneficial	Minor Adverse / Beneficial	Neutral
No Impact	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Assessment of Significance of Effect

- 1.1.13. Regarding the significance of the effect upon heritage assets, the key principle to be considered is whether the effect is significant. For the purposes of this report 'significant effects' are considered to be of 'Moderate' significance of effect or higher, as highlighted in Table 8.4 above. The significance of effect can be adverse or beneficial. Such effects may also be temporary or permanent, and reversible or irreversible.
- 1.1.14. The measured significance of effect may be equated to key concepts in planning policy and heritage guidance regarding the assessment of development effects upon heritage assets, as per Table 5. Key principles that are considered, in accordance with EN-1 and the NPPF (Ref 2), are whether the effect comprises substantial harm or total loss. When a significant effect is identified, it may be appropriate to propose suitable mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset the effect.

Table 5 Description of the significance of effect with reference to heritage policy

Significance of Effect	Criteria
Major Adverse	Substantial harm to or total loss of the values of a designated heritage asset (or asset worthy of designation) such that development should not be consented unless substantial public benefit is delivered by the development.
Moderate Adverse	<p>Less than substantial harm to or total loss of the values of a designated heritage asset (or asset worthy of designation) such that the harm should be weighed against the public benefit delivered by the development to determine consent.</p> <p>Total loss of a non-designated heritage asset of medium importance (i.e. which may contribute to regional research objectives) with compensatory mitigation measures agreed with statutory consultees.</p> <p>Harm to a non-designated heritage asset, of a greater degree than that perceived of as Minor Adverse, which should be considered in determining an application.</p> <p>Harm to a historic landscape type of more than low importance.</p>
Minor Adverse (not significant)	Harm to a non-designated heritage asset that can be adequately compensated through the implementation of a programme of industry standard mitigation measures.
Neutral	Effect that is nil or imperceptible.
Minor Beneficial	Development will deliver a positive contribution and / or better reveal the values of a non-designated heritage asset.
Moderate Beneficial	Development will deliver a positive contribution and / or better reveal the values of a designated heritage asset (or asset worthy of designation) such that an application should be treated favourably.
Major Beneficial	Development will deliver a positive contribution and / or better reveal the values of a designated heritage asset of recognised international importance such that an application should be treated very favourably.

References

- Ref 1 Historic England (2008). Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment.
- Ref 2 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021). National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- Ref 3 Historic England (2017). Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (Second Edition).

