

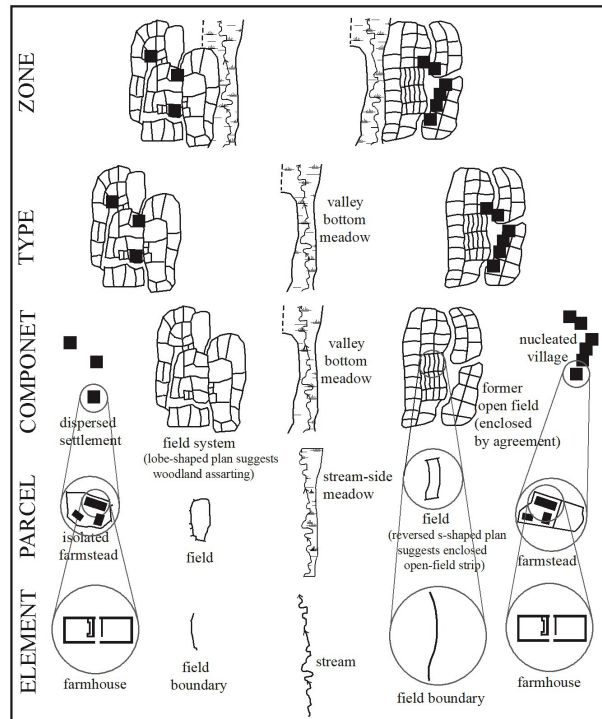
**TABLE 1: Highly generalised key character defining features of Rackham's (1986) 'ancient' and 'planned' countryside (based on Rackham 1986 tabs 1.1 and 1.2, with additions in square brackets)**

**'ancient' countryside (South East and western England)  
countryside (Midland England)**

**'planned'**

<i>modern</i>	<i>historic</i>	<i>modern</i>	<i>historic</i>
isolated farms, hamlets and small towns	[farmsteads, hamlets and small towns, derived from a long history of settlement growth and contraction]	villages [resulting from the 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century 'replanning'] and isolated farms [which emerged after Parliamentary Enclosure as farmers moved closer to their now consolidated landholdings]	villages [resulting from the 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century 'replanning']
[enclosed fields, mostly irregular in layout]	open fields either absent or of modest extent and enclosed before c.1700 [though recent research, including the HLCs in Cornwall and Devon, are challenging this: see Part 3]	[enclosed fields, mostly rectilinear/planned in layout resulting from Parliamentary Enclosure]	strong tradition of open fields lasting into the Enclosure Act period [18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> century]
hedges mainly mixed, not straight	most hedges ancient	hedges mainly hawthorn, and straight [having been planted following Parliamentary Enclosure, the plants coming from nurseries]	[very few hedges in a landscape of open fields]
roads many, and not straight	[roads many, and not straight]	roads few, and straight [resulting from Parliamentary Enclosure]	[different network of roads to that created during Parliamentary Enclosure]
many public footpaths	[many footpaths/rights of way]	few footpaths	[different network of footpaths/rights of way to that created during Enclosure]
many woods, often small	many woods, often small	woods absent, or few and large	woods absent, or few and large

**TABLE 2: Schematic examples of historic landscape elements, parcels, components, types and areas.**



**TABLE 3: Cornwall HLC – textual description for each zone (based on Herring 1999, 30-31)**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>Basic defining or distinguishing attributes</b>
Principal historical process	A brief review of the historical development of the zone in Cornwall, including an outline chronology where appropriate. Emphasis is laid on the processes (economic, social etc) that have produced surviving historical or semi-natural features.
Typical historical and archaeological components and features	Allows particular landscape features (like engine houses, church towers or conifer plantations) and below ground remains a place in the characterisation. Includes semi-natural habitats as well as archaeological features.
Rarity	A statement on the rarity regionally and nationally of both the zone itself and the features typically found within it in Cornwall.
Survival	A statement on the typical survival of historical/archaeological and semi-natural components and features within this zone in Cornwall. In some cases the survival of the whole zone is also considered.
Degree of surviving coherence	A statement on the typical extent that inter-related components from specified periods survive to be seen and understood in the zone.
Past interaction with other zones	A discussion of the apparent relationships between the zone under consideration and other zones at specific periods.
Evidence for time-depth	A discussion of the typical development of the zone (say 'Recently Enclosed Land developing on what was previously 'Upland Rough Ground', 'Ornamental' on 'Anciently Enclosed Land', or the gradual process of enclosure in 'Anciently Enclosed Land'), and the typical survival of visible and coherent evidence for that development.
Contribution to the present landscape character	Discussion of the extent that the historical/archaeological or semi-natural components that define the zone also determine the predominant landscape character of the land on which it lies.
Values and perception	A discussion of that ways that local people and visitors appear to perceive the zone and the value that is given to it and its components. Without the time to undertake a thorough literature search or conduct interviews, this was based on the observations and prejudices of one person who has lived in the county since a young child. This was an important part of the text, but bringing subjectivity into the process, and identifying variances in attitudes, and disputes over interpretations.
Research and documentation	Statement on the extent of archaeological and historical research on the development of both the zone and its typical components.
Potential for historical and archaeological research	Discussion of directions future research might take to help understand the development of both the zone itself and its components.
Potential for amenity and education	A discussion of the likely interest visitors and educators may find in the zone, its components, and its history, and the practical problems that might be encountered in developing that interest.
Condition	Statement on the typical condition of the zone and defining components.
Vulnerability	Statement on the degree of statutory or customary protection the

	zone typically receives.
Forces for change	Discussion of the influences currently affecting the zone in Cornwall; these need not all be negative.
Importance	Using some of the foregoing sections as a guide, a statement is made on the importance regionally and nationally of both the zone and its typical components.
Principal locations	Simple statement concerning typical distribution of the zone through Cornwall, sometimes with a brief explanation.
Variability	Statement identifying major differences in extent and components of the zone in different parts of Cornwall, with brief explanations where appropriate.
Safeguarding the zone	Simple recommendations made in the light of foregoing sections with the intention of conserving the zone, its components, and its character.

**TABLE 4: Historic landscape character types in Meare, Somerset**

1. <i>Field boundary pattern</i>	2. <i>Roads</i>	3. <i>Settlement</i>	4. <i>Soils</i>	5. <i>Character areas</i>	6. <i>Interpretation</i>	
<b>Irregular, large:</b> large fields of irregular, largely polygonal, layout with little or no sign of overall planning. Incorporate the meandering lines of former natural streams.	absent	absent	alluvium	• Meare Pool	enclosure of last part of Meare Pool to be drained; 17 <sup>th</sup> century	
<b>Irregular, small:</b> small fields of irregular, rectangular, or polygonal shape with little or no sign of overall planning.	sinuous, with areas of roadside 'waste'	mostly spread along roads	dryland	• Meare Island • Westhay Island	piecemeal enclosure; mostly medieval	
<b>Sinuuous coaxial:</b> blocks of rectangular and long-narrow fields laid out between curving/sinuuous axial boundaries	sinuous, with areas of roadside 'waste'	restricted to road	dryland	• Meare Island	enclosure of former open field furlongs (laid out c.10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century?); late medieval to 19 <sup>th</sup> century	
<b>Tenement plots:</b> series of long narrow plots with sub-division at street frontage containing buildings.	sinuous, with areas of roadside 'waste'	in 'toft'-like plots along road	dryland	• Meare Island • ?Westhay Island	planned village tenements; c.10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> century?	
<b>Short strips:</b> short, narrow, straight-sided fields laid out in small discrete blocks	absent	absent	fen-edge and alluvial margins	• around Westhay Island	enclosed meadow; medieval. Pattern of long-narrow fields suggest a former common meadow	
<b>Intermediate:</b> largely rectangular fields, with some indication of rudimentary structure, but no evidence for overall planning.						
<b>sub-types</b> (Figure 28.2)	blocks of rectangular fields, varying in shape from square to long/narrow	mostly straight, with little roadside 'waste'	occasional isolated farm	Alluvium and fen-peat	• East Backwear • East & West Waste, and W Backwear • Honeygar	areas of reclamation; late medieval/ early post medieval. Pattern of fields suggest a landscape held in severalty
	blocks of small rectangular fields	absent	absent	Alluvium, fen peat and raised bog	• The Hammes	A discrete medieval reclamation. Pattern of long-narrow fields suggest a former common meadow
<b>Regular (rectilinear):</b> planned landscape structured around long, parallel longitudinal roads and rhynes that create a series of 'blocks'	straight, forming axial elements of the landscape	absent	raised bog and fen peat	• Godney & Westhay Moors	18 <sup>th</sup> century reclamation	
<b>sub-types</b> (Figure 28.2)	A. 'blocks' undivided creating predominantly rectangular fields B. 'blocks' sub-divided further into long, narrow fields C. mostly rectilinear (occasionally polygonal) fields between outer major axial element of landscape and edge of enclosed area					
<b>Regular (longitudinal):</b>	broad, funnel	absent	raised bog	• Meare &	Early post-	

planned blocks with a dominant longitudinal axis creating long, narrow fields, all of same orientation, structured around long, parallel longitudinal droveways and rhynes.	shaped droveways forming axial elements of the landscape (highlighted on Figure 30.2).		peat	Westhay Heaths	medieval reclamation. Changes of direction at lateral rhynes suggest episodic expansion.
<b>sub-types</b> (see Figure 28.2)	1. long, relatively broad, blocks with very few lateral sub-divisions 2. long, relatively broad blocks with lateral sub-divisions 3. long, relatively broad blocks with lateral and some short longitudinal subdivisions 4. long, narrow fields with very few lateral sub-divisions 5. long, narrow fields with lateral sub-divisions				
<b>Infill:</b> small plots filling the space between major landscape features/other character areas	various	various	often fen-edge and wetland margins	• various locations	areas of reclamation and enclosure; various dates

**TABLE 5: Historic landscape character areas in Meare, Somerset**

<b>Character area</b>	<b>Landscape type(s)</b>	<b>soils</b>	
<b>Meare Island</b>	irregular, intermediate, sinuous coaxial, short strips and tenement plots	dryland and adjacent fen-edge	
Complex landscape comprising a /manor complex within a walled precinct, adjacent church and planned village, open fields (sinuous coaxial type landscape), and some fen-edge reclamation (all documented). Three modern settlement foci of which Meare village appears to comprise a discrete block of planned tenements, whereas Oxenpill consists of a more loose agglomeration of farmsteads and cottages. In its present form Stileway is 19 <sup>th</sup> century, though 'building land' is referred to there in 1340.			
<b>Westhay Island</b>	irregular, intermediate, short strips and (?) tenement plots	dryland and adjacent fen-edge	
Complex landscape, with a possible small block of planned tenements to south west of Manor House Farm. Irregular fields on dryland, with area of fen-edge enclosures/reclamation (short-strip type landscape) to south and west. No 'sinuous coaxial' type landscape suggestive of former open fields.			
<b>Godney Island</b>	irregular	dryland, fen-edge and adjacent alluvium	
Area of mostly irregular fields on and around the bedrock island (though only really evident on the ground, not the 1806 map). A long sinuous boundary runs west from Godney Farm along the watershed of the bedrock ridge. The modern hamlet (Lower Godney) lies on the alluvium next to the Sheppey, though historically the settlement focus may have lain on the bedrock/fen-edge at Upper Godney.			
<b>Meare Pool</b>	intermediate, and infill	alluvium	
Area of irregular fields in the central/eastern area of the former Meare Pool, which post-date the canalized River Sheppey (now the James Weir River). Defined on the north/west by a sinuous boundary that may represent an earlier limit to its drainage/enclosure; the area between this boundary and Decoy Rhyne is one field wide and of 'infill' type landscape: Figure 28.1). Intermittent field boundary to the north/west of, and concentric with, Decoy Pool Rhyne and limit of flooding on January 16 <sup>th</sup> 1947 (shown on air photographs), might suggest the original maximum limit of the Pool. The drainage and enclosure of Meare Pool started in the early 17 <sup>th</sup> century (see above).			
<b>East Backwear</b>	intermediate	alluvium	
Area of intermediate fields, centred on Batch Farm, little different in character to areas to the west and south, but bounded by a near continuous rhyne defining a sub-rectangular enclosure. In 1515 <i>Estbackweare</i> is described as arable in the West Field of Godney.			
<b>East &amp; West Waste, and West Backwear</b>	intermediate	alluvium, fen peat	
Area of intermediate fields showing greater regularity in the east (West Backwear) than the west (East and West Waste, and Waterleaze). The first mention of <i>Waterleas</i> (Waterleaze) was in 1515 when it was described as pasture. The phrase 'The bounds of <i>Bacchyngwere</i> ' is referred to in 1351 though it is unclear whether any reclamation had occurred. In 1515 <i>Westbackweare</i> and <i>Estbackweare</i> (West and East Backwear to the south of Godney Hill), are described as arable in the West Field of Godney, which implies that quite a sizeable chunk of moor had been reclaimed.			
<b>Broadmead and Oxenpill</b>	intermediate	alluvium	
Area of irregular (Splotts) and intermediate (Broadmead and Westmead) landscape on the dryland between Meare and Westhay spreading onto the alluvium to the north, representing reclamation rooted on the fen-edge. Homeway Road (between Meare and Westhay) cuts through these fields. <i>Brodemedede</i> (Broadmead) and <i>Oxenpull</i> (modern Oxenpill) are first mentioned in 1355.			
<b>The Hammes (SE of Stileway)</b>	intermediate	alluvium	

Area of intermediate landscape on the alluvium east of Meare island, representing a discrete reclamation: the long, narrow fields may suggest that it was once a common meadow, or simply the medieval tradition of creating long narrow fields which in a wetland have the advantage of a relatively long length of drainage ditch per area enclosed. Documented in 1260 as <i>Hammesmede</i> .			
<b>Honeygar (Westhay Level)</b>	intermediate	alluvium	
Area of rectangular fields formed by a series of long axial boundaries parallel with the Brue. Williams (1970, fig. 12) shows this area as having been reclaimed c.1400-1600 (though no evidence is given), but meadow and pasture at a place called <i>Henangre</i> or <i>Henacre</i> is documented from 1301/2, presumably Hennigans (now Honeygar Farm). The frequency of references to Hennigans in early 14th century sources suggest that clarification of rights and dues was needed, perhaps because of active reclamation in the area between the islands of Westhay and Burtle. The field systems in the southern part of this area pre-date Heath Rhyne. <b>TABLE 5 (contd)</b>			
<b>Meare and Westhay Heaths</b>	regular (longitudinal) with a series of variants	raised bog peat	
Extensive planned landscape based upon closely-spaced axial boundaries and long, narrow fields. These boundaries appear to have run initially between the fen-edge and Paddock Rhyne, then Heath Rhyne (as far as Honeygar), and were finally extended, sometimes with a slight change of direction (most obviously to the SW of Westhay and SE of Meare), from Heath Rhyne to the parish boundary. Some of these long narrow fields were not enclosed further, while others were sub-divided both laterally and longitudinally (Figure 30.2). References to meadow on the south side of Meare Island in 1355 (at Allen's Moor, Stileway, <i>Southeth</i> , and <i>Hethmor</i> ) may represent the first stage of this reclamation). The Account Roll for 1343/4 describes 'waste' at <i>Hethmor</i> 'south of <i>Hamweye</i> ' [Hammes], 'outside the south part of <i>Henangre</i> ' [Honeygar], and 'outside the south part of <i>Halperryparroke</i> ' [Paddock Rhyne?].			
<b>Godney and Westhay Moors</b>	regular (rectilinear) with three variants	raised bog and fen peat	
Extensive planned landscape based on a series of roughly north-south oriented roads and rhynes, and two roughly east-west oriented roads laid out concentric with the northern parish boundary. The blocks they define are sub-divided into a wide variety of rectangular fields, some of which are further subdivided into long, narrow plots; there is a less regular layout where the area between the outer-most axial roads and the parish boundary was enclosed. Enclosed 1783.			