



The Vale of Pickering an Extraordinary Place

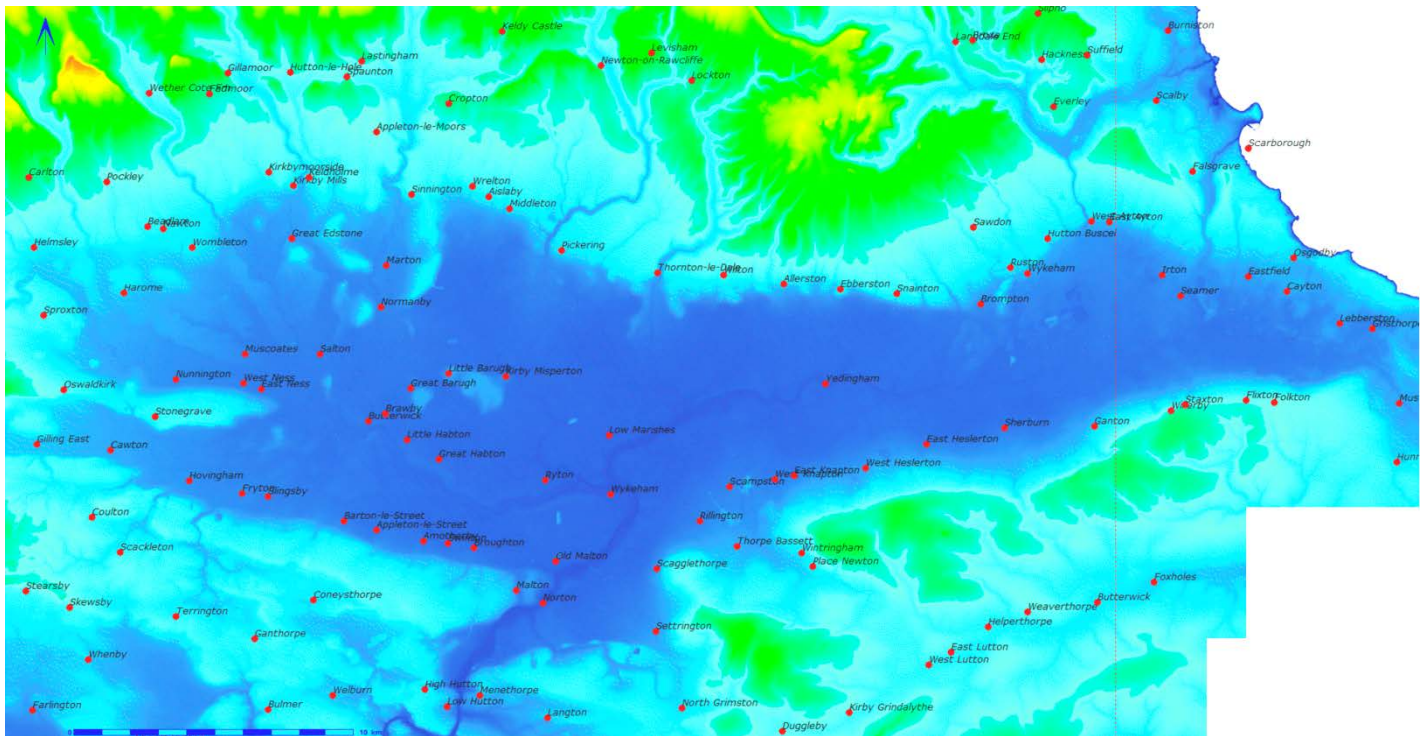
Statement of Significance

The Vale of Pickering an Extraordinary Place

The Vale of Pickering is located in Scarborough and Ryedale districts in North Yorkshire. It is situated between the Yorkshire Wolds, North Yorkshire Moors, Howardian Hills and East Coast and covers an area of about 500 sq km. The Vale of Pickering is a special place of regional, national and international significance.

The landscape of the Vale of Pickering is navigated by rivers, dykes, crossings and bridges. It is circumnavigated on the slopes on the southern, western and northern edges by the modern road network. It is a place with a unique topography, shape and form, with both physical and intellectual 'edges'. It is possible to look down into the Vale of Pickering and visualise its geological sequence and development and imagine it as it was in the past, as a landscape of ice and lakes.

The Vale of Pickering was the setting for Lake Pickering, the largest inland lake in Britain at the end of the last Ice Age, which drained away inland leaving an enclosed area of wetland filling the centre of the valley. The combination of wetland and surrounding upland environments provided an exceptional habitat both for wildlife and people.



Vale of Pickering, elevation model and settlement pattern



Tagcloud showing significance of the Vale of Pickering

Past

The geology of the Vale of Pickering forms the background for its subsequent development, with limestones on the northern and western boundaries, chalk on the southern boundary and clays at the coast.

The geodiversity of the Vale of Pickering is highly visible in its buildings and industries. The Vale has significant resources of aggregates, limestone, calcareous sandstone and chalk quarries. The Vale is important in understanding the sequence of glaciation during the last ice age.

Substantial archaeological work has occurred throughout the Vale of Pickering. This suggests there is sequence of human activity throughout the Vale of Pickering for over the last 12,000 years. Arguably it is the one place in the UK where the gathering of knowledge in the latter half of the 20th century lets us begin to understand a continuous sequence of human activity since the late Palaeolithic.

Archaeological excavations have been undertaken at 'iconic' sites such as Star Carr, Flixton, West Heselton and Malton. The quality and extent of the combination of wetland archaeology (with preservation of organics and wetland deposits), alongside dryland/sandland archaeology (with deposits preserved beneath blown sands) is important.

The archaeology is both high status and every day, recording the everyday lives of people in the past. The sandy lands between Rillington and Ganton contain the largest block of intensive archaeological landscape survey carried out in Europe

Iconic material culture from the Vale of Pickering includes Mesolithic finds from Star Carr, the Folkton drums, alongside Roman ceramics and a fully excavated Anglo-Saxon cemetery and its associated settlement.

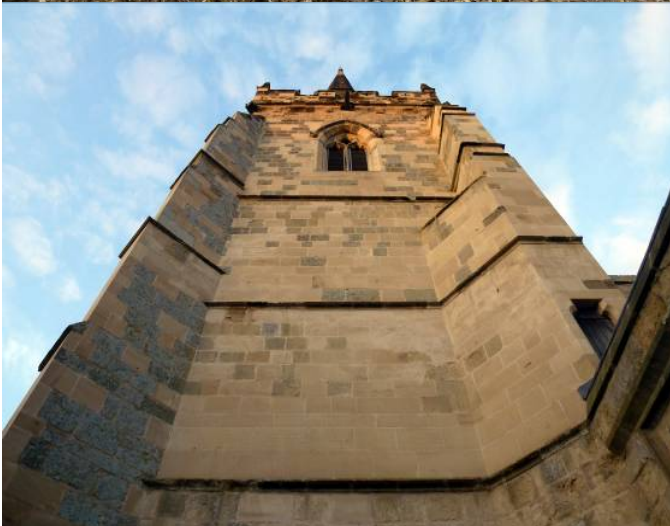
Present

Today the Vale of Pickering is characterised by flat, open pastures, areas of intensive arable production and more varied, undulating, enclosed, landscapes, with some woodland present at Wykeham, Ayton, and Hovingham. The Vale of Pickering has intensive agricultural use of mixed arable and pasture, including food and energy crop production, alongside market gardens and nurseries. The Vale of Pickering has considerable biodiversity and is home to a number of target wetland and farmland bird species.

The complex river system and 19th and 20th century agricultural drainage network 'conquered' the former wetlands in the centre of the valley. This created the patchwork of arable, pasture, woodland, designed parkland, hamlets, villages and market towns that characterise the Vale of Pickering today. As such the 'historic' landscape as we see it today is a landscape of just the last 200 years and in many instances a landscape created within living memory.



Aerial photography from the Vale of Pickering
(Barton le Street, Hovingham, East Heselton & Slingsby)



Vale of Pickering
(Butterwick, Yedingham & Wintringham)

The Vale of Pickering has a complex hydrography with a combination of natural water courses, land drainage, and springline aquifers making it susceptible to flooding. The River Derwent is a major source of potable water in Yorkshire. The wetland deposits within the Vale of Pickering are of significance for carbon capture and storage.

The Vale is home to one of the oldest privately owned cricket pitches, one of very few inland 'links' golf courses, and one of the earliest zoological theme parks in the UK. These amenity sites demonstrate the significance of the development of tourism and leisure. The Vale of Pickering is a significant 'routeway' through to the Yorkshire Wolds, Moors and Coast.

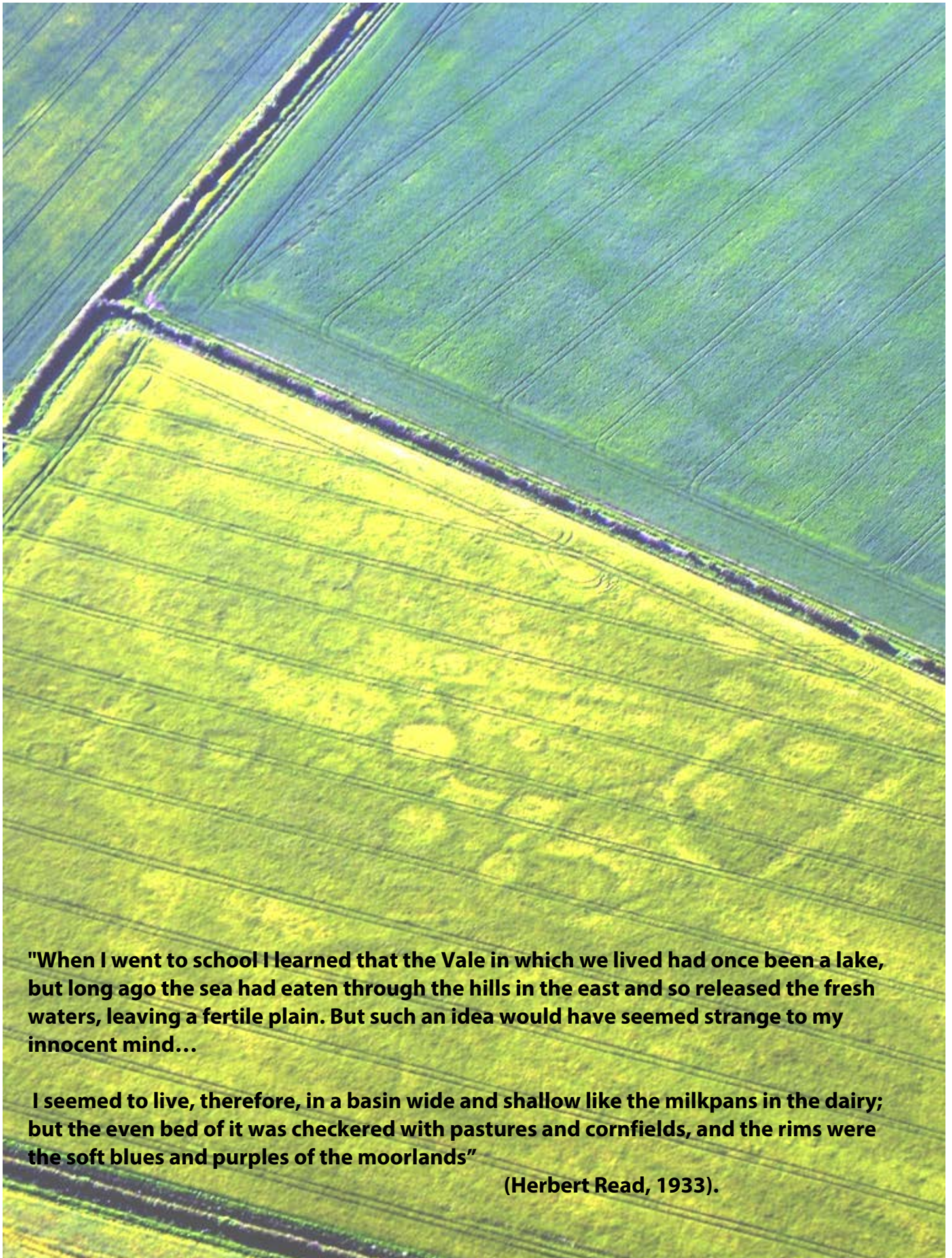
Evidential

The shape and form of the Vale of Pickering is a product of the geological sequence of development. From the valley bottom the enclosed nature of the Vale of Pickering is retained and it is easy to link the special shape and form to a sense of place. The modern road network allows observation of the integrity of the landscape shape and form.

The road network occasionally traverses north-south, crossing the former wetlands on the higher glacial moraines at Sherburn and Seamer on the eastern side of the Vale, and on the western side of the Vale through the extant Kimmeridge clay outcrops at Kirby Misperton and Great Barugh, and at Yedingham across the River Derwent.

The built environment is characterised by stone buildings with pan-tiled roofs. The eastern and southern villages are primarily chalk and brick built, in many cases the brick replacing earlier chalk buildings. The sequences of development of a number of towns and villages have local and national significance. The village plans on the northern side, from Ayton through to Helmsley, are on the northern spring line and retain their visual integrity and 'readability'. Similarly on the south-western side, from Malton to Hovingham, villages preserve remarkable integrity influenced by topography and later village development.

Topographic features are noted in the place names of the Vale of Pickering, for example *ing* (means a moist pasture or meadow-land), *-carr* (is a marshy-tract at the foot of hills), and *mar* (mere/low lying waterlogged place). Other place names reflect the historical development of settlement within the Vale of Pickering, for example Appleton-le-Street and Barton-le-Street are both situated along the old Roman Road.



"When I went to school I learned that the Vale in which we lived had once been a lake, but long ago the sea had eaten through the hills in the east and so released the fresh waters, leaving a fertile plain. But such an idea would have seemed strange to my innocent mind...

I seemed to live, therefore, in a basin wide and shallow like the milkpans in the dairy; but the even bed of it was checkered with pastures and cornfields, and the rims were the soft blues and purples of the moorlands"

(Herbert Read, 1933).

Aerial photography from the Vale of Pickering (East Heslerton)



Vale of Pickering (Yedingham, railway map(NRM),
River Rye, archaeology on aggregates)

In 1930 the archaeologist Frank Elgee noted:

“These names... speak with no uncertain voice as to the condition of the Vale a thousand years ago... The names have survived; but man, with great labour, has mastered the swamp... from its encircling heights we behold a Vale free of swamp and characterised from end to end by fertile fields.” (Elgee, 1930, p. 4).

Historical

There is a long history of antiquarian interest in and around the Vale of Pickering. Over the last 200 years excavations have been undertaken which have resulted in important collections in local and national museums.

Since the 1970s research has revealed a remarkable and complete sequence of human activity in the Vale of Pickering that starts in the late Palaeolithic. We know that from at least c. 9,000BC humans were modifying the natural environment to improve the quality of their own lives. Every single period from the late Palaeolithic to the present day is represented somewhere within the Vale of Pickering.

Geology

The underlying geology of the Vale of Pickering was formed in the Jurassic (c. 195-140 million years ago), forming the Howardian/Hambleton hills to the south-west, west and northern edges of the Vale. Overlying these Corallian geologies are the marine mudstones and thin limestones of the Kimmeridge Clay, which underlies the Vale of Pickering. The Cretaceous (142-65 million years ago) is represented by the Speeton Clay which occurs along the north-eastern edge of the Wolds, and is exposed on the coast at Speeton. The Southern edge is bounded by the younger Chalks of the Yorkshire Wolds formed in the Upper Cretaceous. Given the geological sequence of the Vale of Pickering it is widely perceived as the place at which northern England meets southern England.

The middle of the valley is formed of the much more recent Quaternary lacustrine deposits of sands and gravels. These are associated with Lake Pickering which formed when the Scandinavian ice sheet blocked drainage of both the western and eastern ends. The lake eventually over-spilled cutting the gorge through Kirkham. As such the course of the River Derwent was naturally and permanently diverted to flow south to the Ouse basin – seemingly to flow ‘backwards’ from the sea.

Prehistory

The palaeoenvironmental evidence from the end of the last ice suggests that as the climate improved Lake Flixton was formed at the eastern end of the Valley. At this stage late Palaeolithic flint assemblages from the eastern end of the valley suggest a human presence in the landscape.

From about c. 8,500 BC the climate improved with grasses and sedges occupying the wetland edges, and birches, willow, hazel and pine progressively colonising the drier soils. As the climate continued to improve from c. 7,500BC to 6,300BC deciduous woodland with elm and oak began to appear.

Work by the Vale of Pickering Research Trust on excavated sites at Star Carr, Seamer Carr and Flixton Carr, alongside sub-surface modelling, has revealed evidence at the edge of Lake Flixton. The archaeological site of Star Carr is significant on account of the remarkable organic preservation within waterlogged peat deposits. During Prof. Graham Clark's 1950s excavation it was suggested that there was a platform on the edge of the lake. The most recent phase of investigations suggests relatively sedentary hunting communities living along the lake edge.

By the late Mesolithic there is evidence of human modification of the natural environment through the felling of trees, creation of crossing places or platforms over streams and lake margins, cleared scrub and burnt reeds, and erection of temporary or semi-permanent dwellings. These changes continue through to the Neolithic.

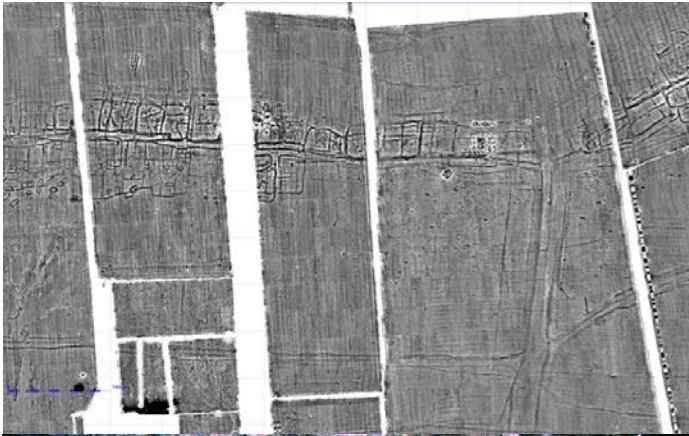
Long barrows and small henges (hengiforms) appear from about 3500BC, and round barrows, cursus monuments, and mortuary enclosures by c. 3,000BC. These have been revealed through work by the Landscape Research Centre through archaeological excavation, aerial photography and geophysical survey. During the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age there is evidence of islands within the peat fen which are used for settlement and burial, with track ways crossing the valley. In addition extensive cemeteries are established. A Beaker settlement has been excavated at in West Heselton, which included round-houses and domestic pits with extensive finds such as quern stones, hone stones, pottery, and flint tools. By the Late Bronze Age, Staple Howe and Devils Hill palisaded enclosures are established. These are probable refuges – and forerunners of later Iron Age hill forts. These are contemporary with extensive areas of open settlement on the sands and gravels on the edge of the former wetlands, for example, at West Heselton.

Iron Age & Roman

By the middle of the Iron Age, square barrow cemeteries with thousands of burials are in evidence in the middle of the Vale and on its northern and southern slopes. The presence of such large cemeteries suggests a very large population. This population was living in round houses and ladder settlements began to become a feature of the landscape. These 'linear cities' are a characteristic feature of the Vale of Pickering between 500 BC and 500 AD, comprising nucleated cores, with enclosures attached to either side of a central track way, with subsequent development filling the gaps between.



Vale of Pickering
(Excavation at Star Carr, Hengiform, Neolithic stone axes)



Geophysical Survey Roman Settlement, Anglo-Saxon Buildings, Medieval Settlement (East Heslerton)

Other Iron Age sites such as the Costa Beck suggest significant interplay between land, living and water. The archaeological evidence from the Vale of Pickering in the Roman period can be characterised by both change and continuity. Change is shown by Roman military remains with the Roman fort in Malton associated with a large vicus or ‘small town’ occupying the Malton and Norton banks of the River Derwent.

Continuity is also shown throughout the Roman period as the thriving ladder settlements remain, and this seems little changed between the Iron Age and Roman periods. Although sites such as Beadlam Roman villa exist, across the Vale of Pickering substantial Roman villas are relatively uncommon.

Anglo-Saxon

The Vale of Pickering has a high concentration of Anglo-Saxon settlement activity at sites such as East Heslerton, West Heslerton, Sherburn and Wykeham. It is likely there is an Anglo-Saxon precursor to every village in the Vale of Pickering, and those with early churches, such as Rillington and Sherburn, remaining to the present day.

From the 8th century the Vale of Pickering is associated with the people of Deira. As the area has the highest density of early churches in the UK it may have formed its heartland. In the villages of Kirby Misperton, Sherburn, Hovingham and Kirkdale the survival of architectural or sculptural elements such as Anglo-Saxon carved stone and/or the reuse of Roman sarcophagi is significant. Later, in the 9th century there is a major re-structuring of the landscape with rig and furrow established

Medieval

Domesday records show a complex and wealthy economy, characterised by increasing nucleation in the same location as our present villages and towns. The medieval archaeology of the towns of Malton, Norton, Pickering, Scarborough and Helmsley is significant.

After the Norman Conquest established patterns of landscape use by-and-large continued, but at this time a number of castle-building projects commenced. Stone-built castles survive at Ayton, Pickering and Helmsley, and other examples are known through archaeological and historical records.

At this time perhaps the greatest change to the landscape are the parish churches, many using sites of significance from earlier periods, re-using or robbing stone from earlier buildings. In addition medieval monastic granges are found throughout the Vale of Pickering, with extant remains incorporated into later farm buildings. St Mary’s Priory Church in Malton is significant as the only Gilbertine monastic structure surviving above ground in the UK.

Modern

Enclosure occurred in the Vale of Pickering at various dates from the 18th century. This changed the strips in the open fields creating the patchwork of mixed arable, pasture and woodland in large enclosed fields.

Land drainage schemes in the 19th and 20th centuries were a result of rising population, food shortages, and repeated flood incidents within the Vale, alongside attempts landowners to increase the value of their landholdings. The earliest drainage system of interlinked cuts and ditches was suggested in 1800 by the engineer William Chapman with the support of Sir George Cayley.

The estate houses, villages and designed parkland and landscape have precursors but take their current form from the period of agricultural improvement. The continuity of the estate villages is a significant characteristic of the Vale of Pickering, with historically imported designed parkland at Wykeham, Scampston and Hovingham. Historically significant buildings are found throughout the Vale of Pickering from this time, such as Ebberston Hall and Church, Garforth Hall Farm, and the Dovecote at Appleton-le-Street.

The population shift from countryside to town changed the nature and character of the Vale of Pickering, with the market towns of Malton, Norton and Pickering subject to substantial growth. Transport links within and outside the Vale of Pickering improved, with the Navigation of the Derwent to Malton through a 1702 Act of Parliament, and subsequently extended through to Yedingham in 1814. The railway was extended from York to Scarborough in 1845, and over subsequent years from Malton to Pickering, and to the eastern and western limits of the Vale of Pickering, with links to Driffield, Thirsk and elsewhere.

The Vale of Pickering has a significant archaeology of the 20th century, with a number of RAF and civilian airfields. Through the 20th century the Vale of Pickering becomes a landscape associated with agriculture, leisure and sport.

Natural

Water defines the Vale of Pickering, with the significant river courses of the River Derwent, Hertford, Rye, Dove, Seven and Costa Beck, in addition to numerous lesser water courses, canalised water courses and drainage systems. The River Derwent is significant and is widely seen as the best example of a classic river profile with upper, middle and lower reaches.

Flood risk management and the protection from risk and vulnerability are significant issues with the concentration of water courses from the North York Moors resulting in flood peaks at Sinnington, Pickering and Malton, and flooding caused by groundwater movement along the spring line within the Corralian limestone at Sinnington, Kirkbymoorside and Pickering.



Vale of Pickering
(Ganton & Yedingham)



Vale of Pickering
(Great Habton, Yedingham, Brawby, Sherburn)

The Vale of Pickering has significant biodiversity. It is home to a mix of aquatic and dryland species, some with national significance, such as the insects and invertebrates in the water-cress beds at Pickering.

Given the scale of industrialised agriculture, some of the Vale of Pickering has significantly degraded ecology. However the hydrology and geomorphology on the eastern end of the Vale of Pickering suggested a suitable setting for wetland restoration and projects undertaken of the last 10 years have had the long-term aim of creating a mosaic of farmed wetland habitats with extensive areas of wet grasslands grazed by cattle, sheep and other livestock.

Aesthetic

The Vale of Pickering is a landscape of great integrity, with the shape and form of the Vale clearly visible from a number of locations, allowing you to understand how the landscape's topography evolved.

The physical quality of the Vale is characterised by the patchwork of fields. We know the majority of these field boundaries are a result of 18th and 19th century enclosure and land drainage, and the current large fields are a result of agricultural changes from World War II. The visible landscape is one created over the last 200 years and to a great extent since mechanisation of agriculture in the latter half of the 20th century.

The visual observation of, and feelings aroused by, the enclosed character of the Vale of Pickering contribute significantly to the sense of place. It is possible to look down into the Vale and imagine it as a landscape of ice and lakes. From the valley bottom, the enclosed nature of the landscape forms a unique sense of place.

Communal

The physical boundaries of the Vale of Pickering interact with old county boundaries to create a sense of belonging in each parish. Parishes often follow a transect from the wet valley bottom, to the slopes and through to the higher ground on both southern and northern sides of the Vale.

The Vale of Pickering is home to strong regional identities; the River Derwent was the boundary of the North Riding and East Riding up until 1974. Local communities within the Vale of Pickering are diverse and rural businesses are significant. There is a strong regional identity which is distinct from the Yorkshire Wolds, North York Moors and coast reflected in music, art and aspects of town and rural life. In contrast for many 'outside', the Vale of Pickering is associated with a day out – a place of or en route to leisure and tourism destinations.

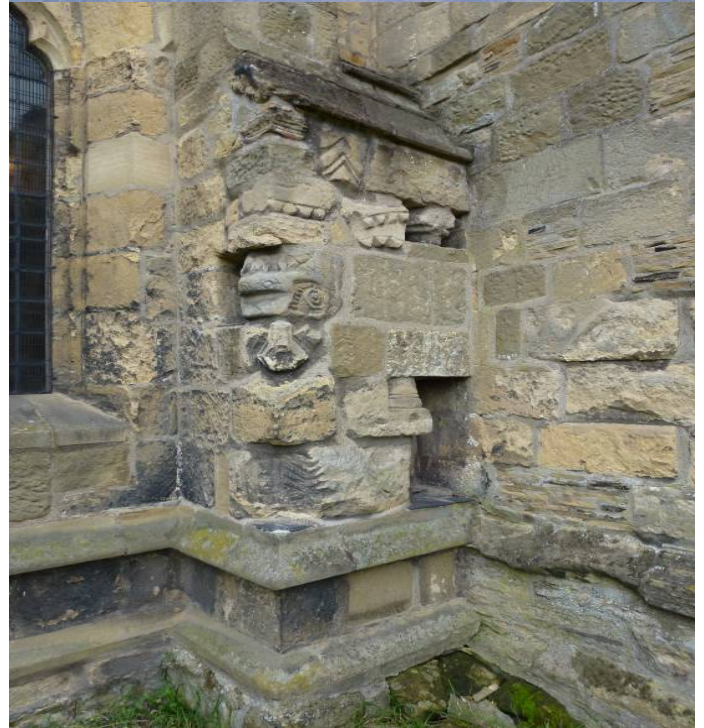
Local knowledge of the landscape and people working in it is rich, with stories told about how and in what ways people manipulate and change their surroundings. The informal relationship between local archaeologists and the community is a significant characteristic of some of the communities within the Vale of Pickering, with local knowledge helping to secure archaeology of national and international importance.

Threat

The greatest threat to the significance of the Vale of Pickering is its low status and lack of visibility. With the exception of the upstanding historic buildings, and occasional surviving rig-and-furrow, the vast majority of the archaeological significance leaves little visible trace in the landscape today. As such the special qualities of the Vale of Pickering have often been overlooked by the more dramatic and picturesque landscapes of the North York Moors, Yorkshire Wolds and Howardian Hills. The apparent 'blank' in statutory protection, general knowledge and aesthetic appreciation is in contrast to the increasing understanding of archaeological and historical sequence, and cultural landscape values of the Vale of Pickering.

We know that modern agricultural practices are not sympathetic to the protection of archaeology that lies buried beneath plough soil, this is particularly significant on the sandy lands on the southern side of the Vale of Pickering that have been subject to intense archaeological study.

Similarly peat in the carrs at the eastern end of the Vale of Pickering have shrunk by on average 0.5m since the 1970s. Ironically whilst the archaeology is invisible from the surface, the demonstration of its destruction is visible, with an increasingly undulating landscape now seen crossing east to west from Staxton to Seamer and from Sherburn to Brompton. The destruction has been a primary driver for the current re-examination of the site of Star Carr within rescue conditions.



Vale of Pickering
(Brawby, Pickering, Star Carr hill)



Vale of Pickering
(Caley's Aeroplanes (reconstruction), Hunmanby, Riseborough,

A place of 'firsts'

The Vale of Pickering is a significant location in the history of science, and the creation and definition of a number of disciplines, from early discoveries in the 19th century to current practice. These include:

1815 William Smith lived for the later part of his life as land agent for Lord Derwent at Hackness Hall, his 1815 Geological Map of Britain underpins our scientific understanding of the world.

1822 William Buckland's analysis and observation of the fossil remains discovered in the Kirkdale Cave, and his conclusion that these were fossil animals living in Britain in ancient times rather than as a result of Biblical Flood was revolutionary.

1853 Sir George Cayley developed the world's first manned aeroplane at Brompton in the 1800s, successfully flying over Brompton Dale in 1853.

1902 Percy Kendall developed approaches to the study of glacial lakes and landforms, his work remains a significant contribution to understanding glacial and postglacial land change. His work popularised the idea of Pickering Lake.

1950s excavation at Star Carr reveals evidence of the Mesolithic development and changes our understanding of the archaeology of Western Europe at the end of the last Ice Age.

1970s excavation at Heselton commences in advance of quarrying work revealing extensive prehistoric settlement and burial sites, preserved beneath layers of blown sand, and a large Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery. Work begins by the Vale of Pickering Research Trust to map the early prehistoric activity beyond Star Carr around the edges of 'Lake Flixton'.

1980s excavations around Lake Flixton continue revealing Palaeolithic evidence associated with the lake and that the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Heselton is the largest of its kind in the north of England; an associated settlement is discovered.

1990's the Early Anglo-Saxon settlement excavation at Heselton is amongst the largest ever undertaken in Europe and uncovers a complete village covering more than 10 Hectares occupied between c.AD450 and c.AD850.

2000's the Vale of Pickering is the setting for the world's largest geophysical survey which reveals exceptionally intensive settlement and other activity from the Prehistoric to Medieval periods and is described by the former Chief Archaeologist for England, David Miles, "as important as Stonehenge or Avebury". Excavations resume at Star Carr.



“...despite its water-logged state the Vale was not altogether unpeopled in past ages.” (Frank Elgee, 1930).

Summary Statement of Significance

Essential to an understanding of significance

- The essential element is the topography, shape and form of the Vale of Pickering. The integrity of its physical form allows us to understand and visualise its geological sequence and development.
- The distinctive topography is essential in understanding how people interact with the landscape, with parish and estate morphology linked to transects through the multiple environments and habitats, from wetland, to dryland, to valley edges.
- The remarkable and complete sequence of human activity identified within the Vale of Pickering starts in the late Palaeolithic, with a human presence in the landscape in all subsequent periods through to the present day.
- The distinct human, natural and cultural interface that makes the Vale of Pickering 'special' is a quality that chimes well with the UNESCO description of a 'cultural landscape' – as a distinct geographical area "...represent[ing] the combined work of nature and of man."

Important to an understanding of significance

- The scale, complexity and density of human occupation over the last 10,000 years which has been illustrated by the largest contiguous block of intensive landscape survey in Europe.
- The quality and extent of the combination of wetland archaeology (with preservation of organics and wetland deposits), alongside dryland/sandland archaeology (with deposits preserved beneath blown sands) is important.
- The geodiversity of the Vale of Pickering is highly visible – not least through its buildings and industries. The Vale has significant resources of aggregates, limestone, calcareous sandstone, chalk quarries, and inland gas. The late quaternary geology of the Vale of Pickering is of importance in understanding the sequence of glaciation and deglaciation of the whole area.
- The Vale of Pickering has a complex hydrography with a combination of natural water courses, land drainage, and springline aquifers making it susceptible to flooding. The wetland deposits within the Vale of Pickering are of significance for carbon capture and storage.

Part of an understanding of significance

- The archaeology is both high status and mundane, recording the everyday lives of people in the past. Iconic material culture from the Vale of Pickering includes Mesolithic flints and antler frontlets from Star Carr, the Folkton drums, one of very few excavated Beaker kilns, important Roman ceramics and high status objects, and a fully excavated Anglo-Saxon cemetery and its associated settlement.
- The Vale of Pickering contains the important archaeological sites of Star Carr, Flixton, West Heslerton, and Staple Howe, Beadlam, Rillington, Malton and Norton.
- The Vale of Pickering has considerable biodiversity and is home to a number of target wetland and farmland bird species.
- The Vale of Pickering is the location (and possible focus) of a large number of very early Anglo-Saxon ecclesiastical establishments, and the kingdom of Deira.
- The oldest privately owned cricket pitch, one of very few inland 'links' golf courses, and one of the earliest zoological theme parks in the UK are all situated within the Vale of Pickering. These amenity sites demonstrate the significance of the development of tourism and leisure. The Vale of Pickering is a significant 'routeway' through to the Yorkshire Wolds, Moors and Coast.
- The fields of geology, aviation, archaeology and landscape studies have developed within the Vale of Pickering.
- The Vale of Pickering has intensive agricultural use of mixed arable and pasture, including food and energy crop production, alongside market gardens and nurseries.

Detracts from the understanding of significance

- The evidential, historical, natural, aesthetic and communal significance of the Vale of Pickering has often been overlooked by the more dramatic and picturesque landscapes of the North York Moors, Yorkshire Wolds and Howardian Hills.
- The apparent 'blank' in statutory protection, general knowledge and aesthetic appreciation is in contrast to the increasing understanding of archaeological and historical sequence, and cultural landscape values of the Vale of Pickering.
- Intellectual access to the Vale of Pickering and its significance is poor. There is no location that provides access or interpretation of the cultural and natural significance of the Vale of Pickering.



Vale of Pickering
(Butterwick, Yedingham & Wintringham)

About this document

'Significance' can have a wide range of different meanings, and can encompass many different things and places. This document takes the definition of significance from the English Heritage Conservation Principles, as "the sum of the cultural and natural heritage values of a place", where value is defined as: "an aspect of worth or importance, here attached by people to qualities of places".

Significance is assessed by considering evidential, historical, natural, aesthetic and communal values. English Heritage Conservation Principles define these as:

Evidential value is value deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity.

Historical value is value deriving from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present

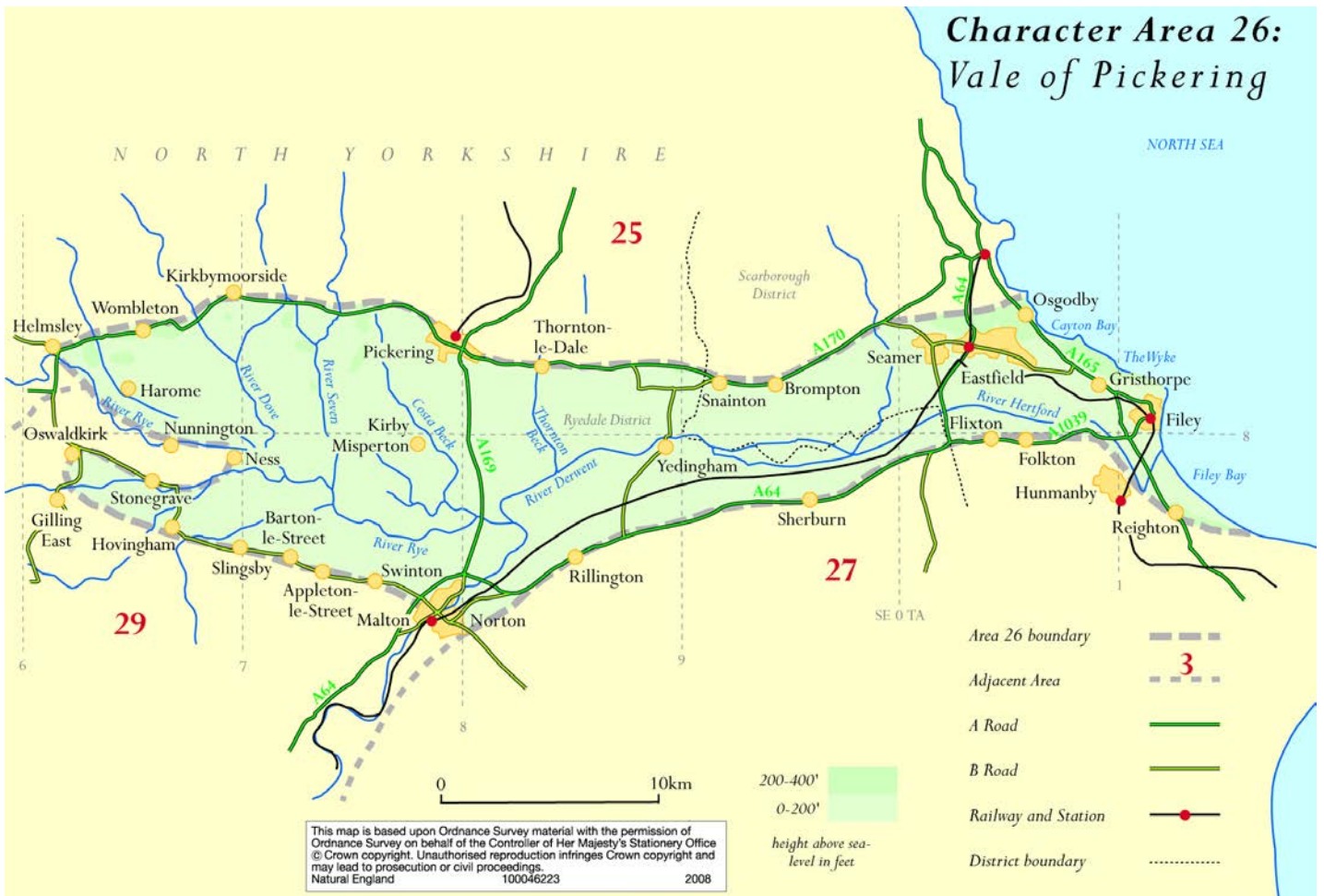
Aesthetic value is concerned with the value deriving from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place

Communal value is value deriving from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory

In addition natural value has been included. For the purpose of this document this is defined as:

Natural value is value deriving from the biodiversity of a place.

An extensive number of stakeholders were consulted for this document, with organisations and individuals consulted from a range of different backgrounds and interests, including cultural and natural heritage, planning and other relevant stakeholders. At this stage the question is not so much 'how' significant, but agreeing a set of significances for the Vale of Pickering as a whole.



The Vale of Pickering: reprinted with permission of Natural England

"..the Vale of Pickering is the one place in the UK where we have enough knowledge to ask real, big questions about the past."

Report prepared for English Heritage (Yorkshire and Humber region) by Louise Cooke.
The full version of this document can be downloaded from
<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk>

All photographs Louise Cooke & Dominic Powlesland