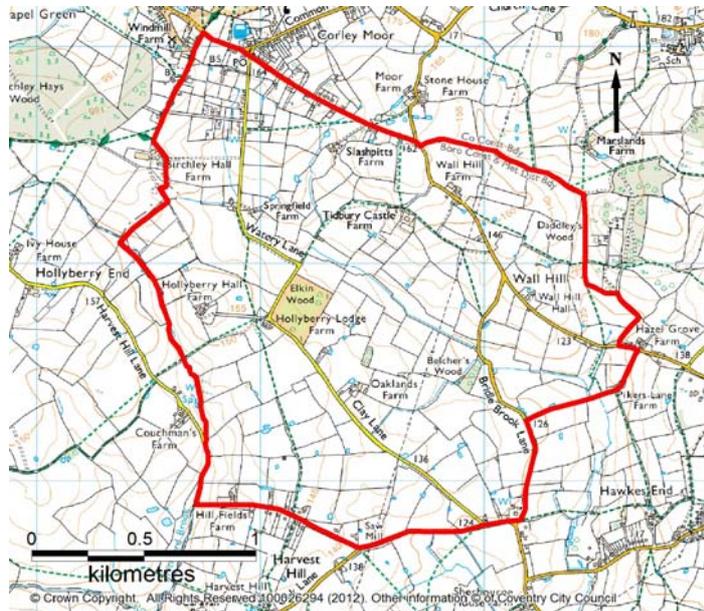


Location and Context

The Character Area is located on high land on the northwest fringe of Coventry on the border with Warwickshire. This is a rural area surrounded by rural Arden landscapes. The Character Area is bounded by Pickford Brook to the east.

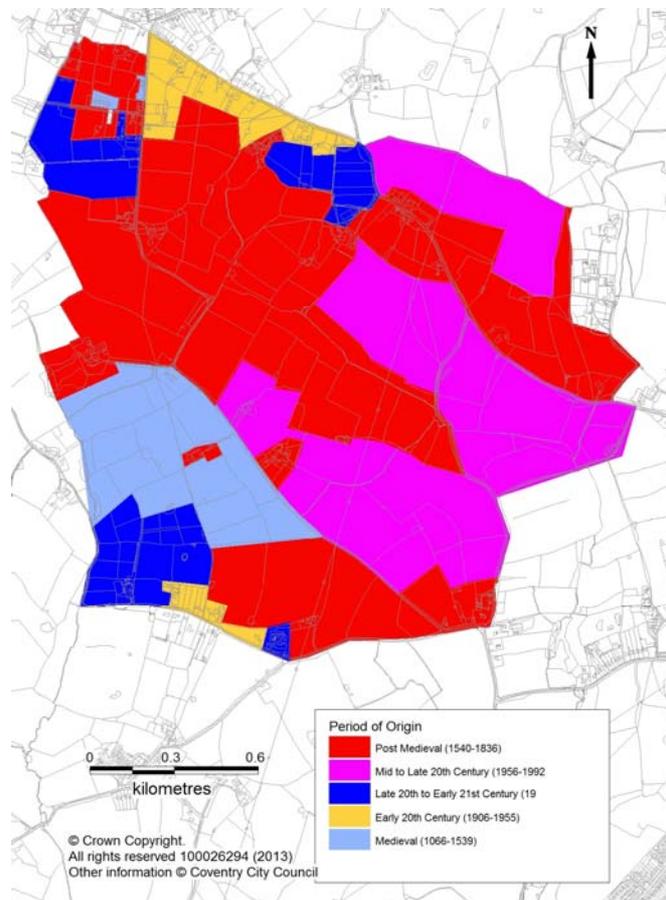


Heritage Designations in the Character Area

- Scheduled Ancient Monuments: 0
- Archaeological Constraint Areas: 13
- Listed Buildings: 1
- Locally Listed Buildings: 4
- Conservation Areas: 0
- Registered Parks and Gardens: 0

Historic Development

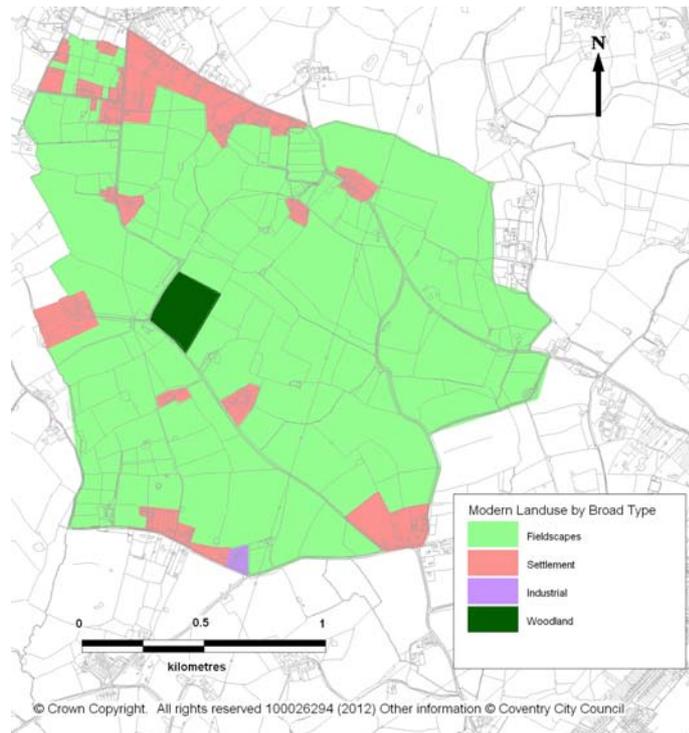
This area of high ground is likely to have been predominantly common land and woodland with some isolated farms in the medieval period. Corley Moor would have occupied a large area of land to the north of the character area while the presence of ridge and furrow earthworks suggest that some land was in arable cultivation to the south and west. Other medieval features include two possible water meadow sites west of Bridle Brook Lane and some possible medieval fishponds north of Wall Hill Lane. Most of the fields present today had been created by 1809, while approximately half of Corley Moor was enclosed under an act of parliament of 1824. It is likely that most farms in the area today such as Wall Hill Farm where established in the 18th century although some like Slashpits Farm with its irregular field boundaries is likely to be earlier. The 1841 the Allesley Tithe Map shows the whole of the Character Area



comprising of small, enclosed fields. Much of this early and mid-19th Century field pattern still survives, although in parts of the eastern half of the area many field boundaries were removed in the late 20th century to create larger fields. The tithe map also records Green Lane, Watery Lane, Wall Hill Road and Bridle Brook Lane. Other than the properties that were developed in the north of the Character Area along Wall Hill Road between 1905 and 1936 the landscape has changed little in character from the early 19th Century.

Modern Character

The Character Area comprises large, straight-sided, regular shaped fields, although there are areas of small paddocks and closes surrounding farmsteads or to the rear of housing. The fields are bounded by hedgerows with some hedgerow trees and banks. With the exception of Bridle Brook Lane which is narrow with an irregular morphology, the roads are wide and straight with grass verges. The Character Area incorporates two areas of woodland known as Elkin Wood and Belcher's Wood both are recorded on maps of the early 19th Century. Both of the wooded areas have straight boundaries and Elkin Wood was classed as ancient woodland by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1989. The Character Area has a hilly relief and a rural atmosphere.



Geology and Topography

The Character Area overlies sandstone. There are alluvium deposits of sand with clay and gravel. Pockets of clay are located in the vicinity of Clay Lane. The Character Area has a hilly topography which in general, rises from 125m above sea level to the south to 165m to the north.



Landscape of early 19th Century enclosures