

CARING FOR THE LANDSCAPE

**A HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP
APPROACH**

ROGER CROFTS

LANDSCAPE ISSUES

- What is landscape?
- How is it characterised?
- Why is landscape important?
- What are the key influences?
- What are the threats?
- How do we protect it?
- What do we want?
- What are the priorities?

WHAT IS LANDSCAPE?

DEFINITION

“Picture of natural scenery” OED

“An expanse of terrain visible from a particular place” OED

“An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”
ELC

PICTORAL LOOK AT LANDSCAPES

Colour slides to illustrate:

- Types of landscape
- Textures in the landscape
- Perceptions of landscape
- Issues about landscape

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LANDSCAPE IS.....

NOT ONLY

Special places

Hills and mountains

Strict preservation

Restoration to past

IT IS ALSO

Everywhere

Towns and cities

Conservation

Protecting past

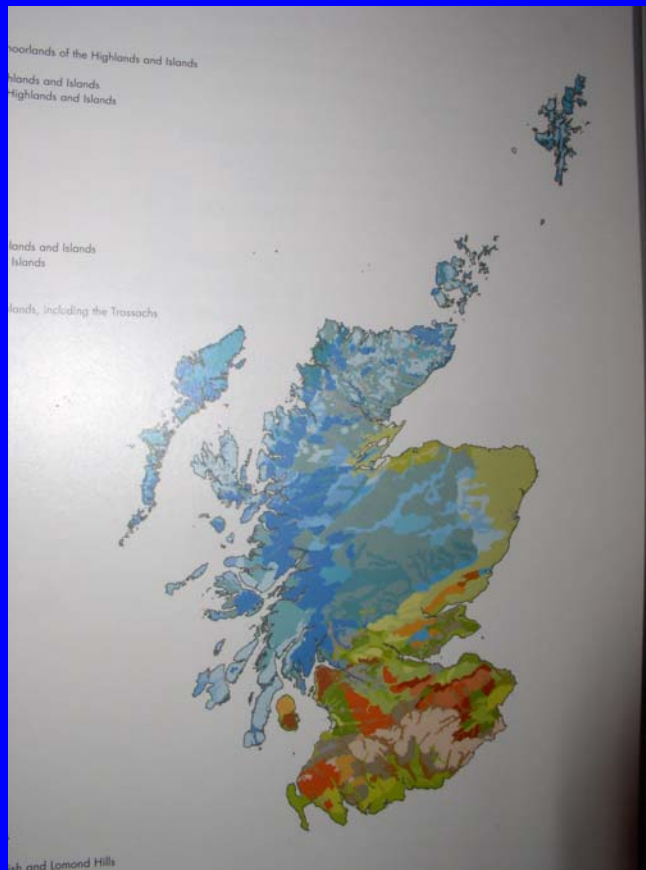
Restoring with past in
mind

IT IS A SERIES OF LAYERS

- Basic skeleton of rocks and landforms, tectonic structures, and soils
- Cover of natural and semi natural vegetation
- Artefacts of past uses
- Present uses

IT CAPTURES DIVERSITY

HOW IS IT CHARACTERISED? 1



- Landscape Character at different scales: local, regional and national

HOW IS IT CHARACTERISED? 2



- Scotland's natural regions defined by natural and land use and landscape character

WHY IS LANDSCAPE IMPORTANT?

- basis for recreation
- emotional and spiritual uplift
- link with human past
- link with nature past and present
- provides sense of place and belonging
- opportunity to change and improve

LINKS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Social: community, place, space
- Economic: income, jobs, funding of change and improvement
- Environmental: elements, services and processes

AND

Integration and linkage between all
components

CONNECTING PHILOSOPHY AND APPROACH

- Values and Perceptions
- Tangible and intangible
- Natural and human
- People and nature

WHAT ARE THE KEY INFLUENCES?

- Natural skeleton: overall shape and texture
- Environmental processes give natural dynamism: water and wind, and slopes, rivers and coast
- Design of settlements give pattern and variation
- Agriculture gives variation: season and place
- Transport and energy lines give linear elements
- Also accident as well as design

WHAT ARE THE THREATS?

- Unplanned development
- Site or locality and not area approach
- Destruction of historic elements
- Damage and interruption of natural systems and processes
- Cumulative effects
- Monocultures
- Ignoring vernacular tradition

HOW DO WE PROTECT IT?

- Valuing the special
- Using other support mechanisms

VALUING THE SPECIAL



- National Scenic Areas
- National Parks
- Designed Gardens and Historic.....
- Historic Landscapes

OTHER SUPPORTING MECHANISMS

- BAP and LBAPs
- Water Framework Directive and river basin planning
- Cross compliance in agricultural support
- Guidelines for forestry
- Town and country planning system

WHAT DO WE WANT?

Way forward is partnership for People and landscape

- Essential to have community involvement in designing planning and managing own space
- Include owners of land and buildings
- Involve public advisory authorities natural and cultural sectors
- Engage with public decision making agencies, especially planning authorities

WHAT DO PEOPLE WANT? THE PROCESS

- Engage all constituencies of interest
- Identify opportunities and constraints
- Develop vision by consensus
- Recognise options: restore, recreate, new
- Devise strategy and plan for delivery
- Build in flexibility for changing values

WHAT ARE PRIORITIES? SOME SUGGESTIONS

Landscape priorities: degraded and unloved rather than protected and preserved

Community priorities: those where disharmony, those disassociated from local place

Supporting priorities: capacity building for visioning, communication, action

Opportunity priorities: big schemes and small schemes, economic/social/environmental gain

ENDURING ISSUES

1. Values and perceptions vary with age, gender, ethnicity, place
2. Values change over time
3. Middle class professional paradigm is not universal
4. Support for engaging people and developing ideas vital