

**DMRB CRITERIA DETERMINING IMPORTANCE OF  
HERITAGE ASSETS**

## Appendix 6.3 - DMRB criteria used to determine the importance/sensitivity of heritage assets

TABLE ERROR! NO TEXT OF SPECIFIED STYLE IN DOCUMENT..1 – CRITERIA TO DETERMINE IMPORTANCE/SENSITIVITY OF HERITAGE ASSETS

CULTURAL IMPORTANCE/SENSITIVITY	CRITERIA
VERY HIGH	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites).</li> <li>→ Assets of acknowledged international importance.</li> <li>→ Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.</li> </ul> <p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Structures inscribed as of universal importance as World Heritage Sites.</li> <li>→ Other buildings of recognised international importance.</li> </ul> <p>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ World Heritage Sites inscribed for their historic landscape qualities.</li> <li>→ Historic landscapes of international value, whether designated or not.</li> <li>→ Extremely well preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence, time-depth, or other critical factor(s).</li> </ul>
HIGH	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Scheduled Monuments (including proposed sites).</li> <li>→ Undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance.</li> <li>→ Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.</li> </ul> <p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Scheduled Monuments with standing remains</li> <li>→ Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings.</li> <li>→ Other listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations not adequately reflected in the listing grade.</li> <li>→ Conservation Areas containing very important buildings.</li> <li>→ Undesignated structures of clear national importance</li> </ul> <p>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Designated historic landscapes of outstanding interest.</li> <li>→ Undesignated landscapes of outstanding interest.</li> <li>→ Undesignated landscapes of high quality and importance, and of demonstrable national value.</li> <li>→ Well preserved historic landscapes, exhibiting considerable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s).</li> </ul>

**TABLE ERROR! NO TEXT OF SPECIFIED STYLE IN DOCUMENT..1 – CRITERIA TO DETERMINE IMPORTANCE/SENSITIVITY OF HERITAGE ASSETS**

<b>MEDIUM</b>	ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Designated or undesignated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.</li> </ul>
	<p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Grade II Listed Buildings (It is acknowledged that Grade II listed buildings are of national importance).</li> <li>→ Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations.</li> <li>→ Conservation Areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character.</li> <li>→ Historic Townscape or built-up areas with important historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures).</li> </ul>
<b>LOW</b>	<p>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Designated special historic landscapes.</li> <li>→ Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation, landscapes of regional value.</li> <li>→ Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s).</li> </ul>
	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Designated and undesignated assets of local importance.</li> <li>→ Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</li> <li>→ Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.</li> </ul>
	<p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 'Locally Listed' buildings</li> <li>→ Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association.</li> <li>→ Historic Townscape or built-up areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures).</li> </ul>
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	<p>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Robust undesignated historic landscapes.</li> <li>→ Historic landscapes with importance to local interest groups.</li> <li>→ Historic landscapes whose value is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</li> </ul>
	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest.</li> </ul>
	<p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Buildings of no architectural or historical note; buildings of an intrusive character.</li> </ul>

**TABLE 1 – CRITERIA TO DETERMINE IMPORTANCE/SENSITIVITY OF HERITAGE ASSETS**

	HISTORIC LANDSCAPES: → Landscapes with little or no significant historical interest.
	Archaeological Remains: → The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.
UNKNOWN	HISTORIC BUILDINGS: → Buildings with some hidden (i.e. inaccessible) potential for historic significance.
	HISTORIC LANDSCAPES: → N/A

Source: as taken from DMRB Volume II, Section 3, Part 2

The consideration of the sensitivity of statutory designated assets such as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, and Registered Parks and Gardens is reflected in their Grade. For example, Grade I Listed Buildings are those which are considered to be of exceptional national architectural or historic importance. Grade II\* Listed Buildings are of particular national importance and special interest. Both Grade I and II\* Listed Buildings are of great importance to the nation's built heritage and their importance will generally be beyond dispute. Grade II Listed Buildings are usually designated for their architectural and historic interest. They make up around 95 per cent of all Listed Buildings.

Table 1.2 is a general guide to the attributes of cultural heritage assets and it should be noted that not all the qualities listed need to be present in every case and professional judgment is used in balancing the different criteria. The list is not exhaustive.

Source: as taken from DMRB Volume II, Section 3, Part 2

**TABLE 1.2 – CRITERIA TO DETERMINE THE MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT ON HERITAGE ASSETS**

MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT	CRITERIA
MAJOR	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <p>→ Change to most or all key archaeological materials, such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>→ Comprehensive changes to setting.</p> <p>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</p> <p>→ Change to key historic building elements, such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>→ Comprehensive changes to setting.</p> <p>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</p> <p>→ Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; extreme visual effects; gross change of noise or change to sound quality; fundamental changes to use or access; resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit.</p>
MODERATE	<p>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</p> <p>→ Changes to many key archaeological materials, such that the resource is clearly modified.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Change to many key historic building elements, such that the resource is significantly modified.</li> <li>→ Changes to setting of an historic building, such that it is significantly modified.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Changes to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape, noticeable differences in noise or sound quality, considerable changes to use or access; resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character.</li> </ul>
<b>MINOR</b>	<p><b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Changes to key archaeological materials, such that the asset is slightly altered.</li> <li>→ Slight changes to setting.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Change to key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly different.</li> <li>→ Change to setting of an historic building, such that it is noticeably changed.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Changes to few key landscape elements, parcels or components, slight visual changes to few key aspects of the historic landscape, limited changes to noise or sound quality, considerable changes to use or access; resulting in limited changes to historic landscape character.</li> </ul>
<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	<p><b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Very minor changes to archaeological materials, or setting.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ 'Slight changes to historic building elements or setting that hardly effect it'</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Very minor changes to key landscape elements, parcels or components, virtually unchanged visual effects very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality; very slight changes to use or access; resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character.</li> </ul>
<b>NO CHANGE</b>	<p><b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ No change.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC BUILDINGS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ No change to fabric or setting.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>HISTORIC LANDSCAPES:</b></p>

→ No change to elements, parcels or components; no visual or audible changes; no changes arising from amenity community factors.

VALUE/SENSITIVITY	Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large or Very Large	Very Large
	High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large/Very Large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate/ Large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Slight/ Moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight
	MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT					

Source: as taken from DMRB Volume II, Section 3, Part 2