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Document Title	Proposed Local Development Plan Technical Note: Local Landscape Designation Review Appendix IV Historic Landscape Areas

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local landscape designation review

appendix IV 2016

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREAS

Appendix IV

Historic Landscape Areas

The Historic Landscape Areas were compiled in 2015 by the heritage officers at East Lothian Council's Archaeology Service. They were identified using the information held in the Council's Historic Environment Record (HER) which includes records of all archaeological and historical sites in the county. Sites designated by Historic Environment Scotland, such as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and Battlefields, were taken into account, as well as undesignated sites of local importance.

Historic landscapes have been defined as:

Historic landscapes encompass the remains of the past and evidence of human activity over thousands of years. This 'time-depth' in the landscape often enhances our appreciation and understanding of the present day landscape.

The Historic Landscape Areas were defined as areas that are particularly rich in archaeological sites or historic built environment, and where those sites form a coherent group. In these areas the landscape is seen as a key element, with the activity of people in the past responding to the landscape and this ancient land-use can still be appreciated today. A good example of this is in the 'Hillfoots Hillforts' area where a string of later prehistoric enclosed settlements or 'hillforts' were located along the foothills of the Lammermuirs, making use of the strategic position for both defence and prestige.

1) Belhaven Bay

- Coherent landscape for WWI & II remains. A considerable number of remains survive relating to the defence of Britain, troop training and Home Guard activities
- Historic area of leisure pursuits (golfcourse, shooting, racecourse). The area particularly around Hedderwick has historically been used for outside pursuits, and this continues today
- Area of early harbour for Dunbar
- Important early medieval monastic landscape

2) White Sands

- Raised beach and early (Mesolithic) settlement activity. This stretch of coastline is unique in East Lothian as it is closely associated with the earliest occupation of the county and still the landform and vegetation echo the landform and vegetation which would have been extant. This gives this stretch of coastline an almost timeless quality
- Coherent Industrial landscape (lime quarrying and kilns)
- Significant 'fossil' beach. Essentially a fossilised coral reef this shoreline is unique in East Lothian

3) Chesters to Thurston Ridge

- Coherent landscape of prehistoric settlement along ridge (hillforts, enclosures, cairns etc). There is a concentration of significant prehistoric settlement remains along the ridgeline. It mirrors other areas in East Lothian that have a similar topography (Area 5 - Hillfoots Hillforts, Area 8 - Garleton Ridge and Area 10 - Elphinstone Ridge). Some of the remains are still upstanding while others are buried.

- Significant viewpoints over Battles of Dunbar I and II. The view towards Dunbar and Skateraw from Doon Hill is significant in that it offers the best viewpoint over the nationally designated battles of Dunbar I and II.

4) Traprain Environs

- The setting for Traprain Law Hillfort (large amount of prehistoric remains both upstanding and cropmarks)
- Relict landscape (principally 19th century farms and steadings but field patterns may be earlier)
- Significant views over area from Pencraig Hill and from A1 at Haddington. The flattened bowl which has Traprain Law at its centre is probably the most iconic view in East Lothian. This view is wholly informed by the Historic Environment and has an old world feel to it.

5) Hillfoots Hillforts

- Coherent landscape with upstanding prehistoric remains (hillforts, enclosures etc) There is a concentration of significant prehistoric settlement remains along the ridgeline. It mirrors other areas in East Lothian what have a similar topography (Area 3 – Chesters to Thurston Ridge, Area 8 - Garleton Ridge and Area 10 - Elphinstone Ridge). Some of the remains are still upstanding while others are buried.
- Significant views points which highlight the importance of a number of Prehistoric sites in the East Lothian plain and beyond

6) Gin head to Scoughall

- Significant medieval remains (Tantallon, Auldham, Seacliff Tower etc). These remains are concentrated along the cliff tops and form an impressive and coherent group. They would have dominated both the coast and the surrounding landscape
- Significant and nationally important WWI and II remains (Gin Head radar station, HMS Scottish Seacliff secret WWI training base)

7) North Berwick Law Environs

- The setting for North Berwick Law Hillfort (large amount of prehistoric remains both upstanding and cropmarks)
- Historic relationship between North Berwick Town and the Law. North Berwick law as affected the development of North Berwick since at least the Medieval times. The law was (and to a certain extent still is) a prominent marker that has been used as a navigational aid both from the sea and the land. Indeed North Berwick to Fife by ferry is a well known pilgrimage route.
- 360 degree viewpoint from the Law – remains of historic use of this viewpoint still evident

8) Garletons and Chesters

- Dominant landscape feature containing a dense concentration of Hillforts. It mirrors other areas in East Lothian what have a similar topography (Area 3 – Chesters to Thurston Ridge, Area 5 – Hillfoots Hillforts and Area 10 - Elphinstone Ridge)
- The prominent nature of these hills has attracted human activity from virtually every period which is evidenced with the remains. They are likely to have served as 'navigational markers' on a vast scale

9) Aberlady Bay

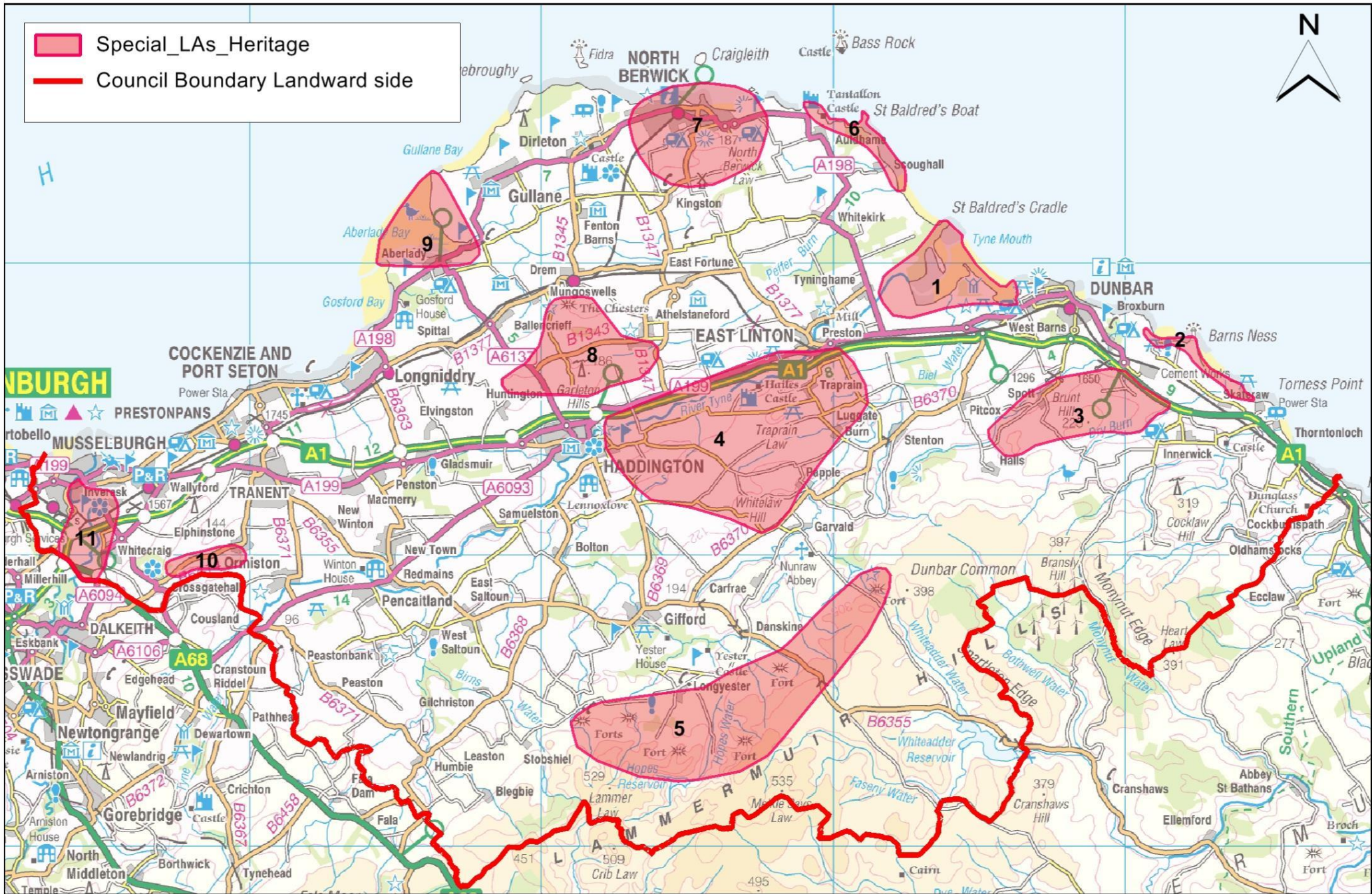
- Coherent area of historic wrecks and medieval harbour
- Kilspindie Castle
- WWI remains

10) Elphinstone Ridge

- Coherent landscape of prehistoric settlement along ridge (hillforts, enclosures, etc). It mirrors other areas in East Lothian what have a similar topography(Area 3 – Chesters to Thurston Ridge, Area 5 – Hillfoots Hillforts and Area 8 - Garleton Ridge)

11) Inveresk and Smeaton

- Area of significant Roman remains many of which are scheduled
- Area of important industrial remains along the River Esk



**EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREAS**

St Baldred's Craule

Tyne Mouth



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