

Appendix 9.2 Methodology for Establishing the Setting of an Asset

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Table 1 – Establishing the setting of an asset

Site Details	
1) Site No. /Name.	Unique number for each asset and name as shown in the National Monuments Record Scotland or Historic Environment Scotland Scheduling/Listing document
2) Site type	Brief description of the asset type as defined in the National Monuments Record Scotland or Historic Environment Scotland description
3) Site visit conditions	Conditions on day of survey with particular reference to visibility
4) Orientation of proposed development site	Direction in which the proposed development lies measured from the asset.
5) Distance from proposed development	Distance to nearest point of the development measured from the asset.
6) Designation	Scheduled Monument Number or Historic Building Number, etc, if applicable
7) Horizon angle	Angle of elevation of the horizon in direction of proposed development as measured from the asset
Scientific Detail	
8) Asset form	The form of an asset, together with its size as it survives in the landscape.
9)Current Asset Condition	The current state of survival of the asset with reference to its location in the modern landscape. Alterations to the physical condition may already have severed or impaired attempts at understanding its original function and its relationship to the physical landform in which it occurs.
10) Relationship and intervisibility with other key assets.	<p>This includes key viewpoints to, from and across the asset. Depending on the asset in question these could include: entrances, specific points on approaches, routeways, farmlands, other related buildings, monuments or natural features.</p> <p>Some assets exist where modern scholars argue that intervisibility with other assets in a given landscape was/is an integral part of the function of the asset. For example, the intervisibility of a number of cairns on the skyline from an asset may be understood as a key function of these burial sites linking the separate sites across the landscape. The impact of the proposed development may be considered to be higher if the intervisibility between such assets is interrupted by the placing of a modern feature and as such the key relationships between assets is of relevance to this assessment.</p>

11) Economic Function	What was the economic function of the asset in the past and how does it function economically in the current landscape?
12) Evidence for technology engineering	What evidence remains for internal architecture, evidence for the skills of its builders? How was it constructed?
13) Palaeoenvironment potential	What is the likely palaeoenvironmental potential of the asset? Is it likely to preserve significant evidence for past environments?
Historic Detail	
14) Chronology of asset	What evidence does the asset contain for activity from specific periods?
15) Chronology of landscape	What evidence exists in the surrounding landscape for time depth and use through history and prehistory?
16) Landform Evolution	How has the surrounding physical landform evolved and how does it relate to the asset in its current setting?
17) Archaeological Study	Has the asset been the subject of previous archaeological study? What did it reveal about the asset in its current setting? What is the potential for future archaeological study?
Social Detail	
18) Nature of original and authentic uses	<p>When the asset was developed or in use, was it located to be seen from a distance, perhaps from other assets? Was it intended to have wide views over the landscape?</p> <p>Generally, the role of an asset and its setting was potentially of higher importance in the case of ritual monuments (e.g. barrow cemeteries), strategic and defensive monuments, and assets designed to convey power or high status (e.g. hillforts and castles). The setting of farms and industrial buildings was usually associated with their primary economic functions. Typically, their location would be strongly influenced by economics, e.g. emphasising proximity to raw materials, markets, etc). Similarly, commercial premises were sited according to demographics and economics. Therefore, the uses of an asset and whether views to and from it were relevant to its function are factors in this assessment.</p>
19) Inferred Importance of setting	The importance of the setting refers, as above, to our understanding of the role of an asset's setting in influencing the use and orientation of the asset by its builders and past user. Some scholars argue that assets interacted as part of a system with other contemporary elements (man-made or natural) in the landscape. In some cases, setting was thus an influential factor in the siting of assets. The importance of this original setting thus partially reflects how sensitive an asset is to changes to that setting.
20) Inferred importance of view towards proposed development site	The importance of views towards the proposed development area from the asset either in the past or present is a key factor in understanding how changes in these views will affect the overall appropriateness of asset setting. For example, an asset with open and extensive views across the proposed development will be more

	sensitive to the development than one with restricted views towards the development and open views focused away from the proposed development.
21) Geographical remoteness	The geographical remoteness of an asset can affect how frequently it is visited by either professionals or members of the public. For example, how close is the asset to modern population centres? Are there any public amenities or interpretation centres nearby? Is the asset close to public roads or footpaths that would encourage and allow the site to be easily visited?

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