

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN  
SITE 3, OTLEY ROAD  
KILLINGHALL  
JANUARY 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

## SUMMARY

The Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 122ha of land at Otley Road, Killinghall was carried out in two stages; in March 1991 for the Harrogate Great Park development proposal in the south western part of the site and in January 1993 when the remainder was surveyed for the Harrogate Local Plan.

116ha of the area is in agricultural use of which 11ha falls within Grade 2. Soils on this land are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium clay loam or sandy clay loam topsoils over sandy clay loam to loamy medium sand subsoils. This land is limited to Grade 2 by climate.

Subgrade 3a land covers 23ha. Soils are either well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium clay loam topsoils over shallow, stony, sandy clay loam to heavy clay loam subsoils, or are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III), and consist of medium clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam subsoils. The shallow soils are limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness. The heavy soils are limited by wetness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 75ha. Soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and consist of medium clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. These soils are limited to Subgrade 3b by wetness and workability problems.

Grade 4 land covers nearly 7a. This land consists either of poorly drained heavy clay loam topsoils over clay subsoils, which are limited to Grade 4 by severe wetness, or steeply sloping areas limited to Grade 4 by gradient.

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: HARROGATE LOCAL  
PLAN, SITE 3, OTLEY ROAD, KILLINGHALL

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and survey methods

The site lies 1km south of Killinghall and is centred on Grid Reference SE285575. Survey work was carried out in March 1991 and January 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of one boring per hectare at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales." (MAFF, 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey 95% of the site was in agricultural production, all of which was under permanent pasture. The remainder consists of farm buildings, urban and non agricultural land.

*Site altitude varies from 70m to 112m AOD and although the land is mainly level to moderately sloping there are also some strongly sloping areas.*

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 285 575
Altitude (m)	: 85
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1283 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 818
Climatic Grade	: 2
Field Capacity Days	: 204
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 87
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 72

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Millstone Grit over which, across most of the site, is a covering of boulder clay. Soils formed on the boulder clay are generally imperfectly or poorly drained. (Wetness Class III or IV) with medium or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. Soils formed on the Millstone Grit are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium sandy loam or medium clay loam topsoils over sandy clay loam or medium sandy loam subsoils.

## 2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2	11.16	9.1
3a	22.94	18.7
3b	75.75	61.7
4	6.85	5.6
5		
(Sub total)	(116.79)	(95.1)
Urban	3.19	0.5
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm	2.16	1.8
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings	0.60	2.6
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(0.95)	(4.9)
	_____	_____
TOTAL	122.45	100
	_____	_____

2.1 Grade 2

Land in this grade occurs in the eastern part of the site. Soils generally consist of medium clay loam or sandy clay loam topsoils over sandy clay loam medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand subsoils. Climate is the main factor limiting this land to Grade 2.

2.2 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs near the southern edge of the site. Soil profiles consist mainly of medium clay loam topsoils over sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam upper subsoil which then pass into either extremely stony sandy clay loam or slowly permeable heavy clay loam, lower subsoils. Profiles with sandy clay loam lower subsoils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and are limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness. Those with heavy clay loam lower subsoils are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and limited to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness.

2.3 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade is widespread across the site. Typical soil profiles consist of medium clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. Profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and this land is limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems.

2.4 Grade 4

Grade 4 land occurs around the old brick works and around the disused quarry. The land around the quarry contains slopes of 11-18 degrees and gradient is the main factor limiting this land to Grade 4. The area around the old brick works contains soil profiles consisting of heavy clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. These soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and are limited to Grade 4 by severe soil wetness and workability problems.

2.5 Urban

This consists of houses, the disused quarry and brick works and their access roads.

2.6 Agricultural Buildings

This category includes the three farms on the site.

2.7 Woodland

This consists of an area of woodland south of the brickworks.

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