AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

Crow Tree Farm, Romanby,
Northallerton, North Yorkshire

Proposed Golf Course Extension

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

October: 1991
File Ref: 2FCS 5605
Project No: 112/91

AL5.crowt.frm

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT

1.0 Introduction and Site Characteristics

1.1 Location

National Grid Reference:-	SE 345 940
Location Details:-	2½ km west of Northallerton
Site Size:-	36 hectares

1.2 Survey Methods

Date Surveyed:-	1.10.91
Boring Density and Spacing Basis:-	At 100m intervals on a grid pattern predetermined by the national grid
Sampling Method:-	By hand auger boring to a depth of 1 metre
Number of Borings:-	37

All land quality assessments were made using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised Guidelines and Criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land (MAFF 1988)".

1.3 Land Use:-	Most land surveyed was in arable use with some permanent pasture next to the River Wiske
1.4 Climate and Relief	
Average Annual Rainfall (AAR):-	633 mm
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June):-	1345 day °C
Field Capacity Days:-	149 days
Altitude average:-	46 m a.o.d.
maximum:-	30 m a.o.d.
minimum:-	38 m a.o.d.
Climatic limitation (based on interaction of rainfall and temperature values:-	None
Relief:-	The site slopes east towards the river
Slopes (°):-	1-5°
Gradient Limitations:-	none

1.5 Geology and Soil

Solid Strata:-	Triassic sandstone
Depth of solid rock from surface:-	More than 1 metre
Drift types:-	alluvial/sand & gravel
Thickness of drift and distribution:-	60cm to more than 1 metre. Alluvial drift occurs almost the whole site
Soil Types and Distribution:-	Freely drained light textured soils cover the site
Soil Textures (topsoils and subsoils):-	Medium sandy loan or occasionally sandy day loam top soil over similar subsoils.
Soil Series/Associations:-	Wick I
On 1/250000 map:-	
Identified on site:-	
Soil Limitations and type:-	None

1.6 Drainage

Soil type and Wetness Class:-	Light soils:- well drained (wetness class I)

2.0 Agricultural Land Classification Grades

The ALC grades occurring on the site are as follows:-

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
2 -	4.49	12.5
3a	27.74	76.5
3b	3.98	11.0
Total	36.21	100

Grade 2

Distribution on site:-	Small areas north east of Ye Olde Mill House and in the west of the site
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Sandy loam or sandy clay loam top soils over similar subsoils
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	None, soils are well drained
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Wetness Class I
Stone Percentage and Type:-	0-5% medium soft sandstone
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Slight soil droughtiness

Subgrade 3a

Distribution on site:-	This is the dominant sub-grade over most the site
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Sandy loam or sandy clay loam top soils over similar sub-soils
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	None, soils are well drained
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Wetness Class I
Stone Percentage and Type:-	0-5% topsoil stoniess with up to 40% stones is lower horizons
Grade Limiting Factors:-	soil droughtiness

Subgrade 3b

Distribution on site:-	Along the River Wiske
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	The lower lying areas consist of heavy clay or silty clay loams over similar sub-soils. The area just above the river bluff contains light stony sandy loam
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	The heavier soils are slowly permeable at about 30cm. The lighter soils are well drained
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Light soils:- well drained (Wetness Class I) Heavy soils:- poorly drained (Wetness Class IV)
Stone Percentage and Type:-	The area next to Yarforth Bridge contains 20% 'flaggy' sandstones as does the area immediately above the river bluff. The flood plain is stoneless
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Stoniness, soil wetness and workability problems and soil droughtiness
Other Limiting Factor(s):-	Possible flood risk from River Wiske

MAP