AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

SITE 'B'
COLBURN, NORTH YORKSHIRE
RICHMONDSHIRE LOCAL PLAN

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

November 1991
File Ref: 2FCS 5646
Project No: 120/91

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CONTENTS

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT,

1.0 Introduction and Site Characteristics

1.1 Location

National Grid Reference:-	SE 209985
Location Details:-	The site lies to the east of the village of Colburn. 3km north-west of Catterick, North Yorkshire
Site Size:-	19.9 ha

1.2 Survey Methods

Date Surveyed:-	11th November 1991
Boring Density and Spacing Basis:-	One boring per hectare at 100m intervals at points predetermined by the National Grid
Sampling Method:-	By hand auger to a depth of 1.00m
Number of Borings:-	18

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)".

This detailed survey supercedes the previous "1" to one mile" survey of the area.

1.3	**Land Use:-**	Mainly arable, but with some permanent grazing in the west of the site
1.4	**Climate and Relief**	
	Average Annual Rainfall (AAR):-	776 mm
	Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June):-	1278 day °C
	Field Capacity Days:-	193 days
	Altitude average:-	85 m a.o.d.
	maximum:-	90 m a.o.d.
	minimum:-	80 m a.o.d.
	Climatic limitation (based on interaction of rainfall and temperature values:-	Grade 2
	Relief:-	Gently sloping from east to west
	Slopes (°):-	0-5°
	Gradient Limitations:-	None
1.5	**Geology and Soil**	
	Solid Strata:-	Millstone Grit
	Depth of solid rock from surface:-	Greater than 1.00m
	Drift types:-	Boulder clay

Thickness of drift and distribution:-	Greater than 1.00m across the whole site
Soil Types and Distribution:-	Medium to heavy textured boulder clay soils cover the entire site
Soil Textures (topsoils and subsoils):-	Medium clay loam topsoils overlying medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam subsoils
Soil Series/Associations:-	
On 1/250000 map:-	Dunkeswick and Brickfield 2 Associations
Soil Limitations and type:-	Soil wetness and workability problems

1.6 **Drainage**

Soil type and Wetness Class:-	The soils with a medium textured subsoil are generally moderately well drained and fall in Wetness Class II while those which a heavy-textured subsoil are poorly drained and fall in Wetness Class IV

Drainage Limitations:-

The occurrence of slowly permeable layers within 50cm of the surface limits much of the land to subgrade 3b. Where there are no slowly permeable layers. Soil wetness limits the land to subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a

Distribution on site:-	Land in this subgrade occurs in the centre of the site
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Medium-textured topsoils (generally medium clay loam) overlying similarly-textured subsoils (usually medium clay loam or sandy clay loam)
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	No slowly permeable layers occur
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Soils are moderately well drained and fall in Wetness Class II
Stone Percentage and Type:-	The soils are very slightly to slightly stony with 5-10% hard stones
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Soil wetness

2.0 Agricultural Land Classification Grades

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

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Agricultural Area	Percentage of Total Area
1			
2			
3a	5.29	27	27
3b	14.61	73	73
4			
5			
Non Agricultural			
Agricultural Buildings			
Urban			
Other			
Total	19.90	100	100

Subgrade 3b

Distribution on site:-	Subgrade 3b land covers the entire site with the exception of an area in the centre
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Medium to heavy-textured soils usually consisting of medium clay loam topsoils overlying medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam subsoils
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	Slowly permeable layers generally start at depths of around 30cm
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Soils are poorly drained and fall in Wetness Class IV
Stone Percentage and Type:-	The soils are very slightly to slightly stony with 5-10% hard stones
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Soil wetness and workability problems

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