

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN  
SITE ONE, KILLINGHALL MOOR  
JANUARY 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

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## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification Survey of approximately 29 ha of land at Killinghall Moor, Harrogate, was carried out in January 1993. Most of this is in agricultural use.

Subgrade 3a land covers 1.95ha. Soils consist of medium clay loam topsoils over medium sandy loam subsoils. Profiles are freely drained and limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 13.2 ha and consists of medium clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. Profiles are poorly drained and limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness.

Grade 4 land covers 12.12 ha. Soils are formed of heavy clay loam topsoils overlying clay subsoils. Profiles are poorly drained and limited to Grade 4 by severe soil wetness.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT : SITE 1, HARROGATE  
LOCAL PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies 3 Km west of Harrogate town centre between Queen Ethelburer's School and the Hildebrand Barracks around National Grid Reference SE 275558. Survey work was carried out in January 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals predetermined by the National Grid. Extra borings were made where necessary, to refine grade boundaries and two soil profile pits were dug in order to determine subsoil structure. Land quality was assessed using methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales." (MAFF 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey most of the area was under permanent pasture. The remainder consisted of several small areas of urban land (derelict foundations). The site lies at an altitude of 120m and is level to moderately sloping.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 275 558
Altitude (m)	: 120
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1272 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 832
Climatic Grade	: 2
Field Capacity Days	: 208
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 80
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 63

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		
3a	1.95	6.6
3b	13.20	44.8
4	12.12	41.1
5		
(Sub total)	(27.27)	(92.5)
Urban	2.20	7.5
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	( 2.20)	(7.5)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>29.47</u>	<u>100</u>

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Millstone grit, over which, except in the north west corner, is a covering of boulder clay (till). Soils on the Millstone grit are medium or light textured and well drained (Wetness Class 1). They are similar to those within the Rivington Association as mapped by the Soil Survey and Land Resource Centre. Those formed on Till are heavy and poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and fall within the Dunkeswick Association.

2.1 Subgrade 3a

A small area of Subgrade 3a land occurs in the north western corner of the site. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of stoneless medium clay loam topsoils over very slightly stony medium sandy loam subsoils. Sandstone bedrock occurs at about 60cm depth. Soil droughtiness is the main factor limiting this land to Subgrade 3a.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Almost half of the agricultural land on the site falls within Subgrade 3b. Profiles consist mainly of stoneless medium clay loam topsoils over gleyed slowly permeable stoneless heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. They are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and soil wetness is the main factor limiting this land to Subgrade 3b.

2.3 Grade 4

Grade 4 land is widespread in the central and southern parts of the site. Profiles consist of stoneless heavy clay loam topsoil over strongly gleyed stoneless or very slightly stony slowly permeable clay subsoils. These soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and severe soil wetness is the main factor limiting this land to Grade 4.

2.4 Urban

This consists of five separate areas of derelict foundations.

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MAP