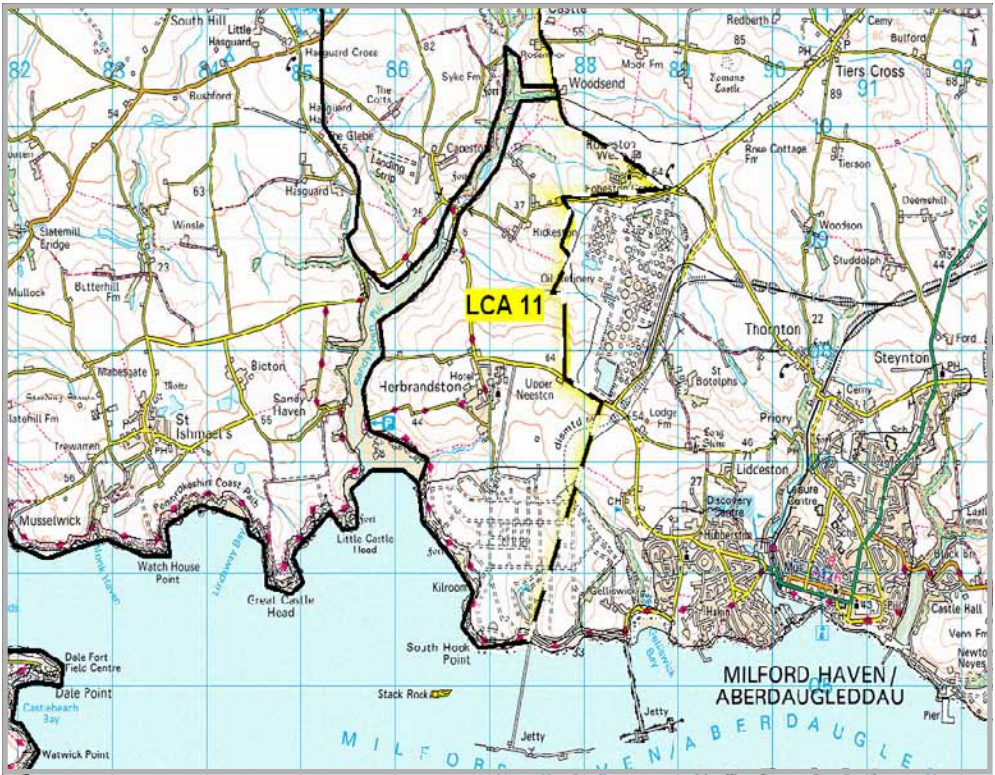
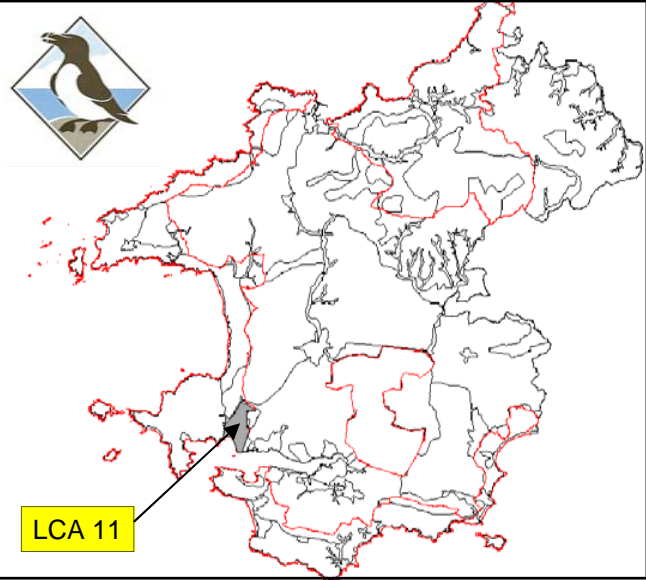


Pembrokeshire Coast National  
Park  
LCA 11 - HERBRANDSTON



Location, Context and Physical Characteristics

An area containing a mixture of industrial land and farmland, with an associated stretch of estuarine fringe along Milford Haven and its tributary, Sandy Haven Pill, at the edge of the National Park.

Visual and Sensory Characteristics

An area of lowland rural landscape predominantly used for agriculture with woodland belts bordering small valleys, with small areas of coastal cliffs and shingle at its base along the edge of Milford Haven. The area has a single village and scattered farmsteads, dominated by the presence of very large scale industrial plants. These house vast oil refineries and chemical works with some small areas of agricultural field, coastal mud and settlements on the perimeters of the area. Extensive views of pylons and adjacent industrial sites and oil refineries act as significant visual detractors.

Vegetation and Habitat Characteristics

Habitats include inter-tidal mud/sand, estuaries, saltmarsh and coastal scrub. The small tributary estuary of Sandy Haven supports several species of birds during the winter.

Geological Characteristics

Area north of Herbrandston is relatively level area at around 50-60m AOD and cut by stream valleys to give an undulating surface. Levelled and landscaped area for oil refinery in the south overlooking Milford Haven. Bedrock is Old Red Sandstone siltstones and sandstones (Silurian-Devonian).

Historic and Cultural Characteristics

There is a Neolithic chambered tomb, an Iron Age fort, and the South Hook fort and gun emplacement which are part of an extensive array of military fortifications within and around the waterway, constructed to defend the harbour of Milford Haven. Much of this LCA lies within the Milford Haven Waterway Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales.

Map Notation:

- National Park Boundary
- LCA Boundary
- LCA Boundary defined by the National Park Boundary





Evaluation & Recommendations

LCA No.	Character Area	Visual & Sensory Aspect Areas	Geological Landscape Aspect Areas	Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas	Historic Landscape Aspect Areas	Cultural Landscape Aspect Areas
11	Herbrandston Refinery Fringe	68 - Low 77-High 90 - Low	152 - Low	365 - High 649 - Low 943 - Low	43880-Outstanding 43890-Outstanding 43902-Outstanding	003-Outstanding 007-High 196-Moderate

LANDMAP Aspect Evaluation Terms:  
Outstanding: Of International or National Importance  
High: Of Regional or County Importance  
Moderate: Of Local Importance  
Low: Of Little or No Importance  
  
(The reference numbers in the table refer to the discrete Aspect Areas identified )

Special Qualities (Key Landscape Characteristics)

- The farmland in the western section of this area is peaceful and pleasant but there is an overwhelming presence of the nearby very large scale oil refinery and industrial plants which completely dominate the scene, especially the refinery on the higher ground to the north east of the area
- Only in views to the west does the refinery cease to have this influence over the sense of place
- There are habitats of high value along the shore of the estuary
- The low visual and sensory values of this landscape belie the outstanding historical and cultural value of much of the area, especially in relation to the shoreline of Milford Haven, which is of national significance. The Milford Haven Waterway Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historical Interest in Wales encompasses all of this LCA including Sandy Haven Pill. This river valley and estuary landscape has an unsurpassed concentration of remains, reflecting maritime conquest, settlement, commerce, fishing, defence and industry spanning the prehistoric to modern periods.

Discernible Landscape Trends

- The farmland and scattered residential settlements of the area are, in general, appropriately managed with some overgrown hedges present. However there is an underlying declining trend resulting from the domination of the landscape by the industrial works and related activities on adjacent land.
- The construction of the new Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal on the former oil refinery site south east of Herbrandston village is intensifying the encroachment of industry onto this edge of the National Park.

Management Guidance

- Conserve small areas of remnant ‘wild’ habitat, especially along the shores of Sandy Haven Pill
- Encourage landowners to participate in agri-environmental schemes, with particular emphasis on promotion of the restoration or rehabilitation of traditional field boundary hedgebanks and stone walls at key visual locations
- Promote careful management of ongoing landscape changes, with specific reference to the visual effects along the western and northern edges of the industrial installations under construction and their visual relationship with Herbrandston village and the surrounding edges of the National Park
- Consider appropriate re-use of historic farm buildings at end of agricultural life and ensure that any new agricultural buildings respect the historical and cultural significance of the landscape in terms of their siting, layout, form and construction materials
- Provide public access to the South Hook fort
- Avoid further negative impact on the landscape that may result from infrastructure or industrial developments in the area and wider vicinity, especially upon the visual setting of the nationally significant historical sites.
- Ensure that as far as possible ancient monuments and remains are not lost or damaged.