

Conservation Area Appraisal

April 2008

Litton



LITTON CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

CONTENTS

Page No.

INTRODUCTION

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF FIGURES

1.0	CHARACTER SUMMARY	7
2.0	LOCATION AND POPULATION	8
3.0	HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT	12
4.0	FORMER AND CURRENT USES	16
5.0	ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC QUALITIES	17
6.0	PREVALENT AND TRADITIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS	22
7.0	THE RELATIONSHIP OF STRUCTURES AND SPACES	25
8.0	GREEN AND OTHER NATURAL FEATURES	29
9.0	CONSERVATION AREA SETTING	32
10.0	AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY	34
11.0	POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT	35
12.0	PLANNING POLICY	37
13.0	LISTED BUILDINGS IN LITTON CONSERVATION AREA	39
14.0	GLOSSARY	40
15.0	REFERENCES	43

INTRODUCTION TO CONSERVATION AREAS & APPRAISALS

What is a Conservation Area?

A Conservation Area is defined as an area of 'special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance' (Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990).

Each Conservation Area has a unique character shaped by a combination of elements including buildings, materials, spaces, trees, street plan, history and economic background.

The aim of Conservation Area designation is to ensure that this character is not destroyed or undermined by inappropriate changes.

Conservation Areas in the Peak District National Park

There are 109 Conservation Areas in the National Park. Most contain groups of traditional buildings. Others include Historic Parks and Gardens, such as Lyme Park, or industrial sites, such as Cressbrook Mill.

Conservation Areas generally have an aesthetic quality that makes them desirable places in which to live. In order to preserve and enhance this aesthetic quality, a high standard of design and materials is required of any development within a Conservation Area. Organisations, including utility providers, are encouraged to exercise care and sensitivity.

Grant Assistance in a Conservation Area

Grants are available for the repair and reinstatement of external architectural features to both listed and unlisted buildings and stone boundary walls in a Conservation Area. Such works may include, for example, the repair of stone slate roofs, or the re-instatement of historically appropriate windows. For further information and advice please contact the Cultural Heritage Team (on 01629 816200).

Funding may also be available for tree planting and tree surgery (no grants are provided for tree felling). For further information please contact the Tree Conservation Officer (on 01629 816200).

Parish Councils and local organisations can apply to the Authority for help in funding environmental enhancements to public spaces.

If local communities want to produce a Management Action Plan they can seek advice on both production of the plan and sources of funding for projects identified within it from the Authority's Village Officers (on 01629 816200).

For further information about grant assistance within a Conservation Area, please refer to the Authority's website: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Planning Constraints in a Conservation Area

Conservation Area designation brings with it some legislative controls to ensure that any changes respect the special character of the area. The following works in a Conservation Area will require permission:

- Demolition of all, or most of a building, including boundary walls.
- Lopping or felling trees.

Other works that may require permission include:

- Cladding a building.
- Installation of a satellite dish or domestic micro-generation equipment.
- The addition of a dormer window.

For further advice, please contact the Authority's Planning Services (on 01629 816000).

What is a Conservation Area Appraisal?

Local Authorities have a duty to review Conservation Areas from time to time. The preparation, publication and formal adoption of Conservation Area Appraisals is part of this process. Appraisals are being carried out, and in some instances reviewed, for each of the Peak District National Park's 109 Conservation Areas. English Heritage's 'Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals' (2006) forms the basis of the Authority's appraisals.

Appraisals identify the special qualities that make a place worthy of designation as a Conservation Area. They look at ways in which the character of a place can be preserved or enhanced and are intended to inform future changes, not to prevent them altogether. Draft Conservation Area Appraisals will be available for public consultation prior to adoption.

Conservation Area Appraisals should be read in conjunction with the Peak District National Park's Structure and Local Plans, the Design Guide (2007) and the Landscape Character Assessment (2008). The relevant national guidance should also be taken into account, for example Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: 'Planning and the Historic Environment' and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: 'Archaeology and Planning'. These documents all include policies that help protect the special character of Conservation Areas and guide new development.

The Litton Conservation Area Appraisal was adopted by the Peak District National Park Authority's Planning Committee on 18th April 2008. Copies of the Appraisal are available on request from the National Park Authority and on our website. Copies of this document have also been sent to Litton Parish Council and Derbyshire Local Studies Library.

How will the Appraisal be used?

An appraisal can be used to assess the impact of proposed development on Conservation Areas and their settings. It can also assist in planning appeals, the development of planning policy and community-led initiatives.

An appraisal can identify opportunities for change and elements that would benefit from enhancement. This information could be used by local communities, individuals, the Authority and other agencies to develop initiatives that aim to protect or sympathetically enhance an area.

An appraisal can promote understanding and awareness of an area. It can be used as a starting point for interpretive materials such as information boards and local guides. It also provides a social and historical record of a place at a specific point in time, helping to create, maintain or enhance a sense of place.

Appraisals can help attract funding for improvements in an area. They can act as a catalyst for further enhancement work and community projects, encouraging partnerships between local communities, organisations and the Authority.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Photo No.		Page No.
Cover	Litton from the south	
1	Litton from Hall Lane	5
2	The Cross	5
3	Lomas Cottages	5
4	Looking towards the village from Hall Lane	6
5	Litton from the bottom of The Dale	6
6	Church Lane looking towards Tideswell	6
7	The former Hosiery Factory	10
8	Extract from the 1847 Tithe Map	10
9	Scarsdale House Farm	11
10	Gate at Curzon Farm	11
11	Hall Farm, built on the site of the Manor House	11
12	Remains of Townside and Yard Closes	12
13	Litton on Burdett's map of Derbyshire, 1791	12
14	Woodstock, the Former Hare and Hounds	14
15	Well Yard, the playing field	14
16	Post Office Row	15
17	Grove House	15
18	Litton Dale	15
19	Date stone at West Cottage	19
20	Clergy House	19
21	Hammerton Hall Farmhouse	19
22	West Villas with surviving sash windows	17
23	Litton School	17
24	Postcard of Litton, early Nineteenth Century	17
25	Similar view showing some alterations	17
26	Historic K6 Phone box	18
27	Ashlar Chimney	20
28	The Methodist Chapel built of gritstone	20
29	Sash windows with stone heads and cills	20
30	Typical garden boundary wall	20
31	Drystone walls from Hall Lane	31
32	K6 Phonebox surrounded by modern street furniture	22
33	Blue slate roof	22
34	Stone slate roof	22
35	Limestone rubble brought to courses	22
36	Limestone rubble wall	22
37	Limestone wall and rendered wall with gritstone dressings	22
38	Gritstone chimney on a stone slate roof	22
39	Looking along Main Street	23
40	The stocks and The Red Lion	23
41	Green space in front of The Cottage	23
42	Dale View is outside the conservation area but connects the Dale to the Village	24
43	Trees in the village centre	27
44	Postcard of Litton from the early 1900s	27
45	Trees around the cross	27
46	Trees at the entrance to Sterndale House	27
47	Trees opposite the School	28
48	The playing field	28
49	Cressbrook Dale	30
50	Beacon House marks the start of the village from the east	30
51	Strip fields to the south of Litton	30

Photo No.		Page No.
52	Looking from the Green towards Bottomhill Road	31
53	Looking towards Litton from the top of Church Lane	31
54	Telephone wires on Main Street	33
55	Red clay tile, as used on the Village Hall, is not a traditional material	34
56	The recycling centre	34

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page No.
Location of Litton Conservation Area.	9
Litton Conservation Area Boundary.	10
Aerial photograph covering Litton Conservation Area.	11
Archaeological sites identified on the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record, (HER), within Litton Conservation Area.	15
Architectural Development within Litton Conservation Area.	21
Streetscape Features within Litton Conservation Area.	27
Views within Litton Conservation Area.	28
Landscape Features within Litton Conservation Area.	31

LITTON CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

1.0 CHARACTER SUMMARY

1.1 Litton was designated a Conservation Area on 3 July 1987, the boundary was further amended on 18 April 2008. The boundary covers most of the village including some of the strip fields to the north and south of Main Street. It excludes two areas of twentieth century housing development at Dale View and Sterndale Close.



P1 Litton from Hall Lane

1.2 The village occupies a fairly level site on a limestone plateau. It has a distinctive, well-preserved strip field system particularly to the south of the Main Street and Litton Edge provides a backdrop of rising ground to the north. Litton is essentially a linear village running on an east-west axis, with a core area around the green with the cross. Many of the village's key service buildings front on to this space including The Red Lion, the school, the village hall and the shop. Buildings generally tend to be clustered around the green spaces. The mature trees in the village centre provide a contrast to the surrounding landscape which is comparatively treeless.



P2 The Cross

1.3 Buildings in Litton are predominantly limestone. Use of gritstone is limited mainly to dressings. Buildings are mainly small scale and two storeys, often with small gardens to the front contained by low boundary walls. Properties tend to be built in short rows but are not uniform terraces. The majority of the buildings are densely packed and limit the views out of the village particularly to the south. Most buildings appear to date from the eighteenth and nineteenth century, though some may have earlier cores and one, West Cottage, bears a date of 1639.



P3 Lomas Cottages

1.4 Historically, agriculture and small-scale industry have influenced Litton's economy and form.

2.0 LOCATION AND POPULATION

2.1 Litton, Derbyshire is located approximately 1 mile, (1.6 km) south-east of Tideswell, 8 miles, (12 km) north-east of Bakewell, and 8 miles, (12 km) east of Buxton. Although the village is situated on an unclassified road, its four main entry points connect to major routes: the A623 (Baslow to Chapel-en-le-Frith) near Wardlow Mires, to the south-east and the B6049 Tideswell to Miller's Dale Road to the north-west.

2.2 It should be noted that the Parish of Litton also contains the settlements of Cressbrook, Ravensdale, Litton Mill and Litton Slack. This appraisal concentrates on the village of Litton and its Conservation Area and not the parish as a whole. Census figures provided do not make this distinction and cover the whole parish, not just the settlement of Litton.

2.3 The population of Litton grew steadily in the first half of the nineteenth century. The 1801 census records a population of 438. By 1811 this figure had risen slightly to 458. The 1821 census records a significant increase in population giving a figure of 710. The population continued to rise in 1831 and 1841, peaking in 1851 when the census records a figure of 945. This rise in population can be attributed to the employment demand generated by the mills at both Cressbrook and Litton Mill. The mill site at Cressbrook was expanded in 1814 and again in 1823, Litton Mill was expanded 1847-1874.

2.4 The 2002 Census recorded a population of 588 residents in the Parish of Litton. The majority of the residents are daily commuters to the conurbations of Manchester and Sheffield to the west and east of the National Park respectively.



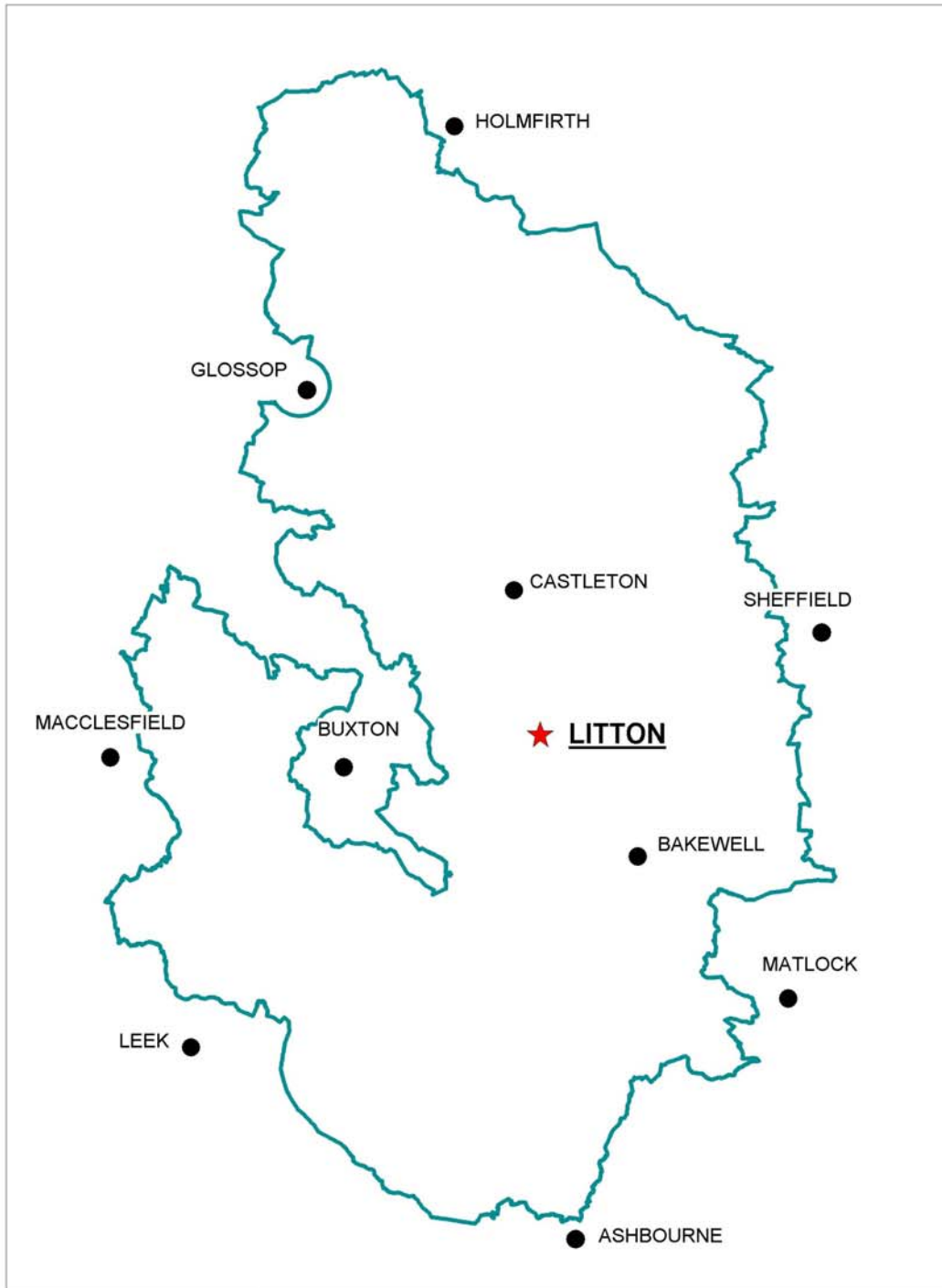
P4 Looking towards the village from Hall Lane





P5 Litton from the bottom of The Dale



P6 Church Lane, looking towards Tideswell



 <p>PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY</p>	 <p>Scale 1:300000</p>	<p>Location of Litton Conservation Area</p> <p><small>This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Controller of HMSO. Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Peak District National Park Authority. Licence No. LA 100005734. 2005</small></p>
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- Key**
- Conservation Area boundary
 - Proposed Conservation Area extension
 - Proposed Conservation Area exclusion



Litton Conservation Area Boundary

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Aerial photograph covering Litton Conservation Area

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3.0 HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Archaeological and historical evidence for the development of Litton is comparatively sparse. There appears to be little archaeological evidence pre-dating the medieval period within the Conservation Area boundary.

3.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the Conservation Area or its immediate vicinity, although several sites appear on the Derbyshire County Historic Environment Record (HER). There are four entries on the HER within the Conservation Area, including the medieval cross base (with modern pillar) on the village green. Litton Town Bank, a flat-topped medieval earthwork which may have been a boundary bank, is located to the north of High Bank to the east of the village. There is also an undated earthwork visible as a number of banks between stone-getting pits to the south of Curzon Farm. The former hosiery factory on Hall Lane is also on the HER and represents a rare survival of its type in upland Derbyshire. Although not on the HER, the fields around Litton are an important archaeological survival and their shape indicates they are fossilised medieval strip fields.



P7 The Former Hosiery Factory

3.3 There are also significant archaeological remains of the lead mining industry outside the Conservation Area to the south-east at Tansley Dale (near Cressbrook Dale), and this site is a HER. There does not appear to be any surviving evidence of the lead mining industry within the village itself. It is however a possibility that the grander houses in the village owe their existence to the wealth generated by the eighteenth century lead mining boom.

3.4 Due to the scarcity of evidence, there are some significant gaps in the chronology below. As and when further information comes to light and is verified, these details will be amended.

3.5 There is evidence of Neolithic activity in the area as fragments of stone axes have been found at two locations to the east of the village near Peter's Stone and to the north east of The Farm at the eastern edge of the village. There is also Great Low Barrow to the north west of the village near Crosslands Farm. No physical evidence of Neolithic settlement has ever been identified in the location of the existing village however.

3.6 Initially a settlement may have developed due to the availability of water, making it an attractive location. The porous nature of limestone means that water tends to percolate away and does not accumulate on the surface. Water was therefore at a premium in limestone areas and a valuable resource not only for domestic use but also for watering animals.

3.7 At one point in its history Litton had three meres or ponds and several wells. Well Yard, located to the north of Sunnybank on Main Street, was the point at which five of the village's springs emerged. The two largest meres were located approximately in front of what is now the school and the third was located near the junction with Hall Lane. These two meres are clearly marked on the 1847 Tithe Map. The location of the meres may have had an influence on the size and shape of the open space in the centre of the village today.



P8 Extract from 1847 Tithe Map, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Record office, D1494 A/P1337a. Reproduced by permission.

3.8 The first reference to “Litton” is found in Domesday Book (1086). According to Cameron (1959) the name is likely to mean ‘farm on a slope or hillside’. Domesday Book links Litton to Hazelbadge near Bradwell as a small manor belonging to William Peveril. William Peveril was one of William the Conqueror’s favoured knights. Peveril had significant holdings in Derbyshire including castles at Castleton, High Peak approximately 8 miles (13 km) north of Litton, and Bolsover, North East Derbyshire 30 miles (48 km) to the south-east.

3.9 The Lytton Family held the manor from the twelfth century for around 400 years, presumably taking their name from the estate. A significant member of this family was Robert Lytton who occupied a prominent position as keeper of the Great Wardrobe of Henry VII (1485-1509). Robert Lytton was effectively treasurer of the Royal household. A wealthy man, he is known to have purchased the Knebworth Estate in Hertfordshire in 1492. (www.usigs.org/library/blackwell)

3.10 In 1597 the Lytton family sold the Manor to John Alsop who held onto it for a comparatively brief nine years. In 1606 the Bagshawe family purchased the Manor and it remained in their possession for almost 140 years.

3.11 William Bagshawe was born at the manor house in 1628. In adulthood he became well known locally as an anti-Catholic preacher earning the nickname “Apostle of the Peak.” Following the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 Bagshawe lost his living as Vicar of Glossop and founded Presbyterian congregations at Bradwell, Great Hucklow, Charlesworth and Chapel-en-le-Frith.



P9 Scarsdale House Farm

3.12 From the mid-eighteenth century the Manor of Litton changed hands frequently. The Bagshawes sold the manor to the Bradshaw

family in 1767. Subsequently the Uptons and the Stathams were owners until the late eighteenth century when the Curzon family of Kedleston Hall bought the manor and most of the village. It remained in their possession until 1918 when Lord Scarsdale sold off the estate in small lots at public auction. Selling off land and property was a common practice amongst the aristocracy between the two world wars, due to the 1918-1939 economic depression. Evidence of the Kedleston connection remains in the village, as the family names are still used locally. There is Curzon Terrace at Litton Mill and Curzon and Scarsdale House Farms in Litton.



P10 Gate at Curzon Farm

3.13 The Manor House is no longer in existence; its remains were demolished at the turn of the nineteenth century. It is thought that Hall Farmhouse now occupies the site, the name Old Hall is marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1882) in this location, but the building shown occupies a different footprint to the one in existence today.



P11 Hall Farm, built on the site of the Manor House

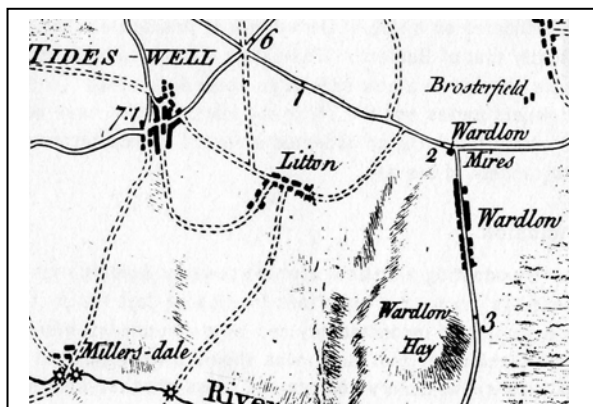
3.14 Although pre-Ordnance Survey maps are an important source of information, it is important to remember that they were usually produced for a specific purpose and so may omit some information or exaggerate or inaccurately record other details.

3.15 The Litton Enclosure Map of 1764 was one of the earliest produced in Derbyshire although land appears to have been enclosed by private agreement prior to this. As such, the majority of strip fields, characteristic of Litton, are not indicated on the Enclosure map although they are named: the area to the south of present day Main Street being described as “Townside Closes” and the area to the north, “Yard Closes”. All the existing entry points into the village were visible on the Enclosure map with the exception of Litton Dale Road.



P12 The Remains of Townside and Yard Closes

3.16 Burdett’s Map of Derbyshire, 1791 shows Litton as a small settlement spread along Main Street and curving round towards Litton Dale and Bottomhill Road (names in current usage) and running north to Tideswell (this could be the road known today as The Lodge which runs parallel with the B6049 and reaches Tideswell at Buxton Road).

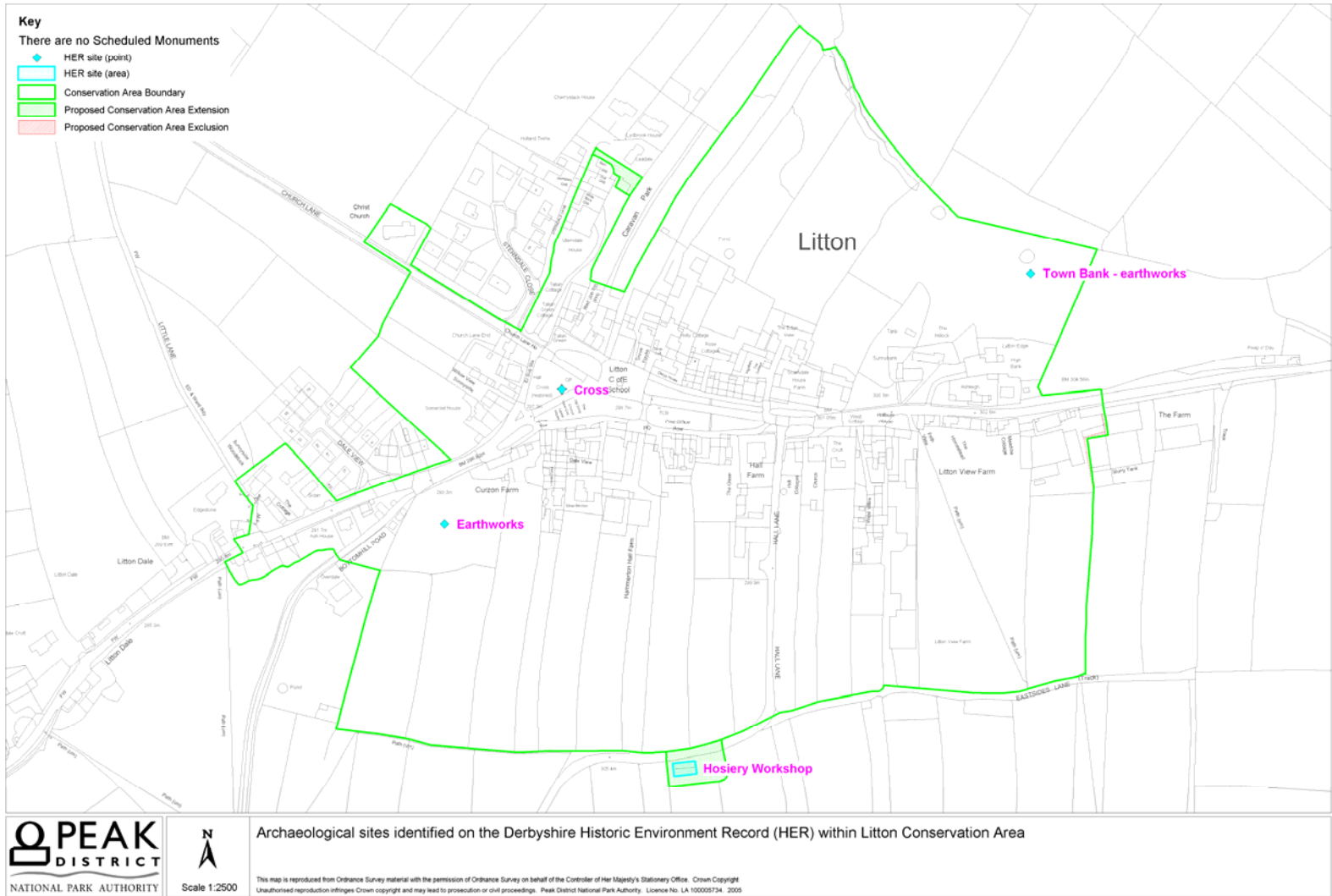


P13 Litton on Burdett’s Map of Derbyshire 1791

3.17 An undated parish map (probably circa 1795-1815) shows the familiar Y-shaped plan of today with properties spread along Main Street and roads branching off to Tideswell and Litton Dale. This map does not show the road system in any great detail and “The Lodge” is not illustrated.

3.18 When the 1847 Tithe Map was issued more extensive infill development had been carried out; most notably, more property had been constructed in Litton Dale. By the time the 1883 first edition Ordnance Survey map was published, the village plan was very similar to how it appears today. It should be noted that Christ Church and the Village Hall do not appear, as they were not constructed until the early twentieth century.

3.19 The development of the village is inextricably linked to its economy, particularly agriculture, lead mining in the eighteenth century and the cotton mills in the nineteenth century.



4.0 FORMER AND CURRENT USES

4.1 Agriculture has always been a significant occupation and there are still working farms in the village.

4.2 In the eighteenth century lead mining was carried out which produced a boom in the local economy. There does not appear to be any surviving evidence of this industry within the village itself but there is an extensive and important area to the southeast of Litton at Tansley Dale. Archaeological remains include a gin circle wall, a run-in shaft, and the remnants of a horse walk.

4.3 In the nineteenth century, following the industrial revolution, the mills at Cressbrook and Litton Mill were probably the biggest employers in the area. Bagshaw's Directory of 1846 notes that the Litton estate comprised 2,100 acres, 154 houses and 864 residents who were principally employed in weaving and framework knitting. Stocking weaving and shoe making were both carried out in the village up to the mid-nineteenth century, and there is a former hosiery workshop on Hall Lane. White's Directory of 1852 states that "Many of the inhabitants are spinners, weavers, framework knitters or miners. Cressbrook and Wyedale mills are both in this township" (the miners referred to obviously working in lead). Other occupations noted in the Directory were 2 shopkeepers, 2 licensed victuallers, a beer-house keeper, a butcher and a carrier. There was also an Ale and Porter agent doubling up as a tax collector and assessor. NB Cressbrook and Wyedale mills are both located at the Cressbrook Mill site.



P14 Woodstock, The Old Hare and Hounds

4.4 Quarrying has probably always been carried out to some degree and there are small stone-getting pits to the south of the village. The first edition Ordnance Survey map

indicates a quarry with an old lime kiln (which is now included in the HER) to the north of the village on Litton edge. Large-scale quarrying took off in the nineteenth century prompted by the demands of industrialisation and improvements in transport communications. Quarrying became a significant source of employment and there was a basalt quarry nearby at Tideswell Dale which closed in 1961.

4.5 Kelly's Directory of 1928 notes 9 farmers including one poultry farmer. At this time the village could support a coal merchant, a carpenter, a fruiterer, two grocers, a tea dealer, rate collector, a shop keeper, a working men's club and 3 public houses. Apart from The Red Lion, there was also The Hare and Hounds (now Woodstock) and The Anchor. The village still supports a school, public house, village hall and a shop. The majority of Litton's residents are commuters.

4.6 Although not a source of employment, water has been of some significance as previously mentioned. In 1850 a report by William Lee to the General Board of Health on the Township of Litton reported on the poor state of sanitary health in Litton. (www.peaklandheritage.org.uk) Possibly as a result of Lee's findings, volunteers for the Tideswell and Litton Water Board built a reservoir on the Well Yard site in the nineteenth century. This area is registered as village green and in 1989 the site was landscaped to become a playing field.



P15 Well Yard, The Playing Field

5.0 ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC QUALITIES

5.1 Litton contains a wide variety of building styles, making generalised statements about its architectural qualities difficult. Predominant trends can be identified but exceptions can be found in every case. Given there is such a diverse mixture, the village has a surprisingly unified appearance. There are three main reasons for this:

- The use of varied but harmonious construction materials.
- The use of low boundary walls to enclose front gardens.
- The scale of the buildings, the majority of which are low two storey constructions.



P16 Post Office Row

5.2 There are some large detached properties but one of the reasons they do not dominate the street scene is that they tend to be two storeys and set back from the road behind boundary walls.



P17 Grove House

5.3 In Litton it was common practice to build onto an existing property resulting in short terraces of cottages that are not of a uniform design. Some rows appear to have been built as a whole such as Rose Cottages and Lomas Cottages, but their unified appearance has been lost due to alterations made over the years, particularly extensions and changes in window design. There are also some properties built as pairs such as 1 and 2 Cross View and Willow View and Sunnyside, (the latter two no longer bear any similarity in appearance).



P18 Litton Dale

5.4 Most buildings front the street, few properties are gable end to the road. Leaving the village to the east property tends to turn its back on the Main Street and front elevations face south, probably to gain maximum daylight. Examples include The Homestead, Meadow Cottage and Elmside Cottage.

5.5 Dating buildings is problematic as inevitably over time they are altered; extensions and other changes mask or destroy historic fabric. Windows and their surrounds are good indicators of a building's age, but it is particularly noticeable in Litton that few originals survive. West Cottage, to the east end of Main Street, although much altered

appears to contain some very early features. It has a lintel bearing the date 1639 over a window (formerly a doorway) and to the right of this are the remains of a chamfered mullioned window indicating that some seventeenth century building fabric remains in Litton. The Methodist Church, opened in 1834, is said to be a converted seventeenth century farmhouse.



P19 Date stone at West Cottage

5.6 It is possible that there are other buildings in the village with evidence of early origins, which have yet to be identified. None of the secular buildings in the Conservation Area appear to be older than seventeenth century. One reason for this could be that England went through a Great Age of Rebuilding during the end of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth century. Wealth from a thriving agricultural economy along with a desire for privacy and comfort are believed to have been the impetus behind the rebuilding. From this time onwards, most buildings throughout the country were constructed from more substantial materials and forms.

5.7 Litton, in common with other villages in Derbyshire, enjoyed a period of economic boom in the eighteenth century, the catalyst for which was the lead mining industry. Litton does not appear to have prospered as well as Winster, (approximately 14 miles (22.5 km) south-east) where the wealth generated by lead mining was reflected in a large number of impressive houses along its Main Street. However, Litton's finest buildings date from this period and include Clergy House (1723) and Hammerton Hall Farmhouse (1768). These prestigious buildings reflect the wealth and status of the owner's who paid for their construction. Pevsner says of Clergy House "Those interested in the development of the architectural style in houses will find one of 1723 (Clergy House), still with the old low two-

light windows, but with a doorway with pediment on corbels and regular quoins..."



P20 Clergy House

"... and another of 1768 (Hammerton Hall Farmhouse) with a segmental pediment to the doorway and an arched window above it, but the other windows even now still of the three-light mullioned type."

Doorways with pediments and round-headed windows are typical features of the eighteenth century. Highfield House and Scarsdale Farmhouse also have eighteenth century origins.



P21 Hammerton Hall Farmhouse

5.8 The majority of dwellings appear to originate from the nineteenth century, possibly constructed to house mill workers from Litton and Cressbrook mills. They tend to be fairly

simple two storey buildings without the quoins or coped gables found on earlier buildings. The size of window openings, which are comparatively large with a vertical emphasis, also indicate a nineteenth century date. Presumably most of these openings contained sash windows, but few originals survive. Although there are some modern replicas the majority of windows are twentieth century designs.



P22 West Villas with surviving sash windows

5.9 Important public buildings are mainly of nineteenth century construction some of which were paid for by private benefactors. These include The School, which was given to the village in 1865 by Canon Samuel Andrew, vicar of Tideswell (Litton was in the ecclesiastical parish of Tideswell). Designed by the Middleton, (Greater Manchester), architect H C Cockbain, The School was also a library and a licensed Episcopal place of worship.



P23 Litton School

5.10 Christ Church on Church Lane to the north west of the village was constructed and consecrated in 1929 and given to Litton by Miss Maud Penfold of Sterndale House. The architect W H R Blacking was responsible for the design of the Church both inside and out. The Working Men's Club, now the Village Hall, was built by voluntary labour in 1907 on land

donated by Lord Scarsdale, opened May 1908 by Lord Curzon of Kedleston Hall, (formerly Viceroy to India but at this time Leader of the House of Lords). The Club contained a reading room and a games room.

5.11 The most prestigious buildings tend to be nearest the village green. Key buildings include The Red Lion Public House, Sterndale House, Grove House, Clergy House and Laurel House, Woodstock (the former Hare and Hounds in Litton Dale), The Methodist Church, The School and Hammerton Hall Farmhouse. It should not however be assumed that a building has no significance in the street-scene because it is not mentioned here.

5.12 Many properties have been extended or altered. Porches, rooflights, dormer windows and a variety of forms of double-glazing can all be found in Litton. The cumulative effect of this has been to reduce both the historic and architectural character of the Conservation Area.



P24 Postcard of Litton early 1900s.



P25 Similar view showing some alterations.

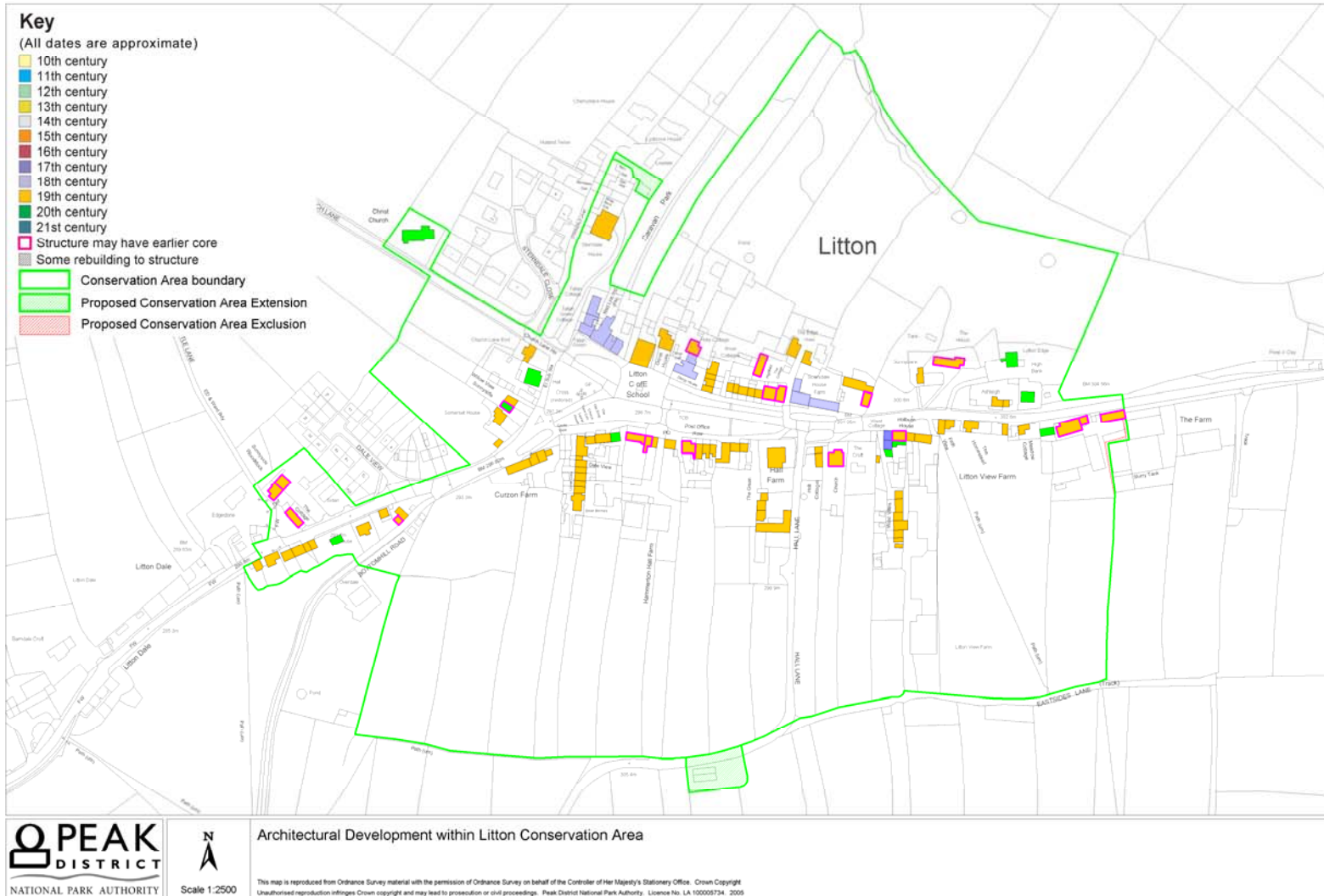
5.13 There are 12 listed buildings in the Conservation Area, but there are others in the parish notably at Cressbrook and Ravensdale,

which have separate Conservation Areas and appraisals.

5.14 There is an unlisted K6 phonebox on the green in front of Post Office Row.



P26 Historic K6 Phone box



6.0 PREVALENT AND TRADITIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS

6.1 A variety of roofing materials have been used in the village and although blue slate is the dominant type there are examples of both stone slate and concrete tile. The Village Hall is unusual in that it has a red clay tile roof, a material which is alien to Litton.

6.2 Stone chimneys are a common feature and on older and high status properties these are often ashlar with decorative drip moulds. Both gritstone and limestone chimneys are found.



P27 Ashlar chimney

6.3 Chimneys of engineering blue brick are found on many of the nineteenth century properties or as replacements on older buildings. There is one example of a red brick chimney at Lomas Cottages.

6.4 Limestone is the pre-dominant building material in the village. There are three gritstone buildings in Litton, the two churches and the eighteenth century addition to Hammerton Hall Farmhouse. In the case of the Methodist Church, the front elevation is gritstone, and the rest of the building is rendered.



P28 The Methodist Chapel built of gritstone

6.5 Gritstone is commonly used for stone dressings. Earlier buildings have full gritstone window surrounds, later ones just have gritstone heads and cills.



P29 Sash windows with stone heads and cills

6.6 Walls tend to be of coursed limestone rubble construction and some are rendered. Rendered buildings tend to be of nineteenth century origin although some are earlier. Much of the render is modern cement rich pebble dash rather than a traditional wet dash or lime render.

6.7 Doorways with stone canopies on brackets are a common feature and those from the eighteenth century are often pedimented and segmental. (See P20 and P22)

6.8 Boundary walls are usually limestone rubble construction. Both drystone and mortared walls are found. Coping stones are usually gritstone and a variety of details are found including rounded, flat and triangular. Those on the boundary wall at Clergy House are particularly decorative indicating the status of this building.



P30 Typical garden boundary wall

6.9 The village is surrounded by strip fields bounded by dry limestone walls. These are a key feature of the Conservation Area and are particularly noticeable to the south of the village.



P31 Drystone walls from Hall Lane

6.10 Apart from the K6 phone box and the post box, there is little of any architectural or historic merit with regard to street furniture and surfacing.



P32 K6 phonebox surrounded by modern street furniture

6.11 Street lighting is modern and utilitarian in appearance. There are a number of concrete and timber seats along the greens which are of a purely functional nature.

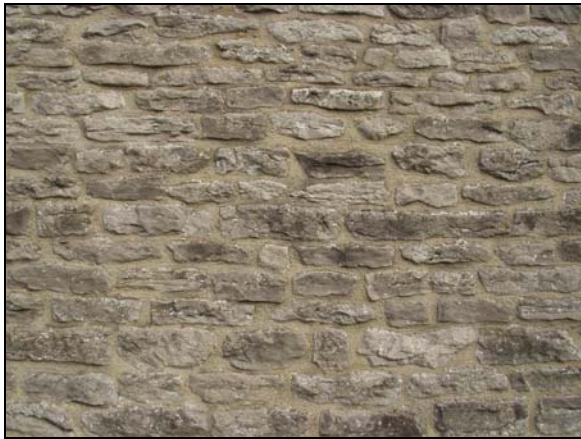
6.12 Tarmac is the predominant surfacing material, although some gritstone kerbs can be found around the greens. There are some stone setts around the phone box.



P33 Blue slate roof



P34 Stone slate roof



P35 Limestone rubble brought to courses.



P36 Limestone rubble wall.



P37 Limestone wall and rendered wall with gritstone dressings.



P38 Gritstone chimney on a stone slate roof.

Materials typically used in Litton

7.0 THE RELATIONSHIP OF STRUCTURES AND SPACES

7.1 The village has been divided into three broad areas to simplify description.

Eastern Edge

7.2 On entering Litton from the eastern edge, there are blocked views looking both east and west. Buildings line the long and slightly winding approach; on the south side these are tightly spaced and turn their back to the road. The front elevations face south, (with the exception of The Homestead), and in the case of these buildings this was presumably to take advantage of daylight. On the north side the buildings are more loosely scattered and set well back and above the street. There is a significant open green space between Scarsdale House Farm and Ashleigh. To the eastern end of this area, a high stone boundary wall parallel to the road produces a narrow pinch point.



P39 Looking east along Main Street

Central Section

7.3 This is the village centre which contains all the services. The street is flat, wide and elongated with eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings loosely grouped around the large open grassed areas which are characteristic of Litton. The buildings clustered around the village green and mature trees in front of The Red Lion block the view westward along the village street.

7.4 The Red Lion is a key building in the street scene. On the green in front of the public house are a set of stocks and the village cross which combine to create an archetypal village scene. As most of the buildings front onto the greens, this gives the settlement an insular feel.

7.5 The majority of buildings front onto the greens and verges and most are set back within small walled front gardens. Only one or two buildings are gable onto the highway.

7.6 There are several access points off the Main Street leading to rows of cottages and terraces, and cottages including West Villas, Lomas Cottages, and Rose Cottages.

7.7 Views of the strip field system to the south are limited due to the tightly spaced buildings.



P40 The stocks and The Red Lion

Litton Dale

7.8 The road drops downhill when leaving the village to the west. The majority of the modest-size cottages are parallel to the road. Some properties open straight onto the street, while others are set behind walled front gardens. There is a small green in front of The Cottage, Woodstock and Sunnyside around which a few buildings are grouped.



P41 Green space in front of The Cottage

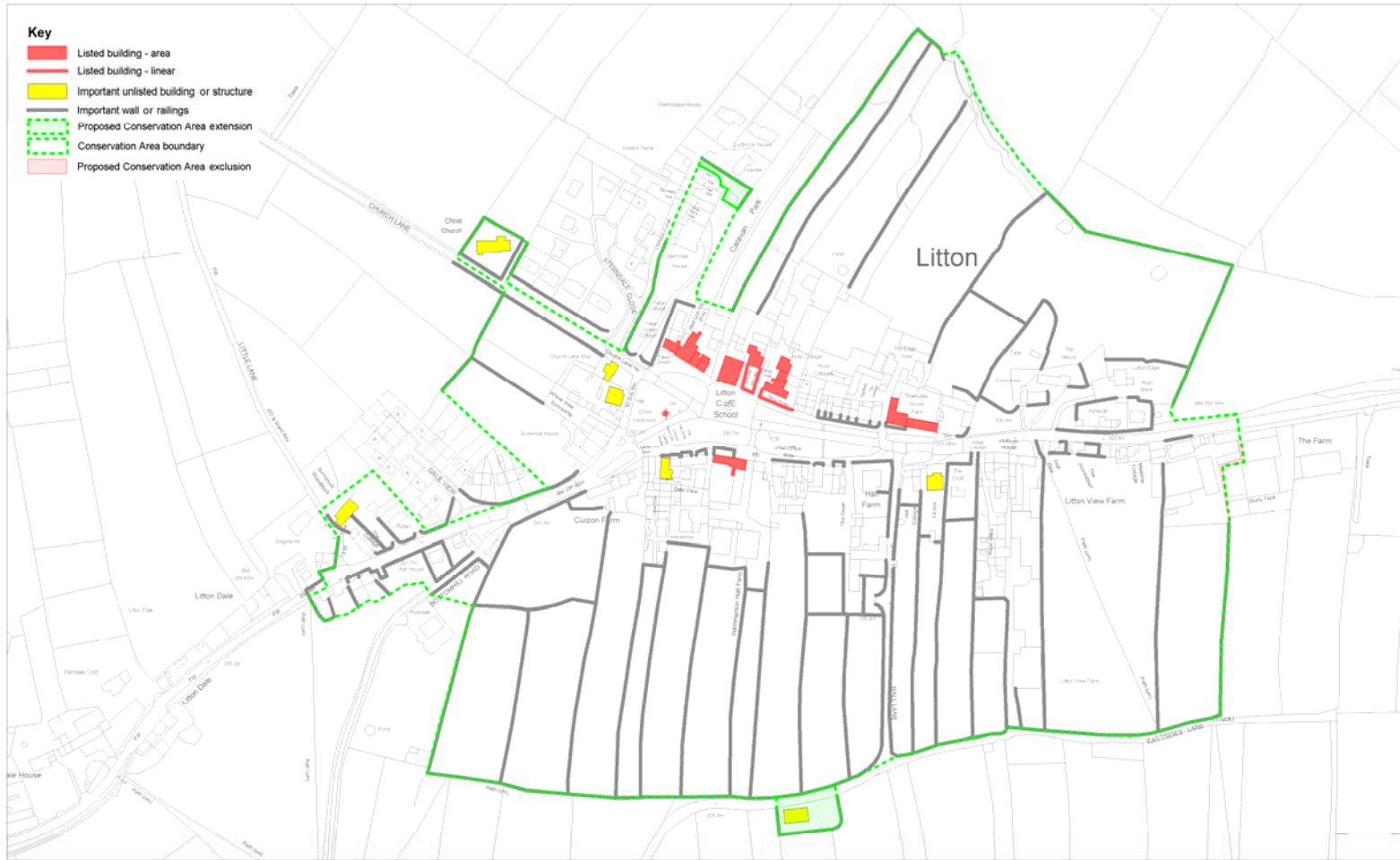
7.8 Litton Dale was once detached from the main village and had its own public house, the Hare and Hounds which ceased trading in 1955. This was subsequently converted into

two dwellings in 1968 (Woodstock and Sunnyside).

7.9 Although Litton Dale is now connected to the main village by mid-twentieth century local authority housing it retains a feeling of being slightly detached. This modern housing is outside the Conservation Area boundary.

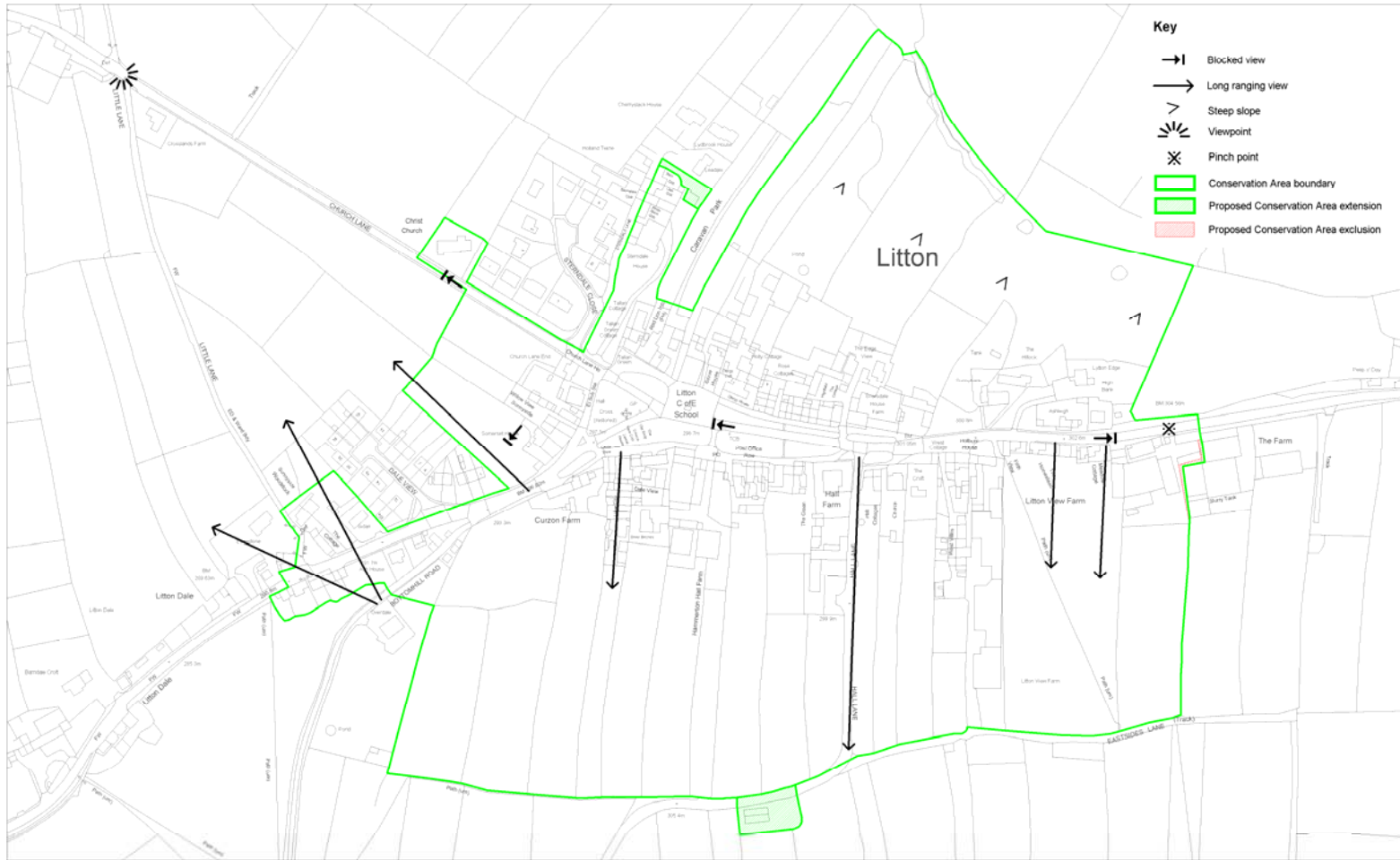


P42 Dale View is outside the Conservation Area but connects The Dale to the village



Streetscape Features within Litton Conservation Area

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- Key**
- | Blocked view
 - Long ranging view
 - > Steep slope
 - ☀ Viewpoint
 - ✱ Pinch point
 - ▭ Conservation Area boundary
 - ▭ Proposed Conservation Area extension
 - ▭ Proposed Conservation Area exclusion

PEAK DISTRICT
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

N
Scale 1:2500

Views within Litton Conservation Area

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8.0 GREEN AND OTHER NATURAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES

8.1 Trees in the village are particularly striking, as the surrounding landscape is comparatively treeless. Wide grass verges and village greens give a feeling of spaciousness, particularly when entering the village from the west.



P43 Trees in the village centre

8.2 The cluster of trees around the cross at the centre of the village creates a visual full stop and a sense of enclosure, when they are in full leaf. A postcard from the early twentieth century shows this area with the trees fairly recently planted which gave the village a much more open feel. Now mature, these trees are a mixture of Lime and Sycamore. Young trees recently planted include a Lime and an Acer.



P44 Postcard of Litton from the early 1900s



P45 Trees around the Cross

8.3 During the winter months when the trees are bare, the village centre has a much more open character than in the summer when trees are in full leaf.

8.4 Mature trees in the grounds of Sterndale House provide another prominent cluster comprising Horse Chestnut, Sycamore and Beech. There is also an avenue of young Rowan trees leading up the drive to the house.



P46 Trees at the Entrance to Sterndale House

8.5 Opposite The School on the small green in front of the shop mature trees are predominantly Sycamore with a young Rowan, Cherry and a Norway Maple. On the small green near the Methodist chapel there is a mature Lime, a young Lime and Cherry.



P47 Trees Opposite the School

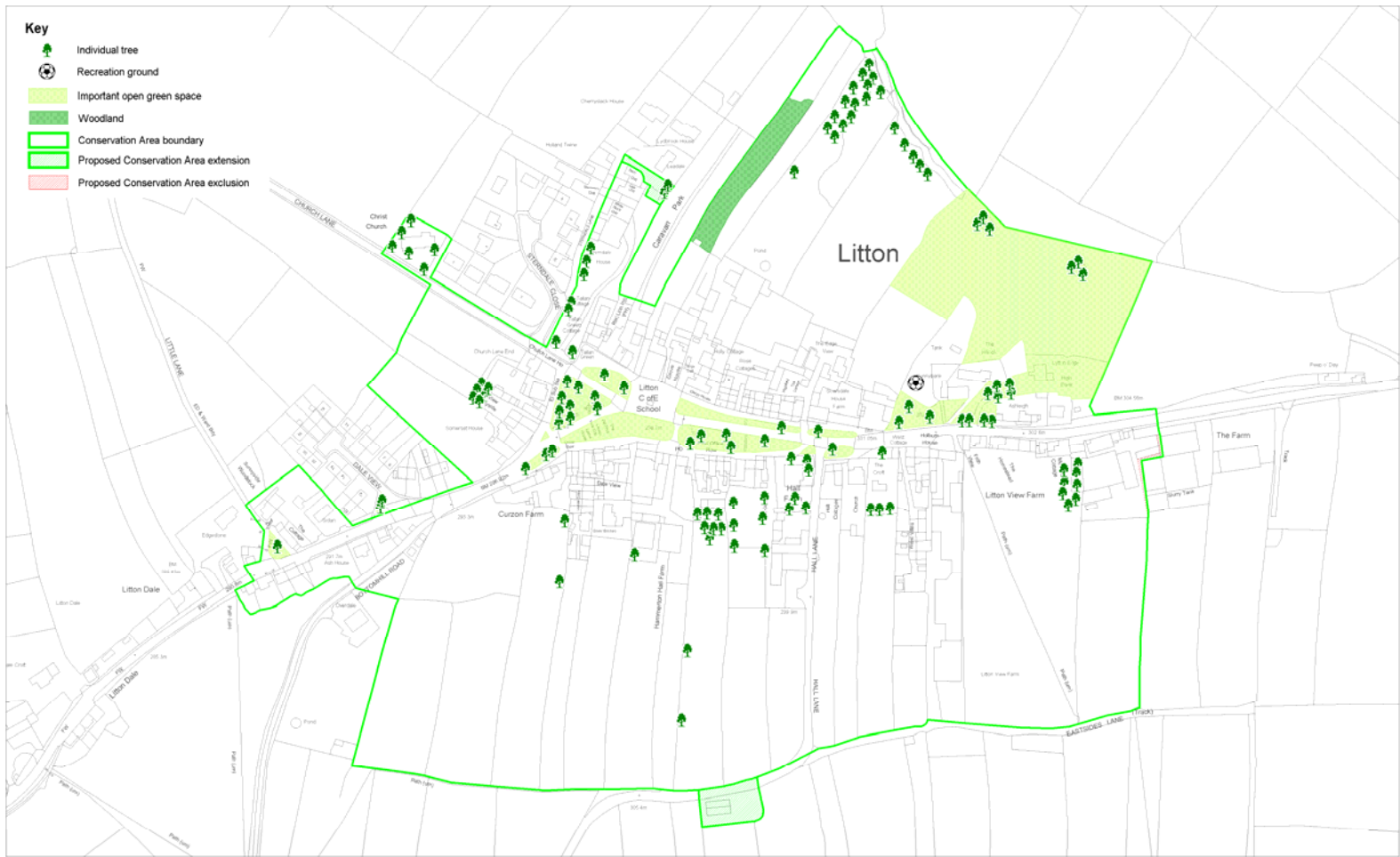
8.6 Another notable tree is a mature pollarded Ash in the garden of Hall Farmhouse. This may have some ecological significance and could provide a habitat for insects and bats. This tree is of particular importance in the street scene when approaching Litton from Hall Lane.

8.7 Other green spaces are the playing field to the north of Main Street and the area in front of “Sunny Bank”, to the east of the village.



P48 The Playing Field

8.8 Litton Edge to the north of Main Street is a prominent landscape feature which provides a backdrop to the village which shelters beneath it.



N
Scale 1:2500

Landscape Features within Litton Conservation Area

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9.0 CONSERVATION AREA SETTING

9.1 The village of Litton is situated on a limestone plateau 1000 ft, 305 m, above sea level with Miller's Dale to the south, Cressbrook Dale to the south east and Tideswell Dale to the south west. These features emphasise that the settlement occupies a comparatively flat site. This is most evident when entering the village from the east as there are clear views down into Cressbrook Dale. (The dales are outside the Conservation Area)



P49 Cressbrook Dale

9.2 Beacon House gives the first real indication that you are entering a settlement, reinforced by the presence of the sign bearing the village's name. The Conservation Area boundary begins to the east of The Farm. The boundary runs along the eastern gable of the farm buildings and follows a drystone wall field boundary southwards as far as Eastsides Lane.



P50 Beacon House marks the start of the Village from the east

9.3 When entering or leaving the village along Hall Lane, to the south of the village, the settlement appears quite exposed and the medieval strip fields with their limestone boundary walls provide a wide and striking foreground to the settlement. The southern boundary of the Conservation Area follows the southern edge of these strip fields to the west and east of Hall Lane. This landscape continues almost as far south as Cressbrook where the steep descent into Miller's Dale emphasises the comparatively elevated location of Litton.



P51 Strip fields to the south of Litton

9.4 Bottomhill Road also enters the village from the south, at the top of Litton Dale. This road is in quite an elevated position and gives views over properties in Litton Dale before dropping downhill into the village. The Conservation Area boundary cuts across Bottomhill Road and follows the rear garden walls of properties in Litton Dale. Following Bottomhill Road south it meets Hall Lane and ultimately leads to Cressbrook. From the south-west, access to the village is gained from the B6049 via Litton Dale. The junction turns into Litton Dale at the northern edge of Tideswell Dale. The road climbs uphill into the village.



P52 Looking from the Green towards Bottom Hill Road

9.5 From the Tideswell direction, Church Lane enters Litton from the north-west; the entrance to the village is clearly defined by the presence of Christ Church. The landscape is comparatively stark and exposed in this location and the village appears to shelter beneath Litton Edge which rises sharply to the north. Part of Litton Edge has been included in the Conservation Area because of the impact it has on the village setting. It is a prominent feature clearly visible from the north west and south in particular. There are further lead rakes in this location to the north-west and also an old lime kiln all of which are outside the Conservation Area boundary.



P53 Looking towards Litton from the top of Church Lane

9.6 From the west the road through the dale climbs uphill into the village.

9.7 Cressbrook Dale, Monsal Dale and Tideswell Dale are not visible from the Conservation Area. Cressbrook Dale is covered by the following designations. SSSI, (Site of Special Scientific Interest), Peak District Dales SAC, (Special Areas of Conservation),

and NNR (National Nature Reserve), Derbyshire Dales.

9.8 Tideswell Dale and Monsal Dale are covered by the following designations, Wye Valley SSSI and Peak District Dales SAC.

10.0 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

10.1 Following public consultation minor boundary changes were made to Litton Conservation Area. These were approved at Planning Committee on 18 April 2008. Prior to this the boundary already incorporated a significant proportion of the surrounding landscape including some of the strip field system and part of Litton Edge. It was felt to be of little benefit to extend the boundary beyond this. The amendments approved were:

10.2 To the east of The Farm the boundary was amended to follow the line of the agricultural buildings. This was necessary because the buildings had been changed since the original boundary was drawn up in 1987.

10.3 To the north of Barn Cottage, the boundary was amended to incorporate an area of stone setts, and to the east of neighbouring Oak Cottage, the boundary was amended to incorporate its outbuilding. Although these are both modern features it was felt that their inclusion makes a positive contribution to the character of the Conservation Area. This amendment has resulted in a better defined boundary to the Conservation Area.

10.4 To the south of Hall Lane the former Hosiery Factory and its surrounding field boundary wall have been included within the conservation area. This is in acknowledgement of the buildings historic significance.

11.0 POTENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT

11.1 A Conservation Area Management Plan was drawn up for Litton in 1987 by the Peak District National Park Authority in collaboration with the local community. The plan's objectives included a variety of projects such as the removal of overhead wires in The Dale, landscaping the proposed recreation ground and restoration of the village cross. All these projects were completed but some of the projects in the management plan have not been achieved. These include encouraging the refurbishment of the railings and gate in front of the Methodist Church, landscaping around the bus shelter and provision of parking in front of the recreation ground.

11.2 It is likely that the village's priorities have changed since the last management plan was drawn up in 1987. Some of the items identified may no longer be relevant or appropriate. Revision of the Village Plan, prepared by the local community in-conjunction with the Peak District National Park Authority, is one of the mechanisms for identifying community priorities.

11.3 The successful projects relied on partnerships between the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire County Council, the Parish Council and East Midlands Electricity Board.



P54 Telephone wires on Main Street

11.4 There may be little scope for further enhancement as the Conservation Area is in comparatively good condition but there are some issues to note which could be acted on if the opportunity were to arise. Some of the issues mentioned below could be addressed by the Peak District National Park Authority and/or Derbyshire County Council. Other items would need to be addressed by private individuals, in some cases enhancement may not be achievable. It should be noted that the character of this village could easily be spoiled if it were to become over-manicured.

Modern Development

11.5 In Litton there are two areas of twentieth century housing at Dale View and Sterndale Close. Neither are included within the Conservation Area boundary and are considered to have a neutral impact on the setting. Elsewhere development is restricted to properties on the periphery of the Conservation Area particularly in The Dale and to the east end of the village. There have been some small-scale developments such as extensions and garden buildings. Any new development needs to be designed with care to ensure that it does not detract from the character of the Conservation Area.

Historic Buildings and Structures

11.6 Buildings within the Litton Conservation Area are in relatively good condition. Buildings however need continual maintenance and repairs. Listed and other historic properties in the Conservation Area may be entitled to grant aid from the Authority subject to the eligibility of the proposed work and the availability of resources. For further information on grants contact the Cultural Heritage Team on 01629 816200.

Avoiding Unsympathetic repairs and replacement of traditional features

11.7 Unsympathetic alterations and repairs can have a detrimental impact on a property's aesthetic and structural qualities. Minor works, the installation of windows and doors that are inappropriate in design and/or materials, e.g. u-pvc, or the use of cement-based mortars and strap pointing, soon accumulate and erode the special character of a place.

11.8 Most harmful to the character of Litton has been the removal of traditional windows; few originals remain in the village. An owner wishing to replace any type of window should contact the Authority's Cultural Heritage Team for further advice.

11.9 The use of imported none traditional materials such as red brick, red clay tile and concrete render should be avoided as this detracts from the historic character and architectural quality of buildings.



P55 Red clay tile, as used on the Village Hall, is not a traditional material

11.10 Unsympathetically located modern fixtures on prominent elevations and roofs, such as satellite dishes, roof-lights, solar panels and wind turbines can quickly accumulate. They can have a detrimental impact on the character of the Conservation Area. Please check with Planning Services before installing any such item, on 01629 816200.

11.11 The standard of street lighting and street furniture in Litton could be improved. However although the existing examples are not aesthetic, they do not significantly detract from the area.

Trees and Shrubs

11.12 Trees, particularly on the village green add to the character of Litton and removal would have a negative impact on the Conservation Area. The Authority's Tree Conservation Officer should be contacted before any lopping or felling of trees, shrubs or hedges takes place. Some hedgerows are protected from destruction or damage under the Hedgerow Regulations of 1997. The Authority's Tree Conservation Officer should be contacted, before work is carried out to hedges.

11.13 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990, makes special provision for trees in Conservation Areas which are not the subject

of Tree Preservation Orders. Anyone proposing to cut down or carry out work on a tree in a Conservation Area is required to give the Local Planning Authority 6 weeks notice of his intention to do so.

Spaces

11.14 The green verges in the centre of Litton contribute significantly to the village's character. Demand for parking may put pressure on these spaces, but their removal would be detrimental to the character of the Conservation Area. Any new parking scheme would be subject to Local Plan Policies LT10 and LT11 and Structure Plan Policy T8.

11.15 The recreation ground is in reasonable condition, and does not appear to contain any facilities. As an open space it makes a valuable contribution to the character of the Conservation Area.

11.16 There is a recycling centre to the south of the recreation ground next to Scarsdale House Farm which, although kept in a tidy state may benefit from further screening.



P56 The recycling centre

11.17 There is a further small green space in The Dale which may benefit from enhancement but care would need to be taken to avoid it becoming over managed.

12.0 PLANNING POLICY

12.1 The Peak District National Park Authority's Structure Plan (adopted 1994) and the Local Plan (adopted 2001) set out the Authority's policy position on Conservation Areas. The Authority aims to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of Conservation Areas by the prevention of harmful development under Structure Plan Policy (C4) and Local Plan Policy (LC5) respectively.

12.2 Development in Conservation Areas is controlled by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. There are currently no Article 4(2) Directions, removing certain permitted development rights, in the Litton Conservation Area.

12.3 The Local Plan has identified Litton as a 'Local Plan Settlement' (LC2). Residential development necessary for relocation of non-conforming uses, or which would enhance the valued characteristic of the National Park, may be permitted in this area.

12.4 The whole of the Litton Conservation Area is located in Recreational Zone 2. Under Local Plan policies (LR1) and (RT1), recreation and tourism-related development is encouraged provided that it is appropriate in form, character, location and setting and will not have an unacceptable impact on the valued characteristics of the area. Zone 2 uses include: picnic sites, small car parks and facilities linked to walking, cycling and riding with the reuse of existing buildings preferred to new build. There is an area outside the settlement to the south-east which is classed as natural zone and (LC1) applies.

12.5 There are 12 listed buildings and 3 listed structures in the Conservation Area. Development that affects the character of these historic assets shall be assessed against national guidance, Structure Plan policy (C9) and Local Plan policies (LC6) and (LC7). Additionally, the proposed conversion of any building of historic or vernacular merit within the Conservation Area will have to take into consideration the points set out in policies Structure Plan (C9) and Local Plan (LC8).

12.6 Four features appear on the Derbyshire County Historic Environment Record, the medieval cross base on the village green, Litton Town Bank, the undated earthwork south of

Curzon Farm, Clergy House and the former Hosiery workshop. Development that would affect these assets, or any other areas of archaeological potential, will only be permitted if in line with Structure Plan policy (C10) and Local Plan policies (LC15) and (LC16). Where development has been permitted, the developer will be required to minimise its impact and, as appropriate, to record, safeguard and enhance the sites or features of special importance. Appropriate schemes for archaeological investigation, prior and during development, will also normally be required.

12.7 Pipistrelle bats, which are a protected species, have been found roosting in roofs in Litton. It is possible that other protected species, as identified in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981(as amended), may be found. Some development proposals within the Litton Conservation Area are therefore likely to require specialised surveys as part of a planning application, for instance a bat survey. Trees, particularly mature trees may include features suitable for roosting bats.

12.8 Developments leading to the loss of mature trees are also likely to require a bat survey. Development proposals for areas where protected species exist should also include, and implement, a scheme for safeguarding the future survival of the protected species and their habitat. This will be a requisite condition of any relevant planning permission. For further information see the Authority's Planning Practice Note: Protected Species and Development in the Peak District National Park, or see the Authority's website www.peakdistrict.gov.uk . Some hedgerows are protected from destruction or damage under the Hedgerow Regulations of 1997. The guidance note provides further information.

12.9 In the Conservation Area, trees with a trunk over 75mm in diameter are protected. All wild birds, with the exception of those defined as quarry or pest species, are also protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981(as amended). Natural England therefore recommends that 'No tree or scrub clearance works shall be undertaken during the main bird breeding season (Mid March to July inclusive).' This condition will normally be attached to planning permissions that include tree, scrub and hedgerow removal. Development proposals for areas where protected bird species exist should include, and implement, a scheme for safeguarding the future survival of the protected bird species and their habitat. This will also be a requisite condition of any

relevant planning permission. Development proposals affecting habitats of importance are covered by Structure Plan Policies (C8), (C11), (C13) and Local Plan Policies (LC17) and (LC20).

Cressbrook Dale to the south-east is covered by the following designations. SSSI, Peak District Dales SAC and NNR Derbyshire Dales. Tideswell Dale and Monsal Dale are covered by the following designations, Wye Valley SSSI and Peak District Dales SAC. Structure Plan (C11) and Local Plan Policy (LC17) apply.

12.10 The lead rakes found to the north-west and south-east of the village, above Litton Edge and in Cressbrook Dale and to the south of Eastsides Lane would be subject to Structure Plan (C10) and Local Plan policies (LC16), (LC17) and (LC19) may also apply.

12.11 There are Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) to the north of the village at Litton Edge and in Tideswell Dale and Cressbrook Dale. These sites would be subject Structure Plan (C11) and Local Plan policy (LC19).

12.12 Although the items noted in paragraphs 12.9, 12.10 and 12.11 are outside the Conservation Area boundary; they contribute to the setting of the area as a whole.

12.13 The B6049 runs cross country from Blackwell through Miller's Dale and Tideswell linking the A6 (Matlock to Chapel) with the A623, (Baslow to Chapel en le Frith). The Dale at the eastern end on the village forms a junction with this road. The A623 can also be accessed at the eastern edge of the village. The A6 and the A623, are part of the strategic road network. Structure Plan Policy (T2) and Local Plan policies (LT1) and (LT2) state that the Authority will discourage the use of the lowest category of roads in favour of strategic and secondary routes.

13.0 LISTED BUILDINGS IN LITTON CONSERVATION AREA

No	Address	Grade	Date
12	Tallon Green, The Green	II	Late C18th
13	Red Lion Inn, The Green	II	Late C18th
14	Red Lion Cottage and Alstonefield Cottage The Green	II	Late C18th
15	Litton School, The Green (By H Cockbain)	II	1865
16	Grove House, attached garden walls and railings. The Green	II	Mid C19th
17	Clergy House, attached gate piers and garden wall. The Green	II	1723
18	Clergy Cottage, The Green	II	Early C18th
19	Holly Cottage, The Green	II	Mid C18th
20	Village Cross, The Green	II	C19th
21	Scarsdale Farmhouse and attached barn, The Green	II	1723
22	Hammerton Hall Farmhouse, The Green	II	1768

Summary:

0 Grade I Listed Buildings
0 Grade II* Listed Buildings
11 Grade II Listed Buildings

NB: There are other listed buildings in Litton Parish but they are outside the Conservation Area boundary.

14.0 GLOSSARY

Agrarian	of the land or its cultivation (Oxford Dictionary)
Ancillary	in architectural terms this usually refers to a secondary structure, for instance stables or outbuilding.
Ancient Monument	ancient monuments are legally protected archaeological sites and buildings designated under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. It is an offence to carry out works to them without the written consent of the Secretary of State.
Ashlar	masonry that has been carefully cut, dressed and squared to be employed as facing stone in finely jointed level courses.
Coped gables	gable walls which have a course of flat stone laid on top.
Curtilage	area attached to a house and forming one enclosure with it. (Oxford Dictionary 1996)
Dormer window	window placed vertically in the sloping plane of a roof (Pevsner 2002).
Dormitory	commuter settlement or suburb.
Drip moulds	a horizontal moulding for throwing water off and so protecting the windows immediately below. Drip moulds are also used on chimneys.
Enclosure Award	Between the mid-18th and late-19th centuries a large amount of waste and common land was enclosed in England and Wales. This enclosure movement was undertaken under the strong belief in the need for agricultural improvement amongst landowners at the time. To enclose land the distribution of the newly enclosed fields had to be approved. This approval could be via an Act of Parliament, the central courts or private agreement between local landowners. In all legally ratified cases, and some privately agreed examples, an enclosure award setting down the agreed extent and layout of the enclosure in writing and a corresponding plan was drawn up. The level of accuracy and detail that allotment boundaries were planned to is usually good, but in many cases the subdivisions into individual fields were not shown. Their coverage therefore varies from one area to another. In the case of Parliamentary Awards these were often done on a parish by parish basis.
Gin circle or engine	The horse-drawn winding engines used from the early-18th century onwards to extract lead ore or coal from relatively deep mine shafts are called gin engines. These could have been of two basic types. The first to be developed was the cog and rung gin, where the horse went round a shaft which had winding gear above it. The later and more easily used whim gin had the horse circling the winding gear to one side of the shaft. The circular track left by the horse, often still recognisable today, is called the gin circle.
HER	<p>The historic environment record (HER) includes all aspects of our surroundings that have been built, formed or influenced by human activities from earliest to most recent times.</p> <p>An Historic Environment Record stores and provides access to systematically organised information about these surroundings in a given area. It is maintained and updated for public benefit in accordance with national and international standards and guidance.</p>

Hood mouldings	projecting moulding above an arch or a lintel to throw-off water (Pevsner 2002).
An Hundred	a 'hundred' is a term dating from the 10 th century and was, as the name suggests, an area of land containing approximately 100 families, or 10 tithings.
Impost block	the top of a wall immediately below the springing point of an arch is an impost. An impost block is an unmoulded slave standing out in the impost position. (Brock 1984).
Keystone	the centre stone of an arch, or its decorative imitation. (Brock 1984).
Kneeler	horizontal decorative projection at the base of a gable (Pevsner 2002).
Lead rakes	A vein of lead ore and associated minerals, often several metres wide, extending hundreds of metres deep. Rakes often run across the landscape for several miles. Sometimes discernible on the surface as a line of disturbed ground, including old shafts and waste hillocks. Increasingly these hillocks have been removed for their mineral content and all that remains is a levelled area.
Lintel	horizontal beam or stone bridging an opening (Pevsner 2002).
Mere	old English term for lake or pond.
Mullion	vertical posts or uprights dividing a window into 'lights' (Pevsner 2002). Mullions can be shaped or chamfered which can give an indication as to age.
Neolithic	The prehistoric period which comes between the Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) and the Bronze Age, dating roughly from 4000 to 2000 BC. This was the time of the adoption of the first agricultural practices, including cereal cultivation, but more importantly the rearing of domesticated animals, including herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. In the beginning, farmers moved around the landscape with their herds, much as they had in the Mesolithic (except they took animals with them rather than following wild game). It was only after more than a thousand years that they settled in more 'permanent' farms which they surrounded by hedged fields. They built impressive ceremonial monuments, often used to establish traditional right to the use of land, by burying the bones of the ancestors to overlook pastures.
NNR	National Nature Reserve.
Parish	The smallest unit of local government is the civil parish. In some areas this covers the same area as an ecclesiastical parish which is the area of jurisdiction covered by the parish church. Ecclesiastical parishes are almost always the remains of Medieval manors especially in rural areas and many have remained unaltered in their boundaries since the Medieval period. However, in the Peak District many parishes became defined by the boundaries of Townships.
Pediment	the classical equivalent of a gable, often used without any relation to a roof. Often used over an opening, particularly doorways.
Pinch point	a visual effect which suggests a narrowing of the street scene. It is typically caused by a bend in a road and the proximity of buildings on either side.
Quoins	Dressed stones at the (exterior) angles of a building.
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS)- Sites of significant geological importance but not sufficient to warrant SSSI designation. Sites are generally identified by a local panel of geological experts. They have no legal protection but where regulated activities such as planning issues arise, the planning authority or

other relevant body will generally have policies to take the geological interest of such sites into account when considering proposals.

Run-in shaft	a collapsed shaft. (Riewerts, 1998)
SAC	Special Areas Of Conservation (SACs)- Sites of international importance for wildlife, protected under the European Habitats Directive and the Habitats Regulations. Any proposal which might have a significant effect on a SAC must be formally assessed and if likely to damage the interest, can only go ahead if there are no reasonable alternatives, there are significant overriding reasons and compensatory measures are provided.
SSSI	Site of special scientific interest (SSSIs). Sites of national importance for their wildlife or geological interest, protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (and subsequent amendments). Owners/occupiers must consult Natural England if they wish to carry out operations which might damage the interest of the site, and public bodies have a duty to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs (e.g. when considering planning issues).
Staffordshire Blue Bricks	these dull, dark purple bricks, known as engineering bricks, are made from Etruria Marl burnt at a high heat which produces a material that is strong and impervious.
Strip field	In the Medieval period, from at least as early as 1100 AD, Peak District villages were surrounded by large strip fields (often referred to as 'open fields' – in upland areas it is debatable whether some parts of them remained open for long and thus the term strip field is preferred). While often bounded at their edges by banks and ditches, internally they were initially divided into a large number of unfenced cultivation strips. The use of strips allowed a fair distribution of different grades of land between lord and villagers. This system was designed to favour the needs of arable cultivation. It seems to have been introduced into the area from the lowlands of the Midlands. In the Peak District, pastoral farming was of equal or greater importance, and individual strips or parcels of strips were enclosed from an early date. Others, in less favourable locations in what are known as 'outfields', may have only been used in an intermittent way.
Tithe map	shows the boundaries of land and property within the Tithe area. A tithe was tenth of a person's produce or income given voluntarily or as a tax to the church.
Vernacular	An indigenous building constructed of locally available materials, to local detail, without the benefit of an architect. Vernacular architecture can be defined as dwellings and 'all other buildings of the people' (Oliver, 2003).

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Historic Landscape Character GIS mapping for the Peak District National Park, MapInfo data, Peak District National Park Authority digital data.

Maps

1764	Litton Enclosure Map
c1795-1815	Undated Parish Map
1847	Plan of the Township of Litton in the Parish of Tideswell and the County of Derby DRO D1494 A/P1337a
1883	1st Edition Ordnance Survey
1921	2nd Edition Ordnance Survey
1994	Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure 24 The Peak District, White Peak Area 1:25 000

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