

A Guide to Conservation Areas

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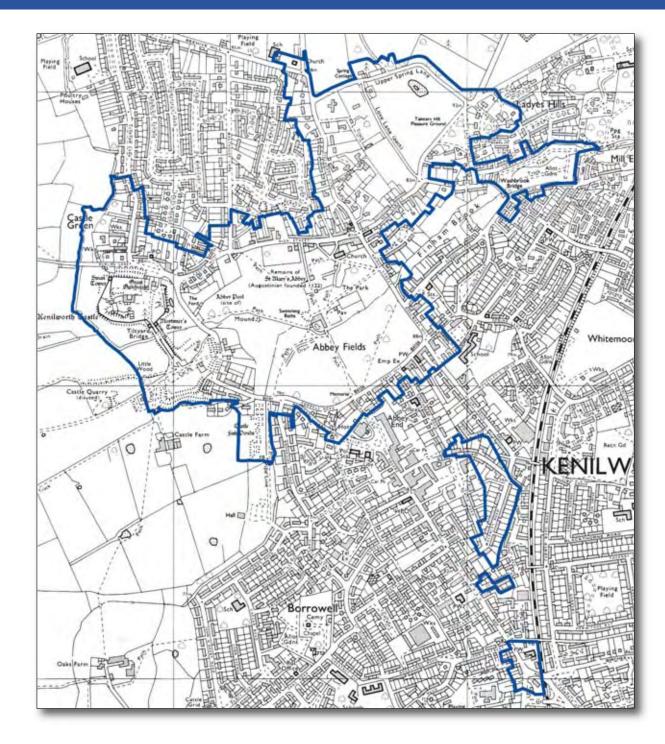
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Conservation Area Boundary







Conservation Area Background History

The first documentary reference to Kenilworth is in the Doomsday Book of 1086 when as Chinewrde it was a small farming village of 17 households probably in the Castle Street/High Street area. In about 1120 the King granted Kenilworth to Geoffrey de Clinton and built the first castle. In 1122 Geoffrey de Clinton founded the priory which became an Abbey in the mid 15th Century the remains of which are now in Abbey Fields. He reserved for himself enough land to make a park and by the mid 12th Century had also founded a "borough" along the Warwick Road the charter for a market being granted in 1268. The castle park also included a large lake or mere around the castle which is said to have been the largest manmade lake of its time. Development of the abbey in the 12th and 13th Century with substantial stone buildings being erected has determined the layout of Kenilworth to a great extent maintaining a large open area in the centre of the town now known as Abbey Fields. The Parish Church was probably built in the 13th Century adjacent to the Abbey site. In 1265/6 Simon de Montfort (the younger) was besieged at the castle at the end of the Baron's War. The castle continued to be of importance under different owners and in 1279 a great joust meeting called the Round Table was held at Kenilworth.

Improvements to the castle included the construction of the building called The Pleasance 1414 as a moated garden and lodge adjacent to the Great Mere. In 1538 the Abbey was dissolved and the buildings were made uninhabitable, the brethren being granted pensions. The stone from the site was then used for various building works in the town including at the castle; the old gatehouse was later re-roofed for use as a house until the 19th Century. The principal surviving buildings are now the gatehouse and the building known as the Abbey Barn, together with various standing pieces of ruin including the Chapter House wall.

In 1563 the Castle was granted by Queen Elizabeth I to Robert Dudley and extensive improvements and extensions were carried out to the castle which culminated in the visit of Elizabeth in 1575. She was then entertained by a great pageant. It was this event that inspired Sir Walter Scott to write "Kenilworth" supposedly in one of the rooms of the rooms of the Kings Arms and Castle in The Square.

During the 16th Century a number of timber framed houses were erected in the town which still survive, however, the greater number of timber framed houses were erected during the 17th and 18th Century. In 1649 Cromwell's men arrived under Colonel Hawkesworth with the instruction to "slight" the castle or make it unusable and after this had been done, with the exception of the gatehouse which was converted into a dwelling, the mere was drained and the castle park divided up between his men and made into farms. This saw the destruction of the castle and left it as the ruin we largely see today. In 1765 all the common fields of Kenilworth was enclosed and divided up into allotments. This also led to the creation of a road pattern as seen in Kenilworth today, including Leys Lane, Glasshouse Lane, Crew Lane, Albion Street, Park Road, Malthouse Lane, Beehive Hill, Crackley Lane and Part of Red Lane.

Changes occurred in the town with the growth of light industries relating to the agricultural economy, including horn comb making, tanning, fell mongering (skin preparation) and a short-lived Prussian Blue manufacturing. Industrialists from Birmingham and Coventry saw Kenilworth as a pleasant town in which to build large mansions for themselves such as Kenilworth Hall while the town started to expand with cottages being erected in Mill End and St John's.

With the expansion of the town there was a need for more schools and churches there being 8 schools in existence in 1831 and the first Roman Catholic school being opened in 1841. The railway arrived in 1844, and land nearby was developed as a residential area in Station Road, in 1848, Southbank Road and Priory Road being laid out in about 1885. The Weslyian Chapel was erected in 1844 and the

Congregational Church in 1873 and other non-conformist chapels were built between these dates. The existence of the railway allowed for the development of the large horticultural industry which prospered into 20th Century exporting fresh food far a field. The brick making industry also expanded to provide for the new housing developments which were expanding from the mid 1920's onwards initially as ribbon development along certain of the roads into the town. Following he Second World War a more planned expansion of the town has taken place, with some significant changes to the area around the clock tower which had been partially destroyed by enemy action in the Second World War, with the erection of Abbey End Shops, Talisman Square and in 1965 The De-Montfort Hotel.

The significant interest of the historic parts of Kenilworth between Abbey Fields, High Street and Castle Hill were recognised with the designation of the first conservation area in 1971. It was believed by extensions to the conservation area resulting in the most recent extensions of 2005 to nclude Waverley Road, Station Road and Clarendon Road.





Conservation Area Key Map

- 1. St Johns
- 2. Clarendon Road
- 3. Waverley Road
- 4. Abbey Hill
- 5. Forest Road and Castle Road
- 3. Bridge Street
- 7. Abbey Fields
- 8. High Street
- 9. Castle Hill and Little Virginia
- 10. Castle Green and The Castle

11. Clinton Road

12. Fieldgate Lane

13.New Street

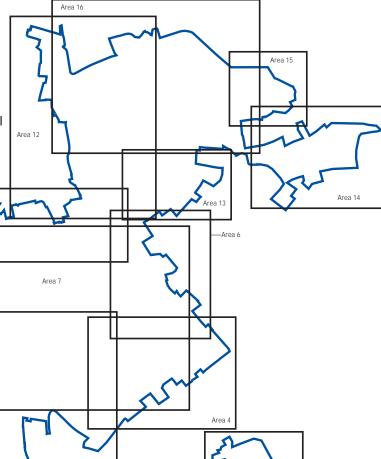
Area 11

Area 10

14.Lower Ladyes Hill and The Allotments

15. Upper Ladyes Hill

16. Upper Spring Lane and Tainters Hill











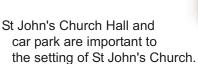




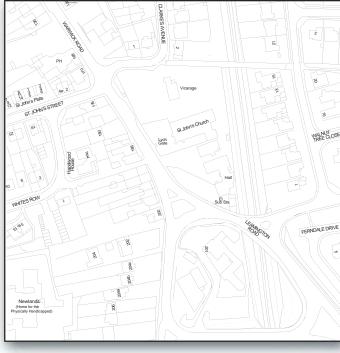




- Small Conservation Area, focal point St. Johns Church, represents southern extension of
- Kenilworth in mid nineteenth century.
- Gateway entrance to Kenilworth Town Centre.
- Mix of buildings 2 and 3 storeys.
- St Johns Church is a key building
- Forge Cottage Grade II listed building.
- Mixture of retail and residential.



- Important to consider immediate environs which are not in the CA as any development would impact on the Conservation Area. (e.g. the garage site at the Warwick Road bridge Junction).
- Brick and slate and render tile buildings.
- Enhanced by planters in the summer months.
- Timber bus shelter important in the setting of the Conservation Area.















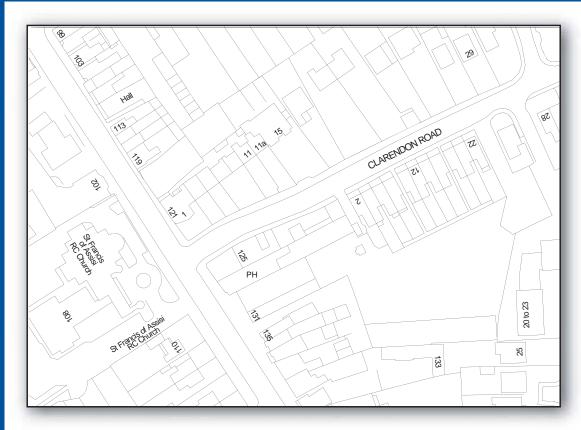












- Small conservation area representing early/mid 19th Century residential development off Warwick Road.
- North side, early/mid 19th Century terrace, only one of its type in Kenilworth. 3
 Storeys.
- Deep front gardens, one has lost its boundary treatment.
- Brick with painted dressings/slate roofs.
- Sash type windows and casements.
- South side, Edwardian two storey houses in brick and pebbledash. Original windows and door features remain.
- Interesting foil and juxtaposition with the taller terrace opposite.
- High brick boundary wall on north side is a remnant of a larger garden now built over.
 This forms an important enclosure to the conservation area.
- No Listed buildings therefore protection elements important.











Waverley Road and Station Road











- Mid/late 19th Century expansion of Kenilworth, southwards to the station.
- Station Road has a variety of detached villas of differing styles. Rich variety of detailing.
- Predominantly 2 storeys with attic, brick with slate roofs.
- Good front gardens with some significant trees.
- Boundary treatments need maintaining.
- Some detailed reinstatements of windows etc needs addressing.
- Former cinema dominate building at south west side of Station Road, land around it forms a significant open space.
- Waverley Road, late 19th Century/Edwardian residential development.
- Well detailed large brick and slate terraced houses and some half timbered details and barge boards.
- timbered details and barge boards.
 Boundary treatments need restoring, some front garden parking bays detract from the appearance of the area.
- appearance of the area.
- A small number of detached houses with interesting timber detailing.
- Important to maintain detailed features and front gardens of these unlisted houses.

























- Historic boundary to the Abbey Fields.
- Open views to north access Abbey Fields very important to maintain.
- The War Memorial is a focal point at the junction of Abbey End with Abbey Hill.
- High quality town scape on south side with house types ranging from 2 storey timber framed, to three storey Georgian and various Victorian infill.
- Brick, render and slate and plain tile roofs predominant.
- Variety of front gardens and houses abutting the pavement.
- Some Grade II Listed buildings but important to maintain non listed buildings with original features, to maintain this fine mix of buildings.
- The Abbeys (former Abbey Hotel is a significant building with a turret at corner of Priory Road).
- Methodist Church mid Victorian has a earlier chapel behind front garden remodelled 1990's.
- The south side is viewed across Abbey Fields from High Street. It is important this skyline is maintained.
- Important trees from the Abbey Fields.











Kenilworth Conservation Area

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Forest Road and Castle Road













- Bounding Abbey Fields and a western continuation of Abbey Hill.
- South and eastern sides have open views over the Abbey Fields which it is very important to remain.
- Forest Road developed as residential area early/mid 20th Century.
- Large detached houses in large gardens.
- Important to retain character and rhythm of large houses and mature garden, without smaller scale development.
- Good boundary walls in Forest Road and Borrowell Lane.
- No Listed buildings.
- Castle Road is a early/mid 19th Century development along an ancient routeway following the outer edges of the castle.
- Interesting mixture of brick early/mid 19th Century terraced houses on west side mainly two storey some attics but not a significant feature.
- Larger houses on east side with Edwardian detailing.
- Castle earthworks at north corner semi rural character needs maintaining.
- Good boundary treatments on west side with mature hedges and long front gardens.
- The Borrowell is an important feature in the wall of Borrowell Lane.





















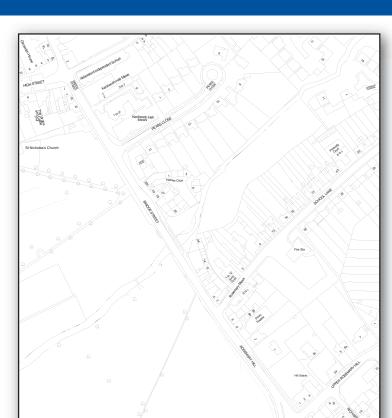
- Historic routeway linking two halves of the town along the east side of Abbey Fields.
- Important open aspect on west side the Abbey Fields.
- Variety of buildings in scale and material give high townscape quality.
- Junction with Upper Rosemary Hill is bounded by high retaining wall this is a significant features of the upper end of Bridge Street.
- Priory Theatre is a former chapel, significantly extended with an open forecourt.
 Fine red brick Victorian house with a turret chimney, adjacent.
- Middle and southern section is made up on east side of two and one and a half storey buildings, some with timber framing, brick panels and pebbledash.
- Significant front garden to smaller houses adjacent to the bridge.
- North section of Bridge Street has 2 and 2½ storey buildings at the junction with High Street, abutting Abbey Field.
- Significant boundary trees in Abbey Fields (Spanish Chestnuts) at northern end.
- East side of northern section has Kenilworth Hall and Abbotsford, two fine Grade II
 Listed houses originally single dwellings with their own grounds.
- The grounds of Kenilworth Hall were developed and in the 1950's and the stables are now converted to flats.
- Abbotsford is a school and the grounds abutting New Street are occupied by the school
- Good trees around Kenilworth Hall and Abbotsford are reminders of the original grounds around these two significant buildings.
- Limit street clutter and traffic signage.













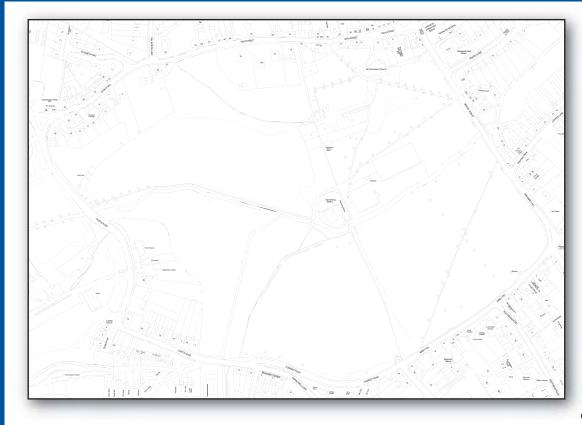












- Central greenbelt, significant historical relationship with St Mary's Abbey and its grounds.
- Important relationship visually and historically with the castle.
- Partly Scheduled Ancient Monument.
- Significant remains of St Mary's Abbey Gatehouse Abbey Barn, Chapter House Wall, Parlour remains and Lapidarian.
- Significant views both north and south across to the Abbey Fields.
- Abbey Fields Mere is an important water feature recreated in 2000.
- Many important trees within the Field and also in gardens adjacent to the Fields.
- Boundary treatments important to the interface with the surrounding streets.
- War memorial in a significant location with views.
- Swimming pool and children's play area occupy a significant location with views from Abbey Hill.
- St Nicholas Church and churchyard are within the fields, incorporating Abbey remains.
 Important relationship of church to rear of houses in High Street.















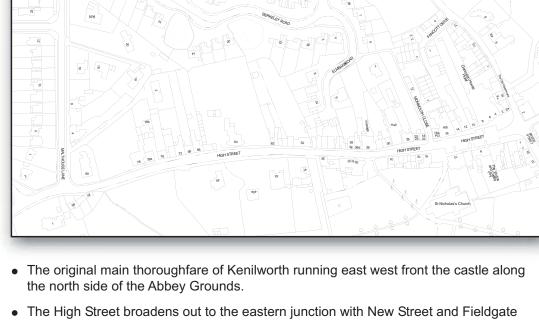












- Lane to form a narrow market square (no longer used as such).
- The eastern end is a variety of buildings, running from 17th to 19th Century, of high townscape value.
- Significant buildings at eastern end with 2 Fieldgate Lane, Abbotsford, Virgin & Castle PH, Clarendon House Hotel, Cycle Shop, Bank Gallery, Parish church hall. All the infill buildings between are of equal importance to the character of this area.
- Brick and rendered buildings with slate and clay tiled roofs.
- Good street trees.
- Area resurfaced 1980, some changes made since. Surface treatment monitoring.
- Limit street clutter and traffic signage.
- Central and western section has high quality mixture of brick, stone and rendered buildings of 17th to 20th Century.
- Significant buildings in central western areas are Bank House and Clinton House.
- Section at western end has open aspect of the Abbey Fields. Significant views back to streetscape in Abbey Hill. Properties on lower slopes of south side of High Street, also visible from Abbey Hill.
- Some significant trees on western boundary.
- Good lamppost design.











Kenilworth Conservation Area

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Castle Hill and Little Virginia

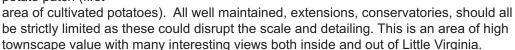


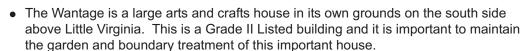






- Continuation of east/west route from the castle including High Street.
- Clean break with High Street is achieved by the Abbey Fields boundary and 20th Century developments at junction with Malthouse Lane.
- Significant late 18th
 Century terrace on
 north side, brick with
 clay tiled roofs built
 on rising ground,
 rhythm and
 consistency of
 detailing needs to be
 maintained with
 these buildings. 2
 storey with attics.
- South side Little
 Virginia Significant
 group of 16th
 Century timber
 framed and thatched
 cottages around the
 potato patch (first





- To the east of Wantage are three timber framed and thatched houses similar to Little Virginia these interface with Abbey Fields.
- Scale, detailing, materials, boundary treatment are all of high importance.
- Important views of the castle coming down Castle Hill.
- Some pressures around, Clarendon Arms and the Queen and Castle car park.

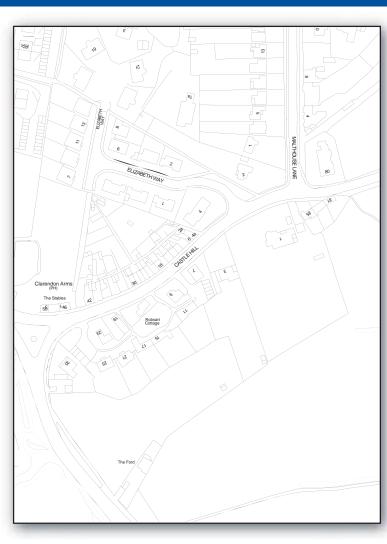












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Castle Green and the Castle









- Nationally important location incorporating a primary English Castle.
- Castle Green is adjacent to the Castle Gatehouse which would historically have been an area of significant activity from 12th Century onwards.
- Variety of building on east-side of Castle Green from fifteenth to twentieth century.
- Stone render, timber framing and clay tiled roofs.
- Small front gardens abutting narrow road at back of green.



- Variety of rooflines all mainly traditional vernacular.
- Two 20th Century buildings, former post office, is timber framed detailing and 1950's house at north side of green.
- Limit any street furniture or street clutter.
- Spectacular views of castle from Castle Green.
- Castle Green car park in Scheduled Ancient Monument has a natural stone surface treatment.
- The Castle is Scheduled Ancient Monument in guardianship of English Heritage.
- Very important views into and out of Castle Green of the Castle and of the Green.
 Important views back along Clinton Lane.















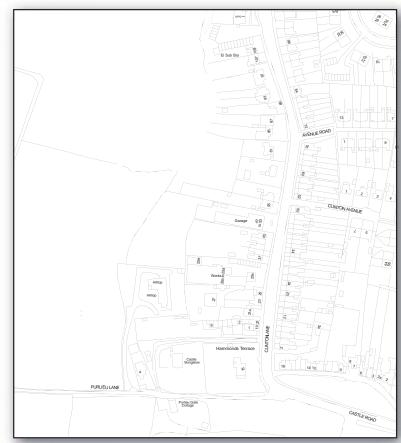








- Ancient route way north-east from Castle Green.
- Pockets of early settlements indicated by remaining timber framed houses.
- Significantly 19th Century terraced houses, 2 storeys brick with slate and concrete tile roofs.
- Hammonds Terrace at right angles to Clinton Lane contain a variety of houses, one of which is Listed.
 Significant terrace with pedestrian access only.
- Boundary treatments important where they remain.
 Significant losses of boundary to terraced houses for car parking.



- Garage site on west side is a break in the rhythm of housing.
- Very important view of the castle from Clinton Lane.
- Some scope for general improvements to the framing of the view of the Castle.





















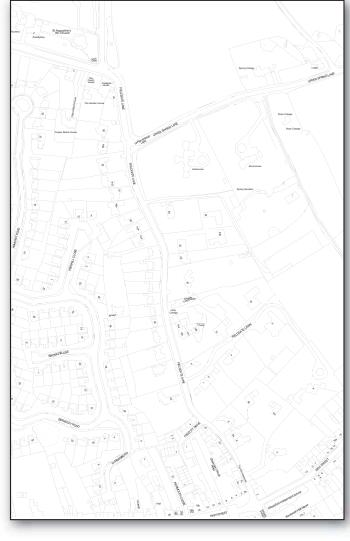


- On the line of the northsouth thoroughfare through the centre of Kenilworth.
- Developed residentially in late 19th and early 20th Century.
- Small early/mid 19th Century cottages at the junction with High Street.
- West side has a
 development of thatched
 houses by forming part of a
 housing layout of which
 was never completed.
 These houses form a very
 significant group and
 represent an example of
 early 20th Century housing
 which should be retained
 with original gardens.
- No 25 is a brick with stone dressings. This house forms a very significant part of the group and represent an example of early20th Century housing.
- On the east side are several larger houses, including Fieldgate Lawn, set in their own grounds.
 Some further development

has taken place in the grounds. Mature gardens, important to maintain this character.



- Mid 20th Century developments at northern end. Need to maintain character of the area.
- No 2 is a significant 18th Century corner property, with important high boundary wall treatment to garden.
- St Austins in Beehive Hill forms an interesting group of small scale Victorian buildings.













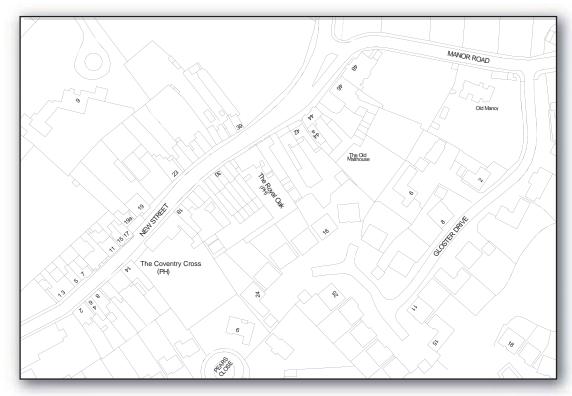












- East/west thoroughfare with the High Street. Originally houses and shops. Now only houses and public houses.
- Variety of 2 and 2½ storey building from 17th to 19th Century.
- Junction with High Street is marked by significant high walls.
- Brick rendered and stone buildings with clay tile and slate roofs.
- Variety of window types and details. Noticeable high percentage of replacement windows. Need to emphasis historically correct replacements.
- Houses on north side at western end are marked by raised ground floor levels and steps to front doors.
- Larger houses at junction with Manor Road set on line of original road. Good detailing.
- Significant views to High Street and east to Ivy Cottage on rising ground which forms full stop to the street.
- Limit street clutter and road signage.
- No significant public realm works carried out.
- Views out to Parliament Piece at east end of New Street significant rural intrusion into street scene.











Kenilworth Conservation Area



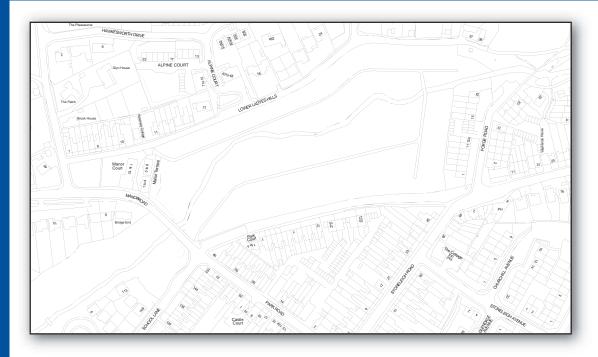
Lower Ladyes Hill and the Allotments











- Lower Ladyes Hill is an important area of townscape viewed access the allotments.
- The area has been developed since mid 19th Century and comprised a variety of houses.
- Good Victorian terraces with original detailing.
- Nos 18 and 19 are a good pair of 3 storey Victorian houses.
- Significant views across the allotments.
- Allotments are an important open space in this part of Kenilworth, bounded by the Conservation Area they represent a significant historical feature.













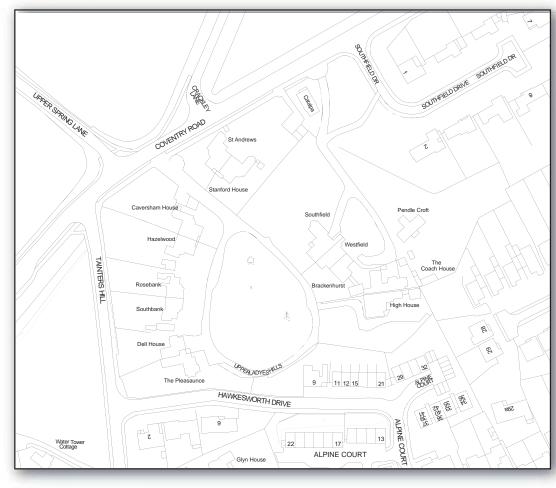












- A mid 19th Century planned development of detached and semi detached villas.
- Entered through gate piers to a private road which originally circled the development.
- Each house or pair of houses are different but have similar detailing.
- Central garden area with mature planting.
- Road way is loose gravel emphasising the garden feel.
- Each house has fine detailing. All are stucco with slate roofs.
- House to north east has been extended and altered sympathetically in 1920's.
- A very important set piece environment.













Upper Spring Lane and Tainters Hill











- Originally a rural lane now access to a number of large residences.
- Parliament piece is an area of national historical importance.
- Well treed with houses mainly set well back from road.
- 2 traditional houses with front gardens abutting road.
- Maintenance of semi rural limited residential use is important.
- Maintain soft edges to the roadway and general rural character.
- Limit street furniture and traffic signs.











AREA 16

Kenilworth Conservation Area



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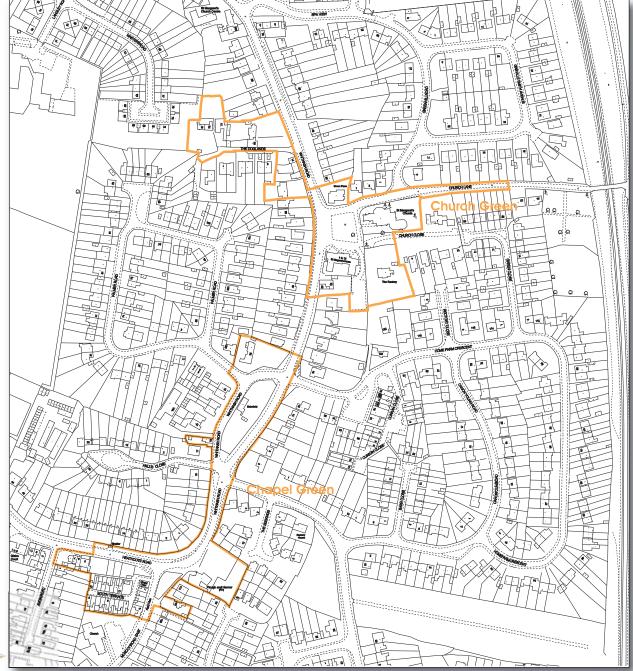
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Conservation Area Boundary







Conservation Area Background History

The earliest settlers in Whitnash can be traced as far back as the Ancient Britons.

The Town, endowed with an ancient holy well, derived its name from the copse of Great Elms, which are believed to be sacred by its pagan settlers. One of these Great Elms stood for many centuries at the heart of the Conservation Area, outside St Margaret's Church.

The Church stands on a site known as St Peter's Mount, and dates back to Saxon times. Originally a wooden structure, the Saxon Church has been twice rebuilt, once in 1100 and again in the 19th Century. The church has had numerous rectors in its history, including Thomas Holyoke 1616-1675, who also captained an infantry regiment for the king during the Civil War, and practiced medicine. The Church was also witnesses to the farm labourer's strike in 1872 led by Joseph Arch, held underneath the great elm outside. Church Lane, which borders the church and runs to the eastern end of the Conservation Area, was once an important medieval road, known as "Regia Via".

Within Whitnash Conservation Area, there are several 17th Century black and white half-timbered houses, such as Home Farm House which dates back to 1652. Under Norman manorial system, Whitnash was held by Humfrey De Hasculf Mansard. It remained under the same family until 1346, when it was sold to Thomas Savage of Tachbrook, changing hands several times until by 1800, most of the land was held by the Earls of Warwick. In 1826 the Manor House was acquired by the Landor family.

From the mid 20th Century onwards Whitnash developed into the modern town we see today with the two historic core areas being designated as Conservation Areas.

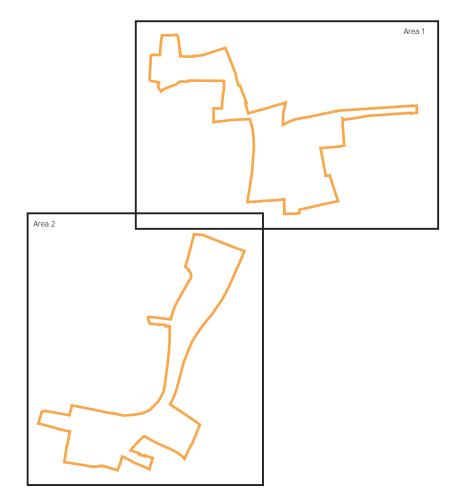






Conservation Area Key Map

- 1. Church Green
- 2. Chapel Green







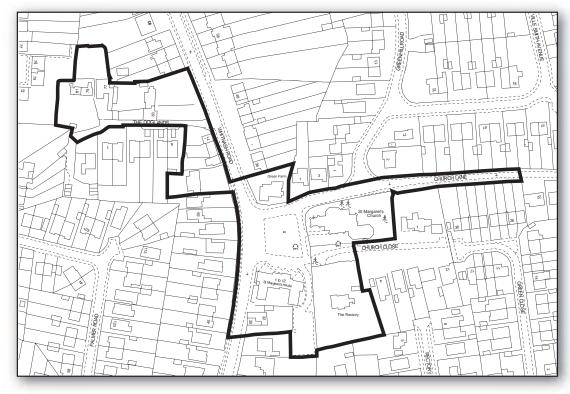












- Historic core with green dominated by St. Margaret's Church.
- Distinct Cedar of Lebonon in Churchyard.
- Historical associations with Joseph Arch.
- Green Farm, Watts Cottages (no. 30 & 32), Lupin Cottage (63) all timber framed buildings relating to the Green.
- Significant tree belt in Church Lane.
- Coombes Cottages 17th Century timber framed cottages encased in 19th Century brickwork.
- The Doglands are a historic remnant of Whitnash Village with 3 timber framed houses.
- Distinctive view west down the Doglands needs maintaining/enhancing.
- Secluded nature of buildings in the Doglands needs maintaining by careful boundary and garden treatment.
- Visual linkages between various parts of this Conservation Area need maintaining and strengthening.























- Significant grouping around Chapel Green with Plough & Harrow Public House and Field Terrace, with flagpoles and Towns Notice Board.
- Important visual links back to Elderfield and Glamis Cottage, from Chapel Green.
- Plough & Harrow car park is a significant open space to be maintained and enhanced.
- Home Farm, Elderfield, Glamis Cottage the Plough & Harrow Public House, are significant timber

framed buildings. 10 Murcott Road also probably timbered framed.

- Garden to Elderfield and Home Farm are significant mature gardens with good boundary treatments. Home Farm is a very substantial timber framed house.
- Good Views from Elderfield back to Church Green.
- 3/5/7 Heathcote Road and reconstructed herringbone wall are examples of late Victorian development.
- Field View altered 19th Century terrace, forms a good backdrop to Chapel Green.
- South Terrace significant survival of 19th Century farm workers cottages facing inwards to central green.
- Views of rear of South Terrace from Heathcote Road, also impact on the conservation Area.

