

Conservation Area



LOWER FROYLE

EAST HAMPSHIRE



Partners

Introduction & Brief History

The village of Lower Froyle was designated as a Conservation Area in February, 1995.

The settlement of Lower Froyle may be traced to earliest times; Stone Age and Bronze Age implements have been found in the vicinity, there are remains of a substantial Roman Villa or farmstead at Coldrey on the southern edge of the parish, and Norman pottery has been found at Baldwins in Hussey's Lane.

Lower Froyle gradually evolved as a randomly dispersed settlement along the meandering roads linking to Upper Froyle and adjacent parishes and serving Hussey's Farm, Brocas Farm, Sylvester's Farm and Hodges and Rockhouse Farm.

The 1871 Ordnance Survey map shows the organic form of the village that had established itself. The ponds located in the corner of Hussey's Lane feature prominently, as does 'Froyle Brewery' located opposite. Schoolhouse Lane, where the earliest known "Dame School" was located, has subsequently been renamed Park Lane.

The character of the settlement that evolved may be identified as a rural village in traditional vernacular style focussing around the principal farms and interspersed with green fields between the groups of houses. This character remained intact up to the 1950's.

In the post-war period there has been new housing built in Lower Froyle on the green fields remaining between the original buildings, thereby altering the character of the traditional village. Built in the popular bungalow style of its day, the character of such infill remains essentially suburban and distinct from that of the Conservation Area.



The Pond at Hussey's Lane

Character of the Conservation Area

The Conservation Area has two areas of related traditional vernacular character:

- The rural village character around Sylvester's Farm, Hussey's Lane and Brocas Farm extends to the Anchor Inn in the S.E. of the village. The ponds at the corner of Hussey's Lane have a delightful setting of mature overhanging vegetation and rolling paddocks, complementing the timber framed historic buildings opposite. The area encapsulates an attractive mixture of late Medieval to mid-nineteenth century listed and

unlisted buildings. These range in type, size, style and use of materials, from the larger brick and stone houses to the small timber framed cottage, brick dwellings and barns associated with an agricultural community.

- The meandering picturesque character of the north-western end of Lower Froyle between Ewelme and Long Barlands. This area includes a significant proportion of Listed Buildings with some attractive non-listed buildings in traditional vernacular style which contribute to the visual quality of the area.



View looking west to Long Barlands from Cox's Meadow

The setting of Lower Froyle Conservation Area is between gently sloping hills, and the surrounding tree lined slopes, pastures and meadows provide a delightful backcloth to the village.

The Conservation Area features buildings set back from the road contained within their grounds by small/medium brick and stone walls, mature trees and hedging. These boundary characteristics clearly define the public and private spaces and depending on their location, create a sense of narrowness, enclosure and openness at various points along the road as vistas are revealed.

Lower Froyle Conservation Area focuses around the collection of traditional vernacular listed and unlisted buildings interspersed along Hussey's Lane and the meandering road running from S.E. to N.W. from the Anchor Inn to Long Barlands.

These are briefly described below:-

Description of Buildings

THE ANCHOR INN: This is said to date from the 13th century, and it is possible that for much of its history it has been an ale house. Whilst its timber framed late medieval core remains, it has been variously extended and altered. The old well featured within was originally outside but was subsequently enclosed by the extended premises.

BROCAS FARMHOUSE: Early 18th century Queen Anne style 2 storey symmetrical facade in brickwork. Fully moulded eaves cornice, with simple pediment above slightly projecting centrepiece. Plain clay tiled roof with gabled dormers. Doorway with moulded canopy on carved brackets.

HIGHWAY COTTAGES: Late 18th century pair of cottages in brickwork with thatched roof. Traditional vernacular style.

SILVESTER'S FARMHOUSE: A very important Grade II* farmhouse. 15th, late 16th, late 17th building with some 20th century restoration. Mainly coursed chalkstone walls, brick dressings and plain clay tiled roofs. A late medieval timber framed aisled hall with attached stack. Internally the ground floor has massive ceiling beams and a Tudor fireplace. The upper part of the original staircase survives, but the present dog-leg staircase is late 17th century of Oak with balusters.

Within the setting of Silvester's are other important related farm buildings; 19th century granary - timber framed and saddle stones, 18th century timber framed barn, and 19th century timber framed stables. In their farm context these have a very significant group value.



Golden Cottage and Holmwood Cottages

HOLMWOOD COTTAGES: 18th and 19th century small house, brick walls, tiled roof, timber framed structure.

GOLDEN COTTAGE: 17th and 18th century cottage with 20th century extension. Timber framed, painted brick infill walls and thatch roof, eyebrow dormer.

EWELME: Pair of cottages, 16th, 17th and late 18th century, timber framed late - medieval hall type house with floors and fireplaces added. Thatched roof.

CHURCH COTTAGE: 17th century, restored timber framed with a thatched roof.

THE PRINCE OF WALES: Public house was built about 1912 on the site of a previous inn of that name.

BLUE COTTAGE: 18th century with 20th century extension. Timber framed origin refronted in brickwork. Stone plaque inscribed AC 1737. Plain clay tiled roof.

HODGES FARMHOUSE: Important Grade II* house. Late 17th century and 1766 original timber framed building fronted by symmetrical brick classical facade. Projecting cornice, 1st floor string course and pedimented door case. Plain clay tiled roof has central gabled dormer with casement windows.

Adjacent to Hodges Farmhouse are an 18th century barn - with 20th century restoration, timber framed on saddle stones; and a 19th century oast house. In their context these have a very significant group value.

BEECH COTTAGE: 18th century painted stone and brick walls, plain clay tiled roof. Inscribed plaque RC 1719.



Oast and stable at Rock Farm

OAK COTTAGE: 17th century cottage red brick walls and plain clay tiled roof. 20th century rear extension.

OAST AND STABLE to Rock Farm: 19th century brick walls and clay tile roof. Three buildings joined as one structure with a stable between a lower kennel and a higher Oasthouse. The Oast has a steep hipped roof with a cap (the cowl is missing). Group value.

GRANARY TO ROCK FARM: 19th century timber frame and boarded structure, hipped tile roof on staddle stones.

LITTLE BARLANDS: 18th century, timber framed building with thatched roof, eyebrow dormers.

LONG BARLANDS: 18th century with 19th and 20th extensions. Brick walls and thatch roof. Stone plaque in the panel above the doorway is incised T. T. M. 1773.



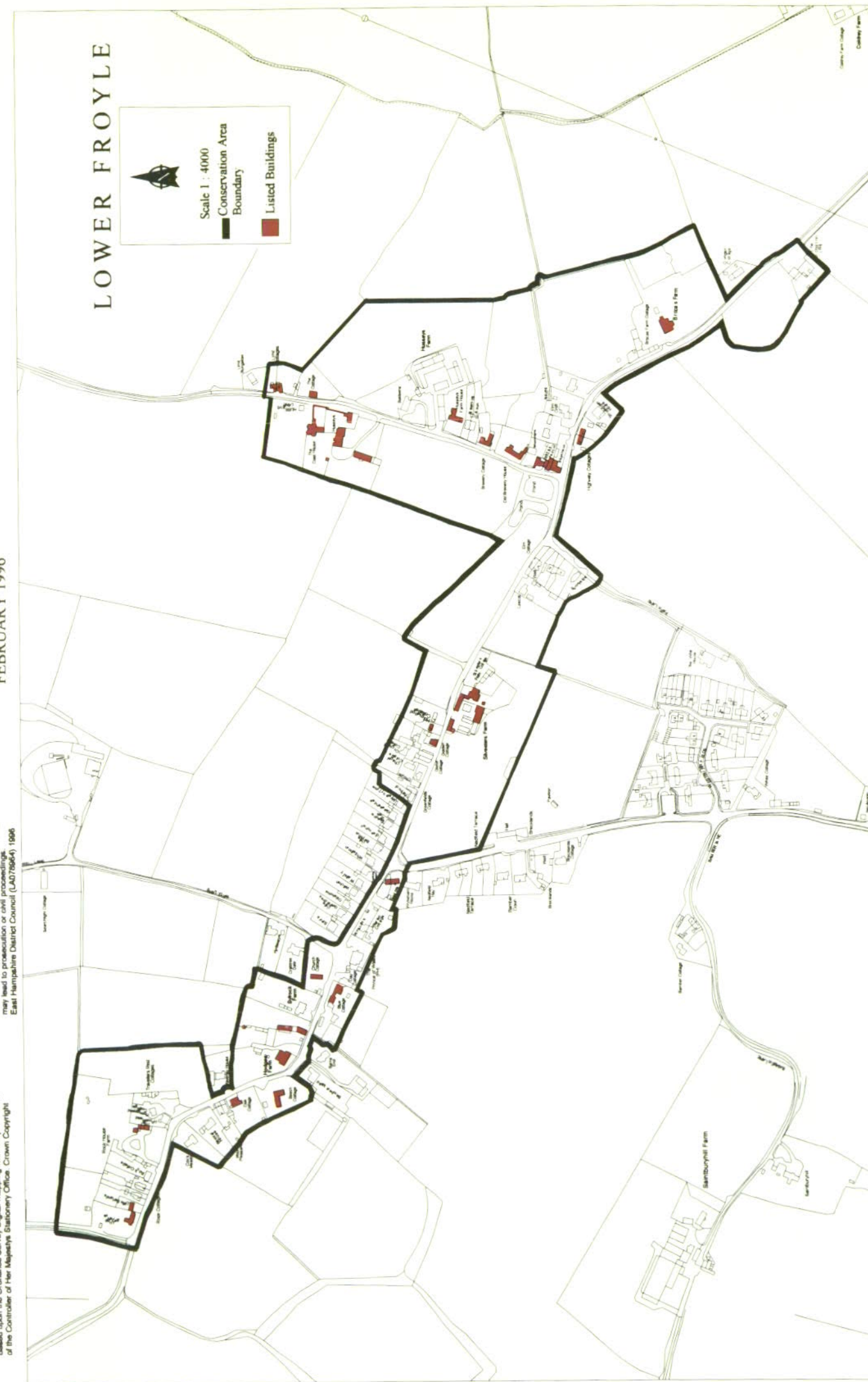
Ewelme in the centre of the village

BRIDGE HOUSE: 17th century, with late 18th century and 20th century restoration and extensions. Walls of coursed chalkstone and brick dressings. Stone plaque inscribed KEL 1712. South gable painted, vertically tiled and hipped back at roof level.

POND COTTAGE AND APPLE TREE COTTAGE: Facing directly across from the Ponds this range of cottages dates from the 17th century has 20th century restoration. Timber framed structure, rendered walls and plain clay tiled roofs.

OLD BREWERY HOUSE: Late 18th century or early 19th century brick and stone building of several parts with a continuous west frontage, plain clay tile and slate roof.

BREWERY COTTAGES: 17th century with early 18th century extension. Timber frame and brick walls with plain clay tile roof.



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HUSSEYS FARMHOUSE: 15th, 18th century with 20th century restoration and extension. Timber framed and brick walls with plain clay tiled roof.

HUSSEYS: 16th century large impressive Grade II* house with cladding of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Timber framed structure, brick walls and plain clay tiled roof. 20th century restoration and extension. Inside there is a Tudor fireplace and some exposed timber framework.

Focussing around Husseys are an important group of Listed Buildings, an 18th century half hipped weatherboarded and pantiled barn, an 18th century stone brick and tiled service building, a 19th century gazebo and an Oast House. All these are particularly significant having group value within the context of their setting.



Beech Cottage and Hodges Farmhouse

THE COTTAGE, HUSSEYS LANE: 18th century, brick walls and thatched roof, traditional vernacular style, with 20th century extension.

LIMIT COTTAGES: Late 18th century stone/brick walls, hipped gable, plain tile roof, L-shaped plain, traditional vernacular style.

Buildings, Materials and Details

A wide range of materials are used in the village, varying from the local orange/red brick to local malmstone. Some of the stonework is regularly coursed in blocks and some are random. Traditional timber framed construction, usually with brickwork infill panels, is common, occasionally plain clay tile hanging is used on walls. Weatherboard cladding is common on agricultural buildings.

The roofs are mainly clad in either clay tiles, or thatch. Other details such as the projecting dentil brick courses at eaves level, traditional half-hipped roofs, dormers and gabled roofs, all contribute to the village's particular character.



The Prince of Wales Public House

Other features include plain brick or malmstone walls with brick capping, small neatly trimmed hedges and trees demarcate the private areas from the public domain. These visually link the buildings and assist in giving unity to the village's appearance.

New Development

The design of new buildings, extensions and alterations to existing buildings and new uses within the Conservation Area will all affect its character. The design of development will need to respect the overall form, details and materials within the Conservation Area. Those who undertake development should do so with care.

Further advice is given in the following leaflets which are published by East Hampshire District Council as part of the Conservation Directory

- East Hampshire's Conservation Areas
- Caring for East Hampshire's Conservation Areas and Historic Buildings

Further reading and references

- Victorian County History - Hampshire
- Leaflets in this series on Alton, Holybourne and Alton (the Butts) Conservation Areas
- The Buildings of England - Hampshire - Pevsner and Lloyd 1967 and Lloyd and Hubbuck (to be published 1997) Series II.

Conservation Area boundaries can be updated from time to time for the latest details and further information contact:-

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