

STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

CONSERVATION AREA REVIEWS

ASTON CANTLOW

February 1994

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1. INTRODUCTION

Aston Cantlow is an ancient settlement situated on the east side of the little River Alne some 7 miles north-west of Stratford upon Avon. It is bypassed on the west by the B4089 Alcester to Wootton Wawen road which itself was an ancient 'salt' way from Droitwich.

It is a village of some 500 to 600 inhabitants, just over half of which live in post-war modern housing development that has extended the eastern and northern boundaries of the village. Most of Aston Cantlow's residents now work in the nearby towns and cities and farming is now a minority activity within the village.

The settlement is basically linear along a single main street with the Kings Head Inn and small village green acting as a focal point and natural village centre.

There is a large church and vicarage, public house, licensed club, village hall and one general grocery and 'farm shop' type store in the village.

Aston Cantlow derives its name from William de Cantelupe, a Norman baron who founded a castle on a site between the river and the main street (there are some remaining earthworks and the site is noted as being of archaeological interest).

The parish church dedicated to St John the Baptist is substantially C14th with C16th additions. It is one of the most complete medieval churches in the county.

There are a number of C16th and C17th timber framed buildings in the village, some of which - eg the Manor Farmhouse - now have external brick facades. There are also one or two good C18th brick buildings.

The village has grown up round the church, the manor farm, Glebe Farm, Home Farm and Castle Farm (now Cantella Farm) which are all ancient farmsteads. There is also a C15th timber framed Guild Hall which now forms part of the village hall.

Aston Cantlow was designated a Conservation Area in May.1969 and there are 16 listed buildings within it, including the Church of St John the Baptist (Grade I) and the Guild Hall (Grade II*).

2. SETTLEMENT HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

Aston Cantlow is identified in the Domesday Book as the manor of 'Estone' and was then owned by one 'Alfar, Earl of Mercia'.

In 1205 the manor was granted to William de Cantelupe and stayed in that family for the next four generations. The name 'Aston Cantlow' means east farm (or east 'tun') - probably because it was a substantial manor farmstead east of Alcester, of Cantelupe.

Thomas Cantelupe, son of William, was Chancellor of England to Henry III and was canonised by the Pope after his death in 1282. The castle built by the de Cantelupes was ruined and demolished by 1392.

The manor then had various owners until it passed into the 'Neville' family, Marquesses of Abergavenny, from about 1450 to 1874 when it was sold to Mr Thomas Wood. The estate was finally broken up and sold to the tenants etc.. in 1918. The Gild House and manorial rights were bought by Sir Charles Mander of Wolverhampton.

The Guild Hall was associated with the Gild of St.Mary, first mentioned in 1442. It was a religious guild which retained priests and wardens who held services in the parish church. The hall was used for manorial courts up to around 1770 and was used as the village gaol in the C19th.

The Glebe Farm at the south end of the village once had a rectangular moat and is believed to be the remains of a grange or manor house which belonged to the Priors of Maxstoke.

There was a mill in the manor at the time of the Domesday survey. The present mill site dates back to the 17th century. It was a paper mill from 1748 to about 1850 and was used for needle scouring until the early C20th then it became a cycle bearings factory until the 1960's.

There was also a brush factory in the village until 1915 and there was a working smithy in 'Forge Cottage'.

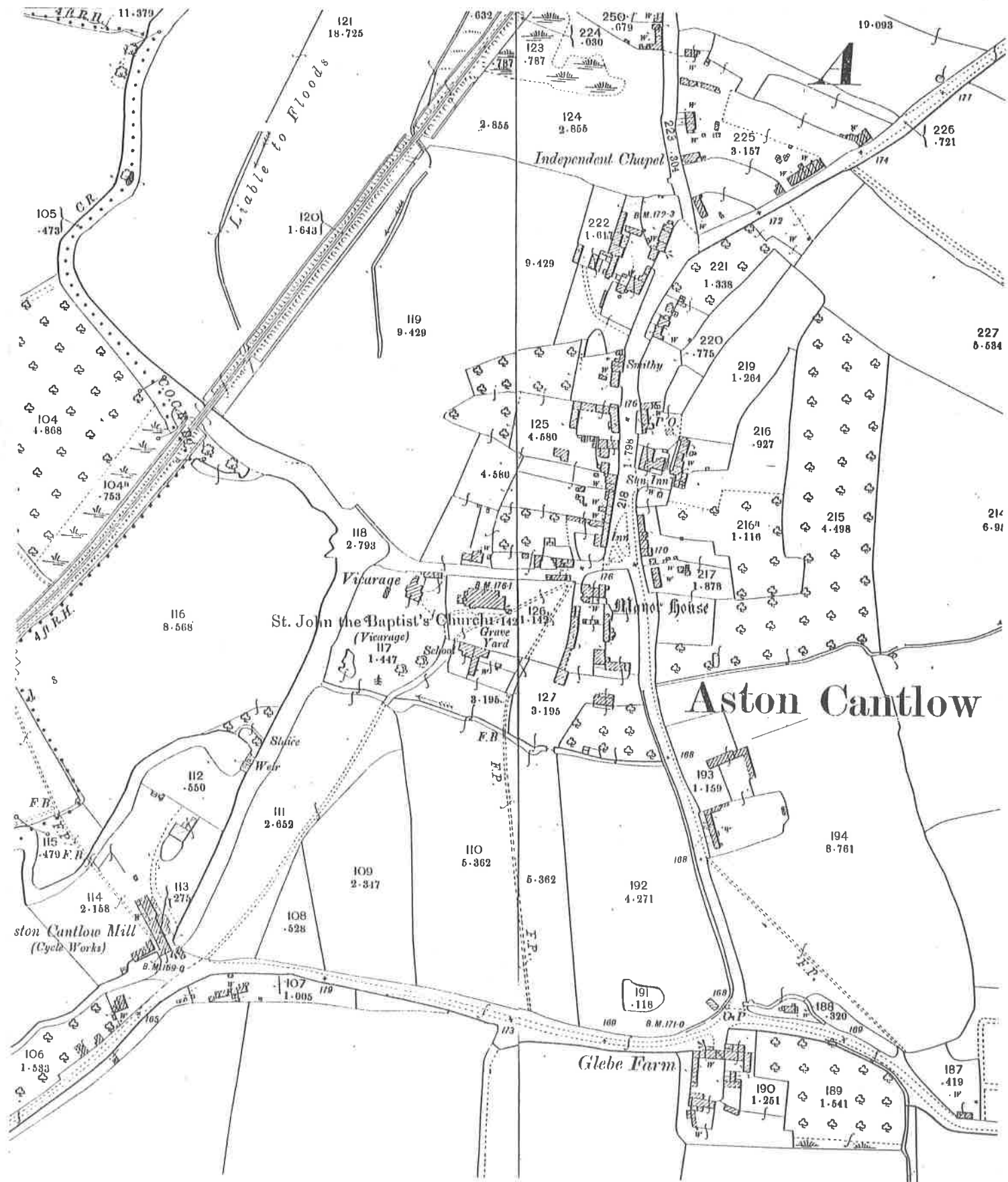
The blue lias stone building south of the church was the village school. It was built in 1847 and used continuously until it closed in the early 1960's.

There was also a non-conformist chapel in Chapel Lane. It was closed in the 1960's.

The GWR railway came through Aston Cantlow in 1876 in the form of a branch line from Alcester to Bearley. A halt was built at Aston Cantlow in 1923.

It appears that Aston Cantlow has been a good, well-established community for many centuries. There was some expansion in the C19th but it is not known how much of this brick building was replacement of earlier timber framed cottages etc..

The village has grown modestly over the last century. By comparing the 1903 Ordnance Survey with the current map, it can be seen that the modern development of Gild Close was built over a former orchard and the new housing along Chapel Lane and the east side of Bearley Road was infill development on 'field' sites. A row of small cottages next to the club (formerly the Sun Inn) was recently demolished and replaced by old peoples' bungalows. Otherwise there appears to have been very little 'redevelopment' in recent years.



ASTON CANTLOW Circa. 1900
 Extract from 1900 Ordnance Survey (scale: 1 mile = 25" - reduced)

3. VILLAGE & CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER ANALYSIS

3.1 Heritage and Architectural Character

The visual evidence of the C16th/C17th settlement is seen in the smattering of timber framed 'black & white' buildings, ie.the Guild Hall, Kings Head Inn, Forge Cottage and the cottages along Church Lane. The Church, nestled behind the village centre, is evidence of the earlier well-established medieval community.

The ancient earthworks of the Cantelupe castle are not apparent from the village at all, although they do, of course, form an essential part of its make-up.

The Glebe Farm (with Teapot Hall), also evidence of the C17th settlement, stands alone some distance from the village group although it is an important stop to the long view out of the village south along Burbage Road.

The ages of the ancient farmstead groups of Manor Farm, Home Farm and Castle Farm are not immediately obvious due to the extensive alteration and rebuilding in red brick and tile, mainly of the C19th.

The late C18th/early C19th red brick and clay tile vernacular survives in greatest abundance, although these simple cottages have been altered since, as have the timber framed buildings, with replacement windows and doors, rear extensions, new machine-made clay tile roof coverings and painting or rendering of the facing brickwork.

The village in the C19th and early C20th was of a fairly open texture, apart from the enclosure around the village green (which has changed very little). Further north up the main street and into Chapel Lane and Bearley Road, however, the post-war 'infill' housing has substantially changed that character, although the scale and form of this infill building has not detracted from the C19th scale.

Church Lane retains its informal intimate village street character but the main street is fully kerbed with paths both sides, walls, fences or hedges to frontages and a very 'crisp' and tidy appearance.

The predominant architectural form is of cottage terraces with 45 degree pitched clay tiled roofs punctuated with gabled dormers and ridge stacks, small multipane windows in brick segmental arched openings and clipped verges and eaves with dentil courses.

The earlier timber framed building is oak box framing, apart from the Guild Hall which is close-studded and jettied. This building is a principal 'landmark' or focal point in the village and the type of framing makes it a 'showpiece'.

Other buildings of particular importance to the village character and identity are the church, the Manor Farm group, the Kings Head Inn and attached terrace, the Aston Cantlow Club (key location in street) and the brick terraced cottages at the north end of the main street. Glebe Farm, also, forms a visual 'long stop' to the south.

There are a number of important walls and boundary hedgelines in the village, including the rubble stone walls to the churchyard along Church Lane and to the south boundary, and the stone wall to the left side of the Kings Head Public House. The brick walls in and around the Manor Farm group are a very important uniting feature of this group.

There is also a good brick wall on the roadside boundary to Cantella Farm.

The hedgelines along both sides of Burbage Road are important to its enclosure, as are those round Glebe Farm.

3.2 Predominant Building Materials

Historically, the local building materials were oak (from the Arden Forest) and blue lias limestone (once quarried from nearby Rough Hills). The roof coverings would originally have been thatch but there is no surviving thatch in the village. The roofscape is now almost entirely plain clay tile although there are one or two welsh blue slate roofs.

The late C18th and C19th introduced red/orange brick and the clay tile which are now the predominant facing materials.

A significant amount of blue lias limestone coursed rubble walling can be seen in plinth walls and boundary walls, as well as that of the church and the old school.

The oak framing has been generally painted black with whitened render or brick infill panels. There is also some applied 'black & white' framing to Aston Cantlow Club, 1 & 2 Burbage road and to 1 to 4 Chapel Lane.

3.3 Landscape Setting & Village Form

From the B4089 Alcester to Wootton Wawen road the view of the village gives the appearance of a settlement well ensconced in tree cover. Only the church tower of St John the Baptist is prominent (photo 1). Otherwise the village is set in a broad expanse of arable and pasture land with hedgerow divisions.

The minor topography of the built village itself rises gently towards the village green where the road is slightly depressed below adjacent land levels creating a clear definition (photo 2).

Although the linear form of Burbage Road/ High Street and Bearley road links together the whole village, the Conservation Area encompasses a wider area extending to the south to include Glebe Farm and to the west to include the ancient castle site and the River Alne (photo 3).

There are few opportunities along the main street to glimpse this outer landscape. Those that do exist, between Guild Corner and The Cot and between Old Forge Cottage and Cantella Farm are important views to preserve. Other narrower openings are often marred with 'rear garden' clutter - such as the tennis court behind the Village Hall (photo 4).

Three distinct areas of particular character within the conservation area can be identified;-

Area A - The Central Core

Centred on the Kings Head Inn, the Church, Vicarage and Manor Farm, this is characterised by particularly fine yew, holly and conifer trees within the church yard (photo 5) and the vicarage. The boundary to the south is marked by a belt of alder, willow and beech along a tributary of the River Alne.

A wealth of brick and limestone walls exist in this area and on the east side of Burbage Road there is a hedge enclosure to the road which extends to Glebe Farm.

Church Lane exhibits a well-enclosed character (photo 6) with a sense of anticipation at its end (in fact it terminates with a view over the castle earthworks). Mention should be made here of the important horse chestnut tree in the grounds of the Kings Head which forms a focal point and pivot opposite the grassed areas at the junction of Church Lane and Burbage Road (photo 7).

The wide frontage to the Kings Head has a small 'village green' character. It is the main 'space' along the street and meeting place of roads and footpaths. It is enjoyed as a place to stop and linger.

Area B - The Castle Earthworks Site

This area, only glimpsed from a few places along the village street, retains a quiet air of pastoral calm with cattle grazing in the floodland areas (photo 8).

It is well contained by alders and willows along the river and stream courses and by a belt of trees and scrub along the line of the disused railway. As an historic site it should be protected from any development or deterioration of the landscape character.

Area C - Glebe Farm

Glebe Farm is an entity in itself. The orchard lands to the east and across the road beyond 'Teapot Hall' unify this area which is one of the last remaining orchard areas - extensive in the C19th - in the village.

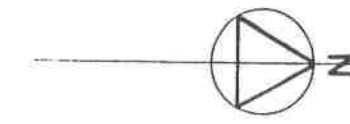
3.4 General Observations

The Conservation Area extends into Bearley Road to the north to include the road frontages of mainly modern houses. The grass verges are an attractive adjunct to the road scene but most of the original boundary hedges and trees have been replaced by more ornamental species (photo 9).

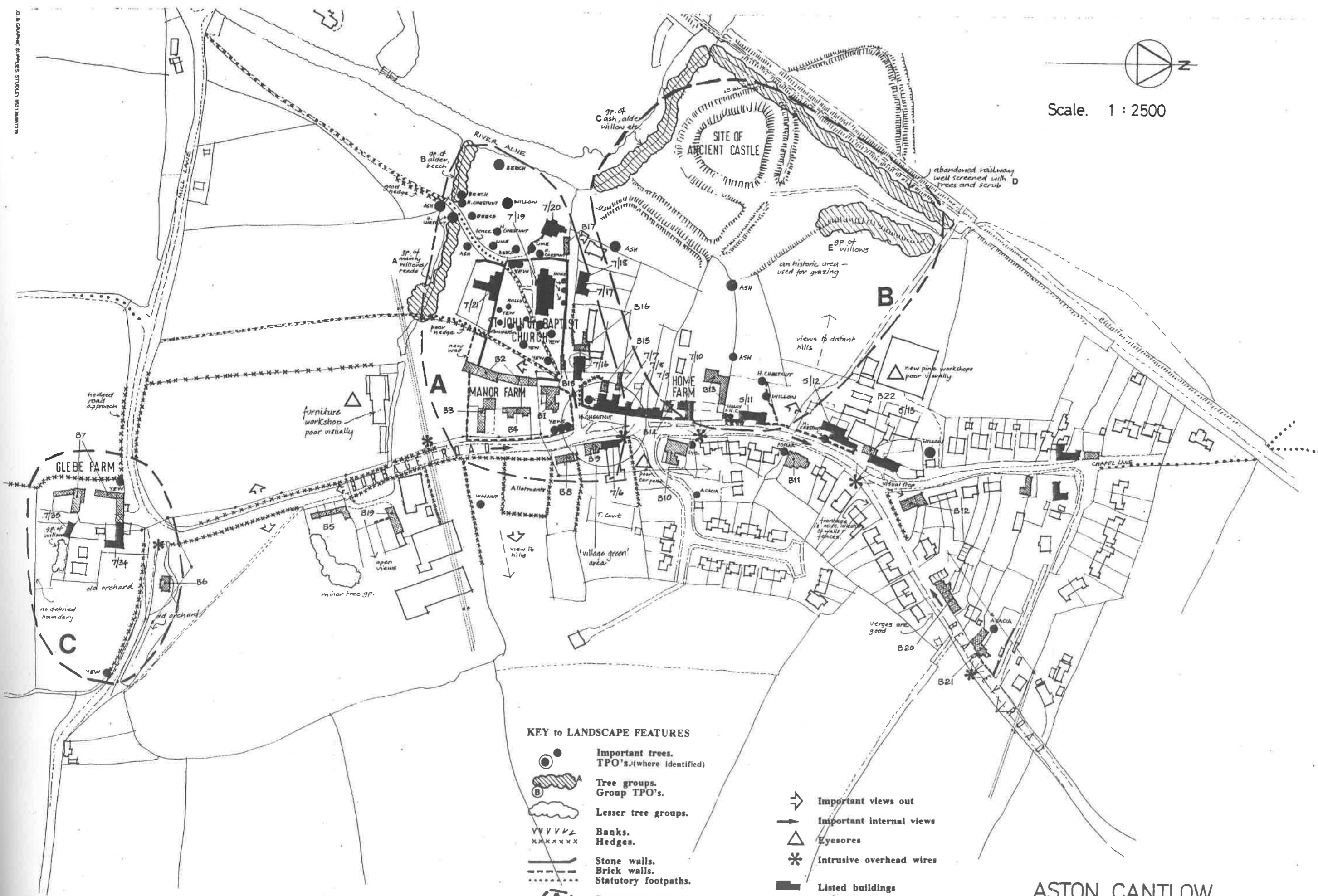
Apart from some intrusive electricity poles and cables when approaching the village from the north (photo 10) and in the vicinity of Manor Farm, the central core is reasonably free of intrusive wirescape.

The detailing of roadside edges on the main village street is generally in granite and accords well with the rural character. It is important that such detail is not eroded by the use of unsympathetic materials for external works.

The village streetscape generally is not marred by domestic or industrial clutter. The pine furniture workshops on the southern boundary are unfortunate as seen from the southern approach and the large prefabricated buildings behind Cantella Farm could be enclosed from view by more tree planting.



Scale. 1 : 2500



KEY to LANDSCAPE FEATURES

- Important trees. TPO's. (where identified)
- Tree groups. Group TPO's.
- Lesser tree groups.
- Banks. Hedges.
- Stone walls. Brick walls. Statutory footpaths.
- Broad character areas.

- Important views out
- Important internal views
- Eyesores
- Intrusive overhead wires
- Listed buildings
- Buildings of local importance

ASTON CANTLOW ANALYSIS MAP

4. CONSERVATION AREA - REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Boundary Alteration Recommendations

It is recommended that the following alterations be made to the Aston Cantlow Conservation area boundary;-

- i. West Boundary**
Extend west side boundary to centre of old railway line.
- ii. Cantella Farm Rear Boundary**
Exclude light industrial land use to the rear of Cantella Farm from conservation area.
- iii. East Main Street/Burbage Road**
Rationalise boundary to physical features on south east side (include additional area).
- iv. Burbage Road**
Rationalise to physical features boundaries along Burbage Road (exclude open field areas).

4.2 Suggestions for Improvement

There are some poor or low grade areas and features which detract from the visual and environmental quality of the Conservation Area that could be improved as follows:

i. Rear of Cantella Farm and Pine Workshops

General screening by tree planting within and around the periphery of this area would help to break up the visual impact of these buildings from the main street, Chapel Road and the west side footpaths.

ii. Furniture Workshops South of Manor Farm

Some wall or close boarded fence enclosure of the yard area and screening by tree and hedge planting would hide the clutter and break up the mass of this range of buildings from south and east views.

iii. Modern House Frontages

Hedge planting of indigenous species, ie, hawthorn, holly, etc on the frontage boundaries of some of the recent infill housing would help to blend them into the street scene.

iv. Village Hall and Tennis Courts

Some further tree screening of the Hall and Tennis Court would help to disguise it from the setting of the Gild Hall and views from the main street.

4.3 Conservation Area - Review of Planning Control Since Designation

Since designation in May 1969 a significant amount of infill has occurred along the east side which, together with other post-war housing development, has tended to give the village a modern suburban character. This is because the houses are generally detached or semi-detached, have a greater frontage to the village street and are inevitably larger in scale.

The area around the village green - 'Area A' - has changed very little, apart from the careful modernisation of cottages along Church Lane and the conversion of the old school to a single dwelling.

As village-based farming continues to decline and farm buildings become redundant, alternative uses have been introduced into them ie. woodworking and furniture making in prefabricated buildings behind Cantella Farm and in buildings to the south of Manor Farm, and conversion of a barn and stable range to Home Farm to a dwelling and village shop.

On the whole, the control of the LPA and, probably more importantly, the careful consideration of individual owner occupiers, has been good in respect of replacement windows, roof coverings, external decorations, alterations etc.. so that the simple cottage character prevails in the centre of the village.

4.4 Future Development

There appears to be little more room for infill development within the conservation area and the gaps that do remain in the village street frontages do allow some important views out to the surrounding countryside which should be maintained. Equally, the domestic clutter of garages and sheds (such as those at the end of Chapel Lane) tends to detract from the rural character of the village.

Extensions, new garages and the like should be of appropriate 'vernacular' design and arranged to shield back garden areas from public view. Planting of indigenous species of trees and shrubs, especially in frontage areas, should also be encouraged.

There may, in the future, be pressure to seek alternative uses for the Manor Farm buildings. This must be very carefully controlled. Any substantial change of use may seriously detract from the quiet rural vernacular simplicity of the group. This group and its setting have a strong influence on the character of the village and the conservation area.

4.5 Conclusions

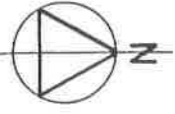
Aston Cantlow is a medium sized village and reasonably self-contained community, although it is inevitably becoming a dormitory settlement to the surrounding towns (as are most of the villages in this area) and its historic farming and fruit-growing base is now of little significance.

The village as a whole is obviously well looked after and does not require any special attention from the local authority (apart from the well-considered exercise of planning control powers).

There is some tourist attention in the summer (Shakespeare is associated with the village) and the Kings Head Inn is very popular, but this does not create undue pressure upon the landscape or environment.

The minor adjustments proposed to the conservation area boundary are only to rationalise it to the current setting and physical features.

Provided that further development within the Conservation area is carefully controlled, the village should go on looking after itself for many years to come.



Scale. 1 : 2500

KEY TO SYMBOLS

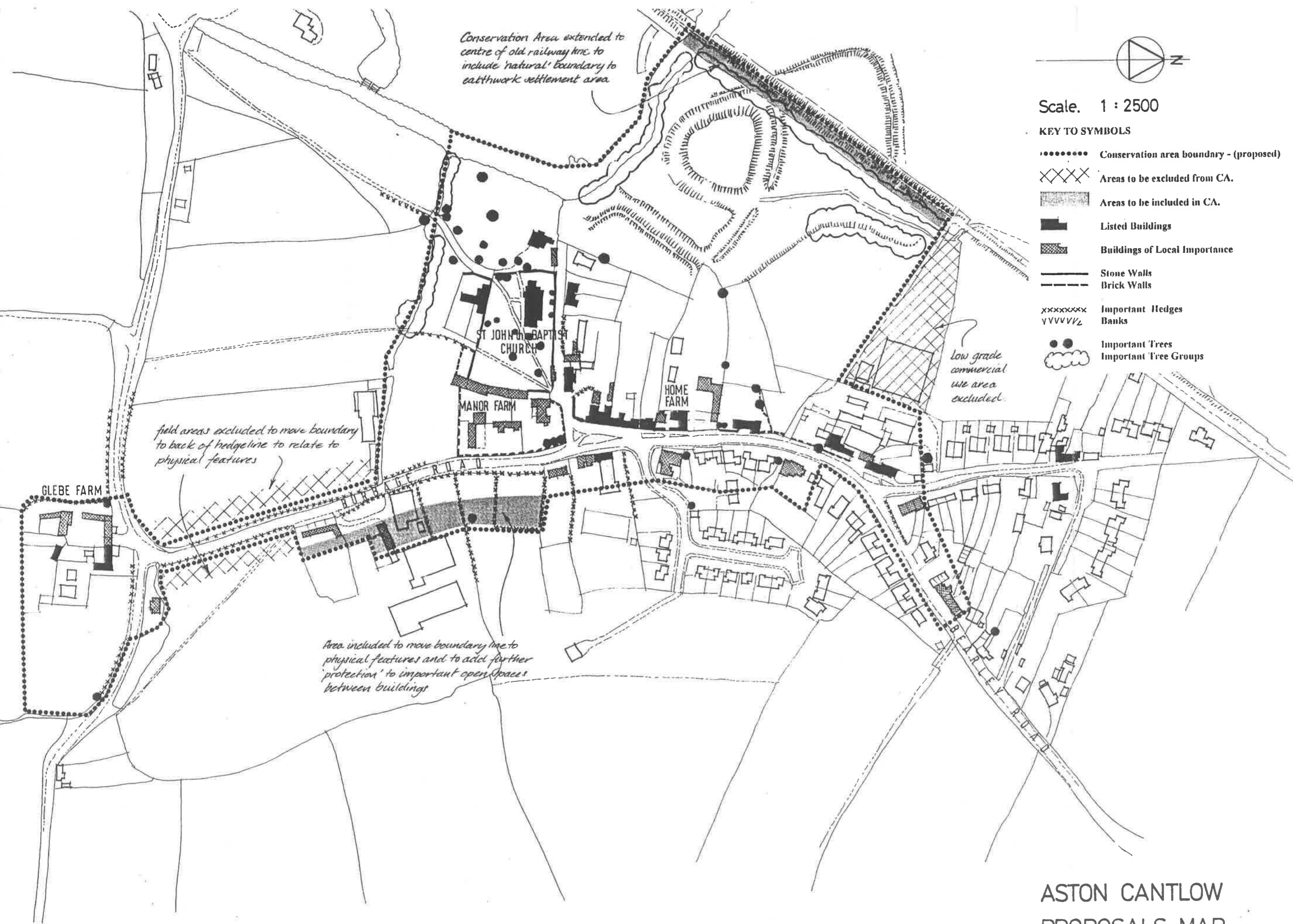
- Conservation area boundary - (proposed)
- XXXXXX Areas to be excluded from CA.
- ▨ Areas to be included in CA.
- Listed Buildings
- ▩ Buildings of Local Importance
- Stone Walls
- - - - - Brick Walls
- xxxxxxx Important Hedges
- vvvvvvz Banks
- Important Trees
- ☁ Important Tree Groups

Conservation Area extended to centre of old railway line to include 'natural' boundary to earthwork settlement area.

field areas excluded to move boundary to back of hedgeline to relate to physical features

Area included to move boundary line to physical features and to add further 'protection' to important open spaces between buildings

low grade commercial use area excluded.



ASTON CANTLOW PROPOSALS MAP

REFERENCES

- 1 1st Edition Ordnance Survey - 1885
Extract from 25" scale map obtained from Warwick County Records Office.
- 2 Victoria County History - Vol III pp 31-42.
- 3 WFWI - 'The Warwickshire Village Book' - Countryside Books - 1988.

APPENDIX Ai

SCHEDULE OF LISTED BUILDINGS IN ASTON CANTLOW CONSERVATION AREA.

Ref
No. Description

7/6 Guild Rooms and The Porch, Bearley Road.
[Formerly listed as 15, 16 and 17 High Street]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/6 - Grade II*)



(Most prominent and architecturally interesting building on main street)

List description : Village rooms and flat. Formerly 3 cottages; originally the Guild House. Mid C15; altered C19. Converted 1960 (datestone). Timber framed; close studding with lath and plaster infill, and brick plinth. Mid C20 tile roof; brick ridge stack. Original plan indeterminate. 2 storeys and attic; 4 bays. Front jettied on square posts and curved brackets. Ground floor has 3 plank doors and adjoining 3-light iron casements. Open whitewashed brick and lias porch on right has arched studded door in wooden arch. First floor has single curved tension brace. Small C20 wood casements. Leaded lights throughout. Left return side has 2 large curved tension braces on ground floor, and jowled posts. Blocked 2-light windows on each floor. Attic window.

To rear: Ground floor partly underbuilt and plastered, partly of lias.
First floor has close studding.

Interior: Exposed framing. Jowled posts. Queen strut roof with massive timbers and curved windbraces.

The building was the hall of a Guild dedicated in honour of St. Mary. In the C17 and C18 the upper chamber was used for manor courts. (V.C.H.: Warwickshire, Vol.III, p.32; Buildings of England: Warwickshire, p.76).

**7/7 The King's Head Inn, Bearley Road
(Listed Building Ref. 7/7 - Grade II)**



(Very picturesque - key building on 'green' area)

List description : Public house. C16, partially rebuilt and extended C19. Timber framed; irregular framing with whitewashed brick infill; left end and wing of whitewashed brick. Roof of both old and C20 tiles; brick ridge and end stacks. Original plan indeterminate, but extended to L-plan. 2 storeys; 4-window range. C20 door and two C19 canted bay windows under continuous flat roof. 2 further canted bay windows to left. Irregular fenestration of C19 wood and iron casements with glazing bars; one leaded-light casement on first floor. Left return side of whitewashed brick with external stack. To rear: Small amount of exposed framing, and C19 wing. Interior: Broad-chamfered ceiling beams and some exposed framing. Open fireplace, altered. C20 additions to rear.

7/8 20 to 23 Bearley Road (consecutive)
[Formerly listed under 20 to 25 High Street]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/8 - Grade II)

(Group value with Kings Head Inn - small cottage scale)

List description : Row of 4 cottages. C17, refaced late C18/early C19. Timber framed. Front of brick; Nos.22 and 23 are of different brickwork, with brick dentil cornice and plinth of regular coursed lias. Old tile roof; brick ridge stacks. Each one-unit double-depth plan. One storey and attic with dormers; 4-window range. No.21 has C20 panelled door; the rest have plank doors. No.20 has brick flat arch; all other ground-floor openings have segmental brick arches. Wood casements with glazing bars.

To rear: Exposed timber framing with lath and plaster infill; No.23 has brick infill. C19 single-storey brick wings. Irregular fenestration. Interior not inspected.

**7/9 Bay Cottage (24) and The Retreat (25), Bearley Road [Formerly listed under 20 to 25 High Street]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/9 - Grade II)**



(Group value with Kings Head Inn)

List description : Pair of cottages. C17 origins, but mostly late C18/C19, altered mid C20. Brick; No.24 has brick dentil cornice. Tile roof; brick stack to rear. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys; 5-window range. C20 doors and gate to through-passage. C20 leaded-light casements. No.24 has canted bay window; No.25 to right has segmental bay; each has tile canopy over window and door. No.25 has second bay and casement under tile canopy to right. No.24 has painted lintels on first floor. Interior of No.24 noted as having timber framed partition wall. A significant part of a row of buildings. Included for group value.

THIS IS HOME FARM
NOT HOME FARM
COTTAGE
HOME FARM NOT LISTED

**7/10 Home Farm Cottage, Bearley Road
(Listed Building Ref. 7/10 - Grade II)**



(Prominent gable on street frontage - some decorative brickwork)

List description : Cottage. C17 origins; altered and converted mid/late C20. Regular coursed lias ground floor with brick above, and timber framed gable with brick infill. C20 tile roof; small C20 brick internal stack. One-unit plan. One storey and attic with C20 dormer; one-window range. Entrance in right return side has C20 door and open porch. C20 casements with glazing bars.
Interior: Broad-chamfered ceiling beam. C20 addition to rear.
Said to have been a bakehouse before conversion.

**5/11 The Old Forge, Bearley Road
(Listed Building Ref. 5/11 - Grade II)**



(A rather over-restored timber framed 'black and white' cottage)

List description : House, originally 3 cottages and forge. C17; largely rebuilt mid C20. Timber framed with plastered infill. C20 tile roof; brick and lias and brick internal and ridge stacks. T-plan. One storey and attic with 3 dormers; 4-window range. Left section retains original framing with heavy timbers. Mid C20 door and open timber porch. Small canted bay window to right. Irregular fenestration, with mid C20 leaded-light wood casements. Projecting wing on right has renewed jowled posts. Left return side has original exposed framing. To rear: Exposed framing. Wing of whitewashed brick. Interior: Some original heavy ceiling beams. Open fireplace. Flat-roofed single-storey addition to rear.

5/12 Castle Farmhouse [a.k.a. Cantella Farm] Bearley Road. (Listed Building Ref. 5/12 - Grade II)



(Unfortunate replacement windows and rooflights on main frontage)

List description : Farmhouse. Mid/late C18. Brick with brick string course, and brick dentil cornice. C20 tile roof; brick external stacks. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys and attic with dormers; 2-window range. Half-glazed door and mid/late C19 trellis porch. Mid C20 metal casements under segmental brick arches. On first floor string course breaks below sills. Central blind window. Dormers have wood casements and glazed cheeks. Stacks with oversailing courses. Left return side: Broad stack with string courses. To rear: 2 parallel ranges with adjacent gables. C20 casements. Late C19/early C20 additions. Interior not inspected.

5/13 27 to 30 Bearley Road (Beagle, The Well, Jasmine and Thimble cottages).

[Formerly listed as 27 to 30 High Street]

(Listed Building Ref. 5/13 - Grade II)



(Key cottage terrace at north end of main street)

List description : Row of 4 cottages. C17 origins, very largely rebuilt late C18/early C19. No.27 partly timber framed with brick infill on first floor; remainder of brick with brick dentil cornice. Old tile roof; brick ridge stacks. Nos.27 and 28 to left are two-unit plan; Nos. 29 and 30 are one-unit with outshut. One storey and attic with dormers; 5-window range. No.27 has C20 stable door; Nos.28-30 have plank doors. Casements with glazing bars. All ground-floor openings have brick segmental arches. No.27 has half-dormer. Left return side has jowled post and small rectangular bay window. To rear No.27 has some exposed framing. Dormers.
Interior of No.27: has exposed timber framing.

7/16 Box Tree Cottage, Church Lane.
[Formerly listed as premises occupied by Mr. C. Rollason]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/16 - Grade II)



(Prominent 'black and white' cottage on view up Church Lane from Green)

List description : Semi-detached cottage. C17. Timber framed with whitewashed brick infill; partly underbuilt in brick, with some plaster. Tile roof; brick external stack. Two-unit plan. One storey and attic with dormer. One-window range. C19 ribbed door, plank door to passage to rear, and small canted bay window, all under continuous lean-to tile roof. C19 casements with glazing bars. Right return side has jowled posts. C19 external stack with fire window.

To rear: C19 brick outshut.

Interior: Exposed timber framing.

**7/17 Rose Cottage, Church Lane. [Formerly listed as No. 18 and Rose Cottage, Church Lane]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/17 - Grade II)**



(Picturesque cottage group [with Ring-O-Bell Cottage] overlooking Churchyard)

List description : Semi-detached cottage. C17. Timber framed with plaster and whitewashed brick infill. Tile roof; brick stacks. 2-unit plan. One storey and attic; 3-window range. C20 plastered porch with studded door, and half-glazed stable door inside. Leaded-light casements. 3 raked dormers. Right return side has jowled posts and broad external stack with fire window.

Interior: Exposed timber framing and beams. Inglenook fireplace. Large mid C20 addition to rear.

**7/18 Ring-O-Bell Cottage, Church Lane. [Formerly listed as No. 18 and
Rose Cottage, Church Lane]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/18 - Grade II)**

List description : Semi-detached cottage. Late C18/early C19. Whitewashed brick with brick dentil cornice. Tile roof; brick ridge stack. L-plan, with wing to rear. One storey and attic with dormers; 2-window range. 3-panelled door and late C20 open-fronted porch. Late C20 casements with glazing bars. Ground-floor openings have segmental brick arches. Left return side has late C20 bay window. Interior not inspected.

**7/19 Church of St. John the Baptist, Ch...ane
(Listed Building Ref. 7/19 - Grade I)**

(Fine churchyard - tower is a prominent landmark in surrounding countryside)

Church. Chancel, nave and tower late C13; north aisle and chapel, and upper stage of tower late C14; porch and restoration 1850 by William Butterfield. Chancel, nave and tower of coursed limestone and lias rubble; aisle and chapel of regular coursed lias; porch of rubble, limestone ashlar and timber. Nave and chancel have tile roofs, aisle and chapel have lead. Chancel, nave, north aisle and north chapel, west tower and south porch. Early English and Decorated. 3-bay chancel, 4-bay nave. Chancel has angle buttresses. East and north walls have moulded string courses. 3-light Decorated east window with renewed tracery; bottom section stone-panelled. Three 2-light south windows with differing cusped enriched Y-tracery. Arched doorway between second and third windows has 2 hollow chamfers and studded door with strap hinges. 2-light Early English north window with bar tracery. Hood moulds throughout. Coped gable with mid C19 foliated cross. Nave has arched south door and doorway of 1850. Porch has timber arch. South windows renewed.

Two 3-light Decorated style windows with Reticulated tracery and straight heads. Single trefoiled lancet with hood mould. North aisle and north chapel in one. Buttresses and diagonal east buttress. East and north walls have moulded plinths. String course and coped parapet with string course. Double-leaf north door with chamfered arch and hood mould. Niche above has renewed ogee head and remains of medieval carving of the Nativity, with recumbent Virgin (VCH). 3-light Decorated east window with 5 radiating lobes, hood mould and head stops; said to come from a medieval chapel at Wilmcote (VCH). Two 2-light Decorated north windows with ogee lights and hood moulds; easternmost (chapel) window has head stops. Similar west window without hood mould. Hexagonal north-west stair turret, possibly for a beacon; lowered late C19. Slit window and round window with 3 mouchettes high up in north east re-entrant angle. Tower in 2 stages with chamfered plinth, irregular quoins and string course. Diagonal west buttresses with 2 offsets. Early English lower stage has west lancet and small lancet above. Higher up are north, south and west lancets. Upper stage has paired 2-light openings with ogee lights, quatrefoils and hood moulds. Crenelated parapet with string course and pinnacles.

Interior: Chancel has low-pitched elliptical arch-braced C15 or C16 roof with moulded purlins and central rib, and brattished wall plates. The easternmost bay is panelled, forming wagon roof painted and decorated with stars, and cutting across the top of the east window. Three C13 sedilia and piscina with hollow-moulded arches, hood mould and head stops. Early English style chancel arch of 1850 has clustered shafts with stiff leaf capitals. Low stone screen walls by Butterfield have coped top and pierced quatrefoils, and Gothic iron gates. Nave has scissor braced roof with collars, probably of 1850. West organ gallery 1850. Triple-chamfered tower arch on moulded corbels. Late C13 two-bay chapel and 4-bay nave arcades have simple arches of 2 chamfered orders, octagonal piers, and moulded capitals and bases. Nave has responds with moulded corbels, the easternmost C19. North aisle and chapel have very low-pitched roof with moulded tie beams. North-west door to stair turret, with sexfoil circular opening high above.

Fittings: Reredos with tracery panels (Buildings of England); dismantled at time of resurvey. 2 chairs in chancel made from C15 stalls. C15 hexagonal oak pulpit with foiled and crocketed ogee panels, moulded rails and buttresses with finials. C15 octagonal stone font in north aisle has quatrefoil to each face, and stem and buttresses with bearded heads. C17 font stem: wood column with gadrooned top. C15 bench, cut in two, in north aisle has moulded rails and poppy heads. Mid C19 pews and Gothic altar rails.

Stained glass: C14 fragments in north aisle north-east window. Nave lancet has good glass of c.1852. Late C19 east and chapel east windows by Charles Kempe.

Lead panel, nave west wall: dated 1757 with names of church wardens; removed from chapel roof 1969.

The chapel was associated with the Guild dedicated to St. Mary. Listed Grade I for considerable survival of medieval fabric with many medieval windows, unusual stair turret and medieval chancel roof, and as an example of the restoration by William Butterfield.

(V.C.H.: Warwickshire, Vol.III, p.38-40; Buildings of England: Warwickshire, p.75; Paul Thompson: William Butterfield, pp.277,442,479,501).

**7/20 The Old Vicarage, Church Lane.
[Formerly listed as The Vicarage]
(Listed Building Ref. 7/20 - Grade II)**



(Fine red-brick house of classical proportions - rather detached from village proper)

List description : Vicarage, now house. Early C18 and late C18/early C19 ranges. Brick; tile and slate roofs; brick stacks. Double-depth plan. 2 storeys and 2 storeys and attic; 3-window range. Late C18/early C19 garden front has sashes with moulded frames and gauged brick flat arches. Hipped roof with paired shaped modillions. Entrance in right return side has half-glazed door with arched panels and wood doorcase with Doric pilasters, entablature with triglyph frieze and dentils. Irregular fenestration. Early C18 range has coped gable parapet with kneelers and string course at attic level. To rear staircase projection has cross window with glazing bars under segmental brick arch. Early C20 additions. Interior not inspected.

**7/21 The Old School House, Church Lane. [Formerly listed as School and School House]
(Listed Building Ref.7/21 - Grade II)**



(Group value with church)

List description : School and master's house, now house. 1847-48. Designed by William Butterfield. Coursed lias with quoins and limestone dressings. Tile roofs with coped gables; lias and brick stacks. L-plan. Gothic Revival style. One storey and one storey and attic; 6-window range. School projects forward on left. Entrance in outshut in re-entrant angle has half-glazed door in arch. 3-light traceried window with trefoiled lights and quatrefoils, and outer arch of thin voussoirs.

Main range has plank door. Two 3-light mullioned and transomed windows, two-light mullioned window, and lancet with transom; openings have relieving arches. Varied roof levels. 4 dormers with C20 casements and glazed apexes. Left return side has 2 projecting external stacks; shafts missing. Paired and 4 single lancets, the centre 3 with transoms. Rear similar to front. Late C19/early C20 brick addition to school. Interior not inspected.

(Buildings of England: Warwickshire, p.76; Paul Thompson, William Butterfield, pp.216, 398, 401, 436).

**7/34 Glebe Farmhouse, Mill Lane
(Listed Building Ref. 7/34 - Grade II)**



List description : House and former barn later partly incorporated into it. House possibly originally C17. Barn C17. Both altered and partly rebuilt early C19. Mid/late C20 alterations. Original house, forming tall wing, is rendered with brick dentil cornice. Barn section timber framed with brick infill, underbuilt in brick and regular coursed lias; refronted in brick with brick dentil cornice. C20 tile roofs; brick ridge and external stacks. L-plan. 2 storeys and attic, and 2 storeys; 4-window range. Far-projecting wing on right. Central panelled door with hood on shaped brackets. Late C20 leaded-light casements. Ground floor built-out on left with flat roof. To left an outshut addition to remaining section of barn has double doors.

Left return side of wing: 2-window range, with single dormer.

Right return side: 3-window range. Large external stack.

Rear, to road, is now main entrance front.

Barn range has exposed framing, underbuilt; right section of brick.

C20 double-leaf half-glazed doors in recessed porch with wood lintel.

Barn opening without doors.

Interior: Exposed framing and chamfered ceiling beams. Inglenook fireplace with chamfered bressumer, seats and cupboards with H-L hinges. Flagstone floors. 3-plank doors. Through purlin roof. Barn range has queen strut roof with heavy beamed ceilings inserted. Remaining section of barn has internal brick partitions and masonry staircase to disused door.

7/35 Cartshed approx. 35m. S of Glebe Farmhouse, Mill Lane. (Listed Building Ref. 7/35 - Grade II)

List description : Cartshed. C18, altered C19. Right wall of regular coursed lias, left wall and rear of brick; weatherboarded gables. Old tile half-hipped roof. End entry plan. Opening in gable.
To rear: Blocked entry. Plank door with segmental brick arch.
Interior: Front bay has boarded loft. Through purlin roof. The lias wall leans markedly and has been heavily buttressed.

APPENDIX Aii

SCHEDULE OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE TO ASTON CANTLOW CONSERVATION AREA

Map

Ref

No. Description

-
- B1 MANOR FARMHOUSE, Church Lane. C17th/C20th.**
Large 'H' plan farmhouse - timber frame structure now encased in red brickwork - all C20th. windows conc. plain tile roof.
Important 'landmark' group with farm buildings.
- B2 MAIN BARN RANGE, MANOR FARM, Church Lane. C18th.**
8 bay cartshed shed range, 5/6 bay barn red brick and red/brown clay tile some heavy timber framing, moulded brick to feed cartshed columns. Group value with farmstead.
- B3 FEED SHED RANGE, MANOR FARM, Burbage Road. C19th.**
8/9 bays red/orange brick, plain clay tiles - fold yard to south side - high brick enclosing wall with blue brick copings.
Group value with farmstead.
- B4 STABLES & STORES, MANOR FARM, Burbage Road. C19th**
Low 5-bay range + rear wing. Red brick/brown plain tile roof. Black boarded openings with segmental arches.
Forms enclosure to farmyard. Set back road frontage.
- B5 Nos.6,7 & 8, Burbage Road. Late C18th.**
Terrace of 3 brick & old clay tile cottages - single storey + attics - dormer windows.
Isolated group on road frontage 'landmark'.
- B6 TEAPOT HALL, Wilmcote Lane. C17th/C19th.**
Small 2-bay cottage - originally timber framed - encased in red brick - red plain clay tile roof.
Isolated building - group value with Glebe Farm.
- B7 BARN RANGE to GLEBE FARM, Wilmcote lane. C19th.**
Red/orange brick - brown plain clay tile roofs - west range enclosing farmyard.
Important group with Listed buildings 'Landmark' group at end of Burbage road.

APPENDIX Aii *continued...*

- B8** 1 & 2, Burbage Road. 1875(datestone).
Asymmetrical semi-detached pair of houses in victorian Tudor/Gothic style - red/orange brick, steep plain tile roof with decorations.
Very prominent is street - forms 'entrance' to village green from south.
- B9** GUILD COTTAGE & GUILD CORNER, Main Street. C19th.
Pair of 2-storey red brick and plain tile cottages - blue lias stone rear wing and foundation plinth.
Group value with Guild Hall - key position on village green.
- B10** ASTON CANTLOW CLUB, Main Street. mid.C19th.
White painted brick - red/brown plain clay tiles, decorated gables - Originally a farmhouse then it became the Sun Inn PH. Key building on opposite corner to Guild Hall.
- B11** PEAR TREE COTTAGE, Main Street.
(description to be added)
- B12** 2,4 & 6, Chapel Lane. mid C19th.
3 cottages - modernised - whitened brick with applied framing, red/blue plain clay tile roof.
Key building and landmark at north end of main street.
- B13** BARN & STABLE GROUP, Home Farm (now dwelling and village/farm shop). mid.C19th.
simple brick and tile barn with stable range at right angles - part of Home farmstead - group value in street.
- B14** ^{HOME FARM} ~~THE~~ COTTAGE, Home Farm, Main Street. circa.1800
Formerly stable and hayloft to Home farm - Blue lias stone with red brick alterations. Clay tile roof. Group value with Home farm & the Retreat.

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APPENDIX Bi

SCHEDULE OF LANDSCAPE FEATURES OF IMPORTANCE TO ASTON CANTLOW CONSERVATION AREA

Photo

No. Description

- 1 An overall view of the village in its setting of well-wooded and treed agricultural land.
- 2 The Burbage Road approach, Manor Farm lies on the left behind a buttressed brick wall retaining the higher ground level. The yews on the corner form an important feature.
- 3 The archaeological site from the village street, an important visual element.
- 4 One of the views out to the rural landscape, from Burbage Road, marred by the tennis court behind Guild Cottage.
- 5 Church Lane, alongside St John the Baptist Church, characterised by the random stone wall and the conifer trees within the churchyard.
- 6 The Church Lane approach to the church, with the enclosure and fine horse chestnut in the grounds of the King's Head public house.
- 7 The horse chestnut in the grounds of the King's Head, contained by a stone wall and hedge overtopping it.
- 8 The general character of the old "castle" site and the wetlands of the river.
- 9 Burbage Road/Bearley Road frontages. The importance of the verges is apparent.
- 10 The approach to the village from the north. New houses and power line poles intrude.
- 11 Important trees in the grounds of the Vicarage.
- 12 The churchyard gate from the Green. Again the horse chestnut at the Red Lion dominates.

Aston Cantlow



1

2

Aston Cantlow

4



5



Aston Cantlow

7



8



Aston Cantlow

10



11



12



APPENDIX Bii

LIST OF TREE GROUPS IDENTIFIED ON MAPS (Including TPO's) WITHIN OR ADJACENT TO THE CONSERVATION AREA

Note: *Individual trees are identified on the analysis plan. TPO's are marked where they correspond with the TPO schedule (some of them do not).*

Group	Description
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- | | |
|---|--|
| A | Group of Willow along the stream course forming the conservation area boundary. |
| B | A continuation of Group A, towards the River Alne, containing Alder and Beech. |
| C | A line of riverside Ash, Alder and Willow forming a visual containment to the conservation area. |
| D | Railway embankment tree and shrub growth forming boundary to the conservation area and visually enclosing the castle earthworks. |
| E | A group of willows in the wet-lands; a valuable rural feature. |







