

Bridport Historic Urban Character Area 13 Bradpole Suburbs

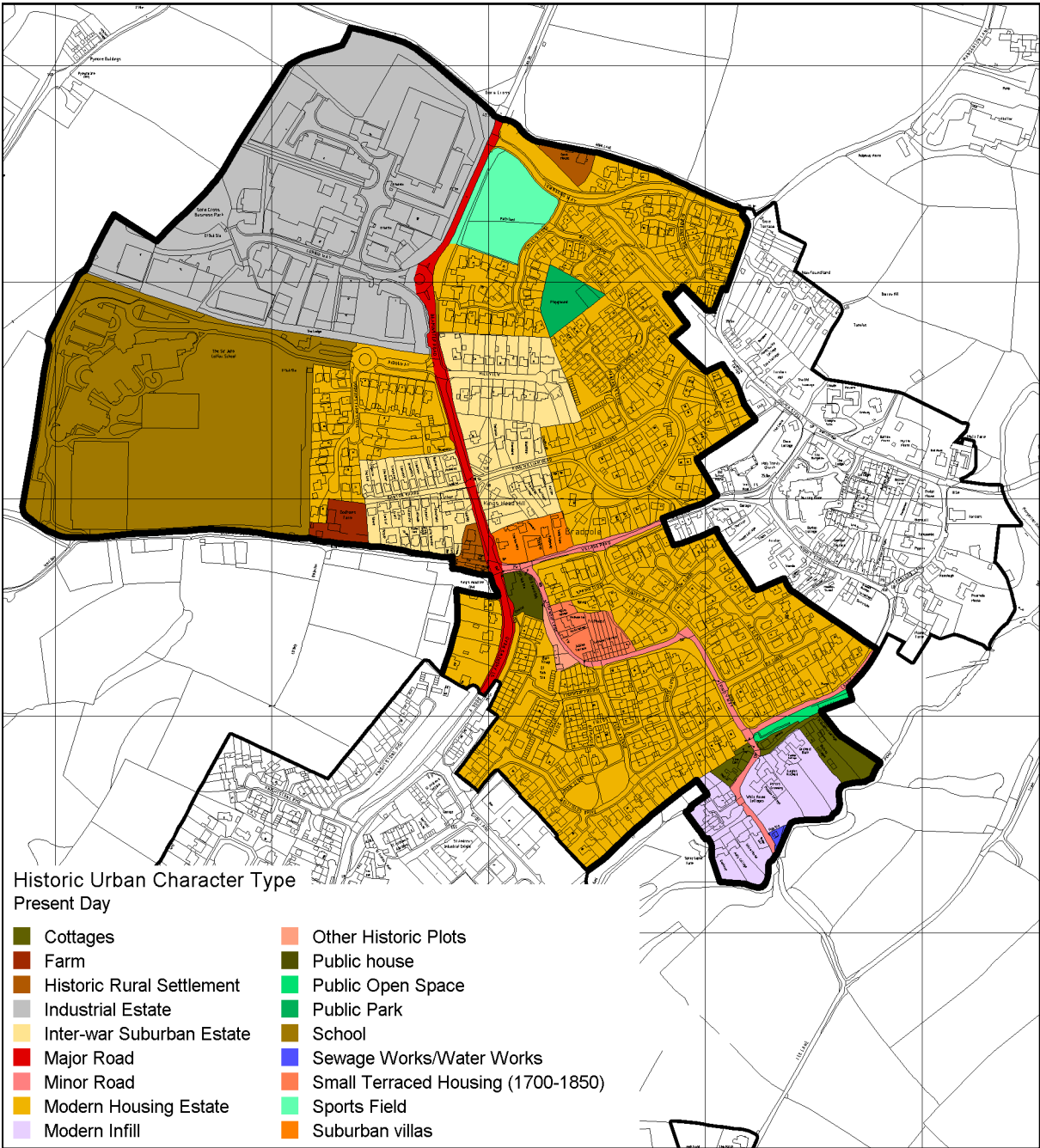


Figure 148: Map of Historic Urban Character Area 13 showing current historic urban character type.

Bridport Historic Urban Character Area 13 Structure of Character Area

Overview

This character area lies to the west of the historic core of Bradpole and is the area of modern suburban expansion from Bridport. It is comprised largely of modern elements and most of the area was agricultural land until the 20th century.

Topography and Geology

The north and west part lie on top of the broad ridge between the Brit and Asker/Mangerton rivers, with the ground sloping down into the Asker valley to the south and east. The upper part of the ridge is on Beacon Limestone and the slopes to the east are on Bridport Sands.

Urban Structure

There is one major road running through the area, with two smaller lanes, Fishtail Lane and Village Road off it. Most of area does not relate directly to the major or minor routes, but consists of a network of looped roads and culs-de-sac giving access to the suburban housing estates which form a predominant part of this area.

Present Character

Figure 148 shows the present day historic urban character types. The area is predominantly Modern Housing Estate, Industrial Estate and School, with small areas of Inter-war Suburban Estate, Cottages, Public House and Sports Field. Other minor historic urban character types include Small Terraced Housing (1700-1850), Historic Rural Settlement, Farm, Public Park, Sewage Works/Water Works and Modern Infill.

Time Depth

The historic elements are concentrated around the junction of St Andrew's Road and Village Road. The oldest component of this character area is the route along St Andrews Road and Village Road, which forms the original historic road and may be Saxon or earlier in origin.



Figure 149: Railway and Level Crossing Caley Way, Bradpole.

Beaminster Road, north of this junction, is a late 18th century turnpike road. A small remnant of disused railway survives at the south end of the area.

Other than a small group of 19th century houses on Fishweir Lane and the 19th century Gore House on the northern edge of the area, almost all of the remaining components are 20th century. On King's Head Hill are some small housing developments of inter-war date, but the majority date to the post-war and modern period and are much more extensive. These were built in former agricultural land and the field boundaries have to a large extent become fossilised in the layout of the estates.

Settlement Pattern and Streetscape

The settlement pattern is one of low density housing within planned housing estates. The layout of these is fairly typical, with largely linear or curvilinear looped networks and culs-de-sac and the houses laid out in a regular pattern along the roads. There are very few buildings set directly on the street frontages and very few buildings that relate directly to the main through route. Most of the houses are set well back from the roads behind front gardens.

There are a small number of open green spaces, but there is an open feel with grass verges to some estate roads and occasional mature trees and hedges. There are views of the surrounding countryside from many parts of the area.

**Bridport Historic Urban Character Area 13
Built Character*****Building types***

Other than the small number of isolated of historic buildings of 18th and 19th century date, this character area has 20th century buildings. The King's Head Public House is an 18th or early 19th century inn. On the opposite side of the road are the early 19th century brick cottages, 269 and 271 St Andrew's Road. Behind the King's Head on Fishweir Lane is Ball Knap, a mid 19th century stone cottage.

The majority of houses are typical of modern estate housing, a mix of bungalows, detached, semi-detached and short terraces, with little reference made to local traditions or raw materials. Colfox School is a modern purpose-built school, of interest chiefly as the first private finance initiative school in the country. The buildings of Gore Cross Business Park are typical modern steel-framed light industrial units.

Building Materials

The historic buildings are generally brick with slate roofs. The modern buildings are constructed from a range of non-local materials, mainly brick with concrete tile roofs. The modern industrial buildings are steel-framed metal-clad sheds.

Key Buildings

The key buildings are the King's Head Public House, Ball Knap and 269 and 271 St Andrew's Road.



Figure 150: Kings Head Public House, St Andrews Road, Bradpole.

Bridport Historic Urban Character Area 13 Archaeology

Archaeological Investigations

There have been no archaeological investigations in this character area.

Archaeological Character

The lack of any archaeological investigation in this area constrains consideration of the archaeological resource and the archaeological character remains unknown. However, the area lies on the edge of the Mangerton valley and partly along an historic route and may contain evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity. Figure 151 shows historic boundaries depicted on maps dated to the 19th century, mainly earlier field boundaries fossilised in modern developments.

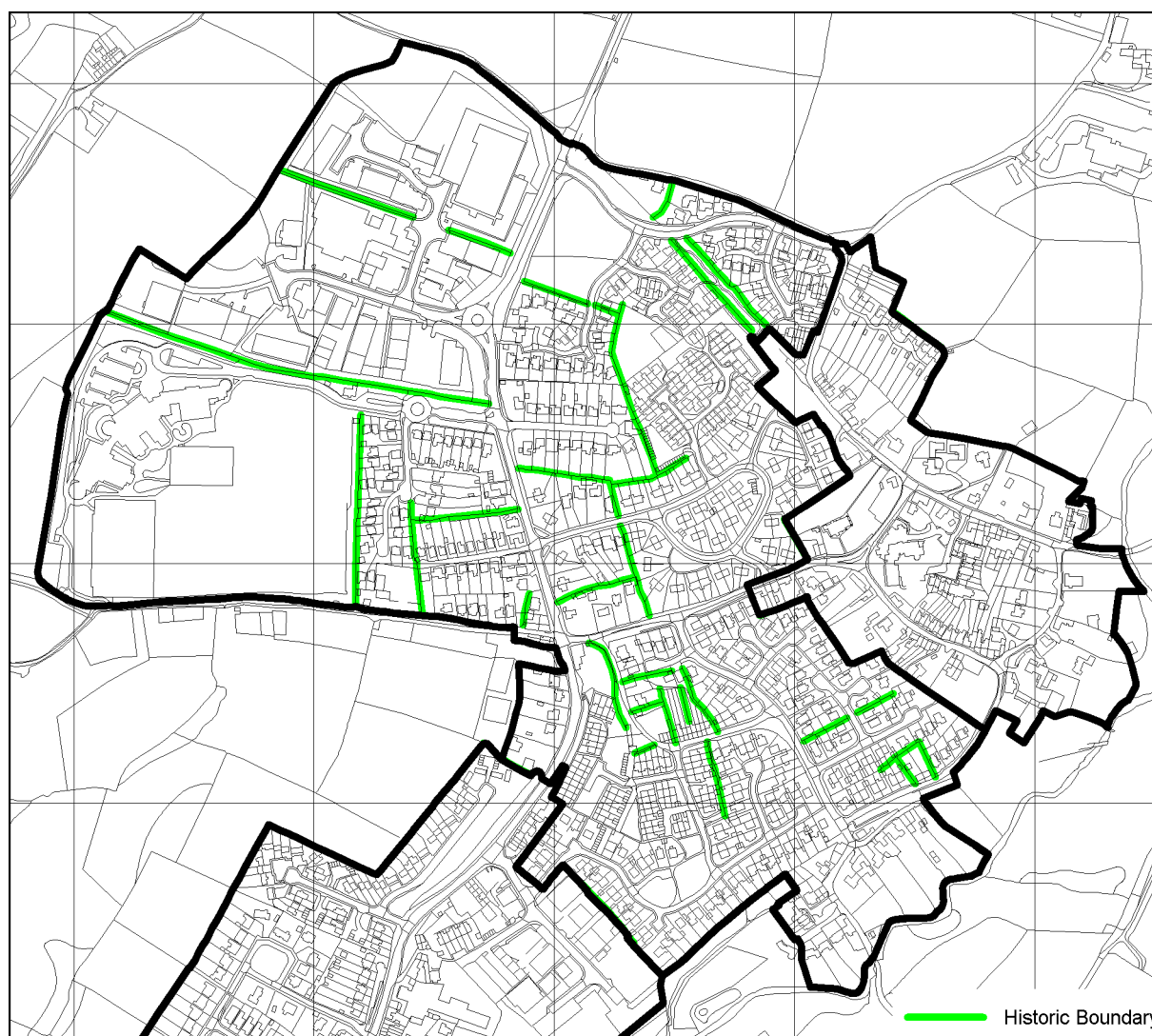


Figure 151: Archaeological features in Historic Urban Character Area 13.

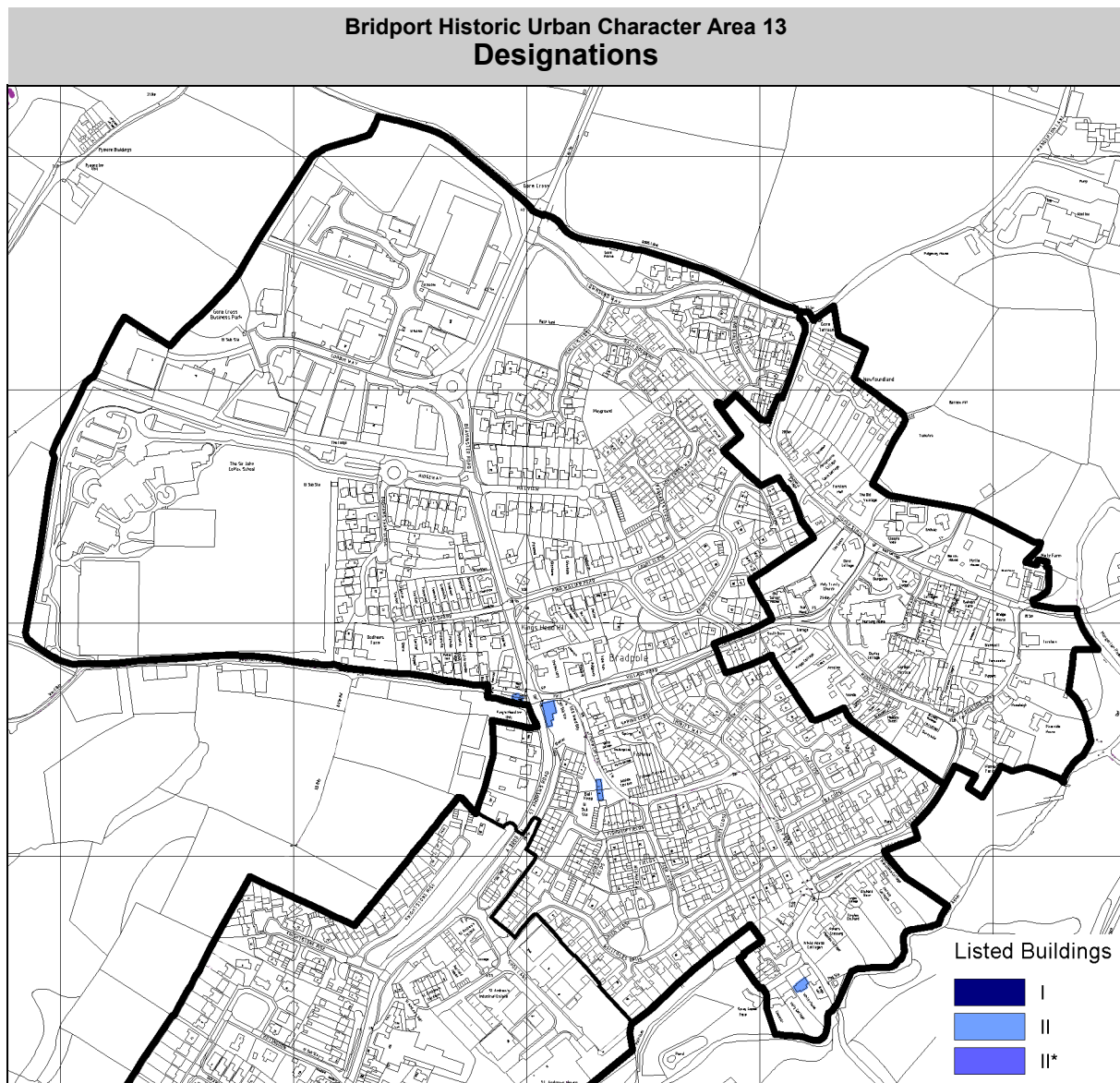


Figure 152: Listed Buildings and other designations in Historic Urban Character Area 13.

Listed Buildings

There are 4 Listed Buildings in the Character Area, all Grade II.

Conservation Areas

This Character Area lies outside the Bradpole Conservation Area (Figure 41).

Registered Historic Parks and Gardens

There are no Registered Parks and Gardens within the Character Area.

Scheduled Monuments

No Scheduled Monuments lie within this character area.

**Bridport Historic Urban Character Area 13
Evaluation**

Strength of Historic Character

The strength of character of this area is judged to be **Weak**. Most of this area was farmland until the mid-late 20th century. There are a small number of historic buildings and a few historic field boundaries have been fossilised in modern housing estate boundaries. However, the historic character of this area has been subsumed beneath considerable modern development.

Sensitivity to Large Scale Development

The area has a **Low** sensitivity to major change. It is characterised by major later 20th century development, including housing estates, an industrial estate and a large modern school. The major sensitivity to change lies in the areas adjacent to the historic village of Bradpole.

Archaeological Potential

The archaeological potential of this area is judged to be **Low**. It lies beyond the historic core of Bridport and Bradpole on land that prior to the 20th century was agricultural land. The survival of archaeological deposits and features is assessed to be low to medium.

This area has the potential to provide information which could contribute to Research Question 1 (Part 7).

Key Characteristics

- Small group of historic buildings near junction of St Andrews Road and Village Road
- Historic roads and lanes
- Remains of former railway line at Caley Way
- Modern housing estates