

The northern and western sides of the triangle are formed by The Spread Eagle Public House, Hawkey House and Plestor House, together with the 19th Century barn adjoining it.



Plestor House is impressively proportioned; it dates from the early 18th Century and is built of colour wash brick. ▼ The house is a Grade II Listed Building and stands on the south side of the Plestor; it has sash windows, with elegant glazing bars. The door case is recessed and panelled with a 18th century surround and flat hood.



The Spread Eagle Public House is 17th Century and built partly of colour washed brick and partly of local ironstone cobble. The southern portion is a Victorian addition with sash windows glazing bars and a slate roof. The building has a catslide clay tile roof to the rear. The public house is believed to have associations with the Knights Templars at Lyss Place.

Other Buildings and Materials

A variety of materials are used for building in West Liss. Most buildings show signs of stone building - either ironstone or malmstone cobbles; these are randomly coursed. Sometimes brick has been used with stucco or render and painted. Roofs are generally slate or red clay plain tiles. The almshouses near Church Street are an example of the combined use of stone cobbles with brick quoins and dressings.

In Church Street the variety of design and materials of the late 17th and 18th Century cottages and their small scale make an attractive group of buildings forming an entrance to the Church. ►

Part of Church Street has late Victorian stableyard paving adjacent to the walls of The Saddlers.

The walls of St Peter's Church, built in the 13th Century, are of local malmstone with greensand dressings. The tower walls are mostly built of a local brown ironstone whilst the main walls are of softer sandstone. The belfry spire is shingled and boarded.

Burgates Farm lies immediately north of Church Street. The farm house is believed to be mid 19th Century; it is built of ironstone with a clay tiled roof and was a Horsham slate eaves course. The farmhouse is a prominent feature of the roadside edge. The farm buildings (mainly 18th century) are mostly built of local materials and provide an example of a traditional farm yard without the substantial intrusion of larger modern buildings.

An important feature of the western edge of Farnham Road, running south into the Conservation Area, is a high ironstone and part brick wall; this continues as far as the Plestor.

New Development in the Conservation Area

The design of new buildings and extensions, alterations to buildings or new uses within the Conservation Area will all affect its character. The design of development will need to respect the details, overall form and materials used within the Conservation Area, together with the trees which make a major contribution to its setting. New development should seek to blend in with the surrounding buildings and make use of local building materials in traditional forms.

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

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

Further Reading and References to West Liss

- Victorian County History.
- Hampshire Treasurers.

For further information contact:

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Conservation Area



WEST LISS



Introduction & Brief History

The Conservation Area was designated in 1977.

The historic centre of Liss lies at West Liss, approximately three quarters of a mile north west of the village centre on the main A325 Farnham to Petersfield road.

There has been continuous occupation in West Liss since the late Bronze Age.

The name of the village has its roots in the Celtic "Lyss" (meaning court house) and indicates that the settlement continued Romano-British in nature after the conquest by the Anglo Saxons in the 7th Century.

Earliest records indicate that West Liss was under the jurisdiction of the Abbess of St Mary Winchester. The Nuns of St Mary held the manor known as Lyss Abbas until its dissolution in 1537.

The secular parish of Liss grew around St Peter's Church, beside the main road; it was concentrated on the western side of the Church, the other side being Glebe land.

The 19th Century saw the rapid growth of a new and separate settlement, East Liss, with the coming of the railway in 1857 (see Liss Conservation Area).

The Character of the Conservation Area

The character of West Liss Conservation Area focuses on two groups of historic buildings:-

- around the junction of Church Street and the Farnham Road; and
- around the Plestor Upper Green and The Spread Eagle Public House.

Throughout West Liss the trees, hedgerows and ironstone walls make an important contribution to the setting of buildings in the Conservation Area, particularly on the approach to the Plestor and near to the Church.

Upon entering Church Street the view is confined by the narrowness of the road formed by the closeness of cottages on either side; the church is hidden from view. Proceeding towards the Church the scene gradually unfolds until St Peter's Church (13th Century), the Churchyard and surrounding fields can be seen. From the churchyard there are views towards the Plestor and the rear of The Spread Eagle Public House.



Several trees, including Yews, provide a framed setting for the Church. An ironstone wall at the head of Church Street provides a low visual and physical boundary to the eastern side of the churchyard.

At the head of Church Street a pinchpoint is formed with the former A325. This includes some 'almshouses' erected by C.G. Coryton in 1881; they all have simple boarded doors, Gothic style windows and tall corbelled chimneys. ▼ Opposite the almshouses a second pinch point is formed by the Post Office, two shops with Edwardian style shopfronts and The Old Rectory and Old Rectory Cottage.



The Rectory is by a local architect, A Withers; it was constructed in 1863 and has typical lancet windows rising into gabled dormers.

The second part of the village, The Plestor and Upper Green, lies to the south of Church Street where a triangle is formed by the old A325 and the road to Hawkley. The centre of the triangle is The Plestor, a small green in which there is a hollow tree known as The Stocks or Taro Oak, from its associations with the local justice and the annual fair.

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