

# Conservation Areas

## What is a Conservation Area?

A conservation area is an area of special architectural or historical interest where it is important to preserve or enhance its character and setting. These areas will naturally be of many different kinds, and may be whole villages or a stretch of canal. While they are often focused on listed buildings, this is not always the case. Other attractive open spaces, trees or features of historic or architectural interest may also contribute to the special character of an area.



It is the overall character of an area which the designation of a conservation area seeks to preserve and enhance, and not just the individual buildings. Conservation area designations not only take into account of architectural and historic merit of the buildings but also the relationship of those buildings to their settings. There is a statutory duty to ensure the preservation and enhancement of its conservation areas. Thus development is normally permitted only if it doesn't cause demonstrable harm to the character of the conservation area as it is recognised that the setting of the Conservation Area makes a major contribution to its character and amenity.

Crookham Village has three conservation areas. The Crookham Village Conservation Area covers The Street and Crondall Road while the Dogmersfield Conservation Area lies at the west end of the village and extends to the rear of the properties on Hitches Lane.



The Basingstoke Canal Conservation Area covers the canal itself as well as the buildings and bridges which have typical architectural and engineering features. The Canal also provides the setting for several historic buildings within Crookham Village, which has a strong association with the canal and reflects its historic development in the architecture of the adjacent cottages. The use of the canal as a 'stop-line' during the Second World War is represented by the survival of numerous pillboxes and other features along parts of its length.

