# **Look At Romsey**

Romsey Town Design Statement

for Romsey Town and Romsey Extra



# Area 6 Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road



ke Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Core, Harefield and Little Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Old Town, Town Centre Outer Core, Harefield and Little Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Core, Harefield and Little Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cuper, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road, Lower Cupernham and Fish Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old

ter Road, Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Out



# **Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road Design Statement**

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This section of the Look at Romsey project was prepared by a team of volunteers in Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road under the guidance of the Romsey and District Society. It was presented to Test Valley Borough Council in June 2006. It was adopted as a Supplementary Planning



Durban Close in springtime

# Setting and Landscape Including Views

Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road lie on the eastern bank of the Test Valley. A few houses stand on level ground above the slope in both Woodley Lane and Winchester Road. To the south of Winchester Road, the land slopes down to Tadburn Lake notably in part of The Crescent. The area of this study is made up of the main slope, together with some level ground to the east.

The area is bounded by Cupernham Lane to the west and the railway line to Chandlers Ford to the south. The northern boundary runs behind Brook Way and the eastern boundary is a complex line that includes some of the houses on the east of Woodley Lane and then skirts around south of Fairview Drive before turning north east to include the houses that are adjacent to Winchester Road. These include houses in The Crescent some of which are on the valley slope above Tadburn Lake near the railway line.



Brook Way with the stream hidden in a culvert

Winchester Road is part of the A3090, and Cupernham Lane that spurs off it to the north is a local distributor road, although it carries heavy traffic to various industrial estates. Woodley Lane and, to a lesser extent, Richmond Lane serve local through traffic. The other roads in this area are purely residential and used for access only.

Cupernham Lane runs along the contour line, so is fairly level, whereas Woodley Lane, Richmond Lane and Brook Way run across the contours and are constructed on the slope of the hill.



View from Durban Close

An original water course from a spring-fed pond to the rear of number 15 Brook Way runs under the back gardens of houses on the south-eastern side of the road to re-emerge in the garden of number 47 and then flows down to the Canal. This stream is one of several small streams in the Cupernham area.

Much of the area was traditionally farm land, with some places from which sand and gravel were extracted. The routes of Cupernham Lane, Winchester Road, Woodley Lane and Richmond Lane were all established by the early nineteenth century. The other roads in this part of Romsey were created in the twentieth century, with the exception of part of The Crescent.

The slope of the land means that there are excellent views across the Test valley. The centre of Romsey, especially the Abbey, and the western hills above the valley can be seen from many places in this part of Romsey. From the southern part of the area, especially in places close to Winchester Road such as the hospital car park, the trees and the two chapels of Botley Road Cemetery form part of the skyline.



View of Halterworth from Hospital

#### **Settlement Pattern**

Before the mid-nineteenth century there were few buildings in this part of Romsey. Travellers using the eastbound road came under the Sun Arch railway bridge and worked their way up the hill towards Winchester. However, as the century progressed, a few wealthy people started to build villas along the road, starting with Chirk Lodge and progressing eastwards. These villas were amongst the largest houses in Romsey and stood in substantial grounds. A more modest development took place with the creation of The Crescent, a line of detached turn-of-the-century houses perched on the edge of the slope that leads down the Tadburn valley.



The Crescent

Romsey Hospital was moved to Winchester Road from Greatbridge Road in 1931. Below the hospital, adjacent to the railway line, is a substantial piece of land that was, for many years, its kitchen garden. This plot is landlocked and has no easy vehicular access. There are car parks both east and west (above and below) the hospital with separate entrances from the main road.

Winchester Road is very steep in the vicinity of the hospital and the road is in a cutting to make the slope easier. On either side, the banks of the cutting are covered with grass, above which are shrubs and hedges. On the northern side, there are some small trees. At the top of the hill is a car show room, together with a convenience shop (Co-op) and petrol station.



Winchester Hill

There is a small industrial site adjacent to the garage with buildings that lie to the west and on the hillside and they have an emergency exit into Cupernham Lane. These buildings are partially screened by the bank, although they are particularly obvious from The Crescent. However, there is a more level stretch of grass near the entrance to the garage on which cars are sometimes parked as part of the garage's advertising activities.



Industrial and Cars Sales

Apart from the villas that lie on either side of the road, there are several small developments that have been built on the backlands, often in plots that once contained villas. The first of these, on the north, is Bow Lane which is adjacent to the garage. Windfield Drive is the second of these developments and there is a third one, the houses being numbered as part of Winchester Road.



Windfield Drive

On the south side of Winchester Road, The Crescent is an old example of backland development and Deansfield Close is a small modern one. The Crescent is partially a private road. It is a crescent, but with a side shoot that leads down the hill. Whereas the first houses are Victorian, some are much more recent. The Crescent dwellings have names not house numbers and the same is true of the adjacent part of Winchester Road. Nerquis Close is a small development that replaced a substantial house and grounds in The Crescent.



Nerquis Close

There are blocks of flats in the south-west corner of the area adjacent to the Sun Arch which are less than ten years old and Clarence House, to the east of The Crescent, has been rebuilt as a small apartment block.

The 1920s and 1930s saw development in Upper Cupernham along the eastern side of Cupernham Lane. These buildings were mostly bungalows, although some houses date from this period. They were very much individual properties in large plots of land and have no common building line. As the land slopes upwards from the road, they are largely hidden from the casual observer.



Drives leading to houses above Cupernham Lane

There are several houses that lie above these and which are reached by means of private drives. Some of these houses have been built since the Second World War.

Finally, there are a few houses and bungalows to the north of the junction with Richmond Lane and Cupernham Lane, some of which lie beyond the roundabout that marks the intersection with Fishlake Meadows.

Much of Woodley Lane has bungalows, both on the northern side of the slope and on the eastern side of the level ground where the road turns due north. Both these groups of bungalows have common building lines.



Bungalow on Woodley Lane

There are a few houses that intersperse the bungalows, which have been built at various times since the First World War. Durban House is older than most of the other houses. It stands on the crest of the hill above Durban Close and is now a nursing home.



Durban House (from Durban Close)

Most of the upper Cupernham area was developed in the period of large scale housing development in the town during the 1960s and 1970s, although some groups of houses are more recent. Houses were built in Richmond Lane and part of Brook Way, but bungalows are common throughout Carisbrooke Court, Durban Close, Cupernham Close and the northern side of Brook Way, in particular. Both bungalows and houses throughout upper Cupernham are detached and most have substantial gardens.

Barton Close and the adjacent parts of Fairview Drive, although adjacent to a different form of housing in Woodley, are typical of Upper Cupernham. They comprise a small group of substantial buildings although with gardens that are relatively small for this area.



Ashley Meadows

In this they are similar to Ashley Meadows which is a turning off Woodley Lane. The houses in this development are grouped around a circular mound, with two offshoots to south and east.

Durban Close and Carisbrooke Court are both hillside developments. The entrance to Durban Close is off Cupernham Lane, with its spur called Cupernham Close. Carisbrooke Court is approached from Woodley Lane and splits into three sections at the top of the hill, but the whole development has a common name.



**Durban Close** 

Richmond Lane is the most northerly turning off Cupernham Lane in this part of Romsey. The narrow road curves across the slope of the hill and thus does not give good sight lines for drivers. On each side of the road the houses have a regular building line although they are set well back from the lane. This is partly to make a statement about the relative size of their gardens, and partly a way of responding to the contours of the hill side.



Richmond Lane, looking North East

Brook Way leads off Richmond Lane. The houses on the south-eastern side are below the level of the roadway. The north-western side of the road is lined with bungalows set above the road level forming a line of buildings on the edge of urban Romsey. The pavement is separated from the road by grass in places and enriched by bulbs in the spring. It is a feature of the area that it has a very settled population, many of the original owners of the late twentieth-century houses still living in them.



Brook Way, looking South West

### **Design Guidelines**

Any development should seek to respect existing building lines.

# **Open and Other Spaces**

With one exception, there is little open space in this part of Romsey other than the grounds of the hospital which are private. The entrance to Carisbrooke Court includes a small open area with trees across it. There is a small playground adjacent to Chirk Place and some properties have large private gardens.



Playground Chirk Place

The exception is the green in the centre of Ashley Meadows. This is in the form of a mound and has always proved a very special place for children to play. It provides a focus where residents organise various communal gatherings, which are attended by both present and past residents.



Ashley Meadows' mound

Residents of the centre part and south parts of the area are largely without easy access to public open space. They can walk down through lower Cupernham to Martha's Piece and the open land of Fishlake Meadows but the access is not straightforward and crossing Cupernham Lane between Woodley Lane and Richmond Lane is widely perceived as unsafe. Nonetheless many of the residents of upper Cupernham walk down to the canal and use Canal Walk as a route into town.

There is no obvious off-road option to reach the town centre for the people who live along Winchester Road. The Sun Arch is disliked by pedestrians especially on wet days. Although Winchester Road is physically close to Tadburn Meadows, the absence of a way to cross the railway line blocks off access to that open space.



Sun Arch

# **Building Form**

#### Large Buildings

The most conspicuous building in Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road is the Peugeot garage on the brow of the hill beside the A3090. Its mid-blue façade, facing south and east dominates the skyline for people coming up the hill. To the east are associated show rooms and a convenience shop which are in single-storey buildings with flat roofs. There is a flat-roofed bright green canopy over the petrol pumps with a large matching sign. The shop area contains limited parking places for customers, including for those using the cash withdrawal point.



Garage and Convenience Shop

Behind these buildings is a range of warehouse sheds under pitched roofs of corrugated panels and a bungalow. The grass bank alongside the road and the slope of the land behind means that these buildings are largely hidden from view.

Romsey Hospital is opposite the garage and is set back from the main road. The hospital has been extended and renovated extensively in recent years. The grounds include a small summer house.



Romsey Hospital's new entrance

The older part of the building is on two storeys, but most of the extensions are at ground floor only. The buildings are brick under shallow pitched gable roofs.

There are only four other buildings that come anywhere near these in size, Chirk Lodge, Chirk Place, Clarence House and Durban House. Chirk Lodge is a private house, set back in its own grounds and not visible from the main road. Below Chirk Lodge is Chirk Place which is a group of purpose-built flats. They consist of three separate buildings each one three storeys high with a porch consisting of a gable roof supported by pillars making a pleasant feature. Some of the flats have attractive metal balconies.



Chirk Place

Clarence House is beyond the eastern end of The Crescent and is a small purpose built apartment block of six flats, up to three storeys high. It is built of red brick and under a complex pitched grey roof with simple finials on the end of each gable. There is a bay on the front of the house that extends to the second floor thus forming a small balcony for the flat on the third floor.



Clarence House

Durban House is the other substantial building in this part of Romsey. It is a nursing home that was built as a villa at the turn of the twentieth century. It is brick built, with a substantial bay on the south west corner that rises to a separate gable roof. The house is built of red brick with the lintels and cills of the windows picked out in white.



**Durban House** 

Although the windows are no longer sash, the single horizontal bar across the middle of the glass has been retained, thus preserving the feel of the original. A small balcony overlooks the Test Valley. The roof has a shallow pitch under slate with lead flashing at the various changes of direction. It includes several courses of slates cut to give a fishscale finish.

#### Winchester Road and its Offshoots

The level ground along Winchester Road has a series of large houses set back in their own grounds. There is no common building line and the houses are of varying ages. On the north side of the road there are fifteen houses whose grounds face the road, as well as some built behind others. These houses were built at different times over the course of the last century or before. They are principally brick-built two-storey houses of widely differing styles. They are difficult to see from the road as they are screened by hedges and bushes.

There are three groups of building to the north-west of Winchester Road. The oldest of these is Bow Lane, a collection of nine homes, including three substantial houses, two pairs of semi-detached houses and two bungalows.

One pair of semi-detached houses bears the hallmarks of the Arts and Crafts movement. This matching pair of houses is built of red bricks. The front doors are between the bays and behind substantial porches under the catslide main roof and below dormer windows.



Bow Lane (Arts and Crafts design)

Further along Winchester Road, there are two more small groups of houses on the north. Windfield Drive consists of six substantial houses built in the last twenty years. They are double fronted, with deep bays under gable roofs. They are built of grey bricks but with red bricks used as decoration especially around the windows. They have elaborate porches under gable roofs and integral garages.

Deansfield Close on the southern side of Winchester Road is another example of backland development where a large single plot has been divided to make way for six houses. Although primarily brick built, the two houses that face up the close have white rendering on their upper storeys that makes them very conspicuous even from Winchester Road.

#### The Crescent

The Crescent is a very mixed development. The common feature is that all the properties are detached in their own grounds. Beyond that the sheer variety of styles is remarkable. Some of the houses are constructed of rich red bricks and date back to late Victorian and early Edwardian times. Some of these are double fronted with bow windows.



The Crescent

There are several bungalows built in a red brick that was popular as a material in the 1960s when they were built. One bungalow is rendered in pebble dash, another partly rendered in white.

At the bottom of the hill there are six double fronted houses built in the late twentieth century. Opposite them are four houses, reached up steps with balconies over projecting garages. Because the garages are on the ground floor level, the front doors are on the first floor.



The Crescent, garages below houses

There is a similar pair of bungalows in Cupernham Lane, where the living accommodation is above the garage. The Cupernham Lane pair have a wall faced with stone between their steps.

The two most striking houses in The Crescent are at either end of the entrances. One has a plaque dating it to 1885 and it is notable for its soaring chimneys. It lies well back from the road and cannot easily be seen from the public highway apart from its substantial gable roofed porch supported on decorative white painted wooden pillars. It has attractive dormer windows, has many gables and the various ends of the roofs are highlighted with ornamental finials.



Porch with decorative pillars

At the eastern end of The Crescent there is another Victorian villa, the notable feature of which is the terracotta and tile decoration. Many of its original windows have been replaced with plain panes of glass, although some of the Victorian fenestration is still apparent.



Victorian Villa with decorative tiles

#### **Woodley Lane**

There is a small group of four houses between Fairview Drive and Ashley Meadows. Three of these were built in the early 1920s. One of them has very attractive bricks laid alternately header and stretcher in each course, Flemish bond. There are curved brick arches above the windows with three tiles at the apex. Within these arches are decorative lozenges. The house has retained its original front door.



1920s house Woodley Lane

Next door to this house is a pair of semi-detached properties. They are brick downstairs but white painted roughcast finish upstairs. Each house has a bay that runs up to a gable at roof level. Both above the doors and below the gables, there is a decorative course consisting of wood dentilation.

The bungalows that line the hillside opposite all have complex shapes. Some are L-shaped, but others form an h-shape or a more elaborate footprint. Although they were built around the same time, they have subsequently been extended in different ways. However they have mostly remained as bungalows and have not been converted into houses or chalet-style bungalows as has happened in some parts of Romsey.



Extended bungalow in Woodley Lane

Originally they were all faced with red brick, but their extensions have introduced a variety of finishes including stained weather boarding on the gables of one and render on the street face on a wing on another. In a similar way, the bungalows along the eastern side of the level stretch of the road have been altered and modernised. Their extensions are often to the rear, so that there is less obvious change in shape than has taken place on the hill side. Some of these bungalows still have original diamond shaped roofing material, and one has similar material on a side wall.

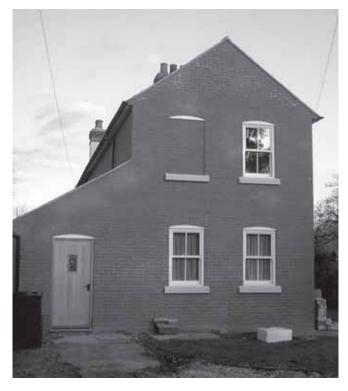


Bungalow with diamond roof tiles

North of the bungalows is a pair of cottages at right-angles to the road that were originally built as tied cottages. They are red brick with slate roofs. Beyond them are four more dwellings, two of which are chalet-style with interlocking tiles and tile-hanging on the upper storeys.



Tied Cottages before alterations



End cottage after alterations

On the western side of Woodley Lane, the change in road level marks a change in housing style. Once the road levels off, bungalows give way to Durban House and a variety of housing, apparently built on two different building lines. The houses differ from each other in appearance and age. Part of a bungalow is faced with barge boards which is an uncommon feature in this part of Romsey.



Extended 19th Century house

Two modern houses are decorated with hung tiles below have pantile roofs. They were built in the grounds of a former coal yard that belonged to the adjacent Victorian house. As is common throughout upper Cupernham and Winchester Road, these houses all have chimneys, although not particularly remarkable in style.

#### Fairview Drive and Barton Close

The houses in the south and west sides of Fairview Drive and in Barton Close are substantial detached houses. They are mostly built at right-angles to the road, with gable ends facing the street. Some of the houses have bow windows at ground floor level, covered by a ridge that extends across the porch.



**Barton Close** 

The houses in Barton Close are built of stippled yellow bricks with pantile roofs and with some tile hanging on the walls. The houses in Fairview Drive have red bricks.



Fairview Drive, new infill

#### **Ashley Meadows**

The 31 houses in Ashley Meadows were built towards the end of the 1960s and early 1970s and they have four or five bedrooms. There are three designs. Four houses have a triangular sideways pitch roof, eleven have an asymmetric sideways pitch roof and the remaining have front to rear pitch roofs. The houses are either brick or tile faced. Several houses have replaced the original doors and windows but they still closely follow the previous design.

The houses all have open plan gardens to the front and medium-sized rear gardens. These gardens are now well established. Some houses have tandem garages which are too narrow for many makes of modern cars.

#### Carisbrooke Court

As is common elsewhere on the steeper Cupernham slopes, the buildings in Carisbrooke Court are mostly bungalows with superb views across the Test Valley. There are a few houses near the entrance to the road and these are tile hung on the upper storey. Beyond these, the road splits into three sections each of which is on the hillside.



Carisbrooke Court

The bungalows are brick built in red or yellow bricks. Some have areas of stone cladding. They all have large picture windows and chimneys. The roofs are covered with interlocking tiles. Some buildings face the road while others are set at right angles to it. Many have had extensions added to the original units. Detached garages are normal in this estate.

## **Cupernham Lane**

Most of the houses along the eastern side of Cupernham Lane are bungalows. Some are close to their original size and shape, but many have been extensively modernised and often extended. Except for the four at the northern end of the road, they are all different.



Older Houses, Cupernham Lane

Amongst the properties are houses, some of which are older than the bungalows. These houses contain some charming features. For example one of them has a row of coloured glass above a casement window. Another has a row of scalloped ridge tiles over a slate roof. There is a pair of houses, each of which has several small gables over dormer windows. One of the roofs of these houses has a terracotta bird finial, and a fleur-de-lys on its outbuilding. This outbuilding is notable for having a chimney and being roofed with clay tiles.



Fleur-de-lys on outbuilding



Terracotta bird

### **Durban Close and Cupernham Close**

These two closes, being on the hillside, consist of bungalows each of which is in its own substantial plot. Some of them have very striking façades that have been split vertically, so that one part of the wall is rendered and painted while the other is brick finished.



**Durban Close** 

Some of the others have brick pillars at the corners and a stone finish between, with a tile hung gable above. Other houses have façades that have been split horizontally just above the window sills, with small stones below and weather boarding above.

#### **Richmond Lane**

Richmond Lane consists of a mixture of houses and bungalows. Twenty-five properties in the lane date from the 1960s and lie well back from the road and there is one built in 2005. They have long steep drives to accommodate the sloping land on which they are built and they all have excellent views across the Test Valley.



Richmond Lane, above the road

Some of the bungalows in Carisbrooke Court have grounds that abut Richmond Lane. Houses with addresses in 'Richmond Lane' lie above these on the southern side of the road. The houses on the northern or lower side of Richmond Lane have larger footprints than those opposite. Near the entrance to Brook Way there are chalet style houses. The houses are brick built, red or yellow and have integral garages. Those on the upper, northern side of Richmond Lane are of yellow and red mix brick, similar to that of Brook Way, and were built in the same period. Some of them have substantial single storey projecting wings under pitched roofs.

#### **Brook Way**

Brook Way is a 1960s development on the site of the former Brook House. A number of the residents have lived in Brook Way for over 30 years. Brook Way runs from Richmond Lane to Woodley Lane in an elongated semi circle with an extension into a cul de sac at the eastern end. The properties consist of a mix of detached houses, chalet style houses and bungalows.

The northern side of the road consists almost entirely of bungalows in a mix of designs.

All are constructed of brick and concrete tile. The bricks are either local Michelmersh or London Sanded texture. All the tiles are interlocking concrete. The properties on this side are generally at a higher level than the road some having fairly steep drives.



Brook Way, looking North East

On the south side of the road are properties with a ground and first floor with the exception of one bungalow at the junction with Woodley Lane. A few houses have balconies on the flat roofs of their garages.

## **Design Guidelines**

- Changes to houses should retain the integrity of their particular area.
- Historic building details such as fenestration should be retained wherever possible.

#### Streets and Street Furniture

Other than the sites on the slope of Winchester Road, the whole of Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road area is residential. Apart from the Co-op, residents use shops in neighbouring areas for their convenience shopping. There is however considerable variation in the streets across the area.

There is a general absence of footpaths that are off-road and people wishing to get from one part of this area of Romsey to another have no option but to use the roadways. The only exceptions are a narrow path that joins the lowest section of The Crescent to the upper section and another that leads from Winchester Road to Selsdon Avenue.

The upper part of The Crescent is a private road and the western half of the upper stretch is not made up. The rest of the road has a tarmac surface, with pavements in the lower portion of the road.

Winchester Road has a filter lane for traffic turning into Cupernham Lane and another for hospital traffic. There is no pedestrian refuge between Cupernham Lane and Viney Avenue. The road is not felt to be convenient or safe for pedestrians, for example those wishing to cross it to go to the convenience stores or bus stops.

Similarly there is no provision to assist pedestrians to cross Cupernham Lane apart from a traffic island by the junction with Winchester Road. Crossing near the junction with Woodley Lane can be difficult because pedestrians have poor sight lines due to the curve of the road.



Winchester Road and Cupernham Lane junction



Traffic queuing on Cupernham Lane

Winchester Road has footpaths along both sides of the road and has several bus stops and shelters. The pavement that runs between the two ends of The Crescent has a grass verge between footpath and road. There is a narrow grass verge on the northern side of Winchester Road east of Bow Lane.

Most of the other roads in this area have pavements. Some have grass between footpath and road, for example at the top of Brook Way or the bottom of Woodley Lane.

The area has some unfortunately placed utilities. The electricity substation at the bottom of Woodley Lane is very conspicuous, and is not enhanced by the scrubby vegetation that surrounds it.



Substation in shrubs, Woodley Lane



Substation road view, Woodley Lane

New street lights have been erected in Richmond Lane which are well liked as they focus light downwards and increase the illumination in the lane.



New street light, Richmond lane

Winchester Road, The Crescent, Cupernham Lane and Woodley Lane all suffer from the presence of overhead cables together with their accompanying poles. For example, in The Crescent eleven cables run from one pole, some of which are very large and visually obtrusive. By contrast the lamp posts are mostly original, having been converted from gas lamps.

# Trees, Hedges and Other Landscape Features

The area has many mature trees that shape its environment. Perhaps the most striking is the row of oak trees behind the bungalows in Brook Way which makes a splendid back drop to the road.



Oaks behind Brook Way

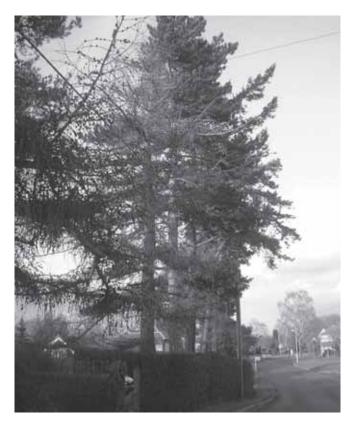
Apart from these trees there are a number of mature trees beside the road in Brook Way, including mountain ash, lime, hawthorn, pine, and birch. The mature oak trees of this area continue into Richmond Lane where they mostly grow on the northern side of the road.

The visitor to Carisbrooke Court sees a row of trees running from south to north across the line of the entrance road. They include a copper beech and a horse chestnut as well as a line of larch trees and a parallel line of mountain ash. Apart from their importance in Carisbrooke Court, they form part of the skyline for Richmond Lane and Brook Way. In addition there are a number of mature trees, including blue pine, particularly in the upper part of the road in private gardens. They add to the parkland feel of this estate.



Parkland trees, Carisbrooke Court

There are several trees on the mound in Ashley Meadows. Some were planted by the builders on completion of the site and one was planted in 2003 in memory of a young resident. Amongst the trees there is a large weeping willow and smaller specimens of maple, mountain ash, prunus and birch.



Pines and larch, Woodley Lane

The side of Woodley Lane between Ashley Meadows and Cupernham Lane contains a number of mature trees, mostly pine, but apart from these, the trees in Woodley Lane are fairly scattered. Much the same is true of the eastern side of Cupernham Lane where there are some trees in front gardens, but the pavement is not wide enough to accommodate trees on public land.



Pine trees, lower Woodley Lane

Winchester Road is mostly lined with high hedges apart from the stretch by the garage and buildings are not particularly apparent.

However it has trees in abundance. Many mature trees between Chirk Place and Chirk Lodge set the scene of villa type development. Species around Chirk Place include lime, ash, larch, cherry, and walnut. There are some mature trees within the grounds of Chirk Lodge including a copper beech and an oak. There are fewer mature trees by the hospital, although the grounds have been extensively landscaped.



Boundary hedges, Winchester Hill

The banks on the slopes on each side of Winchester Hill are not well maintained. Although none are in evidence close to the garage forecourt, too many ash saplings and brambles have been allowed to develop on the northern side of the road and they affect the attractive daffodils and later the ox-eye daisies.

The Crescent and the sides of Winchester Road further east have many mature trees in such number that it is easy to under rate the number of houses that exist in the area. There is a striking Wellingtonia in Nerquis Close which is a landmark feature for traffic coming up the hill. Unfortunately it is near the end of its natural lifespan. There are belts of trees both east and west of The Crescent separating it respectively from the hospital and Selsdon Avenue.



Wellingtonia, Nerquis Close

# **Design Guidelines**

 Trees are very important to this part of Romsey and should be retained.

# Boundary Features e.g. Walls, Fences.

Most of the properties in this part of Romsey have fenced front gardens. Open plan is the exception not the rule, although many of the partitions are formed by low walls and fences. The effect of this form of low fencing is to create a spacious feeling. In Brook Way and parts of Richmond Lane and Woodley Lane the front gardens are separated from the pavements by low walls of Purbeck stone. The rear fences are mainly post and wooden panels.



Low Purbeck walling, Brook Way



Open plan gardens, Woodley Lane

The front gardens of the older properties are commonly surrounded by shrubs and hedges. Some of the large pre-1914 properties have substantial hedges which are landscape features in their own right.

One or two properties have had large wooden fences erected between their front gardens and the street, which changes the feel of the area because of their scale.

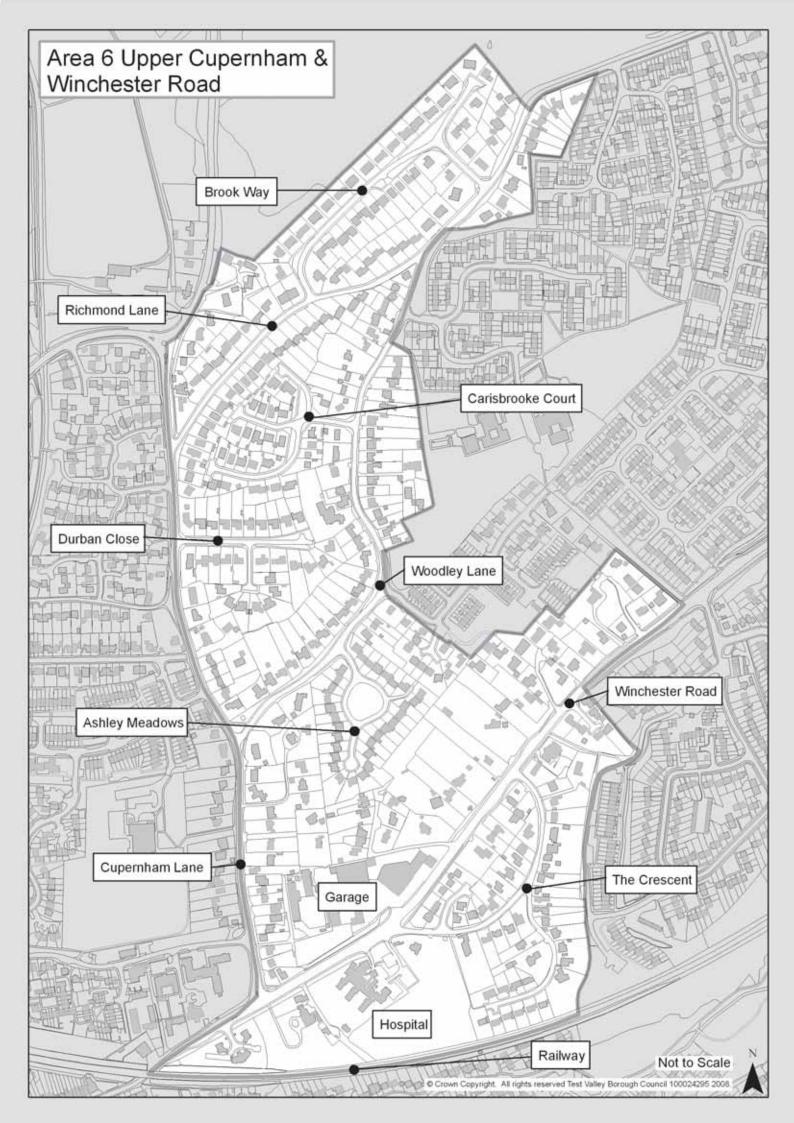
There is a pleasing row of railings separating Clarence House from the main road and one or two of the larger properties have substantial metal gates in this area. Alongside Cupernham Lane, there are some retaining walls between private property and the roadside. Some of these are topped with hedges, but one has decorative railings.



Railing in front of Clarence House

## **Design Guidelines**

 High fences are inappropriate in this area and should be avoided, unless screened by vegetation.



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## Look At Romsey:

h, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road, Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Overview

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#### *Area 2 Halterworth*

pper Cupernham and Winchester Road, Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Core, Harefield and Little

Area 3 Tadburn Valley

#### Area 4 Tadburn Gardens

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# Area 6 Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road

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#### Area 7 Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows

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#### Area 8 Romsey Old Town

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#### Area 9 Town Centre, Outer Core

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#### Area 10 Harefield and Little Woodley

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#### Area 11 Woodley and Ganger

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#### Area 12 Crampmoor and Highwood

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