

# Look At Romsey

Romsey Town Design Statement

for Romsey Town and Romsey Extra



## Area 7 Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows



*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, Gr*  
*Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupe*  
*ger, Crampmoor and Highwood, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road*  
*d, Whitenap, Halterworth, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road, Lower Cupernham and Fish*  
*, Tadburn Valley, Tadburn Gardens, Great Woodley, Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road, Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old*  
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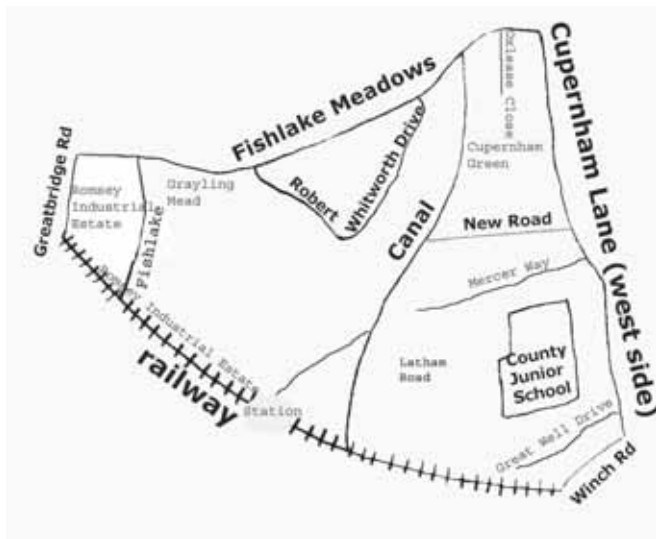
*nham and Fishlake Meadows, Romsey Old Town, Town Centre Outer Core, Harefield and Little Woodley, Woodley and Ganger, Crampmoor and High*

# Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows Design Statement

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This section of the Look at Romsey project was prepared by a team of volunteers in Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows under the guidance of the Romsey and District Society. It was presented to Test Valley Borough Council in February 2006. It was adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document in January 2008.



Sketch map of Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows

## Area Setting and Landscape

Lower Cupernham and the Fishlake Meadows estate lie on the northern side of Romsey, beyond the railway line that divides them from the town centre.

The area is bounded by a short stretch of Winchester Road (A3090) and Cupernham Lane on the east, Fishlake Meadows on the north and Greatbridge Road (A3057) on the west.

The area is traversed from north to south by the old canal. This was the Andover-Redbridge canal and is locally known as ‘the Barge’, ‘Barge River’ or ‘Barge Canal’. To the east of the canal the ground rises up to Cupernham Lane (lower Cupernham). To the west of the canal the ground is level, being part of the valley floor of the River Test (Fishlake Meadows estate).

Robert Whitworth Drive forms a circulatory road within Fishlake Meadows estate and each end of this L-shaped road gives access to the road Fishlake Meadows.

The southern part of lower Cupernham is accessed via Great Well Drive, Latham Road and Mercer Way. Access is gained to the northern part via New Road or Homefield. Oxlease Close opens onto Fishlake Meadows and has no vehicular links with the rest of Cupernham.

Cupernham was an area of agricultural activity from pre-historic times, and old spellings of its name such as Kiperneham or Kippernam suggest that commercial fishing took place in the area in Saxon times. Cupernham Lane is one of the local distributor roads in Romsey. It leads north from Winchester Road and its line was established before 1800. Ribbon development took place along Cupernham Lane after the First World War.

The Canal was opened in 1794 and the stretch through Romsey from Timsbury to the Plaza theatre survives. Elsewhere much of the Canal was replaced in 1865 by a railway line. The canal is crossed by an old road bridge and by two foot bridges. There is a secondary footpath parallel to the tow path which extends the length of The Meadows and Horsecroft from Fishlake Meadows.



Secondary path beside the canal towpath

Part of the tow path is a road called Canal Walk, although with limited vehicular access. It branches away from the canal towards the railway station and the accompanying tunnel thereby providing a route to the town centre. It is much used by both pedestrians and cyclists.

The canal and tow path extend northwards to Timsbury which makes a pleasant walk, but the lack of an off-road section between Timsbury and the Duke's Head reduces its use as a circular walk. There is a shorter circular walk across the meadows to Greatbridge Road.



Tow path north from Fishlake Meadows

Fishlake Meadows area was traditional valley wetlands until the Second World War when pumps were installed to manage the water and dry the land out for crops. The northern part beyond the road is reverting to wetlands. The wildlife that it supports is much appreciated and includes waterfowl, herons, egrets and, on the dryer areas, deer.

Immediately north of the road there is a substantial drainage ditch. It is possible to walk by part of this ditch, but not right along it.

Most of the houses in lower Cupernham date from the 1960s and 1970s. Fishlake Meadows was developed in the 1980s and Oxlease Close followed in the 1990s.

The western side of Fishlake Meadows is traversed by the Fishlake, a braid of the Test that runs southwards parallel to the A3057 and cuts through the Industrial Estate. There is a footpath beside this stream.



Fishlake stream

From many parts of the area, there are views of the hills that form the western boundary of the river valley, in particular, Green Hill and Squabb Wood. In addition, glimpses of Romsey Abbey and the brewery malthouse are features.

## Settlement Pattern

The area includes a substantial industrial estate on the south-west. There is a variety of public and communal buildings to the south-east. North of these the area is wholly residential.



Romsey Industrial Estate

The Romsey Industrial Estate is largely self-contained with a separate entrance for vehicles from Fishlake Meadows. The presence of a low railway bridge on the nearby A3057 causes large vehicles to use Fishlake Meadows when seeking access to the Industrial Estate.



Mercer Newsmarket

The only shop is in Mercer Way. The Sun Inn lies on the extreme south of the area, and faces Winchester Road. It is next to the low railway bridge known as the Sun Arch.



The Sun Inn, Winchester Road

Nearby there are several public and communal establishments. These include county council offices in the Master's House and the Register Office in Hayter House.



Register Office at Hayter House

Nightingale Lodge is a low-rise block of flats built some forty years ago. It provides homes for elderly people. Nearby is Nightingale House which contains the shell of Romsey's Workhouse. It has been comprehensively renovated and extended to provide sheltered housing for elderly people. These buildings are set in their own curtilages and are reached from footpaths or carparks.

Adjacent to Great Well Drive is a doctor's surgery and opposite it is a hut used by the Red Cross. The grounds of Romsey Primary School are adjacent but there is no access from Great Well Drive. The school is reached from Mercer Way or by a footpath from Cupernham Lane. The school grounds separate the groups of housing that surround them.



Surgery in Great Well Drive

The area contains a mixture of housing types. Most of the residential buildings are two-storeys high, although bungalows and blocks of three storey flats are also found. There is considerable variety in house size with, for example, small terrace houses to the south-west of Fishlake Meadows estate and larger houses further north. Most of the streets and houses are laid out in a curving manner and the houses are set back from the street frontage, some being reached along communal drives.

In many parts of Fishlake Meadows and lower Cupernham, it is not apparent which road is which. Most of the area is criss-crossed with pedestrian routes which make it very permeable. Some houses are grouped so that there is no clear distinction between public and private space. This has the effect of giving a spacious feel to the area but makes it difficult for the passer-by to know what areas are public highways.



Houses in New Road

The plots in New Road and Cupernham Lane were laid out many years before the rest of the area was developed. The houses in New Road and Old Road are parallel to the roadway and have small front gardens between them and the pavements. By contrast, the houses in Cupernham Lane have substantial front gardens and no common building line. Their plots of land are of a regular width and all slope downhill to the west.

Mercer Way is a former council development of terrace houses, with two blocks of flats and to the west some bungalows near the canal. A number of the terraces are arranged around courtyards with communal parking arrangements. In the main part of the road, the terraces are laid out in such a way that they are not parallel to the street line.

To the west and south of the school are more houses, mostly terraced. Some of these houses front onto the roadway while others are grouped around open spaces. Building lines are mostly staggered, giving a casual feel to the area.

### Design Guidelines

- The residential character of the area should be retained.

## Open and Other Spaces

Romsey Primary School contains the largest individual space. It is well landscaped and attractive, but is not open to the public.



Martha's Piece

The larger public open spaces are found in the southern half of the area and near to the canal. Martha's Piece is a stretch of open land parallel to the railway line from the rear of the Sun Inn through to the canal. It joins a piece of open ground on the eastern side of the canal. These lands provide for informal recreation and are much used and appreciated by local people.

Between the canal and the southern part of Canal Walk, there is a triangle of land that is largely hidden behind high hedges. Part of it is given over to allotments and part of it is a depot used by the Environment Agency.



Canal Walk, Environment Agency depot

On the other side of Canal Walk there is a substantial rectangle of open ground, with a small extension to the north. It is widely used for informal recreation. Part of this land and the extension are earmarked for building, which has reduced the amount of open space.



New playground near Canal Walk

To the west of Grayling Mead, there is a patch of open land which includes a bank for catching floodwater. There is a path beside the Fishlake which leads to a tunnel under the railway embankment.



Railway tunnel beside Fishlake

In addition to these substantial pieces of open ground, the area is well provided with smaller pieces. For example there is an area of grass to the south-west of Kingfisher Way and St Johns Gardens. Nightingale Lodge on the corner of Cupernham Lane and Winchester Road stands in substantial grounds.

Many of the houses right across the area are laid out with grass land between the groups and the feeling of space is enhanced by the prevailing style of open plan front gardens on all but the older streets.



Open plan in The Meadows

There is a playground at Canal Walk and some play equipment around Mercer Way.

Although not grassed, the courtyard style of grouping houses in Mercer Way gives a feeling of spaciousness and provides for car parking where people can see their vehicles.



Courtyard houses in Mercer Way

Apart from these spaces within the areas, local people make much use of the canal and Fishlake paths to the north and the Fishlake Meadows. However there are problems with dog excreta and litter that detract from the amenity value of all these places.

## Design Guidelines

- The informal open spaces are important local features and should be retained.



## Building Form



The Cruck Cottage in Cupernham Lane

There are two listed buildings in the area. One is the fifteenth-century cruck cottage in Old Road and the other is the Railway Station at the southern end of Canal Walk.



Railway station from the north

## Cupernham Lane



House in Cupernham Lane

On the western, lower, side of Cupernham Lane, there is a series of individual detached homes, bungalows and one semi-detached pair of houses in substantial plots of land most of which lie between Great Well Drive and Mercer Way. Many of them were built before the Second World War. Nearly all have been modernised or rebuilt in the last forty years. Because of the slope of the land, the buildings are mostly discreet and unobtrusive, even when they have prominent features such as large windows in the front elevation.

## Great Well Drive Area

The older buildings and taller buildings are mostly in this area. They include the Sun Inn which is a three-storey eighteenth-century building, Hayter House (now the Register Office) which was built in 1870, Nightingale House and Nightingale Lodge. This group contains the tallest buildings in this area apart from those of the Industrial Estate.



Nightingale Lodge from Great Well Drive

On the corner of Cupernham Lane, there is a substantial block of two-storey flats built of pale yellow bricks. It is called Nightingale Lodge and is somewhere that provides nursing care.



Chalet style accommodation adjacent to Nightingale House

Around Nightingale House is a series of chalet style buildings that contain more apartments. The complex includes a substantial conservatory with a pitched roof that acts as a communal lounge. There are covered walkways that enable people to walk from one building to another protected from the elements.

The nearby doctors' surgery in Great Well Drive continues the chalet-style design. It has steeply pitched and overhanging roofs and patients enter the surgery through a substantial porch with a pitched roof. There is a problem with the drainage of the car park resulting in large puddles in wet weather.



Surgery showing porch

The Red Cross Hut is opposite the surgery and it is much older. It is a single-storey wooden board construction with a flat roof and metal-framed windows. It has recently been damaged by fire and is being rebuilt.



Former Red Cross Hut, Great Well Drive

## South and West of the Junior School

*Great Well Drive (part), Hayter Gardens, Greenwood Close, Mallard Close, Latham Road, Nelson Close.*

This part of lower Cupernham contains a mixture of houses and bungalows. They are mostly terraced or semi-detached and some are built back to back.



Mallard Close

The houses are faced with bricks and have pitched tiled roofs with some in Mallard Close having half-hips. The houses are mostly orange-red or red bricks. Some of the upper parts of the buildings are tile hung with red tiles and there are a few courses of brick arranged for a decorative effect, such as laid upright (soldier course). Most of the houses have small porches, usually open but under tiled roofs. In Greenwood Close these are adjacent to small brick cupboards.

Nelson Close is built around a series of greens with open plan gardens, each having a village green feel. A few of the houses have back gardens that abut the roadway, but the houses are arranged in such a way that each part of the road is overlooked.

Provision for car parking varies between integral garages, separate garage blocks and open spaces.

## Mercer Way

The houses in Mercer Way are of a higher density than elsewhere in this area. Both houses and bungalows are terraced.

The houses are two-storeys high, mostly brick finished and many have a few rows of tiles hung immediately below the roof line. Some of the houses in the courtyards are rendered and painted.



Mercer Way maisonettes

The maisonettes have projecting porches giving small storage spaces at ground floor. Neither the houses nor the bungalows have any form of porch, not even a small projecting roof, which makes the houses look stark.



Mercer Way flats

The flats are amongst the three-storey buildings in Romsey, a height that is unusual in the town. However, they are not substantially taller than the houses which they resemble in style and they have pitched roofs which help them to blend in with their surroundings. There are a few courses of tile hanging on the walls immediately below the roof.

As elsewhere in this part of lower Cupernham, chimneys are largely absent.



Windows in New Road

## New Road and Old Road

The houses in New Road include some of the oldest in Cupernham, having been built over a period of the last century. They largely observe a common building line with houses set back from the road to give small front gardens.

The houses vary between individual, semi-detached and a terrace of six. Some houses retain original sash and other windows and Edwardian porches. Chimneys are normal in this group of houses.

The portion of New Road that runs northward and the houses in Old Road are much newer than those in New Road. In Old Road, the building line is straight but as the road curves, this gives varying sizes of front gardens.

The houses are brick built and most of them extend over their garages. They have porches with pitched, tiled roofs, some of which extend over the front window.

## Cupernham Green Estate

*Homefield, Newlyn Walk, Fairfield, Smiths Field, Waterside Road and Canal Close*

This development consists of three- and four-bedroom detached houses with three bedroom bungalows near the canal.

All the properties are brick built, some of the houses being faced on the upper level with a form of marble chippings. The brickwork is straightforward stretcher bond but with a soldier course between levels on the houses. Roofs are all gable ended and with brick chimneys on the houses.



Waterside Road

Most windows are uPVC or aluminium, many now incorporating opening lights. Most of the homes have porches with small wood and tile canopies overhead which match the overhanging bays on the lounge windows of some of the four bedroom properties.

Most properties have single garages, usually of brick construction with tiled roofs, although a few of the bungalow garages have flat roofs.

Many houses have been extended with additional rooms being added, in materials matching the original construction.

## Oxlease Close



Window in Oxlease Close

Oxlease Close is a self-contained development of twenty two-storey detached houses with garages, some detached and some double. There is a small fence-lined footpath leading to Cupernham Lane, but otherwise the only access to these houses is the road from Fishlake Meadows.

The houses are faced with brick, with uPVC windows. One group of houses has cathedral style windows over the stairwell. All of the roofs are pitched with a mixture of hipped, half hipped and gabled styles and are tiled. Most houses have chimneys.

This estate has small front gardens with landscaping breaking up the spaces between each house, notably low hedging around some of the frontages.

## Between the Canal and Robert Whitworth Drive

### *Oatlands, Horsecroft, The Meadows*

The houses between Robert Whitworth Drive and the Barge Canal are in two groups separated by an old field hedgerow. To the south-west are Oatlands and Horsecroft. These houses are mainly detached and generally of a higher density than those to the north. The roofs are all pitched. The garages are either attached to houses or in small groups between houses.



Decorative tiling in The Meadows

To the north of the hedgerow is The Meadows. The houses in this road are detached. All are of red brick construction and most are part tile-hung. They have chimneys and moderately steep pitched roofs. Most houses are of two storeys although some have loft conversions with rooflights windows.

## The Triangle between Robert Whitworth Drive and Fishlake Meadows

*Robert Whitworth Drive, Neville Drive, Rowse Close, Westbroke Gardens, Tithe Mead and Fishlake Meadows*



Tithe Mead

The houses in this area are mostly detached, with some terraced houses in Neville Drive. Tithe Mead, to the north, was built after the others and the gardens are noticeably smaller. Westbroke Gardens is designed around a large public open space, with good-sized front gardens, giving the area a pleasant, spacious feel. All the houses are of two storeys with pitched roofs in a variety of styles. The detached houses have chimneys. The houses are built of brick and some are part tile-hung. Some of the larger houses are double-fronted.



Westbroke Gardens

Most of the houses have their own garages. Several properties in Westbroke Gardens have shared driveways and in Rowse Close there is communal off-road parking in front of the houses. The area is well served by public footpaths.



Rowse Close

## South West of Robert Whitworth Drive

*Grayling Mead, St John's Gardens, Lawrence Mews, Gaston Gardens, Eldridge Gardens, The Cloisters, Tench Way, Kingfisher Way, and Withy Close*

Apart from a single bungalow, these houses are a mixture of detached, semi-detached and terraced two-storey dwellings.



Terraced housing in St John's Mead

The roofs of all the houses are pitched. The detached and semi-detached houses have chimneys. Most of the houses are brick-faced, with some part tile-hung and some rendered or part-rendered. The brickwork is predominantly orange-brown and yellow, with none of the red brickwork typical of this part of Hampshire.

The windows are generally casement and many of the houses built in the late 1990s have leaded front windows. Some of these houses have decorative timber features on the upper storey.

A few of the houses have extensions, especially over the garage. Generally these are sympathetic to the surrounding buildings. Some houses have decorative brick features on rendered walls which, together with the predominantly 'portrait' style windows, give them a Victorian appearance.

## The Romsey Industrial Estate

These buildings do not greatly affect the view from Fishlake Meadows and Lower Cupernham. The estate itself is made up of a variety of sized units, mostly brick faced. The bigger ones present large areas of plain brickwork to the adjacent roads but the smaller ones with their varied name-boards give a feeling of well-being and vitality to the area.

## The Railway Station and its Environs



View north from railway arch

Many people walk under the railway station arch on their way to and from Romsey.

The railway station, a fine Victorian building, is somewhat neglected.

Storm water collects in the tunnel and water drips down from above. Many people complain that the road surface is uneven and unattractive. The railway embankment is overgrown and is regarded as unkempt. The security fencing that lines both sides of the path immediately north of the tunnel creates a hostile environment for pedestrians.



Roof supports in Romsey railway station





The approach to the railway tunnel

The absence of access to the station from the northern side of the railway line means that passengers have to make a complicated detour to reach the platform for trains to Southampton. The only public access entails using stairs which creates difficulties for the disabled.



The Environment Agency depot

## Design Guidelines

- Extensions to buildings should match existing style, including finish and pitch of roof, and should not crowd an area.
- The pre-1940 features of houses in New Road should be retained.

## Streets and Street Furniture

### The Outer Roads

All the outer roads of the area are subject to 30 mph speed limits viz. Winchester Road, Cupernham Lane, Fishlake Meadows and Greatbridge Road.

### Winchester Road (A3090)

There is a short stretch of Winchester Road between Cupernham Lane and the Sun Arch that is on the edge of lower Cupernham. This is a main road with a pedestrian refuge a little way below Cupernham Lane. There is a slip road for traffic turning left into Cupernham Lane and a pedestrian refuge in the Lane. The road under the Arch is prone to flooding and the pavements are very narrow there.



The Sun Arch

### Cupernham Lane

This road is used by traffic too large to pass under the Sun Arch. There are times when traffic use is heavy and turning to or from Winchester Road is slow. Children from further east making their way on foot or by cycle to the Romsey School have to cross this road.

## Fishlake Meadows

This road appears to be a typical edge of town road and many drivers assume, wrongly, that it has a 40 mph speed limit.

The turning out of Oxlease Close is near the corner of Cupernham Lane and on a bend in the road so is particularly difficult. Visibility to the left is obscured by the bridge over the canal. The eastern turning from Robert Whitworth Drive is also made difficult because of this bridge. The western exit has better sight lines.



Sightline from Oxlease Close

The exit from the Industrial Estate has reasonable visibility but traffic joining Greatbridge Road (A3057) can have a difficult time. The railway bridge itself is preceded by a mass of warning signs and is functional rather than attractive.



The northern approach to Romsey

## The Roads and Paths within the Area

The roads are mostly covered in tarmac, but there are areas where courses of brick sets have been laid to remind drivers that they are in a residential area. These changes in road surface add to the community feel of particular areas.

Some of the estate roads have quite elaborate sleeping policemen, usually with flat tops. These and the curved nature of the streets help to keep traffic speeds down. Some roads are so narrow that passing places have been provided.

Discontinuous pavements are often unpopular, especially where they alternate between tarmac and grass, for example in Horsecroft.



Surfaces in Horsecroft

Road name signs are so placed as to be visible to car drivers coming from the most-likely access road. Pedestrians and drivers who are coming from other directions are not catered for. The actual form of road signs is unexceptional..

Street lamps are of a standard design. The failure to light blocks of garages and communal parking spaces means that these are not as well used as they might be, especially as some are not overlooked and therefore remote.

The overhead cables detract significantly from the streetscape of New Road.



Cables in New Road

## Design Guidelines

- Lights should be placed so that car parking areas are well lit.
- Street lighting should be in a style that minimise light pollution.

## Pedestrian Routes

The canal path is extensively used. The amount of litter and the overgrown state of the surrounding vegetation detract from its appearance. In view of the heavy use of this thoroughfare, more thought should be put into caring for it. It links these settlements with the town centre and provides access northwards to the countryside. It also provides a traffic free environment for children going to school.

Canal Walk has a tarmac surface as far as the New Road Bridge. North of the bridge the path is not made up and can become very muddy as can some of the other footpaths in the area especially in winter, for example around Martha's Piece. The tow path south from its junction with Canal Walk to the Plaza is also in poor repair and needs renovation. Furthermore its use is restricted by the absence of lighting. Canal Walk to Old Road is lit, but the bridges themselves are unlit.



Mercer Way bridge over the Canal

The footpath beside Fishlake provides a useful link to the town for residents of Grayling Mead and its associated streets. It is also used by children en route to school. The railway bridge section is unlit, and north of the Industrial Estate the footpath is muddy.

When the Infant School is closed the bridge under the railway should remain open providing a permanent link between lower Cupernham and the Plaza Parade.

## Trees, Hedges and Other Landscape Features

### Waterways

Two waterways flow through this part of Romsey, the Fishlake on the west and the canal through the centre. Both are considerable assets to Romsey and are much appreciated by many people. The Fishlake stream area is prone to flooding in wet weather and can cause problems at the junction of Fishlake Meadows and the A3057. There is concern that the vegetation along these waterways is neglected.

### Hedgerows

Part of the charm of the area arises from the presence of long-established hedgerows. However, they need to be regularly maintained, partly to preserve their essential character and partly to ensure that they do not block the footpaths.



Martha's Piece

The hedgerows adjacent to the canal and in Martha's Piece are an attractive feature and those to the east of the canal are reasonably well cared for. By contrast there is much concern for the hedgerows along Canal Walk and the tow path which lack appropriate maintenance.



Old hedgerows by canal and railway

Alongside the canal is a variety of trees including blackthorn, goat willow, hazel, wayfaring tree, elder, hawthorn, dogwood, honeysuckle, alder, silver birch, cherry plum and less commonly a flowering ash. Wildlife includes water voles, ducks, swans and the occasional kingfisher.

Measures to preserve the original trees and hedges were taken when Cupernham Green Estate was built. A small green with a large willow remains to this day. Some of these hedges survive, but others have grown out and only survive as individual trees.



Willow tree in Homefield

There are trees within the grounds of the Junior School and some near the entrance to the Industrial Estate by the Fishlake. Otherwise there is little in the way of specimen trees within this part of Romsey, although there are a number of pleasing smaller ones in people's gardens.



Privately owned trees enhance the area

The trees on the wetlands to the north of Fishlake Meadows form an important backdrop to the area.

## Boundary Features

There is no predominant style of fencing in this area and the overall impression is of openness. Nonetheless, back gardens are fenced in such a way as to give their owners privacy. Mostly the estates have been designed so that each part of the road is overlooked and thus security is built in.

That said there are a number of boundary features that are prominent, with varying degrees of attractiveness. The only part of this area seen by users of the A3090 is the long wooden fence that surrounds the County Council's residential home for the elderly.



Fencing along Winchester Road

The fences and hedges along Cupernham Lane are another very prominent feature of this area. They vary between hedgerow and fence and have a range of heights. Some leave the front gardens open to view while others have so successfully sought privacy that the results are intrusive to the view along the road.



Railings in Robert Whitworth Drive

Robert Whitworth Drive has a pleasant curved wall along one part of it and nearby it has a low wall topped with railing. Privacy is ensured by shrubs. There are attractive beech hedges by the surgery in Great Well Drive and along the fronts of much of Old Road.



Beech hedge in Old Road

Much of Fishlake Meadows road is separated from the houses by a bank and shrubs. In the area of Grayling Mead, where the houses are close to the road, there is a wall topped with a wooden close-boarded fence. The bank and fence give privacy and some protection from noise for the nearby inhabitants. Unfortunately it leaves the road completely barren with no one having 'ownership' of it. It makes the road feel like a by-pass and be treated as such by most traffic. It is not a welcome place for pedestrians.



Bushes screen the Industrial Estate

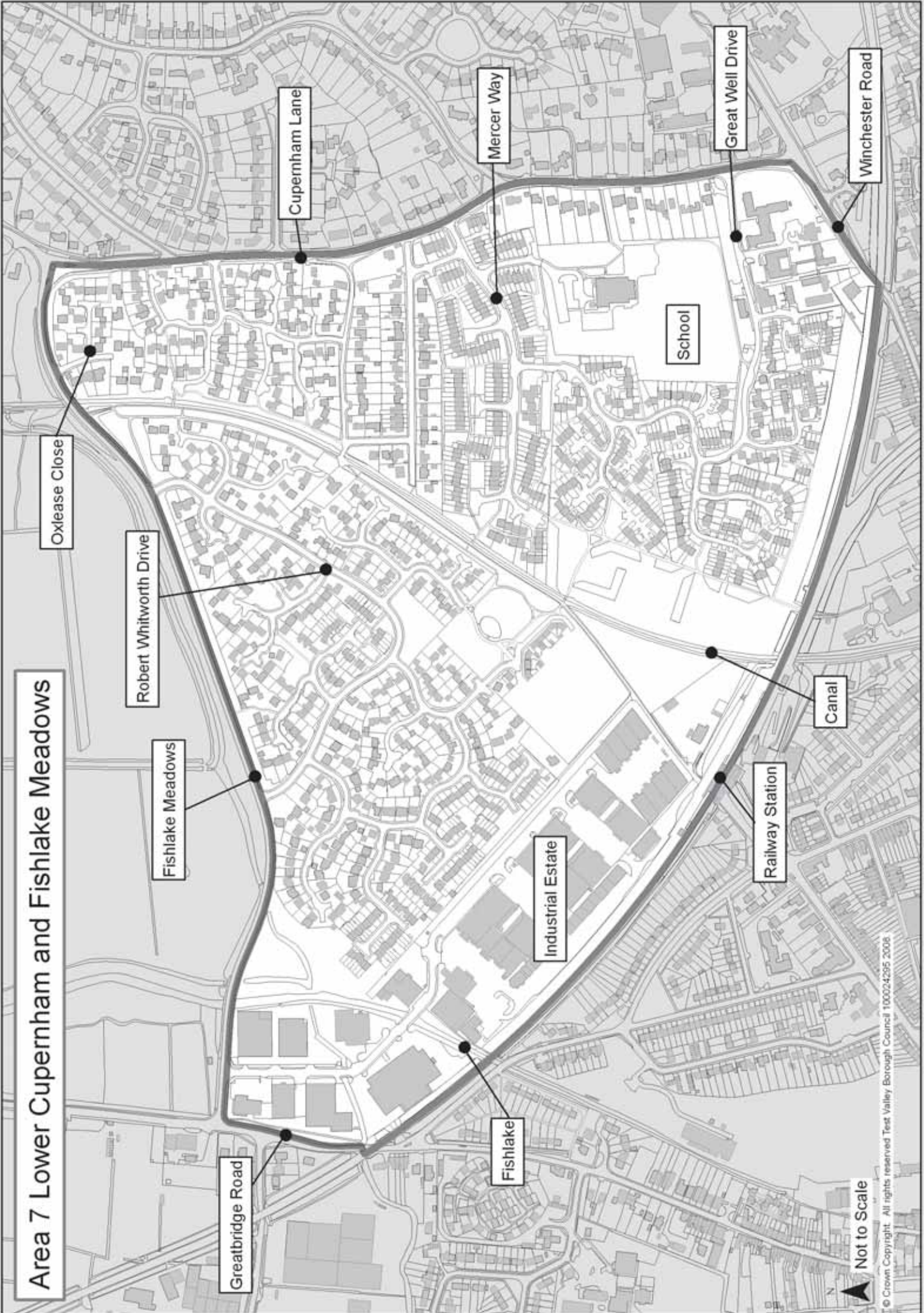
The Industrial Estate is ringed with hedges and shrubs. These act as an effective screen for the residential houses and provide a pleasant surrounding for the area itself. Their continued maintenance is important.

Canal Walk near the railway station is not so well favoured. The interface with the Industrial Units consists of blank walls, security fencing, an electricity sub-station and a radio mast.



The view north from the railway arch

# Area 7 Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows



Oxlease Close

Robert Whitworth Drive

Fishlake Meadows

Greatbridge Road

Fishlake

Industrial Estate

Railway Station

Canal

School

Mercer Way

Cupernham Lane

Great Well Drive

Winchester Road



Not to Scale

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## **Look At Romsey:**

### **Overview**

### **Area 1 Whitenap**

### **Area 2 Halterworth**

### **Area 3 Tadburn Valley**

### **Area 4 Tadburn Gardens**

### **Area 5 Great Woodley**

### **Area 6 Upper Cupernham and Winchester Road**

### **Area 7 Lower Cupernham and Fishlake Meadows**

### **Area 8 Romsey Old Town**

### **Area 9 Town Centre, Outer Core**

### **Area 10 Harefield and Little Woodley**

### **Area 11 Woodley and Ganger**

### **Area 12 Crampmoor and Highwood**