The Crown Inn is set against the edge of the road on the western side of the Conservation Area; it has well proportioned elevations. The north side of The Crown Inn, together with the well developed hedge opposite, create an intimate enclosure for a footpath.



The Wheatsheaf PH (mainly 19th century), is set amongst trees at the bottom of Curtis Hill - opposite is a finely proportioned mid 18th Century house, The Old Ale House (Grade II listed). This house is set amongst mature trees.



Other Buildings, details and materials.

The buildings in Arford are constructed of local sandstones, render and occasionally brick. Roofs are simple and plain and constructed of thatch, clay peg tile and slate.

In the valley which gradually narrows northwards are Eashing Cottages; together with the 19th century cottages opposite they create another 'pinchpoint' at the northern entrance to the village.





Eashing Cottages are excellent examples of 1920's rural municipal housing design; window, door and entrance details create balanced elevations.

Overton Cottage is a 17th century timber framed building with a thatched roof. This building, The Crown and the adjacent former bakery create a group setting on the western edge of Arford Road.

Kew Cottages and Burnside (both mainly 19th Century) have traditional roof styles and painted elevations. Together with the Wheatsheaf (PH) and the mature hedge opposite they enclose the Arford Road to provide an intimate space.

New Development in the Conservation Area

There are important aspects of the character of the Conservation Area:-

The position of buildings located on slightly high ground above the valley roads.

The materials of local stone and painted render and the soft roof lines of thatch clay peg tile and slate.

The buildings have a distinctive setting amongst mature trees.

New buildings, 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. Those who undertake development should do so with care.

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

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

Further Reading and References:

- Victorian County History Hampshire
- · Leaflets in this series on Headley and Headley Mill Conservation Areas
- · The buildings of England Hampshire Pevsner and Lloyd. 1967
 - For further information contact:

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Introduction & Brief History

Arford Conservation Area was designated in 1977 and extended in 1993

Arford is one of three Conservation Areas in Headley. It is one of the smaller settlements in Headley which grew up in 1860 around one of the many mills (see Headley Mill Conservation Area).

The settlement of Arford commences at the crossing of the stream by Longcross Hill and Arford Road. It is first mentioned in 1620, although the settlement is thought to be earlier.

By the 17th century Arford had extended southwards about as far as Bowcott Hill.

The 18th and 19th centuries saw the village expand south to include Arford House and north up to Eashing Cottages and The Old Ale House..

The Character of the Conservation Area

Arford is set in a hollow amongst trees, where it is hidden from long views. The high garden wall of Arford House, built in local sandstone, is a prominent feature denoting the southern entrance to the Conservation Area.

The character of the Conservation Area is generally formed by the cottages and houses which sit in the deep tree lined valley of a tributary of the River Wey.

There are two distinct parts of the Conservation Area:

- · around Arford House and Bowcott Hill; and
- · around Arford Road, Long Cross Hill junction and the Wheatsheaf (PH)

From Arford Road and the bottom of Bowcott Hill there are views of the 19th century Arford House and the adjacent Gothick Lodge. They form an important feature of the Conservation Area and are set amongst high trees providing a dramatic setting.

Near to the bridge at the bottom of Bowcott Hill is Ivy Cottage which sits in the valley adjacent to the stream. The trees surrounding the stream form a key visual feature of Bowcott Hill. V In contrast, the comparatively recent building on the opposite side of the bridge is a rather discordant design.



The second part of the Conservation Area is around the Arford Road and Longcross Hill junction. The Corner House with its unaltered early 18th century windows, and the early 19th century Storehouse and adjacent cottages form a group which lies beneath the rising Curtis Hill to the north.

It is the setting of trees behind these small scale cottages which contributes to the character of this part of the Conservation Area. Corner House in particular, tucked in beneath the hill, provides a visual "stop" to a narrowing view from the south along the Arford Road.



The high stone wall of Arford House is a major feature of the junction of Arford Road at Bowcott Hill where it forms a sharp bend.



