



ROSS-ON-WYE CHARACTER AREA SURVEY

The Character Area surveyed (its number): 4

The survey team included: JKHS

Date of survey: November 2016

- This survey is designed to help you examine and record key aspects of the character of one part of the built environment of Ross – a 'Character Area'.
- The evidence and understanding provided by your work will enable the distinctive local character of the various areas of Ross to be retained, perhaps enhanced.
- It will also help to ensure that the designs of any new developments, conversions etc. respect and enhance that character.
- The Character Areas we are suggesting are all very much 'first stab', done mainly to make the tasks easily manageable for you in a short time (we hope!).
- Each basic area may be broadly right but that doesn't mean they are all different. Nor does it mean that the boundaries are right.
- Live with all that for now and we'll come back to you later with how it all fits together.

We are giving you:

- *This introduction and form.*
- *A map of all the Character Areas, including 'yours'.*
- *A map of your specific Area.*

Getting the survey done:

- *Even if you (think you) know the area, walk up and down, look all around and only then start filling in the form.*
- *For most of the form just add notes in boxes in response to the questions. There are some hints in brackets.*
- *Don't get too hung up on our terms, feel free to add others or 'not sure' if that helps.*
- *As you go round, take some photos (maybe 10 or so) of the Character Area to show what seems to be typical of the character of that area (and any oddities or really interesting things).*
- *If possible please mark on the map wherever you take any photos from, and in what direction (use a dot and a little arrow).*

When you have finished:

- *Return the completed form and annotated map to school.*
- *We also need your photos so please either:*
 - *Get them into a single folder at school or*
 - *Send them to jeff@placestudio.com*

Thanks a lot: Jeff Bishop: Place Studio

General

1. What's the general pattern of the roads and 'blocks of buildings? If there are a few, can you show the different ones on the map? (Regular, irregular, straight, curved, small blocks, large blocks, narrow, wide open, contained, spacious etc.)

Regular roads, evenly spaced out plot sizes, all roughly the same size

2. What's the general mix of buildings? (All residential, some mixed, commercial, industrial, other? If you can, mark any non-residential uses on the map.)

**All residential
'Cottage park' named estate, 'private, no through road', 'mobile homes for sale'**

Houses

3. Are they all on one building line or does that vary? (On pavement, with small front gardens, with large front gardens, well set back etc.?)

Buildings with small front gardens and pavements

4. Can you guess when all (or different ones) were built? (Try: medieval, 19th century, inter-war -1918-1839, post war - 50s/60s, later 20th century - 70s/80s, more recent - 90s to today.)

All same. C. 1990s

5. What heights are they? (All one height on each house or varying per house or in stretches, or are there extensions etc. that are different?)

**Mainly bungalows at entrance of road
Rest semi-detached 2 storey, not much height variation**

6. Would you call the houses very small, small, medium-sized, large, very large (or a mixture)? (Your guess!)

**Medium/large
Council houses small
Cottage Park mobile homes**

7. What are the main building materials used? (On walls, roofs, chimneys, windows etc.)

**Brick, chimneys, windows and doors plastic
Porches on some**

8. Are front gardens open or closed in? (If open, just grass or bushes etc.? If closed, low walls, high walls, hedges, full of greenery, paved etc.? Well maintained?)

Generally closed in with self-grown hedges or small walls

9. Any idea about back gardens (if you can see them)? (Big, small, fenced, with walls - low/high, heavily 'greened' or just grass, paving, decking? Well maintained?)

Larger than front
Green plants, small trees, tall fencing for privacy

10. What are the parking arrangements? (On the street, pull-off spaces, single garages, double garages – some of each? Any way to tell if the garages are actually used for cars – most aren't?)

Most houses/bungalows have single garages and room for 1 or 2 cars on drive

11. Are there major trees in front or back gardens? (On their own or in lines? Do those lines of trees go off into the surrounding areas? If so, try to show those on the map.)

Small trees, odd big one in the bigger house gardens

Roads and Public Areas

12. What are the roads like? (Wide, narrow, about right? Is there on-street parking? Does that limit access/movement? Well maintained?)

Quiet, easy access, fairly well-maintained
Faded white lines
Not much on-street parking because houses allowed space

13. Are there always pavements to walk along? Well maintained?

Yes, double-sided pavement, really well maintained, fresh tarmac visible (shows the repairs)

14. Are there other footpaths that link through the area or into other areas? (Try to use the map to show where.)

Yes

15. Are there street signs? (Lots? Just a few? Necessary? Too many?)

Yes, because there are many culs-de-sac leading off the main road
Very visible, easy to read and be directed

16. Is there street lighting? Is it obtrusive or low key?

Yes, very newly maintained, evenly distributed to give even lighting, to light the whole streets

17. Do you think it is entirely safe here? At night? Would children feel/be safe?

Yes, very well lit up, open, clean, looks safe, friendly, road quiet

Now some Broader Judgements!

18. Are there any features, additions, oddities (from any covered above or others) that detract from or damage the character of the area?

Generally clean and well looked-after

19. Are there any features, additions, oddities (from any covered above or others) that help to create a clear and positive character for the area?

20. If you had to pick just one or a few of all the aspects above that most help to shape the character of the area, what would they be?

21. Any other comments, things we and the form have missed?

22. Is this a distinct area? Are the boundaries sensible? Looking at the overall map, should it be combined with others? Should it be sub-divided?

Very nice, quiet, friendly, well-maintained area

AND THANKS AGAIN!