

BLACK DOG CONSERVATION AREA

1 INTRODUCTION

The Conservation Area is centred on that section of West Street, immediately to the west of Park Road North and Park Road South which follows the line of the Roman Road between Chichester and Wickham. The character of the compact 18th and 19th Century development is still evident on the north side of the road. On the south side are the buildings of Stent's glove factory now occupied by a building firm and to the east of the factory, is the most distinctive building in the Conservation Area, the Black Dog Public House. Although 18th Century in appearance this building has a timber frame dating from the 16th Century.

2 HISTORY

The history of the Conservation Area is inextricably linked with the development of central Havant. West Street and its continuation into East Street follow the alignment of the Roman Road between Chichester and Wickham. It was at the junction of this road with a north-south route between the Downs and Hayling Island that the settlement of Havant had its origins. The evidence from comparable road junctions suggests a settlement of some significance associated with a market.

Possibly in continual occupation since

Roman times the town appears to have suffered as a result of Viking raids during the 9th Century. However by 1200 it had sufficiently recovered for King John to grant a weekly market. Continued growth and prosperity of the town, is reflected by the fact that in 1451 Henry VI granted a further market day as well as an annual fair.

By the 18th Century Havant had become a prosperous market town, although it suffered a set back circa 1760 when a substantial part of the town in the vicinity of the crossroads was destroyed by fire. The 19th Century saw the consolidation of the town. Agriculture continued to prosper locally, being the largest employer, although other local industries, based on water from the many springs in the area became established during this period including parchment making, tanning,

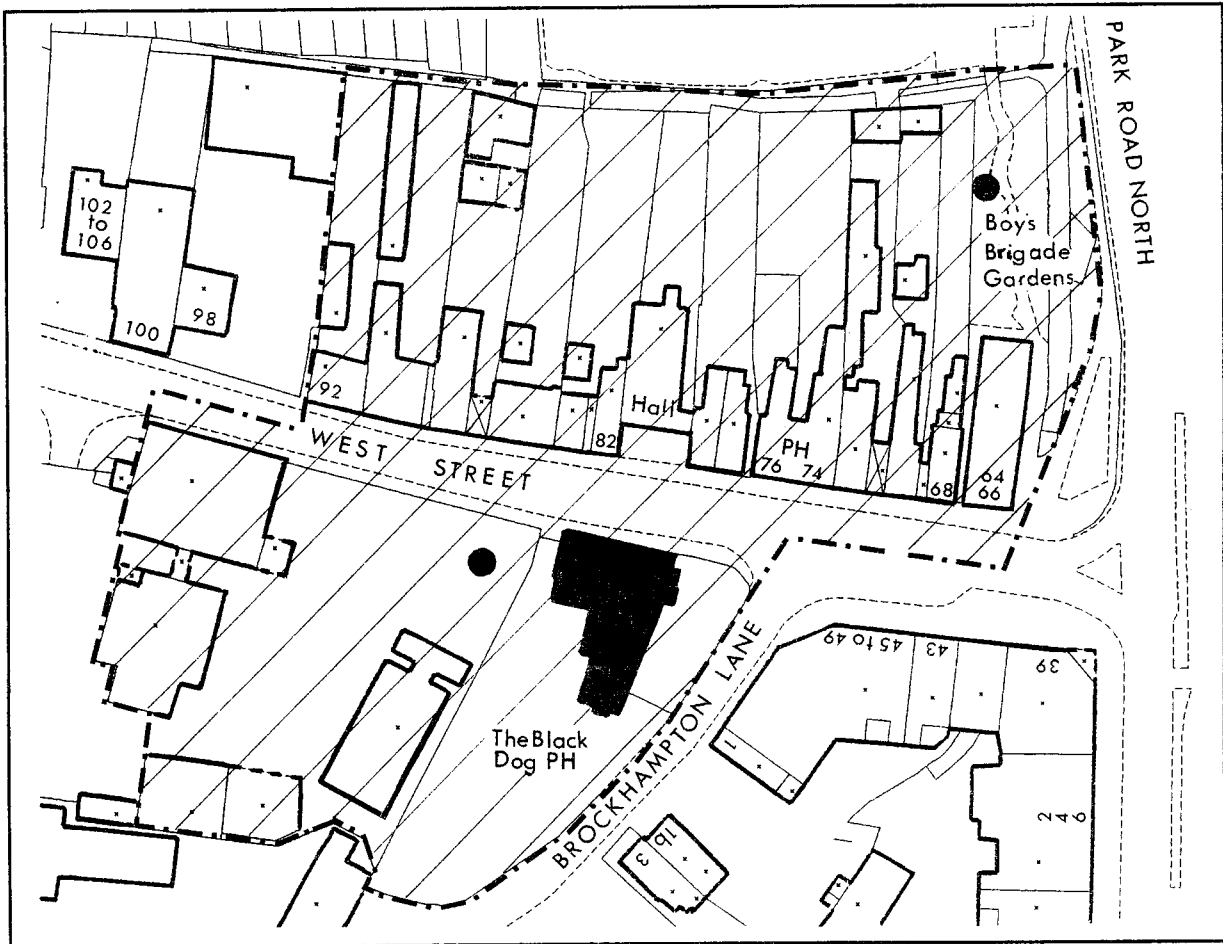
brewing and the manufacture of leather goods including gloves. Development occurred along the four principal roads, and maps from the last century show a compact street frontage extending a quarter of a mile along West Street from the crossroads.

Park Road evolved as a short cul-de-sac running northwards to Havant Park which was opened in 1889. Following the reconstruction of the railway station and the closing of North Street in 1937, Park Road North and Park Road South were opened as a new route through the town. These roads are now the principal routes into the town centre from the north and south and have effectively severed that part of West Street containing the Black Dog Conservation Area from the eastern section of West Street, within the Town Centre, which has now been pedestrianised.



The group of domestic buildings on the north side of West Street exhibit the local style and materials of the 19th Century

Black Dog Conservation Area



KEY

Conservation Area Boundary



Tree Preservation Orders



Listed Buildings



Area of Archaeological Importance



Scale

Not to Scale

3 BUILDINGS

On the north side of West Street is a group of domestic buildings dating from the 17th to the 19th Centuries. These buildings, despite the installation of some plastic windows, still exhibit the architectural styles and local materials of those periods including brick and rendered elevations with clay tile roofs. The scale of the original architecture remains intact.

The Black Dog Public House, on the south side of the road is the most significant building within the Conservation Area and is included in the list of buildings of special architectural and historic interest. The building dates from the 16th Century with an early 19th Century exterior. It is a brick building, now painted, in flemish bond with a tile roof and cambered headed dormers. Also of interest is the industrial building now occupied by a building firm. This painted brick and tile building was once a parchment works and later Stent's glove factory.

4 STREET SCENE

The north side of West Street still retains the character of the almost continuous street frontage which once lined West Street from the crossroads to Union Road. The buildings are essentially two storey and the individual building plots identified on early maps and plans are reflected in property boundaries today.

The narrow frontages of these plots give the buildings a strong vertical emphasis which is reflected in the proportions of the shop fronts, windows and doors within each individual elevation. No single architectural style prevails and like many older centres the character of the north side of West Street is determined by the similarity in scale of each of the buildings, which despite their own separate identity combine to form a coherent group of buildings. The Independent Church now converted to office use is set further back than the

general building line. The forecourt of this building could be improved by a change in surfacing or the introduction of an appropriate boundary treatment.

Only two buildings front onto the south side of West Street within the Conservation Area, the Black Dog Public House and the glove factory building. Until the 1960's there was continuous frontage development on the south side of West Street between these two buildings. Its demolition reduced the sense of enclosed space which previously existed although the urban character has partly been recreated by the brick wall which has been recently constructed on the old building line.

5 GARDENS AND TREES

Despite a mixture of residential and commercial uses on the north side of West Street many of the gardens behind these properties still survive. They can be seen from the public car park to the north where they provide a natural and pleasant contrast to the surrounding urban fabric. Where gardens have been lost to other uses such as storage and car parking there has been an obvious deterioration to the general character of this back land area.

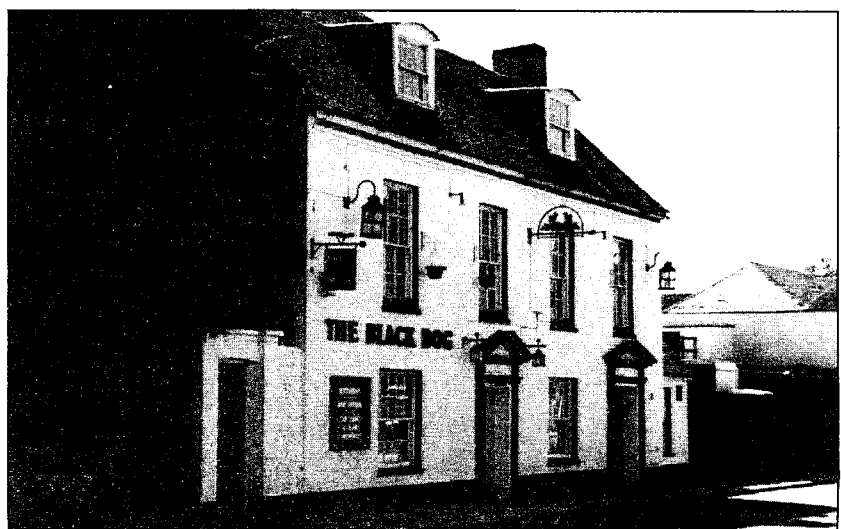
The easternmost of these gardens to the rear of 64 and 66 West Street has been turned into an attractive small public town garden, named the Boys' Brigade Garden, adjoining the Lavant Stream. The back land areas of those

buildings to the south of West Street are less satisfactory in appearance. High walls shield the builder's yard from public view, but the car park at the rear of the Black Dog is not particularly attractive and is open to view from Brockhampton Lane, where the enclosing wall has been lowered.

Although essentially urban, trees and vegetation contribute to the character of the area. The back gardens and associated vegetation to the north of West Street have an obvious impact as do the trees and vegetation in the Boys' Brigade Garden. A sycamore within this garden is the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. To the south of West Street the fir trees to the east of the Black Dog provide a background to the attractive flint and brick wall which demarcates the public house at the junction of West Street and Brockhampton Lane. A yew tree within the builder's yard is also covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

6 ARCHAEOLOGY

The alignment of the Roman road between Chichester and Wickham and the long history of the settlement of Havant clearly points to the Black Dog Conservation Area as an area with archaeological potential. On the basis of the significance of the area the County Archaeologist has identified the Conservation Area as an area of archaeological importance and is consulted on any development which will cause ground disturbance.



The Black Dog Public House