






SETTLEMENT ASSESSMENT PROFORMA

Surveyors(s): Rosemary Naish, Sophie Piddock, Harry Marsland.. Character Area: ...Clutton Upper village west.....

1. PATTERN

Character Element	Photo(s)
<p>A. Topography: <i>Flat Hilly Steep Shallow Plateau Valley Linear valley Several valleys</i></p> <p><i>A steep east facing ridge which runs downs into a wide shallow valley.</i></p>	
<p>B: Layout:</p> <p><i>Historic settlement is centered around Cooks Hill and its junction with the Upper Bristol Rd. Later development has taken place in the north east quadrant.</i></p> <p><i>Cooks Hill and Upper Bristol Rd are linear, while the newer estate of Rogers Close and The Mead are set out on a regular grid.</i></p> <p><i>Most houses have front gardens bounded by low walls, fences and hedges. Older buildings tend to front onto the road and have irregular plots, while newer houses are set back with front gardens.</i></p> <p><i>The photo shows the regular grid set out of Rogers Close</i></p>	
<p>C: Spaces:</p> <p><i>There is a football pitch to the west of the Upper Bristol Rd, which is well used and supported.</i></p> <p><i>To the southeast of Cooks Hill is a field known as Gastons. Through this runs "The Avenue", an avenue of 40 trees, originally planted two hundred years ago. This is situated along an ancient track(footpath CL6/5) leading from the Iron Age hill fort on Highbury Hill (a scheduled ancient monument) to Stowey. These track and fields are well used by walkers. In the past this was used for public events like flower shows.</i></p>	
<p>D: Green and Natural Features:</p> <p><i>The Avenue (see above) is set in open parkland, mainly bounded by hedges, mature trees and stone walls.</i></p>	
<p>E: Wildlife and Ecology:</p>	

<p>The fields are used for grazing, and as such also are home to insects, bats and birds.</p>	
<p>F: Roads, Streets and other Movement Routes:</p> <p>Cooks Hill is bounded on the south side by a high stone wall which retains the field beyond it. There is limited amount of pavements on this through road, where as the newer development of The Mead and Rogers Close has pavements with some grass verges. These roads however are narrow and parking can be a problem. There is very limited off street parking.</p> <p>The Upper Bristol Road is wider and was straighten in the 1960's. It has some pavements on both sides but this is very narrow in some stretches.</p>	
<p>G. Landmarks:</p> <p>Important features are the trees of the Avenue. On the Upper Bristol Rd is the Warwick Arms, the Methodist Chapel (listed building) The Manse, the Old Rectory, The Old School, no 29 Upper Bristol Rd (Listed) and a number of large houses for gentlemen dating from 250 years onwards. The stone wall on the south side of Cooks Hill.</p> <p>These photos show the Old Methodist Chapel and the Manse</p>	
<p>H: Views Out: Are there places (often, occasional) where one can see out to other areas or to the landscape?</p> <p>The most notable views out those from the field called Gastons across "The Avenue" to Highbury Hill, southwards to Temple Cloud and across the rest of the village.</p> <p>This photo shows the views out from the top of Cooks Hill, across Gastosn towards Highbury Hill (directly behind the church tower).</p>	
<p>I: Views In:</p> <p>From the southern top of the valley, delineate by King Lane, Clutton Hill and Cuckoo Lane this area of the village stands out.</p>	

2. BUILDINGS AND DETAILS

<p>A: Predominant Building Shape and Heights:</p> <p><i>Along the Upper Bristol Road there are some old people's bungalows, some single chalet-type dwellings. The Historic houses along the Upper Bristol are of various designs and styles, mainly arranged in terraces, with some larger detached and semidetached properties. The houses in Rogers Close/The Mead are mainly two storey, semi detached of regular design typical of local 1950's authority development. There is only one dwelling of more than 2 storeys – the old shop on the Upper Bristol Road. The photos show The Manse in contrast to the newer "council stock" houses in the Mead and Rogers Close.</i></p>	
<p>B: Roofs:</p> <p><i>All pitched roofs with gable ends, mainly of single and double roman clay & concrete tiles. Some of the larger older properties such as the old Methodist chapel are slate. Pitches vary according to period of construction, with historic dwelling having steeper pitches than the newer houses. This photo shows diversity of roof heights in the original & older houses. It also shows the only 3 storey house in this part of the village.</i></p>	
<p>C. Predominant Materials:</p> <p><i>Cement render, with some rubble stone building and occasional concrete block and reconstitute stone.</i></p> <p><i>Boundaries are mainly fences, low stone walls and occasional hedges. Most ground is set to garden.</i></p>	
<p>D: Details:</p> <p><i>Older properties tend to have narrow casement, with some sash windows. Modern properties tend to have larger windows with some "picture" windows in 1960's developments. There are a number of properties with porches. Chimneys are universal.</i></p>	

3. SUMMARY

<p>A: In a few words or a sentence or two, what are for your group the key <u>positive</u> features about this area? What makes it special?</p> <p><i>The close proximity of the open fields to the buildings give it a rural character, the extensive views from higher ground, the presence of so many historic dwellings and the line and structure of Cooks Hill which is a typically deep cut Somerset Lane.</i></p>
<p>B: In a few words or a sentence or two, what are for your group the key <u>negative</u> features about this area? What detracts from it?</p>

The volume and speed of traffic using the Upper Bristol Rd and to some extent Cooks Hill.

LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT PROFORMA

1. DESCRIPTION

Character Element	Photo(s)
<p>A. Landform: Flat Gently undulating Strongly undulating Steep valley side Valley side/floor Plateau</p>	
<p>B. Landcover: Open farmland Farmland with trees/woods Woodland Parkland Wetland</p>	
<p>C. Landuse: Arable farmland Grassland Grazing Mixed Forestry Industrial Brownfield Orchards</p>	
<p>D. Field Boundaries: Tall Clipped Intermittent Hedgerow With/without trees Fences Walls</p>	

<p>E. Field Sizes and Patterns: Small Medium Large Regular Angular Linear Irregular</p>	
<p>F. Routeways: Few roads Dense road network Tracks Straight/Winding /Narrow</p> <p>Staggered road junction of Upper Bristol Road, Stowey Road and Cooks Hill</p>	
<p>G. Buildings and Structures: What manmade elements are in the landscape? Village(s)/Town Isolated Farms Barns Groups of dwellings Pylons Masts Wires. How do they 'sit' and what natural features influence that?</p>	
<p>H. Water and Drainage: Stream River Reservoir Wet ditches Ponds Lake</p> <p>Several stream rise in this part of the village and run down into the Cam, from Cholwell, across Cooks Hill between Gastons and the old orchard, and join the Cam tributary at Bendalls Bridge.</p>	
<p>I. Enclosure and Scale: Tight Enclosed Open Exposed/Intimate Small Large Vast</p>	

2. VIEWS AND LANDMARKS (mark on the map)

<p>A. Views: Sweeping Channeled Long Short Glimpsed Across/to a place or landmark.</p> <p>Sweeping views from the top of Cooks Hill, to the south across Gastons ,to Highbury Hill with Paulton in the far distance, to the east across the valley of the lower village. In the distance the three wind turbines at Timsbury can be clearly seen.</p>	
--	--

<p>B. Landmarks: Buildings Structures Natural features History Archaeology</p>	
---	--

3. SUMMARY

A. Scenic Quality: *Think about sounds, smells and colours, how it makes you feel, does it feel tranquil? Think about balance (harmonious - chaotic) and diversity (uniform – complex) Seasonal features can also be important.*

Highly scenic, regularly appears in local pictorial calendars, tranquil. Normal rural smell and sounds associated with pig and dairy farming.

B. Activities and Associations: *What do people do in this landscape? Work and/or leisure? Do people paint or photograph it? Are there local poems or stories? What makes you identify with it or value it?*

Popular for photography (including commercial photography) walking, dog exercising, games playing, including tobogganning when it snows.

C: In a few words or a sentence or two, what are for you the key positive features about this area? What makes it special?

Intimate mix of the small settlement in the greater unspoiled rural setting.

D: In a few words or a sentence or two, what are for you the key negative features about this area? What detracts from it?

Noise and speed of traffic on the main road.