

7. Archaeological Potential

The archaeological potential for Murchington lies first in the early 16th origins of its three principal farmhouses, Murchington, Haycroft and Mount Pleasant and to the number of cottages, including Haycroft Cottage and St Olaves, which date to the 17th century.

In addition the tithe map reveals that there have been some changes and loss of buildings since the mid 19th century. Woodlands occupies the site of an earlier building shown on the map, two cottages once stood where the now converted St. Andrew's Chapel is, and further buildings are shown to the south of 1 and 2 St Olaves. These are all areas which should be seen to be particularly sensitive archaeologically.

8. Trees

The distribution of trees both within and outside the Conservation Area and their significance are covered by a survey in Appendix A. The tree cover is extensive with a wide range of species and age classes in and adjacent to the Conservation Area.

There is a wide distribution of mature trees throughout the Conservation Area and it is the number of trees rather than specific individual specimens which add to its character.

Murchington is surrounded by agricultural land and numerous trees are growing along the field boundaries around the Conservation Area. One of the most visually important trees is the mature beech growing on the eastern side of the village in the garden of Woodlands.

Extensive planting has already taken place in the gardens of the larger properties within the Conservation Area, but there are numerous other sites which are suitable for further planting. Outside of the Conservation Area there are many potential tree planting sites.

Trees in Conservation Areas Footnote:

The *Town and Country Planning Act*: Section 211 makes special provision for trees in Conservation Areas not subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). A tree is not defined in the Act, but a Section 211 Notice is only required for a tree with a diameter exceeding 75 mm in diameter. Trees in a Conservation Area already protected by a TPO are subject to the normal TPO controls. A Tree Preservation Order is an order made by the Local Planning Authority in respect of trees and woodlands. The principle effect of a TPO is to prohibit the cutting down, uprooting, lopping, wilful damage or wilful destruction of a tree without the Local Planning Authority's consent.