

9 Modern Development

Princetown has grown into a significant settlement as a result of important historical events, although more recently three groups of post war housing have contributed to a modest expansion of its boundaries. Within the Conservation Area a small number of new domestic buildings on scattered sites has occurred and these have had limited impact. However, the impact of the post war housing developments on the fringes of the Conservation Area has without doubt much affected the appearance and historic character of the town itself.



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Figure 54 New housing in Woodville Avenue

These three groups of non-vernacular Cornish Unit housing have until recently been the major form of contemporary housing to be built. They are as austere in appearance as the Prison buildings themselves, a point recognised by Willie Bertram in 1990. His vision for the town sought to regenerate it through a variety of provisions including the demolition of the Cornish Units and their replacement with mixed housing developments. A current new housing project to the north west has already brought change and contrast adjacent to this part of the Conservation Area.



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Figure 55 Refurbishment of Lord's building on Tavistock Road

Some recent and proposed refurbishment by the Duchy of properties situated on Tavistock Road near to the Duchy Hotel provide enhancement opportunities for the Conservation Area. However, there still remain enhancement opportunities both within and outside the Conservation Area which need to be addressed.



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Figure 56 Prinetown Stores



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Figure 57 Helena Villa and Dartmoor Gift shop



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Figure 58 Cornish unit housing in Bellever Close



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Figure 59 Cornish unit housing on Woodville Avenue