# LUMSDALE

## CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Purpose of a Conservation Area Character Appraisal

A conservation area is an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. They are designated under section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Council is obliged by section 71 of the same Act to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area, which are conservation areas.

The contents of this Conservation Area Appraisal are intended both as a guide for owners and occupiers of buildings within the conservation areas and as a guide for the local planning authority. The contents are a material consideration when determining applications for development, dealing with appeals or proposing works for the preservation or enhancement of the area.

This appraisal document defines and records the special architectural and historic interest of the conservation area & identifies opportunities for enhancement. The appraisal follows the model set out in English Heritage guidance (Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals 2006).

The Appraisal considers the historic development of the settlement and its immediate environs to establish how it may have changed over time. It considers the archaeology, the architecture, including building materials specific to the character of the area; the landscape; the relationship of the buildings and spaces; the overall character; the general condition of the area and factors which may have a detrimental impact, or put ‘pressure’ on the area. A review of the Conservation Area boundary is considered and any recommendations for changes to the boundary are identified as part of the Appraisal process.

The Lumsdale Conservation Area – General Character

The northern part of the conservation area splits into two strands separated by fields used for pasture. Each strand follows a valley; that to the west follows a narrow ravine, extending north towards the source of the Bentleybrook and the old Bentleybrook quarries, incorporating the Upper & Lower Lumsdale valley, whilst the valley to the east is gentler in gradient, following the Knabhall (Tansley) Brook and splitting into two, one narrow arm running upstream, following the watercourse to the south-east and a broader arm to the north, extending towards the old quarries at Foxholes.

To the east, the conservation area skirts the north-western side of Tansley village, known locally as The Knoll, and to the west it skirts the eastern fringes of the Hurst Farm Estate within Matlock. The southern boundary of the conservation area is contained by the A615 Alfreton Road.

The routes of the various watercourses & the path that these have shaped over millennia dominate the landform. The steepest sections of the valleys are heavily wooded with naturalised woodland, evidence of coppiced and managed broadleaved woodland and some more recent nineteenth and twentieth century plantations introducing conifers and parkland trees. Many trees have become established over the last 150 years since the heavy industrial processes ceased, particularly in the upper part of the Lumsdale valley where historic nineteenth century photographs show a more open and largely denuded landscape edging the brook with some young conifer plantations.

From the public domain the area is also characterised by a series of narrow winding lanes, which meander up steep inclines, dominated by the wooded setting and punctuated by the occasional picturesque group of buildings. Along these steep, winding routes, pinchpoints are created by small single storey buildings, tall boundary walls and bridges or culverts where the lanes cross the various watercourses. The oldest footpaths & old bridleways which run east-west in fairly straight alignments criss-cross the valleys & generally follow the contours. The area is distinctive for the extensive network of public footpaths, which provide well-trodden routes through the wooded valleys. Many of the steepest paths are pitched in stone or laid with paving slabs.

In the upper part of the Lumsdale valley a number of the mills follow the steep incline along the western edge of the brook. This relationship of mill buildings clinging to the edge of the ravine is quite exceptional. Later textile mill development was laid along the valley floor and comprised some large complexes and some mill buildings that are isolated.
2. SUMMARY OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Although Lumsdale is the name adopted for the conservation area, it incorporates a much larger area than just Lumsdale, as it extends south & east of Lumsdale to include the various tributaries & brooks from separate valleys edging Tansley, which eventually merge together at Tansley Wood Mills.

The routes through the valleys contain elements of surprise, where groups of buildings emerge from the trees; clusters of buildings huddle alongside the roads. The backdrop of trees, often arching over the road and providing visual containment, provides a strong sense of enclosure & intimacy.

A series of clusters of industrial buildings are located alongside the streams & brooks, separated by watercourses and man-made water features; ponds, mill races & bridges. Here the development is dense and comprises buildings ranging from single storey up to four storeys around courtyards. There are also scattered dwellings, a few farms, a few houses (belonging to industrialists & historically occupied by them or their managers) built to take advantage of the spectacular wooded gorge setting and a few blocks of terraced houses built for mill workers, and there are a number of twentieth century dwellings.

There are large tracts of open space & landscape, some in agricultural use, some steep sections of hillside with no economic use, simply incorporating wooded valleys with natural gorge features that have been adapted and shaped by man.

The area is primarily of historic interest for its industrial archaeology. It was until very recently a working landscape and retains evidence of extensive hydraulic management.

The conservation area has a few **key characteristics:**

- Its dense, wooded setting defines many of the views from within and beyond the conservation area.
- Remote tranquil places are reached by footpaths, far from the road network
- A strong & dramatic contrast in landscape character between the densely wooded areas, within the dramatic gorge setting, the historic mill buildings edging the roads, and the modern industrial buildings & workshops
- An area of great natural beauty
- A dense canopy of mainly native deciduous trees
- Short vistas with interwoven groups of buildings of different scales and function create picturesque groups
- Tall, plain boundary & retaining walls line the lanes in places
- There is continuity of industrial use from the seventeenth and eighteenth century up to the late twentieth century

The area is split into three areas of different character (see Figure 9). The steep and wooded landform with closed views and glimpses of the horizon, ridges of various local hills, and occasional long vistas to far horizons, has reinforced the separate identity of each area. Their special interest is summarised as follows:

**Area 1 – Upper Lumsdale**

- Steep hillside & ravine with hidden, dark character & dramatic waterfalls
- Contrasting narrow views within the valley and expansive views from the hillsides above
- Natural beauty & sense of wild nature being tamed
- Heavily wooded valley with many mature beech trees and some ornamental trees in gardens, contrasting with open fields on the higher slopes & conifer plantations on the summit of the hills
- Unspoilt estate character derived from small picturesque cottages & spacious setting to estate buildings
- Continuity of use of gritstone as a building material and naturally present in the form of outcrops and boulders
- Sense of decay and strong sense of history as past industries have come and gone
- Dense network of public footpaths, criss-crossing the hills & valleys
Area 2 – The A615 & the valley to its north

- Long scenic views from the A615 across the wooded valley to the north
- Major landmark buildings – Bailey’s Mill & Scholes Mill
- Glimpses of important houses that were designed to be seen within the landscape – Tansley Wood House & St. Andrew’s House
- Footpath network running largely east-west along the valley
- Strong sense of enclosure alongside the roads, where tall industrial buildings line the route
- Complex relationship of watercourses, millponds, bridges, headraces and tailraces
- Predominant use of coursed gritstone
- Sense of regeneration as past industries have gone & been replaced with new uses

Area 3 – Tansley

- Small cottages and outbuildings are scattered across the landscape
- Millponds and watercourses associated with several mills connect the character of this area with the remainder of the industrial development of the valley
- Trees follow the corridor of the watercourse, which plunges in a deep ravine through the valley
3. CONTEXT

Location

Lumsdale Conservation Area lies to the east of Matlock and encompasses the wooded area that separates the town of Matlock from the village of Tansley to its east.

The southern boundary of the conservation area follows the route of the A615, the principal east-west road, which runs between Matlock and Alfreton. The northern part of the conservation area rises to a windswept, largely open landscape crossed by straight roads, which was formerly moorland. The northern section of the conservation area is contained by the natural features within the landscape, the trees and ridges that rise to 250 metres.

The conservation area straddles two separate parishes, Matlock and Tansley, of which 45 hectares are within Matlock Parish & 48.44 hectares within Tansley Parish. The boundary that divides the two parishes is marked in part by the Bentley Brook, from the site of the old Grinding Mill in Lumsdale running southwards to where it meets Knabhall Brook. It then continues southwards along Smuse Lane. The northern parish boundary extends as far as the waterfall in Lumsdale and then strikes east running along the stone walled field boundaries of several fields and then continues north-east through an old area of quarry workings, known as the Bentleybrook quarries.

Economic Context

Lumsdale Conservation Area straddles the edges of two large parishes, the town of Matlock, which contains a large resident population and Tansley, which is more rural. It is not possible to extract useful statistics on population figures for this area. The area is characterised by a continuity of industrial use & development and supports a number of small businesses & small-scale engineering based firms. The Brookfields Park Industrial Estate at Tansley is identified within the Local Plan as EDT2, a strategic employment site of 0.49 hectares. It is half within the conservation area & half outside it. Under Policy EDT2 Existing Strategic Employment Land And Business Premises “planning permission will be granted for industrial and business development….. Planning permission will not be granted for development that would result in the loss of any land or buildings from industrial and business use.”

Other industrial sites within the conservation area are not identified within the Local Plan as existing strategic employment land.

Statutory Designations

The statutory designations are shown on Figure 2.

Lumsdale Conservation Area was designated in 1980. The boundary was extended in 1995 to include a short length of the brook to the east of the Brookfields Park Industrial Estate.

There are 7 listed buildings within the conservation area;

- Yew Tree Farm (grade II)
- Annex to Yew Tree Farm (grade II)
- Scholes Mill (grade II)
- Tansley Wood Mill (original factory building - grade II)
- St. Andrew’s House (grade II*)
- Bailey’s Mill (grade II)
- Former Malthouse at Matlock Mill (grade II)

Geology

The conservation area lies on the southern tip of an area known as the “Dark Peak”, a landscape that is characterised by its Millstone Grit outcrops and rolling heather moorland. Above the alluvium of the Derwent River valley, is a band of Head, the drift debris from waterlogged soil and rock deposits that moved down the hillside during the last Ice Age and this overlies Middle Grit. Fault lines at the surface roughly correspond with the two tributaries of the Bentleybrook and the Knabhall Brook, but there may have been some human intervention to the course of the upper stages of the Bentleybrook.

Above this “head”, the solid gritstone runs in bands across the contours changing from Ashover Grit to Middle Grit again, with a wide band of Chatsworth Grit on top of Tansley Moor. The topography is typical of the eastern fringes of the Derwent Valley. The land rises from its western end near Matlock at 100 metres above sea level to 250 metres at its northern tip. The solid geology is illustrated on Plate 1 (overleaf).

Most of the buildings within the conservation area are built from gritstone, probably quarried locally. There were a number of quarries locally of varying sizes, mainly quarrying Chatsworth Grit for grinding stones and millstones but also for building stone.
Plan form

The conservation area is notable for the lack of any planned settlements. The distribution of most buildings relates largely to the presence of water. Buildings are strung out, clustered along the sides of the roads and along the watercourses in informal groupings. Their location is generally dependent upon their proximity to water or to a means of storing water, i.e. a suitable flat area for the creation of a dam / millpond. The wooded slopes & higher land has scattered farmsteads, smallholdings & occasional estate buildings, a more dispersed settlement pattern.

Development was concentrated in small pockets between the tributaries and the roads and there is a history of redevelopment on several key plots. The main historic complexes are:

- Tansley Wood Mills (currently under redevelopment in 2010 with mixed uses)
- Farnsworth’s Bleachworks (currently in light industrial & mixed uses)
- Upper Lumsdale Mills (owned by the Arkwright Society, preserved as ruins)
4. ORIGINS AND HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA

The name Lumsdale probably comes from “Lum”, an old word for chimney, meaning literally “the valley of the chimneys”. This would only have been in use from the late seventeenth or eighteenth century, when industrial activity is first recorded. At the time of the Domesday survey (1086), Tansley to the east of the conservation area was called “Taneslege” & it was listed along with a number of other settlements. It appears to have been a small farm settlement rather than a village, known as a berewick (an outlying farm), part of the royal Manor of Metesforde (Matlock).

The origins of the name Tansley are not clear and three possible sources have been suggested; (1) Tan’s clearing, (2) “tan” from the word branch, meaning a valley branching from the main dale, or (3) “tan” from the word “sprout or shoot” denoting a wood or clearing from which shoots were obtained. The name was recorded as Tansl(e)y on Saxton’s 1577 map of Derbyshire.

The main part of Tansley settlement lies outside the conservation area, but it does include 48.44 hectares of land within Tansley parish, dominated by mills and millponds.

The settlement of Tansley had several mills up stream and east of the present village. In the nineteenth century there were both a corn mill and a bobbin mill here, outside the conservation area boundary, to the south of the Alfreton Road but it is likely that a corn mill existed here long before the nineteenth century.

Yew Tree Farm is the oldest surviving range of buildings in the conservation area, dated to 1623, a time when there was considerable local wealth, as a result of the boom in lead mining. The house was a substantial & imposing building for its day, built behind the parish boundary, which followed an alignment just north of the present A615. The original route of the A615 would have been less well-defined, on the edge of the common, and Yew Tree Farm probably fronted the road when it was first built. It is possible that the building was a prestigious house for a gentleman or merchant, built to front the main highway. The land to the south was waste & common land until 1784. Most of the other buildings facing the A615 are much later nineteenth century road frontage encroachments.

Yew Tree Farm, A lfreton Road - an early seventeenth century house

In 1758 an Act of Parliament created the “Alfreton Turnpike Road”, which ran for 31½ miles from Alfreton, through Matlock, to Newhaven. It was the principal east-west route in central Derbyshire and would have created the opportunity for improved communication to markets across the Midlands. As this road skirted the mills at Lumsdale & Tansley it is easy to see why the opportunity to develop the mills along the valleys was embraced by several entrepreneurs during the following decades of the eighteenth century.

To the north-west of Tansley village the brook runs in a deep cleft straddled by a road bridge which leads to the higher land, formerly common & moorland. The roads lead in short lengths in straight alignments between groups of buildings and were in place by 1880.

Prior to the coming of textile mills, the use of waterpower was already long established in Derbyshire, both for corn milling and for the smelting of lead extracted from the local mines. The lead smelting mills in Lumsdale were among over fifty which have been identified in Derbyshire from the late sixteenth century onwards. Within the conservation area this is the area with the earliest known pattern of development. There was no settlement at Lumsdale as lead smelting, which created noxious fumes, was purposefully sited in remote locations, away from housing. Prior to the development of lead smelting mills, lead was processed in a traditional smelter called a “bole” but during the late sixteenth century it became more economic to smelt the lead using waterpower.
There were two lead smelting mills in the upper part of the Lumsdale valley but by 1790 they had ceased to operate. To these was added a **cupola**, where lead was smelted up until the late eighteenth century, when it was converted to cottages.

Burdett’s map of Derbyshire of 1767 (updated in 1791) shows just two sites within the conservation area, one a corn mill, probably a predecessor to Bailey’s (Matlock) Mill and the Cupola at Lumsdale.

The first purpose-built cotton factory was developed by Richard Arkwright in 1771 at Cromford. Arkwright’s success prompted a stream of imitators, encouraged in particular by the expiry of the patent for his spinning machine, the water-frame, in 1783. The Lumsdale and Tansley textile mills and associated textile industries were an important satellite to Richard Arkwright’s development at Cromford.

“Towards the end of the eighteenth century the [Derwent] valley was caught up in the gold rush which followed the challenge & ultimate loss of Arkwright’s patents. This led to a high demand for water powered sites which could be converted to textile use & the industrial remains which survive in Lumsdale today owe their basic form to the first feverish expansion of the Arkwright factory system in 1783-84” (C Charlton, 1999).

A secondary source (Bulmer’s 1895 Trade directory) suggests that **Tansley Mill** (also known as Scholes Mill) was built in 1782. It was not established in direct competition with Arkwright’s concerns, but rather complemented cotton spinning by providing employment for weavers to manufacture shawls and later tape. Arkwright’s factory system employed mainly women and children to operate the machinery. Families came from far afield to work at Arkwright’s mill in Cromford and the male head of the family was often a weaver & needed local employment.

**Tansley Wood Mill** was begun in the same year that Arkwright’s patent expired (1783), evidently to house its occupants’ own patented form of machinery, in this case for the spinning of candlewick yarn. This material, also known as bump, was composed of fibres of flax or cotton waste, which were simply loosely twisted together to make threads. Initially this was used for the wicks of candles & oil lamps but much later the material found use for making bedcoverings, coarse sheets and in modern times for the production of “candlewick” bedspreads.

Farming continued to be an important local activity throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The higher land which could be cultivated led to the development of several small farms. The pattern of land ownership recorded in the 1881 census indicates that there were 20 separate farms within Tansley parish of which most were of a sufficient size, of over 20 acres, to be able to exist without a second income. The land to the south of the A615 was waste & commons until 1784. The open areas within the conservation area, on the slopes above the valleys, had become large irregular fields, indicating direct clearance from woodland, and were probably enclosed by the eighteenth century. The higher land was enclosed in the mid–late nineteenth century.

Employment recorded in the 1881 census also indicates a wide range of sources of employment within Tansley parish. Quarrying & stone cutting was one area of employment which expanded considerably in the second half of the 19th century. The mills certainly provided employment for many manual skills; cordwainers, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, millwrights, cotton bleachers, tape weavers & wood bobbin turners, but the numbers of people employed in the mills also indicate that people were probably travelling to the mills from neighbouring Matlock, Cromford & Ashover.

The conservation area is mainly rural in character, with clusters of industrial buildings alongside watercourses. There was a steady trickle of residential development over the centuries from the seventeenth century onwards, some associated with the mills, some providing workers cottages associated with the dispersed farms, some was opportunistic roadside encroachment, and more recently from the twentieth century associated with the residential expansion of Matlock, but this has had little impact on the overwhelming character of the conservation area.

The historic development of the area is summarised in the timeline overleaf.
### TIMELINE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1623</td>
<td><strong>Yew Tree Farm</strong> is built</td>
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<tr>
<td>1749</td>
<td><strong>Cupola</strong> erected at Lumsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1758</td>
<td>Alfreton to Newhaven road turnpiked &amp; improved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1782</td>
<td>Construction of <strong>Tansley Mill</strong> (Scholes Mill) for Samuel Unwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1783</td>
<td>Construction of <strong>Tansley Wood Mill</strong>, following grant of a lease to Osgathorpe &amp; Prestwidge. Patent granted to Thomas Oldham &amp; George Prestwidge for the design of machinery to spin candlewick yarn from flax waste. Samuel Unwin builds <strong>Top Mill</strong> (now known as Speedwell Mill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1792</td>
<td>Sir Joseph Banks inherits the Tansley Wood estate from his uncle. Miss Frances Willoughby acquires part of the lease of Tansley Wood Mill &amp; a share in the patent. George Henry Farnsworth establishes the bleachworks, the site above Tansley Wood Mill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1793</td>
<td>Joseph Banks visits Miss Willoughby's developments &amp; finds her constructing dams &amp; watercourses and a new range of buildings; a warehouse &amp; habitations for some workmen (<strong>Nos. 1-4 Smuse Lane</strong>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Sir Joseph Banks leases to Frances Willoughby &amp; John Radford a house at Tansley Wood (<strong>Tansley Wood House</strong>) &amp; a mill. Tansley Wood House built along with its coachhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800-1830</td>
<td>Mill Manager's House built at Farnsworth's Bleachworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1822</td>
<td>John Radford inherits Frances Willoughby's estate in Tansley</td>
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<tr>
<td>1830</td>
<td>The <strong>Bobbin Mill</strong> is built in around this year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>The millpond above the sawmill in Lumsdale is created</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850s</td>
<td>The millpond above Tansley Mill (Scholes Mill) is constructed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1855</td>
<td>Late Parliamentary Enclosure of the moors/ commons/ waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>Edward Radford leases the Tansley Wood mills for 10 years to G &amp; AK Baines worsted spinners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Henry Bailey starts to operate Matlock Corn Mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Tansley Wood Mills in use by Robert Lowe for lambswool spinning &amp; bleaching. Wool spinning soon replaced by garneting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>F H Drabble, a waste merchant, fuller &amp; bleacher, takes on the lease of Tansley Wood Mill</td>
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<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Ernest Bailey Boys' Home opens at St. Andrew's House</td>
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<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>Edward Hall Garton sells the Lumsdale Estate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>The Lumsdale Estate is sold again &amp; the Bleachworks are closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939-45</td>
<td>Scholes Mill &amp; Top Mill requisitioned by the Army &amp; used as barracks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>The Lumsdale Project is formed by the Arkwright Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Tansley Wood Mills close</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Tansley Wood Mills, Millponds, Farnsworth’s Bleachworks & Yewtree Farm

Scholes Mill & Upper Mill & Millponds

The Bobbin mill & millponds

Reproduced by permission from original documents in Derbyshire Record Office, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG
5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

The Historic Environment Record (HER) is held by Derbyshire County Council. The majority of sites in the conservation area identified on the HER are associated with industrial archaeology.

The main identifiable archaeological interest in the conservation area lies in the development of its various industries - first lead smelting and to a lesser extent corn milling, then much later grinding minerals & barytes for paint and other processes, then from the 1780s cotton spinning, and weaving of cotton goods, processing bi-products & waste from cotton manufacturing & hosiery manufacture, and bleaching cotton. The buildings & the application of water power to these industries along the length of the Bentley Brook and the Knabhall Brook, and the creation of a series of ponds, dams, sluices, leats, culverts, pipes, aqueducts & launders is the primary archaeological interest of the conservation area.

The national importance of the Lumsdale valley is recognised by English Heritage and they have confirmed that the semi-ruinous sites in the middle and upper parts of the valley are of schedulable quality. Mill sites & watercourses elsewhere within the conservation area that are in active use fall outside the eligibility for scheduling. Whilst they are of industrial & archaeological interest, only those structures that are no longer in use can be considered for scheduling. The larger mill complexes contain listed buildings and they are also of intrinsic archaeological interest for their industrial history.

In recent years desk-based assessments, archaeological building surveys and watching briefs have accompanied the redevelopment of all historic industrial sites within the conservation area.

The archaeological interest of the area has been summarised below by looking at water management & power systems, then the main industries in turn and assessing what survives of each;

The watercourses, water supply & hydraulic management

Tansley Wood Mills:
Two lodges (or reservoirs) originally supplied water to a waterwheel (late a water turbine) on this site. The smaller top reservoir, which has become filled with silt, received water from the Bentley Brook to the west of Lumsdale Road via a weir & culvert. It probably provided an emergency top-up supply of water for the mill’s waterpower system. The lower main reservoir has been in-filled but it is well-defined by a tall boundary wall to the east of the Lumsdale Road. This reservoir received water from the Knabhall (Tansley) Brook, via a leat, part of which was contained within a culvert. This provided a secure supply of water to drive a waterwheel, later the water turbine. The late eighteenth century waterwheel pit and tailrace still survive, albeit altered. The head race connecting the lower reservoir with the wheel pit was probably via a launder, as shown in late nineteenth century illustrations. An early example of this type of overhead launder in cast iron survived at Cromford Mill until recently. By the 1870s it was fed by an enclosed riveted cast iron pipe. The tail race exit can still be seen upstream of the confluence of the two brooks. It is marked by a separate low stone wall running along the course of the Bentley Brook.

The leat that fed the lower reservoir from the Tansley Brook also supplied water to other parts of the site for bleaching & dying. This leat runs from
its source near Scholes Mill below a substantial stone-lined weir. Its condition is poor.

Tansley Mill (Scholes Mill), Speedwell Mill & the Bobbin Mill:
Two large ponds survive substantially intact retained by substantial embankments. These provided the water supply for Scholes Mill. A separate pond above Speedwell Mill provided a separate supply to that mill. Five lakes and dams are supposed to have fed the two Tansley mills (Scholes Mill & Speedwell Mill) but it is clear that the second pond, to the west of Riber View Close, was created sometime after 1855 as it does not appear on the Tansley Enclosure map. The embankment is revetted and buttressed with a working sluice. This pond probably dates from a similar period to the Upper Lumsdale ponds. It was in existence by the time of the first edition OS (1879). Two further ponds were located above Tansley Knoll and were here in the early nineteenth century. One provided a direct supply to the Bobbin Mill & the higher pond may have provided another top up supply for Tansley bottom mill (Scholes). Of these ponds, the upper pond is still in reasonable condition but the lower pond is silted up. A section of the mill head race survives, where it leaves the upper pond over a narrow stone weir. It then joins the original, natural course of the brook. The tail race for the bobbin mill survives in part, although a large section has been culverted.

Lumsdale Mills:
The earliest known mill within the upper Lumsdale valley, the Paint Mill, was initially fed by diverting the water from the fast flowing brook. There were three ponds in the valley by the late nineteenth century; the upper pond, located above the Bone Mill site, the middle pond, located above Pond Cottages, and the lower pond, located above the Sawmill site. The dam walls of the two largest ponds, the upper and lower ponds, were built in 1850. They share the same heavy engineered stepped construction. The upper pond was, however, originally created in the late eighteenth century (Arkwright Society undated notes) and must have been adapted in 1850.
Bailey’s (Matlock) Mill:
Bailey’s Mill was fed by the combined water from Bentley Brook and Tansley (Knabhall Brook). The water was diverted into a large millpond, which is now filled in. This pond lay to the south of the Malthouse. The massive sluice survives and its gearing but the water from the brook now runs out at the base of the sluice. The remainder of the millpond has been filled in, and the evidence of water management or overhead launder through the mill complex has been removed, & the brook has been diverted onto its original course.

The water management within the valleys has suffered over the years from neglect & alteration. Several ponds have silted up or have been infilled. Of the eleven ponds that originally served the valleys within the conservation area, seven have been either filled in or have become silted up. Of the four ponds which remain, three are in good condition & regularly maintained; Tansley lower pond, Lumsdale lower pond & the upper pond above the Bobbin Mill. The upper pond to Tansley Mill (Scholes) is maintained but further down the brook a culvert has collapsed.

The various leats and culverts are generally still working throughout the valleys, although they have been extensively altered over the centuries. Head races & tail races often exist only in fragments, as the water has been channelled away from the old buildings. Many of the sluices are not operational and in poor condition. There are a large number of historic bridges crossing the various brooks and tributaries.
The power systems

Scholes Mill, Speedwell Mill and Tansley Wood Mill all have evidence of the original power systems in the form of rotational scarring in the stonework, and in the plan form. None of the original waterwheels survive, although the wheelpits are evident. They exhibit different forms of construction.

Scholes Mill shares a similar form with Bailey’s (Matlock) Mill; a central bay with a central wheelpit would have provided power transmission & gearing systems for machinery & line shafting on each floor, on either side of the central wheelpit. This was one of the most energy efficient power transmission systems and was adopted in the early nineteenth century at other sites in the Derwent Valley. The original wheel at Scholes Mill would have been a breastshot wheel, of 12 metres diameter, possibly adapted at a later date into a Suspension Wheel, which incorporated rim gearing. The evidence of the original form of the power system at Bailey’s Mill was not recorded.

Tansley Wood Mill, on the other hand, had an external wheel, at the end of the range. This was a slightly old-fashioned system. It had a 7.5-metre diameter breastshot waterwheel, superseded by a 10-metre diameter Suspension Wheel, and later a water turbine. Speedwell Mill incorporated an internal wheelpit within the end bay of the building. This provided a neat building form, a form shared with buildings in the upper Lumsdale valley.

Within the Upper Lumsdale valley many of the buildings have evidence of the original wheelpits and the nineteenth century cast-iron pipes which provided a diverted water supply directly off the brook or via a reservoir. The wheelpits are often the most substantial parts of the buildings, built to withstand the greatest forces and these are occasionally the only part which survives. The waterwheels were generally contained within roofed over wheelpits or external wheelpits with later lean-to wheelhouses. The precise working of each of the buildings in the Upper Lumsdale valley and the size of the waterwheels has not been documented, although there is a large quantity of evidence on site. All of the waterwheels within the upper Lumsdale valley were fed by either launders or cast-iron pipes, via leats that provided a direct water supply from the brook. The millponds were later creations, introduced to provide a much more reliable & controllable supply of water for the textile mills lower down the valley.

The bobbin mill at Tansley is purported to still contain the remains of its waterwheel & machinery in the end bay, all now under the same pitched roof as the rest of the mill (now a house), but it was once an external wheel, and later contained within a wheelhouse.

In addition to the waterwheels there were many supplementary power systems (e.g. at Tansley Wood Mills there were 12 power generators ranging from the water turbine to steam boilers, steam engines, gas engines & an electric generator). Other sites also had supplementary power systems, such as steam engines, but these are not well documented. The detached chimney at Farnsworth’s Bleachworks site in the lower Lumsdale valley has been removed and all of the old chimneys within the Lumsdale valley have been removed, with one major exception. Scholes Mill still retains its attached brick chimney.

Industrial processes;

Lead smelting

Two lead smelting mills were established at Lumsdale in the 1580s or 1590s by Adam Wolley of Riber (UMAU 2001). In 1674 a mill was recorded as occupied by Robert Cliffe (Willies, PD MHS vol. 4 1969). Prior to 1700 one of these sites seems to have gone out of use, but by that date there were again two mills working in Lumsdale, named in 1736 as the upper & lower smelting mills (see also Lease of 1737, Lincolnshire Archives, Tur/X 18/1/11, 12).

The upper mill is believed to have been on the site of the later Bone Mill. The location of the lower mill is uncertain but may have been at the site of the lower mill of the Paint Mill complex, at SK3132 6063. (UMAU 2001). Flues extending for long distances & lying within the woodland to the west of the mills may indicate lead smelting flues. Prior to 1774 one of these mills was used as a slag mill. In 1784 it was advertised as a cupola & slag mill. By 1790 both lead smelting mills had ceased to operate.

This area of Derbyshire was on the periphery of the lead orefield but it was roughly midway between the lead veins within Ashover and those around Matlock & Cromford. Lead smelting mills were established in several locations in the Derwent Valley, using the power of various tributaries.

The traditional smelter was a bole, a large fire (a bole hearth) built on a hill and relying on wind power to create the right draughts. In the late 16th century wind power was abandoned and the smelting blast was provided by a bellows driven first by foot, to
an ore hearth, and later by waterpower in a smelting mill, where two large bellows provided the draught for the furnaces, driven by the waterwheel. The mills were fuelled by white coal, which was in fact kiln-dried branch wood. The water power provided by the Bentley Brook sustained two lead smelting mills. The wooded slopes of the valleys, where oak would have been coppiced, would have provided a ready source for the white coal. These slopes within Lumsdale were largely denuded of trees by the 19th century.

Within Derbyshire the ore-hearth was eventually superseded by the coal-fired reverberatory furnace, the cupola, first used in the county in 1737 (Crossley & Kiernan 1992, 6). A cupola was established in Lumsdale in 1749. In 1749 a lease of ground to build a cupola was granted to George & John Wall & John Twigg. Two were established in a conjoined building. In June 1762 one cupola was assigned with two ore houses, counting house & smithy at the north end to George Norman of Winster and the other cupola at the south end was occupied by Matthew Spark Whitfield (L Willies, Bulletin of PDMHS Vol. 4 March 1969). This building was later converted to five cottages in the 1790s by Watts Lowe & Co. & still stands at SK 3133 6077, now known as Pond Cottages. Although cupolas did not require water power, the higher temperatures needed to melt the slag recovered from the primary melt required a water powered furnace and, since slag mills tended to be placed next to the cupolas, most cupolas remained in riverside sites.

The Derbyshire lead industry declined after the late eighteenth century because of worked-out veins, increased production costs and cheaper foreign imports. The industry was protected from foreign ore by import duty but this was eventually abolished in 1845.

It is difficult to imagine that the several lead smelting processes have left no trace of their chimneys. A thorough archaeological investigation may one day provide evidence of their location. Many cupolas had long horizontal flues, which were introduced to trap pollutants before they could be discharged into the air. Since the pollutants included metal vapour, the sweepings of the flue could also be recovered for re-smelting. Many smelt mills were built with short horizontal flues linked to a chimney.

Cotton Spinning
A number of the mills within the conservation were developed in association with textile manufacture, primarily associated with cotton products, although worsted spinning and lambswool spinning is recorded. The earliest cotton mill, which appears to have been purpose-built as a cotton mill was a three-storey building in the Upper Lumsdale valley, which is now only a two-storey shell. This was, according to the Arkwright Society, built in the late eighteenth century. Other mills associated with the processing of cotton were Tansley Wood Mills, Scholes Mill & Speedwell Mill.

Candlewick manufacture
Candlewick yard was spun at Tansley Wood Mill from 1783. This material, also known as bump, was composed of fibres of flax or cotton waste, which were simply loosely twisted together to make threads. Initially this was used for the wicks of candles & oil lamps but much later the material found use for making bedcoverings, coarse sheets and in modern times for the production of “candlewick” bedspreads.

Smallware manufacture
Small Wares was the nineteenth century name given to textile articles of the tape kind, narrow bindings of cotton, linen, silk, or woollen fabric; plaited sash cord, braid, &c. Smallware was produced at Scholes Mill. The conversion of the mill in 2007 involved a detailed study of the surviving evidence within the building and on site. However by this time there was little surviving evidence of machinery or the various industrial processes and the original timber floors had been replaced in concrete.

Bleachworks
The industrial processes involved at a Bleachworks are described in great detail in “The Matlocks & Bakewell – Famous Derbyshire Health Resorts, 1893”. The machinery would have changed since the bleachworks were first established in the eighteenth century, but the description still provides a sense of the scale & noisiness of the operation and the importance of a continual & plentiful supply of clean water.
The process involves; “boiling in lime and soda, the next operation consists of a good beating, which process is carried out by immense beaters worked by steam, and which descend rapidly one after the other into a revolving drum of soap and water, and in which is placed the cotton. After this preliminary cleansing process it is removed to the boiling kiers until deemed ready again to undergo a further washing and beating after which it is again boiled and finally transferred to the Patent Vacuum Bleaching Kiers...the process consists of creating a vacuum by means of air pumps worked by steam, and allowing the bleaching liquid to penetrate every portion. When the cotton is bleached and washed it is partially dried by centrifugal apparatus, and it is removed to the large drying rooms, upon immense carriages running upon tram lines”
(The Matlocks & Bakewell - Famous Derbyshire Health Resorts, 1893)

A range of buildings survive both in the upper and lower Lumsdale valley, which were adapted or purpose-built for the bleaching industry. Whilst the evidence of the bleaching industry & mid nineteenth century bleaching crofts has been assessed in detail at the Tansley Wood Mills site, the form and function of each building on these sites further up the valley has not been assessed in any detail.

**Garneting**
Garneting involved the shredding of fabrics in a machine invented by Charles Garnett in 1859 for use in the Shoddy industry (i.e. woollen yarn obtained by tearing to shreds refuse woollen rags, which, with the addition of some new wool, is made into a kind of cloth). The buildings that survive from this industrial process are often single storey, with wide spans, shallow Welsh slate roofs & north-lights. A number of these survive at Tansley Wood Mills & are currently being converted to new uses.

**Quarrying**
The pamphlet of 1893 entitled “Matlocks & Bakewell famous Derbyshire Health Resorts” describes several local quarries. At this time Mr T. C. Drabble was the owner of the Old Bentley Brook quarries and they were said to be once “the largest stone producing concern in Derbyshire”. The old Bentleybrook quarries fall on the northern periphery of the conservation area. The quarries have been extensively worked so that the face is now much further away than indicated on the early OS plans. One prominent quarry face from the 1880 OS still stands undisturbed.

The site of “Poorlots” Quarry is located some distance from the conservation area, to the east of Tansley.

The area known as Foxholes, which lies just beyond the conservation area, was also quarried but this is not well documented.
The conservation area contains many industrial buildings and this is its primary historic and architectural character. The diversification of industries, as businesses expanded or sought to make themselves more profitable & sustainable, has left a huge range of building types and physical evidence from a large number of industries within a small geographical area. As the technologies changed, so the buildings evolved, often with additional ranges housing new machinery & processes. Many of the buildings that survive are little understood or researched and it is only in recent years that detailed recording has taken place. As a result, evidence of many industries and the application of waterpower and machinery has been lost as sites have deteriorated or been redeveloped.

Industrial Buildings

A. Mills

Within the conservation area the industrial buildings incorporate a range of mills, which were built to house machinery for a number of different industries. A waterwheel was often placed to one side of the building, either outside the main building & sheltered by a wheelhouse or within the end bay of the main building, but equally wheelpits were sometimes contained within the building in a central location. All three of these permutations can be found within the mills in the conservation area.

Paint grinding, bone milling & corn grinding all incorporated large Millstone Grit grinding stones, powered by a waterwheel, & housed within a substantial, strong building. Bailey’s (Matlock) Mill, which started off as a single multistorey block, expanded considerably and the original form is surrounded by later nineteenth century extensions. The building did not require a great deal of light and the proportion of masonry to window area is relatively large. Timber-clad sack hoists now puncture the eaves and create a distinctive appearance. It was probably lack of competition and the relative isolation of the mill which led to the expansion of the complex in the eighteenth century to house a malthouse. This required a supply of clean water but not waterpower. The supply of large quantities of corn for milling on an industrial scale would have led the owners of the mill into close contact with merchants who could supply barley for making malt. The remains of the Bone Mill, Paint Mill, & Grinding Mill within the upper Lumsdale Valley are all now ruinous.

Bailey’s Corn Mill (above) and the associated Malthouse (below)

The former Paint Mill (top) and the Grinding Mill (bottom) within the Lumsdale valley

The visible remains reveal substantial one-and-a-half & two-storey rubble gritstone buildings, with later coursed gritstone extensions and few window or door openings.
From the 1770s there were strong similarities between the machines employed within textile mills. Cotton spinning & the manufacture of candlewick, tape & woven cotton goods required multi-storey buildings which were well-lit, with long rows of windows on both long elevations, and contained different processes on each level of the building. As a result the buildings were all regular in rectangular plan form. For cotton mills, carding engines and drawing frames were usually located on the level above the cotton spinning frames or mules. The application of power transmission to multiple levels was adapted from corn milling. The whole mill was powered by a system of driveshafts (upright & line shafts connected by bevel wheels), drums & belts, all connected ultimately to the single source of power, the waterwheel. Later, boilers and engine houses were introduced onto these sites to provide supplementary power. **Tansley Wood Mills, Scholes Mill & Speedwell Mill** are all good, well-preserved examples of textile mills. The cotton mill at Lumsdale is also an example in a ruinous state.

There was little architectural embellishment. The main buildings within the conservation area contain a number of vernacular details; raised stone coped gables and graduated Westmoreland slate roofs being the most distinctive. Stonework is simple in evenly coursed gritstone. Lintels are either plain & squared or wedge lintels, with or without keystones. The width of the multi-storey mills was mainly determined by the requirements of the machinery they housed. The first generation of cotton mills built to house Arkwright’s patented spinning frames & carding engines were typically three or four storeys high and were about 9 metres wide. This width was determined by the maximum span of an unsupported timber beam. By the 1800s mills had started to become wider as cast iron columns were incorporated into mills to support the ends of the beams. The length varied according to the availability of capital, which determined the quantity of machinery and ratio of machinery to power level & therefore to the size of building. Tansley Wood Mill (both the original building of 1783 and the later phases dating from the late 18th century) is narrow in form, without intermediate posts. Scholes Mill, dating from the late 18th century, similarly has no intermediate posts. The original bell towers (or cupolas) have been removed. These would have called workers to work...
when shifts changed. One can still be seen on the engraving of Scholes Mill from “The Matlocks & Bakewell, 1893”.

The smallest of the textile mills were two or three storeys high and three to six bays long. The ruinous mill at the Lower Bleachworks in Lumsdale (pictured below), is typical of a smaller mill, of three storeys and eight bays long (now only two rows of windows survive). It has little architectural embellishment. It was built of roughly coursed rubble gritstone with wedge lintels and keystones. Multiple rows of evenly spaced windows provided an even light. Early twentieth century photographs reveal that it once had a graduated stone slate roof.

B. Buildings associated with the textile industries

Other industries were established in association with textile manufacture. Occasionally, as at Tansley Wood Mills and the Lower Bleachworks site in Lumsdale, they were established as a by-product of cotton spinning or cotton processing.

These industries relied on a constant supply and good flow of water for bleaching and dyeing. The buildings were scattered around courtyards in close-knit groups. There was not the same requirement for a single, large mill building. Instead, these industries contained multiple, smaller buildings, each with a specific purpose for processing finished cotton; washing, boiling, soaking, bleaching, drying, and warehousing. They required an engine house and boiler house and a detached chimney. Most of the buildings associated with bleaching or dyeing were single-storey, stone or occasionally red brick, with shallow slate roofs, sometimes connected together to create a large footprint. At both Farnsworth’s bleachworks and Tansley Wood Mills the “bleaching crofts” of the nineteenth century were two-storey stone buildings, by far the largest buildings from these industries on each site. They supplemented the use of local fields for drying the cloth, which was historically laid out in the open air to bleach, until the discovery of chlorine at the end of the eighteenth century.

The two-storey Bobbin Mill at Tansley Knoll (pictured below) is typical of the smallest mill and is very similar to a traditional Derbyshire farm building in its form and detail. It has been extended by two bays and its original form was only three bays wide. It was built to provide machine-turned wooden bobbins for the local cotton mills.
C. Buildings associated with other industries

Very few of the earlier industries within the Lumsdale valley are evident. Pond Cottages, a former lead cupola, was built in a vernacular form & it is not really possible to envisage its original appearance, so comprehensive was the conversion. The small single-bay cottage to the west was once the counting house.

Farm Buildings

There are relatively few farms within the conservation area. A small complex of farm buildings once supported Lumsdale House and survives largely untouched. Elsewhere, the farms are mainly small-holdings and contain a few outbuildings. The development of Lumsdale Farm was developed by Garton’s in the late nineteenth century.

Houses

Mill Owners’ & Mill Managers’ Houses

In the days before the motorcar it was important that a mill manager was immediately on-hand to deal with any problems within the factory. Four large houses are identifiable as houses built either for the mill owner or a mill manager. These were all relatively close to the mill and it is sometimes difficult to distinguish the differences, except in architectural embellishment & pretensions. None of them appear to have been purpose-built at the same time as the mill they served; all appear to have been built soon after. The mill manager’s house at Tansley Mill (Scholes) was physically attached, the house at Bailey’s Mill was probably built for the owner, a short distance away, across a courtyard, the owners’ houses at Tansley Wood Mill and Garton’s mill were some distance away within their own grounds. Despite the proximity of these houses, they are on the whole formal Georgian houses of some status. Only the house attached to Tansley Mill (Scholes) has a rather simplified Georgian character.

The larger houses were built from coursed gritstone, with graduated slate roofs, usually Westmoreland slate, ashlar gritstone chimneys, and large sash windows. Two storey canted bays were fashionable additions of the first half of the 19th century.

St. Andrew’s House (pictured below) is the largest and most imposing of these houses. Built of three storeys, with raised quoins, a large stone cornice & parapet, stone architraves to the windows and a classical central doorway, it nevertheless retained the local stone coped gable detail. It is more typical of early Georgian houses and has a dated rainwater head of 1757.

The Manager’s house at Scholes Mill was built in a three-storey form and dates from the turn of the 19th century. It was converted into two separate dwellings during the 19th century. The main elevation faces southwest and the proportions of the building are those of a standard Georgian town house, incorporating an attic storey. Both ground and first floor windows have tripartite sash windows separated by stone mullions. These are wider than the second floor attic windows, which may indicate that these windows were widened early on but equally it may just indicate that there was no designer. The original small-paned sashes have been replaced. The house is fairly plain, without quoins or embellishments to the roof, but it may have been “improved” with tripartite sash widows & a classical porch, which has been since removed.

Tansley Wood House

There is no indication that Frances Willoughby, the second owner of Tansley Wood Mills, ever lived at Tansley Wood House but her business partner,
John Radford, lived there from 1800. The house was designed as a small villa, a popular building type in the early 1800s for gentlemen. The broad extended eaves suggest a building date of 1800-1830. It grew with a number of extensions but the evolution has not been studied in any detail. The main part of the house is two-storey and has two principal elevations, facing south-east and south-west, which take advantage of the spectacular views. A sense of this can still be had from across the valley, where the house is still visible within the landscape. The south-west elevation is symmetrical with a central doorway and hipped roof. The south-east elevation has a two-storey asymmetrical bay with a hipped graduated slate roof. A later three-storey extension, with mullioned windows is located at the back of the site. The elevations are quite plain and austere, built in pink gritstone. This was typical of this type of building in this area. The Arkwright estate houses, built for the Arkwright family, were similarly plain and built in a simple villa style.

A long drive leads from Lumsdale Road through a gateway with moulded stone gatepiers and follows a winding route to the house, reinforcing its separate & private character. Other buildings associated with the house stand; the bailiff’s cottage, at the top of the field behind the house, and the coach-house, now converted into dwellings.

The proximity of the Bleachworks at Farnsworth’s adjacent site does not seemed to have affected the decision to build a substantial house. There was clearly little concern about living on the doorstep of industry.

**Lumsdale House**

The earliest surviving part of Lumsdale House (pictured below) dates from around 1810 and was built in two storeys with a hipped roof and stone coped gables, tripartite sash windows and a Doric porch. The house was designed as a small villa. It was extended twice in quick succession, latterly around the 1830s or 1840s with a large two-storey canted bay with a hipped roof, a very fashionable addition for the day. The house today looks more or less as it would have done around 1850.

The house would have originally overlooked a dramatic view towards the other side of the valley but trees have matured and the views are now completely obscured. Mature yew trees, horse chestnut and a very tall & splendid Araucaria (Monkey Puzzle), which may be as much as 150 years old, dominate the setting. Nineteenth century photographs illustrate a barren landscape at the rear of the house; a few solitary pines and a steep scarp behind the house was completely open without tree cover. It has changed dramatically. The gardens are small, given the high quality & grandeur of the house, but they were laid out thoughtfully, with a long, kidney-shaped pond. The original walled kitchen garden to the north, now in private ownership, was an important adjunct to the house. It had its own gardener’s cottage, designed in a Gothic style with rustic, arched windows (Oak Cottage) and a similarly detailed garden shed in the south-east corner, which still stands. These date from the 1850s or 60s. The gardens are reputed to have been designed by Joseph Paxton because there is a signature Monkey Puzzle tree, which was popularised by him & used by the Duke of Devonshire in the 1820s. It was rarely used until the 1850s, although it was first introduced into Britain in 1795.
The house is very private in character & is not visible from the public domain. It is enclosed by tall gritstone walls, which sweep in gentle curves along the edge of the road. Although the house is located right next to the mills, a considerable amount of land re-shaping has created terraced levels, which separated the mills from the house very effectively. A tall wall screens the house from the public footpath to the south.

**Terraced workers houses**

The cottages known as **Radfords Row** were originally built as a two-storey terrace of four cottages. Stylistically these cottages, which incorporate flat-faced mullioned windows, date from the late eighteenth century. Perhaps in order to attract larger families to work in the bleachworks, an extra storey was added sometime during the nineteenth century, with similar window details. They now look very like many three-storey terraced rows of workers cottages that can be seen in the locality in the Derwent valley.

Along Smuse Lane the three-storey combined terraced row of cottages and warehouse (**Nos. 1-4**) was also built with flat-faced mullioned windows and roughly-coursed gritstone. The current slate roof is probably a replacement for Westmoreland slate.

**Cottages**

Around the perimeter of the conservation area, huddled alongside the roads, can be found occasional cottages and smallholdings. These were invariably roadside encroachments, built on the edge of the routes which tracked across the open moor & waste. Generally they were not very high quality buildings. These range in date from the eighteenth century (**Woodbine Cottage, Oaksedge Lane, Brook Cottage, Willow Cottage & Rose Cottage, Asker Lane**) to the early nineteenth century (**Fox Holes Farm, a tiny one-up, one-down cottage, Rose Cottage, West End View & Cliff Farm Cottage, Smuse Lane**) to the mid nineteenth century (**Oakedge Farm, Foxholes Lane, Hollytree Cottages & Yewtree Cottages, Alfreton Road**) to the late nineteenth century (**Brookside Cottage, Foxholes Lane**).

The eighteenth century cottages are two storey built from coursed buff-coloured gritstone, with narrow house plans, mullioned windows and Staffordshire blue clay tiled roofs. Nineteenth century cottages are generally built with a slightly deeper house plan & generally Welsh slate roofs, although there are a few exceptions which retain blue clay tiles, some laid in decorative patterns.
Estate cottages

The pair of cottages, known as Leywood House (pictured below), located behind Farnsworth’s bleachworks, were built as one house, for a senior member of staff or manager at the bleachworks. The original house, with a symmetrical frontage, was extended to the east with identical details. It dates from circa 1810-20, built with graduated Westmoreland slate hipped roofs with lead rolls. The narrow lintels, running in line with the courses of stone are a detail found locally in the early 1800s.

The Lodge on Alfreton Road, near the entrance to the Bailey’s Mill site (pictured below), is another estate-type of building, probably built by the owner of the mill in the mid nineteenth century as a way of overseeing who was visiting the mill. It has a loosely Gothic character with chamfered stone windows.

Ivy Cottage, at the northern tip of the conservation area, on Lumsdale Road, was built by the Garton family to house a worker on the Lumsdale Estate during the mid nineteenth century. The stone tracery windows with cast-iron lights, set within chamfered stone surrounds, is Gothic in character, a regular style adopted for estate buildings. The hipped roof, with its alternating bands of beaver-tail tiles and plain Staffordshire blue clay tiles, is shared with Oak Cottage, which was also built for the Lumsdale Estate, probably to house the gardener. The pointed arched windows with rusticated stone surrounds and stylised joinery which resembles leaf forms and the overhanging eaves with timber pointed fascia boards both indicate a different designer from Ivy Cottage and a different date of construction.

Weaver’s Lodge on Lumsdale Road may have also served the Bailey’s Mill complex, although it is different in detail. Again, built in the mid nineteenth century in a Gothic style with decorative scalloped bargeboards, it was probably built to control or oversee access along the road. A small canted stone window projects on the roadside elevation, a place where activity from both directions could be surveyed.
Prevalent & Traditional Building Materials & Details

The predominant buildings materials within the conservation area create a simple palette of colours and textures, typical of a rural area.

Walling Materials

Stone

Most of the buildings within the conservation area are built from local Millstone Grit (gritstone), probably the Chatsworth Grit quarried in the northern perimeter of the conservation area.

Some of the earliest buildings incorporate rubble gritstone, which may have been quarried locally, but which was not worked to a face in the quarry. The inner skins of gritstone buildings are commonly built of rubble stone. The majority of buildings incorporate a honey-coloured coursed gritstone, with a roughly tooled herringbone face. Herringbone tooling is a technique where the face of the stone was quartered and then each quarter separately tooled with a diagonally boasted face to create a herringbone pattern. The stone was used for dressings; quoins, lintels, cills, window and door jambs and copings to gables. Stone ashlar chimney stacks are found throughout the conservation area. The result is buildings of unified form and character.

Boundary walls are all built from rubble gritstone, laid semi-mortared or drystone along the field boundaries, although there are some places where coursed gritstone or ashlar was adopted, near the entrance to an important house, such as Tansley Wood House. Copings vary a little and range from half-round, to flat, to rounded rubble gritstone, commonly used for drystone walls.

Clockwise from above - stone chimney stacks at the Smithy, St. Andrew's House & Bentley Lodge

Along Alfreton Road the rubble gritstone walls were finished with shaped, half-round stone copings, and these were slightly more ornamental, in longer lengths, where the boundary walls served a house. Pedestrian gateways commonly incorporate a pair of gritstone stoops on either side of a metal gate. Squeeze stiles, which comprise a pair of gritstone stoops, are also a common detail.

Rubble gritstone boundary wall on Alfreton Road

Squeeze stile with pair of gritstone stoops
The universal use of gritstone for retaining & boundary walls, bridges & parapets, gives the conservation area a strong identity & cohesion.

**Brick**

There is very little use of brick in the conservation area. There are only a few instances where brick was used for domestic chimney stacks. Red brick was used in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries for some industrial buildings, many of which have been demolished. Red brick was used for a number of the industrial chimneys, such as the surviving chimney at Scholes Mill and the chimneys at Tansley Wood Mills, one of which survives (below).

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**Roofing materials & details**

In the area there was a local tradition of graduated stone slate roofs but there is only one complete example of a stone slate roof at Bailey’s Mill malthouse. This tradition continued in the use of graduated courses of imported Cumbrian slate. Examples of a graduated Westmoreland slate roof can still be seen at a number of buildings; St. Andrew’s House, Leywood House, Tansley Wood House & Tansley Wood Mills. Westmoreland slate is characteristically a grey-green colour and it was often used in conjunction with bands of lead fixed onto timber rolls on the hips and ridges.

By the nineteenth century Welsh slate had started to arrive in the area and this was adopted for many industrial buildings. Welsh slate is hard and strong and can be split into very thin sheets. This meant that it could be laid with a much shallower pitch than tiles or stone slate and it was particularly suited to the shallow roof pitches of many nineteenth century industrial buildings. The arrival of the railway in Matlock in 1849 may have led to the local increased use of this material.

The conservation area also contains many examples of Staffordshire blue clay tiles. This versatile roof material may have been first brought along the
Cromford Canal. They first became widely available in Derbyshire from the late 18th century, when the expanding canal network was able to transport these tiles from the Potteries. Staffordshire blue clay tiles are extremely durable and outlast many other roofing materials. Bands of patterned clay tiles were often used to create a picturesque effect and these can be found on the Lumsdale estate cottages.

Clay pantiled roofs can also be found in the conservation area. They are traditional in more north-easterly parts of Derbyshire, but their use in the conservation area for some farm buildings and industrial buildings should be preserved. Pictorial evidence survives of pantiled roofs at Tansley Wood Mills.

**Stone-coped gables & verges**

Within this part of Derbyshire there had been a long tradition of raising the gable wall with a stone parapet, known as a stone-coped gable. The examples within the conservation area are generally finished with flat stone copings, indicating mainly late eighteenth and early nineteenth century origins. The eaves-line is marked by a large projecting stone called a kneeler. Raised, stone coped gables, were a vernacular detail which was adopted universally for both for industrial buildings & for dwellings. Examples include; St. Andrew’s House, Beech House, the fishing pavilion at Bailey’s Mill, Pond Cottages and Tansley Wood Mills. All of these have squared copings. The chamfered & moulded copings incorporated in the raised gables at Yewtree Farm are an earlier, seventeenth century, detail.

In other places gables were finished simply with a plain, close verge, the tiles simply overlapping the stonework, the gaps underneath filled with mortar.

**Eaves Details**

During the nineteenth century, more interesting roof shapes and details evolved. Hipped roofs with broad eaves were adopted for the villas, such as Tansley Wood House & Leywood House. Bargeboards were introduced into the estate cottages at Lumsdale Estate to reflect their gothic character. Overhanging bargeboards with scalloped designs still survive at Oak Cottage & Weaver’s Lodge at Tansley Wood Mills.
Lintels & cills

Many lintels and cills were built from squared gritstone. Some of the eighteenth century buildings retain evidence of wedge lintels, in the form of shaped gritstone blocks with a keystone block or a cambered arch with a keystone. These can be seen at Bailey’s Matlock Mill, the Lower Bleachworks at Lumsdale & Tansley Wood Mills.

Squared stone lintels, cills & jambs combined with sash windows can be found at Lumsdale House, Beech House, Holly Tree Cottage, Alfreton Road, West End View & Rose Cottage, Alfreton Road.

Gritstone window and door surrounds were mainly plain and squared, finished with a punched or boasted face.

A number of eighteenth century properties have flat-faced mullioned windows, tooled with drafted margins on all sides and a diagonally-boasted face -

The mid eighteenth century sash windows at St. Andrew’s House are framed within squared surrounds - the central windows (left) are given more emphasis with a more decorative architrave

Wedge lintel with keyblock at Lower Bleachworks (above) and cambered arched lintel at Tansley Wood Mills (below)

Mullioned windows of the late eighteenth century, former coach-house at Lumsdale
Joinery

There are 7 listed buildings in the conservation area but most buildings currently have no protection from the removal of traditional windows.

A large number of small-paned sash windows survive on the larger houses, but the smaller cottages have generally lost their traditional details. Lumsdale Estate cottages retain unusual gothic-inspired windows in cast iron and timber. Windows on mill buildings also survive in a variety of forms, many styles of timber casements and small-paned sashes (as at Tansley Wood Mills - pictured below) and some cast iron windows, as at Scholes Mill.

Traditional Materials in the Public Realm

There are a few examples of traditional paving and paved surfaces within the conservation area. At the junction of Smuse Lane & Alfreton Road, is a patch of large gritstone setts, laid as a pavement & tooled in distinctive lines (pictured below). These may reflect the character of other hardstandings that have been lost.
more random gritstone paving. Sections of a pitched gritstone surface survive on a former packhorse route, edging Tansley. Gritstone kerbs and gulleys survive along sections of Lumsdale Road and gritstone edging was used to define the edge of footpaths near the Tansley mills.

Above - stone paved footpath with gritstone edging & steps in the Lumsdale valley
Below - gritstone kerbs

Below - cast iron bollards at footpath near Asker Lane