ADSTOCK CONSERVATION AREA
Designated 19th July 1989

Adstock is a small village standing on elevated land two and a half miles north west of Winslow and four miles south west of Buckingham. Entrance to the village either from Thornborough to the north or from the A413 trunk road to the south, is characterised by high hedgerow enclosure which, on the southern approaches, is reinforced by the buildings and mature trees surrounding Adstock Manor Stud.
The village centres upon the junction of the main street with Church End and East Street. Most of the historic listed buildings in the village are found on these three roads. Modern development has taken place at the northern end of the village along West Street, Northlands Road, The Gardens and Greenfields and also along a narrow spur extending along the north side of East Street.

The Parish Church of St Cecilia’s a fourteenth century, rubblestone, II* listed building which was largely restored and rebuilt in 1857, occupies elevated ground at the western end of Church End. Immediately adjacent to the church is the Old Rectory, a large brick built, eighteenth century dwelling house. Both these buildings stand in extensive grounds, slightly separated from the other properties in the village and uncharacteristically, they are set back from the road. Elsewhere, the dominant character is one of the winding street and high sided enclosure, afforded for the most part, by the dwelling houses which abut the roadside. It is only where more recent development has occurred that one observes footpaths and front gardens. In other cases; enclosure is provided in the form of brick walls, notably those within Adstock House and Adstock Cottage in East Street and between Cranson and The Chapel in Church End; or alternatively by hedging, especially between Scotts Lane and East Street and in front of Little Adstock, Hintons and Shamrock Cottage.

The northern end of Main Street contains the most coherent grouping of historic buildings within the village, including the listed buildings, Adstock Priory, The Olde Thatched Inn, Fig Tree Cottage, The White House, The Olde Power House, Hintons and 3 and 5 Main Street. These properties combine brick walls and painted render walls with thatched and tile roofs and together they provide a most attractive thoroughfare through the village.

Although less impressive on a grouping, the properties at the eastern end and on the Southern side of East Street, including the Dairy, Rose Cottage, Adstock Cottage, Adstock House, Rose Villa and the Post Office combine to provide a pleasant townscape scene when viewed from the cross roads in the centre. This central vantage point also affords fine views north and south along Main Street and Westward along Church End. The pleasant historic townscape is continued northwards from East Street, along the bottom end of The Gardens as far as north as Sebal Cottage and Home Cottages.

The other dwelling houses at the northern end of the village are quite different in character, collectively portraying a modern suburban appearance. It is however northwards from West Street and Northlands Road and north and eastward from Greenfields, that the finest landscape views across rolling countryside are obtained.

Surprisingly perhaps for such a beautiful village, and with an obvious exception of those trees around Adstock Manor Stud, there are very few trees of any particular worth within the historic core of the village. The most notable individual trees are those found within the frontages of St. Cecilia’s Church, Shamrock Cottage, the White House, a solitary tree at 4 West Street and two trees on the junction of East Street and Main Street, fronting the Old Stores and the Chestnuts.

February 2008