

MILL BROW

CONSERVATION AREA CHARACTER APPRAISAL

April 2007 (updated 2013)



Special Character of Mill Brow Conservation Area

The special character of Mill Brow Conservation Area derives from the following elements:

- Rich variety of building forms and structures within the rural landscape
- Farmhouses within rural settings
- Industrial legacy represented by terraced, three-storeyed weavers' cottages, mill workers' housing and the rich archaeology of mill structures, power systems, watercourses, ponds and weirs
- Topography of the area resulting in an appearance of enclosure, of entrance and exit, of dramatic and unexpected views and a particularly strong sense of place and identity
- Rich variety of native woodland species
- Field boundaries defined by drystone walls and historic footpaths
- Floorscape of Holly Vale contributing significantly to the special identity of the area
- Cobbled and setted narrow lanes, bordered by drystone walls
- With the exception of Primrose Mill and the former Methodist chapel, surviving buildings are domestic in scale and modest in proportion and generally grouped together as former farm buildings or terraces.
- Dramatic and unexpected views and vistas
- Contrast between densely wooded lower reaches of the valley and open moorland of the upper reaches
- Harmonious blend of the natural and built environment resulting from locally sourced building materials

A definition of the special interest of the conservation area is set out in section 3 of the character appraisal.

Contents

1.	Background	1
2.	Review and Updating	2
2.1	Boundary Review	2
3.	Character Appraisal	4
3.1	Location and Context	4
3.2	Origins and Development	4
3.3	Archaeology	6
3.4	Character and Appearance	6
3.5	Landscape Setting, Views and Vistas	8
3.6	Key Historic Buildings	10
	3.6.1 Listed Buildings	10
	3.6.2 Locally Listed Buildings	10
	3.6.3 Key Unlisted Buildings	11
3.7	Architecture and Building Materials	14
3.8	Contribution of Trees, Hedges and Green Spaces	16
3.9	Floorscape and Street Furniture	17
3.10	Definition of the Special Interest of the Conservation Area	18
4.	Preservation and Enhancement Issues	18
4.1	Condition of the Building Fabric	18
4.2	Extent of Loss and Intrusion	18
4.3	Development Issues	19
4.4	Preservation and Enhancement	20
5.	Community Involvement	20
5.1	Public Consultation	20
5.2	Response to Stakeholder Input	21
6.	References and Further Reading	23
7.	Contacts	24
Appendix 1	Public Consultation Questionnaire Response	26
Appendix 2	Townscape Appraisal Map	29
Appendix 3	Listed & Locally Listed Buildings Map	30
Appendix 4	Historic Environment Record Entries	31
Appendix 5	Historic Environment Record Map	36

1. Background

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”, according to Section 69 of the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It is the duty of local authorities to designate such areas and to use their legal powers to safeguard and enhance the special qualities of these areas within a framework of controlled and positive management of change. Designation automatically entails control over the demolition of unlisted buildings, strengthens controls over minor development and gives special protection to trees within an area. Further controls over minor developments may also be put in place under Article 4(1) or 4(2) of the Act.

Section 69(2) of the Act imposes a duty on local authorities to review their conservation areas from time to time, while Section 71 requires them to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation or enhancement of conservation areas. The Council's Conservation and Heritage Strategy (approved in 2008) identifies the following key tasks as short to medium term objectives:

- Ensure all conservation areas are adequately protected and have up to date character appraisals and management plans in place
- Examine potential for further conservation areas
- 100% of conservation areas have recent appraisals (5 years old or less)
- 100% of conservation areas have management plans
- Implement actions of management plans
- Article 4 directions, where appropriate, in place and monitored

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the government's requirements for the planning system and provides a framework for the production of distinctive local and neighbourhood development plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of these local and neighbourhood plans, and is a material consideration in development management decisions. Planning policies and decisions must reflect relevant EU obligations and statutory requirements.

The policies and principles set out in the NPPF apply to the consideration of the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment in relation to the heritage-related consent regimes for which planning authorities are responsible under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are called heritage assets. Some heritage assets possess a level of interest that justifies designation and particular procedures apply to decisions that involve them. For the purposes of the NPPF, conservation areas are designated heritage assets.

Public consultation is at the heart of local authority responsibilities in protecting and enhancing conservation areas. In April 2005, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council canvassed the views of the public and local amenity bodies as part of a borough-wide review of both existing and possible conservation areas. Stakeholders were invited to put forward suggestions for areas that they considered to be worthy of designation and a report was taken to Council Executive on 6th June 2005 outlining areas considered to merit

further investigation. A number of criteria have been taken into account in judging the suitability of areas for designation:

- buildings and spaces should be of special architectural and townscape merit
- areas should possess special qualities which contribute to local distinctiveness and sense of place
- areas should be representative of the historic, social and economic development of the borough
- areas should have largely unspoilt character and appearance

This document is one of a number to be prepared during 2005-07 which are the outcome of the process of consultation and appraisal. This document has been further reviewed and updated in 2012-13.

The purpose of this document is to:

- set out the conclusions of the 2006 boundary review and delineate the extended conservation area
- assess and define the special interest of the Mill Brow Conservation Area
- set out the results of public consultation on the extended conservation area
- assess the action needed to protect and enhance the special qualities of the conservation area

It is, however, not intended to be comprehensive in its scope and content. Omission of any specific building, space, feature or aspect of its appearance or character should not be taken to imply that they have no significance.

2. Review and Updating

English Heritage advice states that conservation area character appraisals need to be reviewed regularly and that ideally existing appraisals should be reviewed every five years (Understanding Place: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management, 2011 p6). This process of review and updating of appraisals will provide an opportunity to record any changes that have occurred, to confirm (or redefine) the special interest that warrants designation, to set out any new recommendations and to revise the management strategy.

In accordance with English Heritage recommendations, the Mill Brow Conservation Area appraisal was reviewed and updated in 2013.

2.1 Boundary Review

English Heritage guidance stresses that a conservation area review should address the desirability of both the extension and reduction of the existing designated area. The removal of conservation area status can be an appropriate course of action where alterations and re-developments since designation have resulted in the loss of the special architectural or historic character that the original designation was designed to protect and enhance. Conversely, tightly-drawn boundaries may require extending to reflect the need to protect an area's setting, to take advantage of new planning controls or respond to present development pressures, or to reflect new attitudes to architecture or advances in knowledge of the history of an area.

The Mill Brow Conservation Area was originally designated in 1978. The conservation area was extended in April 2007 to include terraced houses and domestic property to the south of Ley Lane and the small green open space which together form part of the gateway into Mill Brow from the west. For this reason it is considered that the quality of development and the treatment of the public realm in this area should be subject to appropriate standards and control for the protection of the character and appearance of the Mill Brow Conservation Area.

The extended boundary also takes in Limefield cottages. While these cottages have lost original architectural detail, it is acknowledged that they have historical interest for Mill Brow, having been associated with the local brickworks which provided building material for the surrounding area.

Appendix 3 contains a map of the revised conservation area boundary. As part of a review in 2013, the boundary has been assessed and it has been agreed that there are to be no changes for the Mill Brow Conservation Area.

3. Character Appraisal

3.1 Location and Context

Mill Brow Conservation Area is an area of former agricultural and industrial settlement along the Mill Brook, located within the fold of a high valley approximately one mile to the east of Marple Bridge. Included within the conservation area are the hamlets of Mill Brow, Holly Vale and Hollywood End; historic industrial sites as far as and including Primrose Mill to the west; scattered farmsteads and tracts of surrounding farmland; and woodland to the south and west.

Mill Brow Conservation Area is closely associated with the Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area to the south. Tracts of farmland separate the two areas, but they are linked both visually and historically.



Mellor Hall, Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area viewed from Mill Brow

3.2 Origins and Development

Mellor and Ludworth, of which Mill Brow forms a part, were local townships in Derbyshire and part of the manor of Glossop. The historic boundary between Mellor and Ludworth follows the line of the Mill Brook. In 1936, Mellor and Ludworth were transferred into Cheshire as part of Marple Urban District, and subsequently into Greater Manchester in 1974.

During the Medieval period, the area was part of the royal hunting grounds of Peak Forest. Agricultural activity developed with the enclosure of land in the late-Medieval period and the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, during which time the scattered farms in the area were served by the Ludworth Corn Mill. The mill was situated not far downstream from the centre of Mill Brow, just to the west of the present footbridge. Farms at Hollywood End and Pear Tree Farm date from at least the seventeenth century.

The late eighteenth century witnessed the transformation of the valley by intense industrial development, with four cotton spinning mills located on the Mill Brook by the early nineteenth century.

- Primrose Mill, believed to have originally been a fulling (felting of woollen cloth) mill, was converted for cotton spinning in late 18th century. Main mill now demolished
- Clough Mill, erected by 1805
- Hollywood Head, originally a cotton spinning mill, built by Daniel Brierley about 1790; converted to bleaching in the 1830s
- Holly Vale Mill, the largest of the mills. At least one cotton spinning mill was in operation at Holly Vale in 1790 and under the ownership of William Ratcliffe, a local textile entrepreneur and innovator born in Mellor, the business diversified to include candlewick making and bleaching. Two cotton mills stood on the east bank of the river on either side of the cobbled section of the road; the bleachworks was added to the west in the 1870s. At the height of its operation in 1881, Holly Vale Mills employed 166 workers and 7 foremen.

The terraced cottages along Mill Brow Road and at the corner of the brow itself were built for employees of Holly Vale Mills, with the mill-owner's house and farm situated just to the south. However, difficulties of access and transportation for mills in isolated locations meant that ultimately the mills failed to survive slumps in trade. All except Primrose Mill fell into disuse between the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Other industries in and surrounding the area included coal mining and stone quarrying, with the demand for both increasing with industrialisation. The largest quarry was some distance to the east on Chatterton Lane, but there are the remains of two smaller quarries in Mill Brow itself—one just to the south of the Hare and Hounds public house and the other at the bottom of the valley, to the west of the old Ludworth Mill site. Coal mining was carried out nearby from seams under Mellor and Ludworth Moor and a brick and tile works operated in the late nineteenth century, just to the north-west of Pear Tree Farm, with a tramway running down to the Hare and Hounds.

The community at Mill Brow has strong associations with the history of non-conformist religion. As early as the seventeenth century, dissenters were holding services in the old barn at Pear Tree Farm, whilst Sun Hill Farm to the north is mentioned as having a Methodist Society in 1742. The former Primitive Methodist Chapel at Hollywood End, now converted to domestic use, was built in the late nineteenth century.

Mill Brow in the 21st century is largely converted to residential use, with many of the former agricultural, religious and industrial buildings occupied by commuting households. Land-use remains either agricultural or equestrian.

3.3 Archaeology

The Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit has recently undertaken an enhancement survey to improve the quality of information within the Stockport Historic Environment Record (HER). This document utilises results from this survey to identify sites and features of historic interest. Sites, monuments and extant buildings identified on the HER are described at Appendix 4 of this document, and located on the plan at Appendix 5.

There have been significant archaeological finds and sites found in the wider Marple/Mellor area, but within the confines of the Mill Brow conservation area, the biggest potential is likely to be in the vicinity of the mill sites in the form of both above and below ground industrial archaeology, and around the sites of the earlier agricultural buildings.



Remains of Holly Vale Mill

3.4 Character and Appearance

Mill Brow today may be described as a classic example of a reversion area, in that the rural appearance of the area has re-asserted itself in place of the intense industrial activity that dominated the landscape in the nineteenth century, which has almost disappeared.

Located within the fold of a steep valley of a fast-flowing Pennine stream, the Mill Brow conservation area is now a group of hamlets and farms of mainly residential use, within an agricultural setting. Essentially, the area retains the character of its long agricultural use and the legacy of industrial activity.



Cottages and Bridge House, Hollywood End

From the late Medieval period, Mill Brow was a community of scattered farms. By the early nineteenth century, dramatic change had occurred with the building of four sizeable textile mills located on the Mill Brook and centred on Holly Vale Mills. The features of this mixed agricultural and industrial use remain in a rich variety of building forms and structures within the landscape. Farmhouses still retain their rural settings, whilst the industrial legacies from the later period are the terraced, three-storeyed weavers' cottages, mill workers' housing and the rich archaeology of mill structures, power systems, watercourses, ponds and weirs.



Weavers Cottages, Holly Vale

The topography of the area and the location of industry in the lower levels of the valley have resulted in an appearance of enclosure, of entrance and exit, of dramatic and unexpected views and a particularly strong sense of place and identity.

3.5 Landscape Setting, Views and Vistas

The steep inclines and contours of the wooded river valley give the area a feeling of enclosure, which is reinforced by the narrow access roads and lanes leading into Mill Brow and Holly Vale. Buildings can be seen from many aspects, clustered within the valley bottom or following the contours of the valley sides. Key views are thus looking into the area from both east and west: across and down into the valley, and along the course of the stream. Vistas beyond to the higher level of the hills are also important. Views and vistas are an essential element of the character of this area. Whilst the valley bottom is quite densely wooded, the upper reaches of the area open out into moorland fields, marked out by dry stone walls and crossed by footpaths.

Within the valley, house plots are bounded by gardens and allotments, and in the area of Holly Vale Mill, by the ruins of the mill. Cobbled and setted narrow lanes bordered by dry stone walls run through the area between small groups of houses and cottages. These boundaries, lanes, plots and enclosures give the area a very special sense of place and identity.



Brookside viewed from Mill Brook



Entering Mill Brow from Hollywood Chapel

Breaks in the line of buildings along Mill Brow give views of the surrounding hills and isolated properties, accentuating the juxtaposition of the built and natural environment. From within the boundary of the Mill Brow conservation area, the conservation areas at Mellor and All Saints can be viewed in the distance, strengthening Mill Brow's relationship with the surrounding landscape. The special character of the conservation area is defined by this relationship, making the spaces between the buildings as important as the buildings themselves. Although not all the visible surrounding landscape is included within a conservation area, this open space is extremely important in providing the setting for the Mill Brow Conservation Area.



View over fields from Mill Brow

3.6 Key Historic Buildings

3.6.1 Listed Buildings

- *Pear Tree Farmhouse listed grade II*

Stone built farmhouse, with datestones 'DN 1705' above the door and '1672' at the rear. Two storeys, three bays with central chamfered doorway. All windows are three lights with chamfered mullions. Rear wing has stone quoins, coped gables and kneelers.

- *Barn at Pear tree Farm listed grade II*

Cruck-framed barn, rubble walls and graduated stone slate roof. Six crucks form part of what may have been two buildings. Much altered in the 20th century. Outbuilding at Pear Tree Farm (SMR no.15345) – ruined; stone built, single storey with east gable; three-light mullioned window on the south and blocked doorway.

- *30 and 32 Mill Brow listed grade II*

Stone built house of 17th century date, with 19th and 20th century alterations and windows. Unreadable datestone; coped gable with kneelers and scroll finial.

3.6.2 Locally Listed Buildings

There are at present no locally listed buildings within the Mill Brow Conservation Area

3.6.3 Key Unlisted Buildings

- *Primrose Mill*

Believed to have originally been a fulling mill owned by the Stanney family and later converted for cotton spinning in the late C18; the buildings on site date in part to this date. Sturdy stone warehouse, brick warehouse and former domestic house remain, as does square stone chimney of mid-19th century date. Mill building converted in 1897 by Ramie Company for manufacture of gas mantles. From 1924-36 it was used as a dye works. The main mill was demolished after fire in 1962. Site now used for manufacture of synthetic materials. Of industrial archaeological interest.



Primrose Mill

- *Remains of Holly Vale Mills*

Established by 1803, and owned by four generations of Ratcliffe family until ceased production c 1900. Originally used for cotton spinning, with candlewick making added by mid-19th century and bleaching added c 1876. Stone walling, roofless one storey mill building and weir remain. Of industrial archaeological interest.

- *1-8 Hollyvale, Mill Brow Road*

Housing associated with Holly Vale Mills. Two rows of three storey cottages: 1-3 and 5-8 Mill Brow Road. No's 1-3 are stone built with a stone slate roof and stone chimney each at

ridge level. There is a blocked-up taking in door at the second floor to the second bay. Square cut stone surround to the doors and a wedge shaped stone lintel and square cut projecting stone sill to the windows. Windows openings to the third floor are smaller. The middle cottage has a later porch. The roof level is slightly taller than that of No's 5-8 and the footprint not as deep. No's 5-8 are pebble dash rendered, with unusual arrangement of paired windows at top floor level. All likely to have been used as weavers' cottages.

- *1-3 Hollyvale Cottages, Mill Brow Road*

Housing associated with Holly Vale Mills. Row of three 2 ½ -storey cottages, stone built with slate roofs, each with a stone chimney at ridge level.

- *34-44 Mill Brow*

Row of 6 two-storey cottages with rears that extend downwards following the contours of the bank to give a 3-storey rear. Each terrace is of 2 bays with main entrance to the right. Stone front elevation with slate roof and stone chimneys. The rear is stone built to the ground floor with an entrance and window both with square cut stone lintels. The remaining floors are brick built with arched segmental brick lintels to the windows. Possible workers cottages.



View of the rear of 24-44 Mill Brow

- *Hollyvale House & The Beeches, Mill Brow Road*

Building depicted on the 1849 tithe map. 2 two-storey dwellings, in Georgian style. There was originally only one house; the second is reputed to have been built by Samuel Wood, owner of Holly Vale Mill, for his son. Stone-built, 2 storeys and tall windows with wedge-shaped stone lintels.

- *Hare and Hounds Public House*

Built c1810, named 'Hare and Hound Inn' on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. 2 storey of coursed, graduated stone with a stone roof, but much altered. Original build to west has a 3-bay symmetrical façade with central door and large inserted windows. A 2-bay wing to the east was formerly cottages, incorporated into the pub in the C20. Garage door to the ground floor on the right and large windows above.

- *Methodist Chapel, Gird Lane*

Primitive Methodist Chapel, built 1870-78. Rebuilt 1906, with unusual three stage tower at the south east corner. Now converted to residential use. Coursed stone walls, stone slate roof with parapet to east gable and alternating plain and two-hole hexagonal crest terracotta ridge tiles. Gothic style with lancet windows with stone surround. There is a flat headed vestibule to the east front with a gabled porch added. A modern garage wing has been added to north-west, making the overall footprint of the building now L-shaped.

- *Greenhill*

Farmhouse rebuilt by John Stanney (d1841) of Primrose Mill. Formerly known as Green Hill or Green Hall in 1709. Square stone building with slate roof and chimney to each gable end at ridge level. 3-bay symmetrical façade with central arched door surround, key stone and fanlight. Stone quoins. Earlier barns in association, now converted into residential use.

- *Hollywoodend Farm & Ivy Cottage*

Building shown at approximate location on Burdetts 1763-7 map. 2 storey, semi-detached, symmetrical, double-fronted cottages with single-storey extensions to the north elevation. Stone-built with graduated stone roof, 3 bays with central doorway and a projecting gabled porch. 3 chimneys at ridge level: one central and one each at the gable ends.

- *Bridge House*

Building shown in approximate location on Burdetts 1763-7 map. House, stone-built, 2 storeys, 4 bays, square plan. Slate roof with three stone chimneys, one at each gable end and one centrally at eaves level to the rear (east) elevation. Tall windows with stone sills and wedge-shaped lintels. Modern single-storey garage extension to south elevation. Large outbuilding to rear, stone-built, rectangular plan with lean-to extension to the north elevation.

- *17 Mill Brow*

Building of same footprint is located on the 1880 OS 1st edition map. Rectangular plan with cross-gabled roof (gable facing rear). Stone built, slate roof, 2 bays, 2 storeys of 2

rooms depth. Double-fronted symmetrical façade with two projecting two-storey, flat roofed, canted bay windows. Stone lintels, sills and chimneys, and a stone boundary wall of around 1m in height.

- *Brookside Cottage*

Rectangular plan building of single-pitch roof construction with square plan, 2-storey, hipped-roof extension to the east elevation. Stone built with large stone flag roof and chimneys at eaves level. Window openings are small and randomly placed, most with square-cut stone surrounds. Stone to west elevation and extension is roughly dressed and coursed, but appears to be random rubble to north elevation. Known locally as the 'Salt Box'.



Brookside Cottage

3.7 Architecture and Building Materials

Buildings, boundary walls and road surfaces in the Mill Brow area have been constructed mainly from stone quarried within the immediate neighbourhood, resulting in a harmonious blend of the natural and built environment.

A range of building types reflects the area's industrial and agricultural past. These include mill buildings at Primrose Mill, the remains of mills structures (now used as boundary walls), the former Primitive Methodist Chapel (a Victorian gothic building now converted to

residential use), the Hare and Hounds public house, weavers' cottages, farmhouses and dwelling houses.

Building style is functional and unpretentious, with few decorative features. However, amongst the earlier buildings are some distinctive forms, for example, the cruck frame at Pear Tree Farm barn, the coped gable with kneelers and scroll finial at 30 Mill Brow and the single-pitch roof construction at Brookside (known as the Salt Box). Also of interest are the Georgian farmhouse with ashlar stone dressings, erected by John Stanney of Primrose Mill, the sturdy stone cotton warehouse at Primrose Mill (the mill itself no longer stands), and the square stone mill chimney of early/mid-nineteenth century date, which rises in the woods above the Primrose Mill site.

Mill workers' terraced housing, following the contours of the valley, was built in dressed stone, as at 1-3 Mill Brow Road or in brick, as at 12-22 and 34-44 Mill Brow Road, and is of late-nineteenth century date. The three-storeyed houses were weavers' cottages with garrets at top floor level. Distinctive features are the pairs of windows at the upper level at 4-8 Mill Brow Road and the blocked-up doorway at no.2 which may have been used as a taking-in door for goods or as a separate access for weavers.

With the exception of the buildings at Primrose Mill and the former Methodist chapel, surviving buildings are domestic in scale and modest in proportion; either two or three storeyed in height and generally grouped together as former farm buildings or terraces.



Taking-in door at weavers' cottages



Buildings in Holly Vale, from Mill Brow

The area is located at a contour level where lowland meets the Pennine foothills, making stone the local building material. There were three types of carboniferous sandstone quarried locally: Milnrow Sandstone, Woodhead Hill Rock and Rough Rock, the properties of the latter making it especially useful for flagging for roofs and paving. Buildings, boundary walls and road surfaces in the Mill Brow conservation area were largely

constructed of stone quarried within the immediate neighbourhood, as it was both accessible and a good quality building material. For buildings, stone was used as both a walling and roofing material, resulting in a harmonious blend of the natural and built environment. This has bestowed an important vernacular character that continues to dominate the area.

3.8 Contribution of Trees, Hedges and Green Spaces

Mill Brow is located in a rural area in the foothills of the Pennines, within the fold of a river valley. The lower reaches of the valley are densely wooded, whilst the upper reaches open out into moorland fields. The character of the area as it follows the course of the stream is thus defined by rich variety of native woodland species, including holly. In contrast, at the higher levels fields are defined by dry-stone walls and historic footpaths.

Public open space exists only in the public footpaths and surrounding landscape and the triangle of green open space at the start of Mill Brow from Hollins Lane that gives a sense of entrance to the area.

Historic footpaths are found running across the valley and the public access this affords to open spaces increases their importance and contribution to public benefit. Although the dry stone wall tradition now predominates, hedgerows were prevalent prior to the 18th century and some can still be found in the area today. Where examples remain and follow historic field boundaries, every effort should be made to preserve them.



Public footpath leading out of Holly Vale

Because of the contours of the valley, private green space is often visible from public highways and contributes greatly to the green character of the area. Of particular interest are plots of land in Holly Vale which trace the footprints of old mill sites and are now used as gardens and amenity spaces. The garden to the cottages at Hollywood End that run beside the Mill Brook are particularly picturesque, and the large garden at Hollywood Chapel creates a dramatic entrance as the area opens up from the narrow and enclosed space of Gird Lane.

3.9 Floorscape and Street Furniture

Cobbled and setted roads and narrow lanes, with apparently unmetalled surfaces, run through the area between small groups of houses and cottages. Lanes are bordered by dry stone walls. Materials, obtained in the past from local quarries and demolished local mills, give the area an appearance in harmony with the natural environment. The floorscape of Holly Vale (Mill Brow Road) in particular contributes greatly to the special identity of the area. There are also some cobbles and setts outside No's 23-29 Mill Brow, and some stone kerbs remain in places.

At the end of the drive to Primrose Mill there is a Victorian style lamp post, its date possibly coinciding with the conversion of the mill to the manufacture of gas mantles and thereby not only providing light but also acting as an advertisement for the products being produced in the mill. There is little in the form of decorative street furniture in the Mill Brow conservation area and it is important that what does remain is retained for the special interest it adds to the character of the area.



Lamp post at Primrose Mill



Stone kerb

3.10 Definition of the Special Interest of the Conservation Area

The special interest of Mill Brow Conservation Area is derived from its development as a former agricultural and industrial settlement along the Mill Brook, located within the fold of a high valley. Mill Brow today may be described as a classic example of a reversion area, in that the rural appearance of the area has re-asserted itself in place of the intense industrial activity that dominated the landscape in the nineteenth century, which has almost disappeared. The features of this mixed agricultural and industrial use remain in a rich variety of building forms and structures within the landscape. Farmhouses retain their rural settings, whilst industrial legacies from the later period are seen in the terraced, three-storeyed weavers' cottages, mill workers' housing and the rich archaeology of mill structures, power systems, watercourses, ponds and weirs.

The topography of the area and the location of industry in the lower levels of the valley have resulted in an appearance of enclosure, entrance and exit, a variety of dramatic and unexpected views and vistas and a particularly strong sense of place and identity. The character of the area, as it follows the course of the stream, is defined by a rich variety of native woodland species. In contrast, at the higher levels fields are defined by drystone walls and historic footpaths. Surviving elements of traditional paving materials throughout the conservation area contribute significantly to its special identity.

Within the valley, house plots are bounded by gardens and allotments, and in the area of Holly Vale Mill, by the ruins of the mill. Cobbled and setted narrow lanes bordered by dry stone walls run through the area between small groups of houses and cottages. These boundaries, lanes, plots and enclosures give the area a very special sense of place and identity.

Building style within the conservation area is largely functional and unpretentious. With the exception of the buildings at Primrose Mill and the former Methodist chapel, surviving buildings are domestic in scale and modest in proportion; either two or three storeyed in height and generally grouped together as former farm buildings or terraces.

Buildings, boundary walls and road surfaces in the Mill Brow area were constructed mainly from stone quarried within the immediate neighbourhood, resulting in a harmonious blend of the natural and built environment.

4. Preservation and Enhancement Issues

4.1 Condition of the Building Fabric

While a formal survey of the area has not been carried out, the condition of the building fabric appears to be generally good with decay limited to organic growth; however, in the most part this does not appear to be having a severe effect on the condition of the buildings.

4.2 Extent of Loss and Intrusion

There has been some loss of original architectural features in the Mill Brow Conservation Area. Doors and windows have been most significantly affected, together with the loss of

any associated original glass. Original doors and windows are rare survivals in this area and every effort should be made to retain extant examples.

There is extensive loss of original street surfaces and there have been unsympathetic works carried out to those that remain, such as the tarmac overlaid on the setts at the entrance to Holly Vale. As there are so few of these architectural details remaining, it is important that extant examples are treated appropriately. A lot of the original street furniture has also been lost.



Setts at the entrance to Holly Vale & the intrusion of a modern road surface

Other instances include the conversion of agricultural buildings to residential use have eroded or over-laid some of the original form of buildings and structures. Along public footpaths there has been some loss of boundary treatments and stiles, and some of the footpaths have been overgrown with vegetation.

4.3 Development Issues

Development pressure within the area is largely limited to householder applications and the development of agricultural buildings. Proposals to subdivide plots for infill garden dwellings would also be harmful to the overall spaciousness of the area, as would the replacement of traditional boundary treatments with modern designs. Conversion to residential use of existing buildings, where appropriate, should respect the form and fabric of the original building, whilst any development proposals will need to take into account the significance of industrial archaeology in Mill Brow.

4.4 Preservation and Enhancement

Detailed proposals for the preservation and enhancement of the conservation area have been set out in the Conservation Area Management Plan. The plan formulates objectives and outlines a programme to address the issues identified within this appraisal.

Initial suggestions of management measures that came out of the 2006 public consultation include:

- Making of an Article 4 Direction, as appropriate, to protect vulnerable traditional materials and original architectural features on houses
- Preparation of design guidance to protect the character and appearance of the conservation area
- Review of protection afforded to trees through tree preservation orders.
- Preparation of management guidelines to protect the important contribution made by trees to the conservation area
- Addition of the key unlisted buildings set out above to the local list
- A management plan should include guidance on future development within the conservation area
- Maintenance and enhancement of highways and the public realm should respect the historic use of materials in the conservation area

Mill Brow Article 4 Direction (2007)

The retention of original materials and architectural details is crucial to the character and appearance of the conservation area. At the same time, such features are vulnerable to loss through permitted development rights. Following the designation of the conservation area an Article 4(1) direction was implemented in 1982, and in 2006 an Article 4(2) Direction was made to extend control over householder alterations in the conservation area.

5. Community Involvement

5.1 Public Consultation

Public consultation has been an integral part of the designation and appraisal process. Proposals were posted on the Council's web site together with an electronic questionnaire. A press release was issued. Letters were sent out to all residents and business people in the conservation area informing them of the proposal for designation and inviting them to an afternoon and evening drop-in session held at Marple Library on 2nd February 2007. Each letter contained a questionnaire canvassing residents' views and information on the link to the draft conservation area appraisal on the Council's web site. Fliers and posters were also distributed in the wider Mill Brow area and local history and amenity groups were contacted directly. The drop-in session was well attended and gave residents the chance to ask questions of council officers related to designation and possible Article 4 Directions. Copies of the draft conservation area appraisal were made available to read and take away. An exhibition was mounted on the history and special interest of the conservation area which remained in the library for a week following the close of the drop-in session.

A summary of responses to the public consultation exercise is included in appendix 1.

5.2 Response to Stakeholder Comments

“In the final analysis, heritage is what people value” (English Heritage, 2006)

The consultation exercise generated a significant level of response from stakeholders. Letters and completed questionnaires were analysed to assess the level of support for both the designation of the proposed new extended conservation area and for the imposition of extra controls to protect the area’s special character. Comments were also evaluated to determine those aspects of the area which stakeholders consider to be important to its appearance and character. English Heritage’s *Understanding Place: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management, 2011*, highlights the importance for local authorities of recognising the values which are ascribed by stakeholders to historic environments when preparing appraisals of the special character of conservation areas.

Strong support for the proposed new conservation area was indicated, with 89% of respondents considering that the area is of special architectural or historic interest which should be protected by designation. Residents of Mill Brow considered that the following aspects of the conservation area were important to its character: historic buildings, open space, trees, boundary walls, street furniture and street surfaces. Of these characteristics, open space, boundaries, historic buildings and trees were seen to be the most significant in defining the special character of the area. The weight given to these elements is reflected in the character analysis and the definition of the area’s special character set out in this appraisal.

Stakeholders were also asked whether they considered that certain types of work were harmful to the special character of the conservation area. Another question sought to elicit suggestions on measures the Council could take to further protect and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area. Responses indicated that, amongst other issues, a range of householder alterations are seen as inappropriate in Mill Brow. Specifically, these included the replacement of original roofs, windows, and doors with modern materials; the loss of original architectural features from buildings; the demolition of boundary walls; the removal of historic features from the street scene and the painting of exterior walls of buildings. This concern is reflected in a 79% level of support for special controls over permitted development.

Preliminary suggestions for conservation area management measures have been made in this appraisal document, addressing concerns raised by stakeholders. These include the making of an Article 4(2) Direction to unify controls over permitted development in the conservation area by applying them to houses in the designated extension. This proposal was authorised in principle by Council Executive on 2nd April 2007. Public concern over inappropriate alterations to buildings can also be addressed in ways that complement the extra planning controls put in place by an Article 4 Direction, including the preparation of local generic guidance to facilitate a sympathetic approach to design and choice of materials. Identification of further locally listed buildings can also help promote interest in, and respect for, the architectural qualities of buildings.

Concern was expressed more generally over inappropriate development which does not reflect the character of the conservation area. In particular, inappropriate new building and materials, unsympathetic extensions and outbuildings and inappropriate lighting are seen as detrimental. It is suggested that a future management plan should include guidance on

these aspects of development within the conservation area and that wider publicity and education regarding conservation area designation should be promoted.

Another issue is the importance of trees and hedges in the area. This is reflected in the suggestion of a review of protection afforded to trees through tree preservation orders and the preparation of management guidelines to protect the important contribution made by trees to the conservation area.

The quality of the public realm also emerged as an area of concern, with the need to ensure that green space and public thoroughfares are properly maintained, including 'common land', verges and ditches, bridleways and footpaths. The narrow roads through Mill Brow should be kept clear from running water and leaf fall. More generally, the poor condition of street surfaces and lighting, as well as the design of street furniture, are highlighted for improvement. Resolution of these issues requires a corporate approach, and could be addressed as part of the Conservation Area Management Plan.

6. References and Further Reading

Primary Sources

Stockport Local History Library Historic Photograph Archive

Published Maps and Plans

OS First edition 1842

OS sheet 5 surveyed 1879, published 1880

OS sheet 5 surveyed 1879, revised 1897, published 1898

OS sheet 5 revised 1917, published 1922

Secondary Sources

Arrowsmith, P. Stockport, A History 1997

Ashmore, O. Historic Industries of Marple and Mellor 1989

Ahworth, A.M. and Oldham, T.F. Mellor Heritage 1985

English Heritage. Understanding Pace: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management 2011

Hearle, A. The Archive Photograph Series, Marple and Mellor 1997

Stockport Historic Environment Record

7. Contacts

General Inquiries concerning the Conservation Area should be referred to the Council's Conservation Officer.

Telephone: 0161 474 2620 / 4561

Enquiries relating to development proposals and planning applications should be addressed to the Council's Planning Services department

Telephone: 0161 474 3896

Enquiries relating to trees within the conservation area should be addressed to the Council's Arboricultural Officer

Telephone: 0161 217 6111

Enquiries relating to the Historic Environment Record should be addressed to Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

Joule House,
School of the Built Environment
1 Acton Square,
University of Salford,
Salford,
M5 4NW

Tel: 0161 295 5522

Email: gmaas@salford.ac.uk

National Organisations

English Heritage

North West Office

Canada House

Chepstow Street

Manchester

M1 5FW

Tel: 0161 242 1400

www.english-heritage.org.uk

Email: northwest@english-heritage.org.uk

Victorian Society

The Victorian Society

1 Priory Gardens

Bedford Park

London W4 1TT

Tel: 020 8994 1019

www.victorian-society.org.uk

Email: admin@victorian-society.org.uk

Georgian Group

6 Fitzroy Square,

London

W1T 5DX
Tel: 087 1750 2936
www.georgiangroup.org.uk
Email: info@georgiangroup.org.uk

Twentieth Century Society
70 Cowcross Street
London EC1M 6EJ
Tel: 020 7250 3857
www.c20society.org.uk
Email: coordinator@c20society.org.uk

Appendix 1

Summary of Mill Brow Questionnaire Responses

Total response = 19

Conservation Area Status

Agree = 17 = 89%
Disagree = 2 = 11%
Don't know = 0 = 0%

Article 4 Directions

Agree = 15 = 79%
Disagree = 3 = 16%
Don't know = 1 = 5%
Agree in reservation = 0 = 0%

Most important features in defining the special character of the area

- Buildings
- Trees
- Boundaries
- Open Space
- Street furniture
- Street surfaces

Others specified –

- Types of materials used for extensions and new buildings
- Hedge height
- Appropriate fencing/walls/hedges
- One very old sign post in the area

Works which could harm the special character of the area –

- Replacement of original roofs, windows, and doors with modern materials
- Loss of original architectural features from buildings
- Demolition of boundary walls
- Removal of historic features from the street scene
- New or replacement signs and shopfronts (where applicable)
- Painting of exterior walls of buildings

Others specified –

- New buildings
- Use of inappropriate materials
- Unsympathetic extensions and outbuildings
- Removal of hedges

- Inappropriate Lighting – both free standing and mounted on walls by property owners
- Inappropriate felling of trees
- Erection of sheds of various kinds including garden sheds, summer houses, stables, hen houses etc.

What can the Council do to further protect or enhance the conservation area?

- Better maintenance of highways and verges is greatly needed
- Solve the problem of continuing flooding in numerous parts of the area
- The use of the Article 4 Direction is very necessary as there are currently a considerable number of planning applications to extend dwellings that could spoil the area if done unsympathetically
- New developments which aren't in keeping with the character of the area
- Maintain hedges and saplings which are very overgrown
- Clear the drains in the area which have been blocked for years resulting in continuous flooding in wet weather
- The Council should play its part in 'enhancing the environment' by carrying out some fundamental and long awaited upkeep of the area
- Keep hedges trimmed and roads in good condition
- Clear blocked drains to stop the flooding
- The original footpath sign on the 'common land' at corner of Ley Hey Lane and Limefield should be repaired/repainted
- Stringently monitor changes in the area to make sure they are in keeping with the character of the area and adhere to conservation area regulations
- The Council should not rely on local residents to keep them up-to-date with inappropriate changes occurring in the area. This should be the job of the Council
- Consider the inclusion of more land on the north side of Ley Lane to preserve, extend or enhance suitable vegetation
- Better detection of and enforcement against unauthorised works are essential
- The Council should be proactive rather than merely reactive in terms of enforcement of unauthorised works in the area as is the case under the present Article 4 Direction
- Much better publicity of the Conservation Area designation and the relevant controls is needed in order to educate property owners re: their responsibilities towards making planning applications for works to their homes
- Make clear the provisions available for the reporting of unauthorised works by others
- Make available financial assistance for home owner improvements

Other comments

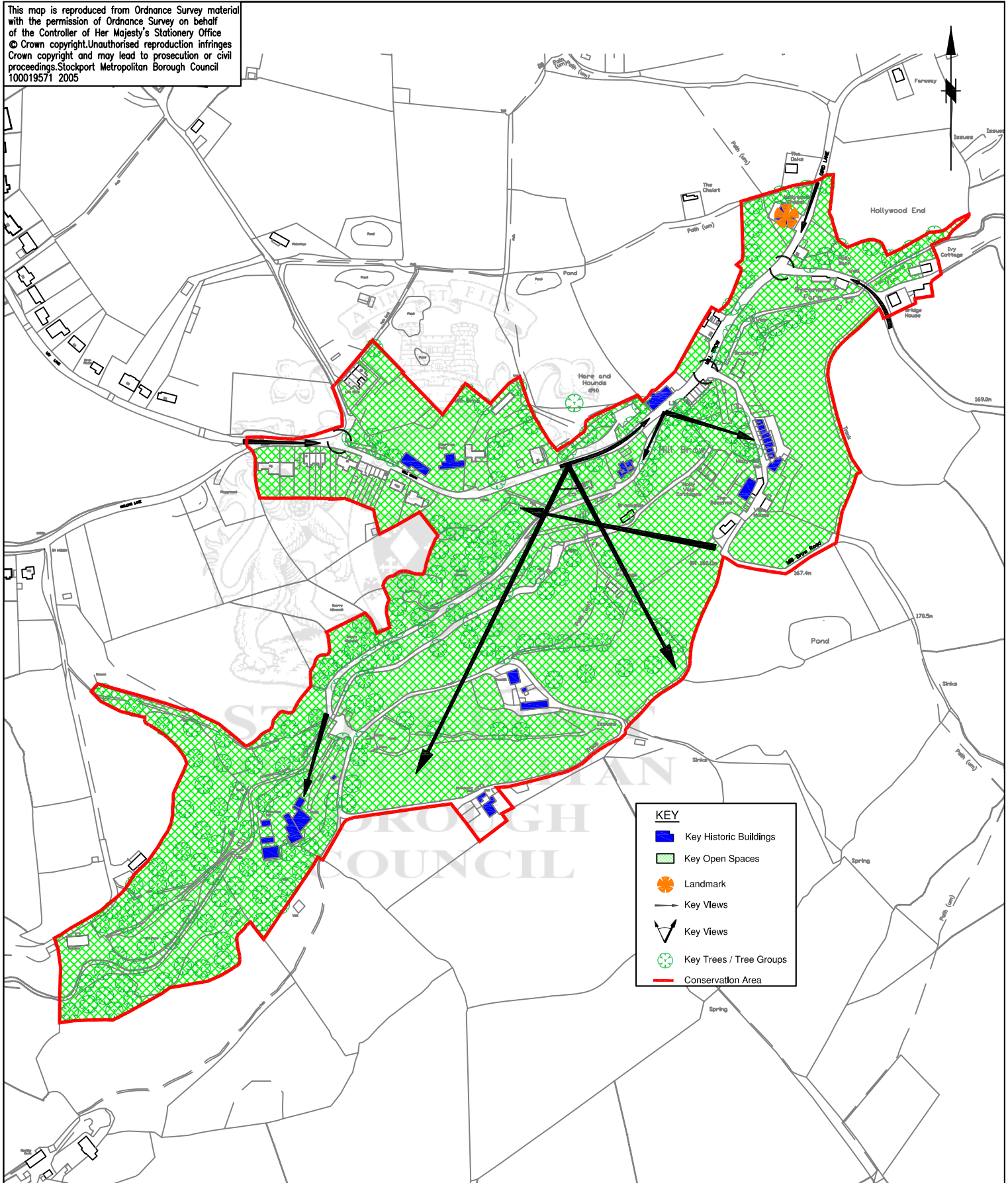
- The 'common land' at the corner of Ley Hey Lane and Limefield has been drastically altered and has impacted on the character of the area
- The row of extremely ugly posts that have been erected on the once 'common land' at the corner of Ley Hey Lane spoil the look of the area
- The conversion of many front gardens to hardstandings has spoilt the area
- Mature trees are an important feature of the area and should be retained whenever possible

- Continuing lack of attention/maintenance to the highway and verges results in much flooding across the area which in cold weather freezes causing a dangerous sheet of ice to form on the road, particularly the road alongside Pear Tree Farm
- Verges receive no maintenance resulting in the unchecked growth of Ash and other saplings, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese knotweed.
- Any significant rainfall results in flooding around the Hare and Hounds
- The creation of hardstandings for parked vehicles does detract from the character of the conservation area however I can see no reasonable alternative
- The inclusion of the cottages at Limefield would be appropriate
- Extend the Conservation Area to include Limefield Cottages and the woodland to the front of these. The cottages were originally cottages/offices for the clay pit/ Brickworks which supplied the areas building materials
- Consider the inclusion of Limefield Cottages
- I feel that the proposed extension is much too small, it should include more of the immediate area at the entrance to Mill Brow i.e. the other terrace of houses and the remains of the brickworks and the playground
- Protection of the conservation area should be a partnership between the Council and residents, however input from the Council seems to have been almost none existent in previous years
- The drains in the conservation area have been blocked for years resulting in flooding outside the Hare and Hounds
- The hedges and saplings in the area have not been maintained creating traffic hazards and look awful
- Properties in the proposed extension were excluded from the original designation and have not significantly changed since then, I cannot see the point of their inclusion now
- Essential maintenance of the existing conservation area should be a priority over extending it.
- The area is untidy and overgrown with the footpath , popular with walkers, being completely overgrown which is both dangerous and unattractive
- The area around the Hare and Hounds is dank and miserable not to say treacherous when the flooded water freezes. The road is totally submerged in water after heavy rain and the footpath nearby gets churned up with mud
- Consider extending the Article 4 Direction further still to incorporate areas which are undergoing development (i.e. unsightly stables etc.)
- Offer advise (when requested)on how to reverse some of the changes already made to properties i.e. removal of concrete boundary walls
- While there is nothing of great merit in the proposed extension as the entrance/gateway to Mill Brow it certainly merits conserving
- The Council does too little to prevent unsuitable development and renovation in the area and unfairly rely on the residents of the area to flag up and issues rather than being pro-active in their approach to enforcement
- Light pollution is becoming a great problem in the area and there does not seem to be any regulations to control this

APPENDIX 2:

Townscape Appraisal Map

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KEY

- Key Historic Buildings
- Key Open Spaces
- Landmark
- Key Views
- Key Views
- Key Trees / Tree Groups
- Conservation Area



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SK1 3XE

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DRAWN FA	ENGINEER DP	AMENDED DH	APPROVED .
DATE 31/07/07	DATE 31/07/07	DATE 31/03/13	DATE DATE
SCALE NTS		SCG No. M1143	
DRAWING NUMBER M1143_MILL_BROW_CONSERVATION			Revision .

JOB TITLE
MILL BROW CONSERVATION AREA

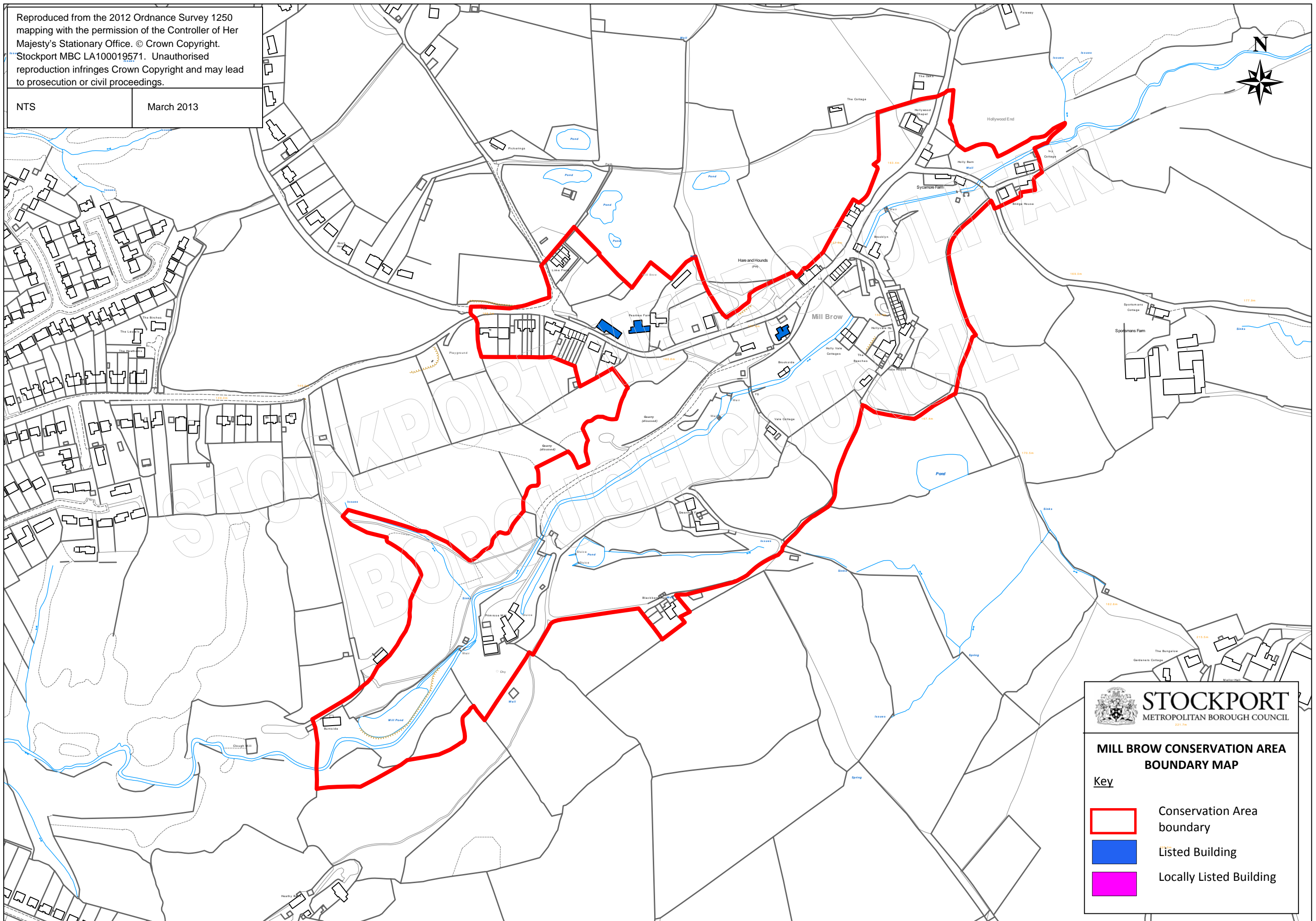
DRAWING TITLE
APPRAISAL MAP

APPENDIX 3:




Conservation Area Boundary Map – Listed & Locally Listed Building Map

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NTS March 2013



MILL BROW CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY MAP

- Key**
-  Conservation Area boundary
 -  Listed Building
 -  Locally Listed Building

Appendix 4 – Historic Environment Record Entries

This appendix includes sites and monuments recorded in the conservation area and its immediate vicinity.

1. MonUID: MGM16516

Name: Outbuilding, Peartree Farm

Record Type: Building

Description: Shown as eastern end of longer range on the 1852 tithe map(a). Ruined building, stone-built, single-storey with gable on east, 3-light mullioned window on south elevation with blocked door to left (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

2. MonUID: MGM15294

Name: Mill Brow

Record Type: Place

Description: 'Mill Bank Top', settlement extending east-west to 'Mill Brow'. Contains two groups of structures and a single building to the east, depicted on the 1852 tithe map(a)(1).

3. MonUID: MGM16517

Name: 28 Mill Brow

Record Type: Building

Description: Dog-legged range depicted on the 1852 tithe map (a). Stone-built, 2 storeys, 3 bays. Present building is possibly a replacement of that shown on the tithe map (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006) (1).

4. MonUID: MGM16518

Name: Ludworth Corn Mill

Record Type: Monument

Description: Corn mill documented in reign of Henry III (1216-72), when granted to Basingwerk Abbey. Site described in 1691 as 'Mill house and corn mill known by the name of Ludworth Mill?'. Kiln rebuilt in 1774, and stable mentioned in 1775. Still used as corn mill in mid-19th century. Shown on 1896 6in OS map as 'Cotton Mill Disused?', but no other evidence known for site as cotton mill. Finally used as a bone-grinding mill, until the early 1920s. By 1980s visible remains comprised weir with evidence of a sluice, part of small mill pond and remains of fairly small buildings on opposite side of stream. Wheelpit infilled in 1973 before it could be recorded. Millstone found on mill dam (1,2). Two walls, one of ashlar and one of narrow coursing survive to c 2m high. Site lies where the stream flows through a narrow rock-cut gorge. The gritstone millstone lies by the private drive close to the site (1,3). Footprint of mill is visible as a depression c 1m deep. The visible ashlar walling lies on the south-east of the site, with the top of a possible window or door overlooking the stream (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

5. MonUID: MGM16618

Name: Houses, Hollyvale Mills

Record Type: Building

Description: Building depicted on the 1849 tithe map(a). 2 two-storey dwellings, in Georgian style. There was originally only one house; the second is reported to have been built by the owner of Holly Vale Mills (SMR 2805.1.0) for his son (1,2). Stone-built, 2 storeys; facade on west. Southern house is 2 bays, but northern house viewed from rear appears to be 3 bays with window for central staircase. Door to the northern house not

clearly visible, but that to the right has a pedimented surround; tall windows with wedge-shaped stone lintels (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

6. MonUID: MGM16628

Name: Weir East of Mill Brow (Hollyvale Mills)

Record Type: Monument

Description: Small single stepped weir, with the adjoining south bank of stone walling with large courses and standing c.3-4m high. This may mark the beginning of the leat to Hollyvale Mills (SMR 2805.1.0)(1).

7. MonUID: MGM16616

Name: Hollywood End Farm & Hollywood Cottage

Record Type: Building

Description: Building shown on approximate location on Burdetts 1763-7 map(a). Cottages, stone-built, 2 storeys, stone sills to windows in eastern facade, square-cut surrounds to windows to south gable (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

8. MonUID: MGM16617

Name: Sycamore Farm, Hollywood End

Record Type: Building

Description: 2 buildings depicted on the 1763-7 Burdetts map(a). Formerly occupied by blacksmiths and known as Blacksmith Farm. An early photograph shows the farmhouse on the west, 2 storeys, 2 bays, with a ridge stack, and barn on the east. Barn converted to dwelling c 2002 (1,2). Two buildings set alongside the road; stone-built, both 2 storeys. Eastern building (now Holly Barn) is former barn converted to dwelling; ventilation slots. Western building is farmhouse, with two windows to upper floor alongside the lane (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006).

9. MonUID: MGM16615

Name: Bridge House, Hollywood End

Record Type: Building

Description: Building shown in approximate location on Burdetts 1763-7 map(a). House, stone-built, 2 storeys, 4 bays, tall windows with stone sills; facade is largely obscured by ivy. Outbuilding to rear, stone-built (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

10. MonUID: MGM15376

Name: Dam Side (site of)

Record Type: Monument

Description: 'Dam Side', cluster of three buildings shown on the 1852 tithe map(a). Demolished by 1917(b)(1).

11. MonUID: MGM15296

Name: Hare and Hounds

Record Type: Building

Description: Rectangular building with an extension to north east depicted on the 1852 tithe map(a). Named 'Hare and Hound Inn' on the 1st edition OS map(1870-8)(b). Stone-built, 2 storeys; original build with symmetrical facade with central door, large inserted windows; 2 bay wing on east with 2 garage doors to ground floor and large windows above (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1). Pub was built c 1810, with the eastern wing formerly being 2 cottages which were incorporated into the pub in the 20th century. An early photograph shows the pub as being of 3 bays, with both the pub and the cottages having square-cut surrounds to the door and tall windows with stone sills (1,2).

12. MonUID: MGM16626

Name: Reservoir, Clough Mill

Record Type: Monument

Description: Shown on OS 1st edition 1870-8 map(a). Reservoir now silted and overgrown with trees and vegetation(1).

13. MonUID: MGM16627

Name: Weir and Leat, Clough Mill

Record Type: Monument

Description: A weir with a single step and stone revetting to each side. Leat on the west side, c 1m wide, with stone and concrete lined walls which have been through below the weir(1).

14. MonUID: MGM15502

Name: Cottages, Nr Mill Brow (site of)

Record Type: Monument

Description: 'Mill Clough' depicted on the 1836-7 Mellor valuation site(a). 3 cottages; 3 storeys, with top storey being common weaving shop, accessed by external staircase. Demolished in the 1930s (1,2).

15. MonUID: MGM15302

Name: Methodist Chapel, Grid Lane

Record Type: Monument

Description: 'Methodist Chapel' building depicted on the 1st edition OS map (1870-8)(a). Primitive Methodist chapel built in 1875 and rebuilt in 1906. Closed in 1963 (1,2). Now converted to house. Stone-built in Gothic style with lancet windows; flat headed vestibule to east front, with modern porch added; 3 stage tower at south-east corner rising to the height of the east gable; modern garage wing added on north-west (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(1).

16. MonUID: MGM15379

Name: Blackberry Hall

Record Type: Find Spot

Description: 'Blackberry Hall', rectangular building shown on the 1849 tithe map(a). Stone-built range, 2 storeys; southern end comprises 2 bay house, with modern mullion windows; northern end is 2 bay house, lower and earlier in date (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 16/6/2006)(1).

17. MonUID: MGM15324

Name: Smithy Croft (site of)

Record Type: Monument

Description: 'Smithy Croft' on the 1852 tithe map(a). Possible smithy site(1).

18. MonUID: MGM3313

Name: Primrose Mill

Record Type: Building

Description: Marked on both the maps as a disused mill (1)+(2). The main building on the site dates back (in parts) to the late C18. It is stone built and 2 storeys high. Gable slate roof. Later phase additions and modifications are in brick. The offices are early C19 and stone built. 2 storeys and 3x2 bays. This was almost certainly a former domestic house. There is a square stone chimney with a brick top to the rear of the site, but there are no

other steam related power features. Nearby Blackberry Hall once belonged to the owner of Primrose Mill. The site is now being used for the manufacture of various synthetic materials by Messrs. Finney Ltd (3). Probably originated as fulling mill, owned by the Stanney family in the 18th century, when known as Mill Clough Mill. Foundations of fulling stocks existed until 1920s. Mill converted to cotton spinning about end of 18th century, certainly by 1808. In 1826 the oldest part was described as 4 storeys, 60ft x 33ft, with waterwheel 36ft in diameter and 4ft 6in wide. New building adjoining this was added in 1823 (datestone) and was also 4 storeys, 90ft x 48ft with an attic. Both buildings were stone-built, with floors laid on wooden beams. 16hp steam engine installed by 1826, later replaced by larger engine with 2 Lancashire boilers. Offices and store buildings destroyed by fire during occupancy of Elias Gaskell in 1870-6. Mill building converted in 1897 by Ramie Company for manufacture of gas mantles, operating in conjunction with Victoria Mill in Bredbury. Mill empty from 1924 to 1936 when converted by Messrs Cropper and Kenyon for dyeing synthetic piece goods. New buildings of stone and brick added during gas -mantle production and dyeing phases. Site badly damaged by fire in 1962, resulting in demolition of buildings alongside stream (4,5).

19. MonUID: MGM15377

Name: Greenhill

Record Type: Building

Description: 'Green Hill', square building with two small outbuildings and a long rectangular building to the south shown on the 1849 tithe map(a). Farmhouse rebuilt by John Stanney (d 1841) of Primrose Mill, leaving the old barns standing (1,2). Possibly documented as Green Hall in 1709 (1,3). House, stone-built, 2 storeys, 3 bays with central staircase plan, a staircase window being sited on the rear, east, elevation; doorway with arched surround, with keystone and fanlight; quoins. To south is a barn, with opposing barn doors; recently converted to accommodation (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 16/6/2006)(1).

20. MonUID: MGM16519

Name: Hollywood End Settlement

Record Type: Place

Description: Place-name documented as ?Holywod(e)hede? in 1433 (1,2). Hollywood End is documented in Mellor parish registers pre-1650 (1,3).

21. MonUID: MGM3535

Name: Holly Vale Mills (site of)

Record Type: Monument

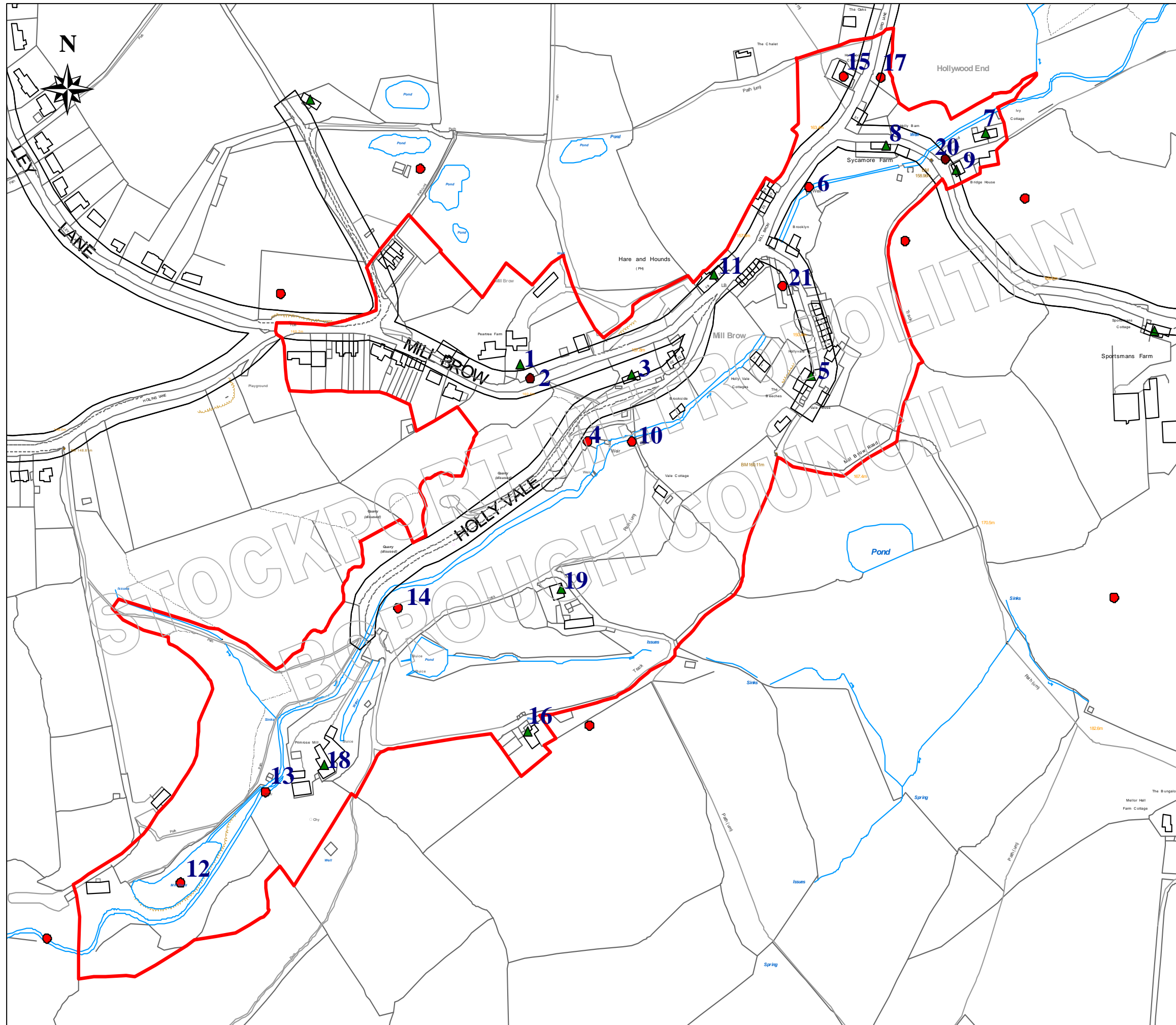
Description: Established by 1803, and owned by four generations of Ratcliffe family until ceased production c 1900. Originally used for cotton spinning, with candlewick making added by mid-19th century and bleaching added c 1876. Sold in early 20th century to Derbyshire County Council, for demolition and reuse of the stone for highways. Site comprised three mills: two in Mellor on east side of the stream, separated by a cobbled road; one in Ludworth on the west. Mill on east side of cobbled road originally water-powered and possibly built by Samuel Wood, cotton spinner here c 1815; traces of mill's foundation reported by Ashmore to be still visible in 1980s; mill pond and leat removed few years before for widening the stream. Plaque with 'Holly Vale Mills 1846' now set in wall, formerly in office building on this side of road. Of mill on west side of road, foundations of free-standing walls still visible in 1980s; north wall made from natural rock face, with an arched doorway into a passageway and two chambers in the rock. This western mill comprised 2 buildings in continuous range, one fireproof. By 1880s these Mellor mills were powered by 2 beam engines. Mill buildings on Ludworth bank of stream were used for bleaching; 2 single-storey buildings still standing in 1980s. Ashmore also reports that

housing associated with mills still stands. On east side of cobbled road is a row of 3-storey cottages, with stone roof and windows with stone sills and lintels; No 2 and No 3 have blocked hoist openings at attic level at the rear. Adjacent to these are a further five cottages, which are also 3-storey, partly built of brick and pebble dashed but Nos 7 and 8 have stonework at ground level. The attics of all these cottages may have been used for weaving. At south end of the cottages were stone farm buildings, converted to a house; had 2 small square window openings in 1st floor and two semi-circular arched openings with projecting stone sills on ground floor. 2-storey building on west side of road, divided into 2 dwellings, one reported to have been built for mill-owner's son. Row of 3 2-storey cottages below these by stream, with 2 boiler chimneys at rear. Also a row of 6 cottages on main road through Mill Brow, 2 storeys at front and 3 at rear, brick and stone built, erected 1876 (3,4).

Ashmore's account is supplemented by UMAU site visit in 2006. On the east side of the cobbled road (Mill Brow Road), the 1846 datestone is set within the front garden wall of a modern house, Brooklyn. To the south of this, the road is bordered on the east by a wall c 1-1.5m high of regular coursing, corresponding with a mill building on the historic mapping. On the eastern bank of the brook is stone walling c 4m high, of large regular courses, with a return at its southern end, corresponding with a mill building shown here on the mapping. On the western bank is a standing mill building, now roofless, 1 storey high with a higher wall, possibly a ruined gable, by the river; door and window in south elevation have been repaired with modern lintels. Of the housing listed by Ashmore, the 2 rows of 3 storey cottages are Nos 1-3 and 5-8 Mill Brow Road; Nos 1-3 are stone-built, 1 bay, tall windows, with wedge-shaped stone sills; Nos 4-8 are rendered, 1 bay, tall windows to ground and 1st floors, smaller to 2nd floor. House at southern end of these cottages is stone-built, 2 storeys, with arch-headed windows, and is presumably the converted farm building mentioned by Ashmore. The 2-storey building on the west side of the road is now The Beeches and Hollyvale House (SMR 2805.2.0). The row of 3 2-storey cottages by the stream are Nos 1-3 Holly Vale Cottages. The 6 cottages built in 1876 are Nos 34-44 Mill Brow, with stone facades and a brick gable (Site visit, P Arrowsmith, 27/6/2006)(3).

APPENDIX 5:

Historic Environment Record Map



Title:
**Historic Environment Records within
 Mill Brow Conservation Area**

Department:
Planning Services, Place Directorate

Date:
March 2013

Scale:
NTS

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KEY TO MAP SYMBOLS

▲ Building

● Monument

★ Find Spot

● Settlement

— Conservation Area
 Boundary