



**North York Moors**  
National Park

# Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan

## Castleton



July 2023

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## 2.0 Summary of Significance

Castleton is a village on the River Esk in the civil parish of Danby in the North York Moors, designated as a Conservation Area in 1995. It is named after the medieval castle which stood on Castle Hill from c.1089. The ridge top and high castle ground has resulted in varied levels and paths linked with stone steps and raised pavements. The presence of a castle would have resulted in additional buildings in the area, likely around Primrose hill, with the linear street pattern possibly evolving later.

A 13th century water-powered corn mill was linked to the village by stone trods and a bridge. Castleton was the main market and industrial town serving Upper Eskdale with wool, cheese and cattle fairs, and markets throughout the year. Small scale iron and coal mining, smelting and quarrying took place in the surrounding landscape.

Green spaces positively contribute to the area but are largely limited to small swades in front of buildings and a few seating areas. The open countryside provides a picturesque backdrop to the village. Whilst the key views have been captured in the Conservation Area, views outside of the boundary, especially from the north upon the approach to Castleton, show the ridge top, which accentuates the varying architectural and historic character of the buildings following the undulating levels and gentle curving of the main road. Many trees already carry Tree Preservation Order status but there are a few unprotected trees, highlighted later, which are key to the character of the village.

Castleton consists mostly of street fronted stone cottages and terraces along winding streets and small paths at varied levels. The geology is sandstone which provided local building material, with brick present from the late Victorian times. The buildings are mainly domestic with cottage features, largely 18th and 19th century, but there are also agricultural buildings, an inn and former chapels. From the middle of the 18th century the old cruck-built houses were replaced with two storied, modest, four square, Georgian style houses which has largely influenced the current character. Although thatch was previously used, many roofs are covered in red pantile or slate. Some eighteenth-century buildings have stone water tabling and kneelers on the gables; roofs are with chimney stacks and in some cases, dormer windows and weathervanes.

Despite many plastic replacements, there are many traditional batten and plank doors, both domestic and agricultural. Glazing appears in modern examples and there are four and six panel doors ranging from the Victoria and Georgian period with brass and iron furnishings. Similarly, many traditional windows remain. A hierarchy of size is present on gables and there are examples of Yorkshire sashes, leaded glass and stone mullions. Historic and architectural interest also derives from small details that collectively contribute to its character. These include date stones, stone trods, decorated gates, gateposts, door furniture, railings, a mounting block and milk stand, drinking troughs, horse tie rings, cast iron rainwater goods, weathervanes and wall mounted lanterns.

A summary checklist of features of significance in the Conservation Area which should be conserved and enhanced include:

### Considerable significance

- The green on Primrose Hill and grassy swards on Station Road, Ashfield Road and between houses
- Stone retaining walls, gateposts, steps, trods and flags between ground levels and raised pavements
- Trods in grass verges (Ashfield Road towards the mill – some possibly still buried)
- Curve to High Street
- Reused medieval masonry, earth work and buried remains associated with the castle
- Reused stonework in clapper bridge
- Evidence of blocked openings, former buildings and alterations in building form (steeply pitched roofs)
- Mill leats and paths connecting the mill to the village
- Views of the surrounding landscape between buildings, from seating areas, from the bridge on Station Road, from Ashfield Lane and Primrose Hill
- Modest scale of buildings, mostly one to three storeys high with undulating roof lines to match the topography
- Street fronted or near street fronted properties made of local or reused stone
- Predominance of red pantile, Welsh slate and chimney stacks, some with stone kneelers and water tabling
- Traditional timber window and doors, largely timber plank and batten with polished brass or iron features
- Cast iron rainwater goods
- Date stones
- Agricultural character (barns, mounting blocks, milk stands) and outbuilding set into the gradient
- Gable attic window openings to 18th century houses and a hierarchy of window size
- Decorative iron gates and railings
- Wall mounted lanterns
- Cheese fair sundial

#### **Some significance**

- Stone setts in parking areas
- Trees on Primrose Hill green, Ashfield Lane and Church Street
- Disused boundary features such as troughs
- Millstone at the mill
- Cold war bunker
- Views of the castle motte (site of)

- Brick buildings and brick and stone combinations (stone to opening surrounds)
- Traditional shop fronts
- Over lights to doors and some doors with glazed openings, half glazed mid-20th century timber doors
- Horse tie rings

#### Limited significance

- Weathervanes and hanging signs
- Porches and dormers

#### Unknown significance

- Ha-ha boundary on north edge of Castle Hills
- Buried archaeology and fabric within buildings from earlier dates
- Garden archaeology including wells and cess pits
- Early small-scale industrial processes
- Some buildings used for military purposes during the Second World War

This report has recommended modest extensions to reconnect the mill complex and the trods leading to the mill with the rest of the historic settlement in the Conservation Area. Other possible extensions have been considered at the west end of the village to include the school. Views are sought from the local community on these extensions.

## 3.0 Introduction

The majority of Castleton village is a Conservation Area. Conservation Areas were first introduced in England in 1967 to recognise areas of special quality and character, which is often influenced by a historic layout, distinctive relationship between properties, the use of characteristic materials, public spaces, trees and views. Conservation Areas are protected under section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 which defines them as areas ‘of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance’.

There are over 8000 Conservation Areas in England<sup>1</sup> of which 42 are in the North York Moors National Park. Castleton was designated as a Conservation Area in 1995.

Historic England recommends that Conservation Areas should be reviewed periodically to assess, re-evaluate, and communicate the special qualities of the area. They also recommend that the boundary of the designation should be reviewed and that guidelines are produced to help with the area’s long-term management.

Conservation Areas provide broader protection for the historic, architectural and landscape character of an area in comparison to the listing of individual buildings.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/local/conservation-areas/> [accessed 22.12.2016]

Conservation Area designation introduces controls over alterations and the development of buildings. Owners of properties often consider designation beneficial because it sustains and enhances the attractiveness and value of property. Controls can include:

- the requirement in legislation and national and local planning policies for new development to preserve and enhance special character.
- control over demolition of unlisted buildings.
- control over works to trees.
- fewer types of advertisements which can be displayed without specific permission.
- restrictions on the types of development which can be carried out without the need for planning permission (known as “permitted development rights”).

This report assesses those features and qualities which give Castleton its unique special interest and which justify its designation. It seeks to identify the character-defining elements of the Conservation Area and describes the degrees of significance (considerable, some, limited or none) that can be attached to those elements such as the street plan, the open spaces, the vistas and views and the historic buildings. Lastly, there are suggestions on how to conserve and enhance significant features and offers guidance on future management decisions and development proposals. However, no appraisal can be entirely comprehensive and the omission of any particular building, feature or space in the village, should not imply that it is of no interest.

## **4.0 Location and Context**

“Castleton is a considerable village situated partly on the side of a lofty eminence south of the Esk, and partly in a valley – the parts being called respectively High and Low Castleton. ... The site of the Castle is on a commanding circular hill facing the north and east. The hill serves as a sort of buttress to the high ground on which the village is built, abutting upon it about midway... Castleton is the ancient barony, and took its name from the old baronial residence which stood there. “Castleton Coals” are supplied from this neighbourhood, but they are of a slaty inferior description.”

(1857 Whellan’s Trade Directory)

Castleton village is located by the River Esk, in the civil parish of Danby and was the largest settlement in Eskdale by the 19th century. It is located 11.5km south-east of Guisborough, named after the medieval castle, once positioned on Castle Hill which was abandoned when Danby Castle was constructed in the 14th century. The primary geology is sandstone, used on many local buildings. The village sits along the end of Castleton Rigg, an outcrop of Danby High Moor, located towards the head of the Esk Valley, surrounded by pasture and arable land. In 1736 the land was divided between meadow, pasture and arable and in the late 18th century much of the common land was drained and enclosed by Mr Mewburn of the Howe (just outside of the Conservation

Area) which increased its value and created the field pattern we see today<sup>2</sup>. The railway line, outside of the Conservation Area, runs to the north of the village.

The Conservation Area boundary is wide on the north side to include the castle remains and views towards the castle, along with views to the southwest. To the south, the boundary runs down the middle of Ashfield Road, excluding the stone trods that led to the mill. The boundary is tight on the south side, running along the 19th century extent of the south facing gardens on Church Street which have since been extended.

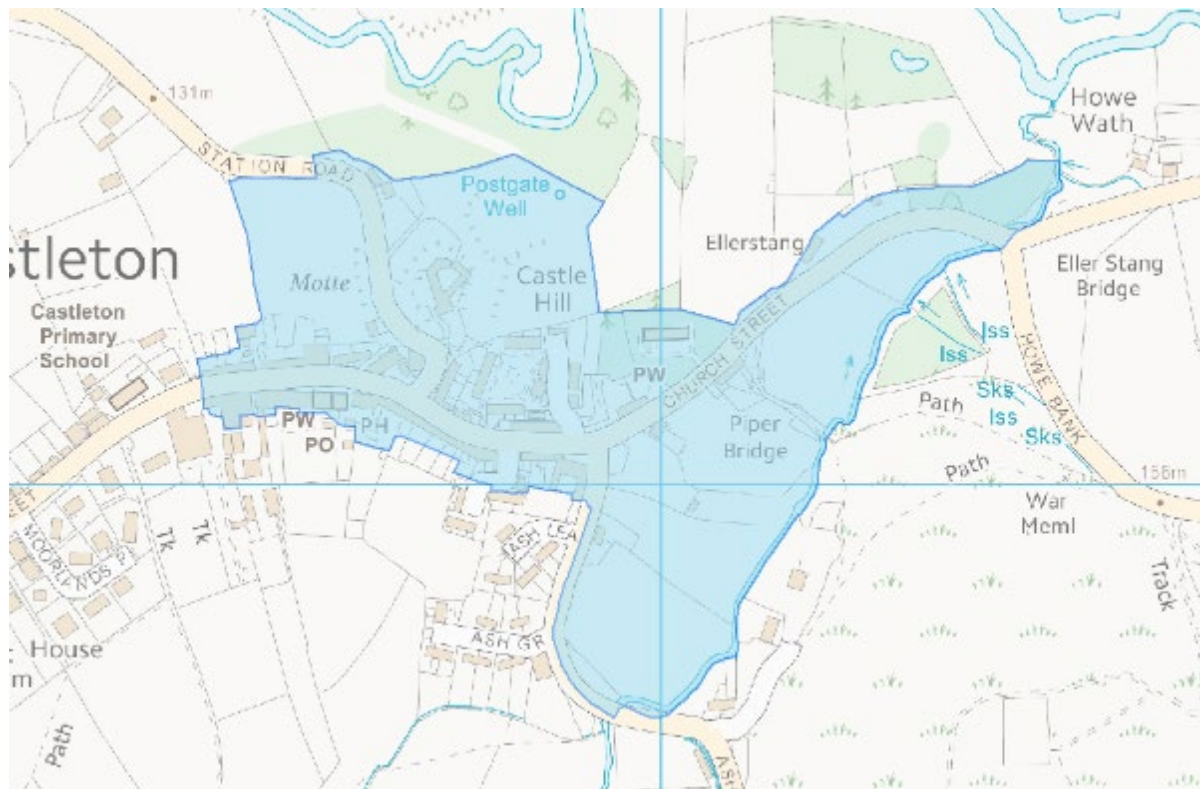


Figure 01. The current extent of Castleton Conservation Area

## 5.0 The Historic Development of Castleton

There is no reference to Castleton in the Domesday Book of 1086, reflecting the fact that the village took its name from the local Norman Castle which was not built until after c.1089 when Robert de Brus was given the Forest and Lordship of Danby by William Rufus (William the Conqueror's son); the castle was probably built soon after. The name Castleton means the enclosure or village (late Old English 'tun') by the castle<sup>3</sup>. The castle was a motte type, probably originally constructed in timber and replaced with stonework which stylistically dates to about 1160<sup>4</sup>. Adam de Brus lost the castle to Henry II, before regaining it in 1200. In 1271 the castle passed into the Latimer family when William Latimer acquired it through marriage. The Latimers owned Castleton for most of the fourteenth century, until the last lord Latimer died without a son in 1381. His estates

<sup>2</sup> Ord 1846, 33910

<sup>3</sup> Ekwall 1987, xiv-xv

<sup>4</sup> Pevsner 1966, 11912

passed to his daughter Elizabeth, wife of John Neville of Raby, at which point the castle probably began to be neglected in favour of the Neville's own castles.

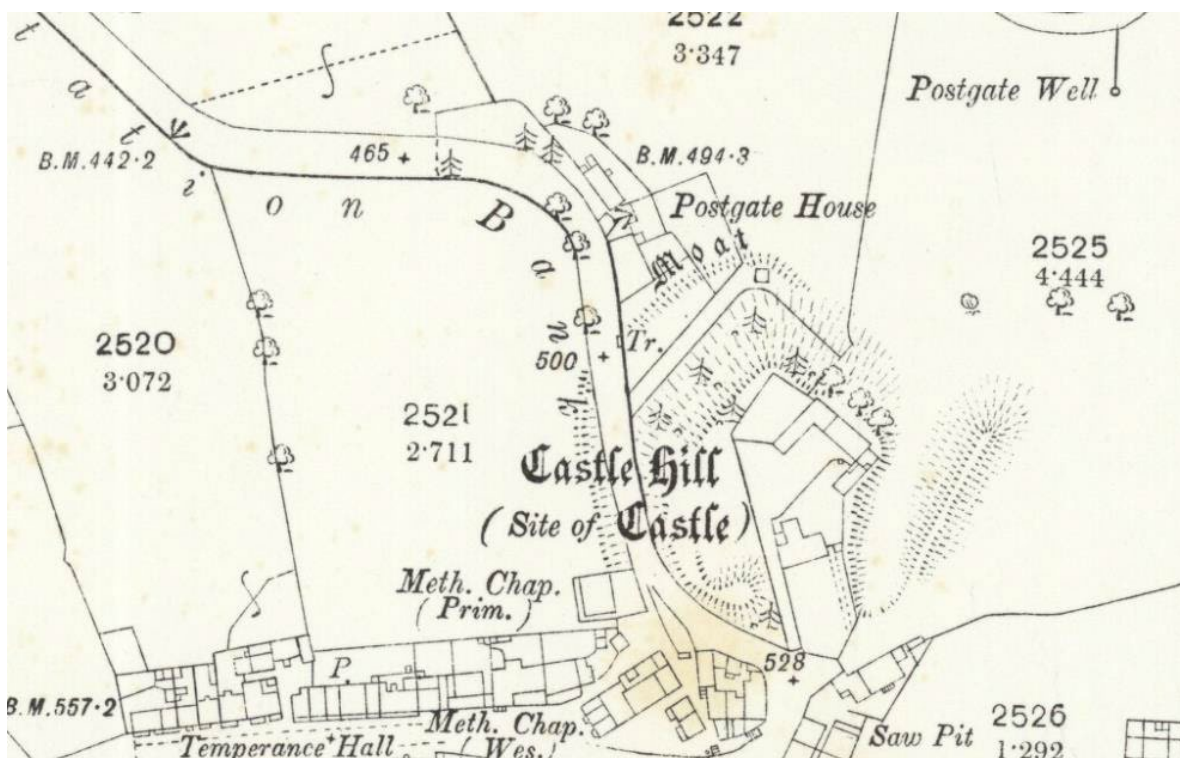


Figure 02. The survey of the castle earthworks conducted for the 1892 OD 25 inch map showing the earthwork remains of the castle including a motte and the remains of a moat to the north. The earthworks clearly spread on to the west side of Station Road which appears to have evolved from the postern gate into the castle.

Elizabeth was widowed in 1388 and until 1396 Castleton belonged to her until her son John inherited it. During this period Castleton Castle was abandoned in favour of the newly built Danby Castle, a typical late 14th century rectangular castle. According to local tradition the castle on Castle Hill was destroyed by fire and the materials used for the church. Danby Castle and Park are mentioned in 1242. The castle may have been the 'capital message' of the manor which, together with a small park, was only valued at 6s. 8d. in 1274. It was referred to as a ruined peel (defended tower) in January 1335–6.

The presence of a castle would have resulted in additional buildings being constructed in the area. A water-powered corn mill documented in 1272 at Howe Mill must have served local farms and a road ran from Castleton to the mill which crossed Danby Beck. This crossing was served by a bridge, likely 13th century, and rebuilt c.1807 when the mill was rebuilt. The herringbone masonry relates to the 19th century rebuild but the undressed stone used for the decking may have been reused from the medieval bridge<sup>5</sup>.

Castleton was the main market and industrial town serving Upper Eskdale. There was annual wool, cheese (both October) and cattle fairs, a cheese market and a silk mill. Laden waggons lined the street with their wares in latter days, but earlier accounts suggest the fair was held on Primrose Hill, then known as Stocks Hill as it was where the

<sup>5</sup> Historic England official listing text List entry Number: 1433734



village stocks were located. The sun dial commemorates the cheese fair. However, it is likely that while cheese and other dairy products were sold on Primrose Hill, other goods would have been grouped and sold in distinctive parts of the High Street. Cheese making diminished after 1946 and the creation of the Milk Marketing Board<sup>6</sup>.

The economic life of the village also relied on industry with iron mining, smelting, and quarrying taking place in the surrounding landscape and even some poor-quality coal<sup>7</sup>. For those without jobs or prospects, the village had a poor house, located on the margins. This was located in what is now known as Ellerstang on Church Street. There was also quite a lot of activity in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as marked by the date stone marked 1671 on the Old Robin Hood and Little John Inn on the Corner of Ashfield Road. Local folklore mentions this being the last meeting place of Robin Hood and Little John. The Inn has since been converted in dwellings in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century although the features of previous openings and a ghost sign on the gable.

The parish church was originally located in Danby and so residents had to travel for worship and ceremonies. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the growth of non-Conformism was led here by Wesley who preached in Castleton in 1772 and a Wesleyan chapel was then founded. The first was in a small building to the west of the village between Castleton and High Castleton and is now lost to modern development. A larger building was constructed in 1871 on the street front by which time such non-conformist religions had greater social acceptability and could afford to be more visible. A Primitive Methodist chapel of (1861) and a Friends' meetinghouse for Quakers were also built; a Friends burial ground being located well to the west of the village at High Garth by 1853<sup>8</sup>.

The lack of a church and the drift towards non-conformism, led to an iron church being erected at the joint expense of Viscountess Downe and the Hon. Lydia F. C. Dawnay in 1865; it was not a parish church and so could not be used for burials and weddings, but functioned as a chapel of ease to Danby. This was located at the junction of Ashfield Road and Church Street and the site is now used as a green seating area, although the Victorian railings survive. The green was donated to the village in 1932 by Mr. and Mrs. J.W.R Punch and family according to the commemorative stone in one of the boundary posts. Castleton was not to have a full parish church until after the First World War when the church of St. Michael and St. George was built in memory of the men who died in the war. The benches, organ screen and panelling on the altar all bear the distinctive signature of a crouching mouse of Robert Thompson, the 'Mouseman of Kilburn'.

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<sup>6</sup> Hartley and Ingilby 1975, 42

<sup>7</sup> Ord 1846, 78, 342

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/yorks/north/vol2/pp332-340> and OS 1st ed. 6 inch13



Figures 03-05. The church of St. Michael and St. George, former British Legion Hall and site of previous iron church, now green seating area.

The primary school is outside the Conservation Area but is a listed building. It was built in 1874, on land given by Lord Downe, along with the adjacent Master's House and was known as Danby Board School (DBS on gatepost). The first headmaster, Mr. William Bull, presided over an initial 65 pupils aged five to eleven, taught in one room<sup>9</sup>.

Electric lighting was provided to the village in 1934 and gradually spread to all buildings. The village hosted a Home Guard headquarters during World War II. The Friends' Meeting House was then used as a HQ to platoons from Castleton (HER 18592), and the cellar of the former Post Office at 7 High Street (HER 18096) was used as a Special Duties Branch-out Station. Safely located beyond the village was also an Ammunition Explosives Storage Facility northwest of the churchyard (HER 18154). After the War, facilities outside the village were used to monitor the skies and radiation levels by the Royal Observer Core – the cold war bunker built in 1959 has recently been restored and is occasionally open to the public, but this is outside the Conservation Area.

## 5.1 Historic Mapping

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<sup>9</sup> Wilson 2014, 1

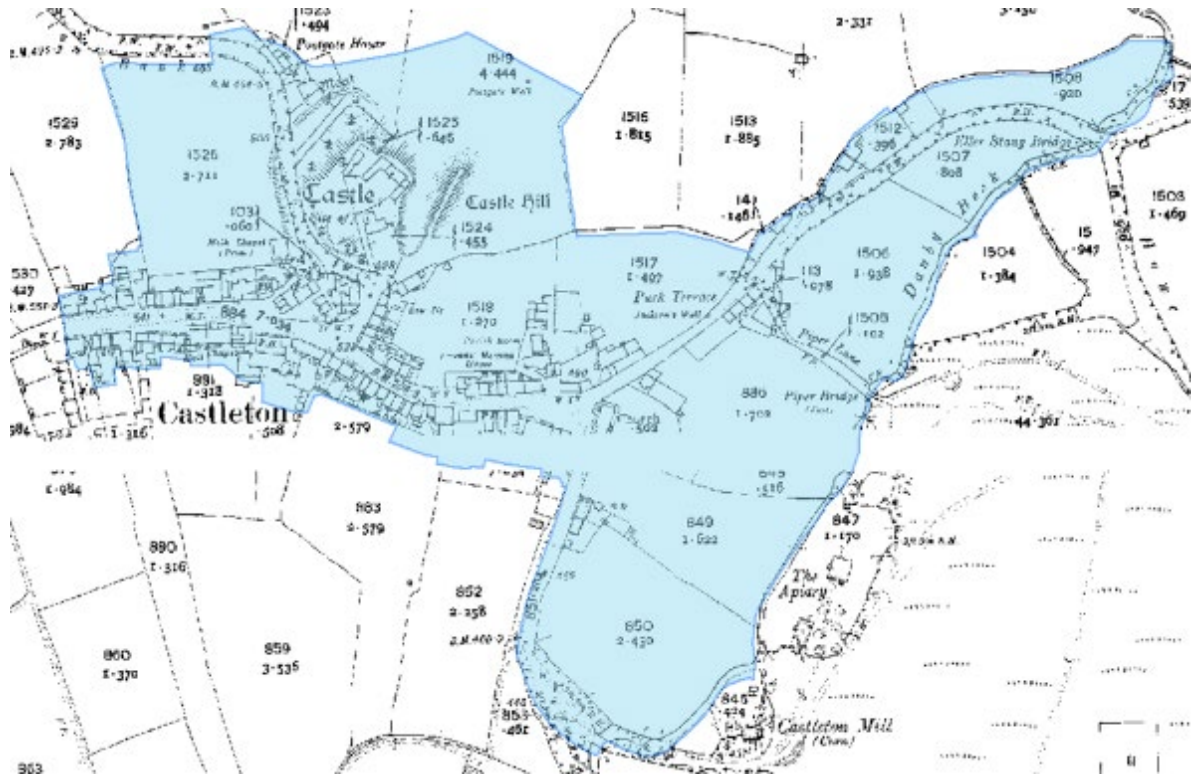


Figure 06. 1st ed. OS map 25 inch surveyed 1892 (blue shading represents the Conservation Area)

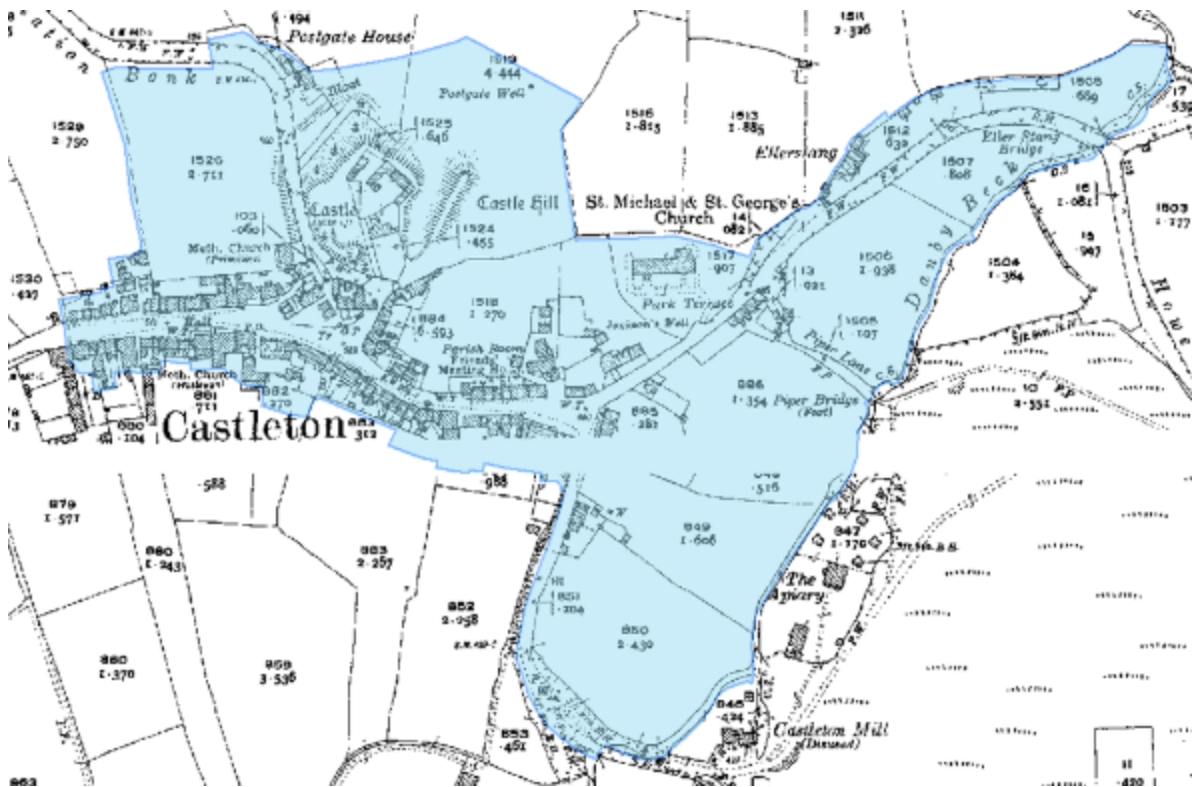


Figure 07. 2nd ed. OS map surveyed 1911 (blue shading represents the Conservation Area today)

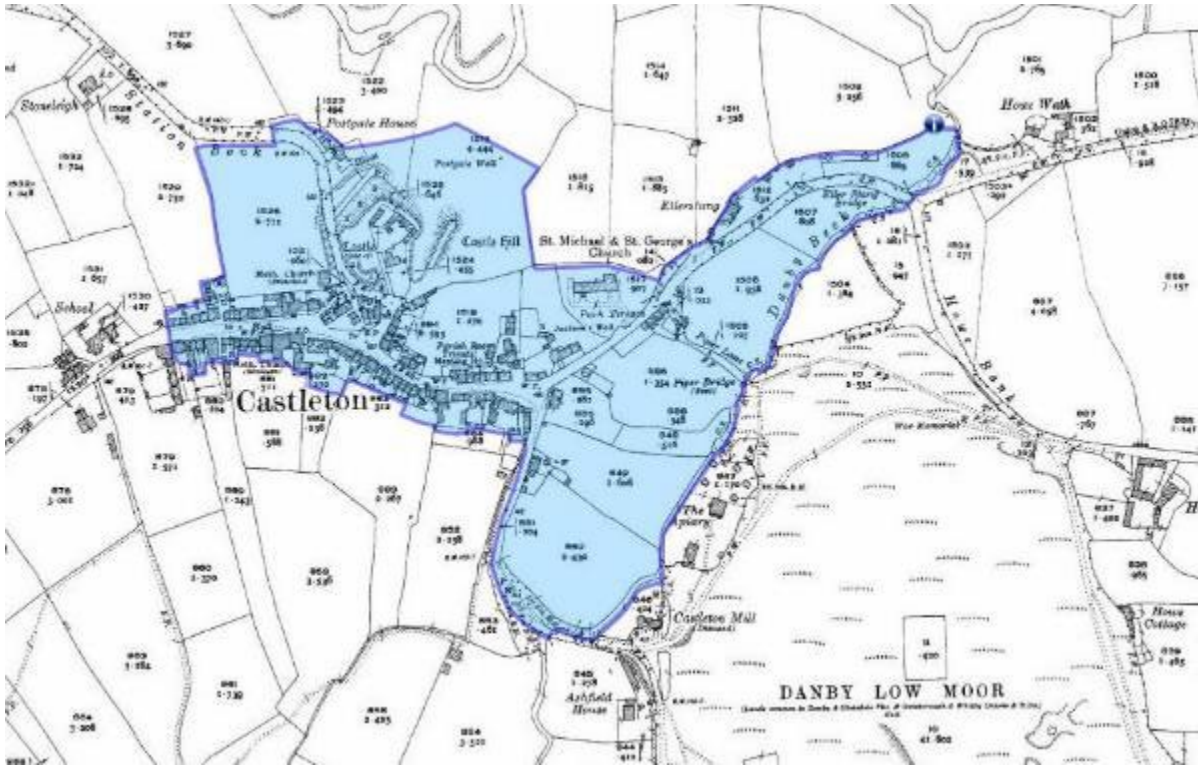


Figure 08. OS 3rd ed. 25 inch scale map surveyed in 1928 (blue shading represents the Conservation Area today)

## 6.0 Archaeology

In a nutshell: Norman castle, reused medieval masonry, street plan along castle boundary, wells, and garden archaeology.

Archaeology is evidence of past human activity and in that respect, the whole of Castleton including its buildings and planform, is of archaeological interest. The earliest archaeological find is a Neolithic<sup>10</sup> implement (HER 521), but this tells us little about local prehistoric activity. The position of the village along a high ridge may well have been attractive to prehistoric settlers, but there is no other direct evidence for this. However, there are particular features that highlight evidence of past human activity, and these contribute to the village's character and enhance our understanding of how it evolved.

Several buildings show visible evidence of scarring from lost structures, blocked openings, and reused medieval masonry from the castle. There is also evidence of reused foundations in the form of large boulders at the foot of existing houses and buried remains resulting from previous activity. Internally, historic buildings may also have other features, often obscured by later plasterwork. Where a building appears 18th or 19th century in date, it may contain the hidden remains of a much earlier building. These scars resemble how buildings have altered over time to meet changing circumstances, such as the decline of the castle and the quarrying of its ruins to provide building materials. They can also represent the availability of new building materials made possible by the arrival of the railway in 1861 or changing fashion in design.

<sup>10</sup> circa 4000 to circa 2,500 BC25



Figures 09-13: Images of scarring, previous openings, mason's marks and varied building materials. Materials may have been re-used from the castle, with variations in stone tooling.

The buried remains are more difficult to quantify as there has been no archaeological work in the village except around the castle. The extent of the castle boundary was much larger than the area currently protected through Ancient Monument's legislation and would have included the west side of Station Road. It is possible that with more research the full extent may be even larger and include elements of the present-day village. This whole area is therefore of high archaeological potential. It is likely, based on work in similar villages, there will be evidence from sites within the Conservation Area of past activity such as cess pits and wells. Indeed, a Jackson's Well is shown on the 19th century Ordnance survey map opposite Park Terrace (outside the Conservation Area) and Postgate Well northeast of the castle is still shown on modern maps. Wells can contain waterlogged past remains relating to domestic activity such as diet and are likely to be located in garden plots to the rear of historic buildings.

Other archaeological evidence from the wider area includes remains of medieval iron working at Howe End (outside the Conservation Area, HER 3545) and a saw pit (HER 5267); one at the west end of the village and another behind the Quaker Meeting House; evidence of when joinery and carpentry was carried out locally for the local market. The links between the mill (HER 3433) and the village will have been strong from at least the 13th century and there is likely to be archaeological evidence around the mill of former mill workings including mill leats. The millstone lying against the wall is a visible indicator of its earlier historic function. Although the mill has now been converted into two houses,

it has potential to contain structural evidence of the mill in its earlier form. Most obvious is the steeply pitched roof suggesting an earlier covering of thatch.

The village boundary walls contain evidence of past activity such as blocked gateways and on Station Road, two blocked and disused drinking troughs for thirsty travelling horses can be seen and a former ha-ha in the grounds of Castle Hills is testament to earlier landscaping fashions. Cold War remains survive outside the Conservation Area.

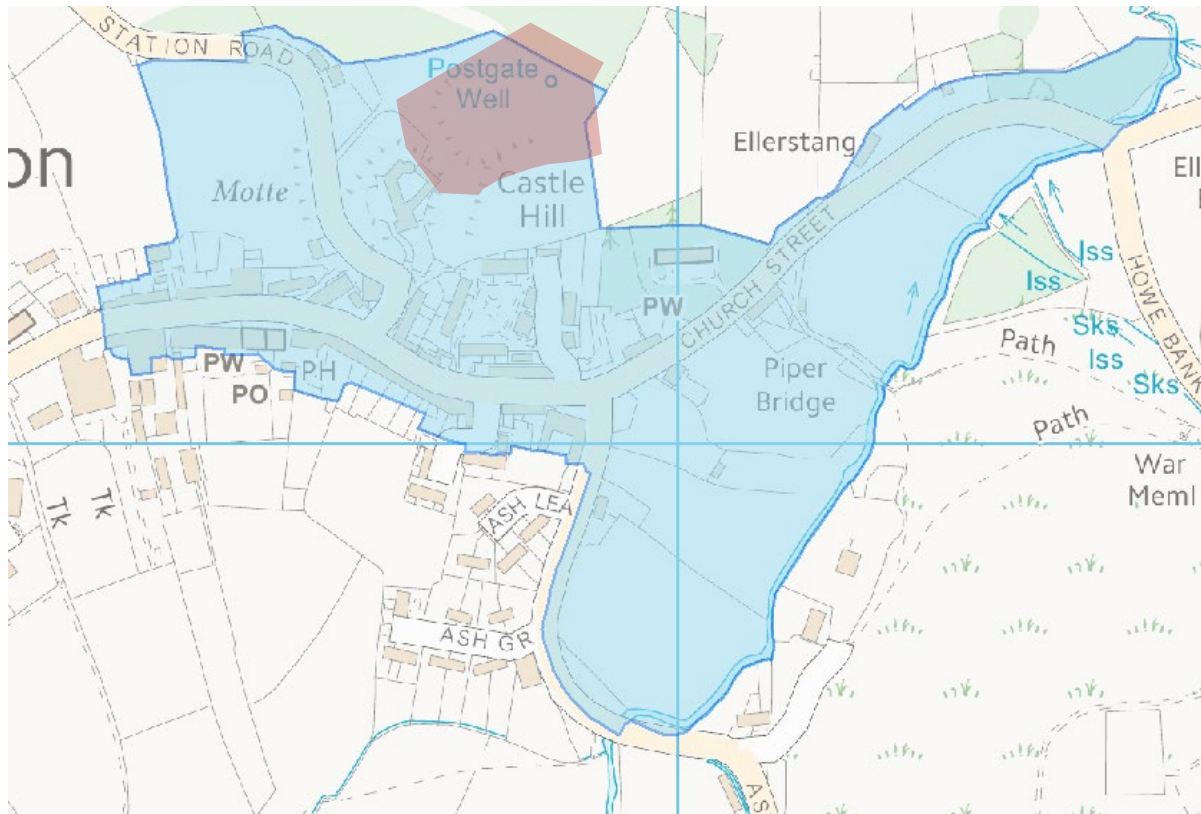


Figure 14. The possible (minimal) extent of the castle with the postern access now lending its name to Postgate on Station Road

#### Considerable significance

- Reused medieval masonry from the castle.
- Earthwork and buried remains associated with the castle.
- Nationally important castle remains as earthworks and buried evidence.
- Reused stonework in Clapper Bridge.
- Evidence of blocked openings and former buildings.
- Evidence of changing building form (steeply pitched roofs, heightened buildings).
- Mill least.
- Several paths and routes leading to former quarry, mill, farm and pits.

#### Some significance

- Disused boundary features such as troughs.

- Millstone at the mill.
- Cold war bunker.

#### **Unknown significance**

- Buried archaeology and fabric within buildings from earlier dates.
- Garden archaeology including wells.
- Early small-scale industrial processes.
- Second World War features.

#### **Opportunities to Conserve and Enhance**

- Developments within the Conservation Area may need to be informed by archaeological work and in some cases, further archaeological excavation carried out before or during development.
- Developments affecting historic buildings should be informed by a statement of significance and heritage statement.
- The designated area of the castle should be extended.
- The Conservation Area boundary should be extended to include the mill buildings, the mill leats and the stone trods leading to the mill.

## **7.0 Character Analysis**

### **7.1 The Ancient Street Plan**

#### **In a nutshell: linear ridgeline settlement with remnants of castle layout**

Castleton is a linear settlement which has grown along the ridge between the dales of Eskdale, Westerdale, Commondale and Rosedale and Danby which marks the Dale End. It was this strategic position which controlled access along the dales that was certainly a factor in locating the castle here after the Norman Conquest. The castle would have attracted additional settlement beyond its fortified walls, and it therefore seems that the oldest building plots are likely to be closest to the castle along its southern edge in the area now known as Primrose Hill.

The buildings on Primrose Hill are clustered in a distinctively different layout to the street fronted houses of the High Street. That, combined with the use of earlier architectural fragments in the buildings here, suggests that this is the earliest part of Castleton and that the street fronted houses followed. This cluster is located at the top of the castle postern, hence the house name, Postgate. The postern is the secondary entry point into and out of the castle and is the one often used for everyday purposes, while 'gate' is the traditional Yorkshire term for a road, a term with Norse origins. Station Road may be the later evolution of the Postgate or Postern and runs through the earthwork remains of the castle which fall on both sides of the road and with the cluster of buildings located at the top, suggests that this is the historic core of Castleton. The castle is recorded as being a motte with no bailey, but the presence of the buildings at Primrose Hill to a distinctly

different layout, but respecting the postern, suggests that the castle may have extended this far south and could have functioned as a bailey. There are also sufficient earthworks on the east side to accommodate a bailey.



Figure 15: View down the High Street of Castleton, showing a gentle curve.







Figure 16-18: Stone cottages set on the street with some swathes of grass.

The High Street has a gentle curve to it. This may be to respect the medieval boundary of the castle prior to its demolition and suggests too that the castle complex was once much larger. The settlement pattern along the High Street is a standard medieval layout along a main road with linear plots extending backwards. On the south side these have been extended southwards in recent times, but the extensions are outside the Conservation Area. Modern houses north of the High Street and to the west have not always conformed to this street pattern.

## 7.2 Surface Treatments, Open and Green Spaces

There are only a few open green spaces within the village, namely the grassy area on Primrose Hill (where the cheese fair was held) and the grassy swards that separate the houses here, the grass frontages to houses on the eastern lower parts of the High Street and the enclosure with seating at the east end of the village (the former chapel site). However, the village is surrounded by grassy fields leading down to the river and the former corn mill and these have been included in the Conservation Area, although the former mill buildings were excluded when the Conservation Area was first laid out.





Figure 19-22: Examples of green spaces within Castleton

There are wide verges along Ashfield Road dotted with foxgloves, grazing sheep and the occasional mature tree and these swards also have stone trods, albeit a little overgrown. These trods represent an early form of surface treatment linking the village and the mill and characterise early footpaths across the North York Moors. Similarly grazed wide grass verges are to be found along Station Road as it opens out at the bottom of the hill to a large grassy area with views back to the village and the castle hill. The stone trods disappear before the road reaches the former clapper bridge just before the mill. The historic and architectural interest of this bridge is well camouflaged by the use of modern tarmac on the bridge surface.

The only other surface treatments which have historic character are the stone flags outside the inn and on Primrose Hill and stone setts on parking areas on the High Street. Otherwise, tarmac predominates (especially on the Church Street - Ashfield Road junction), although the narrow strips of tarmac on Primrose Hill are overgrown by the grassy surrounds which soften its impact and allows the historic character to show through. Primrose Hill also has stone steps linking its high levels with the street below and these too have considerable historic character.



Figure 23-27: Examples of surface treatments including paving, steps, cobbles and trods.

Trees are an important part of the setting and the views to and from the Conservation Area, and a number have already been identified and have Tree Preservation Orders. However, two additional mature trees stand out within the village at key points and merit protection. One at the foot of Ashfield Road sits in a grassy verge with broken stone trods at its base. It is currently being used as a tree swing. Another on Church Street between the church and Ellerstang sits in a prominent position next to allotments. These allotments were previously three small enclosures presumably used for small scale production by residents since at least the mid-19th century. Slightly younger is a tree planted on the green on Primrose Hill, planted by the Castleton and Danby WI to commemorate the organisation running from 1915 to 1965.

The lack of tree management, or inappropriate tree planting also serves to obscure historic interest and can detract from some views. For example, the castle mound which gives the village its name is almost rendered completely invisible because of tree planting and the church is also obscured from the road by mature tree planting.

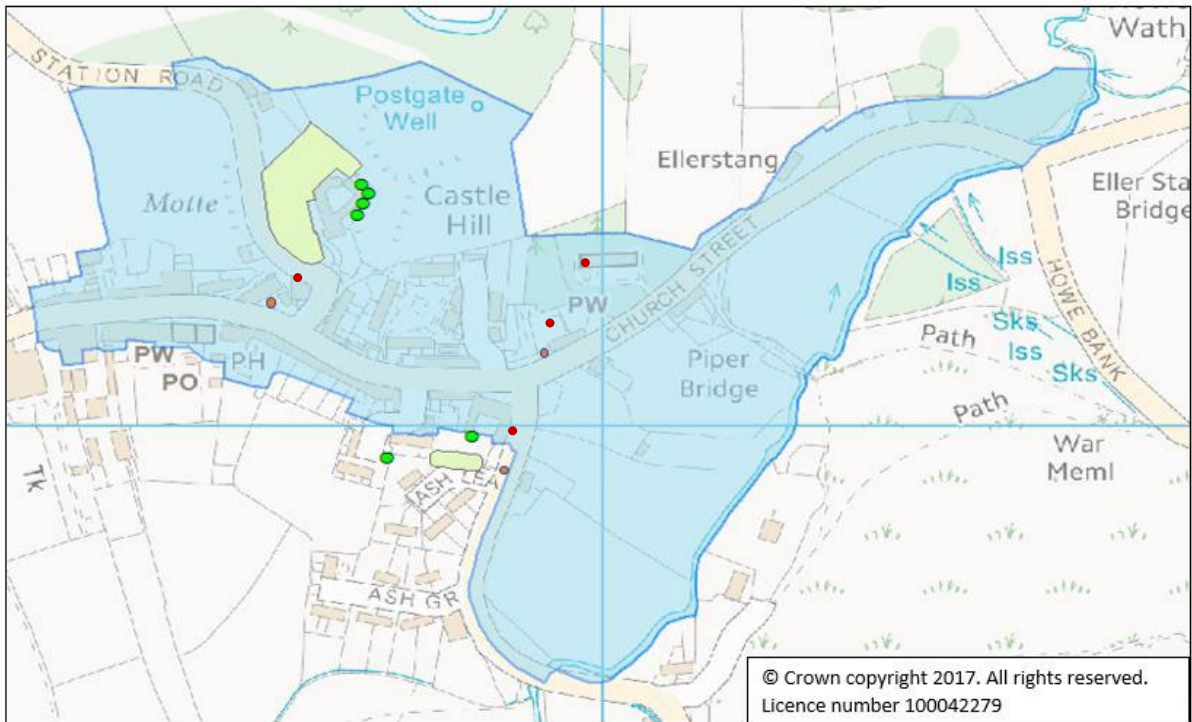


Figure 28: Existing Tree Preservation Orders (green dots) and red dots mark other significant trees that make a positive contribution to the streetscape.



Figure 29-31: Characterful trees within Castleton – church yard and Primrose Hill.

### 7.3 Boundaries

Most of the houses front on to the road or the grass swards and many have lovely modest timber gates and fences. In contrast, some Victorian houses have been designed with dwarf walls topped with ornate iron railings which equally provide character. The site of the tin chapel, now a seating area, still retains its railings, although some are in poor condition. The Old Chapel (now the British Legion) is also set within low stone walls, so that it can be seen from Station Road and the High Street. Castle Hill has its own grandiose but sweeping walls and modern gates with pillars topped with urns. The modern paving on the drive is very urban and contrasts with the stone flags, grass or tarmac seen elsewhere in the village. The concrete fencing around Primrose Hill is a practical safety barrier, inoffensive rather than characterful.



Figure 32-38: A variety of boundaries in Castleton, including stone, timber fences, stone steps, iron railings and gates.

Retaining walls along the roads are distinctive, usually of dressed stonework, often topped with vegetation and interrupted by field gates with stone gateposts. There is a mixture of drystone and mortared walls, but generally drystone is used for a boundary to a field. The boundary of Castle Hills to Station Road appears to have a ha-ha type wall topped with a later yew hedge. Prior to it being planted it must have protected views from the buildings on top of Castle Hills in the 18th century across the valley to the north, while keeping stock out of the gardens. Alternatively, it may have been a pragmatic

response to boundary treatment where ground levels were so different between the high castle site and the lower fields.

#### **Considerable significance**

- Green on Primrose Hill.
- Grassy swards on Station Road, Ashfield Road and between houses on Primrose Hill.
- Stone retaining walls.
- Stone trods in grass verges (Ashfield Road to the mill).
- Stone steps between ground levels and raised pavements.
- Stone gateposts .
- Stone flags.
- Curve to High Street

#### **Some significance**

- Iron railings.
- Green sitting area at junction (site of old tin church).
- Stone setts in parking areas.
- Trees on Primrose Hill green, Ashfield Lane and Church Street.

#### **Unknown significance**

- Ha-ha boundary on north edge of Castle Hills.

#### **Opportunities to conserve and enhance**

- Retain the Primrose Hill green space and the site of the old church as open green.
- Retain green sward between buildings on Primrose Hill and restrict hard surfacing to narrow stone pathways or trods.
- Retain defined roadside areas in traditional materials such as setts or flags and consider extending the use of these materials to reduce the impact of tarmac and create defined parking spaces.
- Retain grass swards to house frontages and resist attempts to pave over.
- Expose stone trods as historic features along Ashfield Road to the mill.
- Retain iron railings and seek to replace any lost during the war.
- Retain gateposts even where gateways are no longer required into fields, or reuse gateposts in new positions.
- Retain features such as drinking troughs set into walls (as seen on Station Road).
- Retain raised pavements and steps while seeking a balance between historic character and access for people with mobility difficulties.

- Extended or new boundary walls should reflect the existing materials and styles within the Conservation Area and retain any stone gateposts.
- Use traditional surface materials such as local stone flags rather than tarmac and concrete in new access areas.
- Withdraw permitted development allowing drives to be resurfaced in modern urban materials.
- The protected (scheduled) area of the castle should be extended to include surviving earthworks.
- The ha-ha on the north edge of Castle Hills may be an 18th century landscape feature that merits protection. Any substantial changes to the grounds would benefit from a Statement of Significance.
- Consider traditional road surface materials on the Clapper Bridge (the bridge also requires urgent repairs).
- The three identified trees should have additional protection through a Tree Preservation Order.

## 7.4 Vistas and Views

**In a nutshell: Primrose Hill; Castle Hill; views framed between buildings of countryside; old chapel site; hilltop position; views from surrounding moorland back to village.**

On approach, Castleton makes for a good higgledy-piggledy rooftop skyline. Along its single main street is the Downe Arms, former chapels and just outside the Conservation Area, the school, each interspersed with historic houses; all along a ridge and a steady incline. This ridge position creates ample opportunities for views out of the village and towards it. Most of these are framed between buildings but at the east end of the village, the site of the earlier Chapel of Ease is now a formal seating area with views south, east, and north.

The castle was located on a prominent hilltop too and this position is important in understanding its strategic location. However, the site is now well hidden from the street frontage and a row of trees along Station Road prevents views towards the castle hills. This combined with a lack of public access to the site makes it difficult to appreciate the castle either as a viewpoint or as the subject in a view. However, the views from Station Road across the valley give some idea of the intended views from the castle to the north and the views from the bridge at the bottom towards the village really convey the ridge setting of the village. It is clear here just how important the impact of rear extensions are on views towards the village.

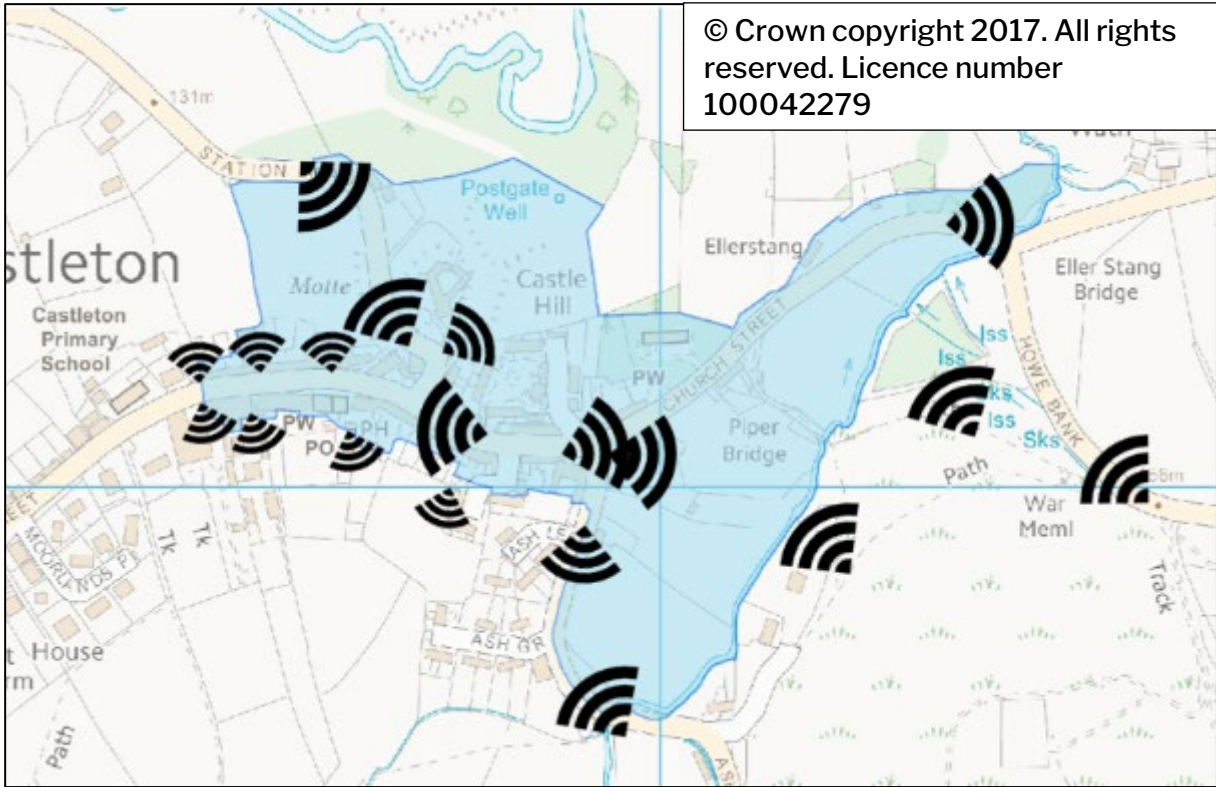


Figure 39: Significant views to, from and within the village.







Figures 40-44: Examples of the views around and looking into the village.

#### Considerable significance

- Views between buildings towards the surrounding countryside.
- Views from the seating area (former chapel site) at the east end of the village.
- Views of the village from the bridge on Station Road.
- Views from Station Road north.
- Views from Ashfield Lane towards the countryside.
- Views from Primrose Hill down Station Road and between the buildings.

#### Some significance

- Views of the site of the castle motte.
- Opportunities to conserve and enhance
- Any new development or alterations to existing buildings should consider its impact on the views shown on figure 9 and in particular on the views of the ridge that the village sits on.
- The strategic position of the village on a ridge and the castle on a hill should remain readable in the landscape.
- Views of the Castle motte from Station Road and from the surrounding countryside should be improved without adversely affecting the privacy of the residents there or any later significant landscape designs.

## 7.5 The Historic Buildings of Castleton

**In a nutshell: Georgian and Victorian houses, inn, chapels and farmhouses all one to three storeys high. Red pantile roofs, stone water tabling, stacks, kneelers, cast iron water goods, railings and street fronted properties. Timber panelled doors with polished brass or iron fixings, sash windows and the occasional bay, a few shop**

**windows and neo-Gothic arched windows. Sandstone masonry, herringbone tooling, erosion patterns, some brick.**

There are six listed buildings in the Conservation Area all of which are grade II. Grade II buildings are of special interest; 92% of all Listed Buildings are in this class and it is the most likely grade of listing for a homeowner.

The listed (grade II) Clapper Bridge on Ashfield Road/ Wandels Lane is linked with Howe Mill and may also have medieval origins, but was rebuilt, along with the mill in the late 18th or early 19th century. From the road, its architectural and historic interest is effectively obscured by the concrete and tarmac road surface (which is excluded from the listing). The large sandstone blocks which have been used to construct the bridge are dislodged on the west side of the bridge and the modern wooden posts that form a safety rail on the east side are no longer all fixed to the bridge structure and so are now hazardous.

The public house, the Downe Arms, is more representative of the architectural and historic interest on the Conservation Area. This too is Listed Grade II and is an early 19th century style retaining its late Georgian two and a half storey appearance but with later four pane windows to the ground and first floors. Similarly, no's 11 and 13 High Street represent a typical 18th century house, now subdivided, with characteristic red pantile roof, stone kneelers and water tabling and chimney stacks.

The row of cottages, the wall and outbuildings on the corner of Ashfield Road and the High Street occupy an important position at the crossroads and therefore make a strong contribution towards the historic character of the village. Again, the pantile roof with stone ridge, copings, kneelers and stacks, combined with coursed herringbone tooled sandstone reinforces the historic character of the village. In much the same way, Ivy House and Ivy Cottage on the opposite side of the road, also convey a strong Georgian character and an agricultural one as Ivy House is a former farmhouse. The little pigsty further down Ashfield Road is a delight and should be considered as part of the curtilage of these listed buildings.



Figures 45-48: Some of the listed buildings in Castleton – Left to right: The Clapper Bridge, Downe Arms public house, Cottage on Ashfield Road and 5 Ashfield Road.



Figures 49-51: Local buildings on interest, previously Old Robin Hood and Little John Inn (said to be the last meeting place of Robin Hood and Little John) with slit situated next to the original fireplace. Castle site.

The most recent listed building is the church of St. Michael and St. George dating to 1924. Hidden away from view by mature trees, its distinctive architectural style makes little contribution to the streetscape. The other listed buildings within the village are the school and master's house, but they are outside the Conservation Area. The majority of historic buildings in Castleton are therefore 18th and 19th century in date, but there is evidence of building traditions extending much further back in time than this and there are date stones above doorways suggesting 17th century phases of rebuilding too.

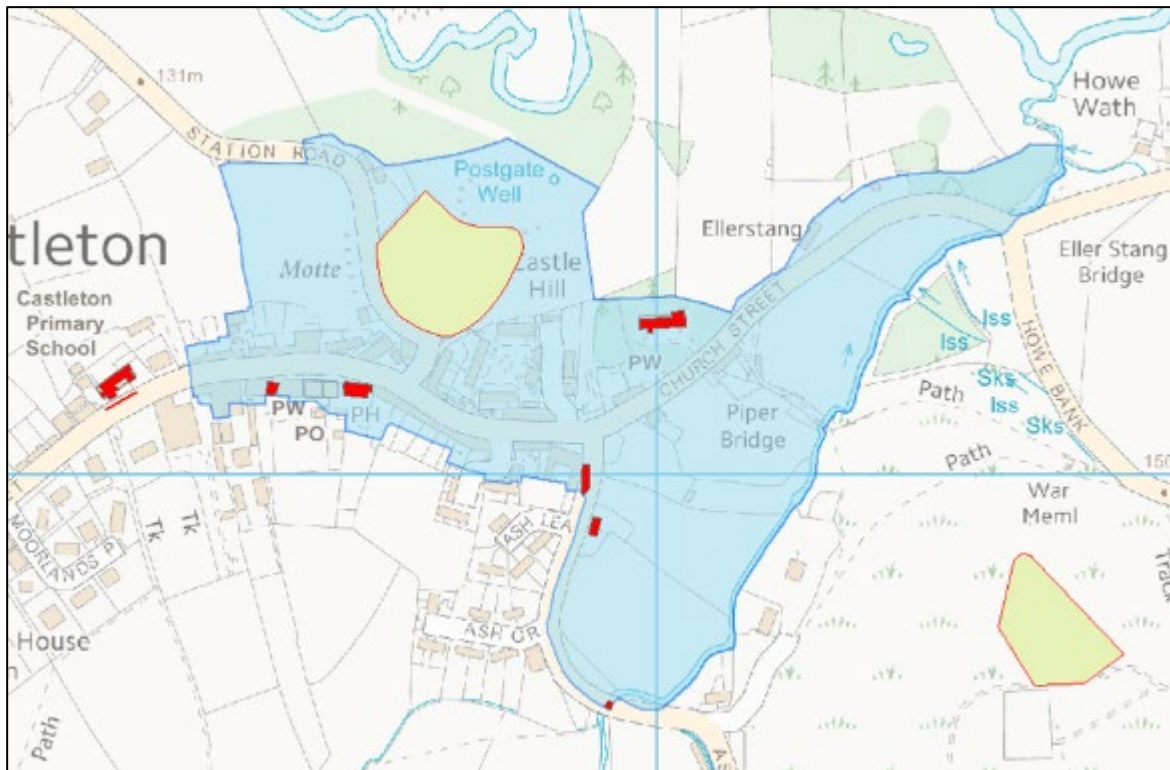


Figure 52: The listed buildings of Castleton (in red). The pale green areas are scheduled monuments which offer a higher level of protection than listing. The scheduled area in the village is the remains of the castle and the area to the SE is a prehistoric cairn field, possibly clearance cairns, burial cairns or a combination of both.

The earliest building in Castleton is the castle, although little survives of any buildings. Originally a timber structure, it was replaced in stone in the 12th century. This was largely demolished in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and the stone reused. Some sources suggest that the stone was reused to build Danby Castle which replaced it, but the ruins were possibly quarried again to provide stone for the church in the 1920s and decorated medieval stonework can be found in the buildings on Primrose Hill.

Local sandstone remains the predominant building material; the surrounding area has a number of small sandstone quarries which have produced stone for building since the 11th century<sup>11</sup>. Much of the stonework is worn with age, some herringbone pattern survives, and geological anomalies also create interesting grooves in some ashlar blocks caused by water erosion. The mid-20th century appears to have favoured ribbon pointing between ashlar blocks and this is now resulting in damage to the sandstone.

A few buildings have been constructed using brick. The Wesleyan Chapel of 1871 is in painted brick and the Co-Op building first floor is in unpainted brick. The parish meetings

<sup>11</sup> We know the names of some later local stonemasons who worked the quarries and must have built some of the present-day houses. Joseph Ford 1870-1944 became a stone mason after helping to build Cropton chapel and settled in Castleton. Fred Handley worked with his father who was mason to the Feversham estate building the Moorlands Hotel. Masons quarried in winter and built in spring and summer.

rooms are also partly in brick, but behind the street front where they make little visual impact.

Herringbone, geological features and ribbon pointing:



Figures 53-55: A variety of tooling styles and possibility of surface finishes.

Thatch was the traditional roofing material and was made from rye, or wheat straw in this area, although heather from the moors may also have been used. (The severed hand, known popularly as the Danby Hand of Glory, was found hidden in a wall of the thatched attic in Hawthorn Cottage on the High Street in Castleton in 1935, so thatch appears to have survived into the early 20th century.) The steep pitch of the mill (outside the Conservation Area) is suggestive of a formerly thatched roof and there are steep pitches surviving at Primrose hill too. Today the buildings use red pantile (or modern equivalents) or imported Welsh slate as a roofing material. Red pantile was introduced from about 1740 when they were imported from northern ports into Whitby but local tileries soon became established near Whitby and Pickering and carried along Eskdale and its tributary dales<sup>12</sup>. Eighteenth century buildings also use stone water tabling and kneelers on the gables; roofs are also adorned with chimney stacks to the ends and in some cases dormer windows and weathervanes.



<sup>12</sup> Hartley and Ingilby 1975, 3-6



Figures 56-57: Undulating roofscapes, pantiles, Welsh slate, water tabling, kneelers, chimney stacks, dormers, and a weathervane.

Today the village consists of terraces of stone cottages along a winding street. The character of these buildings are mainly domestic houses, with cottagey features rather than polite ones, mostly 18th and 19th century in date, but there are also agricultural buildings, an inn and former chapels. The listed Ivy House is a good example with its Georgian cottage attached and opposite, the listed farm has an owl hole in the gable end. In medieval times, it is likely that the village would have been dominated by agricultural buildings, and so where these survive, they hark back to an earlier building tradition which merits conservation. A number of rustic outbuildings also make a positive contribution to the historic character of the village, particularly where they are located on the roadside and highly visible.

## 7.6 Agricultural Character





Figures 58-62: Examples of agricultural dwellings, outbuildings, and features.

From the middle of the 18th century onwards the old cruck built houses began to be replaced by two storied, modest sized, four square, Georgian style houses and it is from this period onwards that the present building character in the village is derived. Most farms groups were not planned, but evolved as circumstances changed, but Francis Mewburn of the Howe, just outside the Conservation Area, introduced a courtyard design towards the end of the 18th century. This design helped to make farming more efficient by grouping buildings and spaces together for maximum efficiency<sup>13</sup>. However, this character is not apparent within the village itself and is better appreciated outside the Conservation Area.

The church of St. George and St. Michael is relatively recent dating to 1924-6 designed by Leslie Moore and using rock faced stonework (and according to some local sources, stonework from the castle)<sup>14</sup>. It makes virtually no contribution towards the streetscape despite being an attractive listed building, because the trees within the churchyard have grown too dense and too tall.

More modern buildings are generally hidden from the street front and because they don't reflect the traditional street pattern nor the characteristic materials and building form, many of them would have a negative impact on the Conservation Area if they were included.

## 7.7 Doors

Most door types in the village are traditional cottagey doors, mostly batten and plank with some glazing on modern doors. There are a few Georgian style six panel doors and Victorian four panel doors with polished brass or iron furnishings. Porches are in evidence, but there may have been more in the recent past as scarring above some doorways show where structures have been fixed but have since been removed. Homeowners have displayed some sensitivity in choosing modern replacements that fit in well with the character of the village. Over lights and fan lights are not common but they can be found and appear to have been added to 18th century buildings.

<sup>13</sup> Ord 1846, 340

<sup>14</sup> Pevsner 1966, 118-119



Figures 63-70: A range of traditional doors within Castleton.

## 7.8 Windows and Shopfronts

Traditional window types are to be found throughout the Conservation Area, although there have been some losses where plastic window replacements have been used. The traditional Yorkshire sash can be found including some leaded glass examples; the multi pane sash is much in evidence as is the Victorian four pane sash. There are a few shop windows including one on the High Street with an attractive stone bench running below the window.







Figures 71-82: A range of traditional windows and shopfronts in Castleton. A clear hierarchy of windows from ground to upper floor and a mix of modest and ornate styles and detailing.

### Considerable significance

- Modest scale of buildings, mostly One to three storeys high.
- Street fronted or near street fronted properties.
- Broken roof lines matching local topography.
- Predominance of stone building materials, usually good quality ashlar and reused masonry.
- Predominance of red pantile, Welsh slate and chimney stacks.
- Stone kneelers and water tabling.
- Georgian symmetry.
- Traditional timber window styles – Yorkshire sliding sash, lead glazing, multi pane sash and four pane Victorian sash, multi pane bays for example.
- Traditional timber doors panelled or plank and batten, polished brass or iron door furniture.
- Cast iron rainwater goods.
- Date stones.
- Agricultural character (barns, mounting blocks, milk stands).
- Gable attic window openings to 18th century houses.

- Traditional outbuildings.

### **Some significance**

- Brick buildings and brick and stone combinations (stone to opening surrounds).
- Traditional shop fronts.
- Over lights to doors.
- Glazed openings to doors, half glazed mid-20th century timber doors.

### **Limited significance**

- Porches.
- Dormers.

### **Opportunities to conserve and enhance**

- The use of plastic windows and doors prior to the 2006 withdrawal of permitted development rights has eroded some historic character in the Conservation Area. This process should have been arrested, but in the meantime, homeowners need more advice on the effectiveness of secondary glazing and traditional materials regarding insulation and long-term maintenance.
- Any new development needs to be modest in scale and reference traditional building materials (mostly stone built and pantile pitched roofing, with chimneys); most development has traditionally been street fronted. New development should retain the distinction between the irregular street pattern of Primrose Hill and the linear development of the rest of the Conservation Area.
- Cast iron rainwater goods should be retained or replaced with like for like materials when defective.
- Information on appropriate pointing materials and styles will help homeowners protect the building fabric from damage.
- Some tree management around the churchyard could help to restore views of the church while still providing a green surround and wildlife habitat.

## **7.9 The Little Details**

**In a nutshell:** date stones, decorated gates and gateposts and door furniture; railings, sun dial, mounting block, drinking troughs, horse tie rings, cast iron rainwater goods, weathervanes and wall mounted lanterns, pub sign, stone trods and milk stand.

Historic and architectural interest in the Conservation Area is derived from small features that individually might make little impact, but collectively contribute considerably to its character. These are the sorts of things that add local distinctiveness and texture to the built environment and, often, a sense of connection with history – these can all too easily be overlooked, replaced, ‘improved’ or ignored, adding to a subtle

sanitisation and erosion of local distinctiveness. These are the sorts of things we do not always notice until they are gone.



Figures 83-87: Small and often hidden details that positively contribute to the character of the area. Some included here are horse ties, stone mounting blocks, building details and cast-iron painted rainwater goods.

#### Considerable significance

- Mounting block and milk stand.
- Decorative cast iron rainwater goods.
- Tradition door furniture.
- Date stones.
- Stone gateposts.
- Decorative iron gates.
- Railings to house fronts.
- Stone steps and trods.
- Wall mounted lanterns.

#### Some significance

- Sundial.
- Horse tie rings.

#### **Limited significance**

- Modern weathervane.
- Hanging signs

#### **Opportunities to conserve and enhance**

- One of the horse troughs on Station Road could be restored as part of a local community initiative.
- A number of historic agricultural features such as mounting blocks or dairy stands no longer have a use and so are vulnerable – these should be protected from removal or demolition.
- Stone trods should be retained and the grass cut back to expose them.

## **8.0 Recommendations for Future Management**

The Conservation Area Character Appraisal has identified what the architectural and historic interest of the Conservation Area is and how that contributes towards its significance. This process has flagged up a number of features which merit conservation and enhancement and which should be taken into consideration in any management decisions in the future. These ‘opportunities to conserve and enhance’ have been included in the main report so that it can be clearly seen why they are being recommended because they follow on from the statements of significance. For ease of use, they are duplicated here.

### **8.1 Conserving and Enhancing the Street Plan, the Surfaces, Open Spaces and Boundaries of the Conservation Area**

- Retain the Primrose Hill green space and the site of the old church as open green.
- Retain green sward between buildings on Primrose Hill and restrict hard surfacing to narrow stone pathways or trods.
- Retain defined roadside areas in traditional materials such as setts or flags and consider extending the use of these materials to reduce the impact of tarmac and create defined parking spaces.
- Retain grass swards to house frontages and resist attempts to pave over.
- Expose stone trods as historic features along Ashfield Road to the mill.
- Retain iron railings and seek to replace any lost during the war.
- Retain gateposts even where gateways are no longer required into fields, or reuse gateposts in new positions.

- Retain features such as drinking troughs set into walls (as seen on Station Road).
- Retain raised pavements and steps while seeking a balance between historic character and access for people with mobility difficulties.
- Extended or new boundary walls should reflect the existing materials and styles within the Conservation Area and retain any stone gateposts.
- Use traditional surface materials such as local stone flags rather than tarmac and concrete in new access areas.
- Withdraw permitted development allowing drives to be resurfaced in modern urban materials.
- The protected (scheduled) area of the castle should be extended to include surviving earthworks.
- The ha-ha on the north edge of Castle Hills may be an 18th century landscape feature that merits protection. Any substantial changes to the grounds would benefit from a Statement of Significance.
- Consider traditional road surface materials on the Clapper Bridge (the bridge also requires urgent repairs).
- The three identified trees should have additional protection through a Tree Preservation Order (see figure 13 below).

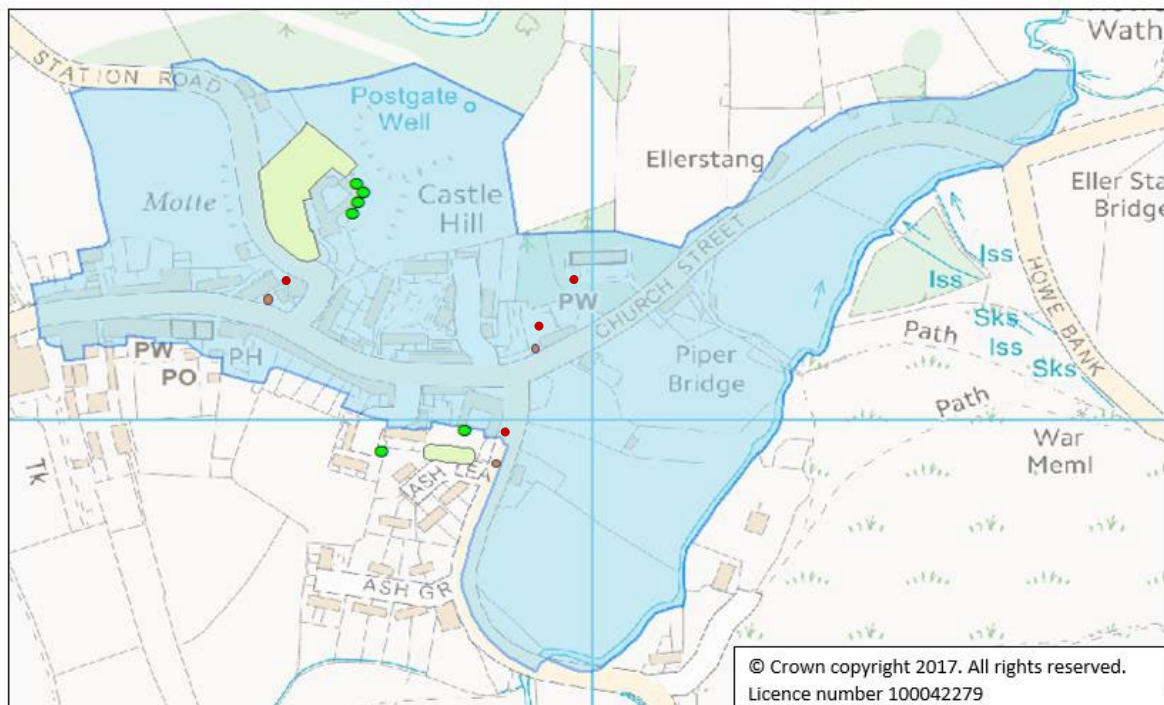


Figure 88: Existing tree preservation orders are shown as green dots; proposed new TPOs are shown as red dots.

## 8.2 Conserving and Enhancing the Archaeology of the Conservation Area

- Developments within the Conservation Area may need to be informed by archaeological work and in some cases, further archaeological excavation carried out before or during development.
- Developments affecting historic buildings may need to be informed by a Statement of Significance.
- The designated area of the castle should be extended.
- The Conservation Area boundary should be extended to include the mill buildings, the mill leats and the stone trods leading to the mill (see above).

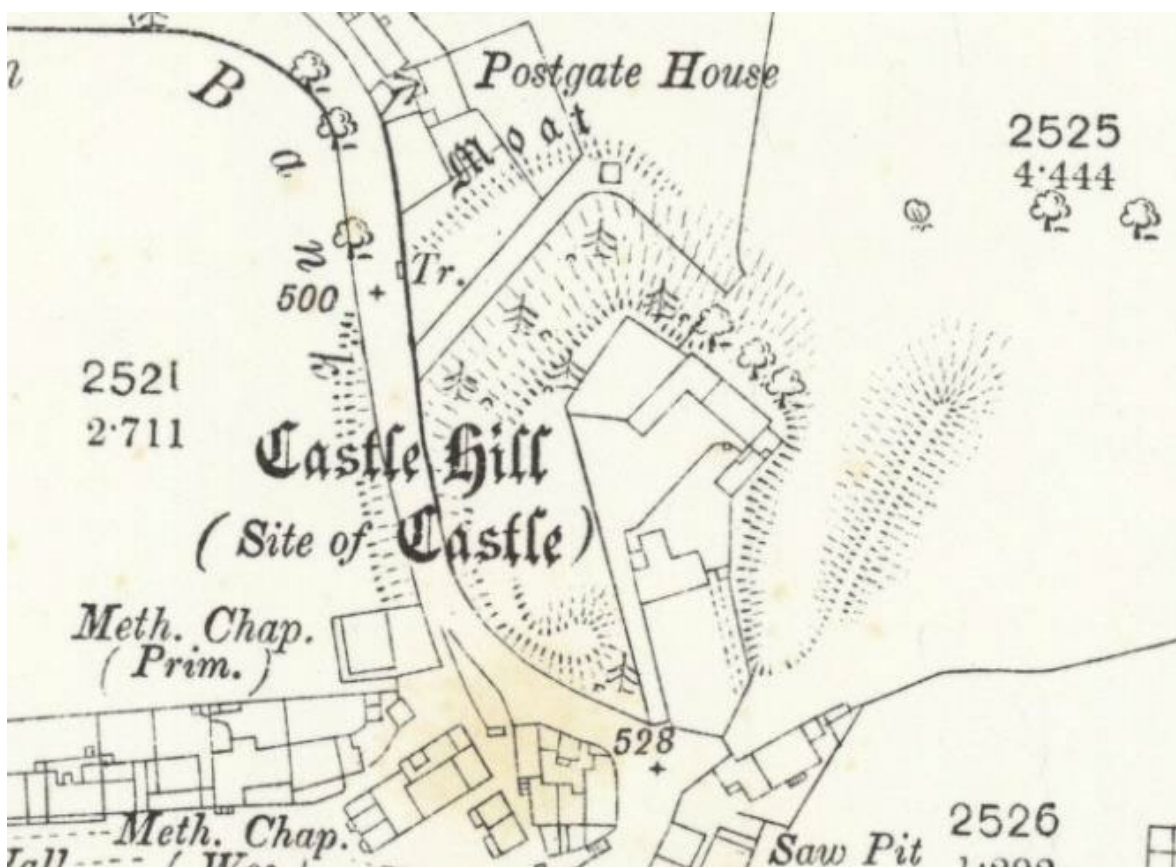


Figure 89: Top Above: the survey of the castle earthworks for the 1892 OS map.



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Figure 90: Proposed extension to the scheduled area to better reflect the archaeological potential of the castle remains (bright green with red outline).

### 8.3 Conserving and enhancing the Historic Buildings of the Conservation Area

- The use of plastic windows and doors prior to the 2006 withdrawal of permitted development rights, has eroded some historic character in the Conservation Area. This process should have been arrested, but in the meantime, homeowners need more advice on the effectiveness of secondary glazing and traditional materials regarding insulation and long-term maintenance.
- Any new development needs to be modest in scale and reference traditional building materials (mostly stone built and pantile pitched roofing, with chimneys); most development has traditionally been street fronted. New development should retain the distinction between the irregular street pattern of Primrose Hill and the linear development of the rest of the Conservation Area.
- Cast iron rainwater goods should be retained or replaced with like for like materials when defective.
- Information on appropriate pointing materials and styles will help homeowners protect the building fabric from damage.
- Some tree management around the churchyard could help to restore views of the church while still providing a green surround and wildlife habitat.

### 8.4 Conserving and enhancing the little architectural and historic details

- One of the horse troughs on Station Road could be restored as part of a local community initiative.
- A number of historic agricultural features such as mounting blocks or dairy stands no longer have a use and so are vulnerable – these should be protected from removal or demolition.
- Stone trods should be retained and the grass cut back to expose them.

### 8.5 Conserving and Enhancing the Vistas and Views of the Conservation Area

- Any new development or alterations to existing buildings should consider its impact on the views shown below and in particular on the views of the ridge that the village sits on.
- The strategic position of the village on a ridge and the castle on a hill should remain readable in the landscape.

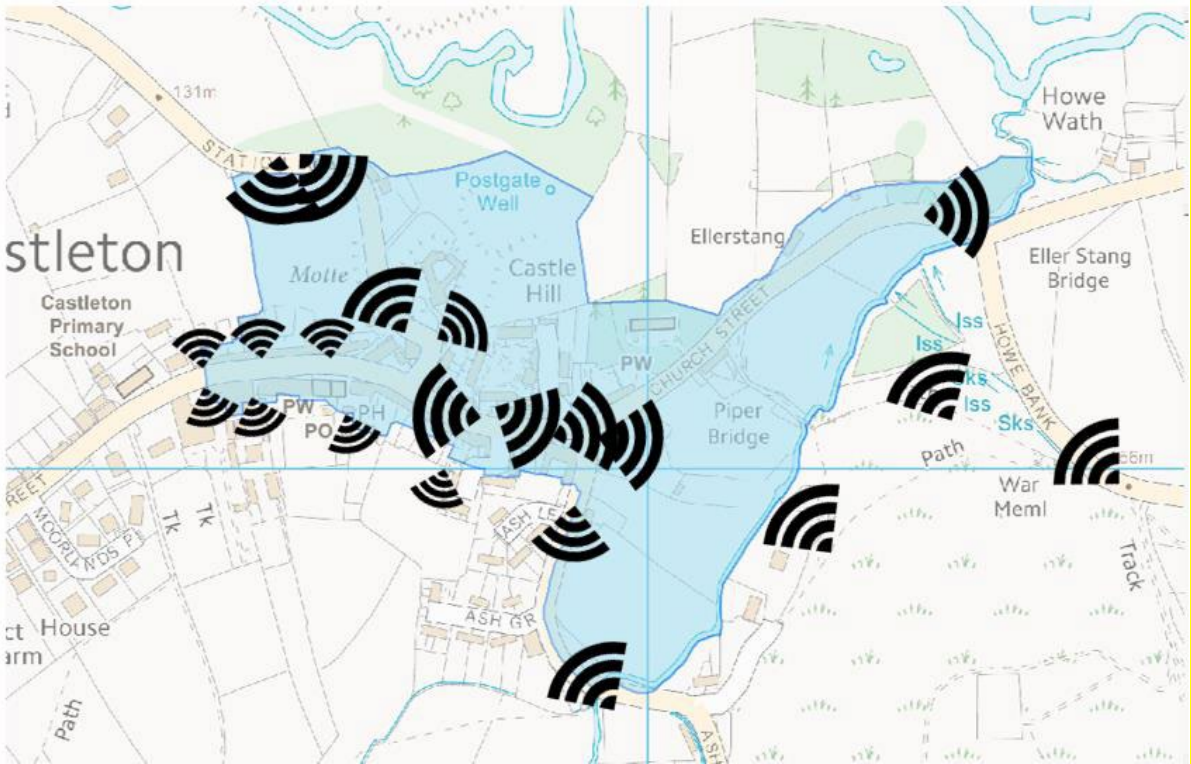


Figure 91: Significant views to, from and within the village.



## 9.0 Recommended Boundary Changes

The Conservation Area Appraisal process is also designed to review the boundaries of the Conservation Area. This will be done in consultation with the local community, but the proposed changes are as follows.

1. The Conservation Area should be extended to include the mill buildings to the southeast, the site of the former mill pond, sluice gates and a sample of the mill leats. This is because the mill was an integral part of the medieval village and was only located outside its immediate boundary because it relied on waterpower. Although the mill went on to be extended, the historic associations between the mill and the village goes back at least 800 years. Although the mill buildings have been modernised, they still retain some features of architectural interest such as the steeply pitched roof of the older mill building suggesting that it was once thatched. It was suggested to also include Piper Bridge.
2. The current boundary runs down the middle of Ashfield Road. However, there are hints that the route to the mill was once much more rustic, perhaps simply a track formed by stone trods. Some trods are still visible; others may be buried or destroyed by road improvements. This grassy verge area also includes a fine mature tree which makes a positive contribution to the streetscape. It is therefore recommended that the boundary line includes the full width of Ashfield Road and the grass verge on its west side.
3. The west extent of the Conservation Area includes the extent of the village before settlement became more dispersed. As a result, it excludes the listed school building and master's house built in 1874. This building has considerable street presence with its neo-Gothic and Italianate style and stone walls and railings. This is adequately protected by its listed status, however. Just west of the school are a pair of fine 18th century stone houses, both in Castleton characteristic stone, with stone water tabling, kneelers and chimney stacks. One has a roof of pantile, the other Welsh slate. There has been a loss of some traditional architectural features here, but their inclusion would create opportunities for the owners to replace them, should they wish, in due course. There is little of architectural merit in the immediate surroundings to suggest moving the boundary any further, but across the road is a vacant garage plot that may be the subject of development proposals in the future. If this was included in the Conservation Area, it would create more opportunities to ensure that whatever was built here reflected the character of the Conservation Area.

The plan below shows the proposed extended areas.

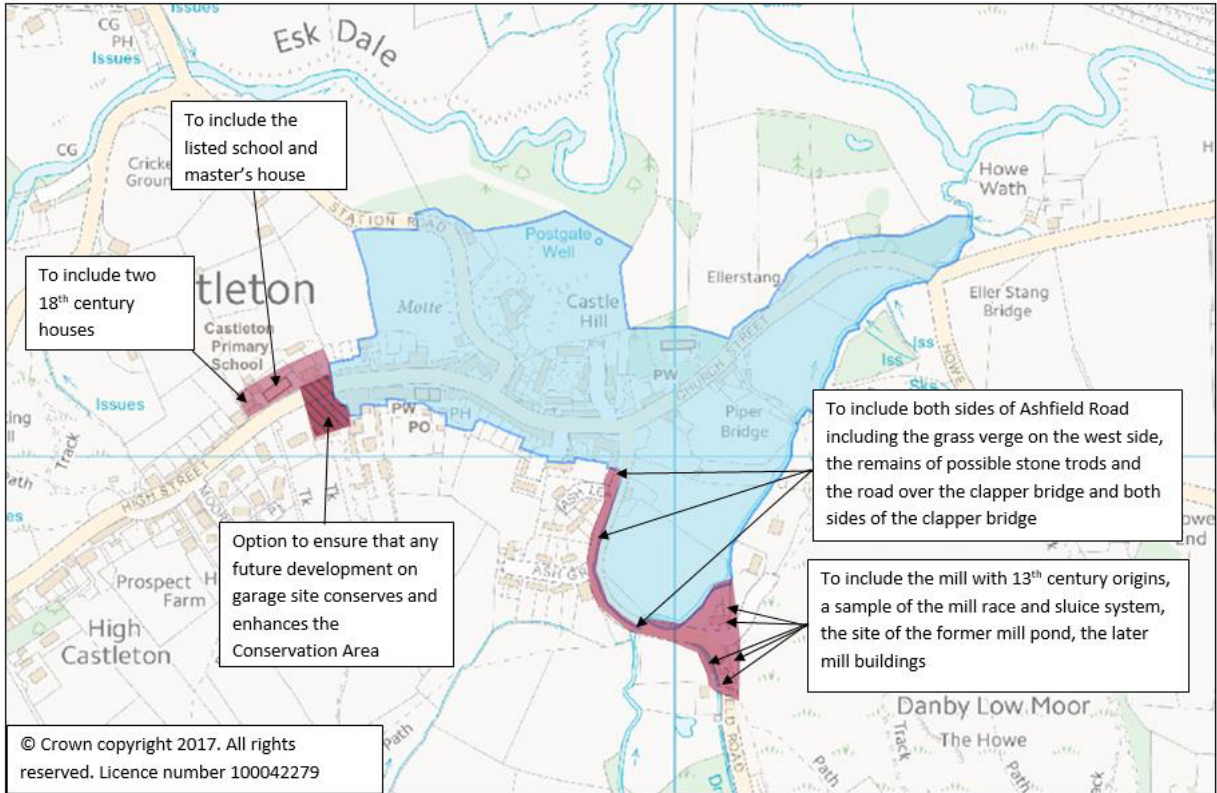


Figure 92: Proposed boundary changes to increase the Conservation Area (shown in red).



Figures 93-95: The primary school on the outskirts of the Conservation Area.

## 10.0 Conclusion

Castleton Conservation Area was designated in 1995 for its architectural and historic interest. This is briefly summarised as the village's historic associations with the castle and its strategic position on a ridgetop at the head of the Esk Valley. The local vernacular building style has traditionally used local materials such as sandstone as the main building material. Prior to the 18th century, the most common roofing material was thatch, but red pantile on pitched roofs now predominates, although the advent of the railway in the late 19th century, has also created opportunities to import materials from further afield. The majority of buildings are 18th – 19th century in appearance but may mask earlier fabric within.

Based on the street plan, it appears that the earliest development in Castleton was around the castle and then it spread down towards the mill, before extending up along what is now the High Street. The lack of large-scale modern development in the village's historic core means that this evolution is still possible to discern. There is also strong evidence for the agricultural origins of many of these buildings.

Green spaces make an important contribution to the Conservation Area but are mostly small in scale inside the village, however the open countryside provides an important backdrop to many of the views from the village. A number of trees already carry Tree Preservation Order status but there are few individual trees within the village that add to the interest and are not currently protected in this way, and these have been highlighted. The appraisal has drawn out what makes a positive contribution to the Conservation Area and forms its present-day character. Following on from this, recommendations have been made to help conserve and enhance these features of significance. Some boundary changes have also been recommended to better reflect the significance of the Conservation Area.



Figure 96: A view on the ridge looking into the village.

## 11.0 Appendix and Acknowledgements

National Planning Policy Framework

The Town and Country planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (69, 70, 71 & 72)

Historic England Advice Note 1 Conservation Area Appraisal, Designation and Management (2019)

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Draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan written by Caroline Hardie, Archaeo-Environment Ltd 2017. Comments can be sent to

Archaeo-Environment Ltd for North York Moors National Park Authority

## 12.0 Management Overview

### Development Management

The Local Planning Authority are dedicated to managing Conservation Areas in accordance with the above detailed Planning Policy and Legislation. Development in a Conservation Area is controlled under the requirements of the General Permitted Developments Orders, Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Advice on development within a conservation area is available on the Authority's website. It is also recommended to submit a 'pre-planning application' to determine if planning permission is needed and any constraints upon development, before submitting an application. Planning Enquiries can be sent to [planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

### Archaeology

Developments on a small and large scale have the potential to impact upon archaeological remains. Any application for development will be subject to meeting archaeological requirements in the submission, determination and post-decision periods. The Authority's Historic Environment Records and their specialist archaeological advice team can be found on the North York Moors National Park Authority Website. Enquiries can be sent to: [conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

### Nature Conservation and Wildlife

The Authority will determine applications for development in accordance with the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, section 15 of the NPPF (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment). Enquiries can be sent to: [conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

### Trees

Trees in the Conservation Area are protected by the designation where they have a stem diameter greater than 75mm (3 inches) when measured at 1.5 metres (5 feet) above ground level. Anyone wishing to prune or remove a tree must seek the necessary permissions from the Authority. Enquiries can be sent to: [conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:conservation@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

### Building Conservation

The current Conservation Area is covered by an Article 4 Direction, for further details on what this covers please find it on the website [northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://northyorkmoors.org.uk), or email the Building Conservation Team. The building Conservation team provide specialist advice on development to listed buildings and within Conservation Area. General enquiries can be sent to [building@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:building@northyorkmoors.org.uk) and applications for specialist pre-application advice can be submitted via the Authority's website. Information on Conservation Areas [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk)