

These are key features in the conservation area and the points relate to the numbered areas on the map.

- 1 St Catherine's Church was built in 1907 on the foundations of an earlier church of 1827. The stone came from Swanage on the Isle of Purbeck, with the finer dressings around windows and on corners being Chilmark (from Wiltshire). Despite its late date the church is in the conventional Gothic Revival style of the later 19th century. The architect was John Oldrid Scott from the famous Scott family, leading exponents of the Gothic style.
- 2 The water tower was built soon after the expansion of the gardens started in the 1920's to hold a major water supply from a borehole. It has a tile-hung upper section above the brickwork and a steeply-pitched slate-covered pyramidal spire.



The old National School of 1837

- 3 The buildings of the 1820's in the local buff brick use architectural features sparingly, and the overall impression is of simple and plain housing. Many houses have dentilled courses below eaves and most chimneys have projecting oversailing courses. Rare in this area, some cottages have horizontally sliding sash windows.
- 4 Specimen trees such as the maple in the grounds of Marise Cottage and the lime on the road junction near The Old Vicarage combine with large forest trees like oaks and planes to dominate the street scene. Some, if threatened by the prospect of development, will have Tree Preservation Orders served as happened with a yew at Daphne Cottage, and a plane and an oak at The Booby.
- 5 Designing extensions to be in keeping needs care, and matching the forms and materials of existing buildings is especially important where there is such a predominant style and brick as in Exbury. A very successful extension is at Daphne Cottage, where everything has been done correctly. Comparison with some other local extensions proves that 'a miss is as good as a mile' when it comes to selecting a new brick to match a distinctive local brick such as the buffs used here in the 1820's.



An approach into Exbury under oak trees



Later village housing in red brick



The detailing of a cottage porch



Village housing of the 1820's

These are some of the things that make Exbury special - they need to be looked after:

History

- The Estate village, created over a short period with common architectural style and detailing, is important for that reason.
- Despite original uses having ceased, the former range of building types is still obvious and their characters should be respected in all work affecting them.

Buildings

- The 1820's buff brick buildings are smaller, lower and severely plain in character with shallow slate roofs, some M-shaped in profile, and simple side-hung casement windows.
- Later housing is in red brick with hipped, clay-tiled roofs and dormers. It is reminiscent of housing of the period in garden suburbs.
- Although with pediments planted onto their gables, the two lodges are also plain.
- Despite use as a private house the old National School retains its separate entrances for boys and girls.
- The finest building is The Vicarage with ornate timber bargeboards and finials, and dramatic stacks rising out of steeply pitched slate roofs.

Landscape/Townscape

- Trees are the dominant feature of the landscape. They contain and shape the views along the streets. Besides massive oaks, there are many planted specimen trees (maples, limes and others).
- Picket fences and hedges characterise many road frontages. The exception is the plain iron railing around the lodges, leading to ornate gates at North Lodge.
- The water tower, more prominent in winter, looms over the central road junction.

Setting

- A wooded landscape on the roads into Exbury means that the village is revealed suddenly and seemingly at the last moment.
- The roadside copses north and south of the entrance to the Estate yard importantly prevent any view from the village into the nurseries and the working environment surrounding them.