



The Hundred Parishes

An introductory article about CONSERVATION AREAS

Conservation Areas were introduced in 1967. District councils are responsible for designating them. The area must have special architectural and/or historic importance that merits protection. The aim is to protect an area rather than single buildings. Within each Conservation Area, there will generally be individual buildings that have additional protection, classified as Listed Buildings. There may also be a Scheduled Monument, or trees with a Tree Preservation Order, or buildings or spaces that have been designated as Assets of Community Value. There are varying degrees of protection for each of these designations, all aimed at preserving our heritage for future generations.

Uttlesford District Council covers around half of the Hundred Parishes area. The Council has designated 33 Conservation Areas within the Hundred Parishes. For each, it has published an appraisal that defines the area covered and explains the reasons for designation. (see <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/conservation-area-appraisals>) These appraisals are often a helpful source for the kind of information provided in the route descriptions for walks that can be downloaded from www.hundredparishes.org.uk.

East Hertfordshire has the second biggest representation within the Hundred Parishes and this district council has designated 26 Conservation Areas here. Their appraisals are also available and provide valuable insight. (see <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-areas>)

Similar appraisals are available from the other district councils which are represented within the Hundred Parishes: South Cambridgeshire, Braintree, North Herts, Chelmsford and Epping Forest. Within South Cambs, Linton has the only “Outstanding Conservation Area” designation, including Linton’s long High Street and some lanes on either side. Much of this area is explored on Walk 182 whose route covers less than 2 miles.

Our towns and villages are usually best explored on foot and each is included in at least one of the Hundred Parishes routes. If you are able to get out and about, please try them.

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Any comments or suggestions for improvement may be submitted by using the Feedback form on the website. The website has many short articles on various aspects of The Hundred Parishes, as well as introductions to individual parishes and to a number of local celebrities, and an extensive What’s On section. More than a hundred walk route descriptions can be freely downloaded, with each of the hundred parishes featuring in at least one walk.