

# Wennington: Conservation Area Assessment

## Why is Wennington Conservation Area special?

Wennington is a village with medieval origins, situated along the River Wennington near the Yorkshire border. Wennington appears in the Domesday Book as 'Winnictune' and part of the manor was held by Ulf in 1066. Through the medieval period Wennington formed part of the ecclesiastical parish of Melling and the Hornby Castle estate. Similar to other settlements in the Lune valley, the village became impoverished in the post-medieval period by Roman Catholic association of many families and their Royalist loyalty in the Civil War.

The boundary of the Conservation Area encompasses the main settlement situated north and south of the River Wenning. The arrangement of buildings in the village follows a confluence of three tributary roads – from Melling to the west, Bentham to the east and Tatham to the south. The boundary also expands to Wennington Hall and former deer park to the west.

The main part of the village originated as an agricultural community in affiliation with the Hall and later diversified into small scale industries. There is relatively little documented about the village itself, but many buildings date from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and are a mixture of residential and former agricultural, industrial and commercial buildings. The village is characterised by the abundance of open and green space including Wennington Green, the riverbanks and the field enclosures surrounding the village. In 1849 a branch of the North Western Railway opened to the south east of the village and the station was rebuilt and expanded in 1865.

Wennington Hall is a country house, built c.1868 on the site of an earlier house. The building was possibly designed by local architect Paley in a Tudor revival style. The building, now a school, is surrounded by a former deer park and garden.

## General

- Rural setting of a village near the Yorkshire border along the River Wenning
- Sparse density of the village due to large areas of open green spaces along the river
- Mature trees along the riverbank
- Historic association of Wennington manor in the medieval period and development of the agricultural farming community to the south east
- Tudor revival style of the hall and possible association with local architect Paley
- Traditional character of houses in the village; buildings predominantly constructed in sandstone walling and slate and stone slate roofing
- Former agricultural and industrial buildings converted to residential use
- **Historic association of the Marsden family with Catholic tradition in dissolution and Royalists in the Civil War**

## Important buildings and features

- Wennington Hall (Grade II) - a large Tudor revival style country house, now a school, which along with the surrounding parkland dominates the west part of the village

- Village pound (Grade II) - a 19<sup>th</sup> century stone walled structure to hold stray livestock
- Oak and Garden Cottage (Grade II) - a good example of two late-17<sup>th</sup> century houses with an attached former barn in North Lancashire
- Station buildings - the station buildings date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and Station Cottages (Grade II) pre-date the rail
- Crazy Cow - formerly known as Fosters Arms Inn. The building is a late-19<sup>th</sup> century public house which dominates the central area of the village
- Nether View - Airey-type pre-fabricated houses dating from the post-war era, one with the original horizontal concrete cladding on
- Wennington Bridge (Grade II) - an early-19<sup>th</sup> century sandstone ashlar bridge with three segmental arches over the river
- Boundary stone (Grade II) - early-19<sup>th</sup> century boundary stone with the parish of Tatham

**Conservation Area Name**

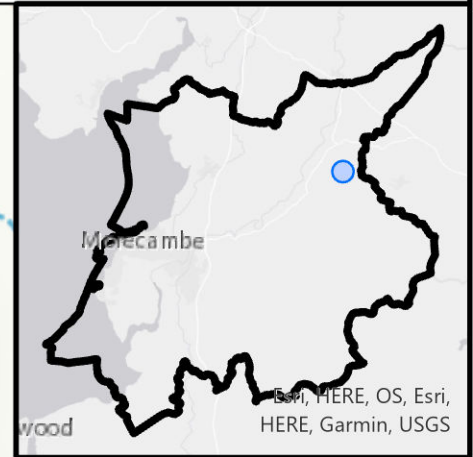
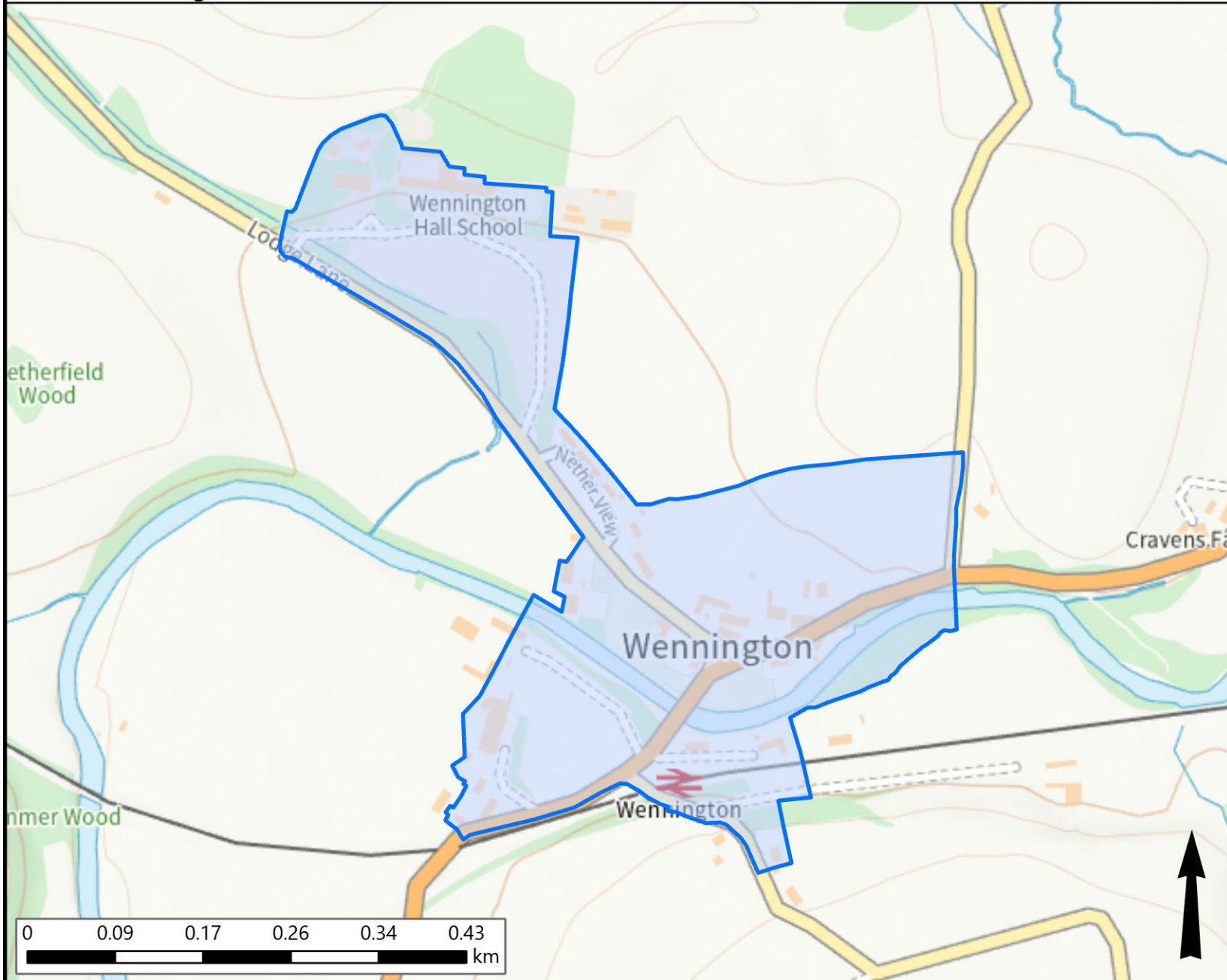
**Area (ha)**

**Designation Date**

Wennington

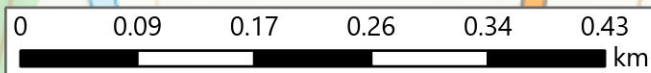
17.43

1981



**Legend**

- Conservation Areas
- Lancaster District Boundary



© Crown copyright and database rights 2023 Ordnance Survey 100025403.

Scale: 1:5,500, if printed on A4

Date Printed: 17/01/2023