

Embsay Conservation Area Appraisal

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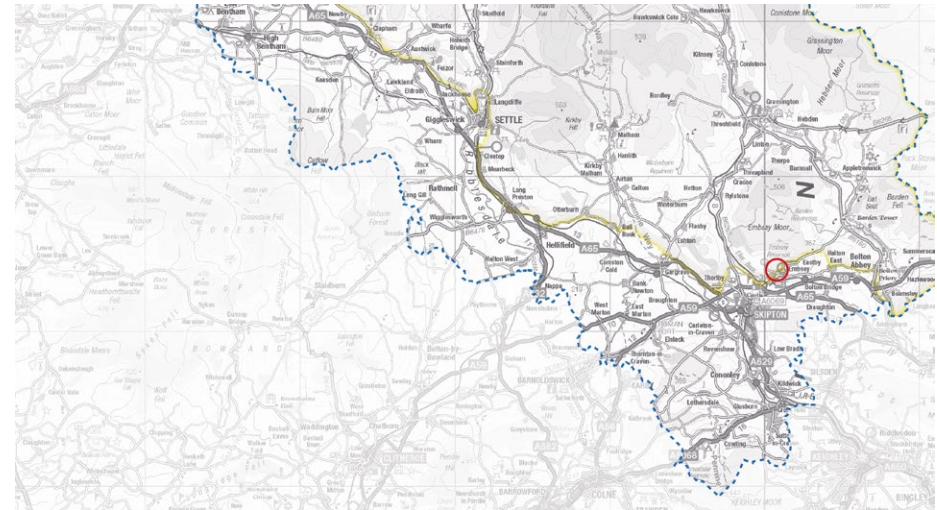
1.0 Overview

1.1 Purpose and use

Conservation area appraisals help Craven District Council and local communities to preserve the special character and appearance of conservation areas.

They do this by providing homeowners, developers, Council officers and other interested parties with a framework against which future development proposals in the conservation area can be assessed and determined.

A conservation area appraisal outlines the history of an area and explains what makes it special. It identifies the elements that make up the special character and appearance of the area, and those that detract from it, and provides recommendations for the area's management. This may include changes to its boundaries, where appropriate. A conservation area appraisal is not a history or detailed description of a place. It contains sufficient information to support effective management and decision making in the planning system.



Location of Embsay



View up to Embsay Crag

In this way, appraisals support the District Council's legal duty (under section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990) to prepare proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas and to consult the public about those proposals.

You can find further information about conservation areas and the methodology used to prepare this appraisal, together with a general introduction to the history, landscape, buildings and settlement forms of Craven, in the document *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals* which can be downloaded from the Craven District Council website.

NOTE: the northern half of Embsay village falls within the administration of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. For coherency and completeness this Appraisal describes the whole Conservation Area, but the open space assessment is restricted to that the part within Craven District Council's authority.

1.2 Overview and special interest of the conservation area

The village of Embsay sits in an exposed position on the moor to the south of Embsay Crag. The Conservation Area includes the linear settlement of the historic village which runs along an east – west axis. To the north the looming mass of the Crag is ever-present and to the south the Moor continues to slope away with long views across the valley to Skipton Moor. The visual and historical interaction with this landscape setting contributes powerfully to the character of the Conservation Area.


It is largely the combination of farming and the 19th century textile industry that gives the Conservation Area its spatial form and built character and appearance. Beautifully set amidst fields to the north east is the parish church of St Mary and beyond that on Kirk Lane is the hamlet of Embsay Kirk, which is the site of a 12th century priory.

Designation date: 1986

Appraisal adopted: 2023

How to use the interactive conservation area map

The interactive map on the following page contains a series of layers, each displaying a different piece of information. The elements include: the conservation area boundary, a Victorian Ordnance Survey map, listed buildings, landmarks, significant views, archaeology analysis, historic characterisation and open space assessment. The document *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals* on the Craven District Council website lists the sources of this information.

These layers can be hidden and revealed in any combination, in order to illustrate and compare aspects of the Appraisal. This is achieved using the 'Layers panel', which is displayed by clicking the 'Layers' button  on the left-hand side of the screen. On the panel, click the small box alongside each layer title to hide or reveal that layer.

Note: interactive maps do not currently work on some browsers or pdf readers, or on the version of Adobe Reader which is used on many mobile devices such

as iPads and mobile phones. You are recommended to download the pdf on to a computer and open with Adobe software, which can be downloaded for free.

Navigating this electronic document

This pdf contains features to assist navigation:

Click the contents page to reach individual sections, or use the 'bookmarks panel'.

Follow hyperlinks - identified by [blue text](#) – to online resources and documents or other parts of the report.

Use buttons at the bottom of each page to:

Contents return to the contents page

Map access the layered map



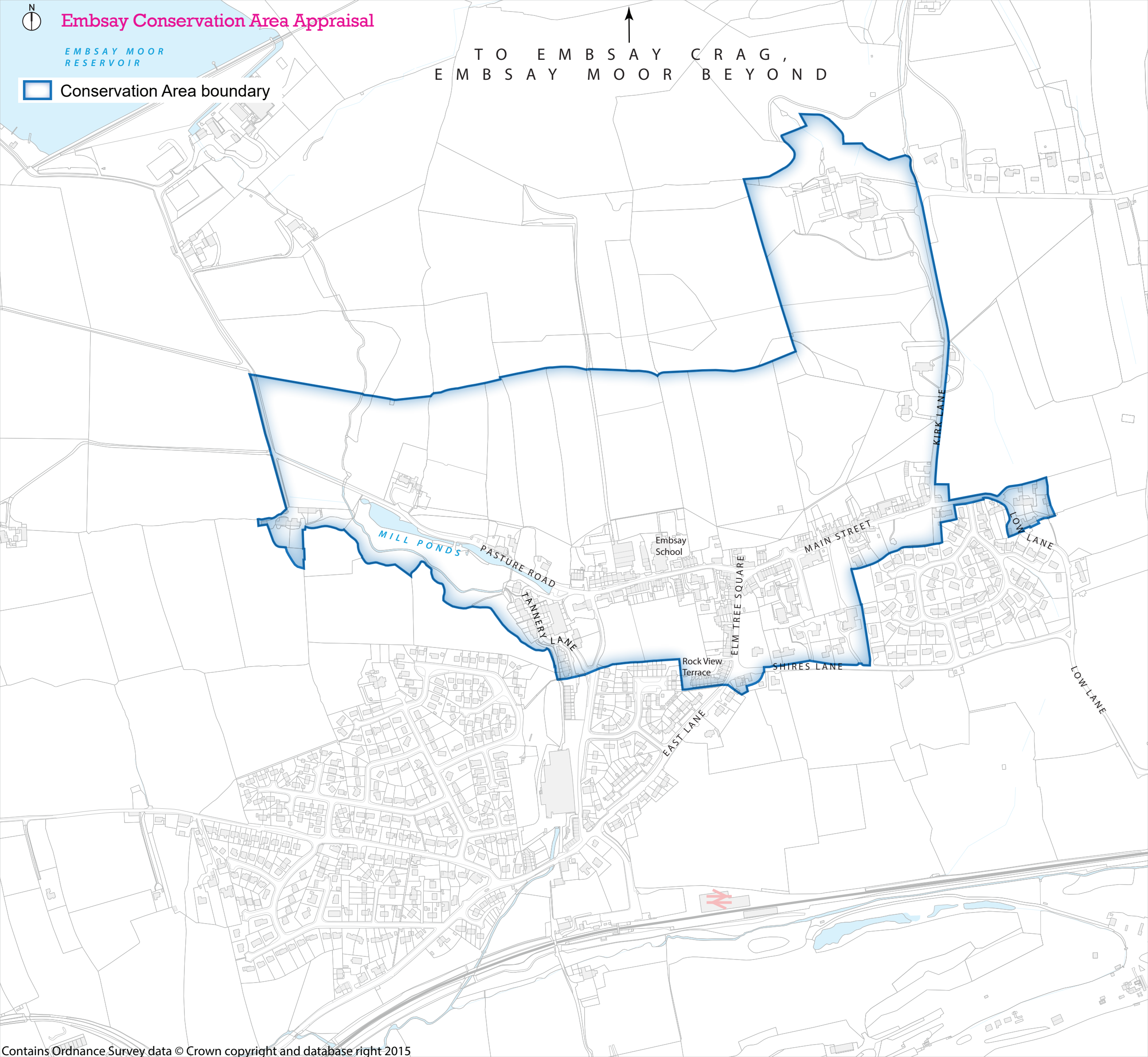
Embsay Conservation Area Appraisal

EMBSAY MOOR
RESERVOIR



Conservation Area boundary

TO EMBSAY CRAG,
EMBSAY MOOR BEYOND



2.0 Character

2.1 Historic & contemporary development

Consult the following layers of the [interactive map](#) in combination with the text below: 19th century Ordnance Survey (OS) map; historical development analysis; archaeological analysis. See also section 7.3 in Chapter 7 for details and links of useful references and sources of information.

- Although mentioned in the eleventh century Domesday Book (as translated and made available through [Open Domesday](#)) it is probable that the settlement was abandoned, possibly one of the casualties of William the First's Harrying of the North.
- The Embsay Kirk, part of the Conservation Area, was the site of a Priory founded in 1120, which later was relocated (the ruins of the relocated Priory are now known as Bolton Abbey). The foundations of the priory at Embsay were revealed when the current house on the site was built c.1780.
- Of the village that later emerged a little to the south, the Manor House on Pasture Road is the most notable, pre-18th century building within the Conservation Area. Much of the rest of the housing dates from the late 18th and 19th centuries.
- Embsay's main source of employment in the 19th century was the textile industry, and the village expanded with mill buildings and workers cottages.
- Very little development has occurred to the north of Pasture Road and Main Street within the Conservation Area since the end of the nineteenth century (see the 1891 OS map layer in the [interactive map](#)). The properties here still retain their original boundaries and these are clearly associated with historic tofts and crofts. The historic boundaries to the north of Pasture Road and Main Street may be historic toft boundaries or enclosed medieval strip fields. The known extent of medieval ridge and furrow to the north supports this.

- There are a few new houses that follow the historic pattern of development along the main streets.
 - The most evident recent change within the Conservation Area is the development of the former Primrose Mill around Tannery Lane. New houses have also been constructed on the western side of the Car Park on Main Street.
 - The village has extended beyond the boundaries of the Conservation Area to the south since 1945.
- ## 2.2 Spatial and built character
- The historic core of Embsay is essentially a linear village, rarely more than a single house deep from the road. Its position on the moor beneath Embsay Crag makes the settlement feel particularly exposed to its dramatic landscape and is atmospheric in all weathers.
 - There is an open quality to the settlement, partly as a result of the wide, expansive landscape that surrounds it but the buildings generally have low boundaries with views to the countryside beyond.
 - Most buildings are two-storeys tall, with a few at three-storeys. There are historic farm buildings, some still in use and many short terraces of houses.
 - At the west end of the Conservation Area the development is sporadic.
 - Further east from here are good views (V1, V11) looking along Pasture Road, taking in the stone wall and mill ponds which run alongside the road and historic structures like Manor House and the mill chimney to the south with its successfully-integrated surrounding new development.
 - Some small infields of open pasture survive between the houses around the periphery of the core of the village, a characteristic of the settlement.
 - The development becomes denser east of the former mill site. The north side of the street is at a slightly raised level due to the gradient of the moor and, as a result, many of the buildings on this side are on raised terraces with small grassed areas with stone retaining

walls in front of them. This is a particularly attractive feature of Nos. 14 -26 Pasture Road which includes a still-working farm at No. 26.

- The school and nursery (a converted chapel) are notable buildings in a streetscape of otherwise largely vernacular attractiveness.
- The junction with Elm Tree Square, with small circular flower bed in the middle of the road and the Elm Tree public house, make an informal centre to the village.
- Rock View Terrace, a raised terrace with its own walled pavement, was clearly designed to take in the view to the southeast to the quarry (V3, now partly obstructed) and is a charming piece of townscape.
- Further east, Pasture Road becomes Main Street which has an intimate and attractive quality with modest stone cottages, often with small walled front gardens. At its junction with Kirk Lane there are quaint (possibly not authentic) street signs on the north-east side of the road. Kirk Lane opens out, with expansive views across the countryside (V12); St Mary's Church as seen from the road is especially picturesque in its secluded graveyard.



View of Rock View Terrace from East Lane

2.3 Other settlements and development

- The north east part of the Conservation Area encompasses Embsay Kirk and a small cluster of buildings around it on the location of the medieval priory. This is separate from the main settlement, across about four hundred metres of fields. The parish Church of St Mary is located between the main village and Embsay Kirk.
- The bulk of recent housing development is located south of the historic village and Conservation Area. It is separated from the historic core by at least the distance of a field, making it feel unconnected. There is little visual connection between the recent housing development and the centre of the Conservation Area; only at the southern periphery is it easily visible.
- Eastby is a distinct village (and separate Conservation Area) north-east of Embsay, and much smaller. It too is an historic linear development but less dense and is probably not dissimilar to the character Embsay would have had in the mid-19th century. Its raised position above Embsay means there are some long views towards Embsay between the buildings, most notably to the Church of St Mary (**V6**).

2.4 Public open space

- The Cricket Ground, off Shires Lane
- The Recreation Ground off Main Street
- St Mary's Churchyard

2.5 Landmark buildings and structures

The landmark layer of the [interactive map](#) identifies buildings and landscapes that form visual or historical landmarks in the Conservation Area. This selection – listed below – is not exhaustive. It includes both designated heritage assets such as listed buildings and non-designated buildings and places.

Management Recommendation 1 of this appraisal (see [chapter 6.0](#)) advises that Craven District Council should adopt a Local List of non-designated heritage assets. Buildings and landscapes identified as landmarks on the interactive map might be considered for inclusion on such a list. In addition, there may be further buildings, structures and landscapes that the District Council and others might consider non-designated heritage assets.



Landmark Manor House on Pasture Road and landmark mill pond

- Manor House, Pasture Road – Grade II* listed
- Elm Tree Inn – Grade II listed
- Embsay Nursery, Pasture Road (formerly a Swedenborgian nonconformist chapel) – Undesignated
- Farmhouse and barn on Pasture Road – Undesignated

- St Mary's Church, Kirk Lane – Grade II listed
- Road direction sign at the junction of East Lane and Main Street – Undesignated
- Embsay Primary School, Pasture Road – Undesignated
- Mill Chimney, off Pasture Road – Grade II listed
- Mill Pond, Pasture Road - Undesignated



Landmark primary school on Pasture Road

2.6 Materials

- Walls: Gritstone laid in courses; ashlar sandstone dressings
- Window reveals: Gritstone, sometimes tooled
- Roofing: Westmorland slates, Grey slates (Yoredale sandstone)
- Windows: Traditionally, timber casements, with timber sashes used widely from the nineteenth century. Numerous instances of historic windows having been replaced with uPVC double glazing (see recommendation 3 in [chapter 6.0](#) below).
- Pavements: York stone paving; extensive areas that have been replaced with tarmac
- Road surfaces: Asphalt
- Street furniture: Street lighting is generally galvanized steel columns.
- Other: Some good surviving ironwork on front boundaries



Row of cottages on High Street with a mix of upvc and timber sash windows



Typical use of millstone grit in historic building construction



Traditional paving on Main Street

3.0 Landscape and open space

3.1 The contribution of open space

The character and appearance of Embsay Conservation Area is derived not just from the buildings in it, but also from open space inside and outside its boundaries. Open space contributes in two main ways:

- It allows views across the conservation area and forms the setting to its historic buildings.
- It defines the pattern of historic settlement and its relationship to the landscape around.

The extent of the contribution of individual parcels of open space often depends on the way they are experienced. Hence, those which are visible in views from the streets of the conservation area or from public footpaths tend to be the most important.

3.2 Open space assessment methodology

The methodology used in this appraisal to assess the contribution of open space to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area is described in the document *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals* which can be downloaded from the Craven District Council website. Open space is defined as common land, farmland, countryside and recreational spaces (including allotments, school grounds, churchyards and cemeteries). Private gardens and private car parks are excluded although it should be recognised that these features can make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area both in terms of their management and historic form and function.

Individual parcels of land are mapped on the 'open space assessment' layer of the [interactive map](#) at the front of this Appraisal and described in section 3.4 below according to how much contribution they make to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The following categories are used:

Purple: Open space that makes a strong contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area (development in these areas is likely to cause harm to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area; such harm should only be permitted where this is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposal).

Yellow: Open space that makes some contribution to character and appearance of the Conservation Area (development in these areas should be conservation led and make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area).

Brown: Open space that makes no or negligible contribution to character and appearance of the Conservation Area (development in these areas is unlikely to impact on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area).

NOTE: A large portion of the Conservation Area is within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and is subject to the planning control of that authority. Therefore, open space within

the National Park boundary has not been addressed in this assessment.

3.3 Overview of character and contribution

Embsay has a particularly strong visual relationship with the surrounding countryside. Its fine setting on the slopes below Embsay Crag allows long views across the landscape. To the south of the Conservation Area, Skipton Rock Quarry forms another dramatic feature in the landscape.

The Conservation Area boundary takes in the linear historic settlement running east to west across the hillside, and extends to the north to take in its immediate landscape setting. The building line is rarely more than a single building deep, allowing frequent views between buildings to the landscape beyond.

To the south of the Conservation Area is more recent housing development which is separated from the historic core by areas of open space.

In the assessment that follows, cross-refer to [chapter 4](#) for a description of the views mentioned.

3.4 Open space assessment

OP1 - East of the Conservation Area: Bounded by Kirk Lane, Low Lane

Strong Contribution

- The north-east side of the Conservation Area, parallel with Kirk Lane which runs north to Embsay Kirk, is open pasture with fields demarcated with a mixture of hedgerows and stone walls. There is a high survival of historic boundaries probably associated with 16th to 17th century enclosure of medieval strip fields.
- Kirk Lane leads away from the centre of the historic settlement and into the open countryside. St Mary's Church stands isolated in its graveyard between the village to the south and Embsay Kirk at its northern end. The boundary for the National Park and the Conservation Area runs along Kirk Lane, including the Church and Embsay Kirk.
- There are long views to the north, east and west across the countryside. This open space is an important aspect of the settlement and the Conservation Area's setting. The church and site of Embsay Kirk have always been

separate from the core historic settlement and this space allows long views up to the Crag. To the east the open space separates the village of Eastby from Embsay.

- There are long views of Embsay Church from within the village of Eastby (a separate Conservation Area) across these open fields. The open space and views between them are a part of their historic relationship.



V12 looking east across OP1

- At the east end of Main Street, there is a small spur of the Conservation Area that includes a historic group of buildings around Green Bottom Farm and Cherry Trees House. This was unconnected to the main settlement until linked by the mid-20th century housing estate to the south. The open space to the east of this spur and north maintains some legibility of the urban grain at this end of the Conservation Area.

OP2 - To the south of the Conservation Area (outside its boundary): South of Shires Lane, east of East Lane and west of Low Lane

Some Contribution

- This side of the settlement has been much extended in the 20th century, reducing the legibility of the historic core. To an extent, the designation of the Conservation Area has prevented new development from extending right up to the historic core, leaving areas of open space between the new development and the historic settlement
- Shires Lane is an historic southern boundary to the historic settlement. On the 1891 OS map (see [interactive map](#)), no development is shown on its

south side, except for a few houses on the southern junction of Shires Lane, Elm Tree Square and East Lane. This is still the case. Houses were built along the north side to take in the view of the Aire Valley and Skipton Rock Quarry to the south. Because of the topography, condition of the land and the impact of the modern residential development at Moorland Rise to the East, the open space south of Shire Lane makes some contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.



View of OP2 from Low Lane to the south of Embsay showing development beyond Shires Lane

- A field off Shires Lane and adjacent the Cricket Ground has been levelled in preparation for development. This might adversely affect views V3 and V5 (see [Chapter 4](#) below.)

OP3 - Cricket Ground

Strong Contribution

- Although the Cricket Ground to the south of Shires Lane is not directly adjacent to the Conservation Area it is part of the view across the countryside to the south seen from Shires Lane. It is an important public open space.

OP4

Strong Contribution

- This important space maintains a clear distinction between the historic core of the settlement and the late 20th century developments to the south along Shires Lane. Regrettably, since 2015/2016 when the draft appraisal was prepared some development has been allowed at appeal within this area to the rear of the Village Institute along the modern Laurel Croft.

OP5

Strong Contribution

- This important public space is a recreation ground incorporating a children's play area and helps to maintain a clear distinction between the historic core of the settlement and the late 20th century developments to the south along Shires Lane.



View of OP3, the Cricket Ground from Shires Lane

OP6

Strong Contribution

- The open space to the south of Pasture Road reflects historic croft boundaries (see *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals*) and has clearly been deliberately included within the Conservation Area. This has preserved their form despite recent development to the south. Travelling north up West Lane this open space allows views to the back of the buildings along Main Street and therefore an understanding of the historic grain of the village and Conservation Area. These areas are historically important to the urban grain.

OP7

Some Contribution

- This area, essentially part of OP7, makes a less strong but still some contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

4.0 Views

Views make an important contribution to our ability to appreciate the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. A representative selection has been identified in the Appraisal that encapsulate and express the special character of the Conservation Area, and the contribution of its landscape setting. Some of these views are dynamic, whereby moving along a street or path reveals a changing streetscape or landscape.

The selection is not exhaustive and other significant views might be identified by the council when considering proposals for development or change.

The views are described over the following pages and identified on the Views layer of the [interactive map](#).

The methodology used to assess views is described in the document *Introduction to Craven Conservation Area Appraisals* which can be downloaded from the Craven District Council website.



V11 - View from Pasture Road looking north opposite the Tannery Lane development



V11 - View from Low Lane to Main Street and junction with Kirk Lane



Two examples of a glimpsed view from Pasture Road (V11). One in winter and one in summer

V1: Fixed view - From Pasture Road, roughly in front of No. 30 looking south-east over the mill pond, the redeveloped mill site and towards the valley beyond.

- This is an un-planned long view over the Aire Valley with the mill chimney providing a locally significant feature in the foreground.



V1 looking east down Pasture Road

V2: Fixed view - View east towards the mill chimney along the mill ponds from the small foot bridge at their west end.

- This long vista along the mill ponds, with the chimney in the distance, is significant for its association with Embsay's industrial past.

V3: Fixed view - From Rock View Terrace south-east over the Aire Gap, towards Skibeden quarry.

- This terrace of Victorian houses was built to take in the dramatic landscape view of the quarry and is an example of the urban development responding to the landscape.

V4: Fixed view - View looking north from the public car park in the middle of Main Street.

- This is a particularly prominent view from the middle of the settlement looking north to Embsay Crag, the most conspicuous feature of the landscape around the Conservation Area.

V5: Fixed view - From the houses on the north side of Shires Lane to the southeast across the valley.

- This view will be partially obscured through forthcoming development and effort will need to be made to ensure that any future development respects the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and will protect this view (see management recommendations 2 (design guidance) and 4 (specialist advice) in [Chapter 6](#)).

V6: Fixed View - from outside 3 and 5 Barden Road, Eastby towards St Mary's Church, Embsay.

- This is a long view with the church visible across the fields separating the two villages.



V4 from the public car park off Main Street

V7: Fixed View - View from Kirk Lane to St Mary's Church to the west.

- The church is surrounded by tree coverage on its south, west and north side so it is only from an almost parallel position on Kirk Lane that the Church can be appreciated. Its graveyard and surrounding planting create an attractive setting to the building.

V8: Fixed view - View to Hill Top Farm from the west end of Pasture Road.

- This group of historic farm buildings is characteristic of the relationship of the buildings and landscape in Craven.

V9: Fixed view - Panoramic view across the landscape north-east to south-east from the west end of Pasture Road.

- This point is the western extremity of the Conservation Area and these are the expansive views out, across the countryside.

V10: Fixed view - View north along Elm Tree Square towards the Elm Tree public house.

- The pub and the small flower bed in the road in front of it form a sort of centre to the village and are surrounded by attractive buildings.

V11: Dynamic view - Views along Pasture Road, Main Street and Low Lane looking north and east.

- Pasture Road winds gently, allowing glimpses ahead

of the historic buildings and former farmsteads that gradually become denser. This view takes in important features of the village's industrial history (the mill ponds and the chimney) and some significant historic buildings. Views north towards Embsay Crag from Main Street and Pasture Road are a constant reminder of the village's relationship with the landscape.

V12: Dynamic views - Views east and west from Kirk Lane between St Mary's Church and Main Street.

- Long views up to the Crag to the north and panoramic views of the wider landscape.

5.0 Traffic and movement

5.1 Pedestrian

The pavements are inconsistent and rare away from the middle of the Conservation Area. Along Main Street and Elm Tree Square there are sections of pavement with stone paving and cobbles which enhance the character of the Conservation Area. Some sections of the kerbs are stone. Public Rights of Way follow historic boundaries to the north of Main Street and Pasture Road. Access to the high moors of the National Park is up Pasture Road.

5.2 Vehicle

Embsay is located north of the A65, the main road through Craven, and therefore does not have a lot of through-traffic.

The roads through the Conservation Area are narrow and have limited markings, which add to its rural character.

5.3 Parking

Residents seem to park on roads through necessity, though this makes the already narrow roads even narrower. This has been addressed in an example of new housing on Main Street by setting the houses back to create parking spaces in front. However, this disrupts the street line to create

prominent areas of hard surface which harms the character of the area. See management recommendations 2 (design guidance), 4 (specialist advice) and 5 (highways design) in [Chapter 6](#).

There are areas of double yellow lines on Main Street, Elm Tree Square and Kirk Lane. These prevent the roads becoming too narrow due to on street parking, which makes it difficult for people to pass.



On street parking on Elm Tree Square

6.0 Management recommendations

Craven District Council has a statutory duty to review the management of conservation areas from time to time. The following analysis and recommendations have emerged from the assessment of the Conservation Area in the preparation of this appraisal.

NOTE: Craven District Council will be subsumed into a new unitary authority called North Yorkshire Council on 1st April 2023. The statutory duty will pass to the new unitary authority.

As of 2023, the conservation area is not assessed to be at risk.

Recommendation 1: list of local heritage assets

Craven District Council (or its successor authority North Yorkshire Council) should actively supports the creation of a Craven District list of local heritage assets and adopt it for development management purposes.

Reason

To ensure appropriate conservation and enhancement of Craven's non-designated heritage assets through an enhanced development management evidence base.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority North Yorkshire Council) in partnership with the Embsay with Eastby Parish Council, (including any Eastby and Embsay neighbourhood planning groups), Historic England, North Yorkshire County Council Archaeology Service, The University of York Archaeology Department and the Council for British Archaeology.

Recommendation 2: design guidance

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) should with other organisations and partners ensure that the consultation draft Good Design Supplementary Planning Document (Local Plan Policy ENV3) is both adopted and implemented.

Reason

So that the character and appearance of the Conservation Area is appropriately enhanced through any approved developments and that harm to character and appearance is minimised. Also, to ensure that development management officers have access to appropriate advice and guidance.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) in partnership with North Yorkshire Highways Authority, Historic England and the Eastby with Embsay Parish Council (including any neighbourhood planning group).

Recommendation 3: Article 4 directions

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) should use its powers to implement an Article 4 Direction or Directions to withdraw the Permitted Development Rights of householders to alter, replace or remove, doors, windows, boundary walls and roofs within the Conservation Area.

Reason

The character and appearance of the Conservation Area have been degraded by loss of or replacement of doors, windows, boundary walls and roofs with non-traditional materials, forms and designs.

Article 4 Directions would provide a mechanism by which development management officers and their advisers could manage such changes to unlisted buildings, by scrutinising development proposals covered by a Direction against this Conservation Area Appraisal, design guidance (see Management Recommendation 2) and other relevant documents in order to maintain and enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

For example, affordable timber-framed double-glazing options are now available that can closely replicate traditional window types (for example with narrow glazing bars and mullions), causing less damage to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, and the environment, generally than uPVC.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council).

Recommendation 4: provision of specialist council conservation advice

The District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) should ensure that specialist conservation advice is provided to its planning service.

Reason

Specialist advice is made available to development management and planning policy teams throughout the District, so that the character and appearance of conservation areas and their settings are fully taken account of in plan-making, decision-making and enforcement.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council).

Recommendation 5: highways design

Specific design guidance is required for the maintenance and management of highways, roads, pavements and private driveways in ways that enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. It is strongly recommended that Historic England's *Streets for All* and the Government's *Manual for Streets 2* inform the development of such guidance.

Reason

Design guidance for upgrades and repairs to existing highways, including street lights, signage and painted lines and all new development is adopted so that such works are conceived and constructed in ways that do not harm the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, through their design, layout, choice of materials, position or other factors.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council), North Yorkshire Highways Authority, Historic England.

Recommendation 6: tree preservation orders

The existing list of Tree Preservation Orders for Embsay should be reviewed and updated and a programme of tree planting encouraged.

Reason

To enhance the character, appearance and biodiversity of the Conservation Area.

Responsibility

Craven District Council in partnership with the Eastby and Embsay Parish Council (including any neighbourhood planning group) as well as landowners and residents.

Recommendation 7: carbon reduction and climate adaptation

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) should prepare and publish guidance for climate adaptation and retrofitting of historic properties in conservation areas. Such guidance should contain comprehensive advice to homeowners and developers on how to retrofit buildings to reduce carbon emissions whilst conserving the character and appearance of both historic properties and conservation areas.

This guidance should incorporate advice on, amongst other matters, appropriate insulation strategies, window and door enhancement or replacements (see recommendation 3), photovoltaic panels, the siting of air source heat pumps, the impacts of ground source heat pumps on sub-surface archaeology, higher capacity rainwater goods and the design of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).

Reason

To ensure that the carbon reduction and climate adaptation retrofitting of historic and older properties conserves, not harms, the character and appearance of conservation areas, including their settings.

Responsibility

Craven District Council (or its successor authority, North Yorkshire Council) in partnership with Historic England (HE), the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), the Energy Saving Trust and the Institute for Historic Building Conservation (IHBC).

7.0 Further information

7.1 Legislation and policy

The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents>

National Planning Policy Framework <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>

Craven Local Plan 2012 -2032 <https://www.cravenc.gov.uk/planning/craven-local-plan/>

Craven Local Plan, Good Design Supplementary Planning Document <https://www.cravenc.gov.uk/planning/spatial-planning/spds-and-information/good-design/>

7.2 Guidance

Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management; Historic England Advice Note 1 (Second edition), Historic England (2019) <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-area-appraisal-designation-management-advice-note-1/heag-268-conservation-area-appraisal-designation-management/>

Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (Second edition), Historic England (2017) <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heag180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>

Manual for Streets 2: The Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (2010) <https://tsrgd.co.uk/pdf/mfs/mfs2.pdf>

Streets for All, Historic England (2018) <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/streets-for-all/heag149-sfa-national/>

Traditional Windows, their care, repair and upgrading: Historic England (2017) <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/traditional-windows-care-repair-upgrading/>

Sustainability and carbon reduction

There is a growing body of information on the internet to help homeowners adapt their buildings for climate change, including advice aimed at the particular challenges of historic buildings. These are some of the most useful:

Historic England advice <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/your-home/saving-energy/>

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) advice <https://www.spab.org.uk/advice/>

Building Conservation – Retrofit in Heritage Buildings <https://buildingconservation.com/articles/retrofit-heritage-buildings/retrofit-heritage-buildings.htm>

Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance (STBA) – Responsible Retrofit Knowledge Centre <https://responsible-retrofit.org/>

7.3 References

Archaeological Data Service <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>

Embsay with Eastby Parish Council website

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