

# NORTH LANCING



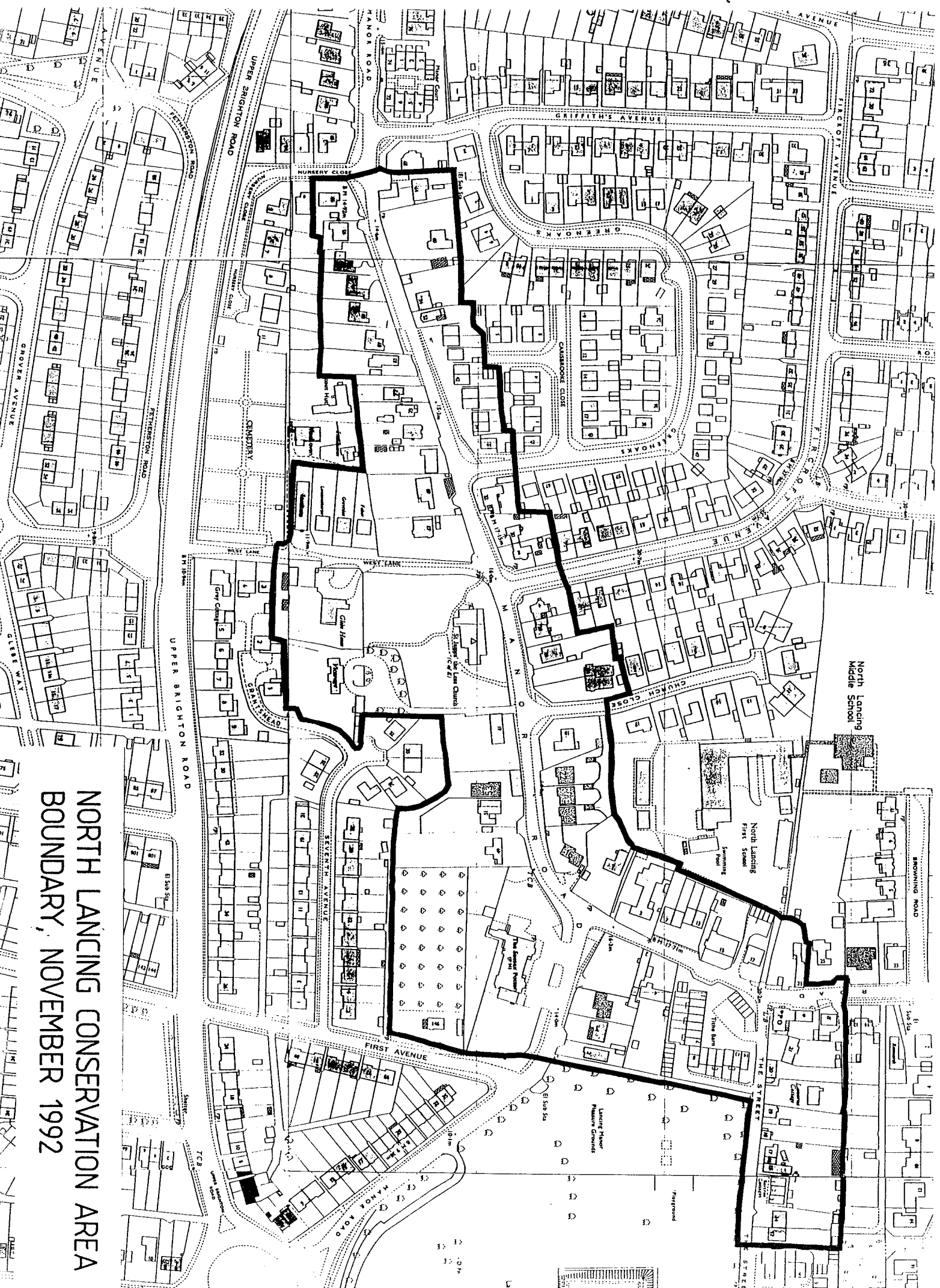
IMPORTANT - AMENDMENT TO BOUNDARY

At its meeting on 24th November 1992, Adur District Council amended the boundary of North Lancing Conservation Area.

The new Conservation Area boundary is shown on the map inserted inside the front cover.

The Report will be amended to incorporate the changes as soon as possible.

## CONSERVATION AREA : REPORT



**NORTH LANCING CONSERVATION AREA  
BOUNDARY, NOVEMBER 1992**

ADUR DISTRICT COUNCIL

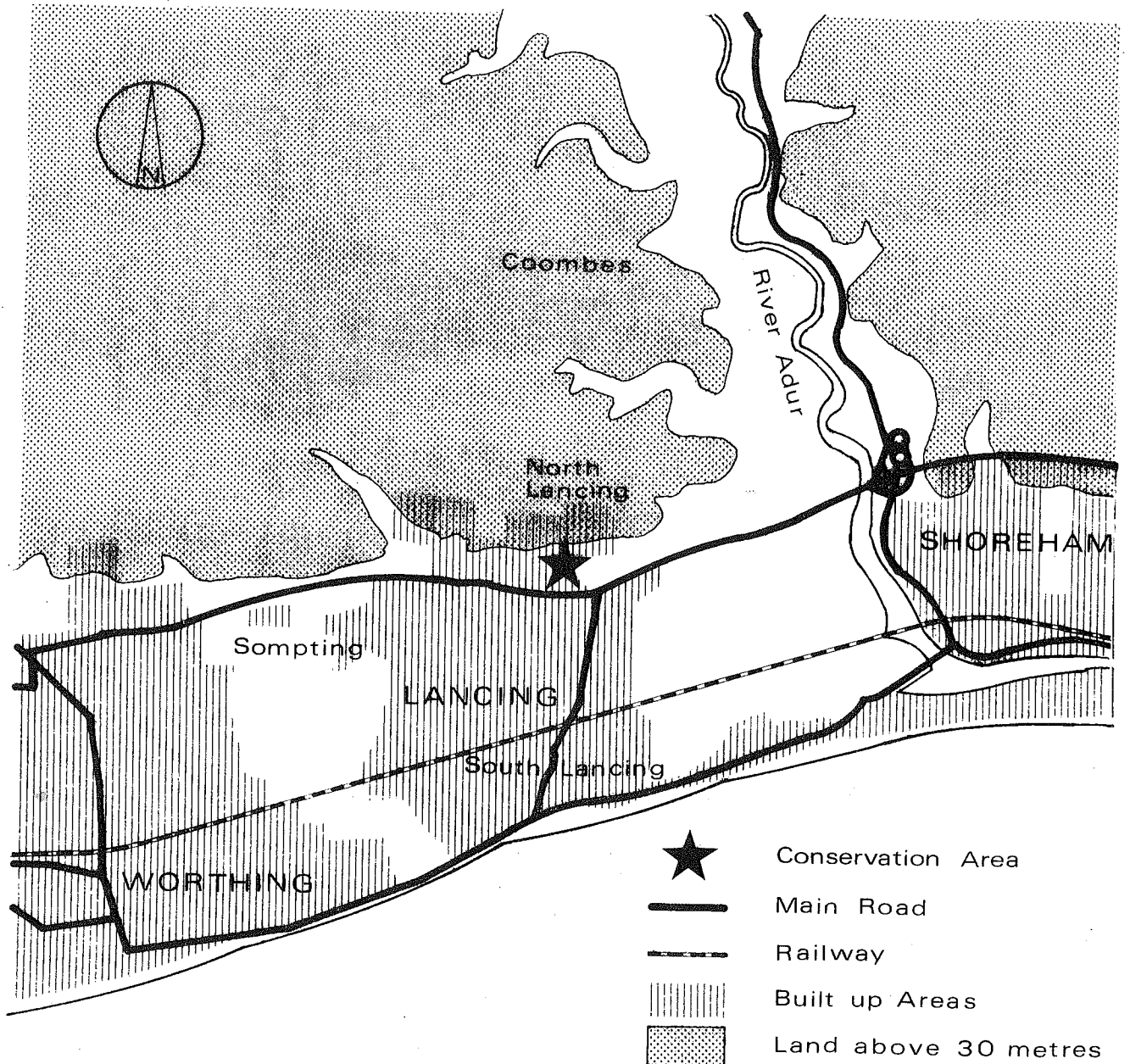
NORTH LANCING  
CONSERVATION AREA

A Designation Report by  
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District Planning Officer

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# LOCATION MAP



0 1 2 3  
SCALE Kilometres

## SECTION ONE

### MEANINGS AND OBJECTIVES OF CONSERVATION

- 1.1 Many of the centres of our old towns, villages and hamlets are in danger of losing their former character, mainly through the increase in pressures for development and the intrusion of the motor vehicle. It is necessary to recognise and plan to meet these changing requirements, for such settlements should acknowledge the spirit of our age while retaining their basic historic character. It is very easy for this character, which has been built up by so many generations, to be thoughtlessly neglected or destroyed.
- 1.2 In order, therefore, to retain this important aspect of our heritage, District Planning Authorities are required, under Section 277 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 as amended and extended by the Town and Country Amenities Act 1974, to determine these areas of special architectural or historic interest which should be preserved or enhanced, to designate them as Conservation Areas and to formulate and publish proposals for their preservation and enhancement.
- 1.3 Designation is not an award of merit, nor is it merely a method of preservation although the latter is an important aspect. Real conservation should be seen as a total aim in which building functions, relationships, form, location and total environment are all taken into account. As part of the Planning Process, conservation should be seen as a working process for improvement.
- 1.4 To this end the powers conferred on Local Authorities by the recently enacted Town and Country Amenities Act 1974 are particularly important. These will allow District Planning Authorities to exercise full control over all aspects of Conservation Areas in a positive and flexible manner, having due regard to changing pressures on and requirements of social existence. At the same time District Planning Authorities are required to take positive steps towards the improvement of Conservation Areas themselves by formulating and publishing proposals and, where necessary, investing public money in order to ensure that the total environment of a Conservation Area develops as part of the urban or rural system rather than as a static museum piece.



THE STREET



THE OLD POSTING HOUSE MILL ROAD

## SECTION TWO

### NORTH LANCING - HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 North Lancing is situated at the foot of the South Downs, on a low spur that reaches out into the coastal plain. The centre of the old settlement is 2.5 km west of the River Adur and 2 km north of the coast.
- 2.2 Archaeological evidence shows that the area has been inhabited since Neolithic times. On the Downs above Lancing is the site of a Roman Temple and it is probable that The Street is on the line of a Roman Road between Chichester and Portslade which forded the River Adur near the Sussex Pad.
- 2.3 The settlement of North Lancing dates from Saxon times and the name is probably derived from "Wlenching", (a son of Aella, the founder of the South Saxon Kingdom).
- 2.4 The geography of the area has changed dramatically since Saxon times. Until the Middle Ages, South Lancing was a peninsular between The Broadwater to the west and the estuary of the River Adur, navigable to Bramber, to the east. Since then the sea has built up a shingle bank along the coast, the estuary has silted up and the low lying land has been reclaimed.
- 2.5 After the Norman Conquest the area was controlled for a time by "William de Braose" who built the castle at Bramber. The Manor of North Lancing remained the property of the Saxon de Brock family who were probably responsible for the founding of the present church in 1120.
- 2.6 This church was almost completely rebuilt between 1280 and 1300 and only small parts of the earlier building remain e.g. the south porch dating from about 1180. The height of the tower was lowered in 1618 and the low pyramidal cap added. Much restoration was carried out during the last century and the early part of this.
- 2.7 The coast of Sussex remained isolated from the greater influences of the rest of the country until the latter part of the eighteenth century. It was then that Brighton and Worthing began to develop as resorts and watering places, sponsored by the rich and royalty.
- 2.8 An east-west route for pack animals and droves of cattle had long been established through North Lancing and fording the Adur between the Sussex Pad Inn, (derivation from 'pack') and Old Shoreham. The present timber Toll Bridge and causeway were constructed in 1782.