

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**2016 - 2036**

# **SNP Supporting Document 7: Historical Context**

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## Stowupland Character Assessment - Historical Context

The village of Stowupland sits at the heart of Suffolk enjoying an elevated view of the undulating scenes of the Suffolk countryside. The meaning of the name comes from its geography— a place occupied on higher ground than Stowmarket, although in 1086, the Saxon's knew it as Ultuna—ul meaning owls which were likely to have been numerous in the vast woods where the Holy Trinity church now stands. The landscape typology falls into the category of Ancient Plateau Claylands which is identified as gently rolling heavy clay plateaux with ancient woodlands. The village has a dispersed settlement pattern of loosely clustered dwellings of medieval origin.

Stowmarket, and some neighbouring parishes, including Stowupland, were once part of the royal vill (land unit term used in 11th century through to the late medieval period) of Thorney. This vill, or manor, was later divided into around seven different manors and hamlets. Until 1934, the borders of Stowupland began at the river Gipping and ran upland to Saxham Street, and Thorney Hall, as you can see in Hodkinsons Map (right) was situated in Stowupland. The title to the lordship of Thorney still exists and rests with the parish council of Stowupland.



Hodkinsons Map of Suffolk 1783

Greens, also known as commons and tyes, are a characteristic element in the communal life of East Anglian vills and Thorney Green is perhaps Stowupland's most noted feature. The word 'tye' for a Green or common is an ancient East Anglian term describing the difference in culture and geography north and south of the river Gipping. Tyes spread from Stowmarket south and across north west to Essex and Hertfordshire. Thorney Green was known as Thorney Tye in 1446 and is the only known example of a 'tye' north of the Gipping.

Stowupland was awarded the Title of Best Kept Village in 1984 and in 1986 it won the 'Best Kept Large Village' award. It was Suffolk 'Village of the Year' in 2006.

Stowupland's parish magazine 'Telstar' is an award winning magazine.

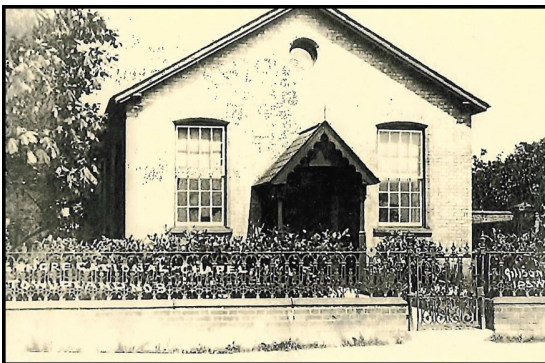
There are thirty six listed buildings in Stowupland, one of them being Grade II\*.

## Heritage Assets

There are over thirty listed buildings in Stowupland, most of which are situated on what was the main road through the village, Mill Street, Church Road and Saxham Street. The remaining listed buildings are found near or on Thorney Green.

### Religion

Old records suggest that there was an ancient church in the village which was dedicated to St Peter but nothing remains to confirm this. The current church, the Holy Trinity, was built in 1843 and can seat 250 people. Previously, the residents of Stowupland had to make their way to Stowmarket for church services. The church hall was opened by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich in 1985. The cemetery, of one acre, was formed in 1907 and was extended in 1977.



Nonconformity in the village was first recorded in 1611 when there were 17 recorded recusants. Between 1708 and 1835 four houses were set aside for nonconformist worship. The Congregation Chapel was built in 1810 which seats 250.

### Education

Education in the village began in 1833 with the formation of an independent Sunday School with a lending library which had an attendance of 117. The school building was constructed in 1835. As a result of the State Education Act of 1875, a School Board was formed and the former National School was given over to the Board. The school was enlarged in 1876 and again in 1880 and had an average attendance in 1912, of 203. The school was extended again in 1964. Stowupland School, now known as Freeman Community Primary School in honour of the Charles Freeman who provided the land on which it sits, just celebrated its 150th Anniversary.



The current High School was opened in 1978.



### Columbine Hall

Columbine Hall is a Grade II\* listed building situated on Gipping Road. It is an important example of a surviving major fragment of a manor house dating from c.1400 and c.1600.

This major asset of the village is sited just outside the centre of the village and is approached via a long drive-way. The house and grounds enjoy a rural setting with a picturesque moat which surrounds the building itself. There are a small number of farm buildings and houses which share the rural setting. The land surrounding the hall would have supported the manor and what land still survives contributes to the aesthetic value of the property and is also a reminder of the building's history and function throughout its existence.

The Hall is constructed of a mixture of vernacular materials including rubble flint walling with a timber framed upper storey and tiled roof.



### Stowupland Hall

Stowupland Hall is a Grade II listed nineteenth century white brick built farmhouse situated on Church Road.

## Heritage Assets

### Thorney Green

The Green which is probably the most remarkable and well known of the village assets also has various listed buildings dotted around its edges with an infill of traditional and individually designed houses which keep the distinct individuality of the village.

The Green is used for recreational purposes and a part is kept aside for the 'half a mow' campaign.

'Music on the Green' is a day of music featuring local musicians and is held most years. It is free for residents and non residents of the village and is extremely well attended.



### Cluster of Listed Buildings on Church Road

There is a cluster of Grade II listed buildings which form a linear pattern of settlement, detached from the primary core of the village, along the top end of Church Road. These houses enjoy rural views of the



## Demography of Stowupland

As a result of the Local Government Act of 1933, the borders of the village changed considerably in 1934 and a large part of the village was transferred to Stowmarket urban district. Therefore it is unrealistic to take into account population figures before that time for the purposes of analysis of growth of the population in Stowupland.

Since 1951 the population of Stowupland has increased from 942 to 2264 in 2011.

Houses have increased from 284 to 900.

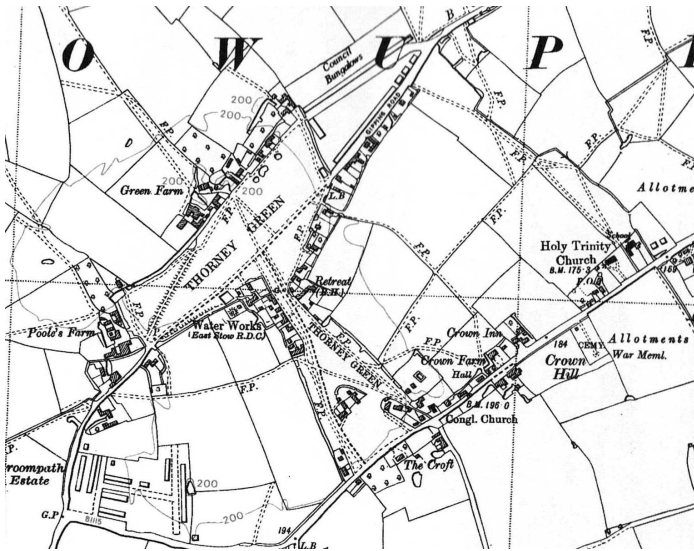
Year	Population	Houses
1327	21	
1524	39	
1674	82	67
1801	709	95
1831	826	178
1841		194
1851	966	202
1871	1097	231
1881		273
1891		288
1901	1326	311
1911	1439	
1921		338
1931	1619	429
1951	942	284
1961		350
1971	1905	
1981	2000	718
2001	1709	
2011	2264	900



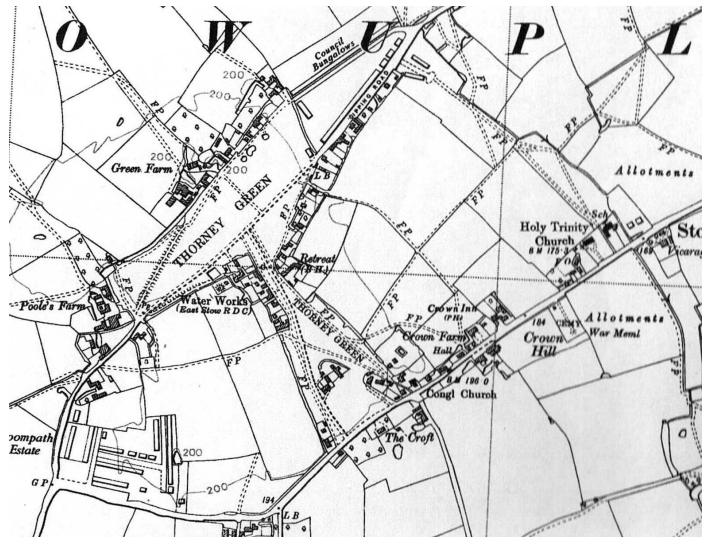
## Development Since 1934

Because of the change in the village boundaries in 1934, development within the village has only been taken into consideration from that time.

There have been two significant developments since that time, the first in 1939, the Broomspath Estate and the second in the 1980's off Trinity Walk at the other end of the village



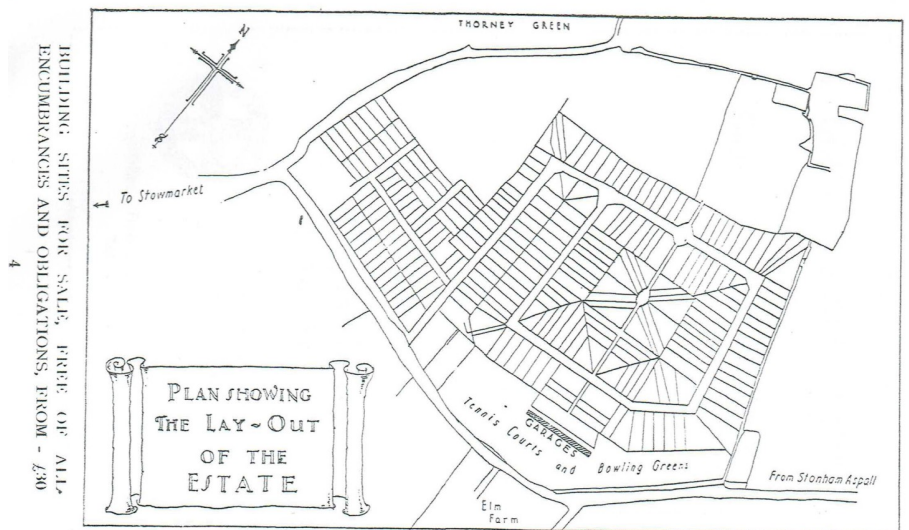
OS Map 1938



OS Map 1950

### Broomspath Estate

The Broomspath Estate was developed beginning in 1939 and was extended in the 1960's.

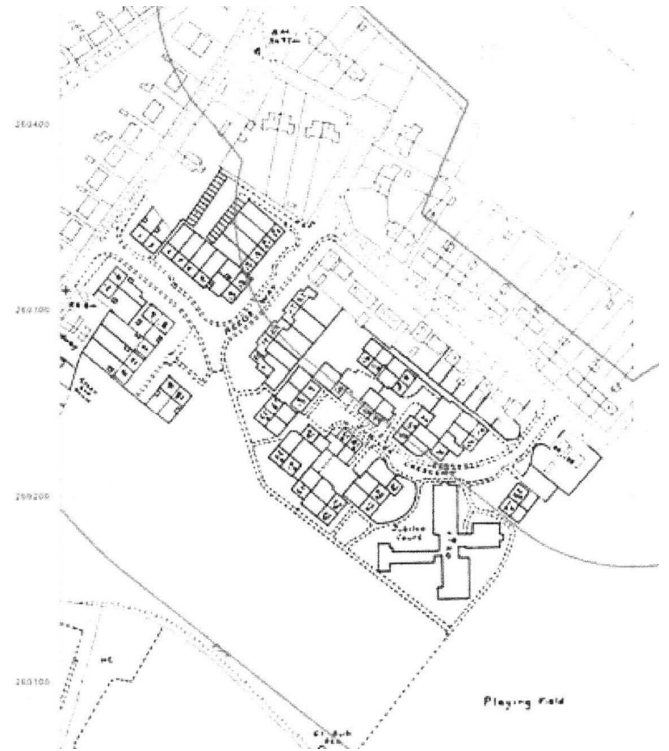


Sales Particulars from W G Hopgood (1934)

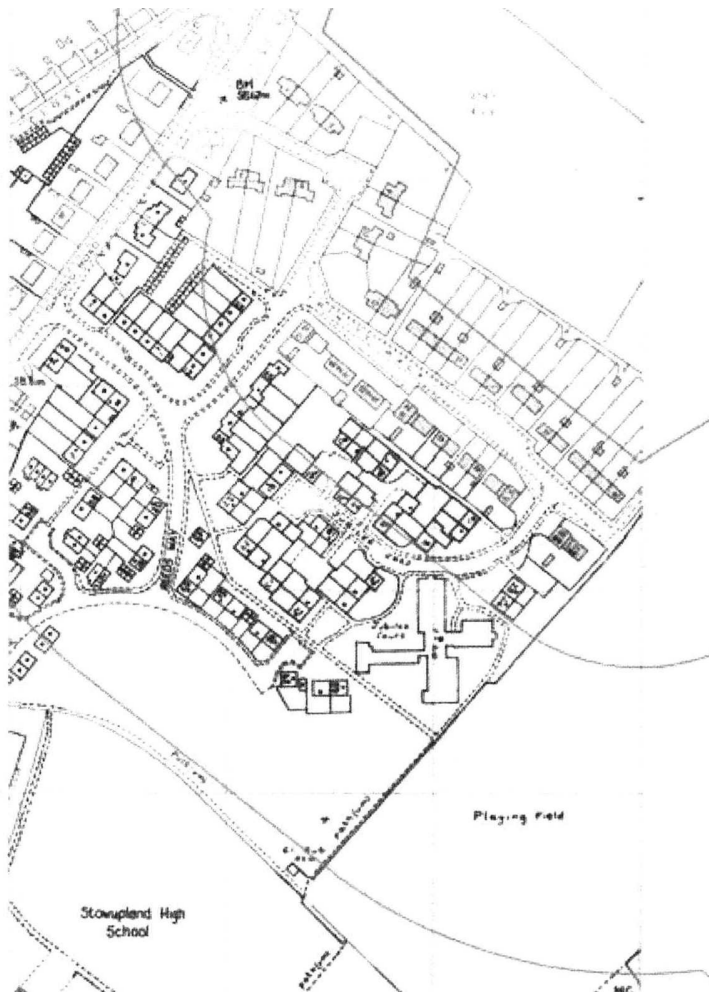
Estate off Trinity Walk

This estate developed in the late 1970's and early 1980's, was formed from land belonging to Stowupland High School and covered a site of two and a half acres.

This development also included a residential home for the elderly, Jubilee Court, which was built in 1979.



O S Map 1971



O S Map 1989