The Tilt Conservation Area
(Designated by Elmbridge Borough Council – 31 July 1979 and extended on 10 March 2015)

Statement Of Designation

The Tilt is an attractive linear settlement comprising the Upper and Lower Tilt, linked together by Tilt Road. It combines rural and urban features, which are rarely brought together in such a small area, particularly one just beyond the edge of suburban spread. The common land configurations, historic building patterns and buildings spanning a period of 500 years combine together to produce an unusual environment. The whole village overlooks undeveloped stretches of attractive agricultural land with meadows and woodland.

The area does not possess a large number of buildings worthy of specific statutory listing, but has many groups and individual buildings of considerable interest.

The Upper Tilt was developed at a fording point of the River Mole known as Ash Ford. Ashford Farmhouse, a grade II listed building, is a timber framed medieval hall house with 18th Century brickwork and a tiled roof. Korea Cottages are good example of 20th Century estate cottage architecture, whose facades have remained completely unaltered. Numbers 9 and 10 Korea Cottages, listed Grade II and dating from the 18th Century, also have unaltered exteriors.

The Lower Tilt is a linear settlement based upon the tree-lined Tilt Green. Its attraction lies in the setting of its cottages overlooking common land. Most of the cottages are late Victorian/Edwardian, many containing several attractive architectural features. There are a few individual buildings of interest; Woronoake a Grade II listed building, has a central part dating back to the 17th Century. The Running Mare Public House dates back originally to early 18th Century when local squires used the area for horseracing, but has been considerably altered and extended. The Old Fire Station, constructed in 1833 as a school, is mentioned in Antiquities of Surrey.
Although a considerable amount of new development has occurred north of Tilt Road, this has had very little impact on the Tilt area when viewed from Tilt Road.

Several significant trees in the Lower Tilt are already covered by Tree Preservation Orders. Many Elms have suffered from Dutch Elm Disease and have been felled, although several replacements have been planted. There was a strong local support for the Tilt to be designated as a Conservation Area. The Tilt Association produced a document entitled “The Tilt – a case for Conservation”. The Cobham Conservation Group and the Cobham Residents’ Association both fully supported the establishment of the Conservation Area.

The unusual combination of rural and urban features produces a most attractive environment which is worthy of conservation and which could derive considerable benefit from designation as a Conservation Area.

For more information, please email us at tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk