

Appendix 5.1

Existing C20th Conservation Areas: notes

The list of existing conservation areas designated largely or entirely for their C20th built heritage has been compiled by staff and volunteers of the Twentieth Century Society, on the basis of desk research using local authority planning departments' online resources. The time available and the uneven quality of the local authority information mean that this is not a comprehensive list: we have prioritized counties where there are New Towns or other known likely candidates. However, over 6,800 conservation areas in England (out of a total of nearly 10,000) were checked during the project, of which 271 (just under 4%) were identified as being of C20 development. The list of those authorities whose conservation areas were reviewed is included as sheet 3 of the spreadsheet.

Particularly in town and city centres, many conservation areas include development from a range of periods. The aim has been to include only those where post-1914 development has made a significant impact on the area, such as where a 1930s Underground station and retail outlets have transformed an older high street, or a Victorian suburb was significantly expanded by a later estate. A sample of conservation areas that encompass a single significant C20th building or minor infill development are given on the second sheet of the spreadsheet.

The data provide a clear picture: over 70% of the conservation areas are comprised solely of housing, and 63% are of development dating entirely from before the Second World War. Garden suburbs and cottage estates built under the 'Homes for Heroes' initiative are well represented. A further 18% contain a mix of inter-war and post-war buildings. Only 19% of the conservation areas identified are of entirely post-war development.

As part of the legacy of this project, this data will be available on the Twentieth Century Society website, so that gaps in that gaps in the primary section of the list can be identified. It is hoped that this can be extended as other areas of C20 development are designated.

Twentieth Century Society