

DESIGN GUIDELINES DETAILS

For a settlement based on walking it is particularly important that there is good detail at eye and hand level, to help make walking an easy and pleasurable experience for all, old and young, able and less able. Such detail needs to be deliberately and carefully designed, in ways that successfully expresses character or usefulness.

Whilst walking, the texture of the paving is significant and it would not be monotonous, but help mark crossings and important places. In some special places it might be completely different, or arranged to assist particular activities such as marking out a court or pitch. Handrails can usefully protect buildings and objects, as well as provide safety and be attractive in their own right, to the eye as well as to the hand. Whilst sitting, looking and chatting, not only is the view important, but more important is the amount of activity, as well as the comfort of a seat or bench.

Pride in a property can result in displays all sorts, showing off personality and giving pleasure to passers-by. Sometimes this is simply plants and flowers etc., but also decorations to front doors and windows. Pride in public fixtures and fittings is a sign of a community that cares. In the woods and parks, creative design, good materials and good workmanship add value in just the same way.

Individual detail is best provided at eye level and in the very least would include special numbers, carvings and/or glass. 'Bolt-on' features would generally be avoided.

