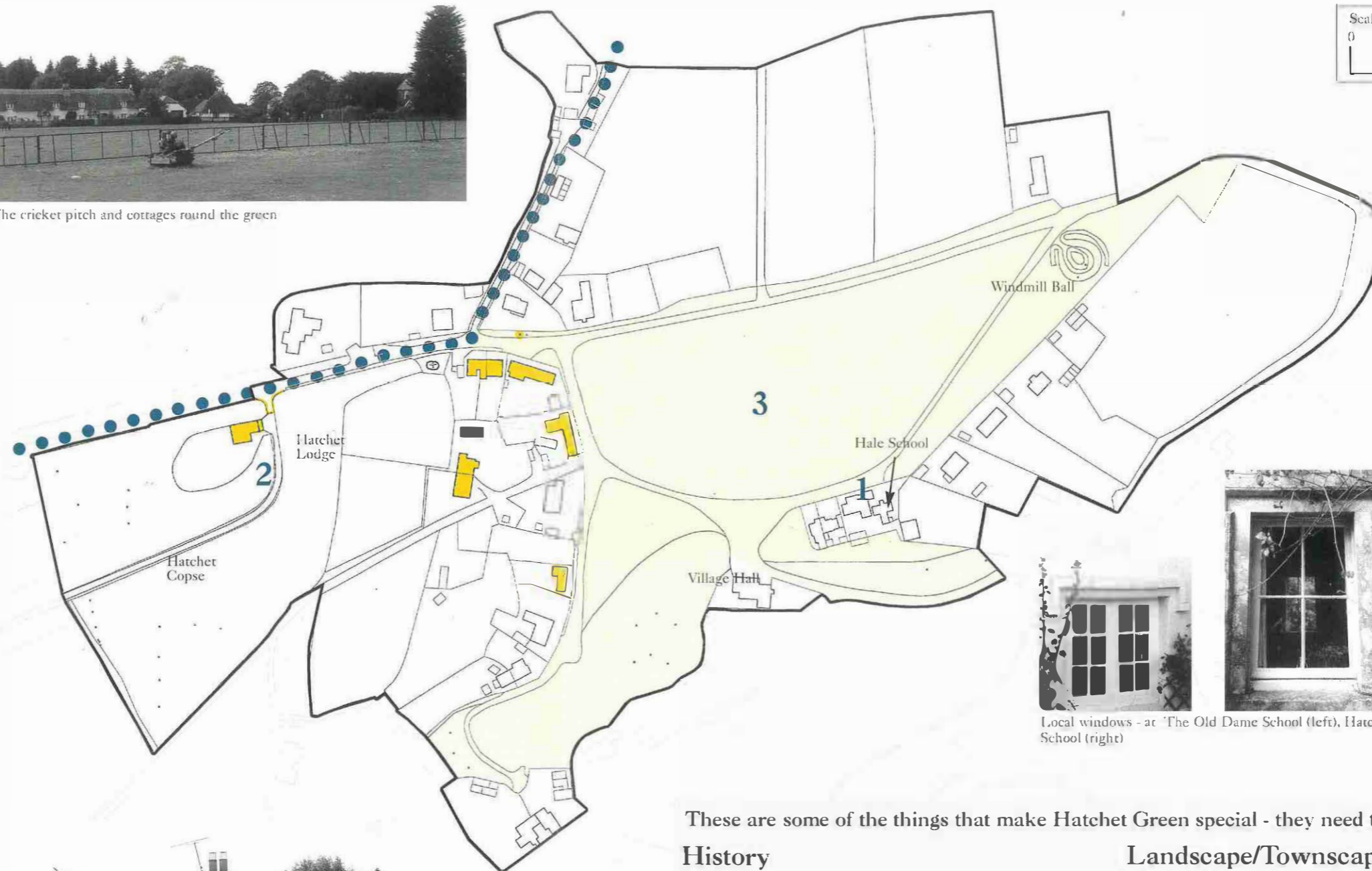


These are key features in the conservation area and the points relate to the numbered areas on the map.

**1** The school (unlisted) of 1873 is a fine example of its type, combining several smaller masses into a pleasing, largely original whole. Bands of contrasting decorative tile courses on each roofslope compete for attention with the carved bargeboards with pendant finials and the large, deep, small-paned cruciform windows. The jambs, windowheads, arches and quoins are picked out in buff, moulded bricks. A neat bellecote tops the building off. Modern extensions have been in harmony, keeping some of the features of the original construction in the new work.



The cricket pitch and cottages round the green



A typical cottage detail

**2** Hatchet Lodge is early 19th century, later than Hale Park. Four massive Greek Doric columns support a giant pediment with elaborate triglyph frieze, the whole portico dwarfing the small single room behind. The shouldered Pylon architraves to windows and door are very sophisticated, as is the tuck pointing to the yellow brick with a surface finish of a narrower, regular white-mortared joint. Although overgrown at present, the four brick-and-stone gatepiers are also impressive and deserve to be revealed to show the Lodge off to advantage.



**3** Over time the character of a space such as the green changes, although often the pace of change is too slow to be aware of. The 1871 Ordnance Survey map shows no roads crossing the green and no woodland in the chalkpit on the southern fringe of the green. Now oaks (with a holly understorey) fill that pit and also the land alongside Windmill Ball. The red oaks by the Village Hall are notable. The status as a Site of Special Scientific Interest means that any works which alter the green require consent from English Nature.



Traditional cottages - cob at The Old Dame School (top), brick at October Cottage (below left) and painted brick at Blackbrook and Dove Ground (right)



Local windows - at The Old Dame School (left), Hatchet Lodge (centre), and Hale School (right)

These are some of the things that make Hatcher Green special - they need to be looked after:

### History

- The scattered cluster of thatched cottages fronting onto the western side of the green is the area's historic core.
- Hatchet Lodge is at the end of the straight lime avenue through Hale Park.

### Buildings

- The thatched cottages are plainly detailed, although two have projecting angular brick drip-moulds round ground-floor windows.
- Hale School (1873) is unspoilt and handsome, boasting decorative tiling, carved bargeboards and polychromatic brickwork.
- Hatchet Lodge is a superior and very sophisticated building in early 19th century Greek Classical design.

### Archaeology

- Windmill Ball, its name confusing, may be no more than spoil from a local spot yielding building clays. It appears to be an earthwork with concentric rings.

### Landscape/Townscape

- Wooden picket fences to cottage fronts give a repeating rhythm to the edge of the green.
- By Hatchet Lodge are fine gates (with brick and stone piers) and spear-topped railings.
- Oak trees define the green along its south-western and south-eastern edges.
- A sloping field, ringed by large, single forest trees, critically divides the area from the newer building in North Charford.

### Setting

- Land falls away in most directions from the plateau, on which the green sits. The mixed planting in Hatchet Copse is an important backdrop, viewed to the west across a shallow valley.

### Potential for enhancement

- Landscaping measures to define and contain the parking area fronting the Village Hall would be an improvement.
- Planting to reinforce the northern boundary of the Green would strengthen its setting and feeling of enclosure.