Gloucester City Council

Hempsted Conservation Area (Conservation Area No. 12)

Appraisal & Management Proposals





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The character of the conservation area

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Part 1 Character Appraisal

1 Summary

1.1 Key characteristics

This Character Appraisal of the Hempsted Conservation Area concludes that the special interest of the area derives from the following key characteristics:

- It is situated on a flat-topped hill above meadows in the floodplain of the River Severn with extensive views to Gloucester, Highnam. and the Forest of Dean;
- It has a distinctive rural character, with several farmsteads and former farmhouses within its boundaries, as well as a number of agricultural fields;
- Though situated close to major roads, landfill sites, flood defences, industrial estates lining the former docks and the Gloucester and Sharpness canal, it has successfully retained a separate identity and has not been affected by industrial and suburban sprawl;
- The domestic buildings consist of farm worker's cottages surviving from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, set back from the road (originally set within orchards) and post WWII housing estates built within the grounds of Hempsted Court (demolished in 1962) or on former fields and orchards to the south and east of the village;
- The church end of the village is especially attractive, with its village cross, Church Farm, St Swithin's Church and Hempsted House forming a 'classic' English village scene;
- This end of the village has been protected from development, preserving foreground views of hedges, woods and meadows that stand between the village and the banks of the Severn and more distant views of the high plateau of the Forest of Dean;
- Some of the more prominent property boundaries are marked by handsome brick walls surviving from demolished buildings (such as Hempsted Court);
- Mature trees standing along the verges or surviving within the grounds of demolished buildings, contribute to the leafy ambience;
- There is no through traffic and the village centre feels safe and tranquil;
- The Lysons Trust owns land in the village and has influenced the character of the village (for example, through the construction of a new church hall);
- The village has an active community, with a post office and a shop, a primary school and village hall, a church hall, a church that is open to visitors, a well-kept churchyard and well-signposted public footpaths.
- Well-maintained private gardens and allotments are another attractive feature of the village.

1.2 Key Issues

A very small number of issues and potential problems have been identified that have a negative impact on the character of the conservation area. These form the basis for the Management Proposals in the Part 2 of this document and are summarised below.

1.2.1 Negative buildings

The post-war barns and cattle parlours of Manor Farm lack architectural merit.

1.2.2 Development pressures

Fields and gardens within the village are already subject to development pressure. Such development is judged to be detrimental to the setting of the conservation area.

1.2.3 Buildings at Risk

A small number of buildings and structures need to be monitored to ensure that their condition does not deteriorate through lack of maintenance.

1.2.4 Alterations to listed and unlisted properties

Most of the unlisted – and many of the listed – buildings in the conservation area have been adversely affected by the loss of original architectural details.

1.2.5 Public realm

Monitoring is essential to ensure that positive features remain in a good state of repair.

1.2.6 Street trees

Trees make an important contribution to the conservation area, and any loss of such trees would be detrimental. Council policy is to ensure that these trees are protected and maintained in a healthy condition.



The church end of the village forms a 'classic' English village scene.

2 Introduction

2.1 The Hempsted Conservation Area

Though brought within the boundaries of the City of Gloucester in 1967, Hempsted preserves its separate identity as a village on the south-western side of the city. The fact that it has escaped being swamped by suburban sprawl is all the more remarkable given its proximity to Gloucester: the centre of Hempsted is only 2.3km from Gloucester Cross, marking the centre of the city, and yet in appearance and character Hempsted is more like the Severnside villages further south and west than it is like nearby suburbs, such as Tuffley and Quedgeley.

In part this is because the fields surrounding Hempsted are an important part of the city's flood defences and past inhabitants have avoided building on these seasonally flooded fields, while Hempsted itself forms a prominent island in the floodplain, consisting of a small flat topped hill rising to a height of 27m above the surrounding plain.

As recently as 1902 (see the Ordnance Survey map of that year, surveyed in 1901), Hempsted was a village of farm workers' cottages set amidst extensive orchards, with one or two larger houses for gentry, clergy and land-owning farmers. It was known as a place of rich pasture and orchards, renowned for producing excellent cider and cheese. Today it is a village of housing developments dating from the 1960s, when various large properties in the village were demolished and their gardens built over. The orchards have gone, but many of the smaller farms and farm workers cottages have survived, along with mature trees originally planted in the grounds of the larger houses, and handsome brick boundary walls that follow and define the sinuous main road through the village.

2.2 The purpose of a conservation area character appraisal

The Hempsted Conservation Area was designated by Gloucester City Council on 28 November 1990. Since then the boundaries have been revised as part of a comprehensive review of conservation area boundaries within the city which were subjected to an informal period of consultation between 4 April 2006 and 2 May 2006.

Conservation areas are designated under the provisions of Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. A conservation area is defined as 'an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'.

Section 71 of the same Act requires local planning authorities to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of these conservation areas. Section 72 also specifies that, in making a decision on an application for development within a conservation area, special attention must be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.

In response to these statutory requirements, this appraisal document defines and records the special architectural and historic interest of the conservation area and identifies opportunities for enhancement. The appraisal conforms to English Heritage guidance as set out in *Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals* (August 2005) and *Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas (August 2005)*. Additional government guidance regarding the management of historic buildings and conservation areas is set out within *Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15)*. Government advice on archaeology, which is relevant to the City Centre Conservation Area, is set out in *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology (PPG16)*.

This document therefore seeks to:

- define the special interest of the conservation area and identify the issues which threaten the special qualities of the conservation area (in the form of Part 1: Character Appraisal);
- provide guidelines to prevent harm and achieve enhancement (in the form of the Part 2: Management Proposals).

2.3 The planning policy context

This appraisal provides a firm basis on which applications for development within the Hempsted Conservation Area can be assessed. It should be read in conjunction with the wider development plan policy framework produced by Gloucester City Council. That framework is set out in a number of documents, including:

- Gloucester Local Plan Second Stage Deposit August 2002
 - Policies BE.22, BE.23, BE.24 and BE.25 (Listed Buildings)
 - Policies BE.29, BE.30 and BE.30a,(Conservation Areas)
- Gloucester's emerging Local Development Framework Development Plan Documents:
 - Core Strategy
 - Development Control Policies
 - Central Action Area Plan
 - Allocations and Designations
- Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment, HMSO
- Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology, HMSO
- Gloucester City Council Urban Design Strategy for Central Gloucester, 2001
- Gloucester Heritage URC: Area Regeneration Framework (2006)
- Shopfronts Design Guidelines for Gloucester
- Gloucester City Council emerging Lighting Strategy
- ◆ A Tree Strategy for Gloucester (2001).

In particular this document will assist the Council with implementing its Core Policy 8: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Natural Environment, and Development Control Policy No. BNE5: Conservation Areas.

3 Location and Landscape Setting

3.1 Location and activities

Gloucester is the county town of Gloucestershire and is located in the Vale of the River Severn, some 8km south west of Cheltenham. Tewkesbury lies about 20km to the north east, with Worcester a further 20km beyond. The Malverns lie 22km to the north west, while the Forest of Dean begins some 14km to the west with the Wye Valley and the Welsh border not far beyond. Some 18km to the south lies Stroud, on the edge of the Cotswold escarpment, which rises steeply from the vale to the east of the city. The M5 Motorway passes between the city and the Cotswolds escarpment, connecting the north of England to Bristol, Bath and the south-west.

The Hempsted Conservation Area is located to the south west of the city centre, 2.3km from Gloucester Cross, which marks the centre of Gloucester. The village is surrounded by industrial and suburban development but is successfully screened from them by trees so that there is no negative impact on the village from the large landfill site to the north west of the village, nor from the industrial estate to the north east of the village, along the banks of the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal.

The village itself is largely a dormitory for Gloucester. Though there are three farmsteads within the parish, farming itself is no longer a major employer. There is a shop and post office and a school and a resident vicar.

3.2 Topography and geology

The conservation area is located on a flat topped hill situated at an average height of 25m above sea level. The hill is composed of lower lias clay (which was quarried for brickmaking in the late 19th century) capped by gravel. The River Severn flows in a broad loop to the north, west and south of the village. All roads into the village climb noticeably from the river's floodplain. There is a particularly abrupt terrace to the west of the village, which was carved out when the river was higher and wider than now, at the end of the last Ice Age. Below this terrace, the flood plain has in the past been subject to unpredictable flooding; the adjacent meadows are defended by a continuous earthen bank, and new flood defence works have been undertaken by the Environment Agency here in recent years.

3.3 Relationship of the conservation area to its surroundings

The Hempsted Conservation Area takes in the core of the historic village, the boundaries being drawn so as to take in all of the surviving pre-1900 buildings. Adjustments have been made to the boundary since it was originally drawn up: Waters Reach and Bridge House has been excluded, since this part of the village consists entirely of recent housing developments. The boundary has been extended to the north to take in the neo-Tudor lodge house opposite Manor Farm and to take in the largely intact 19th-century farmstead at Newark Farm.

Hempsted is surrounded by open fields to the south, west and north east, and has several other fields on the eastern side. These fields form a protective green belt around the village and are designated as a Landscape Conservation Area.



The neo-Tudor lodge house opposite Manor Farm.

4 Historic Development

4.1 Historic development

Hempsted's name means 'high homestead' (from the Old English heah-hamsteade). Domesday Book records that the manor of Hempsted was held by Edric Lang, a thegn of Earl Harold, at the time of the Norman Conquest, after which it formed part of the extensive west of England estates of William FitzOsbern, Earl of Hereford. A later Earl of Hereford gave the manor to Llanthony Priory in 1141.

Llanthony held the manor until the Dissolution, when, in 1545, the Crown sold it to the Atkyns family, from whom it passed to the Lysons family in 1721; coincidentally, Hempsted manor has been owned by two of Gloucestershire's most celebrated early antiquaries: Sir Robert Atkyns, the author of the first history of Gloucestershire, who was given the manor at his marriage in 1669, and the Revd Daniel Lysons who (assisted by his brother, the pioneering archaeologist Samuel Lysons) wrote the Magna Brittannia (1806–22) an unfinished county-by-county history of the British Isles.

Silvanus Lysons (who died in 1731) bequeathed Manor Farm and 25ha of land to the charitable trust that still bears his name. Having sold land in 1979 and 1986, the charity still owns the Manor Farm farmhouse along with some 12 hectares of land in the village, has recently funded the building of a new church hall, and provides scholarships for Hempsted pupils attending the King's School Gloucester, amongst other charitable works.



The new church hall, built with funds from the Silvanus Lysons Trust.

Much of the land around Hempsted was common grazing land until the late 17th century when the land was enclosed and turned into pasture and orchard. The economy of the village was largely based on cattle and sheep rearing, poultry keeping, and cider and cheese production until WWII. In 1926 there were twelve tenanted farms in the parish; now there is one working farm left in the conservation area.

4.2 Archaeology and scheduled monuments

Just to the north of the conservation area, in fields north of the church, are the extensive banks and ditches of what has been described as a Roman military camp, constructed to command the southern approaches to the city of Gloucester. No recent archaeology has taken place here that might confirm whether or not this is an accurate description, resting as it does on the work of the 19th-century antiguary, Samuel Lysons (in Romans in Gloucestershire, published in 1860). The site was also known as the Coneygar, the name traditionally given to managed rabbit warrens, and it is possible that at least some of the earthworks are of medieval origin. There are also vestiges of ridge and furrow in these same fields. Though these earthworks lie outside of the conservation area boundary, there is a strong likelihood that archaeological remains associated with them continue into the conservation area, especially in the area around Newark Farm and the church of St Swithun.

There is also a fine stone-built well house (now dry) of 14th-century date in the field north of the church, called Lady's Well carved with a much eroded figure of the Virgin and kneeling figures.

Within the conservation area boundary, a late-medieval village cross stands at the junction of St Swithun's Road and Rea Lane. This is mentioned in a document of 1417 when William Franklin gave money for its repair before setting off on pilgrimage to Compostella. Originally sited in the churchyard, the cross was moved here, restored and given a new cross head in 1850.



Hempsted village cross.

Three 17th and 18th-century tomb chests in the churchyard are designated, including one that marks the grave of John Freeman, a royalist captain killed in the 1643 Siege of Gloucester.



17th and 18th-century tomb chests in the churchyard.

5 Spatial Analysis

5.1 Plan form and layout

The layout of the village – with the church at the head of the main street and properties running back from the street on either side – is typical of a late-Saxon village (this layout is far clearer on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map and has been obscured by post 1960s housing estates). The probability of a late-Saxon date is reinforced by the dedication of the church to St Swithun (the Saxon saint who died in AD 862), the Old English origins of the place name (heah-hamsteade, or 'high homestead') and the fact that there was a pre-Domesday manor here.

A medieval track or road leads north from the village to connect Hempsted to Llanthony Priory (owners of Hempsted manor until the Reformation), continuing beyond into Gloucester. A much later road, completed in 1827 to link Hempsted to the swing bridge over the Gloucester and Berkeley canal, leads south from the village. The conjunction of these two roads with the main village street, St Swithun's Road, has led to the creation of what is now the main route through the village, the sinuous Hempsted Lane, with its two right-angled bends. The older main route south from the village is Rea Lane, which adds a further branch off the main village street as does the Rectory Lane, now just a track, a pre-enclosure road used by villagers to reach the commonly owned grazing lands in the floodplain (known as the Great Moor).



Rea Lane once led to commonly owned grazing lands in the floodplain.

5.2 Landmarks, focal points and views

Though the centre of the village is enclosed by trees and boundary walls, there are extensive views from the village margins. From the churchyard and the public footpaths that run north of the church, there are uninterrupted views over the Severn floodplain to the western bank, with the spire of Highnam church prominent to the north west and the high tree-covered plateau of May Hill and the Forest of Dean further west.



Views from the churchyard westwards to Highnam church, May Hill and the Forest of Dean.

From Hempsted Lane, looking east, the open fields alongside Manor Farm enjoy long views to Robinswood Hill and the Cotswold escarpment.



Views from Hempsted Lane.

From the northern edge of the conservation area, at Manor Farm House and Newark Farm, the northerly views take in the tower of Gloucester cathedral, interrupted by the bulk of County Hall.



5.3 Open spaces, trees and landscape

Mature trees play an important part in the visual character of Hempsted, closing both ends of the main street – with a large group at the church end of the village, and two more groups at each of the corners formed by the double bend of Hempsted Lane. Combined with the high brick walls that also follow and define these two bends, they make an important contribution to the character of the conservation area, as do small but well tended triangles of land at each of the corners. One of these is shaded by a large and healthy elm tree, which is a great rarity given the destruction by Dutch Elm disease of most of the country's mature elm trees. This particular tree is a Huntingdon Elm (Ulmus x hollandica 'Vegeta'), an old English cultivar raised at Huntingdon by Wood, a nurseryman, in 1746, and valued for its upright form, with long, straight, ascending branches. The Huntingdon Elm is also notable for its moderate tolerance of Dutch elm disease, which is why this specimen, which is perhaps fifty years old, has survived in good health when nearby hedges have many dead field-elm suckers .





Hempsted's Huntingdon elm.

Views from Newark Farm.

The well-maintained churchyard has several memorial seats, but there are no parks or large public open spaces in the village. Instead, Hempsted has many well-tended private gardens and allotments that are unfenced and visible from the public highway, contributing to the green and garden-like character of the main street.



Allotments to the rear of the church hall.

5.4 Public realm

A very important feature of the village is the survival of brick boundary walls along Hempsted Lane. The bricks are laid in English bond, which is a style that begins to decline in the late seventeenth century to be replaced by Flemish bond; these walls are thus of the right date to be associated with Hempsted Court, which we know from an oil painting of the Court, now in Gloucester Records Office, dating from c 1700, to have had extensive gardens surrounded by high brick walls.



English bond brick walls along Hempsted Lane – possibly all that survives above ground of Hempsted Court, built c 1700.

6 The buildings of the conservation area

6.1 Building types

The church of St Swithun, with possible pre-Conquest origins, is the oldest building within the conservation area.

Hempsted Court, dating from the late 17th century, was the seat of the Atkins family, but this was demolished in 1962 and the site used to build the Court Gardens housing estate.

Hempsted House, south of the church, was built as the Rectory in 1671. The Gothick Coade Stone front door surround is of 18th-century date, though it is said to be a faithful copy of the original and (like the original) bears the date 1671 along with a couplet commemorating the original builder: 'Who e're doth dwell within this door Thank God for Viscount Scudamore'. The house was remodelled and extended early in the 19th century. In 1954 it was sold and became a private house, with a new rectory being built on part of the garden, to the south.



The 18th-century Gothick Coade Stone front door surround at Hempsted House is a copy of its 1671 predecessor.

Opposite Hempsted House is the only early farmhouse to survive in the village: Church Farm is late 17th century in date, its timber framed construction encased in later brick.



Church Farm.

There are also a few farm workers' cottages on the northern side of St Swithun's Road (Nos 30 and 32, and Nos 10 and 12) and on the western side of Hempsted Lane (Nos 146, 150 and 152) dating from the early 19th century. Also of this period is Newark Farm, probably dating from 1815. The conservation area boundary has been extended northwards to take in this farm, whose main farmhouse has now been modernised, but which retains a complete set of early 19th century farm buildings grouped around a courtyard, which do not appear to have been altered. Though the primary school in the village is modern (built 1976), its predecessor survives as a private home: No. 28 St Swithun's Road is a brick cottage with bargeboards of 1851, originally built as the National School on land donated by the Revd Samuel Lysons.

The conservation area also has two large turn of the 19th and 20th century houses: Milocroft (No. 115 Hempsted Lane) was built for a Gloucester solicitor by W B Wood in 1892 and Dudstone (also known as Fairmead House, No. 123 Hempsted Lane) dates from 1901.



Milocroft (No. 115 Hempsted Lane) was built for a Gloucester solicitor by W B Wood in 1892.



Dudstone (also known as Fairmead House, No. 123 Hempsted Lane) dates from 1901.

The Manor Farm House was largely rebuilt at the end of the 19th century and it is assumed that this also dates the neo-Tudor lodge house on the opposite side of Hempsted Lane (No. 118), which it is now proposed to include within the boundary of the conservation area.



The 1920s saw the development of Hempsted Lane opposite Manor Farm, with the arrival of bungalows and the Village Hall of 1928, a brick building with a fine sweeping roof of red clay tile.



Hempsted Village Hall.

Major change occurred in the village in the 1960s when Hempsted Court was demolished for redevelopment, along with Elm Lodge and Willow Lodge (now the High View housing estate). Also developed at this period were fields immediately south of Church Farm (Chartwell Close) and opposite Manor Farm (Ladywell Close and the Hempsted C of E Primary School).

6.2 Listed buildings

A listed building is one that is included on the government's Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. These buildings are protected by law and consent is required from Gloucester City Council before any works of alteration, extension or demolition can be carried out. Further information can be found in the City Council's publication *Listed Buildings in Gloucester*.

St Swithun's Church, Hempsted House, Church Farm and the village cross are all listed (see 6.1 for further details) as are three tomb chests located south east of the church.

6.3 Key unlisted buildings

In addition to listed buildings, the conservation area contains several unlisted buildings that make a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the conservation area. These are identified on the townscape appraisal map as 'positive buildings'. This follows advice provided in English Heritage guidance on conservation area character appraisals, and within *Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 (PPG15)*, both of which stress the importance of identifying and protecting such buildings.

The criteria used for selection of positive buildings are those set out in Appendix 2 of English Heritage's *Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals (2005).* Where a building has been adversely affected by modern changes and restoration is either impractical or not possible, they are excluded.

Manor Farm House.

The following buildings in the conservation area are judged to make a positive contribution (* means the building is a landmark building occupying a prominent site).

- *No. 28 St Swithun's Road, being the former National School of 1851;
- Nos 10, 12, 30 and 32 St Swithun's Road and Nos 146, 150 and 152 Hempsted Lane, being early 19th century farm workers' cottages;
- Newark Farm, probably dating from 1815, with a complete set of early 19th century farm buildings grouped around a courtyard;
- Milocroft (No. 115 Hempsted Lane) built in 1892;
- Dudstone (also known as Fairmead House, No.123 Hempsted Lane built in 1901;
- *Manor Farm House and the neo-Tudor *lodge house on the opposite side of Hempsted Lane (No. 118);
- The Village Hall of 1928 in Hempsted Lane.



No. 28 St Swithun's Road – the former National School of 1851.

6.4 Building materials and local details

Within the conservation area, there is one surviving timber framed building (Church Farm), now clad in brick. Locally made brick is the predominant material, now mostly painted white or rendered, but perhaps originally limewashed. Several of the older buildings have roofs of red clay tile with decorated ridge tiles. No. 28 St Swithun's Road, the former National School, has an attractive roof of shaped Welsh slates laid in a fish-scale pattern.



Typical Hempsted cottage.

6.5 Shopfronts.

There are no historic shopfronts in the conservation area.

7 The character of the conservation area

Key characteristics:

- Residential;
- With the character of an independent village;
- Open fields and long views from parts of the conservation area;
- But also gardens, allotments, walls and managed spaces within the core of the village;
- With the agricultural history of the village still discernible in surviving buildings;
- And some attractive listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- With additional listed buildings and scheduled monuments linked to the village by well-maintained public footpaths.

Negatives:

- Redundant and ugly farm buildings at Manor Farm, Hempsted Lane, which could be improved through redevelopment;
- The threat of further development and infilling of open fields within the village, which would change the character of the conservation area and block existing views;
- At risk structures: namely the tomb chest in St Swithun's churchyard which is on the Gloucester Buildings at Risk register; the lodge house opposite Manor Farm House, which is currently uninhabited; and the farmstead at Newark Farm, which is neglected, overgrown and showing signs of rooftile damage.
- The neglected track to the north of Dudstone (No. 123 Hempsted Lane), which appears to be a blocked and unused track on the boundary of the former Hempsted Court.

Part 2 Management Proposals

8 Introduction

8.1 Format of the Management Proposals

Part 1 of this document, the Character Appraisal, has identified the features of the Hempsted Conservation Area that contribute to the conservation area's special character and distinctiveness, and that should be conserved and enhanced.

Part 2 of this document, the Management Proposals, builds upon the negative features which have also been identified, to provide a series of Issues and Recommendations for improvement and change, most of which are the responsibility of the City Council.

The structure and scope of this document is based on the suggested framework published by English Heritage in *Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas (2005)*. Both the Conservation Area Character Appraisal and the Management Proposals will be subject to monitoring and reviews on a regular basis, as set out in Section 10.

9 Issues and recommendations

9.1 Negative buildings

Manor Farm, on Hempsted Lane, has a modern Dutch barn and a concrete block and asbestos roofed barn, neither of which appear to be in use as farm buildings any longer. This redundant site would benefit from redevelopment.



Manor Farm, on Hempsted Lane.

Recommendations:

- Policy CA12/1: The Council will encourage the redevelopment of sites or buildings which make a negative contribution to the character or appearance of the Hempsted Conservation Area;
- Policy CA12/2: The redevelopment of sites which include neutral buildings will be encouraged where the Council considers overall improvements to the area can be achieved;
- Policy CA12/3: Applications will also be required to adhere to policies in the *Gloucester Local Plan* Second Stage Deposit August 2002 and any other policies which supersede this in the LDF;

9.2 Development pressures

Fields on both sides of Hempsted Lane are critically important to the setting of the conservation area. They help to preserve the sense of separation from Gloucester, to maintain the green and rural character of the village, and they protect important views.

Only two of the fields on the eastern side of Hempsted Lane lie within the conservation area boundary, but they form an important part of a belt of continuous orchard, meadow and playing fields that run south to north from Hempsted to the Monkmeadow roundabout and the inner relief road. This whole area is designated as a Landscape Conservation Area.

One of these fields contains Hempsted's last surviving orchard, while the field to the north of the orchard has a complete medieval ridge and furrow system, with strips running in an elongated S shape, and headlands representing the turning point of the plough. Further north a belt of poplar separates these trees from the adjacent playing fields but nevertheless continues the theme of green and open space that is important to the conservation area's setting.

To develop fields that are an integral part of the rural character of Hempsted would be to change the character of the conservation area, sever the link with the agricultural past, lead to a much denser village scene, tip the balance in the village mix of modern and historic buildings in favour of the modern, and lead to the loss of panoramic views towards Robinswood Hill and the Cotswolds escarpment views (in the case of Manor Farm) and of Gloucester City Centre (in the case of Newark Farm).

The area on which development could be permitted without detriment to the conservation area is on Manor Farm, whose concrete block and corrugated iron barns (currently used for storage) have a negative impact on the conservation area.

Development pressure is alos evident in the recent marketing of No. 150 Hempsted Lane by estate agents as a property 'with development potential' in view of its generously sized garden. There are similar properties with large gardens that could also be vulnerable to similar pressures.



Fields next to Manor Farm, on Hempsted Lane.



Recently sold 'with development potential': No. 150 Hempsted Lane.

Policy CA12/4: The Council will consider what further development will be permitted in Hempsted Lane and under what conditions (cf the Gloucester Local Plan which says, under LCA1, on page 28, that: 'Development will not be permitted that would detract from the particular landscape qualities and character of the Landscape Conservation Area unless there are exceptional circumstances.)

9.3 Buildings at Risk

Some buildings and monuments in the conservation area show signs of being at risk from natural erosion or neglect. Neglected buildings, where these have a negative impact on the character or appearance of the Hempsted Conservation Area, are usually placed on the Gloucester City Council's Buildings at Risk register. Building owners of such properties are encouraged to carry out repairs, for which grants might be available; in critical cases, action will be taken to ensure that repairs are carried out.

Already on the Buildings at Risk register in the Hempsted Conservation Area is the mid-17th century chest tomb located to the south-east of the church (the easternmost tomb in a group of three), whose base has subsided so that the vertical joints between the stones of the chest have opened up and the upper slab has tilted.

In addition, the condition of the following buildings needs to be monitored:

- The empty Lodge house at No. 118 Hempsted Lane.
- The farmstead at Newark Farm, where 19th-century brick and tile cattle byres and barns ranged around a courtyard are no longer in use, as a result of which they have lost roof tiles, and are being engulfed in vegetation.



The farmstead at Newark Farm.



The farmstead at Newark Farm.

Recommendations:

- Policy CA12/5: Gloucester City Council will continue to update its 2001 Buildings at Risk Register, a record of listed buildings in the city at risk through neglect and decay. This currently stands at approximately 30 buildings. The Council have published an updated edition of the Register and will maintain a rolling programme of updating in the future.
- Policy CA12/6: The Council will monitor the condition of all other historic buildings, report findings and take action, as necessary. Where the condition of a building gives cause for concern, appropriate steps will be taken to secure the future of the building, including the use of statutory powers.

9.4 Alterations to listed and unlisted properties

Most of the unlisted – and many of the listed – buildings in the conservation area have been adversely affected by the loss of original architectural details and building materials, including the replacement of original timber sash windows or doors and the rendering or painting of historic brick and stonework in inappropriate materials.

Where single family dwellings are concerned, such alterations can normally be carried out without planning permission from the Council. Development of this kind is called 'Permitted Development' and falls into various classes which are listed in the *Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995.* Powers exist for the Council, known as Article 4(2) directions, to withdraw some of these permitted development rights in the interest of preserving and enhancing the character and appearance of the conservation area. This might be considered to prevent the further erosion of historic character of residential properties, particularly where they form a coherent group of well detailed properties.

Recommendations:

Policy CA12/7: The Council will seek to consider the need for Article 4(2) Directions to protect buildings that retain original features from inappropriate alteration. The primary focus will be on dwelling houses in St Swithun's Road and Hempsted Lane (including Newark Farm) that have been identified on the accompanying townscape appraisal map as making a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the proposed conservation area.

Hempsted page 10

Policy CA12/8: The Council will encourage property owners to reverse unsympathetic alterations and to reinstate architectural features, such as windows, doors and boundary walls, on historic properties, with modern replacements in the style and materials of the originals.

9.5 Public realm

Recommendations:

- Policy CA12/9: The condition of the neglected track to the north of Dudstone (No. 123 Hempsted Lane) should also be monitored to see whether this blocked and unused track could be usefully brought back into public use.
- Policy CA12/10: Given the important contribution they make to the visual appearance of Hempsted Lane, the condition of the historic brick walls shown on the conservation area appraisal map should be monitored and repairs carried out if necessary using appropriate materials.



The neglected track to the north of Dudstone (No. 123 Hempsted Lane).

9.6 Street trees

Trees make an important contribution to the conservation area, and Council policy is to ensure that these trees are protected and maintained in a healthy condition. In particular, given its rarity, the Huntingdon elm in Hempsted Lane should be monitored and steps taken to ensure its continued good health (for example, by preventing road salt from poisoning the tree, or by ensuring that it is able to draw sufficient moisture from the ground by maintaining soft verges all around the tree).

10 Monitoring and Review

As recommended by English Heritage, this document should be reviewed every five years from the date of its formal adoption. It will need to be assessed in the light of the emerging Local Development Framework and government policy generally. A review should include the following:

- A survey of the conservation area including a full photographic survey to aid possible enforcement action;
- An assessment of whether the various recommendations detailed in this document have been acted upon, and how successful this has been;
- The identification of any new issues which need to be addressed, requiring further actions or enhancements;
- The production of a short report detailing the findings of the survey and any necessary action;
- Publicity and advertising.

It is possible that this review could be carried out by the local community under the guidance of a heritage consultant or the City Council. This would enable the local community to become more involved with the process and would raise public consciousness of the issues, including the problems associated with enforcement.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Appendix 2 Appendix 3 Appendix 4

Sustainability Report The historical development of Gloucester Scheduled Monuments Bibliography





Appendix 1 Sustainability Appraisal and Management Proposals

SA Objectives	Impact + + o + + + pact	Likely Timing of Impact (Short, Med, Long Term)	Temporary or Permanent Impact?	Geographic Scale	Likelihood of Impact	Significance of Impact	Commentary (any cumulative, secondary, synergistic impacts?) & Recommendations for Improvement/Mitigation
 To protect the City's most vulnerable assets a. Will it minimise the risk of flooding to people and property? 	0						
1.b. Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	+	S/T	Permanent	Open Space & Tree Groups	Med	Med	Document identifies positive open spaces and important trees and tree groups which contribute to the character of the conservation area.
 Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular, avoid harm to protected species? 	+	ГЛ	Permanent	Open Space & Tree Groups	Med	Med	Ditto above
 Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest? 	0						
1.e. Will it maintain and enhance cultural and historical assets?	‡	M/T	Permanent	Whole Area	High	High	The management policies seek to maintain the character of the CA and where possible replace negative/neutral buildings with ones which will enhance the character of the area.
1.f. Will it maintain and enhance woodland cover?	+	ΓŢ	Permanent	Important Trees & Tree Groups	Med	Med	Policy CA12/12 states the Council will seek to carry out the objectives of 'The Tree Strategy for Gloucester.
 To Deliver Sustainable Economic Growth J.a. Will it create new and lasting full time jobs particularly for those most in need of employment? 	0						
2.b. Will it encourage both indigenous and inward investment?	o						
2.c. Will it help to support and encourage the growth of small businesses?	0						
2.d. Will it help to improve the attraction of Gloucester as a tourist destination?	+	ΓΛ	Permanent	Whole Area	Med	Med	Enhancing the character of this historic area will encourage more people to visit and stay longer.

SA Objectives	.∽ - ¦ 0 + + art ++ -∽ - ¦ 0 + +	Likely Timing of Impact (Short, Med, Long Term)	Temporary or Permanent Impact?	Geographic Scale	Likelihood of Impact	Significance of Impact	Commentary (any cumulative, secondary, synergistic impacts?) & Recommendations for Improvement/Mitigation
 To minimise consumption of natural resources and production of waste Will it encourage the most efficient use of land and buildings? 		S/T	Permanent	Whole Area	High	High	Maintaining the character of historic areas can mean resisting development on
3.b. Will it encourage development on previously developed land?	+	Ы	Permanent	Negative/Neutral Buildings	Med	Med	important open spaces and the subdivision of plots. Document has policies for the Council to encourage the redevelopment of
3.c. Will it minimise the demand for raw materials and/or encourage the use of raw materials from sustainable sources?	+	S/T	Permanent	Whole Area	High	Med	Tregarient and a steel The retention of older buildings reduces the demand for new building materials.
3.d. Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?	+	S/T	Permanent	Whole Area	High	Med	Property owners will be encouraged to reinstate original features some of which can be obtained second-hand.
 Will it help to reduce the amount of waste that is generated? 	0						
3.f. Will it positively encourage renewable forms of energy?	0						
3.g. Will it reduce water consumption?	0						

Commentary (any cumulative, secondary, synergistic impacts ?) & Recommendations for Improvement/Mitigation									
Significance of Impact									
Likelihood of Impact									
Geographic Scale									
Temporary or Permanent Impact?									
Likely Timing of Impact (Short, Med, Long Term)									
Impact ++ 		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
SA Objectives	 To ensure everyone has access to the essential services they require and that local needs are met 	4.a Will it help everyone access essential basic services easily, safely and affordably?	 Will it provide additional leisure facilities, green spaces and improve access to existing facilities? 	4.e. Will it help to ensure that everyone has access to safe and affordable housing?	4.f. Will it reduce homelessness? 5 To improve standards of	5.a. Will fit improve beaution 5.a. Will fit improve health and people's ability to engage in healthy activities?	5.b. Will it improve access to health care facilities?	5.d. Will it improve access to learning, training, skills and knowledge?	5.e. Will it improve qualifications and skills of young people and adults?

SA Objectives	Impact ++ 	Likely Timing of Impact (Short, Med, Long Term)	Temporary or Permanent Impact?	Geographic Scale	Likelihood of Impact	Significance of Impact	Commentary (any cumulative, secondary, synergistic impacts?) & Recommendations for Improvement/Mitigation
6. To make Gloucester a great place to live and work							
6.a. Will it help to reduce crime and the fear of crime?	0						
6.b. Will it encourage community engagement in community activities?	+	л	Temporary	Whole Area	Med	High	Document recommends that a monitoring review be carried out in 5 years time and it is possible that this could be carried out by the local community.
6.c. Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?	0						
6.d. Will it improve community cohesion?	+	L/M	Permanent	Whole Area	Med	Med	Encourages people to take pride in their area.
6.e. Will it help to maintain and/or enhance the vitality and viability of a designated centre?	0						
6.f. Will it increase access to and participation in, cultural activities?	0						
6.g. Will it reduce poverty and income inequality?	0						
6.h. Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0						
6.i. Will it improve the quality of where people live?	+	L/T	Permanent	Whole Area	High	High	Well maintained CA's are attractive places to live.

SA Objectives	Impact ++ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	Likely Timing of Impact (Short, Med, Long Term)	Temporary or Permanent Impact?	Geographic Scale	Likelihood of Impact	Significance of Impact	Commentary (any cumulative, secondary, synergistic impacts?) & Recommendations for Improvement/Mitigation	
7. To reduce the need to travel								
7.a. Will it reduce the need/desire to travel by car?	0							
7.b. Will it help ensure that	0							
alternatives to the car are								
available for essential journeys, especially to residents in areas								
of low car ownership?								
7.c. Will it help to achieve a reduction in road accident	0							
casualties?								
7.d. Will it increase the proportion of freight carried by	0							
rail and water?								
7.e. Will it help to reduce traffic	0							
congestion and improve road safetv?								
8. To improve environmental								
quality (air, water, land)								
8.a. Will it help to reduce any sources of pollution?	0							
8.b. Will it help to reduce levels	0							
8.c. Will it maintain and	С							
enhance water quality?)							
8.e. Will it maintain and enhance air quality?	0							
8.f. Will it maintain and enhance land/soil quality?	0							
8.g. Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?		ГЛ	Permanent	Negative Buildings	Med	Med	Document has a policy for the Council to encourage the	
							buildings	
To reduce contributions to climate change								
9.a. Will it reduce contributions to climate change?	0							
9.b. Will it reduce vulnerability to climate change?	0							

Appendix 2 The Historical Development of Gloucester

Gloucester: history and development

The history of Gloucester has been written many times and in great detail. This account is not intended to duplicate what has already been said elsewhere. Instead it is aimed at summarising those key historical developments that have helped to shape the city that we know today, with particular emphasis on the street pattern and standing buildings.

Roman Gloucester

A Roman fortress was established at Kingsholm some time after AD 48 close to what must have been an existing ford across the River Severn. The Severn then formed the frontier between Roman Britain and unconquered Wales. By AD 70, the Romans had conquered south Wales and established a new army headquarters at Caerleon. The Kingsholm fort was dismantled and a new one established to the south. This evolved into a colonia, a city where soldiers retiring from the army were given land as a form of pension, once Gloucester ceased to be a frontline military station around AD 81.

This period saw the establishment of the rectilinear street pattern that underlies the historic centre of Gloucester. The Cross, marking the centre of today's city, also stands on top of the focal point of the Roman city. Northgate Street and Southgate Streets lie directly on top of the main Roman road through the city. London Road also follows a Roman alignment, turning north easterly to join Roman Ermin Way (today's A38 Barnwood / Hucclecote Road). Ermin Way itself is aligned on the original fort at Kingsholm.

Anglo-Saxon Gloucester

Gloucester continued to be a centre of settlement after the final withdrawal of Roman troops from Britain in 436. The Anglo-Saxon chronicle says that Gloucester (with Cirencester and Bath) fell to the Saxons after the Battle of Dyrham, fought in 577, and thereafter was ruled by the Hwicce, as a sub-kingdom within Mercia. Osric founded a minster church (an early form of monastery) around AD 679, the forerunner of St Peter's Abbey (today's cathedral).

Ethelfleda (died AD 918), daughter of King Alfred and ruler of the Mercians following the death of her husband in 911, founded the new Minster of St Oswald in Gloucester shortly after AD 900, by when Gloucester was already an important commercial centre. Many of the streets, side lanes and alleys of the city centre were established at this time.

St Oswald's was probably connected with the royal palace that was established at Kingsholm by the reign of Edward the Confessor (1003–66). Gloucester was a regular meeting place of the royal council during his reign and that of William I. At one such meeting in 1085 William I initiated the Domesday survey.

Medieval Gloucester

Under the Normans, Gloucester's motte-and-bailey castle commanded the southernmost route across the Severn to South Wales and this was rebuilt in stone (on the site of today's city prison) by Miles of Gloucester in 1110–20. Under Abbot Serlo (from 1089) the Saxon Minster of St Peter was rebuilt to create one of England's greatest Benedictine abbeys (now the cathedral).

Hospitals were established on London Road in the early twelfth century whose chapels still survive (St Margaret's and St Mary Magdelen's). New churches and religious foundations were added – notably the richly endowed Llanthony Priory, begun in 1137 as a home for Augustinian canons fleeing from their original Welsh home. St Oswald's Priory also became a house of the Augustinians in 1152; Greyfriars was established around 1231, Blackfriars around 1239 and Whitefriars around 1268. Of the parish churches that were established at this time, St Mary le Lode, in St Mary's Square, St Nicholas, in Westgate Street and St Mary le Crypt, in Southgate Street, have survived.

Gloucester was granted a charter in 1155 (giving the right to hold a market and to exercise jurisdiction). The economy was based on iron working but the city also had a large population of traders and merchants and the city played an important role as a market and service centre for the region. A quay probably operated along the banks of the Severn between Westgate Bridge and the castle.

Westgate Street was the longest and most important of the city's commercial streets, the location of a market, several churches, the Guildhall and the mint. The abbey occupied all of the north-western quadrant of the city. The east end was the Jewish quarter until the Jews were expelled in 1275. New suburbs developed outside the town walls.

Among secular medieval buildings in Gloucester, the most remarkable are the late-twelfth century undercroft beneath the late-fifteenth century Fleece Hotel, the early thirteenth-century undercrofts to 47–49 and 76 Westgate Street and the New Inn, a complete timber-framed courtyard inn built around 1450 for St Peter's Abbey.

Post Dissolution Gloucester

The Dissolution of the 1530s was a landmark in the city's history, unlocking resources previously controlled by religious houses. The Minster church became the cathedral and with the founding of the See, Gloucester became a city in 1541. Cloth making led a revival in the city's trading fortunes and by 1600 the city hosted specialist markets for the trading of cattle, sheep, grain and fruit.

Port status was granted to the city by Elizabeth I in 1580 and by the time the cloth trade declined in the seventeenth century, the city had evolved into a significant centre for the Severn-based grain and malt trade, though competition from Bristol prevented it from developing foreign trade contacts. The Puritan city's stubborn resistance to Royalist siege in 1643 is widely seen as the turning point in the Civil War. Large parts of the city were burned to the ground: most of the northern and southern suburbs were lost, as were half the city's eleven medieval churches. Surviving buildings from this period include the timberframed buildings at 6–8, 14, 26, 30, 33, 43–45, 66, 100 and 99–103 Westgate Street (the Folk Museum) and that at 9 Southgate Street (with a façade dating from 1664/5).

Eighteenth-century Gloucester

Wire and pin making, metal working, bell founding, wool stapling and banking led the city's revival from the late seventeenth century. Gloucester also developed as a distribution centre for goods imported from overseas via Bristol and then forwarded inland to the west Midlands.

A number of medieval houses were refaced in fashionable brick (eg Nos 6–8 and 14 Westgate Street) and the city also became established as a social centre for the local gentry, with fine houses from this period at College Green and Longsmith Street, plus the eighteenth-century church of St John the Baptist in Northgate Street.

The County Infirmary was founded in 1755 and St Bartholomews' Hospital almshouses, near Westgate Bridge, were rebuilt in Gothick style in 1790. Gloucester was active in the establishment and promotion of Sunday Schools from the 1780s (Robert Raikes, pioneer of Sunday Schools, was born in Gloucester in 1736). The County Gaol was rebuilt in 1791, as was St John the Baptist, Northgate Street, in 1734. Other notable buildings of the period include No 1 Miller's Green (The Deanery), Bearland House in Longsmith Street (1740) and Ladybellegate House (1743).

Nineteenth-century Gloucester

Physical growth beyond the city's medieval boundaries began after the Napoleonic Wars. Shire Hall (Sir Robert Smirke) dates from 1815/16. A pump room (demolished 1960) opened in Spa Road that same year, but this was rapidly eclipsed by the greater popularity of the spa at Cheltenham. Even so, several terraces associated with the spa have survived, including Gloucester's only residential square, Brunswick Square (begun 1822), along with Christ Church, Brunswick Road (Rickmann & Hutchinson, 1823).

Two of the Severn's watercourses were partly concealed, having been open since the Roman founding of the city: the Dockham Ditch (aka Old or Little Severn) was culverted south of the Foreign Bridge on Westgate Street in 1825 and completely filled in in 1854, and the Twyver (running beneath Station Road) was culverted in 1833.

The opening of the Gloucester and Berkeley Canal in 1827 gave ocean-going ships access to the city and the coming of the railways in the 1840s encouraged Gloucester's expansion as a busy port for the distribution of foreign grain and timber to the Midlands, as well as stimulating locally based corn-milling and ship-building, and the manufacture of railway rolling stock (Gloucester Wagon Works opened in 1860) and matches (Morlands/England's Glory).

Big increases in population saw the city's boundaries extended in 1835 and 1874. The population doubled between 1851 and 1871 alone. Middle-class housing spread out along London Road while industrial development was heaviest in the area between the canal and Bristol Road and artisan housing grew up in the south and south east of the city. The 1870s and 1880s saw the city centre transformed from a mix of small shops and residential premises to a business and retail centre with banks, offices and large stores. Gas lighting in the city was completed in the 1890s and the new suburbs of Outer Barton Street, Tredworth, Bristol Road, Kingsholm and Wotton were brought within the city boundaries when they were extended again in 1900.

Other buildings of this period include the County Lunatic Asylum (1823), the Friends Meeting House, Greyfriars (1835), St James, Upton Street (1841), the former HM Custom House (Sydney Smirke, 1845), St Mark, Kingsholm (1845), the Mariner's Church in the Docks (1849), the Cemetery, in Cemetery Road (1857), St Peter's Roman Catholic Church (1859), the Wesleyan Church, Victoria Street (1870), the Public Library and Museum (1872), Whitefield Presbyterian, Church Park Road (1872), All Saints, Barton Street (Sir G G Scott, 1875),Coney Hill Hospital (1883), St Paul, Stroud Road 1883, the Public Baths, Eastgate Street (1891), the former Guildhall in Eastgate Street (1892), and St Stephen, Bristol Road (1898).

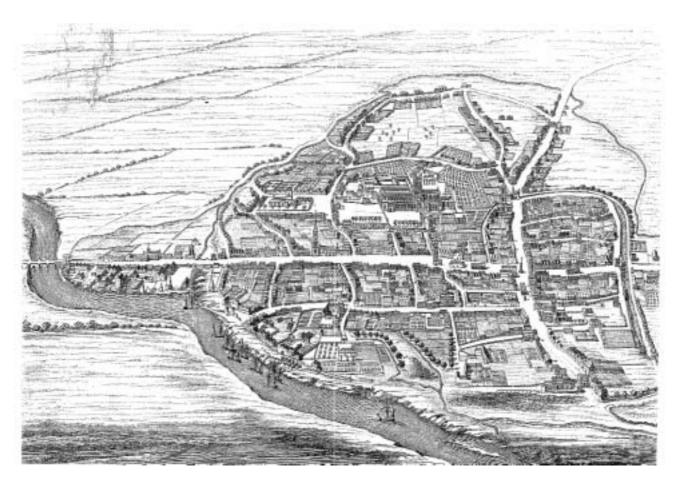
Twentieth-century Gloucester

As the docks declined in the late-nineteenth century, local engineering firms moved into the new industries of aircraft production, though this too ceased in 1960 (as did match making in 1976 and the wagon works in 1985). Gloucester's role as the county town has since created employment in local government and in service industries.

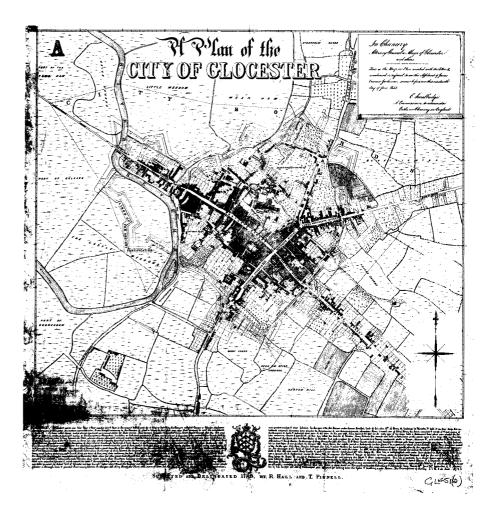
Notable buildings of this period include St Catharine, London Road (1915), the Technical College (1936), St Oswald (1939), St Barnabas, Tuffley (1940) and St Aldate, Finlay Road (1964).



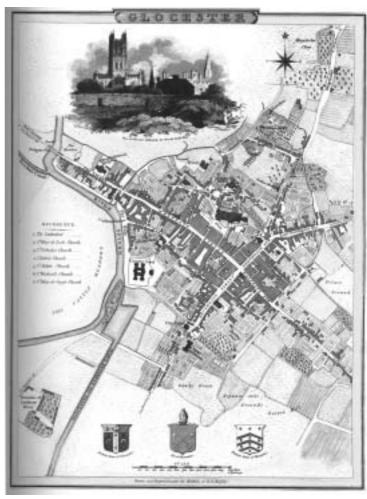
Speed's map of 1610.



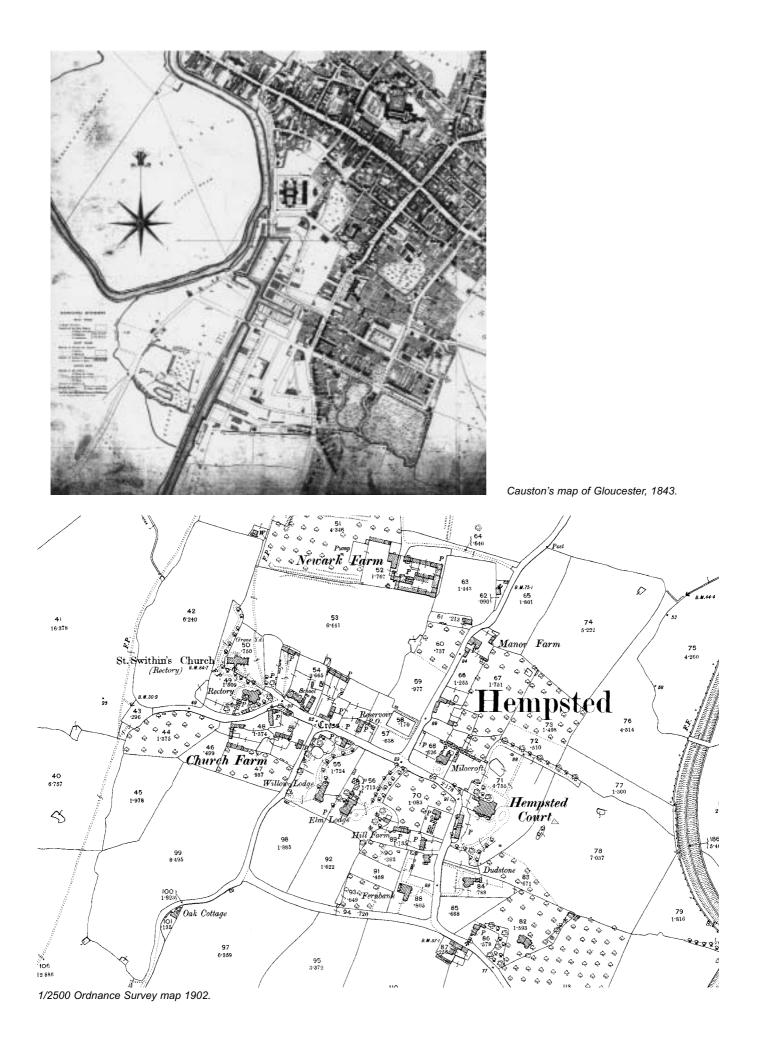
Kip's engraving of 1710.

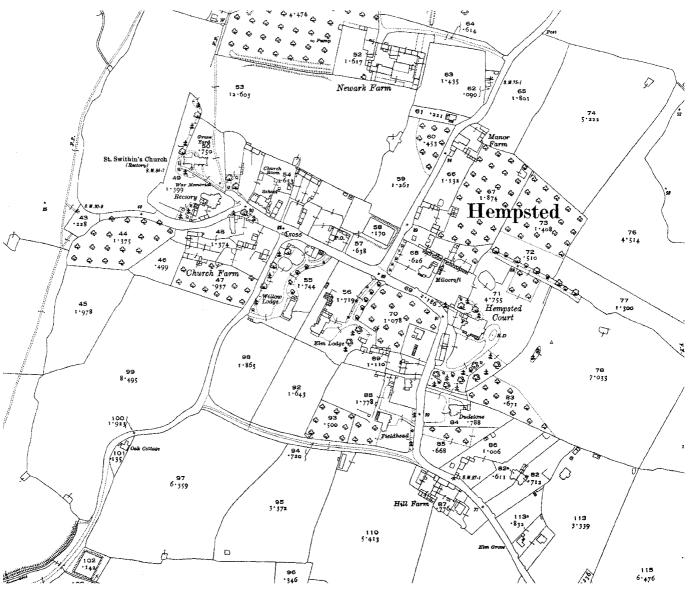


Hall & Pinnell's map of 1780.



1805 map.





1/2500 Ordnance Survey map 1923.

Appendix 3 Scheduled Monuments

Scheduled Monuments are given legal protection against deliberate damage or destruction by being scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. National policy guidance is provided by Planning Policy Guidance notes 15: Planning and the Historic Environment and 16: Archaeology and Planning.

The following Scheduled Monument lies within the boundaries of the Ermin Street Conservation Area:

42 – 462 Hempsted Village Cross

Further information on this and all of the city's Scheduled Monuments can be found on the Gloucester City Council website at

www.gloucester.gov.uk/Content.aspx?urn=3247

Appendix 4 Bibliography and Contacts

Bibliography

Schedule of Listed Buildings in the City of Gloucester, 7th edition, compiled under section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

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Victoria County History, A History of the County of Gloucester: Volume 4: The City of Gloucester (1988)

Maps/topographical views:

- Speed's map of 1610
- Kip's engraving of 1712
- Hall and Pinnell's map of 1796
- Causton's map of 1843
- Ordnance Survey map of 1902
- Ordnance Survey map of 1923

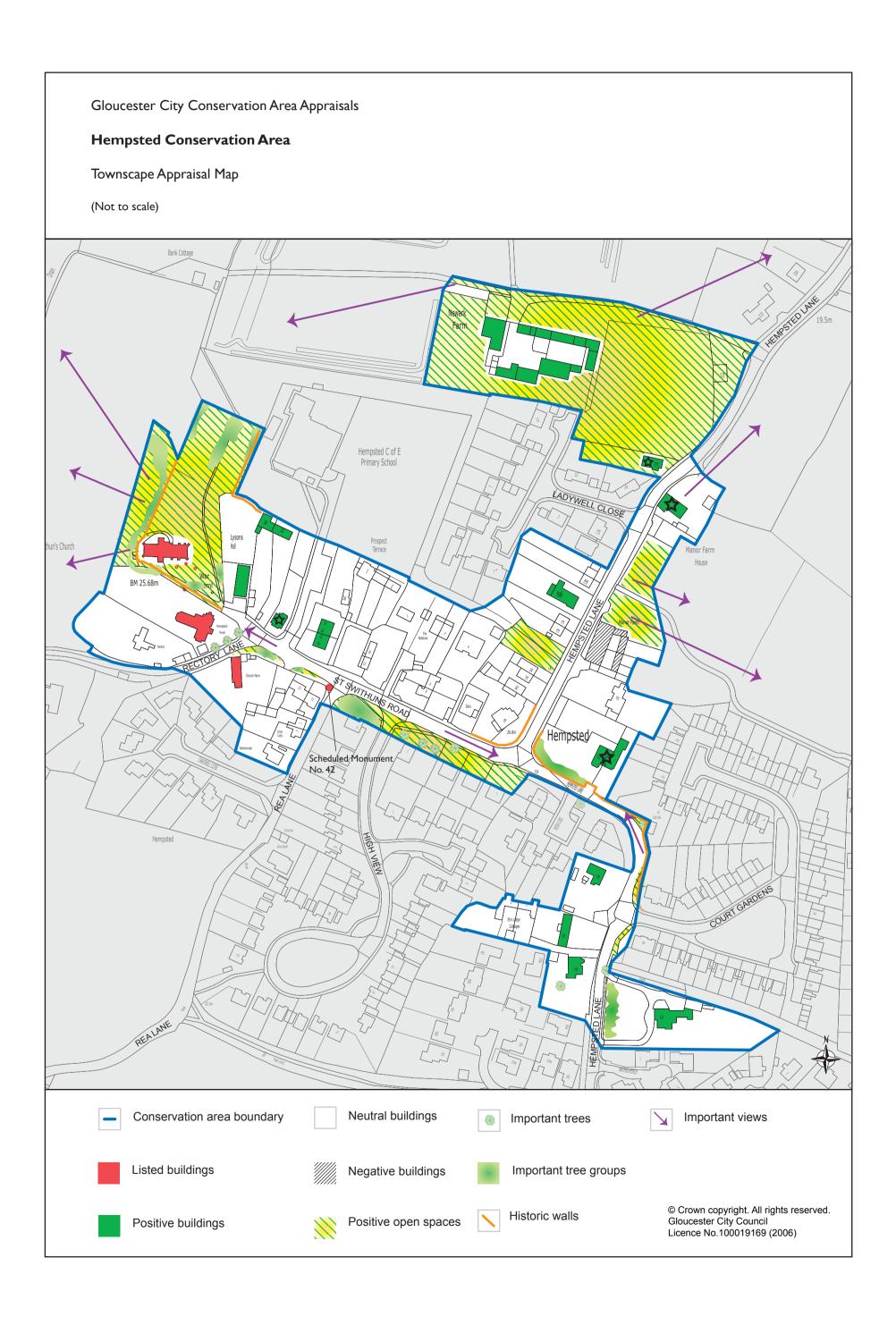
Maps

Conservation Area 12

Townscape Appraisal







If you have problems understanding this in English please contact: **Tapestry Translation Services,** Corporate Personnel Services, Herbert Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester GL1 2EQ. Tel: 01452 396909.

Bengali	ইংরেজী ভাষায় এটা বুঝতে আপনার সমস্যা হলে, দয়া করে নিচের ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ করুন: ট্যাপেস্ট্রী ট্র্যাললেশন সার্ভিস করপোরেট পার্সোনেল সাভিসেস্ হারবার্ট ওয়্যারহাউস, দা ডকস্ গ্রস্টার ডিএল্১ ২ইকিউ টেলিফোন নম্বর: (০১৪৫২) ৩৯৬৯০৯
Chinese	如果你對明白這些英文有困難的話,請聯絡 達意處翻譯服務 共同人事服務部 何畢貨倉 告羅士打 電話:(01452)396926
Gujurati	તમોને જો આ ઇંગ્લીશમાં સમજ્યામાં તકલીફ પડતી હોચ તો મહેરબાની કરીને નીચેની જગ્યાએ સંપર્ક સાંધશો : દેપિસ્ટ્રિંટ્રાન્સલેશન સર્વીસ, કોર્પોરેટ પર્સનલ સર્વીસીસ, હરબર્ઠ વેરહાઉસ, ધ ડૉક્સ,
ſ	અલેસ્ટર, જીએલ૧ રઇક્યુ. ેટેલીફોન નંબર : (૦૧૪૫૨) ૩૯૬૯૦૯

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