

A major historic street with fine town buildings on one side and an unusually open college court on the other.

Bridge Street is an important historic street which has, for many centuries, led from the river crossing. There are some fine town buildings (including the Round Church - a major landmark), St Clements,

historic pubs, and former merchants' houses. The courts behind the triangle of Bridge Street / St John's Street / All Saints Passage are a rare survival of the Medieval layout of much of the city centre.



View along Bridge Street

SIGNIFICANCE • HIGH

General Overview

Bridge Street is a popular pedestrian and cycle route and has a number of bus stops. The street has recently been enhanced to improve the pedestrian's experience and reduce through traffic which is now restricted to buses, taxis and service vehicles by the road closure-point.

The St John's Street junction is a key 'decision point' for many visitors deciding whether to continue to walk further north.

The street is a mixed commercial area with shops, restaurants, pubs, offices, churches, doctors, bookbinder and student residential, with a major college court on the south west side.



Corner of St John's Street



St John's College buildings



Round Church



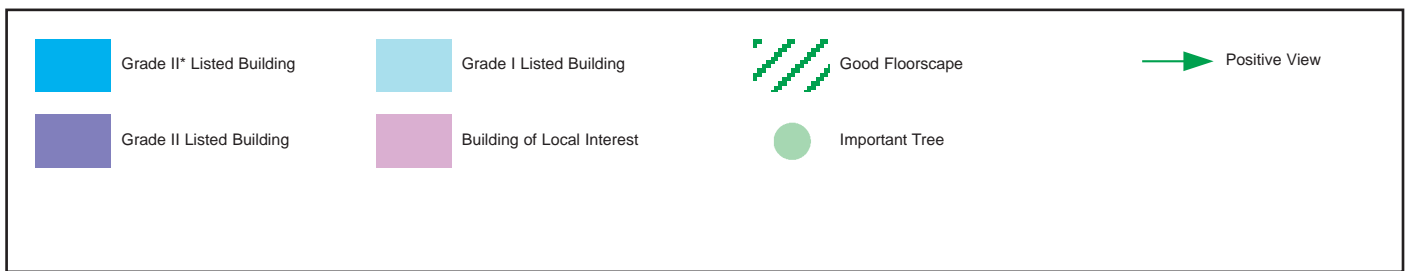
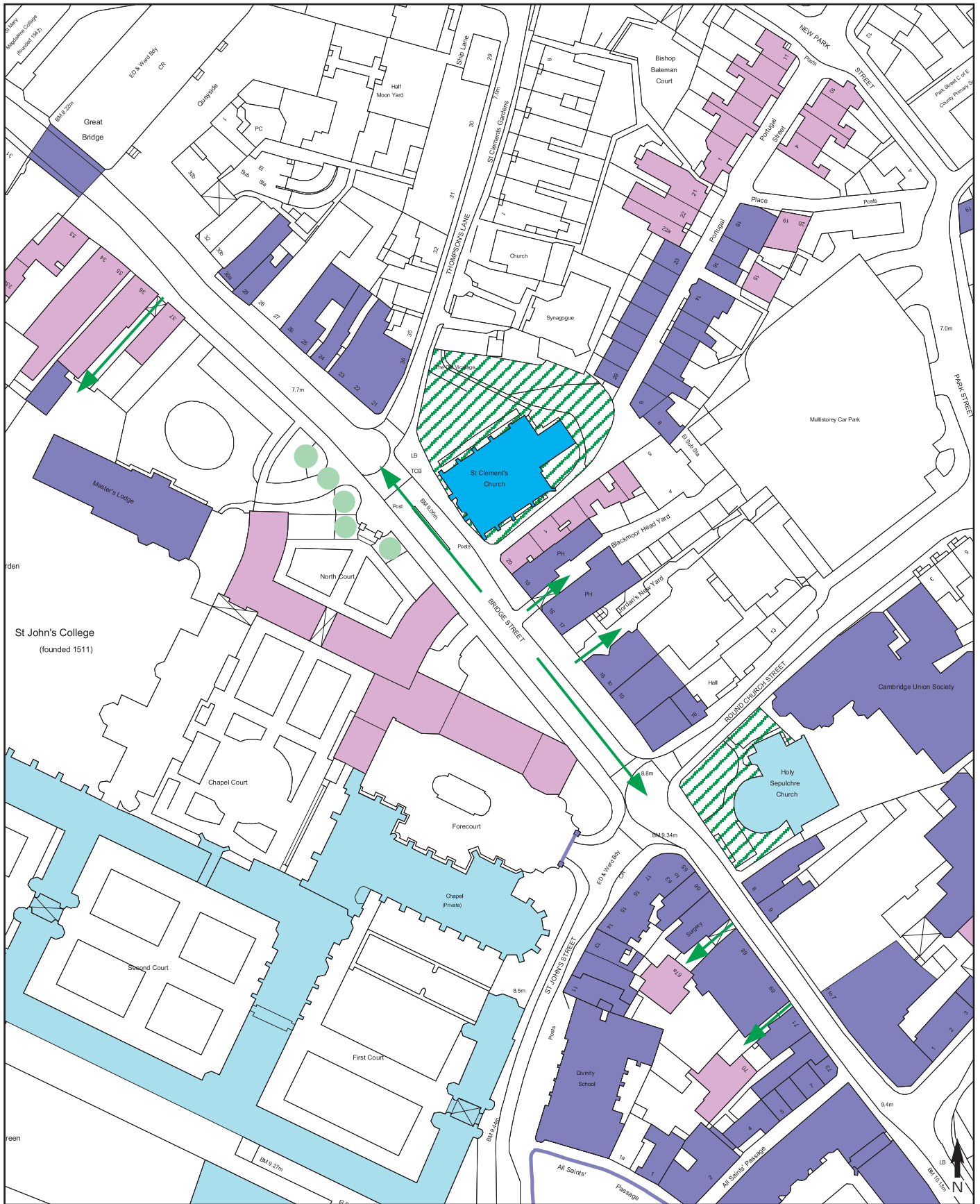
16a Bridge Street

Townscape Elements

- > With exception of St John's College buildings, most buildings on back of footpath.
- > College buildings have gable ends to street and recessed blocks behind railings in contrast to tight urban feel.
- > Street pinches in noticeably south of the Round Church.
- > Predominant vistas are north and south down the street.
- > Some glimpses into rear yards and courts, and down side streets are possible.
- > Key landscape elements provided by St John's College, in particular the mature trees in Master's Lodge garden.
- > Churchyards provide pleasant breaks and greenery in the built-up facades.

Open Spaces

- > St Clement's Churchyard
St Clement's Churchyard forms a welcome oasis in the street and the two dominant trees in the churchyard, together create a sense of place. A comprehensive planting scheme needs to be prepared in order to ensure continuity.
- > St John's Street corner
The two Dawycks on this street corner with their symmetry and formality, are inappropriate for this space. Although they complement the college buildings, they form too strong an vertical contrast to the horizontal building line on the opposite corner. A gentler outline is needed if the planting is to relate to the space as a whole.



Streetscape Enhancement

Although the streetscape has recently been enhanced in the northern part of the street, it is hoped that, over time, the number of signs warning of the road closure-point might be reduced. The south side still offers opportunity for enhancement.

Redevelopment Opportunities

Potential sites are largely restricted to infill opportunities to replace buildings of marginal / negative townscape quality.

Archaeology / Historic Topography

Anticipated deposit depth varies between 3+m and 2.50m.

Potential for prehistory is low

Potential for Roman is high

Potential for medieval is high

Bridge Street has been an important thoroughfare in

Cambridge from at least Roman times, forming the main route heading towards the river crossing and upper town. Numerous finds of Roman material have been made in the area, with very dense deposits noted, but not investigated, under the University Union around 1890. Possible evidence of an early river crossing was observed in sewer works in the late 19th century and a Saxon cemetery within the present course of the river noted around the same time. Much of the frontage now occupied by St. John's College was swept away in the 19th and 20th centuries without investigation. 1990s excavations in the College itself revealed a sequence dating back to Roman times with evidence of riverside activity.

The date of foundation of St Clement's Church is disputed. It may be a Scandinavian dedication and so belong to the short-lived Danish occupation of Cambridge (c886-917), however there is no independent evidence that the church predates the Norman conquest.

Building No. / Name	Status	Age	Height (storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
1 & 2	Listed Grade II	c1825	3	grey gault brick (painted)	parapet		
3	Listed Grade II	1729	3 + attics	brown-red & vitreous purple brick (painted)	dormers / tile		
4	Listed Grade II	1729	3 + attics	red brick (painted)	mansard / slate		
5	none	C18 / C19	3	painted brick	parapet		
6 & 7	none	early C20	3 + attic	painted brick	gabled		
8	Listed Grade II	C18	3 + attic	brick	dormer / tile		
9	Listed Grade II	C18, but with much older core	3	timber-framed & plastered	tile		
Cambridge Union Society Building	Listed Grade II	1866		red brick with coloured bands	gables & finials / tile	A. Waterhouse	
Church of the Holy Sepulchre	Listed Grade I	C12, C15 & 1841	N/A	stone	stone slate	restored & partly rebuilt 1841: A. Salvin	
10	Listed Grade II	C17 & C18	2 + attic	plastered front	slate		
11	Listed Grade II	C17 & C18	2	plastered front			
12	Listed Grade II	c1600	2 + attics	plastered front	mansard / tile		
13	Listed Grade II	C17 & C18	2 + attics	plastered front			
14	Listed Grade II	C17 & C18	2 + attics	plastered front	mansard		
15 & 16	Listed Grade II	early C16, altered C19	3	timber-framed & plastered	tile		
17 & 18 The Mitre Public House	Listed Grade II	early / mid C19	4	grey gault brick	parapet		

Building No. / Name	Status	Age	Height (storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
19 The Baron of Beef Public House	Listed Grade II	early C19	3	painted brick	parapet / modern tile		
20	BLI	C20	4	gault brick	slate		
St Clement's Church	Listed Grade B	C13 & C14 restored 1863	N/A	brick / stone	slate / tile	Charles Humphrey: West Tower 1821	rebuilt aisles C16; chancel c1726
Telephone kiosk outside St Clement's Church	Listed Grade II	1935	N/A	cast iron		Sir Giles Gilbert Scott	
21-24	Listed Grade II	c1835	3	grey gault brick	parapet / slate		
25 & 26	Listed Grade II	C16	2 + attics	timber-framed & plastered	dormers / tile		
27 / 28	none	C20	3	brown brick	tile		
29	Listed Grade II	C16 / C17 altered C19	3 + cellar + attic	timber-framed / plastered	mansard / tile		
30a	BLI	C18 / C19	3 + attic	timber-framed & plastered	tile		
30b, 32 & 32b	none	C20	3	red brick & plastered	slate		
33	BLI	C19 / C20	1	gault brick	parapet		
33a	BLI	C20	3	brick	slate		
34-36	BLI	C19	3	brick	parapet		
37	BLI	C18 / C19	2	brick	hipped / tile		
Master's Lodge	Listed Grade II	1863	2 + attic	red / blue brick, stone dressings	embattlements, gables / tile	Sir George Gilbert Scott	St John's College
North Court	BLI	1938-40	3+ attic	red / brown brick	tile	Sir E Maufe	St John's College
Forecourt							
63-65	Listed Grade II	C18, frontage altered C19	3	timber-framed, rendered & painted	modern tile		
66	Listed Grade II	C18, altered C19	3	timber-framed, rendered & painted	tile		
67	Listed Grade II	C18	2 + attic + basement	timber-framed with plastered front	dormer / tile		
67a	BLI	1876 / 7	2	gault brick, dressed stone details	gabled / slate		mild Tudor perpendicular style
68	Listed Grade II	C18, refronted C19	2 + attic	red brick front	dormer / tile		
69	Listed Grade II	C18	3	red brick	parapet / tile		
entrance doorway to no 70	Listed Grade II	early C19	N/A	painted timber			Gothic style
71, 71a & 72	Listed Grade II	C18	3	timber-framed, plastered & painted	tile		
73	Listed Grade II	early C19	4	grey gault brick	slate		