

Fulwood

CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

March 2008



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After a period of public consultation, Sheffield City Council adopted this Conservation Area Appraisal and the accompanying Management Proposals for Fulwood on 25th March 2008, which means they are now a material consideration in the determination of planning applications in the area.

FULWOOD CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

1.0 Introduction

Purpose of the appraisal

1.1 This appraisal seeks to record and analyse the various features which give the Fulwood Conservation Area its special architectural and historic interest. The area's buildings and spaces are noted and described, and marked on the Townscape Appraisal map along with listed buildings, buildings of townscape merit, significant trees and spaces, and important views into and out of the conservation area. There is a presumption that all of these features should be "preserved or enhanced", as required by the legislation.

1.2 This appraisal builds upon national policy, as set out in PPG15, and local policy (2.4 - 2.7). It provides a firm basis on which applications for development within the Fulwood Conservation Area can be assessed.



Fulwood viewed from the south

1.3 To be concise and readable, the appraisal does not record all features. The omission of any feature from the text or accompanying maps does not, therefore, mean that it is not of interest or value.

Summary of special interest

1.4 The Fulwood Conservation Area was designated on 12th July, 1976.

1.5 The special interest that justifies designation of the Fulwood Conservation Area derives from the following features:

- Winding historic thoroughfare rising from The Old Chapel past Christ Church to Old Fulwood Road;
 - Hillside location on Sheffield's urban/rural fringe;
 - The architectural and historic interest of the area's buildings, 10 of which are listed buildings;
 - Christ Church (1837), a local landmark and a historic building with noteworthy late 20th century enlargements;
 - Old Chapel (1729) with picturesque setting;
 - Three small townscape features of interest (listed grade II): Village Stocks, War Memorial and Boulsover Monument;
 - Good examples of modest late 19th /early 20th century middle-class houses;
 - Short row of late 19th century small workers' brick cottages in Chorley Road;
 - Former 18th century mill workers' cottages, notably Beech Dene and Ivy Cottages;
 - Fine ensemble of late 18th century stone-built buildings comprising Brook
-

House, Brook House Farm, Brook Lodge and Brook Cottage;

- Open space and trees in the large well-stocked churchyard around Christ Church;
- Remnants of a historic floorscape including stone kerbstones and, most notably, flagstone paving along south boundary of churchyard;
- Historical associations with Thomas Boulsover (1705-88), inventor of Sheffield Plate;
- The prevalent use of local stone for buildings, boundary walls, gate piers and floorscape;
- Porter Brook and Whiteley Woods which are part of a green corridor from the city to the edge of the Peak National Park;
- Section of 'Porter Valley Parks', a grade II registered historic park;
- Industrial archaeology sites, notably Forge Dam and Wire Mill Dam and associated goits, sluices and water channels;
- Local Nature Reserve at Whiteley Woods which contains attractive woodland walks with a wide variety of flora and fauna;
- Views out of the conservation area over Porter Valley (southwards);



Chorley Road



Variety in roof height, Brookhouse Hill

2.0 The planning policy context

2.1 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*”. It is the quality and interest of an *area*, rather than that of individual buildings, which is the prime consideration in identifying a conservation area.

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

2.3 This document should be read in conjunction with national planning policy guidance, particularly Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 (PPG 15) – Planning and the Historic Environment. The layout and content follows guidance produced by English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the English Historic Towns Forum.

Local planning policy

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

2.5 The *Unitary Development Plan (UDP)* which is the statutory development plan for Sheffield, adopted in March 1998.

2.6 The *Sheffield Development Framework (SDF)* will be the City's portfolio of local development documents, collectively delivering the spatial planning strategy for the whole of the Sheffield District, except for the area in the Peak Park. Once adopted, the SDF will replace the Unitary Development Plan (UDP).

2.7 The *Sheffield Urban Design Compendium*, a design guide primarily for the City Centre, although much of the design guidance is relevant throughout the rest of the city. The compendium provides information for designers, and sets out strategic information at a city wide level. It provides guidance relating to the specific parts of the city, for both the built form and public realm.



Oriel Road

3.0 Location and setting

Location and context

3.1 The Fulwood Conservation Area is located in the southwest of Sheffield, some 7 km from the city centre. Fulwood is a highly desirable residential area of Sheffield; housing includes detached properties, many semi-detached houses, privately owned/rented purpose-built flats and a few older terraced properties. It is very well served by public transport. The conservation area covers the old core of the village south and east of the parish church, open pastureland important to the village's setting on Sheffield's urban fringe and Porter Brook's wooded valley bottom.



Location of Fulwood Conservation Area in Sheffield

The effect of historical development on plan form; settlement pattern

3.2 At the start of the 19th century the area enclosed within today's Fulwood Conservation Area comprised a few buildings and a chapel beside a network

of rural lanes. In the valley bottom there were three dams and a few associated workshops and cottages beside Porter Brook.



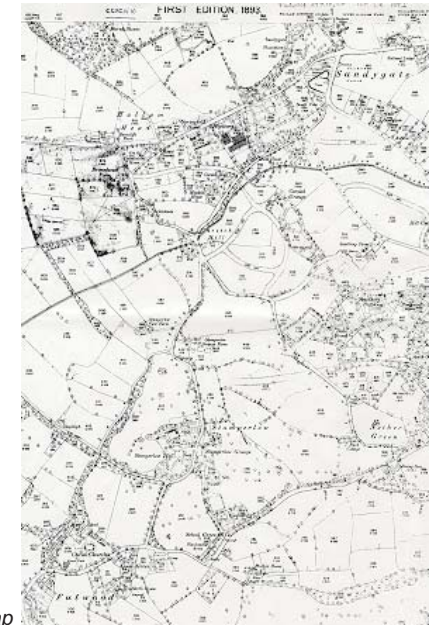
Extract from Fairbanks' Map of 1795

3.3 Fairbanks' map of 1795 shows a winding west-east route which is followed by today's Whiteley Lane, Brookhouse Hill and Fulwood Road. At its eastern end the route originally followed today's Old Fulwood Road – the length of Fulwood Road in front of nos. 614 to 622 Fulwood Road was built c1930. The triangular space in which Christ Church now stands is visible on the 1795 map, bounded by today's Chorley Road, Canterbury Avenue and the northern section of Brookhouse Hill. The map clearly identifies *Fulwood Chapel*, which is known to have been built in 1729. Development is marked on the site of today's Brook House and Brook Lodge and building on the east side of Brookhouse Hill is identified as *Brookhouse Green*. Unidentified buildings are shown at Goole Green Farm. Brookhouse Hill led down to Porter Brook where Forge Dam, a nearby second dam (now filled in) and Wire Mill Dam are shown and there are sketchy indications of Ivy Cottages and Beech Dene, which today are grade II listed buildings.



Semi-detached houses in Brookhouse Hill

3.4 Sixty years later, at the time of the 1855 OS map, there does not appear to have been much expansion of the scattered hamlet except for the significant introduction of Christ Church (1837) and National School (c.1840). When first built, Christ Church was a much smaller and humbler building than today. The 1855 map shows clusters of buildings on the east side of Brookhouse Hill and around Brook House, at Goole Green (the building now known as 'The Guildhall' is shown) and at School Green (the environs of the Old Coffee House). The village was still a long way from Sheffield's growing conurbation. Surrounding countryside was a patchwork of fields.



Extract from 1893 OS Map

3.5 By the 1890s Fulwood had begun to take on a recognisable identity as a growing community in relatively easy reach of Sheffield but still in a wholly rural setting. The 1893 O.S. map shows that more houses had been built on the east side of Brookhouse Hill and short rows of houses in Chorley Road. A large house, Storth House, had been built south of Goole Green Farm - since demolished and replaced by Storth Park.

3.6 By 1905 Oriel Road had been constructed but not fully built out. The Sheffield Royal Hospital Annexe was built in 1907. The village was not yet a suburb but the 1905 O.S. map shows that Sheffield was sprawling westwards. Work commenced on Fulwood Hall in 1911 (now surrounded by modern NHS developments just outside the conservation area). Major housing developments of the 1920s and 30s almost engulfed the old core of Fulwood but the steep slopes south of Fulwood Road were not developed and they still remain as open fields grazed by horses.

4.0 Landscape setting

Topography and relationship to surroundings

4.1 Fulwood parish is surrounded by moors and the beautiful Mayfield Valley. Fulwood Conservation Area, which encloses the old village of Fulwood, is situated on a south-facing slope that descends to Porter Brook. The conservation area lies on the extremity of Sheffield where suburbia meets rural farmland. To the north and east lies 20th century housing estates, to the south and west lies open countryside. The boundary of the Peak National Park runs in a north-south direction about 2km to the west.



Wildfowl at Forge Dam

5.0 Historic development and archaeology

Archaeological significance

5.1 Although the Sites and Monuments Record and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service's Historic Environment Characterisation Study cannot be regarded as definitive or comprehensive, data from both sources indicates the presence of a number of sites of early dams and water-driven forging hammers, rolling mills and water wheels associated with Sheffield's early development as a centre for various metal working crafts. There is also a possible prehistoric or Roman burial mound (in Whitely Woods) and Porter Valley Park is important as an example of a designed landscape.

5.2 The whole of the conservation area therefore has archaeological potential above and below the ground, and it is likely that further consideration will need to be given to the effect of applications for substantial new development.

Origins and historic development

5.3 The name Fulwood comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'ful-wudu' meaning a

wet, marshy woodland. At the Domesday Survey the manor of Hallam, containing Fulwood, was part of the estate of Roger de Busli. The Norman Thomas de Furnival granted to the canons of Beauchief Abbey “common of pasture in his free chaces of Folewoode and Ryvelingdene everywhere, sufficient for all their cattle, except goats”.

Village

5.4 A document of 1613 mentions ‘Brookehouse’ at Fulwood. In 1666 Fulwood Spa was a popular resort. Hunter, in his *History of Hallamshire*, mentions the Spa at Fulwood, stating that it once had a very great reputation particularly against the plague. Dr Short, author of *The History of the Mineral Waters of South Yorkshire* (1730), visited the spa in person and says it was sometimes called Fulwood Spa and sometimes Eaton Spa after its benefactor, the philanthropic Thomas Eaton, who paid for housing to be built over it. The exact position of the spa is unknown but is thought to be in the vicinity of Fulwood Chapel

5.5 Fulwood Old Chapel in Whiteley Lane was founded in 1728 and built in 1729. William Ronksley left £400 in his will to erect a chapel for the use of “Protestant Dissenters”. Next to the chapel is an old house, built in 1754, where the minister used to live. In the 18th century the waters of Porter Brook became a centre for cutlery manufacture (see below) but the village did not appreciably expand. Christ Church was built in 1837, funded by Phoebe Silcock who lived on the other side of the valley in Whiteley Wood Hall, previously occupied by Thomas Boulsover. She also supported the construction of the school behind the church in 1840. However, even in the mid-19th century Fulwood ‘village’ was still only a spread-out collection of clusters of buildings.

5.6 The village centre began to take shape along the roads beside Christ Church at the end of the 19th century as middle class industrialists moved there to take advantage of its sunny, south-facing aspect and close proximity to Sheffield. In addition to its few 18th century buildings, Fulwood Conservation Area is notable for typical late Victorian and Edwardian stone-fronted detached and semi-detached houses. In contrast, Chorley Road contains a number of

brick-built workers’ cottages dating from c.1890.

5.7 In the 1920s and 1930s Sheffield’s suburbia spread out as far as Fulwood and the village became a suburb of Sheffield. Thanks to open space to the south and views of near-by countryside, it has retained a semi-rural feel. After the influx of housing during the inter-war years, further dwellings were built in the conservation area in the second half of the 20th century mainly in the form of backland or replacement developments such as Storth Park and Oriel Mount. Christ Church was enlarged in the 1950s and the former school was extended to create the Church Centre in 1975.



Fulwood Old Chapel

Porter Valley

5.8 In the 18th century, cutlery manufacture in Sheffield was centred around fast-flowing streams, coming off the moors west of the town. The Porter Brook was a typical example, damned to provide power to a series of small grinding mills.

5.9 Wire Mill Dam was built in 1761 by Thomas Boulsover and has the longest headrace in the city. It is fed by the weir below Forge Dam. It was formerly two dams but these were joined into one in the 1820s. In the 1860s it was

used by a firm called Ramsdens and turned into a wire mill, hence the name. Thomas Boulsover (1705-1788), the inventor of Old Sheffield Plate (a fusion of silver and copper) lived at Whiteley Wood Hall (demolished 1957, only the stables remain), which stood in an elevated position to the south (outside the conservation area) overlooking the Porter valley. He built his rolling mill and forge on the River Porter at Whiteley Woods. The works buildings were below the dam behind where now stands a stone monument.

5.10 The first known mention of Forge Dam, further upstream, was in 1779 when it was owned by Thomas Boulsover. It was built to power a tilt hammer. The remains of a water wheel are evident immediately north of the café which stands beside the old works. The old forge operated until 1887 after which the dam was used for boating and skating. It is now maintained as a habitat for wildlife. Another dam stood east of Forge Dam but has been filled in.



Ivy Cottages beside Porter Brook

5.11 As industry relocated to the east of the town, the water-powered workshops were abandoned. Toward the end of the 19th century attention focused on using the Porter valley to serve the needs of the rapidly expanding western suburbs.

5.12 The valley's history as a public 'green corridor' from the city out to the edge of the Peak National Park started in 1885 when the first land was bought and William Goldring, a nationally acclaimed park designer, was commissioned

by the Corporation to adapt Endcliffe Wood for public use. The last acquisition was at the far end of the valley. Porter Clough, where the Porter Brook tumbles down between steep, wooded slopes, was presented to the town by the Graves Trust in 1937.

6.0 Spatial analysis

Key views and vistas

6.1 Views from Christ Church's churchyard encapsulate the conservation area's location on the urban/rural fringe. There are westward views over the rooftops of suburbia to the Peak District and southward views to sheep grazing on the green slopes on the far side of the Porter Brook valley. Southward views to the other side of the valley, from the Brookhouse Hill/Crimicar Lane junction for instance, are one of the distinctive characteristics of the area.

6.2 The tower of Christ Church, which stands in an elevated churchyard close to the top of the hill, is a local landmark, which is prominent in views from the other side of the valley.

6.3 The winding paths beside Porter Brook afford ever-changing views of woodland contrasted with views of open grassland to the south.



Distant view of former Royal Hospital Annexe

The character of spaces within the area

6.4 The old village is mainly characterised by detached and semi-detached properties with small front gardens and larger rear gardens. Buildings are located close together in the centre of the village but there is a generally more spacious feel in the eastern part, in the vicinity of The Guildhall and in the western part, on Whiteley Lane. The most significant open space within the village is the churchyard of Christ Church. The grassy park opposite The Old Chapel provides a good setting for the 18th century buildings and marks the end of the built-up part of the village.

6.5 Grassland between the old village and the valley bottom has an open rural feel, divided into fields and paddocks by stone walls and timber fences. In contrast, the valley bottom is heavily wooded with an enclosed, secluded sylvan atmosphere.



Open space opposite Fulwood Old Chapel

7.0 Definition of the special interest of the conservation area

Activities/uses

7.1 Fulwood Conservation Area encloses what was a small rural hamlet whose existence and economy was inextricably linked to the small water-powered industries located on the Porter Brook. The old village is now part of Sheffield and the industries left over 100 years ago.

7.2 Today, the village, much expanded, is still primarily residential - even the former Sheffield Hospital Annexe has been converted to residential use. There are two places of worship within the conservation area, a couple of shops (the main shopping parade is just outside the conservation area), Christ Church Centre and playgroup, and a car repair workshop. NHS administrative and hospital buildings, which are a major source of employment, lie immediately to the east of the conservation area in and around Fulwood House.

7.3 Small-scale industry along the Porter Brook has long departed and the valley bottom is now public woodland popular with walkers who appreciate the wildlife and sites of industrial archaeology. On the site of the forge at Forge Dam is a café next to which is a modern children's playground and picnic spot. Wire Mill Dam is a popular place for fishing. The grassland between valley bottom and village is mostly used for grazing horses.



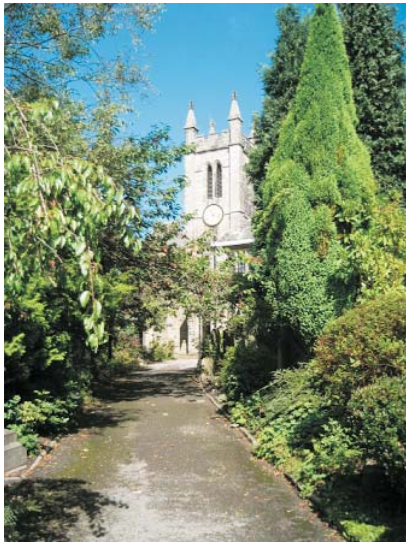
*Roadside former barn,
Whiteley Lane (south)*

Architectural and historic character

7.4 The conservation area contains a small number of notable 18th century buildings (e.g. Ivy Cottages and The Old Chapel) and a modest church from the mid 19th century, but is mainly characterised by detached and semi-detached houses from c.1880-1920.

7.5 The conservation area's late 19th century houses have an austere and solid appearance arising from the colour of the stone and slate, and heavy Victorian detailing. Typical details include canted bays in stone or timber, some two storeys in height, wide eaves supported on timber brackets and red clay crested ridge tiles. Window openings commonly have stone surrounds and the windows are recessed, mostly timber sliding sashes with either one-over-one or two-over-two panes.

7.6 Local stone is the most prevalent building material, usually coursed and squared. Buildings from the mid 19th century and earlier are likely to have roofs of stone slates, though some have been replaced with slate or other material. The Old Coffee House, Brook House Farm and Brook Lodge Cottage have stone roofs. Regrettably The Old Chapel of 1729 has a roof of artificial slates. These, older, buildings have casement windows as opposed to the sliding sash windows prevalent in the conservation area's late 19th century dwellings. Two storeys is the norm, bay windows and dormers are not uncommon



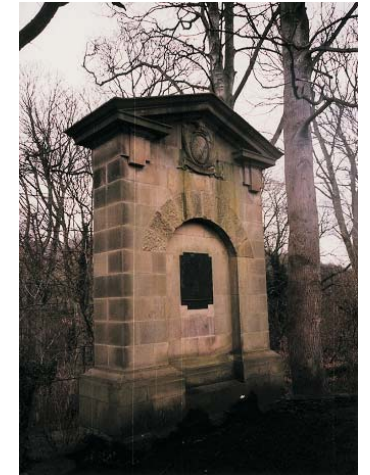
Tower of Christ Church

7.7 Whilst most buildings are fronted with stone, side elevations are often constructed with brick. Cottages in Chorley Road are built with brick, some now rendered. Welsh slate is the most common roofing material.

Listed buildings

7.8 There are 10 grade II listed buildings within the Fulwood Conservation Area.

- **Christ Church, Brookhouse Hill.** Parish church 1837-9 by R Potter. Chancel and south aisle 1953-6, north aisle c1963 and west end stair turrets c1980 by GG Pace.
- **War Memorial and railing, Canterbury Avenue.** c.1920. Ashlar with wrought-iron railing and bronze plaque.
- **The Guildhall, Fulwood Road.** Dated 1824 with later alterations. Coursed squared stone with ashlar dressings and stone slate roof. Probably part of Goole Green Farm. From the late 19th century it was used as the Fulwood Church Hall.
- **The Old Chapel, Whiteley Lane.** Unitarian chapel dated 1729.
- **Village Stocks at The Old Chapel** were moved to the Chapel's garden when the road was widened in the 1930s.
- **No. 8 (Chapel House) Whiteley Lane.** Mid 18th century (altered) with early 19th century lattice porch.
- **4 & 6 Ivy Cottages.** Late 18th century. Coursed squared stone with Welsh slate roof.
- **8 Ivy Cottages.** Late 18th century. Coursed squared stone with Welsh slate roof.
- **Boulsover Monument.** 1927. Ashlar. Built for David Flather, Master Cutler 1927-28. The stone is said to have been taken from the ruins of nearby Wire Mill.



Thomas Boulsover Monument

- **Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Brookhouse Hill (Beech Dene or Forge Cottages)** 4 houses now 3 houses late 18th century with 19th century alterations.

Key unlisted buildings - Buildings of Townscape Merit

7.9 Marked on the Townscape Appraisal map for the Fulwood Conservation Area are a number of *unlisted* buildings which have been judged as making a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the conservation area. 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.

7.10 'Buildings of Townscape Merit' include no. 14 Old Fulwood Road (the former house of Fulwood House's gardener/coachman and a good example of Edwardian building c.1910), The Old Coffee House in Old Fulwood Road (an early 19th century building, formerly the Blacksmith's Arms public house), the converted former Sheffield Royal Hospital Annexe (1907) and a row of brick workers' cottages in Chorley Road.



Looking east along Whiteley Lane



Roadside trees along Brookhouse Hill

7.11 The buildings are considered to be good, relatively unaltered examples, of their type where original materials and details, and the basic, historic form of the building, has survived. Where a building has been adversely affected by modern changes and restoration is either impractical or indeed, not possible, they are excluded.

7.12 There is a general presumption in favour of retaining all Buildings of Townscape Merit, as set out in PPG15.

Public realm: Floorscape, boundaries, street lighting and street furniture

7.13 The public realm is generally modern. The main exception is a good length of historic stone paving beside the churchyard wall on the north side of Brookhouse Hill between Chorley Road and Canterbury Avenue. There are two shorter lengths of similar stone paving on the south side opposite the church.



Natural stone paving in Brookhouse Hill

7.14 Some of the carriageways in the conservation area retain historic stone kerbs, for example in Canterbury Avenue, Oriel Road and Old Fulwood Road.

7.15 Lighting is provided by modern lighting columns but there are a few surviving examples of old, fluted cast iron lighting columns in Oriel Road.

7.16 Stone boundary walls are a common feature of the conservation area. There is a particularly fine old wall surrounding the churchyard.

Green spaces, trees and other natural elements

7.17 The southern half of the Fulwood Conservation Area is grassy fields or woodland. The fields are private but the woodland is open to the public. There are well-stocked private gardens within the built-up northern half of the conservation area and a number of prominent trees, especially within the churchyard. These trees, and other significant trees or tree groups (e.g. at the top of Chorley Road, trees beside the War Memorial and roadside trees in Oriel Road), are marked on the Townscape Appraisal map. Lack of a specific reference does not imply that a tree or group is not of value.

7.18 Whiteley Woods, a linear band of woodland on either side of Porter Brook, is the main feature of the valley bottom where there are also two ponds, Forge Dam and Wire Mill Dam. The area is a Local Nature Reserve in which there is a large variety of flora and fauna, especially birds. Wire Mill Dam is an important breeding site for toads. Whiteley Woods is under a programme of management in accordance with the Forestry Commission's



Footpath in summer north of Forge Dam

Local details and features

7.19 The distinctive local identity of the Fulwood Conservation Area is enhanced by a number of features and historic elements that cumulatively help to give the conservation area a sense of place. Apart from the obvious items such as the Stocks, War Memorial and Boulsover Monument (all of which are listed grade II), this includes stone roadside kerbs, stone gate piers, iron railings beside the public footpath and the stone stile in the churchyard wall.



Stone gate pier and iron gate at entrance to churchyard

Historic associations

7.20 Thomas Boulsover (1705-1788), whose monument stands beside Wire Mill Dam, helped shape the industrial history of Sheffield by the invention of Sheffield Plate. By fusing silver and copper Boulsover was able to make sheets of metal, which had a thin layer of silver on the top surface and a thick layer of copper underneath. When this new material was used to make buttons, they looked and behaved like silver buttons but were a fraction of the cost. He specialized in making small articles such as buttons and snuff boxes. In 1760, he bought land on the River Porter (around the site of today's Wire Mill Dam) from the Duke of Norfolk and built workshops at the side of the river using water power to roll steel products.

Character areas

7.21 The Fulwood Conservation Area is made up of three distinctively separate character areas:

- Area 1 - The built environment of the old village;
- Area 2 - The fields between village and wooded valley;
- Area 3 – Whiteley Woods: linear woodland alongside Porter Brook.

Area 1 - The built environment in the old village;

7.22 This character area comprises the historic core of Fulwood around Christ Church and the old route along Whiteley Lane, Brookhouse Hill and Fulwood Road.

Key characteristics of Character Area 1:

- Winding thoroughfare rising from The Old Chapel past Christ Church to Old Fulwood Road;
- Key buildings: The Old Chapel, Christ Church, The Guildhall;

- Late 18th century buildings comprising Brook House, Brook House Farm, Brook Lodge and Brook Cottage;
- Stone-built houses dating mainly from the late 19th/early 20th centuries;
- Christ Church, a local landmark;
- Open space of the large churchyard around Christ Church;
- Stone paving along south boundary of churchyard;
- Primarily residential;
- Views across Porter Brook valley;
- Trees and well stocked gardens;

Negatives:

- Numerous parked cars, many badly parked, in the vicinity of NHS premises in Old Fulwood Road;
- Scout hut and NHS clubhouse are low quality single-storey buildings out of character with the conservation area;
- Insensitive extension of historic buildings;
- Loss of original building materials and details.



Characteristic stone building and greenery

Area 2 - The fields between village and wooded valley;

7.23 This character area includes the private sloping fields and sports ground around Mayfield Heights, the former Sheffield Royal Hospital Annexe. Its northern boundary accords with Sheffield Local Plan's 'Green Belt' i.e. it lies within countryside where there is a general presumption against inappropriate development.

Key characteristics of Character Area 2:

- South-facing open space sloping down to Porter Brook;
- Open fields bounded by stone walls and timber post-and-rail fences;
- Southern boundary enclosed by Whiteley Woods;
- Predominance of paddocks for horses;
- Large former Sheffield Hospital Annexe (1907) converted to residential use with new garages and parking to the rear;
- Views across Porter Brook valley;
- Traditional drystone field boundary walls;
- Rural atmosphere.



Forge Houses, Listed Grade II

Area 3 – Whiteley Woods: linear woodland alongside Porter Brook.

7.24 This character area is composed of the southern section of the conservation area which includes Whiteley Woods along the Porter valley and the public park north-east of Forge Dam which has pedestrian access directly from Whiteley Lane. It is part of a sequence of municipal parks and green spaces along the valley of Porter Brook known as 'Porter Valley Parks'.

7.25 Porter Valley Parks stretch for about 5 km from Endcliffe Park to Porter Clough. The sequence was created in phases between 1885 and 1938 and is in public use in the ownership of Sheffield City Council. Porter Valley Parks are registered (grade II) on the English Heritage *Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England*.

7.26 The character area comprises that part of the registered Porter Valley Parks that is located within the conservation area, plus two buildings in Ivy Cottage Lane, which on a shelf above Porter Brook, are just outside the confines of the registered park.

7.27 The area contains many features of industrial archaeological interest, natural history and ecological interest.

Key characteristics of Character Area 3:

- Porter Brook;
- Whiteley Woods;
- Part of Porter Valley Parks, a grade II registered historic park;
- On the green corridor from city to the edge of Peak National Park;
- On the route of the Sheffield 14 mile 'Round Walk';
- Industrial archaeology sites;
- Local Nature Reserve, wide variety of flora and fauna;

- Thomas Boulsover Monument;
- Forge Dam and Wire Mill Dam and associated goits and water channels;
- Former workers' cottages, notably Beech Dene and Ivy Cottages;
- Popular café and children's playground; Woodland walks.
- Industrial archaeology sites;
- Local Nature Reserve, wide variety of flora and fauna;
- Thomas Boulsover Monument;
- Forge Dam and Wire Mill Dam and associated goits and water channels;
- Former workers' cottages, notably Beech Dene and Ivy Cottages;
- Popular café and children's playground;
- Woodland walks.

Negative:

- Forge Dam is beginning to silt up.



Footpath beside Porter Brook

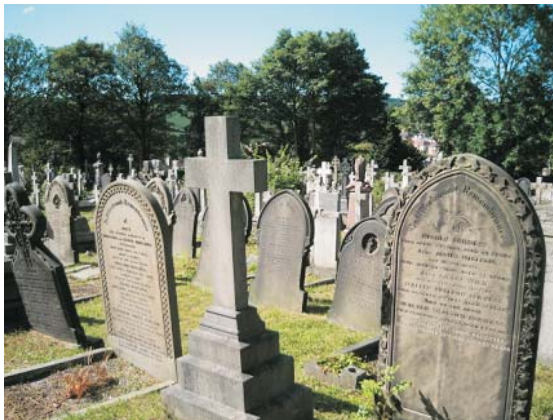
8.0 Issues

8.1 This section contains a brief summary of the strengths and weaknesses of the Fulwood Conservation Area together with recommendation, if any, for changes to the current conservation area boundary. Strengths and weaknesses, together with other more specific 'positives' and 'negatives' that were identified during the appraisal process, form the basis of a separate document, known as the *Fulwood Conservation Area Management Proposals*.

8.2 The *Management Proposals* set objectives for addressing the issues arising from this appraisal and make recommendations for possible improvements and the avoidance of harmful change.

Strengths

- Special historic character and appearance;
- Good public access to city centre;
- Haven for wildlife and walkers along Porter Brook;
- Popular public recreation area.



Christ Church churchyard

Weaknesses

- Loss of original architectural details such as doors, windows and roof material. (Many of the unlisted, and some of the listed, buildings in the conservation have been adversely affected by the use of inappropriate modern materials or details such as the replacement of original timber sash windows with uPVC or aluminium, the loss of original timber front doors and the replacement of Welsh slate roofs with concrete tiles);
- Single storey 'huts' by The Guildhall are out of keeping with the conservation area;
- On-street parking dominates the streetscene around Old Fulwood Road;
- Inappropriate and potentially damaging 'strap' pointing of stone walls;
- Forge Dam is beginning to silt up;

Fulwood Conservation Area boundary review

8.3 It is recommended that the existing boundaries of the conservation area boundary remain unaltered.

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Maps: Gosling (1736), Fairbanks (1771, 1795, 1797, 1808), J. Tayler (1832), Ordnance Survey (1855), W.White (1863), Ordnance Survey (1893, 1894, 1903).

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Useful Contacts and Addresses

For information on listed buildings and conservation areas:

Urban Design and Conservation Team
Sheffield City Council,
Howden House,
1 Union Street,
Sheffield S1 2SH.
Tel: 0114 273 5804

www.sheffield.gov.uk/in-your-area/planning-and-city-development/urban-design--conservation

For information on the status and interpretation of the statutory Development Plan and supplementary planning guidance:

Forward and Area Planning Team
Sheffield City Council,
Howden House,
1 Union Street,
Sheffield S1 2SH.
Tel: 0114 273 4157

For further information relating to listed buildings and conservation areas:

English Heritage
37 Tanner Row
York
YO1 6WP
Tel: 01904 601901

For an excellent range of technical advice leaflets:

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB)
37 Spital Square
London E1 6DY
Tel: 020 7377 1644

The Georgian Group
6 Fitzroy Square
London W1T 5DX
Tel: 020 75298920

The Victorian Society,
1 Priory Gardens,
Bedford Park,
London W4 1TT
Telephone: 020 8994 1019

The Twentieth Century Society
70 Cowcross Street
London EC1M 6EJ

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-  Current Conservation Area boundary
-  Listed building
-  Building of Townscape Merit
-  Green open space important to semi-rural setting
-  Prominent tree
-  Wooded Area
-  Important Open Space within village
-  Registered Park & Garden of special historic interest
-  Significant view
-  Focal building

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL
 DIRECTORATE OF DEVELOPMENT
 ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JOHN MOTHERSOLE

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
 DIRECTOR
 D CURTIS BA, DIP.TP, MRTPI, FIHT

SCHEME:

TITLE:
FULWOOD CONSERVATION AREA

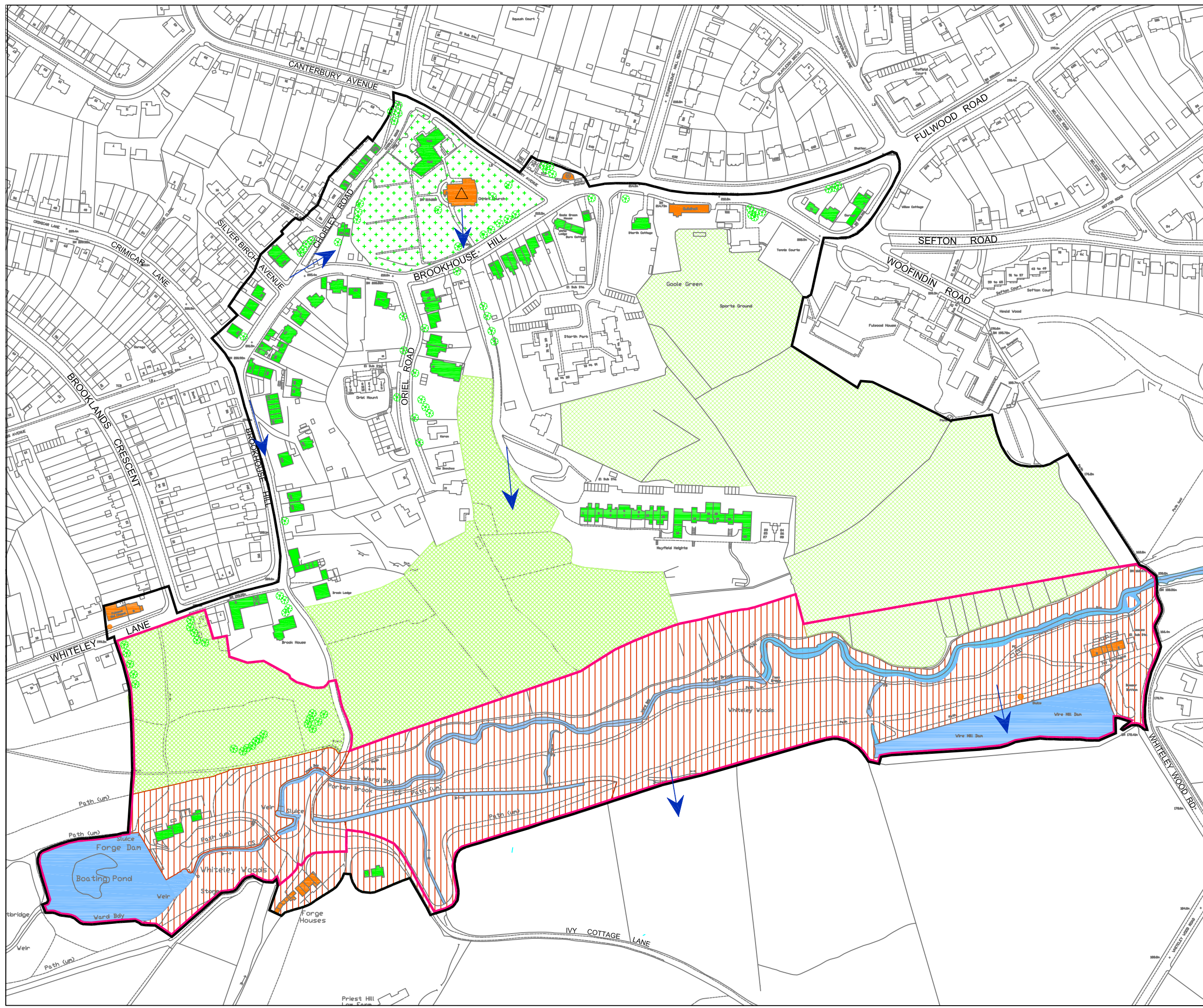
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Summary of Consultation undertaken

A consultation draft of this document was subject to a period of consultation between 28th January and 24th February 2008. All local residents in the conservation area were sent details of where they could view the document with a survey form asking for their comments. The public were also invited to a half-day meeting held at Christ Church, Fulwood during the consultation period, where they could discuss the Appraisal or Management Proposals with officers from the Council's Urban Design and Conservation Team. Local members and local community groups were also consulted as part of the process. 23 comments were received on the draft appraisal and after being revised in light of the comments received, it was adopted by Sheffield City Council on 25th March 2008.