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A. East Park, c1890 (copyright) Historic England
B. Present day view from the Cenotaph looking east across Above Bar Street to East Park

Brief description

The parks were laid out between the mid 1850s and early 1860s. They comprise: Watts (also known as West) Park, East Park, Palmerston Park, Houndwell, and Hoglands. These inter-linked parks provide a chain of public open space through the heart of the city. The parks were developed on former common land from 1846 and are early examples of municipal parks. The Marsh Improvement Act of 1844 provided the city authorities with the legislation necessary for acquiring and building on the Lammas Lands:

'be devoted and kept....exclusively as open spaces for the general and public advantage of the inhabitants of Southampton and of all other persons for the time being interested in the same being so devoted and kept' (The Marsh Act – Clause 118)

Their overall design is largely unchanged from their original layout mid-19th century design although their setting has, in places, been radically transformed. They have rich time-depth having formerly been part of the town's Lammas lands. Within the parks there are a number of structures and features, a number of which are separately listed including the town's war memorial and the Titanic Engineers Memorial.

Designations

- Registered Historic Park and Garden (Number: 1001323)
- Grade II* Listed
- Southampton Cenotaph Grade I Listed
- Watt's Monument Grade II Listed
- Monument to the Engineers of the Titanic Grade II Listed
- Monument to Richard Andrews Grade II Listed
- Sundial Grade II Listed

Heritage asset values

Evidential

- Medieval references historically known as East and West Marlands. East Park and West Park (including the land on which the Civic Centre now stands) were the East and West Magdalens (or Marlands), lands granted for the maintenance of the leper hospital of St Mary Magdalene
- East Marlands was one of the earliest sections (1845-46) to be laid out with provisional system of cross paths
- Sports facilities added to East Park in the 1920s; bowls, tennis courts and putting green
- Watts and Andrews monuments (Grade II listed) are thought to be additions to the design and not originally conceived
- The central tree avenue was planted in 1862. This was not thought to be part of the original concept
- Park originally railed to its borders (removal to East Park occurred 1934)
- To East Park there was a terminus feature – ‘The Mount’ set to be appreciated on a north-south axis – this has been lost
- The detailed design of East Park in particular has been much changed since its inception

Historical

- Legislation which had a defining role in the future form and development of the city. Southampton Marsh Improvement Act 1844 gave power to transfer the majority of ‘Lammas Lands’ into public parks
- Walks, promenades and general positive ambience of the parks described by visitors and guidebooks throughout the C19
- The hymn writer Isaac Watts (1674 -1748) with the Watt’s Monument (1861) a Grade II listed structure to the design of Richard Cockle Lucas, erected by public subscription in West Park
- Cenotaph, erected 1919 a Grade I listed structure designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens
- Richard Andrews (1796 -1859), a coach builder and five times mayor of the city. The statue by Benjamin Brain to Mr Andrews was erected by public subscription
- Edward VII: sundial erected in 1901 and Grade II listed to commemorate the coronation of Edward VII

- Titanic. The Titanic Engineers Memorial Grade II listed structure was erected by subscription from ‘fellow engineers and friends through the world’. Unveiled in 1914 it is dedicated to the citizens of Southampton (of which there were many) who died in the loss of the Titanic which sailed from Southampton on her maiden voyage in 1912

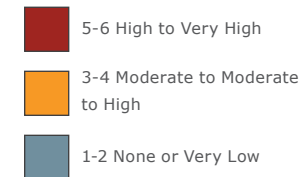
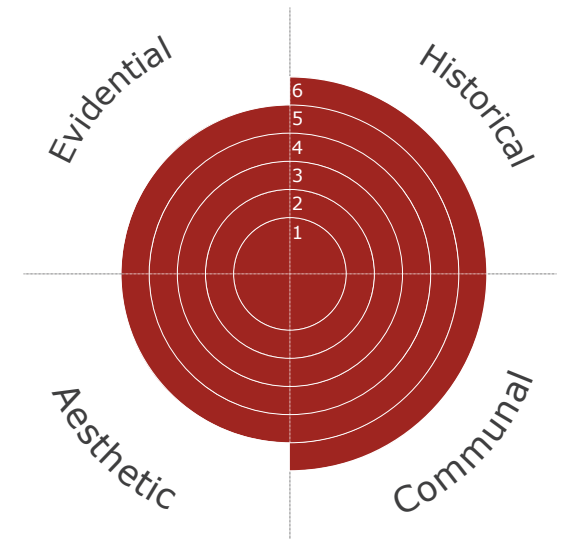
Aesthetic

- Designed on a system of walks. This is a key concept. There are two types of path; the cross path and the promenade. The latter are ornamental walks
- Axial walks and the visual relationships between statues and monuments are a very significant element of the aesthetic appreciation of this part of the Central Parks
- Monuments, memorials and statues are set on axial routes so as they form the termination of key views through the parks
- Long north-south axial walk is an attractive and well-used promenade in the city
- A high quality of craftsmanship shown in the fine group of monuments, memorials, statues and works of art
- Some survival of historic buildings (number of which are listed) which still define parts of the edge of this part of the parks
- Important immediate open setting to the Grade II* Civic Centre
- The enclosure and sense of green space formed by mature trees, which in places obscure buildings from view, give a genuine sense of a mature parkland within a wider urban setting

Communal

- This part of the Central Parks is particularly significant in terms of the high degree of memorial structures, and the Cenotaph which is the focus for remembrance in a city so radically changed by WWII
- The Central Parks collectively have very high communal value. They form a highly valued green space in the heart of the city, used both by residents and visitors. Their close proximity to offices, houses and flats and shops make them popular for sport and active leisure throughout the year, particularly during summer

Significance of heritage asset



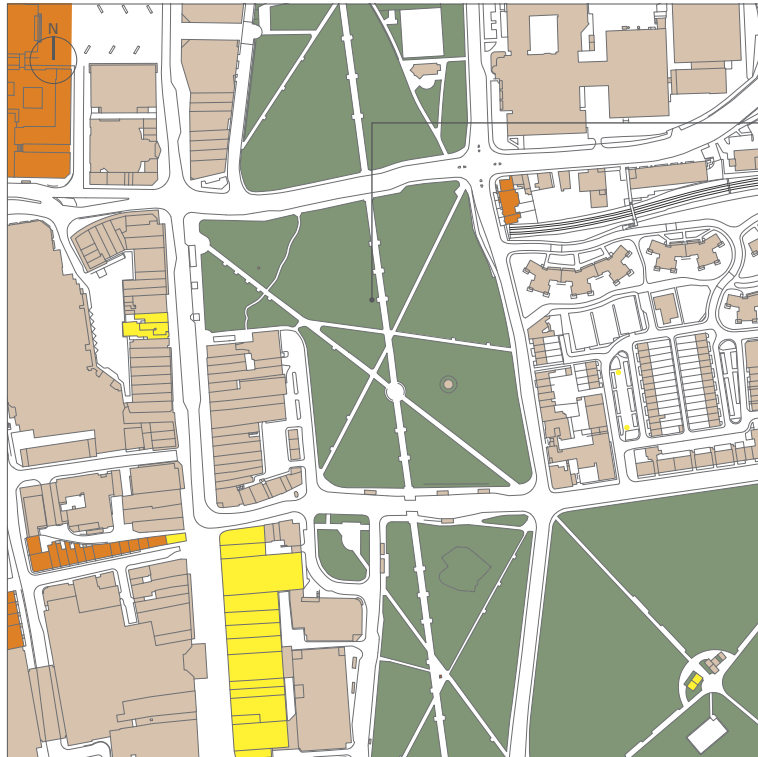


Figure.9 Location plan

Palmerston Park

- Grade I Listed Buildings and/or Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Grade II and II* Listed Buildings
- Locally Listed Building
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Conservation Area
- Old Town

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A. Present day Palmerston Park looking south
B. Present day Palmerston Park looking north eastwards from the area around the bandstand

Brief description

The parks were laid out between the mid 1850s and early 1860s. They comprise: Watts (also known as West) Park, East Park, Palmerston Park, Houndwell, and Hoglands. These inter-linked parks provide a chain of public open space through the heart of the city. The parks were developed on former common land from 1846 and are early examples of municipal parks. The Marsh Improvement Act of 1844 provided the city authorities with the legislation necessary for acquiring and building on the Lammas Lands:

'be devoted and kept...exclusively as open spaces for the general and public advantage of the inhabitants of Southampton and of all other persons for the time being interested in the same being so devoted and kept' (The Marsh Act – Clause 118)

Their overall design is largely unchanged from their original layout mid-19th century design although their setting has, in places, been radically transformed. They have rich time-depth having formerly been part of the town's Lammas Lands. Within the parks there are a number of structures and features, a number of which are separately listed including the town's war memorial and the Titanic Engineers Memorial.

Palmerston Park and Houndwell Park together comprised Houndwell Field, the name being derived from the stream which rose close to the junction of what are now Pound Tree Road and Sussex Road. The eastern boundary originally lay in the western edge of Hoglands, where a fragment of a boundary bank still survives. The new boundary was established when the southern part of Palmerston Road was built in the middle of the C19, alongside an infilled canal.

Designations

- Registered Historic Park and Garden (Number: 1001323)
- Grade II* Listed
- Palmerston's Monument Grade II

Heritage asset values

Evidential

- Medieval references historically formed part of East Marlands. Part of Lammas Lands, medieval land use which in the spring/summer was privately cultivated and in late summer/winter was common land
- The central tree avenue was planted in 1862. This was not thought to be part of the original concept
- The park was originally railed to its borders
- Has seen much change in terms of surrounding built form and enclosure
- Original cross-paths survive

Historical

- Walks, promenades and general positive ambience of the parks described by visitors and guidebooks throughout the C19
- Historic association with Lord Palmerston. There is a statue, the Palmerston Memorial which is Grade II listed and sits to the north-west corner of the park. This statue of Lord Palmerston (1784 -1865), Foreign Secretary, Prime Minister, and owner of Broadlands near Romsey was designed by Sharpe and unveiled in June 1869

Aesthetic

- Designed on system of walks. This is a key concept. There are two types of path; the cross path and the promenade. The latter are ornamental walks
- The axial walk which comprises an avenue of lime trees donated by Sir Frederick Perkins, mayor, in 1862. This axial walk is one of the major paths through the parks with each park laid out with a number of lesser cross-walks linking the avenue to the key routes through the city east-west
- The enclosure and sense of green space formed by mature trees which in places obscure buildings from view give a genuine sense of a mature parkland within a wider urban setting although the tree coverage is not as strongly felt as the East and Watts (West) Parks

Communal

- The Central Parks collectively have very high communal value. They form a highly valued green space in the heart of the city, used both by residents and visitors. Their close proximity to offices, houses and flats and shops make them popular for sport and active leisure throughout the year, particularly during summer
- There is a fine collection of specimen trees and shrubs giving the landscape of the Palmerston statue a particular character not unlike that of a botanical garden

Significance of heritage asset

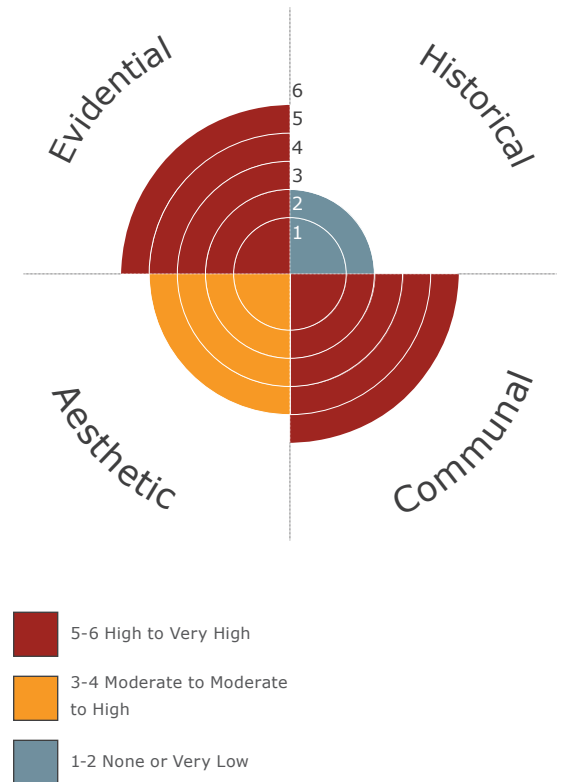
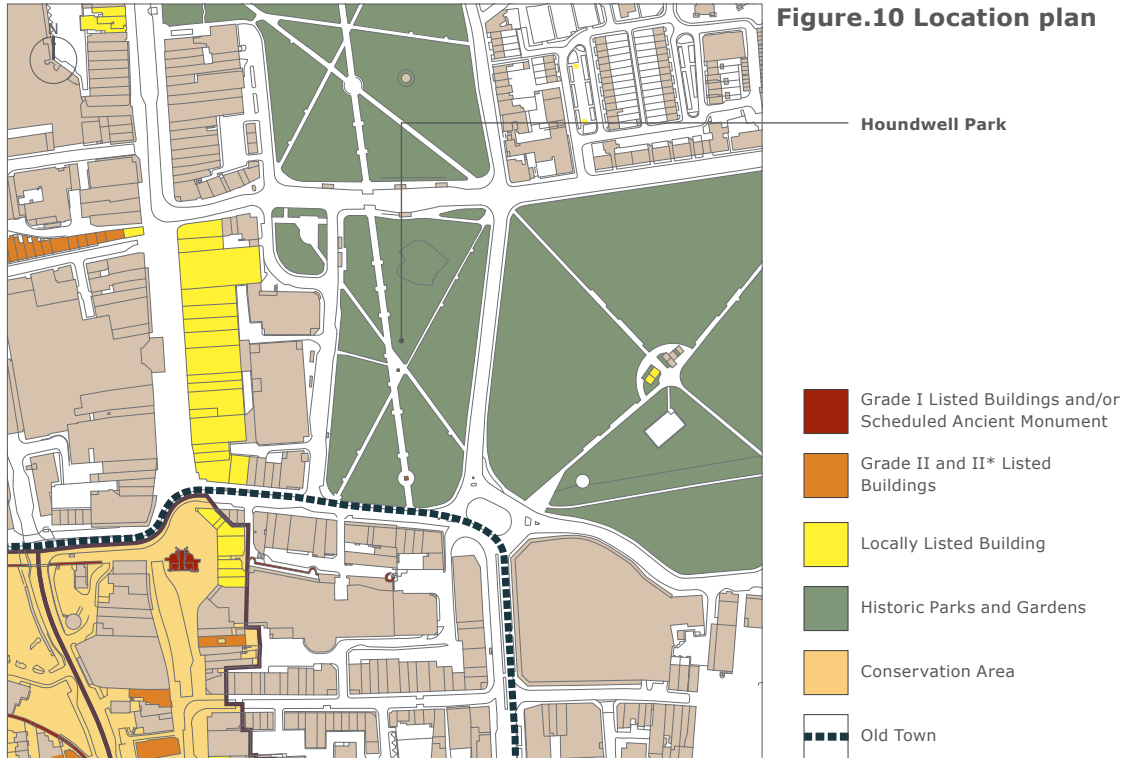


Figure.10 Location plan



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A. Aerial view of the south-east corner of Houndwell Park, c1930s (copyright) Historic England
B. Present day

Brief description

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Palmerston Park and Houndwell Park together comprised Houndwell Field, the name being derived from the stream which rose close to the junction of what are now Pound Tree Road and Sussex Road. The eastern boundary originally lay in the western edge of Hoglands, where a fragment of a boundary bank still survives. The new boundary was established when the southern part of Palmerston Road was built in the middle of the C19, alongside an infilled canal.

Designations

- Registered Historic Park and Garden (Number: 1001323)
- Grade II* Listed
- Drinking Fountain Grade II Listed
- Gas Column Grade II Listed

Heritage asset values

Evidential

- Medieval references historically known as Houndwell. Part of Lammas Lands, medieval land use which in the spring/summer was privately cultivated and in late summer/winter was common land
- Houndwell along with East Marlands was one of the earliest sections (1845-46) to be laid out with provisional system of cross paths
- The central tree avenue was planted in 1862. This was not thought to be part of the original concept
- The park was originally railed to its borders

Historical

- Walks, promenades and general positive ambience of the parks described by visitors and guidebooks throughout the C19
- There is a gas column which is Grade II listed and stands at the southern end of the north to south walk. It was re-erected in this position (in the late 1980s), having previously been located at several other sites in the city. It commemorates the installation of gas-lighting in the city in 1822
- There is a granite drinking fountain presented by the Victorian Philanthropist Charles Pierre Melly (1829-1888). Melly erected the first free public drinking fountains in England. He was a promoter of physical fitness and the early Olympic movement in Britain

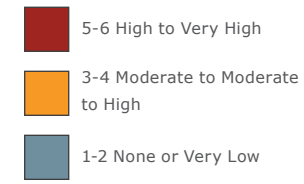
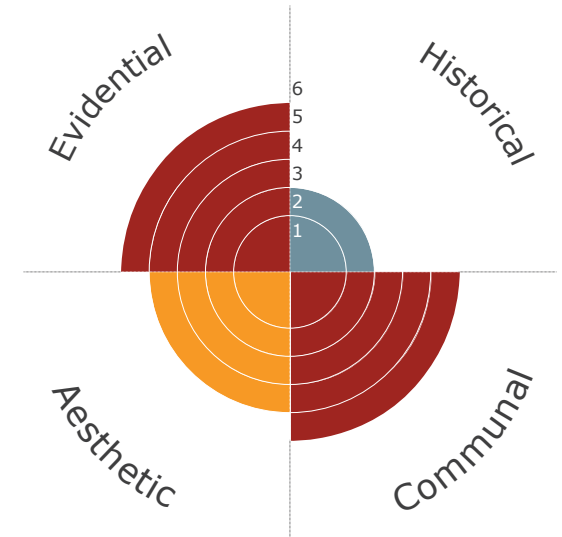
Aesthetic

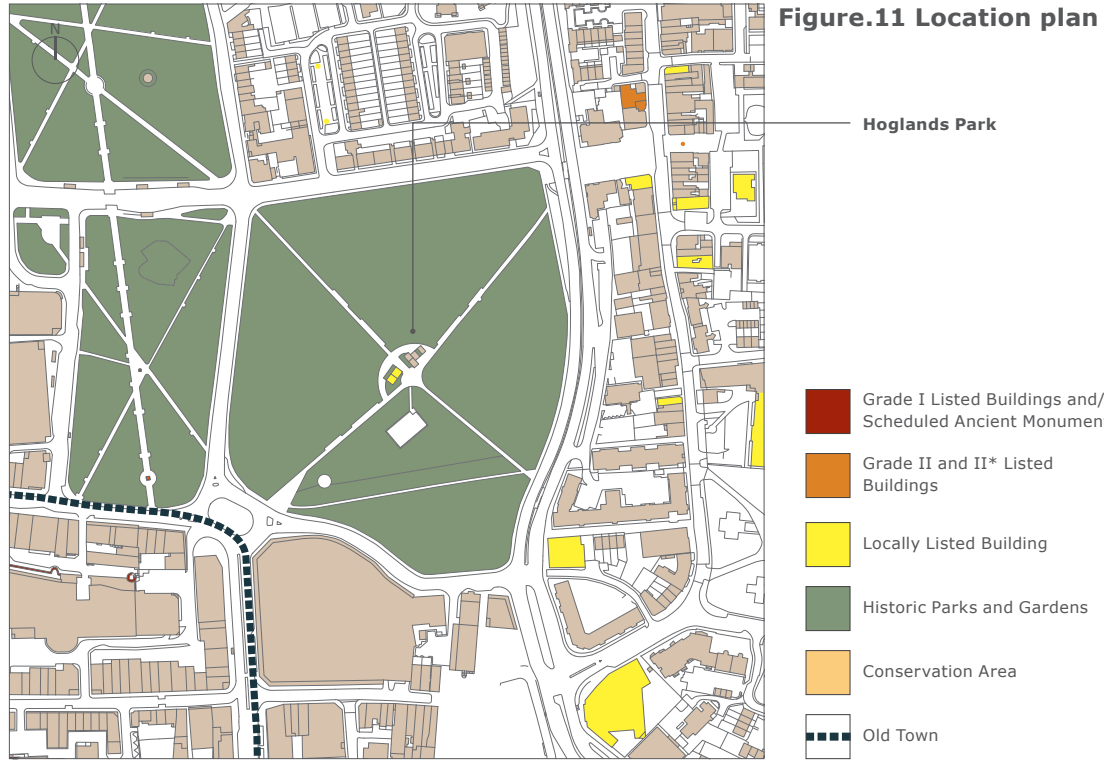
- Designed on system of walks. This is a key concept. There are two types of path; the cross path and the promenade. The latter are ornamental walks
- The enclosure and sense of green space formed by mature trees which in places obscure buildings from view give a genuine sense of a mature parkland within a wider urban setting although the tree coverage is not as strongly felt as the East and Watts (West)Parks
- The gas column (relocated) at the south end of the north-south axial path is an important local landmark which strongly defines the southern part of the tree-lined avenue
- St Mary’s Spire (Grade II listed) is viewed from multiple points within Palmerston Park

Communal

- The Central Parks collectively have very high communal value. They form a highly valued green space in the heart of the city, used both by residents and visitors. Their close proximity to offices, houses and flats and shops make them popular for sport and active leisure throughout the year, particularly during summer
- The major contemporary children’s play area is a popular and well-used attraction within the park
- The location of a key bus stand and pick-up point at Vincent’s Walk make this area a well-used part of the park, very close to the Above Bar shopping precinct and access to West Quay

Significance of heritage asset





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A. Present day looking north east across the park
B. Present day looking east along the southern boundary

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Hoglands was originally known as Hogsland. The boundary bank near its western edge also marked the parish boundary and seems to be the remnants of a boundary referred to in the C13 and C14 and shown as a more significant, longer feature on the map of c 1600.

Designations

- Registered Historic Park and Garden (Number: 1001323)
- Grade II* Listed
- Hoglands Park Pavilion Locally Listed

Heritage asset values

Evidential

- The park was originally railed to its borders
- Hoglands has seen some remodelling forming part of the post-war reconstruction
- Historically this area was the most well-defined by townscape at inception and up to pre-WWII

Historical

- Strong association with cricket. There has been a ground here since 1867
- Walks, promenades and general positive ambience of the parks described by visitors and guidebooks throughout the C19

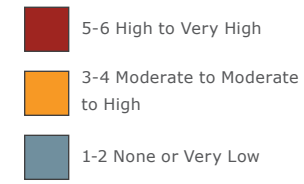
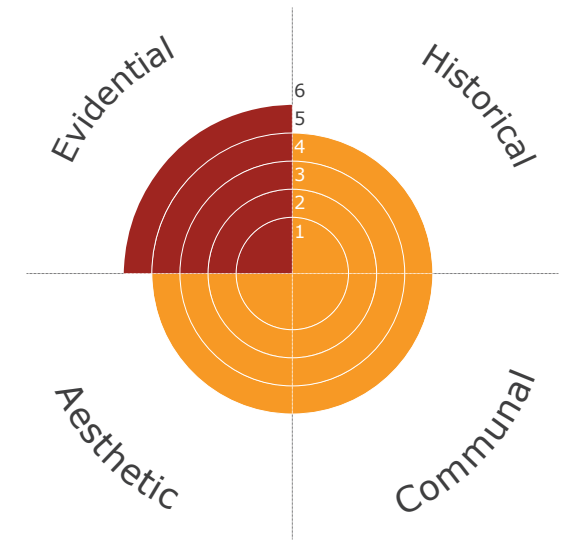
Aesthetic

- Designed on system of walks. This is a key concept. There are two types of path; the cross path and the promenade. The latter are ornamental walks
- The central pavilion is an important way-finding local landmark
- This space is well-defined by mature trees to its edges but feels more open than any other parts of the park
- Good views of the spire of St Mary’s church to the east from multiple viewpoints within the park

Communal

- The Central Parks collectively have very high communal value. They form a highly valued green space in the heart of the city, used both by residents and visitors. Their close proximity to offices, houses and flats and shops make them popular for sport and active leisure throughout the year, particularly during summer
- There is a strong sense of continuity in terms of the space being regularly used by local cricket teams a tradition which stretches almost to the inception of the parks

Significance of heritage asset



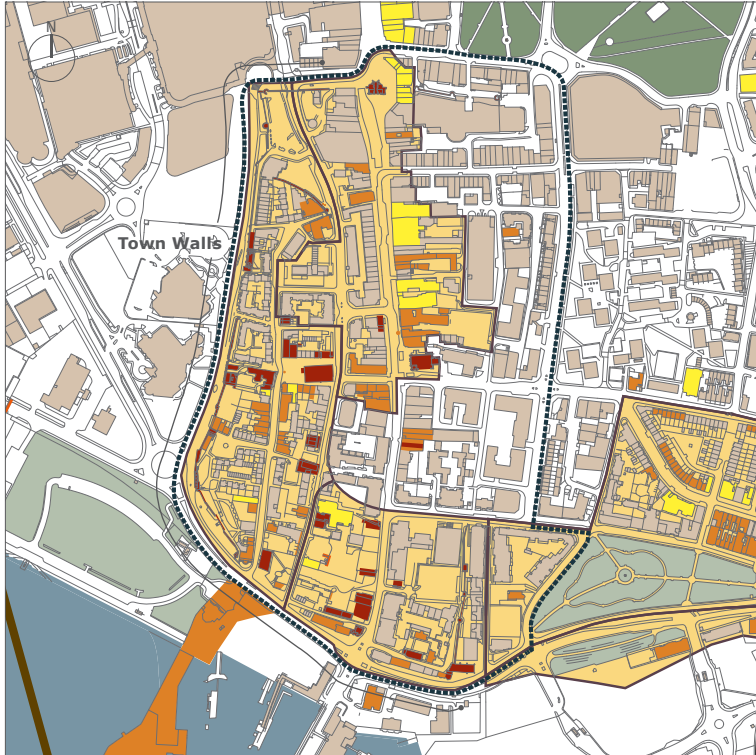


Figure.12 Location plan

- Grade I Listed Buildings and/or Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Grade II and II* Listed Buildings
- Locally Listed Building
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Conservation Area
- Old Town

Designations

- Grade I Listed
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments (various list entries relating to isolated sections)
- Old Town North, West and South Conservation Areas

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A. Looking north towards Arundel Tower, c1900 (copyright) Historic England
B. Present day looking north

Brief description

The medieval town walls of Southampton comprise a series of above ground sections (and potentially below-ground remnants) of rubble stone walls with a number of gates, towers, arcading, battlements and gunports surviving. These reflect the previous use, purpose and adaptation of various sections of the wall together with the structure, hierarchy and plan of the town contained within. The main sections can be described as follows:

The Bar Gate and Guildhall (now Museum) dates from c1180 with addition and alterations of c1290, C18 and restored in 1864-5. It was built as a town gateway with Guildhall at first floor level to the north section of the wall. Breaches were cut in the adjoining Town Walls in the 1930s. To the west of this there is a substantial section forming the north-west corner of the former defences. This section includes Arundel Tower, a round tower built early to Mid C13 with a further stage added c1377-9. Catchcold tower, an early C15 tower with 3 gunports. A series of stone steps built on to the wall in 1850. Between two buttresses is the entrance to Castle Vault, a C12 rectangular tunnel-vaulted undercroft. This was constructed to store the King’s wines. The barrels were unloaded directly from the quay into the vault. Immediately to the south is the Castle Water Gate.

To the south of this a further substantial section comprising sections approximately 7 metres in height. This section incorporates an arcaded screen wall built against existing Norman merchants houses forming a series of deep arched recesses providing a rampart wall at the top. There are 19 arches in total, and the West Gate. Further south sections of wall running along Esplanade from the south-west corner of Simnel Street to the south end of Bugle Street. This section includes Biddles Gate.

To the east side of Bar Gate and forming a section of the north wall there is a section running west from Polymond Tower to the remains of a semi-circular tower to the east of Bargate and small section to the south of Polymond Tower. There is a gap in the wall where York Gate (demolished in 1961) stood. There is a further section of wall running north from a point opposite the entrance to East Gate Street to rear of No 107 East Street.

To the south-east corner, there is a section of wall running north from God’s House along Back of the Walls to Round Tower adjacent to No 15. This section is contiguous with God’s House, a c1300 gateway defended by a double portcullis. It was known as the Saltmarsh Gate and God’s House Gate after the nearby hospital. The tower above the gate was called Lambcote Tower and was used as a prison.

- There has been much painting, etching, and photographic depiction historically of two key elements of the walls; the former water-facing element of the walls mainly comprising the south and south-west sections and the Bar Gate which has been continually sketched, painted and photographed over its lifetime

Aesthetic

- The walls are often dramatic interventions in the townscape especially to the west where the change in level to the former waterfront is most evident
- The intimate scale of development often immediately adjacent to the solidity of the walls makes for very attractive juxtaposition between town defences and other buildings (such as houses)
- In some views the walls are visually dominant in the townscape
- The ‘edge’ of the former medieval town is strongly defined by the town walls and its former presence where missing. This structure has strongly defined and created some of the key townscape relationships which are of such importance to the character and appearance of the area
- Sections of walls can be appreciated in both views to the them and views which include historic buildings sat beyond and in views from the walls, especially those towards the water
- The treatment of the ‘ruins’ has changed over time whereby historically they were considered picturesque and were valued and depicted as such whereas management has become more academic, scholarly and practical in its approach
- The colour, component size and relatively large unrelieved areas of stonework form part of its beauty and strong physical presence. This is not seen or appreciated to such a scale with any other buildings or groups of buildings within the city
- The open nature of the townscape to the west and south is a strongly defining characteristic of its setting to these sides

Heritage asset values

Evidential

- The walls are comparatively some of the best surviving in England especially given their recent history
- Despite restoration and some rebuilding, the walls retain much of their original fabric and have the potential to reveal much about their origins, use and adaptation over time
- The walls have some of the earliest surviving gunports in Europe
- The location and scale of gates towers provide key indicators of how the wall was used and appreciated
- There is a clear linking of a series of disconnected heritage assets (sections of wall and surviving gates) to make up and give a sense of the whole
- The use of stone is a clear indication of its historic status and defensive solidity seen against the brick, stucco, render and modern materials of the later buildings inside/outside the walls
- The town walls are often seen in relation to other heritage assets. This is particularly important where these associated assets define elements of the former medieval town scale, pattern and hierarchy

Historical

- Through the West Gate the army of Henry V marched to the ships for Agincourt in 1415 and the Pilgrim Fathers embarked from West Quay on “the Mayflower” on August 15th 1620
- There has been much change to the setting of the walls, mostly to their detriment. Significance survives in the names of elements of the walls (Catchcold Tower) and associated streets and lanes (such as Back of the Walls)

Communal

- The walls are easily accessible/interpreted for people
- It is possible for the public to gain a sense of the historic setting of Southampton from where they are embattled
- The walls have been continually part of the make-up of the city with, until relatively recently, uses (such as public houses) set against the walls themselves
- The Bar Gate which forms part of the wall circuit is the logo/emblem of Southampton City Council
- There is a museum in the Bar Gate (in the former Guildhall)

Significance of heritage asset

