Lowesmoor

Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Proposals

Draft 3 For Consultation: February 2008
Lowesmoor Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Proposals

PART 1 – CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

Introduction
Purpose of the appraisal
The planning policy context
Local planning policy

Summary of special interest

Location and setting
Location and context
Settlement pattern
Landscape setting: topography, geology and relationship to surroundings

Historic development and archaeology
Archaeological significance and potential
Origins and historic development

Spatial analysis
The character of spaces within the area
Green spaces, trees and other natural elements
Key views and vistas

Definition of the special interest of the conservation area
Activities/uses
Plan form and building types
Architectural and historic character
Building methods, materials and local details
Key unlisted buildings (Buildings of Townscape Merit and "Buildings of Local Significance")
Shopfronts, advertisements and signs
Public realm: Floorscape, street lighting and street furniture
Local details and features
Building condition
Character areas: key characteristics and negative factors
  - Area 1 – Lowesmoor
  - Area 2 – Lowesmoor Trading Estate:
    a) Worcester Vinegar Works
    b) Grainger’s (Royal China Works)

Issues
PART 2 – MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

Purpose of the management proposals

Legislative background

Management proposals
- Conservation area boundary;
- Setting, views and gateways;
- Loss of original architectural details;
- Building maintenance and repair;
- Street lighting;
- Quality of pavement surface;
- Shopfront design;
- Historic shopfronts;
- Traffic noise and air pollution;
- Traffic signs;
- Street furniture;
- Buildings of negative impact;
- Monitoring and review.

Bibliography

Useful addresses
PART 1 – LOWESMOOR CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

Introduction

Purpose of the appraisal

This appraisal records and analyses the various features which give the Lowesmoor Conservation Area its special architectural and historic interest. The area’s buildings and spaces are noted and described, and marked on the Conservation Area Appraisal Map along with listed buildings, key unlisted buildings, 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.

This appraisal builds upon national policy, as set out in PPG15, and local policy (see below). It provides a firm basis on which applications for development within the Lowesmoor Conservation Area can be assessed in the processes of development control.

The document is intended to be used by planning officers, developers and landowners to ensure that the special character is not eroded, but rather preserved and even enhanced through development activity. While the descriptions go into some detail, a reader should not assume that the omission of any building, feature or space from this appraisal means that it is not of interest; if in doubt, please contact the conservation staff at Worcester City Council.

The planning policy context

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.

Section 72 of the same Act 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.

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
produce by English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the English Historic Towns Forum.

Local planning policy

Local Plan policies have been developed by the City Council and explained in the City of Worcester Local Plan, 1996-2011. These include the intention to safeguard views and skylines (BE5 and 8) and to protect significant open areas (BE6). There are also policies to set out the circumstances when changes of use are likely to be acceptable (BE10), and what any new developments and extensions within conservation areas are expected to achieve (BE7 and 9). Other policies are to prevent some demolitions (BE11), to protect such boundaries as garden walls and gates (BE12), and to protect significant landscape features (BE13). In general these policies are intended to ensure that the character is preserved or enhanced by any development actions.

With the introduction of new procedures in planning, the council is preparing a Local Development Framework, which sets out the range of appropriate policies for the whole of the city. The conservation area character appraisals, such as this, are considered to be integral with the spatial planning approach of the council. While they are seen as background documents, they support, affirm and in some instances amplify the development plan documents within the Framework.
Summary of special interest

The Lowesmoor Conservation Area was designated in 1989.

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

- Extramural suburb of the city of Worcester, developed along a principal east-west route to the city (St Martin's Gate);
- Survival of the pattern of medieval streets and plots, including alleys and back courts;
- The architectural and historic interest of the area’s buildings including 15 grade II listed building entries;
- Predominant late 18th and early 19th century appearance, with later infill;
- Two buildings with 17th century origins: nos. 18-20 Silver Street (listed grade II); and nos. 32–34 Lowesmoor;
- The historic interest of nos. 18-20 Silver Street, remnants of the Infirmary of 1745;
- Prevalence of locally produced red brick (some painted);
- Historic shopfronts;
- Extensive survival of 19th century industrial buildings, particularly from the Worcester Vinegar Factory;
- New Filling Shed 1857 (listed grade II) neo-Classical warehouse in polychrome brick and sandstone;
- Survival of thoroughfares through industrial site, on the former route of the factory railway branch line;
- Remnants of Grainger’s (Royal China Works);
- Local details that collectively and individually give the conservation area a distinctive identity e.g. cast iron street sign from the Hardy and Padmore foundry on Pheasant Street, courtyard covered with historic setts at no. 42 Lowesmoor
Location and setting

Location and context

The Lowesmoor Conservation Area is an area of 5.8 hectares located immediately to the north-east of Worcester city centre (Historic City Conservation Area). Its origins as a suburb are evident, the area is clearly divided from the historic core by the site of the former city wall (City Walls Road).

The conservation area has an urban character, associated with former industry; the site is within reach of the mid 19th century railway to the north and the Worcester and Birmingham Canal to the east (part of the Canal Conservation Area is contiguous with the area’s north-eastern boundary).

The narrow principal east-west route (Lowesmoor) through the conservation area contains tight-knit development of buildings, in mixed retail and residential use. To the east end of Lowesmoor the street widens out at a busy road junction, with good views up Lowesmoor Terrace. However, here the scale and historic settlement pattern breaks down, with the large 20th century warehouse on Pheasant Street. The roads surrounding the east (Pheasant Street), south (George Street/St Martin’s Gate) and west (City Walls Road/Silver Street) of the conservation area are wide and busy with traffic, with the effect of isolating Lowesmoor Conservation Area from surrounding townscape. This is particularly noticeable on the west side where land clearance has produced a busy traffic intersection and large areas of car parking; these are very difficult for pedestrians to navigate safely.

Settlement pattern: the effect of historical development on plan form

The medieval settlement of Lowesmoor stretched for a distance of about 200 metres from the city defences on one of the principal routes east from the city walls. Lowesmoor was one of four extramural suburbs (Lowesmoor, Silver Street, Foregate Street & the Tything, and Sidbury) that grew up on the east bank of the Severn. The settlement developed in two distinct patterns, to the north and to the south of the street.

The land to the north of Lowesmoor developed fairly regularly, with narrow rectilinear plots running to a back-fence line parallel to the street, the parish boundary between St Martin’s and the extramural section of St Nicholas’s. There is no regularity in the plot widths.

Plot development on the south of Lowesmoor was secondary to the development of the plots along Silver Street. Short plots at the east end of Lowesmoor were bounded to the south by an extended croft running back from Silver Street; the plots to the west are longer, not having this restriction. The existing kink in the frontages about 60 metres east from
Silver Street (between nos. 34-36 Lowesmoor) demarks the former back-fence line of the most northerly Silver Street plot.

Silver Street ran on a curving course northwards from St Martin’s Gate to the right-angled junction with Lowesmoor. Before the demolition of the city wall, St Martin’s Gate was the principal entrance to the town from the Droitwich direction. Silver Street had an industrial character, key activities included tile-making and bell-founding. The tenement pattern survives on the east side, in a highly degraded state, but has been destroyed to the west. The rear plot line of the west side of Silver Street terminated at Watercourse Alley on the site of the medieval town ditch. On the east side there was no common back-fence line to the plots, blocks of two to four plots shared a common boundary; by 1886 the open area to the rear had been largely occupied by the Worcester Vinegar Works.

Doharty’s plan of 1741 shows the pattern of the suburb to be little altered from the medieval plots. Continuous development was laid out at the east end of Lowesmoor, with an uninterrupted building line on the north and intermittent development on the south. Open fields lay behind, including a ‘Bowling Green’ to the south. The ‘Blew Coat hospital’ was accessed from the east side of Silver Street. Moore’s Charity, the Blue Coat Hospital, was the earliest provision for the education of the labouring poor. It was founded in 1626 for bringing up poor children, whose parents were destitute of means, to give them an “education fit for Christians”.

Young’s plan of 1779 is the first map of the city to show individual houses, and to name particular industries. It details at this date further development on the north side of Lowesmoor, including a carpet works. By the late 18th century the majority of the land between Lowesmoor and St Martin’s Gate (Clap Gate) was open yards, owned by Mr Wilkins – a vinegar merchant, whose production site was in the south-west corner of the current site. Internal land divisions were in the form of drainage ditches, which were not culverted until the 19th century; these ditches shaped the subsequent pattern of development on the site.

By the end of the 18th century the city was slowly beginning to develop eastwards, infilling toward the canal. Eaton’s plan of 1816 shows that larger scale industry was developing to the north of St Martin’s Gate, and St Martin’s Place and Pheasant Street had been laid out, although only sparsely occupied. Dewhirst and Nichol’s 1838 survey of Worcester and Environs is the first to ascribe a name to the north-south passage through the site, annotated as ‘Factory walk’ (later becoming Factory Street/St Martin’s Street). The streets now known as Sansome Place and Lion Walk had also been laid out, bordering Sansome Fields.

The First Edition Ordnance Survey (O.S.) map of 1886 reveals the extent of the rapid industrialisation of Worcester during the 19th century. The greater
extent of the land between St Martin’s Lane and Lowesmoor was occupied by the Worcester Vinegar Works, and a few smaller manufactories including the Grainger’s (Royal China Works).

**Landscape setting: topography, geology and relationship to surroundings**

The medieval and modern city of Worcester lies on the east bank of the River Severn, on a gravel terrace overlying Keuper marl at a point where the river, meandering within the 500-metre-wide flood plain, cuts into the terrace, making its banks directly accessible from the high, well-drained ground. The city site itself is a south-facing promontory defined by the river to the west. There is a slight ridge on which runs the north south route, which includes the High Street, and the land falls away to the east with a low line following the city wall (town ditch). East of this the land is broadly flat across the conservation area before rising quite sharply to Shrub Hill and Rainbow Hill.
Historic development and archaeology

Archaeological significance and potential

To follow

Origins and historic development

There was a Roman settlement in Worcester from circa 50 AD, beside the route from Wroxeter to Gloucester. The settlement was initially engaged in agriculture, but trade and commerce subsequently came to dominate. By the 3rd century the settlement was a bustling industrial town and an important redistribution centre for local products. It was much more extensive than its medieval successor, probably covering an area which was not to be exceeded until the 19th century.

Archbishop Theodore created the see of Worcester in 680. The earliest surviving Old English name for Worcester, Weorgornaceaster, dates from 691. The name derives from Weorgoran, meaning people of the winding river, and caster, the Saxon word for a Roman settlement.

In the late 9th century a Saxon charter established Worcester as a fortified burgh. The resultant construction of a line of defences established the structure around which the later medieval town developed. Bishop Oswald established Worcester Cathedral in 983, but the building was partially destroyed in 1041. In 1084 Bishop Wulfstan (one of the few English bishops remaining in office long after 1066) began the rebuilding of the cathedral.

Throughout the medieval period the city was a major production centre for woolen cloth and other craft products. An expanding population was housed in extramural suburbs such as Lowesmoor. The suburbs continued to grow until the siege of the Civil War. Worcester was the site of several engagements during the war (1639-1645) and the Battle of Worcester in 1651. The city was garrisoned by a Royalist force in 1645 when many of the houses outside the city walls were demolished to improve the defensive fortifications. The war not only destroyed much of the city’s material fabric, but also its economic base.

The settlement of Lowesmoor (originally known as Loosemoor, the name indicating unenclosed poor quality agricultural land) was an industrial area prior to its medieval development as a residential suburb. Following the levelling of the suburbs in the Civil War they were only gradually redeveloped through the 18th and 19th centuries. The 18th century reconstruction of Lowesmoor after its destruction in the Civil War, accounts for the absence of any significant 17th century or earlier buildings in the Lowesmoor.
Conservation Area. However, the medieval street pattern and vestiges of burgage plots, alleys and courts are still clearly visible.

The 18th century was a period of rapid growth and prosperity for Worcester, and a number of key buildings were erected, including the Infirmary on Silver Street (1745). The Infirmary was so crowded by 1770 that it was moved to new premises on Salt Lane (Castle Street). A park was developed to the north of Lowesmoor, laid open to the public by Sir Charles Trubshaw-Withers. Sansome Fields, later known as Arboretum Gardens was sold for development in the mid 19th century. A number of mills and granaries were constructed on the land to support the Port of Lowesmoor which handled large shipments of goods.

The arrival of the Worcester and Birmingham Canal (completed in 1815) accelerated development in Lowesmoor. This, and later the railways transformed Worcester into a regional industrial centre in the early 19th century, with Lowesmoor its principal focus. With the great increase of activity in that area, amenities for workmen and merchants developed, including speculative back-to-back housing undertaken in Pheasant Street, and the development of a large number of inns and commercial hotels in Lowesmoor.

The First Edition O.S. map of 1886 shows that at this date seven public houses existed in Lowesmoor, with many more in the immediate vicinity, to serve the large number of workers associated with the numerous adjacent industries. The pub on the south side of Lowesmoor, the ‘Brewery Tap’ is the same building as the pub shown on the map of 1886 as the ‘Turk’s Head’. Another surviving 19th century public house building is no. 24 Sansome Place, in the late 19th century the ‘Elephant & Castle’.

The Worcester Vinegar Works of Hill, Evans & Company were the largest of their kind in the world, occupying an area from Lowesmoor to St Martin’s Gate. The firm was established in 1830 by William Hill and Edward Evans, and was carried on by Thomas Rowley Hill and Edward Bickerton Evans. By 1902 the brewery buildings covered about seven acres, with an extensive network of underground vaults. A railway branch line was opened in 1872 to connect all the main production sheds to the Midland and Great Western Railway systems through Shrub Hill Station. The firm was taken over by Holbrook in the 1960s and production ceased at Worcester in 1966. In 1968 the premises became an industrial estate (Lowesmoor Trading Estate), with the demolition of some of the buildings and the removal of the equipment.

The Royal China Works (Grainger’s) developed through the 19th century on a site adjacent to the vinegar works, at the junction of Pheasant Street and St Martin’s Lane. Thomas Grainger’s factory was one of four works involved in the development of ‘soft-paste’ bone china at Worcester. Thomas Grainger completed his apprenticeship at the family firm of Chamberlain’s, and had
established himself in Lowesmoor by 1801. In 1809 the premises burnt down, but were rebuilt soon thereafter. Thomas died in 1839 and the business was taken over by his widow, Mary Ann and son George, who soon became the dominant figure in the business. He introduced a new type of porcelain manufacture in 1848 called ‘semi-porcelain’ or ‘chemical porcelain’, which was successfully shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851, followed by further success at the London International Exhibition of 1862. After George’s death his son sold the factory to Worcester Royal Porcelain Company in 1889. The factory retained its identity until 1902 when the staff were transferred to the main factory at Diglis. The Grainger premises were auctioned off in 1903.

The built environment of Lowesmoor today is dominated by Georgian and Victorian architecture, with more recent structures enhancing or despoiling the earlier townscape.
Spatial analysis

The character of spaces within the area

The spine of the conservation area is the close-knit east-west route of Lowesmoor. Alleys and back courts, remnants of the medieval plot pattern, create narrow throughways and intimate enclosed spaces. The rear courtyard at no. 42 Lowesmoor is a unique survival of a once common enclosed courtyard plan. Lowesmoor widens at the east and west ends, where the cohesive terraced streetscape begins to break down as the result of land clearance and redevelopment.

To the north of Lowesmoor the character of the close-knit settlement pattern alters dramatically. At the back of the medieval plot line there are large areas of open space, the result of clearance of terraced houses and the Lowesmoor Iron Works.

To the south of Lowesmoor, again the character of the space alters significantly at the rear of the medieval plot boundaries. The greater part of the conservation area, to the southern boundary at St Martin’s Gate, contains a disparate grouping of ex-industrial buildings on an irregular layout, remnants of the Worcester Vinegar Works and the Royal China Works. Large areas of open space exist where structures have been demolished: the former track lines of the railway; the clearance of some of the 19th century industrial buildings; and the demolition of the 12 houses on St Martin’s Street in the 1960s.

Green spaces, trees and other natural elements

There is no dedicated public open space in the conservation area. Within this tightly-knit urban conservation area the majority of available open space is utilised for vehicle parking. With retail use at ground floor level of most of the buildings on Lowesmoor, gardens are little cultivated on the rear of the plots.

There are no mature trees in the conservation area. The ex-industrial areas to the north and to the south of Lowesmoor are used as hard-standing.

Key views and vistas

Views along Lowesmoor from the east or the west are pleasing, with the groupings of listed buildings of various heights and design framing the street scene, the view enhanced by the subtle changes in the direction of the road. Eastward views take in the landmark building of nos. 25-27 Lowesmoor with its decorative applied timber-framing. Good views up Lowesmoor Terrace are available from the eastern end of Lowesmoor.
A good view into the heart of the former vinegar works is from Lowesmoor south along the former St Martin’s Street. The New Filling Shed circa 1870 (listed grade II) is an impressive sight. There are views into the site west from Pheasant Street, along the route of the former tracks of the railway. Otherwise, the site of the vinegar works and of the former Royal China Works is very ‘inward looking’, with buildings of note at the centre of the site, but high blank boundary walls facing the public domain.

Views of some of Worcester’s churches are visible from within the conservation area, for example the view west along St Martin’s Gate to the late 18th century parish church of St Martin (listed grade II*) on Cornmarket, although this is partially obscured by the 20th century redevelopment in the south-west corner of the conservation area. There are views from Sansome Place to the spires of the Baptist Church (listed grade II) and the church of St Mary Magdalene (listed grade II*) (both dating from the second half of the 19th century), on the east side of Sansome Walk. While these views are not outstanding, they help to locate the area within its wider city context.
Definition of the special interest of the conservation area

Activities/uses

The conservation area contains a mix of uses, predominantly retail and residential. Buildings on Lowesmoor are almost exclusively in retail use at ground floor level. There is a significant number of takeaways, charity shops and a few specialist shops. Nos. 18-20 Silver Street are now in retail use, making full use of the attractive shopfronts of late 19th century appearance for display purposes.

‘Living over the shop’ provides residential accommodation, although increasingly the area supports modern new-build development, e.g. flats at no. 36 Lowesmoor and the large housing development on Lion Court and Sansome Place.

Many of the buildings on the Lowesmoor Trading Estate are vacant. The New Filling Shed (listed grade II) is in industrial use, and some of the buildings on the south of the site are in low level service use. The 20th century Territorial Army building is in regular use. The surviving buildings from Grainger’s are now occupied by a variety of low level industrial uses, such as retail showrooms and offices.

The Social Club on Sansome Place caters to recreational leisure use, with further facilities provided by the public houses at nos. 50 (Brewery Tap) and 53 (The Pig & Drum) Lowesmoor. Other recreational facilities are provided by the nightclub at no. 57 Lowesmoor and the Cantonese restaurant at no. 61 Lowesmoor.

The Elim Pentecostal Church (listed grade II) is the only building in religious use within the conservation area.

Plan form and building types

The effect of historic development on plan form has been discussed above.

Lowesmoor is a linear sequence of buildings with a continuous frontage set at back-of-pavement line. The buildings are typically of two or three bays in width and three storeys in height. While not of uniform design, the buildings are representative of the late 18th and early 19th century red brick terraces of Worcester. Individual buildings are characterised by stylistic features from the late Georgian and early Victorian periods, such as windows and doorcases. Originally houses, these buildings now support retail use at ground floor level, expressed externally by shopfronts ranging from the early 19th century to the present day.
No. 54 Lowesmoor (listed grade II) is an anomaly in the building pattern, being of three storeys in height plus attic, set over a basement. The building is set back from the established building line of the street behind a front area, enclosed by railings, and the raised ground floor is then approached up a flight of steps sheltered beneath a deep porch. These elements all contribute to an increased status and presence of no. 54 on Lowesmoor.

The Elim Pentecostal Church is a good example of a chapel of this date, circa 1840-50. The imposing tall single-storey building with a stucco façade introduces an attractive element of variety into the streetscape.

Lowesmoor Trading Estate is occupied to the greater extent by the surviving industrial buildings from the vinegar works. However, nos. 18-20 Silver Street are a remnant of the scale and pattern of development of the plots on Silver Street to the junction with St Martin’s Gate. Here, the small-scale buildings followed the established medieval plot pattern. The First Edition O.S. map of 1886 shows that small-scale industry (tannery, tin works) occupied some of the back plots continuing a use pattern established in the medieval suburb. All of this part of the suburb (apart from nos. 18-20 Silver Street) was demolished through the 20th century, causing a loss of distinction in the street layout. The site at the junction with Silver Street and St Martin’s Gate is now occupied by a late 20th century building (vacant) in white render, which through its low height does little to enhance this prominent corner site.

The buildings of the vinegar works are disposed in an irregular formation across the site, generally reflecting the piecemeal acquisition and development of the land as the manufactory expanded. Where formal routes through the site were established (‘Factory Walk’, later becoming Factory Street/St Martin’s Street) and new streets laid out to the east (Pheasant Street), the development followed a linear form. The First Edition O.S. map of 1886 shows terraces of houses (demolished) bordering the northern end of St Martin’s Street, just outside the factory gates. The New Filling Shed is the largest building on the site, dominating the skyline, and with the adjacent warehouse, towering above the street, creating a dramatic view north-south along Pheasant Street.

The buildings of the vinegar works were shaped by their functional purpose, principally being buildings to provide shelter over large warehouse floor areas.

The buildings occupying the south eastern corner of the Lowesmoor Trading Estate are the remnants of Grainger’s. In contrast to the vinegar works, the buildings of Grainger’s are small in scale and are tightly formed about courtyard areas, creating a strong sense of enclosure. The china works extended further to the south-east than the present site; St Martin’s Place was a lane running into the site from Pheasant Street, but this is now gone.
Road widening and the introduction of a large roundabout at the Pheasant Street/George Street junction have erased this part of the suburb.

**Architectural and historic character**

Lowesmoor Conservation Area contains buildings predominantly dating from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, a number of which are listed grade II. Many buildings were modified through the 19th century, with the ground floor being converted to retail use and a timber shop front added to the front elevation, e.g. no. 37 Lowesmoor.

Nos. 32-34 Lowesmoor have origins as a 17th century farmhouse, since re-fronted, including a good late 19th century shop front. The building is a low two storeys in height and of four irregularly spaced bays in width. The building is constructed of reddish-brown brick, painted on the front façade. A dentilled eaves cornice provides decoration and is a common characteristic of the buildings on Lowesmoor.

One of the most imposing buildings within the Lowesmoor streetscape is that comprising nos. 13-17 Lowesmoor. It provides a gateway building to Lowesmoor from the west. The mid to late 18th century red brick building is characteristically Georgian in style, with its symmetrical elevation, elegant proportions and sash and case windows. The ground floor has good shopfronts, renewed in the 20th century. Looking beyond this terrace, a further eyecatcher is nos. 25-27 Lowesmoor, with its decorative applied timber framing. This building has an unusual kink at the vertical centreline, linking between a distinct stepped alignment in the street frontage.

No. 42 Lowesmoor is a rare survival of an enclosed rear courtyard, accessed from the main thoroughfare by an alleyway.

Lowesmoor Trading Estate predominantly contains former industrial structures associated with the vinegar factory. The most striking of these is the New Filling Shed, circa 1870. It is of a single very tall storey, rectangular on plan, with 13 by 11 window-bays. The single internal space would have contained the large vats for the vinegar: “The filling and dispatching room is an enormous hall... it is one of the largest single rooms in the kingdom... the great vats... are probably the most conspicuous and impressive parts of the equipment. One of these vats, standing among many of only slightly smaller size is 100 feet in circumference and 32 feet high having a capacity of 114,821 gallons” (Worcester Daily Times, 1903).

The New Filling Shed is the building given the most extravagant architectural treatment on the factory site. The expanse of the red brick envelope is articulated by gault brick pilasters, stepped frieze and modillion cornice. The end bays have blind openings but otherwise each bay contains a 20-pane segmental-arched window in metal frame, with the voussoir arch of alternate red and gault brick. The returns have pedimented gables and a similar
treatment. Interestingly the decorative treatment is confined to the exterior of the building. The building has a parallel in the locomotive building shed circa 1864 of the Worcester Engine Works Co. (later used by Heenan & Froude) at nos. 12-15 Shrub Hill Road by Thomas Dickson.

Other industrial buildings on the site are given a more understated treatment, with individual traits that reflect the function of the structure or the workings of the factory, such as the large arched Gibbs-style opening, and the canted profile of some of the buildings, at the vat rooms and the old entrance, to accommodate the movement of the railway vehicles through the site.

The Office (counting House), circa 1860, is built in a Victorian Gothic manner, with the well-executed brickwork interspersed with stone detailing, such as the tracery of the oriel windows and the ogee-arched door porch. This originally very ornate building is in a poor state of repair, with most of the roof and chimney features having been lost. However, it continues to contribute to the architectural interest of this part of the conservation area.

The earliest building which survives within this area is nos. 18-20 Silver Street, containing in the rear wing (derelict) of one of the earliest structures within the conservation area, dating from the 17th century (nos. 32-34 Lowesmoor also have 17th century origins). Built in 1745 as the Worcester Infirmary the building has been extensively altered and now the front elevation supports a good central door and doorcase of lion-head decoration and robust early 19th century style shopfronts.

Extant buildings of Grainger’s comprise a cluster of two- and three-storey buildings, grouped around small courts. After the fire of 1809, the factory was rebuilt through the 19th century. The present structures include buildings of the second half of the 19th century, e.g. the timekeeper’s office, warerooms and an office over an entrance arch to the site.

The building fronting George Street/St Martin’s Gate is the most intact and architecturally elaborate of the surviving Grainger’s structures, constructed in part as the display rooms for the wares. The façade is articulated by the many brick lintelled openings, recessed panels and a pedimented gable with a central oculus.

Many of the other brick warehouses and workshops on the site have been heavily altered, particularly through the insertion of new openings, however they retain a good degree of legibility as to their industrial past. One building contains the sole surviving fragmentary remnant of a Worcester porcelain bottle-kiln (demolished by 1941); five such structures would have dominated the site. Aside from this fragment of bottle-kiln, the Grainger’s site appears to contain no building types or features specific to the bone china industry.
Building methods, materials and local details

The buildings on Lowesmoor are typically constructed of red brick from the locally available clays, as common to the city of Worcester. The brickwork is skillfully detailed with rubbed brick headers and dentil eaves cornices, but with little extraneous decoration. About a quarter of the buildings on Lowesmoor have had the brickwork painted; the painting of facades considerably erodes the character of the area.

There are few examples of stucco, no. 24 Sansome Place being the only example on a domestic scale in the conservation area. More prominently the Elim Pentecostal Church is a succinct expression of the use of the medium in the first half of the 19th century, with moulded stucco decorative architectural detailing - pilasters, rustication and cornices.

Nos. 18-20 Silver Street predominantly date from the mid 18th century, with an earlier rear wing dating from the 17th century, and alterations of the early 19th century. This section of the building is timber-framed and contains panels of local hand-made bricks of early form.

Most of the buildings of the vinegar factory date from circa 1860-70, built of red brick from the locally available clays laid in English bond. The buildings are variously dressed with yellow gault brick and sandstone. The relatively low pitched roofs are of Welsh slate. Windows are prevalently multi-paned and set in cast iron frames with swiveling casements.

The ground between the cask shed, an interesting corrugated-iron structure, and the office is bound by an imposing range of cast iron railings, set on a brick dwarf wall; the railings have decorative finials and elaborate scrolled backstands. The land bounded by this wall and railings is of a raised level, beneath which lies a fine series of brick vaulted cellars. These cellars were not surveyed as part of this appraisal, but are considered to be worthy of careful retention and display.

The Grainger's buildings are constructed from locally produced red brick. The roofs are of Welsh slate, although in some places this has been replaced by corrugated-metal sheet. In comparison to the Vinegar Works the structures and the external spaces are small in scale.

Key unlisted buildings - Buildings of Townscape Merit and Buildings of Local Significance

Marked on the Conservation Area Appraisal Map for the Lowesmoor 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.
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. There is a general presumption in favour of retaining all key unlisted buildings, as set out in PPG15.

There are several buildings within this conservation area which are on the Council’s Inventory of Buildings of Local Significance ('locally listed'). They are: nos.25, 66, 69 and 71,73 and 75 Lowesmoor and all the former vinegar works complex, listed on the final page of this document. The New Filling Shed is listed.

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

Modern paving materials dominate throughout the conservation area, with roads of tarmac and pavements a mixture of tarmac, concrete, and brick. The kerbs are cast concrete. The single example of an historic floor surface is in the pleasantly enclosed rear court at no. 42 Lowesmoor, where the courtyard is paved with setts.

Lowesmoor is lit by a few modern metal lamp standards, which tower over the historic buildings. There is a wide variety of 20th century street furniture, with no design consistency between individual components, such as the cast concrete bollards and the plastic rubbish bins attached to the lamp standards. The eastern end of Lowesmoor has metal safety barriers set into the pavement, these are in poor condition and of a standard design that does little to enhance this entry to the conservation area.

To the north of Lowesmoor the modern housing development has laid brick driveways and cast metal lamp standards to a ‘period’ design.

Given the semi-derelict nature and partial use of the industrial buildings of the former vinegar works, most of the spaces in the site comprise modern hard standing. The ground is extensively overgrown with vegetation in parts. Many areas of the site are cordoned-off from public access by spike-topped metal security fences. The land to the rear of nos. 18-20 Silver Street is currently in use as a large car park, but has been adapted to this use in rather an ad hoc manner with little attention to landscaping.

There is no provision for street lighting within the Lowesmoor Trading Estate. On Silver Street the modern street lights and traffic signs do nothing to enhance the setting of the grade II listed buildings, nos. 18-20 Silver Street.

**Shopfronts, advertisements and signs**

Shopfronts, advertisements and signs are a feature of Lowesmoor, reflecting its prevailing commercial nature. There are a number of whole or partly altered historic shopfronts and some good examples of modern replicas.
Good examples of late 19th century shopfronts are visible at nos. 37, 47, and 51 Lowesmoor. There is a good 21st century shopfront at no. 61 Lowesmoor.

However, many shopfronts have been altered or are completely modern and these often display a variety of poorly designed details. The most common problems are:

- Over-deep fascias, hiding original features such as string courses, windows, and window cills;
- Use of garish colours;
- Use of plastic lettering and over-dominant lighting.

Road signs and traffic lights, though necessary to control traffic and pedestrian movement, are sometimes poorly sighted in relation to listed buildings and contribute to a distracting visual clutter.

**Local details and features**

The distinctive local identity of the Lowesmoor Conservation Area is enhanced by surviving historic elements that cumulatively help to give the conservation area a sense of place.

Features of interest include:

- Narrow alleys running through to the back courts on Lowesmoor;
- Cast iron street sign from the foundry of Hardy & Padmore survives at the north end of Pheasant Street;
- The remnants of 19th century painted advertisements survive on the facades of some of the buildings on Lowesmoor e.g. nos. 40-42 Lowesmoor;
- Canted profiles to several of the buildings from the former vinegar factory to accommodate the railway that connected all the main production sheds to the Midland and Great Western Railway systems;
- Remnants of the factory gates survive in the west face of the New Filling Shed, indicating the former juncture between the public (the terrace of houses on St Martin’s Street (demolished)) and the private land of the factory;
- Good surviving stretches of boundary wall surmounted by cast iron railings by the office (Counting House);
- Pipe duct running along ridge of the Top Shop (cooperage) and vat room;
- The offices and showrooms of Grainger’s fronting St Martin’s Gate;
- Remnant of the last surviving bottle-kiln in Worcester.
General condition

Buildings in the conservation area are generally in good condition, although there is evidence of the neglect of routine maintenance and repair of some buildings, especially above ground floor level.

Nos. 40–48 Lowesmoor are in a poor state of repair, with extensive areas of cracking in the brick front elevations. No. 57 Lowesmoor is vacant and in poor condition; the building is notable for its slate roof, of uncommonly large dimensions in Worcester, which is in need of urgent repair.

The former buildings of the vinegar works are in a poor state of repair. Vacant buildings have suffered badly from neglect and vandalism, causing serious decay to the fabric and loss of historic elements.

Former buildings of Grainger’s are in good condition, although there is some decay to the fabric and loss of historic elements, such as the Welsh slate roofs, replaced with metal sheeting.

Character areas: key characteristics and negative factors

The Lowesmoor Conservation Area can be roughly divided into two separate character areas each with its own characteristics defined by date of historic form and layout, and current and past uses and activities. These two character areas are:

- Area 1 – Lowesmoor;
- Area 2 – Lowesmoor Trading Estate:
  a) Worcester Vinegar Works;
  b) Grainger’s (Royal China Works).

Area 1 – Lowesmoor

Lowesmoor developed as a medieval extramural suburb of the city of Worcester on one of the principal east-west access routes into the city. From Lowesmoor Silver Street connected to St Martin’s Gate into the city. The medieval suburb was largely demolished during the Civil War. However, the redevelopment through the 18th and 19th centuries followed the established pattern of settlement. This redevelopment was accelerated by the arrival of the Worcester and Birmingham Canal (completed in 1815) and the railway in 1850.

Key characteristics:
- Medieval extramural suburb of Worcester which has been incorporated into the city;
- Linear development along a principal route east-west into the city of Worcester;
• Long narrow plot lines on north side terminating at rear on old parish boundary (St Martin’s and St Nicholas’s); south plot boundaries are more irregular reflecting former constraints to development;
• Alleys and back courts;
• Terraced buildings typically of two bays in width and three storeys in height, set at back-of-pavement line;
• Most of the buildings were constructed as houses in the late 18th and early 19th centuries - many of them now have a shop at ground floor level with residential accommodation above;
• Some survivals of historic timber shopfronts, and a number of good 20th century timber examples;
• Break in the building line on the south side – the junction with the former St Martin’s Street;
• Buildings of red brick, with Welsh slate roofs. There is a single example of the use of stone slates at no. 57 Lowesmoor;
• Surviving cast iron street sign from the Hardy and Padmore foundry, on north end of Pheasant Street;
• Remnants of 19th century painted advertising on facades along Lowesmoor e.g. nos. 40-42 Lowesmoor.

Negatives:
• Loss of historic plot boundaries to the rear, through land clearance and redevelopment e.g. provision of car parking;
• The conservation area is blighted by high levels of traffic noise and pollution;
• Painted front elevations erode the red-brick character of the building stock;
• Modern shopfronts and advertising conceal architectural features and detract from the quality of the historic buildings;
• Inappropriate accretions on front elevations e.g. satellite dishes, wiring, security alarms; much wiring could now be redundant;
• Loss of architectural features e.g. metal rainwater goods and chimneystacks erodes character of historic buildings;
• Alterations to proportions of openings such as windows and inappropriate window replacement e.g. uPVC;
• Poor condition of some of the building stock e.g. No. 54 Lowesmoor is semi-derelict at upper levels;
• Poor treatment of paved surfaces;
• Variety of street furniture e.g. concrete bollards, traffic safety railings, does not enhance the setting of the area;
• Inappropriate 20th century infill.

Area 2 – Lowesmoor Trading Estate

Medieval Lowesmoor was an industrial suburb. Early development was confined to the plots bordering the principal east-west thoroughfares of Lowesmoor and St Martin’s Lane, while the land between remained as open
fields until the later part of the 18th century. The industrialisation advanced apace through the early 19th century, served by the arrival of the canal and the railway. The Worcester Vinegar Works (discussed above) was established in 1830, and gradually expanded production on the Lowesmoor site through land acquisition, new development and a connection to the mainline railway opened in 1872. The Royal China Works of Grainger’s occupied the south-western corner. The First Edition O.S. map 1886 shows the full extent of the industrialization.

Worcester Vinegar Works closed in 1964, and the site became the Lowesmoor Trading Estate in 1968. Some of the industrial structures, such as the large chimney, have since been demolished, others stand empty and semi-derelict.

a) Worcester Vinegar Works

**Key characteristics:**
- Extensive grouping of industrial buildings related to the former vinegar factory;
- Irregular disposition of buildings on site related to land acquisition;
- Formal street north-south through the site, now denuded of some buildings (St Martin’s Street);
- Established routes represent location of former site railway;
- New Filling Shed is the largest and most decorative building associated with the manufactory;
- Red brick warehouses, some with ashlar dressings, of various scales and designs to accommodate the intended function;
- Former cask shed, with sliding grill openings on south side and curved corrugated-iron cladding;
- Former office in Victorian Gothic style with oriel windows and ogee-arched porch;
- Fragments of the entrance gateway to the vinegar works;
- Some buildings with canted profiles to accommodate movement of railway vehicles through the site;
- Large stone gateposts with pyramidal capping stones;
- Decorative cast iron railings, with elaborate scrolled back-stands;
- Fine brickwork and rubbed brick arches on the wine warehouse;
- Remnants of industrial use e.g. raised pipe duct into the New Filling Shed.

**Negatives:**
- Many of the buildings are vacant and not being maintained – resultant poor condition of structures and loss of historic fabric;
- Extensive alterations e.g. new openings, repairs using non-matching materials, have eroded appearance and character of buildings;
- Demolition of buildings – loss of historic pattern of development and coherent boundary to the site;
b) Grainger’s (Royal China Works)

**Key characteristics:**
- Remnants of early 19th century Grainger’s China Works;
- Small-scale red brick buildings of two and three storeys.

**Negatives:**
- Loss of delineation of historic street pattern in areas bordering the conservation area, with the clearance of much of St Martin’s Gate/George Street;
- Demolition of historic buildings of Grainger’s, erodes the coherence of the group and the strong boundary line to the site;
- Lack of building maintenance;
- Alterations e.g. to window openings and poorly executed repairs in non-matching fabric undermine appearance of 19th century buildings;
- Quality of the pavement surfaces;
- Busy traffic on surrounding streets – isolates conservation area from surrounding built areas.
Issues

In the light of the above appraisal and the identification of the negative factors in each character area, the following issues have been identified as being most relevant to consideration of the continuing preservation of the special historic character and appearance of the Lowesmoor Conservation Area.

- Conservation area boundary;
- Setting, views and gateways;
- Loss of original architectural details;
- Building maintenance and repair;
- Street lighting;
- Quality of pavement surface;
- Shopfront design;
- Historic shopfronts;
- Traffic noise and air pollution;
- Traffic signs;
- Street furniture;
- Design of new development.

The issues are discussed and action recommended in Part 2 of this document: ‘Lowesmoor Conservation Area Management Proposals’.
PART 2 – LOWESMOOR CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

Introduction

Purpose of the management proposals

The purpose of this part of the document is to present proposals to achieve the preservation and enhancement of the Lowesmoor Conservation Area’s special historic character and appearance, and to consult the local community about these proposals.

The special qualities of the conservation area have been identified in the first part of this document. These management proposals draw upon the themes identified in the ‘Issues’ section.

The proposals are written in the awareness that, in managing the City’s conservation areas, resources are limited and therefore need to be prioritised. Financial constraints on the Council mean that proposals for which it is responsible may take longer than is desirable to implement. However, the Council will continue to encourage improvements to the conservation area in co-operation with property owners, groups and local businesses.

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 appraisal and the management proposals will be subject to monitoring and reviews on a regular basis.

Legislative background

This document satisfies the statutory requirement of section 71(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 namely:

"It shall be the duty of the local planning authority from time to time to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area which are conservation areas."

Management proposals

1. Changes to conservation area boundary

As part of the appraisal process, the existing conservation area boundary was inspected. It was found that the boundary generally followed a justifiable line and that adjacent areas of historic interest are already within a conservation area - either the Historic City Conservation Area or the Canal Conservation Area. However, two alterations of the boundary are recommended:

1) the removal of part of the northern section of the conservation area. The land to the north of Sansome Place retains no historic structures and has been comprehensively redeveloped for housing in the early 21st century.

2) The inclusion of nos. 51-54 St Martin’s Gate and no. 2 St Paul’s Street. Nos. 51-54 St Martin’s Gate are visible on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886, and no. 2 St Paul’s Street on the Ordnance Survey map of 1902. The buildings are the sole surviving fragment of the rows of terraced houses on the southern side of St Martin’s Gate and George Street. These solid brick Victorian terraces are pleasingly decorative with stone detailing to the door and window heads of foliate pattern. They make a positive contribution to the townscape. The proposed alteration to the boundary is identified on the Conservation Area Appraisal Map.

ACTION: The Council will seek to implement the extension of the designated area as recommended above and thereafter continue to review the boundary of the conservation area in accordance with Best Practice and guidance on the management of the historic environment.

2. Setting, views and gateways

The setting of the conservation area is very important and development which impacts in a detrimental way upon the immediate setting and longer views into and from the conservation area will detract from its special character. The important views are identified on the townscape analysis map in the character appraisal.

There are two strongly identifiable arrival points or ‘gateways’ to the east and west of the conservation area. At the western end of Lowesmoor the gateway is marked by nos. 13, 15 and 17 Lowesmoor (listed grade II), and at the eastern by the historic buildings which flank either side of Lowesmoor, nos. 66 and 71. There are good views of the New Filling Shed (listed grade II) from within the site and north-south along Pheasant Street.

ACTION: The Council will seek to ensure that all development respects the setting of the conservation area and important views within, into and from
the conservation area, as identified in the appraisal. The Council will seek to ensure that these remain protected from inappropriate forms of development and that due regard is paid to these views in the formulation of public realm works or enhancement schemes.

3. Loss of original architectural details

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 alteration to original glazing pattern, the loss of original timber front doors, the painting of historic brickwork and the replacement of clay tile or Welsh slate roofs with concrete tiles.

The appraisal identified that the following alterations pose a threat to the special character of the area:

- Loss of original timber windows and doors;
- Alterations to window/door openings;
- Removal of “redundant” chimney stacks;
- Painting of brickwork or application of render;

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to consider the need for Article 4 directions on a case by case basis, to ensure that the special qualities of all Buildings of Local Significance and key unlisted buildings are protected.

4. Building maintenance and repair

Buildings in the conservation area are generally in good condition but nos. 55-57 Lowesmoor are considered to be at risk of serious decay.

There is evidence of the neglect of routine maintenance and repair of some buildings, especially above ground floor, for example the cracks in the front elevation of nos. 40-48 Lowesmoor need attention.

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to monitor the condition of all historic listed buildings and, through the Buildings at Risk Register, will report findings and advise action, as necessary. Where the condition of a building gives cause for concern, appropriate steps will be sought to secure the future of the building, including the use of statutory powers.

5. Street lighting

Street lighting throughout the conservation area comprises modern tall street lights. These tower over the historic buildings and detract from the special character of the area.
ACTION: The Council will seek to work with the County Council to ensure that street lighting columns within the conservation area are sensitive to the historic environment in which they are placed.

6. Quality of pavement surface

Paving and surface materials throughout the area are generally modern, uncoordinated and poor quality. In almost all cases they fail to enhance or reinforce the historic identity of the conservation area.

ACTION: The council will seek to review the design and materials of paving/streetscape throughout the area with a view to publication of a streetscape manual setting out principles for public space design.

In particular, existing areas of historic floorscape shall be retained where possible and proposed new areas of floorscape shall be appropriate to the historic environment in which they are set.

7. Shopfront design

The Lowesmoor Conservation Area contains a large number of shops. In some cases, poorly designed shopfronts with little regard for the host building and the streetscene spoil the historic character and appearance of a building or street.

ACTION: When considering the replacement of a shopfront, the following guidelines should normally be followed:

- New shopfronts should be built from timber and painted
- New shopfronts should follow the traditional relationship of pilaster, fascia, and moulded cornice above a stallriser and glass window
- The use of uPVC or other modern materials should be avoided

Occasionally, a simple modern shopfront may be more appropriate than a reproduction 19th century design. However, these should still follow the basic principles governing the historic relationship between the fascia, glazing, pilasters and stallriser, as well as the use of colour, materials, and signage.


8. Historic shopfronts

The conservation area contains a number of good examples of whole or partially altered historic shopfronts dating mainly from c1860-1910. These
are listed in Appendix A and identified on the Conservation Area Appraisal Map.

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to ensure the retention of historic shopfronts and notable elements of historic shopfront design.

9. Traffic noise and air pollution

Lowesmoor, Pheasant Street, St Martin’s Gate and City Walls Road surrounding the conservation area are well used by cars and buses, particularly in the rush-hour period. Noise and air pollution detracts from visitors’ experience of the area.

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to work with the County Council to improve the public realm in terms of noise and pollution by whatever means possible.

10. Traffic signs

The conservation area contains and is surrounded by a number of busy routes through the city, particularly City Walls Road. Signs and notices spoil the visual attractiveness of the place. Whilst traffic signs are obviously necessary, many are ill-sited and there may be an over provision.

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to compile an audit of all road signage and street furniture in the conservation area with a view to bringing about a simplified and better co-coordinated approach in line with the principles set out in English Heritage’s latest ‘Streets For All’ publication.

11. Buildings of negative impact

The Conservation Area Appraisal Map indicates buildings or areas of negative impact. These sites or buildings fail to enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area and they might include buildings in need of serious repair, or inappropriate modern development within a street scene of historic structures e.g. no. 19 Lowesmoor. Whilst some of these ‘negatives’ cannot in the short term be rectified, small programmes of public environmental works may make big improvements.

**ACTION:** The Council will encourage the redevelopment of sites or buildings which make a negative contribution to the character or appearance of the conservation area. The Council will also seek to work in partnership with the County Council to implement environmental improvements.
12. Monitoring and review

**ACTION:** The Council will seek to review this document every five years taking into account Government policy. It is intended that the review will include the following:

- A survey of the conservation area and boundaries;
- An updated ‘Heritage Count’ comprising a comprehensive photographic building record;
- An assessment of whether the management proposals detailed in this document have been acted upon, including proposed enhancements;
- A ‘Buildings At Risk’ survey to identify any buildings whose condition poses a threat to their integrity;
- The production of a short report detailing the findings of the survey and proposed actions and amendments;
- Public consultation on the review findings, any proposed changes and input into the final review;
- Publication of an updated edition of management proposals.
Bibliography

Worcester – a pictorial history, T. Bridges & C. Mundy, Phillimore, 1996.
Worcester within the walls, Clive Haynes, Osborne, 1996.
‘List of Buildings of Historic or Architectural Interest’, Department for Culture, Media & Sport.
Speed’s plan of Worcester 1610
Doharty’s plan 1741
Roper & Young’s plan of Worcester 1808
Samuel Mainley’s plan of Worcester 1822
Ordnance Survey First Edition 1886 and 1902, 1928, 1940
Useful addresses

For information on listed buildings and conservation areas in Worcester:

Conservation Section, Specialist Services Team
Orchard House
Farrier Street
Worcester WR1 3BB
Tel: 01905 722543

For further information relating to listed buildings and conservation areas:

English Heritage
1 Waterhouse Square
138-142 Holborn
London EC1N 2ST
Telephone: 020 7973 3000

English Heritage – West Midlands Region
112 Colmore Road
Birmingham B3 3AG
Tel: 0121 625 6820

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

Civic Trust
Winchester House 259-269 Old Marylebone Road
London NW1 5RA
Buildings on the Lowesmoor Trading Estate:
(use as of survey 1873-1880):

1. New Filling Shed;
2. Store vats room, old filling room, scalding shed and cask shed;
3. Top shop(s) (cooperage) and vat room;
4. Distilling and vat rooms and old entrance;
5. Vat room and acidifying room;
6. Fermenting room;
7. Acidifying room;
8. Fitting shop;
9. Brew house, pump room, tun room, mill and boilers;
10. The granary;
11. Bottom cooperage;
12. Cask shed and bay;
13. Laboratory;
14. Office (Counting House);
15. Wine warehouse and entrance to cellars;
16. Shed over new cellar and mess room;
Post: John Kirwan, Conservation Officer
Urban Environment, Worcester City Council
Orchard House, Farrier Street, Worcester WR1 3BB
Tel: 01905 722501
Email: jkirwan@worcester.gov.uk
Typetalk: 1800101905722233
DX: 716287
www.worcester.gov.uk