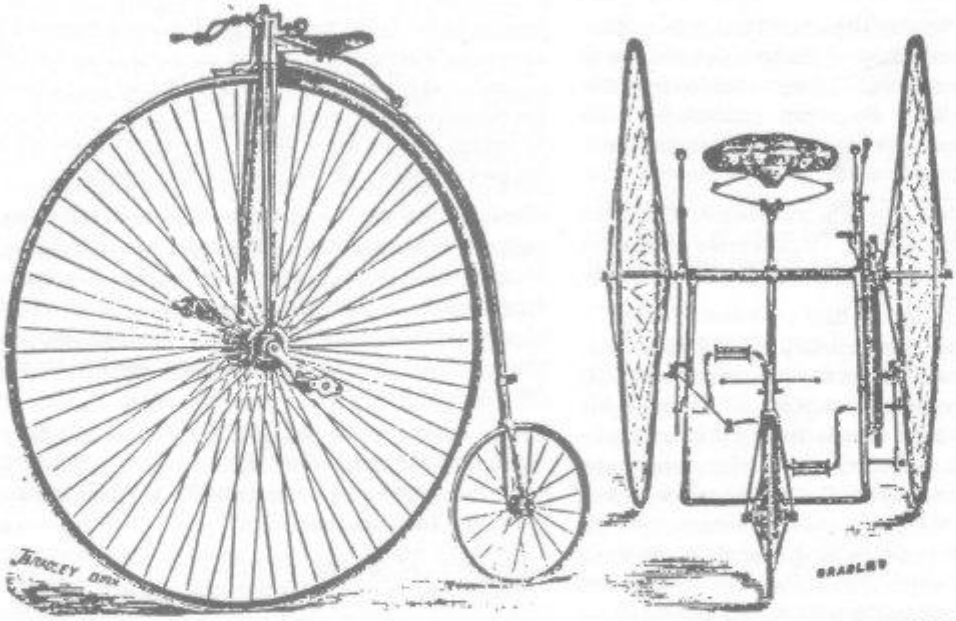
Title Picture - TrustNews Summer 1996

F. V. RUMSEY & Co.

Manufacturers and Agents,

7, PARCHMENT STREET, WINCHESTER

(OPPOSITE THE GENERAL POST OFFICE).



Sole Agents for Starley & Sutton's METEOR TRICYCLES, PATENT INVALID CHAIRS, etc., and Hillman, Herbert, & Cooper's PREMIER TRICYCLES and other Machines, including their Celebrated PATENT KANGAROO SAFETY BICYCLE, faster than any Bicycle, safe as a Tricycle, one of its good points is that it is always under perfect control. no matter at what speed it is driven.

AGENTS FOR ALL THE BEST MAKERS. A LARGE DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

SECOND-HAND MACHINES at LOW PRICES.

EXCHANGES of all descriptions arranged.

Machines Sold upon the EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM. No Extra Charge.

HAVING A GAS ENGINE, **REPAIRS** CAN BE EXECUTED QUICKLY AND AT REASONABLE CHARGES.

RIDING TAUGHT.

SUMMER 1996

Advertisement from Warrens Directory for Rumsey & co 1886
(Photograph by courtesy of John Crook)

Chairman's Message - TrustNews Summer 1996

The chips are now down! We must have courage and confidence, and just a little bit of luck! On 27 April 1996 the Trust put in a Planning Application to double the size of the Heritage Centre to include a new building to provide a viewing arena for the model of the city in 1870. One month later on 28 May 1996, the complex dossier containing the application for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund was handed in to the Commission in St James Street in London.

Success in both the City Planning Department and in the Lottery Fund will lead on to the next step of intensive fund-raising to gather in the considerable outstanding finance needed to enable the project to go ahead. When the project is complete, all our efforts will be put into ensuring that visitor numbers, and hence income, reach their targets.

Failure in any of these areas will almost inevitably lead to the closure of the Heritage Centre, since we must make certain that sufficient funds are always available to carry out the mainline work of the Preservation Trust.

Whereas I fully realise that these are early days, when courage and optimism are paramount, it is not too early to make all Trust members aware of the countless voluntary, and often highly professional, hours that have already been put in under the leadership of Chris Webb. This has involved the architectural team under Michael Carden and Nick Bourne, the expert work of Roger Brown, the creator of the model who is masterminding the presentation of the model to the public by means of the audio script and the visual effects, and the overall co-ordination control put in by Bob Howland, especially over the submission to the Lottery Fund.

THE COUNCIL OF THE TRUST

It has long been the Trust's policy to have a serving City Councillor, who is also a member of the City Planning Committee, on the Trust Council.

Councillor Pamela Peskett has served the Trust since 1987, during which time she has been most helpful in keeping the Trust up to date with current City policies and intentions, and in representing Trust opinions to other Councillors. We are sincerely grateful to her. Pamela has recently left the City Planning Committee in order to give more time to the work of the City's sub committee for External Relations and Economic Affairs, and has offered her resignation from the Trust Council.

In succession to Pamela, we are very pleased to welcome Councillor David Attwell, who represents St Michael's Ward of the City. David is a member of the Planning Committee, and is also a member of three City working groups which are of great interest to the Trust: these are the Peninsula Barracks Working Group, the Winchester Movement and Access Panel, and the newly created working group concerned with studying what might be the development potential for the area of the

city bound by The Broadway, Upper Brook Street, Friarsgate (including the open car parks on the north side) and Eastgate Street.

The Council of the Trust also has the pleasant task of welcoming back Pat Edwards, whom many members will know. Pat was elected to the Trust Council in 1977, when she represented St Paul's Ward. On being elected as Chairman of the City Planning Committee in 1983, she resigned from the Trust Council, but ever since we have always been aware that she has been taking an interest in Trust affairs.

In May 1996 Pat did not stand again for re-election as a City Councillor. Without doubt, the City's loss is the Trust's gain, since Pat's experience is unequalled in just the sort of work with which the Trust is concerned.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING -THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 1996

I would like to encourage members to attend the Annual General Meeting.

During the business part of the evening, I try to give a brief resume of what the Trust has achieved during the past year, and what we hope to achieve during the coming year, which I hope will show you that we are putting your subscriptions to good use, even when it is a matter of steadily pouring water on a stone in order to achieve what we think is right in a few years' time!

The speaker this year will be Gilly Drummond, who has for many years been the Chairman of the Hampshire Gardens Trust. Gilly is an excellent speaker, and has chosen to speak on "Enriching our Lives with Gardens and Parks".

At the end of the meeting there will be a glass of wine, and also the opportunity for you to collar either me or another member the Trust Council to say "why doesn't the Trust do...?" or perhaps let us know of any aspect of our work that particularly interests you. Many of our priorities are influenced by just such conversations.

Antony Skinner

Development Control Committee - TrustNews Summer 1996

Whether or not members personally have the 'feel-good' factor constantly quoted as an indicator of economic recovery, there are signs in Winchester that housing developers are seeing light at the end of the tunnel through which the building sector has been travelling for so long.

A huge amount of extra accommodation is already becoming available on **Peninsula Barracks**, where apparently both apartments in existing buildings and new houses are selling well and there is a proposal to build a block for a further twenty flats at the Romsey Road end of the site.

Another two large developments are now proposed, on the site of the **Marston Brewery Depot, Hyde Street**, and off Greenhill Road on the north-west corner of

the **West Downs** site where King Alfred's College is building its college campus. Both schemes are for over fifty new dwellings and they give an interesting example of contrasting ways of providing accommodation in this quantity on restricted sites with different characteristics but some similarities.

At the **Marston Brewery Depot** a mixed development is proposed, consisting of some social housing, houses in a courtyard/mews and in a terrace, and a very large block of flats. Although this main block is tall and long, it will mostly be hidden by the walls on Hyde Street and North Walls, and considerable differences in ground levels on the site help to accommodate its height. A new route between Hyde Abbey Road and Hyde Street and a public space with a children's playground are also part of the scheme, and though both are welcome, in their present form neither will provide the benefit that they should. This is Winchester's 'secret garden' which very few people will have seen and it contains one of the city's most impressive ancient monuments, part of the old City wall. The public area is located near the wall on part of the old bowling green, a most inaccessible place for the general public because it will be shielded from the pedestrian route on the north of the site by the length of the main block. The space will only be of value to the City as a whole if the existing gateway on North Walls is opened up for pedestrians and cyclists. This would not only give a pleasant route to the Leisure Centre and access to the ancient monument and public area, but with steps at the south-east corner of the site it could also provide an alternative traffic-free pedestrian way along North Walls. We have been told this North Walls access would cause a hazard, because cyclists and pedestrians would rush out into the traffic on North Walls and cars would stop to allow residents to disembark. The Trust argues that a barrier railing would prevent either of these probabilities and that a way into this previously inaccessible site should not be denied on such grounds.

On the Greenhill Road boundary of **West Downs** the developer has opted for high density terraced housing, many with plots smaller than those of the existing nearby houses (and they are not over large). The site's cramped layout makes no attempt to preserve existing trees or to relate to either of the large elements in its boundaries, the new King Alfred's College campus and West Downs, a sizeable listed building whose close proximity requires some recognition by the development. The new houses face into the centre of the site, turning their backs on their surroundings; on Greenhill Road the houses are at present shielded by a hedge, but this is only a temporary barrier and at some later date the far from lovely rear elevations of the new buildings could be exposed. This is another site through which a pedestrian and cyclist route is essential, in this instance to gain maximum benefit from the public open space on the campus. The Trust understood that a pathway through to Greenhill Road was a condition of the planning permission granted to King Alfred's College for Phase II of their development, but there is no sign of this route in the application.

The Trust has objected to both these schemes. While the Marston Brewery development is on the whole acceptable, there are certain aspects that need to be improved, and we consider it essential that there should be pedestrian access off North Walls. The development on Greenhill Road is another matter, and we have objected to this on grounds of over-development of the site, unsatisfactory layout,

inadequate landscaping and lack of public access across the site - in other words, start again!

Members may have noticed the burgeoning telecommunications masts in Winchester; the result of expanding Information Technology, these are difficult to control because IT has government support and Local Authorities are discouraged from making problems over new installations. Even though no more than a short delay may result, the Trust supports the Planning Committee's refusal of Mercury's application to erect a 15 metre telecommunications tower and associated equipment on **St Catherine's Hill**. As was so rightly said, it would be an undesirably intrusive feature in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which contributes to the setting of Winchester.

The proliferation of traffic signs also seems impossible to control, and it is galling that this is self-inflicted damage. The Trust has for many years urged that a system should be set up whereby the Planning and Engineering Departments could consult about proposed alterations to the street scene. But signs, ramps and traffic calming schemes still materialise with great efficiency and speed, often to the detriment of the historic environment of the city. Both the City and the County are involved in these happenings, and if two departments within the Winchester City Council cannot talk to each other, what hope is there for successful communication between the City and the Hampshire County Councils? The car-parking signs fiasco is the latest in a crop of environmental warts, but events are moving too fast to discuss them here, since the signs will probably all be in place before this newsletter reaches you!

Fortunately, it has not been all bad news during the past few months. The development on **land at 56 Tower Street** mentioned in our last newsletter has been refused, and there were also two well-designed schemes, much to the delight of our long-suffering panel members who don't actually enjoy making rude comments the whole time. One was a sensitive addition to **St Faith's Primary School** at St Cross, and the other was an infill house at **3a St Swithun Street** that respected the scale and height of its neighbours without being a pastiche. An added bonus was the clear presentation which made its innovative interior layout easily understood - more applications of this standard would be welcome!

Shione Carden

Report from the Heritage Centre - TrustNews Summer 1996

Once again we have remained open every Saturday during the Winter and Spring months as a point of contact for the Trust members and visitors. Nick McPherson kindly loaned us his degree work on the Hyde area which we hope to see in print one day. This was followed by an exhibition of postcards kindly loaned by John Brimfield to complement the lectures given by Nick on Winchester. Alan Cooke, despite being 'down under', provided us with a splendid set of Winchester mystery pictures which the `Hampshire Chronicle' editor Steve Robinson published to test his readers knowledge. This is proving to be very successful. One man even came to the Centre trying to find out the location of a green door with No '30'; our manager George

Burnett asked him to shut the door when he left! Our thanks to Alan and to his UK link team of George Burnett and Tony Hunter, and also to the `Chronicle' and Mike Cornter of Wilds Sports for donating the prizes.

Much to our and the City's embarrassment the new Tourist leaflet omitted the Heritage Centre so do tell your friends to come and see us. Obviously we have been going through a difficult time with bad spring weather and Upper Brook Street being closed (again) for cable TV in addition to the uncertainty of our future. Robin Baumber of Angerton Video has kindly 'welded on' to the back of our 'Winchester Heritage' video the Centre Appeal video. Robin also produced a copy on the American format for the Mayor (Cllr Pat Norris) to take to Winchester in Virginia, USA. John Brimfield presented her with his compilation of the Rob Sollars' collection to take to America.

Our good friend Pam Gillard who manages the Brooks Centre has not only included a reference to the Heritage Centre in the `Brook Experience' reconstruction of Roman & Mediaeval life in the Brooks, but has also persuaded the new BHS store that they should offer us a bay window facing onto St George's Street to promote the Trust and the Heritage Centre - so watch this space!

Finally, our book sale raised just over £200 and we are repeating the sale again on Saturday 26 October. Please let us have any spare books you may have.

Heritage Centre Enlargement and Improvement Project

Ever mindful that our current lease on the building expires on 30 September 1996, the project teams have been extremely busy during the past months preparing the planning application for submission to the City Council, and completing the complex application form, together with copious supporting documents, for the National Heritage Lottery Fund. It is to everyone's credit that the planning application went in at the end of April, and the lottery application at the end of May.

Now to the crunch - what will it all cost? The total cost, including the 99-year lease on the existing building and the land at the back, the new building and the refurbishment of the existing building, the installation of Roger Brown's model together with the sound-and-light presentation equipment, a new room for the Trust archives and a lecture room will cost in the region of £680,000 (of which £67,000 will be VAT).

We are hoping that the Lottery Fund will grant us 75% of this sum, and thanks to Roger Brown most generously donating his model to us, to which we must add the professional work freely given to us at little or no cost, and a major contribution from the Preservation Trust, we estimate that we shall have to raise about £70,000 ourselves.

We have been fortunate in the moral support that has been given to us by the City and County Councils and also the extensive information given to us by the Town Clerk of Rye, Mrs Leslie Scammell, whose experience with designing and operating their own model has been of inestimable value to us. What else has to be done? At the moment we are drawing up the terms of reference for the Exhibition Co-

ordinator, who will mastermind the means of presenting the model to the public, together with the interior arrangements for the whole complex. We are hoping to be able to select one from about four firms who might be interested in actually obtaining the equipment, and then installing it.

This brings us to the crucial matter of raising the funds. If there are any members who would be prepared to advise us on this major task, we would be very pleased to hear from them.

Chris Webb

Peninsula Barracks - TrustNews Summer 1996

It is most encouraging to see the rapid progress being made in the areas owned by Try Homes. On the St James Lane site, two blocks are complete with new owners moving in week by week, and with the further terraces forming two sides of the Beaumond coming along fast. On the Upper Parade-ground the upper floors of Long Block are being prepared for occupation this year.

On the Lower Barracks site behind Searles House and St Thomas Church, which is under different ownership, there are indications everywhere of a major internal clean-up, with water, power and sewer pipes going in. On the former Lower Parade Ground, now to be known as the Castle Green, there are signs of getting rid of the tarmac and preparing the land for landscaping. It would nice to see progress on the single storey block that makes up the third side of Beaumond, but may be we shall have to wait.

However, the Trust still has several concerns which it is monitoring closely, but at the same time confident that they will eventually be resolved.

The first worry is what has now come to be known as "The Black Tower Site", albeit that the archaeological work did not entirely confirm the position of the tower. This is the important site between the Romsey Road entrance and the Upper Parade-ground, bounded by Mons Block, the Jury Rooms, the Great Hall, Short Block and the Greenjacket Museum.

The site architect has fulfilled his brief by designing an ingeniously assembled building containing twenty 2- and 3-bedroomed flats together with parking for their cars, and room for their dustbins. However the density is such that several important views become obscured, such as the gable-end of the Great Hall and the view through from the entrance to the parade ground enhancing the importance of Short Block. The present brief diminishes the stature of the site.

We also know that the army is carrying out a feasibility study for including the site in a proposed museum complex. Sadly, the City Council has not really had the time to sit back and have a thorough assessment on what is required on this site, and what options are open. This area is the front entrance to Peninsula Barracks, arguably

one of the most important developments taking place in the south of England at this time. We must not botch it!

The second worry concerns both some of the proposed materials and planting included in the landscape schemes that we have so far seen, and the draft landscape management plan which would seem not to be tight enough for the purpose for which it is intended. The maintenance of the public open space must be beyond reproach.

As always, we sincerely hope that any fears that we may have will not be realised, and that satisfactory solutions will be found. This whole development receives frequent mention in the national press - it must succeed.

Antony Skinner

Bicycles and Bicycling - TrustNews Summer 1996



Cycle lane across a bridge in North Walls Recreation Ground,
cyclists share the path with pedestrians except over the bridge

With cycling in the public eye following the recent National Bike Week and Car Free Day, it seems appropriate for me as the Trust's representative, to report on the Cycling Working Group. This Working Group, set up by the City Council, includes representatives of the City and County (officers and councillors), the Police, and of colleges of higher education, cycling and other organisations in Winchester, and is looking to develop a cycling strategy for Winchester into the millennium.

Many of the streets of Winchester are not conducive to cycling; they are narrow and busy. The City has, however, put in place a North to South cycle route between Worthy Road and St Cross. The route largely follows quieter streets, and the cyclist still has to compete with the car, except where a short stretch of segregated path for cyclists has been marked out at the St Thomas/St Swithun Street junction and for the contraflow lane in Middle Brook Street; the cycle phase of the traffic lights at the North Walls junction with Middle Brook Street for cyclists going North is the most recent improvement. In the North Walls Recreation Ground, cyclists share the path with pedestrians, except for the segregated cycle lane across a bridge (see photograph below).



The contraflow lane in Middle Brook Street

Future plans include the extension of this cycle route North to Kingsworthy and South to Five Bridges Road, with the possibility of shared use of the pavement beside the main road. This is a contentious issue, but where a pavement is reasonably wide and the pedestrian use low, it is perhaps the best option available. When road improvements or new roads are planned, the aim is to ensure that the needs of cyclists are taken into account at the design stage.

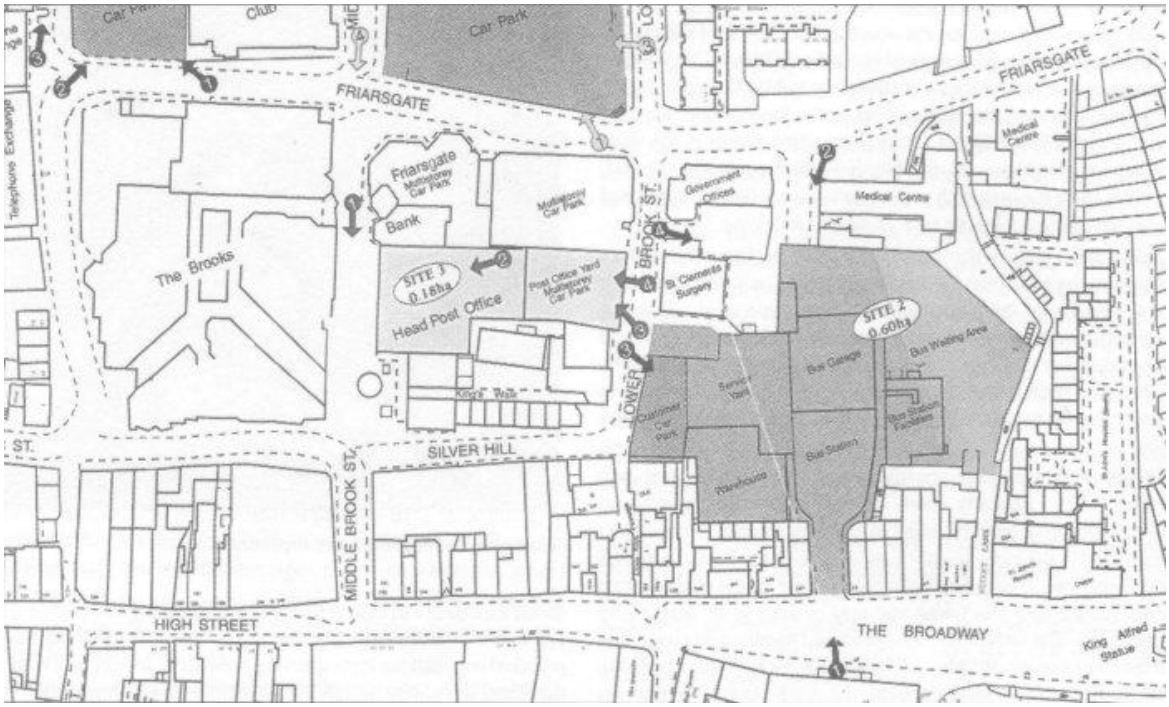
Cyclists with expensive machines need to be able to park their cycles safely. Recently about 100 hoops (Sheffield stand) and Cyclevices have been installed in the City Centre. Hoops have been used in the more sensitive areas such as the High Street and the Broadway. Cyclevices have been placed in less visible areas; cyclevices enable the frame and both wheels to be secured by steel bolts. The Trust's views on proposed locations has had some effect, for example, the planned location of cyclevices in the North Walls Recreation Ground near the Park Avenue entrance, obscuring the river view, was changed to the Trust's preferred site to the left of the path.

Small measures can aid cyclists, like the dropping of a kerb or the alignment of a drainage grid across the road. If members have practical suggestions for improving conditions for cyclists within the City, Rosemary Ralph of the Engineering Department of Winchester City Council (848302) would welcome them.

Susan Butterfield

Central Winchester Urban Design Workshops - TrustNews Summer 1996

In the summer of 1994 John Gummer launched a discussion document called 'Quality in Town and Country' with the aim of promoting quality in urban design as a wise investment. This was followed in 1995 by the Urban -- Design Initiatives from DOE which invited local partnership groups to apply for funding to prepare proposals for specific sites which would later be exhibited. The response was much greater than DOE expected and the funding only stretched to about twenty groups. Winchester failed to gain funding, but this year formed a group led by Simon Birch, the Chief planning Officer with the Central Hampshire branch of the RIBA and the Preservation Trust steering a wide range of individuals from various community organisations. The focus of the study was the area bounded by Friarsgate and The Broadway, see plan below, which was exposed to the critical examination of some forty people at two well organised workshop days held on 30 March and 22 June.



The area of study, bounded by Friarsgate and The Broadway

There is not much doubt that everyone found both days satisfying, stimulating and enjoyable and will have left with a very different view of that part of Winchester and the issues associated with its future possibilities.

On the first day small working groups developed broad ideas for specific sites or strategic approaches to the area and on the second the intention was to focus on to more tangible proposals but throughout there was a persistent but very understandable problem of over-generalisation or over simplification. The working groups had to seek not only a proposition for their site but also think through the consequences of any change within a framework where the idea of expertise was being challenged by strongly held opinion, where understanding situations of

enormous complexity was attempted on the basis of casual experience, and where reactions to problems were too easily accepted as adequate values by which to determine the idea of a better city. The workshops might have achieved an indication of general tendencies and preferences but were never likely, and were not expected to come to any substantial conclusions. In spite of such limitations, discussing the future of the City with Planning Officers, Councillors, architects, students and residents in an atmosphere of mutual concern, was a novel experience which must be a plus for the workshops. But this mix of interests also revealed the particular imbalance in the group. Predominant were architects and members of The Preservation Trust. Absent {with the notable exception of one now retired] were Councillors representing City Wards, the Chamber of Commerce, commercial and property interests, and other crucial players such as Highways. While it was a decision by the organisers not to invite those with a financial stake in the area, the interests of those participating is revealing. It has to be seen as a sign of concern by people already only too aware of what is at stake but equally as a sign of the disinterest by many with the responsibility and power to do something or influence the situation. In this light it is easy to regard the whole exercise as a side show acting out of the need to demonstrate public participation in the planning process. There has to be a degree of truth in this view but at the same time it is unfair on the very genuine intentions of the Chief Planning Officer who, on the face of it, has very limited means and little opportunity to 'indulge' in planning the future shape of the City.

One overriding fact is however confirmed by these workshops. There is no plan for Winchester. There is a document called the Local Plan which speaks in general terms of limiting offices and encouraging housing, and other policies which aim to reduce traffic and increase bus use, but no description of the physical plan. I would like to say that there is no vision, no sense of ideal or even ambition by the City as an institution for what the City as a place should be now or might become, but in relation to the apparently overwhelming reality of day to day planning matters, such thinking seems almost embarrassingly out of place.

Public participation in the making and continuing development of the City is fundamentally important but cannot, must not, be a substitute for an informed and carefully considered plan setting out criteria and guide lines for development before it happens. The physical reality which makes the unique City, the streets and buildings, the squares, gardens , alleys, arcades and markets have their own particular characteristics which should not be determined by the solving of existing problems, but by a positive desire to create particular places with qualities all their own. Traffic and transport will fit some places and not others but essentially must be accommodated by agreement and by management where appropriate and not determine the spaces of the City.

It was hoped that the workshops would come up with ideas for developing the area and in some ways they did, but interestingly some quite detailed schemes produced on the first day were not progressed on the second when discussion tended to go over the same problem, traffic. If one aim dominated the discussion it was the removal of traffic from the City centre but there were many who warned of the damaging consequences of responding only to the negative aspects without proposing a rational structure for the positive needs of all forms of movement into the

centre. A lot of time was spent tinkering with where buses should stop and what route they should take but there seemed little awareness of the serious problem of too many over large buses dominating the City streets.

There were some clear conclusions. Create a key East West route - formed as a boulevard not as a road - to link a transport interchange at the rail station with the M3. This would give direct access to car parking provide lay-bys for buses and taxis along the tree lined space, and be in short walking distance from the whole central area. Much thought was directed at how Friarsgate could contribute to this idea since it has no role other than carrying traffic, few buildings face onto it and the need to redefine its edges could be achieved with a substantial avenue of trees. Servicing the centre would be managed by timed access determined by need and type of vehicle. Car parks such as Colebrook Street which can only be accessed via the Broadway would be closed and coaches could even now use Chesil Street as their terminus though a better network of pedestrian paths across the river and beyond becomes essential.

The first workshop produced some quite strategic ideas which could fit easily into City policy:

To re-establish and give form to the network of streets and alleys which in this area are broken and disconnected and also include covered arcades passages and market.

To require that development faces the street and accepts the responsibility to develop the quality and usefulness of places, and does not turn its back on the public.

To realise the enormous potential of the brooks, ie the waterways, by bringing them to the surface in both garden and street settings. And while below ground consider the value of the whole substrata of archaeology.

To encourage 'layered' development which offers small retail at ground level, and residential above or behind, and support uses which build on cultural activities already established in the City.

To encourage good architecture on the basis of a rational assessment of its quality and contribution to the city rather than on stylistic criteria.

To develop more diverse, particular and useful public places and discourage the, assumingly accidental, creation of anonymous useless spaces.

The second day dealt with four specific locations:

Friarsgate, Silver Hill, The Broadway, and the M&S warehouse building but probably left more questions than answers.

Silver Hill is a back street made of back doors. It could link through to the bus station 'square', connect with the M &S warehouse, which everyone agreed is a valuable building with great character, and accommodate market stalls along its two blank

sides. Any such improvement assumes a better location for taxis and has to be careful about competition with Kings Walk, the creation of which reduced Silver Hill to what it is now. Consideration of the M &S warehouse depended rather heavily on dream uses such as dance studio, cyber cafe, or museum [not another one], yet did little to address the real potential of its accessible frontage onto the bus station or more profitable possibilities for its use as a very practical space if it had better connections.

The big question which remained unanswered was the Broadway. It seemed almost too big to contemplate, too important to neglect, yet it has been cast aside as a turning space for coaches and taxis. Someone said it was probably the easiest space to deal with. Create a broad flat ground surface with large scale paving, define it as pedestrian and life would flow in. Add some important parades and Civic occasions, perhaps a few more tree lines, a better connection with the brook and Abbey Gardens and enjoy the fruits of a great asset. Don't however divide it up into pieces of road and pavement or fill it with furniture like a Victorian parlour.

When you've got something good and big, flaunt it! When something is broken, mend it!

Ray Attfield

Trust Member's Choice - TrustNews Summer 1996

Members of the Trust - a few names taken at random - were invited to select a building, a garden, a sculpture, or some special corner of Winchester that they liked, and describe what it was about it that particularly appealed to them. There was a good response, and three examples are included here. Further 'special corners' from members would be greatly welcomed, so if anyone is interested in contributing to a future newsletter, please write to the Editor.

St James Catholic Cemetery, Romsey Road



St James Catholic Cemetery, Romsey Road

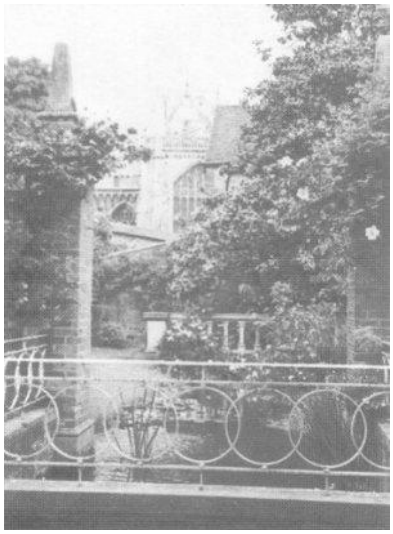
Regine Tatham writes:



The immaculately kept Gate - keeper's lodge

If you walk up the Romsey Road towards Hilliers from Upper High Street, past the long high wall of the water tower (a green bench is set in a niche half-way up for the weary) there is, on the left, a tiny, immaculately kept gate-keeper's lodge which stands guard over the old Catholic Cemetery of St James. Go through a double set of wrought iron gates into one of the only three recorded graveyards attached to a Saxon Church in the Middle Ages. You haven't come here for a history lesson, but there is one attached to the outside wall of the larger of the two mausoleums. Flanked on each side by hospital buildings and the hum of the Romsey Road traffic, it is nevertheless one of the quietest, most deserted, most peaceful places in Winchester with just that mixture of care and neglect that one expects of the best graveyards. The grass is mown, only in the right places, and there are fresh flowers on some of the graves. There used to be a lovely view, now mostly obscured by the new Hospice being built up Mews Lane, but if you stand with your back to the furthest wall of the Grace family mausoleum, you can still see St Catherine's Hill in the distance; you can wander among the graves of an Archbishop, a Bishop, French refugees fleeing the Revolution, Parish Priests, members of the nobility and humbler folk and, remembering a section of the community much persecuted in its day, do as you are asked and "in your charity pray for them all".

Water Garden, Water Close, off Colebrook Street



Water Garden, Water Close, with the Cathedral in the background

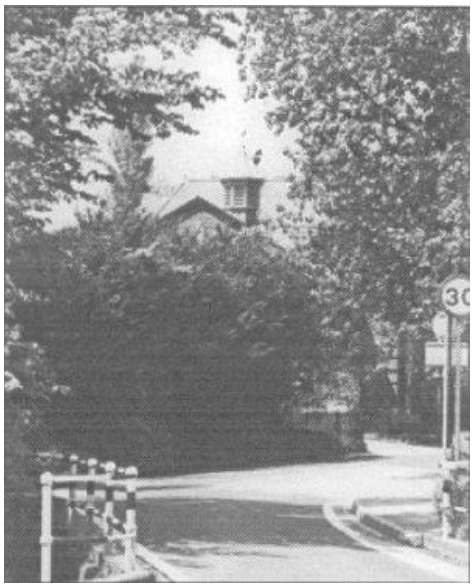
This was chosen by two members, Mrs Beatrix Brooking and Mrs Barbara Hall. Barbara Hall writes:

When the Hampshire Gardens Trust had its Landscape Fair in the Great Hall in 1993, I was involved in leading some Garden Walks. This included walking through the Water Close Garden which I knew Sir Peter Smithers, former MP for Winchester, had created. By a stroke of luck I discovered his Swiss address, wrote to him and had a kind letter in return telling the details of its making. In the early 1950s he bought the five very small 19th century houses on the site which were already condemned. He had them demolished and with the help of Wilfred Carpenter Turner, the then Cathedral Architect, he developed the site, not only for himself (he was living in Colebrook House at the time) but mainly for the benefit of the general public, walking that way through to the Cathedral.

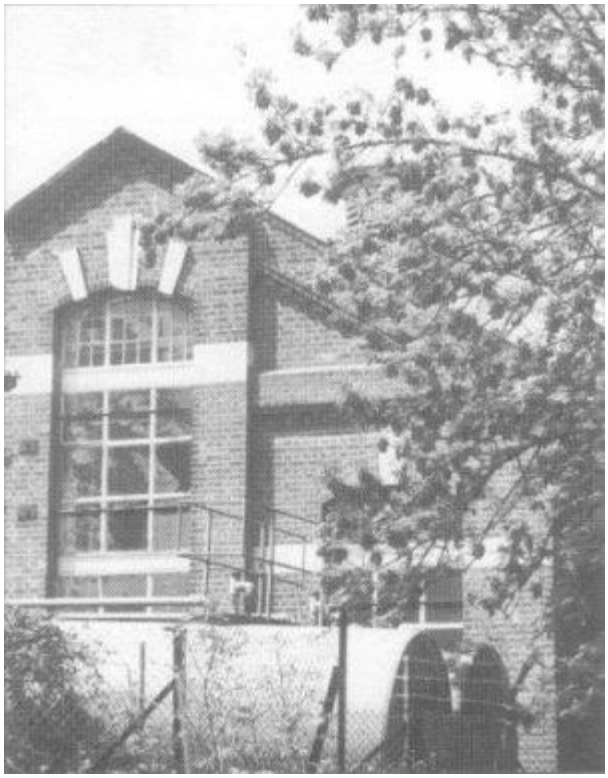
The wrought iron railing was designed by Wilfred Carpenter Turner, who also found the two stone finials in a builder's yard. The Cypress trees Sir Peter put there for he said a monk might well have brought the seed back from Rome! The stream, which provides occasional haven for a pair of ducks, passes on into the garden of Colebrook House, where it descends a "water staircase" of four steps - the "best Birds Public Baths in Winchester", as Sir Peter put it. The garden itself always has something of interest - arum lilies, the roses and the magnolia tree which leads the eye onwards to a very special glimpse of the East End of the Cathedral. How lucky we are that Sir Peter had the generosity of mind to create this beautiful and peaceful spot for us, the citizens of Winchester and visitors alike.

I have often wondered whether the present owner of Colebrook House would grant his permission for a plaque to be put there, naming it The Smithers Garden, to join the Scott Garden and the Joyce Garden elsewhere in the City.

A Special Approach to Winchester



Approaching the Pumping Station



A detail of the Pumping Station

David Woods writes:

To suggest that a small road past a rubbish dump should make the most fitting approach to Winchester may seem eccentric, for an entrance should herald its objective, and the City, with its great and ancient buildings, lacks any avenue of echoing architectural pomp or stateliness. But Gamier Road, by a mixture of charm and magic, provides an entirely fitting welcome to ambler and motorist alike.

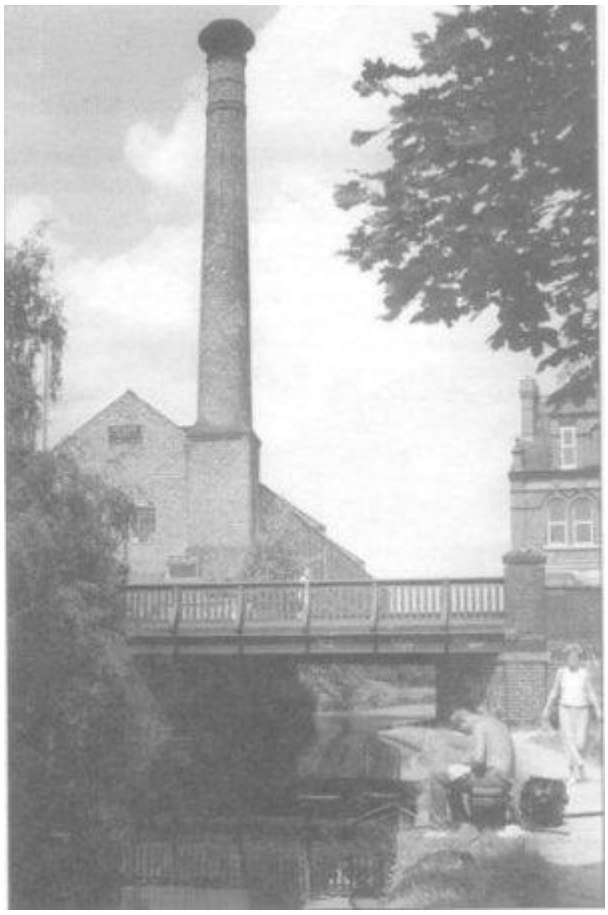
Winding out of the downland this country lane squeezes over the several flows of the Itchen and through its bordering hawthorn and willow gives views of the water meadows stretching north to the heart of the City. Passing a couple of mellow cottages all remains essentially rural until, improbably signalled by the entrance to the Recycling Centre (a place of manifold delights and a recommended outing in itself), one suddenly enters a massive nave of towering poplars whose shade conceals the City Pumping Station. Built in 1878, this proud Victorian building's functional stature is lightened by tall arched windows and topped by an incongruous blue potting-shed structure - mass leavened by light and wit.

The effect is theatrical but one has undeniably been ushered into the City, unexpectedly prepared by a cameo of scale and shade for the Cathedral and all that awaits.

Barry Joyce and Local Distinctiveness - TrustNews Summer 1996



Wirksworth taken from the church tower



Erewash Canal at Long Eaton

On 30 May, Barry Joyce of Derbyshire County Council showed The Trust some beautiful slides of typically Derbyshire buildings and details, both domestic and industrial - door frames and windows, roof tiles, stone paving, wooden gutters, shop fronts and so forth. His theme was `Local distinctiveness' the object being not to expect this rich heritage of detail to be copied by architects and builders, but to

inspire new details which are sympathetic to the old. Shown here are two photographs taken by Gordon Michell illustrating Barry Joyce's recently published book 'Derbyshire Detail and Character. A celebration of its town and villages' published by Derbyshire County Council priced £12.99.

Available from Barry Joyce, Planning & Highways Department, County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG tEL. 01629 580000 at a discount price to amenity societies.

Organisation - TrustNews Summer 1996

Winchester Preservation Trust....cares for the character of the City
The Heritage Centre,
32 Upper Brook Street,
Winchester, S023 8DG
Tel: 01962 851664

President: The Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham GCMG, GCVO, DL

Vice President: Sir Hugh Casson KCDV KA RIBA FSIA

Chairman: Capt Antony L.L. Skinner RN (retd)

Deputy Chairman: Michael Carden AADip, RIBA

Hon Treasurer: I K C Thomson MA, FCA

Secretary: Flavia Bateson
(Including Membership)

(Full details of officers and committees of the Trust, with a list of members are published each year in the Annual Report).

Newsletter Editor: Margrit Waldron

If anyone has any comments on issues in this newsletter or suggestions for future ones, please write to the Editor at The Heritage Centre. The Copy date for the next newsletter is **6th January 1997**

Historic Buildings and Ancient Landscape - TrustNews Summer 1996

An exhibition and sale of drawings, sketches and paintings by Nicholas McPherson was held at the Heritage Centre over the weekend of 25-27 May. Several paintings were sold and the number of visitors to the Heritage Centre over the Whitsun weekend was increased. 20% of the proceeds of any sale goes towards the Heritage Centre funds. The same applies to any commissions which may be forthcoming, and

Nick McPherson will undertake house portraits for Trust Members on the same basis.

Georgian Architecture - TrustNews Summer 1996

Professor James Stevens Curl FSA is a Life Member of the Trust now living in Northern Ireland. His book Georgian Architecture - a fully illustrated guide to the architecture of the British Isles during the reign of the first four Georges (1714-1830) - is now available in paperback, published by David & Charles, price £16.99.

Southern Comfort 1996 - TrustNews Summer 1996

Every year for the past 15 years, there has been an informal gathering of amenity societies with very much the same objectives as ourselves. These societies, like the weather forecast, come from the geographical area loosely covered by the words "Central Southern England".

It was last hosted by us in 1983, and will be again held in Winchester in October of this year.

Since Peninsula Barracks is reaching a very interesting stage in its development, we are holding the event in the upper room of the Gurkha Museum, which overlooks the Upper Barracks parade-ground. As a central theme, we thought that in these days of rapidly changing local conditions of planning and development we would do well to have a look at the role of an amenity society today. The opening speakers will be Roy Trustram Eve of the Civic Trust, who will speak on what he sees our role to be, and Simon Birch, Winchester's Chief Planning Officer, who will tell us what assistance he would expect to receive from a local amen¬ity society in helping its local Council to come to the best deci¬sions in the interests of the local community.

After a tour of the Barracks site in the lunch-hour, the afternoon will be spent in an open forum discussing problems, and hope¬fully solutions, that are common to all amenity societies.

Why "Southern Comfort"? At the inaugural meeting in Chiches¬ter, the format for the future was finally agreed and a member expressed the view that he "felt **comfortable** with what had been agreed". Since all the participants at this meeting (only about half a dozen societies) were from the south, the arrangement was referred to in an article written for the Civic Trust as "Southern Comfort". And so it has remained!

Tesco's Blazing Beacon - TrustNews Summer 1996

Members may remember the recent correspondence in the Winchester Extra complaining about the brightness of the illumination of the Tesco Tower at Winnall at night. We are pleased to report that after this correspondence was brought to the attention of the General Manager of Tesco's at Winnall, Gerwyn Reynolds has agreed to incorporate a timeclock so that the Tower will be switched off no later than one hour after closing.

East Lane Garden - TrustNews Summer 1996

For members who have not yet visited East Lane, and who would like to experience a beautiful hillside garden, with a terraced water garden, walled rose garden, mixed herbaceous shrubs and woodland, there is another opportunity on Friday 23 August, from 5.30 pm, as Sir Peter Ramsbotham, President of the Trust, and Lady Ramsbotham are generously inviting members of the Trust and friends to see the garden and take a glass of wine. There is ample parking space at East Lane, Ovington, and directions can be found on page 12 under Diary.

Summer Walks 1996 - TrustNews Summer 1996

TEN SUMMER WALKS : 1996

Seven of these walks were listed in the Spring Newsletter. The full list of ten is listed below. Meet at the Heritage Centre, except where indicated, at 6.30 pm.

20th June	**Winchester's Trees and Landscape**	**David Crudgington** Landscape Architect
27th June	**Architectural Detail in Winchester**	**Richard Baker** Chief Planning Officer Eastleigh Borough Council
4th July	**New Buildings in Winchester**	**Keith Leaman** Architect & Joint Chairman of Trust Urban Studies
11th July	**The Eastern High Street**	**Andrew Rutter AADip MRTRPI** City of Winchester Conservation Architect
18th July	**St Cross Hospital** Meet at Porter's Lodge, St Cross	**Michael Carden** Architect & Trust Deputy Chairman
25th July	**Peninsula Barracks** Meet: Romsey Road entrance	**Huw Thomas** Architect
1st August	**Medieval Dwellings in Winchester**	**Dr Tom Beaumont-James** Archaeologist & Lecturer King Alfred's College

8th August	**Winchester College**	**Mike Bullen** Hants Conty Council Historic Buildings Officer
15th August	**St Giles Hill and Bar End**	**Graeme Scobie** Archaeologist
22nd August	**Hyde through History**	**Nick McPherson** Architect and Illustrator

Membership - TrustNews Summer 1996

Thank you to all those members who continue to make donations to the Trust which are very much appreciated.

We would like to extend a welcome to those who have joined the Trust since our last newsletter:
Miss M J Young
Mr C P Moxon
Chris and Susan Tisdall
Kerwin Porter
Cynthia Hanks
Cynthia Gilling
Graham Barnes
Trevor Wilson
Penny Shoemark
Clive, Alison, Charlotte and Francesca Wood
Janet and Fred Corton
Jean Jones
Mrs E M H Daltrey
James and Patricia Bell
Dorothy Simpson
Violet Kimber
Lady (Barbara) Broadbent
Mr TA Coulton
Mr D Baldwin
Mr and Mrs D Gollins
Judith Steventon-Baker
John Townsend
Margaret Dollimore
Dr and Mrs M de Quincy
Lady (Sarah) Johnson
Kirsty Robinson
Ernest Hutchinson
Mr C P Honey
Antony Gibbs
Mrs B J Shuttleworth
Tom Burgess

Alicia Hemming
Jeanne Wood
Ms P A Hauser
Mr and Mrs J Kellaway
Mr and Mrs D P Wyatt
Anne and Myles Ponsonby
Professor Dilys Hill
Mrs S C Lidbury

Newsletter Deliverers - TrustNews Summer 1996

We are extremely grateful to the gallant band of volunteers who, whatever the weather, deliver over two-thirds of the Trust news¬letters by hand, thus saving the Trust a great deal on postage. At present, we lack someone for the Lanham and Dean Lane area of Weeke. If you could help, please contact the Trust office (851664).

Subscriptions - TrustNews Summer 1996

The current subscription rates are £5.00 (single), £7.50 (family/household) and £10 (Corporate). Alternatively, Life Membership is available for a one-off payment of £60 (single) or £75 (Double). The majority of subscriptions are paid by bankers' order and this method certainly makes savings for the Trust in Bank Charges. The Membership Secretary would like to remind members that annual subscriptions for 1996/1997 were due on 1 May.

Diary Dates - TrustNews Summer 1996

Friday 23 August From 5.30 pm

The President of the Trust, Sir Peter Ramsbotham, and Lady Ramsbotham invite members to visit their garden at East Lane, Ovington, and take a glass of wine.

(Directions: Take A31 towards Alresford. Leave roundabout at the end of the dual carriageway as though going to Alresford, but turn left almost immediately towards Ovington. East Lane is the first house on the left after about 300 yards)

Saturday 12 OctoberSouthern Comfort. Winchester Preservation Trust hosts this annual event

Saturday 26 OctoberHERITAGE CENTRE BOOK SALE

Tuesday 29 OctoberThe Hampshire Gardens Trust with Hampshire County Council. Day seminar "New City Parks & Gardens - HGT Marks the Millennium", at Townhill Park, Southampton Details from 01794 367752

Thursday 14 NovemberAGM at the Guildhall, King Charles Suite 7.30 pm Guest Speaker Gilly Drummond, past Chairman Hampshire Gardens Trust "Enriching our lives with gardens and Parks" Wine will be available after the proceedings.