

Rose Crescent is a highly distinctive shopping street constructed as two homogenous developments in the early C19 and early C20 and is now a popular pedestrian route into the market. The narrow entrance and sharply curved building lines make it a 'hidden' street.

Rose Crescent is partly built over the buildings and yards to the former Rose Tavern, of which nothing now remains. The north east side of the Crescent was laid out as a planned development in 1825 and the south west side

was acquired by Gonville and Caius College which demolished the old buildings to build St Michael's Court in 1901-3.



View into Rose Crescent

SIGNIFICANCE - HIGH

General Overview

The two developments have continuous frontages that both rise to three storeys from the rear of the pavement with curving building lines creating a strong sense of enclosure. The south side has a fourth (attic) storey that is set just back from the eaves. The buildings on the north side form a continuous frontage of Neo-classical grey Gault brick townhouses, with ground floor shops which retain a number of the original shopfronts with notable details such as the cast iron grills to the basement light wells and the engaged panelled Tuscan pilasters. A through-arch between Nos. 9 and 10 is closed by large panelled gates, whilst the presence of a second arch can be detected further along the row.



Buildings to the north / east side of Rose Crescent

The south side is formed by a single building designed to resemble a C16 college building clad in sandstone ashlar with projecting oriel windows which mark the staircases which rise up several storeys. The contribution of these has been emphasised by the addition of C21 plate glass oriel shop windows. Other windows and doorways from the street are framed in stone with deep chamfered reveals and mullions and arched heads or pierced stonework surrounds.



Through-arch



Buildings to the south / west side of Rose Crescent

Winsor lanterns on long swan-necked or hooped brackets project from the buildings on either side. The street is notable for its stone paving and is a very popular pedestrian route into and out of the market square, although it is a quieter area at night and could be an intimidating space. At its entrance from Trinity Street the street narrows, creating a pinchpoint that hides the street making it a 'hidden' part of the city.



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Townscape Elements

- The street is lined on both sides by buildings on the back of the footpath.
- The very enclosed nature and the curve of the street restrict views northwards, creating an enclosed space that emphasises the shop frontages.
- A good example of purpose-built early C19 and later commercial development in the heart of the city.
- Views to the south are focused on the bustling Market Place with the Guildhall looming over.



View south towards the Market Place and the Guildhall



Street lanterns at the entrance from Trinity Street

	Grade I Listed Building
	Grade II* Listed Building
	Grade II Listed Building
	Positive Building/Structure
	Building of Local Interest
→	Key Positive view
→	Key Negative view
—	Positive building/structure
—	Historic shopfront
	Grade II* Historic Park & Garden
	Grade II Historic Park & Garden
	Area of Quality Paving
	Positive Green Space
	TPO Areas (Boundaries)
●	Individual TPO
●	important trees
★	Focal feature
	Poor Quality Features

- The castellated roof on St Michael's Court and the rhythm of stair bays and lantern brackets on the other side of the street all add richness to the streetscene.
- Landscaping is restricted to tub-planters by some shops.
- Large slabs of riven stone paving create a unified street surface.
- Winsor lanterns on brackets add to the interest of the streetscene.
- High quality historic shopfronts form the focus of views and make this a distinctive location.



High quality shopfronts

Enhancement Opportunities

- The reinstatement of the few shopfronts to the North-east side, which have been altered, with associated improvements to the shop signage, is the main enhancement opportunity.
- The bollards and street signs at the ends of the street would benefit from improvements.

Building No./ Name	Status	Age	Height (Storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
No. 9 Trinity Street	Listed Grade II	late C18	3 + attic	buff brick	cornice & parapet / slate & tile		
1 - 11	Listed Grade II	C1825	3 + attics	Gault brick	parapet / slate		Nos. 1 – 4, 8 and 11 retain original shop windows.
12 - 18 Gonville & Caius: St Michael's Court	Listed Grade II	1901-3	3 + basement + attics	ashlar-faced	tiled	Sir Aston Webb	Tudor style with C21 oriel shop windows as a high quality addition
No. 15 Market Hill	Listed Grade II	C1840	4	Flemish bond brick	mansard / slate		Included for group value
No. 16 ,Gonville & Caius: Market Hill Buildings	Listed Grade II	1937	5	portland stone	flat	J Murray Easton	Listed with Nos. 16-21