

One-sided street of C19 houses overlooking Christ's Pieces.

These streets originally formed the approach to Emmanuel College from the north and may be of medieval origin. They now form the western limit of The Kite area including houses built by Charles Humfrey architect, developer and Mayor of Cambridge (c1820), which overlook the green park of Christ's Pieces. New Square creates an attractive green gap in its eastern frontage,

whilst numerous narrow lanes of small houses run off the street to the east. The built up eastern frontage has a strong early C19 architectural character, although the parkland frontage to the west provides a pleasantly-open green setting. Today, it is also on one of the main bus routes into the city centre.



Emmanuel Road looking to Short Street

SIGNIFICANCE - SIGNIFICANT

General Overview

Despite their early origins, these streets were effectively integrated into The Kite area to the east by the similarities of the built form, with two and three storey Gault brick houses and cottages dating from the 1820s onwards. These have a variety of simple neo-classical details, including arched doorways, multi-paned sash windows (some with external shutters) and shallow pitched hipped roofs. The long terrace of similar houses between Earl Street and Victoria Street has a central pediment to provide a focal point in views along the street – a feature which is distinctive of The Kite area. Some classical detailing has been incorporated into later buildings, including the classical revival Unitarian Chapel (built in the early C20), a prominent building with landmark value at the southern end of the street. An interesting survival is the early C19 shopfront to the Golden Rose Public House (No. 17



Unitarian Chapel

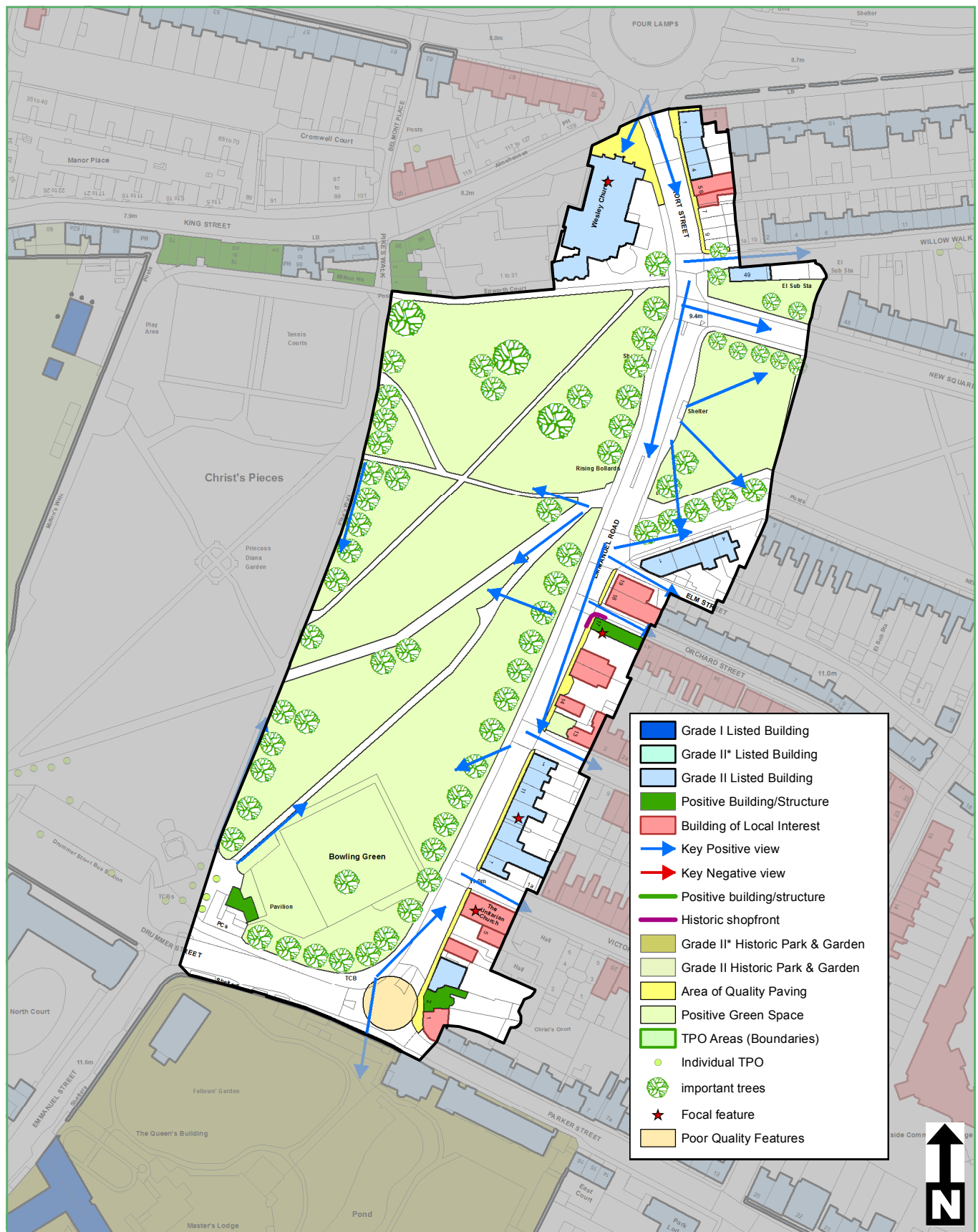
Emmanuel Road).



C19 shopfront

The painting of some of the properties, the demolition of the most southerly buildings of the Short Street terrace, and alterations to a number of windows and other features have all reduced some of the street's architectural cohesiveness. Nevertheless, the overall composition of these properties contributes greatly to the backdrop of Christ's Pieces and maintains an attractive appearance. The line of mature trees on the east boundary of Christ's Pieces adds scale, greenery and a sense of enclosure to the street, whilst still allowing views across the parkland. They play an important role in channelling views along the street and act as a foil to the three storey scale of Humfrey's formal terrace. At the northern end of Short Street the side elevation of the Wesley Church and its attached library delineate part of the west side of the street, framing views into it from the north and providing

a further sense of enclosure from the south. Views to the south take in the greenery of the registered historic gardens of Emmanuel College.



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Emmanuel Road and Short Street form one of the major bus routes around the city. Other traffic has been controlled through the introduction of bus-only gates, which add to the street clutter but are responsible for a more tranquil atmosphere. The pedestrian crossing from Christ's Pieces to New Square is a focus of busy activity in an otherwise quiet street.

Townscape Elements

- Buildings using a consistent palette of materials creating an intermittent frontage on the east side of the street.



Green gaps in the street frontage

- A strong building line at the southern end of the street, which is broken up into blocks by numerous side streets.
- Most buildings are set on the back of footpath edge; exceptions being Nos. 5 and 13 Emmanuel Road, which are set back in generous gardens that create green gaps in the street frontage.
- New Square provides a larger green gap in the eastern frontage, echoing the style of the larger



Channelled views

green space of Christ's Pieces to the west. Within both spaces the mature trees generally contain views within the space.

- Focused views southward along the eastern street frontage have a particularly high quality.
- The mature trees and parkland of Christ's Pieces provide enclosure to the street and

channel views.

- The west side of the street is defined by iron or timber railing which mark the edge of the park.



York stone paving and granite kerbs

- The east side of Emmanuel Road has good quality York stone paving and granite kerbs reflecting the quality of the town houses on this side of the street.



New houses to the end of Short Street, wrapping into Willow Walk

Redevelopment Opportunities

The new houses that wrap around into Willow Walk have attempted to incorporate the features and scale of adjoining properties, but otherwise redevelopment opportunities are limited.

Streetscape Enhancement

The road closure point has added a great deal of road signage and other street clutter and a key challenge remains to rationalise this and to improve the quality of the footpaths. There is also some poor street furniture at the junction with Orchard Street that could be improved.

The paving of the footpaths on Short Street is in poor condition.

Building No./ Name	Status	Age	Height (Storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
1-4 Short Street	Listed Grade II	c1820	2 + basement	grey Gault brick	pitched / slate	Charles Humphrey	part of Doll's Close development No. 3 has a street name-plate carved in stone
5-6 Short Street	BLI	C19	2	painted brick	pitched / slate		
7-9 Short Street	none	modern	2	buff brick	hipped / slate		
49 New Square	Listed Grade II	1840	3	grey gault brick	hipped / slate		
New Square	none		open green edged with flower beds, crossed by diagonal path, edged with trees				
1 - 4 (consec.) New Square	Listed Grade II	Early C19	2	gault brick	slate		
18 & 19	BLI	C19	2	painted brick	hipped / slate		
17	Positive building	C19	2	Gault brick	hipped / slate		Good shopfront example
15 & 16	BLI	C19	2	painted brick	hipped / slate		
14	BLI	1826-28	2	Gault brick	hipped / slate		
13	BLI	1826-28	2	Gault brick	pitched / slate	Charles Humphrey	Surviving end of grooms cottages with No. 5
7, 7A, 7B & 8-12	Listed Grade II	mid C19	3	Gault brick	hipped / slate		Includes No. 1 Earl Street
The Unitarian Church	BLI	early C20	N/A	brick, stone detailing	pitched / slate		
5	BLI	1826-28	2	Gault brick	pitched / slate	Charles Humphrey	Surviving end of grooms cottages with No. 13
4	BLI	1826-28	2	Gault brick	hipped / slate		
3	Listed Grade II	mid C19	2	grey Gault brick	parapet / slate?		
2	Positive building	late C19	3	Gault brick with red brick single storey extension	hipped / slate		
1	BLI	C19	3	Gault brick	hipped / slate		