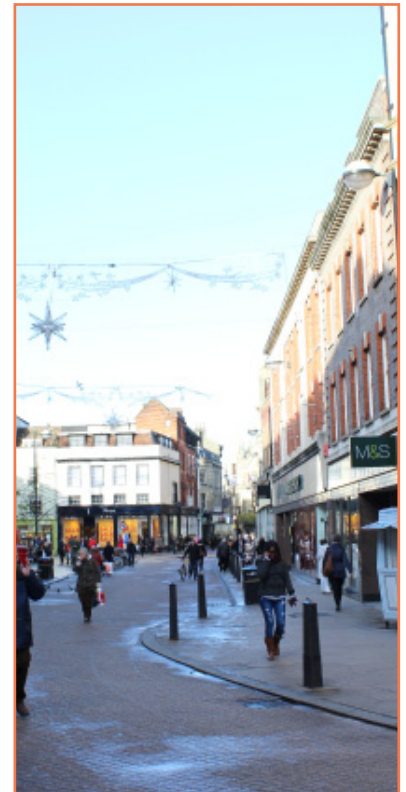


A historic street forming part of the main north–south axis through the city centre and one of the city’s busiest shopping streets.

Sidney Street follows the alignment of the Roman road and is probably one of the city’s oldest streets, formerly known as Conduit Street due to a system for piping water to the Franciscan Friary (now Sidney Sussex College). In the north the street is narrow, running between the high boundary wall and courts of Sidney Sussex College and Trinity College’s Whewell’s Court as well as closely spaced town houses and shops with a late Georgian character that create a tightly enclosed street. South of Market Street, it opens out into a much broader space, widened in the early C20 to support its status as one of the region’s most fashionable shopping

streets. This is now dominated by commercial buildings with long frontages in heavily expressed Jacobean Revival and Neo-Classical styles in a mixture of red brick and stone. The status of this space as one of Cambridge’s principal shopping streets (home to many premium national chains), has been supported through a high quality paving scheme and pedestrianisation to create an accessible space for shoppers. Behind the street frontage the core of these blocks have been colonized by a mixture of commercial development and purpose built student accommodation.



Street view looking north

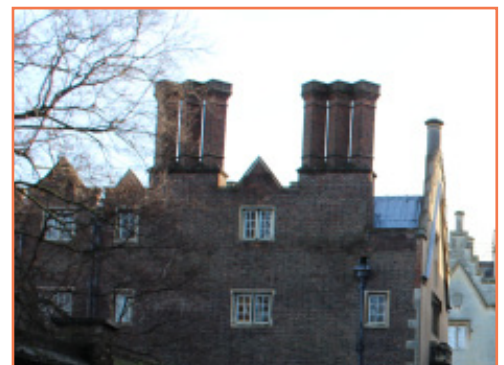
SIGNIFICANCE - HIGH

General Overview

Sidney Street forms the southern half of the north-south axis through the city centre that is continued to the north by Bridge Street and represents the oldest element of Cambridge’s street plan following the alignment of the Roman road to the river crossing. Many narrower streets run off it, some leading to Market Hill as the core of the city’s commercial activity, whilst others lead to Trinity Street and the focus of collegiate Cambridge. Other routes lead out of the city to the west. Whilst the street has an important role as part of the main commercial area of the city, the long frontage of land that was granted to the Franciscan Friars in the C13, which was later used to found Sidney Sussex College on the east side of the street, as well as the development of Whewell’s Court on the west, creates substantial breaks in the commercial frontage, revealing parts of collegiate Cambridge within the shopping streets. Sidney Sussex College buildings frame tree courts that are closed off to the street by a high wall, which nevertheless permits views of the Tudor and Jacobean buildings rising above surrounding Hall Court and Chapel Court, as well as J.L. Pearson’s Jacobean style Cloister Court. The late C16 and early C17 motifs of the buildings, including their steeply pitched gables which face the road and tall and ornate chimneys, provide considerable architectural interest in the streetscene and are a strong contrast to the more retained architecture of the C18



Sidney Sussex College buildings



Tall, ornate chimneys

and early C19 buildings that line the street.

The northern end of the street retains a strong sense of its appearance in the early C19 with many buildings retaining Gault brick frontages with late Georgian fenestration rising to parapets at the roofline. Later Victorian and early C20 infill developments have maintained the scale of buildings (between three and four storeys) and, generally, the use of Gault brick as the main façade material although there is greater use of red brick at the southern end of this narrow section, including the listed entrance buildings to Sussex Street. Parts of the northern section of the street have high quality stone flag paving with basalt kerbs and a brick paved carriageway. Ridged iron bollards (painted black) provide a good quality definition to the pavement edge at key points without being obtrusive. This section of street is gently sinuous providing a series of vistas to the building frontages along the street,



Entrance buildings to Sussex Street



Long blocks of commercial buildings

whilst the buildings of Sidney Sussex College, seen over the high college wall and through a screen of foliage, provide an attractive focus.

The broader southern section of the street was created in the 1920s and 30s by taking land from Holy Trinity churchyard and moving the building line on the west side back as part of redevelopment of the frontage. The long blocks of commercial buildings in this area represent comprehensive redevelopment of the street at the end of the C19 and early C20 that responded to the national chains stores and their need for prestigious purpose-built premises in centres such as Cambridge. The buildings use a mixture of architectural revival

styles that complement the older buildings elsewhere on the street, including Jacobean Revival and Baroque detailing. They maintain a frontage of between two and three storeys, rising to four where the narrower section of street begins.

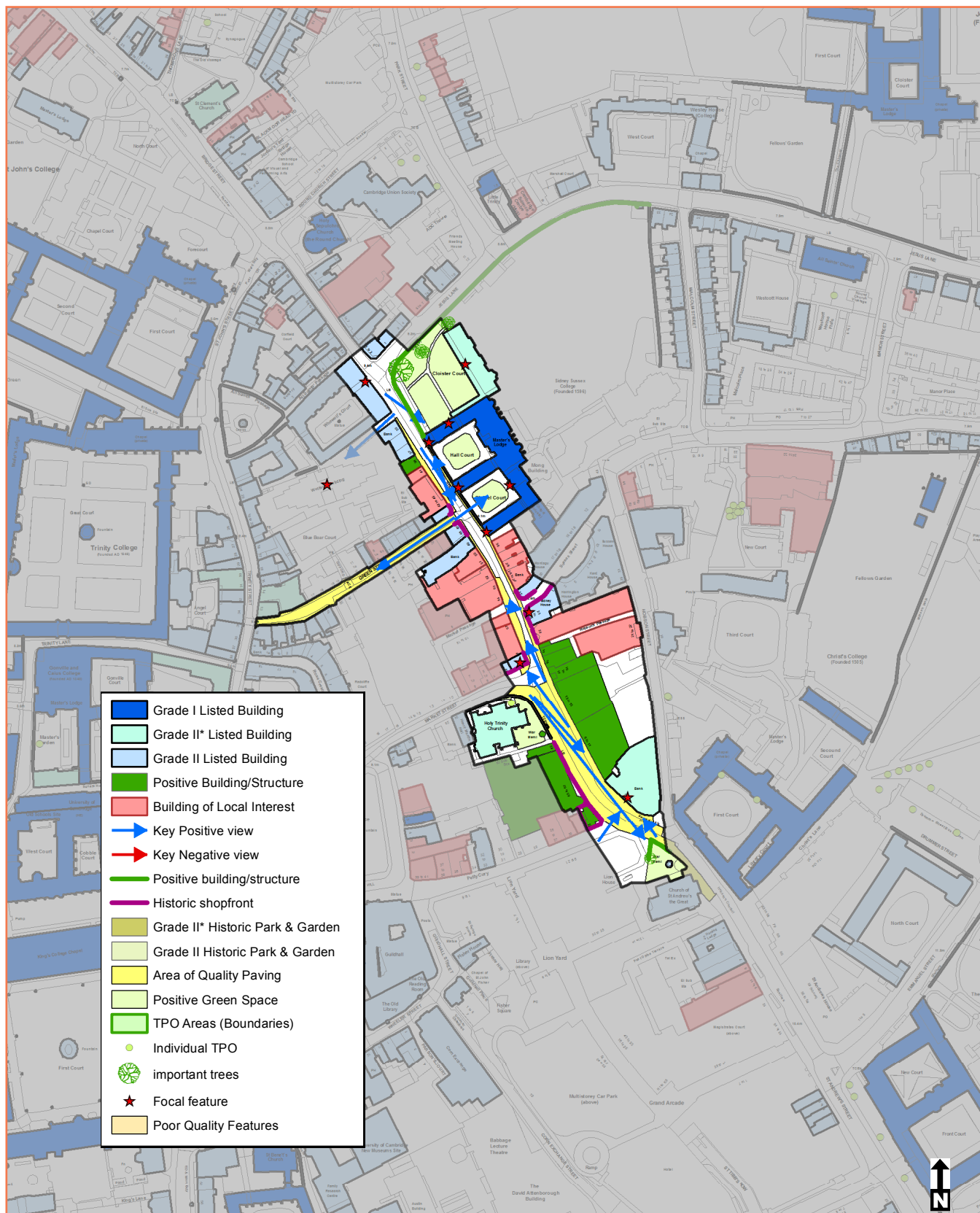
The C12 Holy Trinity Church stands out as a much older structure, illustrating the age of this part of Cambridge, whilst its churchyard provides greenery in the streetscene that softens the otherwise hard urban environment. The corner building at No. 1 Market Street also plays an important role at the closure of the broader section of the street, and is identifiable as an earlier C17 or early C18 structure due to its timber-framed and plastered frontage.



The Holy Trinity Church and K6 telephone boxes

The curved southern end of the street indicates the point where it turned to cross the King's Ditch. This foreshortens views to the south, enclosing the southern end of the street resulting in a well-defined space but creating a break between Sidney Street and St Andrew's Street to the south that is reinforced by the side elevation of St Andrew's Church and the green mass of foliage in its churchyard.

Sidney Street is one of the main shopping streets with magnets such as Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer's. It is effectively pedestrianised between 10am and 4pm and cyclists are required to dismount during these times, although many fail to do so, making it hazardous for the unwary. Outside these times, it is the route out of town (from Market Street) or in (from St Andrew's Street) for service and delivery vehicles, the larger ones of which have caused damage to historic buildings, particularly at Whewell's Court.



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Uses include college, retail, offices and student residential. The retail element includes a supermarket and high street chain-stores. There are also street trading pitches on the Market Street corner.

Townscape Elements

- The building line is generally set at the rear of the pavement forming long, informal terraces that provide a strong sense of enclosure as a very built-up street. The southern section of the street is broader providing a high quality environment for shoppers and a generous setting for buildings.



Lloyds TSB Bank

- Buildings are varied including a mixture of austere Georgian architecture and more decorated Jacobean and Jacobean Revival styles including baroque details.
- At the southern entrance to the street the Lloyds Bank building, including its clock tower provides an attractive focal feature.
- The Sidney Sussex College buildings dominate the north end of the street with their attractive details and roofline seen above the high college walls.
- The set back of Sidney Sussex College provides a more open feel; although the high college boundary wall and gable ended ranges running up to the street and enclosing the college courts provide definition to the street space.
- Holy Trinity churchyard provides a space to escape from the busy street as well as greenery in the streetscene.
- To the south, Lion Yard and St Andrew's Church provide closure to views down the street with

the church tower forming an attractive focal feature above the greenery of the churchyard and the shopping centre roofline.



Ironwork to first floor balconies

- There are many framed views out of the street along side streets and along the continuation to the north towards Bridge Street.
- The street benefits from high quality paving in the south and areas of good quality paving in the north.
- High quality ironwork for first floor balconies draws the eye up the building frontages at several points.

Streetscape Enhancement

The gate adjacent to St Andrew's Street could be made much more attractive aesthetically and in places the footways/carriageways have subsided or are looking tired.

The turn over of ownership of the smaller shops at the northern end of the street provides opportunities to enhance the frontage by introducing better quality shopfronts.

Building No./ Name	Status	Age	Height (Storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
1-5 Lloyds TSB Bank	Listed Grade II*	1891; extended 1935	3 + attics	Limestone ashlar & red brick bands	tile	1891: A & P Waterhouse; 1935: Munro Cautley & Barefoot of Ipswich	
6-12 Marks and Spencers	Positive building	early C20	3	grey & red brick	parapet		
13-17 Next and Itsu	Positive building	late C19 / early C20	2/ 3	red brick	tile		
18-21	Positive building	early C20	5	red brick, stone detailing	mansard / slate		
22 Waterstones	BLI	1931	3 + ½	grey brick, quoin in red brick	parapet / flat	James Edwin Forbes and John Duncan Tate, built by Coulson and Son Ltd, Cambridge	
23-25	Listed Grade II	1928-39	3 + attics	red brick	plain tile & slate	E R Barrow	west elevations of Sussex Street development - see Nos. 1-20 Sussex Street
26-29	BLI	late C19	3	Gault brick	parapet		
30 Oliver Bonas			3 + attics		mansard / slate		
Sidney Sussex: Chapel Court: South Range	Listed Grade I	1628				remodelled 1833 by Wyatville	restored 1970 Sir Francis Clarke's Range
Wall of Chapel Court	Listed Grade II	1595-8	N/A	Gault brick with cast-iron railings and cheveaux-de-frise			
Hall Court: South Range	Listed Grade I	late C16	3 + attics	ashlar	gabled parapet	remodelled 1831-2 by Wyatville	
Wall of Hall Court	Listed Grade II	1595-8	N/A	Gault brick with cast-iron railings and cheveaux-de-frise			
Hall Court: North Range	Listed Grade I	late C16			embattled parapets & stepped gables	heightened and remodelled 1831-2 by Wyatville, cloister on north wall added by JL Pearson in 1890	
Cloister Court Wall	Positive structure	late C19	N/A	Gault brick			
Trinity College: Whewell's Court	Listed Grade II	1865-68	3	stone-faced	slate	A. Salvin, assisted by William Whewell, partly remodelled W.D. Caroe 1908	Gothic style
Nos. 1 and 2 Bridge Street		c1825	3	grey Gault brick, stone plat band	parapet		
Nos. 1 and 2 Jesus Lane (consec.)	Listed Grade II	c1825	3 + attic	grey Gault brick, stone plat band	slate		Nos. 1 - 4 (consec.) form a group with Nos. 1-4 (consec.) Bridge Street
35-37 Barclays, sports shop, Fopp	Listed Grade II	early C19	3 + cellars	grey Gault brick	parapet / slate		
38 STA Travel	none	C19	4	grey Gault brick	parapet		
41	BLI	mid C19	4	Gault brick	parapet		
42-44 Sainsburys			3				
45 Sainsburys			3	Red brick			

Building No./ Name	Status	Age	Height (Storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
46 Sainsburys	Listed Grade II	late C18 or early C19	3	Painted Gault brick	mansard / slate		Forms a group with Nos. 1-7 Green Street
47 & 48 Edinburgh Woolen Mill	Listed Grade II	late C18 or early C19	2	Gault brick	mansard / slate		No. 48 has C17 timber-framed core
49 Santander	Listed Grade II	late C19	3	Gault brick	parapet		
50-52 Flight Centre, Quicksilver and Lakeland	BLI	early C20	4	grey Gault brick	parapet		
53-54 Ryman's and Trailfinders		C19	3	Gault brick	parapet		
57 David Clark	BLI	late C18 or early C19	3 + attic	painting brick	mansard / slate		
58-60 Superdrug	BLI	late C18 or early C19	4	red brick	parapet / tile		No. 60 is part of No. 1 Market Street
No. 1 Market Street Monsoon	Listed Grade II	early C18	3 + attic	timber-framed with plaster	mansard / tiled		
No. 2 Market Street Scribbler	Listed Grade II	C18 with C19 front	3 + attic	grey Gault brick	parapet / old tile		
Church of the Holy Trinity	Listed Grade II*	late C12-C16	N/A	stone			
Railings & gates at the Church of the Holy Trinity	Listed Grade II	C19	N/A	cast-iron			
Pair of K6 telephone boxes outside Holy Trinity War Memorial Shelter	Listed Grade II	1935	N/A	Cast iron		Giles Gilbert Scott	
62-67 and No. 23 Petty Cury East, Boots Chemists and Wasabi	Positive building	1959-61	3	stone-faced	slate	Colin St. Clair Oakes	