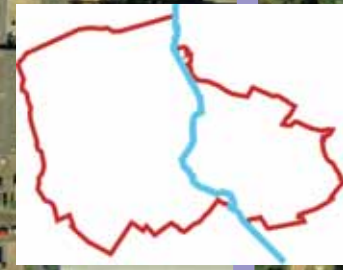
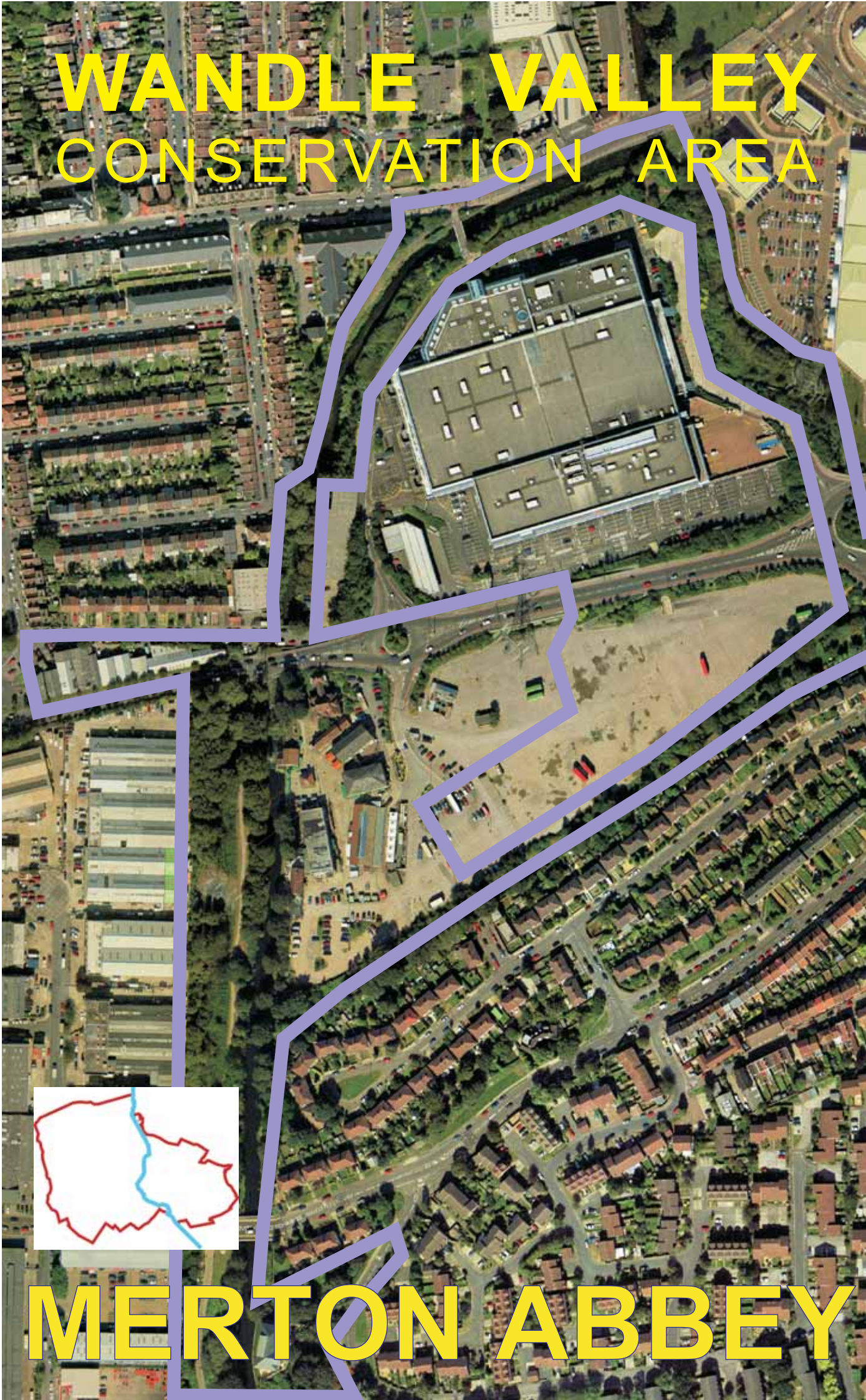


WANDLE VALLEY CONSERVATION AREA



MERTON ABBEY

SUB-AREA 3: CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Amended Draft, revised following public consultation.

New text shown underlined and deleted text shown struck through.

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INTRODUCTION

The designation of conservation areas is a legislative duty of local authorities. These areas comprise "areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". Local authorities also have a duty to from time to time to review whether any further designations are needed. The Wandle Valley Conservation Area was originally designated by the Council in November 1990 and was extended in April 2000.

BACKGROUND

The Government's Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG 15) advises local authorities to periodically review existing conservation areas and their boundaries. PPG 15 also advises local authorities to define and record, as clearly as possible, the special architectural or historic interest that justifies each conservation area's designation, through an assessment of the elements that contribute to an area's character.

Character assessments are useful tools that not only set out the specific characteristics for which an area has been designated as a conservation area, but also help the Council to assess the impact of development proposals on the character or appearance of a conservation area. They also provide a useful framework within which property owners and developers can work when designing new development or planning alterations to buildings, within conservation areas, by setting out and describing the special context to which

any new development will need to relate.

This Character Assessment for the Wandle Valley Conservation Area has been prepared by the Council's Design and Conservation Team in accordance with Guidelines issued by English Heritage and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15.

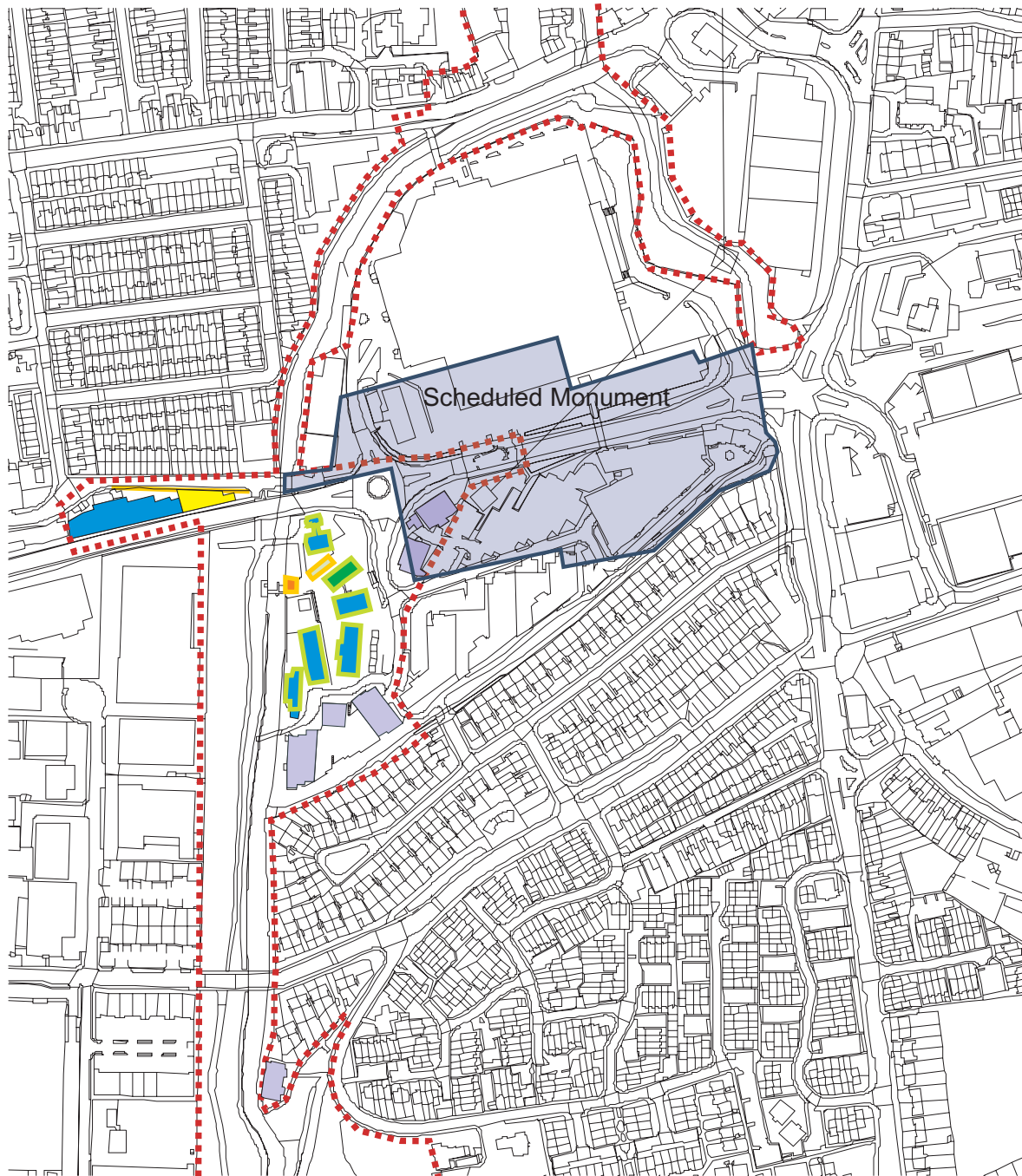
STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT








Because of its size and linear nature the Wandle Valley conservation area, whilst having a unifying theme linked to its history, development and links to the River Wandle, does vary in character along its length. The area has, therefore been sub-divided into a series of smaller discernible sub areas which have their own special identities and which form recognisable zones or groups of buildings within the area as a whole and that have their own specific historical background and/or defining features.

The character assessment for the Wandle Valley Conservation Area has therefore been structured to comprise a general appraisal document covering the whole of the conservation area supported by a series of more detailed appraisals of each of the individual sub-areas.

This appraisal covers Sub Area 3: Merton Priory and should be read in conjunction with the whole area character appraisal. The appraisal is not intended to be comprehensive and the omission of any particular building, feature or space should not be taken to imply that it is of no interest.

Sub Area 3: Merton Priory - Age of Buildings Map



Key:		Conservation Area Boundary	Statutory List	Local List			
1700-1749		1750-1799		1800-1849		1850-1899	
		1900-1949		1950-2000		2001-2050	



Station. The road and the former railway were constructed over the site of the Priory Church. The area includes a section of the old priory wall, running along the south of the road, and a reconstructed archway dating from 1990. The original archway was one of the last relics of Merton Priory visible above ground and was believed to have dated from the 12th Century. The new archway is located in a slightly different position, however, the base of the original doorway is visible in the pavement. The surviving fragments of precinct wall, although repaired, contain much of the original dressed flint and stone rubble of the original wall. The section of wall and two lampposts in the road are included on the statutory list of buildings of architectural or historic interest.



ORIGINS AND HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUB AREA

There is a theory that during the Roman occupation a posting station or “mansio” could have been located in the vicinity of Merton Priory. This would have been nearest to London of 4 or 5 “mansiones” located at roughly 12 mile intervals along the Roman Road 'Stane Street' which roughly followed the alignment of the modern A24 between London Bridge and Chichester. Sites of mansiones have been identified at Hardham, south of Pulborough and Alfoldean, north of Horsham, near a site of a Roman river crossing across the Arun. However, more recent excavations at Ewell have led to further speculation that the posting station was in fact there. There is, however, evidence of a roadside market and early settlement at Merton.

Theories that these “mansiones” were army barracks provided sleeping quarters on the march from Chichester to London, have been discounted in favour of a theory that they were like an official hotel providing accommodation for military police, the imperial courier system and traders and travellers. The “mansio” is believed to have been a small defensible post enclosing barracks for the road patrols, accommodation for travellers, quarters for postilions and stabling for post horses, sheds for gigs, mail-carts and carriages for messengers and travellers. The actual site of the Merton/Ewell “mansio” has not been discovered, but excavation of other “mansiones” has revealed that they were not very big, built of brick or stone, with possibly other wooden buildings and sheds, they were generally located close to water.

SEQUENCE OF MAPS AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS



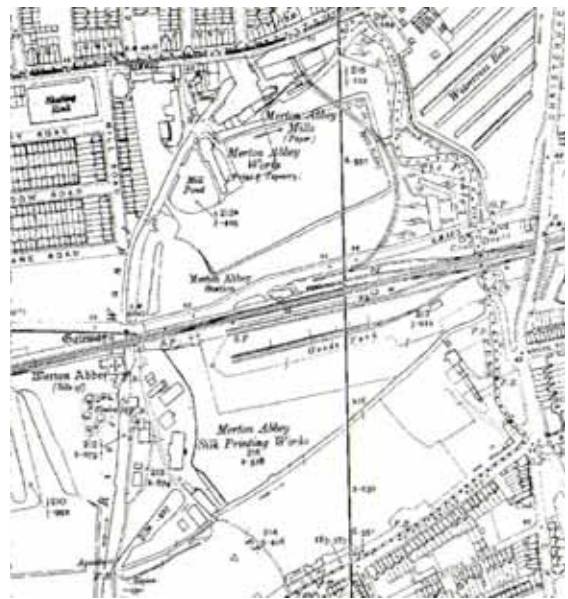
Rocques Map 1741-5



1817



1865



1920



1890



1930



1950



1988



1971

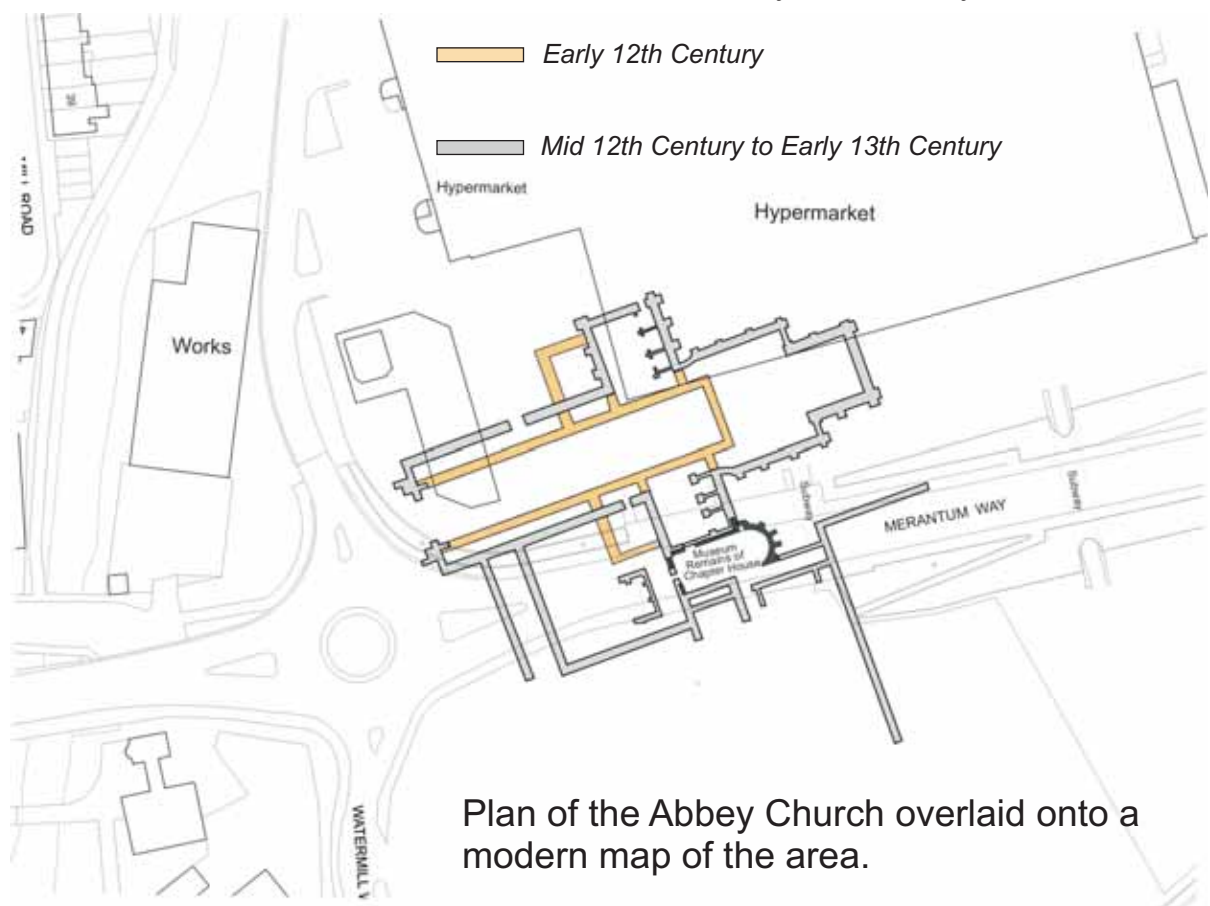


1991

Of great significance to the history of this part of the conservation area was the presence during the medieval period of Merton Priory.

The original Priory buildings were constructed of timber and situated near the present St. Mary's Church in Merton Park. However, two years later in 1117 a new site was selected near to the Wandle upon which new permanent buildings were constructed of flint and stone. The black-robed canons of the Order of St. Augustine took possession of the buildings on 3rd May 1117. The Priory continued to grow in the period after this.

In its heyday, the priory site would have been dominated by the River Wandle and its smaller tributaries which would have supplied the site with water for drinking, washing and sanitation. The route to the priory would still have been that of the Roman "Stane Street" which would have developed into a medieval thoroughfare. The Priory was constructed from Reigate stone and Purbeck Marble. The priory complex extended over an area of would have incorporated then main church, burial grounds, cloister, infirmary, refectory and ancillary buildings. The original church was extensively enlarged in two phases during the mid-late 12th Century and early 13th Century.



Plan of the Abbey Church overlaid onto a modern map of the area.

The influence of the Priory on the development of the sub-area can be seen in the way in which the street layout has developed with roads diverting around the former Priory precinct, apart from the modern Merantun Way which cuts right across the centre of the site, over the remains of the Chapter House.



During the post-medieval period the focus of the area changed with the emergence of riverside industries during the 18th Century. This part of the conservation area in particular, developed a long association with the textile industry, primarily the manufacture of dyes and copper printing plates. In 1724 a calico printing works was established on the site of the former Priory and in 1752 a new calico print works was established within the Priory precinct and ownership of this works changed hands many times until in 1881 a large area was taken over by William Morris and with Arthur Liberty he built up the Liberty Print Works, which were once the centre of the 'Arts and Crafts' Movement.

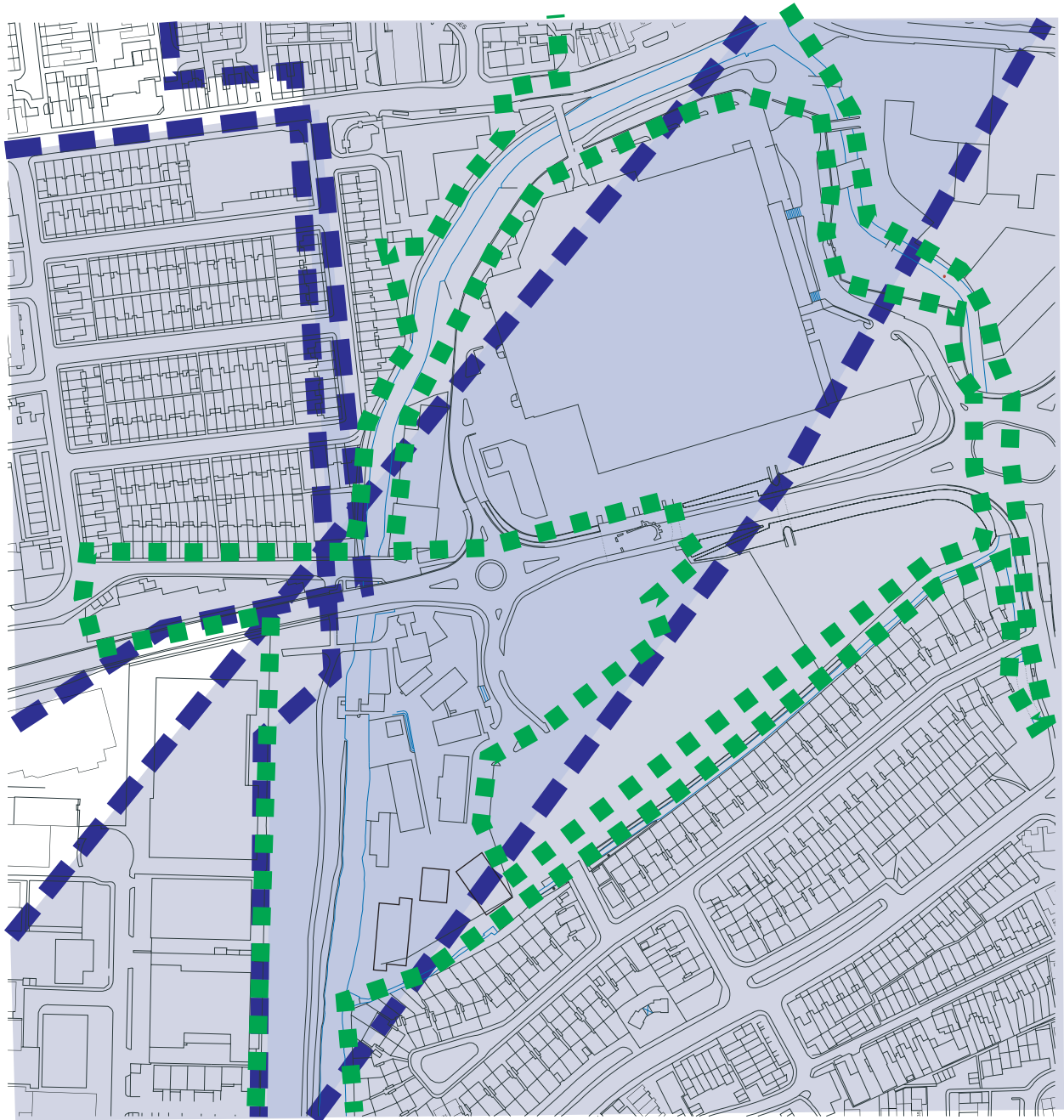
ARCHAEOLOGY



Archway - possibly part of the former Hospitium of Merton Priory - re-erected within the grounds of St. Mary's Church in Merton Park in 1935.

The scheduled area of Merton Priory covers the site of the church and domestic buildings of the former Augustinian Priory of St. Mary, which was founded in 1114 and demolished in 1540. The area was subsequently used for calico printing after demolition of the Priory, including the old Liberty Print Works. Early excavations by Colonel H. F. Bidder, a local antiquary who lived south of the river Wandle in Mitcham, revealed the exact location and basic ground plan, as well as some of the internal flooring of the main church and the Chapter House.

EXTENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY PRIORITY ZONES (APZS) IN RELATION TO CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY



 Conservation Area Boundary

 Archaeological Priority Zones



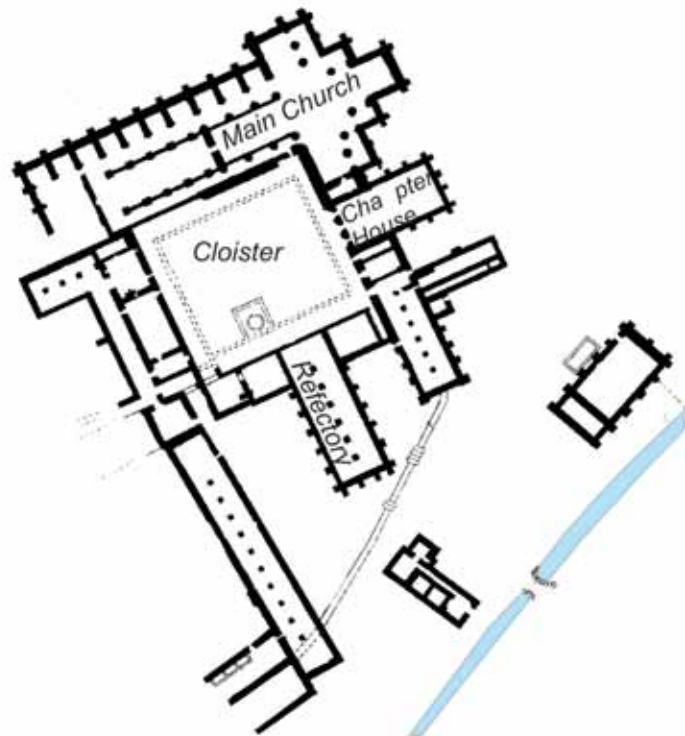
Merton Priory
Museum of London - 1993

sufficient archaeological evidence to show some similarities with other more intact Priors and Abbeys in the United Kingdom. Examples include the Cistercian Abbeys of Rievaulx in North Yorkshire and Melrose in the Scottish Borders. These

Full excavation of the Chapter House was undertaken on behalf of the Surrey Archaeological Society in the late 1970s and further excavations in the early 1980s located part of the infirmary complex.

have similar arrangements for the Church, Chapter House and Cloister, although the alignment of the refectories and other buildings did vary.

The most extensive archaeological investigations were undertaken prior to the development of the Savacentre hypermarket and the construction of Merantun Way in the late 1980s. A large number of important finds were discovered and an informative and interesting document on the history of the area, including details of the archaeological investigations undertaken, is available from local libraries for a small charge. Remains of the Chapter House have now been preserved and can be viewed within an enclosed area beneath Merantun Way.



Melrose Abbey - Plan Handed
Historic Scotland - 1996

Although Merton Priory was completely destroyed there is

Chronology of Merton Priory			
Year	Event	Year	Event
1115	First Norman Church to St Mary the Virgin. Priory founded near to present Church.	1258	Village gallows erected by the Priory.
		1262	Walter de Merton assigns Surrey Manors to Merton Priory for the support of clerks studying in the schools.
1117	Priory moves to new site on River Wandle.	1264	Walter de Merton's Statute for the new foundation providing for the establishment of the House of Scholars of Merton at Malden to administer estates for the purpose of sustaining scholars in the schools at Oxford.
1121-22	Royal Charter granted by Henry I confirming the gift of the Manor of Merton to the Priory.		
1125	Gilbert the Norman dies at Merton Priory.		
1128	Thomas Becket enters Priory School, aged 10.	1266-67	Walter de Merton purchased 2 houses in Oxford for use as living quarters for students. Rule effectively preventing scholars becoming monks establishes the principle of Universities should be for secular, rather than religious studies.
1135	Henry I dies, body lies in State at Merton Priory.		
1189	Richard I (The Lionheart) comes to the Throne.		
1190	Richard I accompanied by Hubert Walter embarks on 3rd Crusade to Palestine.	1265-68	Building of Merton College on a permanent site commences.
1193	Hubert Walter becomes Archbishop of Canterbury. And at about the same time a Canon of Merton.	1274	Walter de Merton becomes Bishop of Rochester. Statutes revised. House of Scholars of Merton fixed at Oxford instead of Malden
1200-05	Walter de Merton born at Merton or Basingstoke.	1277	Walter de Merton dies after a fall from his horse.
1208-13	England put under an interdict by Pope Innocent III because of King John's behaviour.	1305	Prior forced to resign because of lack of discipline and interest in Priory's sick.
		1336	Edward III confirmed Priory's charter but made many demands for gifts and loans to fund war with France.
1217	Peace conference held at Merton Priory aimed at ending Civil War with France.	1346-49	Royal sports held at Merton.
1222	Major storm causes considerable damage, including loss of tower, prompting another period of construction.	1348-49	Black Death
		1376	William de Wykeham (Chancellor of England and Bishop Winchester) seeks refuge at Merton.
1225	Henry III supplies 6 oaks from Windsor Forest for work to the Church.	1387	Evidence of severe neglect of Priory buildings leads to a rebuke from the Bishop of Winchester.
1227	Henry III supplies 10 more oaks for work to the fabric.	C14th	Frequent royal demands for loans and gifts to fund the Hundred Years War against the French.
1232	Hugh de Burgh, Chief Justice of England takes sanctuary in the Priory having incurred the displeasure of the King.		
1233	Walter de Merton becomes parson of Cuddington, near Ewell, a living owned by Merton Priory.	1437	Henry VI crowned at the Priory
		1491	William Morton acquires some of the Priory's London Estates.
1234	Edmund Rich, with connections to the Priory, became Archbishop of Canterbury.	1509	Further rebuke to the Prior issued by Bishop of Winchester.
1236	Henry III marries Eleanor of Provence and brings Bride to honeymoon at Merton Priory. Eleanor crowned queen at Merton. Great Council convened at Merton Priory. Seen by some historians as a forerunner of modern parliament because it obtained from the King a reaffirmation of the Magna Carta, according to terms devised and laid down in the Statute of Merton. Provisions within Statute include rights for the Lord of the Manor to enclose all common land. Introduced a clause of bastardy.	1533	Henry VIII divorces Catherine of Aragon to marry Anne Boleyn
		1534	Henry VIII forces Act of Succession.
		1538	Orders sent out to close more monasteries including Merton Priory. Dissolution of the Priory. Priory's land and property confiscated by the Royal Commissioners. Priory finally surrendered by Prior John Bowle to Crown Agent Richard Leyton
		1539	Decision by Henry VIII to build Nonsuch Palace and ordered stone from the Priory to be transported there. Cuddington Church demolished to make way for Palace.
1236-38	Walter de Merton enters the Chancery at Merton.	1586-7	Lease granted to 'Gregory Lovell' for Priory Site by Elizabeth I
1242	Priory lands extend to 202 estates over 16 different counties	1642-51	Land used as a garrison during the civil war.



Following a research project by the Museum of London Archaeology Service, publications on the excavations of seven major monasteries within the London area which have been comprehensively investigated in the last two decades - at Aldgate, Bishopsgate, two in Clerkenwell, Bermondsey, Merton and near the Tower are being prepared. The arrival of the main monasteries in the 12th century, reinforced by the friaries in the 13th century, was the largest topographical and probably social development in the city away from the waterfront. These massive stone complexes both attracted large numbers of monks and lay workers from London's population, but also had a massive effect on London's economy as centres of consumption and of industrial and cultural production.

LAND USE

The predominant land use within this sub-area was historically industrial, however as industry has declined some buildings have been converted to new uses, particularly the Merton Abbey Mills craft market which now comprises a mix of craft and retail outlets, restaurant, cafe, public house and a number of studio office units. Many industrial buildings to the south of Merantun Way were demolished during the 1970s and 80s and the site remained vacant for many years but has recently been developed for a mixed-use residential/leisure development. Within the conservation area the area to the south of Merton Abbey Mills has now been developed for residential use.

PLOT WIDTHS AND BUILDING HEIGHTS

Reflecting the former industrial uses of the area the buildings rather than being set within defined individual plots comprise informal groups forming parts

of original industrial complexes. The original buildings are predominantly one and two storeys most of a more industrial rather than domestic size scale, but the earlier buildings such as the Colour House and Wheelhouse are of a more intimate scale.



THE ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC QUALITIES OF THE BUILDINGS AND THE CONTRIBUTION THEY MAKE TO THE CONSERVATION AREA.



This part of the conservation area is mainly characterised by a number of notable 18th and 19th Century industrial buildings originally used by Arthur Liberty and William Morris who formed the Liberty Print Works on the banks of the River Wandle.

A number of the buildings and structures are statutory listed Buildings, including the water mill and the Colour House, within the former Liberty Print works at Merton Abbey Mills.

Details of all Listed Buildings are given at Appendix A.

There are also a number of unlisted buildings of some architectural and historic merit, which are considered to make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the conservation area. A number of these are included on the Non-Statutory Local List, details of which are given at Appendix B. Many of these buildings are surviving examples of the old industrial architecture which dominated

this area up until the later part of the 20th Century

The earliest buildings and structures within the conservation area comprising remnants of the Merton Abbey Complex including surviving sections of priory walls dating from the medieval period or possibly later are located in this part of the conservation area.. These incorporate elements of flint and rubble construction. There are also the remains of the Priory Chapter House.

This part of the conservation area has a very distinctive character that sets it apart from the surrounding area. The Merton Abbey Mills complex in particular comprises an informal grouping of mainly 2 storey buildings of a predominantly industrial character that embrace a number of different building forms and architectural styles. This character has been preserved by the design and layout of the new residential development to the south of Merton Abbey Mills.



The sub area also extends south down the Wandle with a finger extending up the west side of part of Phipps Bridge Road to include parts of the gardens to flats in Windsor Avenue which contain some short sections of surviving Merton Priory perimeter wall.



DISTINCTIVE AND TRADITIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS AND LOCAL DETAILS

The varieties of building materials that are found in the area are roughly indicative of the different phases of the area's development.

The very earliest surviving examples include: -

- flint and rubble stone, which typify the construction of surviving remnants of the perimeter wall to the medieval Merton Priory



- old predominantly red clay bricks also found in sections of the Priory Wall, including the copings.



- flint and random ashlar Stone, originating from the ruins of Merton Priory, are found in later sections of wall.
- Brick and flint construction with random rubblestone blocks - an example of which includes the 18th Century "Colour House", at Merton Abbey Mills.



- There are a few surviving of examples of feather-edged weather boarding within the Wandle Valley Conservation Area. This was a fairly common form of construction from the 18th Century onwards and either painted white or left bare as in the case of the extension of the Wheelhouse. The relatively modern extension to the Colour House has been finished in this style.



- A combination of brick, timber and steel construction, including lightweight steel roof trusses to the early 20th Century industrial buildings, including the former "Block Shop", now "William Morris" pub, the "Show House" (former Printing Shop), the "Coles Shop" and the "Long Shop" at Merton Abbey Mills. The "Show House", in particular, combines steel beams to



create a large clear open plan workshop at ground floor level, with a substantial timber frame structure above supporting the main roof structure.

- Steel frame construction with a brick envelope and large industrial metal frame windows also found within the Merton Abbey Mills Complex, including the "The Apprentice Shop" and the "1929 Shop".



Later phases of construction, within the conservation area and the area as a whole, saw much more widespread use of brick. Brick is by far the most prominent material within the area from the early to mid-19th Century onwards as can be seen in the Colliers Wood and Phipps Bridge sub-areas to the north and south of this sub-area.

The more recent 20th Century workshop buildings comprising the



Abbey Wall Works on Station Road are also predominantly a combination of steel frame and masonry construction, much with a render finish.

The older brickwork was predominantly warm red and reddish brown in colour mainly laid in an English Bond. The 20th Century saw the increasing use of yellow (London) stock brick, which was increasingly laid in a Flemish bond. Until the advent of the railway in the mid 19th century most of the bricks and roofing materials came from local brickworks.

There is some use of render and pebbledash including the infill panels set into brick arches of the "Long Shop" and also to the early 20th Century "Abbey Wall Works" buildings in Station Road.



Within the conservation area characteristic features of the brick built



buildings include dog-tooth corbels at the verges to the "Colour House" and plain brick shallow segmental arches to the door and window openings to the earlier buildings. Many of the industrial buildings have projecting brick pilasters separated by the large windows with brick spandrels. The "Long Shop" has large semi-circular brick arches to its gable ends and segmental arches to the flank walls.



Roofing to the earlier industrial buildings mainly comprised red pantiles and some plain clay tiling often supported on slender steel trusses. The Long Shop combines a pantiled roof with a large central glazed lantern roof light. Later roofing materials varied between plain clay tiles, pantiles or, increasingly during the 19th Century, (Welsh) slate. Examples of plain clay tiling include the "Show House" and the former "Block Shop" now the William Morris Pub. Slate can be found on the "Coles Shop" and "The Apprentice Shop". The 1929 Shop, the most recent of the original Merton Abbey Mills buildings is the only example of a flat roof construction. Many of the buildings fronting Station Road comprising the Abbey Wall Works have been re-roofed in various sheet materials including profiled steel and corrugated asbestos.



The earlier buildings have simple dual pitch roof forms with a central ridge and gable ends. The roof to the “Long Shop” is particularly prominent because of its large span and low eaves level. The Apprentice Shop and the Show House have hipped roof forms with in the case of the Show House and attached Watch-Mans' Cottage dormer windows.



Chimneys are not a significant feature of this part of the conservation area, although the Colour House and the Watch-Mans' Cottage linked to the Show House have chimneys, in the case of the Colour House this has a prominent projecting brick chimney located at it south-western end.

The predominant window types range from timber casements to the large steel "Crittall" windows of the later of the industrial buildings in the Abbey Mills



Complex. Many of the older timber windows were replaced when the old Liberty Print Works were refurbished in the 1980s. Most of the timber and metal windows are finished in white paint or off



white gloss paint. The older buildings retain their traditional timber vertical boarded, ledged and braced doors. Many of the later industrial buildings have been adapted to retail use and their ground floors windows adapted to form retail frontages.

Older buildings have black cast-iron rainwater goods.

More recent development to the south of Merton Abbey Mills is also predominantly of brick and although architecturally of a contemporary design it reflects the character of the conservation area in terms of the scale and massing of the buildings and also the design of the fenestration which reflects the more industrial character of the buildings at Merton Abbey Mills.



Further to the south close to Phipps Bridge, immediately adjacent to the conservation area is another modern residential development - The Nook off Liberty Avenue. This building is also of scale and proportions reflecting the character of earlier industrial developments and contributes to the character and appearance of the conservation area. The detailing and some of the features are less significant and the overall design is less innovative than the development immediately to the south of Merton Abbey Mills.



Another modern development within this sub-area are the pair of restaurant units to the east of Merton Abbey Mills on the opposite side of Watermill Way. The buildings have an informal layout and are of complementary scale to the Merton Abbey Mills buildings whilst incorporating more contemporary features such as curved profiles steel roof forms. Whilst reflecting the character and form of development in terms of layout and scale these building are orientated away from the Merton Abbey Mills and the location of storage between the buildings in effect cuts them off from the remainder of the original Merton Abbey Mills development. The development has also been let down by poor detailing and the roof detailing particularly at the eaves is very clumsy and some aspects of the design and materials used seem



to be at odd with each other particularly the contemporary glazing and small panels of flintwork. The development also fails to integrate into the fabric of the conservation area in terms of pedestrian links and is surrounded by car parking. The advertising signage has also been poorly designed and located in relation to the appearance of the buildings.

Further to the east beneath Merantun Way is the purpose built enclosure for the remains of the Merton Priory Chapter House. Built of modern red and blue engineering brick with arched openings this is fairly utilitarian with a bit of a half-hearted attempt at creating an ecclesiastical theme through the incorporation of arched features into the brickwork. The setting of the enclosure with a rather dark underpass linking the site to the south of Merantun Way with the Savacentre, the unwelcoming area of tarmac and the proximity of the electricity pylon give the enclosure a bleak appearance. A local Trust has been set up and it is hoped that proposals will be taken forward to improve this enclosure and its setting as part of a project to improve access to and provide better interpretation of the history of the site.



Boundary Treatments and Ground Surfaces

Those buildings fronting onto Station Road that are within the conservation area are set behind the section of wall



that runs the length of the south side of the road. The wall, which is Listed Grade II, is built of flint and random ashlar stone from the ruins of Merton Priory and incorporates corbelled brick courses beneath brick gabled copings. The east end of the wall has been re-built and terminates in a jamb to a re-built doorway which incorporates some 20th Century fragments. Sections of the wall have been re-built and repaired over time and the quality of repairs is varied.



The Merton Abbey Mills comprises an informal grouping of the former Liberty

Printworks buildings, which do not have any defined boundaries. Sections of metal balustrading with mesh infills, and park style metal railings exist along sections of the Wandle bank on the Craft Market side and also to the foot-bridge over the river.



A section of metal security fencing fronting the office/warehouse building on the north side of Station Road, adjacent to the River is particularly unattractive, particularly in close proximity to residential properties and has a negative impact on the character of this part of the conservation area.



The course of the River Wandle, through this part of the Conservation Area is in fact the man-made channel forming the former mill stream to the former Mill that used to be located on the River close to Merton High Street. The channel sides are constructed from random stone blocks.

The road surface in Station Road is tarmacadam. The footways have had their original paving replaced with tarmacadam. Kerbs on the south side of the road are ragstone with newer concrete kerbs to the north side of the road.



The ground surface within Merton Abbey Mills comprises concrete over-site slabs with localised areas of later concrete slab paving and tarmac patch repairs. The area around the bandstand is finished with concrete slab paving, edged with brick and brick paviors within the bandstand itself laid in a circular pattern. The front of the 1929 building has a raised timber broadwalk providing access to the retail units.



Areas to the east of the Merton Abbey Mills craft market have recently been redeveloped with a mixed-use



leisure/hotel/restaurant/residential scheme with areas of car parking over the site of the former Merton Priory Buildings. Landscaping is utilitarian, mainly comprising areas of concrete block paving with concrete kerbs.



The area to west of the River Wandle has a much more natural finish. A footpath has been laid out forming part of the Wandle Trail and this has an informal crushed stone finish.



There is little surviving evidence of earlier surface treatments apart from evidence from archaeological excavations at Merton Priory of floor finishes of buildings within the Priory Complex.

Contribution of Green Space and Natural Elements.

Within this part of the Conservation Area the Unitary Development Plan identifies areas of Metropolitan Open Land, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and a Green Corridor, all linked to the River Wandle and its immediate surroundings.

The River corridor through this part of the conservation area represents a relatively narrow green strip linking larger green spaces particularly Wandle Park to the north and Bunces Meadow and Morden Hall Park to the south.

The Pickle ditch, which probably represents the original course of the River Wandle prior to the construction of the water mills creates another green margin and this area contains another section of former Priory perimeter wall that represents a significant historic feature within the area. Although the wall was recently restored the area has become rather overgrown and would benefit from a planned maintenance regime. Development of the "Priory Park" site to the east of Merton Abbey Mills has involved some enhancement and landscaping of the banks of the Pickle. Bennett's ditch which links the Pickle back to the main course of the Wandle runs along the southern edge of former Priory site is also being enhanced as part of the residential development. These river courses along with creation of additional open spaces, will contribute

to the riparian nature of the natural landscaping within this part of the conservation area.

Character and Relationship of Buildings to Spaces

The focus to this part of the conservation area is the Merton Abbey Mills on the site of the former Liberty Print Works that comprises an informal grouping of historic industrial buildings on east side of the River Wandle. The historic buildings, which had been derelict for many years were restored during the 1980s to create a number of retail, workshop, office, cafe and restaurant units within the newly formed craft market.

The informal relationships between the various buildings within the Merton Abbey Mills complex have resulted in the creation of a variety of interconnected and informal spaces and pedestrian routes radiating out from the area fronting the Wandle to the south of the water mill. These spaces between and around the buildings combine with the buildings themselves to create the vibrant and attractive area, which makes an important contribution to the character of this part of the conservation area.

The large open space fronting onto the River Wandle between the Wheel House and the 1929 Shop, in front of the Colour House, Coles Shop and Apprentice Shop form a focus for the area and the introduction of the band stand further emphasises the focus of this space. The linear space between the Long Shop and 1929 Shop form the main axis of the development funnelling into the main open space. A further space in front of the former Block Shop, now the William Morris Pub forms a separate discrete secondary open

space separated from the main axis by the convergence of the Long Shop and 1929 Shop which creates a pinch point along the length of the main axis. The new residential development to the south of Merton Abbey Mills contributes to the enclosure of this space and the development itself has provided a new pedestrian bridge link across the Wandle to the Wandle Trail, further enhancing pedestrian links within the area.



Immediately adjacent to the conservation area to the south of Merton Abbey Mills is The Nook, a building of a similar scale to mill buildings along the Wandle which sits in a riverside setting. To the north-east of this is a densely vegetated and wooded area through which runs the Pickle a tributary of the Wandle which forms a loop between the Nook and where it rejoins the Wandle to the east of Savacentre. The Pickle runs along the bottom of the rear gardens to flats on the south side of Windsor Avenue, then continues under Liberty Avenue to the east of the conservation area. These gardens, which are just outside the conservation area contain some surviving remnants of Priory perimeter wall, these are Grade II Listed and are very overgrown with vegetation and are currently on the Buildings at Risk Register. These represent a valuable survival from the monastic site

and their setting within the surrounding landscape is reminiscent of an earlier era of which little evidence survives above the ground today. It is therefore recommended that this area be included with the Wandle Valley Conservation Area.

NEGATIVE FEATURES

The main negative feature within this sub-area is Merantun way and the way that it cuts across the conservation area and also the Scheduled Ancient Monument. The way that the road is raised above the Chapter House and adjacent land compounds its negative impact.

The new residential development immediately to the east of the conservation area to the south of Merantun Way is of a rather monolithic in appearance and does not relate to the existing character of the area in terms of its architectural appearance. Although not itself within the conservation area it does have a negative impact on the historic character of this part of the conservation area.



Similarly the new hotel and fitness centre to the east of the Merton Priory Scheduled Ancient Monument does not relate to the character of the nearby conservation area in terms of its built

form, scale, size and materials used in its construction and has a negative impact on the setting of the conservation area to the west.



The security fencing along the south north side of Station Road is also an unsightly feature detrimental to the character of the conservation area.



There is also the rather ad hoc approach to the servicing of buildings and stalls at Merton Abbey Mills which has a detrimental affect on the character and appearance to the peripheral areas of the Market particularly the area to the east of the Long Shop, including the east elevation to the Long Shop itself. There is scope for improvement through a more managed approach to servicing and this should be considered in conjunction with any proposed alterations or refurbishment of the existing buildings.



The two new restaurant buildings, whilst complementary to the character of the conservation area in terms of their scale, form and informal layout suffer from poor detailing with a rather cursory reference to intrinsic materials. The detailing of the curved roofs and particularly the verges is rather clumsy. The settings of these buildings is dominated by car parking and low quality hard landscape surfaces with utilitarian street furniture. This together with the current fast food outlets that occupy the buildings with the associated problems with litter combine to have an overall negative affect on the character and appearance of the conservation area.



The buildings behind the section of Priory wall are modest in scale and of interest in terms of their uses and the ad hoc way that they have been developed

over time, one or two of the buildings are considered to make a neutral to negative impact on the character of the conservation area.

The area is also dominated by the power lines that follow the Wandle Valley which are supported by large pylons, one of which is immediately adjacent to the Merton Priory Chapter House remains



STREET AUDIT

The only highways within this sub area are Merantun Way and Station Road, there is also the Wandle Path which runs down the west side of the River Wandle and path that runs along the side of the Merton Priory Wall adjacent to the Pickle Ditch.

Merantun Way is a completely new road following the former alignment of the railway line that once linked Wimbledon to Tooting. It does not have any significance to the conservation area and its raised elevation above ground level, the way it cuts across the conservation area the fact that it has no footways results in a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the conservation area. Station Road was the original road that linked high path to the site of the former station. Whilst few historic features remain and the

surfaces are modern. There are however two early historic cast-iron street lamps which do make an important contribution to the street scene although they would most definitely benefit from a new coat of paint.

A number of information boards have been installed along the Wandle Trail, which follows the course of the Wandle from Carshalton in the south to Wandsworth where it joins the Thames. These boards provide information about the history and ecology of the Wandle but have unfortunately been targeted by vandals who have sprayed graffiti over them.



CONSERVATION AREA PROPOSALS AND POLICY

The policies and proposals set out in this document are intended to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area and assist in managing change without compromising the historic environment. The preservation and enhancement of the historic integrity of the conservation area as a whole is a core objective of the document. These policies and proposals seek to preserve the best historic, landscape/townscape and architectural features that contribute to essential character and historic interest without stifling change. It is intended that these policies and proposals should provide a framework to guide future development in the area likely to impact on the conservation area.

In order to secure good quality development that enhances the character of the conservation area and address problems, appropriate methods and standards for new development and for alterations are proposed.

The policies and proposals contained in this document accord with

- Government Planning Policy Notes; and
- Merton's Unitary Development Plan (UDP).

The statutory development plan applying to Colliers Wood Sub-Area is the London Borough of Merton Unitary Development Plan, adopted in October 2003. This plan will eventually be replaced by the emerging Local Development Framework and supporting Action Plans and associated planning documents. The relevant policies within the adopted Unitary Development Plan are:

1. In relation to Conservation Areas - polices: BE.1 Conservation Areas, New Development, Change of Use, Alterations and Extensions; BE.2: Conservation Areas Demolition; and BE.3 Development Adjacent to a Conservation Area
2. In relation to Archaeology: Policies BE.13: Archaeological Protection and Preservation; and BE.14 Archaeological Evaluation.
3. In relation to New Buildings and Extensions: Policies BE.15: New Buildings and Extensions; Daylight, Sunlight, Privacy, Visual Intrusion and Noise; BE.16: Urban Design; BE.22 : Design of New Development; and Policy BE.23: Alterations and Extensions to Buildings
4. In relation to Streetscape: Policy BE.33: Street Furniture and Materials.

In terms of the application of those policies to this part of the Conservation Area the following supplemental polices are proposed to secure good management and to help achieve the objectives of preservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of the conservation area.

These policies are informed by the Character Appraisal and aim to take it forward as a positive plan for this part of the conservation area. With respect to development proposals the following supplementary policy is proposed: -

POLICY WV. MP1 : NEW DEVELOPMENT, CHANGE OF USE, ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSIONS.
WITHIN THIS PART OF THE CONSERVATION AREA, PROPOSALS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT, ALTERATIONS OR

EXTENSIONS OR FOR THE CHANGE OF USE OF LAND OR BUILDINGS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRESERVE OR ENHANCE THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THE MERTON PRIORY SUB-AREA. PROPOSALS WILL BE EXPECTED TO:

- (i) RESPECT OR COMPLEMENT THE DESIGN, SCALE, FORM, LAYOUT AND MATERIALS OF SURVIVING HISTORIC BUILDINGS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE APPRAISAL
- (ii) RESPECT THE INFORMAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BUILDINGS OR OTHER FEATURES CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHARACTER, HISTORIC VALUE OR THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA
- (iii) HAVE REGARD TO VIEWS WITHIN AND OUT OF THE AREA, PARTICULARLY AROUND THE RIVER WANDLE PARK AND BENNETT'S DITCH
- (iv) ENSURE THAT THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY, TRAFFIC, PARKING SERVICES OR NOISE GENERATED BY THE DEVELOPMENT WOULD NOT DETRACT FROM THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THE AREA

DESIGN STATEMENTS MAY BE REQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSALS TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THE ABOVE CRITERIA WILL BE ADDRESSED AND HOW THE PROPOSALS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE SPECIAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA.

With respect to development proposals involving demolition of buildings the following supplementary policy will be taken into consideration..

POLICY WV.MP2: DEMOLITIONS.

TOTAL OR SUBSTANTIAL DEMOLITION OF LOCALLY LISTED OR UNLISTED BUILDINGS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF THIS PART OF THE CONSERVATION AREA WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS INVOLVING DEMOLITION OF OTHER BUILDINGS WITHIN THIS PART OF THE CONSERVATION AREA WILL BE CONSIDERED ON THE MERITS OF THE PROPOSED REPLACEMENT BUILDING.

REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS INVOLVING DEMOLITION WILL BE EXPECTED TO PRESERVE OR ENHANCE THE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF THE CONSERVATION AREA.

A CONDITION WILL BE IMPOSED ON A PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED, TO ENSURE THAT DEMOLITION SHALL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL A CONTRACT FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF THE DEVELOPMENT WORKS HAS BEEN MADE.

With respect to development adjacent to the conservation that would have an impact on the conservation area's character or setting, the following supplementary policy is proposed.

POLICY WV.MP3: DEVELOPMENT ADJACENT TO THE CONSERVATION AREA

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS ADJACENT TO THIS PART OF THE CONSERVATION AREA, PARTICULARLY TO THE NORTH OF MERANTUN WAY, TO THE WEST WITHIN THE RIVERSIDE BUSINESS PARK OR TO THE EAST OF MERTON ABBEY MILLS WILL BE EXPECTED TO HAVE REGARD TO THE HISTORIC PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AND AROUND THIS PART OF THE CONSERVATION AREA AND PRESERVE OR ENHANCE ITS SETTING AND NOT DETRACT FROM VIEWS INTO OR OUT OF THE AREA.

DESIGN STATEMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSALS TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THE DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARACTER AND SETTING OF THE ADJACENT CONSERVATION AREA

The new residential development, Bennet's Courtyard, to the South of Merton Abbey Mills has been identified as making a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the conservation area is considered to merit inclusion on the Council's non-statutory local-list, a number of the former workshop buildings within the Merton Abbey Mills complex are already

included on the Local List and the following supplemental policy is proposed.

POLICY WV.MP4: LOCAL LIST

PROPOSALS TO ALTER, EXTEND OR CHANGE THE USE OF A LOCALLY LISTED BUILDING WILL BE EXPECTED TO:-

- (I) BE SYMPATHETIC TO THE DESIGN, SCALE, PROPORTIONS, CHARACTER AND DETAILING OF THE ORIGINAL BUILDING;**
- (II) RESPECT ITS SETTING; AND**
- (III) PRESERVE THE LOCAL HISTORIC INTEREST OF THE BUILDING.**

ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE RECORDING OF ANY HISTORIC FABRIC OF THE BUILDING, INCLUDING REMNANTS OF OUTBUILDINGS AND EXTENSIONS, THAT WOULD BE DESTROYED OR SIGNIFICANTLY ALTERED OR DAMAGED IN THE COURSE OF THE WORKS.

In terms of Urban Design the following supplementary policy objective has been proposed

POLICY WV.MP5: URBAN DESIGN

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS WILL BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE URBAN DESIGN OBJECTIVES FOR THE CONSERVATION AREA BY:

- (i) RESPONDING TO AND REINFORCING LOCALLY DISTINCTIVE PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT AND LANDSCAPE AS IDENTIFIED IN THE CHARACTER APPRAISAL.**
- (ii) IMPROVING THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT WITHIN MERTON ABBEY MILLS AND IMPROVE LINKS TO AND ALONG THE WANDLE TRAIL.**
- (iii) PROMOTE LEGIBILITY TO HELP PEOPLE FIND THEIR WAY AROUND.**
- (iv) INCORPORATE DESIGN AND LAYOUT FEATURES THAT CAN RESPOND TO CHANGING SOCIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.**
- (v) CREATING VIABLE PLACES THAT OFFER VARIETY AND CHOICE AND RESPONDS TO LOCAL NEEDS.**

URBAN DESIGN STATEMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED IN SUPPORT OF NEW DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THE ABOVE CRITERIA HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED.

Any highway works will be expected to comply with the following supplementary policy

POLICY WV.MP6: STREET FURNITURE AND MATERIALS

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE COLLIERS WOOD SUB AREA WILL BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STREET ENVIRONMENT.

IN PARTICULAR THE PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE, CO-ORDINATED, WELL DESIGNED STREET FURNITURE THAT IS SITED SO AS TO AVOID VISUAL CLUTTER AND TO ALLOW CLEAR AND SAFE PASSAGE FOR PEOPLE WITH SENSORY AND MOBILITY DIFFICULTIES WILL BE SOUGHT.

WHEN IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS THE COUNCIL WILL ENDEAVOUR TO:

- (i) RE-INTRODUCE TRADITIONAL MATERIALS AND DETAILS OR APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING LARGE FORMAT YORK STONE OR CONCRETE PAVING SLABS AND LARGE FORMAT GRANITE KERBS ALONG STATION ROAD; AND**
- (ii) REMOVE ALL REDUNDANT STREET FURNITURE, PEDESTIAN BARRIERS AND SIGNAGE AND, AS PART OF A PLANNED REPLACEMENT, TO INSTALL MORE APPROPRIATE STREET FURNITURE;**

THE COUNCIL WILL EXPECT CHANGES IN THE STREET ENVIRONMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN ITS GOOD PRACTICE ON STREET MANAGEMENT AND DESIGN.

The Merton Priory Sub-Area is of particular archaeological significance embracing the site of the Merton Priory Scheduled Ancient Monument and also

falling within the Wandle Valley Alluvium, Wandle Colliers Wood and Stane Street Archaeological Priority Zones. The Merton Place Archaeological Priority extending over the site of Nelson's former home adjoins the sub area to the west. Development proposals involving excavation in the area will need to have regard to the following policy: -

**P O L I C Y W V . M P 7 :
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROTECTION
AND PRESERVATION**

THE COUNCIL WILL EXPECT EARLY CONSULTATION WHERE DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED WITHIN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRIORITY ZONES AND WILL REQUIRE A PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND POSSIBLY ALSO AN ON SITE INVESTIGATION BEFORE PROPOSALS ARE CONSIDERED.

THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK PRESERVATION, IN SITU OF ANY NATIONALLY OR LOCALLY SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS, THROUGH THE DESIGN AND LAYOUT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY FOUNDATIONS AND BELOW GROUND SERVICES AND DRAINAGE.

ANY ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE REVEALED THROUGH THE INVESTIGATIONS WILL BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE AREA AND ONGOING WORK TO PRESENT AND INTERPRET THE HISTORY OF MERTON PRIORY SITE, MERTON ABBEY MILLS, FORMER MILLS AND HISTORIC INDUSTRIAL SITES AND ALSO, IF APPROPRIATE, MERTON PLACE

ONLY, WHERE REMAINS CANNOT BE PRESERVED IN SITU, WILL THE COUNCIL CONSIDER PRESERVATION BY RECORD BEFORE DEVELOPMENT BEGINS. THIS SHOULD BE THROUGH AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK BY A RECOGNISED ARCHAEOLOGICAL ORGANISATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROJECT DESIGN APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. SUCH PROVISION SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE SUBSEQUENT PRESENTATION AND

PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS, PARTICULARLY TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

SPECIAL GUIDANCE

The River Wandle has been identified in the Mayor's London Plan as part of the "Blue Ribbon Network" which has an important Role for Regeneration and economic growth due to its proximity to the South Wimbledon/Colliers Wood "Area of Opportunity". This part of the Wandle Corridor is also of major cultural significance due to its associations with Merton Priory, Stane Street and early water based industry. The area has a strong tradition of sustainable energy production due to the history of water milling along the River. The appraisal, therefore, recommends that this historic and cultural significance should be a driver to future economic growth and development and recommends the following areas to be taken into consideration in a future development plans/action plans or development/ planning briefs affecting this sub area: -

- Support for cultural and educational activities and facilities particularly focused on the history of the Wandle and its surroundings and particularly Merton Priory.
- An Urban Design Framework/ Strategy to improve links between riverside developments and the Wandle environs and explore new approaches to interpretation that are more robust to the activities of vandals. .
- Co-ordination between recreational, educational cultural and leisure activities along the Wandle with a view to developing a strategic approach to funding of activities.

- Monitoring of the Merton Abbey Mills site in terms of the impact of new development and introduction of measures as appropriate to secure the future viability of the Merton Abbey Mills Craft Market.
- Facilitation of an interpretation centre for the Merton Priory Chapter House and associated archaeology of the wider site including securing additional funding and land as appropriate.
- Protection and enhancement of the natural environment particularly along the River Wandle.

Should the prospect of new development on the business park to the west of the Wandle become a possibility a development brief/framework should be prepared to secure an appropriate form of development that maintains and enhances the character of the adjacent River and conservation area. Key requirements will include: -

1. Buildings of a form and scale that reinforces the character of the Merton Priory sub-area and the development of Merton Abbey Mills on the opposite bank.
2. Buildings designed of a high quality and which integrate with the surrounding pedestrian network and which provide overlooking/surveillance of public rights of way and spaces.
3. Use of good quality materials that reflect and complement but not necessarily copy the palette of historic materials that survive within the area.
4. Create links between the development and the River Wandle

and associated open spaces

NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PLANNING CONTROL

Apart from the new residential development to the south of Merton Abbey Mills, development within this part of the conservation area is commercial and not subject to the range of permitted development rights that normally affect the character of conservation areas that could be controlled by an Article 4(2) Direction. The residential development is also in the form of apartment and similarly does not benefit from permitted development rights associated with houses. There are, therefore no proposals within this appraisal to implement an Article 4(2) Direction.

There may, however, be a potential threat to the area from Advertisements and this appraisal does, therefore, recommend that the possibility of an Area of Special Control of Advertisements should be explored.

REVIEW OF THE CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY

The existing conservation area boundary is fairly tightly drawn around the most significant buildings and areas and was extended to include the Chapter House remains in 2000.

Following consultation on the main conservation area appraisal a suggestion was made that the conservation area should be extended to cover the site of Abbey House and also along Bennett's Ditch, linking the Wandle to the Pickle. The site of Abbey House is already within the conservation area so change is proposed in relation to

this suggestion, but there is considered to be merits in recognising the historic route of the Wandle and it is, therefore, recommended that the conservation be extended to include the course of Bennett's Ditch and linking with the Wandle to the west and the Pickle to the north.

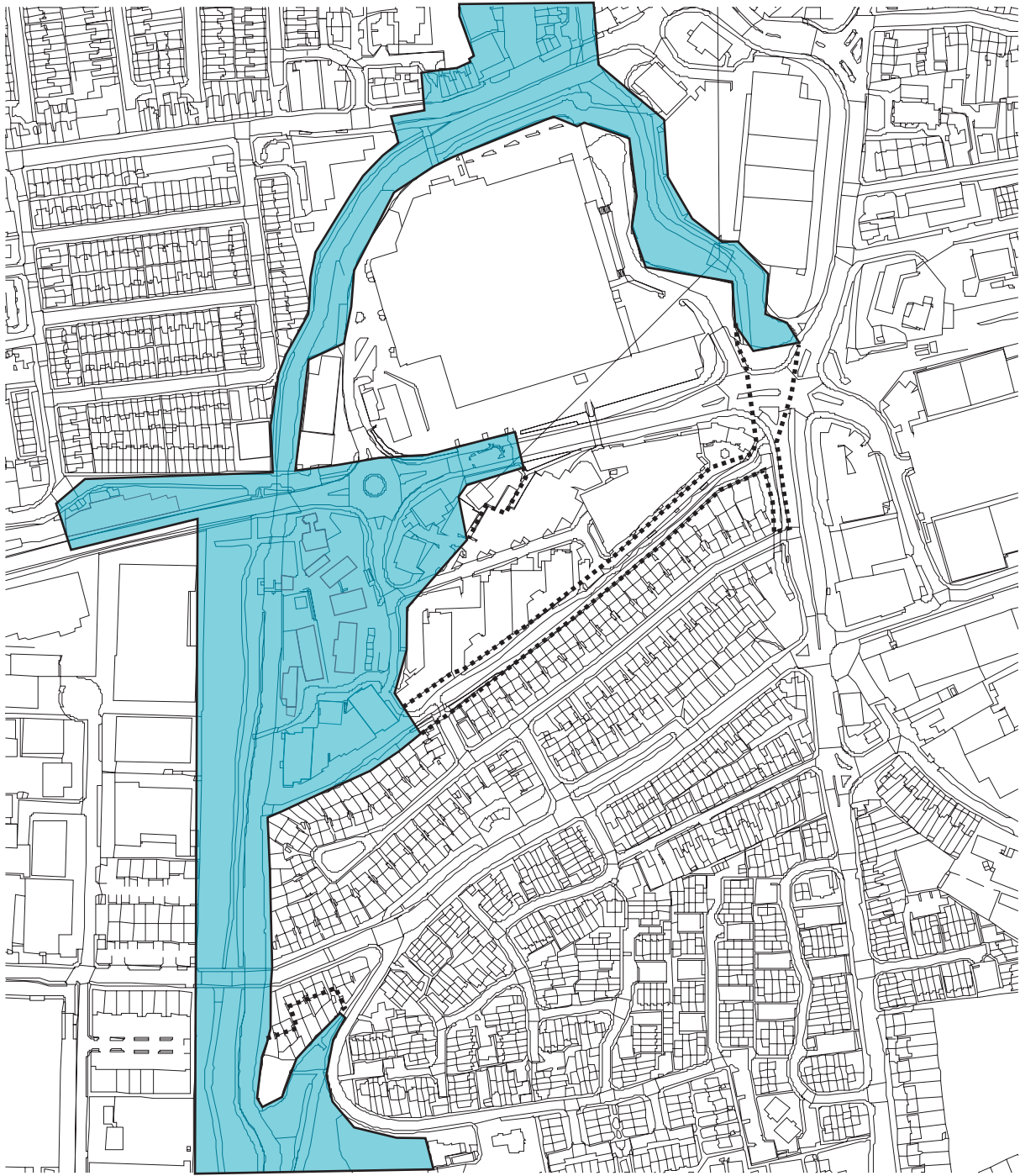
The appraisal has also identified the significance of surviving fabric of priory perimeter walls within the rear gardens of flats on the south side of Windsor Avenue close to the north bank of the Pickle and recommends that the conservation area be extended to include these remnants of the monastic site and also "The Nook", which although not significant architecturally does contribute to the area's character in terms of its scale and massing and relationship to the surrounding landscape. Its location immediately at

the junction of the Pickle to the Wandle provides a logical alignment for to the suggested revised conservation area boundary.

There would also appear to be merits in adjusting the boundary to the conservation area to the south of the Chapter House to incorporate land identified as the site for a future building to display information about the Priory and artefacts from the various excavations.

The map ~~below~~ overleaf shows the suggested extensions to the conservation area as follows: -

1. Bennett's Ditch/Pickle Loop
2. The Nook/Windsor Avenue: Priory Perimeter
3. Area to the south of the Chapter House



Existing Conservation Area



Proposed Extension

ADDITIONAL READING, REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Records of Merton Priory edited by Major Alfred Heales of 1898 and The Environs of London Vol. 1 by Revd Daniel Lysons of 1796.

"Latin Texts concerning Gilbert Founder of the Priory", in Studio Monastica, xii (1970) 241-271 - M.L Colker

'Reminiscences of Old Merton - Chamberlain - 1925

A History of Merton and Morden - Evelyn Jowett MA(Oxon) - 1951

Merton Priory - Penny Bruce, Simon Mason - MoLAS publications 1993

The Archaeology of Greater London - Museum of London 2000

A Brief History of Merton - John Precedo

Derek Bayliss, Retracing the First Public Railway (2nd edn., 1985)

History and Heroes of Old Merton - Kathleen Denbigh 1975

Interim report by Judie English & John Leveson Gower, Sussex Archaeological Society Newsletter No. 47, pp. 456-7, Dec 1985

Archaeological reports by Museum of London Archaeology Service and other Archaeological Organisations copies of which are held in the Merton Local Studies Centre at Morden Library

Eric Montague - Historical notes on Mitcham and Colliers Wood

Merton Historical Society Publications

- Mitcham Histories - No 4: Lower Mitcham
- Trouble at Mill (Textile Printing at Liberty Print Works and Merton Printers Ltd)
- Daughter Houses of Merton Priory
- The Bridges and Roads of Mitcham
- Copper Milling on the Wandle
- Phipps Bridge, Phipps Mill and Bunce's Meadow
- The Railways of Merton
- A History of Lord Nelson's Merton Place
- The Patent Steam Washing Factory at Phipps Bridge, Mitcham
- Morden Hall
- The Amery Mills of Merton Priory, the Copper Mills and the Board Mills
- The Ravensbury Mills
- Ravensbury Manor House and Park
- Some Memories of Merton

- The Historic River Wandle
 - No 1 The Merton Section
 - No 2 Phipps Bridge to Morden Hall
 - No 3 Ravensbury to Mill Green
- Town Trails
 - No 6 Mitcham, Ravensbury
 - No 8 Morden Town Centre and Morden Hall
 - No 9 Wandle Park to Merton Abbey Mills
- Local History Notes
 - No 3 Stane Street in Upper Morden
 - No 8 Liberty Print Works - Wartime Reminiscences
 - No 12 The Parish of Merton 1844 - The Tithe Apportionment Map
 - No 13 Morden in 1838 - The Tithe Apportionment Map
 - No 15 Recollections of an Edwardian Childhood in Colliers Wood
- Studies in Merton History
 - Archaeology of Mitcham
 - Textile Bleaching & Printing in Mitcham & Merton 1590-1870

There are a number of web sites containing historical information relevant to the Wandle Valley

Merton Priory Trust web Site <http://www.mertonpriory.org>

Wandle Industrial Museum Web Site
<http://www.curator.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/common.htg/frameb.htm>

Croydon Online History: <http://www.croydononline.org/History/>

London Borough of Croydon History web pages
<http://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/artsentertainmentculture/culture/localhistoryheritage/>

The Croydon Caving Club website has some Historic Notes on the Surrey Iron Railway by Allan Ockenden.

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APPENDIX A: LIST OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST STATUTORY GRADE II

Portion of former precinct wall to Merton Priory on west side of River Wandle, Christchurch Road, Colliers Wood

Section of Priory Precinct wall running along south side of Station Road, London SW19

Wheel House at Merton Abbey Mills, Watermill Way, London SW19

Two street lamps outside no 12 and 34 Station Road, London, SW19

The Colour House, Merton Abbey Mills, Watermill Way, London SW19

Section of Priory precinct wall to rear of flats at 9, 11, 15 and 17 Windsor Avenue, London, SW19

Section of Priory precinct wall to rear of flats at 27, 29, 31 and 33 Windsor Avenue, London, SW19

APPENDIX B: NON-STATUTORY LIST OF BUILDINGS OF HISTORIC OR ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST

Showhouse, No 6 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Coles Shop, No 12 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Apprentice Shop, No 14 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Long Shop, No 16 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

1929 Shop, No 18 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Block Shop No 20 Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Bennet's Courtyard, Watermill Way, Colliers Wood, SW19

Wandle Valley Conservation Area Character Appraisal

Merton Priory Sub Area Post-Consultation Draft

February 2007

