

## Character Area 1: Medieval Camelford and the Valley

This sheet summarises the comprehensive assessments of character and regeneration opportunities in Section 8 of the report.

Camelford's most complex Character Area, incorporating all of the 13th-century planted market town, plus the bridge and the area to its east where the spinal road attracted development. It is still the heart of modern Camelford.

There are several clearly distinguishable sub-areas, but each of these has direct relationships with the others, making a coherent and easily understood whole:

- ◆ The sub-rectangular **market place** with commercial and public buildings along both sides.
- ◆ **Bridge** at medieval crossing point.
- ◆ A **main street** extending the market place at either end and following the pre-existing long-distance routeway.
- ◆ A **secondary medieval street**, its higher parts formed a significant service quarter.
- ◆ Triangular **area between Fore and Back Streets** with distinctive opeways linking the two streets.
- ◆ The irregular strip of **land between Fore Street and the Camel**, divided by rear extensions of buildings and more opeways.
- ◆ Post-medieval development along **two side streets**, Mill Lane and College Road.
- ◆ Enfield Park, an **area of open ground** now a municipal garden, established in 1922.

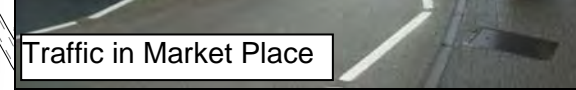
**The essential Camelford, the medieval market centre and later commercial and social heart of the town. There is great variety in its buildings, the outcome of many changes in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, but a key feature for the last fifty years or more has been the Area's stability. Peppared with significant structures and full of rarely told stories.**

### Regeneration opportunities

- The proposed by-pass should improve vehicle-pedestrian conditions, and enhance the historic character of central Camelford. But this may be some time coming.
- More immediately rationalise the A39 as it passes through Camelford. Is it a highway with vehicles dominant, or a street with pedestrians dominant?
- Consider reducing the width of the carriageway in the Market Place and reducing other highway trappings: signage, markings and lighting.
- Retain urban hierarchy: commerce in the historic town centre, and residential use on the peripheral streets. Back/Chapel Street should retain the character of a service street. Likewise retain outhouses and stores along the opeways.
- Retain open areas of significance along the river, the meadows south of the bridge and Enfield Park, above it.
- Review use made of the spaces either side of the Market House. If car parking is removed, ensure that future use maintains the open character.
- Sensitively repair and maintain opeways.
- Review public realm. Reinstate more appropriate paving and kerbing in Market Place and Fore Street.
- Actively support the ongoing Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (HERS), which will ensure that the town centre's fabric is carefully repaired and so able to play its part in attracting economic regeneration.
- Use Conservation Area status to ensure retention of key features (eg windows, doors and roof and wall coverings) to maintain the variety and historical appropriateness of finishes to buildings that contribute much to the area's overall character.



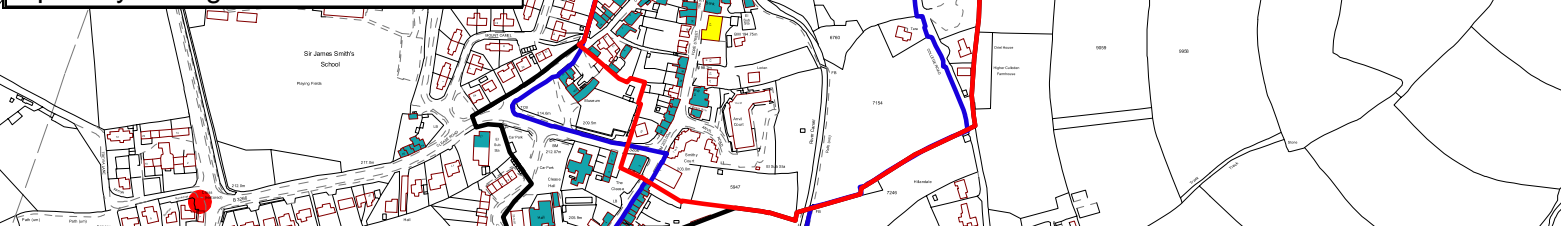
Market Place



Traffic in Market Place



Open way linking Fore and Back Streets



Service buildings on Back Street



Camelford House



Down Fore Street to Market Place

## Character Area 1: Medieval Camelford and the Valley



- Primary study area (1907 urban extent)
- Character Area
- Conservation Area
- Scheduled Monument
- Listed Building
- Historic Building

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