

THI UPDATE

Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative

Welcome to the fourth issue of the Willenhall THI Update, the newsletter designed to inform and keep you up to date with what is happening in the regeneration scheme.

Grant Scheme Completed

The Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative has now come to a close. The aims of the THI were to:

- Repair and restore historic buildings including the removal of inappropriate features such as PVC windows

- Make the town a more attractive place for people to live, work and visit

The THI was a 5 year initiative funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, VIEW (Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall) and Walsall Council.

It provided grant aid-towards the cost of repairing, restoring and reusing historic properties.

In total 16 projects were grant aided and over £1.3 million was spent on the properties using a combination of grant funding and the property owners' contribution.



Walsall Council



Projects and Works U

77 and 77a Stafford Street (Pizza Power, Alice's Beauty Salon)

Works included the repair of roof, removal of unsympathetic additions (such as boarding and signage) to reveal the original shopfront underneath. Restoration of leaded windows, tiled stallriser and tiled entrance porch.



22 Market Place (Golden Girl)

The modern aluminium shopfront was replaced with timber and sash windows were installed. Repair works were carried out to the brickwork.



87-89 Stafford Street

(Fibbersley Park, American Nails, The Sandwich Shop)

Reinstatement works included a new traditional style shopfront, the reinstatement of a chimney and new timber windows.



90-91 Stafford Street

(Square Deal Carpets)

Repair works undertaken to roof and render. Reinstatement works included replacement of PVC windows, reinstatement of the cornice, replacement of the existing signage with one based on historic evidence.



57 Wolverhampton Street

(RS News)

The roof was repaired and historic details reinstated with the new traditional style shopfront and timber windows.



58 Wolverhampton Street

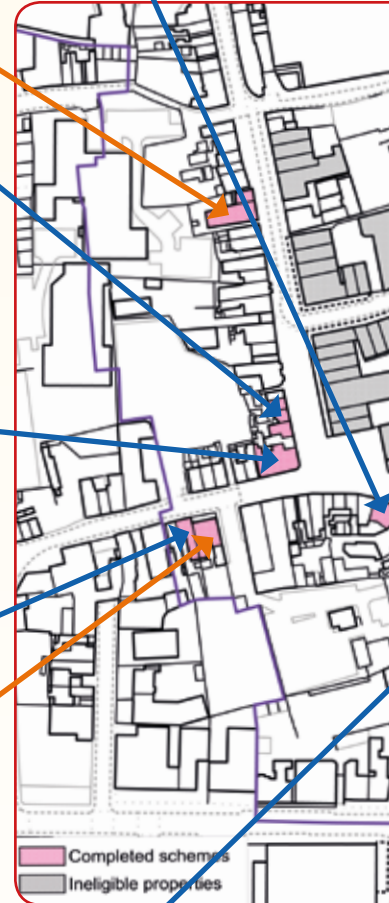
Removal of vegetation from roof and subsequent repair.



14 Market Place

(Supervalu Homestore)

The modern shopfront has been replaced with one based on historic photographic evidence. Stonework repairs were also undertaken.



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30 Market Place (Blunts)

Works included the replacement of concrete roof tiles with slate, repair of timber windows, repair of original shopfront and replacement of signage



32 Market Place (The Bell)

Works made this vacant listed building wind, watertight and structurally sound. A new shop window was created based on historic photographic evidence



3A Upper Lichfield Street (Dance Academy)

Missing terracotta detail has been recast and replaced. Sign boarding has been removed and the original shopfront has been uncovered and repaired.



4 Cross Street

The original shopfront was uncovered and its historic features were repaired.



42 Market Place (Zorba Grill)

The modern cladding on the listed building has been removed and the original glazed tiles have been repaired. Structural works have also been undertaken.



32 Cross Street (Holyhead Travel)

Extensive repair work including to the roof, chimneys and brickwork. Reinstatement works included a new traditional style shopfront.



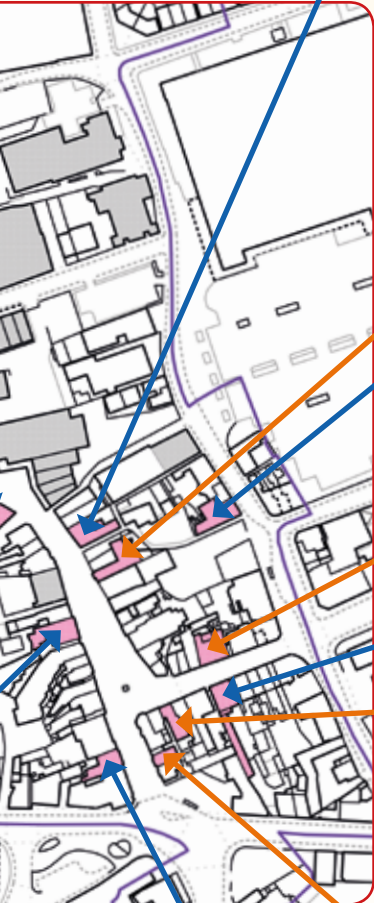
4 Market Place (Elegant Dry Cleaners)

The concrete roof tiles have been removed and replaced with traditional tiles. A new shopfront has been installed with traditional signage.



45 Market Place

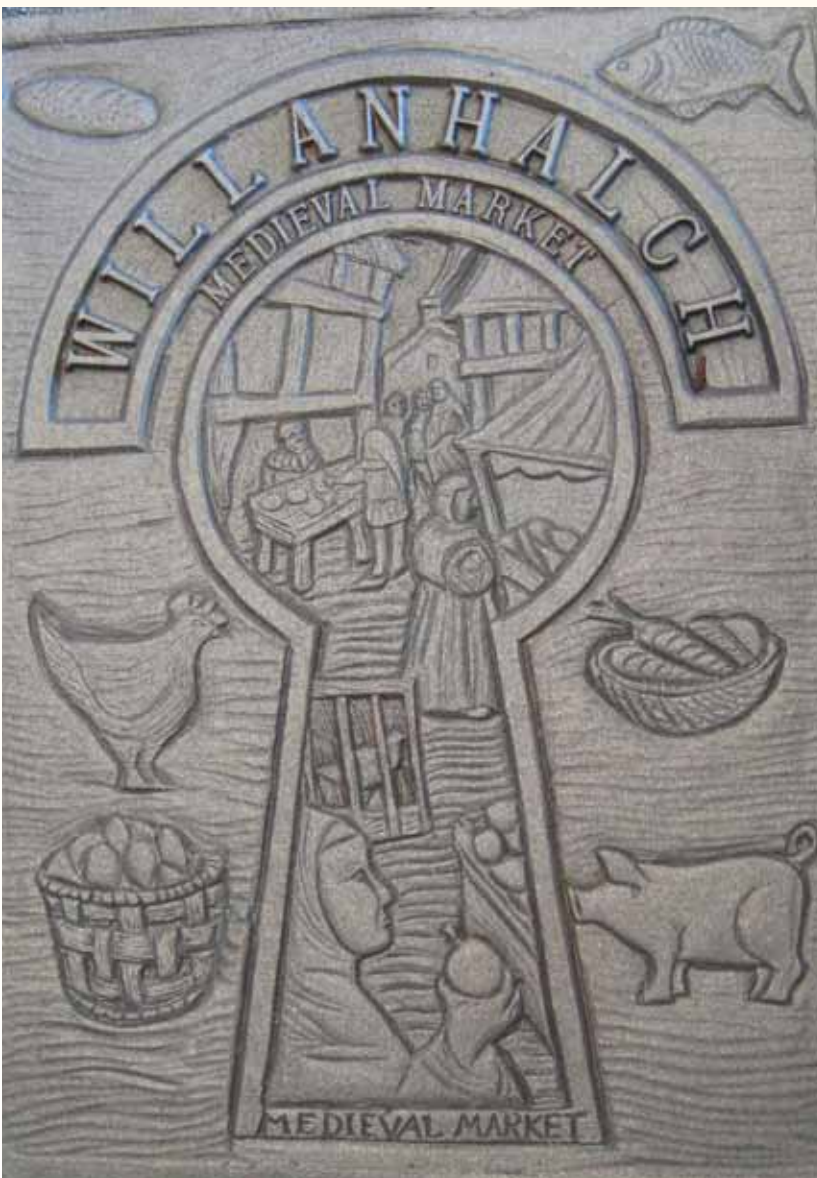
Repairs were undertaken to the roof and sash windows based on the original design were installed.



Willenhall Heritage Trail

The THI also helped fund a heritage trail to guide people through the town centre and on to the Memorial Park.

The trail uses cast iron plaques to highlight important historic buildings, people or events. There are 12 large plaques and 25 smaller plaques in important locations around the town, which have been designed to reflect different aspects of Willenhall's heritage.



Planet Art carried out workshops with local pupils from Pool Hayes Arts and Community College, St Giles Primary School and Fibbersley Park Primary School to research the history of Willenhall and develop ideas for the design of the plaques.

The trail stretches from Willenhall Memorial Park and Fibbersley Nature Reserve to the east of the town centre to some of the more industrial sites in the west, and the trail can be started anywhere along the route. There is a leaflet and a website providing a map and further information about each of the plaques. The leaflet can be downloaded from www.willenhallhistory.co.uk/trail. There is also a lectern outside Morrisons that displays the map.

The project has been funded by the Willenhall THI scheme, developer contributions and the Council's Greenspace Service.

