CONTEXT

Dartmouth is an attractive historic town overlooking the River Dart in South Devon. The town centre is recognised as having an outstanding conservation area worthy of special attention to safeguard its future character. In order to provide a framework for the future conservation of this historic settlement a Conservation Area Management Plan was prepared.

OBJECTIVES

The plan, prepared in 1985, concentrated in particular on the townscape of the area between Bayards Cove and the Market Square. The scope of the plan covered the treatment of existing and proposed roads and footways, the control of on-street parking and the appropriateness of different forms of street furniture including traffic signs and street lighting.

DESCRIPTION

The first scheme to be implemented as part of the Management Plan saw the repaving of Foss Street and Union Street. Access to these streets was already limited but it was as a result of the enhancement works that the full potential was realised. The scheme involved repaving the carriageway and footways at one level using traditional yellow and blue brick pavers. Removable bollards placed at the ends of the streets enforce the pedestrian priority. A further extension of the treatment into the adjoining Flavel Street is also programmed.
COST

The total cost for Foss Street and Union Street was £25,000.

ASSESSMENT

The scheme undertaken in Foss Street has transformed the appearance of this relatively narrow street into a very attractive place in which to dwell and shop. The business community in the area has responded to improve the appearance even further by the introduction of many flower planters and hanging baskets. This combination of hard and soft landscaping has produced an environment where vehicles are viewed as an intrusion into pedestrian activity.

76: The carriageway and footway paved at one level. Traffic is calmed by the overall impression given by the layout of this street. (Photo: Devon County Council)