

Morton Neighbourhood Plan



Evidence Paper 3 – Heritage Assets

June 2019

Listed Buildings in Morton Parish

There is no **Conservation Area** or any **Scheduled Monuments** in Morton, but there are nine Listed Buildings, as set out in the schedule below. Source:

https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/england/morton-west-lindsey-lincolnshire#.XG_c1aL7R0w

Listed Buildings

Grade II* [Willow Bank Gate and Railings](#) - 50 Front Street, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincs., DN21.

Grade II [Eliot House](#) - Crooked Billet Street, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Manor House](#) - Dog and Duck Lane, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Mill at Gainsborough Laundry](#) - Mill Road, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Morton House](#) - 2 Front Street, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Stable Block and Yard at Morton House](#) - Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Number 16 Front Street and Railings and Gate](#) Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [Sundown and Railings](#) - 48 Front Street, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

Grade II [The Bramlings](#) - 1 Trentside, Morton, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire, DN21.

In addition, although it is in Gainsborough Town Council area rather than Morton Parish, St Pauls Church (10-16 Front Street) is Grade II* Listed and together with the churchyard, it makes a significant contribution to the historic environment and character of Morton.

Other Heritage Assets

Morton is a long-established settlement with a rich history. It is listed in the 1086 Domesday Book as "Mortune" (Farmstead on the moor or marsh), with four households. It was a township of Gainsborough parish until 1846, when the first church, dedicated to Saint Paul, opened in the village and the church then became a chapelry, until 1866, when Morton was created a civil parish. Potential buildings and structures of interest include:

- Holly House at 14 Mill Road is a seven bedroomed period Manor house within a plot of approx. 1.25 acres, with range of outbuildings. It went to auction on 11 June 2019.
- The grounds of Morton Hall comprise parkland, possibly linked to Thonock Hall, contributing to the historic interest and setting of Morton, forming a village gateway.
- The former Crooked Billet public house.
- The Ship Inn public house.
- Cottages and houses on Chapel Lane and Trentside.
- Outlying farms and agricultural buildings

Although it is a natural rather than a physical feature, the Trent Aegir can be seen at Morton. Also known as the Eagre, it is a tidal bore on the River Trent. At certain times of the year, the lower tidal reaches of the Trent experience a moderately large bore (up to 1.5m high). It is said to take

its name from Ægir, the Norse God of the ocean, although this is disputed and a more likely derivation is from Old English *ēagor (“flood, stream, water”).

This is a human rather than physical heritage asset but involves a wetland area in the Parish. The Morton Gymes disaster in October 1914 related to the presence of over 4,000 Yorkshire Territorials in Gainsborough, to carry on their training before being sent to France in April 1915. They were billeted with local families, many of whom had husbands and sons who had enlisted in the army. On Friday, February 19th, 1915, the town was shocked when seven members of "D" Company of the 4th Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry were drowned. They had gone to a local pond, known locally as a "gyme," in Morton, to practice raft building. A raft was built consisting of tarpaulins filled with straw, ropes and planks of wood. Estimates of the number of soldiers on board the raft when it tipped over were disputed, some claimed that it was up to 40 and it is recorded that 7 soldiers died. In 2015, as part of a WW1 related HLF project, a new memorial was established and dedicated at St Paul's Church.

These buildings, structure and related matters, along with the identification of local (non-designated) heritage assets are covered in more detail in a Character Study which is being undertaken as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. In that study, the following heritage matters could justify policies in the Neighbourhood Plan on:

1. The need for all new development, including extensions, to respect the character of different parts of the parts of the village, for example:

- the historic character of Front Street, Crooked Billet Street, North Street and Trentside;*
- the spacious leafy character of Southlands;*
- the way in which Field Lane, Mill Lane and Walkerith Road provide a transition from village to countryside.*

2. The importance of traditional local building materials (brick, pantiles, render, stone and slate).

3. Examples of well-maintained Georgian and Victorian doors and windows in older properties.

4. The potential to identify local (non-designated) heritage assets, e.g. Holly House...

5. In Morton the relationship between heritage, culture and the environment contributes to a real sense of place, for example:

- The George Elliott/Mill on the Floss connection;*
- The history of river traffic on the Trent, manifested in old wharves and smugglers tunnels;*
- The WW1 Tragedy on “The Gyme”;*
- The 1947 breach of the riverbank just north/west of the village.*