

36: Carriageway
constriction
incorporating raised
brick planters combined
with raised crossing at
footway level.
(Photo: Devon County
Council)

EXETER · BEDFORD STREET

CONTEXT

Bedford Street is a main commercial and business street. Following the pedestrianisation of the High Street, Bedford Street became a cul-de-sac. It had a wide carriageway with on-street parking and carried traffic flows inappropriate for a street which is primarily a pedestrian access route to the High Street, Southernhay, Princesshay Precinct and the Cathedral Close.

OBJECTIVES

The aim was to extend the successful pedestrian priority in the High Street, to promote a safe and pleasant environment for pedestrians.

DESCRIPTION

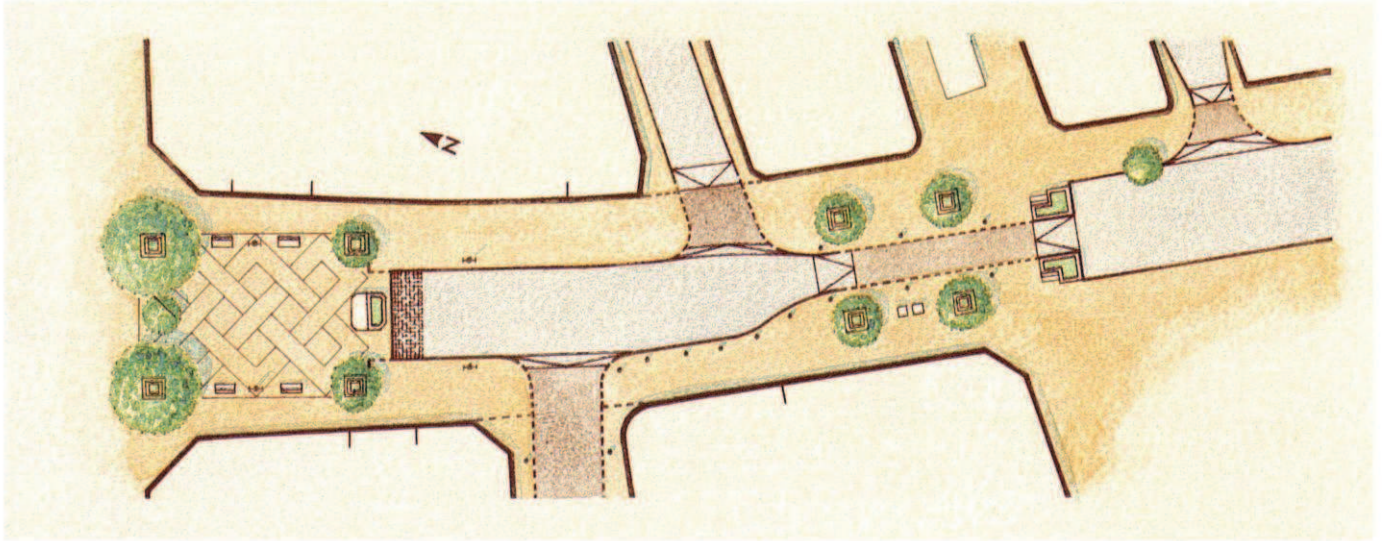
The approach was similar to that adopted for the High Street. All but access traffic is excluded from Bedford Street by the introduction of traffic management measures. Better facilities for pedestrians have been provided as well as a combined flat top hump and pedestrian crossing at the open end for service vehicles entering the street. Redesigned on-street parking for disabled drivers is provided directly outside the Post Office.

COST

The cost was £70,000.



36



ASSESSMENT

The improvement of the “city centre” atmosphere achieved around the High Street area now extends right through to Southernhay. The domination of the motor vehicle and associated hazards to pedestrians have been successfully overcome, thus encouraging pedestrians to take full advantage of the benefits of the considerably enhanced environment.