

APPENDIX VIII

LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS (non-designated heritage assets)

1. Baptist Chapel, High Street

Brick and slate chapel, dating from 1824.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1824
Rarity	Only example in the parish
Aesthetic Value	Well-proportioned Georgian building (with later porch and outbuildings) set in burial ground which provides an attractive open space in this part of the village.
Group Value	Part of a group of early 19 th century buildings on High Street including substantial residences, cottages and the Blue Bell Inn public house. The chapel, its burial ground, cast iron railings and arched gateway provide a setting for these structures.
Historical Association	Non-conformism arrived in Gretton c.1786 as a working people's movement but was resisted by some members of the community. The chapel represents its wider acceptance alongside the established Anglican church.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Local landmark, see above
Social & Communal Value	Still with an active congregation and general community function

2. Caistor's Cottage, Caistor's Lane

Limestone house, probably originally two cottages, tile roof, brick chimney.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	18 th Century with 20 th Century alterations
Rarity	n/a
Aesthetic Value	One of a number of picturesque limestone cottages in the village
Group Value	Part of the street scene of Caistor's Lane
Historical Association	As home of the 19 th C chief village shepherd (William Caistor), provides evidence for the previous high economic importance of sheep-rearing in the parish after Enclosure of the medieval open fields
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	Internal timbers and evidence for previous layout and function
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	n/a
Social & Communal Value	n/a

3. Wagon wash and water troughs, Church Gap

Stone-lined rectangular-trough fed by spring, with sloping access for wagons and livestock.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	Believed to be early 16 th century in its present general form, although likely to have been a source of water for this part of the settlement since earliest times
Rarity	Only one (purpose-built), although similar to that at the top of Clay Lane
Aesthetic Value	Part of the setting of the parish church; constructed with local limestone, as are the adjacent walls and cottages. Surrounding terrace provides viewpoint over the Welland valley
Group Value	One of several features providing evidence for Gretton's reliance until the 20 th century on springs for water
Historical Association	Strongly connected with Gretton's agricultural economy and way of life. Located beside an historic route into the village from the Welland valley grazing meadows
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	Potential for finds
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Village landmark
Social & Communal Value	n/a

4. Early 20th century signposts

Six roadside signposts (as mapped, 5.1 – 5.6) at prominent locations at road junctions in the village.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1920s
Rarity	Survivors of an early 20 th century design, of which most have in other parts of the Borough been lost to road upgrading
Aesthetic Value	High. Good design, clear typography, well-maintained
Group Value	Survival of six examples of same age and design is significant
Historical Association	Connections with the early days of motorised road transport and with the highways responsibilities of Kettering Rural District Council and the old Northants. County Council
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	Potential value as moveable artefacts/collectables
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Valued local/community landmarks
Social & Communal Value	As above. The signs have recently been repainted by a community volunteer

5. Fire engine shed, Arnhill Road

Substantial brick-built garage, slate roof (and modern door) originally (early 20th century) shed where the village fire engine was kept. The location adjacent to the West Wells (see 18) was necessary for drawing water to replenish the fire engine's water tank.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	19 th century
Rarity	Only one in the Borough
Aesthetic Value	Moderate – modern 'up and over' door has been installed
Group Value	Group with #17
Historical Association	Only fire service in the village. Appliance was hand pulled rather than by horse.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Well-known in the village for its unique local historical significance
Social & Communal Value	Still in use as a private garage, thus maintaining a contemporary take on its original function.

6. Lamp-lighters' hut, Arnhill Road

Substantial stone-built shed, limestone and ironstone courses with brick quoining, Welsh slate roof. Ladders, oil and spares were stored here.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1896
Rarity	Very few survive in E. Midlands villages
Aesthetic Value	n/a
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	Large village wanting street lights but distant from urban gas supply. Survived in use until c.1950 when electricity supply arrived thanks to expansion of quarrying. Local tradition records that the lights were only lit when there was no moonlight.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Locally valued for its unique historical associations.
Social & Communal Value	n/a

7. Pillbox, Harringworth Road

Remains of WW2 anti-aircraft battery and Type 22 pillbox.
Brick and concrete construction, heavily weathered



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1940s
Rarity	Unique survivor of its type and precise function, see below
Aesthetic Value	Low, except for its location and its meaning as part of the planned defence of England at the time
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	Important survivor, documented by Imperial War Museum and specialists. It was located here to defend the Midland Railway main line at Harringworth viaduct and Corby tunnel; this route was vital for the transport of steel products and coal during WW2
Archival Interest	Documented in the IWM archive, by Northants CC (Historic Environment Record) and online
Archaeological interest	Industrial archaeology
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	n/a
Social & Communal Value	The battery was manned by the local Home Guard and by locally based service personnel, whose presence in the village has become part of local history (with a few older residents still having first-hand memories)

8. The Police House, Kirby Road

1930s substantial detached house, brick and slate with stone plaque over front door.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1930s
Rarity	Unusual at this size and date, both as a village police house and for Gretton, which has few other 'between-the-wars' buildings.
Aesthetic Value	Moderate
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	Although most rural settlements had a local police station in the first half of the 20 th century, Gretton's (as a working village with a high, locally-employed population of quarrymen, steelworkers and agricultural labourers) is unusual for its size and style. The village policeman lived here and the building incorporated a holding cell, notorious in the village in earlier times for its regular use on Saturday nights.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Local landmark
Social & Communal Value	n/a: now a private residence but still identifiable from its design and the over-door plaque

9. Railway Bridge, Station Road

Five-arched viaduct carrying the Midland Railway (Kettering to Nottingham line) over Rockingham Road and a small side valley in the Welland escarpment. Substantial construction in ashlar stone.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1879
Rarity	Unique combination of topographic context, architecture and materials
Aesthetic Value	High. Designed and built in the late style of the Midland Railway Company
Group Value	One of a number of important bridges (including Harringworth Viaduct) and tunnels (including Corby) on this late main line. Only the Great Central London extension is a later English main line.
Historical Association	See above.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	In part: the landscape is arguably enhanced by the sweeping line of the railway and its impressive structures as it skirts the Welland escarpment on its way north to Harringworth viaduct
Landmark Status	Significant, locally and for railway architecture
Social & Communal Value	Memories of Gretton Station and the working passenger railway

10. Gretton Primary School, Kirby Road

1908. A fine, large village example of a Northamptonshire *County School*. Brick with stone quoining and detailing, including campanile (bell tower, incorporating vent for the original boiler) and head teacher's house (still in use as a residence).



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1908
Rarity	n/a
Aesthetic Value	High
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	Generations of local children have been educated here. Centenary plaque was unveiled by a centenarian local resident who had been a member of one of the earliest intakes.
Archival Interest	Local personal memorabilia
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Very significant local landmark, particularly the campanile
Social & Communal Value	Exceptional

11. Wootton's smithy sign, 38 High Street

Commemorative sign, carved limestone, built into gable of new residential property in early 2000s.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	19 th Century
Rarity	Unique, specific to this site, the village and a particular trade. The only evidence surviving of the important local trade of blacksmithing
Aesthetic Value	High quality stonecarving
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	TBC – local detail The smithy was demolished [date] but the developer / owner of the new house retained the plaque and incorporated it into the gable end.
Archival Interest	Historic photographs held with the local historical society.
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	n/a
Social & Communal Value	n/a

12. Sports and Social clubhouse, changing rooms etc.

1970s utilitarian sports facilities. Flat roofed, buff brick and concrete construction



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1970s
Rarity	n/a
Aesthetic Value	n/a
Group Value	Important value to groups in the village.
Historical Association	n/a
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	n/a
Social & Communal Value	n/a

13. The Jo Stone, Kirby Road/Corby Road junction

Appears to be a glacial erratic (a boulder of a non-local rock-type transported from its original location by ice sheets), now incorporated in a small amenity garden. According to village tradition, deals were confirmed with a handshake over the stone.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	300 million years (stone); late medieval (as a social phenomenon and landmark)
Rarity	Unique in Grettton; erratics in the East Midlands are not uncommonly adapted as local features or the subject of local legends.
Aesthetic Value	Part of attractive community garden
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	See above
Archival Interest	Local hearsay
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Yes
Social & Communal Value	Modern and as local heritage

14. Village Hall, Kirby Road

Utilitarian but well-designed and functional. Prefabricated construction



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1960s
Rarity	n/a
Aesthetic Value	n/a
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	On a site donated to the parish by British Steel and supported by a donation from a local businessman.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Yes
Social & Communal Value	Very well-used community asset

15. Water tower, Recreation Ground

Concrete water tower standing at the high point of the village.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	1947
Rarity	Unique in the Plan Area
Aesthetic Value	High; elegant use of concrete
Group Value	n/a
Historical Association	Associated with post WW2 council housing (enhanced water supply), development by the then Kettering Borough Council
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Very important local landmark
Social & Communal Value	Provides water to the community

16. Welland House, High Street

Impressive three-storey late Georgian house, local limestone walls with fine Ketton Stone mouldings, arched front door frame with carved house name. Iron railings to frontage.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	c.1800
Rarity	One of only two in the village
Aesthetic Value	High
Group Value	Part of architecturally rich street scene
Historical Association	Residence of the Lamb family, prominent local lawyers. WW1 Belgian refugees lived here.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	n/a
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	Prominent position on bend of High Street
Social & Communal Value	n/a

17. West Wells and standpipe, Clay Lane

Stone-lined rectangular trough on the site of a natural spring but now with a 20th-century standpipe controlled by a stopcock. Lamp post dating from 1895 at the end of the railings on West Wells.



Criterion	Evidence / description
Age	Mid-19 th century (present features) on a medieval site with similar functions
Rarity	One of two similar features in the village
Aesthetic Value	n/a
Group Value	Group with #3 is of local significance; group with #2 as source of fire engine water
Historical Association	As with #3, these managed spring-fed water sources were vital for a settlement on an otherwise dry limestone plateau. They are strongly characteristic of Gretton, providing a tangible link with its history.
Archival Interest	n/a
Archaeological interest	Inherent and potential
Designed Landscape interest	n/a
Landmark Status	yes