

Unregistered Park & Garden:
Shipside Memorial Garden (Worksop)

BDC Ref:
UPG50

Date(s):
1952, 1960s.

Description & historic information:

Rest garden, opened 13th May 1952ⁱ, designed by Worksop Borough Council Parks' Superintendent Charles Haslehurst for local benefactor Bertie W. Shipside, named in honour of Mr Shipside's wifeⁱⁱ. Extended westwards in the 1960s.

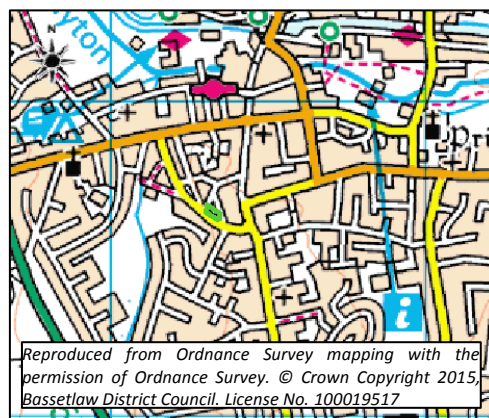
The original garden was previously the site of cottages, which were demolished in the 1930s (see 1865 map). During the Second World War, 3 air raid shelters were placed in the area, but these too were demolished as soon as the war ended. The site was then left covered with rubble and rough grass.

Local businessman Mr Shipside had, for some time, wanted to provide a rest garden and playground for the west part of the town, this being a wish of his wife who had passed away in 1948. With the assistance of the Worksop Borough Council, the site on Westgate was suggested. At first, Mr Shipside was reluctant, but eventually he agreed to the proposal.

The garden was designed by Worksop Borough Council Parks' Superintendent, Charles Haslehurst (who was also responsible for the formation of the Haslehurst Garden adjacent in 1957, the Sandy Lane Garden in 1951, the Memorial Avenue Gardens of 1933 and 1938 and the numerous changes to the Canch Recreation Ground in the 1930s-1950s period). Haslehurst was assisted by the Borough Council Engineer, Charles Allsoppⁱⁱⁱ.



1959 Ordnance Survey map, showing original garden.



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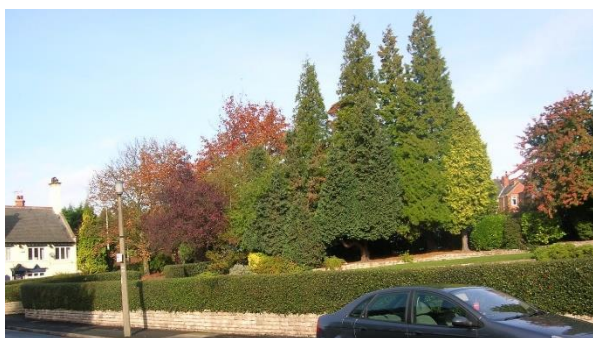


1865 Worksop Gas Map, showing previous buildings (source: Worksop Library).



13th May 1952 Official opening 13th May 1952 (source: www.picturethepast.org.uk).

The main site comprises a rest garden set onto a shallow slope, with crazy-paving walkways set between lawns and flanked on the higher sides by stone walls with raised lawns and planting areas. The combination of stone walls and crazy-paving (of Magnesium Limestone quarried at Steetley) is a particular feature of Haslehurst's gardens found elsewhere in the town. The rear of the site is planted with (primarily) evergreen trees, helping to frame the garden when viewed from Westgate.



View of 1952 garden from south.



View of 1952 garden from south east.



View inside 1952 garden from eastern end.



View inside 1952 garden from western end.

Pedestrian entrance gates were placed at both the eastern and western ends of the site – that at the eastern end, adjacent to Lead Hill, is still in its original position. The other entrance gate, to the west, was moved onto Westgate in the 1960s when the site was extended – the original gate location is still intact. The gates are a typical style of the period and contain the name “Shipside Memorial” and the date “1952” forged into the design. The front (south) and side (east) boundary comprises similar stone walls as in the centre, with hedging above.

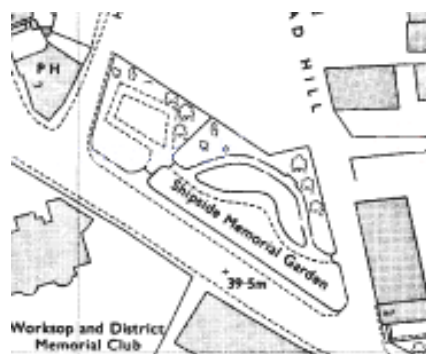


Eastern entrance gate.



Former western entrance.

In the 1960s, a short row of cottages to the west of the garden was demolished and the former front yard area was formed into an extension to the 1952 garden. As with the original garden, crazy paving (although of concrete blocks rather than stone), lawns, planting beds and trees were used, together with a stone boundary wall on the front (on Westgate) and side (on Hill Street, re-using an earlier boundary wall, all with hedging above). The western entrance gate was moved into its current position (adjacent to Westgate) at this time.



1967 Ordnance Survey map, showing extension to west.



View of western gate, re-sited onto Westgate in 1960s.



Crazy-paving (of broken concrete slabs) in 1960s extension.



View of 1960s extension, from south west (source: Google Maps, September 2014).

Whilst planting schemes have changed over the years, the overall layout of trees and shrubs, flowering bulbs, lawns and flower borders has remained intact.

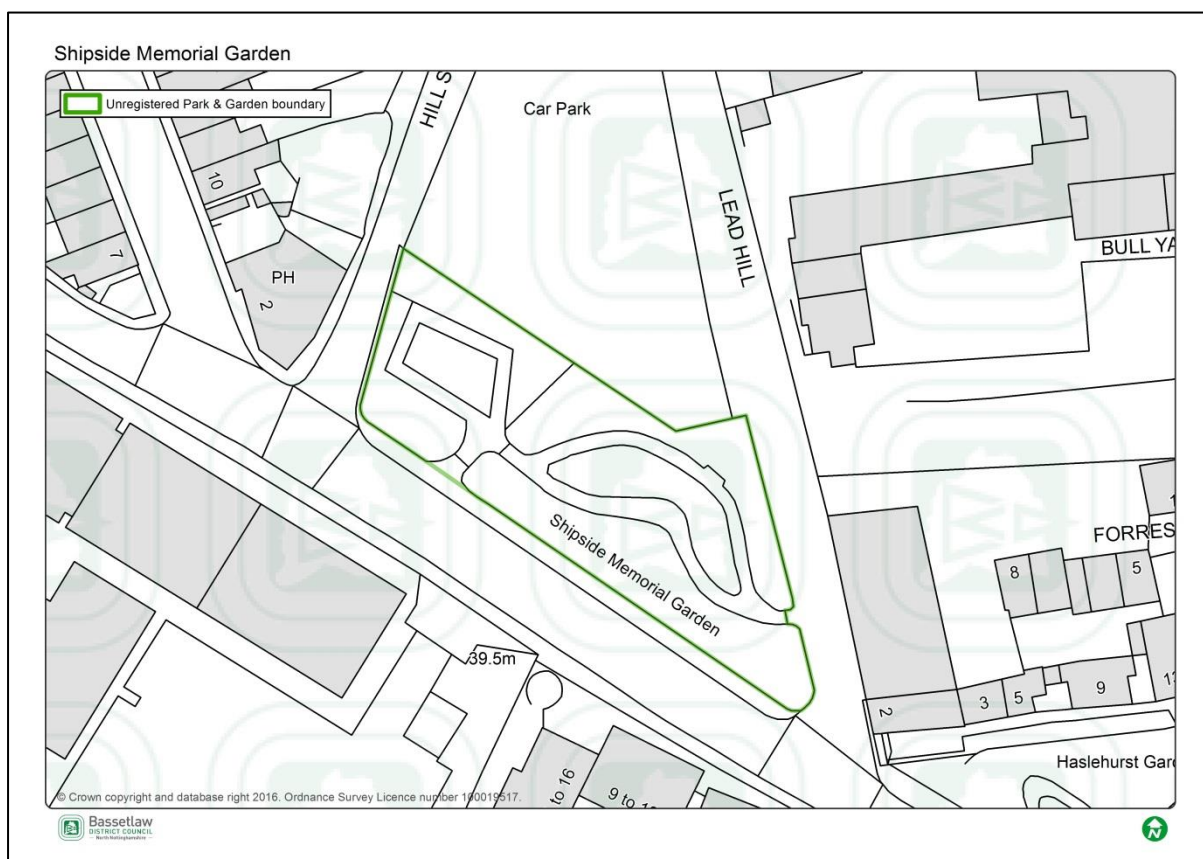


Aerial photograph of Shipline Memorial Garden, taken 2007 (source: Bassetlaw District Council).

Features of significance:

Small rest garden set into shallow hillside, designed by Worksop Borough Council Parks' Superintendent Charles Haslehurst. Later extended. Includes stone boundary walls with crazy-paving footways flanked by further stone walls. Metal entrance gates at east and south ends. Raised lawns and planting areas. Trees along northern border.

Listed Buildings:	n/a
Scheduled Ancient Monuments:	n/a
Conservation Area:	Worksop Conservation Area (last designated 6 th April 2011) – All relevant unlisted buildings and structures within the Conservation Area are regarded as 'positive buildings'
Local Interest Buildings:	n/a



References:

- ⁱ *Worksop Guardian*; 16th May 1952.
- ⁱⁱ *Worksop Guardian*; 16th May 1952.
- ⁱⁱⁱ *Worksop Guardian*; 16th May 1952.