

Stroud Town Council Local Heritage Asset List

Lansdown, Bank Gardens, GL5 1BB	
Park and garden	Conservation Area: Stroud Town Centre Stroud Town Centre NDP area
Gardens	List entry number SLHA0023



Description

Bank Gardens is an attractive public garden on gently sloped land stretching from the back of the High Street eastwards to Lansdown Hall. Its upper border is St Laurence church and churchyard. The landscaped gardens include lawns, borders, stone walls, a terrace and seating. There is a British Legion memorial to VJ day on the wall to the north together with a peace plaque.

Bank Gardens was formerly the garden of Bank House, High St, Stroud. Bank House was built in the 18th century. It became a private bank and manager's house founded by the Winterbothams. When Lloyds occupied it, the Winterbotham family retained ownership until 1930, when Lloyds moved to King Street. At this time Mr Ernest Winterbotham presented to the garden to the town in memory of his parents. A centrepiece sundial bore the inscription: 'Presented to the people of Stroud in memory of Mr and Mrs Edward Winterbotham, by their three sons. July 1930'.

A pair of impressive stone gate piers and iron gates lead into the gardens. These were repaired and the entrance widened to improve access by Stroud Town Council in 2014.

Sources

Stroud Local History Society (2017), Members' Research, Parks and Gardens of Stroud

<http://www.stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk/research/parks/> viewed 15 July 2017
Stroud District Council, Conservation Area Statement, Conservation Area No. 18, Stroud Town Centre (2008), <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/media/1972/17-18-stroud-town-centre-cas-april-2008.pdf> viewed 15 July 2017

Selection Criteria	
Age	Garden dates from 18th century.
Historic association	Associated with and gifted by local family in 20th century.
Designed landscapes	Example of town garden with origins in 18th century.
Social and communal value	Gifted for the enjoyment of people of Stroud and still enjoyed by them today. As well as daily use by residents and workers for recreation or pleasant walking route, also used for community events such as Stroud Fringe Festival.
Date of inclusion	June 2017

With thanks to Stroud Preservation Trust – www.stroudpreservationtrust.org.uk

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