

Thrapston District Historical Society:

The Society was established in 1965 to preserve the history of Thrapston District and its inhabitants.

Its activities include monthly meetings on local and family history, visits to local and national heritage sites, organising exhibitions and the development of a digital archive which includes oral history. Details can be found at:

www.thrapstonhistorysoc.co.uk.

Publications:

A selection of local publications available from "Forget me Not" card shop, 53 High Street, Thrapston include:

"In the Springtime of their Lives" by Eric Franklin and Eddie Sewell.

"Forget me Not 1914 - 1921" by Eric Franklin.

"One man's memories of the early 20th Century" by George Essex compiled by Eric Franklin.

"Thrapston Harriers, the early years 1907 - 1914".

Copies of Strapetona, the magazine produced by Thrapston District Historical Society.

Other guides and reference books can be found in Thrapston Library.



Bridge Street Station 1907



THRAPSTON HERITAGE

Visit us at: www.thrapstonheritage.org.uk

Contact us at: thrapstonheritage@gmail.com

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THRAPSTON HERITAGE



We are a small group of volunteers who strongly believe our local heritage should be preserved for future generations. Our aim is to collect relevant information and make it available to everyone who is interested in finding out more about the history of Thrapston and the surrounding villages.

A grant from Heritage Lottery Funding has enabled us to build a website which is our on-line Heritage Centre. All the information that we collect will eventually be displayed on this website.

Visit us at: www.thrapstonheritage.org.uk

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Nine Arches Bridge Thrapston

A brief history of the area:

The earliest known history of the area dates back to late Bronze/ early Iron Age with a mini-fort (c 700 – 800BC). Two significant Roman roads crossed here (c 100AD) with a possible minor settlement.

An Anglo-Saxon cemetery has been found and Thrapston was the location for a Norman Castle c 1090AD.

In 1205AD Baldwin de Vere, the Lord of the Manor, was granted a charter for a market by King John, in return for two palfreys (small riding horses). The Charter is still celebrated in June every year, when the annual “Charter Fair” is held in the High Street.

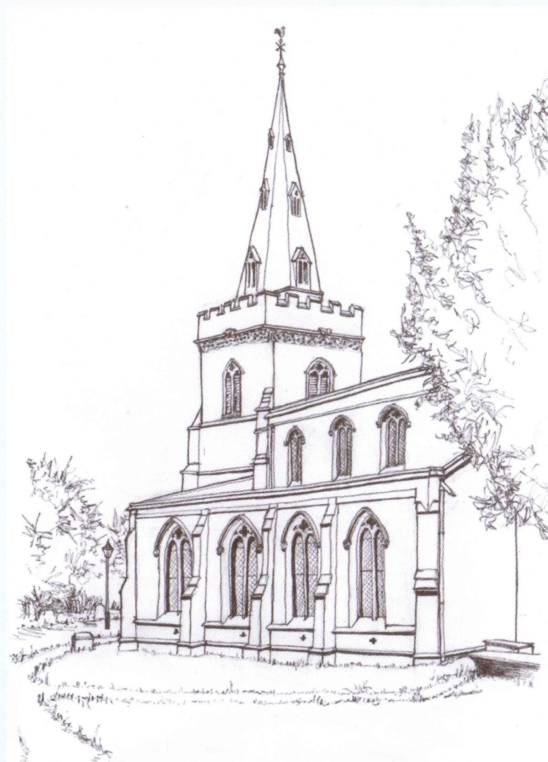
The earliest part of St. James’ Parish Church dates from the mid-13th century although the monks from the Abbey at Bourne in Lincolnshire came to Thrapston around 1133AD.

The River Nene between Northampton and Peterborough has been navigable since 1761, bringing trade to the local area.

During the late 18th/ early 19th century many of the Inns in the area were associated with stage coach travel between the major cities offering fresh horses and refreshment for the passengers.

Sand and stone have been extracted locally over the centuries and by the early 19th century a number of small iron foundries were being established. The Nene Side Ironworks had humble beginnings in the 1850’s but became one of the town’s major employers with an international reputation until it closed in the late 1980’s. The Iron Furnace at Islip was opened in the 1870’s and continued to produce iron ingots until the 1940’s.

Two railways crossed in Thrapston. The London and North Western Railway (Northampton to Peterborough) which opened in 1845 passed through Bridge Street Station and the Midland Railway (Kettering to Huntingdon and Cambridge) which opened in 1866 passed through Midland Road Station. They closed in 1964 and 1959 respectively and with the last passenger train leaving Bridge Street Station on 4th May 1964.



St James’ Church Thrapston

300 Club:

The main source of funding for Thrapston Heritage is currently through our 300 Club. A £20 annual subscription gives members four chances each month to win a cash prize.

Prize money over the year amounts to 40% of the income. The remaining 60%, less minimal expenses, is donated to Thrapston Heritage.

On the Road:

Thrapston Heritage exhibits at the annual town’s Charter Fair in June and sometimes arranges exhibitions in conjunction with Thrapston District Historical Society.

Occasional roadshows are held in local villages to promote Thrapston Heritage and encourage the gathering of information in the area.

The map shows our particular area of interest and we welcome contributions of photographs, memories, documents etc. from local residents and those living further afield.

