

Street Lighting	
Historic Building	Thematic survey
Street furniture – street lighting	LLHA0255
	
	
	
	
	
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Description:	
<p>Street lighting in the form of gas lamps arrived in 1816 in London. There followed a proliferation of cast-iron gas lamp posts in a prodigious range of designs. Early examples in Brighton & Hove were at the Old Steine in 1824 following the laying of mains. Electric street lighting was the product of the Victorian period, from about 1879 in London and in Brighton from the 1880s, firstly at the Royal Pavilion. Mains were laid in Brighton & Hove in the 1890s but they largely enabled electric lighting internally, except for the 1890s electric lighting columns on Brighton seafront. The transition to electricity for street lighting was very gradual; in 1919 there were still almost 2,000 gas street lights in Hove whilst as late as 1938 there were still c100 gas lamps in Brighton.</p>	
<p>Original surviving gas lamp columns can generally be distinguished by the presence of an electrical junction box addition at the top of the column. Most of the surviving purpose-built electric lighting columns were erected in the 1920s and 1930s or later. This followed the founding of the Brighton Lighting and Electrical Engineering Co. Limited (BLEECO) in 1921, who took on the contract to modernise street lighting in Brighton and Hove. They also designed the 'swan neck' lanterns common from this time.</p>	
<p>There are five main types of standard cast iron street lighting column in Brighton & Hove, plus a few rarer types, including the much larger seafront columns (of which the Brighton ones are statutorily listed). Of five main types, two were designed as gas lamp columns. (column types 1 and 4) and two were designed as electric lamp columns and are much more common (column types 2 and 3). Very rare are the early type 5 column, which appears to be a gas lamp column, The type 6 electric light column in Hove is much rarer than the other electric column types. In addition some rare examples of other patterns survive but the known historic examples are statutorily listed. The main types are</p>	

described as follows:

Column type 1 - Octagonal, panelled socle serves as a base for octagonal tapering shaft, panelled to match base, simple coved capital. Only found in Brighton. Moulding detail varies. Some have a nameplate from a Brighton foundry.

Column type 2 - Square plinth chamfered to an octagon with ribbed surface decoration, slender tapering shaft of clustered columns, calyx or bell capital. Manufactured by J Every of Lewes. Mostly found in Hove.

Column type 3 - Cylindrical socle with lockable compartment, often marked BLEECO but sometimes with the Brighton Borough crest; fluted, tapering shaft topped basket capital. Found in Brighton and Hove. Designed by BLEECO. Often manufactured by J Every of Lewes.

Column type 4 - Straight-sided post cast as fluted and tapering Tuscan column rising from a cylindrical impost block, single maintenance arm topped by plain cylindrical impost. Only found in Brighton.

Column type 5 - Square base with broached corners, fluted column, two ladder arms, leaf capital. Makers name stamped on base. Only found in Brighton.

Column type 6 – Wide circular base with concave socle, circular projecting band with Tudor roses and egg and dart moulding below, topped by tapering fluted shaft with acanthus pattern to swelling foot and twin maintenance arm. Makers plate shows cast in Brighton. Almost exclusively found in Hove.

Column type 7 - A further type of early electric lighting column is seen only in the historic public open spaces on Valley Gardens, having been installed in the 1920s following the redesign of the gardens by Captain MacLaren. These were designed by BLEECO.

Column type 8 - On the seafront in Hove there are distinctive tall electric lighting columns dating from 1923 and manufactured by J Every of Lewes (though three were replaced in the 1990s when new double lanterns were fitted at the eastern end).

Column Type 9 - A gas lamp column with narrow circular panelled socle serving as a base for a fluted tapering shaft and twin maintenance arms. Known to have been used in parts of Hove. Only one known surviving example.

A Architectural, Design and Artistic Interest	
i	Designs for cast iron lighting columns patterns in the 19 th century had local and regional distinctiveness.
ii	Cast iron street light columns were designed in a variety of patterns, often quite complex and ornate.
B Historic and Evidential Interest	
ii	Historic cast iron lighting columns, together with historic lanterns, help to illustrate the rapid growth and social change in Brighton & Hove in the second half of the 19 th century. Brighton & Hove were also early and enthusiastic adopters of electric lighting.
C Townscape Interest	
i	Cast iron street lights, particularly where they survive as a group in streets and squares, contribute very positively to the historic street scene in conservation areas.
iv	Historic street lights can be of particular interest when viewed in association with notable listed buildings or formal groups such as listed squares, crescents and terraces, as well as in historic parks and gardens.
E Rarity and Representativeness	
i	There are over nearly 5,000 remaining cast iron street lights in Brighton & Hove and therefore a degree of selectivity is required based on relative rarity and heritage context. In recent

	<p>decades there has been a fashion for historicist lamp posts, sometimes using modern castings of old designs, and care needs to be taken when establishing genuine 19th or early 20th century examples.</p>
Criteria for inclusion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rare cast iron column patterns in conservation areas that are not one of the main types, unless it appears that they are examples of historicist replacements - Surviving examples of type 1, type 4, type 5 and type 6 columns in conservation areas, where known and identified. - Groups or rows of type 2 and type 3 columns where located in formal streets, squares, crescents or terraces of listed buildings or where associated with a notable listed building or historic open space. <p>Additionally, the survival of original swan neck electric lanterns will be taken into consideration.</p>

The known locations of street lighting matching the above criteria are itemised on the list below and are included on the local list. This will be added to if further rare examples come to light.

Location	Type and Number
Bedford Square, Brighton	Six type 3 columns
Belgrave Place, Brighton	Three type 3 columns
Belton Road, Brighton	One type 1 column
Brunswick Street East, Hove	One type 2 column
Chapel Mews, Hove, outside St Andrews Church	One type 2 column
Chester Terrace, Brighton	Three type 1 columns and one type 4 column
Church Hill, Patcham	Six type 3 columns
Crescent Road, Brighton	Two type 1 columns
Cross Street, Hove	Three type 2 columns
Clifton Terrace, Brighton	Six type 3 columns
College Road, Brighton	One type 1 and one type 5 column
D'Aubigny Road, Brighton	One type 1 column and one type 4 column
Dyke Road, St Nicholas churchyard paths	One rare variant of type 1 column, and 6 type 3 columns
East Drive, Brighton	Two type 4 columns and one type 5 column
East Street, Brighton	Four type 3 columns
Eaton Gardens, Hove	Six type 6 columns
Edburton Avenue, Brighton	One type 1 column and two type 4 columns
Farman Street, Hove	Two type 2 columns
First Avenue, Hove	One type 6 column
Fourth Avenue, Hove	Three type 6 columns
Gloucester Road, Brighton (west end)	Rare variant of type 1 column
Goldstone Villas, Hove	Very rare type 9 gas lamp column (ladder arms missing)
Greenways, Ovingdean	Type 3 column in front of Ovingdean Grange
Havelock Road, Brighton	Four type 1 columns
Kingsway / Kings Esplanade / Western Esplanade Hove	Fifty Seven type 8 columns
Lewes Crescent, Brighton	Six type 4 columns

Lucerne Road, Brighton	Two type 4 columns
Marine Square, Brighton	Eight type 3 columns
Mayo Road, Brighton	One type 1 column
Middle Street, Brighton	Two type 3 columns
New Steine, Brighton	Ten type 3 columns
Norfolk Square, Brighton	Four type 3 columns
Old Steine gardens, Brighton	Thirteen 1920s electric light columns
Oriental Place, Brighton	Four type 3 columns
Palmeira Square, Hove	Ten type 2 columns
Pelham Square, Brighton	Five type 3 columns
Powis Square, Brighton	Three type 3 columns
Princes Crescent, Brighton	Four type 1 columns
Princes Road, Brighton	Four type 1 columns
Queens Park, Brighton	Eight type 3 columns
Regency Square, Brighton	Sixteen type 3 columns
Richmond Road, Brighton	Five type 1 columns
Round Hill Road, Brighton	One type 1 column
Round Hill Street, Brighton	One type 1 column
Southdown Road, Brighton	Three type 4 columns
The Level, Brighton	Twenty seven 1920s electric light columns
Third Avenue, Hove	One type 6 column
Upper Market Street, Hove	Five type 2 columns
Victoria Gardens, Brighton	Twenty 1920s electric light columns
Waldegrave Road, Brighton	Five type 1 columns
West Drive, Brighton	Two type 4 columns
Westbourne Place, Hove	One type 6 column
Westbourne Villas, Hove	Four type 6 columns

Not included, as do not meet the selection criteria:

Location	Type and number	Reason for not including
Beacon Hill, Ovingdean	Type 2 columns	These are a common type of column and they are not associated with any listed buildings.
Belton Road	Type 3 column	This is a common type of column and is not associated with any listed buildings.
Chester Terrace, Brighton	Two Type 3 columns	These are a common type of column and they are not associated with any listed buildings.
Dyke Road, St Nicholas Churchyard, Brighton	Type 3 column in south-east corner	Due to its location this one has no townscape value and little relation to the historic churchyard or the listed church.
Florence Place, Brighton	Type 2 column and Type 4 column	A common type of column and is not associated with any listed buildings. Type 4 column is already statutorily listed grade II.
Holland Road, Hove	Nine Type 2 columns	These are a common column type and are not associated with a group of listed buildings.
Lansdowne Square, Hove	Six columns of unique pattern	These are late 20 th century replacement columns with bolted base plates and there is no evidence that they were based upon a historic pattern.
Lucerne Road, Brighton	Four Type 3 columns	These are a common type of column and they are not associated with any listed buildings.
Norfolk Square, land to	Iron lantern	This has evidential and historic interest only

rear of 47-52 Western Road	bracket	
Southdown Road, Brighton	Type 2 column	This is a common type of column and is not associated with any listed buildings.
St Aubyns, Hove	Eleven Type 2 columns	These are a common column type and are not associated with a group of listed buildings.
Waldegrave Road, Brighton	One Type 2 column and one Type 3 column	These are a common type of column and they are not associated with any listed buildings.
Wykeham Terrace	Two cast iron lamp columns on pillars to the boundary wall of Wykeham Terrace	These are covered by the statutory listing for the Terrace and wall and therefore local listing is unnecessary.