Why Gloverstone?

For centuries, the township of Gloverstone, within the city walls, had a special status; it was outside the jurisdiction of the city authorities and under the protection of the crown. This gave those residing there the freedom to trade within its boundaries, without the requirement to be Freemen of the city. It also provided sanctuary for 'foreigners' and, as time passed, it attracted inhabitants from all social classes whose trades spanned most occupation groups.

Amongst these, in the late seventeenth and throughout the eighteenth century, settled a group of skilled clockmakers. Some were born locally, but most were incomers who chose Gloverstone as their first point of contact with the city. Many remained there all their lives.

Our book covers the location of this now lost township and its history. It delves into the lives of many of the clockmakers who laboured there, making clocks which have survived the ravages of up to three hundred years and which will continue to mark the passage of time while people remain interested in these amazing survivors of early technology. Almost fifty clocks made in Gloverstone are described and illustrated, mostly in colour.



