

ST PAUL'S SQUARE/HOLGATE ROAD

Conservation Area No.4 (6.7ha)

Introduction

The conservation area was designated in 1975. St Paul's is York's only formally laid out square, and dates from the 1850's. The development was planned around a private open space in the ownership of the surrounding residents. The garden consists of a large grassed area, surrounded by hedges and mature deciduous trees. The residents have plans to recreate a Victorian garden within the square.

History

All the properties in this conservation area date from the mid 19th Century. They grew up on the road linking York with the hamlet of Holgate, and the village of Acomb. Recent development proposals have been minor apart from an approved scheme to 'fill in' the gap site in the square with two replica terraced houses. A facsimile design was considered appropriate in the context of the 'complete' Victorian character of the square.

Important Buildings

St Paul's, Holgate Road, was constructed in 1850 to a design by J.B. and W. Atkinson. All the properties in St Paul's Square and many of the villas dating from the mid-nineteenth century in Holgate Road are listed.

Character

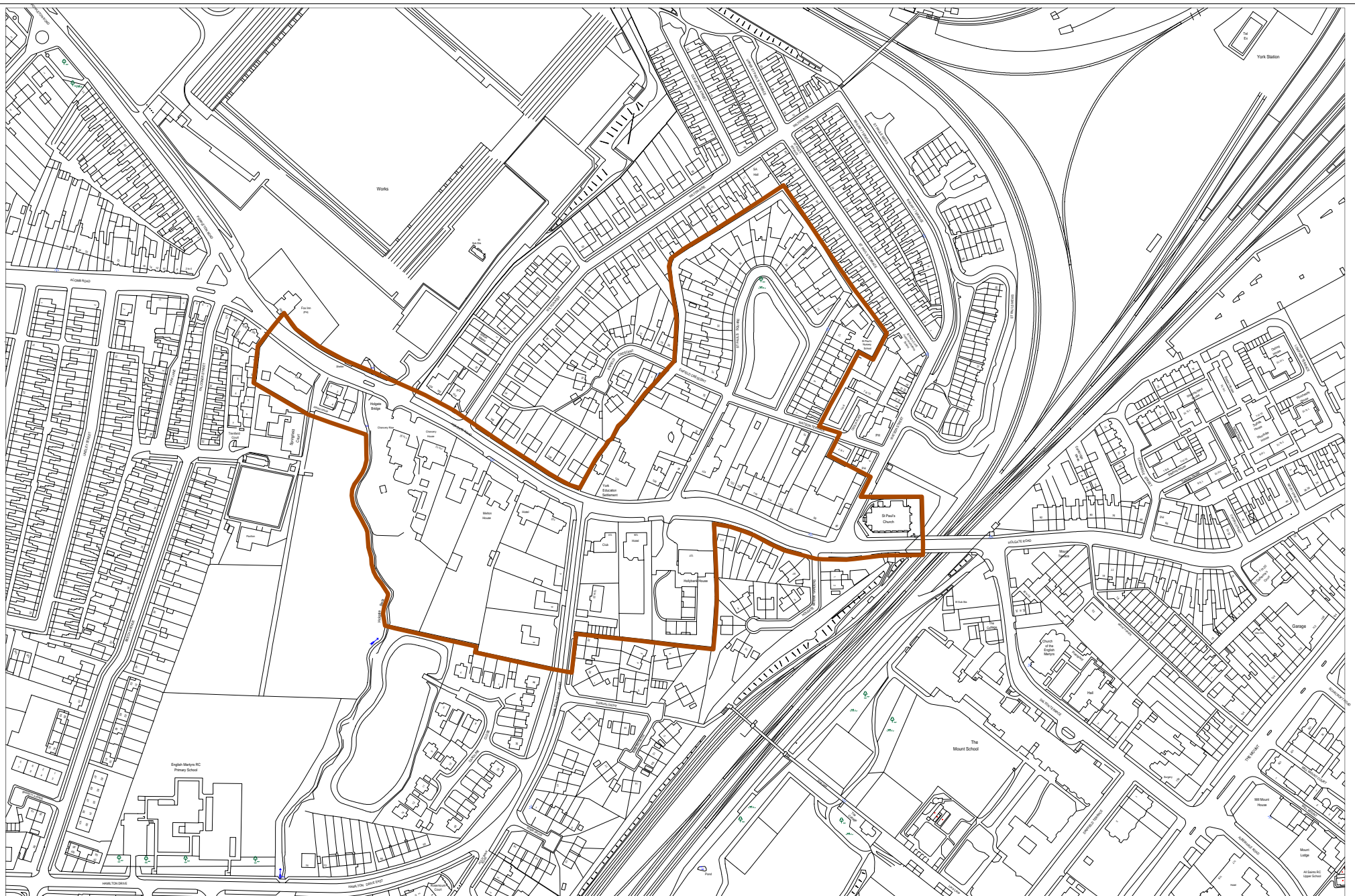
Large terraced houses predominate, most are of three storeys, with tall bay windows on the ground floor. They are formal urban properties, in contrast to the earlier buildings of a rural character found in Acomb and Dringhouses.

St Paul's Square is in fact more of a horseshoe, with a crescent on two sides, a straight terrace on the third side, and high brick walls completing the strong sense of enclosure. The houses are two and three storey terraces of cream and reddish brown brick, with wooden sash windows and slate roofs. Of equal importance is the open grassed area, surrounded by mature trees and railings

The uses are predominantly residential dwellings with some hotel and other 'institutionalised' residential uses on Holgate Road.

The main elements of the character and appearance of the area are:

- (1) it contains York's only formally laid out square, and dates from the 1850's
- (2) natural materials predominate in the floorscape, and the properties have retained their original cast iron railings;
- (3) the houses are formal urban properties, in contrast to the earlier buildings of a rural character found in Acomb and Dringhouses;
- (4) Holgate Road is a linear Victorian residential development of architectural interest;
- (5) the effect of the long curving hill, which is distinctive in York, on the streetscape of Holgate Road (that is, of unfolding itself slowly to the eye).



9, St Leonards Place, York, YO1 2ET
Telephone: 01904 613161

Conservation Area No. 4
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Area is 7ha.



SCALE 1:2500
Originating Group

Draughting & Presentation

Project DATE 15/1/2001
DRAWN BY JB

Drawing No.
CON 4