

ACOMB

Conservation Area No.3 (14.5 ha)

Introduction

The Acomb Conservation Area designated in 1975, combines the earlier (1968) Front Street and Acomb Green Conservation Areas. Acomb is one of three villages (the others being Middlethorpe and Dringhouses) which were incorporated into the City of York in 1917.

History

Acomb is of ancient origin, having been a property of the Cathedral Church of St Peter, York (York Minster) before the Norman conquest. It was separated from the City by large open fields, and the open grazing areas of Knavesmire, Hobmoor and Bishopfields. Rapid housing expansion in the post war period has largely obliterated all but a few traces of the former open fields – aerial photos show traces of ridge and furrow near Askham Lane. The Area of Archaeological Importance enclosing the small designated conservation area, reflects the boundaries of individual ‘tofts’ along Front Street. Acomb was a popular village in the 14th Century, with over 70 households included in the poll tax returns of 1379.

Important Buildings

Two 15th Century houses in Front Street, may once have been one house, are the oldest buildings in Acomb and the only remaining complete timber frame structures. Acomb Primary School is a more recently Listed Building. It was designed in 1894 by Walter Brierley, who designed a number of other listed schools in York. St Stephen, York Road, by G T Andrews, was built in 1834. Acomb House, Front Street, is mostly mid-Georgian with a two-storied mid-projection: the top storey is later.

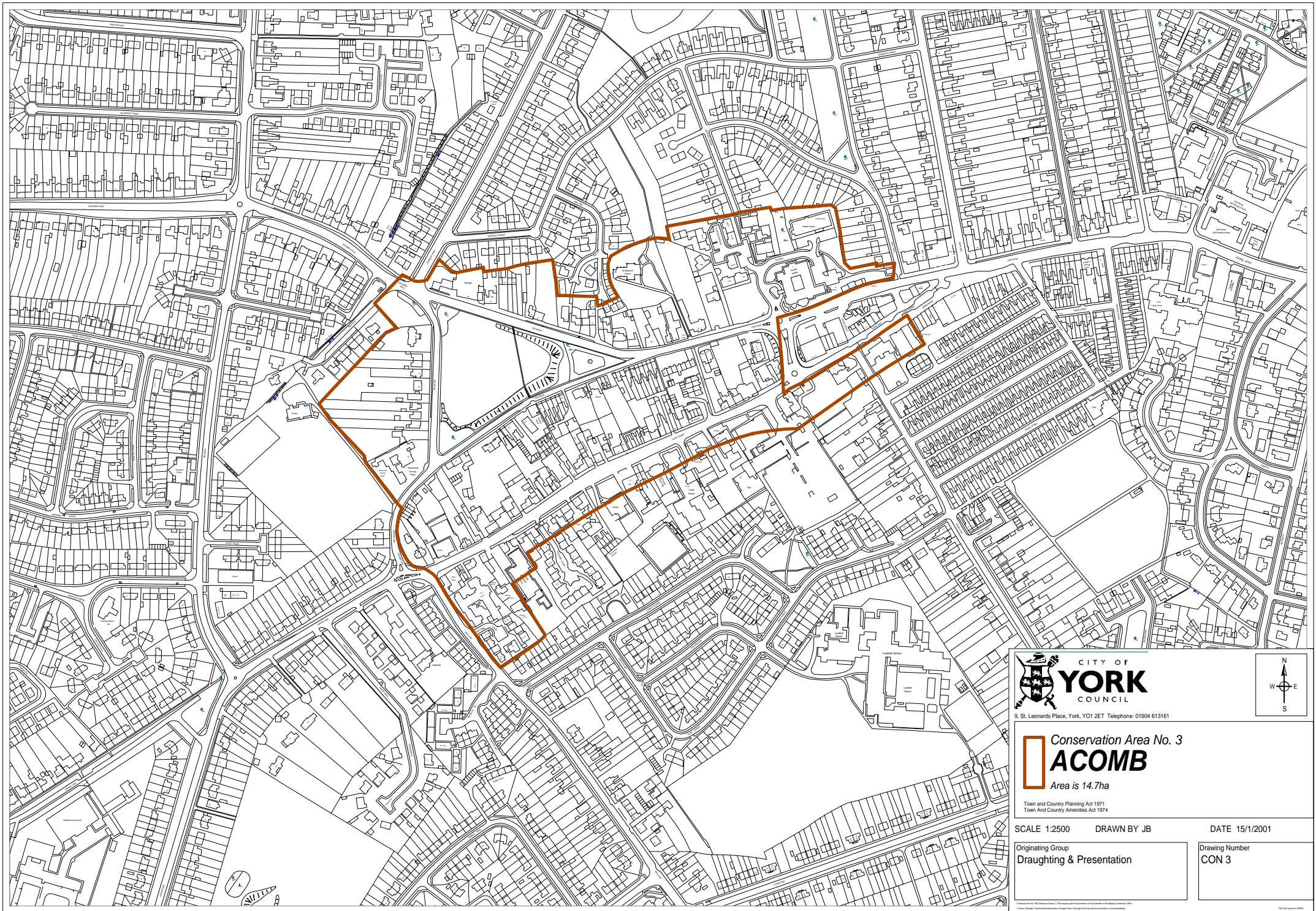
Character




The Green retains its open village character. Although it is now surrounded on all sides by largely 19th Century development, it continues to form an important amenity space in this built up suburban area. It is one of the few areas in York where the changing contour of the ground adds to the interest of the scene with the church dominating the horizon. The scale of development around the green is of two and three storey buildings

Acomb Front Street also retains something of the village main street, despite being bisected by recent road improvement. There are several distinguished 18th Century buildings although much of the architecture is domestic in both scale and character. Acomb House, surrounded by a low wall and railings, adds some small scale formality to the townscape.

The main elements of the character and appearance are:

- (1) Acomb Green, with its open village green character
- (2) Acomb Front Street, as the village main street.
- (3) The interest generated by the topography of the area.



 <p>CITY OF YORK COUNCIL</p>		 <p>N W E S</p>
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<p> Conservation Area No. 3 ACOMB Area is 14.7ha</p>		
<p>Town and Country Planning Act 1971 Town And Country Amenities Act 1974</p>		
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