

## **TADCASTER ROAD**

### **Conservation Area No. 9 (32.3 ha)**

#### **Introduction**

The Tadcaster Road Conservation Area follows the main York to London Road from the Mount, past the former gallows (marked by a stone engraved 'Tyburn') through the settlement of Dringhouses. For much of its passage it is lined by mature trees, and there are extensive views across the Knavesmire (part of Micklegate Stray) to the racecourse stands and Terry's factory in conservation area number 10. A number of 'boundstones' (10<sup>th</sup> Century and earlier) mark the ancient boundary of York close to Hobmoor. Dringhouses was in fact outside the City boundary until 1937. The conservation area was designated in 1975.

#### **History**

Tadcaster Road sits astride a morainic ridge which runs across the Vale of York. This geology led to the formation of a route which linked the pre-Roman communities of the Wolds and the Pennine foothills. The present road diverges from the line of the Roman road to the south of Dringhouses, and then runs roughly parallel to it. There are Roman burials nearby, indicating the presence of a possible Roman villa.

The Medieval Manor of Dringhouses was in the ownership of the Archbishop of York. A surviving manor map 1629 (the earliest large scale map of any part of York or its surroundings) shows individual farms or tofts, and the three surrounding open fields. Until enclosure in 1835 the fields were cultivated in strips, in conjunction with common grazing on the Knavesmire. Broad ridge and furrow strips are still visible to the east of Tadcaster Road, and in Dringhouses. Even though much of the area that was formerly open fields has now been developed, some hedges and roads preserve the line of the original furlongs. Some remnants of the agricultural nature of the settlement remain in the pinfold to the south of Dringhouses and the herdsman's cottage near the entrance to the Knavesmire. Two Listed Buildings were farmhouses formerly, and a barn is attached to the cottages at 33-35 Tadcaster Road.

Until 1850 Tadcaster Road was the only built up street in Dringhouses, a long street settlement which stretched out over a mile. The earliest surviving buildings date from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century -a number of cottages and the former Manor Farm (now divided into 2 houses). The Cross Keys Inn, although of early 18<sup>th</sup> Century date, replaced an Inn that was in existence in 1250. During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century there was gradual encroachment of development from the City of York. By 1833 four large villas had been built (now 300 -306 Tadcaster Road). In the 1840's the terrace of townhouses on Mount Vale was completed. Further infilling has taken place right through to the present, a mixture of suburban villas and semi-detached houses. Two outstanding properties, both listed, were designed by Walter Brierley, one for Noel Terry (of Terry's Chocolates), the other for the architect himself. Both additionally retain gardens laid out by notable garden designers of the day.

#### **Important buildings/gardens**

St. Edward, Tadcaster Road, was designed by Vickers and Hugill in 1847, in the Decorated style. Bishopbarns, by Walter Brierley, was built in 1905 with a garden by Gertrude Jeckyll. Goddards is a large picturesque brick house designed by Brierley in 1926 and built in the Tudor Style; the garden here was by George Dillistone. There are a number of large Victorian villas on Tadcaster Road and Edwardian houses on St George's Place.

#### **Character**

Today there are still indications of the formerly separate identity of Dringhouses. There are glimpses of the original village and the church, village school (now Dringhouses library) and inns cluster around the crossroads. The mature trees which line the road and exist in many gardens are a distinctive part of this area and the core characteristic is that of a typical village street.

Whilst the Knavesmire provides significant separation from the expanded City, the Herdsman's Cottage at Mount Vale marks the entrance to the Knavesmire, with the entrance to the stray defined by kissing gates and farm gates set into the white metal fence.

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

- (1) the linear form of the original village with buildings lining the long village street;
- (2) the mature trees at the roadside and in private gardens;
- (3) long views out across the Knavesmire and towards Terry's factory;
- (4) the large villas in their own grounds along Tadcaster Road.

## **THE RACECOURSE AND TERRY'S FACTORY** **Conservation Area No 10 (18.2 ha)**

### **Introduction**

This conservation area was designated in 1975, It included the racecourse buildings and Terry's chocolate factory which are sited on the Knavesmire, the northern part of Micklegate Stray. The majority of the conservation area lies within the City of York Green Belt.

### **History**

The first race was held in 1731, but it was not until 1752 that the City approved the lease of land for a permanent stand.

Although all that remains of that first stand is the lower storey, recreated in the paddock earlier this century, it has a special historic significance. In a limited architectural competition the design of John Carr, then mostly known as a good stone mason, was chosen over that of other popular architects of the day (including James Paine). It was this commission that launched him upon his fashionable career as one of the most successful provincial architects of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, bringing him to the notice of the nobility and gentry, many of whom became his patrons. The elegant County Stand of 1834 is overshadowed by the redbrick tower of Terry's Factory, built on higher ground adjacent to Bishopthorpe Road.

In 1926 Joseph Terry and Sons relocated their long established confectionary business from the City Centre to a greenfield site. The building was designed by J.G.Davis and L.E.Wade.

### **Important Buildings**

The lower part of John Carr's grandstand, now incorporated into the Guinness Bar, and the County Stand at the racecourse are Listed Buildings, new grandstands have been built since the 1960's.

Terry's Bishopthorpe Road works is a large neo-Georgian industrial building with a clock tower disguising the chimney. It is built in brick and buff coloured stone

### **Character**

The landscape is open with good long views both into and out of this conservation area. Looking from Tadcaster Road, the buildings cluster in one corner of the Knavesmire, which has the appearance of a large urban parkland.

Terry's Clock Tower and adjacent factory buildings, located as they are in the Green belt, are a significant landmark when approaching the City from the south. From the racecourse and Terry's there are views towards the large number of mature trees lining Tadcaster and Knavesmire Roads, and within the gardens which back onto the Stray.

These buildings, defined as the Conservation Area, are of special importance because of their parkland setting (that is the racecourse and the stray) within the City of York Green Belt.

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

- (1) A cluster of buildings set in open landscape;
- (2) The buildings of both Terry's Factory, especially the clock tower/chimney, and the racecourse grandstands rising out of their parkland setting in the York Green Belt;
- (3) The open views across the Knavesmire from Terry's Factory and the racecourse towards Tadcaster Road with its mature trees and the gardens backing onto the Stray.



Conservation Area No.9  
**TADCASTER ROAD** Area is 33ha.  
Conservation Area No.10  
**THE RACECOURSE/TERRY'S FACTORY**  
Area is 18.5ha.

Towns and Country Planning Act 1971, Town and Country Amending Act 1974

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