

Market Drayton

Conservation Area Appraisal



Area 9

The Church is set above Church Street in a large churchyard, which provides a pleasant green area in this built up part of town. Perched on top of a sandstone bluff, it affords excellent views over the Tern Valley towards Pell Wall Hall. The street itself consists of rows of small 1½ to 2 storey cottages on the North West side South of the junction with St. Mary's Street. After this junction, the character changes as large buildings are set back in grounds on the South West side, with some burgage plots and enclosed gardens on the North Eastern side. This is a very quiet area, a great contrast to the centre of town just around the corner.



Traditional building materials

Timber framing with render or brick infill, orange/red brick, clay tiles, good survival of original shopfronts, windows and doors.



Market Drayton is an area of special architectural and historic interest.

The character and appearance of the town contributes towards its preservation and enhancement.

For further details on living in a conservation area please contact the conservation section for our guidance documents or visit our section of the website to find out more:

www.northshropshiredc.gov.uk

01939 238433

conservation@northshropshiredc.gov.uk

Area 3

Great Hales Street has a strong feeling of enclosure, mostly due to the high walls with fields and gardens behind. Street width is only wide enough for one car and the area is quiet, peaceful and very green. It forms a well used through route to the Grove School, a large secondary school outside the boundary of the conservation area.

Area 4

The Eastern end around the Roman Catholic Church is open and bungalows sit on large plots of land. The approach up the hill from the West to the town becomes more densely developed and the area has high status town houses with cottages infilling the gaps between them. A strong sense of enclosure is prevalent although the area has particularly large and long plots which stretch southwards down the hill towards the Tern valley.

Area 5

Phoenix Bank is a clear entrance to the town on the A529 Newport to Nantwich Road. It is sparsely populated and enclosed by trees on the East. The road rises sharply up beneath a high red sandstone bluff, affording views of the West tower of the Church which Pevsner described as the 'Stadtkrone'.

Area 6

Newport Road follows the flood plane of the River Tern. It is characterised by few houses in large plots. Love Lane provides a pedestrian route to the higher part of town from the Walkmill Road housing estate.

Area 7

Shropshire Street is a busy road into the town centre with a number of large coaching inns. Timber framing is still evident in places here and evidence of more is visible beneath later alterations. A number of large Georgian brick houses straddling large plots dominate the streetscene. Many of the houses date from the 17th century and have 18th and 19th century alterations. The built up character of the street is lost around Warren Court, a Georgian house and Coachhouse set back from the street, behind a large, bland car park. Improvements could be made here.



February 2008

North Shropshire District Council

Market Drayton Conservation Area

Key

- Listed Buildings
- Important unlisted Buildings
- Conservation Area Boundary
- 1,2,3,4 Character Areas
- Important Views

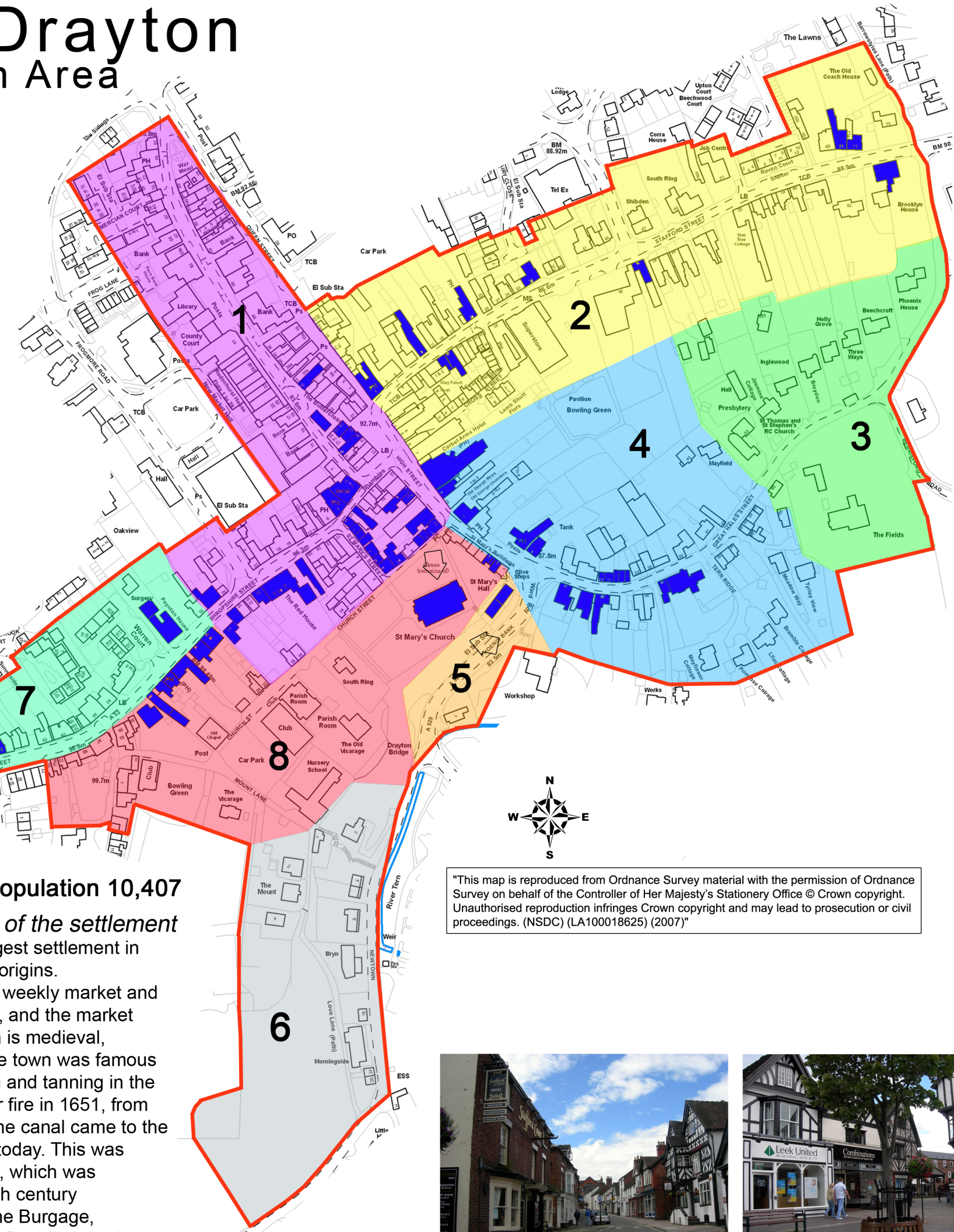
This leaflet has been specially produced to outline the designated conservation area in Market Drayton.

It defines the special architectural and historic characteristics of the town.

Designated May 1973 Population 10,407

Origins and development of the settlement

Market Drayton is by far the largest settlement in North Shropshire. It has Saxon origins. A charter for the town to have a weekly market and annual fair was granted in 1245, and the market continues today. The street plan is medieval, fanning out from the church. The town was famous for glovemaking, leatherworking and tanning in the middle ages. There was a major fire in 1651, from which few buildings survived. The canal came to the town in 1835, and is still in use today. This was followed by the Railway in 1863, which was accompanied by large scale 19th century development of the town into The Burgage, New Street and Prospect Road. By this time, the town was hosting huge damson and cheese markets.



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Defining the special architectural and historic characteristics in areas.

Area 1

Comprised of parts of Cheshire Street, High Street and Shropshire Street and is the main shopping area in Market Drayton. There are a number of 'High Street' stores here, including Boots, WHSmith, Iceland and Woolworths. Their corporate style of advertisements and signage have a detrimental effect on this area. The buildings are 18th and 19th century in character and were previously often town-houses in which shopfronts have been inserted at ground floor level. They range from 2½ to 3 storeys and provide a strong feeling of enclosure, especially at the junction of the three streets.

Cheshire Street hosts a large weekly street market which spreads Eastwards from the Buttermarket building at the West end of the street and was also the site of the medieval market place. There are some late 20th century municipal buildings which allow space leakage in Cheshire Street particularly the library and Court buildings. From Shropshire Street the vista up quiet St. Marys Street ends with the Grade II* listed Church of St Marys, set in a large amount of open ground with views looking down on the South of the town. Eastwards from the junction where Shropshire Street meets Frogmore Road, space leakage at the car park has a detrimental impact on the conservation area.

Area 2

Stafford Street is one of the main routes into the town centre, before the bypass was constructed, as it was the A53 Shrewsbury to Newcastle road. This part of town, away from the hub of the High Street and Cheshire Street, is more suburban in character and there are 19th century villas around the junction to Smithfield Road. Most of this area consists of rows of 2 to 3 storey town houses. There is a distinct leakage of space around the supermarket and garage in the centre of this area as they do little to address the street.

