



Derby City Council

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# Derby Conservation Areas

## Strutts Park



## INTRODUCTION

The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires Local Planning Authorities to determine areas of special architectural or historic interest, 'the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. These areas are called Conservation Areas.

Derby is a city of considerable historic interest and architectural merit with a range of streets and buildings spanning many centuries. In an effort to conserve important elements of our built heritage, the City Council have designated fifteen such areas. The City Centre and Friar Gate Conservation Areas are at the heart of the city centre. Seven are based on aspects of Victorian Derby (Railway, Arboretum, Little Chester, Strutts Park and Hartington Street, Highfield Cottages, Leylands Estate, Nottingham Road) and the remaining five are focused on former village centres (Darley Abbey, Mickleover, Spondon, Allestree and Markeaton). This document outlines the history and mentions some of the exceptional buildings contained within one of these areas.

There are legal requirements and constraints which apply to Conservation Areas which do not apply elsewhere and the City Council therefore must pay special attention to the 'character' and 'appearance' of these areas when exercising its planning powers. This is a positive process in which a continuing effort is being made to control the nature and scale of change.

With the exception of certain buildings, no building in a Conservation Area can be demolished without consent from the Local Authority. This is enforced to maintain some of the more ordinary buildings that nevertheless contribute a great deal to the character of the area. An application for Conservation Area Consent must be made separately from any application for planning permission for redevelopment of the site.

There is also special protection for trees within designated Conservation Areas and anyone wishing to cut down, lop, top or uproot such a tree, must, with limited exceptions, give six weeks' notice to the City Council of their intention. This is to allow the authority an opportunity to formally inspect the tree and decide, in the interest of public visual amenity, whether it is appropriate to make a Tree Preservation Order.

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# Strutts Park Conservation Area



*St Helen's House, St Helen's Street*

Strutts Park was designated as a Conservation Area in November 1991. The area was originally part of the Darley Hall estate until 1766, when the land to the north of Bridge Gate was purchased by John Gisborne. It was the Gisbornes who built St Helen's House, to the design by Joseph Pickford. This splendid building (Grade I listed) has an excellent stone-faced Palladian façade, and a giant portico detailed in the Ionic Order. More recently, it became St Helen's Grammar School and is now a Community Education Centre.

The Strutt after whom the area was named was William Strutt FRS (1754-1830), who purchased the land from Thomas Gisborne in 1803. The Strutts proceeded to sell much of it, including in 1826, some land off Darley Lane. It was on this land that 1-16 North Parade was built, a fine row of stone faced houses with classical door cases; these houses are Grade II listed.

Most of the development behind St Helen's House, known as the Derwent Park Estate, took place in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Edward Street was built in the 1840; North Street and Henry Street in 1850's; Belper Road, Ruskin Road and Chevin Road were laid out in 1879 but not actually built until the 1890's.



*145 Duffield Road*

Duffield Road was widened in 1881, and the resultant raised pavement on the east side was decorated with dressed masonry, chain links and cast iron bollards; this is now Grade II listed. Building took place piecemeal along Duffield Road, and a number of villas were built in the 1890 and early 20<sup>th</sup> century in a number of styles: Renaissance, Gothic, Vernacular revival and one, 145 Duffield Road, built in the 1930's International style.

Belper Road was laid out in 1890, which gave rise to the Five Lamps island (so named when the 5 bracketed lamp standard previously outside the Royal Hotel in Cornmarket was moved there).

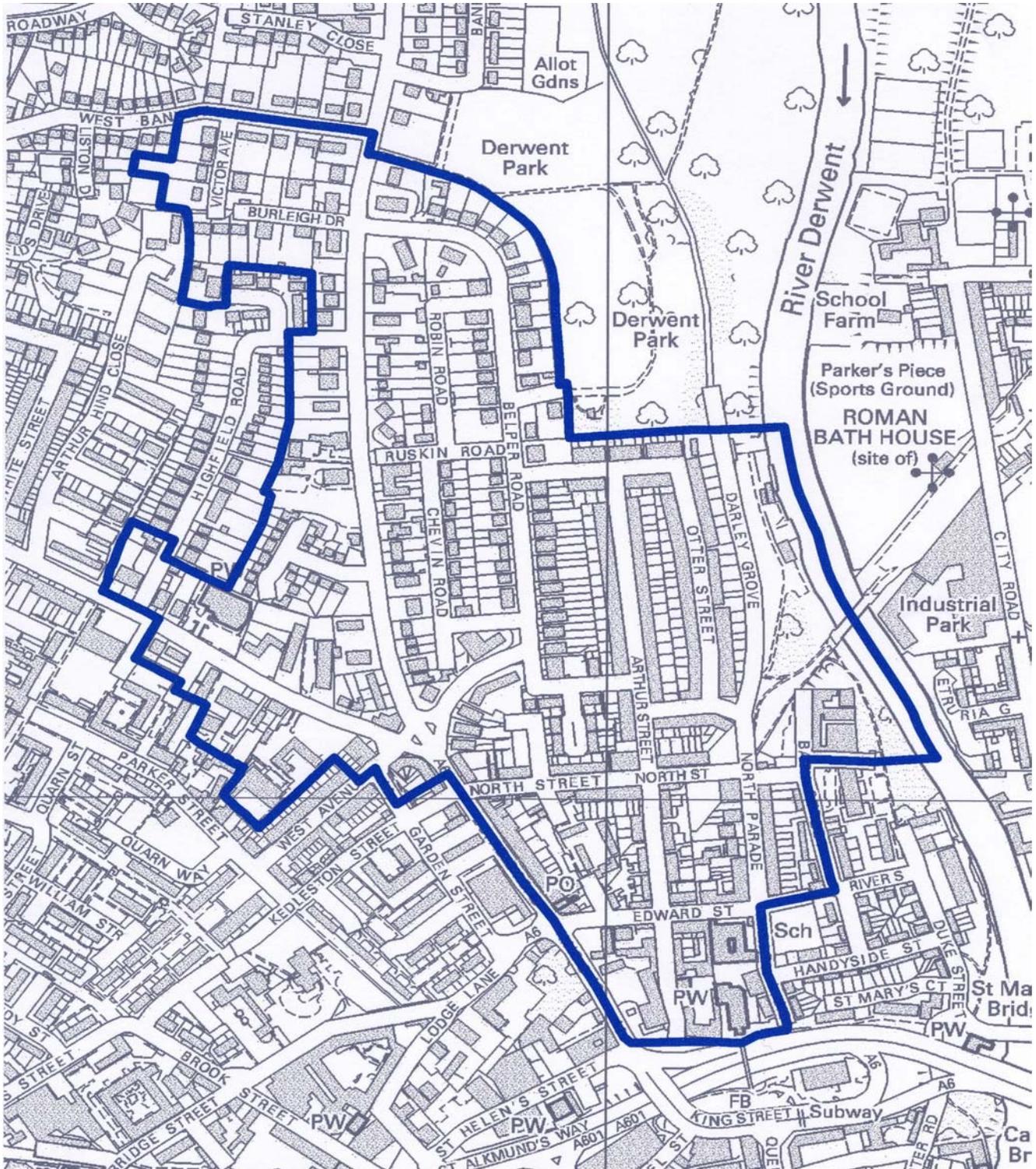
There are a number of buildings of note within the Conservation Area. After St Helen's House, the most important is St Mary's Church on Bridge Gate. This was built in 1838 by Augustus Pugin (1812-1852). Pugin was an architect of international influence and the leading light of the Gothic revival, perhaps best remembered for his work on the Palace of Westminster.



*Houses on North Parade*

A church in a completely different style is St Alkmund's on Kedleston Road. This was built in the late 1960 as a replacement for the 19<sup>th</sup> century St Alkmund's, demolished to make way for the ring road of the same name. Of interest are the modern stained glass panels designed by John Hardman.

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