

Zone 2 - Dig Street

Dig Street appears to be a corruption of *ditch street*. It is possibly on the line of a shallow tributary rivulet connecting into the Henmore Brook. At the junction with Church Street/St John's Street the 1550 map shows a cross. Although long since removed it is possible that its footings may still survive as an archaeological deposit beneath the present road surfaces.

Being slightly narrower than Church Street, Dig Street did not attract the larger townhouses and is therefore on a more diminutive scale than Church Street. The majority of the properties are constructed from red brickwork with sash windows and clay tiled roofs. Unlike Church Street nearly every property on Dig Street has a shop frontage making it primarily a commercial street.

The Royal Bank of Scotland is located on the corner of Dig Street and St John's Street. Although a relatively plain building its rounded brick corner is an important architectural contribution to the street and is a good example of how a building can turn a corner in a sensitive and harmonious way. The building dates from the later 18th century but the ground floor has been altered in the early 20th century to suit the purposes of a bank.



Royal Bank of Scotland – late 18th century

Adjacent to the Royal Bank of Scotland is a four-storey building, two bays wide. In its height this is a prominent building within the street scene. It dates from the later 18th century and has multi-paned sash windows. The shop front is modern (2006) although parts of the fascia and pilasters are older (possibly late 19th century). The current shopfront was based on a photograph taken in the early 20th century.



No.6 Dig Street (prior to new shopfront being installed)

On the opposite side of the road to No. 6 are two properties both dating from the later 18th century. No.9 is the Delicatessen and has two projecting bay shopfront windows possibly dating from the early 19th century with collonette pilasters and an original decorative fanlight over the door. The shopfront is of particular architectural and historic value as being a surviving example of a shopfront from the early 19th century. The building itself is of red brickwork with sash windows and a tiled roof.



No 9 Dig Street



Detail of No. 9 Dig Street

Adjacent to No. 9 is No. 11, this has an unusual corner shop, most probably inserted in the later 19th century. The property is rendered and painted and has original late 18th century 6 over 6 and 3 over 3 sash windows.



No 11 Dig Street

The majority of the remaining properties on Dig Street all appear to date from the mid-late 19th century. These are all constructed in brickwork with sash windows. Dig Street does have an example of a first floor canted bay window (above 'Avanti' – No 15-17). This particular property also has a small gablet with decorative painted bargeboards and finial. It is most probable that the central first floor window above 'Nigel's' (No 21) was originally

another canted bay window which has been removed and reformed to form a plain sash window.



No 15-17 Dig Street



No 21 Dig Street

An historical characteristic of Dig Street is the number of gennels and alleyways leading to yards and buildings to the rear of the street frontage properties. These are open, in the form of a brick archway or are closed with a painted timber door.

Dig Street displays three modern brick built commercial properties, all dating from the 1980-90s. Although they are constructed from brickwork they have little architectural merit in terms of fine decorative details and craftsmanship that can be found in most of the existing, historic properties.



No 23-25 Dig Street



No 1-7 Dig Street (part)



Hood's Yard

At the lower end of Dig Street is the Coach & Horses PH. This dates from the early 20th century and is in an architectural style that is reminiscent of the English vernacular revival. As a piece of architecture it relates more to the type of buildings in the south of England rather than mid

Derbyshire. Its stylistic characteristics are the tall brick chimneys, the hipped, tiled roofs, the general asymmetry of the elevation/composition and the multi-paned casement windows. It also contains an example of horizontal timber cladding – a wall treatment very uncharacteristic to the building tradition of this part of Derbyshire.



Coach & Horses PH

The present Conservation Area includes the historic stone bridge over the Henmore Brook and extends to include the Lloyds TSB Bank. This is housed in what was originally a fine town house constructed from ashlar stone with brickwork to the sides and rear. The property was designed by Joseph Pickford of Derby and dates from c.1780. The ostentatious display of architectural elements to the central block includes Venetian windows, a pedimented doorcase and sash windows set within blind arcading. It is most probable that the wings to each side of the main block are later additions – that to the right being earlier than that to the left. The brick chimneystacks have been altered and reduced.



Lloyds TSB Bank