

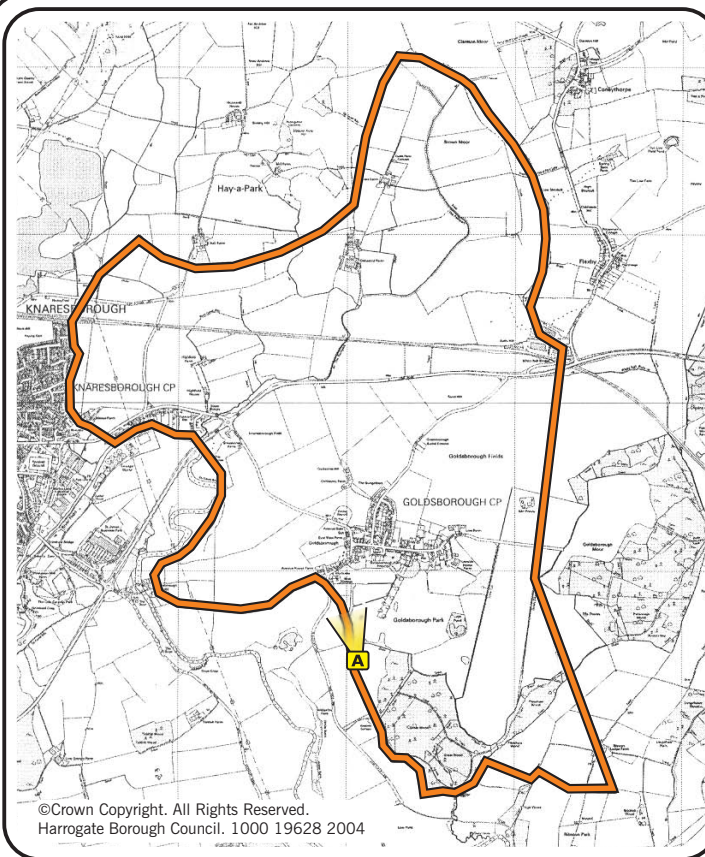
AREA 67

Approved
Feb 2004

A View of the western fringe of Goldsborough.



Goldsborough and Ribston Park



HARROGATE DISTRICT Landscape Character Assessment



Not to
Scale

* NB Due to the nature of landform, surface treatment and soil/geology composition Character area boundaries cannot be delineated precisely and should be considered "transitional".



Description

This moderate to large-scale area covers 7.4km² and lies to the south east of Knaresborough north of the River Nidd.

Landform gently undulates as it rises gradually to the west along the Magnesian limestone ridge which blocks views of Knaresborough (except for the spire of Holy Trinity Church).

Land use is diverse, with arable fields, woodland and parkland. Large cereal fields have hedgerow boundaries which are neglected and fragmented and individual tree cover is sparse beyond the village edge and parkland. In contrast, parkland at Goldsborough is scattered with trees and blocks of woodland. Tree cover, combined with the topography, restricts views and results in a partially-enclosed landscape. Two parallel ditches drain the low-lying area south east of Goldsborough through Great Wood and eventually into the Nidd to the south.

The main settlement, Goldsborough, is in the centre of the Character Area and is set among trees and parkland. Being in close proximity to Knaresborough with a good network of minor roads and footpaths, the area is easily accessible.

Pylons and new development on the edge of the village do detract from views in an otherwise attractive landscape, distinctive due to tree and woodland cover combined with landform and pattern.

Key Characteristics

Geology, soils and drainage

- Sherwood sandstone solid geology overlain with silt and clay, sandy till and till and gravel drift geology.
- Slowly-permeable, seasonally waterlogged, fine loamy and fine loamy over clayey surface water gley soils.

Landform and drainage pattern

- Landform gently undulates between 28m and 50m AOD.
- Straight drainage ditches drain the area including two ditches, New Cut and Great Dike, which drain the low-lying area to the east of Goldsborough south through Great Wood where they meet a small, naturally meandering, water course before joining the Nidd.
- Kiln Ponds and Leys Ponds are two water features within Goldsborough Park.
- Frogmire Dikes and The Rampart plus small network of ditches along field boundaries.

Key Characteristics (Cont'd)

Land use, fields, boundaries, trees and wildlife

- Land managed for arable production, grade 2 agricultural land.
- Goldsborough parkland managed as grassland, scattered with parkland trees plus an area of marsh.
- Medium to large fields bound by hedges.
- Sparse woodland except for around Goldsborough Park, and to the south most notably Great Wood.

Settlement, built environment and communications

- The main settlement is Goldsborough and Goldsborough Hall.
- The A59 York Road and Harrogate-to-York railway line cross the area on an east to west axis.
- Minor network of roads radiate away from Goldsborough providing connections to York Road and Knaresborough.
- Knaresborough Round public footpath passes by south west Knaresborough.

Sensitivities & Pressures

- The area is important to the setting of the Registered Historic Park and Garden at Ribston. In particular the parkland at Goldsborough links with that at Ribston Hall and changes to this may be detrimental to setting.
- New development on the edge of Goldsborough has impacted on the appearance of the village in the landscape. Pressure for further residential development in the area is likely to result in further change.

- Noise from the A1(M) to the east, in the adjacent Character Area, impacts upon the tranquility of the area.
- Disappearance of woodland reaching maturity through lack of management.

Guidelines

Aim: To conserve the setting of the Historic Park and Garden at Ribston.

- Promote woodland management to maintain and enhance the woodland setting north of Ribston Park. Encourage awareness of parkland and veteran trees and their value to the landscape.
- Strengthen existing woodland matrix to enhance character of the area and increase diversity of woodland age.
- Planting along the A1(M) corridor should link with existing woodland and tree cover rather than create a linear feature through the landscape.

Aim: To conserve and enhance diversity of landscape pattern.

- Native woodland planting can be used to integrate settlement with the wider landscape and define settlement limits in keeping with landscape character.
- Hedgerow and tree management provide important elements to accentuate landform and increase diversity. Encourage appropriate management to ensure long-term future and promote the planting up of gaps.