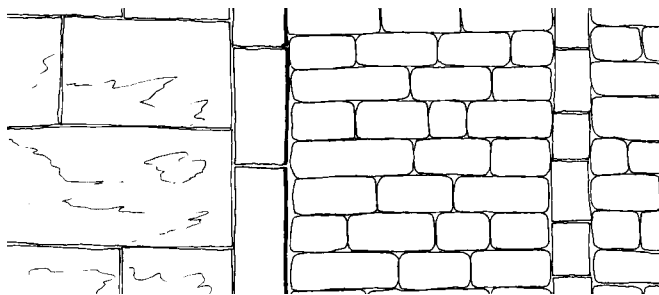


DoE Circular 8/87 states that ‘the floorscape often makes a vital contribution to the character of a conservation area. The District has 52 Conservation Areas varying from Harrogate in a spa town, to Ripon in a Cathedral city. Every effort should be made to retain or reintroduce the traditional surfaces e.g. natural stone paving or setts wherever possible. If the introduction of new surfacing materials is unavoidable, the texture or colour should be sympathetic to the setting.’

Plan view of typical traditional road materials used in combination:

Footway:	Kerb:	Roadway:	centre:
York stone flags	York stone kerb block (or channel)	York stone blocks (also known as 'Cobbles')	York stone setts to delineate centre line, parking bay etc.



Street improvements in historic areas (English Heritage, 1993) provides comprehensive guidance, which is summarised below:

- identify original street form, pattern, visual quality and materials through townscape analysis and historical research;
- consider the entire historic environment including the relationship between height of buildings, width of footways and total width of street - sometimes the footway forms a visual plinth for the buildings;
- design for pedestrians and those with disabilities as well as vehicles;
- resist clutter of signs, street furniture and traffic calming devices - speed can be reduced and local character conserved by using cobbles or stone setts;
- simple, low key design solutions such as keeping original kerbs and resurfacing existing footways are often preferable; tarmacadam is cheaper and often less intrusive than block paving;
- respect the scale, materials, details and pattern of locally traditional paving;
- try to use natural materials appropriate to the area; ensure artificial materials are high quality and match traditional materials as closely as possible;
- choose tactile paving to blend with surrounding materials, e.g. by adding brass studs to paving flags rather than using red pimple blocks.

In Harrogate District, traditional road materials are:

field cobbles: rounded russet-brown field cobbles left by glaciation in Vale of York fields; originally used for yards and roads in the Vale of York and on the Limestone Ridge e.g. stable yard at Ribston Hall, farm track at Green Hammerton, yards in Knaresborough, St. James Square and Hall Square in Boroughbridge



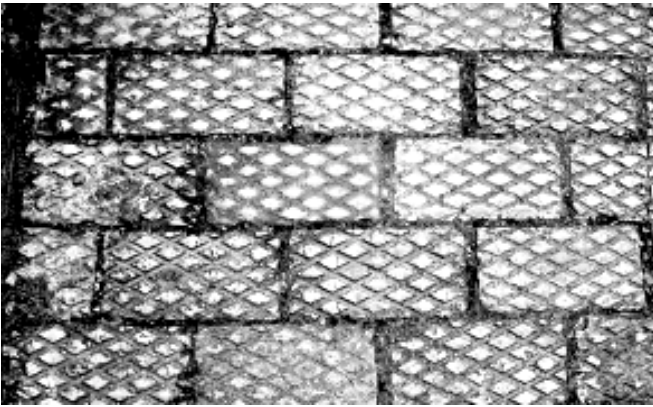
Field cobbles and Yorkstone flags with Yorkstone kerb

Yorkstone blocks ('cobbles') and **Yorkstone flags:** buff-coloured Gritstone quarried from the Dales Fringe and Gritstone Uplands; originally used for roads, yards and footways in the Dales Fringe and Gritstone Uplands but also used on the Limestone Ridge e.g. Low Harrogate, Ripley Castle (Dales Fringe), Knaresborough Market Place (Limestone Ridge)



Yorkstone flags and Yorkstone blocks ('cobbles')

(engineering) bricks, stable blocks: brought in by canal and later by rail and used in certain locations such as old side streets in Ripon and Knaresborough



Stable blocks



Blue engineering bricks, Ripon

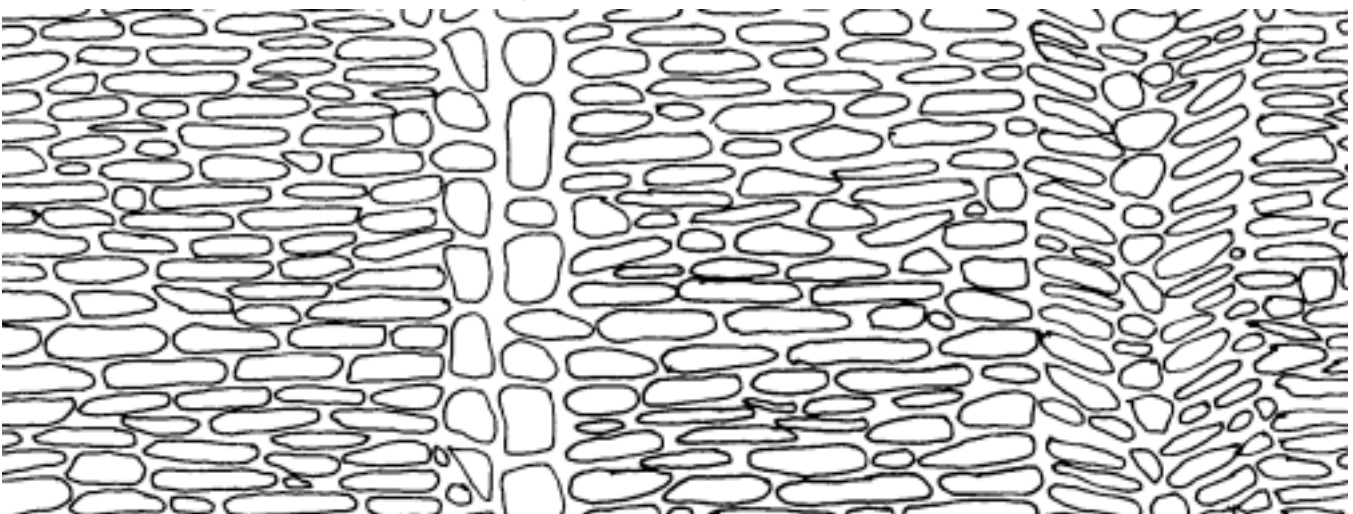
paving bricks: made from clay dug from Vale of York fields; originally used in yards and drives in the Vale of York and Limestone Ridge e.g. Boroughbridge.

Individual traditional paving units vary noticeably in size: this variation creates a random appearance even within a strong laying pattern of bands or rows - as shown in the sketches of *Field Cobble Paving (below)* and *Yorkstone Paving (prev page)*.

Modern paving materials include:

- natural stone flags and setts
- concrete blocks and setts
- clay pavers and engineering bricks.

Plan view of field cobbles used for trackway and channel:

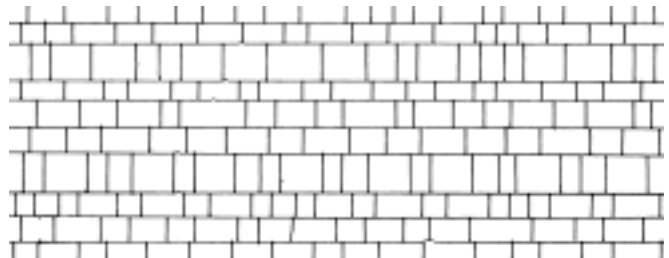


Centreline:

Dished channel:

Where local natural materials are used within a Conservation Area, these will normally be a good match for existing paving. However, if new paving materials are required, their colour and texture will need careful control: "Yorkstone" varies in colour, texture and porosity from quarry to quarry and even within a quarry. Yorkstone with a high proportion of red banding will not normally be appropriate within Harrogate District, where the traditional stone is generally a more uniform buff colour.

Artificial materials such as concrete blocks must be high quality and match traditional materials as closely as possible in colour, texture, size and laying. Colour and pattern varies not only according to manufacturer and product, but also within a product - every batch of concrete is slightly different. Size of modern paving units is uniform and lacks the 'hand-made' variations of traditional materials, although certain products are available in a range of widths and lengths to create laying patterns that appear less regimented.



Concrete block paving of different sizes: Beulah Street,