

Matlock Bank

Conservation Area Appraisal

2. Origins & Development

- Topography & Geology
- Historical Development



ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT

Topography and Geology

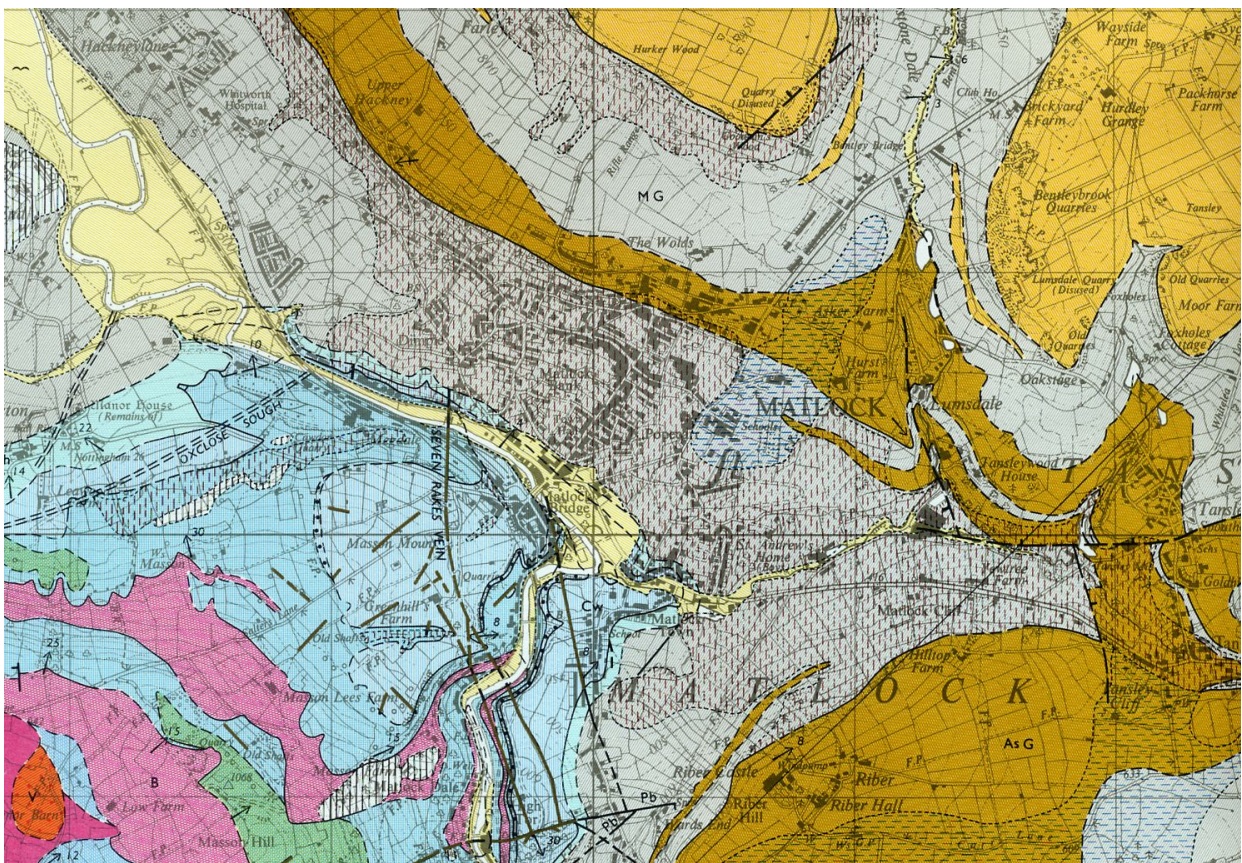
Matlock Bank lies on the south-west facing hillside of the Derwent River valley, rising to 302 metres (over 1,000 feet) at the highest point on Matlock Moor. The topography allows dramatic long range views across the valley from almost anywhere within the Conservation Area, with Riber and Masson hills as the main natural landmarks. The southwest facing bank shelters the settlement from north and east winds.

In parts where the hillside is at its steepest, development has been sparse, in particular in the north west part of the conservation area below Cavendish Road. The steepness can be appreciated by ascending Rockside Steps or the footpath leading past the rocky Jackson Tor outcrop up to Cavendish Road. Roads tend to run either along contours of the hill, permitting easier development along a level streetline, such as Smedley Street, or run diagonally up the hill with plots rising one above the other. Many rows of terraces run along the contours. In some places the topography creates peculiar relationships, such as the terrace at the end of School Road, just outside the conservation area, where first floor windows are at

the ground level of the school yard outside. Similarly, the roof of a cottage on Jackson Road is at the pavement level of Jackson Tor Road above. The impact of the most prominent buildings, in particular Smedley's and Rockside former hydros, are heightened by the form of the land with glimpses of Smedley's (now County Hall) landmark chimney or crowned mansard roof, or Rockside's turrets through gaps between buildings from surprising distances across the conservation area.



The conservation area lies on the southern tip of an area known as the "Dark Peak", a landscape that is characterised by its Millstone Grit outcrops and rolling heather moorland. Above the alluvium (pale



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Pl. 1 Extract from British Geological Survey Solid & Drift Geology Matlock map (Special Sheet)

yellow) of the river valley, is a band of Head, the drift debris from waterlogged soil and rock deposits that moved down the hillside during the last Ice Age and this overlies Middle Grit. Above this, the solid gritstone runs in bands across the contours changing from Middle Grit, to Ashover Grit, then Middle Grit again, with a band of Chatsworth Grit on top of the moor. To the south and west of the Derwent, as shown on the British Geological Survey map, the pinks and blues indicate carboniferous limestone of the “White Peak” and areas of basalt and lava, a complex geology of volcanic activity and an area well-known for its lead mines and rakes. Across the conservation area itself Ashover Grit (indicated in brown) outcrops and was the main source of quarried building stone.

Most of the buildings within the conservation area are built from gritstone, quarried locally. Quarrying and agriculture are some of the oldest occupations in the area. There were a number of quarries locally of varying sizes. Those within the conservation area were quarrying Ashover Grit for building stone; the first Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1876 shows two small quarries labelled ‘Old Quarry’ just north of what later became Smedley Street West, and there is also evidence of a former quarry within the conservation area on the steep wooded area between Jackson Road and Cavendish Road. Matlock Moor Quarry, further afield to the north of Matlock Bank, quarried Chatsworth Grit.

Within the wider area, lead had been mined since Roman times. Beneath Matlock Bank the Dimple mines were worked and a number of ‘soughs’ (drainage tunnels) were created to lower the water table to allow mining to be carried out. One of these, the Allenhill Sough, is known better as Allen Hill Spa, lying outside the conservation area to the west.

Sandersons Map of 1835 shows evidence of Dimple mines to the west of the early settlement, as well as Lumsdale to the east, the site of water-powered industry from at least as early as the 1600s.



Pl. 2 Extract from Sandersons Map, 1835

Historical Development

Early Development

The earliest reference to Matlock was as ‘Mestesforde’ (Matlock Bridge) in the Domesday Book (1086), understood to mean the ford crossing the river, which later became the site of the stone bridge. The entry lists one lead mine and may have included the wooded hillsides at Matlock Bank. The area around Matlock Green was called ‘Meslach’ and was attached to the manor at Matlock Bridge.



Pl. 3 1795 engraving of Matlock, around Matlock Bridge looking downstream with Ribber Hill in the distance

At that time it is unlikely that there was any development on Matlock Bank. The first reference to Matlock bridge was as “pontem de Matlock” in c. 1250, and Matlock Bank was first referred to in 1662, when it was called “Mattlock bank”. The meaning of the name ‘Matlock’ itself is thought to have meant ‘oak where the moot was held’. ‘Moot’ was an early name for an assembly of people for judicial or political decision making, and it is interesting that Matlock Bank is also a centre for local politics today.

On Matlock Bank itself, before the development of the hydros and associated development, there was very little, other than a scattered settlement of agricultural workers, framework knitters, cotton mill hands, miners and tradespeople. There were also a number of small quarries in this area, at the

200 metre and 260 metre contours, which is likely to be the main reason for this localised concentration of early development.

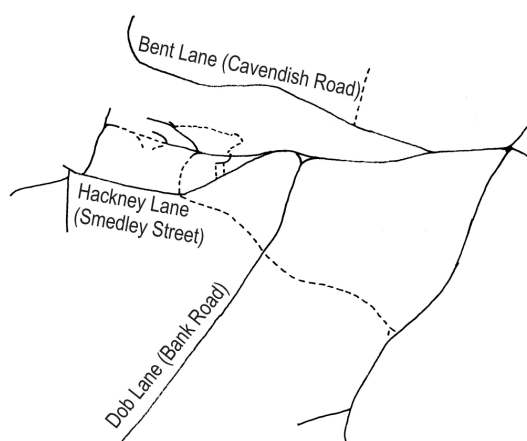
A 1759 map shows Matlock Bank as a development to the north of what is now called Wellington Street and Smedley Street (known at that time as Hackney Lane). The route from the bridge up to this settlement, now Bank Road, was also indicated. The Matlock Enclosure map of 1784 includes this original Matlock Bank settlement as well as Far Green, which still exists today although most of the buildings shown on the enclosure map have disappeared and the plots redeveloped or abandoned. This area, in the north-west of today's conservation area, based around Jackson Road is characterised by a layout of small irregular "islands" of development with roads or tracks running around them. This pattern can also be found in other parts of Derbyshire where there was localised quarrying, from the 17th and 18th centuries, such as the Puzzle Gardens in Wirksworth. It is most likely that, given the steep terrain, the 18th century settlement at Far Green was entirely related to quarrying the Ashover Grit, which outcropped in a long feature, close to the surface. The roads tend to run along the contours of the steep hillside or at an angle to minimise the gradient. Paths and tracks tended to run straight down the hillside and were often stepped. The buildings appear to be typical north Derbyshire, wide frontage, narrow depth cottages, running along the contours or at a corner of a plot – either detached or in short terraces of two or three. The regular enclosure fields acted as property boundaries well into the 20th century. Behind this sparse settlement were small narrow fields also running along the contour line up to the exceptionally steep hillside below Bent Lane (now Cavendish Road). This area is still largely undeveloped, within private gardens to properties on the south side of Cavendish Road.

Roads themselves have changed names; for example, Carson Lane changed to Rutland Street, below which Dob Lane became Bank Road, Hackney Lane was changed to Smedley Street, and Bent Lane to Cavendish Road.

The first map to cover the entire area is the 1848 Tithe Map (see Figure 4). Small areas of development probably dating back to the 18th century and outside the Jackson Road area can be spotted by their irregular "island" layout such as at the top of Woolley Road and Dimple Road, on the south side of Wellington Street just before its junction with Bent Lane (now Cavendish Road), and on the west side of Chesterfield Road. By this time Old Hackney Lane had been extended to meet

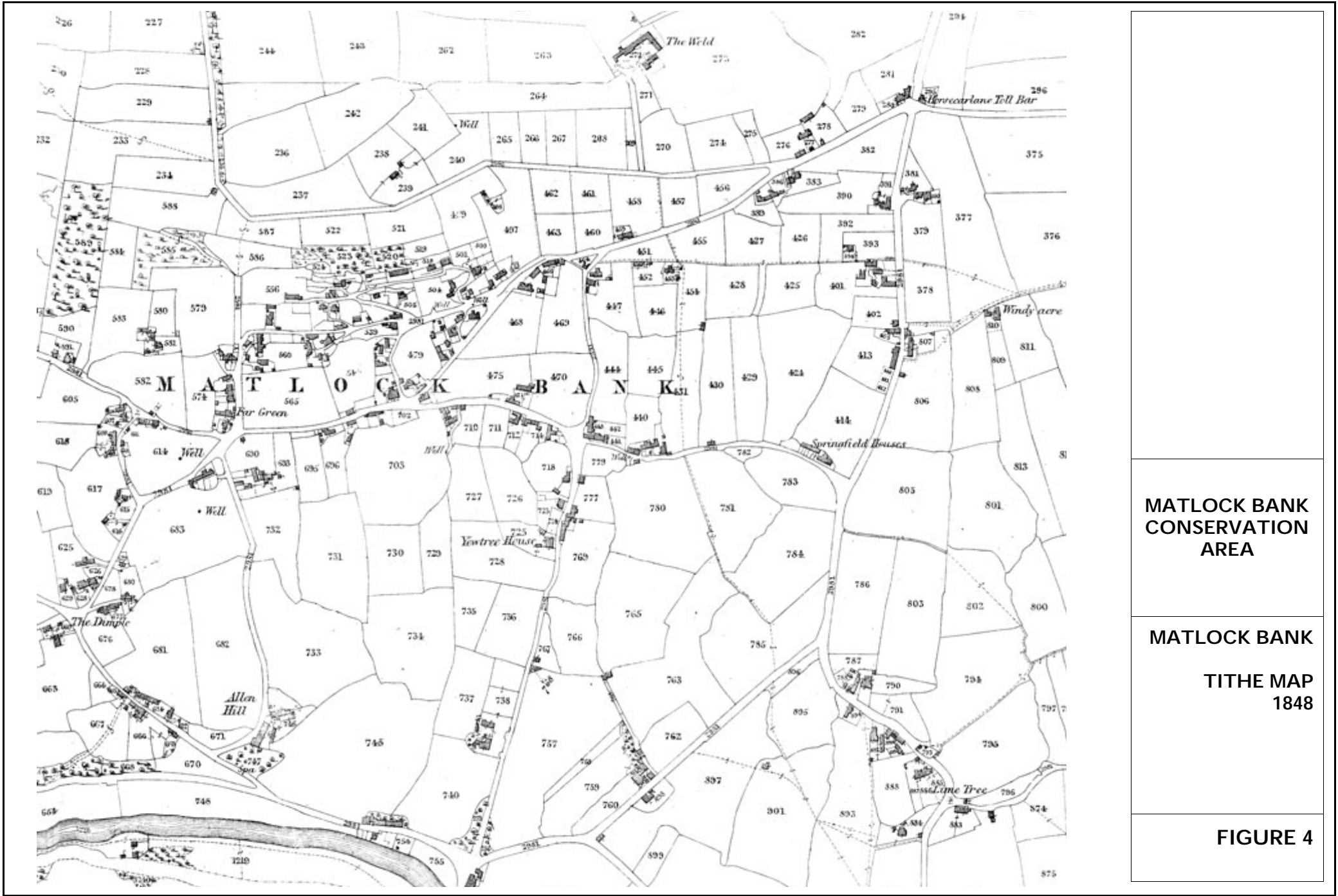
Dob Lane (Bank Road) and then continued to meet Chesterfield Road (all now called Smedley Street). The roads now known as Chesterfield Road and Steep Turnpike existed at this time (the 1823 Chesterfield to Matlock Turnpike). The Duke of Wellington Inn had been built at the junction of Bent Lane and Chesterfield Road, opposite the site of the toll bar. Development along these new roads was still sparse and appears to have consisted mainly of cottages. The most prominent buildings were Bridge Hall, now a small part of the Town Hall on Bank Road, 'The Terrace' off Woolley Road and the house now called Bidston – which has passed through a variety of names – including Balmoral House (1880) and Castle View (1899) – on the north side of Bent Lane (Cavendish Road). Generally, the area was still agricultural in nature with the fields below the original line of Wellington Street tending to be larger and more regular than in the original "Matlock Bank" area. Although there were several fairly large landowners their holdings were dispersed and this affected the character of the town in the latter half of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century as development tended to be piecemeal with some areas still remaining undeveloped.

This sketch indicates the earliest routes, documented in the 18th century, which are still in existence today, shown as solid lines, and additional routes developed by 1848 (as shown on the tithe map), shown as dotted lines. The old road names and those by which they are now known are also given. Further minor routes around the 'island' settlements in the area between Hackney Lane and Bent Lane can be seen in more detail on the Tithe map (Figure 4).



Pl. 4 Indicative sketch of early routes

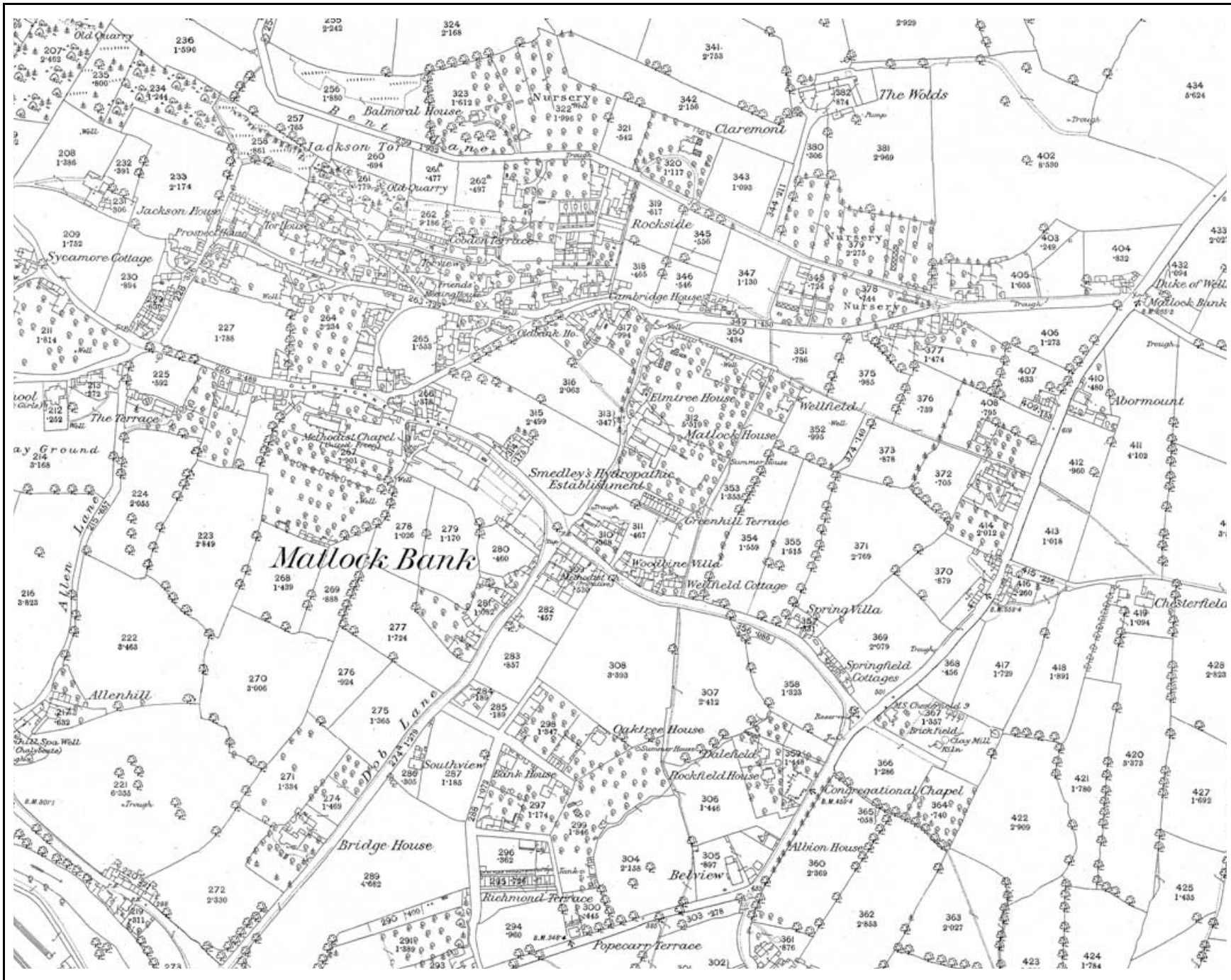
A section of an early footpath can still be traced as a small lane to the west of the Victoria Hall Gardens housing development. This footpath was shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1876, documented to have led in one direction to



**MATLOCK BANK
CONSERVATION
AREA**

**MATLOCK BANK
TITHE MAP
1848**

FIGURE 4

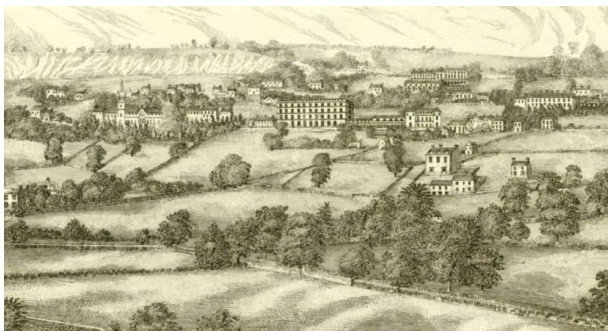


**MATLOCK BANK
CONSERVATION
AREA**

**MATLOCK BANK
FIRST EDITION
ORDNANCE
SURVEY MAP 1876
1:2,500**

FIGURE 5

Matlock Green, and in the other direction along Henry Avenue, across Smedley Street, past Wellfield Cottage and then on to the moors.



Pl. 5 Nineteenth century engraving of Matlock Bank. A quarry can be seen in the Jackson Tor area at the top left hand side of this image.

Development as a centre for hydropathy

Much of the built environment of Matlock Bank dates from the second half of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century, the main period when Matlock Bank developed as a centre for hydropathic treatment.

Matlock Bath, just a short distance down the Derwent valley, was a well-established spa resort and tourist destination, famous for its dramatic scenery and walks, as much as for its spa waters. There is little doubt that the proximity of Matlock Bath and its popularity during the late 18th and early 19th centuries would have been one of the main factors in developing a hydropathic establishment at Matlock Bank, offering complementary cures and attractions to the spa. Hydropathy was similarly developed alongside traditional spa treatments and thermal mineral water at Buxton and other spa towns. The main distinction between the spa treatments and the hydropathic treatments was in the use of the water. Spas used the thermal mineral water for both drinking and bathing. The body could be completely immersed in the naturally tepid water, which arrived at the surface at a constant temperature. The water was also drunk as a remedy. Hydropathic establishments, on the other hand, used ordinary spring water or rainwater, for external application, although drinking plenty of water was encouraged.

The catalyst to this development was John Smedley, born in 1803, son of a hosiery manufacturer, based at Lea Mills. Smedley took over his father's business and in 1819 rented Lea Mills. Suffering from ill health in 1846 he later visited a hydropathic establishment near Ilkley in West Yorkshire and at the same time took on a new faith as a Methodist. After time in Cheltenham, Smedley returned to Lea Mills and opened a free hospital at his mill in 1851.

Smedley was a philanthropist and his employees enjoyed many benefits unusual for millworkers at that time.

John Smedley first opened a hydropathic establishment in Matlock in 1853. Some sources give a Mr Ralph Davis practising hydropathy before Smedley. Davis first started prescribing hydropathy in around 1851, renting accommodation a year later. Smedley came to advise at this establishment and soon after purchased the house and took over as director. Ralph Davis started other hydros at South View Cottage in 1857 and also at the site which became Chesterfield House, now the Presentation Convent on Chesterfield Road with a datestone of 1861. There were several other members of the Davis family who also established hydros in Matlock Bank.

It was certainly Smedley's Hydro that became successful very quickly, and he put up his prices to attract just the well off middle classes and encouraged some of his ex-bathroom attendants to start their own small businesses. This is reflected in the large number of hydros on Matlock Bank, and in the variety of sizes catering for a wide spectrum of society, from the large architecturally dominant hydros to smaller cottage or boarding house properties.

In 1859 Smedley's closed for a period, which allowed other businesses to become established. From the late 1850s there was a vast succession of hydros opening, as can be seen at a glance on Figure 6. The number of hydros and their size continued to grow throughout the 1860s, with many of the older establishments being extended or rebuilt. Smedley's Hydro itself grew rapidly with several phases of extension, continuing after Smedley's death in 1874, and the death of his heir, under ownership of a private company.



Pl. 6 1862 engraving of Matlock Bank with the early Smedley's Hydro

A timeline below also gives a picture of the speed of development of the hydros, alongside other dates of wider national significance.

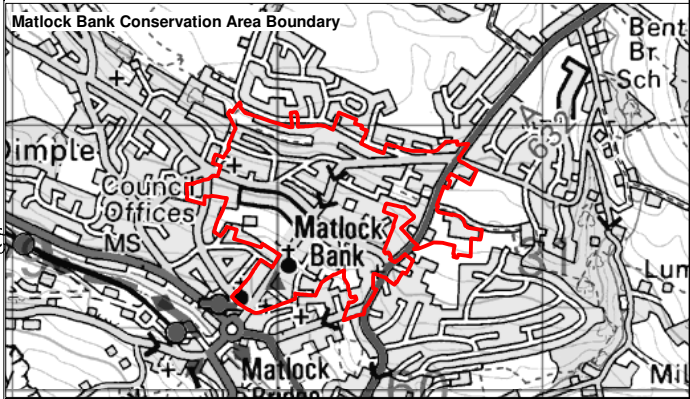
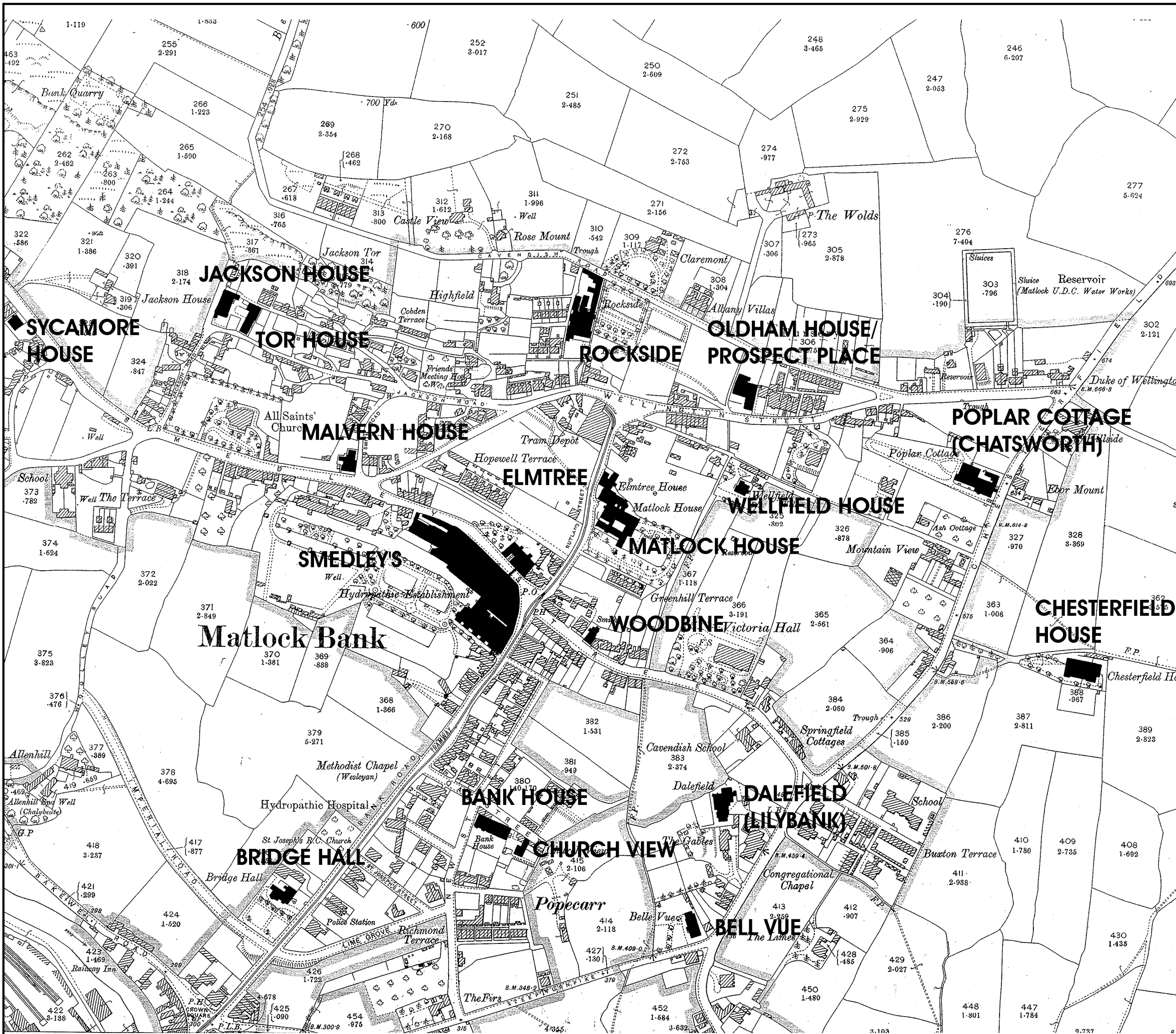
Matlock Bank Hydros Time Line	
National / International Events	Events significant to Matlock Bank
1842 - " <i>Hydropathy or the Cold Water Cure</i> " published, written by R. T Claridge	
1844 - Ben Rhydding hydro opened near Ilkley, which Smedley visited following his illness in 1846	
1846 – Sir John Forbes, founder/editor of the respected <i>British and Foreign Medical Review</i> wrote two reviews in support of hydropathy.	
1848 – Public Health Act - identified the major public health issues of the time & made public health the responsibility of local people	
	1849 – Railway came to Matlock
	1851 – Ralph Davis of Darley Dale began prescribing hydropathic treatment around Matlock, later renting rooms in which to practise.
	1853 – John Smedley opened his hydro
	1857 – Jeff’s Poplar founded (later became Chatsworth Hydro) 1857 – South View Cottage hydro opened by Mr Ralph Davis 1862 – Jackson House hydro opened
1858 – Medical Act –the General Council of Medical Education and Representation was set up to regulate standards in medicine	
	1859 – During this year Smedley’s Hydro was closed for a period 1859 – Prospect Place hydro established by Thomas Davis
	1862 – Elmtree Hydro established 1862 – Wellfield House hydro established 1862 – Tor House hydro established by George Davis 1862 – Rockside Hydro established
	1863 – Railway link extended to Manchester 1863 – Manchester House Hydro opened, later became Matlock House Hydro
	1869 - John Smedley wrote the best-selling “Practical Hydropathy”
	c. 1870 Belle Vue hydro established
	1890 – Oldham House Hydro opened by Mrs Wildgoose (daughter of Thomas Davis) (later amalgamated with Prospect Place) 1890 – Dalefield Hydro opened, (renamed Lilybank, 1906)

Matlock Bank Hydros Time Line (continued)	
National / International Events	Events significant to Matlock Bank
	1893 – Tramline opened from Crown Square to Rutland Street 1893 – Malvern House Hydro opened by Job Smith, also manager of the Matlock Tramway, and local benefactor.
1914-1918 – the Great War	During both world wars a number of hydros found uses as hospitals for the armed forces.
(The years between the wars hydrotherapy dwindled.)	1927 – Tram closed. 1927 – Chesterfield House Hydro closed
1939-1945 – Second World War	1942 - Smedley's Hydro was taken over by the School of Military Intelligence during the war.
	1946 – Chatsworth Hydro closed 1946 – Rockside Hydro closed
1948 National Health Act- the act refused to pay for hydrotherapy treatment in such establishments, so marked the end of hydrotherapy industry.	
	1955 – Smedley's Hydro closed (opened as County Hall 1956)
	1962 – Lilybank Hydro closed

Hydrotherapy was known as the 'cold water cure', first made popular by Vincent Priessnitz of Graefenberg in Austrian Silesia (now Jeseník in Moravia in the Czech republic). Priessnitz based his theory on the concept of the body having a natural state of health, with water being able to flush away disease. Treatments included wet and dry packs inducing sweating, plunge baths, and the douche or water spray. It is worthwhile remembering that at this time without running water in houses, the idea of a bath or shower was not the commonplace, everyday activity it is today. Drinking water was also encouraged, along with exercise and clean air. Before this in rural England 'wetting and sweating' was already used as a cure. Priessnitz's ideas were an innovation popularised in England in the 1840s following the publication of a book on the subject by R. T. Claridge in 1842. Further publications on the subject followed very quickly by others, as did the establishment of the first hydros to carry out the treatments, in Hertfordshire, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Great Malvern and Ramsgate.

At this time the medical profession was seen to be falling behind in comparison with other sciences. There was little regulation of the prescription of drugs, and an increase in the number available.

Hydrotherapy did not provide any new medical breakthrough but offered a drug-free alternative, and became popular along with other alternative medicines such as homeopathy. Hydrotherapy treatments combined the water cure with recommendations for a healthier lifestyle including exercise, outdoor activities, and strict diet. It was criticised as offering nothing new and being for hypochondriacs, but it appears that any criticism may have served only to fuel its popularity. Established spa centres such as Buxton, Bath and Harrogate differed from the hydrotherapy centres, in having more widely renowned medicinal properties in the natural mineral water of the areas, and established medical practitioners developing treatment. Hydrotherapy centres on the other hand, such as Matlock, along with Malvern and Ikley, two other leading centres, could not boast of the properties of their natural waters but instead offered steep wooded slopes and mountainous settings, likening them to Priessnitz's Graefenberg where hydrotherapy had first been developed with great success. A publication dated 1893 '*Famous Derbyshire Health Resorts The Matlocks and Bakewell*' (Rochard, J.S., 1893, facsimile 1984) claimed that Matlock Bank 'may be considered the head-quarters of modern hydrotherapy in England'.



**MATLOCK BANK
CONSERVATION AREA**

Matlock Bank
Main Hydros

Based on Second Edition
Ordnance Survey Map of 1899

Whilst Matlock Bath's spa industry lasted longer, Matlock Bank's hydropathic establishment brought a huge amount of wealth and development relatively quickly to the area. There were attempts at establishing a hydropathic industry in Matlock Bath, but no such establishments were successful.

A "Hydro" was the term that came to be used for many different sizes of establishment. In essence, if you had a lodging house with a bath and a "bath attendant", a gentleman skilled at providing different types of water treatment and massage, then you could call your business a hydro. In fact, many of the hydros are difficult to distinguish from ordinary houses, as they were little more. By contrast, there were some very large and plush purpose-built hydro hotels. The 1891 census showed at least 26 establishments describing themselves as "hydros" or similar, although many were no doubt small and no more than lodging houses with a bath and attendant.

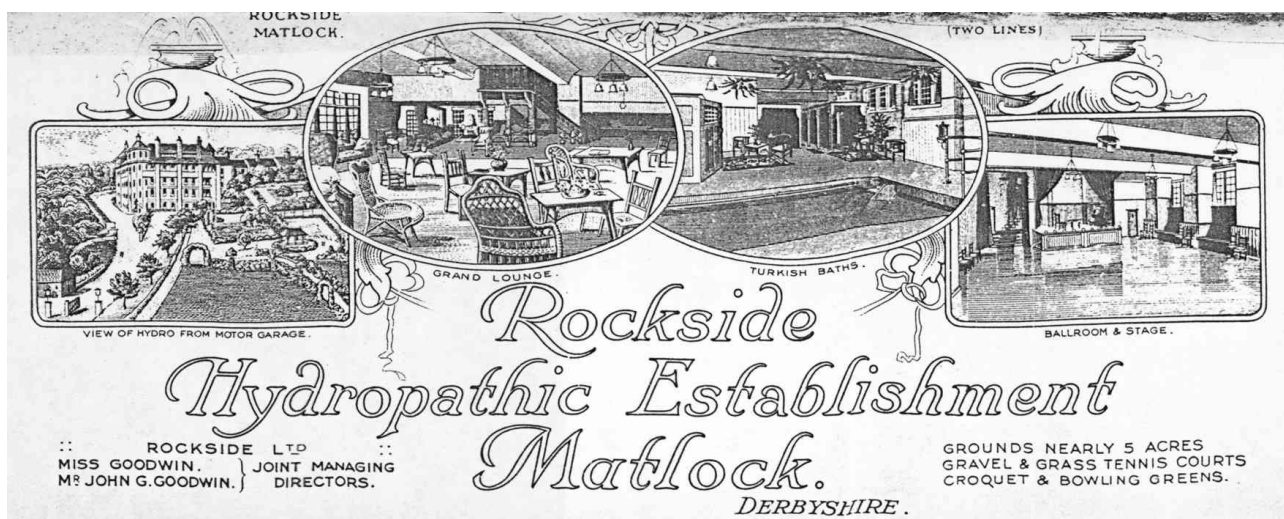
By the time Matlock had developed as a hydropathic centre, treatments under the term 'hydropathy' had begun to broaden. Hydropathy had significant influence on water medicine, and with other associated water treatments can collectively be called 'hydrotherapy'. Gradually hydropathic techniques began to be adopted within general medical practice.

Although hydropathy had been known as a cold water cure, Smedley offered a 'mild cure' - tepid water treatments to avoid the shock of very cold water. The water was heated by boilers rather than by having natural thermal properties. The original water supply was from a spring-line between Wellington Street and Smedley Street but by 1890 the amount of water required meant that 40,000 gallons a day were being piped from springs on

Matlock Moor via a reservoir north of Wellington Street, still in existence today, and first shown on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey along with a smaller one immediately south. It was only the technical improvements in drainage, water supply and heating in the latter half of the 19th century which allowed the largest establishments to be feasible. By 1893 Smedleys could boast of accommodating 300 guests. Visitors to Smedleys are understood to have included the rich and famous such as among others, Robert Louis Stevenson, Sir Thomas Beecham and Ivor Novello.

The late 1860s, 1870s and 1880s were a relatively quiet time for the opening of new hydros, but quiet consolidation was going on. Not every establishment succeeded at first, for example a Mr Lee a "spirit merchant" from Manchester had opened Manchester House in 1863 with rooms for 80 patients, but was bankrupt and the hydro for sale (as Matlock House) in 1866. The 1868 National Gazetteer speaks of the village and baths being a mile apart with three principal hotels (presumably Smedleys, Rockside and Chesterfield House) and lodging houses giving accommodation to over 500 visitors. Nevertheless Matlock Bath still got a substantially larger entry.

With Smedley's Methodist influence, including a chapel in the grounds, alcohol consumption was not permitted at his hydro. Other hydros were more liberal in their views and from early days there was a general presumption in favour of comfortable rooms, good food and the enjoyment of good society with the larger establishments having ballrooms, smoking rooms and billiard rooms inside and tennis and croquet courts as well as extensive landscaped gardens outside.



Pl. 7 Rockside Hydro letterhead, c.1910

The hydros became more like hotels offering water treatment, but also a wide range of facilities. Although medical men were involved in the running of some of the hydros, particularly in the early years, by the 1890s the more frightening medical interventions began to disappear and many of the hydros were marketing themselves as general holiday destinations (in the winter as well) and “pick me ups” much in the same way as modern spa hotels, catering for the “well-off, worried, well”. The older, natural spas tended by this time to look old fashioned. Where bathing was part of the treatment they often still had public baths sharing the water. The spa water was often restricted in supply, preventing expansion to large numbers of private bathrooms, which the middle classes were beginning to demand.

Development related to the hydropathic industry

The success of the hydros would not have been possible to such extent without the railway link bringing visitors and patients. The railway had come to Matlock (or Matlock Bridge as the station was often called) in 1849, from Derby via Ambergate, and the relatively easy journey from the Midlands and south must have increased the popularity of the area for tourists and those “taking the cure”. In 1863 the line went all the way through to Manchester, giving access to another huge potential market in the North West.

On arrival in Matlock the trek up the hill was avoided by the development of the tram from Crown Square up to Rutland Street, which opened in 1893. Almost all the entrepreneurs associated with the tramway were involved in hydros.

As the industry developed bringing tourists into the town, so the permanent population grew serving the hydros, and terraces of houses began to be built. Development began along Smedley Street and Bank Road and often consisted of shops at ground floor and living accommodation over. As well as those supplying fish, game, fruit and vegetables by the 1890s services expanded to include stationers and printers, a photographer (Frederick Barber), a dealer in musical instruments and ladies and gentlemen’s tailors. Mr M Wright, established 1870 on Smedley Street opposite Smedleys Hydro, as a general ironmonger but also “hydropathic bath and patent ascending douche manufacturer” and famous to generations of Matlock residents as “Tinker Wrights”, the business finally closing very recently.

Smedley also built himself Riber Castle, his private residence which was a mansion rather than a true castle in 1862. Standing prominently across the

valley, and now ruinous, it continues to dominate the countryside around and is a focal point from so many of the hydros on Matlock Bank.

In 1874 Smedley died and his widow built a hospital (Smedleys Memorial Hospital) in his name on Bank Road. This was extended in 1897 with a wing in memory of Dr Hunter, who had been the original owner of Wellfield House. The hospital subsequently became the Youth Hostel.

In 1894 the Matlock Urban District Council bought Bridge House hydro at the bottom of Bank Road for use as the Town Hall and added a large wing in the Italianate style to house an assembly room etc. It was reopened in 1898 and also housed most local authority undertakings, magistrates courts, etc. The Town Hall was further extended in 1979 with later small extensions and alterations.

In 1895 a company of local businessmen was formed to erect a “Pavilion and gardens” and purchased 3½ acres on the north side of the eastern end of Smedley Street. This building (Victoria Hall) housed a swimming pool, hosted concerts (and later in the early twentieth century showed silent films), plays and meetings. Outside the gardens provided roller skating, tennis and a bowling green. However, the success was relatively short lived and by the 1920s it was in use as a mill by Paton and Baldwin. This continued up until the 1990s when the site was developed for housing, its name – Victoria Hall Gardens - remains a memory of its original use.

A number of churches were built to serve the expanding community, and by 1893 this included All Saints on Smedley Street and the Catholic Church of Our Lord and St Demas on Bank Road (now Our Lady and St Joseph). Also on Bank Road were the Matlock Wesleyan Chapel and the Primitive Methodist Church, with the United Methodist Free Church within the grounds of Smedley’s Hydro and a Congregational Chapel on Chesterfield Road (now demolished, the later Sunday School still stands). The Quakers also had a Meeting House on the corner of what is now Jackson Road and Jackson Tor Road, which may have predated the Tithe map and there are records of meetings in Matlock from the 1720s. A Meeting House on Jackson Road is now a private residence.

Later development in the twentieth century

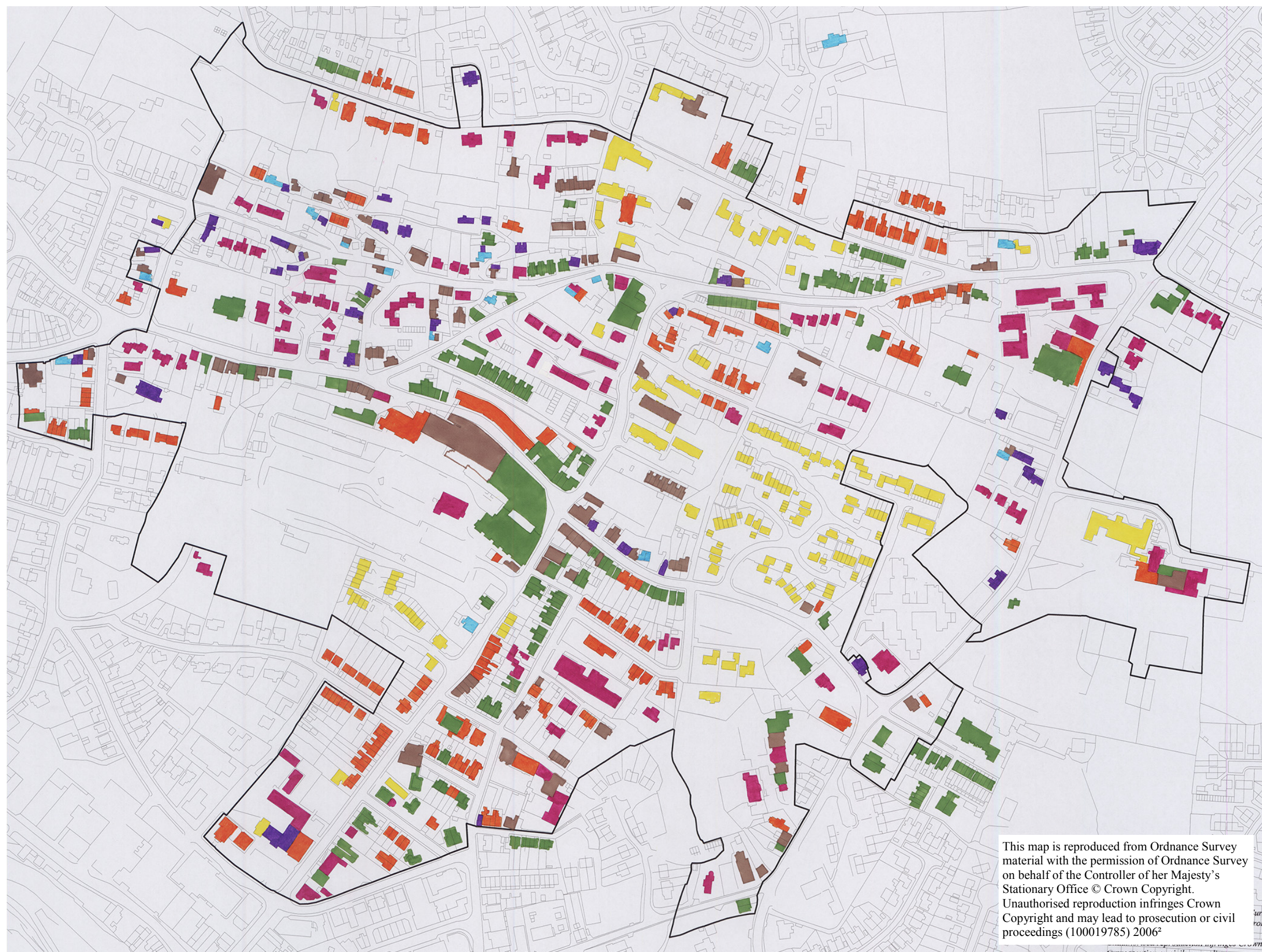
Further commercial and residential developments continued into the twentieth century. The early years of the twentieth century (1905) brought the first hire car firm and bus company – both run by

Williams Garage. In 1910 Bradburys started advertising that their cab firm was switching from horses to motors. In 1906 the golf club opened off Chesterfield Road on Matlock Moor and featured in many subsequent advertisements by hydros and hotels.




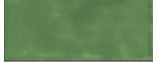



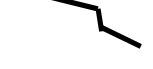
The first quarter of the twentieth century saw the final “infilling” of many of the streets and terraces, particularly to the east of Bank Road, prior to the First World War. The south side of the western end of Cavendish Road began to be developed with large houses, three of which, a pair of semi-detached properties and a detached house were designed by Parker and Unwin in their Arts and Crafts style. This partnership was also responsible for a substantial extension to Rockside Hydro. There was little further development in the interwar years and the 1920s saw the start of the drift away from hydros; for example, Bank House became part of the Ernest Bailey Grammar School and Chesterfield House became Presentation Convent. The Second World War saw many of the hydros used as hospitals or convalescent centres, others as evacuated schools or business headquarters. Smedleys was taken over in 1942 by the School of Military Intelligence.

Post war saw the beginning of the NHS and also large scale austerity – both badly affecting the running of large scale hydros. From 1946 Chatsworth, Oldham House and Rockside all became part of the new College of Education until the 1980s when this too closed. For Rockside, many years of dereliction followed, only recently resolved in new use as apartments. In 1955 Smedleys Hydro finally closed its doors, after over a 100 years, but re-opened the following year as the headquarters of the County Council, a role it has continued to play, exerting huge influence on the development of Matlock Bank.

After local government reorganisation in 1974, the County Council and District Council consolidated their offices and there was a small amount of associated development. The town continued to grow with a large amount of housing development after 1980, fuelled by its attractive setting, easy access to Derby, Sheffield and Nottingham and its proximity to the Peak District.



KEY

	17th & 18th centuries
	1800-1848
	1848-1880
	1880-1900
	1900-1948
	1948-1980
	Post 1980
	conservation area boundary (designated 1986)

**MATLOCK BANK
CONSERVATION
AREA**

**MATLOCK BANK
BUILDING
CHRONOLOGY**

FIGURE 7