

Does Dorking have the characteristics of a typical market town?



The aim of my coursework is to find out if Dorking has the characteristics of a typical market town. To find an answer to this I must use many different methods such as questionnaires, land use maps, shop transects, hypothesis and graphs. Things like this in my project will later on, help me with my final conclusion.

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Objectives

The following objectives are the main sections I want to include and complete in my project.

1. I want to complete my Goad map (shop transect) as this will tell me the shops that Dorking has to offer in the CBD. This could be a great help nearer to the end of the project when I have to come up with a conclusion.
2. I want to complete my land use map as this will also with the final conclusion. The land use map, (when complete) will show me the whole of Dorking and the surrounding area. E.g. *the land here is used for industry.*
3. I want to complete a questionnaire for ten people as that will help me in the final conclusion. The questionnaire will help because some of the public will know and give information about Dorking.
4. I want to complete a house transect which will show all the houses in Dorking and on the boarder. This will help me with the final conclusion. By looking at the houses I can tell if the houses are old or have been recently built.
5. I want to complete a series of hypothesis as this will show what my predictions where at the beginning and if they Wright at the end of the coursework.

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Hypothesis

1. The further away from Dorking you go, the higher the house prices.

I thought this because houses on the outskirts of Dorking would be bigger with a lot more land compared to the houses in the centre of Dorking. The houses in Dorking would be a lot smaller as the CBD is packed into a small space of land

2. Dorking will have a small sphere of influence as there are bigger towns around it

I thought this because Dorking is surrounded by bigger towns such as Guildford. This made me think that people would prefer to shop in Guildford. Also people who live in or nearer to bigger towns will shop in the bigger towns. Most of the people in Dorking who are shopping, will be people who are local and live in places such as Fetcham and Leatherhead.

3. The majority of people who go to Dorking, go there to shop in the centre of town.

I thought this because Dorking is known as a market town which meant people go there to shop. Also Dorking is really like a large village for local people who live around Dorking and near to the CBD. Also all the conveyance stores are in the centre of the CBD.

4. The centre of town, where the majority of shops are, will be busier compared to the market on a Friday afternoon around the time of 12 o'clock.

I thought this because people would prefer to use the shops as there is easier access to the CBD compared to the market. Also people would be shopping in Dorking for antiques which are not sold at the market. The majority of antique shops are down West street.

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Introduction

Dorking is a historical town in the county of Surrey. It sits next to The Greensand Hill and The North Downs.

Twice a week, Dorking holds a market. It has been holding these markets since the 1200's. The market became a very popular place for farmers from all different areas, (areas mainly surrounding Dorking) especially farmers from Dorking.

East Street is in the centre of Dorking and is where the market used to be held (until the last century). In the last century the market has been in a small private car park opposite the front entrance of Marks and Spencer's (next to St Martins Walk).

There are two days on which the market falls. The more popular is the market on Fridays where you can find goods such as grocery's, home goods and other goods (toilet paper, batteries, light bulbs .ect.).

Dorking also has a lot to offer in the fact that there is a farmers market on Wednesdays. This offers goods such as plants, meat, seeds and lots more.

Dorking now is a very popular town with people , not just locals, but people who live outside of Dorking.

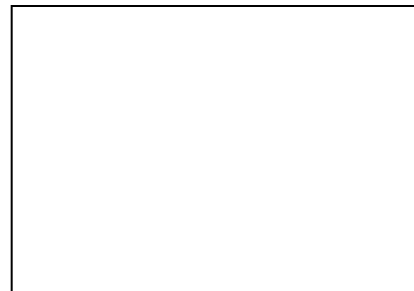
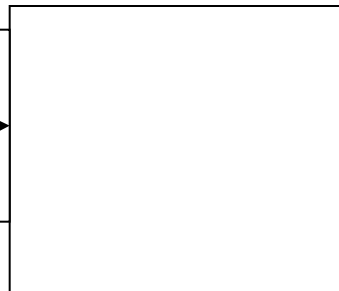
Since the late 1900's, and slightly before, the market has been cut down a lot. Years ago, there would be around 6 markets per week. These markets included needs for the Victorian Period such as cattle markets, poultry markets, and lots more. Although the market is still used, Dorking is now more well known for its Antic shops.

Originally the market stretched from Butter Hill to West street and included pump corner. However, by the end of the sixteenth century, it had expanded to the High street to make room for the purveyors of luxury goods such as gloves, shoes and spices.

In 1775 a new turnpike road was built from London to Horsham via Dorking , and was soon extended down towards Brighton.

By the 1870's the South street poultry market had gone, but the High street livestock and corn market kept going on and off during the Victorian era. By the 20th century, both cattle and corn markets had ceased.

This hand drawn map shows the layout of Dorking's CBD.



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Methodology

LANDUSE MAP


For the landuse map we walked around the main high street. The route that our group took is shown on the opposite page. The route we took is marked in blue. We took this route because it took us all the way around Dorking's CBD. By doing this we could analyse the space around Dorking and see what it was used for.


As we walked around the blue route, we filled in the information needed on our fieldwork paper. The rough copy of the map was marked with letters. We marked them with letters because it was a rough copy and we didn't have a lot of time to colour the small grids in.

As my group walked around the route filling in the landuse map, we walked about 100m down small roads such as Flint Hill. We did this because another one of the tasks that had to be completed, was to look down some of the roads in Dorking and make notes on the rough age of the house and what topic it fell under. The topics were things such as detached, semi-detached and flats. We did it this way so that we didn't have to walk around Dorking a second time. The following key was made up for the landuse map. We didn't colour the final draft in till we had got back into school.

Residential 

Commercial/business 

Institution 

Open space 

Industry 

Recreation 

This key can be used when looking at the main landuse map. I choose the sections in the key because there the main sections that I need and its not to difficult to understand.

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GOAD MAP


To do the Goad map we had to walk along the High street, West street and South street in our groups. We had to do this because we had to mark down in our green books the name of all the shops and what category they were. We had to do this so that when we got back to school we could copy up the results onto an A3 piece of paper which would help us at the end with the final conclusion.


Whilst walking down the main roads in our group I took some pictures of some of the shops in the main high street. I did this because the photos would give some idea to the style that Dorking now has. By this I mean the type of shops if there old or modern. I did this because this would help me with the final conclusion.

The following key was used to do the shop transect.


Food and grocery 


Entertainment (pubs and restaurants) 

Clothes and shoes 

Newsagents and arts 

Hardware/electrical/homecare 

Financial services 

Other 

I used this key because the different sections of the key are the most common and are easy to deal with. By this I mean you can tell what the shops are straight away. This key is also on the main Goad map.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire was done in Dorking in St Martins Walk at around 13:00pm. We did it in St Martins Walk because this is one of the most popular places in Dorking. Also the majority of shops are near here. The market is also at the back of St Martins Walk. We did the questionnaire at 13:00pm because it was mid-afternoon and the majority of people who worked in Dorking would be on there lunch break. This meant we could get questionnaires filled in from workers as well as shoppers.

To do the questionnaire we stood in St Martins Walk and asked people to fill in one of the questionnaires. Once they had filled it in we would put the questionnaire away so that it didn't get lost.

We did a questionnaire because the public could help us with our investigation. Also the information gathered would be a great help towards our projects.

When doing the questionnaire, we would wait every 4-5 minutes before we asked someone else. We did this so that we didn't question the same person twice.

The following three questions are taken from the questionnaire.

Where have you come from today?

I asked this question because it would help me to draw up the sphere of influence of Dorking. Once all the questionnaires were collected in, I would gather the information and draw up the sphere of influence as well as a pie chart to show this.

When's market day?

I asked this question because it would help me conclude at the end of the project. This question was asked because if there was a market in Dorking, the majority of people would know about it.

Will you come to Dorking again?

I asked this question because it would help me conclude at the end of the project. This question was asked because if the person being questioned says yes and they live close, we know locals come here. If the person is from Guilford and says no, then we know they were there on a one off.

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