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Architectural Nous: How York Wrote its Identity Through Architecture During the 1951 Festival of Britain

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FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN



1951

MAY 3 - SEPTEMBER 30

Architectural Nous:
How the City of York
Wrote Their Identity
through Architecture,
During the 1951
Festival of Britain

Reading Architecture
Stirling University

December 5th-6th 2015

Caterina Benincasa-Sharman, University Huddersfield

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Castlegate Flats





Some of the most desirable living accommodation in the city.

A housewives dream.

York's own 'Ideal Home' Exhibition.

Festival Flats Peep is Big Delight, Yorkshire Gazette Friday June 1st p.6



FESTIVAL FLATS
PARAGON STREET
NOS. 2, 4 & 6







Ventilated larder

Fitted wardrobes

Linen cupboards

Integral clothes rack

Central heating

Constant hot water

Heated towel rails

Gas poker compliant

TV and Telephone ready

Turning for cars

Coal stores accessed internally for older clients

Flowerbeds for older persons flats

Play space for children

Balcony

Cycle & pram storage

Drying yard

Laundry room space for three machines

Workshop – two benches with room to fix a bicycle





CITY OF YORK
UNAUTHORIZED
PARKING
NOT PERMITTED

The Luckiest Tenants in York!

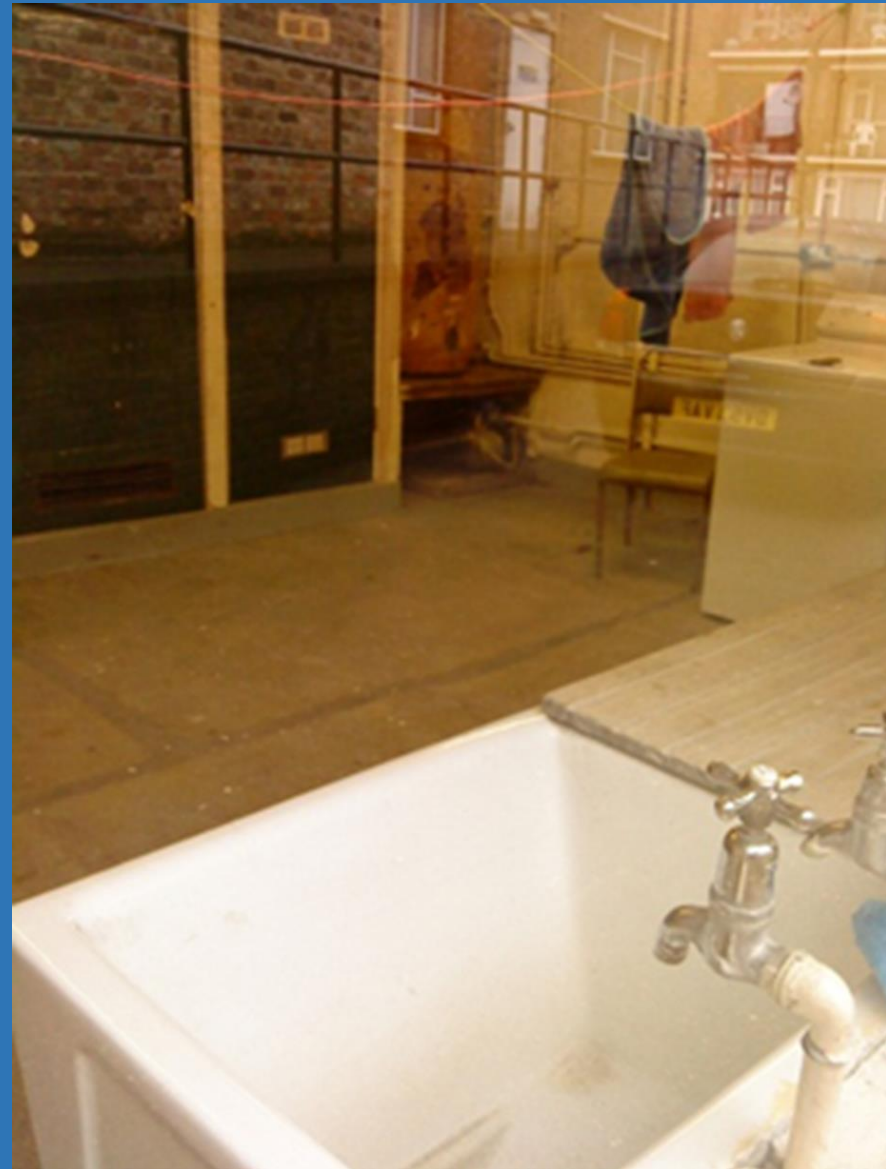
The Communal Laundry in the
Festival Flats, Paragon Street, York,
is Fitted with a

BENDIX

AUTOMATIC ELECTRIC WASHER

Supplied and Installed by your
Local Service Dealers

Challengers of Davygate















[The Festival has raised York's] prestige as a city of art and culture, and given [us] some right to claim to be once again the artistic and social capital of the north.

Councillor Rymer, Yorkshire Evening press July 25th 1951 p.5 & Yorkshire Evening press May 3rd 1951 p.2

In York you see an almost perfect expression of the conception of the Festival of Britain. You had a perfect setting, but it required foresight, courage and imagination to produce a gem ... not a collection of events, but a coordinated theme connecting the city's historical associations and architectural treasures.

Lord Ismay, Director General, F.O.B in 'York Festival is Unsurpassable', n.d Arthur Rymer

