

## 9 Knowsley Historic Character - Analysis

### 9.1 Field System Broad Type

About 30% (2592 ha) of the area of Knowsley has been classified as field system. Much of this is concentrated in the northern and southern parts of the district. Extant field systems can be found in two areas in Knowsley - in the north and south of the district.

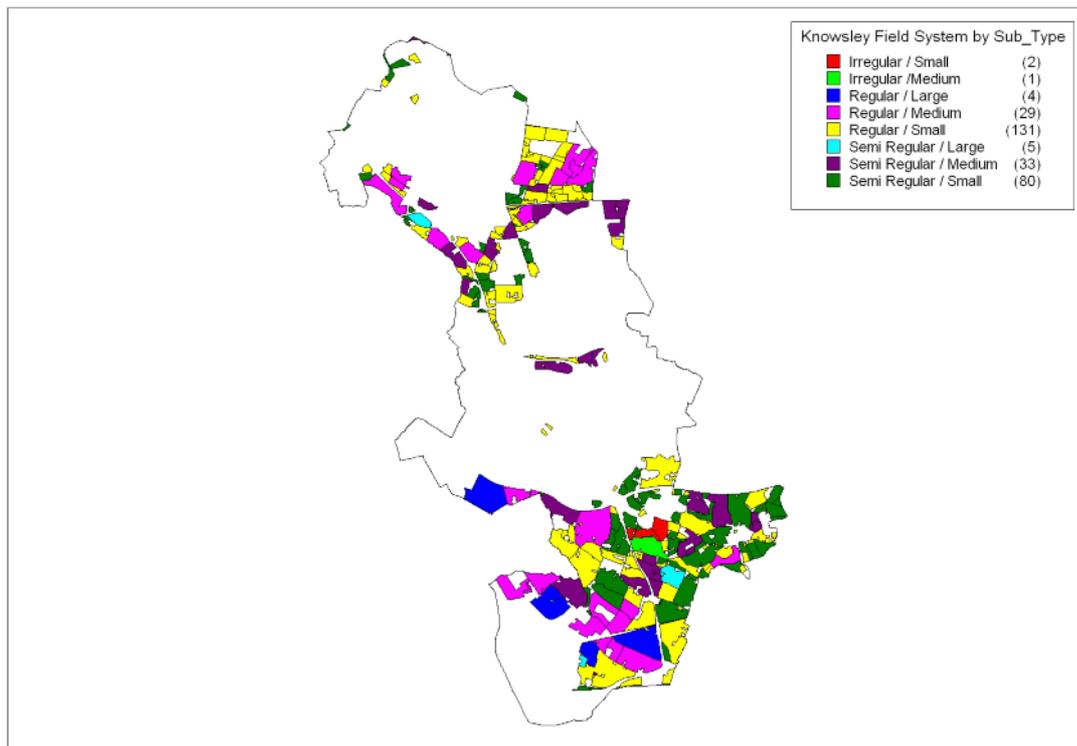


Figure 17 Current (2003) Field System Sub Type in Knowsley  
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The MHCP only recorded the shape and size attributes of field systems within the borough of Knowsley. Further more detailed research would be required to define field types or possible origins. It must be noted that periods of origin assigned to areas of fields during the course of the MHCP are based on intuition and the interpretation of enclosure patterns shown on 20th century and later mapping and do not constitute a detailed or definitive study. The current agricultural landscape is a product of an often complex evolution. In the 19th century in particular large areas of the landscape were remodelled, fields were enlarged and boundaries straightened.

However, as a general rule:

The smaller and more irregular the field, the more likely that it has medieval or post-medieval origins (as piecemeal enclosure).

Conversely, the larger and more regular the field, the likelihood is that it is of more recent origin (as surveyed enclosure).

Because of their relative sizes and shape characteristics, field systems can be grouped to form period subsets:

Piecemeal Enclosure (1540 to 1750 AD)

Surveyed Enclosure (1750 to 1900 AD)

Agglomerated Fields (1900 to 2005 AD)

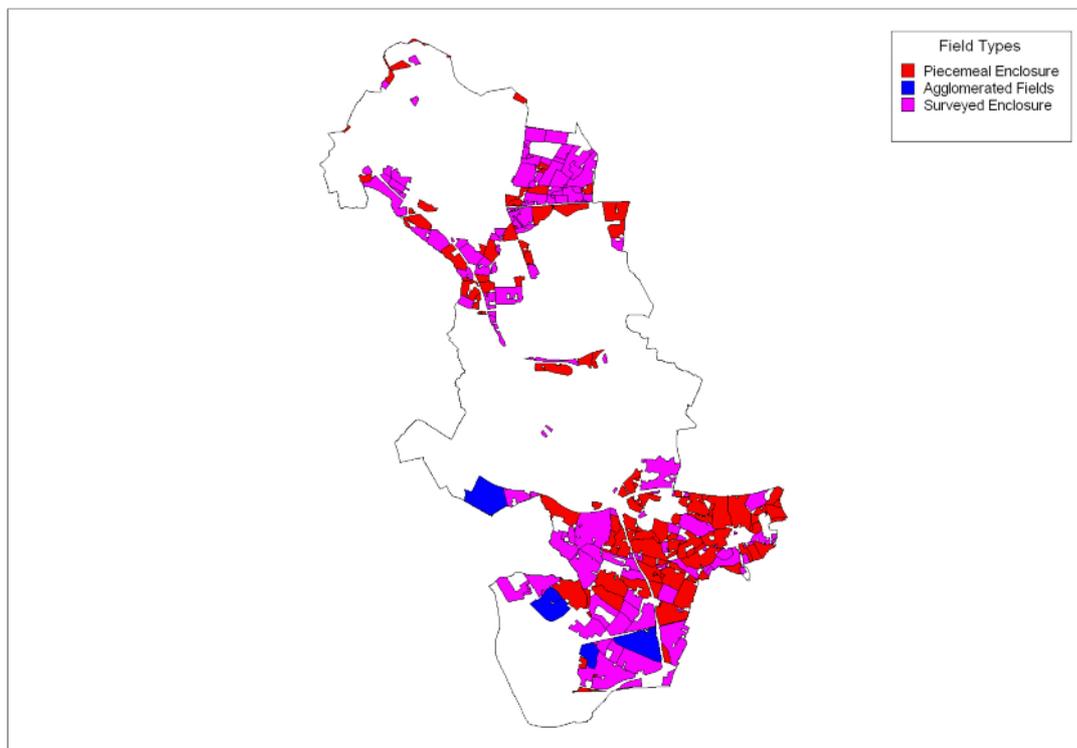


Figure 18 Current (2003) Field Types in Knowsley  
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No evidence for prehistoric enclosure was recognised during the MHCP study; the earliest enclosure identified in Knowsley district is thought to have originated in the medieval period. Much of the land is made up of surveyed enclosure fields formed in the mid 19th and 20th centuries, and agglomerated fields formed in the 20th century.

However, there are some areas where earlier enclosure patterns are still visible within the landscape, including pockets of piecemeal enclosure and small but significant areas of former small / semi-regular open fields at Tarbock and Cronton in the south, and near Fluker's Brook Farm in the north. Areas of Post medieval surveyed enclosure have also survived. Much of the enclosed land to the north represents former mossland that has been drained and improved.

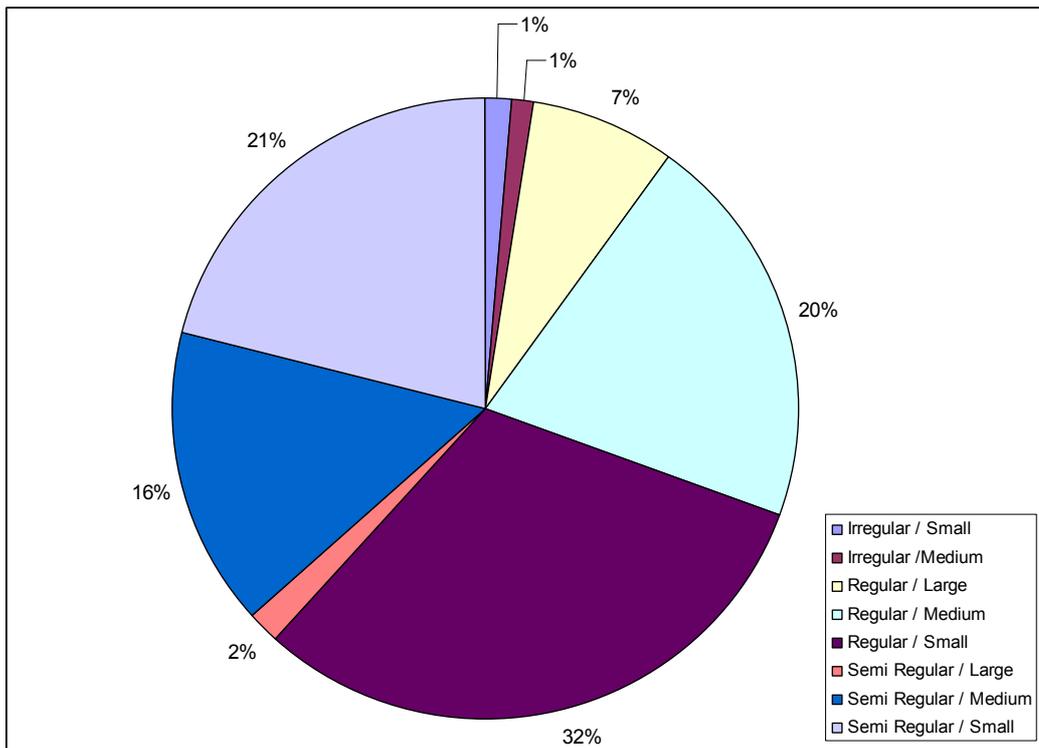


Figure 19 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Field System Sub Type (% of land)

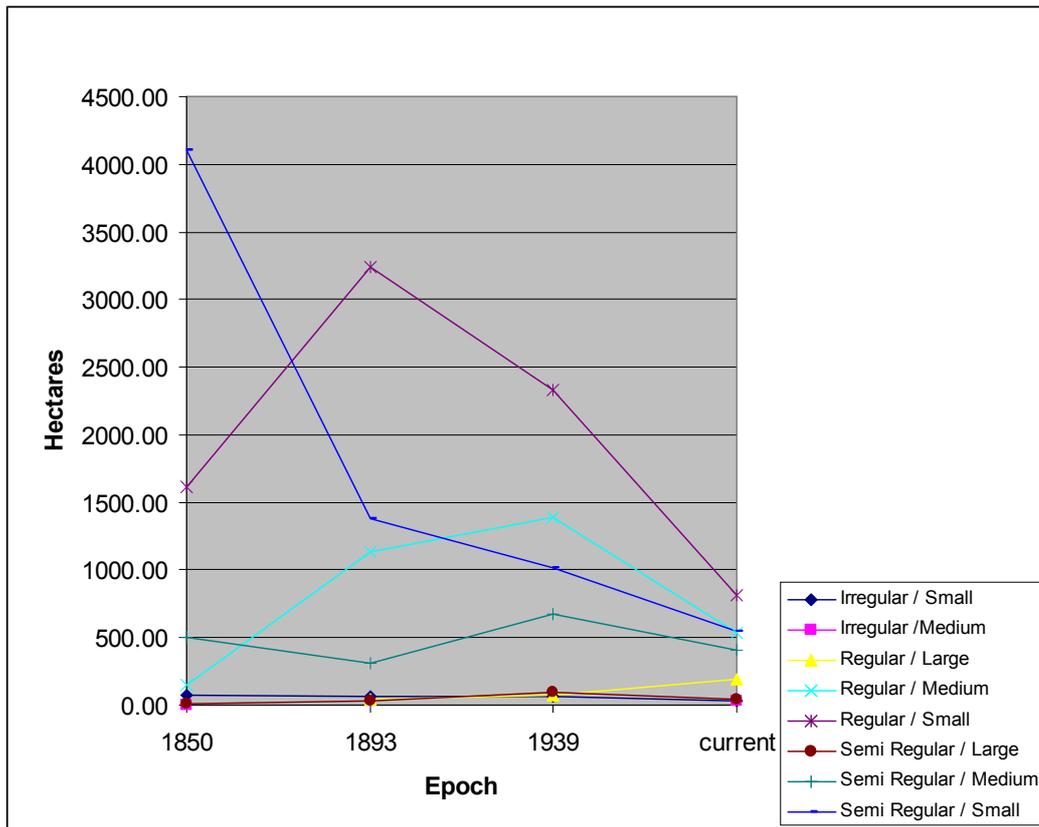


Figure 20 Graphical Representation of Knowsley Field System Sub Type through time

### 9.1.1 Small Irregular Fields (Irregular / Small)

### 9.1.2 Small Semi-Regular Fields (Semi Regular / Small)

### 9.1.3 Medium Irregular Fields (Irregular /Medium)

### 9.1.4 Medium Semi-Regular Fields (Semi Regular / Medium)

### 9.1.5 Large Semi-Regular Fields (Semi Regular / Large)

## Piecemeal Enclosure

Because of their irregular to semi-regular shape, these five field types can be grouped to comprise piecemeal enclosure. Piecemeal enclosure represents about 41% (1056 ha) of the total area of field systems in the current Knowsley landscape. The majority is concentrated in the south of the district, particularly near the villages of Tarbock and Cronton. It is recognisable by its erratic field boundaries, usually small field size, and irregular or semi-regular field patterns.

Field shape and size	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Average size per polygon (Hectares)
Irregular small	2	32.44	16.22
Semi-regular small	80	544.69	6.81
Irregular medium	1	32.83	31.83
Semi-regular medium	33	403.31	12.22
Semi-regular large	5	42.31	8.46
Total	121	1055.58	75.54

Table 8 MHCP Piecemeal Enclosure in Knowsley (Current 2003 mapping)

The boundaries often respect topography or natural features such as gullies. Generally a default post-medieval origin date of AD 1540 was ascribed to this MHCP type during the project. The exact period of origin of these fields is difficult to

determine, however. The fields were formed by an agricultural system which may have been prevalent in the pre-medieval and medieval periods. Other field types, such as open fields or early surveyed enclosure, are easy to confuse with piecemeal enclosure, especially when boundaries have been altered in recent times. Within the scope of this study it is difficult to assess the antiquity of areas of piecemeal enclosure.

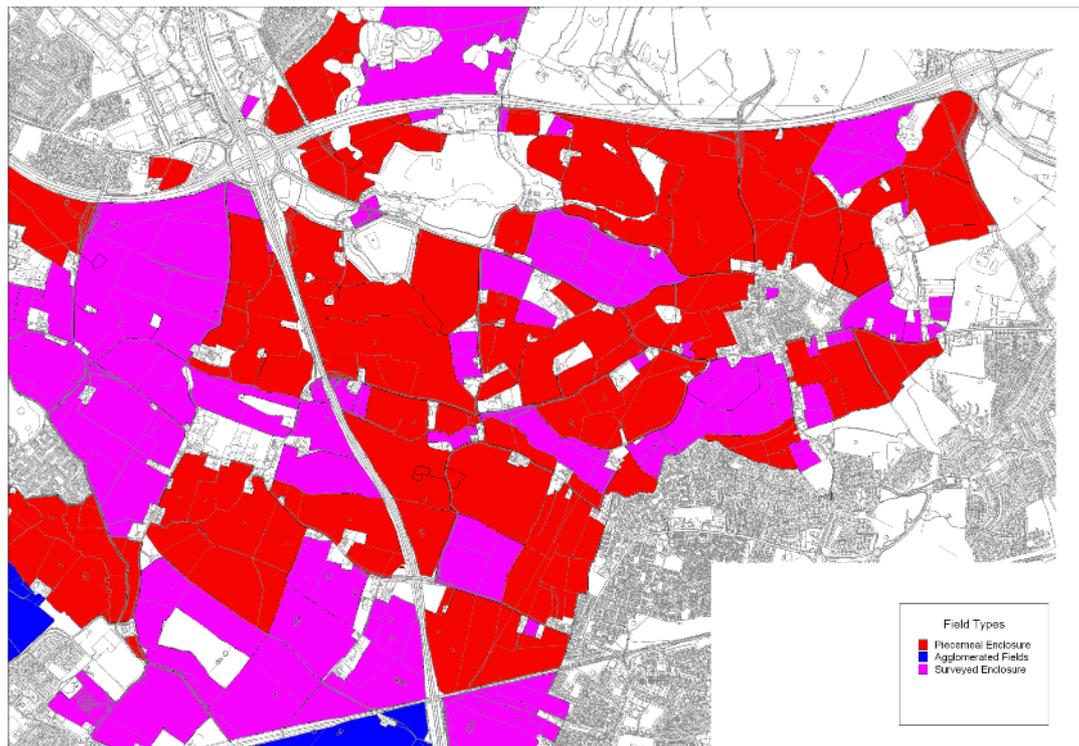


Figure 21 Predominantly Piecemeal Enclosure in Tarbock and Cronton  
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Often the farming settlements associated with piecemeal enclosure were isolated in the landscape, or were dispersed along historic routes. Most farms that lie within this landscape type in Knowsley were established by the time of the OS 6" First Edition map of c.1850.

The hall was at the centre of the land ownership system in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Estates contained dispersed tenement farms and hamlets. Early farms are often surrounded by curvilinear enclosures subdivided into fields, a pattern characteristic of woodland clearance or waste enclosure. As new farms were built, more land became enclosed. 17th and 18th century tithe maps frequently refer to individual tenants possessing fields in a loose block adjacent to their farm. The farmer

may have also worked fields scattered through the wider landscape. Communal pasture was also present.

### 9.1.6 Small Regular Fields (Regular / Small)

### 9.1.7 Medium Regular Fields (Regular / Medium)

#### Surveyed Enclosure

Surveyed enclosure represents about 52% of the total area of enclosed land in Knowsley (1344 ha). It is found throughout Knowsley, with a particular concentration towards the north, in the Kirkby mosslands.

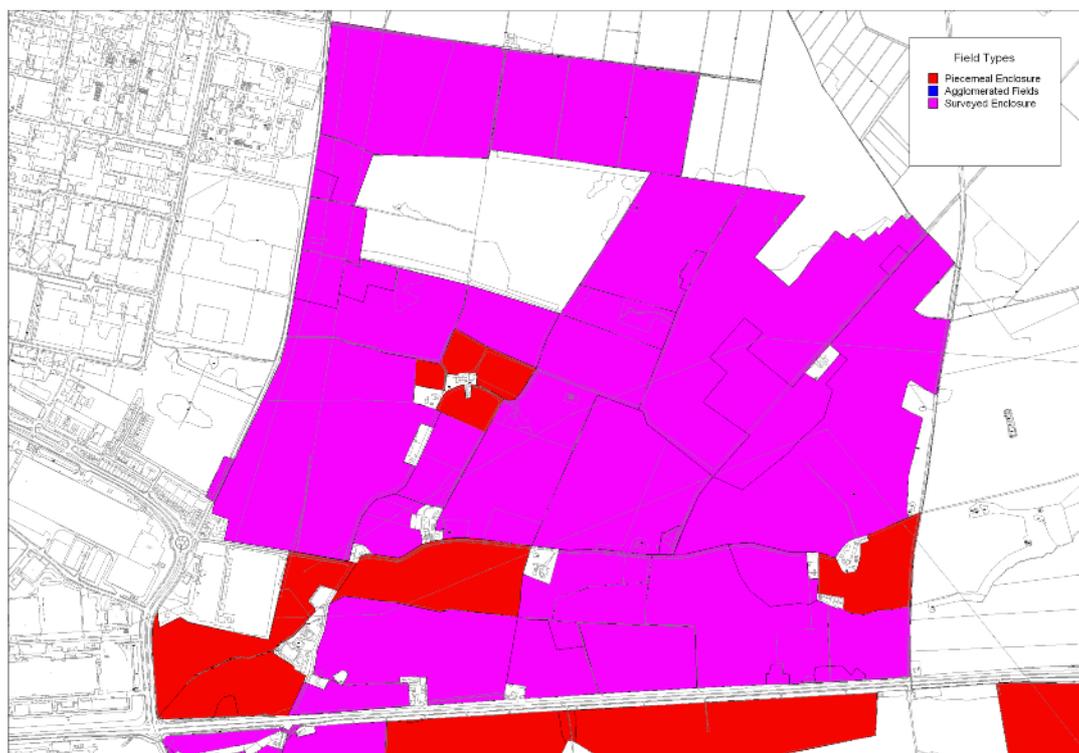


Figure 22 Predominantly Surveyed Enclosure in Kirkby Moss  
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Surveyed enclosure reflects a change in the agricultural system which occurred after c.1750 AD. Land that had previously been open or common was enclosed by Parliamentary consent through Enclosure Acts. Such enclosure was carried out by commissioned surveys, principally with the aid of maps, a ruler and surveying equipment. As a result, boundaries are straight and patterns geometric, with ditches and hedges (often with hawthorn) forming a barrier. At the same time, older fields were enlarged and existing boundaries were straightened.

Field shape and size	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Average size per polygon (Hectares)
Regular small	131	812.154	6.20
Regular medium	29	531.316	18.32
Total	160	1343.47	8.40

Table 9 MHCP Surveyed Enclosure in Knowsley (Current 2003 mapping)

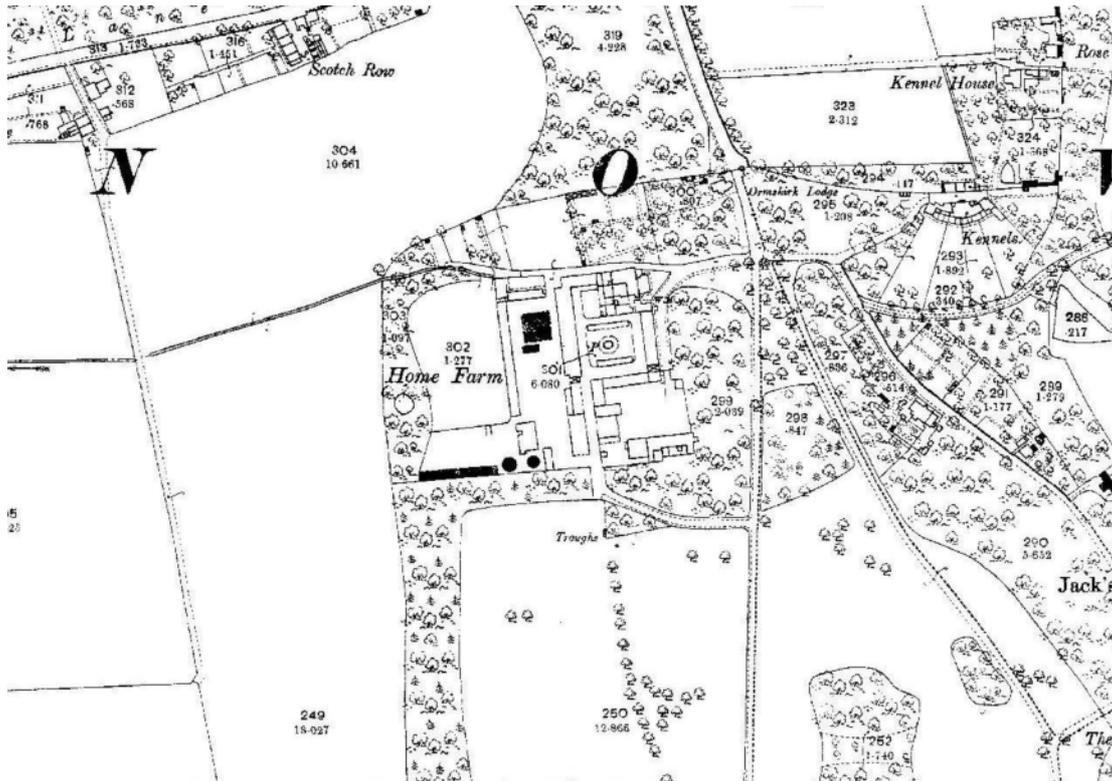


Figure 23 Home Farm Model farm, near Knowsley Hall  
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This process of agglomeration and reorganisation persisted throughout the 19th century. The system favoured the wealthy and more influential landowners and resulted in a loss of the common lands which were of economic importance to many smaller farms and crofts. Some farming communities were dispersed at this time despite poor laws and compensation.

New model farms were commonly constructed in the 19th century. These usually consisted of a large house and agricultural sheds arranged around a yard. Some

farms in Knowsley, particularly in the Knowsley Village area, are probably of this type. A good example is at Home Farm, near Knowsley Hall.

### 9.1.8 Large Regular Fields (Regular / Large)

#### Agglomerated fields

Agglomerated fields represent about 1.9% of the total area of enclosed land in Knowsley (192.78 ha). These fields were generally created in the late 19th and 20th centuries to facilitate mechanisation and other changes in agricultural practices. The pattern is generally of large fields (over 8 ha) with regular or semi-regular boundaries. They were often created by removing internal enclosure divisions of existing field systems.

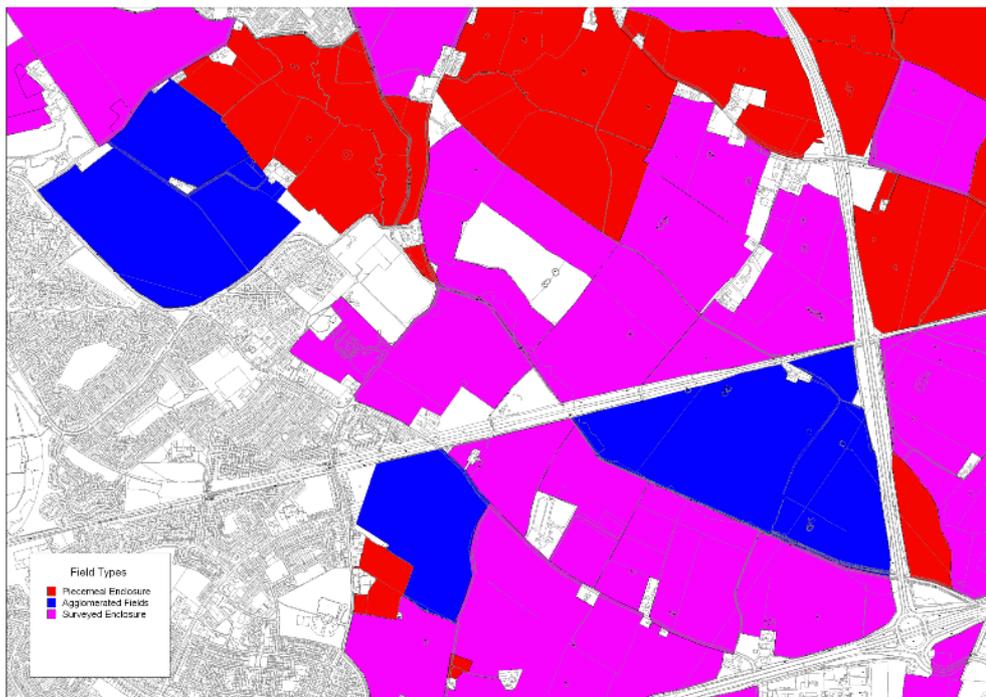


Figure 24 Predominantly Agglomerated Fields near Halewood  
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Field shape and size	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Average size per polygon (Hectares)
Regular Large	4	192.781	48.20

Table 10 MHCP Agglomerated Fields in Knowsley (Current 2003 mapping)

Despite widespread damage to earlier MHCP types, previous features may be retained. External boundaries can be preserved, whilst interior boundaries may be retained as fossilised features such as short lengths of tree lines or earthworks. Farm sites, agricultural sheds and relict boundaries may be retained. Many areas of agglomerated fields, through the identification of earlier features, have the potential for their previous landscapes to be sensitively restored. Other archaeological features may also be preserved beneath ploughsoils.

## 9.2 Woodland Broad Type

From the MHCP study, woodlands comprise just over 2% (191.77 ha) of the total Knowsley area. Trees and woodland enhance the quality of the landscape, promote the region by providing an attractive environment for inward investors and visitors, and provide amenity areas for local people. Trees and woodland have many benefits, including providing shelter and shade, soil stabilisation and land reclamation. Woodland can also provide amenity space for recreation and education, and benefits wildlife, as well as having health benefits including noise reduction and pollutant absorption. Woodland can provide economic benefit through providing timber, fuel for power generation, and chemical extracts.

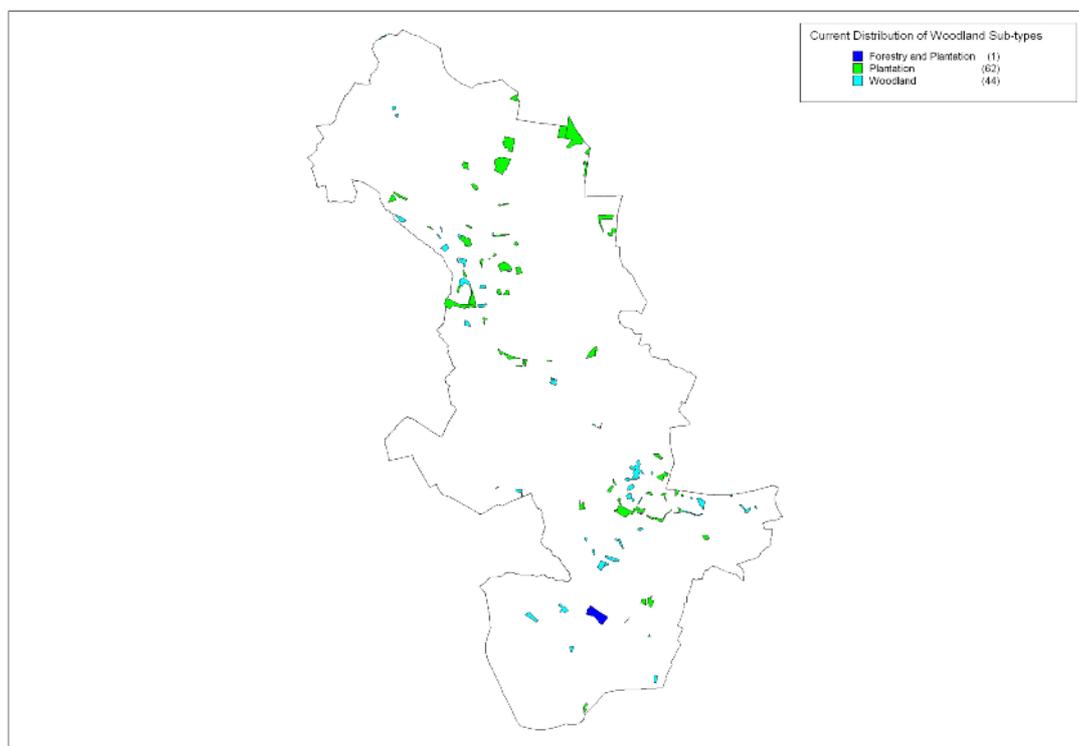


Figure 25 Current (2003) Woodland Sub Type in Knowsley  
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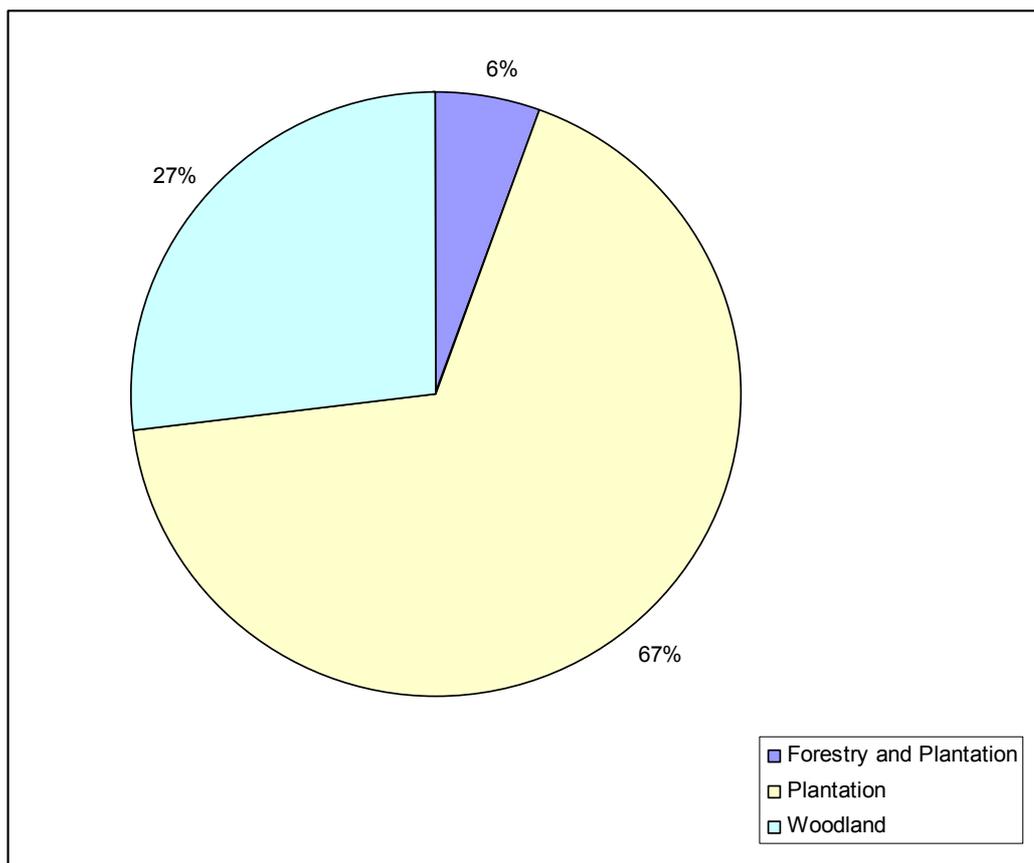


Figure 26 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Woodland Sub Type (% of land)

From the MHCP study, woodlands comprise just over 2% (191.77 ha) of the total Knowsley area. However, recent estimates of woodland habitats put the figure nearer to 12% of the total area (Merseyside Biodiversity Group, 2001 & Porter, 2005).

This discrepancy can be explained:

The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (NMBAP) survey was restricted to a total of 5,178 ha (where surveyed) of the total of 8,646 ha within Knowsley borough boundary. (The un-recorded area being primarily residential and commercial built up areas).

The NMBAP survey included habitat types that have been assigned to different broad or Sub Type categories within the MHCP (such as scrub or parkland).

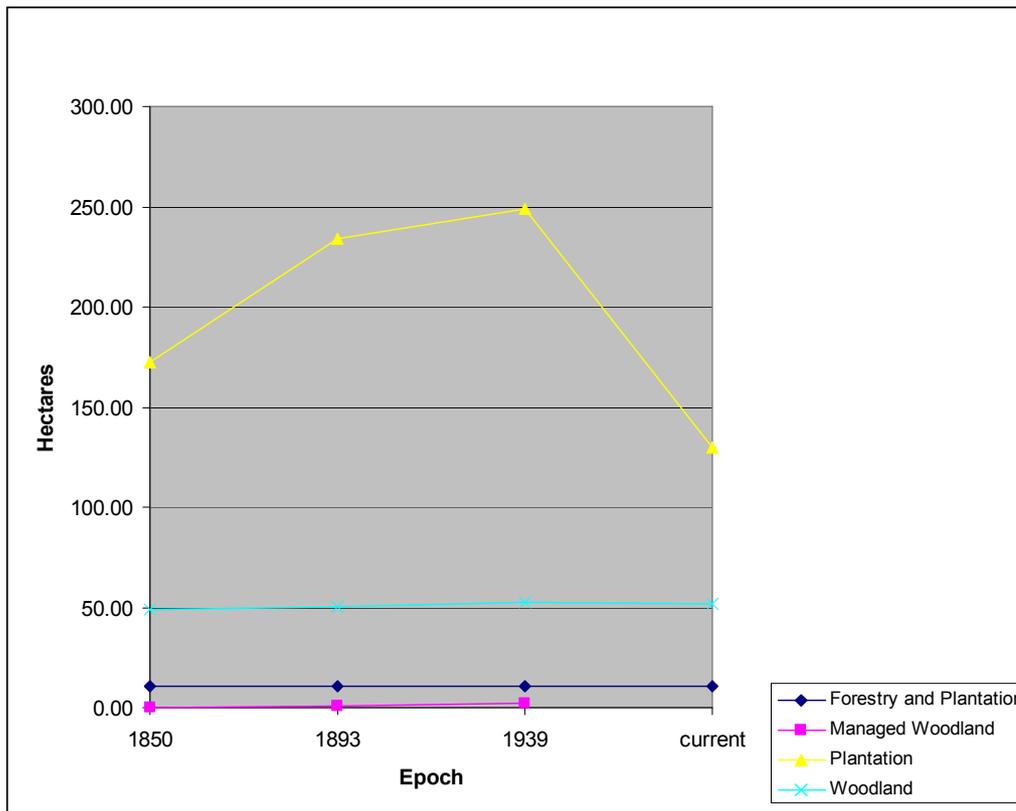


Figure 27 Graphical Representation of Knowsley Woodland Sub Type through time

The Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project is a 'broad-brush' exercise and that not all woodland areas or habitats were recorded - some stands or plots of woodland were deemed too small to be given separate records and polygons.

The MHCP study mapped out large or historically contiguous plots of woodland as a single broad or Sub Type polygon - the study did not go into detail regarding the various niches or sub-niches that may have been present within an area (polygon). In contrast, the NMBAP survey includes all 'woodland habitats' (or niches / sub-niches) within an area or as a group of areas.

Furthermore, it is likely that the NMBAP data has been superseded by the situation on the ground. This is a particular consideration in urban areas where development has taken place or where land management has changed.

From the NMBAP study:

Woodland accounts for approximately 12% of Knowsley. Of this total the largest extent of this woodland is broadleaf plantation (375.54 ha) which accounts for approximately 39% of the total woodland in Knowsley. Broadleaf semi-natural woodland accounts for 17% of the total woodland cover in Knowsley.

<b>Phase 1 habitat type</b>	<b>Phase 1 habitat code</b>	<b>Area of habitat (ha)</b>
Broadleaf plantation	A1.1.2	375.54
Broadleaf semi-natural woodland	A1.1.1	163.81
Broad-leaved scattered trees	A3.1	143.87
Coniferous plantation woodland	A1.2.2	112.15
Scattered scrub	A2.2	92.58
Dense / continuous scrub	A2.1	43.52
Mixed scattered trees / parkland	A3.3	13.03
Mixed plantation woodland	A1.3.2	10.02
Coniferous scattered trees	A3.2	0.48
<b>Total woodland area</b>		<b>955.01</b>

Table 11 Woodland habitats recorded in Knowsley (Porter 2005).

(N.B. The total area covered by scattered trees and scrub is not a true figure. Some areas of scattered trees and scrub were captured as point data in the MapInfo GIS package. It is not possible to generate an area from point data in MapInfo).

These data provide a baseline against which changes in woodland cover can be measured. The data also helps to inform of progress made towards NMBAP targets for woodland and the Mersey Forest Biodiversity Action Plan. Targets for lowland broadleaf woodland include to expand the current area by 300 ha by 2005 and to maintain current extent.

The majority of extant woodland appears to be divided into two main areas, the first towards the north and the north-eastern boundary with St Helens and Liverpool (predominantly plantation) and the other located in the south-central region, bordering on Knowsley Park. Much of the present woodland is relatively new, comprising nearly 75% plantation. There are no 'ancient' or 'curved-edged' woodlands present in Knowsley (as a distinct Sub Type).

### **9.2.1 Plantations**

Plantations comprise 67% of the Woodland Sub Type, and 1.54% of the current total Knowsley area.

The 1979/82 Woodland Census figure for Merseyside as a whole recorded 313 hectares of coniferous high forest, the majority being Corsican and Scots pine plantation on the Sefton Coast. Conifer plantations form part of the large estates including the Earl of Derby's estate in Knowsley. There are numerous conifer and mixed shelterbelts and coverts in the open mossland landscapes north of the A580. These mossland woods are dominated by pine species. Pine birch mixtures are typical of former acid peatland landscapes prior to drainage and agricultural development (North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan, 2001).

### **9.2.2 Forestry and Plantation**

Forestry and Plantations comprise 6% of the Woodlands Sub Type, and 0.13% of the current Knowsley area.

### **9.2.3 Woodland**

This character type contains all woodland plots that could not be assigned a strict Sub Type character. As such, it will contain a range of woodland types - from ancient woodland through to modern plantations and community woodland schemes. Woodland comprises 27% of the 'Woodland' Sub Type character and 0.61% of the current Knowsley area.

Semi-natural woodlands -

There are no estimates of the total area, status and condition of lowland mixed broadleaf woodland according to National Vegetational Classification (NVC) communities. However, areas of woodland prior to The Mersey Forest commencement give the following area of broadleaf woodland: Knowsley 573 ha; Liverpool 166 ha; St Helens 283 ha; Sefton 294 ha.

North Merseyside has no example of wet woodland which is of international or national importance. North Merseyside has little wet woodland, yet wet woodland was a significant habitat prior to drainage of the mosslands. Wet woodland occurs in each district although the areas are small. Examples include: Red Brow Wood, St Helens;

Mull Wood, Liverpool; alder carr in Ainsdale NNR, Sefton; Acornfield Plantation, Knowsley.

Lowland wood pastures and parklands are the products of historic land management systems, and represent a vegetation structure rather than a typical plant community. Their structure normally consists of large open grown high forest trees or pollards in a mix of grassland or other habitats. Wood pastures and parklands were widespread in lowland England through the medieval age until the early 19th century, when many were lost through enclosure. This decline has continued into the 20th century. Although regionally important examples are scattered throughout the country (such as Dunham Park in Cheshire) there are no reliable statistics on the extent of the resource. The best estimate is of 10-20,000 ha given in the UK Biodiversity Steering group report. Sites are frequently of historic, cultural and landscape importance and are outstanding not just nationally but at a European level. This is a Priority Habitat in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

Four Broad Types of site with varying origin are included in the UK Habitat Action Plan as follows:

Those derived from medieval forests and emparkments, wooded commons and parks and pastures containing trees.

Parklands originating in the 19th century but containing a vestige of older trees from a former landscape.

Neglected and unmanaged wood pasture with veteran trees in a matrix of secondary woodland, or scrub.

Parkland or wood pasture that has been converted to other land uses but where surviving veteran trees are of nature conservation interest.

This habitat is important for a number of priority species including invertebrates such as saproxylic beetles, rare lichens and fungi. Trees also provide roost sites and foraging areas for bats and hole-nesting birds. The principal tree species found are Pedunculate Oak, Beech, Ash, Wych Elm, Sweet Chestnut and Lime. Dead wood both standing and fallen is an essential component of this habitat. There are no estimates of the total area, status or condition of wood pasture and parkland habitats in North Merseyside and the majority of sites are likely to fall into the final three classification categories of the UK Habitat Action plan. Examples of this habitat type under varying regimes of management from neglected through to intensive include Halsnead Park and Knowsley Park in Knowsley.

### 9.3 Residential Broad Type

The residential broad-type character comprises 35% (2775.44 ha) of the total Knowsley area. The main residential elements of Knowsley's landscape can be summarised as follows:

- Farmhouse (including dispersed early farmsteads)
- Private Estate (including Elite Houses)
- Pre-1850 village/settlement cores
- Mid to low density suburban development of the late 19th and early 20th centuries
- Inter War and post-war social housing (including recent housing association developments)
- Private housing estates of the later 20th and early 21st centuries

The communities within Knowsley are, probably more so than almost any other metropolitan area, a creation of the 20th century. With the exception of Prescott and a few other smaller older settlements, the majority of the existing development in the area took place between the 1920s and the mid 1970s. Early urban development occurred around the cores of several hamlets in the early medieval period. This was surrounded by a sparsely settled landscape of predominantly isolated tenant farms, folds, halls, and the laithe houses of private landowners.

The only known medieval town in the district is Prescott. Prescott is an old market town which follows the traditional medieval grid pattern. Much of the plot layout and street pattern of medieval Prescott survives virtually intact. Eccleston Street, in particular, has several buildings with surviving post-medieval fabric including numbers 9 and 30. In the prosperous Georgian and early Victorian periods many buildings were rebuilt within medieval plot layouts and there are a number of fine Georgian houses surviving, particularly in Vicarage Place, Derby Street and the High Street. The 18th century brought considerable changes to Prescott and the continued growth in a number of craft industries created one of the earliest centres of the industrial revolution. These craft industries were concentrated on watchmaking, tool making and the potteries resulting in Prescott's increased prosperity and a rapid rise in population from an estimated 700 in the 1690s to 3,645 in 1801. The town also had close links with Liverpool's expanding overseas trade and as a result became an early important coaching centre on the Lancashire turnpike system.

Urban development in Knowsley expanded in the 17th and 18th centuries and village cores were formed. Much of Knowsley's urban development occurred in tandem with the development of turnpike roads in the early 18th century and later 19th century growth of the railways. During the 19th century the area of land in residential use rapidly increased, with the construction of terraced workers' housing and middle-class suburban dwellings. The industrialist's villa replaced the hereditary landowner's hall. During the Inter War and post-war eras the corporation replaced the industrialist, building society or private investor as the principal organisation building houses. Development continued in the late 20th century with private investors and housing associations playing a more prominent role.

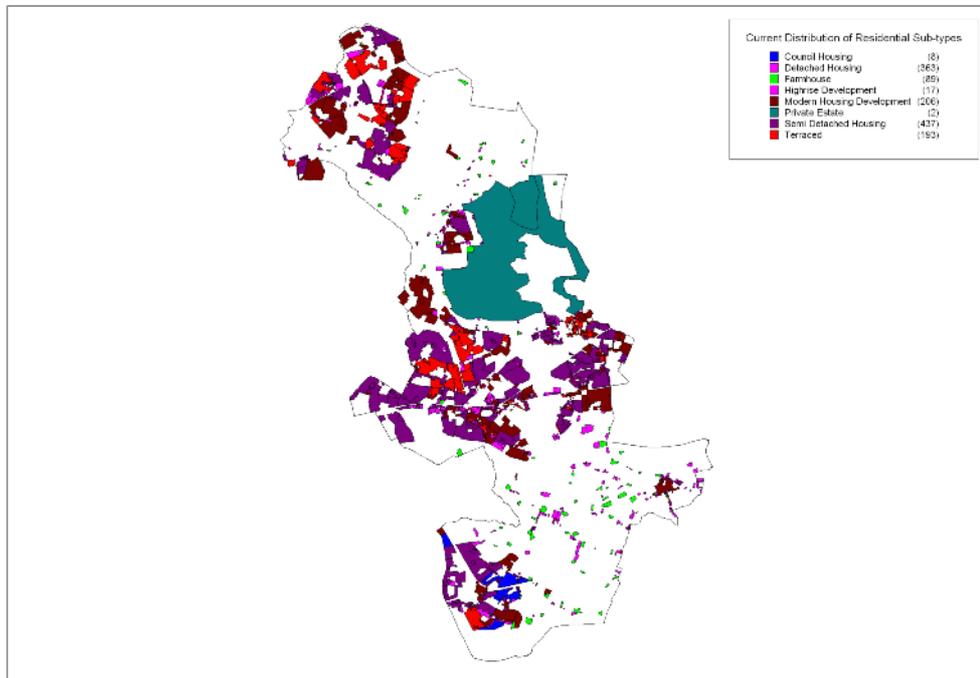


Figure 28 Current (2003) Residential Sub Type in Knowsley  
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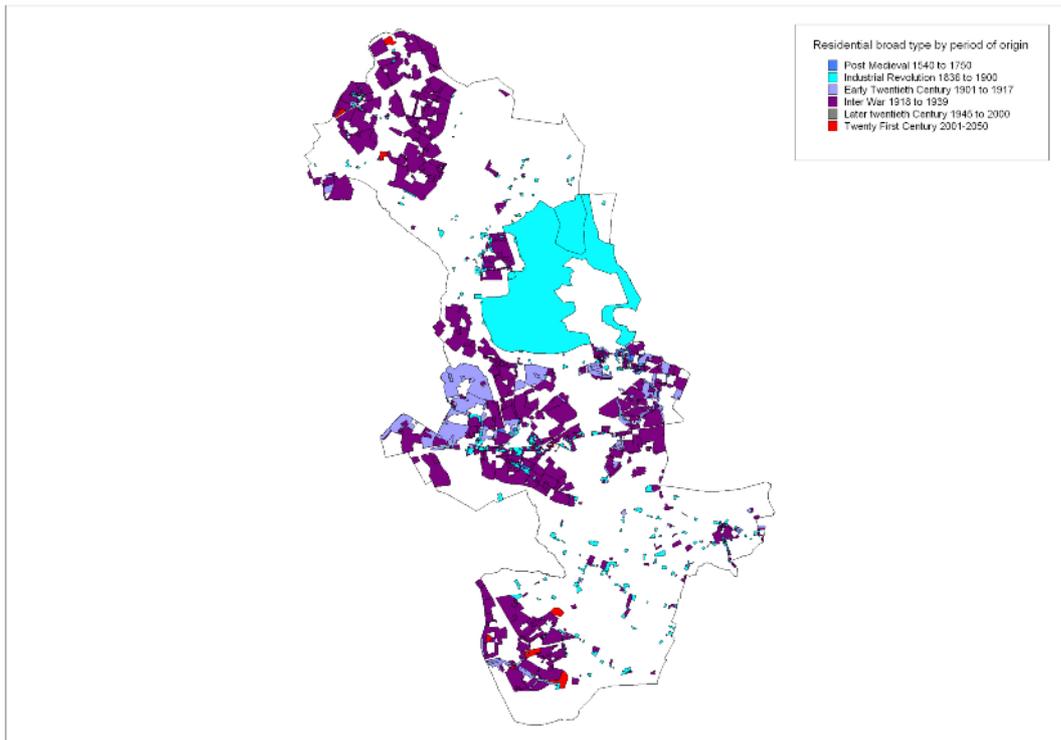


Figure 29 Current (2003) Residential in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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Residential Sub Type	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Farm house	89	69.09	2.49
Terraced Housing	193	315.50	11.37
Detached / Villa Housing	363	157.90	5.69
Semi-detached Housing	437	842.17	30.34
Council Housing	8	52.69	1.90
High-rise Development	17	14.00	0.50
Private Estate	2	799.37	28.80
Modern Housing Development	206	524.72	18.91
Totals	1315	2775.44	100%

Table 12 Current (2003) Residential Sub Type in Knowsley

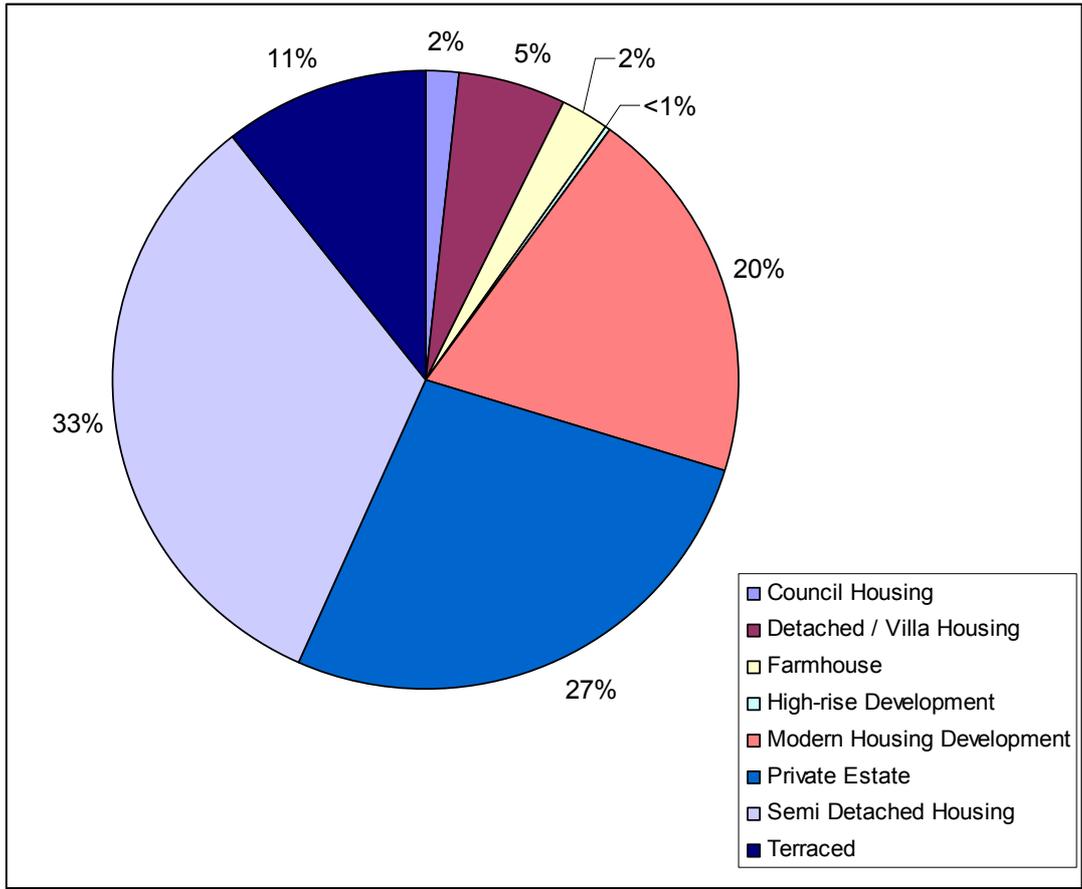


Figure 30 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Residential Sub Type (% of land)

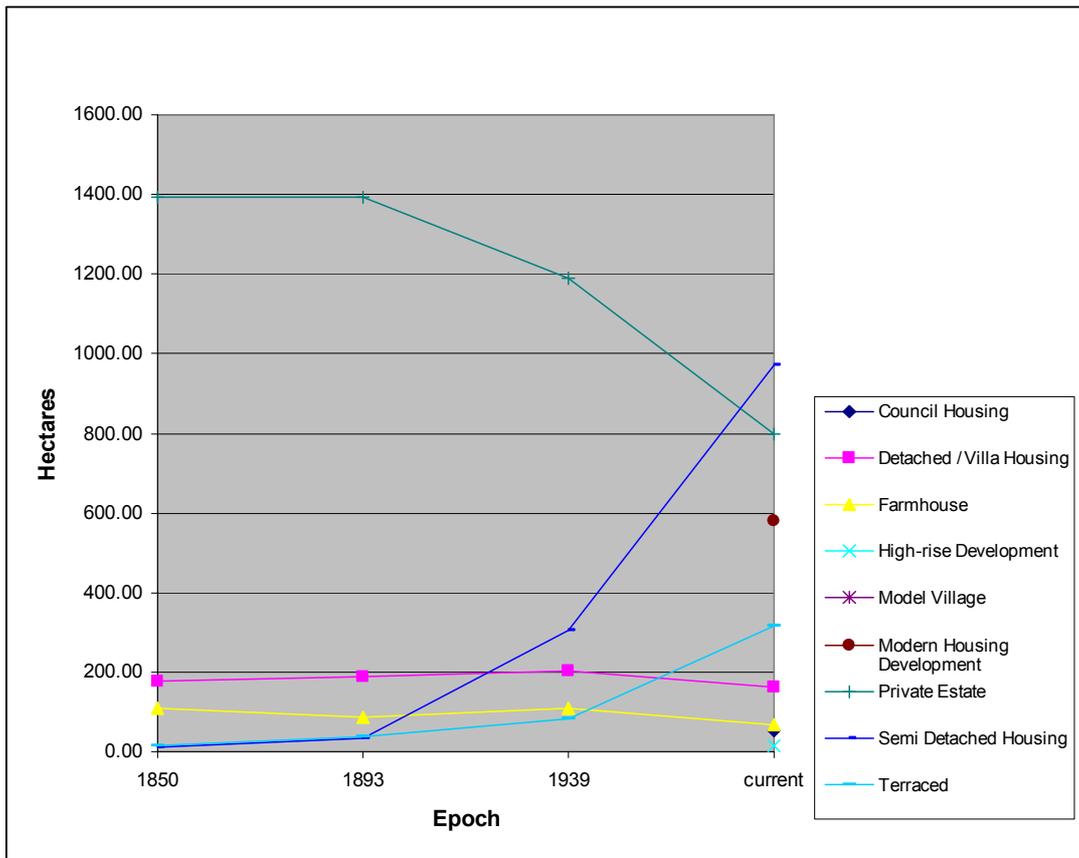


Figure 31 Graphical Representation of Knowsley Residential Sub Type through time

### 9.3.1 Farmhouse

Although these MHCP types represent only 2% of the total area of the Residential Broad Type in Knowsley, they are nonetheless significant in terms of historical importance. Farms frequently comprise a cluster of buildings arranged around a yard. They are very often named as farms on mapping, and if not can be identified by interpreting the plans of the buildings. Vernacular cottages can also be named on maps. Cottages usually appear in isolation as a single building with a garden, but are also found in short, sometimes uneven, rows. It is important to note that the MHCP study criteria means that the Farmhouse Sub Type does not represent all farm houses in Knowsley, which are already better recorded in the Knowsley Historic Environment Record.

The distribution of farms and cottages in Knowsley tends to fall into one of three patterns. Buildings are either dispersed evenly throughout the landscape, set in nucleated groups (folds), or concentrated into ribbon developments along linear routes. It is not uncommon to find historic farms and cottages engulfed by later development.

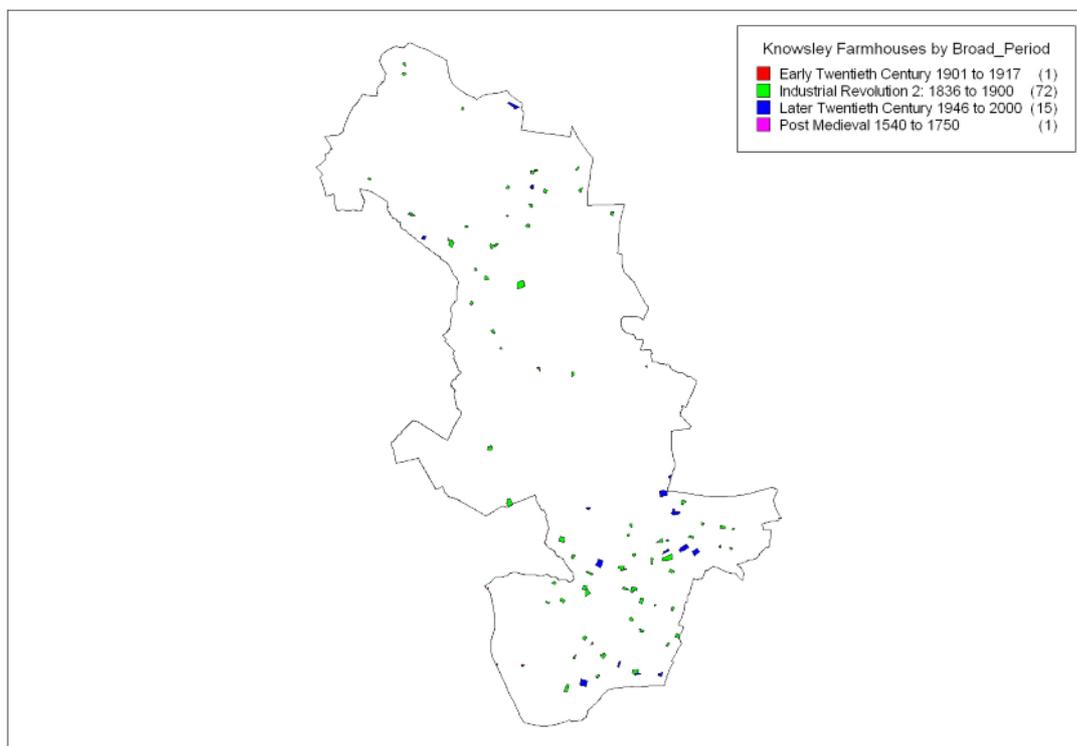


Figure 32 Current (2003) Farmhouses in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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Whilst about 28% of the current farms and cottages recorded in Knowsley by the MHCP are of 20th century date, a significant number have historic origins – around 71.5% appear to pre-date 1851. Some of these may be attributed to the early post-medieval period or earlier. The current number of farmhouses (from the MHCP) stands at 89 polygons (69.09 ha). This represents a massive reduction in the number of identified farmhouses from 187 (103.83 ha) in 1850, a high point of 192 polygons (105.22 ha) in 1893, and 182 polygons (109.03 ha) in 1939. The drop in the number of farmhouses can be explained by extensive clearance of farm land prior to the development of 20th century housing, commercial and industrial estates.

Farmhouse by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Post Medieval 1540 to 1750	1	0.22	0.32
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	72	49.20	71.21
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	1	0.11	0.16
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	15	19.56	28.31
Total	89	69.09	100%

Table 13 Current (2003) Farmhouse in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

### 9.3.2 Terraced Housing

Terraced houses represent almost 11% of the total area of the Residential Broad Type in Knowsley (315.5 ha), and 3.75% of the total Knowsley area. Terraces are rows of houses with a unified frontage, constructed predominantly in the late 18th to early 20th century. However, terraced housing continues to be built in answer to recent housing shortages. Where possible, the MHCP has distinguished between early and modern terraced builds, although many modern terraced blocks have been incorporated into the Modern Sub Type. This said, much of the terraced housing identified on the MHCP is of relatively recent construction, being built in the period 1946 to 2000 (currently 80.5% of the Terraced Sub Type total).

Terraced housing built before 1900 accounts for nearly 4.7% of the Terraced Sub Type total, and is concentrated around the 'old' town of Prescott. The quality of the 18th to 20th century buildings ranged from tiny back-to-back houses with poor sanitary conditions that were prone to overcrowding to model estate cottages. The standards of construction of terraces were raised in the late 19th century with the introduction of government by-laws concerning housing. Some terraces fronted directly onto the street, and where front gardens or yards were present, they were often very small. However, terraces of larger, higher-status houses with longer front gardens were also built to house some of the middle classes.

The scale of developments ranged from short individual rows to larger-scale ribbon developments along arterial routes, and more extensive estates laid out on a gridiron plan. These estates were constructed to provide inexpensive accommodation for the rapidly rising population of industrial workers, and are often physically associated with former industrial sites. Churches, halls, schools and social institutes were often incorporated into these developments to provide facilities for the community. Houses, industrial sites and institutional buildings were thus all elements of a wider social landscape. Gridiron terraced housing developments are present in zones around Prescott.

Terraced Housing by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	61	14.80	4.69
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	31	12.71	4.03
Inter War 1918 to 1939	14	33.90	10.74
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	87	254.10	80.54
Total	193	315.50	100%

Table 14 Current (2003) Terraced Housing in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

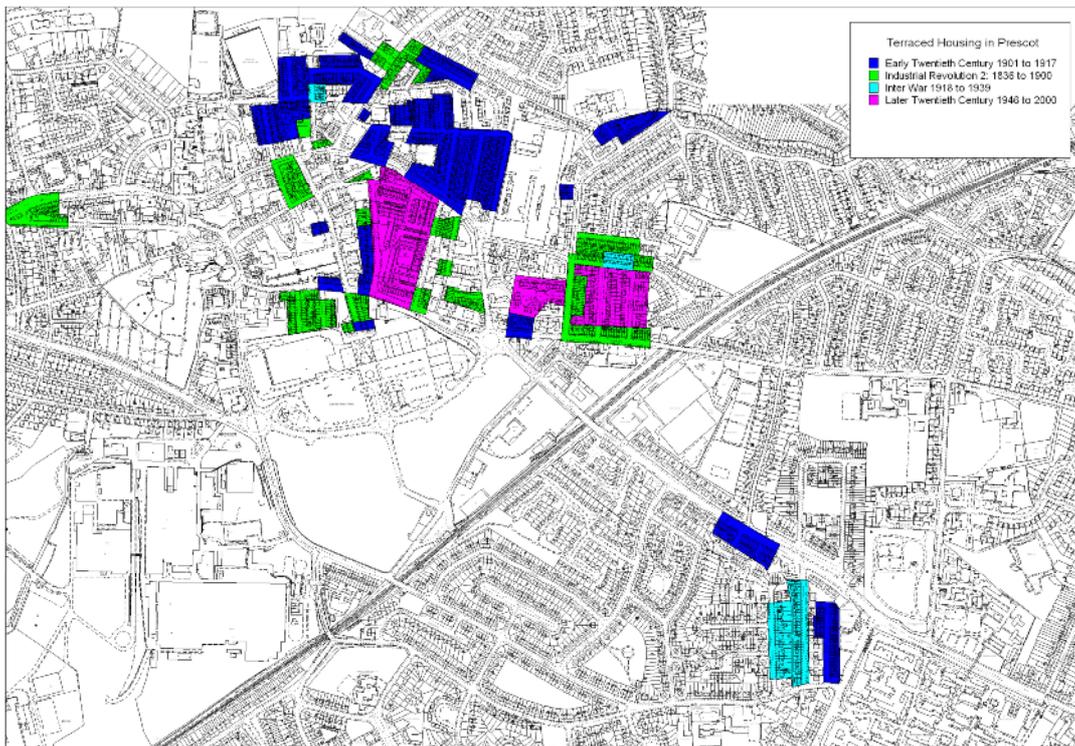


Figure 33 Current (2003) Terraced Housing in Prescot by Broad Period of origin  
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### **9.3.3 Detached Housing**

### **9.3.4 Villa Housing**

Villas and detached houses represent nearly 5.7% (158 ha) of the total area of the Residential Broad Type in Knowsley. These buildings represent the domiciles of the majority of the middle classes of Knowsley and nearby Liverpool from about the mid-19th century onwards. They are typically substantial detached or sometimes semi-detached houses set in large gardens. The type also includes modern high status dwellings as well as earlier villas.

The distribution of this MHCP type was influenced by the introduction of railways and tramways in the 19th century. Villas in Knowsley typically form late 19th century ribbon developments along the main transport routes or discrete suburban clusters. They are distributed throughout much of the district, with significant concentrations around Huyton with Roby and the east of the district (most likely representing overspill from Liverpool, itself to the east), around Prescot and in the centre adjacent to Knowsley Park.

Around 29% of the 19th century villas and detached houses in Knowsley have been lost or are no longer in their original use. Their size and former status make them ideal for conversion into offices or institutions such as residential care homes, or for subdivision into apartments or studio flats.

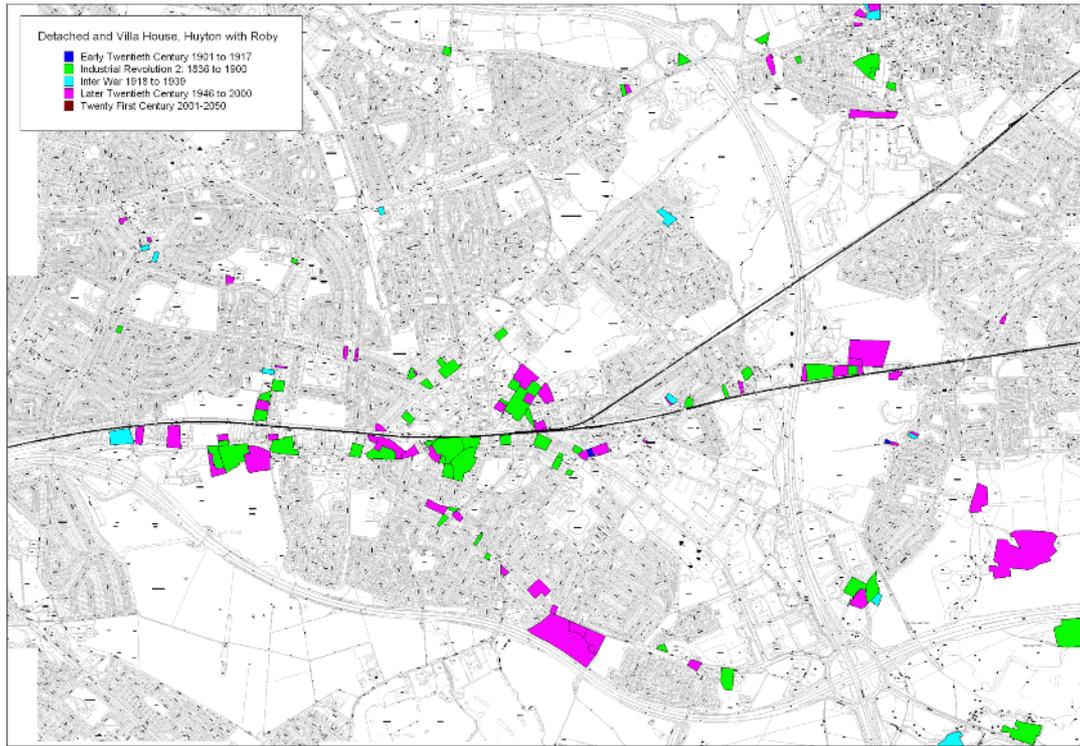


Figure 34 Detached houses and villa development along the route of the Liverpool to Manchester Railway, Huyton with Roby  
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### 9.3.5 Semi-Detached Housing

In Knowsley, semi-detached houses have been built from the mid 19th century up to the present day. The character type covers areas of privately built housing that are made up predominantly semi-detached houses. Such areas often include small amounts of housing of a different type, such as terraces, detached houses or small groups of low-rise flats. Significant numbers of semi-detached houses can also be found with other MCHP types, particularly Council Housing (social or planned estates), villas/detached housing (which can include substantial high-status later 19th century semis) and modern housing. It should therefore be borne in mind that the area covered by this MHCP type does not represent all of the actual semi-detached houses in the district. The area characterised during the project as Semi-detached covers 842.17 Ha, or 30.3% of the Residential Broad Type. Around 69% of these (by area) were built after 1945. If the (1918 to 1939) housing is included, the combined figure equates to 97% of the total.

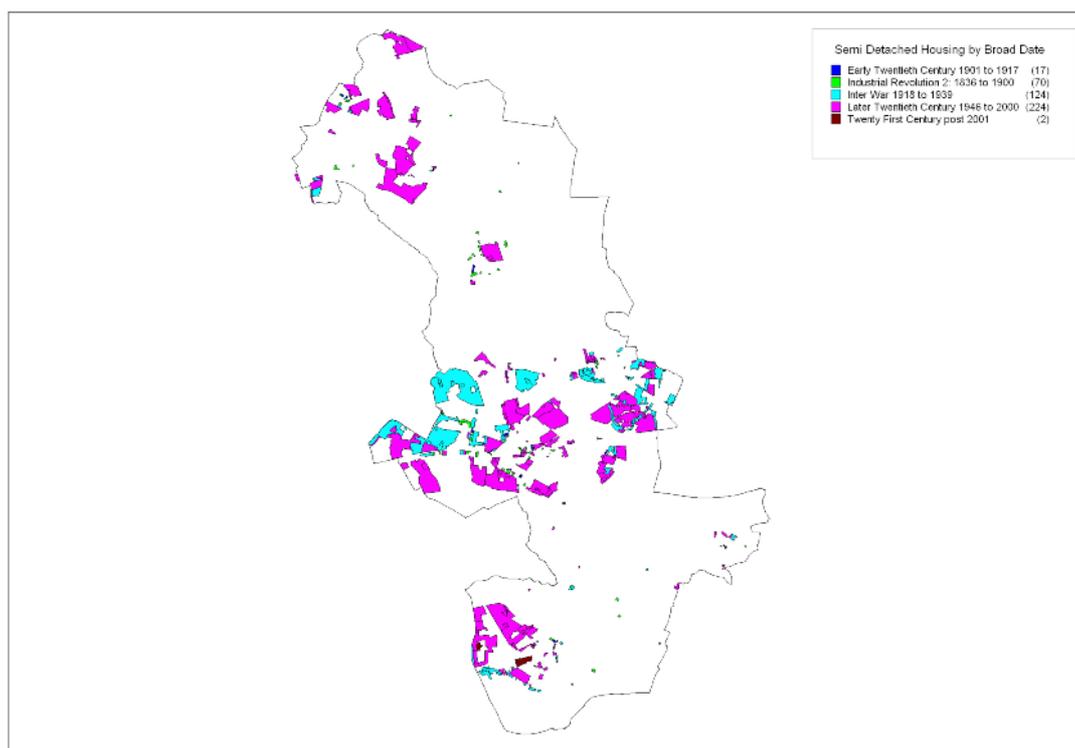


Figure 35 Current (2003) Semi-Detached Housing in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The distribution pattern of early Semi-Detached Housing (1850 to 1917) for the most part matches that of villa and detached housing - being influenced by the introduction of railways and tramways in the 19th century. Much like villa and detached housing, semi-detached housing typically form late 19th century ribbon developments along the

main transport routes or discrete suburban clusters. Inter War semi-detached is concentrated in a central band in the district, focused on Huyton with Roby and Prescott. For post-1945 semi-detached housing, the distribution pattern is similar to that of the Council Housing Sub Type, with three four core centres of development (Kirkby, Huyton with Roby, Prescott and Halewood) and a recent development near the village of Knowsley.

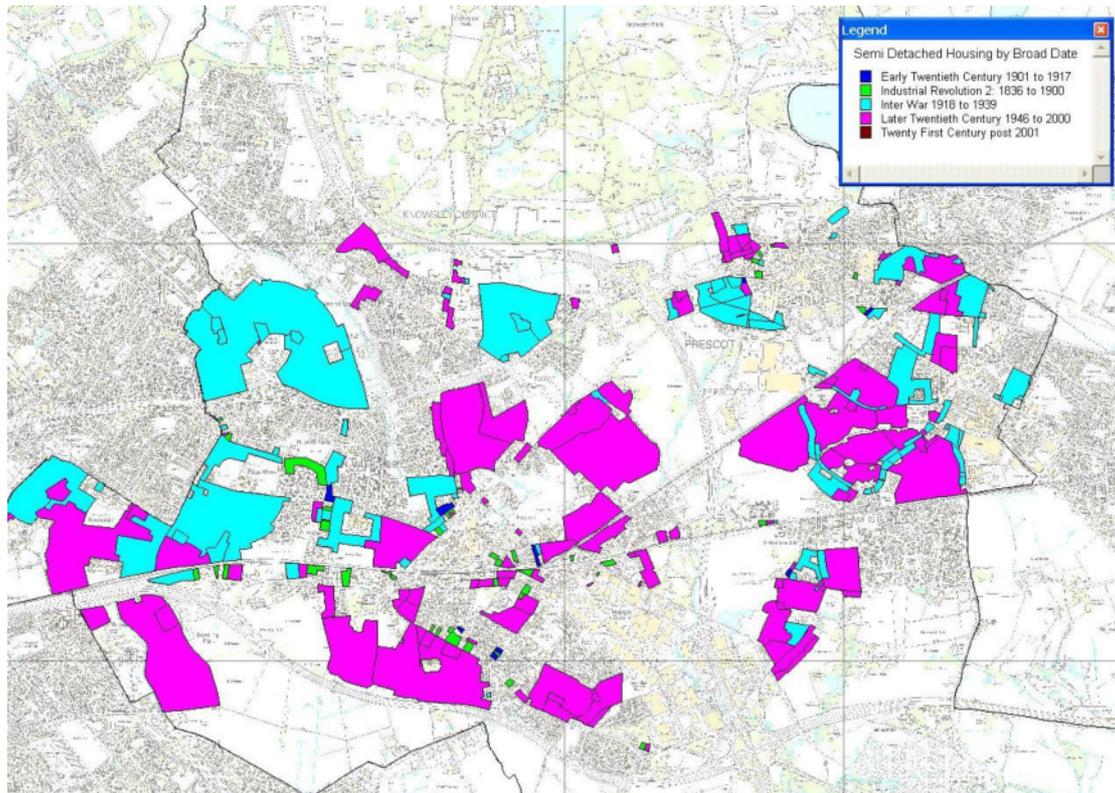


Figure 36 Current (2003) Semi-Detached Housing in Huyton-with-Roby by Broad Period of origin.

Note the earlier (19th century) housing distributed along railway lines.

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It is not unusual for examples of earlier residential MHCP types, such as farm complexes or elite residences, to be engulfed by suburban development. Such sites are often redeveloped, but may survive within the later estates as 'islands' of earlier character. Where possible, the MHCP has tried to separate out these survivals and give them character types of their own, or forming part of an overall Character Area Potential (see Appendices).

### 9.3.6 Council Housing

The bulk of all residential development extant within Knowsley district today was constructed in the mid- to late 20th century. Developments were principally built on former agricultural land, focused on four centres at Huyton with Roby, Kirkby, Stockbridge Village and Halewood.

Council Housing (including other social housing and estates) was identified on mapping on the basis of the scale and uniformity of the development, types of dwelling present and the size of gardens. Building types included a combination of rows of houses, semi-detached houses and low rise flats. The Council Housing Sub Type does not represent the actual scale, or size, of social housing because much of the housing types mentioned were recorded as Sub Types in their own right (particularly 'modern', 'semi-detached' and 'terraced' housing). High rise flats and discrete areas of low rise flats that were not part of mixed estates were treated as the separate High Rise Sub Type. Where pubs and small-scale schools and chapels were present within residential areas, they were recorded as separate character areas in their own right.

It is evident from mapping that the scale of construction of social housing developments increased dramatically through the 20th century. This was probably a result of government housing construction policies in the inter-war and post-war periods, and recent trends in construction for housing associations. From the MHCP, social housing represents 1.81% of the Residential Sub Type character and 0.63% of the Knowsley area. Examples within the MHCP:-

**The Bluebell Estate** - During the Second World War, Huyton was host to three wartime camps: an internment camp, a prisoner of war camp and a base for American servicemen. The internment camp was sited in and around what became known as the 'Bluebell Estate'. One of the biggest in the country, the camp was created to accommodate those 'enemy aliens' deemed a potential threat to national security. Huyton internees included artists Martin Bloch, Hugo Dachinger, and Walter Nessler. More than 40 per cent of Huyton's internees were over 50 years old. The camp, first occupied in May, 1940, was formed around several streets of new, empty council houses and flats and then made secure with high barbed wire fencing. Twelve internees were allocated to each house, but overcrowding resulted in many sleeping in tents. Initially the camp was only meant to hold the internees until they could be shipped to the Isle of Man. However, largely in response to the torpedoing of the transport ship 'The Arandora Star', with the loss of nearly 700 people, the deportations

ended. Most of the internees were released long before the camp closed in 1942. Many of the Bluebell Estate streets were given names of the great battles of the Second World War.

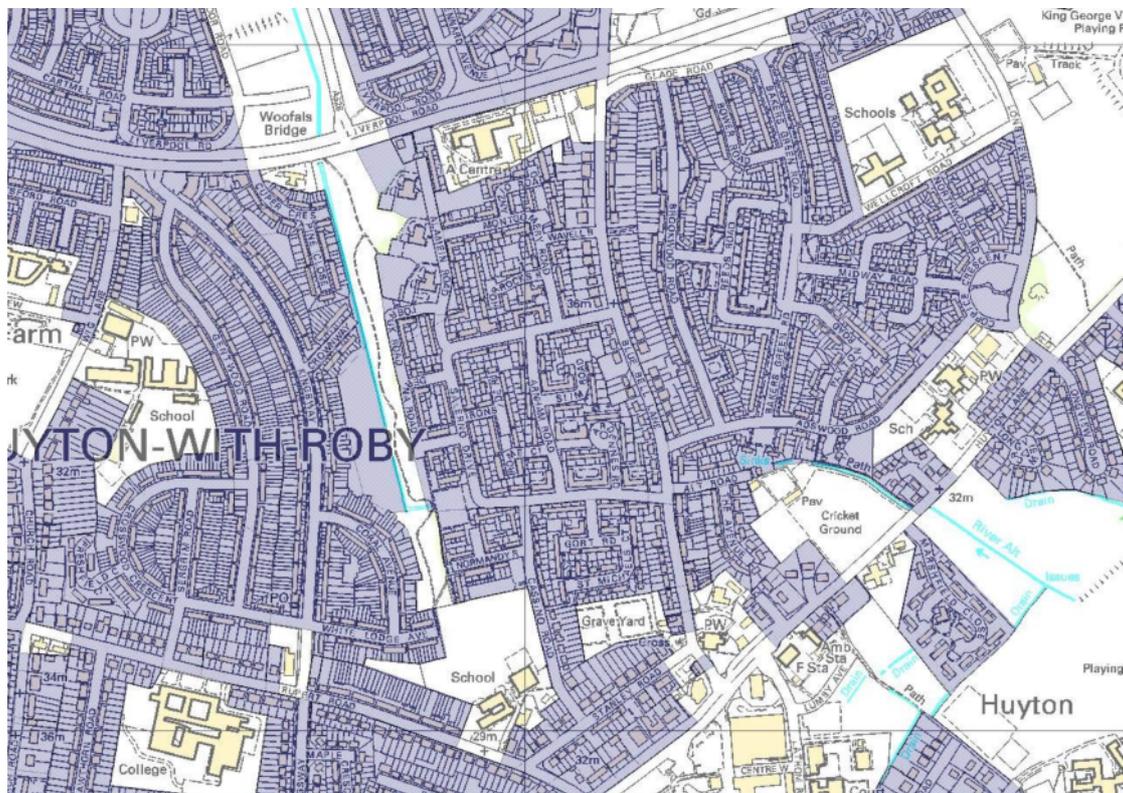


Figure 37 The Bluebell Estate, Huyton.

The Bluebell estate was purpose built in the Inter War period as council housing. During the Second World War it was the site of Huyton Internment Camp (the current Residential Broad Type Character is marked in blue).

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**Stockbridge Village** - was a new settlement built in the 1960s as Cantril Farm to rehouse some 15,000 people from inner-city slum clearances, and consisted of mainly council-owned properties which included several high-rise blocks of flats. It was part of a deal to rehouse some 200,000 people from inner-city Liverpool in new residential areas beyond the city's borders, with other families from inner-city Liverpool moving to places like Huyton, Kirkby, Halewood and Skelmersdale. The land on which Cantril Farm would be built was purchased by Liverpool council in 1961 for a sum of £132,500.

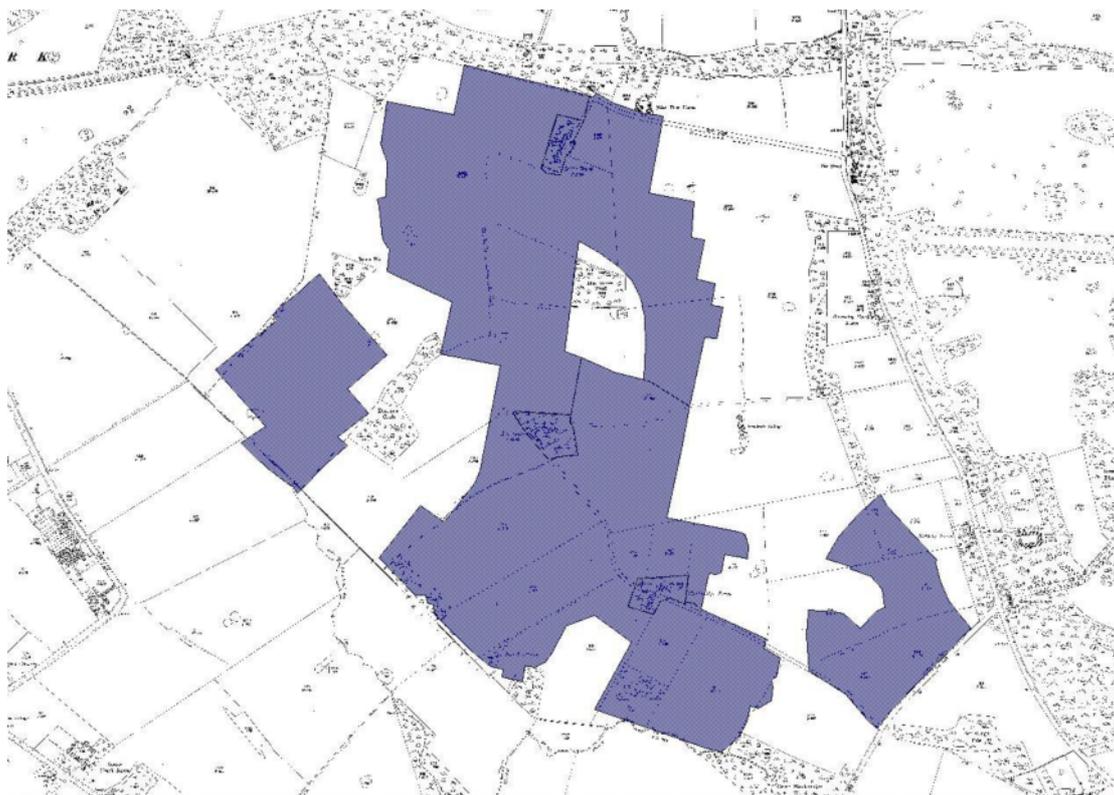


Figure 38 The Stockbridge Area on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939. The outline of the current Stockbridge Village housing estate (depicted in blue) overlays the 1939 mapping. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The first homes on the estate were ready for occupation during 1965, but initially the estate lacked facilities such as public transport, healthcare and shops, these facilities not being provided until a couple of years after the first residents arrived on the estate. Mobile shops were located on the estate until permanent buildings were erected. The first public house on the estate was opened in 1968, around the same time that the first bus routes were established. Subways were also erected to underpass the busiest roads on the estate for pedestrian safety. Small supermarkets were also erected in the late 1960s and the Withens Shopping Centre opened in 1970. A total of nine tower blocks were built in the late 1960s. The estate was in deep decline by 1980. By 1982, unemployment on the estate was at 49% among males and 80% among young people.



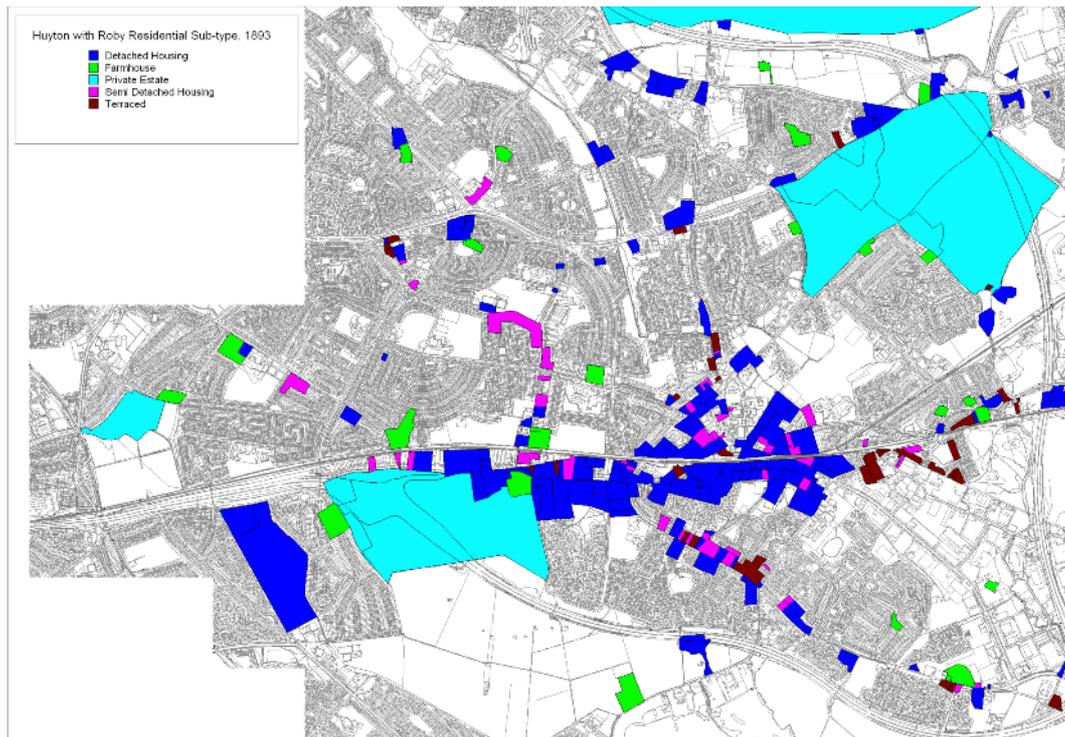


Figure 40 Huyton with Roby Residential Sub Types in 1893 (on Current 2003 mapping ).  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

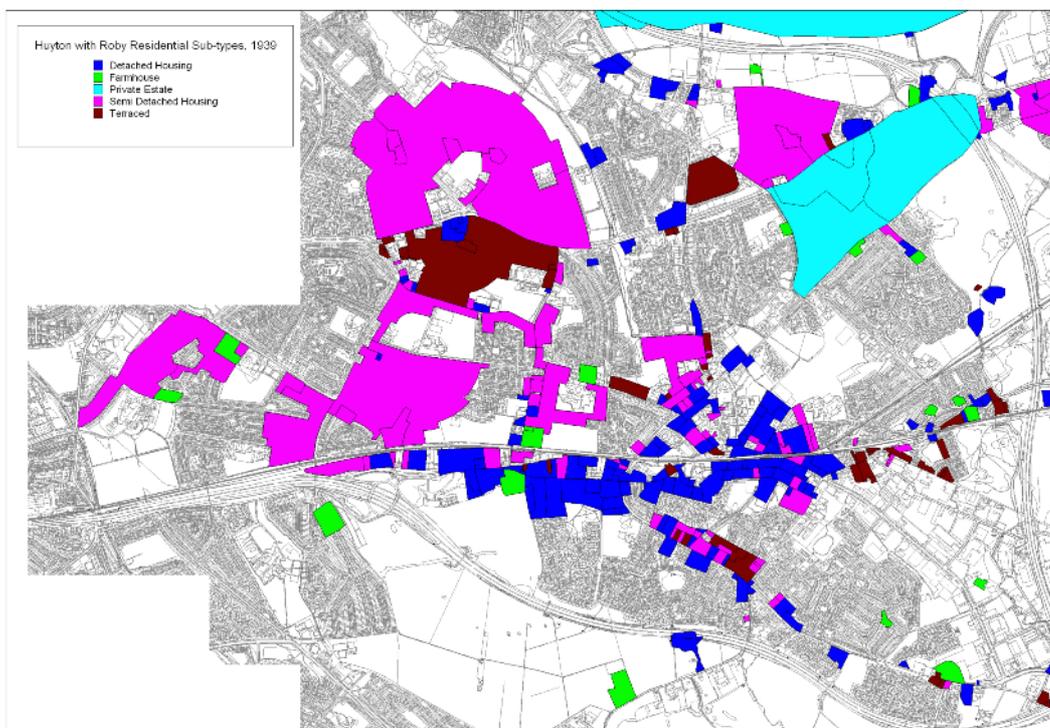


Figure 41 Huyton with Roby Residential Sub Types in 1939 (on Current 2003 mapping).  
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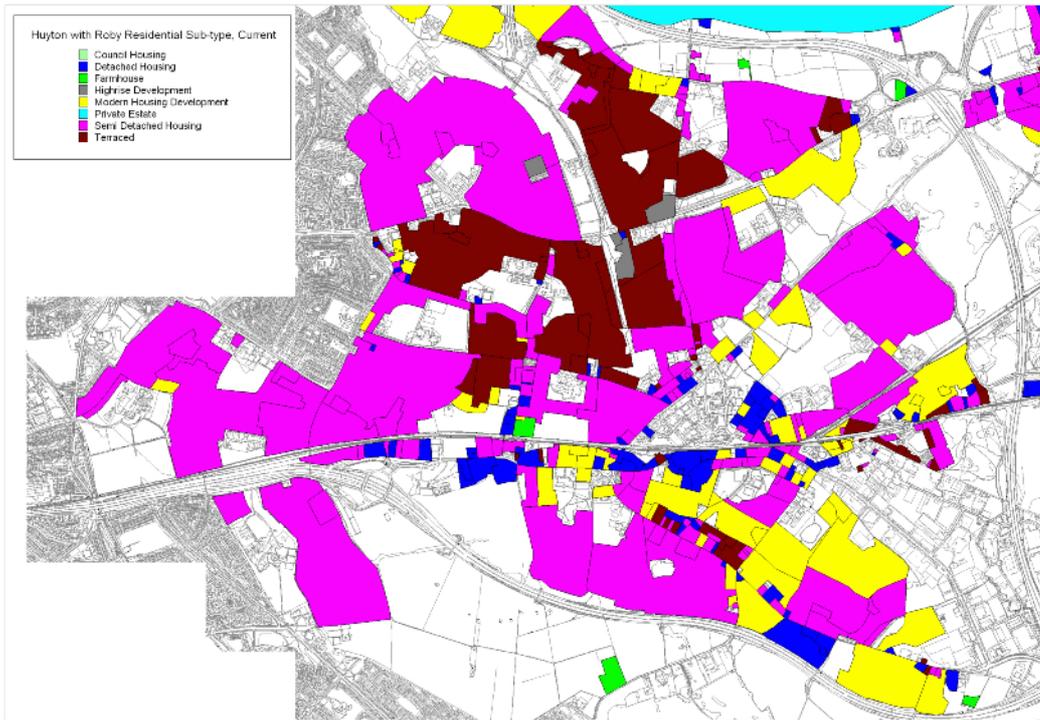


Figure 42 Huyton with Roby Residential Sub Types (Current 2003 mapping).  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

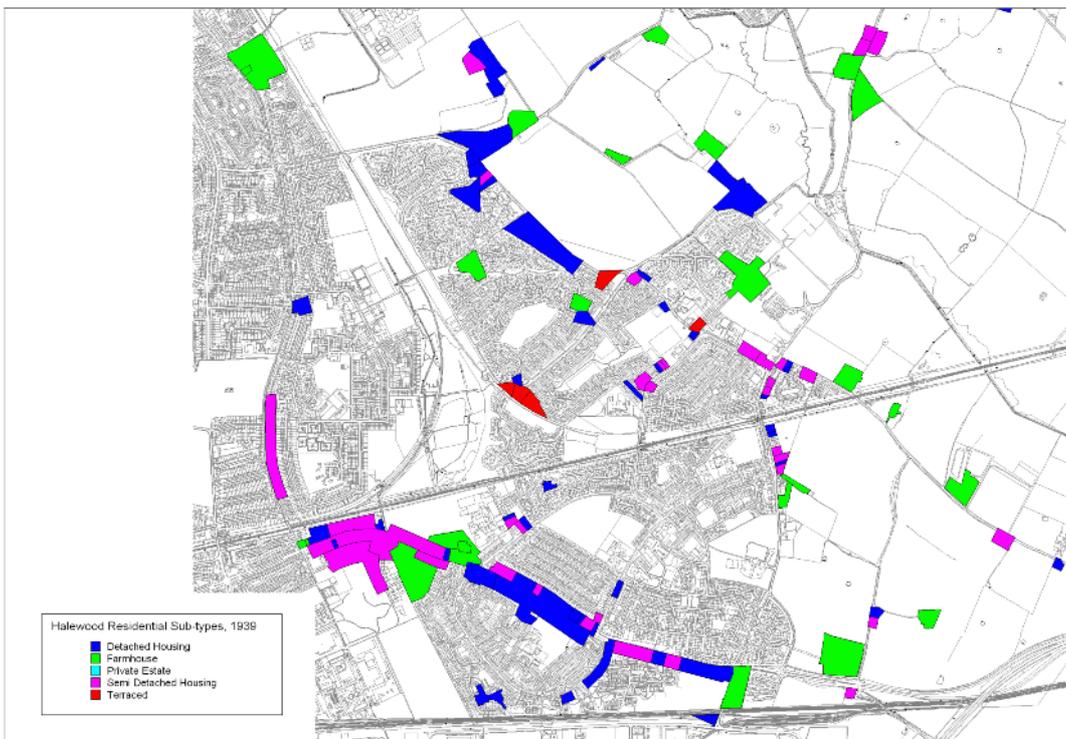


Figure 43 Halewood Residential Sub Types in 1939 (on Current 2003 mapping).  
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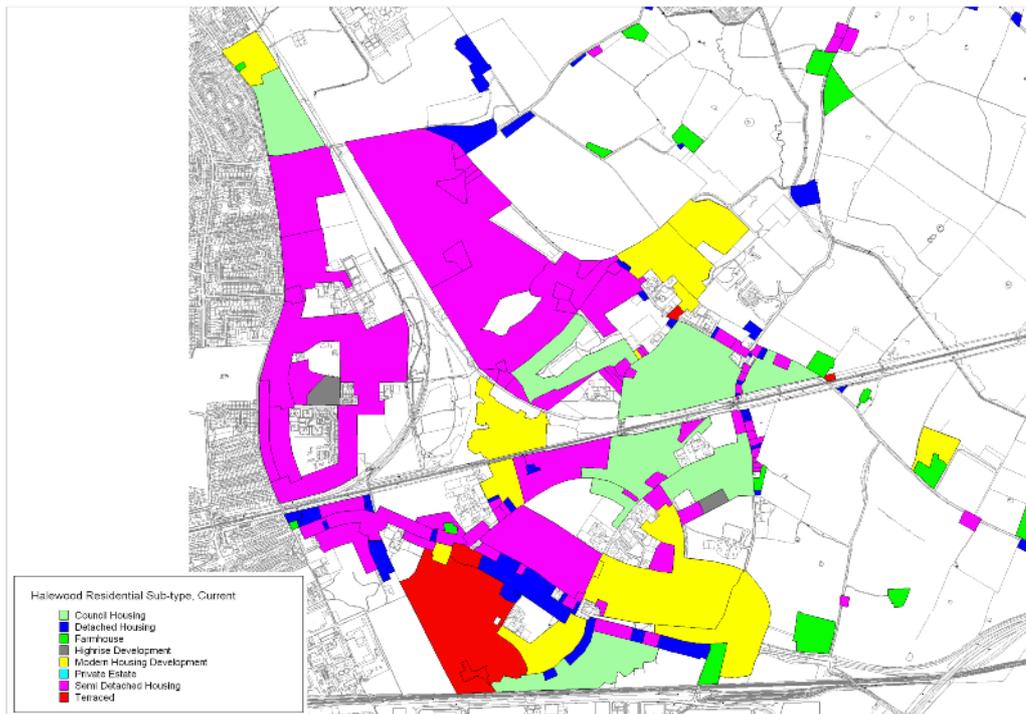


Figure 44 Halewood Residential Sub Types (Current 2003 mapping)  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

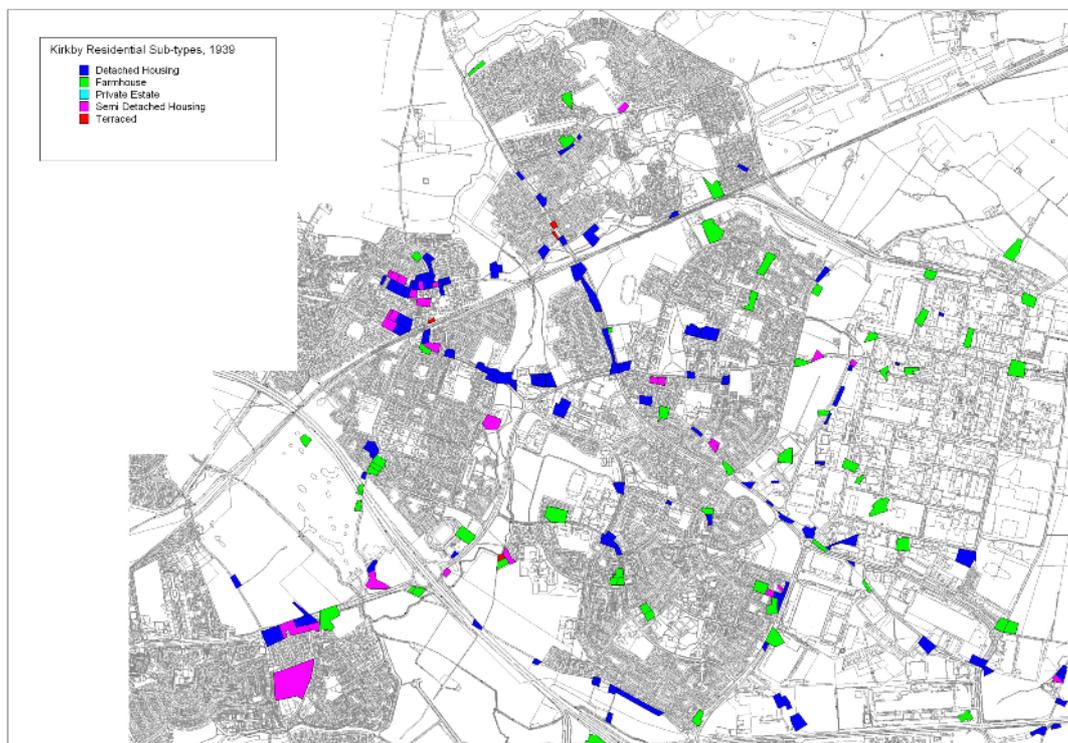


Figure 45 Kirkby Residential Sub Types in 1939 (on Current 2003 mapping).  
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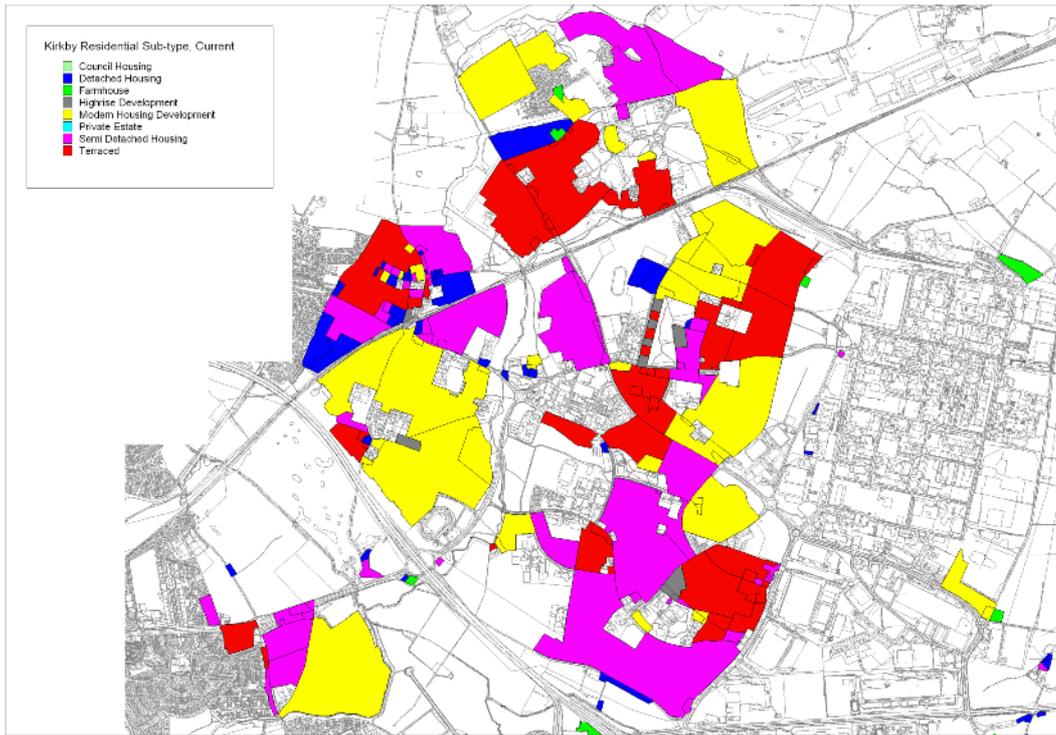


Figure 46 Kirkby Residential Sub Types (Current 2003 mapping).  
 The map shows the full extent of residential housing within the 'new town' of Kirkby alongside its associated industrial and commercial sectors. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### **9.3.7 High-rise Development**

The High-rise Sub Type comprises 0.48% of the Residential character and 0.17% of the current Knowsley area, and predominantly comprises high and low rise flats built after the Second World War. The majority of flats and apartments are newly built, but the type can also include developments focused on an earlier house or building that has been converted into several residences, where there are also new-build flats or apartments within the grounds. This type also contains houses that have been converted into apartments with no associated new build, thus retaining more of the historic character of a site. Many of these conversions have been incorporated into the 'villa/detached' characterisation.

Although High-rise development covers a relatively small area, it can dominate the local landscape in terms of scale and have a strong visual impact on the setting of historic buildings

### 9.3.8 Private Estate

The Private Estate type applies to large detached high-status dwellings, usually in a setting of formal gardens or private parkland and often with one or more driveways, lodges, granges and other associated buildings. Elite residences comprise 27.47% of the Residential Sub Type character and 9.50% of the Knowsley area. However, much of this is taken up by a single elite residence (Knowsley Hall).

Six elite residences were identified on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map of 1850. The houses and their grounds were still present on the 1893 mapping. By 1939 however, only three houses remained in private ownership, and one of these (Halsnead Park) was greatly reduced in size. On the current 2003 mapping, only one appears to still be in use as individual residence, with the others now in alternative use or demolished. Typically, the remaining country houses and elite residences are now in council ownership or have been converted into schools, hotels or farms. Where houses do survive, their settings have often suffered as a result of development or neglect.

The origin of this type varies. Some, such as Knowsley Hall, date to the medieval period. Roby Hall has origins in the mid 16th century. However, a number of country houses in Knowsley date to the 18th and 19th centuries. During this period high-status dwellings were constructed by wealthy industrialists, such as Thingwall Hall, The Hazels and nearby Hurst House. Examples within the MHCP:-

**Thingwall Hall** is a Grade II Listed 18th Century house, remodelled by Harvey Lonsdale Elmes c.1846-7. The 18th century house was called 'Summer Hill' on Yates 1768 map'. Thomas Case of the prominent Case family and also Mayor of Liverpool in 1817 lived there for a time. A Liverpool merchant Thomas Crowther lived there in 1824 and in 1845 the property was purchased from the executors of Thomas Case by Samuel Thompson. It eventually descended through the important Thompson family, to his son and grandson, Samuel Henry Thompson and Henry Yates Thompson before being sold by Annie Thompson to Sir David Radcliffe at the beginning of 1899, who in turn sold the property to a land company in 1903 (Pollard and Pevsner, 2006).

The mansion house and 10 acres (40,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of the surrounding estate were subsequently purchased by a Belgian religious order, the Brothers of Charity and it became known as St Edward's Home, a poor law school and eventually a residential

care home and sheltered accommodation for vulnerable adults. Beyond the hall there is a small "village" of housing for the residents, along with a garden centre which provides some employment and activity for many of them.

In most recent years the land was purchased by a housing developer with the intent to construct up to 550 homes upon the site.

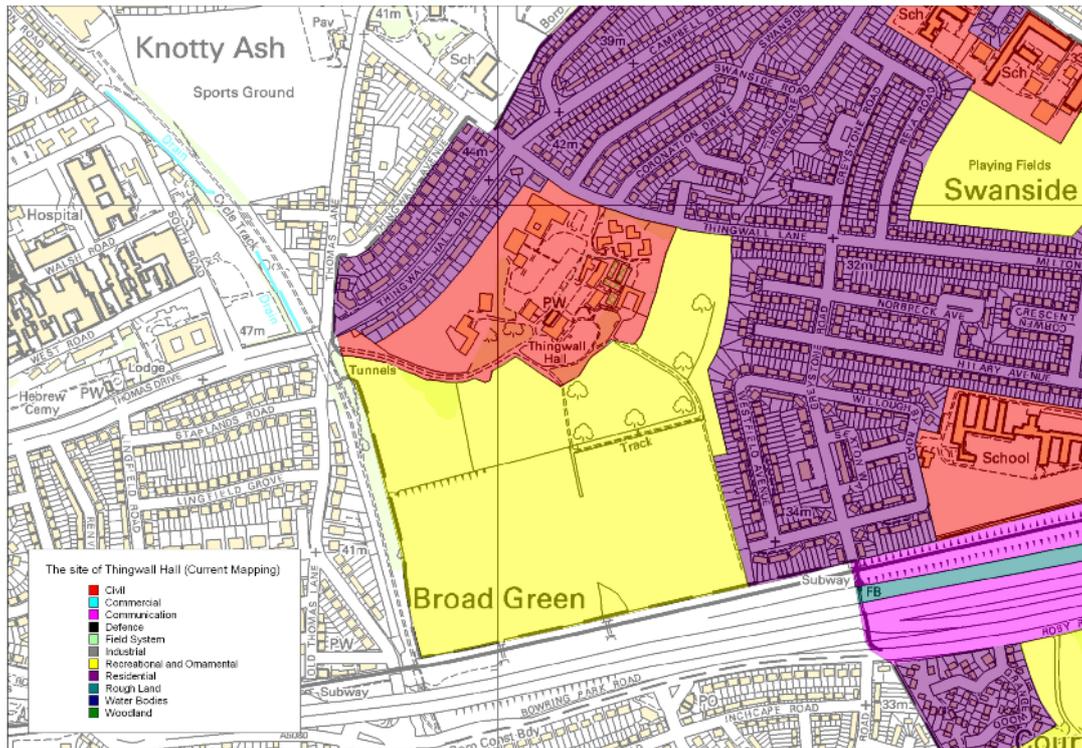


Figure 47 The area of Thingwall Hall (Current 2003 mapping). The hall building still stands. © Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

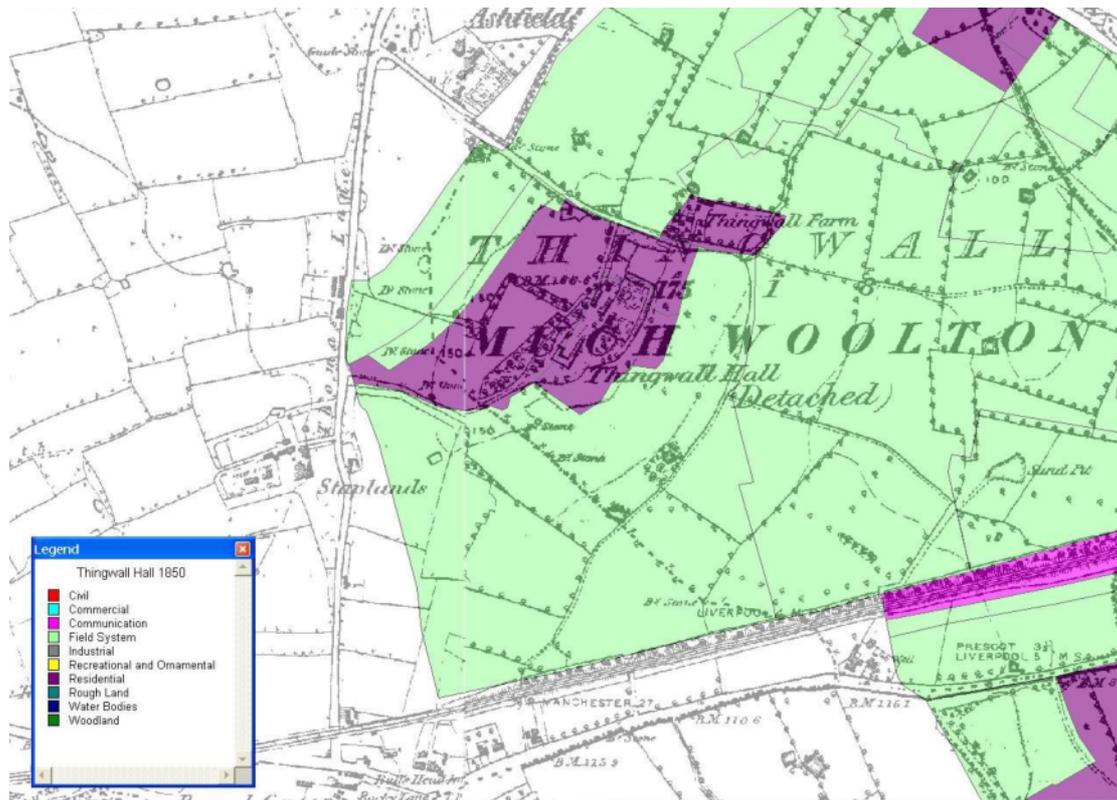


Figure 48 Thingwall Hall on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

**Roby Hall** - was known as Bury Hall in the 16th century after the family who lived there, although its precise age is unknown. In 1761, John Williamson, Mayor of Liverpool, built a new building to the south-west of the Old Hall, and both buildings feature on early Ordnance Survey maps. The Hall had been bequeathed in 1906 by William Benjamin Bowring, the city's first elected Lord. Consisting of over 100 acres, a mansion and some cottages, it was offered to the Corporation for the use of the inhabitants of Liverpool for all time. In 1913 it became the first municipal golf course in England and in 1921, the old English gardens were opened to the public. Although the Hall itself was demolished in the early 1950s, the land and gardens, which had been cultivated during the war, were restored by the Corporation. In the 1980s the gardens were sold by Liverpool City Council and the park was taken-over by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough June 1997 with a view to an application to the Heritage Board to assist the restoration of the 'walled' and 'sunken' gardens and to develop the golf course.



Figure 49 Roby Hall and associated detached/villa houses on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)



Figure 50 Roby Hall (incorporated into Bowring Park) and the M62 Motorway, Current 2003 mapping  
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The **Red Hazels**, Liverpool Road, Huyton, was built in 1764 and during its long lifetime has been the residence of many wealthy people. It was at one time the home of the Misses Pilkington, members of the famous Pilkington family of glass-makers from St Helens. The area of the Red Hazels was once the C. F. Mott Teacher Training College and was subsequently taken over by the Liverpool Polytechnic (Liverpool John Moores University). The site is now King's Business Park with the Hazels becoming a hotel.

**Hurst House** was built in 1840 and now forms the clubhouse for Huyton and Prescot Golf Club.

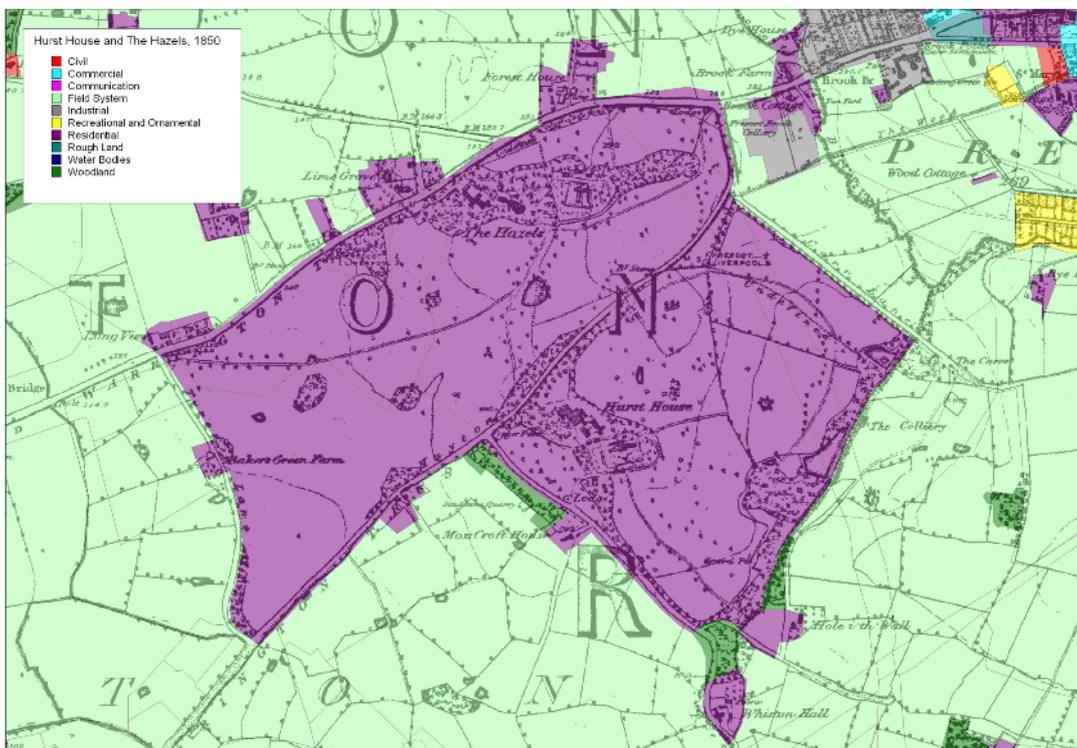


Figure 51 Hurst House and The Hazels as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

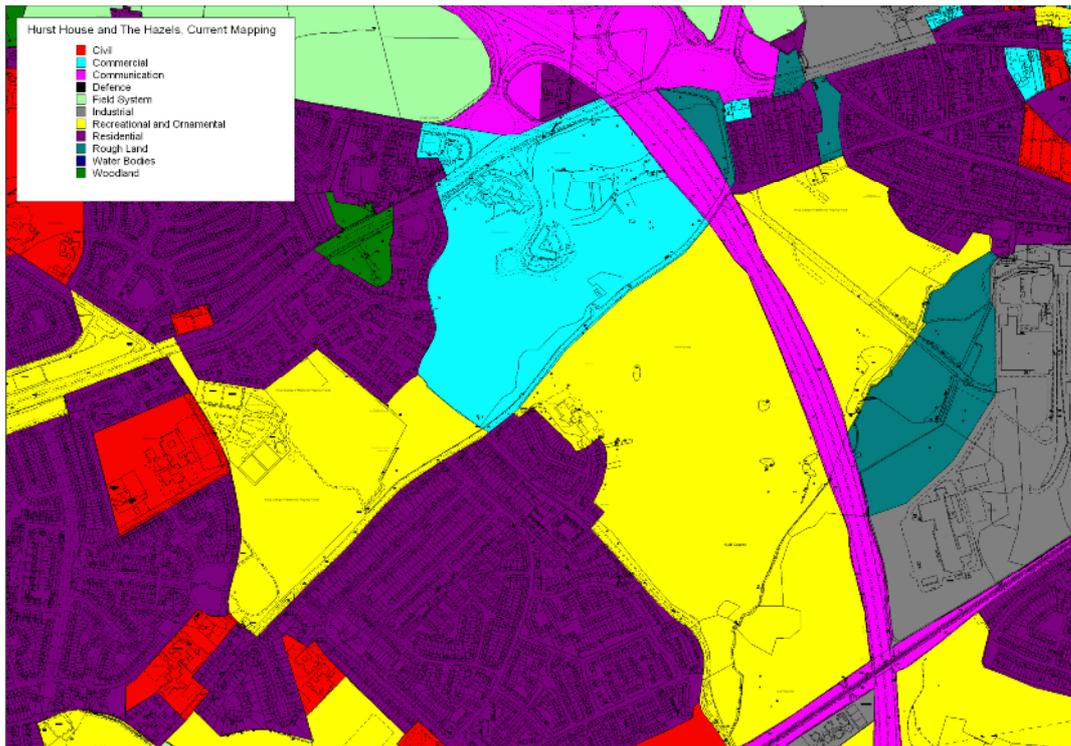


Figure 52 Hurst House and The Hazels (Current 2003 mapping)  
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### **Knowsley Hall**

Knowsley district is dominated by a single large private estate house and grounds - Knowsley Hall, Merseyside's only stately home and home of the Earls of Derby. It is believed that a building has been on the current Hall's site since the 12th century, but the earliest part of the current building dates from about 1500, now with Georgian façade and fine Jacobean, Baroque and Victorian interiors.

Knowsley Hall remains one of Merseyside's hidden treasures; having been open for a brief period after the Second World War, one half of the Hall was then rented to the Merseyside Police for about 30 years until 1997. Thereafter, then the present Earl and Countess have made it their home and carried out phases of restoration. The first phase was completed in 1999 after which Knowsley Hall has been available for conferences, product launches, weddings and other private parties, award ceremonies, and charity balls.

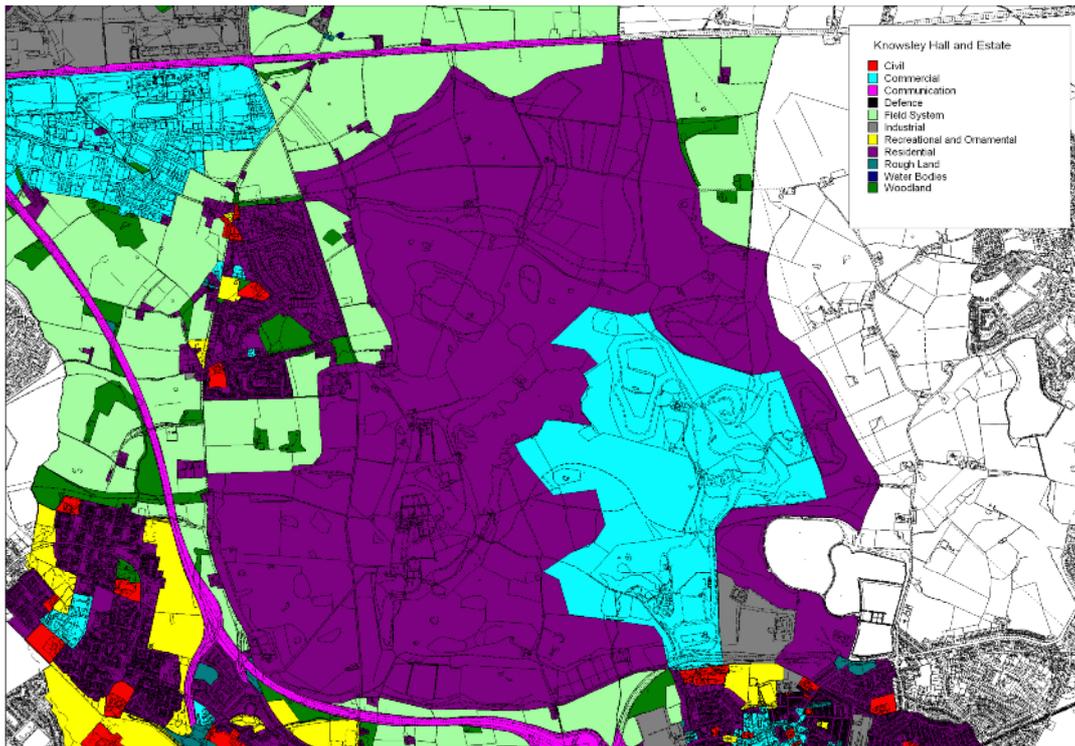


Figure 53 Knowsley Hall and Estate (Current 2003 mapping with the safari park depicted in light blue)  
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(The following is sourced entirely from Knowsley Council Local History pages <http://histroy.knowsley.gov.uk/estate> Parts 1-8 .Accessed July 2010).

“Knowsley was held by the Lathom family since the twelfth century. In 1385, with the marriage of Isabel de Lathom to Sir John de Stanley the lands passed to the Stanley family who still hold it today. Sir John Stanley was made Lord Deputy of Ireland by Richard II and went on to hold a number of distinguished positions including Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Treasurer of the Royal Household and Lord of the Isle of Man. His grandson Thomas also became Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and in 1456 was summoned to Parliament as Lord Stanley. The second Lord Stanley (another Thomas) was knighted in 1460 and was created the First Earl of Derby by a grateful King Henry VII after his intervention proved decisive in the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

Although Lathom House, near Ormskirk, was the chief seat of the family (until its destruction in the Civil War), the first Earl must have kept a great house at Knowsley. He built the 'Royal Lodging' in 1495 in honour of Henry VII's visit. In the late sixteenth century it had 118 servants including two trumpeters and a Fool named Henry. By the mid 17th century, the Hall was a huddle of buildings, of various dates, materials and

uses that ran along the north-south line of the site of the present building. Beyond the Royal Lodging were the kitchens and various court offices, to the east was the chapel with the stables to the north.

Amongst the impressive features within the house are the mantelpiece built to commemorate the loyalty of the 7th Earl, and the chair upon which he knelt for his execution at Bolton in 1651. The Earl's loyalty to the Crown was quickly forgotten, and it was to be some years until the estate was restored to the family. The tenth Earl practically rebuilt the Hall, adding a colonnade to the extreme southern end of the house, just one of his many legacies which also include the impressive Stucco Room. The tenth Earl was also a keen art-lover and commissioned local artist Hamlet Winstanley to collect artwork from the Continent.

A painting from the 1730s shows Knowsley Hall consisting of a regular building of brick with stone dressings, quoins and balustrades all with tall sash windows. The west front was perfectly symmetrical with a projecting centre and a broad pediment. A terrace ran across the width of the house. The open sides of the L-shape were completed by a long wall to the north and an ornamental iron railing with central gates and supporting piers surmounted by the eagles of the family crest. Outside and to the north a new stable building, in the same architectural style was added. This was destroyed in the early nineteenth century and replaced in 1850.

The east front was more irregular, with a square brick tower projecting from the centre of the building and beyond this was a chapel and an orangery. The southern portion of the east front (the Hesketh Wing) was given its present regular appearance by the eleventh Earl.

In the 1780s the twelfth Earl, founded the 'Derby' and the 'Oaks' horseraces. The latter taking its name from the Earl's house near Epsom. At Knowsley he commissioned the architect Robert Adam to draw up some plans for the house, but his plans to practically rebuild the house into a Palace were rejected in favour of more modest improvements, which included a few lodges and gates and a dairy building all of which have since now disappeared. The Earl also employed the Liverpool architect John Foster to create the State Dining Room, measuring some fifty three feet in length and thirty seven feet in width in honour of a visit by King George IV in 1821. Foster also worked on the reconstruction of the kitchens and the Flag Tower.

A storey was added along the east front and above the Colonnade to accommodate the growing Victorian household. While beyond the Royal Lodging Foster's buildings were increased in scale and weight to surround a quadrangle with towers. A vestibule and porte cochere were added to the centre of the west front. Castellated lodges, Gothic bridges and Swiss boat houses were also added to the Estate.

The thirteenth Earl, who had a passion for natural history had conservatories, aviaries and animal sheds built around the Estate. His menagerie is reported to have cost £10,000 and contained over 300 species of birds. He was also patron to Edward Lear, who was hired by the Earl to produce illustrations of the wildlife at Knowsley. The thirteenth Earl, like many of his predecessors, built up an extensive library, with the Hall having at one time two separate libraries; the mahogany library and a smaller secondary library.

In the 1950s the seventeenth Earl set about removing much of the Victorian excess. He attempted to bring all these differing styles into order with the addition of a third storey in the main block and added the family crest, 'the Eagle and Child' on its summit.

The north front of Knowsley Hall was often used for official photographs of Royal visits including Edward VII and Queen Alexandra in July 1905, King George V and Queen Mary in July 1913, and George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1938. Such visits were not just private matters, with the estate workers and villagers invited to join-in the celebrations. The Estate was often the focus of local and regional events including the Prescott peace celebrations in July 1919.

An integral part of the Estate are the many lodges around its perimeter, they would originally have been simple gates but over time became extensive and more ornate. The most impressive of which was the Grand Lodge which was demolished in 1972 during the construction of the M57 Motorway. Other lodges include Huyton and Croxteth lodges which were designed by William Burn in 1837. The main approach to the Hall was through an avenue of trees; even today the approach to the gates is impressive.

The Knowsley Hall Estate is far from ornamental with a number of large farms, including Home Farm, being located within the grounds. The gardens have always been an important part of the Estate. In the seventeenth century they had consisted of a series of terraces. These were swept away in favour of the landscaped gardens

designed by Capability Brown in the mid 1770s. Consisting chiefly of wide lawns and groups of trees, they are enclosed on the east and south sides by a series of small lakes, some of which like the White Man Dam date back to the 1720s. In 1971 a 360 acre Safari Park was opened allowing visitors to see lions, giraffes and elephants in relative freedom". (Knowsley Council Local History pages <http://history.knowsley.gov.uk/estate>. Parts 1-8. Accessed July 2010).

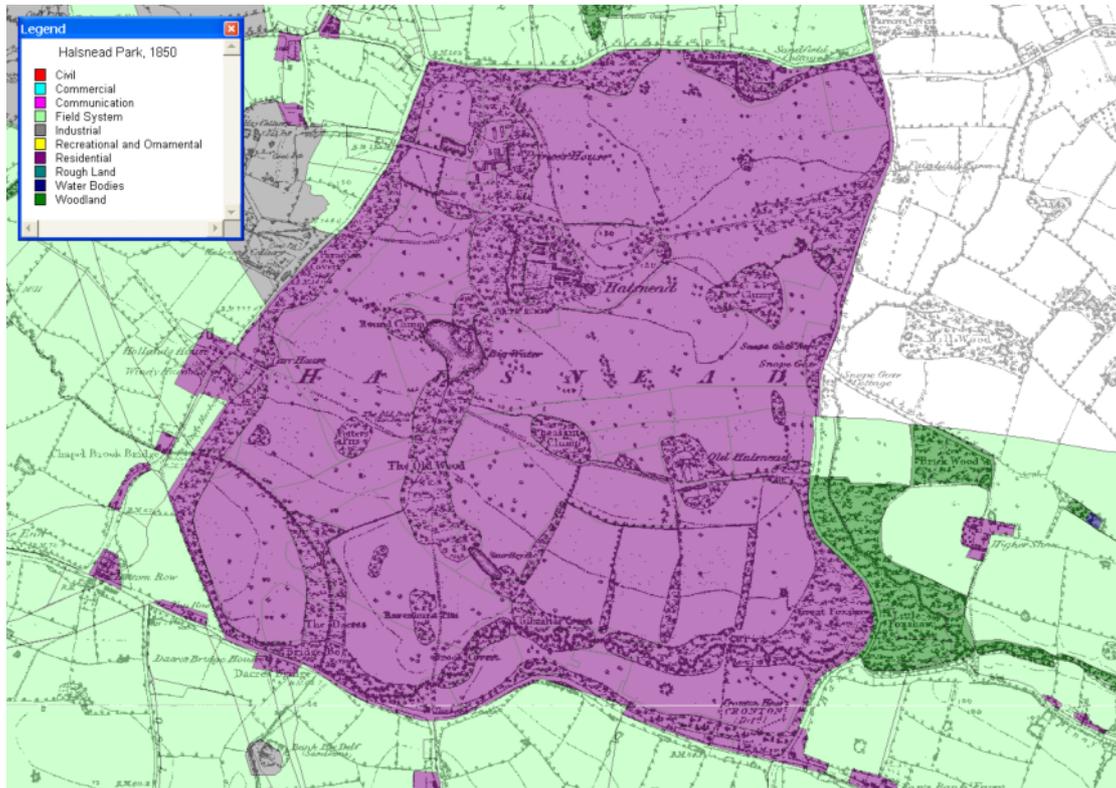


Figure 54 Halsnead Park depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

An important early hall, **Halsnead Hall**, was demolished in the Inter War period. Halsnead Hall was built in 1684 by Thomas Willis. It was known as the 'Red Hall' due to its use of the local red sandstone. In 1789, Richard Willis altered the front of the house according to John Soane's designs. The way in was through the lodge gates on Foxes Bank Lane or through the lodge on Windy Arbor Road opposite to the Parish Church. Around the house were shrubberies, wilderness walks, kitchen gardens, greenhouses, a walled orchard, many carriage roads and a lake (Big Water). It was sold in 1929 and was demolished in 1932.

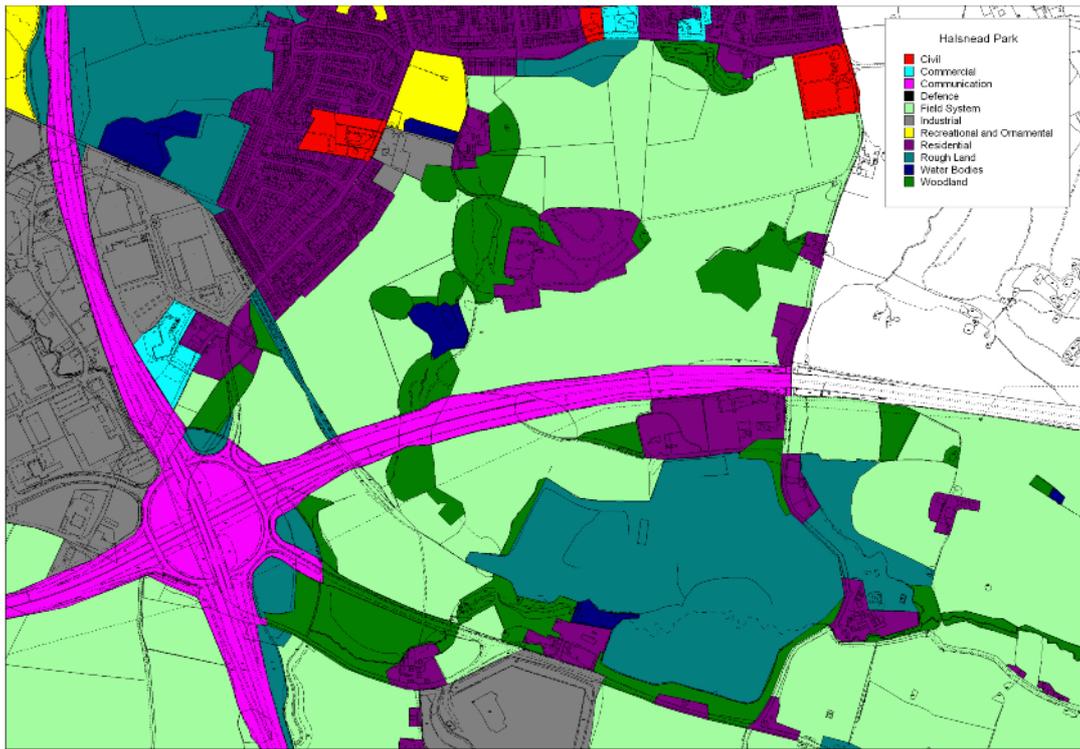


Figure 55 The Area of Halsnead Park.  
 The house was demolished in 1932, but the place name remains in use (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### 9.3.9 Modern Housing Development

Modern Housing Development consists 20% of the Residential character and 7% of the current Knowsley area. This MHCP type contains all housing developments that post-date 1945. As such, it contains a range of building types - detached and semi detached housing, terraces and low- and high-rise flats. Furthermore, a range of character types are also present - new builds, private housing developments and parts of planned estates that could not be assigned a separate Council Housing Sub Type.

The Sub Type also contains new housing estates built on Green and Brownfield sites as a result of recent housing shortages. Modern housing development comprises just over 581 ha, of which 481.72 ha (83%) has been built on land previously identified as fields systems or rough ground (as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancashire, 1939). The majority of these sites are located within, or near to established settlements and urban centres.

Eight distinct modern housing development areas can be distinguished:

- Kirkby and immediate environs - Westvale, Tower Hill, Northwood, Southdene, Gillmoss and Acorn Field
- Knowsley
- Stockbridge Village
- South Huyton and Huyton Quarry
- Prescot
- Whiston
- Cronton
- Halewood

Of particular note are the recent housing developments around the village settlements of Cronton and Knowsley, and the redesigned settlement of Stockbridge Village.

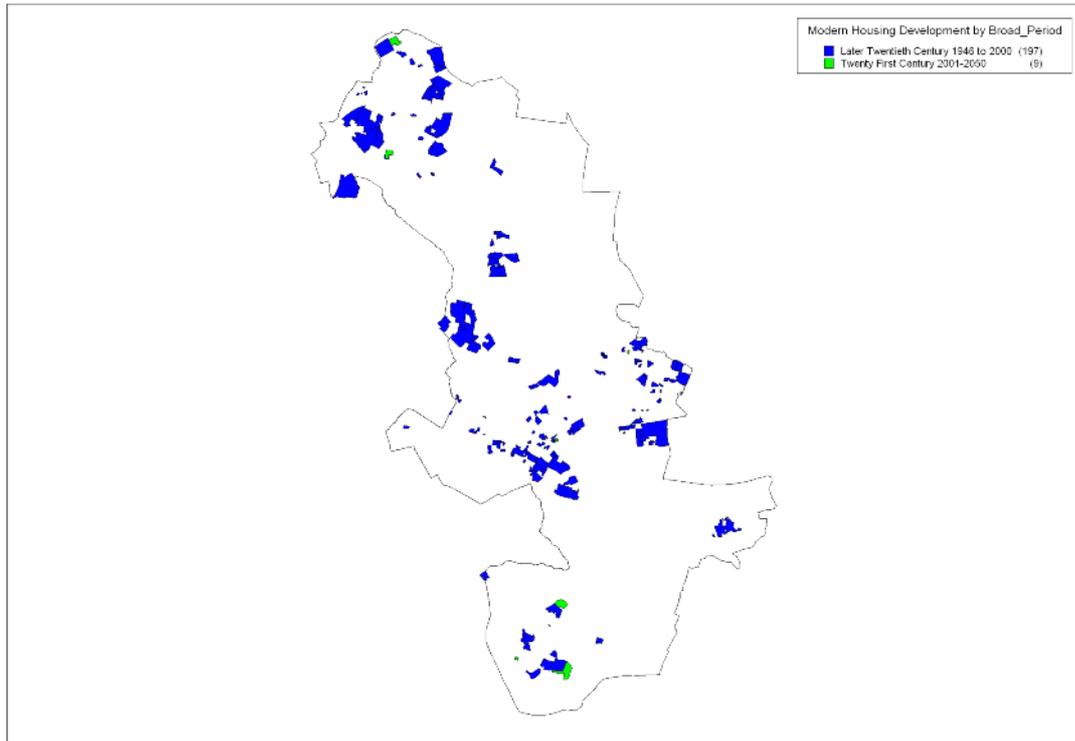


Figure 56 Current (2003) Modern Housing Development by Broad Period of origin.  
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#### 9.4 Recreational and Ornamental Broad Type

This type of open space includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks that provide opportunities for various informal recreation and community events. Parks provide a sense of place for the local community, some form of ecological and education benefit, help to address any social inclusion issues within wider society and also provide some form of structural and landscaping benefits to the surrounding local area. The MHCP study found that the Ornamental and Recreational Broad Type accounted for 9% (754.11 ha) of the Knowsley total.

Recreational and Ornamental Sub Type	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Allotment Gardens	3	3.11	0.42
Other (Recreational and Ornamental)	86	101.08	13.57
Public Park	55	213.96	28.71
Sports Ground	90	426.95	57.30
Totals	234	745.11	100%

Table 15 Current (2003) Recreational and Ornamental Sub Type in Knowsley

According to the Knowsley MBC Open Space, Recreation and Sports Needs Assessment and Strategy report (PMP 2005) there are 1,257 ha of parks and gardens in total across the Borough but only 88.5 ha when taking out the major private site of Knowsley Country Park and the strategically important borough site of Stadt Moers Country Park.

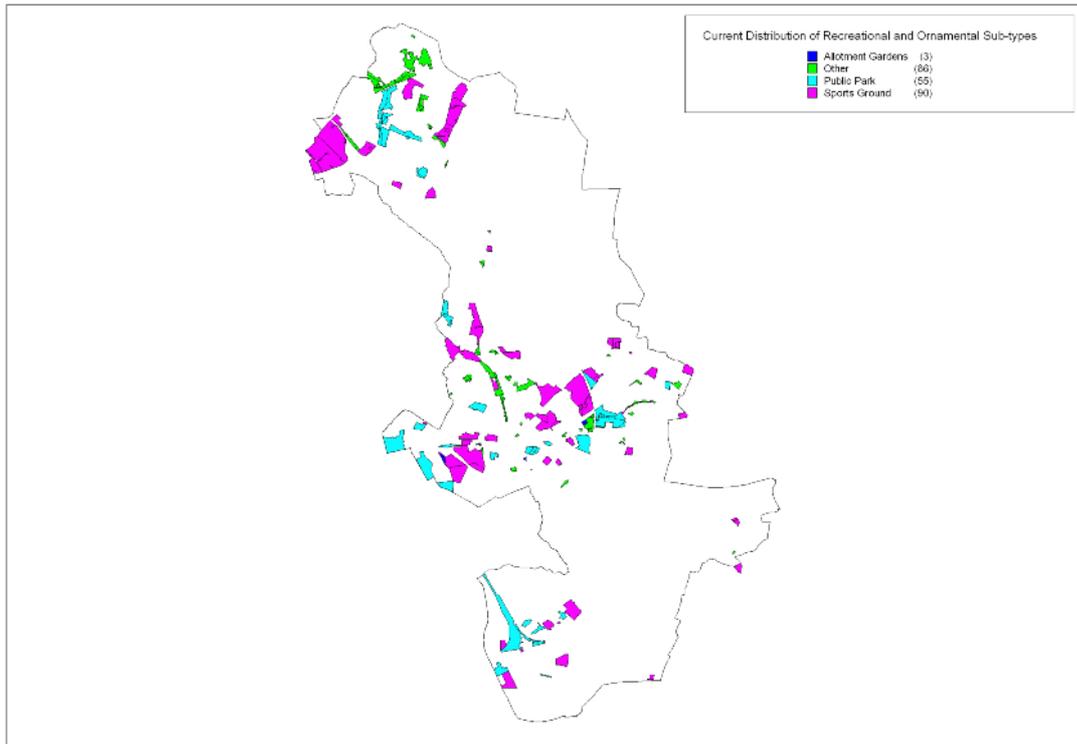


Figure 57 Current (2003) Recreational and Ornamental Sub Type  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

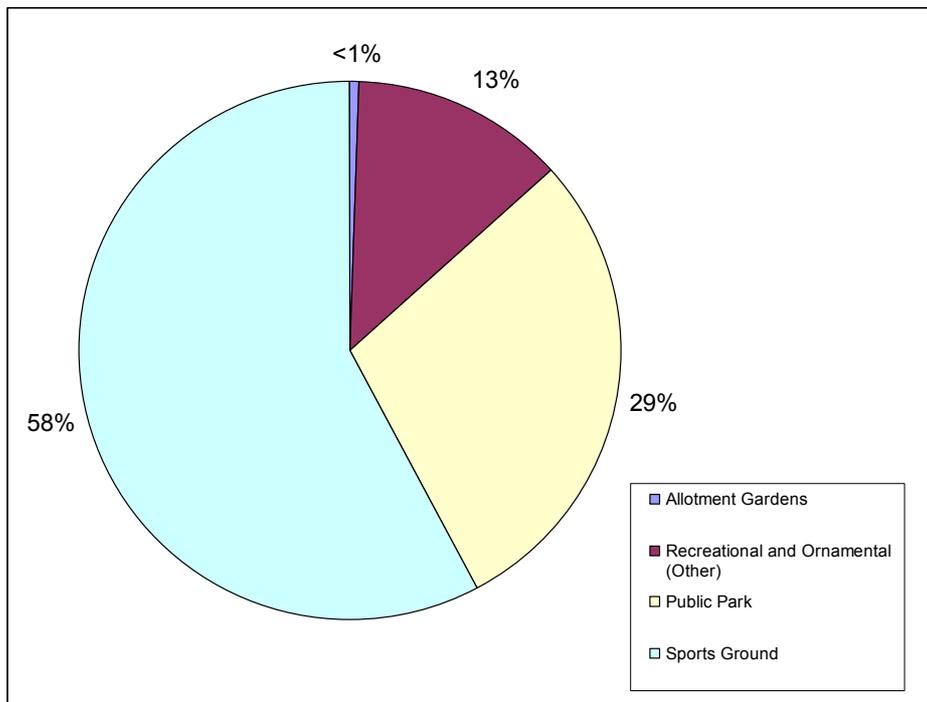


Figure 58 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Recreational and Ornamental Sub Type (%of land)

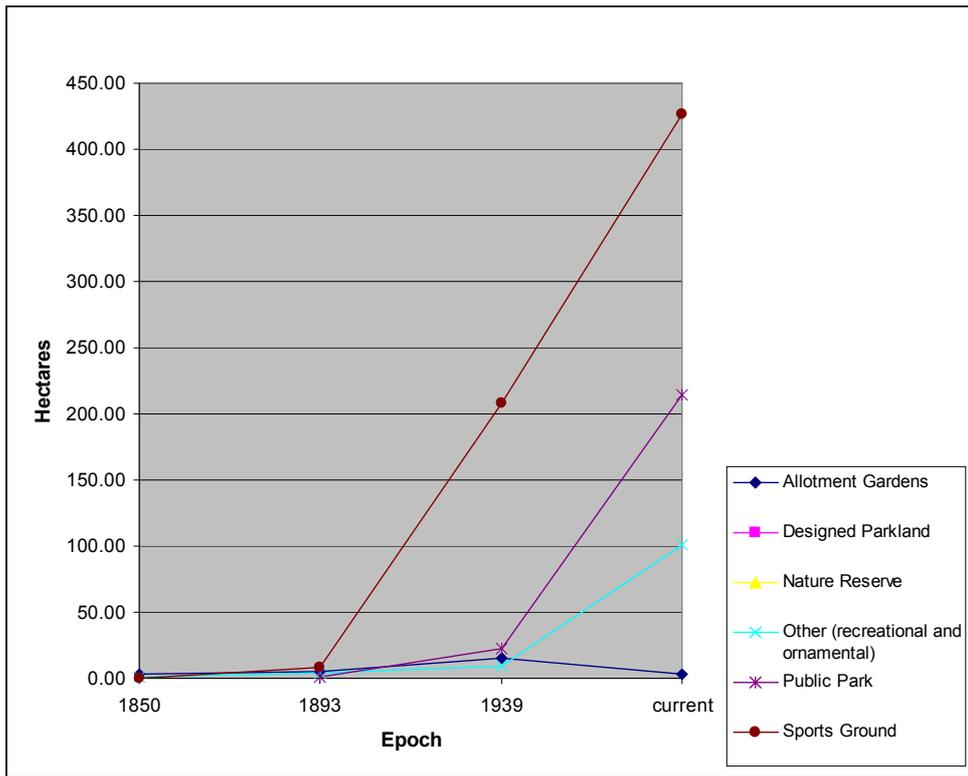


Figure 59 Graphical representation of Knowsley Recreational and Ornamental Sub Type through time

### 9.4.1 Allotment Gardens

This includes all forms of allotments with a primary purpose to provide opportunities for people to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. This type of open space may also include urban farms.

Like other open space types, allotments can provide a number of wider benefits to the community as well as the primary use of growing produce. These include:

- bringing together different cultural backgrounds
- improving physical and mental health
- providing a source of recreation
- wider contribution to green and open space.

Allotments are important as social historic landscape features, physical embodiments of an aspect of late post-medieval English social history. They are also particularly important in the present day as green spaces within suburban and urban areas. In the 19th century, land was provided by an Act of Parliament to poor houses and charitable trustees (General Enclosure Act of 1801). This land was provided in order to compensate for the loss of common land through enclosure in the 18th and 19th centuries. Land allotment frequently faced hostility from the land-owning classes (Crouch and Ward 1997, 39-63). The passing of the Allotments Act of 1887 marked the end of lengthy struggles and campaigns by reformers. It enabled local sanitary authorities to acquire land by compulsory purchase. The Small Holdings and Allotments Act of 1908 created a responsibility for local councils to provide allotments.

A recent audit of allotment gardens found that there were 4.27 hectares in total across the Borough population (Knowsley MBC Open Space, Recreation & Sport Needs Assessment and Strategy, Knowsley Borough Council, 2005). This equates to 0.03 ha per 1,000 households. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners suggest a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (i.e. 20 allotments per 2,200 people based on 2 people per house) or 1 allotment per 200 people. This equates to 0.125ha per 1,000 population based on an average plot size of 250 m<sup>2</sup>.

Allotment	Area (Hectares)
Roughwood Drive Allotments	0.16
Bowring Park Ave	1.13
Molyneaux Drive Allotments	0.56
Delawere Crescent	0.72
Cuper Crescent Allotments	0.23
Queremore Walks	0.3
Glendevon Road Allotments	0.31
Stadt Moers Allotments	0.86

Table 16 Current Allotment Sites (Knowsley MBC Open Space, Recreation & Sport Needs Assessment and Strategy, Knowsley Borough Council, 2005)

The MHCP survey is at odds with the Knowsley audit, having found c.3.11 ha of allotments gardens present in Knowsley. This may be a true account of the situation - that the Knowsley audit was an overestimate or, that in the intervening years (2005 - 2009) allotment gardens have reduced in size from 4.27ha to 3.11ha. However, it is more likely that the MHCP, being a 'broad brush' survey, may have missed a number of very small allotment plots. It would appear that allotment gardens have been reducing in both number and size from a high point of 15.1 ha (a 21% decrease) in 1939 (Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancashire, 1939). Currently there are eight separate allotment sites:

### 9.4.2 Recreational and Ornamental (Other)

This character Sub Type includes many open, very small-scale green spaces, green corridors and derelict land. As such, there is a great deal of overlap between this Sub Type and another, Rough Land (Other) - and the two should probably be combined to form an overall 'open space' character.

By itself, this MHCP Sub Type constitutes 13.57% (101.08 ha) of the Recreational and Ornamental Broad Type in Knowsley. This Sub Type can be found in two broad bands within the district, located within or near urban centres - the northernmost band is located near Kirkby and the central band in the area of Huyton with Roby and Prescot. The large majority date to the later 20th century (94.6% - 92.45 ha).

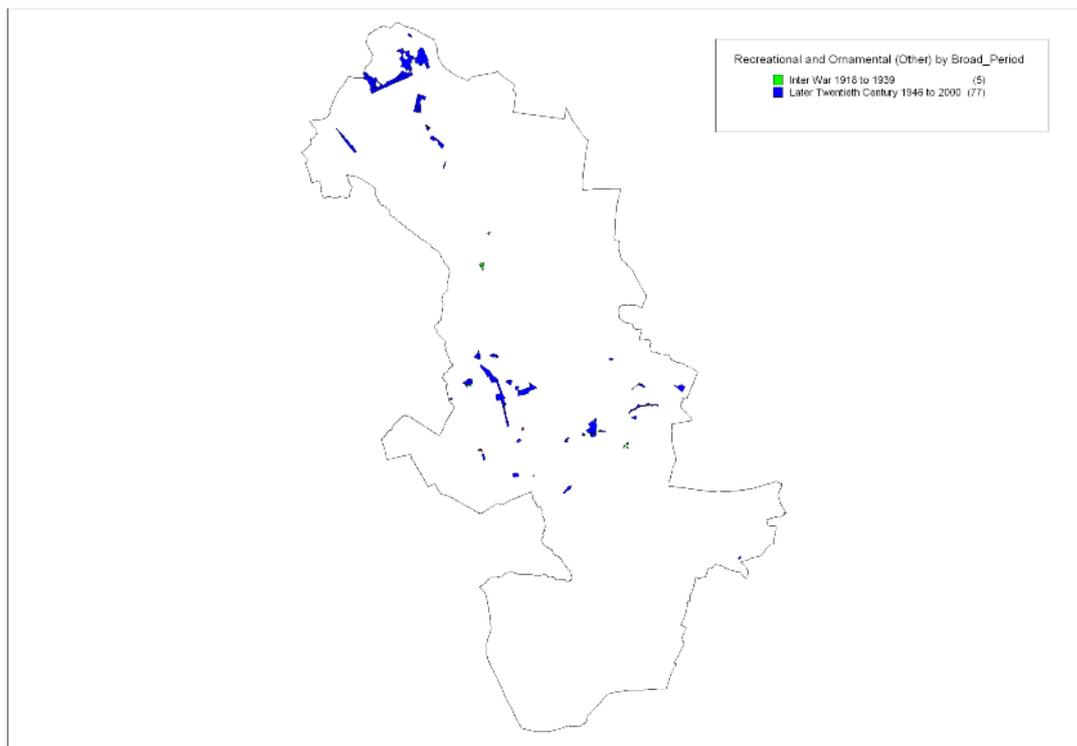


Figure 60 Recreational and Ornamental (Other) land in Knowsley by Broad Period  
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### 9.4.3 Public Park

The Public Parks Sub Type comprises around 29% (213.63 ha) of the Ornamental and Recreational Broad Type in Knowsley. The parks are distributed throughout the district, with a noticeable concentration in urban centres or on urban fringes. The vast majority of parks are later 20th century creations, with none dating to pre-1900.

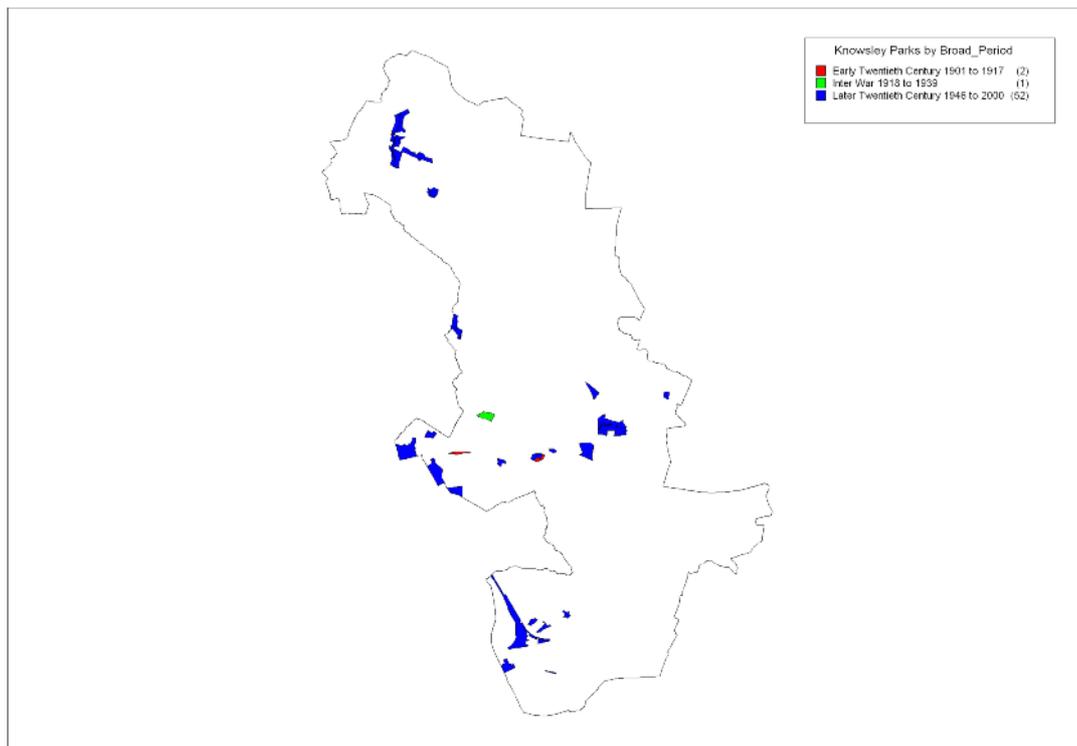


Figure 61 Knowsley Public Parks by Broad Period of origin  
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Public Parks by Broad Period	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	2	4.22	1.97
Inter War 1918 to 1939	1	6.44	3.01
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	52	203.30	95.02
Total	55	213.96	100%

Table 17 Public Parks in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

Knowsley is home to some of the best parks in Merseyside, including a local nature reserve, 15 community woodlands and 4 millennium greens<sup>3</sup>.

Examples of parks:

**Acornfield Plantation** is one of the few remaining woods of the original Manor of Kirkby. Oak, birch and alder trees form the major part of the wood along with beech and Scots pine, which were planted for timber production during the last century. Acornfield also includes one of only two actively growing bogs in the north of Merseyside.

**Bowring Park** is the oldest public park in Knowsley, originally forming the heart of the ancient Roby Hall Estate.

**Court Hey Park**, the Home of the National Wildflower Centre, is one of Knowsley's flagship parks and a key tourist attraction for the Borough. The 14 hectare site provides a unique wildflower landscape, collection of mature trees and wetland habitat. The heritage of the park has been celebrated through the Gladstone Roots project. A building footprint of the mansion house which once stood in Court Hey Park has been created following an archaeological community dig. The park is well used for both informal and formal recreation, large and small scale events and activities, such as Knowsley Flower Show.

**Halewood Park**, or the 'Triangle' as it is known locally, is an oasis of oak birch woodland surrounded by the urban sprawl of Halewood. The Park gives the people of Halewood a countryside experience without travelling far, offering a number of recreational facilities such as the extensive bridleway network, the Trans-Pennine

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<sup>3</sup> [www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx). Accessed 9 December 2009.

Trail long distance cycleway and several ponds<sup>4</sup>. The park was formed from abandoned railway sidings and derelict land.

Visitors to **Huyton Lane Wetland** will find a surprisingly peaceful haven for local wildlife where they can enjoy a picnic, walk the dog or just sit and enjoy the birdsong.

**Jubilee Park** has been used for recreation and leisure since 1937. It is the most established park in the area, located in the centre of the Page Moss estate<sup>5</sup>.

**McGoldrick Park** provides an active and vibrant space at the heart of the local community. The park consists of a playground, bowling green, tennis courts, basketball court and attractive flower beds. There are many mature trees and fruit trees along one of the main paths. The park is split into two halves by Rydal Road, each with its own distinctive feel<sup>6</sup>.

**Millbrook Park Millennium Green**, Kirkby, is a popular, welcoming haven for both people and wildlife. With an interesting heritage, Millbrook Park Millennium Green is an area of natural beauty and host to a range of habitats including woodland areas created to increase biodiversity.

The Park has a Millennium Feature date line extending from the Hall Lane entrance to the access point under the railway viaduct on Boyes Brow. The feature includes mosaic designs inlaid into the floor along the footpath depicting Kirkby's history from Neolithic times, the Anglo-Saxon and Viking eras, recent farming and industrial development, changes in the natural environment and future aspirations for Kirkby<sup>7</sup>.

**Mill Farm Park**, Kirkby on the Sefton border, contains Mill Farm Pond and Simonswood Brook, the residents of Kirkby have the valuable resource of a rural landscape in an urban setting<sup>8</sup>.

**Sawpit Park** is a quiet oasis within the busy urban environment whose design was inspired by the local community and school children. It offers a diverse range of

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<sup>4</sup> [www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx). Accessed 9 December 2009.

<sup>5</sup> *ibid*

<sup>6</sup> *ibid*

<sup>7</sup> *ibid*

<sup>8</sup> *ibid*

seasonal flowers and shrub beds, a wetland area, a 'Stone Castle' rockery, a complex network of footpaths based on a maze design, and a series of community designed art features, including a mosaic and fence work.

The 'amphitheatre' provides an area for informal play and small scale events and activities. Fencing and gates around the site were designed by local school children, as was a mosaic feature situated near the Sawpit Lane entrance. Sawpit Park was once a woodland called Paradise Wood and belonged to the Molyneux-Seel family. It is possible the park derived its name from two pits – used for sawing logs - situated in the woodland<sup>9</sup>.

**Stadt Moers Park** covers more than 220 acres of land between Whiston and Huyton and includes meadow, woodland and pond habitats set amongst various footpaths. The park is an ambitious project in the heart of Knowsley to transform formerly derelict land into the largest area of public open space in the borough. The park has a visitor's centre and many more interesting and useful community features<sup>10</sup>.

**St Chad's Gardens** is one of Knowsley's most attractive parks with a collection of mature trees, large displays of formal bedding and a rich heritage. The park provides a haven at the heart of Kirkby town centre and is located within the Old Hall Lane conservation area. The gardens are home to a 'Weeping Stone', a key heritage feature and a laburnum arch leading to a central event space, flanked by a small building.

**St John's Millennium Green** comprises a circular footpath route, formal tree and bulb planting, a 'hill fort' mound reflecting the once moated site of Huyton Hey Manor nearby, a public event area, an outdoor 'amphitheatre' and millennium feature<sup>11</sup>.

In 1998, the Millennium Commission and the Countryside Agency agreed to create up to 250 Millennium Greens throughout the United Kingdom. Valley Millennium Green

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<sup>9</sup> [www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx). Accessed 9 December 2009.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid

<sup>11</sup> [www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/things-to-see-and-do/parks-and-gardens.aspx). Accessed 9 December 2009

and Whitestone Millennium Green are two of four that have been created in Knowsley. Both were created on land leased by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council to the respective Trusts<sup>12</sup>.

**Webster Park, Kirkby's first park**, was originally a series of marl pits linked together by a brook. They were owned by a farmer named Webster and known as 'Websters Pits'. During the latter part of World War Two, the pits were used as a dumping ground for domestic refuse and rubble from the bomb damaged areas of Merseyside. In the early 1960s the site was split almost exactly in half by a main road and enabled one half to be leveled and laid out as a sports ground with football and rugby pitches and a cricket square in summer. The second half of the site was laid out as a traditional style park with two crown green bowling greens, four hard tennis courts, pitch and putt golf, children's playground, picnic area and formal bedding areas. The first Parks Depot was also established on one corner of the site<sup>13</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid  
<sup>13</sup> Ibid

#### 9.4.4 Sports Ground

This group comprises a range of amenity land that is not part of a public park. It includes playing fields, recreational land and sports grounds, ranging in size from small-scale playing fields and bowling greens, through to large-scale sports facilities (and associated buildings). Included in this group are large-scale golf courses.

This character Sub Type can be found throughout the district, with noticeable concentrations around urban centres - Huyton with Roby, Kirkby, Prescot and Halewood. Sports grounds make up approximately 57% (426.95 ha) of the Recreational and Ornamental Broad Type in Knowsley.

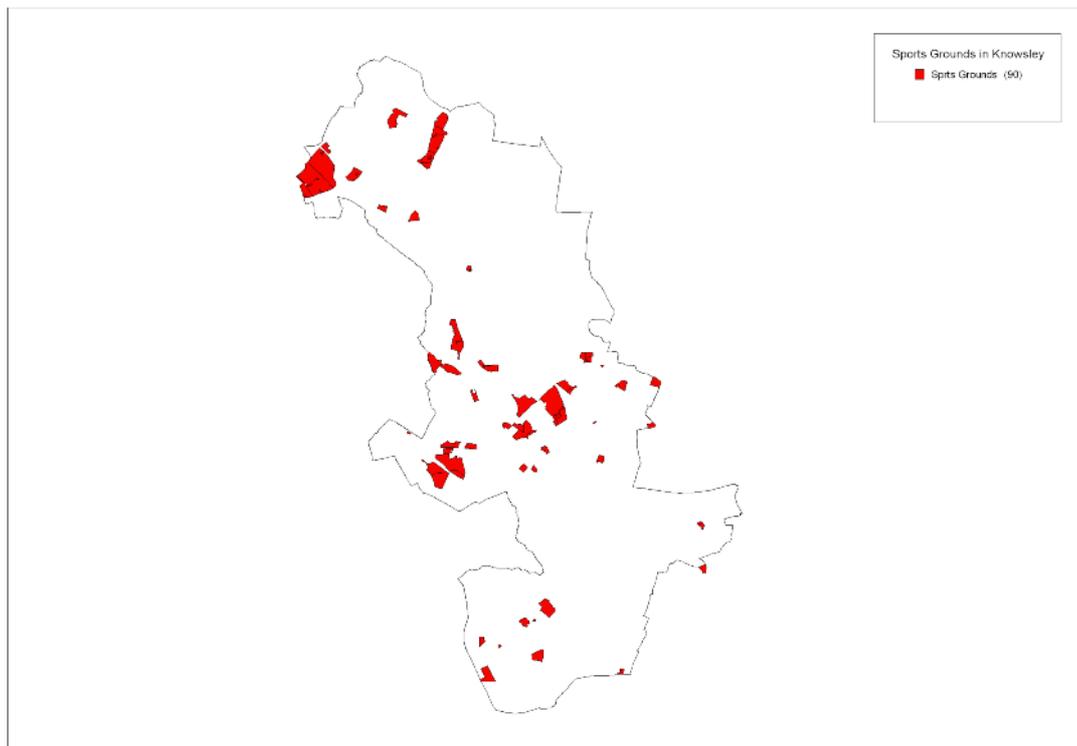


Figure 62 Current (2003) Sports Grounds in Knowsley  
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Different sporting activities have been popular at different times in the past, and some evidence of these trends can be seen by looking at the periods in which facilities were founded. Bowling greens, cricket grounds and tennis courts were popular in the late 19th to early 20th century. Larger-scale open playing fields, public pitches and recreation grounds became more common in the Interwar and post-war periods. Post-war playing fields are generally associated with contemporary housing developments,

frequently large planned estates. This implies local authority involvement in their original creation. In the post-war period there was a fall-off in the creation of new bowling greens and cricket grounds. However, substantial areas of new open-area recreational facilities, including football and rugby grounds, continued to be founded in the later 20th and early 21st century. The perimeters of larger-scale playing fields often respected early boundaries relating to settlements or field systems.

Only two sites appear to pre-date 1900 - bowling greens at Huyton with Roby and Halewood. The majority of sports grounds date to the Interwar period (33% - 140.4 ha), and the later 20th century (60.6% - 258.83 ha). Many of these sports grounds were founded during the establishment of planned estates, the largest at being Kirkby and Huyton with Roby.

Sports Grounds by Broad Period	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	2	2.92	0.68
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	3	24.80	5.81
Inter War 1918 to 1939	15	140.40	32.89
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	70	258.83	60.64
Total	90	426.95	100%

Table 18 Sports Grounds in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

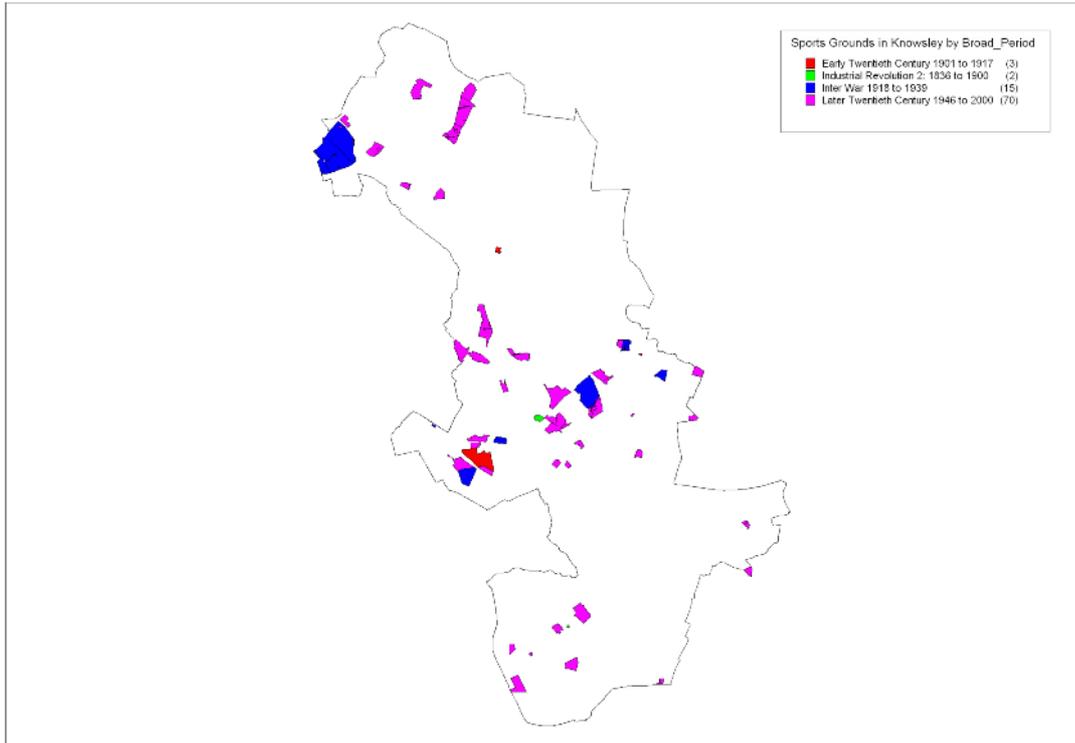


Figure 63 Knowsley Sports Grounds by Broad Period of origin  
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## Golf Courses

There are three Golf courses in Knowsley, representing about 39% (167.1 ha) of the total area of the sports grounds Sub Type in the borough, and 1.94% of the total Knowsley area. They range in area from about 39.2 ha (Huyton and Prescot Golf Club) to about 77.4 ha (Kirkby Golf Course).

The courses in Knowsley were created throughout the 20th century. Of the clubhouses associated with Knowsley's golf courses, two were purpose-built and one represents the reuse of a 19th century building.



Figure 64 Bowring Golf Course depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1927 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The first course established is at **Bowring Park** – in 1913 it became the first municipal golf course in England, established on land once part of Roby Hall. At its greatest extent, the golf course covered some 61.3 ha (1939), but it has been much reduced due to bisection by the M62 Motorway (the present course, although recently extended to the south, covers some 50.5 ha).



Figure 65 Bowring Golf Course (Current 2003 mapping)  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

**Huyton and Prescot Golf Course** (39.17 ha) appears to have been laid out sometime in the period 1908 to 1927 (as Huyton Golf Course), on land formerly part of Hurst House (Private Estate Sub Type). Hurst House seems to have been used as the course club-house at this time. The course grounds remained unaltered until post war development, when the course was bisected by the M57 Motorway to the east and housing development to the west. To compensate for this, the course was extended to the south on land formerly residential in nature (in an area once occupied by Whiston Hall, Hurst House Cottages and a farmstead called 'Hole I' the Wall').

Kirkby Golf Course (77.43 ha) was created in the period 1927 to 1939 (it first appears on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1939) from land formerly small regular fields, and is essentially complete.

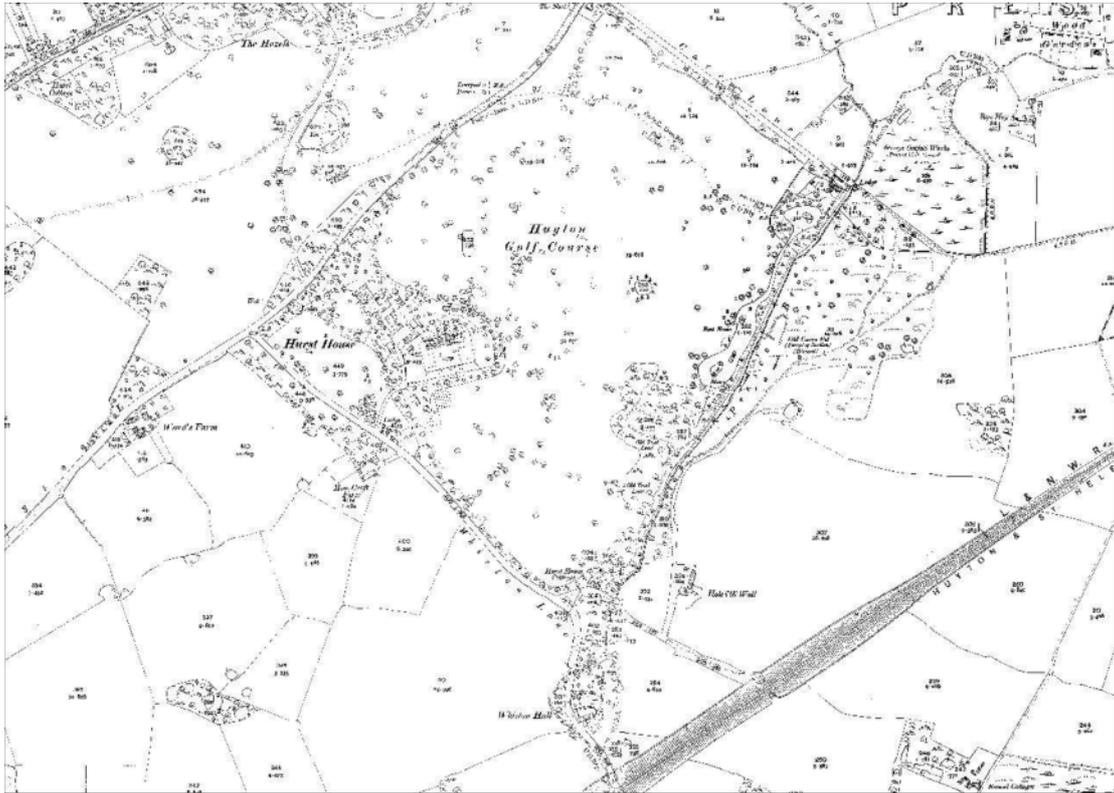


Figure 66 Huyton Golf Course depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1908  
 © Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence  
 Number 100019088. English Heritage)

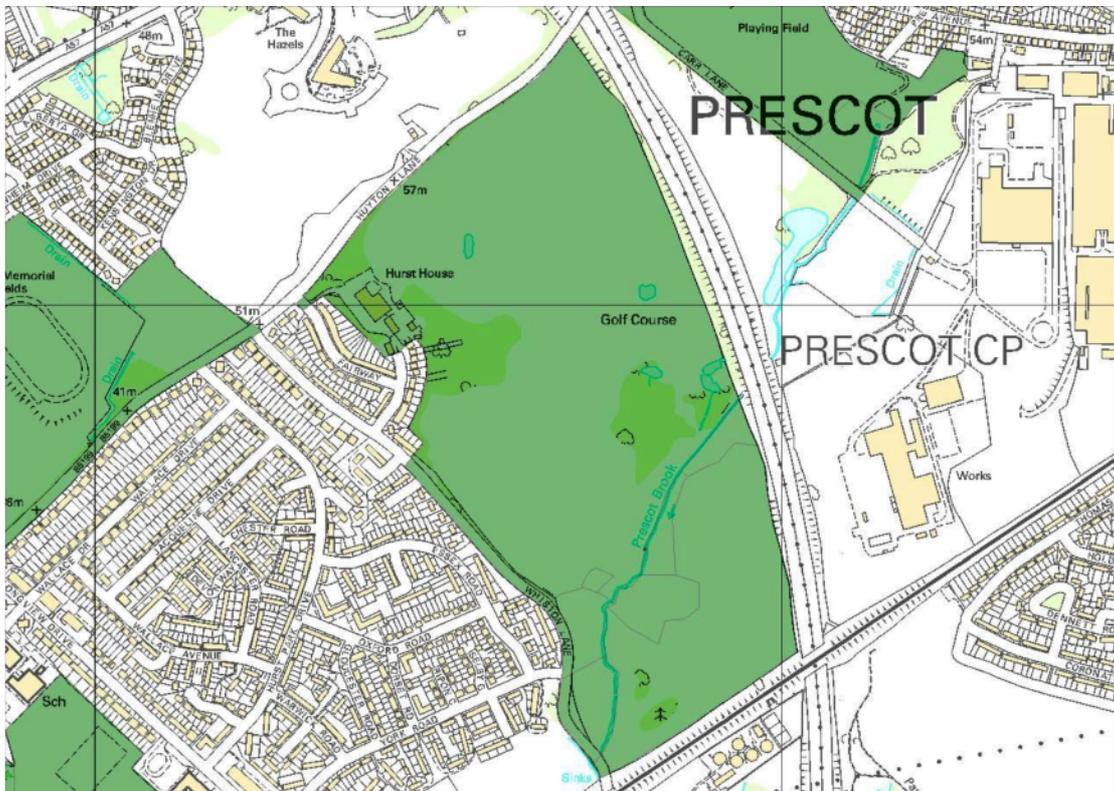


Figure 67 Huyton and Prescott Golf Course (Current 2003 mapping).  
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 Number 100019088. English Heritage)

## 9.5 Industrial Broad Type

Within Knowsley there are 713.9 ha of Industrial land. This represents about 8% of the total area of Knowsley. Industrial sites were identified on current mapping largely by their labels of 'Works' or 'Industrial Estate'. Trade directories and the internet were consulted to assist identifying the Sub Type. As the nature of the industry carried out could not be identified for a great many sites, a very high proportion of sites have been recorded simply as 'Industrial Works', making it difficult to make a meaningful analysis of the distribution of different types of industry without more detailed research beyond the scope of the project. However, the proliferation of industrial estates and sites labelled 'Works' rather than with a specific industry, infers areas of mixed industry that are more characteristic of modern times than of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many sites are now occupied by a mix of industrial and commercial companies.

Eight principal Sub Types were identified for detailed analysis on the basis of their presence in the landscape or their historical significance.

Industrial Sub Type	Area (hectares)	Percentage
Industrial	445.07	62.34
Manufacturing Industry	156.79	21.95
Municipal Works	49.11	6.87
Nursery	18.64	2.61
Warehousing	17.63	2.46
Extraction Industry	12.88	1.80
Municipal Depot	7.96	1.15
Disused Industry	5.86	0.82
Totals	713.93 Ha	100%

Table 19 Current (2003) Industrial Sub Type in Knowsley

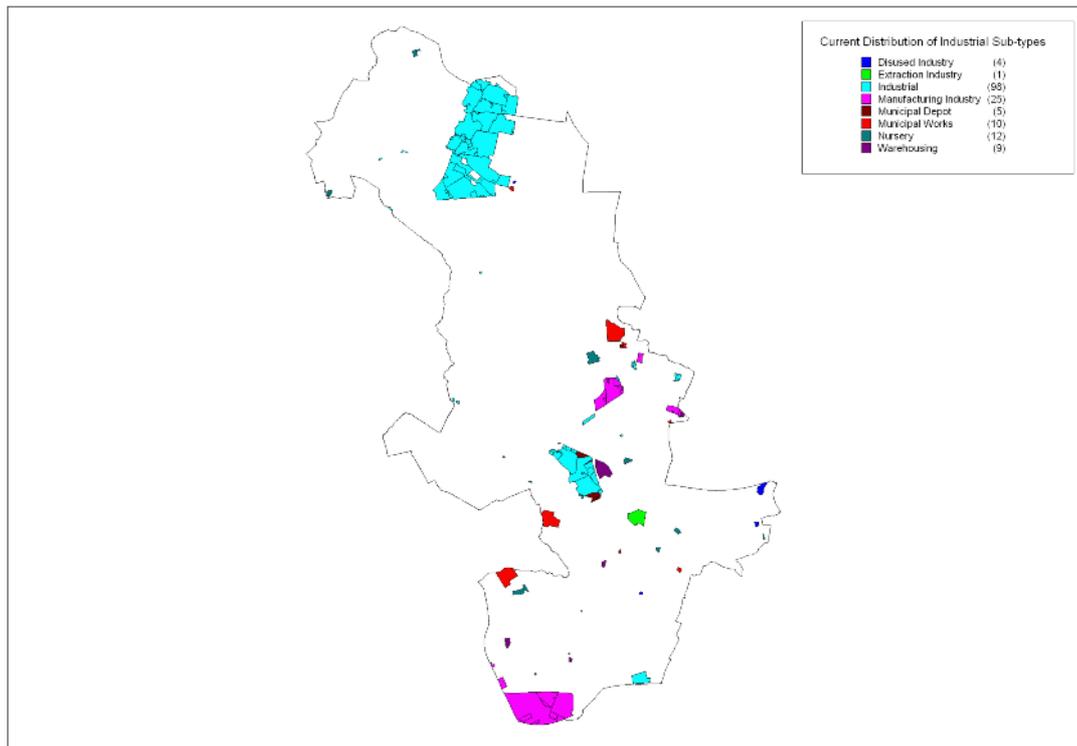


Figure 68 Current (2003) Industrial Sub Type in Knowsley  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The majority of Knowsley's industrial sites are of mid to late 20th century origin and are predominantly 'industrial' or 'manufacturing' in character. Of the current 713.9 ha of industrial land, 94.4% (673.9 ha) dates to the late 20th century, much of this taken up by the expansion of Knowsley Industrial Estate, the construction of the Halewood Motor Factory and the redevelopment of the Huyton Quarry. A few sites appear to pre-date 1900, but these only form 2% (14.32 ha) of the current total. Historically, Knowsley was a predominantly rural, or at least semi-rural, district up until the early 20th century, with industry being limited to either large-scale extraction (coal and stone) and small-scale manufactories and cottage-industries. The surviving historic industrial buildings in Knowsley display a wide variety of architectural types and dates, yet many of these have been altered in both form and function. Commerce and industry appear to be the most common reuses of industrial sites. Many disused extractive sites have been converted to ornamental and recreational use, or left as rough land.

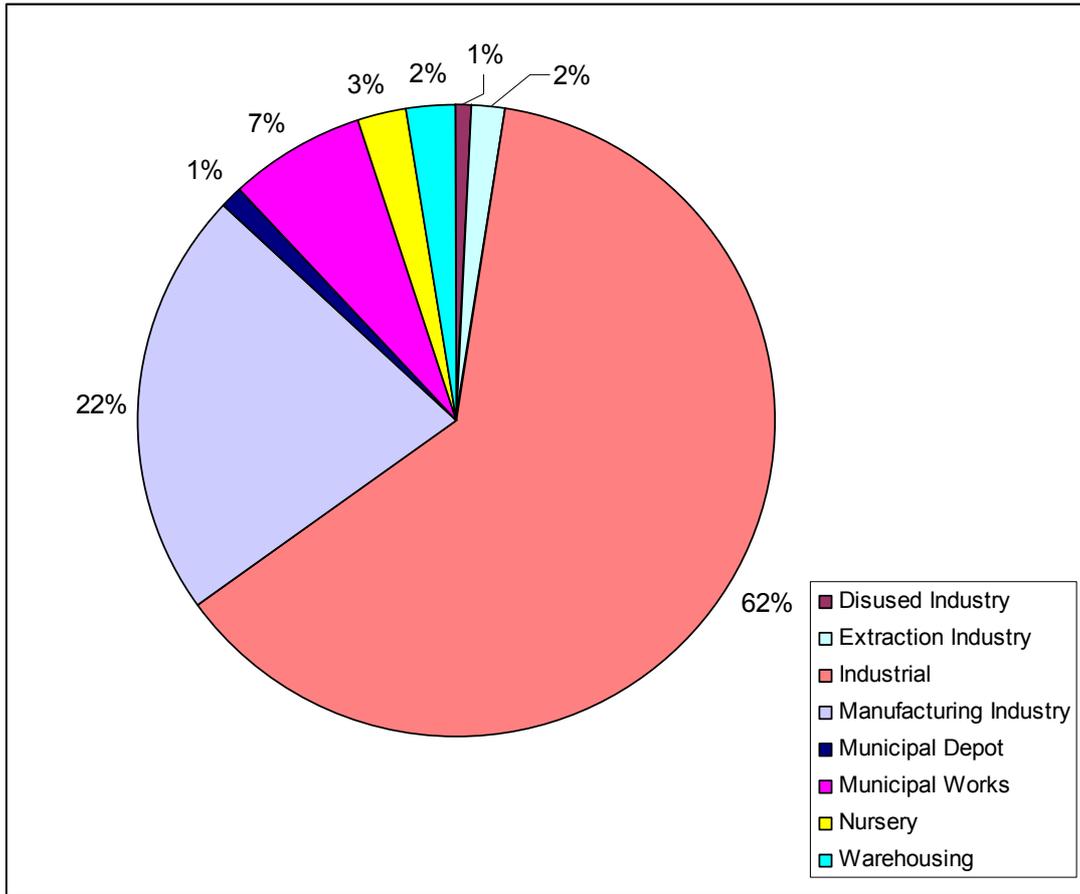


Figure 69 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Industrial Sub Type (% of land)

Industrial by Broad Period	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 1836 to 1900	14.32	2.01
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	1.23	0.17
Inter War 1918 to 1939	24.49	3.43
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	673.89	94.39
Totals	713.93 Ha	100%

Table 20 Current (2003) Industrial in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

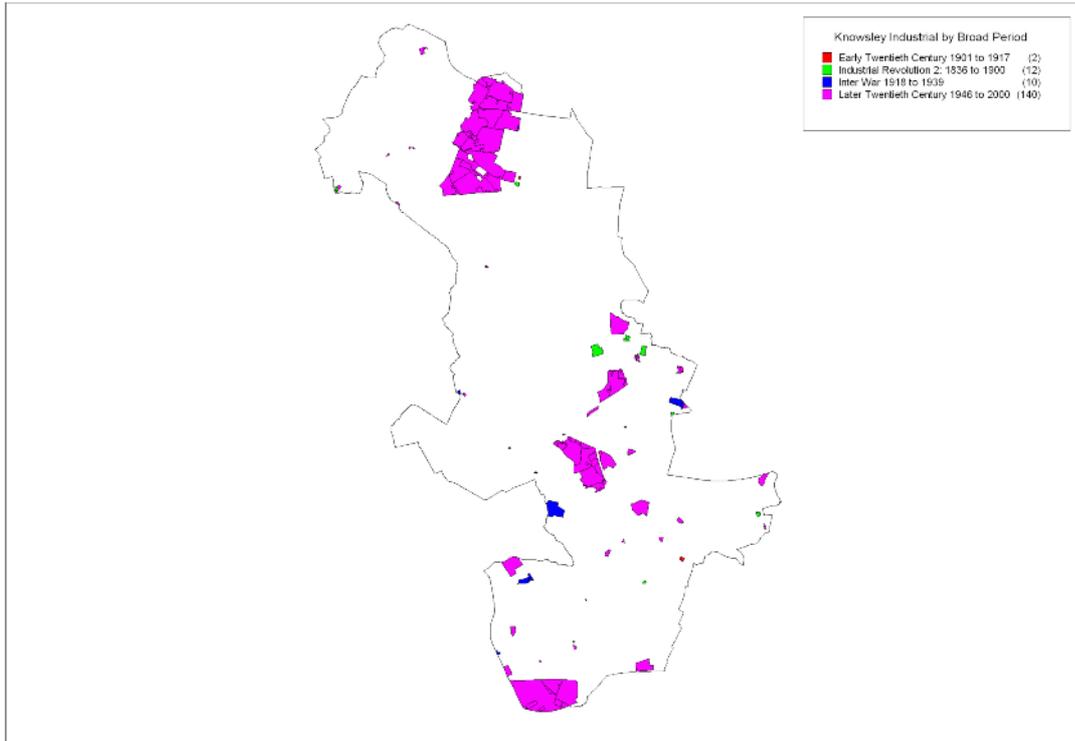


Figure 70 Current (2003) Industrial in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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Although the Knowsley MHCP study has been relatively successful in identifying the extent of historic industrial character in the district, it was beyond the scope of the project to determine the condition and survival of structures. Historic origins were established by comparing the footprints of buildings depicted on historic map sequences with those on modern mapping. At this scale it is difficult to assess the true extent of the survival of historic buildings and their contexts. Whereas modern buildings may have footprints the same as or similar to those of their predecessors, it is not always obvious from the maps that they are different structures.

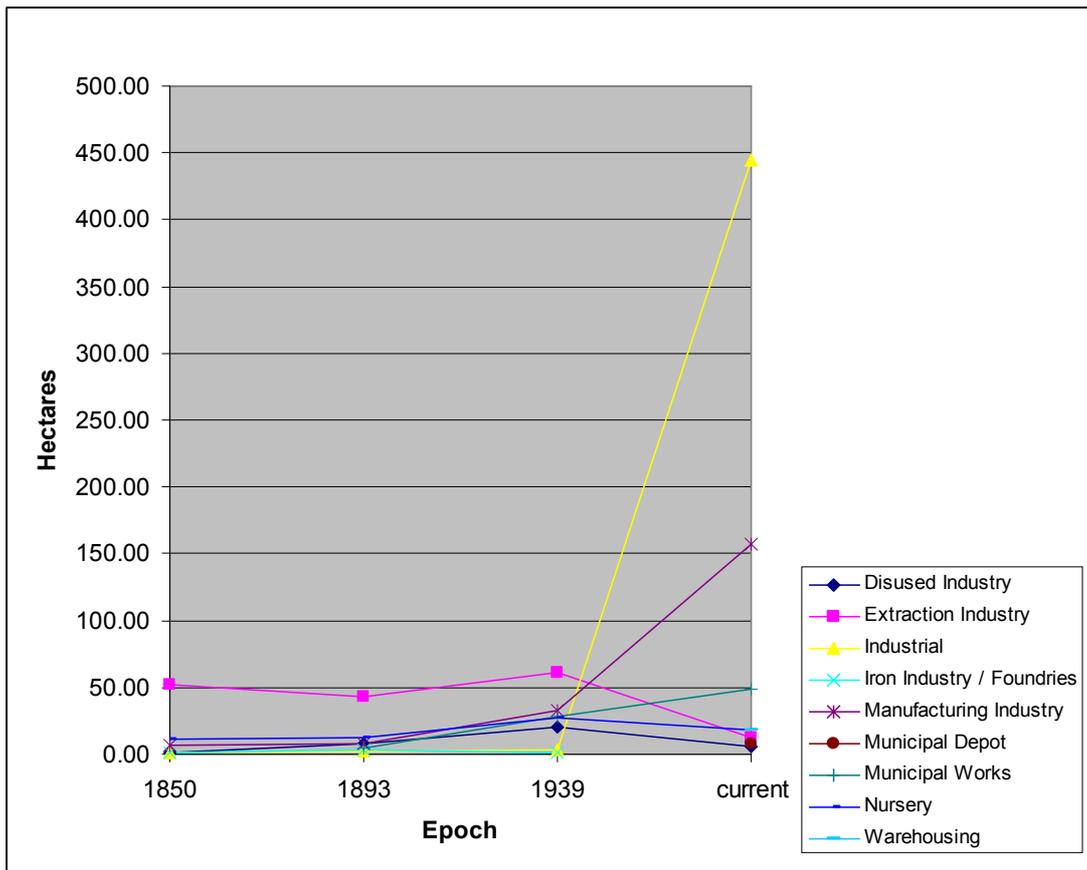


Figure 71 Graphical representation of Knowsley Industrial Sub Type through time

### **9.5.1 Disused Industry**

This Sub Type represents less than 1% (5.9 ha) of the current Industrial Broad Type in Knowsley. The term was applied to any former site of industrial activity which was in advanced state of dereliction. It included a disused sewage farm and three former stone quarries.

Although some large-scale sites (notably Cronton and Whiston Collieries) could be considered to be disused, they have been incorporated into the other land (rough land) Sub Type, as they are currently being used as recreational land and may be the subject of local or national regeneration schemes.

## 9.5.2 Extraction Industry

Only one area of extraction was identified (Current 2003) in Knowsley. The sand and gravel quarry at Higher Park Farm, immediately north of Tarbock, (12.87 ha) appears to have been established in the later 20th century.

Extractive industries were far more widespread through the district in the past. These comprised four extractive types.

Number of separate extraction sites	1850	1893	1939	Current (2003)
Coal collieries	4	8	1	0
Sandstone quarry	15	1	1	0
Clay pits / brickworks	0	0	2	0
Sand and gravel	1	4	0	1
Total	20	13	4	1

Table 21 Separate Extraction Sites identified in Knowsley through time

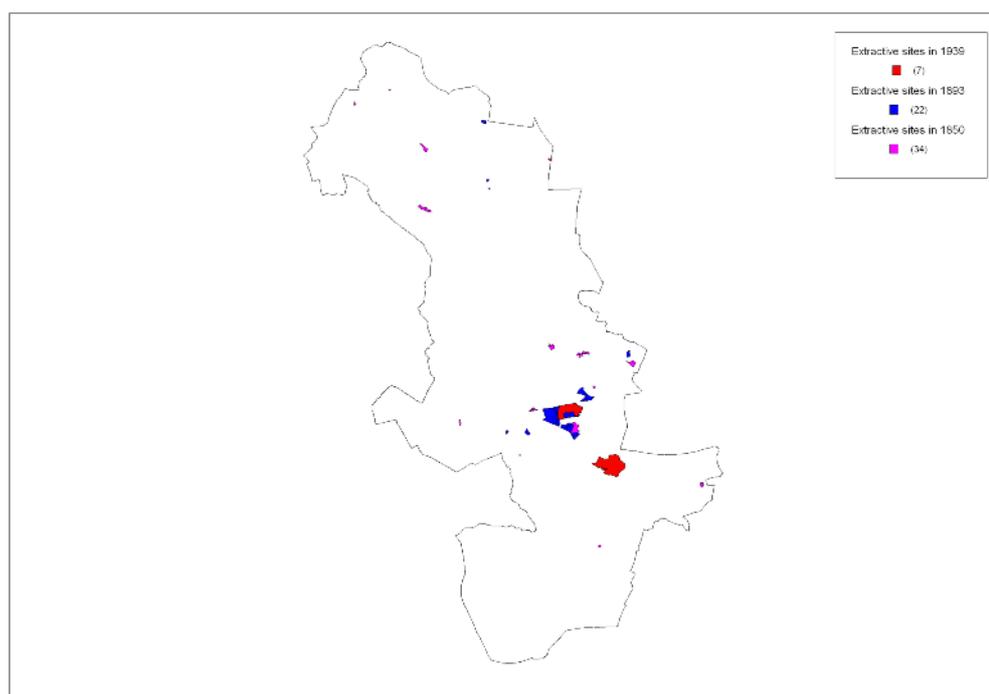


Figure 72 Past Extractive Sites in Knowsley at 1850, 1893, 1939  
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The majority of 19th and early 20th century sandstone quarries are located towards the north of the district. Apart from Tushingham's Brick Works in Whiston (the former Whiston Colliery), large scale clay extraction was not recorded in the district.

Collieries are the most obvious past extractive sites within the district, although none are in operation today. Their presence as a previous character type gives a broad idea of the distribution of collieries in the district but is not an accurate picture of the actual number or the size of individual sites, instead representing a count of the number of current character areas that have contained coal extraction sites of a significant size in the past.

However, the figure also does not take into account the numerous small coal pits scattered across the district, particularly in the mid-19th century, that are not large enough to have been recorded as a previous type.

The former collieries that have been noted during the project are concentrated in the Whiston area, within the Middle Coal Measures that form an east-west band across the borough. The township of Whiston is historically linked with coal mining, the first reference to which appeared in 1521. Many shafts were sunk around the area including those at Carr Colliery of 1760s; Whiston Colliery of 1802 (closed 1890); Halsnead Colliery of 1802 (closed 1895); but the most familiar pit within the area was at Cronton Colliery which was begun in 1913, the first coal from which was raised in April 1915 (this was originally called the Hulton Colliery Co.).

Cronton colliers mined the pit's first coal during the Great War in 1915. Cronton thrived and the pit was one of 65 Lancashire collieries at the time of nationalisation. Mainly because of the exhaustion of economically-viable reserves, the number of Lancashire collieries had been reduced to 41 by 1962. Five years later this had fallen to 21. By the time Cronton colliery finally closed in 1984 it had been making heavy financial losses for many years and the remaining coal reserves were both limited and difficult to mine. Local coal miners were offered alternative jobs at one of the seven remaining Lancashire collieries.

The 43 ha colliery site lay completely derelict for years until it was acquired by English Partnerships, the government's national regeneration agency, as part of the National Coalfield Programme. In 1995 the site was partially restored by removing both the colliery infrastructure and major earthworks, and then reclaiming colliery spoil by

mixing it with paper mill crumb and sewage cake to create soils for successful woodland planting.

The colliery site's ownership was transferred to the Northwest Regional Development Agency in 1999.

In the late 19th century, the site of the former Whiston Colliery was developed. It opened in 1898 as the Whiston Metallic Brick Works, known as Tushingham's, manufacturing bricks made from a mixture of local clay and shale until its closure in the early 1970s.

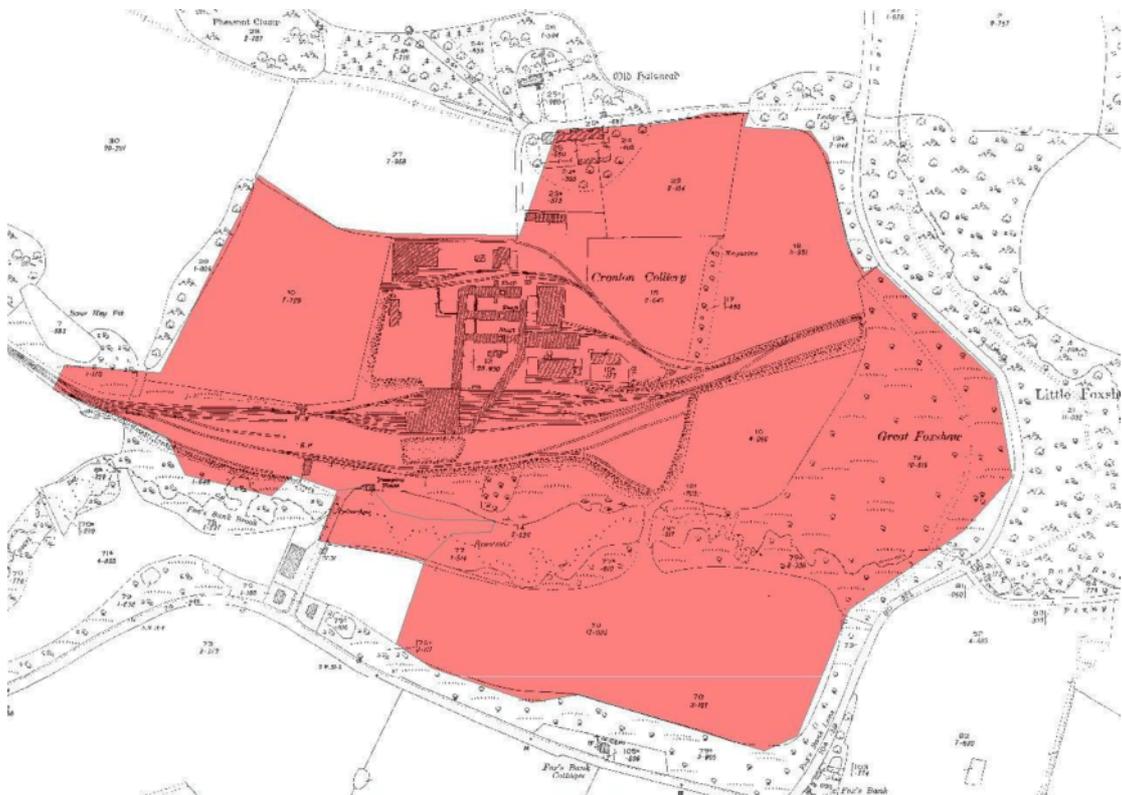


Figure 73 Cronton Colliery depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939  
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### 9.5.3 Industrial

The Industrial Sub Type represents 62.34% (455.07 ha) of the Industrial Broad Type in Knowsley. The type encompass a number of different kinds of sites, including those labelled as 'Industrial Estates' or 'Works' on current mapping. Sites were also characterised as these types where they could be recognised as industrial but where a more specific use was not recorded on mapping and could not be otherwise ascertained. This accounts for the high representation of general industrial works in Knowsley district. Industrial works sites can consist of a single building, whilst estates tend to represent larger areas with groups of buildings that appear to encompass several separate businesses.

Other Industrial MHCP types in Knowsley include food manufactories, sawmills and brickworks. Typical of the district, the number of records with the above industries recorded as 'previous types' is significantly higher than for those present as Current in 2003. This is partly a reflection of the level of information about the nature of industrial sites that is available on Current mapping and also most certainly reflects a decline in these industries.

Not recorded by the MHCP project were the many small-scale industrial works established as Knowsley developed in the 18th and 19th centuries. Although integral parts of the historic urban landscape, these were often not identified on contemporary mapping and were generally too small to warrant individual records in the MHCP database. However, where buildings of a likely industrial character were observed on 19th century mapping, this was noted in the summary sections of records for those areas.

There is a firm association between industrial works, commercial business parks and distribution centres, and these often have a similar impact on the landscape – many of these sites include purpose-built medium to large sheds which often form large estates. These are concentrated into several distinct industrial and commercial zones in Knowsley, particularly in the area to the immediate east of Kirkby (Knowsley Industrial Estate) and to the immediate west of Huyton (Huyton Quarry). Other smaller estates were dispersed throughout the Knowsley district, particularly on the fringes of urban centres.

Industrial estates identified within Knowsley all date from the mid-20th century onwards. Many Industrial works are also of relatively recent origin, although a significant number represent the reuse of earlier industrial sites and buildings.

The most significant industrial estate (in term of size and economic importance) is **Knowsley Industrial Estate**. The building of the East Lancashire Road in 1935 made Kirkby more accessible and though plans for an industrial estate here were considered (after the success of the developments at Speke and Aintree), the coming of war postponed industrial changes for some years. The threat of war lead to a Government decision to build a munitions factory in the area and work began on the site in late 1939. A vast tract of land was needed and due to the urgency involved, short notice was given to the occupiers of the twelve farms affected by the construction. The Royal Ordnance Factory completed in early 1941, became a major employer, with a workforce increasing to around 20,000 people by its peak in 1942, many travelling in from Liverpool, Birkenhead, St Helens, Southport, Wigan and Warrington by tram.

In post-war years, the Liverpool City Council leased then bought the site for industrial development. From a slow initial response, the industrialists gradually took up the challenge and moved into the existing buildings, others built new factories and Kirkby Industrial Estate was born. It steadily expanded through the 1950s and 1960s to become one of the largest in the country. At its peak in 1971, the estate employed over 26,000 people.

Hand-in-hand with the progress of the Industrial Estate came large-scale housing developments, which were in turn to relieve the problems in Liverpool of overcrowding and unsanitary dwellings. Consequently Kirkby, with the new developments in the areas of Southdene, Westvale and Northwood, lost its old image of a rural farming community and became a Newtown.

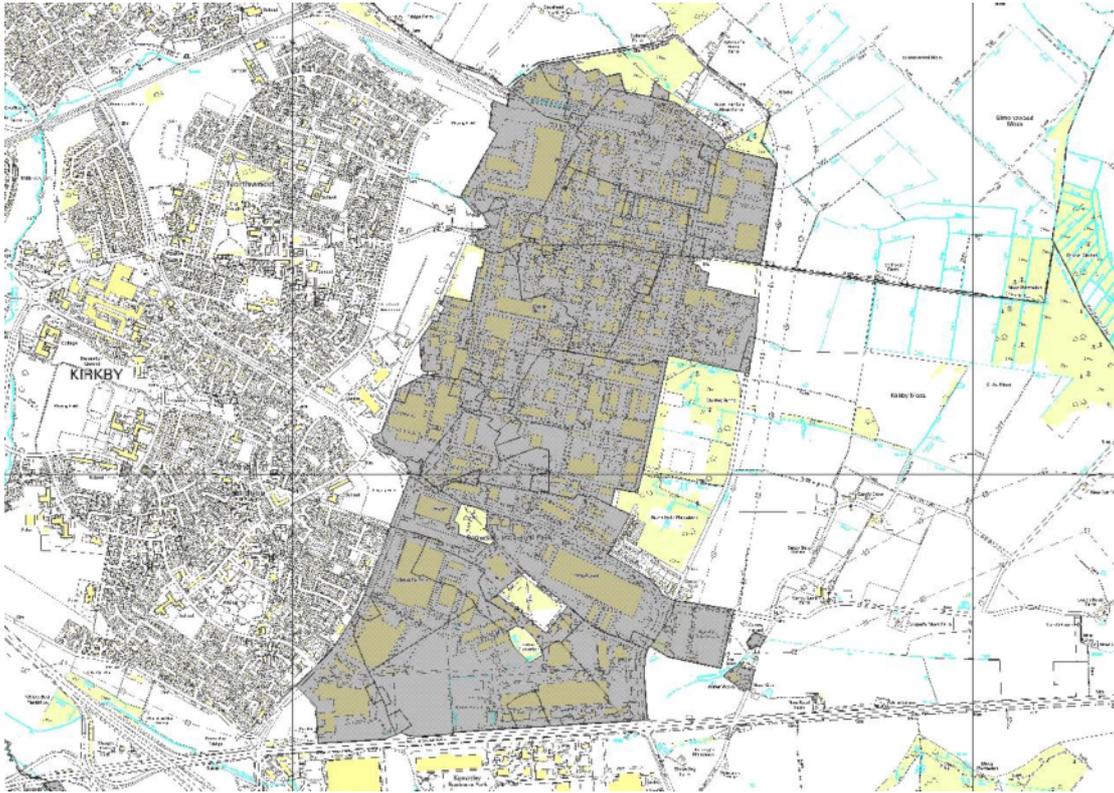


Figure 74 Knowsley Industrial Estate (Current 2003 mapping, the Sub Type depicted in grey) (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

**Huyton Quarry Industrial Estate** is a relatively recent industrial expansion of a former industrial (manufacturing and municipal works). The industrial nature of the northern site was established in the early 19th century - the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map of Lancashire (1850) depicts a stone quarry, limekilns and a small-gauge railway line linking the main Liverpool and North Western Railway line to nearby Huyton Hey and Halsnead Collieries. The mid to late 19th century saw the development of a village core at the junction of the two railway lines, comprising terraced housing, civil buildings and manufacturing and heavy industry. The industrial buildings at this time included a pottery, gas works and an iron works. By 1893, Huyton Hey and Halsnead Collieries had closed, but other collieries had been expanded (including Whiston Colliery to the north) and the essentially extractive nature of the area was maintained (complete with linking small-gauge railway lines). On the 1939 mapping, the Huyton Quarry area comprised a range of industries, including a chair making factory and an electric lamp works. By this time, Whiston Colliery had closed (becoming the site of Tushingham Brick Works) and the 19th century iron works had been demolished. It appears that none of the original 19th century industrial buildings remain, although the general plan of the northern site

(oriented northwest to southeast) remains. Wholesale expansion of the site into former open fields occurred during the later 20th century.

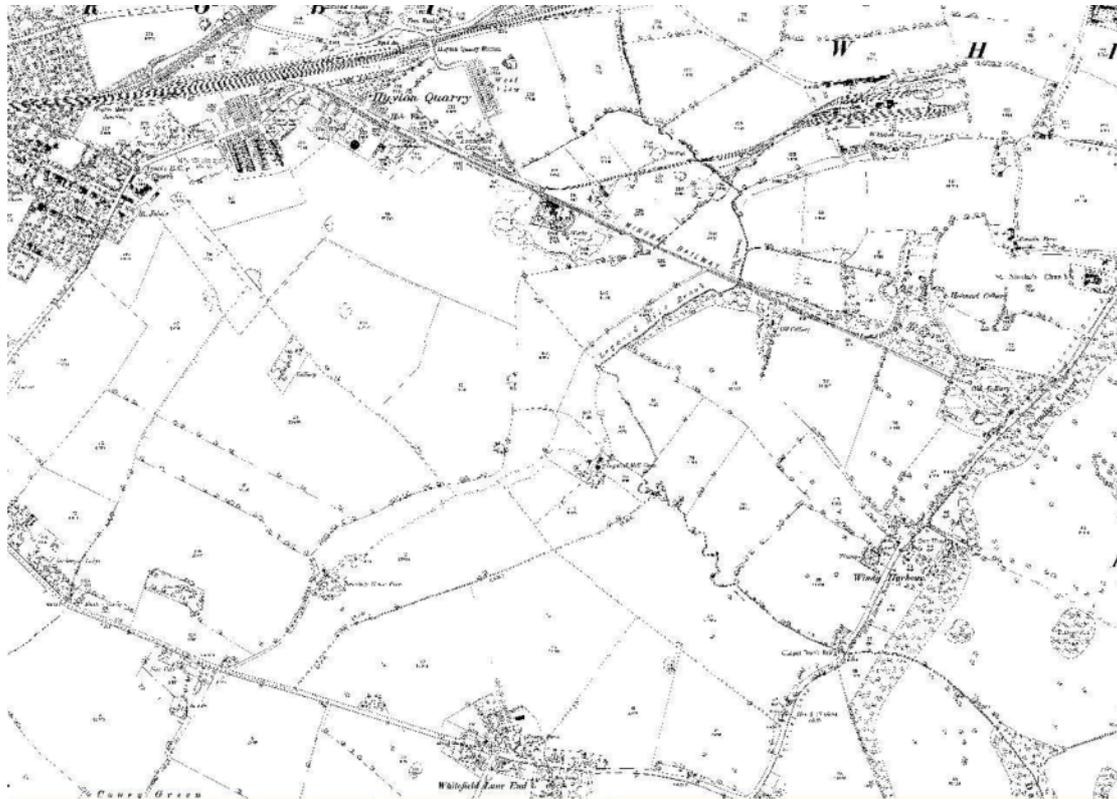


Figure 75 Huyton Quarry depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1893  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence  
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Figure 76 Huyton Quarry depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

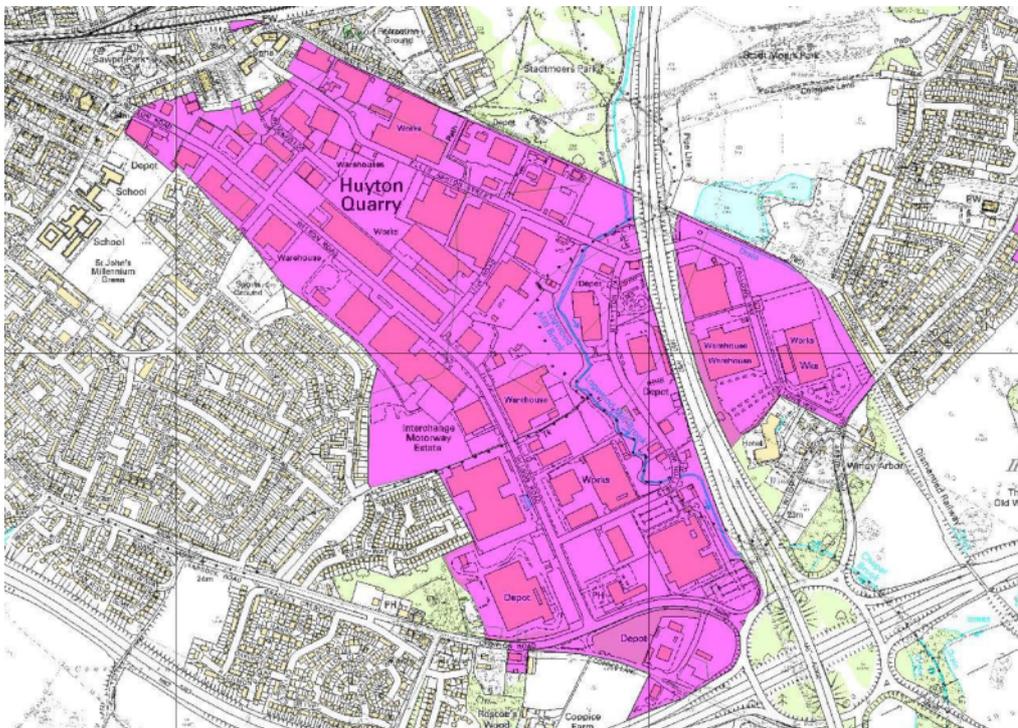


Figure 77 Huyton Quarry (Current 2003 mapping)  
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### 9.5.4 Iron Industry / Foundries

No current (2003) large scale metal trade types were identified in Knowsley borough. However, it is likely that there are some metal trades and engineering firms currently active in the borough which have not been identified during the project because they may not have been specifically named on Current mapping, or may form part of wider industrial complexes or estates. The 'Manufacturing' and 'Industrial' Sub Types probably include further examples of metal trade sites.

The Iron working and Foundries Sub Type contains a range of other heavy metal foundries and factories (predominantly lead, tin, copper and brass). That said, heavy and light metal trades were recorded as a previous type at only two sites in the district - a small-scale foundry in Kirkby (depicted on mapping from 1850 through to 1939) and a relatively short lived foundry at Huyton Quarry. It is more than likely that other heavy metal works existed in the borough (particularly during the period 1893 to 1939).

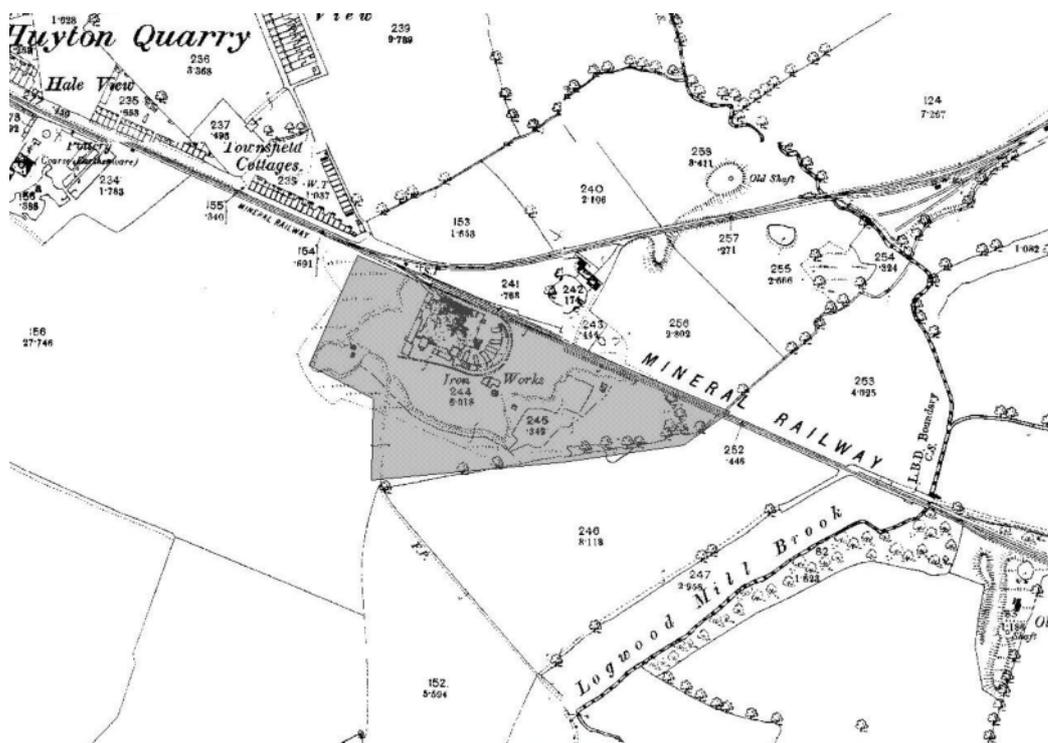


Figure 78 Huyton Quarry Iron Works depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1893

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The paucity of heavy metalworking sites may be a true reflection of industrial activity in Knowsley during the mid 19th to early 20th century. It appears that manufacturing and extractive industries dominated up until the mid 20th century, and that heavy metalworking was a small-scale activity. However, much like current metalworking sites, past workings may not have been recorded due to 'invisibility ' (not named) or having been incorporated into other Sub Types

### 9.5.5 Manufacturing Industry

The Manufacturing Industry Sub Type accounts for nearly 22% (156.8 ha) of the Industry in Knowsley. Current manufacturing industry is concentrated in two areas - the first surrounding the urban centre of Whiston and Prescot, and the second to the south of Halewood. The character type is predominantly late 20th century in origin, the largest area being the Halewood Motor Factory (113.8 ha). Typical of the district, the number of records with the above industries recorded as 'previous types' is significantly higher than for those present as Current in 2003. This is partly a reflection of the level of information about the nature of industrial sites that is available on Current mapping and also most certainly reflects a decline in these industries.

The project did not record the many small-scale industrial works established as Knowsley developed in the 18th and 19th centuries. Although integral parts of the historic urban landscape, these were often not identified on contemporary mapping and were generally too small to warrant individual records in the MHCP database. However, where buildings of a likely industrial character were observed on 19th century mapping, this was noted in the summary sections of records for those areas.

The first factory at Halewood, begun in 1934 for Goodlass Wall, paint manufacturers, still stands at the end of Goodlass Road. The Halewood automotive plant was originally opened by the Ford Motor Company in the early 1960s' with the first car being produced in March 1963. Halewood was chosen as nearby Liverpool was ideal for its harbour facilities, adequate supply of labour & central distribution point. The £40 million manufacturing factory rolled its first car out on March 8, 1963. Production began with the Ford Anglia; the very first car off the production line being preserved at Liverpool Museum. With a roof covering 20 hectares, it was claimed to be the largest car factory in Western Europe when completed (Pollard and Pevsner, 2006).

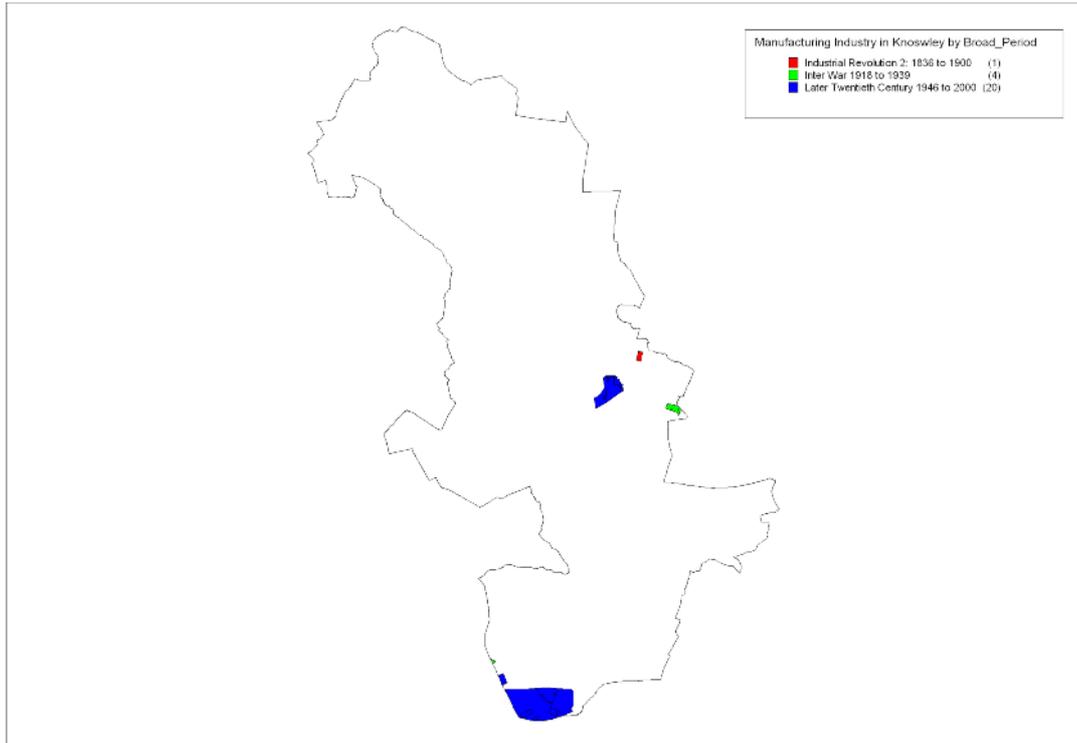


Figure 79 Current (2003) Manufacturing Industry in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

Halewood's Ford factory brought prosperity to the area but in the building of the plant, two ancient moated sites were destroyed: the Old Hutt, and Wrights Moat. Over the years, Ford produced models such as the Anglia, Corsair, Cortina, Capri, Zephyr, Zodiac and of course the highly successful Ford Escort which was first introduced in 1968. In July 2000 the last ever Ford Escort to be produced at the plant rolled off the production line and Jaguar implemented a major plant refurbishment programme.

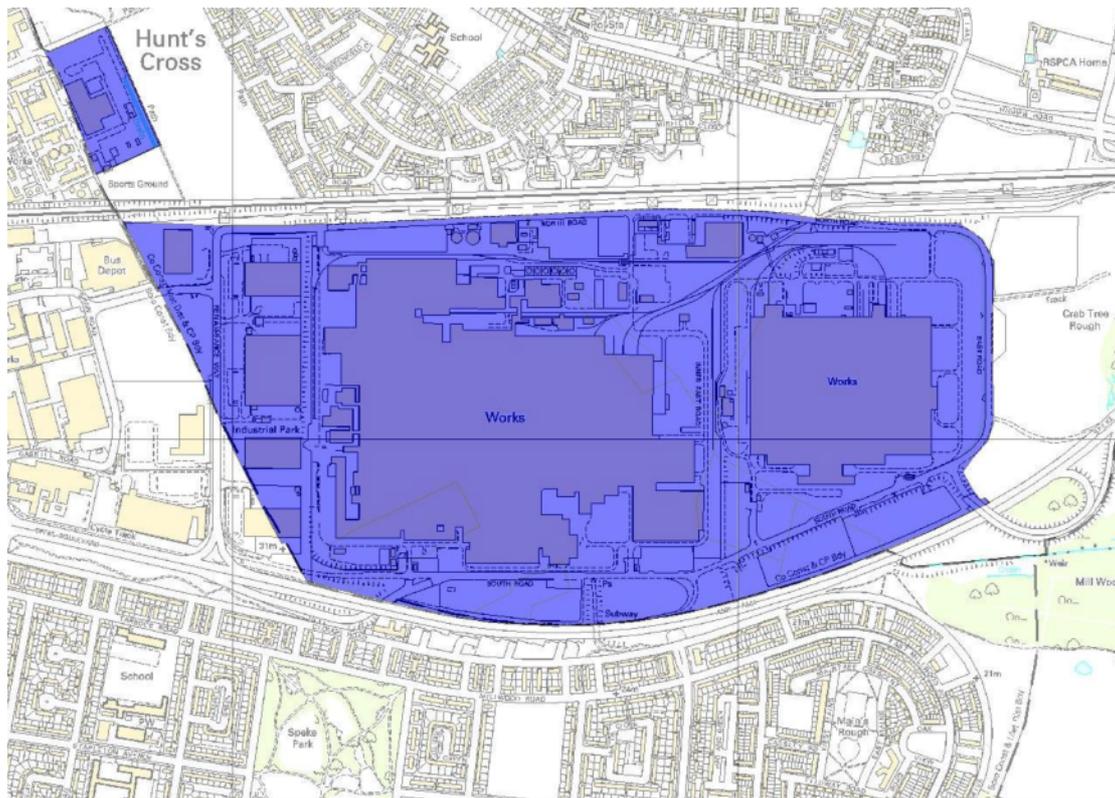


Figure 80 Halewood Motor Factory (Current 2003 mapping)  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The second concentration of manufacturing industry is centred on the urban fringes of Prescot and Whiston. Here, manufacturing industry includes a large late 20th century manufactory to the immediate southwest of Prescot and a number of smaller, earlier factories.

Historically, Knowsley was a predominantly rural, or at least semi-rural, district up until the late 19th century. Industrial activity appears to have been concentrated either within established urban centres or on the urban fringe. Up until the late 19th century, manufacturing industry appears to have been very small scale - as small manufactories or cottage industries (particularly watch making in Prescot).

Watches were first produced in the sixteenth century in Germany and were quickly imitated. Watchmaking was introduced into Prescot by a Huguenot refugee from France called Woolrich. The skills were easily picked-up by the town's blacksmiths, with the work being carried-out in houses. The town had hundreds of small workshops where either parts were made, or where watches were constructed from parts organised within an assembly tray.

Prescot was well established as a centre of watchmaking by the 18th century, and during the following hundred years, would become world famous for the quality of its produce. Famous watchmakers such as John Wyke started their businesses at Prescot, and by the beginning of the Victorian age in 1837, watchmaking was thriving in Prescot. This happened for a number of reasons. The area was already well known for its tools, especially files, and metal working. Very high quality tools and metal were required by the watchmakers so it was natural that the industries should be set up alongside each other. Another important factor was the close proximity of Prescot to Liverpool, which by 1837 was a major commercial port. This enabled the watchmakers to supply the demand for watches in other countries, especially America.

Watchmaking was an example of what is known as a 'domestic craft' or 'cottage' industry, with masters 'putting out' work to craftsmen working at home in workshops. These were typically two storey winds or 'outriggers' attached to the rear of the craftsman's home, where coarser metalworking was done on the ground floor and more delicate tasks in the better light of the upper floor. The latter required the characteristic continuous first-floor windows. They compare with workshops in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter and in Sheffield. The last workshops closed in 1952 and only a few altered examples remain, e.g. attached to the rear of the west side of Atherton Street is a three-storey terrace of c.1790, a 19th century house to the rear of No.74 Eccleston Street, and No. 132 Portico Lane (Pollard and Pevsner, 2006). When using the census figures for the mid Victorian period, such as those for 1861, at least twenty individual branches of watchmaking can be identified. Trade directories for 1869 indicate that in Prescot, nineteen individual branches of watchmaking were carried out. There were no known watch finishers located in Prescot, but there were in Liverpool.

The watchmaking industry peaked around the 1860s, but soon afterwards it started to decline. A major factor was the Waltham Watch Company of America. It was set up in 1850, but after numerous set backs, one being the American Civil War of 1861-1866, it started to produce good, reliable watches by the 1870s, and sold them for very competitive prices, undercutting the British watchmakers. By the 1880s it was in serious trouble, the census records showing many men previously involved in the watchmaking industry in and around Prescot ended up in the workhouse, located in nearby Whiston.

Even though new manufacturing methods and ideas were introduced in to the Prescot watchmaking industry in an attempt to keep it competitive, it had all but one from Prescot by the mid-1880s. A decision was made to act, and T.P. Hewitt was one of the founding members of the Lancashire Watch Company. The building was completed in 1889 and it was based on the American factory system of manufacture, where complete watch movements were made, by machines, under one roof.

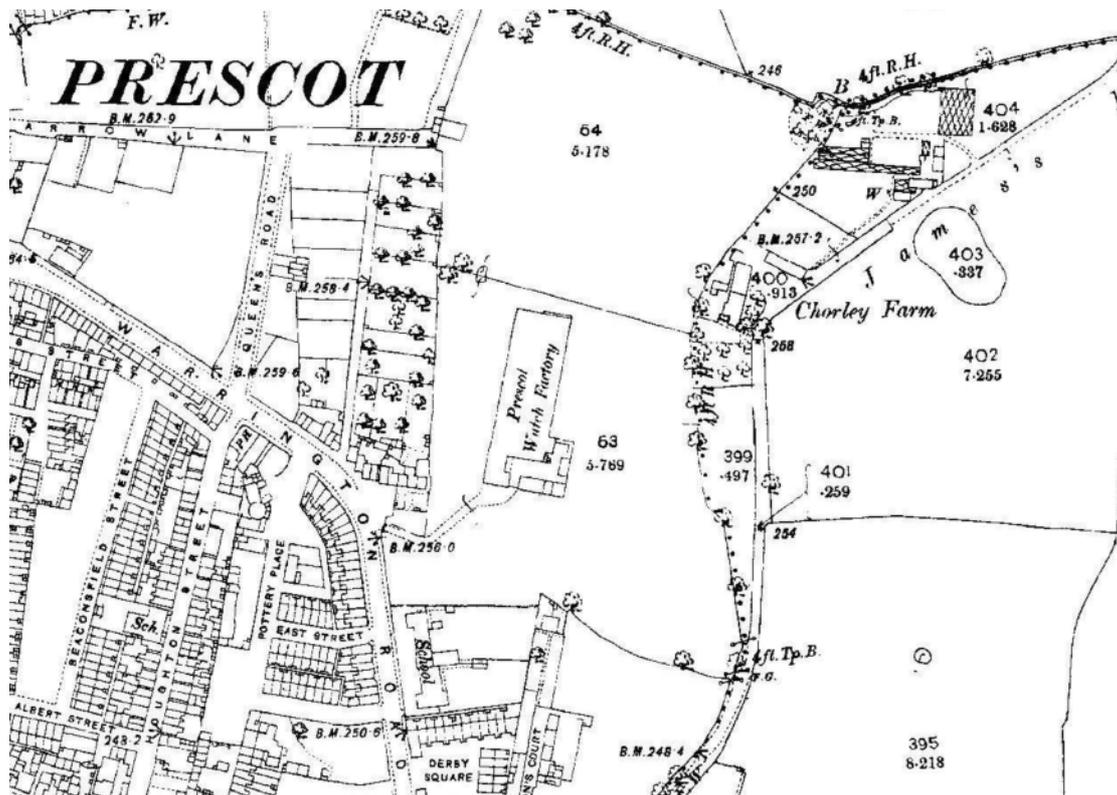


Figure 81 The site of Prescot Watch Factory on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs.1893 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The factory was fitted out with machines to produce the watch parts, powered by a steam engine called the 'Horologer' (Horology is the correct name for the study and production of clocks and watches). They made a range of watches too suit all but the poorest of pockets. It lasted into the 20th century and had some success, becoming a major producer of watches in Britain. However, foreign competition was too great and by that time, very well established. This combined with poor marketing, especially overseas led to the company being forced to close its doors in 1910. The old factory building was used as a barracks during the First World War - as a station for the Liverpool Pals' (the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th volunteer battalions), of the King's

(Liverpool) Regiment. During the 1920s and 30s, the original factory building was enlarged and converted into a print works.



Figure 82 Prescott Printing Works on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs 1939  
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Some small workshops still produced timepieces in Prescott until the middle of the 20th century, but the watchmaking industry in Prescott effectively ended with the closure of the Lancashire Watch Company.

Modern manufacturing industry is located on a plot of land immediately south of Prescott. On the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancashire, 1939, the area was formerly a disused colliery, sewage farm, open fields and also the site of Prescott Hall.

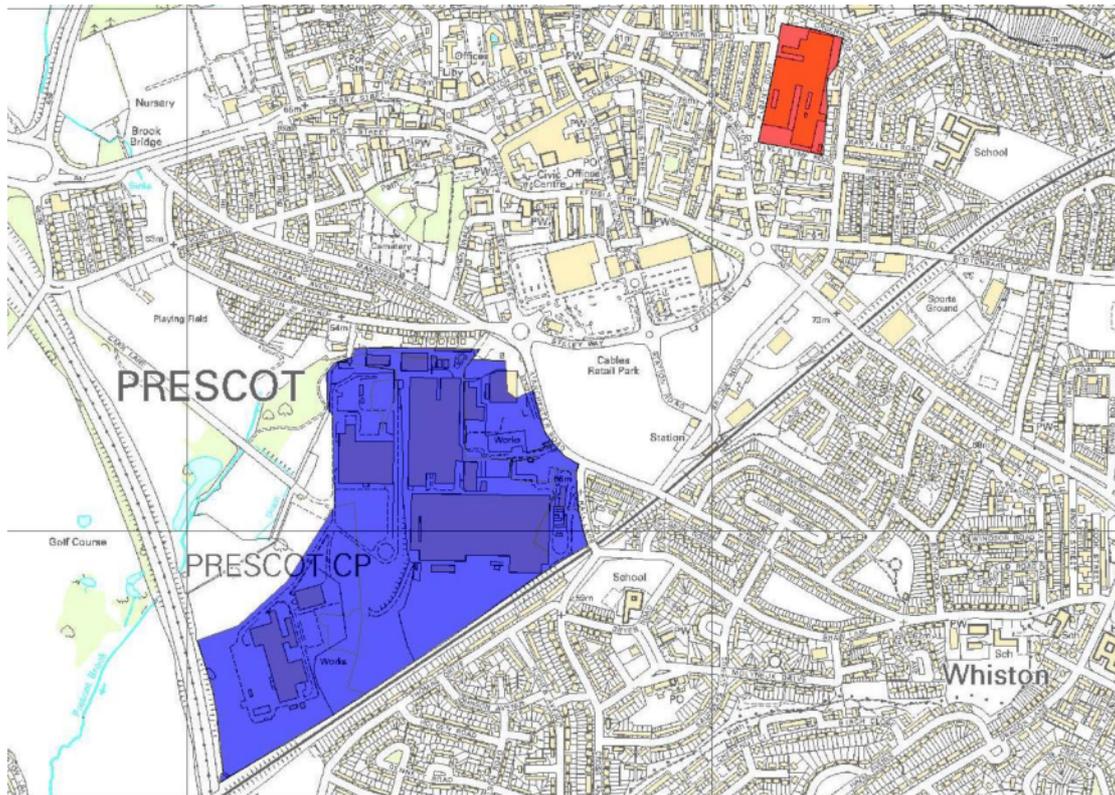


Figure 83 Modern manufacturing industry in Prescot (blue) and the site of the former Prescot Watch Factory / Print Works on Warrington Road (red).  
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To the immediate northeast of this new manufacturing industry lay the site of the former British Insulated Callenders Cables Company (BICC) - a major employer in Prescot from the late 1800s through to the 1970s. BICC Plc has its origins in two 19th century pioneering electrical cable companies: Callenders of Erith (formed 1882) and British Insulated Wire Company of Prescot (formed 1890). In 1890, the Atherton Brothers joined TP Hewitt, Managing Director of the Lancashire Watch Company, Colonel Pilkington of St Helens and Sebastian Ferranti, the Liverpool born electrical genius, and established a factory in Prescot to manufacture paper insulated power cables under licence from US patentees. The decision was part commercial and part philanthropic. The directors had the vision to realise the potential of the emerging need for and use of electricity. The development of electric traction world-wide was of itself enough to justify the venture. Within a decade the firm has secured its position in the power distribution industry while continuing to establish itself locally, producing the lighting for Lord Derby's house, Knowsley Hall, and street lighting in Prescot and its surrounds. In 1902 British Insulated Wire merged with the Telegraph Manufacturing

Company of Helsby, and became British Insulated & Helsby Cables Limited. In 1925 it was re-named British Insulated Cables Limited. In 1945 British Insulated Cables merged with Callenders and became British Insulated Callenders Cables Limited. Constituent companies of BICC played significant roles in construction of the British National Grid in the 1930s. For many decades, a large percentage of Prescott's workforce worked for the 'Wire Works'. This continued until recent years when new technology and the introduction of fibre-optics brought about a decline in the workforce. In the late 1980s most of the Prescott plant closed - the site was cleared of industrial buildings and converted into a modern retail park.



Figure 84 The site of the former British Insulated Cable Works depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939 (the area of the current retail park is depicted in yellow). (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### **9.5.6 Municipal Depot**

Municipal Depot represents almost 1.15% (7.96 ha) of the Industrial Broad Type in Knowsley. They date wholly to the late 20th century and are limited to two sites within the Huyton Quarry industrial complex. Many 'depot' sites depicted at this complex have been included within the Industrial Sub Type. Furthermore, it was difficult to ascertain if many of the depot sites depicted here, and elsewhere in the district, were truly 'municipal' in nature or function.

### 9.5.7 Municipal Works

Municipal Works represents almost 6.9% (49.1 ha) of the Industrial Broad Type in Knowsley and includes features such as electricity substations, telephone exchanges, gas works, refuse processing plants and sewage or water treatment works. These predominantly date to the mid- to late 20th century. Water treatment and sewage processing sites are generally on a medium to large scale, and predominantly occur in valley bottom locations. The impact of such sites on the earlier agricultural landscape is significant.

Historically the first industrial utilities were the gas and sewage works. These were developed in the 19th century by the corporation, boards or private firms. Late 19th century gas holder stations are characteristic features of well-preserved Victorian urban and industrial landscapes. Sewage works were contributing factors to the health and sanitation reforms of the late 19th century.

By the early 20th century the first electricity transformer stations and telephone exchanges were present. Many water treatment plants, gas works and telephone exchanges incorporate building design elements which are exemplary of the period. Industrial utilities formed an integral part of historic urban landscapes. A small number of extant sewage and water treatment works were founded in the late 19th to early 20th century, such as Mosside Water Works, Kirkby and the Cumber Lane Water Treatment Works, Whiston (both were established by 1893). An example: is Stockswell Water Works, located east Tarbock on the border with Widnes had been built here by 1893- preceded by a Bleach Works (small scale). Early works generally expanded in size throughout the 20th century as demand increased.

The largest 20th century utilities recorded in the district are two sewage treatment works, located at on the border with Liverpool near Gateacre. The northernmost works (13.17 ha) was constructed in the Inter War period, with the slightly larger (14.36 ha) southernmost plant constructed post-1945.

Where Utilities were recorded as a 'previous character' type in Knowsley, the majority represented sewage and water processing sites.

Other industrial utility types such as gas holders and telephone exchanges tend to be on a smaller scale and have a more urban distribution. No large power stations were identified.

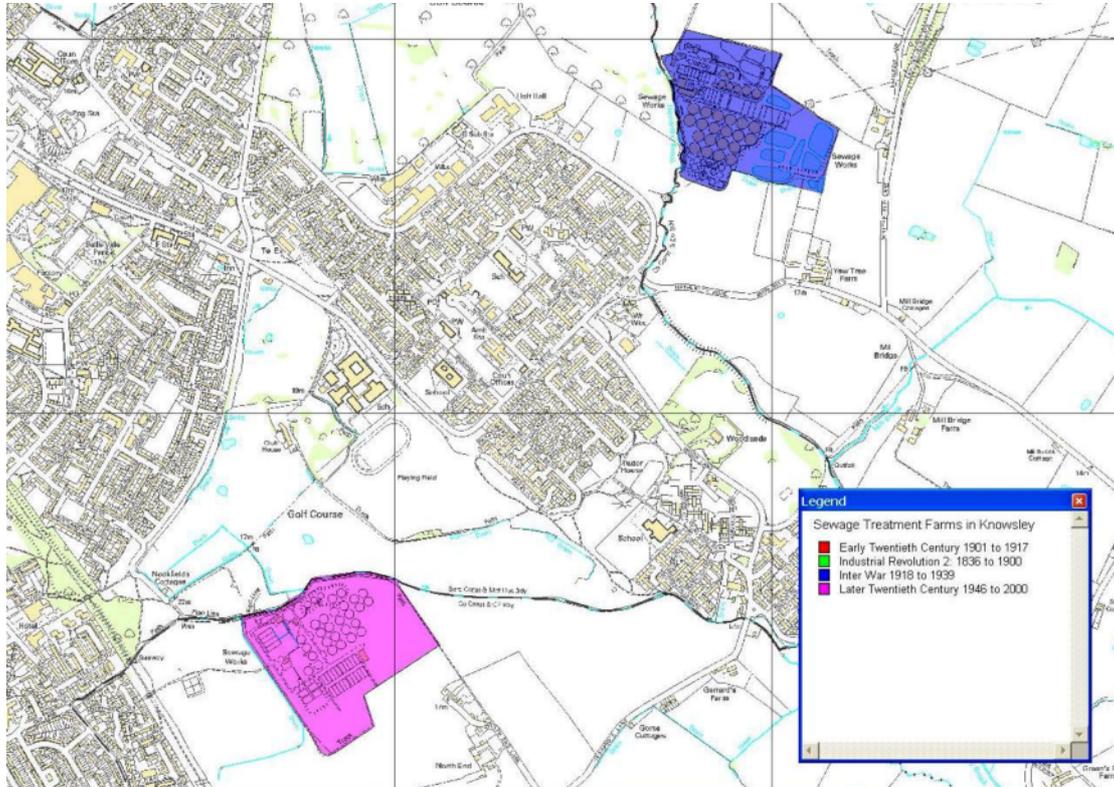


Figure 85 Sewage treatment works located on the border with Liverpool district (Current 2003 mapping).  
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### 9.5.8 Nursery

Within Knowsley borough, 18.64 ha of land are covered by the Nursery Sub Type, representing around 2.61% of the total area. The Sub Type has been included within the industrial category - as being predominantly industrial (horticultural) in nature. However, the Sub Type also contains both Ornamental and Recreational (forming green spaces alongside allotments) and Commercial elements. The Sub Type incorporates a range of horticultural activities, including industrial and market vegetable plots, garden centres, some orchards and commercial tree growing.

The Sub Type is dominated by large-scale, late 20th century plots - all of these being purpose built. However, nurseries and orchards certainly had more significance as landscape features in the past and some pre-1939 sites do occur.

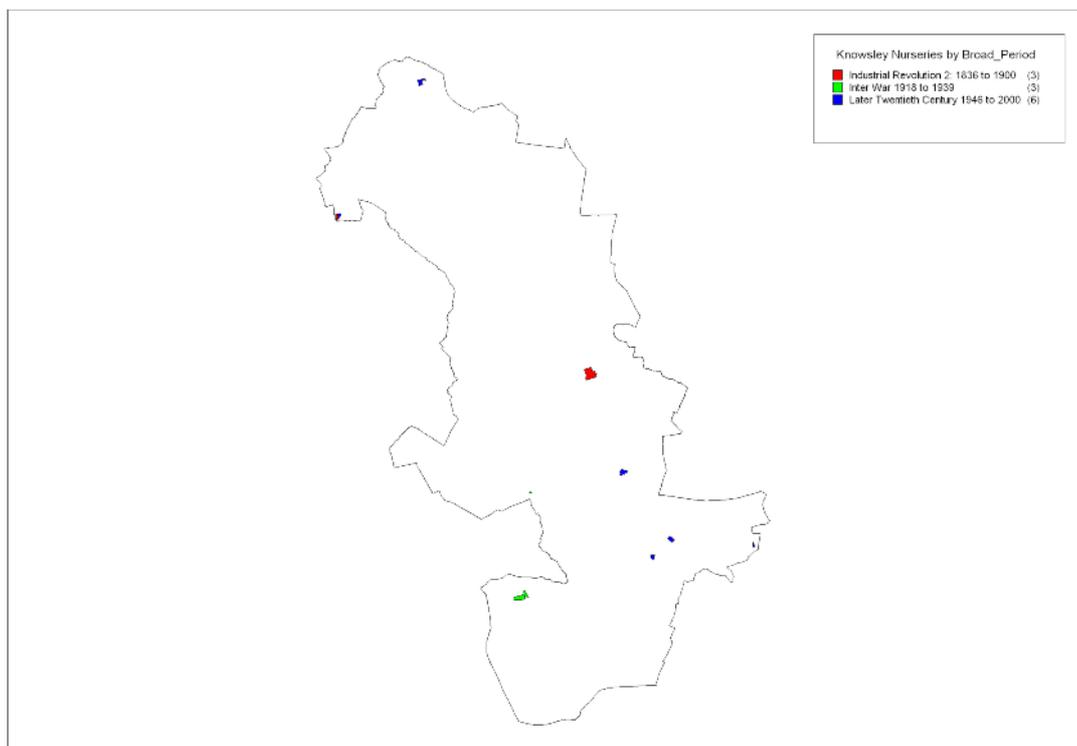


Figure 86 Current (2003) Nurseries by Broad Period of origin  
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Notable pre-1900 sites include Prescott Nursery - the site was established before 1850 (it is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1850) and is still in use as a nursery today.

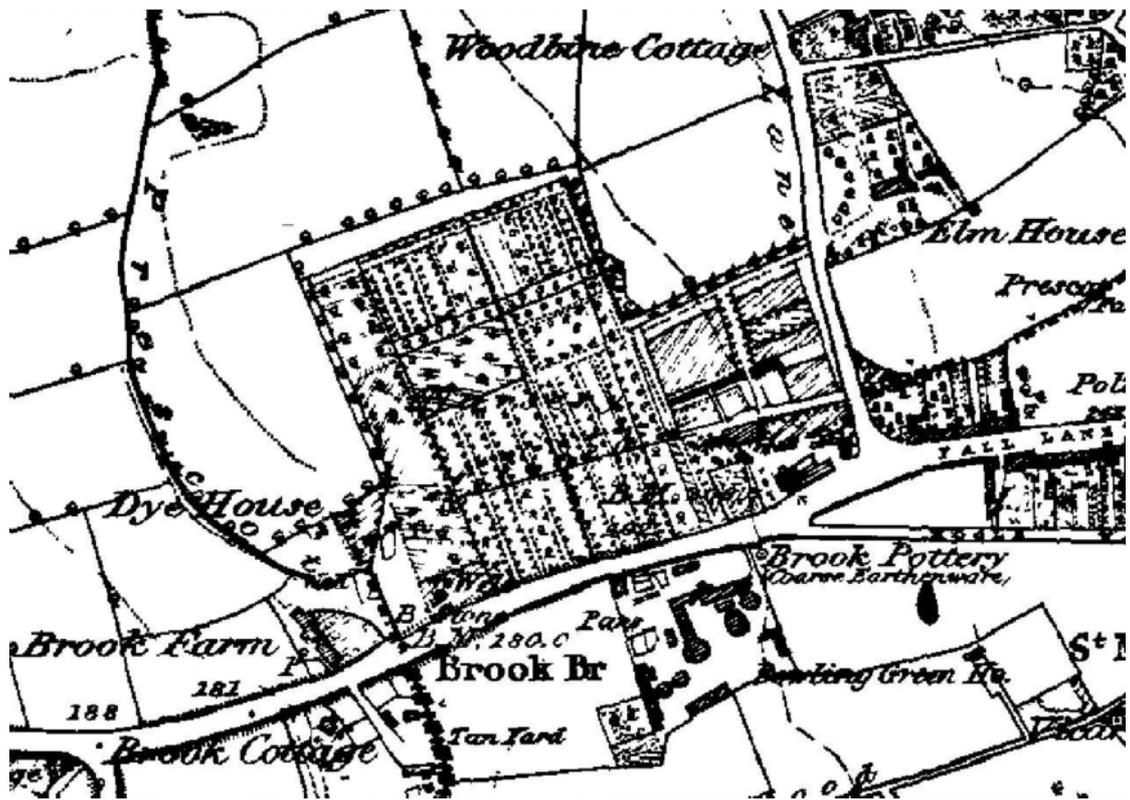


Figure 87 Prescott Nursery depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850

(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

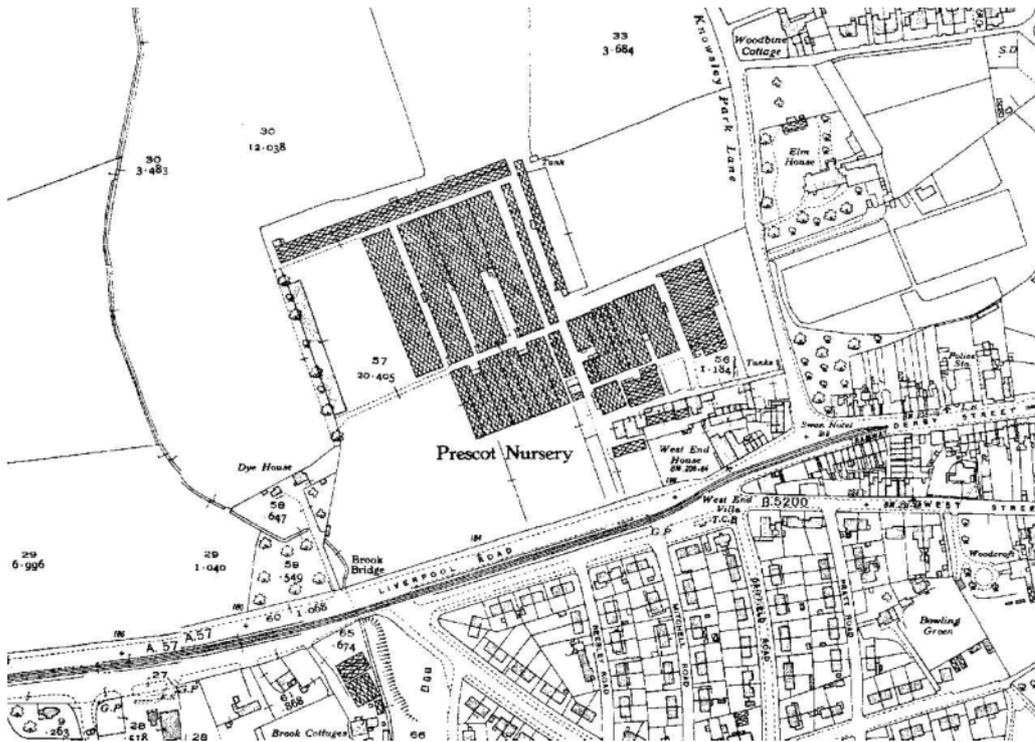


Figure 88 Prescott Nursery depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

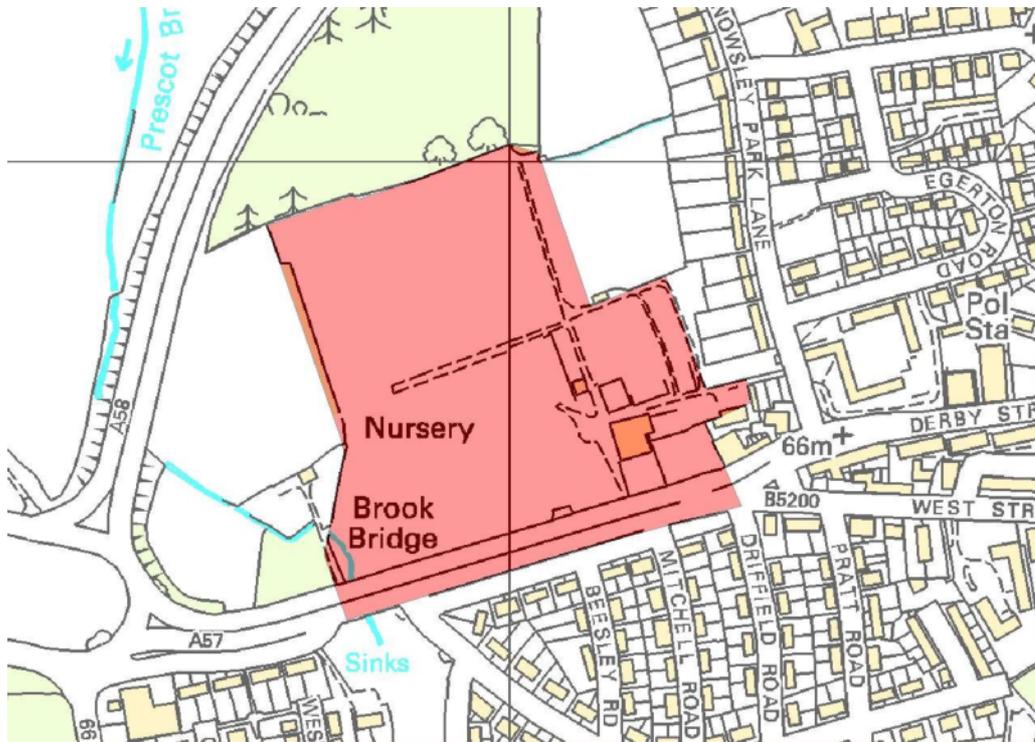


Figure 89 Prescott Nursery (Current 2003 mapping). (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### 9.5.9 Warehousing

Industrial warehousing accounts for 2.46% (17.63 ha) of the current Industrial Broad Type in Knowsley and is a purely late 20th century creation. They are concentrated in the southern part of the district, often within recently established industrial parks and located close to major transport routes. The largest (approximately 12 ha) is situated at Huyton Quarry Industrial Estate.

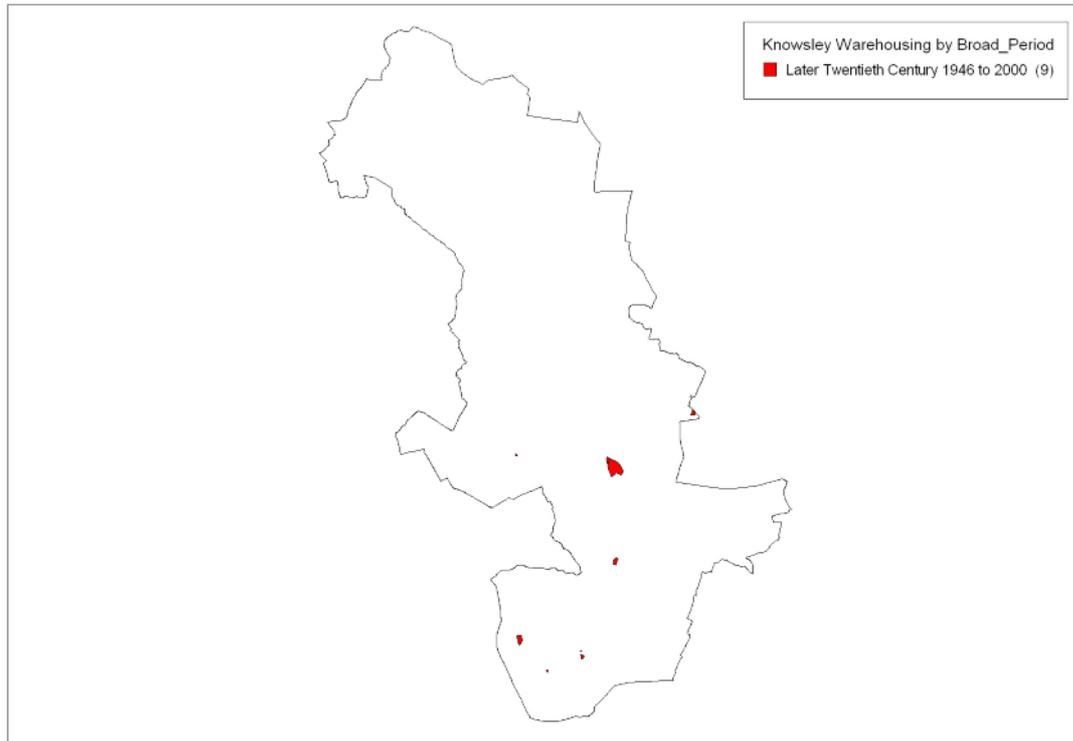


Figure 90 Current (2003) Industrial Warehousing in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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## 9.6 Civil Broad Type

Within Knowsley there are 326.3 ha of land which contains the Civil Broad Type. This represents around 4% of the total area. Eight principal MHCP Sub Types were identified for detailed analysis on the basis of their presence in the landscape or their historical significance:

- Cemeteries
- Colleges/Universities
- Cultural
- Hospital / Medical Complexes
- Institutions
- Places of Worship
- Police Stations
- Schools

Civil Sub Type	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Cemetery	11	6.40	2.21
Colleges/University Area	3	7.89	2.41
Cultural	17	8.96	2.74
Hospitals	10	20.71	6.34
Institution	8	4.60	1.40
Places of Worship	58	24.45	7.50
Police Station	6	2.26	0.70
Schools	94	250.99	77
Totals	207	326.26	100%

Table 22 Current (2003) Civil Sub Type in Knowsley

Civil establishments are found in four major and two smaller blocks in the district - within the urban cores of Prescot, Huyton-with-Roby, Kirkby, Knowsley, Cronton and Halewood), with the largest ones (by individual size) tending to be educational institutions, hospitals and cemeteries. The majority of records date to the later 20th century (1946 to 2000) at 86.3% - 249.99 ha, followed by Inter War (1918 to 1939)

sites at 8.93% (25.88 ha) and then Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) sites at 3.94% - 11.41 ha. The majority of pre-1900 sites are small-scale, comprising places of worship, schools, cultural buildings, cemeteries and hospitals. The majority of post-1945 sites are schools.

Civil by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	28	11.41	3.94
Early Twentieth Century: 1901 to 1917	6	2.44	0.84
Inter War 1918 to 1939	21	25.88	8.93
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	152	249.99	86.29
Total	207	289.71	100%

Table 23 Current (2003) Civil in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

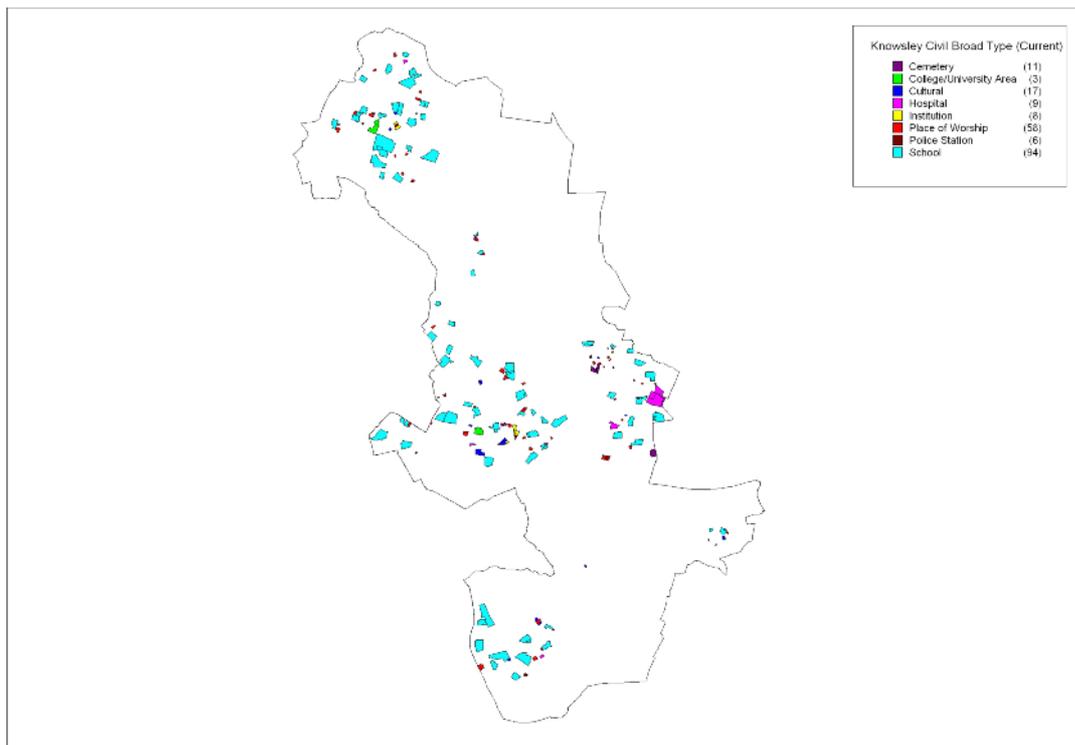


Figure 91 Current (2003) Civil Sub Type in Knowsley  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

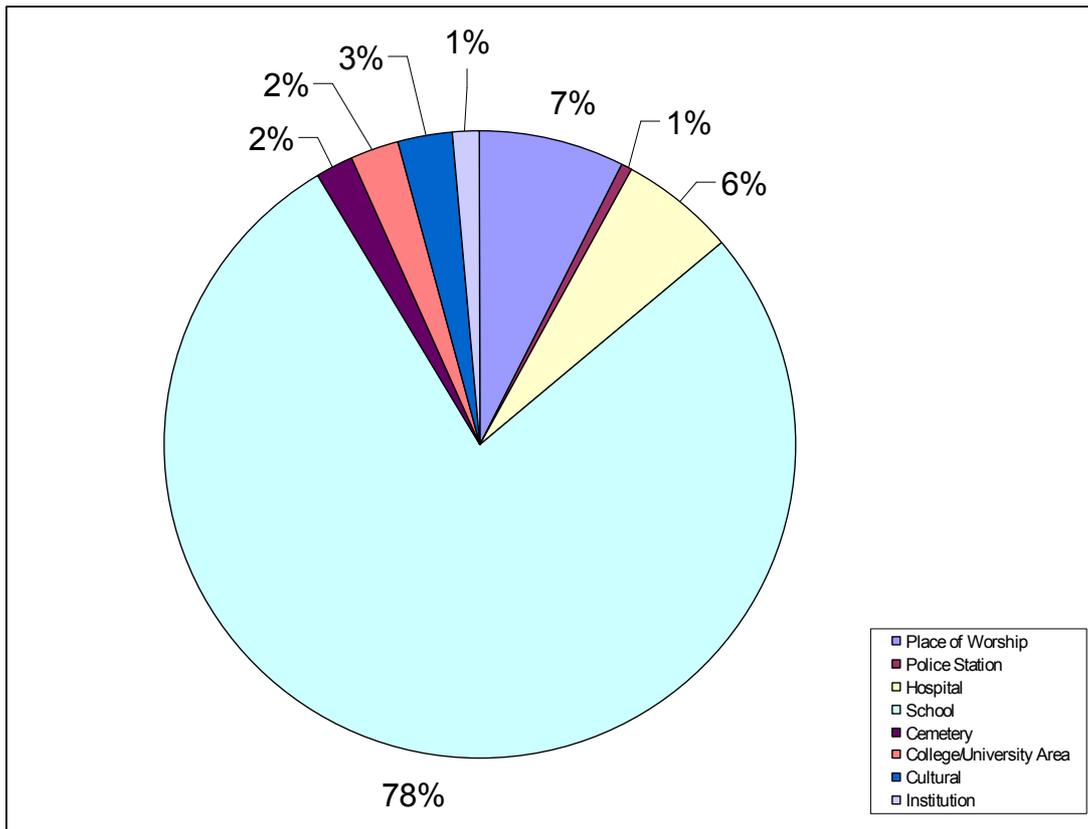


Figure 92 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Civil SubType (% of land)

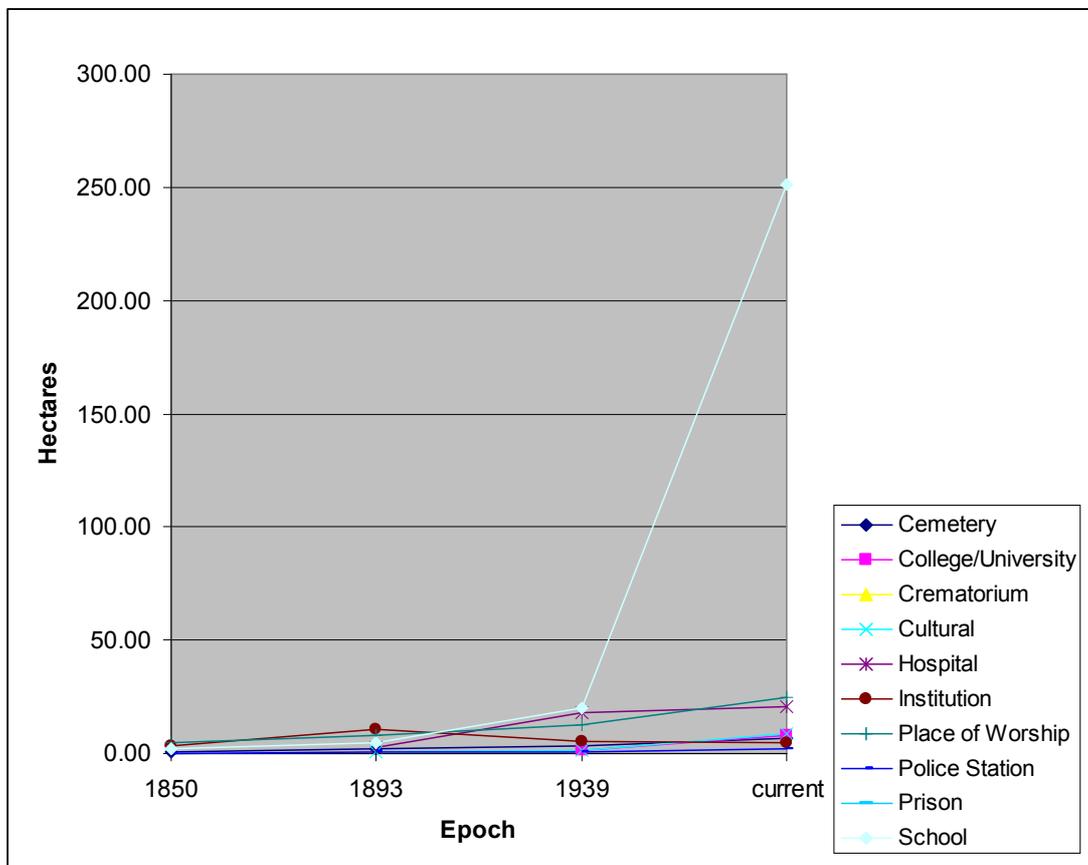


Figure 93 Graphical representation of Knowsley Civil Sub Type through time

### **9.6.1 Cemetery**

Cemeteries are defined as burial grounds that are not associated with an established church or chapel. Thus, burial grounds and graveyards associated with churches, chapels or other places of worship were included in the MHCP records relating to these buildings rather than recorded as separate character areas. Sites may, however, include extensions and or additions to ecclesiastical burial grounds and contemporary mortuary chapels. Cemeteries represent 2.2% (6.4 ha) of the total area of the Institutional Broad Type in Knowsley borough. The project identified five burial grounds in Knowsley, with three located in the central part of the borough (Huyton with Roby, Prescott and Halsnead Park) and two small grounds towards the north (Knowsley and Kirkby). The majority are dated to the mid to late 19th or early 20th century, although one of the sites (Whiston Cemetery at Halsnead Park) is a later 20th century creation.

The largest cemetery is located to the south of St Mary's Church in Prescott. The original burial grounds of the 17th century church were extended in three separate phases, the first in the mid to late 19th century, then a smaller extension in the early 20th century and, finally, a much larger extension in the inter-war years (1918 to 1939).

The largest (2.375 ha), single-phase cemetery is Whiston Cemetery, established at Halsnead Park in the later 20th century.

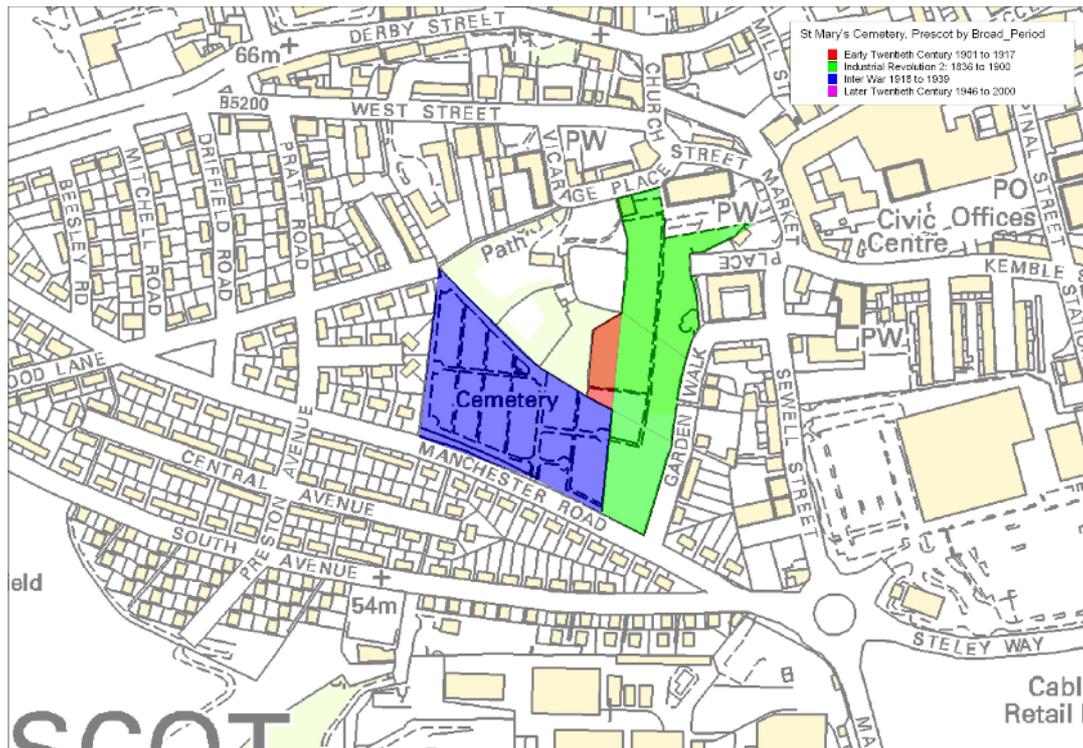


Figure 94 St Mary's Cemetery, Prescot (Current 2003 mapping). Three phases of extension to the church burial grounds are shown.  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

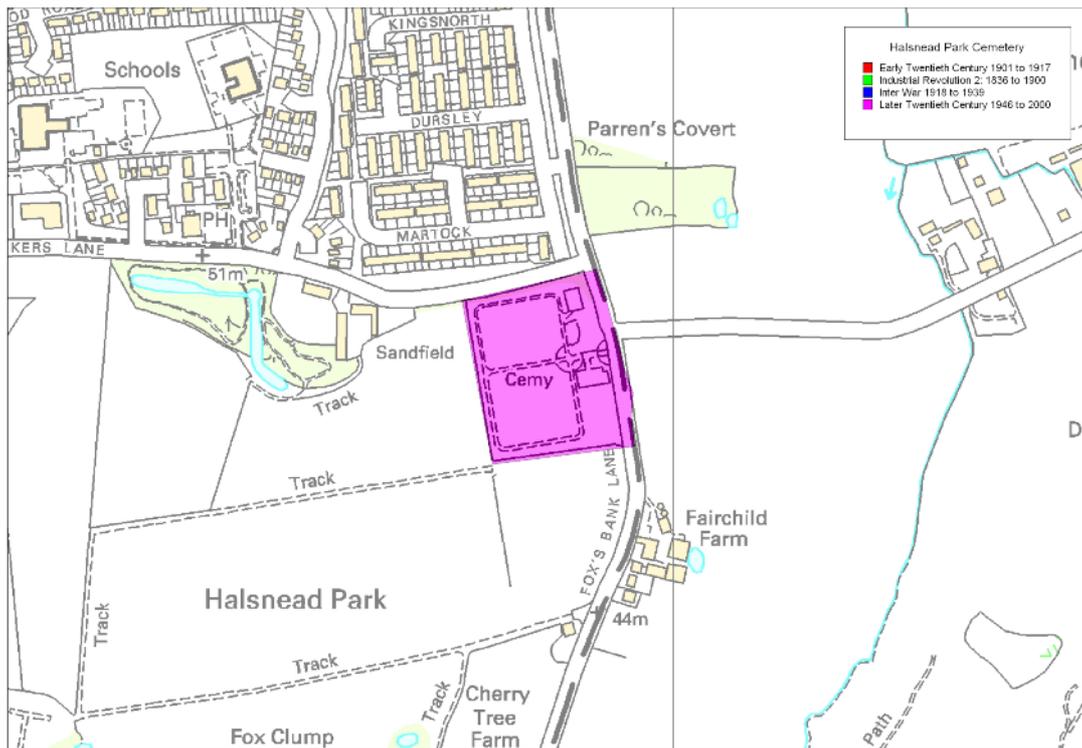


Figure 95 Whiston Cemetery, Halsnead Park (Current 2003 mapping)  
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence  
 Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### **9.6.2 College / University Area**

Two Further / Higher colleges were identified in Knowsley; both associated with Knowsley Community College - with centres on Rupert Road, Huyton with Roby (3.27 ha) and the other in Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby (4.62 ha). Both were created in the later 20th century.

A 'lost' college was Huyton Hall, once part of Huyton College. Huyton College was a private school for girls founded in 1894 as the sister school to Liverpool College. It closed in 1993, a few months short of its 100th birthday. It catered for girls between the ages of 6 years to 18 years. It was a school for both day girls and boarders. The School buildings and grounds have now been redeveloped into private residential housing, although much of the original hall and school buildings remain.

A number of sixth form colleges exist in the district, but these have been incorporated into the Schools Sub Type character. No University buildings are present in the district.

### 9.6.3 Cultural

The Cultural Sub Type contains all buildings of cultural, municipal or civic nature, including; council offices (unless included in the commercial office Sub Type), community centres, public halls, libraries, museums, theatres and public baths.

By the nature of their functions, cultural buildings are predominantly to be found in urban or commercial centres. The higher status types of civic buildings such as town halls are often grand and ornate buildings of architectural significance. Civic institutions of less high status such as libraries may also be representative of the design movements of their time. Civic and municipal institutions may form complexes of contemporary buildings set in formal grounds or gardens.

Cultural buildings account for about 2.8% (8.96 ha) of the Civil land in Knowsley. The main concentration of such buildings in the district is in Huyton with Roby, Kirkby and Prescot, the principal towns. The buildings are predominantly later 20th Century constructions (eleven built after 1946), with two being built in the period 1901 to 1939. Five buildings were built before 1900; many of these have changed in use, but have retained original features.

There are seven libraries in Knowsley, although some of these will have been too small to warrant character areas of their own. The district museum is Prescot Museum, located in a Georgian Town House, which was once the site of the local cockerel fighting pit. During the 19th century it was used as Parr's Bank and eventually as the National Westminster Bank. In 1982 it opened as Prescot Museum. Prescot has always been famous for its clock and watch making industry and became known as a 'town of little workshops', due to the different parts of the watches being made in workshops attached to houses throughout the town. Prescot Museum reflects this legacy through its permanent local history displays. It also explores other local industries, such as pottery manufacture, cable making and mining.

### 9.6.4 Hospital

The Hospital Sub Type represents around 6.3% (18.9 ha) of the total area of the Institutional MHCP type in Knowsley. The category includes sheltered housing and retirement homes, hospitals, and larger scale clinics and surgeries. Of the five main sites, four were built in the later Twentieth Century. Only one (Whiston Hospital) has pre-1939 origins.

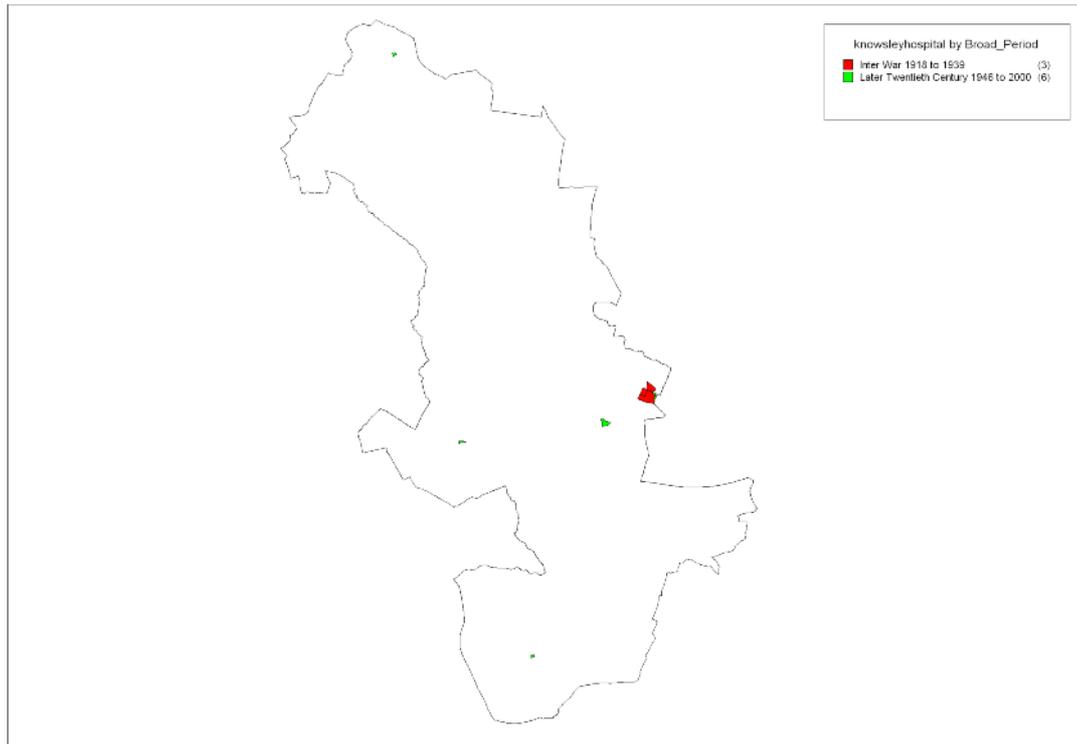


Figure 96 Current (2003) Hospitals in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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In the second half of the 19th century, it was recognised that increasing urbanisation was bringing new health risks associated with poor living conditions. Social reforms to counteract this were put in place, and this led to the establishment of numerous hospitals and medical facilities.

From the MHCP, one of the first medical sites built in Knowsley was a sanatorium on Delph Lane, Whiston. The sanatorium was built during the period 1850 to 1893, with the addition of a smallpox hospital before 1908. At this time, the complex appears to have been associated with the nearby Prescott Union Workhouse (itself now Whiston Hospital). Following the abolition of the Poor Law in 1929, the buildings were used as

an infirmary until being demolished in the later 20th century. The site is now occupied by commercial (office) and residential development.

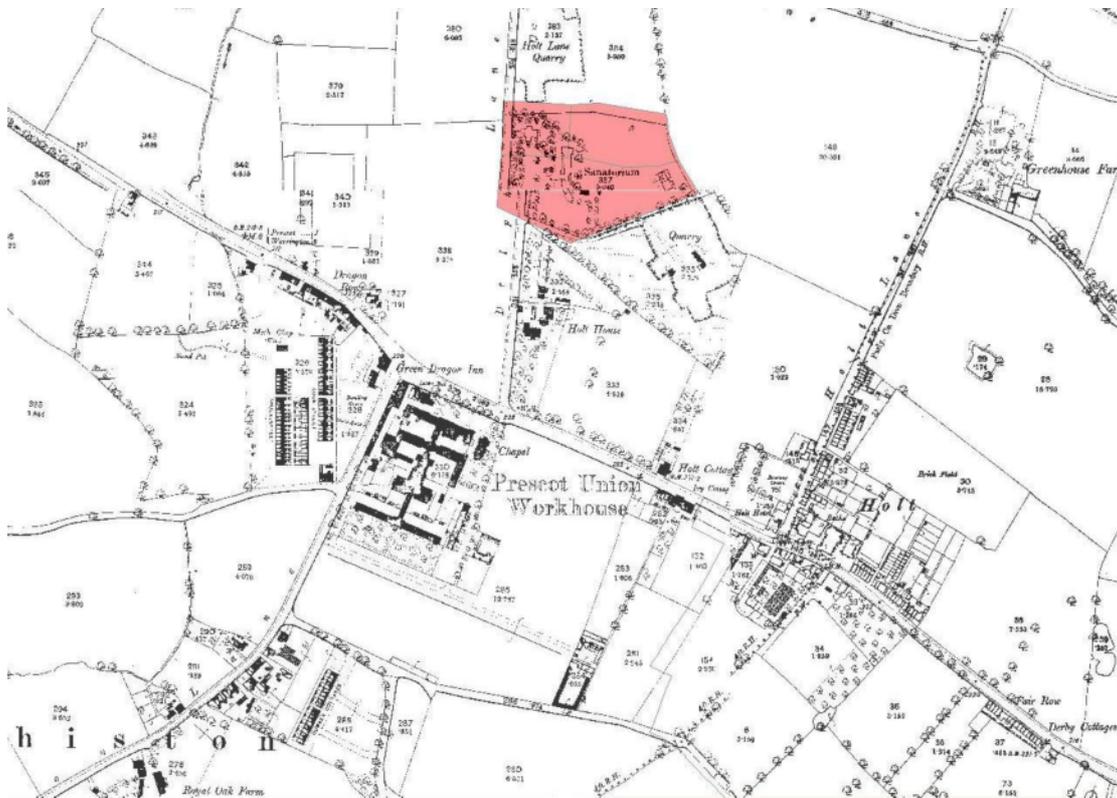


Figure 97 Whiston Sanatorium (red) and Prescott Union Workhouse (later to become Whiston Hospital) depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1893. © Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The most widely known present-day location in the township is Whiston Hospital, the main buildings of which are sited on the corner of Warrington Road (formerly Turnpike Road), and Dragon Lane. The original buildings (here in 1843) housed the Poor Law Institution - the Prescott Union Workhouse and Infirmary.

The Prescott Poor Law Union was formed on 31 January 1837. In 1842-3 a new Prescott Union workhouse was built on the Warrington Road at Whiston. Its layout was based on the standard cruciform design by Sampson Kempthorne. It eventually had a large infirmary, and like many other workhouses around the country, it provided the only public general hospital services until 1930.

Lancashire County Council took it over in April 1930 and it became known as the County Hospital, Whiston: split administratively into the east side containing Maternity and Acute Wards and the west (original Workhouse Infirmary) housing mental and

geriatric patients and welfare inmates. Out-patients, Casualty, X-Ray, Pathology and an Operating Theatre were added in 1937. During World War Two provision was made for military and civilian casualties and prisoners of war.

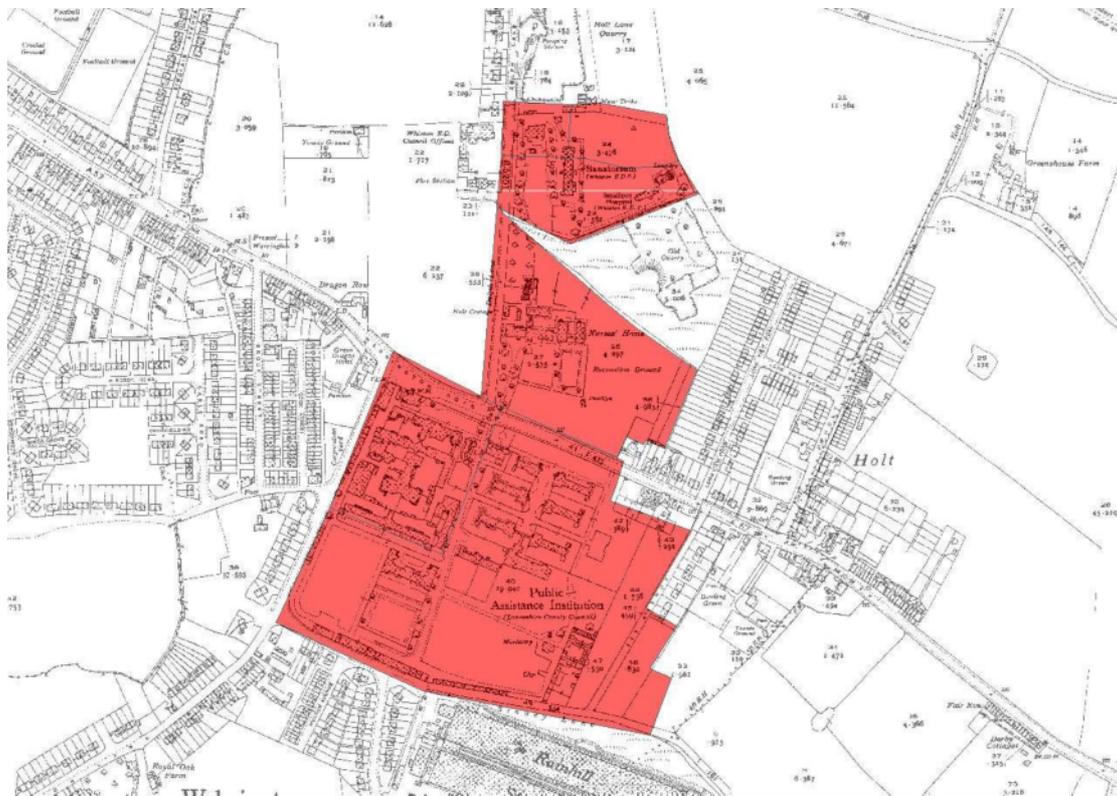


Figure 98 Whiston Hospital, Sanatorium and Small Pox Hospital depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939. (Current 2003 Mapping).  
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After 1948 Lancashire County Council retained a section of the old institution, as Delphside, under the terms of the Welfare and National Assistance Act. In 1953 the mental wards were renamed Whiston Mental Hospital, but the general and mental hospitals were merged in 1959. Since then innumerable extensions and additional facilities have been added, the most recent additions being a new maternity block and a new accident/emergency unit.

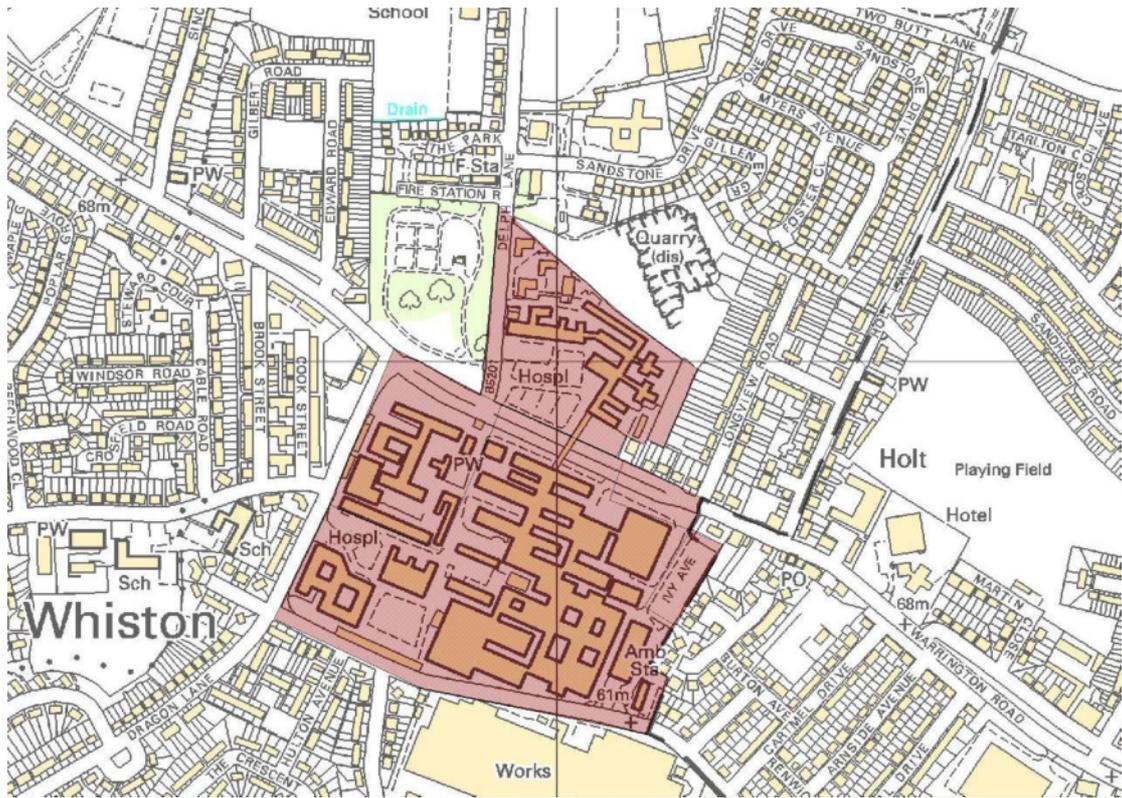


Figure 99 Whiston Hospital (Current 2003 mapping).  
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### **9.6.5 Institution**

Institution Sub Type contains buildings that could not be assigned a definitive category. As such, it contains a range of buildings of differing origins and usage including; ambulance and fire stations, courts and some civic buildings and local government offices not attributed to cultural (civic or municipal) commercial (office) Sub Types. The Institution Sub Type accounts for around 1.4% (4.6 ha) of the current Civil Broad Type in Knowsley. Many very small institutional buildings were not recorded, being assigned to commercial (office or core) status.

All of the institutional buildings were found within urban centres. The majority of institutional buildings were created in the late 20th century, including modern local government offices in Huyton, and court buildings and an ambulance station in Kirkby. Of the two earlier buildings, none dated to pre-1900 - a single civil office in Inter War period.

### 9.6.6 Place of Worship

Places of worship and other religious buildings represent 7.5% (24.5 ha) of the total area of the Civil Broad Type in Knowsley. The first category represents churches and chapels of all denominations, as well as meeting houses, Kingdom halls, mosques and synagogues. Small religious houses, including Non-conformist chapels of the 19th century, were either recorded individually (where they were visible) or as attributes of residential areas. Examples of the Religious (non-worship) type included Salvation Army Halls, convents (sometimes with attached nursing homes) and church halls. Sunday Schools were more-often-than-not, recorded as educational rather than religious institutions.

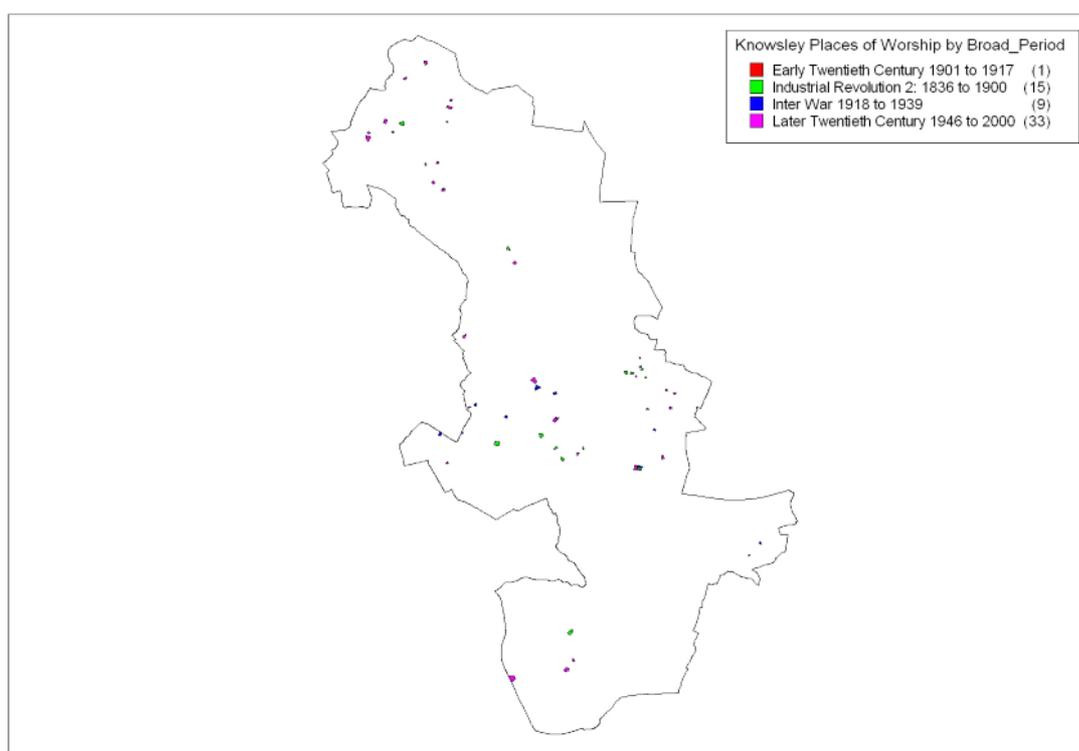


Figure 100 Current (2003) Places of Worship in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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The overwhelming majority of sites of worship in the Borough are Christian churches and chapels. The majority of religious sites date to the later 20th century (57.5% - 14.05 ha), followed by Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period sites at 28.6% (7 ha). The majority of Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) places of worship are found in the historic cores (Prescot, Huyton-with-Roby, Knowsley, Whiston and Halewood)

while later 20th century sites are found in close association with large-scale housing schemes.

Place of Worship by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	15	7.00	28.62
Early Twentieth Century: 1901 to 1917	1	0.06	0.25
Inter War 1918 to 1939	9	3.34	13.66
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	33	14.05	57.46
Total	58	24.45	100%

Table 24 Current (2003) Place of Worship in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

Today, religious worship in the Borough is predominantly Christian (or its variants), with other religions being underrepresented (see Table 25). No synagogues or mosques were recorded in Knowsley although it is likely that small (and unrecorded) centres may exist.

Religion (all people)	Knowsley Population
Christian	128834
Buddhist	111
Hindu	173
Jewish	41
Muslim	257
Sikh	20
Other	65
No religion	8791
Religion not stated	12167

Table 25. 2001 Census Results for Knowsley Religious Beliefs  
(Source: [www.statistics.gov.uk/Census2001/profiles/00bx.asp#ethnic](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/Census2001/profiles/00bx.asp#ethnic)) Accessed July 2010.

Of the church sites, only four occupied an area of more than a hectare. Fourteen sites of a half to one hectare were noted, but the remainder of the churches in Knowsley (about 69%) occupied plots of less than half a hectare.

## **Examples of Knowsley Places of Worship**

The project acknowledges that the following descriptions and text was sourced, and reproduced, here almost entirely from the Listed Buildings Online database as accessed in 2009 ([www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk)) which has been superseded by The National Heritage List for England (English Heritage).

### **Medieval Churches**

**Church of St Michael, Huyton-with-Roby.** Grade II\* Listed. The church occupies high ground on a ridge, and therefore visible throughout the township. There may have originally been a Saxon church on this site but a church certainly existed here in the 12th Century for it was granted to the Priory of Burscough, by Robert, son of Henry de Lathom (whose family are remembered by the present-day Lathom Road). The present church building is of medieval origin, which, despite having been subsequently altered over many centuries, retains notable features of the different periods. Within the church is an early Norman font found buried under the Tower in 1872. South arcade, and chancel C14, tower C14, the top dated 1664, north aisle and arcade 1815, south aisles 1822; Case Mausoleum, now vestry, 1681. Stone with stone slate chancel roof. Nave aisles under hipped roofs, chancel, west tower and north vestry. Tower has moulded base; diagonal buttresses with pinnacles at bell stage.

**St Mary the Virgin, Church Street, Prescott.** Grade I Listed It is possible that there has been a church on this site from pre-Norman times. The church is first mentioned in records of 1140. At least two buildings are known to have been on this site. 14th century lean-to vestry to south of chancel; nave and chapel, 1610 (dated on plaques); tower dated 1729; aisles, 1818-19. Tower has base with cyma moulding; west entrance has Tudor head with roll moulded surround with 3 pointed overlights, hollow-chamfered square-headed architrave with label mould. Round-headed west window has 3 round-headed lights and 2 roundels, roundel above has torus surround and top mask. Frieze inscribed "CONDITUM ANO DOMNI 1729" and cornice. Most of the building that stands here today dates from 1610. The only part of the medieval building to remain is the small north vestry. This church is the only Grade One Listed Building in the Borough of Knowsley.

### **Early to mid 19th century Churches**

Thirteen of the Borough's medium to large sized churches were built in the 19th century as part of urban and suburban expansion, forming an integral part of the built and social environment. Many of these were high status, ornate buildings of architectural significance. Within the immediate environment of many churches and chapels were associated features such as lych gates, graveyards, halls and presbyteries, all of which may themselves be of historical interest or architectural merit. Graveyards may contain unusual grave markers or fine sculpture. However, some chapels, particularly those built in the second half of the 19th and the early 20th century, occupied relatively small plots and did not have associated burial grounds or buildings.

During the 19th century a large number of Welsh people moved to the coal-fields of Knowsley and they brought their distinctive brand of Non-Conformist Christianity with them. There were once at least 31 non-conformist chapels within just 5km of Cronton, including three Welsh chapels (Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian) in Widnes, Welsh Calvinistic Methodists in Huyton Quarry, and a Welsh Methodist in Whiston. Methodism was especially strong in coal-mining communities and Cronton had its own Wesleyan Methodist chapel in Chapel Lane. This chapel still exists and now forms part of the Liverpool District (Widnes Circuit) of the Methodist Church.

Whilst many religious buildings are protected through listing, others are vulnerable to demolition but still form an important element of the urban landscape and should be sympathetically reused where they are no longer used for their original purpose. It is not unusual for urban chapels or churches to be reused as warehouses or for other commercial purposes or, more recently, as apartments; those in more rural settings may be particularly suitable for residential conversion.

**Church of St Nicholas, Halewood.** Grade II Listed. Early English style. Cruciform plan with SW tower, polygonal apse, NW organ gallery. The Church of St Nicholas was constructed as a chapel of ease in 1839 to the designs of Messrs A Y & G Williams of Liverpool. In 1847 the church was enlarged through the addition of transepts and a small polygonal apse (rebuilt in 1894). The organ gallery is also believed to have been inserted at this time. The tower was added in 1882-3 and is by Cornelius Sherlock. During the 1870s-90s stained glass by Morris & Co. and W H Sullivan of Liverpool was installed. The church received electricity in the 1930s and chandeliers were installed in the 1950s. The building was re-roofed in 2004/5. The open porch to the tower was enclosed in early 2007 to dissuade vandalism. A toilet

was also inserted to the rear of the church at this time along with the creation of a new vestry and a new screen leading into the nave.

**Church of St Mary, Knowsley Lane, Knowsley.** Grade II Listed. 1843-4 by Edmund Sharpe, transepts added in 1860 by E G Paley, and Derby memorial chapel added 1871 also by Paley. Has a West tower, aisles and transepts, and a clerestory. Pointed lancet on South side, Decorated style windows on North side.

**Church of Our Lady Immaculate, Vicarage Place, Prescott.** Grade II Listed. Catholic church. 1856-7. By J. Hansom. Rock-faced stone with ashlar dressings and slate roof. 7-bay nave, shallow transepts and 2-bay chancel. Nave has 2-light windows with plate tracery between deep weathered buttresses; gabled south porch has diagonal buttresses and statue in niche above entrance.

### **Late 19th century Churches**

**Church of St Nicholas, Windy Arbor Road, Whiston.** Grade II Listed. Anglican church in Early English style, built in 1864-68. Designed and built by G. E. Street. Coursed rubble sandstone with red sandstone dressings. Slate roofs. SW tower not completed (almost detached), SE Lady Chapel, NE organ chamber, W vestry. Clerestoried nave with lean-to 4-bay N & S aisles. Early 1980s extension to S side abutting tower's E wall and nave. The site for the Church of St Nicholas was purchased and donated by Rev. Ellis Ashton, vicar of Huyton, and the foundation stone was laid in 1864 by Daniel Willis Esq. member of a prominent local family. Originally called Tarbock Road the road on which the church sits is now known as Windy Arbor Road. The Church of St Nicholas was consecrated on 30 July 1868 and was constructed to the designs of G. E. Street, leading mid-19th century architect and Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy. The first vicar was Rev. E.S. Meade (1868-73). Originally the tower was designed to include a crenellated parapet and a spire, as plans by G.F. Bodley (kept in the church) show, but due to concerns over mineshafts in the area and the possible weight of a spire these elements were never built. The Incorporated Society for Buildings & Churches donated £250 towards the cost of the church in 1863 upon condition that many seats were reserved for the poor of the parish.

A well-designed and imposing Anglican church dated 1864-8 in Early English style by one of the pre-eminent ecclesiastical architects of the 19th century, G.E. Street. The

crenellated parapet and spire originally intended were never built, but the building is still an effective high quality composition highlighting Street's skills. Further particular special interest lies in the interior with its elaborate reredos and stained glass by numerous major artists including William Morris and Burne-Jones.

**Church of St Chad, Old Hall Lane, Knowsley. Grade II\* Listed.** Church, 1869-71 by architects Paley & Austin of Lancaster. Built in a transitional Romanesque / Gothic style of coursed red sandstone with steep red tile roofs. North and South porches up steps, tall nave with aisles and clerestories, crossing tower, North organ loft, South chapel, short square-ended sanctuary. By tradition there has been a church here since c.870 AD. The current church was built for the 4th Earl of Sefton to replace a chapel of 1766. That chapel itself replaced an earlier structure of unknown date but which might have been in the same location.

H. J. Austin joined E. G. Paley's Lancaster architectural practice in 1868, and over the next 25 years they became the premier church architects in the North West of England, producing large numbers of churches of national significance, many of which are highly graded listed buildings. St Chad's was one of their earliest collaborations, which Pevsner considered to be "one of their most powerful". This mid C19 church is a well executed design which successfully combines robustness with elegance. It is an early and little altered example of the work of Paley & Austin, a premier church building practice of the time in a national context. The interior has been well preserved and includes a rare early Norman font. In particular the very high quality stained glass and reredos form a unified scheme which is of special interest as a nationally significant collection of the work of Henry Holiday, a noted artist at the heart of the Arts and Crafts movement, and which enhances the special interest of the overall design, supporting the church's inclusion in Grade II\*.

**Church of St Bartholomew, Church Road, Huyton-with-Roby. Grade II Listed.** 1875. By Ewan Christian. Rock-faced stone with ashlar dressings and banded slate roof. Nave with aisles under lean-to roofs, west tower, chancel, north and south vestries. Tower has weathered setback buttresses.

**United Reformed Church, Victoria Road, Huyton-with-Roby. Grade II Listed.** Non-conformist church. 1889-90. By W D Caroe. Stone with slate roof. Nave with gabled aisles and north transept, chancel with north tower and south vestry and hall (ritual north is actual west). West front has aisles recessed behind lean-to porches.

**Churches continued to be built in the 20th century**, with about ten built between the 1900 and the 1939, and a further thirty three dating to the second half of the 20th century, including both character areas and the smaller sites recorded as attributes of residential areas. Many of the churches built in the post-war period are associated with the development of large scale housing estates and social housing.

Sources: Pollard and Pevsner (2006) and the Listed Buildings Online database ([www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk)) which has been superseded by The National Heritage List for England (English Heritage).

### **9.6.7 Police Station**

The MHCP identified six separate police stations on the current mapping, representing around 0.7% (2.3 ha) of the total area of the Institutional MHCP type in Knowsley. The current area represents an increase in size of 31% from 1939 (0.692 ha). Only one appears to have pre-1900 origins - a large (0.26 ha) building in the centre of Prescot. A single building at Halewood was established in the Inter War period (1918 to 1939). The four other police stations were built after 1945.

### 9.6.8 Schools

Educational houses are an integral part of many historic urban landscapes, and schools represent the greatest area of institutional land use in Knowsley. This is a product both of the large amounts of land taken up by outside space associated with some schools, and the large number of individual sites. Schools cover approximately 251Ha, nearly 78% of the total area of Civil Broad Type in Knowsley. Schools can easily be identified on current and historic mapping as they are usually named.

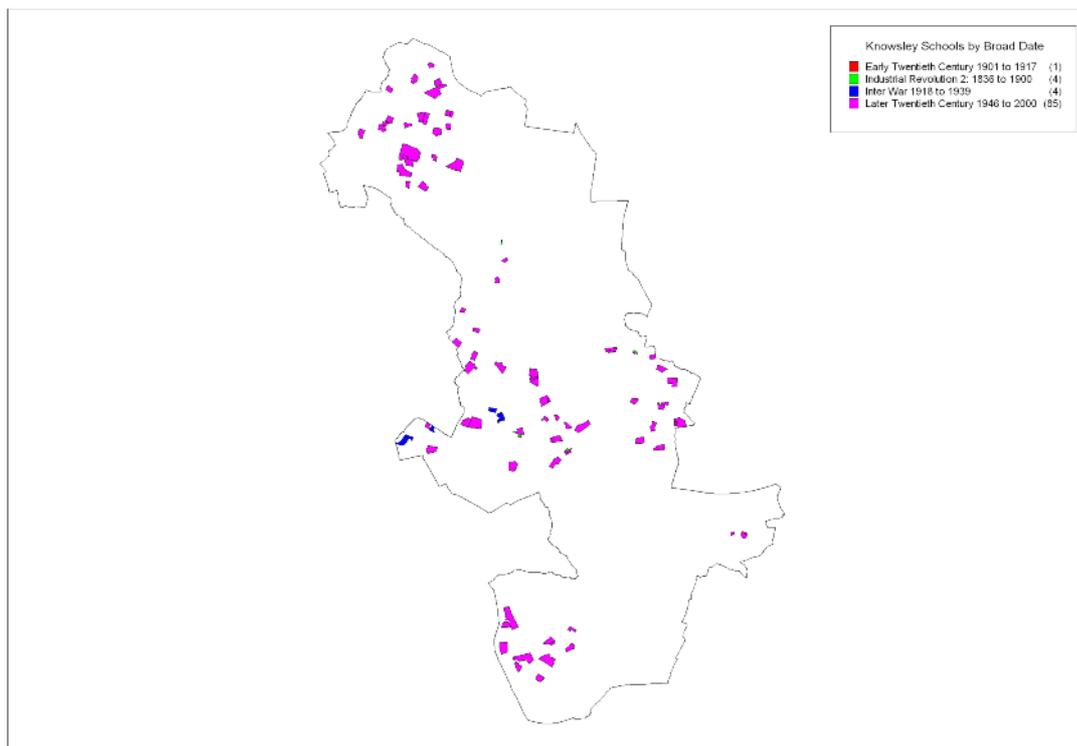


Figure 101 Current (2003) Knowsley Schools by Broad Period of origin  
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Education houses have been a part of the vernacular environment since the post-medieval period. Early examples were often founded by religious or charitable societies. In the mid- to late 19th century social welfare reforms led to an organised national system of education. The Second Reform Act of 1867 and Forster's Education Act of 1870 caused elementary schools to be built in areas where educational facilities were not provided. Contemporary colleges and institutions were also founded, with the intention of improving the skills of the labour force.

Schools associated with later 19th and early 20th century terraced houses tend to be small. Larger schools, often with extensive playing fields, were built in the 20th century. Extensive phases of school and college building activity occurred in both the inter-war and post-war periods; many were built in association with suburban housing developments.

Schools by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	4	1.60	0.75
Early Twentieth Century: 1901 to 1917	1	0.13	0.06
Inter War 1918 to 1939	3	6.25	2.91
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	86	206.46	96.28
Total	94	214.43	100%

Table 26 Current (2003) Schools in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

In general, the distribution of schools runs parallel to residential development in the district. Four schools were identified with pre-1900 origins, although none of these have any original buildings remaining. The Four schools (polygons) comprising just 0.75% of the total. They are located in the historic centres of Huyton-with-Roby, Prescot and Knowsley. Pre-1900 schools tend to be small-scale buildings, being on average 0.4 hectares. Many former schools have been converted to commercial or residential use. A single early 20th century (1901 to 1917) school was recorded - in Cronton.

Nearly 3% of the all schools (three sites) date to the Inter War period (1918 to 1939), located towards the western urban fringes of Huyton-with-Roby and Swanside. The schools are associated with extensive Inter War housing estates. Interwar schools are generally large-scale, with extensive teaching buildings and sports fields (an average of 2.08 hectares).

Around 96% (206.46 ha) of the schools in Knowsley district date to the second half of the 20th century. They are found throughout the Borough often in association with large-scale post- WW II housing estates. These are large-scale developments, with extensive facilities (2.40 ha average size).

## 9.7 Commercial Broad Type

There are currently 465.3 ha of land assigned to the commercial Broad Type, representing 5% of the Knowsley total. Many of the Commercial MHCP types share characteristics such as the scale of buildings and sites and the types of locations in which they are generally to be found, and can be grouped together. Commercial activity is dominated by the retail sector (60%), with a large part of this taken by Knowsley Safari Park and Knowsley Business Park. Commercial activity is generally evenly distributed throughout the district, with a slight bias towards the central and northern regions. Apart from Knowsley Safari Park and Knowsley Business Park, commercial activity is predominantly found in urban centres (as commercial cores) and on the urban fringes.

Commercial Sub Type	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Business Park	21	114.45	24.81
Commercial Core	9	6.24	1.35
Commercial Core (Office)	3	4.35	0.94
Commercial Core (Retail)	108	276.86	60.01
Offices	77	41.96	8.24
Retail Park	21	21.42	4.64
Totals	239	465.34	100%

Table 27 Current (2003) Commercial Sub Type in Knowsley

The vast majority of the Commercial Broad Type dates to the later 20th century - approximately 96% (445.23 ha) of land dates to this period. Later 20th century developments tend to be medium to large in size (on average 2.37 ha) and often founded on brown field (previously industrial) or green field sites. Earlier, pre-1900 commercial sites are relatively small (0.35 ha) and tend to be concentrated within the urban centres of Prescot and Whiston.

Commercial by Broad Period	Number of Polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	38	13.42	2.91
Early Twentieth Century 1901 to 1917	2	0.65	0.14
Inter War 1918 to 1939	12	5.44	1.18
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	186	441.30	95.66
Twenty-first Century 1001 to 2050	1	0.54	0.12
Totals	239	461.34	100%

Table 28 Current (2003) Commercial in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

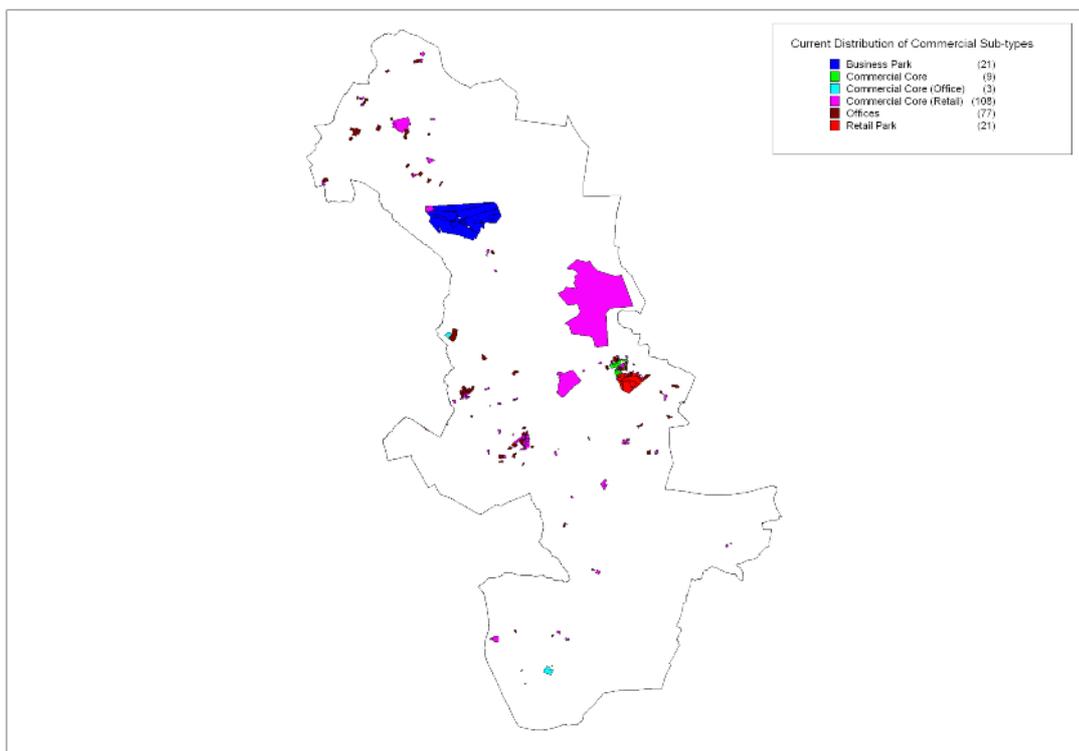


Figure 102 Current (2003) Commercial Sub Type in Knowsley  
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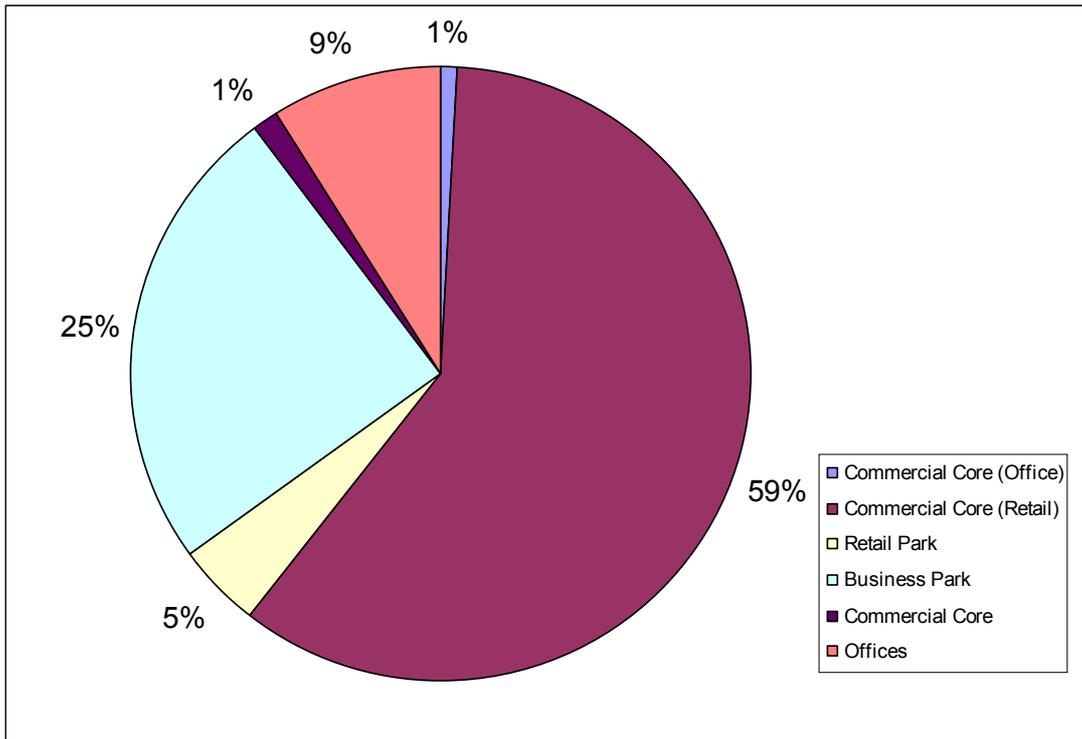


Figure 103 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Commercial Sub Type (% of land)

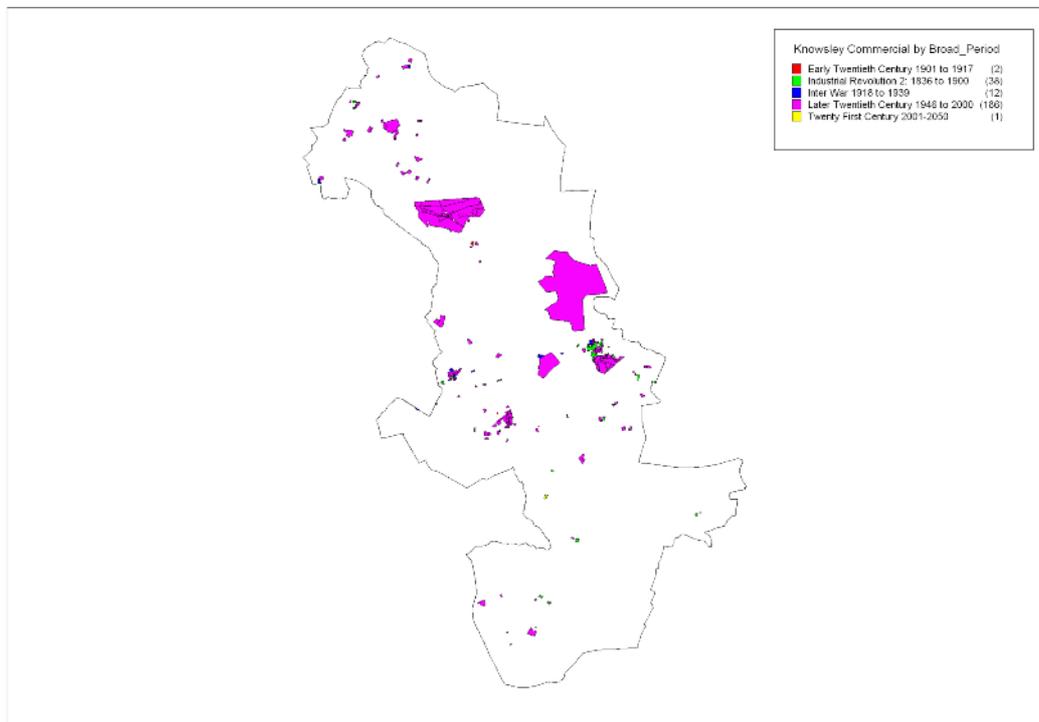


Figure 104 Current (2003) Commercial in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin  
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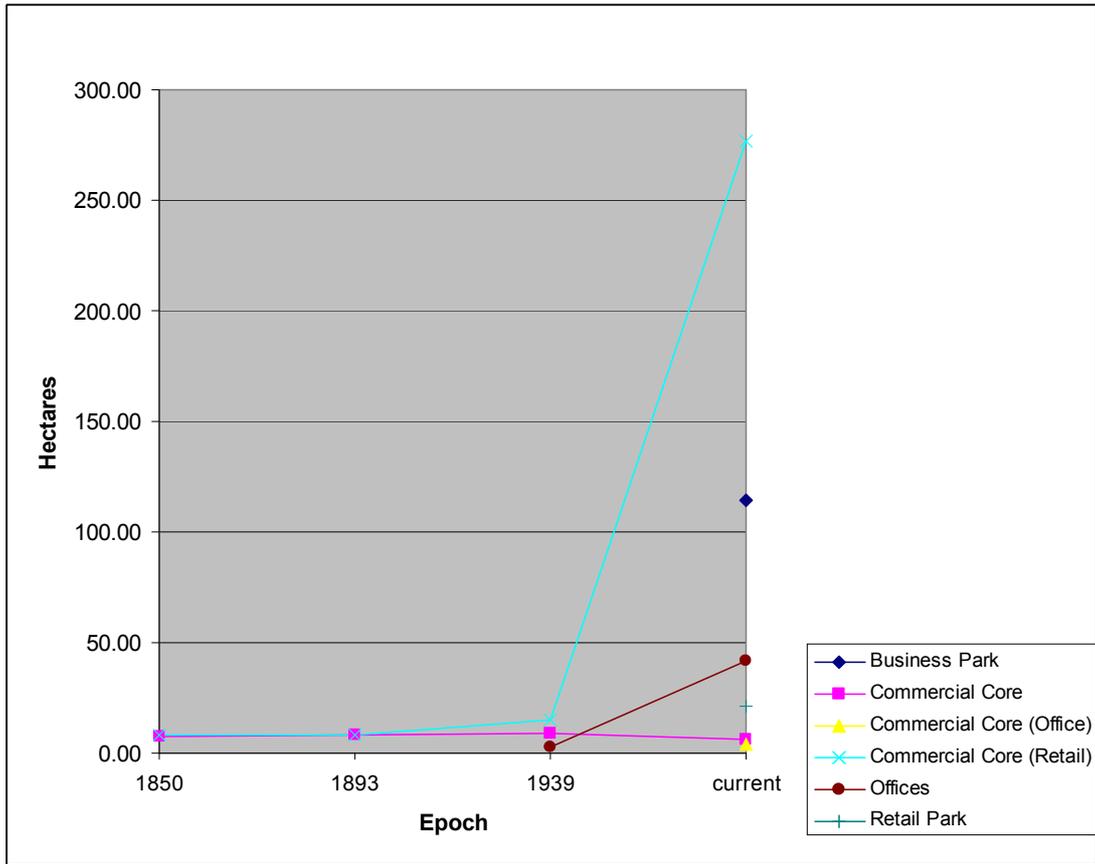


Figure 105 Graphical representation of Knowsley Commercial Sub Type through time

### 9.7.1 Business Park

Business Parks and distribution centres represent 25% (114.5 ha) of the Commercial Broad Type in Knowsley. Physically they are closely linked with industrial areas, with a single distinct zone being situated to the south of Knowsley Industrial Park.

Complementing the Knowsley Industrial Park, Knowsley Business Park was established in the late 20th century. Situated just off Junctions 4 and 5 of the M57 motorway, the park is strategically located to take advantage of the regional and national motorway. Together with the Industrial park, the area is one of the largest employment areas in the United Kingdom, encompassing over 1,200 acres and home to around 1,000 companies, including News International, IMI and QVC.

In the last decade over £1 billion has been invested in Knowsley changing the whole character of the park with various industrial and office developments, hotels, leisure clubs and the Liverpool FC Academy.

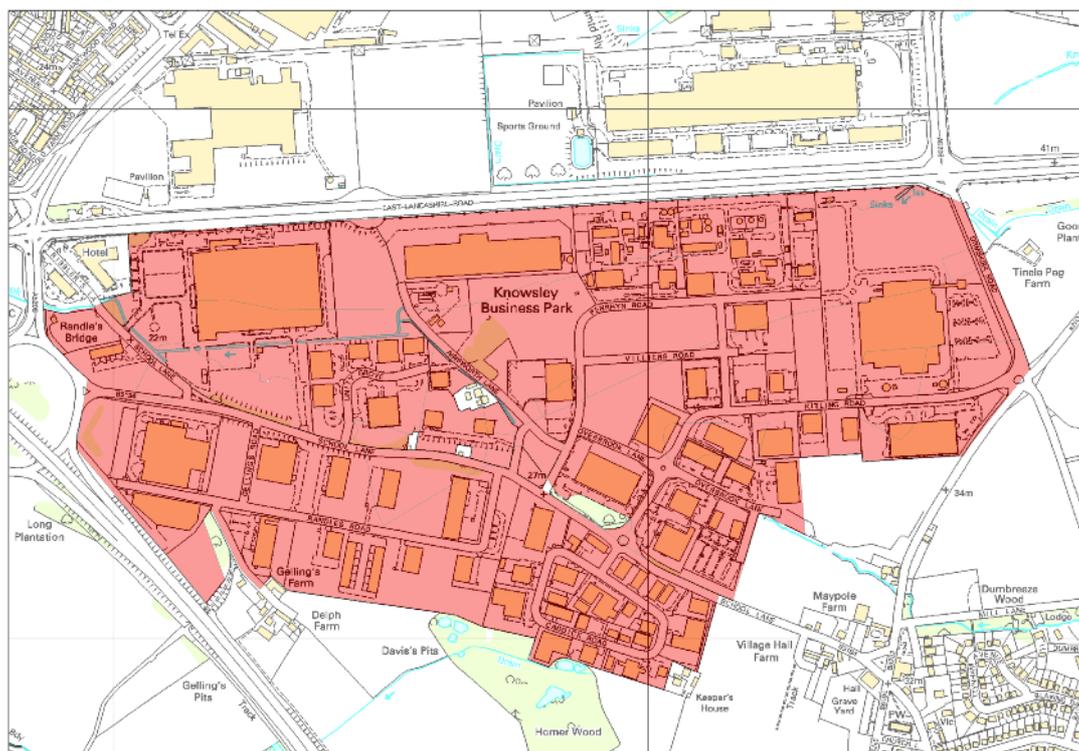


Figure 106 Knowsley Business Park (Current 2003 mapping)  
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The site generally comprises medium to large-scale buildings, sheds or warehouses with associated yards, bays and car parks. It was possible to identify distribution

centres, warehousing and other storage facilities by noticing the presence of lorry bays and cargo container yards on aerial photographs.

Prior to development, the area comprised small regular fields, a small village hamlet (and school), isolated farms, a scatter of small plantations and old quarry workings. During construction work for the Business Park, very much all of this was cleared except for a small wood (the site of a former plantation), two small cottages and a single farmstead - Quarry Farm. The farm is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" map of Lancashire (1850) as Carter's House and now sits in isolation, surrounded by modern development. None of the buildings have any current form of protection or designation.

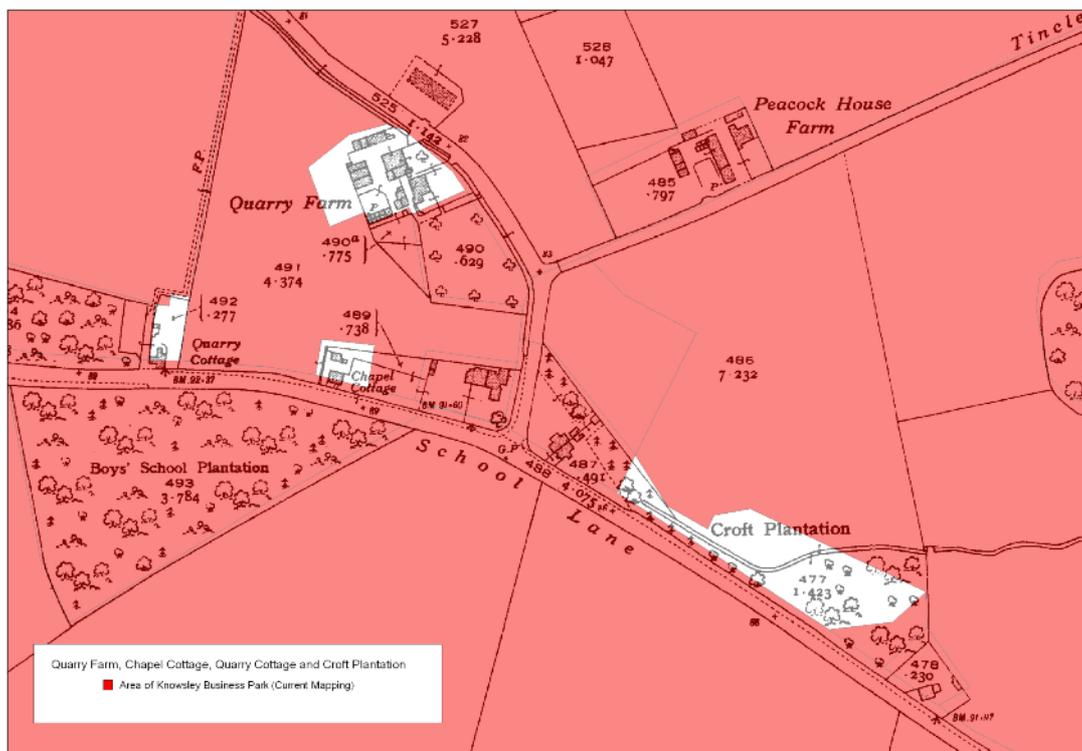


Figure 107 Quarry Farm, Chapel Cottage, Quarry Cottage and Croft Plantation depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939 (current area of Knowsley Business Park depicted in red).

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### 9.7.2 Commercial Core

Commercial Core represents 1% (6.24 ha) of the Commercial Broad Type in Knowsley. This category comprises commercial establishments at the heart of the social landscape, forming the commercial core of urban centres (in this instance Prescott), and are often synonymous with historic settlement cores. There is also a great deal of overlap with two other Commercial Sub Types - Commercial Core (Retail) and Commercial Core (Office). The three Commercial Core Sub Types could be combined, to provide a 'general' view of commercial activity within urban cores.

Typically such areas comprise streets containing a mix of buildings originating in different periods (dating from at least the mid-19th century onwards), with markets, shopping precincts, a variety of retail outlets, and businesses including banks, post offices and public houses.

Many commercial urban cores still retain substantial elements of the Georgian and Victorian high street, which contribute greatly to historic character. Buildings of the 19th and early 20th centuries were often ornately decorated; the surviving Georgian and Victorian buildings in Prescott are a good example.

Only one commercial core was recorded - the central part of Prescott. It was felt that Prescott, being an old market town, comprised elements worthy of being labelled a commercial core. Furthermore, the layout of Prescott's commercial area was established during the medieval period, much of the plot layout and street pattern of medieval Prescott survives virtually intact. Other commercial cores do exist (Huyton, Whiston, Kirkby and Halewood) but these have been recorded through other Sub Types - Commercial Core (Retail), Residential.

Prescot is one of the oldest settlements in Merseyside; although the earliest documentary evidence is from 1178, the church occupies a hill site with a circular churchyard suggesting earlier origins. In medieval times Prescott was a thriving market town and the ecclesiastical centre of an extensive parish, within the West Derby Hundred which included fourteen other townships including St Helens. A unique feature of Prescott's history is the ancient charter of privileges which made Prescott virtually self-governing under the 'Court Leet' and gave Prescottians rights denied to those outside the town (Prescot Conservation Area Appraisal, Knowsley Council, 2005).

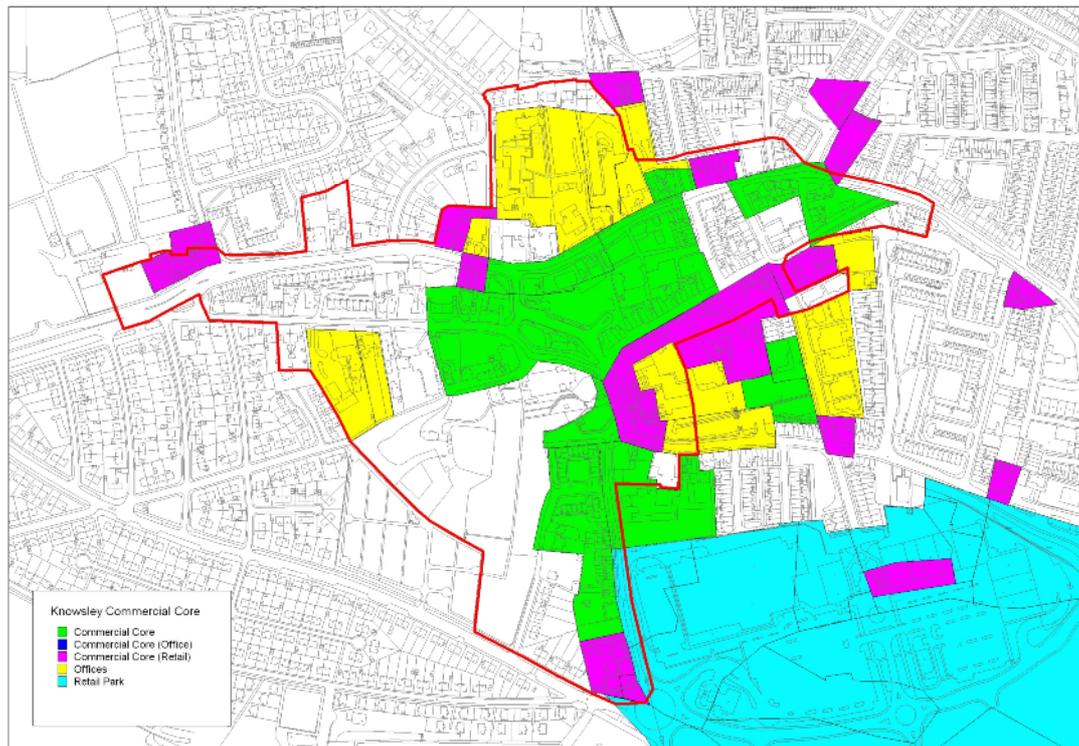


Figure 108 Prescott Commercial Core (green) and related commercial activity. The current Prescott Conservation Area is depicted in red.  
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The medieval street pattern of Prescott has survived virtually intact with characteristic narrow streets and each property generally having a narrow frontage. In the prosperous Georgian and early Victorian periods many buildings were rebuilt within medieval plot layouts and it is the style of these periods which is a characteristic of the Prescott Conservation Area (Prescott Conservation Area Appraisal, 2005).

Buildings of this period in Prescott are generally built in dark red brick (occasionally sandstone) with blue slate roofs. They were designed using classic proportions with characteristic layout of sliding sash windows with glazing bars, lintels and panelled doors with fan lights and doorcases. Unfortunately, many of these buildings have been altered, often by conversion to shops at ground floor level (Prescott Conservation Area Appraisal, Knowsley Council, 2005).

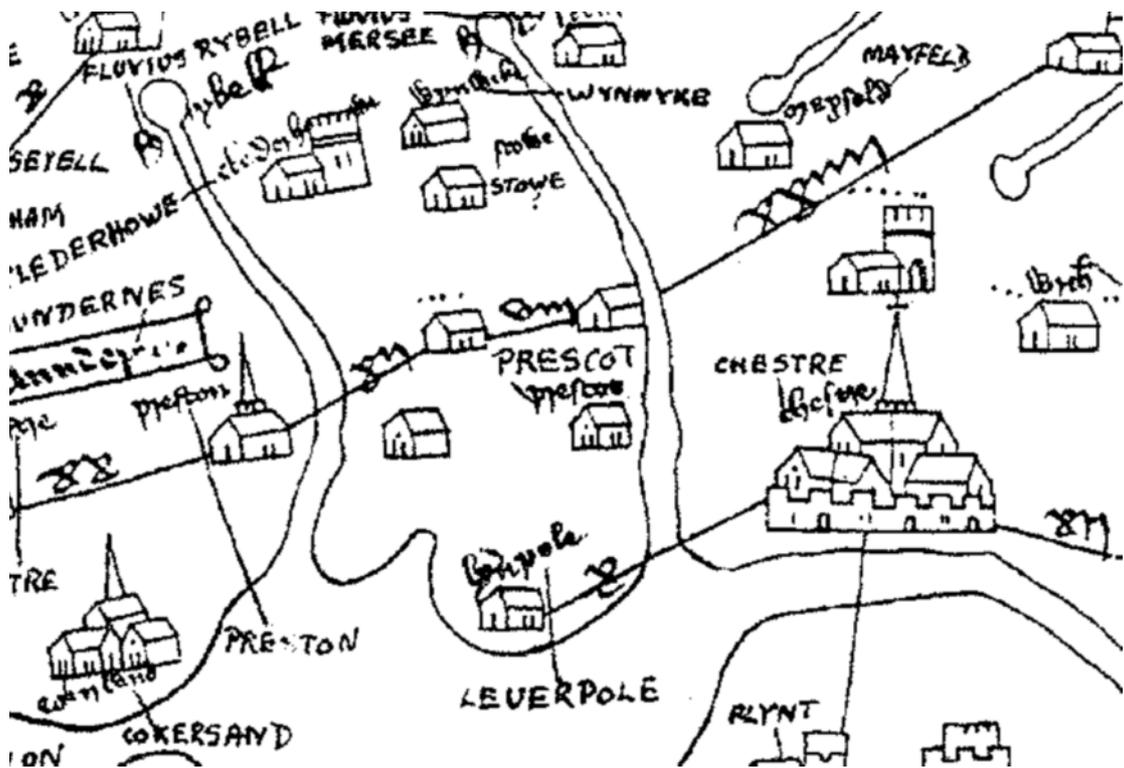


Figure 109 Prescot as depicted on an extract from the Gough map of c.1360. Depicted is the town of Prescot, Liverpool and Chester (taken from the Ordnance Survey 1935 Facsimile, courtesy of Lancashire County Council)

Since medieval times the market and the church would have formed the focal point of the town, and evidence of this can still be found by studying its road patterns. The routes have remained basically unchanged for centuries however, they have, through necessity, been widened considerably in order to carry an ever-increasing volume of traffic. Derby Street, High Street and Eccleston Street all radiate from the centre of Prescot to surrounding townships and beyond (Prescot Conservation Area Appraisal, Knowsley Council, 2005).



Figure 110 Extract from the Greenwood map of 1818. Depicted are the town of Prescott, Knowsley Park and Hall (Lancs.Record Office DDPR 144/1)

### 9.7.3 Commercial Core (Office)

### 9.7.4 Offices

Office buildings are found throughout the district, often found (though not exclusively) within urban cores or on the immediate urban fringe. The Commercial Core (Office) and Offices Sub Types include buildings of a civil, commercial or privately owned / operated nature (no distinction between office use could be made).

Three sites were identified as Commercial Core (Office), comprising wholly late 20th century buildings and amounting to 4.35 ha (0.93%) of the current Knowsley Commercial Broad Type. Offices made up 9% (41.96 ha) of the current Commercial Broad Type. Together, Commercial Core (Office) and Offices comprise 10% of the Commercial Broad Type. The Offices Sub Type is predominantly modern, with 95.08% (36.14 ha) dating to post-1945, the remaining 4.92% dating to the Inter War (1918 to 1939) period.

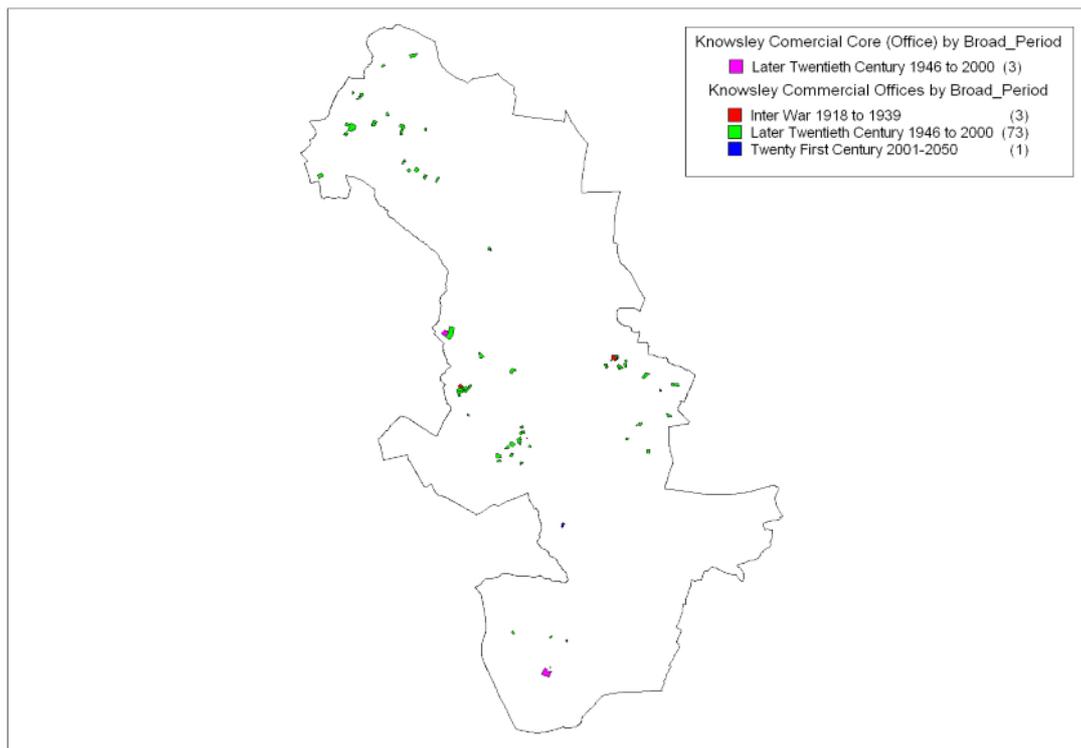


Figure 111 Current (2003) Knowsley Commercial Core (Offices) and Offices Sub Type by Broad Period of origin  
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Both Sub Types contain a range of public and private offices, with the majority (98.42% - 28.05 ha) dating to the Later 20th century. The majority of Later 20th century records are either 'new-builds' (on site previously open fields or rough land). However, many office buildings have been constructed as 'replacements' on the site of former commercial, industrial or residential character. This is particularly true for building in Prescot and Huyton-with-Roby - built on the site of former industrial and residential buildings that were removed by post-war redevelopment.

Commercial Core (Office) by Broad Period	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	3	4.35	100
Total	3	4.35	100%

Table 29 Current (2003) Commercial Core (Office) Sub Type in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

Offices by Broad Period	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Interwar 1918 to 1939	3	1.87	4.92
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	73	35.61	93.66
Twenty First Century 2001 to 2050	1	0.54	1.42
Total	77	38.02	100%

Table 30 Current (2003) Offices Sub Type in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

### 9.7.5 Commercial Core (Retail)

The Commercial Core (Retail) Sub Type comprises 60% (276.86 ha) of the Commercial Broad Type. Much of this area is taken up by Knowsley Safari Park (206.4 ha) located within the bounds of Knowsley Hall estate. Outside of the safari park, retail activity is evenly distributed through the district, yet the majority are located near, and often closely associated with, urban cores or urban fringes. 95.7% (242.14 ha) of all Commercial Retail sites date to the late 20th century (with nearly 97.3% dating to post-1900). If Knowsley Safari Park is omitted, the majority of late 20th century sites are small to medium sized, averaging at 4.02 Ha. Inter War (1918 to 1939) and early 20th century (1901 to 1917) sites average out at 0.4 ha and 0.072 ha respectively.

Pre-1900 sites were concentrated around urban cores, particularly around Huyton-with-Roby, Prescott and Whiston. Buildings and sites dating to the period 1850 to 1900 constituted 2.73% (30.49 ha) of the Commercial Retail Sub Type. The sites are generally small, with an average size of 0.244 Ha. Many of the sites were established on or near well established communication routes (particularly railway lines). This is to be expected, and is compatible to results from residential and historic core data.

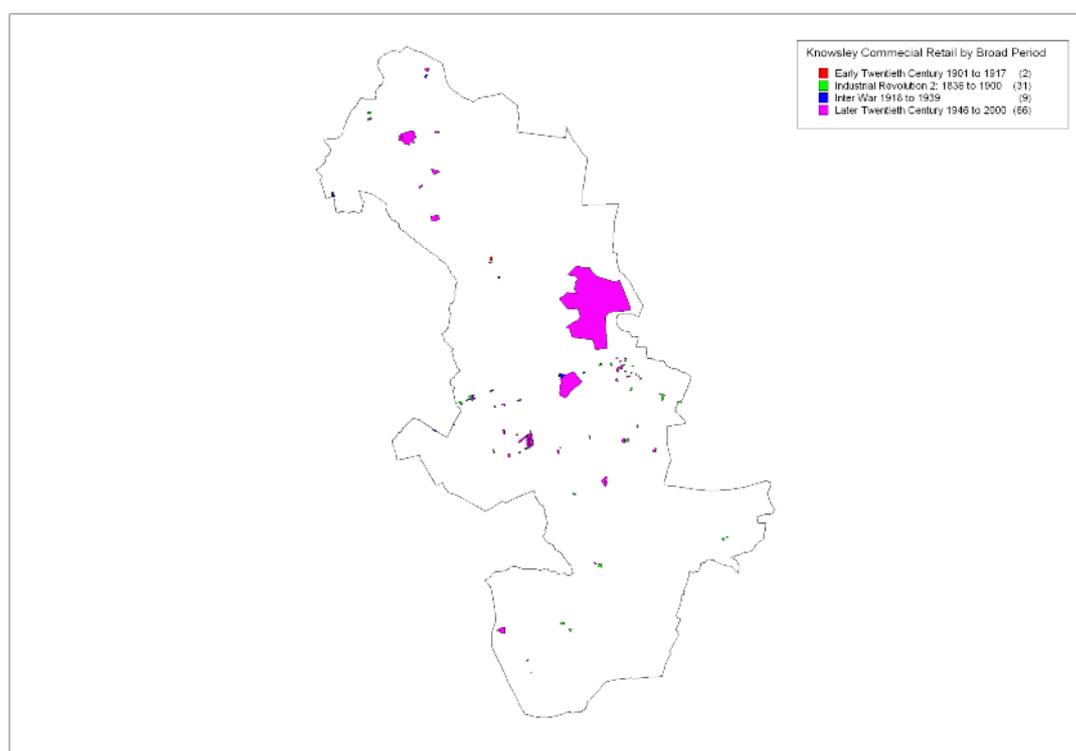


Figure 112 Current (2003) Commercial Retail Sub Type by Broad Period of origin  
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The largest single commercial enterprise in the district of Knowsley is Knowsley Safari Park, which covers nearly 206.4 ha (74.64% of the current Commercial Retail Sub Type). Although forming part of Knowsley Park (Residential Private Estate), Knowsley Safari Park has been included into the Commercial Retail Sub Type as it is a private, business venture.

Knowsley Safari Park was opened to the public in July 1971 by the 18th Earl of Derby. Then, the `safari park' concept of having visitors in cages (cars) and the animals roaming free based on the drive-through game reserves of East Africa was unique. In 1994, Edward Stanley, the 19th Earl, succeeded to the title. The estate being only 8 miles (13 km) from Liverpool city centre, Knowsley was the first safari park to be built close to a large city. In spite of some understandable apprehension about the possible problems associated with large numbers of animals (including lions) roaming about close to the city, the then County and District councils approved the proposals. In the first two years of opening, the route through Knowsley Safari Park consisted of a 3½-mile (5.6 km) drive, and the main attractions were lions, cheetahs and large African mammals.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> [www.knowsleydafariexperience.co.uk](http://www.knowsleydafariexperience.co.uk). Accessed 9 November 2009.



monkey jungle. Knowsley Safari Park has become one of Merseyside's premier leisure attractions, winning several awards for tourism and its animal husbandry.

### **9.7.6 Retail Park**

A single retail park (the Cables Retail Park) is located to the immediate south of Prescott town centre on land formerly occupied by the British Insulated Cables Company factory site (Prescot). The late 20th century site currently comprises approximately 5% (21.4 ha) of the Commercial Broad Type.

## 9.8 Communication Broad Type

Within Knowsley, the Communication Broad Type covers 311.5 ha of land, representing roughly 4% of the total area. Three principal Sub Types relating to different aspects of the transport network were identified for detailed analysis on the basis of their presence in the landscape or their historic significance:

Canals - canal locks and docks, wharfs and basins

Rail - railway line, train station, freight terminal, train depot

Roads - communication system including historic routes, modern arterial and major roads, motorways.

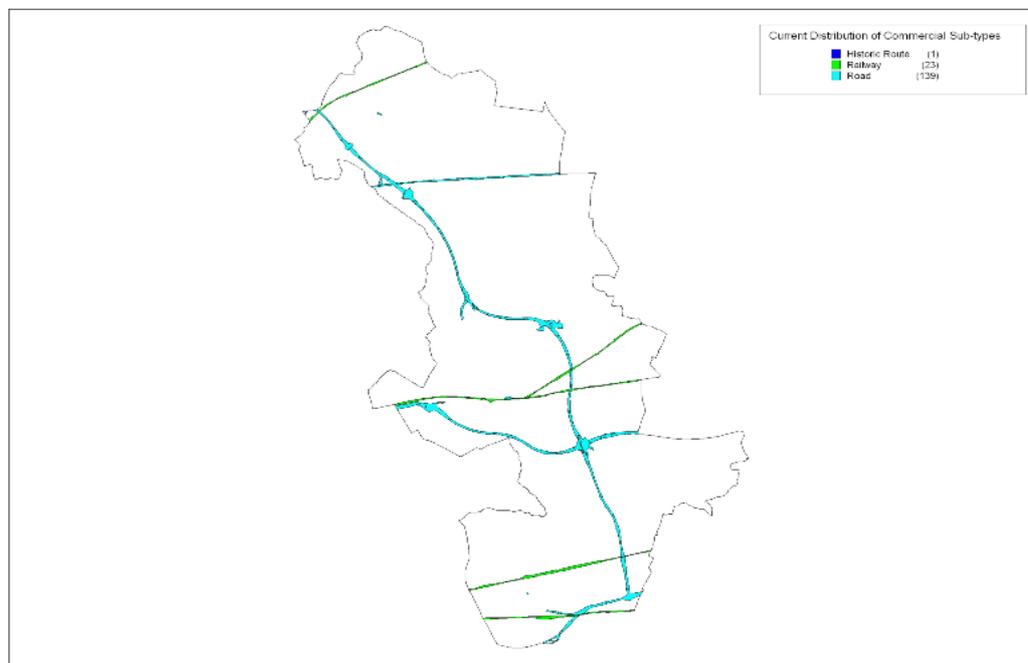


Figure 114 Current (2003) Communication Sub Type in Knowsley  
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Knowsley contains a number of communication features that were established before 1850. These include important turnpike roads that have led to urban and industrial development. The main 19th century railways have generally survived as linear features although the nature of their usage has changed in the 20th century. Disused lines have tended to survive as footpaths or walkways within public parks, with only minimal redevelopment taking place. Industrial railways, sidings and colliery tramways have largely been lost. A small section of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal can be found to the extreme northeast of the district. The most prominent communications features

in modern Knowsley are the motorways, with the M62 running west to east and crossing the central part of Knowsley, and the M57 running north to south.

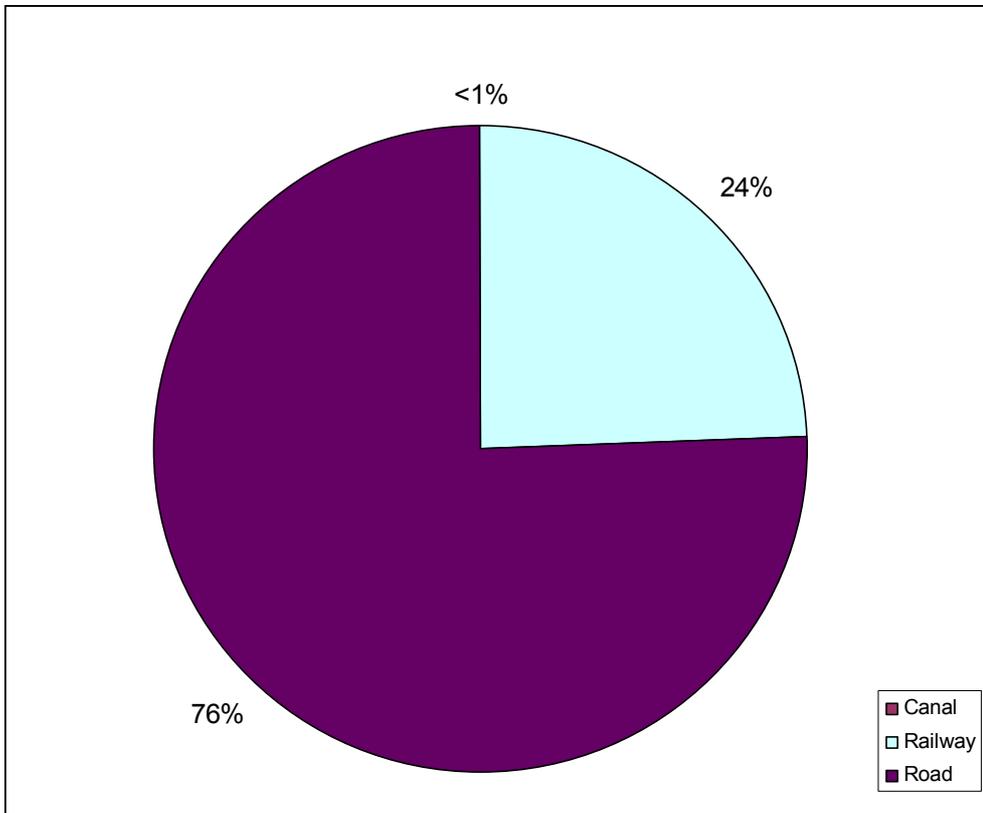


Figure 115 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Communication Sub Type (%of land)

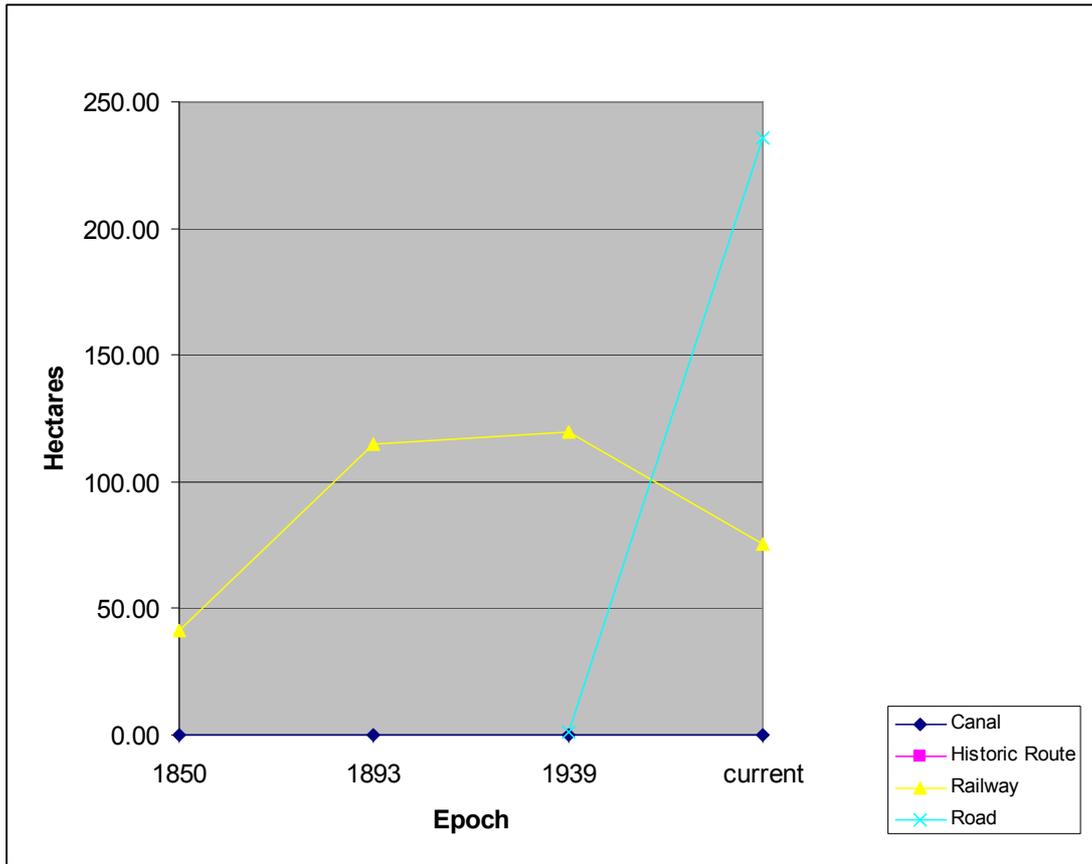


Figure 116 Graphical representation of Knowsley Communication Sub Type through time

### 9.8.1 Canal

A small section (0.21 ha) of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal can be found to the extreme northeast of the district near Ledson's Bridge, Westvale. The Leeds and Liverpool Canal was the first of the Trans-Pennine canals to be started and the last to be completed. The length and the complexity of the route meant that the canal took 46 years to build at a cost of five times the original budget.

The canal originates from a proposal in 1765 to construct a canal from Preston to Leeds to carry woollen goods from Leeds and Bradford and limestone from Skipton. Prospective backers in Lancashire argued for the canal to start from Liverpool. The Canal Act passed in 1770 was for a route from Liverpool to Leeds via Parbold, Walton-le-Dale (just south of Preston), Colne and Skipton, with a branch from Burscough towards the River Ribble, a branch from Parbold to Wigan, a great aqueduct at Whalley and a branch from Shipley to Bradford. In 1773, the first part to open was the lock-free section from Skipton to Bingley. In 1777, the canal was open between Liverpool, Parbold and Gathurst, near Wigan, and from Leeds to Gargrave, including the branch to Bradford. However, at this point all the funds had been spent and work came to a halt. By 1781 enough money was found to complete the branch to Wigan and the branch to Rufford.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> [www.penninewaterways.co.uk/II/II2.htm](http://www.penninewaterways.co.uk/II/II2.htm) Pennine Waterways web site. Accessed November 2009

## 9.8.2 Railway

Railway (includes stations, sidings depots) represents 24.3% of the Communications Broad Type in Knowsley. Most of this is made up of railway lines, some dismantled but still visible as landscape features, and some still in use, albeit no longer as part of the national rail network.

In the mid 19th century Knowsley was crossed by a number of railway lines connecting the Port of Liverpool with the industrial heartlands of Lancashire. These lines are still in operation today and are found in three distinct bands in Knowsley: a single line to the north connecting Liverpool to Bury, a central line connecting Liverpool (running through Huyton with Roby and Prescott) to Manchester and a southern line connecting Liverpool (running through Halewood) to Widnes and, eventually, Manchester.



Figure 117 Liverpool to Bury Railway - Kirkby (Current 2003 mapping)  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

**Northern Line** - A 3.5 km (in Knowsley) northwest to southeast aligned section of the Liverpool to Bury railway runs through Kirkby. The Liverpool and Bury Railway was

formed in 1845 and opened on 28 November 1848. The line ran from Bury via Bolton and Kirkby to Kirkdale, where it shared lines with the Liverpool, Ormskirk and Preston Railway into Liverpool Exchange Station. In 1846 it merged with the Manchester & Leeds Railway the line was eventually finished after the merger to form the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. The line eventually formed part of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, 59.5 km Liverpool to Manchester route via a junction with the Manchester and Southport Railway at Wigan. From 1858 it was connected to the Skelmersdale Branch and the St Helens Railway at Rainford Junction (Marshall, 1969; Marshall, 1970). The original station at Kirkby was built in 1848, as part of the Liverpool and Bury Railway. The station was situated on the side that now forms the Wigan-bound platform, and consisted of two platforms. This station was removed in 1977 and replaced with the modern station layout, which opened in May of that year (Bolger, 1994).

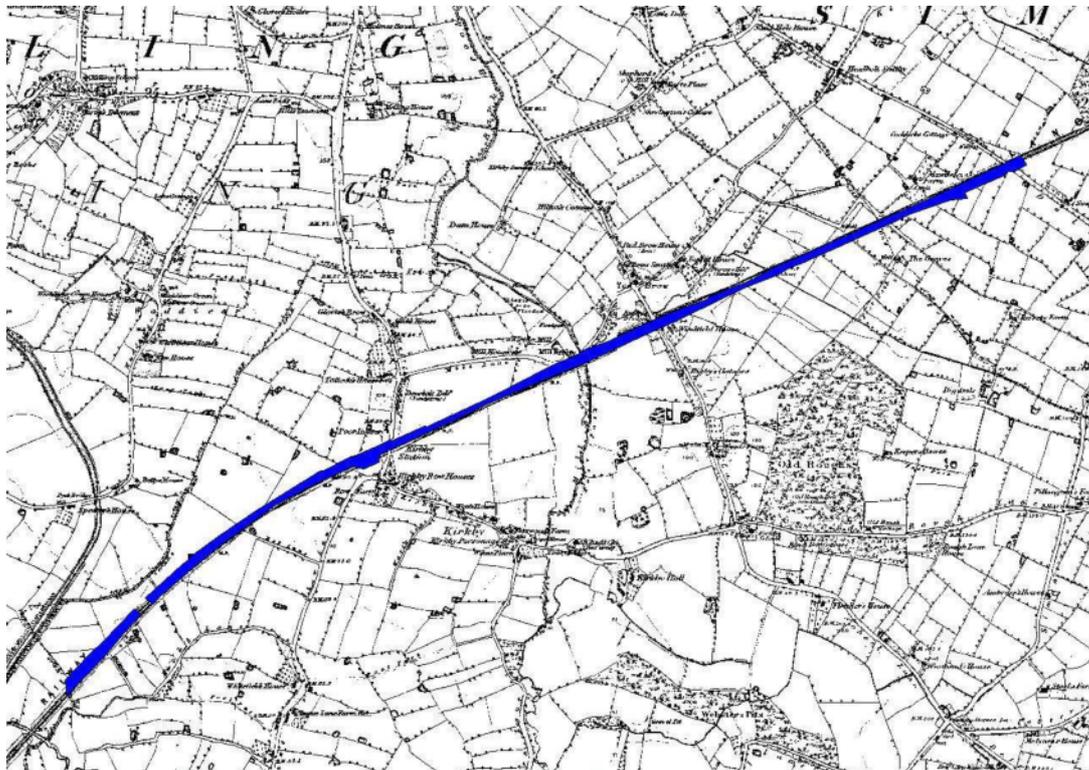


Figure 118 Liverpool to Bury Railway depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs 1850

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**Central Line** - A 6.5km roughly east to west aligned section of the Liverpool to Manchester railway line runs through Knowsley. The route was established in the early 19th century as part of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway (L&MR). The L&MR was the world's first inter-city passenger railway in which all the trains were

timetabled and were hauled for most of the distance solely by steam locomotives (Marshall, 1969; Marshall, 1970).

The line opened on 15 September 1830 and ran between the cities of Liverpool and Manchester. The L&MR was primarily built to provide faster transport of raw materials and finished goods between the Port of Liverpool and mills in Manchester and surrounding towns. The proposed L&MR was considered to be a serious economic threat to the Bridgewater Canal, which was making a fortune by shipping goods between Liverpool and Manchester. In 1826, after several years of debate, Parliament gave permission for the railway to be built in 1826. Passenger trains started at the Crown Street Station in Liverpool and terminated at Water Street in Manchester (Marshall, 1969; Marshall, 1970). The directors of the L&M Company were unsure whether to use locomotives or stationary engines on their line. To help them reach a decision, it was decided to hold a competition where the winning locomotive would be awarded £500. The idea being that if the locomotive was good enough, it would be the one used on the new railway. The competition was held at Rainhill during October 1829. Each competing locomotive had to haul a load of three times its own weight at a speed of at least 10 mph. The locomotives had to run twenty times up and down the track at Rainhill which made the distance roughly equivalent to a return trip between Liverpool and Manchester. Afraid that heavy locomotives would break the rails, only machines that weighed less than six tons could compete in the competition. Ten locomotives took part. The "Rocket", built by George (1781-1848) and his son Robert Stephenson (1803-1859), won the competition. The Liverpool & Manchester Railway was opened on 15th September, 1830. In 1845 the L&MR was absorbed by its principal business partner, the Grand Junction Railway (GJR); the following year the GJR formed part of the London and North Western Railway.

The line still operates as a secondary line between the two cities - the southern route, the former Cheshire Lines Committee route via Warrington Central is the busier route.

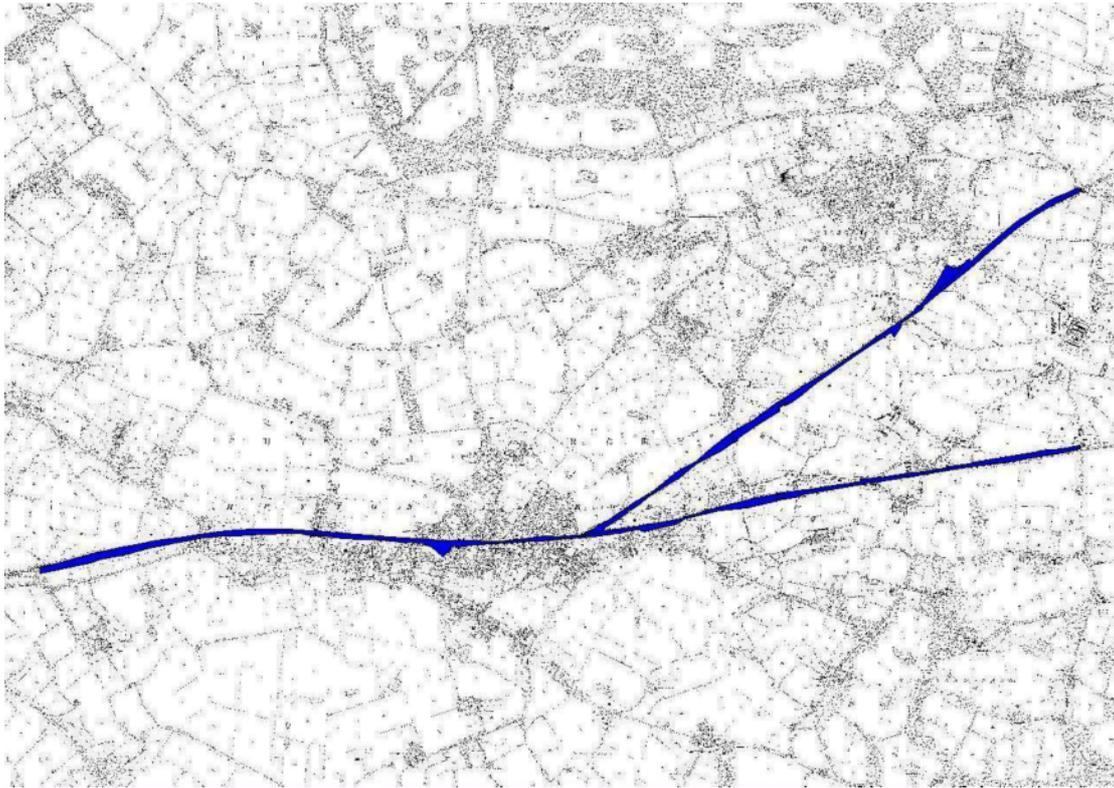


Figure 119 Liverpool and Manchester Railway depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1893 (with Huyton in the centre and Prescot towards the top right).  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

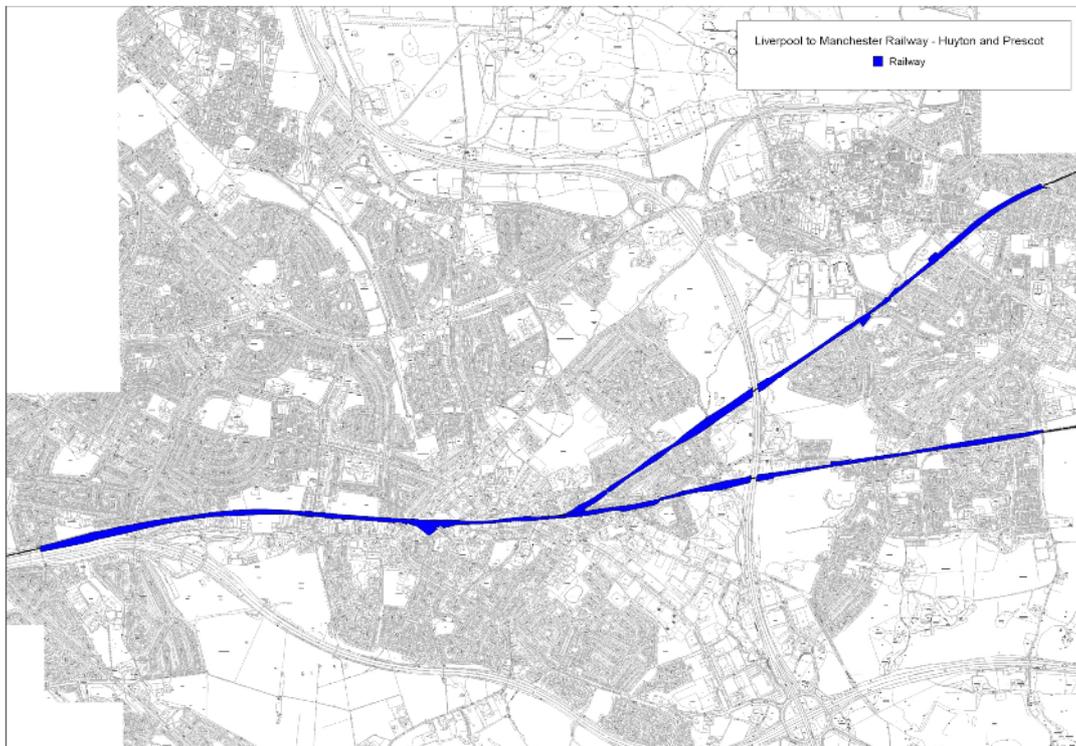


Figure 120 Liverpool and Manchester Railway (Current 2003 mapping).  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

**Southern Line** - The most southerly of the lines was constructed the mid 19th century as part of the Garston and Warrington Line, formed from creation of the St Helens Canal and Railway Company on 21 July 1845 (on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map of Lancashire (1850) it is depicted as being under the ownership of the London and North Western Railway - this is a later alteration to the map). A small dock was first built at Garston in south Liverpool in 1793 for Blackburne's saltworks, which had moved out from the centre of Liverpool because it needed more space. Garston Dock was originally set up by the St Helens Canal & Railway Company in June 1853 when it extended its railway line to Garston. The idea was to get a place on the River Mersey to load and unload coal. The docks covered six acres (24,000 m<sup>2</sup>) and 250 tons of coal could be loaded in 2½ hours, which was quicker than at any of the other docks in the area (Reed, 1996).

By the early 1860s, passengers could travel westwards from Runcorn Gap to Liverpool by changing to a steam ship at Garston. They could travel eastwards to Manchester, London Kings Cross and other points as other companies' lines had connected with the Warrington extension at Warrington Arpley (Reed, 1996).

By the 1860s lines were opening throughout the country at a phenomenal rate. The London & North Western Railway's (LNWR) planned a line from Edge Hill to Garston. This line would provide a direct link to Liverpool but it would not be in the interests of the St Helens Canal & Railway Company. They tried to promote schemes of their own, but by 1860 they were forced to enter discussions with the LNWR. These discussions resulted in the LNWR leasing the Garston to Warrington line from 1 September 1860. The LNWR paid £5,000 for the first year and £12,000 per year from 1861. On the 29th July 1864 an Act was passed allowing the St Helens Canal & Railway Company to be absorbed by the LNWR (Reed, 1996).

By 1 April 1869 the Garston to Warrington line formed part of a through route between Liverpool and London. The Garston extension line east of Ditton consequently took on a far more important role, with a new station opening at Ditton on 1 May 1871. It became known as Ditton Junction and would become the terminus for St Helens line trains.

On 1 January 1923 hundreds of private railway companies were merged into four private companies at the instigation of the government, which wanted to simplify matters for industry and passengers. The Widnes to St Helens Railway became part of the London Midland & Scottish Railway (LMS). Within a couple of years the LMS

had stamped its brand on the line by changing station signs and introducing new liveries to locomotives and coaches, but otherwise things continued to run much as they had in LNWR days (Reed, 1996).

During the Second World War the line was of national importance as it provided direct links to docks along the River Mersey at Widnes, Garston and South Liverpool. Passenger services were cut back during the war years to allow more freight trains to run (Reed, 1996).

### **Later 19th Century Lines**

The growth of Liverpool and Manchester in the later 19th century necessitated the construction of further direct lines between the two cities, and the addition of branch lines linking rapidly developing towns and industrial centres in Knowsley.

A 3.7km stretch of branch-line (Knowsley), linking Huyton with St Helens, was opened on 1 November 1871 as part of the London and North Western Railway (Reed, 1996). Huyton station acts as an interchange between the Liverpool-Wigan Line and the northern route of the Liverpool-Manchester Line which diverge soon after the station. Although the Liverpool-Manchester railway, the world's first passenger service, was opened in 1830 and stopped at nearby Huyton, it was not until 1871 with the construction of a branch-line that Prescott got its own railway station. Whiston railway lies on the northern route of the Liverpool to Manchester Line, the original Liverpool and Manchester Railway. It opened in October 1890, at a cost of £420,000 (Reed, 1996).

The Cheshire Lines Committee (CLC) was the second largest joint railway in Great Britain, with 143 route miles. Despite its name, approximately 55% of its system was in Lancashire. In its publicity material it was often styled as the 'Cheshire Lines Railway'. It served Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Widnes, Northwich, Winsford, Knutsford, Birkenhead, Chester and Southport (Holt, 1978).

The Cheshire Lines group was formed by a joint committee of the Great Northern Railway and the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway (MS&LR) in 1862 to regulate traffic on four proposed lines in Cheshire. This was made official by the Great Northern (Cheshire Lines) Act of 1863. The MSLR had leased the St Helens Canal & Railway Co line between Warrington and Garston to gain access to Liverpool docks, this line was subsequently leased and then absorbed by the LNWR The

Midland Railway (MR) became an equal partner under the Cheshire Lines Transfer Act of 1865. Under the Cheshire Lines Act of 1867, it became a wholly independent organisation, although its management consisted of three directors of the three companies. Its purpose was to gain control of lines in Lancashire and Cheshire, an area which was dominated by the LNWR. In its early years, the driving force behind the expansion of the railway was Sir Edward Watkin (Holt, 1978).

It was granted the powers to build a line to Liverpool, opened 1873, from a temporary station in Manchester, 54.7 km long. The section nearest Liverpool from near Cressington was along the Garston and Liverpool Railway, which had been absorbed on 5 July 1865. From 1874 the CLC was headquartered at Liverpool Central station. In 1923 the Midland Railway, along with the LNWR, was grouped into the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, while the MS&LR (by then the Great Central Railway) became part of the London and North Eastern Railway. The line continued to be joint, with a 1/3 share LMS and a 2/3 share by the LNER. On nationalisation in 1948 both parent companies became part of British Railways, and shortly afterwards operation of the CLC lines came under the control of the London Midland Region (Holt, 1978). The Cheshire Lines Committee routes between Liverpool and Manchester and between Manchester and Chester via Northwich, survive.

### **Lost railway lines and sidings**

As well as providing a passenger service, the rail network played a vital part in the development of industry, allowing the fast transportation of raw materials, fuel and goods. Warehouses, sidings, goods yards and goods sheds were prominent features in the landscape until the mid-20th century. However, many such features have been lost with the 20th century decline of industry and an increased reliance on the road network for bulk transportation. No railway sidings were recorded as a Current (2003) within Knowsley; however sidings were present at Halewood from 1893 through to 1939. These sidings were later removed to post 1945 to form rough ground, which then became part of Halewood 'Triangle' Park and modern residential development.

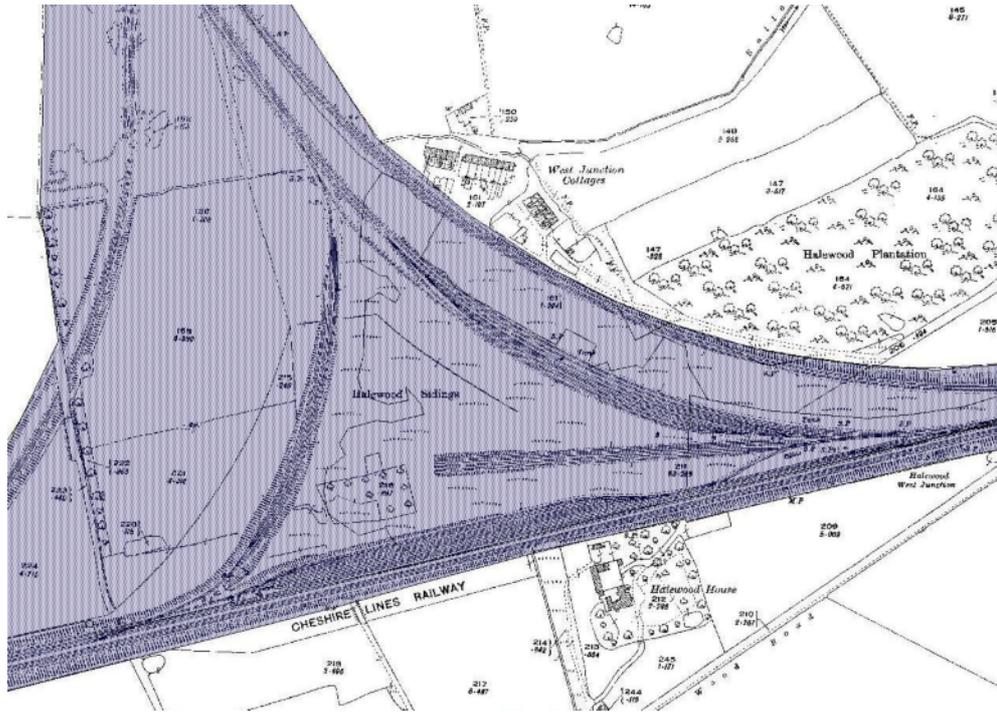


Figure 121 Halewood Sidings depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1939 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

In the 20th century about a third of the national rail network was lost following the proposals of Dr Beeching in 1963. The former North Liverpool Extension Line is no longer open. The line was built by the Cheshire Lines Committee, branching from the Committee's Liverpool to Manchester line at Hunt's Cross and skirting the edge of Liverpool before finally arriving at the Walton Triangle, a junction where one line continued north to Aintree and another turned west towards the River Mersey (terminating at Huskisson). It opened between 1879 and 1880. The Aintree branch was extended to Southport in 1884 (Holt, 1978).

The route closed in stages. In 1960 the line closed to passengers between Aintree and Gateacre. In 1972 passenger trains to Gateacre were withdrawn (Holt, 1978). Freight trains, however, continued to use the line until 1979. The line has not been used since, and the trackbed now forms part of National Cycle Network Route 62, the Trans Pennine Trail. Much of the former junction land has been incorporated into Halewood Park (the 'Triangle') and modern residential development.

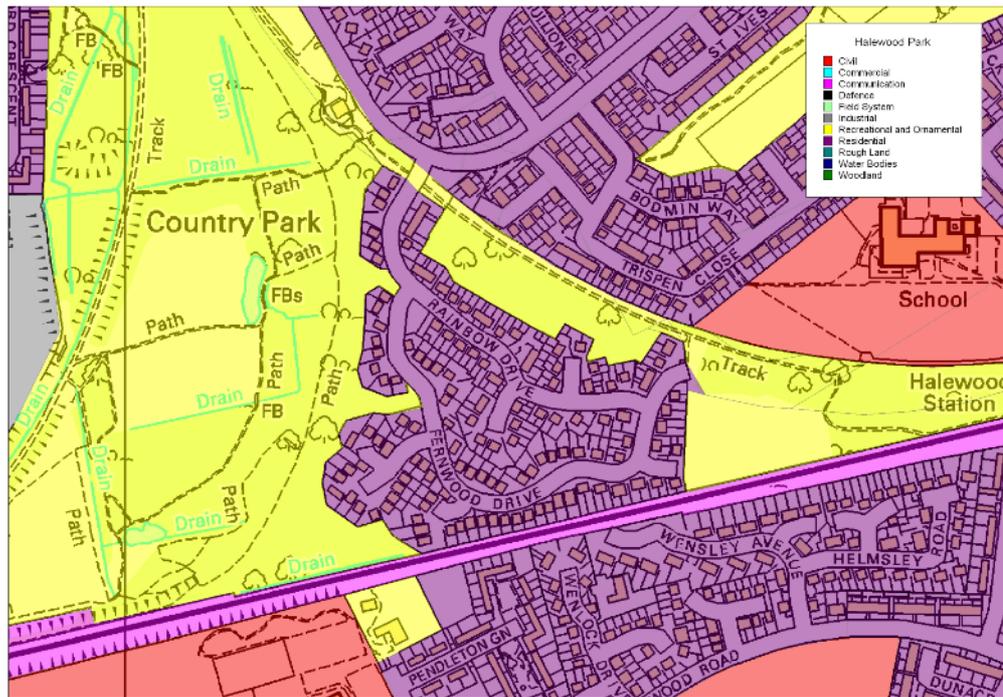


Figure 122 Halewood Park (Current 2003 mapping).  
 The area of former Halewood Sidings now occupied by ornamental parkland and modern residential development. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

### 9.8.3 Road

Roads and motorways make up around 76% of the Communications Broad Type in Knowsley. Only road-related features which were on a sufficiently large scale were recorded. These included all motorways and larger sections of dual carriageway, major road junctions and intersections, and some large scale public transport interchanges. All of the areas of these types that were recorded have a character originated in the mid to later 20th century, or the early 21st century.

#### Major Roads

Knowsley contains a 4.69 km stretch of the East Lancashire Road (A580), starting at Croxteth Bridge in the west to its junction at the border with St Helens at Longborough Lodge. The Liverpool - East Lancashire Road was Britain's first purpose built intercity highway linking the cities of Manchester and Liverpool. It was officially opened by King George V on 18 July 1934. A feature of the road even today is the large width of the land-take. The explanation for this is that the road, although built initially as a single

carriageway, was designed ultimately to comprise triple carriageways, the two outer ones were to be for slower traffic and were to be added later when traffic levels justified it. This futuristic layout was not realised and the road was actually upgraded to dual carriageways. However, the stretch within the Liverpool City boundary was designed and built as a dual carriageway. Lay-bys with water points were provided for steam powered vehicles, which were still in use in the 1930s.<sup>17</sup>

There were a large number of accidents in its early years, attributed to its single carriageway and many side access points. It was largely as a result of this that when the issue of a new north-south route through the County arose it was realised dual carriageways with grade separation was essential. The line of the New Road avoids built-up areas as far as possible. and whilst it does not materially shorten the distance between the two Cities of Liverpool and Manchester, it was felt that as the old Liverpool and Manchester County Road (A57) passes through towns, and in some parts is very narrow and circuitous, it would be impracticable to widen it due to the cost of acquiring business and house property<sup>18</sup>.

Knowsley also contains two conjoining 'A' Roads to the south, one of which (A561) follows the route of the old Speke to Widnes Road. The carriageways (the A561 and A562) also follow, in part, the route of the Garston and Warrington railway line. Speke Boulevard, part of the A561, separates a 1930s Housing development from industry to the North. Construction began in 1938, based on the US parkway concept. At 108 m, including service roads, cycle ways and plantations, it was promoted as the widest in the country, but was eventually completed in 1966 as a more conventional dual carriageway (Pollard and Pevsner, 2006). Speke Boulevard has been re-named as The International Gateway, because this is now the principal southern transport artery into the City, from the M57 and M56 motorways. This will also be a principal route to the new River Mersey Crossing - the proposed Mersey Gateway Road Bridge.

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<sup>17</sup> [www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/eastlancs/index.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/eastlancs/index.asp). Lancashire County Council web page. Accessed November 2009

<sup>18</sup> [www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/eastlancs/index.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/historichighways/eastlancs/index.asp). Lancashire County Council web page. Accessed November 2009



Figure 123 The A561 and A562 (Speke Boulevard) on Current (2003) mapping. Also shown is the junction with the M52 / A5300. © Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

## Motorways

Together, Motorways, Motorway/trunk road junctions and Ring roads represent around 54% (235.6 ha) of the Communication Broad Type in Knowsley.

A large stretch of the M57 motorway falls within the borough. The M57 acts as an outer ring road for Liverpool, the proposal for which dates back at least to the road plan for Lancashire published in 1949. At that time the Liverpool outer ring road consisted of lengths of new all-purpose road together with substantial widening of pre-existing roads. The subsequent extensive industrial developments on the outskirts of Merseyside area necessitated a complete re-appraisal of the original scheme. The re-appraisal resulted in a proposal for an entirely new road design to full motorway standards and constructed on a new alignment (Lancashire County Council, 1974).

In Knowsley, the M57 Motorway begins on the border between Liverpool and Knowsley districts at Ledson's Bridge. Continuing south-eastwards the motorway

proceeds to the East Lancashire Trunk Road (A580). The M57 then continues roughly southwards to Liverpool Road (A57), Prescot. This length of motorway was opened on 5 April 1972. The M57 then continues southwards from the A57 to join the Lancashire to Yorkshire Motorway M62 at Tarbock. Tarbock Interchange is the largest roundabout in Europe. The M57 continues south (as the A5300) of the Lancashire to Yorkshire Motorway to terminate on the Speke - Widnes Road (A562).

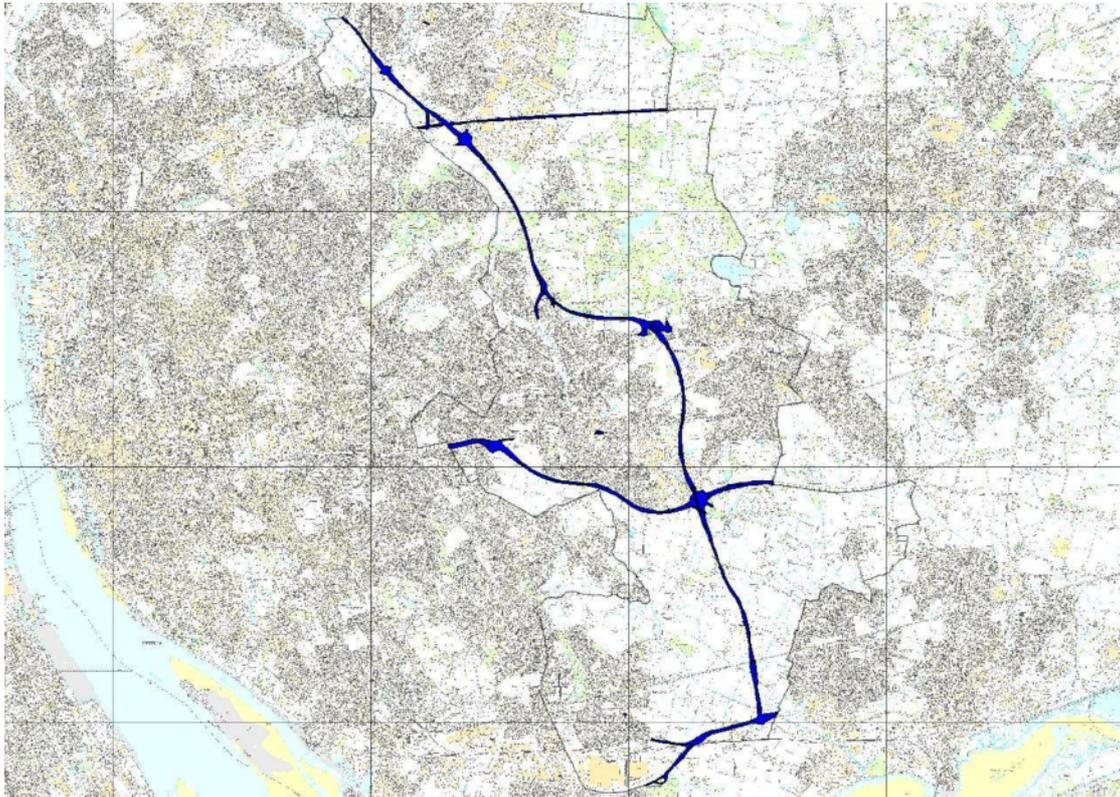


Figure 124 Route of the M57 (northwest to southeast), with the M62 (centre, east to west) and A562 (south, southwest to northeast). Also depicted is the east to west aligned East Lancashire Road (A580) in the north of the district. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The M62 runs in a sinuous, roughly east to west direction across the central part of the district. The motorway, which was first proposed in the 1930s, and originally conceived as two separate routes, was built in stages between 1971 and 1976, with construction beginning at Pole Moor and finishing in Tarbock on the outskirts of Liverpool (Amos, 1974). Originally, the section of the M62 west of Manchester was intended to be a separate motorway linking Liverpool with Salford, but a continuous motorway between Leeds and Liverpool was deemed to be more feasible, known as the M52. Construction of the motorway between Liverpool and Manchester started in 1971, with the construction of a link between the M57 and the M6 motorway<sup>1</sup>.

Concurrently, a contract to link the M6 with Manchester was under way, which required the removal of unsuitable material and drainage of the land. This section was completed in August 1974, creating a continuous link between Ferrybridge and Tarbock.<sup>19</sup>

The section between Tarbock and Liverpool was the last section of the motorway to be completed, in 1976, due to the difficulties of building an urban motorway. In total, two viaducts, ten bridges and seven underpasses had to be constructed to secure the structural integrity of the surrounding residential area. The motorway, however, reached only as far as Queens Drive (Junction 4), leaving the first three junctions unbuilt.<sup>20</sup>

In the district, the motorway starts at Court Hey, circumnavigates the urban and industrial development of Huyton with Roby, meets with the north to south bound M57 at Tarbock and then runs eastward, through land once Halsnead Park, towards St Helens.

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<sup>19</sup> [www.ciht.org.uk/motorway/m62queeccles.htm](http://www.ciht.org.uk/motorway/m62queeccles.htm). Motorway Archive Trust web page. Accessed 10 November 2009.

<sup>20</sup> *ibid.*

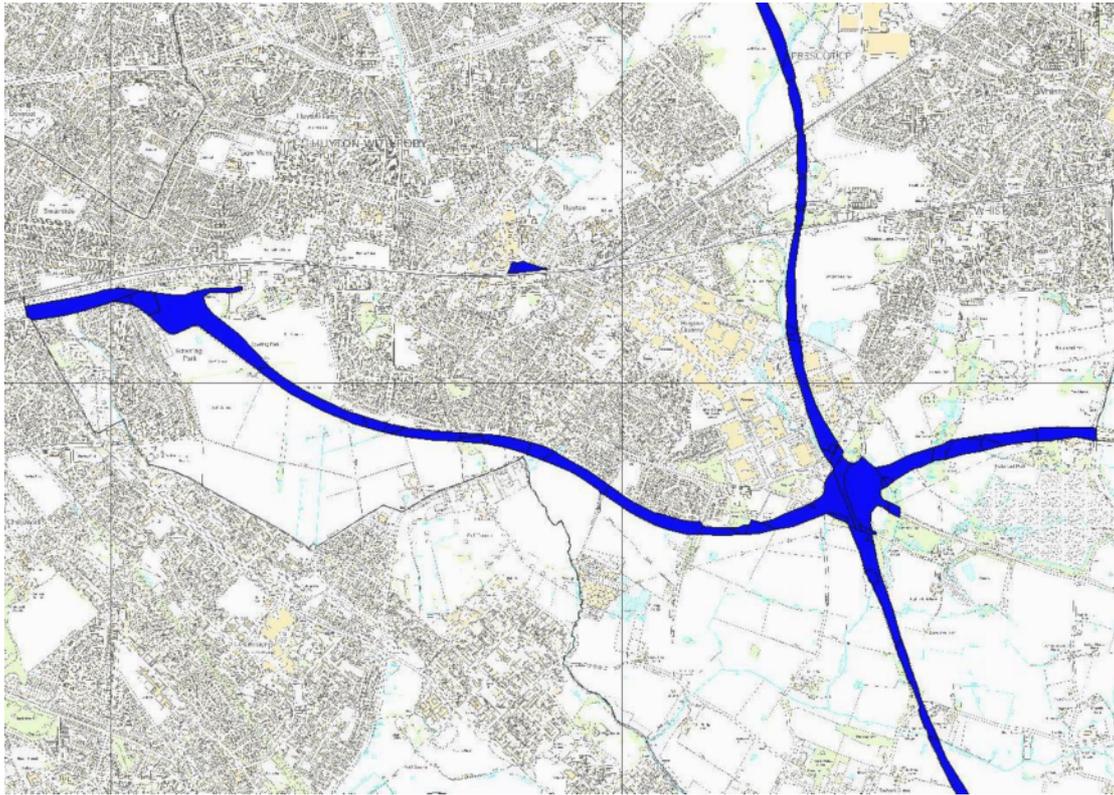


Figure 125 Route of the M62 (aligned east to west) and M57 / A5300 (aligned northwest - southeast) near Tarbock. The Tarbock Interchange is also depicted (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

## 9.9 Rough Land Broad Type

The Rough Land Broad Type comprises natural and semi-natural land types, including mosslands, grassland/scrub, moorland, unimproved land and other land (rough land). Much of the other land (rough land) Sub Type is composed of green space, modern scrub and derelict land created from both residential and industrial clearance. The MHCP Broad Type constitutes around 298.7 ha of land, approximately 3% of the land in Knowsley Borough.

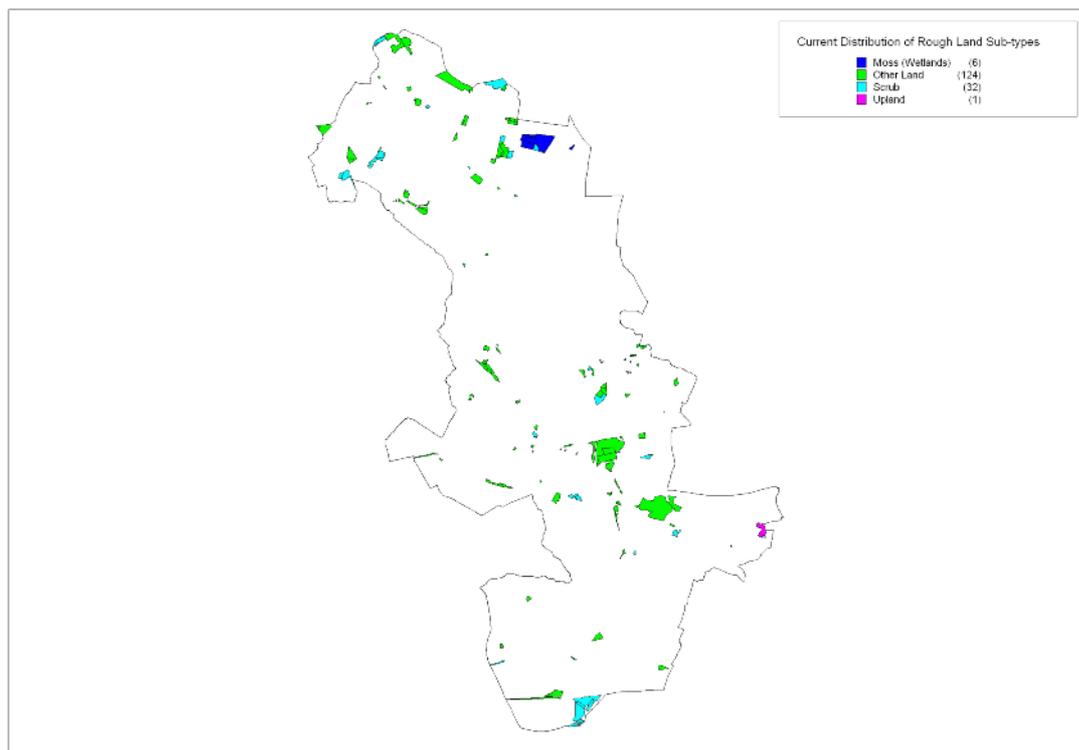


Figure 126 Current (2003) Rough Land Sub Type in Knowsley  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

Rough Land Sub Type	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Moss (Wetlands)	6	26.14	8.75
Other Land (Rough Land)	124	202.89	67.92
Scrub	32	64.88	21.72
Upland	1	4.80	1.61
Total	163	298.71	100%

Table 31 Rough Land Sub Types in Knowsley

The majority of the Rough Land was created in the post-1945 period (approximately 80% - 240.07 ha) as the result of demolition and clearance, particularly of past industrial (extractive), communications (railway) and residential sites. The next largest block (13.23% - 39.52 ha) dates to the Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period and primarily comprises scrub and regeneration of derelict land.

Rough Land has gradually increased during the period 1850 to 2001 as more-and-more sites have become either derelict or considered open space. However, the figure is expected to fall as many rough land sites are currently being transformed - regenerated as nature parks and community woodland schemes.

Rough Land by Broad Period	Number of polygons	Area (Hectares)	Percentage
Industrial Revolution 2: 1836 to 1900	13	39.52	13.23
Inter War 1918 to 1939	10	9.81	3.28
Later Twentieth Century 1946 to 2000	139	240.07	80.37
Twenty first Century 2001 to 2050	1	9.31	3.12
Total	163	298.71	100%

Table 32 Current (2003) Rough Land in Knowsley by Broad Period of origin

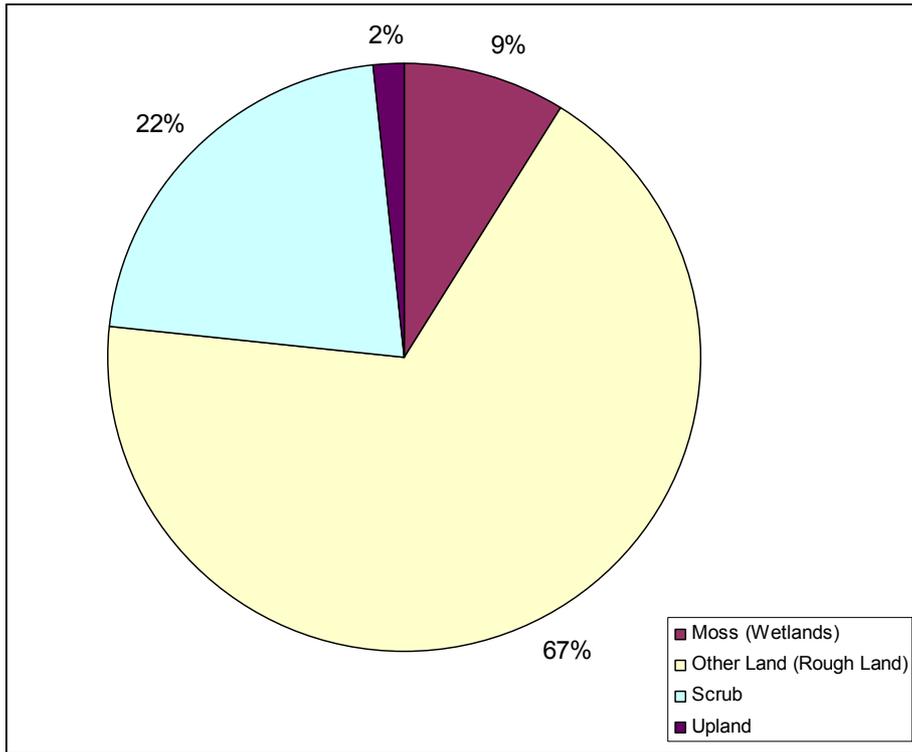


Figure 127 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Rough Land Sub Type (% of land)

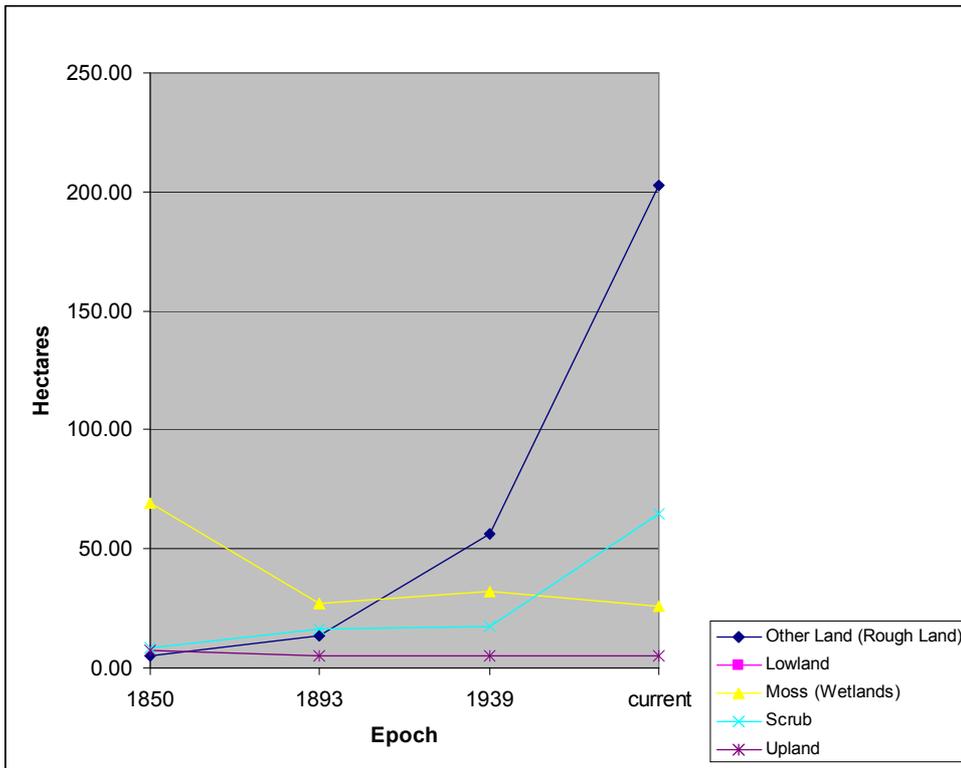


Figure 128 Graphical representation of Knowsley Rough Land Sub Type through time

### 9.9.1 Moss (Wetlands)

Knowsley contains a number of mossland sites, located towards the north of the borough on the border with neighbouring St Helens. The extant mosslands character comprises 9% of the Rough Land Broad Type, and 0.3% of the total Knowsley area. From regression map analysis of the MHCP dataset, mossland has gradually diminished in size (and depth) from the high-point of 69.3 ha in 1850 to the present level of 26.1 Ha. Much of this land has been converted to rough pasture or grassland during the past one hundred years – the remaining patches of mossland are centred on Simonswood, with a few patches found to the immediate south (at Kirkby Moss) within Knowsley Park and on the border with St Helens. However, much of the peat that formed the mosslands can be found underlying modern grassland – in certain places, the depth of peat is quite considerable (in Knowsley Park it is up to 5m thick).

These Knowsley mosslands form part of the Central Mosslands identified during the Merseyside Survey of the North West Wetlands Survey (Cowell and Innes, 1994). As a whole, the Central Mosslands occupy an area of c.1100ha, and are found in the historic townships of Kirkby, Knowsley, Simonswood, Windle and Rainford. They stretch in a belt c7km long from north to south, widening from 3km in the south between Knowsley Park and the western edge of St Helens, to c5km between the north-eastern edge of Kirkby and the north-western edge of the town of Rainford. These mosslands lie in a large depression which deepens to the east. Field observations suggest that, from variations in the depth of the peat, there may have been a series of smaller basins which have probably acted as separate loci for the growth of the whole wetland complex. The large depression is bounded on its southern side by a Carboniferous ridge in Knowsley Park, where the undulating landscape of the Coal Measures sandstone starts to rise relatively suddenly from the mossland surface at c. 60-95 m OD.

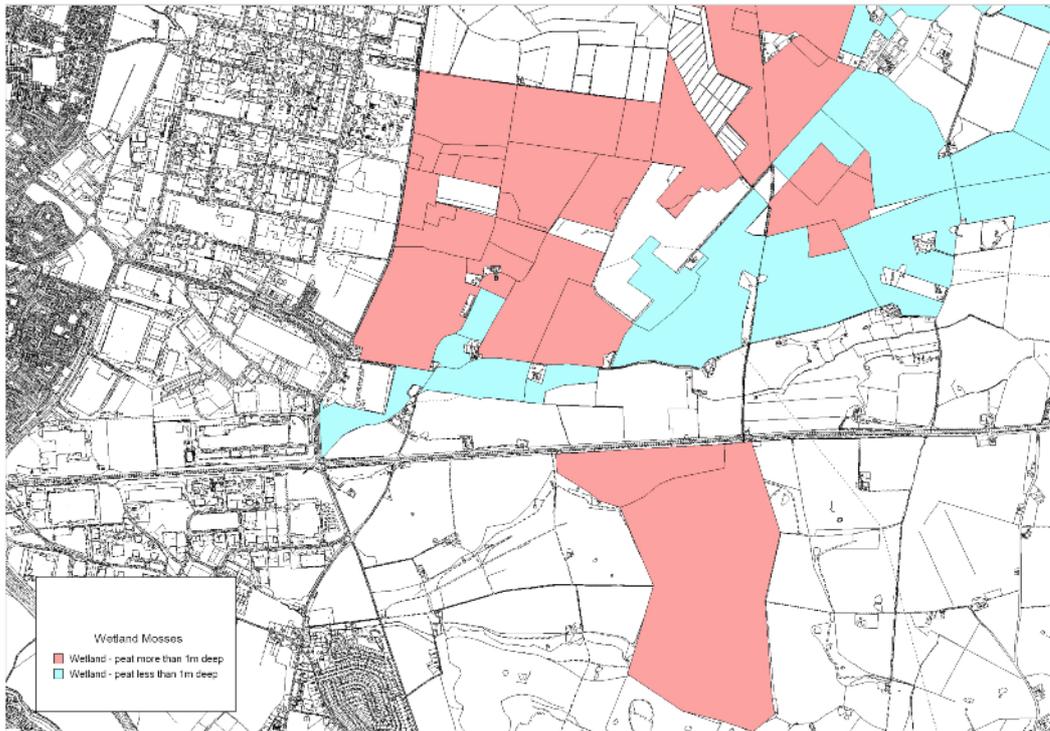


Figure 129 Knowsley Mosslands and peat survival  
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Wetlands are good environments for the preservation of organic remains, including pollen and charcoal. They can preserve an often unbroken record of human impact on the environment through the good preservation of palaeo-environmental and other organic remains such as carbonised material.

### **Knowsley mosslands**

(The project acknowledges that the following descriptions and text was sourced, and reproduced, here almost entirely from Cowell and Innes, 1994).

Archaeological remains from the mosses are rare but significant. Concentrations of later Mesolithic (c. 8000 – 4000 BC) flint scatters have been found at Kirkby and Knowsley Park, important evidence of early tool production and economy (Cowell and Innes, 1994). Neolithic and Bronze Age (c. 4000 - 2300 BC and c. 2300– c. 700 BC) finds are scarce, limited to a few flint scatters and stray finds. The distribution and character of the archaeological material from these periods echoes that of the Mesolithic, and together with palaeo-ecological evidence suggests that exploitation of the mosslands changed little through this period. It argues for no more than very light episodic exploitation of the areas surrounding the mosses, presumably based on heavy hunting. Evidence for woodland clearance and farming is very limited;

woodland clearance and cereal farming did not appear to form an important land use within the area. One exception to this comes from Prescott, 4km to the south (Cowell and Innes, 1994).

The scarcity of archaeological evidence around the Knowsley mosslands continues beyond the early Bronze Age (c. 2300 - 1600 BC). Pottery is rare on sites in the North West of England (Cowell and Innes, 1994). However, the palynological evidence is at odds with the scarcity of archaeological evidence in parts of Simonswood Moss. It seems that tree cover was being reduced quite significantly (Cowell and Innes, 1994). At the same time, weeds seen in earlier disturbance episodes occur, but in association with cereal pollen and arable weeds. At Knowsley Park, a disturbance episode shows a major woodland reduction, but with no evidence of the arable cultivation taking place slightly to the north. Cereal cultivation and clearance may be a result of human activity, but further evidence is required.



Figure 130 Patten Moss and Lydiat Moss (Knowsley Park) as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850 (Knowsley / St Helens boundary depicted in red).  
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The archaeological evidence for Romano-British activity (c AD43 - 410) is slightly stronger in the area, but is limited to a few stray finds and palaeo-environmental evidence. No direct evidence for Roman settlement has come from fieldwork or from

aerial photography from around these mosslands (Cowell and Innes, 1994). At Knowsley Park, a clearance phase similar to those seen in the late prehistoric, associated with arable weeds and cereals, is dated to Cal 240-440. A possible location for a farmstead associated with this activity, as suggested by place-name evidence (Ekwall 1922), might be represented by a small sandstone hill to the west of the moss known as Bury Hill (*burh*, a fortified farm or settlement). Knowledge of the archaeology of the Romano-British period is slowly being expanded by recent survey programmes across the area.

Knowledge of the archaeology for pre-Norman Conquest activity (AD 410 - 1066) is locked within a few already identified sources, which in the Knowsley mosses are seen in place names. The large majority of placenames in the east of Merseyside, including the mossland areas, are of English origin, a very small proportion are British, and only two can be ascribed with certainty to a Scandinavian source (Cowell, 1982; Chitty, 1981). The British place names, with the exception of Eccleston (which is likely to have been one of the earliest settlements), lie just to the east of Winwick parish. On the whole, the area appears to have been scantily populated, with much of the area being thickly wooded.

The area of the Central Mosslands (of which part lies in Knowsley) has been the subject of an in-depth documentary study of landscape development (Chitty 1981; Cowell 1981). The Knowsley mosslands fell within the West Derby Hundred, where the manors of Knowsley and Kirkby (including Simonswood), held by Uctred, were included in an area with eight vills with 'woodland two leagues long and broad with two eyries of hawks'. In the whole Hundred there was land for four ploughs (Farrer 1906) and seems to have been evenly settled by the eleventh century, although the actual density of population was not high (Farrer 1899). Around the mossland, it seems that the large areas of moss, heathland and scrub woodland were a disincentive to supporting a large population dependent on intensive arable farming (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 133). The extent of the woodland recorded at Domesday suggests that, apart from 11th century nucleated settlements such as Kirkby or Eccleston, much of the rest of the land remained largely uncleared forest in the eleventh century. The woodland extent probably heavily influenced the distribution of parks and enclosed fields in the late medieval period, which to some extent are likely to be a reflection of the widespread extent of the mosslands and the lack of their direct exploitation.

Other evidence relating to the wooded nature of the medieval landscape in the area comes from a number of private hunting parks. The earliest reference to Knowsley Park is in 1292, when Robert de Lathom claimed to have a 'certain wood that his father enclosed with paling' (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 134).

Of the mossland townships in the purlieu of the forest only Kirkby, Rainford and Eccleston appear to have developed an agricultural landscape based on common arable fields. Kirkby was divided into two manors, Kirkby Beetham and Kirkby Gerard, which may have equated with the medieval nucleated settlements at Kirkby and Little Briton. The 1769 Molyneux estate map shows the contrast in field shapes around each of these two settlements, with several almost circular fields (delineated by roads) to the west and north of Little Briton and the much larger, more open, area of former common arable to the south and north of Kirkby village. The latter, however, is distant from the surviving peat, although there is evidence that the peat was more extensive in the medieval period. In general, this type of open landscape appears to have been restricted, and piecemeal woodland enclosure seems to have been the norm (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 135).

The steady increase of population throughout the twelfth to fourteenth centuries in England led to the ever increasing need for more arable land, with woodland and waste cleared and enclosed. In some cases, the expansion of arable was achieved by increasing the area of common arable fields at the expense of woodland and waste which lay around them. Assarting was typical of this area, whereby woodland and waste lying on the more marginal land, generally towards the edge of the township, were cleared to form small fields, enclosed with banks and hedges by individuals who farmed the land in severalty. The individual assarts were quite small, often only an acre or so. In Kirkby in the hamlet of Inglewaith, now known as Ingoe Lane, there was an identifiable area of assarts next to Alders Bridge. Assarting of woodland or waste seems to have been the common method of agricultural expansion in the mossland townships (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 135).

With the increased political and economic stability of the sixteenth century, agriculture in the area generally continued to expand, and until the nineteenth century the landscape was essentially rural in nature. Yates' 1786 map of Lancashire depicts the final expansion of the late post-medieval rural population just before the full development of industry in the St Helens and Liverpool areas. The contrast is strong between the areas to the south and west of the mosslands on the heavier soils of the

pre-Conquest centres of Huyton and Prescot and around St Helens. The scattered nature of settlement is a feature of the remaining undeveloped rural areas today, and in some places there has been noticeable shrinkage in settlement as populations have moved to industrial towns in the nineteenth century (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 136).

Early clearance and nucleated settlement is represented around the outer fringes of the mosslands by Kirkby, West Derby, Eccleston, and to a lesser extent, Rainford. Medieval nucleated settlements never grew up around Simonswood or Croxteth Park, and only in the late 18th century in Knowsley, while most of the large township of Rainford lay far from its nucleus. The economic role of the mosslands within the townships into the 19th century was as common land which lay on the margins. This had been an important feature of the medieval agricultural system, with common meadow and grazing each forming part of an integrated method of managing the livestock of the local community. Each township possessed its own area of common grazing, generally located on the poorest quality land, often at the edge of the township (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 136). Eighteenth and 19th century maps (copies in Merseyside Historic Environment Record) show that all the townships within the mosslands used these areas of moss as common grazing land. In Knowsley a mid 18th century map shows mossland in the park as divided up into strips, the basis of common land. Grassland became increasingly important in the agricultural economy of the 15th and 16th century South West Lancashire. Large areas of underused land or poorly drained or inferior quality became available for grazing and led to the rise of a mixed agricultural economy in which cattle played a prominent role. This resulted in a population movement onto the moss and heathland, which to a large extent is responsible for the pattern of isolated farmsteads which characterises the area today. Large areas of land still remained unimproved through this period and in areas such as Kirkby, Simonswood, Rainford and Eccleston, large areas of unimproved remains until a relatively late date. In Simonswood in 1769, the Molyneux estate maps shows 498 acres of common land remaining unenclosed on the moss in the south-eastern part of the township. In Kirkby the same source shows 380 acres of unenclosed mossland (Cowell and Innes, 1994, 139).

Large-scale enclosure after the Parliamentary Enclosure Acts of the 18th and 19th centuries appears to have been limited to the extreme northeast of the mosslands. Even by 1939, the area was dominated by Simonswood Moss (predominantly grassland) and outlying parcels of enclosed mossland and plantation (Kirkby Moss,

Lydiate Moss and Mossborough Moss). Modern development (notably Knowsley Industrial Park) has removed many of the remote farmsteads to the east of Kirkby.



Figure 131 Simonswood Moss and Kirkby Moss as depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850 (Knowsley boundary marked in red). The regular nature of the drainage ditches crossing the mossland area and field boundaries in the immediate vicinity suggest late enclosure. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

For the Simonswood Moss and Kirkby Moss areas, mid to late 19th century drainage has produced the pattern of regular ditches and surveyed boundaries.

Kirkby Moss and Lydiate Moss have been drained, although they are still named on Current (2003) mapping. Despite enclosure or redevelopment it was possible to identify the former sites of mosses during the project through analysis of historic mapping and drift geology. The presence of peat is an indicator of the type of wetland environment in which mosses form. An examination of field boundary patterns and place-name evidence on historic mapping revealed the boundaries and names of former mosses. Mosses tend to be enclosed late, with regular boundaries or long narrow fields formed by a system of drainage ditches which contrast with the irregular boundaries of earlier field patterns. The edges of mosses can be defined by their erratic but continuous encircling boundaries.

Knowsley contains 4.95 ha of mire / bog habitat (North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan - Knowsley Phase 1 Habitat Survey. Porter, R. 2005). The majority of this habitat is concentrated around Acornfield Plantation. For the purposes of the MHCP, this habitat has been included within the Wetland (Mossland) Sub Type. Acornfield Plantation is one of the few remaining woods of the original Manor of Kirkby. Oak, birch and alder trees form the major part of the wood along with beech and Scots pine, which were planted for timber production during the last century. Acornfield also includes one of only two actively growing bogs in the north of Merseyside.

Phase 1 habitat type	Phase 1 habitat code	Area of habitat (ha)
Wet modified bog	E1.7	3.53
Dry modified bog	E1.8	0.56
Acid/neutral flush	E2.1	0.03
Valley mire	E3.1	0.83
Total bog / mire		4.95
Swamp	F1	2.02
Swamp / marginal vegetation	F1.2	0.33
Marshy grassland	B5	6.36
Total swamp / marsh		8.71

Table 33 Adapted from NMBAP Knowsley Phase 1 Habitat Survey (2005)

Similarly, swamp and marsh grassland has been incorporated within the Rough Land Broad Type, as part of the Wetland (Mossland) sub-type, or within the Field System Broad Type. Once again, it is important to stress the difference between the MHCP and NMBAP studies - the MHCP is a 'broad-brush' characterisation, and does not distinguish between differing habitats (or sub-habitats) to the same degree as the NMBAP survey.

### 9.9.2 Other Land

The Other Land (Rough Land) Sub Type comprises all land that could not be given a distinct Sub Type, derelict land (formerly industrial or residential) and small areas of open urban green space (the majority of which has been created from former industrial or residential clearance). As such, Other Land is generally confined to urban or urban fringes. It constitutes 62.2% (202.9 ha) of the Rough Land Broad Type and 2.35% of the total Knowsley area. Other Land is predominantly a 20th century creation, with 92% being created post-1945.

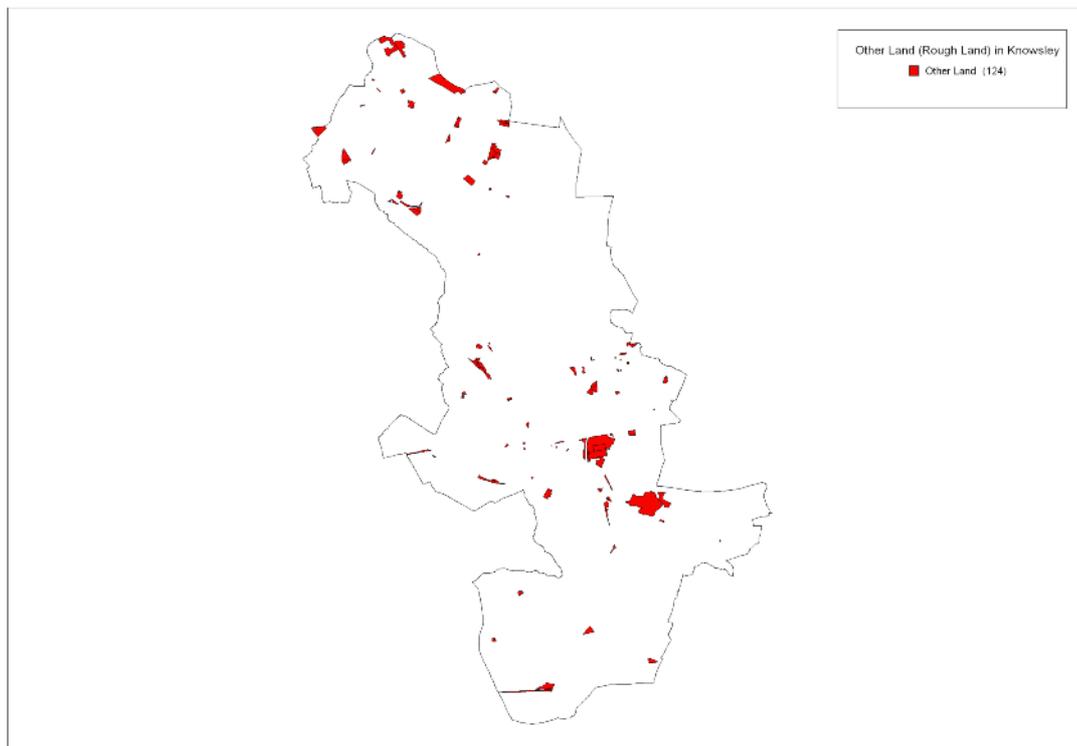


Figure 132 Current (2003) Other Land (Rough Land) Sub Type in Knowsley  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The Sub Type occurs throughout the district, with notable concentrations within areas of urban development - surrounding Kirkby and to the south of Huyton-with-Roby, Prescott and Whiston. The majority of sites are rough grassland/scrub sites located on former industrial sites, or as green corridors created from former communications routes.

In some cases, open urban land has remained unused for long enough to have been colonised by vegetation. These 'urban commons' often become informal recreational space. The time scale and process of vegetation development on such sites varies with substrate and locality and may produce distinctive local or regional variants of grassland communities, tall herb assemblages, scrub and woodland. A growing number of ecological investigations have revealed that there exists a complementary and distinctive fauna (Tomlinson, 1997).

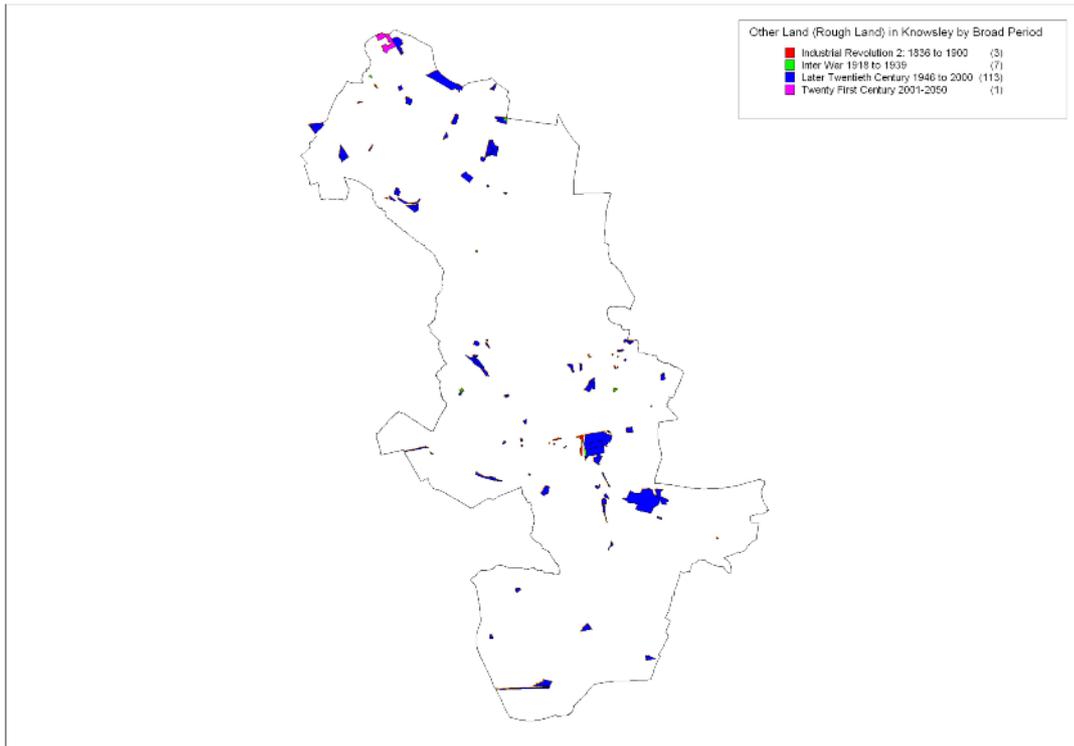


Figure 133 Current (2003) Other Land (Rough Land) Sub Type by Broad Period of origin (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

The largest tracts of rough land can be found to the east of Huyton-with-Roby - on land adjoining Stadt Moers Park (site of the Tushingham Metallic Brick Works) and Halsnead Park (former Cronton Colliery site). Both sites have been the subject of local and national regeneration projects, promoting biodiversity and community involvement.

The land adjoining Stadt Moers Park (now incorporated into the park) has a long history of coal mining, before Tushingham's Brickworks was built in the 1890's. By 1976 the works were derelict and much of today's park was used as a landfill site for domestic refuse. In 1983, Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, as part of the Operation Groundwork experiment, undertook a major reclamation scheme to

transform these landfill sites into an attractive country park. Since then thousands of trees have been planted as part of a new landscape.

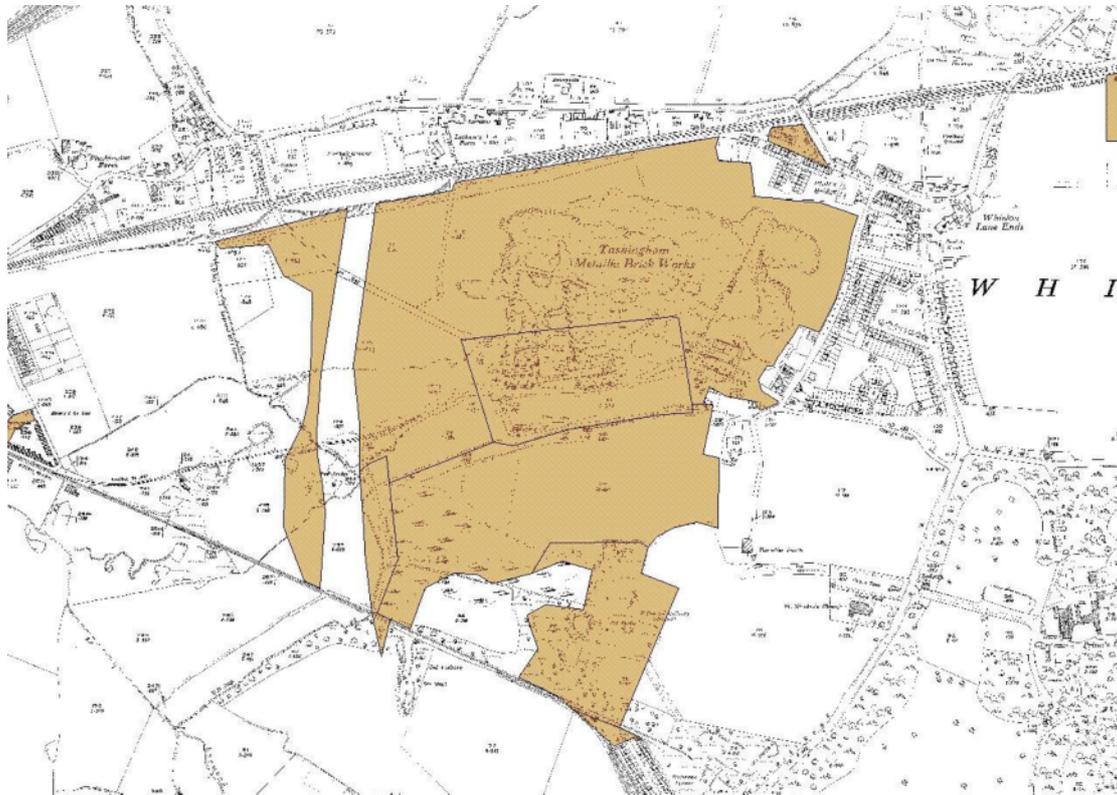


Figure 134 Other Land (Rough Land) on the site of former Tushingham Brickworks depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1939  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

Cronton colliers mined the pit's first coal during the Great War in 1915. Cronton thrived and the pit was one of 65 Lancashire collieries at the time of nationalisation. Mainly because of the exhaustion of economically-viable reserves, the number of Lancashire collieries had been reduced to 41 by 1962. Five years later this had fallen to 21. By the time Cronton colliery finally closed in 1984 it had been making heavy financial losses for many years and the remaining coal reserves were both limited and difficult to mine. Local coal miners were offered alternative jobs at one of the seven remaining Lancashire collieries.

The site lay derelict for a number of years until it was acquired by English Partnerships (now the Homes and Communities Agency) as part of the National Coalfields Programme. It was partially restored in the 1990s, during which time removal of industrial infrastructure, major earthworks and tree planting were

undertaken. The site ownership was transferred to Northwest Regional Development Agency in 1999. In 2007 the Land Restoration Trust took on responsibility for completing restoration.



Figure 135 Other Land (Rough Land) on the site of Cronton Colliery site depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs.1939  
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Further large tracts of rough land can be found to the north of the district around the new town of Kirkby. This includes an area of rough ground (15.92 ha) created by the demolition of railway sidings that once linked Knowsley Industrial Estate to the Liverpool to Bury railway line.

A sizeable tract of Other Land (7.38 ha) was created by the entrapment of land immediately to the north and south of the Garston to Warrington railway line, by both residential and industrial development at Halewood.

The Other Land Sub Type contains a number of small, semi-natural green spaces and grasslands, many of which were created from the demolition of residential and industrial buildings. These small plots are important as 'green spaces' within urban

centres, providing visual, residential, cultural, recreational and strategic benefits (Knowsley Unitary development Plan, 2006). A recent survey states that the provision of natural and semi-natural open space amounts to 177.8 hectares in total across the Borough. Therefore the current provision of natural and semi-natural open space per 1,000 population is 1.18 ha (PMP & Knowsley MBC, 2005). Furthermore, rough land (as green space) has environmental benefits, as havens for wildlife. Urban grasslands which include unimproved, semi-improved and improved grasslands occurring in urban and urban fringe areas are NMBAP priority habitats. Urban grassland habitats cover an area of approximately 1,124 ha (Porter, R. 2005).

### 9.9.3 Scrub

Much like other land (rough land), much of the scrubland within Knowsley is of 20th century origin. It comprises mainly of small semi-natural stands of brushwood and rough grassland plots, many of which are the result of residential and industrial demolition and clearance, although a few natural sites do occur. Scrubland is evenly distributed throughout Knowsley, although the largest tract of scrub land is located to the south of the borough, immediately east of Halewood Motor Works. The MHCP Sub Type constitutes 21.7% (64.9 ha) of the current Rough Land Broad Type. This is much smaller than the total scattered (92.58 ha) and continuous (43.52 ha) scrub found reported in the recent Knowsley Phase 1 Habitat Survey (Porter, R. 2005). The reasons for this discrepancy are very much like those outlined in Woodlands Broad Type.

Of the scrub Sub Type, just over 81% (twenty six polygons) is of 20th century date, a single polygon of inter war date, and five of pre-1900 origin. Of the pre-1900 sites, even here the scrubland was created from earlier industrial sites (usually extractive in nature). For instance, the scrubland at Old Carrs Pit near Prescott was created during the period 1850 to 1893. A coal pit is depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map of 1850, the area reverting to scrub soon afterwards (certainly by 1893). Although a sewage farm was built immediately to the north (between 1908 and 1927), the essentially scrub nature of the land has not changed since the 1890's.

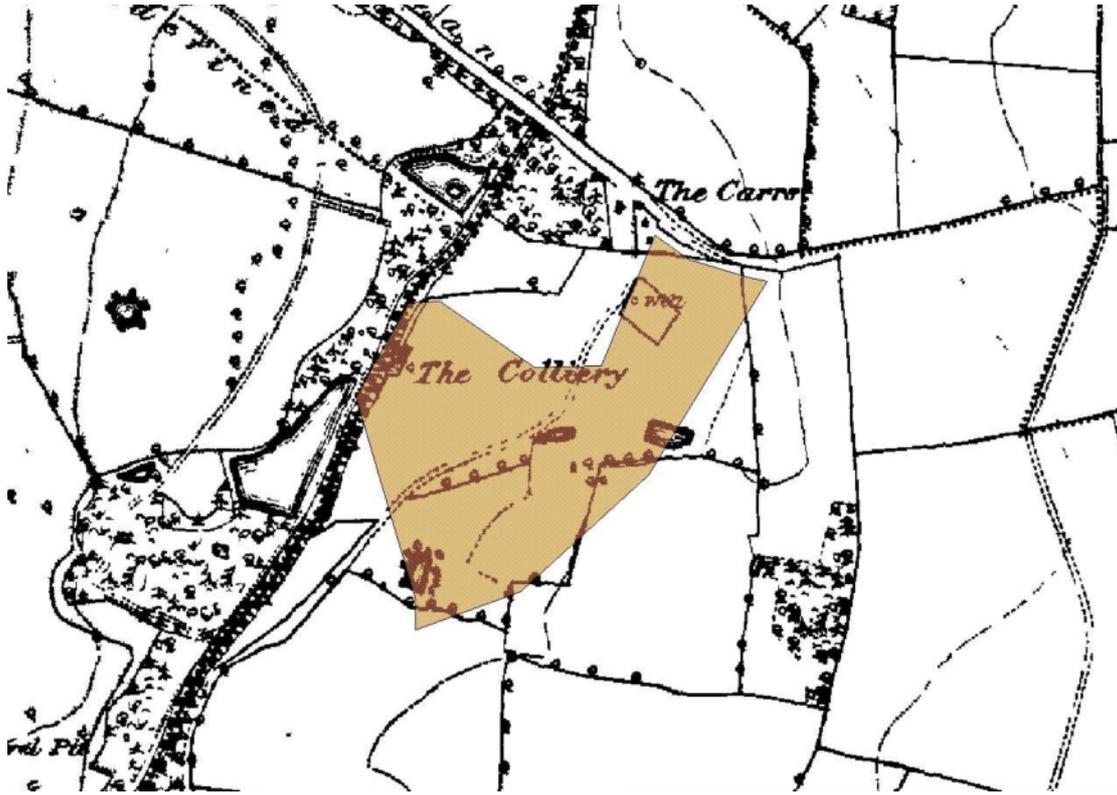


Figure 136 Old Carrs Pit, Prescott depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancs. 1850  
(© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

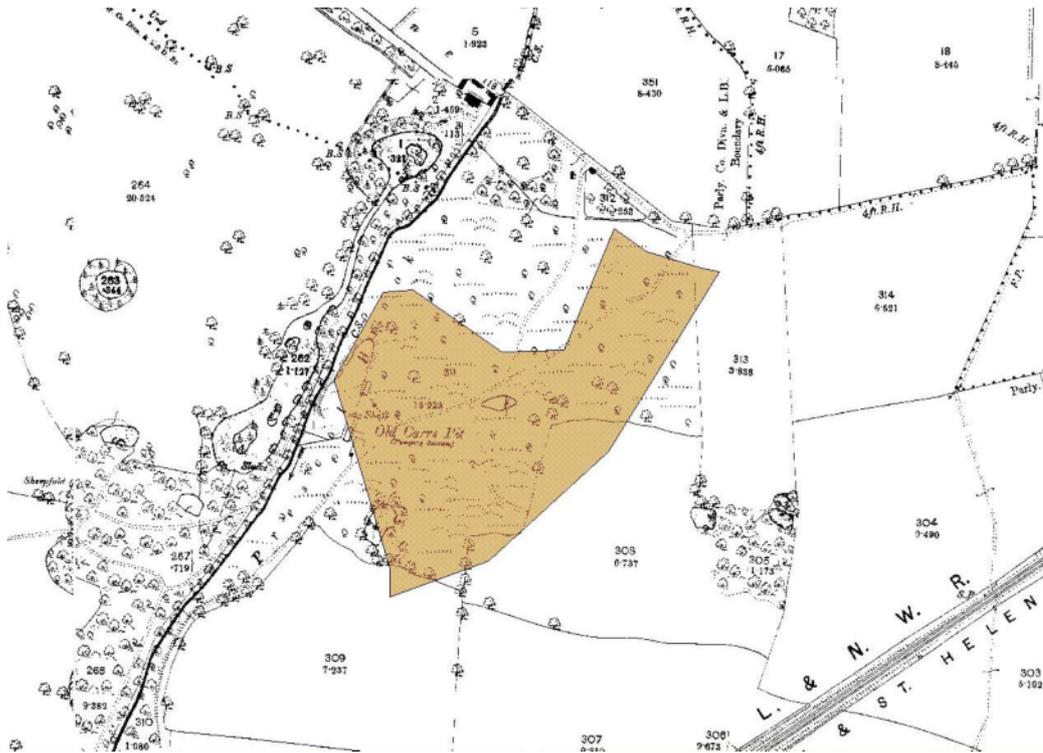


Figure 137 Old Carrs Pit, Prescott depicted on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of Lancs. 1939 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

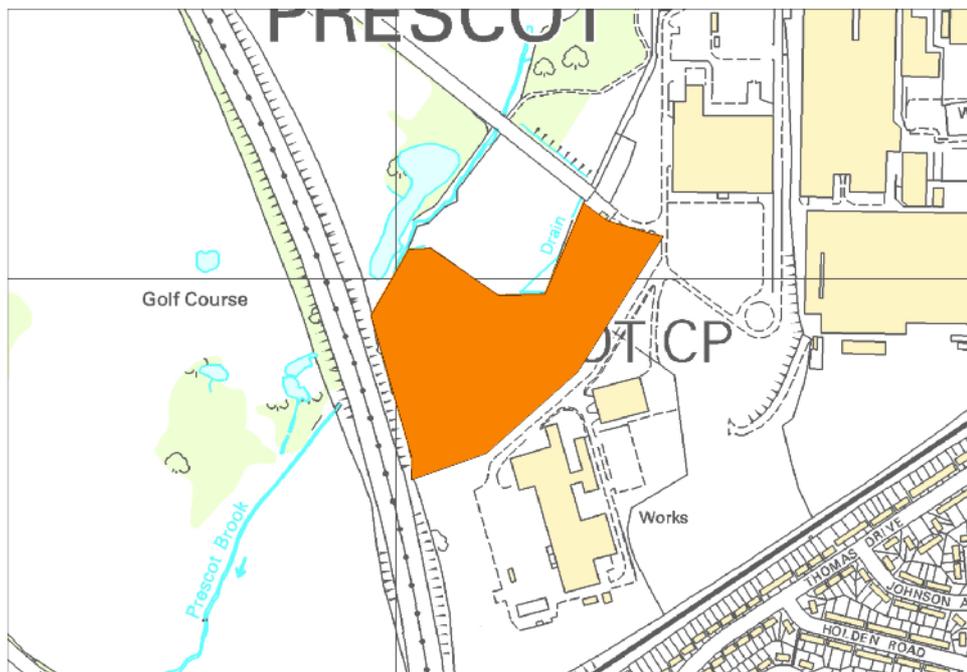


Figure 138 Old Carrs Pit, Prescott on the Current (2003) mapping (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

## 9.9.4 Upland

Pex Hill is Knowsley's only lowland heath site. Lowland heath at this site covers 1.18 hectares. This site is currently under the management of United Utilities.

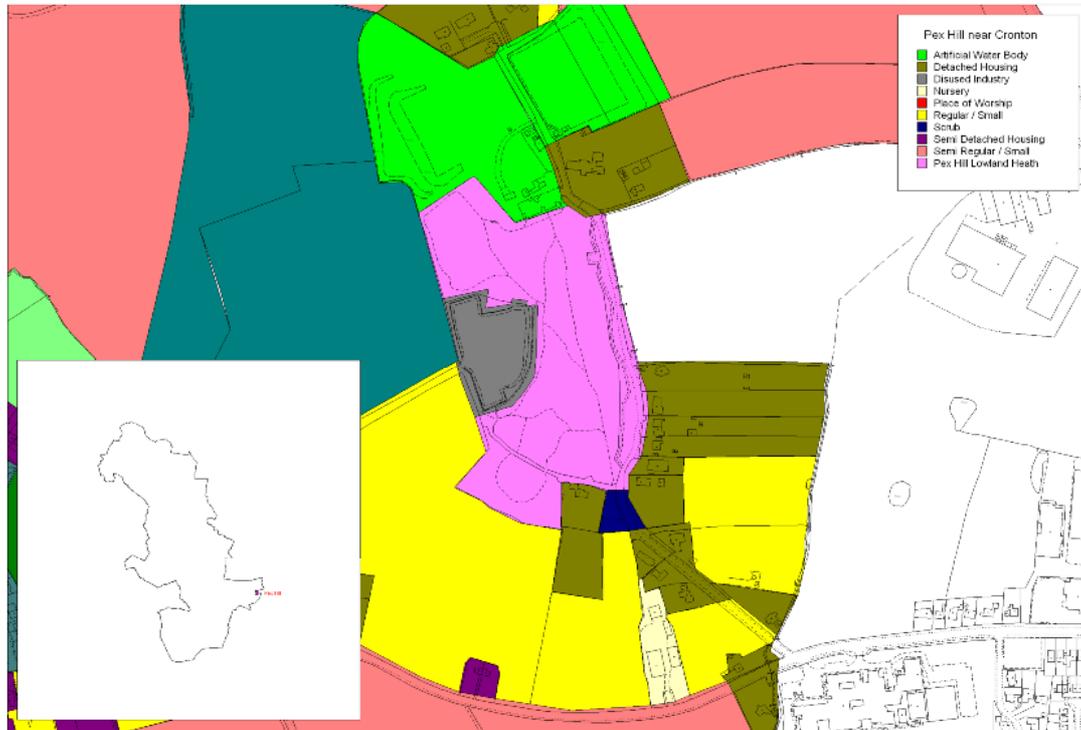


Figure 139 Pex Hill Lowland Heath (Current 2003 mapping)  
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## 9.10 Water Bodies Broad Type

Twenty polygons for Water Bodies were recorded within Knowsley, thirteen of which relate to Water Bodies of artificial in origin. The MHCP did not include ornamental lakes or ponds cut for extant estate houses (i.e. Knowsley Hall), as these were incorporated within the overall Private Estate SubType. Similarly, a number of artificial water bodies associated with disused industry have been incorporated into that particular HLC Sub Type. The MHCP only recorded those water bodies over a certain size or those which had a historical dimension. Water bodies constituted 16.41 ha of land, equating to less than 1% of the Knowsley total. Natural water bodies formed 4% and artificial water bodies 96% of the Water Bodies Sub Type.

Natural water bodies (ten polygons in total) were recorded, with three of these having pre-1850 origins. The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan - Knowsley Phase 1 Habitat Survey (Porter, R. 2005) recorded 304 ponds and areas of open standing water, with targets to create a further 150 ponds by 2015. The Phase 1 Habitat Survey recorded 45.27 ha of open standing water, the majority of this taken up by the ornamental lakes of Knowsley Park (in particular White Man's Dam at 25.98 ha).

The only water bodies of a significant size at a landscape scale in Knowsley are reservoirs. Some are corporation waterworks, but the majority have industrial origins. The majority of these artificial water bodies are located in the south of the district.

Reuses of such sites are varied, but it is most common for reservoirs to have been backfilled and redeveloped as residential or industrial areas. Disused reservoirs are not invariably backfilled; some survive as open water within woodland, rough land or parkland.

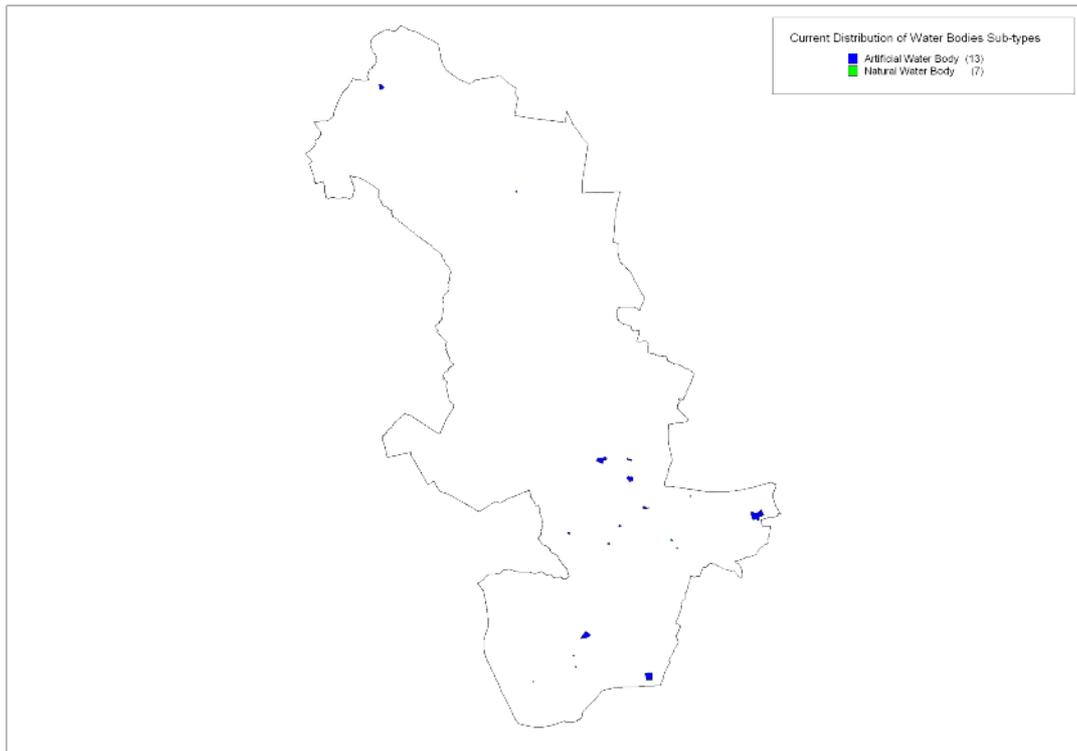


Figure 140 Current (2003) Water Bodies Sub Type in Knowsley  
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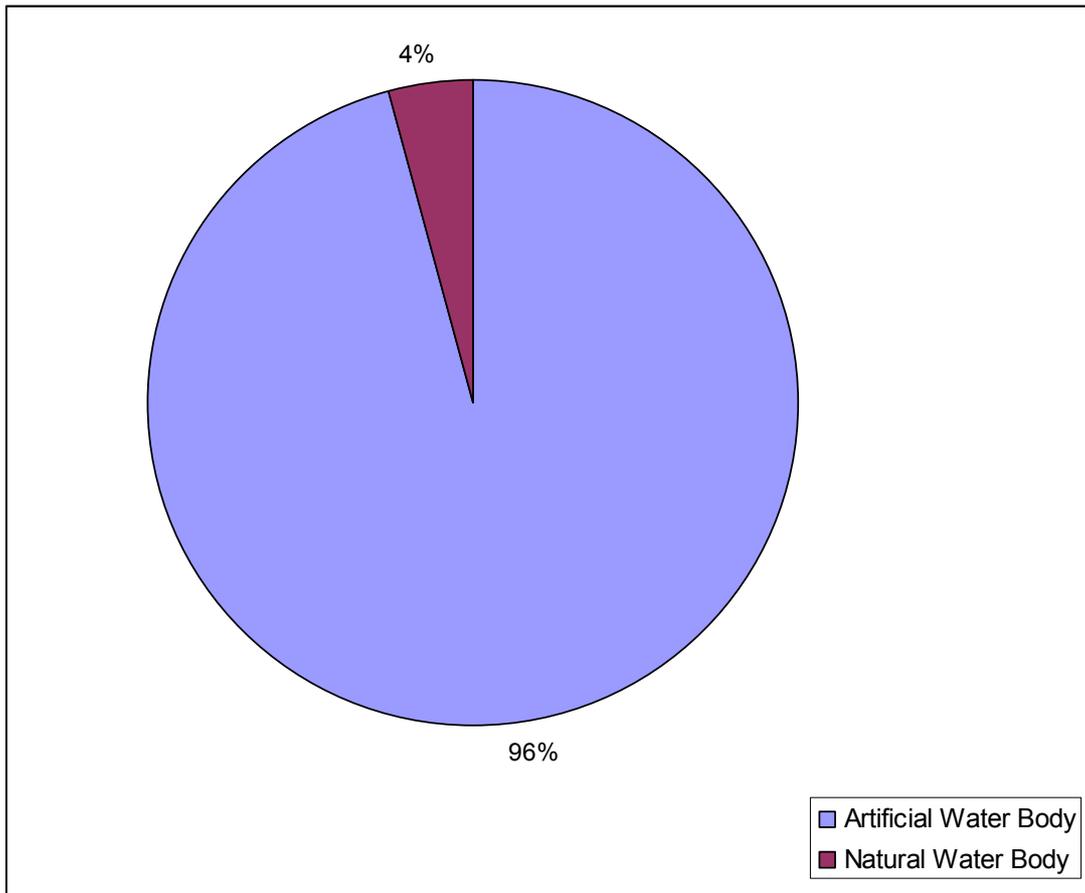


Figure 141 Pie Chart of Current (2003) Knowsley Water Bodies Sub Type (%of land)

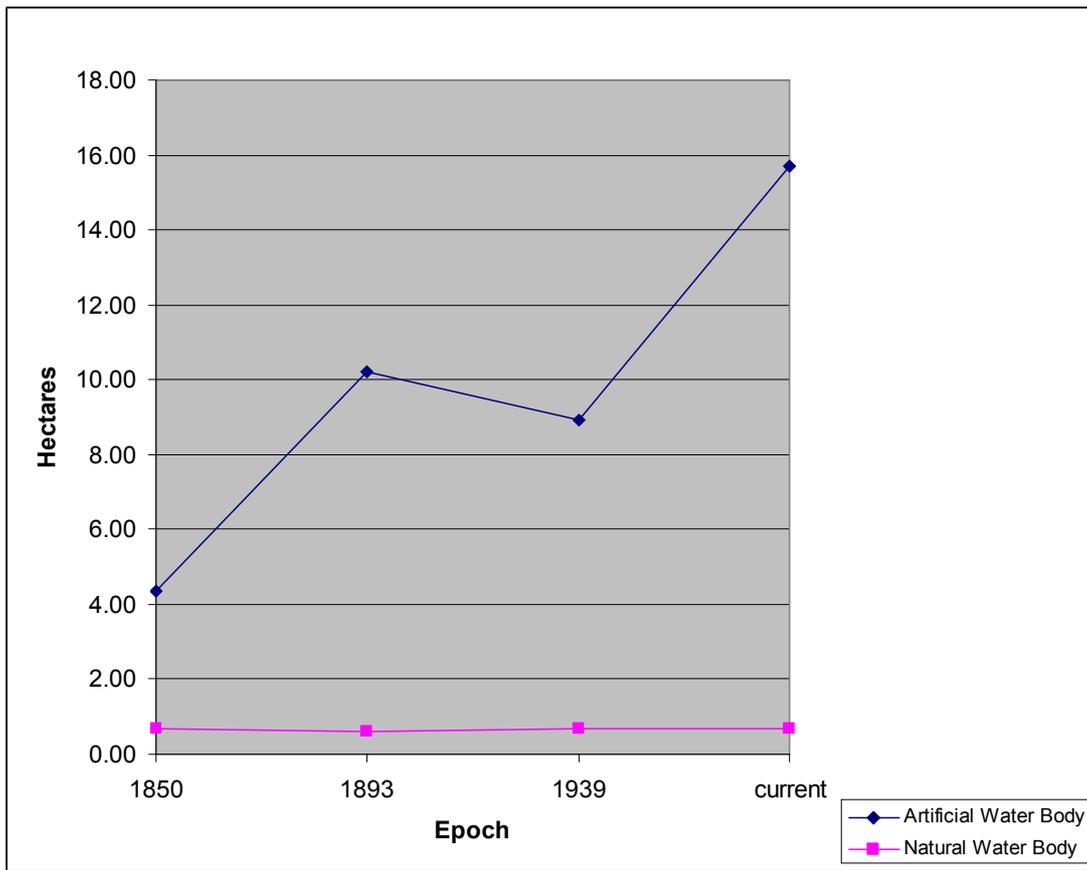


Figure 142 Graphical representation of Knowsley Water Bodies Sub Type through time

### **9.10.1 Natural Water Body**

Natural water bodies (ten polygons in total) were recorded, with three of these having pre-1850 origins. Natural water bodies constituted 4% of the Water Bodies Sub Type.

### 9.10.2 Artificial Water Body

Small reservoirs that form integral parts of industrial sites are included within the character areas for those sites. Only those that form distinct landscape features of a significant size were recorded separately.

Of the artificial water bodies, the majority (ten polygons) were created in association with industrial sites, including mills, collieries and quarries, in the late 18th to early 19th century, and are shown on mid-19th century mapping. Many of these were extended later in the 19th or 20th century, such as that at Pex Hill near Cronton. A group of reservoirs were built on the summit of Pex Hill in 1868 by the Widnes Corporation. The reservoir complex was extended in the mid 20th century, and the reservoirs are still in use today.

Of mill sites, only one artificial lake remains at Mill Farm, Tower Hill, Kirkby.

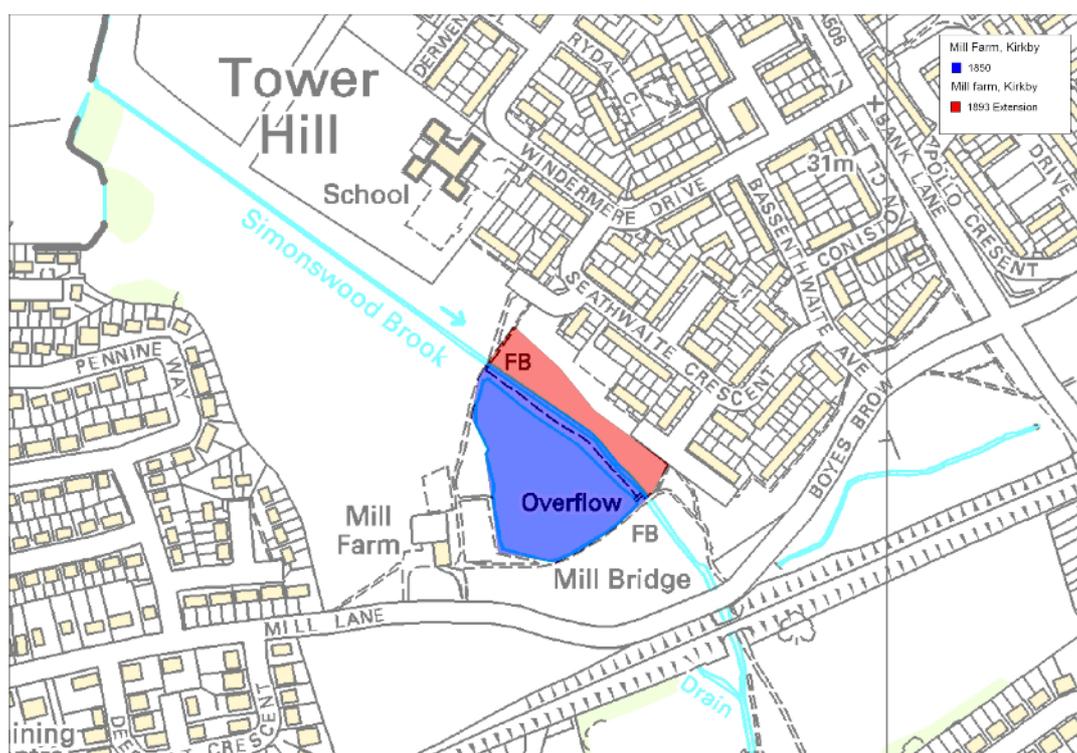


Figure 143 Mill Farm, Kirkby showing artificial lake in 1850 and 1893  
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Only seven polygons represented artificial water bodies that were created in the 20th century. Some recent artificial bodies of water were created as a by-product of open-

cast quarrying, such as that near Yew Tree Farm in Halewood. Three large artificial lakes can be found at Halsnead Park - once forming boating and ornamental lakes within the grounds of a large country house, but now lying within Stadt Moers Park and open land.

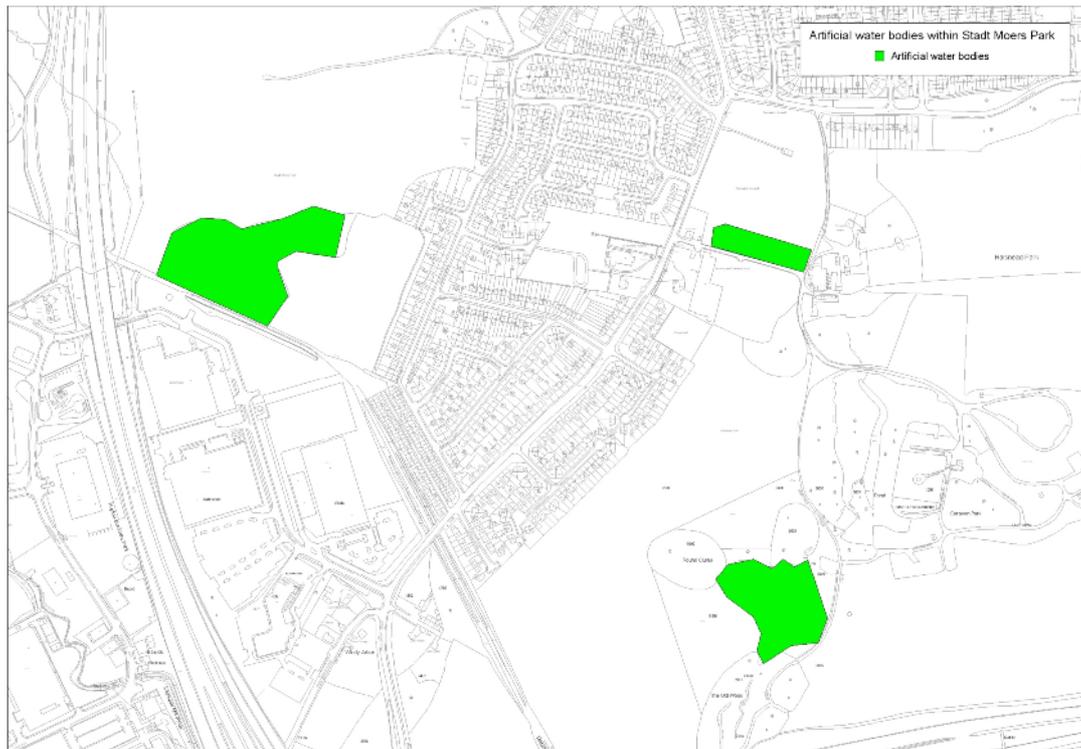


Figure 144 Artificial water bodies once within Halsnead Park  
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### **9.11 Defence Broad Type**

Knowsley currently contains only one site of Defence Broad Type - a Territorial Army Centre in Huyton with Roby (1.322 ha) representing 0.02% of the Knowsley total and 100% of the Defence Sub type.

An example of past types includes the drill hall on Aspinall Street, Prescot. Built in the period 1927 to 1939 it was demolished post 1945. The area is now part of a commercial development, comprising a local civic centre and Post Office buildings.