St Helens Historic Settlement Study

Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project

December 2011

Contents

Introduction to Historic Settlement Study

The aim of the historic settlement study was to produce a consistent pro-forma template of information on settlements identified across all the historical townships in all 5 districts of Merseyside as based on the relevant paper First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile maps for Lancashire (published 1848 -1851) and Cheshire (1881 - 1882) . The purpose was to help provide background information for the data capture of character area polygons and also bring together some information on known or highlight other historic settlements, many of which have been lost or disguised by urban development. It was also thought that information would be useful for alerting to areas of possible archaeological interest to support the development management advice given by Merseyside Archaeological Advisory Service to the five districts. Historic urban settlement character is one of the key priority areas for research within Merseyside and one for which there is currently least documented archaeological evidence.

The study was desk-based and drew on accessible sources held within the Merseyside Historic Environment Record. A total of one hundred and seventeen separate studies were completed as follows:- Knowsley: 11, Liverpool: 30, Sefton: 23, St Helens: 11, Wirral: 42
This includes the slightly more detailed work on 'historic towns'
(see Appendix 7 of main district report for methodology outline).

The settlement study represents a consistent synthesis of information to highlight settlement by the mid to later nineteenth century, complimenting the earliest set historic period for project data capture. It is not a definitive statement on the origins of settlement across Merseyside. Further detailed documentary and fieldwork research is required. The studies were initially carried out in tandem with the characterisation data capture for each district. They were all in initial draft by April 2008 (recommencement of the MHCP data capture) and accessible to provide background information for the character area polygons. For example, a Current area of industrial expansion might contain the otherwise unidentified medieval or post-medieval core of the township.

What determines our settlement identification?

- A clear group or concentration of buildings named on the map whether this is based on a nucleated group or linear 'ribbon' type development along one or more routes - generally characterised by some of the following: dwellings, school, inn, church, rectory farms, manor house, industry (i.e. coal mines/ brick works).

- Settlement areas for which there is not an identifiable core from the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map sheets - these are still included and described within the context of their historic township. For some areas, the lack of identifiable core relates to the actual dispersed nature of settlement by the mid to later nineteenth century i.e. based on individual farms and estates. Alternatively some settlements clearly represent linear development along prominent routes and are the result of urban expansion and infilling of land around dispersed villas/farms/industries from the 18th century onwards.

Many settlements have been submerged into later urban expansion, although do retain some historic survival/archaeological potential in their own right. Many were simply not already identified within the HER, symptomatic of the lack of research in to urban areas during its core compilation in the 1980's. Many have been previously degraded through historic demolition and remain under threat of loss, assisted by a combination of a lack of awareness and understanding of local historic interest and/or unwillingness to explore alternative regeneration solutions.

The results from the settlement studies compliment the existing content of the Merseyside Historic Environment Record. Furthermore, they have already supported:
- the planning advice given by the Merseyside Archaeological Advisory Service, enabling quick initial reference for individual planning appraisals,
- supply (in draft) to HER enquirers and other project consultants i.e. carrying out Conservation Area Appraisals,
- the data content of a pilot interactive on the archaeology of Merseyside in the Magical History Tour exhibition (2007, National Museums Liverpool).

The Settlement Study has not only highlighted areas of new archaeological interest but has the potential to contribute to regeneration and Conservation Area appraisals simply by highlighting interest worthy of further desk-based and research in the field. In addition they may contribute to compilation of lists of buildings and areas of local interest and community based projects.

Sarah-Jane Farr
Merseyside Archaeological Officer
Museum of Liverpool
National Museums Liverpool

Billinge (Chapel End)

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 59 NW / SJ 50 SW
NGR (centred):	SD 530 002 (north) SD 532 007 (south) SJ 528 998 Chadwick Green (centred) SJ 529 992
District:	St Helens
Township:	Billinge
Geology:	The solid geology is carboniferous coal measures overlain by areas of boulder clay and Shirdley Hill Sands.
Historic Core:	A linear settlement along Gorsey Brow (now Main Street) heading south west towards Birchley Road. The main village is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire.
Origin of Name:	Bulling (1200). Sword or edge, perhaps referring to a prominent hill, Billinge Hill (1). From Old English *bill.* Alternatively, people associated with Billa (2). From Old English personal name 'Billa'. Bulling (*c*1200), Billing (1212), Bullynth (1292), Billynge (1366) and Billindge (1585) (1; 2).
Topography:	Lies on relatively high ground compared with surrounding areas. Land to the northwest rises steeply towards the highest point, Billinge Hill, and slopes down towards the Sankey Valley in the south-east.
History:	The area of Billinge was made up of two former townships, Billinge Higher End to the north-west (now in the district of Greater Manchester) and Billinge Lower End (or Chapel End) to the east; originally part of Wigan parish. The two townships of Billinge formed a single manor together with the split, detached township of Winstanley (now also in Greater Manchester). By 1212 this manor had been divided into three, and then further divided into four manorial holdings in 1372. One of these holdings, located mainly in Billinge Higher End, was passed on to the Gerard family. By the early eighteenth century the Gerards' had become significant landowners within the area of Billinge. (3)
Present Landmarks:	St Aiden's Church (*c.*1717) is situated within the historic core. Birchley Hall (1594) it situated within a possible moated site. It was built by James Anderton and lies to the

south-west of the historic core. The building was extended with a chapel wing in the early seventeenth century. Held by the Andertons of Lostock in the sixteenth century, the hall then became the property of Sir Robert Gerard during the seventeenth century (3; 4).

Billinge Hall a seventeenth century sandstone farmhouse with later alterations.

Blackley Hurst Hall (fifteenth/sixteenth century) is a possible moated site held by a branch of the Winstanley family. The original house dated from *c.* 1555. The manor was sold to the Blackburnes in 1617, and then to Sir William Gerard by the turn of the nineteenth century.

There are numerous seventeenth and eighteenth century houses, farms and inns surviving within the historic core. (5)

Historic Landmarks:	The present building of St Aiden's Church replaced Billinge Chapel; the original stone built chapel of ease, constructed sometime between 1534 and 1550 (4).
Early Activity:	A number of prehistoric lithics have been discovered around the vicinity of the settlement (6). More recently, a fieldwalking survey carried out by the University of Liverpool Continuing Education Department, under the direction of Dr. M. Adams (National Museums Liverpool Field Archaeology Unit), to the west of Billinge village has revealed an early prehistoric lithic scatter including five worked cores (Ron Cowell pers. comm.). It has been suggested that small-scale metalworking and coal mining may have occurred around the Billinge area during the Romano-British period (7).
Significant Post-Med Activity:	Billinge appears to have developed from two main industries located on the outskirts of the village. Billinge Hill and Victoria quarries were established in the eighteenth century. In the early nineteenth century Blackley Hurst colliery and associated railway were also in operation, as was Billinge Colliery. (8)
Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Chadwick Green is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps. The placename derives from Old English personal name Ceadda's *wic*, Chaddeyk (*c.*1180) (1). This small hamlet developed into a residential area, joining the southern most fringes of present day Billinge.
Maps:	Yates's map of Lancashire 1786 (LRO DR 179/5). West Derby Hundred 1818 (LRO DDPR 144/11).

Hennet map of Lancashire 1830 (LRO).
Billinge (Chapel End) Tithe Map 1843 (LRO DRL 1/8.
1st Edition 6" OS map Lancashire Sheet 101. Surveyed
1845-46. Published 1849.

References:

(1) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*.
Chetham Society. Manchester.
(2) Mills D. 1976. The *Place Names of Lancashire*.
Batsford. London.
(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1911. *The Victoria
History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Four.*
Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.
(4) Pevsner, N. 1969. *The Buildings of England: South
Lancashire*. Penguin. Harmondsworth.
(5) University of Manchester Archaeology Unit. 1994.
*Proposed Golf Course at Great Houghwood Farm and
Shaley Brow Farm, Billinge.* University of Manchester
Archaeology Unit. Manchester.
(6) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West
Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.*
Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on
Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.
(7) Cowell R.W. and Lewis J. 2000. *The Archaeology
of a Changing Landscape: The Last Thousand Years in
Merseyside.* Journal of the Merseyside Archaeological
Society. Vol II.
(8) Merseyside Historic Environment Record
documentation.

Bold

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 59 SW / SJ 58 NW
NGR (centred):	Bold Heath SJ 533 892 Clock Face SJ 529 911
District:	St Helens
Township:	Bold
Geology:	The solid geology is Triassic sandstones overlying Westphalian coal measures. Overlying drift deposits are mainly boulder clay.
Historic Core:	There is no evidence of a nucleated settlement at Bold during the thirteenth century. Instead, the area had been divided into a number of estates or manors. The OS 6" 1st Edition map depicts the Clock Face area as a developing settlement due to the mining industry. Clock Face does not appear as a significant settlement on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire.
Origin of Name:	Bolde (1204). Meaning house, place or dwelling (1). From Old English *bold*. Boulde (1332) and Boolde (1577) (1).
Topography:	Bold lies on a relatively flat plain that gently slopes down eastwards. Bold Moss lies to the north of the township.
History:	Originally part of the parish of Prescot, the earliest reference made to Bold was from a manor survey in 1212. The Bold family held possession until the end of the nineteenth century. (2)
Present Landmarks:	Bold Old Hall (Scheduled Monument) a moated site located to the southeast of Clock Face, was rebuilt at least three times and demolished in 1936. The modern farmhouse was built partially out of material from the old hall but still retains an early eighteenth century bridge and flanking gate piers. (3) Bold New Hall (1730) was demolished in 1899 leaving only the coach house intact. The present site is now named Home Farm. (4) Several other medieval moated sites lie in the area of Bold township these include Barrow Old Hall, Cranshaw Hall, Old Moat House (all three Scheduled Monuments), and Holbrook/Old Brook Hall, Further Mear Hey and Hayfield Farm. (3)

A Second World War Heavy Anti-aircraft gunsite/camp, southeast of Bold Heath, stands as a monument to modern warfare. (4)

Historic Landmarks:	Vyrnway aqueduct shown passing through Bold township on the 1900 OS map, although there is no trace of it today, can only be seen as a feature on infra-red photographs (5).
Early Activity:	Pollen analysis of samples from Parr Moss indicates only very marginal clearance of the area in the prehistoric period. (6) The pollen evidence from Parr Moss suggests that clearance was intensified during the Roman occupation. One Roman coin, a barbarous radiate of Emperor Victorious 268-270AD and metal artefact were found to the northeast of Clock Face. Much of the woodland was cleared by the thirteenth century when a full mixed farming economy was established (6).
Significant Post-Med Activity:	The rapid growth of Bold was a result of the coal mining industry located in the environs of the main settlement. Previous to this agricultural practices and the management of woodland plantations had dominated the area. Bold Colliery was worked from 1876 until 1986. The three shafts were eventually capped and part of the site levelled. Clock Face Colliery and Bold Ironworks would have also contributed to the local economy. (4)
Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Bold Heath lies south of Clock Face settlement. It is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire, lying southeast of Bold Hall estate. Tibb's Cross and Bold Heath Cross were located within Bold Heath on Prescot and Warrington Road; the latter removed around 1870 (2).
Maps:	Yates W. 1786. Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5). GreenwoodWest Derby Hundred. 1818 (LRO DDPR 144/11). Hennet map of Lancashire. 1830 (LRO). Bold Tithe Map. 1843 (LRO DRL 1/11). 1st Edition 6" OS Lancashire Sheet 108. Surveyed 1846-47. Published 1849.
References:	(1) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester.

(2) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.
(3) English Heritage Scheduled Monument documentation.
(4) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.
(5) North M. 1992. *A Landscape Interpretation of Bold.* University of Liverpool Department of Continuing Education. Liverpool.
(6) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.* Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit

Eccleston

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 49 SE / SJ 49 NE
NGR (centred):	Eccleston Hall SJ 487 949 Springfield SJ 480 961 Springfield Row SJ 495 936 Mill Brook SJ 488 960 Giller's Green SJ 475 948 Portico SJ 483 934 Thatto Heath SJ 496 934 Croppers Hill SJ 502 951
District:	St Helens
Township:	Eccleston
Geology:	The solid geology is Triassic sandstones and pebble beds. Overlying drift deposits are mainly boulder clay. Areas of carboniferous coal measures lie to the west.
Historic Core:	There is no evidence of a single nucleated settlement at Eccleston. Instead, the area has several potential settlements that have grown and developed. The OS 6" 1st Edition map of 1850 Springfield, Mill Brook, Giller's Green, Portico, Thatto Heath and Croppers Hill.
Origin of Name:	Ecclistona (1190). Settlement around a church. From Latin *ecclesia* and Old English *tun.* Eccliston (1220) Accliston (1243) and Ecleston (1246) (1; 2) The first element suggests Celtic settlement (1).
Topography:	Eccleston lies on an undulating landscape that rises to a peak at Eccleston Hill towards the southern end of the township. Stretches of mossland used to exist in some parts of Eccleston, but were drained during the post-medieval period.
History:	The first Lord of Eccleston was Hugh de Eccleston, a benefactor of Cockersand Abbey, around 1200 whose family continued to hold manors until the eighteenth century. In 1742 the estates passed to Basil Thomas Scarisbrick, taking Eccleston as his surname. The manor passed from the Scaribricks in 1892 to the Taylors of Moston. Originally part of the parish of Prescot. (3)
Present Landmarks:	The core of the present Scholes Hall structure probably dates to the medieval period with a mix of fifteenth to twentieth architectural styles. Archaeological investigations by National Museums Liverpool Field Archaeology Unit in 2004 took place on land

surrounding the hall revealed little evidence for in situ archaeological deposits probably destroyed during building work in the 1970/80s. However, one deep pit, function unknown, was excavated containing quantities of sixteenth and seventeenth century ceramics and animal bone. A possible domestic building dating from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century was also discovered (4).

Portico Chapel (1856), located in Portico settlement, was originally built in the 1780s by Father Nicholas Sewell to accommodate the growing numbers of worshippers at Scholes Hall. Now known as 'Our Lady, Help of Christians'. (5)

Scholes House (1681) converted friary now used as house. Red sandstone building. (5)

Historic Landmarks:

Eccleston Hall (1374) was the manorial home of the Eccleston family. The hall was rebuilt at least twice. Excavations carried out on the site in 1991 and 1995 produced significant archaeological remains including traces of stone-built wall, ditches, pits, postholes and occupational layers. A number of deposits dated to the Early Post Medieval period, consistent with early occupation of the manor. Sherds of late medieval pottery and medieval features were also recorded. Further excavations took place in 1995 where evidence of a moat was discovered. (6; 7; 8)

Scholes Hall (late twelfth century), but may have been occupied earlier since Scholes derives from the Viking word meaning shed for housing pasture animals. Ownership and occupancy of the hall passed through several families. A seventeenth century shrine and eighteenth were also located at the hall site. (5)

Eccleston Hill School (1684). The school was founded by Robert Kenwick in 1597, but did not obtain a building for nearly ninety years. It was discontinued by 1770 and then re-opened in 1828 only to be closed once again in 1877. Many of the buildings on the site were demolished in 1975. A burial ground and chapel were also associated with this site (3).

Eccleston Cross once stood in the schoolyard at Eccleston Hill School. (5)

Early Activity:

There is scant evidence for settlement in Eccleston during the Prehistoric and Roman period. There is reference to two mounds in the vicinity of Burying Hill, near Eccleston Hall. It is doubtful that they are '…the graves of Roman soldiers…' (9), instead they are more likely to be burial mounds of the mid - late prehistoric period. No evidence of mounds exists today due to partial development of the site. Chance discoveries include two perforated stone implements.

Significant Post-Med Activity: No major industry developed in Eccleston during the medieval period; instead the agricultural economy

provided for local needs until the mid nineteenth century when a number of small scale industries became established. These included a colliery at Gillar's Green, a pottery near Prescot, copper smelting at Green Bank (from 1770 to 1815) and a cotton mill established in 1784, but was discontinued by 1840. Glass, watchmakers' tools and mineral waters were also manufactured within Eccleston township.

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Springfield is named and depicted on Yates's (1786) and Greenwood(1818) historical maps of Lancashire.
	Mill Brook is only clearly named and depicted on Greenwood (1818) historical map of Lancashire.
	Giller's Green is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire.
	Portico is named and depicted on Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire but only shown as a cluster on Yates's (1786) map.
	Thatto Heath is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire. The placename derives from Old English meaning 'fountain, water-pipe and conduit' with 'Heath' added at a later stage (Thetwall twelfth century, Thattow Heath 1786) (1).
	Croppers Hill only named and depicted on Hennet (1830) map, not clearly shown on Yates's (1786) and Greenwood(1818) historical maps of Lancashire.
Maps:	Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5) Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11). Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO) Eccleston Tithe Map 1840 (LRO DRL 1/24) 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 107. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850. 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 100. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.
References:	(1) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London. (2) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester.

(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.

(4) Ahmad C. and Adams M. 2004. *An Archaeological Evaluation at Scholes Hall, St Helens*. Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Unit. Liverpool.

(5) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.

(6) Grove J., R.A. Philpott and Nicholson S. 1995. *An Interim Report on Excavations at Eccleston Hall, Eccleston, St Helens*. Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Section. Liverpool.

(7) Philpott R.A. and Irvine J. 1991 *An Archaeological Site Evaluation at Eccleston Hall, Eccleston, St Helens.* Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Section. Liverpool.

(8) Martin A.L. 2000. *Archaeological Excavation at Eccleston Hall, St Helens, Merseyside.* Gifford and Partners. Chester.

(9) Free F.W. 1979. *Our Heritage in Eccleston and District.*

Haydock

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 59 NW / SJ 59 NE
NGR (centred):	SJ 561 969 (north) SJ 559 967 (south) SJ 572 975
District:	St Helens
Township:	Haydock
Geology:	The solid geology is coal measures sandstone overlain by drift deposits of boulder clay.
Historic Core:	According to the OS 6" 1st Edition map, the main historic core of Haydock appears to have been based at Haydock Town and Old Boston. Linear settlement development also exisits between Haydock Green and Old Boston. Haydock Green is named and depicted on Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) maps. Only the township of Haydock is named on Hennet map (1830) but continues to show the historic core.
Origin of Name:	Hedoc (1169). Place where barley is grown (1; 2). From the Welsh *Heiddiog* (2). Heddoch (1170), Haidoc (1212) and Heydock (1508) (2).
Topography:	Lies on relatively low-lying ground that gradually rises northwards.
History:	Originally part of the parish of Wigan, the manor of Haydock was granted to Orm de Haydock in 1168. The manor was passed down and held in two portions between Hugh and William Haydock in 1212. By 1461 the land had passed to the Duke of Exeter and was therefore in the possession of the Crown. By the fifteenth century, the de Haydock's land had passed to the Leghs of Lyme who kept hold until the nineteenth century. (3)
Present Landmarks:	Present landmarks outside the historic core include: Sankey (St Helens) canal was constructed between 1755-57 and was Britain's first industrial canal. It was abandoned during the mid twentieth century. (4) Haydock Park and Racecourse had its inaugural National Hunt meeting in 1899. During World War II the racecourse was used for storage by the USAAF, who were associated with the RAF base at Burtonwood. (4)
Historic Landmarks:	The fifteenth century moated site, Peel Hall or the Pele of Haydock, lay just on the northern outer limits of the core and also belonged to the Legh family. The site was demolished and the field named Peel Hall

meadow. The moat is not visible due to a building development. (4)

Sir Peter Legh acquired Haydock Hall from the Duke of Exeter in 1461. Previous to this, Hugh de Haydock supposedly lived there in the thirteenth century. The hall is located on the southern outer limits of the core. The manor house and moat were destroyed sometime before the mid-eighteenth century. (4)

Bruche Hall, a moated site south of Haydock Green, is first known from the Legh survey of 1466. By 1602 the property was sold to Peter Legh of Lyme whose family held it until the late nineteenth century. The hall was demolished by 1896 and is now lies under five metres of spoil. The moat has been destroyed (5).

Haydock Lodge was thought to be of considerable antiquity. It was at one time used as an army barracks and lunatic asylum. (4)

Early Activity:
Evidence for Prehistoric activity in the area is scarce. A perforated stone hammer represents the only discovery from this period in Haydock. Poor drainage and heavy soils would have probably discouraged early farming activities and settlement. (4; 6)

The only evidence surviving for the Roman period in this area would be the Roman road running adjacent to Haydock Park linking Warrington to Preston, running through neighbouring Newton-le-Willows. (4; 6)

Significant Post-Med Activity:
The rapid growth of Haydock was a result of the coal mining industry surrounding the town. Previous to this the area had been dominated by agricultural practices. Haydock colliery (now built over) and numerous other coal pits were located on the outer fringes. The success of such an industry relied, in part, on the Sankey Canal that provided access to coalfields in St Helens and saltworks in Cheshire and Liverpool. Haydock railway, now disused, and other wagon ways assisted in servicing the collieries. (4; 7)

Maps:
Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5)
Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11).
Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO).
Haydock Tithe Map 1839 (LRO DRL 1/34).
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 101, published 1849 (surveyed 1845-46).

References:
(1) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London.
(2) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester.
(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1911. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Four.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.

(4) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.

(5) Lewis, J. M. 2000. *The Medieval Earthworks of the Hundred of West Derby: Tenurial Evidence and Physical Structure.* British Archaeological Reports. British Series Volume 310. Oxford.

(6) Cowell R.W. and Philpott. R.A. 2000. *Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval Settlement in Lowland North West England.* National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside. Liverpool.

(7) University of Manchester Archaeological Unit. 1996 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of Yew Tree Trading Estate, Haydock, Merseyside*. University of Manchester Archaeological Unit. Manchester.

Newton-le-Willows

Urban/Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 50 SE / SJ 50 NE
NGR (centred):	SJ 590 957 (west) SJ 578 958 (east) SJ 593 953
District:	St Helens
Township:	Newton le Willows / in Makerfield
Geology:	Solid geology is mainly pebble beds of Sherwood Sandstone Series, overlain with boulder clay drift deposits.
Historic Core:	Unlike other townships in the St Helens district that developed from dispersed settlements, Newton Le Willows developed as a medieval market town that was focused on a typical linear 'High Street' plan. The Mill Lane area east of Church Green may have been a late medieval expansion of the settlement, which may have resulted from pressure for land within the settlement. The fact that the burgage plots were significantly smaller in the area around Church Green (1) may have been the result of this pressure, resulting in subdivision or creation of smaller plots. The next expansion of the settlement occurred during the early post medieval period, to the west of the High Street and branched as far west to what is now known as Crow Lane West. The economy was agricultural with market associated commodities. There was little change to the population size and the settlement extent until the mid-eighteenth century. Prior to this period Newton was made up of just 36 dwellings, by 1825 there were as many as 275 dwellings. This population increase resulted from its geographical proximity to St Helens, which at this point in time was rapidly developing coal, glass and chemical industry in line with the Port of Liverpool's demand for such commodities. The settlement continued to grow throughout the nineteenth century as part of the overall industrial growth in St Helens, aided by the arrival of the North Western Railway Viaduct works in 1853 and associated workers village consisting of 200 cottages. The arrival of the Junction Railway Works in 1854 resulted in the construction of a further 600 cottages in the Vulcan village area of modern Wargrave. (1)
Origin of Name:	The place name evidence in general suggests that Newton equates to a new settlement or upgraded

settlement in an old British area. The earliest form of the name dates to the Domesday Book: Neweton (2), Neuton Macreffeld 1257, Neuton in Makerfield 1318. Newton (OE) 'Niwe tun' meaning new town (3). The 'Maker' element of Makerfield may be of Old British origin identical to the Welsh word 'magwyr' meaning wall or ruin. (4)

Topography:	Gentle undulating land.
History:	During the eleventh century Newton was head of a pre-conquest hundred and was known as Newton in Makerfield. It retained this name until the nineteenth century, from which it began to be known as Newton le Willows. During the eleventh century Newton also formed part of the royal demesne of the area between the rivers Ribble and Mersey, which was held by King Edward the Confessor. The scheduled monument known as Castle Hill, which amongst other things has been described as the remains of a motte and bailey castle, may have been the administrative centre for this pre-conquest hundred. A long linear field boundary west of the castle site on a north-west – south-east trajectory, visible on the estate survey of 1745 does not correspond with other field boundaries so may be the remains of an early field system associated to the castle. This gives some credence to the belief by some that the earliest settlement may have been focused near the castle (1). Further evidence for this comes from the 'den' element of the medieval reference to Rokerden chapel of Newton (1). Castle Hill is situated at the edge of the Dean valley, and the similarity of 'Dean' and 'Den' has provoked such thinking. However, the earliest known settlement core of the Newton was concentrated on the modern day High Street, which had become a seigniorial borough by the fourteenth century. The original borough charter was lost so the exact date of when it was granted is not known. At least by 1341 the administrative centre had shifted to Newton Hall situated south of the High Street, were Rob de Langton had been given licence to crenellate the hall (1). By the fourteenth century Newton Township was incorporated into the Winwick Hundred. The earliest documented Lord of Makerfield was Roger de Poitou (2). The Demesne lands then passed on to the Banestre's by the thirteenth century, Langton's fourteenth century, and Fleetwoods until it was eventually purchased by Richard Legh 1660.
Present Landmarks	Some features of medieval character survive and are still evident in the landscape such as the graveyard south of St Peter's Church and the stocks situated

outside the curtilage of the church also the highways of the High Street, Crow Lane East, and Rob Lane. Castle Hill, Scheduled Monument, is the earliest known landmark in Newton le Willows, with evidence to suggest occupation during the Bronze Age Period and re-use during the Medieval Period. Newton le Willows retains much of its post medieval character such as the thatched roofed and cruck-framed Macbeth Cottages on Crow Lane East; cruck-framed houses at 158 and 160 High Street; Holly House Farm, which was a Tan house and named Tan House Farm on the 1st Ed. OS Map. Industrial period is represented by Randall Market Archway, railway viaduct, Newton Lake and its dam, and the conservation area Willow Park.

Historic Landmarks:	Newton Hall was archaeologically evaluated in 1991, which confirmed the remains to date to seventeenth century. There was also evidence to suggest the hall overlay an earlier medieval structure. Burgage Plots dating to the Medieval Period, which were documented in the Legh Survey 1465 and still visible on the 1745 Estate Survey. Newton Mill situated in close proximity to Newton Hall.
Early Activity:	Evidence for prehistoric activity in the area of Newton in Makerfield is relatively scarce but what is known is significantly important and suggestive of a landscape that earmarked for ritual activity during the Bronze Age. Castle Hill site is believed to be a Bronze Age barrow, which had a later motte and bailey constructed on top of it. Another prehistoric barrow site in Newton in Makerfield Township is located in the area of Newton Common. There are two other Bronze Age sites both in close proximity to each other and located between the M6 motorway and Barrow Lane. The only known Neolithic find in the township; was a polished stone axe found in close proximity to the Roman road near Vulcan workers village. (5)
Significant Post-Med Activity:	Agricultural up to the onset of the Industrial Revolution. Enclosure of field systems mainly took place during the eighteenth century and was mainly single phase enclosure. Main industry that came to Newton in Makerfield area were the North Western Railway Viaduct works in 1853, Junction Railway Works in 1854, the Vitriol Works and Vulcan Foundry both mid nineteenth century.

Other potential settlements
identified within township
which may need further identified

Maps:	Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5)

Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11).
Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO).
Newton Tithe Map 1839 (LRO DRL 1/56).
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 101/108. Surveyed 1845-46. Published 1848.

References:

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(2) Williams Dr. A. and Martin Prof. G.H. (Eds) 1992. *Domesday Book: A Complete Translation.*
(3) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London.
(4) Eckwall E. 1922. The Place names of Lancashire. Chetham Society. Manchester.
(5) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.

Parr

Rural Fringe Report: Yes

OS Map Sheet: SJ 59 NW / SJ 50 SW

NGR: (west) SJ 527 951 (east) 540 952
Laffak (centred) SJ 527 972

District: St Helens

Township: Parr

Geology: The solid geology is carboniferous coal measures overlain by boulder clay.

Historic Core: According to the OS 6" 1st Edition map, the main historic core of Parr appears to have developed mainly around the area of Parr Stocks, Broad Oak and Ashton's Green. Parr township is named on Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) maps, showing dispersed settlement along the historic core. Yates's (1786) map names Parr Stocks and Broad Oak in addition to illustrating the settlement cluster.

Origin of Name: Par (1246). Parish or stock enclosure (1; 2). From Old English *pear* or Old High German *pharra* (2). Parre (1298), Paar (1332) (1; 2).

Topography: Lies on relatively low-lying ground within Sankey Valley with the exception of Derbyshire Hill which present day Parr surrounds. Sankey Brook divides the township in half. Parr Moss lies to the south-east.

History: Originally part of Prescot parish, the manor of Parr was formerly held by the Gernet family, and then by the Dacres. An inferior manor was later formed which was held by the Lathoms and Stanleys in succession. By the thirteenth century, the manor was held in moiety (in half) by the Halsall and Parr families. No claim to the manor was made in the sixteenth century. (3)

Present Landmarks: Sankey (St Helens) canal, just north of the village, was constructed between 1755-57 and was Britain's first industrial canal. It was abandoned during the mid-twentieth century. (4)

Historic Landmarks: Parr Hall, located north of the historic core, had been owned by the Parre family, barons of Kendal and lords of the manor. Queen Katherine Parr, last wife of Henry the VIII was a descendent of this family. By the early seventeenth century the manor was passed to the Byrom family, and then to the Orrell family of Blackbrook House, by 1680 (3). Parr Hall Farm stood

on the original Parr Hall site until it was demolished in 1965. The site now lies under a housing estate. (4) Parr Mill watermill (medieval). (4).

Early Activity: Pollen analysis of samples from Parr Moss indicates only very marginal clearance of the area in the prehistoric period. An Early Bronze Age stone axe with a perforated socket was found to the west of Parr. The pollen evidence from Parr Moss suggests that clearance was intensified during the Roman occupation. One Roman coin was found from the Sankey Brook. Much of the woodland was cleared by the thirteenth century when a full mixed farming economy was established (5).

Significant Post-Med Activity: Parr appears to have developed from the growth of two main industries. A number of chemical works and collieries became well established during the nineteenth century including Parr Alkali Works and Ashton's Green and Broad Oak collieries. The success of such industries relied, in part, on the Sankey Canal that provided access to coalfields in St Helens and saltworks in Cheshire and Liverpool. There were also a number of railways servicing the collieries. St Helens Flint Glass Works was also in operation. (4)

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation: Laffog/Laffak, a medieval vill whose name refers to 'law-oak' or an oak tree which was the assembly point for a district. The placename derives from Old Norse 'lagr' and Old English 'ac', Lachok (1246), Laghoc (1271) (5; 6). It is not clear if Laffak is depicted on Yate's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps due to it not being named and small scale. Laffack Colliery and associated wagonway were in operation during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Maps: Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5)
Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11)
Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO)
Parr Tithe Map 1843 (LRO DRL 1/61)
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 101, published 1849 (surveyed 1845-46)
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 108, published 1849 (surveyed 1846-47)

References: (1) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London.
(2) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester.

(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.
(4) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.
(5) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.* Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.

Rainford

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SD 40 SE
NGR (centred):	SD 478 009 (north) SD 476 010 (south) SD 479 003 and extending (east) SD 481 009 Crank (centred) SJ 504 997)
District:	St Helens
Township:	Rainford
Geology:	Shirdley Hill Sands and boulder clay overlie areas of carboniferous coal measures. Areas of peat exist to the west and east.
Historic Core:	The OS 6" 1st Edition map of 1850 indicates that the historic core lay at the junction of 'Johnson's Brow', 'Cross Pit Lane' and 'Chapel Lane'. Rainford village is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps.
Origin of Name:	Raineford (1198) (1; 2). The ford of Regna (2). From the Old English personal name Regna and ford (2). Reineford (1202), Rayneford (1256) and Raynsford (1503) (2; 3).
Topography:	Relatively flat land with land to the north and east gently rising towards Skelmersdale and Billlinge. Heavily built-up town centre surrounded by cultivated land.
History:	Robert de Lathom held Rainford, part of Prescot parish, in 1324 where it descended from the Lathoms to their heirs the Stanleys. The 'manor' of Rainford was held by Cockersand Abbey at the Dissolution (3). The Earl of Derby became lord of the manor (4). The settlement along Chapel Lane (now Church Road) is thought to be medieval in origin, although the surviving structures within the village core are mainly post-medieval. Rainford depicted as a village from 1786 on Yates's map (1786). The village centre expanded during the nineteenth century due to the clay pipe industry, Rainford Potteries (5) and the exploitation of local coal deposits. Previous to this, the local economy had relied heavily on agriculture.
Present Landmarks:	The moated site of Mossborough Hall (Scheduled Monument) and Rainford Hall are located to the south-west and south-east outside Rainford village (6).

Church of All Saints (1878) lies on the site of the Ancient Chapel established in 1577 (7).

The Eagle and Child and Golden Lion public houses date to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries respectively, although some alteration has taken place to the latter. (6).

Village stocks survive from the eighteenth century.

All of these sites lie within the historic core. (6)

Historic Landmarks:
'Raynford' Chapel named on Saxton's map (1577) and on later seventeenth- and eighteenth-century maps.

Early Activity:
Palaeoenvironmental remains from pollen core revealed Late Glacial stratified deposits adjacent to Rainford Brook. Isolated prehistoric flint finds have been recovered in the surrounding environs of Rainford (8).

Significant Post-Med Activity:
Several clay pipe workshops and kilns were located at Rainford village and its environs, as well as pottery works. Between 1650 and 1750 over 48 pipe makers were recorded in the Rainford Parish Registers and local wills. Excavations were carried out in the late 1970s by The University of Liverpool who located a seventeenth century clay tobacco kiln group kiln and contemporary kiln dump. (9)

Numerous sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century farmsteads/cottages also lie within the town core. (6)

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:
Crank – no significant clusters of buildings on earlier maps, but present day Crank has evolved into small village, north of Rainford Hall.

Maps:
Saxton 1577 Map of Lancashire (LRO).
Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5)
Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11)
Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO).
Rainford Tithe Map 1841 (LRO DRL 1/66).
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 100. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.

References:
(1) Mills D. 1976. The Place Names of Lancashire. Batsford. London.
(2) Eckwall E. 1922. The Place names of Lancashire. Chetham Society. Manchester.
(3) Farrer W. 1909. The Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey. Vol. III Part 3.

(4) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three. Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.
(5) Pope F.R. 1978. A Survey of Farms in Rainford.
(6) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.
(7) Pevsner, N. 1969. The Buildings of England: South Lancashire. Penguin. Harmondsworth.
(8) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside. Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.
(9) Ahmad C. 2004. An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of a Proposed Golf Course at Pottery Farm, Mill Lane, Rainford. Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Unit. Liverpool.

Rainhill

Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 49 SE / SJ 59 SW
NGR (centred):	SJ 492 913 Rainhill Stoops SJ 501 900
District:	St Helens
Township:	Rainhill
Geology:	The solid geology is Permo-Triassic red sandstones and pebble beds. These outcrop at the surface in some areas. Overlying drift deposits consist mainly of boulder clay, with some areas of glacial sand and gravel in the west of the township.
Historic Core:	The OS 6" 1st Edition map of 1850 depicts the historic core of Rainhill centred at Kendrick's Cross, a main four-way junction (originally a turnpike road) adjacent to Rainhill Iron Works and the Liverpool to Warrington railway line. The settlement does appear on Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire but only on Yates's (1786) map is the full four-way junction depicted.
Origin of Name:	Reynhull (1246) (1; 2). Regna's Hill (1) or the hill where there is a boundary strip (2). From Old Norse 'reinn' and Old English *hyll* or Old English personal name Regna and *hyll*. Raynull (1258), Raynhull (1285) and Raynhill (1400) (1; 2).
Topography:	As the name indicates, Rainhill lies on an area of high ground reaching a peak at Blundell's Hill to the southwest.
History:	Originally part of the parish of Prescot, the subordinate manor of Rainhill was held by the Lords of Eccleston in the early medieval period. Between 1220 and 1230 Roger de Rainhill became under tenant of the manor. The manor was then passed down in two portions, one of which passing to the Molyneux family through marriage. By the fourteenth century, one portion had passed to the Lancaster family who held it for four centuries. The second moiety passed originally from the Windles to the Brindles, and then to the Gerards until the sixteenth century. By 1565, Henry Eccleston had bought the manor before the heirs of Hugh Lee or Ley became lords of the manor in 1629. (3)

Present Landmarks:	Church of St Anne (1837) Red sandstone building in Georgian style. (4)
	The Church School (1840) is located in the grounds of the church (4).
	The Liverpool to Warrington railway still exists as a main train route running through Rainhill. The present station building was built in the 1870s. (5) Both sites lie within the historic core.
	The Old Farmhouse (medieval) is built of sandstone and brick, and was originally moated (6).
	Manor Farmhouse (1662) may have fourteenth-century origins. It is sandstone-building, and was held by the Chorley family in the seventeenth century. (5).
	Stone Cross at Mill Lane, Blundells Hill (base medieval, cross modern) (5).
Historic Landmarks:	Rainhill Hall farm estate stood west of Rainhill Stoops. The estate belonged to the Lancaster family from the seventeenth century until 1805 when it passed through marriage to the Fleetwoods, then to James Beaumont in 1877. It was then sold to Mary Stapleton-Bretherton in 1881. Part of the estate had originally been made up of the Hall, L-shaped in plan, a gatehouse, cruck framed barn and various other farm buildings. Part of the moat survives (Scheduled Monument). An archaeological evaluation carried out in 1996 concluded that the moat might not have entirely surrounded the medieval hall site. (7)
Early Activity:	Prehistoric activity is scarce in the Rainhill area, as settlement near the neighbouring mosslands was deemed more favourable (8).
	Few finds dating from the Romano-British period have been discovered in Rainhill. An isolated coin was found near the centre of Rainhill village at Kendrick's Cross (5). A significant pottery scatter from this period was found on the south-facing slopes of the ridge south of the Rainhill (9).
Significant Post-Med Activity:	Up until the nineteenth century Rainhill village had largely been an agricultural community. The construction of the Liverpool to Warrington railway in the 1820s saw Rainhill become a main station on route, thus helping the village's growth. The Rainhill 'Skew' Bridge, built in 1829, was possibly the first of its kind having been constructed at an angle. The famous Locomotive Trials took place at Rainhill where most notably George Stephenson's 'Rocket' was declared the winner.
	Thomas Moore and Company, glass bottle manufactures, established in 1828 at Kendricks Cross. Mellings' Iron Foundry established in 1840s to share in locomotive repair work for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company until 1870 when foundry

was dismantled. John Roby set up a brass foundry in the 1850s adjacent to Melling's foundry. He built the first industrial cottages in Rainhill for his workmen. John Melling's son had established the Rainhill Gas and Water Works by 1870. He originally supplied the Railway Company with gas and later water and gas to the whole of the township (10).

Rainhill was also made famous for file cutters and watch-toolmakers in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and red sandstone quarries in the outer vicinity of the settlement (10).

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Rainhill Stoops a smaller hamlet, lies at a main junction to the southeast. It is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire. Rainhill Stoops (1786) had the Old Norse word 'staup' added meaning 'steep, declivity, precipice' (2), or was possibly named after the stocks, or stoops, which stood at the open space of intersecting roads.
Maps:	Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5). Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11). Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO). Rainhill Tithe Map 1843 (LRO DRL 1/77). 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 107. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.

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(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.
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(5) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.
(6) Lewis, J. M. 2000. *The Medieval Earthworks of the Hundred of West Derby: Tenurial Evidence and Physical Structure.* British Archaeological Reports. British Series Volume 310. Oxford.
(7) Fletcher M. 1996. *Rainhill Hall Farm, St Helens, Merseyside Archaeological Evaluation, North West Archaeological Surveys Report Number 6.*
(8) Cowell R.W. and Philpott. R.A. 2000. *Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval Settlement in Lowland North West England.* National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside. Liverpool.

(9) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.* Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.

(10) Dickinson R. and F. 1968. *The Story Of Rainhill.*

St Helens

Urban/Rural Fringe Report:	Yes, but only as St Helens in the context of a general area.
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 49 NE / SJ 59 NW / SJ 49 SE / SJ 59 SW
NGR (centred):	SJ 513 952 Hardshaw in Windle SJ 510 956
District:	St Helens
Township:	Eccleston, Parr, Sutton, and Windle
Geology:	The solid geology consists of carboniferous coal measures, which in parts outcrop to surface level. Drift geology mainly consists of boulder clay but also some pockets of Shirdley Hill Sands.
Historic Core:	Centred on the St Helen's Chapel of Ease on modern day Church Street. St Helens chapel originally dates to the fourteenth century, and is named and marked on Saxton's Map of 1577. It is not until Yates's Map of 1786 that a hamlet and chapel is depicted. However, by the 1st Edition OS 6" map of 1849, St Helens had developed into a small town still centred on Church Street but also running east to Parr Street and west to Eccleston Street and south to the Ravenhead Glass Works and as far north as Hardshaw in Windle, off College Lane.
Origin of Name:	St Helens name is from the dedication of the chapel of ease the town grew up around (1; 2). By the fourteenth century the chapel was called St Elyn, and by the seventeenth century it had changed to St Ellen. (3)
Topography:	Generally flat land.
History:	Originally a small hamlet centred on a chapel of ease at on a highway at the boundaries of four townships: Eccleston, Parr, Sutton and, Windle (1). The economy of the area was predominantly agricultural supplemented with small cottage type industries such as mining, nail making, comb making and brewing. At the onset of the industrial revolution the economy of the town changed to that of a predominant industrial nature. This was not a result of a gradual industrialisation of the cottage-based industries but a result of it is geographical position; being in close proximity to the Rivers Mersey and Weaver, and the type of raw materials at hand: coal, fireclay and serviceable sand. The port of Liverpool was expanding at a rapid rate throughout the industrial revolution and the salt making industry swapped wood to coal as the

basic fuel. The natural raw materials in the region of St Helens attracted coal mining and glass making industries to the area, and to aid the industry the turnpike roads were built and extended during the mid-eighteenth century as was the Sankey canal, which constructed to ship coal to Cheshire and coal and glass to Liverpool. (1)

The first glasshouse in the St Helens area was built 1725 in the Thatto Heath area. The coal industry was established by the middle of the eighteenth century. The improved transport network further attracted other furnace industries, such as copper working and chemical works. The combined industries established in St Helens resulted in a rapid increase in population. St Helens by 1850 had become a small town based on the success of its industry and the resulting amalgamation of St Helens Canal and Railway in 1845. (1; 3)

Present Landmarks: The seventeenth century Friends Meeting House on Church Street is apparently the oldest building in St Helens town; nineteenth century St Helens Parish Church on Church Street, on site of original St Helens Chapel; Glass Cone, south of Chalon Way Car Park; nineteenth century public house called The Bank on Hardshaw Street; early twentieth century statue of Queen Victoria; nineteenth century Holy Cross RC Church and Beecham Factory. (3)

Historic Landmarks: Medieval site of St Helens Chapel of Ease, now the site of St Helens Parish Church; mid-nineteenth century Town Hall, now the site of the Market Hall. (3)

Early Activity: There is little known evidence for Prehistoric activity around the town. There is only one chance find of a Bronze Age perforated stone artefact found at the corner of Corporation Street and Hall Street. (3; 4) Medieval activity centred on St Helens Chapel of Ease and clusters of farmsteads. (3)

Significant Post-Med Activity: The economy of St Helens was predominantly agricultural and supplemented by cottage based industry until the beginning of the industrial revolution. Its natural resources and its location attracted glass, foundry and chemical industry, which resulted in a population boom, and by the 1st Edition OS maps, St Helens had developed into a small town which possibly tripled again in size by the end the nineteenth century. Ravenhead Glass Works opened as early as 1688, becoming the first English plate-works, the largest industrial building of its day (5). The extension of the Turnpike in 1746 and the Sankey Navigation in 1762 brought further heavy industry to St Helens, which was further complimented by the coming of the railways in

the mid-nineteenth century. Large and famous works grew up in the St Helens central area such as Pilkingtons (6) and Patent Alkali Works. (3; 5)

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Hardshaw in Windle, an early hamlet that was the first settlement to be incorporated into St Helens settlement.

Maps:

Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5).
Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11).
Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO)
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 100. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 101. Surveyed 1845-46. Published 1849.
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 107. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.
1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 108. Surveyed 1845-46. Published 1849.

References:

(1) Barker T.C. and Harris J.R., 1993. *A Merseyside Town in the Industrial Revolution: St Helens 1750-1900.* Frank Cass & Co. Limited. London.
(2) Eckwall, E., 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire.* Chetham Society. Manchester.
(3) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.
(4) Cowell R.W. and Philpott. R.A., 2000. *Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval Settlement in Lowland North West England.* National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside. Liverpool.
(5) Crosby A. 1998. *A History of Lancashire.* Phillimore. Chichester.
(6) Kruper M. and Heawood R., 2002. 'The Hotties': Excavation and Building Survey at Pilkingtons. No. 9 Tank House, St Helens Merseyside. Oxford Archaeology North. Lancaster

Sutton

Urban/Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 49 SE / SJ 59 SW
NGR:	Peasley's Cross (north) SJ 522 939 (south) SJ 519 928 Marshall's Cross (centred) SJ 519 924 Ravenhead (centred) SJ 498 940 Sutton Manor (centred) SJ 509 912 Worsley's Brow (centred) SJ 531 938
District:	St Helens
Township:	Sutton
Geology:	The solid geology comprises of carboniferous coal measures overlain by drift deposits of boulder clay. Sutton Moss lies to the northeast, part of Parr Moss.
Historic Core:	Like other townships within St Helens, Sutton's settlement pattern tended to centre on dispersed holdings rather than one historic core. By the early fourteenth century Sutton township was extensively sub-divided and contained a cluster of separate estates such as Eltonhead, Burtonhead, Ravenhead, Sherdley and Micklehead ('-head' denoting edges of higher land on west and south) (1; 2). The OS 6" 1st Edition map depicts dispersed settlement along the main road (between Peasley's Cross and Marshall's Cross) dividing Sherdley Park estate and piecemeal enclosed agricultural land to the east where modern day Sutton now lies. This area became built up as a result of the copper/glass workings and associated workers cottages located there. Peasley's Cross, Marshall's Cross, Ravenhead, and Sutton Manor have also developed from small hamlets centred on a junction, often with associated industries close by.
Origin of Name:	Sutton (1200). South Town (1). From Old English *sūp tūn* (1). No variations of the spelling are recorded.
Topography:	Lies on relatively low-lying, slightly undulating ground that gradually rises towards the west.
History:	Originally part of the parish of Prescot, the manor of Sutton was part of the Forest of Eyre in 1336. In 1294, a royal charter granted the manor to Henry and Margaret de Lacy. The manor remained in the de Lacy family throughout the medieval period (3).
Present Landmarks:	St Anne's, or Santon's, (Scheduled Monument) a medieval holy well. A square sunken basin that would

have been filled with water believed to have healing powers (4).

Eltonhead Hall Farm is a rare surviving example demonstrating the nature of continuous farming activities since the seventeenth century (4).

Sherdley Hall Farm probably dates before 1560 and was owned by the Byrom family at 1560. The farmhouse, dated to 1671, was sold to the Bold family by the Sherdley's in the sixteenth century. The Roughley's bought the land in the seventeenth century, and by 1798 Michael Hughes had bought the estate whose family held onto it until the twentieth century (4). Two sites of local/national importance were located southwest of Marshall's Cross (4).

St Michael's House or Micklehead moated site (Scheduled Monument), possibly dates from as early as the fourteenth century and was rebuilt in the seventeenth century with later additions, then demolished in 1961. Archaeological work was carried out at St Michael's House in 1993. No evidence was discovered to suggest that the moat or any associated features dated before the eighteenth/nineteenth century. It was concluded, however, that the moat may have been cut during the medieval period but was kept silt free (5; 6).

Sutton Hall is first documented in the thirteenth century. The Holland family acquired land from John de Sutton in 1280 and the hall probably formed part of a medieval estate. The present buildings consist of a probable early seventeenth century brick farmhouse together with twentieth century buildings (4).

Historic Landmarks:	Archaeological excavations at Big Lea Green Farm in 2002 proved that this site was not moated site as previously thought. Ceramic evidence established that the farm had origins much earlier than the eighteenth century brick barn, possibly dating from as least the fourteenth century (7; 8).
Early Activity:	Pollen analysis of samples from Parr Moss indicates only very marginal clearance of the area in the prehistoric period, possibly as late as the Bronze Age. (9) A cluster of Romano-British rural farm sites were discovered at Tarbock, Ditton and Halewood (10), southwest of Sutton. Roads linked main settlements at Wigan and Wilderspool, near Warrington. The heavy clays and mosses of Sutton probably proved to be less attractive to settlers.
Significant Post-Med Activity:	The rapid and planned enclosure of woods and mosses took place during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Several industries had become well established around Sutton by the nineteenth century. The coal mining industry had several main collieries located at Sutton Heath, Nutgrove, Eltonhead, Lea Green, Greengate, Ravenhead and Sherdley. The chemical industry had works situated at Sutton, Brook and Hardshaw. Extensive archaeological research took place at 'The Hotties' (Scheduled Monument), part of Pilkingtons works; a purpose built tank house built in 1887 for the manufacture of window glass. The site had previously been used as a coal mine pit head and chemical works, and now a museum (11).

Cannington Shaw Bottle Shop (Scheduled Monument) located at Sherdley Works is 'the best surviving example in Britain of a tank furnace glass shop…' Built *c.*1886, it became a store in 1918 and was used as an air raid shelter during the Second World War (4).

Other industries in Sutton included plate-glass works at Ravenhead established in 1773, Sutton Copper and Glass works and Marshall's Cross and Sutton potteries (4).

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Peasley's Cross is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire. Marshall's Cross is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood (1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire. Ravenhead is named and depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire. Sutton Manor is not named or clearly depicted on Yates's (1786), Greenwood(1818) and Hennet (1830) historical maps of Lancashire.
Maps:	Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5). Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11). Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO). Sutton Tithe Map 1843 (LRO DRL 1/77). 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 107. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850. 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 108. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.
References:	(1) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester.

(2) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London.

(3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London.

(4) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation.

(5) Gifford and Partners. 1993. *Micklehead Moated Site, Lea Green Road, Sutton, St Helens, Merseyside: Archaeological Evaluation Report.* Chester.

(6) Gifford and Partners. 1994. *Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at Micklehead Moated Site, Lea Green Road, Sutton, St Helens, Merseyside.* Chester.

(7) Philpott R.A. and Griffin S. 1997. *A Desk-Based Assessment of Land at Eltonhead Road, Sutton, St Helens, Merseyside.* Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Unit. Liverpool.

(8) Towle A.C. 2002. *Excavations at Big Lea Green Farm (Interim Report).* Liverpool Museum Field Archaeology Unit. Liverpool.

(9) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.* Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.

(10) Cowell R.W. and Philpott. R.A. 2000. *Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval Settlement in Lowland North West England.* National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside. Liverpool.

(11) Krupa M. and Heawood R. 2002. *'The Hotties' – Excavation and Building Survey at Pilkingtons No.9 Tank House, St Helens, Merseyside.* Oxford Archaeology North. Lancaster.

Windle (Denton's Green)

Urban/Rural Fringe Report:	Yes
OS Map Sheet:	SJ 49 NE / SJ 59 NW
NGR (centred):	Denton's Green SJ 497 965 Hardshaw SJ 509 957 Windleshaw SJ 500 968 Gerard's Bridge SJ 513 962 Cowley Hill SJ 504 959 Harfinch SJ 519 971 Carr Mill SJ 526 977 Moss Bank SJ 517 986
District:	St Helens
Township:	Windle
Geology:	The solid geology is sandstone ridges overlain by areas of Shirdley Hill sands and boulder clay. Large areas of peat lie to north and west.
Historic Core:	Windle does not have one central nucleated settlement, instead several areas expanded at different periods into separate villages or hamlets. The OS 6" 1st Edition map of 1850 indicates that the one such village lay at the junction named 'Denton's Green', adjacent to Cowley Hill and Gerard's Bridge.
Origin of Name:	Windhull (1201). Windy hill (1). From Old English *wind* and *hyll* (1). Windhul (1212), Wyndhill (1272) and Wyndhull (1340) (2).
Topography:	Lies on gently undulating land with occasional steeper rises such as Cowley, Bleak and Windle Hill. The area of Denton's Green is now situated in a built up area on the northern fringes of St Helens, areas of open farmland exist further north.
History:	The manor of Windle, originally part of Prescot parish, was granted to Pain de Vilers, the first baron of Warrington. By the late thirteenth or fourteenth century parts of Windle came into the ownership of several different families including The Windles and Gerards. (3)
Present Landmarks:	Windleshaw Abbey (or Windle Chantry), and Cross (both Scheduled Monuments), founded during the mid fifteenth century by Sir Thomas Gerard on his return from Agincourt. The sacred well dedicated to Sir Thomas was probably reconstructed in the late nineteenth century. Windleshaw chapel is named on

	Yates's map (1786) and on later seventeenth and eighteenth century maps (4).
	Windle Hall, a medieval manor house and associated gardens, has been occupied by the Pilkington family since 1804 (5).
	Victoria Park, gardens and lodge still exist as public open land (4).
Historic Landmarks:	St Monica's RC chapel built in 1734, demolished in 1980. Several eighteenth/nineteenth farms, houses and brewery also existed in the area of Denton's Green. Hardshaw Hall belonged to Travers family from 1330, demolished c. 1840 (3). Pilkington Plate Glass Works and reservoir, established in 1876 is located nearby at Cowley Hill, both outside Denton's Green (4).
Early Activity:	There is limited evidence of early activity in this area (6), the only prehistoric finds being two possible Bronze Age axe heads and a worked flint of uncertain date (4). At present, no pre-medieval finds have been discovered in the area of Denton's Green (4).
Significant Post-Med Activity:	The glass workings at Cowley Hill would have certainly had an effect on the expansion of Denton's Green. Gerard's Bridge pottery also existed in the near vicinity. Collieries were located at Windle Ashes and Bleak Hill.
Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation:	Hardshaw a medieval vill whose name relates to woodland or forest clearing (1).
	Windleshaw a medieval vill whose name relates to woodland or forest clearing (1), also meaning 'copse belonging to Windle' (1).
	Gerard's Bridge was named after local family the Gerard's, and was a main crossing point on the Sankey Navigation (1).
	Cowley Hill
	Harfinch, or Haresfinch, placename etymology doubtful and no certain early forms (1).
	Carr Mill (ON kjarr, 'marsh') (1)
	Moss Bank derives from Old English 'mos'/Old Norse 'mosi' + Old English 'banca'/Old Danish 'banke' meaning ridge by mossland (Mossebanke seventeenth century) (1).

Maps:	Yates W. 1786 Map of Lancashire (LRO DR 179/5). Greenwood 1818 West Derby Hundred (LRO DDPR 144/11). Hennet G. 1830 Map of Lancashire (LRO). Windle Tithe Map 1808 (LRO DRL 1/88). 1st Edition OS 6" Lancashire Sheet 100. Surveyed 1845-47. Published 1850.

References:	(1) Eckwall E. 1922. *The Place names of Lancashire*. Chetham Society. Manchester. (2) Mills D. 1976. *The Place Names of Lancashire.* Batsford. London. (3) Farrer W. and Brownbill J.A. 1907. *The Victoria History of the County Of Lancaster. Volume Three.* Archibald Constable & Company Limited. London. (4) Merseyside Historic Environment Record documentation. (5) Free F.W. (no date for publication). *Our heritage in Windle, St Helens.* (6) Cowell R.W. and Innes J.B. 1994. *North West Wetlands Survey 1: The Wetlands of Merseyside.* Lancaster. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside/Lancaster University Archaeological Unit.

Settlement studies pro-forma key

Rural/ Urban Fringe Report: Refers to inclusion in the 1980's series of reports reviewing the archaeology of Merseyside's rural fringes. Only Wirral had a report covering some urban areas

OS Map Sheet: Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map sheet e.g. SJ28NE

NGR (centred) Current National Grid Reference locator to 6 figures

District: Local authority administrative area i.e. Wirral

Township: Historic township i.e. Barnston

Geology: Solid and drift geology

Historic Core: Where relevant and identifiable from the key historic map source (1st Edition 6" OS map sheet Lancashire or Cheshire). Location by current street names.
Where possible, identification of likely earliest settlement

Origin of Name: Etymological origins for the place name

Topography: Generally within township area

History: General to the township area / historic family ownership ownership in medieval and post-medieval periods.

Present landmarks: Generally some extant sites and areas (in accordance with HER sources)

Historic landmarks: Generally some former sites and areas subsequently developed (from HER sources)

Early Activity: Generally including evidence from the prehistoric to the medieval periods (from HER sources).

Significant Post-Med Activity: Generally including evidence from the post-medieval onwards (from HER sources)

Other potential settlements identified within township which may need further investigation From the key historic map source
(1st Edition 6" OS map sheet Lancashire or Cheshire)

Maps: 1st Edition 6" OS map sheets Lancashire or Cheshire plus any others used or noted

References: Key book/ article /journal and HER sources used.

Merseyside Historic Environment Record date periods

- Mesolithic: 10,000 - 4001 BC

- Neolithic: 4000 - 2,351 BC

- Bronze Age: 2,350 - 751 BC

- Iron Age: 750 BC - 42AD

- Roman: 43-409 AD

- Early Medieval/Dark Age 410-1065 AD

- Medieval 1066 – 1539 AD

- Post-Medieval 1540 – 1750 AD

- Industrial Revolution 1751 – 1900 AD

- (Industrial Revolution I 1751 – 1835 AD)

- (Industrial Revolution II 1836 – 1900 AD)

- Empire 1901 – 1917 AD

- Modern 1901 – 2050 AD

Glossary

Assart – 'Originally an enclosure, but then more particularly a clearing or enclosure in a forest, and more rarely in other waste land. (1)

Assize – 'Royal declarations were called Assizes, and so were judicial proceedings such as The Possessory Assizes. In addition, decisions reached by an assembly were sometimes said to be assized – most commonly in the case of assized rents. (1)

Berewick – 'A subsidiary or outlying estate.' (1)

Bovate – 'A variable measure related to the amount of land an ox could plough in a year and the soil quality.' (1)

Burguage – 'A small field, usually less than half an acre, a short distance from the farmhouse.' (1)

Demesne – 'Land retained by the lord of the manor for his own use and upon which tenants gave free service according to the customs of the manor. Land which was part of the main farm of the manor.' (1)

Domesday/Domesday Survey – The Domesday Book was commissioned by William the Conqueror (invader of England in 1066) and consists of two volumes compiled in 1085/6 registering all taxable land in England. 'The survey was compiled hundred by hundred, vill by vill, within each shire.' (1)

Fee - an estate.

Freehold/Freeland – 'A free tenure and not subject to the custom of the manor or the will of the lord. Its disposal after death was without restriction.'

Hamlet – 'A small village, usually without a church and under the jurisdiction of, and in the same parish as, another village or town.' (1)

Hundred (West Derby) – 'A division of a shire especially important in Saxon and Norman times.' (1)

Manor – 'The land held by a lord.' (1)

Messuage – 'A house, its outbuildings and yard and, in some instances, the garden a well.' (1)

Rood – 'A crucifix; a name generally applied to the large cross at the entrance to the chancel in Roman Catholic churches.' (1)

Rural Fringe Report - reference to the 1980's series of reports reviewing the archaeology of Merseyside's rural fringe, the data gathering and field work for which formed the basis of the Historic Environment Record.

Seigniory – 'A lord's holding of land, usually a manor.' (1)

Thane/Thegn – 'An Old English term for one who was part of the king's household or his military elite.' (1)

Tithe Map– 'Tithe maps were produced, mainly in the period 1838 – 1854, and were drawn to a scale between 13 and 26 inches to the mile.' Accompanied by Tithe Apportionments, or records, under the Tithe Commutation Act 1836 listing the owners and occupiers of land. (1)

Township – 'A vague term denoting a group of houses which formed a unit of local administration. Generally the term was superseded, after the conquest, by *Vill*.' (1)

Vill – 'A settlement which could be a parish, manor or tithing.' (1)

Reference: (1) Richardson J. 1981. *The Local Historian's Encyclopedia.* Historical Publication Limited. Hertfordshire.

Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project
Museum of Liverpool
Pier Head
Liverpool L3 1DG
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