

7 Sefton

7.1 Location and administration

Sefton lies on the eastern shore of the Irish Sea, between the estuaries of the Ribble and Mersey rivers. Extending from Southport in the north as far as the docklands of Bootle, the coastal environment is characterised by a dune landscape that undulates between the wide-ranging tidal reach of a gently sloping shoreline and a hinterland of flat mossland interrupted occasionally by low sand-covered sandstone outcrops.

Towards the south the mosslands are drained by the River Alt and Rimrose Brook but, until agricultural improvements in the 18th and 19th centuries, areas of standing water remained for much of the year (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008)

The borough has a population of more than 282,958 people (Census 2001). Southport lies within the historic county boundaries of Lancashire, and was incorporated as municipal borough in 1866. It became a county borough, independent of the administrative county of Lancashire, in 1915 having reached the minimum 50,000 population, (the 1911 census gave a figure of 51,643). The Birkdale Urban District, including the parishes of Birkdale and Ainsdale was added to Southport in 1912. Bootle was incorporated as a municipal borough in 1868 under the Municipal Corporations Act 1835, and was granted the status of a county borough by the Local Government Act 1888 in 1889, becoming independent from the administrative county of Lancashire.

Under the 1971 Local Government White Paper, presented in February 1971, Southport would have lost its county borough status, becoming a non-metropolitan district within Lancashire. Rather than lose its separate education and social services departments, Southport Corporation lobbied for inclusion in the nearby planned metropolitan county of Merseyside, to join with Bootle and other units to form a district with the 250,000 required population. It was duly included in the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton for which Bootle is the administrative centre.

Sefton Metropolitan Borough was formed in 1974 by the amalgamation of five former local government units, (the County Boroughs of Bootle and Southport, the Municipal Borough of Crosby, and the Urban Districts of Litherland and Formby), together with part of the former Rural District of West Lancashire (the Maghull/Lydiat area in the east of the Borough.)

Since the 1980s there have been arguments to either incorporate Southport into Lancashire or to make it a unitary authority. Attempts to do either of these have failed for various reasons such as the viability of Sefton as an authority without Southport within it or the poor quality maritime links to Lancashire compared to Merseyside, for example.

Sefton was under no overall political control with 27 Liberal Democrat councillors, 21 Labour and 18 Conservative following the 2008 Local Elections, prior to which the situation was very similar.

7.2 Geology and Topography

The underlying solid geology of Sefton is dominated by rocks of Triassic Age, deposited around 240 million years ago. These are largely covered by thick and variable glacial and post-glacial drift deposits, laid down within the last 2 millions years. These have given rise to valuable soils that are intensively cultivated. The Triassic period was dominated by continental deposition of sands and silts in an arid desert-like climate. For Sefton, the dominant features are:

- Ormskirk Sandstone
- Sherwood Sandstone
- Mercia Mudstone

The Triassic sequence underwent extreme denudation during the Quaternary when the area was glaciated several times by ice sheets advancing southwards down the Irish Sea. Much of the eroded Triassic bedrock surface is overlain directly by a semi-continuous spread of hard, compact till that was deposited beneath the ice sheet of the last Ice Age (late Devensian). Locally above this are glacial outwash sands and gravels and softer tills, laid down as the ice decayed. The ubiquitous drift cover has infilled local irregularities (such as former river channels and small scarp features) in the bedrock surface, creating a generally flat landscape that mirrors the underlying low bedrock relief. On the local scale, minor relief variations reflect the dominant landforms associated with individual drift types and their modes of origin rather than the underlying solid geology.

Variation of sea level and coastline position during and immediately after the Ice Age guided deposition of marine, estuarine and river alluvium across different parts of the area, and these are associated with remnants of ancient blown sand (known locally as the Shirdley Hill Sand) and lenses of older peat and sandy peat. Sea level changes since the end of the Ice Age have led to some of the older drift being reworked. Till cliffs have been eroded and extensive beaches, storm beaches and shingle spits or bars have formed on the seaward side of modern blown sand dunes that fringe much of the coast. Peat and peaty alluvium have formed in local hollows and valleys.

Dunes of recent wind-blown sand are the dominant landscape feature along much of the coast, rising locally to 20 metres above sea level in the areas around Ainsdale and Formby. Major beaches in the dune belt occur where the more significant streams and rivers approach the sea. Inland of the dunes the background land surface elevation of the till and alluvial plain rarely exceeds 10 metres, and the near sea level beaches and tidal flats west of the dunes tend to be wide and sinuous.

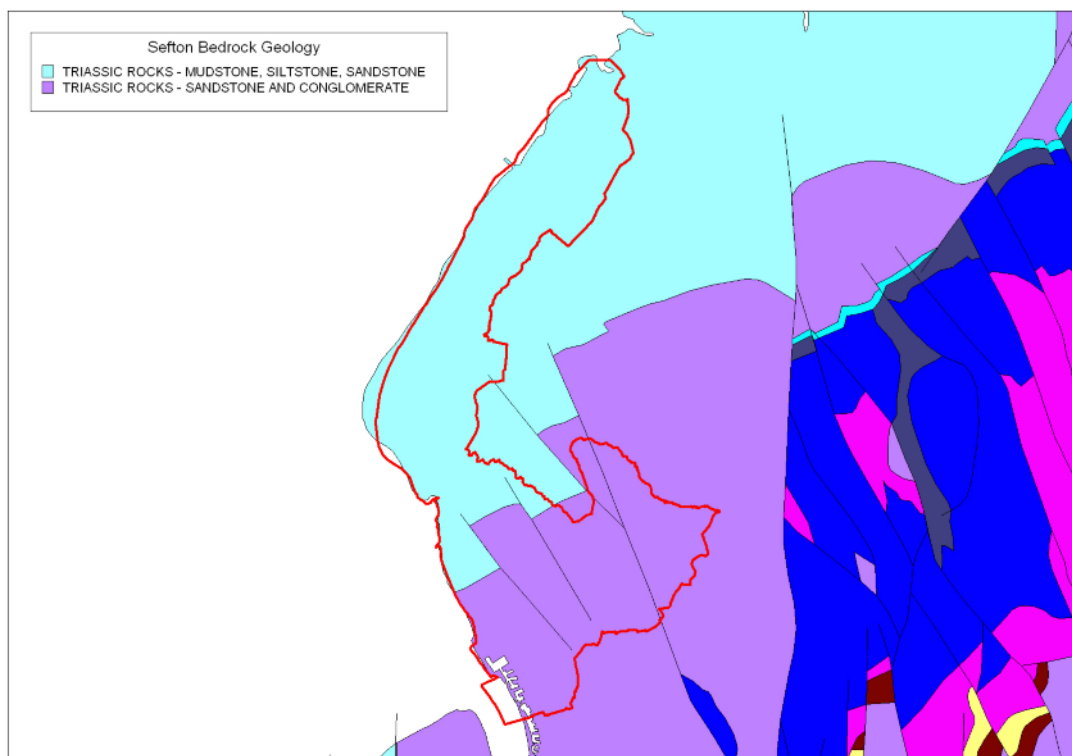


Figure 7 Bedrock Geology of Sefton

Based upon DiGMapGB-625 data 1: 625 000 ESRI® (Bedrock deposits) with the permission of the British Geological Survey. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088. English Heritage).

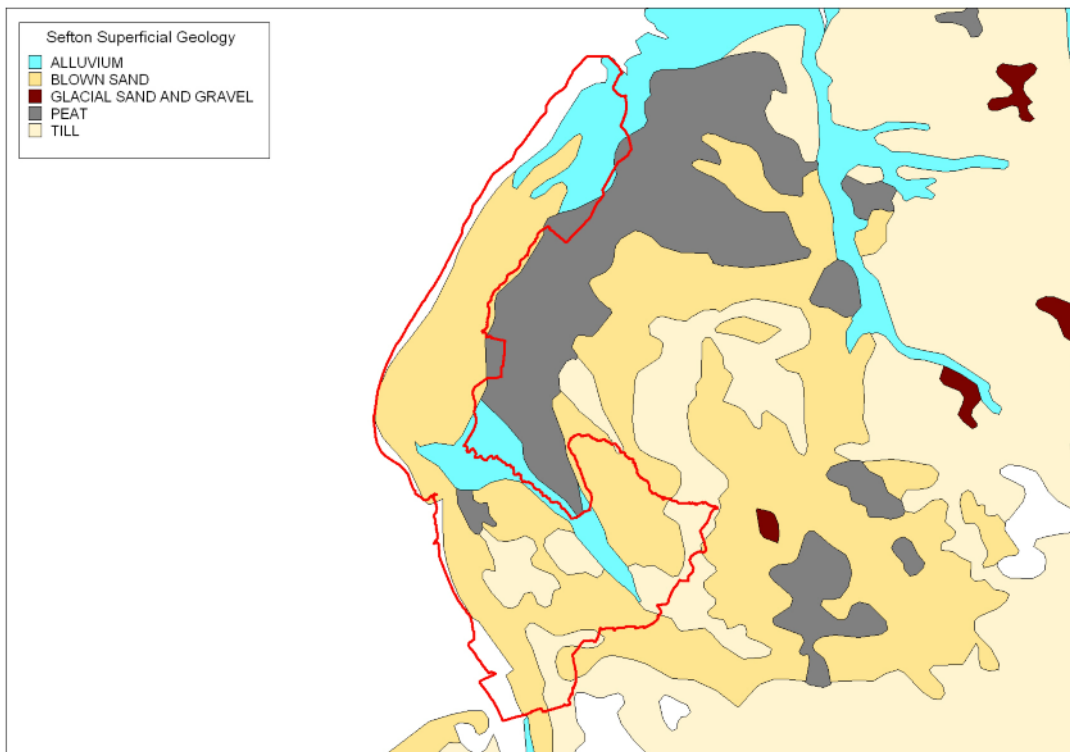


Figure 8 Superficial Geology of Sefton

Based upon DiGMapGB-625 data 1: 625 000 ESRI® (Superficial deposits) with the permission of the British Geological Survey. (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088. English Heritage).

7.3 Sefton – Social and Economic Development

The Metropolitan Borough of Sefton, one of five that make up Merseyside, covers an area of 152.81 square kilometres (59 square miles) and extends from Southport in the north to Bootle in the south.

The key features of the borough's geography are:

Its physical, socio-economic and cultural diversity

The absence of a single main urban centre

The elongated shape of the borough, extending thirty-five kilometres from north to south, but only two to eleven miles from east to west.

Although the formation of the Metropolitan Borough in 1974 imposed an administrative unity on the six constituent districts (formerly the County Boroughs of Bootle and Southport, the Municipal Borough of Crosby, and the Urban Districts of Litherland and Formby and part of the former Rural District of West Lancashire (the Maghull/Lydiat) the various communities still retain strong local identities.

Sefton contains some of the most affluent and the most deprived districts in the country. It includes prosperous residential areas in the outer Merseyside commuter zone and, in the south of the borough, areas of high population density, characterised by high unemployment and low incomes, associated with relatively poor health and social and environmental problems. In the north, a major seaside resort and retirement town, Southport, has one of the highest concentrations of older people in the country.

In 1801 there were just under 6000 people on the coast of Sefton and the largest community was at North Meols with over 2000 people (35% of the Sefton population). The combined settlements of Formby, Ravenmeols and Ainsdale (17%) and those of Bootle and Litherland (18%) together accounted for a further third, whilst the population in each of the remaining settlements averaged out at about 360 people (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008, 17).

Year	Population 10 years earlier	Total Population in Year
1801		5817
1811	5817	6804
1821	6804	8038
1831	8038	11133
1841	11133	15299
1851	15299	19494
1861	19494	38550
1871	38550	59605
1881	59605	79660
1891	79660	124557
1901	124557	161329
1911	161329	209053
1921	209053	223600
1931	223600	239159
1941	239159	255270
1951	255270	272489
1961	272489	289695
1971	289695	308035
1981	308035	298181
1991	298181	295204
2001	295204	282956

Table 5 Population Change in Sefton 1801 to 2001 (Source: Vision of Britain - www.visionofbritain.org.uk)

In the next forty years North Meols (the emerging town of Southport) grew from a settlement of a few fishermen's cottages to a large resort because sea bathing became popular in the late 18th century. Tradition has it that it was founded in 1792 when William Sutton opened a hotel built to attract sea bathing visitors (approximately at the junction of Duke Street and Lord Street, where the first houses in Southport were built). By 1841 there were over 7700 people in the town - 46% of those living on the coast (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008,17).

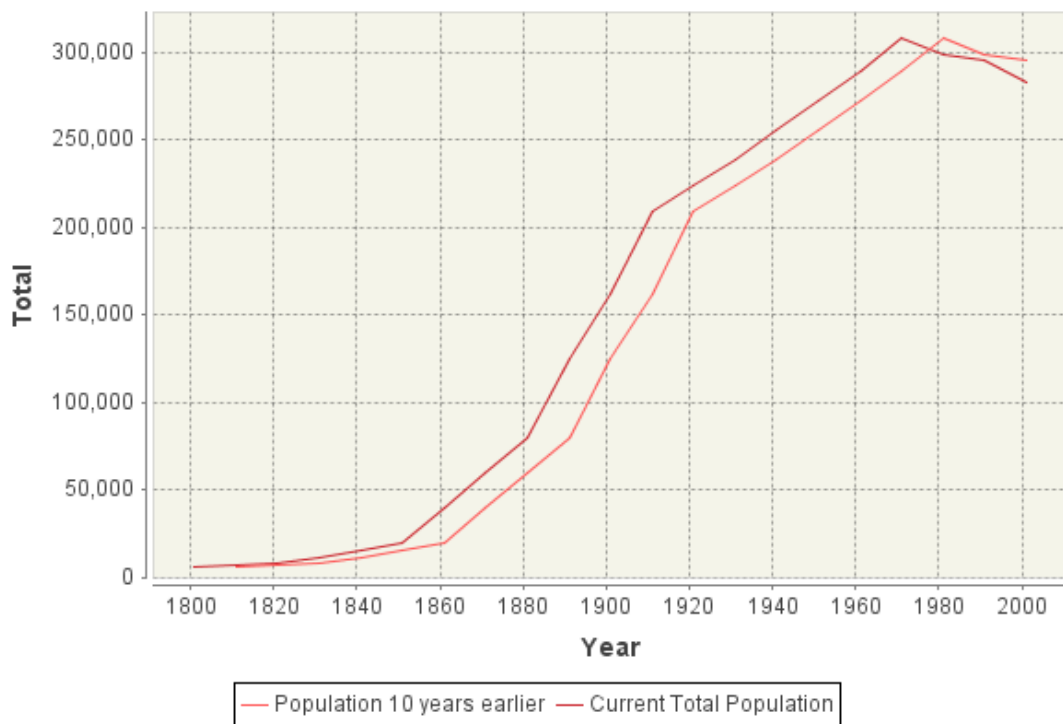


Figure 9 Sefton Population for the years 1801 to 2001
 (Source: Vision of Britain.-www.visionofbritain.org.uk)

The railway came early to Southport and greatly influenced its history. In 1848, a rail service linked the town to Liverpool before which visitors travelled by canal and road. Then, in 1855 the Southport-Manchester railway opened which enabled Lancashire mill workers to make day trips to the resort. Bootle also became a popular seaside resort in the 19th century having previously been a quiet rural village with small scale bleaching, tanning and paper-making industries facilitated by the local presence coast (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008).

The railway made it possible for people to work in Liverpool and live in the pleasant surroundings of the Southport area. Consequently there was much residential development in the area in the 19th century from Thomas Weld-Blundell who inherited land in Birkdale from the Blundell family saw the possibility of developing land for residential use aimed at middle and upper middle class professionals and merchants. The first house in new Birkdale was Lulworth House, built in 1850 and housed in this area were were very different from the type of houses to be found in older parts of

Birkdale, which was essentially an agricultural community coast (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008).

In contrast Bootle became heavily industrialised with the internationally significant docks in Liverpool essentially extending up the coast to modern day Sefton. The town has never had a large industrial sector although it was the location for one of the pioneer car production companies, the Hampson brothers Vulcan Motors, with a factory at Crossens between 1902 and the 1930s coast (Lewis and Stanistreet 2008).

The development of Southport as a seaside town and industrial development around Bootle, led to a surge in population during the mid 19th century - from 1841 to 1901, the population of Sefton increased eleven-fold (from 11,133 to 124,557 people). One of the major factors in population increase during this period must be the mass immigration of Irish families into Merseyside during the 1840s Irish Potato Famine - in the period 1841 to 1851, the population of Sefton increased (net inward migration) by some 16,361 people (data from www.visionofbritain.org.uk).

The population remained stable for twenty years, until another increase from 20,055 to 44,897 in the period 1881 to 1891 (data from www.visionofbritain.org.uk). In 1881, the Bootle docks - Brocklebank, Langton, Alexandra, and Hornby, all opened assisting further industrial development including tobacco, grain, dyeing, jute, tin-smelting, and toffee- and jam-making businesses (Hartley's jam factory being originally in Bootle). This industry needed a local workforce, and in the years 1871 to 1891, large areas of housing (in the form of gridiron and back-to-back terraced housing) were built in Bootle and Litherland. Inward migration into these areas of Sefton (around Bootle and Litherland) included sizeable Welsh, Scottish and English (mainly from Lancashire) elements. To accommodate the workers, housing 'estates' were rapidly built in Bootle, many by a builder from Wales called Jones (who later became Mayor). His first 'estate', built in the 1870s, was the 'Welsh Quarter' off Marsh Lane, so-named because of the street names (Rhyl Street, Flint Street, etc). Soon after, he built the Welsh Quarter off Hawthorne Road, near the junction with Linacre Lane. Jones also built the 'Klondyke' estate alongside Hawthorne Road (after 1900).

In the 20th Century Southport continued to develop as a seaside resort as the yearly seaside holiday became a custom for working class families. Today, Southport has

developed into a large town with smaller villages such as Birkdale, Ainsdale, Hillside and Churchtown in its hinterland.

In general, the population of Sefton has increased during the 20th century. However, when looking at rates of population change, maritime and industrial decline (in association with mass migration and war) lead to a rapid depopulation between 1911 and 1921 (a net change from 44,897 to 14,547 people. data from www.visionofbritain.org.uk). The areas most affected were around Bootle and, to a lesser degree, Litherland.

A period of relatively slow and steady growth ensued in the Inter War period, with the rate of population change staying relatively steady until the 1970s. The general population increase in the 20th Century is due to the Northern migration of former Liverpool residents from the war damaged city to newly industrialised areas like Kirkby. However, economic decline in the 1970s led to a further rapid depopulation. Bootle continued to suffer extensively with large scale job losses and industrial restructuring in the 1980s (data from www.visionofbritain.org.uk).

The total population of Sefton as defined in the Census report of 2001 was 282,956 (47.2% male and 52.8% female). Compared with the population nationally and North West average, Sefton's younger age groups are now equal to the average while the proportion of older people (over 75s) is much higher than the national average (8.7% compared to the national average of 7.5%). The proportion of the very elderly is particularly high in comparison with many other areas, and is forecast to rise at a higher rate than nationally. The greatest concentration of elderly people is in the Southport and Birkdale area of North Sefton. The total number of children aged under 16 years in Sefton in 2001 was 57,700, of whom 18,300 were aged under 5 years. The areas with the highest concentrations of young children in Sefton are in Bootle, Litherland and Netherton, in the south of the Borough (data from www.sefton.gov.uk/pdf/PERD-Sefton%20Socio%20Profile_sep_06.pdf. Accessed July 2010).

8 The Historic Character of Sefton

8.1 An Overview of Sefton's Historic Character

About 26.2% (4046.49 ha) of Sefton has been classified as being part of the **Field System Broad Type**. Much of this is concentrated in the central and south-eastern parts of the district. No evidence for prehistoric enclosure was recognised during the MHCP study; the earliest enclosure identified in Sefton district is thought to have originated in the post 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. The regular, predominantly small-sized surveyed enclosure fields in the central area represent former mossland that has been drained and improved. 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 Churchtown in the north. Areas of late post medieval and early modern surveyed enclosure have also survived. The findings of the MHCP tally well those found by the earlier Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation Project (2002).

The existing **Residential Broad Type** in Sefton is generally characterised by a very high level of semi detached dwellings and a very low level of terrace housing when compared to the incidence of such dwellings in the national stock (Sefton Housing Market Commentary, 2010. Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council).

The current MHCP Residential Broad Type is dominated by two housing types that constitute around 68% of the current total; Semi Detached Housing at just under 44% (2015.68 ha) and Detached Housing at just under 24% (1104.69 ha). These are followed by Modern Housing Developments (15% - 694.47 ha) and Terraced Housing (11% - 515.61 ha). The majority of housing stock dates to the post-1945 period at just over 51% (2367.15 ha), followed housing dating the Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period at 20.43% (942.56 ha) and then Inter War (1918 to 1939) housing at 18.46% (851.50).

From the Housing Market survey, the proportion of semi-detached dwellings is particularly high in Maghull, with 59.2% of housing taking this form compared to 28.6%

nationally. Conversely, the proportion of terraced and apartment dwellings is particularly low in Maghull, comprising 11.3% and 9.4% of the total stock respectively. Formby is the only housing market to offer a level of detached housing which is significantly in excess of the national average, with more than a third of the housing stock (38.8%) being of this character. As a result, the settlement has extremely low levels of terraced housing and apartments, and such trends correspond with the high average housing price identified for this settlement stock. Southport and Crosby are the two settlements which offer the greatest number of apartments, with both having an above national average proportion of this type of dwelling stock. (Sefton Housing Market Commentary, 2010. Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council). There are only two settlements which have an above average number of terraced dwellings, these being Bootle and Netherton. Terraced dwellings dominate the housing stock in Bootle, with this housing type comprising 71.2% of the dwelling stock. As a consequence, other housing types are in limited supply in Bootle and there are very few detached houses and apartments in this location stock (Ibid).

From the MHCP, the housing stock of Sefton appears concentrated in six blocks, many of which are associated with historic cores - a large northern block (Crossens, Southport, Birkdale and Ainsdale), a central block (Formby and Little Altcar), a south-western block (Crosby, Litherland and Bootle) and a south-eastern block (Maghull). Large-scale, pre-1900 residential development appears to have been concentrated in two areas - to the north around Southport and to the south-west in Crosby, Litherland and Bootle.

The two areas have differing origins, rates of development and structure. Southport was founded primarily as a seaside town during the early 1800s. The historic core of Southport was set out in a grid pattern, with many large detached, semi-detached and villa houses located near a central commercial core. Southport has very few terraced blocks (in comparison to Bootle and Litherland) and does not have a large industrial component. Southport's growth appears to have been founded almost entirely on commerce and leisure.

In contrast the residential areas of Bootle, Litherland and Great Crosby appear to be the product of industrial development, associated primarily with the Dock and Port Related Industry. Although many large detached and villa-type houses can be found in the historic cores of Crosby (at Blundellsands) and Litherland, the area is

dominated by semi-detached and terraced housing dating to the later 19th to early 20th centuries. Liverpool's industrial expansion northwards during the late Victorian to Edwardian period led to the large-scale construction of workers housing, in the form of grid-iron terracing. Built for a largely immigrant workforce, surviving grid-iron terracing can be found in Bootle, Litherland and Great Crosby.

The residential areas of Bootle, Litherland and Great Crosby exhibit similar zonal development characteristics to that found in Liverpool (see MHCP Liverpool Report) - appearing as five reasonably distinct bands of development, radiating eastwards, away from the Mersey foreshore. The residential development in Bootle would appear to be a continuation of that found in Liverpool, but on a much reduced scale.

The band furthest west (**Band 1**), bounded by industrial buildings (and the River Mersey) to the west and pre-1900 housing to the east, is predominantly recent (post 1945) builds. This band contains many new housing estates associated with post-war redevelopment and slum clearance. Some earlier pre-1900 pockets exist, as Victorian housing (particularly villa and detached housing) that has been converted into multiple-occupancy housing.

Moving eastward, the next band (**Band 2**) comprises housing stock established in the mid to late Victorian period - representing eastwards growth and expansion. This housing stock appears relatively untouched by wartime bombing and post-war redevelopment. Much of this is in the form of Victorian working class gridiron terraced housing in Bootle and Litherland, and larger middle-class semi-detached housing located towards Great Crosby. In general, since its high point in the early Twentieth century, terraced housing has generally decreased as a result of wartime damage, clearance and redevelopment. The remaining pre-1900 terraced housing stock, although still forming large blocks throughout this band, are but a small part of what was an extensive swathe of housing.

The next band (**Band 3**) is the smallest and somewhat discontinuous, comprising development during the early Twentieth century (1901 to 1917). Although fragmentary, the band is composed of two housing types - in Great Crosby, the houses are almost entirely semi-detached, reflecting the relatively affluent nature of the area. In contrast, in the relatively poorer areas of Bootle and Litherland, houses of this date are almost entirely gridiron terraced housing. The two housing types, and the

economic conditions in which they were built, appear to be separated by the Rimrose Valley Country Park

The fourth band (**Band 4**) comprises many large housing estates built in the Inter War (1918 to 1939) period, representing further post-war expansion eastwards away from the Mersey foreshore. Although not classified as Council Housing (Planned or Social Housing) Estates by the MHCP, these large housing estates share many characteristics with those found in Liverpool.

The final band (**Band 5**) represents further expansion in the post-war period - large post-war housing estates containing a number of pre-existing historic settlement cores and farmhouses that have been consumed by development.

There are currently 351.11 ha of land assigned to the **Commercial Broad Type**, representing around 2.27% of the Sefton 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 Commercial Retail (51.74% - 181.66 ha) sector, followed by Office (19.06% - 66.93 ha), Retail Park (12.05% - 42.29 ha) and Business Parks (11.04% - 38.75 ha). A large part of these Sub Types are contained within the central business districts of Southport, Formby and Bootle. The Commercial Core (as a separate entity) constitutes less than 6% of the overall Commercial Broad Type in Sefton, and is concentrated within or near historic cores.

The oldest offices and retail buildings are concentrated in Southport, with a few others scattered around the district, located in historic cores - the earliest commercial centres (from the MHCP) are located at Churchtown, Southport, Ainsdale, Formby, Hightown, Great Crosby, Waterloo, Maghull and Bootle. Although the historic core of Bootle can be traced from the mapping, and that pockets of pre-1900 commercial buildings still exist, much of the commercial heart (the historic core) of Bootle has been removed (or altered) through bomb damage or post-war development.

Modern (post-1945) commercial buildings are found throughout the district, but there are noticeable concentrations of retail units and shops in Churchtown, Southport, Formby, Litherland and Bootle. Here, modern commercial premises have replaced former commercial and residential plots. Business and Retail Parks tend to be found

on the outskirts of urban areas, located along current communication routes - for example at Blowick Moss, Formby, Aintree and Maghull.

The vast majority of the Commercial Broad Type dates to the Later 20th century - approximately 71% (250.07 ha) belonging to this period. Later 20th century developments tend to be medium to large in size (on average 0.67 ha). Earlier, pre-1900, commercial sites are comparatively small (0.51 ha).

Within Sefton there are 790.36 ha of **Industrial Broad Type** land. This represents about 5.11% of the total area of Sefton. Ten principal Current (yr 2003) MHCP types were identified for detailed analysis on the basis of their presence in the landscape or their historical significance. Further historical MHCP types were also identified (particularly Iron Industries and Foundries) but these do not form part of the current Sefton character. In the past, however, these industries would have played an important part in the development of Sefton. The majority of Sefton's industrial sites are Dock and Port Related Industry (39.38%), followed by Industrial (33.81%) and Nursery (8.70%). Of the current 790.36 ha of industrial land, 69.81% (551.72 ha) dates to the Later Twentieth century. The next largest industrial block dates to pre-1900, forming 22.75% (nearly 180 ha) of the current total.

Pre-1900 industrial sites are found along the Mersey river-front at three locations, with a noticeable concentration in the Bootle Docklands area. Here, the industry is associated with communication, transport and trade - initially, industrial activity was located alongside the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, followed by the construction of the Bootle Docks and the Liverpool, Crosby and Southport Railway line. Ribbon development occurred alongside the canal for some time, although the major focus of industrial development occurred immediately adjacent to the railway.

The Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition map of Lancashire, 1850 depicts a relatively small docklands area (Canada Docks Basin, Canada Half Tide Docks and two Carrier Docks) immediately north of the Liverpool Dock complex. At this time, the area along the Mersey river-front and immediately southwest of Bootle was predominantly residential in nature (mainly detached, villa and terraced villa housing), as a ribbon development alongside Derby Road / Primrose Road. The 1850 mapping provides an indication of the middle-class, 'resort' origins of the settlement here. Between 1850

and 1893, the docklands grew at an astounding rate, from roughly 22 ha in 1850, to 172.99 ha in 1893. The construction of the docklands led to the wholesale removal (through demolition and absorption) of this middle-class residential neighbourhood. In the late 19th and early 20th century, residential buildings (as grid-iron 'workers' terracing) was established immediately east of the docklands. However, wartime bombing and subsequent post-war industrial development has obliterated all traces of this.

In Southport, pre-1900 industrial activity is limited to a ribbon development along the route of the Southport to Wigan railway line and a municipal site (gas works and associated terraced housing) along Crowland Street. Industrial ribbon development in Southport continued into the early twentieth century, alongside small 'infill', possibly cottage and service industries, which have been inserted into the gardens and back yards of residential areas. Large-scale industrial works were founded on the Southport urban fringe, including the Vulcan Motor Works near Crossens, and a large sewage treatment works at Crossens Marsh. Further south, a large power station was constructed in Formby, adjacent to the Southport to Liverpool railway line (built between 1893 and 1908).

Inter War sites can be found in the southwest parts of the district, often in association with large housing estates. These include 'New Mill' in Great Crosby, and a number of industrial sites in Litherland.

Later Twentieth Century sites are found throughout the district, with noticeable concentrations along communication routes (predominantly railway, but also along the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and major roads). Smaller-scale industries are found interspersed amongst earlier industries and residential areas, notably in Southport and Bootle. In the docklands area of Bootle, many smaller scale sites are associated with shipping, engineering, storage (warehousing) and light manufacture, occupying land that was in the past, both industrial and residential in nature. Many large-scale sites (as industrial parks) are sited on the fringes of both established (in the case of Southport) and new (Maghull) residential areas - in areas that were previously greenfield (field system) land.

The MHCP study found that the **Recreational and Ornamental Broad Type** accounted for 11.15% (1723.60 ha) of the Sefton total. The largest Sub Type is Sports Grounds at just over 60% (1034.69 ha), the largest single sports character being links golf courses. This is followed by Public Parks at just around 19% (313.10 ha) and large post-1945 nature reserves making up most of the remainder, at 15.41% (265.54 ha).

The clear majority of the Recreational and Ornamental Sub type dates to the post-1945 period, at just over 54% (934.97 ha). This is followed by sites dating to the Inter War period (1918 to 1939) at nearly 24% (408.86 ha), and Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period at 14.12% (243.28 ha).

Within Sefton there are 787.71 ha of land which contains the **Civil Broad Type**. This represents around 5.10% of the total Sefton area. Civil establishments are evenly dispersed throughout the district, with the largest ones tending to be educational institutions, hospitals and places of worship. The majority of records date to the Later Twentieth century (1946 to 2000) at 81.35% - 640.81 Ha, followed by Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) sites at 9.22% - 72.66 Ha. The majority of pre-1900 sites are small-scale, comprising places of worship, schools, cultural buildings, cemeteries and hospitals. The majority (by size) of post-1945 sites are schools, followed by places of worship.

Within Sefton, the **Communications Broad Type** covers 407.86 ha of land, representing roughly 2.64% of the total area. Sefton contains a number of communication features that were established before 1850, but not all were recorded by the MHCP. 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, cycle paths or walkways within public parks, with only minimal redevelopment taking place. Industrial railways, sidings and colliery tramways do tend to have been lost. The most prominent communications features are the Sefton are Woodvale Airfield, the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, railway lines linking Liverpool to Southport and Wigan, and large dual-carriageway roads and motorways.

The **Water Bodies Broad Type** constituted 0.48% (74.73 ha) of the Sefton MHCP Study Area. Natural water bodies formed 7.13% (5.33 ha) and artificial water bodies 92.85% (69.39 ha) of the Water Bodies broad Type. The survey did not include ornamental lakes or ponds cut for Public Parks (such as those in Ince Blundell Park), as these were incorporated within the overall Recreational and Ornamental Broad Type. Similarly, a number of artificial water bodies associated with Industrial sites (such as Docks) have been incorporated into that particular MHCP Broad-type. The MHCP only recorded those water bodies over a certain size or those which had a historical dimension

Natural water bodies account for 7.13% of the Sefton MHCP Study Area total (seven are ponds and streams in origin). The majority of these can be found in the central and south-eastern parts of the district, comprising six small ponds and a single watercourse (the River Alt). The majority of natural water bodies were attributed to Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period. Some of these will have purely natural, and extremely ancient, origins. However, many will have more recent and anthropogenic origins - ponds created through the extraction of marl, sand and gravel.

Artificial water bodies account for around 92.85% of the Sefton MHCP total (fifteen consisting of man-made lakes and marinas). The largest water bodies (in geographical size) are the marine lakes at Southport, Ainsdale-on-Sea and Crosby. This is followed by small ponds and pits created by marl and gravel extraction during the Industrial Period (1836 to 1900).

From the MHCP study, the **Woodland Broad Type** comprises just over 1.21% (250.23 ha) of the current Sefton area. Extant woodland appears to be limited to four main areas - surrounding Ince Blundell, immediately west of Formby, towards the east at Formby Moss and immediately west of Churchtown. However, it must be noted that the current MHCP woodland (recorded or depicted) does not represent the sum total of woodland in Sefton. Large plots of plantation woodland have been recorded using other MHCP Character Broad and Sub Types - for instance, as Recreational and Ornamental Sub Types (Nature Reserves, Public Parks and Sports Grounds) or as Residential Sub Types (Private Estate).

The largest Sub Type (as a group) is 'Plantation' at 56.4% (141.14 ha), followed by the closely related 'Forestry and Plantation' at 28.4% (71.07 ha). The majority of the more

generalist 'Woodland' (15.2% - 38.02) is located around Ince Blundell and dates to the Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period. There are no ancient woodlands present in Sefton.

Some Current woodland sites have origins well before 1850 (i.e. it is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" map of Lancashire, 1850). Pre-1900 woodland constitutes around 40% of all woodland recorded in the Sefton MHCP Study Area. Most Plantation woodlands date to the Industrial Revolution 2 (1836 to 1900) period, with the majority of these located around Ince Blundell. Early 20th century woodlands are restricted to an area to the immediate east of Churchtown. However, the largest single phase of woodland is dated to the Inter War period, with large plantations sited along the coast amongst the dunes and dune slacks (and often in association with golf links courses). These Inter War plantations are restricted to an area immediately west of Formby town.

The **Rough Land Broad Type** constitutes around 437.6 Ha, approximately 2.8% of the land in Sefton. The majority of the Rough Land Broad Type is made up by Other Land (Rough Land) at around 62% (271.37 ha). The majority of the Broad Type was created in the post-1945 period (67.8% - 296.60 ha) as the result of demolition and clearance, particularly of past industrial, communications (railway) and residential sites. The next largest block (17.39% - 76.08 ha) dates to pre-1900, and comprises coastland scrub and mosslands (many of which are protected as local and national nature reserves). Rough Land has gradually increased during the period 1850 to 2001 as more-and-more sites have become either derelict or considered open space.

The Sefton MHCP Study Area currently contains four sites of **Defence Broad Type** - the Altcar Rifle Range, Altcar Training Camp, and Territorial Army Centres in Southport and Bootle. In Sefton, the Defence Broad Type contains three Sub Type characters - Range, Camp and Defence Other. Within Sefton there are 78.95 ha of Defence land, representing about 0.51% of the total area of Sefton. The largest single defensive site is the rifle range at Little Altcar (86.21% - 68.06 ha).

8.2 Sefton - Statistical Data and Mapping

Sefton Broad Types	1850 (hectares)	1893 (hectares)	1939 (hectares)	Current 2003 (hectares)
Industrial	36.94	304.17	441.85	790.36
Residential	924.29	1937.78	3013.83	4613.93
Field System	9942.52	8638.24	6814.92	4046.49
Woodland	92.16	186.83	272.03	250.23
Rough Land	325.56	740.97	564.01	437.57
Civil	23.97	121.30	255.48	787.71
Defence	0	82.01	101.26	78.95
Commercial	31.66	82.96	123.34	351.11
Communication	148.74	294.93	323.69	407.86
Recreational and Ornamental	54.74	409.52	1082.25	1723.60
Water Bodies	7.34	14.79	29.42	74.73
Coastal	3875.82	2650.21	2442.41	1896.52
Other	0	0	0	5.44

Table 6 Sefton Broad Character Types

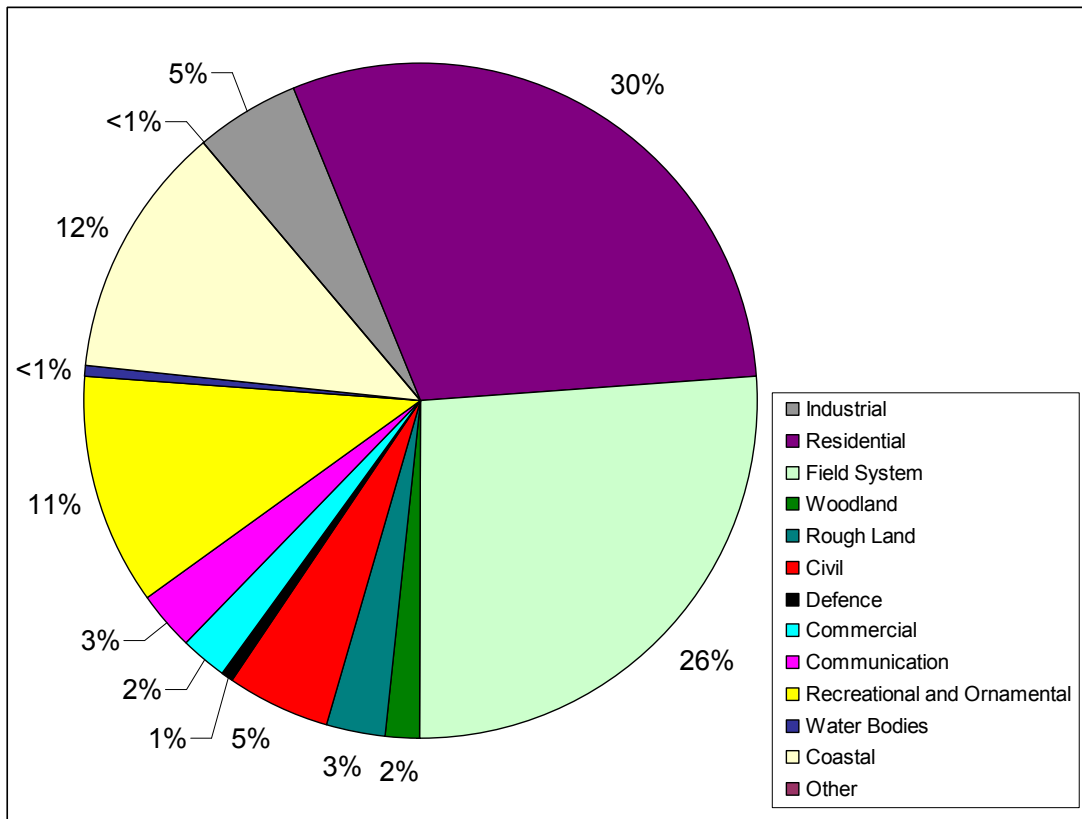


Figure 10 Pie chart showing Current (2003) Broad Types in Sefton (% of land)

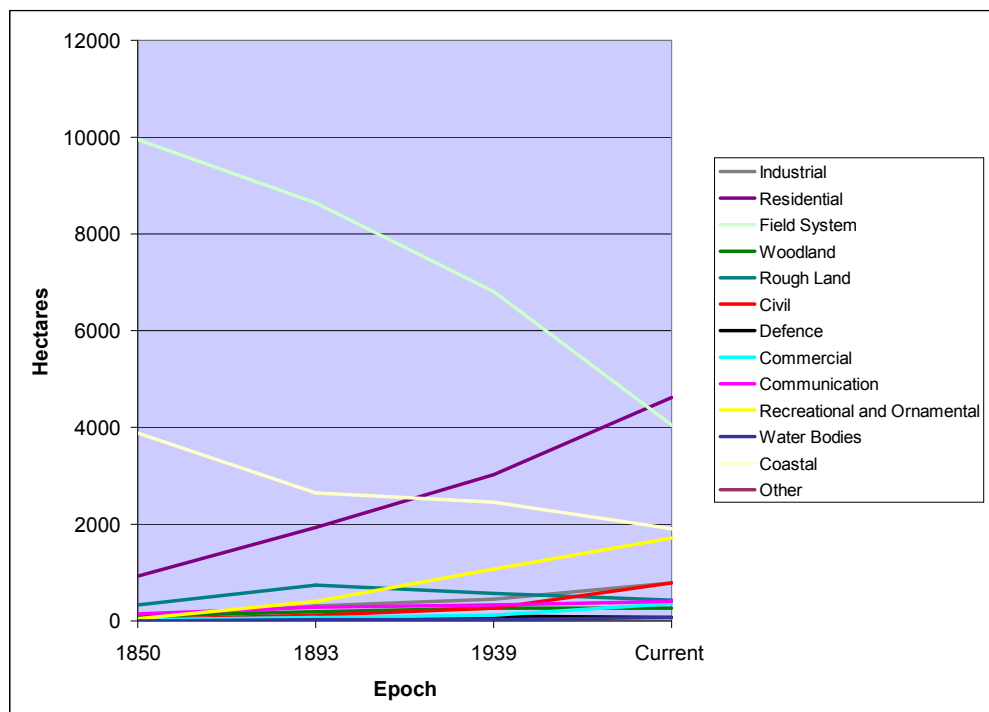


Figure 11 Graphical Representation of Sefton Broad Types through time

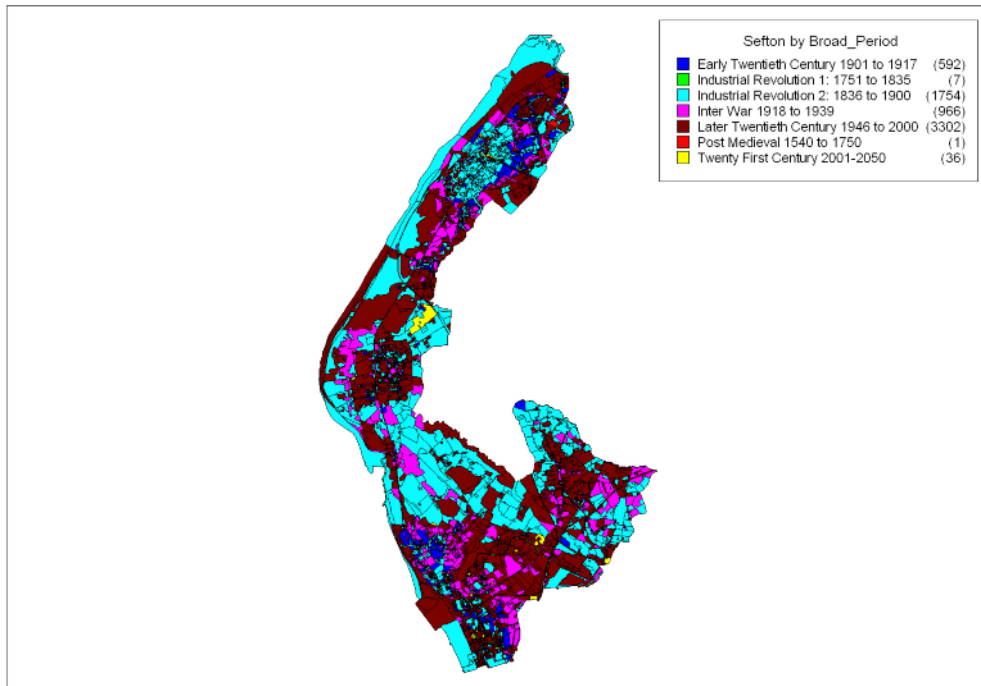


Figure 12 Sefton by Broad Period of origin
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

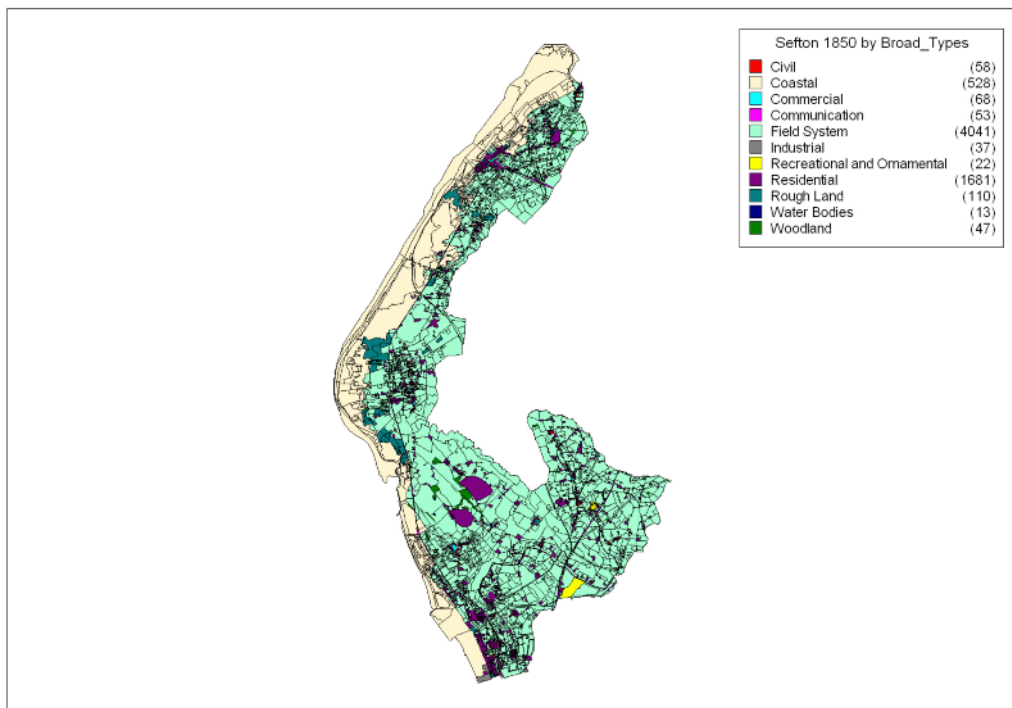


Figure 13 Sefton Characterisation in 1850
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

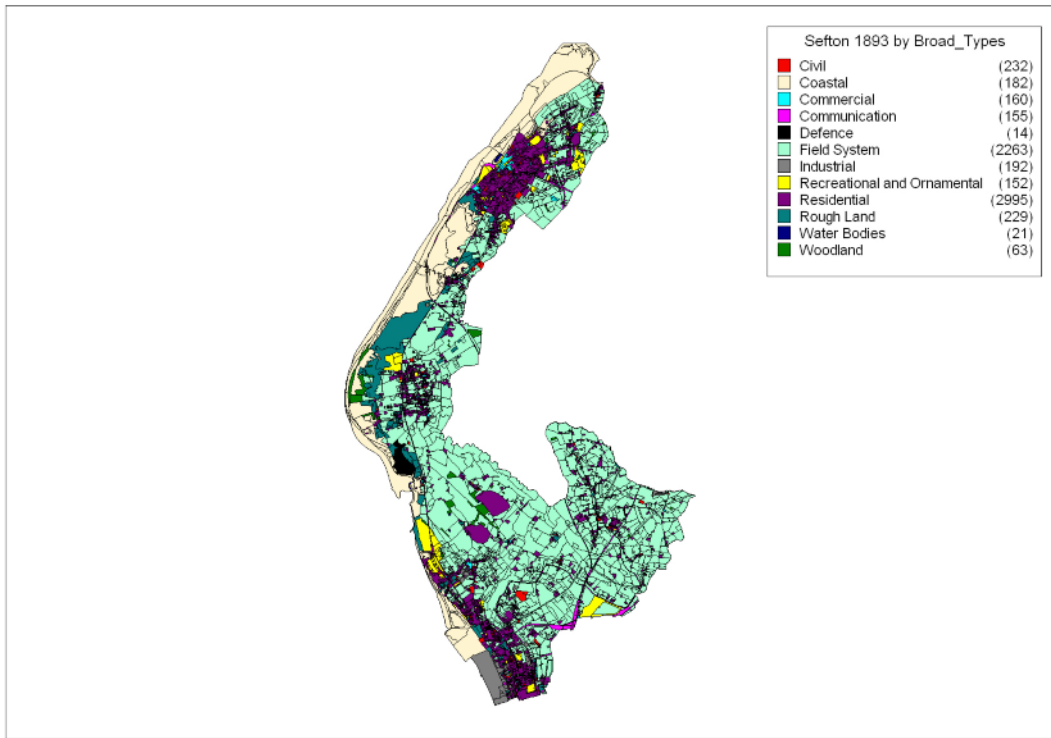


Figure 14 Sefton Characterisation in 1893
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

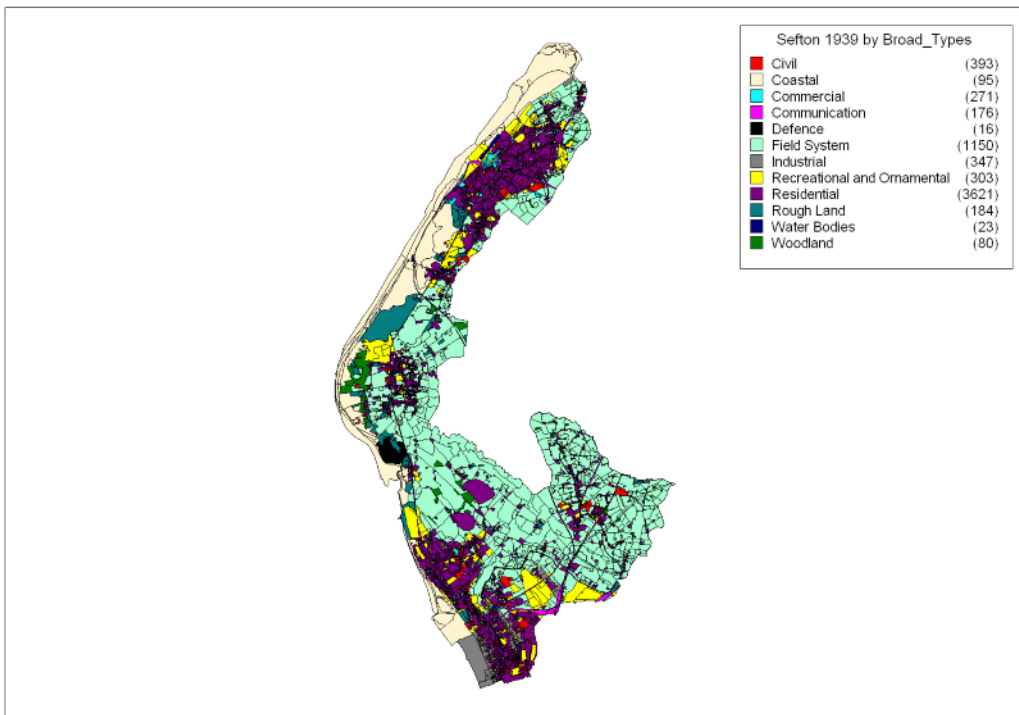


Figure 15 Sefton Characterisation in 1939
 (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

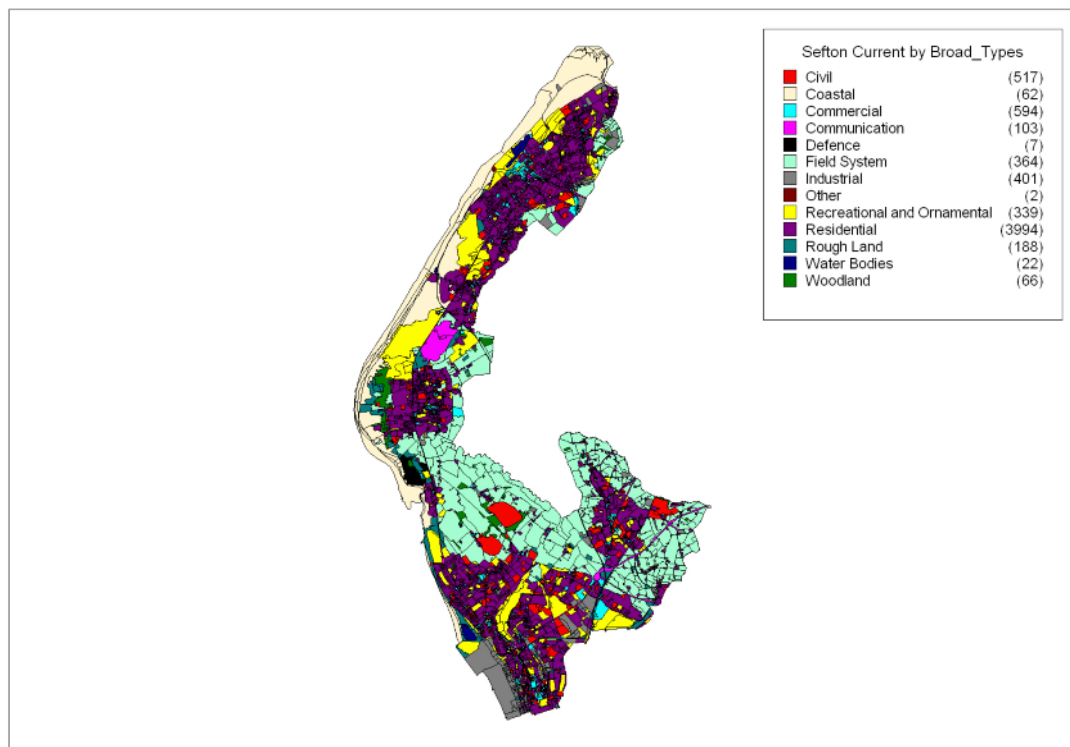


Figure 16 Sefton Characterisation Current (2003)
 Mapping (© Crown Copyright and database right 2003. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey
 Licence Number 100019088. English Heritage)

Table 7 Sub Type Characterisation for Sefton from 1850, 1893, 1939 & Current (2003)
 (Hectares)

Sefton Sub Type	1850	1893	1939	2003
Airfield	0	0	0	157.09
Allotment Gardens	8.91	0.48	79.45	38.12
Ancient Woodland	0	0	0	0
Artificial Water Body	1.86	9.31	24.00	69.39
Barracks	0	5.05	5.05	0
Business Park	0	0	0	38.75
Camp	0	0	17.05	9.60
Canal	45.65	45.57	45.57	45.57
Cemetery	0	22.22	39.27	49.09

Chemical Industry	0.47	0.99	11.04	3.92
College/University	0	1.59	4.78	97.34
Commercial Core	15.12	13.04	13.71	21.00
Commercial Core (Office)	0	0	0	0.48
Commercial Core (Retail)	16.54	69.76	107.34	181.66
Council Housing	0	0	0	0
Crematorium	0	0	0	10.73
Cultural	0.18	3.64	7.72	13.48
Curved Edged Woodland	0	0	0	0
Designed Parkland	0	0	0	0
Detached Housing	411.28	605.14	777.60	1104.69
Disused Industry	0	11.60	6.12	4.24
Dock and Port Related Industry	22.02	172.99	180.05	311.22
Dunes	1846.21	1115.99	1041.18	729.22
Extraction Industry	6.35	13.27	2.13	3.69
Farmhouse	162.08	182.99	170.73	98.70
Forestry and Plantation	0	0	0	71.07
Glass Industry	0	0	0	0
Highrise Development	0	0	0.74	12.73
Historic Route	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.24
Hospital		8.82	49.95	191.19
Industrial	3.63	44.65	106.34	267.20
Institution	0.95	3.72	13.15	9.29
Iron Industry / Foundries	0	0	11.47	0
Irregular / Large Field	0	0	0	18.89
Irregular / Small Field	1.91	1.91	0	0
Irregular /Medium Field	2.60	0	0	0
Lowland	0	0	0	0
Managed Woodland	1.34	1.85	8.38	0
Manufacturing Industry	4.46	29.95	72.78	57.97
Maritime Commercial Area	0	0	0	0
Model Village	0	0	0	0

Modern Housing Development	0	0	0	694.47
Moss (Wetlands)	14.72	8.82	9.23	2.35
Municipal Depot	0	0.46	3.50	9.92
Municipal Works	0	0.99	13.81	15.35
Natural Water Body	5.48	5.48	5.42	5.33
Nature Reserve	0	0	0	265.54
Nursery	0	22.79	18.69	68.79
Offices	0	0.71	2.30	66.93
Other (Defence)	0	1.01	0.98	1.29
Other (Recreational and Ornamental)	0.53	12.07	30.68	72.15
Other Land (Rough Land)	139.76	480.33	372.03	271.36
Other Land (Other)		0	0	1.61
Place of Worship	16.04	50.79	63.99	72.11
Plantation	66.88	96.59	117.68	141.14
Police Station	0.10	0.84	1.41	6.09
Prison	0	0	0	0
Private Estate	179.03	167.56	167.23	16.44
Public Park	0	100.72	165.92	313.10
Railway	100.76	247.03	249.92	98.69
Range	0	75.95	78.19	68.06
Reclaimed Land	0	0	0	3.83
Regular / Large Field	0	16.73	46.27	49.67
Regular / Medium Field	52.17	853.68	690.03	454.79
Regular / Small Field	7250.98	6303.92	4547.46	2323.31
Retail Park	0	0	0	42.29
Road	0	0	25.87	104.26
Salt Marsh	591.66	456.26	431.41	404.24
Sand and Mud Flats	1437.95	1077.96	969.81	763.06
School	6.70	29.69	75.19	338.39
Scrub	171.08	251.82	182.75	163.85
Semi Detached Housing	22.68	458.35	1219.06	2015.68

Semi Regular / Large Field		14.14	14.14	30.32
Semi Regular / Medium Field	104.06	429.52	729.51	622.44
Semi Regular / Small Field	2530.80	1018.34	787.51	547.06
Sports Ground	45.30	296.25	806.20	1034.69
Terraced	44.56	283.54	443.28	515.61
Upland	0	0	0	0
Villa Housing	104.66	240.21	235.18	155.61
Warehousing	0	6.48	15.94	48.06
Woodland	23.94	88.39	145.96	38.02