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**Building Recording at
Liverpool Parish Church (Our
Lady and St Nicholas),
Liverpool.**

NGR SJ 3397 9047 (centred).

Report for Liverpool Parish Church

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Building Recording at Liverpool Parish Church (Our Lady and St Nicholas), Liverpool. Site Code 182 NGR SJ 3397 9047

1. Introduction

This report sets out the results and conclusions of a building recording project carried out at Liverpool Parish Church (Our Lady and St Nicholas), Liverpool. This recording focussed on two sections of stonework in the basement/boiler room of the church. The site is situated within the boiler room of Liverpool Parish Church (Our Lady and St Nicholas), Old Churchyard, Chapel Street, Liverpool, L2 8TZ.

A previous desk-based assessment was to collate available evidence in advance of building recording within the boiler room of the church. The aim of the building recording project was to record stonework embedded in later phases of brickwork and to establish if possible whether or not they are part of the original foundations of a predecessor of the present church or reused stone from adjacent warehouses.

2. Archaeological and Historical Background

The Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas is also known as St. Nicholas' Church and stands on the east side of George's Dock basin and south side of Chapel-street, (OS: SJ33979047). Visible from the Mersey the church was formerly a chapel under the parish church of Walton-on-the-Hill. The original chapel was known as St Mary Del Quay. Referring to historic maps, photographic and published sources (books, papers and online) this brief overview of the church's history has been collated.

Phase I – Medieval C13th.

There are no places of worship recorded in Liverpool prior to 1207. The original chapel of St Mary Del Quay, a chapel of ease for the parish of Walton, is first mentioned in records in 1257.

Phase II – Medieval C14th.

A larger chapel dedicated to St Nicholas, patron saint of mariners began in 1355 and was consecrated in 1361 with the adjoining cemetery, (McLaughlin Cook & Roberts, 2007, 20). The chapel had a nave, north aisle and a square tower at the west end (*ibid*).

Brooke (2003, 42) notes that the church was standing in 1356 during the reign of Edward III. A mandate of Edward III, on May 19th 1356, to the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Liverpool, "Licence to acquire, give and assign lands, &c. to certain chaplains, and for the chaplains to receive from the before named Mayor and Commonalty, the said lands, in order to perform divine service for the souls of the faithful deceased in the chapel of the blessed Mary and St. Nicholas for ever" (*ibid*, 31).

Following the closure of St Mary del Key in 1548, there are several references to repairs and improvements of St Nicholas' Chapel with levies being imposed to pay for them, (McLaughlin Cook & Roberts, 2007, 26).

The Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas is depicted within the earliest known painting of Liverpool. Known as 'Peters painting' due to its association with the Peters family of Liverpool who owned it during the 18th century, this painting shows the small town from the river/the Wirral. St. Nicholas's chapel is shown at the north edge of the town, to the left of the painting prior to its rebuilding. The painting also shows buildings to the west of the church, sometimes interpreted as warehouses. The painting dates to the 1680s by an unknown artist in the collection of National Museums Liverpool.



Figure 1 'Peters' Portrait 1680 view of Liverpool, National Museums Liverpool. Showing former structure of Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, with warehouse buildings to the west, near the riverfront.

Peet (1913) notes that there were “warehouses which are known to have been recently [i.e. shortly before 1680] built on the south side of Chapel Street, buttressing the churchyard wall.” This indicates that some of the stone within the basement of the church could be reused stone relating to those buildings.

Phase III - Post-Medieval Out Aisle

During 1699 St Nicholas' Chapel often known as 'Old Church' became the Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, an independent parish by virtue of the Act of Parliament.

An out-aisle was built on the north side in 1697

Phase IV - Post-Medieval Out Aisle Extension

An addition to the north out-aisle was built in 1718.

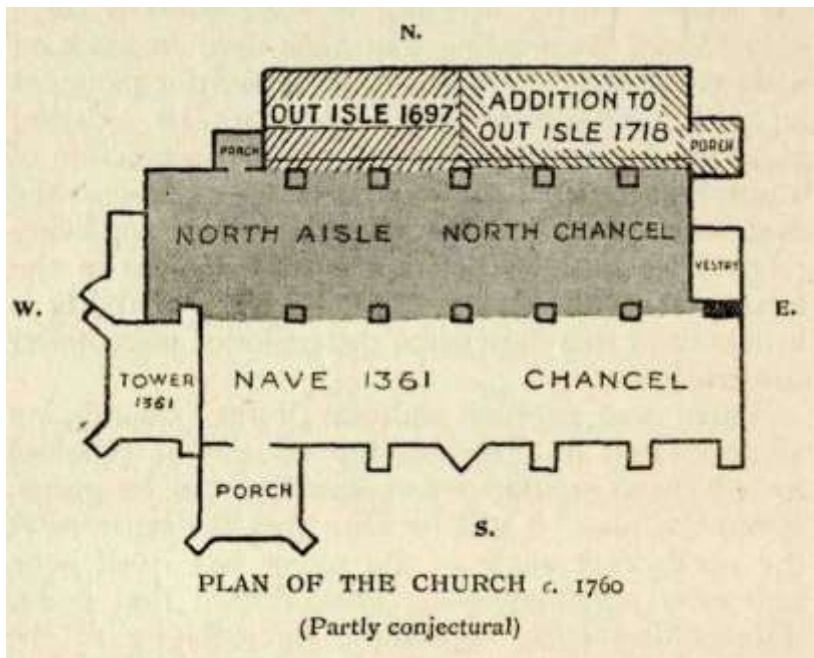


Figure 2: Indicative plan of the church, from Peet, H: *St Nicholas's Church, Liverpool: its Architectural History*, Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 1913

Phase V – Industrial Revolution - C18th spire

In 1746 a spire was built on the old tower and in 1749 the churchyard was enlarged on the west side.

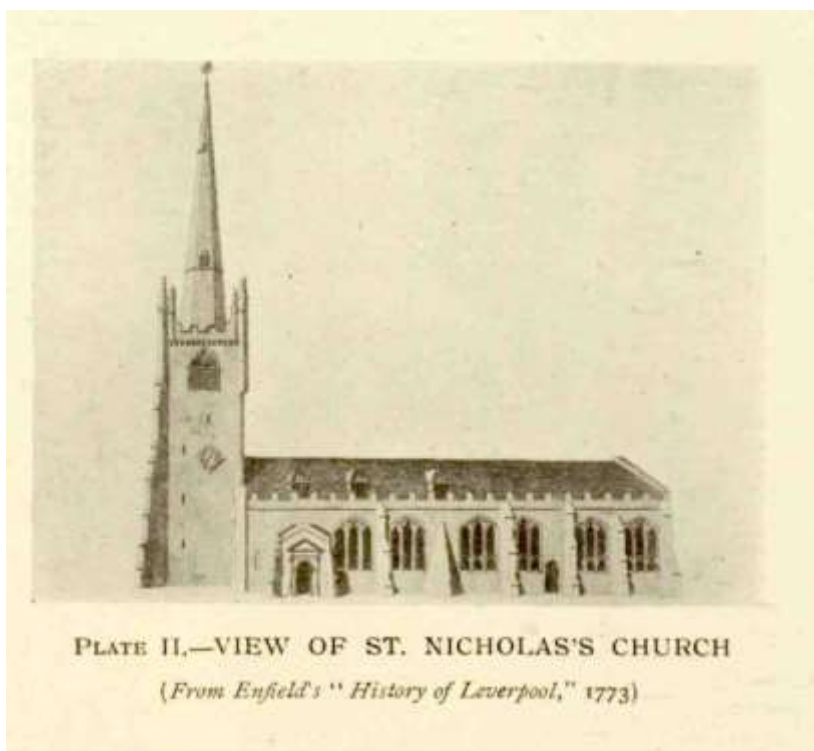


Figure 3: Plate taken from Enfield's *History of Liverpool*, 1773

In 1759 or 1760, a battery of 14 guns was formed in the enlarged part of the churchyard to prevent any potential attacks.

In 1775 Hinde's white tavern stood in the churchyard, close to the tower. This is in the area of the buildings shown on the Peters Painting to the west of the church.



ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH.
and the old Tavern in the Church Yard.

Figure 4: St Nicholas's Church and the old Tavern in the Church Yard, taken from Brooke, R (2003), *Liverpool As It Was 1775 to 1800*, Liverpool Libraries and Information Services

Phase VI – Industrial Revolution - C18th rebuilding

In 1774 the exterior parts of the body of the church were re-built and some interior parts were altered. The north aisle and out-aisle were demolished in 1780 and the north aisle reconstructed.



Figure 5: Thomas Harrison 1810 architect's plan of St Nicholas's Church

Phase VII – Industrial Revolution – C19th Century Tower Collapse and Rebuild

On 11th of February 1810 the spire collapsed at the point where it joined the tower-part of the steeple, part of the roof fell into the church and 24 people were killed. Rebuilding work began in 1811 and was completed in 1815 by Thomas Harrison of Chester. Its distinctive plan with angled walls from the corners of the tower, to the corners of the body of the church is clearly visible on early detailed maps of Liverpool, including the 1835 Gage Map.

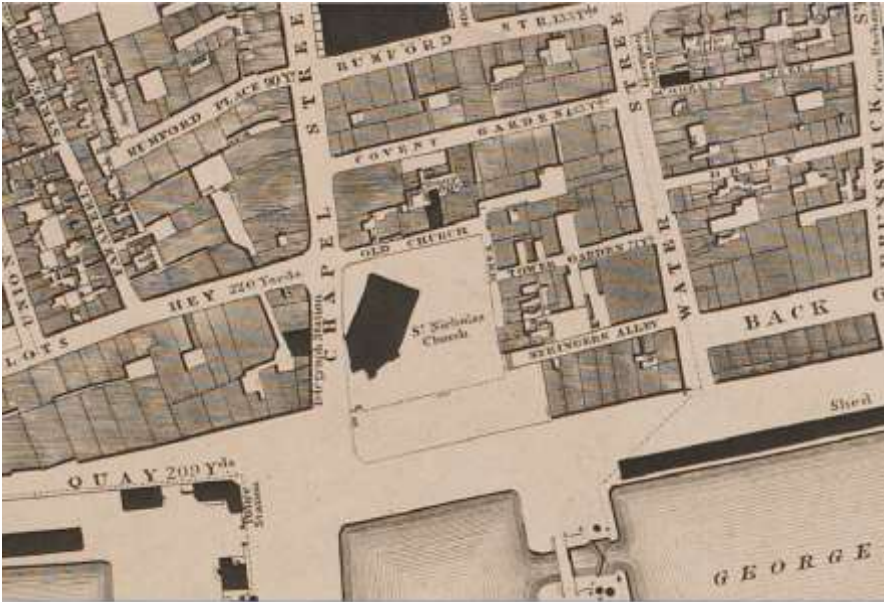


Figure 6: Gage 1835 Map of Liverpool

Phase VIII – Modern – Second World War Destruction and Rebuild

The church was destroyed on 21st December 1940, when it was hit by incendiary bombs during an air raid and was rebuilt in 1952 following WWII.

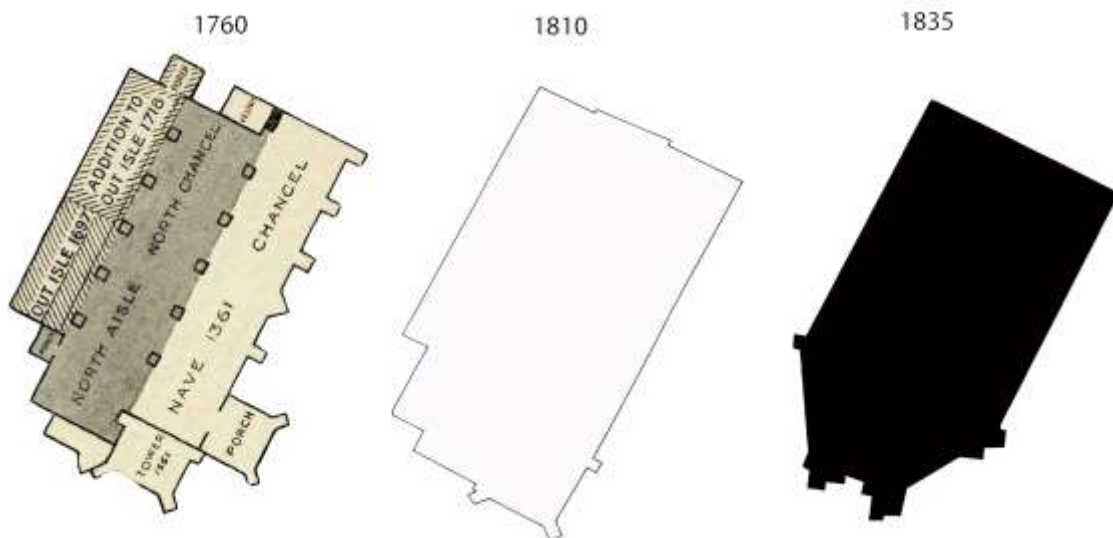


Figure 7: Various main phases of building reconstruction (not to scale)

3. Building Recording Methodology

The building recording was part of a Museum of Liverpool Community Archaeology initiative and included four volunteers working alongside three members of the Regional

Archaeology team, taking place on the 12th April 2018. The project involved the photography and production of scaled drawings of two areas of stonework within the boiler room in the basement of the church. The drawings were subsequently digitised in DraftSight 2018.

4. Building Recording

The east-facing wall, recorded as *Section 1* (Figs. 6, 7 and 8), survives to a height of c.2.66m with the upper 0.4m consisting of modern rebuild and a concrete block. The lower, original section of the wall was constructed of sandstone and a loose mortar. The stone work consists of large blocks of sandstone of varying thickness. The mortar contains occasional inclusions of small pebbles.

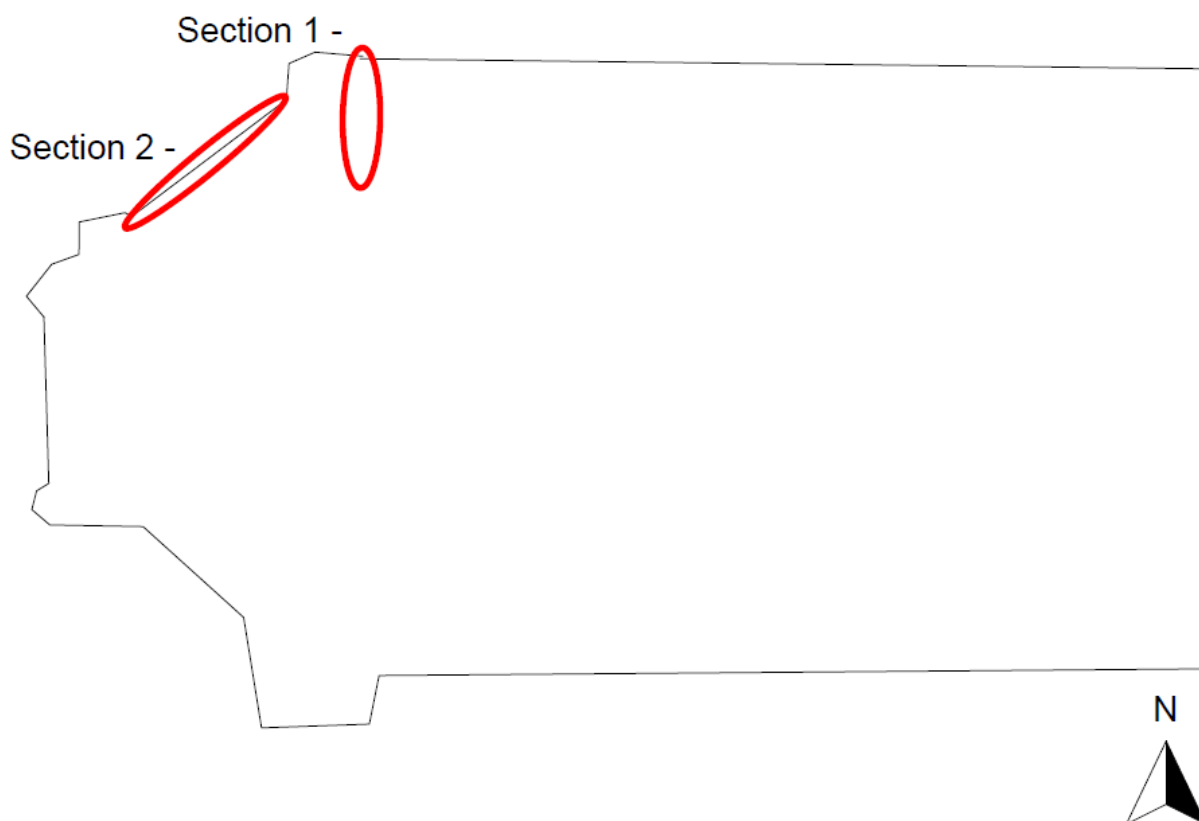


Figure 8: Outline of Liverpool Parish Church showing location of recorded section walls. Not to scale.



Figure 9. Section 1 – East facing wall section. (© National Museums Liverpool)

This wall is now truncated, and would have extended further south. The east-facing surfaces of the stonework at the south end has uniformly chiselled in a manner different from the east-facing surfaces of the stone at the north end of the section. This suggests that the wall has been cut back to narrow, re-angle or flatten the wall. The cutting back of the blocks was not uniform and therefore the blocks vary in thickness. The overall thickness of the remaining wall is 115cm. There is damage in several places of the wall where the mortar has come away. Chisel marks are visible on the surface of the sandstone blocks where they have been cut back. On the southern edge of the wall where the sandstone terminates it is replaced by 1950s brickwork. This can be dated more closely to 1952 when it was repaired following damage during World War II.



Figure 10. Section 1 – Detail of chisel marks. (© National Museums Liverpool)

This wall does not align with the present structure, and may relate to a non-religious structure on the site contemporary with the Phase V and Phase VI churches.

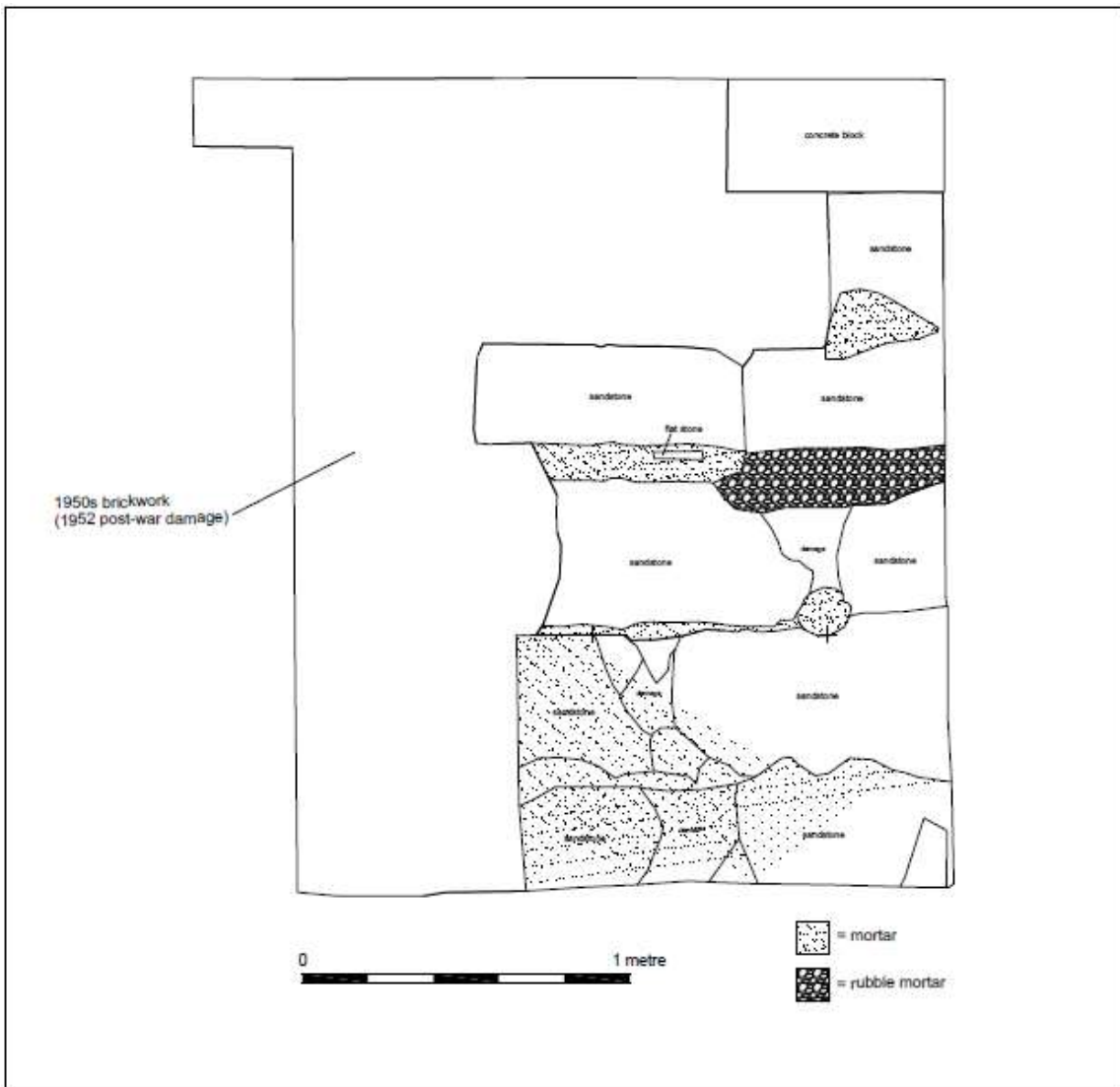


Figure 11. Section 1 – East facing wall section.

Section 2, (Figs. 9, 10 and 11), is a south-east facing wall measuring 4.67 meters in length and 2.70 meters in height (including 0.41 meters of modern brick work) of which only the central part of the wall has been recorded measuring 1.8 metres in length. The wall is constructed of large sandstone blocks of medieval date which have been reused in the 1815 wall directly beneath the Phase VII 1815 tower walls. From the ground up the recorded section includes a narrow course of stone above which is a wider course, then a narrow course with inclusions of reused and dressed medieval stone followed by more wide courses. The wide courses include fine dressed ashlar stone.



Fig.12. Section 2 – South-east facing wall section. (© National Museums Liverpool)



Fig.13. Section 2 – Detail of medieval dressed stone within wall. (© National Museums Liverpool)

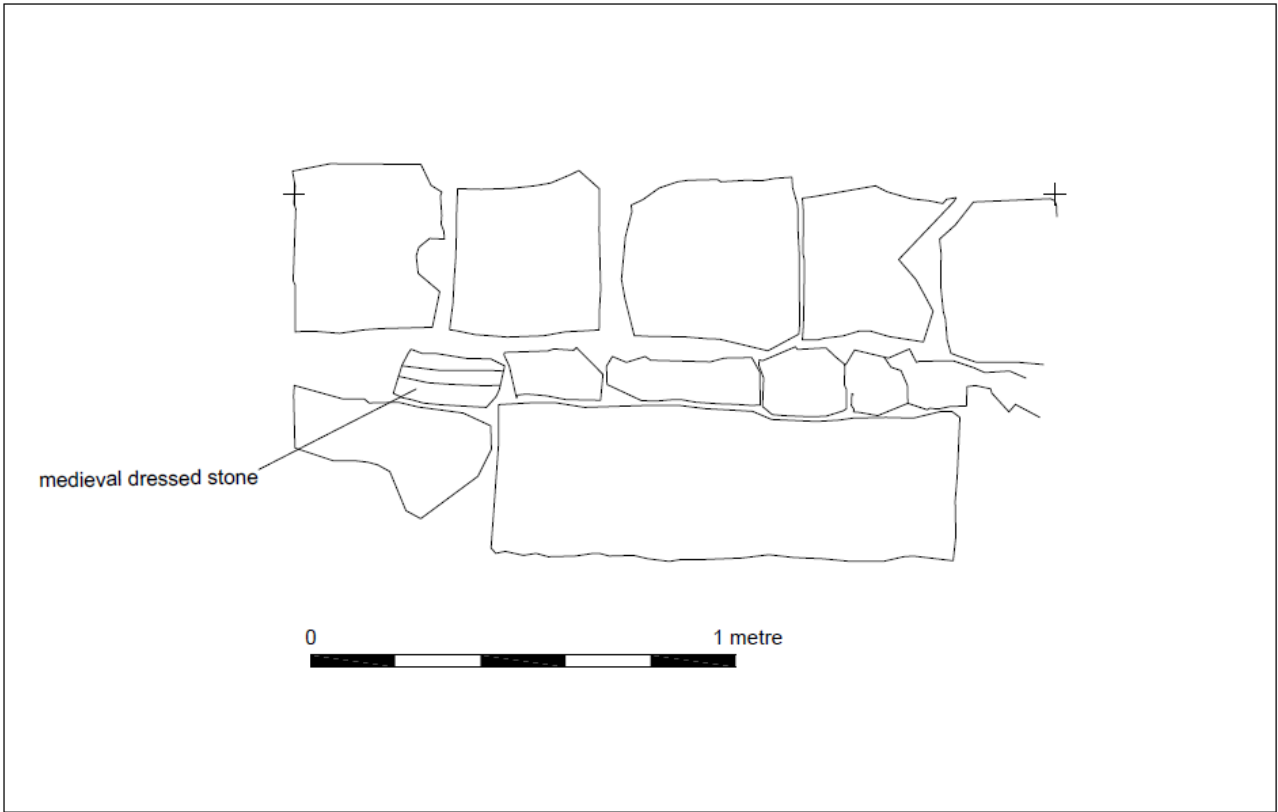


Fig.14. Section 2 - Detail of south-east facing section showing medieval dressed stone.

5. Discussion

The Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas has undergone eight main phases of structural change on and around its present site. The original chapel on the site, St Mary del Quay, was built on the south side of the lower end of Chapel Street before 1257. Slightly inland from the location of St Mary del Quay, St. Nicholas' church consisted of a tower and single nave in the 14th century. This was extended during the later medieval period and subsequently in 1697 an out-aisle was built on the north side. In 1746 a spire was built on the old tower which subsequently fell down in 1810. The spire was rebuilt in 1815 by Thomas Harrison of Chester. The church was destroyed on 21st December 1940 during a WWII air raid and was rebuilt in 1952.

It is difficult to conclude with certainty the original purpose and date of the wall sections examined due to the building and rebuilding of the church on the same site. The two faces of wall are in a good state of repair and are protected from weathering due to their location. *Section 1* (Fig. 6, 7 and 8) is the truncated remains of a substantial wall, with some very large blocks of stone (33 x 98cm). This wall does not align with the current or 1815 phases of the building. As this section of wall is to the north side of the church, it may relate to building in the late 17th century, or be the remnants of previous buildings on the site, or relate to the earlier foundations of the 1697 out-aisle.

This wall appears to have originally run in an orientation slightly more NNW-SSE alignment than the current N-S and was cut back during the post-medieval or early modern period, possibly to create more space for the addition of the boiler to the building and a storage area.

Due to access issues only part of *Section 2* (Figs. 9, 10 and 11) has been recorded. *Section 2* is constructed from a combination of stone of varying sizes and ranging in date from the medieval to the post-medieval period. This wall was constructed as part of the Phase VII building c.1811-1815, but reusing earlier stonework, presumably available on the site at that time. The inclusion of dressed pieces of stone suggests that some of the stone came from earlier phases of the church building.

6. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank The Reverend Crispin Pailing for the opportunity to carry out the building recording and kindly provided access for the project team. Thanks also to Maxine Bailey, Jasmine Grace, Sinead Schooling and Seonnie Sergeant for their help and enthusiasm during the project.

7. Bibliography

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Appendix 1

Merseyside Historic Environment Record search

HER Number: MME2628 **Record Type:** Listed Building

Site Name: Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Chapel Street, Liverpool

Summary: Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Chapel Street, Liverpool, a medieval church though the current structure is a gothic style tower of 1811-1815 with the rest of the church rebuilt in 1952.

Monument Types and Dates

CHAPEL (MEDIÉVAL to STUART - 1355 AD to 1699 AD)

PARISH CHURCH (STUART to GEORGIAN - 1699 AD to 1811 AD)

ANGLICAN CHURCH (GEORGIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1811 AD to 2050 AD)

Description

Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Chapel Street, Liverpool. (1-2)

The Chapel of St Mary del Quay was extant in 1257. Land was granted to the east of it for a new chapel in 1353, this was completed in 1361. (3)

No record of a church or chapel is included in the 1327 account of the lands of the Earldom of Lancaster. On 19th May 1356 Richard de Aynesargh, mayor of Liverpool, was granted a licence by the king to acquire and dedicate land for the performance of divine service every day in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Nicholas at Liverpool. This suggests a new foundation with the securing of funds to endow the chapel. In 1361 the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry issued a commission for the dedication of the chapel of St Nicholas and its cemetery and, in the same year, a licence issued for the interment of the dead in the churchyard due to the plague. That the chapel and churchyard were dedicated rather than simply consecrated suggests they were new structures. "The earliest views of the church exhibit the style of architecture prevalent at the end of the 14th century - the third pointed or perpendicular, having a square west end tower". The chapel of Liverpool appears numerous times throughout the following centuries. Notable additions were the bells in 1628, a gallery at the west end in 1681, an organ in 1684, an additional aisle in 1718, new bells in 1725, a spire in 1745 and a new organ in 1764. In 1774 the body of the church was taken down and rebuilt. The tower was repaired in 1789 but the spire collapsed into the nave on 11th February 1810. The tower and spire were rebuilt, being completed in 1815. A new peal of 12 bells was cast in 1813. There was a font [presumably destroyed when the spire fell in] which had an inscription dated 1644 but was thought to be much older. (4-5)

A Moore deed of 1355 records "the tenement of the Blessed Nicholas in le chapel-strete". (6)

In 1456 a grant of lands in Garston was made to support the chaplain for "St Mary of the Quay or St. Nicholas' Chapel. (7)

There were four chantries established at the chapel. (8)

Three bells were made by Robert Oldfield in c.1629 but the town did not approve of their sound when rung with the larger and older main bell. Thomas Hancock of Walsall, Staffordshire, was employed to fix the problem in 1636. (9)

The vestry records include numerous entries relating to repairs and alterations to the building. A faculty was issued on 22nd May 1775 for the rebuilding of the church. (10)

The church was described in detail in the late 18th century, following the rebuilding of the main body. (11)

The inscriptions of the monuments and in the windows were recorded in the early 20th century. (12)

The plans of the church at various stages of its development have been reconstructed or located. (13)

From the National Heritage List for England:
SJ 3390 CHAPEL STREET L2

27/244 Church of Our Lady 28.6.52 and St. Nicholas

GV II

Church. Tower is now the oldest part, built 1811-15 by Thomas Harrison of Chester, ashlar in Decorated

Liverpool Parish Church, (Our Lady and St Nicholas). Building Recording.

Gothic style, 4 angle buttresses terminating in crocketed finials, with flying buttress supporting a graceful open lantern, which is surmounted by a ship weather vane. The rest of the church is 1952 by Edward C Butler, after war damage, in Perpendicular Gothic.

Listing NGR: SJ3395990485
(14)

In 1983 a test pit was dug against the west wall of the tower. A vault was exposed containing a lead coffin. The tower wall at the back of the vault was of pink sandstone which was thought to indicate that the vault was of early origin. (2)

It has been suggested that the earlier chapel was incorporated into the later building. (15)

Records of the 17th and 18th century detail the sale of pews within the church. (16)

National Museums Liverpool carried out a building survey in 2018. Two areas of stonework in the boiler room of the church were recorded. (17)

Sources

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Related Monuments

MME13772 St Nicholas' Churchyard, Old Church Yard, Liverpool All Groups

Location

National Grid Reference

SJ 33959 90485 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses

Associated Designations

Conservation Area (Current) - CA003	Castle Street	Active	DME3508
Listed Building (II) - 1205993	CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST NICHOLAS	Active	DME875
World Heritage Site (Core) - 1000104	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088

Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2930578	Active
Church of England HER - 622044	Active
National Monuments Record -SJ 39 SW 13	Active
National Monuments Record - 67530	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-001	Active

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities

EME2932 Building survey at the Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Chapel Street, Liverpool - 2018 (Non-Intrusive Event)

Associated Individuals/Organisations

Butler, Edward C. - Historic	Architect
Harrison, Thomas - Historic	Architect

Associated Resources

There are 18 digital images associated with this record

HER Number: MME2629 **Record Type:** Site

Site Name: Site of St Mary del Key Chapel, Chapel Street, Liverpool

Summary: Former site of St Mary del Key Chapel, Chapel Street, Liverpool, a 13th century chapel.

Monument Types and Dates

CHAPEL (MEDIEVAL to TUDOR - 1257 AD? to 1553 AD)

WAREHOUSE (TUDOR to JACOBEAN - 1553 AD? to 1611 AD?)

GRAMMAR SCHOOL (JACOBEAN to GEORGIAN - 1611 AD? to 1720 AD?)

HOUSE (GEORGIAN - 1720 AD to 1766 AD?)

PUBLIC HOUSE (GEORGIAN - 1766 AD? to 1814 AD)

Description

Former site of St Mary del Key Chapel, Chapel Street, Liverpool. (1-2)

The origin of the chapel is unknown but it is thought to have been a monastic foundation. It was extant by 1257 as a grant of that period includes reference to lands adjacent to the chapel in Liverpool. Chapel Street is referred to in Moore Deeds in 1318, 1320 and 1322 [all predating the foundation of St. Nicholas]. In 1383 the will of William son of Adam stipulated that he was to be buried in the chapel before the white image of the Virgin Mary. Following the closure of the chantries, a visit by Edward Park, the receiver, in October 1553, found that the chapel was not corporate property and so could be seized. The building was subsequently purchased by the corporation. It was used as the town warehouse in the 16th century. It was later used as the school building, the earliest reference occurring in a dispute of 1611. Prior to this the school appears to have been at Walton. The school in Liverpool was described as ruinous in the parish vestry book of 1745 and was ordered to be taken down. (3)

John Cross's will of 10th May 1515 established a school. (4)

The chapel was purchased by the borough in 1553 and royal sanction was obtained the following year to appoint a schoolmaster. The Town Book records an offence on 28th June 1630 of the lead having been stolen from the schoolhouse roof. It was removed again during the siege of 1644, measures were taken to replace it on 14th January 1646. (5)

Joseph Clitherall petitioned on 20th March 1720 for a lease of the old school in the churchyard, proposing to convert it into a dwelling house. By 1st November 1721 the building had been converted. (6)

The building was later used as a tavern. Half of it was taken down in 1745. In 1766 it was known as the Ince Boat House. It was leased on 13th December 1783 to John Hinde. It was bought by the parish on 13th May 1814 and Hinde's Tavern as it was then known was demolished. (7-8)

Chadwick's map of 1725 shows a building on this site and Perry's plan of 1769 shows it in more detail. (9-10)

No building is shown on Eyes' plan of 1785 but the outline of the site is evident. (11)

Horwood's plan of 1803 shows a building on this site. (12)

Sources

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-

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Location**National Grid Reference**

SJ 33928 90487 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses**Associated Designations**

World Heritage Site (Core) - 1000104	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088
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Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2930579	Active
National Monuments Record - 67527	Active
National Monuments Record - SJ 39 SW 12	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-024	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-023	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-002	Active

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

Associated Resources

There are no digital images associated with this record

HER Number: MME2632 **Record Type:** Site

Site Name: Site of St Nicholas' Churchyard battery, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool

Summary: Former site of St Nicholas' Churchyard battery, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool, a mid to late 18th century fortification.

Monument Types and Dates

COASTAL BATTERY (GEORGIAN - 1760 AD? to 1785 AD?)

Description

Former site of St Nicholas' Churchyard battery, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool. (1)

"On 17th April 1759, 'Ordered that his Majesty be empowered to make use of any part of the New Addition to St Nicholas Churchyard as shall be found necessary for a fortification for the town, not disturbing any the present graves or burying places". "On 8th April 1760, 'Upon a survey and admeasurement of the ground formerly granted by the Vestry of the 17th day of April, 1759 to his Majesty, in the New Addition of the Old Churchyard, there appears to be 28 feet 9 inches from the west wall eastward clear of the burial places or graves the wall included". "On 29th June 1772 'it is recommended by this Vestry that the Parish be at the charge of throwing down the battery to the westward, and levelling that land, and adding it to the churchyard, and of making a parapet or fence wall there to front the dock quay". (2)

Eyes' plan of 1765 shows the battery with 13 gun emplacements, mostly facing west along the long side of the addition to the churchyard. (3)

Perry's plan of 1769 shows the battery and labels it 14 gun battery. (4)

Eyes' plan of 1785 shows the outline of the battery but no gun emplacements and does not label it. (5)

The new addition to the churchyard is shown on the OS town plan of 1850 but does not appear on the OS town plan of 1891, the area having been lowered and turned into George's Dock Gates road.

The plaque on the churchyard wall to the east records that the bodies in the removed portion of the churchyard, i.e. the New Addition, were moved to Everton cemetery under the powers of the Liverpool Improvement Act, 1882. (6)

Sources - None recorded

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Location

National Grid Reference

SJ 33933 90447 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statutes

Associated Designations

World Heritage Site (Core) - 1000104	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088
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Other Statutes and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2930582	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-005	Active

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded

Associated Resources

There are no digital images associated with this record

HER Number: MME12739 **Record Type:** Listed Building

Site Name: Simpson Fountain, Chapel Street, Liverpool

Summary: Simpson Fountain, Chapel Street, Liverpool, built in 1885.

Monument Types and Dates

DRINKING FOUNTAIN (VICTORIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1885 AD to 2050 AD)

Description

Simpson Fountain, Chapel Street, Liverpool.

From the National Heritage List for England:
SJ 3390 CHAPEL STREET L2

27/246 Simpson Fountain - G.V. II

Attached to retaining wall to church of Our Lady and St. Nicholas. Fountain. 1885. Stone with granite plinth. Fountain in elaborate Late Gothic canopy with 4-centred arched niche with portrait head and panelling over, flanked buttresses and pinnacles supporting heraldic beasts. Ogival cap with foliated finial.

Listing NGR: SJ3392990483
(1)

The William Simpson Memorial Fountain is dated 1885 and was by Thomas Cox. The portrait bronze medallion is by Joseph Rogerson. (2)

Sources - None recorded

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Location

National Grid Reference

SJ 33929 90483 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses

Associated Designations

Conservation Area (Current) - CA003	Castle Street	Active	DME3508
Listed Building (II) - 1280434	SIMPSON FOUNTAIN	Active	DME1281
World Heritage Site (Core) - 16	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088

Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2937720	Active
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Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations

Cox, Thomas - Historic	Architect
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Associated Resources

There is one digital image associated with this record

HER Number: MME12941 **Record Type:** Listed Building

Site Name: Retaining wall and railings of Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool

Summary: Retaining wall and railings of Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool, built in 1885.

Monument Types and Dates

GATE (VICTORIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1885 AD to 2050 AD)

GATEWAY (VICTORIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1885 AD to 2050 AD)

RAILINGS (VICTORIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1885 AD to 2050 AD)

WALL (VICTORIAN to 21ST CENTURY - 1885 AD to 2050 AD)

Description

Retaining wall and railings of Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool.

From the National Heritage List for England:
SJ 3390 CHAPEL STREET L2

27/245 Retaining wall to west of, and railings to south of Church of Our Lady and St. Nicholas.

G.V. II

Retaining wall to west side of churchyard, 1885. Stone with moulded plinth and coping, iron railings. Gateway with iron gates, pointed and with battlements over, flanked by crocketed pinnacles. End stone gate piers with crocketed pinnacle. Iron railings to south of church yard. C19 iron piers in the form of fasces and stone gate piers with caps.

Listing NGR: SJ3394790451
(1)

Sources - None recorded

Related Monuments

MME13772 St Nicholas' Churchyard, Old Church Yard, All Groups
 Liverpool

Location

National Grid Reference

SJ 33947 90451 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish LIVERPOOL
County MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough LIVERPOOL
Township LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses

Associated Designations

Conservation Area (Current) - CA003	Castle Street	Active	DME3508
Listed Building (II) - 1356312	RETAINING WALL TO WEST OF, AND RAILINGS TO SOUTH OF CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST NICHOLAS	Active	DME1422
World Heritage Site (Core) - 16	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088

Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2937916 Active

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations

Associated Resources

There is one digital image associated with this record

HER Number: MME13772 **Record Type:** Site

Site Name: St Nicholas' Churchyard, Old Church Yard, Liverpool

Summary: St Nicholas' Churchyard, Old Church Yard, Liverpool, opened for burials in 1361.

Monument Types and Dates

CHURCHYARD (MEDIEVAL to 21ST CENTURY - 1361 AD to 2050 AD)

Description

St Nicholas' Churchyard, Old Church Yard, Liverpool. (1)

On 11th September 1361 a temporary licence was granted by Robert Stretton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, for the dedication of St. Nicholas's Chapel and cemetery until Christmas on account of the plague. On the 11th February 1362 a perpetual right to bury was given. (2-3)

A deed of 1470 mentions the town cemetery, west of burgage bought by Edmund Crosse, the mayor. (4)

The churchyard was first enclosed by a wall on the east and south sides in 1690. (5)

There are numerous entries relating to the maintenance of the churchyard wall in the parish books of the late 17th and 18th century. The churchyard was expanded westwards in 1749, the New Addition, but this space was commandeered to form a battery. In 1772 the battery was proposed to be flattened and the whole area taken back into burial use. (6)

In 1883 the Corporation purchased the churchyard extension in order to widen the street to the west of the church, now George's Dock Gates. (7)

The plaque on the churchyard wall records that the bodies in the removed portion of the churchyard, i.e. the New Addition, were moved to Everton cemetery under the powers of the Liverpool Improvement Act, 1882. (8)

In 1891 the gravestones were covered with soil and the churchyard converted into a public garden. (9)

Sources

- (2) Article in serial: 1905. Temporary licence to bury in St. Nicholas' cemetery, Liverpool, and commission of dedication, 1361-1362. Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire Vol. 55-56: 328-31
<https://www.hslc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/5556-16-St-Nicholas-burials.pdf>
 - (4) Article in serial: Morton, T.N.. 1898. A concise account of the charters, muniments, and other records of the corporation of Liverpool, in the year 1897. Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire Vol. 49: 76
<https://www.hslc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/49-4-Morton.pdf>
 - (4) Article in serial: Morton, T.N.. 1898. A concise account of the charters, muniments, and other records of the corporation of Liverpool, in the year 1897. Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire Vol. 49: 76
<https://archive.org/stream/transactions31chesgoog/page/n113/mode/2up>
 - (5) Monograph: Picton, J.A.. 1875. Memorials of Liverpool: Historical and Topographical, including a history of the dock estate. 2. 58
<https://archive.org/stream/memorialsoliver02pictuoft/page/n7/mode/2up>
 - (7) Monograph: Picton, J.A.. 1886. City of Liverpool Municipal Archives and Records From A. D. 1700 to the passing of the municipal reform act, 1835. 2. 138
<https://archive.org/details/selectionsfrommu02pictuoft>
 - (9) Article in serial: Peet, H.. 1908. Liverpool in the reign of Queen Anne, 1705 and 1708. Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire Vol. 59: Appendix 107
<https://www.hslc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/59-11-Peet-1.pdf>
 - (9) Article in serial: Peet, H.. 1908. Liverpool in the reign of Queen Anne, 1705 and 1708. Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire Vol. 59: Appendix 107
<https://www.hslc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/59-11-Peet-2.pdf>
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Related Monuments

MME2628	Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Chapel Street, Liverpool	All Groups
MME12941	Retaining wall and railings of Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, George's Dock Gates, Liverpool	All Groups

Location**National Grid Reference**

Centred SJ 33969 90468 (81m by 77m) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses**Associated Designations**

World Heritage Site (Core) - 16	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088
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Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2938691	Active
Merseyside SMR File Reference - 3390-019	Active

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations

Associated Resources

There are 8 digital images associated with this record

HER Number: MME13937 **Record Type:** Site

Site Name: Site of the fish house, Chapel Street, Liverpool

Summary: Former site of the fish house, Chapel Street, Liverpool, the 17th century fish market.

Monument Types and Dates

FISH MARKET (STUART to GEORGIAN - 1675 AD to 1771 AD)

Description

Former site of the fish house, Chapel Street, Liverpool.

On 3rd July 1675 it was ordered that the fishstones near the exchange should be moved to Chapel Street under the church wall opposite Lancelott's new house. On 3rd May 1676 fishermen or women were ordered to bring fish for sale to the new fish house. In 1678 it was leased to Edward Tarleton, senior. The building was ordered to be demolished in 1771. (1)

Perry's plan of 1769 shows a narrow building along the northside of St. Nicholas' churchyard. (2)

No building is shown on the site on Eyes' plan of 1785. (3)

Sources - None recorded

Related Monuments - None Recorded

Location

National Grid Reference

SJ 33959 90503 (point) - precise to 1 metre

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	LIVERPOOL
County	MERSEYSIDE
Metropolitan Borough	LIVERPOOL
Township	LIVERPOOL

Designations and Statuses

Associated Designations

World Heritage Site (Core) - 16	Liverpool - Maritime Mercantile City	Active	DME3088
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Other Statuses and Cross-References

ADS UID for Heritage Gateway - 2938843	Active
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Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities - None recorded

Associated Individuals/Organisations

Associated Resources

There are no digital images associated with this record
