

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
EXTENSIVE URBAN SURVEY

RAUNDS

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Funded by English Heritage

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BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

This report is based on a survey conducted between June 1998 and December 1999. It is one of a series of reports compiled by Northamptonshire Heritage, as part of the Industrial period element, of the English Heritage funded Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) of Northamptonshire, which is intended to provide an effective information base and research framework to guide the management of the county's urban archaeological resource. The survey encompasses all urban settlements and others that may have had some urban attributes, from the Roman period to the 1930s. The only exception is Northampton, which is the subject of an Intensive Urban Survey in its own right.

Each report comprises three distinct sections: a detailed description of the town in each major period; an assessment of potential and definition of a research agenda; and a strategy for future management. A consistent approach has been taken in the presentation of the description in each report with detail being presented under each standard category even where this has no direct or obvious relevance to the urban aspects. This section has however been presented in the form of a gazetteer with standard headings so enabling the reader to identify those sections of particular interest. The Raunds report is presented in a single part covering the industrial period, from 1750 to the 1930s, by Jennifer Ballinger. The report has benefited from the specialist advice of Dr Barrie Trinder on the industrial period. Other contributions to the EUS on digital mapping, database input and related work have been made by various individuals including Christine Addison, Chris Jones, Paul Thompson, Rob Atkins, Phil Markham and especially Tracey Britnell and Abi Kennedy.

The vast quantity of documentation for the industrial period has meant that a comprehensive documentary assessment of each of the towns within the survey has been impossible, within the time period. A standard approach has been adopted with attention focussed on those sources that might contribute significantly to the reconstruction of the historical topography of the town and to the broader characterisation of the various monuments within the town. Trade directories of 1849, 1894, 1924 (and 1830 when in existence) have been assessed and all early maps (including Ordnance Survey maps of 1880s, 1900s and 1920s) were utilised. An index has been compiled of all records for the period in Northamptonshire Record Office and Northamptonshire Local Studies Library. Key secondary sources including books, journals and local pamphlets have been consulted and in a minority of cases original records have been used. The survey has relied heavily on a field visit to assess the physical growth and development of the settlement and the survival of monuments within the town. The reports have been produced in a standardised format to allow direct comparison between towns in the county.

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SUMMARY

This report focuses on the archaeological development of Raunds in the period following 1750. There has been no attempt made to discuss any earlier archaeology in the context of this report, but this does not mean that there are no significant archaeological remains in the area.

The settlement of Raunds clearly operated as an agricultural village until the late 18th / early 19th century. Following the enclosure act, which provided land for building on and better communication links to the village, the settlement began to develop and Raunds became a small town or large industrial village. There was a substantial expansion in the population from 890 in 1801 to 3,811 in 1901. The primary reason for the expansion of the settlement was the boot and shoe industry which began to develop in the late 18th century and continued throughout the 19th century. The boot and shoe trade in Raunds remained a >handsewn= trade right up until the 1st World War this was due to the predominance of government contract work in the settlement, as all army boots had to be made by hand. The urban status of the settlement was recognised in 1897 when Raunds Urban District Council was established.

The boot and shoe industry in Raunds was of considerable importance in a county context, but there are relatively few surviving physical remains.

I DESCRIPTION

1.0 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

The settlement of Raunds was clearly operating as an agricultural village until the early 19th century. There is evidence of a decline in the settlement right through until the 18th century - a comparison of the survey of 1739 and the inclosure map of 1798 indicates that there was some contraction of the village with a number of properties becoming deserted.¹ The Militia Lists of 1777 indicate that there was a large farming population with 29 farmers, 5 shepherds and 10 labourers between the ages of 18 and 45 listed.²

The enclosure award of 1800 clearly had a dramatic impact on the settlement of Raunds - both socially and topographically. In terms of the former there was considerable protest by the population of the village prior to enclosure. A formal petition was sent to parliament protesting about the process of enclosure³ and as the commissioners attempted to carry out the provisions of the act there were disturbances and rioting. *'Trusting overmuch to such leaders and void of reason, the people remove the fences and wildly riot over the length and breadth of the fields. Straightway with destructive hands they break down the rude beginnings of a fence and tear up the young bushes from their very roots and fill the ditches with earth. Whomsoever they see intent on his work they drag to their side evilly energetic in their speech, or hurl uncouth insults at those who are unwilling, striking terror into the hearts of the timid'*.⁴ The enclosure award went ahead regardless and ultimately had a positive impact on the development of the settlement. The major impact of the enclosures on the topography of the settlement was the creation of a number of new roads including Hargrave Road, Shelton Road, Marshall's Lane, Brick Kiln Road (Thrapston), Brooks Road (Titchmarsh) and Keyston Road. Prior to the enclosures Raunds had been in an isolated location with no immediate access to major road networks, the provision of good communication links facilitated the development of the settlement into a town in the 19th century.

Raunds gradually developed into a town throughout the 19th century with a steady rise in the population from 890 in 1801 to 3811 in 1901. The focus for this development was the boot and shoe industry in the town. As Freda J Stewart declared *'The effect of life in Raunds as a result of the award of 1799 was that in this instance the particular local craft which evolved was shoemaking. Instead of inhabitants moving in large numbers to a nearby town it would seem that they created a town within a village, so that within a hundred years of making this protest to Parliament, the inhabitants of Raunds had accommodated themselves to changes and many became skilled craftsmen.'*⁵ The boot and shoe industry had an early development in the settlement - the Militia lists of 1777 indicate that there were 16 'cordwainers' in Raunds at this date - a similar number to the much larger settlements of Daventry, Kettering and Towcester.⁶ However this accounted for a relatively small proportion of employment in the settlement compared to the agricultural industry. By 1831 the situation had changed dramatically and the census of this date indicates that 149 people

¹ Parry SJ, Raunds Area Survey: an archaeological study of the landscape of Raunds, Northamptonshire 1985-92 Draft

² This is a greater number of farmers than for any of the other 'small towns' in Northamptonshire.

³ Lee LGH, History of Raunds, 1924 P42. NRO ZB84/19

⁴ Northamptonshire Past and Present Vol 1 No 4, poem by Rev James Tyley (in Latin)

⁵ Stewart FJ, Raunds from village to town, 1981

⁶ Daventry - 15, Kettering - 14, Towcester - 15. These were however all very limited in comparison to Wellingborough with 111 cordwainers at this time.

were employed in agriculture (64 farmers and 85 agricultural labourers) compared to 162 people employed in trade and retail (much of which was presumably related to the boot and shoe industry). The number of shoemakers in the town increased substantially in the mid 19th century with 220 in 1841, 473 in 1851 and 601 in 1861.⁷ The boot and shoe industry also became varied and diversified in the town with trades such as shoe warehouseman, shoe thread worker, shoe worker, and boot blocker noted in 1871 in addition to the more usual trades of closer, clicker and maker.⁸ By the early 20th century Raunds had become a major centre in Northamptonshire for boot and shoe making. In addition to a large number of wholesale manufacturers and boot and shoe makers and dealers Kelly's Leather Trade Directory of 1920 indicates 2 specialised heel makers, a cardboard box manufacturer to the shoe trade, gold blockers and embossers to the shoe and leather trades as well as a curriers, leather factors and importers, a tanner and 3 leather merchants. The boot and shoe trade was self-supporting within the town of Raunds with all materials and services being provided within the town itself. The dominance of the boot and shoe trade in Raunds was due, in part, to the government contract work in the town - by the middle of the 20th century there were specialists in army, navy and police footwear and sportswear in the town. Up until 1939 90% of all work in Raunds was government contract footwear.⁹ The boot and shoe industry in Raunds remained a handsewn trade up until the 2nd World War. This was due to the war office insisting on handsewn boots for army and navy wear. The leather was cut by 'clickers' in large warehouses or boot factories, but the boots were sewn at home by shoemakers working in garden workshops.

The boot and shoemakers of Raunds were known as a particularly radical group - it was reportedly the shoemakers who had led the riots over the enclosure act '*.....but far in advance of the rest, all of whom St Crispin had shut in an evil-smelling prison and condemned for bad shoes*'¹⁰ The second major act of radicalism was the Raunds Strike and March to London of 1905. The strike took place between March 1st and May 31st 1905 due to falling wages as boot and shoe factories undercut each other to compete for army contracts. The strike was recognised by the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives. The march took place in May of 1905, this was not officially recognised by the Union, but was well organised - with 115 men being selected from 300 volunteers and organised into 'companies' (including the local band). The declared aim of the march was to '*.....go to the War Office, and present a petition, pleading to the authorities to interfere and insist on the manufacturers recognising the fair wage clause in contracts. Fail satisfaction there we shall march to Westminster and present a petition to be heard at the Bar of the House of Commons. I know we shall be turned back, but the public will learn the justice of our demands.....*'¹¹ The effectiveness of the march has been called into question, both at the time and by historians writing about the event, particularly as independently of the Raunds demonstration an inquiry was called to investigate fair wages in the army boot sector, however it clearly had the effect of raising the profile of the town and its prominence in the boot and shoe trade.¹²

Prior to the boot and shoe trade agriculture had been the main source of employment in the town. In the 19th century, however, the number of labourers employed was consistently substantially lower than the numbers of people in boot and shoe related trades. Lacemaking had been a major source of

⁷ Hatley VA & Rajczonek J, Shoemakers in Northamptonshire 1762-1911 A statistical survey, 1975

⁸ Jones O.H., The changing demographic and economic geography of Raunds, Northants 1851-1871, 1988.

⁹ Raunds: a survey by the Raunds Workers Educational association Branch, 1944

¹⁰ Northamptonshire Past and Present Vol 1, No 4.

¹¹ Northamptonshire Past and Present Vol 6, No 5, Brooker K, James Gribble and the Raunds strike of 1905.

¹² Betts J, The Raunds Strike and March to London 1905, 1989 P18

income for women in the town, but this went through a substantial decline in the mid-19th century with 123 lacemakers employed in 1851 to 64 in 1861 and 47 in 1871. This followed a regional pattern. The building trade in the town provided employment for a substantial number of people with 17 masons, 16 stone workers and 13 carpenters employed in the settlement in 1871.¹³

The retail function of the town did not appear to develop in line with the expansion of the boot and shoe industry. In 1849 the settlement had only the basic retailing functions including bakers, butchers, shop keepers, grocers and beer retailers and the situation had not changed dramatically by 1894 when only a limited number of specialised retailers such as a stationers and a newsagent had been added to the facilities provided in the town. Throughout the late 19th century there did not appear to be a clear central business district as the commercial services were spread through the town. Even in the early 20th century there were very few specialist retail traders although a number of specialised services were provided in the town including a 'town crier and bill poster' and a 'jobmaster'. There was however a photographer working in the town throughout the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The urban status of the settlement was recognised on 1st October 1897 when Raunds Urban District Council was formed under provisions of the Local Government Act of 1894. However despite the process of industrialisation and the importance of the boot and shoe industry in the town, the settlement retained its character as an isolated rural settlement. In 1884 Wright's Directory described the settlement in less than complimentary terms '*The village is large and populous, but it is straggling and irregularly laid out, and the paving in some parts leaves much to be desired, the surface being broken and hilly*'. A journalist visiting the town in 1905 claimed '*You must walk a mile from the local railway station....before you see anything more than the church steeple and the windmill sails of the town, and nearly another mile before you come to the houses and the boot factories. The buildings are widely scattered, to call so rural a place a town is purely complimentary*',¹⁴

2.0 TOPOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT

The original village settlement of Raunds was essentially dominated by the natural topography of the area with properties confined to the slopes of the brook running through the village. A survey of the settlement in 1739 identified 160 properties throughout Raunds with houses being concentrated in the core of the village around Rotton Row, but with further houses and farms in the 'ends' of the settlement - North end, Hill end, Higham end and Thorpe end.¹⁵

The enclosure map of 1798 shows a similar pattern with buildings located throughout a long central axis and along roads running to the east and west from the south of the settlement. The map also depicts the new roads, which were laid out as part of the enclosure award. The roads were all considerably straighter those used prior to enclosure and it was stipulated that they should be forty feet wide with no trees to obstruct alignment.

These roads formed the basis for development of the settlement throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries. Initial development was concentrated around the areas of the original settlement with considerable infilling of streets and building plots. 'Yards' were formed by inserting one or more

¹³ Figures taken from census statistics compiled by OH Jones in his dissertation of 1988.

¹⁴ Northamptonshire Past and Present Vol 6, No 5 P275.

¹⁵ Parry SJ, Raunds: An archaeological study of the landscape of Raunds, Northamptonshire 1985-92 Draft

rows of terraced houses into former medieval plot boundaries. This development did not appear to be planned or co-ordinated and therefore led to overcrowding. In a survey of the town by the Workers Educational Association in 1944 the northern end of the town, Thorpe Street and Newtown were condemned for the poor quality of housing in the area '*it is completely devoid of planning of any kind, and the houses, in many cases, are old and unfit for human habitation*'. They were also lacking in all conveniences including lavatories, gas lighting and water. The brook running through the town was also identified as a problem - in terms of both street planning and general sanitation. Many of the houses in the areas identified have since been demolished and the brook has been partially straightened, therefore changing the appearance and layout of these areas of settlement.

The initial outward expansion of the town occurred in the last two decades of the 19th century and was focussed between Manor Street, Hill Street and Thorpe Street. A number of new streets were laid out including Hollington Road, Clare Street, Harcourt Street, Park Street and Coleman Street. This area provided the focus for the large scale development of the boot and shoe industry. There were seven or eight factories related in some way to the boot and shoe trade in this area of the town. There were also a large number of garden workshops - usually of some considerable size located to the rear of most of the houses. The housing is of good quality construction and of a substantial size with features such as gardens, architectural embellishment etc. There are a large number of detached and semi-detached dwellings as well as the usual terraced houses. It is interesting to note that there are no religious, recreational, educational or large scale commercial buildings inserted into this area as is the case in many other towns in the county. The second phase of development was the western expansion along Marshalls Road - a number of isolated houses were erected in addition to the Temperance Hall and Primitive Methodist Chapel and later developments consisted of the Nene Works Boot and Shoe factory, the Woodbine Working Men=s Club and a number of terraced houses. One piece of deliberate town planning in the settlement was the removal of a number of farm buildings etc from the junction between Marshalls Road and High Street in 1899 to form 'The Square' which became a central focus in the town.

3.0 THEMATIC ANALYSIS

3.1 INDUSTRY

3.1.1 Boot and Shoe Industry

The boot and shoe industry was clearly of prime importance in the settlement of Raunds from an early date. Boot and shoe working clearly forms an important part of the economy of the settlement in the late 18th century and this continues throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries.

A number of garden workshops were noted during the field visit both in the area of 19th / 20th century development to the east of the town between Manor Street and Thorpe Street and in association with surviving houses in Rotten Row and Midland Road. However OH Jones=s dissertation on the demographic and economic geography of Raunds in 1851-1871 indicates that the majority of boot and shoe workers lived in Thorpe Street, Rotten Row, High Street and Brook Street, in areas where houses have subsequently been demolished. Therefore, it is likely that the workshops that remain form a very small proportion of the total number in use in the 19th century. A boot and shoe warehouse was erected in Raunds in 1865 by William Nichols, this structure as well as many of the later boot and shoe factories in the town have been subsequently demolished. Of the ten boot and shoe factories which were positively identified through mapping and the field visit - seven have been demolished and replaced by other structures (usually modern housing), one has been partially

converted for domestic usage, one was derelict and one still in operation. There have been substantial changes since the field visit in 1998 Tebbutt and Hall=s factory which was still in use as a shoe factory closed in April 1999 and Nene Boot and Shoe Works on Marshall Road has now been demolished. The Tebbut and Hall factory has been the subject of a dissertation that outlines its development from a small garden workshop into a large 20th century concern.¹⁶

The supporting industries for the boot and shoe trade appear to have fared slightly better - the two heel factories remain in existence, one building is in use by an engineering company, but the other is derelict and would appear vulnerable to demolition or re-development. The large tannery on Wellington Street has been demolished and replaced by modern housing, but the building for a leather works on Ponds Close remains in existence although part of the structure has been re-built. There are a number of 19th century industrial works located throughout the town which have not been positively identified to an industry - it would appear likely that these were associated with the boot and shoe industry, as this was clearly dominant in the town and possibly housed the premises of 'cardboard box makers to the shoe trade' or 'gold blockers and embossers to the shoe and leather trades' as identified in the leather trades directory of 1920.

3.1.2 Brickworks

In the 19th century brick making began in the town - with two brickworks situated to the north west along 'Brick Kiln Road' and Manor Farm brickworks to the east of the settlement. The former has been entirely dismantled, although the original house associated with the works remains and earthworks appear to survive in the field where the works were located and the latter was still in production until the 1970's. It is one of the few brickworks in the county to have any above ground remains; including the lime kiln (which is a listed structure) and a number of the subsidiary buildings. Local knowledge informs that there was also a pre-1850 brickworks site which used an earlier method of production this was situated behind the gas works in Wellington Road and the site has not been extensively developed¹⁷. There are a number of quarries, lime kilns and stone pits noted on early edition Ordnance Survey maps - however these have all been subsequently built over.

3.1.2 Other industries

The boot and shoe industry was clearly dominant in the economy of Raunds in the 19th and early 20th century, however there were other industries in the town. Lace making clearly employed a large number of people, however this industry was usually domestically based and it is likely that it was carried out in many of the houses which have since been demolished. There was a brewery on Bridge Street, which was used by a number of different brewers including Praeds in the late 19th century¹⁸. The building is still in existence and in use as a private house. There is also a building on Rotton Row that appears to have had an industrial function - perhaps as a factory or warehouse. The building industry was also a major employer in Raunds from the 18th century onwards Bridges noted *'This lordship is famous for it quarries of rag-stone. The stone from the beauty of its grain, and firmness of texture, is usually called Raunds marble.....In many of the best seats in the county are chimney pieces and window slabs of this stone'*¹⁹

¹⁶ Craddock J, Tebbutt and Hall Factory....., University College Northampton, 1998

¹⁷ Sites and Monuments Record RN 0072007.

¹⁸ Brown M & Willmott B, Brewed in Northants: A directory of Northamptonshire Brewers (including the Soke of Peterborough) 1450-1998, 1998 P112

¹⁹ The history and antiquities of Northamptonshire compiled from the manuscript collections of the late learned antiquary John Bridges Esq, vol 2, p185.

There was a very short-lived ironstone quarrying operation in Raunds run by Raunds Iron and Limestone Quarries Co Ltd (later East Northamptonshire Ironstone Co Ltd) which was in operation 1880-1. Raunds lies of the eastern limit of commercially workable ironstone. Quarrying was to the east and there was an ironstone tramway leading to Raunds Railway Station.²⁰ Local knowledge informs that there is an ironstone cliff in the High Street opposite the library.

There were one or two isolated industries in the town including a printing works on a plot of land between Church Street and High Street and a branch of the 'Ideal Clothing Factory' both of which have been demolished. The two smithy=s marked on Ordnance Survey maps on Rotten Row and Hill Street appear to survive complete with their workshops. The Raunds Workers Educational Association survey of 1944 noted that two firms had moved to Raunds from London during the war - the Rosebud Doll factory and a shirt and pyjama factory. The former was located in a former boot and shoe factory behind the Tivoli cinema. The business later went on to produce other toys including masks, beach balls and model railway sets. The building has since been demolished and Smiths Containers RPC was erected on the site by the same family.

3.2 AGRICULTURE

Agriculture was clearly an important element in the economy of the Raunds from the 18th century onwards, although it was later to become secondary to the boot and shoe industry in the town. There are a number of possible farm complexes dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries at the periphery of the settlement particularly to the north, however. There are many more which appear to have been demolished. A miller was noted in the Militia Lists of 1777 and trade directories of 1849 and 1894, but not in 1924 and on the Ordnance Survey map the windmill to the west of the town was shown as disused. The structure has subsequently been demolished and a modern housing estate (with many of the street names referring to the mill) erected on its former location.

3.3 HOUSING

There are a large number of houses surviving in Raunds for the period 1750-1939 - with particular emphasis on the late 19th and early 20th century developments along Marshall=s Road, between Manor Street and Thorpe Street and to a lesser extent on Grove Street and Wellington Street. The majority of these developments are good quality terraced houses of solid construction with distinctive architectural features, gardens etc. There are also a number of larger semi-detached and detached properties in the 19th century development to the east of Raunds. These buildings are clearly not representative of the entire housing stock of the town in the industrial period. There have been a large number of demolitions of 'unsuitable housing' to the extremities of the settlement and although some houses remain in Rotten Row and to the north of the settlement these were presumably of better quality and construction than those which were demolished.

3.4 COMMERCE

Commerce or retail was not a major aspect of the economy of Raunds in the 19th and 20th century and there are very few commercial buildings of distinction remaining in the town.

3.4.1 Shops

There are a number of corner shops in the 19th century block to the east of the settlement and one or two early 20th century shop frontages on High Street. The Post Office shown on maps of 1900 and 1926 is still in operation, the building appears to have been added onto a much earlier structure. The

²⁰Tonks E, The Ironstone Quarries of the Midlands - History, Operation and Railways Part 4, The Wellingborough Area P219-221.

building on the corner of Brook Street, Grove Street and Thorpe Street housing the Co-operative Society Supermarket is dated 1901 and was originally built by the Co-operative Society and there is an additional Co-operative shop on Brook Shop which has a 1930's appearance.

3.4.2 Public houses and inns

Of the eight public houses identified through mapping and the field visit five have been demolished, two are still in use as public houses and one has been converted to domestic usage. Local knowledge informs that there were thirteen public houses in the settlement.

3.5 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Kettering and Cambridge branch line of the Midland Railway was opened through the parish in 1866, it was however over a mile and a half from the village. The line closed during the 1960s as a result of the Beeching Act. The station buildings have been converted into a house and the track has been removed although the alignment remains in place.

3.6 UTILITIES

There were a large number of 19th and early 20th century utilities in Raunds including a sewage works and waterworks. Local knowledge informs that the former is still in existence as a sewage works, but has been considerably modernised and extended and the latter has a pumping station which is standing derelict to the west end of Meadow Lane. The gas works, which was erected in 1866 still survives in part. There are a number of industrial buildings on the location of the former gasworks and the area of the circular gasometers appears to be undeveloped. Some of the land is still owned by British Gas and a generator is located on the site. It is important to determine which buildings were associated with the gas works and to determine what their function was.

3.7 HEALTH AND WELFARE

There was a Children's Home in Raunds located on Marshall Road. The buildings survive and are currently used for normal domestic accommodation. The public cemetery which was established in 1917 remains in use. The Urban District Council headquarters, formerly The Hall, remain in use as offices, but the small fire station which was located on High Street has been demolished. There is a building located in Hollington Street which has elaborate architectural detailing to the rear of the structure, this building was formerly the labour exchange.

3.8 RELIGION

In addition to the parish church of St Peter's there are two chapels for the Methodist Church and the Baptist chapel remaining. The Society of Friends (Quakers) also had a meeting house in the town. The last meeting took place in 1834 and the building was demolished in 1880 although the burial ground is still in existence in Thorpe Street. The two Methodist chapels are still in religious usage; the Methodist Chapel on Brook Street erected in 1874 is a large and imposing structure of three large storeys, three bays wide and six bays deep and on a much grander scale than many other chapels of this denomination seen in the county. The Primitive Methodist Chapel is located on Marshalls Road and is in use by the Catholic Church, this building is much simpler in design and construction. The Baptist Chapel in Rotten Row is still standing, but is no longer operating as a chapel - it is currently in use by a plastics manufacturing company. The purpose built Sunday School adjoining the Baptist church is in use as offices and house and the school for the Wesleyan Chapel (which became the Sunday school after the erection of the Council School) is now converted to domestic accommodation.

3.9 EDUCATION

Raunds had both a National School for the Church of England (established in 1767, building erected 1859) and a Wesleyan Day School (established in 1848, building erected 1860). The former structure has since been demolished and the latter has been converted for domestic usage. The council school which was erected in 1914 is still in use as a school today although the complex has been extended and modified. There was also a school for '15 young ladies' located on Chambers Row to the north eastern end of the settlement, the building was demolished in the 1940's.

3.10 RECREATION

There were a number of recreational buildings erected in Raunds in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Raunds Working Men's Club Woodbine 1901 and the Conservative Club 1902 are still in use as social clubs and appear from external appearances to be little changed structurally. The Coffee Tavern and Temperance Hotel on Brook Street retains its distinctive appearance, but has been converted to a shop. Similarly the Temperance Meeting Hall, Marshalls Road has been converted to a domestic residence; there are a number of changes to the exterior and presumably re-modelling of the interior. The Palace Cinema, Grove Street and Church Institute, High Street have both been demolished. A cottage on Brook Street bears the legend 'Friendly Society 1851' - the building is currently used as a domestic residence, but may always have been used as a house as it is unlikely that a friendly society would have its own premises.

II ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE & SURVIVAL

The settlement of Raunds developed from a large village into a small town during the course of the 19th century, as a result of the boot and shoe industry. This form of expansion is unremarkable in Northamptonshire, as it is mirrored in a substantial number of settlements around the county.

The boot and shoe trade was essentially based on government contract work and was different to many of the other boot and shoe settlements in the county, as the industry remained handsewn until a late date. There are however few remaining buildings relating to the industry left in Raunds.

The potential for Raunds is limited due to the large number of demolitions of buildings in the settlement. There are very few buildings worthy of conservation and entire areas of the urban topography have been destroyed. The documentary evidence is average, but there are some good photographs and plans which would allow a detailed reconstruction of the settlement. There is the potential for archaeological work on some of the former slum housing areas; this would develop a greater understanding of the living conditions for the working class as the settlement developed from an agricultural village into an industrialised town.

1.0 DOCUMENTARY

1.1 Documents

The documents available for the study of Raunds in the period 1750-1939 are of a very average nature. There are 36 references to deeds, mortgages, leases and surveys for the town in the period following 1750, which would presumably provide further information about the development of the settlement. There are also a number of original sources relating to particular institutions in the town for example the gas company, the friendly society and the brickworks. There are also detailed records for local government in the town for a short period in the late 19th / early 20th century - at approximately the time of the establishment of the Urban District Council - these may be worthy of study in order to ascertain how the settlement was developing at this time.

1.2 Maps

The earliest map for the town is the enclosure map of 1798 which indicates the layout of the settlement following enclosure. The map shows the basic topography of Raunds at this time complete with individual houses and plot boundaries. In 'Raunds Area Survey: an archaeological study of the landscape of Raunds, Northamptonshire 1985-92' there is a discussion about the reconstruction of the settlement from a survey of 1739. There are a number of maps of isolated elements of the settlement in the 19th century, but the next comprehensive map of the town is the Ordnance Survey mapping of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

1.3 Photographs

There are a very large number of photographs and plans for the town of Raunds in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Records Office hold Xerox copies of a large collection of photographs of buildings, street scenes and events in Raunds, possibly generated by one of the professional

photographers working in the town (advertising in trade directories). There are also a very large number of architectural plans and drawings by Raunds Urban District Council listed at the Records Office - these include plans, enlargements and alterations to factories, shops, houses, schools, banks, churches, clubs, sewerage schemes etc in the town. The combination of these collections would provide a good resource for reconstructing areas of the town and / or individual monuments.

2.0 STANDING BUILDINGS

There are just 16 listed buildings for the town of Raunds and only one of these- the lime kiln from Raunds Manor Farm brickworks - is of 19th century or later date. Due to large scale demolitions in the area there are few additional buildings worthy of preservation, however the chapels (with particular emphasis upon the Methodist Church on Brook Street) and some of the social clubs (particularly the Temperance Hall and Coffee Tavern) are worthy of preservation in a local context.

There is very little left of the boot and shoe industry in the town, but consideration should be given to conserving the Tebbutt and Hall factory and some of the buildings of trades associated with the boot and shoe industry.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL

There would appear to be little potential for below ground investigation for the industrial period in Raunds as most of the structures which have been demolished have been substantially re-developed in modern times - primarily with the construction of housing estates. The two brickworks in the settlement are both in areas of undeveloped land. The Manor Farm brickworks in particular has been substantially documented and further recording of this site would lead to an understanding of the technologies used and the bricks produced at a 'successful' brickwork site. There was a considerable amount of 'slum housing' in Raunds which has been demolished and there may be the potential for the excavation of some of these houses to determine the date, quality and use of these structures and to gain an understanding of working class material culture in the period.

4.0 TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the town of Raunds has been substantially altered in the later 20th century with the demolition of substantial areas of 'slum housing' and the erection of modern shops, factories and in particular housing estates. However there is some retention of the original character of the settlement. Rotten Row, Thorpe Street and the land around and to the north of Midland Road retain an unplanned village character, despite the large number of demolitions in these areas. It is still possible to determine the location of the 'ends' of the settlement, although these have subsequently been infilled with modern expansion, particularly to the west of the settlement

The block of land between Manor Street and Thorpe Street retains its 19th / early 20th century characteristics despite the demolition of the majority of the factories in this area, the housing in this area is of higher status and better quality than is found in many such block developments in other towns, this is presumably because lower status houses were located in the core areas of the settlement.

III RESEARCH POTENTIAL

What effect did the developing boot and shoe industry have on the settlement of Raunds?

The industrialisation of the boot and shoe trade in Raunds contributed to the physical development of the settlement. Need to determine the pattern of development, were the factories or the houses erected first. It is also important to determine what effect urbanisation had upon the settlement - did living conditions improve or deteriorate? Was there a move towards social segregation? What class of people were living in the newly erected terraced houses and in the smaller cottages and houses in the core area of Raunds?

What distinctive characteristics did the Raunds boot and shoe industry have in comparison to other settlements in the county?

The Raunds boot and shoe industry remained a handsewn industry until the 1st World War and therefore it is likely that the buildings may have differed to those designed for a mechanised industry. The vast majority of boot and shoe factories in Raunds have been either demolished or radically altered and therefore the potential is limited, but there are a number of buildings relating to the subsidiary industries still in existence.

Why were the brickworks in Raunds so successful compared to others in the county?

The brickworks sites in Raunds provide a good opportunity for study of the developing techniques of brick making. The site to the rear of Wellington Road would provide information about early techniques of brickmaking. The Raunds Manor site, which remained in operation until the 1970s, has been extensively documented, but further survey of such a successful brickworks would provide a model against which other sites could be compared.

IV STRATEGY

The assessment of the management and conservation priorities within the Extensive Urban Survey have been based around an assessment of levels of importance previously applied elsewhere in the county for management purposes. The grading falls into six categories:

Scheduled: nationally important remains that have statutory protection.

Unscheduled national importance: in some cases statutory protection is suggested while in others recording action may prove to be the appropriate response to threats.

County importance: Where significant archaeology is known or where it is likely but confirmation is required. Normally recording rather than preservation would be the appropriate mitigation strategy.

Historic buildings: Buildings known or which have the potential to contain significant pre 19th century structural remains.

Local importance: where archaeology may survive but where, on present evidence investigation does not appear appropriate.

Destroyed: where the archaeology has been wholly destroyed.

White Land: Archaeology not assessed for this report.

In addition in some cases recommendations have been made for the designation of new or the extension of existing Conservation Areas and for the listing of specific buildings.

This approach has not been possible for the industrial period, as further work on the period is needed at a county, regional and national level before a definitive assessment can be made. The town has been divided up into zones and priorities for additional research, recording and conservation measures have been assigned to each individual area.

1.0 EXISTING DESIGNATIONS

1.1 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

There are three Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the existing settlement of Raunds. The churchyard cross (SAM 79), North Raunds Saxon and medieval settlement (divided into three - SAM 11507) and Thorpe End Iron age, Saxon and medieval settlement (SAM 11508).

1.2 Listed buildings

There are 16 listed buildings in the settlement of Raunds.

1.3 Conservation Areas

There are no conservation areas in the settlement of Raunds

2.0 MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

2.1.1 Zone 1 - Core area of settlement including ‘the ends’

The core area of Raunds including the distinctive ‘ends’ has been considerably changed both within the period 1750-1939 and subsequently. There are only a minority of buildings which are worthy of conserving in a local context and these include the factories relating to the boot and shoe trade, the Methodist chapels and some of the recreational buildings including the former Coffee Tavern. Excavation in the area of the core of the settlement could be justified for the industrial period in line with the research agenda outlined above.

2.1.2 Zone 2 - 19th century block

The 19th century block to the east of Raunds is of interest as it differs from similar blocks in other towns as it has only been utilised by houses and factories and there are no religious, social or educational buildings. The importance of the area has, however, been degraded by the loss of the vast majority of factories in the area and there are no specific recommendations for the area as a whole.

2.1.3 Zone 3 - 20th century block

The early 20th century development along Marshalls Road was relatively intact during the field visit with houses, factory, social club, chapel and hall. The subsequent demolition of the Nene Works has degraded the potential and importance of the area and there are no specific recommendations for the area as a whole.

2.1.4 Zone 4 - Sparse settlement to south of the core of the town

This area was sparsely settled in the late 19th and early 20th century and represents an expansion of the core settlement. There were a mixture of high status houses, terraced houses and some possible industrial buildings. Many of the buildings remain in-situ, but the area has been substantially developed in the later 20th century with development surrounding these buildings. There are no specific recommendations for the area as a whole.

ABBREVIATIONS

NRO Northamptonshire Record Office
RCHME Royal Commission for the Historical Monuments of England

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