

**LANCASHIRE
HISTORIC TOWN
SURVEY PROGRAMME**

ORMSKIRK

**HISTORIC TOWN
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

JUNE 2006

Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea Consultancy
with the support of English Heritage and West Lancashire District Council

The Lancashire Historic Town Survey Programme was carried out between 2000 and 2006 by Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea Consultancy with the support of English Heritage.

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SUMMARY

The Lancashire Historic Town Survey Programme

This assessment report is a key end product of a survey of Lancashire's historic towns carried out by the county's Archaeology and Heritage Service, with the Egerton Lea Consultancy, between 2001 and 2006. The project, part of a national programme of work coordinated by English Heritage, comprised a three-stage survey of the historical and archaeological aspects of each of the thirty-three towns selected in Lancashire. The programme aims to re-evaluate the national archaeological resource and to provide comprehensive, rigorous and consistent base-line information against which research, regeneration and land use planning objectives may be set. The programme has three principal outputs: new data added to the Lancashire Sites & Monuments Record, a comprehensive report (submitted as this document) that contains background information on the historical development and the current archaeological knowledge of each town, and a shorter Historic Environment Management Guidance report, which outlines strategies for conservation and enhancement.

Ormskirk – Archaeological and Historical Summary

Ormskirk is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 although it is likely to have been part the adjoining township of Lathom, (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 238), which is described as having one berewick, which has been thought to be a possible reference to Ormskirk, though there appears to be no direct evidence for this (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 248). It is considered, however, that the settlement may have had pre-Conquest origins (Philpott 1988, 43), a theory supported by the presence of the Mere Brook, suggesting a boundary. The first documentary reference to Ormskirk is in 1189-90 when Robert, lord of Lathom, confirmed a grant to Burscough Priory of *'the church of Ormskirk with all its appurtenances'*, and suggests that Ormskirk was a rectory manor, subordinate to Lathom (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 262).

In 1286 Edward I granted the right to hold a market or fair at Ormskirk to the Prior of Burscough (Tupling 1936, 102), and the borough charter was probably granted at the same time (Webb 1970, 48-49, 52-53), though it is first documented in 1292 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 262). The borough charter records an annual rent of 12d for a burgage and 6d for a toft with burgage rights (LRO DDSc/52/16). Market day was, and still is, Thursday, and the fair was held from 28th to 31st August. A further fair on Whit Tuesday was granted in 1461 and the fairs were still being held in 1670 (Tupling 1936, 102).

The ancient borough appears to have become extinct by the end of the fifteenth century, and from the mid-sixteenth century it was governed by the manorial court leet, first for the Crown and then for the Earls of Derby (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263). The court exercised rigorous controls over the activities of traders and promoted the credibility of the town as a market centre (Duggan 1998, xvii). It appointed four overseers of the highway, a responsibility which passed to the quarter sessions in the early eighteenth century (Duggan 1998, 50-1). By the nineteenth century, there was increasing resistance to attending the court leet, which led to the concession that only freeholders need do so (LRO PR 2815/1).

Early population figures are difficult to estimate, though some sources provide indications. In 1366, for example, 71 individuals subscribed to support a priest for the church at Ormskirk (Rylands 1896, 109-111), and in 1524, a rental of Burscough Priory's land in Ormskirk lists 80 names. Assuming that these were heads of household, these figures would suggest a population of around 290 to 360, respectively. During the plague in 1648, a petition recorded a population of 800 (Philpott 1988, 44). Manorial records show 218 inhabitants enrolling for tithings in 1680, 243 in 1699 and 269 in 1754. Given an average

family size of 4½ people, these can be translated into estimated populations of around 980, 1,100 and 1,200 respectively (Duggan 1998, xix). Considering other possible inhabitants such as lodgers, the figure of 2,280 people given by the vicar in 1778 does not seem unreasonable (Duggan 1998, xix). By 1801, when the first census was taken, the official population figure was 2,554 (Farrer and Brownbill 1908, 330).

It is clear that Ormskirk was a substantial urban centre, by Lancashire's standards, in the early post-medieval period. Even so, Leland dismissed it briefly as a town with a parish church, perhaps because he did not visit the town, whilst Liverpool, Warrington and Wigan are described as paved towns (Chandler 1993, 268-9). In 1598, however, it was described as a '*great, ancient and very populous town, and the inhabitants are very many and a great market is kept there weekly beside two fairs every year*' (Duggan 1998, xvii). It was a successful market town serving west Lancashire, at least into the early 1700s (Duggan 1998, 17), and enjoyed considerable prosperity (Crosby nd). Even though it suffered from visitations of the plague during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and must also have been affected by the two Civil War sieges of nearby Lathom House (Lea 1893, 81), it was a sufficiently successful town that confidence had evidently returned by 1670 when its market charter was re-granted (LRO/DDK/13/3). Around 1680 the towns leading lawyers proposed an extension of the courts and the town's legal functions and, although unsuccessful, the town remained a thriving legal centre into the early 1700s (Duggan 1998, 17). By the late eighteenth century, however, lawyers began to decamp to Liverpool where the increased maritime trade was providing most of their work, and attempts to foster new roles as a spa town and leisure resort were unsuccessful (Duggan 1998, 61). Its future was set as a provincial market town, serving the surrounding agricultural communities. The large number of seventeenth and eighteenth century inns and shops, which still dominated the town in the early twentieth century (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 261), was a reflection of the town's heyday.

Development of the nineteenth century town

Ormskirk's position on the West Lancashire plain, away from the coal fields and the centre of the developing textile industry, meant that it was not subject to the same substantial growth as many of the east Lancashire settlements from the end of the eighteenth century. In 1825, it was described as '*a small but clean and pleasant market town and the great thoroughfare between Liverpool, Preston and Lancaster*' (Corry 1825, 702). By 1870, it appears to have changed relatively little, when it was considered to be '*a clean well built market town comprised principally of four paved streets, intersecting each other at right angles, and having a handsome opening in the centre which is used as a market place*' (Harland 1870, 413). The population increased to a limited extent over the nineteenth century, from 2,554 people in 1801 to 6,857 in 1901. The largest increases were in the first half of the nineteenth century, when Ormskirk attracted Irish immigrants entering the country through nearby Liverpool, but in the second half of the century, it dropped between 1861 and 1871 and between 1881 and 1891 (Farrer and Brownbill, 1908, 346). Even though Ormskirk was not subject to the rapid urban growth of the heavily industrialised towns of Lancashire, it did not escape the same public health hazards. In 1849 the town was visited by an Inspector of the General Board of Health, and subsequently a Local Board was set up in 1850, amidst a stormy political climate and a welter of local squabbling (Coney 1991, xiii). Some members of the Board continued to serve on the court leet, though with the purchase of the market tolls by the Board in 1874, the main activities of the court ceased (Stacey nd, 12-14) and it was dissolved in 1876. It was revived in 1890 for purely ceremonial purposes. In 1894 the Board became an Urban District Council and by 1907 the West Lancashire Rural District Council also met in Ormskirk (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

This report is an archaeological and historic urban landscape assessment of Ormskirk and forms part of the Lancashire Historic Town Survey. The survey comprises an assessment of thirty-three towns within the county, with a report produced for each town.

The Lancashire project is part of English Heritage's national Extensive Urban Survey Programme, which grew out of the Monuments Protection Programme. This still ongoing programme aims to re-evaluate the national archaeological resource and to provide comprehensive, rigorous and consistent base-line information against which research, regeneration and land use planning objectives may be set. The recognition that urban areas themselves are archaeological monuments has led to a shift away from the identification of individual sites within towns to a more holistic appreciation of the entire historic urban fabric.

The Lancashire project is being undertaken by Lancashire County Council with Egerton Lea Consultancy and is funded by both the County and English Heritage. It is based on a survey commissioned by Lancashire County Council and carried out by the Lancaster University Archaeological Unit in 1997, which resulted in the compilation of the *Lancashire Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey Assessment Report* in January 1998 (LUAU 1998a). This report was used to develop a specification for the assessment of individual towns, the *Lancashire Historic Town Survey Project Design*, which was submitted by the Archaeology and Heritage Service of the Environment Directorate of Lancashire County Council to English Heritage in January 2001. The full project commenced later in 2001 with the compilation of first stage reports by Egerton Lea on the pre-1900 historic elements of each town. To this the Council's Archaeology and Heritage team have added post-1900 data and an overall assessment of the nature and significance of the resource, to produce this report.

1.2 Project aims

The principal aim of the project has been to review and evaluate the archaeological and historical resource for the thirty-three defined towns within the post-1974 county of Lancashire. The resource was identified and assessed for significance, and strategies were proposed for its management.

Key objectives included the

- quantification of previous archaeological work,
- analysis of urban origins and development,
- identification and assessment of the broad historic character of each town,
- assessment of the potential for the preservation of significant archaeological deposits, and the
- identification of future research objectives.

The assessment was then to be used to help define new archaeological and conservation guidance strategies for each town. The Historic Town Survey for Lancashire forms part of the developing Lancashire Historic Environment Record Centre (an expanded version of the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record). Here it is maintained as a nested dataset amongst the other conservation datasets used to assist in planning decision-making within the county (LCC 2001).

1.3 Project outputs

Principal project outputs include

- **Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) data.** New information added to the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record. The SMR is the primary database for information on historical sites and archaeological remains in the county. It is used as a research and planning tool and is consulted as part of the development process.
- **Historic Environment GIS Data.** GIS-based information, supplied to those districts with the technology to receive it. The information includes data relating to SMR sites and statutory designated areas, the development of the individual towns over time, and the historic plan components that make up the present urban area.
- **Historic Town Assessment Report.** A comprehensive report, submitted as this document, that contains background information on the historical development and the current archaeological knowledge of each town. It also describes the historical interest of the surviving buildings, structures and plan components. The assessment report forms the basis for the strategies submitted as Historic Environment Management Guidance.
- **Historic Environment Management Guidance.** Based upon the assessment report, the final stage of the survey involved the formulation of a strategy for planning, conservation and management of the historic environment within each town. The strategy is presented as guidance with recommendations for local authorities and key agencies.

All the outputs, but in particular this Historic Town Assessment Report and its linked Historic Environment Management Guidance, will be used to inform a variety of planning, regeneration and research requirements, including:

- The continuing preparation of Local Plan policy and the preparation of Local Development Frameworks and thematic or Area Action Plans;
- Adoption as Supplementary Planning Documents;
- Input into Community Strategies and other neighbourhood initiatives;
- Input into regeneration and tourism strategies;
- Providing a context for Conservation Area appraisal, review and the establishment of new Conservation Areas;
- Facilitating the decision-making process for Housing Renewal initiatives, particularly within and adjacent to the East Lancashire Pathfinder areas;
- Input into National, Regional and Local Research frameworks.

It is intended that this assessment report and the management strategies should be accessible not only to planners, prospective developers and others involved in the planning process, but also to all those who have a general interest in a particular town and its historic environment. To this end, the information will also be made available on the County Council's website and at public libraries and record offices.

1.4 Project methodology

The project is based on the developing mechanisms for Extensive Urban Survey that have been applied elsewhere in England; these include the initial assessment undertaken for Tetbury in Gloucestershire (Heighway 1992), and work carried out in Cheshire, Essex and Somerset. In addition the recent Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative has influenced the approach, as many of Lancashire's towns owe their urban origins to industrialisation.

The Lancashire survey includes an additional aspect, however – urban characterisation. This specifically targets the broad archaeological and built heritage resource of the nineteenth-century industrial towns, a distinctive and significant feature of Lancashire's historic landscape. This aspect reflects the growing emphasis placed on characterisation for managing change in both the rural and urban environments. It also reflects the importance of local character in the definition of a sense of place, as emphasised in English Heritage's policy statement *Power of Place* (2000).

The methodology adopted for the Lancashire project followed the three-stage process of many of its predecessors, comprising:

- Stage 1 – Data-gathering
- Stage 2 – Assessment
- Stage 3 – Strategy.

The data-gathering methodology involved historical research and a field visit. Most information was entered directly into the Lancashire Historic Town Survey database, which was developed from existing databases. This was then used for analysis and, through the use of the ArcView GIS program, for the production of coloured base maps showing sites, designations, development phases, historic plan components and character areas.

The field visits examined the modern topography of each settlement, assessed likely areas of survival and destruction of deposits and structures, and created a basic photographic record in monochrome print and colour digital formats.

The assessment stage tries to answer two broad questions: firstly 'How has the settlement developed over time?' and secondly, 'What is the physical evidence of the past in today's townscape?'

In answering the first question the assessment included a chronological appraisal of the development of each town under the following headings:

- Prehistoric – up to cAD70
- Romano-British – cAD70-400
- Post-Roman and Early Medieval – 400-1050
- Medieval – 1050-1550
- Post-Medieval – 1550-1750
- Industrial and Modern – 1750-present

These chronological 'snapshots' or 'timeslices' (presented below in Section 4) offer descriptions of settlement history that will include many buildings, structures and land uses that no longer exist today, but which afford greater understanding of how the town has come to look as it does. It is arranged from the perspective of the distant past looking towards the present.

To answer the second question, 'What is the physical evidence of the past in today's townscape?', the assessment stage included an appraisal of the surviving historic character of each town. This effectively reverses the approach outlined above, to view a town from today's perspective, but acknowledging the time-depth evident in the place. For example, the analysis does not attempt to reconstruct the medieval town, but instead maps the medieval elements (be they buildings, roads or other patterns) that survive in the town of today.

In order to do this each town was divided into a series of discrete and identifiable blocks of townscape that share common characteristics of date, building form and function. These plan components are generic in that they may be found across the county – 'Bye-law

terraced housing' for example – and are termed Historic Urban Character Types. However, at a detailed local scale they will show unique differences resulting in the most part from alternate histories – for example the bye-law terraces of Darwen will differ from those in Blackpool. These are termed Historic Urban Character Areas. Differences between areas of the same character type may also be found in terms of condition and survival, or in the presence and absence of individual structures. It follows that one character type may support a large range of character areas. The Historic Urban Character Areas for each town, grouped under their relevant Type, are described below in the *Statement of Historic Urban Character*.

Once Historic Urban Character Types had been identified, they were assessed according to the following criteria (the equivalent criteria used by the Secretary of State for scheduling ancient monuments are shown in parentheses):

- Townscape rarity (period, rarity) – of urban character types and subtypes.
- Time depth (period, survival, diversity, potential) – visibility, survival and potential of evidence for earlier periods (both urban and non-urban) within the type.
- Completeness (group value, survival) – measure of association with buildings and features and their survival; also measure of association with adjacent areas of townscape.
- Forces for change (fragility/ vulnerability). Measured through datasets including indices of deprivation, allocation as derelict land or brownfield, allocation within Local Plans or other redevelopment proposals, local authority housing stock information and census data.

Assessment that culminated in the mapping and evaluation of current historic character types within the town of today formed the starting point and foundation for the development of strategies for the future. The final stage of work, the preparation of Strategy, comprised the preparation of *Historic Environment Management Guidance* for every surveyed town.

The primary aim of the Strategy was to produce management guidance for conservation and enhancement. To facilitate this the historic environment within Lancashire's towns was divided into individual assets and broader areas for which appropriate strategies were devised.

2. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

2.1 Geographical location

The town of Ormskirk is situated on the north-western side of a low sandstone outcrop at NGR SD 414 084 (centred). The historic core of the town was the borough, laid out below the church, which was positioned at the highest point of the town (Philpott 1988, 43). Ormskirk lay on the main route from Liverpool that ran across west Lancashire, at a junction with branches to Preston and Wigan. To the south-west of the town was Aughton, which now forms part of Ormskirk's urban area, but which was a discrete settlement until the twentieth century. Up until the late nineteenth century, development was restricted to the historic core and its immediate surrounding area. Later development spread to the south-west and south-east along the communication arteries from Liverpool to Wigan.

2.2 Geology

The underlying solid geology of the area consists of Permian and Triassic undifferentiated sandstones, including Bunter and Keuper New Red Sandstone (IGS 1979). The drift geology comprises reddish coloured till known as 'Northern Drift' which is overlain to the west by windblown Shirdley Hill Sand (Hall and Folland 1970, 7). The soils are mainly those of the Salwick and Astley Hall Associations, with some Sollom Association soils. The resulting coarse-textured soils provide fertile agricultural land, mostly devoted to intensive arable farming producing a wide range of crops, but also grassland farming with areas of parkland and stands of deciduous woodland (Hall and Folland 1970, 81-2, 108 111).

2.3 Landscape setting

Ormskirk formed as a nucleated, planned settlement on the north-western side of a low hill. The main road from Liverpool to Wigan followed the course of the Mere Brook, which flowed as an open stream down the centre of the road until the nineteenth century. The town varies in height from around 56m aOD at the church, to 49m aOD at the market place. The land falls away gently to a height of around 37m aOD on the northern edge of the defined urban area, and to around 45m to the south-west on the boundary with Aughton. Although the topography drops gently from the church to the centre of town, it rises again gradually towards the south-eastern edge of the town, to around 68m aOD.

The surrounding countryside is characterised by highly productive agricultural land, comprising mainly large fields, often without fences or hedgerows. Ormskirk lies within the Lancashire and Amounderness Plain character area, and the landscape is a generally flat plain, gradually sloping down to the coastal mosses (Countryside Commission 1998, 87-8).

2.4 Study area

Ormskirk's urban area was defined in relation to Lancashire's Historic Landscape Characterisation Project, which outlined urban areas in accordance with their extent c 1990, and by the administrative boundary of the Local Board in 1894. Where the Local Board boundary lies within the modern urban area, the Local Board boundary has been followed. On the northern and eastern sides of the defined urban area, therefore, the defined urban area is within the urban extent of c 1990. The western side follows the township boundary with Aughton. Aughton was a discrete settlement until the twentieth century and was not urban in character. It has therefore been excluded from the study.

3. SOURCES

3.1 Published works

Ormskirk figures only briefly in earlier antiquarian accounts such as Aiken's *A Description of the Country from Thirty to Forty Miles Around Manchester* (1795), and in Corry's *The History of Lancashire* (1825). A fuller account is provided by Baines, both in the original 1825 edition, and in later expanded versions (Harland 1870; Croston 1889). These histories considered Ormskirk as a local market town and agricultural centre, but placed as much emphasis on local large, significant houses as on the town itself. The only building within the town to be examined in any detail was the parish church. Another nineteenth century account is George Lea's *Handbook To Ormskirk* (1893), though much of the information contained within it can be found in later works. The *Victoria County History* (Farrer and Brownbill, 1907 261-4) provides the first full account of the town, though the emphasis is on the manorial history. It provides a description of the key features of the borough, and a detailed description of the parish church (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 240-6). The only published primary source available for Ormskirk is the *Report to the General Board of Health* (Rawlinson 1850), which was re-published in 1991 with an informative introduction (Coney 1991). It provides vital information on the housing conditions and public health in Ormskirk in the mid-nineteenth century.

Ormskirk is one of the towns covered by the *Historic Towns of the Merseyside Area: A Survey of Urban Settlement to c 1800* (Philpott 1988, 42-6), which provides a brief, though reliable description of the town's origins and medieval development, with a summary of archaeological work carried out to date. *The Story of Ormskirk* (Padfield 1986) is the only recent publication dedicated to the history of Ormskirk from the early medieval period to the twentieth century, which contains much useful information on the history and physical development of the town. There are some minor errors, however, such as the survey of 1713 (LRO DDK/1541/41), which is dated to 1715-16. The buildings descriptions taken from the survey, however, are an extremely valuable use of primary source material. A panoramic drawing of Ormskirk, described as having been executed in the reign of Charles II (Padfield 1986, 50), is unattributed and may be a modern interpretation. Duggan's *Ormskirk: The Making of a Modern Town* (1998) is a published version of her doctoral thesis, and analyses the high tide of the town's prosperity from 1660 to 1800.

As well as published works, there are a number of unpublished accounts held by Ormskirk Library, including Stacey's 'Ormskirk: the development of a 19th century Lancashire market town' and Bradshaw's 'A study of the township of Ormskirk in the mid-19th century based on the royal report on population census 1851' (1979) which deals with the decline of the town during the mid- to late-nineteenth century. Other unpublished accounts deal with specific elements, such as schools and education (Anon nd(a)), hospitals (Anon nd (b)), workhouses (Anon 1983(a)) and inns, hotels and breweries (Anon 1983 (b)).

There are a number of published photographic collections for Ormskirk, including two volumes in the *Britain in Old Photographs* series (Duggan 1995; 1999) and *Ormskirk in Old Picture Postcards* (Duggan 1992), as well as *Ormskirk Old and New* (Dingsdale 1983). All contain useful accompanying notes. Ormskirk Local Studies Library also holds a small collection of photographs of the town. In addition there is an Ormskirk scrapbook of newspaper cuttings c 1862-65 purchased by LRO (LRO DP/437/3), and taken from the local newspaper, *The Advertiser*, which was published from 1853 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 261).

3.2 Manuscripts

There are a considerable number of documents relating to Ormskirk in the Lancashire Record Office (LRO), spread through a number of collections. The Stanley, Earls of Derby collection (LRO DDK) contains court leet records from 1613 onwards (LRO DDK/1521-3),

the re-grant of the fairs in 1670 (LRO DDK/13/3), rentals of 1660 and 1746-1849 (LRO DDK/1541/40; 1820/1-104) and bailiff's accounts papers from the period 1683-1697 (LRO DDK/1553/67-71). There are also a number of eighteenth century surveys (LRO DDK/1770), including two dating to 1713 and 1787 (LRO DDK/1541/41-2). There is also a survey in the collection for the Stanleys of Cross Hall, dated 1720 (LRO DDCr/43/2), as well as an indenture of 1530-1 for a burgage in Moor Street (LRO DDCr/36/24) and a lease from 1559-60 for a house and yard 'lying in the Moorestreete of Ormskirk' (LRO DDCr/43/2). Other records of particular relevance are in the Scarisbrick collection, including specifications and sale particulars for houses in Ormskirk from 1789 and 1799 (LRO DDSc/22/7-9), subscribers to the stipend of Ormskirk's priest in 1336 (LRO DDSc/19/2), and a copy of the confirmatory charter granted to Burscough Priory in 1338-9 (LRO DDCr/52/16). This collection also contains rentals of 1704 (LRO DDSc/25/102). There are extensive collections of deeds and leases in the aforementioned collections, and others in the collections of Ireland Blackburne of Hale (LRO DDlb), Blundell of Ince Blundell (LRO DDln), Fitzherbert Brockholes of Cloughton (LRO DDFz), Farington of Worden (LRO DDF), Formby of Formby (LRO DDfo), Hesketh of Rufford (LRO DDHe), Miss GN Holme (LRO DDX/313), Mrs L Culshaw (LRO DDX/444), Mr E Brown (LRO DDX/1383/3), EJ Owen (LRO DDX/500), Messrs Kennedy and Glover (LRO DDX/1064), Brighouses Ltd (LRO DDX/231), Skipton Public Library (LRO DDX/567), the County Library, Ormskirk (LRO DDX/856) and the British Records Association (LRO DDX/75). There are also deeds from 1650 to 1850 for a house and woollen draper's shop in Church Street (LRO DDX/1275/1).

The Urban District Council collection (LRO UDOr) contains Local Board and UDC minutes from 1861, rate books from 1900, Medical Officer of Health records from 1894, registers of lodging houses from 1879 and slaughterhouses from 1851, and the Town Clerk's historic Ormskirk collection. Records for the Anglican Church for 1604 to 1841 (LRO DRL) include terriers for 1663, 1696, 1705 and 1814 (LRO DRL/3/9). Records for non-conformist churches include the Congregational from 1828 until 1990 (LRO CUOr) and Methodist circuit plans (LRO MRc1 acc.4469; DDX/1728 acc 6214). The Ormskirk General Hospital records (LRO HROR) mainly relate to the later twentieth century but they do contain the register of births and deaths in the workhouse for 1838-1848. The Grammar school records, include the governors' minutes from 1612 to 1952 (LRO DDX/191) and the United Charities School records date from 1863 (LRO SMOk). There are plans for Ormskirk railway station (LRO DP432 acc 4027) and the County Court building (LRO OsOr).

The Farrer Collection held by the Manchester Archives Service at Manchester Central Library, appears to contain little of relevance to this study. Material contained in the John Rylands Library and Chetham's Library, are considered to lie outside the scope of this study. The National Archives at Kew (PRO) contains a number of documents in the Duchy of Lancaster collection. They include calendars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (PRO DL 4/114/5; DL 4/114/10; DL 4/153/1), a record of the grant of three chantries to the Stanley family in the reign of Edward VI (PRO DL 14/5/3), a schedule of rents in the reign of Henry VIII (PRO DL 43/5/16), an inquisition on the endowment of the free school (PRO 44/859), and a list of evidences over a land dispute in the reign of James I (PRO DL 41/8/6). None were of particular relevance to this study.

3.3 Cartographic evidence

The earliest map of Ormskirk is an estate map dated to 1609, the original of which is held in the Public Record Office (PRO MR/4), with a copy in Ormskirk Library. It depicts the extent of the town in the early seventeenth century, showing the four main streets of the town, and is the single most important source for information on the physical appearance of Ormskirk in the early post-medieval period. It provides three-dimensional representations of the buildings along those streets, as well as important buildings such as the church and the windmill. There is a tithe map and schedule of 1845 for the township (LRO DRL 1/58), as well as a map appended to the Report to the General Board of Health in 1850

(Rawlinson 1850). Useful though limited information about the late eighteenth century town can be gleaned from the 1786 county maps of Yates (Harley 1968) and Greenwood (1818).

Other available map coverage is provided by the Ordnance Survey nineteenth century maps. The earliest are the 1:10560 first edition maps, sheets 83 (1847), 84 (1848), 91 (1849) and 92(1849). The Ordnance Survey also produced large-scale town maps in 1851 at a scale of 1:1056 (sheets 1-4), which a wealth of detail for individual buildings and other features. A full set is held by the LRO and Ormskirk Library hold sheets 1 and 2 which cover the northern part of the town. There are also four first edition maps at a scale of 1:2500, sheets 83.16 (1894), 84.13 (1894), 91.04 (1893) and 92.01 (1893).

3.4 Archaeological evidence

Following an initial examination of the nineteenth and early-twentieth century OS mapping, undertaken at the commencement of the LEUS there were 138 sites recorded for Ormskirk in the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record (LSMR). Of these 43, or just under 32%, were listed buildings. Over 65% were structures recorded from the Ordnance Survey map coverage or other nineteenth century documentary sources. Only six sites were known to have medieval origins, including two stray finds (LSMR 58 and 12008), and only 28 had origins pre-dating 1800. The medieval sites include the church (LSMR 752), the site of the market cross (LSMR 3655), a wayside cross (LSMR 750), and an excavated boundary ditch (LSMR 11856). Given that Ormskirk is a well-documented medieval borough, the small number of known medieval sites is a reflection of the lack of substantial archaeological work carried out in Ormskirk to date.

Within the town, there have been only a small number of archaeological events, comprising two desk-based assessments, four evaluations and two watching briefs. No full-scale excavations have been carried out as a result of proposed developments. The desk-based assessment carried out in advance of a supermarket development in Aughton Street, in 1995 (LUAU 1995), recommended further investigative work, but no further work was undertaken. A watching brief to the rear of 14 Church Street in 1993 (LUAU 1995) found no significant archaeological deposits. A 1993 evaluation at Church Street (LUAU 1993) led to a watching brief during 1999 (LUAU 1999), which found that nineteenth and twentieth century developments had truncated earlier deposits, though cut features were recorded cutting natural subsoil. Other evaluations were not considered to have produced sufficient evidence to merit further work, although in some cases evidence of post-medieval activity was recovered. A summary of archaeological events is given below.

Table 1: Archaeological events in Ormskirk

PRN	Name	Grid ref:	Event Type	Date	Organisation
23867	Parish Hall	SD 41274 08394	Evaluation	1992	Gifford and Partners
23864	29-31 Church St	SD 41339 08296	Evaluation	1992	LUAU
23682	14 Church Street	SD 41405 08300	Watching brief	1993	LUAU
	Church Street	SD 41312 08245	Evaluation	1993-4	LUAU
23859	Aughton Street	SD 41241 08096	Assessment	1995	LUAU
	Ormskirk College	SD 41451 08459	Assessment	1997	Gifford and Partners
11345	Ormskirk College	SD 41451 08459	Evaluation	1997	UMAU
11856	2 Saints Retail Park, Church Street	SD 41312 08245	Watching brief	1999	LUAU

Key: LUAU Lancaster University Archaeological Unit; UMAU University of Manchester Archaeological Unit

4. HISTORICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Place name

The name 'Ormskirk' is Norse in origin and is derived from *Ormres kirkja*, deriving from a Scandinavian personal name, Ormr, and the Old Norse word for church (Ekwall 1922, 121; Mills 1976, 118). The identity of Ormr is unknown, but is likely to be the person who founded the church. It has been suggested that Ormr may have been a recluse who built an oratory on the site (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 238), but there is no evidence to support this assumption. The name of the Mere Brook is derived from the Old English word, *mearc*, meaning boundary (Cameron 1977, 180), though to what the brook may have been a boundary is not known.

4.2 Prehistoric

There is no known prehistoric activity within the defined urban area, although it has recently been reported that a polished stone axe was found close to Bath Farm, Ormskirk in the 1970s (pers comm S Baldwin). Ongoing fieldwork at Dutton's Farm, Lathom, has revealed a thin distribution of early prehistoric struck flints (Cowell 2000, 6).

4.3 Romano-British

There is no known Romano-British activity within the urban area defined for Ormskirk, however work at Dutton's Farm, Lathom has revealed a large quantity of possible Romano-British pottery as well as evidence of a roundhouse and other features (Cowell 2000, 6).

4.4 Post-Roman and early-medieval

Although Ormskirk's place name suggests an Anglo-Scandinavian origin, there is no direct evidence for an early settlement, and it is not named in the Domesday Survey (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 238). It is thought, however, that Ormskirk was part of the township of Lathom, and may have been the berewick which belonged to it (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 248). The church's hill-top position and its irregular, possibly oval churchyard (Philpott 1988, 43) suggest a pre-conquest origin, and this is supported by the presence of a pre-conquest sculpture, depicting two figures, possibly St Paul and his jailer, built into the eastern elevation of the church (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264). It certainly appears from the township boundaries that, at some stage, Ormskirk had been detached from the larger Lathom lordship that also included the townships of Lathom and Burscough (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 238).

4.5 Medieval

The earliest physical evidence for the church in Ormskirk is the north wall of the chancel, which dates to around 1170. The wall contains a Norman window, and it has been suggested that it is the only surviving fragment of a chancel from a former smaller church (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 240). A buttress and pier to the south of the altar suggest that a chapel was added to the south of the chancel around 1270. Parts of the south and east walls, along with the small south-west tower were possibly built around 1430 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 241), although a late fourteenth century date is now thought more likely (www.imagesofengland.org.uk).

The prior and abbey of Burscough were granted a charter for a weekly market and an annual fair at Ormskirk in 1286 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 262). The small, triangular green which lies on the north-east of the church, and which has given its name to Green

Lane, may have been designated as the original market place, and would therefore have been the original settlement focus (Philpott 1988, 44). If so, then it probably did not remain as the market place for long. The establishment of the borough along the main road from Liverpool to Preston and Wigan, would soon have shifted the focus to the current market place, at the crossroads of the main thoroughfares. The market became established at the junction of Church Street with Aughton, Burscough and Moor Streets, where a market cross had been set up by the post medieval period (PRO MR/4). The market cross was removed and replaced by a clock tower in the second half of the nineteenth century, but from its depiction on the map of Ormskirk in 1609, it is likely to have been set into a multi-stepped base.

The borough appears to have been established by Burscough Priory at the same time as the market charter was granted, though the first reference to the borough is not until 1292, when a dispute over rights demonstrated that it was already established (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 262). The rights and customs of the borough are set out in this document, along with the stipulation that each burgess was to have an acre of land in addition to the burgage, for a sum of 12d a year. The number of burgages, however, is not given. Each burgage would have taken the form of an allotted piece of land, stretching back from a street frontage in a long, narrow strip. There are only a few late medieval references to burgage plots; in 1402 a burgage and half were recorded as being next to the church, and in 1482 one is documented in Burscough Street (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263). The limits of the borough are difficult to establish, but the medieval town probably covered a similar area to its extent as shown on the map of 1609 (PRO MR/4). By the early post medieval period, occupation extended south along Aughton Street, east along Moor Street, north along Burscough Street and west along Church Street. Houses lined both sides of Church Street as far as the church, with further properties extending along the east side of the road as far as the north side of the green. Each of these properties would have been built within a burgage plot, or part of a burgage plot, which would have continued to the rear of the street frontage, although these are not shown on the map.

The OS maps of the nineteenth century show that the principal of burgage plots, as long narrow parcels of land had been preserved, though the boundaries as shown in the 1840s would have been greatly altered from the original layout, with the sub-division and amalgamation of burgages. The OS maps also show the possible rear boundary line of the burgage plots, though on the east side of Aughton Street, this rear boundary would have resulted in extremely long, thin plots of around half an acre, a plot size more usually associated with planned rural settlements. The land allotted to each burgage plot is not given in the charter, but assuming that each was a typical sized burgage plot of around one rood ($\frac{1}{4}$ acre) in extent (Egerton Lea 2002, 16), the area covered by the town in 1609 would have been around 17.5 hectares, equal to about 43 acres, which would have provided 172 burgage plots. This would have made Ormskirk a larger town than Liverpool, which was founded with around 150 burgages, growing to 168 by 1296 (Philpott 1998, 34). This would seem unlikely, given the relative proximity of the two towns, and the general small size of medieval towns in Lancashire. It is possibly that the boundaries on the east side of Aughton Street marked the limit of tofts, which were laid out within the borough and were worth 6d a year (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 262). If this land is removed from the total area of the borough, then the borough covers around 11 hectares, making 27 acres, which would contain 108 burgages.

The borough charter stipulated that the burgesses had to use the corn mills which belonged to Burscough Priory. As well as a windmill on Greetby Hill, on the northern edge of the defined urban area, and another mill, there was also a water mill, all named in a grant of the manor to the Earl of Derby in 1603 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263). Following the dissolution of the monasteries, the manor was taken back into the hands of the Crown, and the mills were farmed out to Thomas Such, who complained, early in the reign of Elizabeth I, that Ormskirk's inhabitants were taking their corn to be ground elsewhere.

Greetby Mill was described as the Queen's Mill, and may have been the original manorial mill, and others were named as Our Lady's Mill, adjacent to Greetby Mill, Whinbreck Mill, Cross Hall Mill and Bradshaw Mill. It appears to have been the latter which the population of Ormskirk normally used (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264). Greetby Mill was said to be in a ruinous state, and in response Thomas Such built a new mill at The Knoll. The mill shown to the south-east of the town in 1609 (PRO MR/4) may be this new mill, whilst Greetby Mill may have been omitted from the map because it was still ruinous. Greetby Mill was working by 1713, however, when it is listed in a survey (LRO DDK/1541/41). In addition to corn milling, there would have been a range of other trades in the medieval town, but for which there is only limited evidence. In the fourteenth century a tailor, fletcher, stringer, barker, clerk and a cloth seller are all documented, and a draper is recorded in 1482, though the first reference to a brewhouse and tavern is not until 1522 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263). By 1535-6, at the end of the medieval period, Burscough Priory had rents from eight shops and ten stallages in the Booths, as well as the income from the market and fairs (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263).

4.6 Post-medieval

The burgage plots appear to have been fully developed by 1609, when a map was produced to solve a dispute over building encroachment (PRO MR/4). It appears to show every building along the street frontages, in three dimensions, and each is marked as either new, ancient or questionable (Philpott 1988, 44-5). In all there were around 230 buildings in the town by the early seventeenth century. About a quarter of both single and two-storey buildings were built gable-end on to the streets rather than parallel to them, particularly on the west side of Church Street. This possibly represents a sub-division of burgage plots, a process that provided more development space in successful towns. The town also acquired a grammar school in 1618, on the north-east side of the parish church as a result of an endowment provided in 1601 (Duggan 1998, 118-9). The school may have been established in an existing building, as a building is depicted on the site in 1609 (PRO MR/4). In 1718 permission was granted to build a schoolmaster's house against the school's eastern end, which extended into Church Fields Lane (Duggan 1998, 124).

In 1609 the Mere Brook ran as an open watercourse down the centre of Aughton and Moor Streets. At the north end of Aughton Street, next to the market place, a substantial building had been built next to the stream. It has been suggested that this was either a lock-up or a mill (Duggan 1998, 63), as a water mill was documented in Ormskirk in 1603 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 263). Both explanations appear unlikely, however, as it is too large for a lock-up, and the stream would probably have been too small to power a mill without a millpond, and the location of a mill in the market place would be unusual. The building is depicted with a number of vertical lines on each façade and, although this may represent timber-framing, it may show a pillared, open-sided building, such as a market house. At one end is a feature which is either an extremely large chimney, in relation to other buildings, but is more likely to be a bell cote. There is also an upper storey with a window in the gable end (PRO MR/4). A market hall with a court house over, known as the old town hall, was re-roofed in 1683, although it was again very much in decay following a severe storm in 1697 and had to be repaired (Duggan 1998, 58-59). The location of the town hall, however, has been suggested to be on the junction of Church Street and Burscough Street, diametrically opposite the building shown in 1609. It is likely, however, that the market hall was moved to this site when it was rebuilt in 1746 (Duggan 1998, 3-4).

Ormskirk's importance as an urban and market centre in the post-medieval period up to 1800, is reflected in the relatively low percentage of the population, around 15%, who were employed in agriculture (Duggan 1998). The food and drink trade was the largest sector, employing over 20% of the work force for most of the period. Industry played a minor, yet important role, and Ormskirk was renowned for its leather trade during the Tudor and early Stuart period, and by 1635 Ormskirk was a centre of the glove trade (Farrer and Brownbill

1907, 261). Textile manufacture also was significant, and there were professional weavers in Ormskirk by 1591. Linen producers had been operating in the town since the early seventeenth century, and by 1707 linen cloth was manufactured on a commercial scale. An important product was sailcloth which not only went to the nearby port of Liverpool but was also used on local windmills, but by the end of the century the weaving of sail-cloth had migrated to other towns such as Warrington, though linen thread spinning was still carried on locally (Duggan 1998, 35). There were also four felt weavers in the town in the seventeenth century. An industry associated with linen manufacture was soap making. Soap was being sold in the grocers' shops by the 1680s and James Moorcroft, who died in 1709, had a building for boiling soap behind his home in Church Street (Duggan 1998, 11). An attempt, though unsuccessful, was even made to establish a sugar refinery at a house in Moor Street in 1676, in order to take advantage of the increasing imports entering Liverpool, as part of the Atlantic trade (Duggan 1998, 17).

Ormskirk's success as a market was marked by the extension of trade into permanent retail shops, which altered the profile of the town. In 1662, for example, an inn on the corner of Burscough Street and Moor Street was replaced by three shops, and commercial and residential developments throughout the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries resulted in frequent encroachment on to the highway, as attempts were made to maximise development potential (Duggan 1998, 66-7). Bulky goods began to be sold by sample and craftsmen, whose goods were in steady demand, opened retail shops whilst often continuing to trade at the market (Duggan 1998, 18). By the late seventeenth century many trades avoided market tolls by selling their goods either through middlemen or on their own premises. By the early eighteenth century, shoemakers appear to have specialised in single operations such as heel making, and a putting-out industry may have developed (Duggan 1998, 12-14). Butchery was carried on mostly in the shambles, which were next to the mealhouse on the lower floor of the Town Hall. By the mid-eighteenth century, however, butchers' shops had spread throughout the town (Duggan 1998, 16).

The number of licensed premises also grew, and by 1661 there were 24 licensed alehouses in the town (Duggan 1998, 30), which included the Eagle and Child on Church Street. This inn was rebuilt in timber in the 1640s, to provide a fine dining room catering for 200 people, and had 16 or 17 beds. It was patronised by the gentry, including the Earl of Derby, and his family (Duggan 1998, 29-31). Other early inns were noted by the diarist Nicholas Blundell on his visits to Ormskirk Fair, including The Lamb in 1706, the Queen's Head in 1711, The Golden Lion in 1715, The Swan in 1719, and The Talbot in 1725 (Duggan 1998, 6, 31; Duggan 1995, 56). A number of new houses were also built, representing an intensification of settlement within existing burgage plots, rather than an extension to the town's limits. There were three newly built houses sold in Church Street in 1799, for example, together with several tenanted cottages to the rear and another house on the east side of Church Street (LRO DDS/22/9). Also in Church Street, an old horse mill and drying kiln were converted into six cottages. The demand for more accommodation also resulted in the subdivision of buildings, and the beginnings of rear courtyard developments (Duggan 1998, 68).

4.7 Industrial and modern

Ormskirk in the early-nineteenth century

The town underwent a period of rapid expansion during the early decades of the nineteenth century as improving agricultural production enhanced its position as a market centre, and a centre of traditional industries and trades, such as flax dressers, fell-mongers, maltsters, millers, tallow chandlers, leather workers and butchers which processed the agricultural products of the surrounding countryside (Stacey nd, 5). The town also increased its range of services, with the provision of commercial support, through ventures such as the Ormskirk Savings Bank (Stacey nd, 4). Its importance as an administrative centre was reduced, however, when the quarter sessions were transferred to Liverpool in 1817 (Farrer

and Brownbill 1907, 261). The expansion in trade and industry was accompanied by a rapid increase in population, which appears to have been caused mainly by immigration. Irish immigrants accounted for about a tenth of the population in 1841 but this had risen to a fifth in 1851, which was the result of Ormskirk's proximity to Liverpool and the availability of local agricultural work. The additional housing requirement was met by courtyard developments to the rear of the four main streets of the town (Stacey nd, 23-4).

Ormskirk in the mid-nineteenth century

Ormskirk's prosperity continued into the middle of the nineteenth century, and silk weaving employed over 300 weavers by 1851. The industry collapsed soon after, however, and many were thrown out of work by 1855 (Stacey nd, 6). Agriculture became the main source of employment, often in conjunction with other trades, such as innkeeping and rope making (Bradshaw 1979, 36, 38). The population continued to grow, however, with immigrants from the surrounding countryside and from Ireland (Bradshaw 1979, 13; Stacey nd, 23), but nothing like the rate of that experienced in the industrial towns. Many of the immigrants were farm labourers, and a large proportion were temporary residents who only came into the town at weekends (Bradshaw 1979, 25; Stacey nd, 10). The additional housing requirement continued to be provided by courtyard developments, many of which had little in the way of sanitation or water supplies. In 1851 there were 1,037 dwellings in the town, 450 of which had been created since 1801 to house an additional population of 3,600. There were also 60 lodging houses in the town by 1849. The overcrowded conditions led to high incidences of disease and the death rate was much higher than the national average (Coney 1991, ix). This was attributed mainly to the large influx of '*poor Irish*' (Rawlinson 1850, 11, 13-14), leading to '*over-crowding, excessive filth and a total absence of proper sanitary works and regulations*'. One lodging house in Howard's Yard, off Hant's Lane, for example, comprised two rooms with a family of four and thirteen lodgers, with no water supply (Coney 1991, x). In the whole town there were no baths and only five water closets, three of which emptied into the street, and the Mere Brook was an open sewer (Coney 1991, xi).

Ormskirk in the later nineteenth century

The last three decades of the century was a period of industrial and commercial stagnation (Stacey nd, 11). Ormskirk's role became almost wholly that of a local market centre, many inhabitants cultivated small plots close to their residences (Stacey nd, 4) and by the end of the century there were a number of market gardens around the town (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 261). Despite the loss of its industrial base, there was further infilling and subdivision of properties between Burscough Street and Church Street. Overcrowding was rife, the Irish colony of Collop Row, Green Lane, for example, was a court of around 30 two-storey houses with only one room on each floor (Stacey nd, 27). Other parts of Ormskirk, however, were widely advertised as a desirable residential areas and many business families came to reside there. Even so, middle-class development was comparatively modest and did not impinge on the character of Ormskirk as a middle-sized market town. In the late nineteenth century good quality terraces and semi-detached villas were built along new roads, such as Stanley Street and Knowsley Street, east of the railway, and new terraces developed to the north off Burscough Street. Similar properties were built in Southport Road (formerly Well Lane) behind the church, on Derby Street east of the Bath Springs Brewery, at Greetby Hill and on Wigan Road close to the workhouse. By 1908 large semi-detached and detached houses in their own grounds were being built along St Helen's Road and Ruff Lane.

Textile industry

Fustian cloth was being woven in Ormskirk by the 1770s, and following the opening of the Leeds and Liverpool canal, wool was brought in from Bradford (Duggan 1998, 37). A number of textile factories opened in the town from the late eighteenth century, at least some of which were in cotton manufacturing, including specialist finishers (Duggan 1998,

37), though the cotton industry was in decline by the middle of the nineteenth century (Duggan 1998, 188). By 1851 the cotton factory to the west of Burscough Street had been converted to a linen hall (Duggan 1998, 37; OS 1851 1:1056). Two further attempts to set up cotton factories in 1856 and 1876 failed. Silk weaving had been introduced into Ormskirk in the early eighteenth century, although ribbon rather than cloth appears to have been the main product. The cost of raw material appears to have kept the industry small, but manufacture continued until the end of the nineteenth century. There was a silk factory on the west side of Burscough Street, which was probably a silk winding and warping factory set up in 1825 (Duggan 1998, 36). Most of the yarn produced was put out for home weaving, but there were also three small weaving shops, including two each in Burscough Street and Derby Street, each with six to eight looms (Padfield 1986, 81). There were 224 silk workers in 1841 and 300 in 1851 (Duggan 1998, 187), when silk weaving reached its peak (Bradshaw 1979, 41). It quickly declined (Stacey nd, 6), as it relied on the silk manufacturers of Macclesfield using Ormskirk as a supply of cheap labour in periods of excessive demand. The first floor weaving shop at 58 Moor Street is one of the few surviving buildings of the Ormskirk textile industry. In 1808, this weaving shop contained 181 cast-iron looms and 77 wooden looms (www.imagesofengland.org.uk).

Rope making

Rope making was an important local industry until the early twentieth century. The earliest documented roper trading in Ormskirk was in 1679, and by the end of the eighteenth century it had become a substantial local industry (Duggan 1998, 188), when there were ropers' shops on Burscough Street and Church Street. The raw materials were sourced from the ready supply of hemp grown in the vicinity, and demand came from local farmers, millers, and wagonners, as well as sailors and fishermen. Hemp yards appear in early deeds and surveys of properties on the edge of the town and sellers of the raw material had their own pitch on Church Street. By 1841 there were eight roperies in the town, including the biggest company, Tilsley's on Wigan Road (OS 1851 1:1056), and others in Aughton Street, Burscough Street, Ruff Lane and Southport Road. Even so it was not an industry employing large numbers of people, and altogether the eight firms only had 118 workers, of whom 80 were juveniles (Padfield 1986, 81-2). By the late nineteenth century rope making was the principal industry, a situation which prevailed into the early twentieth century (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 261), even though there were then only six rope manufacturers (Bradshaw 1979, 51), a situation reflecting Ormskirk's declining industrial role overall.

Brewing

Brewing was a significant industry in Ormskirk by the late nineteenth century. As well as the large Aughton Brewery, just outside the town, there were four breweries operating in 1894 (OS 1894 1:2500). The Snig's Foot Brewery, was situated behind the inn of that name on Church Street and was working before 1872. By 1897 it was occupied by Ellis and Warde who were to become the premier brewers in Ormskirk (anon 1983(b), 68). The Snig's Foot Brewery was working until 1947. In 1901 Ellis and Warde were joined by Daniel Webster of the Hillmount Brewery in Southport Road, and this new firm of Ellis, Warde and Webster took over Forshaw's Bath Springs Brewery on Derby Street. A red-brick brewery building with a plaque dated 1902 still stands on Derby Street but has been converted to residential accommodation. The malt house of Hillmount Brewery on Southport Road is now industrial units. The Victoria Brewery on Aughton Street was working in 1877 (anon 1983(b), 68), but had gone by 1908 (OS 1908, 92). There were also a few small breweries, including one on Burscough Street (anon 1983(b), 68, 69) probably the brewhouse that still stands behind the **Buck l'th Vine Inn**, behind the Plough on Church Street, and to the rear of the Golden Lion of Moor Street.

Other industries and crafts

The production of leather and leather goods was an important industry within the town during the post-medieval period (Duggan 1998, 39). One of the largest tanneries belonged to the Brandreths, who moved to Ormskirk in 1748, and whose tannery lay behind their house in Burscough Street (Duggan 1998, 27-8). The business continued into the mid-nineteenth century (OS 1848 1:10560). Although the demand for leather from shoemakers and saddlers, etc, continued to rise, the numbers involved in the tanning industry declined, as skimmers and tanners moved to more rural areas. Glove-making had been a leading trade, but this also declined with the availability of new materials (Duggan 1998, 39). Clock-making, too, had been a significant craft with a national reputation (Duggan 1998, 40), though it was also in decline by the nineteenth century (Cheetham 1936, 7). In the nineteenth century Ormskirk seems to have had a considerable capacity for corn milling. This would have served the agriculturally rich hinterland, but may also have processed corn imported through the port of Liverpool. In addition to the windmill on Mill Street, there was a steam corn mill, which succeeded a seventeenth century horse mill, in Besom's Yard on the south side of Church Street (Duggan 1992, 38; 1995, 60). There was also a steam printing and book-binding works (Lea 1893, 16) as well as an iron foundry which begun working in 1796 (Padfield 1986, 83). Ormskirk's position on a sandstone outcrop, resulted in small-scale quarrying for local building, along with clay and marl extraction (Lea 1893, viii). In the nineteenth century there were sandstone quarries at Greetby Hill, Long Wood and Ruff Wood, outside the town, as well as a sand pit in Ruff Wood and a gravel pit at Scarth Hill (Padfield 1986, 94). Brick came to be the predominant building material from the early eighteenth century, and by 1727 a field was set aside for clay extraction, with over 400,000 bricks made in 1769. The brick yard and drying field were still extant in 1851 (OS 1851 1:1056), although the industry later moved to Burscough (Duggan 1998, 68).

Commercial development

By the end of the eighteenth century an additional market was held on Saturdays, solely for the sale of meat (Duggan 1998, 16), and Ormskirk Fair's main role was considered to be mainly for the sale of horned cattle and horses, as well as pigs, sheep and oxen (Duggan 1998, 10-11). Clothiers were selling their wares at the fair by 1797 (Duggan 1998, 4). The market continued to be centred on the main intersection of roads, but the court leet attempted to designate separate areas for the horse and yarn market (Duggan 1998, 53). In particular the pig and cattle market created much nuisance and it was recommended in 1850 that the animal market should be removed from the street (Rawlinson 1850, 11).



When the Board of Health purchased the market and fair tolls from the Earl of Derby in 1876 (Padfield 1986, 102), a clock tower was erected on the site of the market cross (Duggan 1992, 33), and by 1893 the market was regarded as old fashioned and picturesque (Lea 1893, 7). Despite pressure from the commercial community for a covered market, the cattle and horse fairs were suited to outdoor trading and continued to prosper, supplemented by Irish and Scottish cattle which were

Plate 1: Clock Tower

fattened locally (Stacey nd, 3). By 1825, in addition to the market, there were 12 butchers shops, 15 grocers, 12 specialist flour dealers and eight shopkeepers, as well as 10 milliners, 14 tailors, three bookshops, four hairdressers and two confectioners (Baines 1825, 459-461). The food trades were concentrated on Aughton and Moor Streets, whilst the clothing trades favoured Burscough Street. The 1850s saw an extension of retail trading into Chapel Street area, but by the 1870s there was a decrease in many trades (Slater 1876, 507) as outlying areas such as Bickerstaffe and Skelmersdale established their own businesses. The first bank, the Ormskirk Savings Bank on Lydiate Lane opened in 1823, and a second bank had opened on Church Street by 1851 (OS 1851 1:056). There were three insurance companies with offices in Church Street and Aughton Street by 1825 (Baines 1825, 460). A Corn Exchange opened on Moor Street on the site of the Legs of Man Inn after 1850. This was a black and white, half-timbered, three-storey building with a wrought iron and glass canopy at street level (Duggan 1995, 11).

Pubs, inns and hotels

The importance of Ormskirk's market is reflected in the large number of inns and public houses which were in existence from the early post medieval period, many of which continued in use into the nineteenth century (Baines 1825, 460). By 1876, for example there was one licensed house for every 127 inhabitants, and in 1886 15% of properties in Aughton Street held a licence (Stacey nd, 17-18). The inn trade was encouraged by Ormskirk's role as an important coaching centre, particularly as it was a staging post for changing horses. Many of the inns have now been demolished, rebuilt or adapted to other uses. The Ship Inn on Moor Street, for example, which moved to a new building next door, is still recognisable from the signs sculpted into the rendering (Duggan 1992, 27; 1995, 30). The old King's Arms, Moor Lane, in existence in the 1880s, was replaced by a red-brick building in 1903 (Duggan 1995, 9; Padfield 1986, 97). The Plough, near the Church, which was in existence in 1825, was a low, thatched inn until replaced by a brick building in the twentieth century, and the Bull's Head, Aughton Street (Mannex 1855), was bought by the Gas Company in 1874 and converted to offices (Harris 1956, 216).

Table 2: Inns and public houses

Inn Name	Date	Extent
Old Eagle and Child, Church Street	Pre-1640	No
Plough, Church Street	Pre-1825	Yes
Snig's Foot, Church Street	Pre-1851	Yes
White Lion, Church Street	Pre-1825	No
Three Crowns, Church Street	Pre-1825	No
Shovel and Broom, Church Street	Pre-1825	No
George and Dragon, Market Place	Pre-1825	No
The Talbot, Aughton Street	Pre-1725	No
The Fleece, Aughton Street	Pre-1825	No
White Bull, Aughton Street	Pre-1854	No
Black Bull, Aughton St.	Pre-1825	No
Black Horse, Aughton St.	Pre-1825	No
Bull's Head, Aughton Street	Pre-1825	No
Queens, Aughton Street	Pre-1905	Yes
Greyhound, Aughton Street	Pre-1855	Yes
King's Arms, Moor Street	Pre-1825	No
Legs of Man, Moor Street	Pre-1825	No
Black Bear, Moor Street	Pre-1825	No
Old Ship, Moor Street	Pre-1825	No

Inn Name	Date	Extent
Anchor, Moor Street	Pre-1825	No
Queen's Head	Pre-1711	Yes
Golden Lion	Pre-1715	Yes
Eagle and Child, Market Place	Pre-1825	No
Old Wheatsheaf	18 th century	No
Swan	Pre-1719	No
Buck l'thVine, Burscough Street	Pre-1825	Yes
Bay Horse, Burscough Street	Pre-1825	No
White Horse, Burscough Street	Pre-1825	No
Commercial, Derby Street	Pre-1905	Yes
Wind-Mill, Wigan Road	c 1700	Yes

Non-conformist chapels

Presbyterians began to hold meetings from 1689 in Bury's House (now Chapel House), Chapel Street, with a purpose-built chapel built nearby in 1696. A minister was appointed in the mid-eighteenth century, and in 1783 a new chapel and minister's house was built on Aughton Street. The movement failed around 1860, however, and by 1890 the buildings were sold as they had been disused for four years (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264). The original chapel in Chapel Street is depicted, but unnamed in 1851 (OS 1851 1:1056), and appears to have been built in conjunction with a pair of cottages, one of which has a datestone of 1703, but a possibly earlier timber-framed interior (Vose 1987, 14). The chapel seems to have gone by 1892 (Vose 1987, 15). The Independents, or Congregationalists, began preaching in Ormskirk in 1801, and used part of a silk factory in Burscough Street as a chapel in 1826. A purpose-built chapel opened in Chapel Street in 1834 (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264), and a Sunday school was erected next door in 1858 (Lea 1893, 20). The chapel is now a community centre (Duggan 1998, 194). Methodist meetings began in the late eighteenth century, but they did not acquire a chapel, built in Chapel Street, until 1810 (Duggan 1998, 101). In 1878 they moved to the new Gothic Emmanuel Church near the railway station (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264; www.imagesofengland.org.uk). The old chapel in Chapel Street was sold to the Council before being demolished in the 1990s to make way for the extension of Park Road (Duggan 1998, 193).

Anglican and Roman Catholic churches

The church of St Peter and St Paul remained the only Anglican church throughout the nineteenth century, as the population of Ormskirk did not increase to an extent which justified the construction of new churches. The nave and aisles were rebuilt in classical style in the early eighteenth century, and the church was then thoroughly restored in 1877-91 by Paley and Austin (www.imagesofengland.org.uk). The substantial Roman Catholic population in the Ormskirk area was served, from 1732, by a house in Aughton Street, which was converted to a mass house (Duggan 1998, 111) with a Latin inscription on the gable (Lea 1893, 9). It was attacked during anti-papist riots in 1743, and the priest moved to Aughton, where a church was built in 1795 (Duggan 1998, 113-4). Roman Catholic provision remained in Aughton (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 264), and the mass house subsequently became The Brewer's Arms (Lea 1893, 9), the location of which is unknown.

Schools

The seventeenth century grammar school, which was situated next to the church, was replaced by a new school in Ruff Lane in 1850. This school was subsequently extended in 1892 and 1904 (anon nd(a), 16; Duggan 1998, 197). The old school was demolished

subsequently to enable the graveyard to be enlarged (Stacey nd, 57). A charity school had been established in Church Street in 1724, by the Earl of Derby, which was expanded with the opening of a separate infants school in 1828 (anon nd(a), 13, 20; Duggan 1998, 129-130). Ormskirk's first Sunday school was opened in 1785 by the Anglicans, but in 1819 it was amalgamated with the Charity school in Church Street to become the United Charity school, and subsequently the national school. It was replaced by a new school in Lydiate Lane, later Derby Street, around 1828. The school was single storey, and an upper floor was added in 1853. In 1874 a new boys' school was opened in Aughton Street and the Derby Street school was used subsequently for girls and infants (anon nd(a), 20). The Church Street United Charity School building was extant in the early twentieth century (Duggan 1998, 131, 195; Stacey nd, 51-2) but has now been demolished. The Industrial School for pauper children on Dicconson Street, now Cross Hall Brow, was opened in 1886. It became a hospital for wounded soldiers and sailors in 1917 (Duggan 1992, 6-7), and but is again a school. There was a Roman Catholic school in Burscough Street in 1851, and a new one opened at Hant's Lane in 1872 (Hanley 1982, 14, 21; Stacey nd, 51-2).

Public buildings

Ormskirk's long-standing urban status produced a number of early public buildings, including the town hall, which was again rebuilt in the 1780s. Two workhouses were established in Ormskirk in 1734. One was extra-parochial, and was situated at the lower end of Aughton Street (anon, 1983(a), 2). The other was established in existing buildings at the end of Moor Street (Reeves nd, 22), though the Poor Law Union did not purchase the buildings from the township authorities until 1840 (Reeves nd, 35). The two workhouses catered for the poor of 30 townships between them (Lea 1893, 8). In 1838, the Aughton Street workhouse closed and the paupers moved to Moor Street (Reeves nd, 33). A new, purpose-built workhouse was erected on Wigan Road in 1853 to cater for all the paupers of the area. It was brick-built, and was based around an octagonal centre with four arms, and later became part of the hospital (Pevsner 1969, 184). The old workhouse on Moor Street closed in 1855 and was sold off. It was later pulled down and a new house built on the site (Reeves nd, 35). Medical treatment was available to the inhabitants from the early nineteenth century from a dispensary in Lydiate Lane, and which moved to purpose-built premises on Burscough Street in 1830. The building was constructed in the classical style to replicate Liverpool Infirmary. It closed in 1896 when the cottage hospital in Hants Lane, known as the Brandreth Hospital, opened (Anon, nd(b) 1, 9). An isolation hospital opened on Green Lane in 1902 and was run by the Ormskirk, Burscough and Lathom Joint Hospital Trust which was set up that year (Anon, nd(b) 33). The Working Mens' Institute began as the Working Mens' Reading and News Rooms in Burscough Street in 1865, and three years later moved to purpose-built premises in Moor Street, where the bus station now stands (Duggan 1992, 1995, 14). There was also a public library, housed in the old United Charity School on Church Street from 1854, and which later moved to Aughton Street (Duggan 1998, 191). The Sessions House, with the magistrates court and police building, was opened on Lydiate Lane in 1850 (Dingsdale 1983, 4), and the council offices were on Burscough Street (Duggan 1992, 9). A drill hall was built by public subscription in 1899, and subsequently became the Civic Hall (Duggan 1995, 29).

Public utilities

Ormskirk's first public utility was gas supplied by the Ormskirk Gas Light Company, established in 1833, in order to light streets, shops, houses and other places (Harris 1956, 210-211). A gas works was built in Aughton Street in that year and the town was first lit with gas two years later (Lea 1893, 24). By 1849 there were 47 public lights supplied by meter and paid for by the town's authorities (Rawlinson 1850, 35). Although it had been recommended that the Local Board should acquire the Gas Company in 1850 (Rawlinson 1850, 35-6) it remained in private ownership until the gas industry was nationalised in 1949

(Harris 1956, 226). Until the nineteenth century Ormskirk obtained its water from wells (Duggan 1998, 57), but by 1850 there were less than a dozen usable wells and pumps at any one time, though possibly as many as 200 unusable ones. Few usable wells provided water uncontaminated by run-off from middens, drains, cesspools or graveyards. The system was further exacerbated by the influx of Irish immigrants, escaping the potato famine of the 1840s, many of whom were sick on arrival, possibly leading to endemic fever and an outbreak of cholera in 1849 (Coney 1991, ix). A Board of Health was established in 1850 (Coney 1991, xi), and by 1853 had sewered some 70% of the town and provided piped water from a large tank erected to the north-east of the town, filled with spring water by a steam engine (Stacey nd, 29-30). Ormskirk's first fire station was set up in a small building at the east end of the workhouse in Moor Street by 1819 (Duggan 1998, 57), which was later replaced by one in Derby Street (Duggan 1992, 10).

5. STATEMENT OF HISTORIC URBAN CHARACTER AND NATURE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCE

5.1 Surviving plan components

Church and Churchyard (Area 1)

– St Peter and St Paul's Church and Churchyard (Area 1)

The earliest physical evidence for the church in Ormskirk is the north wall of the chancel, which dates to around 1170. The wall contains a Norman window, and it has been suggested that it is the only surviving fragment of a chancel from a former smaller church (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 240). A buttress and pier to the south of the altar suggest that a chapel was added to the south of the chancel around 1270. Parts of the south and east walls, along with the small south-west tower were possibly built around 1430 (Farrer and



Brownbill 1907, 241), although a late fourteenth century date is now thought more likely (www.imagesofengland.org.uk). However the churchyard was originally an irregular oval, indicating that the church may have had pre-conquest origins.

Further rebuilding and enlargement occurred later in the post-medieval period, the nave and aisles were rebuilt in classical style in the early eighteenth century, and the church was then thoroughly restored in 1877-91 by Paley and Austin (www.imagesofengland.org.uk).

The churchyard was also the site of a grammar school which was built in 1618, on the north-east side of the parish church, as a result of an endowment provided in 1601 (Duggan 1998, 118-9). The school may have been established in an existing building, as a building is depicted on the site in 1609 (PRO MR/4). In 1718 permission was granted to build a schoolmaster's house against the school's eastern end, which extended into Church Fields Lane (Duggan 1998, 124). This school was replaced by a

Plate 2: St Peters and St Pauls Church

school in Ruff Lane in 1850 and the building is no longer extant.

The church now stands at the highest point of the town and forms a key focal point, though its dominance is reduced by the modern one-way traffic system which cuts it off from the town centre. The character area comprises the church and churchyard, with the modern graves to the western end of the cemetery. St Peter and St Paul's church is listed at grade II* and the churchyard contains a listed eighteenth century sundial.

Medieval Planned Settlement (Area 2)

–Town Centre (Area 2)

The town centre is at the heart of the medieval borough. It is the only remaining area where there is above-ground evidence of the planned medieval layout. The buildings have



Plate 3: Church Street

two to three storeys and largely preserve the narrow street frontages, although many of the façades have been replaced by modern shop fronts. They are mainly brick-built although some have been rendered. The burgage plot boundaries have been subject to a large degree of alteration since the medieval period, in particular by post-medieval sub-division, and many have now been truncated by modern development. The market place, with its clock tower, forms the main focal point of the town.



Plate 4: Moor Street North

Civic Centre (Area 3)

– Derby Street, west (Area 3)

This area comprises mainly civic buildings, many of which are listed. As well as a doctor's surgery, there are the magistrate's court, two banks, and the former national school, as well as two hotels. There is also a number of other commercial properties which have two to three storeys and are brick-built.

Railway (Area 4)

The Liverpool, Ormskirk and Preston Railway Act was passed on 10 August 1846 and the Liverpool to Ormskirk section was opened in 1849 (Padfield 1986, 94-5). By the 1900s the station had three platforms and a goods siding and was served by trains to and from Preston, Liverpool, Southport and Skelmersdale (Duggan 1992, 13). This line survives and continues to be used, although some associated features such as goods sheds and yards

and coal sidings have been redeveloped during the twentieth century. Some of which have been excluded from the defined character area as their outlines have been obliterated and their character altered.

Rural Settlement (Areas 5-6)

Surviving remnants of rural settlements provide small but distinct pockets of early fabric within the present urban area. These sites can date from before 1850, and in some cases are relatively early. When established, rural settlement sites often lay some distance from the then urban centre. Whilst the locations of these sites are often still of a semi-rural nature, buildings now tend to lie adjacent to or within twentieth century suburban developments. Sites include farms and former farms, and small groups of cottages, usually in the form of short rows.

Post-Medieval Urban Development (Areas 7-11)

– The Green (Area 7)

This area comprises post-medieval settlement on the northern edge of the medieval borough. It is centred around a small triangular area, once known as the Green, but now used as a car park, with post-medieval cottages on its north side. This may mark the site of the original market place, before it became established in its current location.

– Buck l'th Vine (Area 8)

This small area of post-medieval development is situated within the area of the medieval borough. It comprises a number of listed buildings, including the late seventeenth to early eighteenth century Buck l'th Vine Inn and associated brewery and barn, as well as a late eighteenth century town house, later used as council offices.



Plate 5: Buck ith' Vine

– Chapel Street (Area 9)

The west side of Chapel Street is an area of post-medieval settlement and comprises rows of cottages, mostly dating to the early nineteenth century, but including a cottage dated to 1703 and Chapel House which was built in the seventeenth century.

Middle-class Housing (c1860-1914) (Areas 12-16)

– Burscough Road (Area 12), Derby Street West (Area 13)

Areas of middle-class housing constructed in the late nineteenth of early twentieth century, comprising both semi-detached villas and terraced houses, nearly all with large rear gardens, as well as small front gardens.



Plate 6: Derby Street West

– Southport Road (Area 14)

An area of large, middle-class houses, comprising semi-detached villas with large gardens, built in the second half of the nineteenth century.

– Wigan Road (Area 15)

A large area of middle-class housing, comprising both semi-detached villas and terraced houses, nearly all with large rear gardens, as well as small front gardens.

Bye-law Terraced Housing (Areas 17-19)

There are three defined areas of nineteenth century terraced houses, two of these are situated on the south-west side of the town, near the boundary with Aughton. Both Park Avenue and Dyers Lane houses were built in the second half of the nineteenth century, and were probably intended as lower middle-class accommodation. The other area is situated on Station Road and was mainly constructed in the early years of the twentieth century.

Pre-NHS Hospital (Area 20)

– Ormskirk Hospital (Area 20)

Built as the former Union Workhouse in 1853, the original buildings have now been incorporated into the Ormskirk and District General Hospital

Twentieth Century Hospital (Area 21)

Ormskirk and District General Hospital is a purpose-built hospital constructed in the latter half of the twentieth century on the site of the Union Workhouse, incorporating some of the original buildings (area 20). The hospital is also built on the site of a sandstone quarry and Fairfield House that were both situated in the south of the character area (OS 1849 1:10560, 92; OS 1893 1:2500, 92.01).

Public Landscape Grounds (Area 22)

– St Helen's Road Park (Area 22)

St Helen's Road Park occupies a triangular area and was a public park by the end of the nineteenth century (Duggan 1995, 26-7). It contains two listed structures, a late nineteenth century water fountain and a Boer War Memorial.

Twentieth Century Cemetery (Area 23)

This area comprises an extension to the graveyard of St Peter and St Paul's Church. It was laid out post-1926 (OS 1928 1:2500, 84.13).

Twentieth Century Industrial/Commercial (Areas 24-30)

Modern industrial and commercial areas are spread throughout the Ormskirk survey area, however there is a concentration of these areas to the west of the railway and close to the commercial centre of the town.



Plate 7: Aughton Street

There are nine character areas and the majority of these are of a small to medium size. These character areas include: garages, depots, a public house, a builders' yard, a timber yard, a factory and other industrial works. However there are larger areas, these include; Ormskirk Business Park and adjacent industrial works (area 24), and an area of mainly retail premises (area 29).

A number of the character areas were constructed in areas of previous industrial and domestic use. For example, area 29, a large commercial

area to the south of the town centre, represents the redevelopment of former industrial areas and nineteenth century housing off Aughton Street; area 26, a depot and builders' yard, is on the site of a rope walk, a school and former housing and area 24 is on the site of former sidings and a goods yard (OS 1893 1:2500, 92.01; OS 1894 1:2500, 84.13).

Twentieth Century Public (Areas 31-35)

Modern public buildings are concentrated throughout the defined survey area of Ormskirk. These include, two halls, a Civic Hall, a clinic, a police station, a library, a Town Hall, a day centre and council offices. Small individual buildings such as community or health centres may also occur elsewhere in the survey area, as features within residential character areas rather than forming separate character areas in their own right.



Plate 8: Civic Hall

Twentieth Century Recreational (Areas 36-39)

There are four recreational character areas situated in Ormskirk. They are situated towards the edges of the defined survey area, generally in residential areas and range in size from small to large. These areas perform a variety of functions, and include; playing fields and sports grounds, a bowling club and other club buildings. There are also grassed areas used for informal recreation, which may include play areas. Coronation Park (area 36) dates to the late nineteenth/early twentieth century and comprises, a multi-use games area, a skateboarding area, a bowling green, a pool, a duck pond and tennis courts. These features are all post-1926 (OS 1927 1:2500, 92.1).

Twentieth Century School/College (Areas 42-48)

There are seven defined character areas that comprise modern educational establishments in Ormskirk, spread throughout much of the urban area with the exception of the commercial centre. The schools lie adjacent to or within residential areas. The largest site comprises Edge Hill University College, which is situated towards the south of the defined urban area. There is also a large junior/infant complex set in extensive playing fields. Other educational establishments include, a nursery school, a special needs school and Ormskirk School.

Twentieth Century Transport (Areas 49-51)

Character areas relating to transport in the twentieth century in Ormskirk comprise three areas of car parking and Ormskirk Bus station. However, further areas of car parking occur elsewhere in the survey area, as features within residential, industrial or commercial character areas, rather than forming separate character areas in their own right.

Individual Housing (1918 to 2003) (Area 52)

This character type comprises a large area of houses set in large gardens in the south of the survey area. The houses are most often detached, but some are semi-detached dwellings. The character area is adjacent to open land, twentieth century residential suburbs, areas of earlier high-status housing, educational establishments and a hospital.

Inter- & Immediate Post-War Housing (1918 to c1950) (Areas 53-58)

There is no housing of this date in the centre of Ormskirk. It is spread throughout the survey area of Ormskirk and mainly comprises large housing estates towards the edges of the survey area. These areas tend to represent expansion outwards from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries residential developments.

The larger estates tend to feature formal layouts of semi-detached houses and short rows, all with individual front and rear gardens. Areas that were built immediately adjacent to the nineteenth century terraced housing can include terraces that are very similar in character to the these earlier terraces, as well as terraces where the individual houses are slightly wider than their earlier counterparts.

Late Twentieth Century Housing (c1970 to 2003) (Areas 59-64)

There are six defined late twentieth century housing areas in Ormskirk and these are found throughout the survey area. The two larger areas of this date are situated towards the edge of the survey area and the small to medium areas are either within or adjacent to earlier housing. Some areas contain detached houses, often quite close together, whilst others contain a mix of detached and semi-detached dwellings. There are also flats, sheltered accommodation, staggered rows of houses or garaging within these areas. This character type includes areas of very recent development, built in the early years of the twenty-first century and estates may extend beyond the defined survey area.

Some areas represent redevelopment of the former sites of industrial premises or terraced housing. The larger estates, situated towards the edges of the survey area, tend to be built on previously undeveloped land.

Later Post-War Housing (c1950 to c1970) (Areas 65-69)

Residential development of the 1950s and 1960s is concentrated towards the edges of the survey area, with no character areas in the centre of Ormskirk, and is of a tremendously varied character.

The larger estates form part of the wider twentieth century suburban development of Ormskirk, and lie adjacent to earlier and later residential areas. The larger estates spread beyond the boundary of the defined survey area.

The layouts of the larger estates generally include long avenues, and house-types tend to be homogeneous, although areas of semi-detached houses can include small groups that are detached and vice versa. Houses built in short rows are also present. The detached houses are often set close together. Individual dwellings may have a front and a rear garden, or may have a garden only to the rear.

Smaller areas of later post-war housing can include as few as four or eight houses or a small number of blocks of flats, and usually represent infill within areas of earlier development.

Open Ground (Areas 70-71)

There are two areas of open ground additional to formal recreational areas and parks within the Ormskirk survey area. These sites are situated towards the edges of the survey area and are now grassed over. They appear disused, but are likely to be in informal recreational use (such as for dog-walking). Area 71 represents a pocket of land that appears to have never been previously developed, whereas area 70 represents a section of the former Skelmersdale branch of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway that is now disused. The 1894 OS mapping reveals that this area formerly comprised a section of the former line, engine sheds, a pump house, a signal box and an area of sidings (OS 1894 1:2500, 84.13).

5.2 Building materials

In the medieval period, it is likely that the church was the only stone-built, stone-flag roofed structure in the town, the rest being timber-framed with thatched roofs. It is likely that most houses continued to be built of timber and thatch, possibly of cruck construction, into the post-medieval period (Philpott 1998, 46), a view supported by a lease from 1559-60 for a house and yard in Moor Street, which stipulated that the tenant should keep it repaired with thatch and daub (LRO DDCr/43/2). The depiction on the 1609 map of some houses with vertical lines on the walls is suggestive of timber box-framing (PRO MR/4), and most of the houses have chimneys, many of which were clearly substantial additional features built in stone (Philpott 1998, 46). Many of the larger buildings are on the edge of the urban area, where pressure for space would have been less, and are likely to have been built in stone. Certainly built in stone and reputedly the oldest surviving building in the town after the parish church (Padfield 1986, 53) is a building, situated behind Burscough Street, and possibly shown in 1609. A piscina was found in one wall (Duggan 1995, 61).

Many of the buildings in the town remained timber-built and thatched into the seventeenth century, even though stone was readily accessible locally. There are only a few known surviving timber-framed buildings, however, including the cottage at the junction of Chapel Street and Bridge Street (Vose 1987, 14). The extent of surviving timber-framed buildings is difficult to ascertain, but it is likely that at least some were refaced in stone or brick, rather than totally rebuilt, and it was observed in 1893 that most of the older houses had been new-fronted, re-built or converted to business premises (Lea 1893, 15). By the early seventeenth century, many buildings were being rebuilt in brick and some in stone, with stone flagged roofs. Stone would have been used to mark buildings of quality. There appears to have been a considerable amount of rebuilding from the beginning of the eighteenth century, and documents record townspeople replacing wattle and daub cottages with houses of brick or stone, with slate roofs (Duggan 1998, 64). A survey of 1713 of about 80 properties demonstrates the changing picture (Padfield 1986, 63). A number of cottages still had thatched roofs, whilst one had a roof of both slate and thatch, and the malt mill in Church Street had daub walls and a thatched roof. These were presumably of timber construction, as others are specifically described as having stone and brick walls with slate roofs (Padfield 1986, 64). The survey records eight houses wholly of brick, two of stone, four of brick and stone and one of brick and daub, all with slate roofs (Duggan 1998, 64). The slate roofs were almost certainly references to stone flags, probably from local quarries.

In 1754 Pococke described the town as being built '*mostly of brick*' and '*exceedingly well paved*' (Duggan 1998, 64). As well as rebuilding in existing burgage properties, by the late eighteenth century, there was some speculative development, such as the six houses built in 1789 with dressed stone from Scarisbrick delph. Stone was used for the doors, eaves, windows, fireplaces and stairs, and there had to be one cast iron mullion in each window. The ground floors were flagged and the internal walls lime plastered. The roofs were of slates and the ridges of stone, also from Scarisbrick delph (LRO DDSc/22/7-8). Ormskirk is now a largely brick-built town, varying from hand-made bricks in the cottages

on Chapel Street, dating from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, to the red engineering brick of the Bath Springs Brewery building. Stone continued to be used for buildings of higher status, and from the mid-nineteenth century, some buildings were constructed from brick to the rear and side walls, with stone used for the front elevation. Many of Ormskirk's buildings are rendered or stuccoed, mostly over either stone or brick. Thatch was probably readily accessible from the nearby moss lands, and it remained the traditional roofing material into the eighteenth century, though it was being replaced on many buildings with stone flags from local quarries. Most buildings are covered with non-locally derived materials such as slate and composite materials, and there are very few surviving examples of stone flagged roofs.

5.3 Housing types

The 1609 map provides a fairly detailed picture of the nature of buildings in the early seventeenth century (PRO MR/4). Houses appear to have been drawn with great care, and the map pays much attention to detail in its depiction of the position, number of storeys, location of doors, windows and chimneys, as well as construction materials. Just over two thirds of the buildings were single storey, most of which were parallel to the road and 'ancient', that is, over 50 years old in 1609. Sixty five per cent of new buildings were two-storey. This suggests that at the beginning of the seventeenth century, there was a trend away from single-storey structures, possibly with open halls, to dwellings with two-storeys, which would have provided more enclosed, and hence private, space.

Ormskirk has a high proportion of houses surviving from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Amongst these are a number of handsome late eighteenth century Georgian houses on the edge of the urban area, which were the town houses of the local gentry. These included The Mansion House on Chapel Street, which was the town house of the Stanleys of Moor Hall, and which became an academy between 1841 and 1863 (Duggan 1995, 15). There were a number of larger properties on Burscough Street, including the former council offices at 43 Burscough Street, and Heartbreak House built for the tanner Thomas Brandreth. Chapel Street contains several houses from the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries including Chapel House, as well as vernacular-style cottages dating from the early nineteenth century, including a rare survival of a courtyard development behind 64-66 Chapel Street (Duggan 1995, 15). The only known buildings relating to Ormskirk's past as a hand loom weaving centre are on Moor Street (www.imagesofengland.org.uk), where a row of three, vernacular-style cottages survive next to a former workshop.

Even though development was limited in the second half of the nineteenth century, there are some working-class terraced houses on Railway Approach and Mill Street, and terraces with small front gardens on Dyers Land and Burscough Street. There are also small, semi-detached villas in the Knowsley Street and Stanley Street areas and on Southport Road. Middle-class villas were built on Ruff Lane and St Helens Road, mostly dating from the end of the nineteenth century. These include Claremont, the house of Henry Jones, who took over Tilsley's ropery. In 1992 a small winding house still stood next to this residence, which is now part of the grammar school (Duggan 1992, 56).

5.4 Communication networks

Ormskirk lay on the main road from Liverpool to both Preston and Wigan. Such a major route was difficult to maintain before the era of turnpike roads, and there are a number of references to the poor state of the roads in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Within the town boundaries, however, the court leet seems to have ensured that the roads and footpaths were well maintained as, according to Dr Pococke in 1754 Ormskirk was '*exceedingly well paved and neatly kept*' (Duggan 1998, 52). The road was improved when, in 1771, the Liverpool, Ormskirk and Preston Turnpike was opened. The greater

mobility that this offered, however, assisted Liverpool to develop as a regional centre for the professional classes, at Ormskirk's expense (Duggan 1998, 47-8). Even so, Ormskirk benefited from the coaching trade, and it acted as a staging post on a number of routes across the north-west. In 1825, for example, nine coaches passed through or started from the town daily, going to Scotland, Liverpool, Manchester, Carlisle, Newcastle, Southport and Kendal (Baines 1825, 461).

Ormskirk was further sidelined following the opening of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, with the stretch linking with the Douglas navigation to Wigan being completed in 1774. This enabled goods to cross the West Lancashire plain, to and from Liverpool, without the need to go through the town (Duggan 1998, 48). The Liverpool, Ormskirk and Preston Railway Act was passed on 10 August 1846 and the Liverpool to Ormskirk section was opened in 1849 (Padfield 1986, 94-5). The railways made the larger towns such as Liverpool, Wigan and Preston more accessible for both trade and workers, increasing Ormskirk's decline as a major centre. Conversely, it provided better access to Ormskirk for those who wanted to shop at its well regarded market (Duggan 1998, 188), and made it easier for the middle-classes to commute from it to the large towns. By the 1900s the station had three platforms and a goods siding and was served by trains to and from Preston, Liverpool, Southport and Skelmersdale (Duggan 1992, 13).

5.5 Spaces, vistas and panoramas

Ormskirk had little need for designated open spaces until the end of the nineteenth century, when Coronation Park and Victoria Park opened (Duggan 1995, 26-7). The surrounding countryside was easily accessible, and there were a number of market gardens around the town (Farrer and Brownbill 1907, 261). Within the town, the main public open space is the market place, which has the clock tower as its focal point. From the market place, views along Burscough and Church Streets are still evocative of a Georgian market town, even though modern shop fronts have been installed into most buildings. The view down Burscough Street from Derby Street is equally fine. The vista along Derby Street is one of a late nineteenth century middle-class street and civic centre, with stone-built public buildings, including the police station and magistrates court, the former Ormskirk Savings Bank of 1822 and the former national school of 1828 (PRN 9448).

5.6 Plan form

Ormskirk is a planned, nucleated settlement, laid out as a planned borough in the thirteenth century, around four main roads, comprising Church Street, Moor Street, Aughton Street and Burscough Street. The original number of burgages was unknown, but by the early post-medieval period there were around 230 buildings along the street frontages (PRO MR/4). Physical expansion of the urban area up to the late nineteenth century was limited, and appears to have been accommodated mainly within the existing borough bounds, either by sub-division or infilling previously undeveloped areas. This led to densely packed building plots, which have tended to obscure the original burgage plot boundaries, many of which appear now to have been altered or removed altogether. There were small areas of growth around the edge of the borough in the late nineteenth century, mainly comprising middle-class villas, but also large public buildings such as the workhouse, cottage hospital, the Grammar School and the isolation hospital.

Ormskirk was not subject to the same growth in working-class housing provision seen elsewhere, particularly in industrial east Lancashire. It remained a provincial market town, and with a lack of investment in building new terraced housing, the growing population of the nineteenth century had to be housed in the increasingly overcrowded town centre.

5.7 Survival

Ormskirk's townscape, particularly the pattern of long narrow properties based on burgage plots, stretching back from the street frontages, has been largely destroyed by modern developments. In particular, there has been a substantial element of large retail developments, with car parks, which have removed most of the older property boundaries. This is most striking on the west side of Aughton Street, where the entire block of properties was swept away for a supermarket and car park. Even along Church Street and Moor Street, where post medieval buildings survive along the street frontages, the back lands have been truncated. Older property boundaries survive best in the block of land bounded by Church Street and Burscough Street, but a significant proportion of the buildings in this area have been redeveloped. Where the pattern of property boundaries does survive, their preservation should be made a priority.

There is very little surviving medieval fabric in Ormskirk. Much of Ormskirk's medieval buildings would have been built timber-framed and thatched, but they appear to have been rebuilt or refaced from the early post medieval period onwards. It is possible that some of the apparently seventeenth and eighteenth century buildings may have surviving medieval fabric beneath their stone, brick or rendered façades. There have been no detailed building surveys to test this hypothesis. However, there is a large number of surviving post-medieval buildings, many of which are listed, and a large number date to the late Georgian period and are brick-built. In particular, there are fine, and largely unaltered examples in Burscough Street, at the Buck l'th Vine Inn and the old Council Offices, and in Moor Street, where eighteenth century buildings include the only surviving weaving shop (www.imagesofengland.org.uk). In Burscough Street, many of the ground floors have been altered by modern shop fronts, but the upper floors survive intact. One of the grandest buildings to survive is the Town Hall in Church Street. The buildings on the west side of Chapel Street survive intact, and were developed mostly from the late eighteenth century, but with earlier buildings at the south end, including the seventeenth century Chapel House (Padfield 1986, 65-6).

Many of the nineteenth century courtyard developments have been cleared and redeveloped. The terrible overcrowding and poor sanitary conditions of many of these courts would have led to slum conditions, and therefore they would have been a priority for clearance in the twentieth century. When the courts were cleared, so were the property boundaries which they respected. The only town centre courtyard still remaining is Church View Court off Burscough Street, just north of the Buck l'th Vine Inn (Vose 1987, 8), and there are remnants of another courtyard at Chapel Court, which can be reached between 64 and 66 Chapel Street (Vose 1987, 14). Some courtyard entrances still survive on Church Street, leading to the new developments behind. A section of the formerly important footway known as The Stiles, which led from Burscough Street to the parish church (OS 1851, 1:10560), is still extant on Burscough Street where it is signed as Church Alley.

Areas of below ground potential within the historic core are constrained by post-medieval development along the frontages of Church Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street in particular, some of which will be cellared. A watching brief in Church Street in 1999 showed that nineteenth and twentieth century developments had truncated earlier deposits (LUAU 1999). The relative lack of large-scale redevelopment in the town from the nineteenth century indicates a high potential for surviving buried medieval and post-medieval remains. The small-scale of the limited amount of archaeological investigation in Ormskirk to date, however, makes it difficult to characterise the nature of any potential below ground remains. Given that many of the medieval and early post-medieval buildings were timber-framed and thatched, then it is likely that any archaeological building remains may be ephemeral and difficult to identify without carefully considered and designed archaeological investigation. There is also great potential for surviving medieval and post-medieval features in the building plots to the rear of the street frontages, in particular there

is the opportunity to examine the material culture of the nineteenth century court developments. Opportunities to investigate medieval and post-medieval Ormskirk have not always been taken up, however. Post-medieval remains have been, in some cases, considered to be unworthy of further work following evaluation, and the desk-based assessment in Aughton Street, which identified the potential for medieval remains, was not followed by any further work. This area, which lay within the medieval borough, was also an area of intensification of settlement and small-scale industry in the post medieval period, including the construction of a Presbyterian Chapel and burial ground in the eighteenth century. The site has now been redeveloped as a supermarket and car park.

6. DESIGNATIONS

6.1 Listed buildings

There are no listed buildings graded I within the defined urban area for Ormskirk. There are two buildings listed grade II*, the church of St Peter and Paul, and the water tower, built by the Local Board of Health in 1853-4.

There are 41 grade II listed structures within the defined urban area for Ormskirk. The largest categories are houses, making just over 38% of the total, and shops and public houses comprising just over 14% of the total. The railway and associated features are well represented, including two railway bridges, one with a separately listed drinking fountain, as well as the railway station building and booking office. There are also two listed memorials, one to Disraeli and the other a Boer War monument. The remaining listed buildings are significant features of the town, including a Methodist chapel, the Town Hall, the Magistrate's and Police Station, the Dispensary and the Clock Tower. In addition, the only known surviving loom shop is listed, along with a telephone box, sundial in the churchyard and a water fountain in St Helen's Road Park.

6.2 Scheduled monuments

There are no scheduled monuments listed for the defined urban area for Ormskirk.

6.3 Conservation areas and Registered Parks

There are two conservation areas within the defined urban area for Ormskirk. The town centre is covered by one conservation area, including the whole of the church and churchyard, the area between and including Church Street and Burscough Street, Derby Street West and the west end of Moor Street.

The second conservation area is centred on Ruff Lane, and includes the middle-class houses along St Helen's Road, as well as the St Helen's Road Park. The western end includes the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century cottages and Chapel House on Chapel Street. Most of this area includes houses developed from the end of the nineteenth century and later, and comprises detached, well-spaced houses.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbreviations

OL	Ormskirk Library
LRO	Lancashire Record Office
OS	Ordnance Survey
PRO	Public Record Office, Kew

Unpublished manuscripts

LRO DDCr/43/2	Lease from 1559/60 of a house and yard lying in the Moorestreete of Ormskirk
LRO DDK/13/3	The re-grant of Ormskirk Fair, 1670
LRO DDK/1541/41	Survey of Ormskirk and Aughton, 1713
LRO DDSc/22/7-9	Specifications and sale particulars for houses in Ormskirk from 1789 and 1799
LRO DDSc/52/16	Copy of the confirmatory charter granted by Henry Duke of Lancaster to the Prior and canons of Burscough 1338-9, pursuant to the original grant by Edmund Earl of Lancaster 1285-6
LRO PR 2815/1	Court leet records, nineteenth century

Maps

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Harley, JB, 1967	<i>William Yates's Map of Lancashire 1786</i> , Liverpool
IGS 1979	<i>Geological Map of the British Islands</i> , 5 th ed
LRO DRL 1/58	Tithe plan and schedule of Ormskirk, 1845
OS 1847	1:10560 sheet 83, Southampton
OS 1848	1:10560 sheet 84, Southampton
OS 1849	1:10560 sheet 91, Southampton
OS 1849	1:10560 sheet 92, Southampton
OS 1851	1:1056 Ormskirk sheet 1, Southampton
OS 1851	1:1056 Ormskirk sheet 2, Southampton
OS 1851	1:1056 Ormskirk sheet 3, Southampton
OS 1851	1:1056 Ormskirk sheet 4, Southampton
OS 1894	1:2500 sheet 83.16, Southampton
OS 1894	1:2500 sheet 84.13, Southampton
OS 1893	1:2500 sheet 91.04, Southampton
OS 1893	1:2500 sheet 92.1, Southampton
OS 1908	1:2500 sheet 84.13, Southampton
OS 1908	1:2500 sheet 92.1, Southampton
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LUAU 1992	29-31 Church Street Ormskirk, an archaeological evaluation, unpubl client report
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LUAU 1995	Aughton Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire, archaeological assessment, unpubl client report
LUAU 1999	2 Saints Retail Park, Church Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire, watching brief report, unpubl client report
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8. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Post-medieval sites as shown on Figure 7

For further information on any of the sites listed, please contact Lancashire County Council.

TYPE	EUS NO.	NAME	PRN
BARN		Buck i' th' Vine Inn	18584
BREWHOUSE		Buck i' th' Vine Inn; Burscough Street	18585
BUILDING; UNCLASSIFIED		Cornerstone; No 15 The Stiles; Ormskirk	18614
CHAPEL		Superstore Car Park, Aughton Street, Ormskirk	24717
CORN MILL		Corn Mills; north of Two Saints Place; Park Road; Ormskirk	20900
FARMHOUSE		Nos. 86 and 88 Chapel Street; Ormskirk	18537
FOUNDRY		Foundry; rear of 33 & 35 Church Street; Ormskirk	20899
HOTEL		Talbot Hotel; opp. 11-17 Aughton Street; Ormskirk	20880
HOTEL		Black Bear Hotel; 33-37 Moor Street; Ormskirk	20896
HOUSE	EUS 1	94 Chapel St, Ormskirk	
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Chapel House; Ormskirk	9656
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		No 50 Moor Street; Ormskirk	18600
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		God's Providence Cottage; No 31 Tower Hill; Ormskirk	18615
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		The Windmill Public House	18640
HOUSE:ROW		Nos 52 and 54 Moor Street; Ormskirk	18601
INN		Old Ship Inn; 14 Moor Street; Ormskirk	20892
INN		Anchor Inn; junction of Moorgate with Moor Street; Ormskirk	20893
INN		Queen's Head Inn; 26-30 Moor Street; Ormskirk	20894
INN		Golden Lion; 41 Moor Street; Ormskirk	20897
INN		Wheatsheaf Inn; 18-22 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	20903
INN	EUS 3	Eagle and Child Inn, Church St, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 4	The Plough Inn, Church St, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 5	The White Lion, Church St, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 6	The Three Crowns, Church St, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 7	The Shovel and Broom, Church St, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 8	The George and Dragon, Market Place, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 9	The Black Bull Inn, Aughton Street, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 12	Swan Inn, Burscough Street, Ormskirk	

TYPE	EUS NO.	NAME	PRN
INN		HSBC Bank, Moor Street, Ormskirk	24706
INN		1 Aughton Street, Market Place, Ormskirk	24711
INN		34 Moorgate, Ormskirk	24712
INN		63 Aughton Street, Ormskirk	24713
INN		1 Burscough Street, Ormskirk	24715
INN		5-7 Church Street, Ormskirk	24766
LOOMSHOP		No 58 Moor Street; Ormskirk	18602
PUBLIC HOUSE		Buck i' th' Vine Inn; Burscough Street	18583
ROPE WORKS		Rope Walk; south-east of junction between New Court Way & Burscough Street; Ormskirk	20916
SCHOOL		Ormskirk Free Grammar School	754
SCHOOL	EUS 14	Ormskirk Charity School	
SHOP		No 12 Church Street; Ormskirk	18540
SHOP		No 27 Church Street; Ormskirk	18542
SHOP		No 33 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	18582
SUNDIAL		Sundial, Church of St. Peter and St. Paul	18543
TANNERY		Ormskirk	9449
TELEPHONE BOX		Derby Street; Ormskirk	18591
TOWN HALL		No 2 Church Street; Ormskirk	18539
TRAINING COLLEGE		Ormskirk College, Hants Lane	11345
WELL		Tower Hill; Ormskirk	9451
WELL		Well; north-east of 106 New Court Way; Ormskirk	20931
WELL		Wells; Slack House Cottages; St Helens Road; Ormskirk	21040
WELL		Well; The Fountains; Green Lane; Ormskirk	21739
WELL		Well; 15 Farrington Drive; off Green Lane; Ormskirk	21740
WELL		Well; south-east of 3 Derby Street West; Ormskirk	21743
WELL		Well; 8 Meadow Bank; School House Green; Ormskirk	21885
WINDMILL		Ormskirk Windmill	9654
WORKHOUSE	EUS 15	Ormskirk Workhouse, Moor St	
WORKHOUSE		Corner of Moor Street and St Helens Road, Ormskirk	24721

Appendix 2 Industrial-era sites as shown on Figure 8

For further information on any of the sites listed, please contact Lancashire County Council.

TYPE	EUS NO. GAZETTEER	NAME	PRN
ABATTOIR		Church Street; Ormskirk	3390
ABATTOIR	Orm008	Church Street; Ormskirk	3390
BANK (FINANCIAL)		Nat West Bank; 34 Moor Street; Ormskirk	20895
BANK (FINANCIAL)		Lloyds Bank; 9 Derby Street; Ormskirk	20917
BANK (FINANCIAL)		Royal Bank of Scotland; 26 Derby Street; Ormskirk	20918
BOOKING OFFICE		Ormskirk Railway Station	18639
BOWLING GREEN		Bowling Green; site of present car park; junction of Moorgate with Park Road; Ormskirk	20885
BOWLING GREEN		Bowling Green; site of present car park & bus station; Moor Street; Ormskirk	20890
BOWLING GREEN		Bowling Green; north side of junction between Hutton Way & Park Road; Ormskirk	20901
BOWLING GREEN		Bowling Green; 7-13 Rosecroft Close; off Southport Road; Ormskirk	20919
BOWLING GREEN		Bowling Green; rear of 5-11 Bath Springs & 53-57 Derby Street; Ormskirk	20928
BREWERY		Victoria Brewery; 9-15 Queen Street; Ormskirk	20888
BREWERY		Brewery, Malthouse Court, Green Lane, Ormskirk	20920
BREWERY		Brewery; rear of 3-7 Derby Street West; Ormskirk	20924
BREWERY		Bath Spring Brewery; Bath Springs Court; off Derby Street; Ormskirk	20927
BREWERY		1 Bridge Street, Ormskirk	24726
BREWERY		Park Road, Ormskirk	24729
BREWERY	Orm083	Victoria Brewery; 9-15 Queen Street; Ormskirk	20888
BREWERY	Orm112	Brewery, Malthouse Court, Green Lane, Ormskirk	20920
BREWERY	Orm115	Brewery; rear of 3-7 Derby Street West; Ormskirk	20924
BREWERY	Orm118	Bath Spring Brewery; Bath Springs Court; off Derby Street; Ormskirk	20927
BREWERY	Orm162	Brewery, off Aughton St, Ormskirk	
BREWERY	Orm165	Brewery, off Aughton St, Ormskirk	
BREWHOUSE	Orm050	Buck i' th' Vine Inn; Burscough Street	18585
BRICK WORKS	EUS 21	Brickfield, Wigan Road, Ormskirk	
BRICK WORKS	Orm166	Brickfield, Wigan Road, Ormskirk	
BRIDGE		Derby Street Railway Bridge	18596

TYPE	EUS NO. GAZETTEER	NAME	PRN
BRIDGE		Moor Street railway bridge	18604
CHAPEL		Nos. 91 and 93 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	18532
CHAPEL		Independent Chapel; 6 St Helens Road; Ormskirk	20898
CHAPEL	EUS 13	Methodist Chapel, Chapel St, Ormskirk	
CHAPEL		Chapel Street and Park Street, Ormskirk	24718
CHURCH		Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church	18595
COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT		Beaconsfield Monument; Moor Street; Ormskirk	18603
CORN MILL	Orm094	Corn Mills; north of Two Saints Place; Park Road; Ormskirk	20900
COTTON MILL		Derby Street West, Ormskirk	24723
DISPENSARY		Ormskirk Division Agricultural Club	18587
DRINKING FOUNTAIN		Derby Street	18594
DRINKING FOUNTAIN		Drinking Fountain; Burscough Street; opp. junction with Scarisbrick Street; Ormskirk	21742
ENGINE SHED		Engine Shed; east of 106 New Court Way; Ormskirk	20934
FOUNDRY	Orm093	Foundry; rear of 33 & 35 Church Street; Ormskirk	20899
FOUNDRY		St Helens Road Park; Ormskirk	18470
GARDEN		Burscough Street, Ormskirk	23912
GAS WORKS		Gas works, Ormskirk	9651
GOODS YARD		Goods Yard; New Court Way; Ormskirk Business Park; Ormskirk	20926
HALL	EUS 17	Cloth Hall, off Burscough St, Ormskirk	
HOSPITAL	EUS 16	Brandreth Hospital, Ormskirk	
HOSPITAL		Ormskirk College Site, Hants Lane, Ormskirk	24722
HOTEL		Commercial Hotel, 36 Derby Street	18593
HOTEL		King's Arms Hotel; 3-3b Moor Street; Ormskirk	20881
HOTEL		Bull's Head Hotel; Aughton Streert; opp. junction with Bridge Street; Ormskirk	20887
HOUSE	EUS 20	Mansion House, Scarth Hill, Ormskirk	
HOUSE		Burscough Street, Ormskirk	23911
HOUSE		13 St Helens Road, Ormskirk	24727
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Church Street/Park Road; Ormskirk	3391
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Nos. 26-50 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	18533
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Nos. 52 and 54 Chapel Street; Ormskirk	18534
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Nos. 56-66 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	18535
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		Nos. 68-78 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	18536

TYPE	EUS NO. GAZETTEER	NAME	PRN
HOUSE:DOMESTIC		The Elms; Derby Street	18588
INN		Fleece Inn; 3-5 Aughton Street; Ormskirk	20882
INN		White Bull Inn; 11 Aughton Street; Ormskirk	20883
INN		Greyhound Inn; 100 Aughton Street; Ormskirk	20886
INN		Snigs Foot Inn; 26 Church Street; Ormskirk	20902
INN	EUS 2	Corn Exchange, Moor Street, Ormskirk	
INN	EUS 11	Eagle and Child Inn, Aughton Street, Ormskirk	
INN		14 Church Street, Ormskirk	24710
INSTITUTE		Working Men's Institute; Moor Street; Ormskirk	20891
LOOMSHOP	Orm065	No 58 Moor Street; Ormskirk	18602
MAGISTRATES COURT		Magistrates Court; 7 Derby Street	18590
MILEPOST		Milepost; west of Emmanuel Methodist Church; Derby Street; Ormskirk	20905
MILL	EUS 18	Silk factory, Burscough St, Ormskirk	
MILL	Orm159	Silk factory, Burscough St, Ormskirk	
NURSERY GARDEN		Brook Lane Nursery; Brook Lane; Ormskirk	21886
ORPHANAGE		The Industrial School; Ormskirk (now Cross Hall School)	20908
OUTBUILDING		Church Street/Park Road; Ormskirk	3389
POLICE STATION		Ormskirk Police Station	9447
PRINTING WORKS		Church Street; Ormskirk	3392
PRINTING WORKS	Orm010	Church Street; Ormskirk	3392
PUBLIC HOUSE	EUS 10	Queens, Aughton Street, Ormskirk	
PUBLIC HOUSE		Aughton Street, Ormskirk	24728
PUMP HOUSE		Pump House; north-east of 106 New Court Way; Ormskirk	20933
PUMPING STATION		Pumping Station; rear of 10 Station Approach; Derby Street; Ormskirk	21744
QUARRY		Ruff Lane; Ormskirk	9672
QUARRY		Quarry; Derby Hill Crescent; Derby Hill Road; Ormskirk	20929
QUARRY	Orm021	Ruff Lane; Ormskirk	9672
QUARRY	Orm120	Quarry; Derby Hill Crescent; Derby Hill Road; Ormskirk	20929
RAILWAY STATION		Ormskirk Railway Station	18610
RECREATION GROUND		Recreation Ground; north end of Windmill Avenue; Ormskirk	20906

TYPE	EUS NO. GAZETTEER	NAME	PRN
ROPE WORKS		Rope Walk; west of School House Green; off Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20907
ROPE WORKS		Rope Walk; rear of Hants Lane & Green Lane; Ormskirk	20922
ROPE WORKS	EUS 19	Ropery, off Ruff Lane, Ormskirk	
ROPE WORKS	Orm101	Rope Walk; west of School House Green; off Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20907
ROPE WORKS	Orm108	Rope Walk; south-east of junction between New Court Way & Burscough Street; Ormskirk	20916
ROPE WORKS	Orm114	Rope Walk; rear of Hants Lane & Green Lane; Ormskirk	20922
ROPE WORKS	Orm160	Ropery, off Ruff Lane, Ormskirk	
ROPE WORKS	Orm161	Ropery, off Church St, Ormskirk	
ROPEWALK		Ormskirk	9652
ROPEWALK		Ormskirk	9653
ROPEWALK		Dicconson Street; Ormskirk	9673
ROPEWALK		Rope Walk; 2-12 Thompson Avenue & 199-201 Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20909
ROPEWALK		Rope Walk; 1-15 Farrington Drive; off Green Lane; Ormskirk	20925
ROPEWALK		Rope Walk; 14-22 & 55A Pennington Avenue; & 26-28 & 37-39 Scarisbrick Street; Ormskirk	20937
ROPEWALK	Orm017	Ormskirk	9652
ROPEWALK	Orm018	Ormskirk	9653
ROPEWALK	Orm022	Dicconson Street; Ormskirk	9673
ROPEWALK	Orm103	Rope Walk; 2-12 Thompson Avenue & 199-201 Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20909
ROPEWALK	Orm116	Rope Walk; 1-15 Farrington Drive; off Green Lane; Ormskirk	20925
ROPEWALK	Orm125	Rope Walk; 14-22 & 55A Pennington Avenue; & 26-28 & 37-39 Scarisbrick Street; Ormskirk	20937
SCHOOL		Ormskirk	9448
SCHOOL		School; Aughton Street; Ormskirk	20884
SCHOOL		Ormskirk Grammar School; Ruff Lane; Ormskirk	20912
SCHOOL		Roman Catholic School; Hants Lane; Ormskirk	20921
SHOP		No 21 Church Street; Ormskirk	18541
SHOP		Nos. 15 and 17 (Railway Hotel) Derby Street	18592
SHOP		Nos 29; 29A; 31; 31A Moor Street; Ormskirk	18599
SIGNAL BOX		Signal Box; to rear of Ormskirk C of E Infants School; Waterworks Road; Ormskirk	20932

TYPE	EUS NO. GAZETTEER	NAME	PRN
SIGNAL BOX		Signal Box; rear of 72 New Court Way; Ormskirk Business Park; Ormskirk	21741
SILK MILL		Derby Street West, Ormskirk	23910
SILK MILL		12 Derby Street West, Ormskirk	24724
STABLE		Stables; 17-27 Railway Road; Ormskirk	20904
SURGERY		No 5a Derby Street; Ormskirk	18589
TANNERY	Orm014	Ormskirk	9449
TOWN HOUSE		No 43 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	18586
VICARAGE		Vicarage; east of present vicarage; Park Road; Ormskirk	20915
WALL		Rear of Derby Street West, Ormskirk	23913
WATER TOWER		Tower Hill; Ormskirk	18616
WINDMILL	Orm019	Ormskirk Windmill	9654
WINDMILL	Orm167	Windmill, Greetby Hill, Ormskirk	
WORKHOUSE		Ormskirk Union Workhouse; present Ormskirk & District General Hospital; Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20911
YARD		Local Board Stone Yard; site of present timber yard to rear of Derby Street & Wigan Road; Ormskirk	20910

Appendix 3 Listed Buildings as shown on Figure 11

For further information on any of the sites listed, please contact Lancashire County Council.

TYPE	NAME	STATUS	PRN
BARN	Buck i' th' Vine Inn	Listed gd II	18584
BOOKING OFFICE	Ormskirk Railway Station	Listed gd II	18639
BREWHOUSE	Buck i' th' Vine Inn; Burscough Street	Listed gd II	18585
BRIDGE	Derby Street Railway Bridge	Listed gd II	18596
BRIDGE	Moor Street railway bridge	Listed gd II	18604
BUILDING; UNCLASSIFIED	Cornerstone; No 15 The Stiles; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18614
CHAPEL	Nos. 91 and 93 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18532
CHURCH	Church of St.Peter and St.Paul	Listed gd II*	752
CHURCH	Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church	Listed gd II	18595
COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT	Beaconsfield Monument; Moor Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18603
CROSS	Clock Tower; Aughton Street; Ormskirk (also known as The Cross)	Listed gd II	3655
DISPENSARY	Ormskirk Division Agricultural Club	Listed gd II	18587
DRINKING FOUNTAIN	Derby Street	Listed gd II	18594
FARMHOUSE	Nos. 86 and 88 Chapel Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18537
FOUNTAIN	St Helens Road Park; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18470
HOTEL	Commercial Hotel, 36 Derby Street	Listed gd II	18593
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	Chapel House; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	9656
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	Nos. 26-50 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18533
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	Nos. 52 and 54 Chapel Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18534
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	Nos. 56-66 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18535
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	Nos. 68-78 (even) Chapel Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18536
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	The Elms; Derby Street	Listed gd II	18588
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	No 50 Moor Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18600
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	God's Providence Cottage; No 31 Tower Hill; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18615
HOUSE:DOMESTIC	The Windmill Public House	Listed gd II	18640
HOUSE:ROW	Nos 52 and 54 Moor Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18601
LOOMSHOP	No 58 Moor Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18602
MAGISTRATES COURT	Magistrates Court; 7 Derby Street	Listed gd II	18590

TYPE	NAME	STATUS	PRN
PUBLIC HOUSE	Buck i' th' Vine Inn; Burscough Street	Listed gd II	18583
RAILWAY STATION	Ormskirk Railway Station	Listed gd II	18610
SHOP	No 12 Church Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18540
SHOP	No 21 Church Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18541
SHOP	No 27 Church Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18542
SHOP	No 33 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18582
SHOP	Nos. 15 and 17 (Railway Hotel) Derby Street	Listed gd II	18592
SHOP	Nos 29; 29A; 31; 31A Moor Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18599
SUNDIAL	Sundial, Church of St. Peter and St. Paul	Listed gd II	18543
SURGERY	No 5a Derby Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18589
TELEPHONE BOX	Derby Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18591
TOWN HALL	No 2 Church Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18539
TOWN HOUSE	No 43 Burscough Street; Ormskirk	Listed gd II	18586
WAR MEMORIAL	Victoria Park; St Helen's Road	Listed gd II	18613
WATER TOWER	Tower Hill; Ormskirk	Listed gd II*	18616

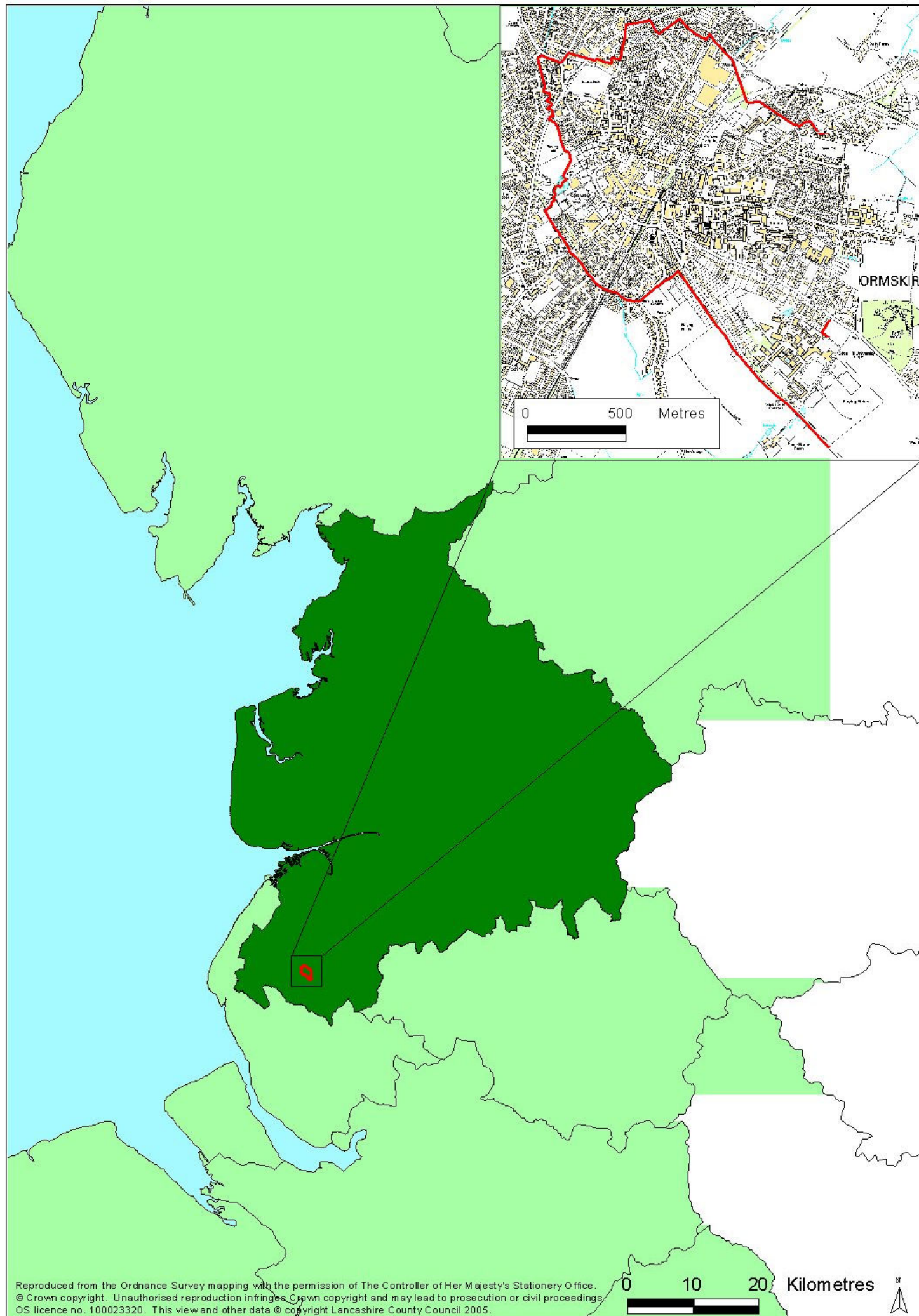
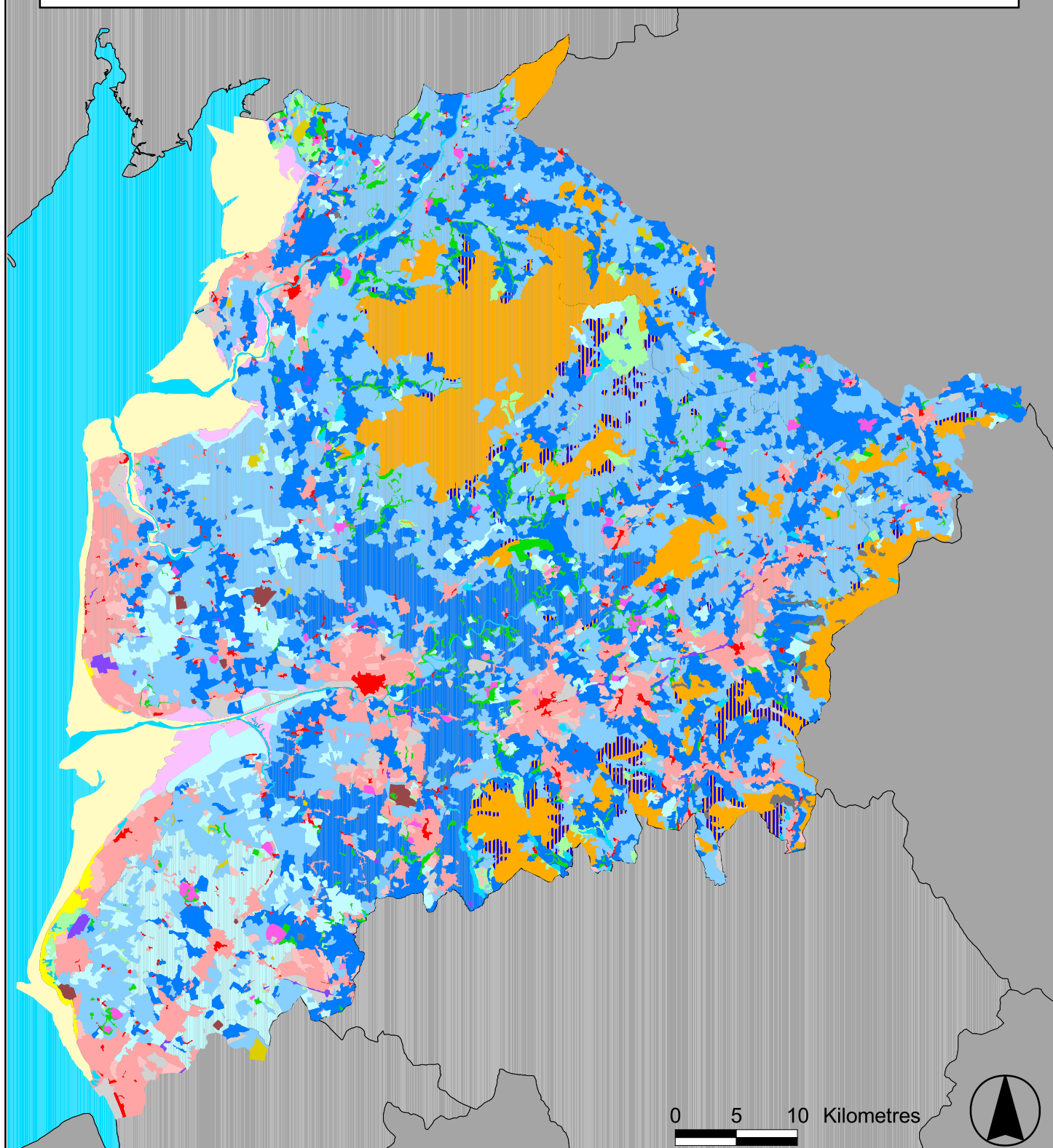


Fig.1 Location map of survey area

Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation

Broad Character Types

■ Ancient Enclosure	■ Ancient and Post-Medieval Ornamental	■ Lowland Moss and Grassland/Scrub
■ Post-Medieval Enclosure	■ Modern Ornamental	■ Water
■ Modern Enclosure	■ Ancient and Post-Medieval Industry	■ Coastal Rough Ground
■ Ancient and Post-Medieval Woodland	■ Modern Industry	■ Saltmarsh
■ Modern Woodland	■ Modern Military	■ Dunes
■ Ancient and Post-Medieval Settlement	■ Modern Communications	■ Sand and Mudflats
■ Modern Settlement	■ Moorland	
■ Modern Recreation	■ Reverted Moorland	



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Figure 3: Historic Landscape Characterisation map of Lancashire

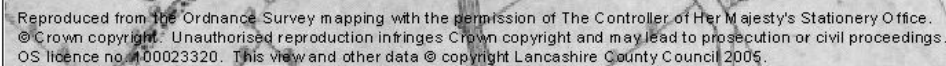


Fig.4 Detail of Ormskirk as mapped in 1848

Ormskirk

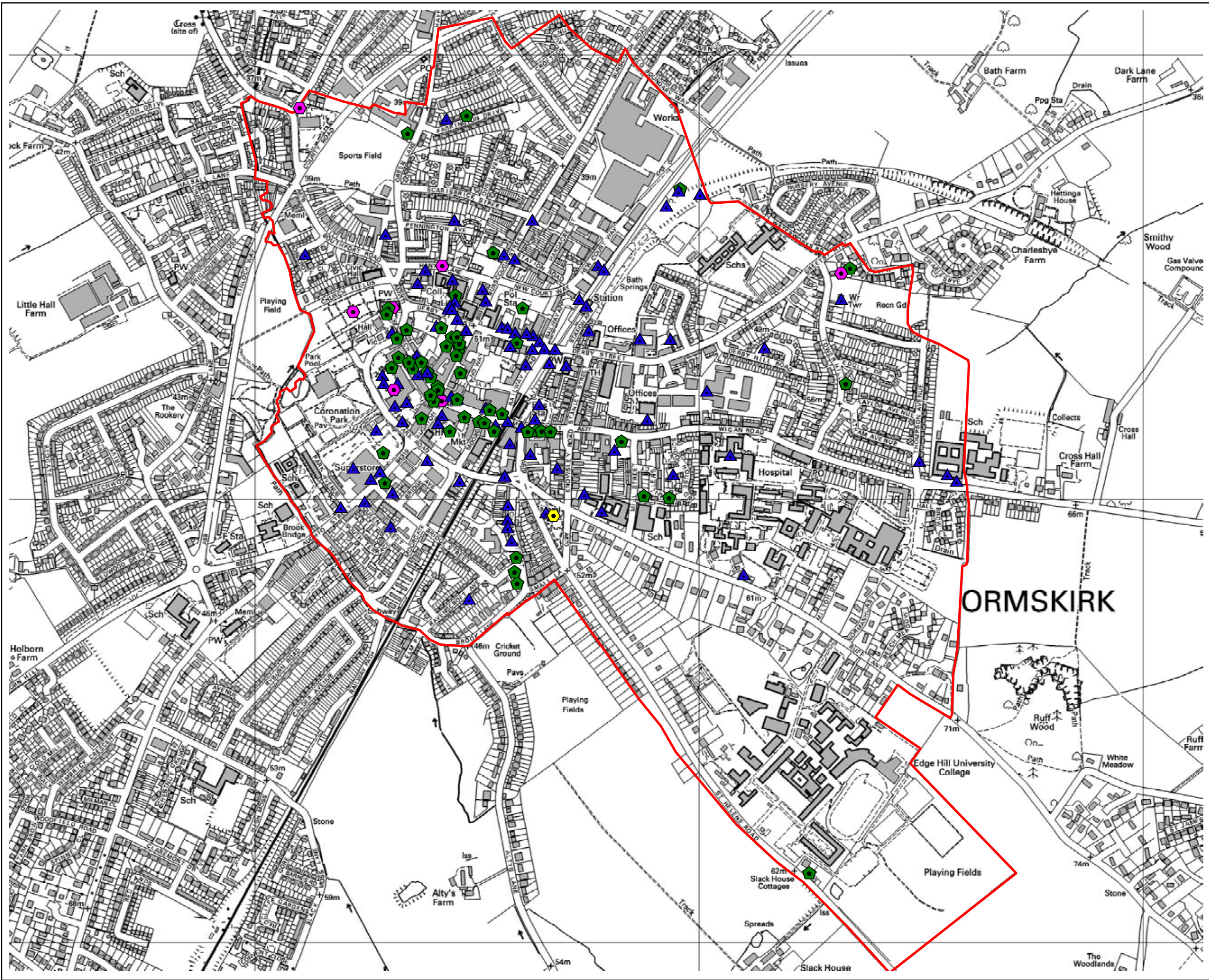
Fig 5: Archaeological Sites Recorded for Ormskirk

KEY

- Survey Area
- Medieval
- Post-medieval
- Industrial-era
- Modern

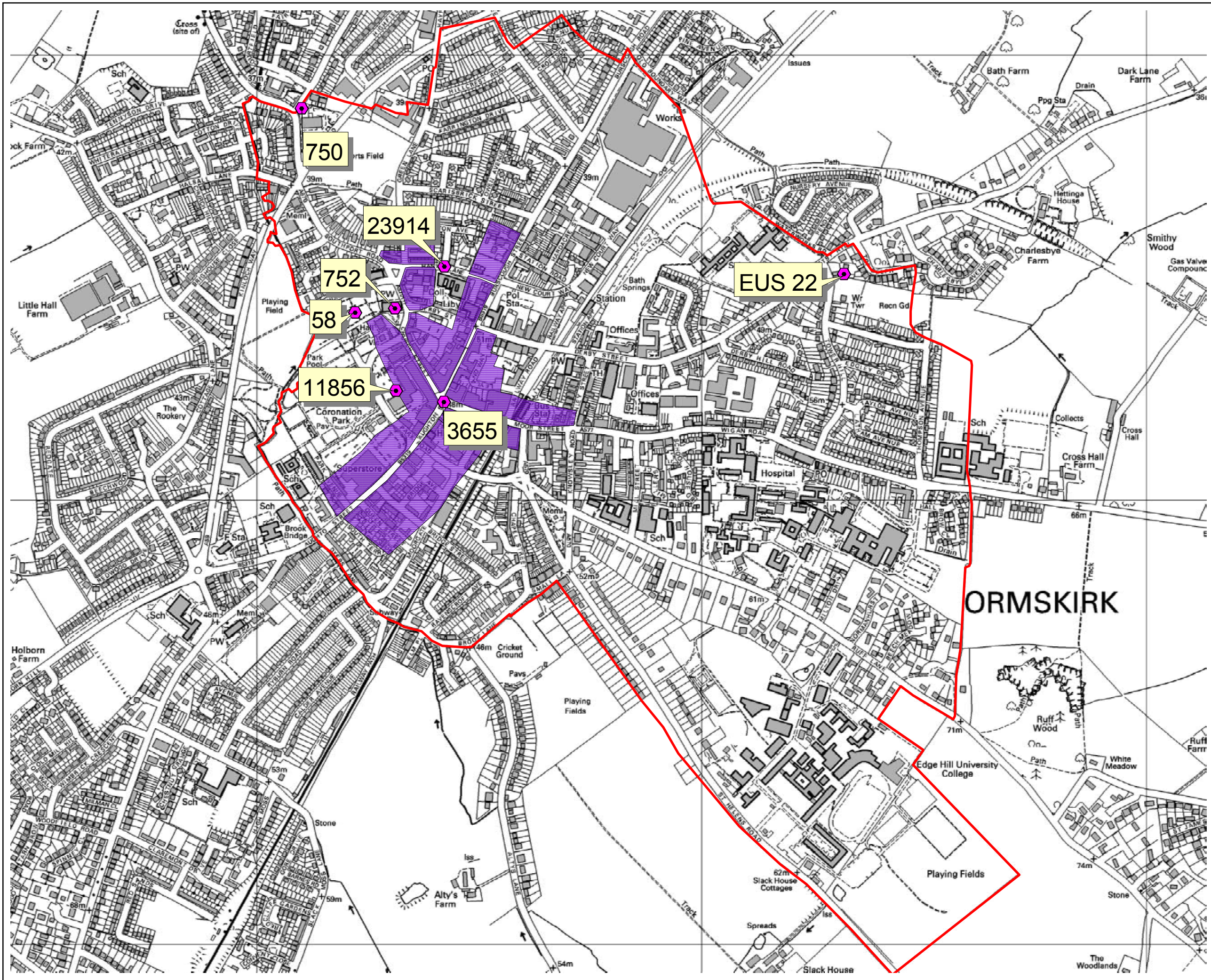
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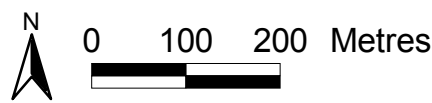
Ormskirk

Fig 6: Medieval Sites and Areas Recorded for Ormskirk



- KEY**
- Survey Area
 - Medieval Site
 - Extent of Medieval Borough

EUS 22 - Windmill, Greetby Hill
58 - Iron Pike Findspot
750 - Stock Bridge Cross
752 - St Peter & St Paul Church
3655 - Site of Cross, Aughton Street
11856 - Boundary Ditch, Church Street
23914 - House, Hants Lane

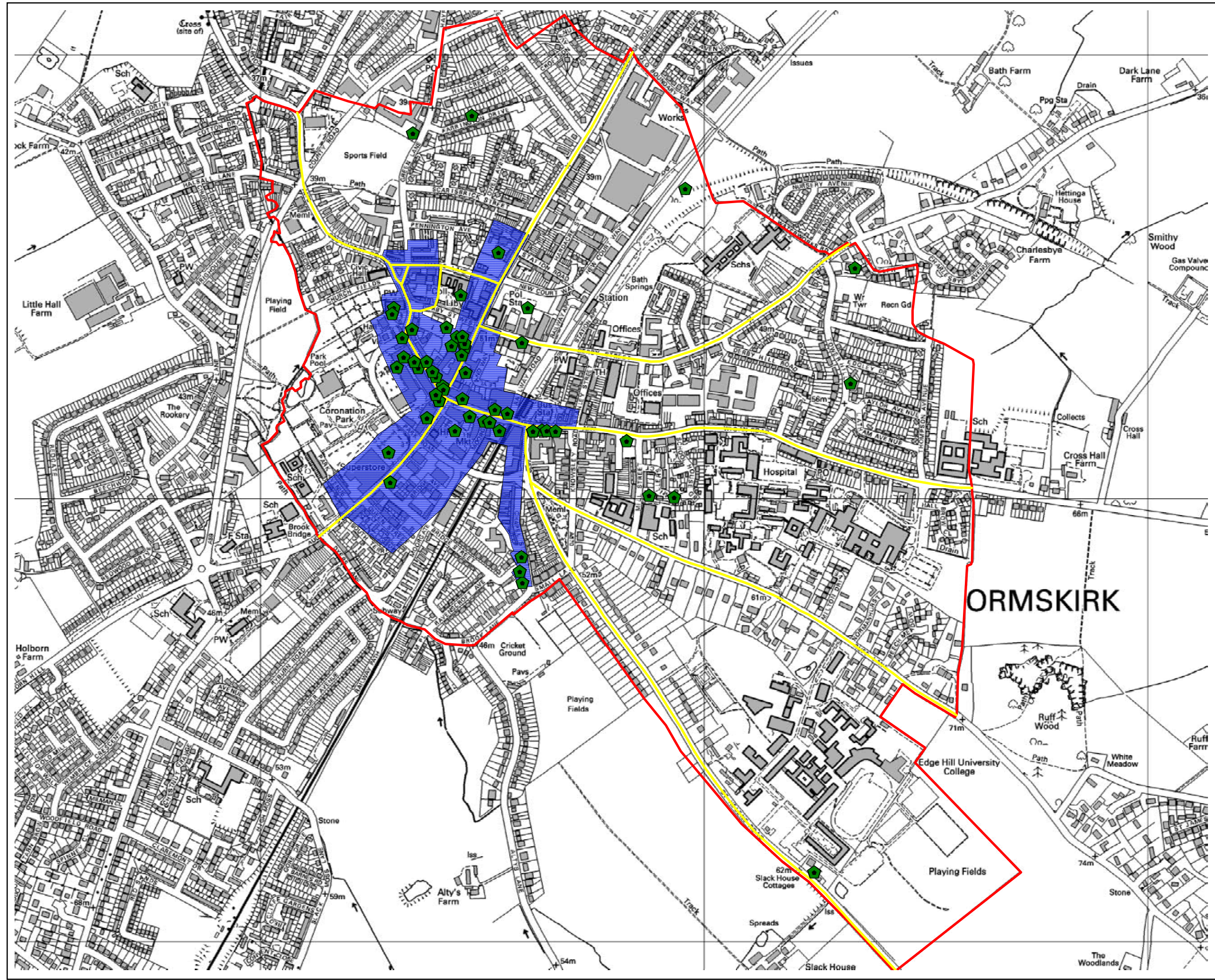


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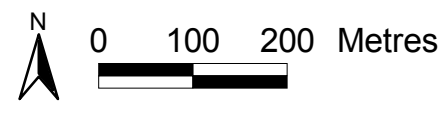
Fig 7: Post-medieval Sites, Areas and Communication Routes Recorded for Ormskirk



KEY

- Survey Area
- Post-medieval Settlement Area
- Post-medieval Site
- Pre-turnpike Roads

See Appendix 1 for identification of sites



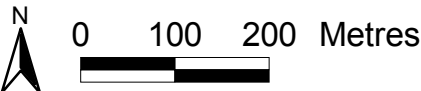
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Ormskirk

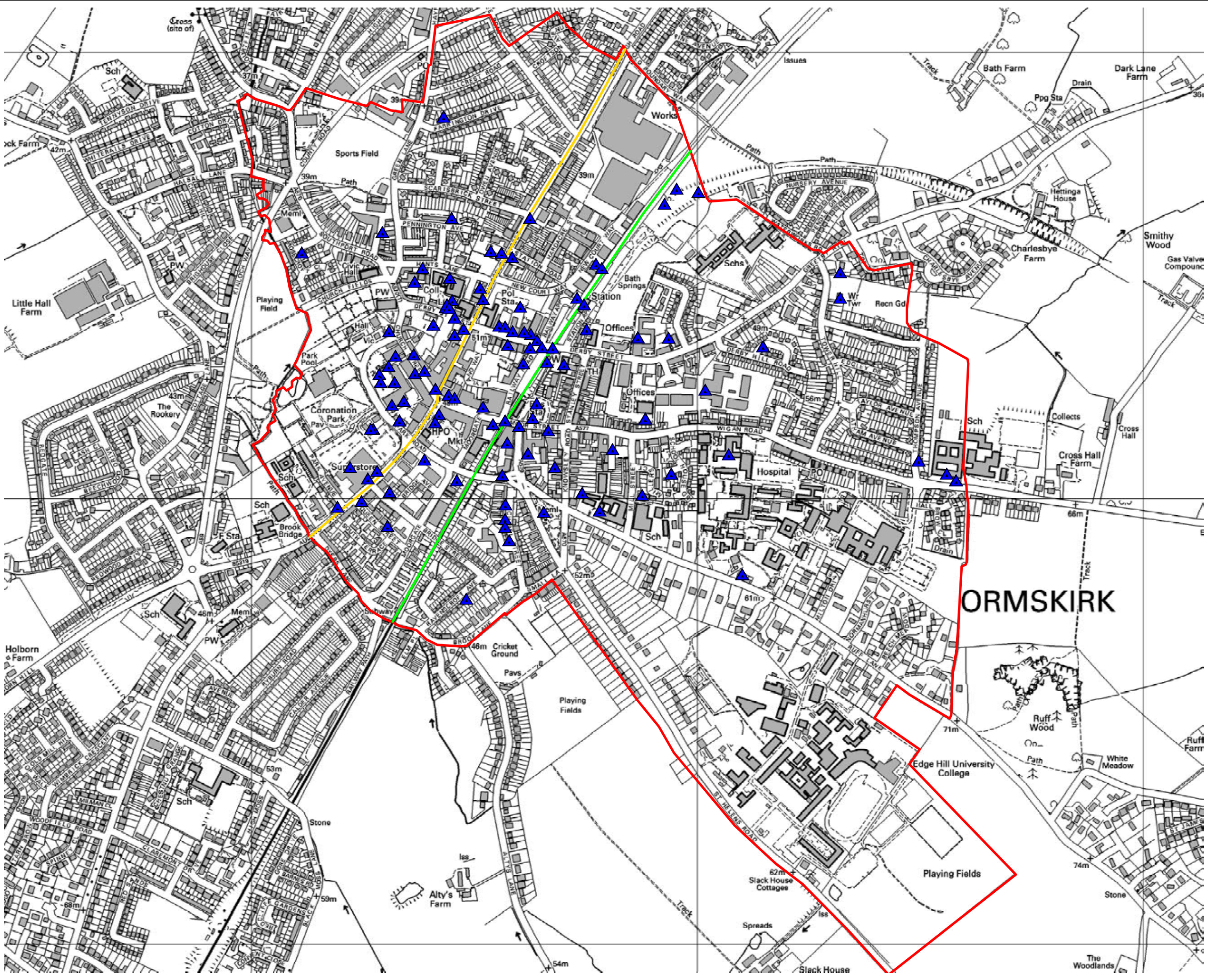
Fig 8: Industrial-era Sites, and Communication Routes Recorded for Ormskirk

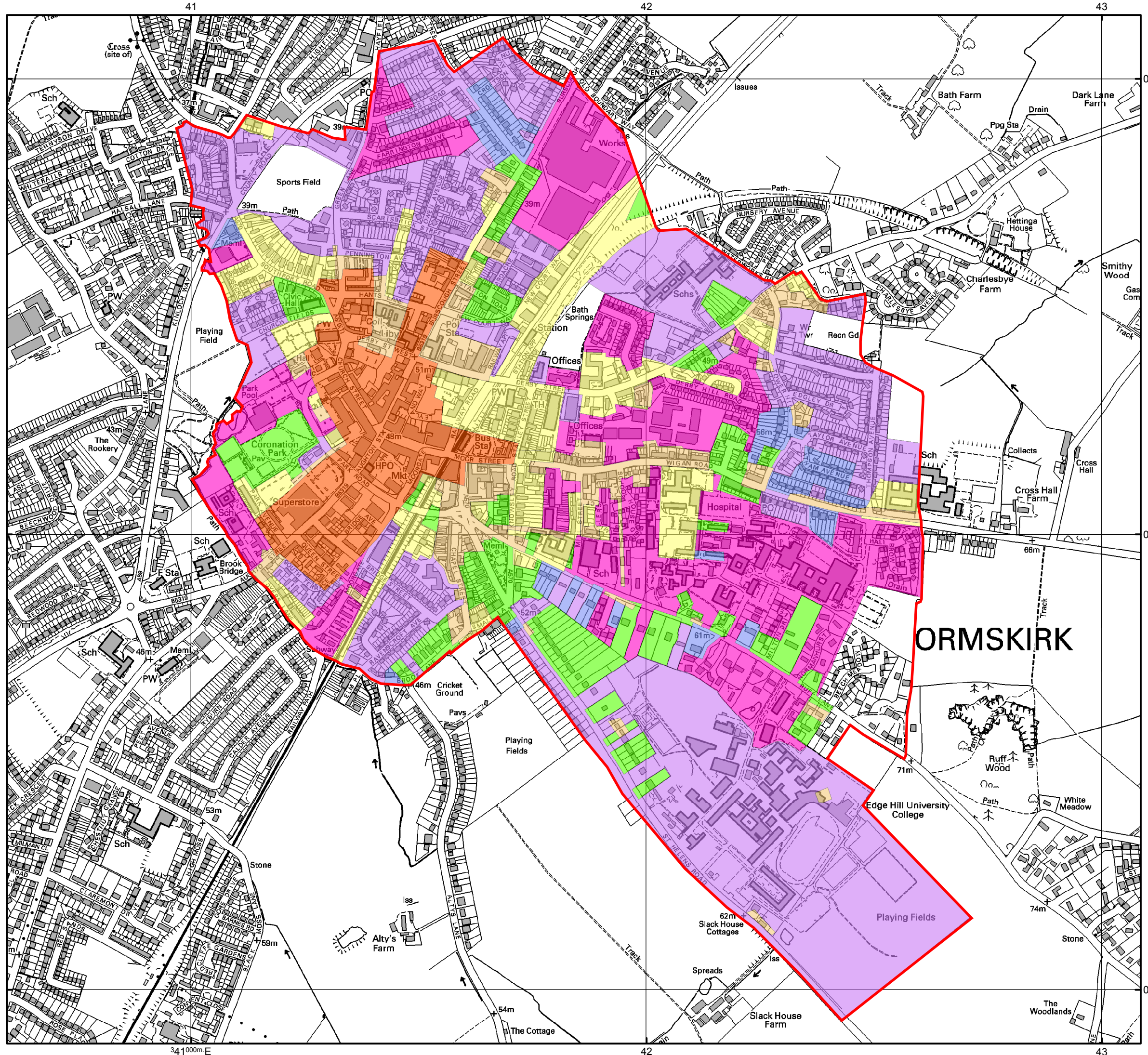
- KEY
- Survey Area
 - Industrial-era Sites
 - Railway
 - Turnpike Road

See Appendix 2 for identification of sites



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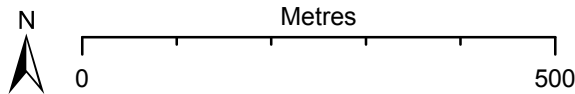




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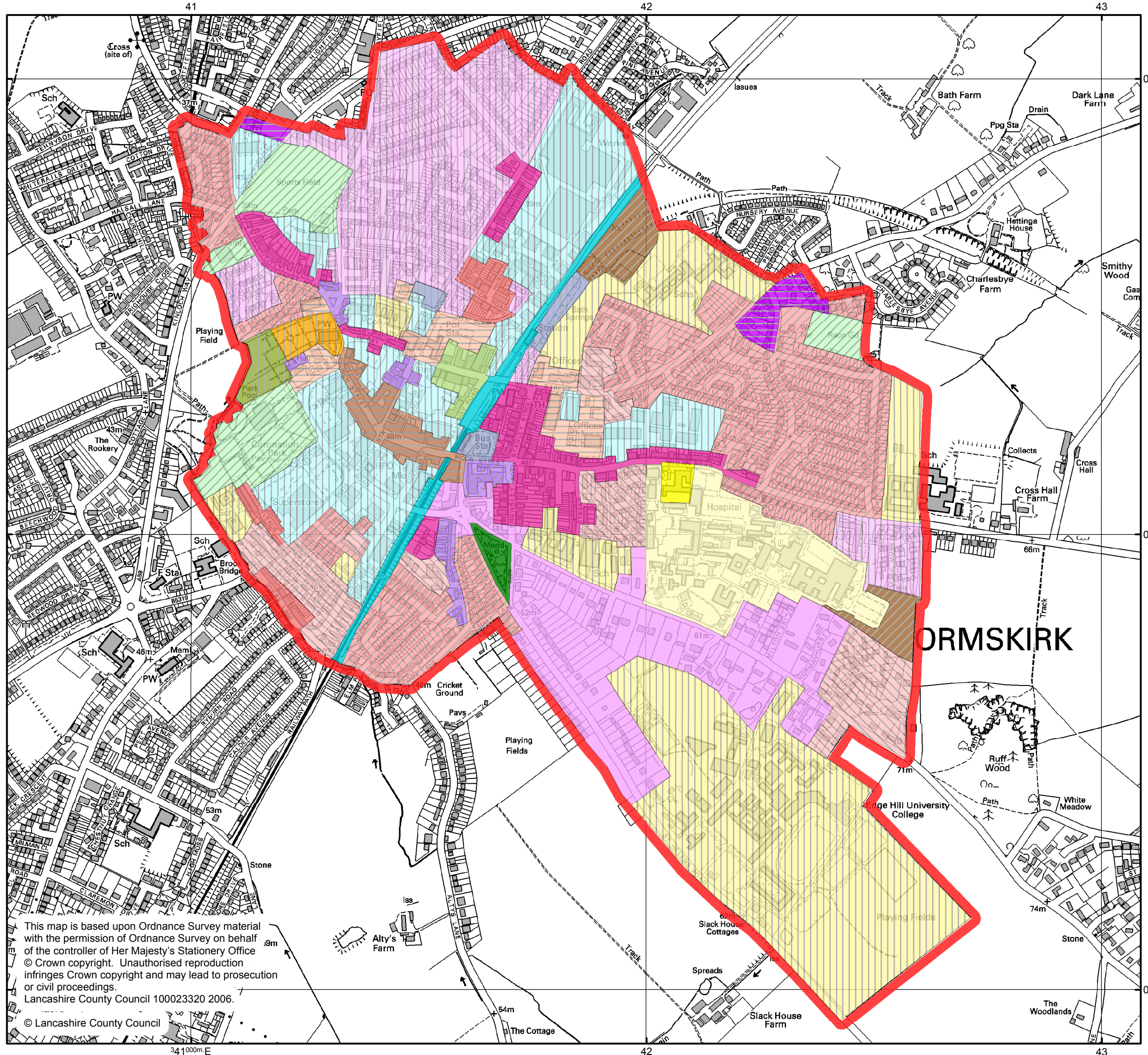
Figure 9. Historical Urban Development

- Survey area
- Medieval
- c1850
- 1894
- 1908
- 1927
- 1961
- 1976



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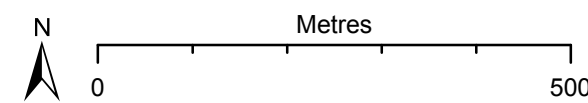
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Ormskirk

Figure 10. Present Historic Townscape Character - HTC types and areas

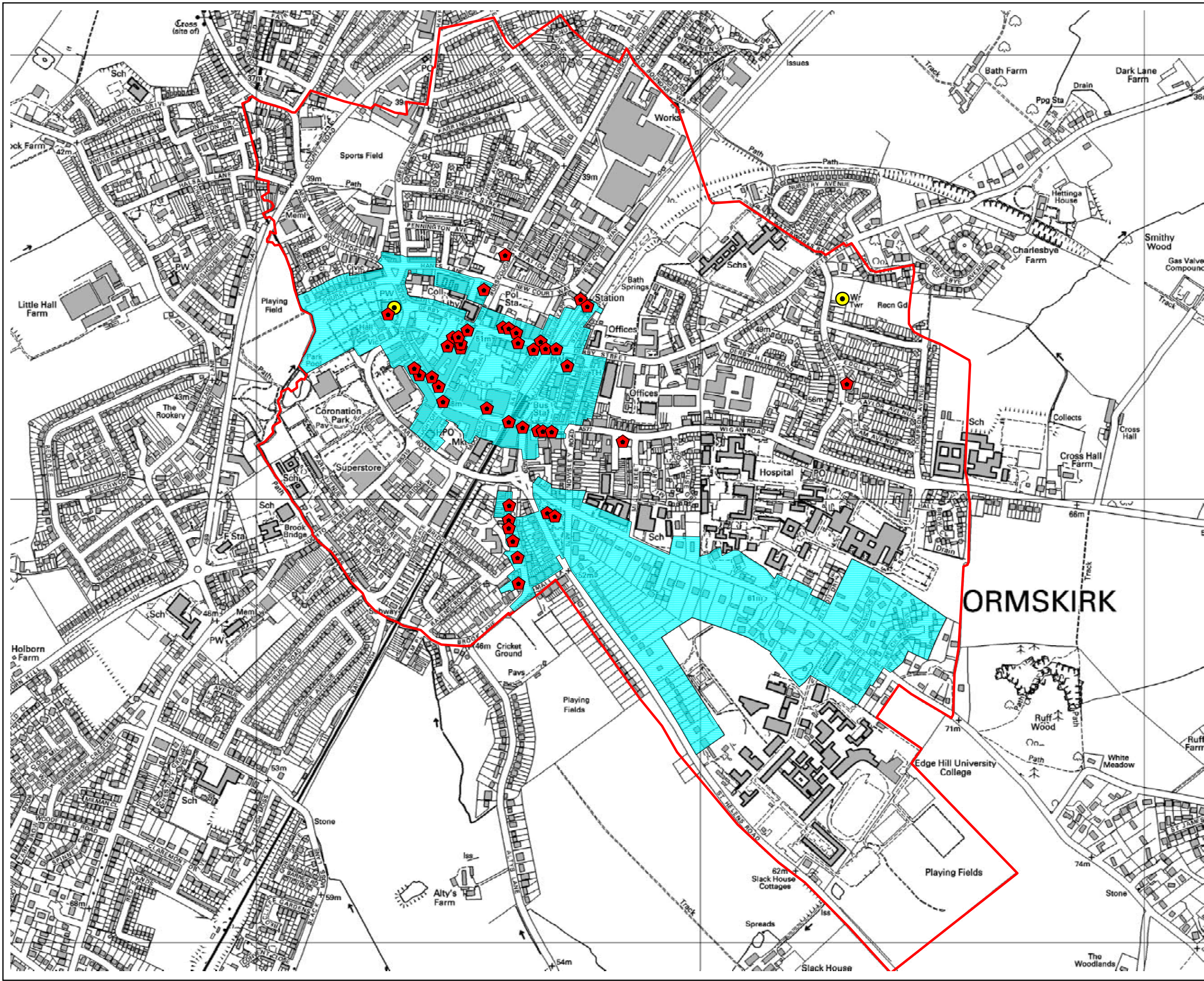
- Survey Area
- Bye-law terraced housing (17-19)
- C20 cemetery (23)
- C20 hospital (21)
- C20 industrial/commercial (24-30)
- C20 public (31-35)
- C20 recreational (36-39)
- C20 school or college (42-48)
- C20 transport (49-51)
- Church and churchyard (1)
- Civic centre (3)
- Individual housing (1918-2003) (52)
- Inter/immediate post-war housing (c1918-50) (53-58)
- Late C20 housing (c1970-2003) (59-64)
- Later post-war housing (c1950-70) (65-69)
- Medieval planned settlement (2)
- Middle-class housing (c1860-1914) (12-16)
- Open ground (70-71)
- Post medieval urban development (7-11)
- Pre-NHS hospital (20)
- Public landscape grounds (22)
- Railway (4)
- Rural settlement (5-6)



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Ormskirk

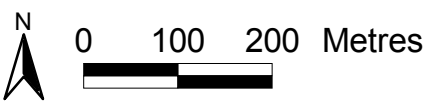
Fig 11: Designations



KEY

- Survey Area
- Conservation Area
- Listed Building Grade II
- Listed Building Grade II*

See Appendix 3 for identification of sites



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