

**LANCASHIRE
HISTORIC TOWN
SURVEY PROGRAMME**

ACCRINGTON

**HISTORIC TOWN
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

MAY 2005

Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea Consultancy
with the support of English Heritage and Hyndburn Borough 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 & 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 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) containing background information on the historical development and current archaeological knowledge of each town, and a shorter Historic Environment Management Guidance report, which outlines strategies for conservation and enhancement.

Accrington – archaeological and historical summary

There are no known prehistoric sites within the defined urban area for Accrington. Roman findspots form a small concentration in the Oak Hill Park area, indicating a possibility of settlement activity in the vicinity, and a Roman lamp has been found at Baxenden.

The place name 'Accrington' appears to be of Anglo-Saxon origin, suggesting settlement of this date in the area, although there is no documentary evidence of this before the twelfth century. The name 'Milnshaw' is also significant, suggesting there was a mill at Accrington by the twelfth century. It is likely that any settlement that was present in the early medieval period comprised dispersed farmsteads, as it would have done in Roman times.

By the twelfth century, Accrington formed part of the de Lacy family's honor of Clitheroe. At least part of the township was given to the monks of Kirkstall Abbey in the later twelfth century, and it is thought that the abbey then established a grange at Accrington, to which there was apparently some local resistance. The abbot resigned the lands back to the de Lacy family in 1287, and it appears that the grange became the manorial centre of the Accrington estate; the Halmote Court was held there later in the medieval period. The exact site of the grange is not known, but is thought to have been in the vicinity of Grange Lane and Black Abbey Street.

There were settlement nuclei throughout the Accrington area in the medieval period, including two likely to have formed around the grange and the mill. After its reacquisition by the de Lacys, Accrington grange was administered as a demesne farm within a management structure that included five vaccaries. By 1323 only one was managed as part of the demesne, the others being farmed out. In addition to the vaccaries one further settlement site, the farmstead of Iconhurst, is known to have been in existence before the sixteenth century.

The chase of Accrington was disafforested in 1507, leading to the formation of the two townships of Accrington Old Hold and Accrington New Hold, the latter being the disafforested area. The four vaccaries within New Hold became copyhold farms and were subdivided, with the increase in tenements resulting in an increase in the number of dispersed farmsteads rather than the appearance of nucleated settlements. There was some clustering of tenements, however, including one which gave rise to the discrete settlement of Accrington. It is likely that there were at least three settlement nuclei until the early nineteenth century, giving Accrington the character of a poly-focal village. There was a corn market at Accrington from at least the sixteenth century, by which time it had

become an economic and administrative centre. However, it was still perceived by visitors as no more than a village until the middle of the nineteenth century.

Although there was some industrial activity in the area, with woollen cloth being produced and traded from the sixteenth century, most people in Accrington relied on agriculture for subsistence in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. A number of factories had been established in the area by the eighteenth century, and coal mining was also widespread by about 1790. Most households at this time would have combined agriculture with weaving for an income, and weavers' cottages would have been quite common until the mid-nineteenth century. However, the development of textile factories rendered domestic weaving redundant and resulted in a widespread rebuilding of the housing stock. Little evidence of the domestic textile industry has survived in Accrington.

Local landowners who had invested in the textile industry began to build mansions in the area in the late eighteenth century, situated within landscaped grounds on the outskirts of the growing settlement, where most of the mills were located. Accrington was attractive to industry because of its position at the confluence of several watercourses, which provided a source of power. Accrington grew rapidly from the late eighteenth century onwards as a result of industrialisation. The population grew from 3266 in 1811 to 10,374 by 1851 and 43,122 by 1901. It peaked in 1911, but has since been declining.

Development of the nineteenth-century town

At least ten mills were in operation in Accrington in the early nineteenth century. Terraced housing for the industrial workers was built along new streets and in squares; a few higher status developments, such as Bank Terrace, were also built at this time. By the middle of the century overcrowded living conditions had given rise to major sanitation problems. Many people were living in cramped courts with inadequate drainage, and it was not uncommon for pigs and other animals to be kept in the town.

The arrival of the railway in 1848, connecting Accrington with Blackburn, Burnley and Manchester, was a stimulus for further industrial and residential development. More new streets were laid out throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. Housing built after about 1860 tended to differ from the earlier housing, being generally of better quality and built in longer, more standardised terraces on streets laid out to an orderly gridiron plan. The town grew as a centre for the textiles industry, but in the later nineteenth century it also became a world-renowned centre for engineering. A Local Board of Health was constituted in 1853 and the town was incorporated in 1878, allowing byelaws relating to matters such as house and road building standards and sanitation to be enforced.

In the earlier nineteenth century, shops were concentrated around the Church Street area and along Abbey Road. Warner Street was developing as a commercial area by the 1830s. Abbey Street, Blackburn Street, Blackburn Road, Oak Street and Warner Street had become major shopping streets by the middle of the century, and Burnley Road by 1878. Shops had become more widespread and far more diverse by the end of the century, and those constructed at this time were usually purpose-built. Accrington may have had only two taverns at the start of the nineteenth century, but had fourteen public houses and 27 beerhouses by 1850, and 44 and 36 of each respectively by 1868.

Many new churches were built in Accrington in the nineteenth century, particularly by the Nonconformists who made up a high proportion of the immigrants moving into the town to seek work. These people established schools as well as churches, as did both the Roman Catholics and the Anglicans. A technical school was built in the town in 1894-5. The earliest public building in Accrington was a courthouse, built in 1835 and demolished in the 1930s. The Peel Institution was built in 1857-8 and fulfilled various functions before becoming the Town Hall in 1878. Public baths, a cottage hospital and a public library were subsequently acquired or developed.

To the south of Accrington town centre the settlement of Baxenden developed, arising out of one of the former vaccaries. It comprised a small group of buildings by at least 1848, likely to have developed before the opening of the Manchester to Whalley turnpike road, although it is not certain when it first evolved into a distinct nucleation. In the later nineteenth century it developed into an industrial settlement, with rows of workers' dwellings along the turnpike.

Historic settlement character

Many of the historic features and structures of Accrington have been removed during twentieth-century redevelopment. The historic core of the town focuses on St James', Warner and Church Streets, but a wide ring of later nineteenth-century development around it, of both terraced housing and industrial buildings, has been replaced during the twentieth century. Beyond the area of modern development is a substantial ring of surviving gridiron plan terraced housing, although this has been broken in places by redevelopment. Terraced housing also formed ribbon development along some of the main roads into Accrington, particularly the Manchester, Burnley and Whalley Roads. The terraced houses are stone-built and of two storeys in height. There are relatively few discrete areas of higher-status housing in the town, although there are some along Avenue Parade and elsewhere, forming pockets within larger areas of terraces. Avenue Parade is a long, wide street rising steeply to the north east, which provides a vista across the town.

Both textile and non-textile related nineteenth-century industrial sites have also survived within the Accrington townscape. The two largest areas, Scaitcliffe and the area around the Broad Oak Print Works, form linear developments along watercourses in the southern part of the survey area. Of the railway lines that ran through the town in the nineteenth century, one has become disused. The line running to Blackburn and Colne, however, is still operational, and although some areas that were formerly occupied by sidings and infrastructure have since been re-used, its original land-take has been fossilised to some extent within the townscape. The triangular area at the former junction of the railways, for example, is now occupied by the Accrington and Rossendale College.

There is relatively little public open space within Accrington, particularly in the town centre. The cemetery lies on the north-eastern outskirts, and there are two public parks in the south-eastern part of the survey area and one to the north west of the town centre. There are also a small number of informal open spaces, one along the disused railway line, one along Laund Clough and four at the western edge of the survey area, adjacent to the urban areas of Church and Oswaldtwistle.

Twentieth-century residential areas have been built in several large estates at the edges of Accrington, forming extensions to the later nineteenth- and early twentieth-century gridiron terraced housing developments, as well as in pockets within some of these earlier areas. Estates of 1950s-1960s date are particularly prominent in the Baxenden, Fern Gore and Dunnyshop areas. Medium to large estates of inter-war and late twentieth-century date can be found in the outer parts of Accrington. Pockets of twentieth-century housing that have eaten into the ring of surviving terraced housing around the town centre tend to post-date 1970. There are also some individual terraces of inter-war date which have infilled gaps left in the original nineteenth-century development, particularly in the western part of the survey area.

There are three twentieth-century high schools in Accrington, all situated at the edges of the survey area, and three college sites, two of which are in the town centre. There are also a number of primary schools, which occupy small and medium-sized sites throughout the suburban area.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

This report is an archaeological and historic urban landscape assessment of Accrington 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 Accrington 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

Accrington is located at NGR SD 760 290 (centred). It is positioned on the western edge of the Pennine Hills. Adjoining it to the west is the town of Oswaldtwistle, and 4km further to the west is Blackburn. On its north side Accrington is bounded by Church and almost by Clayton-le-Moors, which is separated from it only by the corridor of the M65 motorway. A little further to the north is Great Harwood. About 5km south-west of Accrington lies the town of Haslingden. Accrington is thus one of a number of closely neighbouring towns which contribute much to the local character of the Lancashire Valleys countryside character area (Countryside Commission 1998, 101).

2.2 Geology

The underlying solid geology of the area consists of Lower Westphalian coal measures of the Carboniferous era (IGS 1979). These contributed to the early industrial exploitation of the area. The hills surrounding the town are generally formed of Carboniferous sandstones. These range from the more recent Accrington mudstones to older gritstones and other formations such as Dyneley Flag and Dandy Rock. The former were locally used for flagstones and roofing before the introduction of Welsh slate, and later for brick-making, whilst the latter were widely used in the locality for providing stone setts and kerbstones (Gidman 2000, 91; Countryside Commission 1998, 102).

The drift cover consists primarily of soils of the Brickfield Association, medium- to fine-textured tills derived from Carboniferous sandstones. The soils require regular liming to maintain fertility, and arable productivity in the area has never been high (Hall and Folland 1970, 68-72).

2.3 Landscape setting

Accrington sits in a bowl formed by the surrounding hills. The early town straddled a small watercourse known as the Hyndburn or Accrington Brook, the course of which has long since been all but lost through canalisation and culverting. As the town grew it spread across a relatively flat valley bottom to the base of the hills. The town ranges in height from around 125m aOD in the Milnshaw area near to the former course of the Hynburn to 168m aOD at Laneside. The surrounding hills rise to heights of 300-400m aOD, with the highest local point being Great Hameldon at a height of 409m, three kilometres to the east of Accrington.

The uplands are largely flat-topped, providing a natural backdrop to the town of a series of stepped plateaux with exposed millstone grit escarpments where the softer and younger shales have been eroded away (Gidman 2000, 91). They enclose the settlements of the industrialised valley bottoms, dwarfing them and reducing the scale of their visual impact (Countryside Commission 1998, 102).

The Lancashire Valleys countryside character area is throughout 'intensely urban' in character. The surrounding fieldscape is often fragmented by scattered industrial and residential developments (Countryside Commission 1998, 101). Quarries, small reservoirs and golf courses are also a feature of the urban fringe of present-day Accrington.

2.4 Study area

Accrington's urban area was defined in relation to Lancashire's Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Project, which outlined urban areas in accordance with their extent

in c1990. The urban area which included Accrington also included the settlements of Baxenden, Church, Clayton-le-Moors, Huncoat and Oswaldtwistle. Church and Oswaldtwistle are the subjects of a separate town assessment within the project. Clayton-le-Moors was reviewed within the *Lancashire Extensive Urban Archaeological Survey Assessment Report* (LUAU 1998 116-7) and found to have insufficient historic urban characteristics or archaeological significance to warrant a town assessment. Huncoat has always been distinct from Accrington and is still physically separated from it by Hillock Vale cemetery. Even so, the Accrington brick works which are situated between Huncoat and Accrington will of necessity be discussed in this assessment as an important industrial enterprise of significance to the development of the town. Baxenden, unlike Huncoat, was always included within the two townships which came to form the town of Accrington. It can legitimately be regarded as a suburb of Accrington, and its development will be dealt with as part of the town.

The part of the HLC-defined urban area included within the present assessment has been defined in relation to the historic township boundaries. Accrington lay within the Forests of Lancashire, and when in 1507 these were disafforested, the former lands held as hunting preserves were attached to adjoining manors. Accrington Forest was attached to the manor of Accrington and came to form the township of Accrington New Hold (Newbiggin 1868, 52). The original medieval vill of Accrington is identified with the pre-existing township and manor which came to be known as Accrington Old Hold (Williams 1872, 7). In 1878 these two townships were united when the town was incorporated (West 1983, 12; LUAU 1998, 89).

The two former townships of Old and New Accrington closely mirror the present urban extent of Accrington, including Baxenden, and define the boundaries of Accrington with Oswaldtwistle, Church, Clayton-le-Moors and Huncoat. Accrington is part of the post-1974 county of Lancashire and lies within the Diocese of Blackburn. It is the administrative centre of Hyndburn Borough Council.

3. SOURCES

3.1 Published works

In the Victoria County History for Lancashire it is claimed that '*there is little to record of the township till modern times*' (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). In his forward to Ainsworth's *The Old Homesteads of Accrington and District* (1928), RS Crossley states '*the materials for writing a History of Accrington are scanty. Odd glimpses of the early life of that little community that clustered about the bank of the Hyndburn are caught here and there; later, when newspapers became established, occasional references to Accrington and district enable one to gather something more of how our forebears moved and had their being*'. The reality is less pessimistic – there are a number of sources, most published, which shed light on pre-nineteenth-century and pre-urban Accrington. Nevertheless, the recoverable information is sketchy when compared to the plethora of information concerning the growth of the town after c1850.

Unlike many east Lancashire towns, a single major town history for Accrington has not been written. For the nineteenth century, only a slim volume providing a brief historical summary is available (Williams 1872). This difference between Accrington and Blackburn or Burnley reflects the comparatively much more recent origins of Accrington. Its development as a significant settlement began only in the early nineteenth century, and thus there was little upon which to base a town history in the nineteenth century. The late origins of Accrington also ensured a short entry in the relevant volume of the Victoria County History (Farrer and Brownbill 1911).

The recording of Accrington's history was undertaken in earnest in the years between 1917 and 1930, but not by a single author or in a single volume. Five books covering different subjects and all written by local authors provide the basis of an historical synthesis of the development of Accrington from the sixteenth century. The earliest concerned Accrington corn mill and was based largely on information derived from Farrer's work on the Honor of Clitheroe court rolls (Broughton 1917). To an extent the other four were based on a series of articles which had previously appeared in the *Accrington Observer and Times*. Two of the books were written by the editor of that newspaper, RS Crossley (1924; 1930) and a third was introduced by him (Ainsworth 1928). The final book was compiled by the borough librarian to commemorate the fiftieth jubilee of Accrington's incorporation (Singleton 1928).

The impetus for this surge in writing came in part from the impending anniversary, but may also have been a response to the dramatic slackening in Accrington's growth after c1910. In addition there was an awareness of the imminent demise of those remaining residents who remembered conditions in the early nineteenth century, when Accrington's rural roots had not been submerged by urbanisation. The preservation of pre-urban memory as well as the commemoration of urban success lay behind the interest in Accrington's history shown around the 1920s.

Until recently, with the exception of Rothwell's excellent gazetteers of industrial archaeological sites (1978), little further work of note has been undertaken and published on the history of Accrington. The recent Wharncliffe Publishing 'Discovering Local History' series, which includes books on a number of east Lancashire towns, has provided a set of useful essays by primarily local researchers entitled *Aspects of Accrington* (2000), and a second volume is promised.

A number of theses have been written which deal with aspects of Accrington's development. Tindall (1943) used Accrington as the subject of a study of urban planning in an industrial mill town, a subject revisited by Atkinson (1972) in a study encompassing Accrington, Burnley and Nelson. A comparison of the industrial structure of Accrington and Darwen was carried out by Clegg (nd). The history of Accrington's schools was covered by

Stones (1957), and migration and residential development in the nineteenth century by Lupton (1981). Only those theses available to be consulted locally were reviewed, and no attempt was made to trace others.

The principal published primary sources for the history and urban development of Accrington are the trade directories, of which an extensive collection is kept in the Lancashire Record Office, and local newspapers. Accrington had a number of newspapers in the nineteenth century, most of which were of very limited duration. The most successful were the *Advertiser*, the *Gazette* and the *Times* – later known as the *Observer and Times* – (West 1983, 238), and collections of these are held in Accrington Local Studies Library. Directories were utilised in the current study but other than the occasional reprinted or cut out article incorporated in other documents, no attempt was made to use the data contained in contemporary newspapers. Reference was made to the recent compilation of historical articles published in the *Observer and Times* by RS Crossley and R Ainsworth between 1925 and 1927 (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995).

3.2 Manuscripts

As a holding within the Honor of Clitheroe and later the Duchy of Lancaster, Accrington is mentioned frequently in medieval documents for a place of modest size. However, as the centre of a large manor and, at least from the fourteenth century, the meeting place for the Halmote Court, Accrington was a place of some administrative importance. The Proceedings of the Halmote Court have been transcribed in Farrer's *Court Rolls of the Honor of Clitheroe*, volume 3 (1913). Other de Lacy documents relevant to the medieval history of Accrington include accounts published by the Chetham Society. More recent manuscripts relating to the manorial descent of lands within the former Honor of Clitheroe are contained in LRO collection DDX. The Duchy of Lancaster muniments are held at the PRO in Kew, but there is no modern catalogue. A brief review of this material revealed little of relevance.

The Lancashire Record Office holds other manuscript collections relevant to Accrington, including Halmote Court documents from the sixteenth century in collection DDBr, manorial and estate documents from the seventeenth century in collection DDCm, and surveys and deeds from the seventeenth century in collection DDKe. Other family-based collections have sporadic references to lands in the Manor of Accrington. Of greater relevance to Accrington's urban history are the borough records, and in particular the building control register (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). Useful information can also be gleaned from parish (LRO DRB), school (LRO SP) and hospital records (LRO HR)

Other manuscript collections containing relevant information are held in Manchester Archives at Manchester Central Reference Library, particularly in the Farrer Collection (MCRL L1). Accrington Local Studies Library has a fine collection of prints and photographs. Other repositories which may contain information relevant to Accrington's settlement history but which were not checked during the course of this study include the John Rylands Library and the Chetham Society Library, both situated in Manchester.

3.3 Cartographic evidence

Given the urban genesis of Accrington in the mid- and later-nineteenth century, and the absence of a tithe apportionment and map, it is not surprising that the main cartographic data source is the Ordnance Survey. First, second and third edition maps at 1:10,560 and 1:2500 were the main map sources used. The first reasonably large-scale map to depict part of Accrington is a 1792 plan showing a proposed route for the Leeds and Liverpool Canal (PRO RAIL 846; Clarke 2000, fig 1). Two estate plans of 1800 give a detailed but partial view of the nucleated settlement that was to grow into the town of Accrington, and both were published with annotations in *The Jubilee Souvenir of the Corporation of*

Accrington 1878-1928 (Singleton 1928). Further estate plans of 1835 and 1839 again provide partial views of parts of the area (LRO DDpt/25; DDX 1063/4/1).

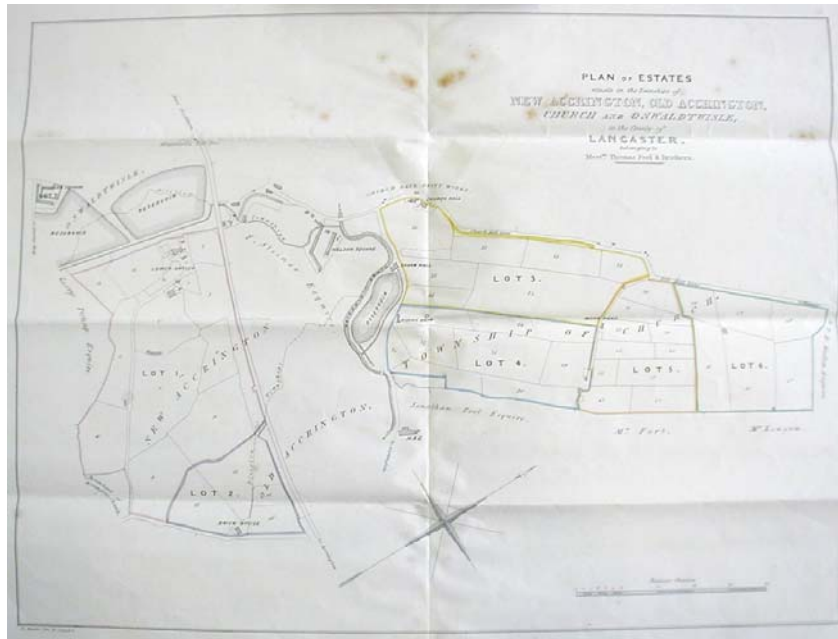


Plate 1: 1839 estate map showing the Antley area of Accrington (copyright LRO)

In 1840 the Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company produced a plan of New and Old Accrington with Church at a scale of 1:5280. A Board of Health plan of 1850 provides a similar picture to that given on the OS first edition 1:10,560 map (Babbage 1850). There are no further published overall plans until the OS 1:2500 and 1:10,560 editions of 1891-4.

In the forty-four years between the Board of Health and the 1894 OS maps, most of the development that characterises Accrington today had taken place. Fortunately, there are hundreds of building control plans relating to the growth of Accrington between c1859 and 1900 (LRO MBAC acc 8099/5). Moreover, in Accrington Local Studies Library there is a series of plans prepared in 1856 and 1884 at a scale of 1:900 by the Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company, which show the developing street pattern as the town expanded. Details of the industrial developments along Accrington's watercourses in 1891 can be found on the plans published at 1:500 which formed part of the Borough's *Report on the Survey of the River Hyndburn and its Tributaries* (Newton 1891).

3.4 Archaeological evidence

Following an examination of the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century OS mapping at the commencement of the Lancashire Extensive Urban Survey, there were 182 sites recorded for Accrington in the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record (LSMR). Of these, 20.5% are listed buildings and the majority of the remainder are structures recorded from the OS coverage or other nineteenth-century documentary sources. Consequently, and consistent with Accrington's growth in the nineteenth century, only 9.3% of sites in the LSMR were known to have origins pre-dating 1800. One of these, a presumed deserted medieval village, is almost certainly erroneous.

No formal archaeological work has ever been undertaken in Accrington and no reports on the town's archaeology have been produced. Chance finds of material of archaeological interest have been made, however (see sections 4.2 & 4.4). Some artefacts found locally were housed in Oak Hill Park Museum, but this had closed by 1949. Objects from the museum were redistributed, and the current location of some items is not known (see

Section 4.4). References to early material discovered by chance during excavation and construction operations in Accrington exist in some of the locally produced historical sources.

4. HISTORICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Prehistoric

There are no known prehistoric sites within the urban area defined for Accrington.

4.2 Romano-British

There are references in the Sites and Monuments Record to Roman coins found in and to the north of Oak Hill Park (LSMR 2075, 2688), and a Roman lamp is reputed to have been found in Baxenden (LSMR 18873). Of a possible contemporary date to these artefacts is a beehive quernstone found at the Hollins, a former farm close to Oak Hill Park (Broughton 1917, 13). In 1917 this was housed at Oak Hill Museum. The concentration of Romano-British finds in this area is suggestive of some form of Roman settlement in the vicinity.

Stray finds are very unreliable as indicators of particular past activities, but the putative Roman lamp from Baxenden may nonetheless be indicative of another area of Romano-British settlement. There are no sources which might suggest that the Romano-British activity in the Accrington area was military, and it is most likely that the noted finds relate to dispersed farmsteads.

4.3 Post-Roman and early medieval

The name 'Accrington' is generally considered to derive from the Old English word *aecern*, meaning acorn, applied in combination with the suffix *tun*, meaning farmstead (West 1983, 45; Mills 1976, 53). The first known occurrence of the name is before 1194 when it is given as Akarinton. If this derivation is correct it is very unusual since it is the only example of a major English name containing the element *aecern* (Mills 1976, 53). The place name would appear to be Anglo-Saxon in origin, and suggestive of there having been some form of settlement at Accrington before the Norman Conquest, although no documentary or archaeological evidence for a settlement in the vicinity exists until the twelfth century. The other older and historically significant place name contained within the Accrington urban area is Milnshaw. This is derived from Old English *myln*, meaning mill, and *sceaga*, meaning a small wood or copse. This form of derivation is likely to be pre-twelfth century, and thus suggests that there was a mill at Accrington by the twelfth century.

It is likely that any early medieval settlement that was present consisted, as in the Roman period, of dispersed farmsteads. It is unclear when Accrington acquired manorial status, although it has been suggested that this may have pre-dated the Norman Conquest, but it is very likely that some form of settlement existed in the vicinity of the confluence of the Hyndburn/Accrington Brook, Pleck Brook and Woodnook Water.

The regular occurrence of place name elements such as shaw, heys, hurst, ley and laund is typical of areas with a high proportion of woodland during the early medieval period. Here, their attribution to farmsteads may be suggestive of progressive reclamation from the waste and colonisation later in the Middle Ages.

4.4 Medieval

During the Middle Ages, Accrington was the manorial centre of a large estate, the nature and size of which altered through time. Accrington entered the historical record in the twelfth century when it was a township in the chapelry of Altham, itself part of the extensive and ancient parish of Whalley (Croston 1889, 410). It lay within the Hundred of Blackburn and by the twelfth century formed part of the de Lacy family's Honor of Clitheroe. At some

time in the mid-twelfth century Accrington as part of Altham was granted by Henry de Lacy to Hugh, son of Leofwine. It seems, however, that the grant was surrendered to the de Lacys, because in the later twelfth century Accrington township, or at least part of it, was given to the monks of Kirkstall Abbey by Robert de Lacy (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). The bounds given in the charter make it clear that the grant included the later township of New Hold, but it is not clear whether it included Old Hold (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). The wording of the grant is '*the whole of Akarintone together with the wood that is called the Haye of Akarintone*' (Sandeman nd, 2). Black Abbey Street and Grange Lane, the two street names apparently connected with the site of the monks' farmstead, are both in New Hold. The site traditionally associated with the grange at Black Abbey is also situated in New Hold (Whitaker 1872, 288).

The monks are thought to have established a grange at Accrington following Robert de Lacy's grant, and to have removed the existing inhabitants to make room for it. This is said to have provoked a violent reaction, with the grange being burnt and the lay brothers who occupied it killed (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). Such opposition may have encouraged Kirkstall Abbey to farm the grange out rather than manage it directly, for the *Kirkstall Coucher Book* refers to a probable early thirteenth-century grant in which lands in Accrington which had formerly been held by Randle son of David were given to Roger son of Richard (Thoresby Society 1904, 196).

Whatever the precise circumstances of land management, Accrington did not remain in monastic hands for long, as in 1287 the abbot resigned his lands there to Henry de Lacy (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). There is every indication that the grange became the manorial centre of the manor of Accrington, and the Halmote Court was held there during the later Middle Ages (Shaw 1956, 232). The manor of Accrington was a large lordship, much more extensive than the two townships of Accrington. In 1304-5, Henry de Lacy undertook a major reorganisation of the Honor of Clitheroe estates, increasing the size of the manor of Accrington by attaching lands to it that were transferred out of the manor and chase of Tottington (Tupling 1927, 15).

Throughout these developments, it is likely that the manorial/grange centre remained in the vicinity of the confluence of the three streams (see 4.3). This centre included a hall and a detached kitchen, recorded in 1295 (Shaw 1956, 394), but would also have included barns and other agricultural buildings. Documentary references make it clear that the manorial complex was based on the former administrative centre of the grange (Farrer 1913). As monastic holdings, grange farms, like monasteries or preceptories, were often enclosed within precincts.

The location of the grange farm has been a matter of speculation for many years. Three street names appear to have associations with the former grange site: Abbey Street, Black Abbey Street and Grange Lane. Indeed, some writers have erroneously taken these names to be indicative of the former presence of an abbey at Accrington (Fairley 1970). Abbey Street is the name given to that part of the Whalley-Manchester turnpike road that now forms the main street of Accrington. This is a road of relatively recent origin (1791) and its name could, like that of Castle Street, have been given to provide a false impression of antiquity, with no relation to historical reality (Davy 1970, 15). In this case, however, historians with sound local knowledge have attributed its name to its physical proximity to the former grange site (Ainsworth 1928, 161). Certainly by the early twentieth century this seems to have been the accepted reason behind the attribution; an alternative explanation, however, is that the name referred to the road's destination of Whalley, a settlement dominated by the remains of Whalley Abbey.

Black Abbey Street clearly takes its name from Black Abbey Farm, which was marked on a map of 1800, close to the present Cross Street/Black Abbey Street junction (Singleton 1928). In 1800 the street did not exist, but its route appears to have coincided with the line of a footpath running from Black Abbey Farm to Woolhurst Bank Farm. This is considered

by Ainsworth to have been the route through the grange precinct (1928, 164). Black Abbey was an alternative name for Kirkstall Abbey, so Black Abbey Farm seems to be recalling a direct association with the former grange.

A ruin associated with Black Abbey Farm was said to be present in the earlier nineteenth century: *'on the site of the present Oak Street Congregational School there stood fragmentary remains of the old Black Abbey, surrounded by tall trees. The ruins (of which a sketch is preserved in Oak Hill Museum) showed the gable end of a building and evidence of a large window without tracery'* (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 38). The sketch is published in *The Jubilee Souvenir of the Corporation of Accrington 1878-1928* (Singleton 1928, 10) and shows the gable end of a building with a probable lancet window.

It is not clear whether the ruinous structure shown in the sketch was the Black Abbey Farm marked on the 1800 map; in the early nineteenth century Whitaker stated that this farm had been recently rebuilt and *'retains not a vestige of its ancient state'* (1872, 288). Even so, he still considered it to be the site of the grange hall. Black Abbey Farm appears to have still been extant within the expanding urban area of Accrington in 1848 (OS 1848). Ainsworth, alternatively, claimed that the hall of the grange, where the Halmote Court met, was on the site of the Red Lion Hotel, at the opposite end of Black Abbey Street. He states that this was demolished when the Manchester-Whalley turnpike was built (Ainsworth 1928, 122). No evidence was produced to support these assertions, however.

When Oak Street School was built in the later nineteenth century, worked masonry, including foliate decorated pieces and assumed corbel ends, was unearthed. It is presumably the ruinous structure shown in the sketch and any below-ground remains associated with it that produced these seemingly high-status medieval archaeological remains (Ainsworth 1928, 164-5). In 1928 some of the recovered pieces were under the curation of Oak Hill Museum (Ainsworth 1928, 164-5).

The museum was closed in 1939 at the outbreak of the Second World War. After the War, as a consequence of the retirement of its curator, it never properly reopened, and it was permanently closed by the Borough authorities in 1949 (ALSL File T33). Following an investigation by the Museums Commission, arrangements were made for the disposal of the artefacts. The querns and the masonry remains from Black Abbey were retained by the Borough and deposited at the Haworth Park Art Gallery (ALSL File T33). The latter were described in a museum guide of 1937 as *'relics and old corbel stones'* (Borough of Accrington 1937), but by 1950 they were being described as six stone figures, the *'oldest architectural relics in Accrington'* (ALSL File T33). During the construction of Culvert Street in the 1830s, partly over the course of the Warmden Brook, a largely collapsed, stone-built, arched drain was found which led from the presumed site of the medieval monastic grange to the Accrington Brook.

Grange Lane is the other street that has a name associated with the former grange site. Unlike Black Abbey Street this was situated on the south bank of the Accrington Brook, which in 1800 was termed the River Grange. Prior to the advent of the Whalley-Manchester turnpike, this formed part of the old route from Manchester to Whalley. Its name may have been directly related to the Grange estate through which it passed. This estate belonged to Grange Farm, which was also situated on the south side of the Accrington Brook in 1800, facing Grange Bridge, which joined Grange Lane to the route to Sykes Mill, the later Sykes Street (Singleton 1928). Grange Farm may have lain on the site of a farm belonging to the grange rather than being the site of the grange itself.

The concentration of place name and archaeological evidence indicates that the grange centre was in the vicinity of Grange Lane and Black Abbey Street. It is possible that the area covered by the precinct was still preserved as a distinct bounded entity in 1800. On the Midjucks Estate map of 1800, the Black Abbey Estate appears to be a roughly triangular group of six enclosures containing Black Abbey Farm and one other structure marked as a croft (Singleton 1928). This distinctive group adjoins the Accrington Brook on

the west and was avoided by the Old Mill Road, which followed its eastern boundary rather than taking a more direct route through it. This indicates that the defined boundary may have been of more significance than a mere field boundary. The Black Abbey Estate, as shown in 1800, appears very convincing as the former precinct of the grange.

The grange/manorial centre was associated with other structures, which probably lay within the area of the confluence of the three streams. One of these may have been a croft called Pesecroft, mentioned in 1295 (Shaw 1956, 395). In addition to the grange, the one other establishment in the townships of Old and New Accrington that can definitely be confirmed as medieval is a water-powered corn mill (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424). The twelfth-century de Lacy grant to Hugh son of Leofwine makes reference to mills, but the grant covered all of Altham and there is no certainty that any mill existed in Accrington. Even so, the place name Milnshaw is suggestive of a mill in existence at a relatively early date and by 1295 there was a mill associated with the Grange Farm estate; after this there are frequent references to a water-powered corn mill at Accrington (Broughton 1917, 16). If, as seems likely, it was the same mill as one referred to in the sixteenth-century Clitheroe court rolls, then it was situated at Milnshaw.

It is possible that during the monastic tenure of Accrington the church of St James, which is known to have been present by the mid-sixteenth century, was established as an oratory for the lay brothers (Croston 1889, 412). The church is positioned on the opposite bank of the Hyndburn to the site of the grange but, like the assumed site of the grange, is within the township of New Hold. Reference in the Clitheroe Court Rolls, however, reveals that in 1545 a parcel of land in Accrington Old Hold was surrendered for the purpose of building a chapel (Farrer 1913, 135). This has been taken by some authorities to be the origin of St James' church (Singleton 1928). However, the reference is to Accrington Old Hold whereas the church is clearly in Accrington New Hold.

Moreover, during the Reformation the then church at Accrington was confiscated by the Crown as a chantry (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424); not only is there no indication that the chapel for which the land grant was made was a chantry chapel, but it is likely that it would have been seized almost immediately upon construction. The grant was confirmed in October 1545 (Farrer 1913, 135). The erection of a chapel could therefore not have taken place until 1546, yet the abolition of chantries took place from 1545, gathering pace in 1547. Even so, there was no prior indication that this would happen and chantries were being established up to the eve of abolition (Morris 1989, 374). The Accrington chantry was returned to the inhabitants in 1553 upon a payment of 46s 8d (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 426). Henceforth the church at Accrington was regarded as a chapel of ease of Altham, and it did not achieve parochial status until 1870 (Wallis 1932, 164).

As well as the likely settlement nuclei formed around the mill and grange, there were other settlements throughout the two townships in the medieval period. After it had been reacquired by the de Lacys, Accrington grange was administered as a demesne farm within a management structure that included five vaccaries (Shaw 1956, 394). Excluding Hoddlesdon, all the vaccaries were within the later township of Accrington New Hold, which comprised the lands within the chase of Accrington. These were Antley, Riley, Baxenden and Cowhouses (Shaw 1956, 359). Already by 1295 two of these vaccaries were farmed out, and by 1323 only Riley was managed as part of the demesne (Shaw 1956, 367, 395). As Porter has argued for the Forest of Bowland, the process of leasing vaccaries, and their eventual conversion and subdivision into leased farms, resulted in a settlement pattern of scattered farms and small hamlets (1994, 55-8).

Antley appears to have been centred on Lower Antley Hall, and Riley on Old High Riley. Baxenden would appear to have been the settlement focus for the later village of that name. Cowhouses is more difficult to locate. Shaw contends that it was an alternative name for The Laund (Shaw 1956, 359). During the sixteenth century Cowhouses and New Laund appear as names in the same documents, but not with the Laund. However, all

three names appear in a rental of 1662 (Farrer 1913, 425-6), and in a copyhold admittance of 1735 (LRO DDX/118/120/8). Sufficient information is provided by the Clitheroe court rolls to broadly reconstruct the areas of the vaccaries of Antley, Riley and Baxenden. This indicates that the lands of the vaccary of Cowhouses did include the later farmstead of Laund. The church warden's accounts of 1807 indicate that the Laund went with Baxenden in the provision of a church warden, whereas Cowhouses was with Heifer Bank and Broad Oak (Crossley 1924, 27). This not only indicates that Cowhouses and the Laund were distinct places, but also that the site of Cowhouses lay closer to the later village of Accrington.

Such a location for Cowhouses was favoured by Ainsworth. He stated that the centre of this vaccary lay behind the later site of the Red Lion Hotel on Abbey Street, and that building remains survived in the 1920s (Ainsworth 1928, 138). A photograph taken in 1889 of the structures described by Ainsworth shows the remains of a shippon of likely eighteenth-century date, described as behind and beneath the former Red Lion Hotel (ALSL HO1/D43 4257 and 4258). It seems highly unlikely that the vaccary would have been situated at a location such as this, within the centre of the postulated grange precinct. Even if the proposed interpretation of a grange precinct was incorrect, a location off Abbey Street would still have placed the vaccary within a few hundred metres of the probable centre of the grange, which would still be unlikely.

As well as the vaccaries, there was at least one other settlement site within the two Accrington townships that was known to have pre-dated the sixteenth century. The farmstead of Icornhurst was in existence by 1464 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 425). Icornhurst forms a detached part of Accrington Old Hold within Accrington New Hold. Another detached part of the Old Hold contained the farm of Ferngore. This was mentioned as a messuage in 1539 (Farrer 1913, 98), and the fact that it was an 'old copyhold' indicates that it predated 1507. The reference in the Lancashire SMR to a deserted medieval village at Accrington, however, is illusory (LSMR 18789). Whilst there is a reference to the twelfth-century dispossession of the inhabitants of the vill of Accrington by the monks of Kirkstall Abbey in order to create a grange (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424), this account should not be taken to imply wholesale depopulation and the removal of a nucleated settlement. Not only is the account likely to be an exaggeration, but it is also highly unlikely that Kirkstall Abbey would have depopulated the vill: a grange was a farm and still required labourers. Moreover, there is no reason to assume any form of pre-grange village style nucleated settlement. The establishment of the grange may have led to a modification of the settlement pattern, but not to desertion. By the sixteenth century the manor of Accrington included not only the townships of Accrington and Huncoat, but also Musbury Park, the vaccary of Hoddlesdon near Darwen, and the town of Haslingden.

4.5 Post-medieval

In 1507 Henry VII disafforested the chases of Accrington, Bowland, Pendle, Rossendale and Trawden (Porter 1980, 30). This led to the formation of the townships of Accrington Old Hold and Accrington New Hold, the latter being the disafforested area. The idea that the disafforestation of Accrington New Hold opened it up for settlement influenced much early writing on the pre-urban history of Accrington, but this is a misguided view. Most vaccaries would have consisted of more than one family and dwelling place; in the fourteenth century there are references to the repairing of houses at Riley (Ainsworth 1928, 19). Indeed, it is highly likely that Accrington New Hold in the early sixteenth century had a greater population than Old Hold. In 1650 the two townships were estimated to contain about 200 families (Williams 1872, 8), or around 1000 people. The hearth tax of 1666 enumerated 38 hearths in Old Accrington and 99 in New Accrington (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 243), suggesting that the population of New Accrington was at least twice that of Old Accrington.

Following the creation of Accrington New Hold, the vaccaries within it became copyhold farms and were subdivided (Tupling 1927, 76). Hence, Antley became Higher and Lower, and Baxenden was divided into three tenements; this may equate with the later division of the Baxenden vaccary into Calf Hey, Friar Hill and Henheads (Farrer 1913, 218). In 1609, one of the three portions of Baxenden was itself subdivided (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 425). By this means the settlement pattern in the Accrington townships became denser. The 72 tenements of the 'new holds' in Accrington and Rossendale in 1507 had grown to 315 by 1662 (Tupling 1927, 76). In Baxenden the number of tenements had increased from three in 1507 to ten in 1662, and Cowhouses had increased from two to ten in the same period (Tupling 1927, 76). In both cases this growth appears to have resulted in an increase in the number of dispersed farmsteads rather than the appearance of nucleated settlements.

There is some evidence to suggest that a clustering of tenements around the confluence of the three streams was giving rise to the formation of a recognisable and discrete settlement, Accrington. As well as the manor site, considered to be at Black Abbey, Milnshaw consisted of three tenements by 1525 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 425). There was a further tenement at Scaitcliffe (Farrer 1913, 119), the Black Bull Inn is considered to date from at least 1527 (Ainsworth 1928, 152), and in the 1540s Accrington Chapel was built in the vicinity of the present church of St James (Farrer 1913, 135). It is likely that from at least the sixteenth century until the early nineteenth century, Accrington had the character of a poly-focal village with at least three separate settlement nuclei.

The settlement probably stretched across the boundary between the townships of Old and New Accrington, as it did in the eighteenth century. It consisted of at least a church, the former grange site and a corn mill. It was the meeting place of the Halmote court and occasionally of the Woodmote court for Rossendale, and by at least the sixteenth century was the site of a corn market (Farrer 1913). No reference is made to a market at Accrington in Tupling's list of Lancashire markets before 1701 (1936), nor does he refer to it when dealing with sixteenth- and seventeenth-century corn selling (1947, 10-15). Nevertheless, a market did exist at Accrington. Within the Clitheroe Court Rolls are references to the King's market at Accrington in 1540 and 1547 (Farrer 1913, 108, 146). This was taken by Broughton to refer to the corn market, which was a customary market held at Accrington (1917, 33). In 1800 the site of the 'Old Corn Market' was marked on a map to the south of Lower Fold (Singleton 1928), approximately in the location of the later Marquis Street. Specialist corn markets made up a larger proportion of all markets in north west England than they did in most other areas (Everitt 1976, 188-9).

Accrington was thus both an administrative and an economic local centre as early as the sixteenth century. Its legal status, size and nature as perceived by those who visited it, however, make it clear that it was regarded as no more than a village until well into the nineteenth century. On large-scale maps of 1786 and 1792, Accrington appears as a moderate-sized nucleation with a church, similar in size to neighbouring Huncoat and not dissimilar to other nearby contemporary non-urban settlements such as Rishton or Great Harwood (Harley 1968, Clarke 2000, 61). Nevertheless, unlike Haslingden, it attracted no attention from Aiken, whose description of the area within forty miles of Manchester was published in 1794.

The settlement nucleus of Milnshaw developed near the site of the manorial corn mill and an associated corn market (Farrer 1913; Singleton 1928). There are frequent references to the mill, and it seems to have been the one that was situated on the Hyndburn a little downstream from Bull Bridge (Broughton 1917). The main messuage there was Milnshaw Farm, the home of the Kenyon family. A survey of 1616/17 shows that this estate held in demesne much of the land to the north of the Hyndburn road, including fields which by the nineteenth century had given their names to farms such as Water Flatts (LRO DDKe). In the 1920s older residents in Accrington remembered the house at Milnshaw Farm and described it as similar to Antley Hall, suggesting that it was of sixteenth to seventeenth

century date. The farm was demolished to make way for the railway viaduct in 1847 (Ainsworth 1928, 60). The corn mill itself was almost under the arches of the viaduct, and was closed temporarily whilst work on the viaduct was carried out in 1847-8 (Broughton 1917, 67). It did reopen but was badly damaged by fire in 1867, occasioning a major rebuilding. The mill continued to operate until the 1880s. Broughton contends that it closed in 1885 upon the opening of the new corn mill, a little downstream from the 'Old Mill' (Broughton 1917, 77). However, both mills are depicted on a map of 1856 (AGWC Plan 2) and it seems likely that the 'New Mill' was built during the closure of the earlier mill for the construction of the viaduct. In 1891 the 'New Mill' was called the Boro Corn Mill and the 'Old Mill' appears to have been disused (Newton 1891).

Many of the farmsteads in the townships of Accrington in 1800 appear to have been formed of gritstone buildings dating to the sixteenth to seventeenth centuries. Antley Hall, on the basis of nineteenth-century drawings, was of a later sixteenth/early seventeenth century date and had a datestone of 1614 on a stable wall (Ainsworth 1928, 5-7). Higher Antley had come into existence by the 1520s (Farrer 1913), but was believed to have been built in its present form in 1603; it was heavily restored in 1923 (Ainsworth 1928, 13; ALSL HO1/D42 976).

Dunnishop may have a medieval origin – the place name is recorded from the thirteenth century (Chetham Soc 1847) but in 1597 the site is recorded as a messuage within Antley (LRO DDBr/1/4). This indicates that it was part of the former vaccary of Antley and would



Plate 2: Lower House Farm on a nineteenth-century painting (copyright Accrington Library)

therefore not have come into existence as a farmstead until after 1507. The present house may be early sixteenth century in origin, having a datestone in the attic of 1535, although a stone panel over the main entrance is dated 1638 (Ainsworth 1928, 14). The older part of High Riley has a datestone of 1628 (Ainsworth 1928, 23). Hollins was in existence in the sixteenth century, and accounts of its appearance before nineteenth-century rebuilding suggest an open hall construction (Ainsworth 1928, 42). Penny House, again, is recorded in the sixteenth century (Farrer 1913, 159), although its present form is of an eighteenth century laithe-style house, built in watershot stone, with a loomshop. It has a datestone of 1701

(ALSL HO1/D43 253). Associated with this farmstead, and called Penny House Farm in the later nineteenth century, is Low House (OS 1848, 1894). This is documented in Old Accrington for the first time in the mid-seventeenth century when it was called Lower House (LRO DDCm/3/5,27,37). A nineteenth-century painting shows a small later sixteenth/early seventeenth-century house with an attached farming building (ALSL HO1/D43 1122).

Accrington's oldest farmsteads, whether medieval in origin or not, appear to have been either built or rebuilt in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There is insufficient closely dated evidence to tie these activities in with an early sixteenth-century expansion in settlement after 1507, or to a response to the royal confirmation of copyhold tenure in 1608 (Porter 1980, 31). Whilst these developments will in the first instance have required building activity and in the second encouraged it, the evidence points only to building activity within the general context of the early post-medieval rebuilding of the farmsteads of East Lancashire.

The settlements of the townships of Accrington depended primarily on agriculture for their subsistence in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Even so, there is evidence of industrial activity in the Accrington vicinity from as early as the thirteenth century. In 1295-6

there was a forge in the manor of Accrington (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 424; Shaw 1956, 395). The Clitheroe court rolls and other documents make it clear that woollen cloth was being produced and traded in the Accrington district in the sixteenth century (Lowe 1972, 22, 57). By the late eighteenth century a number of factories had been established in the area. The New Accrington survey of c1790 shows that in addition to textiles, coal mining was widespread by that time (Holmes nd). There is a Coal Pit Barn Field at Clough Bottom, a Coal Pit Field at Ould Laund, where coal waste and active pits are also mentioned, another Coal Pit Field at Green Haworth, and a Coal Pit Clough and Wood at Dunnishope.

Agriculture and industry would have been combined in a dual economy amongst most households in Accrington. Evidence for this can be seen in the loomshop which came to form part of the farmstead of Penny House (Timmins 1977, 60). Weavers' cottages would have been common in Accrington until the middle of the nineteenth century, but textile factories not only made domestic weaving redundant, but also led to a widespread rebuilding of the housing stock. In consequence, little evidence of the domestic textile industry survives today in Accrington. Much of the early industrial housing was erected around open spaces such as farmyards. Here, as elsewhere in the Pennines, such sites were known as folds. Lower and Higher Folds formed two of the settlement nuclei of the village of Accrington in 1800 (Singleton 1928), but others existed by the early nineteenth century at Black Abbey Farm and Broad Oak Farm.

The new development areas formed by the construction of the Manchester-Whalley turnpike road in 1791 appear to have been attractive to those building early industrial workers' housing. The first turnpike house erected for this road at Accrington was situated at the junction with Grange Lane. Built in 1790-1, it was known as the Roundabout because of its location and its semi-circular shape (Whalley nd, 20). Within a decade it was acting as a settlement nucleus and had dwellings with under dwelling houses built next to it (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 8), although earlier houses already existed further west along Grange Lane.

By 1780 a number of textile mills had been built in Accrington and in the later eighteenth century the development of factories for the local textile industry intensified. An early water pipe made of wood was found at Broad Oak Print Works in 1928 (Borough of Accrington 1937). This is likely to have been of later eighteenth-century date, contemporary with the construction of the print works. The pipe was given to the Water Board following the closure of Oak Hill Park Museum in 1949.

The profits made by some of the local landowners through their investment in factory-based industry were expressed in the construction of mansions. These were situated within landscaped grounds on the margins of the growing nucleated settlement of Accrington, where most of the mills were located.

Accrington and Hyndburn Houses were both classical-style mansions built in the later eighteenth century. Hyndburn House occupied a small park to the south of the Hag Bleach Works. Accrington House was set in extensive landscaped grounds to the east of the Manchester-Whalley turnpike (OS 1848), and surrounded the small development of industrial workers' cottages at Broad Oak Fold. By the middle of the nineteenth century its grounds formed part of a crescent-shaped swathe of parkland which included the grounds of two other mansions, Broad Oak and Oak Hill. The latter was originally built in 1793



Plate 3: Accrington House in the nineteenth century (Copyright Accrington Library)

(Singleton 1928, 109). It was rebuilt in 1815 in the late 'Georgian' classical style (photograph in Crossley 1930), and occupied a park extending southward from the settlement of Accrington along the Manchester Road. The space between the parks of Accrington House and Oak Hill was infilled by another landscaped park with the construction of the mansion of Broad Oak, opposite Broad Oak Fold, in 1834 (Rothwell 1978, 4). By the mid-nineteenth century these estates formed a potential barrier to the eastward and southward expansion of Accrington.

Accrington owed its development as a town primarily to its situation on the confluence of a number of minor watercourses, and its consequent attractiveness to industry. Water-powered industries were already finding Accrington a favoured location by 1780, when the two townships supported five spinning mills. The direct impact of these early enterprises on the population would have been relatively low as they only employed forty operatives (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 2; Tindall 1943, 7), although presumably they encouraged widespread domestic-based weaving throughout the townships.

The first major industrial undertaking to be established in the Accrington area was the Broad Oak print works. Often considered to have been begun about 1782 (Hargreaves 1882, 6; Ashmore 1969, 234), there is no indication of the mill's existence in a survey of c1790 (Holmes nd), and more recently its origins have been considered to date to 1792 (Ashmore 1982, 179; Rothwell 1978, 3). By the 1870s it had over 1000 employees (Williams 1872, 12).

4.6 Industrial and modern

The early industrial proto-town

As a result of industrialisation, Accrington grew rapidly from the late eighteenth century onwards. The growth in the population of Accrington's at first separate and later combined townships in the nineteenth century can be measured by recording the figures given in the census returns, which make it clear that there was unprecedented population growth in Accrington between 1811 and 1821, primarily in the township of New Accrington. Although these figures are for the whole township and not just the settlement of Accrington, it is clear that aside from the expansion of Baxenden, the recorded population growth largely reflects the expansion of Accrington itself. Accrington's population was growing only slowly at the beginning of the nineteenth century, having reached just 3266 for the combined township in 1811, and probably as much as half this population was situated outside the main settlement. In 1825 it was said that *'the increase of population and the animation consequent on prosperous trade are eminently conspicuous in New Accrington, where an extensive and well-built modern village has risen in the lapse of a few years'* (Corry 1825, 335). In 1836 Old and New Accrington were described as 'straggling villages' (Croston 1889, 412) and writing in 1866 the Rev. Joseph Angus recalled visiting Accrington in 1835; he described it as *'at that time a pretty rural village'* (Wylie 1923, 89).

The population was 10,374 by 1851, and 43,122 by 1901 (Tindall 1943, 16). The population peaked in 1911 and has largely been declining ever since. This population record strongly contributes to making Accrington such a well-preserved example of a late-nineteenth-century 'boom' town.

The initial expansion of Accrington in the nineteenth century, beyond its earlier post-medieval nuclei around Higher and Lower Fold, occurred in the area between these nuclei and the Whalley-Manchester Road. Built as a turnpike in 1791 (Ainsworth 1928, 59), to the east of the then settlement of Accrington, the effect of the road foreshadowed that of more recent ring-roads and bypasses, encouraging infilling of the open space between it and the pre-existing settlement. Between 1791 and 1848, new streets such as Warner Street and Wellington Street were built between the established settlement areas around Higher and Lower Fold and the turnpike road.

Some of the town's growth was accommodated in purpose-built squares of industrial houses which mirrored the layout of the earlier folds. Early in the nineteenth century Plantation Square was built on the road from Plantation Mill to Accrington. Also in Accrington, but connected with industrial development in Church, was Nelson Square, on the township boundary with Church. For most industrial workers, however, housing was along new streets, which contributed to the formation of Accrington's urban identity. In Old Accrington, Union Street was laid out in 1787 (Pevsner 1969, 45) and a workhouse was built in 1808 (Singleton 1928, 24-5). In New Accrington, Wellington Street was developed in the 1820s to accommodate workers from the Broad Oak Print Works (Hargreaves 1882).



Plate 4: Sketch of Broad Oak Printworks in 1814 (copyright Accrington library)

At least nine other mills in addition to the Broad Oak Print Works operated in New Accrington in the early nineteenth century, excluding the print works at Baxenden. These sites comprised: Rothwell Mill; a fulling mill

which became a bleach works in the 1820s; a bleach works at Whitecroft; Woolhurst Bank fulling mill, which converted to cotton spinning; Woodnook carding mill, which converted to calico printing in 1815, and further mills at Duke Street, Lower Grange, Higher Grange and, probably, Shoe Mill (Rothwell 1978, 2-8).

The area occupied by the Black Abbey estate was taken into the built-up area as streets were laid out on the east side of the Accrington Brook to connect with Abbey Street, part of the new Manchester to Whalley turnpike road. Some of this development had taken place by 1818 (Rogerson, 62-3), although Warner Street (originally New Street) was not built until 1821-2 (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 1-33, Crossley 1930, 44). Abbey Street quickly acquired the character of a high street, shifting the focus of the settlement away from Church Street. A regular market was held in Abbey Street, although the August fair, established in 1825, was held on the pavement outside the Bay Horse Hotel in Church Street (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 43; Ainsworth 1928, 102). Blackburn Road, another turnpike road, was built in 1827 (Rushton nd, 6) and ribbon development occurred at its eastern end.

Accrington in the mid-nineteenth century

In the early 1830s development began behind the street frontages on the east side of Abbey Road. The Hargreaves family, who had been responsible for the building of Warner Street (Crossley 1930, 44), laid out Adelaide Street and Bank Terrace. The latter was built as a higher status terrace in a Tudor gothic style and included a purpose-built coaching inn at its north-western end, the Hargreaves Arms, which was licensed in 1834 (Ainsworth 1928, 58). Two blocks of houses in a similar style were also erected by the Hargreaves family at the Manchester Road end of Culvert Street (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 27).

A stimulus to further growth north along Abbey Street and potentially to its east was provided by the construction of the last of Accrington's turnpikes, the Burnley Road, built between 1835 and 1837 (Rushton nd, 7).



Plate 5: Bank Terrace

By 1840 Accrington was larger than the neighbouring market town of Haslingden (AGWC 1840; OS 1848). Between 1840 and 1850 growth was limited, although it was during this period that the perception of Accrington altered and it became viewed as a town. Important to this change in perception was the provision of urban-style services and facilities. The Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company was established in 1841, providing gas lighting for the streets by 1843 (Singleton 1928, 41). Many streets also appear to have become properly laid during this period. In the early 1830s only the Hargreaves development had properly paved roads with sidewalks (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 17), but by 1850, in a report on Accrington to the Board of Health, the main streets were said to be acceptably wide and generally well paved, and to have footpaths on either side. Abbey Street was described as '*wide, paved with squared stones and has spacious footpaths of flag-stone upon both sides*' (Babbage 1850, 5).

The Board of Health report in 1850

Although Accrington appears to have been described as a town in published accounts for the first time in 1850, when its conditions were reported on to the General Board of Health (Babbage 1850, 4), in Slater's directory of 1851 it is still described as a 'populous village'. Four years later, however, it is referred to in another directory as a 'flourishing village or rather town' (Mannex 1855). In common with many of the industrialised towns of the mid-nineteenth century it had major sanitation problems, and an investigation into these was held between the 19th and 23rd of April 1850. The problems were primarily caused by high-density living conditions in combination with inadequate service provision, particularly for the removal of waste and the supply of fresh water, and the polluting effects of heavy industry.

Behind the main streets many people were living in cramped courts, the former yards of farms, inns or industrial premises. In Babbage's words, '*small unpaved back yards, alleys and courts are met with, containing pig-styes and uncovered cess-pits, dotted about in every direction: open drains are found running in the immediate vicinity of houses; the accommodations even of many better descriptions of houses are seen to be of the most rude, and, in many cases, most disgusting nature*' (1850, 5). The worst areas were the old folds and the blocks that had then recently developed between Abbey Street and the Hyndburn, including Black Abbey Street, Oak Street and Warner Street (Babbage 1850, 6). Drainage was rudimentary and inadequate, largely because the underground stone drains were not standardised, as a consequence of having been laid piecemeal by individual developers (Babbage 1850, 16). Away from the main streets, underground drainage was absent and surface water usually found its own course, and in the poorer districts open



Plate 6: Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company plan of 1841 (copyright Accrington Library)

drains were present. '*At the back of the houses in Chapel-Street there is a black slimy ditch, at the end of the gardens, which receives the drainage from several pigsties and privies situated along its course*' (Babbage 1850, 18).

The presence of pigsties and other animal accommodation within the urban area was typical of many mid-nineteenth century towns. This was a result of the retention of rural lifeways within urban environments and the inability of poorer families to purchase animal produce (Newman 2001, 165).

The pigsty problem had been partially addressed in Accrington

from 1848 by the enforcement of the *Nuisances Removal Act* (Babbage 1850, 15).

However, it was clear that overall improvement in sanitary conditions could be occasioned only if the town's development was controlled and basic standards enforced.

Under the remit of the *Public Health Act* of 1848, a Local Board of Health was constituted for the two townships in 1853 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 426; Atkinson 1972, 31), giving Accrington the beginnings of an urban local government. In 1859 a resolution to combine the townships of Old and New Hold into one parliamentary borough was passed (Whalley nd, 1). It was not until 1878, however, that the two townships joined and Accrington was incorporated (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 426). This allowed Accrington to enforce byelaws under the terms of the *Public Health Act* of 1875 to improve, amongst other matters, house and road building standards and sanitation (Turner and Hodson 1928, 101). By the 1880s the municipal borough extended over an area of 3425 acres (Croston 1889, 413).

Urban expansion in the later nineteenth century

A highly significant event for the future development of Accrington had occurred before the formation of a Local Board in 1853 – the arrival of the railway. In 1848 the East Lancashire Railway Company simultaneously opened railway lines linking Accrington with Blackburn, Burnley and Manchester (Singleton 1928, 31), creating a triangular rail terminus to the west of the then built-up area.

The coming of the railways and the forming of the Local Board must have been partly responsible for the unprecedented growth Accrington experienced during the 1850s. Primarily as a result of immigration, the population of the two townships which made up Accrington increased from 10,374 in 1851 to 17,688 in 1861 (Tindall 1943, 16; Lupton 1981, 19). As a result, by 1856 more new streets had been laid out on a gridiron pattern to the east of Abbey Street between Birtwistle Street and the Blackburn-Burnley railway line, as well as north of the line towards the Hag Works, around the Globe Works, and to the south of Broad Oak Mill (AGWC Plans 1-4). In all, 62 new streets were built between 1850 and 1856 and others, including Royds Street, Edmund Street and Robert Nuttall Street, had been planned but not laid out (Babbage 1850; AGWC Plans 1-4). Many of the new streets were only gradually built up over the next two decades (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). However, blocks of streets built to a gridiron plan developed over the next fifty years. By 1870 they had formed a ring around the old town centre (Atkinson 1972, 19). By the 1880s even the seeming barrier to development posed by the grounds of Accrington House had been overcome, with the mansion itself demolished in 1889 (Whalley nd, 19) and its site sealed in the 1890s under Clarendon Street, Oswald Street and Spencer Street (AGWC Plan 6; LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). In the peak years for house building in Accrington – 1881 and 1889 – 339 and 310 new houses respectively were made available for occupation (Singleton 1928, 73). Much of the town's present character is owed to the later nineteenth-century developments.

Industrial sites

Accrington continued to grow as a centre for the textiles industry in the later nineteenth century, being primarily concerned with calico printing and cotton weaving. The textile industry spawned an engineering industry that eventually became more important to the town's success than textiles. In 1853 a loom manufactory was established which grew into the Globe Works, an engineering plant producing cotton spinning and weaving machinery. This was the foremost engineering works in later nineteenth-century Accrington. By 1894 this had grown to occupy a large area to the south of the railway station (OS 1894). Further major expansions were undertaken in the later 1890s (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). In the early 1860s the works employed a workforce of 500, but this rose to a peak of 6000 in the early 1920s (Randall 2000, 36-41). Such manufactories with their large workforces fuelled the population expansion of Accrington and its development of services and facilities.

Other works which made major contributions to the fabric of the town included the Dowry Foundry, the Pioneer Ironworks and the Ewbank Works. Established in 1862, the latter moved from its original site to the Milnshaw area in 1892; the famous carpet sweepers were manufactured there (Rothwell 1978, 32).

Coal mining also grew in the later nineteenth century, although there were only two pits within the urban area of Accrington. Woodhook Colliery was originally sunk in the 1830s and operated until 1897 (Nadin 1999, 153-4), whilst Scaitcliff Colliery opened in 1888 and remained operational until 1962 (Nadin 1999, 115-9). The collieries worked the pillar and stall method, with the Scaitcliff workings extending under Accrington town centre, which left the town hall supported on a column of coal (Rothwell 1978, 22; Davies 1992).

The environmental consequences of the concentration of industry in Accrington were devastating, particularly for the river system upon which the textiles industry in particular was originally based. Whilst improvements in service provision had reduced the effects of bad sanitation, the effects of industry on the watercourses remained a cause for concern into the 1890s. In 1891 the Accrington Brook from near St James' church to Baxenden upstream was described as *'little better than a conduit for foul liquids and waste material; the bed and the banks of the stream are covered in poisonous and stinking mud'* (Newton 1891, 18). The chief sources of industrial pollution were the print, bleach and chemical works, the gasworks and a pickle factory (Newton 1891, 19). It seems just as well that much of the length of the watercourses had been culverted by the end of the nineteenth century.

In the later nineteenth century Accrington became world-renowned as an engineering centre. It was one of Lancashire's foremost towns, and its status as an industrial town is perhaps best indicated by the fact that its then principal football team, Accrington FC, became one of the founder members of the English Football League in 1888 (Harrison 2000, 113-4).

Residential development

A major change occurred in the pattern of house building in Accrington in around 1850. Before then most of the new housing was built piecemeal in small developments, utilising whatever limited space became available. Space was not as limited in early nineteenth-century Accrington as it was in some older towns, such as Leeds or Nottingham, but expansion still relied upon land being both available and affordable. Whilst it did not develop overcrowded courts and folds to the degree seen in some other towns, it is reasonable to characterise the period 1800-45 as one of much unplanned growth and building of squalid housing, a contemporary characteristic of other east Lancashire towns like Burnley (Atkinson 1972, 7).

The Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company maps of 1856 clearly reveal areas of dense, crowded housing and back-to-back developments. These were concentrated in areas such as Lower Fold, the junction of Burnley Road with the Manchester-Whalley turnpike and in the vicinity of Christ Church, all areas that had been developed or redeveloped in the 1830s-40s. Atkinson contends that c1870 was a watershed for the industrial towns of east Lancashire, with an end to court developments and back-to-backs and the beginning of better quality housing provision governed by bye-laws (1972, 8). In Accrington, however, this change seems to have occurred earlier, with the planning controls imposed by the Local Board having an impact from at least the late 1850s (LRO MBAC acc 8099/5). In general, housing developments built after c1860 differ from those that occurred previously not only in quality but also often in scale. Developments of ten or more houses were frequently undertaken, enabling standardised terraces to be built (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1, MBAC acc 8099/5). Terraces for the labouring classes were relatively cheap to build, but also emulated the urban architectural tastes of the middle classes (Rodger 1989, 30). One of the first standardised terraces in the town, contrasting with rows developed piecemeal, was Bank Terrace, a development of middle-class housing.

Standardised terraced housing and the gridiron layout of the streets gave Accrington a formal regularity, in agreement with classical precepts of urban design (Miller 1999). The new urban fabric was regarded as tidy, sober and prosperous by some, monotonous and ugly by others.

The town's population peaked in 1911, though physical expansion continued throughout the twentieth century. Sadly, many of the historic structures and features of Accrington have been removed during twentieth-century redevelopment. Some were demolished in 'slum' clearance schemes before the Second World War following the 1931 *Accrington Improvement Act*. Others have disappeared more recently as part of clearances such as that undertaken in Oak Street, or as a consequence of developments such as the Arndale Centre or the Broadway inner relief road.

Commercial development

In the earlier nineteenth century, shops were concentrated around the Church Street area and along Abbey Road. By the 1830s, Warner Street was also developing as a shopping



Plate 7: Houses along Warner Street, purpose-built with ground floor shops; 1820s

area (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995). There was little diversity or specialisation, with clothing, footwear and basic foodstuffs being the main goods on offer (Rogerson 1818). Directories indicate that in the mid-nineteenth century the major shopping streets were Abbey Street, Blackburn Street, Blackburn Road, Oak Street and Warner Street (Slater 1851, Mannex 1855). Burnley Road appears to have become an important shopping street by 1878 (Barrett & Co 1878, 267-308), and Stanley Street also seems to have been significant by the end of the century (Barrett & Co 1900, 568-591).

In the later nineteenth century shops appear to have been more widespread and far more diverse than previously. A little evidence of specialisation occurs in some streets, with Blackburn Road in particular appearing to have developed as a centre of clothing manufacture and retailing (Barrett & Co 1900). The most obvious change between 1878 and 1900, however, was the appearance and proliferation of the fish and chip shop, for 57 individuals were listed as fried fish dealers in 1900 (Barrett & Co 1900, 581). How many of the shops in the early nineteenth century were purpose-built is difficult to estimate, but certainly in the later nineteenth century Accrington's shops were generally purpose-built (LRO MBAC cc 8099/1). Most were built as single shops within the ground floors of otherwise domestic buildings, but larger commercial developments also took place.

Opposite the Peel Institute a purpose-built terrace of shops known as Piccadilly was built (Singleton 1928, 70; AGWC Plan 2). In existence by 1851 (Slater 1851, 11-15), this was demolished in the twentieth century. The largest purpose-built shops were those belonging to the Co-operative society, the first of which opened in 1860. The Accrington Co-op became the largest society in Lancashire (Haslam 1910, 79). As well as numerous smaller society shops it had four three-storey stores, all on corner sites and in key commercial locations (Atkinson 1972, 133) – two were on Abbey Street, one on Oak Street (now demolished) and one on Brown Street (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1).

The Market Hall was built in 1868 at a cost of £28,300, to a design by John Doyle of Liverpool. It was purposely designed in a classical style to complement the neighbouring Peel Institute, and was described in a local paper as a '*living treasure of art*' (Winstanley 2000, 158). It had rest rooms, refreshment areas and fifty-two permanent stalls (Atkinson 1972, 110). In 1894 the Post Office Arcade was built, partly to provide an adequate post

sorting office and partly to endow Accrington with what were then the latest in modern shopping facilities. Consisting of sixteen retail units, the arcade replaced the course of the former Duke Street and has been described as ‘a *showpiece of local craftsmanship and Accrington brick*’ (Booth 2000, 60).

Pubs, inns and hotels

At the beginning of the nineteenth century Accrington may have had only two taverns, the Black Bull Hotel in Old Accrington, near Bull Bridge, and the Bay Horse Hotel in New Accrington, at the eastern end of St James’ church (Ainsworth 1928). The opening of the Manchester-Whalley turnpike and the commencement of regular coach services seem to have encouraged the building of at least one new inn, the Red Lion Hotel on Abbey Street, which became Accrington’s main coaching house from 1815 (Ainsworth



Plate 8: The former Red Lion Inn on Abbey Street

1928, 122). In 1818 five public houses are recorded in Accrington, with the George Inn in Abbey Street and the Rose and Crown forming an addition to the aforementioned three (Rogerson 1818, 62-3).

By 1850 41 establishments were licensed to sell liquor (Babbage 1850, 14), which meant one licensed premises for every 47 houses. 14 of these were public houses and 27 were beerhouses (Babbage 1850, 15).

By 1869 there were 44 fully licensed houses and 36 beerhouses (Crossley 1924, 49). This greater increase in the number of fully licensed premises in comparison to beerhouses perhaps reflects the control of the town authorities, which may have been prejudiced against the less reputable beerhouse. Such establishments comprised otherwise ordinary domestic dwellings from which beer was sold; they were thus not recorded by those who surveyed and mapped the growing town. It is fair to



Plate 9: The Black Horse, formerly the George, Abbey Street

assume that many were situated in the crowded courts and folds of the less salubrious parts of town, such as the

Dolphin and the Running Pig in Higher Fold (Ainsworth 1928, 105). The public houses, however, were usually recorded on maps, being purpose-built and often substantial structures.

In 1856 the following public houses, which had all appeared since 1818, were recorded in Accrington (not including Baxenden): the Swan and the Hargreaves Arms on Abbey Street; the Commercial Inn and the Railway Hotel on Blackburn Road; the King’s Arms on Lee Street; the Adelphi Hotel on Melbourne Street; the St Leger Inn on Plantation Street, and the Castle Inn on Whalley Road (AGWC Plans 1-4).

At some time after 1928 the Bay Horse Hotel, one of Accrington’s two oldest inns, was demolished. During this a sealed up passage was said to have been discovered, but for safety reasons it was not fully explored. There was much speculation as to the possibilities

of a medieval origin (Fairley 1970, 69), but it is most likely that any passage related to the post-medieval inn.

Nonconformist chapels

The nineteenth century witnessed a Christian building boom, in part stimulated by the rise of the New Dissent but mainly fuelled by the expansion of industrial towns (Newman 2001, 33-6). Many of the migrants arriving in Accrington to work in its industries were Nonconformists. Initially meeting in private homes or hiring parts of larger buildings, the congregations quickly sought to establish purpose-built places of worship. By catering to the educational needs of the growing population by establishing Sunday schools and day schools, each sect could spread its message and swell its numbers.

In some of the Nonconformist sects, differences over religious and sometimes financial matters often led to secession, the establishment of a new congregation and eventually the erection of a new chapel. The history of Accrington's Baptists illustrates this. Initially derived from a congregation in Oakenshaw, they built the Machpelah chapel off Hyndburn Road in the later eighteenth century (Wylie 1923, 24). In 1829 they opened a branch school at the Heights in Chapel Street. By 1835 the Machpelah chapel was too small for its congregation, so a larger chapel off the Blackburn Road was opened (Wylie 1923, 100-1). Following a dispute, a group of seceders opened the Bethel Baptist chapel in Barnes Street in 1859 (Wylie 1923, 303). Much to the consternation of the Blackburn Street congregation in 1836, the school in Chapel Street that they had given up was taken over by members of a Strict Baptist chapel from Blackburn, who went on to erect a new chapel in Peel Street in 1850 (Wylie 1923, 370-89). This group, too, suffered secession, and a splinter group set up the Zion Particular Baptists chapel in Blackburn Road in 1867 (Wylie 1923, 402). A second secession from the Peel Street chapel led to the establishment of the Salem Strict and Particular Baptist chapel on Hindle Street in 1884 (Wylie 1923, 406). In 1872 the Blackburn Road Baptists established a chapel and school off Royds Street (Wylie 1923, 288; LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). The Blackburn Road chapel itself was replaced in 1874 by a new and larger chapel in Cannon Street (Stell 1994, 74), which better reflected the Baptist's influence and importance in the town. The Cannon Street Baptist Chapel is a Grade II Listed building.



Plate 10: The Swedenborgians' nineteenth-century New Jerusalem Chapel

Other Nonconformist sects also established themselves in Accrington during the nineteenth century. The Swedenborgians had a chapel by 1807 (Whalley nd, 6), the Congregationalists in 1841 and seceders from there in 1875 (Nightingale 1891), and the Unitarians in 1868 (Jones 1910). The Wesleyans opened chapels in 1811, 1867, 1871, 1877 and 1883 (Hargreaves 1883), the Primitive Methodists in 1859 (Williams 1872, 51), the United Free Methodists in 1864 (Barrett & Co 1878, 266), and the Free Church of England in 1889 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 427).

Anglican and Roman Catholic churches

The Church of England was compelled to respond to the spread of Nonconformists and to compete with them in the provision of churches and schools. Its initial response was to

build Christ Church in 1838-40 (Pevsner 1969, 46). This was built in accordance with the directions of the government-appointed Commission for Building New Churches (Newman 2001, 34), and is one of 81 such churches built in the pre-1974 county of Lancashire (Whalley nd, 3). Typically of Commissioner's churches it is built in a poorly executed gothic style with lancet windows (Pevsner 1969, 46). Other new churches that were built later included St John the Evangelist, which was consecrated in 1871 (Williams 1872, 15), St Peter's at Richmond Hill, built in 1886-9 (Whalley nd), and a temporary iron church, St Paul's, erected near Plantation Square in the 1880s (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1).

In 1877 St John's Church was opened in Baxenden (Crossley 1924, 53). Primarily as a consequence of the large influx of Irish immigrants in the 1850s and 1860s (Lupton 1981, 19), the Roman Catholic Church and school of St Oswald's was opened off Hyndburn Road just within Church township in 1852 (Mannex 1855, 392). In 1867-8 the St Oswald's congregation replaced it with the Sacred Heart church on the Blackburn Road (LRO MBAC acc8099/1; Barrett & Co 1878, 265; Williams 1872, 15). In 1899 a chapel/school known as St Anne's was built on Cobham Street (Barrett & Co 1900, 507).

Schools

The main drive for the establishment of schools came from the various churches which developed in Accrington. St James's National School was established in Church Street in 1816, and remained there until 1895 when it removed to Cannon Street (Stones 1957). By 1850 a further four schools based on churches had been established – Christ Church School, the New Jerusalem School, Blackburn Road Baptists School, and the Union Street Wesleyan Methodist School. The Broad Oak Print Works also had its own school (Stones 1957, 35), and there were some private schools for ladies. Initially the church schools were usually Sunday schools based within the churches themselves, acquiring their own buildings and opening as day schools later on. An example of this evolution is the Union Street Methodist School. The chapel had operated as a Sunday school from 1806, but did not have a purpose-built school until 1858 and only opened as a day school in 1861 (Hargreaves 1883, 72-7).

As Accrington grew in the later nineteenth century, new schools were built within the new neighbourhoods, usually at the instigation of the proliferating churches. By the 1890s, schools built in the preceding thirty years existed along Albert, Bellfield, Chapel, Eden, Hannah, Hargreaves, Peter, Plantation, Sykes and Willow Streets (OS 1891-94). Other than at private schools, however, the town still lacked an educational facility that could take pupils further than the basics of the three Rs. In 1894-5 the Accrington Technical School was built in Blackburn Road (Barrett & Co 1900, 505) to cater for the needs of the town's future technicians and engineers. Initially a vocational institution, this developed into a secondary school in the early twentieth century and eventually evolved into Accrington Grammar school (Dobson 2000).

Public buildings

One of the principal physical features of a town is the presence of public buildings. The earliest structure that can be placed in this category in Accrington was the architecturally modest Court House, which was situated off Manchester Road prior to its demolition in the 1930s (Duckworth 2000, 108). Built in 1835, this originally held the magistrate's court. By 1859 it was being used as a Unitarian meeting house, and it later became the home of the Catholic Apostolic Church (Jones 1910, 9).

The first building in Accrington to possess the dignity and style generally displayed by the public buildings of Lancashire's industrial towns was the Peel Institution. Built in 1857-8 to commemorate the Peel family (Pevsner 1969, 45), this classical style edifice designed by T Birtwistle and J Green contained Assembly Rooms and at various times housed the Mechanics Institute and Post Office; it also contained a library and newsrooms, as well as being used as a public meeting hall (Duckworth 2000, 105; Pevsner 1969, 45). In 1865 the

Institution was purchased by the Local Board (Whalley nd, 1), and after incorporation in 1878 it became the Town Hall.

Public baths, though not owned by the Corporation, were opened in 1879 and were bought by the Town Council in 1893 (Singleton 1928, 111). During the later nineteenth century there was mounting pressure for Accrington to acquire other public buildings, both to provide facilities and to enhance the status of the town. At a public meeting in 1894 it was resolved to establish a cottage hospital. Foundations were laid in 1895 and the Victoria Hospital opened in 1898 (LRO HRAC 1/1; Anon nd, 23-7). Similarly, there was a public desire for a Public Library, and following a gift from Andrew Carnegie the Accrington Public Library was built in 1906-8 (Singleton 1928, 89; Whalley nd, 2).

Water supply and sewage disposal

In the early nineteenth century, Accrington's water still came primarily from three wells – the Gambo well off Abbey Street, situated close to the later junction with Water Street, Molly Dennison's well behind the Swan Hotel, and the Sate spring off the Manchester Road (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 4). The formation of the Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company in 1841 led to the provision of piped water derived from small reservoirs on the town's outskirts.

Adequate facilities for the removal of sewage were not provided as quickly as the water supply. In 1850 the town's below-ground sewers were described as stone-built, flat



Plate 11: Scars of openings for ashpit cleaning and coal delivery, Back Adelaide Street

bottomed with upright sides, and covered with flagstones. The stones were laid dry and unbonded (Babbage 1850, 29). As inadequate as such provision might seem, in some parts of the town the sewers were open drains. *'The sewage from Chapel-street, Hargreaves-street, Mill-street, Plantation-street and Elephant-street runs down an open ditch at the back of the houses upon the north east side of Abbey-street'* (Babbage 1850, 30). One of the main recommendations of the sanitary inspector's report in 1850 was the provision of mains

sewerage through the use of glazed stoneware pipes (Babbage 1850, 36-8). It was not until the 1880s, however, that the town achieved a mains sewage disposal

system, and the first sewage disposal works were not opened until 1889, at Coppy Clough in Church (Singleton 1928, 118).

Baxenden

The settlement of Baxenden had arisen out of one of the former vaccaries of Accrington New Hold. It is not clear when it evolved into a distinct nucleation. It may have pre-dated the construction of the Manchester-Whalley turnpike road, because in 1848 a small group of buildings, including an inn, lay along the old highway which ran to the east of the turnpike (OS 1848). It was not until the later nineteenth century, however, that rows of dwellings were built along the Manchester Road to house workers in Baxenden's colliery, dye works and bleach works (OS 1892).

In 1884 a Public Newsroom and a Workmen's Institute were opened (Crossley 1924, 58). By 1909 Baxenden had all the characteristics of a growing industrial settlement, and terraces of houses were extending from it up the Manchester Road to meet with terraces extending southward from Accrington. As part of the township of New Hold, Baxenden came under the jurisdiction of the Local Board's building controls from 1853. Although a

discrete settlement, distinct from Accrington, Baxenden can be regarded as an enurb of the town. In the twentieth century Baxenden has been subsumed into the urban area of Accrington.

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

5.1 Surviving plan components

Church and churchyard (Area 1)

– St James' Churchyard (Area 1)

The oldest surviving component in the topography of Accrington is St James' churchyard. The origins of the church are shrouded in controversy and mystery (see p20), but it is clear that a chapel had been established in Accrington by the mid-sixteenth century. From later documentary evidence, the site of this chapel seems to have been in the same location as the present churchyard of St James, despite the land grant for its foundation being cited as Old Accrington (Farrer 1913, 135) rather than New Accrington, where the present church is situated. This confusion was perpetuated in the nineteenth century, with Old Accrington referred to as a chapelry and New Accrington as a township (Slater 1851, 11; Mannex 1855, 389).

The present stone church was built in 1763 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 426) as a simple rectangular preaching box. The tower was added and the building extended to the north between 1804 and 1808 (Lawrence 1903, 11), and the church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1826 (Mannex 1855, 290). The churchyard was also extended in the earlier nineteenth century, but was reaching capacity for burial by 1850 (Babbage 1850, 33). The church is Grade II Listed and the churchyard contains two further Listed structures, a sundial dated 1718 and a commemorative monument to Adam Westwell, dated 1860.

Civic centre (Area 2)

– Civic centre (Area 2)

The building which became the town hall in 1878 was originally the Peel Institute, built in 1857-8. It was purchased by the Local Board in 1865 (see p34). The adjacent market hall was built in 1868 and was designed to complement the town hall; the two form a harmonious architectural whole (see p31). Both buildings are stone-built and are Listed, the town hall at Grade II* and the market hall at Grade II. The town hall is of three storeys.

Commercial centre (Area 3)

– Cannon Street/Eagle Street (Area 3)

West of St James' Church lies an area characterised by better quality terraced housing, large detached private residences and major commercial and public buildings. This area was developed between 1844 and 1856 (OS 1848; AGWC 1856 Plan 1), although many of the buildings are of more recent date. It has the appearance of being Accrington's wealthiest district, a cultural and financial centre. Major buildings include the Public Library, the Mechanics' Institution, Cannon Street Baptist Church and the Conservative Club, all of which are Grade II Listed, as well as the Liberal Club and the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank. There are two further listed buildings in the character area, a town house and a former bank. All the listed buildings date to the second half of the nineteenth century except for the library, which is dated 1906-8.

The area remains of mixed character today, with some buildings in residential use as well as commercial and civic. Structures are stone-built and of two or three storeys.

Textile industry (Areas 4-6)

– Scaitcliffe (Area 4)

By the mid-nineteenth century a series of mills had been built along the Woodnook Water in the vicinity of Scaitcliffe; the Broad Oak cotton mill was the principal of these. During the later nineteenth century more mills were erected in the area, including Lodge Mill, dated 1879; by the end of the century a solid run of mills and reservoirs occupied the former watercourse to the immediate west of the rail line to Manchester. These and Broad Oak Mill, to the east, form a distinctive plan component within the fabric of present-day Accrington. Buildings in the character area range in height from one to five storeys and are of brick and stone construction. The site includes some areas of vegetation.

– Hag Works (Area 5)

Bleach works were erected in c1807 to the north of the Hyndburn Road, on the opposite side to Hyndburn House. By at least 1840, a large reservoir had been built to the east of the works to ensure a water supply (AGWC 1840). The works were extended westward in 1869 (Rothwell 1978, 5). Many of the buildings survived into the late 1970s but have subsequently been removed – part of the site is currently occupied by a modern garage building. However, almost the whole of the reservoir has survived.

– Broad Oak Print Works (Area 6)

Bleach works were established on the Warmden Brook in 1792, but the site was soon converted for calico printing. The Broad Oak Print Works became one of the foremost calico printing works in the region (Ashmore 1982, 179), consisting of a number of large buildings by 1814 (ALSL HO1/M314 913). The works were greatly expanded after 1816 (Rothwell 1978, 3), with further expansion in the 1830s and 1880s (Rothwell 1978, 3). By the late nineteenth century the works consisted of a large complex of industrial buildings and reservoirs.

Despite modernisation in the 1920s and partial demolition in the 1960s (Rothwell 1978, 3), the Broad Oak Print Works still survives as a recognisable complex of industrial structures and water management features. The present site includes a mix of older and more recent buildings, of stone, brick and steel construction and of various heights. Three reservoirs are extant, although one has been lost since the OS map was surveyed in 1890.

Non-textile industry (Areas 7-11)

– The Globe Works (Areas 7 & 8)

Opened in 1853 as a loom manufactory, the Globe Works became Accrington's foremost engineering works, gradually expanding until the 1920s but with major growth in the 1890s (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1; OS 1894, 1913). It occupied a site that covered parts of several streets to the south of the railway station, and hugely influenced the development of that part of Accrington. Work ceased in 1993 and the site has suffered partial clearance and redevelopment (Randall 2000, 50). The surviving buildings are on separate sites, so that the character area is fragmented. The north-eastern site comprises a five-storey building constructed of stone to the frontage and brick to the rear. The buildings on the south-western site appear to be in poorer condition and are at least partly disused. These are of three to four storeys, and are also built of a mix of stone and brick.

– Works, Belgarth Road (Area 9)

This small triangular site lies adjacent to the railway line to the north east of the town centre. The works is effectively situated at the edge of the late nineteenth-century town, between an area of Bye-law terraced housing and slightly later (1911-1931) residential development. One side of the site faces a church.

– Charter Street Works & Paradise Works (Area 10)

On the 1911 OS map, the two works sites in this character area are shown as the Charter Street Works (Machinery) and the Paradise Works (Engineering). Situated in the western part of the survey area at some distance from the town centre, the works lie adjacent to an area of late nineteenth-century terraced housing. The Charter Street Works originally lay to the south of an area of railway sidings with an engine shed; this area has since been redeveloped for later twentieth-century housing. The western part of the Charter Street site itself, an open area in 1911, is currently a caravan site.

– Depot, Star Street (Area 11)

This small depot close to the railway line is the former Star Works, which manufactured Christmas cards and was in operation by 1911. It is situated near the western edge of the survey area, although the urban area extends beyond the boundary into Church and Oswaldtwistle. The south-eastern part of the building has been demolished and a new part has been added to the north since the early twentieth century.

Railway (Area 12)

– Railway (Area 12)

The surviving railway line now forms part of the line from Preston to Leeds. It has been encroached upon by modern development in a number of areas but still broadly preserves the late nineteenth-century land-take; this included engine sheds and a number of sidings that are no longer extant themselves. A second railway line formerly ran south from Accrington Station, forming a triangular junction. This area has been developed, although its shape is preserved in the precinct of the college of further education. The site of the station remains in use, although it now occupies a smaller area.

Numerous signal posts and several signal boxes shown on nineteenth-century mapping are no longer extant, and two mile posts have also been lost. Lined with vegetation along much of its route, the railway crosses the roads of the town centre on a long viaduct.

Rural settlement (Areas 13-15)

– Back Lane (Area 13)

This area includes two farms and a public house, in a group situated immediately southeast of the Bye-law terraced houses of Baxenden. The buildings are shown on the 1849 OS map (1:10,560), with the pub named as the Dog and Partridge. The character area has become surrounded by twentieth-century residential development, although it is nonetheless close to the edge of the urban area, not far from open fields.

– Higher Antley Hall & Higher Antley Cottage (Area 14)

These two residences were originally a single farmhouse, dating to the early seventeenth century. The house was renovated and altered in 1927 to form two dwellings; it is a Grade II listed building. It lies at the edge of the urban area, but with twentieth-century residential development to the west and several houses to the east, along the street.

– Riley Street & High Street, Woodnook (Area 15)

This small group of cottages lies at the edge of the urban area, overlooking open fields. A building existed on Riley Street by the middle of the nineteenth century (OS 1848), but the present houses are probably of slightly later date.

Villa development (Areas 16-18)

– Hollins Lane (Area 16)

In the 1880s and 1890s a small area of new villa development grew up opposite the Hollins. The most southerly house, Brentwood, was built in 1895 (MBAC acc 8099/1). A number of glasshouses are shown on the site on the OS map of 1893; these may have been associated with the nearby Bentcliffe House.

– Highfield Probationary Hostel (Area 17)

This character area comprises a single detached villa set in its own grounds. Built in the second half of the nineteenth century (OS 1844; 1893), the house is named Highfield on the 1893 map. It is situated at the edge of the urban area, adjacent to bye-law terraced housing that was in existence by 1893.

– Holly Bank (Area 18)

The area between Christ Church and Oak Hill Park was developed as an upper middle-class residential area from the late 1850s onwards. Detached and semi-detached villas set in large gardens were built. Some had associated ancillary buildings such as coach houses and stables (MBAC acc 8099/1). Most of these properties survive relatively unaltered. However, the character area now contains two groups of modern dwellings, both houses and bungalows, built within the former grounds to Quarry Hill and land to the north. The nineteenth-century houses are stone-built and of two or three storeys, but the more recent buildings are of brick.

Post-medieval urban development (Areas 19-22)

– Church Street/Warner Street (Area 19)

These two streets, and an area running north of Warner Street, form the largest area of older nineteenth-century buildings in Accrington. Primarily a working-class residential and commercial area, it developed between 1820 and 1840; many of the buildings along Warner Street in particular date to this period. The area remains under a mix of residential and commercial use today. Buildings are of two and three storeys and the majority are stone-built, although there has been some use of brick.

Along with the commercial centre immediately to the west and a small remnant of terraced housing to the north, this area forms part of a larger island of historic fabric at the heart of the town, surrounded by twentieth-century commercial and industrial development which has replaced nineteenth-century terraces and industrial buildings.

– Adelaide Street/Bank Terrace (Area 20)

Opposite the junction of Black Abbey Street and the Manchester Road, a development of middle-class housing in Tudor Gothic style was erected along Bank Terrace in the 1830s. These imposing houses have front gardens and are raised above the level of the road. The development included the Hargreaves Arms coaching inn. Built at the same time and running east from the inn was Adelaide Street, a development of working class two-up two-down cottages with watershot stone frontages. In the rear walls to the properties on both streets the scars of former openings for ash pits and coal bunkers are clearly visible. Access to the rear is via cobbled service roads. A later warehouse (post-dating 1893) infills



Plate 12: Working class cottages of the 1830s, Adelaide Street

the angle between the two main terraces. Although the character area lies close to the historic town centre and a large block of terraced housing lies nearby to the east, the terraces on Adelaide Street and Bank Terrace are immediately adjacent to areas of twentieth-century development.

– Black Abbey Street (Area 21)

The eastern end of Black Abbey Street, where it meets Abbey Street, contains older buildings, some of which are of watershot stone construction and resemble the pre-urban buildings of Accrington pictured in some nineteenth-century photographs. At the very least these structures date to the early nineteenth century. The buildings are of two storeys and are currently under commercial use. This is a small group of structures and is situated in an area where the historic townscape is fragmented, but the buildings nonetheless make a significant contribution to Accrington's historic character.



Plate 13: Barn of probable late eighteenth to early nineteenth-century date, Black Abbey Street

– Christ Church area (Area 22)

Situated between Christ Church and the Manchester Road is an area of early to mid-nineteenth century mixed residential development. The houses were built in short rows, along streets that lie at different angles to one another rather than being laid out in a regular pattern. The houses are almost all stone-built and most are of two storeys, although one row is of three-storey houses. Houses in two of the rows are shown as back-to-backs on the 1893 map (1:2500), although all now appear to be through houses. The area includes a public house.

Christ Church itself was built between 1838 and 1841 in order to increase the Anglican presence in Accrington, and a school under the management of the church was built to the south of it soon after (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). By the end of the nineteenth century Christ Church was at the centre of one of the few open public spaces in Accrington. The church and the former school building are both Grade II Listed.

Middle-class housing (Areas 23-6)

– Whalley Road (Area 23)

The houses in this area are of mixed character, and include individually designed detached and semi-detached houses set in large gardens. There is also a short terrace and a small part of a longer terrace that extends beyond the survey area to the north. The terraces have front gardens. The character area lies at the edge of the survey area, with the houses set along the main road north out of Accrington

The areas immediately to the east and west comprise estates dating to the first half of the twentieth century, and include houses that have infilled gaps between the earlier houses of the character area. These houses are more square in plan than those in the character area – they are wider but do not extend as far back.

– Strawberry Bank (Area 24)

This row of three substantial houses lies adjacent to the railway, just beyond the extent of the nineteenth century gridiron pattern terraced housing. Built before 1893 but after 1848, the terrace has gardens to the front and sides. A large area of residential development dating to the first half of the twentieth century now lies to the west.

– Queen's Road (Area 25)

Although post-dating the 1893 map, this group of houses was built before 1911. It includes four pairs of semi-detached houses and two detached, all set in gardens. The area forms part of the wider expansion of Accrington's suburbs, with broadly contemporary terraced housing to the north and south, and slightly later developments to the east and a short distance to the north, beyond a group of terraces.

– Newton Drive (Area 26)

Situated adjacent to Haworth Park, this area comprises a pair of semi-detached houses built between 1893 and 1911 and set in large grounds. The surrounding area is of a broadly similar character, consisting of substantial detached and semi-detached houses set in large gardens. However, these houses are of slightly later date, having been developed during the twentieth century in more than one phase.

Bye-law terraced housing (Areas 27-53)

– Area 27

This area comprises a single terrace of twenty-four houses, situated near the western edge of Accrington. It is separated from nearby terraces to the north by an area of twentieth-century housing. When first built, the terrace was in an open situation, close to a large house set in its own grounds but otherwise surrounded by fields. The immediate vicinity gradually became more developed during the twentieth century, although there is still a small field opposite the terrace.

– Areas 28-30, 34-6, 38-9, 41, 43, 51-3

The largest surviving definable pre-twentieth century plan component in Accrington is the extensive area of terraced housing built along the gridiron pattern of streets laid out in the later nineteenth century. These originally formed a near continuous ring of development around the centre of Accrington, but twentieth-century developments have disrupted the pattern. The vast majority of the buildings are houses, but the area does include contemporary and more recent buildings in non-residential uses, such as garages, schools, works, warehouses and clubs. **Area 51**, a terrace of eight houses, was built after 1931, but has the same character as the adjacent **Area 36**.

The houses are almost all stone-built and of two storeys, and are accessed to the rear by service roads, the majority of which are cobbled. There are a small number of brick

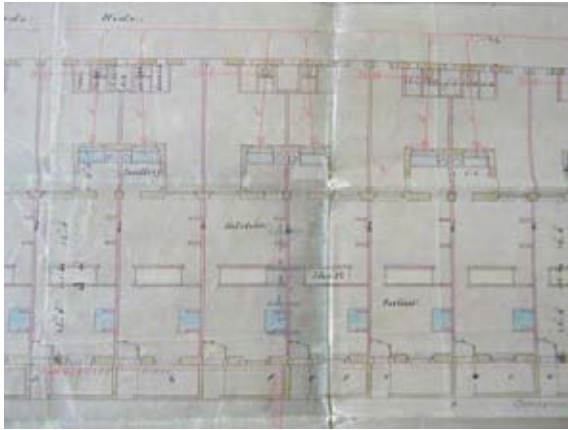


Plate 14: Plan of houses on Bold Street from Borough building plans, 1888

buildings, which tend to be industrial or commercial and/or modern. One short brick-built terrace was noted during a field visit. Some public buildings, such as churches and schools, include brick as well as stone, but the numbers of these are also very limited.

Many of the houses front directly onto the street or have only a very small front garden, but there are some groups of houses that were originally of higher status, with longer front gardens. Some of these are situated along large or prominent roads such as

Blackburn Road and Avenue Parade. There are also some larger groups of streets and a few individual terraces of higher status.

– Exchange Street (Area 31)

This single terrace is separated from the area of gridiron plan housing to the west, although only by a short distance. It is flanked by industrial sites of nineteenth and twentieth century date to the north and west, and by a school field to the south. The houses have small front gardens, and although slightly later than other nearby dwellings, having been built after 1911 but before 1931, this terrace is nonetheless of Bye-law character.

– Whalley Road (Area 32)

From the mid-1870s semi detached and detached villas were built along the Whalley Road in the Lane Side area (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). By the 1880s the intensity of development was causing rows to form and in the 1890s terraces began to be built along short streets leading off at right angles from the Whalley Road, such as Orange and Pilot Streets (OS 1894).

Lane Side has more in common with the ribbon developments along the Manchester Road, south of Accrington, than it does with the discrete villa developments near Oak Hill Park. Even so, many of the houses were individually named and surrounded by substantial grounds. Overall the Lane Side area of Whalley Road became a mixed middle-class residential area. The houses to the rear of the main road frontage tended to be of lower status, with some terraces fronting directly onto the street and others with only very small front gardens.

The houses are mainly stone-built, although at least one detached house has a stone frontage and brick-built sides. There are a small number of three-storey buildings, including one terrace of houses with two-storey bay windows, but most of the houses are of two storeys. The terraces are accessed to the rear by cobbled service roads.

– Baxenden (Areas 33, 37 & 40)

The earlier nineteenth-century hamlet of Baxenden, aligned along the pre-turnpike road, no longer survives, although the course of the old road is preserved as a modern street. Some cottages were built along the new turnpike road in the early nineteenth century to accommodate mine workers from the nearby coal pits. The later nineteenth-century ribbon development along the Manchester Road north of Baxenden (OS 1912) is a clear component within the otherwise twentieth-century urban development in the south part of Accrington.

The terraces are of stone-built two storey houses, and the majority are accessed to the rear by cobbled service roads. The area is mainly residential, although there are some shops.

Area 33 includes a row of nine cottages dating to the first half of the nineteenth century, which are noticeably lower in height than the later houses, although still of two storeys. An inn near the southern end of the character area also pre-dates 1849. The area also contains the Grade II Listed St John the Baptist Church, dated 1877, and the pre-1893 Baxenden Primary School.

Houses in the adjoining **Areas 37** and **40** are of slightly later date than those in Area 33, but nonetheless have the character of Bye-law terraces.

– Lime Road & Nutter Road (Areas 42 & 44)

Although of slightly later date than many of Accrington's terraces, having been built at some point after 1911 but before 1931, these houses are nonetheless clearly built to an earlier design than those on the Inter-war housing estate immediately to the north. They include two quite long terraces, and in plan the individual houses are long narrow rectangles. The terraces have very small front gardens. **Area 44** forms an extension to **Area 34**.

– Blackburn Road (Area 45)

This small group of terraces is situated on the main Blackburn Road, adjacent to the railway line (and close to the station) immediately west of the nineteenth-century town centre. The area represents a remnant of a formerly much more extensive area of nineteenth-century terraced housing and industrial buildings, which has largely been replaced by twentieth-century industrial and commercial buildings; a small area of modern housing lies immediately to the south west.

The Blackburn Road is the main route between Blackburn and Accrington town centres, and included a tramway in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The character area includes two public houses and two clubs, and is likely to contain at least some shops.

– Pansy Street North; Westwood Street (Area 46)

Although of later date than the immediately adjacent block of terraced housing, this area nonetheless retains the Bye-law character, forming an extension to the earlier development.

– Colliers Row/Manchester Road (Area 47)

Early workers' cottages were built at Colliers Row before 1844 (OS 1848), presumably for the coal miners working in the pits along Manchester Road. Two further terraces and part of a third had been built to the north by 1891 (OS 1894). In the 1890s and early 1900s these acted as a focus from which ribbon development of terraces spread northwards along the Manchester Road. Terraces with small front gardens were also developed along Harcourt Road, which leads off Manchester Road at right angles, after 1893. Some of the terraces on the main road are of a slightly higher status, with longer front gardens and some houses with single-storey bay windows. The terraces are of two storeys and stone-built, although some are brick-built to the rear.

One row backs onto the houses on the main road frontage and does not have a front street. Instead, it features a stone-flagged pavement between the houses and their front gardens, which are quite long. Rear access to the terraces is via service roads, most of which are cobbled, although at least one is tarmacked. A terrace on the main road is comprised mainly of shops and commercial premises, including a post office and a public house. The character area also contains a bowling green.

– Abbey Street & Jacob Street (Areas 48 & 49)

Two short terraces have survived within the redeveloped town centre. These have lost much of their original context, although the Abbey Street row lies at right angles to the

small group of older buildings on Black Abbey Street. The terraces are likely to be in commercial use.

– Burnley Road (Area 50)

This stretch of ribbon development along Burnley Road, the main route out of Accrington to the north east, was built between 1893 and 1911. Three of the terraces are of relatively high status with medium-length front gardens, complementing their situation on the main road.

Pre-NHS hospital (Area 54)

– Victoria Cottage Hospital (Area 54)

In 1894 the town council unanimously passed a resolution to establish a cottage hospital. It was considered that Blackburn Royal Infirmary was too far away and that a town the size and importance of Accrington ought to have a hospital (Anon nd, 23). Foundations were laid in 1895 and the hospital opened in 1898 (LRO HRAC 1/1; Anon nd, 27). Unusually for Accrington, the structure is brick-built. It is a substantial building of at least three storeys with some taller parts, occupying a compact site in the northern part of the town. The surrounding area was largely comprised of fields in 1893 but began to be developed for terraced housing soon after. Slightly later residential areas also lie in the vicinity, to the north.

Public landscape grounds (Areas 55-7)

– Haworth Park (Area 55)

Haworth Park forms the grounds to Haworth Art Gallery (**Area 89**), which itself was originally a house, Hollins Hill. The house was built in 1908-9 and the grounds were laid out a little later, being in existence by 1931. The present park is landscaped, with grassed and wooded areas and a sundial.

– Milnshaw Park (Area 56)

The earliest public recreation space in Accrington was Milnshaw Park, which was bought by the Corporation in 1879 (Singleton 1928, 106). Originally called Victoria Gardens, this was a six-acre public park formed out of an existing field. The general layout of the paths, trees and open spaces as shown on the 1894 map (OS 1:2500) is well preserved, with some minor alterations. The park contained separate playgrounds for males and females in the nineteenth century. The site of the former is now occupied by tennis courts, whilst the latter contains a modern playground and an open area. A bowling green shown on the 1894 map is still extant.

– Oak Hill Park (Area 57)

Oak Hill Park originally comprised the private landscaped grounds to Oak Hill House. The grounds were in existence by 1844 (OS 1848) but can be assumed to have earlier origins, perhaps dating to soon after the construction of the mansion house in 1793. The house and grounds were bought by the Corporation in 1892 and the park was opened as a public recreation ground the following year (Singleton 1928, 106). Public facilities added since the surveying of the 1:2500 OS map in 1890 include a bandstand, bowling greens, tennis courts, a drinking fountain and a shelter. There are also two ponds, one of which is fed by a stream that is crossed by several footbridges. The park contains three Grade II Listed buildings, comprising the mansion, a toll-house, and a war memorial dating to the 1920s.

Private landscape grounds (Area 58)

– Broad Oak (Area 58)

In 1834 a mansion with a small landscape park was established at Broad Oak (Rothwell 1978, 4), to the east of the then urban area. The house was completely rebuilt in 1899 by George W Macalpine (Crossley 1930). A two-storey stone-built structure, it is now a retirement home; a fragment of the landscaped grounds survives as a recreational area. A building to the rear of the house has also survived, although glasshouses to the north east shown on the 1893 map are no longer extant. Although it is situated near the edge of the current urban area the setting of the park is now less isolated, with a housing estate to the north, a school and a college to the east and west respectively, and playing fields to the south.

Nineteenth century municipal cemetery (Area 59)

– Hillock Vale Municipal Cemetery (Area 59)

In response to the filling up of the existing denomination-specific cemeteries, in the 1850s the local board advocated the establishment of a municipal cemetery. In 1864 a twenty-acre plot on the township boundary with Huncoat was purchased. It was drained and landscaped and three mortuary chapels established within it, one each for Anglicans, Catholics and Nonconformists. This provided the first public open space for the inhabitants of Accrington (Singleton 1928, 101-2).

Two of the mortuary chapels are no longer extant, but the third, the Nonconformist chapel, has been extended to form a crematorium. The cemetery was originally approached by a curving tree-lined avenue across a field, with a lodge just inside the cemetery itself, but the field has since become an extension to the burial ground and the lodge has been replaced by a structure at the main entrance on Burnley Road. Within the cemetery are areas of older grave markers, which tend to be taller and more varied than the more recent headstones and which enhance its Victorian character.

Although when it was first laid out the cemetery lay at some distance from the nearest development, areas of housing now border the site to the north and south, and an industrial estate lies immediately to the north west.

Twentieth century cemetery (Area 60)

– Accrington Cemetery (Area 60)

This character area forms an extension to the nineteenth-century cemetery, occupying former fields immediately to the south east and roughly doubling the size of the burial ground. It includes a large open area that has yet to be used for burials, and a war memorial is situated near its southern end, a short distance from the entrance.

Agricultural (Areas 61-5)

There are five agricultural areas in Accrington, all of which are allotment gardens. Two lie near one another to the north of the town centre and two lie close together to the south, whilst the fifth site is larger than the others and lies to the west. Distribution is therefore not even across the town. All of the sites lie adjacent to or within residential areas of late nineteenth century date; the smaller areas are also partly bounded by areas of twentieth-century housing.

Twentieth century industrial/commercial (Areas 66-79)

The largest area of industrial and commercial development in Accrington forms a ring around the historic town centre. Sites within this area include a superstore, a small industrial estate, a garage, depots, works, a breaker's yard and some modern housing. There are also areas of shops, including the Cornhill Arcade which has an attached multi-storey car park, and several smaller car parks. This area represents the redevelopment of a large area of nineteenth-century terraced housing and industrial buildings. Surviving gridiron-plan terraces form a partial ring around the modern development.

There are several industrial and commercial areas further out from the town centre, including mill sites and works of medium to large size, and smaller sites such as a commercial garage and a small works, both set within areas of gridiron terraced housing. There is a group of small works buildings near the western edge of the survey area. One of the larger works sites dates to between 1911 and 1931.

Other sites include two large buildings of unknown function, one of which has extensive associated car parking space.

Twentieth century place of worship (Areas 80-5)

Five churches and a Kingdom Hall serve the residential areas beyond Accrington town centre. Dating from throughout the twentieth century, all of the buildings occupy relatively small sites. Three places of worship in the south-western part of the urban area and St Joseph's Church to the north were built on sites that remained undeveloped in the 1890s. A fifth building, St Paul's Church, lies on the site of an earlier church which may have been rebuilt or extended to form the current structure, whilst the New Jerusalem Church lies on the former site of a school.

Twentieth century public (Areas 86-91)

There are several small twentieth-century public sites in Accrington. Three of these comprise local government or council offices, all situated in the town centre. An ambulance station and a site containing a fire station and a combined police station and magistrates' court also lie at the centre of town. The sixth public site, an art gallery, is a former mansion built in 1908-9. Situated to the south of the town centre in a residential suburb, this is set within its own grounds, Haworth Park, which is now a public park.

Water feature (Area 92)

– Disused reservoirs (Area 92)

This site comprises three small reservoirs, all of which are disused, on a site that now lies within a twentieth-century housing development. Although a shaft, quarries and a brick and tile works are shown in the vicinity on the 1893 map, the reservoirs do not appear to have had any obvious association with industrial activity such as mills, and may therefore have formed part of the water supply for the town.

Twentieth century recreational (Areas 93-101)

Several of the twentieth-century recreational areas in Accrington lie at the edge of the survey area. One forms part of an area of playing fields that extends beyond the survey area, to the north, and three others are bordered by open ground on at least one side. A sports centre at the north-western edge of Accrington is bordered entirely by built-up areas. The largest site is an athletics arena with adjacent playing fields, at the eastern edge of the

town. One small site comprises a bowling and billiards club. There are no sites in the town centre.

Those recreational sites that are not situated at the edge of the survey area all lie in residential areas and are relatively small. Two are situated within housing estates dating to the first half of the twentieth century, one lies within a 1950s-1960s estate, and one lies in an area of Bye-law terraces. The latter site comprises a bowling green, shown on the 1893 map, and a small open area with some trees, the former site of Bank Brewery.

Twentieth century school/college (Areas 102-15)

Modern schools and colleges are spread throughout the Accrington survey area. However, the distribution differs between different types of educational establishment. There are only two sites in the town centre itself and both of these are colleges, although the site of the College of Further Education Annex (**Area 115**) includes a day nursery. The three high schools are all situated at the edges of the survey area, and some character areas extend beyond the boundary. Moorhead High School (**Area 107**), for example, lies within Accrington, but the adjacent St Christopher's C of E High School falls outside the survey area. The playing fields of the Hollins County High School also extend beyond the survey area.

The primary schools tend to occupy smaller sites than the high schools. One character area contains two primaries, and another includes a nursery, an infants' school and a primary on adjacent sites. Most of the schools in Accrington lie adjacent to twentieth-century housing estates, with some situated between areas of this date and slightly earlier Bye-law terraced housing. One small school situated south of the town centre, a primary dating to between 1893 and 1911, is almost entirely surrounded by the terraced housing it was built to serve.

Twentieth century transport (Areas 116-19)

The road system in Accrington was modernised in the second half of the twentieth century. **Areas 118 and 119** comprise a large roundabout at the junction of several roads, towards the edge of the modern town centre. The roundabout is crossed by a railway viaduct.

The remaining two sites associated with modern transport are two small car parks, one close to council offices in the centre of town and one to the south of the first, set within a strip of open ground opposite a business and industrial centre based in an area of nineteenth-century mills.

Individual housing (1918 to 2003) (Areas 120-4)

There are five areas of individual housing in Accrington, all of which are situated in the southern part of the town. Four of the areas are small, containing between four and eleven houses each, whilst the fifth is more extensive, containing just over one hundred homes. Almost all of the houses are detached, with some semi-detached, and all are set in medium or large-sized gardens. The houses date from throughout the twentieth century, including some built within the last thirty years.

Four of these housing areas lie at the edge of the survey area, and the majority of the individual dwellings overlook or back onto either open fields or one of two parks, Oak Hill Park and Haworth Park.

Inter- and immediate post-war housing (1918 to c1950) (Areas 125-49)

Inter-war housing occurs in several different situations in Accrington. Some takes the form of ribbon development along the main Manchester, Whalley and Burnley Roads. There are also large and medium-sized estates, and smaller pockets of development, including infill. Some estates were built behind the ribbon development on the Whalley and Burnley Roads.

The largest character area of this type lies at the northern edge of Accrington, extending beyond it to the north west. This and several other smaller areas extend outwards from the blocks of late nineteenth-century terraced housing, representing the early expansion of residential suburbs. Two medium-sized estates in the southern part of the town do, however, lie further out from the town centre than an area dated 1950-1970; more housing of this later date lies further to the south.

Several pockets of later houses occur within a large area of terraced housing in the west part of Accrington. These comprise rows of as few as six houses. Rather than replacing earlier houses, the twentieth-century houses continue the lines of earlier terraces where gaps were left in the original development, but are not attached to them; instead, they form distinctive groups, with individual dwellings being squarer in plan than the earlier houses.

The inter-war houses are generally built in short terraces of up to ten dwellings, or in rows of semi-detached properties. Many of the houses have long rear gardens. The larger areas are laid out in orderly arrangements, some with geometric patterns, as in the Laneside area.

Late twentieth century housing (c1970 to 2003) (Areas 150-71)

Housing of this date in Accrington is spread throughout the town, and varies widely in both size and character. Several large housing estates lie at the edges of the survey area, particularly at the eastern side where they represent expansion of the town into former open fields. There is also an estate to the north west, on an area largely undeveloped until the 1970s, and one built on the former site of a reservoir, which extends further to the west to form part of the more extensive urban area beyond Accrington. These areas continue the pattern of outward expansion of residential suburbs that has been ongoing since the later nineteenth century.

Smaller areas of post-1970 housing form pockets of infill in the town centre and elsewhere, including within earlier twentieth-century residential developments. Some represent former industrial sites, whilst others have replaced nineteenth-century terraced housing. One area formerly contained railway sidings and an engine shed. Areas between the modern town centre and surviving blocks of gridiron terraces represent the outward spread of modern redevelopment.

Layouts and housing forms vary widely, with some areas comprising a single small cul-de-sac or court of flats or houses, and others including several winding culs-de-sac of detached and semi-detached houses leading off a longer road through an estate. One character area comprises a large nursing home. There are several areas of houses built in short rows, either staggered or straight, and laid out in courts. Where houses are detached, they are often situated very close together.

Later post-war housing (c1950 to c1970) (Areas 172-85)

There are three large housing estates of this date in the southern part of Accrington, at Baxenden, Fern Gore and Dunnyshop. Areas of small and medium size are spread throughout much of the remainder of the town, although not at the very centre. Some formed extensions to the expanding twentieth-century and earlier suburbs, whilst others

replaced nineteenth-century developments; the latter include the former site of a brickworks, an area of terraced houses adjacent to the modern town centre, and the former site of Bank House and its grounds. Some of the character areas are situated between two areas of earlier housing (for example, between Bye-law terraced housing and Inter-war housing), thus breaking the succession of residential developments radiating out in date order from the centre of the town.

The majority of the houses of this type in Accrington are semi-detached, but there are also detached houses and bungalows, and short rows of houses and flats. Some of the larger areas contain a mix of housing types. One area near the town centre comprises short rows of houses and flats built in courts, whilst the former Bank House site features semi-detached houses with relatively large gardens.

Open ground (Areas 186-91)

Accrington contains relatively little open ground, excluding the cemetery and formal recreation areas such as parks and playing fields. All are grassed, and most are partly wooded or contain at least some trees. Three of the informal open areas are linear in plan, two following the course of a stream and one the line of a disused railway. A stream also borders a small part of the latter, before flowing through an area of textile mills. These three areas all lie in the southern part of the town.

Two character areas occupy the former sites of reservoirs, one small and one relatively large. The latter extends beyond the boundary of the survey area, and forms a valuable open space within a residential area. An open area adjacent to Milnshaw Park also extends beyond the survey area.

5.2 Building materials

Writing in the *Buildings of England* volume for Lancashire, Alec Clifton-Taylor inaccurately stated that '*industrial Lancashire was largely built of brick*' (Pevsner 1969, 37). In particular he cited the use of the hard, bright red bricks made by the brickworks at Accrington and known as 'Accrington bloods'. Whilst it is true that brick was usually the preferred construction material of the later nineteenth century mills and workshops, and was widely used for housing in the towns of west Lancashire, in the east Lancashire industrial towns gritstone was the preferred building material. Accrington, the source of so much of the brick used elsewhere and considered unsightly by architectural historians like Clifton-Taylor, is notable for its relative lack of brick-built structures (Pevsner 1969, 45). Locally quarried Carboniferous gritty sandstones were used for most housing and corporate buildings, and for the majority of ecclesiastical and educational buildings as well. Accrington brick does appear occasionally, usually in structures where its brightness complements a building's flamboyant design. A good example of this is the Post Office Arcade, built in the 1890s. Indeed, throughout east Lancashire, brick is often reserved for 'special' buildings. It has been noted, for example, that the majority of pre-1914 brick-built houses are architect designed quality residences (Atkinson 1972, 70).

The majority of structures are built in locally quarried gritstone, however (Whalley nd). Of all pre-1914 built structures, 92% were built using gritstone and only 8% in brick (Atkinson 1972, 8). The uses of gritstone vary from ashlar masonry, as utilised in corporate buildings, to roughly hewn blocks for most residential buildings. Most of the earlier domestic and former agricultural structures have uncoursed rubble side walls with watershot front and rear elevations. Virtually all of the surviving vernacular style buildings pre-dating 1840 have watershot stone frontages. Some such buildings built between 1840 and 1850 also have this feature, but after 1850 this building method appears to have ceased in Accrington. Post-1850 working-class housing and utilitarian structures, like the later byelaw housing, tends to have coursed rubble walls.

Despite a century of industrial pollution followed by often misguided attempts to clean buildings of their smoke blackening, Accrington's stone buildings show remarkably little sign of erosion. The hard-wearing nature of the local stone, its ubiquity of occurrence and its versatility for use in various forms made it the preferred choice for local building. In addition, gritstone was the traditionally used material perhaps best suited to parochial conservative tastes (Atkinson 1972, 69). By contrast, the locally made brick may have been primarily for export to towns less well-resourced with workable building stone, and to larger urban centres more open to progressive architectural tastes (Atkinson 1972, 70).

Roofs were, at least originally, covered in sandstone flags. Welsh slate was imported for use in some buildings, but many roofs today have had such materials replaced with lighter and now less expensive substitutes.

5.3 Housing types

The majority of pre-twentieth century houses surviving in Accrington today were built after the formation of the Local Board in 1853; their developers were therefore subject to some planning controls. The application of byelaws to control the quality of housing did not become a widespread phenomenon until after the passing of the *Public Health Act of 1875*



Plate 15: St James's Court, a mid-nineteenth-century courtyard slum (copyright Accrington Library)

(Daunton 1983, 7). In the case of Accrington this could not be applied until the establishment of a sanitary authority following incorporation in 1878 (Tindall 1943, 18). Nevertheless, the borough records and the surviving housing stock make it clear that good standards in contemporary housing design were being applied to the new houses intended for the labouring classes from the later 1850s (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1).

In comparison with some east Lancashire towns, such as Burnley, Accrington has a relatively high proportion of earlier nineteenth-century housing (Atkinson 1972, 11), although this represents a tiny proportion of the overall nineteenth-century housing stock. Earlier nineteenth-century working-class housing survives at the Abbey Street end of Black Abbey Street, along Abbey Street, on Hargreaves

Street, Birtwistle Street, Adelaide Street and Warner Street, and in parts of the Christ Church area. Built in rows in a generally piecemeal fashion rather than in true terraces, the houses tend to be low two-storey cottages with little evidence of original adornment. They mainly consist of through houses with small back yards.

There is some evidence of former back-to-backs, now converted to through houses, in the area between the modern Broadway through route and Abbey Street. Map evidence from 1856 reveals that even in the mid-nineteenth century back-to-backs were not common in Accrington (AGWC Plans 1-4). In 1856 they formed clusters, mainly in areas developed in the 1830s-40s. Between Bank Street and Bridge Street were two rows of back-to-backs running off a small central alley called Davy Street, which seems to have been developed in the earlier nineteenth century by local tradesman and noted Methodist, Hartley Davy (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 57-8). These may have been amongst the earliest back-to-backs in Accrington but had been redeveloped by 1894, with Davy Street ceasing to exist (OS 1894). Other areas included Lower Fold, fronting Weir Street, and the general area around the Burnley Road/Abbey Street junction, where blocks of back-to-back housing were interspersed with other types of housing. Similarly, blocks of back-to-backs were scattered throughout the Christ Church area with larger groups forming rows on Mount Pleasant, at the east end of Wellington Street and around Grange Mill (AGWC Plan 4).

Other types of earlier workers' housing which, like the back-to-backs, have been largely swept away by redevelopment, also occurred in Accrington. So called 'top and bottom' houses, or dwelling with under dwelling houses, were built adjoining the Roundabout toll house c1796 and at Daisy Hill. Most had been demolished and redeveloped by the 1920s (Crossley and Ainsworth 1995, 8), although one immediately adjoining the toll house still appears to survive in a much altered and renovated state. Many of the earlier nineteenth century houses had cellars, some possibly originally used as loomshops, but in Accrington as elsewhere in Lancashire these were converted into dwellings. Considered by the sanitary inspectors as the worst and most unhealthy form of housing provision (Newman 2001), Accrington had a number in those parts of the town which grew in the early nineteenth century. In 1850, for example, seven cellar dwellings were noted around a large yard situated between Oak Street and Black Abbey Street (Babbage 1850, 20).

Minimum standards appear to have been applied to new housing in Accrington from the 1850s, although it was not until incorporation in 1878 that these were enforced through byelaws. New houses were mainly built along new streets, which were laid out in a gridiron plan. Such rectilinear plans easily fitted into the existing pattern of landholding, with the irregular edges of development blocks often representing pre-existing estate boundaries (Rodger 1989, 30; Tindall 1943, 19). The gridiron pattern was also suited to the maximisation of rentals and plot sales. By building terraces of adjoining properties, building costs were reduced through the use of shared partition walls and continuous rooflines, as well as the standardisation of design. For all these reasons terraced housing was the obvious later nineteenth-century response to a need for rapid housing development. Even so, each street tended to be developed over a number of years following its initial laying out, and by a variety of developers. Often the individual developments consisted of no more than three to five houses, and hence each street tends to be an accretion of individual short terraces rather than one long standardised terrace.

Houses of the 1850s-70s tended to be built in smaller groups than later in the nineteenth century (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1). Consequently, there is a tendency towards more variety of design amongst the earlier street frontages compared with those of the 1880s and 1890s. After 1875, the implementation of byelaws provided minimum standards for



Plate 16: House designs for Bold Street in 1888 (copyright LRO)

building design in many industrial towns. These became a rigid framework for working-class housing provision. It has hence been noted that in the later nineteenth century in Accrington, as in Burnley and Nelson, long sash windows with unadorned doorways formed the main features of the street frontages (Atkinson 1972, 33).

In Accrington, the impact of incorporation and the implementation of byelaws on housing provision is questionable. Building plans submitted to the Local Board from the late 1850s clearly reveal that working-class housing design in Accrington was already standardised by 1858. Until the later 1880s, the bulk of the houses built on the new streets were two up-two down terraced cottages, with a front living room, a rear kitchen and a small back yard containing a privy with an ash pit (LRO MBAC acc 8099/5). Frontages were plain, with long sash windows and doorways that were often adorned with simple columns and flat-topped pediments. From the 1880s there was an increase in the use of water closets rather than ash pits, and back yards were usually private whereas earlier it was common for yards to be shared. The basic design of the house remained consistent, however. For example, in Canning Street a terrace was built in 1859 which consisted of houses with the front and rear rooms divided by a lateral staircase. The same plan was being used in 1876 for houses in Annie Street (LRO MBAC acc 8099/5, 9a, 607). Similar plans were used for houses in Bold Street in 1869 and again in 1888, though by then each house had an individual back yard and water closets had replaced ash pits (LRO MBAC acc 8099/5, 209, 1444). A second common design placed the staircase in a rear corner either open to the kitchen or, in slightly higher status houses, enclosed with a small ground floor hall and an upstairs landing.

Middle-class terraces were also built in Accrington, the earliest of which was Bank Terrace, built in the 1830s (see pp26-7). Avenue Parade, at least at its western end, appears to have initially been intended for middle-class housing (LRO MBAC acc 8099/1).

Consequently much of the early development along its course consisted of individual or small groups of houses. Middle-class housing in Accrington is often distinguished in the later nineteenth century by the use of bay windows. With the exception of the western end of Avenue Parade and along Hollins Lane, these tend to be confined to the frontages of the main roads leading into the town, that is along the Blackburn, Burnley, Manchester and Whalley roads (Atkinson 1972, 34).

5.4 Communication networks



Plate 17: 'The Roundabout', eighteenth-century tollhouse at the corner of Grange Lane and Manchester Road

The phased development and form of Accrington owes much to the evolution of its network of communications. Initially Accrington was reliant on a series of customary routes consisting of a complex of footways, bridleways, cartways and highways. The main route through the township of Accrington in the medieval period would have followed the valley of the Accrington Brook, and formed part of the highway from Manchester to Whalley. This route went via Haslingden, the market town of the Manor of Accrington. The remainder of the routes appear primarily to have linked the various settlement centres in the two townships with the manorial/grange centre and the corn mill and corn market, as well as externally to the parochial centre at Altham.

The main Manchester to Whalley highway was largely replaced in 1791 with the Manchester to Whalley turnpike road. Built

for the Bury, Haslingden, Blackburn and Whalley Turnpike Trust, this was the last road to be designed by the engineer John Metcalf (Rushton nd, 5). In 1827 the Trust caused to have built another turnpike, the Blackburn Road, which led from Accrington to Fecit Brow,

Blackburn (Rushton nd, 6-7). The final turnpike connecting with Accrington was the Burnley Road, built for the Blackburn, Addingham and Cocking End Trust between 1835-7 (Rushton nd, 7). Both roads attracted ribbon development, further facilitating the expansion of the proto town. Whereas the Manchester-Whalley turnpike road was built bypassing Accrington, and then acted as a stimulus to the eastward expansion of the settlement, the Blackburn and Burnley roads were built to connect Accrington with these other centres. The differences in both the intentions behind the building of the roads and in their consequences reflects Accrington's growth in significance between 1791 and the later 1820s to 1830s.

Accrington was bypassed by the Leeds and Liverpool canal, which was built before its rise in importance, but by the time Lancashire's railway system was developing in the 1840s, Accrington was coming to be regarded as a significant town. The East Lancashire Railway Company opened three lines to Accrington in 1847, connecting it with those towns that can be regarded as its main economic links and superior to it in the settlement hierarchy, Blackburn, Burnley and Manchester. The physical reflection of these links was a triangular rail terminus, the shape of which is still preserved in the later twentieth century street layout of Accrington.

In 1884-6 the first tramways were laid in Accrington connecting the town centre with Church, Clayton-le-Moors and Baxenden (Singleton 1928, 95). If the railways connected Accrington to those places above it in the settlement hierarchy, the tramways acted in reverse connecting Accrington to those places which depended on it as an economic centre. In 1887 the track was extended from Baxenden to Haslingden (Singleton 1928, 95), which can be taken as symbolic of Haslingden's decline in urban status in relation to Accrington.

5.5 Spaces, vistas and panoramas

Late nineteenth-century Accrington had very little public space. The main open area was the churchyard of St James at the heart of the town. Christ Church was also surrounded



Plate 18: Avenue Parade, looking east towards Peel Park

by an open area, which led towards the villas built in the Holly Bank vicinity. The pressing need for open public recreation spaces was met by the Corporation in 1879 with the creation of Victoria Gardens, and in 1892 with the purchase of Oak Hill Park. Both of these areas were on the outskirts of the town during the nineteenth century, however, and the town centre remained bereft of open spaces.

The railway viaduct formed a barrier cutting off much of the northern end of the town in the later nineteenth century and disrupting any views northwards from the town centre

The main sight line out of the town and one deliberately intended as a vista was Avenue Parade, which led from the congested industrialised town centre towards the open hills on the east of the town, specifically focusing attention on the slopes of North Rake. A similar view is obtainable from the streets which parallel Avenue Parade, Water Street and Stanley Street, but as its name suggests it was Avenue Parade that was deliberately designed to facilitate this view. It is wider than the other streets, and was aimed directly at the centre of the slope up to North Rake.

Views of Accrington from 1848 depict a small town with a skyline dominated by spires and the odd chimney (Singleton 1928; ALSL HO1/EO2 1). Both types of feature, particularly chimneys, proliferated in the later nineteenth century. The demolition in the past thirty

years of mills, mill chimneys and major churches, such as the Oak Street Congregational Church, have radically altered the town's skyline. Nevertheless, the view of Accrington when approached from the north still reveals remnants of its historic core of mills which run through the centre of the town, vaguely mirroring the culverted routes of the old watercourses. The industrialised nature of the watercourses is still plain to see. Some sense of the former appearance of Accrington can be gained by looking towards Woodnook from Paradise Street, where a panorama of mills and chimneys is still present. The dominant feature of the town when viewed from the surrounding hills, however, remains the gridiron pattern of the terraced housing.



Plate 19: View along the valley of the Woodnook Water

5.6. Nature And Significance Of The Archaeological Resource

Areas of below-ground potential for the survival of medieval archaeological remains occur at the former vaccary sites, in the area defined as the grange precinct, and possibly within the vicinity of Milnshaw and the old corn mill. All of these areas were substantially disturbed and developed in the nineteenth century and redeveloped to some extent in the twentieth century. Experience in other Lancashire towns subject to major post-medieval and nineteenth-century development does indicate that deposits, though truncated, can survive as islands. The best potential for such survival is likely to be in the Black Abbey Street area. Oak Street may also contain surviving deposits, although nineteenth-century development seems likely to have substantially reduced the ground level in places.

Little survives above ground that pre-dates the nineteenth century. Some of the post-medieval farms like Penny House and Higher Antley survive but in much altered form. Below-ground evidence is likely to exist for some of the demolished farms, such as Lower House, and for the Accrington and Hyndburn mansions.

There is considerable potential for the survival of early industrial remains both below and above ground. In many cases earlier remains may be incorporated into later structures. It is beyond the scope of this study to accurately assess the survival of industrial structures as this requires bespoke field survey (see section 7.3), but areas of potential are likely to include the sites of Broad Oak Print Works and the course of the Woodnook Water. Accrington still contains good standing examples of later nineteenth-century industrial structures, including parts of the Globe Works, but an assessment of this material and its historical and architectural significance is urgently required (see section 7.3).

Accrington still contains abundant examples of late nineteenth century housing. The importance of this housing lies in its definition of settlement character and in its potential to facilitate a social and architectural study of working-class housing provision. This potential is made all the greater by the excellent documentary sources which can be cross-referenced to the surviving buildings. In Accrington the combination of surviving relatively unaltered fabric, detailed borough building records from the later nineteenth century and excellent large-scale mapping for 1856 and 1884 may present a unique opportunity to study the residential development of a nineteenth-century town. The importance of this combined data resource cannot be overstated.

6. DESIGNATIONS

6.1 Listed buildings

There are no Grade I Listed Buildings within the defined urban area for Accrington. However, there is one listed at Grade II*, the Town Hall

There are thirty grade II listed structures within the defined urban area for Accrington. Of these seven are churches or former churches, eight are public buildings, four are monuments and one is a school. This indicates that domestic and industrial structures are under-represented, given their significance for the town's history and their degree of survival within the existing urban fabric.

6.2 Scheduled monuments

There are no scheduled monuments within the defined urban area for Accrington.

6.3 Conservation areas

There are two conservation areas within the defined urban area for Accrington, comprising the town centre and the Christ Church area.

Accrington town centre includes within it the civic centre, St James' church and churchyard, and much of the area that contains evidence of pre-1850 urban development.

The Christ Church area contains areas of pre-1850 urban development, some later nineteenth-century villa development, and the landscape grounds and later public park of Oak Hill.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbreviations

AGWC	Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company
ALSL	Accrington Local Studies Library
IGS	Institute of Geological Sciences
LCC	Lancashire County Council
LRO	Lancashire Record Office
LSMR	Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record
LUAU	Lancaster University Archaeological Unit
PRO	Public Record Office, Kew
OS	Ordnance Survey

Unpublished manuscripts

ALSL File T33	Correspondence etc relating to Oak Hill Museum 1919-1972
LRO DDf 418-420	Aquittance, agreement and conveyance for Accrington Mill, 1598-1616
LRO DDCm 3/5	Admittance to court of messuage called Lower House etc, 1650
LRO DDCm 3/27	Admittance to court of messuage called Lower House etc, 1657
LRO DDKe 15	Accrington deeds, uncatalogued, 1613-52
LRO DDX 1763/Bundle 1	Deeds to property in Union Street etc, 1792-1961
LRO DDX 1809/1	Deeds to property on corner of Shaw and Portland Streets, with plan, 1866
LRO MBAC acc 8099/1	Building control register, 1859-1957
LRO NCHa 42/1	Surrender and admittance of disentanglement of lands in Accrington New Hold, 1815

Maps

AGWC 1840	Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company 'Plan of Old Accrington, New Accrington and Church', 1840
AGWC Plans 1-4	Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company 'Plan of part of the town of Accrington' nos 1-4, 1856
AGWC Plans 6, 9 and 10	Accrington Gas and Waterworks Company 'Plan of part of the town of Accrington' nos 6, 9 and 10, 1884
IGS 1979, 3 rd edn (solid) 1: 625,000	
LRO DDPt/25	Sale particulars of an estate in Accrington and Church, 1835
LRO DDX 223 Box 1	Sale particulars of an estate in Accrington and Church, 1839
LRO DDX 1063/4/1	Sale particulars of farms etc in Accrington, 1912
LRO MBAC acc 8099/5	Building control plans, 1859-1974
PRO RAIL 846	Plan of the proposed deviation of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, 1792
OS 1848, 1 st edn 1:10,560 Sheet 63	

OS 1849, 1st edn 1:10,560 Sheet 71
 OS 1891-4, 1st edn 1:2500 Sheet 63
 OS 1894 1:10,560 Sheet 63 SE
 OS 1894 1:10,560 Sheet 71 NE
 OS 1894 1:10,560 Sheet 63 SW
 OS 1911 1:2500 Sheet 63.14; first revision of 1893 edition
 OS 1912 1:10,560 Sheet 71 NE
 OS 1912 1:10,560 Sheet 63 SW
 OS 1913 1:10,560 Sheet 63 SE

Prints and photographs

ALSL HO1/D43 1122	Painting, Pennyhouse Farm, nineteenth century
ALSL HO1/D43 4257	Shippon at former Red Lion Hotel, 1989
ALSL HO1/D43 4258	Shippon at former Red Lion Hotel, 1989
ALSL HO1/D42 976	Higher Antley Farm, post 1923
ALSL HO1/EO2 1	Painting of Accrington in 1848
ALSL HO1/EO2 7533	St James's Court, nineteenth century
ALSL HO1/M314 913	Sketch of Broad Oak Print Works in 1814

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8. APPENDICES

1. Post-medieval sites shown on Figure 8

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

TYPE	NAME	PRN
ABATTOIR	Abattoir, Moreton Street, Accrington	14817
BARN	Black Abbey Street, Accrington	24225
BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP	Nr. Bay Horse Inn, Baxenden	7307
BOWLING GREEN	Globe Bowling Green, Park Crescent, Accrington	14770
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green back of Monk Street, Accrington	14801
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, Willow Street, Accrington	14828
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, Henry Street, Accrington	14832
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, back of Jacob Street, Accrington	14895
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, Lonsdale Street, Spring Hill	21204
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, Milnshaw Park, Milnshaw, Accrington	22496
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, Burnley Road, Accrington	22525
BOWLING GREEN	Bowling Green, 5-7 Peel Park Close, Accrington	22527
BRICKWORKS	Hollins Brick Works, Woodley Avenue, Accrington	14837
BRIDGE	Accrington Higher Bridge, Accrington Brook, Accrington	24164
BRIDGE	Accrington Lower Bridge, Church Street, Accrington	24165
BRIDGE	Cross Street, Accrington	24166
BRIDGE	Grange Lane, Accrington	24167
CATTLE PEN	Cattle Pen, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14819
CEMETERY	Burial Ground, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14821
CHAPEL	Chapel, corner of Grant Street, Accrington	14800
CHAPEL	Chapel, Frederick Street, Accrington	14805
CHAPEL	Chapel, Blake Street, Accrington	14807
CHAPEL	Bethel Chapel, Barnes Street, Accrington	14826
CHURCH	St Paul's Church, Plantation Street, Accrington	14851
CHURCH	Addison Street, Accrington	24208
COAL MINE	Lane Ends, Baxenden	24134
COAL MINE	Grounds of Hollins County High School, Baxenden	24135
COAL MINE	Robin Field Nook, Baxenden	24136
COAL MINE	Slaidburn Drive, Accrington	24185
COLLIERY	Colliery, off Bath Street, Accrington	14772

TYPE	NAME	PRN
CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL	Congregational Chapel, Oak Street, Accrington	14879
CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL	Congregational Church and Sunday School, Whalley Road	22500
COUNTRY HOUSE	Clarendon Street, Accrington	24150
COUNTRY HOUSE	Hyndburn House	24155
COUNTRY HOUSE	Sandy Lane, Accrington	24162
CULVERT	Culvert Street, Accrington	24144
FARMHOUSE	Milnshaw Lane/Railway Line	24149
FARMHOUSE	Bank House, Accrington	24154
FARMHOUSE	Higham Playing Fields, Accrington	24168
FARMHOUSE	Moss Hall Road, Accrington	24172
FOUNDRY	Foundry, Victoria Street, Accrington	14777
HOUSE	The Laund, site of 6-8 Sycamore Grove, Baxenden	22984
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Woolhurst Bank Fold, Accrington	24153
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Blackburn Road, Accrington	24156
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Whalley Road, Accrington	24171
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Moss Hall, Accrington	24173
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Moorhead, Accrington	24174
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Queen's Road, Accrington	24175
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Mount Cottage, Accrington	24176
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Waterloo House, Whalley Road, Accrington	24177
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Pansy Street South, Accrington	24178
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Meadow Top House, Accrington	24179
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Leyburn Close, Accrington	24180
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	St James' Street, Accrington	24181
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Corporation Street, Accrington	24182
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Richmond Street, Accrington	24183
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Spring Hill House, Accrington	24184
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Hollins Lane, Accrington	24188
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Higher Laund, Accrington	24189
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Lower Laund, Accrington	24190
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Black Lane, Baxenden	24191
HOUSE: DOMESTIC	Accrington House	19249
INN	Inn, Carter Street, Accrington	14774
INN	Inn, Nuttall Street, Accrington	14848

TYPE	NAME	PRN
INN	Inn, Church Street - Grange Street, Accrington	14873
INN	Inn, Plantation Street, Accrington	14884
INN	Inn, back of Birtwistle Street, Accrington	14885
INN	Inn, Birtwistle Street - Abbey Street, Accrington	14886
INN	Inn, 447 Blackburn Road, Oswaldtwistle	21247
LOCK UP	Accrington Station, Eagle Street, Accrington	14825
LODGE	Lodge off Oak Lane, Accrington	14849
MANSION	Hollins	1084
MANSION	Dunnishope	1095
METHODIST CHAPEL	Methodist Chapel	14892
MEWS	St John's Mews, William Street, Accrington	22523
MILESTONE	Milestone, NW of 98 Whalley Road, Accrington	22516
MILESTONE	Milestone, Burnley Road, Hillock Vale, Accrington	22533
PUBLIC HOUSE	Public House, Richmond Street - Brown Street, Accrington	14793
PUBLIC HOUSE	Victoria Hotel, Public House, Henry Street, Accrington	14833
PUBLIC HOUSE	Public House, Union Street, Accrington	14861
QUARRY	Two old quarries back of playing fields on Wordsworth Ave	14767
QUARRY	Old Quarries, Higher Antley, Accrington	14769
QUARRY	Old Quarry, Hollins Lane, Accrington	14836
QUARRY	Quarry, Barnfield Street, Accrington	14850
QUARRY	Quarry, SW of 48 Back Lane, Baxenden	22978
QUARRY	Quarry, 3 Hexham Close, Baxenden	22985
RESERVOIR	Old Reservoir near to Broad Oak Pit, Accrington	14831
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Blackburn Road	21216
SAND PIT	Sand pit, W of Milnshaw Park, Milnshaw,	22495
SANDSTONE QUARRY	Hollins Lane, Accrington	7302
SETTLEMENT	Lower Fold, Accrington	24145
SETTLEMENT	Broad Oak Fold, Accrington	24169
SHAFT	Shaft, 365 Willows Lane, Rothwell Heights, Accrington	22970
STABLE	Corporation Stables, Moreton Street, Accrington	14816
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Sunday School, Jacob Street, Accrington	14897
SUNDIAL	Sundial, north of Springhill House, off Fairfield Street	21897
TALLOW FACTORY	Tallow Works, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14809
TANNERY	Tannery, Melbourne Street, Accrington	14855

TYPE	NAME	PRN
TERRACE	Dike Nook, Accrington	24170
TERRACE	Colliers Row, Manchester Road, Accrington	24186
TERRACE	Britcliffe Row, Accrington	24192
TERRACE	Manchester Road, Baxenden	24227
TOLL HOUSE	The Roundabout, Wellington Street, Accrington	24201
WEAVERS COTTAGE	Queens Road, Accrington	18883
WEAVING MILL	Marquis Street, Accrington	24216
WELL	Well, opp. 13 Arncliffe Avenue, Spring Hill	21291
WELL	Well , now in grounds of Moorhead High School, Queens Road	22502
WELL	Well, Accrington Victoria Hospital, Garden Street, Accrington	22513
WELL	Well, 2 Pollard Street, Accrington	22514
WELL	Well, W of 8 Downham Drive, Fern Gore, Accrington	22955
WELL	Well, SW of 28 Shelley Drive, Baxenden	22980
WELL	Well, 1 Sycamore Grove, Baxenden	22983
WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL	Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Wesley St	21248
WOOD	Broad Oak Printworks	24194

2. Industrial-era sites shown on Figure 9

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

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Baths	Paradise Street, Accrington	24213
Bleachworks	Hag Works off Hyndburn Road; Accrington	14803
Boiler Works	Antley Boiler Works, Star Street, Blackburn Road	21226
Brass Foundry	Brass Foundry, Market Place, Accrington	14869
Brewery	Bank Brewery, Burnley Road, Accrington	22524
Brewery	Milnshaw Lane, Accrington	24146
Brickworks	Higher Antley Brick and Tile Works, Fern Gore, Accrington	14768
Brickworks	Hollins Brick Works; Woodley Avenue; Accrington	14837
Cemetery	Accrington Cemetery, Burnley Road, Within Grove	22535
Chapel	Chapel, Hannah Street, Accrington	14791
Chapel	Chapel, Abbey Street, Accrington	14860
Chapel	Chapel, Bridge Street, Accrington	14870
Chapel	Accrington Cemetery	24159
Chapel	Nuttall Street, Accrington	24196
Chapel	UMFC Chapel, Avenue Parade, Accrington	24197
Chapel	Chapel Street, Accrington	24198
Chapel	Hyndburn Road, Accrington	24199
Chapel	Cambridge Street, Accrington	24200
Chapel	Corner of Whalley Road and Water Street, Accrington	24203
Chapel	Cobham Street, Accrington	24204
Chemical Works	Chemical Works, rear of 73-93 Lower Antley Street	21215
Chemical Works	Chemical Works, now site of York Place, Milnshaw	22499
Childrens Playground	Play Ground (Females), Milnshaw Park, Hyndburn	22497
Childrens Playground	Play Ground (Males), Milnshaw Park, Hyndburn	22498
Church	Christ Church, Bishop Street, Accrington	7051
Church	Church, Hargreaves Street, Accrington	14888
Club	Club, Richmond Street, Accrington	14788
Club	Club, junction of Lower Antley Street with Barlow Street,+	21217
Coal Mine	Coupe Pit	
Coal Mine	Coal pit south of Dunny Shop	
Coal Mine	Coal pit near Fern Gore	

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Coal Mine	Lane Ends coal pit	
Coal Mine	Coal pit , Baxenden	
Coal Mine	Old coal pit at Robin Nook	
Colliery	Nr. Manchester Road, Baxenden	7306
Colliery	Woodnook Colliery; off Bath Street; Accrington	14772
Colliery	Colliery, off St James' Street, Accrington	14840
Corn Mill	Corn Mill, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14820
Corn Mill	Accrington Old Corn Mill	
Cotton Mill	Broad Oak Mill, Back Wellington Street	7052
Cotton Mill	Woodnook Cotton Mill	7053
Cotton Mill	Fountain St, Scoutcliffe	10566
Cotton Mill	Grange Lane Perserverance Mill	10568
Cotton Mill	Lower Fold Water St	10569
Cotton Mill	Royal Mill, Victoria St, Sutcliffe Wood	10571
Cotton Mill	Paxton Mill Sutcliffe St	10572
Cotton Mill	Milnshaw Mill, also known as Albion Mill	10576
Cotton Mill	Spring Hill cotton factory	10577
Cotton Mill	Hyndburn Mill, Hyndburn Road	10579
Cotton Mill	Melbourne Mill, Water Street	10580
Cotton Mill	Commercial and Scaitcliffe Mills, Omerod St.	10581
Cotton Mill	Wood Nook Mill; Bath Street; Accrington	14771
Cotton Mill	Cotton Mill, Bath Street - Mount Street, Accrington	14773
Cotton Mill	Victoria Cotton Mill, Victoria Street, Accrington	14775
Cotton Mill	Royal Mill, Victoria Street, Accrington	14780
Cotton Mill	Cotton Mill, Ormerod Street, Accrington	14783
Cotton Mill	Paxton Cotton Mill, Willows Lane, Accrington	14797
Cotton Mill	Hyndburn Cotton Mill, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14810
Cotton Mill	Holme Cotton Mill, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14811
Cotton Mill	Cotton Mill, Croft Street, Accrington	14823
Cotton Mill	Oak Vale Cotton Mill near Broad Oak Print Works	14834
Cotton Mill	Wellington Cotton Mill, Church Street, Accrington	14843
Cotton Mill	Lower Grange Cotton Mill; Back Wellington Street	14844
Cotton Mill	Spring Cotton Mill, Broadway, Accrington	14868
Cotton Mill	Park Cotton Mills, Mill Street - Park Street, Accrington	14881

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Cotton Mill	Union Mill, Pickup Street, Spring Hill	19061
Cotton Mill	Queens Road, Accrington	19062
Crane	Cranes, Paradise Engineering Works, Edleston St	21221
Crane	Crane, Charter Street Works, Charter Street, Spring Hill	21223
Engine Shed	Engine Shed, opposite Grimshaw Street, Accrington	14786
Engine Shed	Engine Shed, west of Howard Close, off Charter Street	21224
Engineering Works	Richmond Hill Street Works: (Top Shop) - south block only	5122
Engineering Works	Victoria Toolworks; Victoria Street; Accrington	14777
Engineering Works	Engineering Works, Blake Street, Accrington	14806
Engineering Works	Paradise Engineering Works, Edleston St	21220
Engineering Works	Antley Boiler Works, Star Street	
Engineering Works	Hyndburn Works, Hindle Street	
Factory	Star Works, Star Street	
Farmhouse	Infant Street, Accrington	24151
Football Ground	Football Ground, Belfield Road, Accrington	14838
Foundry	Hope Foundry, off Dale Street, Accrington	14799
Fountain	Fountain, south of 59 Pearl Street, Blackburn Road	21227
Fulling Mill	Woolhurst Bank, Accrington	24137
Gas Works	Gas Works, behind Argyle Street, Accrington	14822
Goods Shed	Goods Shed, Scaitcliffe Street, Accrington	14785
Hospital	Garden Street, Accrington	24140
Hotel	Hotel, School Street, Accrington	14866
Hotel	Hotel, Blackburn Road - Church Street, Accrington	14875
Hotel	Hotel, Abbey Street, Accrington	14890
House:Row	Mountain Lane and Mount Pleasant, Accrington	19238
Iron Works	Willows Iron Works, Dale Street, Accrington	14798
Iron Works	Grange Iron Works; Back Wellington Street; Accrington	14845
Iron Works	Iron Works, Mudsley Street, Accrington	14856
Iron Works	Pioneer Iron Works, Horne Street, Accrington	22518
Iron Works	Near Spring Mill	24215
Iron Works	Croft Street, Accrington	24219
Iron Works	Star Street, Antley, Accrington	24221
Iron Works	Iron Foundry	
Iron Works	Pioneer foundry	

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Iron Works	Croft Street iron works	
Iron Works	Bank Foundry, Antley	
Lodge	Lodge, Accrington Cemetery, Burnley Road, Within Grove	22539
Machinery Works	Globe Works, Plantain Street, Accrington	14782
Machinery Works	Globe Works, Richmond Street, Accrington	14792
Methodist Chapel	Methodist Chapel, Back Union Street, Accrington	14864
Milepost	Milepost, adj. to railway line w. of Accrington cemetery	22540
Mill	Baxenden Bleach Mill, Woodnook Water	7308
Mill	Ellesmere Mill, Victoria Street, Accrington	14776
Mill	Lodge Mill, Victoria Street, Accrington	14778
Mill	Albert Mill, Victoria Street, Accrington	14779
Mill	Commercial Mill, Ormerod Street, Accrington	14781
Mill	Fountain Mill, Fountain Street, Accrington	14784
Mill	Accrington Saw Mill off Willows Lane, Accrington	14796
Mill	Higher Grange Mill; Grange Lane; Accrington	14835
Mill	Heifer Bank Mill, Stanley Street, Accrington	14854
Mill	Union Buildings Mill, off Union Street, Accrington	14865
Mill	Scaitcliffe Printworks, Accrington	24138
Mill	Duke Street, Accrington	24163
Mill	Madder Mill/Sykes Mill	
Mortuary Chapel	Mortuary Chapel (R.C.), Accrington Cemetery	22536
Mortuary Chapel	Mortuary Chapel (Nonconformist), Accrington Cemetery	22537
Mortuary Chapel	Mortuary Chapel (Church of England), Accrington Cemetery	22538
Nonconformist Chapel	St Matthews Free Church of England, Portland Street	14804
Park	Peel Park Grounds, Alice Street, Accrington	22528
Park	Victoria Gardens, Accrington	24160
Political Club	Liberal Club, Eagle Street - Willow Street, Accrington	14827
Political Club	Conservative Club, Bold Street, Accrington	14853
Post Office	General Post Office, Church Street, Accrington	14874
Post Office	Post Office, 27a Spring Street, Spring Hill	21213
Post Office	Post Office, site of garage between 377 & 393 Blackburn Road	21219
Printing Works	Broad Oak Printworks, Nr. Oak Hill Park	7049
Public House	Public House, Scaitcliffe Street, Accrington	14808

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Public House	Public House, Blackburn Road, Accrington	14814
Public House	Public House, Blackburn Road, Accrington	14815
Public House	Public House, Abbey Street, Accrington	14858
Public House	Public House, Abbey Street, Accrington	14859
Public House	Public House, Blackburn Road, Accrington	14867
Public House	Public House, Church Street, Accrington	14872
Public House	Public House, Bridge Street, Accrington	14876
Public House	Public House, Cross Street, Accrington	14877
Public House	Public House, Warner Street - Abbey Street, Accrington	14880
Public House	Public House, Lee Street, Accrington	14883
Public House	Public House, Adelaide Terrace, Accrington	14889
Public House	Public House (present Pickup's Arms), Pickup Street	21212
Public House	Public House, 314 Blackburn Road	21214
Public House	Inn, Whalley Road, Dill Hall, Accrington	22512
Public House	Public House, 16 Meadow Street, Accrington	22517
Public House	Public House, 48 Maudsley Street, Accrington	22519
Public House	Public House, 82 Dowry Street, Accrington	22520
Public House	Peel Park Hotel, Peel Park Avenue, Accrington	22526
Public House	Whitakers Arms, Burnley Road, Accrington	22530
Public House	Public House, 41 Back Lane, Baxenden	22979
Public House	The Castle Inn, Whalley Road, Accrington	24193
Public House	Avenue Parade, Accrington	24202
Public House	Bank Street/Black Abbey Street, Accrington	24207
Public House	51 Burnley Road, Accrington	24209
Public House	314 Blackburn Road, Accrington	24210
Public House	31 Pitt Street, Accrington	24211
Public House	Washington Street, Accrington	24212
Public House	9 St James' Street, Accrington	24214
Public House	Nuttall Street/Grange Street, Accrington	24226
Public Park	Oakhill Park, Accrington	24161
Quarry	Two old quarries back of playing fields on Wordsworth Ave	14767
Quarry	Old Quarries; Higher Antley; Accrington	14769
Quarry	Old Quarry; Hollins Lane; Accrington	14836
Quarry	Quarry; Barnfield Street; Accrington	14850

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Quarry	Quarry and smithy near Shoe Mill	
Quarry;Sandstone	Hollins Lane	7302
Railway	Accrington to Ramsbottom	2081
Reading Room	Reading Room, 19-21 Manchester Road, Baxenden	22981
Reservoir	Reservoirs, between Blackburn Road & Lodge Terrace	21231
Ropewalk	Ropewalk, rear of 30- 44 Orchard Drive, Spring Hill	21230
Ropewalk	Ropewalk, adj. railway line at NW end of Derby Street	22515
Saw Mill	Saw Mills, roundabout by Moreton Street, Accrington	14818
Saw Mill	Wellington Saw Mill, Cotton Street, Accrington	14841
School	Nr. Adelaide Street, Accrington	7050
School	Baxenden National School, Back Lane, Baxenden	7305
School	School, Hannah Street, Accrington	14790
School	School, Eden Street, Accrington	14794
School	School, Peter Street, Accrington	14795
School	School, Willow Street, Accrington	14829
School	St Mary's School, Belfield Road, Accrington	14839
School	School, Albert Street, Accrington	14847
School	School, Plantation Street, Accrington	14852
School	School, Back Union Street, Accrington	14863
School	School, Church Street, Accrington	14871
School	School, Chapel Street, Accrington	14887
School	School, Grange Lane, Accrington	14891
School	School, Hargreaves Street, Accrington	14893
School	School, 2 & 2c Russia Street & 1-4 Stable Yard	21218
School	School, Knowlmere Street, Milnshaw, Accrington	22501
School	St. John's (C of E) Primary School, Maudsley Street	22521
School	Methodist Church, Cambridge Street, Accrington	22522
School	Baxenden C. of E. Primary School, Church Avenue	22982
School	Peel Street, Accrington	24205
School	College Court off Blackburn Road, Accrington	24206
Settlement	Plantation Square, Accrington	24158
Settlement	Lane Ends, Accrington	24187
Shed	Shed, east of Howard Close, off Charter Street	21225
Signal Box	Signal Box, south of railway line nr. 72 Lonsdale Street	21228

TYPE	NAME	PRN
Signal Box	Signal Box, adj. to railway line, SW of Accrington Cemetery	22541
Smithy	Nr. Bay Horse Inn; Baxenden	7307
Stadium	Burnley Road, Accrington	24147
Stadium	Behind Whalley Road, Accrington	24148
Sunday School	Sunday School, Union Street, Accrington	14862
Sunday School	Sunday School, Oak Street, Accrington	14878
Sunday School	Sunday School, Barnes Street - Lee Street, Accrington	14882
Tallow Factory	Tallow Works; Hyndburn Road; Accrington	14809
Tannery	Tannery; Melbourne Street; Accrington	14855
Theatre	Theatre, Edgar Street, Accrington	14824
Timber Yard	Timber Yard, Jacob Street - Grange Lane, Accrington	14894
Timber Yards	Two Timber Yards; Back Wellington Street; Accrington	14846
Tramway	Priest Heys, Accrington	24157
Tramway Transport Site	Tramway Depot, Hyndburn Road, Accrington	14812
Warehouse	New Ark Street Works, Accrington	24223
Weaving Shed	Pleck weaving shed	
Workhouse	Union Street, Accrington	24141
Working Mens Club	Working Men's Club, Lonsdale Street, Spring Hill	21205
Works	Globe Works, Richmond Hill Street, Accrington	14789
Works	Albion Works, Albion Street, Accrington	14813
Works	Eubank Works, off Paradise Street, Accrington	14842
Works	Dowry Works, Moore Street, Accrington	14857
Works	Charter Street Works, Charter Street, Spring Hill	21222
Works	Star Works, Star Street, Blackburn Road, Alletroyds	21229
Works	Cannon Street, Higher Fold, Accrington	24217
Works	Hyndburn Road, Accrington	24218
Works	Ranger Street, Accrington	24220
Works	Hindle Street, Accrington	24222

3. Listed Buildings shown on Figure 12

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

STATUS	TYPE	NAME	PRN
Listed Grade II	Bank	20 Cannon Street; Accrington	5106
Listed Grade II	Chapel	Baptist Church; Cannon Street	5107
Listed Grade II	Church	Church of St. Andrew; Swiss Street	5111
Listed Grade II	Church	Church of St Peter; Richmond Street; Accrington	5121
Listed Grade II	Church	Church of St James; St James Street; Accrington	5124
Listed Grade II	Church	Church of St. John the Evangelist; Addison St	5101
Listed Grade II	Church	St John the Baptist Church; Manchester Road; Baxenden	5135
Listed Grade II	Commemorative monument	Monument to Adam Westwell; c.40 metres west of Church of St James	5125
Listed Grade II	Courthouse	Magistrates Courts and Police Station; Manchester Road	5115
Listed Grade II	Engineering works	Richmond Hill Street Works: (Top Shop) - south block only	5122
Listed Grade II	Farmhouse	Higher Antley Hall and Higher Antley Cottage; Park Crescent	5119
Listed Grade II	Fire station	Fire station; Manchester Road	5113
Listed Grade II	Gate	Whalley Road	5133
Listed Grade II	House:domestic	Dyke Nook Lodge; Whalley Road; Accrington	5132
Listed Grade II	House:domestic	Chapel, 100-102 Blackburn Road; Accrington	5104
Listed Grade II	House:domestic	21 Cannon Street; Accrington	5108
Listed Grade II	House:domestic	Oak Hill Park Mansion; Manchester Road	5116
Listed Grade II	House:domestic	Howarth Art Gallery; Manchester Road	5114
Listed Grade II	Inn	104 Abbey Street Accrington	5100
Listed Grade II	Market hall	Market Hall; Blackburn Road	5103

STATUS	TYPE	NAME	PRN
Listed Grade II	Mechanics Institute	Mechanics' Institution; Willow Street; Accrington	5134
Listed Grade II	Political club	Conservative Club; Cannon Street	5109
Listed Grade II*	Public building	Town Hall; Blackburn Road; Accrington	5102
Listed Grade II	Public house	53; 55 (Warners Arms) and 57 Warner St; Accrington	5131
Listed Grade II	Public library	Carnegie Public Library; St. James Street; Accrington	5127
Listed Grade II	Railway viaduct	Railway Viaduct; Blackburn Road	5105
Listed Grade II	School	Former Christ Church School; Rough Lee Road; Accrington	5123
Listed Grade II	Shopping arcade	Arcade; Church Street/Warner Street	5110
Listed Grade II	Sundial	Sundial, Church of St. James; St. James Street	5126
Listed Grade II	Toll house	Toll Bar House; Manchester Road	5117
Listed Grade II	War memorial	War Memorial; Oakhill Park	5118

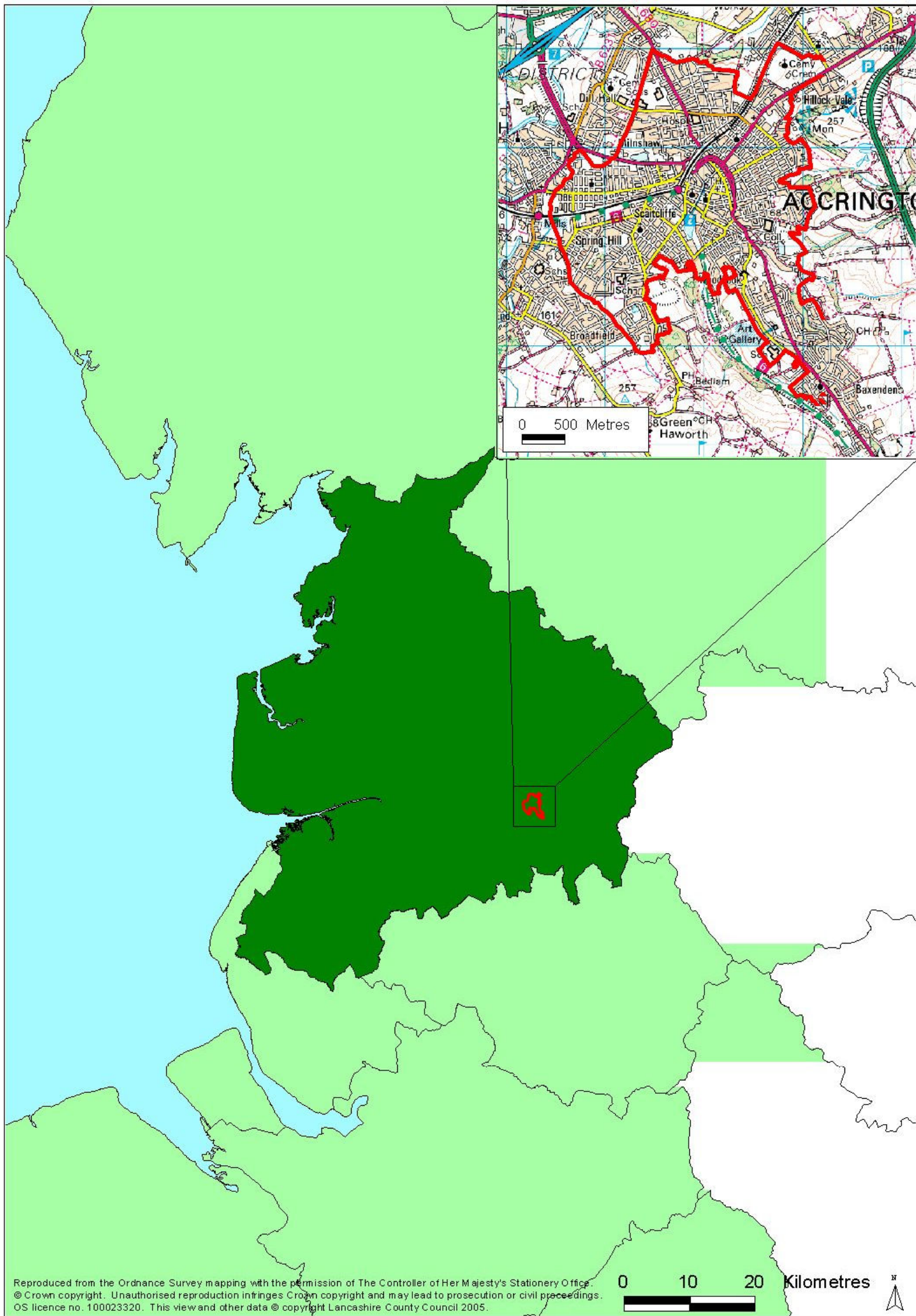


Fig.1 Location map of survey area

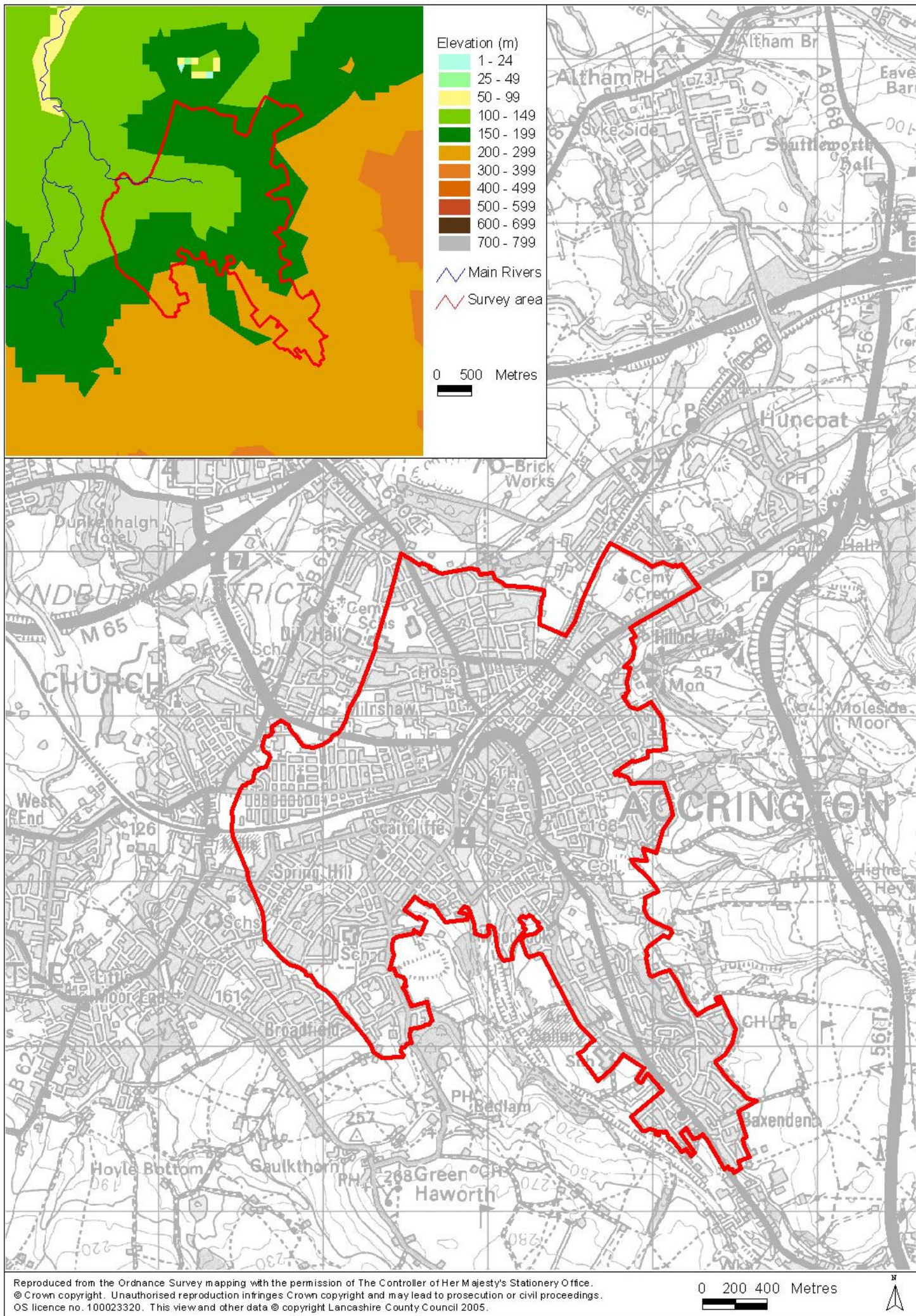
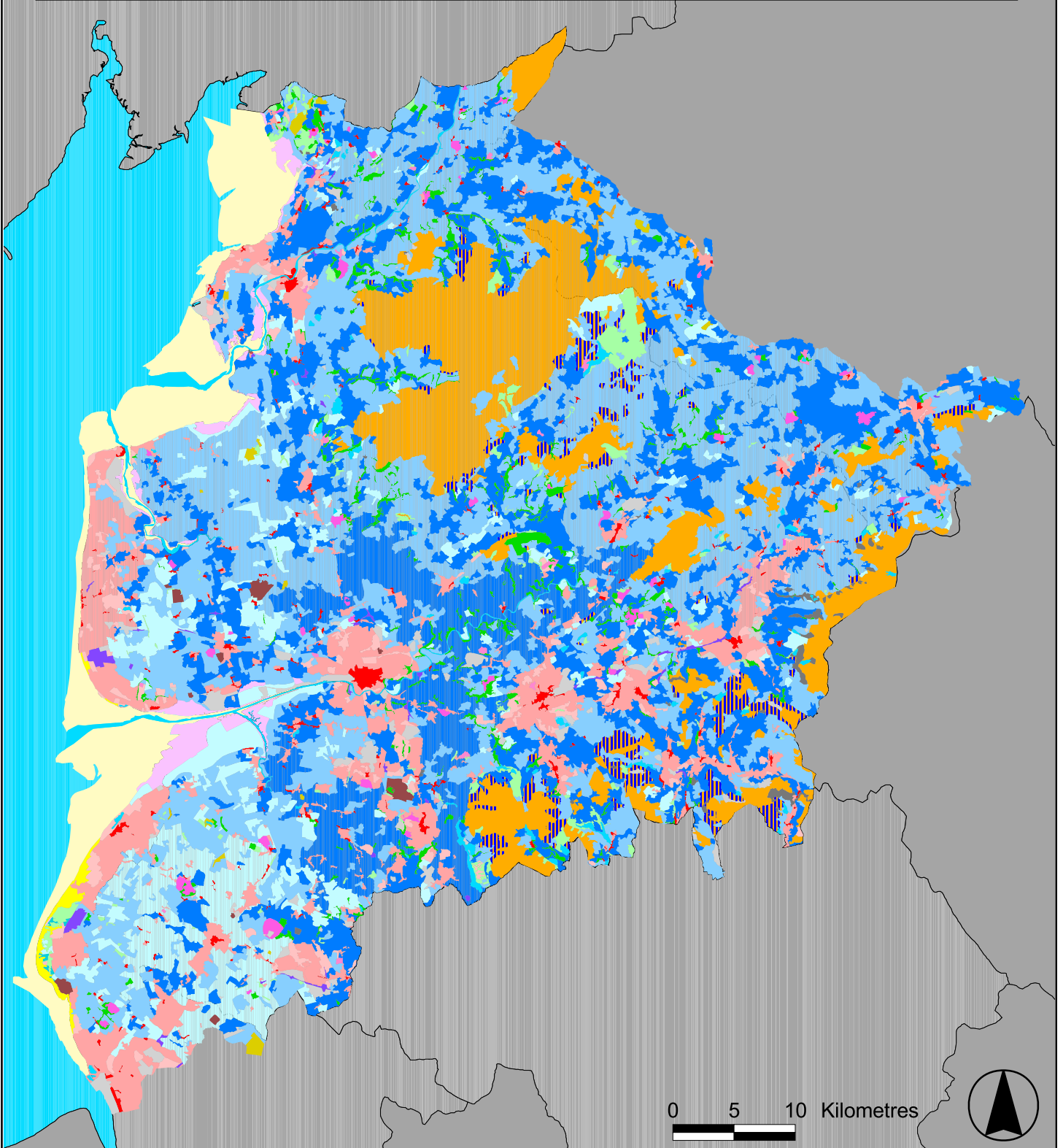


Fig.2 Accrington survey area with (inset) topography

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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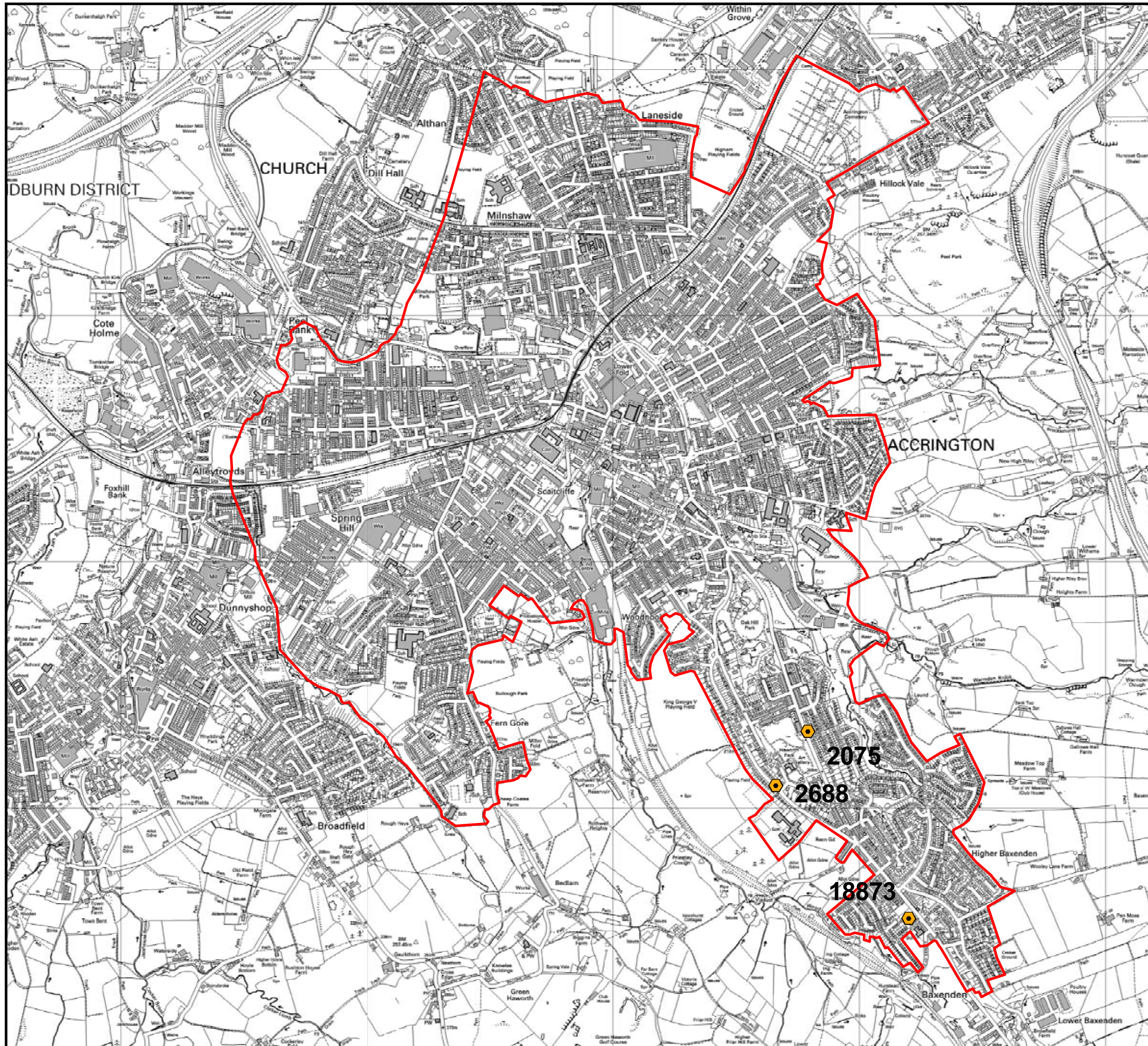
Figure 3: Historic Landscape Characterisation map of Lancashire





Fig.4 Detail of Accrington as mapped in 1848

Accrington

Figure 6: Roman Sites Recorded for Accrington



KEY

-  Survey area
-  Roman site

2075 - Findspot of Roman coins
2688 - Findspot of a Roman coin
18873 - Findspot of lamp presumed to be of Roman date

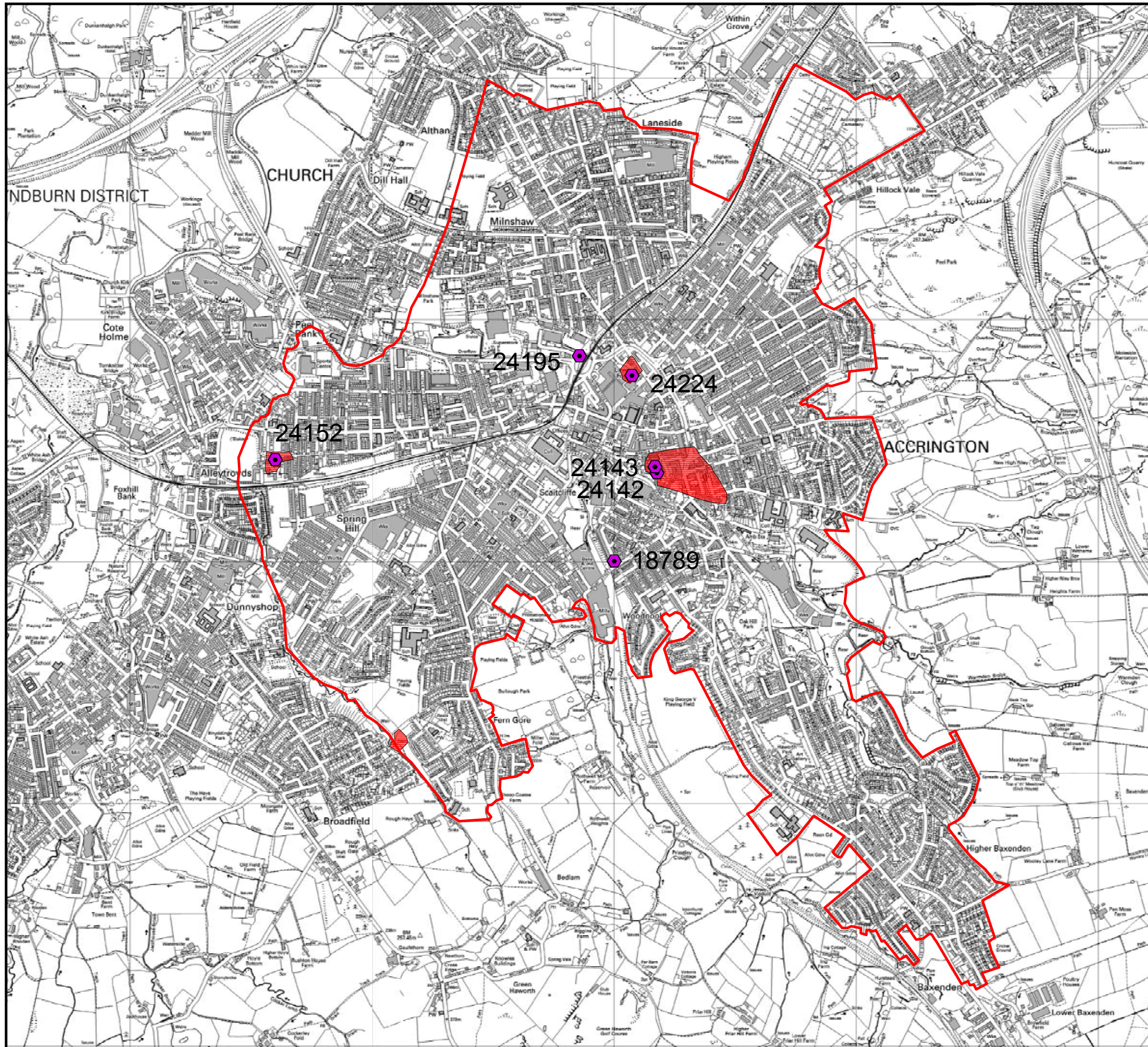


0 200 400 Metres




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Accrington

Fig. 7: Medieval Sites and Settlement Areas Recorded for Accrington



KEY

-  Survey area
-  Area of medieval settlement
-  Medieval site

- 18789 - Deserted medieval village
- 24142 - Possible site of medieval hall
- 24143 - Medieval finds
- 24152 - Medieval vaccary
- 24195 - Accrington Old Corn Mill
- 24224 - Site of corn market?

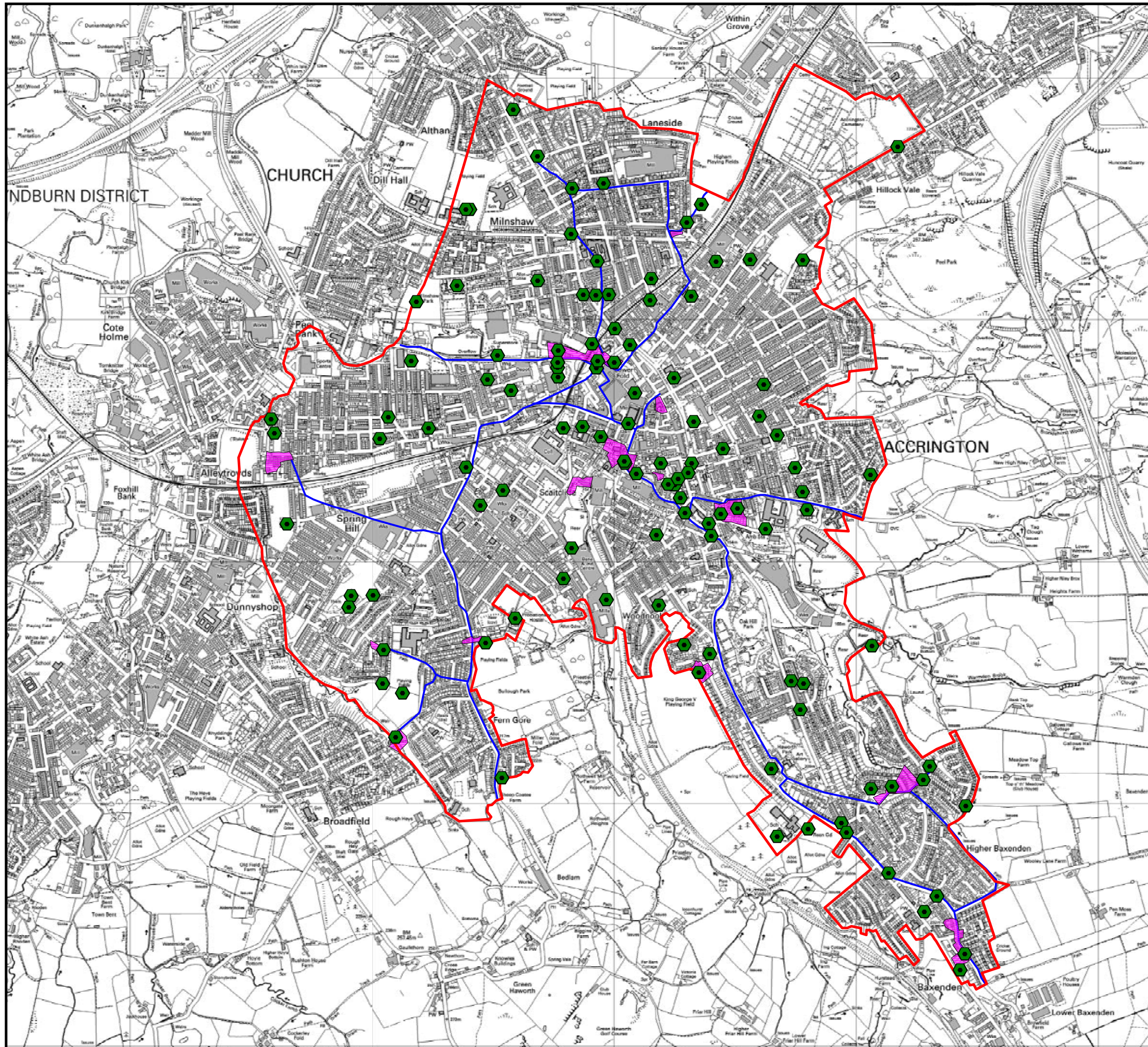


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Accrington

Fig. 8: Post-medieval Sites, Areas & Communication Routes in Accrington



KEY

- Survey area
- ⬢ Post-medieval site
- Post-medieval settlement area
- ↘ Pre-1800 road

See Appendix 1 for identification of numbered sites

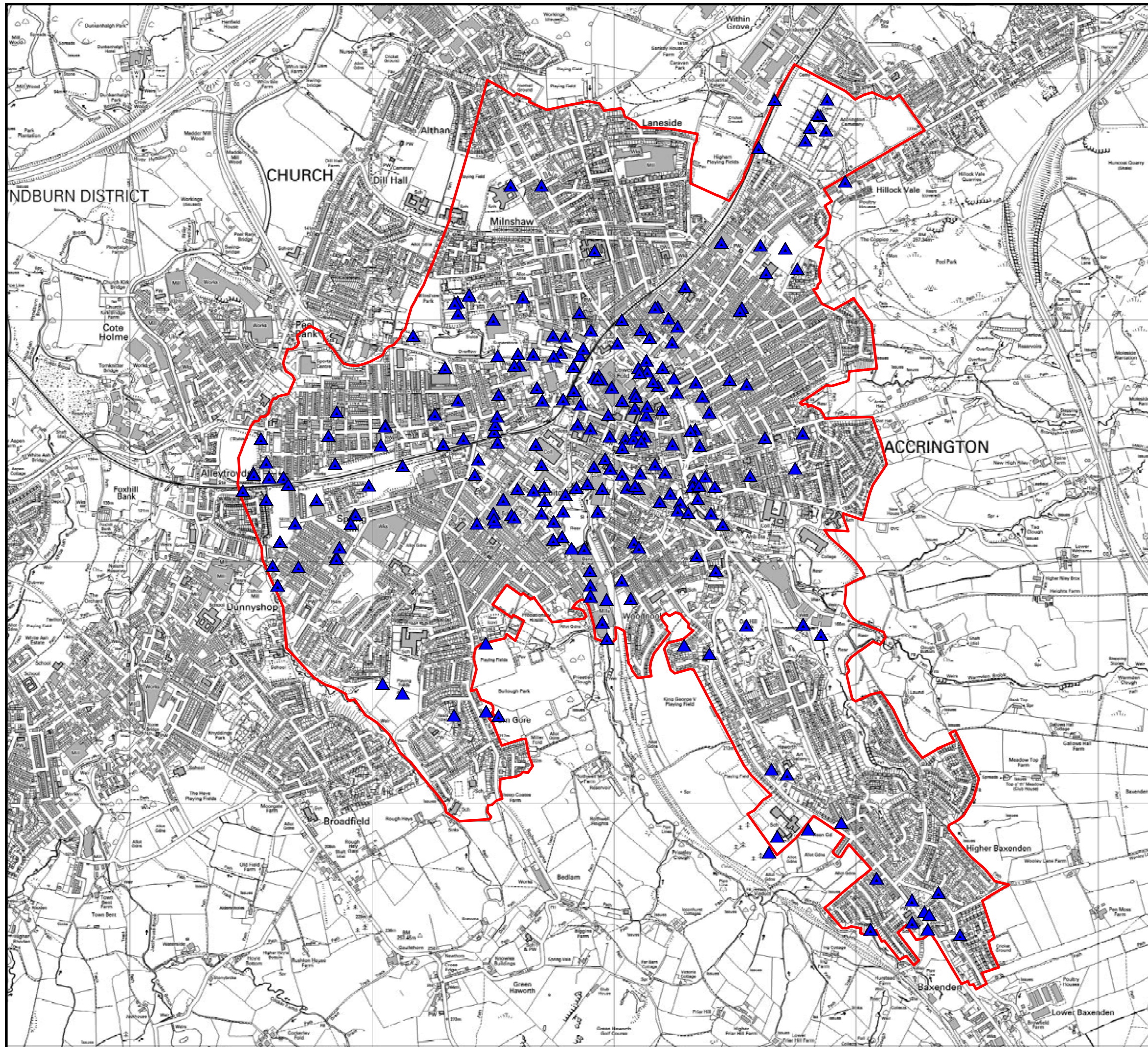


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Accrington

Fig. 9: Industrial-era Sites in Accrington



KEY

 Survey area

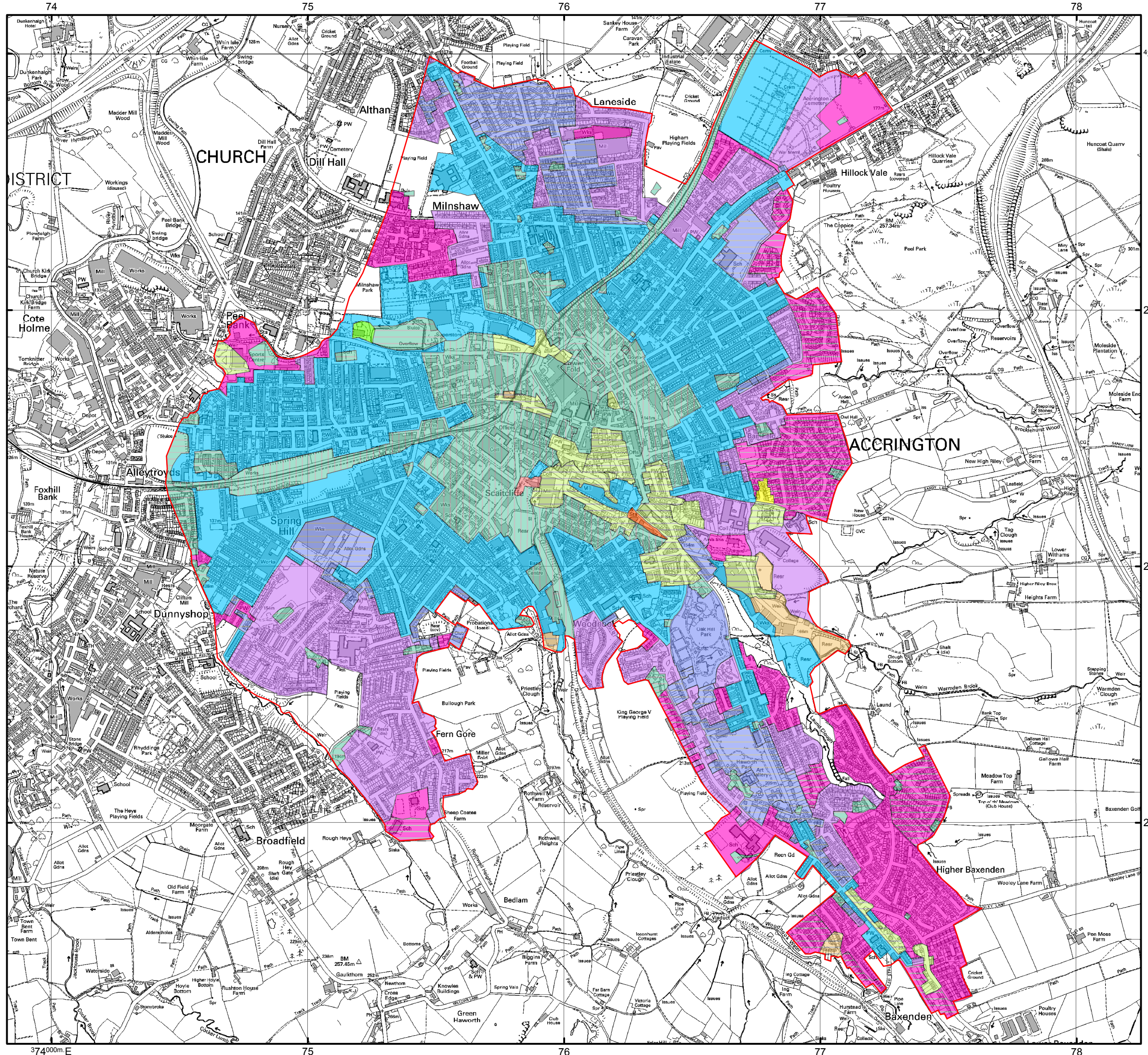
 Industrial-era site

See Appendix 2
for identification of
numbered sites



0 200 400 Metres

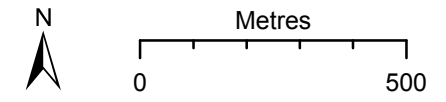
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Accrington

Figure 10. Historical Urban Development

- Survey area
- Pre-1542
- 18th century
- 1792
- Late 18th century
- 1790-1818
- Pre-1800
- Early 19th century
- c. 1807
- Pre-1818
- Pre-1849
- Mid 19th century
- Late 19th century
- 1911
- 1931
- 1963
- 1976
- Post-1976



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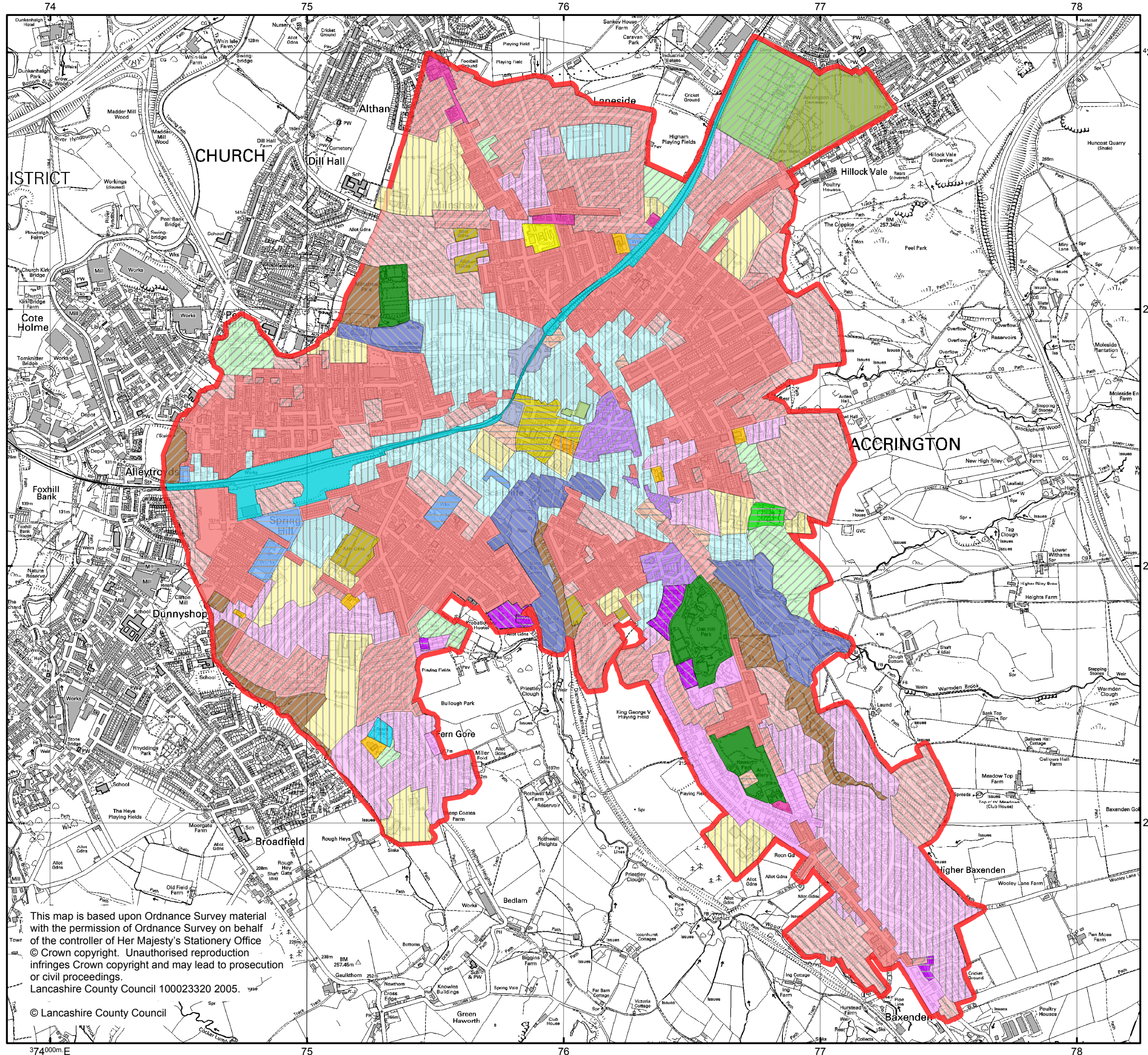
ENGLISH HERITAGE

Lancashire County Council

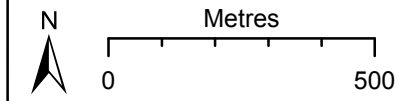
HYNDBURN

Accrington

Figure 11. Present Historic Townscape Character - HTC types and areas



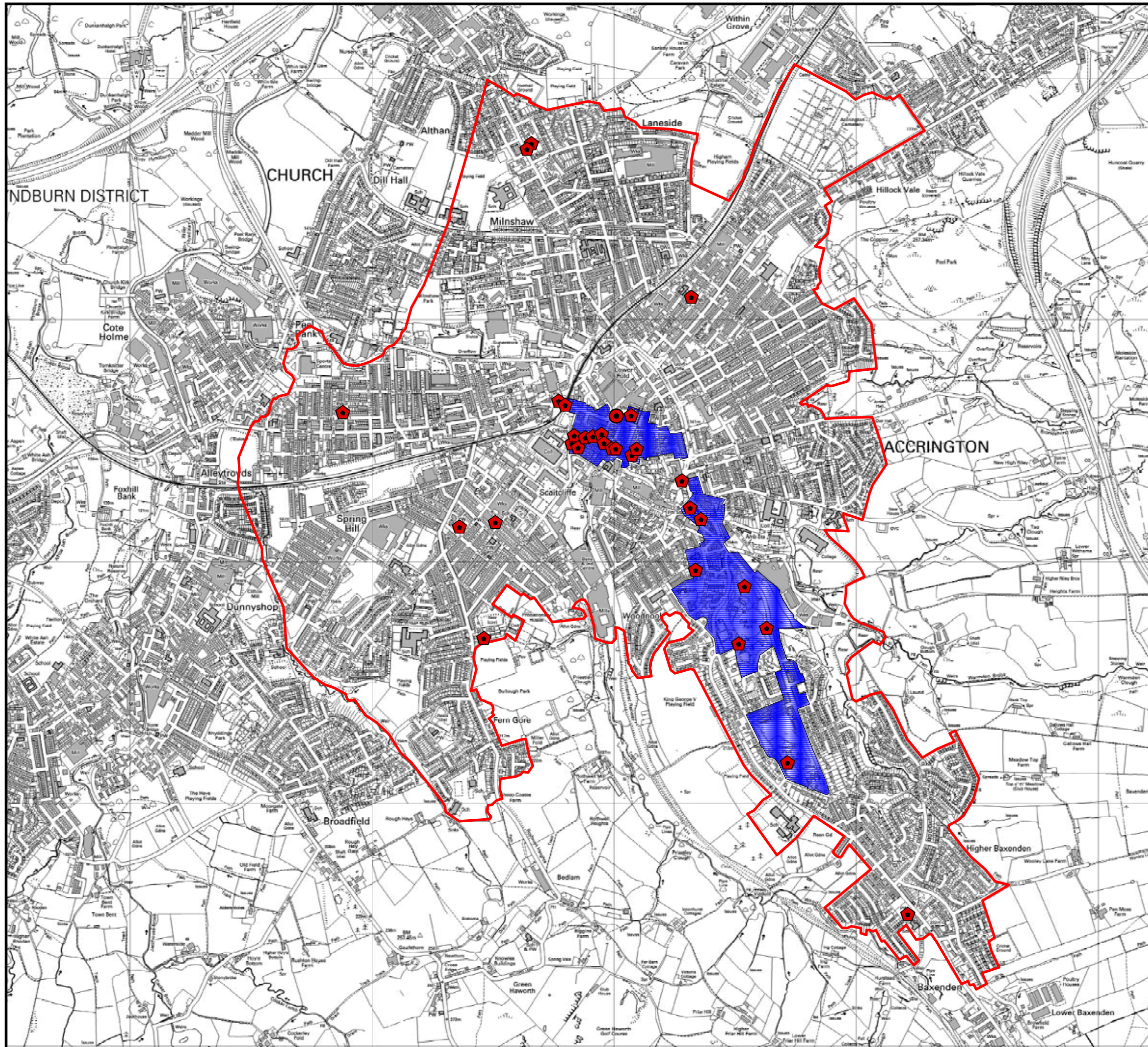
- Survey Area
- Agricultural (61-65)
- Bye-law terraced housing (27-53)
- C19 municipal cemetery (59)
- C20 cemetery (60)
- C20 industrial/commercial (66-79)
- C20 place of worship (80-85)
- C20 public (86-91)
- C20 recreational (93-101)
- C20 school or college (102-15)
- C20 transport (116-119)
- Church and churchyard (1)
- Civic centre (2)
- Commercial centre (3)
- Individual housing (1918-2003) (120-124)
- Inter/immediate post-war housing (c1918-50) (125-149)
- Late C20 housing (c1970-2003) (150-171)
- Later post-war housing (c1950-70) (172-185)
- Middle-class housing (c1860-1914) (23-26)
- Non-textile industry (7-11)
- Open ground (186-191)
- Post medieval urban development (19-22)
- Pre-NHS hospital (54)
- Private landscape grounds (58)
- Public landscape grounds (55-57)
- Railway (12)
- Rural settlement (13-15)
- Textile industry (4-6)
- Villa development (16-18)
- Water feature (92)







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Accrington

Fig. 12: Designations



KEY

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

See Appendix 3
for identification of
numbered sites



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