North Staffordshire Conurbation
Assessment of Historical Significance
DECEMBER 2006
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This report has been prepared for Urban Vision North Staffordshire by The Conservation Studio. The authors are grateful to members of the Steering Group, listed at Appendix 1, for their support and enthusiasm.

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FOREWORD

The North Staffordshire conurbation is unique. Its historical development - based on mining, ceramics and other manufacturing industries - is unparalleled in any major urban area in the UK. However, these origins were both a boon and a bane for the area.

On the one hand they gave North Staffordshire an economic purpose and vitality, which began in the very vanguard of the industrial revolution and created a wealth of world-renowned products whose enduring prestige continues to attract many thousands of visitors each year. A close network of towns grew up, in which proud civic architecture and handsome commercial and religious buildings shared the skyline with bottle ovens and pit-head gear.

But in many ways the environment was devastated. The burning of coal in furnaces, bottle ovens and tight-knit residential areas led to air pollution of legendary proportions. Hundreds of voids appeared in the ground where coal, clay and iron ore were extracted, and spoil heaps rose where the waste was dumped. In the middle years of the twentieth century Reginald Haggard's powerful watercolours paid tribute to this industrial dereliction.

What is the legacy of these conditions? The smoke has now gone and many areas affected by mineral extraction have been reclaimed in a much-admired network of urban green spaces. Redundant industrial sites have been redeveloped for modern purposes. Historic town centres are losing their traditional role and their rich diversity in the face of competition from bland retail and business parks. Densely built-up areas of terraced housing have become fragmented through piecemeal redevelopment and the widespread loss of original character. Churches and chapels have lost their congregations and struggle to find new uses.

Now, as the process of economic restructuring gathers momentum in North Staffordshire it is vitally important to take stock of the past and to identify what is of special value in that which survives. Urban Vision North Staffordshire, the architecture and urban design centre, is playing a key role in this process. It promotes solutions that make the most of the area's valued historic environment and enhance it with high quality new design to make North Staffordshire once again a magnet for investment and for people, and a focus for enterprise and creativity.

The present study, commissioned by Urban Vision, is an assessment of the historic built character of the North Staffordshire conurbation. Its immediate purpose is to inform the policies and plans for the regeneration and renewal of the area. Using a model brief produced by English Heritage, the study builds on similar work commissioned in 2005 by RENEW (the local housing market renewal pathfinder) for the core of the conurbation. The results of both studies, combined in this document, will help answer some basic questions for the area's successful physical regeneration: what is special about North Staffordshire? and how do we preserve and enhance those special qualities?

The gathering and analysis of information about historical significance is now recognised as a fundamental first step in the regeneration process. This report provides an overview of the North Staffordshire conurbation, and identifies key areas, such as the city and town centres and areas of significant intervention in the housing market, where detailed, intensive characterisation studies should be prioritised to help formulate the master plans and major development proposals being brought forward.

Dr Chris Wakeling
Chairman
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English Heritage
1. Introduction

1.1 The qualities of North Staffordshire are being re-evaluated as efforts to regenerate the area gain momentum. It is evident that the decline of the area’s traditional industrial base has led to a parallel decline in housing standards and demand. The consequent social, economic and environmental issues have led to a significant outward migration of population.

1.2 However, concerns have been expressed that the need to address these issues must be balanced with the need to safeguard the evident survival of North Staffordshire’s heritage. This process began with an initial study of historical significance in the urban core and assessments in greater depth of areas where major intervention is planned.

1.3 Action is clearly necessary if the conurbation is to enjoy a vibrant and sustainable future. This is being promoted by RENEW North Staffordshire, one of nine Housing Market Renewal Pathfinders established by the government to tackle issues of low demand. Its approach was set out in a prospectus and in a detailed study of the ‘Urban Core’ area at the heart of the conurbation, which has been particularly badly affected. The aim is to transform neighbourhoods through a balanced programme of demolition, refurbishment, new building and environmental investment.

1.4 At the same time, English Heritage published a policy statement ‘Low demand housing and the historic environment’, which argued that regeneration should not lose sight of cultural issues in the pursuit of housing standards. Accordingly, in 2005, an assessment of historical significance was carried out as a part of the Urban Core Study. This used characterisation techniques to map levels of historical significance throughout the area. The final version of the report, published in July 2006, is now leading to the establishment of protocols for taking the historic environment into account as regeneration proposals are brought forward.

1.5 The urban core work was managed by a Steering Group comprising RENEW, English Heritage, Stoke-on-Trent City Council, the North Staffordshire Regeneration Zone and the architecture and urban design centre for the area – Urban Vision North Staffordshire.

1.6 It was always intended that a further phase should extend the urban core assessment to the whole of the North Staffordshire conurbation. This should be seen in the context of the regeneration agenda set by the Regional Development Agency – Advantage West Midlands – and administered through the North Staffordshire Regeneration Zone, as well as several initiatives that the
constituent local authorities are undertaking. Further details of the strategic context are provided in Appendix 3.

1.7 This assessment of the conurbation has been managed by Urban Vision with the same Steering Group augmented by representatives of Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (See Appendix 1). The area of the study is about 180 square kilometres (70 sq. miles) defined by the inner edge of the North Staffordshire greenbelt. It encircles the urban core and extends to include Biddulph and Kidsgrove in the north, and Longton and Meir in the south.

![Image of urban vision map]

Figure 1. Plan of the conurbation study area and its relationship to the urban core.

1.8 The report provides baseline heritage information that will assist:
- RENEW with further regeneration priorities
- the local authorities with production of their Local Development Frameworks
- Urban Vision with its Urban Design Futures Initiative.
1.9 Heritage is concerned not only with statutorily protected listed buildings and conservation areas, but also with familiar and local environments that are equally valued by local communities and that create a sense of place. People generally prefer to live and work in environments that are rich and diverse, and that blend the modern and historic. Heritage environments provide potential for economic investment and social inclusion, and they contribute to sustainable development.

1.10 Successful regeneration should maximise the benefits of the historic built environment. Heritage characterisation identifies significant buildings and townscapes and what it is that makes an area distinctive. It therefore helps to determine the most valuable assets for retention, priorities for refurbishment and, where appropriate, for conversion to accommodate new uses.

1.11 Heritage characterisation also has an important role to play where demolition and redevelopment is proposed. Here, an understanding of the local historic context, together with the application of the principles of good urban and architectural design, will be important factors in the creation of desirable, sustainable neighbourhoods. This does not mean new development becoming a parody of existing styles, as this actually devalues the historic environment. Instead, contemporary design should respond positively to the historic context (local history, past patterns of development, scale and massing of existing buildings, views and landmarks, the quality of local materials and detailing) to create additional layers of interest that reinforce a sense of place.

2. Historical background

2.1 The study area lies on the western edge of the Peak District but, while the Carboniferous age provided limestone in the Derbyshire moorlands, this is sandstone country. In the north, this takes the form of durable millstone grit and to the east, the Upper Carboniferous Keele beds provide a reddish-brown sandstone. Between them lie the coal measures, clay strata and ironstones. To the south are the red Triassic sandstones used extensively for building throughout the county.

2.2 This underlying variety, in the area of transition from the uplands of the Peak to the Cheshire Plain, produces a topography of low hills and ridges. The earlier settlements, such as Burslem, Newcastle-under-Lyme and Hanley, took advantage of the better drained higher ground before access to communications became an important locational factor.

2.3 Some evidence survives for an early tradition of heavy timber-frame construction, at Ford Green Hall for instance, but this was
overtaken as the technology for winning stone developed: gritstone in the northern parts and red sandstone elsewhere. However, the use of stone was also overtaken by the ubiquity of clay products.

Ford Green Hall. Late 16th century timber framing, but brick was the material of choice by the time a further wing was added in the 18th century.

2.4 Early bricks were reddish brown but, as brick-making developed a more refined red brick was produced. Slate roofs are not common, despite the trade brought by the railways, because locally produced clay tiles were readily available. Other distinctive building materials are cast-iron, used for columns, and encaustic tiles.

2.5 The relatively harsh landscape of North Staffordshire was not suited to profitable agricultural development as, say, the Cheshire plains to the west. So, while there is evidence of sporadic human occupation from Palaeolithic times, this was more a case of strategic settlement of the watershed between the river systems of the Trent and the Severn.

2.6 The Roman Watling Street traversed Staffordshire further south, but another route, the Via Debana, linked Derby to the salt mines of Cheshire. This can still be traced along the current A50 through Longton and Stoke. There was a garrison at Chesterton where evidence of early industry has been identified. However, this was abandoned when the Romans retreated and re-establishment of the strategic function by the Normans took place on a site further south that became Newcastle-under-Lyme.

2.7 The Domesday Book records three main manors in the area: Penkhull, Trentham and Wolstanton and the mediaeval picture was equally different from the present. The principal settlements in the middle ages were at Newcastle-under-Lyme and Burslem, and to a lesser extent Biddulph, Stoke-on-Trent, Tunstall and Wolstanton. These were agricultural communities in a countryside that diminished in quality from the Cheshire plain to the Peaks. Newcastle-under-Lyme also accommodated religious foundations –
the Hospital of St John the Baptist founded in 1266 and a Dominican Friary.

2.8 As late as 1686, the area was described as largely ‘barren, heathy and gorsey grounds’\(^1\). However, the natural geography did provide sandstones of building quality, workable coal seams and ironstone to the east. To the west there was clay and timber for building and for charcoal. Nearby at Cauldon Low limestone was quarried to provide the necessary flux for iron making. Salt for pottery glazes was imported from Mobury near Nantwich.

2.9 These were the ingredients for the growth of an economy based on metals and ceramics. Iron and coal were being mined from the middle ages. There is evidence of pottery making from Roman times and of charcoal furnaces and water-powered forges in the 17\(^{th}\) century. The first potter of the Wedgwood family was born in 1617. By the late 18\(^{th}\) century, collieries were commonly owned by pottery manufacturers, for instance the Fenton Park Colliery was owned by a consortium including Josiah Spode and Thomas Minton. Textiles were also produced, particularly in the north of the area around Biddulph and at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

2.10 Victorian development of the Trentham estates by the Dukes of Sutherland succeeded in turning indifferent land into valuable assets through coal mining and iron production. This paved the way for the steel works that dominated the area until the end of the 20\(^{th}\) century.

2.11 Despite the long history of developing industry, Yates map of 1775 (Figure 2) shows the area still dotted with small villages and hamlets connected by a network of notoriously poor roads.

2.12 Transport problems were gradually solved, first by the introduction of turnpike trusts and then by the construction of canals. A Turnpike Act of 1763 led to a network of improved main roads, which was completed by 1800. James Brindley began the Grand Trunk Canal in 1766 and beside it, Josiah Wedgwood built his Etruria factory in 1769. The canal finally opened as the Trent and Mersey Canal in 1777 and the Caldon Canal followed in 1788.

2.13 The canals enabled the import of ground flint and finer clays for pottery, and limestone, used as a flux in iron production. Of course, they also allowed the export of coal and manufactured goods.

2.14 This process was accelerated by the introduction of railways from the 1840s. The North Staffordshire Railway Company built Stoke

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\(^1\) Plot R – *The natural history of Staffordshire* – 1686. Quoted by Dr Malcolm Nixon in an essay published with the Godfrey edition of the 1895 Ordnance Survey map of the Potteries.
Station in 1847 with its boardroom on the upper floor and the North Stafford Hotel opposite. The main line to London and Manchester was augmented by a dense network of branch lines for mineral transport and commuting. The Potteries Loop line was opened in stages reaching Burslem and Tunstall in 1873, Goldenhill in 1874 and Kidsgrove in 1875.

Figure 2. An extract from Yates’ map of 1775. The Roman road, now the A50, passes through Meir, Fenton and Stoke, although Lane End was then more significant than Longton. The village of Handley Green became Hanley.

2.15 Industry continued to expand throughout the 18th and 19th centuries providing an economy focused on the six towns – Burslem, Fenton, Hanley, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent and Tunstall – and associated settlements of Biddulph, Kidsgrove and Newcastle-under-Lyme.
The constant need of the factory system for more workers caused a migration from the country to the towns. The parish of Stoke-upon-Trent increased more than fourfold within sixty years. Hargreaves’ map of 1832 (Figure 3) demonstrates the evolution, still at an early stage but a dramatic advance on Yates record some 50 years earlier.

2.16 Factory workers were accommodated in successive developments of terraced housing, which became a significant element in the fabric of the conurbation throughout the 19th century and into the 20th. The terraces are generally of a brown-to-red brick often with distinctive decoration using classical elements and panels of encaustic tiles. However, their form was otherwise determined by expediency and the utility of land. They were built to the back of the pavement and had rear yards rather than gardens.

![Figure 3. An extract from Hargreaves’ map of 1832 showing a fully developed plan of Burslem, although the housing at Smallthorne to the east and along Newcastle Street to the west was yet to be added.](image)

2.17 Only in the 20th century did the later terraces enjoy the slight set back that allowed a small front garden and, therefore, a modest privacy from the street. These buildings are also distinguished by the stretcher bond brickwork that indicates the introduction of cavity wall construction.

2.18 Evidence of the earlier settlement pattern survives with the pre-industrial churches, such as the 13th century St Mary’s at Wolstanton, St Bartholomew’s of 1626 at Blurton and St Bartholomew’s again (1734) at Norton-in-the-Moors. There is also a strong tradition of non-conformity. The 18th century Ebenezer Chapel at Newcastle-under-Lyme was augmented by grander

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2 16,414 in 1801 to 71,308 in 1861.
buildings such as the Italianate Bethesda Chapel (1819 with a façade of 1859) at Hanley and the Hilltop Methodist Church, Burslem (1836), now reduced to its portico.

2.19 With the rapid urbanisation of former villages came the need for public services. In 1818 the government provided £1 million for building churches in areas of need and a further £½ million was provided in 1825. Under the supervision of the Church Building Commissioners, new churches were built in the expanding areas of London, the Midlands and the North. North Staffordshire was a prime target and Commissioners’ churches, typified by a simple tall pointed gothic style, include:

- St George, Newcastle-under-Lyme (1828)
- St Marks, Shelton (1831)
- St James, Longton (1832)
- St John, Tunstall (1840)
- Holy Trinity, Hanley (1848)
- Christ Church, Biddulph Moor (1863)
- St Paul’s, Longport (Demolished in the 1970s)

2.20 In addition to churches, there were needs for workhouses, hospitals, markets, schools, public houses, libraries, baths and educational institutes and, because the area was a collection of multiple centres, these facilities were often repeated. This is evident in section 5 below and in the assessment of key settlements in Appendix 2.

2.21 Industrial complexes associated with the pottery trades tended to be built, almost defensively, around enclosed yards. The more flamboyant buildings used Italianate classical detailing typified by Venetian and Diocletian windows. Throughout, there were the

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3 One theory is that they were modelled on farmyards.
bottle kilns which, although not exclusive to North Staffordshire, became a defining emblem of the area.

2.22 It is notable that, for all their public institutions, the industrial towns did not generally provide residential areas for the middle classes. Instead, it seems that the middle classes migrated to higher ground to avoid pollution, particularly to the west as at Penkhull. Arnold Bennett’s novels provide a vivid chronicle of this process.

2.23 The degree of success achieved by the North Staffordshire industries was reflected in the high quality of public buildings and, after 1888, the layout of public parks. There was a strong sense of competition between the different towns and they still maintain a measure of independence.

2.24 Local government developed out of local boards of health, which gradually took on wider interests in roads, services and buildings. Eventually, the main settlements achieved the status of boroughs. Longton, for instance, became a borough in 1865.

2.25 The ‘six towns’ initially resisted the movement, first proposed in 1895, for federating them into one administrative whole. A further attempt failed in 1901, but the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent was finally created in 1910 and it achieved city status in 1925. Burslem was so confident that it would become the administrative centre that it built a new town hall on Wedgwood Street, which opened in 1911 for one meeting before deferring to the civic centre of Stoke-on-Trent.

Edgerton Road, Hanley. Typical workers’ housing built to the pavement edge. Note the decorative brickwork and stone lintels, and the corner shop.

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4 Longton Park was the first, opened in 1888. It was followed by Hanley Park (1894), Burslem (1897), Etruria Park (1904) and Northwood Park (1907).
2.26 In common with most industrial towns of the time, the lack of gardens in the late 19th and early 20th century housing was a reflection of the complete orientation of the local economy towards work. This was compensated by the allotment movement, which is still very much in evidence today, and by the provision of public parks. Allotments began with the Enclosure Act of 1845 in response to the loss of common land. The Allotment Act of 1887 obliged local authorities to provide land for allotments.

2.27 Private gardens, symptomatic of leisure, were more prevalent in middle class housing in the 19th century and were, indeed, a determinant of the Potteries Garden Village at Penkhull in 1910. As the 20th century progressed, gardens became a defining difference of house-building from the 1920s and this is evident in the dramatic change in population densities, which continues to the present. Also, unlike the 19th century, there is now a considerable amount of public open space. This is an ironic legacy of industry where waste tips have been reclaimed but are not necessarily suitable for building.

2.28 Major changes to industry followed the Clean Air Act of 1953. An indicator of this was the decline in the number of bottle kilns from 2,000 in 1938 to 438 in 1958. Investment continued well into the 20th century, as the quality of 1930s architecture demonstrates, but from the 1980s to 1999, employment in the pottery industry declined from 30,000 to 17,000. Coal mining ceased in this period and the Shelton Bar steelworks, which had employed 10,000 people in 1947 finally closed in 2000.

Longton: The bottle kiln, an essential component of the pottery industry, became emblematic of the Potteries.

2.29 In the wake of the closures, North Staffordshire appears to have had mixed success in attracting alternative development. However, diversification has had earlier roots, such as the Michelin Tyre factory at Oak Hill established in 1927, Rists Cables at Mile Cross,
British Aluminium at Milton in the 1940s and, more recently, ICI at Kidsgrove.

2.30 Significant progress has been made in the remediation of former industrial land. This is typified by Festival Park, created on reclaimed land at Etruria for the National Gardens Festival in 1986. Progress can also be seen in the improving quality of new development: Blythe Bridge School, by York, Rosenberg and Mardell (YRM) was an early exception in a generally bland context, but this has been followed by examples such as the Britannia Stadium and the Victoria Hall at Hanley.

3. Characterisation and significance

3.1 The historical character and significance of buildings, structures and spaces is not simply a matter of age. Historical development is an important factor, but judgements on significance also depend on the completeness of surviving fabric, the architectural quality of buildings and their details, the quality of spatial relationships and the contribution that an area may make to an important setting, such as that of a listed building or registered park. Important too are historical and cultural associations, such as the birthplace of Stanley Matthews or the home of Clarice Cliff.

3.2 When these considerations of cultural value are mapped and a commentary is added, they produce a characterisation that can assist when proposals for change are being evaluated. The options may range from minor repairs to complete redevelopment. Cultural value is, of course, one of several considerations that must be weighed together. Others include physical conditions, accessibility, the supply and demand of particular building types and economic factors.

3.3 Characterisation can be conducted on two levels: extensive and intensive.

An extensive survey is a broadbrush review of the whole of a study area giving generalised values to whole street blocks. At this level, it is accepted that assessments are made on the basis of a rapid survey and that the overall designation for an area may disguise finer grain variations within. The virtue of this process is that it quickly reveals areas of particular interest that clearly merit further investigation in more detail.

An intensive survey is conducted in greater detail at the level of individual buildings and sites. It tends to concentrate on areas of cultural importance or where development activity can be expected. These areas may be identified in an extensive survey or through regeneration programmes. Intensive surveys have, for example,
been carried out for RENEW’s Areas of Major Intervention (AMIs) at Middleport, extending broadly from Longport to Burslem, and at the City Centre South AMI, which covers the south side of Hanley.

3.4 This assessment of the North Staffordshire conurbation has been carried out at the extensive level. However, the recommendations in Section 7 below include proposals for further work at the intensive level in specific areas. Pinpointed intensive surveys may be useful for assessing the potential for designating conservation areas, for informing regeneration proposals, or for developing Area Action Plans within the local authority planning process.

4. Survey method

4.1 While historical maps are useful for gaining an understanding of earlier stages of development and historical land uses, they are no substitute for covering the ground systematically as it exists. At the extensive level, much of the survey work can be carried out by car, although some parts will only be accessible on foot.

4.2 It is important that every street is visited. The disaggregated history of North Staffordshire means that earlier evidence is often embedded in later developments. It would be easy, for instance, to generalise the 20th century housing estates at Meir and fail to record the 19th century brickworkers’ houses of Woodville Terrace that has survived in its midst.

4.3 It is also important that a value is assigned to every site in order to demonstrate full coverage. At the extensive level, this may be done block-by-block and it has to be accepted that, on occasions, an individual building of merit may be included in a block of lower value. These anomalies can be addressed in more intensive surveys.
4.4 The survey maps for this extensive study are provided in Part 2. The notation for all the maps assigns a value to each component whether it is a whole estate, an open space or an individual building. The value is a measure of the contribution made to the overall historical significance of the area. The values recorded are expressed on six levels as follows:

i. **Statutory significance**: Listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas, registered historic parks and gardens.

These designations have already been made by central and local government. The buildings and areas are, therefore, subject to national and local policy and little change is expected to these elements.\(^5\) \(^6\)

ii. **Definite value**: High townscape value provided by good groups of well-detailed historic buildings. These usually date from the mid-to-late 19\(^{th}\) century. However, developments from subsequent decades are included, with increasing discrimination, particularly where they are representative of movements such as Arts and Crafts or Art Deco.

Indicators for these buildings include Flemish bond brickwork (earlier solid wall construction prior to the introduction of cavity walls at the beginning of the 20\(^{th}\) century), eaves cornice details such as off-set bricks or dentil courses, banding in contrasting brick, decorative doorcases such as semicircular arches with moulded

\(^5\) There is a presumption against the demolition of listed buildings but, where buildings are at risk, positive changes are naturally welcome.

\(^6\) Conservation areas are recorded as statutory entities at the extensive level. At the intensive level, their boundaries are recorded, but the buildings within them are categorised individually.
keystones, and moulded brackets to window cills and lintels. For housing, bootscrapers are also an indicator of earlier buildings preceding the improvements of the late 19th century that led to cleaner streets.

Exceptional cases have classical columns as window mullions or to support paired doorways. They may also have decorative panels of locally made coloured tiles or moulded bricks. Where overall quality is definite, the designation may include occasional properties that have suffered disfigurement, particularly if the details are retrievable and if retrieving them would enhance what has already survived.

The use of tiled details, particularly within arches and their spandrels, is a highly distinctive feature of North Staffordshire’s heritage.

In public and commercial property, investment in high quality persisted up to the 1930s when Art Deco influences are often evident. Category (ii) includes most of the historical public buildings that are not listed. It may also include altered buildings where they clearly contribute to the group value of other buildings.

Most of the designed open spaces, such as formal parks and cemeteries are included in Category (ii) unless, of course, they have already been designated as conservation areas.

In Category (ii), the reinstatement of historical detail is recommended with the enhancement of public spaces. Any minor changes necessary to provide improved amenities should take full account of the historical character.

iii. General value: Streets of medium quality late 19th or early 20th century buildings with cohesive qualities.

These are often later terraces and other buildings characterised by stretcher bond brickwork (cavity construction) and ground floor bays under pent roofs that sometimes continue as porches. Some later properties are included where they illustrate particular points, such as the introduction of private gardens or (rarely) the influence of modernism. Some property may be included in this category.
where, but for the degree of change that has already taken place, it would otherwise be in Category (ii).

Public open space is generally placed in Category (iii) unless it has designed qualities that elevate it to Category (ii).

In Category (iii), the retention of buildings is recommended although there may be considerable scope for improvements involving radical change.

iv. Neutral: Streets or groups of late 19th to late 20th century buildings of limited interest, particularly where they are altered or of low architectural quality. This designation also includes modern development to a reasonable standard, such as new offices or housing.

These are buildings that make no particular contribution to the historical character, but neither do they cause any particular harm. It follows that they could be retained or removed without detriment.

At this stage, most of the development from the 1930s onwards is recorded as neutral. However, recent history is constantly crystallising and, while this study has made a start on recognising the best of the 1940s and even the 1960s, it is acknowledged that 20th century housing overall is under-recorded. As is noted in the recommendations, there is a fast rising interest in the history of 20th century suburbs and it is likely that more detailed scrutiny would provide the rationale for elevating some neighbourhoods to higher categories.

v. Currently negative: These are poor quality mixed developments that may have some residual historic townscape features. The category also includes cleared sites where there are imminent prospects of improvement.
These elements could be removed without detriment. Some may have the potential to become positive or neutral after improvements or redevelopment.

vi. Definitely negative: Demolition debris, industrial dereliction and poor quality modern buildings that make no positive contribution to an area’s character.

Comprehensive change should be actively sought for these parts.

The category also includes the extensive land-take of the major roads, the A50 and A500. Although functionally necessary to 21st century life, they have had a detrimental effect on historical character.

4.5 It should be noted that the methodology does not take full account of natural history at the extensive level. Some of the neutral areas are highly attractive, on account of their trees, greens and gardens, but this does not necessarily contribute to historical significance. There are also many lesser historical features that do not register in an extensive survey, such as historical boundary walls that often pre-date the prevailing development.

4.6 There are some elements outside the boundary of the study that nevertheless make a positive contribution to it. For instance Chatterley Whitfield colliery, which is currently being converted to a sustainable enterprise park incorporating business, heritage and community uses. The colliery generated the exceptional housing at Fegg Hayes. Further south, the Carmountside Crematorium clearly has definite value on the edge of the conurbation.

4.7 The values are mapped (See Part 2) using a spectrum of colours that follow the range of values. Warmer colours (Red, yellow) are used for high values while cooler colours (Blues) are used for low values. The middle range of neutral values is shown in grey. In this way, the ‘hotspots’ of historical value become immediately apparent.

5. Assessment

5.1 An extensive survey was undertaken in 2005 for the urban core assessment that was published in July 2006. This covered an area broadly from Burslem to the south of Hanley (see Figure 1). The data from that survey have been incorporated into this coverage of the conurbation, which was surveyed in mid-2006.

5.2 An overview of the survey mapping confirms, inevitably, the concentration of historical significance close to the pre-20th century settlement centres. It also confirms the large extent of 20th century
housing developments (largely grey), which have led to the coalescence that forms the basis of the conurbation. However, with an economy based on extractive industries, there is often less of a clean break between urban and rural characters than may be found in other industrial areas. This gives a particular distinctiveness to North Staffordshire.

5.3 Many of the earlier settlements have all the elements that generate self-sustaining communities. They have strong juxtapositions of housing, church, school, corner shops and public houses all related directly to centres of employment. This contrasts starkly with the relative monoculture of the later housing estates and even commercial town centres.

5.4 Clearly, these housing estates were built in whatever space could be found between pits, quarries, spoil heaps, factories and railways. Now, after decades of reclamation programmes, it is striking to see threads of open space (green) where industry once thrived, leaving the modern housing as the main evidence that, rather like a photographic negative, defines a vanished past.

5.5 A further characteristic that does not readily emerge from an extensive survey is the extent to which clues to the past have been left in forms, such as boundary walls, gatepiers, planting and even single buildings. Also, regrettably, there are the cumulative effects of small-scale changes, particularly to doors and windows, which give rise to issues of stewardship of the historic environment.

5.6 The urbanisation of North Staffordshire was rapid. Hargreaves’ map of 1832 (Figure 3) shows the process beginning to gain pace and by the time of the Ordnance Survey second edition of 1898 it was largely complete. Since then, development has been a matter of infilling, redevelopment and the coalescence of settlements.
5.7 Development was driven by the explosive and unregulated growth of mining and manufacturing industries. The sheer scale and extent of this process resulted in a level of environmental degradation unknown in any other UK city region. The effects reached their nadir in the mid-20th century from which the area is still far from recovered. At the same time, however, the creation of wealth has left a legacy of quality building in all the types one would expect in a self-sustaining industrial community:

**Housing.** The rural villas of an earlier landscape were largely overtaken by industrial growth. Survivors, such as Portland House, Burslem or The Mount at Stoke-on-Trent, are therefore rare. The middle classes tended to avoid the pollution of industry by living in settlements to the west or on higher ground, such as Penkhull or the Brampton area of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Accordingly, there are relatively few larger houses in the urban centres.

Other substantial houses were for those who had to live in the area, such as Ivy House, in Newcastle Road, Middleport, built for the manager of the Davenport Pottery, or Shelton Rectory in Rectory Road.

The terraced form, providing efficiently compact accommodation, is ubiquitous to industrial development. In this area, however, the standard of detailing in many of the earlier terraces rises considerably above that found in, say, the cotton belt from Merseyside to the Lancashire Pennines. The use of stone dressings, decorative brickwork and tiled details has produced streets of definite quality that are outstanding examples of their type.
Some terraces, such as those in Maddock Street at Longport, Richmond Terrace and Pyenest Street (now much altered) at Hanley or Hitchman Street at Fenton, are exceptional. However, terraces should not be seen in isolation – the street they define is an important factor. Where terraces are retained, therefore, consideration must be given to their context and the sense of enclosure if historical significance is to be properly retained with them.

Public housing was a product of rising concern for public health and slum clearance from the 1920s onwards. The Wood Farm estate at Meir, for instance, developed from the mid 1920s particularly to resettle families from clearance areas in Longton. Other notable examples of 20th century housing design include the Potteries Garden Village at Penkhull, built in 1910 by William Campbell under the direction of Barry Parker (of architects Parker and Unwin), and The Sutton Dwellings Trust estate of 1926-9 at Trent Vale. Notable too is the work of the Bournville Village Trust in 1925, which produced the distinctive radial plan at Westlands to the south of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

**Public houses.** Pubs provide identity. They are often sited in prominent locations, such as the corner sites of the Highland Laddie at Waterloo Road, Hanley, the Kings Arms at Meir or the Biddulph Arms, and they are used as landmarks for urban navigation. Few, however, can be as strategically placed as Harry Ramjams at the flatiron point on Shearer Street, Shelton or the Bell and Bear looking down Snow Hill. Their significance is self-evident.

**Shops.** The corner shop is an important accompaniment to terraced housing. Early examples were converted out of residential property. Purpose-built shop developments continued into the 20th century until the advent of the supermarket. Examples include the 1927 development on the north side of Newcastle Road, Longport,
and another at Woodville, Meir. Where good shopfronts survive, they should be repaired and retained even if the building use has changed.

**Factories.** Given that the industrial buildings were the generators of wealth, it is not surprising that some were detailed to express the success of their enterprises. The buildings at the Middleport Pottery and the Boundary Works on King Street, Longton, are celebrated examples. However, as redundant industrial areas are cleared for redevelopment, it is important that other deserving examples are not lost. The warehouse on Hampton Street, Hanley, shows that there are alternatives to demolition, in this case residential use.

**Churches.** Churches are often the most prominent landmarks – St Mark’s at the top of Snow Hill, for instance, or Scott’s spire at Hartshill. By the same token, the radial streets to the north of Newcastle Street have lost some of their meaning since the demolition of St Paul’s Church, Middleport.

Others, such as St Luke’s, Hanley, and St Joseph’s at Burslem are rooted in their communities and there is an important relationship
with surrounding houses. Also significant are the associated buildings such as the Congregational hall in Wycliffe Road, Burslem, and the Arts and Crafts style Church Hall in Rectory Road, Shelton.

United Reform Church, Moorland Road, Burslem. This focal building of 1905 by the celebrated architect AR Wood is not currently listed.

Roman Catholic churches make a strong contribution to historical significance. The Church of the Sacred Heart in Jasper Street, Hanley has all the qualities – church, school and presbytery within the original boundary wall. The Church of the Sacred Heart (1925) at Tunstall and the Convent of Our Lady of the Angels at Hartshill are particular landmarks. By contrast, the Wesleyan Chapel at Harriseahead is appropriately plain.

Schools. Churches played a major part in education until the late 19th century and the Sunday school in Newcastle Street, Middleport, is an important but neglected example. School Boards were established under the Education Act of 1870. This resulted in a building programme that gave rise, for instance, to St Luke’s School, Wellington Road Hanley (1893), the Joiners’ Square Infants School of 1879 and the Thursfield School at Kidsgrove. All are landmark buildings, the former being statutorily listed.

The village school at Knutton, with its integral schoolhouse, contrasts with the imposing scale of Moorpark School, Smallthorne.
Adult education became important towards the end of the 19th century and substantial philanthropy enabled the construction of spectacular buildings such as the Sutherland Institute at Longton and the Wedgwood Institute at Burslem.

**Civic buildings.** The towns of North Staffordshire certainly competed with their town halls. Newcastle-under-Lyme retains its Guildhall of 1713, although it was much altered in the early 1860s. The most impressive of the Victorian town halls are those at Stoke-on-Trent (1834-50), Longton (1863) and Burslem (1852-7 and 1911). Some town halls were civic quarters with courts and a library at Fenton (1888), swimming baths and a fire station at Tunstall (1883), and the eclectically designed market to the rear of Longton Town Hall.

Biddulph. The tradition of building imposing town halls continued into the 1960s.

Less obvious, but nonetheless significant are the military drill halls, for instance one of 1897 on College Road, Shelton, and others near Burslem, on Newcastle Street, and at Tunstall. Also important was the introduction of services, which has resulted in a large number of electricity sub-stations of varied and spirited designs.
**Hospitals.** Concern for public health grew throughout the 19th century from the provision of workhouses for the poor. There are important survivals of workhouse buildings and the late 19th century hospitals that succeeded them. The Westcliffe Hospital, for instance, grew out of the Wolstanton and Burslem Union workhouse and it still has an impressive range of ancillary buildings – lodge, ambulance station, mortuary – although they are largely disused.

The hospital buildings of the Stoke-upon-Trent Union workhouse are now a significant part of the modern City Central Hospital.

**Commercial buildings.** As the town centres matured in the mid-19th century, they were consolidated by the construction of purpose-designed shops, offices and banks that gave substance to the urban form. There are good examples at Longton, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent and Tunstall, usually built of stone to express solid respectability.

Market Street, Longton. Grand commercial scale, but in poor condition.
Public parks and cemeteries. The philanthropy that saw the creation of parks can also be seen as a significant element in a moralising agenda to provide the Victorian potter and miner with alternatives to the public house. They also provided rare opportunities for middle class housing as can be seen, for instance, at Longton, Hanley and Tunstall.

Queen’s Park, Longton, was the first, opened in 1888 on land provided by the Duke of Sutherland. It was followed by Hanley Park (1894), the first work by Thomas Mawson who went on to be a celebrated landscape architect. Mawson also designed Burslem Park in 1897. Tunstall Park was also opened in 1897, followed by Etruria Park (1904) and Northwood Park (1907).

Cemeteries were similarly celebrated with fine detail to gates, lodges, chapels and boundaries.

7. Recommendations:

Designation.

7.1 It was accepted from the Urban Core study that the historic buildings in the area were under-represented on the statutory lists. English Heritage has, therefore, offered to consider the case for listing those building that were put forward.

7.2 This wider, but less detailed, study confirms that under-listing is an issue throughout the conurbation, particularly in relation to canals and pottery buildings, for instance the Sydney Works and the Phoenix Works at Longton, churches such as AR Wood’s United Reform Church at Burslem. Specific recommendations will emerge when individual intensive surveys are carried out, but there is a strong case for a more systematic approach.

- English Heritage should undertake a series of thematic studies to ascertain the scope for increasing the representation of
specific building types on the statutory lists. In addition to industrial buildings, studies should address schools, churches, civic buildings, canal structures and housing.

7.3  Stoke-on-Trent City Council has a local list that is currently out-of-date. The criteria for the selection of locally listed buildings are now being reviewed in the context of the emerging Local Development Framework. However it is clear that, even if the criteria are set at a fairly high threshold, there are many buildings and structures that should be considered. The other local authorities do not have local listing policies. Community involvement in local listing is a useful way to promote heritage values.

- All local authorities in the conurbation should adopt policies and criteria for local listing and should involve communities in the process.
- All local authorities in the conurbation should conduct regular surveys in order to keep local listing up-to-date.

7.4  It is evident from the assessment of key settlements at Appendix 2 that the special architectural and historic interest of many of the existing conservation areas extends beyond current boundaries and that they are capable of extension. It is also implicit in the suggestions for intensive survey that there is scope for further designations. Review and designation are, of course, statutory duties.

7.5  Even at this extensive level, it can be seen from the survey maps that there is merit in considering the potential for new designations at Biddulph, Cobridge, Hanley (Northwood Park, Shelton and Waterloo Road), Knypersley, Newcastle-under-Lyme (Westlands), Penkhull Garden Village, Smallthorne, Trent Vale (Sutton Estate) and Tunstall (High Street). There is also potential for extensions to
existing conservation areas at Chesterton, Fenton, Longton Middleport/Longport, Silverdale, Stoke-on-Trent and Tunstall. These lists, however, are by no means exhaustive.

- All local authorities in the conurbation should review the boundaries of their conservation areas in order to ascertain whether they should be extended
- All local authorities in the conurbation should consider, in the light of intensive surveys, whether any further conservation areas should be designated

**Community involvement**

7.6 At present it is difficult for local people to discover what buildings are listed and where conservation areas have been designated in the Stoke-on-Trent City and Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough areas. Yet community awareness is the first step in securing support for policies and standards.

- Local authorities should make designation details accessible through publications and their websites
- Details should provide more than statutory information in order to promote community understanding and enthusiasm for local heritage
- Raising local awareness of heritage designations and the management of the historic environment should be integrated with the councils’ Statements of Community Involvement

**Policy and management**

7.7 Councils are currently working on their Local Development Frameworks (LDFs). These should include adequate policies for identifying and managing heritage assets. It is then necessary to ensure that management is carried out.

- Local authorities should ensure that their LDFs include adequate policies for the management of the historic environment.
- Local authorities should commit themselves, through management planning, to levels of action that will secure the protection, enhancement and promotion of the historic environment
Further study

7.8 Intensive surveys should be used to inform future priorities for Housing Market Renewal and Area Action Plans, as they have already in the urban core. There are also several areas identified in Appendix 2 where there is clear historical significance that should be assessed at the intensive level before decisions are taken on future planning.

- Intensive surveys should be carried out in the Area Action Plan areas at Biddulph and Newcastle-under-Lyme town centres
- Intensive surveys should be carried out for Areas of Major Intervention (Phase 1) at Knutton and Cross Heath, and Meir North
- Intensive surveys should be carried out for Areas of Major Intervention (Phase 2) at Boothen, Hanley Northwood, Penkhull and Hartshill, and Shelton South. The need for an intensive survey of Forest Park is less likely
- Intensive surveys should be carried out for all the General Renewal Areas in Phase 1 (Birches Head West, Burslem Park, Chesterton and Dresden/Normacot) and in Phase 2 (Longton, Smallthorne and Tunstall)
- Intensive surveys should be carried out for the proposed regeneration of ex NCB mining settlements at Biddulph and Silverdale. The need for an intensive survey of Galleys Bank is less likely

Further study would establish the rarity of this survival of original windows and door on a housing estate at Goldenhill.

- Intensive surveys should be carried out for housing and other areas, not covered by the above, that are identified in the survey
plans or raised in the assessment at Appendix 2. For instance, the City centre at Hanley is clearly poised for significant investment and an intensive survey would be prudent before plans are developed.

7.9 In the extensive survey, much of the housing from the mid-20th century onwards is recorded as neutral (grey). This catch-all disguises considerable variation, but was adopted so that attention would not be diverted from the main task of sorting out late-19th and early-20th century development. However, there is a rising interest in the development of housing design and standards throughout the last century and North Staffordshire presents a particularly useful case study.

- A study of 20th century housing in North Staffordshire should be undertaken in order to identify the best examples of design, layout and survival from each of the main periods.

Recommendations specific to areas of public and private sector regeneration activity

7.10 The following recommendations were developed in the Urban Core study. They are still relevant to the wider conurbation and, indeed, to the Terms of Reference adopted by the Design and Heritage Group for North Staffordshire, which has grown out of the Steering Group for this project:

- That full account is taken of the historical significance of the built environment in formulating proposals for urban regeneration and housing renewal.

Hanley South from Albion Bridge: Bottle kilns retained in the regeneration of the site formerly of the Johnson Brothers’ sanitaryware factory.

- That the active involvement of the local authority conservation and urban design staff is sought before any proposals are
brought forward for development affecting areas of Statutory Significance, Definite Value or General Value, as defined in Section 3 of this report

- That full recognition is taken of open spaces and waterways, as well as buildings and monuments, in the regeneration of the historic environment

- That appropriate specifications for the repair of buildings of historical significance be identified in the detailed master plans and incorporated within relevant tender documentation in respect of areas of housing refurbishment

- In areas of significant intervention, there will always be a need for a detailed survey to establish their historical significance
Appendix 1. Acknowledgements

The survey work and production of this report has been carried out by Eddie Booth, Chezel Bird, Neil Buick, Gemma Riley, Gemma Wild and Kate Crook of The Conservation Studio.

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- Hannah Barter  Urban Vision North Staffordshire
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- Carl Bunnage  RENEW North Staffordshire
- Andrew James  North Staffordshire Regeneration Zone

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Appendix 2. Key settlements

This is an introductory guide intended to place some of the survey findings in context. Further information will be provided in selected intensive surveys and conservation area appraisals. References to some of the existing published material are also provided at Appendix 5 below.

1. Biddulph
Map 1

Development. This is the most northerly settlement of the conurbation, which lies between two ridges of millstone grit close to the moorland of the Pennine foothills. Until the 19th century, the area was relatively isolated and inhospitable.

In 1810, the Knypersley Estate was bought by the Bateman family of Salford. They created the famous Grange Gardens and, with their successor Robert Heath, developed the valley with coal mining and iron making. In 1860, the North Staffordshire Railway opened the Biddulph Valley line and the coal and ironworks flourished.

Grange Road, Biddulph. A gatepier from the Knypersley Estate survives amid later housing.

Iron production ceased in 1928, but the forges continued to make machinery for mining almost until the colliery closed in 1982. While
the coal and iron industries were male-dominated, there were also textile mills making cotton fustians and silk ribbons that largely employed women.

The town evolved as Bradley Green and it only took the name of the parish – Biddulph – in 1930. The centre is formed by the High Street and John Street, which run parallel but join together at either end. This produces junctions punctuated by a former grocery shop and the War Memorial respectively.

**Survival.** There are good examples of houses surviving from John Bateman’s layout in the mid-19th century on John Street and on Congleton Road leading into the town from the north. Later terraces survive in the High Street and in speculative developments at right angles to the centre on Albert Street and Well Street.

![Wharf Street, Biddulph. A well-preserved double-fronted house.](image)

Mill buildings survive in Stringer’s Street and Station Road, the latter also including a much altered chapel and Sunday school. The parish church, however, is outside the area towards the Grange.

To the south, Knypersley Villas with well-detailed mock timber framing, remain much as they were when built in 1912 by Robert Heath to house managers of his coal and iron works. Knypersley itself is distinguished by the excellent grouping of St John the Evangelist’s Church with the neo-Jacobean parsonage, coach house and school, all built for John Bateman between 1848-1851.

**Issues.** The town centre is becoming a focus for regeneration activity as Staffordshire Moorlands District Council develops an Area Action Plan as part of their Local Development Framework.

There is a strong case for a detailed examination of the town centre with a view to conservation area designation and local listing.
2. **Burslem**  
*Map 9.*

**Development.** Burslem is recorded in the Domesday survey as wasteland, meaning agriculturally unproductive. However, it is located on natural deposits – ironstone, clay and coal – which provided the raw materials for pottery making. The first recorded kilns were found at nearby Sneyd Green dating from c.1300. By the 1650s the Wedgwoods were producing pottery in Burslem and, by the end of the 17th century, the Burslem area was the country’s leading supplier of pottery. Thus the town became known as the ‘mother of the potteries’.

![Burslem in 1720](image)

In 1710 there were 35 potworks in Burslem, and it was very much a town, while Hanley and Stoke were still villages. Leading potters began building houses and potteries which reflected their prestige, notably the Big House, built by the brothers Thomas and John Wedgwood in 1751 on the corner of Wedgwood Street and Chapel Bank. Most spectacular was the Fountain Place Works built for Enoch Wood in 1789, a gothic extravaganza between Hall Street and Packhorse Lane, with a gateway complete with crenellated towers.

Josiah Wedgwood was instrumental in turnpiking all the main routes into Burslem and promoting the Trent and Mersey Canal, completed in 1777. This initially helped Middleport, Etruria and Stoke more than Burslem, as it was not until 1805 that a special link was provided directly into Burslem itself. Similarly, the hilltop location was avoided by the early railways. A station on the North Staffordshire line was built in Longport, and a freight-only branch line was provided into Burslem in 1872. However one year later the celebrated Potteries Loop Line was built to bring both passengers and freight into Burslem.
During the 19th century, Burslem continued to grow as more potteries were built and in 1878 the Doulton family moved their successful sanitary ware business from Lambeth to Burslem in order to expand into fine earthenware. Henry Doulton became the first potter to be knighted.

Coal mining also flourished at the Grange Colliery to the south and the Sneyd Colliery to the east, although both saw decline and closure in the mid 20th century.

Terraced housing developed adjacent to the town centre at Price Street and also on streets either side of Newcastle Street, the link from Burslem to Longport. Larger houses were built along Waterloo Road towards Cobridge taking advantage of the tramway to Hanley, which opened in 1862.

The centre is dominated by the Town Hall of 1852-7 while the parish church for Burslem (St John’s) is located a little way south of the town centre. This is explained by the fact that it was still a chapel-of-ease attached to the parish of Stoke until 1809. The tower dates from c.1536 and the nave was rebuilt in 1717 after a fire destroyed the existing thatched building. A chancel was added in 1788 to cater for the expanding population. Further capacity was provided by the building of St Paul’s, off Newcastle Street in 1828 and Christ Church, Cobridge in 1838.

Other public buildings include the highly decorative terracotta Wedgwood Institute of 1863 and the School of Art (1907) opposite. A large public park was provided for the people of Burslem in 1894, to the east of the town centre. It was designed by Thomas Mawson who had previously designed Hanley Park and went on to become the first President of the Landscape Institute.
The Federation of 1910 saw the six towns – Burslem, Hanley, Stoke, Fenton, Longton and Tunstall – united to form the new borough, and later city, of Stoke-on-Trent. Burslem’s bid to become the focus of the new city was propelled by the construction of a second town hall in Wedgwood Place. However, the bid failed and Burslem’s fortunes appear to have declined thereafter. This process is described in *The Old Wives’ Tale*, a novel by Arnold Bennett who lived in the town at the time.

**Survival.** The public buildings of the town centre and several of the potteries still exist and they are complemented by the smaller scale of well-detailed commercial buildings around the Market Place and Queen Street, including several original shopfronts.

Burslem Park survives largely in its original form. Then there are significant areas of housing to the east of the park at Smallthorne, and to the north of the town off Scotia Road, off Cobridge Road and between Newcastle Street and Longport.

The loss of St Paul’s Church in the 1970s deprived a whole series of radiating streets of their focus. Similarly the reduction of the Hilltop Methodist Church to just its portico was a considerable loss. However, the parish church survives, as do Christ Church, Cobridge, the Bethel Methodist Chapel on Waterloo Road and two Roman Catholic churches.

**Issues.** The town centre is designated as a conservation area as are Burslem Park, Newcastle Street and the Longport canalside. There is a case for further designation linking the latter two by including the better housing areas.

There is also a case for a more detailed examination of the housing at Smallthorne.
The town centre conservation area has recently been reassessed in connection with a bid for Heritage Lottery funding for a programme of regeneration works. This has led to the boundary being extended to include housing in the Price Street area.

The Middleport Area of Major Intervention, which spans an area from Middleport to Burslem, was the subject of an intensive characterisation in the Urban Core Study of Historical Significance. The conclusions of that survey have been brought forward into this assessment.

3. **Fenton**

   **Map 16**

Development. Just as the conurbation is a collection of towns, so Fenton is a collection of smaller communities. Principal among these were Fenton Vivian and Fenton Culvert, but there were also Lane End, Lower Lane, Lane Delph and The Foley.

A marginal farming economy was overtaken by coal mining in the 17th century that expanded greatly in the 1700s due to a pioneering joint stock company formed by several of the leading figures in pottery including Spode and Minton. Coal was exported to fuel the growth of industry in other towns. However, with 10 tons of coal required to process one ton of clay, potteries also developed locally along King Street and High Street (now City Road), the successor to the Roman road.

Fenton: Ordnance Survey plan of 1924 showing the close relationship of employment (collieries, brickworks) with housing and the civic centre of Albert Square.

Development was driven by the related Baker and Bourne families who were also responsible for the civic quarter of Albert Square,
which includes the Town Hall (1889), the Court House, Christ Church (1890), a library (1907) and a school. Workers’ housing developed close to the employment centres, Hitchman Street being an exceptional example.

As collieries were worked out, land was reclaimed for the cemetery (1887), for modern industry and open space. The last act of the Urban District Council before the federation in 1910 was to authorise the reclamation of the Wood Farm Colliery for a municipal park that opened in 1924.

Survival. The civic quarter remains much as it was intended and it has been designated as a conservation area. Important pottery works also survive along King Street, notably the large complex at The Foley, close to Longton.

Apart from the housing in Hitchman Street, which is listed, there are significant concentrations of characteristic terraces to the west of Albert Square, to the east in the Stanier Street and Fenpark Road areas and off King Street.
The cemetery and park, together with housing to the west are also important survivals.

Issues. Conservation area designation has concentrated on the monumentality of the civic buildings, but it has not acknowledged the industrial and housing context that gives meaning to these buildings.

It is, perhaps, surprising that a cast-iron milepost in King Street should be listed when there are good examples of pottery works that are not. Nor is Foley Terrace listed, or the remarkable houses of Hitchman Street and Victoria Place.

4. **Hanley**

**Map 13**

Development. In 1775, Yates’ map records the townships of Handley Green and Shelton. Although coal had been mined in the area for several centuries, they were still small villages compared with Burslem or Newcastle-under-Lyme. However, the nascent pottery industry took off with the construction of the Trent and Mersey Canal in 1777, the associated development of Wedgwood’s potteries at Etruria, and then the opening of the Caldon Canal.

In 1783, local businessmen formed a corporate charter for Hanley, with Shelton it became a market town under an Act of 1813, and by 1830 it was considered one of the largest towns in the area.

![St Mark’s Church, a Commissioners’ church of 1831-3, is a major landmark in the area.](image)
The expansion was driven by coalmining, which fuelled iron works and potteries. Associated industries processed limestone for iron-making, ground flints and bones used in porcelain manufacture, made colours and glazes for pottery, and produced bricks and tiles for the buildings.

In the 1890s, blast furnaces for steel production were added to the Shelton Ironworks. These and associated rolling mills covered the area from Etruria almost to the centre of Hanley.

Prosperity gave Hanley an urban scale. Buildings were generally three storeys, of stone or brick, often with elaborate detailing. However, the red brick parish church of St John (1790) is out of the centre to the north, while other significant buildings are to the south in Albion Street and Pall Mall. These include the Town Hall, designed in 1869 as the Queen’s Hotel, the Regent Theatre and the Bethesda Chapel (1819). The centre, such as it was, consisted largely of commercial and retail properties, which have since been considerably redeveloped.

Dense terraced housing to accommodate the influx of workers can be seen on most sides of Hanley notably at Northwood, the Waterloo Street area, Snow Hill, and the area south of Hanley Park. Churches to accommodate the influx of population include St Mark’s Snow Hill, a Commissioners’ church of 1830, St Luke (1854) off Waterloo Street and the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart in Jasper Street (1889-1911). Schools were also required and there are good examples at Wellington Road and at Joiner’s Square.

South of the town is Hanley Park, the first commission for Thomas Mawson, and to its west the cemetery with lodges and villas between them.
The Wedgwood potteries were demolished in the 1960s, coalmining ceased in the 1980s and the last steel was made in 2000.

**Survival.** Two small conservation areas define the main survivals of the town centre and a larger one covers Hanley Park, but not the cemetery. However, the gothic cemetery chapels and lodges are listed. The Caldon Canal, also a conservation area, is an under-used but important legacy of Hanley’s past. Here, a milepost at Lock No.37 is listed, but not the lock structure itself.

Wedgwood’s Etruria Hall, all that is left of the 1770s pottery, is now embedded in a modern hotel. Other fragments of industry survive, such as the bottle kilns and part of the façade at the site of the former Johnson Brothers pottery.

A number of significant areas of historical housing still exist with associated buildings such as schools and churches. They include all those mentioned above together with Joiner’s Square, the Werrington Road triangle and the Lowther Street area.

**Issues.** The City Centre South Area of Major Intervention, which spans the south side of Hanley, was the subject of an intensive characterisation in the Urban Core Study of Historical Significance. The conclusions of that survey have been brought forward into this assessment.

There is scope for including more of the town centre in the Hanley Conservation Area. There are also areas to the north and west of the town that would benefit from closer examination, such as Northwood and the Lowther Street area.
5. **Kidsgrove**  
Maps 2, 3 & 5

**Development.** Situated on the edge of the Lyme Forest, Kidsgrove was a centre for coalmining from the early 18th century. Industrial development accelerated when land was acquired by Thomas Kinnersley. He and his son, Thomas Junior, built large houses on either side of the valley – Whitehall and Clough Hall.

Coal production was boosted with the opening in 1777 of the Trent and Mersey Canal. Kidsgrove became a canal town providing ‘leggers’ to assist the passage of boats through the narrow Harefield Tunnels. The original tunnel by Brindley was augmented by Telford’s second tunnel in 1824. The town is also at the junction with the Macclesfield Canal, which is effected by the impressive Pool Lock Aqueduct.

In 1848, a further Harecastle Tunnel was provided for the railway, but this was by-passed in the 1960s when the line was electrified.

St Thomas’, the blue brick church in the Avenue, is said to have been designed by Mrs Kinnersley in 1837. The St John Evangelist Roman Catholic Church was added in 1891 at about the same time as the central Methodist Church.

In Liverpool Road, the Town Hall and Victoria Hall of 1898 are flamboyantly typical of turn-of-the-century public buildings. At this time, Clough Hall became a popular visitor destination styled ‘The paradise of the Potteries’.

The immediate vicinity of the town centre has good examples of late-19th century terraced housing.
Survival. The public buildings and central terraces of Kidsgrove form an identifiable historic nucleus. There are also minor survivals of village centres nearby at Talke and Harriseahead. The latter includes the impressive Thursfield School and the appropriately plain Wesleyan Chapel of 1801.

![Thursfield School.](image)

Issues. Kidsgrove has been largely overwhelmed by the mid- and late-20th century housing of Dove Bank, and White Hill to the north east and at Talke to the south west.

The Town Hall, an adjacent terrace and the school opposite are currently a conservation area and it is possible that the Avenue could be added to this, perhaps linking to the canal.

The Butt Lane area, to the west of Kidsgrove would also benefit from further inspection. This was the birth place of Reginald Mitchell, designer of the Spitfire aircraft.

6. Longton

Development. For many years, Longton was two settlements: Longton to the west, and Lane End to the east being the end of the lane leading from Meir. The two were not formally united until 1848.

Although the area was rich in sources of high quality coal and clay, development was limited by the Levesons, who had acquired the Trentham Priory lands, in order to protect their family seat. However, Sir John Edensor who bought Longton Manor in 1773 felt less constrained.

The impetus for Longton also came from its location on the former Roman road at the junction with the road to Stone, which were
turnpiked in 1759 and 1771 respectively. These improvements helped to overcome the isolation from the canal network.

Times Square, at the centre of the town, was first laid out in 1789 as a market with a succession of buildings culminating in the imposing Town Hall of 1863 with the decidedly eccentric Covered Market building behind. The north side of the square was compromised by the high level railway line to Uttoxeter and Derby, which severed it from the Crown Hotel.

Potteries developed along the Uttoxeter Road and the parallel Sutherland Road, notably the Gladstone, Aynsley and Sydney works, the former now a museum. Flint-grinding mills were also significant, while the collieries, iron works and tileries were outside the town to the west and northeast.

Industry was served by extensive housing developments to the south at Normacot and Dresden. Several churches were built for this expanding population, notably St James, a large Commissioners’ church of 1834 on Uttoxeter Road, and the Church of the Resurrection on Belgrave Road designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1853.

Adult education was provided first by a short-lived Mechanics Institute and then, from 1847, by the Athenaeum in Caroline Street. There was much debate about a permanent library which eventually led to the construction of the Sutherland Institute and Library in the Strand. The red brick building opened in 1897 has a later terracotta frieze illustrating the pottery industry.

Dresden was largely complete by 1900, providing a mix of terraces and larger houses. The cemetery, with its unusual black-and-white chapels, was opened in 1878 and Queen’s Park, laid out by John
Aynsley on land provided by the Duke of Sutherland, opened in 1887. This was the first public park in the area.

Despite the exhaustion of local coal and iron resources, there was clearly a revival of fortunes in the 1930s evident in several buildings in the centre. In 1965, the Bennett Precinct opened. This new shopping centre was described by Pevsner as architecturally the best in the Potteries.

To the east of Normacot, Meir was a rural village until it, too, developed a few terraces to either side of Weston Road in the late 19th century. To the north, Wood Farm became a brickworks and Woodville Terrace was built in the 1860s to house its workers. Then, in the 1920s, large council housing estates were laid out between Meir and Woodville to house families displaced by slum clearance particularly in Longton. By 1938, the estates had extended further north and Joules Brewery had rebuilt the Kings Arms at the Meir roundabout in a distinctive red brick style with tall banded chimney stacks.

Suburbs developed to the south, taking advantage of open countryside. Arts and Crafts influences can be seen, particularly in houses on Upper Belgrave Road and Lightwood Road.

Survival. The Town Hall and Market still exist with important ranges of commercial buildings in the Strand and Market Street. Together they provide a definite sense of a town centre. Further concentrations of commercial and industrial buildings survive on Uttoxeter Road and Sutherland Road. The St James area and the Gladstone Pottery are conservation areas and the Aynsley Works are listed.

Significant areas of 19th century housing survive on Anchor Road to the north and Trentham Road to the south. The latter includes the cemetery and the Sutherland Institute. There are further small areas on Belgrave Road and Lightwood Road. The villas of
Ricardo Street and other houses to the north of Queen’s Park are included in the park’s conservation area. Nearby, at the junction of Trentham Road and Cobden Street, there are two white rendered modernist houses. Dating from probably the 1920s, these are a rarity in North Staffordshire.

On Longton Hall Road, there are two survivals from the pre-industrial era. First, a 17th century timber framed house and then the lodge and gatepiers to Longton Hall. The Hall itself was demolished to make way for mid-20th century housing.

At Meir, there are mid-19th century terraces and the 1935 King’s Arms. The 1920s public housing is distinguished by its generous spatial standards, green spaces and trees.

Meir: The earlier development of the Woodville Estate has a distinctly arcadian character.

Issues. Longton suffered in the 19th century from the severance of the railway and again in recent years from the improved A50, which has cut off Dresden and Normacot from the town. However, the town centre retains sufficient interest for more detailed assessment.

A review of pottery buildings is overdue. The existing designations at the Aynsley and Gladstone works should at least be complemented by the Sydney Works in Sutherland Road and the Phoenix Works in King Street.

Housing areas with conservation area potential include the west side of Anchor Road and Trentham Road from the A50 roundabout southwards including the cemetery.
7. Newcastle-under-Lyme
Maps 12 & 11

Development. The new castle was built in the 12\textsuperscript{th} century although virtually nothing of it survives. It did, however, establish the town as an early local centre in preference to the Roman settlement at Chesterton. The Blackfriars established a religious house at the town in 1277, but that too is no longer evident.

Newcastle-under-Lyme has been a market town since 1235 and this gives it the wide High Street, with its central Guildhall (1713), and Ironmarket. St Giles’ Church also dates from the 13\textsuperscript{th} century although much of it was restored by Sir George Gilbert Scott in the 1870s.

The Guildhall (1713) is still the centre of the market.

The town clearly enjoyed a Georgian prosperity, but more was to come with industrial development in the 19\textsuperscript{th} and 20\textsuperscript{th} centuries. Coal and iron were exploited to the west, at Knutton and Silverdale, by the Sneyd family of Keele Hall. Newcastle-under-Lyme was less of a pottery town than the ‘six towns’. It also favoured textile manufacture and, notably, hat-making.

While Newcastle-under-Lyme expanded with terraces to house an increasing workforce, it is exceptional among the towns of the conurbation for its middle class suburbs with large detached villas set in generous grounds. This is perhaps a reflection of its longer evolution. As a consequence, the town has a greener landscape and a very different character.

Survival. The town centre has much of its Georgian feel with the Guildhall and several townhouses although successive generations have left their mark including the spirited Lancaster Buildings, which replaced an 18\textsuperscript{th} century coaching inn in the 1930s.
The centre and the Brampton suburb to the north are included in a conservation area as is the Mount Pleasant area with St Paul's Church (1905).

Housing in Newcastle is more mixed than in most of the conurbation. Formal terraces co-exist with suburban villas.

There are important housing areas to the south on London Road, including the eccentric blue brick Catholic Holy Trinity Church, and to the north in the area of Enderley Street and Cherry Orchard.

At Knutton, there are a few short terraces and a good school with integral schoolhouse close to St Mary’s Church (1874).

Silverdale has a small conservation area of two later terraces and St Luke’s Church (1853). There are also 18th century houses in High Street and consistent 19th century terraces in Church Street.

Issues. There is a case for looking more closely at the housing to north and south of the centre and at the possibility of extending the Brampton conservation area further east.

At Silverdale, the existing conservation area is eccentric in the context of further historical interest in Church Street and High Street.
8. **Stoke-on-Trent**  
Maps 13 & 16

Development. The Commissioners’ church of St Peter was a replacement in 1830 for its 13th century predecessor. Stoke-on-Trent had for long been the focus of a large parish that encompassed Newcastle-under-Lyme, Burslem and Fenton. Nonetheless, Stoke remained a small village until the 18th century.

Thomas Minton moved to Stoke-on-Trent in 1789 and development of potteries and associated works was rapid thereafter. Terraced housing followed.

In 1803, Josiah Spode built The Mount (now a school) and by 1834 work had begun on the Town Hall. This was the grandest of the many town halls in the region and it was not completed until 1850. Indeed, the King’s Hall to the rear was not added until the federation in 1911.

Stoke was served by the Trent and Mersey Canal from 1777 and the North Staffordshire Railway from the 1840s. The Station and the North Stafford Hotel were built from 1847-49 forming what Pevsner calls *‘the finest piece of Victorian axial planning in the county’*.

![Stoke-on-Trent railway station.](image)

In 1857, Charles Hansom built the Catholic Convent of Our Lady of the Angels to the north west of Stoke. Further to the west is Hartshill where Sir George Gilbert Scott built Holy Trinity Church in 1842 for Herbert Minton. However, the early settlement was Penkhull to the west. This was a hilltop village, which may have been an Ancient British settlement. By the 1830s its elevated position was valued and low density suburbs developed. These include The Villas, a short cul-de-sac of Italianate houses typical of their 1840s date.
Between Penkhull and Hartshill, the North Staffordshire Infirmary began as the workhouse in 1832. This replaced the Penkhull Workhouse of 1735. Among the surviving buildings are the 15-bay Parish Hospital and School House of 1842 and the Chapel of 1866. At its peak, the Infirmary could house 800 people.

In London Road, the School of Science and Art (1860) and the adjacent Library (1878) provide the most flamboyant demonstration of brick and terracotta in the area.

The 20th century has seen the development of the Civic Centre, but a deterioration of the town centre so that it lacks any real focus.

Stoke-on-Trent town centre. The Ordnance Survey plan of 1898 shows the Spode Works at the heart of the town and its close relationship with commercial, residential and civic uses. St Peter’s Church and the Town Hall are to the south east, while the railway station to the north east has since been severed from the centre by the A500 trunk road.

Survival. Elements of the 13th century church were re-erected in St Peter’s churchyard in 1887. The Town Hall, the station with the North Stafford Hotel, the Art School and the Library all survive. In the town, there are commercial buildings up to the 1930s interwoven with potteries.

The Minton works on London Road were demolished some years ago and the extensive Spode works remain as the only major town centre pottery to survive.

The convent on Hartshill Road is a major landmark as is the spire of Holy Trinity Church. South of these, there is a significant area of housing that curves around the east side of The Mount while, to the west is Stoke Cemetery with its listed chapels.
Penkhull still retains something of a village character, but with areas of late 19th century low density housing to the south, including also The Villas. These are interspersed with terraces leading off the London Road that develop a strong character from the hillside location.

Issues. While the Minton Hollins tileworks are listed, there are other important pottery buildings in the town centre – Spode, Carlton – that are worthy of review. An assessment of the commercial buildings in the main central streets would also help to establish urban design guidance that would strengthen the identity of Stoke-on-Trent. Much of this is currently being addressed by a proposed extension of the town centre conservation area.

Hartshill has a small conservation area that would gain from the inclusion of adjacent terraces. Similarly, there is scope for designating the larger houses south of Penkhull.

Housing that would benefit from more-detailed consideration includes that to the south of Hartshill and east of The Mount, and the terraces off London Road.

9. Tunstall

Map 6

Development. Tunstall conforms to the familiar Potteries norm. It was a village until the 18th century despite a history of small-scale coalmining and pottery from the 14th century. It was then transformed by industrialisation made possible by the Trent and Mersey Canal. By 1818 there were 18 potteries and the population increased fivefold in the first half of the 19th century.

A Wesleyan Chapel opened in 1788 but, as Tunstall came within the parish of Wolstanton, there was no Anglican church until the
Church Building Commissioners funded the building of Christ Church in 1830. This explains its location on High Street well outside the town centre but close to later housing.

Civic buildings came later: the Town Hall (1885) and the Queen Victoria Jubilee Building (1889-98) were both designed by A R Wood. The latter included swimming baths and a fire station.

Victoria Park was laid out between 1897-1908 on reclaimed mining land between the Potteries Loop Line and a mineral railway. A distinctive clock tower was added in 1907. More distinctive too was the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, built in 1925 and roofed with three copper domes, which can be seen from a considerable distance to the south.

Housing was concentrated to the west of the town, notably in terraces arranged around the Jubilee Gardens and to the north in the Newfield area where there is also a cemetery.
There are further significant terraces at Goldenhill to the north, near St John’s Church (1841), and at Fegg Hayes to the north east. The latter, built to serve the Chatterley Whitfield Colliery, includes terraces with front gardens that address a pedestrian way rather than a street. This plan is possibly unique within the conurbation.

**Survival.** Tunstall has been affected by road planning and large-scale retail developments, but the High Street and Market Place are still defined by historical public and commercial buildings. Nearby, the Forster Street School is an unusually urban survival. However, surprisingly, there is relatively little evidence of a thriving industrial past.

Good housing areas survive, as explained above, as do the churches. The park is a particularly important asset.

The flamboyant Victoria Inn and an unusual five-storey factory are among the many historic buildings that survive in Tunstall.

**Issues.** Both of the conservation areas in the town centre are capable of extension to make more sense of the commercial core and the Jubilee housing respectively.

Housing off the High Street, north of Christ Church, and at Fegg Hayes would also repay further study.
Appendix 3.  Regeneration strategies

- Burslem Masterplan and Urban Design Action Plan
- Housing Market Renewal Strategy
- North Staffordshire Core Spatial Strategy
- North Staffordshire Housing Market Assessment
- North Staffordshire Regeneration ZIP
- RENEW North Staffordshire Scheme update
- West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy
Appendix 4. Glossary

Bootscrapers Cast-iron blade set in wall by front door for scraping mud from footwear. Bootscrapers are a useful indicator of earlier housing – ie before the improvement of street surfaces in the late 19th century

Bow window Curved bay window. See Window - Bay

Bracketed eaves Regularly spaced brick or stone detail projecting from the top of a wall to support the guttering

Brickwork:

Bonds Pattern of long (Stretchers) and short (Headers) bricks that form the face of a wall:

- **English Bond** has alternate courses of headers and stretchers
- **Flemish Bond** has alternate stretchers and headers in each course
- **Stretcher Bond** is made entirely from stretchers. Stretcher Bond is an indicator of cavity wall construction not generally found in North Staffordshire before c.1900.

Dentil Series of square blocks used in classical cornices. In brickwork, the effect is produced by projecting alternate headers

Offsets Course of bricks laid diagonally so that one corner projects. Used as a decorative device in cornices and storey-bands

Storey band Decorative courses of brick to emphasise horizontal division of buildings

Canted Angled, usually on the vertical axis, to produce a splay – eg on the sides of a bay window. See Window - Bay

Casement See Windows – casement

Cills Base of a window opening, usually projecting from the face of the wall so that rainwater drips clear. Usually made of stone, but sometimes brick or stucco

Classical Detailing derived from Greek and Roman architecture. See also Neo-classical and Orders

Conservation area An area of special architectural or historic interest designated by the local planning authority. The local
authority can supply details of the areas that have been designated

- **Corinthian** *Classical style* – See *Orders*
- **Cornice** Moulded ledge projecting along the top of a building
- **Dentil** See *Brickwork – dentil*
- **Diocletian window** See *Windows – Diocletian*
- **Doorcase** Decorative surround to an entrance
- **Doorhead** Decorative detail above an entrance
- **Doric** *Classical style* – See *Orders*
- **Double-fronted** House front with windows to either side of the entrance
- **Drip mould** Moulding over a door or window opening that projects from the face of a wall so that rainwater drips clear.
- **Eaves** Overhanging edge of a roof
- **Edwardian** Stylistic period associated with the reign of King Edward VII (1901-1910). The Edwardian period follows the *Victorian*, although stylistically, there is some overlap. The style is also regarded as persisting until the end of the First World War in 1918
- **Extensive survey** Broad overview of the historical significance of an area that identifies where more detailed assessment may be useful – See also *Intensive survey*
- **Fanlight** Window above a door and within the door surround
- **Fascia** Plain horizontal band used in classical mouldings. In a shopfront, it is the flat area above the window usually used for signwriting
- **Flemish bond** See *Brickwork – bonds*
- **Impost** Base, or springing point, of an arch. Often defined by a moulding
- **Incised decoration** Design cut into a flat surface
- **Intensive survey** Detailed assessment of the historical significance of an area. Usually applied to areas identified in an *Extensive survey*
Ionic  
*Classical style – See Orders*

Lintel  
Horizontal beam over a door or window opening. Usually formed by a single stone

Listed building  
A building of special architectural or historic interest identified, or ‘listed’, by central government. Listed buildings are protected in law. The local authority can advise further on the implications of listing

Mullion  
Vertical division between the lights of a window

Neo-classical  
Architectural style associated with the classical revival of the early 19th century

Offset brick course  
See *Brickwork – offsets*

Orders  
Styles of *classical* architecture based on a structural system of columns and beams. In very broad terms, the orders are: Doric (plain), Ionic (columns surmounted by *volutés*), Corinthian (columns surmounted by foliage derived from the acanthus leaf)

Oriel  
Bay window to upper floor. See *Window - Bay*

Pent roof  
Lean-to roof of a subsidiary structure, such as a *bay window* or porch

Pilaster  
Representation of a *classical* column in flat relief against a wall

Quoins  
Alternating long and short stones at the angle of a building. Sometimes formed with blocks of brickwork

Registered park  
Site included on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens

RENEW  
The Pathfinder organisation formed to deliver the government’s objectives for housing market renewal in North Staffordshire

Sash  
See *Windows – sash*

Setts  
Blocks of sandstone or granite used for street surfaces and drains

Shopfront  
The shop window and its surround. Historically, the window and doorway are framed by *pilasters* to either side supporting a *fascia* across the top
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spandrel</td>
<td>Roughly triangular space between an arch and its containing rectangle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spardash rendering</td>
<td>Rough external wall coating made of cement mortar with angular stone chippings, like pebbledash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stretcher bond</td>
<td>See <em>Brickwork – bonds</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storey band</td>
<td>See <em>Brickwork – storey band</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stucco</td>
<td>Lime plasterwork used in imitation of stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transom</td>
<td>Horizontal division between the lights of a window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuscan</td>
<td>One of the <em>orders</em>, or formalised versions, of <em>classical</em> design. The Tuscan order is deliberately plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venetian window</td>
<td>See <em>Windows – Venetian</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victorian</td>
<td>Stylistic period associated with the reign of Queen Victoria 1837 – 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volute</td>
<td>Spiral scroll, said to derive from a ram’s horn. Used to decorate the head of an <em>Ionic</em> column in <em>classical</em> design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay</td>
<td>Glazed projection from the face of a wall. If splayed, it may be called a canted bay. If curved it may be called a bow window. If restricted to an upper floor, it may be called and oriel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casement</td>
<td>Window hinged on one side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocletian</td>
<td>Semi-circular window with two mullions. Named after their original use in the Baths of Diocles in Rome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sash</td>
<td>Sliding frame, as in vertically sliding window. Term usually applied to the whole window structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venetian</td>
<td>Three-part window: the central opening arched and flanked by lower and narrower openings. Venetian windows are found in large houses and above the entrance of some of the more architecturally distinguished manufactories</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Part 2: The survey maps

1. The extensive survey was undertaken using individual maps for each kilometre grid square at approximately 1:2,500. The survey information was then rationalised for plotting onto 20 pages each covering 12 grid squares. The 20 pages are reproduced below at A4 size in the printed version, but the CD format allows for printing at A3.

2. Although the base map has sufficient clarity to identify individual sites and buildings, it must be noted that the extensive nature of the survey is intentionally rapid and broad-brush. It is entirely possible, therefore, that the significance of a single building in isolation may not register if it is set within an area of less significance.

3. The report does, however, identify several areas where evident historical significance should be investigated in greater detail. This will be achieved through the use of intensive surveys, which will record information on a building-by-building basis.

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