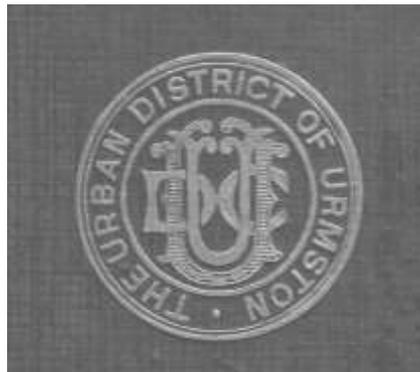


# *The Urmston Urban District.*



*Compiled* by *David Smith*

## A look back at the past

**Collated** as a reference for Urmston and District, this work is a guide only.

The Urban District referred to encompasses **Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme**. It should be noted that this information is not for any commercial use. Any named persons and or establishments are only entered when of value and do not carry any endorsement.

**Acknowledgements go out to the libraries of Trafford, local historians, photographers, along with friends, and family.**

### Preface

While every care has been taken for accuracy, any errors and omissions are unintentional. Many indications are that words are misspelt, especially where reference is made to property names.

This not the case but how they were introduced originally in documentation of the past. Any **copyright issues** are to be thought of as being forgivable due to the educational value with no disregard or disrespect intended.

Many places are without detail, it is hoped that one day more will be traced by other students of the past who will continue this project with versions of their own.

The information herein has been gathered to enlighten readers about the district from its earliest times through to today. **As a record it can never be finished**, time does not allow anything to stand for long. The subject matter is none specific covering all and anything that might be of interest to readers with enquiring minds and carry thoughts about the district they live in or used to be a part of. The point is to enjoy the town, its past, and provoke memories for young and old.

### Cover: Original Logo for the District

The earliest of times recorded show basic Celtic origins where two words reflect the era the words were **Bollin and Mersey**. It was only from the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centurys that development took place after the infuence of the Danish invasions. Davyhulme was described as a "lonely place on high ground" and lands were often **Holmes**. The Danes referred to farms as "Tuns" giving credibility to some theories of our origins. It took the Medieval era to introduce the many halls such as Davyhulme, Urmston, Newcroft, Lostock, and Wittlewick. The Hamlets, villages, and towns grew out from these especially if located near a church.

Any followers of the namings will understand that there are several differences of opinion regarding this.

## A

- **Abbotsfield Close.** Flixton

The houses of the Close are numbered as 1-10 with no further detail. The Close is nowhere near anything "Abbotsfield" being off Woodbridge Road at Woodsend.

- **Abbotsfield Park.** (Public)

Because of its location, on Chassen Road, it is also known as **Chassen Park**. This was once farmland as Abbots Pit Fields and home to Rose Lea until c.1935, accounted for here were other Shawtown fields named as Moss and Further Moss which were date around 1850. Its first amenity was the tennis court several years before a bowling green was installed. The courts were accompanied by a Pavilion to the side of Lime Avenue. Laid out for several soccer fields during the fifties this practice has been halted. For many years the park hosted the Urmston Agricultural Show. The Flixton Veterans Association. (Bowling) The Association was officially opened in 1948 with Councillors Wroe, Shaw, and Carnall, in attendance. A Club House was built in 1965 by Vic Hallam Ltd. They had a new pavilion in the park for 1972.



The earliest calling was as Flixton Recreational Ground, this was rechristened in 1945 to Abbotsfield Park as a commemoration to the doctors, nurses and staff at the Hospital.

There is a specific reason that the bowling green surface was sunken into the ground. During the war the area was dug out to fill sandbags leaving what became a natural hollow. Barrage Balloons were also a presence here covering the open land and the Abbotsfield hospital. The turf used for this green was reclaimed from the original green based at the Flixton Club on Flixton Road. This was the second green for the park the first was sold to the Conservative Club adjoining the Abbotsfield Premises.



For the present it includes a Model Railway Club and is the traditional site for the Guy Fawkes bonfire night. An upgrade to the children's play area is the latest venture supported by a Friends Group called the Parkies. Council minutes of the 1930's referred to this park as Flixton Park never Abbotsfield or Chassen.

#### May Day Steam. Abbotsfield Park



As a group the Urmston and District Model Engineering Society in association with the Lancashire Traction Engine Club put on a show to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> May each year. The displays of old traction engines, cars, organs, and machines of yesteryear were brought together for the amusement of all. 2011 would have marked 30 years of this presentation but it has reached the end. A series of events have forced the closure, economics, volunteers, local authority and taxes, all understandably putting pressure on a day that will be sorely missed.

- **Abbots Lane.** Flixton

The origin of the Lane is now believed to have its grounding as connected to land in Shawtown owned by Robert Abbot in 1630 and passed to Henry Abbot in 1674. This was then purchased by Henry Smith about 1717. By 1755 Woods became the known family here. In early 1800 Abbots became Penny Lane that fell to be called Chassen Road. It gave forth the origin for the park there and its surrounds to be so called. Abbotsfield and Abbotsford are derived from this. In the original format this was the main road through Shawtown, and a toll was charged for its use. As previously noted under Abbotsfield, the park origins go back to Abbots Pit Field.



- **Abingdon Road.** Davyhulme

There are 64 homes down Abingdon with no commercial units. The majority of these were built around 1935. They were numbered as 1-66 but for reason unknown missing were 60 and 62. Later directories dropped the count to 61 homes showing some correction. Abingdon is a town south of Oxford.

- **Abodes.**

Included with this information are many local houses or home names. Few had a number; each abode being listed by a name only.

It is hoped that over time more can be found to be of interest regarding these old buildings. Street numbers shown are as they **used to be**, in many cases they have been reassigned for postal purposes. Much has been traced through 'Sales' and 'To Let' adverts but in general it is only descriptive of the home itself or records an early date for its establishment. Any further historical value still requires searching. It should be understood that for the beginning years there was no real distinction between a cottage, a house, or a terraced home, most were called by whatever the owner felt like.



Many homes after WW2 were called Sunshine Homes. This was a buzz word only in selling. Usually it was a house with windows front and rear to the living room allowing light directly through the house. As a guide to the past Flixton and Urmston, combined, had 376 homes accounted for in the 1841 census.

Land transactions indicate cottages, farms, and homes were being negotiated in 1700 and before. Dates shown in this document are noted to be **the earliest found** and, in many cases, **not the date of origin**. Places like Woods Cottage and Lark Rise have confirmed date stones showing the 1600's. Shawtown information has been traced to the 1550's.

### Auction Houses.



Searching local advertisements show that the local hostelrys were utilised as Auction Houses during the 1800's. In particular were the Nags Head, Church Inn, and the Lord Nelson, with the Red Lion to a lesser extent. These establishments show prominence when it came to selling land, farms, and even cattle by auction. For the 1940's The Victoria Hotel became the center for real estate auctions in the district.

### Big and small. Urmston

There was a time when Woolworths, Ridings, or the Electric Showrooms would have vied for classification as the largest shop in town but progress dictates that this is redundant as supermarkets abound and **Sainsbury** at Eden Square possibly takes the lead.



The smallest shop is much simpler as they do not come any smaller than this place on Flixton Road. This shop has been operating for so many years it seems unlikely that any other active business can match its record. The corner door entry has been that way at least since the war but an actual date has not been reached for a beginning as the block dates from c.1885. Newspapers to eyebrows it has accommodated many business ventures.



A locksmith is open slightly down Flixton Road which is as small but as an extension of another building.

### Boundary.

The subject of Urmston's boundaries arises from time to time. There is no real answer to the question as it all depends on the year that is requested. Survey maps show different locations as the years moved on, albeit small changes. For many years the River Irwell marked a boundary, but this was abolished after the canal was built thus, for example, some early versions included large parts of Irlam around the area of the ferry. By the time the canal was done Irlam had gained 114 acres from Flixton.



**Roughly**, Mayfair Avenue divides Urmston from Flixton and Moorside Road splits Flixton from Davyhulme. The line at Stretford was drawn slightly after Firwood Avenue. There used to be a phone booth marking that point, now gone. Political boundaries have also changed many times.

### Builders.



To find who built the homes around Urmston is an almost impossible task. Before 1850 it is anyone's guess with stonemasons and trades people finding work wherever it came. After this period the Spark and Sons yard became prominent with Mitchell & Spittall also in the business. A date of 1875 had Alltree & Jones advertising for bricklayers in Urmston. Borthwick and Wright built in central Urmston but one absconded and the other went broke in 1895. Few deeds show any names until around 1930 when it became a more frequent practice.

Today Bainbridge, Maunders, Wimpy, Hosker, Modern Villas, Jones, Rough Cast, Wild Estates, Toft, Hill, Locke, Bold Bros, Persimmon, McFarlane, Shawcross, Kerr and Co, with many more, are recorded and known for their craft. A point of interest was that many classic homes were faced to the road with fancy or quality brickwork while the remaining structures were completed with a stock brick out of sight. Rendering has altered the face of many homes for the current market.

### Date Stones.



For the whole district one important factor aids research and that is where date stones have been included in the construction. Some show times of 1600 to 1800 giving hints too with initials of either the builder or its occupant. For one enterprising house this has been continued along Woodsend Road where a stone is prominently displayed showing **2003** and some initialling. These stones cannot be rated as an accurate source as instances show they were often installed after a home was built or rebuilt. The lettering was from a surname, builders name, or to indicate a home name. These too could be etched in reverse order form creating more difficulty in proof of what they were to mean.

### Housing for Urmston.

Census records show that in **1921** there were 2,000 houses for the area. By **1961** this figure was 12,750. It was estimated that in **1966** the new total had reached 15,000.

### Post War Homes.



In November 1953 the 1,000<sup>th</sup> dwelling built after the war was handed over to the occupants with full ceremony. The then Minister of Housing, Ernest Marples MP, attended with Councillor Mrs. Royle-Higginson representing local authority. The location of this home has not been disclosed however it is thought to have been included in the ongoing Woodsend Estate.



Marples MP

## Pre-fabs. Davyhulme



Broadway

World War 2 neared its end and there was a shortage of housing. (1940-44) Parallel to Lostock Road and on the Kingsway Park a series of prefabricated houses were built. This was to be a "temporary" measure fulfilling a need for the time with only 100 ordered. After 50 years, this temporary measure was replaced with modern homes, today making up Dover Park. (1990). There was a similar situation on Broadway, where prefabs had been erected in 1945 and were still in use c.1985.



Kingsway

The tender had included two bedrooms, a living room, bathroom, and a kitchen. A single tool shed came with the deal.

## Real Estate.

The biggest local name in this game for the 1800's was Charles Royle. His reputation was beyond reproach when it came to the handling of Farms and Estates nearly everyone used his talents. With not that many houses around in 1890-1900 it was no wonder that Thomas Ogden Real Estate Office on Station Road was also the outlet for selling insurance. Further to this he was Secretary for the Liberal Club in the Gladstone Building for many years.

Three examples for property pricing are, a two up and two down semi-detached on the Shaw Hall Estate in 1932 cost £475 and the huge mansion called the Urmston Lodge was sold for £3,790 in 1958. The UUDC bought Flixton House and all the grounds of the Worthington Wright Estate for under £70,000 in 1935.



The most prolific real estate building ever advertised on offer for the district was **Shaw Hall** it appeared in the press with regular monotony. This was followed by Wibbersley, there was no market for the large homes of that era, and both were eventually to become small estates with cluster housing.

When advertising a home, it was common practice to describe the building as practical as was possible for the 1800-1900 eras. Of concern would be the size, number of rooms, perhaps stabling would be important to the buyer. Later it was to be Gas lighting, local water supply against a Well. Location too was high on the list as there was little in the way of transport.

It was only after 1950 that the new added features were included because they were almost a novelty. Piped water for example is accepted today as would be a stove, and a kitchen sink but they were to be included when offering a home for sale. Some adverts included the fact that electricity had been installed during the period of 1940. The term of "*Newly beautified*" was frequently used around 1880.

For years an inside toilet became a necessity that had to be advertised, termed as a w/c (Water Closet) it was a luxury many didn't have. Some went as far as including a fixed bath as against one you would hang from a wall. (Tin Bath) Following the demise of horse transport stables fell by the wayside and on offer was the Motor House. Electricity, the telephone, nearest bus route all began to appear to enhance the chances of sale. Amenities today show central heating, air conditioning, and even burglar alarms as sales features.



- **Acrefield Avenue.** Urmston

This avenue has a start of c.1935 with 18 houses, listed as 1-19 number 18 was missing. It was common practice to have field names given by their size or shape in the farming time of Urmston. This one is located in the Newcroft area as a no through road.

- **Acregate Estate.** Penny Bridge Lane Flixton

The site for Acregate was cleared of standing cottages in 1966, today it is comprised of 14 homes only one is flats. Odd numbers only 1-27. This was the site of the Flixton Bath Cottages and after the war the Frank Roles Dairy. The Bird i'th Hand is a neighbour as are the Acregate Cottages.

- **Addison Road.** Urmston 1900



Three Villas entered for this period, Dunheved, Edgcombe, and Endsleigh. The three are still recorded as such into 1911. Accounted for in 2010 there were 13 houses that include the same original villas.

The Villas gave forth some names for 1938 in Number 2 were Misses Patience and Kitty Goody; No.4 had Thomas Emmett, No.8 John Jones, and last was John Faylor at number 10.

**Dunheved Villas.** Addison Road

The occupants of this semi-detached villa for 1901 were John S. Spurr and Harry Morton. This was the first of the three villas set on the **north** side of the road.



**Edgcombe Villas.** Addison Road

A pair of semidetached located in the center of three villas along the **north** side of the road. In 1901 William George Grisdale and George Morton were the homeowners.

**Endsleigh Villas.** Addison Road

The end home of three in a row on the **north** side of the road in 1901, the villa was home to George Frederick Walkden and William Burrow.



- **Albany Court.** Off Moorside Road Urmston

1-47 occupied premises the detail available is that the complex was opened by Battle of Britain "Ace" Johnny Johnson in 1967. A link for its name is based on the Duke of Albany.

- **Albert Avenue.** Urmston

This housing from 1870-1875 gave home to the early Urmston families that settled in the area. First noted as **Albert Grove** it was a single sided road of homes 1-43 west. Terraced on both sides of the avenue by 1901, the 19 units **west** and 15 on the **east** side all un-named. The avenue was one of two entrances leading the Jewish cemetery. An update for 2010 it had an added number of homes which totalled 40. Probably named for Prince Albert the Queens Consort, Albert Avenue in Flixton was changed to Bromley.

**Lonsdale.** Albert Grove (Avenue)

A four-bedroomed semidetached home only traced as of 1913 but without detail.

- **Alderley Road.** Flixton 1900

No names for the terraces on both sides of the road, 16 units **west** and 15 on the **east** side. Six of the semidetached homes went on offer by auction in 1906 they were a portion of the Bennett families' holdings from Calder Bank Farm who had purchased the plots from a **Miss. Alderley** in 1894. Expanding by 1911 **west** numbered as 1-51 and **east** 2-56. Completed around 1920, there were 56 houses in 2010.



Two shops, one each side of Alderley, are recorded for the 1900's. The first is shown as of 1903 with Whitefield and Pridd operating as a chemist. George Marsden was engaged as manager and later Edward Shuttleworth became Chemist in 1938. The second came as Samuel Woolly in 1908 he worked as a grocery business for the area. By 1919 the grocer shared with John Henry Percy who sold fish. Reece a baker, and Platt a greengrocer, came next and into the 1939-40 age. Lastly for 1986 H. Boyd carried a grocery and provision store here. Both have been re-instated to normal dwellings and both could be addressed as **Flixton Road**.

- **Aldermere Crescent.** Flixton

The Crescent was established in 1935 and has 54 homes.

- **Allen Road.** Urmston (Stretford Road)

There was one building there in 1903 Hope Cottage which advanced to 14 by 1909. On the **west** side were 6 homes while **east** the two separated from the rest included Hope Cottage. Thereafter Elsinore Terrace and the end home called Iydene completed the road.



The street register in 1911 switched Iydene to the **west** side but nothing else had changed. Fairholme was a named home found for 1940. The land at No.21 became available in 1972 for building on. 1928 showed no change with only Hope Cottage in name. Differing for 1938 the first two **west** side houses were Lyngarth and Lynwood. Burnside came in on the **east** side as neighbour to Hope Cottage which was followed by The Homestead at Elsinor Terrace. This road comprised of 27 properties at the time of 2010.

**Bakery.** 6 Allen Road

This shop faced house was once the bakery connected to its back neighbour of Chasewood on Gilpin Road. It was established by the owner Wyllie, around 1910. For that time access would have been via Gilpin. Edward Dunbar was baker for 1928. Since that time, it has been home to a variety of business baring no resemblance to its origins. There is a connection to the Gilpin bakery of Charles Williamson.

**Burnside.** 4 Allen Road

Alex Thomas Whyte could be found here in 1938. The house on the east was semidetached along with Fairholme.

**Elsinor Terrace.** Allen Road

The terrace of five homes could be found on the **east** end of the road in 1911. This road was once a cul-de-sac at this time and photographs show the terrace still there today as it continues into Rock Road. Early documents had it numbered as 1-5 but as it is known they should be even numbered and this has changed for today, 20-28.

**Fairholme.** 2 Allen Road

Advanced for sale as of 1952 this three-bed semi was standard as any in its offerings. Not known until 1938 when it appeared in directories for the first time. This east side pairing had William Spiby in Fairholme which was paired to Burnside. These semidetached houses lead off all buildings on the east side for today.

**Hope Cottage.** 8 Allen Road

The cottage in the 1898 directory was to be the first and only building in the road on the **east** side it housed Edward Bridge for this year. Miss Ellen Brown took her place here during 1938-39. The cottage has doubled in size from its early beginnings; it presents itself as the small white-faced portion of the current building. Home to the Fry family for many years before they moved to Newcroft House

**Ivy Dene.** Allen Road

This home was one of several that used the house of Normanhurst as a postal guide to its location. The home sat towards the end of the **west** side and followed Elsinor. The owner for 1909 was Luke Norbury living on this, at that time, no thoroughfare. The home disappeared once Allen became a through road.

**Lyngarth.** 3 Allen Road

The resident for 1938 was Walter Butterworth who shared the semi with Lynwood.

**Lynn Dene.** 19 Allen Road

Norman Gooddy is named for 1938 in the west side home that partnered with number 21.

**Lynwood.** 5 Allen Road

1938 had Harold Denyer registered for this house mated with Lyngarth.

**Oak Dene.** 7 Allen Road

The dene shows as a semi connected to number 9, Thomas Copely in house for 1938.

**The Homestead.** Allen Road

William Fletcher, who was a plasterer, took this 'home' for his home in 1938. This house once featured as neighbour to Elsinor Terrace.

- **Alton Avenue.** Flixton

There are 10 homes numbered evenly 2-20. No further detail known. The calling is from medieval English, 'Old town'.

- **Ambleside Road.**

As a road it was established c. 1910-1915 with the first homes being built there. Prior to this time Ambleside was treated as an extension of Parsonage Road with all homes named and addressed as such. For real estate this road took off around 1937 when a builder called C. Jeffries offered a new estate called the Nico Fields this has blossomed into 76 homes and 3 flats were built c.2003.



**1928** had: Belvedere, Fairhaven, Claremont, Silverdale, Mollington, Lacona, Woodgarth, Lodore, Grasmere, Heycroft, The Nook, Fryston, Rathbone House, West View, Wyresdale, Chez Nous, Lansdowne, Bruck lay, Wyncot, Northleigh, Craigmere, Marleholme, Treeton House, Barton upon Irwell Council Office Flixton, Parish Council Office, Maxwell, Rydal, Inglewood, Fairholme, and Dunard. A public footpath from Irlam Road to Ambleside was to be stopped in 1934 for new road construction. As far back as 1892 George Bent and Samuel Reade were at loggerheads over lands which were to form Western Road.

**Ambleside Care Home.** 26 Ambleside Road.

This is newer accommodation for the elderly in Flixton. The word has Viking origins meaning 'Farm' or 'Pasture'.

**Ambleside House.** Parsonage and Western Roads.

Barton upon Irwell and Parish Offices

This became a story of its own known as Ambleside House.

Between Reade House and Parsonage Avenue was the Ambleside House. Parsonage was later to be claimed for Ambleside Road. George Prescott Bent was in residence there for many years from the 1880s and until he died in 1911 it was the only house on the **south** side. His son George Henry Bent took over the residence at this time.



A description in 1924 listed: Five bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, dressing room, bathroom, all mod cons. Outside was a garage, tennis lawn, stables and paddock, all situated on four acres of land that had an orchard. A current resident has added the facts of cellars and timber beams dating back to 1771 should be included, the beams probably brought in for a later re-construction as it is known that the date of origin is 1873. This particular acreage **north** of the railway line was called Ambleside as an entity.

The house has been involved in many changes of use since its inception. First as a residence up to 1925 followed by the Flixton Parish Council who eventually moved after the amalgamation into the Urban District 1933. The Lancashire Council took home there next and, besides using it for offices they opened a school for youths. This was under the name of the Lancashire Education Committee. The tale continues with a home for the elderly c.1990 until it has, for now, returned as a home once more. 2004

The Flixton Council was addressed as Barton upon Irwell Rural Urban District Council Offices Township of Flixton, Ambleside Road. For the time of 1928 the Clerk was Charles Faulkner, he gave this information to the enumerator collecting on behalf of the Slaters Directories. Fact shows that this was Ambleside House coupled to Western Road for its beginnings.

➤ **Flixton Council.** (12 members) Ambleside Road

The offices were at 26 Ambleside where they held their last meeting in 1933 as amalgamation with Urmston took place. Two leading characters of note serving on this council were Lt. Gen. Samuel Stott and Squire Samuel Worthington Wright. The longest recorded service was held by Samuel Heywood Esq. who was in seat from 1904 to 1933. The council's documentation is held at the Lancashire Records Office with regard to the minutes of meetings held. (1910-1933)

➤ **Lancashire Education Committee.** Area 33 Office. 26 Ambleside Road

Once the council moved out from this address due to amalgamation with Urmston in 1933, the committee moved in. At that time, you could talk to R. Whittaker B.A. who was left in charge. In 1948 council terminated the lease on this building.

Under the same address was the caretaker Mrs Helen Lawson and working there too was George Frederick Smith who was the Relieving Officer for Urmston, Flixton, Davyhulme, Irlam, Cadishead, and Barton.

A renaming has taken place it is now called **The Ark**. A few changes have been made along the way with the Education Committee adding a wing, the stables were removed, and the house extended at the rear. It has been made somewhat more practical inside, but the front facade remains for the future.

**Belvedere.** Ambleside Road

A 1928 listing had husband and wife operating from this home, Ernest Usherwood was a joiner and his wife, Elizabeth, a hairdresser. The house was noted as being the first building by position along the road.

**Bruck Lay.** Ambleside Road

Only a name associated with a home and no other detail for 1928 it was Percy Smith.

**Chez Nous.** Ambleside Road

French language may have been a strong point for Frederick Thomas Reece when he lived here in 1928. This has a meaning of 'Where we live.'

**Claremont.** Ambleside Road

This, as a 1928 version of Claremont, had Cyril Whittaker dwelling in the place.

**Craigmore.** Ambleside Road

The home of Walter Palmer in 1928 was called this.

**Dunard.** Ambleside Road

Feeling hard-done-by was Walter Wrigley during 1928 as he made home in the house.

**Fairhaven.** Ambleside Road

This house was occupied by George Scott in 1928 he was a Clerk of Works.

**Fairholme.** Ambleside Road

An Engineer called Gribber was comfortable here in this house during 1928.



1928 Fairholme

**Fryston.** Ambleside Road

A window cleaner of 1928 lived here at the corner of Devon Avenue his name was George Haynes.

**Grassmere.** Ambleside Road

To be correct this was the only home of this name that should be called Grassmere as it was the only house anywhere near being at the Grassmere corner of the avenue. Henry Chadderton, as owner for 1928, lived there.



**Heycroft.** Ambleside Road

Herbert Ravenscroft had reason to spell this home in this way when he lived here in 1928.

**Inglewood.** Ambleside Road

Moses Whittaker described himself as a Master Builder in 1928 as he lived in the built-up home.

**Lacona.** Ambleside Road

This house in 1928 had Charles Kirkman as resident.

**Lansdowne.** Ambleside Road

John Tynan, who was a farmer, occupied the home in 1909. Then by 1928 an accountant called John Baird, with a string of letters after the name, resided in the home.

**Lodore.** Ambleside Road

The home sat at the corner of Grasmere Road with 1928 resident James Dobson.

**Marleholme.** Ambleside Road

The relevant 1928 "holme" of Frederick Lambert whose occupation was not stated for the directory entry.

**Maxwell.** Ambleside Road

Living in the house of Maxwell for 1928 was William Edward Wilson.

**Mollington.** Ambleside Road

William Tunnicliff, a salesman, lived in this home for 1928. Mollington is the name of a Cheshire village.

**North Leigh.** Ambleside Road

1928 saw Harry Thompson as residing in the house he was a Tax Official according to the street entry for this period.

**Rathbone House.** Ambleside Road

In 1928 Mrs. Margaret Appleton called it home.

Rathbone House

**Rydal.** Ambleside Road

Arthur Shaw found home here in 1928.

**Silverdale.** Ambleside Road

This was the house where William Woollam made his home for 1928.

**The Ark.** 26 Ambleside Road

A new christening for this home, the original name has been established it was **Ambleside House**. A religious group practicing Maranatha have installed the biblical title for their community residence. It was home to the Flixton Council for many years followed by the Lancashire Education Committee. The access to the grounds would have been through what is now Reade Avenue following the Western Road pattern and address from days gone by. (See Ambleside House)

**The Nook.** Ambleside Road

The name of Nook seemed to be popular for the early years and for 1928 Sydney Cohen followed suit. His home was on the corner of Devon Road.

**Treeton House.** Ambleside Road

Leonard Mayer was at home here in 1928.

**West View.** Ambleside Road

A draughtsman called Frank Hayes had this view in 1928 as he lived on Ambleside.

**Woodgarth.** Ambleside Road

Lawrence Yates made this his home for 1928.

**Wyncot.** Ambleside Road

No detail for the 1928 house other than its resident of the time, Wilfred Grey

**Wyresdale.** Ambleside Road

A 'Collector of tax' lived in this home for 1928. His name was John Lewis.

- **Amersham Close.** Davyhulme

The Close has its origins from 1935 and has 56 properties to its name. The estate is joined by Bexley Close. In Saxon days it would have been called Agmondesham, a Manor, which has been corrupted into its present name.

- **Anchorage Road.** Urmston

Only 8 houses here with no known detail. The name arrives from the old house that once sat there called Anchorage. It was officially named in 1966 in agreement with Council and the Post Office

- **Andrews Avenue.** Davyhulme

Numbered as 1-19, nothing is known to elaborate on. The avenue is not far from the golf course and may hold some significance to St. Andrews the famed Scottish course.

- **Arran Gardens.** Davyhulme

An interesting division for the Gardens where it covers three distinct roads off Shetland Way, they incorporate 51 homes into this complex situation. Arran is a Scottish word which means 'Island Dweller'.

- **Arundel Avenue.** Flixton

The majority of the 131 homes around this almost circle were built here in 1970 and out of all this only one is flats. 'Eagle Valley' is the Old English meaning to the Arundel calling. Barton upon Irwell was home to the Arundel Farm an 1800 vintage establishment.

- **Ascot Drive.** Flixton

Built in 1960 the Drive has 24 homes and is a no thoroughfare. Ascot is named from Old English which has the meaning of 'Cottage'.

- **Ashbourne Avenue.** Flixton

Only 10 houses make up the avenue. An interesting derivation, the word Ashbourne means 'Dweller at the Ash tree' in Old time English.

- **Ashburton Road.** Davyhulme

The road was an extension to Redclyffe after Dimplington Circle it was treated to sewers as an update to its construction in 1932. A footbridge installed at the road was a Leeming design of 1928 this was demolished in 1958

- **Ashfield Road.** Urmston **1900**



Well established by 1880, on the **west** side Caxton Villas led to Addison Road. This incorporated several houses including Sunnyside, Daisy Bank, Fern View, and Holly Bank. Clover Nook was the last home before Higher Road. The Urmston Tennis Club Co. offered its grounds close to the corner of Higher Road for 1898. To the **east** starting at No.2 which was unnamed, were Lily Villas, Beulah Villas, Raymond Terrace, and Stanley Grove. The directory for 1911 shows Mossey Dell at 21 named but nothing else changed. Newer homes arrived in 1935 and today 2010 it comprises of 40 properties, 6 of these are flats.

#### **Ash-Lea.** Ashfield Road

A residence offering for 1939 numbered as 26 and sitting at the corner of Stanley Grove with Mrs Lily Moorhouse at home. Ash had been there though since c.1880.

#### **Caxton Villa.** 5-7 Ashfield Road

The Villa is to be found on the **west** side of the road and it was the home of John Jackson at number 5 and Arthur Gilmore at number 7 in 1901. Numbers 1 and 3 turned up for 1911 but the issue was resolved once more in 1919 reverting to 5-7.



#### **Sunnyside.** Ashfield Road

This offering could be found in 1898 under the heading of Caxton Villas, living in the shade was William Bolan for that year. As a Semi it was attached to **Mossey Dell**.



Dell and Sunny

#### **Mossey Dell.** Ashfield Road

The Dell (right hand of two) was numbered as 19-21 in 1911 and home to Allan Schofield who lived on the **west** side of the road. The associated home was **Sunnyside** for this pair. At the front entry the spelling is that of Mossy Dell.

#### **Daisy Bank.** Ashfield Road

Reference is made to this home in 1898 at number 23 with Mrs. A. Edleston the householder. By 1911 the **west** side house was occupied by Arthur Giles. Daisy was one of six along this collection of Villas, its partner was **Fern Bank** earlier named as **Fern View**, and only the following pair was named.



Daisy and Fern

#### **Fern View.** Ashfield Road (Fern Bank)

Number 25 Ashfield was called **Fern Bank** in 1901 and it had Elizabeth Mary Starkey living there with Elizabeth Wilkinson. Making up the pair was **Daisy Bank** in a group of six along this section of the road. Records show **Fern View** was the calling slightly earlier in 1889 with the Barlow family at home. The stone post at the present gate confirms this. The mistake probably occurred in recording the pair as Daisy Bank.

#### **Holly Bank.** Ashfield Road

1889 showed that Walter Johnson had occupancy with Henry Marrison, a bookkeeper, living here at number 27 in 1901. In a row of six this end one was mated to **Clover Nook**. The frontage was renovated in 2009 and the gate has possibly been re-installed to accommodate a wider entry.

**Clover Nook.** Ashfield Road

This home came up for auction in 1881 complete with contents. The Nook sat as the closest semidetached house to Higher Road in 1901 with Walter Johnson at home. The house was numbered as **west** 29 and next door was **Holly Bank**. An engineer called James Dannah took Walters home in 1909. 2009 saw the exterior renovated in line with the other six homes coupled for the block. The pair are presented today as though they were both under the name of Holly, this could be by the moving of the gate posts.

**Lily Villa.** 6 Ashfield Road

The home, a semidetached, was on the **east** side of the road for that period with Baker and Gilmore families in residence 1898. The building shows a stone initialled as W J 1874 as it does with the neighbour **Beulah Villa**. Records have it that John Wood lay claim to both.

**Beulah Villa.** Ashfield Road

The Villa built in 1874 was numbered as 10 and 12 with John Wood and John Smethurst respectively at home here. It could be found on the **east** side for 1901. It carries a date stone initialled as W J suggesting John Wood had both built. The neighbouring Lily Villa shows the same mark.

**Raymond Terrace.** Ashfield Road

A typical home on the terrace for 1880 would have been four bedrooms, parlour, sitting room, kitchen and scullery, and bathroom. Two cellars under and added was the feature of bay windows. Seven homes made up this terrace on the **east** side, which were numbered 14-26 in 1898. Residing here at No. 26 were William Prescott and daughter Hannah who were the owners of Jawbone Cottage on Davyhulme Road until 1930 when the Burgess family bought it.

**Stanley Grove.** Ashfield Road

Two homes made up Stanley in 1873 with Alfred James Wood in one and Frederick Matley in the other. The semi was in the corner of the grove on the **east** side. Only 3 family homes make the Grove for the current times which is small and hard to find off Ashfield. The pair was called Stanley before the road followed suite in name. The main house of Stanley had five bedrooms, two receiving rooms, kitchen, bathrooms, laundry, cellar, attic, and a garage.

**Un-named No. 2** Ashfield Road

From the picture the house can be seen as neighbour to the Nelson Bowling Green

**Urmston Boy Scouts & CLB Headquarters.** Ashfield Road

The scouting group ended the road at Higher in 1938.



- **Ashley Avenue.** Flixton

1-6 numbered houses make up Ashley which is a no thoroughfare, whose name comes from 'Ash Wood'.

- **Ashworth Avenue.** Flixton

This small avenue has 8 homes. Ashworth has Anglo-Saxon beginnings and comes from the family that once lived in the Chapelry of Ashworth in Lancashire. This is a no through road with only one home found as named, it was Ramilies with as 1934 resident Mr. J. T. Wilkinson.

- **Atherton Lane.** Flixton

The lane was a localised calling related to the family of Atherton. It is doubtful it ever carried any official recognition.

- **Atkinson Road.** (Atkinson Street 1928) Urmston 1900

The **west** side was home to the West Elms, this included Elm Bank House with The Elms and Oxford Mount. On the **east** side of the road the Victoria Villas. Housing and land here were for sale in 1881 to give indication of its origin. 2008 has many flats here and numbering which contains alphabetical addition to the 37 properties. Schofield Motors at numbers 21-23 closed up here in 1958. Glebe House was built on the road in 1975. Suggested for the word origin is Son of Adam, Atkin is medieval for Adam.

**1928** added a cafe called The Empress Cafe and The Morris Hall showed as the Morris Lecture Hall. Three flats appeared at number 25 for the first recorded time. Later **1938** the Kiosk appeared at the corner shop and Van the Radio Man under the roof of the covered market. Lillicrap was a building merchant and next to the Hall was Elizabeth Greenhalgh as a chiroprapist. For 2014 there is only one block, West Elms, which remains from all the historical past for the road.

#### **Borland and Son. W. J.** 1 Atkinson Road

A company operating along here in 1940-7, they were French Polishers by trade and did refurbishing to furniture of all kinds.

#### **Elm Bank House.** Atkinson Road

1898 saw this house at the end of the block called **West Elms** and not numbered. Mathew Wheeler lived there at that time. A Christening for 1893 showed this address making it earlier than first thought. Disappearing from view nothing was written for here until the appearance of the Morris Hall.



#### **Friendship Social Club.** 29 Atkinson Road

1939 Hon. Sec. John Quinn gave this address for members and friends.

#### **Morris Hall.** Atkinson Road



1911 is noted as the opening date, it was carried out by Keir Hardie a politician. This hall was the home of the Labour Party for Stretford and Urmston. It has been found that the name of Morris arrives from William Morris 1834-1896. He was a general founder of the Labour movement in its infancy. The hall carried an addition to the name during 1928 it was known as the Morris Lecture Hall. The calling now included the Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme Labour Party. The Hon. Sec. at this time was E. P. Williams; he was still there for 1939.



Hardie

#### **Staincross.** 35 Atkinson Road

The last house on the **west** side of Atkinson and Gloucester Roads was where Richard Lillicrap lived in 1928. He was the inventor of the Lillicrap Hone a razor blade sharpening tool. The area here now is industrialised and no longer shows any residences. Joseph Richard also ran a business next door to the Kiosk as a builder's merchant, he owned the majority of the property on Atkinson.

#### Lillicrap Hone. (Staincross)

Joseph Richard Lillicrap, an Urmston man, lived in the home called '**Staincross**' 35 Atkinson Road and c.1930 he invented something called the Lillicrap Hone. After Gillette patented his safety razor it was found that blades lost their edge very quickly, the Hone idea corrected this problem in allowing blades to be kept sharp after the use of this tool. The Hones were manufactured in Barnsley by a company called Wood Bros. Glass Co. Ltd. Any hones traced today would date from 1930-1942, they have become collector's items. The land where one was to find the Urmston covered market was owned by him and called Lillicrap Field.



#### **The Elms.** Atkinson Road

A home of 1898 situated midway along the **west** of the road. At home was Henry Edward Wilkinson. It was attached to Oxford Mount alongside with the same address.

#### **The Empress Café.** Atkinson Road

The cafe was run by Courtney Beer in 1928 with a listed occupation of confectioner. The cafe would have sat opposite the cinema on the **west** side of the road and as a portion of the block called West Elms. A change of owner and name the café became **The Kiosk** and had Miss Ida Seed as the confectioner in 1938. The Kiosk remained into the 1950's as sweets and tobacco.



#### **O'Connor. P.** Atkinson Road

Building and civil engineering was the business here, the address showed only as a site or yard.

#### **Oxford Mount.** Atkinson Road

No detail had been traced for this place entered in the 1891 census for the district until a directory for 1898 brought up George Dreber in occupation. The home sat with The Elms as neighbour.

#### **Ridehalgh & Co.** Atkinson Road

One of several industrial business's that occupied land along Atkinson. This was held by J. A. Ridehalgh who was into Electrical contracting for the 1950's.

**Van (The radio man)** Turned up on Atkinson for 1938 at number 1 which was situated at the covered market there through into the 1950's. Advertised, as engineers were Bennett and Seymour.

**Victoria Bowling Club.** Atkinson Road

Although it was established as a part of the hotel it had its own address as number four on the **west** side of Atkinson.

**Victoria Villas.** Atkinson Road

This Villa was to be found on the **east** side of Atkinson in 1898 and at the corner of Higher Road. It was a pair of homes with the families of Crew and Wilkinson in residence. For position it sat opposed to the Victoria Hotel Bowling Club.

**West Elms.** 1-7 Atkinson Road

Suited to its name it sat on the **west** side of the road in 1898, a block of four, with a notable resident the Reverend J. Woodford-Causar of the Congregational Church who lived at number 3. One of the homes belonged to Mr. & Mrs. Baerlocker in 1906.

- **Auburn Drive.**

This newer housing is connected to the Auburn Lodge's past in that the retaining wall between the houses and the motorway belonged to the barn of the old farm creating a link to the present. Of the 28 houses many were only introduced to Urmston around 1965. Nothing odd about the name, it means 'reddish brown'.



- **Avondale Crescent.** Davyhulme

Although numbered as 1-54 there are actually only 39 properties built on. An Avon was a 'river crossing' or 'Ford' during earlier times.

- **Aylesbury Avenue.** Davyhulme

This No thoroughfare showed up in 1938 as a block of 23 houses.

## B

- **Back Urmston.**

An early name for Higher Road, (Front being Stretford Road) Much cross reference is needed when searching Higher Road as it was called this for many of its early years. The homes and farms are dated from c.1840 they include several of the side roads for address purposes. 1871 showed a farm and orchard settled in at Back, Ciss, and Jack Lane, with other places like Lorne and Chapel Grove noted as being Back Urmston.

- **Bakeries.**

Local bake shops or bakeries were a plenty in old Urmston. Entries are made where detail is available. Grangewood, one of the first, took home in what was the Chapel of the Urmston Grange in 1894. Another, Shephard and Newton, started in Railway Road 1906 then by 1919 was at the corner of Lime Ave and Flixton Roads and called H. Shephard. For a small added interest, the late Isinglass too was once a bake shop and grocery store owned by Joe Powell in the 1950's. Princess Road hosted Walkers for many years and Williamson had an early bakery on Gilpin called Chasewood.



Shephard Bakery Davyhulme View

**Flixton Bakery.** Woodsend Road

The bakery existed on the corner of Irlam Road in 1915 it ran as a grocery shop at the same time. Included in the business were a home with all appurtenances, stabling and shed. The bakery itself was made up from modern ovens, a mixing department and storeroom housing other bakery items.

## Shephard. Herbert George Edward 1875-1942

As a baker in Urmston he was one of many. He is singled out here, as the information is available and should be recorded. After serving an apprenticeship in Chesterfield, Herbert opened his first shop at 75a Railway Road in 1906, it was a partnership called Shephard and Newton. This lasted until 1919 and then the Shephard Bakery at Lime and Flixton Road was opened. During the summer months ice cream was produced at the shop as a sideline. The difference to bakeries that followed was that the main product here was bread whereas the trend later was more into confectionery. Once the Davyhulme View bakery closed up towards the mid-1940's the shop was taken by Gerald Furnivall who continued without the bakery and as a general store.

**Snig Pie.**

This local delicacy for the district was made from eels caught from the River Mersey in abundance. Specific reference has been found for the Roebuck Hotel carrying the pies specially to enhance its home brewed ales as an accompaniment in the early days of catering. Jellied eel is still a tasty dish for some food connoisseurs.



- **Balfour Road.** Urmston **1900**

Terraced on one side only, Balfour had 25 homes in a row. As a road it crosses the boundary between Flixton and Urmston. (Princess Road) For present day 2010 it has 27 homes with 1 only flat. Balfour is a Gaelic word meaning Grazing Land.



- **Ballater Avenue.** Flixton

There are only 8 homes on this avenue off Balmoral Road. The order of St. Johns in Scotland is the origin for this historical name.

- **Balmain Road.** Davyhulme

Started in c.1930, 25 homes make up the road. The council accepted responsibility by paving the road with asphalt in 1934. The word Balmain appears to have strong Australian connections, but nothing defined.

- **Balmoral Avenue.** Flixton

Alongside Chassen Station the cul-de-sac has 18 houses from the 1935 era. The artist Tom Dodson lived down here during his lifetime in Flixton with another known, a retailer Norman Fairman, who had a TV and radio shop on Church Road.

- **Balmoral Road.** Flixton

The residential count for the road is 59. Scottish in origin and it means, from the majestic village. In its early days the road only had ten homes plus the Chassen Farm of Shawtown, 1938 brought forth that Joseph Bancroft was in control of the acreage.

#### **Owner Occupiers 'Builders' Association.** Balmoral Road

This group of people formed in 1953 as an association to conform with Councils requirements when it came down to building their own houses. The basis of the Councils rules was that each member would have to work for twenty hours a week and that none of the houses would be transferred to their owners until the whole project was complete. It was suggested that this method of building could cut costs by 30%. A portion of local pathways was half lost to this road. It was accepted due to the road and its pavement still providing access to the original path leading to Penny Bridge.



#### **Shawtown Farm.** Balmoral Road (Aka. **Chassen Farm**)

The farm known for 1777 was run by the Faulkner's in 1800, until E. J. sold up in 1881, was quite a good size, 48 acres, and the house had a central front door created by a double front window. Its two stories comprised of a hall, sitting room and kitchen complete with pantry and storeroom. Two roomy family rooms made up the ground floor one of which had a billiard table. A feature of the hall was its large flagstone flooring marked with diamond fashioned inlays. Another excellent feature was its curved stairway leading from the hall complete with wooden banister. A landing halfway was dressed in a tall window and sitting arrangement. The second floor had four bedrooms and a box room. Barns, a hen house, and two horse stables formed a square made of cobblestones with a 30 stall shippon and hay barn located separately. Census gives Josiah Collier as farming in 1841 he was the son of Sam and Ann who had moved to Flixton from Carrington.



The name of note here was Bernard Close, who took over from a family called Bancroft; he and later Ken Close ran the farm from 1946 until moving to Acregate c.1956 and stayed there until that too fell to the UUDC. The council, after purchasing the land from the Wright family, proffered the land to contractors in 1979 for the building of flats and bungalows to suit the elderly. This land is now a modern estate of homes called **Townfield**. Confirmed is that Jack Kelly became the last farmer.

- **Barcombe Close.** Urmston

The small close near Winchester Road has no detail available for its origins. Combe is a Sussex/Devonshire word.

- **Barn Close.** Flixton

The Close in Woodsend has 9 houses.

- **Barnfield**

The Barnfield of **1909** was a no through road with all but two homes named: The Vron, Holmsdale, Teviotdale, The Moorings, Craigwood, Roker, Kingswood, Brooklyn, Strathallen, Woodseats, Nundah, Id wal, Penpol, Froxmer, and Cressbrooke. In **1911** the names of others came to light they were, Holmesdale, which became Hopedene, Wallaroo, Hillcrest, Woolengabba, and Luxmi.



The house of Northwood became known as at 1918, the newer homes have an average date of 1920 and make up the total today of 55. The road eventually became a throughway from Church Road to Southgate. Later discovered were the names of Cotton Stones and Barrinka in 1947, Caernarvon Gate 1956, although established many years prior to this.

**The houses of Barnfield are almost impossible to identify** as they changed names repeatedly over the ensuing years very few have gate posts or signs to show anything of value in this regard. One home carries a date identification of 1926 but not a name. The calling of Barnfield arrives from the field on which it was established.

By the time **1928** arrived there were 28 homes making up Barnfield and every one of them had a name. The list was long: The Vron, Holmdale, Northwood, The Moorings, Craigwood, Cribden, Kingswood, Brooklyn, Strathallen, Hopedene, Calder Bank, Homestead, Carrington, Foxmer, Hillcrest, Nashdon, Newlands, Lupin Lodge, Lochaber, Inglewood, Heathwood, Camborne, Rosemont, Heversham, Littlecroft, Merseyside, Lea side, and Newlyn.

**Barrinka.** 32 Barnfield

The house was average for the area, a three-bedroomed semi with a lounge, dining room with French windows, kitchen, bathroom, etc. Outside had a coal house and there was room for a garage. Mrs Florence Greenway called this home during 1938-39. It was newly erected c.1937.

**Brooklyn.** Barnfield

This no through road for the time, was getting going in 1908. To assist in its development James Hobson found home here. As a semidetached it sat alongside **Strathallen**.

**Calder Bank.** 21 Barnfield

This was home to Sarah McLachlan in 1918 and it was put up for sale on her sad passing. It was a modern detached home for the period with 4 bedrooms and a box room. The balance was made up with 3 entertaining rooms, a square hall, kitchen, cellar, etc. The garage accompanied by pretty gardens which completed the description. The purchaser Charles Green kept it until the 1920's. On to 1938 it showed as now in the hands of Fred Challis.

**Camborne.** 20 Barnfield

Wilfred Kay an engineer was living there in 1928, he was there into 1939 with perhaps more years to add.

**Carrington.** Barnfield

1919 showed this home newly named along Barnfield and at that time the house was known to have been in existence somewhat earlier. Only in lists of 1924 did it present a homeowner that of Frederick Sproston Bowen. Fred was unfortunate as he was declared bankrupt and the Electrical Maintenance Company that he owned had to close.

**Cotton Stones.** 47 Barnfield

Several homes down on Barnfield changed callings over the years this one is presented for today 2010 as an offering in this light. A name from the past here was 1939 and George Whiteley.

**Craigwood** 9 Barnfield

A 1909 detached home, but with little detail of its content. There were four bedrooms, and to compliment the rest of its seven rooms, there were cellars. The open view at the rear was an optimum sale point. Thomas Mitchell looked out at this **south eastern** picture in that year with Mrs Rabina Mitchell inheriting for 1927. By 1938 it belonged in the hands of Miss Jane Mitchell.

**Cressbrooke.** Barnfield

The last entry for 1908 in the street directory for Barnfield showed this home ending the road. Alfred Galle was resident there. According to lists, Mrs. Lucy Mills had this changed to **Woolengabba** for her term there in 1911. Barnfield altered names frequently so this is **unconfirmed**. Description wise it was 4 bedroomed with a box room and a large panelled dining room opened on to a conservatory. The hall led to the lounge and dining room adding kitchen and scullery as other features.

**Cribden.** Barnfield

The calling for another often changed home along Barnfield this one noted for 1925 as an available early date.

**Foxmer.** Barnfield

This was the next to the last house along the new road for 1908 with William Wilson looking after it. The detached home contained three entertaining rooms, kitchen and scullery, hall and wide landing, four bedrooms, bath and w c, later explaining there was space for a garage.

**Haynes.** 2 Barnfield

As it was with many named homes on Barnfield this may well have been something else for earlier times. Harold Clarke took it in 1938 under any previous naming.

**Heathwood.** 18 Barnfield

Found for 1928 this wood was established for Bertram Dune as his home there, he remained through to 1939 and on.

**Hillcrest.** 4 Barnfield

Built c.1908 this was an early home for Barnfield. A detached, double fronted house which had an entrance hall, drawing room, dining room with a three windowed bay and inglenook, a study, kitchen with scullery and pantry. The upper level had four bedrooms and a bathroom. The home showed a partial cellar. The house was not named at first but showed as this in 1911 with William C. Houldsworth as residing there. Adam Stott was a well-known resident here for 1928. For 1939 another Stott name arrived that of Mrs Helen, to keep it in the family.

**Holmsdale.** Barnfield (Holmdale)

The second home along the newly formed Barnfield of 1904 it belonged to Sam Smith. This Dale was a detached house with three living rooms, four bedrooms, cellars, and an ample garden. By 1928 Michael Benson had called the house Holmdale.

**Homestead.** 23 Barnfield

One of many named houses along this road this name shown in 1928. A detached building backing onto the Meadows, it had three reception rooms, kitchen, scullery, four beds and a box room, bathroom sep. w c, and a cellar. No garage but plenty of room for one. 1939 it was home for Ernest Maitland.

**Hopedene.** 19 Barnfield Road

Once owned by George Bolton Stott (1858-1934) in 1911, this home had its own coach house that has since been converted into a bungalow. This member of the Stott family was a Founder of the Cottage Hospital and a tireless worker in the newly formed UUDC in the 1930's. A clash of names had this house altered from Holmesdale it could have been Mrs. N. Stott for 1939 who attended to this as resident for the period.

**Heversham.** Barnfield

Another home found for 1928 ten years or so after the road was established.

**Idwal.** Barnfield

A touch of Wales brought into Barnfield for 1908 as the road formed its pattern. William Burton brought his touch to it as well when he moved in. Idwal is a valley near Snowdonia.

**Inglewood.** 14 Barnfield

This particular Inglewood was identified for 1928 with Mrs. Mary Crompton at home. Mary was still around for 1939.

**Kingswood.** 13 Barnfield

As Barnfield grew in 1908 as a cul-de-sac this was an early addition with Charles Albert Alker at home. Thomas Stokes became king of the wood around 1938.

**Lea side.** 36 Barnfield

This Lea was traced for 1928 in street listings with Leonard Derbyshire inside; he was a draughtsman who lived there until after 1939.

**Little Croft.** 26 Barnfield

The croft was located in directories of 1928 among several name changes for Barnfield. A school master going by the name of James Latimer carried out his profession from here till after 1939.

**Lochaber.** 14 Barnfield

This 1908 home is one of the few to show its name today among the many that kept changing over the years. It carried the same address as **Inglewood** in 1939.

**Lupin Lodge.** 12 Barnfield

The Lodge was signified by this common but lovely flower in 1928. William Pearce sat admiring them way into 1939.

**Luxmi.** Barnfield

This home was established in 1911 it had as occupant Norman Selkirk.

**Merseyside.** 28 Barnfield

This is a 1928 calling for an established home on Barnfield. At this time a commercial traveller by the name of Arthur Tyldesley had reason to belong. He remained with a later date showing 1939.

**Nashdon.** Barnfield

A 1919 home found named and to have arrived slightly later than most along here.

**Newlands.** 8 Barnfield

This home of c.1908 is showing that name for the present day. It is quite possible that this was not its beginning name as Barnfield was notorious for re-calling homes differently. R. H. Dawson a 1939 resident obviously did not care.

**Newlyn.** Barnfield

Found to be, in 1928. This name added to the long list along Barnfield with William Guy as homeowner.

**Northwood.** 5 Barnfield

By 1919 this name had slotted in between The Moorings and Woolengabba. Karl Baumann continued with the same name for 1928. The well appreciated Faulkner family resided here for quite some time.

**Nundah.** Barnfield

Smith Dawson with wife Eliza arrived here in 1908 to join the expanding Barnfield in its no thoroughfare way. The home in 1927 was called a bright semi overlooking the open country, a square hall entrance, three living rooms, and four bedrooms. The garden was inclusive of paving. Nundah is in line with several places on Barnfield as it has Australian connections.

**Oxford House.** Barnfield

One of the many Barnfield homes with a name change, this calling was dated 1910 when William Heald had it then later it was G. C. MacDonald living there until 1917.

**Penpol.** Barnfield

William Trevithick took possession of this house for 1908 along the newly developed road for the time. In that year the home possessed two reception rooms, five bedrooms, a bath with separate w c, kitchen, scullery, larder, it had cellars and well stocked gardens front and back.

**Roker.** 11 Barnfield

For 1908 Barnfield was just being established and this home belonged to its beginning. The homeowner was James Frederick Webb. Roker, as a semi, was mated to **Kingswood**. Miss Margaret Hargreaves claimed it for her own by 1938-39.

**Rosemont.** 22 Barnfield

1928 found this semidetached rose among the homes of Barnfield. It flowered with three bedrooms, two living rooms, bathroom and kitchenette. A coal shed, tool shed, and garage completed the arrangement. 1939 homeowner was Sydney Rickard.

**Strathallen.** Barnfield

Barnfield grew very quickly in 1908 with this home adding to the numbers as Joseph Bracewell moved in. It was partnered with **Brooklyn** to complete the semidetached building.

**Teviotdale.** Barnfield

The third of a line along the no thoroughfare of 1908 this one belonged to Frederick Thomas Dodd.

**The Moorings.** 7 Barnfield

Ship shape for 1908 this home belonged in the hands of Herbert George Baggs. It showed as the fourth house into the then cul-de-sac. An engineer called Edwin Rose went to work from here in 1939.

**The Vron.** 1 Barnfield

1908 saw the formation of the road which was a no through way this house began the many that became known by name here. It was shown as having Thomas Richard Roberts as one of the earliest inhabitants.

The detached residence contained a good square hall with fireplace, two fine entertaining rooms, cloak room, kitchen with Triplex range, pantry and the usual domestic offices. The bedrooms were four and all on one floor, bath and w/c in one room. Electric lighting and an enclosed garden finished its informative details. Vron is French for commune and Welsh for a hill. Frederick T. Reece was here for 1939.

**Wallaroo.** Barnfield

An Australian sounding name came to Barnfield in 1910 the house was there earlier 1908 but this later year showed it being named. Thomas Wilde was the homeowner for this year.

**Woodseats.** Barnfield

Home to an early settler of 1908 Barnfield as it began its life. John Frank Ashton took possession here.

**Woolengabba.** Barnfield

The second home to carry connotation to Australia in the beginning of Barnfield the first being Wallaroo. This one appeared in 1911 two years after the road began. Mrs. Lucy Mills was homemaker in this time frame.

**Wynthorpe.** Barnfield

Dated as 1906 this home fell under **Westgate** in actuality, although often referred to as Barnfield.

- **Barra Drive.** Davyhulme

22 homes create Barra which is close to Shetland Way. Barra is an island in the Hebrides.

- **Barton Avenue.** Urmston 1900

A block of twelve homes 6 for each side of the avenue and still the same today. During those starting days none was named. The best date traced at this time for origins is 1898 with an estimate of it being pre-this period.

- **Barton Moss.**

A Hamlet swallowed up into Barton upon Irwell in 1894. The census of 1901 shows it involved a population of 234 and 45 houses. This land is no longer regarded as having connection to the district.

- **Barton Road.** (Known as **Barton** and **Old Barton Road renamed as of 1965**)



The road began life as a part of Croft Bank and Crofts Bank Road by 1935 had a mixture of old and new to its 45 homes and 1 flat. This road was "*Publicly lighted*" all the way from The Nags Head to the St. Catharine Church in 1887. Development to this area has brought forward a section now known as Old Barton Road. Some naming of homes is known from directories and real estate sales of the 1800's.

Only the schoolhouse is now shown on this old section of the road. The actual school stands alongside the schoolhouse but closed and boarded up awaiting its future or demise. The road once carried such places as the Bromyhurst Farm and the pub called the Basson and Fiddle. It was also host to the St. Catharine Rectory along with several cottages. This road has been restricted in access from what is now known as Barton Boulevard to Barton Bridge.

#### **Bent Cottage.** Barton Road

First believed to be unconnected with the usual thoughts of Bent Lanes, this home was close to Barton Old Road and the junction of Redclyffe Road. It has been established that for those early years Bent Lane did go through to Barton Road. This cottage is dated around 1840 or slightly earlier and is only shown on maps without detail. Its nearest neighbour was Rose Cottage in that era. James Bent passed on here in 1865 followed by Joseph Bent in 1878 leaving the cottage and chattels up for auction. It presented as a small holding with stable, coach house attached, an orchard and fishpond, were included.



#### **Beech Rock.** Barton Road

The last house at Rivers Lane, it housed a gentleman called Charles Ball in 1919. Totally enclosed in woodland its origin is known as it appeared for tender in 1895 as premises for the caretaker at the Manchester Corporation Sewerage Works. Charles was still there in 1938 now noted as being the Manager of the Works.

#### **Bentcliffe.** Barton Road (The Retreat)



This house sits across from the Nags Head Hotel when found there was not any information available, but its name has Celtic origins. It is shown in the census of 1841 and on O/S maps of 1845 as having a Smithy convenient for the hotel and its travelling guests. This detached residence advertised stables with the house in a 1913 sales pitch and a name for that time would be Guest William Phillips as resident. Found later was that the house had a hall with cloak room, four bedrooms, dining and drawing rooms, three cellars, all conveniences, and a greenhouse. The stables were now offered as a garage and there were 2,000 sq. yards of garden. A 1939 gent living here was John Pugh Temperley.

Street directory entries did not follow this name for many years the only other home close to Brook Terrace around that period was called **The Retreat** and found was that James Bent changed the name to Bentcliffe in 1892. Showing up in 1909 and again in 1919 with George Fell at home.

#### **Bent Terrace.** Barton Road

The closest point, to describe where this is located, would be at the Crofts Bank Bridge and behind the Nags Head. The terrace of nine built c.1875 is standing to this day. Typical here for 1882 were three bedrooms, bathroom, a parlour, kitchen, and scullery. A pumping station was erected here during 1957 to alleviate drainage problems from the close by brook. Living in No.6 for 1953 was Thomas Forsyth Justice of the Peace.



- **Bromyhurst.** Alphabetically included here as a portion of Baron Road.

The Hamlet of Bromyhurst sat alongside Dumplington, trapped between Davyhulme and the River Irwell. It was absorbed with the other hamlets of the region into what would be Davyhulme and Trafford. Recorded dates revert to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century for its history. It comprised of 120 acres of woodlands and moor.

#### **Bromyhurst Farm.** Old Barton Road



The farm 1705 was situated on the banks of the River Irwell Higher Dumplington. Records show it was there and occupied in 1909 by Samuel Mellor but eventually it went into the history books c.1997. Built for the Thomas Harrison family of Darby it held 175 acres of land which were a part of the Trafford Estates. They remained as owners into 1782. The site was subjected to an archaeological survey prior to it being flattened.

The stable and coach house unfortunately went with the farm in its demise. It had wonderful high reaching doors that allowed coaches to pass, typical for its era. The 1930s had farmer James Farnworth at work there, he passed on in 2008 aged 86. The barn was one of the last to be removed; the survey indicated it was two storied seven bay. Originally called a threshing barn it had been altered into a shippoon. Remaining in the barn was a dove cote and stone keeler. (Wash tub)



The farm only retained some 50 acres at the time of closure.

**Bromyhurst House.** Old Barton Road

The house was south of the farm and dated as the same during the early 1700's. Along with the farm it was razed in 1996. The Bardsley family who owned the Corn Mill at Barton lived here in 1878.

**Bromyhurst Vicarage.** Old Barton Road

Sitting next to the farm it belonged to the nearby **St. Catherine** Church. The Rev. James Barrow was a known resident. His daughter Margaret married John Farnworth of the neighbouring Bromyhurst Farm. The building was used as a Karate Club during 1970-71.

**Brook Cottage.** Barton Road

The cottage is referred to in 1938 as being a neighbour of Wilderspool. Harry Oaks was known to be there into 1940.

**Brook House.** Barton Road (aka. Crofts Bank Farm)

This house has been traced to John Rogers for 1897 he owned 17 acres here, all was sold out after he passed away. Found for 1911 was the well-known brick maker of Thomas Mosedale working and living there. The family of Sanders took possession and the small house with its yard stands away from the road this is still being utilised by the company. George Sanders is shown here for 1938 and it could have been slightly earlier 1930 as Herbert Sanders was farming in this area at the time.

A small amount regarding the history of this house and its yard is known but sketchy. Mosedale certainly manufactured hand cut bricks at the rear. Herbert (Harry) and George Sanders operated a haulage company from here. The main line of business was Plant Hire, but they were contracted to transport ash and general waste to the dumps of Broadway and Kingsway now converted into parklands. Broadway Park incorporates the majority of the brickworks land.

**Brook Terrace.** Barton Road

The terrace of 1881 sits prior Broadway and on Barton Road and is numbered 1-6. The corner house at number 1 has been converted into a shop since 1933. The shop was offered earlier as having three bedrooms, kitchen, two living rooms, bathroom, washroom, and cellars. The first recorded shop found so far was that of Frank Stanley Lambourne. The business was Lambourne. F. S. & Co offering wireless supplies during the days of 1938.

**Broom Cottage.** Barton Road

This cottage was not actually on Barton Road being placed way out into the fields of this area. The nearest markers would be Wilderspool and Bent Cottage as it sat in a direct line between the two. 1864 is a date known being advertised for sale with, 6 bedrooms, a dressing room, 2 entertaining rooms, kitchen and scullery that included a pantry. Its cellars had one confined to wine. Outside a stable and coach house completed the package.

**Croft Cottage.**

Found to placed north of the Crofts Bank Bridge and prior to Rivers Lane.

**Chestnut Cottages.** Barton Road

There were two nutty cottages tracked down for here in 1939. They gave the appearance of being a part of the Crofts Hall Farm. The first was occupied by Peter Moss a labourer, with the second as Charles Davies who was a horse teamsman.

**Croft Bank Farm.**

Believed to be one step away from the Croft Hall Farm. Herbert Sanders was known to be farming there into 1940. This could connect with Brook House and the Sanders family there as George Sanders was married in 1930 giving this as his address.

**Croft Hall Farm.** Barton Road

Close to the Crofts Bank House by listing address. Details are uncertain but it was **north-west** of the Brook Terrace. A brick building of two stories, the only feature was a small porch to the front doorway. The farmer in 1894-1901 was Samuel Faulkner. Mary Royle rose to the occasion for 1919; she was aided by Ann Farnworth who was also a farmer of the time. Added to this her help came in 1928 from Herbert Saunders. Farmer John Royal turned as in charge for 1939.

**Garage.** Barton Road

A garage found in 1928 carried no particular naming it passed only as Barton Road Garage. Sited between Wilderspool Farm and House it was run by Charles J. Brown. For 1938 Parker Robinson was in charge and it was to be addressed as Wilderspool Cottage.

**Green Gates.** Barton Road

A semidetached house addressed as being on the high road from Davyhulme to Crofts Bank. (Better known today as Barton Road) In 1878 this was home to Edward Arden and for 1882 a Mr. Pike and Mr. Samuel Clayton lived there with the stables, coach house, and gardens. For 1906 it changed to be a cottage decorated and finished in fine oak making it to be perhaps a cottage in the grounds of the main home.

**Lilac Cottage.** Barton Road

The cottage sat near to the Wilderspool Farm with William Latham looking after the place. It could be tracked down as sitting between the Croft Cottages and the Wilderspool Cottages. Described as detached with an orchard and three fields it sold for £350 in 1894. These were sold separately, the orchard raised £150 and the fields £1590. The MSC Co. who owned the cottage demolished it as un-inhabitable during 1936.

**Moss Farm.**

This farm was to be found after the terrace of Bent, almost at Kingsway. To be correct it was on Moss Lane with Seymour Bailey reaping the profits. (See entry under Moss Lane)

**Primrose Terrace.** Barton Road

An entry had to be made at the demise for this old c.1905 block. It was swallowed up by the latest Peel Holdings development in the area. Its last tenants held out there for as long as they could, but it was under a demolition order of 2009. This work was completed in 2011 leaving the terrace as no more. At this time **Rose Bank** that sat next door was also demolished. There were homes for nine families here with the cellar of No.1 housing a boiler system for the block. Many early residents show as being steel workers and it has been suggested there was a link to Taylor Bros. in Trafford Park for original ownership, there has been no confirmation of this.

**Rose Bank.** Barton Road (West side)

A semidetached sitting between Croft Farm and the Rose Cottage it was the abode of the Lambert and Jones families in 1898. Newer names for 1938-39 were Farnworth and Euston. As this sat next door to Primrose Terrace which was demolished with the terrace by Peel Holdings for future development of the area during 2011. A document of 1881 stated Rose Bank's neighbour was called Alsbach House; this has never been found or traced for further confirmation.

**Rose Cottage.** Barton Road

The cottage was a mile beyond the Nags Head Hotel towards Barton. In 1867 it was posted for rent and described as having 3 large rooms below and 4 above, a wash house and gardens came before mentioning the stable and coach house. John A. Worthington was living here in 1898.

**Rudgyard's Farm.** Barton Road

Once sitting directly behind the Nags Head Hotel this dairy farm is long gone. The original house was extended over time and the outbuildings were as large as the farm itself. Thomas Rudgyard, the farmer, lived in the Crofts Cottage which was next to the terrace of Bent. Mapping shows this as **Moss Farm** where the farmers name has taken place.

**St. Catherine.** C of E Church Barton Road.

The 17<sup>th</sup> century maps show this church well established (1843-1973) alongside its neighbour of The All Saints Church. Both fell under the districts of Bromyhurst and Dumplington before it became Barton upon Irwell. Funding from Sir Thomas de Trafford ensured that Lady Laura Ann de Trafford could lay the foundation stone in 1842. The church had a peal of bells which were scrapped c.1960. The usual story of dry rot brought about its demise in 1972 however the graveyard still exists. Marshall Stevens can be found resting in peace there. An unusual feature for the church was a 100ft octagonal spire. A name for 1938-39 was the Reverend Harold Pierce who lived at the vicarage known as Bromyhurst Vicarage.

**War Memorial.** St. Catharine Barton

The memorial here was designed as an indoor tribute. It has been exposed to the elements for many years now eroding into obliteration. The stone was relocated when the church was demolished. A group have been trying to preserve the engraved names and have some form of shelter installed to cover the remaining stonework. A search was been initiated to find the responsible ownership and to engage the War Heritage Society for some assistance. This has not gone well, and the soft sandstone has now been obliterated of all reading matter.

**St. Catherine Church School.** Old Barton Road

This small cottage was still utilised as a Church of England school circa 1963. It was placed near to the swing bridge on the Old Barton Road. Records show a school was in existence well before this, actually the year of 1881 shows the Rev. Thomas Douglas Harland being appointed to the school at that time. It was usual for the head to live in the cottage adjoining which carried a date of 1846 over its front door. The Mistress around 1939 was Maude Broome with Arthur Cookson in the schoolhouse.



The school and house are a part of the buildings Peel Holdings were to protect. This under an agreement with the various Councils of Eccles, Davyhulme and the MSC. They have **all failed to comply**, included here too, is the Barton Conservation Area (1975) which has no power to prevent its loss. This particular building was auctioned off in 2009 with the understanding "*it needs some attention*" for £168,000 to an unknown purchaser. There is an effort to refurbish the school and house buildings and it has been in progress for several years.

#### **The Retreat.** Barton Road



As a Retreat it was a calling for a home here that was to become **Bentcliffe** this occurred 1892. The only other detail was that here were stables, a coach house, and gardens with a hothouse. It was noted as detached. James Bent knew this calling living there during 1897; he passed away here in 1901. James was Britain's longest serving policeman. This building was later confirmed as **Willow Bank** for a follow up name.

#### **The Old Basson & Fiddle Pub.** Old Barton Road



Bromyhurst was home to this pub between the St. Catherine Church and the farm. Dated as of c.1840, or earlier, it survived into 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Lord were running the inn during 1847. Sitting on the banks of the River Irwell its removal came with the canal construction. The name of Basson was probably an old English derivation of bassoon or a simple spelling error. Built as an ordinary cottage it followed the practice of conversion into an ale house.

#### **West View.** Barton Road

The description for this address showed little, only a thought that it was at a point where Barton changed to Redclyffe. They were numbered as 1-2 with Esther Ann Taylor in No.1 and Elizabeth Dickinson in No.2.

#### **Wilderspool House.** Barton

Shown on maps of 1782, it was owned by a Mr. Rogerson, with the next family name as Spafford 1861-1898. (Noted as being in the cottage later) As a house it survived a number of years after the M62 motorway came in this area. For 1887 it was to be let at this time and showed six bedrooms, two sitting rooms and two kitchens, scullery, attics, all cellared under, coach house with stables, paddock with large gardens. During the years of 1930 to 1940 Charles Spafford and family appears to have lived in one or the other Wilderspool abode. A last name was Farnworth, a brother to the family at Bromyhurst.

#### **Wilderspool.** Barton Road Crofts Bank

With so many named buildings as Wilderspool this one carried nothing other than the one word. The street directory stated it clearly separate from all the others carrying the various names of this old establishment placing it next to the cottage. Mrs. Caroline Spafford played house here in 1901. Research shows many people recorded as living in one or other of the callings. Jane Hodgkinson was married from here in 1849 to Johan Benson.

#### **Wilderspool Cottage and Hawthorne Cottage.** Barton Road Crofts Bank

This portion of Crofts Bank Road became Barton Road. Spread around this acreage were the various buildings listed under Wilderspool. The cottages were one of these and for 1871 in residence was Joseph Jackson who raised pigs and poultry. 1894 the home maker was William Barlow followed by John Buckley 1898 and Robert O. McIlrick during 1901. Found later was that there were at least two cottages here following on from Lilac Cottage. The second carried the name of Hawthorne being under this calling during 1938 and on. For that year, the name R. Pownall came up with Parker Robinson as being in Wilderspool Cottage.

#### **Wilderspool Hall and Farm.** Barton Road Crofts Bank

The farm was way off Crofts Bank Road, but it was the closest address registered. The house recorded in 1781 was centrally between the Nags Head and Barton Bridge. Before any of the changes in this area it was all Wilderspool Woods. It was a gentleman's residence at the outset and recorded with Ashton Burgess there in 1838-1858.



This was to become a farm later in its life. Mrs. Jane Garner had the honour of farming there for 1938-39 after Job and Fredrick Garner in 1929. The Hall was demolished in 1963 and the lands became part of the farm. The farm, which was south of the hall, had Peter Warburton there in 1894-1898. The farm followed being razed in 1967-8 and is home today for the Travel Inn. The final buildings fell by 1970 as Wimpey had development approved, it was to originally be called the Moss Lane Estate.

#### **Willow Bank.** Barton Road

There was little information available for this home until 1946 when it came up for auction. It has been established that this was an extension to Bentcliffe and once called the Retreat. The sale it indicated two bedrooms, box room, hall, lounge and dining rooms, kitchenette with back to back range, bath and w/c, below carried wash, coal, and keeping cellars. It has been found that the 1938-39 period was occupied by a physician and surgeon named as Eric Hanson Evison. M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

## Barton

### Barton upon Irwell.

This civil parish was known as Lancashire Ancient County until 1894. It then became Barton under what was known as the Poor Law Union. In 1930 as a registered sub-district it lasted until 1933 when once more it changed hands. Barton became a part of Eccles and subsequently Salford. (**Barton upon Irwell Flixton Office** See Flixton Council) St Catherines Church fell as a portion of this Eccles/ Salford arrangement.

### Barton Aerodrome.

For interest only due to its proximity.



In 1987 the control tower at this airport was listed as a heritage structure Grade 2. Proposed in 1928 and built only in 1937 its rarity arrives from it being the first Municipal Airport in the world. The airport opened in 1930. Peel Holdings are now the administrators of the field and as of 2007 it has been re-named as the **City Airport Manchester**.



As a part of the inaugural opening the Kings Cup Air race was held at Barton July 1930. The show attracted 30,000 spectators and it was won by a Lancashire Club member called Winifred Brown in an Avro Avian Biplane. A further note affecting Urmston was that Ringway only opened in 1938 replacing Barton as the point of air entry.

Its **Heritage** detail is as follows: The air traffic control tower is brick with reinforced concrete roofing. A three-stage octagonal tower rises from a single-story podium with radiating wings at its four corners. The podium carries a coped parapet above a soldier course and various windows with glazing bars. Lastly a glazed upper stage has a concrete balcony with railings. Access is via a reinforced concrete dogleg stair.

### Barton. Areas of interest

Because of its nearness to the River Irwell, and later the Ship Canal, there were two places of interest there. First was a Stone Quarry and this was accompanied by a Corn Mill called J. G. Bardsley Co. which was removed in 1888. Both were to be found within close proximity to the Bridge and the Bridgewater Canal. The Irwell had a lock and weir at this point, one of many along the old waterway. The corn mill is recorded to exist in 1782.



Although Barton Dock Road is slightly out of the area of concern for this A-Z it was still in contention having an address as for the most part it was regarded as Urmston. Arriving at the Dock Road from Dumplington Circle during 1939 to the left was a piece of history worth noting. Built in much secrecy a test establishment was erected for the development of Jet Turbine engines. An exchange between the Admiralty and Metro-Vickers brought about something called the B10 an experimental non-flight engine. It was modified to suit a Lancaster Bomber being mounted on the tail for testing purposes.



The experiments continued through to 1943 when the contracts were handed over to Armstrong Siddeley so that Metro's could re-establish themselves in the Industrial and Marine turbine markets. The "**Barton Test**" was known to be in existence up until its closure and removal in 1993 and one wonders how many know of the importance this Urmston site was in the development of the modern Jet Engines development. Stories tell of broken turbine blades being embedded 4" into railway sleepers which had been installed to protect the building after some of the experimental engines exploded. As the site was alone in the fields, it was specifically designed to avoid harm to the public.

The Metro's Beryl engine, a design to evolve from this, was used by Donald Campbell in 1955 for his Bluebird K7. The world record was broken without reaching full power. (202.32 KPH) He later went on to break this water speed in 1964 (276.33 KPH) but to show the difference for today the record stands at 317.58 KPH as of 1978.

### Barton Bridge.



The story here is that this crossing was attained by a boat c.1586. Only towards 1670 did the first bridge appear. There are records of stonework repairs in 1746. Before the swing bridge came into being it was confirmed as a stone structure crossing the River Irwell, in fact there have been several bridges built in the beginning days. Shipping was limited in size by this and only barges called 'Flats' were able to pass below carrying their cotton and coal cargo. The original road bridge is behind the aqueduct on this photograph.

### Brindley Aqueduct.



Built in c.1761 it was the original route for shipping over the River Irwell. Brindleys was a solid stone, arched structure that carried water. The aqueduct got its name from James Brindley 1716-1772 who was the engineer hired to complete the canal. The Barton swing bridge and aqueduct complex replaced it. There are remains of the stone aqueduct preserved on the Eccles side of the canal marked by a plaque stone.

James Brindley





Some testament to this construction has been preserved on the Eccles side of the canal. A portion of the stonework remains including a dated stone W R B 1824. The year indicated does not match actual construction it informed of William Rigby Bradshaw who was assisting in management at that time. This would have been added during further work later. Included here are several builder's marks for varied use in levelling and alignment as they were to be paid according to this form of identification. The dismantling of the stone bridges came in 1891.



#### Barton Bridge Complex.

By 1885 the Bridgewater became the property of the **Manchester Ship Canal Corp.** At this time there was a need for a new bridge, and it was **completed in 1893.** A swinging aqueduct replaced the stone Brindley Bridge. MSC Corp is a subsidiary of Peel Holdings as of 2004. However, the canal at this point, and bridge are in a combined trust and not owned by Peel.



In 1976 this area of 14 acres was designated as **"in trust"** it includes the All Saints Church and grave sites along with several cottage homes. This was **not a Heritage recognition**, but a general agreement made by all parties involved. The Heritage award only came in 1987.

The **Heritage** entry for this engineering feat states: Barton Bridge, Aqueduct, and Control Tower was amended to read as in Davyhulme with part in Eccles. The tower is manufactured from wrought iron and brick. Both the bridge and aqueduct revolve on a central axis to allow the passage of ships. The aqueduct takes the form of a boxed lattice girder containing an upper member and the channel remains full of water when turning. At the bottom the road bridge has bow-string lattice girders either side to the roadway. The 2 x 2 four story control tower with pyramidal roofing has an external staircase. A red plaque award was introduced in 2018 by the Transport Trust honouring the structure.



When first opened operations were controlled on site by a Bridge Master. A house was located near the complex to accommodate this position. It stands today 2016 but boarded up and left as derelict. Not officially as his home as the cottages were a part of Chapel Place.

#### Barton Bridge. (Swing)



Only recognised as important historically in 1987 when it was listed Grade 2\*, the bridge, aqueduct, and control tower were added to our Heritage. In 1893 Sir Leader Williams was the engineer and the fabricator was A. Handyside and Co. Statistics for the road bridge include its weight of 800 tons it is 195ft long and is 25ft wide. On a hot day the 64-roller hydraulic system often stopped working due to expansion and the local fire department would hose it down to reduce the temperature. The aqueduct is slightly longer at 235ft and the structure weighs 1,450 tons. A re-construction of the bridge complex was proposed in 1959 scheduled to be completed from 1962 until 1966.



Sir Leader Williams

#### Barton Bridge a Hansard (Lords) comment.

During a debate regarding the proposed erection of the High-Level Bridge this comment is recorded in the official Hansard report of 1960. *"The Manchester Ship Canal act of 1885 specifically states that the company should not close the bridge for more than ten minutes at each time. As it takes eight minutes to swing the bridge this act leads to a lot of misunderstanding."* The company later explained it takes a minimum of 22 minutes to complete the whole operation.



#### Barton High Level Bridge.



After the first discussions held in 1928 the alternate proposals were rejected. One suggestion was a tunnel this was turned down due to the extra cost of £720,000 over building a bridge. The second idea was to convert the existing Irlam railway bridge but this didn't convince anyone that it would be cheaper than a new one or alleviate the congestion being too far away from the swing bridge it was to replace. This bridge section of the highway was first numbered as the M62.

During the construction of this bridge over the ship canal disaster struck. It was 1959 and some steel girders on the structure fell killing four workers. This was the first of two major accidents that occurred during its erection, the second causing two further fatalities. The bridge was eventually completed in 1960 and open to traffic with the motorway itself. It was officially opened by Sir Arthur Smith in March of 1961. It has been estimated that several thousand people walked the bridge to view this engineering feat prior to the opening to general traffic. The year of 2011 was the 50<sup>th</sup> year of operation.



The bridge is 2,425 ft. long and has a gradient of 1 in 25 and it took 5,000 tons of precast steel. Reaching 100 ft. above the canal it originally had two 24 ft. wide lanes in each direction. Not being designed to carry as much traffic as is required in modern times modification came in 1978 and again in 1990 adding one lane to each side of the existing structure.

#### **Barton Hospital.** Ship Canal orientated.

Due to the number of accidents and incidents occurring during the construction of the canal the Ship Canal Company had a hospital built. As the construction progressed the hospital provided aid as required.



#### **Barton Power Station.** Barton upon Irwell

A site for the station was proposed in 1914 and built during 1920-1923, Lord Derby officiating, its twin stacks were added in 1933, a feature for many years; it was closed in 1973 and finally demolished in 1979.



The station was powered by turbines made at Metropolitan-Vickers and was coal fired. Prior to its more common name of Barton Power it was also called The Electricity Works. The B&Q now takes the space once occupied by this striking skyline structure. The building was the first to carry camouflage in 1941.



The original multi-stacks

#### **Bridgewater.** Canal

As early as 1675 there was a bridge over the River Irwell called Brindley's Stone Bridge. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Bridgewater, Francis Egerton, decided that it was possible to dig a canal that could carry barges across the Irwell from Leigh to Runcorn. This was in 1761 but for that year it only went as far as Stretford; later the canal was open and finally completed to its full length in 1776. During one of the diggings in 1772 a gold Bulla was found. This was a Roman amulet usually worn around the neck.

Francis Egerton 1736-1803



#### **Gornsey Cottage.** Barton

It is believed that this cottage was the beginnings of Mossfield House. In 1840 it was the nearest home to the lodge and foot bridge over the Bridgewater Canal at a point around a half mile from the Barton Bridge itself. The bridge, which did not appear on later maps of 1890, was called Turn Bridge.

#### **Mossfield House.** Barton

Built on the site of Gornsey Cottage by the side of the Bridgewater canal, its frontage looked out at the passing ships and barges.

- **Bedford Road.** Davyhulme

Leading to Hayswater Circle from Davyhulme Road 1935 is advised as its beginning, there are approximately 26 homes there. Bedford is a name from the Shire.

- **Beech Avenue.** Off Church Road Urmston



The **west** terrace was made up of 9 units while the **east** had 11. The buildings numbered as 2-22 which included one shop were for sale in 1897. For 2011 it is now comprised of 28 properties with only the **west** terrace surviving from the past. The best date found for this no thoroughfare has its beginnings as 1896.

2 Beech Avenue was recorded as a grocery business in 1953. Ken Wilson suggested his shop here, but it has not been established as to where it stood. A 1923 Electrical shop was also found again without location.

#### **Hargreaves House.** 21 Beech Avenue

Recorded is that this abode was a residence of 1898, at home W. H. Hargreaves. Further detail has not been forthcoming. It has not carried any weight for proof as Beech back then was terraced only and may be misleading information.



- **Beech Avenue.** Off Brook Road

A single house called The Winnats made up this road off Brook in 1911. Its name was changed to **Fern Avenue** in 1933 and there are a handful more homes today. 1928 the addition was Raygill making the avenue with two named homes.

**The Winnats.** Beech Avenue (Now Fern)

This was the only named house in the avenue which was first entered in street indexes for 1910 and on. Its 1911 keeper was an Estate Agent called John Best Wilkinson.



**Raygill** Beech Avenue (Now Fern)

This possibly belonged to a Ray and Gill when it was built but, in 1928, it was home to Mrs. Elizabeth Hudson and off Brook Road.

- **Beechfield Avenue.** Flixton (**Beachfield** in some street directories)

The avenue is estimated to have been built in 1925 with 15 homes. The Urmston Branch of the Spastic Society (Now as Scope) operated from 1 Beechfield during the late 1950s probably in a secretarial position.

**1928** for here was Springfield, Ventnor, Carnalea, Norcott, Ebor, St. Fillans, Meole Brace, Glenholme, and Birch Bungalow.

**Birch Bungalow.** Beachfield Avenue

It must have been lonely for David Englehard he was the only 1928 resident on his side of the avenue.

**Carnalea.** Beachfield Avenue

George Hill made this his own in 1928.

**Ebor.** Beachfield Avenue

1928 showed this as the house where salesman Percy Harrison was living.

**Glenholme.** Beachfield Avenue

The glen became holme to a commercial traveller in 1928 named as Leonard Clarke.

**Meole Brace.** Beachfield Avenue

This brace was held by Ernest Lear during 1928.

**Norcott.** Beachfield Avenue.

This was the 1928 home for Reginald Lishman who was a draughtsman by trade.

**Springfield.** Beachfield Avenue

In 1928 this abode was springing through the fields just off Craig Avenue. Boot making was the trade for its occupant, Fred Sixsmith.

**St. Fillans.** Beachfield Avenue

The Saint had a chemist called Henry Davis in attendance during 1928. St. Fillans is a village located in Scotland.

**Ventnor.** Beachfield Avenue

A 1928 structure for Flixton close to Craig Avenue, Ventnor was home to Daniel Griffiths whose hands bound books.

- **Beechwood Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue has only 9 houses with no further detail other than it is off Lawrence Road.

- **Belgrave Avenue.** Flixton

There are 20 homes on the avenue which dates from 1933. Belgrave arrives from the Norman Conquest and it has a meaning of 'Beautiful Grove'. An unnamed home at No.8 offered large detail when placed on auction. There was a hall with cloak room, dining room, and lounge, kitchen with bungalow range, scullery, pantry, three beds, bathroom, and toilet. The garage was complete with conservatory over. Alongside the house was an asbestos workshop set in large gardens.

- **Benbecula Way.** Davyhulme

1969 is its age given and there are 68 known properties. Benbecula is an island in the Outer Hebrides.

- **Bendemeer.** Davyhulme (Bendimeer for its beginnings)

The 4 houses here are without detail c.1930-1935. An old map showed them to be on Old Crofts Bank, this is now confirmed and there is now a road/estate along here called by that name. This strange word has connection to Australia. After much searching it has been found that this small estate took home where the house of **Bendemeer** sat in the 1900's. This was the last home in 1911 before Davyhulme Road. It belonged to the Cookson family who were also connected to Woodlands, their neighbour of the time. A well renowned owner was Dr Wolstenholme for a short while.

- **Bents Avenue.** Flixton

The 13 homes here, apart from the terrace, are relatively new 2005 and sit at the end of Bromley. Bents was around for many years before this as can be seen by the original architecture. Victoria Avenue c.1900 was shown as taking first call here for the area and only Lonsdale carried a naming.



- **Bent Lanes.**



Before it was known as a road it was a Hamlet and covered the area surrounding what is now Bent Lanes. Several stories abound as to its naming. Some say it was so called after Edward Bent 1578 who left the lands to his son John Bent. He had a connection to the Wesleyan Church in the area. Others offer the fact it comprised of lanes that were bent. As a last offering, in old English, Bent means the place where the rushes grow. None other than Bent family has any source for confirmation. One factor is that in 1782 the area of the John Bent tenement was called Bent Lanes. In 1838 a pair of cottages was offered with loom shops and orchards. They sat on land called Little Bent and Bent Croft and there was an acre of land to make it all inclusive.

**Notes re. The lanes.**

Some notes of interest are that the Lanes only received Electricity in May 1955. They got this after agreeing to spend £25 per year in usage over five years. In a development of 1957, a scheme to build "Over spill" houses here was rejected by the Town and Country Planning Association sighting the atmospheric pollution from Davyhulmes sewerage plant and the alternate site of the Irlam Ferry area due to the Irlam Power Station pollution. In an effort to preserve a little of the lane's past, a pathway now exists where the early part left Davyhulme Road and joins at Woodhouse. The lanes in their original form and dated 1782 traversed through to Barton Road connecting to Bromyhurst and Dumplington Lane.



- **Bent Lanes. Davyhulme 1900**

Brookfield, Bent Lanes House, and Highfield View started the lane names preceding numbers 1-21 which ended at No. 23 Ivy Cottage. Homes here carry dates from the early 1800's. The Stickens Farm, Woodbine Cottage, Ye Old Farm, and Ash Cottage made up the remainder of the lane. Two acres of land came up for sale in 1963 to expand housing north of Redbourne Drive. There are 130 registered homes now. A foot bridge is shown on O/S maps, as far back as 1885 was located north of the remaining path that is available today at Woodhouse Road. Naturally it crossed the Bent Brook at this point before it was removed in 1905. From details provided during the closure it was a foot bridge only.

**Ash Cottage. Bent Lanes**

The cottage was early in its calling in 1878 it passed under this name. Mrs. Braham left this world in that year recording the name of Ash as her last abode. In 1898 this belonged to John Rogers, an engineer, for its next noted appearance as it sat being the last building after Ye Old Farm. Another name found was that of Mollie Wilcox who lived there in 1914.

**Beech Cottage. 23 Bent Lanes**



The cottage remained unnamed for the 1901 street directory but for this fact, it was there. Mrs. Lydia Mears was offering it in 1898 complete with an orchard and a portion of land across the road. The deal amounted to three acres in all. It was stated that Beech was actually a house and there was a cottage at the rear. The cottage/house was a direct neighbour to the Stickens Farm. 1782 maps indicate several cottage style homes at this point. Known dates for this cottage and its history are 1604 with a suggestion of 1550 for origin. As of 2019 it is to be redeveloped for new housing.

**Beech House. Bent Lanes Path**

The old preserved lane has only this house left to show for the past. Its architecture is not of the 1800's that were around for the Lanes start in life. The present pathway is void of any other structures to remind one of its histories.



**Bent Brook.**

The stream runs from Woodhouse and through Bent Lanes to the Irwell River. A survey map dated c.1856 indicates this begins in Stretford under the name of Longford Brook. It meanders along in a rough parallel to Barton Road showing itself to distinctly arrive at Kingsway Park. It continues on to the Crofts Bank culvert bridge, through Broadway until it becomes the Bent Lanes Brook.



Work began on the bridge there in 1959, Maunders created a diversion of the brook to allow further road changes. The piping the culvert for this brook continued in 1962 with the final laying 1965 Barton Road to Conway.

Some detail indicated in the Ship Canal archives gives a termination point for the Bent Brook as being at Latchford in Cheshire. The photograph taken

in 1969 showed the aftereffects that followed the Manchester Courage accident at Irlam Locks. The stream exposed its erosion prevention measures usually hidden under the waters.



**Bent Lane House. Davyhulme (Unknown)**

This house was found for 1873 and to be on the lane but unknown as to which it was from the several there. A 'To Let' sign in 1874 had four bedrooms and two living rooms, two kitchens, and cellars, on show was a good garden that included fruit trees. There was a stable as an added feature and a cottage alongside could be included if it was required. A site for this house has been pinpointed to sit between Brookfield and Highfield View towards Davyhulme Road. John Wardle registered it as his in 1898.

**Brookfield. Bent Lanes**

An unknown quantity other than it had a very early beginning of the 1800's. The two in residence here for 1898 were George Bennett who was one householder and a Miss. Martha Rogers in the other. The house name was dropped after 1903 from all records. Known is that at one time it was deeply into poultry and goat farming. The location was towards the Davyhulme Roadside.

**Days Farm.**

The farm had scant information about its past other than it was close to the Hulme Ferry. The mentioning of it being along the path called Brickhill meant it was also close to the Union Inn and cottages. Information shows it once stood around Davylands and old Bent Lanes, slightly further north than hints gave. This was found to be **Yew Tree Farm** under a farmer calling of Day. They record dates of 1938 to the present with Dorothy retired there.

**Foot Stick. Davyhulme**

The term '*foot stick*' referred to a narrow tree trunk or pole used as a crossing over a stream. It is a rare term for today's mapping but could be found on ordnance survey maps of yesteryear. One such placing occurred in Davyhulme crossing what was then the culvert or stream called Bent Brook. The indication of this is shown in an 1845 map and it could be found roughly at the junction of Broadway and Woodhouse Road. In later years this was to be converted into a foot bridge.

**Guys Poultry Farm. 29 Bent Lanes**

As neighbour to the Stickens Farm the building had been in existence since 1717. It was home to Richard and Elizabeth Guy who married in 1902 they ran the farm and a grocery shop from the premises around 1930. This was a small home offering three bedrooms, living room, kitchen, and bath. There were to be included a garage and storeroom as outbuildings. The farm carried a date stone that was initialled as D over IAW. This plot was owned by the MSC.

**Highfield View. Bent Lanes**

This particular View did not carry an address other than its name for 1898. Living there for 1901 were Thomas Pearson and William McCarthy at the Davyhulme Road end with Brookfield and Bent House. 1889 is the earliest date known for the View at this time.

**Irwell Nursery.** Bent Lanes 1903 and again in 1905 the nursery was available to the public at auction. The two acres included two cottages, greenhouses, cart, and potting sheds. The business was being run by a Mr. Smith, but all searches have been unable to locate the owner or calling of Irwell in any records other than the auction.

**Ivy Cottage. Bent Lanes**

Ivy was the last-named home along the Lane before Stickens Farm in 1898. The cottage was numbered as 23 with John Tyson and John Brooks making it their home. It is possible the cottage exists, now divided into a semi its location is to be confirmed and verified.

**Stickings Farm. Bent Lanes (Stickens Farm)**

This old establishment is believed to have been built around 1723. In 1898 the farm was in the hands of William Rogers followed by Sarah Rogers in 1909. This farm probably originated as Stickings as it was in the vicinity of the Stickings Cut and Locks prior to the Ship canal. It was sold by auction in 1938 by resident Mr. Samuel Bingham. There is a date stone R. S & A, at this time it assumed to be Rogers, S and A, added it gave the date of 1793. Eventual ownership fell to the Sanders family who are still in possession. Harry Sanders bred greyhounds at this location which was complete with a set of kennels.

**Stickings, the cut and bridge. Davyhulme (Stickens)**

A small residential area located around the Farm and Cut of the same name. The name carried several spellings with **Stiggins** the most common for 1880. The Hamlet of Stickings was occupied by several families for the time. Names like: Bent, Partington, Brooks, Rogers, Hulme, Taylor, Mathews, Johnson, Booth, and Royle, all holding homes in the area.

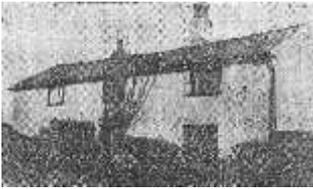
To avoid several meandering turns in the River Irwell this cut was dug c.1718. It allowed shipping, before the MSC, access to a more direct route passed what was then called in dialect, Stiggins Island. Tonnage was restricted to the size of the locks and a maximum of 50 tons was imposed in 1720.



A bridge was in existence for foot traffic across to the island. By 1890 the Island was almost gone when the diverted Irwell changed as the new canal construction reached this point.

The farmers here manufactured this bridge for transporting cattle across the Irwell.

Turn Bridge

**The Feathers.** Bent Lanes

This was the home of Ensign Ewart but at this time its siting has not been pin pointed. By 1782 map indication it was close to the existing Beech Cottage. Certain is that this is no more. A brass name plate that once adorned the cottage was preserved by the Sanders of Stickens Farm, a close neighbour.

**The Old Poultry Farm.** Bent Lanes

Mr. T. E. Wallis was the owner operator of the farm in 1920 numbered as 29 this carried the name of Ye Old Farm at other times.

**Whiteville Kennels.** Bent Lanes

The kennels were highly regarded in the world of Alsatis (German Shephard) approximate dates for this would be 1940-1974 the proprietor being Mrs. E. M. Pike. Confirmed names are Ernie and Edith Pike with the naming of **Whitegate** Kennels as an alternate.

**Woodbine Cottage.** Bent Lanes

Mrs. Fogg (Fogg Farm connection) lived here in 1898; the cottage was listed as being next door to Ye Old Farm.

**Ye Old Farm.** 29 Bent Lanes

Many occupants were attributed to this farm, too many names to list from the 1900's. It has been found as a small holding that carried a date of 1717. Its last calling was that of a Poultry Farm held by Guy's. 1898 showed John Robertson in residence with a change by 1911 to Thomas Molyneux as the farmer. The quick turnover of farmers suggested it was not a viable business with the cottage returning to a residence for the final days.

Many cottages are offered as associated to the farm or at least neighbours; they remain as without detail other than when a located reference is presented.

- **Berwick Avenue.** Urmston

1995 was the basis for these 23 dwellings on the avenue. Its name origins vary from Scottish to Norse, the latter as 'Corn farm'.

- **Beverley Avenue.** Davyhulme

Off Canterbury Road this avenue is home to 22 families. As a female name it stands for 'Beaver Stream'.

- **Bexley Close.** Davyhulme

Adjoining Amersham Close, Bexley has 22 homes of its own. Bexley was an old London Borough.

- **Bingley Drive.** Davyhulme

This small section is made up from 18 units called home to its families there. Bingley is a place name from the West Riding of Yorkshire.

- **Birch Grove and Birch Avenue.** Carrington Road



Located close to the Flixton Rectory but built on the opposite side of Carrington Road. In the 1890's this terraced housing was well established alongside its closest neighbour of Glebe Farm. It was at this site that a floodgate existed coupled to a sluice gate for control of the Mersey in 1848. The Grove housed six families whereas the Avenue only four. 1927 showed 35 dwellings and two shops covering Birch and Morris. To bring it up to date this is now totally rebuilt as **Morris Grove c.1985**.

**Birch Place.** Urmston

Adam Stott and his wife Helen had a daughter Beatrice addressed here in 1889. Although without any further information the connection to the Grove and Avenue would seem obvious. Mile Road Chippy could be found here at the Terminus Birch Place this tiny fish and chips outlet was a familiar sight of the 1940's in the area and called the Chip Pan. The shop was actually a converted home extracted from the last terrace of Birch Grove on Carrington Road. Frequented by the bikers of the time c.1950 because of its close proximity to the Mile Road where it was used for racing and general showing off. The owners for the period of 1930-1955 were the Wilkinson's followed by Charlie and Joe Griffiths. The last owners were the Brady sisters who stayed until it closed c.1965.

- **Bishop Road.** Flixton Near to Woodsend Park there are 39 abodes.

- **Blair Avenue.** Flixton

The housing is numbered 1-23 along this avenue. The housing here was offered as tender by council in 1960 it involved the building of 28 aged persons bungalows. The Gaelic tongue has this as 'a field clear of wood'.



- **Blakeswell Close.** Flixton

Housing numbered 1-10 back onto Lowther Gardens in Woodsend. The name of Blakeswell at this time is unknown for its origin.

- **Blinco Road.** Stretford Road Urmston

As this area of Urmston grew Blinco was formed with three homes to its name as of 1904. One called Heaton House started the road in 1910 but the rest remained un-named. Into 1919 and new names appeared, The Bungalow, Albert Villas, and Avoca. For 2010, there were 23 houses. Jon Court, a detached bungalow, was found so named in 1947. It is thought that Viking raiders off the Scottish coast brought this name to Briton.

**1928** showed small changes with only four now named homes. They were Lyndale, The Bungalow, Glandeg, and Avoca.

**Albert Villas.** Blinco Road

The 1919 entry for Blinco had Walter Chaloner and Thomas Baker sharing the semidetached home. It is confirmed that Albert Villa was built in 1904. Walter Greenhalgh and David Smith became occupants by 1938.

**Avoca.** 10 Blinco Road

1919 showed this house to be in the hands of Harold Williamson and George Albert Spencer trailed him into 1928. Mrs M. Spencer had ownership for 1939.

**Glandeg.** Blinco Road

Alfred Low became owner for 1928 on the road of few homes. Glandeg is Welsh meaning "comely".

**Heaton House.** Blinco Road

The first date found for Blinco is 1907 and the house there belonged to Mrs. Naomi Heaton which would provide for its calling. Because of position and dating this is now suggested as being **Lyndale** and holding James Harold Heaton responsible for the change in 1919. There is a small extension to the house making numbering of old difficult to follow. William Hudson was 1911 resident in the main home.



**Joncourt.** Blinco Road

This Jon had a lounge, living room with range and built in cupboards, four bedrooms two up and two down, bathroom with w/c, a coal house with tool shed. All contained in a detached style bungalow, there was little to indicate the local of this home by number.

**Lyndale.** 5 Blinco Road

1928 added this house which was once believed to be **Heaton**. A homemaker for 1939 was Samuel Davies.

**Parling.** Blinco Road

Samuel Pilling arrive late here calling this house his in 1939 with neighbour Avoca.

**The Bungalow.** Blinco Road (Possibly No.13 for the present)

John Robinson lived here for 1919. Up until early 1900 there was only one home on Blinco making, this one, a welcome neighbour. Further into the 1930 era you could still find John William Robinson here.

Two new names are now known for Blinco, at 18 **Hyde Away** and 17 **Meadfoot**, both without detail.

- **Boat Lane.**

The lane was a short strip of road which led to the ferry at Irlam and the Manchester Ship Canal Incorporated as Irlam Road.

**Boat Lane Farm.**

The farm c.1830 had a close proximity to the canal and sat **north** to the end of Irlam Road or Boat Lane as it was called then. William Booth retired from farming at this address in 1893. William Warburton took possession for 1898-1921 as farmer of this land. He was followed by Robert Heaton as farmer. A new farmhouse was built in 1938 after subdivision of the lands into small holdings. Some detail of the farm appeared in 1942 it was then noted as having only 4½ acres. Beside the farmhouse there was a barn, stable, shippon and outbuildings. An orchard and gardens completed the picture.



- **Booth Drive.** Davyhulme

More than likely named from the Booth Farm that was in the area it has 31 homes.

- **Bosdin Roads East and West.** Flixton

In the beginnings only one named home had been located for this road. Called Lincluden it was to be found on Bosdin **west** a semi numbered as 3. For 1928 a list of eight turned up for the road. The famous local name of Bosdin Leech springs to mind here for naming. The **east** side has 26 residential properties while the **west** only has 8.

**1928** Bosdin was referred to as **Avenue and Road.** For the **Avenue** it was Brooklyn, Cresswell, Fern Bank, Carbiere, Ashbourne, The Haven, Lang House, Kenmuir, Kemly, Arnside, Lyndale, Thelma House, Grenada, Oakwood, Brentwood, Lyndene, Burmiston, Fairhurst, Corralyn, Berwick, Morville, Dorothea, Oak Lea, Aberdour, Rockdene, and Glenmors. **The Road** again **1928** included Newhaven, Brookmount, Blencathra, Lincluden, Broom House, Eastwood, Brookside, and The Coppice.

**Bosdin Avenue.****Aberdour.** Bosdin Avenue

Clerking was Fraser Egan's job in 1928 while he spent his time here.

**Arnside.** Bosdin Avenue

For Walter Barcroft 1928 showed he lived and worked for commercial travelling here.

**Ashbourne.** Bosdin Avenue

Joseph Flint called this his 1928 home he was a clerk.

**Berwick.** Bosdin Avenue

Decorator Thomas Wallace must have had a very presentable interior for 1928 here.

**Brentwood.** Bosdin Avenue

Reginald Faulkner, a clerk, was at home in 1928.

**Brooklyn.** Bosdin Avenue

Charles Lloyd a commercial traveller resided in this the first home located along the avenue for 1928.

**Burmiston.** Bosdin Avenue

Thomas Preston stayed in the home during 1928 when out he was a grocer's assistant.

**Carbiere.** Bosdin Avenue

Insurance was Harold Pilling's work, but his home was here in 1928.

**Corralyn.** Bosdin Avenue

This was Sydney B. Leyland's home during 1928 he was a cashier.

**Cresswell.** Bosdin Avenue

1928 shows Gilbert Millar working as a draughtsman from this house.

**Dorothea.** Bosdin Avenue

1928 cashier George Grice may have been married to Dorothea for the time.

**Fairhurst.** Bosdin Avenue

Engineering was the qualification of William Bull it allowed him to afford the house.

**Fern Bank.** Bosdin Avenue

There was not an occupation listed for 1928 and Thomas Gibbons at this address.

**Glenmore.** Bosdin Avenue

As the last-named home along the avenue 1928 John S. Anderson would have claimed any prize.

**Grenada.** Bosdin Avenue

Another Draughtsman named, as Arthur Pearson was the 1928 resident for here.

**Kemly.** Bosdin Avenue

For 1928 Kenneth Monks left this home every day to work as a clerk.

**Kenmuir.** Bosdin Avenue

A 1928 engineer called Brian M. Hills lived in this house. There is a connection here to the Thomas Bosdin Leech tenement.

**Lang House.** Bosdin Avenue

Arthur Thraves dwelt here in 1928 a fellow draughtsman to his neighbour.

**Lyndale.** Bosdin Avenue

Living in the home for 1928 was Paul Miller.

**Lyndene.** Bosdin Avenue

A 1928 pattern maker lived here called Fred Gardener.

**Morville.** Bosdin Avenue

George William Dalton kept house for 1928 he was a clerk.

**Oak Lea.** Bosdin Avenue

Mrs. Annie Beaven maintained the 1928 residence as homemaker.

**Oakwood.** Bosdin Avenue

1928 engineer Arthur E. Vernon occupied this abode.

**Rockdene.** Bosdin Avenue

It was to be hoped 1928 ambulance man John Handley was not too busy around town. In 1953 a Justice of the Peace lived in No.3 he was Mr. J. S. Lea.

**The Haven.** Bosdin Avenue

Draughting was the occupation of Wallace Bowler as the 1928 homeowner.

**Thelma House.** Bosdin Avenue

A professional photographer called Robert Marsden perhaps kept a dark room here for 1928.

**Bosdin Road****Blencathra.** Bosdin Road

Shown as a **south** side home it belonged to Frederick Hoffman in 1928-1938. Blencathra is a mountain in the Lake District.

**Brookmount.** Bosdin Road

Arthur Stimpson lived here as a draughtsman during 1928 and continued through to 1939.

**Brookside.** Bosdin Road

There were three homes down Bosdin on the **north** side for 1928 this was one of them. It became the abode of Thomas McLean.

**Broom House.** Bosdin Road

A farmer named as Harry Whitehead in 1928 made home along the **south** side of road. Insurance official Charles Corbett resided in the home during 1938-39.

**Eastwood.** Bosdin Road

East was to the **north** along the road where John McClaren made home for 1928. During this year there were only three homes on this side of the road. This one for 1939 was where you would find James McClaren.

**Lincluden.** Bosdin Road (Aka. Lincluden)

The house here was where John Jackson stayed while working in 1928 as a chemist representative. It was recorded as being on the **south** side of the road. This semi had three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchenette and pantry, bath with w/c, garage, coal house and two greenhouses. John was still there recorded in 1939.

**Newhaven.** Bosdin Road

Marking the beginnings of the road 1928 showed the home of Newhaven with Stephen Smith in residence. John W. Wilson took the house into 1938-39.

**The Coppice.** Bosdin Road

This, as the last of three homes down Bosdin, was where 1928 resident Robert Carmac kept house. It was a **north** side dwelling. A Chef by the name of Otto Schaer was cooking up a storm in 1939.

- **Bowers Avenue.** Davyhulme

A count of 34 homes gives rise to this avenue which runs alongside the Trafford General. The avenue is named after Isobel Bowers of Davyhulme Hall. Park House is often shown here at number 59.

**Altran House.** Bowers Avenue

A detached home found for the year of 1934. It had four bedrooms, two living rooms, dining room, kitchen and bathroom, and a garage with a wash house. A 1939 resident was Edward H. Dickinson.

**Electricity Board.** Bowers Avenue.

The Stretford and District Electricity Board installed a sub-station mid-1930 referring to it as No.36.

- **Bowfell Road.** Flixton

Bowfell links eventually to Hayswater Road which was built to carry traffic with ease from Barton Bridge through to Carrington. Prior to 1937 there was not a direct connection to provide this important thoroughway. As a concept it was brought about by E. Leeming the Town Surveyor and Engineer for the time. Of the 38 properties here 34 are residential with 7 of these as flats. The road leads off with a post war Ambulance Station that was rebuilt in 1962 and it includes a Leisure Centre. For a period after WW2 it was home to a UUDC yard or depot. An antiquated milestone still stands along this road. Three reservoirs serviced the Stott Mill from along Bowfell and for a time there was a brick yard here. Some debate took place in 1935 with thoughts of retaining the ponds for boating and fishing.

Street documentation of 1939 brought out a remarkable change where many homes were now named and found to be built in June 1931. The land originated from records around 1891, it was held by the Bowker family who sold to William Haves. Eliza and Smith Dawson of Ivy Cottage (Longfield version) Flixton Road bought their piece of it in 1924 before moving into Brooklyn. This land to the north was to become the Dairy and Market garden held by William Haves on Moorside Road. The existing thoroughway, only a dirt road, carried a brook into the reservoirs of the Brook Road area. The list begins at **Wythburn Avenue** and continues **as they were and not alphabetically**.



The Brook Road Reservoirs were finally filled in by 1963.

**Bowfell north side.****Abri Nous.** Bowfell Road

This was the first (Left of the two) on the row tracked down in 1938 with Arthur Broderick as occupant.

**Malvern Avenue****Newmarket Cottage.** Bowfell Road

Next across Abri was Harry Gregory. (Left of the two)

**Rudgley.** Bowfell Road

Shop assistant George Broome placed himself here for 1939.

**Eagles' cairn.** Bowfell Road

Soaring with the birds in 1939 was Benjamin Butler.

**Trafford House.** Bowfell Road

Not very original in its name but sufficed for engineer William Williams around 1938-39.

**Chiltern.** Bowfell Road

1939 homemaker was Mrs Hilda Nicholas.

**Wynyard.** Bowfell Road

J. J. Hindley lived in this yard circa 1939.

**Dorern.** Bowfell Road

The 1939 house for Florence Chapleo.

**Hazeldene.** Bowfell Road

Comfortable here in 1938-39 was Mrs Alice Ramsden.

**Brooklyn.** Bowfell Road

Insurance was the occupation of 1939 Tom Jones.

**Glen Esk.** Bowfell Road

M.B. Ch. B were the letters after Garth Stoneham's name when he lived here in 1938.

**Heather Lea.** Bowfell Road

Ernest Petter sat among the heather during 1938-39.

**Lynton.** Bowfell Road

Perhaps the town of Lynton brought memories for Jack Bate who made this his home in 1939.

**Yorke Dene.** Bowfell Road

The last-named house along the row belonged to 1939 settler Mrs Edith Wood.



[Here is Craigs Road.](#)

**Bowfell South Side.**

The shops of 1934 to be found after the Curzon began as two. As time passed one was added to the left of the block and two more to the right. This becomes obvious after looking at the brickwork, roofing, and styling. All adding up to the five for the present.

It was here that the Maple Leaf Café existed selling its tasty griddle cakes.

**Robinsons Confectioners.** 1 Bowfell Road

The shop was run by Albert William Holden in what would appear to be closest to the Curzon for 1939.

**Regal Hairdressing Salon.** 3 Bowfell Road

No details other than Charles Edward Meredith Living over the shop according to 3 and 3a for the address.

**Irelands Hardware.** 5 Bowfell Road.

No details available other than a 1949 existence.



**Rutlynd.** Bowfell Road  
Harry Hindley is given for 1939 cornering Malvern.

Malvern Avenue.

**Matley.** Bowfell Road  
Only one house past Malvern it was this one that had James Hill at home for the years 1938-39.



### Bowfell Circle.



As a circle it played host to many amenities, The Curzon, Urmston Baths, and just to one side the Princess Rooms. Urmston boasted other circles of a similar type, Davyhulme, Woodsend, Moss Vale, and Hayswater. The Circle originated with the road in 1937. New also for those times was Moorside Road from Corn Hill through to Crofts Bank Road.



Bowfell, baths, circle, and cinema.

### Curzon Cinema. Bowfell Circle Flixton

Built by a cinema giant called Ernest Nash-Eaton (1881-1957) who once lived at Highfield House, it was the only one of three cinemas left in the district. Proposed in 1934 it was to be placed at the corner of Moorside Road. The building at a relocated site of Bowfell was started in 1935; December 1939 is advised as its opening date. The stage area was 45ft wide and 20ft deep it had the feature of three dressing rooms available for when there were live performances. The architect was a Mr. Winstanley of unknown detail.

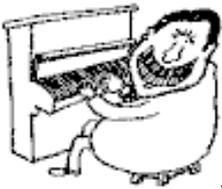


Declining patronage brought about a twin cinema, and bingo, now it is a school for dance. Subject to some renovation it tried to survive against the newer cinemas available. The Curzon reopened again after some patching to the roof and repair of the heating system in September 2007. September 2008 and once more the cinema closed, they could not meet the criteria for the funding assistance offered by the Lottery Corporation. The **school of dance** has taken up the challenge expanding its classes there to encompass more of the building, as a cinema, it has ridden off into the sunset.

Added here are some detailed facts: The Curzon Cinema was often called the New Curzon. This was developed by a company called Curzon Land and Development Company Limited who sold out mid-1950 to G. B. Snape a circuit of cinemas and booking offices. They had Cinemascope installed and a new Western Electric sound system was added and included cinemascope. For the modern films a screen 39ft wide and 16ft high became a necessity. As of 2011, it was owned by the holding Company of Curzon Enterprises.

### Accompaniment.

The local cinemas were opened in the era of silent movies. This meant each having some form of music to accompany the films. **The Palace** and the **Empress** catered for this by means of the piano only the **Curzon** had a suggested, but never found or confirmed, theatre organ in its orchestra pit which was reportedly removed once 'talkies' became the norm. Since this entry it has been confirmed that **provision was made for an organ**, but it never got installed. A further fact was that at the Empress soloists and chorales often provided accompaniment to films dependent on the showing. A young Miss. Felicity Riley was prominent.



For legal reasons council was forced in to charging a 5% fee to anyone hiring a public place where music was to be included this was copyright payable to the music industry.

### Urmston Baths. Bowfell Circle

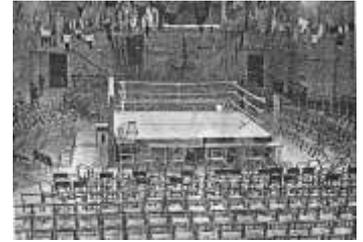
The Baths were erected in 1932 and officially opened by Councillor Lt. Gen. Samuel Stott in March 1933. A day of free swimming was the prize in 1983 to celebrate fifty years of operation and the papers reported that 2.5 million people had visited during this time. Surviving until June 1987 when the economics dictated that it was too expensive to maintain specially to update the filtering system. There were other concerns, the glass dome began to disintegrate, and the steel structure was rusting away.



Designed by Ernest Leeming he saw the project through from start to finish. The Construction was by Brew Bros. of Cadishead and the steel work supplied by Edward Wood and Co. from Manchester. Royle Engineering of Irlam carried out the filtration system. Special gas lighting was installed by 1937 for full illumination of the exterior. The dome, which was glazed, reached a height of fifty feet above the water and, at the 4ft end, a fully equipped Gymnasium, and an additional feature was underwater flood lighting that included underwater viewing. June 1969 showed that the slipper baths were to be converted in a sauna unit. In 1968 the baths were kept open for a winter season for the first time. Vending machines were introduced in 1986.



**The baths** originally closed during the winter months and sporting events that included boxing or dances were held there. The supply and first erection of flooring was tendered in 1945 by the council, thereafter they did it themselves. Sir Matt Busby Manchester United, with the aid of Don Revie Manchester City, held indoor soccer coaching there in 1955. With some care and attention one can still see the original wall that encased the front gardens and entrance. The stonework is hidden among the trees and shrubbery but quite evident as it surrounds the present residences. The standard lights are gone from the two main posts. It is now a communal residential property called **Charleston Square** and a clinic.



**Bowfell House.** Bowfell and Brook Road



This was the new calling for the **Brook Road Library** building of old. The Art Deco architecture was removed for simple brickwork and a standard sloped roof. Only the entry columns are still visible. The house was available for community hire as it is divided into several spaces. This, as a landmark, was sold and as a landmark demolished in 2015. Bowfell is known for its Lake District calling.

**Maple Leaf Café.** Bowfell Road.

Griddle cakes were the speciality of this Canadian origin café. Sitting next door to the Curzon and a convenient location to the Bath's it derived much business as passing trade c.1950. For a smile here was a Myna bird that greeted customers on their arrival or departure. At this time of 2018, it is now a takeaway shop.



**Milestone.** Bowfell Road at Jackson Court



Few milestones exist on today's roadways. However, there is one on Bowfell Road that dates back to 1937. It commemorates the opening of the road, on one of its three sides, by the Vice Chair for the Lancashire County Council A. P. MacDonald JP. The stone shows Urmston and indicates mileage to both Manchester 9½ and Barton Bridge 2¼. The reverse side of the stone is 8 miles from Lymm and 32 from Chester.



**Scarfell.** Bowfell Road

A housing complex sited on the grounds of the UUDC Yard of old.



**Urmston Sports Centre.** Bowfell Road.



No real details other than in 1987 the plan was approved. It now sits on what were parts of the rear playing fields of the Flixton Girls School. This particular ground once belonged to the Stott Cotton Mill and was the source of the reservoirs that fed the mill with water. When the mill was dismantled the rubble was used to fill in the wells. The complex has a small version of a library and a swimming pool.

One item of interest is that the plaque that proclaimed the opening of the Urmston Baths in 1933 has been mounted here as a memento of the occasion.



- **Braddon Avenue.** Urmston

Only 10 dwellings make up Braddon which was developed around 1928. It sits off Derby Road. A Braddon translates into a 'Broad Hillside' in both Irish and English.

- **Bradfield Road.** Urmston

Once called Chadwick Lane, it was home to some very old housing most of which has been removed during its redevelopment, this came around 1935 and it now has 71 properties 68 of these are residential. For current times only one carries a name, that of Birch House. Bradfield originates from Suffolk, Lords of the Manor there held ancient seats.

**Lowe Dairy.** Bradfield Road

A dairy many remember run by Alfred Lowe who included milk from the Channel Islands to his own. The official calling was Highfield Dairy, but the name of Lowe & Son took over.

**St. Anthony's R. C. High School.** Bradfield Road

Land for this school was obtained around 1943 in a plan combining the English Martyrs Church and St. Hugh of Lincoln built in 1964 on Glastonbury Road Stretford. Once Chadwick lane was redeveloped in 1959 the site was developed for the school. As St. Paul's, St. Anthony's came later, there appears to be some connection to the Manchet Field which was finally obtained to complete extensions to the school in the 1990's.

**St. Pauls.** Bradfield Road

See St. Anthony. The school celebrated its opening as the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary arrived in this the year of 2011.

**Urmston Grammar School.** Bradfield Road (Urmston Bank)

A separate school for boys was opposed by the Parents Guild in 1955 but a new school was opened in 1961 which only lasted until 1991 when it closed down, the boys then returned to Ross Grove. This land today is all residential property.



- **Braemar Avenue.** Flixton

The 40 homes, that complete this avenue, sit along one of the lost footpaths of Flixton. A portion of the Penny Lane that went from Church Road to the bridge is now the divide to the golf course.

- **Bransford Road.** Davyhulme

Even numbers 2-14 make up this small road. Bransford is an old Staffordshire name.

- **Brecon Avenue.** Flixton

Close to Woodsend Primary School the avenue has odd numbered homes of 1-15. Brecon has Welsh origin.

- **Brentwood Avenue.** Westbourne Road

Numbered as **north**1-7 and **south** 2-8, 1902 saw this developing street arise coming up for auction as free hold. This naming is a corruption of 'Burning Wood'.

- **Briar Close.** Flixton

The close which sits behind the Garrick and off Brook Road has 12 homes to its name. The Briar is described as a 'thorny plant' but a nicer way of its recognition is Heather.

- **Bricks and Beams.**



1894 shows that Samuel Worthington-Wright was offering land in Flixton, its main feature being a bed of clay suitable for brick making. It was free of lime and had close proximity to a layer of sand. The land only described, as being on the High road from Flixton to Urmston does not confirm its whereabouts only the knowledge that this gives thought to a beginning.

Reports say that Mosedale Brick Works was not the first brick maker in Flixton that honour goes to a company called **Coupe** who was utilizing the local clay there for several years. Bricks were also made in Urmston over at Newcroft where a works was established next to the Hall. A brick works has been traced to Cob Kiln Lane detail is unknown. Millatt, the farmer, had brick making associated with his agricultural holding in 1871. In another finding for 1879 in Davyhulme there was a brick making operation that passed under the name of The Old House. Its identification being that it sat on Lime Kiln Field and comprised of two acres, this coincides with Lilly Bank on Davyhulme Road.

Also, Davyhulme, the fields of Broadway behind Brook House were home to another of these works shown in 1910-11 as Mosedale. A new location for a Brick Works has been confirmed for Flixton. Appearing on the large side it could be found on the grounds known today as The Spinney close to Bowfell in 1891.



When Urmston Hall was demolished in 1937 the bricks and beams were removed and utilized to build a house on Carlton Crescent. Beams in general would have arrived from one of the local sawmills like Spark's. Exploratory results show no actual brick called an Urmston or a Flixton, however samples of a Coupe Flixton brick can be seen included in the terrace of Pool Plat on Carrington Road.

**Brick Ground and Brickfield.** Flixton

In 1905 a postman called Joseph Green married in Worsley, at the time he gave his residential address as 4 Brick Ground Flixton. This location has not yet been found. A likely place would have been around the Brickworks at Mersey View. (Four Lane Ends) A house carrying the name of Brickfield is recorded in the census of 1851. No street address was given but with a possible connection to the Brick Ground.

### Flixton Brickworks.

Occupying much acreage of Flixton at its Carrington Road location the brickworks of the 1890's had been there for many years. This point was called **Mersey View** and the factory is now standing derelict. Early in 1894 Thomas Mosedale and family lived on the Crofts Bank Road and close to the Nags Head; he was already into making bricks working from the Brook House yard. Thomas



acquired the Flixton Works from Coupe Bros. in 1913. Recognition for another achievement is due to Thomas, he was President of the Manchester Brickworks Assn. In recent times a renaming has occurred for this section of Flixton, the Mersey Valley Conservation has established an area called Green Hill as a natural habitat south and west of the works there. The land occupied by the works belonged to the Worthington Wright Estate, it was vacated around 1972.

- **Bridgewater Circle.** Dimplington

Another newer circle installed on Trafford Boulevard which links to Redclyffe Circle at Barton Road.

- **Bridgenorth Avenue.** Urmston

Old times refer to this under Moss Vale Road and up until 1935 it was called Highfield Avenue. There are 3 flats registered here and one abode as the road wends its way close to the school.

### Highfield Bank, View, and Villa.

Three stately houses built at the rear of Highfield House in the 1860's and on what was called The Avenue and later Highfield Avenue. (Now called Bridgenorth Ave) These houses were built for the relatives of Samuel Taylor who was from Newcroft. Only the Villa remains of the three.

**The Highfield Bank** was a large house built onto an existing cottage, big enough to incorporate six bedrooms and a billiard room. Badly damaged during WW2 the house had to be demolished in 1948. The entry into Bridgenorth Avenue passes over the spot where this house stood. An early street address was for Moss Road and it had, in 1898, Mrs. Smelt living there. For the 1939 period it was Frank Gladstone. Two entertaining rooms and a study were included.



**The Highfield View** was made up of two semi-detached homes where tenants came and went. Called comfortable in 1865 each had two parlours, two kitchens and four bedrooms. Eventually falling into the hands of the Urmston Council it was empty by 1974. A small private church stood on the site after the View was removed. At the View was 1905 occupant Fredrick Johnson with two residents for 1938-39 they were Robert Edgar and Walter Vincent.

**The Highfield Villa** again was two semi-detached units but with an added third floor which made it tall in comparison to its neighbour. There were six bedrooms and two living rooms with no further information in 1914. This Villa still stands next to Birch House which is a new building, and it has been utilised as office space and living accommodation. The presentation from Bradfield Road is the rear of the building. Mrs Annie Purcell and Alfred Lowe show as residing here in 1939. Alfred was a well-respected dairyman for the time as Lowe's Dairy.



### Highfield Primary School. Bridgenorth Avenue



The school occupies the remaining vacated land of Highfield House and sits alongside the motorway. There are no details available about the actual school or its history other than it opened in April 1954. This accompanying picture was drawn by a pupil of the Headmaster, Mr. Parfitt. (2009)



With apologies and a smile to Mr. Parfitt

A Blue Plaque is in place here as a tribute to Marshall Stevens whose home once stood here.

- **Bridle Close.** Flixton

With no number one, the Close follows with 2-10 in following numerical order.

- **Brighton Avenue.** Off Woodsend Road

Sometime between 1890 and 1903 the avenue appeared with six, then nine, residences. It had doubled in size through to 1911 then, last noted in 2011, there were 22 properties there.

- **Brighton Grove.** Off Woodsend Road

Along with the Avenue this Grove arrived offering five homes for 1898 it increased to 10 families into the early 1900's. In neither the Grove, nor the Avenue, places were not named for this year. Building along here began around 1897.

- **Broadoaks Road.** Flixton

Broadoaks has 35 housing units built on what was once Shawcross land holdings.

- **Broadway. Croft Hall Estate** Davyhulme

Once the road changes from Woodhouse it becomes Broadway through to Barton Road, it was adopted by council in 1938. There are 104 properties including the Bent Brook Hotel. Broadway was used as one of the two sites where prefabricated homes were erected to ease the housing shortage during the war the other was Kingsway. Origins date to c.1937 with the last 18 one bedroomed bungalows dated as 1965 to be built by Kenkast.

#### Bent Brook Hotel. 161 Broadway

Only established in 1962, it was considered a new pub to Davyhulme with Maunders as the builder. The hotel is named so as it sits on the bend of the local brook. Refurbished in 2009 it is open once again catering to the more youthful side of this area, modern style music and atmosphere being proffered to attract its clientele.



#### 92 Broadway. Davyhulme

This became home to 1953 Justice of the Peace Mr. W. Morrissey.

#### Broadway Park. (Public)



Around 1940 this area contained a small natural lake which was filled in. It became one of two major land fill sites now converted as grassed parks. It is of little use as anything else due to subsidence and poor drainage. 1953 had it connected to the Collingwood Recreational Grounds. A contract between George Saunders and the council was to land fill with ash from Barton Power and convert into grasslands. The Urmston Council erected dressing rooms and conveniences there in 1961. A sports pavilion was to be found but it caught fire in 1977, it gave the appearance of being rebuilt or replaced. The bowling green and club house are now closed with the green converted into a rest garden

- **Broadway Close.** Davyhulme

This Close is off Broadway itself and has 12 houses on it.

- **Broad Side Cottages.** Flixton

The fact that Wright Lea Shawcross married Lucy Ann Alty in 1903 brought this address to attention. They both resided there before heading to St. Michael's Church.



- **Bromley Avenue.** Flixton



The 30 homes of this avenue have origins back to 1890 Flixton. A London Borough is called by this name. The terraces here are yet to be established by name as they line both sides of the avenue. The avenue began as Victoria, later being changed once more, into Albert. Both of these were named in Urmston and so had to be re-designated.

- **Brookfield Avenue.** Flixton

There are 5 homes on this avenue that date from 1926. Related documents indicate land here from 1877 and owned by Wood of the nearby farm. Number 2 has a name that of Holnest, the meaning is unknown.

- **Brook Road.** Flixton **1900 (Thorn Lane)**

This was the predecessor to Brook Road during the era of the 1800's.



The date of 1848 and mapping for the lane has a brook and culvert directly associated. References show that in 1868 this was called Brook Lane formerly Thorn Lane. **West** at the corner of Flixton Road we have Thorn Cottage (Brook Cottage to some) before the newly built terraces c.1898 of Ringmore and Shaldon. The **east** side started with various homes numbered as 22-66 here they included the Co-op at No.30. Lastly, appropriately named, was Lane Ends at Moorside Road. The Eden Terrace appeared c.1903 as the neighbours to the newly planned Church. The year 2010 showed 6 commercial and 50 residences.

**1928** for Brook Road found only a few homes with any calling they were: Ringmore, Shaldon, Lochiel, Lindum, and Gairloch, followed by Eden Terrace to round off the road. There is a reference to a Brookfield found for 1932-1933 with Mrs Robinson at home, it has not been found for location at this time. The terraces of Ringmore and Shaldon were joined as one in 2018 this was done with sympathetic architecture.

#### Brook Road Methodist Church. Brook Road



The original Wesley Church on Moorside Road became too small and costly to renovate. Therefore, on land donated by the John Wood family, a new church and Sunday school was built and opened in 1905. The opening was performed by Miss. M. Wilkinson and officiating was Rev. F. L. Wiseman. A stone laying ceremony took place in 1937 to mark the building of a new Sunday school this was opened January 1938 by Sabina Alker.



Photographs show the magnificence of this Gothic structure which carried a large organ, wooden pews, and choir stalls. For 1946 a celebration was held here, it had seen two hundred years of Methodism. John Wesley arrived in Davyhulme for the first time. Finally, it closed to be replaced by a smaller modern church around 1978. The site presently is home to Loughfield.

**Bowfell House.** (Brook Road Library Building) Brook Road

This 1939 Art Deco building was reduced to an inconsequential structure carrying no character what-so-ever. Originally designed by the County architect Stephen Wilkinson from Preston. Internal furniture and fittings were ordered in Oak, as were the book racks. Built from brick it looked classical, the design was not unlike a church with a tall entrance arch and a rounded apsidal end with plain bricked columns supporting the over sailing roof, lower transept-like wings with similar rounded ends and brick columns. A gabled bay entrance with the entrance again, showing tall columns. A room inside this library was named to honour Councillor John Newton. He was

the founder of the library at Collingwood and had served on the library committee for 25 years. The inscription was enclosed in a wooden frame and hung in an appropriate room for 1953. John Walter Newton 1877-1955. The building was opened in July 1939 by T. A. Farrell.



Efforts by the local population to retain this building as a Library failed to impress the Council in 1997. The building was renamed as **Bowfell House**, it closed in 1998 reopening in 2003 for community hire in general. A bleak future was in store as the building was offered for sale in the private sector. Developers have removed this piece of the past as of 2015 and a new care facility is to take its place in 2019.

**Brook or Thorn Cottage.** Brook and Flixton Roads

A stylish cottage from c.1800 and owned by the Brown's sat on this corner that later was listed as the home of the Whitnall's in 1901. By 1957 it was a newsagent and tobacconist called Stimsons, today refurbished back into a cottage once more. The finely preserved cottage is noted of old as being **Thorn Cottage**. It is probably known to some as **Brook** because today it is addressed as 1 Brook Road while its front entrance is on Flixton Road.

This cottage has shown many people to live here each year the records changed with only the converted shop remaining stable, especially regarding the Whitnall's George and daughter Edith who operated it as a dress shop and tailors during the 1890's. The cottage housed a well-frequented news agency, Jumps, around 1938, Edith Jump was the name to be known.

**Eden Terrace.** Brook Road

Located on the **east** side with the Co-op as neighbour, this terrace made room for four families in 1890. They were the Rodgers, Gilbody's, Johnson's, and Heaton's. Later directories show this to have been increased with Eden accounting for eight homes close to the Co-op by 1904. A property called by this name was a part of the Royle family's holdings.

**Lane Ends.** Brook Road

This was aptly named being the last building on the **east** side of Brook Road about 1890. Mrs. Martha Whitnall was a householder for 1901 with also there, Joseph Woodworth, and Jesse Pearcy. The three homes of Lane Ends have been redeveloped.

**Brook Road four homes.** East

Leading on from the church towards Moorside Road a pair of semidetached homes each of the four were named. Right to left; **Lochnel, Lindum, Gairloch, and Craigmore**. For an approximate dating they came about the same time as the church 1905.

**Lochnel.** (Lochiel) Brook Road

The home was recorded in 1919 as the next house to the Chapel on the **east** side of Brook Road. James Lincoln Collinge was living there as a Cloth Agent. The calling had small variations of spelling **Lochiel** being one of them. Robert Peel was a cotton salesman here around 1938.

**Lindum.** (Linoun) Brook Road

This home was well established before it was named in 1928. It was a neighbour to Gairloch shown as an early 1900 house. Different spelling over its years and by 1939 it gave the impression of being **Linoun** that had Arthur Bishop as being there.

**Gairloch.** Brook Road

The home of a brewer called Charles Robert Jolliffe it could be found on the **east** side of the road and close to Eden Terrace in or around 1919. A later resident 1927 was a steel smelter called Leslie Wass. Gairloch is Gaelic for a 'short loch'.

**Craigmore.** Brook Road

This home was built before it was named in 1928 in fact ten years earlier. It was placed at the corner of Clifton Road and Arthur Wallworth showed up for the christening. This was one home out of two semidetached after the Church.

**Ringmore.** Brook Road

Tracing old homes found this terrace sitting across from the old library. Referred to as Rangmore in early Slaters directory it is still occupied as accommodation from 1900. Ringmore did not show in 1898 records. One of several features this group had was that of colourful leaded windows and doors. The small terrace sits on the **west** side of the road.

The two terraces, **Ringmore and Shaldon**, have been joined as one since 2018.

**Shaldon.** Brook Road

A slightly longer terraced home but the same architecture as its next-door neighbour Ringmore. The terrace, sitting on the **west** side, was noted for its decorative trim along the underside of the roofing and its ornate front doors. As Shaldon did not turn up in the 1898 directory, it is believed to be newly built in 1900.



**The Eccles and District Co-op** was well established on Brook c.1897 **and is entered with the CWS**. It was the practice of the business to open a shop before building a permanent style of their own; here they did this in 1906. All in use for the present commercially in alternate business.

**Thornfield.** Brook Road.

The treasurer of the Davyhulme Council School, Charles Haughton, gave this address for his residence in 1924.

**West Side Shops.** Brook Road

Purpose built with accommodation over, the block came during 1930. The best list found so far was for 1938. This showed at No.55 Ellen Hindley as a **Hairdresser**, 57 a **Butcher** named as Alfred Holmes, **Fried Fish** for No.59 with Arnold Colewood frying. Two **Grocers** followed, at 61 Doris Cross and 63 Ken Jowett, number 65 and lastly **News Agent** James Wrigley.



- **Brooklyn Avenue.** Flixton



The avenue and its housing are built on land that was Whiteheads Farm. They came into being circa 1918 with the known named home here of Roslyn at No.2. Western Road then leads into Brooklyn and it is headed by the Grange. Later a named home found, that of Westways for 1941. For the avenue and 1926-7 it had 26 named homes in a huge development for the era. There are 41 homes currently to be found there, the majority of these came in or around 1980. Its origin is Dutch and means Broken Land. **1928** shows a lot more names for the time: Kenniston, Brommarsh, Cartref, Strathmead, Arnside, Everdale, Tyneside, Lingholme, Rookwood, Avondale, Elimina, The Kyle's, Glen cairn, Clovelly, Kilrea, Cranny's, Hather-sage,

Ivydene, Seravale, Cristbank, West View, Ardbeg, Latosa, St Germaine, Wyecoller, Churston, Heversham, Rosieries, Wilton Cottage, Holme Lea, Fern Lea, and Heathfield.

**Ardbeg.** Brooklyn Avenue

Begging for peace and quiet was Samuel Normansell whose home this was for 1927 he was stated as being a foreman. Ardbeg is Scottish and has a Scotch Whiskey connection.

**Arnside.** Brooklyn Avenue

This became available around 1927 along the avenue. A blacksmith was occupying the house by the name of James Eyres.

**Avondale.** Brooklyn Avenue

Laying down the glove Joseph Gauntlet had this 1927 home.

**Beravale.** Brooklyn Avenue

1927 resident Reginald Brown made this home look smart he was a designer.

**Brommarsh.** Brooklyn Avenue

Topping the list of callings after 1920 this house showed the way into Brooklyn, it belonged to Frank Corran.

**Cartref.** Brooklyn Avenue

The 1920's house, which was third in line along the avenue, placed this home for reference. A draughtsman names Heywell Davis kept home for 1927. Cartref simply means 'abode' in Welsh.

**Chris Bank.** Brooklyn Avenue

Watch repairing was the occupation of 1928 resident Horace Williams.

**Churston.** Brooklyn Avenue

Churston had Grimshaw, Harold, resident, 1928, electrical engineer.

**Crannys.** Brooklyn Avenue

The home of Frank Buck during 1927 had him looking through its nooks and crannies.

**Elimina.** Brooklyn Avenue

Unknown for any detail its owner was perhaps eliminated. Not so, as in 1928 a Stanley Kes has been traced for it being his home. Stan was a Post Office official.

**Everdale.** Brooklyn Avenue

Herbert Thorp sat for ever here at least in 1928.

**Fern Lea.** Brooklyn Avenue

This was where 1928 Harry Thomson an engineer dwelt.

**Flixton Grange.** Brooklyn Avenue

Stately half-timbered Jacobean style home once as on Irlam Road is now occupied as apartments. James Hammer Ashton bought it in 1893 then by adding on and converting the existing **Green Lane Lodge** he created The Grange. James was in the timber business and incorporated much fine wood into this home. Aside from the timber connection James was Chairman for the Liberal Club 1827-1892. By 1927 the Grange had passed into the hands of Mrs Elizabeth Ashton. An application to have the Grange listed was turned down in 1981 having been altered too much from its original form. The Tradesmen's entry from Irlam Road is today still seen.



Quoting the Trustee for the sale; *"A picturesque half-timbered residence of exceptional character and charm"*



This historical building went for auction in 1932, its accommodation presented as follows; Entrance porch, lounge hall panelled in dark oak with gallery above, around which is grouped the bedroom accommodation, cloak room with lavatory fixed, three entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery and usual domestic offices. Next came six bedrooms upon the first floor (three ensuite) two maid's rooms approached by back staircase on the second floor. Special attention is directed to the costly fittings throughout and to the wealth of oak panelling. The house is economically planned, easily worked and is fitted with central heating and electric light. The outbuildings, which are in character with the house, include garage for two cars surmounted by a handsome clock tower, two greenhouses, two stalled stable, washhouse, another garage, and useful buildings. All frontages are paved and gated.

The long list of furniture and embellishments that was also presented for sale was so impressive it left little to the imagination of how the style of living had been maintained. From Chippendale tables, to oil paintings from renowned artists, from the summer house and the fine china, it went on. A grand piano, a pipe organ, mahogany this, and oak that, armour and weaponry. All offering so much to absorb and enjoy the picture of opulence presented. The next name to appear was Guy Child with a date of 1939 shortly after the sale, it is not known as to if he bought it.

**Glencairn.** Brooklyn Avenue

The family of Thomas Heggie welcomed a baby boy here in 1927. He knew as much about the Cairn as this entry does.

**Heath Field.** Brooklyn Avenue

1928 traced this field to Horace Fairclough who earned his pay as a clerk.

**Heather Sage.** Brooklyn Avenue

All the Tees to Thomas Tongue who spelt thing differently in 1928 as the home was also called **Hather Sage** at times.

**Heversham.** Brooklyn Avenue

The house of Heversham had 1928 occupancy of Miss. Edisfort.

**Holme Lea.** Brooklyn Avenue

The Holme was home to the Edwin Webster family and 1928 was the period.

**Ivydene.** Brooklyn Avenue

Albert Scott called this house in 1928 his own.

**Kenniston.** Brooklyn Avenue

In 1928-1938 Albert Taylor lived here as an early homemaker on the off shoot to Irlam Road.

**Kilrea.** Brooklyn Avenue

The translation from Irish is 'Church on the hill' in 1928 it had Charles Wall who could have visited there at some time.

**Latosa.** Brooklyn Avenue

Noisy or annoying would be the Spanish translation, in 1928, Leslie Butler would not have been like that as he was a postal worker.

**Lingholme.** Brooklyn Avenue

A salesman called this 1927 house his abode he was Philip Milbourne.

**Rookwood.** Brooklyn Avenue

Plumbing was the speciality of 1928 tradesman Frank Robinson.

**Roslyn.** Brooklyn Avenue

This calling was very popular around the district. It was built 1894 according to evidence but carries little information otherwise. For that time a surgeon lived there named as James Walls and he stayed to 1919, then it was the turn of William Richards who was a fitter. By 1939 it was Donald Brown a brass foundry worker.

**Rosieries.** Brooklyn Avenue

The garden might have grown roses for 1928 joiner Frank Parr.

**St. Germaine.** Brooklyn Avenue

This French connection had Alfred Stephenson at home in 1928.

**Strathmead.** Brooklyn Avenue

In 1928 this dwelling was third as one entered into the avenue which accounted for many named places in this year.

**The Kyles.** Brooklyn Avenue

This belonged to John Currie who was hot for this 1928 house.

**The Pines.** Brooklyn Avenue

This attractive semi proffered in 1928; Hall, dining room, drawing room with bay window, kitchen, scullery, four bedrooms, bathroom with w c, cellars, and exit to the garden. It had full gardens back and front.

**Tyneside.** Brooklyn Avenue

The year of 1919 brought this house to the list of Flixton homes. James Hodgson was in residence for this year with Henry Ireland occupying the second half.

**West View.** Brooklyn Avenue

The view was where the Davenport family lived during the year of 1927.

**Whitehead Farm.** Brooklyn Ave

The Whitehead Farm sat behind the Flixton Council Offices off Flixton Road and close to Ambleside. This farm was a familiar sight 1920-30. The picture was captioned as Hay making at Whiteheads.

**Wilton Cottage.** Brooklyn Avenue

At the corner of Bosdin Road the 1927 cottage kept the Nicholson family comfortable.

**Wyecoller.** Brooklyn Avenue

Frederick Tame was looking after the 1928 house of Wye.

- **Brundritt Lane.** (Brundrell Lane)

An old address recorded in 1851 as being off Millers Lane at Woodsend, there was a home there for this year called Brundritt. The lane no longer exists. There are other references to **Brundrell Lane** for this period; they appear to be one and the same.

**Broom Cottage.** Brundrell Flixton

This cottage was recorded in a directory of 1851 but without detail of where it could be found. It reappeared in 1882 sitting on Brundrell Lane with stable, piggery, hen pen, and greenhouse. It contained three acres of land and had an orchard.

- **Bude Avenue.** Flixton

The 1930's era is given for Bude which has 16 homes. Bude has Cornwall connections in its name. One named home only that of Plynlimon that was ceded to council in leu of outstanding mortgage in 1934.

- **Bulwark Road.** Davyhulme

This road no longer exists being taken as a once industrial site and converted into retail. For today the closest indicator would be the Neary Way as it branches off from there. Only **two examples** of business are indicated.

**Ancliff Tankers.** Bulwark Road

The Davyhulme Company of Ancliff carried the Urmston name all over Britain. At first it showed as John Ancliff only to have the John dropped as the company grew. Carries of bulk liquid, and or, anything that needed this form of transportation they eventually came face to face with a takeover to become Bulwark Transport. Registered during the 1950-60's they moved on soon after.

**Stones Scaffolding Ltd.** Bulwark Road

As a subsidiary of Palmers Travelling Cradle Co. Ltd. the Stones Company arrived in Urmston for 1961. Their speciality was, as both names suggest, scaffold and travelling cradles for construction and maintenance. This was something they were good at as the parent company could offer experience from 1890.



- **Burford Avenue.** Davyhulme  
1935 gave start here and it has 21 residential houses.

- **Burnham Drive.** Davyhulme  
The Drive is numbered odds 1-9. Burnham has town origins in Norfolk and Somerset.

- **Bus.**

It was announced in 1846 that John Thornton was to operate an Omnibus route in the town. It was to run through Flixton, Urmston, and Davyhulme with a final pick up stop at Crofts Bank. From there it would travel to Manchester via Stretford. In 1848 John was fined £5 for running the bus on a Sunday. By 1869 competition was fierce the companies of Shawcross & Worrall (Worrel) were in opposition to the Stretford Omnibus Company in trying to capture the public for this form of transportation. To officially name a company that first ran involving a **motorised** public service is difficult, the company of **Rykfield** show that they operated buses in 1907 through the district.



The first recognised bus service was owned by Harry Smith c.1901 and was to be found behind the Victoria Hotel in Urmston in what was then known as Victoria Mews, later to become Bold's Garage. The service linked Stretford and Urmston. The horse drawn vehicle was replaced with a motor bus in 1913 but during WW1 the War Department requisitioned the vehicle and Mr. Smith returned to using the horse drawn bus. North Western ran the local bus service in 1920 it operated a route from Flixton Station and through to Station Road, Urmston. The Lord Nelson also acted as a terminus for the beginnings of this mode of transport.

#### Bus Experiment.

For a trial two motorized omnibuses were brought into Manchester in 1906. They ventured into the suburbs to show Greater Manchester the future of transport. Passengers could ride, by invitation only, from Urmston to Hale for a demonstration of their comfort, reliability, and convenience. Each bus travelled at 16 MPH and was described as Vanguard Class the same as used in London. Accommodation was for 36 passengers seated inside and on top, the double wheels are solid rubber and the whole bus weighed 4 tons. A company had not yet been formed but they were waiting on the availability of a fleet of 50.



1906 Vanguard

They were still trying for this service in 1927 but the route changed to Urmston - Droylsden via Piccadilly, it came into operation in 1928 as a joint venture between Manchester Corporation and North Western. The service expanded over the years, but it took until 1934 to get council to allow double decker transport through the district.

#### Bus Route. c.1950

North Western ran a very efficient service after the war which covered the main districts of Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme to Piccadilly Manchester. Three buses ran routes which allowed passengers to avail themselves of transport around Davyhulme and on to Woodsend; the numbers were 11, 13, and 23. This last one terminated at Woodsend.



Urmston was privy to the 3, and 5, which travelled down Flixton Road and the 12 for Church Road. Ultimately all three finished up in Flixton at the Mile Road Terminus. Also, at this time there was a connection from the Urmston Station to Eccles passing by the number of 22. As the area grew the bus system included a route to Partington numbered as 107.

A note of interest is that the 22 **had to be a single decker**, as it was required to pass under a low bridge once it reached the Patricroft side of the canal and on to Eccles.



#### Bus Shelters.



Although it is difficult to see on this picture it does show the first bus shelter in the area. On Stretford Road and by the Manor Gardens this tiny structure was brick built and carried a corrugated iron roof which curved away from the road. Internally there was a wooden bench seat and the frontage was half walled but totally open to the weather. Suggested is that this arrangement came around 1940 and was most certainly still there into 1960. Between 1964 and 1968 Council purchased 21 prefabricated timber shelters, complete with flower boxes, for installation around the district.



The most unusual bus stops at one time were the circular (Rotunda) shelters that were once found on routes. Outside of the Roebuck Hotel on Church Road the corner here comprised of the shelter, underground toilets, and behind, a rose garden. Smaller versions sat at the Davyhulme Circle across from Hayeswater Road and at Woodsend near the Red Lion.



Single decker on Station Bridge for Eccles

- **Butcheries.**

See Vernon, Cuthbert, Howarth, and Holdsworth, these have been around a long time. Some other well-established names would be Holcroft & Long of Station Road, Mason, and Parkin, of both Church Road and another, Traynor at Woodsend. An advert of 1873 selling a butcher's shop stated that there was **no other in the village of Urmston** for that time. A marriage in 1910 really confused the trade as George Vernon's son Wilfred took Joseph Holdsworth's daughter Mary for his wife.

Holdsworth and Vernon both held shop here until Howarth moved in.



## C

- **Caister Close.** Flixton

The homes are 8 in number for the Close. The calling of Caister arrives from the Yarmouth area.

- **Calder Bank.**

One of the smaller hamlets later absorbed into making up Davyhulme. Calder Bank had a boarding school for ladies in 1841 the principle was Hannah Barker. The estate of Calderbank was opened up by the builder Maunders in 1953 with a projected 350 homes. 1955 showed several advertisements offering the first shopping facilities for this new Urmston Council housing scheme. Vacant was for a butcher, an ironmonger, a chemist or greengrocer. A Calder is Scottish for a 'small stream'.



Names here are for 1891 included James Taylor as a florist, Thomas Rogerson the farmer and William Rogers as a market gardener. These professions suggest a connection to the Farm and Nursery of this area.

- **Calderbank Avenue.** Davyhulme

13 flats out of 43 homes make up the avenue. Semidetached homes were bringing £50 per annum here in rent for 1893. Only Uplands has been found as a named home here at No 1 & 2.

**Calderbank.** Davyhulme

One abode still stands for the present called by name and it is dated 1884 as a remnant of the community in the area. Only four families have been recorded for this home they are Parr, Pough, Gagan and Hemani.



**Calderbank Cottages.** Davyhulme

There were two cottages noted for 1861 in close proximity to the Calderbank House. Residents there at this time were James Owen and James Peers. The year of 1926 had this as one establishment with six compact rooms, a bathroom, and all modern conveniences **except** electricity. The services included gas and water. Outside were stables, coach house, workshop, and barn. Some rose and fruit trees came along as an afterthought.

Alfred Peacock was taking in dogs for the kennels at the cottage in 1938, later and better known as A. Partington & Sons **Welfed Kennels**. The building today is a replacement for the first which was destroyed by fire; it has been styled to be in keeping with the old architecture.



**Calderbank Farm.** Davyhulme

One of many early farms of distinction from 1717 once belonging to John Gregory but now demolished after being sold for redevelopment. The farm was advertised for sale in 1864 it comprised of 25 acres **including the large house**. The usual, shippon's, stables, and barns, two orchards, and a market garden made up the farm on offer. Some of the field names included: Finney, Big Bean Carr, Shoe Broad, and Hey Carr. There were eight fields in all excluding the house, lane, orchards, and hen croft. The area of Lee's fields was the local for the farm in fact it sat on the fields called Calder Bank. Next traced was James and Rachel Richardson for 1871. Arthur Lees inherited the farm from his father and leased it out to several famers over the years. 1898 it was Hannah Rogers followed by Robert Bennett into 1908. Two later families were that of Burgess who were there around 1920 and William Hall for 1928. An Albert Burgess is dated for 1958. Council ordered the demolition of all the remaining outbuildings in 1966.

**Calderbank House.** Davyhulme

The year of 1867 noted the Leigh Family living there with all its surrounding lands put up for auction the following year 1868. A starting name for these earliest of times was William McKinnel in 1891. Moving to 1898 the directories have it placed on the **north** side numbered as 140 and at home, James Alker. 1901 it belonged to the Walker family namely James. From a sale pitch in 1908 the dwelling, now referred to as Woodsend Road and on the **west** side, included a piggery, coach house with stables, and two acres of land. Selling was Cyril Thornber. The added rooms followed in 1881 when once more put up for sale by owner Miss. M. Smith. There was a hall with fireplace, large drawing room and dining room, five bedrooms and a bath room. The domestic offices consisted of a kitchen, scullery, dairy and laundry. In the total 8 ½ acres there was an orchard with a shippon and barn. Henry Coppal for 1927 appears to be the last occupant of the original house.

For Real Estate purposes there is a named house number 348 on the **north** side of Davyhulme and Woodsend Roads called this, and it shows 1884 for the time of some alteration. This could also be explained if the house was built, or rebuilt, with materials from the original Calder Bank House when it was removed in the 1930's for development.

#### **Calderbank Nursery.** Davyhulme

The nursery, in all probability, belonged to the farm, house, or cottage. Adam Fallows was the 1887 gardener there together with his wife Ann. The location has not been confirmed but it could be confused with Fowden Nursery. A 1939 nurseryman is recorded for here he was J. Braithwaite.

#### **Fowden Nursery.** Calderbank Avenue

The closing of this market garden in 1909 showed that William Henry Fowden owned two acres of land at the end of the avenue. His main produce was based on home grown apples and flowers. A speciality was orchids of which it was noted as being a large and splendid collection. The business was taken by Norman Brownhill. The nursery was made up of 2 acres and 24 greenhouses, a potting shed and storage sheds. Five boilers and piping were supplied by Manchester Corporation water.

#### **Uplands.** Calderbank Avenue



For 1900 this was the only home along the avenue and living there were Arthur Robert Brett and William Henry Fowden. The house is only recorded as Uplands from 1909 and confirmed by sale of the property. The house itself was semidetached and had a large hall, six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms and the entire etcetera. Further to this it was well cellared and had a stable detached from the house. A conservatory was attached with large lawn and kitchen garden. The house was approached by a 240ft driveway seriously reduced for modern days. By the time 1939 came around the names here were Harry Davies and William Stuecklin.

- **Calder Court.** Davyhulme

12 properties numbered as 1-11 with an added 23A. Urmston Council called for tenders here in December of 1959, to be built; 19 old people's bungalows with warden and communal accommodation, they were completed by 1962. This court was totally replaced by 2013-14 with a new development and offered to the public.



- **Calver Close.** Flixton

Possibly linked to the old farm of Calver, the Close has 10 properties. Calver is also a north Derbyshire town.

- **Cambridge Road.** Flixton 1900

This was a very small road in its early days it only had three houses on the **east** side which formed a small terrace. Reaching a time of 1911 there were 8 dwellings, this is now up to 28 plus one flat for 2010. Cambridge is a cul-de-sac. Peter Monks claimed number 1 on the west side. Unconfirmed is that he was the first to be housed in the corner shop of Victor Terrace on Church Road with a dairy outlet. The stonemason who created the cenotaph on Davyhulme Circle lived at number 28 he was Thomas Maclaughlan.



- **Canterbury Road.** Davyhulme

For the year of 1928 this road accounted for ten homes. Canterbury Road today accounts for 210 housed families with 10 additional places which are commercial. This road was completed to Moss Vale in 1935. A doctor, Basil Lee M. R. C. S. L. R. C. P. held offices at 186 down the road for 1939.

#### Canterbury Road shopping.



A line of nine are presented as established in **1935** with the name of H. Whittle entering the proposal to council. The first shop was George Masons he was a Grocer. The list continues as John Bamford Butcher, C. Rosebourne Chemist, J. Todd Ltd. Newsagent, J. Todd Ltd. Baker, J. Todd Ltd. Draper, Thomas Brennen Fish and Chips, Fredrick Umbers Hardware Distributer, Lawrence Speight Greengrocer.

#### **Davyhulme Infant & Junior Schools.** Canterbury Road

Little detail other than it was built in 1939 and opened in the following year. The school has a logo of two Owls. A school was put out for tender in 1949 by the Lancashire County as Davyhulme Junior but it is unknown if this was a replacement or a new branch of the existing school.



- **Carden Avenue.** Flixton

1,2,3,4, are all there is of Carden. 'From the black fortresses' is the Celtic meaning of Carden.

- **Carisbrooke Avenue.**

1904 and this avenue off Dartford was lined **south** 1-17 and **north** 2-16 with housing. This Brooke has connection to the Isle of Wight.

- **Carlton Crescent.** Urmston

The Crescent is recorded as being re-developed around 1955 with its 23 properties however it was known to exist well before WW2. For 1941 the Crescent was included in the sale of several homes listed as the Urmston Hall Estate. Carlton is English, from the 'town of free men'. There are two notable features here, a blue plaque and a home built with items re-used from Urmston Hall. A house called Malita was an NFS post during WW2.

- **Carlton Road.** Urmston

Carlton Road leads into the Crescent and has 10 fine houses. Carlton Road had a naming of the Urmston Hall Estate when offered as a bulk sale in 1941. A beginning for the road shows in a home there called Dalefield found to exist in 1911.

**Dalefield.** 1 Carlton Road

The one and only place named for 1911 on this road it was being lived in by Harry Sills at that year. The problem arrives in that this gent was also found living in a semi on Westmorland Road at the same time. The numbers given were 28-30 Westmorland. The enumerator must have been very confused but the photo shows why, this house was on the corner of both. It was a semidetached with one home on Carlton and the other Westmorland. **Inglewood** was the associated home. 1939 and it was the place to be for Henry Whitaker known for Mersey View Flixton later.



**Ewanrigg.** Carlton Road

A late naming for the road, this turned up for 1938 with Joseph Bottomley at home.

**Hollingworth. The Coach House.** Carlton Road

At the rear of the main house on **Church Road** the old coach has been adapted into a home to be found on Carlton Road. Charles Cook set up a small school in the stables during 1881. There was two stall stabling plus coach facilities. The home was white faced rendering with slate tiled roof. A modern sale indicated 3 bedrooms, dining, spacious lounge and kitchen, with a utility room added. The double garage was an addition to the main coach house and included with a conservatory.



**Inglewood.** Carlton Road

There were only two homes noted along the road for 1918 this one and **Dalefield**. This wood was home to 1939 occupant William Marrs. (See Dalefield for explanation)

- **Carrington Road.**

From the border of Cheshire and the Carrington Bridge, it stops at the site of the former Jubilee Tree in Flixton. Recorded for 2008 the road had 63 homes and 16 flats. Fern Bank and Green Bank are names of the past as is Glebe Farm. The road is also home to the Village Court which was once the site of Stocks House. An application was forwarded for the stopping of a Public Footpath in 1934 that ran through from Carrington Road to Irlam Road, as there was a new road to be built on the land.

- **Carrington Road.** Flixton 1900

Beginning at Stocks House the **south** side comprised of Green Bank, Fern Bank, which then arrived at Glebe Farm. There were 5 homes then making up Worthy Terrace, 4 for Birch Ave, then 6 completing Birch Grove. On the **north** side was Bole Hill a block of 6 terraced homes which reached to Victoria Avenue. Claremont and Sunny Bank took the continuance through to Parsonage Road.



The Co-op did not exist then only arriving in 1928. At the top of the hill there is the Rectory and last at that time, Hope Cottages. After 1905 the terraced groups are only referred to going down the hill but were not named. The last block of eight was built on land called Pool Plat. (Platt)

**Birch Grove.** Carrington Road. The Grove became better known as **Morris** Grove which is entered accordingly.

**Bole Hill.** 12-22 Carrington Road Flixton

On the north side of the road this six homed terrace faced Stocks House and ended at Victoria Avenue. Close enough to be nominated as being part of the Village. A Bole is 'a colour that represents a tree trunk' according to old English. 1894 is the earliest date found at this time for the Bole.



**Carrington Bridge. (Flixton Bridge)** Aka the Mile Road Bridge Aka County Bridge.

First a wooden structure in c.1550 it was replaced by a steel bridge c.1840. This early bridge was not located where the familiar bridge is of today. Carrington Road led on along the west side of the Flixton Eas from Mersey View or Four Lane Ends as it is also called. Tracking west it followed the banks of the river eventually making the crossing close to where the Carrington Hall Farm stood. The Mile Road straightened this up as the new bridge came to be. For the times, this was to convey Cheshire people to church in Flixton.



The County Palatines of Lancaster and Chester called for tenders to build the bridge in October 1905. The bridge, as it is today, was erected and opened in 1907. Built by M. Hanley of Hull and has a span of 50 ft. and the parapets are 35 ft. apart. During construction the bridge was washed away by flood waters causing serious delay. Once finished, the contractor sold off all the excess materials and equipment used on site rather than take it away. When completed the County Bridge Master refused to allow it to be used as the Council had not completed the widening of Carrington Road.



Next in this saga came the fact that the Worthington Wright family who owned the land there refuse to sell, so, a compulsory purchase order was applied for and obtained. The ornate columns atop of each pier have since been removed leaving flat stone caps in their place.



2007 was 'Happy Birthday' for the bridge as



it celebrated its centenary alone without recognition.

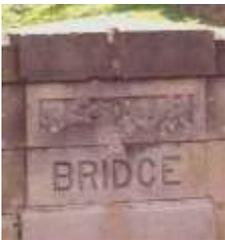


The bridge began, with work going well, and then came the rising waters.

#### Flixton Road Bridge. Flixton/Carrington Roads

Confusion reigns, as the railway bridge is not officially called by that name. Flixton Bridge is correctly called for the bridge over the Mersey to Carrington. This in turn is also called Carrington Bridge, even the Mile Road Bridge at times. To add to this, the Mile Road is called Flixton Road on many present-day maps.

#### Name removal.



At the onset of World War 2, many signposts and names of strategic places were removed by local council. A good example of this still on display is the etched-out name of Flixton on the Carrington Road Bridge. This appears to have been a local practice and not a country wide law for the time. Confirmation of this has been traced to a letter from the Clerk to County Council requesting that immediate effect be given to an instruction of the Regional Commissioner that all location and direction signs be removed with the exception of those appertaining to shelters, first aid posts, fire stations and auxiliary fire stations. Air Raid Precaution Committee - 24th June 1940. Several homes carrying German designations were removed or renamed voluntarily by local residents.

#### Claremont. 36-50 Carrington Road. Flixton

This building carries a single identification plaque, but it is unsure if the whole unit is called by this name. Numbered only up to 42 in 1894 it would seem some extension was made later. Two terraces here were named the other being **Sunny Bank** and an amalgamation of the two seemed likely.



#### Fern Bank. Carrington Road

Fern Bank c.1880 was next door to the Glebe Farm. Its partner there is **Green Bank**, they shared the land between the Farm and Stocks House. The nearest neighbour behind was the River Mersey and the Bank was occupied by Henry Pope for 1881 and John Bury in 1901. Not around for long John relinquished title to James Bardsley 1903, he remained for over twenty years with the eventuality of Mrs Annie Elizabeth Bardsley registering for 1938. Today, it sits in the shadow of the new Village Court apartment block.

#### Four Lane Ends. Flixton

This became the calling of a section that was, once, the Eas Lane. As a continuance of Carrington Road, a home was built here called **Mersey View**, this in turn captured the road naming to be the same. By 1905 it was already shown as Four Lane Ends on mapping. The four lanes today are Carrington, Lansdowne, Flixton Road and Mersey View. (Flixton Road Aka the Mile Road)

#### Green Bank. Carrington Road

Green Bank was a close neighbour to Glebe Farm; 1881 had Joseph Royle with wife, Elizabeth and family in the census, Morton Dodge was resident in 1901. This Bank connected with another, **Fern Bank**. 1903 showed James Brockbank who kept his place here for about 30 years. It remained in the family with Mrs Sarah Jane Brockbank putting it in her name for 1938. The Bank advertised 2,000 yards of lawn and garden then added its six bedrooms and two living rooms. There was a kitchen, scullery, a larder along with three cellars and an orchard in 1879.



**Glebe Farm and House.** Carrington Road

The farm of 28 acres sat in approximation between the Village Court site (Stocks House) and the Birch Grove. It is known to have still been operating in the early 1930's. The Didsbury Chapelry purchased this land in 1770 as an investment sub-leasing it for farming until it was sold again in 1848. At this period the farmer was Richard Taylor, by 1881, it was in the hands of John Johnson. For interest, Glebe means, soil, earth, or field. Later farmers known there were 1901-1918 Joseph Johnson, and 1919-1930 Sidney, Sarah, and Neville Rogers. **Glebe House** was leased separately to the farm during the 1850's. It offered stables and an orchard to prospective tenants. Much of the Glebe lands were Wright Estate fields and make up the Flixton Conservation area after it disappeared from directories in or around 1937. The lands open as Parker's Garden Centre in 1972.

**(Stocks Farm) Glebe Carrington Road**

In an advert for this Stocks it was not mentioned precisely where it was. The lands named showed it to be close to the Flixton Eas. Furthermore, as it was known as Stocks the farm of Glebe comes to mind. The twenty acres or so offered went with stables, shippon, barn, and other outbuildings. The date of 1848 presented documents confirming that the owners were the Chapelry of Didsbury; this gave evidence that it was indeed another calling for **Glebe Farm**.

**Hope Cottages.** 54-60 Carrington Road Flixton

Sitting next to the Rectory in 1880 there was a Gratrix family member there called William who stayed for around ten years. These four cottages or terraced homes were the last buildings on the **north** side at that time. To the right of the picture, as the end home, is the only one named, Fox Cottage.

**Kelly.** 9 Carrington Road

This grocer, tobacconist, and confectioner existed near the bus terminus for many years c.1939-1950. Just before Kelly the shop was in the hands of Mrs Nellie Stubbs.

**Mersey View. (Area)** Carrington Road

For six flats this is home along with 4 houses and a view. This point is called Four Lane Ends on some maps. The View dates back to before 1908 when the Whittaker family made home in the first house. James Barlow also lived at the View in 1916 with a daughter called Mary who left home to marry in 1918. The View showed in addition to numbers 1-2 through to c.1939 although Mosedale Brick Works used the address at times as well.

This location became a place to dump unwanted rubble, found here was the date stone for Stocks Terrace. The name stone, found on Stretford Road, for St. Mary's Place Gloucester Road has been included with a house on the View. Both stones are to be preserved by the owner there. The lane along here is dotted with small holdings one of which is the long established, Lafferty.

**Mersey View. (The House)** Carrington Road

Earliest families found for here were the 1889 Knight, 1890 Harper, and 1891 Booth.

Although this was the calling for the road it was based on the home to be found at the end as Carrington Road. It is mentioned that the Whittaker family were there in the reference to the road and they still owned the place in 1939. At another time the situation was as Mersey View Farm, Carrington Road.

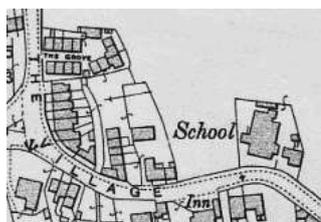
The original house (Left) was built before the second home. (Right) The owner under the name of Whitnall had this additional place built for his son. The family continue to retain holdings here as the **Abbey Cross Farm**, it is split into several industrial units.

**Mersey View. Lafferty Farm.**

John Lafferty began in the business of pig farming around 1950 however this has changed for the present day to equestrian use offering a large area of stabling and care.

**Mersey View. (The Village)** Flixton

An oddity noted from the street directory of 1928. It indicated a place called Mersey View in the village. This view was to be found between the school and the cottages before the roads of Flixton and Carrington are reached. Vacant land with allotments has always been regarded as so for this area. An explanation was that the cottages there were once called by this name.



The O/S map of 1904 confirms open land under the word school and again in 1938-39 the record states Mersey View. As it was recorded as such the Mersey View, as known, is to be found now at the end of Carrington Road.

**Morris Grove Flixton 1900**

One terraced group of ten homes in this no thoroughfare which was a part of **Birch Grove**. The Grove has now been rebuilt c.1985 and is noted for homes 1-34. This was formatted from the Wright Estate lands



**Nelly Brook.** Carrington Road

The brook was another of the difficult places found in documents for the district. It turned out to be a colloquialism for a ditch and the bridge could be found on about the site of the Flixton Bridge at the area of Four Lane Ends. An agreement was reached in 1897 between Robert Whittaker and William Royle to remove a bridge here, if and when, required to do so. This would appear to be a bridge constructed by Robert on property owned by William. He reserved the right to have it removed. Taking it further this would seem to be associated with the brook around Duttons farm and pond.

**Pool Plat.** (Platt) Carrington Road

The Plat was a field name close to the Flixton-Carrington Bridge it was to become a terraced block of eight homes by 1906 built by descendants of John and Fanny Royle. It was a son, William, (1860-1939) that inherited the land for this development. The row was built as investment and had nothing to do with "housing for employees" of any kind which is often suggested. The Coupe Bros. as neighbour to this terrace were reputed to have supplied the bricks for this project introducing a named Flixton brick.

**Rectory.** Carrington Road

The Vicarage built in 1825 is actually called "**The Rectory**" with wrought iron gates clearly stating so in their structure. The Reverend Richard Reece lived there in 1881. A slate roof covers the Flemish bond brick walls and internally a two-floor staircase. The front panelled door is supported by Roman style Doric columns below a brick fanlight arch. The windows are sash with stone sills under flat bricked arches. Included are an attic and a cellar with added later a Victorian bay window on the northwest corner. This is completed by its gable chimney stacks.



(Listed in 1978 Grade 2) It was sold by the church to fund a new version opposite St. Michael's Church. A baptism for the daughter of a Clerk in Holy Order living there in 1880 called John Kennedy-Bell introduced the name she would likely try to forget; Saint Margaret Helen Maud Harriet Kennedy-Bell.

**The Rectory is not open to the public.**

**Stocks House.**

Stocks House was built, allegedly, for a rich cotton merchant's family c.1893, on land at Glebe Farm. The dating arrives from a St. Michael's registry entry. It introduced Henry Lycett as the bride's father in that year. The bride was Charlotte both noted to be living at Stocks House. John J. Royle is known for 1898 as he lived there at that time. (John was an Engineer) It had been suggested that John had the home built but this was incorrect. John passed on leaving the house to his wife Sarah Anne, she died in 1919 and Mrs. Sabina Alker was registered for 1928-1939. By 1942 it became a nursing home but fell to developers in 2004. Stocks was demolished and has been completely rebuilt opening there as residential apartments called Village Court 2007.



**The description of the house** became available in 1976 when the Trafford Borough Council put it up for sale after its last usage as a Day Nursery. This former residence of character was set in 1.17 acres of grounds. The detached building was made of red brick and slate established c.1900.

Ground floor: Porch, hall with grano (concrete) floor and wood panelling. Three reception rooms, kitchen, laundry room, larder, and conservatory led to the first floor. This comprised of a wood panelled half landing with attractive lead windows, four rooms with bathroom, and two toilets. The second floor had three rooms plus a storeroom. The outbuildings were in an enclosed yard with a wash house, drying room, garden store with toilet. Two brick and slate garages were set into extensive gardens. An earlier showing in 1926 included that one room was a billiard room and another housed a grand piano in a music room. As an added note it was stated that the house **abutted** the **Flixton Conservation Area** and any site development must reflect and enhance the area.

**Sunny Bank.** Carrington Road

Mostly unoccupied in 1881, it is found to have been a terrace along by Parsonage Road. Number 2 was to let in 1895, there were two entertaining rooms, four bedrooms, a kitchen, bathroom and lavatory, a dry cellar. The four homes were numbered as 44-50 as at 1901 and were by then fully occupied. This terrace gives appearance as being connected to Claremont.

**Terminus.** Carrington Road

This unique place was where the bus service ended at the end of the journey from Manchester. A manoeuvre of reversing the bus had to be completed before any return journey could be made. A difficult practice in that the conductor would have to guide the driver backwards into, or off, the Mile Road against oncoming traffic. One local resident was killed during one of these reversing exercises in 1941. Generally, the number of vehicles was not high and patient drivers would often wait to allow this to happen. Later, a turning access was provided for the safety of all.

**The Bungalow.** 92 Carrington Road

Mersey View would be more correct for the location of this home even though it was a continuation of Carrington. Edward Whittaker was, for 1928-1939, staying in it. Edward was well known around Flixton for his pigeons taking the hobby through the war years.

**Worthy Terrace.** Carrington Road

These five homed terraces were on the **south** side of Carrington Road with its back to the River Mersey.

**Yarwood. E & D.** 1 Carrington Road

The terraces and shops thereafter began the numbering for this side of the road. Yarwood's was a café of the 1950's.

- **Carrington Spur.**

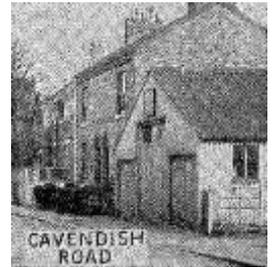
This extension to the M60 is designed to carry traffic from the current motorway and through to Carrington. To do this it completely obliterated the Hillam Farm site and its surrounding buildings in 1986. A widening scheme of 2003 ensured the farms fate and when it opened in 2006 even the last cottage and orchard there had gone.

- **Carrsvale Avenue.** Urmston

Of the 30 homes here, the majority were built in or around 1930. Possibly so called because of its access to the Carrs Ditch.

- **Cavendish Road.** (Late Granville Road 1890)

Of the entire homes here only two carried names in 1898 Langley House and Windigate. Although it is all residential now, Cavendish Road was home to a large Gardening Nursery, run by nurseryman Peter Taylor, through to c.1955. Development began after this time and it has grown to 66 homes with 21 of these as flats. Consent was given for nine of the flats to be built in 1973. A further change was the addition of Cavendish Court. Cavendish is Norman and originates as family named lands in Suffolk.

**Langley House.** 38 Cavendish Road (**South east**)

J. D. Williams was probably the first to live in this house of c.1898-1919. He was followed by Lancashire Aero Club members, Percy and Louise Michelson who were there until the building was purchased by the UUDC in 1942. This became the home of the Urmston War Workers Club in 1943. The house was converted as a recreational facility for female workers transferred from other places to work in Trafford Park and had nowhere to go in their spare time. The Warden was Mrs. C. Boswell who herself came from Rhodesia as a volunteer to aid the war effort. When her tour of voluntary duty was completed Mrs. Boswell returned to Rhodesia and opened a club there for women calling it, Langley House.

The house has given origin to Langley Close when it was developed and, for evaluation today, Cavendish Court sits on the old site. The Director of the Manchester Ship Canal Company lived at the house as mentioned, his name was James David Williams. During 1950 it was being run as the Langley House Community Association. The notorious and or charismatic Charles Terry also lived here for a while taking occupation in 1958. When Terry left the home in 1962 it was described as having 24 rooms, a swimming pool, and a garden that included over 100 rose trees. This was being put to public use again into 1970-75.

**Laburnum Villas.** Cavendish Road

This semidetached appeared around 1903 followed in 1905 with occupants of Jackson and Booth in 1911. On the **south east** side, they were numbered out of step to the rest of the road. Through to 1928 this was the only named house for the whole road.

**Thistle Cottage.** Cavendish Road

Number 5 is the address of this cottage. As a part of a terrace it stands alone as being the only home named on the row. The owner there for this late 1890 home was William Glazier for 1901.

**Windigate.** (Wyndi-gates) Cavendish Road

A date of 1898 had this house as last along the south east side. Charles Maycock kept it from the breeze as this neighboured Langley House. Listed as number 40 it showed 1901 had Rowland Parkinson as its tenant.

25 Cavendish Road.

The residence of Frank Bray perhaps better known as Frank Pearce funeral director of the 1950's who operated out of Bank Cottage on Railway Road.

- **Cecil Drive.** Flixton

There are 16 houses with a first date of 1935 given. Cecil has an unfortunate meaning it is Latin for blind.

- **Central Drive.** Urmston

The homes are 24 in all along this then newly named Drive beginning in 1932.

- **Chadwick Lane.** Urmston

Much valued as part of Urmstons early history, it has been renamed **Bradfield Road** as of 1951. The Lane is known to have existed since 1770 and possibly got its name from Thomas Chadwick of The Grove who used the lane often. It housed the first residences there called Blossom Row (Lost in 1950) and Queens Terrace (lost in 1959.) The Moorfield Villas 1898 stood there until 1973. Nancy Holt's Gorse Farm was addressed as Chadwick Lane. It was often referred to as **Lovers Lane** in early photographs.



**Blossom Row.** Chadwick Lane

Thatched roofing was the feature of this small row of terraced housing c.1800 which was a neighbour to the **Queens Terrace**. Blossom went c.1950. Numbered 1-15 it housed eight families.

**Chadwick Cottages.** Chadwick Lane

Two cottages sat at the corner of Chadwick and Moss Vale. First found recorded inhabitants were Henry Farrer and John Faulkner 1895. Once they were demolished the land was never built on again.

**Gorse Hill Farm.**

The farm of 23 acres was from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and occupied land that included an orchard around Humphrey Lane and along by the Manor House and Urmston Bank. In 1790 the resident was John Beswick and for 1825 John Timperley. By c.1876 it was known as the Nancy Holt Farm, eventually being developed on in 1937. After William and Nancy Holt the farm came under a Stuart Bancroft who was there around 1920. He was followed by John Twigg who was the last to live there for the year of 1925.

A company called Longworth & Taylor purchased the land for building purposes in 1934. The estate incorporated Mount Drive, Southbourne Avenue, with portions of Chadwick Lane, and Humphrey Lane. The lands were divided by the railway line which gave forth to further buildings on Abbey Close and Foxdenton Drive.

**Kencroft Cottage.**

Kencroft was to be found in the area of Gorsey Brow terrace and Chadwick Lane in the 1880's it was the home of Joseph Marsh.

**Moorfield Villa.** Chadwick Lane

The Villa was along with Queens Terrace and Gorse Hill Farm this was lost to redevelopment in the 1930's. It was built in the 1800's and had a market gardener there in 1898 called William Whitnall with George Scholes a labourer.



**Queens Terrace.** Chadwick Lane (North)

A small terrace of six units razed under development since the change to Bradfield Road. Dating back to c.1850 one of the beginnings to homes in that area. Queens went in 1959.



**Yates & Payne Co.** Chadwick Lane

This company could be located at 29 Chadwick and was a partnership between John William Yates and James Payne. Their product was as Poultry Farming and 1939 was the year.

- **Chadwick Road.** Urmston

At one time there were two Chadwick addresses the Lane and the Road. The Road has survived with 18 properties.

- **Chalfont Avenue.** Urmston

Only one home here, it sits between Richmond and Gladstone. Its owner for 1939 was Augustine Pattern he was a joiner. Born in 1900 Augustine died in a fire at the home during 1964 leaving his wife Julia and five children. This avenue was originally called Park Street, it changed in 1933.

- **Chapel Grove.** Urmston 1900

The **northwest** side had 13 houses in a row, at number 11, one of the early Police Stations, a converted home, for Urmston. Slightly less housing on the **south east** side there were 7 homes. This road of approximately 1870 leads to the Jewish Cemetery as an alternate to Albert Avenue. 1881 showed a home noted as a semi with three bedrooms and called Bottom House but without detail.

The road evolved into a slightly different situation after 1909, the police 'station' had gone, and a wine retailer took the first premises on the **south** side. This building was called the De Trafford Arms and was demolished in 1969 for shops and flats. Leading to the Jewish Cemetery this grove retains its early charm even with its newer housing, off Higher Road. For the present it is comprised of 17 houses mostly built around 2002.

### Jewish Cemetery.

The cemetery is located off Higher Road on Chapel Grove where the land was purchased from the Jackson family in 1877. It was laid out in 1881 with today's total grave sites being over 2,000. 1894 brought a new extension to the cemetery adjoining the Portuguese section. An 1896 survey showed that the site was divided into two, one half for Polish and the other for Spanish and Portuguese which was later changed to English.



In May 1900 a foundation was laid for a new mortuary and surrounding walls. This resulted in two mortuary facilities, one for English and the other for Polish. Included here is a war memorial dedicated to the fallen of WW2. This cemetery was in a very poor state of repair and the Sexton was doing all he could without any backing and at his own expense. 1938 brought the fact that the Registrar was available at this point under the heading of 'New Shule' he was J. Douglas Jordan.



There was a second associated group to be found here in 1939 it was called The Manchester Burial Society of Polish Jews Ltd. The Hon. Sec. A. L. Carliph was to be reached if needed.

The question is often asked as to why Urmston has this cemetery when there is little following in the district. The answer arrives from the faith itself, it does not allow a cemetery in the same vicinity as a synagogue and Urmston was found to fit this discipline. The burial register is held at the Manchester New Synagogue.

### War Memorial. Jewish Cemetery



The memorial here is dedicated to World War 2 it is a needle structure surrounded with marble plaques inscribed accordingly. This memorial was designed by A. L. Carliph and unveiled in 1919. Another devoted to one war then adapted for the second.

- **Charities and associated.**

### Ancient order of Froth Blowers. (Established 2560 BC)



The eccentric group was represented in Flixton by A. Cheetham of the Church Inn. Each order was called a "Vat" and the ceremonies involved have to be read, or seen, to be believed. One penalty for breaching their rules is that the offender will have to drink his or her

beer from an egg cup for one hour. The order was formed in 1924 for charitable collection of funds but ceased to be in 1931. One of their slogans was "*Lubrication in Moderation.*" Re-established and in existence today with around 1 million members worldwide, it is not known if local pubs participate any more as a charity.

### Briefs. Flixton

Around 1673 the Sovereign issued letters that recommended and authorised collections for charitable objectives. The main intent was to allow donated goods (or finance) for the repairs and maintenance of church buildings and compensate such after fire or its kind. It could be taken further to aid the construction of new churches as well. As is the way this system was abused with forged briefs appearing and making their mark throughout the country. **The Flixton Briefs** record many entries showing legal collection of monies for distribution to churches around England. Country wide from other records it was found that only 50% of the final amounts reached their true destination and the Brief was abolished in 1828.

### Charities.

A Commission of enquiry was formed in 1826 to investigate the many local charities in the Parish of Flixton. Named were the Warburton, Woods, Gregory, Heywood, Coup & Sherlock, and Newton charities. The Commission went through the books to ensure the monies were being used as laid out in the various bequeaths. At some time or other these generous people gave to the Church, Schools, and the poor for the benefit of all. Usually invested to give interest and dividends over many years these benefactors shared their wealth. Another well-known charity for the time was the Bradshaw it specialised in helping schools and children who could not afford to attend class.

### Coupe and Sherlock Charity.

A charity of 1705 supporting school and church needs in Flixton. Peter Coupe began this with a donation that, as an investment, would bring in 30 shilling a year for the needy. It produced free bibles and paid the fees for 5 children to attend school.

### Flixton and Urmston Burial Society.

Born out of the Flixton Sunday School Company they purchased seven acres of land to begin the Urmston Cemetery in 1891. They called their members *Companions*, the solidarity and following for this venture was financially sound enough to ensure the continuance through the years and provided the amenity as it is today.

**Flixton Clothing and Coal Club.**

Mrs Norris of Davyhulme Hall established this charity c.1830. Its title gave clue to what she had in mind for helping the needy in the district. The aid was available through many years and continued into 1900.

**Flixton Sunday School Company.**

This charitable organisation was established in 1821 for the relief of the sick and ailing around town. The company continued to exist as the Flixton and Urmston Burial Society. (1898)

**Friendly Men's Society.**

Noted for 1875 as its origin, the local group met at the Lord Nelson Hotel. The basis for the society was that of a Working Men's Club and they were a loan or pension providing benefit for the working class.

**Heyward Charity.**

One of several for the time around 1786 George Heywood invested money to yield 10% per annum which was to be allocated throughout the poor of the district.

**Intergen.**

This is a group formed to promote and rectify the differences of the generation gap. Intergen is a charitable organisation that couples school children and the community generation that has passed with the aim of some understanding between the two. It was formed in 1999 and after some ten years proving to be successful. St. Michael's, Acre Hall, and Kingsway were the local representation; it now falls to the hands of Trafford.

**Lions. Urmston Precinct**

This long-standing association holds its meetings at the Conservative Club and are among the many now moved back into the new Eden Square. Although the Lions have been around since 1917 Urmston held their First Charter Night in 1976. The local associated division reference is 105 B S.

**Manchet Field.**

A field of dreams to help the poor, inconspicuous to begin with, a long narrow strip went from Chadwick Lane and north to the Stretford boundary. When William Gregory died in 1732, he bequeathed some money to the 'Poor House' whose management decided to invest it in real estate. This provided a regular income for the establishment, home to the needy. Leasing farmers would be paid to provide bread for distribution throughout the district to the poor. Eventually the new railway was to divide the land and it became a task to control the income. All funds were amalgamated into another organization called Higginsons. The field was sold to the county in 1961 to build a school on.

**Meals on Wheels. Urmston**

Planned for Urmston in 1963, the WVS purchased a van in 1969 from contributions by the public to get this food on the road. The service is for people aged 18 and over, usually older people, who are unable to prepare and cook one hot meal a day. This may be a permanent situation due to sight loss, a physical or learning disability, illness or a temporary situation such as recovering after a stay in hospital, to help with the maintenance of independence and quality of life.

**Mummers.**

This odd sounding name was the term used locally for visiting groups of actors around 1850. Arriving into Urmston and Flixton they performed the equivalent of Minstrel Shows as entertainers. Large groups from Eccles and Davyhulme would typically turn up for the Wakes as an annual event to re-enact the Pace Egging. To this day there is still a group called the Master Mummers who go around pubs and local events performing in the North of England. An annual visit to Urmston took place in November's past with appearances at the Roebuck, Church Inn, and the Steam House. Monies collected are donated to charity.

**Oddfellows.**

This group is a "Friendly Society" established around 1810 originating from Medieval Trade Guilds. Most of Urmstons membership was to be found at the St. David Lodge, Corn Hill this is still in existence to this day although a new location is not known. This Manchester division branched out in 1824 but under the main wing of the I. O. O. F, the Independent Order of Oddfellows better known as the Manchester Unity Friendly Society. The main aim is charitable work coupled to social activities.

**Rotary. (Urmston)**

March of 1943 is the date given for the formation of this group designated as Rotary 596. Closing in 2004 they joined with Stretford, became Rotary District 1050, and still operate as an amalgamated venture.

**RSPCA. Urmston**

The association has been available to the district since 1960 operating as the Manchester and Salford Branch. Locally this was established by Esther Price in a shop at 144 Flixton Road. Since that time a division called 'The Urmston Shop' was established along Gloucester Road, it arrived in 2008 and closed for a while in 2014 the shop is open once more.

**Sewing Circle.** Flixton

This group, formed during World War 1, took up the occupation of sewing clothing to send to the troops. They gathered in the area of Ambleside to complete their mission. Taking the action further it turned to Christmas gifts and supplies of all kinds. This was accompanied by a Needlework group called the Flixton, Urmston, and Davyhulme Guild who created handmade garments for distribution to hospitals in the 1920's.

**The Catenian Association.** Davyhulme Circle

The Association began life as the Chums Benevolent Association in 1908. They changed in name during 1910 to the Catenian Association. The aims are as a social organisation to foster relationships among Catholic families by encouraging assistance among its members. The group are Davyhulme 233 and have been operating since 1966.

**Wibbersley and Thorne Society.**

This fund-raising group which comprises of residents from Wibbersley Park and Thorne Avenue has been around since 1984. After two years of absurd New Year's Day cricket matches arranged at the local Bird in Hand, they decided to turn everything into charitable fund raising. Officially kicking off as of 1985 this group has raised thousands of Pounds towards Christies Cancer research.

- **Charleston Square.** Urmston

The Square took the site of the Urmston Baths when they were removed. The 12 homes and 4 flats were built in 1995 with the description of '*Communal Living*' attached. The main building of this complex carries a weathervane, something seldom seen around the area in modern times. This section conforms as a medical clinic. Some ruins from the Baths are still to be found here as the outer wall to the grounds.



- **Chassen Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue, which is off Chassen Road, has 16 houses.

- **Chassen Road.** Flixton



Details follow as today it has varying stories and property with regard to age. Modern development has taken it to 64 homes with much being done around 1970. A call for precast garages, 12 in all, was forwarded in 1974 at the corner of Chassen Road. A petrol service station became a feature in 1966 this too has gone with all fallen to private residences.

Its origins are as Abbots Lane, followed by Penny Lane which became Chassen.

- **Chassen Road.** Flixton 1900

The Roebuck starts the description of housing along here. It was in front of the Chassen Lodge, Holly Cottage, Woodbine, along to Shaw House. Through to the Mill it was still Chassen Road and included Shaw View an 18 house workers complex.



The **north** side of Chassen only had listed one unnamed home with Bowden View as a neighbour. A small alteration came in 1911 when directories included the Chassen Farm, and Acregate. At the end of the Tithe Barn was a cottage, it was included with the barn for address purposes and in 1895 had George Stott living in it.

**Chassen Road area, some detail.**

Going back to 1700 it was known as Abbots Lane until c.1846. Census details show it changed after this time and Tithe maps confirm this. Next as the original Penny Lane it provided farm access to the huge Shaw Town fields. It has been found that the Chassen name only came after land was sold or annexed for the new rail line in or around 1865. Barton-upon-Irwell called it Chasson in their 1871 street directory.

Proposed, in 1845, was a station to be positioned at Shawtown. This, railway halt, was finally added in September 1934 also located in this area is Chassen Park. (Abbotsfield to be correct) A football pitch could be found across the road from the park leading to the eventual Penny Lane of today. The "new" bridge, built c.1873, has now been restricted to moderate loading.

In Lawson's book about Flixton he referred to a bridge here as being the Shaw Town Bridge. An oddity for thought is that this bridge is supposed to have stood on Chassen before the railway came. What did it transverse? The answer could be that Penny Lane gets its name from having a '*Penny*' toll. This may have been a 'bridge' for the collection of Toll or crossing a known stream in the vicinity.

Chassen Road used to include what are now Shaw View and Shaw Lane. The ticket office was ravaged by fire in 2009 it has been reinstated once more just as it was.

A search for the origin of the word or name Chassen is inconclusive. The closest found is 'Chasen' a boy's name meaning Hunter and quite unique amongst the parental baby naming game.



**Bowdon View.** Chassen Road

A pair of old houses that still stand today situated on the renamed **Shaw Road**. They also had a name change as today **Bowden View** is the calling. The original brick finish to the exterior has been coated over. At home here for 1880 were Joseph and Grace Hawkins then 1891 Elijah Nuttall who worked as an Over looker and Mrs. Ann Knight was a Weaver. Employees at the mill no doubt which was almost next door. Nearly forty years later Knights were still in this house with Thomas and Norman. The neighbour was Mrs. Ann Gilbody.

**Chassen Cottages.**

Although often taken as Church Road names show for the cottages to be found attached at the Tith Barn. 1889 placed two families here they were William Skellon and Thomas Owen. The cottages became absorbed into farm and commercial use by 1901. Only two residences ever showed for the so-called north side of Chassen these and Bowden View through to 1903.

**Chassen Court.** Chassen Road

Three cottages used to sit here in days gone by, now it has 1 home and 5 flats. These cottages **have been confirmed** as being an early Shawtown School that were removed in 1969. The Court was approved for building in 1976.

**Chassen Farm. (Shawtown Farm)**

A farm residence located between the railway and a portion of the Penny Lane footpath. This is not to be confused with the Shawtown Farmhouse along Church Road. Earliest mention found 1848, in documentation. Next recorded was James Taylor for 1981. 1898 had the farm run by William Massey and James Whitnall, William and his efforts still showed into 1926 when Joseph Bancroft plied the trade. The Jack Kelly family were the last to operate here before it was razed. The Town Field Estate, land once owned by the Wright family, has taken this farm site as its home. (For more detail see Shawtown Farm Balmoral Road)

**Chassen House.** Chassen Road

John Greaves offered his veterinary practice at Chassen "*for immediate disposal*" in 1873 and again in 1883 it did not pinpoint if he meant he resided at the farm, lodge, or another establishment. During 1881 Mr. Greaves was looking for a horse, possibly for his rounds, he stated it must be suitable for "*an old and heavy gentleman, with plenty of substance.*"

**Chassen Lodge.** (Shaw Lodge) Chassen Road

This large home stood directly at the rear of the Roebuck and after the bowling green. At the side of this were the Farm outbuildings. Also known as **Shaw Lodge**, James Royle is shown as being there in 1848 then, in 1891 Robert Smelt took possession. 1898, Duncan McPherson. George Stott farmed in 1901-10 with Alex Webster moving in for 1911. James Stott continued farming in 1919 and William Shawcross 1928-39. The original Lodge was dated as 1796-1971 and owned by the Shawcross family. The lodge has been replaced now with modern housing built by the last family in residence, Cornish. A picture of the Lodge has not been produced to date.

Placed on the open market during 1922 the four bedroomed, double fronted home carried, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, separate bath and w/c, with cellars below. The outer buildings comprised of; a wash house, tool shed, two stall stables, loose box or barn with loft, hay shed and lean-to. Arable land came with the deal amounting to 27 acres some of which fronted onto Church Road. All the wrought iron railings and the main gate to the Lodge were sacrificed for the war effort.

**Chassen Road Group.**

The three semidetached houses along the **south** side of the road came in 1917. Only one carries a name today that of **Chassen Cote** at number 68.

**Corbe.** Chassen Road

Corbe was only traced from a 1926 index for the road. It was next door to the Shawtown Farm and noted as number 19 **south**. Oswald King was sharing tenancy with Mrs. Mary Agnes Lewton as his neighbour.

**Greystone Cottage.** Chassen Road

This cottage was never listed in any directories and is found to have been renamed from **Grey Cottage** and/or **The Haven**. There two cottages joined to one another and they can be seen at the corner of Chassen and Balmoral. A 1934 description gave forth three bedrooms, an upstairs bathroom, parlour, living room, and a small kitchen that had its original flagged flooring. To complete the scene was a pantry underneath the stairway and the home was lit by gas. An occupant for the period stated the cottage was once a part of the nearby farm.

**Holly Cottage.** Chassen Road

This cottage was the first residence past the Chassen Lodge in 1891 it was home to George Platt. Detail came about this home later, and it was built in 1740. It carried the name Holly Cottage Woodbine. Edwin Wright stayed here for 1898 and Thomas Clarke was resident there from 1900-1912. Today, the cottage sits almost at the corner of Balmoral Road and the Woodbine calling has been dropped. Only the main structure remains. Its initialled date stone carries the letters of I C which some believe stands for Ivy Cottage. 1922 showed the detached cottage up for grabs, it had four bedrooms, kitchen, sitting room, scullery and pantry. There were outbuildings comprised of a two stalled stable, a small shippon for three cattle, wash house, barn, and pig sty.

**John Fisher Court.** Chassen Road

This small cluster home was built on the land used for an electrical substation. The Electricity Board reinstalled an enlarged unit nearer to the railway line leaving surplus area for development.

**Little Barn Farm.** Chassen Road

The farm has been tracked down as a very early name for **Chassen Lodge**. It comprised of 15 acres. It was only ever recorded by this name in the 1881 census. The farmer was a man called John Whitehead. As John was noted at the **Tithe Barn Farm** in 1871 there was confusion in recording this farm and its naming. John's wife Eliza took over and was found there in 1891.

**Shaw Cottage.** Chassen Road

The cottage was to be found in the grounds of the Shaw House according to entries in directories. The family found here was 1891 Cairns. In 1909 it showed up as being with the house but under its own address. Alfred Sumner was to be the householder for the next two years. A family called Mottram are dated here as 1888 with Porter and Booth there for varying times of 1898.

**Shawe View. (Shaw View)** Chassen Road

A group of terraced housing built by the Stott Mill it gave affordable homes to its employees. The housing to be found across the other side of the mill on Flixton Road called Mossfield met the same purpose. Other householders could live there as long as they provided facilities to employees during work hours. The Terrace was built sometime between 1890 and 1895 for an approximation. The View has 18 homes with the 'E' being dropped from Shawe by 1901. The mill, being sold in 1929, gave the information that this row would be included in the sale. It gave forth the entails as being of three bedrooms, three living rooms, bathroom and kitchen. The address for the block was always as Chassen Road.

**The Haven.** Chassen Road

Only found in 1926 on this road it was placed between Shawtown Farm at Balmoral Road and Chassen Lodge. Living there was William Flockton. This home was subject to a name change on several occasions. Greystone, Shaw Cottage, and Haven. Two cottages are joined as one behind Holly Cottage.

**Tithe Barn.** Shaw Town Chassen Road.

It is put forward that Leonard Asshawe built the tithe barn at the time of Shawtown existence around 1603. There have been many owners laying claim to this barn over its years.

## Tithe. (One Tenth)



One tenth of any farm produce had to be donated to the Church. It would be stored in a Tithe Barn. There were two well-known Tithe Barns, **Millatts** on Flixton Road and **Shaw Town** on Chassen Road (aka. Penny Lane). This 'Tithe' was later converted into a monetary tax 1844. Originally such barns were built in the form of a cross and had church like exteriors this was not close to the case for the local barns. Each of the structures showed the barn behind with a cottage type frontage forming an L in style. A sale of cattle and horses in 1878 presented the Flixton version as the Tithe Barn Farm. This presents the possibility of it being as a part of Millatts Farm for the period.

A report of 1898 stated that the Flixton Tithe Barn was demolished. This was found to be untrue as the reference was made to a barn in Ely. The barn frontage at Flixton was converted into shops and in 1898 A. & J. Holdsworth butcher took one of them with George William Wood a Stationer the other. The Chassen version was also put to different usage for many years. The best date so far attained is **1779** for it, Millatts, to have been in existence. John Faulkner leased the lands to Richard Millatt at that time. Reference is sometimes made to both old places as the Tithe Cottages at a time before the conversion to other usage.

**Urmston AFC.** Chassen Road

It is not known when this club first started the game of soccer in Urmston. It has been around for many years c.1880 as John Hibbert of the Urmston Grange was President at that time. Later teams as Urmston AFC played in Flixton at the first Chassen Road ground. A date has been traced for origin 1912 with club house and grandstand established post war 1935. Manchester United entered into a contract to use the facilities for their A team at that time.

This clubhouse was a large wooden construction, contained a bar that had a sunken floor where the staff had to stand on a platform to serve customers. Not having a cellar, the beer was tapped direct from barrels. The building was large enough to include a billiard table and a stage with entertainment hired for regular Saturday fare. Circa 1950 it is believed they played in the South East Lancashire League but were disbanded 1971 when Manchester City brought their training facilities next door at Shaw View. The club house caught fire in 1972, nothing survived. Other clubs have been formed under this name since this time and are detailed as found. One year the Urmston club team of dart players won the local division; it brought in Manchester City captain for the time, Roy Paul, to present the prizes.

**Grandstand.**

A stand was erected on the Chassen football field of Urmston AFC during the middle 1950's. Once Manchester City arrived, at the ground next door on Shaw View, it killed this particular venture of local football and Urmstons team. City purchased the steel structure but passed it over to Sutton Town FC. The spectator shelter is believed to still exist, albeit drastically modified, to sit over the change rooms.

- **Chatsworth Close.** Urmston  
14 houses and 1 flat make up this Close.

- **Chelsea Road.** Flixton  
Difficult for some local soccer fans to accept but it has 20 houses built circa 1925. Chelsea is old English for 'Chalk landing place'. **1928** Chelsea carried several homes of a calling: Miany, Arnside, South View, Fairfield, Roemarsh, Mayfield, Ednor, and Holmfield.

**Arnside.** Chelsea Road  
1928 and Harold Taylor lived in Arnside, by chance he was a tailor.

**Ednor.** Chelsea Road  
For Norman Smith this was home in 1928.

**Fairfield.** Chelsea Road  
John Edward Russum was living here for the time of 1928.

**Holmefield.** Chelsea Road  
1928 resident William Hepburn called this his home field. It was the last-named house for the period down this road.

**Mayfield.** Chelsea Road  
The field for Peter Stephen in 1928 it was to be found near the end of the no through way.

**Miany.** Chelsea Road  
The 1928 directory brought this road into contention for the district. This, the first home on the road by position, was owned by Lawrence Martin.

**Roemarsh.** Chelsea Road  
In the year of 1928 this was the marshy home of Bert Stableford.

**South View.** Chelsea Road  
John Nicholson enjoyed this 1928 view from his home on the road.

**Winfield.** Chelsea Road  
This three bedroomed semidetached showed the calling in 1927. It continued with the fact it had a bath and a greenhouse.

- **Chemist or Pharmacy.**  
Manchester University had established courses for chemists by 1827. To find the entry into Urmston for this practice had not been forthcoming until 1901 when Joseph Rose opened on Station Road and Todd Levi dispensed from his pharmacy shop of 11 Crofts Bank Road. From newspaper promotions, Beecham products, and Carter's *little liver pills* were standard fare for the 1850's. Gafan on Crofts Bank and Church Road, Fields of Church Road who took over from Gafan, Smith along Moorside, and Goldstone for Woodsend, were some of the found names for the following eras. Rose went on to a second shop at the Davyhulme Circle.

- **Cheriton Road.** Flixton  
The Urmston Council posted for tender on the road a block of three story's containing 60 flats in five blocks of twelve during 1949. Generally, it was developed about 1950 and this is now called home to 64 families. Cheriton has Devonshire origins. The three floors were unusual for the district as height was always a consideration for local buildings. This land was where one could find the Boiler House that supplied the Woodsend Estate with hot water for domestic use.



- **Chesham Avenue.** Davyhulme  
There are 20 homes occupied here on the Avenue. The name arrives from Buckinghamshire as an ancient family.

- **Cheshire.**  
The county was an important factor of Flixton. The boundary was so close its connection spilled over especially around the St. Michael's Church. Many recorded events at the church were registered under Cheshire rather than Lancashire. Carrington produce and products were ferried or carted across the Mersey into Flixton and beyond. In 1974 the boundary was crossed, as it became the Trafford M B. Partington is now included with Urmston under the Trafford designation but still as Cheshire.



- **Chester Avenue.** Urmston  
8 properties from 1935 account for this 'city' named Avenue.

- **Chetwynd Avenue.** Urmston

The avenue has 10 homes, no detail. There are several interpretations of the word Chetwynd, but the consensus seems to show Old English for 'winding way.'

- **Chiltern Avenue.** Davyhulme

Chiltern is made up from 6 houses. The avenues name is commonly used throughout England.

- **Chislehurst Avenue.** Davyhulme

The properties are 14 in number. The Hurst is a place name near London.

- **Church Gate.** (Estate) Urmston

The 34 homes of Church Gate were built in 1963 on the land vacated by the Lime Tree Farm on Stretford Road.

- **Church Road.** Church Lane or Shaw Lane



As an established road it only received a sewerage pipe, with manholes, and street lighting in 1881. Starting at Flixton Village and ending at Stretford Road Urmston it has been widened in stages from 1950 to 1969 losing some of its charm in the process. Tree lined and quaint cottage homes, all falling to progress. For the south side of Church Road, the majority of ownership was held jointly by G. Ridehalgh and J. Booth before it was developed as residential.



One remaining feature is the slip road that sides the Church, it was once the main road leading up to and by the Inn. The old road returns in front of the Village cottages. Current Church Road details show 295 properties, 256 are homes, 7 are recorded as flats with the balance commercial.



A finding for the present on Church Road is that the house of **Brookfield** carries a date stone it shows the building came in **1879** giving the indication of its true formation on the road along the **south** side. The earliest dates found so far for housing along this road had been for 1883 in sales adverts. As a pointer from the Grange Road area to Shaw Town before 1890 there was not a single house to be found on the south side.

For the beginning years most of the land as Church Road south from St. Michaels to Queens Road was owned by the George Ridehalgh family. Once it fell into the hands of his second wife Elizabeth she released much to Joseph Spark for development. His style of building is prominent to this day.

- **Church Road.** Urmston **1900 South**



1-3 Church Road was known as Lorne Villas alongside three more Villas, Clifton, Clinton, and Carlton. A single home next called Berwens with another Villa next door Mansfield. Hollingworth, Brookfield, and The Oaks take the housing to No.41 which bore no name. Oak Lawn, The Cottage, fit in between to Gordon Villas. Here a list of 10 uses the land through to the Chesham. Hopewood, Claremont House, Faversham, Ellastone, Overd Le, Strathdene, Hazledene, Oakhurst, Ennenda, to Abbotsford. The Chesham with Grafton and Glenageary came next. Aldersyde, The Knoll, Willoughby, and Bremen Lodge reach the Urmston ending.

**1911** there were several changes, at No.1 a veterinary surgeon had taken up residential practice. A new list of names appears to fit in between Hazledene and Oakhurst. They were Elmhurst, Ravensdene, St. Leonard's, Gower House, Mount Melfort, Innisfallen, Amstel House, Cranford, Capstone, Apsley Villa, Red House, and Priors Lea. There was another house recorded beyond the Bremen Lodge called White Croft.



- **Church Road.** Urmston **1900 North**

Springfield is the beginning at No.22 partnered to Myrtle Villa, Bambro View came next with only one home here actually named, Rowan Tree. The last house before Lyme Grove was Sand Field c.1880. Fernside, Stray Field, Davenham Villas come in order before a terrace of 7 called Claribell Villas. This takes the list to Beech Avenue and the last home of Huralta. Three Villas, Birch Field, Rush Field, and Wood Field join with Birch Cottages to complete this block at Moss Grove. (Dartford) 116-122 carried no names but Rosecarbery, Leyburn House fill into a group of 8 passing as Smithfield Terrace. Smithfield House c.1880 ends the Urmston address. The Police Station had been built and two names came into being circa **1911**, Eckington and Pershore before Lyme Grove.

- **Church Road.** Flixton **1900 South**



This area starts with the farmland of Shaw Town. Barnfield did not exist so it was open land through to the farmhouse where there was not even a road called Southgate. Meadow Bank, Fernholme, and Melrose were placed way before the Shaw Hall itself. Closest, after the Hall was Grove House and it accompanied the Shaw Cottages of which there were five or six. At Edgeley Road each side had a Villa, Edgewell, and Edgefield. After St. Michael's Church and the Inn, the duo of Throstledale appears with Mayfield House coupled to Ivy Cottage.

**Into the Village** the Greyhound had Oak Cottage sitting to the rear with, next to Chatham, Lark Rise which was not named at this time. The Hollies take Church Road up to Carrington Road. Missing was the cottage after Lark Rise which was there for the period.

This stretch of road changed in **1905** with six new names for the section Barnfield to Southgate they were Pendennis, Holmwood, Nether-Royde, Kinclough, Ingleby, and Dovenby. Shaw Town Farm registers as an abode. No changes thereafter until reaching the established Flixton Golf Links, and last, the Ivy Cottage is not named any more.

- **Church Road. Flixton 1900 North**

Opposite Barnfield the housing opens with Stanley Cottage and its neighbour of an earlier time. A small block of 7 unnamed houses sits astride the Longfield Farm. From Chassen Road to Cambridge there was nothing remembering The Buck and Shaw Town were regarded as Chassen Road. At Cambridge the first houses were Elm Lea, Pine Hurst, Holly Lea, The Holly, Elm Wood, and lastly Oak Wood. Farmland with the School Cottages took precedence from here to the St. Michael school house and the school. Two small shops ended Church Road at Flixton Road. Victor Terrace as of **1911** came in between Lever Street and Cambridge Road. Elm Lea was renamed as Ash Lea, then new here, was Brentwood before Elm Wood followed by Wood Lea with Oak still at the end.

**Church Road Shops. 1940** (The row was built in 1931)

**North**

Left: **Smethurst** Tobacconist

Center: **Jackson** Ladies Outfitter with the proprietor Gladys Jackson

Right: **Gafan** Chemist



North

**South**

Left: **Key** Greengrocer

Center: **Wales** Hairdresser

Only two shops were converted at this time.

**Church Road shops. 1950** (The row was built in 1931)

**North**

Left: **Church Road Post Office** that was owned by Bennett's followed by Cumpstay until it closed.

Center: **Muriel** Dress Shop with the proprietors F & M Needham for its period here.

Right: **Fields** Chemist by Abe himself as Pharmacist who replaced Gafan.

**South**

Left: The **Off License**

Next: **Four Seasons** Dry Cleaners

Followed by **Wilde** Hairdresser

Far right: **Baxter** Fish and Chips (Double Front)

South



On this, the **south side**, the paired blocks were originally semidetached homes, from left to right: Fernholme and Melrose. The average date for such conversions in the district was 1932.



**The row north** around **1940** from **Chassen towards Urmston**: **Fernley** Confectionery, **Tennant** Butcher, **Burton** Fish and Chips, Sarah **Johnson** Greengrocery, **Hampson** Wine and Spirit, **Kenny and Hollis** Ladies Fashion, **Linden Lea** Kennels, **Derbyshire** Lady's Hairdresser, **Grieverson** Shoe Repairs, **Duckworth** Grocer, **Hall** Confectionery, **Talon** Sweets and Tobacco, **Greenlees** Fruitier, **Jones** Grocer, Last here was a **Co-op** store opposite Barnfield.



**The row north** around **1950** from **Chassen towards Urmston**: **Cooper's** Confectionery, **Mason** Butcher, **Theobald's** Fish and chips, **Ernie Johnson** Greengrocery, **Fairman** Radio and TV, **Kenny and Hollis** Ladies Fashions. **Rushton** Shoe repairs, **Duckworth** Grocer, **Homewares** Hardware, **A. C. Talon** Sweets and Tobacco, and Eric **Shaw** grocery. Last again was the **Co-op** store opposite Barnfield. A shop numbered as 248 was listed as owned by M. Hurley in 1953 selling ladies and children's outfitting.



The last shop in this row, Kenny and Hollis, has been converted into a permanent residence

**Church Road Shops.** (No Name) The small row of shops which followed the **Police Station** at the beginning of this road have been place for 1933. A strip of its own that included a lay-by hidden behind large trees, it has fallen on difficult times in recent years with business changes and location.

1938 gave some indication of what the beginning services were:

Number 6. John Hamer Confectioner.

Number 8. Clifford Eccles Fruitier.

Number 10. Terry Bakery.

Number 12. Ernest Rushton Boot repairs.

Number 14. Edward Finnerty Fishmonger.

An odd number found for 1953 was that of number 7. It had a confectioner called Irlam and Gibbs in shop. By 1954 an auctioneer called Smith & Whiteley had moved in.



### Church Road. Off Licence.

For many years there was a shop close to Dartford Road, it sat back away from Church Road. Its beginnings were found to be as a grocery store run by David Griffith in 1898, Alfred Faulkner during the times of 1910 and later Mark Higginson during 1938-39, through into the 1950 era it was an 'Off licence' run by John Crook. It is entered here only to show the building has been reconstructed for another use. As the road became wider the front yard became smaller leaving it almost at the kerbside for the present. Some may also remember the hut next door where Alfred Funnell repaired shoes.



### Church Road Post Offices.



There were two locations for the Post Office on Church Road. The first being at the corner of Southgate then addressed as 145 Church Road. An early name would be for 1938 James Rogers with Royle following once their news agency closed slightly up the road. As this too closed the second office took home opposite Kingston Drive. This was run by the Bennetts who passed on to Cumpstay.

A greengrocer adjoined the first Post Office numbered as 147 Church Road, he was John Henry Stott, and this was dated 1939. A change by 1950 as it became V. James as owner.

### Church Road (seven) Bungalows.

Placed before the Flixton Golf Club this row of bungalows was built c.1935 each was given a name and for 1938-39 they were, in order of appearance:

**Edale.** Herbert Toy.

**Trille.** Mrs Marris.

**Cartref.** Mrs Catherine Hughes.

**Hay Kiln.** George Wardle.

**Parkdon.** Arthur Leigh Johnson.

**Norbrae.** Harry Norbury.

**Kinsdale.** Miss Maud Ellen Wild.



### Abbotsford. 99 Church Road



This old home was converted into a school called Caius House in 1908. (**See Caius House**) The school stayed there until 1997 when it relocated to Flixton Road. Today it is utilised as a Day Care Centre for children. Much of the old interior was rediscovered hidden away behind false walling and it has been retained as its new décor. The building is dated as of 1898 and confirmed by finding a newspaper of the time hidden in the walls. The house was registered to Frederick Fletcher from 1901 to 1919. The grounds show only one of its original gate posts. The house design was a copy of its neighbour Ennenda with five bedrooms, box bedroom, living room, sitting room, kitchen, hall, dining room, bathroom, cellars, and a large garden.

### Abbotsford. Caius House School. (Latin for keys) 99 Church Road

The old home called was converted to a private school in 1908. Before it became called Caius it was Urmston College. The uniform the pupils wore had a distinctive red blazer and it was well known in the surrounds of Church Road. The school has relocated to Flixton Road and it is now called Abbotsford Prep School. The origin of the schoolhouse was confirmed after finding an old document in the walls during renovation. It is believed that the school began in a residential home around the Walmsley Grove area. It proved too small prompting the move to Church Road.



A *Gryphon* was symbolic to the school with *Crossed Keys* the more recognisable signature.

A known principal carried forward for 1939 it was Frank Stuart Lewis.

### College. Church Road

Adding to a confused past was that 1908 showed signage outside the Caius House School on Church Road as The College. The classroom still housed two fireplaces and the partition remained intact as it was when called Abbotsford.



**Aldersyde.** 107 Church Road

Little is known of this home from 1885 or there about. Thomas John Clark was the resident there for 1901. As 1938 came around Miss Clara Wilson Booth could be traced in residence.

**Amstel House.** Church Road

This was not the famous Lager's home but that of Alfred Calvert who was a teacher of languages at the time of 1908-1938. Amstel was coupled with **Cranford**. Amstel is actually a river in Holland.

**Apsley Villa.** Church Road

This was the last of a building spree in 1908 along Church Road where eight homes were introduced. William Simpson took the ownership of this one until at least 1928. The Villa was a part and parcel to **Capstone**. It gave the idea that this stayed in the family as by 1938 Misses Clara and Constance Simpson had title.

**Ash Lea.** Church Road

The 1890 semidetached house here was once called **Elm Lea** and partner to **Pine Hurst**. 1903 it was a family called Heywood in Ash Lea and then Bleakley for 1928. Doctor Bernard Sandler was in possession for 1934 then in 1941 it was home to the Walsh family. Close to the corner of Cambridge Road finds its location and the righthand home of the duo.

**Ashville.** Church Road

Ashville (Center) sat with **Fernside** and **Strayfield** along by Lyme Grove in a triple unit it was found to be established around 1879. Its old Church Road number was 68 and the earliest homeowner found was Daniel Sutherland. Each of the three homes here carried an individual name. Ashville was known to have six bedrooms and the entire usual accompaniment. 1894 William Clark had it numbered as 68 as well.

**Balmoral View.** 54-60 Church Road

Originally called **Bambro View** in 1881 it incorporated at 54 Church Road, Rowan Tree. In that year John Wood was selling unit No.4, then by c.1915 it did not bare any name, and all were listed as individual homes. Four homes went on the estate market in 1912 numbered as 1-4 they showed as five bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchen and scullery. Each had front and rear gardens. When, or why, the change of name came about has not been traced as the first calling is still to be seen with a mounted stone directly on the front of the block.

**Barngate.** Church Road

An obvious joining in field name for the time, Barnfield and Westgate combined. The house was close to the Shawtown farmhouse in 1928 with salesman Henry Stott at home. Mrs Elizabeth Millican became homemaker for 1938.

**Baxter.** Church Road (Later Woodsend)

The well thought of Fish and Chip purveyor started life at 173 Church Road in 1945. They as a family were well received in this area of Flixton. Under stiff competition from another such operation only 100 yards away it was logical to take the move to Woodsend Circle, their business tradition carried into around forty odd years of service to the public. Strange as it may seem the occupant on Church Road became another fish and chip shop and the building was once called **Melrose**. This now functions as a "Take away" shop.

**Berwens.** 21 Church Road (Also known as **Burwens**)

A single home noted in as being on the **south** side of the road. This house had a date of about 1880 for its erection along Church with large grounds. A family called Marsden lived here and in 1881 it was a Miss Emily. Berwens is a corruption of the Welsh name Berwyn's meaning 'White Head' it is also a Welsh mountain. A directory for 1938-9 also indicated the family name of Mardale still here with Berwens, in fact noted now by two names for the house, Mardale and Burwens. Clifford Ryder at home in Mardale for this split in 1938 and it had Charles Chapman as a last resident in the other.

Berwens was replaced by modern housing that comprised of one detached and three semidetached homes. Included here were leaded windows and doors. Of futuristic design for the period, curved bay windows and arched porches completed the architect's vision. Although the same in features the brickwork was varied between two designs. The picture shows the homes built on Berwens land estimated to arrive c.1938 with the main house removed as they were being erected.

**Billiard Hall.** (Temperance) Junction of Church, Station, Stretford Roads

A unique building that came into being 1909, the Hall was granted a licence in the name of Arthur Charles Thomas. It served as the local billiard hall until after WW2 when it finally closed. The idea of "Temperance" halls was to provide places for entertainment that did **not** serve alcohol. In general, these halls were commissioned by the Manchester Temperance Society.

The **first** billiard table open to the public was to be found at the Bird in Hand 1898.

1956 was the year the Temperance Billiard Hall Ltd. Company placed the building as for sale. The holder of the licence was Thomas William Clark. The next phase was as a Roller-Skating Rink opened by Armstrong Bros. of Rusholme which did not last more than two years. Taken

over later by Vernons, a part of the Seymour Mead group, it became a supermarket. Terrys Stores 1961 occupied it next becoming a local fixture for many years. Presently it is used for varied restaurants internally renovated to a high standard of authenticity. Externally, it presents itself in modern garb.



Billiard Hall



Vernon



Terrys



Kulshi



Chilli



Istanbul

**Billiard Hall Descriptive.** (Poetic licence)

The hall comprised, it is thought, of six to eight full sized tables all decked out in a green baize material. The tables were typically Victorian in their features with heavily carved legs. Above each table were shaded lights, gas lit, and somewhat Tiffany in looks which gave off poor illumination to all but the tables beneath. These lights hung from massive arched structures which reached from one side of the hall to the other. For its day the décor was quite luxurious with Oakwood score boards and cue racks along the walls. Bench seating was upholstered in soft brown or black leather and it was provided for players and spectators along the side walls at each venue. The hardwood floor was in strip form not parquet with some areas carpeted but it was minimal and there was a light refreshment bar near to the entrance.

**Birch Cottages.** 112-114 Church Road.

The cottages were found to sit at the corner of Moss Grove (Dartford Road) in 1898. The pair housed John Restall and Miss. Sarah Cottrill. They were demolished to accommodate planned road widening in 1953. Recorded origins went back to 1878.

**Birchfield Villas.** 90-92 Church Road

This pair of homes c.1890 came just after Beech Avenue when heading towards Flixton. For that year William Benson claimed home then they housed in 1898 the families of The Rev. Allan Spencer, a Wesleyan Minister, and Frank Samuel. In 1901 the Rev. Arthur Kirby took possession then for 1903 a new reverend had moved in Rev. Arthur Wooliescroft.

**Bremen Lodge.** Church Road

Sarah Ann McGowan was living here in 1901 but this 1890 detached home built by Spark & Sons was removed for the newer Warbrick Drive of recent years. Sarah had not moved she was noted as there in 1928. The Lodge was taken by a physician surgeon about 1937 he passed by the name of Dr. Bernard Sandler. He shared the building with a chemist Reuben Sandler who was more than likely a relative. Once used as a Care Home it carried two known names that of The Orchard and Meadow View. Bremen had a calling of German origin.



**Brentwood.** Church Road

In a group close to Cambridge Road Brentwood was coupled with **Elm Wood**. At this locale on the **north** side, the righthand home was occupied by George Thomas Langston in 1911. Sarah Alice Ward moved in for 1938.

**Brookfield.** 33-35 Church Road.

The Reverend Henry Shaw of the Congregational Church and Thomas Burgess are named as living here through the time of 1901. A little earlier showed a date of 1881 for this residence and a family called Wilson. The house shows a date stone of 1879 confirming it as being one of the earliest known on the **south** side of Church Road.

**Caife Heights.** (Claife) 123 Church Road

A semidetached house-built c.1930, with this one side marked as Caife. It is to be traced as a being two away from the Shawtown Farmhouse prior to Southgate. There is Irish origin for Caife.

**Capstone.** 85 Church Road

Only showing up in 1905-09 this was where Hugh Frederick Dunbar lived at that time. The neighbouring home was called **Apsley**. Hugh remained in the house as owner, noted in 1928. He was followed around 1939 by Thomas Cuthbert.

**Caradoc House.** Church Road

This calling of the house in 1909 became **Eckington** on the **north** side at No.50. John William Richards knew it by that name as he was at home during those years.

**Carlton Villas.** 13-15 Church Road

The fourth in a row of Villas here and a notary living there was Charles Griffin he was the Assistant Overseer for Urmston and Flixton in 1901, by 1911 he was promoted to the actual Overseer. Carlton was known to be on Church for 1881. Four floors, four bedrooms, cellars, kitchen, bathroom, and large garden, make up the Villa with living room and sitting room. Period fireplaces and wooden hand railing to stairs. Its exterior look does not allow for the opulence the home offered.

**Chassen.** Church Road.

The 'house' could be found as the first building before Southgate in 1928. Alfred Samuel Gregory, an outfitter, fitted in nicely. A change of occupation showed up in 1939 Alfred was now a shop fitter, one of these possibly would be wrong.

**Chesham House.** 101 Church Road

A home presently converted into Bed and Breakfast accommodation. Starting its life as residential with William Bolton here in 1890 he had Spark and Sons build it for his own use. John James Cookson bought it in 1918 remaining till sometime after 1939. The house comprised of five bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, bathroom, billiard room, three cellars and a double attic. There are large open grounds to the rear. A garage has been adapted by entering a lower cellar on one side. The home was changed into a children's nursery 1941 until c.1978 before becoming a B&B.

The guest house today has a Gaelic plate at its front door it states `Cead Mile Failte` translating as ``A hundred thousand welcomes`` A rather vain Mr. Bolton had a leaded window installed bearing his initials to show his opulence. Leaded glass room dividing screens between its entertaining areas are also featured here.

**Christian Science.** 26 Church Road

This practice was to be found approximately 1965 to 1985 along the road. Their main feature being the provision of a religious reading room a common finding for this following. A wooden construction painted white the site is now transformed and built on as flats.

**Church Inn. Church Road**

The present Inn was restyled in 1924. Artistic renditions show an early version of it there in 1731. (Most pubs around were licensed c.1780's) In a deed of sale from 1830 the premises are referred to as, "formerly" The Dog and Partridge. The rear of the Inn housed a brew house, stable and piggery in its 1770-1867 versions. The Inn was used as a Court House for any local Squire who was the Justice of the Peace for the time. Licensee names include; 1850 John Hewitt, 1880 William Davies 1901-10 Sarah Jane Moller, 1911 Harry Price, 1919 Elizabeth Smith, and 1928 Harry Cheetham.

**Dog and Partridge.**

Squire Ralph Wright, who was the local JP, held his Court there. 1772 is the first date found with Edmund Hesketh then for 1784 it was James Tonge, who moved to the Greyhound four years later. In 1788 the Ale Housekeeper was John Shawcross. This pub was used as a local auction house, mainly for Real Estate selling, well into the 1800's. The hostelry was often referred to as Colliers House in the 1820's due to a John Collier (Not the famous Tim Bobbin) being landlord then.

**Claremont House. 53 Church Road**

Claremont was a dwelling in its own right at this time it is thought to have been built around 1883 householder for 1898 at home was Cornelius Nicholls and later in 1901 it was Robert Mills. Richard Hadfield moved in for 1904.

**Claribel Villas. 76-88 Church Road**

This group of detached and semidetached built in 1877 was leading up to Beech Avenue. It was a series of seven homes.

**Clibran and Sons. Church Road**

A business venture here had William Clibran and his sons selling seed for trial growing. This was in action for 1898 and continued until 1908 when Arthur Upton took the premises for a nursery. He stayed there right through into c.1930. William or Arthur could be found where Fairholme Avenue is today.



Clibran alongside the house of Leyburn.

**Clifton and Clinton Villas. 5-11 Church Road**

Nothing spectacular has ever been recorded regarding these old semidetached Villas at the early end of the road, they are known to have been there in 1881. The 1901 occupants were Rutter and Stubbs for Clifton, with Hewitt and Manors for Clinton. At this the beginnings of Church Road there were four villas Lorne, Clifton, Clinton, and Carlton.

Clifton



Clinton

The description for this pair is as it was with **Carlton Villa**. Large spacious and offering more than the exterior showed.

**Cranford. 83 Church Road.**

William Harrison 1909 lived here in this a slightly later addition to the road compared to the others from the 1880's. Bernard Law took his place in 1939 Cranford. As a semi the second home was called **Amstel House**.

**Davenham Villa. Church Road.**

In line before the terrace of Claribell the villa was known for 1898 and had a postal address of numbers 72-74. Robert Scott Chrystal was an early resident here in one and William Cutler in the other. The villa showed two living rooms, five bedrooms, kitchen and bath, cellared and large garden.

**Derbyshire Orchard. Church Road**

This orchard received special attention during the Bottoms Path trial. Justice of the Peace Norries, told Squire Wright not to include this area in his claim to close the pathways on his lands. This because it was not a part of his fields or lands although it did join up with Bottom's. The home of the Derbyshire family was replaced by Flixton Station. For the beginnings it was found to be the first ever brick built house in Flixton. The orchard went from Flixton House to opposite the Church and it was owned by Jenny Derbyshire. This small portion of pathway still sits there to this day alongside the Grove. The balance of the path has been taken by the new St. Michael's School. The name of Derbyshire is recorded for here in 1750.

**Dovenby.** 129 Church Road

Shown in 1948 as being next to the Shawtown Farmhouse and noted to be part of a semidetached house built in 1902. Making up the par was **Ingleby**. A vestibule, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, scullery, and larder began its description. A wash house, complete with stone sink, gas boiler, and coal shed finished off the ground floor. The first floor had three bedrooms and a bathroom while the attic contained two more bedrooms. Findings are that in 1909 Thomas Worthington had it for his family with Mrs. E. F. Worthington alone in 1911. J. Howson Emmins, who was a surveyor, lined up in 1938-39.

**Eckington.** Church Road

The **north** side of the road was where this home became established. For 1909 it was called **Caradoc House** and had John Richards there. The building itself was numbered as 50 for this era.

**Edenfield.** Church Road

This belonged to Harry Robert Cheetham in 1928 it was the first home after the Shawtown farmhouse. Harry was a well reputed merchant by occupation. Into 1938 and it brought Frederick Worsley to his Eden.

**Edgewell and Edgefield Villas.** Church Road

The Edgewell Villas (numbered 277-281) and the Edgefield Villas (numbered 271-275) both c.1850 sit each side Edgeley Road a small road off Church Road that went to Lumbs farm in the 1950's. Yet another site attached to the Shaw group it led to its real name of Shaw Hey farm. The most well-known 'Edge' is Alderley Edge which was 'rough forest land' however; a William Edge was living in one of the houses down Edgeley Road in a 1907 coincidence. The Villas have been slightly altered and modernised with the basis as original.

**Ellastone.** 61 Church Road

A connection has been traced to the same named building on Stretford Road. The house was owned by a family called Goodwin in the 1890's who later also resided at the Ellastone Hill. At this address on Church Road the buildings are only known by name and were not numbered here after. This particular home is incorporated into the Urmston Manor Retirement Home with **Overdale**. An advert for 1914 presented it with six bedrooms and three entertaining rooms.

**Elmhurst.** Church Road

This name was given for the home of George William Smith c.1906. It only entered into directories as of 1911 it was matched with **Ravensdene** and Harold Thompson was the householder then. Mrs Ena Whittam made her 1938 home in Elmhurst.

**Elm Lea.** Church Road

This was the first house after Cambridge Road in 1900 with William Arthur Heywood homeowner. Before it changed to carry the name of **Ash Lea** as of 1911 the owner was John Cottrill. The partner here for Elm Lea is **Pinehurst**. William Heywood had it under the altered calling. Inexplicably the block was so mixed up for 1928 it lost its way for records.

**Elm Wood.** Church Road

Arthur Stockwell lived in this house for 1901 which was around Cambridge Road. The righthand side to this pair was Elm Wood while the left had the calling of **Brentwood**. The group here included four Villas split by Davis Road. As it was for its associates the references to the christening of this home were confusing over time, there is detail for a resident, 1938 Robert Coppock lived there.

**Ennenda.** 97 Church Road

A house on Church Road built c.1885 and still a private residence. It was the neighbour of Abbotsford, the Caius House School. Retaining its original gate posts the exterior is well preserved. A 1903 resident there, Mr. Arthur Scholfield, was named as a Justice of the Peace in January 1917.

The house boasted 7 bedrooms; the hall leads to a stairway, a large living room, sitting room, kitchen, utility room, laundry, 2 dressing rooms, cellars and garage. A laid-out garden completed its description. Added features included; a cast iron fireplace and a mahogany fireplace, the dining and sitting rooms were serviced by a retractable screen which could be opened up to form one huge room. The house was taken by the Spastic Society for a while; they changed to calling this **Meade House**.



**Faversham House.** 59 Church Road

This old house c.1885 has been converted into a Nursing Home. Faversham was numbered as 55 but it would appear this has changed to 59 in modern times. The 1898 resident was Samuel Smallman. There was an association here with the English Martyrs Church. At one time Faversham was classed as a hotel from news adverts of the 1960's showing it to have had varying usage during its life. Conversion back as a hotel was in order for 1977 after council tried to change into a home for the homeless. It finally became a care home for the elderly.

**Fernholme.** 167 Church Road

This was one of the many holdings of the Shawcross family c.1880. First found registered 1897 with Richard Stokes and in 1898 directories with James Hughes living there, he was a coal merchant living here until 1909 when Henry Swire took it. The Swire name continued but as William by 1911 and further up to and into 1930. Its fame arrives from it being home to the Stretford and Urmston Gunners Club. This house was partially converted into a shop it has been converted back for today. Its neighbour was Melrose and the two semidetached homes sat at Kingston Drive that was to be.

**The Stretford & Urmston Gunners Club.** 167 Church Road

The club was housed in this house built in 1889 and called **Fernholme**. Closing in 1949 the building was offered for use as shop premises or for reinstating to its former use as a dwelling. The ground floor was the only section in use by the club with the upper floor converted into an apartment. This had two bedrooms a living room, kitchen and bathroom, its cellars below. A garage, outside, was accompanied by Ladies and Gents brick toilets. A club of sorts continued into later years but today it is residential. The second half of this semidetached was made into a shop it has a returned status for the present.



Gunners arrive from all branches of military service usually associated with the artillery. This was a social club for their specific pleasure as veterans of the service.

**Fernside.** 66 Church Road

Fernside 1885 sat close to Lyme Grove for location. The house had six beds, two living rooms and the normal conveniences. Two cellars were below. Albert Edwin Gresty was the homeowner for 1901-1928 he was involved with cotton for his work. It was one of three in a row here, for identification, the east end. The next-door home was **Ashville** followed by **Strayfield**.

**Flixton Golf Links.** (Private Course) Church Road

**FLIXTON GOLF CLUB**



Founded in 1893 and called Entwisle Golf Club it moved to Flixton in 1903. A links type course with nine holes was established with a club house sited in a Church Roadhouse and a pavilion close to the first hole.

A fire in the clubs first year made it a new club house had to be built of a higher standard than the first. Some of the design has been accredited to George Duncan a Scottish Professional who won the Open in 1920. Yardage was increased c.1955 incorporating a portion of the fields from the defunct Shaw Hall Farmlands. It is claimed that this course is one of the longest nine holes in England. Samuel Bridge Stott who had inherited the land, known as Trialham, for this Links died in 1978 and the club were able to purchase the land that was previously leased. In 1922 the club was to sell its horse mower with grass box evolving into motorised equipment. A new club house was opened in 1988.



The golf course, being isolated, had another use which was found on a map celebrating 10 years 1894 to 1904. It indicated that the Snowden Avenue end was once used for weapon target practice. The map shows a hillock where targets were placed perhaps by a sporting club or even military use. Another o/s map actually called it a Rifle Range that was one year later in 1905.

In 1921 the club was seeking a new ground's man professional. His wife would be expected to act as stewardess and in return there was a free house, free gas, and free coal. Profit share from the catering, sale of clubs, balls, and coaching lessons was a part of the deal along with a wage to be discussed. The c.1938-1950 Professional was Frank Warburton with William Nicholls as Steward.

**Fairways.** 269 Church Road

A nursing and care home for the elderly which is housed in the former club house of the Flixton Golf Club. The house has been distinctly modernised from its 1903 beginnings with service as a care home since 1989.

**Flixton Village.** Church Road

Difficult to define but from St. Michael's Church to Parsonage Road and along to Flixton Station Bridge is generally known as the Village. The Old Grove is being included.

**The Village detail follows the Church Road entries.**

**Glenageary.** Church Road

One of several homes built around 1880-85 in this row on Church Road, all of similar architecture and size. Its owner for 1898 was John O'Brian. The gate posts show **Gwynant** today with the possibility it was called Woodseats for a while. The Glen is a Gaelic place and it translates into Glen of the sheep.

**Gordon Villas.** 47-49 Church Road

A pair connected as the Villas, in earlier times of 1898 bearing the names for reference of Maria Williams and Mary Finn. They were found at the same period as the first housing along the road which came in or around 1883.

**Gower House.** 75 Church Road

This old home was built around 1905 to become the dwelling of Thomas Nuttall. Gower and **St Leonards** are partners here as one. The 1939 engineer called Edmund Cooper went to work from this house.

**Grafton House.** 103 Church Road

Grafton is alongside the Chesham bed and breakfast accommodation with Gwynant on the other side. This house from the 1880's still stands today after having an early occupant of John Edward Green during 1898 and Richard Glazier in 1901. Mrs. Eleanor Glazier took over for 1919 once the war was over, then handing it to Misses Annie and Mary Glazier by 1938. Mrs Amy Cook helped with the mortgage in one half of the home.

**Grasmere.** Church Road

This house, a detached, is to be found as the second home after Shaw Hall and its cottages along the road. As a neighbour to **Highfield** it was not named for olden times but stands proud as being from an early era. The statement can now be corrected both homes here were built in 1932 by the Warburton family. For detail the house had 4 bedrooms, a sitting room, lounge, the kitchen included a dining area, garage plus additional car port. The conservatory overlooked the fine grounds. When asked why they were established so close together on such a large piece of land Mr. Warburton replied it was because he wanted at least one of them to have a large garden. Grasmere certainly has that. His tenant or purchaser for 1939 was Harry Chadderton.

**Grove House.** Church Road

The house sat close to Shaw Hall with its cottages and it is dated as before 1840. For 1887 to 1898 the homeowner was Robert W. Millard and during 1896 the Draffin family stayed here. Location of this home and its past has been found. Albert Padmore lived there during 1938-39 its location shows as being before the **Shaw Hall Cottages**. The house and cottages were demolished soon after that date.

**Gwynant.** 195 Church Road

Gwynant follows the same style as its neighbour **Grafton** as a detached home of 1890. For a while it went by the name of Glenageary, but its gate post stipulates otherwise. For this reason, its several name changes, names are associated with each of its newer callings. Here at the time of Gwynant was 1928 a silk merchant known as John Roberts he was known to remain there into 1940.

**Hayesleigh.** Church Road

A home of this name had never been located along Church Road. This entry was found when a birth occurred to the pairing of John and Louisa Mollison there in 1902. Street directories do not indicate any family name or abode accredited to a Hayesleigh.

**Hazeldene.** 67 Church Road

Hazel stands with **Strathdene** at 59 along this road. John McCullum held house for the time of 1901.

**Highfield.** Church Road

Once past the Shaw Hall and its cottages Highfield was the first of two large detached houses. Neither was named in directories until modern times, but their structures show them to be quite mature. The second detached house is called **Grasmere**. Information now shows the two homes were built in 1932 by a family called Warburton and 1939 had Walter Warburton confirmed as owner.

**Hollingworth House.** 31 Church Road

When William Hill was letting this house in 1883, it showed as follows; two entertaining rooms, the rest of the house had six bedrooms and a bathroom with separate w.c. There was a dressing room to the bedrooms. Its cellars were in three chamber form. For the exterior, a coach house noted as being on **Carlton Road**, with double stabling in the large garden. Over the front door is a monogram transposed with an R over a B, this lettering has not yet been identified for ownership at its onset. At this time of 1883 a plain cook was being advertised for in want ads.



The home of 1891 Phyllis Shinger with William Wright. 1898 residents Alfred Croad and William are recorded into 1911; William married a lady named as Catherine. As 1913 arrived Mrs. Catherine Wright had ownership as William had passed on. (1868-1913). She remarried to Thomas MacDonald (1873-1940) and became Catherine MacDonald in 1922 still residing there to 1953 when she too passed on aged 85. Hollingworth is a town 12 miles east of Manchester in Tameside.

**Holly Lea.** Church Road

Mrs. Sarah Sharman lived at this Lea in 1900 it was to be found as one of a pair close to Cambridge Road. Making up this duo was **The Holly**, the Lea, is to be found as the righthand home of the two. When proffered for sale it included four bedrooms, a hallway, two entertaining rooms and kitchen. The owner for 1939 was William Henry Goldstraw.

**Holmwood.** 121 Church Road

A large double fronted house of 1903 with a hall, cloak room, three entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, pantry, four bedrooms, box room, storeroom and bath. A washroom, coal, and cellars finished this advertised abode for 1949. Edmond Fullerton may have offered it for sale as he was around during 1939. This house became the Williamson Ballet School until around 1960.

**Hopewood.** 51 Church Road

Noted for a time of 1885 for its construction, in 1898 it belonged to Charles Heyward and still was in 1911.

**Huralta.** 88 Church Road

The last home in the row called **Claribel Villas** and the only individual one to carry its own name. Frederick Worsley was the proud owner in 1901.

**Ingleby.** Church Road

One of the semidetached homes close to the Shawtown Farmhouse prior to Southgate of c.1902 its partner was **Dovenby**. John Arthur Thompson had this first half. The cinema director who was Rennie Hartley came along for 1938.

**Innisfallen.** Church Road

Arriving around 1905-06 the house is occupied today at number 79. Its proud owner at the beginning was Thomas Bromley. The home is paired with **Mount Melfort**. Two names could be found at the time of 1939 Arthur Dearden and William Elkin.



**Ivy Cottage. (Rebuilt) Church Road**

The original cottage name that was first built on Church Road was taken further to be the home next door to the Greyhound Hotel more commonly known as either Swindell's or Birtwell's. It was then transformed exquisitely back into a private home once more by Tate family c.1978. Mrs. Maria Ashton was shopkeeper for 1898, the earliest shop connection found. This version of Ivy was positioned after the semi of Mayfield and Throstledale.

**Birtwell. Schofield, Racle. (Ivy Cottage)**

Mary Emmett continued the story of this small shop in 1900 she was followed by the name of Swindells it was a sweets and tobacconist shop alongside the Greyhound Hotel. Edie Birtwell (Daisy in 1939) took it and saw it through the rationing days of wartime. The Church School across the way utilised it as the local tuck shop. Names that followed were Scholfield who sold to Racles in 1964. Its shop windowed front has been removed but the home is as it was over a hundred years ago.



Village shop alongside the Greyhound

**The Church Croft. (Ivy Cottage)**

This is the latest designation for the cottage. Because the home fell under the Conservation Area of Flixton the consulting firm of Lloyd Evans and Prichard were engaged. This was to ensure the correct procedure was taken in renovating the premises for the St. Michael's Church specifications and to conform to the conservation regulations. The last people to actually live here privately were the Tate family.

**Unknown Cottage. (Possibility) Church Road**

Described as possible as confirmation is derived from description only. This cottage was **the first Shawtown School**. A lease described the two bayed sites as being to the north of the church but adjoining the churchyard this small abode behind the Church Inn was given to Flixton by Peter Egerton for use as a school in 1643. This was until a new school could be built across at Shawtown in 1662. Re-habited thereafter by a Roger Smith it was vacated around 1908 later to be demolished. The area of this land became a holding pen for livestock then later a parking lot for the Church Inn prior to Mayfield and Throstledale.

**Kinclough. Church Road**

The neighbour to **Nether Royde** was dated 1902 by its lease documents. It was home for Herbert Harrison at that time and was a three bedroomed semidetached, each side having, hall lounge, dining, kitchen etc. Twin bedrooms were to be found in the attic. Nathaniel Horrocks took his place here by 1903 but lost his daughter as she took hand in marriage to Herbert Smith from Sale. Sidney Foggett put his feet under the table for 1938 and felt good about it.

**Knowsley Bakery. Church Road**

First found as Herbert Moore baker in 1938. The bakery, as a part of a semidetached, was not named but it partnered with the home believed to be **Southgate** for the 1920's. The 1950's saw this bakery thriving later to be taken by another baker called Barrows. A speciality from here, Knowles, was its Balm Cakes with customers lining up half an hour before they were due to come out of the ovens. Christopher Knowles being the confectioner there at the time. Only spelling differences raise question of Knowles and Knowsley. **Barrows** was established there in 1993.

**Leyburn House. 134 Church Road**

The house was situated before Smithfield Terrace carrying a date prior to 1900. On the **north** side it became home to Henry Alex Henderson in 1911. The only semi found for this area was connected to **Rosecarbery** and numbered as 132-134 in 1901. (Leyburn was the home to the left)

**Longfield Farm. Church Road**

This farm occupied land between Shawtown and Longfield Road. This farm was named something other than Longfield during its lifetime as an address refers to **Malt Kiln Farm** at this location. In the 1881 census it claimed to be of small acreage, only two. Survey maps indicate it was larger than this but still a small holding compared to most around Urmston. The farmer for 1897-1901 was William Thorpe.

**Lorne Villas. 1-3 Church Road**

The first numbered house on this road would be found today, as a commercial building it was also known as a branch of Terrys for 1961. An abnormal semidetached home of the 1880's as it comprised of three homes. George and Maria Howard lived in it for 1888 with John Fitzgerald and Ebenezer Helm the following year. The third residence was addressed as Queens Road; it sits as a corner site. In 1898 Sydney Foggett listed his name for the Queens address. Around 1911 the villa became the offices for a veterinary surgeon as well as residences, all were approved for full conversion into shops in 1938. For 1941 a large portion was used as a day nursery. The general design matched its companions of Clifton, Clinton, and Carlton, offering the same architect and builder was used.





This building has gone through many changes of use most likely because of its centred position to the beginnings of Urmston. The UUDC used this site for small offices which included the Citizens Advice Bureau. Doctors, dentists and vets, filled portions during its lifetime. Under the possession of Charles Terry, he named the building as the Charles Court Business Centre. Since then the brick structure has been painted and the shops removed, its design has not altered when compared to the like companions that are neighbours. A restaurant took the building into its next phase with a reversal back into commercial offices current. Age UK opened the premises under the new name of the **Sharples Building** October 2015.

#### **Malt Kiln Farm and Cottages.** Church Road

First traced in the 1861 census it came up in an 1875 auction document report the farm was being run by Thomas Burgess, he was leaving the premises and was selling up his stock. A further document shows this farm to be another name for Longfield Farm around 1916 and confirmed as of 1928 with Bernard Close farming it. Residents who lived at Longfield in recent times received mail carrying this address. Longfield Farm is indicated in name because of location it should be called Malt Kiln. Field naming papers carry information that there were actual Malt Kilns in use at Shawtown in 1818.



**The Malt Kiln Cottages**, which also showed in 1871, have been located for information. This building alongside the Church Road Co-op was home to Bernard Close around the 1930's. It, being near to the actual area of the farm, had several families housed there. Although not named, they belonged with the acreage and were demolished as unfit for habitation in 1957.

#### **Mansfield Villas.** 27-29 Church Road



Another of several Villas along this section of Church Road in the 1880s with no other historical fact to it. The date for its arrival would be about 1882 as a Joseph Leece was living there. In 1901 the two families here were the Nelson's and the Proudfoot's. 1903 Nelson and Jones. 1909 Roberts and Suart. 1911 Cliffe and Suart. 1919-1828 Cliffe and Osborne. 1938 Latham and Langman.



#### **Meade House.** Church Road

Mrs. H. Birtwell was secretary to the Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme, Nursing Association at this address in 1929 **Ennenda** was the original calling for this location. Leonard Louis Willis changed things during 1938-39 he was a commercial traveller by profession. Mr. & Mrs. Dicken donated this home to the Urmston Spastic Society when they relocated in 1954 to a bungalow on Moorside Road. For 1963 a new home was built specifically for the Society on Renshaw Field, Flixton Road.

#### **Meadow Bank.** 163 Church Road

One of several houses found to be in existence for 1891 between Shaw Town Farmhouse and the estate of Shaw Hall. A Shawcross holding that had Timothy Sales in the home before being leased to Robert Ingleby. 1901 still had Robert in the house but Meadow Bank had gone from the 1909 street index. The house was removed completely from its Southgate location. The house reappears, coupled with Wych Elms in 1911 only confirmed by O/S mapping. It was detached with Wych Elms also detached sitting to the rear. The new Meadow Bank is known but at a totally different site. In 1928 Alfred Harrison is shown as living there. Again in 1938 it appeared with Mrs Margaret Swindells now at home.



#### **Meadow Bank**

Surmising from the facts provided allows for **conjecture** only, a dairy opened at the original site under the banner of Webster & Martin c.1909. When the building was to be removed, they took the calling with them to a new dairy. For 1911 Walter Scott became dairyman followed by Albert Taylor into the 1930's. At some point, around WW2 or before, it was converted into a grocery shop. Three names appear for this Greenhalgh, Drogan, and Bradley c.1940-1960. With only mapping to create this, it would appear the Elms might have been the dairy portion as the Meadow always had an associated occupant. Remaining for the present are stables converted for domestic living space. The Church Road and Southgate site for the original Meadow Bank was re-established with three semidetached homes and two shops. The earliest records show the Post Office and news agency with a greengrocer.



An example of a local store of the 1950's closed and returned to a residential home. At that time this small section of Church Road had Drogan, Timothy, Shaw, and a Co-op, all selling Grocery. This particular shop became Bradley after Drogan left. There is evidence to show the house was around c.1910 as a dairy run by Webster & Martin who in turn were followed by Walter Scott in 1911 in the same trade. Confirmed once more with Albert Taylor in 1938 as dairyman. This house became the second under the calling of Meadow Bank. To the rear of this building was another home that of Wych Elm.

#### **Wych Elm.** 165 Church Road

This home appeared in 1909 built at the rear of **Meadow Bank** on Shawcross land near to Shaw Hall. George Astley was the tenant at this time. John Johnson was there for 1919 leaving it to 1928 Mary Johnson. Speculation has it that this may have been a dairy between 1909 and 1939. Only a converted cottage remains for any trace of the past and by size the Wych Elm was little more than that. The last known Dairyman was Albert Taylor in 1938. A story followed of the space used by a builder's merchant named as George Greenhalgh who made use of these premises.

**Meadowside.** Church Road

This house was close to Southgate following on from Shawtown Farm in 1928. A commercial traveller called George Cartrell made this his base. The new name of Holdcroft came in 1938, John R. S. to be precise.

**Melrose.** Church Road

Melrose was the last house at the border of Shaw Town and Shaw Hall 1889. It was owned by the Shawcross family up until the 1930s who rented it out to John Murray for 1901. Charles Wood for 1909 with Robert Devonport thereafter 1919 and on. These homes were converted to shops remaining that way today. The next door semidetached was **Fernholme** and the pairing can be found prior to Kingston Drive.

## Field View.

This home existed in 1896 Flixton. Found in the registry of St. Michael's Church was an entry naming the Chevalier family in this house and it could be found along Church Road. Baynes Hick followed a year or so later. The directory for 1898 confirmed the Adolph Chevalier did indeed live there and by locale it was the house of **Melrose**.

**Mortuary.** Church Road and others.

Indicated on maps of 1920-30 a mortuary sat at the foot of the St. Michael's Church Yard. It has been removed from this site c.1970 leaving only the gate.

There were mortuary facilities at the Urmston Cemetery to be found along with the chapels. Naturally there is provision at Trafford General in this respect. The Jewish Cemetery had one, but this too is boarded up today. One of the earliest was behind Bethells Farm at the end of what is now Old Crofts Bank.

**Mount Melfort.** 77 Church Road Urmston

A late starter in directories it only turned up in 1909 with Alfred Brooks residing there. The original name given was Melford with the added Mount called a couple of years later. Into 2010 and this home is still around to show its architecture of days-gone-by associated with **Innisfallen**. 1934 indicated it was home to R. Whittaker.

**Myrtle Villa.** 24 Church Road

The Villa was to be found on the **north** side attached to **Springfield** in 1882 and it had Arthur and William Hill living in the home. The land had been purchased from Thomas Royle-Higginson in 1881.

**Nether-Royde.** (Netheroyd) Church Road

The house, from 1902 according to its lease, had several spellings to its name over the years. It was a three bedroom each side semidetached, hall lounge, dining, kitchen etc. Twin bedrooms were to be found in the attic. William Sunderland lived here in 1909 and Victor Morgan 1939. **Kinclough** was the neighbour.

**Oakhurst.** 95 Church Road

A home from 1893 land owned by Elizabeth Ridehalgh that was leased to Joseph Spark in 1901. It was in turn leased to William Edwards for his abode. Captain Charles Lambert who cruised the Ship Canal and another local in that of Harry Tetlow also lived here. Richard Thomson came along next around 1908. At one time this was the home of George Coulouris 1918-1926. An actor who was Oscar nominated in 1932. Herbert Taylor came later as of c.1938 who was a Co-op warehouse manager. Found today as 95 Church Road with little changed and there is a large Oak tree in the frontage to capitalise on the name. The current owner Mrs Anna Sumira has lived in the house for over forty years. (2015)



Captain Lambert

Internally there are five bedrooms with several box rooms, a double entertaining area divided at one time by a folding screen door, a feature Spark loved to add in the Church Road buildings. A large kitchen is accompanied by cellars and attic space. The cellars were used in the past for a one-time teen spot called Sandy's Jive Dive. Peter Noone being one of the members who frequented this popular club of around 1961.

**Oak Lawn.** 41-43 Church Road Urmston

A Victorian home and confirmed as standing as it was built in 1881. An 1898 homeowner was William Swan at 41 and with James Hudson in 43. Unconfirmed reports show it as being adjoined to a new-found name of Staten Villa. The house at number 41 never carried a name in its opening years. The occupant gave detail for its magnificence even today. Five bedrooms, two in the attic, hall, kitchen, large spacious living rooms front and rear, and the normal bathroom with attire. Cellars and an outhouse make up the remaining structures.

Much has been preserved by way of plastering with architraves and rose ceilings. Added to this is the Mahogany staircase. A fireplace was lost over time but replaced by one obtained from the house of Abbotsford, refinished and installed. The front door is original only the glass panes have been replaced. All internal doors are as they were at the time of construction. The large rear garden which used to be accompanied by a large frontage, until road widening took its toll, completes the grand appearance.

**Oak Wood.** Church Road Flixton

A new addition to the list on this road, found to still be around into the present. Josiah Smith lived there for many years as of 1900 to 1909 when it became the home of a family called Brown. A neighbour living close by was Joseph Holdsworth the butcher in 1901. This Oak Wood was the home on the left of the two. It had **Wood Lea** adjoining, the small three bed property telling of nothing more. A 1938 Joiner named as Horatio Smith joined in to live here.

**Ormeau.** Church Road

Ormeau is a house along the **south** side of the road which was owned by Reuben Cochrane around 1905. This was the last building before Barnfield for that year and is today. By 1924 this was called **Ormeau lodge**, being detached it treated Flixton to four bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, hall, kitchen and garage. The home was set in large delightful gardens. 1938 dweller was Arthur Wardle.

**Overdale.** 63 Church Road

For the Dale c.1895 William Atherton was the occupier. Presently it makes up a portion of the Urmston Manor Nursing Home with **Ellastone**. Known was that his son Fred Winstanley Atherton married from the home to Nellie Deakin of Glenthorne on Station Road in March of 1900. Thomas Emmott looked over this dale in 1938 and moved in.

Another possible version of Overdale, this one closer to Shawtown farm in 1928. The dweller for the year was Harold Rutter he was engaged as a clerk for a living. He was recorded as being there into 1940.

**Park Cottages.** Church Road

The St. Michael's registers have the family of Joseph and Alice Holdsworth in one of the cottages for 1888. According to the 1928 street directory there were three in number to be found across from the local Mortuary. This site is now next to the Grove and above the golf course. They were shown on O/S maps for their identification and presence with a name of the **School Cottages**. In their early form they would have been thatched and not as presented here.

**Parkins Butchery.** 153 Church Road

The butcher shop that was has now reverted into a home. Alice Noone is the first found to take the butchery in 1928 while Walter Guest continued for 1938. Parkin was there during the 1950's. Before returning to its domestic state it became a video shop for a while. The home was placed directly after Southgate and became called Southgate accordingly.

**Pendennis.** 119 Church Road

The detached home previously noted in street directories of 1903 this naming disappeared to show as **Prior Lee** about 1905. This first called home was in the same hands as the second suggesting he, William Atherton, took the name with him to the second.

The second Pendennis to turn up along the road this one at the corner of Barnfield came in 1909 as the actual road (Barnfield) accepted its first homes. Taking the keys to the house was William Atherton followed by George Wadsworth 1939. The house became available in 1941 but a number for the home was not forth coming. It comprised of five bedrooms, three living rooms, cloak room, kitchen, scullery, and bath with two w c. There was a brick tool house outside.

## Victoria Gospel Hall. 119 Church Road.

No details at this time other than they offered Christian Brethren in the title. The Hall was placed in the house at the corner of Barnfield called **Pendennis** for its religious practice. This church closed in 2014 at this location to be altered into flats. In tribute to its past the new converted flats are called as the **Old Church House**.

**Pershore House.** Church Road

The house turned up around 1908 with a Miss. Mary Millar living at number 52 **north**. A date of 1911 traced Julius Justesen at home, he called the house **Pershaw**.

**Pinehurst.** Church Road

A neighbour to **Elm Lea** and sitting after Cambridge Road Pinehurst was home to Joseph Snaith in 1900. Find Pine Hurst to the left of this pair. Thomas Roberts registered here for 1939.

### Police Station. (Original) Church Road



Urmston's main police station was opened in 1904 after the land being purchased in 1896. It comprised of the usual police requirements and was living accommodation for the Superintendent. An example would be in 1938 P C Jack Davies lived at number 4, the station was known as number 2. At first it was controlled by the Cheshire Police Constabulary before it fell to the hands of Lancashire. The local constabulary has since moved to Crofts Bank Road, but the old building remains on Church Road. It has been renovated privately for a business purpose with the outer façade kept in accordance with its known look. Early police stations were at 31 Lorne Grove and 17 Cavendish Road. Five in all were allocated in Urmston at that time.



The role of a **Constable** is documented by the expense sheets proffered for approval each year. As far back as 1772 names were being put forward, for Flixton John Faulkner and William Gerrard held the position. Other names found are those of George Royle 1820 and Jonathon Royle 1821. Thomas Irlam and Thomas Yates showed for 1830 with John Derbyshire and John Barlow covering for 1835 at the same time John Whitnall with John Whitehead making up the team. A Constable of the year 1820 would earn £5 per annum rising to £15 by 1840.

The local '*Bobby*' after WW2 would walk the beat, would know many residents personally by name, and more than likely lived close to the town. The bicycle played an important role in providing quicker response times and expanding the area of coverage.



James Bent, was recorded for the time as **Britain's longest serving policeman** 1848-1901 (53 years)

### Crimes of the past.



It would seem that crime is not a new thing around Urmston. In 1648 Thomas Taylor of Flixton was fined 13 shillings and 4 pence for selling a Peck of oats and a piece of sack the bottoms of which were worse than the top. 1655 and John Thompson of Flixton, was fined 5 shillings for selling unwholesome meat. Several people were caught selling butter underweight and three more for dealing in un-tanned or illicit hides for leather. Robert Holt in 1662 had a fine of 2 shillings and 6 pence levied because he sold unwholesome flesh. For selling milk short of a bowl John Whiteleg was fined 21 shillings. (A Guinea) The Flixton Constables were also in trouble for not attending court with 26 occurrences recorded over a series of years. The Manchester Court did not have the power to make them pay any fines levied for this breach of the law. The Guardian newspaper, in its archive collection, shows Urmston as being a rough place to live. Murder, robbery, suicide, and accidents were almost an everyday occurrence. Alcohol played a large part but for the most it was the way of life in the early 1890-1900's.

### Debtors Prison.

All persona who fell into debt causing bankruptcy were to be held at His or Her Majesty's pleasure in the Gaol of Lancaster. This was until a decision could be made in regard to paying off any outstanding monies. In 1847 King George IV passed a resolution allowing debtors to be freed on condition their assets were sold at auction regardless of the amount received. Here are a few of the locals who benefitted from this almost pardon. 1847 Henry Cormack of Davyhulme and John Bennett of the White House Flixton. 1852 also from the White House, John Beckett. 1852 Alfred Smith the Agent for the Union Provision Store Flixton and 1853 William Boucock of Davyhulme. The list of debtors is extremely long between 1840 and 1860 with the majority left without any assets, occasionally some would pay up the outstanding money. Examples like Thomas Bent of Davyhulme, who went under in 1802, he settled every outstanding bill. George Holt dissolved his partnership but completed all outstanding transactions before continuing in the manufacture of Gingham. By 1850 the business was being handled by Oliver Holt, who met the exact same fate.

### Priors Lea. Church Road

Number 93 is the place to find this building named as the Lea in 1910 or thereafter with **Red House** next door. In house was George W. Owen. A solicitor and Commissioner of Oaths wrote this one up in 1938 his name was Robert Kilberg, I swear.



### Ravensdene. Church Road



The Raven is linked to **Elmhurst** at this particular site on Church Road with a George Bishop the homeowner for 1908. John Cartwright was raving about living here in 1939.

### Red House. 91 Church Road

2010 finds this abode so named as of 1903 sitting as always externally unchanged by time. Living in the house then was William Hart who had **Priors Lea** for his neighbour. The cashier, John Cassidy, could have painted the town red in 1938 while living in the home.

Red House with Priors Lea.



### Richard O'Jones. Church Road 1700



This was the given name for where John Collier (Tim Bobbin) lived. It was described as, a house fronting on the righthand side of Church Road (from Urmston) between Beech Avenue and Moss Grove. (Dartford Road) The picture shows it as being more of a cottage than a house. The date of 1849 had the cottage up for sale being offered with three newly built companion cottages and a pew in Flixton Church. A Stretford Road resident of Urmston called Sam Johnson informed the Council that he was having a plaque engraved and mounted on stone at the site in 1940. There is no confirmation of this ever being completed although it was authorised by the UUDC. Sam chose Manor Gardens as being the closest one could get to the cottage site as he had found.

**Roebuck Hotel.** Church Road

First licensed to sell ale in 1788 this as a new establishment was erected in Shaw Town, prior to that it ran as an ale house with Joseph Gilbody in charge for 1772. Some wording found in 1828 called it just the "Buck", Shaw Town; this was when John Wood held licence. An interesting fact is that there was an additional entrance to the hotel on Chassen Road. This opened out to an outside toilet which was eventually removed for the sake of hygiene and the obvious progress of internal plumbing. The hotel used to have revolving doors at both entries, a common feature for the district. Extended several times, efforts to retain the façade have been effective if not quite correct.

1882 the licence was held by Robert Smethill who sold up lock, stock, and barrel, opening the door for the Holts of 1890. At this time 1891 James Healy was in charge. William Bevan Holt, the next licensee, approached council in August of 1900 to enlarge the pub as it was becoming too small. A second application was submitted, and a license granted for a Billiard Room in 1909. Two full sized tables were sold off in 1935. One of the few hotels around to retain its bowling green in today's commercialised climate although the garden frontage is now parking.

A fire in March of 2007 left its future uncertain but it has reopened, and it now includes a 'fine dining' restaurant at the rear. The Holt family had cause for celebration 4<sup>th</sup> September 1902 when Eleanor Alice and her sister Elizabeth Allen both married at St. Michael's Church on the same day. The Holts date back to 1894 with William, Robert, and Edwin, as keepers of the house.



The Roebuck enlarged

**Rosecarbery.** Church Road

The house was one of a semidetached, its partner was **Leyburn House** and for 1910 it had Robert Ferguson living there. The pair was the last homes before the Smithfield Terrace which was replaced with the Royle-Higginson Court. They sit today opposite the Chesham.

**Roseneath.** Church Road

Sitting between the Shawtown Farmhouse and Southgate John Crowther called this home in 1928-1939.

**Royle Tobacconist & News Agency.** 118-120 Church Road

Probably the most well-known news agency of this area the Royle shop was still around fifty years or more from its start of 1898. Mathew Royle was owner the largest portion of the time. For the next move they took the agency to Southgate corner and became the Church Road Post Office. Just before its demise it was owned by William Arnold who moved to the corner of Dartford when the old shop was demolished during one of the Church Road widening schemes.



As licenced tobacconist Mathew was fined two shillings and six pence in 1909 for being the **first case in Britain** under the 'Children Act of 1908' in respect of the sale of tobacco to persons under the age of 16.

**Royle-Higginson Court.** Church Road.

The Court is named after Ruth Royal-Higginson who had served on council in all capacities for many years. It was officially opened in 1974 as a care home for the elderly. Some history for the site can be found under Smithfield.

**Rushfield Villas.** 94-96 Church Road

The Villas were another semidetached pair found established by 1887. By 1891 Charles George Flynn was at home. He was followed by Elizabeth Cochrane and William Benson as householders during 1901, William being found as there from 1898.

**Sandler Surgery.** Church Road.

A residence was converted in a surgery and waiting room during 1948 by Dr. B. Sandler. This practice was continued until around 2015 when it closed up and relocated to Woodsend. The building has been vacant ever since pending a decision by Trafford Housing.

**Sandfield.** Church Road

This was the last house next to Lyme Grove in 1881 and home to the families of Naylor and Whittaker in 1898. A semidetached home with no further detail. The neighbour to this home is **Balmoral View** and it carries the same architectural style for design and brickwork.



### School Cottages. Church Road



The cottages, of which there were two, had not been tracked down for any calling until Church records showed them to be home for Norman and Mary Jackson during 1889. Placed close to the Parochial School at Shey Bridge they sat alone. In the second cottage was Mary Ann Worsley, spinster. A map of 1848 shows a presence here but without identification. Pictures from 1908 showed them to sit between Shey Bridge and the Grove above the valley of the now golf course. References found suggest these became the **Park Cottages** once the Wright fields were taken by the UUDC in 1935.

**These cottages are not the Shawtown School once found on Church Road as a part of Shawtown.**

### Shaw Hall. (Shawe Hall) Church Road

Estimated to be a 12<sup>th</sup> century home with later thought to have been built by the Valentine family in the reign of James 1<sup>st</sup>. (1603-1635) these claims are often contested by the Asshawe family as they contend, they built it. John Valentine's daughter Jane married Lawrence Asshawe of the "*Hall on the hill*" meaning the hall stood at that time. This marriage between the two families

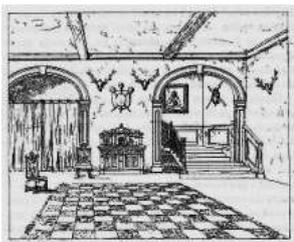


decided the closest to the truth when they 'rebuilt' the Hall during this time. This became the Hall, as it was known to the modern-day society. The original hall was encircled by a moat which was planted over in 1847.

The family of James Ridehalgh were occupants here along with Stott family members early 1880. Date wise land transactions were taking place in and after 1641 by Leonard and Peter Egerton as often payment or reward to Flixton Yeomen.



The Hall was a two-story building with its frontage being the opposite face to Church Road. A better view was said to be of the frontage which faced Ashton on Mersey. Gabled brick in style which was later rough cast as a finish to the brickwork. A blue slate roof did not help in making the whole building look of any interest. Fifteen gables were rough cast like the walls. Above, there was something called a cupola where a bell was once housed but lost over time (first noted as removed in 1863). The estate in 1774 comprised of 149 acres with a ring of fencing.



The next era c.1870 had it divided into two dwellings which managed to retain much of the fine woodwork including a Jacobean staircase. Before new windows were installed, they were made up of 17<sup>th</sup> century heraldic glass. One of the finer windows was saved during the demolition and presented to St. Michael's Church. The interior was decorated with tapestry work and many paintings making its grandeur amenable and superior to the outside. For the farm section there were the usual barns and a small shippon with the actual Hall sitting on eight acres. A dove cote and malt house were to be found with the rights to a fishery on the Irwell River.

This hand drawn sketch was accurately produced to show the interior of 1890. It was printed in a book called "*Rambles around Manchester*" by Alfred Rimmer.

In 1926 the occupant, W. H. Sunderland, tried to let a portion of the hall. There would be five bedrooms one with dressing room, lounge, hall, three living rooms and back staircase with separate entry. Considering this only to be half of the Hall, it gives an idea of size in general. It is shown that by 1928-39 the Hall and the Farm were to be separate entities. While Miss Annie Ridehalgh ran the hall, Alfred Cooper watched the farm.

The hall was demolished for an extended Shaw Hall housing estate in 1956 even after the public opposed the scheme. This was carried out by Maunders Construction. It was cleared of all and anything that could be removed before being put to the torch. This was deemed the easiest way of finishing the job and the most cost effective. The hall **did not** burn down as arson and the fire was controlled throughout.



### Warehousemen. Shaw Hall



One of the early schools at Shaw was named as the Warehousemen and Clerks School opened in 1855. Daniel Leech was the editor of their monthly magazine introduced by Rev. James McDougall. This was the first formation of a group now called the WACS better known today as the Waconia Lacrosse Club in Manchester. Known was that they had a ground on Church Road in 1938 close to the Hall on the north side fields. The possibility is that they formed the basis of the lacrosse group who played at the Flixton House fields.

### Shaw Hall Community Centre. Church Road

This centre was built in 1962 by O'Connor builders on land that was the Shaw Hall Horticultural Society's allotments. It is a hall for the community in the full sense of the word being available for any, and all events that are presented for the local residents. It is available too for general booking of a private nature. 2012 marked the fiftieth year of its operation. The building was constructed by P. O'Conner Ltd.



### Shaw Hall Cottages. Church Road (aka. Asshawe Cottages and or Hall Cottages)



This row of cottages was placed in front of Shaw Hall with the house called Grove. To let adverts have been located showing six cottages were standing there in 1840. These could be still be seen on maps dated around 1920. As a part of Shaw Town and the Hall they were built long before that time. The current row of houses before the golf course there are not descendants from these.

According to documents traced these cottages were medium sized for their time having room for three beds, a large parlour, and kitchen. Sam Collier in 1915 was the only resident found from records until George Atkins and his wife Sarah were traced there for 1885. Further to this a wedding took place, again in 1915, between Ann Collier of the Cottages and Harold Harrop of Carrington Road. Six names are confirmed for 1891 those of Marlboro Johnson, Thomas Mottram, Betty Prescott, Josiah Smith, Jane Smith, and Ellen Astbury. An update of information came in 1938-39 when a directory placed Grove House and the cottages almost directly in front of the Hall. In the house was Albert Henry Padmore with his neighbours in the cottages as Joseph Kenworthy, Charles Cobb, Robert Heap, Robert Alfred Heaton, Robert Alty, and a Miss Hambleton. Notice of intent to demolish the row was given in 1934 and granted in 1939.

The photograph of the cottages is subject to strict copyright and reproduced here with the permission of the owner.

### Shaw Lane.

This, after a series of other names, is now Church Road.

### Shaw Town Corner. 220-222 Church Road

The Tithe Barn with its two front cottages slowly got to be transformed. The barn was used for a while as a stable and the portion along the cottages became a garage that found home here around the mid 1930 period, known was that in 1938 John R. S. Holdcroft was the engineer who was working there. The garage was a converted part of the Tithe cottages cornering Chassen Road and that later in its life the introduction as a pick-up point for Cash's coach tours enhanced the business.



All was removed and a permanent garage/petrol station was built in 1966 it was named as Motor Lands. Several other ventures from caravans to lock up garages took their turn until 1964 when the whole corner went to auction. Now it is totally residential with the last structure of the garage replaced.



### Shaw Town (Tithe) Cottages.

Offered on the real estate market for 1922 they were classed as a farm. Each of the two cottages had two bedrooms, kitchen and scullery. A barn and shippon for five cattle came with the property along with a loose box that had a loft over. The lean to shed with corrugated roofing almost closed the list; added was five acres of land. These were the last remnants of the Shaw Tithe Barn complex sitting across from the Buck.



### Shawtown Farmhouse. Church Road

The house is slightly set back from the road and small compared to the homes along this strip. Directories show it being there many years before the first official recording of its address which came in 1897 and listed George Stott as being the owner. The facts arrived for 2010 when it was discovered to have a date stone showing 1839, initialled J W M. Access to the farmhouse was from what was to become Westgate, and there is still a farm style gate at this point.



As a home it stood alone for years close to what is now Southgate. When built there were no neighbours only farmland as it stood across from Shawtown proper. The house itself has five bedrooms which include one as a box room. There are two living rooms with a normal kitchen and bathroom to make up some of the detail. There are no outbuildings left to show it was once a farm.

During the times of the Stott family and their connection to the Shawtown era John Henry Stott is recorded as being married from there in 1923 and Misses. Martha Ann Margaret and Mary Stott lived in the farmhouse during c. 1918-1939 while Adam and George were close by on Barnfield. John Stott was also in on the act living at Barn-gate a house next door-but-one to the farmhouse.



The view of Shaw from the rear

A note regarding the initialling on this house, there were a James and William Macaulay around at this time. They leased the Tithe Barn, Malt Kiln, and apportionments to Thomas Coupe in or around 1800. A connection for the J W M stone is only suggested. Two other stones found here create a story. One, 1782 JHM, was imported from a home in Leigh and with nothing to connect with the house. The second remains unknown as 1774 JMS, in each case the J and M remains constant with perhaps James Macaulay connected in some way. A date of 1774 has been traced naming James and Harriet Macaulay in Flixton. Harriet was named in the Will of Lucy Latus Shaw Hall. (Harriet married Conyers Gale of Yorkshire, she leased off all her properties in Flixton)

Truthfully one should not speculate as it has not actually been documented in any form.

**Shey Bridge.** Church Road

Sitting at the bottom of the hill that elevates to the Church this little-known bridge was to allow flood waters from the Mersey under the road and onto the fields via a culvert. (Now the Wroe Golf course) The name originated from a corruption of Shaw Hey the fields of which it was designed to protect. After years of being a natural culvert it was piped in 1953 to ensure it continued to serve its purpose. Since the inception of the golf course the c.1890 stonework walling has been removed. The system is now aided by a pumping station that takes excess flooding away and through normal run off into general drainage. Nature waits for no man and the natural culvert has cut its path into the fields once more. A Shaw Lane Bridge was mentioned during the 1827 Bottoms trial. (Shaw Lane became Church Road)

**Smithfield House.** 152 Church Road

The house and terrace were purchased by the UUDC in 1939 for future considerations. In its early days the field here was used for archery by an established club. After eventual demolition, the site of this house became the development of Royle-Higginson Court taking place in January of 1974 after being planned since 1963. For 1890 this was also named as following Smithfield Terrace. 1898-1901 saw Mrs. Mary Jarman registered as being home for that period. 1953 and this was to be the address of **Urmstons Divisional Ambulance Service** newly built after WW2, the 1949 station at first was called as the Smithfield Division.

**Smithfield Terrace.** 136-150 Church Road

The terrace comprised of eight homes and was to be found there in 1890 surviving until 1974. The lands here were the site of the Urmston Archery Club until 1965.

**Southgate.** Corner Church Road and Southgate

At this corner a building was located and called Southgate. The address is shown in a directory of 1928 with Mrs. Alice Noone a butcher living there. Alongside Christopher Knowles, a confectioner, and Albert Taylor a dairyman, shared the lot.

**Springfield.** 22 Church Road

Attached to its partner of **Myrtle Villa** on the **north** side it was known to be established 1882. Phyllis Slinger was living there in 1901. Three floors, an attic, and cellars are all that has been found for description. 1938 brought Henry Fisher to this neighbourhood semi. The original land belonged to Thomas Royle-Higginson who had sold out to William and Arthur Hill.

**Stanley Cottage.** Nos. 164 & 162 Church Road

Located on Church Road, Stanley was built in 1896. Adjoined to a neighbour of 1734 they make a fine presentation of preserved local history. The homes show little by way of historical past for reference. Jane Johnson and Martha Robinson were noted as householders for 1901. How or why the two places dated so differently came to be together is something that may never be found. Conjecture would be that one family added the latter part to the existing cottage for the period. Many people came and left but the Johnson descendants always remained into 1940 and possibly longer.

**St. Leonards.** Church Road

The arrival of this home came in about 1908 and it sat with **Gower House**. Gideon Coope registers as first occupant. St. Leonard was a true Frankish Saint. A difficult name to pronounce found for 1939, it was Mrs P. Gulbenkian.

**St. Michael's.** Church of England Church Road.

For unfound reasons the Diocese of Manchester named this house of worship **St. Michael and All Saints Church**. Founded in the twelfth century it has been altered many times over the years. The first documents found show a date of 1197 followed with 1224 and reference to pensions for the Prior and Canon there. The basic style is mostly Georgian, its main structure is of sandstone and the roof is slated.



One record of the church and its history is to be found by the Baptistry Wall, it shows a builder marking for 1756 although the actual church was re-built in 1731 and the bells (8) four were added in 1806. The church was restored again in 1877 along with the tower. The church had a pipe organ which has been replaced by modern technology.



The two clock faces were donated by Miss. Newton of Holly House on Irlam Road. St. Michael's was listed in 1966 Grade 2\*. The Church was opened to the public in 1997 as a part of its **recorded** celebration for **800 years** in the community. It is also open for viewing during certain days of the week.



A survey conducted in 1650 confirmed that the St. Michael's Church was the only one available to the district. Urmston had neither a Church nor Chapel available for any followers of any other religion. A notice was produced to inform, print sellers, carvers, and guilders, that 60 lithographs of the church were for sale, and this was in 1876.

### St. Michael's Bells.



The bells of St. Michael's church started as four only, one was known as the "*poor folk's bell*" having been donated by the villagers. Three of the four bore the motto "*Jesus Be Our Speed*" with the fourth "*Leonard Asshawe, Peter Edgerton Esq. 1624*" When the bells needed a recast in 1804 enough money was collected to increase the bells to a peel of eight. A. Rudall of Gloucester re-cast the first four bells in 1806 the first peel came in 1808. When the bells were returned in 1808 the Tenor Bell was placed mouth upwards in a field. It was filled with ten guineas worth of strong ale for the populous to regale themselves.

A second re-casting was needed for selected bells in 1887 and it was carried out by Taylor of Lough they were re-hung in 1889. By 1934 they needed to be re-evaluated with three bells once more cast by Taylor this time to make them lighter in weight. The last repair work carried out in 1974 was for the wooden headstocks to be replaced by metal ones. The bells did not come cheaply the eight bells of 1808 cost £720.

### St. Michael's Graveyard.

The church had its own yard cemetery. Enlarged in 1868 with additional ground and again in 1887 from land purchased from Squire Wright. The yard's oldest stone is simply marked as WD 1669. The largest stone belongs to the family of Walkden it lies on the southern side of the yard and measures 8'-9" by 7'-0" and it is 6¼" thick. Several stones bear the markings of '*never to be opened again*' or noted to be '*full*'. The Wright family's plot is surrounded by close iron work which is unusual, and the cross form for the Alker family is notably tall.



All funerals were abolished on a Sunday as of 1873 and the earliest records show that only the unknown dead were buried on the **north** side of this God's acre. This superstition is no longer followed. Here too are heritage sites, one for the Jones Tomb and a second for its Sundial. The graveyard is now advised as full; only graves in existence are open for burial.

### Hatchments. St. Michael's

The term Hatchment was a corruption of the word "*achievement*" referred to in heraldic language. When a person passed on, and had born arms, wooden boards would be painted with any relevant coat of arms for mounting at the home of the deceased. Two such Hatchments are to be found in St. Michael's Church and carry the name and arms of the Norreys family.

### Tomb. (Jones) St. Michael's

Johannes Jones died in 1751 along with Anna Jones in 1755 they are buried in a large chest tomb. He was a Pastor of the church for 28 years and was known as John. St. Michael's Church has this tomb **south** of the main building. Built of stone with raised panels on each side the square corner balusters support the moulded edged slab. Latin has been used for the inscription. It is now protected under a listing of 1987 Grade 2 and has recently been repaired.



### St. Michael's Registry.

In the first year where registry was kept 1570 there were eleven baptisms, two marriages, and seven burials. The names mentioned the most included Radcliffe, Asshawe, and Egerton, with first name calling as the most popular being Hamlet, Randle, and Ralph. Comparing 300 years later 1870 the surnames of Gratrix, Gilbody, Valentine, Millatt, and Low, still appear on records today as they did back then. Searching for past names in the burial register is available **by appointment** and a small donation, the general registry is held by the G M records office.

### St. Michael's Sundial.

A sundial situated in the grounds of St. Michael's church yard has been listed (1987 Grade 2) as a heritage monument. Surrounded by cast iron railings it is sited on the **south** side and dated as 1772. The dial was made of bronze supported on a single baluster all mounted on two steps. The manufacturer was James Sandiford of Manchester and it was engraved with the names of the church wardens for that period. The present shows the bronze/brass plate and indicator have been stolen for scrap value and the stonework is showing much in the way of erosion. The cast iron rail too is rusting away from lack of maintenance; there are few volunteers around today to correct this unfortunate situation. This timepiece was created to commemorate past vicars whose names once adorned the work until that plaque too was stolen.



### St. Michael's Tower.



The Church Tower of St. Michael's has been rebuilt twice. In 1729-31 it cost £300 but by 1863 it was once more becoming unsafe. After a final peel of the bells in 1887 it was rebuilt in 1889 the same style, stronger, and a little higher. The tower carries plaques to record these events. The clock inside the tower is weight driven and activates six of the bells. At one time the weights had to be wound up by hand every few days, but they are now electrically wound. The clock, winding mechanism, and dials were restored in 1990.

A reference from Lawton's book of Flixton stated that; "*None of the Old Noll and his army had ever hit the tower with cannon balls.*" The 1650's were a worrisome time in Lancashire.



The towers plaques are difficult to read as they are installed high off the ground. The first records the rebuilding of the brickwork in 1888 and the second commemorates Queen Victoria and her Jubilee.



**St. Michael's Parochial School. Church Road**

The school has the longest history for the district. It dates as of 1643 when the Squire Peter Egerton gave up a cottage near to the Church of St. Michael as a classroom. By 1662 a new school became available at Shaw Town until the classes were once more returned to a later established school of 1828. The last building was dated as 1861 which was enlarged 1893. This land was donated by Squire Wright for the purpose. Headmaster J. D. Wilkie retired in July 1924 after forty years' service to the school. He was followed by Harry Spencer who took the headmastership from 1925 until 1956. The Parochial has been replaced by a new school at the rear where the Grove and playing fields stood in 1967. The old school, which was closed, had its demolition in 1975 leaving only the schoolhouse. (See note with National School)



When the school was still on Church Road c.1946 Miss Brydon, a teacher for this period, designed the first school blazer. Up until this time any clothing was accepted with the understanding it was war time and there was little money for such luxury apparel. The colours were to be black, enabling any source of supply but, for those who could afford it, there was yellow trim to the lapel, cuffs, and pockets. The pocket badge to match was another optional item. Later caps followed incorporating the same trim and badge. The blazer was for both boys and girls to wear. The school logo shows today black is now blue with the original design remaining as it was.

**National School. Church Road**

The school housed 204 children and was built in 1861 an extension was added in 1893. It is confirmed to have been the old St. Michael's Church School which has now been removed. Known is that there were five class rooms meaning around forty children being taught in each at any given time. For more confirmation that the National was St. Mikes, John Wilkie was found to be head in 1903. The four teachers assisting were Miss E. Cook, Miss M. Whitnall, Miss L. Cook, and Miss Dann.

**St. Michael's School House. Church Road**

Sitting next door to the school it was the home for the headmasters until later years when it was taken by the caretaker or custodian. The earliest head found at this time was John D. Wilkie 1884-1924 and Harry Spencer was the last head to conform to this arrangement, the caretaker Mr. Henshaw, taking his place. It is now a private residence and can be seen as the neighbour to the current Rectory. This house was built in 1861 with the school and the school's distinct style of architecture evident in this today.

**Strathdene. Church Road**

In 1901, a gentleman called James Richardson lived here. Construction took place c.1885 for this house with its adjoining side of **Hazeldene**. Many years on showed John King in 1938 in house.

**Strathmore. Church Road**

This house arrived in 1903 directories as an addition to the corner of Barnfield it is also the last house indicated as Urmston for address purposes and it was named **Ormeau Lodge** 1909.

**Strayfield Villa. 70 Church Road**

1800 traced this home in a triplex with **Ashfield** and **Fernside** on the **north** section of Urmstons Church Road. A well-known family name of Cheetham lived there in 1899, this one was Ernest Augustus followed by William Henry in 1901. Ernest was a Royal Meteorological Fellow. Strayfield was the left-hand home of the three.

**Sunny Dale. Church Road**

1948 brought this name to the fore when the Hassack family announced their son's engagement. There were no details of where to send any RSVP should there be a celebration.

**Terry's. Church Road junction Stretford Road**

Charles Terry stepped into the shoes of the roller-skating rink when they vacated the Billiard Hall in 1958. He later expanded across the road into the Lorne Villas which had been converted into shops. Much of his earlier time was spent working as an auctioneer selling the same style of products he sold in the store. His outlet for this in 1955 was at the Morris Hall on Atkinson Road and it was his idea to sell the first no name brand of washing powder. Charles sold the shop to Seymour Meade in 1961 who introduced Vernons as their branch. The next venture (1980) for this entrepreneur was to go into the mail order business advertising as Terrys Stores (Urmston) Ltd. Very much a family affair the company then listed Cedric and Mary Terry as Directors, but the Urmston Company is no more. 1961-2013

**1-3 Church Road (Lorne Villa)**

The story of Terry's stores has become legendary. (See Billiard Hall) This **second** store across on Church Road has its own tale. This home converted into a small row of offices and 3 shops had many occupants before Terry. Doctors, Dentists, Veterinary surgeons, had offices there and at one stage the Urmston Council used it for their Citizens Advice Bureau. The upper floor architecture has been retained as original even after a fire which caused £20,000 damage to Terry's stock.

Charles took the liberty of naming the block as the Charles Court Business Centre. A sign was installed proclaiming the new centre but hidden from street view in the rear parking area. The sign has been removed to accommodate a new tenant's requirement but preserved as a piece of the past. 2014 had it purchased by the Age UK. (Trafford)



Terrys (Urmston) Ltd.



This wonder of the world closed up to become restaurants of varied degrees. In 2014 another new occupant arrived and began the task of installing signage. This operation uncovered one of the original signs from 1961, this version in green.

Terry's Soap Powder.



When the Terry store opened, to gain some publicity, a Soap Powder was introduced c.1961. This cleaner would do floors, clothes, woodwork, walls, and lino. Charles Terry said he even cleaned his car with the product. It was named as **Brand X** to go into a head to head competition with TV commercials that advertised it, Brand X, as being inferior. After much litigation the outcome was that it put Terry and Urmston on the map. The possibility that it also became the first "no name" brand to be offered by stores is another factor.

**The Cottage.** 45 Church Road



Much larger than known cottages this home sat between the abode of Oak Lawn and Gordon Villas. Henry Austin Mather lived there for many years his name is noted here from 1898 through to 1911 and beyond. The cottage has been dated as of around 1880 and was built by an architect for his own occupation. One feature was windows that opened inwardly for ease of cleaning. For the motifs carved into the woodwork, sketches were found hidden under wallpaper etched into the walls during rework. The Cottage has been reassigned in name and number.

**The Holly.** 258 Church Road Flixton

A gent called Henry William Woodruff was its owner 1901 but the Albert Hutchinson family took it by 1909 dwelling there into 1940. Two homes here the second was called **Holly Lea** with The Holly taking the left-hand side.



**The Knoll.** 109 Church Road



A very large Spark built home close to Warbrick Drive, a distinction is that it has a multi-facet roof. It is now a home for the elderly or retired persons. Peter Watson could be found in this house for 1898. Peter had it named as **The Knowle** during his stay. The house is believed to be Spark built under the same conditions as its neighbour Willoughby on land owned by the Ridehalgh family. Much later in 1938 Percy Stephen Mosley found it of use for his own purposes. As a retirement home The Knoll has been of service since 1988.

**The Oaks.** 37-39 Church Road

This house c.1885 is listed as having many tenants through the ten-year period shown. To begin in 1898, it was Francis Fitzgerald and Naylor Hayes. A Victorian six bedroomed semidetached property. This well-presented property comprised of each; Entrance hallway, dining room, living room, conservatory, a dining kitchen and a downstairs W.C. On the first floor there are three bedrooms and a bathroom. To the second floor there are three double bedrooms and a shower room. This property also benefits from a three-chamber cellar accessed from the entrance hallway. Externally there is off road parking to the front of the property provided by a driveway. To the rear there is an extensive south facing garden, mainly lawn with a raised decked seating area overlooking the garden. One resident W. G. Hilditch was the organist at St. Clement's for 51 years.



**Theobalds Cosy Café.** Church Road

Also known as the Chassen Supper Bar the location for this fish and chip shop was 214 Church Road. c.1960

**Toc H.** Church Road

This group began in Belgium during the war where a house named Talbot House was introduced for R & R at the troop's leisure. It developed into an International Christian Movement. It was to be that Urmston had a branch to be found on Church Road at No. 138 under the name of Mrs May Lingham.

**Trailham.** Church Road

The area of land c.1819 was so called before it became the Flixton Golf Club in 1905. In that year it was offered for sale and accounted for 47 acres. The land eventually was purchased by George Bolton Stott from the Ridehalgh estate who allowed it to be leased to the club. In 1699 there was a field called Tralam in land registers, it is quite possible this was the basis in name for this parcel of fields.

**Tresco.** Church Road

This home appeared around 1928 with a name. It was to be found next door to the original Co-op building having George Hodginson co-operating.

**Urmston Cottage.** 160 Church Road

Not to be confused with The Cottage at 45 Church Road, for its beginnings of 1890 this was tiny in comparison to its location. There was a parlour and sitting room, two bedrooms, scullery and pantry. The toilet was outside. For reference today, this would have been found around the Longfield area offering it as a part of the farm there.

**Urmston Manor.** 61-63 Church Road

A conversion of homes for the senior citizens of Urmston made up from old named houses and the names of **Ellastone** and **Overdale** have been confirmed. The Manor has been established and serving the community since 1984.

**Urmston Motor Store.** Church Road

This long serving company has been in Urmston since 1970. Originally as Schofield Brothers on Flixton Road they relocated to their present address in 2007. Mustering over forty years they are recognised for that fact with no business advert intended.

**Victor Terrace.** 234-240 Church Road Flixton

The terrace was between Cambridge Avenue and Lever Street. (Hazelmere Road) One notable resident was John Coombs who in 1911 ran the Roebuck Hotel for a while. The east end had one shop in its original form of 1905. A second was converted later from the remaining three homes. For 1906 Fredrick John Tame fell into bankruptcy as a baker and grocer in the end premises.

**Fryer. G. A. & Son Ltd.** Decorator. Victor Terrace

The Flixton business belonged with the many that functioned prior to the war, this one known for 1938 as already established. The shop was compact but offered a high-end service in wallpapering and painting. This was the second of two shops on Victor Terrace however the Fryer family actually lived on Kingston Drive.



Fryer and Timothy shops in their present state.

**Timothy Grocers.** Victor Terrace

A three bedroomed home, two large living rooms and dining room with kitchen off. Very large cellar and, for three cars, garages at the rear. Early in 1947 Mary Timothy and her family arrived to set up shop here in what was once a creamery/dairy called Winstanley who also did grocery. They stayed until retirement in or around 1958 and sold out to the Bradbury family. The last owners of 2005 had it converted into a Real Estate office. Its origin was that of a corner of Victor Terrace. Jean Timothy 1930-2011 married Geoffrey S. Fletcher a prominent London artist who loved to sketch in the Urmston Urban District.

**Tame. F.J.** Grocer. Victor Terrace

Frederick John ran a grocery and bakeshop on the corner of Victor Terrace. Findings show at this time he was possibly the first to occupy these premises. The date of 1906 brought about his demise and he declared bankruptcy.

**Welsh Supply Stores.** 102 Church Road

As a general store it was found for 1893 as a grocery and provisions dealer applying for a license to sell beer, porter and cider. This would be consumed off the premises.

**West Wood.** Church Road

This was a 1919 calling for the home of **Ellastone** adjoined to Overdale.

**White Croft.** 115 Church Road

The Croft also known as White House came late in directories or the first year entered of 1911 it was the accommodation for Meredith MacKusick. A detached residence standing within a large plot the accommodation retained mainly original period features. Four well-proportioned bedrooms benefit from tasteful Georgian style windows. An enclosed porch begins the detail; reception entrance hall with magnificent staircase, ground floor W/C, Inglenook lounge, sitting room, and inner hallway. The kitchen had a breakfast room off, rear hallway with access to large useful cellars and an imposing shaped landing. Of the four bedrooms one was ensuite, bathroom, separate W/C. The impressive gardens surrounded all four sides and offered parking space. Frank Garside feeling at home here in 1938 with Justice of the Peace and Councillor S. N. Penlington resided here around 1958.



**Wilde.** 171 Church Road

Not as well-known as Gene's or Tony's of the after-war years but for this section of Church Road it was the only Barber shop around. Hair cutting began here in the 1930's under the hands of Frank Wales then in 1945 as long as all you needed was a short back and sides later Wilde took over.

**Willoughby.** Church Road

A home built by Elizabeth Ridehalgh, the wife of the late George, after entering into a contract with Joseph Spark. She did not stay long as it followed to be the home to the Allured family, it was a detached house dated as 1898. Very large with a hall, sunshine lounge, dining room, kitchen with scullery, five bedrooms to the first floor accompanied by a bathroom. There were two bedrooms on the second floor along with a storage room. The building had cellars, one complete with a w c; a garage, wash house, and coal shed were available outside. Willoughby commanded a magnificent view of the Meadows and Cheshire in its opening years. Recently sold it is known this will become a residence once more. One earlier name for the house was that of 1939 owner Sydney Axon.

**Woodfield Villas.** 98-100 Church Road

This was the last house in a row of three villas at this point on Church Road. 1898 had Morgan and Benson families here. Its 1901 numbering of 98-100 gave home to the families of Cochrane and again Benson.

**Wood Lea.** Church Road

The last pair of semidetached in a line of four only divided by Davis Road. This lea was the righthand home with **Oak Wood** taking the other. Here during 1911 was Henry Pearson but into 1938 it showed that Hanna Pearson was in charge.

**Woodseats.** Church Road

This name was given to Glenageary around 1919.

**The Village Flixton.** (This area was designated as a Conservation area in 1975)**The Village.** Flixton residences

The oldest place known was built in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century, newer homes came during the 17<sup>th</sup> century and they are still there today making up 11 residences addressed and noted as The Village. Saint Michael's Church and its new rectory, Church Inn, Chatham, Lark Rise, and the Hollies are features which also include the Greyhound Hotel and The Croft. (Ivy) The un-named 'listed' cottage is to be included. All other housing came after the School was removed and the road widened. The Grove was deemed inhabitable and rebuilt behind its older position.

**Aldcroft J. V.** 5 The Village

This Ladies and Gent's Hairdresser also offered Chiropody around 1945-50 in Flixton. At the beginning as a butcher shop known was Henry Booth for 1914, it was also one of many premises held by the Holdsworth butcher family as they relocated around the district. This home for styling was at the end of Stocks Terrace and at the corner of the Old Grove. The shop was removed during road widening with the terrace.

**Chatham House.** Church Road 22. The Village

Standing next to the Greyhound Hotel it is inscribed as W. W. E. and circled. This often denoted the initials of the first owner, in this case a possibility for this would be William Warburton known for being around the Village at that time with his wife Ellen. It is believed Chatham was built in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The description includes it being a two storied house made of brick topped by a slate roof. It has been altered in some small way having doors blocked and a porch added. Rendering has taken place to all outer walls. Leaded glass windows are a feature as is the arched headers. The house in 1874 offered two entertaining rooms, kitchen, pantry, larder, a wash house and cellar for the ground floor. The first floor gave way to three bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom and w c. The second floor was comprised of four more bedrooms. The grounds had a very large green house 36' long by 9' wide, two horse

stables, coach house with saddle room, and a hay loft. The slightly later date of 1895 showed as the passing here of Thomas Bowker who owned Moorside House at the same time.

The census for 1881 called it Stathans House with many people living in it. By 1898 Charles Earthey was recorded as being there and a birth was registered here in 1893, a boy who was named William Spencer Madan, mother and child were fine. One resident of note was Alfred Derbyshire (1839-1908) as an architect, he worked on the Comedy Theatre and The Palace of Varieties with another achievement that of the Theatre Royal. His tombstone in St. Michaels records the fact that he was the Architect of Manchester. Around the era of 1901 Samuel Henley began some of the associated names: Mrs Derbyshire took title when Alfred died in 1908 until 1918, when it became the property of John Camplin. The partnership of William Grime and John Williams shared Chatham in 1928 as a successful pair of local coal merchants.

**Dodds. 33 The Village**

Few people of the 1945-1950 eras will forget this grocery store sitting across from the Greyhound Hotel. With its neighbour of Hardman, the pair of shops were among the first to establish a history for the village. (Known from 1800) Dodd actually took over from the Elsie Dalton family after WW2 and The Royle Family Grocer was there before that. 1938 gave information that John Dalton was a Village Postman. These cottages and shops were the origin of the title 'Mersey View' long before it was utilised for the Carrington Road, Four Lane Ends version.



Dodd's left of the main home

**Flixton Ley. The Village**

The Flixton Ley was usually held at the Church Inn, many 1800-1830 dates record this as fact. A Ley was a form of market related to the feeding and care of Cattle, Horse, and general livestock.

**Greyhound Hotel. (The Village Inn) Church Road**

Before licences were required Thomas Darbyshire ran an ale house here in 1772. The first official license came in 1788, the hotel has been altered, re-built, and changed much over the years. When John Stott was the licensee in 1893 the hotel was still offering stables for horse travellers. Sports fields and a bowling green were once featuring at the rear. Joseph Whitelegg was the licensee found in 1828 when it still referred to having its own brew house.



An auction in 1907 to sell the hotel added that there was an eight stalled stable, two loose boxes, barn, yard and other outbuildings. A cottage passing by the name of **Oak** was together with the sale. In 1882 the hotel was releasing a horse cab, harness, and the right of stand.

It took until 1883 to provide internal information for the hotel. There was a large filling bar, vault, bar parlour, news room, kitchen, scullery, pantry, a large club room, sitting room, five bed rooms, ale and spirit cellars, and wash house. The stables now could house twelve horses and a pig sty was added. Room for Quoits became a feature of the outstanding gardens. Typical here was a revolving door as the main entry point.



Threlfall's 1922

1983 had the Whitbread Brewery in control changing to their **Beefeater** style restaurant. By 2007 it was renamed as **The Village Inn** and the hotel was used as a Thai restaurant and as a pub, it changed its hat frequently. Closed once again 2018 and under new ownership its three stories coupled with a half-timbered outlook still prominent for the area.



Joseph Jenkinson 1920

Other known licensees were 1850 Thomas Warburton. 1857-1867 James Buckley, 1874 Mary Buckley, 1875 John Partington, 1877 Thomas Gilmore, 1788 James Tongs, in 1880 C. E. Lloyd transferred the licence to Annie Lloyd, 1881 Joseph Ward, 1883 Garside, 1890-1901 John Stott, 1909-20 Joseph Jenkinson, and 1928 John Jones who called the hotel **Ye Greyhound Inn** during his time there. In 1939 William Arthur Bogg took his place with Robert Warburton 1941-1951. 1952 Archie Bebbington.

**Oak Cottage. The Village**

Somewhat of a mystery for a while as it was shown to sit behind the Greyhound Hotel around 1730. Charles and Elizabeth Royle were the first tenants found c.1800 and John Barnett was living there 1882 following this time. Captain Thomas Hornby was in residence for 1898. Not recorded after c.1905 but reference has been found to substantiate its presence. An auction of 1907 included the cottage at number 24 adjacent to the hotel at the rear. This was small, three beds, living room, it had lawns and fruit trees. The cottage is now confirmed, with the hotel, and encompassed in the grounds alongside the Church Fields.

**Hardman. The Village**

The ladies and children's outfitter who occupied one, of two, shops opposite the Greyhound. The shop was slated for demolition around 1939 only to be placed on hold due to the shortage of materials for new premises. Both shops were eventually lost a road widening scheme of the 1960's. Annie Hardman, known to be there for many years, sold boots, shoes, drapery, and hosiery, continuing for a short while in a new shop by the Station Garage which was built in 1957 as the new Grove.

**Jubilee Tree. Flixton Village**

Early documents show a tree planted, suggested an Oak, it was to commemorate the Queen Victoria Golden Jubilee in 1887. It is believed that the last was a Beech Tree. The surviving tree, no matter what cultivar, was eventually removed for good in 1987. Here the Flixton Stocks sat awaiting customers in ye olde world. Road widening over the years has taken away the site totally at the junction of Church, Carrington, and Flixton Roads. Features here were a bus stop, a phone booth, the tree, and a seat, not to mention road signage and eventually street lighting.

Although no real records show the trees culture it was a Horse Chestnut, as reports talk of collecting conkers at this point. The significance of the Jubilee was the importance. A slice of the last tree was retained by John Howe the local historian.



**Lark Rise Cottage.** The Village. Church Road 18-20.

This cottage is probably the oldest in Flixton Village. Built in 1672 it has been preserved in immaculate condition. Initialled as I. F. W. and likely to be the first owner or builder as this was a common practice. (Listed in 1966 Grade 2) Never mentioned in Slater's by this name and suggested is that it was only christened late in its life.



The cottages have been as one for many years, internally the woodwork is outstanding even some of the doors that are no longer in use have been retained in place as part of the interior décor. The cottage boasts an apparition it appears next to the old fireplace embedded into the wood panelled wall. The face of a female shows but when approached she disappears. This can be seen in any light, artificial or natural, and can be quite eerie.

**Lark Rise is not available to the public.**

A portion of the Heritage description includes, the cottages are a two bayed timber framed construction on a stone plinth. Brick extension left, right, and above. The roof is slate, and the timber frame is in square panels with diagonal bracing to the principle posts. An original studded Oak door exists, and some windows show as added later. To the left is a Flemish bond brick extension and right replaced casement windows. Internally the door opens to an inglenook fireplace which has a chamfered curved bressumer (Lintel) beam. There is a wattle and daubed heck and heck post. (Lattice work daubed with a substance to make it rock hard) Overhead the roof trusses are tie-beamed with inclined struts.

**Mayfield House.** Church Road

A home that followed Throstledale after the Church Inn and between a sweet and tobacconists called Swindells of 1911. It was once thought to be a small terrace but correctly found to be a semidetached as a partner to **Throstledale**. An early occupant was Thomas Irlam who was a slater by trade in 1898. The front wall and posts are still standing at this site.

**Rectory.** The Village

The present St. Mikes Rectory sits on what was vacant land and the Rookery opposite the church. This replaced the Carrington Road version for modern times. However, the design has been kept in keeping with the school house placed as its neighbour.

**Royle Family Grocers.** The Village

Much photographed, there were two small shops opposite the Greyhound Hotel. In 1898 or there about, one was leased by William Royle through to the 1920's. It was better known later as Dodds and its neighbour was Hardman's. Both shops and their accompanying cottages were lost to the road widening of Church Road in 1962. One of the Royle cottages was home to the 1891 Harper family and the adjoining shop was a butcher called Henry Booth.

**Scolds Bridle.** (Brank)

The 1820 use of the village stocks in Flixton had an added feature only used on the female population. A Scolds Bridle was a device that restricted the use of the tongue. This debilitating equipment was placed in a Trafford exhibition by Samuel Davies during 1887 to show the world it was no longer being used. The Brank, as it was also called, was housed at the Flixton Poor House on Moorside Road. One of these bridles is now held at Trafford Local Studies in Sale, they cannot confirm as to it being the Flixton version.

**Stocks.** The Village

The Village of Flixton maintained stocks until c.1823. The stocks were a wooden structure utilised by holding common criminals for public humiliation, they restrained the feet in a prone position. The locale was surrounded by so named buildings Stocks House, Stocks View, and Stocks Terrace. The site became the home of the first Jubilee Tree in 1809. All has finally been removed and the whole stocks island at this corner no longer exists. There is evidence provided in various local constabulary reports to show that the stocks were used. Their presence was an effective deterrent against crime just to have them available.

**Stocks Cottage.** The Village (Unknown)

In the Village for 1851 this cottage was "To Be Let". As the cottages there were generally known to be named it is difficult to say which this one was. The sale advised it was near the Church and there were two front and two back rooms. Three bedrooms and a large garden completed the small description.

A possible answer to this unknown cottage is **number 16**, the neighbour to Lark Rise. The Rise, which was not named at this time, did not fit the description. One last home close to the church was Ivy but this was double story and could not match as it was with Chatham House. Lastly, **Oak Cottage** that fell to the rear of the Greyhound remains an alternative.

**Stocks Green.** The Village Flixton

Surrounding the stocks open land is found to have been called the Green. Predominately public land it was often occupied during the wakes period for the pitching of booths which would stretch through to Reade House. The booths would have included boxing, roulette tables, shooting galleries, and side shows with all the fun of the fair. Hospitality and local commodity sales also featured in or around the 1800's in true village green style.

### Stocks View and Terrace.



These terraced homes were part of the original Flixton Village. They sat close to the Stocks along with Stocks House. This formed the junction of Carrington, Church, and Flixton Roads. The View c.1850 sat across from the terrace, it only housed three families where as the Terrace had room for eight. The View was recorded in the 1881 census but not the Terrace. Stocks View become new homes for 1969 when Maunders won the contract to build 10 homes in its place.



Typical at Stocks View was; three bedrooms, living room, kitchen and bath. A wash house could be found in the gardens. An entry in Lawson's book of c.1889 told of the Wooden Stocks position near the **newly erected Stocks Terrace** this gave idea both were built before the Stocks House 1893. This has since been proven when the date stone was found along Mersey View in a pile of rubble, it showed 1890. Further facts present the Terrace as being built in two stages the latter portion came in 1893. The terrace was removed in 1961 by M. J. Duffy Ltd.

### The Grove. Flixton Village

A small but renowned block of homes was set aside from the Stocks triangle of terraced units. Placed between the railway and Stocks Terrace c.1848 it was unique in its own right. Many baptism records are to be traced for here in 1886 showing a thriving community. The Grove had accommodation for 16 families. It was replaced after being condemned and purchased c.1938 under a CPO, by a new Grove c.1945 behind the original to accommodate 46 families.



It was found that the Grove was also known as **New Street** for its address and could be found in the 1861 census. Planning permission was applied in for 1939 to erect a new home complete with a shop at the corner of Flixton Road on a portion of the soon to be vacant land. Once this too was to be demolished another shop was built at the entry to the new Grove. It did not last many years when it was taken for the garage presently occupying the space. A final placing of homes came in 1953 as four flats were to be built cornering Church Road.

### The Village as property.

The ownership of the varied lands for the Village shows as complex. It passed through many hands and at various times. Dates refer to late 1700 for the most part where names such as Coupe, Bostock, Johnson, Faulkner, Lowe, Millatt, and Wright all featured in transactions. The largest portion not privately owned fell to Grove and Whitnall in 1934.

### Throstledale. Church Road

Although built looking like a terraced house it only ever showed with one person living there in the early 1880's. In fact, it was adjoined to **Mayfield** as a pair before **Ivy Cottage**. The date of 1898 showed the owner to be Henry Hindley. This building faced St. Michael's Church School and it was sited between the Church Inn and The Greyhound Hotel. The front posts and wall can still be seen at this point along the road.



### St. Michael's C E. Aided School. The Grove



Trafford Locals suggest 1959 was its beginning but it took until 1967 to be completed with its assembly hall and full classrooms. With the support of H R H. Prince Charles, the children here developed a special garden dedicated to the Millennium. The school was built on the vacant field behind the Grove and the Church Road version. This field was home to the Nissan Hut of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Flixton scouting troop after WW2.

### The Hollies. The Village Flixton

Standing in Flixton Village "*The Hollies*" is another example of old architectural Flixton. It still sits between the old Stocks House (Village Court) and Lark Rise. A simple brick building well preserved retaining some small character of its age built 1781. Slaters show it to house the family of Bank in 1881 and for 1898 it was in the hands of Mrs. Janet Ballard. Janet was still in occupancy for 1928 and possibly longer, it fell to Helen Ballard in or around 1939. The Flixton Conservation plan called this home Holly Bank this is incorrect.



### The Village Number 16. (Church Road)



This house was "Listed" as Grade 2 in 1987 in carries no name but was considered as moderately important enough for the status. At one stage, because of its numbering, Chatham was thought to be at 16 but this is not correct the numerical order was outward from the Village. Its description, No.16 goes as follows: The cottage is built from Flemish bond brick rendered at the rear. This relates to the fact that this side today is used as the front. It has a slate roof and is a two bay, with two story outlooks. The one bay has been added to the side with a porch also added. The original door has been blocked. Casement windows with leaded glass are accompanied by cambered brick work with arched heads. It has ridged and gable chimney stacks.

**Wilkins.** Flixton Village

Harriet and Polly Wilkins ran a greengrocery store here c.1940 among the residences of Stocks Terrace. The description given by Bob Potts in his book was that the sisters were akin to *'Gert and Daisy'* a comical duo from the days of radio c.1945. Once the terrace of Stocks was to be removed a new shop was built for this business next the Station Garage and the Grove. When the Grove was redeveloped this shop went into the past just as the first did.

**Widening scheme.** Flixton Village

Alterations to Church Road took place in stages during the 1960's. Various cottages around Darford were removed along the way with the Village affected the most. The block of two shops and Stocks Terrace was completely demolished as the twists and turns through this section were straightened. From slightly before the St. Michael's Church through to the Jubilee Tree at Carrington Road, radical improvements altered the Village for ever.



- **Ciss Lane.** Urmston

This old lane was recorded from the 1800's and the sites for two quaint thatched cottages. At the corner off Higher Road and Ciss Lane one dated as of 1870 and survived for many years. Ciss now has 31 houses now with most of the historic changes coming after council had purchased the land at £500 per acre. The lane was often excluded in directories without reason. A census of 1911 had William Pennington a manager for a builder's merchant in one Ciss home and in the other John and Ada Millward. John was a carter and had a daughter Mary. The original cottages were condemned in 1933 and William Pennington with F. Baldwin, both given notices to leave. The cottage on Higher and Ciss became a rest garden in 1934. Consideration was made to change the name of Ciss to Beech Farm Road in 1935 with the residents failing to agree it was left as it was.



- **Clarendon Road.** Flixton (**South** side)

This small stretch turned up in c.1903 as a no through road comprised of buildings numbered 2-14. A proposal was put forward to build a block of 6 flats here in 1973. Today there are 15 houses and 1 block of flats to make the road complete.

- **Clevedon Avenue.** Urmston

The homes are 31 in number. Clevedon appears to originate from Somerset.

- **Clifton Road.** Flixton

There were 4 homes here circa 1908-1909. Like so many parts of Urmston it was further developed in 1935 and now has 26 homes.

- **Clubs and associations.**

**Bible Club.** Lyme Grove

In an effort to preach temperance a Bible Club was created here on the Grove in 1903. The club held its meeting on the licensed Urmston Men's Club premises of the time but limited drinkers to two intoxicating drinks per meeting. Out of the 76 members 46 were abstainers and anyone under 25 years of age had not asked to be served. The Rev. C. B. Jones was the instigator for this project which was proving to be a success.

**Canine and Feline Societies.**

An Urmston, Flixton, and District Canine Society was formed in 1903 it held its shows at that time in the Drill Hall on Flixton Road followed by the Urmston Public Hall in 1909 as the venue. The felines and canines for Urmston fall under the paws of the Manchester Societies which holds their shows at the Carnall Centre. Generally, there is not enough support locally for a defined Urmston Club for either of the groups.

**Canterbury Players.**

**Canterbury Players**  
Amateur Dramatic Society

This amateur dramatic group were established in Davyhulme 1949 from school teachers and parents of the Canterbury School. They have recently moved home and now operate from places like the Davyhulme Junior School and the Brook Road Church. Their President has been with the group for 57 years, he is Gordon Wells.

**Classic Car Club.** Urmston

A car club set up for the followers of this hobby in 2008. Members gather to show off their classic cars and discuss mutual topics related to the subject. The Lancashire & Cheshire Car Club met at the Roebuck Hotel. This would have made the members drool; John J. Royle of Stocks House Flixton was selling his automobile in 1919. The car was a 1910 Lanchester, 28 HP Landaulette with dual ignition, spare rim's and accessories.

**Davyhulme Art Club.**

The club formed in 1977 with the aim of sharing the practice of this form in a friendly atmosphere. They meet weekly at the St. Michael's Croft on Church Road.

**Davyhulme Camera Club.** Flixton House

Formed 1969 in rooms near to Davyhulme Park they last congregated monthly at the Brook Road Church, their headquarters. The club is open to the entire district for the furtherance of photography as a hobby. They were commissioned in 1961 to photograph local buildings that were to be demolished at the time.

**Photographers.**

Often seen on old postcards of Urmston are the names of two photographers **James Wride** was probably the most prolific he had a stationer's shop on Flixton Road. The other was **Edwin Mather**, his main occupation was that of Post-master at the Flixton Post Office but at the front was his stationery and tobacco shop. Both gentlemen took photos of local streets for publication into cards for distribution in their shops. A later addition to this post card picture business was **James Henry Smith** who also listed his address as the P O. Flixton.



One last well known photographer was **Henry Cuthbert** although renowned for his butcher shop on Crofts Bank Road he took dozens of local pictures recording events and scenes of Urmston from 1912 into the 1930's. This Cuthbert collection is readily available at the G M County Record Office. Several photographers set up shop to provide portrait service an example would be **Myers & Frost** of Higher Road Urmston.

**Flixton and Urmston Good Buddies Association.**

Breaker, breaker, one nine, this is Teddy Bear on the line. The club became known during the 1970s when Citizen Band Radio was at its height. Still calling in the 80's it had websites then to promote the hobby which was a big ten four.



**Floral Art Club.** The club emerged from the Urmston & District Allotment Society as of 1965. Meetings were held at the Alker Hall.

**Irish.** Not found

The Scots had a Burns Club locally and the Welsh, a Society, but nothing has been found for the descendants of the Emerald Isles in Urmston. The closest they came was with the bar O'Shea's on Railway Road which did not fare very well and closed.

**Manchester CHA Ramblers & Social Club.**

CHA stands for Countrywide Holiday Association it was established in 1891. The walking group under this name had members who believed it was time to form a group which was more localised. Then, in 1921, four followers of the rambles began a **new division in Urmston**. After a meeting in rooms on Higher Road it was decided they would add their own alphabetical calling to the already known sections of A, B, and C, they were to become Section D. Since 1975 the section was dropped and reverted back to its main roots but did not stop there. After several changes in name 2004 saw the onset of Rambles Holidays.

**National Association of Bikers with Disability. NABD**

This association was formed in 1991 with Urmston joining in on their own merit. The home for this club is at the Bridgewater Centre on Robson Avenue. It began as a challenge for people who would not accept the fact that being disabled meant no biking. Assistance is provided to adapt motorcycles according to the disability. All bikers disabled or not, are welcomed.

**Owner Occupiers Association.**

In its onset this was the Rate Payers Association formed in 1904, they met at the Wesleyan School on Moorside Road. The later association was formed from residents in the Urban District to voice opinion on civic matters. The early days were at 223 Flixton Road this was 1953 and by 1968 it had a combined membership of 15,000 spread among Manchester, Stretford, Urmston, and Sale. As at 1971 this group proposed to the local MP that Rates should be replaced by a local income tax collected by an extension of the PAYE system. In or around 2003 a group formed for the Granville Road area as a Tenants Association to look after their affairs surrounding this part of Urmston.

**Urmston and District Commercial Travellers Assn.**

Establish c.1903 their Hon. Secretary operated from 44 Moorside Road in 1943 under the name of E. S. Lockley.

**Urmston and District Model Engineering Society.** Chassen Park

Started in 1948 it has grown from a 500 ft. track into a metricated 2000 metre run installed in 1982. The track now provides a complete circuit of the park with a bridge over the track approved for construction in 1970. A new club house was opened in 1974. The club was responsible for the event called May Day Steam held annually after its start in 1981. The old shed they once used was sold to the Flixton Golf Club for storage purposes.

**Urmston and District Philatelic Society.** Church Road

Collectors of Stamps held their meetings at the Shaw Hall Community Centre where they were established in 1955. After a move to Haylands, Old Crofts Bank they closed up due to lack of support in 2010.

**Urmston and District Spastic Society.**

Formed to aid people who suffered from Cerebral Palsy they registered as a charity in 1954 and presented their constitution to fall under the War Charities act of 1940. Notice was given in 1981 that they ceased to exist. This charity has reformed as Scope.

### Urmston and District Tape Recording Club.



The club had a beginning of c.1957 opening up with the Gardeners Institute as its first home on Railway Road. They continued at the Hartford Community Centre until around 1973 when they disbanded. One of their boasts was that they did a demo tape for Herman's Hermits when they were an up-and-coming group. The founders were Bill Firth and Len Bullock.

### Urmston and Flixton Literary and Scientific Society. 1881-1884

The year of 1878 showed that meetings of the minds were held for this group in Urmston. Speakers were brought in to give talks ending in overall discussion about subjects ranging from books to experiments. The last date traced for this group was 1904 when a Mr. Deacon presented a talk about his daring tramp across America.



### Urmston Aquarium Society.

Found when organising an event in 1953, it was an exhibition of tropical fish during the Queen's coronation.

### Urmston "Burns" Club.

A dinner arranged by the Scottish people of Urmston was held in 1886 at the Victoria Hotel. The result was the formation of a group called The Burns Club. They were a clan of five strong.



### Urmston Musical Theatre.

Previously called the Urmston Amateur Operatic Society they formed as a group in 1911. Their aim is to bring music and pantomime performances to Urmston, usually at the various schools and theatres. A later addition is that of a junior section.

### Urmston Primrose League.



This league was formed in 1883 with its branch operating from Wilderspool House around 1911. The intent was for the maintenance of religion, the constitution, and the honour of the British Empire. A basic club for the Conservative Party.

### Urmston Probus Club.

The club movement began in 1965 and as in many cases it was connected to the Urmston branch of the Rotary Club. This continued into 1985 with a local membership being formed. Members meet in an informal way over coffee and usually it includes a speaker on subjects covering a wide range of interesting topics. Members come from the senior section of society (over 60) and they are encouraged to present their own stories. The Probus currently meet at the Davyhulme Golf Club.

### Urmston Radio Controlled Car Club. Humphrey Lane

Starting their engines in 1979 these enthusiasts race their 1/12 scale cars at the St. Clement's Branch Church Hall. Urmston historian Alan Crossland has been this club's staunch supporter since its inception.



### Welsh Society. (Manchester Association)

Not strongly represented in Urmston but their Hon. Treasurer in 1926 resided on Railway Road with a real Welsh sounding name of Hugh Jones.



### Working Men's Clubs.

The workers were catered for under many headings around the district, generally church groups and associations formed their own. One very early version could be found at Abbotsfield established in 1885 under the wings of the Conservative Club.

### Youth Clubs. 1900-1960

Several of these facilities were in operation at one time or another. Besides the Flixton Youth Club there were Church youth clubs such as at the Congregational and St Clement Churches. Others too survived for a long time but today they are unfortunately in short supply. The first known to be established for Flixton was in the cellar of the Rectory on Carrington Rd. The Hartford Community Centre run one for the present.

- **Coal Merchants and yards.**

According to the London Gazette of 1893 a partnership of Boothby and Forsyth working as coal dealers in Urmston and Flixton was dissolved by mutual consent. Noted for the 1900's was Clifton & Kersley along with Sydney Smith and Thomas Ogden. They were joined by five other merchants around 1926 as the local demand increased and Urmston Station became the main center having a larger yard than Flixton. Familiar names for many since the war would be Eckersley, Grime and Williams, Irlam, and Corser Bros.

Both Flixton and Urmston Stations had coal yards which gradually took over from cattle pens. Local distributors would bag and deliver throughout the town usually per hundred weights. Coke was another staple as well as nutty slack and cobs each designed to fit the financial status of the recipient. Coal was not a cheap commodity, so mixing was common place. Both yards have been removed as redundant. Phimax and Anthracite, as smokeless fuels were introduced to Urmston in 1957.



- **Cob Kiln Lane.** Urmston

This lane was placed at the end of Meadow Road Urmston the directories show nothing of its two houses. The Westbourne Park small bore rifle range transferred here, and a portion of the lands became a municipal rubbish dump. A road was laid out to allow trucks to operate at the tip, made of railway sleepers council bought 700 of them at 2/6d each in 1931. The "Tip" was closed in 1976. The lane once led to Cob Kiln Woods where a brick works could be found in operation for its early years. This now home to a variety of stables and agricultural holdings that are under planning for future development.

- **Coberley Avenue.** Davyhulme

This one contains 22 houses as of 2010. Coberley is an early Buckinghamshire name.

- **Cockedge Lane.**

Better known today as Flixton Road it means 'dweller at the hillside' and is usually connected to game birds.

- **Coll Drive.** Davyhulme

The year of 1968 saw the 41 house and 1 flat appear at this location.

- **Compton Close.** Flixton

The Close, at the end of Arundel, was born out in 1970 with 27 homes.

- **Community Centres.**

Detail for Shaw Hall, Hartford, etc. or any other of these centres is entered under a heading accordingly when information is traced. Most were formed in or around 1965-70 for each local community. Humphrey Park was much earlier but has since been rebuilt.

- **Coniston Road.** Flixton

The road had accommodation for 28 family units. Coniston Lake presents itself for origin.

- **Conway Road.** Davyhulme

The majority of the 67 houses were built in 1935. The word is found to be both Irish and Welsh in origin, certainly Gaelic. The River and Castle in Wales would be favoured. Conway is the location for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme Scouts and their home is called Endeavour.

- **Corfe Close.** Flixton

Built in 1970, there are 15 houses in the Close. A Corfe is a 'pass or cutting' in early English.

- **Cornhill Road and Avenue.** Davyhulme

The road gets its name from the field it sat on. Accounted for in the 56 properties is the clinic, added to this are 8 flats to make up the road. For the avenue include 11 homes. The clinic in the main has relocated as of 2009 but still operates a branch here. The Davyhulme Social Club calls this road home too. Other random homes here were called Newcroft, Maitland at No.52, and South View at No.54, Hazeldene, The Gables, and St. Michael's.

**1928** house names for Cornhill Road: The Knolls, Beechwood, Netherside, Ellesmere, The Deans, Hazeldene, Burn Bank, Dlanor, Moorlands, Knowsfield, Acresfield, National School, Crombie, Haslemere, Inglenook, Woolacombe, Castlestead, Craigmere, ending with St Michael, Kelmscott, Treeton, and Maitland. It should be recognised that **Cornhill was assumed under the name of Moorside** until it, Moorside Road, was expanded through to Crofts Bank Road.

**Acresfield.** Cornhill Road



The house built in 1910 was to be found in on the **north east** side by the National School for the period. It was where William Shawcross 1919 stayed at that time, still recorded as being there in 1928. This home was coupled to **Knowsfield** housing a likely relative, Harry Shawcross. An entry for 1891 showed a Rhoda Oaks occupying this home prior to marrying John Wood at the Wesley Church around the corner on Moorside Road.

**Beechwood.** 39 Cornhill Road

The home was to be tracked down in 1919 as neighbour to The Knolls. For that year Thomas Wakefield held occupancy, by 1928 he was its only owner. On its other side was **Netherside**.



**Burn Bank.** Cornhill Road

This was discovered for 1919 as a home with **The Deans** along one side and **Hazledene** on the other. 1928 had a Mrs. Hargaves as homemaker after it was in her husband's name of Herbert earlier.

**Castlestead.** Cornhill Road

John Knaggs called this his castle in 1919-1928 on the **north east** side of the road.

**Craigmore.** Cornhill Road

Craig was a house on the **north east** side in 1919 where Peter Brookes, a manager, made home into 1928.

**Crombie.** Cornhill Road

Thomas Dutton lived at this home in 1928 it was on the **north east** side.

**Davyhulme Social and Bowling Club.** Cornhill Road

The club has recently rebuilt its club house. (2008). After many years it was be rid of its old abode which, as the picture shows, was prefabricated structures. A date is given for the formation of this club is 1908 when it had Rev. Harland as President. Like several clubs of this nature, women were not allowed, and it took to around 1970 the change this. Stanley Blackburn was 1938 Hon. Sec.

**Dlanor.** Cornhill Road

The naming may well be misspelt but that was its listed name in documents. Stringer Williams was here in 1928 and next door was the well-known Moorlands. Ronald, spelt backwards, is the finding for origin.

**Ellesmere.** Cornhill Road

Only noted after 1920 the house was between Netherside and the Deans.

**Haslemere.** Cornhill Road

For 1928 this was the place where Thomas Starkie enjoyed his life close to the National School.

**Hazeldene.** 47 Cornhill Road

1928 introduced this home as a semidetached faced with Accrington brick and for 1951 had the following lounge, dining, kitchen, scullery, and pantry. There were three bedrooms, and a bathroom. Outside, a garage and greenhouse, the garden sported a lily pond. This, almost present day, information is the best found for these c.1900 homes, the second was called **The Deans**. The house of **Burn Bank** sat as the other neighbour. The road is mentioned as Cornhill after being recognised under Moorside Road.

**Inglenook.** 22 Cornhill Road

This was the nook home of Walter Newton during 1928 on the north east side of Cornhill. Walter was in charge of all local libraries from the late 1920s and through approximately 20 years thereafter.

**Kelmscott.** 44 Cornhill Road

A home in 1928 for the well-known, it belonged to **Ernest Leonard Leeming** the Town Engineer and Surveyor who worked tirelessly for the Urban District. He had the house built from concrete blocks of his own design. The calling is from a village on the River Thames and this is now Kelmscott Court.

**Knolls Corner and the Knolls.** Cornhill Road

Street lighting was proposed for installation here in 1887 it was to join with a plan to light up the road from the Nags Head. There was a house here called The Knolls owned by the Hardman family from 1878-1904. The link to Knolls Corn Hill has origins as an area bounded by Cornhill and Canterbury Roads, specifically the corner where the two meet. The earliest date to be found is in the Barton-upon-Irwell street directory of 1861. William Royle, a stalwart founder of developing Flixton, died here in 1939. A newspaper report of 1889 inferred that Knolls Corn Hill was a part of the Norreys Estate which also accommodated the St. Mary's Church built in that area. Intended to be 'The Knolls' it carried the Corn Hill or corner following due to address references.

**Knolls Field.** Cornhill Road Little is known of Knolls Field other than in 1919 it sat with **Acresfield** down this road. John Owen, who was a sheet metal worker, was comfortable here. Sometime around 1928 both homes were occupied by Shawcross family that of Harry and William. (Directories show this as Knowsfield)

**Maitland.** Cornhill Road

A large double fronted home noted in 1945 when possession was offered. Some of its features were a porch to the entrance hall, two living rooms, four bedrooms, kitchen, etc. It carried a wash house and coal house outside. Earlier in 1928 it had the boast of being the last building at this point along Cornhill.



**Moorlands.** 59 Cornhill Road

A descendant of old family who lived there informs it was standing during the 1880's. Slater's show it as being registered at that time under Moorside Road as Cornhill did not exist. Moorlands was for some time a School Clinic for the district. 1939 gave it the calling of **Lancashire County Council School Clinic** and **Child Welfare Centre**, Mrs Ivy Caines was caretaker. It was to become the home of the Cornhill Clinic. The St. John Ambulance, as Barton Corps, used this as their headquarters for several years.



This has been replaced by a new clinic established on Broadway with effect of 2009. The fate hereafter of the old building is uncertain, but it is still being used as a clinic in the meantime. This house, **south west** on the road, housed Mrs. Letitia Beck for 1898. The Moorlands occupied eleven acres of land at its beginnings.

**Netherside.** 41 Cornhill Road

The one side to this home was **Beechwood** and on the other side was **Burn Bank** in 1919 which made them either side to Netherside.

**Newlands.** Cornhill Road

A recent calling as it did not show this name in directories and remains an unknown quantity.

**St. Mary's Primary School.** Cornhill Road

The school originated as both a mission church and school in 1881. Records show a version of St. Mary's School way back in 1789 when pupils had to pay for their own education. It opened under the status of a National School which was common in those days. Land bought off John Haywood was used as the original site on Davyhulme Road. Both sites, the original and for the Cornhill School, were donated by the local Squire Norreys. (Cornhill Road was then called School Lane.)

In 1971 it was damaged by fire and later in 1973 the school was rebuilt. While building this new school a jar was found amongst the rubble of the old foundation. It held a copy of the Eccles Advertiser reporting the ceremony of the earlier school. This was replaced behind the new foundation stone.

**St. Michael's.** 40 Cornhill Road

Unknown is if there was any connection to the actual church, but this house was advertised as available in 1953 with its lounge, dining room, and morning room. The three bedrooms with a box room complete with bathroom, made up the home. The house was entered in the directory for 1919 sitting to the North West and having Austin Smith as owner. A later occupant was 1939 and Herbert Croft.

**The Croft.** 28 Cornhill Road

This house is to be found at the corner of Entwisle modern by Cornhill standards it housed Edward Faulkner in 1938 to 1940.

**The Deans.** Cornhill Road

A fine pair made up with **Hazeldene**, along this road that was not known as Cornhill until, one might say, modern times. This makes tracking them down for history difficult, but they do show features typical for the beginnings of the 1900's.

**The Gables.** 15 Cornhill Road

A small modern detached with two bedrooms etc. rooms. Outside were garage, greenhouse, gardens front and rear.

**Treeton.** Cornhill Road

The house for the Walters family during 1928 it had the honour of being the neighbour to Ernest Leeming.

**Woolacombe.** Cornhill Road

For 1928 the house was on the **north east** side with Hubert Kinder in attendance. This was the last building before Entwisle Ave.

- **Cotswold Avenue.** Davyhulme

The residences are 16-fold. There should be little need to explain this avenues origin, the hills of which span five counties.

- **Cow Lane.**

A common term for a road or lane connected and used for, or by, many farms for the district. Known is that one led down to the Urmston Meadows while another connected Shawtown Farm with Penny Lane. Humphrey Lane also had a portion so called.

- **Craig Avenue.** Flixton

29 homes and 1 flat are the score for Craig and its interpreted name for a 'Scottish rock'. The avenue was opened on the original site of the Woodsend Wesleyan Chapel.

**Alverne.** Craig Avenue

Living in the home was James Delaney and during 1927-1931 he was a tailor. The word seems to refer to a mountain.

**Arnside.** Craig Avenue

This was home to the Mooney family for 1928.

**Ash Lea.** Craig Avenue

Lawrence Wolstenholme lived here in 1928.

**Darwin House.** Craig Avenue

No Darwin slept here sign over the door in 1928 it was Mrs. Elizabeth Marsden who was thinking of Evolution.

**Elwyn.** Craig Avenue

James Bold lived here next door to Reginald Bold who was in **Spring Bank**. The Bold family members stayed here in 1927 both as builders by trade.

**Helsley.** Craig Avenue

The 1928 house of Helsley was occupied by a brick setter called James Bold.

**Oak Lea.** Craig Avenue

Painting was the occupation of the 1928 resident he was Walter Randall.

**Spring Bank.** Craig Avenue

As a builder Reginald Thomas Bold stayed at the house in 1928. He was a part of Bold Bros. who built many homes along Craig.

**Sylvadene.** Craig Avenue

A 1928 clerk named as Benjamin Robertshaw was here on Craig.

**Trevor Bank.** Craig Avenue

A family called Orme resided in the house at the time of 1928.

- **Cranford Gardens and Road.** Davyhulme

The Gardens have 12 houses and 1 flat accounted for, whereas the Road has 15 houses built about 1935 by D. Franklyn. Hopkinson Electrical Co. operated from number 11 in 1948. An 'open field' is the old English for Cranford.

- **Croft.**

This was a district in its own right as large as Dimplington. It covered the area south of Lostock Road towards Urmston. A 'Croft' is simply a farm or farmland.

- **Crofts Bank.**

A Township situated where the Davyhulme Circle is today. In the earliest of times this was presented as Cross Bank. The old English way of writing an S, was with an F, and could have led to the corruption of Cross to Croft, but this has not been substantiated. The cross became known due to the four ways meeting point at what is now Davyhulme Circle. The district here was called Croft even if the road is disputed by its spelling.

**Baptist P. S. A. Cricket Ground.** Crofts Bank

The ground was at the intersection of Crofts Bank Road and Davyhulme Road. The wording dates as 1892-1911 and is an acronym for *Pleasant Sunday Afternoon*, a brotherhood associated to the church for social and promotion of the Baptist movement.



**Bethell Farm.** Crofts Bank (aka. Crofts Bank Farm)



The large barns and 28 acres appear to be the main attraction to this farm which was known to be around for 1794. The transaction of James and Edward Bethell is to be found for this age they were involved in the sale of property along Flixton Road. A registered birth of a child is recorded here for 1871 to John and Sarah Bethell.

Other detail is unknown about the farmhouse itself however; it was removed to accommodate Davyhulme Circle just before 1929. The actual cenotaph was erected in the farm yard prior

to the development of the planned circle which was still being designed. This was known as Crofts Bank in regard to the district. Further to this it was only second to the Nags Head Hotel as post office to the area. 1898 showed Sarah Bethell as Post mistress.



### Bethell and the Post Office.

The fact that Sarah Bethell of farm fame also held title to the Post Office at Davyhulme is not disputed. After initially being held at the local hostelry of the Nags Head it found a home of its own being established aside to Crofts Bank. The picture, in this case by artist Tom Dodson, allows sight into its position.



The Post Office, right, had placed close to what was called Longshaw Cottage. Reginald Longshaw lived here; he was the Post Master that preceded Sarah Bethell. It was also an added fact that the Town Hall adjoined for the time. A mortuary could be found behind the farm on Old Crofts Bank, here too were council offices.

### Nags Head Hotel. Crofts Bank (1 Lostock Road)

This public house dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and was about the size of a small cottage John Parr ran an early version of this in 1828. For the year 1834 William Hudson was the licenced keep. The old inn run by John Chapman was removed c.1879 to be replaced by the structure more in keeping with today's hotel. This new pub was built before the removal of the old. Mary E. Cronshaw, the Inn Keeper at that time, stayed around for ten years or more.



Surveys show a bowling green as early as 1895 at the rear. The bowling green area was converted to parking for the patrons later. The courtyard along Barton Road **still** shows cobbled as it was back in 1880.

Licenses: 1919 E. G. Terry. 1928 Frederick Latham. 1939 James Copeland.

- **Crofts Bank Crescent.**

One of the mystery places for Davyhulme, found only when Samuel Thompstone passed way at this address in 1847.

- **Crofts Bank Road.** (Lane)

This road was another of the central points of Urmston. The old lane, as it was called, wound from Station Road and up to the Nags Head and beyond at Davyhulme. It was altered for a more direct route c.1896 hence the reason for Crofts Bank Road being so named. From the circle at Davyhulme and on became **Barton Road** later. A short section of Crofts Bank Road was called **Talbot Road** (1929) for a brief period. Of the 108 homes there are 18 flats and the rest up to 143 in all are commercial as of 2010. Unaccounted for is the Eden Square which will affect both Crofts Bank and Flixton Roads.

### Crofts Bank Road. Urmston 1880

An early census showed only a few of the names as known later here. Stanley Villa, Rose Leigh, Sunnyside, Cliffden, Oakfield, and Moorfield were all registered. It is not known if there were name changes during the twenty years to the directories of 1900 but certainly Stanley and Cliffden no longer featured.

Three homes, semidetached, were built here in 1883 all in a row, shown to be opposite Davyhulme Road their true situation today, is on **Old Crofts Bank**. These homes accounted for The Thorns, Beeches, and Hollies, which were supposedly the last buildings at the end of Crofts Bank in its original form.



Then and now

### Crofts Bank Road. Urmston 1900



On the **west side** Burgon's occupied number 1, four shops followed to the Conservative Club at No.11. Eight further shops end at Hilton Avenue. A terrace of nine went to Egerton with four more taking it up to Moorfield. Arrandale, Oakfield, Springfield, Brookfield, Holly Bank, Broad Lea, and Woodlands arrive at Davyhulme Road. Here all is noted to change into Crofts Bank. Four homes led to The Retreat with one more to Crofts Bank House. Small abodes sat each side of Croft Hall Farm then, to end this stretch, Rose Bank and Rose Cottage. Sometime between 1903 and 1909 Number 5 was taken by Cuthbert Butchery.

**1911** shows Bendineer slotted in between Broad Lea and Woodlands, then a Baptist cricket ground filled the corner to Davyhulme Road. Primrose Terrace is noted for its appearance in directories c.1909-1911 and in its centenary year it is has been vacated for demolition. A house named Broadstones was located in 1938 and again in 1959 addressed as No.89 Crofts Bank Road.

### Crofts Bank Road. Urmston 1900

The **east side** of the road began with six stores in a row before the Urmston Council Office at No.14. Four more shops to Primrose Avenue. At this corner, Alliston and Alliston House continue with Inglewood at No.30, Lynwood, Ashville, and Broad Oak. Fern Acre and Westcliffe lead the way to Tanfield, and Holmesdale followed by the Urmston College better known as Roseleigh and Thorndale, next The Firs and York Lodge bring this part to Derby Road. Going up to Lostock from Derby it began with Sunnyside, Oaklands, Mayfield, Glenmaye, and Haylands. Finally, The Thorns, The Hollies, and the Beeches with Beech Mews reach the official Crofts Bank. Going beyond leads to Bent Terrace after Lostock Road and Croft Cottage there is Wilderspool Farm. Lilac Cottage, Wilderspool Cottage, West View, and The White House complete Crofts Bank Road of this era.

Kent Villa became the neighbour of Oaklands in 1903 and by 1909 Williams Deacon had occupied No.2. The Council had moved from No.14 and before the College there was now Dunedin and Woollarah. The formation from Derby Road became Sunnyside, Hazlehurst, Brookside, Kent Villa, Oaklands, Carlton Villa, Rostherne, and then back to the previously shown names after Mayfield.

## Crofts Bank Road Shops 1898-1928. East side from Railway Road

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 2 East

In 1898 the Bank House did not exist, the honour of beginning the row fell to an **Ironmonger** called George Robert Lyon. It was only around 1908 that the Williams Deacon **Bank** Ltd claimed number 2. Manager for that period was Henry Davis who handed over to Alfred Johnston around 1910 and through to 1928. The next manager found was 1938 as Ralph Wilks took control.



### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 4 East

Charles Williamson was a **Baker** in this shop during 1898 with the Grocer Joseph Blincow in place for 1910. Atkins Supplies could be placed here for 1913 as a **Grocer**. Singer **Sewing Machines** offered sales and service in 1918-1939.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 6 East

Dulson **Tobacco** started to trade here in 1898 and in 1909 David Lindsay added **Hairdressing** to the smoke shop. Two ladies took up **Millinery** here in a partnership for 1919 they were Misses Ann Tyldesley and Ann Forbes. Thomas Aidley, also a **Milliner**, ended up at the shop for 1928. Arthur Booth took the place for **Stationary** in 1938.

### Crofts bank Road. Shop No. 8 East

**Cabinet Making** was being sold in 1898 at this shop Joseph white being the tradesman. Blomley **butchery** took over for 1901 when Robert moved on vacating the shop for 1919 Frederick Ellison to offer **China and Glassware**. Sometime after this came Bramwell Ogden and his **Hardware** c. 1928. Ten years on to 1938 it became the **Wireless accessory** home to John Brierley.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 10 East

The better-known Sowersby ventures began with **Confectionery** in 1898 Francis being the first in line of a family business. They turned to **Wine** and never looked back through to a time after WW2.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 12 East

George Stubbings **Tailored** his way into 1898 with Henry Goodwin 1901 making **Boots** thereafter. 1910 showed major change as the Lancashire & Yorkshire **Bank** Ltd squeezed him to once side eventually taking two shops at this point 12-14. Banking has taken place there ever since. Martins showed for 1939-55.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 14 East

The Urmston Urban District Council shared accommodation here with The Township Overseer as of 1898. The turnaround came for 1910, as this shop became the second to join and form the **Bank** with number 12. Sharing home here too was the Curate for Urmston the Rev. Thomas Bache.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 16 East

The shop of an 1898 **Fruiterer** was in the hands of James Viney. Then for 1901 Joseph Taylor added **Fish** to the fruit successfully selling out to 1909 Herbert Ollerenshaw who kept the same produce. 1911 Herbert went in another direction becoming a **Grocer** who handed over to Mrs. Agnes Coumbs, she took it back to a **Fishmongers**. Strange as it may seem by 1928 George Mountney turned this into **Fried Fish** for the district. William Gronback continued into 1940.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 18 East

**Stationery** was the line for 1898 Mrs. Grace Knapton, but **Boots** became the sales pitch for 1901 Stephan Barlow. For variety James Hill opened his Pork **Butchery** in 1903 with the Parkinson Brothers turning to **Home Furnishing** by 1919. Into 1928 and Edward Kelly still offered the same furnishing lines, he was still there into 1940. **Cabinet making** with upholstery came for the 1950 era W. Hailwood offering service.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 20 East

The **Boot maker** named Stephan Barlow appeared to move one shop from an 1898 onset. Harry Pulford went into **Stationery** here in 1903 and Edith Starkey **Fancy Drapery** 1909. Ever changing ideas George Smith went into **Ladies Outfitting** for 1911 and was still at it by 1953 but trading as J. R. Smith.

## 1901 showed the addition of two shops leading up to Primrose Avenue.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 22 East

Henry Dicks thought **Hairdressing** was the way to go in 1901 with Urmston **Hardware** taking control by 1903 before moving to the corner shop of 24. Mary Clark had the last laugh with her **Stationers** shop sitting pretty from 1918 to 1928. (Mary Clark was an early carrier of library books) Ernest Whitworth took it further and into 1954. Still into stationery G. E. & I. Crowther carried this forward after the mid-1950s.

### Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 24 East

The **Cycle dealership** of Edith Annie Bebbington and Co. took this the last shop at Primrose for 1901. George Whatley an **Ironmonger** had occupation in 1909, and then Charles Davies carried on in the same business for 1911. Alex Mackie altered all by 1923 being a **Tailor**. 1935-1939 showed that this was to become the Manchester & Salford Savings **Bank**.



## Primrose Avenue

Apart from its varied new signage and product offering this block, building wise, is still intact for 2015.

**Crofts Bank Road Shops 1898-1928.****West side from Flixton Road to Hilton Avenue**

The Italian Warehouse and Burgons began all for 1898 and through to 1928.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 3 West**

The first shop after Burgons began its life as a **Butchery** it went by the name of Midgley for 1898. Followed in 1909, still as a butcher shop, it was called Waltons. This gave way for the Stretford **Gas** Company offices of 1919. By 1928 to 1940 the premises were home to a **Hairdresser**, David Lindsay.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 5 West**

No. 5 became the second **Butchery** in a row here for 1898 with John Henry Barlow in charge. 1902 the butcher working for Mr. Barlow was Hugh Anstey. It took Henry Cuthbert to unseat him in 1904 and he never looked back. The Cuthbert family reigned supreme until in 2005 when finally, it closed.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 7 West**

The earliest found to offer service here is a **Draper** called McKellen. Several years went by until Titley **Jewellers** took home. Thomas Titley was still there in 1928 but after joining forces with Meakin's, the pair turned to **Optical** supplies with the jewellery in 1934.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 9 West**

An 1898 **Fishmonger** called Evans begins the tale of this shop; it was only for 1903 did the **Boot Dealer** of Baggley take over. He was followed by a **Stationer** in 1908 going by the name of Hobson. Two years after this Boyd's **Glass & China** were on offer. It was not too long before that business moved on and Hill **Confectioners** filled the gap. Mrs. Annie Hill proprietor baked until at least 1928. The next phase was as a District Bank. As a sub-branch it became the work of 1938 manager John Chadderton.

**Crofts Bank Road. Conservative Club frontage**

Here tracing history gets into some trouble. The Conservative Club, at times listed as No.9, held office at this point but controlled a possible two shops on its frontage. Addressed here for 1898 was a gentleman called Jones, his occupation is recorded as **Painting and Decorating**. For 1901 this became a **Chemist** shop run by Levi Todd. 1903 shows the now two premises, a **Post Office** arrived, and George Allen took the Chemist shop.

The Post Office had gone for 1909 converted into a **Gent's Outfitting** shop named Furness including Harrop and Son who were **Tailors**. Miss. A. Booth ran a hairdressing shop at 9d in 1923. By 1935 the premises were listed as 9c with E. & H. Bone specialising in **Ladies Wear**.

**1939** was quite specific **Number 9** was the District Bank Limited, the Urmston Public Hall (Mrs R. Goude. Hon. Sec.) The Urmston Conservative Club (G. H. Gillett. Hon. Sec.) The Urmston Conservative Club Limited (Mrs R. Goude Hon. Sec.)

**No. 9c.** Misses Elsie and Hilda Bone Outfitters who registered there into 1953.

**No. 9d.** Mrs Annie Samuel Confectioner. This became in 1953 "The Bon, Bon."

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop. No. 11-13 West**

William Restall a **Confectioner** was in No.13 for the year of 1898, not around for long the shop became Fisher's in 1901 that was also in the same trade. Another Confectioner carried on in 1919, George Morton, and Cecil Atkin continued through into 1928. The shops split again for 1930-1938 No.11 became Solomon Gafan as **Chemist** and No.13 James Whittaker selling **Confectionery**. Stanley took the shop for 1953 changing to sweets and tobacco.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop. No. 15 West**

John Restall plied his trade as a **Cabinet Maker**, next to what would appear as a family tie of William Restall. This was 1898 but unlike his neighbour he managed until 1909 before capitulating to Jackson's **Tailor** shop. In 1919 Isabella Eversden opened up in **Wool** and **Needlework** and was still sewing up to 1953. T. & E. Johnson brought childrens wear to this shop for 1953.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 17 West**

Holts began in 1898 as a **Millinery** shop, two years later Frederick Hawker decided he could tune pianos and sell **Music** from the shop. A return to hats was in order for 1919 when Dicks **Milliners** tried the fashion once more. William Dick was doing fine into 1928. Ten years later Misses Nellie and Ethel Godfrey presented the hats and were still doing so into the 1950's.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 19 West**

1898 shows a Mrs. Isabella Cooper selling **Drapery** until the name of 1928 Hilda Baldur appeared to take on this business. James Lambert had other things in mind for 1938; he took the shop into **Ironmongery**.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 21 West**

Alfred Parry set up a **Saddlers** business for 1898, it went really well as he was still there by 1928. The first showing of a known family came up for 1938 it was that of the Silcocks. This was to be the early venture into **Fruit and Veg** until the time came to commandeer the dairy shop next door later.

**Crofts Bank Road. Shop No. 23 West**

The last of the row here and in 1898 a **Laundry** was in operation. The grand naming of Imperial Laundry took it through until its owner, Mrs. Mary Martin, allowed the first **Creamery** to take its place. Samuel Slack started the trend in 1911 selling later to become Allen (The Creamery.) Mrs Ellen Elizabeth Allen took stock for 1939. Known is that this was eventually incorporated as Silcocks.

**Arriving at Hilton Avenue.** For the first time 1938-39 records now present the usage of homes here on as shops and offices.

**Crofts Bank Road.** Shop No. 25. West

This the corner of Hilton was taken by Miss Florence Gale who ran a **Ladies Outfitting**.

**Crofts Bank Road.** Shop No. 27 West

The Leeds Permanent **Building Society** moved into the next place. This was shared with two other businesses, J. E. Simster & Co **Estate Agents** and Charles Montague Henman as another Estate Agent.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No. 29-31 West

Remained as private homes.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No.33 West

This became an office for the Urmston U D C it was the headquarters for the ARP.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No. 35-37

Private residences.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No. 39

The Urmston UDC Housing, Manager Ronald Lister.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No. 41

The Urmston UDC Cashiers Office shared with the British Red Cross Society (Urmston Branch)

**Crofts Bank Road.** No. 43-45

The Urmston UDC Rating & Valuation Department, with the UUDC Accounts Department.

**Crofts Bank Road.** No 47

Again, shared accommodation for the UDC Public Health Dept. and the Urmston Registration Office. Here births, deaths, and marriages would be registered by Miss Sarah E. Yates.

**Egerton Avenue.**

The changes show for 2011 that Cuthbert and his butchery were taken by the neighbouring Nat West Bank. The Conservative Club is now housed in the Eden Square Centre, but still showing entry from Crofts Bank, the old site was replaced with a newer three shop retail block. **Hilton** still stands as an entry to the centre at the library.

The latest Police Station stands where Egerton, now Sumner Way, used to be. This small portion of Crofts Bank has not radically changed over the one hundred years 1911-2011 and being almost recognisable to many who remember the center of Urmston since the Second World War.

**Alliston and Alliston House.** Crofts Bank Road



A home of c.1889 now utilised for a medical centre it is at the corner of Primrose Avenue. Back in 1898 it was a dental surgery, at practice, was Roger Walker L.D.S. The house with the same name sat alongside with Robert S. Anderson as resident. Noted in 2010 the centre was coupled with a solicitor's office and numbered as 26-28 and showed some alteration or additions to the structure.

Alliston came up for sale in 1909 and included the description of; 4 entertaining rooms, 5 bed rooms, kitchen, scullery, larder, dressing room, bathroom, 3 attics, inside and out w/c's, and large cellars. A heated green house was included in spacious gardens. Hot and cold water was a feature as was the declaration that the home was free from draughts. Access could be made via front and side entrances; it was at this juncture one entry was placed on the corner.

A staircase was purchased at the time the home was being built with its suggested origin that of **Davyhulme Hall**.



The familiar name of Wolstenholme is associated with this structure, Doctor William Hartley Wolstenholme shared home and offices for the medical practice here with his wife Mrs. S. A. Wolstenholme, Dr. Mervyn Poston and, Dr. George Newton Scotts who was in the Alliston House as a dentist. Later names to join were Dr. Scott Clark with Dr. Graham. William carried the practice after his father passed in 1934, he, Dr. T. B. Wolstenholme, had been there since 1903.

The complex was vacated as of 2015 with an unknown future for its usage. A restaurant called "The surgery" was opened for 2017 and closed in 2018.

**Annfield.** Crofts Bank Road

This house became a feature for 1938-39 as being located at the corner of Moorside Road. Thomas William Shawcross was in residence for that time otherwise it is an unknown quantity.

**Arrandale.** 57 Crofts Bank Road.

Arrandale was a home of an estimated 1881-5 which belonged to James Plowman for 1894-1901. A series of medical practitioners lived here, Thomas Fiddes, Richard Barnes, and later Mr. George Ernest Fryer M.R.C.S. O.B.E. (1868-1930) He was noted at 25 Crofts Bank Road prior to moving into Moorfield. By 1920 this home was back into the Plowman family, namely William. In 1930 the house, Arrandale, was bequeathed to the Urmston Council on condition it be used for offices or general purposes of the town. This continued into the 1960 era.

The house was then utilised for the Surveyors Dept. alongside **Moorfield** which were the actual Council offices. 1939 had Ernest Leeming in charge. This building was razed in 1969 to form part of the Golden Hill Park and its memorial cross. There was once a commemorative tablet set into the lawn dedicated to this fact, it was removed and placed on the associate home of Moorfield. Arrandale the name for today has been accepted as a retirement facility across the road.

**Arrandale Court.** Crofts Bank Road

Little is known other than the flats are numbered 1-29. The Court sits opposite to the site of the original Arrandale and is retirement housing run by a company called Anchor.

**Ashville.** Crofts Bank Road

A home belonging to the Beardsall family for 1910, it had an earlier birth being found in documents of 1898 with William T. Wood there suggesting it belonged to the 1880-90 era. At home for the 1938-40 age was Mrs. Margaret Ann Atkin. The house was to be found two away from Alliston and the corner of Primrose Avenue it is neighbour to **Lynwood**. The home had four bed rooms, two living rooms, large kitchen, scullery, cellars, and a garage in 1922. This complex has been much altered over its lifespan.

**Atkins Supplies.** Crofts Bank Road

A grocery store that sat close to the Williams Deacons Bank was shown to be in existence c.1913. Roast ham and Irish rolls catching the eye in its advertisements. Atkins was one of many ever-changing shops here.

**Bank House.** Crofts Bank Road & Railway Road

This was home to Alfred Johnson when first found in directories, he also held title to number 2 Railway Road which had Mrs. Louisa Johnson showing as being there. Alfred was the manager of the Williams Deacon Bank Ltd. The house is still serving purpose with the Royal Bank of Scotland as its resident although perhaps more famous for its other long-standing client. Once part residential, part commercial, it was converted into a full bank around 1908 and has been so ever since. Internally, apart from the banking hall, the upper floors are preserved yet turned into office space. Fireplaces remain intact among other original features such as doors and mouldings. New information has it that this was a **purpose-built bank**. Included were residential amenities for the manager of the time. The Royal has closed as of 2018.

**Blincow J.** Crofts Bank Road

This shop was sandwiched between the Bank and Atkins Supplies. Joseph Blincow sold grocery and when he closed up the Singer Sewing Machine Company took his place. The shop was absorbed into the bank eventually.

**Blomley R.** 8 Crofts Bank Road

Robert Blomley (1859-1927) was branch manager for a company called Eastmans Ltd. that was located on Station Road in 1898. He took the initiative and went on his own plying the trade along Crofts Bank in 1900, his speciality was lamb. Robert was there until 1919 when the shop became a Glass and China distributor. He then moved to another shop on Flixton Road where the butchery was operating and noted to 1927.

**Broadstones.** 89 Crofts Bank Road

This late comer name found as 1938-39 is shown as being close to Moorside Road. At home for this period was Harold Dobbs. It was traced again for 1958 as around in the neighbourhood.

**Broad Oak.** Crofts Bank Road

Retaining its stature from c.1889 this home still stands, it is numbered as 36. Robert Smelt is first to be found for here in 1898. From 1901 through to 1911 this was the home of **Gilbert Fowler**, whose name was used for a calling of an MSC Sludge Boat. The home was utilised as a base for an art school which offered sketching classes by Robert Stuart Mayer in 1922-40. Into 1952 the family called Mayer still lived here.

Fowler. J. Gilbert

Residing at **Broad Oak** on Crofts Bank Road, Gilbert was an expert in sludge technology. His work at the Davyhulme plant was ongoing for many years and he reached acclaim when a sludge boat was named after him to work in the fleet of boats transferring sludge to Liverpool Bay. The MV. Gilbert J. Fowler went into service in January 1972 with an unfortunate side in that it became known as "*Foul Gilbert*" due to the aroma emitting from the works.



**Brookfield.** 71 Crofts Bank Road



Origins show it brand new in 1883 and today it is a registered nursing home for the elderly. It was the private home of Benjamin A. Moore for 1894-1908 having seven bedrooms and three sitting rooms as its main features. One added attraction was its front door arrangement, its brick columns, outstanding over an arched lintel something only the Victorian era could produce. As a detached structure it is next door to Springfield. A name for here in 1938 was Allan Taylor. The UUDC decided to take the building when it came up for sale in 1945. Brookfield for the present is utilised as a retirement home.



**Brook House Farm.** Crofts Bank

1898 and John Rogers was farming here but no address was given. The place called Brook House has been located under the hands of John and passed into the Mosedale family thereafter. This has proven to be a farm prior to the brickworks taking its place.

**Brookside.** Crofts Bank Road

The semidetached house matched up with **Kent Villa**, but the pair was replaced with new housing many years ago. This pre-1890 dwelling was home to Mrs. S. A. Smith then John Walsh was the 1911 owner. Still available for 1939 Sidney Russell looked after it.

**Burgons Ltd.** 1 Crofts Bank Road



Already a going concern in the 1890's, this grocery business anchored the corner of Flixton and Crofts Bank Roads, as it became a central feature for many years. The main shop frontage faced Flixton Road, as the buildings entry was Crofts Bank it remained so located. The name lives on as a solicitor has offices on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the building called Burgons Chambers. (2011)

This building, as often found, was a residence in its origin. It was nameless and the only home placed west from Flixton Road. As a semidetached the nearest neighbour was Moorfield House in c.1880.

**Carlton Villa.** Crofts Bank Road

The villa was a semidetached along with **Rostherne** it only appeared around 1905 and it is shown to have been the dwelling of Frank Taylor in 1909. Some years hence it belonged in the hands of Arthur Webb 1939. One of the last homes to still exist on the original road as it changed direction here into the old road.



**Chestnut Cottage.** Crofts Bank

The only information about this cottage arrives from church records of 1895. It was where Alfred and Elizabeth Thompson lived. They were not too sure about their child born in that year as they called him Angus correcting it to a daughter called Freda.

**Clifton Villa.** Crofts Bank Road

This villa of 1876 had six bedrooms and the usual attachments for the era. An address has not yet been forthcoming for location or further description. Add the possibility that in 1912 it was home to Thomas Lightfoot.

**College.** (Later changing to **Urmston College**) Crofts Bank Road



Established c.1898 and just called "The College" this education centre was a high school for girls and a preparatory school for boys, on Crofts Bank Road. It was being run by Miss. Margaret Ann Hill. A combined pair of houses made up this unique school, Roseleigh and Thorndale. Slaters listed the Urmston College in 1901 as Holmsdale and Roseleigh but changed it to **Roseleigh and Thorndale** in 1903. Holmsdale became the local council offices at that time. This confusion of names suggests that the College possibly moved home during this period. A sale of The College in 1928 was withdrawn. Both buildings dated as of 1889 for their beginnings with a date of c.1950 for its end as a school.

At the rear of St. Clement's Church there is a wall plaque dedicated to May Hollard 1901-1909. She was the Junior Principle at the college passing in 1909 at the age of 39. To be recognised in this way must have meant something special.

**Conservative Club.** Eden Square Crofts Bank Road

As far back as 1886 the club was operating out of Gregory House on Stretford Road. A move to Holly Cottage, also on Stretford Road, came next in or around 1887. Finally, 9 Crofts Bank Road became their home in 1888. As part of the new Eden Square they continue once more.

During the year 1966 the club negotiated a '*Peppercorn*' 99-year lease finally moving into their new home in 1968.



There is a lot of misconception regarding this as the general public think they get it for nothing. The club actually ceded a large holding of valuable land, in exchange for the nominal renting of the premises, to the council. 9 Crofts Bank was pulled down and three newly built shops took its place.



**Creamery. Allens Crofts Bank Road and Hilton Avenue**

Urmston's local creamery of 1908 was an outlet for anything and everything to do with dairy products. They sold eggs, milk, and cream, with their own manufactured cheese and butter. Offered was a twice a day delivery to all homes. This corner store once known as Slacks and then Allens was to become Silcocks Grocery later in its life with the shop just surviving at the edge of Eden Square. Today 2017, finished kitchens appear as the products on display.

**Croft Cottages. Crofts Bank Road**

The cottages were nestled in after the present Bent Terrace. A farmer called Thomas Rudyard took one while Joseph Webb had the other for 1894. These were the last buildings before Wilderspool Farm on the **east** side of the road and falling under the address of Barton Road for today.

**Crofts Bank Bridge. Crofts Bank Road-Barton Road**

The bridge, close to the Nags Head, crosses a culvert that runs for several miles through Davyhulme and its old farm fields, now park lands, running parallel to Broadway and Kingsway. The culvert pipes were laid in 1955 and it officially became the Crofts Bank Brook. Maunders Construction was awarded the contract to widen and strengthen the bridge in 1959 then, for 1962, the culvert was extended to take in more of the Brook there.

**Crofts Bank House. Crofts Bank Road**

Today, it would be approximately between the end of Davyhulme Road (**North** side) and the Nags Head. In 1956 the two acres of land plus the house were bought by the RC Diocese with the Church and Presbytery of Our Lady to be built there. For this house the earliest recorded date found is 1851. An early owner for this house was Edward Kenworthy 1889 followed by a florist named Charles Cosmo Hooley who lived there in 1894-1901. The house, before its demise around 1961, had three entertaining rooms, a billiard room, eight bedrooms and kitchen, cellars below, two attics above, and outside a stable and coach house. A shippon, garden with a green house, were included in the acreage. A denied proposal was to build a Super Cinema here by the Empress Company Ltd. In 1943

**Cuthbert. Henry 1874-1939 Crofts Bank Road**

Henry was born in 1874 Wilsdon near Bradford. This renowned butcher plied his trade locally beginning in 1904 when he took possession of No.5 from J. Ashworth on a lease. All cattle were slaughtered at the rear of his premises in Urmston. At one time Henry's involvement locally, included Presidency of the Allotment Society and teaching in 1928 at the Butchers Night School. Henry had help from his family with Anthony and later Denis taking charge over its years. The family celebrated 100 years in 2003 noting that they were the oldest surviving business in Urmston still trading from their original premises. After 102 years the shop at number 5 was absorbed by a bank in 2005.

**Davyhulme Park. (Public) Crofts Bank Road**

Reports show there was a place called Davyhulme Park as far back as 1880 but it was probably the reference found as Davyhulme Hall and its grounds. The current park had beginnings of 1934 with many amenities from gardens to sports facilities. (Tennis and Bowls) The park was started by the outgoing Council at the time of the transition in 1933 but the incoming Council continued through to its completion. The opening was carried out by Councillor J. W. Manning as chair for the Parks committee.



The shell formed band stand with its garden was added in 1935 this was removed as unsafe several years ago. (1987) At one time the ponds were stocked with goldfish and there was a pool for children to sail model boats on or paddle. A playground and sand pit completed this extravaganza of yesteryear. The gardens housed a special arch which carried the name of a Rose Bowl, a tunnel of roses. Another pair of features were a map of England formed with inlaid stones and a fountain. The first bowling club house was built in 1928 and constructed by John Maunders with a new pavilion established in 1973. In 1939 a turf nursery was established here to supply grass for the local bowling greens.



In July of 1997 one of the last original amenities was closed, the paddling pool was drained and made into a play area. The latest addition is a skate park which has been controversial in its positioning. The Friends Group was formed for the interests of the present park in 2009. A football team play under the name of Davyhulme Park.

**Davyhulme Park Entry.**

The way into the park was once a stone structured arch. With the surrounding foliage were two stones that were inverted as bowls. These stones came from the pedestals that were once the base stands for the lamp posts outside the Nags Head Hotel and the opposite side of the circle at Bethell's. This entrance was removed completely, and along with the historic plinths, gone for ever. A local story has it that they were taken by a farmer. He placed them at his Town Gate farm on Irlam Road this has not been confirmed.



**Dunedin.** Crofts Bank Road

The home standing on Crofts Bank today has a younger look than one would expect for Victorian times. However, a close inspection of its chimney stacks showed distinct brick work for the period. If the house had been rebuilt it is an unknown. Robert Murray would have known, as it was his for 1909 sitting between Westcliffe and Holmesdale. The address was shared for 1911, as **Woollarah** became his neighbour. George Sanderson made his home here in 1938. This impressive home was removed as Trafford passed planning permission for an assisted living home to take its place. This tied in with the previous three homes already demolished. Dunedin arrives from a New Zealand city.

**Egerton Nursing Home.** Crofts Bank Road

1935 brought this home to the fore at the corner of Winchester Road. The matron was Miss. M. C. Daniel. A general thought was that this was the home of **Oaklands** and is confirmed.

**Fern Acre.** 38 Crofts Bank Road

Still showing the gate posted name this house stands on the impressive row of 1880's Crofts Bank. An early owner was John Hunter in 1898 and 1901 Henry James Davis then by 1938-40 Reginald Whittle.



Internally there are a few features to be seen a magnificent stained-glass window adorns the wooden stairway, moulded motifs in an entry, and a mosaic sits as the front door step.

**Glenmaye.** Crofts Bank Road

This was one of the homes held by the Faulkner family of 1898; in this case it was Alfred. He was no longer there as 1938 brought forward William Longworth into the home. This house was semidetached coupled with **Mayfield** for this period and around before the road was split into the "old" road.

**Golden Hill Park.** (Public)

The land reaches from the War Memorial on Crofts Bank Road to and along Moorside Road. Now a small park with few amenities, it once housed a band stand designed by Messrs Hill & Smith Ltd, pavilion, putting green, and tennis courts which were closed and converted in a carpark in 1961. Only the bowling green, although relocated, still stands. An environmental assessment of 2005 stated the park was established in 1927 while evaluating the site for the shopping Precinct to be called Eden Square. In 1900 an objection was raised by several hundred residents to prevent council from purchasing these 10 acres of land under the fear of it being too far out of town to be of use for recreational purposes. A map of 1846 shows the park is so named as it is situated on an old field called Golden Hill.



Golden Hill Park

1982



2012



For the year 2000 the Trafford Council planted a rose garden to commemorate World Peace at the site of the war memorial situated at the edge of Golden Hill Park. A small note, football pitches here were replaced by parkland and gardens in 1951.

**Haylands.** 93 Crofts Bank Road.

Known by this name of old, the house is dated from 1870, this is now another of the retirement locations in the Urmston area, and it is a **male's only** establishment. Elizabeth Ann Gelling was owner for 1898. The time of 1901 showed a James Smith as being the owner occupier eventually giving way to Mrs Margaret Smith 1927, she belonged here into 1940. The home has a connection the charity called the Inner Wheel Urmston. It was opened by Councillor W. Wroe in 1960 as the retirement home.

**Hazlehurst.** Crofts Bank Road

The home of William Spafford Jones in 1908, William was still there twenty years later into 1928 with, 1938 occupant, Theodore Lean taking over. When built it was semidetached and went with **Sunnyside**. This was a five bedroomed house, with two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, bathroom, cellars and large garden.

**Hill Confectionary.** Crofts Bank Road

A confectioner of some renown, Annie Hill occupied the shop next to the Conservative Club for several years during the 1920's. Before Annie set up shop this was a Glassware and China distributor called Boyd.

**Holly Bank.** Crofts Bank Road

John Hulme is registered in the 1881 census then a Mr. H. W. Barlow was known to be living there in 1889. Semidetached, by 1894-1901 it was Mrs. Elizabeth Barlow and a Miss. Gratrix. Available in 1868 there was a drawing room, dining room, five bed rooms, dressing room, bath room and water closet, kitchen and scullery, good cellars throughout. A coach house, stable, fruit and flower garden were to be found externally.

**Holmesdale.** 46 Crofts Bank Road

This Victorian house, best date found 1889, was once utilised by the Urmston Council for its offices. Its description for 1920 was that there were nine bedrooms, three living rooms, cellars, extensive gardens with room for a tennis court, and it could be adapted for a school. It turned to flats by 1938 with an all-female occupancy of Miss Poel, Mrs. Mather, Miss. Sarah Roberts, who was caretaker, Mrs. Ashby, and Mrs. De Boghossian. 2007 and developers were planning to move in with a view to creating apartments of four stories, planning has been approved and it was demolished in 2009, the land stood vacant until developed into a new assisted living home for 2015.

**Inglewood.** Crofts Bank Road

Originally Inglewood was a private house with, for 1898, Elias Frost as homemaker. It is home now in association with Development House. It is adjoined to Lynwood as one building. Before it went commercial names for 1938-1940 were Mrs. Edith Taylor and Miss. Edna Smith.

**Kent Villa.** Crofts Bank Road

The villa appeared first in a sales advert of 1881 when it belonged to G. H. Groves, again in 1898 when it changed to Arthur Scholfield. Only in 1926 it showed a gentleman called John Collier living there. (Not the famous Tim Bobbin) He was a partner in a Leather business operating in Salford. **Brookside** was the other half of this semidetached home which was demolished for redevelopment. The UUDC informed tenants in 1947 that it was to be demolished according to future plans and redevelopment.

**Kinmundy.** 69 Crofts Bank Road

Not a lot is known about this house although it is thought to be old and its neighbours are of 1880. The home showed another version of its spelling when it came out as **Kilmundy** for some street documents. All that is known adds up to its position between Brookfield and Oakfield with for 1928 the occupant being William Handley. It is shown as Sophia Handley by 1938. For the 1960's this was a dental practice under the name of Morsman. The calling has Scottish origin for calling

**Kremlyn.** Crofts Bank Road

This unknown until 1938 positioned itself next to Kinmundy, a builder called Fred Taylor was at home here.

**Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank Ltd.** Crofts Bank Road

A branch office for this bank opened in 1909 at number 12-14. By 1925 it had opened a branch on Flixton Road in opposition to Williams Deacon and their Flixton office.

**Lindsay. D.** Crofts Bank Road

1913 and this shop next door to Sowersby Wines was a tobacconist which proudly boasted fine pipes and Marcella cigars.

**Longshaw Cottages.** Crofts Bank

This was a series of cottages found where the Katharine Lowe Home is of the present. 1898 showed a compliment of four. Neighbours here were Bethell's farm, the post office, and town hall at the Nags Head. Called by this name as the Reginald Longshaw family lived here. They were approved for demolition in 1934.

**Lynwood.** Crofts Bank Road

Thomas Ashworth began living in Urmston here in 1898 sitting next to **Ashville**. A homeowner for 1938-39 was Miss. Ethel Ashworth. The homes for the present are reconstructed and now adjoined. Re-named as **Development House**, Maunders Construction took possession of the old Victorian buildings. This gave way to Westbury House and a company that was in Real Estate, they moved to be followed by Persimmon Builders.

**Mallowhide.** 29 Crofts Bank, Davyhulme

This modern detached house for 1947 included; hall, lounge, dining, kitchenette, bathroom. An inside coal house and brick garage were features along with a large garden. It also included a workshop. Mallowhide is Irish for its origin.

**Manchester Corporation Sewerage Works.** (Davyhulme Works) Crofts Bank Road

The Corporation had offices on Crofts Bank Road in the 1900's while the plant developed, and it remained there into 1928.

**Maunder Construction PLC.**

This well-known local builder had a large part of Urmston as its history. Their last office was at 30 Crofts Bank Road, which was then called Development House. Maunder diversified in that they built estates, individual homes, and went into demolition. The razing of the Medieval Shaw Hall was one of the contracts taken on with the following erection of the estate later. Woodsend Estate was another large project for this company.

**Mayfield.** 74-76 Crofts Bank Road

This was another of the 1800's houses built along the Bank. Here, in 1898, was Thomas Alfred Lomas. The property was shared with **Glenmoye** as the named half. A later resident 1939 was Frank Beatie.

**Moorfield House.** 57 Crofts Bank Road

An early owner of this large house was a physician called Thomas Fiddes MD. MB. MC, he was there in 1894-1907. (Thomas Fiddes 1855-1910) The Urmston Council offices were maintained here in this 1880's house. Moorfield burnt down in the 1990's and many town records were lost during this 'unfortunate' incident. This was replaced by a new building at Sumner where the new police station now stands. The council retained the name of Moorfield throughout this change. The calling was carried into the defunct Precinct as Moorfield Walk.



Moorfield was also home to the **Lancashire Education Committee**, known as the Area 33 Office. For the year of 1928 the clerk was Whittaker Roslyn and 1938 it became Thomas Whitelegg. Since the introduction of Eden Square all traces of the name have been lost. The house was built on lands of the same name.

**Oakfield.** 65 Crofts Bank Road

Oakfield was found as of 1880 to be on Crofts and it is one of the few left from that era today. The homemaker for 1898 was Mrs. Eliza Armstrong then directories of 1894-1903 showed John Ainsworth as principle owner. The house is the closest presently to the Golden Hill Park war memorial on Crofts Bank Road. Robert Masters Summerset was here for 1939 his academic success evident as he offered M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P after his name.

**Oaklands.** Crofts Bank Road

1879 shows this as one of the first in a line of many Victorian type homes to come along Crofts Bank Road and it sits at the corner of Winchester Road. Here was William Carvell in 1898 and Edwin Loach had his family here in 1901.



The home and associated land were purchased by council in 1933 to facilitate the introduction of Winchester Road. Once completed the home then went out for lease its first occupant was a Miss C. Daniel in 1934. Licence was granted in 1935 for conversion into a nursing home in the hands of Miss. May McDonald. Notice was forwarded to the UJDC in 1971 that it was to close as the Egerton Nursing Home and return to a residence.

**Ogden Hardware.** 8 Crofts Bank Road

The hardware shop sat next to Sowersby the wine merchant around 1925. Bramwell Ogden offered accumulator charging as a service not only for domestic use but also for the up and coming automobile influx to the area. Bram later switched to sweets and tobacco. This store was used many times by different people from butcher to hardware outlet. The last report was that it is now an optician. 2009



**Police Station.** Crofts Bank Road. See under Police, fire, and ambulance.

**Roseleigh.** 50-52 Crofts Bank Road (**Rose Lea**)

The original house of the 1880's has been removed it had eight bedrooms, drawing, dining, breakfast rooms. There was a kitchen, scullery and good cellars. All situated in large gardens. By 1927 it was already being converted to offer flats. Three residents for 1938 were Mrs. A. Honeysett, D. Buckley, and Miss. M. Carroll. For 1968 a new building took its place as **Roseleigh Court** and it is now a block of apartments for retirees. (The second house here was called **Thorndale**) Only the original gate posts still stand etched with the name. First resident found was 1898 Edwin Leach.

**Rosterne Villa.** 70-72 Crofts Bank Road

The old home still shows its name on the gateposts and as a semi it was coupled with **Carlton Villa** arriving on the road around 1902. Home owners from the past would be Mrs. Helen Burns for 1909 and John Moore for 1939. Rosterne advised; hall with leaded light windows, two capital entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, three principle bed rooms, bathroom with separate w/c, two secondary bed rooms, box room and cellared throughout. Double bay windows facing a garden out front and a croquet lawn to the rear complete the amenities available.



**Silcocks.** Crofts Bank Road

This corner shop arrived on the Urmston scene in 1929 and for its many years of service the owners ran it as a Greengrocery. Although Stephen Silcock was from Salford, he and his ten children opened shops in many areas. The building itself was once the anchor of the Dairy industry and its outlet to the public being the only Creamery around. In 1999 Charlie Silcock decided that the competition with super markets was chipping away at the business indicating a new approach was needed. The shop was to become a Florist only venture followed by various other company offerings. Silcocks have a connection to the Carnival and fun fair business.

**Shervington.** Crofts Bank Road

It is possible this house could be found on the old road the name arrived late for the area 1939. This was noted as neighbour to Broadstones, another late unknown. Robert Crawshaw lived here.

**Sowersby.** Crofts Bank Road

By 1896 this place of interest was established at 10 Crofts Bank Road and granted a licence to sell wine. Arriving from Yorkshire the senior Mr. Sowersby purchased the premises with thoughts of a grocery store. In 1899 a son Lawrence was born who later, along with his brother Albert, kept the wine store and restaurant in the family when his father died in 1946.



First as confectioners then as wine merchants of note they sold wine on draught and had a restaurant well frequented for the time. The upper level also offered rooms for the holding of Whist Drives. This was a total family involvement with Miss. Minnie Sowersby running the restaurant for most of its operating time. As another branch to the business imported canned goods joined the many activities of the group into the 1970's. A set of 69 photographs is available at the GM Records Office.

**Springfield.** Crofts Bank Road

Created in 1883 and it is detached home and neighbour to Brookfield, this as a seven bedroomed house is today a nursing home for retired citizens. William McKinnel had ownership for 1894-1901.

**Stanley Villa.** 19-23 Crofts Bank Road

Renamed today as Stanley House a commercial business operates from this site. First noted for a date of 1898 and divided into three, Lynwood, Ashville, and Broad Oak.

**Stretford Gas Company.** Crofts Bank Road

The local gas company of 1910 had an office on Crofts Bank with Cuthbert Butchery for its neighbour. This all changed by 1928 as it had already become the **Urmston and District Gas Board** with offices at 57 Flixton Road. This was better known as the Britannia or Whitegates Tavern for the 1950-60 eras. The original shop was neighbour to Cuthbert the butcher.

**Sunnyside.** Crofts Bank Road

Already established as a semi in the late 1870's a date of 1875 had it for sale. The year of 1901 had Thomas Royle living at the corner of Derby Road. 1940 showed F. Hutchinson living there. Internally it had five bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen and large gardens, included was a garage. A later date of 1887 had the bedrooms increased to six. The house and land have been redeveloped along with its partner **Hazlehurst**.

**Talbot House.** Crofts Bank Road

This was a detached home built in 1923 with four bedrooms along with five rooms of normally designated usage. A wash house, garage for three cars, and gardens filled in the exterior. Perhaps one could forgive anyone not knowing this home as this was on Talbot Road before it was called Crofts Bank. More confirmation came in 1938-39 that it did exist with Brick maker Thomas Mosedale living there with the fact it was housed as neighbour to Haylands.

**The Red House.** Crofts Bank

The information first traced for this abode did not indicate where the house was to be found, it could have been, the district, the road, or the old Bank. 1919 and the home turned up to be the next-door home to Haylands, **Talbot House**, along the Crofts Bank Road.

**Tanfield Lodge.** 48 Crofts Bank Road

Detached, Victorian, residential property of 1889 was to be replaced by a four storied block of apartments. 2007. Planning has been approved with the Lodge demolished in 2009 it has become an assisted living home as of 2015. Originally it had a dining room, drawing room, and kitchen with scullery. The upper floor had six bedrooms, a dressing room, and a fully equipped bathroom. The exterior boasted a large greenhouse. In 1898 James Butterworth had ownership and later 1938 it was Mrs. Emma Jones. A fire assisted in a convenient demise.

**The Firs.** Crofts Bank Road

This house is now classified as the **York Lodge** a retirement home for the elderly and built around 1880. As the Firs in 1901 it belonged to William Brown. John Lund lived here during 1938-1940.

**The Hollies.** Crofts Bank Road

A semidetached, earliest date found 1882, was linked to **The Thorns**, small compared to many mansions of Crofts Bank. The four bedrooms show this although there were the usual living, dining, and kitchen areas. For 1883 this was where you could find Arthur Smart. 1896-8 the Cave and Connolly families stayed here.

**Thorndale.** Crofts Bank Road

Built c.1889, 1893 had this house up for rent at £50 per year. The only information given was that there were eight bedrooms and three entertaining rooms. This house became a half of the Urmston College c.1900 after being the home of Samuel Isherwood in 1898. The accompanying home was **Roseleigh**. A finding for 1927 showed a portion was made over to let as flats. Occupants for 1939 were Miss Alice Pope and Miss. Bertha Collett.

**The Thorns.** Crofts Bank Road

A date of 1882 showed this semidetached to be in existence for the road. Along with its partner **The Hollies** each had, four bedrooms, bathroom, and a kitchen. Add dining and drawing rooms, good cellars, both situated in gardens. The families who stayed there were called Heath and Houliston of 1898.

**Titley. Thomas** Crofts Bank Road

Thomas was in the shop next door to Cuthbert and was the seller of fine jewellery in 1900-1910.

**Urmston Council.** (UUDC) Crofts Bank Road

For 1895 the council took up offices at No.14 Crofts Bank Road. By 1911 they were in Holmesdale and later moved in to Moorfield. (See Moorfield) The offices had always been on Crofts Bank Road no matter the location. Due to the ever-expanding town more office space was required. As a result, the terraced housing along from Hilton to Egerton was purchased each time a vacancy came, to then be converted into departmental offices.



In 1957 the Council approved preliminary drawings of its newest building. It would take away a portion of Golden Hill Park and it was explained by surveyor Mr. A. Potter that all earlier schemes were shelved because of the war. This was deferred in 1959 and the last offices came in 1971 with the completion of the buildings at the Precinct. These offices have now been removed to accommodate Eden Square.

The proposed offices that were never built due to pending talks of amalgamation.

**Urmston Council Offices.** (The last)

Once the decision was made and the last council offices were to be removed the contract was awarded to a Bolton company called Walter Forshaw. January 2007, they moved in on the site, April 2007 the deed was done, and all was cleared.



Before



After

Urmstons Council is presently divided into five Wards. Each of these Wards has three representatives accounting for 15 out of the Trafford total 63. (As at 2010)

**Acland Cup.**

This cup was awarded to the **Urmston Council** in 1956 as a National prize. This particular cup was given out to the council for its work in making the most progress in providing amenities to the public. This cup has not been found to have any history or a record of it being handed out again since. A recent finding indicated this cup is associated with regard to allotments.

**Council Housing.**

The sale of housing under the council's scheme came in to effect in 1953. For the equivalent of 22 years rent one could buy a pre-war home with only £10 deposit. This was waved in 1954 as being a limitation on residents again changing to tenants of 1961 at building cost. In another meeting unrelated, the Council decided that too many people were living in the housing provided under the guise of needing four bed roomed accommodation. For 1955 this had become apparent and many house holders were informed that they would have to move out. As an incentive the Council would pay £7 towards any moving costs. In 1934 the Council requested tenders to construct 200 brick or concrete tool sheds all for erection on the Council House Estates.

**Councillors of note.**

The **last** Chairman Councillor for Flixton was William Clough while the **last** for Urmston was Marie C. Sharp. The **first** for the newly formed UUDC was David Jones. Many familiar names featured over the years Wroe, Carnall, Royal-Higginson, and Lowe, all of whom had local recognition with places of local interest named after them. Lesser known perhaps is the Stanley N. Penlington Fountain at Flixton House. The Urmston Baths were officially opened by the **last** of the famous Stott family to serve on the council, Lt. Col. Samuel Stott. The final chair for the UUDC was Councillor R. Haigh.

## Councillors:

Clough



Sharp



Jones



Penlington

**Urmston Public Halls. Crofts Bank Road**

Over the years reference had been made to meetings in the "Public Hall" however no address was given to locate where the hall was to be found. This was until 1919 when it finally became entered in the Slater's Directory as being the hall used by the **Conservative Club on Crofts Bank Road**. The club relinquished the hall in 1941 with the UUDC taking control. As well as being the club's home the space was where general public gatherings were held. The Urmston Council had three alternate halls available for hire around 1965, the Princess Rooms, Flixton House, and Collingwood. Each dependent on the calculated number of guests to gauge the size needed.

**War Memorial. Crofts Bank Road**

Standing in the Arrandale House portion of Golden Hill Park this memorial was unveiled May 1927. Called 'The Cross of Memory,' the ceremony was carried out by Colonel William Coates C.B. Made from Cornish Granite it stands 18ft high and faces Crofts Bank Road. The Rev. Harwood Cook of Urmston dedicated the Cross and the 'Last Post' was played as a tribute to the fallen of WW1. The Cross was paid for by the citizens of Urmston. Trafford Council had it cleaned in 2003.

An approach to ex-servicemen in 1945 was made by Council asking what they would like to see as a memorial to the fallen of WW2. The response was a surprise; the majority wanted to see a community centre, or the like, rather than another site akin to Golden Hill. What they got was this same memorial dedicated to both World Wars.

**Westcliffe. 40 Crofts Bank Road**

The early 1890 house was semidetached with a hall and cloak room, four good sized rooms and four bedrooms. There were cellars and a garage with a summer house outdoors. The two families for 1898 living here were, Holroyd and Travis. 1912 had William Nuttall and into the 1938-1940 era here was George Herbert Carnall who was to become the Mayor of Urmston.

**West View. Crofts Bank Road.**

The View was correctly named as it sat **east** along the road as a semi. Living in the view for 1898 was Frank Birtill. The two families dwelling here in 1901 were Mrs Sarah Faulkner and Henry Rushworth.

**Williams Deacon Bank. Crofts Bank Road**

The bank established itself in Flixton c.1897. This main branch was opened on Flixton Road near to the Flixton Station. Open 10am to 2-30pm. Tue to Fri. A sub branch existed in 1898 Urmston at 10 Station Road. Transferring its attention to Urmston it opened a full office on the corner of Railway Road and Crofts Bank around 1905. It is now being vacated by The Royal Bank of Scotland 2018 as the branch has closed.

**Wood Lawn. Crofts Bank Road**

Mapping of 1890 indicates this house as an unknown at Primrose Ave. Certain was that it held position as the first by site of the homes on the east side from Flixton Road.

**Woolarah. Crofts Bank Road (Woolahara in later directories)**

This home is no more as it sat by the side of Dunedin. This was slated for demolition with **Dunedin** in 2014. For 1911 it was where one could find George Morton by 1940 George was still at home. Its design was that of a ranch house and its Monica comes from an Australian town.

**York Lodge. 54-56 Crofts Bank Road**

The lodge is actively engaged as a nursing home, it has taken over the site of its neighbour "**The Firs**" as part of its grounds. The house was converted after being sold in 1981. When it was a home in 1898 it belonged to Edward Farrand. Misses. Alice and Hilda Heath had it for the period of 1938-1981 when Hilda passed on, it sat at the corner of Derby Road. York was found here in 1889.

- **Old Crofts Bank.** Davyhulme

With the new road completed the old became known. The term **Road** was not meant to relate to this current bi way. Residents along here get annoyed at the reference to Old Crofts Bank Road while it is correctly plain Old Crofts Bank. Out of the 69 other properties 9 are flats the more modern development coming in 2002. The early features were the Post Office, Davyhulme Council Office (Town Hall for the period) and Mortuary. Three distinct estates could be traced for here, Woodlands, Broad Lea, and Haylands. Each had its own named house with Haylands later falling under Crofts Bank Road.



*The Urban District Council of Urmston (Part of Old Crofts Bank) (One-Way Traffic) Order, 1967*

Notice is hereby given that the Urban District Council of Urmston propose to make an Order under sections 26 and 27 of the Road Traffic Act, 1960, the effect of which will be to require traffic using that length of Old Crofts Bank between its junction with Davyhulme Circle and its junction with Canterbury Road to proceed in a south-easterly direction only, that is, from Davyhulme Circle towards Canterbury Road. Objections to the proposal must be sent in writing to the undersigned by not later than the 31st July 1967.

Dated 5th July 1967

Alan Bancroft, Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices, Crofts Bank Road, Urmston.

**Beeches.** Old Crofts Bank

In 1890 there was only one home here, but it was sub-named as the **Beech Mews**. It had four bedrooms for size, but that is all that is known. At home here was William W. Reilly occupying this, the last house, before it ended Crofts Bank at Lostock Road. Alexander Edwards inhabited the place for 1894. He was a surveyor for the council and was still living there in 1928. A note from 1898 has the home as two a Thomas Arthur Johns had joined with William at the same address. The eventual outcome was three homes in the row, all converted into shops.



**Belmont.** 10 Old Crofts Bank



The date for this house is c.1925 it became the place for Henri Chappellier to reside. Little else has been found apart for 10 years later the name became Mrs Harriett Chappellier.

**Berick.** 15 Old Crofts Bank

Described as a modern 1932 semidetached of character and made from weathered brick. It had a porch, entry hall and cloak, lounge with French window to the garden, dining room. The morning room and kitchenette went together with a bathroom and three bedrooms. A two-car garage, with a workshop, extended into a large well laid out garden. Currently there is no information of its early origin, but it belonged in the Woodlands Cookson family until J. B. Eckersley a local coal merchant took it around 1960.



**Broadlea.** Old Crofts Bank



A side road off Old Crofts Bank created from the site of the house called **Broadlea** has 12 buildings where No.13 is omitted. A Broad Lea is generally known as a Meadow.

**Broadlea**, the house itself, was found from 1898 with the name for this period as Joseph Birtill. He had moved on by 1901 as Jeffrey Swire held home and this was followed by George Sullivan for 1909. A new name for 1911 Pickles Wilkinson preceded a later resident for 1928-38 Thomas Burgess. The building was demolished in 2018.



Labour Club. **Broadlea**

The Party had a social club along this old road up from 1947 to 1953 it was to be found in the house called Broadlea at Number 5. The party headquarters at the Morris Hall on Atkinson Road were then expanded and Broadlea was sold.

Crofts Bank Garage. **Broadlea** 5 Old Crofts Bank

A complex of 14 garages on 1½ acres but utilised for several other purposes. A main portion was as a garage run by a character called Ernie Wrench renowned for his motor cycle repair skills. There was also a gymnasium run by Harry Bennett, weight lifting and body building was specialised. Millers Taxi Service kept their vehicles there as another use for the premises. The whole set up was a part and parcel to the original house of Broadlea of 1889 and into 1960.

Urmston Social Club. 1-3 Old Crofts Bank



An early club in 1881 held office where the Masonic Hall is now. It is not recorded as to the demise of this club, but the current association has nothing to do with any earlier versions. The Urmston Labour Party held ownership until 1963 when it was taken by the Manchester Oil Refinery as a social club. A new group, formed in 1973, were the founders taking their idea into the home which was called **Broadlea**. All amenities are provided from snooker to dancing, as it was a social club for all. The club closed and the building was demolished in 2018.

**Brulos.** 4 Old Crofts Bank

Half of a 1923 semidetached adjoining the home of **Merion**, the details are to be found under that calling.

**Clovelly.** 12 Old Crofts Bank

The next to the last house reaching Canterbury Road for 1928-1938 Helena Mary Taylor in residence. The row here is known from 1923.

**Cottington.** Old Crofts Bank

Detail unknown at this time apart from it being owned by a solicitor called Dodds for recent times.

**Crofts Bank Day Nursery.** 14 Old Crofts Bank

A large home that faces both Crofts and Canterbury Roads which has been transformed into Children's Nursery. Found at this time is that there was no name connected to the house which has been enlarged from its thought of 1923 construction.

**Davyhulme Library.** (Public) Old Crofts Bank and Hayswater Road

The library has an opening date of 1962 although it has been reconstructed as of 1988 with the entry now off Old Crofts Bank. It came under scrutiny for closure as cost cutting of 2015 demands it so. The library has closed it is now for medical purposes.

**Ennerdale.** 8 Old Crofts Bank

1928 had as occupant Albert Davies. He was still there for 1938.

**Glynwood.** Old Crofts Bank

Numbered as 33 nothing has been traced at this time for the home apart from Herbert Kemp being there as an engineer in 1938.

**Grey House.** 27 Old Crofts Bank

Working with a date of 1938 this house is scant on detail. At that time Annie Maddock who was a Midwife practiced from here.

**Merion.** 4-6 Old Crofts Bank

Ernest Henry Nall had purchased the land from the Trafford Estate 1904-1914 on a 999-year lease and it was taken by Arthur Foster who wanted half to live in and half to rent out. The home is dated as 1923 and is marked as such on a drain cornice. The first tenant in 1923 was H. A. Openshaw through to 1933.

This was next door neighbour to Talbot House facing the new Crofts Bank Road. 1937-1944 had James Chapman at home in No.6. More names followed in that Sydney James Yates took ownership 1971 until its later occupant moved in as I. J. Pollard.

**Quainton.** Old Crofts Bank

A likely candidate for the old road because it was addressed as plain 'Crofts Bank' in 1938. Leonard Fitzgeorge was comfortable where ever it was as a clerk.

**Stenkrith.** 39 Old Crofts Bank

This Lake District calling offers a date between 1934 and 1935. Compared to the early homes along this road its architecture is modern as it is with most following from Canterbury Road to Davyhulme Road. For 1938 Miss E. Turtle was to be found here.



**Three shops** ended Old Crofts Bank, the land was owned by John Trafford in 1794. It was sold to John Carrington who developed it with John Burn Storey around 1881. This was transferred to Markendale in 1883 who had a partnership with Samuel Clapham. During the 1920's Gratrix family became involved with the outcome being if fell to Joseph Lillicrap who owned the neighbouring land. By 1931 Frederick Ripley had possession. Since the 1930 era this has changed hands, and or, lease several times.

**The Beacon Stores.** 62 Crofts Bank

F. G. Hardie operated a grocery and provision shop here in 1953.

### The Woodlands. Crofts Bank

There was little to go on for The Woodlands tracked down for 1883 other than it was known as a small house pleasantly situated. By 1887 the house had grown into four bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, and every convenience. Still described as compact the outbuildings included, stables, coach house, ornamental gardens and an orchard set in seven acres of land. Once this information became available it matched that of the lands and home of Woodlands previously noted as only grounds along Crofts Bank Road.

### Woodlands Estate. Crofts Bank

This part of the district was named Woodlands before any building took place, in date form 1860 reveals that transactions were taking place selling and buying the lands with a view to development. Davyhulme was included with Flixton for location of this area as it fell within the bounds of Moorside Road and to the west of Cornhill Road. Wrangling between the families of Rogers, Walkden, and Royal eventually deciding its fate as they let it fall to the Cookson's. In turn the land became a part of the Barton upon Irwell Council in 1925. The estate was cleared for new development in 1975.

### Woodlands.

Open land halfway down Old Crofts Bank which later, in the 1890's, carried a home by this name with stables and accounted for 7 acres of land. John James Cookson was noted for the time of 1898. The lady of the house was Margaret Cookson during 1894-1904. Woodlands as an area still exists in the form of a small close along Old Crofts Bank.

Once the decision was made to remove the home for development James, one assumes junior, moved to Berick and Walter Cookson moved to Bendemeer. Woodlands, as a newer estate, was dated around 1935 with three homes found. Henry Leadbetter, John Budd, and Frederick Muspratt were the named occupants. By 1937 eight more homes were added to the estate.



- **Cross Street. Urmston 1900**

A no thoroughfare which had ten homes to the **south** of the street, these are unnamed. For today's evaluation there are 13 homes there now. A paper hanger worked from No.14 Cross in 1923 by the name of J. Brown.

- **Cumberland Road. Urmston**

The late 1920s brought about this road and it has 111 houses on it. An early name dated 1927 was for the Harold Burdett family at number 17, this provided further fact that by 1938 there were already 80 homes along the road.

- **Cross Knowle View. Davyhulme**

Most of the 63 houses here were built in 1959 and the main view is of the intersection of Woodhouse and Broadway. The Knowle has Cornish beginnings meaning 'hill'. John W. Stott was acting as an agent in Real Estate and operating from Cross Knowle Cottage in 1868. An orchard is the only feature found for the beginning years.

- **CWS. (Eccles and District). The Co-operative Wholesale Society**

Known as the Co-op (Est. 1857 in Eccles) they had several stores throughout the area. Many still stand and are used for other purposes their architecture is unmistakable. Although the Co-op was in existence locally from 1878 and in Flixton, the oldest building still standing locally is likely to be Brook Road dated as 1906 closely followed by Church Road and Higher Road which came next in 1908. At Carrington Road the building only came later in 1928. This caused some confusion due to the Brook Road branch being called the Flixton branch earlier than this newer shop. It was about this time too that one was established on Woodsend Road.



The main branch was at Winifred and Flixton Roads (1901) and trashed for the Precinct in 1964. Moss Vale Circle shows 1938 for its Co-op. Co-op stores were often opened in an area **before** a permanent building was erected.

The Flixton branch, Brook Road, was established around 1897. It had grocery on the left and a butcher to the right as it was with the Flixton, Carrington style shops. At the entrance to the butcher's side on Carrington Road there is a mosaic showing EPICS Ltd which can be seen today as it is with the original tile work internally. This stands for Eccles Provident Industrial Co-operative Society. Brook Road carries another mosaic, this one reads butchering.



A Higher Road branch began around 1897 sited across from where it finished up later. Arthur Peat of Lime Tree farm was a butcher in his own right at the Higher Road shop before it became a Co-op. Mrs. Elizabeth Peat became manager by 1928. Two others traced for the past have to be added in 1938 one operated at the corner of Davyhulme Road and Hayswater Road, the second on Stretford Road 1928 alongside the Simpson Food factory. A branch of Co-op was created for coal at the Urmston stockyard with another as a dairy on Atkinson Road. Co-operatives in modern times are Independent Retailers functioning from new or established buildings.



The Carrington Road site before construction.

### Co-op stores still being utilised.

The details of the original Co-ops throughout the district are entered **under the heading of CWS**. This is to show how many are still around but being used for other purposes.



Carrington Road



Church Road



Brook Road



Higher Road



Stretford Road

- **Dairy.**

Several dairies were in existence throughout the town. One was behind the Curzon and another alongside the Bird. (Frank Roles) This is besides the Grange Dairy Farm (Woods) on Stretford Road and Haves Dairy on Moorside. Another was called Lowes over Chadwick way plus the Co-op along by the Empress. These are only a few examples of a major local industry. **The Express Dairy Co.** bought out most of these with finally, Dobsons Dairy in 1959, to take the rights of the Creamery established for Urmston. Express operated out of 181 Moorside Road it became Dairy Crest Ltd with the final closure in 2014. This complex has been rebuilt as a series of flats as of 2017.



- **Dalton Gardens.** Davyhulme

The gardens carry a date of 1935 and they have 18 properties today. This is a well-used name with the early meaning of 'Town in the valley'.

- **Dalveen Avenue.** Davyhulme

26 houses here, with nothing known about them. The corner of Dalveen and Davyhulme Road was taken by the Primitive Methodist Chapel in 1853. The chapel was converted into a mushroom factory before being demolished in 1950. A bungalow has taken its place today. Dalveen has Scottish connections.



### Limpsfield. 10 Dalveen Avenue

There was little information available, the finding was dated 1923 and it had three bedrooms with two entertaining rooms. The house was semidetached.

- **Dance and studios.**

#### Flixton Academy of Performing Arts. The Curzon Flixton

First formed in 1989 as a school of dance on Brook Road its founder Karen Baird saw this change of name from Flixton Dance Studios. Opening here to fill a void in the usage of the Curzon Cinema building, the dance studio has gone from strength to strength. It is well patronised and looks likely to expand because of its popularity. As an art the studio has been practicing for twenty-five years.



#### Gwyneth Hare School of Dance.

The school started in 1972 it is led by the owner herself. It caters for all kinds in that the teachings go from ballet to street dancing. A proud boast is that many of the pupils have found careers in the art throughout Europe since attending the school. Names like Abigail Riley and Katy Molden are talented artists produced via this mode. The Unitarian Church was the home for this dancing business.

#### Jane Jarvis Dance Studio. Atkinson Road

The studio is located in what was the Morris Hall; it carries little by way of information for dancing history.

#### Theresa Cope School of Dance. Roseneath Road

One of several dance schools for Urmston, this one appeared to exist around 1950 along Roseneath. Theresa began at the age of 17 with her school accumulating 50 pupils.



#### Williamson Ballet School. 121 Church Road

A school for classical dance highly regarded throughout the region. This popular school was housed in 1905 building called **Holmwood**. Open until the 1960's it sent many students on to better things. Irene Williamson was the proprietor and one of her famous protégé was Jeffrey James Taylor. Although this was a school in name only, they still afforded a uniform of grey associated with yellow bands. The school performed a special ballet in 1951 for the Festival of Britain. It was based on the MacDougal poem "*The bride of Shaw*"

- **Daresbury Avenue.** Davyhulme

Close by to the MSC and Hulmes Ferry the 70 homes include the Ferry Cottage. This section of town is dated from 1954 although the cottage is many years older. A development for 2013 was that the steel pylons erected along here were to be removed as obsolete, removing an eyesore to the neighbourhood. This work began in October of that year. With the pylons finally removed it left the problem of what to do with the island it was subject to consultation. The result was three trees and that, so far, is it. The avenue is linked to Cheshire for its name.



- **Dartford Road.** Urmston

There are 34 houses along this 1880 Urmston roadway once called **Moss Grove** up to 1926. At the corner of Dartford and Church Roads was a shop which was once the 1920's business of a plumber, William Henry Davies, it became a small sweets and tobacconist. Barton had it for a while and then it became Arnold around the late 1950's. Several of the buildings down here were named, Laurel Villa in 1888 and Fern Lea for 1897 are examples, and they are all entered under Moss Grove for reference.



Thomas Noone was living at No. 28 in the late 1930's this was 'Hermans Hermit' (Peter Noone) family. Then at No.4 the Royle family representing the News Agency at Dartford and Church Road were Misses. May, Ethel, and Pattie. Still plumbing from the corner shop was Bill H. Davies into 1940.

- **Davis Road.** Off Church Road

Directories show Davis in 1903 with just 3 houses but by 1909 there were 3 more added. It is recorded that there were four each side of the road in 1911. The road was renamed as **Mansfield**. The UUDC assumed title in 1935.

- **Davyhulme**



As with most town or district names, Davyhulme is thought to have its origins derived from earlier days. During 1429 the calling was Deefhulme and it was called Denaholme in 1610. The word Hulme or Holme is suggested to be of European origin meaning "land surrounded by water" A thought is that Davy probably came from an owner or farmer of lands around there way back in the eleventh century. (Davy of Hulme)

There are many versions for the name none ever finalised. Known is that the Hulme family lived in the area during the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The family built Davyhulme Hall which was demolished in or around 1888. A civil parish was formed in 1894 and it belonged to the Barton upon Irwell Township. This eventually became a part of the Urmston Urban district in 1933. The population in 1891 was 1,300 and it covered an area of 2,701 acres.

- **Davyhulme Circle.** Aka Nags Head Circle



As a circle it is the central point for Lostock, Crofts Bank, Hayswater, Davyhulme, and Barton Roads. Beautifully laid out with gardens and a clock housed in a Stancliffe stone cenotaph. The circle here was officially opened by Urmston Council in July 1929 by J. P. Forsyth who was the Chair of the Davyhulme Council. Ernest Leeming was an overseer for this project while working for the Barton Council along with Potter of Urmston.

Tenders for the cenotaph were asked for in 1921 several years prior to this dedication of the circle itself. Requested was the erection of a "Clock Tower" which was not to exceed £500. The locale was originally farm land and called Crofts Bank with Bethells Farm as host site. Originally up to 1928 it comprised of Bethells Farm with its Post Office, a Town Hall and mortuary, along with a few cottages, the Nags Head Hotel giving cause for foot and cart tracks in the vicinity. It was one of the first sites in the district to have electric street lighting. The Circle has 22 properties which are mostly commercial with residences above in today's estate market. The contract was carried out by Wilson and Wilkinson of Pendleton. The cenotaph was cleaned and re-painted in 1948 by William Kirkpatrick Ltd. In 1948.



#### War Memorial. Davyhulme Circle

To be more correct the memorial is a cenotaph, it houses a clock in its Stancliffe stone work. This was the work of Thomas Maclaughlan who was a stonemason and Clerk of Works for Urmston. An early date of 1921 shows it being dedicated to those lost in WW I and later incorporating WW 2. Alarming at first to local residents, it was built in the yard of Bethells Farm the structure had begun. The Council had planned the circle ahead of this but as the cenotaph was ready to be started, they gave the all clear to erect it. The project was based on a 180ft circle surrounded by a road and was to be complete with footpaths and gardens.



The structure was renovated in 1962 after an inspection revealed some erosion. An unfortunate story to this cenotaph is that many local names are still regarded as missing from the toll paid by many in the Second World War. Before the clock was supplied with electricity James Bethell wound the mechanism by hand every Monday, regular as clockwork you might say. Mr. A. Stamford took the contract in 1933 for the princely sum of £5 per annum. It was granted a listing of Grade 2 in 2014.



### Davyhulme Circle Shops.



At this time some small information is available for the varied shops around the circle. The architectural styles are random offering an array of dates for establishment, most came around 1932 with added shops through to 1934. J. L. Edwards was responsible for this complex.

**For this list of proprietors, the date was 1938-40.**

#### West side.

Shop No.1 Peddies children's outfitting. It was owner run by Alex Peddie. (Needlework supplies were added in 1955)

Shop No.1a Carrington Hairdressing. Ladies coiffure was the speciality of Miss. Margaret Carrington.

Shop No. 3 Cluff and Pickering. Wine and Spirit Merchants.

Shop No. 5 Normanton. Ladies Wear, in fashion was Clement Edward Normanton.

Shop No. 7 Millward. Stationer. Frank Edmund kept the till.

Shop No. 9 Brumwell Bakery. John Thomas cooking up a storm.

Shop No.11 Brumwell Tobacconist. John Thomas smoking now.

Shop No.13 Blake. Hairdresser. Lester with the scissors.

#### Davyhulme Circle.

#### East side.

Shop No. 2 Perfection Outfitters.

Shop No. 4 Montague Gaynor. Butcher. (1953 S. Tennant who had a second shop at 262 Flixton Road)

Shop No. 6 District Bank Ltd.

Shop No. 8 Harold Daykin. Drapery.

Shop No.10 Rose Chemist. Joseph as Pharmacist.

Shop No.12 Grimwood Bros. Dairy and Ice cream. Alfred Grimwood living over the shop.

Shop No.14 William Wilson and son. Newsagents that stayed the pace into the 1950s.

Shop and House No.16 Mrs. Minnie Roston.

No.16 Faulkner Ltd. Alfred as Grocer.

Mrs. R. Ridgeway as a News Agent operated from a shack on the circle which appears not to have been numbered.

#### Lostock Road.

For all the shops that were created surrounding the circle there was one significant newsagent that passed by the name of **Ridgeway**. A small insignificant wooden hut that found home where the Crofts Bank House once was sited. Eunice Ridgeway as proprietor belonged here for many years and had a serious following of clientele. **The "Hut"** sat at the end of the wall shown where today stands Our Lady of the Rosary. During 1946 the temporary hut was rebuilt and made stable until the lease expired in 1959 and it was closed.



#### Davyhulme Post Office. Davyhulme Circle

The first Post office of any note was housed across from the Bethells Farm House circa 1850. A specific building with a town hall could be found there. Later added to Bethells, it was removed to accommodate the Davyhulme Circle and surrounds. Prior to this post would have been left at the Nags Head Hotel for collection or distribution. Since that era, it has relocated several times but usually near to the Circle in some form with the exception of one along **Davyhulme Road**.

#### Katharine Lowe House. The Circle Davyhulme

A care home of approximately 50 residents, the House was opened in May of 1962 with the building offered for sale in 2014 due to Traffords austerity measures. Katharine was a well-supported councillor for Urmston. A note from the past was that this building took the place where the Longshaw Cottage sat. A new lease on life it became the **Shaw Lodge nursing home**. This too has closed now as of 2018.



- **Davyhulme Road. Davyhulme 1900 (North)**



The **north** side of the road was highly residential. Crofts Bank House, Rose Cottage, and Bank Field were the only named houses up to the Primitive Methodist Church. Bennett's Cottages came next with The Limes, Oak House, The Glen, Pear Tree Cottage, Ivy Cottage, and Collingwood named in a group of fifteen. Mount Pleasant and Daisy Bank followed to a block of nine, here only four are named, Laurel House, The Willows, Briar Cottage, and Green Bank. The Elms begin the next phase again nine houses but only Hawthorne House, Shaw Cottage, and Davyhulme House are identified. Three groups, Park View, Lily Bank, and Lupton's Building are prior to the Yew Tree Farm at Bent Lanes. Laurel Villa and Calderbank House are at Woodsend Road.

Many established places had found names by **1911**, Green Gales, Hawthorne Cottage, Edina Cottage, Hope cottage, Thorn Lea, Fern Lea, Laburnum Villa, Cross Knowls, Mazeena, all sitting before Shaw Cottage. For today's count this road has 197 sites for residence, business, and flats. A previously unfound home came out in 1946 it was called Bankfield at number 12. By 1947 Cross Knowls appears to have changed to Cross Knoll. Tenterden came to light for 1950 as a new-found name. Mavrene was noted as of 1954 and Greenways as of 1961 addressed as No. 220.

**1928** placed a multitude of homes with names: Worsley View, Hopfield, Lerie, Eastleigh, Chalet, Morton, Eversley, St Mary Church, Nuthurst, Aderley, Burne Lea, Sherbrooke, Bella Vista, Brockholt, La Bonille, Chessville, Purdon Villa, Tavistock, Cringlewood, Penlorye, Lindow, Strathdene, Lynton, Burnhope, Tenterden, Mount Carmel, Lauriston, Newholme, Rolvenden, Ingleside, Stretfield, Ingleton, Noctoruin, Calder Bank Farm, Peacock Poultry Farm, Primitive Methodist Chapel, Meltham, Rhodallon, Dilkusha, Thorncliffe, Post Office, Edina Cottage, Redfield House, Thorn Lea, Laburnum Villa, Hawthorn Villa, and lastly Davyhulme Golf Club. There were 190 properties accounting for Davyhulme Road as at 2010.

- **Davyhulme Road. Davyhulme 1900 (South)**

The road was already formed by the 1890's. The **south** side towards Woodsend Road leads off with Hayhead House and Saint Marys Church. The golf club called Entwisle at 99 took up to the Old Lodge at No.101. 103-133 are unnamed with Brook Bank and Calder Bank completing the homes along here. Worsley View was the only change into **1911** as a seven-home terrace leading off Davyhulme Road to Rose Street.



**Alderley. 95 Davyhulme Road**

1928 showed that Thomas Alfred Farrell resided in this home. This **south** side building was close to Bowers Avenue and the St. Mary's Church at this period. Once the home was bequeathed to the church it became known as **Farrell House**.

**Bankfield. 12-14 Davyhulme Road**

At home for 1891 was Joseph Williamson, Bankfield was a neighbour of **Rose Cottage**. A Joseph and Mary Moon were living on the **north** side of the road in 1894-1908 with a member of the Estill family taking over in 1909, Robert B. to be precise. For 2009 it was found as home to the Davyhulme Day Nursery. Foster Conway passed away here in 1905 leaving the home as follows; three entertaining rooms, five bedrooms, kitchen, scullery, pantry, bath and lavatory. The premises had four cellars below. Outside were, barn, stable and smaller outbuildings, the coach house had a recreation room over and a garden with orchard, glass house, and tennis court. Add to this loose boxes and poultry runs. Two plots of land were included with the deeds which amounted to eight acres of good land.



**Bay Tree Cottage. 70 Davyhulme Road.**

A Christmas card brought this cottage to the fore with Florence J. Savage the addressee c.1930. She was an 1884 born school teacher who later moved to 54 Davyhulme Road.

**Beehive Cottage. Davyhulme Road**

A Mr. Atkinson passed away here in 1883 it brought about the sale of all his holdings.

**Bella Vista. Davyhulme Road**

James Beardsall was occupying this house in 1928. It was to be found on the **south** side of the road.

**Bennett Cottages. 30-34 Davyhulme Road**

1891 shows two living in the cottages George Foden and James Genry. Messrs Barlow, Kerr, and Mosedale were at home here in 1894-1901 on the **north** side of the road. The cottages were two away from the Methodist Church.

**Briar Cottage. 106 Davyhulme Road**

Briar was numbered 84 during 1891 with a name of William Wilcox as occupant. The Spittalls came here as at 1894 and the cottage was confirmed as number 84. (**North** side) Mr. H. Spittall stayed until 1909 as it was listed to John Hoseason for that year. The same numbered home listed Miss Agnes Hoseason teaching music. After 1911 the home was in the hands of Eva Gordon. This now shows as being No.106 and sits directly across from Bowers Avenue.



**Brockholt. Davyhulme Road**

The times of 1928 showed Frederick Tomlinson living in the Holt. Mrs. L. M. Tomlinson became a JP for 1953.

**Brook Bank. Davyhulme Road**

This bank was on the **south** side and came just before 139 Calder Bank House and Woodsend Road. First names traced were for 1891 Robert Martin and Lawrence Moore in residence. At home in 1894 were three named people, Rogers, Davis, and Chadderton, suggesting it was more than a single house. 1908 proved this correct when the two semidetached homes called 133-137 Brook Bank came up for sale. Of interest was that a footpath alongside the houses came included in the purchase price.

**Burne Lea.** Davyhulme Road

Harry Leason held his home fires and burned in the Lea for 1928.

Burne Lea

**Burnhope.** Davyhulme Road

Hoping Charles Martin did not burn all his hope in 1928 as he lived in this **southern** side home.

**Carmel.** Davyhulme Road

A new address to be investigated from 1927 it housed the Dodd family.

**Chalet.** Davyhulme Road

This modernised version of the Chalet was home to 1927 resident Lawrence Gainford Hodgson.

**Chessville.** Davyhulme Road

Playing chess at home in 1928 was Herbert Latchford.

**Chilton.** 82 Davyhulme Road.

Recorded by name since 1745 but treated as relatively unknown for any information. The home was a semidetached connected to **Rose Lawn** Cottage. Richard Johnson lived here in 1898 he was a coal merchant. The number was then 66 and stated as **Chiltern Cottage**.

Remnants found here suggest a farm of sorts sat here with Kilns.

**Clematis Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

This cottage is one of several buildings along the road that carry little by way of information. It did however show many Clematis plants in its frontage. It sits as neighbour to Oak House.

**Cleave. C. & Son.** 67 Davyhulme Road

One of the few shops along this part of the world, it was a butchery for 1928-30.

**Cobblers Croft.** Davyhulme Road

The cottage was a residence at the entry to the original Bent Lanes on Davyhulme Road. It has never been known in street directories by this name although locals have called it by this for its past. Present today, it was built c.1713 and as a property belonged to the Davyhulme Hall Estate. The Cobblers Croft has an ancient stone sitting on the road side. As it is with the Library Stone this is also a remnant from prehistoric days. It has the technical name of an "Erratic".

**Collingwood.** Davyhulme Road

As a hall it was used by the diocese of the Catholic Church as temporary premises before the Our Lady Church was built in 1960. The home, its address was No. 46 in 1894, with the Rev. Thomas Dugdale Harland there. Mary Harland passed away here in 1925 and shortly after Catherine Coulson passed on in 1927 leaving the estate for sale. As an 1870 structure it was still being put to good use, during the as it became home to the Registrar of Births and Deaths for the district and was available for community hire advertising a floor capacity for 80 dancers. The building had a further attachment to the past in that it was home to Davyhulme's first Library in 1928-9. Addressed here for the time the Head Librarian was Walter Newton with the caretaker, Mrs. Lavinia Thompson. As a library it closed in 1940 with all the books moving to Flixton and Davyhulme. At one stage, in 1952, class was being held there for the overspill at the Flixton Senior School This was originally a six bedroomed, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, bath, 1880 detached home, carrying a history of being a boarding school at one time run by the principle, Miss. Hill. Collingwood was demolished in 1970 after a fire rendered it useless.

**Collingwood Community Centre.**

This hall was built in 1964 by Spark & Sons. It remains today in use for public activities and a youth club.

**Cringlewood.** Davyhulme Road

Lost in the wood was James Buckley in 1928. This was a **south** side home.

**Cross Knowle Cottage.** Davyhulme Road.

This cottage became known as of 1891 alongside Mazeena at 100 on the road. A farmer called Richard Greatorix held home.

**Daisy Bank.** 84 Davyhulme Road

This semidetached on the **north** side was home to 1891 residents George Kidson and Mrs Ann Seckerson trailed by 1894 dwellers Henry Yates and John Bury. An even earlier date has been entered in records, that of 1796 and the road numbering shown is correct for the present with records showing it changes several times.

**Davyhulme Hall.** (Hulme Hall) Davyhulme Road

The seat of the Hulme family since 1152 it has been a farm, a race course and a golf links during its lifetime. First held by the Hulme family it was sold to William Allen in 1765 a Manchester banker who went bankrupt in 1788. Next was the Norris clan which, through succession, changed to Norreys. Its three stories and architecture were well known throughout the county. The landscaped gardens included an artificial lake with the removed earth forming the mounds of the Bent Lanes footpath. A sundial here was dated 1809. Archery was another favoured sport on this sprawling land.



The coach house and stables were very large showing a huge coach door centred between saddle rooms and livery stores. On top was a cupola and bell.

Almost the entire estate was demolished in 1888 when there were no buyers. The stables survived until 1927. During the life of the Hall it was also known as Davyhulme Park. This accounts for Park Cottage, Park Hospital, Park Golf, and the several others especially along Moorside Road.



Some features of the hall have been saved, a door can be found at Yew Tree Farm and a stairway in Alliston House. The front stone slab is at St. Marys Church then a fireplace was sold to a collector in Birmingham. One whale jaw bone still stands at the cottage called Hulmes Dale.

At the time the hall was to go its head gardener was Alexander Taylor, he took a portion of the lands as a nursery eventually leaving it to his daughter Jane Taylor who continued until Davyhulme Golf took possession around 1933.

**Davyhulme Hall Cottages.**

These now long-gone cottages were known for their time as the **Witches Cottages**. Advertised as for rent in 1833 were four on the grounds of the hall. The first offered was detached and had a small garden suitable for a retired couple. The second was a cottage with a Blacksmith shop. Number three, another cottage that included a Wheelwrights or Carpenters shop. Lastly came the home with a lofty shop suitable for a silk weaver, it had room for 6 looms. Interested parties would have to contact the Hall's gardener.

**Davyhulme House.** Davyhulme Road.

Found to be in existence for 1840 possibly built by Norris of the Hall. Confirmed is that John Newton had it in 1891. It was a two storied home typical for the era. During 1894-1904 it belonged to Richard H. Risk and 1908 Joseph Moon. An earlier description of 1864 said it was a modern built home with three entertaining rooms, six bed rooms, bath room, water closet, good kitchen and excellent cellars. The three and a half acres with a capital orchard and garden showed outside with two stalled stable, coach house and piggery.

1958 showed that Justice of the Peace and County Alderman Mrs. Katherine Lowe lived in this house. All has been removed and a bungalow was built in 1972. The estates surrounding the current home have been built on the lands of Davyhulme House.

**Davyhulme Methodist Church.** Davyhulme Road

1845 the church is shown on maps as a Wesleyan Chapel sitting next to the Endowed School. For followers of the Primitive faith it was replaced by the Hayeswater Church and the old chapel was demolished c.1960. **(Also see Dalveen Avenue)**

**Davyhulme National School.** (Endowed School) Davyhulme Road

This school originated in 1870 on a site donated by Robert Henry Norreys of Davyhulme Hall it was to be found opposite Knowsley Avenue. This school replaced an earlier one of 1789. Mr. J. Herd of Manchester did the building and the architect was John Lowe from Manchester. The official opening fell at Easter which fittingly saw the Bishop of Manchester do the ceremony. The cream coloured house still occupies the land and the school eventually moved on to become St. Marys of Cornhill Road.

**Davyhulme Park Golf Club.** Original **Club House**

When first opened a pavilion of black and white was erected while an existing lodge became home to the ladies and Club Steward. This original club house 1883 was kept in use until 1937 being made redundant by a new facility. There is confirmation that this building was known as The Lodge, a gatehouse at the edge of Davyhulme Hall and on Davyhulme Road.



**Davyhulme Race Course.**

Before it became a golf links, the Davyhulme Hall grounds were used for a horse racing circuit. On the north side of the Hall there was a grand stand that could accommodate 300 punters c.1850. This emanates from the Norreys family and their sporting activities at the Hall.

**Davyhulme Rest Garden.** Davyhulme Road

No date has been found for the establishment of the Garden other than it has been there since the late 1920's. The only given is that local residents there had a brass plaque installed proclaiming the site as a rest garden for all to enjoy, since stolen. The Norreys family owned the land in this area and suggested is that this was a donated piece. It can be found between Cornhill and Entwisle Avenue.

**Davyhulme Road.** Home of unknown detail.

Another delightful home of old, it shows a stone which carries the initials C I A and the date of 1808. The number today is 70 and it is adjoined to a larger unknown for now, building. The deeds show only the naming of the first land purchasers in 1794, Reginald Heywood, John Carter, Daniel Speakman, and John Johnson. None offering an explanation to the lettering.

**Davyhulme Road Post Office.** Davyhulme Road

The first indication in directories showed that for 1918 the Post Office along here was at 56. John Riley was a Grocer who also ran the office around 1928. Greaves of the 1970's were the last people to venture into this business with the home reverting back to normal for the present time. The beginnings of this house are only related to information for 1901 and on. It was owned in this period by Mark Hines, followed by Emily Wardle during 1903, and Thomas Ormston in 1909, all three were grocers.

**Davyhulme Road untitled.**

A small row of homes followed on from the main Lodge of Davyhulme Hall. Never actually named they were possibly the last solid remains of any hint to residences for the estate. The local historian Jane Taylor lived here for the majority of her life.

**Domestic Road.** Davyhulme Road

This little-known road existed in the late 1880's it left Davyhulme Road and led to the Davyhulme Hall. The road was travelled by the staff of the hall as it ran alongside the Jawbone Cottage. At this point of Davyhulme Road sat the Old Lodge providing a gateway to the Hall. This was superseded by the lodge further up the road and stands today. Now the road is used only by the golf club maintenance grounds people from the present. **Occupation Road** has been offered for an alternate name, it was most certainly the tradesman's entrance.

**Dilkusha.** Davyhulme Road

An odd calling for the 1928 find when Christopher Armstrong lived in it.

**Eastleigh.** Davyhulme Road

The home was on the **south** side with Walter Aikin at home for 1928.

**Edina Cottage.** 82 Davyhulme Road

The address for here was found to be number 76 and shared with **Hawthorn Cottage** which had an early date of 1903. At this time there was not a name showing for Edina only Thomas Lund in Hawthorn. Confusion continued until both carrying the same number of 76 showed in 1909, William Miller in Hawthorn and John Stanley in Edina. Revised for its postal location it appears to be No. 92 for now. Information gathered shows the home of Edina to have four beds, living room, sitting room, box room, scullery, kitchen, bath with w/c.

**Eversley.** Davyhulme Road

This was the house where William Henry Taffs lived in 1928. This was a three bedroomed detached house with two living rooms, bath and kitchen. The calling went on to say it was compact and had a good garden.

**Farrell House.** Davyhulme Road.

The house was bequeathed to St. Marys Church for use as a Vicarage it sits alongside the church. This was owned by Farrell family giving cause for the naming.

**Fern Lea.** Davyhulme Road

Sharing number 80 with other homes in 1911 it sat on the **north** side, the joint title holders were The Willows and Thorn Lea. This situation was modified in 1919 as The Willows had been re-named Redfield House. Next to go was Fern Lea for 1928 making it difficult to keep track of its inhabitants through these years.

**Gainford.** Davyhulme Road

In 1928 Lawrence Hodgson gained by living here.

**Garden House.** Davyhulme Road

The smallest detail has been tracked down for this home in that it is from 1924.

**Green Bank.** Davyhulme Road

The Bank was numbered 88-90 on the **north** side of the road. This building was known to have been there in 1880, it possibly comprised of several dwellings. This proved correct as later for 1897 when three residents became known, they were Longbottom, Smith, and Spittall. This brought about from a pairing only in 1891. The two owners were Walter Ashworth and John Rogers. Then for 1898 it became numbered as 86-88 adding to the other home to confirm a complex of three homes, two houses and a cottage. Brick Kiln Lane ran directly alongside this home.

**Green Gales.** Davyhulme Road

Numbered, as 74-76 in 1891, it was known as **Green Gates** with William Ogg and John Hill. In 1910 the Gales were sitting on the **north** side the principle owner appears to have been Thomas MacDonald.

**Greystone.** Davyhulme Road

As a house Greystone is numbered today at 58. The only fact known is that it is a neighbour to **Oak House**.

(**Hawthorne and Hawthorn** regarded by spelling as the same place)

**Hawthorn Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

An 1894 directory had this cottage at number 76 and Thomas Lund in occupation. Percy Cartwright 1901.

**Hawthorn House.** Davyhulme Road

This Hawthorn was No. 98 and was home to a florist in 1891 called James G. Taylor. Henry Bent began his time here in 1903.

**Hawthorn Villa.** Davyhulme Road

Two homes found for 1908 at this address Hawthorn coupled with **Laburnum Villa**. The named gatepost of Laburnum giving the only clue that this pair is around for the present. The Villa, even as a pair, did not show any address other than sitting between 98 and 100 on the road. The only occupant actually named was Charles Todd in the year of 1909.

**Hey Head House.** 43 Davyhulme Road

This farm is documented as far back as 1744 with William Hesketh leasing the property to William Shawe. At that time this included 19 acres of land. Further to this several acres at Dumlinton and Bromyhurst were also to be added. The names following for here were Samuel and William Rogers they were there in 1833 and by 1858 they too sold out to Robert Henry Norris of Davyhulme Hall. For 1856 it was described as **Hey Head Farm** behind the St. Marys Church with Richard Leather as tenant farmer. Several outbuildings were attributed to the farm, now 27 acres, that include an orchard and gardens. 1883 named T. S. Rowlandson as occupant with James Robertson there for 1891. An 1898 gent there was Richard Wadsworth. Near to Entwisle Ave, this was being farmed by Austin Irlam at its demise in 1932. The house was still offered for sale in 1934.

**Hollies.** Davyhulme Road

The cottage sits just before the corner of Cornhill Road. It is shown on maps but remained unlisted in directories until 1928 when it turned up as **Hopfield**. Peter Brooks was living there then.

**Holly Berry.** 114 Davyhulme Road (Possibly Holly Bank)

This particular Berry was without reference other than being numbered 66. Its deeds brought forward that it was involved in a land transaction during 1791. Fredrick Willows from 1909 had the correct locale without the name. The calling of Holly Bank came in 1891 addressed as 92 along the road with John Cooper. James Hayes had this home for the period of 1898. It is unconfirmed if these two Holly names are one and the same.

**Holly Cottage.** Davyhulme Lane (Road)

Noted here was that the occupant John Leyland applied to liquidate in 1877 he was a coal merchant and brick maker who operated out of Urmston Station. 1879 and he was absolved of all debts.

**Holt Farm.** 100 Davyhulme Road.

Holt was a simple white faced "cottage" type farm with a thatched roof, very much a small holding venture. Identified as **Hall Farm** in 1891 Mary Barlow carried out the work. A **Holt House** was known to sit opposite The Lodge offering the possibility they were once one and the same, this dated as 1744 and John Heyworth. Generally, it was made up of a detached house with outbuildings and sat on nine acres of arable land. The last known name for here around 1932-33 was that of a Miss Barlow who had to be a descendant if not the same Mary.

**Hope Cottage.** 94 Davyhulme Road

The cottage was named in directories around 1891 as John Waterworth has been traced for that period. This was entered as being in existence at 78 on the **north** side. The cottage was a detached dwelling and home for Miss. Haggerty in 1889.

**Hope Field.** 79 Davyhulme Road

The 1928 home to the Peter Brookes family, this was not called by name in earlier directories but as a part of **Worsley View** it was the last unit there.

**Hulmes Dale.** Davyhulme Road

This is the correct designation for the better-known **Jaw Bone** Cottage. (See Jaw Bone Cottage)

**Ingleside.** Davyhulme Road

The **south** side for Ingleside had Frank Palmer in the inside in 1928.

**Ingleton.** Davyhulme Road

This was where Frank Hill made his 1928 home.

**Ivy Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

Often named Ivy Cottage, this one was at No. 44. The time of 1894 showed it home to Joseph Beidford and James Barrow had possession in 1901. In between a tobacconist called Richard Flynn of 1898 called it his. By the time of 1927 Sidney Bridgeford had moved in. Ivy's neighbour was Collingwood.

**Jawbone Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

At Bent Lanes this was a cottage left over from the Davyhulme Hall Estate. Whale jaw bones, which were brought over from the hall by a gardener who lived there, at its gateway gave rise to its name. The bones were removed from an entrance at Davyhulme Hall and installed in the garden of the cottage. Still in existence it has an approximate date of c.1720.



The **true name** for this cottage is **Hulmes Dale** traced through the deeds to the home. Confusion over the calling arrives from spelling as Holmes and Hulmes occurred, this coupled to Dole and Dale has made the matter worse. The second chimney to the left was installed in 1829 and the home originally un-rendered. 1898 had William Burgess here, whose family origin was at Shaw View. William passed on in 1940 but the Burgess clan remained in attendance through until 1995.



The Jawbones as a pair are recorded in documents to have been dated as being at Davyhulme Hall prior to c.1825 making them over 190 years old. The bones today are almost gone, one still stands covered in Ivy, but the second half has rotted away leaving only a stump. This was removed for preservation in 2015.

The original Jaw Bone Cottage was the **Old lodge** entry to the Hall giving rise to some confusion about the calling at different periods.

**Kelsall Farm.** Davyhulme Road

David Kelsall tended this Market Garden from 1868 until 1882. A commodious farm house, outbuildings, and thirteen acres of land completed the picture.

**La Bonille.** Davyhulme Road

The French naming did not sound like its occupant of Arthur Cash for 1928. The 'beautiful' would be a close translation for the wording.

**Laburnum Villa.** Davyhulme Road

The Villa, of 1884, appeared is a semidetached with no number but between 98 and 100. James Taylor showed for 1889. Here too was **Hawthorn Villa** as named in 1908 but had Henry Bent at home during 1898. The **north** side was home to this pair with the single gatepost showing the name of Laburnum. George Jeffery was living here for the time of 1908.

**Laurel Cottage.** Davyhulme Road Calder Bank

The owner of the cottage was seeking work in 1882; it may have been an alternate name for any of the Davyhulme Road Laurels to be found in this area as it brought forward little in detail. He or she identified himself or herself by the initial D for the application. A later snippet of detail gave that it was detached, included stable and wash house set on half an acre of land.

**Laurel House or Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

Number 72 is known for this home on the road and in situ was Sidney Hancock 1901. An earlier time of 1891 showed George Adye then 1894 had Alfred Hudswell at home here. Changes in postal numbering make this address obsolete the House may have been also called a Cottage for its beginnings. For identification it left little only the flowers, vegetable garden, and its fruit trees were prominent. A wash house and stable being the other structures mentioned on a half-acre plot. A Laurel Cottage here was traced to 1879 and sits on the corner of Laburnum Road.



**Laurel Villa.** Davyhulme Road

The Villa stood at the corner of Bent Lane and had a number of 134 to its name in 1891 and William W. Wilks as occupant. At this address in 1893 it was made up from four bedrooms, a living room with offset kitchen. A stable and summer house completed the home. Mrs. M. S. Twyman called it home in 1894-1898 when Edward Harold Lord took over.

**Lauriston.** Davyhulme Road

A certain Miss Eliza Naylor called this for her own in 1928.

**Lees Field.** (Public) Davyhulme Road

Mr. Arthur Tyndall Oldham Lees bequeathed nine acres of land to Urmston c.1935 to be utilised as "*Public pleasure and or rest gardens.*" Today they are known as Lees Playing Fields which are still enjoyed by all. This land belonged to Samuel Oldham Lees; as far back as 1870 he was found to be selling hay there. Samuel bequeathed the lands to his son Arthur and his daughter Edith at the time of his death in 1879.

The true name for the field is Calder Bank. The farm buildings, fields, orchard, and market garden comprised of 22 acres in total. The last farmer known was Albert Burgess, there until its demise in 1965. The council erected a timber framed prefabricated building there in that year for public use which is currently in the hands of the club called Meadowside. The UUDC officially accepted the lands legally in 1946.

**Lerie.** Davyhulme Road

Ernest Leighton made this his own for 1928 on the **south** side but close to Cornhill Road.

**Lily Bank.** 116-122 Davyhulme Road

Appearing for 1891 Lily was numbered as 118-120 Charles Vlies and Herbert Ferguson were established. 1878 the date found an extra family for this group of homes. Living in each for 1894-1903 were the Hanson, Ogden, Ferguson, and Ashworth families. Included here were the coach house, stables, and outbuildings. The Bank went along with the brick making croft called the Old House identified by the field of Lime Kiln where it sat. This changed from 1887 when the lands were used as two vineries with a hot house and three greenhouses.

**Lindow.** Davyhulme Road

Home to Thomas Lea this was a **south** side building found named for 1928.

**Lodges.** Davyhulme Road

The Lodge was placed at the junction of Woodhouse Road, shown to have existed in early 1800. Certainly, the Livesey family there were hiring servants in 1855 and resident Peter Clare was found for 1891. From map indications it was an entrance to the Davyhulme Hall Estate and the following golf club as a club house with the club secretary there for 1901 W. Hayes. In all documents around 1890-1900 the address given was always as 99 for the **Lodge** and 101 for the **Old Lodge** on Davyhulme Road.

**The Old Lodge** that shows in directories and O/S maps, sat further down Davyhulme Road alongside the Witches Cottages and opposite Teesdale Avenue for the present. An early name for here was 1891 with William Pearson. For sure an Edwin Wyche knew where it was as he lived there in 1894-1901 and if this found to be correct then Edwin was in the right home. This was the house suggested originally to carry the name of Jawbone before the bones were taken to Hulmes Dale.

**Luptons Building.** 124-128 Davyhulme Road

First found in the 1891 lists as home to the Stanley, Wilson, and Eales, families. 1894 directories confirm a block of three homes with three new names Fielding, Gilbody, and Booth in residence.

**Mazeena Cottage.** (Mazenna) 168 Davyhulme Road

Although this 1880's cottage is referred to on several occasions nothing has been found to give it any story. Law. John Smith is the directory name shown for 1891. Only known was of its existence up to 1940 and that it sat next to Shaw Cottage. For some reference it is a female name, perhaps connected to its first owner. A sale of contents in 1895 offered two grand pianos and an organ showing this was no small homestead. John Ashworth dwelt here for 1897. The year of 1927 gave more, now numbered 104 the home had eight large rooms, it was double fronted. There were kitchen, bath and w/c to complete the list.



Shaw left and Mazeena Right

**Meltham.** Davyhulme Road

Miss Amy Mellor was addressed under this name, for 1928 it was a **north** side house.

**Morton.** Davyhulme Road

For the year of 1928 Allan Pollitt was homeowner.

**Mount Carmel.** Davyhulme Road

Climbing the **south** side mountains here was for 1928 Arthur Dodds.

**Mount Pleasant.** 60 Davyhulme Road

This semidetached home had Thornbury House as its partner. In 1891 it was noted as being numbered 62 with Charles Rogerson at home. 1897 showed this as only Mount Pleasant one name for both houses, in residence was James Burts. This followed in 1901 with again only one resident shown that of Joseph Bowers.

**Myrtle.** Davyhulme Road

This home as a detached home it bore no identifying names for its past which has been corrected for the present. A stand out feature is a very large windmill housed in the rear garden from an unknown, but recent time.

**Netherwood.** Davyhulme Road

No detail has been found for any identification at this time, only of its existence.

**Newholme.** Davyhulme Road

This was 'holme' to the George Whitehead family of 1928.

**Noctoruin.** Davyhulme Road

Alfred Amey had a sense of humour to live in a home that was knocked about but for 1928 he did it.

**Nuthurst.** Davyhulme Road

Going nuts here in 1928 was Frank Dickenson and for 1943 it was Frank Wilson. **Oakfield.** Davyhulme Road Number 79 is given as the address for this cottage in 1943 at the corner of Cornhill Road. There were two bedrooms, porch and entry hall, two entertaining rooms, bathroom, kitchenette with pantry, and outside a greenhouse in a pleasant garden. A garage was to be found here too.

**Oak House.** Davyhulme Road

Number 38 along the road was the address for Oak House at the time of 1891 William Bagshaw lived here. (Today it is addressed as 56) The years of 1894-1901 saw George Kidson as its resident. Oak had four bed rooms, a box room, two living rooms, kitchen and bath with w/c, attic and cellar. Outside were a two stalled stable, coach house, a large garden and orchard. The Oak is to be found in the rear of the garden still standing proud.

**Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School.** Davyhulme Road

Opened in 1973 the school has not been affected by the closure of the church. Today, it has approximately 200 pupils.

**Our Lady of the Rosary.** R C Church

Opening first as a school in 1973 it was used for services on Sundays. The initial church was built in 1961 and followed by the present church in 1986 officially opened by Bishop Kelly. This church was about to close in 2007 but was reprieved continuing to operate for at least another three years. The period of grace has now ended, and all parishioners attend English Martyrs Church in Urmston. One of the few churches in the area that did not support a bell. The church which was funded by public money is now used as a community assembly hall. The site for this church was once home to Crofts Bank House.

**Park View.** 110-114 Davyhulme Road

Three homes carried this name as the View in 1891 and in house were the Boor, Sharp, and Hall, families. By 1894 the Eaton's, Sharp's, and Crank's.

**Parkwood Poultry Farm.** 200 Davyhulme Road

Mr. J. W. Patterson auctioned off his 1935 farm that included 270 head of poultry, 41 ducks, brooder housing, cabins and appliances that made up the business.

**Peacock Poultry Farm.** Davyhulme Road

The farm was addressed as next to the Methodist Church in 1928. Clucking away for 1939 was Mrs. Emily Peacock as farmer now noted as being on Woodsend Road at the Calderbank Cottage area.

**Pear Tree Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

Earliest found name for 1891 showed as Charles Cooper then in 1894 number 42 was home to Richard Flynn, a traveller.

**Penlorye.** Davyhulme Road

For 1928 Walter Pendlebury was master of this domain.

**Primrose Cottage.** 22 Davyhulme Road

William Hunt is named as living here in 1901, his name appeared every year through to 1919. Thereafter Henry Crisp took the cottage which sits across from Bedford Road, close to the Hollies.

**Purdon Villa.** Davyhulme Road

It was home to Thomas Dunham for the year of 1928. Purdon was a **north** facing house.

**Ragood Estate.** Davyhulme Road

An unknown calling even the spelling until a set of deeds came forth as being the seller of land on Davyhulme Road in 1794.

**Recreational Grounds and Youth Centre.** Broadway

(No details) The youth centre is addressed as Davyhulme Road with connection to Broadway Park. Collingwood as a possible home.

**Redfield House.** Davyhulme Road

At an unfound location this was to be marketed in 1941. On offer was a detached, three bed roomed home, two entertaining rooms, with kitchen, bath and box rooms. For the exterior there was a garage and green house. 1911 showed it to be in the hands of George Plant, numbered as 80, and renamed from The Willows.

**Rhodallon.** Davyhulme Road

This was a **north** side home for 1928 with Joseph Batton in charge.

**Rolvendon.** Davyhulme Road

James McAlpine had this abode in 1928 sitting on the south.

**Rose Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

This cottage from the 1880's was numbered as 10 on the **north** side, confirmed is that Richard Taylor held home for 1891. Along with **Bankfield** No.12 is it now a Day Nursery. For 1889 the cottage, at the time called Rose Lawn Cottage, belonged to John Kettle. He was followed by a farmer called John Rogers in 1898.

**Rose Lawn Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

Best found date so far is 1891 with Henry Spittle at home. Numbered as 64 for the period this adjoined Chiltern Cottage.

**Shaw Cottage.** Davyhulme Road

Next to Mazeena Cottage the pair were noted as habitable in 1939, they no longer stand. Shaw which was numbered as 106 Davyhulme Road could be found in directories of 1851. The earliest found as resident is Sarah Royle in 1891. Later, shown in 1901, was William Donevan staying there. This combination could be placed as neighbours to Davyhulme House.

**Sherbrook.** Davyhulme Road

This house belonged to Henry Cooke for 1928.

**Stables.** Davyhulme Road

The early 18<sup>th</sup> century stables adjacent to Yew Tree Farm on Davyhulme Road's **north** side are listed as Heritage buildings in 1987 as **Grade 2**. Described as Flemish bond brick with a graduated stone slate roof, there are two bays and a hay loft. Its two doors have cambered brick arches and the windows are gabled. It has tie-beamed roof trusses with inclined struts. Some vents and loft hatchings have been closed. **The stables are** scheduled for removal as application for a delisting is confirmed as of 2018.

**St. Mary the Virgin.** C of E Church Davyhulme Road.

As early as 1881 a Sunday school was in operation for the Church and it developed into a full time Mission. Built in 1889 it was dedicated to the memory of the Norreys family who partially financed it and donated the land. (Mrs. Isabella Bowers left £2,000 for the church erection) Mrs. Moorhouse, who was the Bishop of Manchester's wife, laid the foundation stone. The architect was George Truffitt of London. The materials used for the church are Ashlars and Cheshire sand stone with brown Redland tile for the roofing. An organ manufactured by Wadsworth Bros. was installed during 1895 followed by eight bells 1899. The bells, which were tubular, by Harrington of Coventry are no longer in use being stopped in 1959 and replaced by an electronically recorded bell sound played from the tower in 1969. Electric lighting was installed for 1926 the foundation for a vicarage was laid in 1928 and a new Church Hall was added in 1989. The church was **listed Grade 2** in 2013.

**War Memorial.** St. Marys Church. Grade 2 Listed.

Outside the church a granite Celtic cross was erected in 1922 as a war memorial of the First World War and the garden of remembrance was landscaped and dedicated in 1960 in memory of Thomas A. Farrell. Twenty-one males are recorded here who lost their lives fighting during 1914 and 1918. Twenty-two more can be found inside the church on a commemorative wooden plaque dedicated to the Second World War 1939-1945. A choir vestry was installed in 1952 dedicated to those who fell in the Second World War.



**Vicarage. Davyhulme Road (See Entwisle)**

Reference to the vicarage has been traced and was dated 1929 for it being in existence. A complication for 1969 came when Thomas and Annie Farrell bequeathed their house to the St. Marys Church. Numbered as 95 Davyhulme Road it was being used as the Curacy home. 2014 now indicates the vicarage to be at **13 Vicarage Road** Davyhulme. Both Farrell House and the Vicarage are still to be found by the church to this day.

A date stone to be found mounted on the building gives the date of 1929 It is followed by the initials E W placed over E K C. They are yet to be interpreted.

**Stretfield. Davyhulme Road**

The Lonsdale family kept house in 1928 along the southern edge of the road.

**Tenterden. Davyhulme Road**

This **south** side house belonged to Harold Sharp for 1928.

**The Elms. 94-96 Davyhulme Road**

A home found for 1875 which carried little detail towards its identification until 1884 when it advised four bed rooms, box and bath rooms, kitchen, stable with coach house. It was known to be on the north side of the road. 1891 changed thought as Mrs Margaret Evans and Henry Ollerenshaw had moved in. Doctor James Munroe spent his last years here after vacating Clovelly and his practice there.

**The Glen. Davyhulme Road**

This Glen was numbered as 40 back in 1891, with living there, Richard Gallaher.

**The Holt. Davyhulme Road**

1845 is noted for this homes date it was sited opposite the Lodge entry to Davyhulme Hall. A home of some grandeur it perched in the area of Crofts Bank in the days before Davyhulmes existence it corresponds with the **Holt Farm**.

**The Limes. (Lime House) Davyhulme Road**

This detached home at 36 Davyhulme Road was the address for 1891 James Dickson with, for 1894, Thomas Rogers as homeowner. This home has a date earlier than 1877 being found in documents that showed five bed rooms, three entertaining rooms, bathroom and kitchen. Outside a stable, coach house and other outbuildings encapsulated in fine gardens. A large orchard could be found on its three acres of land with two greenhouses. 1910 indicated that Thomas changed his surname name to Fogg by deed sighting himself as nephew to the Laurence Fogg family.

**The Magpie. Davyhulme Road**

Built in 1914-15 and this home was so called because it was black and white half timbered. There were two living rooms, a kitchen, scullery and larder, four bedrooms then completed the list of available space here. The house did not elude as to where it was only that it came detached. Since finding this advert the location has been established as at the corner of Dalveen. Henry Blyth kept his 1919 nest there.

**The Old Coach House. Davyhulme Road**

Just how old this coach house is, has not been determined nor has a detailed description been found. The home was comprised of a main house, semidetached, with the Coach House alongside. All three are residential for the present time.

**The Rookery. (Rookery Nook) Davyhulme Road**

This known house or cottage name was always a mystery when it came down to a location. Some believe it to be another name for the Jaw Bone Cottage while others deem it to be an old house on the grounds of Davyhulme Hall perhaps a lodge or gate house. A resident, Mr. F. Aldred, was granted permission to modify the home to accommodate his elderly parents in 1950.

**The Willows. Davyhulme Road**

Across from Davyhulme Hall and noted as a part of the estate, the cottage stood in 1790 with stables, outbuildings, and gardens which were stocked with fruit and ornamental trees. The Willows in 1852 was then home to the Thomas Street family they lost a family member called Mary in 1899. 1909 it was still in the hands of a Street member that of James. The address has a number change on several occasions, last recorded as 96-98. When purchased in 1911 it was renamed as **Redfield**. Complicating matters here a directory entry of 1891 showed William Hanchell perhaps as a tenant.

**Thornbury. Davyhulme Road**

Only a little of its past is known as in 1891 Robert Stone as occupant. 1897 it was found to be a detached home next to a semidetached pair called Mount Pleasant. For 1907 Thomas Rogers was resident.

**Thorncliffe. Davyhulme Road**

In 1928 this Thorn belonged to Percy Garner it was to be found on the **north** side.

**Thorn Lea.** Davyhulme Road

Three named homes held number 80 on the **north** side as their own. This, The Willows, and Fern Lea each were calling it theirs in 1911. The Willows had first claim, as it was known there in 1900. Thorn Lea in 1920 showed it to be a small semi with three bed rooms, two living rooms Etc. There was a large garden complete with an outbuilding.

**Travistock.** Davyhulme Road

A George Walker called this his home for 1928 on the **south** side of the road.

**Urn.**

On Davyhulme Road there is a large Urn designated a heritage monument in 1987 Grade 2. The Urn which is almost three metres high is alleged to be mid-17<sup>th</sup> century and to commemorate the resting place of two race horses. They belonged to R. H. Norreys of Davyhulme Hall and were said to be favourites of his.



The Urn can be found at the junction of Lowood Avenue, but it is surrounded by tree growth and is difficult to view from the road. The tribute is made of stone and mounted on a plinth. This is sited on the **south** side of the road and can usually be seen from the road during the winter months when the surrounding trees are bare.

This may constitute as an 'Urban Myth' as it has been reported that the Urn has had several locations during its life and began as an ornament in the gardens of the Hall. Nothing has ever been produced to prove or deny this tale.

Due to the land belonging to the Davyhulme Golf Club sightseeing is **not allowed** and prosecution for trespass will apply.

**Whitegate Farm.** Davyhulme Road.

Dated c.1800 it was shown on Tax registers of 1837 for its earliest recording. The Farm was also shown as **Woodsend Road** in some directories. Noted as a Hay and Straw distributor for its prime directive in 1898 when William Bury ran the place. 1903 suggested it would suit a dairy producer or milk dealer. Offered for sale in 1913 the description was freehold farm house and buildings, two cottages, 5 acres 2 roods 38 perches of land. The lot was near to Irlam Road. A latter-day farmer here was 1927 George Hulme.

**Worsley View.** Davyhulme Road

This is an eight homed terrace dating from c.1908. The end unit faced into Knowsley Avenue and the other end home became called as Hopefield.

**Yew Tree Farm.** Davyhulme Road

Dated as 1713 and confirmed with a date stone, it sits east of Ryeburn Walk on Davyhulme Road. A two storied house of rendered brick it has a graduated stone slate roof. The front door carries a date of 1717 it was used as an inner door as there was a porch prior to the entry. The door itself originates from the Davyhulme Hall giving reason for the difference in date. This porch has a casement window on the first floor and shows the date stone initialled as J W M. Suggested is Wright, John and Mary but there is reference a family called Mather in early records. To complete the detail, it has gable chimney stacks with three diagonally set shafts in brick. Inside there are moulded beams and a dog legged staircase with turned balusters. Several outbuildings survive that include many pigsties.



All ladies for 1891 Sarah Dennis and Rachel Richardson began the farming list. Miss. Elizabeth Richardson took the farm in 1898 then John Robertson 1901 became a farmer here, with Alf Wood 1909, Tom Molyneux in 1911, and John Pollitt 1919, to name a few following. In recent times this has become known as Days a dairy farm, even later it has been used as a cattery. Building land for development and surrounding the farm became available in 1965. This farm was listed in 1978 as Grade 2 but **the outbuildings were de-listed in 2018.**

Although the farm carries this historical recognition it does **not open to the public for viewing.**

**Yew Tree.**

There was an actual Yew Tree growing on Davyhulme Road for many years. Besides the name being taken for the farm, John Wesley is supposed to have preached under it, although many English towns claim this, the tree was a well-known local land mark before being lost to road widening.

Many sections of its bark have been preserved by local families as treasured heirlooms. Several pieces were held by the Davyhulme Methodist Church, their fate is unknown, but this fact gives credence to the story.



- **Davyhulme View.** Flixton Road

An unlikely name as it was not that close to Davyhulme although in 1874 it would have been in view. The homes between Lime Avenue and a walkway into Chassen Park comprised of two shops and a possible house. Later directories showed this as two homes. When first built this row was of yellow brick and it had slate siding to the walls and described as semidetached. All are now converted into private residences.



Some older documents state that the view went as far as the corner of Chassen Road which would have incorporated the Tetlow Garage and the house of Abbotsfield. The first shop in **1898** was John Harrison a greengrocer the second, Boyer Grocery. The remaining two homes showed Walker Hall and James Cox. The View ended with a wall mounted letter box believed to have been Victorian in design.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1901**

Harrison and Boyer remained with a new showing of John Pratt who was a Shoe Maker. The last house was occupied in 1901 by a Mrs. Porter whose son Herbert left to get married in that year. For the first time James Stott could be found under the heading of Abbotsfield.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1903**

There were to be some changes for this year Robert Boyer and John Pratt had John Mellor, a Baker, for a neighbour. Henry Frost Smith took occupancy of the last home as an Envelope maker.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1909**

Richard Dyson was listed as the Grocer, Thomas Jones took second place with his News Agency and John Henry Heyes resided in the third he was a Traveller. Robert Boyer was now a Compositor shown living in the last unit.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1911**

Dyson, Jones, and Heyes were still as 1909, the new comer was Richard Rainford, and he was a Cashier. Abbotsfield and the Stott Mill became separated from the View as an address.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1919**

By the time this year came around it was all change. Herbert Shephard was baking here in the first shop. Miss Alice Hilda Jones had opened a Tobacco shop next door and the last two abodes were occupied by Benjamin Fletcher and Mrs. Cissie Rainford.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1928**

Shephard, Jones, Fletcher, and Rainford, all remained. The difference was that Richard Rainford was not noted but his wife Mollie was. The Garage of H. & J. Tetlow was now to be found addressed as the View.

#### **Davyhulme View. 1939**

Shephard and Jones showed no change, Fletcher had now passed to Misses. Isabella and Esther, with lastly Cecil Radcliffe in the end home. The garage of Tetlow H. & J. was defined as The Garage and James Stott in Abbotsfield. Chassen Park is now described as the Recreational Ground and Tennis Courts. Later directories corrected the fact that the tennis courts were to be accessed from Lime Avenue where the pavilion was installed. Names that followed at the View were, Herbert Shephard who sold out the first shop to Gerald Furnivall this in turn became the home of the Teece family with Denise Southwell taking ownership as the last shop keeper. The Tetlow Garage followed to be Riley into the late 1950's which then became a block of flats called Scotts House.



- **Davylands.** Davyhulme

This end to Bent Lanes has 16 homes. There some older cottages of 1860 still to be found here amongst the new.

- **Deanway.** Flixton

Family homes for 12 in this tiny 'way' off Irlam Road.

- **De Brook Close.** Flixton

Also known as De Brook Court 2003 saw 8 homes being built here although the original property dates back to 1967. It carries the name from De Brook Farm history and built on Nichos fields. The lands were once a portion of the Wright fields.

#### **De Brook Farm.**

Nestled in between Wellacre and Whitehead Farm it was 65 acres of Worthington Wright acreage in the vicinity of Irlam Road with a very early date of 1680. The farm was demolished in 1968-9. A barn carried a date stone of 1737 and church documents show Warburton family here in 1768 with surveys of 1840-48 showing as Day Brook. A new term for 1871 was brought in by Charles Jones when he retired the farm was called Dee Brook. A later farmer 1879-1904 was John Johnson. Dutton's Pond was a part of this holding and a piece of the land went for the grounds of Wellacre School. Other farmers were 1909 Astley Johnson with his wife, Francis Alice, taking his place in 1919. John Taylor was here for 1928-1943, he passed it over the George Sanders thereafter. In 1952 J. Dutton took the last three-year lease on the farm that was slated for demolition in 1969.



#### **Lea Brook Farm.** Flixton

A farm of no detail only found as being in existence for 1880. Farming there was J. Johnson. There was an association to De Brook enumerators often got names incorrect. The finding of John Johnson as farmer there in 1904 proved this fact as the family were known as being at De Brook.

### Dutton's Pond.

Fishing in Urmston appears to be a difficult task as the amenities are limited. The pond was a part of the De Brook Farm at the end of Ambleside Road (De Brook Court) and has an angling group for membership. The Urmston Angling Association was formed in 1974 once council allowed the leasing of the land in 1972. Work on enlarging the pond was approved by council earlier in 1971. The fish to be found there are predominately Carp and Bream. Improvements to this pond have been carried out by the anglers they include fencing, pathways, and clearing of the pond to ensure a high quality of water. Bird life too is becoming a feature of this delightful Flixton corner. A right of way was passed by council in 1957 allowing access to these lands.



A lake was noted for the 1800's and known as Old Dea covering two acres. As there are no other lakes in the district the calling offers this as being possible for Duttons.

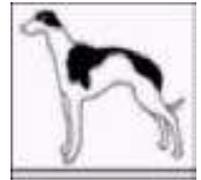
- **Delamere Road.** Flixton (Est.1897)

This no through Road had a dozen houses along its **west** side only one was named at No.37 it was called Orrell Leigh. The **east** side was comprised of 18 unnamed homes. It was here, at the very end, Flixton Council School was built. Private enterprise was working down here in 1951 a car hire firm operated out of number 46. For today there are 40 with 2 un-named as commercial premises. The road is from the French, De la mere, of the waters or sea.



### Flixton Junior School. (County School)

The school is to be found at the end of Delamere Road off Flixton Road. Well known for having air raid shelters under the playing fields. It is found to have originated in 1911 when the Methodist school on Moorside Road closed. It was opened by George. B. Stott with in attendance Squire Samuel Wright and Col. Samuel Stott. The school has a motif built into its structure that of a Greyhound. In Heraldic terms this stands for: *Courage, Vigilance, and Loyalty*. The noted calling in 1928 was that of being an Elementary School, W. N. Warren was headmaster.



### Flixton Manor. 2-8 Delamere Road

This nursing home in Flixton founded in 1985 offers care for the elderly in converted housing.

### Orrell Leigh. Delamere Road

The only house on Delamere west to carry a name in 1901 its address was No. 37 with George Astley at home.

- **Delbooth Avenue.** Davyhulme

This avenue has 28 homes and it relates to 1958 for its age. Thomas Del Booth bequeathed money for the bridge at Barton in 1360 for a naming connection.

- **Dennington Drive.** Davyhulme

100% residential the Drive is from 1930 with its 24 postal addresses. Dennington is an Anglo-Saxon family name.

- **Denstone Road and Avenue.** Davyhulme

Benarth of 1952 at No.2 and Westleigh 1954 are the only named homes tracked for the road. Property count 19 for the avenue and 11 for the road. This road and avenue are called so with Staffordshire origins. The Avenue was changed to **Dovedale** in 1933.

- **Derby Road.** Urmston 1900

Only two homes at this time that of Collinwood and Ravenshore House they both date from c.1889. This grew to be ten by 1905 and 27 in that same year. New homes came on the **North West** side, and on the **South East** three, called Fairfield, Birwyn, and Not Ash. (Net Ash) Derby Cottage was named later as well as Southdene and South Holm. Several of the homes along Derby were built in 1928 by a company called Irlam Woodworking and Building Co. Into 2010 and there were 45 homes of which 15 are flats. The newer buildings are of c.2003.

### Avoca. Derby Road

The builder, Albert Locke was shown as the 1939 homeowner. The house was a later addition to the road but came in as number 1 for postal purposes. Hazelwood Court has taken this the first north corner of Derby out of play.

### Birwyn. 28 Derby Road

Of the three homes on the **north east** side of Derby, Birwyn sat in the middle. These additions to the road were done c.1910 and this house was looked after by Richard Baines.

### Collinwood. 11 Derby Road

This was a **north side** detached home of c.1880 with six bedrooms and three entertaining rooms, bathroom, kitchen, scullery and a wash room. A feature for the house was a fernery. It was Mrs. Mary Collins in residence for 1898, which may or may not be a coincidence in its calling. William Spensley took home for 1928 while it became James Walker into 1939. The building was redeveloped into a three homed complex each named with the center retaining **Collinwood** and either side as **Beech and Manor**.

### Derby Cottage. 33 Derby Road

For an early occupant Charles Davies called it home in 1928. This detached house was for sale in 1949. It had three bedrooms, lounge and conservatory, all the conveniences, and central heating. Included here were a wash house and a cellar. For the outside there was a garage, greenhouse, and a summer house. The cottage retained Charles as the resident recorded into 1940.



**Fairfield.** Derby Road

The **east** side of the road was only developed about 1910 and known are three houses for this side **Birwyn** and **Net Ash** making up the other two. Findlay McCulloch had Fairfield for 1911 with John Augustine Dromgoogle dropping the title for 1919. All these homes on the east side lost their names at this year.

**Net Ash.** Derby Road

The Ash was built c.1910 along with two others on the **east** side of Derby. This was the last of the three tended by Joseph William Steel in this case.

**Ravenshore House.** 31 Derby Road

William Henry Barnes called this his home during 1889 with a possible relative Kenyon Barnes taking it for 1905. It was one of only two houses here on Derby for that time the other was Collinwood. Henry Naylor could be found here for 1939.

**South Holme.** 7 Derby Road

Found as number 7 with, in residence for 1939, John Henry Holbrook. The Holme was addressed as no.3 in earlier times.

- **Derwent Road.** Flixton

Derwent has been around since the early 1900's and comprises of 98 houses. The best-known landmark here is the Greenfield Terrace with the road named as Greenfield until 1933. Derwent is a well-known River. This became the residence of a JP he was Mr. A Peters known for number 85 in 1953.

**Greenfield Terrace.** Derwent Road Woodsend

Greenfield is noted as one of the oldest terraced blocks in this part of Flixton it was so well known there was no need for a road address and Derwent only came later in its life. One document found suggests that the terrace was one of the Stott family creations built for the time when they owned Woodsend as an area. To date the structure, in 1992 the residents held a party to commemorate 100 years of its being.

Facts came forward to show the terrace as a portion associated to the Wellacre Estate which was Stott holdings. There was a major sale of the 23 units in 1905, the year John Stott passed away. The homes were numbered as 1-45 down this no through road.

- **Devon Road.** Flixton

Devon is in the corner of Flixton as it is in the corner of England. Its established date is c.1925. 1941 showed some properties for sale under the heading of Ambleside Estate. Here, today, there are 23 family homes.

**1928 Devon Road** was noted for 20 homes and each one was known by name: Springfield, Ribblevale, Mara Villa, Westdene, Oak Lea, Olfra, June House, Templestowe, Hazeldene, Alphome, Thorn Lea, Keswick, Pendennis, Margeria, Westholme, Ellesmere, Belmont, Hillsborough, Fern Lea, and Coniston.

**Alphome.** Devon Road

At home in the Alph was Douglas Spalton a 1928 local.

**Belmont.** Devon Road

This was home to the Lambert family of 1928 it was registered to Basil by name.

**Coniston.** Devon Road

Not living by the lake but Arthur Barker did stay here for 1928.

**Ellesmere.** Devon Road

The port of call for Ernest Hopkins and during 1928 it was where he lived.

**Fern Lea.** Devon Road

The school master taught himself how to live here in 1928 he was John Frankland.

**Hazeldene.** Devon Road

The popular house name was occupied in 1928 by George Burgess.

**Hillsborough.** Devon Road

The hills provided shelter for 1928 homemaker Edward Humphreys. **Mossgiel** in 1925 was another calling here, the name of Robert Burns Scottish home.

**June House.** Devon Road

Fred German suggests he moved in here for June 1928. Certain, is that it had little to do with his work as a wheelwright.

**Keswick.** Devon Road

Ernest William Hulme for 1928 lived here at that period.

**Maravilla.** Devon Road

As a villa it belonged to Frank Gandy during 1928.

**Margeria.** Devon Road

The civil servant Eric Nicholls was living here for 1928.

**Oak Lea.** Devon Road

A printer called George Holehouse had this for his home as of 1928.

**Olfra.** Devon Road

The salesman for 1928 bought this home for himself he was named Thomas Carr.

**Ribblevale.** Devon Road

The river of Ribble may have prompted this calling in 1928 as Herbert Owen called it his own.

**Springfield.** Devon Road

This became the house of 1928 and Samuel Bell.

**Templestowe.** Devon road

Possibly it was a 1928 temple home belonging to Frank Emmerson in that year.

**Thorn Lea.** Devon Road

Henry Thickett, who was a 1928 printer, made home in this Lea.

**Westdene.** Devon Road

Heading west in 1928 was Mrs. May Whitehead as she called this home.

**Westholme.** Devon Road

This, of the year 1928, was where William Cross held residence.

- **Devonshire Close.** Urmston

Only 8 houses make up the Close off Railway Road.

- **Dorchester Avenue.** Davyhulme

Dorchester has 10 residences down its avenue.

- **Dorclyn Avenue.** Urmston

There are numbered properties of 1-9 and 2-6 along here, naming became official in 1931. The strange origin of the word Dorclyn has not been found.

- **Dovedale Avenue.** Urmston

The homes for the avenue number two, one of which was called Denstone in 1944. Dovedale is off Derby Road.

- **Dover Park.** Davyhulme

After many years of prefabricated wartime homes, this newer estate has 38 modern buildings that date from 1965. An advert of 1959 stated that the homes were "*American Bungalows.*" Once included as Kingsway Park, Dover is now stand alone.

- **Dumplington.**

The district called Dumplington incorporated the Hamlet of Crofts Bank and was a very early township. The major family here was the Holcroft's with history of the 1600's. The John Holcroft Farm of 57 acres was left to his three sons in 1801. The son named Mathew died in 1878 and he was noted as the last Dumplington Yeoman for the family. Even though this land was claimed by the Holcroft's it was in fact rented from Sir Humphrey de Trafford. A transfer of the holding with all the effects took place in 1872 when it went to Adam Stott. Dumplington fell under the scope of Barton upon Irwell in or around 1880. This land was centred on the Dumplington Farm with its cottages, Wilderspool Hall and Farm south of Redclyffe Road, which is now the location, as neighbour, to the Trafford Centre. Interestingly enough the A-Z Road Maps still show Dumplington as existing.

**Dumplington Circle.**

The circle was the only remnant of the family name 'Dumplington' that was still in use. Due to commercialisation this has now been lost and it now carries the name of **Ellesmere**. This was the site of the Dumplington Cottage in 1840. There has been a claim that this was the first circle of its kind in Britain, but this is not a fact.

The original Circle

**Dumplington Hall Estate.**

The actual estate which covered the hall, cottages, and surrounding lands were purchased in 1930 by the Manchester Ship Canal Company.

**Dumplington Hall Farm.**

Little is known about the farm; it dated approximately 1840-1945 and included several cottages. Only George Taylor as farmer has been traced for this address in 1885.



### Dumplington Others.

Other places carrying the Dumplington name were the Lane, Farm, Cottage, and Moss all of which were to be found around the region of the circle. Dumplington Lane was renamed **Redclyffe Road** until 1990 when it became Trafford Boulevard. Dumplington Moss was located approximately at the entry to the circle at Barton Dock Road. The 1871 street census brought forward some hitherto unknown addresses in Dumplington. They were Birch View, Canal Bank, Park View, and Rose Cottage. The Davyhulme Council of 1906 refused the Trafford Park Estate Company permission to run their omnibuses along Dumplington Lane. It was stated, "*It would be too dangerous for this stretch of road.*"



Dumplington Lane

### Adamson Circle. Dumplington

One of the newer additions to Urmstons roadways, it is situated on Trafford Way. The circle is named after Daniel Adamson 1820-1890. He was a driving force behind the Manchester Ship Canal development.

Daniel Adamson the first Chairman



### Ellesmere Circle. Dumplington

Ellesmere is the new calling of **Dumplington Circle** on Barton Dock Road. It was named after the district of Ellesmere and its familiar Port along the Canal. The Barton Dock Road itself was established in 1940 after the dirt road was surfaced by the UUDC.

### Laburnum Villa. Dumplington Lane

Offered as prime real estate in 1885 it said the house had pleasantly sited gardens. It was dated as 1871 and called a cottage in the street directory of that year.

### The Poplars. Dumplington Lane

Indicated as sitting directly behind Redclyffe House in 1888 but without detail.

- **Dunster Drive.** Flixton

The majority of the 85 homes came around 1979. Dunster itself is rated as one of the best-preserved medieval towns in England.

- **Duplications.**

### Flixton.

There are two other Flixton's in the United Kingdom. One is in Northern Yorkshire (Filey), another on the border of Norfolk and Suffolk (Lowestoft) in a district called Wangford, and this is located near Bungay. There is a location in Ballymena Ireland called Flixton Place. A last one, a homestead, can be found in NSW Australia.

### Urmston.

Unlike it stands with versions of Flixton, there are only small locations showing the name of Urmston. One is the Urmston River in Hong Kong then two in the USA, Fort Urmston and Urmston Battery. There are probably more, these are a few examples only.

- **Durham Avenue.** Urmston

Individual homes are numbered as 1-8 up the avenue.

- **Durnford Avenue.** Urmston

34 dwellings for Durnford on the Humphrey side of town. Its beginnings are linked to Yorkshire families.

## E

- **Eas. Urmston** Pre 1840's Ees

As a name the Eas were fields and meadow lands for centuries. The entrance to the Meadows off Queens Road is now called Easbrook. The word incorporates both versions of spelling. The Eas, as a stream, enter the river Mersey at Southgate after meandering its way from the old Hillam Farm area. One theory has it that Eas is a corruption of the French word Eau meaning water. It should be recognised that both Urmston and Flixton had Eas as callings for fields and meadows.

### Eas Bridges.



To date five bridges have been accounted for down on the Meadows. The first was to be found at a portion of the brook, a field or so away from the scout hut. Number two led to the football fields with the third following and sited after Calver House. A wooden structure at the end of Southgate and now leading to the farm there would make up four. The fifth was not over the stream but straddling a culvert also in the area of Willow Farm. Not bridges but 'stiles' could also be found at one



time in relation to this green belt. Two were known and still being used for c.1950 one leading onto the fields behind Calver House, the other from the Flixton Golf Links and onto the Shaw fields.

## Eas Brook.



The Brook is a natural stream running from Hllam Farm area to the Mersey and had it not been for the Urmston Drainage Committee it would have been the stream to convey sewerage out of the district into the Mersey. They fought to save the brook and for a better sewerage system for Urmston. A recent reference to the brook by the Mersey Authority called it a Yazoo. This name originates from the Yazoo River on the lower Mississippi USA. A Yazoo typically works to collect runoff water from the main river and is lower than the levees close by. Many called it the '**Trib**' which was short for Tributary. After major flooding in the 1950s the Mersey and Trib were dredged. The banks were raised in height to no avail as it has since broken ground and flooded again.

**Flixton Eea.** Flixton Ees (Eyes)

This was a tract of land after the Flixton Village and towards Carrington. A large portion was taken up by brickworks later between Eea Lane and the Mersey at Carrington. This land became much sort after by the gentry, as arable farm acreage and competition was fierce to be an owner.

## Eea Lane.

An extension to Carrington Road which led to the Oulton Brow, then via the Lower Eea and the River Irwell at Irlam. The lane now passes as Four Lane Ends and in some cases as Mersey View.

- **Easedale Close.** Flixton

The Close has housing numbered 1-9.

- **East Way.** Davyhulme

There are 22 properties this way with one found named, it was Kingslea 1953.

- **Eastwood Avenue.** Urmston 1911

Close to Westbourne Avenue it only had two residences for this age. Information has it that it was expanded in 1939 by a builder named Toft. All 25 buildings are residential in today's market.

- **Edale Avenue.** Flixton

This avenue has 32 properties. Edale was once a large land holding of the Shawcross family. The name arrives from the Pennines.

- **Eddisbury Avenue.** Davyhulme

Built around 1954, there are 87 houses to the avenue. A Cheshire connotation to the 'bury.

- **Edgeley Road.** Off Church Road

As well as being the entry to Shaw Hey Farm it had two terraced homes either side but on Church Road dated as c.1900. William Edge lived and farmed here, and he gives reason for the calling. Edgeley accounted for two residences of its own these are found to be the farm house of today. They were numbered as 2 and 4. A name of Smith is shown for 1938-39 living at No 2 while William was still in number 4. After purchasing the land in 1922 he sold it back to Samuel Worthington Wright in 1924.

**Shaw Hey Farm.** Edgeley Road

Shown in transactions of 1868 when leased to the Royle family it is often mentioned as Lumbs farm, but the correct title was Shaw Hey off Church Road. The farm originally comprised of 52 acres it is now used by **Beseeka** for kennels they began the business in 1963. One factor always remained for this farm in that it was below the level of the Mersey. Flooding occurred many times and, to add to its past woe, fire nearly destroyed all in 1966. Before being built the farmland there was called The Hey.



- **Easbrook.** Urmston

A newer part of Urmston compared with many places being built in 1983. The homes were estimated to cost in the region of £1M to £1.25M, and are units listed as 1-6 and 8-34 with at No.7 a series of 34 flats. This particular area was once found to be referred to as *The Green* Queens Road.



- **Egerton Avenue.** Urmston 1894



The whole avenue was made up of five units each side none of these were named. The name could have been associated with either Peter Egerton or the Duke of Bridgewater who was Francis Egerton. This became **Sumner Way** acting as a boundary to the precinct. The avenue is now an entry to the new Eden Square and is home to the police station.

- **Ellaston Drive.** Urmston

The drive is home for 7 family abodes. The family name of Ellaston is used for roads and towns all over England.

- **Elm Grove.** Urmston

Houses here 26, were started by a builder named Hosker who purchased land from the Urmston Lodge Estate in 1926

- **Eltham Drive.** Davyhulme

This short drive has 30 houses. Built on lands once occupied by the Croft Hall Farm. A barn was a dividing mark between the Drive and Wycombe Close. For a timeline this was developed in 1958. The London area has an Eltham, as its early calling.

- **Ely Gardens.** Urmston

The properties number 9 here in total. Ely is a city from Cambridgeshire.

- **Entwisle Avenue.** Davyhulme



1930 and this avenue came into being the homes are 35 in all and possibly the name arrives from a connection to the Norreys family relations. This Avenue was developed by John Waite Construction. A house called Carsville was traced for 1943 operating as a business under the name of A. B. McMurry and conducting funeral arrangements.

#### **The Vicarage.** Entwisle Avenue (St. Mary)

Cornered as of 1929 at Vicarage Road, the Right Honourable Rev. Frank Wilkinson Rideal, who was the 1940 Vicar for Davyhulme and Surrogates, placed his faith in this home. A date stone has yet to be interpreted for its lettering. (Combined with Davyhulme Road for detail)



#### **30 Entwisle Avenue.**

This was home to Justice of the Peace Mrs. B. E. Bull in 1953.

- **Esk Close.** Davyhulme

A small Close numbered 1-9. The River Esk appears to be the key with this naming.

- **Estonfield Drive.** Urmston

The 21 houses here are recent additions to Urmston built about 1997. Found is a field name only for the title.

- **Exeter Road.** Davyhulme

The 51 properties along this road came at the time of the Lostock Road expansion of 1933, Albert Locke building the majority.

## F

- **Fairburn Close.** Davyhulme

The properties here are newly built in comparison to the many in this document being established in 2000.

- **Fairholme Avenue.** Urmston

There are 19 fair homes listed for the avenue.

- **Falcon Avenue.** Urmston

Birds of a feather, this avenue has 22 residences.



- **Falmouth Avenue.** Flixton



Falmouth has a beginning of around 1935 it is made up of 20 houses. Falmouth has Cornish derivation.

- **Feeble Lane.** (Feeble Street) Flixton **1898**

The Lane only had two homes on the **east** side. Today it is called **Millford** Avenue. The two occupying residents then were James Edgerley and William Whitehead.



- **Fern Avenue.** Flixton

Once called Beech Avenue, recorded in 1928 as such, it sits off Brook Road. Today it has homes counting to ten in all.

- **Fields, farmers, and land.**

### Bluebell Woods.

Every town has its Bluebell Woods and reference has been found for several around Urmston. One proven area was that of Booth's Hollow which could be found close to the canal at Woodsend. It is backed up by photographic evidence of the Bluebells in full bloom. A cycle ride away from Flixton would find you in a Bluebell Woods at the top of the Mile Road.



### Boanes.

John Hyde of Flixton in 1684 leased land called the Boanes. The Lessee was named Richard Smith but where this land or homestead could be found was unknown until it was confirmed that Boanes was actually a field naming and on the Flixton Eas close to Carrington. When sold again in 1854 it was subject to the allowance of a Mrs. Barlow to remain in the cottage and garden for a life interest. A map for 1842-44 indicated Boanes Lane on the Eas.

### Bottoms.

The field that carried the Footpath of legal dispute in 1824-27, the People of Flixton v Squire Ralph Wright. It was to be acclaimed as a Public Right of Way for all time. (PRW)

### Cattle Arch.

The arch, a small wooden structure, it was by the tunnel that went under the railway off Bottoms path. It allowed cattle to transfer from the fields on the Church Road side to the Flixton House side. Thus, it was also a direct route for access to Flixton Station and the transportation of animals to and from the market. The Wright family had fields either side of the railway line like many who got caught when it was built. The tunnel is filled in now and the wooden arch has been removed.



### Cattle Plague. (Foot and Mouth)

Since this plague was abundant in the years around 1860 a law was passed in the Manchester Courts of the New Bailey in 1866 restricting all sellers of agricultural land. Before sale a clearance certificate had to be issued by a designated veterinary to prevent the spread of this disease. The named Vet for Urmston and District was J. Rogerson of Crofts Bank. The last official outbreak came in 1961.

### Field Naming.



It was a usual practice to name farm fields it would indicate their use, size, or position, about the acreage. Long field, Short field, Canal Bank, and Pasture were well incorporated into many farms. A field name was as important to the farmer as a street address is today. Some are carried into today's world because they are of consequence or relevance with regard to established estates. When found the details of specific fields are entered accordingly and in their own right. Examples are Tree Hay, Far Field, and Meadow, all to be found in Flixton in 1878. Two others date as at 1699 and were called Tralam and Cawdoe.

Since this entry, over **200 names** have been found, too many to include here. Some examples of fields that did influence current buildings or places are Bottom, Moss Field, Shaw Hey, Barn Field, West Gate, South Gate, Abbots, White Lake, Wellacre, and Golden Hill with many more.

### Green Hill. Habitat

This feature of Flixton is an artificial landscape created on fields near the site of the redundant brickworks. Once known as Ash Hill it has been renamed to reflect the regeneration of the area into natural habitat for wild life. The hill is made up from the leftover ash from the Carrington power station and general residue from the brickworks.



The return of wild life in the form of fauna and flora is gaining momentum every month. All of this land now falls under the Mersey Valley Authority. A tree and shrub planting took place in 1997 with a survey regarding butterflies following three years later. The figures showed that there were 21 species of butterfly to be found in this proximity.



### Land, Land Owners and farmers.

The agricultural land in Urmston was shown in 1903 to be light and loamy with a subsoil of clay, the main crops being wheat and oats along with large quantities of garden produce. The average farmer held approximately 30 acres. 1904 records that out of 1,564 acres making up Flixton, 32 of them were water. Another statistic was that the area never rose above sea level higher than 65ft. The principle land owners for the district dated 1800 and 1900 were, Stott, Booth, Walkden, Ridehalgh, Goldsworthy, Faulkner, Coupe, and Worthington-Wright. The Shawcross name can be included as William and James gathered small plots over the years. Competition was fierce to buy land along the Mersey at the Flixton Eas and around Trailham.

Farm land was sold by the acre in general but for building purposes it was by the measured yard. In 1872 you could buy 'per yard' near to the future railway station in Urmston for two pence and a year later it was three pence. From Surveys of 1212 and 1226 it appears that Flixton was held in ownership by two parties. Half belonged to the Crown while the other half to the Barony of Manchester. The Crown lands were gradually sold as estates where the Barony handed out portions to Yeomen soldiers in lieu of monetary payment. Eventually, all fell to hereditary descendants, churches, or private sale.

Naming farmers for this area would be a daunting task. The Stotts operated many farm complexes as did, Shawcross, Faulkner, Massey, Fogg, and Royle. Some more recent names would be Booth, Peat, Woods, Potts, Massey, Close, and Lumb, just to mention a few. It is actually believed that there were at least **80 farms** in the local area existing at one time or another. Sixty-five or more are named and confirmed in this A-Z however problems do arise due to farms taking the holders name as against the real name.

**As market gardening** appeared to be the main source of most it is difficult to draw a line between an actual farm and a small garden application. Another factor was that several farms were often run by the same farmer it was common. Coupled to this family became involved, a Booth member for example, would not be the same Booth at another location but a brother or son.

#### Land fill sites.



Two large areas of Urmston were utilized as dumping grounds, mainly for cinders, those of **Kingsway and Broadway**. Both have seen restricted development other than being used as green space. Due to subsidence and a culvert that runs through both it is likely that this will remain so. Kingsway Park residents were trying to revitalize their end by tree planting and some cultivation towards an emerging recreational use, but this is falling by the wayside. A third fill was to be found at the end of Meadow Road, **Cob Kiln** as it as once known, this has since ended and turned into useful land.

There has been a finding for the local cartage company involved in this movement of ash and rubble from power stations they were called Sanders Transport who operated from premises on Barton Road. At the onset the trucks or carts were wooden based, regularly catching fire from the hot ash collected.

#### Potato Crop.

The valley between the Irwell and the Mersey was adversely affected by a disease to its potato crop for 1846. It was regarded as being so bad a declaration stated that any future crops raised doubt as to it being prudent or even possible to cultivate potatoes in the neighbourhood again for many years. The cause of this blight was never confirmed, and it spread over to Carrington going further afield. No potatoes are grown commercially around the area to this day. For all the pesticides, organic growth, and modern technology, potato blight still affects the agricultural society of modern times.



#### Shawcross.

The family were land owners of note, mostly in the Shaw Town and Church Road area with the lands of Lime Tree Farm on Stretford Road thrown in too. Documents show much in the way of land transactions from 1790 right through until the 1960's. Chassen Road lots appear to be their main holding but there were many other places in the vicinity. Both Edale and Sunningdale housing groups were built on their lands. As owners of the Shaw Tithe Barn at one time, along with its surrounding lands, they controlled many small leased homes and shops. A recorded date of 1575 is shown for a John Shawcross being born in Shawtown.

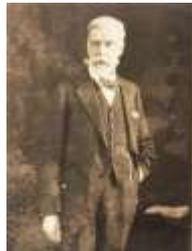
#### Warcock Hill.

Recently found to be a plot of land or field name which was located near the end of Moss Lane. A land map of 1782 depicts this as the singularly named field on the whole of Dimplington Moss for that year. There are many places called this to commemorate the 1642 Civil War Battle of Warcock Hill.

#### Worthington Wright Estate.

In 1935 the UUDC issued details of the lands acquired during the purchase of the Flixton House Estate. It was declared that there were 218 acres for future development of amenities. As many as ten farms were incorporated throughout these lands.

#### Squires Wright.



Ralph

The Wright family as farmers became evident in 1631 when Richard Wright bought his first three acres of land. In 1821 the Squires that followed had bought up many acres of land at auction including Bottoms, Church field and the Hey. Justice was served 1826 when Squire Ralph Wright tried to prevent access to public paths in the area, he lost the case, and Bottoms Path came to be. The family built and occupied Flixton House where they farmed, or leased out, all the lands surrounding it until 1934. Samuel Worthington Wright was the last Squire he died in 1934. The Wright family mausoleum became a very conspicuous object in the St. Michael's church yard. Her Majesty the Queen granted the Wright name heraldic recognition in 1847 allowing the display of Arms.



Sam

- **Filey Avenue.** Davyhulme

There are 14 abodes along the avenue. The Yorkshire town of Filey dates to the Viking era.

- **Fingall Road.** Longfield Road

Eight houses on the north side enclosed this no thoroughfare around 1907. As at 1928 the count of 8 had increased to 16 with it still showing that number today. Out of the 16, each is named with the exception of one and that was No.16. Fingall is a Scottish word meaning 'fair haired stranger'. Fingall grew and now it has access into Spennithorne Road and the renamed Stamford. **2011** and the story came out regarding No.16, its name was removed at the time of WWI due to its unfortunate connection of calling to Germany. It was called Heidelberg.

**Fingall 1909:** No.2 Walter Hargreaves. No.4 William Heywood. No.6 Hargreaves Tonge. No.8 Andrew Spittall. No.10 Joseph Hatton. No.12 Walter Hunter. No.14 Dudley Strover. No.16 Harold Anderson.

**1911:** Little changed, William Hanley replaced Dudley Strover in No. 14 Edward Thompson took No. 16

**1928** has the fifteen names as mentioned Wilmerdene, Stanromber, Snaefell, Ballure, Argyle Villa, Broom Cottage, Brentwood, Kynton, Fremington, Rose Mount, Mebden, Carmelite, Vesteras, Trentham, and Clovelly.

### Fingall. North Side.

#### Wilmerdene. 2 Fingall Road

This home on the righthand side of the road was where John Chapman turned up to live in 1928. The first semi of three to the north with **Stanromber**.



#### Stanromber. 4 Fingall Road

Second on the north side for 1928 Herbert Wilson stayed here coupled to **Wilmerdene**.



#### Snaefell. 6 Fingall Road

Hargraves Tonge climbed the mountain to find home here in 1928 from being there since day one. It was north with **Ballure** for company.

#### Ballure. 8 Fingall Road

This was the 1928 house of Latimer, George to be precise. It was numbered with **Snaefell** for a mate.

#### Argyle Villa. 10 Fingall Road



Mrs. Emily Burgess could have knitted socks here in 1928 as she was sitting in this detached. A later finding had this renamed as **Quinta**. Argyle is a diamond checked pattern derived from a Scottish Tartan.

#### Broom Cottage. 12 Fingall Road

Sweeping clean Joseph Hatton called this his 1928 home, alone as a detached house. Joseph was a starter for this home being there since 1907.



#### Brentwood. 14 Fingall Road

The last semidetached and where Alfred Stockdale lived, the house was combined with **Heidelberg** for 1928.

#### Heidelberg. 16 Fingall Road



All the homes along this 1900 road carried names; this one was erased from memory pre the First World War due to the distinct connection to Germany.

The original photo is dated 1907 at a time when it did not matter. The house alongside was **Brentwood** and Tom Partington was 1928 resident.



### Fingall. South Side



#### Kynton. 1 Fingall Road

This Southside house began a row of 8 along the road in 1928. In residence was Clifford Ryder for that year. The associate being **Fremington**.

#### Fremington. 3 Fingall Road

The first semi for Fingall it was where 1928 resident Mrs. Bland became homemaker. He was joined with **Kynton**.

#### Rosemount. 5 Fingall Road

The home of Edwin Lester for the age of 1928 the house was connected to **Mebden** as a semidetached.

#### Mebden. 7 Fingall Road

As number 7 on Fingall the home shows as being where you could find Leslie Taylor in 1928. **Rosemount** went with this semi.





**Carmelite.** 9 Fingall Road

No.9 was the number for this home in 1928 it belonged to Henry Cowley for the year. No.11, its adjoining home, was **Vesteras**. Carmelites are a religious order connected to Mount Carmel.

**Vesteras.** 11 Fingall Road

The home was near to the last down Fingall as Gordon Cluley called it his 1928 home with **Carmelite** as his neighbouring semi.

**Trentham.** 13 Fingall Road

As number 13, unlucky for some, this didn't matter to 1928 resident James Heaford. **Clovelly** next door felt lucky to be with it. James was a Justice of the Peace and for 1958 still living there.

**Clovelly.** 15 Fingall Road.

The last semidetached of Fingall, it was 1928 when it showed Arthur Thomas Pilkington as owner.

**Trentham** made the pair.



- **Firwood Avenue.** Urmston 1900



**West** of the Avenue were numbered 1-59 and the **east** 2-58 none bore names. For a date the first homes here came around 1894. The Avenue increased its house numbers 1-85 and 2-86 by 1911. A block numbered 74-86 described the interiors; they each had three rooms down, three bedrooms with bathroom and outside wash house. As an avenue it is split into two, one portion follows on after an allotment intersecting Bradfield Road. The total for present times is 139 with the majority arriving about 1935-37. Information is now showing a couple of houses were utilised as shops and this is being followed for more detail.

- **Fishermore Road.** Flixton

The building boom of 1935 gave the basis of the 23 houses on this road.

- **Finance. Banking and Building Societies**

**ATM Banking.**

Although introduced back in 1967 an Urmston location only became famous in 2003. A faulty machine dispensed extra cash with each withdrawal and in a 12-hour period £65,000 was paid out before the mistake was found. This kind of dispensing mishap occurred more than once in Trafford. In 2008 and again in 2009 money was mistakenly given away.



**Banks.**

Banking in the district reflects upon two certain roads, Crofts Bank and Flixton. The first names on the scene were the Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank with William Deacons. Both occupied buildings in Urmston and Flixton for 1890-1900. Over time amalgamations, take over's and the like, brought new names the odd ones being building societies. The Halifax renowned for its position in the field is recognised as a bank today. Some went through many changes, the Lancashire and Yorkshire joined with Martins in 1928 only to finish up as Barclays in 1969.



Martins **Urmston** 1969



Martins **Flixton** 1968

The other main financial house of Williams Deacon is now home to the Bank of Scotland. Among other names, Lloyds, Abbey, Britannia, and Nat West, all tend to the needs of the public and business currently.



Barclay 1968

One older building became vacant it was once a Midland Bank on the 'high street' of Station Road. Coupled to the Liberal Club or Gladstone Building in truth, its date of origin is not known but shown in pictures of 1903. The building has been transformed especially to the upper most floors and a pairing of shop fronts. Today it is for general commercial use and is occupied. (Detailed under its own heading on Station Road)



Midland Station Road

The Westminster Bank opened its doors in 1836 eventually merging with the National Provincial Bank (Est.1830) in 1968. This formed the Nat West Bank group until The Royal Bank of Scotland purchased Nat West in 2000. Then became regarded as 85% publicly owned. Under its various guises the Royal celebrated 100 years of local service as of 1891 to 1991. The Royal Bank closed its Urmston branch in 2018.



Nat West Davyhulme

Changes up to 2019 in Urmston include the closure of the Royal Bank of Scotland, Barclay's, and Halifax.

### Halifax Building Society.

Dated as of 1875 the Halifax suggests it was first for the district. This was closely followed by the Urmston and Flixton District Permanent in December 1875. The Perm was offering 5% interest per annum on any £50 loan deposit. Along these lines there came another called the Victoria Permanent Benefit Building Society for 1896. A trend now is for building societies to change status into full-service banking institutions. Notice of closure came in 2019 for its Urmston branch.



### Morrison. David & Son 78 Gloucester Road

This company advertised that had been established for over 85 years. Certain is that the Halifax Building Society complies with that making Morrison's claim reasonable. How many years spent in Urmston has not been confirmed only a date of 1954, making 1879 for its opening, has been traced.

### Penny Savings Bank. Attached to the Drill Hall Flixton Road



The Penny Bank, on Flixton Road, had Squire Samuel Worthington Wright for its secretary. Established to encourage saving among the younger generation. The Squire often visited schools to open accounts or to collect money. This form of saving was also introduced for the poor people who could not afford to open bank accounts in the normal way in 1882. The books show that 67,000 transactions took place up to 1898. Few know what happened to this money.



Up until the Second World War the average person would not have any general banking account as it is today. A Post Office savings account could be construed as being the way to go as far as money handling was concerned. Postal or Money Orders acted as cheques but for the most part everyone dealt in cash. There were occasions where postage stamps could be used to pay for some items.

- **Flixton.**

Disputed name origins but thought to be dating back to the Viking era and a name of Flikkie or Flick in 1177. It is a possibility that it was known as the land owned by Flick added to Tun or Ton in olde English. Another alternate is Fleece Town but as sheep were not well known in the vicinity, it is almost certain that its origins are from a corruption of early tongue. For an early spelling it was known as Flyxton in 1610. Population in 1891 was 2,786 and the acreage was 1,564 remembering it incorporated Urmston back then. The Lord of the Manor in 1890 was Arthur William Whitnall. A report of 1911 compiled to survey Flixton's history found that the names of David de Hulton and the Radcliffe family of Fordsall where the most prominent holders of the land.

A report of 1893 stated Flixton took pride in having no lighting only the time-honoured lanterns were in use. It took until 1901 for this to change as in May, 102 streetlamps went on order.

### Flixton Parish.

An extract from documents of the time 1650, state that Flixton Parish from its position has had a quiet and uneventful history. It lies out of touch with the old main roads from Manchester to Warrington and to Chester. Only one of its local gentry has taken any prominent part in the movements of the day, namely Peter Egerton of Shaw, an active partisan of the parliament during the civil war. The Parish had an office on Ambleside Road in 1928 James Henshall was noted as the Clerk.

### Flixton Township.

The township was described in **1890** as being, 2 ¼ miles from east to west, with an average breadth of nearly 1 ½ miles. The principle road is that from Irlam and from that road another runs southward to the church. The road continues alongside the Mersey to a bridge over the river at Carrington. From the church a second road runs east to join the former one at Urmston.

### Pre-1800 Flixton.

During the trial involving The Wright Estate and the public of Flixton witnesses offered statements declaring how long they had been living in Flixton. The time was **30 years**, some more but in general this was the average. The trial was dated 1827 and all the landmark farms included in the discussion were known to the witnesses. This gives rise to dates of many being around c.1795. They included Millatt's Barn; Shaw House, and Shawcross Farm, origin dates for these places have never been traced with any accuracy.

One field among these paths and farms is mentioned, called Woe Field. This field has been placed as the ground once occupied by the Golf Club House off Penny Bridge Lane where the Bottoms Path has an entry. Flixton children found to be born in 1740 documentation take the established homesteads even further back. Lark Rise in the Village dates as 1672 and the old Woods Cottage on Moorside Road had a date over the door of **1666**.

### Flixton Band.



Founded in 1877 the band was on duty for the opening of the Manchester Ship Canal in 1894. They stopped playing for a while during the depression 1933. It re-formed in 1967 and in 1998 they received a Lottery Grant to purchase new instruments and equipment. The next step came in 2001 as they took a room in the old Brook Road Library for home with the help of the Trafford Council.

This arrangement reached a conclusion in 2013 forcing them to practice elsewhere. They were last known to be in the Coach House at Flixton House. Winners of many prizes the band has been a credit to the district and will continue to do so.



The band performing for the Cottage Hospital Gala.

- **Flixton Road. (Cockedge Lane)**

Perhaps one of the longest roads in Urmston it starts at Carrington Road and transverses through to Crofts Bank and Station Roads. Some modern maps show it to include the Mile Road. Its details are 432 properties of which 71% are residential and include 75 flats. Dates for this road range from 1885 to 1995 which include places like the Alker Hall, Abbotsfield, schools, and cottages. The Urmston Station is known here even though its entry was from Station Road as well.



**1880.** Many houses were still being built at this time Oban Villa (Urban Villa) was established but the gap to Moorside Terrace was either unoccupied or under construction. A Rose Street is shown leading up to Newton Street this was the origin of Roseneath as it is today. For a confirmed date of 1887 a home called Fern Lea was to be found along the road housing the Hully family, it had disappeared by 1900. As the picture shows there were no buildings of any kind to the **south** only Moss Farm and its lands.

- **Flixton Road. Urmston 1900 South**

The Railway Station was listed as being here with Moss Farm who was the neighbour to The Hollies. Four small units, The Woodlands, The Cedars, The Beeches, and The Ferns arrive at a series of homes before Longfield Road. Seven out of these were named, Fairburn Villa, Dee Mount, Sandy Croft, Brier Field, Brantwood, and Moss Field. Across at Longfield Rd are the Longfield Cottages, Pear Tree Cottage, Holly Bank, Holly Mount, and Rose Villas which end the **south** side of the road.

Over the next few years and into **1911** a few of the newer names came into being after Longfield. Next to Sandy was Bromleigh with Maple House and Brierfield. Thornfield came next and was the last new naming before Brantwood. Across Spennithorn Road, Sunnyhurst and Dingledene were named before the known Holly Bank. Lastly, Rose Villa became Holly Villa.

The **1930s** brought the "New" garage along the road, Tumbelty & Davies suggested they could supply and service any make of car. Molineux and West as a garage came next c.1940-1970 with carpet sales in house for the time being.

- **Flixton Road. Urmston 1900 North**

On the **north** side, 2-12 were shops, known to be established for the 1880's, up to Winifred Road and three more to Urban Villas with Alton Villas, then at Lily Street, Moorside Terrace. Roseneath Road claims home to the R C Mission. Oakside fills the gap to Wycliffe Road and the Congregational Church. Newton Villas with Lynedoch Mount fit with Sunny Side at Newton Road then Sweet Green and Rose Cottage are last at the Flixton boundary of Princess Road.



The store at numbers 14-20 was well established as the Co-op by **1911** followed by many shops right through to No.110 which had become a doctor's office called Belmont. One other cottage was shown at this time, that of Ivy Cottage at Princess Road.

- **Flixton Road. Flixton 1900 South**

The postal boundary between Flixton and Urmston starts at Lime Avenue with Lymehurst. Davyhulme View is next and at this time it reaches to Chassen Road and Abbotsford. There were two shops and one home at the Lime end. The grouping of the Drill Hall, Squire Wrights Penny Bank, the Flixton & Davyhulme Conservative Club, and the Flixton Baths come next. With a slight deviation of the main road we have Acregate and Thorn Farms. Further down the road are Junction Cottage, Park House, and Flixton House. The old Tithe Barn was already converted into shops now. Along with its coal yards the Flixton Station is before Hawthorne View at the Grove where crossing over we add Stocks Terrace to end Flixton Road. The original Sandown Cottages are shown in **1911** next to the wine retailer. (Bird in Hand later) In addition were the Brook Side Cottages which sat close to Alice Ann Terrace.

- **Flixton Road. Flixton 1900 North**



After crossing from Urmston into Flixton the first address is Flixton Cottage. From here there is nothing until the small farm of The Willows. The Mill housing of Stotts called Moss Field reaches all the way to Brook Road where Alice Ann Terrace went to Alderley Road. Only two houses are found from here and past Delamere to Whitelake Avenue. Whitelake House and the Smithy corner Irlam Road.

On to Pears Fold and a Timber Yard which ends here with Rose Cottage. Apsley Terrace comprised of six living spaces with Woodbine at Western Road and Reade House. Four shops in a row take it to the bridge and Stocks View is the last residential abode.

At Brook Road and just before Alice Ann Terrace two homes are in existence as of **1911**, Thorne Leigh and Lynden. The Institute had been built at Delamere Road and although it was on Irlam Road the Holly House was shown as Flixton Road. The Timber Yard is named by its owner as Hulmes, and the Liberal Club had opened prior to Apsley Terrace. A home named Appledore is shown to exist on the road in 1948 and it is from an unknown address.

- **Flixton Road shops by number. 1898-1928**

### North side from Crofts Bank Road

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 2 North

Although **Burgons** Shop was located as the first building on Flixton Road it was addressed as Crofts Bank allowing Clifton and Kersley the **Coal Merchant** to take number 2 in 1898. They remained in this tiny shop until a **Tobacconist** called William Restall, once on Crofts Bank Road, moved in. Noted there in 1928 and through to 1940.



Addressed as **4a** in 1938 Joseph Barber took the shop for hairdressing. Next door to the hairdresser, Colebourn Maison followed suit and operated as a hairdresser too and is shown as **6a** in 1938. Both businesses were located in fact before the number of 4 down this road.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 4 North

William Taylor **Provisions** operated here for 1898. Moving from Crofts Bank Road in 1919 Robert Blomley introduced his **Butcher** shop with it still showing for 1927. A **bakery** came next with 1938 Price Bros. Ltd. opening.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 6 North

1898 brothers, Bradley, ran a **Drapery** business until 1903 when Mary Jane Burgess brought her ideas for **Home Furnishing**. The Mayo Brothers continued with this for 1909 to 1911 when Cash & Co went for **Boot and Shoe** distribution. By the time 1928 arrived Miss Beatrice Hebb was selling **Baby Linen**.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 8 North

The well-known Photographer and **Stationer** James Wride moved in for 1898. At this time, he offered the option of a News Agency as well staying the distance to 1928 and on.

**Numbers 6-8.** This pair combined as one for late 1930 period as Boots Chemist filled the premises.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 10 North

Cycling was well in vogue for 1898 so William Taylor exploited this by opening a **Bicycle Dealership** with repairs. 1903 showed Arthur Lawrence deciding **Tobacco** was a better deal. Mrs Emma Lawrence took name for 1909 and showed ten years later as still there. Eventually the address for 1928 had become Taylor and Co which included No.12 making a much larger store selling **Grocery**.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 12 North

Jane Hopwood ventured into **Glass & China** for 1898 followed by Miss Beatrice Hebb in 1903, this before transferring to No. 6 later with her **Baby Linen** and ladies' undergarments. As mentioned under No. 10 this shop was to be include with Taylors **Grocery** c.1928 and through into 1940.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 14-20 North

A major player in the commercial district of Urmston arrived here for 1901 a triple front shopping experience to be known for years to come, the Eccles and District Co-operative Society under the banner of the Winifred Road Branch. A **Grocer, Draper, Butcher**, and including a library, brought Urmston into modern times. The store gave the appearance of expanding with its numbering for 1938 as 14-24. Only a shopping precinct of the 1960's brought it down.

#### Winifred Road.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 22 North

Across Winifred Road the numbering continued, if slightly awry, documents show 1903 as the next shop inline back as No 18 with Bradbury Brothers into general **Drapery**. 1909 corrected this informing the address as No.22 but without further record.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 24 North

The **Cycle** business of William Taylor turned up at this shop for 1903 making it a fact he had moved from number 10 and his beginnings. At this time William was also a local Gunsmith. It is not clear, but W. Taylor & Co became a 1919 **Grocer** here, the same Taylor who was at Numbers 10-12 by 1928.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 26 North

Edward Fielding came into play as of 1903 he specialised in **Fruit** until David Lindsey altered course for **Tobacco** around 1919.

After the confusion, of the Co-op taking the first shops after Winifred Road, the numbering returned at number 28.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 28 North

A **Furnisher** called White worked this shop in 1901 he had disappeared by 1919. Only in 1928 does a change turn up with Seymour Mead Co. having a **Grocery** branch here. A change again for 1938 with R. R. Minton & Co. Paint manufacture and supply operating from here. They included a date of establishment of 1930 in their title.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 30 North

Mary Restall was baking for her **Confectionery** shop in 1909 the cook off continued to 1928 under the hands of Mary Stevenson. Long's followed with the trade during 1938-39 with Albert Booth as the confectioner.

#### Flixton Road. Shop No. 32 North

1909 Baker, Albert Shaw, carried the shop into 1928 terming his efforts as a **Confectioner**. He was baking way into 1940.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 34 North

**Milliners** for 1909 Misses Tyson and Eckersall were taking their shop forward until the name of Hugh Cook became known for 1928 retailing as an **Outfitter**. His shop included number 36 for this year. Timpson shoes arrived and dated as 1938, officially called William Timpson Limited.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 36 North

**Fancy Dealing** was the occupation of Jane Moore in 1909 and in 1919 it was Alice Webb's turn as an **Outfitter** until the amalgamation of the shop into Cooks c.1928. Webb was still around for 1939 with Hugh Cook.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 38 North

The large leap in numbering at this time with George Wills and his **Confectioners** found here in 1898. A possible answer would be the conversion of homes into shops beginning and new building taking place between Winfred and Grosvenor Roads. (Lily Street) George finished up located as number 42 by 1909. A 1939 Chemist showed up his name was Frank Stuart as next in line, he was dispensing into mid-1950. J. H. Sherwood was also a pharmacist at this number.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 40 North

William Ruscoe carried on the business of a **Draper** here in 1898. The next information here was for 1909 Frederick Marsden held an **Iron Mongers** for this time. Thereafter it fell to Mrs Alice Marsden to look after the place 1928 and through 1935. It was the turn of James B. Marsden thereafter into 1940.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 42 North

The reference offered under shop No.38 tells of the change in numbering where here is now recorded George Wills and his **Confectionery** shop in 1909. This suggests that they are one and the same shop renumbered. Confirmed for 1939 with George still there in his bakery.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 44 North

1909 Stephens and Briggs were **Drapers** but for 1911 the owner was John Furness. A different tack as 1919 owner Herbert Andrew went into **Stationery**, Mrs Amy Andrew running the shop in 1928 to 1940.

**The Villas of Oban, and Alton, changed much at this point of Flixton Road as they were progressively altered into shops. 1909-1911 Winifred to Grosvenor numbers became 22-60.**

**Flixton Road.** 46-48 Oban Villas North

Directories show the Villas as homes for 1879 with a first real indication of an alteration coming in 1911. At this time 46 became a furnisher under John Furness and 48 William Davies had a **Green Grocery**. For 1919 John had gone and Thomas Kemp tried his hand at **Grocery**. By 1928 the Grocer was Walter Robinson and Mr Davies were still offering Greens. They continued into 1940.

**Flixton Road.** 50-52 Alton Villas North

As it was with Oban Villas the house gave way around 1911 for shopping space. Miss Jennie McCray became a **Ladies Outfitter** and her neighbour Miss Elizabeth Warburton a **Dress Maker**. A reversion to residential for number 50 in 1919 as Jennie continued to Outfit. 1928 had now a Miss Jane Redmond in place of Jennie and the British & Argentine Meat Co had No 52. For all their fancy title they were a **Butchery** Chain of stores. 1939 had Jane fitting out ladies as before but Edward Finnerty now ran as a **Fishmonger** from No. 52.

**More shops were added for the next period of 1938 to 1940.**

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 54 North

Ernest Staley was doing Boot Repairs as of 1938 here.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 56 and 56a North

Harry Tonge repairing boots alongside the same business as his neighbour for 1938 he could be found in the 56a part of this shop. In the other was Mrs. Rebecca Stone offering Outfitting.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 58 North

Frances Patchett, Milliner was the 1938 shop here with Frances Broadbent as proprietress and known through to 1945.

**Grosvenor to Roseneath followed here as Moorside Terrace went commercial c. 1935. Scant details of the shops beginning designations are available at this time.**

**Flixton Road.** Shop No.60 North

Decorative Materials Supply Co. became the first found for here as of 1938. The fancy title only meant **wallpaper** was for sale.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 62 North

Silcock and Son, 1938 **Fruiters** of renown who went to Crofts Bank Road later in time.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 64-66 North

Campbell Teale brought **Drapery** to this section of the road in 1938.

**Flixton Road.** Shop No. 68 North

A house furnisher called Harry Partington held this 1938-39 shop.

**Flixton Road. Shop No. 70 North**

A 1939 Grocer worked from here he was Joseph Turnstall. For 1953 this was a shoe shop under the name of Pickering.

**Flixton Road. Moorside Terrace North 1898**

This originally was the only shop to be found at this location No. 76 as a **Grocer** in 1898 Mrs Mary Amery could be traced for the period. This was the last and only shop to be in place at the corner of Roseneath Road. George Fairbairn carried it forth in 1909 and Henry Ball in 1919. Enough of the grocery, Henry applied for a licence c.1928 and opened the shop **Retailing Beer**.

**To Roseneath Road****Flixton Road. Roseneath to Wycliffe Roads. North side**

A mixture of homes and commerce took precedence here around 1940.

No.80. Gilbert Gager was a tailor, but it is not clear if he had a shop.

No 82-86. Private dwellings. (1907 J. Riley taught music here)

No 88. Mrs Margaret Thomas sold wool as a merchant.

No.92. Sydney Goodwin had Leather goods for distribution.

No.94. Arthurs Fruiterers followed with no other detail other than he had a second shop at 71 Stretford Road.

No.96. E. J. McGrath the cycle distributor who moved to Station Road.

**Newton to Glenhaven Road.**

The small block established here included Edmond McGrath as a grocer, Jack Bamford selling bicycles, and Nicholson who had a lady outfitting shop. Across Glenhaven there were two shops, a butcher named as Wade Wood and a grocer called Mrs. Elizabeth Louisa Bailey. When completed there were three shops each side of Glenhaven built by Ken Moffatt in 1935.

A row of shops had now been built in or around 1936-38 between **Mayfair Avenue and Princess Road**.



Mrs. Mary Green, Grocery  
Hugh Evans, Pastry (There into 1955)  
Mrs. Nora Blake, Gents hairdresser  
Reuben Sandler, Chemist  
Mrs Caroline Butterfield, Greengrocer (Est.1927)  
Clifford Cooper, Butcher  
Wilfred Toft, Confectioner  
Robert Broadbent, Grocer  
Harry Prince, Tobacconist

**Princess to Victoria Road** also carried shops. The present shows they no longer exist, but they were:

Gee's Greengrocery, Miladys Hairdressing, Peters Ladies outfitting, and Flixton Road Wine Store. Hereafter the next shops to be found were included with Mossfield Terrace. No.124 in 1953 was noted for a shop called the Fashion Salon. For this same time H. L. Burges took the Princess Road corner as a grocery.

**Flixton Road South conversions of homes to shops.**

Up until about 1930 the buildings **south** on Flixton Road were residential, time was to change that as the homes were converted into shops. Only some of these were named and without reference it was a calculation as to which they were. The survey map available for 1928 shows them to be found between Roseneath and Wycliffe Road on the **south** side, it accounts for **six** where only five were known as named. Later detail added another name.



The closest shown to Faburn Villa is where this exercise begins and progresses **towards** Urmston Station: **"The Ferns"** This is the only one mentioning a shop for the time of 1928 and it was a **Grocer and Butcher**. It carried the name of **Fern Lea** in 1898.

**"The Firs" in 1898****"The Beeches"****"The Cedars"****"The Woodlands"****"The Hollies"**

These named homes are identified to show they did exist as residential and were the basis of general shopping today along this portion of Flixton Road. In addition, the examples of **Oban, Alton Villas, and Moorside Terrace** across the road on the **north** side followed suit. For the south side of Flixton Road the only shops existing hereafter were at Davyhulme View. Once the shops began to appear down Flixton Road the south side grew as well. From almost prefabs to homes being rebuilt "anything goes" could have been the saying of the late 1930's. The architecture is so varied it went from art deco to 'ye olde' houses and on into the new.

The very first shop for Flixton Road on the **south** side belonged to **Thomas Dunn** a boot and shoemaker. **First shop by location No. 3** (The station addressed as No.1) **and first by year 1898**. Thomas sold out to Henry Goodwin who was in the same business. By 1918 he had added a second shop No.5 as a confectionary outlet. In the world of 2014, it would have sat opposite the entry into Eden Square at the position of the clock.

Goodwin to the left



#### **Flixton Road. South 1938-39**

The Railway Station begins with Isaac Bosley as Station Master.

- Number 1. Goodwin Ltd. Mending shoes.
- 3. Greenhalgh Ltd. Cleaners.
- 9-11. Joseph Crook & Sons. Clothiers.
- 13. Arnold Maison. Ladies hairdresser.
- 15. Seymour Mead Co. Ltd. Butcher.
- 17. Seymour Mead Co. Ltd. Grocer.
- 19-21. Stretford & District Gas Board showrooms.

**Coronation Building.** A calling traced only from the 1938-39 directories. The Coronation of King George VI would account for this in 1936. As this is shown directly after the Gas Showroom it is easy to place. Three places here separated:

- 1. John Crocket Ltd. Dyers
- 2. Watson's. Optician.
- 3. Henry Horner. Tobacco. (Including photography by 1944)



The shops continued with

- Number 27. Ernest Horrocks. Dairy.
- 29-41. Tumbelty & Davies Ltd. Motor Engineers. (Garage)
- 43. Wilkes Radio. Wireless Distributors.
- 45. Robert Allen. Plumber.
- 47. F. A. Gent & Co. Paint manufacture.
- 49. Household Stores. Hardware. (W. L. Cornish & sons 1950)
- 51. Bramall. Hairdresser. Miss May Bramall.
- 53. Bramall. Ladies Outfitting. Miss. Betty Bramall.
- 55. Sydney Young. Fried Fish.
- 57-61. Vacant. (Awaiting the Electric Showrooms to be built c.1939)

63-81. Varied occupations were entered in directories, but it is not known at this time if they were as shops or homes. There are shops to be found today however, this was a time of conversion and casts doubt for entries that do not carry confirmation, they have been omitted. One name has been found that of Thomas R. Kemp a butcher at 67 from 1908 to 1917 and at 89 a Real Estate office for Edward Vickers was shown for 1949.

#### **Abbotsfield. Flixton Road**



Built by James Stott in 1889 as a personal residence, it was utilised as a hospital during the Second World War and now houses the present day Flixton Conservative Club. The structure is made from semi-glazed brick and is two stories in height. A bowling green is included in this complex which has been altered with additions at the rear. Prior to the club taking these premises it was subject to a proposal from the Communist Party of developing the house into accommodation for six families. A date stone confirming the date and ownership for the original home is mounted on this building. This James Stott 1852-1934 was a descendant of the first James 1829-1858. In an unrelated event John A. Stott passed away here in 1919.

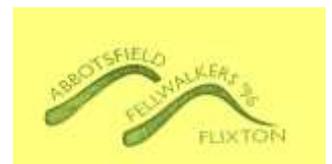
#### **Abbotsfield Civilian Hospital.**

The conversion began in 1939 as the Lancashire County Council made preparation to fill the void left by Park Hospital becoming a military hospital. This lasted until 1946 when it was to be returned to the rightful owners, the Conservative Club. The Conservative Club installed a commemorative plaque on a wall of the building in 1995. This to recognise the work of the dedicated hospital staff that worked there during WW2.



#### **Abbotsfield Walkers. (Abbotsfield)**

The Fell Walkers were formed in 1996 as a walking group based at the Flixton Conservative Club. There is another walking society called Moorside, but their detail is unknown. Both were associated with the Peak and Northern Footpath Society, they are believed to have amalgamated into a Trafford group.



#### **Flixton Conservative Club. (Abbotsfield)**



The Flixton and Urmston & District Conservatives were first to be found in the terrace of Mossfield at No. 262-282 this was in 1878. Taking up residence later alongside the Cotton Mill and Baths on Flixton Road as of 1883. The first Chairman was Adam Stott with the President Robert Norreys. They were to move over and take occupation at Abbotsfield just as war broke out. This was delayed as the temporary hospital there took precedence and they only moved in 1946. Now known as Flixton Conservatives, Urmston has its own branch in Eden Square.

### Urmston Chess Club. (Abbotsfield)

Check this board game out at their home of the Flixton Conservative Club as they have been around for many years. The club has won the prestigious Stockport League Wahl Tuch Trophy several times 1970-71 2001-02 and 2012-13. Earlier in 1954 the club won the Hartley Trophy in the Manchester and District Association League. The club standard is high, but beginners are always welcome.

Wahl Tuch Trophy



### Albemarle House. 350 Flixton Road

This is the current name given to the house built in 1908 with a beginning as the **Flixton Institute**. For many years it was home to the **Flixton Youth Club** before being commandeered for renovation and other use. In 2010 it was for Education purposes. The change of name from the Flixton Institute came about following the publication of the Albemarle report, published in 1960, chaired by Lady Albemarle. The report was concerning the future of the Youth Service, its expansion and professionalism in its place within the education system. It brought forward the ideas of properly trained professional leaders working with young people. With the introduction of a fulltime youth leader employed by the local Education Authority the old institute was refurbished and re-named as **The Flixton Centre**. It now caters to children who are not receiving education due to difficulties found in normal school placement.



### Institute.

First recorded as being the **Flixton Women's Institute**, the architect was W. M. Longworth. In 1908 the foundation stone was laid by Squire Wright. As an Institute it replaced an earlier version that sat along Woodsend Road south of the Wesley Mission. This building was later altered to be Flixton Boys Club. To be a member one had to be over 14 years of age, but the club became open to both boys and girls in its latter years. During the First World War it was transformed into a hospital to operate in conjunction with Wibbersley around the corner on Irlam Road. The renovated centre (2005) was working under a "*Starting out Project*" which was to help teenagers apply for work placement. Presently the use is for education with the building carrying the name of **Albemarle House**. The Urmston Women's Institute currently meet at the St. Clement's Church.



### Flixton Youth Club.

Started life in the Flixton Institute and offered a place for the youth to congregate. There was music and dancing, snooker, darts, table tennis, all available to occupy young minds. Soccer featured and many trips were organized to places of interest. Names to remember here would be c.1940 William Newton, with for around 1950-60 Jim Kirkbright and Ernie Strath for their dedication to the youth of the area. The building, which closed in 2002, has been remodelled for other use (2005) and the Youth Club no longer functions from this corner of Delamere Road. The club was linked to the Youth Hostel Association around 1944.

### Alice Ann Cottage. Flixton Road

The cottage is to be found slightly before Alderley Road in a small block called Brookside that would have preceded the terrace of the same name. By its architecture this cottage was built before the terrace, but it was never noted in directories by this name. Its naming arrived later due to the fact it was situated close to the terrace and had nothing to do with the neighbour for the time.



Deeds show it had origins as early as 1796 way before most along this part of Flixton Road. The property was sold by James and Edward Bethell of Crofts Bank to Robert Wilcock at that time. 1798 an Indenture reads that Robert then sold the cottages along there to James Kay. The tenants for that time were Robert Giddy, Robert Bennett, and Robert Valentine.

### Alice Ann Terrace. Flixton Road

Who Alice Ann was, has not been established but this clutch of five terraced homes were in between Brook Road and Alderley Road in 1880. Samuel Beck was recorded as living in one of the homes for that year which helped with a first dating. James Alderson could be found in a second of the homes he died there again giving the date. It had one of the Joseph Holdsworth Butcher shops as a neighbour along with Thomas Neville Grocery store in another. Thomas lived in the Brookside Cottages that followed on from the Alice Ann Terrace as noted for 1901. Speculation has a builder called Bennett living here in the 1881 census his wife was named as Alice Ann.



### Alker Hall. Flixton Road



Dedicated to John Alker its foundation stone was laid in 1926 and the building officially opened in 1927. This hall was **always** to be an ex-servicemen's club. In 1940 preparation was made to house refugees to be accommodated here should it be needed. It has two floors and is made from brick, inside the hall was a chapel licensed to perform marriages. The frontage has been altered from gardens to parking bays but still sports a bowling green and gardens alongside. There are commemorative stones each side of the front door and its official name is the **John Alker Memorial Hall**.

Found was that the hall became home for the local Owner Occupiers Association in 1938. Rev. Fr. P. M. Bates of St. Monica held services there 1950 until the Church could be built on Irlam Road. A wartime clinic was housed here while Park Hospital was in the hands of the military.

**Alker Hall Caretaker.** (Stewards as a later calling)

All caretakers for the hall were accommodated in a small cottage that nestled in before the Bowling Green. This cottage sat on the site of ground where the look alike Hathaway Cottage used to be. Peter Haywood for 1938 then Albert and Maud Hamlett took the job of looking after the hall and bowling green in 1942, staying there until c.1960. (Renovation of the cottage took place in 2005) The area for this cottage was called Peers Fold in 1840 whereas some documents referred to it as Pears Fold. The cottage was demolished as of 2014.

**Alker Hall. Flixton Ex-Service Men's Club.**

The club took home at the John Alker Memorial Hall as from the time it was built in 1927. Not only offering the hall as a recreational facility it acts as a function room for public hire. The social side includes golf, darts, bowling, snooker, dominoes, complete with a stage to produce entertainment of all kinds. There is a standing covenant covering the use of the hall in this regard, the only proviso is that if membership falls below 40 the hall can be repossessed by local council.

**Alton Villa. 50-52 Flixton Road**

As a building it arrived in 1879 with a second named as **Oban Villa**. Living there in 1881 were Messes Athorn and Oddy. Neighbouring Urban Villa, Alton sat on the corner of Lily Street, the occupants for 1898 were at No.50 Elizabeth Warburton who was a dressmaker and her neighbour was Rudolph Schilling. Both at this time were residential only. Many of Urmstons first shops along Flixton Road were conversions from residential buildings as it was these.

**Appledore. 103 Flixton Road (Avondale)**

This house dates with Glenesk with land exchanges of around 1810. Only by 1928 does it appear with Mrs Ellen Pearson resided in Avon. William Bowles and Herbert Pearson were joined by Mrs. Frances Mary Sheard all noted as in **Avondale** for the latter time.

**Apsley Terrace.** (Aspeley) 394-402 Flixton Road Urmston

Many names associated here in 1881 but one in particular is of interest that of Gilbody. This name was associated with Urmston for years to follow in the like of Gratrix, both olde local names. The name Apsley is Anglo-Saxon and means 'Aspen wood' which belongs to the Willow family of trees. The accommodation here suited four families, one added alongside as a provision and bake shop. 1830 is the best date found for origin at this time where it is mounted with the name of the first home, 402 Duck Cottage. One other of this group is named that of Apsley Cottage at number 396. Plumbing was the occupation of J. T. Williams who worked from the terrace in 1905.

**Art Galleries. 114 Flixton Road & Stretford Road**

A brave attempt to open an Art Gallery along Flixton Road came in 1996. The owner invested in an old bicycle shop and called it 'The Crown of the Wild Olive.' The idea was to exhibit local un-recognised artist's work as a steppingstone towards better things. In another attempt to bring the art world into Urmston a gallery was opened carrying the famous name of Frances Lennon, this too closed at its Stretford Road location close to the old Billiard Hall.

**Avondale. 103 Flixton Road**

Ellen Pearson was the first found in 1928 she gave way to 1938 Herbert Pearson who shared at this time with Mrs. Frances Sheard. She was already here with the Pearsons at the earlier date. The true name appears to be that of Appledore and lost around mid-1930.

**Bamford Jack. Flixton Road**

Competitor of McGrath in the cycle business Jacks shop was on Flixton Road throughout the 1950's. He was also the local agent for Hornby and Trix Twin model railway trains. Having brought his style of business to the district in 1919 he operated two shops. By 1944 he newly opened on Flixton Road and later a second at Woodsend which catered for appliances, TV, and radios.

**Beeches. 55-57 Flixton Road**

William Mabbott and Henry Sidebottom lived in this semi for 1898 which was better known as **The Beeches** on the south side

**Belmont. 130 Flixton Road**

The house bearing this name in 1882 took its place close to where Glenhaven Ave is today. The possibility of it being earlier c.1875 is not discounted. It was a five bed, with three living-rooms complete with coach house and stable. Edwin Quayle JP. MRCS. LRCP.

LSA, who was a Physician became the first recorded here in 1901 his business was healthy until 1928 and Dr. Sydney Adams Winstanley moved into town to take over the patients. Dr. Michael Winstanley '**Baron of Urmston**' ran his term of practice from this home.



For the present it was being used as a day nursery called under the Bright Futures group. It was scheduled to close in 2010 with an undisclosed future, till now 2017, it appears to be in reprieve. Belmont is French for 'Beautiful Mountain'.

**Bird i'th Hand.** Flixton Road

The first name for this establishment was **The Bird in Hand** and it has been corrupted to its present calling. The history of the pub was somewhat shrouded by a lack of any detail. It is rare to find any mention of the place in historical directories and the same going for survey maps, often indicated but not named. 1879 brought the Beer House to attention being sold with four cottages adjoining called Acregate.

Ambrose Smith was proprietor from the files of 1881, he was granted permission to rebuild the pub in **1898** as the building had been in existence for over two hundred years. This suggests it followed the pattern of being

nothing more than a small cottage or house as it was with many hostelries of the local past. His application for a full licence in 1898 was refused after the Roebuck and the Greyhound opposed the idea. The building, a third bigger than the present, went ahead to completion in that year and included an Off Licence alongside.



In 1901 Henry Thomas Street was a beer retailer at this address and by 1905 it changed to William Edwards. Up until this time the pub had still been refused a full licence. This gent is recorded as being landlord in 1926 of the now named Bird in Hand. Mrs. Julia Sophia Edwards became the 1938 proprietress. A bowling green has been removed in more recent times for parking area. The Wibbersley and Thorne charity group originated from this pub collecting donations for Christie's.

The window was vandalised and never replaced.

**Birnam.** Flixton Road

First noted in the 1881 census, it was the abode of the Robertson family. Hereafter it was not located or seen of again and further detail is unknown.

**Bradbury Drapers.** Flixton Road

Sitting on the corner of Winifred Road this 1905 shop was possibly selling Children's clothing as it advertised for Little Wonders. The shop was run by brothers who also manufactured clothing and ribboning through into the 1920's.

**Brantwood.** 91 Flixton Road (South)

The tenant for here in 1898 was James Fielden Uttley. This is a semidetached with **Mossfield** as its neighbour. The house was the closest to the Hughenden but built slightly before it arrived to complement the road. The home carried six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, a box room, kitchen, scullery and pantry, bath with two w c's, and was cellared. Spacious lawns and garden showed as a feature.

**Brentwood.** Flixton Road

This large block of flats was built on the site of the place simply called Cottage. It belonged to the family of William Smith who rented it out to the famous missionary Dr. Moffat. This was demolished in the 1930's. In 1953 it was announced that all 28 flats built there had been taken.

**Brierfield.** 87 Flixton Road (South)

1898 had Emile Albert Ehlinger as the earliest known then James MacMuun was homeowner for 1901. Partnered with **Thornfield** this pair still support their named gate posts as they sit directly across from Newton Road.

**Britannia.** Flixton Road

The Whitegates Tavern c.1950 traded under the better-known name of the Britannia Inn. This was until 2004 now another local bar has occupancy. This was first of two premises for the **local gas offices** and showroom in earlier days and before, it the showroom, was moved to Station Road. Under the ownership of Clarinbridge Pub Company it was renovated in 2000 with the pledge to retain its outward heritage no matter what the interior was to foresee. After many name changes 2015 had it back as the Britannia. Under new ownership once more for 2016 it will be renamed yet again.

**British & Argentine Meat Co.**

This company operated from 52 Flixton Road in 1926-28. The butchery was a part of a chain of shops throughout Britain which was formed around 1914. They later became Union Cold Storage the largest retailer of this kind in the world for the era.

**Bromleigh.** 79 Flixton Road (South)

This is a semidetached house along the road but today hidden from view. It connected with **Maple House** as a later addition to the row at this point of the road being built around 1908. The home showed to have Frederick William Bromley (Bromleigh) as the owner which suggests he named it. Frederick was involved in the business of manufacturing cosmetics. His continuance to live here is noted through to 1928.

**Brookside.** Flixton Road

Two places became available here for sale in 1924 each contained a shop. The detail followed as; living room, three bedrooms, scullery, cellars, outside toilet and coal place. A two stalled stable was available for both. At the time they were in the hands of Mr. Walker and Mr. Newton. These were almost an extension of Alice Ann before Alderley Road and appear to have been removed shortly after this date c.1928-30.

**Brookside Cottages.** Flixton Road

These two cottages came between Alderley and Delamere Roads. The cottages were built well before the dates being found of around 1895. They survived to the time Trevor Road was established 1930 each with accommodation for double families.

**Broomlea.** Flixton Road

A placing for this house would be between Spennithorne and Lime Avenue and at the time of 1926 it had Henry Hartley living in it, he remained into 1940. As a Semidetached the partner was **Sunnyhurst.**

**Cash & Co.** Flixton Road 1900

Many old photographs of Urmston show advertising signs for this company. They appear to have had several locations over time and their business was as a 'Boot & Shoe' dealership.

**Chadwick. (The)** 34 Flixton Road

Once a double fronted Timpson shoe store it was converted into a bar and named after Roy Chadwick. The owners, Barracuda Group, wanted a locally known name for its title when the bar was officially opened in 2005 it closed as of 2018.

**Clifton & Kersley Coal Co. Ltd.** 2 Flixton Road

As number two this coal merchant's office led off business offerings along the road. Dated as 1898 F. W. Houldsworth ran it as an agency. The tiny shop today is known as the Kiosk.

**Congregational Church.**

Flixton Road became home for the **first** structure it was built in September 1879 at a cost of £3000 as up until then, services were held in a small building on Roseneath Road c.1840. Mainly as a schoolhouse and church it was to last until 1900. The true church being built in 1901 and the foundation stone for this building was laid by Henry Lee in 1880. The architecture, by Waddington & Son of Manchester, was Gothic revival finally being removed in 1979 although never finished to the original plans. One portion of the congregation joined with the Presbyterian followers and formed the United Reform Church in 1972. A further group joined in with the Greenfield Baptist Church in 1976. The design, architecturally magnificent, was beyond saving due to dry rot which had first been reported in 1963. The Church was affectionately called the 'Congy' by locals. During the life of the church a Sunday school was added to the left of the main building, this was a design of R. F. Tolson.



The design.



No spire.



The end including the school.

The first application to build on the vacant site was rejected in 1976 the reason being too many flats. This was scaled down and eventually approved by council.

### Cotton Mill. (Stotts)

Built by the Stott brothers, the mill stood on Flixton Road from 1851 until 1935. Probably the major provider for work around, the mill incorporated its own housing sites for its employees. A portion of the mill grounds was later built as a Drill Hall in 1873 and it remained as such even after the main buildings had been removed. A modern version followed which was occupied by the Territorial Army after the war these barracks still stand today but now used as a school.

A fire at the Mill in 1879 nearly ended employment for a multitude of workers. The office, warehouse, and two weaving sheds were lost. Fortunate for all, the mill continued although much product had to be sold off as damaged.

Adam and James Stott built and ran the business providing many associated homes and much employment until 1935. When James died his younger brother, John became the partner to continue the family connection.



The 1895 Pigot Directory states they manufactured "Fancy" mattress and sunblind materials. Nearer to the mills demise it had changed over to clothing materials to increase the provision of jobs for a declining local industry of loom weaving. The mill at its peak employed 400 people, not too well known was that it became the second mill built by the Stotts the other was in Stockport and called Atlas Mill. A well, 300ft deep supplied the four reservoirs which were already supplemented by the natural stream there along what was to become Bowfell Road.



The mill began to lose profitability and in 1911 a first attempt to sell up was initiated. Again in 1929 it was offered for sale. The inventory brought forward was huge and its detail ran into several pages. The package included the sale of the mill itself along with Mossfield, Shaw View, the Conservative Club, baths, cottages, and a dairy. Also included were the reservoirs behind Mossfield which brought the lot to a total of 22,434 sq. yards in all.



Some detail included a weaving shed, three story preparation building, two story die house, two fireproofed finishing rooms, stock rooms, and a pump house. The drill hall followed with a mechanics shop, boiler house including three boilers, engine room, power plant, and a water system. There were several pages involved in listing plant and equipment but to cap it off, a chimney. The Atlas Mill was presented at the same time to prospective buyers.



The UUDC took possession of the Flixton Road factory and sold off, by auction, all the remaining equipment in February 1935.

Before the Stott Mill opened one of the staple industries for the district was hand weaving. Once machinery became more common the local weavers were slowly driven out of business. As the depression wore on from 1821 to 1861 over 300 people had left the area. Cotton was the prime material for most of the Urmston

weavers of 1800. Scarcely a cottage, or what went beyond any house part, would be without a hand loom some even having a loom shed which housed up to four looms. This accounts for many strange room formations in older homes and cottages. Even farms had a weaving room as a second form of income. The hard part was to walk and collect the raw materials in

Manchester only to have to walk back again with the finished product. This was curtailed when the Stott Mill was built in 1865. Another term used locally was that of being a "Fustian cutter" the cloth woven by this group was similar to corduroy.



### Drill Hall.

The present building was opened in 1938 by General Sir Walter Kirke 1877-1949. He was the Director General of the Territorial Army. During WWII the General was Commander in Chief of the British Home Forces. The facilities there, in this two storied building, included a mess, storage, and office space with a range for gun practice. The hall was purchased by the Urmston Council in 1969 to be used first by the Flixton Senior School and then as a recreational facility and or indoor sports centre. Originally built on land of the Stott family for military use and later modernized, it is now Abbotsford School. For viewing, two insignia of regiments that once held interests are over the main doorway. The first company to call it home were the 39<sup>th</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers Anti-Aircraft Battalion.



Gen. Kirke



The Original Barracks demolished 1935

### Insignia. Drill Hall.

Over the main door to what is now the Preparatory School there are two military insignia built into the concrete. The left shows The Lancashire Fusiliers and the right is from the Royal Engineers. Both were users of the hall during its life span. The Territorial Army also occupied this building until it was closed to them in 1967. For dating purposes, the Engineers moulding carries King George VI which adds to the confirmed 1938 opening. For WW2 the troops stationed here were from the Army Anti-aircraft command. During the war period this was also the Headquarters of the 44<sup>th</sup> Lancashire Home Guard.



Abbotsford Preparatory School. Drill Hall 211 Flixton Road



Originally as Caius House School on Church Road, it transferred operations in 1997. This site was formerly the Barracks or Drill Hall and had an even earlier connection as grounds for the Stott Mill. 2004 saw it fall under the wing of the GMS education group. They held a centenary celebration in 2008 which included many events.

Flixton Baths.

Shown in business directories of 1901 it was a bath house built by the Stott family predominately for the workers of the mill. Its exact location was between the Cotton Mill on Flixton Road and the Bird in Hand. Such premises were common for use where home facilities were not available. A newer finding had it that swimming was a feature of this establishment. William Baxby Johnson was the manager during 1907. By 1926 the Slaters directories indicate the bath had gone with only two homes called the Bath Cottages remaining and later a Dairy called Roles. In this modern era, it is an estate call Acregate.



Bath Cottages.

This pair sat between the Stott Mill terrace and the Bird in Hand. One early inhabitant was Francis Richard Hobson in 1912. During 1926 they were owned by fireman Sam Mitchell and boot repairer William Nuttall. Later c.1930 they were to be replaced by the Frank Roles Dairy. All gone for today and they have been replaced with modern housing complex called Acregate as of 1966.

**Deccan Restaurant.** Flixton Road

It is not usual to include current business as it may be misconstrued as advertising, but the Deccan has its place. Established in 1969 they have been a faithful server to Urmston that maintained a very high standard. Refurbished in 2010 it has modern ideas which have lost the charm of the old intimate booth style it once offered.

**Dee Mount.** Flixton Road (South)

After 67 Flixton Road the houses were no longer numbered with this home being the next after Faburn Villa. The residents for 1898 were Dr. James Hopwood and Frederick Pilling. By 1911 the Hopwood family had taken both sides of the Mount, residing there for many years to come. (Presently numbered as 71-73)



**Devonshire House.** Flixton Road

The home of Ellen Taffs in 1911 it showed no further detail for the time. W. H. Hopson lived here in 1927 and it was on lease from the Wright Estate.

**Diamond House.** Flixton Road

This home had been a mystery for some time when entered in 1851 as Dieomand. No location, or detail, was offered even the spelling came into question. It has now been translated into fact being found as Diamond House with the placing as being The Village and prior to New Street. **Hawthorne View** fits the description it was dated as 1870 for this title showing possibility as being Diamond in its infancy.

**Dualtone Flooring Ltd.** 53 Flixton Road

The proud boast of this company was that in 1976 they were associated with the Royal Exchange Theatre in supplying and fitting of all the carpeting.

**Eros.** Flixton Road

This was presented for 1932 as a delightful bungalow. No further information was forthcoming when found.

**Faburn Villa.** Flixton Road

Joseph Spark lived here at number 69 in 1898 until 1928 when it showed as belonging to Agnes Spark. This house was the beginning of a row which led to several homes built here between 1895 and 1910 the last of this line being the Hughenden building. Recently modernised it kept in keeping with the original.



**Fairview Terrace.** Flixton Road (South)



The terrace became the last building before Longfield Road, now Stamford. It did not appear in directories until after the early 1910 years. The small detail for this group is that it was home to ten families and still stands today; some residences were converted into commercial usage. The land for the terrace became available in 1907 explaining the missing directory information. The Medicinal practice that took the last homes has moved on and a reinstatement has been completed.

**Fern Cottage.** Flixton Road

The cottage was home to Helen Griffin in 1913, she stood as executor for Ellen Barlow who lived and died at Peers Fold in that year. Due to this fact the cottage may have been one of the two known as Hathaway.

**Fern Lea.** 63-65 Flixton Road

In 1887 Ellen Hully passed away her address was given as Fern Lea Flixton Road. The date of 1898 gave that this was a semidetached home having Thomas Selman and William Wright in house. Directories show a small 'Off licence' here run by C. B. Smallbun in 1944.

**Fieldings Nursery.** Flixton Road

The garden nursery comprised of two cottages, seven green houses, and 3 acres of land. Located between the Mossfield Allotments and Willow Farm this was to become the land to complete Malvern Avenue. Excess grounds were sold to the Lancashire County for use as playing fields at the Senior School.

**Flixton Cottage.** Flixton Road

It is in the 1800's Flixton, but only just as the boundary line for Urmston was close there. In 1871 John Tasker, an Estate Broker, passed away and the new owner was called Brumby. 1898 traced Albert Cummings as cottage owner. Home later to William Stamp a Contractor in 1899-1905 and, even later, the home of the Corser Brothers c.1925-50 who owned a coal yard there.

Beautifully preserved it stands across from Lime Avenue on Flixton Road. In the cottage's original form, it included stables, hen cote, piggery, a pond, and an orchard. A shed and Greenhouses cared for vines at the rear. An addition came for 1881 that of a gardener's cottage.

The Allotment Society have cleared the pond and it's now included on their site of Mossfield.

**Flixton House.** Flixton Road

Squire Ralph Wright acquired this home in 1806; it was only in 1915 that it was ever referred to as Flixton House Farm. The last Squire passed on in 1934 and the house and grounds purchased by the Urmston Council. Flemish bond brick makes up the exterior with white headers creating a chequered pattern. Doric columns adorn the offset front entry. Its roof is slate topping off the two stories. The front extension to the ballroom was carried out by the last Squire Samuel Worthington Wright. The census of 1881 showed that Samuel was sharing the house with his brother Thomas.



Inside the house there is a plaque designating all the land surrounding the house to be protected. **Open to the public for viewing by appointment** there are a few items of interest saved there from the estate of Shaw Hall kept for posterity. Flixton House is licensed for the conduction of Civil Marriages. It is a 'listed' building with its surrounds. (Listed in 1981 Grade 2)

In **1930** before Urmston took possession of the house, a proposal was made to turn it into a hotel complete with a new dining room and entry, this did not come to fruition although the ball room had been extended. September of **1935** saw the house and grounds opened to the public. The Chairman of the Council, S. N. Penlington officiated with children's races, music by the Cadishead Public Band, and a fireworks display. A plan put forward in 1936 was for the Red Cross to set up the house as a decontamination unit in the case of Mustard Gas exposure from a possible air attack. The TA Royal Medical Corps also used the house during their military exercises based on an encampment set up on the nearby fields.

In **2002** a five-year plan was instituted for the renovation of the house and its grounds. Scheduled to be completed in 2006-7 Trafford, along with local input, refurbished the whole site in an effort to return it to its former glory of 1935 when it was purchased by the UUDC. The total estate covered 218 acres originally and cost £69,793. The various Squires at Flixton House passed under several surnames, Wright, Wright Lee, and Worthington-Wright, ancestry has been traced from 1662 to 1935. One for 1854 was called William Wright Worthington Wright; there was also a Ralph, John, Samuel, and a Thomas amongst this Wright family. (See Squires)

**Flixton House Gardens.** (Public)

Beautiful grounds later opened to commemorate the Festival of Britain on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1951. Converted from a kitchen garden, the rose garden behind Flixton House, is worth a visit in season. These gardens were officially opened by Councillor F. Fuller.



There is also a sensory garden for the blind, here one can smell the fragrances and hear the sounds of nature at its best. Another highlight here was a crocus lawn that each spring showing a colourful spread in all its glory.

The gardens **reclaimed** its Green Flag status in 2018 thanks to hard work carried out by volunteers.

The late Mr. E. Leeming, Urmstons surveyor and engineer, bequeathed a garden seat here July 1966. The arbour formed an entry into a garden tribute created to honour the WW2 fallen. Stonework here carries the typical style of Thomas Maclaughlan. An addition there is a fountain built into a rock formation, the sound of water now a feature in this special corner. The gardens also included a pond, now filled in, and an Oak tree tribute to Sir Winston Churchill MP.



### Flixton House. Etcetera.



An Oak tree has been planted in the gardens to honour Winston Churchill MP. His dedication to the district required recognition in some form this was decided to be a suitable way. Planted in 2002 it has much growing to look forward to as it stands all of 3ft high. Hidden from view is a very ancient sundial, this has been exposed and it is involved in a new landscaping exercise. At the rear of all the gardens is a small fenced off pond.



### Flixton House Garden Fountain. (Penlington Fountain)

In the grounds of the House there was a circular fountain. Built in 1935 it contained a commemorative stone which was laid by Councillor Stanley Nield Penlington who was Chairman for the Council. Penlington served council for twenty years and was Chair for the Lancashire Urban District Council Association 1946-47. Described as *Art Deco* in style the half that is left exposed has since been altered to take flower beds the balance, coated in shrubbery. Its descriptive plate has also been removed, lost, stolen, or strayed.



### Flixton House. Artefacts

A visit to the house will provide some insight into a few items of interest retrieved from Shaw Hall before it was pulled down. Besides the drainpipe showing the Latus family initialling there is a wall section of panelling, and a tiled plaque which is made up to represent a Coat of Arms. This tiled picture was taken from a kitchen floor of Trafford Hall in 1943 and initially mounted at the 'Garden of Retreat' entry, it has been taken indoors for display.



For further study mounted on the walls are two description plates one which describes the designated field arrangement and a second to honour Squire Samuel Worthington-Wright as a person in 1935. 2017 will bring two new features, the Bottoms footpath Blue Plaque lost at Flixton Station is to be replaced and mounted at the house. A tribute to the Manchester Arena disaster has been introduced with a Bee sculpture in the gardens.



Gone missing is a stained-glass window supposedly saved from the Shaw Hall demolition. It has been suggested that it was presented, either to St. Michael's Church, or to Flixton House. No one has come forward to confirm or deny the idea.

There is also a drainpipe cornice on display. It was saved as a relic from Shaw Hall when it was torn down. On this cornice are the letters L. W. A. 1723. They are the initials of one of the families that resided there, Latus, William and Ann. William purchased Shaw Hall in 1722 and passed on in 1764 never actually living there. Their daughter Lucy Latus became a prominent dealer in land transactions around Shawtown later.



### Major Cross.

Squire Ralph Wright extended the family estate by purchasing a farm and land owned by a Major Cross. After much research nothing has been found to trace this Major or his connection to Flixton. Knowing the acreage owned by the Wright family it had to be a farm found along the fields of Flixton Road before 1800. The Major was referred to during the Foot Path trial involving the Bottoms path. (In an earlier conflict a Sergeant Cross was the legal representative)

### Midden Cottages. Flixton House

The suggestion of a row of cottages in the grounds of Flixton House has been confirmed they were close to the long-standing wall. The pictorial view has been put forward to show out buildings, of what might have been the basis for this. Information now to hand adds that there were eight or more of these cottages each with a front door and one window. The individual cottages had single ground floor room with a ladder that led to a single room on an upper floor. Built with their backs to the garden wall the roofing of slate sloped to create an overhang at the frontage.



Midden as a word describes a cess pit or compost hole and does not present a pleasant view of these homes. However, this communal disposal of waste ran along in front of the cottages bounded only by a cobblestone yard out front. This was not actually residential but more of shelter for the farm/garden workers during their stay at the land.

### North Wall. Flixton House

The wall on the North side of the gardens at Flixton House is a designated Heritage site Grade 2. Incorporated in this wall was an 1806 date stone. Made from Flemish Bond brick with stone copings it reaches three metres in height. To complete this delightful garden wall, there are two elliptical archways. Being a part of the gardens, it can be viewed by the public. For some detail the wall was built as a hot wall, steam was piped through a cavity from a boiler to the glass houses at the end. Due to much erosion renovation took place and now maintains its presence for the future generations. During the reconstruction its date stone was unfortunately lost. For 2018 a Bee Garden tribute to the lost lives in the Manchester Arena bombing has been completed at the end of the wall.



Not known is the fate of the homes many paintings. Some are retained in the house, others out on loan were not returned. A tragic loss to the community regardless of monetary value.

Flixton House Seven Sisters.



The largest Beech Tree in the grounds of Flixton House was named as the Seven Sisters. Much effort has gone into preserving this tree as it is thought to have been there since the house was built. A walk around the trunk showed it to be made up of seven saplings intertwined and forming what appears to be one tree. One report confirms that the tree is over two hundred years old. Pieces are beginning to fall from this spectacular Beech, it may be a sign that it will not be around in the full glory of yesteryear for too many years ahead without some attention.



2018 and this tree has been included in a research program that records all and any trees of historical interest around Greater Manchester. This was with thanks to the Urmston History Society after they forwarded documentation about its origin.

Barn. Flixton House



The Barn and surrounding buildings at Flixton House were allotted in 1981 Grade 2 Heritage sites. It has been put forward that a mysterious bell, found here and later installed at St John's Mission, belonged with the barn. Atop one section of the barn there is a cupola generally used for this purpose and circular pitching eyes, with a kingpost roof. The bell carries a date of 1785 for its manufacture and Flixton House was built in 1805. As can be seen this barn had its own coach house, the separate coach house now associated actually belonged to Park House the near neighbour.



An extract from the 'History of Flixton House' compiled by the Urmston Historical Society: *Ralph Wright was an avid campanologist and had a bell installed in a tower over one of the outhouses, which was used to call in the farm workers from the fields at mealtimes. This bell was presented to the Mission Church on Irlam Road by U.D.D.C. in 1953. The cupola itself is believed to have originated at Shaw Hall giving thought to the fact the bell came with it.*

Flixton House. Coach House

A visit and viewing shows signs of the original large doorways, of which there were three, into the courtyard. At the rear another two smaller doors can still be picked out among the brickwork. This coach house originally belonged with **Park House**. Proof of this came when a picture emerged of Park House Cottage of a time before conversion to its present state. Still occupied as a residence B. Allcock was there in 1936.



Flixton House photographs.

To commemorate one of the several official occasions at the house, a series of prints were offered to the public. These pictures are easily recognised by the brown cardboard frame in which they were presented. There were an unknown number comprising the set here follow six of them.



Pond. Flixton House.



There was a small pond to the rear of the gardens, it was never dedicated in any way and only adds to the ambiance of the grounds. The pond has since been filled in it now acts as a flower bed.

Structure. Flixton House

The main building shows three stages to its development clearly defined by viewing from the side. A fourth comprised of the glass extension on the frontage added by the Urmston Council.



### Flixton Park. (Public) Flixton House

The grounds of Flixton House were designated as the Park officially in 1966. These grounds are protected by agreement they reach from the Flixton Railway Station to the Bird i'th Hand along Flixton Road. There are 10 Hectares of ground which provided a base to win a Green Flag award for 2006/7, 2010/11, and again in 2012. A downturn for 2015 with the grounds now failing and the loss of the Green Flag recognition. Pleasing to note is that the award was retrieved by the **Friends of the gardens group** now working there in 2018.



Inside the house there is a plaque describing the detail of this park arrangement. This proposed purchase required the approval of the Ministry of Health as it involved recreational lands. It was ratified.

The estate comprised of 218 acres, 160 to be reserved as a public amenity the balance was ear marked for building purposes. For an idea of size, it converts to a quarter of a square mile. Noted for the present is that Council include all lands associated to the estate by adding the various farms to its list along with vacant recreational lands. The land that went from Church Road to Flixton Road was included as of 1969 and comprised of 70 acres.

### Flixton Post Office. Flixton Road



Under the heading of Post Offices, Flixton is entered along with the many others. This particular office had Edwin Mather as its Sub Postmaster 1894-1918 and from its conception he had a Stationery shop here too. As E. Mather, he was working the district taking photographs of the local streets, usually a past time done by stationers around the district to sell as post cards in their own various shops. James Smith trod in the same steps as Postmaster of the 1920's taking picture along the way.



Over one hundred years later, the post office was closed and boarded up with no sign of its past apparent. The latest venture for the building is that of a commercial business.

### Flixton Road Bridge. Flixton

The bridge passes over the railway line on Flixton Road it is often confused in name with Flixton Bridge at the Carrington location.



### Flixton Secondary Modern. Flixton Road

Flixton Secondary Modern School was built and opened in 1933 by the Lancashire County Council Education Committee with Councillor J. W. Baron Chairman. A two storied structure with open verandas (Quadrangles) the construction is of brick and carries shell styled motifs atop its higher reaches. The design was to take in 960 pupils with the architect Stephen Wilkinson F.R.I.B.A. Two names come to mind, pre-war it was F. G. Newcombe as headmaster and post-war Williams followed thereafter.



Called locally, Flixton Senior School it catered for both **boys and girls** but later became **girls only** as a facility and the boys were transferred to a new school at Wellacre c.1955. In 1935 to commemorate the Jubilee of King George V a sundial was placed over the main entrance to the school.



The schools were limited after the war as to what could be construed as a uniform. For the boys it was a grey blazer with grey pants, short or long. The girls wore standard black gymslips; all of this was subject to affordability with little enforcement.

### Flixton Girls High School. Flixton Road



When the boys left this once co-ed school, for Wellacre, the girls section expanded to fill the vacated space. This division of boys and girls took place in 1955 from this once locally called Senior School. For the year of 2010 the High School fell under its own autonomy, as it became a Foundation Trust School. From now onward the word '**Academy**' becomes synonymous with the school.



### Flixton Station.

One of two stations along the local line, the other being Urmston. A halt was added at Chassen Road later. William Barnaby, the Station Master in 1880, lived at the station with his wife. He was followed by 1903 Frederick Harrison. Built in 1873 it was eventually sold and converted into a restaurant called, **The Station**. This closed and a night club/bar took its place named **Brunel**. In 1998 it burnt down and now there is nothing left eventually having the site cleared in 2001. The goods yard has been converted into a car park with one small shelter surviving from the original building this too has been removed.



Southern platform



Northern platform

The **foot bridge** came out unscathed from this picturesque old railway station. One other feature of this station was a manually operated signal box situated slightly down the line towards Urmston this too has been removed. In 2007 permission by the Office of Rail Regulation was given to Network Rail to sell off this land for building on the old site of the demolished pub. So far this has not taken place due to Green Belt status applying.



Once the station buildings were to be converted, into first a restaurant and later a bar, a new bridge was to be constructed. It only lasted until the demise of Brunel in a fire. The picture was dated 1988. The lines original wrought iron foot bridge still stands showing resistance to the modern world and its trends. The main building of the station housed the Blue Plaque award for the Bottom Path, it was lost among the burnt-out ruins and will be replaced at Flixton House.



#### **Flixton Station and Goods Yard 1901.**

George William Morgan was the Station Master in charge of the complex here. The yard was utilised by two coal merchants, The Bridgewater Trustees and Sydney Smith. Holding pens were also a feature for cattle headed towards market or being received. Frederick Harrison took over as Station Master in 1903 then through to 1911 it was Joseph Lightfoot. By 1926 the coal merchants had added the Corser Brothers and Grime & Williams. Lancashire Collieries Ltd, Burke & Co, began working here in the late 1930's. 1890 registered a weighing machine available to the public here. The yards were to finally close in 1963.

#### **Grime and Williams. Flixton Yards**

Coal merchants of local renown had their yard at Flixton Station. The pair shared accommodation in 1927 at Chatham House in the Village. William Grime and John Williams serviced the area with coal till well after the war.

#### **Signal Box. Flixton/Urmston**

There were two signal boxes attached to the stretch of railway line through the district. One was down the track at Flixton Station as a manual operation this was removed once automatic signalling came into use. The shunting operation was done with another box at Urmston as both stations had stockyard tracks off the main line. John Thomas Holland of Urmston wrote that he was the signal man in 1877.



#### **Railway Gardening.**

Each station along the railway line cultivated its own garden and an annual competition was held to find the best. In 1898, and for twelve years thereafter, **Flixton Station** won with Station Master Will Barnaby claiming the prize. The garden there was found to have a fountain thus giving it the edge in a fiercely fought contest. Potato blight of 1914 signalled the Cheshire Lines Committee to enforce a rule of no more to be planted in their allotments.



**Both the following Flixton Road entries** are entered in their own category.

#### **Flixton Drill Hall. Flixton Road**

1938 and the troops were under the command of Major H. Hutton.

#### **Flixton Conservative Club. Flixton Road**

Hon. Sec. for 1938 was J. Collier. This beginning club moved to Abbotsfield after WW2.

#### **Gas Showrooms. Flixton Road**



First to be found on Flixton Road after a move from Crofts Bank Road, Whitegates trading as the Britannia took its place. Its display had then moved to the shops on Urmston Bridge. It, the building, was situated on the fields of Moss Farm in the late 1930's. As it was with the Electric Showrooms, they introduced the latest appliances to the public. There are no such showrooms anymore.

During the war period the rooms were utilised by the Allotment and Gardening Society for its local events of an internal nature. The rightful owners have pledged to retain as much of this heritage as is possible for the future in regard to the exterior. Currently it is utilised as a bar and night club.

#### **Gateway. Flixton Road**



A war time café introduced January 1942 and opened by Lady Simon of Wythenshawe to supply meals at a reasonable price in times of need. This was a 'Civic' establishment and one of three. In this instance a prefab served the purpose with an upgrade in 1948 adding a Youth Club to the facility. Closed in 1950 and sold in 1952 this became home to the Estate Agency of F. H. Collier & Sons in 1951 with the honour of being Number 1 Flixton Road.

#### **General Supply Stores. Flixton Road**

This shop stood next to where Howarth butcher is at present. It was run by Tomas Neville from the late 1880's to 1907 when he passed on. The grocery business of Thomas was coupled alongside one of the Holdsworth shops in 1900 it completed a line which included Alice Ann Terrace. The shop became a drapery store for its next life and is now into hairdressing.



#### **Gibbins. 435 Flixton Road**

One of several business or trades to hold shop in the old Tithe Barn W. S. Gibbins was a pork butcher there in the early 1930-40's.

**Glenesk.** 101 Flixton Road

The original home was close to the Hughenden. Transactions took place in 1810 when William Kershaw sold out to Joseph Smith. Continuing into 1915 as Joseph sold to Percy Forshaw. Glenesk, by name, only appeared later in documentation for 1923 and known was that 1928 Percy William Forshore was actually in the Glen. The current home was found as built in 1929.

**Goodwin & Euden.** Flixton Road

A vacant lot alongside the Hughenden became a nursery tended by this pair in 1938 and through to 1949.

**Hathaway Cottage.** Flixton Road

This pair of cottages based 'very loosely' in the style of the Hathaway and Shakespeare Cottages in Stratford were made in c.1721 but demolished and replaced with the caretaker's lodgings at the John Alker Hall on Flixton Road c.1927. Slaters directory listed these cottages under their correct names in 1898 of Hathaway and Shakespeare until 1919 when one was Warwick and the other Hathaway. Lucy Wilcock and William Preston show as at home for 1898 respectively. The area found for this building was called Peers Fold and/or Pears Fold. Mrs Alice Pierpoint and William Henry Lockett felt Shakespearian here in 1901 and up to 1909 when Miss Ada Shaw and Mrs Alice Nicholson played their roles. Just before the cottage demise Alfred Colson and John Henry Lloyd said farewell to their Midsummer-night dream.

**Hawthorne Cottage.** Flixton Road (**Hesketh Cottage**)

The cottage sitting by the Bird i'th Hand only appeared named in documents after 1908. Reported was it housed a well-known Fishmonger called Bob Graham who delivered his fish by means of a hand cart throughout the town. This white-faced habitat which presented a home of the 1800's has been removed for newer housing today called Sandown.

Directories show it was more than one home as in 1901 Thorn Farm slipped in between the Bird and Junction Cottage. This south side farm fits nicely with its north side Thorn Cottage. The farm was no more by 1910 but showing two residents at home where the farm belonged. These were Joseph Warburton a joiner and Wilfred Vernon a butcher. 1928 finally confirmed that William Robert Graham, a fishmonger, lived at Hawthorne Cottage. During the Bottom's trial this was the cottage called Hesketh was calculated to be 400yds from Flixton House in its point of reference.

**Hawthorne Farm.** Flixton Road Flixton

Close by to the Bird and the Hawthorne Cottage this small acreage (5) was being farmed by a Barlow in its early years of 1880. Unconfirmed is that this was the Thorn Farm and Hawthorne Cottage prior to Junction Cottage on the **south** side of the road.

**Hawthorn View.** 1-3 Flixton Station Bridge

This pair of houses can still be found in between the Flixton Railway Station and The Old Grove at the station garage. They have been dated from around 1850 and had six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, and bathroom with w.c. Available outside were stables, coach house, hen house and corn shed. Early home dwellers were George Ramsden at No.1 and Robert Roberts at No.3. Some suggestion has been raised that this pair were once called Diamond House in their history. A set of triplets marked the year of 1891 at the Hawthorn. The proud parents were Alfred and Frances Parker with the three girls, Emily, Fanny, and Nellie. Thomas Jones, with Harry Whitehead, could be found in 1928 residing there into 1940.

**Heywood Sewing Machine Co.** 15 Flixton Road

Competition for Singer, or perhaps an agency, this company operated in 1959 along the road.

**Holdsworth.** Flixton Road

The family of Holdsworth have been around for years (c.1900) they still operated their butchery independently against high powered supermarket chains. Joseph Holdsworth lived on Church Road during 1901 close to Cambridge Road. There are several addressed locations for this butcher shop before it reached its present home. (One of these was the Millatts Tithe Barn) 2010 saw this outstanding family close up the business.

**Hollingsworth Grocer.** Flixton Road

A well-known grocer for the 1940-50 eras, William H. Hollingsworth had a second store in Stretford.

**Holly Bank, Holly Mount, and Holly Villas.** Grouping Flixton Road

Although dated 1880 these three houses came up for sale in 1892 at the same time two cottages, one unfinished, which were added to the sales pitch. They were all situated on the **south** side just after Spennithorne and prior to Lime.

\* **Holly Bank** was a six bedroomed house with double frontage; it boasted a tennis court in its large grounds and was to be owned in 1901 by Robert Joseph Smith. On into 1928 here was John Cook, then as of 1938 it became evident, he was staying put.



\* **Holly Mount.** A family called Taylor lived here in 1881. The sale of this semidetached house in 1895 shows it had two entertaining rooms, five bedrooms showing one as a box room, dressing room, a kitchen, scullery, pantry, cellared, and a garden with a small green house. James Grundy took it for 1898 and Howard Baker followed as owner in 1901. Joseph Derbyshire in for 1928 and out for 1938 as Arthur Ogden moved in.

\* **Holly Villa** offered accommodation for three families and it is the **only remaining building** of the trio on Flixton Road.

**Holly Villas.** Flixton Road Flixton

Along Flixton Road across from the Flixton Cottage the Villas 1-5 were to be found in 1881 with accommodation for three families. One had four bedrooms in 1894 with two living rooms and a kitchen. The garden carried fruit trees with the plus of a greenhouse. In the Villas: 1901 George Mends and Emily Sowter, with one vacant. The end unit as number 5 called itself Crayford for 1910. The list of three during 1928 was Dyson, Cubberley, and Chisnall. By 1938 Mrs. Elizabeth Pickwick had taken the place of Mr. Cubberley. **Pickering Close** has replaced this grand collection of old-time homes.

**Holly Bank Cottage.** Flixton Road Flixton

This Holly Bank was owned by the Budge family in 1881 according to the census. No address was given for this cottage and further, it is assumed this was the cottage connected to the Holly Bank of 1892, as there was no other Holly Bank on Flixton Road.

**Holly House.** Corner Irlam and Flixton Roads

Noted in 1883 for its well-trimmed Holly hedgerow, a onetime owner was a Miss Margaret Ellen Newton 1843-1912 who donated the clock faces to the St. Michael's Church. Also known of old as Holly or Newton Corner, these two acres of property were purchased by the diocese of the Catholic Church in 1950 after the UUDC turned it down for themselves. Rev. Fr. P. M. Bates took residence.



Set in these large grounds it has been identified that there were two portions to the home one each side of the drive. The picture is not of the house only a second outer farm building. This small corner block falls under the name of Holly House Drive now. Records show an Edmund Newton (1818-1883) here but no reference as to the relationship to Margaret Ellen. In 1939 the house belonged in the hands of John Turner with the last occupant found by name was Jane Gabites.

**Holly Lea.** Flixton Road

In the open area between Longfield and Lime the Lea appeared in 1880. A five bedroomed home with two entertaining rooms and a good-sized garden. This was possibly the same home as found for Lime Avenue.

**Howarth. P. J.** Flixton Road

Butchers of renown this family established themselves on Flixton Road in 1966 their special sausage of which they sell 600 lbs. a week, has won many prizes. The shop here was alongside a block call Alice Ann Terrace. For 2006 Howarth scooped nine gold awards for excellence in meat products and platinum for the best sausage in the UK. Overall since 2002 they have won 26 gold, 5 silver, and 2 bronze awards for their products. Vernon Butchery was recorded as being in this same shop in earlier years as was Holdsworth.

**Hughenden.** Flixton Road

John Hughes who was a wealthy businessman in Urmston owned this home built in 1900. It was also a School of Music c.1905 run by John's daughters. A change came in 1945 when Miss Blackburn opened a School of Department there also known as the Mannequin Academy. It became a café well frequented during the 1950's. Later the building was taken over for offices and at this time, a physiotherapist practice. (2017) The building still carries a plaque showing his initials of JH with the date of 1900.



Next door to the house was a roller rink named as the Hughenden Rink. For 1928 the building called the Hughenden Palais de Dance had been added. Land adjoining became a nursery and industrial site later. In WW2 the rear garage was a temporary NFS centre.

October 1930 had the detached home available to all. Included were Entrance, cloakroom, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, six bedrooms, and bathroom. Reference shows that the Moorside Haves family took possession and still hold the property. The associated Dance Hall at the rear belonged in the sale. The new estate alongside has been called Hughenden Court with respect to the historical link of John.

Several callings here for associated structures Hughenden Hall, Hughenden Rink, Palais De Dance, Mitchell & Spittal and, Rig Engineering. During 1936-7 it was home to the Temple of Light Christian Spiritual Church. There were two cottages and a large allotment that should be included in the history of this piece of land. These were named as **Silverdale and The Bungalow**.

**Hughenden Court.** Legwood and Flixton Roads

The court was a small development of 2000 which comprised of just ten homes. Jean Heathcote won the honour of naming the complex in a locally run competition. Her memories of the cafe next door triggered the suggestion and together with Councillor Bernice Garlick they declared it open. Two old cottages here were demolished in 1999 as a portion of this development.

**Hulme Timber Yard.** Flixton Road

As far back as 1881 William Hulme was working from this address as a Joiner. Trading as E. W. Hulme the yard was at 384 Flixton Road. It is believed his son Walter continued with the business who in turn passed it to William E. Hulme as it is remembered for modern times. The yard was still around in the 1970's but has closed up now. The site was redeveloped for housing.

**Italian Warehouse.** Flixton Road

For 1903-5 this store took the corner of Flixton Road and Crofts Bank Road. It was a general supplier, a common term for all stores of the period. The business was run by a company called W. M. Taylor & Co. This was in the premises later known as Burgons.

**Ivy Cottage.** 153 Flixton Road (South)

Although a date of 1820 has been traced this cottage may be older than that. A legal document bequeathing this home was made out by a Richard Barlow in that year. The home was eventually in the hands of a family called Wood who retained it at least until 1886. James Barlow took it back for 1901 in this version of Ivy close to Stamford Road. When offered for sale recently the agent suggested it was built in c.1700. The home showed a hall, four bedrooms, lounge, dining room, kitchen and utility room. A double garage was a feature which was once, in all probability, coach houses. One of the doorways has been replaced by a window.

**Ivy Cottage.** 136 Flixton Road (North)

This duplication of names became confusing at this point along Flixton Road. The two cottages were almost opposite one another, this Ivy, was sitting next to Rose Cottage at the corner of Mayfair. Robert Riggs stayed here for 1898. By 1925 the cottage had been replaced but the name continued it is now a modern four bedroom semidetached.

**Junction Cottage.** Flixton Road

This cottage sat on the **south** side of Flixton Road across from Irlam Road. Half-timbered with a thatched roof, its nearest neighbour was Park House while across the road, Holly House and the Hathaway Cottages made up the group. The Cottage was much older than its first found and recorded tenant who was a local chemist called Bowker 1890 he was trailed by Thomas Campbell for 1898.

**Kays Fashions.** 15 Flixton Road

This Ladies and Gents outfitters closed up on the road in 1958. It was owned by Thomas Peter Kilgallon.

**Kimada House.** 442 Flixton Road

A new name associated with the shopping block at the end of Flixton Road in the region of Ambleside Road which is not listed as such in any older directories.

**Langholme.** Flixton Road

This was the only house between Victoria Road and Monksdale Avenue in 1926. Henry Mayo was an Insurance Agent.

**Legwood Court.** Flixton Road

A small complex of homes built alongside and on the area of the Hughenden complex. There are 29 flats out of the 41 homes on the Court.

**Liberal Club.** (Flixton) Flixton Road

The early Liberals conducted their meetings at the Congregational School on Flixton Road. As at the time of 1910 The Liberal Club for Flixton was to be found between Hulmes Timber Yard and the terrace of Apsley.

**Longfield Cottages.** Flixton Road

Before it became Stamford Road, Longfield lands ran through from Church Road. The terraced cottages are on this corner of Flixton Road with a terraced group on the other side called Fairview. The Longfield Cottages are to be seen in the 1881 census, they housed five families. Associated buildings date to before 1840.



The rear of the Longfield Cottages shows more detail as they comprised of a small Smithy with stabling. Ivy Cottage at the end of the row was included in this designation but not individually named until c.1930.

**Lymden.** Flixton Road.

Partnered to **Thornelea** and just after Brook Road this pair were in between the road corner and the two shops there. For 1926 Sydney Booth was living there for that year. First found recorded in c.1909-10.

**Lymehurst.** (Lime Hurst) 181 Flixton Road & Lime Ave

Large for this part of town, it was quite stately in its appearance and possibly was owned by someone of an equal stature when first a home. The Hurst, owned by Charles Smith in 1874, had dining, drawing and breakfast room, kitchen, scullery and china closet, four bedrooms, dressing room and bathroom with lavatory. There were five attic bedrooms and six flagged cellars all dry, and a spacious garden large enough for further development as three acres were available.

Other families found were for 1881 when the Whitnall and the Aldreds lived there. In 1898 Robert Tong is listed as the occupant he was replaced by Martin James Pickwick around 1920. As Martin became the superintendent it suggests this was when the house changed to flats, he was flowed by Mrs. Elizabeth Pickwick for 1938. Its three floored grandeur was very typical for the period in which it was built. Since 1990 it has been used as a Private Day Nursery. The spelling of Lyme with a Y is indicated at the gate post.

**Lyndoch Mount.** 102-104 Flixton Road

As a semidetached home it sat close to the 'Congy' Church at Newton Road. For 1894 there were homeowners of Miller and Captain William Howat RN. William who died in 1895 was highly honoured during his service for bravery above the call of duty.

**Maple House.** 81 Flixton Road (South)

The house was part of a semi along with **Bromleigh** and in 1911 Robert Parkinson lived in this the righthand side of it. Hidden from the road it was one of the later additions to the line of homes here. Maple's description for 1922 was Hall, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom, separate w c, outside wash house and coal shed. The gardens were reported as well laid out.

**Marfitt. Thomas Edward** General Store Flixton Road

This store closed up for good in July 1882. A position has been found for its existence, that of the corner at Newton. It is entered here to show a date of business operation at an early time for the central district. Thomas sold diversified goods as well as grocery: Scales, canisters, utensils, and gifts to name a few.

**Millatts Barn.** Flixton Road

Many versions of spelling over the years but the name originates from its owners of 1802 James Millatt and 1823 William Millatt. A barn, a post office, shops; this small building saw much life on the edge of the grounds to Flixton House and Flixton Station. Originally as Millatts, this Tithe barn was for the local collection of tax. (See Tithe) The remaining building was not the barn itself, this fell to the rear, being removed c.1950 leaving only the administration house to be converted into shops. A date of c.1768 has been the earliest date found so far for the barn's origins. Termed as "sub-standard" in 1957 it was to be closed and removed.

**Millatts Farm.** Flixton.

William Millatt died in 1833, his wife, placed the farm on the market for sale in the same year. Fifteen acres of land accompanied the farm which was attached to the Ralph Wright Estate close by on Flixton Road. The address of the actual farm was usually given as Church Lane in most documents and dates from the time as indicated for the barn. An actual farm barn sat behind the cottages of Mersey View with the possibility of them belonging to the farm's origins.

**Mitchell and Spittall.** Flixton Road

This team worked as builders and contractors in Urmstons early 1890's. Operating from the site next to the Hughenden it is also thought they had a small timber mill there too. Thomas Mitchell took control in 1904 as the partnership broke up, he carried on at the Flixton Road company where as Andrew Spittall took his share to a Lily Street office. The street address for 1898 stated they were at the corner of Wycliffe and next to the Congregational Church, crossing the road later.

**Molyneux & West Ltd.** 29-41 Flixton Road

Possibly the largest garage in Urmston for the time on Flixton Road, they took over from where Tumbelty & Davies Ltd. left off around 1935. Not only car service kept the company busy, they built Fork Trucks powered by BSA Industrial Units. Conversions from standard cars into racing cars became a lucrative addition keeping all employed until about 1970. It was reported they had the first sign printed on their tow truck in reverse for reading through mirrors. The partnership began on Higher Road before the move into these premises.

**Moore. J. A.** Fancy Dealer Flixton Road

Number 36 between Winifred and Grosvenor Roads had James Alan Moore selling the wares with his wife Jane. The shop ran until around 1915 when it became Alice Webb outfitting.

**Moorside Terrace.** Flixton Road

This group was to be found between Lily Street and Roseneath Road in 1878. They were numbered as 54-70 and all were shop fronted after conversion from homes. One home (No.68) became the consulting rooms for Dr. Charles Glover Thorp for 1902. Today they run from Grosvenor to the English Martyrs Church. This block is the only left today that still has an original doorway incorporated showing how it looked back in the 1870's. In fact, it is the only original doorway left along the converted homes to shops for all of Flixton Road. The building carries a date stone centrally placed.



Moorside Terrace over one hundred years:



1900



1950



2000

#### **Moss Cottage.** Flixton Road Urmston

The cottage was compact and included a brew house, stable, and outbuildings. A garden and accompanying field called Little Moss came with the home in 1833. It was owned by John Gregory. Maps show the cottage on Flixton Road with the Moss Farm. The local builder and Joiner William Hulme made this his home during the 1920's with the delightful change in name to Honey Moss Cottage.

#### **Moss Farm.** Flixton Road

This agricultural holding was close to the present Urmston Railway Station. 1898 had the farmer as Henry Sutton and he was still there recorded in 1926. All of the buildings that start today with Wetherspoons and revert to the station are built on the farmlands. Knowing this dated them as c.1930 due to the fact Moss Farm was still entered in Slater's at this period. Most of its farmlands would have been lost to the railway line with it operating in accordance as a small holding.



Some question the location of **Moss Farm** being on Flixton Road, often depicted in pictures it is difficult to accept where it sat. This photo shows quite clearly the shops before Grosvenor Road with the farm directly across.

#### **Mossfield. 93 Flixton Road (South)**

The homemaker for 1898 was Jesse Dobson and in 1901 it was Mrs. Elizabeth Birtill she had the semidetached house to the left of **Brantwood**, the other named portion. For the early years they had the Hughenden as their next-door neighbour. 1938 had R. Knight noted here along with a Book Club.



#### **Mossfield Terrace.** Flixton Road



Known to have been built for the Stott Mill employees it is to be found in the lists of the 1881 census. The mill was much earlier being opened in 1851 so this block could have been built well before the census referred to here. The terrace was first noted here for the presence of a Letter Box in 1891 and a Police Station (usually a residence) in 1898 Constable Robert Porter in attendance. This terrace still stands almost filling the block between the Flixton Girls' School and Brook Road. Incorporated in this block were two shops which increased to four. Only one named home in the whole row that of Pennyhoyle at 276.

**1922** brought forward a butcher shop here at number 21; it included a slaughterhouse with its accommodation. This was located to the rear of the shop and had been operated by William Gilbody since 1907. When the mill closed in 1929 the block went with it as a part and parcel to the property for sale. The homes were 3 bed roomed, 3 living rooms, bath and kitchen. The agent advised they were on a 1000-year lease that dated from 1913 and that all the mines and minerals under the property are **not included**.



The Slaughter House.

The four **Mossfield shops** for 1938 were:  
William Houghton. as a Beer retailer.  
Whittaker. Bakery.  
Nuttall. Shopkeeper undisclosed business.  
Tennant S. Slaughterhouse and Butchery.



#### **Mulberry Tree Cottage.** 318 Flixton Road



This simple cottage from c.1802 has been beautifully restored to a fine standard showing what love and care can be done to preserve a small piece of local history.

**Music School.** 57 Flixton Road

Teacher of music, E. Parker was the most well-known in the area for 1950.



Later the Parkers moved to Church Road and into a private residence to continue with this type of schooling. In earlier days c.1910 you would have gone to the Hughenden on Flixton Road where the daughters of John Hughenden, Maud and Rosetta, taught lessons.



Flixton Road



Church Road

**Newton Villas.** Flixton Road

This pair of homes sat next to the Congregational Church on Flixton Road. Early names for here were Walter E. Jameson and his neighbour was Mrs. Elizabeth Hulme. At the time of 1898 the Villa was numbered as 98 & 100.

**Oakside.** 80 Flixton Road

Listed in the street directory of 1898 this house appeared as the Presbytery for the English Martyrs Mission. It sat with a tennis club behind that was addressed as number 94. (The Urmston Tennis Club was situated at Wycliffe for that time) Known is that an organist J. Augustus Riley lived there around 1918.

**Oakside Terrace.** Flixton Road

This terrace had accommodation for nine families, eight along Flixton Road and one reaching into Wycliffe Road. Shop fronted they dated from around 1898 with numbers of 80-96. Living at number 90 in that year was the noted George Ernest Fryer who moved into Arrandale on Crofts Bank Road leaving it to the Urmston Council on his passing.

**Oban Villa.** 46-48 Flixton Road

Also known as Urban Villa it was established in 1880 with Samuel Grimshaw at home. As a building it sat along with **Alton Villa** for its neighbour. It was the home of Gifford and Davidson for the early time of 1882. The year of 1900 had William Stubbs and Franklin Grey living in Oban.

This small block would have been residential at the period and then they were converted into shops, a practice followed in early 1930 Urmston. The pair included four bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, bathroom and w/c. Its beginning signage still stands in the form of stonework on Flixton Road. The census of 1880 indicates that the Villa was the only building on that side of Flixton Road until Moorfield House was reached on Crofts Bank Road. It carried the Number of 1 Flixton Road.

**Park House and Cottage.** Flixton Road

Park House, long gone, was situated between Junction Cottage at Irlam Road, across from the Alker Hall and before Flixton House. The area of land was known as Peers Fold. The 1881 directory shows George Kenworthy (1840-1889) and his wife Ellen (1844-1885) living there with two servants. An obituary for a resident Ann Wright Lee is known and dated as 1875. It was after that date Andrew Jackson was to be found there staying until c.1908 and Thomas Helsby 1910. Thomas Ball was in the cottage for 1908 he is the earliest found to date.

A known amount of five bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, kitchen, and a bathroom with w c, stables and coach house, harness room, loose box, private offices, all set in well planted grounds. In 1926 the house had Charles Slade and the cottage Josiah Wolstenholme.

Cartography and documentation indicate that the coach house, now accepted as a part Flixton House, originally belonged to Park House. Oldest date traced at this time is 1848 as recorded on O/S mapping with the Park House removal date approved in 1938. It took several years to the final demolition. Findings indicate the house and cottage were included in the Wright Estate.

**Partington Bros.** 64-66 Flixton Road

The 1930 Furniture business operated by these brothers did not show for long the stock went for sale in the year they opened.

**Peers Fold.** Flixton Road

This was the site of the pseudo Hathaway Cottages living in them were for 1861 was William Collier in one and Royle family in the other followed by Mrs. Alice Pierpoint and William Henry Lockett for the early 1900's. The name is referred to as **Peers, Peers, or Penn** in varied documentation. The land would have been from the Alker Hall to Apsley Terrace. In the year of 1898 the cottages were called by their Stratford names Lucy Wilcock in Hathaway and William Preston in Shakespeare.

### Pear Tree Cottage. Flixton Road



Following on from the Longfield Cottages this single home was in the hands of a Joiner & Undertaker for 1900 called Joseph Chapleo. The cottage looked to be a part of the Longfield group however it was listed as separate in directories. Known from 1840 it has now been confirmed, it is around for today sitting behind some trees after the terrace.



### Powell. Joseph Grocery and Confectioner Flixton Road



This pair of shops on Flixton Road was run by its owner Joe Powell he had a third shop at Woodsend around 1955. All three shops offered food basics in a friendly style to his regular customers. This particular Flixton Road shop has retained many of the features that show it as a normal home. The fireplaces are intact with wooden cupboards as they were. The upper rooms still have all their original mouldings and skirting boards complete with solid wooden flooring. The shop was once the fine dining home of Isinglass which has since closed and reopened under different dining guises.

### Precinct. Flixton and Crofts Bank Roads

The shopping centre called the Precinct was planned to be called the **Moorfield Centre**. Built on an area that was once Winifred Road, here was one of Urmstons earliest Co-op stores that sat on the Flixton Road end of the project. In 1965 it was considered very modern in its approach to shopping. By 1969 the last houses on the site were removed for further development and the project was completed in 1971. The first supermarket was Redmond's as anchor store.



The Centre was built by the Metropolitan Railway Surplus Lands Co. Ltd. Because of Urmstons connection to having council offices in the house of Moorfield this name was carried into the Precinct as Moorfield Walk. The plans showed that this first project was to begin in 1964 which became June 1965. It was to include a bowling alley, restaurants, a cafe, 54 shops and a supermarket. The Conservative Club was to be included with offices and flats. All this would be completed in two years, **as stated earlier it was finally finished in 1971**. The Precinct was noted as being the Norths first town centre to be traffic free.

**Forty odd years later** and into the 2000's it was to be re-vamped into an upscale centre with present day expectations. The replacement centre got under way and its date for the completion of the **first phase** 2009 was met, it does have a name, **Eden Square**. The second phase was halted and under revision due to the economic climate which made it the longest 'project' ever for central Urmston however, continuing as of 2012.

### Eden Square. Urmston

This is the new name for the Precinct started as of 2009. The architects for this project were Broadway Malyan. Phase 1 has been opened with Sainsbury as the anchor store and the library too has become active once more in the centre. The Conservative Club have added their presence returning to a dedicated site included in the complex. When completed there were to be 14 shop units along with the anchor store, library, and 3 restaurants. Planned are 64 new homes (Eventually 144) and a car park.



**New plans** were submitted for changes to the original scheme so that the second phase can be completed. There was to be a considerable reduction in the number of flats and alterations to the size of the shops. **As of 2012** the chain store of Aldi opened and there was confirmation of completion for the end of the year. (This turned out to be true) Wright Construction of Preston was

engaged to complete the work. The opening proceedings were held in some style with the Mayor of Trafford officiating to the accompaniment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme Scout Band. The main walk through this complex is called Golden Way.

### Seals. Old Precinct.

Centred in the Precinct mid-1960's there was a sculpture depicting a pod of three Seals. Very popular with children they became a



toy rather than art. During modifications to the centre they were removed and lost to Urmston. The seals were destroyed by the local council as a health and safety problem. To settle any argument as to what they were, generally seals have no ears whereas sea lions have. (Precinct no ears) Research has found these were a particular local artist's work, in fact two artists. They were constructed by John and Jane Hughes, made of fibreglass, and intended as a play area when installed.



### Yates Wine Lodge. Old Precinct



The lodge opened up in the old Precinct bringing their unique style to Urmston. It was a successful venture until around 1987 when it finally closed. The wine lodges were the earliest of business efforts to break away from the traditional pub, as it was known in the district. Popular for a while but this venture eventually led to failure. This is one example of the shopping features the Precinct offered besides the Seals art form.

### Raslie. Flixton Road

Directly after the Longfield Cottages and the Pear Tree Cottage came Raslie. It was known to be a semi with **Ryvington** as its mate. This house is directly at the corner of Spennithorne. An owner there left for overseas in 1913 to show an early date for the house and a further report of 1926 showed that Raslie was the home of John Brownhill. John lived here into 1940 and possibly longer.



**Reade House.** Flixton and Western Roads

O/S maps indicate the house was there in 1848 found was that it was owned 1868-1906 by Samuel John Reade the house has been replaced by flats as of 1947. The year of 1867 showed William Edwards to be the tenant before Mr. Reade arrived here from the Manor House, Humphrey Lane, shortly after marrying the sister of Sir Bosdin Leech. Samuel passed away in 1906 the house was later bought by a gentleman called Cyril Burton who lived there until it was demolished c.1938.

The house itself was two storied and of Georgian style, its main feature was the front door which was housed under a four round column step way. In its later years the ivy totally covered the facade and only the windows could be seen. Surrounded by a low wall which carried wrought iron railings, the garden was well treed.

The interior comprised of a ground floor drawing room, dining room, kitchen, and pantry. Four bedrooms with dressing rooms were on the upper floor. Its outbuildings included stables, coach house, and wash house as well as offices. An orchard and gardens completed the home. The sale of the gardens, greenhouses and equipment took place in 1917 without any specific reason found.

**Reade House Flats.** Flixton and Western Roads

Eleven flats were built on the old site of Reade House by owner builder John Maunders and Sons in 1947. These flats were described as being the first built in South-east Lancashire by private enterprise since the war.

**Reade Shopping strip plaza.**

The row of shops could be found alongside the Reade House Flats. However, there appeared to be three shops in existence before this row was finally built. 1938 records that, Dyson as a news agent, Holdsworth with the Butchery and, Robinson had a Bakery here. The matching architecture with the Reade flats creates the idea that they were removed or extended into the row by architect J. L. Edwards. A 1949 presence here was Bents Radio and TV at No. 439.

**Rig Engineering Industrial site.** Flixton Road

This engineering company occupied a building to one side of the Hughenden. They followed on from a construction company called Mitchell and Spittall. Hidden away behind an allotment the building has been the source of many rumours. A corrugated half dome made up the structure that some said was once a roller rink, others a bowling alley, at one time or another. Nothing had ever been confirmed on the subject until a newspaper cutting turned up to say it was a Roller Rink under the name of Hughenden. They state it was owned by John Hughes from next door. The premises carried the fancy note of being Hughenden Hall c.1970. **Rig** was established in 1942 and liquidated 1977. A current owner here is Haves more famous for the dairy than engineering.

**Roles Dairy.**

Frank Roles set up a dairy utilising the Bath Cottages at the corner of Penny Lane. Beginning somewhere around 1930 the dairy was operating in the 1960's when it was taken for redevelopment as housing.

**Rose Cottage.** 394 Flixton Road

This particular Rose was a neighbour to the Hulme Timber Yard on one side and Apsley on the other it is dated 1863. For 1898 George Pearson an Over looker stayed and James Francis, who was a Boot maker, kept house in 1901. The cottage was originally a small two bed roomed home this has been altered and extended to allow a larger family. A feature here now is its well-tended garden.

**Rose Cottage.** 134 Flixton Road

The third cottage of this name around Flixton Road this one recorded in the 1898 directory showed Jonathon Gilbody dwelling in it. It sat with Ivy Cottage, across the road from the Longfield version of Ivy, directly opposite Fairview Terrace and on the corner of Mayfield.

**Ruscoe Drapers.** 44 Flixton Road

A well-respected draper whose business flourished until her passing in 1907. It became Stephens and Briggs who continued with drapery and outfitting.

**Ryvington.** Flixton Road.

1926 showed this home a short way after the Longfield Terrace, Joseph Stewart held residence at that time, but Mrs Laura Stewart had the deeds around 1939. The house was semidetached and mated to **Raslie** on the corner of Spennithorn.

**Sandown Cottages.** Flixton

Two cottages that sat close to the Bird in Hand for c.1840 and this name is used today for Sandown Gardens. The two cottages sat between the Bird in Hand and Hawthorne Cottage and were often confused with Acregate Cottages which were behind the Bird. These old homes were demolished in 1970, replaced by new bungalows.

**Sandy Croft. Flixton Road (South)**

The Croft here had double occupancy in 1895 with James Robinson and Mrs. J. L. Sykes, for 1901, George Franklin and again Mrs. Sykes. One in a row of lookalike homes prior to the Hughenden. (Presently numbered as 75-77) The Hon. Treasurer for St. Clement's School, G. Willis was resident here.

**Seymour Mead & Co. Flixton Road**

As a grocery and provisions company Meads set up in Urmston around the 1920's. In 1926 they were located at 28 Flixton Road. In 1938 their premises were to be found across the road and on the **south** side. After vacating the Billiard Hall, which they used under the name of Vernon, they moved to the old Co-op premises on Higher Road with other branches on Station Road. The company was established in Stretford during 1860 by Sir Thomas Seymour Mead. By 1950 Moore & Co. Grocers had bought out Mead and Burgons but they still operated in competition with each other on the high streets. The company opened another shop directly on Davyhulme Circle for 1965.

**Silverdale. Flixton Road**

An entry for 1928-38 had Geoffrey and Thomas Robinson in these as cottages for the road shortly after the Hughenden. It was one of a pair the other being called **The Bungalow**. As market gardeners and nursery men it is presumed, they operated on the land alongside for this period.

**Smithy Lane.**

The section of Flixton Road that passed by the Clare/Thomas Millwrighting and Smithy establishment adjacent to Irlam Road.

**Station Garage. Flixton Road**

At Flixton Station this old garage sat between the Flixton Road Bridge and the Grove. Believed to have been initiated by Robert Norcup a chauffeur at the Flixton Grange. During the time of 1938 and into the 1950's. The proprietor was a gentleman called Arthur Richardson and he offered a welding service which supplemented the garage. 1928 documents had a partnership of Evans and Norcup running this place with Cleveland as the brand. The just before it fell to a new chain of petrol stations it was run by A. & C. Wild. Currently it is a modern petrol and service station under the banner of BP. This site took away the shop built here after the Stocks Terrace replacement shop was removed.



- **Station View. Flixton Road**



A pair here were later accompanied by other shops. The four, as it became, stood alone across from the Millatts Tithe Barn during the early 1900's. This block was then expanded to six units over the ensuing years.

**Four shops.**

**Six shops.**

**Station View. Shops 1898-1928****1898**

The earliest records for the view show that only two places of the four were occupied in its youngest years. The **Post Office**, with Edwin Mather he also had a **Stationery** and Tobacco business fronting the office, and Herbert Ferris running a **Drapery**.

**1901-1909**

The **Post Office** held firm and took the Williams Deacons **Bank** for its Neighbour, Herbert Ferris kept his **Drapery** with the next two shops filled, a **Grocer** by the name of Walton Bros and Misses Mary and Georgina Johnson and their **Confections**.

Herbert Ferris sold up his **Drapery** business here. Lock, stock, and barrel, it went for £335.00 in 1908. Pictures of 1905 do not show the Bank contradicting the street directory information.



1901 Mather Ferris Walton Johnson

**1911** the expansion in evidence, a Plumber Harry Chadderton tagged on after the same named shops. One small correction in that Mary Johnson was now Helen and the pair had installed the Telephone Call Agency for Flixton in their shop.

**1919** the first completed showing for all six shops. James Smith now ran the PO and Stationery. The Bank was trading but the last four units now had numbers. In No.17 Albert Scowcroft offered Grocery, No.19 as previous the Confectioners, Helen and Georgina Johnson, No.21 Miss Emma Whyte Draper, and No.22 the Plumber Harry Chadderton.

**1928** the P. O. and Bank, no change, at No.17 Reg Brown had the Grocery and No.19 Johnny Johnson was with a Greengrocery. No.21 the same confectioners who now had another Bank for a neighbour, at No.23 the Lancashire & Yorkshire Ltd. Edward William Shuttleworth became the latest member as a Chemist at No.25. This totalled seven different businesses and accounted for the additional extension known for today.

**1938** Once more the Post, and Deacon's Bank showed no change, Mrs M. Brown now ran the Grocery and Mrs. Mary Johnson the Greengrocers and Bakery next door. Martins Bank now had the sub-branch open, then as previous Shuttleworth the Chemist. At the onset four shops were built this became six in a continued architectural style. The last did not fit the way of things and stood out from all the others. They were the only shops between Ambleside Road and Reade House at Western Road for the time.



**Stephens and Briggs.** 44 Flixton Road

A 1907 drapery and clothing outfitter established in Urmston. Another side to this business was the purchasing of stock in trade for resale. The shop changed hands from Ruscoe's but only until 1909 when John Furness took it.

**Sunnyhurst.** Flixton Road

This house came directly after Spennithorne Road and was home to the Reverend A. J. Tennyson in 1926. The resident for 1939 was Frederick Lewtas. This was a semidetached and the second home was called **Broom Lea**.



**Sunnyside.** 106-112 Flixton Road

The strip of four here of the 1890's is no more, it was home to many families and in 1898 the homemakers were the Rawcliffe, Inglefield, Eaton, and Shawcross families. Directly at the end of Sunnyside a Doctor held practice called Edwin Quayle.

**Sweet Green.** 132 Flixton Road



The home here dates back to 1844 and shows a stone to confirm it. The lettering of F. J. and M. included reads as Faulkner John and Martha which was taken from the 1851 census. John passed away in 1860 he is buried at St. Michaels. Edmond Faulkner held house here in 1901 he inherited the home from his father Samuel who died in 1874. A family called Edwards lived here for 1929. Offered for sale in 1955 Sweet Green was a detached residence with three bedrooms. Its main attraction was its location and further building land adjoining. Currently 2014 it is housing a medical centre.

**Tetlow. H. & J.** Flixton Road

Harry, who lived in a home called Lynton on Davyhulme Road, and James began in Urmston for 1908 when they opened a major transport repair company in Urmston. Tetlows actually started as a garage on **Davyhulme View**, near to Abbotsfield c.1908-48.



They were very original in the name for the site in calling it *The Garage*. This progressed to where they had a large workshop with five buses. They called their passenger service the Blue Bus; this became North Western by 1925 with a large workshop on Higher Road. Tetlow as H & J owned a later named company calling it **Davyhulme Garage** into c.1955. This could be found on Lostock Road with sales and service. During the time for this company it changed to Tetlow and Collier.



**The Acre.** 4 Flixton Road

Members of the Collier family made this their home in the early 1880's. In fact, a son was born there to John and Emma in 1879. Judging by the address this was a cottage in the vicinity of the Moss Farm.

**The Cedars.** 51-53 Flixton Road

A semidetached along the **south** of the road in 1897 it had the Hardie and Arthur Shaw families living there. Both showing into 1901 with Arthur staying until 1912.

**The Ferns.** 63-65 Flixton Road (**Fern Lea** 1898)

This semidetached house completed a row of this type of home here on the **south** side. The fourth of its kind leading towards Longfield in 1900 had Henry Sills and William Wright in residence. A home later converted into a shop.

**The Firs.** 45 Flixton Road

The year of 1898 made this a mate to **The Hollies** which was at 43 Flixton Road. Thomas Longbottom is known here for then.

**The Hollies.** Flixton Road.

This was a semidetached house alongside the Moss Farm having tenants in 1898 of Frederick Jones and 1901 Charles West. This pair was numbered as 43-45 on the **west** side of town. There is a coupling to **The Firs** known for here.

**The Hut.** Flixton Road

On the corner of Monksdale Avenue, Thomas Jeffrey conducted a shoe repair business during the 1920's under this name. Its location was shown as being at the corner with the Flixton Cottage.

**The Willows.** Flixton Road

See Willow Farm for information.

**The Woodlands.** 47-49 Flixton Road

A house on the **south** side for 1900 which was semidetached and had the gentlemen called Alfred Johnston and Harry Grosskopf as tenants. This was one converted home that was made into a current shop.

**Thorne Lea.** Flixton Road

The street information of 1926 gives this house following the corner of Brook Road with a partner called **Lynden**. They appear to be names for the pair which came directly before two shops and Alice Ann Terrace. For the period, William Shawcross, a builder was in this first one. The house was introduced in street references to Flixton c.1909 but obviously arrived much earlier posing the thought they belonged with the farm.

**Thorn Farm.** Flixton Road

Found in the 1898 and 1904 street index's is that the farm was between the Bird in Hand and Junction Cottage along Flixton Road. The farmer in charge for these years was Henry Barlow. Slightly before this William Burgess married in 1892 and moved in with his wife Elizabeth nee Hamnett. It is assumed that Thorn Cottage on the corner of Brook Road was named for, or connected to, this farm and its small acreage as they sat almost opposite to each other. The farm's earliest date is 1888 and disappeared from listings after 1911. Due to location and similarity between names the chance of this also being Hawthorne Farm exists. Add the known Hawthorne Cottage, which could be found here close to the Bird in Hand, makes it a distinct possibility.

**Thornfield.** 89 Flixton Road (**South**)

For 1898 John Burrows lived in this home which sat opposite Newton Road and had **Brierfield** as its companion. Arthur Burrows trailed John for 1902. Thornfield is the righthand home of the two. It had six bedrooms and two entertaining rooms, box room, kitchen with scullery. The comfortable home contained the luxury of two w/c's, cellars, and room outside to show off a croquet lawn. Fred Colebourn, a teacher of music, placed himself here for 1939 to 1940.

**Timpson. W.** Flixton Road.

This well-known shoe outlet was into its existence for 1940 and on only to be converted into a bar called **The Chadwick** around 2002. It was a double fronted shop with window displays each side of the front door, unusual for Flixton Road.

**Upton.** Flixton Road

A grocer of renown that traded here during the 1940-50 era, number 328 was home.

**Urmston, Flixton, & Davyhulme Times.** Flixton Road

A version of this local paper was run from here at No.111 Mrs. Mary Breckell as proprietress in 1938.

**Urmston High School.** Flixton Road

This early Urmston High could be found at the corner of Wycliffe Road. Built c.1874 this became the first version of the Congregational Church. The school also became known as **Wheetmans** for the people that ran it. The school is entered for 1882-1884 before it moved to Ross Grove and the Roman Catholic School took temporary residence 1891-1900. English Martyrs enlarged the school and added the iron church.

**Wheetmans.** Flixton Road

A School opened at this point c.1870 associated to the Congregational Church. Trafford Library research shows there was a High School there and the introduced by the Church. It was, in part, used as a Sunday school.



The school at Roseneath.

**Vernon. Walter** Butcher Flixton Road

A traditional family butcher of long standing and operating on Flixton Road with a fine reputation. For some time before Howarth moved into their present location, Vernon had occupancy of the same old Flixton Road shop. In fact, it took Walter's retirement in the 1960's to vacate the building. While there the small field alongside was kept for livestock and slaughtering as it was carried out on the premises.

**Walton Wallpaper.** Flixton Road

In the 1950's this shop selling paint and wallpaper was run by Joseph and Helen Hamlett as a franchise for Crown Wallpaper. Today, it is currently as a cafe.

**Warwick Cottage.** Flixton Road

The year of 1919 showed this cottage as being the neighbour, or adjoined, to the Hathaway Cottage. They were removed to accommodate the Alker Hall and caretaker's cottage.

**Whitegate Tavern.** Flixton Road

This was the Holding Company for the better-known Britannia Restaurant. From the beginnings as the Gas Showrooms which were converted into this bar/restaurant.

**Whitelake Shops.** Flixton Road (Whitelake Avenue)

Here at this corner were three shops found to be established and in business slightly before 1938. Neighbour to the Institute was a grocer called Sydney Welsh with him came Charles William Ashton as a newsagent and last for the three Mrs. Winifred Clark offered drapery.

**Willows Cottage.** Flixton Road

While living at the cottage Amos Shawcross had a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, in 1887. It is probable the home was Willows Farm.

**Willows Farm.** Aka. **The Willows** Flixton Road

A small holding of farmland (6½ Acres) shown in 1880 when it was the property of Joseph Kidd the land was taken later by



Ormerod Whittam as farmer for 1898. It retained its place as neighbour to the gradual encroachment of the Senior School and domestic properties. Eventually, its coverage was limited and was lost around 1950. The farm which faced the Abbotsfield Club had a market garden approach. It was run by the Fielding's, Edward and Sarah, 1935 to 1945. Then the Ernill family from 1945 to about the time it was to close up, it was then taken by the UUDC.

In 1969 and 1973 and again in 2000 the council made application to build houses on the remaining land and at this time it was referred to as **Abbotsfield Nursery**. The original farmhouse was made up of three entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, four bed rooms, two bathrooms with w c's, and outbuildings. There was a garage also on the premises with Dog Kennels added for 1914 then into 1917 and an attempt at being a nursery with fruit and flowers taking precedence. 100 pigs and two boars were the next venture to fail as all were to be disposed of in 1918. The small holding business was a hard sell. After sharing the lands with the School two semidetached homes were built in 1971 cornering Malvern.

**Wills. G. H.** Confectionery Flixton Road

The shop was slightly after Park Road and confectioners around 1900. George Herbert Wills was well established occupying the shop for over forty years. He saw the number change from 38 to 42 during this time.

**Woodbine.** Flixton Road

This Woodbine was a pair of dwellings in 1898 that had the names of Henry Glover and Joshua Code in house. This was to be found between Apsley Terrace and Western Road. Woodbine was still there in 1926 with Joshua still feeling at home. The picture shows the only standing building of that era at this location and it is confirmed as to it being Woodbine. As a semidetached house it has been converted over time into the current shops.



An article of 1907 covering this 'Country home' treated all to the rooms, included were: five bedrooms, two sitting rooms, bath, kitchen etc. The large productive gardens covered front and back.

**Woods Farm and Cottages.** Flixton Road

This Woods Farm and associated cottages sat on Penny Lane for 1755. They were positioned along Penny Lane and behind the Bird in Hand. This has been followed and found was that the farm was Abbots originally. The farm was referred to often in the Bottoms Trial for a point of reference. The records offer that this was **Shaw House** for position.

**Wride's Radio.** 43 Flixton Road

Wride actually had two shops the second was at 2 Lostock Road Davyhulme. Managed by a gentleman called Mr. Nicholas, in 1935 they were purported to be Urmstons oldest radio dealership offering Murphy, console type, radios at £11 each or 2/10 per week. Another claim was that they sold the first ever radio set bought in Urmston. The shop at 43 Flixton Road went into voluntary liquidation in 1937. It is not known if the 8 Flixton Road shop continued at the same time.

**Wride. James** 8 Flixton Road

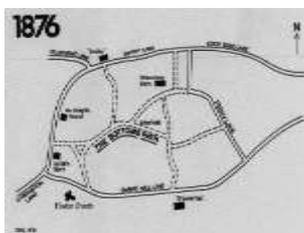
The shop of Wride in this instance was a Stationer that included picture framing, bookbinding and printing services in 1898. Many historical photographs are to be found as post cards under the name of J. Wride, particularly of Urmston. He was still around, according to documents, in 1936 but before that in 1919 he lived at Lea Side on Meadow Gate and later a home in The Park off Railway Road. James introduced wireless sales to his shop in 1925 adding photographic equipment to his already booming stationery business.

(The shop is currently Santander Bank 2019)



- **Footpaths.**

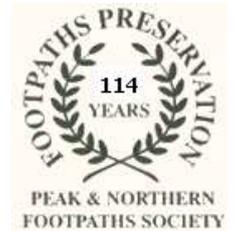
Since the "Battle of the footpaths" in 1826 many trails and right of way footpaths have been lost to Urmston. The main reason for this is that generally they remain unknown to the public. Once developers build on them, they are gone, forever. Traditional walks like Bottom's Path are a part of Urmstons heritage but soon there will be nothing left, as they are ill maintained.



In 1976 the **Peak and Northern Footpath Society** conducted a survey regarding old paths in the district. After comparing the results with a similar task done in 1876, they found 50% had been lost. Since that time each trail was numbered for future reference. A newer numbering system is available from the Trafford Local Studies.

### Peak & Northern.

The Peak and Northern Footpath Society was formed after conflict between a local squire and the people of Flixton over footpath right of way. (1826) Squire Ralph Wright tried to close all footpaths on his land but the Flixton populous fought it out in court winning the "*Battle of the footpaths*" as it was called. Both walking clubs for the district, The Fell Walkers and Moorside (Urmston) are, or were, associated with Peak.



**Any problems occurring with local footpaths can be reported to this society for investigation after informing local authority and they are still found to be neglect.**

### Bottoms Path. Flixton

As a public footpath commonly known as the cinder track, it follows the railway from Flixton Railway Station to Penny Lane and alongside the now municipal golf course. 1824 saw conflict with the local Squire over rights to this and the public won the battle after three years of litigation 1827. The word Bottom refers to a field location and not a personal name connected to this court room dispute. The court case of Bottoms was long and drawn out, far too much to include here. Squire Wright did not want the public to walk along or around his fields.



Bottoms in 1969

The pathways in this region were well trod long before the Squire took his stance and the courts decided they were to remain that way as **rights of way for all time**.



Bottoms in 2018

The public took a walk down the path in 1976 to commemorate 150 years since the battle.

### Footpath Closures.

#### Irlam Road

An application to government was made in 1934 to close certain footpaths by the UUDC. The area of concern was a link from Irlam Road through to Western and Ambleside Roads. A long legal process had to be undertaken in the public interest for this loss of pathway. The land was required for new roads and housing around the Ambleside Estate. To appease the loss of this land alternates were offered and approved to compensate the action.

#### Bent Lanes.

Notice was given for the closure of footpaths and the Bent Lanes Bridge in 1905. The affected paths and bridge were south of the Sewerage Works and this had become necessary for future development. It took a hearing in the House of Commons to allow this to happen with permission granted. Further to this there was another occurrence when the path was closed alongside Primrose Terrace in 1926, it passed by Bromyhurst Farm and connected to another leg of Bent Lanes.

#### Irlam and Flixton Roads.

A footpath that began at this corner and crossed the Flixton fields to St. Michael's Church was eventually closed at the tunnel and cattle arch. The tunnel was filled in due to vagrancy making the path of no use.

#### Stretford Road.

Once a footpath took its way from behind Woods Grange Farm and led to the Crossford Bridge at Sale. This was lost due to the construction of the Motorway. The existence of many paths around Hillam and Newcroft was known, all lost to the Carrington Spur.

These are the notable paths other smaller versions around town have been lost or at least altered.

- **Forest Court.** Flixton

The Court is made up of 22 units but with no further detail.

- **Franklyn Avenue.** Flixton

As with many it had 1935 as a starting date for its 1-16 homes. The English term for Franklyn means 'Kind and free landowner'.

- **Friends of the Parks.**

This not a new idea 1944 showed there were groups being formed with the same purpose as today. Generally, they came about due to what was then called hooliganism; Davyhulme Park in particular was being trashed on a regular basis. The clock from the clubhouse was found in the ponds, trees were sliced of bark and after planting 100 shrubs they were stolen one day later. Events of this nature were reported in Golden Hill and Chassen Parks.

All parks in the district are available for the public to enjoy. Trafford Council offer residents the option of creating a group to look after the interest of each or any such park land on a voluntary basis. This scheme has this been taken up by many since its conception, Higher Road Recreation is **unclaimed**, and Kingsway is back up for grabs. Trafford list all the official parks that are available to the public with a rating as to the age suggested for their amenities there.

The parks are alphabetically: Abbotsfield, Broadway, Davyhulme, Flixton, Golden Hill, and Higher Road, which is becoming known as Albert Park, Kingsway, Valley Road South, and Woodsend. Not mentioned are Humphrey Crescent, Shaw View field, and the Meadows in the total acreage of 132 that carry the designation as Open Space and Recreational Grounds.

#### **Friends of Abbotsfield Park.**

A newly formed group of concerned citizens has come together with this park in mind. They have called themselves the 'Abbotsfield Parkies' with the aim of improving all amenities.

#### **Friends of Broadway Park.**

This became a fledgling group in 2012 with the locals around the park starting out as a new venture. Presently work has centred on a children's play area with more to come.

#### **Friends of Davyhulme Park.**

The year of 2009 saw the beginnings of interest in forming an association to this park. The initiative forwarded by Trafford has been taken up by residents who have convened and try to sort out the various problems Davyhulme Park lands are experiencing. Starting out as a group of three already they have achieved much with the park receiving a Trafford Green Space silver award for 2010. This an upward step as the previous year 2009 they reached a bronze. The Friends have been approved for a grant of £75,000 to upgrade the children's play area as of 2011.

#### **Friends of Flixton Gardens.**

A re-launch of this group took place in 2017. Their intent is to revitalise the grounds of Flixton House. An associate group takes in the Flixton House itself. The group achieved **Green Flag** status for the gardens in 2018.

#### **Friends of the Flixton Parish Church.**

The church listed as a building of historic and architectural interest, but the church receives no financial support from the government or public body. In 1944 the parishioners decided to form a group that would aid the preservation of the past, and the future, of the structure. An annual event took place to celebrate the society on the nearest Sunday to St. Michael's Day.

#### **Friends of Golden Hill.**

A newly reported group without detail as of 2014 it is believed to be associated to the Urmston Partnership.

#### **Friends of Kingsway Park.**

This group of Kingsway locals formed voluntarily in 2003 with the aim of improving the land fill site. Their plan was to transform all into a useful park with trees, pathways, and floribunda. In the future it was hoped to add amenities for young and old alike. There was a wish that given time there may even be wildlife returning as the project took hold. The association with the park ended with the group **disbanding** as of 2010.



#### **Friends of the Urmston Meadows.**

A Friends of Urmston Meadows group was established in summer 2004. The group was set up to provide an opportunity for local people to contribute to the management of their local countryside. The group worked in partnership with Trafford Parks and Countryside Department and the Mersey Valley Warden Service to make a positive contribution to people and wildlife in Urmston. This has since fallen by the Meadoside and they **no longer** feature in conjunction with the Mersey Valley Service.

#### **Friends of the Village.**

After the recommendations that the local residents put forward to revitalize Flixton House, Trafford succeeded in creating a group called The Friends. It comprised of schools, soccer clubs, and groups, all with the interest of the Village at heart. Although never official being voluntary, this local assistance has paid dividends and continues with projects from time to time.

#### **Friends of Woodsend Park.**

Although not claiming to be actual 'friends' they prefer to be known as the Woodsend Community Group. They involve themselves in anything to do with Woodsend in general which includes the park. Their efforts have been rewarded with a grant from the Lottery Fund to improve the play areas.

Since these groups rely on public volunteering, they are poorly supported. The future of all recreational parks and fields are in the hands of a few.

- **Frome Avenue.** Flixton

Frome has only 6 homes to its name as a small cul-de-sac off Kingston Drive established around 1932.

- **Furness Road.** Davyhulme

The mid 1930's gave birth to the 42 developments here and officially named in 1934.

## G

- **Gales Brow.** Area of land

The Brow was at the end of Feeble Street in 1840 or as now known, Millford Avenue. Here was Brook Farm run by Peter Walkden along with Gales Brow Farm run by Bennett family members in 1881. The name of Gales Brow came with the addition of Ambleside during the 1880's. Today it would be better known as Parsonage Road and where the Brow could have been found.



**Gales Brow.** Parsonage Road

As well as being known for a road there was a group of housing here that went under the same name on the **west** side. Only three homes showed here for 1898 by 1901 four, it was where the names of Purdie, Grant, Sutton, and Taylor made home. The year of 1927 allowed a look at number 4 in the Brow. It had a drawing and dining room, kitchen, scullery and three bedrooms, bath and conveniences. This terrace carries a stone dated 1896.

**Gales Brow Farm.** Parsonage Ambleside

The farm was to be found on 27 acres of land according to census reports. In 1880 David and Sarah Bennett were the agriculturists who were later to be replaced by George Royle and his family. An older survey map named this farm as Brough Farm.

- **Gammershaw.**

The name given to Stretford Road originally and it included Front Urmston.

**Gammershaw House.**

On Stretford Road this home became The Anchorage after its beginnings as Buggard House. The house dated as far back as 1753-1757 was recorded in Parish registers. In 1853 Mathew Swift purchased the remains of Buggard and vacant land called Further Gammershaw to build his own home on. By 1876 he added another house called Prospect Hill. Gammershaw was eventually sold for development in 1966 and the road there carries the last naming of Anchorage.



The home was made up of four bedrooms, drawing room, dining room, kitchen, and extensive cellars. Included here was a stable and out housing, the yard was covered. An orchard and accompanying lands completed the package (Buggard means idiot or stupid)

- **Garages.** Service Stations

Gone, but not forgotten, several garages that were features of the landscape.

**Grange Garage.** Stretford Road

**Moss Vale.** Stretford and Moss Vale Roads

**Station Garage.** Flixton Village

**Station Garage.** Station Road

**Molineux West & Co.** Flixton Road

**H. Mee.** Nags Head Lostock Road

**Riley.** Davyhulme View Flixton Road

**Tetlows.** Lostock Road go even further back to a Davyhulme View location.

**Chassen Garage.** Church Road

**Bold & Son.** Higher Road

**Woodsend Garage.** Woodsend Crescent Road



Moss Vale



Mee

- **Genealogy.** Where did they live?

When seeking family from the past a stumbling block can be finding the location of a road, street, or lane that has changed its name. This was common for Urmston and a list of these has been compiled for this purpose **at the end of the document.**

- **George Street.** Urmston 1900

Two homes led to Springwell Terrace which was 13-53 open land came next before a continuance 57-61 and stopped at Higher Road. The **east** was where the George Street Chapel sat with housing taking it to Higher Road numbered 40-56. A baptism is recorded for a George Street address in 1890 giving indication of origin.

**Armstrong Yard.** George Street

1896 Coal dealer Archibald Armstrong had a yard on the **west** side of George Street. This he shared with Benjamin Saxton Bradbury who was a bottler of Ale and Porter. A third occupant, Thomas Partington, claimed a forge here in 1904. Harry Blane sought fame as a Black Smith in the same year. A fourth completing this very industrious yard was a Joiner called William Collis. By 1939 J. Brown was using it as a haulage contractor. Perhaps the last was Jack Irlam a better-known coal merchant. An electrical substation sits there today with no sign of any history.

**George Street Methodist Chapel.** George Street

Wesleyan origins but dwindling congregations saw an amalgamation with many Methodist followers. As early as 1813, meetings had been held in the private home of "*Butcher Booth*" on Higher Road. Many parishioners took over this practice and as the group grew, they went so far as to hire a loft over a stable also on Higher Road.



The old church built in 1872 was followed by a second in 1905 which celebrated its diamond jubilee in 1965. For this church James Cubitt was the architect and the second church had a miniature tower which housed a bell to summon all for services. On top of the tower was to be a spire but this never came to fruition. This church has been replaced with a smaller one as of 1985 offering a more modern approach, 2010 gave cause for celebration of 25 years in the new home.



### George Street Chapel House.



Number 13 on the street was home to keeper Samuel Williams in 1898. The house, as a part of Springwell Terrace, was across the road from the church and sat next door to the Armstrong coal yard.

### Springwell Terrace. George Street

A row of nineteen made up the terrace on the **west** side that was built by 1878, 13 to 53 were the numbers. At No.13 Samuel Williams who was the Chapel Keeper for the Methodist Church along the street. In number 23 was Archibald Armstrong, owner of the yard by that name at the beginning of the street. The terrace carries a date stone of identification.



### Urmston Carriage Co. George Street

This Urmston Company is lacking information, to actually locate its premises. They advertised in 1920, coach painting, re-upholstery, and body repair. George Street was not known for any commercial sites other than the Armstrong Yard suggesting this was a home/office address or included in the yard.

- **Ghosts and Urban Myths.**



Urban legends, tales of ghosts and goblins, are now covered in this document. Many of these tales should be carried forward if only for the fun of it as it creates an interest in the town's history if nothing else. Some thoughts by the public on the subject of the ghoulish Urmston provoked a few entries of the stories and they have been added in short form. **Please do not take them seriously** but 1878 records show a Martha Wright was decapitated by a train at Flixton Station her employment was as the housekeeper at the Carrington Road Rectory. The Rectory is alleged to have a ghost.

### Auburn Ghost.

An early alleged murder at Auburn Lodge took place around 1870 it had an owner dispatching his wife to another world. She is reputed to have returned until the lodge was razed, walking the farm fields at night dressed in long white robes. Where she walks now is the M60 motorway although sightings have been reported at the Auburn estate entry.

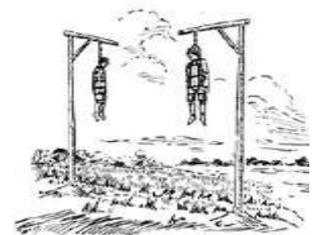


### Dumplington Boggart.

This tale began around 1900 when several young ladies were headed towards their chapel along Dumplington Lane. They heard moaning, groaning, and the clanking of chains emanating from the bushes nearby. The Boggart came forward alarming the women so one picked up a stone and threw it. The aim was good, and "it" collapsed into a heap. They rushed over to where "it" lay pushing this frightening object into a ditch. Rejoicing at their victory, the group departed to tell the tale. Great was their fame, that they had laid the Boggart to rest.

### Gammershaw Boggart.

A lady who lived at Gammershaw House was alleged to have been murdered for a stash of gold. Travellers, who entered the home, cut her throat. Her son captured the culprits and they were hung in irons on Gammershaw Road. Since that time of 1750, strange noises and illusions have been reported, even to this day.



### Other Ghostly Tales.



Among the many tales of the weird is one of a parishioners at St Michael's. Seen on several occasions is an old lady, who sits in a pew at the back of the church, she disappears as hauntingly as she arrives. A hooded monk is another visitor who walks down the main aisle. Sir Ralph Valentine's ghost story is backed up by the dream his wife had about his return from battle, she ran over the fields to meet him only to find he was dead and still wearing his armour. There are still reports of a figure that walks between the Shaw Hall Estate and the Church, could this be Lady Valentine looking for her husband's return?

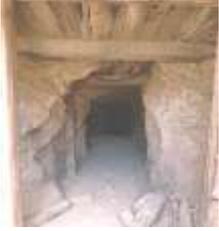
Ghostly figures have been seen kneeling along Church Road and they are believed to be related to the Radcliffe Plate found in the Church offering a similar position of people on their knees. The Rectory on Carrington Road has a ghost seen by its occupants. The figure is that of a redheaded child and was observed climbing the stairs, but no legs were apparent.

### Rangeside. Stretford Road

This odd calling in actuality was nonexistent. The home sits as the last along the terrace of Ivy on Stretford Road. The owner wanted to renovate the structure as of the period it was established and while doing so the finding of a pair of gate posts aided in continuing with this idea. They did not belong in the district but as the design was perfect the name came with them which now makes it in existence.



### Shaw Hall Tunnel. (Myth)



The story of a tunnel joining St. Michael's Church and the Hall has been thrown around for longer than can be remembered. It is a wonderful tale but that is exactly it, just a tale. It is known that a causeway or footpath was laid to allow passage from the hall to the church, this created the myth of a tunnel. There was a small passage from the cellar out into the garden. However, when the building was brought down, the demolition crew, Maunders, reported to the local press, that no 'tunnel' was ever found. Historical evidence shows that the causeway followed the line of Church Road as it was found during one of the earliest widening events of about 1890.

### St. Marys.

A headmaster, a certain Mr. Turner, of the St. Marys School in Davyhulme c. 1850 was termed as being "Widow Bewitched." His wife having eloped with a neighbour. The master who was a believer in astrological art, used to look into an oval glass in which he said he could see what the false one was doing with her gallant one.

### The Teetotallers Companion. A Temperance Magazine Report

"On Monday night January the 6<sup>th</sup> 1847 a fight took place at the Church Inn in Flixton near Manchester between Lawrence Watmough (Landlord) of that place and an Irishman who was hawking cigars. During the fight Watmough bit the Irishman's lip off and soon left the house. Nothing was known of him till he, Watmough, was found in an ash pit the following morning, quite dead." The Irishman was not caught according to the Special Constable of the day. (The grave can be found at the St. Michaels Church)

The Temperance Society proposed that drinking alcohol on a Sunday should be prohibited in 1802. A list of reasons included drunkenness, disturbances, vandalism, and a failure to attend a church.

### UFO.

The secretary of the Manchester Physical Research Society lived at No.5 Kingsley in 1953. The society formed a new direction in calling itself the Flying Saucer Research Club in 1954. By 2000 the group were searching for members and had once more changed their name to the Urmston and District Paranormal Group. The last calling found for this ever-changing ensemble was the Manchester Anomalous Phenomena Investigation Team. It does keep appearing and disappearing.



### Urban Myths.



Many of the stories for Urmston can be dismissed by simple thought. When tunnels are involved, they can be explained away by drains, water cooling systems, flood run off, normal engineering construction even though very old. However, there are "myths" that did exist and were not stories handed down over time. The '*Hanky Waving Lady*' did wave at various local railway stations being seen on many occasions. Her idea was a copy-cat of the lady doing the same thing at Euston Station in WW2 as she waved goodbye to the troops. For the local lass, it continued for many years after the war as she waved to anyone and everyone.

The "*Walking Man*" was total fabrication probably beginning around **April 1<sup>st</sup>** a long time ago. Sightings were sent to a website dedicated to Urban Myths, they ranged from Urmston, Flixton, Davyhulme, and as far afield as Altrincham, Sale, Eccles, Stretford, and Irlam. The myth fell apart once it was realised that this man had *no description or identification* of any kind. Generally, it was ended when someone reported his imaginary death.

### Yarn Bombing.

The craze of wool or yarn bombing turned up in Urmston around 2010-11 it is a country wide phenomenon with items turning up locally. A fun and harmless prank to brighten anyone's day, hand knitted ornamental dressings appeared ghostly on rails or posts depicting usually an event of the time.



### Flixton Werewolf legend.



The British researcher and author Andy Roberts uncovered details of a strange creature that was seen in the vicinity of Flixton in the north of England in 940 A D. The beast, said Roberts, appeared to have been a combination of a large black dog, a phantom felid, and a werewolf. It was popularly described by the terrified village folk as *possessing abnormally large eyes that glowed in the dark, a long tail, and a terrible stench.* *The creature also attacked and mutilated livestock, dogs, and even people.* Rumours circulated that the beast was under the control of a local magician, who was manipulating it for distinctly evil purposes.

What the writer did not indicate was that this tale originated in Flixton **Yorkshire.**

- **Gilpin Road.** Urmston

The road is clearly established on the 1907 survey map but although homes are shown there is no reference to them in directories. Hilton and Tuck Ltd. were based on Gilpin Road for 1948, their business was Electroplating, specialising in hard chrome. For 1910 there were bakers' premises suggesting Gilpin was slightly industrialised for the period. For more 1910 confirmation, the Robinson family living down this road had the birth of a daughter Florence registered. One home with a name arrived in the 1928 directory it was Chasewood. On to 1938 it showed names anew, Londamoor, and Newholme joined the list. Six flats take up the complement of 27 homes on Gilpin. A name brought in by the Normans of 1066.

**Aresco House.** Gilpin

Detail for the past involved with this building can be found under Mac Dermott Paint. It is a conversion of the original factory. To the rear of this home is another cottage like structure named as a coaching house. This has also been refurbished into a liveable dwelling.

**Chasewood.** Gilpin Road. West

Only found named in 1928 it was the single home for the road of four with any calling. Sydney Bell lived there on the **west** side. It carries a history as the home was built for Charles Williamson in 1894. A bakery was established here by Charles, the beginnings of a small industrial area for Gilpin. Details show that the bakery carried its own brand of bread named as Daren Bread during 1909. 1939 made a distinct change for Chasewood it was to become a Nursing Home under Miss. Ethel Iverson. This home is now back once more into a private residence. Some detail shows it as double fronted with three floors, five bedrooms, large dining and kitchen with multiple reception rooms. Two garages set in beautiful gardens.

**Londamoor.** Gilpin Road. East

Archer Wheeldon introduced this 1938 home at number 10, it was shown as connected with Newholme.

**Mac Dermott Paint Factory.** Gilpin Road

One of the largest paint and enamel depots in Britain was located in Urmston until c.1970. This factory was built aside the house of **Chasewood** on Gilpin Road. It began life as a bakery started by Charles Williamson in 1894. He sold out but the business continued with names of Dunbar and Wyllie continuing. Then a small bakery shop was added which faced Allen Road. Once the bakery shut its doors the main building was taken and converted into the paint factory. They too expanded and supplied DIY needs to Urmston. The flats of Aresco Court are now sited here; the name arrives from **Aresco House** a factory of 1935 that manufactured paints under the name of R, Shaw & Co. Ltd.

**Newholme.** Gilpin Road. West

The partner in 1938 to Londamoor this had Mrs. Sarah Ellen Hancock in place.

**Urmston Bottling Co. Ltd.** Gilpin Road. West

No names provided in 1938 but they described themselves as mineral water manufacturers.

**Victory Flour Mills (Urmston) Ltd.** Gilpin Road. West.

No names provided as they offered themselves as 1938 Merchants.

**Wyllie J. & Son.** Gilpin Road. West

A 1938 Bakery associated to Chasewood. The trail followed to the Allen Road shop.

- **Gladstone Road.** Urmston 1898

The land for Gladstone came up for auction in 1903 although a birth address is known on this road in 1891. For the period of 1898 there were no houses on the south west side recorded. To the **south east** for 1903 the homes were 2-56 and to the **south west** 1-7 there two houses were located before Granville Road they were Moss Bank and Roseneath. Lily Bank with Holly Bank was two more to be accounted for on this side. During 1923 a business called Acorn Stamp co. operated here at an unknown location with at No.26 Annie Hiles teaching pianoforte. For 1985 the road was subject to a house clearing plan.

**Park Road.**

1903 shows that Park Road was absorbed into **Gladstone Road**. Lathkil and Ivanhoe turned up before the changes were shown in revised 1928. The **south west** side as of 1911 had Park Road/Avenue as having a home with six other houses leading to Moss Bank and Roseneath accommodation before Granville Road. Just prior to the roads of Park and Gladstone joining, two homes on Park dated 1928 were Lathkil and Ivan Hoe. 2010 has two flats making up its 40 residences.

**Holly Bank.** 56 Gladstone Road

Only three homes were named for the beginnings of the road Holly, The Ferns, and Lily Bank at 54. (**South-eastern** side) In this house was Henry Watkinson for 1898. In 1881 Holly advertised a coach house, stable, and large garden when offered for sale.

**Lily Bank.** Gladstone Road

One of two named houses along the road on the **south-east** side it belonged to George Viney at No. 54 during 1898.

**Moss Bank.** Gladstone Road

The house on the **south-west** side had a market gardener staying there for 1898 called James Ackerley. This home was virtually unknown until James passed away here in 1906 showing it could be found a way from the corner of Railway Road. Earlier for 1901 William Swann held house here.

**Park Avenue.** Gladstone Road

This was a late starter for the avenue on its **west** side. The addresses along here showed 1-7 and 9-17 up until 1908 when this home jumped in between 7 and 9. The person responsible was an engineer named as James Ashton.

**Roseneath.** Gladstone Road.

The corner of Granville Road was the site of this home for 1898 with James Kinder occupier. This changed names for 1928 with a new calling of **The Bungalow**.

**The Ferns.** Gladstone Road

This edition of the Ferns was found for 1898 Sidney Harrop lived at number 42. There is reference to a Fern Bank where Florist Robert Ackersley lived in 1926, it is not known of this is the same home.

- **Glebe Road.** Urmston

There are several industrial enterprises in the vicinity of Glebe. Small but thriving in this corner of Urmston.

**Urmston Automatics.** Glebe Road

This company has been established in Urmston for over 70 years (1947) and they now manufacture machinery for the gaming industry at their Glebe Works.



- **Gleneagles Road.** Davyhulme

Supposedly had origins of around 1930 when the golf club expanded into a Limited Company increasing the development there. Of the 55 houses one carries the name of the Beeches. Famous for its golf Gleneagles is a Scottish name.

**Davyhulme Park Golf Club.** Gleneagles Road

Founded on the grounds of Davyhulme Hall which included a 9 holed course in 1893 it is the fourth oldest club in England. Origins are connected to J. B. N. Entwisle Esq. who sold out and moved to Flixton in 1903 to start an opposing club.



Its beginnings were that of nine holes with hazards such as a lake, the ruins of the hall, spinney's, and sand bunkers. The turf was regarded as old, but the greens were good. By 1937 it had become a Ltd. Company complete with 18 holes and a new club house. Ernest Smith Professional for the time with John Garside as Hon. Sec.

The new 1937 club house was built by Brew Brothers of Cadishead with steel work by Edward Wood & Co. and the concrete by A. E. Saunders. It was opened by Stretford's MP. Mr. A. C. Crossley. The club house has been described as being, "a rare version of modernist concrete". Officially the club stands by its inception at 1911 making it 100 years old in 2011. Today, internally, much remains from the past its inner décor following the pattern of the original complete with furnishings and woodwork. There is a revolving door in the main hallway, possibly the only one left in the district. Two notable thoughts for 1936, the club was subjected to a takeover by the UUDC and a name change dropping "Park" from its title to avoid conflict with the actual Davyhulme Park.

- **Glenhaven Avenue.** Urmston

Little has changed from 1934-5 on this avenue of 48 buildings. The avenue was built on land bought from the Faulkner family who resided at Belmont and later Sweet Green on Flixton Road. The avenue was developed by Ken Moffat builders. On the corner of Glenhaven, before it was established, was a Gunsmith. William Howat whose trade it was in 1881 could have worked from a home or shop on Flixton Road. Glenhaven, when established, was called the Crossway leading into the Drive, then on completion it became only Glenhaven Avenue.

- **Gloucester Road.** Urmston 1900



Apart from the well-known house, the road itself carries much in the way of early Urmston. The buildings down this road carry the designs of 1880 in groups such as St. Marys and St. Ann's Place with a third before Station Road called Victoria Terrace all on the **south west side**.

One lone calling that of Ferncliffe sat before St. Marys. Opposite, the homes were only numbered 2-8 up to Atkinson Road and then 46-76 to Station Road. Only one home by Victoria Terrace was named it was the last on the block before Station Road called The Nook.



For 1881 there were eight houses under construction. An Estate Agency called Wilson and Son offered council a parcel of land for recreational use along this road in 1899, obviously it was never taken up. This proposed open land could be found behind Gloucester House and the terrace block, between Station and Atkinson Roads, was built there being converted into shops around 1928.

On another note the road was subject to a no parking ban in 1959. This proposal was defeated because of shopkeeper's complaints about the loss of business. The road is now under a one-way traffic restriction as of 1970 and carries designated signage as a *No Alcohol* area. The mixture of "homes to shop" conversion restricts information for the time of 1928 through to 1940.

**C & M Salon.** 17 Gloucester Road

Miss. Constance Gordon as 1939 proprietress of this a Ladies hairdressing outfit.

**Chesworth Bros. Co.** Gloucester Road

Established as of 1936 and working from his garage Leonard Chesworth began making Balsa Wood model aeroplanes. His business grew into its own shop by 1939. Timber and wall boards became a need during 1940-1942 which meant that the company required more space and a move to their present site. Still growing the structure was increased for 1952. This was very much a family enterprise with the sad news it was to close its doors as of 2014. The site on Gloucester Road was once the Smithy to the rear of the Lord Nelson Hotel. Now totally removed to accommodate new housing.

**Devon Milk Bar.**

On Gloucester Road this café deserves a mention. Much frequented by the youth of the 1950's and would have many a tale to tell if it were still there. The café was run by "Frank" Conner's who allowed you to sit for hours after buying just one Coke or the like. The café was so popular a reunion for its old clientele was proposed in 2003.

The Devon as it is today

**Empire Wine Store.** 58 Gloucester Road

This was a pre-war purveyor of fine wines whose manager was Mrs. Millicent Barber around the 1930's.

**Fern Cliffe.** 9 Gloucester Road

From Stretford Road into Gloucester this home was placed on the south west side. 1898 brought forward that William Jackson lived in the house which was the only single dwelling for the time placed before St. Mary's Place.

**Gloucester House.** Station and Gloucester Roads

1880 saw this house erected for the Mayne family. The home was a two storied glazed red brick mansion, half-timbered with large grounds. This building stands proud as though it was still 1880. It continues to be used as a practitioner's office to this day.

Doctor Mayne rode around town on horseback to make house calls with his record telling of doctoring in Urmston for nearly fifty years. (Dr. Walter Furlong Mayne. L. R. C. P., M. R. C. S., L. S. A., L. M. Physician.)

The doctor decided to move on in 1927 leaving the district he also left the information of the home. The accommodation included; two entertaining rooms, waiting and consulting rooms, six bedrooms, domestic offices and cellars. The substantial outbuildings were made up of a garage, two horse stables and a harness room. The decorative wrought Iron gates and wall railings were removed for their metal content during WW 2 and only the gates have been replaced.

**Machin. Mary** 2 Gloucester Road

An old photograph indicated there was a shop at the corner of Gloucester Road it sat very close to the Nelson Hotel. 1928 put a name to this business as it was found to be a confectioner. Mary Machin's home had been opened up along its side wall and a window added. Today it is re-bricked with only the slightest hint that it was ever there. At this period Mary's husband William was occupied as the Blacksmith behind the Lord Nelson. 2-4 Gloucester Road



Then and now.

It came to light that the shop of Machin carried a past to be looked at. It was first found for 1898 where Miss Ethel Openshaw had opened a confectionary shop. In number 4 was the blacksmith of that year, Henry Besford, he worked with William Machin who was at that time living in number 6. It took until 1908 before Ethel moved on leaving Miss Agnes Whitelegg to continue with the shop. John Whitelegg took name for a short while until 1910 added the second shop; Ernest Glassbrook had the confectionary at No. 2 while the new shop became a drapery run by Mrs Sarah Pollitt. Miss Mary Meakin came next in 1919 taking her turn at confectionary.



Subject to confirmation is that Mary Meakin became Mrs Mary Machin in the mid 1920's and for the period Sarah Pollitt had finally left. It is only known that by 1938 both shops had been vacated and recorded is the name of A. Roy followed by Bruch & Williams in No. 2 still confectionary, and in No.4 Sarah Elizabeth Blackburn as the draper by 1938. As is also known that Chesworth took the premises of the Smithy around 1940 it could be understood why William and Mary then chose to leave. They did not go far as they took a new Smithy alongside Spark on Higher Road. Handicrafts took No.4 during the 1950's with Mrs. D. Cooke Proprietor.

**Meadowgate Poultry Farm.** 36 Gloucester Road

In 1953 J. S. Kerfoot was providing related products here including a large "White Boar" for stud service.

**Pitman Shorthand.** Urmston

Somewhat shrouded in its history where detail is to be found. Pitman's was known to address the teaching of 'Shorthand' writing from a private house included in the end terrace along Gloucester Road. This text was a popular form of the recording words based on sound. Information shows it was in operation locally until around 1965.

**St. Ann's Place.** Gloucester Road

The **south-west** found this place on the road, a small three homed terrace around 1898 numbered 19-23. As it was with the neighbour of **St. Marys Place** the numbering did not comply with the four homes to be had here due to some confusion from the enumerator of the time. The frontage wall carries the name for the block.

**St. Marys Place.** Gloucester Road

1898 had this small terrace placed along the road on the **south-western** side. It comprised of three homes numbered as 9-13. The numbering did not match the four units available. The associated block of **St. Ann's Place** also had the same problem alongside.



A stone that once proudly displayed the terrace name of St. Marys Place here was found on Stretford Road after the garden wall on Gloucester was modernised and rebuilt. On being rescued it was built into a wall along Mersey View without the new owner knowing from whence it came.

**Storey. J. & Co.** 54 Gloucester Road

This was a company of high regard that did painting and decorating in or around 1920 to 1930.

**The Nook.** Gloucester Road

Home to John H. R. Edward L.D.S. Eng. this dentist practiced in 1911. This tiny dwelling was the last home on Gloucester Road before Station Road and could easily be missed if you did not know it was there. John was still in practice into 1940.

**Urmston Motor and Engineering Co. Ltd.**

The workshop for this company was on Gloucester Road at the Station Road end. Established c.1905 the company was still open here 50 years later after their beginnings on Old Crofts Bank. At the outset they were a machining and assembly outfit who later turned to Auto work. The sales of 'Castle' caravans was another outlet for this company. By 1955 they had dropped the word Motor and continued as Urmston Engineering.

**Victoria Terrace.** Gloucester Road

The terrace was built, as suggested by the name, in honour of the Queen c.1895. Towards the end of this road they have been modernised but retaining the look of the time. A multi house terrace on the **south-west** just before Station Road described its location.

**1900** provided information of a transaction between Charles Frederick Whitfield and William Holroyd. It showed William as purchaser of numbers 46-60 Gloucester Road.

**1938** brought a list of the earliest shops along Gloucester Road. It began at Atkinson Road through to Station Road as numbers 52 to 82. There are shops indicated which are presented in brackets following when known.

**Atkinson Road**

- No. 52 Glass and China, Mrs Maud Prince.
  - No. 54 Draper, Mrs Harriet Lowe. (Meat Purveyor I. Fildes 1953)
  - No. 56 (Confectioner, J. Smith 1928)
  - No. 58 Empire Wine Store. (No change from 1928)
  - No. 60 Hardware, George Bradley. (Fried fish, Ernest Terry 1928)
  - No. 62 Painter, Walter Tickle.
  - No. 64 Newsagent, Thomas Mannion.
  - No. 66 Dairy, Kershaw & Allsop. (Dairy, Miss Jane Kershaw 1928)
  - No. 68-70 Residential
  - No. 72 Confectioner, Miss Ella Hardcastle. (Stationer, Edward Marion 1928)
  - No. 74-78 Residential. (Dental Surgeon. Sydney Jones 1928)
  - No. 80 Boot Repairs, Ernest Cookson. (Decorative Supply Co. Paint merchant 1928)
  - No. 82 Plumber, Edward Cocksey. (No change from 1928)
- An earlier plumber was 1908 P. Grimshaw.

**Station Road**

- **Goldsworthy**



Out of the six places along the **west** two had names, Inversnaid and Bodlondeb. Across the road, **east**, The Beeches and Merefield could be found making a total of eight in all. At this time, it was a no through way and very short in length. It expanded in 1935 and has 56 homes today 2010. Goldsworthy is an Anglo-Saxon calling. There was a prominent family of that name to be found connected to Urmston. In 1891 Robert Bruce Goldsworthy entered into an agreement with council regarding this section of land. One building name found for 1895 was St. Aubyn's Terrace. The Flixton Cricket Club was addressed as Goldsworthy Road, as Hon. Sec. for 1939 it was John Alfred Green.

**Aviemore.** Goldsworthy Road North

It took until 1934 for this named home to show, the owner was Clara Glendenning. Nothing further has been traced regarding the house. The address did show as being northern Goldsworthy.

**Beeches.** Goldsworthy Road

Only two homes to the **east** side of this road in 1900, **Merefield** was the second. In residence here was William Wood from 1904 through to 1930.

**Bodlondeb.** Goldsworthy Road

This odd sounding place was the last house in the road when it was a no through way. There were only eight homes in 1901 this one was on the **west** side and had Robert Ellis Roberts living in it. Spelt as **Bodludel** in 1928, no one knows what it stood for anyway other than it is possibly Welsh.

**Inversnaid.** Goldsworthy Road

This was home to Thomas B. Hattersley of Woodsend Engineering in 1901.

**Lyndon.** Goldsworthy Road

This was the **west** side home of John Crabtree shown in 1928.

**Merefield.** Goldsworthy Road

The second of the only two houses on the **east** side down this road, the first being the Beeches. In 1900 it was owned by Charles Henry Sheard.



**St. Aubyn Terrace.** Goldsworthy Road

Although quoted as a terrace, an advert forwarded said it was a house numbered as 5 with four bedrooms and a living room in 1895. Further references found later to this showed it was the only terrace on the road and included six homes. The name of St. Aubyn carries several people from an author to a series of Barons, generally known as from Cornish family origins.

**The Nook.** Goldsworthy Road.

Shown for the first time in 1928 this home belonged to the Partington family.

- **Grange Avenue.** Flixton

Nine houses make Grange Avenue into what it is today after growing since 1935. Several names appeared during 1938-39, Claughbane first by position on the avenue, Orchard Grange, West Royd, Lamorna, Silverdale, and Wraysholm. The house called Lochryn replaced Lamorna; it was tracked down for this in 1956. Grange is a cul-de-sac.

The design of the majority here, on Grange, show one architect involved. Brick features worked into curved arches over the front doors are to be found in abundance with a sided long sloping roof.

**Claughbane.** Grange Avenue.

In 1938 this home led off the avenue, it had Charles Evans to look after it.

**Lamorna.** Grange Avenue

The 1938 calling for this home was amended to **Lochryn**. In the meantime, it belonged to Jack Chambers for this year.

**Lochryn.** 4 Grange Avenue

The date of origin is not known but the detached home was described as modern and made from rustic brick. In 1956 the picture painted was that of a porch to the entrance hall, a lounge that had an inglenook, four bedrooms etc. A brick garage sat in a pleasant open garden.

**Orchard Grange.** Grange Avenue

Percy Booth was in this 1938 orchard.

**Silverdale.** Grange Avenue

Shining in silver 1938 occupant was Alfred Stephenson.

**West Royd.** Grange Avenue

Home to 1938 resident Ernest Newton.

**Wraysholm.** 8 Grange Avenue

Eric Bradburn made this his 1938 home.

- **Grange Crescent.** Urmston

This crescent has only six houses 2-12.

- **Grange Road.** Urmston

1, 2, and 4 are the entire road. 1919 only one home is noted to have existed here and it was named San Remo.

#### **San Remo.** Grange Road

During 1919 this was the single house for the whole road. An engineer called John Harold Jackson went solo for a while with his interest in mining. He was still there in 1928 according to lists. Henry Davies continued afterwards as homemaker for 1939 and on.

- **Grangethorpe Road.** Urmston

The middle of the 1930's gave start to the majority of its 39 homes. Many houses here came up for sale in 1941 as a portion of the Urmston Hall Estate. The notable family of Joseph Spark resided down this road with Alice Tyrell Spark passing away in 2013 at the age of 98.

- **Granville Road.** Urmston

Of the 75 places, five are named to create some interest. They are Georgia, Norcott, Royston, Ardmore, and Lynton. The name has French origin and it stands for 'large Village' it was confirmed as the calling in 1931. 1938 added Roseneath to the list. Another point of interest is that there are eight cul-de-sac's off Granville. Itemised only after 1938 more information was found for a few homes here. A modern calling shows as Honeysuckle House numbered as 5. All changed for 1956 when Albert Locke built 24 more homes.

#### **Ardmore.** Granville Road

Commercial travelling was the occupation of 1938 Harold Bertram Summers.

#### **Lynton.** Granville Road.

Home alone was Mrs. Ada Roberts in 1938.

#### **Norcott.** Granville Road

Engineering kept 1938 householder Robert Bertram Cochrane busy. The house reached the end at Moss Vale Road.

#### **Roseneath.** Granville Road

This rose was to be found at the corner of Gladstone Road in 1938 William Ellerington who was a smelter occupied the house. The home was demolished in 1956.

#### **The Acacias.** Granville Road



The fourth of the named houses in the Urmston Park this one had Charles Thorpe at No.10 for 1898. Taking the home into 1928 Herbert Irlam was living there. A 1928 O/S map shows this as being the grounds for the home now serving as a sheltered housing facility called The Acacias on Granville containing 24 single unit apartments. This retirement style housing was formed in 1985. As Granville was extended it created a new end to the road slicing off the last land beyond Urmston Park. An Acacia is a species of tree.

It has been put forward that this house was the Acacias removed to build the current sheltered homes. It has been identified as home to a coal merchant named Irlam.



- **Grasmere Avenue.** (Grasmere) Flixton

The avenue is numbered as 1-8 for its completion. As has been seen by homes addressed by the name it is/was spelt with or without a double 'S' for most of its life. Grasmere is a cul-de-sac. This is another Urmston name taken from a village in the Lake District.

**1928** Eight homes eight names as follows: Lyndene, Helmington, Manora, Avondale, Dean Villa, Brett hoe, Hazeldene, and Kingsley.

#### **Avondale.** Grasmere Avenue

The Kettle family saw out 1928 living here.

#### **Brett Hoe.** Grasmere Avenue

As a Hoe it was still where the 1928 family of Woods made home. 1932 revealed it was a semidetached house.

#### **Dean Villa.** Grasmere Avenue

The Villa was John Holbrook's home during 1928 he was a printer by trade.

#### **Hazeldene.** Grasmere Avenue

An accountant named Frederick Catchpole was comfortable here in 1928.

#### **Helmington.** Grasmere Avenue

Off Ambleside the house in 1928 was where Henry English became known.

#### **Kingsley.** Grasmere Avenue

The 1928 house of Kingsley belonged to John Hampson. It was the last structure along the avenue.



**Lyndene.** Grasmere Avenue

This home of Albert Ward in 1928 was first by position on the avenue.

**Manora.** Grasmere Avenue

Man, or a mouse Edward Violet made this his home in 1928.

- **Gredle Close.** Urmston

Relatively new to Urmston as its majority 19 houses were built in 1995.

- **Greenfield Avenue.** Urmston

William John Bennett purchased the land for housing here in 1924-5 as part of the Greenfield Farm estate. It was proposed that Greenfield would be extended into Derby for c.1928 and by 1935 it had grown to 27 properties, since then, little has changed.

The Palace Picturedrome or Palace Cinema once sat on the corner of Greenfield. It and the Greenfield Baptist Church became the main features sitting alongside the Urmston Market. They were accompanied by the Cottage Hospital.

**Baptist Church.** (Greenfield Church)

Found on Primrose Avenue with Greenfield Avenue it is noted as 1901 but may have been established earlier than that. Reference has been found to the Baptists formation in 1899 as an alternate to other religious groups in Urmston. In 1902 two memorial stones were laid at the site of the new Church by Mrs. E. M. L. Craig with several Baptist minister's present. Greenfield Avenue makes up one side and it is named after the Greenfield farmlands once belonging to the Royle-Higginson family. A joining with the Congregational Church came in 1976.

**Cottage Memorial Hospital.** Greenfield Avenue

Established 1899 as a general hospital it specialised later, being taken by the NH organisation in 1948, as a maternity hospital in 1950 and was the birthplace for many of Urmstons children. That division closed in 1977. The Urmston populous wanted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee year of 1897 with a permanent memorial and this was to be it.



Joseph Spark was the local builder and in a small ceremony January 1900 the Chairman of the Trustees Mr. S. W. Cocks declared it open. An architect from Manchester designed the building. Presently, as of 1982, it is home to some of the elderly citizens of the district. The name was



changed to **Urmston Cottage Rest Home** in 1978 and for the present it is **Serendipity**. In 1928 the hospital sat in its own large gardens and allotment. These premises have accommodation for 45 beds indicating that its size from the road is deceiving. At one period it was thought this hospital had been allotted a Heritage status, at this time 2013, this is not true. Their minutes are publicly recorded from 1899 to 1974 and are available through the Greater Manchester Records Office.

Two plaques adorn the frontage, one under the name of Joseph Clegg the other Edwin Quail, both highly regarded medical experts and a part of the Trustees Committee.

- **Green Lane.**

Green Lane was the name given in manuscripts of 1825 with reference to Flixton Road from Carrington Road. A connection here ran to make up Irlam Road later is recorded between 1871 and 1881. This section of road changed at the Smithy to Smithy Lane that in turn became Flixton Road. Green, from the Smithy on, went into Boat Lane.

There was a 17-acre farm that was called Green Lane Farm in 1880 it could have been one of many along this road that became known by another name. The same farm one year later became Woods End Lane Farm. Another clarification is added here regarding the Green Lane Institute. This was a Poor House to be found in Eccles and not connected to the district.

**Green Lodge.** Green Lane

R. Barlow was paying the rates and tax for this home in 1838. This farmhouse became the basis of the **Flixton Grange** when James Ashton bought it. 1861 was the time it was on the market for sale as Green Lane Lodge. A detailed showing in 1883 mentioned the farm was approximately 50 acres and had substantial outbuildings. Its calling for this time was as **Green Lane House** complimented by an orchard and meadows.

- **Grosvenor Road.** Urmston

This road changed from Lily Street between 1904 and 1908 and at this time added thirty percent to the accommodation there with multi terraced complexes. These terraces were home to 86 different families by 1911, this shown today as being 95 according to current market listings. Grosvenor has French connection as a 'hunter'.

**Lily Street.** Urmston 1900

As early as 1887 to one side there was Oak Range and Albany Terrace to the other 10 unnamed places. **Lily** became **Grosvenor Road** soon after this time. Lily Café took its name from this piece of history before moving to new premises in Eden Square. Numbers 34 to 60 came up for sale 'enbloc' in 1910.

**Albany Terrace.** Grosvenor Road

The line here contained six homes numbered as 41-51 in 1898. They are to be found on the **west** of Grosvenor Road, as it is called today, and the second named terrace on this side. Although a terrace W. H. Ollerenshaw gave the address of 47 for his general milk service.

**Coronation Terrace.** Grosvenor Road

There were few named homes along Grosvenor but this one encompassed several in its designation. The identifying plaque is mounted over number 18.

**Dean Bros.** 60 Grosvenor Road

The brothers set up a business here as window cleaners in early 1900.

**Eugenia Terrace.** Grosvenor Road

This terrace carries a stone declaring the homes over 44 and 46 for today although it is made up of several in the row. Any numbers to be found close to this began in 1905 but could have been reassigned which prevents putting any names to its story. For the period it would have been noted as Lily and established before the change came.

**Oak Range.** Grosvenor Road

The Range was a Lily Street terrace of c.1890 comprised of eight homes on the **west** side. This was beginning to a whole line of terraced housing to come over the next few years on both sides of the road. For today it sits behind the Flixton Road cafe on what is now called Grosvenor Road.

- **Guildford Road.** Davyhulme  
No named homes in its list of 27 units.

## H

- **Hall Farm Avenue.** Davyhulme  
Hall Farm has 19 dwellings. A house here in 1946 was called St. Julian with another St. David 1956. This avenue once led through to the Hall Farm from Corn Hill.
- **Hampstead Avenue.** Flixton  
There are 9 houses to the avenue that was named as Victoria until 1933.
- **Hampton Road.** Urmston  
The terraced road has 33 properties dating back to 1900 and it includes the Urmston Telephone Exchange at number 38.

## National Telephone Co. Hampton Road

If it can be remembered, something called a telephone preceded the Cell phone. Number 11 Winifred Road was the centre for the exchange in 1897. (Still recorded there into 1928) It took several years to accommodate Flixton eventually a centre was installed in a confectionery shop close to Reade House on Flixton Road.



In 1898 Her Majesty's Postmaster General announced that 48 towns around the Urban District could be called 24/7 at no extra charge above the normal subscription. This area would allow for calls to 5,000 other subscribers.



The service entered a new era in December 1932 when one could actually dial a number without operator assistance. The exchange building eventually found its home off Glebe c.1932 and still functions from there today. It was approximately at this time that telephone poles began to appear all over Urmston as the system expanded. A note of interest for today's society to ponder, to dial in Urmston the first three letters were used before a number. Example: For the Urmston Council Office one would dial **URM** 2251. On completing the call an **operator** would answer to direct you through to the department required. A note for interest was that in 1967 a list showed over 500 subscribers were still waiting for a phone.

### Telephone Booths.

The booths were commonplace throughout Urmston with this street furniture available to the public who could not afford a phone. Today they are 'listed' after the first boxes arrived in 1908 too many were being exported over the years of their existence. The GPO took control installing them anywhere and everywhere, around the late 1930's their glass panelling and domed tops could be seen with at least one to an estate. 25 kiosks were available in 1935.



Originally concrete this changed to cast iron due to cracking and troubles with paint. A dial system with a coin operation was to become familiar to all, who can forget the push button 'B' to get your money back? Urmstons most notable was at the border of Urmston/Stretford where it marked the Municipal boundary there close to the late Simpson Food factory.



- **Handel Avenue.** Flixton

Four homes to the name of Handel Avenue which is possibly called after the famous German composer.

- **Harcourt Avenue and Close.** Urmston

The Avenue shows 1-7 while the Close is larger with 49 homes.

- **Harris Avenue.** Davyhulme

16 houses create the avenue which follows the Scottish naming tradition for this area. The Harris Tweed cloth is well known.

- **Hartford Road.** Davyhulme

The majority of its 26 houses came around 1935. Hartford is a village in Cheshire.

### Hartford Community Centre.

Council began a search for a site to establish a Davyhulme Community Centre in 1952, it was hoped to locate it around the Sherbourne Newstead area. A decision was made to forego the thought and amalgamate with an existing group, until that time the Hartford Social Club carried the torch. The Canterbury Road Centre was officially opened by Councillor Ruth Royle-Higginson in March of 1954. It services the area around Lostock and Davyhulme Park in its communal use. There is a bowling club close to the centre it falls under the calling of Winchester Bowling Club 1937. Hartford includes one of the longest running Youth Clubs still to exist after taking the huts left from the Barrage Balloon unit that was stationed on the site in 1945. A prefabricated timber section was to be added for 1965.



- **Hartington Close.** Urmston

As a Close it is numbered 1- 32. (A Peak District town) E & J Slater were the builders for here in 1935.

- **Hartland Avenue.** Urmston

Accommodation in Heartland is for 14 families. The calling is connected to Devon and Cornwall.

- **Haslemere Road.** Flixton (**Lever Street**)

This road, with its 1935 homes adding up to 59, has a feature involving a public footpath which connects it to Chassen Road.

- **Hastings Drive.** Flixton

This is another portion of the expansion of 1935 and is matched with 35 buildings.

- **Hawthorn Avenue.** Urmston

Seven houses for Hawthorn which was off Stretford Road. Nothing else is known but it did have all seven named at one time or another. **1928** with all the names for Hawthorn: Sunnycrest, Wyngate, Park View, Langdale, Trenance, Studley, and Shortlands.

### Langdale.

7 Hawthorn Avenue  
1928 had Alfred Pollard at home in this house.

### Park View.

5 Hawthorn Avenue West  
The view John William Codd had for 1928-38 was clear as he looked out from his home here.

### Shortlands.

Hawthorn Avenue East  
Stephen Hale was not short in 1928 he was tall in his own home during his stay. The house was last for Hawthorn at the time, as a three bedroomed bungalow.

### Studley.

Hawthorn Avenue East  
Cecil Cash had his life engaged in this 1928 year as homemaker.

### Sunnycrest.

1 Hawthorn Avenue  
Henry Charles Cross sat in 1928 as first home down the avenue.

### Trenance.

Hawthorn Avenue  
Living centrally in 1928 along the avenue George Ogden occupied the home.

### Wyngate.

3 Hawthorn Avenue West  
With the wind at his gate Reginald Brain kept it shut during 1928-1938.

- **Hayeswater Road.** Davyhulme

The road is equally divided by the circle and has 64 homes. This road and its circle were extended as of 1935 to be included in a plan to connect Barton and Carrington with Bowfell, Moorside, via Hayeswater.



**Casita.** Hayeswater Road

One of two placed homes found for 1938, George Waters lived there. He was a proofreader by trade.

**Hayeswater Circle.** Davyhulme

Hayeswater was built for town planning reasons in the 1930s and not for any particular traffic problem other than calming. The Circle has 12 homes carrying this 'Lake' address.



**Hayeswater Methodists.**



At the apex of Hayeswater Road and Old Crofts Bank this group of Methodist followers had a Chapel built. Its beginnings were as Hayeswater which replaced the Davyhulme Road version of 1853. This new church was proposed in 1953 and opened in 1958. For 2010 they have changed their name to the **Cornerstone Methodist Church**. The Davyhulme Road parishioners have joined this church after their building closed in 1963. The church advertised it was to celebrate its 60th anniversary in the year 2018. The Boys and Girls Brigade are based here along with a Guides group. The **PSA** Social group began here around 1890.

**Nutcliffe.** Hayeswater Road

Only the second named house ever found for this road and that came in 1938. Documents for this entry need a cypher to give a resident's name.

- **Hazel Grove.** Urmston

For its count and detail the Grove is 17 homes. The homes here were started by a builder called Hosker who had purchased land from the Estate of the Urmston Lodge in 1926. It was at this time Hosker had the Grove renamed from **Chapel Avenue**.

- **Heath Avenue.** Urmston

There are 12 houses to the Heath.

- **Hereford Grove.** Urmston 1900

Numbered 1-15 south side the Grove was small and had no identifying names. Here too was an early reference to the Higher-Grade School placed to the north. Today it has grown into 1-19 having two more additions.

**Urmston British School.**

Hereford Grove hosted this school. It was only for infants and was run by Miss Lydia McKee in 1911. By 1912 it was converted into the Council School as an off spin of the Grammar School there. Miss. Sewell of Whitelake also taught here in 1912.

**Urmston Junior & Infant Schools.** Hereford Grove



According to their website the schools were established in 1897. Their building was an extension of the Higher-Grade School. They celebrated their 100 years in style spread out over the year 1997. This came as a later development from the Wycliffe Road Urmston School. Tenders were requested by the Lancashire County for the building of the Junior School in 1949. Today they stand together on Hereford.



Their logo of an Aquilifer, a Roman eagle, signifies the school.



**Recording.**

In 1952 the Urmston County Junior School produced a record. The choir was conducted by Dorothy Jones with the accompaniment provided by Doreen Brown. For the time it showed that the headmaster was Gordon Gibson.



- **Heston Drive.** Davyhulme

The home list is 22 down the Drive of 1936.

- **Highbury Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue is thriving with its 1936 start it now has 35 homes of which 10 are flats. In 1939 the avenue accounted for ten homes.

- **Higher Road.** Urmston

Once known as **Back Urmston**, the road was synonymous with Methodist Churches in its early life. The Urmston end was regarded as industrialised with the Moss Vale end residential. Many small side roads are filled with terraced housing and it was completed with the erection of the St. Clement's School there. Other notables were the Smithy, Spark, and the entry to the Cemetery of Zionists. Stats show it as 51% residential which out of 106 properties there are 54 homes. Mixtures of old and new go to make up this well-known road. Higher is an addition to the no alcohol restriction law.



### Higher Road. Urmston 1900

Spark and Greenfield House begin the journey down the **north side** of this road. Rose Cottages, Ash Cottage, and The Thorns also known as Thorn Villa led to the Central School of St. Clement's. Two more houses and Summer Villas sat before an early version 1898 Co-op store. Several more shops divide Lorne Grove till Market Place is reached. From Chapel Grove it is all a mixture of shops and residences to Albert Avenue. This continues until the Primitive Methodist Church and its Chapel House being the last-named building before Moss Road.



The Lodge, just before the School, starts the **1911** changes here and Rose Cottage is not listed any more although still there. Urmston Recreational Grounds are at Lorne and Chapel Grove, but the Co-op had closed and relocated across the road in front of Peat's slaughter house.

### Higher Road. Urmston 1900

The Victoria Hotel was the only structure up to Atkinson Road on the **south side** but there were several assorted shops and homes through to Glen Holme at Ashfield Road. A Tailor and Drapery was offered for sale at number 26 in 1885. The first shop thereafter was numbered 90 it started an unnamed series of homes and stores that crossed Ciss Lane, George Street, to Moss Road the last being numbered as 226. The Independent Methodist Sunday School sat in the midst of all this and Smethill's Forge was at No.102. The Co-op, later, that was to be found at 134 the building carries a date stone of 1908.

### Higher Road homes. 1900 (Un-named)

This block of five homes was placed, as a neighbour to Smethills the Smithy and Millwright workshop. It was home to a variety of people, probably as it is today. Found is that they were built on land purchased by John Stott.



### Higher Road shops at random. 1900 (Un-named)

Before the covered market came into being this small row was the first of the business/ homes of the 1900's along the **south** side. Occupants here ranged from boot makers to bakers, chemist to cabinet maker. They are still in use today.



### Higher Road. North Station Road towards Moss Vale.

The directory for **1938** gave some interesting insight for the Higher Road shops. The north side began with a Gents Outfitter under the name of H. T. Burt Ltd. The store of Ridings Ltd. came next quickly trailed by Mary Maud Stevenson Confectionery. The Stretford & District Electricity Board showrooms came in at number 7, now showing that the Flixton Road building was not yet in place and the PO had not opened. Joseph Spark & Son alongside the Blacksmith shop of Mary Machin followed. A Veterinary Practice completed the commercial portion it was run by Henry Lord. The various homeowners led to Number 53 where it was found to be a company called Puro Soap, they had a warehouse there. The North Western Road Car Co. Ltd. was established it ended the industrial sector. **1953** brought Armstrong Jewellers to Higher at No.7 and Cooper confectionery at 32. Another was Wrights Grocery at number 189.

### Higher Road. South Station Road to Ashfield Road

Referring again to 1938 the garage of Bold & Sons sat with the Victoria Hotel at the corner of Station Road. In the small shop was Frank Tribel a Greengrocer and fruiter, and the Empress was controlled by Union Cinemas. Atkinson Road crossed and the first shop was a Butcher called Tennant. Numbered as 24 and 26 William Axon practiced Grocery with neighbour Charles Cash a Confectioner. 28 was home to the Urmston Fellowship Club the Secretary being Ernest Bunting. One private home was followed by the Ormerod News Agency, Shannons wireless (Later Station Road) and a company named as the Higher Road Garage Ltd. Reaching Ashfield Road the Urmston Gospel Mission could be located.

### Higher Road. South Ashfield Road to Ciss Lane

The Urmston Men's Institute, George Higginson as secretary, Robert Morrison was the steward, is the first building. A small terrace brings the road to Smethill J. H. & Sons who were now in the Motor Body Building business. Miss Mary Smethill sewed in her Drapery shop at the same address.

### Higher Road. South Ciss Lane to George Street

Now reaching 120 Higher, it was where a Glass & China Distributor could be located. Mrs. Henrietta Mathews was careful here with the wares. Mrs. H. Dunn, the neighbour, made dresses and at 114 Mrs. Emily Clarke sold newspapers. Food next as Fish and chips was William Mooney's forte, not so for confectioner Mrs. Annie Clark. Now at 134 was E. A. Peat Ltd. He was associated to the Co-op as an independent Butcher, the actual Co-op being next door on the corner of George Street.

**Ash Cottage.** 49 Higher Road

As a structure it is no longer standing, the cottage was several years older than its first directory listing of 1898; its householder was Edward Lee. Simply described as a two up and two down, it sat along with Rose Cottage at Thorn House. Another resident has been named that of 1901 William Hudson. This cottage was preserved for many years as the offices of Walton Removals. It was lost once they moved out and new tenants took over.

**Ashfield House.** 53 Higher Road

Ashfield and Higher Roads are shown as being the site of origin for this house. Its owner for 1917 was John Pearce who, in that year, became a Chief Magistrate for the district. John was a very versatile gent who was established in 1876 he advertised as an Undertaker, Joiner, Property repairer, and to finish off, an Ironmonger.

**Bailey Carpet Center.** Higher Road

Opened in 1983 Baileys have completed 35 years of flooring for Urmston and surrounds.

**Bracken. Jim.** Higher Road

As a shop, cottage or building there is no known name. This was the last premises before the Albert Park and in use as a builders Yard. Jim was believed to owned this around mid-1950.

**Bold and Sons. Victoria Garage.** Higher Road

Records for 1912 teach that this was known as **Station Garage** (Referring to the Station and Station Road) and in the capable hands of J. Hall and Co. on Station Road. Alongside the Victoria it moved premises to Higher Road still neighbour to the Vic. For many years this was the only place in Urmston where one could hire a car. This small garage on the road had one petrol pump. The garage of Bold and its associate bicycle shop were lost along with the Victoria Hotel, razed for other commercial use now called Victoria Parade.

**Cash and Carsville.** Higher Road

Carsville and Cash were the two names to remember as local organisers of this coach form of travel. From seaside towns to soccer matches, even mystery tours, these companies would go anywhere. Although located in Urmston each had pick up points around the district. Of the two Carsville still operate throughout the district at one time noted as 22 Higher Road with their main base now in Sale. A recent reminder was the calling of these buses as Chara's, an old French word based on Charabanc.

**Cheetham A. J. & Sons.** Higher Road

The company which has been around for many years was founded by Arthur James Cheetham. They carried a clean record as builders and plumbing merchants.

**Covered Market.** Higher Road/Atkinson Road

Across from the Empress Cinema was a covered Market. The covering was corrugated sheeting supported by steel columns. Sitting on the corner of Atkinson and Higher Roads it was also the home of Carsville Coaches and later a betting shop called Norman Dickinson. Van the Radio Man held shop there for many years.



The market was built to cover what was called Lillicrap Field, but it was not well patronised and closed. A connection to the Lillicrap family of Atkinson Road has not been established even though it would appear to be obvious. Permission was granted for the erection of temporary shops under the roofing in 1938. By the 70's a garage called the Empress was in operation and even now it is home to car sales.

**Diamond Court.** Urmston

The official name for this building was Three Cellars Diamond Court and it was an unknown location on Higher Road in 1851.

**Empress Cinema.** Higher Road

The original building was as the Urmston Rink (roller skating) in 1910/11 it changed to the Empress Rink and Cinema around 1919. The owners were a company called Amusements (Urmston) Ltd. Opened in 1921 the cinema changed hands to become the Empress (Urmston) Ltd. The manager found for this time was William Boyle. A redecoration and new heating were called for in 1932 and in 1934 the building was redesigned in art deco form by architects Drury and Gomersall. 1935 Manager was Ernest Hough. 1935 recorded that there was a Western Electric sound system enhanced by a Westone screen. Then by 1936 it was sold once more to Union Cinemas Ltd. The eventual take over to Associated British Cinemas came in 1937 and it closed 1959, the demolition began about 1962 and was complete by 1965. A luxury cinema for the period it accommodated 900 people in comfort and style. The addition in 1935 brought the figure up to 1200. This was the second such cinema to close after the Palace. A small shopping centre was built in its place leaving the district with only the Curzon open for the period.



**Evangelical Church.** Higher Road

Little has been found regarding this well-established church at the corner of Ashfield Road other than permission was granted for the hall to be erected in 1934. It carried alternate names of the **Gospel Hall** or **Gospel Mission**. Followers of the New Testament the building has been traced slightly prior to the second war. For a period, it was home to guide and brownie troupes however there are no specific details. This mission has closed for redevelopment as of 2017 with flats and offices to take its place.

**Foxley House.** Higher Road

When James Owen passed away in 1915 this address was published in his obituary.

**Glenholme.** 50 Higher Road

Sitting on the **south** side in 1898 and close to Atkinson Road the house was lived in by George Jackson Crippin. A market gardener who lived in a brick red home growing brick red tomatoes of very high quality. George Herbert Crippin reaped the tomatoes for 1928.

**Goddard and Staines Ltd.** Higher Road

Registering as a private company by Alan Goddard in 1959 it became a highly respected force in the world of Motor Body Repair and Steel Fabrication. Initially they were a divided company with premises on Glebe Road and at the Nags Head; combining with Walter Staines they moved to Higher Road in 1963. The construction there was carried out by the company that converted a rhubarb patch into the present. The company carries the brand name of Coachcraft. They sponsored the original blue plaque which was mounted at Flixton Station for the Bottoms Footpath.

**Gratten Cottage.** Higher Road

It is not known where the cottage sat but it is recorded as home to the Hulme family of 1889 when a son was born, Cyril.

**Greenfield House.** Higher Road

Estimated to have been built in 1830, it was there in 1841 as it appeared on Tithe maps for the time. A small farm which had stables, coach house, and several outhouses even its acreage was limited to three or four meadows totalling eight statute acres of land. Alice Bennett was the owner then who sold out to Henry Sutcliffe. By 1851 it was owned by Thomas Higginson who passed away in 1867. For that year William Thorpe was in residence as it was offered for sale on the death of Thomas. The house was rented out through to the year of 1881 to various tenants.



Thomas had a daughter who inherited the farm she married into the Royle family but wished to keep the estate in the family name. This was done by Royal Licence thus forming the name of Royle-Higginson as it is better known today. 1898 the full name appeared James Royle-Higginson was noted as the farmer.

Selling a portion off for the Cheshire Line Railway the farm was split, the house south and the lands north. In 1890 several parcels of land were to be sold for development. Greenfield Baptist Church, the Market, Cottage Hospital, even the Palace Cinema were built on these old estate fields. Finally, the house itself was removed to accommodate the Urmston Post Office in 1937.

**Hartley R. S. Ltd.** Higher Road

A company called this operated an engineering works at the corner of Ashfield in 1948.

**Independent Methodist Church.** Higher Road (South Side)

Along with the other Methodist Church (Primitive) on Higher Road this one was the first branch opened in 1838. Replaced in 1912 with a Sunday school the church transferred all to the Lodge Avenue branch. Later in its life 1977 the old church was used for warehouse and wholesale supplies ranging from carpets to building materials. There was an association formed in 1895 that called themselves the Urmston Independent Methodist Cricket Club without further detail.

**Jehovah.**

The Jehovah Witness has been around Urmston for many years but established resolutely c.1965. Their Kingdom Hall was established on Higher Road 1968 and built on the site of the Higher Road Primitive Methodist Church. This new structure took away the Chapel, Chapel House, and Sunday school.

**Jones. John Robert.** Higher Road

John began his business about 1894 as a furniture remover. The shop showed as No.160 slightly aside to George Street. His occupation of these premises lasted until c.1920 by which time he had added a fruiter shop that advertised British and Foreign products.



**Lake. Sarah** Higher Road

At the corner of Albert Avenue this shop was a typical general supplier of goods in 1927-1932. Alice Parr continued into 1938-9.

Lake General Supplier

**Lime Tree Slaughterhouse.** 124 Higher Road

While the majority of butchers slaughtered cattle at their own premises Lime Tree Farm had a building specifically for this operation. For modern times it was also called **Peats** slaughterhouse as the family were well known from the Lime Tree Farm. Today, it still sits hidden back off the road in the area of the Co-op on Higher Road it is used as an auto repair shop. The frontage is somewhat modernised, but the rear clearly shows what its appearance used to be like. It is best viewed from Stephen Street. 1875 is the closest date found at this time for its establishment; it contained a shop and stables as a package.

**Locke Albert Ltd.** 160 Higher Road

The Locke Company was another of Urmstons builders, literally. As quality homes sprung up throughout the district the Locke houses matched all. Established during the difficult times of 1940 they remained locally for close to forty years. One of the larger known areas they worked was the Canterbury Road Estate and they had houses for sale on Western Road in 1958.

**Machin.** Mary Higher Road

Once the Gloucester Road Smithy closed up the Machins moved to the Spark Yard to continue with business. This time it carried Marys name and not that of William. (Registered as 1938 Mary was still there into 1955) The family laid claim as being the last Smithy for Urmston.

**Market Place.** Higher Road

Unrelated to the market a corner shop was available here in 1882 along with this a terrace group of five in 1898 were numbered as 141-149 and were settled in between the corner of Chapel Grove and the Recreation Ground.

**Mona Villas.** Higher Road

Few buildings were known by name down Higher. This one was found in the St. Clement's registry showing a daughter born to the Frederick Street family in 1895. Another record gave 157 for its numbering in 1896 which would place it just after Chapel Grove.

**Myers & Frost.** 28 Higher Road

Portrait photography was their 1901 to 1910 business; they sold out to Renton & Co who did the same thing.

**North Western Road Car Co.** Higher Road

Operating in the 1920's from behind Bowden View off Shaw Road. Later they moved and opened on Higher Road c.1927 having bought out **Tetlow and Collier** as well as the maintenance company of H & J Tetlow.



Discussions were being held in 1938 regarding the introduction of Double Decked buses, applications were refused on the grounds they were too difficult to overtake. This was the fourth time North Western had tried to get them on the roads.

The demise of this company came in 1973 as it evolved into SELNEC National Travel (North West) Limited. The premises are not being utilised for the present and stand empty

**Tetlow and Collier.**

Once the partnership of Harry and James Tetlow ended with the death of James in 1923, the company continued with the inception of James Collier as the new partner. The North Western Bus Company bought out Tetlow and Collier who were operating as a public transport company in 1927 then acquired the associate maintenance company of H. & J. Tetlow in 1938. At that time there were six buses allocated for the district. Tetlow and Collier carried on their own business in Davyhulme in car sales and service.

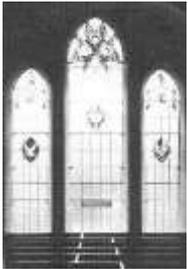


**Off Licence.** Back Urmston (Higher Road)

The first official licence applied for was in 1873 where Ralph Buckley stated he was applying to sell wine, beer, and spirits from his shop on Higher Road. He further went on to include *that it was not to be drunk or consumed in a house thereunto belonging*. The shop became the business of James Pollard who was denied a licence in 1884 as the premises were regarded as too close to the Church School. James moved to comply with the ruling setting up at Chapel Grove for 1901. The original shop turned to grocery and provisions this has been found for position as at 42 Higher Road, the block has long gone. A further name came forward for Higher that of Fowler & Bailey selling wines for this early c.1880 date along with grocery. William A. Burley was traced at the De Trafford Arms 151 Higher Road in 1906.

**Primitive Methodist.** Higher Road Chapel (North side)

Similar to the Wesleyan Churches, there were several Methodist Chapels in the district. Higher Road catered to the Urmston residents, building in 1873, their first Primitive Chapel.



For the offering there was seating for 120 people. This chapel came about due to the pioneering of one William Johnson who was a farm labourer in Urmston Village. When he got married, he opened his home for services and had three members. His efforts were followed after his death in 1886 by George Pearson.



Seven years after the chapel was built a school room was added to complete the project. Modernisation came with heating improvements, an electrical blower for the organ and extensions in general to all the buildings. When complete there was a Chapel and Vestry, school and classroom, and a caretaker house. After 90 years of existence it celebrated in 1963. All removed for a new church of a different denomination by 1966.

**Chapel House.**

The house sat beside the chapel housing the curator/custodian for all its life. 1898 had Samuel Johnson son of one founder member he remained until 1908 and Isaac Barber took his place. George Jones, and Gerald Johnson, took turns through to 1940. The house was demolished for the new church.

**Prospect Hill.** Higher Road

The Hill can be added to the list with unknown detail. It was found to be in existence in 1922 and selling as a three-bed roomed cottage in Urmston. For information about the cottage, Prospect was where to go. The cottage only gave out that it had two entertaining rooms, three beds, and a five-minute walk to the station. It is likely the cottage was advertised/owned by the resident of the Stretford Road named Prospect Hill and not a different named building.

**Ridings.** Higher Road

The most prominent carpet and furniture store for Urmston originating from around 1932, sat covering most of the corner at Higher and Station Roads. The ground floor corner shop became a bicycle distributor also under the hand of Ridings. This was one of several Ridings branches around Manchester. The building was constructed for W. E. Restall and designed by Longworth of Longworth & Taylor.

**Rose Cottage.** 45-47 Higher Road

Granny Smith's Cottage was another name for this old time two up and two down abodes. The cottage did not survive but used to sit proud between Greenfield and the duo of Ash Cottage at The Thorns on the **north** side of Higher. Although it would appear built of a very early period the best date found at this time is 1898 with Henry Emery.

**Singer Sewing Machine Co. Ltd.**

112 Higher Road was the outlet for this well-known household apparatus. (c.1908) A local advert of 1920 said you could buy one for 2/6d per week, what it failed to say was for how long you must pay. They moved premises for 1928 to 4 Crofts Bank Road.

**Smethill.** Higher Road

Jonathan Boulton Smethill was a Wheel/Millwright, as was his father before him, and it is known he ran a Forge and Smithy on Higher Road. In a place alongside of the workshop, Mary Smethill ran a drapery business. Jonathan purchased premises along Higher Road with a John Taylor in 1880. The Smithy is noted as being one of the oldest buildings still standing in Urmston with a date of establishment unknown. (Design of the 1700's)



During the period 1928 Smethill's had become a car body repair shop with the family later turning to funeral service for their occupation and it was for this they were better known today. Their shop sat on the old Spark's Yard site on Station and Higher Roads whereas the Smithy building became a sandwich shop. Smethill's have now closed up business for the district with a past of over one hundred years to this illustrious name. The family were known to live on Torbay Road during 1950.

### Smithy Brow Farm.

Higher Road was the home for this farm next door to the St. Clement's School. It was later to be known as Coupe. Thomas Coupe, the owner, rented it out to Thomas Royle who was the Chief Constable for Urmston at that 1880's period. To go back further the Royles are noted to be at the farm around 1841.

### Smithy Cottages. 90 Higher Road

Without any real calling this pair survived well into the 1960's before being demolished. Sitting close to the actual Smithy of Smethill it seemed logical to earn the name that most locals recognised for their existence. In the days of this pair they combined to create a small complex of a shop, dwelling, coupled to three cottages behind. The next nearest neighbour was the Working Men's Institute, with one cottage occupied by the steward for the club.



### Spark & Sons. Higher Road



The beginnings of this company were as a timber mill in 1880 under the name of Joseph Spark (1847-1923). Later as a timber merchant and contractor Spark premises remained a feature of Urmston for many years. George, Joseph, and Donald comprised the progression of the sons who continued to carry the business forward. The yard was alongside Greenfield Farm and at the corner of Station Road where other shops are today, moving in 1928 to their better-known site on Higher Road. Spark became a Limited Company in 1948. One of their major constructions for the area was the English Martyrs Church on Roseneath Road with many Church Road homes credited to their skills. There is a collection of 7 photographs being held by the GM Records Office.

If a list of the buildings carried out by Spark could ever be produced the public would be astounded by its content. Not only homes but also structures, for example the added tower to St. Clements Church, Cottage Hospital, and the brick chimney at Simpsons Food Factory.

### St. Clement's Fold. Higher Road

This compact estate was built on the grounds of the St. Clement's School in 1997. The properties number 25 of which 9 are flats. Built, into the surrounding walls are the original commemorative plaques recording the history of the school.

### St. Clement's School. Higher Road

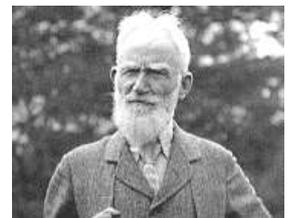


Founded in 1859 the first school was replaced in 1889 at a cost of £3000.00 and enlarged in 1912. This last building was closed in July 1984 then developers took over in 1996 to replace it with housing. The original commemorative stones are built into the walls of this new estate. When first opened it was known as the New (**Central**) School. The foundation stone for the school in 1888 was laid by Rev. E. Harwood Cooke. It was noted too for being the home of The Church Lads Brigade and other social groups for several years. When originally opened the Headmaster was Edmond Woodward assisted by Headmistress M. E. Vernon. They were in charge of 621 pupils.

The school had an excellent cricket club, followed by an athletic club, literary society, and a temperance society, each recorded in 1898. The membership afforded to each being well supported in numbers, and the cricket team winning the Eccles League Shield in 1897 for reward.

Shaw. George Bernard. 1856-1950

The world-famous writer was requested to autograph one of his books to be sold at a charitable auction at **St. Clement's School** in 1949. Shaw returned the request with an accompanying letter stating that any of his work could be displayed but not sold. The letter was displayed along with his signature and his explanation of how he never autographed anything.



### Time Capsule. 1888-1996



During the demolition of the **St. Clement's School** on Higher Road a time capsule was retrieved. It was left under the foundation stone in a Victorian style glass bottle. The contents revealed documents of 1888 and included a Manchester Courier newspaper, an invitation to the ceremony, and a general account of the day's proceedings.

### Summer Villas. Higher Road



These villas originating around 1870 could be found on the **north** side and were entered in a census of 1881 located on Higher Road. At that time, they were home to the Chisnall and Bennett families. For 1895 they were described as very modern and by 1901 they belonged to Frederick Watkinson. Originally suggesting two homes, the villas grew to a terrace of five by 1911. The figures are somewhat misleading suggesting vacant homes occurred here during the collection of information. This block was more than likely the reason for the naming of Summer Avenue that takes the place today. 1891 displayed the Villas as Poplar Grove in street direction.

### The Lodge. Higher Road

Numbered as 53 it was the closest named building to the Church School and was shown to arrive about 1898. In residence was Ellen Sandiford who lived and died in this **north** side abode. Frank Pearce the Funeral Director was here for a while although it has been home to several commercial enterprises.



**The Thorns. 51 Higher Road**

An older home of c.1853 found as a near neighbour to the St. Clement's School. The homeowner was at this time was Elizabeth Tate. Its description was; a detached house with two entertaining rooms, hall, kitchen, scullery, pantry, with a w.c. on the ground floor. There were three principle bedrooms on the first floor with a w.c. The second floor had three more bedrooms. There were cellars below and outside was a coal shed, with storehouse.

Elizabeth was directly related to Henry Tate who, with his two sons, were a part of the creation of Tate & Lyle famous for its sugars and syrup. To top that he founded the Tate Gallery in London. Before its demise this was home to the Walton Removal family.

**AKA. Thorn Villa. Higher Road**

One of several homes removed, by order, when the railway was laid. Facts came to light later that portions of this particular house had to be altered to accommodate the new railway line to its rear. Details for the house coincide with the description of **The Thorns**. It was detached, built of brick and stone, included were stables. The outbuildings were complimented by a two-story coach house, garage accommodation for five cars. A green house and potting shed almost closed the offer except for a four roomed cottage let on a weekly tenancy. This house was on offer with this detail again in 1947.

When taken by Walton Removals the attributes became available in more detail. The coach house and stables had been removed but the green house remained along with a selected vinery. Internally wood was prominent especially included in a large staircase. The entry cottage was preserved, and it was later found to be numbered as 51a Ash Cottage.

**Thompson. Higher Road**

This small shop (1875) sat at the corner of Lorne Grove. Back in 1901 Annie Thompson was a News Agent there. By 1909 Emily Pearson had taken the business remaining there until c.1920 when it became Walter Clarkes turn. The 1930's saw it change into a more general store as Elsie and Albert Thompson moved in with Stationary, Haberdashery, and Toys. Albert ran an Electrical contractors' business from here too apart from working at the Ford factory full time.

**Trafford Arms. 151 Higher Road**

For a long time, this was disputed as non-existent. Most believed it to represent a hotel but in fact it was an off Licence run by William Arthur Burley. He was known to be there from around 1905 to 1915. Officially titled De Trafford Arms it was placed at Chapel Grove. The corner was demolished in 1969 and replaced with shops and flats.

**Tribel. F. Grocery Higher Road**

Frank held shop here before the war and continued through until the shop went for the Victoria Parade. The shop was placed between the Empress Cinema and Bolds Garage. At the time he sold fruit, flowers, and veg.

**Urmston Council Yard. Higher Road**

An early yard and stables could be found near to the school, it was eventually sold for redevelopment in 1934.

**Urmston Fellowship Club. 28 Higher Road**

A date of 1953 had this clubs premises up for sale. The club's detail or function has not yet been found however, by address, it was linked the Evangelistic Church.

**Urmston Men's Club and Institute. Higher Road**

The Club and Institute began from an idea by Ex. Insp. George Davidson he organised its beginnings in 1922. The first building comprised of old Army Huts erected on the Higher Road site. This structure was opened in 1923 by Councillor J. W. Spensley who became the club's first president. Taking just one year for a bowling green to be added this club has gone from 100 members to currently over 3,000. Struggling through difficult times of fires and theft it is open these days to both Men and Women.



Some origin connected to Irlam and workers wearing clogs earned it the name of The Cloggers. The newer brick building occupied today was placed in 1929. The year of 2006 saw it voted as the fourth best club in the UK for its kind. For the first time in the clubs 84-year history it appointed a female as its General Manager 2007.

**Urmston Post Office. Higher Road**

Built in 1939 it stands where the Higginson family had the Greenfield Farmhouse on Higher Road. Prior to this the P. O. was on Station Road with another version on Railway Road 1909-1930 which was the last before this permanent building was put into place. This division of the postal service was the first to close down its Sunday hours in 1956. The PO has moved home having outlived its 75 years of varied systems in 2014. The old building has opened as a restaurant/bar for 2017.



**Urmston Recreation Grounds. (Albert Park Public) Higher Road**

These fields split the housing between Lorne Grove and Chapel Grove in 1900 for today, they still do. Purchased by the Urmston Council in 1905 the land cost £1730. They must rank as being one of the oldest sites officially designated for this purpose. A portion of this land was found to be the location of the 1914-19 Urmston Allotments reassigned for the war effort. It is open parkland with only children's amenities available the grounds carry the name now of **Albert Park**.

**Urmston Sawmills.**

The general detail is listed under **Sawmills** but for the present there is a company called Perkins on Higher Road who retained the Joseph Spark image and call themselves Urmston Sawmill although they are a country wide operation.

**Walton J. Removals Ltd. 51 Higher Road (The Thorns)**

The removal firm established by John Walton around 1922 was a fixture along the road until 1984 when the company liquidated. Keeping it in the family it was Ernest Neville Walton that continued after John passed on, he died in 1980. The company began across the road at 122 Higher Road expanding over the years finding the need for larger premises. This company were responsible for the preservation of an old Cottage (Ash) utilising it for office space. Unfortunately, it was removed by Maxted Removals once Walton left.

**Workman's Institute. Higher Road**

An institute was already established here in 1881. Such clubs were dotted around the district without affiliation to any particular group other than blue collar workers.

**Random addressed shops as found by number on Higher Road.**

**1 Higher Road** in 1966 was taken by a gent's outfitters it passed by the name of Burt.

**7 Higher Road** began as the North-western Electricity Boada showrooms. Next came Armstrong Jewellers which was taken by another in the trade Clive. An assortment has followed from sweets to a café.

**32 Higher Road Shop.**

This shop belonged to Edward Charles Gelling who was a chemist during 1918-20 his speciality though was glasses. Gold filled they were guaranteed for ten years although he was only around for two.

**90 Higher Road Shop. (Speculation is Smithy Cottages)**

Just another on this road that was not actually signified in any way. Positioned close to the corner of Ashfield Road it had Smethill for its neighbour but showed as a shop belonging to Fredrick Thomas Birch a tobacconist. By 1901 Lewton, a baker, had occupation but was selling up with three cottages behind. They were numbered as 84-86 meaning they were on Higher Road. This shows with a distinct possibility of being an early Urmston Post Office held by the Buckley family around 1870.

**103 Higher Road Shop.**

One of several Off-Licence premises on Higher, this one was called **Robinsons** for 1953. A 1967 shop here was the Unicorn, an off licence known for its wines and William Bebbington was the licensee.

**105 Higher Road Shop.**

Hilda Brown was an avid collector of postcards she received many from around Brittan forwarded to her "Sweet Shop" at this address in 1923.

**107 Higher Road Shop.**

This particular shop 1891 sat next to the first Co-op on Higher. It was an ironmongery store run by John Pearce in 1898 he sold and the new owner for 1905 became Adolph Bittner. The shop was large having four bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, scullery, and a yard. Not showing any living rooms suggests they were converted into the shop area.

**108 Higher Road.** This unknown home or shop was condemned in 1933. Margaret Walton was the owner.

**220 Higher Road.**

A café stood here called the Oriole for several years, its story is still to be found, known is an owner for 1959 J. Rowland.



- **Highfield Drive.** Davyhulme

An unknown here is for any connection to the several Highfield's but it has 1-14 for its addresses.

- **Highfield Avenue.** Moss Road

This avenue replaced 'The Avenue' as the Highfield Bank, View, and Villas took over. It finally became Bridgenorth Road.

- **Highgate Avenue.** Davyhulme

Even numbers are allocated to the homes 2-20.

- **Hillam Close.** Urmston

Only four houses are to be found on the Close which leads to the old Hillam Farm area.

- **Hilrose Avenue.** Urmston

A compliment of 40 homes is to be found here. This road received its first coat of Tarmacadam in 1948.

- **Hilton Ave. Urmston 1900**

Hilton was called Balfour Avenue before this date of 1900 there were five houses each side of the Avenue. Its listing of 1911 brought forward the fact of only four each side of the avenue. By 1926 there were ten homes here and the block went on sale in 1940. Current information for the avenue shows only **Finebuilt House** is left but renamed as **Stanley House**. The home has been converted into shops, but the building remains.



#### **Stanley House.** Hilton Avenue

This house, now converted into a series of shops and offices, was called **Finebuilt House**. This is the only building along the avenue as the Eden Center takes over thereafter. Silcock family own this portion of the road.

- **Historical.**

#### **Aquilifer.**

An Aquilifer is derived from Roman times it is usually referring to an Eagle in some form. This representation is to be found in scouting and schools locally with both the Urmston Junior School and the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scouts carrying varied symbols of the Aquilifer in their presented documentation.



#### **Asshawe.**



A family name from the Shaw Hall dynasty. Lawrence and Leonard were the most well-known of this family. Formerly Shaw was called Asshawe Hall and it was a school for many years closing in 1865 and transferred to Chadderton in Cheshire. Still called Asshawe Hall in 1881 it was home to the James Ridehalgh and Adam Stott families. Leonard was fined £25 in 1620 for refusing a knighthood from Charles I.

#### **Benchmarks**



1845 shows as the earliest of these markings it was located slightly north of Woodhouse Road then called Red Lane. On the same map others could be found close to the Davyhulme Hall Lodge, the Nags Head, and Moss Farm. The Flixton Bridge at Carrington carries a benchmark found near to the date stone of 1907. Such a mark shows a surveyed location that is used by cartographers to confirm elevation. The mark in these instances are an arrow pointing vertically to a horizontal line. Modern day markings are inserted plates.

Another such mark has been located at the old Police Station alongside the parking entry on Station Road. Two more can be noted on the east outer wall of St. Clement's Church and another at St. Michaels. A modern version is to be found on Stretford Road; it was used when building the M63 in 1958 and can be seen on an outer pillar at Newcroft House. This mark is accompanied by a plaque of explanation and was installed by the owner with the true arrow below.



#### **Bonnie Prince.**



It has been put forward that the old Barton Bridge was destroyed to stop Bonnie Prince Charlie from crossing over it on his way to the south. This was proved correct as the center structure was removed on the bridge for that period. After taking Carlisle in 1745 he did reach Derby via Manchester, but it was unlikely a detour was taken to visit the Urmston district. The bridge was still being used in 1776 the Bridgewater Canal was completed and replaced it.



#### **Butts.**

Edward IV declared every Englishman should have a bow of his own brow height, and that butts for the practice of archery should be set up in every village. Hemp Butts, Wine Butts, and Three Butts were a few of the field names in our District of Urmston the locations are unknown. A 'Butt' was a straw target.

An alternate to this was where field has **abutted** one another, this, did represent an occurrence many times.



#### **Coats of Arms.**



The **Urmston** Coats of Arms was granted in 1942 by the College of Arms. The motto translates as; "*The welfare of the people is the supreme law.*" Urmston now falls under the wings of the Trafford Coats of Arms. With amalgamation a new Coat of Arms was granted in 1974 it has been designed to represent all its constituencies and carries the motto of; "*Hold fast that which is good.*" Urmston's contribution to the arms is accounted for in the Oak leaves representing the rural area for which it was renowned.

**It is illegal to re-produce any coat of arms without permission for purposes of a commercial nature.**

### Duelling.

The scene was a field called Barrow Bank or Barnfield Bank, depending on whose report you read, and it was located near to Urmston Hall. In a dispute over lands there in 1305 John de Trafford fought out a dual with Gilbert of Ashton. John won killing Gilbert and proceeded to bury him in a nearby field alongside the brook. The prize was the deeds to the Manor. (The weapons of choice are not known)



### Hearth Tax.



To the hearth tax of 1666 eighty-nine hearths were found liable in Flixton, where the only house with more than four hearths was that of Leonard Egerton, with eleven. Sixty hearths were found liable in Urmston; there the chief houses were those of Roger Rogers and Richard Starkie with nine and six hearths respectively. The Tax was supposedly to fund soldiering in the Royal Army the more hearths you had the more you could afford to pay. What goes around comes around 2013 has a proposal to tax the populous dependent on the number of bedrooms a home has.

### Hemp.

Henry VIII allowed the cultivation of Hemp throughout England and Urmston was no exception. There is at least one recorded field for this product which was to encourage the manufacture of alternates to cotton. One cannot help wondering if the youth of those times had other ideas even though it was the wrong kind of hemp.



### Historical Slab. Davyhulme



A stone slab of local historical interest was to be found in the St. Marys Church garden, between the porch and the north transept which formed the doorstep of Davyhulme Hall. When the hall was demolished the doorstep was conveyed to St. Marys Church and placed in front of the porch where it remained until the new paths were laid in 1959. The stone still exists placed in the garden.

### History of Lancashire by Edward Baines. 1836

Preston born Edward visited Flixton to study the ambience of the village and St. Michael's Church which he covered extensively in his book. The words Baines used are quoted that the following applied to Flixton.

*"There are no factories, no steam engines, no markets, no fairs (save the annual wake on the first Sunday after St. Michael's Day, which festival is celebrated for its eel pies), but a rural and peaceful population. The people are long lived, and as many persons in proportion to their numbers attain the age of three score and ten in Flixton, as in any parish in Lancashire."*



### History of local bells.



A series of church bells marking a portion of Urmstons history have been lost over time. A search was being conducted to find out what happened to them and to record their existence for posterity unfortunately it was never completed. Missing are the following: Higher Road Independent Methodist Church, (One Bell) English Martyrs, (One Bell) St. Mary's (Eight are known to have been taken out of use) One bell which was at Shaw Hall was lost in 1863. Another bell, found in a Davyhulme scrap yard, was retrieved in 2000 but it matched the records of the St. Mathew's Church in Ardwick. For 2010 one more bell can be added to the missing list it belonged to the George Street Chapel on Stretford Road. During the war years many bells were taken to be **melted down** for reuse, metals of all kinds became a premium commodity.

English Martyrs bell tower

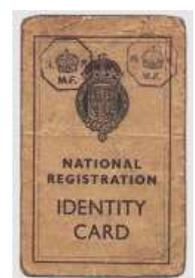


### Lathom. Henry de 1093-1128

(Baron of Manchester) He was the owner of the land now occupied by Flixton. It was his son Robert, who first gave Flixton to the Church and it became a Parish.

### Pass Laws 1820.

The poorer people around the Urban District would be supplied with a pass when moving from one part of the county to another. It was signed by the local Magistrate to ensure the holder was not arrested as being a vagrant. During WW2 **all citizens** had to carry ID in the form of a passbook for personal identification.



**Ridehalgh. G. J. M. (Colonel) 1835-1892**

The Colonel was Lord of the Manor at this period of c.1850. A very charitable man he gave much to the church and community. All the land for the building of St. Clement's Church and Church Yard was donated by Colonel Ridehalgh. The Colonels name was George John Millar Ridehalgh and he died in October 1892. At that point in time he was owner of the largest portion of land around Urmston with 91 acres. A marriage in 1908 between the descendants of the Ridehalgh family of Shaw Hall and the Royle family of Stocks House cemented two of the districts most familiar names. George spent most of his life living in the Lake District and not locally, his title was honorary as a Colonel in the Boarder Regiment.

**Riding the Stang. Flixton**

This strange practice was carried out when anyone was caught in an act of unfaithfulness during the 1890's. The offender was sat upon a ladder or pole and carried around the Flixton Village accompanied by music played on tin cans. The ritual was enough to prevent this happening too often as it drew the ridicule of the whole village population. (Termed as **Riding the Stag** in some publications)

**Stone Celt.**

The first Celt was found when dredging the second lock on the Irwell it was also when the first Roman Gold turned up, this was in 1757. A second stone Celt was found in 1846 near Shaw Hall and in a gravel or sand pit named the Carr's on the banks of the Mersey. A Celt can be described as an axe or hammer relating to the Anglo-Saxon period. Very little has ever been traced regarding the ancient history of the lands, so this find was quite significant. It was noted as being 13" in length, 3 ½" wide and weighed nearly 4 lbs. The Celt was donated to The Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire in 1846 by the finder Charles Royle. According to the Manchester Geological Society, "*Mr*

*Royle happened to be at the site and purchased the Celt for a trifling sum.*" Another relic came in 1900 it was a Roman coin found while creating the foundations of The Roost on Stretford Road. As a last note Roman pottery was unearthed during the diggings at the Urmston Hall site. (The Neolithic axe head can be found in the Manchester Museum Ref. 25916)

**Urmston History Society.**

This group has been going for many years, founded in 1979 it provides much in the way of interest to its very strong membership. **Alan Crossland**, a founder member, was the first speaker. They were responsible for the archaeological dig at Urmston Hall and preserving the local history in general. Meetings are held at the Masonic Lodge Westbourne Road on a monthly basis and currently **John Howe** is the President and Chairman. **Bob Potts** is also a prominent member. John, Alan, and Bob, have outstanding knowledge of our local district.

**Valentine.**

This family have a huge story to tell regarding their Flixton Connection. Their arrival in 1292 heralded the first purchasing of lands in Flixton. Thomas, Ralph, and John created a small dynasty which included the creation of Shaw Hall. The history of the Valentines goes back to 1485 and the Battle of Bosworth. Earlier still Richard Valentine witnessed an Urmston deed in 1305. The ghost of Sir Ralph Valentine is supposed to frequent the area still today as he vowed to return 'dead or alive' to the family. He was killed in battle so with the Hall as long gone his search for it continues. Thomas Valentine is on record as holding the Lordship of Flixton in 1473.

**Yeomen.**

Research turned up that the leading local Yeoman came from the Wright family of Flixton House fame. Earlier Yeomen found came from local handloom weavers. St. Michael's Church Yard records a multitude of Yeomen proudly inscribed on their gravestones.

To qualify as a Yeoman this is a quotation from 1898. "*He that hath a freehold of 40 shillings a year, who is qualified for Knights of the Shire, and to do any other act of a free man*". This means almost anyone could pass as a Yeoman as long as he or she were free to enlist in the military when required.



- **Hodnett Avenue.** Flixton

Odd numbers are shown for the avenue here 1-13 making it 8 houses in all. Its origin is Norman and a family name.

- **Holly Avenue.** Flixton/Urmston 1900

Built only on the **north** side for 1890, there were five homes increasing to seven by 1911. Addresses shown today are 1-15 bringing it to 8 homes. For the time it sat on the border of both towns because of its location at Lime Avenue. The first house was at No1 with three bedrooms, bath, etc. It was slightly lacking in description when advertised in 1895.

- **Holly House Drive.** Flixton

A relatively new estate for 1975-78 with 19 homes built on the corner of Irlam Road it has the Alker Hall for its neighbour. The site was taken from the Holly House that used to belong here. First project was for a church however that changed as the Catholic ownership decided to build on Irlam Road.

- **Horse Drawn Transportation.**

In the beginning the only way to transport anyone or anything was done via the horse. Everything one could think about that had to be moved from A to B would be carried out with the aid of a horse. Doctors rode around Urmston on horseback, public transport such as a bus was the same. There were terminus points around town; the Vic and the Nelson were prominent for the buses. Bread, milk, vegetables, grocery, coal, it did not matter the horse and cart was the way. Manufacturers brought raw materials in from Manchester this mode except when it was a large consignment then the canal would be used. From common farmer to squire a horse became the same to them as the car is for today. The Stott Mill stopped the use of horse drawn transport in 1922 announcing they had purchased motors for the job. In 1905 it became law for all venders to display their name and address.



- **Hoy Drive.** Davyhulme

Nestled between Shetland and Kingsway there are 40 houses to the Drive. Scottish named from the Island of Hoy.

- **Hulmes.**

The original name for this reference was **Holmes** gradually changing to Hulmes over many years of usage. This occurred from the time of 1700 to 1800 with regard to the bridge, farm, and ferry. The demise of this area came in 1890 when the original Lock House, Locks, and bridge were swept away by the construction of the new canal. In charge of the locks and living in the lock house for 1826 was Joseph Gilbody.

#### **Hulmes Bridge.** MSC

Situated behind the Fox and Hounds by today's standards it would be hard to describe this as a bridge. It comprised of a walkway with cables or ropes as hand railing this was in 1704. These were only installed after complaints about the danger in 1868 without them. There were four supports submerged into the river which had the level of the platform approximately three feet above the water level. During the excavation for the Ship Canal the bridge was removed (1890) and a ferry was instituted. The lock house and lock were gone forever because of the canal digging.

Hulmes 'bridge' such as it was.



#### **Hulmes Bridge Farm.** Daresbury Avenue (West)



A date of 1826 showed the farm in existence and farming was still being carried out into 1940 but absorbed as Booths of Woodsend Farm. A farmhouse with outbuildings and orchard is all the information gleaned with regard to detail. For all the records found it was nearly always in the hands of one of the Booth family. The Booth for 1898-1904 was Thomas. In its later years 1927-8 it was being farmed by John William Glegg. Disaster struck in 2002 when arsonists set fire to the smallholding, once more held by a Booth, Colin. The original farm was demolished in 1953. Here now is a stable named as Hulmes Bridge. Mapping also hints that there was a connection to the Union Farm placed in the area.

#### **Hulmes Ferry.** MSC



Beyond the Union Cottages and towards Barton this ferry operated free as it replaced a right of way. Accordingly, it should have remained so by law. The ferry replaced a bridge at this point (Hulmes Bridge) it is pending a re-opening for use after being in existence since 1880. All the buildings that once held the boats and equipment have been removed but a landing stage is still operable on either side. The status of the ferry will be long disputed, but a trial scheduled for June 2011 came in to effect. It is open at weekends and some Bank holidays as an attraction.

The bell situated on the Irlam side is manufactured from a piece of steel pipe and the hammer, a very large bolt. Unique is the only word to describe this antiquity.



#### **Hulmes Ferry Cottage.** Davyhulme (Hulmes Bridge Ferry)

The cottage was built to house the ferry master in 1895 as the original lock house was demolished during construction of the canal. An application of 2010 to demolish the house was made by the Kingsway Church of Northern Moor. This was denied due to road access problems. Many names are put forward for its occupancy one was that of Arthur Newton in 1927 and listed as the ferryman.

2015 and the cottage was purchased privately for renovation.



- **Humphrey Crescent.** Urmston

1930's and the Crescent was added to the Lane with 24 homes.

- **Humphrey Lane.**



The lane itself was occupied by the Victoria Villas, Gorse Hill, and Gorse Hill Farm to the west. The **east** side was made up from Field House, Manor House, and The Grove. The three Manor Cottages completed this area. Sir Humphrey de Trafford is connected to the naming of this lane. He rode his horses and travelled with his hounds throughout this area in the mid 1800's. A deed dated 1866 had it named in part as Cow Lane and at one time it was also nicknamed Humpty Dumpty Lane. The Lane today is the backbone to the Crescent and the Park with its 68 properties which originate as of the 1930's.

#### **Field House.**

Another fine abode along Humphrey Lane on the **east** side. It was originally called **Urmston Cottage** and was demolished in 1933. (Refer to **Urmston Cottage** for its details)

#### **Gorse Hill.** Humphrey Lane

A Slater's document indicates that the Hill was residential with in 1898, four named people living under this calling. The location was on the west side and not far from the farm.

#### **Gorsey Brow.**

Hamlets abound and this was another which in modern times c.1937 became the basis for the Humphrey Park Estate. There are terraced homes here that assumed the name of Gorsey in kind only; their correct name should be as **Summerfield Terrace**. Gorsey Brow, as an address for 2010, is left with these four homes. This dates to around 1870.



#### **Aka. Summerfield Terrace. Gorsey Brow** Humphrey Lane

Summerfield was close to the intersection of Chadwick Lane and comprised of four units. Established there in 1869 they were known locally as the **Spite Cottages** as they were reported to have been built out of spite. A disagreement between two families, Taylor and Chadwick, led one into erecting the terrace intent on spoiling the view of the other. A house here in 1873 contained four bedrooms, parlour, sitting room, kitchen, pantry, scullery, and cellars. The alternate and or present name attached to this building is Gorsey Brow.



#### **Humphrey Park Allotments Association.** Humphrey Lane

Number 30 was where one could find this association in 1939.

#### **Humphrey Park Club Ltd.** Humphrey Lane

The club was to be found at Rock Road in 1939

#### **Manor in its various forms.**



#### **Manor Cottages.** Humphrey Lane

The cottages were to be found with the **Manor House** showing 1898 resident families of Waddington, Priddle, and Chapman. The structures themselves were believed to be from 1765 being built prior to the Manor. Condemned as unfit for habitation the removal of the cottages was approved in 1937.



#### **Manor Farm.** Humphrey lane

The farm was a neighbour to the Manor House and its cottages in this area of Humphrey.

#### **Manor House.** Humphrey Lane

Just to add to the confusion about Manors, there was another on Humphrey Lane. Built in the early 1800's this was accompanied by the **Manor Cottages**. William Allen was the owner of this land as of 1765 but he went bankrupt and James Heywood purchased a large parcel in 1790. Near to where Clevedon Avenue is now the two cottages came first along the lane. These were followed by the Manor Farm and then the Manor House. Sitting on 33 acres of land and documented as early as 1765 it eventually fell into the hands of the Reade family around 1840. George Grey had occupation for 1898. All sold in 1934 and then demolished in 1936 for a new housing estate.

#### **The Gales.** Humphrey Lane

1895 and Urmston Cottage could be found overlooking the area called the Gales at that time using the name of **Field House**. On the **west** side of Humphrey Lane, in today's world it makes up the area where Rock, Blinco, Allen, and Gilpin Roads now are along with the St. Clement's Branch Church.

**The Grove.** Humphrey Lane

This particular home 'The Grove' was off Humphrey Lane within a stone's throw of the Manor House. This is dated as 1868 for its erection and one of the few established homes around to have a large pond in its gardens. Thomas Chadwick 1824-1895 purchased this 9-acre site and built the house called The Grove. The land for that time was owned by the Reade family of the Manor House. It had a coachman's cottage, a keeper's house, and a summer house to complete the package. The main house was three storied and has been compared to Longford Hall for an indication of size. The interior was lavish and contained ornate chandeliers, a minstrel gallery; even the ceilings were decorated with gold. The large grounds with Ivy covered walls had vineyards encapsulated by many trees and shrubs. When Thomas died in 1895; his family continued to occupy the house until 1902 thereafter it was empty until its demise in 1926 none but the Chadwick family ever living there.

**Urmston Cottage.** Humphrey Lane.

The cottage and farm were made up on 15 acres of land with stables, coach house, and a green house. The owner in 1841 was Amos Bannister who had Thomas Leech as a tenant in the cottage. 1859 saw the estate being bought by the Taylors of Newcroft who had many residing tenants through to 1888 when some selling off of land took place. It was around this time the house was renamed as **Field House**. By 1929 the house was empty and was sold for redevelopment in 1932.

**Victoria Cottage.** Humphrey Lane

The cottage was once the coach house situated with the Victoria Villas. When sold off in 1958 it was converted into a residence and occupied for many years until about 1990 when it was razed for a modern dwelling.

**Victoria Villas.** Humphrey Lane

Created as a pair in 1897 they were built for Joseph Constantine. He lived in the first villa and his sister the second. Obligatory coach house and stables were at the rear of the house. These, after some time, were converted into a cottage they named as Victoria Cottage. Around 1938-9 a portion of his land was sold by Constantine family for the Urmston Hotel which now stands in front of the Villas but on Stretford Road. John Tiller the creator of the Tiller Girl dance troupe lived here too.

- **Humphrey Park.** Urmston

The Park is a T junction road made up from 78 residences and runs next to the Lane.

**Humphrey Park Community Centre.**

Extending an old air raid shelter in 1948 gave birth to this facility. The bowling club came next when a green was laid in 1949. Expanding the centre an Old Folks Club was formed and their efforts brought a library. The centre provided much and everything from a Youth Club to Ballet. Demolished for a new building, in 1962 it was reopened by Councillor Royle-Higginson.

**Humphrey Park Estate.**

The residential homes in this area of Urmston were established in 1937. A Society was formed from local residents in 1946 to improve the facilities in the area. It lasted until 1952 when they considered they had achieved their aim. A subway was built in 1950 to allow passage under the railway lines all due to the residents. Although it was a problem in waiting for electrification, it was from this society that the Railway Halt (opened in October 1984) eventually arrived for the estate, just one of the many achievements they accomplished.

**Humphrey Park Library.**

Officially opened in 1948 the Urmston Council attended in force. This was the result of hard work by the community themselves.

**St. Clement's Branch Church.**

First thought of in 1939 it took home in a football pavilion. The aim was to become exactly as it is called, a branch of the mother church, St. Clement's. Even after many years it was never envisioned that this building would remain as is but to eventually replace it with something more conventional. To remain so unique has been a credit to its history. The church continues to serve the local community of Humphrey Park.

- **Ilkley Drive.** Davyhulme

Yorkshire is the basis for its name with 18 designated postal addresses. Older folk will remember the song, "On Ilkley Moor bart 'at."

- **Iona Way.** Davyhulme

The Way has 91 residential homes. Iona is a small island in the Hebrides.

- **Irlam.**

Flixton's neighbour to the **west** and on the other side of the ship canal. There are three common units to Urmston, the Ferry, Locks, and the Thunder Bridge. The Co-op soap and candle Works and Steel Works in Irlam provided many from across the canal with employment. When the ship canal was built Irlam claimed 114 acres of Flixton due to the altered course of the waterway. It was decided in 1895 that the boundary between Flixton and Irlam would be the center of the canal since its inception.



An over spill of Manchester's housing problems was abandoned here for Flixton in 1957 due to possible trouble from the Irlam Power Station and its pollution in the area of the ferry on the Flixton side.

### **Thunder Bridge.** An Irlam Crossing.

The railway line crossed over at the weir linking the Mersey to the Irwell River. Just beyond Irlam locks, as the ship canal was built, it became a necessity to build a bridge. Due to the roar created from trains passing over it the name of '*Thunder*' has carried down through time. The bridge was officially titled Irlam Viaduct Railway Deviation No.5 when proposed in 1882 and was completed a year before the canal itself. The bridge with its 135ft span was built by Sir William Arrol and Co. Completed in January 1893 it was opened for freight only, passenger service followed in March after some modification to its structure. To test the structural integrity 9 or 10 locomotives were driven on to the bridge simultaneously. Fortunately, it held, and no trains were lost during this insane operation.



The ship **Arklow Fame** collided with this Irlam/Flixton Bridge in 2007 this was due to a heavy rainfall increasing the amount of water passing over the weir. This forced the stern to port resulting in the impact to the bow on the Starboard side.



- **Irlam Road.**



This road was made up from three separate Lanes, Millar's, Green, and Boat. Green was actually a side road that became Brooklyn Avenue but continued after Millar's Lane towards the canal. At this time figures are showing that out of 236 properties there are 226 residential. Several flats are interjected down the road along with notables such as St. Johns Church, The Grange, The Railway Tavern, Big Three Farm (Kennels and cattery) and Towns Gate.

Survey mapping indicated the early residential homes here as of 1894.

An application was made in 1934 to stop and or divert a public footpath from Irlam Road through to Western Road because of a new road construction.

### **Irlam Road. Flixton 1900 (South west)**



Holly House at the corner of Flixton Road sat with Brookfield. From Willow Bank through to the canal all but a few homes are named. Fern Bank, Watford Villa, Beech Wood, The Poplars, The Hollies, Thorncliffe, Merle Wood, The Pines, The Elms, Irlsmere, Mayfield, and Ashfield, followed by two not named which end at Feeble Lane. Houghton House and The Grange were placed between here and Green Lane. A surgeon made home in the next house which bordered on Broom Farm. De Brook with Wellacre went to Jack Lane and another farm that of Woodland. Rose Cottage, Holly Bank, Uptons Warburton Wall Bank Farm with Towns Gate finishes at the canal.

Many name changes came around **1911** Oakfield, Capenhurst, Rivington, were introduced before Feeble Lane. Tyneside sat with the Grange and Roslyn with Brook Farm. From 1901 to 1919 several of the named homes were found to be changed around in their sequence when presented in street directories. With this in mind all the names are entered individually until such time they can be identified as either new or renamed.

### **Irlam Road. Flixton 1900 (North East)**

Overdale, Ardnadam, Wibbersley, and Clovelly are on the **north east** side where next came the Wesleyan Mission Church and Drachenfels before Goldsworthy Road. On to Morning Side, Strathdene with four farm cottages and Rydal Mount. Lime Hurst is at Woodsend corner with the Red Lion Hotel. Glen Esk had six homes and the mix of the remaining houses present Rowan Tree, Booth Lea, Brook House, and Boat Lane Farm which joined with the farm of Towns Gate again at the canal. In 1956 a home called Woodland Cottage was located along with a pair of semis called Braemar and Arthurlie. These last two were numbered as 28 & 30.

**1928** Irlam Road carried these callings: Holly House, Brookfield, Willow Bank, Fern Bank, Watford Villa, Beechwood, Thornecliffe, The Poplars, The Hollies, Merlewood, Oakfield, Capenhurst, Rivington, The Elms, Irlsmere, Mayfield, Ashfield, Houghton House, The Grange, Rosslyn, Broom Farm, De Brook farm, Well-acre, Well-acre Cottage, Woodland Farm, Rose Cottage, Holly Bank, Town Gate Farm, Ardnadam, Overdale, Wibbersley, Clovelly, Methodist Church, Drachenfels, Strathdene, Rydal mount, Limehurst, Red Lion Hotel, Glen Esk, Rowan Tree, Booth Lea, Boat Lane Farm, and Town Gate Farm. The double entry for Town Gate arrives as it sat both sides of the road as the Ship Canal was reached.

#### **Irlam Road for 1938 to 1940.**

Several new callings arrived during this period especially a section from Millford Avenue to Brooklyn Avenue. Millford Lodge and Green Roofs slotted in with the existing Houghton House. Croyland, Rossendale, Haslemere, and Whyncarne, sat before Whym and Branshaw. These years proved the point made earlier that many buildings changed names and or disappeared on Irlam Road.

#### **Acre Hall Primary School.** Irlam Road

(No detail) Suggested is that this is an independent private Junior School. Application was made in 2013 to demolish the existing school and replace it with a new 315 place structure.

#### **Ardnadam.** Irlam Road

A Stott creation of around 1890, this house belonging to 1904 resident Frank Mills was placed adjoining **Overdale** on the **north east** side of Irlam Road. A large semi supporting seven bedrooms, three entertaining, a billiard room, kitchen with pantry, bathroom, w/c, large closets and cellars below. 1928 had Henry Wilson while for 1938 it was Joseph Silverstone. The garden was designated as being extra-large. Ardnadam is a west coast of Scotland village.



#### **Arnside.** Irlam Road

The house could be found between Arthurlie and Quinta about 1928 Fredrick Brazier at home.

#### **Arthurlie.** Irlam Road

Partnered to Braemar it had Joseph Simpson and not Arthur here in 1928 to 1939.

#### **Ashfield.** 49 Irlam Road



Ashfield has been confirmed as still standing today 2011 after a date of 1889 had been found for its erection. For the year of 1898 Charles T. Ambler was its owner or renter. For 1929 some detail became available; five beds, two entertaining rooms, electric light throughout, garage, greenhouse, rustic summer house, a rose garden, and well stocked gardens in general. Included in the home were electric fittings and power plugs, linoleum, curtain fittings, and the gas fires in the bedrooms. Walter Rogerson was offering the house at the time.

#### **Ash Villa.** Irlam Road

The home was noted as being on Millers Lane for the year of 1877. Its only detail being that it was a detached house with a garden.

#### **Beechwood.** 21 Irlam Road



As a semidetached house it came with little or no detail, in 1907 it carried the calling of being, handsome, when offered for sale. Confirmation of its partner has not been found possible was **Thornecliffe**. In the Beechwood side lived Frank Hamner for 1901.

#### **Big Three Farm.** Irlam Road

A relatively new calling for district established as of 1997 and the Farmhouse is noted for its naming of **Ferryman**. The location of being next to the old ferry there gives justification. Its prime purpose is horse stabling and livery.

#### **Booth Lea.** Irlam Road

An unknown quantity as far as information goes regarding this home. Shown in 1898 as the farmhouse of William Booth. 1949 had a Mrs. Voss leaving the district and selling all the furniture and fittings. High on the list of items were Veterinary medications especially for dogs they carried the brand name of Voss. Francis Price, a commercial traveller, was named here for 1928. The rarity of the name Voss creates the fact that this was the Voss Kennels. The Lea belonged to the UUDC, they announced that the kennels were to be closed in 1953 and a new lease would not be entered into. The whole site was cleared in 1961.

#### **Booth's Farm.** Irlam Road



James Booth farmed here until he retired in 1880, he then handed it down to William Booth who continued with the practice who eventually retired himself. When William was there in 1898 it was called **Booth, Lea**. Found too are Timothy and Thomas Booth farming down Woodsend at varied locales. Attached to the farm was a breeder of dogs passing under the name of **Booths Lea Kennels** it was run by R. H. Voss in 1942. As a family the Booths had farmed the area since John of the Booth in 1332. The farm had a cottage which was named as **Millers Lane Farm Cottage**. It was dated as 1906 with Thomas and Alice Booth at home.

**Braemar.** 28 Irlam Road

First entry found for this home came in 1928 as it then belonged to a surgeon called Jesse Evelyn Sheret. Mary Sheret had it in her name for 1938. The date of 1947 brought this house into notice again when located as for sale, a large four bed roomed semidetached with a porch and hall, two entertaining rooms, a kitchen that had a bungalow range, scullery, larder and coal-place. Braemar is of Scottish origin.

**Branshaw.** Irlam Road

At Brooklyn Avenue this house became the last of the preceding row it was where one could find 1939 homemaker Norman Waterhouse.

**Brookfield.** 11 Irlam Road

The house was alongside Holly House and is named so today 2011. Its private garden is occasionally opened for viewing under the National Garden Scheme. The house built of London Stock brick was of c.1890. It was utilised by a local surgeon whose name was Charles Garner in 1910-1939. Around 1951 when for sale, some of the changes internally accounted for a waiting room after the hall, a surgery and dispensary. The ground floor was normal at this point with a lounge, kitchen party and scullery. The first floor had three bedrooms and a bathroom. A second floor brought another bedroom and led to two attics. One room was converted into a dark room for photographic development and lastly there were cellars and a wooden garage. According to records the Samuel Kay family were here first 1898 but moved next door into Willow Bank in some form of exchange with the Doctor.

**Brook House.** Irlam Road

This Irlam Road version of Brook sat north of the area of the Boat Lane Farm in 1845. For 1861 it belonged to the Bradford Norbury family. By 1891 the following resident was Samuel H. Butt a local bailiff. It was then occupied by Robert H. Fowler in 1898 and Thomas Henry Helsby in 1904. The house carried its own stable and coach house with shippons and barn. The home comprised of six bedrooms, bathroom and water closet. It had a dining, drawing, and breakfast room.

A stream (Brook) enhanced the gardens, all sitting on 11 acres of land.

**Broom Farm.** Irlam Road

Broom Farm had a close relationship to De Brook as they sat together off Green Lane. The farmers for 1888-1944 were James and Frank Whitehead who described themselves as Market Gardeners. Frank gave this address for his marriage in 1900 to Ann Taylor, James being noted as the father and Harry, presumably his brother, was a witness. The farm is recorded as built over in 1929 after Harry Whitehead was there the year before.

**Capenhurst.** Irlam Road

Stanley Birtwistle held home here from 1908-1911 the house was one of several that were entered under different names for Irlam Road during this period. 1928 brought forward the owners as Robert and Elizabeth Burgess who occupied the home until 1952. Further research should be followed, as it appears to belong with **Rivington**.

**Clovelly.** Irlam Road

Situated midway down Irlam Road the house was familiar to many as the home of Dr. Monroe c.1930-35 but it had been there since pre-1900 as the George Collins family lived there in that year. Clovelly fell into ruin and was demolished many years ago it has been replaced with new housing. A last date of 1955 showed it standing. One of the Hattersley families lived here in 1898 known from the Woodsend Engineering Works. When sold in 1907 it included six building lots adjoining.



This large old home had a spacious entrance hall, dining and drawing rooms, breakfast and smoke rooms, six bedrooms, kitchen, larder, scullery, bathroom, box room, dark room, billiard room, and a large attic. Outside comprised of a coach house and stables, harness room, and wash house. The gardens supported two green houses, fruit trees and a tennis court. Past owners of this handsome property have been Robert Lund Hattersley 1898, and Councillor Oliver M. Rowe 1909-1928. Shown for 1939 is Edward Arden.

**Co-op.** 125 Irlam Road

This independent version of a Co-op operates today in Woodsend. Its information stone shows the letters D J E with the date of 1760. This is a typical conversion where, in this case it was a farmhouse called Woodland, has been turned into a shop over many years. This is certainly not in the known style of the old CWS whose premises were tailored to a common standard of architecture. A company called Tartan operated here adding the left wing before the Co-op arrived.



Before and after.

**Croyland.** Irlam Road

One of the latest findings for the road with it only appearing for 1938. To be located with Houghton House it sat with Rossendale to its other side. Here lived Robert Tranter Owen shown from 1938 to 1940.

**Delamere School & Toy Library.** 91 Irlam Road

The school has facilities to cope with children who show signs of emotional and behavioural difficulties. This school was built on the actual site of the Wellacre House. Starting life as the Delamere Tape and Toy Library in 1981, this facility as grown and now has its own building. The old school caretaker house on Irlam Road has been converted for the purpose and opened by Councillor David Acton in 2001. Although the original idea was to aid children with difficulties it is available to anyone in the district. The library sits on land that was once the Wellacre House Estate.

**Drachenfels.** Irlam Road.

The German worded home was next door to the Wesleyan Mission at the corner of Goldsworthy. Drachenfels means Rock of the Dragon or more literally Dragons Rock. 1881 shows the reason for this naming it was owned by Louis Tobias Waechter who hailed from Hamburg in Germany. This **north eastern** house belonged to William Ward as of 1898 he worked as a surveyor until 1904 and then handed it down to Miss Esther Ward by 1919. For those days it was numbered as 72. A small bungalow is to be found taking its place for the present.

**Durley House.** 78 Irlam Road

The corner of Goldsworthy has been traced for this house with Joseph Holmes in residence 1906. Its origin was that of **Morningside** a few years before, home of author David. H. Langton. This was one of the Hattersley family homes noted from Woodsend Engineering. In this instance Thomas Barton Hattersley as engineer. Two more homes pushed Durley away from the Goldsworthy edge by 1920. The alternate spelling of Durlie sometimes applied in records.

2019 and its current ownership have gone back to the name of **Morningside**.

**Edensor.** Irlam Road

This was a short-lived calling for 1928, Mable Colbourn a music teacher, practiced here.

**Ellen Brook.** 31 Irlam Road

This semidetached is thought to be connected to **Merlewood**. This calling only arrived around 1928 and so it is quite possible it was named something else prior to this time. Irlam Road was somewhat complicated when it came to recording house names.

**Fairfield.** Irlam Road

A named home that came and went but in 1928 Wilfred Haig was happy here.

**Fern Bank.** 17 Irlam Road

This house traced to 1890 was again recorded in 1898 with John Louglan as tenant. 1926 it was a builder and contractor living there called John McGregor McFarlane. The home is coupled with **Watford** as a semidetached. Each home had two reception, kitchen, scullery, five beds, bathroom, lavatory, cellars with extra w.c. The gardens were well kept and had fruit trees. The house was equipped with electric lighting.

**Ferry way.** Irlam Road

1938 occupant Ronald Lister knew this was on the way to the ferry.

**Flixton Fellowship Church.** Irlam Road

These Independent followers have the Acre Hall Primary School as their base. They formed as a group in 1960.

**Flixton Methodist Church.** (Methodist Mission) Irlam Road

This Mission Church was formed at the corner of The Avenue in 1894. As a private cottage for its onset this soon became too small and the new church was built. It has been extended twice the first time in 1927 and again in 1956. In the church's early days, it was called as being Wesleyan and following as the Primitive Methodists.



The Church was offered for redevelopment as the followers of this faith have relocated to Hayswater and it was demolished for housing in 2013. This was been backed up with a proposed plan to install a cul-de-sac with four houses to be built by Gilzean Homes, this has been completed.



**Glen Esk.** Irlam Road

Sitting close to the Red Lion Hotel this building was recorded for 1889 with James Walls and family there. This was a medium sized terrace and by 1898 there were several families living under this buildings name. Number 4 became available in 1905 with four bedrooms and two living rooms as its main description. A change for 1926 where it became three bedrooms plus two box rooms, the two living rooms did not alter, and a hall was included as was a dressing room. The kitchen and cellars then finalised the document.

**Green Roofs.** Irlam Road

Not heard of until 1939 the house was neighbour to Millford Lodge at home was John Ratcliffe.

**Haslemere.** Irlam Road

Mrs. Ellen Hancock became the 1938 resident of this otherwise unknown.

**Highbury.** Irlam Road

Number 6 was Highbury's address for 1950, three bed roomed and a garage. No current detail.

**Holly Bank.** Irlam Road

As an early 1880 home it was central to Woodland and Town Gate Farms. First found by name was Samuel Pearson who was the manager of the Moorside Workhouse for 1891. Registered as homeowner in 1898, George Robinson. Albert Beardsall came next in 1904. This bank was to be found next door to Spring Cottage in 1928 with Arnold Roberts

**Holly Bank Farm.** Irlam Road (**Boat Lane Farm**)

The farm was to be found as a neighbour of Towns Gate and dated for the same era. This was thought to be just another where the Booth Family were associated. It remains unconfirmed as to there being any connection to the house of Holly Bank also shown around this part of Irlam Road. By address this appears to match details for Boat Lane Farm and still to be investigated.

**Holly House.** Irlam and Flixton Roads

The house is often referred to as Flixton Road and it is entered as such for this document.

**Houghton House.** Irlam Road

The house sat across from the Methodist Church at Goldsworthy Road. From Feeble to Brooklyn this was the only building sitting there till c.1930. Its closest neighbour would have been the Flixton Grange right up to that time. Henry Hartley was living here in 1898. Onward to 1928 here was John Radcliffe but as of 1938 it was where Joseph Cummings lived.

**Hyacinth Cottage.** Irlam Road

This 1716 cottage was one of a small line that sat opposite the Grange on Irlam Road. Lucy Wilcox was to be found there at the time of its removal in 1938.

**Ingleby.** Irlam Road

Leading up to Wibbersley this house, found only in 1928, belonged in the hands of John Thompson. He was there ten years later.

**Irlsmere.** 45 Irlam Road

This was a noted home found to be confirmed as being around in 1881. This semidetached house had five bedrooms and two sitting rooms, bathroom, and all mod cons. Alfred Henshaw could be found in this home at the time. Sometime into 1928 Walter Syms had the Mere and the adjoining home was **Mayfield**.

**Jacksons Farm.** Woodsend

This farm was a later version of Towns Gate Farm off Irlam Road.

**Johnsons Field.** Irlam Road

This field was to be found opposite the now defunct Red Lion Hotel. Open land but available for varied sports, the area was mainly used for football during the 1920's and 30's. One supporter of this field was the North Western Road Car Co. who played as amateurs there.

**Kinfare.** Irlam Road

A short life for this name found for 1928 to 1938 but not seen again. Neighbour to Clovelly with William Cleverly in place.

**Limehurst.** Irlam Road

This was once the home of the John Royle family of the 1890's. Shown again in 1898 as the house where John Dring lived. This abode sat close to the Red Lion at Woodsend Road and the terrace of Rydal Mount. 1928 records that this was where Frederick Baker dwelt.

The home addressed as 92 Irlam Road was the first Headquarters of the 1<sup>st</sup> Flixton Scouts.



**Lisadel.** Irlam Road

Unknown until recorded in 1898 with a name of S. C. Lowe in directories. A change of name had occurred by 1901 and it was never used again for identification.

**Lyndisfarne.** Irlam Road

Named homes often changed on Irlam Road, this was no exception. Only ever traced into 1928 Charles Batty had it.

**Lynmouth.** Irlam Road

The place was found as an attractive bungalow in 1927 having no further detail available other than it housed William Overton. Vincent Lorenzelli believed it to be attractive enough for him to move in during 1938-39.

**Mayfield.** 47 Irlam Road

First date traced 1879 with James Mothersill in residence. The year was 1885 and one could rent this house free until December. It was advertised in a newspaper dated November 14<sup>th</sup>. The family of John W. A. Kenny took advantage of this and moved in. Semidetached the home was occupied in 1898 by Henry George Ogden with 1928 William Watson. **Irlsmere** was the co-home here.

**Merlewood.** 33 Irlam Road

Built c.1880 this was a semidetached home of ten rooms in all had five bedrooms. A hall, three entertaining rooms, bath, kitchen, box room, and washhouse were all sitting over cellars. Staying at Myrlewood in 1898 was Robert Hargraves among some confusion as this home came and went from directories. It appeared once more for 1928 this time with Herbert Sissons in name. Presently it is showing as neighbour to **Ellen Brook**.

**Millford Lodge.** Irlam Road

The Lodge sat at the corner of Millford and Irlam Roads where there is a rest garden today. Charles Nicholas Elliot was its 1939 occupant showing **Green Roofs** as his neighbour.

**Morningside.** Irlam Road

Found to be around in 1873 according to a current owner, the house had David. H. Langton living there. He was the author of the book, "*A History of the Parish of Flixton*" written in 1898. The house was at the corner of Goldsworthy Road as shown in a directory of 1904 with David Langton still there. It was sad to note that this house lost its calling to that of **Durley** a few years later. Bright skies, and this home has now returned to its original name as of 2019.

**Oakfield.** Irlam Road.

Built before 1877, it was a detached house with a large garden. During WW I when Wibbersley became a temporary hospital the house of Oakfield was offered for the same purpose. It offered 16 extra beds for a short while then, deemed to be too small it was accepted as a residence for the nursing staff due to its close location.

In 1902 it housed the Alker family of James and Helen who appear to have bought it from 1898 James Hardman. Oakfield had six bedrooms and a box room, three sitting rooms with the bathroom including a w c, the large scullery was over three cellars and outside a field complete with pony stable and greenhouse.

**Overdale.** Irlam Road

A Stott creation from around 1880 and home to Samuel for a while in his life. Another notable who actually passed away here was John Alker of the Hall fame in 1920. This is the first house on Irlam Road on the **north east** end after Marlborough Road. It was partnered to **Ardnadam**. The building had seven bedrooms and three entertaining rooms in its minimal description. A bathroom and billiard room were later added to a greenhouse with gardens, this to enhance a sale advert.

1928 residing here was James D. Slinger. Another notable person lived here during the years of 1938-1940. He was William N. Chisholm M.B. Ch. F.R.C.S. Edinburgh. The Superintendent of Park Hospital.

**Patterdale.** Irlam Road

Alfred Edwin Hall settled in for 1928 to 1938 as this, the last house, reached Wibbersley Park.

**Pi. Social Club.** Irlam Road

The Carrington Company of Petrochemicals used the old house of Wellacre as a social club. During the 1950's it played host to many famous named entertaining artists. The calling is taken from mathematical terminology. (3.14159) A fire hastened its demise.

**Quinta Amalia.** Irlam Road

The Spanish for 'quinta' translates as Villa. In 1928 Leslie Smith was at the villa, and then for 1939 Lionel McAllister possibly knew that after living there for a while as well.

**Railway Tavern.** Irlam Road

Late 1800's, at least 1871, it was included in census for that year. To look at photos from then to what it is today the changes are few except for expansion and modernisation. Michael Tattersall ran the place in 1881 but it was Pauline Howarth licensee for 1900 that applied to rebuild the old house. The Tavern was developed from an existing cottage a practice common for the time. Ale was served directly from the barrel located over the bar and not from a cellar.



When John Eden was granted the licence in 1873 it was on condition that he *"tries to redeem the character of the house."* It fell to 1928 William Ernest Treece as proprietor who by 1938 transferred licence to Nellie Treece. The current building was approved for rebuilding in 1936. Although the nearest rail line was only built much later than its name suggests the sign outside incorporated the "Rocket".

**Red Lion.** 110 Irlam Road Woodsend

Several times the Red Lion has been erected and pulled down. Starting as The Lion in 1772 a succession of owner/ proprietors took it to 1967 when a chrome and glass spectacle was instigated. This too bit the dust and it became a modern family orientated establishment. 1884 gave forth correcting some unknowns; it was a two story, brick range with a pitched roof. The central doorway was flanked by two bay windows with the equivalent again on the upper floor. The premises carried stables with a hay loft over, several sheds and outbuildings of no description, a bowl house for the green that had a refreshment bar. There was once a lawn bowling team at this establishment which also had orchards and gardens. The canted bay windows arrived later as did the extension to the left side.



Names for proprietors: William Taylor 1772, Edward Booth 1784, James Kay 1841, Esther Pendlebury 1881, Alice Booth 1898-94, Albert Stott 1901, Fred Buckley 1928 and John Rogers 1938. A last name found for the 1950's is Cyril Ball he was there until the 1967 demolition. This pub was another affected by the economic times of 2009 and closed up. Approval was given to remove the pub and erect a new block of rest homes there in its place. The Red Lion was finally demolished in January 2011.



Before any new work could be carried out an assessment of the site had to be conducted. Historically the Red Lion counted for a certain status which, although not heritage, the law insists on this in case there are archaeological items to be preserved. Little was found other than the area for the construction would totally override the original site. Noted was that within 500 metres of the site Brough, Broom, and De Brook farms had all been destroyed and built over along with a brick croft near Landsdown Road, three sites there carried Lime kilns.

**Rivington.** Irlam Road

The house became available in 1907 it was advertised by Hulme Builders a hall with cloak room, dining room, lounge, kitchen, including a triplex range. There were three main bedrooms, bathroom and two attic bedrooms, cellars below. Outside, green house potting shed, and garage completed the deal. The building itself was from Accrington brick and had a slated roof the timbers used were pitch pine. Unfortunately, this is yet another of the Irlam Roadhouses that were complicated by enumerators and its name is thought to be connected to **Capenhurst**. Known is that Henry William Todd was comfortable with the name in 1911. Otto Baumbach liked it too for 1928.

**Rocksavage.** Irlam Road

Rocksavage is near neighbour to the present Railway Tavern this cottage carries a date stone showing 1807 and the initials R. J.

A. First noted as belonging to William Harper for 1799, he sold out to the Royle family which may explain the stones detail.

Newer information dates the cottages as c.1704. John Henry Royle had a bakery and grocery shop here until around 1894 he was listed as living there in 1911. Later a Sarah Royle is known to be there in 1936. Here were two cottages which have been altered into one being back to back dwellings.



The stable had a stairway leading to the loft this has been removed as the structure was converted to a garage. Still in existence are the baking ovens hidden away deep in the cellars.



The Royle family of 1900

**Rose Cottage.** Irlam Road.

A Rose Cottage was located on Boat/Green Lane for 1882 all it offered for thought was a green house, garden and plants. This Rose followed Woodlands Farm and was the next-door neighbour to Holly Bank after Jack Lane's entry on to Irlam Road. This was according to old street directories but the home standing there is called **Spring Cottage** thus causing some confusion. At home in 1887 were Benjamin and Ada Warwick then, for 1898-1928, it was Joseph Milner who called himself the householder. Spring carries a name plaque but there is nothing to say that this could not have been changed over the years from Rose. More investigation brought about the fact of Rose and Spring Cottages being adjoined. The internal details of three bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and living rooms matched in every way including a central staircase.

**Rosendale.** Irlam Road

In a series of newly found and named homes this one is added for 1939. Ervin Terry had the position of being here at that time.

**Rowan Tree.** Irlam Road

This cottage, of 1790's its descriptive location went as follows, between Rocksavage and the Railway Tavern. For 1913 it showed as having three beds, box room bath and cellar. For 1898 the resident was William J. Rowan matching the name, he was possibly a descendent. Later residents here were Ernest Jones for 1913 and Ada Naylor in 1928. Rowan was always described as a detached home but does not present itself that way suggesting it as being a part of the Tavern alongside. The home has been almost doubled in size for modern times.

**Rydal Mount.** Millers Lane aka Irlam Road

An unknown building with regard to any detail, it sat close to the Red Lion and near to Feeble Street. This was home to four families in 1881 records. For 1904 Arthur Waterall, a lock master, made one portion his home and 1910 Walter Smith claimed his bit. Riley, Forrester, Simpson, and Pennington made the four in 1928. The Cumbria named home of poet William Wordsworth.

**Scott Hay.** Irlam Road

Edgar Bloor started the hay around 1928 until a district nurse called Miss. Maud Hughes called this her home for 1938. It was next door to Wibbersley Park.

**Spring Cottage.** Irlam Road (Spring Cottage is adjoined to **Rose Cottage** at this location)

Spring was for sale in 1864 the description showed three bedrooms, large parlour and kitchen. It had stables and a garden. The cottage carries a name plaque proclaiming its name but only the home is left for the present time. It sits as neighbour to Holly Bank. There was a Spring Lane very close here off Irlam Road in 1842.

**St. John.** C of E Church and **Mission Church** Irlam Road.

A mission founded in 1925 as a wing of the St. Michael's Church it was dedicated to St. John as of 1956 and finally consecrated in 1968. It now has this, its own building, superseding the Mission Hall. This new church built next door to the Mission had a final cost of £12,000. The architects of R. B. Wood-Jones worked in association with Marsden and Arschavir. The interior furnishings came from the Manchester Cathedral. A description would be; Square with glazed gables on each side and a channelled copper roof. The stained windows are from varied sources, mainly churches that were to be demolished. Hand crafted woodwork can be found for the Alter and its surrounds. There is a Garden of Rest set in peaceful grounds to the rear. A covered walkway connects to the earlier Mission Church alongside.

**St. Michael's Mission.** Irlam Road

Opened in 1930 it was built near to the Red Lion before the St. John's Church at Woodsend took dedication in its own right. The Mission inherited its bell which was found at Flixton House unused. The bell was removed to avoid the risk of theft; it has been retained pending a future designated home.



1938 indicated that the 1<sup>st</sup> Flixton Scout Hut could be found here or at least as neighbour. As a mission it was built as a single hall with attached offices it was accompanied by a large cellar. The cellar was to be used as a youth club at one stage of its life. The present shows the hall is offered for hire when needed for functions and recreational use.

**St. John. (Bell)** Mission Hall Irlam Road

"There is an Inscription band between two bands of ornament. Description: Steep sound bow with many molding wires. Peg argent, bar stock, lever, flightless clapper almost conical. Discovered lying disused in Flixton House (now council-owned with empty cupola) by local ringer Malcolm Murphy and bracketed to a chimney stack on former Mission Church next door to new (1960's) Church of St. John."

The following is the inscription: *L HAVERKAMP ME FECIT HORNAE A 1785 (c. 14)*". This is a reading found in 2009 by climbing up on the roof of the church. Roughly, it means, "*L Haverkamp had this made in the year 1785.*" Leonardus Haverkamp owned a bell and gun foundry from 1779 to 1807 in the West

Frisian town of Hoorn, Holland. It has been established that the bell originated at Flixton House used by the Squire to summon his workers. It was donated to the Church in 1953 by the UUD Council.

**St. John. (Rectory)** Irlam Road

The rectory or vicarage building is sited adjacent to the church, a simple but comfortable design for its designation.

**St John. Youth Club.**

The cellars of the Mission church were to be opened to the youth of Flixton in 1965. All its walls were decorated with murals created by the youngsters themselves.

**St. Monica. R C. Church** Irlam Road.

A modern church only built in 1969. The following started in 1950 with the Monsignor taking residence at Holly House. The congregation held services at the Alker Hall until they opened their own church in 1953 and subsequently the present Church. This church has never had a bell as a feature.



Approval to build the church on the corner of Flixton and Irlam Roads was granted in 1951

**Strathdene.** Irlam Road

An early resident here was David Owen 1891. Found in a sale for 1895 it was an un-named detached home for the 1898 street directory. (For interest it raised £645) It was later tracked down to being close to Goldsworthy Road and a neighbour to **Morningside** in 1904. Making home was Walter Carter of this period. Dr. James Munroe practiced here for 1928 before moving to Clovelly almost next door. Strathdene, a large home, still carried a bell system internally to each of its rooms. Bringing the occupant to modern times it was taken by Dr. Dicks before being converted into flats.

**The Bungalow.** Irlam Road

Not a very original calling for the district, the Bungalow features quite often. This did not bother 1928-1938 owner William Arthur Greville Hawkesworth at the time. This was getting close to Kenilworth Road.

**The Elms.** 43 Irlam Road

Traced to 1882 this house sat next to **The Pines**. It was a semi and had five bedrooms, two sitting rooms, kitchen, bath, and cellars. The grounds were large and there was room for a garage. The home shows named gate posts to this day after Mrs. Ann Bond put them there as first resident. For 1928 Charles Kemp occupied the home. In 1936 the biggest selling feature was the fact the home overlooked the Flixton Tennis Club.

**The Haven.** Irlam Road

The local name of William Upton appeared here for 1928. Herbert Bleasdale found his 1938 haven here as a later entry to Irlam Road, slightly after Woodlands Drive.

**The Hollies.** Irlam Road

Neighbour to possibly **The Poplars** this pair of semidetached homes was around from 1874. The earliest name found for this half of the home is a Mrs. Eyre. A later found name was 1898 dweller William Anderson. Its adverts gave the facts of five bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, and bath.

**The Pines.** 41 Irlam Road

This 1882 building belonged to Sam and Fanny Stott in 1893. It was home to John William Harriman in 1898. The second half of this semi was called **The Elms**, both showing original gate posts for identification. Having five bedrooms coupled to two living rooms made it standard for the area. Three cellars below showed the house to cover a large sized plot. 1928 occupant was George Matheson.

**The Poplars.** Irlam Road

The 1881 to 1887 homeowner was a Mr. William Stainsby. By 1889 it was the residence of the Hattersley family (Woodsend Engineering) Described as a commodious semidetached built and fitted throughout in superior style, private, it had six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms and a box room. There was a bathroom and two water closets, outside a wash house with large gardens. The real selling feature, electric bells throughout the home. At this time, it is possibly linked to **The Hollies**, confirmation is being sought.

**Thornecliffe.** 23 Irlam Road

This handsome semidetached 1895 house had five bedrooms and two entertaining. It would seem the gardens rated higher in its early description than any other facts. The house is thought to be complimented by **Beechwood**. Thorne had an occupant of James Lowe for 1898 and David Delaney in 1901.

**Thorn Farm.** Irlam Road

No detail available. Although the farm is recorded as being here with an Irlam Road address it remains elusive in its history.

**Town Gate and Towns Gate.** The farms sat opposite each other on Irlam Road and for examples 1938 **Town** had Edwin Cordingley in charge while **Towns** had Andrew Jackson. It would give the appearance that the farms worked closely together. Survey mapping indicates the Farm as singular in 1840 and south of Irlam Road it expanded to 'Towns' Gate as the northern version. During 1967 Council put it to Jackson the farmer, that both farms be incorporated into one holding.

**Town Gate Farms.**

These farms were at the end of Irlam Road north and close to the ferry, tracked down to the 1750's and in the hands of John Owen. James Booth was there in 1837 as farmer with John Brown for 1897. He did not stay long it became Edwin Barlow who took responsibility for Towns during 1898. An ad previously placed by Samuel Barlow in 1873, as his tenancy had expired, indicated the farm comprised of 33 acres with a substantial farmhouse, barns, shippon and outbuildings. A date stone found for this era indicated 1871 ESB. Without actual proof, Edwin Samuel Barlow.



1909 indicated Robert Woodall farming Towns and through to around 1920. Back into the Brown family once more for 1928 Edwin Brown this time but not for long. In 1928 the Jackson family (Andrew as farmer) were collecting the benefits of keeping this enterprise going. One very impressive sight to this farm was its main gate. Heavy timber, likely Oak from photographs, was used to form two arches crossed with diagonal supports over two boxed frames. The lower portion was gated with wrought iron arrow headed railing. The gate in total was swing opening and had a stile to one side for pedestrian use. Towns Gate, eventually called Jacksons by 1949, had last occupancy of Kersall Brothers was demolished c.1980. The major portion of this farmland has been owned since 1947 by TBC.

There is a stable holding here (2010) that carries the Town Gate calling forward in a new era.

**Uptons Farm.** (Warburton Wall Farm)

Along Irlam Road and close to Town Gate Farm at the ferry sat this farm of the 1800's and farming there continued into 1930. The farmer of 1881 was Thomas Upton. As it was with several farms throughout Woodsend, the tenant installed their own name to a leased property. There was another Upton down the road; he was James and a farmer too in 1902.

The farm was two stories with pebbledash outer facing. Another feature was a stylish porch with ornate wooden trim that was matched to the upper windows. A slate roof completed all that is known about the building.

**Voss Kennels.** Irlam Road

Numbered as 190 on the road Robert Voss had the kennels here c.1938 to 1940 and on. This building presented itself across from the Co-op as being the large home once called **Booth's Lea**.

**Warburton Wall Farm.**

The 26-acre farm was situated on Irlam Road and close to the ferry landing. Across and nearby was the Town Gate Farm. The farm was dated pre-1850 and was sometimes called **Wall Bank**. Certain acreage belonging to this farm was leased out to John Upton for 1855 and a relative James Upton in 1898. A few of the field names were Barn Field, Meanly, Snape, Outon, Fair Acre, and Searcer. The farm showed many buildings typical for its time and included a large orchard.

**Warncliffe.** Irlam Road

R. Taylor began this calling about 1928. Only Harold Brown knew what a 'Warncliffe' was in 1938 as he lived here as the first home after Wibbersley Park.

**Watford Villa.** 19 Irlam Road

The house of Watford is semidetached and has **Fern Bank** for its companion. Joseph Bromiley was its resident for 1898. This is the righthand house of the two when faced. Each home had two reception, kitchen, scullery, five beds, kitchen, scullery, bath, lavatory, and cellars with extra w c. Well-kept gardens and fruit trees. Electric lighting was installed.



**Wayside.** Irlam Road

A 1928 confectioner named as Ralph Sidney Alcock found his way along this side.

**Well-acre Farm or House, and Cottage.** 91 Irlam Road.

This farm stood where the Delamere Special School now stands. In earliest days it was home to John Stott (1833-1902) and family members. Lt. Col. Samuel Stott died there in 1934 and Samuel Bridge Stott was house resident for 1938-9. The farm had its own generator for electricity backed up by a room full of batteries. The home was very large as a farmhouse having several bedrooms and many living rooms and incorporated a billiard room among other things. It had extensive outbuildings with greenhouses and there was a coachman's cottage in the 40-acre grounds.

There is little to create a picture for **the cottage**. So far, the only actual details traced are that it was a three bed, two living roomed home for John and Mary Upton in 1889, then to a widower Alice Upton in 1893-5. The next fact to arrive was a head gardener living there in 1922 named as Derbyshire who handed the position to Joshua Wright in 1928. A census of 1911 named the cottage as Railway Cottage next to the farm. The cottage was removed in 1959.



Lt. Col. Stott at Wellacre Cottage.

**Wellacre House.** Some description became available from a family named Accleton who lived there for many years and through to 1970-71. For this period the house had been divided into three parts with the families of Brown, and Hughes, taking the other two. As a structure it was four storied, stone faced on the frontage but brick at the rear. Common for the era its front did not face the road. An estimate gave forth that there were around 20 rooms and there were eight bedrooms accounted for in the original home



but how this was split is not known. The 'one third portion' had a large living room that was believed to be the billiard room at one time. The kitchen had an open range with most of the rooms having open fireplaces surrounded by tiles and several featured mirrors. The two bathrooms were typically Victorian with clawed feet to the baths and the pull chain toilets, fancy for the period. There was much in the way of wood carving throughout especially to the staircase as it rose from the ground floor to the topmost portion of the home. Many of the old gas lights remained mounted on the walls surrounded with architraves although no longer in use.

**For the house in general,** the hall went from front to back and was tiled all the way. There was a morning room, kitchen, back kitchen, scullery, pantry, butler's pantry, a cold room with stone shelves. The dining room was enhanced by a large chandelier. One cellar had been changed into an air raid shelter for the war period another became a wine cellar. The billiard room had its own cloak room and toilet. Next there were cellars, attics, and a coal outhouse, in fact several outbuildings, typical for a farm layout for hay, implements and livestock. An orchard, gardens, a greenhouse with vines, a large pond, and a rockery, completed the exterior. The list of features this house brought continues with outbuildings converted into a garage, a coke fired boiler for the central heating, and a summer house with a thatched roof.

Ownership had by 1950 fallen into the hands of the Urmston Council, it was used for community activities. The Shell Company took possession in 1951 making it a Social Club called Pi; this met its end by fire. Its fate was sealed until the time came to replace the complex with the school. Already by 1965 plans were laid for the 14 acres attached to the farm, they would become the playing fields for the school.



The two entry gate posts still stand as the only tangible sign of any history.

**Wellacre Technical College. (Academy as of 2011)** Irlam Road

Opened as a new Secondary Modern School Sept. 1954, the college became so named in 1955. The school was officially opened by Sir Arthur L. Binns who was the Chief Education Officer for Lancashire. It took the boys from Flixton Road Senior as its pupils leaving the older school to the girls. The College is affiliated to Ferrum High School in South Africa. As well as its known origin of the Wellacre Estate some portion of De Brook Farm accounted for land here too.



A teacher, David Nixon, retired from the College in 2003. He was a pupil at the school when it opened in 1954 and proceeded to complete his education at a teaching college in Derby. In 1974 the circle was complete when he returned to Wellacre as an English teacher and taught for 29 years. The college has added another long-term teacher to its list of retirees, after nearly 40 years of educating students there Kevin Murphy retired in 2011.

**Wellacre Junior School.** Irlam Road

This school was opened in 1953 by Dame Florence Horsbrugh who was the Minister of Education. Building began in 1949 with the architect G. Noel Hill in charge, it was erected by the Bristol Aeroplane Co and their housing division. Further to that it sits opposite the college on Irlam Road. Both the Infant and Junior pupils would total 640.

**Whym.** Irlam Road

This odd sounding named home was tracked down for 1940 with a family called Warren living there.

**Whyncarne.** Irlam Road

A 1939 house tracked only into records then with William Perkins as being there.

**Wibbersley.** Irlam Road

Perhaps in an effort to keep the name alive J. W. Birkenhead adopted the name in 1938 for this home now placed two away from the original and after Wibbersley Park.

**Wibbersley House.**

A Major Adam Stott creation of 1882, Sarah Stott, who was the widow of Adam, lived there in 1901 and it was still privately owned. Adam and Sarah had lived at Asshawe Hall until his death in 1886. During the First World War October 1914-1919 it was made available for wounded soldiers as a Red Cross hospital by an Altrincham family called Dr. and Mrs. Smith. The year of 1923 had it being offered for conversion to flats. Eventually, it was razed, to be replaced by housing on Wibbersley Park in 1927. The house and grounds covered nearly 6 acres.

Date stone for 1882



**16 acres of land** between and extending behind Wibbersley and Ardnadam along Irlam Road were also sold they carried the name of Whitelake Fields. 1889 gave the name of the man living in the coachman's cottage he was Samuel Collier, he shared home with his wife Sophia. The cottage gave the impression it survived during the removal of the house as 1928 carried the name here of James Hooson. Sarah Stott put the house on the market in 1905 but gave little away to describe the place. The wording was numerous bedrooms, hall, drawing room, morning room, billiard room, dining and kitchen. Outside were a stable, paddock, and coachman's house. For the size and grandeur there had to be more about it. There was, as a new showing in 1919 brought vestibule, hall, three entertaining, billiard room, seven bedrooms, and bathrooms. The second floor had space for many more bedrooms and domestic offices. Dry cellars were followed with the already known outbuildings. The tennis lawn and greenhouses became added features. There was no suggestion about any extra work to be involved after being utilised as a hospital.

**Willow Bank.** 13-15 Irlam Road

This semidetached Willow was in place for 1880. The five bedrooms are all that is known for this house. Joseph Holmes and Charles Garner were living here in 1898. Mary Eliza Kay joined the Garner's in 1901. Charles was the surgeon who eventually moved into Brookfield next door where the Kay family lived. William Watkinson is recorded as being here for 1939.

**Woodland Farm.** (Woodlands) Irlam Road

This farm sat at the corner of Jack Lane, Flixton in 1760, with William Massey and his wife Emma in 1887. Facts inform the produce here was predominantly corn. The years of 1898-1904 showed it to be in the hands of Wright Johnson. Many years past but recorded is that Mrs. Annie Taylor was there in 1928. By 1938 Samuel Barker stayed in the house but did not appear to be farming anymore. The farmhouse is now a convenience store with its outbuildings hidden behind.

**Woods Farm.** (Woodleigh)

This farm was at a locale on Irlam Road. One of the many that became known by the farmers name rather than an actual Calling. First William Woods of 1881 then George Woods was in charge he kept it going till around 1940. George and William tended to several farms in Urmston. William Woods placed the farm for sale in 1913 complete with its 18 acres, barns, shippon and outbuildings. It appeared to be placed near to Wellacre, certain was that it faced Irlam Road. In the sale was the cottage of Rowan Tree giving some indication that the farm was in the vicinity of the Railway Tavern, a farmhouse on the estate was not in the deal.

- **Irwell.**

A major player in the life of the working man before the ship canal was to come to fruition. The river, made navigable in 1721, carried goods along its path. Locks and weirs were created for the small craft to make their deliveries or collect products from places like the Calamanco Mill. The first steam vessel that came to the river in 1838 was called Jack Sharp. Most of the old river was filled in once the MSC came into play but parts remain for recreational use in Irlam.



Passenger and mail transportation along the river were carried out by craft called Swift (Packet) Boats each being towed by three horses and managed 4MPH.



The Universal Gazetteer of 1839 described it as *"A river in Lancashire which rises above Bolton, flows thence to Manchester, and runs into the Mersey below Flixton."* The river was once called Rossendale Waters as at 1380. A census of 1861 placed something called Irwell Riverside in Flixton. The name Irwell is derived from Celtic. Some alternate naming for the companies navigating both the Irwell and the Mersey Rivers around the 1770's was the 'Old Navigation' which operated 1772-1800 and the 'Old Quay Company' c.1780.

**Locks.**

In the years before the MSC the River Irwell was navigated through many locks. In 1760 Sandy Warps led the way at Cadishead, thereafter the township of Irlam, known is the Calamanco rebuilt in 1820, which was followed by Holmes Bridge better known as Hulmes. Stickens came next 1832, leading up to Barton which was followed by Mode Wheel. 1881 documents indicate George Royle and his wife Margaret were the lock keepers at Irlam. It was at Mode Wheel that Queen Victoria officially opened the canal. Several of the locks were operated by water wheels.

Mode Wheel Lock originally named Maude Wheel

**Old Billy.**

The longest-lived horse ever on record worked the Irwell as a tow horse. Its name was Billy bred on Wildgreaves Farm near Woolston in 1760 he was to live for 62 years. Eventually put out to pasture in 1819 Latchford time was up three years later, the horse died in 1822. Originally trained to the plough Billy was purchased by the Mersey and Irwell Navigation Company to pull flats along the route. An odd story followed in that the taxidermy head is held at the Bedford Museum whereas the skull is to be found in the Manchester Museum.



## J

- **Jack Lane.** Urmston



Jack Lane has origins as early as records go back for 1800 Urmston with two thatched cottages and open fields. Since 1936 the lane has been cultivated into homes which number 36 since Albert Locke erected the first dwellings there in 1955. Its biggest claim to fame was to host the White Lion and later Baileys Corn Mill at the junction of Stretford Road. Occupants for 1911 were George Henry Ellis a gardener who lived with his wife Eliza at The Cottage. In the second home was a weaver called Ellen Johnson sharing with her niece Rosa Davies a laundress.

- **Jack Lane Nature Reserve.** (Public) Jack Lane. Flixton



Details as to when this reserve was opened have not been found but it is described as a marshland habitat. These lands are a part of the Mersey Valley Project. There were buildings on Jack Lane and the Eas in its beginnings as photographic evidence showed in 1907. Several farms indicated the lane for finding their premises when only known by the farmers name. There is a farm still located past Dunster and called Jack Lane Farm. Early O/S maps suggest this was **Spring Lane** in 1842.



- **Jackson Court.** Flixton

The Court is off Bowfell Road with 39 dwellings.

- **Jewell Close.** Urmston.

The close sits off Victoria Road but is without detail.

- **Jubilee Estate.** Rothiemay Road

J. Barker, a contractor, was offering to build new modern flat roofed homes here in 1935-37 at a cost of £410-£450. The Estate was so called for The Silver Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary.

- **Jura Drive.** Davyhulme

Eighteen homes built around 1970. Jura has too many meanings for any definition or calling for the drive.

## K

- **Kendal Avenue.** Davyhulme

Kendal has 18 properties to its name. Cumbria claims this naming.

- **Kenilworth Road.** Flixton

Here are 13 residences with little known about the road. All the houses forwarded names for future reference.

**1928** and the list was: The Gables, Lyndene, Glenthorn, Debdale, Derrymount, Bride Oak, Brookside, Rosedene, West Field, Lynwood, Craig Lea, The Nook, and Brooklyn.

**Bride Oak.** Kenilworth Road

William Arthur Walker for 1928 lived in what he called Brideoak, as one word.

**Brooklyn.** Kenilworth Road

Charles Brown made himself comfortable during 1928 in this abode.

**Brookside.** Kenilworth Road.

Mr. Cyril J. Buckley was operating as secretary for the Shipwrecked Mariners here in 1930. The previous secretary was known from Glen Esk up to this point in time. This home was the last building on the north side.

**Craig Lea.** Kenilworth Road

Ames McCraig found his home on the south side of the road in 1928.

**Debdale.** Kenilworth Road

A rate inspector named as James Rhodes resided on the north side.

**Derrymount.** Kenilworth Road

The residence of 1928 owner James Drinkwater, he worked for the Municipality.

**Lyndene.** Kenilworth Road

Clerking was the 1928 occupation of Harold J. Butterworth homemaker.

**Lynwood.** Kenilworth Road

A south side house where Arthur Edward Butterworth lived around 1928.

**Rosedene.** Kenilworth Road

The south side place for Clerk Harold Hollowood for 1928.

**The Gables.** Kenilworth Road

On the north side of the road lived James Robinson Walker M.C. A.C.A which meant he was an accountant for the time of 1928.

**The Nook.** Kenilworth Road

Fredrick Dickens was around here in 1928 his home sounded small.

**West Field.** Kenilworth Road

He may have west in the field, but the 1928 home was south side for Arthur Gardner.

- **Keswick Avenue.** Flixton

A Lakes town name with 12 houses.

- **Kew Drive.** Davyhulme

There are 18 Gardens here or one would hope with such a famous name.

- **Kingsley Avenue.** Urmston

1-12 with no number 9 add up to Kingsley.

- **Kingsnorth Road.** Davyhulme

Late 2002 was the erection of this area and there is a count of 25 abodes.

- **Kingston Drive.** Flixton

In the first phase of Shaw Hall estates development (1928-32) Kingston marked the end of one side. Later, Southgate and Riverside Drive were added extending the housing alongside farmland which has now been added into the Meadows. Kingston has 78 houses. One named home traced was for 1934, it was called Domus and had Mr. L. Mount as occupant.

- **Kingsway Park.** Davyhulme

From 1935 and the approval of 80 homes to be built here, Kingsway has grown to 281 properties in all. Acreage of 8.6 was being built on in 1945 under contract as a part of the Manchester over spill scheme. This was to be last of its kind due to shortages of manpower and materials after the war. The fields for the estate belonged to the Metropolitan Railway Surplus Lands Company.

**Kingsway Park.** (Public) Along with Broadway this landfill site has been converted into a park. The open land had a group called the Friends of Kingsway Park the detail of which is entered separately. Here too is housed the war tribute to the **gun battery** once based at the end of the park. A portion of the land was built on with "prefabs" accounted for elsewhere in this tabulation. Culverting took place in 1965 placing the Bent Brook underground from Barton Road through to Conway.

**Kingsway Primary School.** Kingsway Park

Teaching at this school began in 1972. They cater for 3 to 11-year olds with a nursery section especially built. The school has approximately 170 pupils at any one time.

**Edgerton School.** Kingsway Park

This school for children with special needs helps those who have learning difficulties.

- **Kirkstall Road.** Davyhulme

Another 1935-6 building era of housing here there are 72 to the road. There is a Yorkshire beginning for this name.

- **Knowsley Avenue.** Davyhulme

1907 is given for Knowsley to appear it has 27 residences registered. The original Knowsley Estate belonged to the 1385 Lathom family. The lines of terraced homes feature standard red brick on one side with red and white on the other.

## L

- **Laburnum Road.** Davyhulme

Unknown is the number of Laburnum trees here but there are 15 houses.

- **Lambourn Road.** Flixton

The road contains 30 properties. Lambourn is derived from a place or stream where lambs would be dipped.

- **Lancashire Hundreds.**

Lancashire used the term Hundred to define an ancient area of administration. This wording comes from the area having to supply 100 armed knights to serve the monarch. Lancashire was divided into 'Six Hundred' for taxation purposes until the 19th century. The Urmston District fell under the Salford Hundred. 1182-1971



- **Lancaster Avenue.** Urmston

Numbered 1-8 these houses complement the avenue.

- **Langley Close.** Urmston

There are 10 homes gracing the Close. Langley originates as a 'long meadow' it was so called after the old Langley House that was in the vicinity.

- **Lansdowne Road.** Flixton

The housing along this road was built by the Bainbridge Brothers in 1937 and named as being "*Sunshine Homes*." There are 30 in all for the road. The down originates as a village in Somerset.

- **Lansdowne Road North.** Flixton

This north section of Lansdowne has 14 properties of its own.

Thunder Tunnels. (Lansdown and others)

The cattle arch and tunnel that allowed farmers to go under the railway near Flixton Station was sometimes called by this name.

The footpath gave passage from one side of the line through to the station and the grounds of Flixton House. The archway traversed under the **Bottoms path**. Local lore would have it that there were other such



Bottoms now filled in.

tunnels involved with the rail line that carried the same story. The pictures for example show such tunnels at the end of **Lansdowne Road** and another in the area of Dutton's Pond.



Duttons



Lansdown

- **Lawrence Grove.** Urmston

This **unknown** Grove had eight homes for sale in 1874, it was purported to be two minutes' walk from Urmston Station.

- **Lawrence Road.** Flixton

Properties for Lawrence came in about 1936 and there are 53 of them. The footpath from Lawrence through to Marlborough was stopped up in 1966. It was deemed unnecessary by Council.

**Flixton Cricket Club.** Lawrence Road

First formed in 1891 a club under this name played close to the Stott Mill, they moved over to Johnsons field near to the Red Lion in 1893 but later disbanded. A new group started in 1870 as a joint venture with the Urmston Cricket Club but Flixton eventually went alone and in 1896 took the field on the grounds known as Atherton. The Walkden family sold the land to the club in 1927. The club is no longer just involved with cricket and is now a multi-sport facility. This was brought about by amalgamating with the Moorside tennis club and the Flixton tennis club in 1969. Available here are Bowling, Karate, Table Tennis, and Lawn Tennis coupled with other social activities. This has prompted a small change to the title as they now pass as **Flixton Cricket and Sports Club**.



- **Laxfield Drive.** Flixton

Of the 26 homes on Laxfield 6 are flats which were built around 1970. Laxfield is a village in Suffolk.

- **Leagate.** Urmston

There should be 26 gates to homes on the drive.

- **Leamington Road.** Davyhulme

Most of the houses here were built around 1935-6 and made up 24.

- **Ledbury Avenue.** Davyhulme

Concrete paving for this avenue came in 1934. Elldonside was a calling for a home shown here in 1949. The avenue has 26 houses. Ledbury is a village from Herefordshire.

- **Lever Street.** Flixton 1900

This small street had no named homes **east** was 2-12 and **west** was 1-5. Lever Street became known as **Hazelmere Road**. The UUDC took responsibility in 1935.

Rest Garden. Lever Street.

Lever Street, better known today as **Hazelmere**, had a sunken Rest Garden at the corner of Church Road. Many called it the Rose Garden as it was laid out with a multitude of roses. Established around 1930 it came into dispute with residents who lived in its vicinity, they claimed it violated their right of way. The restless locals began to cause acts of vandalism in breaking down rockeries and committing trespass. It went to court and the Council won the case by showing that they had the legal right to the land in terms of a 999-year lease. Locals were called upon to "*Cease and Desist*" their damaging acts of rebellion. Gone today are the roses and seats replaced by grass and a utilities box. The only original part remaining is the surrounding wall with its craggy stone facing, it once had a stone arch for an entry. This was typical Maclaughlan design, a stonemason for the UUDC.



**Woodbine.** Lever Street

The now called Haslemere Road has this home on the west side which was previously unnamed in any lists. For 1901 it was where the Peart and Lester families lived.



- **Lewis Avenue.** Davyhulme

Lewis carries 20 houses down the avenue.

- **Leyburn Avenue.** Flixton

The average home was built in 1955 with 24 as the total. This seems to have Scottish origin.

- **Libraries. (Past to present)**

The archive collection held in Manchester includes a register of books held by the **Urmston Village Library** from 1858 to 1859. Further records are held for 1936 when the libraries were listed as **Collingwood** and Golden Hill Park. The first known was at the Wesleyan Methodist School in 1826 with Co-op shops carrying libraries from 1876.

- **Flixton Road** had the honour of hosting the first permanent library in Urmston c.1895. The offices were on the second floor of the Co-op building. This was followed by a circulating library on Station Road a few years later in 1898.

- **Golden Hill.**

During the 1935 to 1970 eras this library worked in conjunction with Brook Road to supply Urmston.

- **Brook Road.** The library closed its doors in the late 1998 and it was relocated to the Precinct in Urmston. This once striking building was being used for community use where portions could be rented. This fell to a new naming that of Bowfell House but did not survive.



- **Urmston Leisure Centre.** The centre includes a small edition which was added to fill the gap during the closure of Brook Road branch and the opening of the Precinct library. (Now closed)

- **Precinct Library.** This library closed (2006) and had to temporarily relocate until the new centre was complete. It is open again now with a new identity as state of the art. (See Urmston Library)



- **Collingwood Library.** 1929-1940  
See details under the home of Collingwood, Davyhulme Road.

The libraries of **Davyhulme and Lostock** have been closed as of 2015. **Woodsend** has been automated in form and survives for the present 2019..

Library Past Due.

In 1998 the Urmston Library declared an amnesty for people who had books out on loan and past their due date. No fines would be levied, and books could be returned anonymously. One elderly gentleman brought in a copy of the Robert L. Stevenson classic, "*Kidnapped*." He explained that he had taken out the book 65 years earlier and now wished to return it. He joked that this was even though he had not quite finished with it. Under the old system of fines, the amount owing would have been £1,200.

### Library Stone. (Flixton Stone) Brook Road

The stone, comprised of granite, was unearthed in the area of Calderbank, Woodsend, September 1952. Placed on display near Urmston Station for two years, it was transferred to the corner of Bowfell and Flixton Roads for a short period, its home now is outside the defunct Brook Road Library building. (Bowfell House) It is believed that similar composite stones are to be found far north of Lancashire. This piece possibly came down during the Earths transformation thousands of years ago.



Vandals have destroyed the descriptive information plate. Some old timers nicknamed it as the Cromwell Stone for reasons unknown. Perhaps as one of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit. It became known as the Library Stone simply because it sits at the once Brook Road Library. Since then a calling of the Flixton Stone has become prominent, it is to be retained in the replacement complex.



As it was found at Woodsend it could be called the Woodsend Stone or, as it was on display outside Urmston Station, it might be called the Station Stone. Cromwell was not born of the time this stone arrived under the fields of Woodsend making nonsense of that theory. Supposedly prehistoric, perhaps it should be named as a Rock of Ages or The Rolling Stone.



Stones of the same composition are to be found around the district. These are called "Erratic's" the picture illustrates one to be found on Davyhulme Road at the cottage of Cobblers Croft.

### Trafford Local Study. Sale



This Library carries the **most definitive** record for the Urban District of Flixton, Urmston, and Davyhulme. These are all available to the public and include Census, Street Directories, maps, books, and photographs. Two associates there, **Karen Cliff** and **Vicki Masterson**, produced a book under the banner of *Images of England* it has a wonderful selection of old Urmston pictures each detailed with a description.

The Greater Manchester Records Office holds many collections involving the district. They are now available in their new home of the Central Library its renovation completed in 2014.

### Urmston Library.

A previous version of the library opened by Lord Bowden of Chesterfield was housed in the Precinct (October 1971) its home there became redundant. It took up a temporary residence during construction, but it has been relocated back into the new Eden Centre addressed as Golden Way for 2009. This main branch is dedicated to Councillor Frank H. Eadie; he served from 1967 to 2002 Chairman of the UUDC 1971-2 and Mayor of Trafford 1986-87. There is a small version also at the Bowfell Road Sports Centre.



This library **does not** contain many Urmston history references; there are a few books available, all other documents being transferred to Sale Waterside and its Trafford Local Studies.

Eadie dedication.

- **Lichfield Road.** Davyhulme  
1-24 numbers for this road in odds and evens. The most references for Lichfield begin in Staffordshire.

- **Lime Avenue.** Urmston 1881 (Lyme on occasion)

The Lime homes carried no names, well balanced there were 1-39 **east** and 2-34 **west**. Today as of 2017 it has hardly changed in its outward features although the newer homes were added around 1962. A small allotment was located at the end of the avenue.



A sale in 1923 sold off several blocks here 24-34. They were described as; Lobbied, three bed roomed, bath, sitting room, living room, and scullery. Each had gardens front and back, open and pleasant.

### Holly Lea. Lime Avenue

A semidetached pairing numbered as 4 and 5 on the avenue for 1931. Available as vacant was number 4 it had three beds, two living rooms, kitchen, scullery, bath, separate w c and cellars. William Henry Atherton was at the Lea in 1902. This Holly sat opposite Rose Lea dating from around 1875.



**Rose Lea.** Lime Avenue

Situated along the avenue and in part Abbotsfield Park, Rose Lea could be found in the middle of a site from the tennis courts to the railway line. It was dated as around 1845 with reference to William Watts and his wife Louisa who had four children into 1878. Mapping indicates it was around for c.1950-55. Not recognised as a farm or small holding it still had one acre adjoining. The UUDC bought the home and land from Mr. A. Chadwick in 1939 with the view of adding to the park. The home was leased out in 1948 for use as a WMCA.

- **Lime Tree Close.** Urmston

Even numbers 2-28 are built on the farmland of Lime Tree farm and house fame along Stretford Road. The Close was completed for 1971.



- **Lindale Avenue.** Urmston

Property numbered 1 through to 16 make up this cul-de-sac. Lindale exploded with names for **1938** after many searches in documentation. Then in 1954 a home called Wayfield was found without detail.

**Ainsworth.** J. Vivian Billows. **Alwyn.** Herbert Dawson.

**Antis Cove.** Albert E. Hallsworth. The Cove contained in its semidetached state a lounge, dining room, kitchenette, three bedrooms, and bathroom. There was room to build a garage in the large gardens.

**Barwood.** Frederick Young. **Bradwyn.** Arthur Bradley. **Briar Lea.** Harry Stanway. **Briar Wood.** Ernest Jackson.

**Deva Nook.** Horace Kaye. **Kebroyd.** Herbert White. **Kenwood.** Eric Gordon. **Lennel.** Leonard Stanley Walker.

**Mayfield.** David Clifford Larrad. **Merlau.** William Ewing Whiting. **Perwick.** George Bradley.

**Red Cottage.** Charles Seymour. **Studley.** John Ellis Jones.

- **Lingmell Close.** Davyhulme

Close together there are 14 homes here. The Lake District has Lingmell listed among its many names.

- **Link Avenue.** Urmston

There has not been a particular reference to the avenue until 1949 when John Platt offered his services as a Landscape Gardner working from No.11. Links 28 units are linked to 1920. A Co-op was established at the corner of Link, certain was that it was there for 1928, its date stone shows the event.



- **Links Rise.** Davyhulme

Links Rise is not far from the golf course and there are 28 houses to its name.

- **Lismore Way.** Davyhulme

Lismore is home to 24 families. This has a Gaelic Scottish heritage.

- **Lodge Avenue.** Urmston



A terrace 1-9 was built c.1875 it sat on the west side with the Independent Methodist Chapel 1888 its back on to George Street. One home was listed as new property in 1883 with five bedrooms, two entertaining rooms and all the trimmings. A builder called Hosker started many homes here after buying land from the Urmston Lodge Estate in 1926. This changed mid-1930 and followed again in 1985 now it has 17 homes and 8 flats. It is also the name of a popular music group locally known.

**Independent Methodist Church.** Lodge Avenue

Until the Wesleyan Chapel took precedence this became the Independent strong hold for Methodist worshipers. It accommodated 240 parishioners in comfort and its location was directly at the end of Lodge which was a no through way. Built in 1888 this church took in the congregation from the Higher Road branch followers.



- **Longfield Avenue.** (Originally **Road**) Urmston

Longfield was an area once known for its farmlands here there are 24 homes down its long length. The road in the era of 1900 had Holly Lea, Rose Lea, and Birnam at the Flixton Road end. Holly Lea was still around for in 1940 it showed the Phillips family there. (This section was renamed as **Stamford Road**.) All three callings have been removed for present day records. The footbridge, with the passage, took its place as a right of way according to law and it is used as a line for the boundary between Urmston and Flixton. Some of the named homes later turned up addressed as Lime Avenue due to location in this area.



The farmlands of Malt Kiln were purchased by Longworth & Taylor in 1932 to develop the estate to be called Longfield.

**Birnam.** Longfield Road

Birnam was the last of three named houses here on the **east** side of the road. The family of William Anderson lived here in 1901, before it changed to **Stamford Road**. The house name was dropped after this first entry in street records.

**Longfield Bridge.**

The name of this bridge depends on which side you live. Another built to cross the railway c.1873 and not for heavy traffic and it was restricted in 1960 for pedestrian use only. There is a public footpath from this bridge through from Stamford to Church Road. Its origin belongs to a farm called Longfield in that area. As Longfield and the bridge were in existence well before Stamford was named, Longfield wins.



- **Longfield Drive.** Flixton

Running along the railway line the drive has only 6 homes.

- **Longworth Close.** Flixton

Flats make up more than half of the close with 39 in all against 28 homes. It has been suggested the Close was named after Ann Longworth a well-known local English Channel swimmer. Confirmation has not been forthcoming although her achievement was well supported by Council.

- **Lonsdale Avenue.** Davyhulme

Part of the expanding district of 1935 they built 20 houses here. Only one named house found, that of Cromford in 1946.

- **Lorreto Road.** Urmston

This road starts at number nine due to the loss of one end during the motorway built in the 1950's. There 17 houses left and at the end, are the units built for the Woods family who lost their farm buildings during the same road construction. Over time, the name caused trouble in its many versions of spelling, council put paid to all and finally settled on Lorreto Road in 1934.

- **Lorne Grove.** Urmston **1900**



Only one pair of houses are still standing in this small Grove, Mary's View and Rose Villa, all other housing has been replaced from its 1872 terraced style. Bay windows were their predominant selling feature. The first nine houses here went on sale as the next nine were being built. Offered were six rooms, cellar, and gardens.

Its original numbering was 1-9 but shown as 3-37 and 4-54 by 1901. The land across the road was being offered with the incomplete houses. The Grove accommodated three shops among its terraces and a Police Station. Another name found for 1881 was Summer Villa Terrace attached at the end of the Grove facing the railway lines.



Only the two original houses are left facing the railway, 23 properties are relatively new. Many homes were declared unfit for habitation during a period of 1933-39 as council standards were raised. Eventually this happened to the Grove being demolished in 1957 and cleared by 1960-63 for the new housing which was built by Maunders. Lorne is of Scottish history.

**Marys View.** Lorne Grove

As one half of a semi the View is the only remaining home from the original Grove the remainder of Lorne has been rebuilt. **Rose Villa** is its partner and both date from c.1890. In 1898 Mary Bailey was the householder. For each of the homes at this period the owner was called Mary, and which was involved in the naming is not known.

A glance across from Railway Road is the best way to capture the charm of these two homes as they face the railway.



Mary and Rose

**Rose Villa.** Lorne Grove

The Villa is part of a pair Marys View adjoins it. They are the last remnants from the original Lorne Grove of the 1890's. For 1898 the householder was Mary Attenborough.

- **Lostock.**

The estate of Lostock built along Lostock Road in the 1930s was a boon to Davyhulme. Up until this time it was stagnant, except for farming, from the Nags Head through to Stretford. Only the Crofts Bank Roadside was building up to a fair residential holding. Lostock became an extended arm of the built-up area along to Barton Road. The school and library there carry the name of Lostock. Its famous road combined with cycle tracks came in 1936. Trafford show an official opening date for the first housing was 1929. The majority of the following estate was built by Albert Locke 1940 Ltd with a contribution of 48 being built by E & J Slater in 1934. Its naming arrives from the Lostock Hall in close proximity for the early days. Some references entered hereafter may include portions of Lostock in Stretford for historical reasons.

- **Lostock Avenue.** Davyhulme

Residences to the avenue in 2010 are 10.

- **Lostock Road. Davyhulme 1900**

The Nags head with its grocery store next door were followed by Belle Vista, Glenluce, The Lindens, The Crescent, The Grange, and Lostock House. At this point Bennetts Farm had a small complex of its own and Holehouse followed through to Lostock Farm and Hall. The Post Office sets off the opposite side with seven other houses to the old Moss Lane where John Stott was farming.



After Lostock House some different named homes arrived for 1911. Beechwood and Rufford came before the Bennett Farm with Newcroft and Arrandale after the Farm. Lostock Hall still ended the road at Stretford. On the other side of the road only Alaska House was new, next to the Post Office.

Details for present day Real Estate are 176 properties of which 151 are homes. Features here are Trafford House numbered as 5-7, the Post Office at no.12, and The Farm at no.27. For 1945 a home or business called Collinge appeared at No.95 on the **north** side.

### Lostock Road a random picture. 1900

**Left to Right:** The Nags Head Hotel, Faulkners, Bella Vista, Glenluce, Lindens. The angle of this photo does not show enough detail to add that the Crescent, Grange, and Lostock House all sat along this row. For this period these were the only homes before Bennetts Farm. This row was finally completed when Beechwood was added a few years later.



### Arelma. Lostock Road

1938 placed this with Summerville ending at Barton and Moss Vale Roads. Harold Stubbs held home.

### Alaska House. Lostock Road

1909 saw the appearance of this home at 2 Salisbury Road. Named after its owner Alaska Harry Tweedale it sat on the **south west** side and had Mrs. John Stott as a distant neighbour. Confirmation arrived in locating a home on Lostock Road carrying this name. The original was removed in 1938 and has carried the name forward and it is situated not too far from the old site. Residing there was S. A. Bethell.



Today, numbered as 18, a resident there explained that the first home was built too close to the road causing a problem for development. It was taken down and a modern version built in 1953. In the new home all the bedrooms are situated at the rear of the building away from traffic noise. It does occupy the original site but lost some of its main gardens during the change.



### Arrandale. Lostock Road

Newcroft is the partner to this semidetached home that belonged to James Gilbody for 1900. James was a farmer. This Dale is the righthand home of the two.

### Bancroft Farm. Lostock Road

A fire of 1938 brought this named farm to the list for the area. It was probably another name for Bennetts the more familiar calling. This farm had many owners from its established 1800 beginnings. The Bancrofts were tenants at Shawtown Farm for a while.

### Beechwood. Lostock Road



This fine old house was built for the Estill family of Robert, Edward, and Mary c.1905 at the Nags Head end of Lostock Road. It still stands today somewhat changed. 1909 with the only alteration was that Robert had possibly died causing a split of the deeds and Mary had her half called **Rufford**. Heir apparent Edmond Estill took home here for 1928 and it was back as one. For this era their neighbour was Lostock House. The design of the home is typical for Joseph Spark.

### Rufford. Lostock Road

The semi called **Beechwood** here housed the Estill family. In 1911 it was split with Edward in the original named home and Mary taking half as Rufford. The year of 1928 had Sam Crabtree now calling it Failsworth House. Edmund Estill had occupation of the other half retaining the family connection.

### Bella Vista. Lostock Road

The nearest neighbours to the Nags Head Hotel are a pair of houses called Bella Vista and **Glen Luce**. Built about 1885 the first found homeowner was C. F. Pike in 1886. These houses made up a dental practice established there for many years and they are very much Victorian in style as they ever were. Bella Vista is Spanish for 'Beautiful Sight'. Part now used as a children's nursery.



**Bennetts Farm. (The Farm) Lostock Road**

Halfway down the road this farm was fully functional in dairy products until the 1960's. Reference by way of a date stone was found for its existence in 1723 and it has carried many names since. The date stone shows several initials; T W L H in a square formation with B in the center. It is now residential and just called **The Farm**. The face of this farm was a normal brick finish this has been covered with a rough plastering perhaps to take away the old farm look that it carried.

The names of Robert and Betty Bennett are shown in the census of 1881. Another name was Arthur Bennett found for Lostock Road in 1898. This offers the clue to the central B on the stone marking, the initialing, **could** represent early family. During renovation the true date stone was removed for preservation and framed. The current showing has been formatted in keeping with this.

Another family called Webster are possible for here, the birth of a daughter Amy in 1868 was entered in church registers naming Josh and Elvina Pauline Webster of The Farm Davyhulme as parents.

Documents now show this to begin as land owned by the De Trafford Family. By 1922 it had become a confirmed part of the Manchester Ship Canal Company who sold for development in 1935, to a company named as Slater. The Bennetts being lease holders took up the option and stayed until around 1960. The Farm then went into the hands of the Scholes family, at that time, before current owner Steve Seymour moved in. Beautifully restored the home is complimented by fine timbering, set style courtyard, and a well. The two barns have been removed. The last actual farmer is believed to have been K. B. Aidley.

**Carnall Centre. Lostock Road**

A leisure centre on Kingsway Park is named after Mr. George Herbert Carnall MBE on Lostock Road he was a Councillor/Mayor of Urmston. The opening took place in 1974 with George himself doing the honours. Present too was the current Mayor for the time Councillor Jonathon Taylor O.B.E. Mrs. Carnall was at one time the Chairman's Lady working alongside Councillor Royle-Higginson during her term of office. Councillor 1946-1954, 1960-63, 1964-1973. Chair 1949-51.



The future of the centre is under discussion regarding redevelopment. 2018.

**Christ Church. C of E Church Lostock Road**

Established in 1969 and treated, as the daughter church of St. Marys to fulfil a need for a growing population in this region. The foundation stone was laid by the Duchess of Kent in 1967. There is a Vicarage on Welbeck Avenue associated with the Church. The bell, having been donated by the Kings College of Cambridge, gave dates as 1616-1946 for its usage. The current church evolved from a mission dated 1954, a temporary church that lasted 15 years.



Christ Church was the fruit of architects, Thorpe, Whyman, and Briggs and Oldham Company. The stained-glass was produced by an artist named as Bunton. The final contract for the building was awarded to Ashton Smethurst Ltd. with involvement of Ronald Dean

**Crofts Bank Post Office. Lostock Road**

For 1938 the P.O. was addressed as number 12. Officially it was Crofts Bank P.O. & M.O. Office. This has always been a focal point for Davyhulme in its varied homes. 1953 and it was to be found with E. Allen as proprietor. Goods offered were stationery sweets and tobacco.

**Cycle Tracks. (Lanes) Lostock Road**

A claim by Peel on its Trafford Centre website is that they were the first to dedicate cycle lanes in the Greater Manchester area. The two lanes following Lostock Road from the Nags Head into Stretford and back were there years before the Trafford Centre idea was even on the drawing board. (April 1936). Urmstons Engineer for the time, Mr. E. Leeming, wanted to take the paths all the way to Trafford Park and along Lostock Road adding another stretch via Barton Road to the Barton Bridge but the Ministry of Transport would not grant permission. Specifically, coloured brick red the

concrete was to blend with the green grass verge. The war years saw all the trees along this route painted with broad white bands to aid cyclists and motorists with navigation during the black out.

With an amendment to the byelaw, cycling on any footpath was forbidden by the Lancashire County Council with reference to the Urmston District on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1954.

**Devonia. Lostock Road**

A trio of names ended the road at Barton/Moss Vale Roads; this was the first of the three in 1938 with Harry Carter at home.

**Failsworth House. Lostock Road**

It would appear that this home was once aside to the house called Beechwood, so named by Samuel Crabtree in 1928.

**Faulkner. Alfred** (Grocer) Lostock Road

Attached to the Nags Head Hotel was a grocery and provision shop run by Alfred Faulkner b.1846 in the 1860s. The birth of a child at this address was recorded for the time of 1868 with his wife Sarah Ann. This shop is now an Italian restaurant after selling tires for a while. From the architecture it can be seen that this portion of the building is older than the rebuilt Hotel which was done c.1903. Alfred, with his family, stayed here all his life.

**Garth Dene.** Lostock Road

An unknown until 1938 when it was noted with George P. F. Newlands at home. Reportedly connected to Willow Bank

**Glenluce.** Nags Head Lostock Road

The second half of a pair, the other was **Bella Vista** built around 1890 as a private residence. For 1898 Mrs Julia Ledgard became the principle owner. Both still stand today as one of the few reminders of the area and the past.

**Holehouse Farm.**

Alongside a small lane attached to Marsland Farm it functioned on Lostock Road. This was home to a branch of the Royle Family. As a farm it could be found in approximation **east** of the Carnall Centre. Its 1940 tenant gave notice to council that farming would cease here, it was then taken by A. J. Haves. The farm had been removed by 1953 and its lands assumed by Seymour Bailey of Moss Farm

**Hunts Farm.** Lostock Road

A hitherto unlisted farm placed at the end of Moss Vale Road. The farmer was Walter Hunt in the early 1940's another where the name could be something else and not in reality just the farmer present for the time.

**Lindens.** Lostock Road

1890 is given for the building of this house it had a family called Ramsey living there. Thomas Ramsey was the manager of the Theatre Royal in Manchester. Only by 1901 did the known residents appear, the Estills headed by Robert. This was taken by Edward Hadfield around 1908.

Robert Estill

**Lostock Farms Varied.** Lostock Road

Before development in 1930 there were several small holdings or farms along this road. Bethells, although as Crofts Bank, began this list with a neighbour, Alfred Summers; his holding was at the corner of Sandgate. On the same south side slightly after Hartford was William Roseveare and later more of the Stott family. The trailing farmland was being occupied by Sarah Stott roughly where the Moss Vale Hotel is today. On the north side Alfred Bennett continued with two farms thereafter, Alfred Royle in one and Holehouse Farm being the other farming here was Walter Hunt. Hancocks appeared to follow with George in charge this led up to the Marsland Farm being worked by the Wright brothers William and John. At the Hall was Robert Wadsworth as tiller of the land.

**Lostock Hall.** Lostock Road (Now regarded as Stretford)

The plain brick-built Hall was to be found on the **north-eastern** side of Lostock Road. As mapping is the only guide it was placed almost certainly at the end of Old Hall Road and beyond the M60, the nearest pinpoint. The history is not known but this was more than likely the seat of the Lostock Estate that included the farm. It dated back to 1595 when it was in the hands of Humphrey Barlow.



The estate was large and comprised of many acres. It is recorded that in 1867 William Taylor was selling the hall and Mrs. Sarah Veal was the farmer here for 1898, Frederick Stott took over in 1903 and Robert Wadsworth for 1909. Robert became a fixture into the 1930s when, for 1938, Alfred Royle and Walter Hunt shared the lands. History dictates that this was a part of the Trafford Estate falling to the MSC Company.

**Lostock Hall Farm.** Davyhulme

The differences between the Hall Farm and Lostock Farm are unknown. In many cases they appear to be one and the same only subscribing to varying acreage and even the locales are close. A 1933 advert introduced 136 acres of arable pastureland, a good house, extensive farm buildings that included a shippon for 38 cows. Stated, its concern was with dairy products. A compulsory purchase order was in place for 1958 that acquired the lands called the Farm that enabled the Motorway to pass over them.

**Lostock Hall Hotel.** Lostock Road

The hotel was to become the first residential of its kind for the district. Prop. H & T Shaw were known for 1961. The hotel was demolished in 1971 for commercial purposes after a try at being a restaurant.

**Lostock House.** Lostock Road

This home was to be found as neighbour to the Beechwood very close to the Nags Head. Occupying the house in 1898 was the Rev. T. Dugdale Harland. The house on the **north-east** side was not known for anything special in regard to being connected to the Lostock Estate. Its features were five bedrooms, two living rooms, bathroom etc. according to a property showing. This area was cleared after the war, much turning to industrial or commercial use. The garage of Mea opened with a residential hotel named as Lostock House following along this road. The UUDC had taken control here in 1945.

**Moss Vale Farm.** Lostock Road

The farm was only found in references of 1954 it was not with any further identity. At the Lostock Road end of Moss Vale Road, it had a certain G. S. Ells in residence. Some research found that this was land under the controlled hands of John Stott long before the area was developed. Once he passed on around 1902 his wife Sarah continued with the farm. The location covered the grounds of today's site for the Moss Vale Hotel and dates from the 1880s. It was known for a short time as White Hen Farm.

**Moss Vale Hotel.** Lostock Road

Wilson and Walker Breweries first entered an application to build a hotel in 1937. Proposed was at the corner of Moorside and Bowfell Roads with the calling of "*The Cherry Tree.*" Then a new location was suggested at Barton and Moss Vale, both were refused on varied grounds. It took 20 years to finally reach an agreement and a new hotel was erected in 1956. The pub was totally refurbished in 2009.

**Newcroft.** Lostock Road

A semidetached house coupled with **Arrandale** that was home to the noted farmers of the Royle family in 1900. Directories show that by 1928 a Royle was still living there he was Jas. Royle a joiner by trade he was around for 1940. Newcroft is the left hand of the two. Clement Arthur Webster, who was a doctor, held a surgery here in 1938 sharing accommodation.

**Red Cottage.** Lostock Road

A semi that was partnered with **St. Asaph** along the road and it was home to Thomas Bradshaw for 1900. For this period there were only two semidetached houses after Bennetts Farm, this was the last and sitting to the right of the picture.

**St. Asaph.** Lostock Road

This Saint is a semidetached home along Lostock Road from 1900 when it was the abode of James Hunt. The house was coupled to **Red Cottage** at this time and the last home in a group of four. It sat on the left of its partner. This Saint belongs in Wales as a town in the northern parts.

**Summerville.** Lostock Road

The last building at Moss Vale and Barton Roads during 1938, Fred Rogers at home.

**Tetlow. H. & J.** Lostock Road

Located at Sandgate Drive the proprietors Harry and James, had a final garage here in 1938 after places all over the district.

**The Crescent.** Lostock Road

Not known before 1898 this home sat next door to the Lindens with William Moss as head of the house.

**The Grange.** Lostock Road

Following on from the line of the Lindens and the Crescent on the **north-east** side this house was noted in 1898 with the Stenhouse family in occupation. The Frederick Horsefield name followed for 1920-30. This Grange was detached, had five principle bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, dining room, the usual offices including a kitchen. The garden housed stabling and outhouses. Still dated as there into 1938 but removed shortly thereafter, eventually to become Meas Garage and petrol station.

**Willow Bank.** Lostock Road

The bank was only found in 1938 associated to Garth Dene for the time. Mrs. Esther Parkinson was entered has homemaker.

**Lostock Shops.** Lostock Road

The small row leading into the circle was formed around 1932-34. The list for **1938** begins at the Circle and goes through to Sandgate Drive.

Number 2. Alice Owen, Ladies Outfitting. 2a. St. Stephens Christian Spiritual Church. 2b. Modern Shoe Repairs, Albert Finchett. 4. A Butcher with Raymond Spinks. 6. Thomas Ogden as a Fruitier. 8. John Ashworth who was into Hardware. 10. A grocer called Samuel Mackwell, and at 12. Arthur Cross Confectioner. The Post Office came with Arthur at the same address.



- **Loughfield.** Flixton

Loughfield supports 12 abodes.

- **Lovers Lane.** Chadwick Lane (Bradfield Road)



As far back as 1930 Chadwick had become known by this calling even to the point of being photographed by the local photographer of J. Wride of Flixton Road. The lane had been there since 1770 and was known as Lovers Walk. The Urmston Meadows had its own version.

Both pictures shown were by James Wride.



- **Lowood Avenue.** Davyhulme

This mid-1930s avenue has 24 properties. The general builder for here was Millar & Royle.

- **Lowther Gardens.** Flixton

Dated as an average age the Gardens are from 1955 and have 40 dwellings.

- **Lulworth Avenue.** Marlborough Road

Lulworth arrived in Flixton around 1908 with a claim to only one semidetached house. Onchan and The Rosery are the given names for this pair. In the modern era it has progressed to a strange numbering of 1, 3, 4, 5, 7. Lulworth is a Dorset town.

#### **Onchan.** Lulworth Avenue

Onchan is one name from a pair that occupied the avenue from 1908 it had a partner called **The Rosery**. At home for its first known time was Albert Winterbottom. This semidetached had a large frontage which stretched beyond the road and continued through to the rear of the semis on Marlborough Road. Onchan is a Manx derivation that means Bridge end.



#### **The Rosery.** Lulworth Avenue

Perhaps a garden of roses brought this name to mind as it sat with **Onchan** on the avenue. The only house here for 1908 and the garden was extensive reaching well on to the rear of the associated homes on Marlborough Road. The home maker for this period was Thomas Blakey.

- **Lydney Road.** Flixton

Among its 20 houses, which began in 1947, the road is home to Woodsend Primary School. 1951 became the next expansion in homes for the road. This road is named after a Gloucestershire town.

#### **Woodsend Primary School.** Lydney Road

The school which was opened in 1958 has been closed as of 2006. The reason given was that the number of pupils exceeded the facilities capacity. A sign has been erected showing this as being the Woodsend Centre. (Presumably a community centre)



- **Lyme Grove.** Urmston 1900 (Now Wendover Road)

The Grove was lined each side with numbered abodes of West 1-19 and East 2-20. An offer as being suitable for a school was put forward regarding number 10 in 1902. At number 20 in 1898 it was listed as John Barlow chased away in 1902 by Harold Barlow. (Urmston Grammar School) The directory of 1911 has the St. Clements Working Men's Club there at that same number and Fred Idle for the steward. The Grove was well established for 1890.

#### **St. Clements Working Men's Club.**

Confirmed to be found in 1910 at 18 Lyme Grove, Urmston.

#### **Urmston Men's Club.** Lyme Grove 1900's

An early home for the club and used by many as a hall for other functions and meetings. This was one of several clubs catering to men only for the time. It also shows that the Urmston naming was carried through different locations as a club.

- **Lyndale Avenue.** (Now Shanklyn off Walmsley Grove)

Starting around 1903-5 the avenue comprised of Wynstowe, Oak Leigh, Lyndhurst, Rose Knoll, The Ferns, and Nunfield. This list did not change through to 1928. The Shanklyn change came in 1933.

#### **Lyndhurst.** Lyndale Avenue

This semi was coupled with **Rose Knoll** for 1908 and as the avenue was to be changed it was occupied by Frank Greenhalgh before this happened.

#### **Rose Knoll.** Lyndale Avenue

Well before this avenue changed into Shanklyn Avenue Rose was paired to **Lyndhurst** for 1908. They were the center semidetached in a row of three along here. The home was the abode of Robert Baerlocker in this early year.





**Nunfield.** Lyndale Avenue

Lyndale became **Shanklyn** in its later years but this semi was established long before that happened. It was the mate of **The Ferns** and home to John Mann in 1908.

**The Ferns.** Lyndale Avenue

As a semidetached it was alongside **Nunfield** on an avenue that was later to change. For 1908 it was home to a gentleman called Alfred Douglas.

**Oakleigh.** Lyndale Avenue

The avenue changed but before that time Oakleigh and its adjoining building of **Wynstowe** arrived for 1903. At home here for that year was Herbert Webb. For 1904 Alfred Parker had cause for celebration at this house as both his daughters were married on the same day. Emily and Fanny took the plunge at St. Michaels Church with their respective partners.

**Wynstowe.** Lyndale Avenue.

1908 saw the home appear with its partner of **Oakleigh**. In residence was Walter Rowbotham, this was long before the avenue changed its name.

- **Lyndhurst Avenue.** Davyhulme

1951 brought forward a home called at No.7 St. Kilda. 21 houses account for 1930 beginnings to Lyndhurst. A Saxon word meaning 'lime wood' can be translated from Lyndhurst.

**St. Kilda.** 7 Lyndhurst Avenue

The accommodation for this semi comprised of a small entrance hall, lounge with bay, dining, scullery, three beds, bathroom, and a garage. Its date of erection was unknown this information came for 1951. St. Kilda is a group of islands off the north east coast of Scotland. Traced later was the fact Edwin L. Price had occupied the house in 1939.

- **Lynmouth Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue has 18 dwelling places. The Devonshire twins, Lynton and Lynmouth account for the calling.

- **Lynton Avenue.** Flixton

Lynton boasts 33 homes of no further detail.

- **Lytham Road.** Flixton

Although it only starts with number 21, Lytham has 101 properties from the 1955 era to its name.

## M

- **Malvern Avenue.** Flixton

A few flats, four in all, are included in the 49 homes here that had a beginning of around 1927. The Malvern Hills stretch through three counties. The avenue was where a nursery called Fieldings held a large portion of land. It was bought by council in 1948 to complete the venture with the remaining field sold off to the County as playing grounds at the Senior School.

- **Manchester.**

Urmston is approximately 6 miles **west-south-west** of Manchester.

- **Manchester Ship Canal.**



The canal was officially opened by Queen Victoria in 1894. Arguably this would be the most important factor in the development of the district. Once Manchester became a 'Port' it opened up the world to this end of Lancashire. The addition of places like Trafford Park made for employment and an alternative to the agricultural and cotton mill way of life. Started in 1887 it took till 1893 to build. Thomas Walker was contracted for its construction. The first ship to pass through was the Liverpool Ferry "Snowdrop" 17<sup>th</sup> December 1893. The De Traffords placed a condition that on any portion of the canal that passed by their

estate had to be walled. Much of this wall can be seen today still standing along the route that traversed the Hall. The canal began its own police force in 1893 that was disbanded in 1993. A hospital was always available to the workers.



**Some detail of the MSC** would be that it is 36 miles in length making it the eight longest in the world and has five sets of locks. These locks step up the level of water 60 ft. from one end to the other and the waterway can accommodate vessels of 15,000 tons dead weight. During the building of the canal it was estimated that 25,000,000 bricks were needed so a plant was established at Lymm where the best clay was to be found and could supply 100,000 bricks per month. While being dug it was affectionately called the 'Big Ditch' by the 4 Pence-an-hour navy who worked on it.

A Salford Exhibition of 1905 detailed the requirements for the canal's construction, presented here are a few of these as examples. 100 Steam dredgers, 220 miles of temporary rail line, 173 locomotives, 194 steam cranes, 182 steam engines, 212 pumps, 6,300 wagons, 59 pile engines, 196 horses, 10,000 tons of coal per month, and 8,000 tons of cement per month.

The finding of a **dugout canoe** in 1889 between Irlam and Barton offered it as being made of Oak, 13'-8" long, 2'-7" wide and 1'-7" deep. This canoe was found 27 ft. below the surface during digging. A second canoe was found later. A carbon dating showed this to be from **c.1085 AD**, give or take 40 years. In 1890 an MSC puzzle hit the streets as a child's toy.



#### Ferry.

At the end of Irlam Road there was a ferry to cross over the Manchester Ship Canal to Irlam. Mapping of 1712 shows the ferry available and named as Erlom Ferry at the Irwell. John Goodier and James Ogden held the tenancy for the 1850's stating it comprised of the boat house, ferry with tolls, and appurtenances all to found within an acre of land. Once the new canal came into being it turned to the calling of the Penny Ferry it was in operation until 1968. When re-opened in 1894 it cost two pennies making a mockery of its naming. In 1959 the ferrying of cars and horses came to an end with passenger service only.



A new motorized ferry the 'MV Traverse' was introduced in 1968 built by Richard Dunston Ltd. ship builders from Yorkshire. (Priced at 3 pence) This ferry is no longer functioning as of 1975 and one has

to cross via the locks on a walkway built that year for £27,000. It is, by agreement of both the Council and the Ship Canal Company, to be free of charge.



Hulmes Ferry operated as a 'free' ferry further up the ship canal towards the Union Cottages. Formerly it was a right of way and the reason for it to be free. The access was closed for quite some time, but a reopening occurred in 2011 with the ferry running on limited hours and dates.

#### Flixton Huts. Flixton

If it was not for the fact that Mary Ann Grant had twin daughters here in 1890 this strange calling of Huts would not have been found. Her husband was Joseph Thomas Grant, an engine driver. The identification went a little further by adding the number 6. At some time, they became known as the **Ship Canal Huts** adding to the dilemma of where or what they were. The date would indicate temporary accommodation during the canal construction. Richard Lawson while collecting information to be included in his book found a concentration of these huts between Irlam Locks and Hulmes Bridge although they moved as the canal progressed.

#### Peel Holdings.



The connection to Urmston and Peel became apparent once the company took control of the Ship Canal in 1991. Established in Bury it held £4.5bn in assets (2009) comprising of the Trafford Centre\*, Ports and Airports, Land and property, Wind Power, and a new development at Salford Quays called Media City. Much will be recorded over time regarding this company and its structuring around Urmston, for now, it is too new. (1998). Love or hate, this company has made an impression on Urmston nearly as large as the Ship Canal or the M60 Motorway.

It should be noted that the Manchester Ship Canal Company purchased 1,205 acres of land **south of Barton Bridge** in 1921 for future development, long before Peel came into the picture. \*The Trafford Centre was sold in 2011 Peel Holdings continue to hold an interest with the purchasing Company Intu.

#### Ship Canal Share Club.

This, as a society, was a creation of the Co-op. It was established in 1887 when they invested £3,000 to buy shares in the canal's future. Provision was made for Co-op club members to buy into these shares at a rate of 1 shilling per £1 share. More than 260 of the shares were made over to members by 1891 as they had paid the £1 full amount due.

#### Victorian Pump House.

Still viable this is actually a **valve house** it is situated between the canal and Old Barton Road. The majestic lines of the building show how things were made to last in the years of the Manchester Ship Canal being dug. Its use is connected to the Thirlmere aqueduct and not the canal.



- **Manor Avenue.** Urmston



The avenue is well documented through the Church, the Manor Croft, and the Hall, but across the road were two more named houses, Manor Villa and Roslin House as well as the Manor House itself. One of these old houses in 1871 was designed with a croquet ground adjoining. It had twelve rooms and well drained cellars. In 1911 the name of Brock Weir was added to this the **north** side of the road. The vicarage received its own address separate from the church. A finding for 1928 showed that the Croft was called Mabelhurst with William Hurson at home. How this has changed over the years, today it is near to 100% flats to be correct 3 homes where all are converted or built as flats. Naturally, Manor Avenue is named from the Manor that once stood there.

#### Manor Avenue Houses. 1900

Only two remain today they are Manor Villa and Roslin House. It is possible one of these buildings, Manor Villa, has been renamed as a home called **Brockweir** appeared in later directories. They used to be opposite the original Manor Croft which sat aside from the church. Today, they look out over a municipal parking lot. Reference is made to a home called the Rookeries at the corner of Stretford Road it was without detail and the most likely candidate would be the house of Netherley.



### Manor Croft Estate.

The area of the Manor was large and gated for access. It took all the land now known as Manor Avenue as a farm in its own right with the Hall, Croft, and varied homes. 1939 introduced a list of ten people who lived in the area called the Croft.

### Manor Croft.

Although the actual Croft is supposed to have stood near to Easbrook it was closer to Manor Avenue. To be more precise it sat next to St. Clements Church and close to the Urmston Hall on the **south** side, a carpark is situated there now. The Croft was at one time home to Colonel Ridehalgh 1862 who was Lord of the Manor. Another reference from 1875 shows it was owned by Henry Galloway who was responsible for it being built. Henry had engaged Edward Salomons as the architect for its creation. Later still 1901 Samuel Jones Redfern lived there.



In 1917 it came on the open market described as follows: A secluded residence with two acres of beautifully laid out grounds. An entrance room, drawing room, dining room, morning room, large billiard room, domestic office, seven bedrooms, two bath rooms with conveniences, servants' rooms, heating insulation, conservatory, stabling, outbuildings, and motor house. One of the last known residents was Alice Aldred in 1937. The Croft was torn down around 1970 with the excess slated as a replacement St. Clement school. Offers to redevelop the land never came to fruition and it became a car park.

### Manor House. Manor Avenue

The north side house was shown on mapping as early as 1890 but detail is scant. Sitting on the corner of Queens Road it was found to have a resident, Timothy Sales in 1909. The location, last recorded, is as the Manor House Resource Centre with a Queens Road address.

### Manor Villa. (aka. Brockweir) Manor Avenue



Throughout the 1900's single owners for the Villa have been recorded but as a semi two names of longstanding appear, Karl Brunnschweiler and Alan Williams. In 1903 it was Silvester and 1909-1911 Lennard. As it was a semidetached one has to assume others did reside here but were not entered or noted as owners. The Villa came up for sale in 1927 with the accommodation including, two entertaining rooms, dining and scullery, three beds and a bathroom. This description could only have eluded to one half of the home.

It has been suggested that the Villa was rebuilt or modified in the late 1930's using brickwork recovered from the Manor Croft when it was removed. Certainly, the odd colouring of many bricks showing could substantiate this theory. There are signs a wing was added with the original bay windows removed on one side. The now double porch entry indicates that this was a detached being drastically enhanced in size for division into two homes. This proved to be true after Alan Williams bought the home, the ensuing years brought about the changes. As Brockweir, the calling is from Gloucestershire.



### Roslin House. Manor Avenue



This house was quoted as being a private school in the 1898 street lists run by Miss Annie Law LLA. Mrs. Eliza Hamer was assisting. For the avenue in this year it was the only house named on the **north** side. Miss Law was still teaching school here in 1912 at this address.

### St. Clements Court. Manor Avenue



One of Urmstons many sheltered accommodation homes, this one at number 9. The Court is one of the few **four** storied buildings in the district. The house of Netherley on Stretford Road was replaced by this new building. Once the land was cleared the builders were instructed to keep what they could of the surrounding gating and walls. Both to the front and the rear, much was either saved or used to reinstall the walling. The gate posts became the prominent feature resulting from this directive.



### St. Clements Church. Anglican Manor Avenue



This land for this church, which was founded in 1867 and restored in 1887, came from Col. Ridehalgh. The church as seen today was designed by J. Medland Taylor and built from Yorkshire stone in three colours complete with a slate roof. He described the church as being; "*Geometrically decorated style Gothic.*" A contract to build was awarded to M. Foggett and amounted to £2,125. It was given the name by the Reverend Charles Barton who at that time was Rector of Flixton. The foundation stone was blessed by the Bishop of Manchester Dr. J. Prince Lee in March 1867 he returned for the consecration of the completed building January 1868. In 1894 the organ chamber was put into place, donated by the Sparrow family of Urmston Lodge.

One bell was installed in the tower in 1906 with a ring of bells following in 1920 they were cast by Taylor of Loughborough. The tower was designed by architects Mather & Graves for 1902 to be in harmony with the existing stone and built by Joseph Spark.

The clock came from the Reade family of the Manor; it was made by W. Potts & Sons Leeds. The organ has been replaced with an electric unit and the clock is no longer hand wound as it too has been upgraded with current technology. The Church has been listed as a heritage building since 1987 Grade 2 of interest historically.



### St. Clements Church. Donations

Apart from the structural items, the Clock, and Organ Chamber, the church received its Pulpit from J. T. Hibbert, the first Bell was presented by Thomas Royle, an Alms Dish dated 1873 from Henry Galloway, and the Brass Lectern by the widow of John Ashcroft, the Communion Service and a Pulpit Desk arrived from the Chadwick family. Some of the windows were also donated and the list was long for many other items from the church's parishioners. A last mention is for the Reredos, a screen or partition at the altar, which was introduced to the decor by Joseph Deakin.



High on a wall inside the vestry is a donated sundial; its placing there was a total mystery as it is dated 1697 and carried no information for guidance. As this date is years before the church was built it became logical that this is a reproduction. The only wording indicated: Tyme is short. Removal of this dial found the name of Donald Harrison etched into the back and dated 1969. (It is still unknown for more detail) One organist was G. W. Hilditch his record of 50 years' service will take some beating.

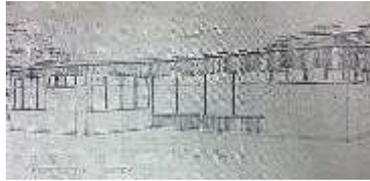
### St. Clements Bells.

There are nine bells to the peel with one more as an hour bell. A Westminster chime is played on bells 3, 4, 5, and 8. Taylors used their name and dated the hour bell in 1906. There is a Sanctus Bell over the Vestry, but it is inaccessible for detail. An interesting feature is that these bells are hemispherical and not the normal shape as it generally known. Only the hour bell conforms to an expected bell form.



### St. Clements Community Hall.

Built in 1970 the hall can be found to the rear of the church.



### St. Clements Graveyard.

At the time the Church was to be built in 1867 an allocation of 1,000 Sq. yards of land was set aside for a graveyard. It was opened to receive the Right Hon. J. T. Hibbert whose wife passed away in 1877 she was temporarily interred there until being moved to Grange over Sands. An order on Council was then obtained to close this land for any future burials. A Garden of Peace is to be found at the rear of the church.

### Urmston Hall Farm. (Manor Farm)



Standing between St Clements and Queens Road off Manor Ave, this hall was built in 1580 it was demolished in 1937. In the Urmston Halmote (Court records) shown is that in 1613 John Hyde was Lord of the Manor. The hall was described in 1903 as being an ancient gabled timber and plaster structure of the Tudor period. Its two storied frontages were entirely wood and plaster whereas all other facings were brick. The north side carried a date of 1731 and probably denoted a time of renovation it also had the initials of I H E built in. The majority of the decoration was painted onto the plaster. The original hall was a very impressive building according to reports of the time. For another early date its estate was sold in 1765 when Thomas Willis died there.

Owned by Cecil de Trafford in 1874 but by 1880 it had Jonathon J. Stott farming the 80-acre lot. In 1901 shown is that the owners of the estate were the Ridehalgh family. Elizabeth Ridehalgh being the Lady of the Manor and tenant at that time was Jonathon B. Stott. The Manchester Town Planning Committee tried to save the Hall in 1931 but the plan failed.

Some detail of the lands held by the Lord of the Manor were; 18 Messuages, 80 acres of Farmland, 4 acres of Meadow, 50 acres of Moor, 50 acres of Marsh. (A messuage referred to the house, farm, and adjacent buildings)



William Walkden placed the Hall on the market for sale in 1819 its description was detailed. The Farmhouse came complete with outbuildings. There was a barn, granary, stabling, and coach house. A shippon for 30 cows was added to a large garden and orchard. The sale included a Pew at St. Michaels Church and an unknown Mere called Old Dea which was 2 acres in size.

Flood gates were available to enrich the lands as required from the Mersey. There were many lease holders for lands of the estate in 1819, to name a few Stevenson, Gregory, Chadwick, Coupe, Taylor, Fogg, and Walkden. Others included, Wood, Faulkner, Shawcross, Jackson, and Newton. All these names held farms in the close vicinity to the Hall.

### Excavation.

A dig was carried out in 1983 at the site of the Urmston Hall. Found was proof of two buildings there of earlier times. Much pottery dating back hundreds of years was also found. As an interested group the Urmston Historical Society were involved in this project. A bower was created from stonework retrieved from this operation and assembled in the gardens of the Ormeston estate built on the site.



### Excavation artefacts.

When the hall was demolished a member of the Irlam family retrieved a portion of stonework that carried a suggested Coats of Arms. It had been kept in the garden of the family while they lived on Queens Road eventually reaching Meadowgate and John Irlams home. Once it was donated for historical research only then did some of the past arrive. Lawsons book being the key as he was quoted, when referring to the hall, as saying: *"At present there is to be seen worked on the wall of the barn the Hyde coat of arms, and on the shippon, those of the Egerton family with its rampant lion."* This stone of old showed a rampant lion, possibly two, diagonally opposite each other. Confirmation came from enquiries at Heraldic Societies as to this being **inconclusive**. It was found that Lawson was in error on one point in that Egerton family was not at the hall.



The stone is on display at the St Clements Church for all to see.

Another find came later it was an earthenware jug 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Century. This can be seen at the Manchester Museum.

### Vicarage. Late Manor Avenue



St. Clements had its own Vicarage built in 1875 to the rear of the church and for the 1880s Elijah Harwood Cooke M. A. was the Reverend there. It was his home until 1928 when he passed on. This has been removed c.1980 and a modern Vicarage house built on **Stretford Road** has taken its place. The entry to the first vicarage passed between the Church and the present building or via a small lane between the Church and the Manor Croft.



- **Manor Park.** Urmston

Another high-density area built around 1955 with 45 flats and 20 single unit houses. These homes are built on the vacated land of the Manor Croft.

- **Mansfield Road.** Flixton

With 43 properties Mansfield is complete. The name for this road was changed from **Davies Road** c.1930 and the council assumed responsibility in 1935.

- **Marbury Close.** Flixton

Number 13 is missing for the close and its 1-14 homes.

- **Mardale Avenue.** Flixton

The compact dale has 10 living places. Once lined with aged Lime trees they have been removed at the request of local residents. Mardale is locational from a place in Westmorland.

### Flixton Infants School. Mardale Avenue

Built in 1911 along with the Junior School it was involved in the changeover with the Moorside Road School. Split boys and girls until 1936 when it went co-ed.



- **Marlborough Road.** Flixton

In its beginnings the road was developed from Bowkers path which crossed the fields there. It was made up from St. Elmo, Newholme, Rhuddlan, Conway House, Lulworth, Stud land, Halsteads, and Moorlands. This was in 1909 but by 1926 added were The Croft, Ballure, Shepley, and Iona. Spark Builders were advertising homes here in 1914. Market listings for modern times show the road as being headed off with Marchlea and Noel House. The connecting footpath through to Lawrence was stopped up in 1966 deemed unnecessary. A contract was offered in 1978 for the completion of 11 bungalows along the road and the remaining 66 dwellings have an average age dating to 1955. The continuance through to Irlam Road was made in 1935.



**1928** home list for Marlborough: St Elmo, Newholm, Rhuddlan, Studland House, Lulworth, Conway, Finvoy, Holmeleigh, Moorlands, Halsteads, The Croft, Iona, and Ballure.

### Ballure. Marlborough Road

The road in its 1908 beginning showed this was one of two semidetached to arrive later. **Croft** was the calling of is mate and they sat at the corner of Windsor Avenue around 1918.

### Bowkers Fields.

Land found at Marlborough and Moorside Roads. They were named after the Bowker family who had a home there. Bowker Avenue exists close to this point but is hardly recognisable being very short, unpaved, and hidden away. Thomas Bowker 1824-1885 was probably the early family member with decedents known through to 1930.

**Conway House.** Marlborough Road

What the Welsh naming meant to Sam Sheldrick for his 1908 house on this road is unknown, but he lived in the cul-de-sac with seven other houses and their occupants. 1910 and it was Samuel Fleming in house. The semi was joined up with **Rhuddlan** showing both homes in 1904 were four beds and two sitting roomed complete with all the norms.

**Croft.** Marlborough Road

1918 was the date for the inclusion to the homes on the road sitting at the corner of Windsor with **Ballure** to keep it company. Arthur Henry Clark was at the Croft in 1919 he was there into 1923.

**Hallsteads.** Marlborough Road

The group along this road amounted to eight homes with this one being accommodation to Benjamin Gauntlett and family as at 1908 through to 1943. Partnered with **Moorlands** they became the last homes along the road for this era.

**Iona.** Marlborough Road

The house of **Shepley** connected to Iona as the other semi at Windsor Avenue. This pair was one of two built around 1912 either side. 1914 saw the McNivan family in residence here.

**Lulworth.** Marlborough Road

The connection to the road and this house is not known. They both arrived at the same time of 1908 with the house showing Henry Joseph Dowler as resident. This was one of four semidetached to the road and its partner was **Studland**. The home showed as three beds, two sitting rooms, kitchen and bath, adding modern for its time.

**Moorlands.** Marlborough Road.

Arriving with its seven neighbours in 1906 this Moorland was the abode of John Calder. This, as the last house, completed the no throughway for this period. The alter ego was **Halsteads** making up this pair.

**Newholme.** Marlborough Road.

The road brought builders to here about 1908 when eight new homes became a reality. This one was taken by Charles Coates when it was still a no through way. All the houses there at the time were semidetached, this had **St. Elmo** as its neighbour. The house comprised of four bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, scullery, bath and lavatory.

**Rhuddlan.** Marlborough Road

The no way out from Moorside brought several houses here in 1908 this one with Frederick Vaughn as the homeowner. As a semi the house was adjoined to **Conway**. Not forthcoming with special detail in 1904 it had four bedrooms and two sitting rooms with all mod cons.

**Shepley.** Marlborough Road

Two homes were built each side of Windsor Avenue around 1918. Shepley and **Iona** made up the last semidetached here.

**St. Elmo.** Marlborough Road

This home fired up the road when introduced to Urmston around 1908. It was a no thoroughfare and Launcelot Arthur Powell enjoyed being at home here. The semidetached had **Newholm** connected to it. St Elmo is the Patron Saint of Sailors as well as being connected to plasma fire.

**Studland.** Marlborough Road

The home was one of four semidetached along here in 1908 and the homeowner was Frank Halliwell. A no through road at this period the houses were individually named this one included **Lulworth** as its partner.



- **Marshbrook Road.** Davyhulme

The home count here is ten. A justice of the Peace resided here in 1953 he was Mr. A. Griffiths.

- **Matlock Avenue.** Flixton

Established in 1935 the avenue has 14 houses. Matlock hails from Derbyshire.

- **Mayfair Avenue.** Urmston

The fair avenue is made up with 28 dwellings. This avenue became official in 1931 and marks the divide or boundary between Urmston and Flixton.

- **Meade Close.** Urmston

Three properties account for the Close. Suggested origins of Renshaw Field where the Spastic Society built their home.

- **Meadow Road.** Urmston

This road that leads to the Meadows was only named as such after 1910. Known for the Croft Farm there it was accompanied by Round Hay, Mandalay, and Inversnaid. Today's listings show just 4 homes. Originally as Meadow Lane it was addressed as 36 Stretford Road and only as a cart track.



#### **Inversnaid.** Meadow Road



Only four places traced for 1908 here on the road the main one being The Croft which was also the name of the Stretford Road Croft Farm. In 1911 the tenant for Inversnaid was Alexander Gordon McBeath sounding as Scottish as the homes name.

#### **Mandalay.** Meadow Road

With the Croft Farm at this point Mandalay was to be found with two others along the road in 1908. At home here was James Crompton noted as resident for 1911.

#### **Round Hay.** Meadow Road

One of four buildings down this road dating from about 1908 it was a lane used by the Croft Farm there and perhaps did not get recognition. Albert Edward Baldwin lived along here close to the Meadows in 1911. This home, a semidetached, was associated with **Mandalay**.



#### **The Croft.** Meadow Road



The corner of this road and Stretford Road was the location of Croft Farm, too much of a coincidence not to have been a follow up. Meadow Road is recognised in directories as of 1911 but the Farm was there a hundred years before that. Living at The Croft in 1911 was George Lewis Ridehalgh.

- **Meadowgate.** Urmston



Meadowgate was originally called **Southgate until about 1932** it was changed to accommodate the other so named off Church Road. Meadowgate crosses Meadow Road and has 23 gateways in contention. 1942 proffered a house there called Wendover with Carmidale another in 1950. For 1952 a home called Bowlea with Wetherby for 1954. 1955 found Burwood and Thoraboro. Heatherlea was noted here for 1967 and was to be found at number 17. The land through to the Meadows at Meadowgate was opened up for controlled tipping in 1968 and lastly, there was a business venture down Meadowgate at No.7 a company specialising in Management operating out of Newlyn House in 1980.

Some clarity came later. There are documents that recall Meadowgate in 1907 with the information that the residents named the road. It also added that the majority of the homes were built by Spark & Sons with Joseph Spark himself living along there at one time.

**1928** Meadowgate offered these homes: Overdale, Scaleber, Gordale, Caldy, Standroyd, Thornboro, Brookdale, The Rowans, Carmodale, Leathburn, and Lea Side.

**1938** Meadowgate offered a name for every home, many had changed, and the directory did not include numbers for identification.

#### **Ancroft.** Meadowgate

Thomas Titley 1938.

#### **Belvedere.** Meadowgate

Joseph Spark. 1938

**Bowlea.** Meadowgate  
Charles Johnson. 1938

**Brookdale.** Meadowgate  
A 1919 semidetached house adjoined to **Thornbro** with Robert Boyd at home in one of three semis along the **south** side cul-de-sac. In 1938 here was Frederick Pickering.



**Brookland.** Meadowgate  
Arnold Bailey. 1938

**Burwood.** Meadowgate  
John Charles Lord. 1938



**Caldy.** Meadowgate  
This semidetached was last on the **north** side with **Standroyd** in the cu-de-sac. It was home to 1919 dweller William Clark. Caldy is a village near to the Wirrel.

**Carmidale.** Meadowgate

This **south** side semidetached belonged to 1919 resident Charles Wrigg and it was associated to **The Rowans**. John Emmett at home for 1938 he spelt the house name **Carmodale**. John passed away here in 1950.



**Gordale.** Meadowgate  
This semi was next to **Scaleber** and second building on the **north** side. The resident for 1919 was William Day and for 1927 Luke Walshe. 1938 added John Fazakerley.



**Craigmore.** Meadowgate  
Fred Brindle. 1938

**Heatherlea.** 17 Meadowgate  
A modern detached residence facing the meadows, four bedrooms with a balcony were its main features.

**Lea side.** Meadowgate  
As a partner to **Leathburn** its detailed position is next in this list. It was the 1919-1924 home of James Wride the local stationer and Urmston photographer of renown. Louis Rimington took over for 1938.



**Leathburn.** Meadowgate  
The home was subject to a name change in 1928 after being called Brookside originally. The 1919 calling was possibly altered as there was a home here called Brookdale already. The accompanying house was called **Lea side**. For 1919 this home of Leathburn belonged to Henry Hartley. It could be found on the **south** side of the cul-de-sac. Arthur Woodhouse moved in for 1938.

**Leys.** Meadowgate  
William Flockton. 1938



**Newlyn.** 7 Meadowgate  
Frank Harrison. 1938



**Northernhey.** 15 Meadowgate  
Alfred Norman Watson. 1938

**Overdale.** Meadowgate  
The lists produced for 1919 had Overdale as a semidetached but under one name. Benjamin Hampson was the only family name known for homeowner. Walter Hadfield corrected that for 1938 adding his name.



**Scaleber.** Meadowgate  
A 1919 semidetached home shown as the second on the **north** side with **Gordale** as its neighbour. Thomas Preston Lord had first occupancy. Cyril Owen came along for 1938.

**South Field.** 9 Meadowgate  
Thomas Mitchell. 1938



**Standroyd.** Meadowgate



This was a 1919 home semidetached home and sat along with **Caldy** in the corner of the cul-de-sac. At home for the period was Frank East on the **north** side. A four bedroomed home with a garage is the information mustered.

**The Neuk.** 11 Meadowgate  
John Jones. 1938



**The Rowans.** Meadowgate

This semi was adjoined to **Carmidale** for 1919 it sat on the **south** side with John Joseph Yates looking after it. For 1938 Miss Jessie Yates who had the keys.



**Thornbro.** Meadowgate



Thornbro was connected to Brookdale for 1919 in this cul-de-sac. It was owned by Charles Burgess for 1928 who lived on the south side of this road. Arthur and John Bailey in 1938.

**Wendover.** Meadowgate

A brick-built semi with front pebble dash, it had an entrance hall that boasted a curved stained-glass leaded window. The lounge had a bay and the dining came with a French window, a kitchen, wash house, larder, and coal filled the ground floor. Its four bedrooms, two front rooms and two back had features of their own. One had a bay the other, a French window leading to a balcony, all looking out onto gardens. The bathroom with w.c. finished off its particulars as of 1955. Wendover is the left-hand home of the two.



- **Medical and health.**

#### Children.



Census show that for every 1,000 children born in the Urmston District around 1911, one hundred and one died. This improved by 1973 to sixteen, today's figures have not been located. Urmstons Road Safety Committee claimed that no child had been killed in a road accident for the last four years. This record from 1954 ended in July 1958 with a fatal event. By 1960 there were three official Day Nurseries for the care of children, Chesham House, Stocks House, and Hayeswater. Child Welfare Centres could be found at Moorlands, Humphrey Park Community Centre, and the Alker Hall.

#### Death from disease. 1850-1903



A multitude of diseases occurred through Urmston during an approximate 50-year period. They ranged from Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, and Diphtheria, with TB addressed as a plague of its own. The more common Measles and Chicken Pox reached epidemic proportions and ran without control everywhere. The death rates were quoted at council meetings every month by the medical officer and they **averaged** 15 deaths in every 1,000 people.

The problem was getting so bad in 1893 consideration was given to washing down all the main streets in the district. Scarlet Fever attained such figures in 1903 it caused council to put all medical services on high alert.

#### Dentistry.

Prior to 1900 if you had toothache it would be the practice to visit your local surgeon for treatment. By 1901 a dental surgery open and Roger Walker operated it from "Alliston" on Crofts Bank Road. As an alternate there was a Charles Maddox available on Railway Road. A publication of 1966 by the UUDC introduced the names of 8 dentists available to the public.



### District Nurse.

Around 1960 there were registered seven District nurses available for home care. Five were based in Flixton while the remaining two were in Urmston. Home help could be applied for at 5/- per hour.

### Doctors.

A list published by the UUDC in 1966 indicated that there were 19 doctors registered for the public use. This was in reference to General Practitioners.



### Immunisation. Urmston



Another first for Urmston was under a trial scheme adopted in 1937 jointly by the Council and the District Education Committee. All children under school age or attending public elementary schools would be offered free injections against Diphtheria. The Ministry of Health provisionally approved the scheme.

### Influenza.



After WW1 1918 the world was stricken by an outbreak of the Spanish Flu. Urmston was to be included in this epidemic and is recorded by the number of gravestones carrying this date in the various cemeteries around the district. It took the lives of many locals especially among the younger generation. Worldwide only estimates are available as to how many were lost and they range from 20 to 100 million people.

### Midwives.



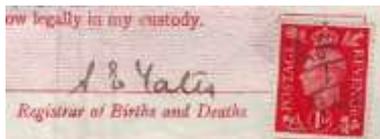
A very old trade carried out for the convenience of mothers who wanted home confinement. Registered for 1953 there were two, Miss B. Collett of Urmston and Mrs A. Maddocks from Davyhulme. Then 1960 again two, Miss. A. Oxley of Flixton and Mrs. A. Whittle for Urmston. The aiding hands of these dedicated women were far more prevalent in the days before the war and the advent of Park Hospital and Cottage Hospital.

### PALS. Patient Service

The **P**atient **A**dvice & **L**iaison **S**ervice at Trafford General was brought in by the NHS in 2000. This was not new to the district as it was first instituted as The League of Friends there in 1971. This pioneering group led the way for other NH hospitals to follow suit in providing volunteer support to local hospital facilities.



### Registrar. (The district)



The registrar for all Births and Deaths began as of 1836. In the time of 1848 George Stevenson from Stretford held the appointment. Barton upon Irwell retained the privilege for this until such time Urmston became recognised in its own right around 1929.

Signatures show that this became the principle occupation to a family called Yates.

Christopher Yates is known from before its Urmston inception where it was named as Civil Registration. For quite a number of years he lived at Scar Green on Stretford Road. Another of this family was Miss. Sarah. E. Yates who was deputy registrar followed 1938-45. Marriage or Baptism was usually registered by the minister in charge.

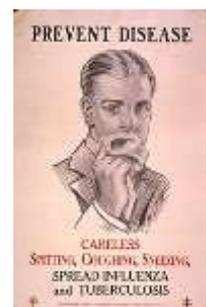
The first new home was at 47 Crofts Bank Road in 1937 and 1946 gave information that the Registrar was now housed in the home of Collingwood on Davyhulme Road with the official being Mrs. S. Foy. Collingwood was to close, and registers were taken to Moorfield on Crofts Bank Road 1968.

### Road accidents.

Figures given out for the period 1959 to 1969 indicated 48 people had been killed in accidents with 298 serious injuries. This date showed the inclusion of events that had taken place since the introduction of the Motorway.

### Tuberculosis. Urmston

In the late 1890's this common disease was rife in the Urmston district. Often death certificates called it **Consumption** as it consumed the lives of many. Spread by contact, **the practice of spitting** was prohibited on public transportation for 1920. There is still **no vaccine** for the adult population with a children's vaccine offering some limited protection. T B is, to this day, under the watchful eye of the World Health Organisation rating it next to **HIV**. A report issued by the WHO in 2011 indicated that over **9 million people will be infected** by this, once thought eradicated disease.



- **Melton Avenue.** Flixton

There are 22 houses on the avenue. Melton would be better known if the avenue made pork pies as they do in Leicester.

- **Mersey River.**

The river which is 70 miles (112 Km) long wends its way as one of the borders to the Urmston Urban District. The River Irwell and the Manchester Ship Canal make up the other side. The river took up its basic form, as we know it today around 1662. The Urmston/Flixton section divides Lancashire from Cheshire.



As the environment is improved the Mersey Trust are trying to re-introduce fish to the river. 1980 saw the trial of Chub and Dace being released. This has been a reasonable success and there is a revival in the bird culture that is fish eating. Salmon have been sighted near to Warrington in recent years and Otters have been seen once more. Mersey is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning Boundary.

#### Flixton Forth. Unknown Mersey feature

A recent photograph produced by Trafford Local Studies has found a place called Flixton Forth. They are suggesting it may be a section of riverbed but its whereabouts are unknown at this time. As the Mersey meandered over the years several corners were cut, and the old route would be left as a bed such as this. In 1971 Council discussed a proposal to fill these old beds in an effort to prevent further erosion. A picture taken behind Hllam Farm shows similarities, at this point there used to be a pumping station which was abandoned leaving a dry bed.



The Forth



Hllam Corner

#### Fords. (River crossings)

The river Mersey was crossed in several places by Fords. The old Carrington Foot Bridge was pulled down in 1840 and carts had to cross by a ford near to the St. Michael Church. This particular Ford was called "*The Stone Ford*" and the "*Parsons Stamford*". Two others featured in the district, one near to Shaw Hall, and the other over at Hllam Farm. It gives thought to the idea that the Mersey never reached great heights in those times. The way to cross during seasons of higher water was by "*Pig Turnels*." These were upturned feeding troughs converted to use as a boat for ferrying.

#### Ox Bow Lake. Urmston

Not in truth a lake, Ox Bows are creations formed when the river meanders and cuts a new path leaving an island. Several have been found for Urmston none has survived for long after their development.

#### Pylon.

Along the River Mersey the National Grid system built many pylons one of which became the subject of some expenditure because of erosion to the riverbanks in Urmston. In 1980 a piling was sunk into a bend to alter the course of the river in the hope of saving one of these structures. It cost the National Grid Transco £500,000 in 1990 to dismantle the pylon and relocate its position after the battle against nature was lost.



#### Sale Water Park.

Why was this important to Urmston? The gravel pit left by road works was filled and maintained as a runoff for flood water from the Mersey in 1970. This was to protect towns and villages downstream like Urmston and Flixton from potential disaster. Converted into



recreational use it now has a dual purpose for all to enjoy. Prior to this a system of Flood Gating and Sluices along the rivers route in 1848 was all that had control of any excess water during rainy seasons.

Many of the original sluice gates are still in existence and can fail during times of flooding causing a continuance of the danger into modern times.



- **Merwell Road.** Flixton

A combined Mersey and Irwell sound like Merwell and its 30 family homes.

- **Mile Road.**

Outside the Urmston District but very much a part of the Flixton scene. Its name or origins are unclear as it is less than a mile long. The Bridge leading to Carrington there is often referred to as the Mile Road Bridge. The designation for the road is B5158 till it reaches Manchester Road and Carrington Lane.



- **Millers Lane.**

This became Irlam Road after adding Green Lane. In the 1880s there was a log mill here which gave reason for the calling.

- **Millford Avenue.** Flixton

An archaeological study found the remains of a Roman Road here while laying out new foundations. It is the only confirmed Roman occupation for Urmston.

The avenue came to be in Flixton around 1920-1930, previously Feeble Street it was commonly known as Granny's Lane. Tenders were called for in 1939 by council for ten bungalows cornering Irlam Road. It was extended again as of 1955 to arrive at 44 properties. There are too many same named places called Millford to mention for any particular origin to this calling.



Millford and Irlam Road c. late 1930's

**1928** Names of interest all shown as the **west** side: Melisande, Waverley, Tandill, Silverdale, Caerleon, Glen Garry, Marlewood, Willow Brae, Bodivor, Gandrea, Oakdene, Woodville, Widecombe, Sun Flowers, Avondale, and Dalkeith.

**Acos.** 9 Millford Avenue

John Jolly lived on the corner of Rothiemay Road in 1938 this was the only named home in that year's directory.

**Avondale.** Millford Avenue

In the year of 1928 James Murphy was a packer who had this home on Millford.

**Bodivor.** Millford Avenue

This, the home of a family called Davis in 1928, they settled in down the **west** side.

**Caerleon.** Millford Avenue

Bertram Langfield was at home in this house for 1928 right at the corner of Rothiemay Road. The calling is from Wales and a village near Newport.

**Dalkeith.** Millford Avenue

The 1928 occupation of Frank Hooper was as a plasterer his home should have looked nice. The house was the last along Millford with the naming associated with Scotland.

**Dalton.** 7 Millford Avenue.

This home was not named until 1928 although it was one of the original abodes. The names of John Taylor are indicated for 1928 and James Dickenson 1938. Final confirmation of the house came for 1948 when Sam and Annie Thwaite lived there.

**Gandrea.** Millford Avenue

The occupants are unknown during its time for this 1928 house.

**Glengarry.** Millford Avenue

The Robert Hetherington family called this their home in 1928.

**Marlewood.** Millford Avenue

This was the wooden calling in 1928 for George Dixons family home.

**Melisande.** Millford Avenue

Formerly Feeble Street John Kent took the honours as being the first house while he was at home in this house for 1928 his job was as a clerk.

**Oakdene.** Millford Avenue

Harris Salisbury, who was an engineer, took his place here. The year for this was 1928.

**Raymonde.** Millford Avenue

The semi was noted to be available in 1932. A three bedroomed, two living rooms, scullery, and bath with w/c, home that continued with, a coal house, and included electric light. The gardens were heightened by the word, good.

**Silverdale.** Millford Avenue

This was a 1928 **west** side story for Reginald Ellis who made this home.

**Sun Flowers.** Millford Avenue

Gordon Pierce for 1928 might have loved his garden and flowers as he stayed around the house.

**Tandill.** Millford Avenue

The unusual name of Gledhill could be found here in 1928 his first name was Benjamin.

**Waverley.** Millford Avenue

A 1928 cashier called James Chirnside lived in this home along the **west** side.

**Widecombe.** Millford Avenue

For 1928 Miss Eleanor Taylor might have gone to the fair if she left this home.

**Willow Brae.** Millford Avenue

A Scottish sounding home of distinction for Frederick McKnight and 1928 the house was on the **west** side.

**Woodville.** Millford Avenue

No family name has been traced that lived in this house. The name arrived in 1928 directories for the home.

- **Millford Gardens.** Flixton

The Gardens are comprised of 9 houses that carry a design that of Calder Court, often cause for mistaken identity.



- **Milly Street.** Urmston 1900

The street which was a no thoroughfare had three houses **west** and eight to the **east**. Towards the end of 1910 it was numbered as **west** 1-19 and **east** 4-20. Houses were known here from 1880. Milly has disappeared from the map being absorbed as **William Close**. In 1919 Ezra John Royals a Manchester United goalkeeper (1912-14) lived on Milly at number 8. As a last note still under the name of Milly in 1988, number 72 was subject to a house clearing plan by council.

- **Minehead Avenue.** Flixton

This avenue belongs to 30 families. (Somerset origin)

- **Minster Drive.** Davyhulme

The old English word of Minster (Abbey) is relatively new, its 35 properties coming in 2002. A naming found for here is Seymour.

- **Mirfield Drive.** Davyhulme

The drive was new in 1935 all 14 are suggested as being home to families there. By 1948 a house was named, Briercliffe at number 2. This title comes from West Yorkshire.

- **Monksdale Avenue.** Flixton

A late find for this avenue 1952 was Lyncroft at No.4. The avenue is addressed as 2-20 in even numbers. Monksdale is another town name used frequently throughout England.

- **Moorfield Centre.** Urmston

It was always council's intention to name its new 1960's centre as The Moorfield Centre; there had been a connection to this name for many years. The public decided otherwise, and it got stuck with the simple words of The Precinct.

- **Moorfield Walk.** Urmston



The central pathway that led through the old Precinct of the 1960's, it got its name by association with the council offices that were previously in the vicinity. This walk is no more as the main path is called Golden Way, hopefully as an attachment to Golden Hill.

- **Moorlands Avenue.** Davyhulme

Sandown was to be found here in 1940, with Inglefield at No. 14 for 1959. Today 2010, the avenue has 25 homes.

- **Moor Lane.** Flixton

Rose Cottage and Ivy Cottage were both in Moor Lane. Ivy is shown here as a two bedroomed home.



- **Moorside.**

This naming originated from a fact it was a Moor. It is recorded that in 1774 the area was covered with gorse and rushes completely natural in its makeup. In 1844 efforts to reclaim the land were introduced by planting Oak and Plum trees.

- **Moorside Road.** (Including Flash)



Notice is to be taken for the early part of 1900 where **Cornhill Road was included in this road**. This arrangement was before the present road c.1930 was incorporated from Crofts Bank. Many cottages and terraced buildings down this road reflect on a time long forgotten. The Wesley Cottage 1783 is the most well-known and is still a humble home to this day. Woods Cottage along this road assisted in housing the Wesley clergy, it was dated as 1666.

Moorside at the onset.

In part the road began as Flash due to its location to Flash Farm (An amalgam of Flash and Moorside origins) The road has a commonly known fact as being the boundary between Davyhulme, Flixton, and Urmston. This road received a boost in 1887 when it was allocated street lighting for the first time. From Crofts Bank Road to Davyhulme Road became the beginnings of major improvements along here. Private houses at the corner of Moorside and Woodsend Roads were passed by the Ministry of Health for conversion in to shops in 1935. Property detail has 287 homes with 24 flats to its name.

#### **Moorside Road. Flixton 1900**

For the **north east**, the road begins with the National School by the Hall Farm. The White House and Thorn Farm are registered before the Atherton Cottages and to end at Woodsend Road there was Alpine Terrace. Merry Mount slotted in between the White House and Thorn for another entry of 1910 and The Thorns joined Uptons Thorn Farm.

**1928** following homes along the **north** side: Hall Farm, Belton, Creudahr, Palmyra, Glen Iris, Carnoustie, Merrie Mount, Parkside, Holmrook, Quorndon, Eskdale, Lyndene, Tomalla, Shirley, Talgarth, Silverdale, Roslyn, Strathdene, Ingleside, Moss Croft, The Thorns, Lyndene, (a repeat for the road) Atherton Cottages, Kenmore, Alpine Terrace, Home Lea, Souvrain, and Hilbre. A note about Lyndene being repeated: The first version housed William Sykes with the second James Sykes a connection seems obvious.

**Moorside Road. Flixton 1900**

The Knoll and Moorlands lead into a line of homes that appears to include North View, numbered 1-63 and end with Moss Field Cottage and Moss Field House on this section of the **south** side. Salisbury Terrace, 79-111, takes the buildings to Moorside View. Five more houses to the Wesleyan Chapel and five more to Brook Road. A single house added, Park View, reaches the Wesleyan Day School. Woodville, Laburnum Cottages, Laurel Villas, Woodbine Terrace, are next and Rose Cottage and Whitelake Lea stop at Whitelake View. There is a Market Garden located prior to Oakland Villas with Red Cottage bringing up the rear to Woodsend Road.



Waverly, Westover, and Moorside House are called in **1910** as homes before then meeting Marlborough Road. A slight adjustment after Rose Cottage shows Whitelake, White Lea with Atherton House. Then to complete the road for this era Kendrick House is at the Woodsend Road corner. Westfield joined the ranks later in 1941 as a 'modern' detached home with a garage. Yet another named abode was tracked down for 1947, it was called Cumbria.

**1928** The **south** side of Moorside begins at Craig Avenue for the first names even though there were many houses before this: Angora, Dovedale, Caldy, Tyneholme, Chalfont, Chez Nous, Stanesmoor, Waverley, Westover, Moorside House, Woodville, Laburnum, Laurel Villas, Rose Cottage, Whitelake, Whitelake View, Moorside Tennis Club, Oakland Villas, Atherton House, Flixton Cricket Club, Red Cottage, and Kendrick House. The continuance of Moorside through to Crofts Bank brought about the end to all the connecting roads attached to Flixton Road. Roseneath and Grosvenor for example, once no through ways, opened up.

**Adlington. Moorside Road.**

This is a 55 bedroomed complex that took the place of the Moorside Dairy is called Adlington House.

**Alpine Terrace. Moorside Road (Also called Cottages)**

In 1878 Alpine was referred to as a three-bed roomed cottage with a greenhouse, it had gardens front and back. It was home to Charles and Katherine Maybury for 1881 and the address given was Atherton Lane. This was the last pair of homes before Woodsend Road on the **north east** side for 1900. Then the terrace had room for two, a Mrs. Greenhalgh and Mr. & Mrs. Goody.

**Angora. Moorside Road**

1928 gave out a list of homes beginning here at Craig Avenue, this the first was home to Edward Foulkes.

**Atherton Cottages. Flash Lane Moorside Road (North east)**

The terrace by this name housed eight families in 1881. According to the 1898 street directory it showed only five. Of all the residents at the time of 1901 Owens accounted for three of them. 'Town by the spring' is the meaning of this old name. In 1928 William Clough called the last of the five cottages Kenmore. A date for existence is 1752 traced by residents of the present. A recently obtained photograph states the cottages were called Bush this has not been confirmed.

**Atherton House. Moorside Road**

The Atherton family ran the farm known as Flash their house was sited alongside of the Poor House as a part of Whitelake View. It only appeared in street reference after 1898 but a date of 1886 is known from documents. This the home of Bertram Beever who has been placed here for 1889. An established name for 1903 was that of Frederick John Wilson living there.

Atherton came up for sale in 1934 noted was that there were four acres of grassland that adjoined the Flixton Cricket grounds, it had three bedrooms, two sitting rooms, kitchen, scullery, larder, with an outside toilet. Electric light was installed, and the garden had room for a garage, it was numbered 427 on Moorside. The small terrace on the **north** side of Moorside called Atherton was more than likely to house the farm workers. Located on the site of Atherton is a newer home carrying the same name from its past.

**Belton. Moorside Road.**

Named from its 1928 owner James Harry Belton.

**Bent Cottage. Moorside Road**

A close neighbour to the Wesley Chapel the cottage was for sale in 1854 with Mr. Bent as the occupant. This has been compared to the **Wesley Cottage** as that too was occupied by the Bent family creating a calling of one and the same. This was demolished in 1954 as uninhabitable.

**Caldy. Moorside Road**

One of a row, introduced in the mid 1920s this following Craig Avenue belonged to William Holmes.

**Carnoustie. Moorside Road.**

No information other than in 1928 it was home to Wilfred Harry Gamble and neighbour to Glen Iris.

**Carrs Ditch.** Moorside Road

This was a natural stream later dug out as a ditch for drainage in what was very marshy land. The main channel ran along where Golden Hill Park sits on Moorside continuing through to Bowfell Circle. This was used as a boundary line between Urmston and Davyhulme. The word 'Carr' is old English meaning wetland and not a family name as such. Some reference has it that it dates back over 1,000 years to times of the Saxons and Celts. Survey maps show the ditch extending all the way to Stretford. Occasional thought carried this ditch as a part of the Roman **Nichos Ditch** a defence wall in days-gone-by. Archaeological investigation has proven this incorrect with no traces being found or attributed to Urmston. Two footbridges were to be found along the ditch, one at the end of Carrsvale the other at the Moorside entry to Golden Hill Park. The stream can be followed down Bowfell Road and on with many branches running off in varied directions. Brook Road is derived from this stream of water as it flowed by in the earliest of times. Council approved its final culverting in 1934.

**Chalfont.** Moorside Road

Edward Colclough took this for home in 1928. This was one of a group introduced around 1925 along the road.

**Chapel House.** Moorside Road

For 1883 the home had; five beds, two entertaining rooms, a breakfast room, kitchen, and bathroom. Gas and water were available as was a stable. A vinery completed the garden exterior. The Chapel House was addressed as 123a in 1910 with Charles Hargreaves in residence. Even though the Chapel had long since closed and moved to Brook Road this home kept its earlier name. The Moorside numbering changed frequently but this cottage was noted again in 1919.

**Chez Nous.** Moorside Road

A French connection perhaps for James Crossley who lived in this 1925 house. This became the last of a row found for this time between Craig and Brook Road.

**Cintra.** Moorside Road

This is an unknown commodity; it has a name and number of 335. (Modern day numbering) Cintra is thought to have Spanish origin.

**Crescent.** Moorside Road

A small cluster of homes built in a crescent shaped offshoot along Moorside. These houses came after the extension of Moorside in 1935. The Cuthbert family moved here from Crofts Bank and lived in a home called Rye Field.

**Creudahr.** Moorside Road

Only Arthur Henry Burgess knew what the name meant in 1928.

**Davyhulme Hall Farm.** Moorside Road

The farm, which was part of the Halls estate, was one of the last units to go after the Hall itself was demolished. It was **not** initially removed to make way for Park Hospital in 1926 and was still in operation until 1930 by A. J. Irlam when it fell to the developers. Often seen in pictorial evidence are the huge arched barns accompanied by the employees' cottages. The farm was very large with several wings but not of any significant attraction architecturally. The actual farmhouse carried five bed rooms, kitchen, two parlours, kitchen and back kitchen, a milk house and front orchard. There was separate stabling for up to two horses. All this detail was given in c.1850 for an approximation.



William Faulkner was the days of yore farmer 1901. James Stott ploughed him off for 1909 but it did not take long for 1911 farmers John Knight & Sons to weed him out. Richard Knight continued until about 1927 when Austin James Irlam began to scatter the seed.

**Davyhulme Hall Farm Cottage.** Moorside Road

For 1901 the cottage began the list of addresses along here sitting prior to the farm itself. According to directories this was a single cottage affording accommodation a farm worker. In the case for 1901 this labourer was James Pearson.

**Davyhulme Hall View.**

This address can cause problems as it could apply to a number of homes close to Davyhulme Hall. It was given as an address in 1877 saying the location was directly opposite the Hall. Park View was another such example.

**Dovedale.** Moorside Road

The second house after Craig for 1928, at home Edmond Nuttall.

**Eskdale.** Moorside Road

A 1928 resident was Ernest Warner.

**Fairway.** 313 Moorside Road

This home is not thought to be very old but is established along Moorside Road close to the Golf Course.

**Flash Farm, cottage, and Flash Lane.** Moorside Road

The farm was shown in directories of 1891 as being addressed as the second building after Woodsend, the first house along Flash Lane. James Hesketh was farmer in that year who also shared accommodation with Herbert McCracken he was a joiner. Still around in 1960 the farm was cornered at Moorside Road and Woodsend Road with this short stretch of Moorside Road called Flash Lane. Flash Farm was the home of the Lowes at this time.



Other home names found in 1880 along Flash are; Atherton, White Lea, Rose Cottage, and Woodbine Terrace, here it changed to Moorside. The farm did have a place attached it was Flash Cottage. William Owen, who was a market gardener, lived there in the 1920s.

**Fold Farm.** Moorside Road.

There has not been too much found for this farm and at this time its last owner was George Barlow and his wife. There are documents to show it was operational until around 1963 but replaced by a small housing group that is known as the Fold.

**Foggs Farm.** Moorside Road

Sited on lands between Davyhulme Lane (Road) and Moorside Roads, adjacent or even combined with the Davyhulme Hall Farm both being replaced by Trafford General today. The Foggs lived at Moorside House in the 1830s but a Lawrence Fogg Sr. is recorded as in the area for 1779. It referred to William Fogg as the head who passed in 1845. Lawrence Fogg Jr. his successor owned two plots of land south of the proposed railway line at the Jewish Cemetery. He had to sell in 1891 under a compulsory order to the railway company.

Lawrence passed away and the farm with his separate home was offered for leasing. The estate held 330 trees which were also tendered for felling. The farm had a detached house with the usual farm buildings, barns, and stables. The 1881 census shows 50 acres of land. Several lots of Foggs land carried names they were: Big Meadow and Land Field for Davyhulme.

The Fogg Holdings included several fields in the Flixton Eye: Old Arnolds Field, Heywoods Meadow, and a farmstead adjoining. There was also a dwelling and lands along Flash Lane, Lane Head at Cock Edge Lane, and another estate down the Bolton to Wigan Road. Lawrence Fogg and his son, Lawrence Jnr, were found to be here in 1841 and the family are dated as farmers from 1818. With a relationship unknown there was a John Fogg recorded as living in the district in 1660.

**Garricks Head Hotel.** Moorside Road

Early references have it that the Garrick came into being in c.1830 and shown in 1881 is that the beer keeper was Ellen Clough. The hotel had changed appearances many times before being demolished in 1928. The area on which the pub was built used to be called Lane Ends along what is now Brook Road. The hotel was not unlike many in town, built from what was believed to have been a cottage. The Wilson Brewery applied to build a new pub at 60-66 Brook Road in 1934, settling on the Moorside home it was completed by 1936 were it stands today.

The present building is half timbered this was a popular style for pubs around the district. The front door had a revolving entry common for the time. The Garrick, according to the brewery, was named after David Garrick 1717-1779 a famous Actor, Playwright, and Poet.

**Gilbody. Thomas** (Farmer) Moorside Road

When a plot of land became available in 1920 it posed a question of what the farm was called. A dwelling house and farm buildings made up an offer of land situated as fronting Moorside Road and backed Clifton Road off Brook Road. Thomas was the yearly tenant who was at 35 Moorside for the time and then presenting the land for development. This could possibly be the basis for the Garrick Hotel, 1928 version, which evolved from a cottage to its present building.

**Glen Iris.** Moorside Road

The semidetached home, shown left is called Glen Iris and it is to be found close to the golf course along Moorside Road. Reference for 1919-1929 showed this as where Edward William Smith lived, he was a draughtsman.

**Greenwinds.** Moorside Road

With the wind blowing across the greens the house is to be found near Gleneagles and as a neighbour to Merry Mount. Apart for its obvious location near the golf course it is lacking in detail.

**Hall Farm.** Moorside Road

The farm began the road directly after the National School there on the **north east** side. Addressed as number 4 in 1898, it had William Faulkner in control of the lands. Farmer James Stott took to the fields for 1909, John Knight & Sons for 1911 and Richard Knight during 1919. For 1928 Austin James Irlam ploughed the fields and scattered. There was a cottage indicated next door for 1919 it housed Joseph Ogden. (Detailed under Davyhulme Hall Farm)

**Hilbre.** Moorside Road

A chemist of 1928 stayed here his name was Henry Worswick. This was the last house at Woodsend Road.

**Holmrook.** Moorside Road  
Herbert Ogden kept house here for 1928.

**Homelea.** Moorside Road  
At home for 1928 was Harry Brown.

**Ingledene.** Moorside Road  
The only detail available here was that it was home to a family called Thompson dated as 1940-50.

**Ingleside.** Moorside Road  
1928 had Joseph McCracken living here.

**Ivy Bank.** Moorside Road  
Sitting in a nice garden the home adjoined **Ivydene** with its three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen and scullery.

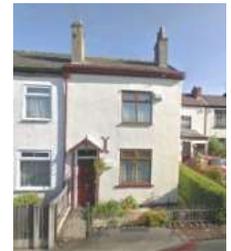
**Ivy Cottage.** Moorside Road



The cottage sits alongside the Moorside terrace called North View. No reference had been located for any detail, as it was not listed by name in directories. The cottage was found only by other documentation.

**Ivydene.** 388 Moorside Road

The home is one of a pair that can be seen opposite the cricket ground down Moorside Road. This duo continues from the Atherton Cottages and show from a time when there was little else there. Making the partnership was **Ivy Bank**. The three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen and scullery, applied to both homes.



**Kendrick House.** Moorside Road



A combination of the **Red Cottage** and this house claimed the last spot before Woodsend Road on its **south western** side. It is possible that they still stand, converted into shops at this point of Moorside. Unfortunately, there are no identifying marks to confirm this.

**Kenmore.** Moorside Road  
1928 gave the appearance that Kenmore was a named home with the Atherton Cottages.

**Laburnum Cottages.** Moorside Road (**South West**)

Already around for 1876 there were two, three bed roomed, cottages for 1898 at number 1 lived Joseph Smith and at number 2 Percy Cartwright. The picture shows obvious changes which indicate difficulty in a positive ID for this home. Its position along the road and a calculated following of other names here show it to be correct.



**Laurel Villas.** Moorside Road



Homes of pre-Victorian times located on Moorside Road. For 1882 one resident was John Hill and the Villa stands today. This pair had in 1898 George Astley and Mrs. Isabella Shaw. Frank Silvester took Georges place for 1901.

**Lowes Farm.** Moorside Road Woodsend

The Lowes name is better known for a dairy on Chadwick Lane with the farm really **Flash Farm** at the end of Moorside Road.

**Lyndene.** Moorside Road.

The year of 1924 had this home by Davyhulme Golf Club advertised as being semidetached. There were three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, conservatory, bathroom and cellars. Outside presented a six roomed brick outhouse and an orchard of sixty trees. The yard incorporated a garage. This would not have been found but for the owner trying to sell his 1924 Vulcan Tourer, it was 20 hp and kitted out for all weather. William Sykes followed for 1928.

**Merry Mount.** Moorside Road

Geoffrey Swire 1911 is first found he had this happy home sited along by the golf course with Mrs. Helena Swire merrily at home for 1919. Close to Gleneagles Road it has Greenwinds as a neighbour. Herbert Stanley Holmes took though 1928 and on.

**Monasterevan.** Moorside Road

A home without detail found along this road at number 34.

**Moorside House.** Marlborough/Moorside Road

For 1854 Lawrence Fogg lived here and for 1881 it was where the Bowkers lived. A daughter, Sarah Fogg, entered this address prior to her marriage. In 1895 it carried a detailed description. Situated on high ground there were three living rooms, large kitchen and scullery, a butler's pantry with two cellars below. The wash house completed the ground floor layout. The first floor had six bedrooms, a box room, and a bathroom complete with w.c. The second came with two bedrooms.

For the outside, a coach house and stabling for three horses, shippon and cart house. Add to this a cart shed, offices, and a granary all set with other outbuildings and a greenhouse. A

choice of fruit could be gathered from the fine orchard. There were several plots of land offered with the estate suitable for building on. After a short time, another advert added a piggery, paddock, and large garden. As of 1901 Horace Thornber was living in it. The house, after being purchased by the LCC in 1946, continued as a nursery school until its removal around 1952 and the land was re-developed.

**Moorside Mental Health.**

This centre was built in 1991 a £2.5 million unit which was added on Moorside Road so that the old Bridgewater Hospital could close. It was officially opened by the Duchess of Kent.

**Moorside Music and Dance School.**

The Moorside address of number 6 was for 1928 a school that taught this art form. Miss Letitia Blount A.V.C.M. took pupils for music while Miss. Ayres for dance. In the same building was the Oakland College of Music and Dance.

**Moorside Shops.** Malvern-Lostock Ave.

At some time around 1933 this block was established opposite Trafford General. It was once the place of the Wesley Chapel.

The detail here was for 1938.

- No. 165 Charles Heiron. Grocer
- No. 167 Jackson. G. A. & I. Drapers
- No. 167a Jackson. George Teacher of Music
- No. 169 Stanley Bowker. News Agent
- No. 169a Post & Money Order Office
- No. 171 George Wood Bakery
- No. 173 Tom Rimmer. Greengrocer
- No. 175 Vacant or coupled as double front shop
- No. 177 William Eaton. Gents Outfitting
- No. 179 Leonard Clark. Chemist



Haves Dairy ended the row numbering 181-185 that included Marion Haves as a hairdresser.

**Moorside Shops.** Woodsend

Information is sparse many shops in this row were converts and the varied styles indicate different periods for the events to have happened. When taken to a higher authority the Urmston Council were overruled in 1935 and had to allow home conversion into shops. This list is from 1938.

- No. 465 Browns Grocery.
- No. 467 Arthur Nickols. Greengrocer (H. North 1953)
- No. 469 Mrs. Gertrude Foster.
- No. 471 J. T. Madeley & Sons. Plumbers
- No. 473 Miss. Edna Downs. Ladies and Children's Outfitting
- No. 475 Edward Shuttleworth. Chemist
- No. 477 John Leeming. Grocer
- No. 477a Miss. Olwyn Jones Ladies Hairdressing
- No. 477b William Jones. Fried Fish
- No. 479 W. Holt & Son. Butcher

**Moorside Surgical Centre.** Moorside Road

This product came from Trafford General. They have beds either for patients who need to stay overnight or just for the day in hospital. The Centre may also provide a range of services, including high dependency or intensive care, surgical and diagnostic procedures, and appointments for outpatients.

**Moorside View.** Moorside Road (South west)

A tenant here was in 1898, Miss Bessie Taylor who introduced herself as the householder. The View was to be found following the Salisbury Terrace and was a semidetached home.

**Park View** appears to be a calling for the same house. A son was born at this address in 1859 to Mrs. Henry Gough. The site of this home was found to be next to the Wesley School on Moorside Road. Set in half an acre of land it was a five bedroomed home with drawing and breakfast rooms, dining, kitchen, and bathroom. Outside came the wash house, stable with coach house, bay loft, greenhouse, tool shed and garden.

Documents now show that in 1898 the View was to house four families and numbered 167-173. It gave credence to the thought that the house was divided or altered around this time.

**Moorside Tennis Club.** Moorside Road. For 1928 the club was not a part of the Flixton Cricket Club it occupied the land before Oakland Villas and Atherton House only joining forces in 1968 to be a part of the sports facility as it is today.

**Moss Croft.** Moorside Road

This old house earliest date 1880 sat opposite the Flixton Cricket grounds on Moorside Road. The Croft came up for sale in 1946 the description for this was; detached, lounge, dining room, kitchen, pantry, three beds, bath, and conservatory. For the outside, only a tool shed but it did have one acre of land.



Noted currently as number 374 it sits at the corner of Moss Croft Close. The home with Thorn Farm, Atherton, and Alpine, completed the only buildings down this part of Moorside and before Woodsend Road at the time of the late 1800s. A market gardener named as Sam Heywood became 1928 resident.

**Mossfield House and Cottage.** Moorside Road

Old times number this place as 75 and 77 sited just before the terrace of Salisbury. There were many tenants over the years, and it is shown as being semidetached. Its date of c.1830 fits well with the many dwellings along Moorside. In 1921 a sale of contractors' farm plant here confirmed the number of 75 for the house.



Mossfield, the house, came up for sale in 1933. The double story home was showing a veranda, hall with cloakroom, five bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, box room, cellars, and large garden. Street references of 1898 again show the pair as neighbours to Salisbury Terrace. Mossfield is now to be thought of as the site for the dairy today. Land once held by the Bowker family who sold to Haves Dairy. Lostock Avenue is shown as entry to this present placing.

**North View.** Moorside Road

One of the terraced blocks along here with an early history, it was not noted by name for directory information but most certainly it dates as 1895 with a date stone to prove it.

**Oak Cottage.** Moorside Road

Edward Cannon began a family here in 1891 with, at his side, Sara and newborn child, Mary.

**Oakland Villas.** Moorside Road **1895**

This Villa, as an example at number 4, had two living rooms, a kitchen, five bedrooms, a bathroom with w. c. and a cellar. There were only six units to the villa. They followed on from the Whitelake View heading towards Woodsend Road to become finally a converted row of shops. At home in one around 1899-1905 were Christopher and Robert Barker who was a printer by trade, then for 1905 were the Stretch family, John and Caroline. The block comprised of three semidetached units all under the same calling.

**Palmyra.** Moorside Road

This was one of several homes shown to appear c.1919 and close to the golf course after the Hall Farm. A traveller called George Wood resided in this house.

**Park Cottage.** Moorside Road

This cottage could be found directly opposite Trevor Road with its two stories and tiny front porch. The white finish to the brick work made it cute as a button for the style of the 1800's. It was positioned side on to the road which gave a garden front and back, the rear was walled. Strangely, it never showed in street directories creating the possibility of being called by another name for its early years. This location was on the fields of the Davyhulme Hall Estate. The cottage was occupied by the Rogerson family of 1906.



**Parkfield Cottage.** Moorside Road

Previously an unknown cottage it was found to be well established by 1892. The cottage sat next door to the Wesley Church and was quite large boasting seven rooms, excluding a bathroom, and two attics. The garden offered a greenhouse. Resident William Stott was working as a Clerk of Works from there in 1898.

**Park Hospital.** Moorside Road (**Trafford General Hospital**)

The 30 acres purchased for this hospital contract came in 1923. As a structure it was designed by Messrs' Elcock & Sutcliffe of Northumberland Avenue and built by Messrs Gerard & Sons of Swinton. The first foundation stone was laid by Lord Derby the second by Mr. Thomas Robinson MP in 1926. It treated its first patients in 1928 being officially opened by HRH Princess Mary in 1929. During the Second World War it became a military hospital, this was handed back in 1945 with a re-opening in 1946.



The facility has undergone many changes even its name has become **Trafford General**. As a hospital it fell under the umbrella of the **National Health System (NHS)** in 1948. Sylvia Beckingham aged 13 was the first patient accepted and the first baby born under this service was named Julie McCallum who visited the hospital for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration as an honoured guest. The General has not forgotten its past naming a special wing as "The Park Unit" in 2011 which will specialise in Urology.



During the time the facility became the US 10<sup>th</sup> Military Hospital, Glen Millar, and the US Air Force Band visited to entertain patients and staff. This occurred in 1944, as the famous band leader was over to tour the forces base of Burtonwood. Another noted event was that of Sir Matt Busby being treated there after his return from the Munich disaster of 1958.



Ten years after the hospital was built it was decided that the Head Medical Supervisor should have a house on site to reside in with a contract offered for its construction in 1938. The hospital has its own Chapel and Radio Station.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010 the Trafford Maternity Unit delivered its last baby, a boy, Oscar. This division of the hospital has now closed. The hospital has now been downgraded into a 'Health Care Center' with restricted hours.

**Park Hospital under American Forces.**

When the hospital was taken as a military resource at the onset 1939 it was British controlled and called Fifth West General. In 1943 it was handed over to the US and their medical teams threw out all of the technical equipment like X-Ray machines and operating equipment. They brought in everything new and up to date for the period. Nobody thought much of this until it became time for the Americans to leave in 1945. All that they had brought and installed was removed and the hospital was left with nothing. It took over a year for the US Government to compensate for the £17,000 worth of damage they did.

**A Blue Plaque was awarded in 2018 to mark the 70th anniversary as the first NHS location.**

**Radio Wishing Well.** Trafford Hospital

This volunteer organisation was formed in 1982, it broadcasts to approximately 500 patients daily including weekends. Their aim is to be a "*Friend at the bedside.*" The station is manned by 30 volunteers who although hold full time jobs dedicate free time to this cause. Several of the broadcasters began their careers here before moving on to the various national companies, Urmstons Dave Ward being one with Simon Parkin, Philip Trow, and Paul Fairclough other locals who made the grade elsewhere.

**St. Lukes Chapel.**

This chapel is to be found at the Trafford General Hospital. (Park Hospital) As it is with most hospitals religious accommodation it is interdenominational.

**Union Infirmary.**

Because the hospital was first brought about by the Barton upon Irwell Union this was the proposed name to be given to Park Hospital, now Trafford General.

**Park Side.** Moorside Road.

Similarity to Park View suggests some confusion known is that Robert Smethurst was here in 1928.

**Poor House.** Flash Lane

One of the earliest references to this site arrives from 1861 when it went on sale. The buildings and land accounted for 45 perches. For more detail see **Whitelake View**, its correct naming.



The '*Poor house*' buildings in Flixton met their final demise in 1954 under redevelopment of the area.

**Quorndon.** Moorside Road

George Adcock was in residence for 1928.

**Red Cottage.** Moorside Road

For 1900 this was the last home before Woodsend Road it sat **south west** along the road. There was room for two families and around that time they were the Harrisons and the Parkers. This pair was altered to become the last two shops at Woodsend Road.

**Rose Cottage.** Flash Lane (Moorside Road)

The cottage was found in the census of 1881 and large enough for three families. Arthur Edward Green was offering this cottage for rent in 1902 for £19-10s a year. Still around in 1928 it was next door to Whitelake with Alfred Irwin feeling rosy there.

**Roslyn.** Moorside Road

Frank Browne owner for the period of 1928.

**Salisbury Terrace.** Moorside Road

Opposite the Trafford General this block of terraced homes carries a date stone for 1889. Eighteen units with the center one a local police station numbered as 99, John Keys was the cop on the beat who lived there in 1898.

The terrace, due to size, has many personal names to offer over its years but too many for inclusion.

**Shirley.** Moorside Road

The Stephenson family lived here for 1928 his name was Harold it offers his wife was Shirley.

**Silverdale.** Moorside Road

Shiny on the dale was 1928s Wilfred Hydes.

**Souvrain.** Moorside Road.

Sydney Sherman came up with this calling in 1928.

**Talgarth.** Moorside Road

An informal Lizzie Doxey kept house during 1928.

**The Glades.** Moorside Road

The details are unknown at this time for this finely presented structure. The only known fact is that it was built in 1905.

**Thorn Farm.** Moorside Road (**North east**)

1898 its main function was as a Dairy Farm and it had Thomas Whitnall as the dairyman. The small farm sat along by the Atherton Terrace in 1899 it was being farmed by Walter Johnson and his son Andrew. For further reference the farm sat directly across from the Whitelake View Poor House. A document for the farm in 1883 had it situated as Davyhulme and connected to a Thorn House.

The Thorns.

1919 had this house just prior to Atherton Cottages. A gent called Houliston was the resident. The varied callings here indicate some connection or duplication between Thorn, the house, and farm. 1928 showed two Owen family members for here Eleanor and William.

**Toad Hall.** Moorside Road

Although a modern home it is recorded for its humorous naming. The children's book *'The Wind in the Willows'* was adapted by A. A. Milne into *'Toad of Toad Hall.'* This house comes complete with two toads at its gateway.

**Toinalla.** Moorside Road

Albert Wolfenden for 1928 was responsible for this house.

**Tyneholme.** Moorside Road

Mr. J. Kennedy was to move from this house in 1927 omitting to advise anyone of where the home sat on Moorside. He did say it was three beds, two entertaining rooms, kitchen and bath. There was a large garden and room for a garage. A year later it was found between Craig and Brook Road, John had not yet sold the place.

**Urmston and District Commercial Travellers Assn.**

Establish c.1903 their Hon. Secretary operated from 44 Moorside Road in 1943 under the name of E. S. Lockley

**Urmston Cricket Club.** Moorside Road

Founded in 1846 the club arrived at its current location of Moorside from Humphrey Lane in 1870 after the founder club was dissolved. They played there on a ground named Leechs Lower Field. A temporary move to land off Railway Road came first until the Moorside Road pitch was levelled from farm acreage. It was registered as at 99 Roseneath Road in 1911 which became 81 for 1928. (Noting that Moorside Road did not exist for those years)



The tennis section was added in 1904 and opened later was its first real pavilion in 1925 by the wife of the clubs President Mrs. J. Kinder. In the ten years since the war the club had expanded by purchasing ten acres of surrounding land. This, the pavilion, was reconstructed as of 1969. Since then hockey and bowls have become a feature as the club grows.



October 2008 saw the club achieve the ECB & Sport England Clubmark Accreditation



award. The club was once a joint venture with Flixton until they separated and went their own ways. The clubs title today is abbreviated to meet the alternate sports available; it is **Urmston C. H. B. T. & S. Club.**

**Waverley.** Moorside Road

A home next to the Wesley School c.1910 in it was Edmund Crossfield at that time. The house showed in 1906 that it was partnered with **Westover.**

**Waver-Tree.** Moorside Road

A relatively unknown home now showing at 405 on Moorside. Attached as a pair this has all the markings of 1850 in line with the many down here. There are no further details other than there are indications that it might have been a single home at an earlier time called Laurel Villa.

**Wesleyan. Chapel** Moorside Road

John Wesley was a founder of the Wesleyan religious movement his chapel was built in 1779 on Moorside Road later expanding to the Brook Road Church 1905. The old chapel was offered for building materials as it was about to be demolished. Wesleyans were also responsible for the George Street Chapel on Stretford Road, Flixton, and Barton membership. The Wesley congregation joined with the Methodists to form the Methodist Church of Great Britain 1932. The land for the chapel was purchased from a partnership of Collins and Derbyshire by the Woods family in 1774. Registered for marriage in 1870 the first couple to be joined were Peter Walkden and Sarah Ellen Booth

**Wesleyan Day School.** Moorside Road

Erected on Moorside Road 1846 it opened as a Sunday school until 1853 when it became a day school founded by Thomas Sharland and built on land donated by Thomas Fogg. In 1872 the school was still in debt and held a bazaar to try and raise the £1,000 still outstanding on the £2,000 building. It survived to celebrate its Jubilee in 1904. The land where the school stood now passes as The Fold a small estate after being demolished in 1962'

**Wesleyan Chapel House.** Moorside Road

The Chapel House naturally stood close to the Chapel. It had five bedrooms, which was large for such an abode. Little else is known but its date would presumably be the same 1779 year for the matching building. According to Church records this could have been a reference to Woods Cottage of 1666.

**Wesley Cottage.** Moorside Road

For its many years this cottage has been beautifully preserved. Over the door is a plaque carrying its name and date of 1783. Records show it actually being there in 1770. This was the home of John Bent, he utilised the cottage for Methodist Sunday School activities before there was any church or chapel erected. The cottage itself was still in the hands of the Bent family through into the 1900's with Miss Hannah Bent in residence for 1911.

**Westover.** Moorside Road.

Mrs. Mary Barley lived here in 1910 in a home very close to the Wesley School. A 1906 ad showed it with **Waverley** to make up the semidetached situation.

**White House.** Moorside Road (The best known)

A home called the White House sat north between Marlborough and Trevor Roads. It was found to be in existence in documents of 1840. Any home plastered or painted white was often called by this name, but few were as well-known as this one. Described in 1843 as having a sitting room, kitchen and back kitchen, four bedrooms, a stable or shippon, and an orchard set in a garden. This famous landmark was demolished in 1960.

Florence Mary Wilson 1898, Philip Christie 1901, William Barber 1910, a few of many named home dwellers here.

**Whitelake Cottage.** Moorside Road

Following on from the Rose Cottage here on the **south western** side this one had Arthur Green at home for 1898 and Richard Johnson for 1901.

**Whitelake View. (The Poor House)** (A group on Moorside Road)

Peter Warburton laid out money for the poor in 1769 and it went to the establishment of this group of homes. The View was made up from several cottages joined as one. Its purpose was to provide a place for people to go that could not support their own lives.



Whitelake View currently.

The home was known as an **Alms House** as an alternate calling. Before it closed in 1861 this was an old form of welfare and a place to be avoided. Once purchased it was returned to individual living accommodation around 1864. The original View was removed in 1954.

Findings show the combined building was divided into units c.1884. Tommy Thomas had one for 1888 with, in another portion, a family called Grimshaw for 1899. At number 2 the home had three bedrooms and a large kitchen. At some time in 1898 a section of the View was made into a nursery, Sam Heywood as Market gardener, with four large greenhouses, frames, and a steam boiler for heating. Fruit and flowers being the main offering as produce from the house.

**White Lea and White Lea House.** Flash lane (Moorside Road)

The Lea is dated c.1880 and showing Charles and Catherine Hardy on the 1881 census. George Adams and Hiram Taylor had it for their 1898 homes with its next-door neighbour as the Poor House of the View. As semidetached each of the homes had; three bedrooms, two entertaining rooms one with box room, kitchen and wash house. The regular conveniences applied and gas throughout.

**Winster House.** 385-397 Moorside Road

The house is long departed from Flixton with a sincere lacking of any information. All that was known is that the site carried a building dated as 1877 with demolition allowed in 1974. The replacement being built in 1982 is as a senior retirement residence.

**Woodbine Terrace.** Moorside Road (**South west**)

A small group was listed as having four occupants in 1877. The terrace was to be found next door to the Poor House on Moorside Road it was dated as already being there for 1834. Mrs. Rachel Scott who was the Secretary for the local Womans Suffragette Movement lived here in 1905. Other people dwelling there were the Goodrews (Goodhew) 1904. A typical house there had two living rooms, four beds, a kitchen and scullery, always a bathroom with toilet and for outside a decent garden.

**Woods Cottage.** Moorside Road

The cottage, which is no more, carried a date stone of 1666 it had associations with the Wesleyan movement housing clergy at times. The cottage was later owned by John Woods, but the inscription shows W. W. George William Woods lived here 1832-1889 and Philip Woods had occupancy for 1854. More Woods for 1898, George and Thomas continued the family tradition with farming their employment. Half-timbered with white plaster finish, the cottage had a thatched roof and a small porch feature at the front. 1913 was the date of its demise along the road. The Rev. Thomas Woods is probably associated with this cottage. An enlightening advert in 1854 stated that the cottage was being used as a beer house. It had a joiner's shop and garden available, and or, included in



the site.

**Woodville.** Moorside Road

Early 1879 described the facts that this home was on the **south west** side of the road and housed (No.1-4) four families. They followed Moorside House along this road and still carry a name plaque. Little else is known, combined it had thirteen bedrooms and was cellared, garden, bath, hot and cold water, gas, and blinds were intimated in sales documents of 1881. As 13 will not divide for 4 homes this had to show each was slightly different to the total description.



- **Moss Croft Close.** Davyhulme

This Close has 9 houses close by.

- **Moss Fields.**

The actual fields are being elusive with so many areas referred to over the years that offered the land or plots for sale under this banner. They most certainly accounted for the calling of a huge number of places in the district based on dates of the 1800's. One Mossfield has been confirmed as sitting in the area of the Flixton Cricket Club grounds as a holding of Peter John Walkden.

- **Moss Grove.** Urmston



This was the pre-name for **Dartford Road** up to around 1930. Several named homes here, Moss Villa carrying a date stone of 1886, Laurel Villa and Fern Lea were two semis, Myrtle Villa a terrace, and at 29 was Carisbrooke House. In 1899 number 23 was put up for sale, the full advert said it was a pleasant house with a garden. A sequence of Ivy, Fern Lea, and Moss Lea has been noted and this has been followed up on for individual identification. They have date stones showing 1888 which is in keeping with the rest of the Grove. Newer findings are Spring Bank, Heather Bank, Daisy Bank, and Oak Cottage. **Number 1** for the Grove in 1898 was a shop occupied by a plumber called William Henry Davies. His son was a partner William E. Davies.

**Carisbrooke House.** 27-29 Moss Grove (Dartford Rd)

The house was the last home on the **west** side after Myrtle Villa. The dates for houses along here were all of the 1880's showing this one to be a later addition. Henry Watkinson and Peter Atherton are registered in directories at this address for 1909. This too has changed showing Darford House and a new building.

**Daisy Bank.** 16-18 Moss Grove (Dartford Rd)

One of several buildings of this type along the now called Dartford. This one has a date of 1887 it is also initialled B. B. in a similar fashion to others down the road. Ogden and Clare in residence for 1898.

**Fern Lea.** 7-9 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

A **west** side home of the 1880's it does not show a date stone like the many down this road. However, Dartford Road is now its location after revising the Grove name. Number 7 had Thomas Burgess and 9 was the place for Ezra Jepson of 1898.

**Heather Bank.** 12-14 Moss Grove (Dartford Rd)

This bank, a terraced building, shows a date of 1888. This fits with the majority along Dartford Road. The families of Massey and Cookson held home in 1898.

**Ivy Cottage.** 5 Moss Grove (Dartford Rd)

The cottage is one of the few along Dartford that is not dated. It is not actually a cottage but a villa type building that in general arrived in the late 1880s. Romeo Foster at home for 1898.

**Laurel Villas.** 36-42 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

These are the very last four homes along Dartford it shows a date stone of 1887 and the initialling V R J.

**Moss Lea.** 11-13 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

The date stone this home carries is for 1893 and very late compared to the majority here on the changed name of Dartford Road. The letters shown on the home are B. B. The third home down here to carry these initials suggesting it was the same builder. George Thompson and Tom Longworth lived here in 1898.

**Moss Villa.** 4-6 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

This was the first Villa on the **east** side which carried a date stone showing 1886. This is the earliest dated along the now named Dartford. At the outset of building along here this villa was the show home to the public. For 1891 William Duckworth could be found here with Tom Whiting and William Howell in occupation for 1898.

**Myrtle Villa.** 15-23 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

The **west** side of the road was home to the Villa. The date stone it shows has 1893 inscribed which was late for this now named Dartford Road.

**Oak Cottage.** 3 Moss Grove (Dartford Road)

Not a cottage as such but a home on Dartford Road as it is now called. The builder had initials of B. B. shown on several of the houses that had identification stones, this one is dated 1888. The resident in 1898 was Joseph Rogerson.



### Spring Bank. 8-10 Moss Grove (Dartford Rd)



The Bank is one of the many homes along Dartford that has a date to offer. It is known to originate as of 1887. For 1894 William and Martha Gibson made their 'spring' complete by adding a child, Hilda. Charles Bernard was in the second house.

- **Moss Lane.** Davyhulme

As a Lane it was quite prominent and home to the farms along that way, it is better known now as being around Shetland and Iona Way. The bridge there across to the Trafford Centre was a part of Moss Lane; nothing more than a cart track fortunately it has been re-built from its original structure.

George Wood had the first house next to James Stott who was farming at Crofts Farm there. A cottage did exist here called Moss Lane Cottage in 1853 and as there was little else around this was likely to have been Georges home. The Lane was also where Sir Humphrey de Trafford had his kennels and the residence of his hound keeper. Three farms, Moss, Croft, and Marsland were here with names of Lostock, Moss Side, and Moss Lane, all vying for alternative callings. The company of Wimpey was to build 445 houses here beginning in 1967 as an estate called Moss Lane.

- **Moss Lane or Road.**

In 1872 six new houses were built, advertised as Moss Lane they were to be completed in March of that year. Four bed roomed, parlour and sitting room, etc. They also had four cellars and an attic. Reference to these homes has not been found for the lane and it was probable they should have read as **Moss Road**.

### Croft Farm and Cottage. Moss Lane

Near to the De Trafford Kennels. (See Kennels) this was a farm along Moss Lane, 1743 showed it to be in operation. James Stott was the farmer in 1898. Eventually falling into the hands of the MSC Co. and was taken in 1990. There was a cottage along with the farm. Once James Stott relinquished home for 1903 Job Garner took his responsibilities, he shared this with George Wood until 1928 when Seymour Bailey came in to lend a hand.



Kennels. Moss lane



Sir Humphrey de Trafford had kennels at the Moss Lane area of Croft Farm passing by the name of Barton Kennels. It would be probable that they were hounds in a broad sense of the word as Sir Humphrey was keen on hunting in all its forms. The resident Gamekeeper lived there as part of his job. It was transformed into a farm by 1869 until its fate was to be reviewed in 1990 and it was taken down.

### Lostock Farm. Moss Road.



At the end of this road was a farm location that became better known as Hancocks. 1870 named Thomas Bradshaw as farmer with Edwin Bradshaw around the following year. Ivy covered for both its stories it had no other significant features to the brick walls and slate roof. Lostock Farm was the target of IRA Terrorists suffering an incendiary attack in 1922 along with 10 other farms around Manchester. As there were three farms along Moss Lane, this has to be another where it could have been called something else. Officially Lostock Farm was demolished in 1956.

### Marsland Farm and Cottage. Moss Road.

Placed as Lostock or Moss only a late entry at this time recorded that of it being occupied by Edward Royle and family in the early 1930's. Transferring to Seymour Bailey for 1939 as he ran a collective of the local farms.

The 1953 ruins of Marsland Cottage



### Moss Farm. Moss Lane Davyhulme

Built in 1767 it was taken down around 1910 but rebuilt to last until 1965. In 1958 the farm was hit by a whirlwind almost totalling the outbuildings with shippens and hen houses completely lost. A two storied barn had the top floor wiped off. At this time the farm was run by Seymour Bailey and his son James. The farm was to be found slightly **north** of where Kingsway Park sits now, the true title, Moss Lane Farm. Seymour was using Barton Road for his address in 1938. William Swallow decided in 1940 it should be placed as Redcliffe Road. It was to be known as Rudyard's due to the last farmer carrying that name.

- **Moss Place.** Urmston and Lostock

Two places are to be found in the 1871 Barton street directory both without details.

- **Moss Road. Urmston 1900 (Re-named Moss Vale Road)**

From the **west** side seven homes connected up to Moss Villa, Rose Villa, and Myrtle Villa. At Railway Road, Moss Bank, High Bank Terrace, East View, and Peak Wood ended at Lostock Road. Opposite, and to the **east**, there were a dozen homes along to Chadwick Lane with only Albert Place named before Lostock Road.



The Urmston Lodge was recognised by **1910** as being on this road. Sitting here and on Stretford Road made life difficult for enumerators to give it an address. Two names crop up that were not recorded before, Brentwood, and Manston House, at a point before Peak Wood. Laburnum Cottage went missing from the 1880 list. In 1940 living at Moss Nook No 58, Edwin and Julia Mather celebrated their Golden anniversary. (Flixton Postmaster) Several homes here fell foul to the name removal request for WW2 with many blank stones to show for it.

- **Moss Vale Road. Urmston**



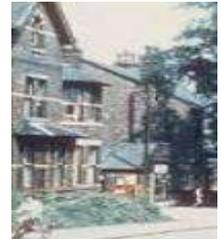
As a road its first name was **Brook Lane** which evolved into Moss Lane and by 1936 it became Moss Vale Road. A named house here in 1946 was Moss Nook followed by Moss Craig in 1948. The road was re-routed due to motorway construction in 1956. It also involved a re-defining the bridge there, the latest road passing through what was Urmston Lodge. Moss Vale still follows much of its old route but now terminates at Winchester Road as against Lostock. For all the changes since 1900 it still boasts 72 properties. A series of cottages were built at the site of the Lodge in 1966.

**Albert Place. Moss Road (Moss Vale Road)**

This was the last building between Chadwick Lane and Lostock Road in 1897. Situated on the **west** side living there in 1898 were Miss Emma Mather with George and William Mather. In the second semi it was William Dawson. Edwin Mather was known as the Flixton Postmaster who took many photos of the district to sell in his associated stationery shop.

**Brentwood. Moss Road (Moss Vale Road)**

Brentwood had seven bedrooms, one as a box, and three living rooms. All modern conveniences with a greenhouse and conservatory, this was for 1897. Roland Parkinson was the homes early 1898 owner. This old home sat next to a well-known landmark that of Stansfields possibly one of the smallest shops, for its time, in Urmston. The house was lost to the Moss Vale Road re-alignment scheme formed by the motorway in 1958.



**Calderbank. Moss Road (Moss Vale Rd)**



This tiny abode was home to the Calderbank family of 1893 it was located on the **east** side towards the Lostock Road end. It was numbered as 18 with Joseph Calderbank, a coachman, in residence well into 1929 and perhaps on.

**East View. Moss Road**

First the View in 1898 was shown as a semidetached it changed to a small block of three for 1901. This was possibly as the connecting home called Manston adjoined making the address as 81-85.

**High Bank Terrace. Moss Road (Moss Vale Rd)**

The terrace had five homes accounted for in 1897 they sat close to the corner of Railway Road.

**Knowsley Farm. Moss Vale Road.**

The farm was to be found between Winchester and Lostock Roads and known to be in existence for 1848 when it was run by Samuel Warburton. This was the farm known as the **Butter House**.

The Butter House. Moss Vale Road



A farm cottage which had the name of **Knowsley** in 1848. Occupied by Sam Warburton and his wife this farm was subject to the appearance of a buttery substance all over the walls, furniture, etc. throughout with the exception of Sam's Sunday suit.

Quote, "It was generally accepted that the author of this mystery was Samuel himself, due to mental alienation." The press of 1854 took up the story and gave it the calling of The Butter Boggart of Old Lostock.

**Laburnum Cottage. Moss Road**

1874 is shown as the first found date for the cottage. This was followed by the date of 1880 showing up in census reports with Joseph S. Wood living there.

**Manston House. Moss Road**

Found to have been in place for 1898 it was home to the Hill family in 1931, Maud and Frederick. This was included in the revamp of Moss Vale Road/M62 and lost forever. The home had six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchen etc. with large garage, green house and garden. It was a detached premise.

**Moss Craig. Moss Road**

This is unknown at this time passing by name only in 1922. The home was noted as a semidetached with five bedrooms and bathroom on one floor, two large receiving rooms, cloak room, conservatory, domestic offices, cellars, pleasant and well stocked garden which included fruit trees and spacious lawn.

**Moss Vale Cottages.**

Six cottages sat along the road opposite Whitby Avenue on what was known as Brook. The cottages were several hundred years old but records only can be confirmed from the 1800s. Eventually they were condemned by the Health Authority and demolished in 1937. The plots were never built on again and the land fell to the new motorway that passed right over the site. This same location had an established Grocery Store called Wilshaws immediately facing Higher Road in 1890.

**Moss Vale Circle and Crescent.**

This circle marks a boundary point between Davyhulme and Stretford, but it fell under the watchful eye of the UUDC. In 1937 a widening was proposed to create an area of 6 acres "in case" the Western Bypass was ever to be built. Here too was a Co-op, probably the largest of its kind built into a semicircle of shops to match the roadway. There is a date stone showing 1938 mounted on the building face.

**Myrtle Villa. Moss Lane (Moss Vale Road)**

As an 1880 semidetached at home there was Henry Weatherill and Walter Firmans residence.

**Peakwood. Moss Road (Moss Vale Road)**

This triple building on the west side reached to Lostock Road in 1898. Listed for sale in 1910 they were shown as semidetached each with five bedrooms and two entertaining rooms. Available too were stables with coach houses. Each had a fine garden and greenhouse facilities. There was room to raise poultry in the spacious grounds.

**Potts Farm.**

Higher and Moss Vale Roads were home to this Farm. Another piece of history lost to the motorway. 1851-1953 originally it was called **Providence House** followed by **Brook House** (William Warrington, farmer) before farmer Potts moved in around 1919. This fell under the first calling of Brook Lane.

**Primrose Bank. Moss Road (Moss Vale Road)**

The 1880s beginnings for this detached Bank situated at the corner of Railway Road held home to Edward Samuel Wilson.

**Providence House.**

In 1851 this house was built on Moss Vale Road it was later renamed as Brook House. The house accommodated the first recorded ovens utilised for baking. After more years it became a farm under the guidance of William Warrington. (See Potts Farm)

**Rose Villa. Moss Road (Moss Vale Road)**

The villa was simple, semidetached with, in 1898, Israel Brooks and Ernest Needham as occupiers.

**Stansfield. Moss Vale Road**

A newsagent no longer in existence, it was removed during the building of the motorway and Moss Vale Road in 1958. The shop was to be found nearer to the Winchester end of the road.

**Urmston & District Ornithological Society. Moss Vale Road**

P. Thorpe was the secretary of this Bird study group in 1937, numbered at 31 for the road. The society requested permission to add aviaries to our local parks this was refused by council.



- **Motorway. 1930**

The Regional Town Planning Committee sketched out a bypass route which would leave Davyhulme Circle via Talbot Road. (Crofts Bank Road) It would then pass through Urmston, travel across the meadows and the Mersey to Ashton on Mersey. Finally, it would pass west of Broadheath and Altrincham emerging at the Chester Highway at Dunham. Thankfully this was never accepted.

- **Motorway. M62 (Later M63 as of 1968) (Later still M60)**

In 1956 a motorway was to be built changing the face of Urmston once more. The loss of many historical landmarks was the price for progress. The major area for this was Moss Vale Road where the Grange, Urmston Lodge, and Potts Farm had to be removed. The on/off ramps at Moss Vale were later closed to fit in with traffic management planning.

First numbered as the M62 it linked with other motorway sections later re-numbered in 1970 as M63 and finally it became the M60. As a motorway the Stretford and Eccles By-Pass was not the first to open. However, it was started before the M6 Preston By-Pass which was the first to open in 1958. It is ranked as being fifth by chronological order.



A contract for the construction of this portion was awarded to a Derby company, A. E. Farr. This Worsley – Stretford motorway was officially opened by Ald. Sir Andrew Smith C.B.E. JP on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1961 although it had been in use since October 28<sup>th</sup>, 1960.

The motorway was opened to 'pedestrians only' for six hours on October 21<sup>st</sup> this was to view the high-level bridge under these conditions for the first and last time. An estimated 10,000 people turned up to see the bridge that was ten months overdue according to contract. For all its changes and alterations, **road experts still describe this as; *the finest pathetic motorway ever built.***



### Motorway Firsts.

- It was the **first** motorway maintained by a local authority, in this case the Lancashire County Council.
- The Stretford Eccles bypass was the **first** motorway construction underway in Briton although the Preston M6 has the honour of being completed first.
- The **first** accident occurred in November 1960 when six sheep wandered up the motorway in thick fog, one person was injured, and one sheep died.
- The **first** pedestrian fined for walking over the bridge came in 1960. It was his claim that he was the **first** local man to be employed in building the bridge and that he was the **first** man to deliver the **first** load of concrete to the site. His list of **firsts** cost him a £2 fine, his first offence.
- The **first** baby born on the bridge was in April of 1961. The little girl was not going to wait for arrival at Park Hospital she was born in the ambulance 300 yards from the apex.

The **first** signage for the M60 Ring Road went up in March 1998 with the roads fully operational date set for 2000.

- **Mount Drive.** Urmston

A drive of 112 residencies the majority of these coming in 1935. Mrs. J. Oglesby who was a JP lived at No.24 in 1953.

## N

- **Names. (District)**

Many names known today originated as family names. Urmston, Barton, Dumplington, and Trafford to mention a few, Flixton however was never used in any such form as a family generated tradition. The census for **1881** showed that the top name for Urmston was **Royle**, there were 37 of them, beating out the **Smiths** who could only muster 35 in that year. Third place went to **Higginson** who accounted for 20 very closely followed by **Irlam** and their 19.

### Lakes.

The Lake District is well noted in Urmston, as there are several roads and homes named after this northern region. Thirlmere, Windermere, Ambleside, and Haslemere are good examples of this.

### Urmston. (Family name)

The earliest person to tag on the name of Urmston was Richard in 1193. He was a landowner who passed by the name of Richard de Urmston. This land was passed down to his son and heir Adam de Urmston. (1212). When he (Adam) left the world, his wife had to struggle to keep all and eventually in 1317 it was divided up into smaller portions with the largest going to the Hyde, Hulme families, and the Traffords. The last portion fell to Geoffrey de Urmston who son (Richard) finally lost everything in 1351.

- **Nearly Way.** Davyhulme

The units count to 8 down this industrial retail parkway.

- **Newbury Drive.** Davyhulme

There is living accommodation for 27 families the drive was born in 1935.

- **Newcroft.**

Newcroft was a manor in its own right the lands were held by the Traffords, the Warburtons, and later by the Radcliffe family. This was from 1219 up to around 1530; it was taken by the Hulme family of Davyhulme about 1700. Details are available for the succession of ownership right through to its demise into the 1930's. The estate was purchased by the Local Board of Health once all the descendants of the Taylor family had passed. Its main objective was to install the sewerage plant named later as Moss side. When developed for housing the task fell to Longworth & Taylor who began a major portion in 1933 with 12 homes.

### Newcroft Cottages. Urmston

There were two cottages connected the Newcroft Estate. They were originally built to house the brick works labourers. When demolished around 1939 a family called Poole were in one while Edward Saxton the other. This site, which included the brick works, is now a playing field behind Newcroft Road.

### Newcroft Farm.

Built as **Newcroft Meadows** in 1888 the semi-detached home was for the Graves family. Their occupation was to tend the Sewerage Farm called Moss Side. The name of 'Meadows' became 'Farm' once the difficulty of finding the place became apparent especially when deliveries were to be made. When the Manchester Corporation bought this land, they built two houses there. They



were put there to house the controller of the sewerage plant with one of the houses being built to include a committee room for general meetings. The two were semidetached with the smaller one being named as The Cottage (Seldom Seen). The farm had a speciality of Poultry for 1913.

These homes still stand today close by the remaining water treatment plant. Daniel Bradshaw was farming for 1898 followed by J. & W. Whittam in 1909 to 1919. By the period of the 1920s Edward Saxton continued with the farming. At this time one name stands out that of F. L. Jones who

inherited the farm from his father around 1930. The Jones family of that period turned to Haulage contracting through to the late 1970's.



A 1907 description stated three structures made up the farm, the main site showing a two storied brick-built farmhouse with slate roof, ridge and gable chimney and two gables (Dutch roof terminology) on the south elevation. A single-story brick stable block, a two storied stable with hayloft above and several timber buildings completed the site.

The farm closed as the Davyhulme Sewerage Works expanded allowing the Urmston Council to purchase all the land in 1951 and for agricultural farming to return until the motorway came. In 1997 Trafford added all the lands south of Newcroft Farm as a part of the Mersey Valley Project for future development into wildlife conservation regardless of the Carrington Spur. One fact of some small interest for the farm was that in 1914 they were selling 35,000 rhubarb roots on the open market. Presently they are residential and preserved in excellent condition.



### Newcroft Hall.

The home built by the De Trafford family has a date of 1397 associated with it when Richard Warburton lived there. Richard Radcliffe had possession c.1600 he was followed c.1730 by William Gregory. Surrounded by a moat, the first Hall was replaced c.1790 by Samuel Taylor (1822-1866) who also created a 'Brick Croft' aside the hall with adjoining cottages.



This 'new' hall was plain brick and of no particular architectural beauty. This version of the Hall was demolished in 1935 and the cottages were eventually taken away in 1939. The Estate was reported to have comprised of 79 acres.

Newcroft Brick and tile.

The croft that sat with the hall came up for sale in 1889 it was described as being a brick mill complete with boiler, steam engine, and associated tooling. The sale offered slate tiles and roofing timbers as included.

### Radcliffe. Richard (Radclyffe)

Richard Radcliffe of Newcroft Hall is buried at St Michaels Church. There is a special brass tribute to him mounted inside the church dating from 1602. He is renowned for ghostly appearances along Church Road being seen on occasion with a group of monks, kneeling towards the church.



The **Radcliffe Plate** was mounted in St. Michaels Vestry at the west end of the south aisle but during a decoration of the church it was removed from the vestry. It bears the figures of Radcliffe in armour and his two wives, kneeling at each side of a book desk, with the three sons of the first wife, and the two sons, three daughters, and three infants (swaddled) of the second. The first wife Bridget widow of W. Molyneux kneels with her three sons opposite to Radcliffe, while the second wife and her children kneel behind him. Over the desk is a shield with the arms of Radcliffe of Ordsall with helm, crest, and mantling. Each side the shield, its arms impale those of his wives.

- **Newcroft Crescent.** Urmston

The Crescent arrived c.1950 with its 56 homes accumulating over this time.

- **Newcroft Drive.** Urmston

There are 10 residences to the Drive.

Newcroft Park. Urmston

A park was established in 1969 utilising the site of an extinct barrage balloon and air raid shelter foundation.

- **Newcroft Road.**

This road was once called Hillam Lane. It retains connection to the old Hall with the 40 houses built on farmland there.



### Hillam Farm. Newcroft Road

The farm was built in 1548 eventually being sold to the Urmston Council in 1957 once it was known that a proposed motorway was to be built through the lands. The farms earliest calling was as Hylland derived from Hill Land which



was later changed to Hellum. During the occupation by the Walkden family it was known as Hilom. Although known from the date mentioned it was first recorded that by 1609 it was owned by a John Newton who leased the fields out to farmers. For 1894 Frank Dawson made it home. There was an estimated 42 acres to these farmlands with the house, shippons, stables, barns and piggery.



Most of Hillam was removed for the planned Carrington Spur in 1971. Parts remained until 2003 when once again expansion of the Spur took place, and all was lost. In 2005 all that could be found were remnants of the gateposts. An archaeological survey was performed at the site before it was removed. This showed that in 1848 there were two L shaped structures and one T shaped structure. One building had survived a two storied house brick built in English Wall Bond. Further detail included a slate roof with a ridged chimney stack including four pots. The farm was first recognised for an address as Stretford Road and in 1909 the farmer was Thomas Steele. He was superseded by Joseph Rose in 1919 and the Knight Brothers for 1928 and through to 1938.

A cottage was built for the farm labourers to live in and it included Stables. The cottage was erected at the same time as the farm but remained in place until 2003 long after the farms demise. The last tenant was Michael Ginnelly who had been there for many years until it too was removed. The orchards were the very last to go under this exercise.



### Hennetts Moss.

The Moss was formed by a few acres of land that were by the side of Hillam Farm. 1848 indicated five rectangular fields. The Moss was lost after it was used for dumping motorway residue and waste there during construction. There was once a kiln with two ponds located in this area.

### Longshot Cottages.

A site map of 1895 placed the cottages slightly south of Hillam Farm. Probably built as sewerage workers accommodation, for the time known Tom Smith and his wife Margaret were living there in 1888. They comprised of a long rectangular building but how many homes it made up is not known. The cottages were condemned in 1952 with an order for demolition following in 1958.

### Seldom seen cottage.

Indicated on survey maps of 1850 the cottage was attached to Newcroft Farm. They, the farm and cottage, were so far off the beaten track they earned the name of "*Seldom seen.*" In 1894 a labourer there, Harry King, actually used the name for the registering of a birth there. The motorway took precedence in 1958 over most of the land around that vicinity. Included with this was a pear tree orchard only to be claimed later by the Carrington Spur. Early 1900's saw the Knight family in one and their son went on to buy the farm later. By 1924 the first was home to the Graves family and the second to the Pimlott's.



### Moss Side Sewerage Works. (Farm)



The Manchester Corporation had the first sewerage works 1886 sited close to the Mersey and behind the Long Shot Cottages of Hillam Farm it operated until the Davyhulme Works came into being. Some of its recycled effluent was dumped into the Mersey via a pumping station. There was much controversy connected to this plant as it attempted to use the Eas Brook tributary to release sewerage through to the Mersey. This was unconditionally ended by Council before it went too far. The land was returned to agricultural use after its closure but eventually this was swallowed up by the Carrington Spur project. There are remaining portions of the plant which are used to process storm water only. A small steel girder bridge was erected to cross the Ousel Brook at the farm in 1901.

**Two Gates.** 40 Newcroft Road

Four acres used as a market garden with fully fitted greenhouses and watering system. A boiler with sheds, cold frames, lean-to green houses, all set up to produce. The three bedroomed home with it seemed inconsequential but it was a modern detached at the time of 1951.



- **Newspapers, magazines, periodicals.**

**Newspapers.**

The earliest paper was the Western Telegraph which has an entry of its own in this document. The Urmston Flixton and Davyhulme Guardian ran for a year before being discontinued in 1926. Some others of note were the Urmston Post of 1969 it changed names to become the Urmston & Stretford Post but only issued print for one year. Add to these names the Urmston County Express which survived all of 1959. Two others came into being the Stretford and Urmston News 1940 to 1958 and the **Stretford and Urmston Journal** 1960, these evolved into the current **Messenger** around 1979. This paper can now claim 40 years of publication as of 2017.



When the papers were controlled by the Telegraph Offices on Railway Road in 1939 it gave indication as to what papers were available. The names were Eccles & Patricroft Telegraph, Irlam & Cadishead Telegraph, Stretford Telegraph, and the Western Telegraph. The Urmston Free Gazette was slightly earlier 1935.

For the nostalgia minded, Saturdays **Football Pink** and **Football Green** became extinct c.1960 once the medium of TV had spread throughout the district. These were soccer results hot off the press printed on coloured paper literally hours after the last game was played.

**Magazines** too made their mark for the area. The most prominent being Lancashire Life the UK's biggest selling county magazine. Edited by Urmston born **Roger Burrell**, who at one time, was editor of the Lancashire Evening Post.

**Pigot and Dean through to Slater then Kelly.**

The well-respected publication of Street Directories expanded its coverage of Manchester in 1823 to include **Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme**. If you were a subscriber to this, it would cost Nine shillings for a bound copy. J. Pigot was an engraver and copperplate engraver while R. & W. Dean were printers. Many copies are available at the Trafford Local Studies they contain a wealth of information of local interest as do the Slaters or Kelly versions. James Pigot 1795-1843 took until 1804 to publish a directory for Manchester. He supplied the map engraving for Dean and his directory. By 1813 the pair had merged and Pigot introduced his son to the business they then became Pigot & Son. Pigot took on an apprentice called Isaac Slater which eventually saw them become partners. After James died, Pigot & Slater sold out in 1892 to Kelly & Co. Maps created by James Pigot are extremely rare fetching around £500 each at auctions. (2010)

**Telegraph and Western Telegraph.**

The local news was brought to the public via 'The Telegraph' in the first years of 1895 and on. By 1898 there were offices at 11 Station Road run by the Manager, Robert Hattersley. The paper was produced at the premises of the Woodsend Engineering Works and lasted until 1909. Fred Haste was the editor for most of its years followed by Harold Greenhalgh. For a time, it had its offices at No.3 Station Road which they took the liberty of renaming. This was next door to the Victoria Hotel and opposite the later formed Woolworth & Co. By 1903 they had moved alongside the Liberal Club and then for 1909 it was to be found on Railway Road. They re-established as a paper in 1951 to continue as the **Urmston Telegraph** through to 1956. Currently the news locally is brought by a publication called Messenger.

**Urmston Digest.**

In 2006 an attempt to introduce a new magazine for the District was made in the form of a free offering to the public. It was hoped that costs would be covered by advertising and that the interest in its reading would come from local input. Readers were invited to submit anything from local activities such as charitable events, stories from the past, or articles for the future. Joanne, the editor and sole producer, found out how fickle the public can be, and it closed down after one year of publication.



- **Newstead Road.** Davyhulme

Roughly dated as 1935-36, this road has 58 buildings to its name. The road shows Nottingham origins.

- **New Street.** Flixton

This street had been difficult to place, according to the 1881 census it was close to Stocks View as it followed in the subsequent pages. It comprised of thirteen houses and suggested was that it might have been the original name for what is known as **The Grove**. This has since been confirmed by a detailed sale of the property in 1896 and the street was recorded earlier on an 1848 survey map.

- **Newton Road.** 1900

Known for the Grammar School in this neighbourhood, there were several blocks of housing there too, Victoria Terrace, Windsor Terrace were across from Lyndoch Villas, Claremont, and Douglas Terrace. For the present time there are 44 properties with 2 named as Newton Court.

**Claremont.** 6-8 Newton Road

An 1898 semidetached home on the **east** side, Mary Hargreaves and Jacob Hardy lived there.

**Douglas Terrace.** Newton Road

The terrace numbered 10-24 giving it eight homes for around 1898. It could be found on the **east** side of the road and it is marked as 1891.

**Lyndoch Villa.** 4 Newton Road

On the **east** side the villa had the families of Chester and Christie during 1898.

**Victoria Terrace.** Newton Road

The first of two terraces on the **west** side dated c.1890. The second was Windsor.

**Windsor Terrace.** Newton Road

This was the second of two terraces along Newton for around 1890 which could be found on the **west** side.

- **Nichos Fields.** Woodsend

Nichos was a local naming for farmland at or near Whiteheads Farm. There was a stream called Nichos that originated somewhere in Stretford and culminated in Urmston, but it has not been connected to this particular Nicho. The term, in old English, referred to any lands that were predominantly bog land. The onset of the second World War brought a request to use the field for allotments. The owner declined siting no obligation was felt. Council took the field under CPO in 1947 for future planning.

- **Norfolk Gardens.** Flixton

The Gardens came in 1951 with 52 dwellings surrounding a green. This was a part of the Maunders contract for Woodsend.

- **Norreys and Bowers Avenue.**

Both these Avenues are named as a tribute to Robert Henry Norreys of Davyhulme Hall with his sisters Mary Norreys and Isobel Bowers (nee) Norreys. Permission was granted to concrete pave the avenue in 1934. At present Norreys is made up from 24 homes.

**1928** Norreys had its own named homes for this year: Aymestry, Brooklyn, Pampas, Novocastra, Craig Lea, Sandown, Eskholm, Strathspey, Lynton, The Cottage, Edale, Denehurst, Auclaje, Oakleigh, and Caradoe. Bowers was to arrive in later years.

**Auclaje.** Norreys Avenue

No meaning to this calling has been found for the 1928 home. Perhaps Luther Marsden could have told as he dwelt there. The closest translation would be Spanish "Anclaje" for Anchor.

**Avondale.** Norreys Avenue

This home was addressed in 1939 with Thomas Gregsons passing. It was dated earlier, 1928 in documents as a three-bedroom semi with two living rooms, kitchen, bath, and the usual mod cons.

**Aymestry.** Norreys Avenue

**East** side and 1928 home for the Chadderton Family no reference to any "Amy" of any kind.

**Brooklyn.** Norreys Avenue

Leonard Davey called this his 1928 home.

**Caradoe.** Norreys Avenue

Ernest Rex decided to stay on Norreys in the 1928 house which was last on the **west** side.

**Craigelea.** Norreys Avenue

A Mrs. Sheret lived here during 1928 next door to her co-named gent David Alex Sheret in **Novocastra**.

**Denehurst.** Norreys Avenue

Norreys played host to this house for 1928 Edgar Adams made sure of it.

**Edale.** Norreys Avenue

Mrs, Elizabeth Jane Maxwell fussed around the home during 1928.

**Eskholm.** Norreys Avenue

At home on the Esk was Edward Butterworth for 1928.

**Garwick.** Norreys Avenue

A 1924 advice showed the home as being built but only for 1938, a name found it was a Joiner named John Gill.

**Killearn.** Norreys Avenue

The calling has been traced to around 1928 having not shown before. Found was that it was a semi and if you were to purchase the home the 'Linoleum' came with it.

**Lynton.** Norreys Avenue

Percy Moore lived in this **west** side house as of 1928 it became the first building by position on the row.

**Novocastra.** Norreys Avenue

This belonged to 1928 resident David Sheret.

**Oakleigh.** Norreys Avenue

This was the 1928 home for William Grindley.

**Pampas.** Norreys Avenue

George Ernest Harris stayed here in 1928 overlooking the grass lands with its South American outlook.

**Sandown.** Norreys Avenue

For Harold Panter this 1928 home sufficed for his engineering background.

**Strathspey.** Norreys Avenue

The Strathspey of 1928 became the last house for the **east** side of this avenue it had Arthur Brawn as occupant.

**The Cottage.** Norreys Avenue

Home here was to the Sproson family of 1928 head of the clan, David.

- **North Grove.** Urmston 1900

On the **west** side it was 1-19 with **east** Holly Bank, Willow Bank, and Hazel Bank. The list for 1910 shows some growth **west** was 1-31 and **east** 2-32. A registered birth along this road dates it from 1891. The west terrace followed shortly after c.1892-3.

**Hazel Bank.** North Grove

Only four terraced homes made up this Bank in 1891 they were on the **east** side for reference.

**Holly Bank.** North Grove

The Grove was a six homed block on the **east** side in 1891.

**Willow Bank.** North Grove

Numbered as 14-24 for this 1891 terrace that was on the **east** side of the road.



As North Grove comprised of terraced homes names are plentiful but without the usual varied local callings for interest or record.

- **Northside Avenue.** Flixton

The Northside shows 14 abodes.

- **Norton Avenue.** Davyhulme

The residences are shown today as six. E & J Slater appear to have been the 1935 building company involved.

- **Nursery Road.** Davyhulme

The playing field off Laburnum Road was once a gardening nursery c.1895. Hence the name of Nursery Road came into being. Mostly built in 1945 the road now carries 79 properties. Two police houses were contracted for here in 1953 with the Urmston Council adding 36 dwelling for 1952. A last barn was demolished here in 1966

**Woodhouse Primary School.** Nursery Road

The Primary school began to educate children in 1967.



## O

- **Oak Avenue.** Urmston **1900**

The balance of housing was 1-13 to the **east** and 2-16 to the **west**. According to Urmston maps, Oak Avenue is no more and was probably renamed. For reference it was off Holly Avenue which appears to be Sheldon today.

- **Oak Grove.** Urmston **1900**

As with the avenue there were only numbered addresses here in 1898 1-49 and 2-50. Number 32 here in 1944 showed a small home for sale. It had two bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen and larder, an outside toilet and coal place. Nine bungalows were built here in 1969.

- **Ollery Lane.** Flixton

This lane does not exist anymore, but it was recorded in the 1841 census. A family name of Bennett lived here in an area suggested as being Woodsend for its locale.

- **Orkney Drive.** Davyhulme

The drive has 8 houses, much smaller than its Scottish island naming.

- **Orme.**

The original name thought to give forth to the present town name of Urmston.

- **Orme Close.** Urmston

Of the 21 homes on the Close, 6 are flats.

- **Oulton Brow.** Flixton

The Brow is shown on a map of 1846. It was a stretch of land midway between the Flixton Eea and the Lower Eea near Irlam.

- **Ousel Brook.**

The brook was an extension of the Eas Brook which ran through from Hillam Farm.

- **Overdale Crescent.** Flixton

The Crescent is quite large with 40 residences and its naming arrives from the Irlam Roadhouse of Overdale in 1936. Bainbridge Builders held a large site here for their building supplies, it was to be cleared in 1940.

## P

- **Pangbourne Avenue.** Davyhulme

There are 16 residences to the avenue. Pangbourne is a small village in Berkshire.

- **Park Avenue.** Urmston

A small avenue from the main Park Road it had four dwellings each side of the Corporation bowling green and intersected the **North** and **South** road version. This area of Urmston has changed much since the introduction of the shopping centre that included the loss of tennis courts. A new green was installed in Golden Hill Park, but the courts were never replaced.

- **Parkfield Avenue.** Flixton

This field has ten homes.

- **Park Road North and South.** Urmston

**North** has 17 houses and **south** has 8. The Golden Hill library was to be found on the north version.

- **Parsonage Road.** Flixton **1900**



The residences of Ambleside and Gales Brow were located **east** and Green Hill, Green Field, and Torn Bank to the **west**. An earlier dated home was Lonsdale, this with Green Hill and Green Field, are from 1880 or before. Land was being offered for sale on Parsonage in 1895. 1941 saw several houses here on the market. Advertised as Ambleside Estate they included, Caversham, Hollinwood, Brownrigg, and Pendennis. To date there are 39 properties down this old road in a mix of old and new.

### Parsonage.



The Parsonage was on Hampstead Road around 1450 and was replaced about 1825 for a Rectory on Carrington Road. This original house had five rooms for its two stories, the flooring was flag stoned, and the structure internally was complimented by huge wooden beams. Before its eventual demise it became the residence of a gardener called John Hollingsworth who shared it with a family called Thomas in 1881. An architect/estate agent called Ward of Irlam Road presented the Parsonage, as an eligible building plot in 1908 after its removal in 1887.

**Ambleside.** Parsonage Road

On the **west** side of the road there were three numbered homes for 1878 at this named address. They were slightly odd as they went as 1, 2, and 6. Then, for 1904, this grew to a six-family situation and full occupancy.

**Brownrigg.** Parsonage Road

A 1941 home found without detail on the Ambleside Estate.

**Caversham.** Parsonage Road

1941 had this home available without detail, a semidetached and part of the Ambleside Estate.

**Donkey Hill.**

From Parsonage Road and the Iron Bridge this hill descended into Roslyn Ave alongside the rail track. It was indicated on a survey map of 1908 but not named. The hill, a dirt road, was a very local feature of its time and no longer exists.

**Greenfield.** Parsonage Road

Noted as being a pair in 1880 and they were occupied in 1898 when Greenfield was numbered 10 & 12 with the Brockbank and Todd names as living there on the **east** side with **Greenhill**.

**Green Hill.** 2-8 Parsonage Road Flixton

This was an early home for this part of Flixton 1880 even though the Parsonage itself was there years before. An average unit in this block had four bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, and bathroom. A cellar was incorporated too this was in 1896.



**Hollinwood.** Parsonage Road 1941 had this home which could be found on the Ambleside Estate without detail.

**Iron Bridge.**

On Parsonage Road this bridge gave passage across the railway in 1891. Today it is restricted to pedestrians only. A steel fabrication and one of a kind compared to other bridges in the area, it never carried an official name. The railway was built 1872-3 so as the date shows this was a later thought as a public right of way that had to be reinstated.

**Pendennis.** Devon and Parsonage Roads

1928 resident Edward Acton called this home. This house could be found under the Ambleside Estate again in 1941 but without any further information.

**Thorn Bank.** 14-16 Parsonage Road Flixton

Thorn was a part of the real old Flixton along with its close neighbour of Green Hill they were well established by 1889. Proof of this came when Henry and Elizabeth Havelock had a son there for the year. Thorn was possibly vacant in 1904, as only one name appeared that of James Campbell.



- **Patterdale Avenue.** Davyhulme

The avenue has 20 properties. A short walk from Ullswater in the Lake District will bring you to Patterdale

- **Peers Close.** Flixton

A dozen houses make up the Close. This is close neighbour to the Fox and Hounds and so named as it took the lands called Peers where old-time cottages once stood. 1959 is the date given for this portion of the Woodsend estate at Eddisbury to be completed.

- **Pemberton Lane.**

Pemberton House Could be found here in Davyhulme. An unheard-of home and address in the 1871 street directory for Barton-upon Irwell.

- **Penny Lane. (Penny Bridge Lane)**

Penny Lane is found to have been a field naming dated from pre-1800. The right of way from Church Road to Shaw View now carries this name and crosses to the William Wroe Golf Clubhouse at Penny Bridge. Chassen Road was not the first Penny Lane although it got the name from the toll that had to be paid to transverse it. Even more recently it has been called Penny Bridge Lane perhaps to avoid conflict with the famous Liverpool Penny Lane. Whatever name it goes by, it is still a public foot path. The rail line at the bridge was noted for a mile post showing 6 miles to Manchester in 1890. It was also found to be 1 mile to Urmston. The lane was finally assumed by council in 1973 as they laid out a purpose road to the parking area.

**Acregate Cottages.** Penny Lane

The last farm cottages left over from the early agricultural era they sit directly behind the Bird i'th Hand on the road now called Penny Bridge Lane. Due to their proximity the cottages belonged in a group which included the Beer House of the Bird in Hand. Ambrose Smith bought the package there in 1879 when John Smith died. These buildings behind the Bird are often confused with Sandown Cottages which sat on the other side of the Bird with Hawthorne Cottage. 1892 at home here was John Upton.



**Acregate Farm.** Penny Bridge Lane

The farm is shown on surveys as a portion of the Worthington Wright family complex and dated as of 1869. There was a date stone, but it was lost in the demolition and an ex-resident informed that it showed earlier c.1850. The farmer for 1898 was James Whitnall. The farmhouse was not large and entering from the front there was a small lobby leading directly to a stairway. Each side of the stairs was a large room, one used as a sitting room and the other a family room that had a tiled fireplace. The kitchen at the rear carried an old cooking range and the fireplace had an Inglenook seating arrangement, this was later modernised, but the seating was retained.

The second floor had four bedrooms each of a large size. The outbuildings formed a rough square that were made up from barns, shippens, and stables, some with hay lofts. Added to this was a piggery located behind the barns and a dairy complete with old flagstone flooring. It is now in the area for the Municipal golf course. In 1930 the Farm here was run by the J. Close family and remained so until it closed c.1975. Predominately a dairy cattle farm in 1972 one of two barns caught fire endangering the whole complex there. When the Urmston purchased all of the lands attributed to the Wright Holdings in 1935, they included this farm. The orchard attached to the farm carried an abundance of apple, damson, cherry, and pear trees.

**Shaw House.** Penny Bridge Lane. (Abbot House)

Shaw was noted as a close neighbour to Acregate Farm and not far away from the Shaw View residences. Documents show it clearly as Abbot House in 1698 with Martha Smith there in 1717. Bought by the Worthington Wright family in 1860 a family member was at home here around 1905 to 1911 he was Thomas Worthington Wright. By 1880 it had John Stott and James Booth sharing accommodation at the farm. 1891 the Scagg family had moved in. In 1938-39 Robert Thomson was living at the house. Modern times had this converted in 1991 to a Nursing Home for the elderly, it closed in 2018.



Before its conversion the house was a typical farm abode, two story and brick finished with large rooms and high ceilings. From the front door there was a flagstone hall decked each side with a living room. Each of these rooms had a large tiled fireplace. The stairs were set to one side and led to a landing before reaching the second floor. A bedroom to the right had its own bathroom and towards the front were two smaller bedrooms and a box room. Downstairs housed the kitchen with a separate scullery and pantry. Additional to this was a flag stoned dairy that led to a cellar, incorporated here was an old-fashioned servant's bell system mounted on the wall.



A document found from a newspaper dated 1828 said that a John Wood passed away at the house confirming his presence earlier than first thought. It also detailed that the farm was of 13 acres with Timothy and Lucy Booth as farming this land. This dating has been surpassed again with c.1795 talked about during the Footpath trial. Two small cottages sat in the grounds with a barn, stable, and shippon. James and Mary Booth lived in one cottage in the year of 1879 continuing the Booth family tradition as local famers. A finding for modern day is that the gate posts still stand as an entry leading to the house off Shaw Road. In 1938 the cottages were condemned as being unfit for habitation. A last-minute reprieve came when Bernhard Close took them as a saddle house.

**William Wroe Golf Course.** (Public) Penny Bridge Lane

The last of three golf clubs in Urmston, laid out from 1971 to 1973 it began with just 9 holes which was increased to 14 by 1973. It took its position from the Acregate Farm site and the lands purchased from the Wright Estate. For the initial layout the course was designed by Frank Warburton of Flixton Golf Club then constructed by Robin Arnold & Co. it took until 1984 for the completion to the current 18 holes. The club was opened as a municipal facility while the other two local courses are private. As of 2017 the course has closed. William Wroe was an appreciated Councillor for the Urmston District who never saw the completed course; he passed away one year before it was done.



Councillor 1936-1960, 1963-1974. Chairman 1946-47, 1959-60, 1965-1966.

Councillor Wroe

**Acregate Golf Club.**

The club house/pro shop sat on Woe Field noted in the Footpath Battle of 1825. Several attempts were made at a club house. The first, a wooden structure, blew away in a storm then the second, destroyed by fire in 2005. Bill Arnold, club captain and Chair with his committee, were the working force behind the 1970 idea of Councillor Wroe and his dream. The club closed as of 2015 due to Trafford bringing in its own Leisure Trust to run the operation. Acregate had no option but accept a reversal to nine holes or move on, they chose the latter.



- **Pickering Close.** Flixton  
Pickering numbers 1-6 in homes for this Close.

- **Plough Close.** Flixton  
There are nine houses on the Close with details unknown.

- **Police, Fire, Ambulance.**

#### Police Station. Crofts Bank Road



For days-gone-by most local policemen were known to the public by name, today, the Greater Manchester Police are divided into 12 divisions. Urmstons Neighbourhood Team, which includes Partington, is led by an Inspector. The Police Station, built in 2003 and opened April 2004, is now on Summer Way along Crofts Bank Road. The architecture is subject to taste with its Disney World approach. The front desk has been closed to the public since 2012 under stringency plans to save money.



#### Auxiliary Service. Ambulance and Fire



Church Road



Stretford Road

Urmston relied on Stretford and Salford for this service for most of its early years although there was a Fire Station on Higher Road in 1919. Due to Barton Bridge being temporarily closed in 1937 a unit was set up and in its eighteen days of operation it responded to one fire. The first collective unit came in 1939 when Urmston teamed up with Stretford to afford fire protection during WW2.

After the Second World War (c.1948-1965) a government program allocated sites for an expanded auxiliary service which included Fire and Ambulance Stations throughout Urmston. The service was in effect handed back to local authority after war time measures. The headquarters could be found as Smithfield House on Church Road



Well-known ones were on Church (1949) and Stretford Roads, with **Bowfell**, still a viable station, another. All disbanded in more recent years and taken over by the Greater Manchester Service. (Stretford) The service was placed in the hands of the County by 1974 with some taken over by private practice. Bowfell became the headquarters for our Civil Defence department.



**The Fire Chief** for the Stretford and Urmston Division was awarded the MBE in 1941. **John Clitherow** was recognised for "*Brave conduct in Civil Defence*". His immediate reaction was to commend his force for doing their job and would take little of this honour for himself. Once coupled with Stretford in 1939 the team received a new fire tender complete with ladders.

For the record, 1887 and the district was covered by a single Fireman. Albert Bradshaw utilised a hand drawn cart complete with a ladder and hose. He lived in Victoria Park.

Many members of the varied services were awarded honours for their bravery, all deservedly so.

#### Flying Squad. Church Road



1960 saw the local constabulary still equipped with a motorcycle. The police used something called an LE Velocette, shaft driven, water cooled, and it came with a hand shift for its gearing. This high-powered machine was capable of reaching speeds of 60 MPH and could outrun any felon on horseback. The oddity about these bikes was they were so quiet they could arrive at a problematic scene without many knowing. In all fairness they did get Panda automobiles soon after this, the Cortinas were painted black and white offering reason for their calling.



#### St. Johns Ambulance Service. Greater Manchester

The history of this service goes back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and this modern-day version is still active in our area. This service was reformed in 1877, as it is known now, offering free medical treatment to the needy. They attend as many of the Urmston functions, parades, fairs, etc. as they are able to and rely on community support for their funding. In 1965 they celebrated 25 years of service in Urmston. Mr. L. Hartley was appointed as superintendent in 1953, he had been a member of the brigade since 1936. A nursing division was formed in 1954 with cadets, male and female, in 1957. All divisions are now known as the Barton Corps.



- **Poplar Grove. Urmston 1900**

One of several terraced housing sectors in the area of Higher Road. It provided accommodation to the incoming flux of people arriving to work in an increasingly popular Urmston. Lined, end to end, the terraces were numbered as 1-53 and 4-52. There is slightly different numbering for present day addressing. These terraces were around from 1828 the first date found in deeds of a family called Collier who lived at Number 26.

- **Porlock Road. Flixton**

The 1930s are known as the origin to Porlock with its 54 dwellings. Porlock is in Somerset.

- **Post Offices.**

Each small district had its own office. Flixtons branch started in Millatts Barn crossing the road to the corner of Ambleside Road this is closed now. Davyhulmes was at Davyhulme Road and Church Road had one opposite Kingston Drive which closed in 2003. Urmston has had the Higher Road office since 1939 before then it was on Station Road followed by Railway Road. Yet another in Woodsend can be added to the list that included Newcroft 1936 on Stretford Road and 1933 Moorside Road. Many are closing today due to consolidation; the Canterbury Road office was another to fall in 2008. Urmston Post Office on Higher Road closed after 75 years. It relocated to Flixton Road close to Eden Square in 2014 under a lease.



**Postal Service.** (The beginning of Royal Mail)

As early as 1700 post would be left at the nearest hostelry where horse transport was provided to local carriers who had no transport of their own to get around on. In 1841 post was despatched from Urmston to Stretford daily, by foot. Briton introduced the first postage stamp, the Penny Black in 1840. Flixton was boasting an office in 1872 and George Howarth was delivering post in Urmston for 1892. The wall postal box on Moorside and Marlborough Roads was first installed in 1896. 1905 and an application was sent to the Postmaster Manchester requesting Urmston become a full postal district.



The original barrel and wall mounted post boxes are protected now under Heritage status. Too many were being exported, as it was with the red phone booths, overseas. At a last count 2010 there were 41 post boxes in the M41 area.



The local nature of postal service was highlighted by **Ellen Leneghan** on her retirement. After twenty-five years of walking the many routes, five years on Shaw Hall, she retired. The Grove resident was treated royally by the neighbourhood with a party of gratitude. Everyone felt she belonged as a member of his or her family.

**Postal Sorting.**

A patent applied for by Mr. J. H. Doherty of Flixton in 1915 raised eyebrows at the Postmasters Office in Manchester. It was for an automatic mail sorter which would revolutionise the service when proven. Too complicated to describe, the machine would save the PO a lot of time and money. Mr. Doherty was an employee of the office.

Although not specifically related to Urmston here are a few dates regarding mail service. Postal Orders were introduced in 1881, the National Telephone Service began in 1912 and Telegrams were abolished in 1977, into the 1950s post was delivered twice a day locally. A new experiment was proposed in 1953 for Christmas Cards. Up until this date all cards were delivered on Christmas Day, a usual count was for the distribution of approximately 5,000 cards. The Post Office reached a dilemma as the count became closer to 50,000 with sorting and delivery now impossible for one day's work. The solution was to get the public to accept this tradition as finished with all mail being delivered in the week before.

- **Powis Road.** Flixton

The four houses here are numbered 2, 4, 6, and 8. This road, Powis, is named as a Welsh Borough.

- **Primrose Avenue.** Davyhulme Road

This Primrose was changed to **Knowsley Road** after still being shown in 1928. In the days of its existence the numbering was 1-27 East with 2-24 for the other side of the road.



- **Primrose Avenue.** Urmston 1900

**North** was a terrace 5-23 while **south** a small block 2-8. The Baptist Church had not yet arrived on Primrose. The land once belonged to the Greenfield Farm Estate. A recent advice shows four of the houses carry names they are 5 Southolm, 7 Mayfield, 15 Newholm, and 19 Thorn Lea. There are 16 properties today with 12 as residential. New residences were built in 2018 alongside the market by the McGoff Group owners of the land before the Greenfield Church.

An example of the **south** address was number 2 in 1895 with its five bedrooms, two living rooms and bathroom. The earliest date found for the Avenue is 1892.

**Thorn Lea.** 19 Primrose Avenue (**west**)

One of the few named houses along the road, it belonged to the Robert Furlong Mayne family in 1906. The house was shown as No.25 in 1901 with Garlef Heinrich Stechmann as tenant. Its partner here was **Anchor Villa**.



**Primrose Avenue Terraces. 2005**



**North Terrace**



**South Terrace**

A partnership of Messrs Bennett and Faulkner purchased the land called House Field for the terraces in 1845.

- **Princess Road.** Urmston 1900



The first land came up for sale on Princess as it was established as a road in 1881. The directory for 1898 states that the name was Ashford Road and is now called Princess. Laburnum Villa and Fairlawn have been traced to here for 1895 for sale in 1896 they were noted as semidetached. They did not show on directory lists, but they were numbered as 41 and 43 for the road. Although lined with terraces several homes are named, as it was with No.1 **west**, Cairn Du. at No.9 the Poplars with following, Heath Bank, Ableton, Thorn Lea, and Anchor Villa.

Opposite there **east** was Chapleo Terrace, and Howells Terrace. The road split here at Barton Avenue with two more houses going up to Balfour Road. It was a road to nowhere as at the end were open fields its only access was from Flixton Road. For sale during its first-year of 1881 number 1 showed it as an eight roomed house with a large garden. In this same year there were 15 building plots offered for sale.

After **1910** a few homeowners had given names to their dwellings. **East** at Chapleo the first of four was called, Glengarth, followed by Fairhaven, Fernlea, and Ayscroft. Number 58 became known as Greyville. A development for 1923 was the erection of telephone lines down the road from Balfour to Flixton Road. In 1944 No.3 was offered on tender by the UUDC for conversion into two flats. A last showing for homes came in 1966 when a new block of flats was built. Of the 81 properties here 74 are as classified as residential.

#### **Princess Rooms.** (Civic Hall)

Alongside Urmston Baths, on Princess Road, a function hall was built from a wartime Civic diner, **The Good Companions**, in 1954.



Upgraded in 1966 this became mainly for dancing but catered to other needs such as weddings and the like. This hall of dance could accommodate 450 people should it be required. Until this time dances were held in the Baths on a floor installed over the pool area. During its life span many popular groups and bands performed live entertainment at this venue. The Civic Hall was renamed as the Princess Rooms in 1961. They were taken down with the Baths in 1987.

#### **Ableton.** Princess Road

Number 23 on the **west** side showed this home in 1898 as being where Thomas McKenzie lived. It was semidetached with **Heath Bank** alongside.



#### **Anchor Villa.** Princess Road (**West**)



The villa was at 27 with Thomas Archer in residence for 1898. This was the last-named house in a block of semidetached homes that numbered as 21-45. In this case the other named home was **Thorn Lea**.

#### **Ayscroft.** Princess Road

14 on the **east side** was the house where Mrs. Emily Lea was living in 1927. The semi was mated with **Fern Lea** for the era.



#### **Balfour to the Curzon shops.** 1938

Mrs. Annie Loftas. Fried Fish (Lido Supper Bar 1953)  
Harry Laughton. Fruitier  
Browns Stores. Grocery  
Ladies Outfitter. Mae who was still there in 1950  
Lockwood. News Agent.



#### **Cairn Dhu.** Princess Road

Number 1 on the **west** side for 1898 it was the place of residence to John Groundwater. This first home for the road would appear to have been altered or re-designated for its purpose in modern times. Cairn Dhu is Irish. The partner to this home as No.3 was subject to demolition as uninhabitable in 1947. It would give reason for the alterations of the present.



#### **Chapleo Terrace.** Princess Road



The row is on the **east** side of Princess and contained six homes numbered as 22-32 as found in 1897.

**Fairhaven.** Princess Road

1926 showed that Walter Burton was in this dwelling at number 12 on the **east** side. It was together with **Glengarth** at this time.

**Glengarth.** Princess Road

Number 10 on the **east** side of the road and home to John Owen in 1926. The home of **Fairhaven** made up this pair. Back to 1909 and John Charles Whitehurst was it would seem to be the initial owner.

**Fair Lawn.** Princess Road

With its neighbour of **Laburnum** this semidetached Villa was for sale in 1896. They were numbered 41-43.

**Fern Lea.** Princess Road

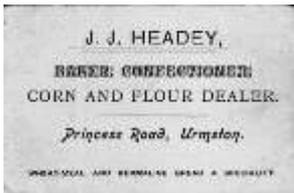
This Lea was on the **east** side and in 1926 in residence was Joseph Heady at number 16. **Ayscroft** made up the duo of this period.

**Good Companions.** Princess Road

As with its associate café the Gateway it was the second such establishment for the group of Civic restaurants. First opened in February 1941 at the **Urmston Cricket Club** it transferred to what would eventually be the **Princess Rooms** in 1947. A meal of stewed steak and two vegetables, with a choice of pudding, cost children six pence and adults two pence more. Later an addition to this was a "cash and carry" service. All closed in Urmston by 1954.

**Greyville.** Princess Road

The home carried the name as the last home of a terraced group before Barton Avenue on the **east** side. Mrs. Emma Jane Wielding was homemaker for 1910 with the number 58 as the address. John Wielding kept it under the family name for 1928.

**Headey. J. J.** Princess Road

This west side Baker operated from 71 Princess, noted for the late 1920's as being the last premises on the road. Joseph James has been tracked down as far back as 1898 proving to still be operating in 1940. The address is that of Princess Park a shop now returned to a home or as flats.

**Heath Bank.** Princess Road

Charles Davis lived here at No.21 during 1898. The house was on the **west** side of the road, a semidetached with **Ableton** as the neighbour. Thomas Edwards made home in the Heath during 1903 and Sam Riley for 1910 to 1929.

**Howells Terrace.** Princess Road

This was the longest terrace, built in 1897, shown on the road. It carried thirteen homes which at that time were 34-58 ending at Barton Avenue on the **east** side.

Shown after the end of the terrace information has it that this corner, at Barton Avenue, held a shop. William Pearson operated it in 1898 as a provisions dealer. For more recent times it became Flitcrofts 1940.

**Laburnum Villa.** Princess Road

1896 had the Villa for sale with its partner of **Fair Lawn**; the numbering was 41 & 43 for this year.

**Oak Leigh.** 11 Princess Road

This Oak is an 1898 finding with Joseph Stirling Moore as homemaker.

**Princess Park.** 71 Princess Road

Built in 1894 the home stands on the corner of Balfour and Princess Roads, during its life it was transformed into a shop. The associated building alongside became a bakery for a long period of its life carrying the family names of Headley and Walker. Renovated in 2011 it has been returned to a home once more.



1896 had an advert for the Park in the newspapers offering "*Healthy winter apartments with bath and long garden*" the price was 6 shillings, no other detail as to what you got for your money.

A shop turned up for the late 1920s next to the bakery here, it was run as Pearson & Mills but without description of what was on offer. This shop under several guises is still to be found at this location.

**The Poplars.** Princess Road

Number 9 west side and Joseph Tonge had occupation for 1901 although it was known from 1898. The group this house belonged to was numbered 1-9 making it the last of the row.

**Thorn Lea.** Princess Road

This Princess Lea was located in 1898 there were four bedrooms, dining and sitting rooms, bath with w.c. and three cellars. Gardens were presented front and rear. The Thorn was under occupation by Garlef Heinrich Stechmann. Mr. W. Drury is thought to have altered the calling to Thorn Bank in 1934.

- **Public Houses.**

An Act of Parliament during 1820 allowed anyone to convert their home into a Beer House for a fee of 2 guineas.

There are twelve locations in the district if one leaves out converted establishments which are now "Bars." The original licences date from the 1770's, all have been modernised over time but retain their status by name. Each has its own entry in this document. For the most part the first pubs were nothing more than cottages licensed to sell homemade ale. The twelve remaining are Moss Vale, Nags Head, Garricks Head, Fox and Hounds, Railway Tavern, Greyhound (Now Village) Church Inn, Roebuck, Lord Nelson, The Urmston, Bent Brook, and Bird i'th Hand. The Victoria was re-negotiated after closing to become The Boogie Piano Lounge upon re-opening in 2011. This changed to a variety of night clubs until final closure. The Red Lion was the last, at this time, to be torn down. For more information see each individual hostelry entry.

The accompanying pictures show **some** of the older home style buildings used as Pubs.



Railway Tavern



Garrick



Church Inn



Nags Head



Greyhound

Prior to this time there were five known for the district, The **White Lion** on Stretford Road and the **Duke of York** at Urmston Station with the **Red Lion** the latest to go at Woodsend. Neither the White Lion nor the Duke of York has had a picture produced for a visual reference. One other, the Dog and Partridge, changed its name to become the Church Inn. Two obscure names featured that of a **Black Bull** in 1772 (John Barrow) and the **Bricklayers Arms** (William Royle) of 1780. This pair are without detail for siting.

**Brew Houses.** The District

Generally, all the local pubs in the district began as a brew house. Most brewed beers of some kind as malt kilns existed locally. Street directories show some operated as hotels after they progressed through their various stages of development.

**Duke of York.** Hotel

This hostelry fell in 1872 to accommodate the Urmston Railway Station. A first landlord traced was Thomas Walley in 1812. The York was replaced by the Victoria Hotel on Station Road a hotel which has also been demolished. A photo or drawing of this pub has never been produced. As the beginnings of local pubs were nothing more than cottages converted into hostelries there is no known reason for this one not to have been the same. The Moss Farm, which was the closest collection of buildings, had several suitable places available among its out houses. This was found to be correct as in 1842 Maria Coupe held possession and it was described as a cottage with adjoining loom house sitting on 4 acres of land. James Hartley lived there in 1843 with Peter Streete the occupant for 1851 with the eventuality of all being sold to the railway company in 1867.

**Inn Keepers.**

The Magistrate for the County of Lancaster requested a list of Inn Keepers or Ale Housekeepers for licensing purposes in 1788. Four were put forward for **Flixton**: James Tongs of the Greyhound, John Shawcross of the Dog and Partridge, Edward Booth of the Red Lion, and Joseph Gilbody from the Roebuck. Each was recommended by the local Elders and licences granted.

These four premises had beds and stables to suit travellers along the public roads from Manchester to Warrington. Stipulated was that the licence holder would no longer permit the various activities of cock fighting, bull or bear baiting, riotous activity, or sell short measure of liquor, among a list of other restrictions. This was to be the beginning of controlled Bed and Breakfast for the district.

**Victoria Hotel.**

The first hotel was a replacement for the Duke of York dismantled to build Urmston Station. The original proposal of 1874 for this hotel to be built by James Reilly included retaining the title of the Duke of York this was to be rescinded. James, who also created the Pomona Palace in Trafford, envisaged a hotel of much grandeur coming close with the final product. A three storied glazed brick building with cast moulded facings to the doors and windows on the front. The rear housed a conservatory which was hired out for functions and a bowling green complimented this hotel. Stables were provided here too, Mr. Reilly had achieved his aim.



The hotel keeper for 1881 was John Walton, he was still there in 1908. Into 1909 Robert Robertson left around the end of the world war for 1918-37 John Herbert Hargreaves. Mrs Lucy Jones served in 1938. Believed to be the last were Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Rice.



The forecourt of the hotel was named "*The Mews*" and it became a terminus for horse drawn buses. This was 1875, it in turn was demolished in 1965, and a new "*Vic*" built on Victoria Parade. The architecture of this "*new*" hotel left a lot to be desired after the majestic "*old*" one that was removed. This new hotel opened and closed like a book for the present time a new proposal saw it reopen as a musical venue called the Boogie Piano lounge in 2011. By 2014 the pub became a nondescript night club that also closed and remains so into 2019.

Sitting at the frontage, underground toilets became a feature from 1932. Council turned down an application in 1950 to demolish the hotel. The owners wished to build a new hotel more in keeping with modern trending it would also supply accommodation much needed in Urmston.



Over the years proposals for Public Houses came and went. The Cherry Tree, Knolls at Corn Hill, and a new Red Lion, all presented to the UUDC for consideration.

## Q

- **Queens Road.** Urmston

This road leads to the Urmston Cemetery, the Meadows and at the top end, the Unitarian Church. For 2010 there were 50 private homes with one assuming a name of Eeabrook Farm. The majority of homes are dated from c.1895. Lorne Villa eventually falling under the address of 1-3 Church Road.



### Queens Road. Urmston 1900



The **west** side begins with Lorne Villa which sat next to the Unitarian Church. Iredale, Rivers Lea, Ingle Field, Merle Wood, Rostherne Cottage, and Heaton Cottage are named singularly up to the Hollins Villa. Sixteen houses all named follow to the cemetery they are Fern Lea, Oak Lea, Rose Vale, Ivydene, Highclere, Sawley, The Dales, Crawford House, Lyn Brook, Overdale, Avis Ayes, East Bank, Dunraven, Denefield, Newlands, Willowdene.

The **east** side began with Glen Albyn, Glen Welby, Rees Heath, Redvers, Sandroyd, Heathcote, Inglewood, Broad Lea, Heather Lea, Wyndthorne, Newholme, and Audley. Not forgetting the Cemetery Lodge for this time as the Registrar was in residence there.

The home of Lorne Villa had neighbours in **1910**, Glaisdale with Westville led off to the church. Ingle Field went as Ingledene. Oak Lea remained but then came, Westbourne, and Kilnsey. On the **east** side Merriden jumped in after Welby and Heather Lea is written as Hatherlow. Up to 1898 there were only two houses on the east side of Queens.

### Cemetery. Queens Road Urmston

The Urmston Burial Society purchased seven acres of land from Colonel Ridehalgh in 1891 and the Urmston Cemetery was opened in 1893 for use. Richard James from the Urmston Grange was its first resident. He died a year before the cemetery was opened and special permission was granted for the burial. There was a cemetery at St. Clements, but it was restricted for use. Opened only once, it was soon closed never to be used again for this purpose. New wrought iron gates were installed in 1959.



### Cemetery Chapels. Queens Road



There are two chapels, one for Non-conformist and the second for Church of England followers. The chapels are still there but only one is in use, the second is used for maintenance and storage. Another note is that there is no provision for musical accompaniment (Organ) available for ceremonies here in the chapel. The Catholic following applied for its own section in 1896 but it was denied by Council. Renovation came in 1948, thereafter it is not yet known when they actually stopped being of use.



The **Commonwealth War Graves Commission** has several designated headstones in the Urmston site for those who lost their lives during the war. There is one exception to this, Flixtons Flight Sergeant Herbert Shephard, was killed test piloting aircraft in 1943 but was still considered as being on active service.

Flight Sergeant Shephard

This cemetery **is open to the public** and won a Green Flag award for 2006/7. The burial registers are at Altrincham Crematorium.



**Cemetery Lodge.** Queens Road

The lodge was built at the same time as the cemetery in 1893. It is made from a local smooth red brick and has a slated pitched roof. There are moulded brick decorative panels in the walls and the windows are featured by sandstone encasements. Much stained glass was used for the windows and in the front door which sat in an open porch. The upper floor housed three bedrooms while below the lodge are three cellars. Other features were wooden flooring throughout with the exception of the red tiled kitchen where an open range with hob and oven completed the décor. The Lodge was occupied as the Registry Office for Urmston in 1968

In later years there was a considerable amount of vandalism, a wonderful cast iron fireplace was stolen. It was traced to the USA and found to have been sold for £2,500. Saved was the wooden stair furniture which had been dismantled and was ready to be shipped out, again for sale. The home has been delightfully renovated to a high standard.

**Audley.** 71 Queens Road.

For 1898 this became the last house along Queens before the cemetery on the **east** side. George Briddon made it comfortable after its erection a few years earlier c.1895. George lived in the home for many years, last found, he was still in it during 1928.

**Avis Hayes.** 64 Queens Road

George Walkden belonged to this part of the home which was alongside of **East Bank** for 1901. The house itself was built slightly earlier. Mr. Walkden stayed at the Hayes till c.1918.

**Broad Lea.** 63 Queens Road

Joseph Birtill was the owner of this semi on the **east** side of the road in 1895. A later name living here was Frank Harrap in 1901. Its mate for this era was **Hatherlow**.

**Crawford House.** 58 Queens Road

Matched up with the 1895 partner of **The Dales**, it became the dwelling place for Charles Parsons at that time.

**Denefield.** 70 Queens Road

The house became the sharing residence with **Dunroven** in 1900. In this field was Samuel Cocks who gave way to a 1919 John Grainger.

**Dunroven.** 68 Queens Road

The old chestnut calling for this house was enriched by its mate of **Denefield**. John Fitzgerald thought he had finished his roving here in 1900.

**East Bank.** 66 Queens Road

This half of the connecting **Avis Hayes** was not named for 1895 its moniker only came later. The very Reverend Cyril Bethel Jones M A. blessed this house with his presence in 1901.

**Fern Lea.** 28 Queens Road

Sharing Leas with **Oak Lea** the home of 1895 was the domicile of Henry Haselgrove for 1897.

**Glaisdale.** Queens Road

The house was semidetached and partnered **Westville**. The 1908 directory had this entered for the first time with its owner as William Lees Sykes. William was there right up to the 1930s. This was the first home before the Unitarian Church.



**Glen Albyn.** 1 Queens Road

Painters Dance Studio had their address as 1 Queens Road giving this home some noted character. Here a newer home has been built further up the road and adopted the No.1a, as Glen Albyn was still first. The dancing partner for Albyn was **Glen Welby** with first recorded being 1901 John Stoney. Emma Stoney had possession for 1928. A series of Scottish valleys are known under this calling.

Glen Albyn with Glen Welby

**Glen Welby.** 3 Queens Road

Neighbour to **Glen Albyn** in a group of three homes before Manor Avenue, the last at No.5 was **Meriden**. Welby consisted of six bedrooms and included a garden and green house for 1914. Jacob Hardy starts the story here in 1901. The Gaelic meaning is 'Place by the farm'.

**Hatherlow.** 65 Queens Road

An 1895 home built with **Broad Lea** for the time. In house was Joseph Sankey Travis during the confirmed period of 1898-1927.

**Heathcote.** 59 Queens Road

As semidetached it was home too for **Inglewood** in 1900. Living in the Cote then was Eliza and Smith Dawson with William Dingley and Aaron Sykes belonging there for 1903.

**Heaton Cottage.** 22 Queens Road

Built c.1890 it was very typical of housing along Queens. George Hesketh took his place in the home for 1901. **Rostherne Cottage** was the second semi of the cottages, both having four bedrooms as standard fare. Of possible interest is that in 1894 it was home to William Henry Lawson and his wife Alice. Their neighbour, being the famous author Richard Lawson, had to be a relative.

**Highelere.** 52 Queens Road

This pair, with the other half as **Sawley**, showed up for 1900-1927 on Queens. It was the living accommodation of Thomas Harris Thompson in those years.

**Hollins Villa.** 24-26 Queens Road

The house carried only the one name but housed two families for 1901. Richard Goins and James Thomas Headon were the masters of their domain. James had been there since 1898.

**Ingledene.** (Inglefield) 16 Queens Road

This semi was another where the name was changed over time. It began its life as Inglefield but by 1898 it was already Ingledene. The coupling home was **Merlewood**. For a first noted occupant George Arthur Gastall carried the honour. A list of contents being sold at auction in 1903 show this home to be very stylish and offering items made by Chippendale among its many opulent pieces.

**Inglewood.** 61 Queens Road

Another of many takers for this naming it was coupled with **Heathcote** for 1900 and in this wood was Frederick Dawson.

**Ivydene.** 42 Queens Road

No Holly for Ivy as it sat with **Rose Vale** here in 1901. The 'maybe' gardener was John Wattam for this year.

**Kilnsey.** 36-38 Queens Road.

This semidetached had only its one name calling for directories and although it, the building, came for 1908 it was only found named in 1910. The coupled names of at 32, Henry Whitaker and at 38 Sarah Bailey perhaps had no time for such trivial things.

**Lynbrook.** 60 Queens Road

Making up the partnership for this 1900 home was **Overdale**. Arthur Hewgill belong here as resident.

**Merlewood.** 18 Queens Road

Living here in 1898 was Walter Minto who shared the building with **Inglewood** as a semidetached. Documents record that occasionally the L was dropped making the home Merewood.

**Merriden.** 5 Queens Road

This, the last house before Manor Avenue, turned up in 1903 with Thomas Headon making merry. Formerly called Rees Heath in 1901, the name change came in 1903. This house now passes under the name of Manor House Resource Centre.

**Newholme.** 69 Queens Road

John Glover took his place here in 1901 although the home was earlier around 1895. The added side of **Wyndthorne** completed the picture. After vacating Rivers Lea along the road, the family of Gomersall took residence here 1918.

**Newlands.** 72 Queens Road

Traced as the last pair of named homes before the cemetery it was complemented by **Willowdene**. Abel Morley became the occupier here for the period.

**Oak Lea.** 30 Queens Road

The partner to **Fern Lea**, here on Queens, had for 1898 Christian Howarth at home.

**Ormeston Lodge.** Queens Road

This newer development was built on the site of the Urmston Hall in 1984. Trafford refer to it as being sheltered accommodation. Its address is given as Queens Road and it was opened by Lord Asa Briggs. The Lodge has 66 flats and contains a communal dining room, lounge, laundry, and garden.

While completing an archaeological study of the ruins the Urmston Historical Society put aside some of the stonework found. This was converted into a bower or sheltered corner amongst the new landscape of the Lodge.

**Overdale.** 62 Queens Road

The popular calling of Overdale was not to be missed here on Queens. It was over with **Lynbrook** for 1900 and had Joshua Bewick at home.



**Painters Studio.** 1 Queens Road  
See Dance and Glen Albyn.



S. Painter.

**Redvers.** 55 Queens Road

Adjoined to **Rees Heath** it was a home of 1900 and an explanation is with this home below. At this time Harold Witham was sharing the second of the two.

**Rees Heath and Redvers**

**Rees Heath.** 53 Queens Road

At this point on Queens the road numbering took a giant leap. For the 1900's the first homes were 1-3 on this the **east** side. Here the continuance of numbering went to 53. Named was **Redvers** with the Heath. It was home to George Sinclair who did not seem to mind.



**Rivers Lea.** 14 Queens Road



One of the earlier semis along Queens its co habitat carried several names from **Tredale** to Iredale but Rivers Lea never changed. From 1898 it was to be Hermann Holland as resident. This was home to Hubert Gomersall in 1914 it was Huberts son William that became a Lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment. He was killed on the western front in 1916.

**Rose Vale.** 40 Queens Road

Herbert Logan lived here in 1901 as Rose and its greenery partner of **Ivydene** shared a garden. This home has been tracked down to 1898 so far.



**Rostherne Cottage.** 20 Queens Road



This was the home of Richard Lawson. He wrote a well-known book called *The History of Flixton, Urmston and Davyhulme* in 1898. He started it in 1893 and it took four years to complete. It is still well received for its historical value recording life and times for its era. Richard stated that it was a faithful record of events and facts. Although Lawson called this a cottage it was semidetached and matched with another, **Heaton Cottage**. Richard is known to have lived there in 1894 having a daughter baptised in that year at St. Clements Church.

**Sandroyd.** 57 Queens Road

At this abode Henry Richard Hazelgrove and, perhaps, sanding his time there. The house was dated c.1895.



**Sawley.** 54 Queens Road



The home had William Simpson as home maker for this connecting house which included **Higheleere** for the year of 1900.

**The Dales.** 56 Queens Road

1900 saw this home completed with **Crawford House**. It was the place where Edmund Taylor lived.

**The Roost.** 34 Queens Road

A late arrival for the road, The Roost and **Westbourne**, its associate, show from 1908. At home was the perch of Herbert Braund who had moved in from his earlier 1901 residence of number 12 Tredale.



**Tredale.** (Iredale) 12 Queens Road



The naming for this house changed many times usually only with the spelling. Its entry for 1898 was with a T and accepted here as being the first calling. The second of the two units was called **Rivers Lea** which never changed. Owner for the Dale was Joseph Robert Smith.

**Unitarian.** Church Queens Road

Old documents have it shown that as early as 1894 services were being held under the Unitarian banner. The present version of the church is situated on Queens Road was built in 1899 and it officially opened a year later in 1901. An opening sermon was delivered by Rev. C. Hargrove. The true name for this following is Queens Road Unitarian & Free Christian Church. Here one is encouraged to develop a faith of your own choosing.

**Westbourne.** 32 Queens Road

This duo, with the home of **The Roost**, appeared in 1908. Which was slightly late compared to most down there. George Harry Gillette is found to be there first.

**Westville.** Queens Road

The house was shared with **Glaisdale** and arrived on the road for 1908. In residence was Richard Ellison as the home huddled close to the Unitarian Church.

**Willowdene.** 74 Queens Road

The house was semi-detached along with **Newlands** and the very last pair at the cemetery for the time. The 1900 resident who had the honour of being the closest to the graves was Henry Morris. John Dawson Ainsworth lived here in 1905.

**Wyndthorne.** 67 Queens Road

A Chadwick lived here in 1901 her name was Constance Ada. The building dated from 1895 and came with **Newholme** attached.

- **Queensway.** Davyhulme

The majority of the 24 properties here are from around 1970.

**Quick Bits.** Researching for information brought some oddities as listed here.

- In 1937 Davyhulme Park Golf Club opened their new club house. A cook was required and advertised for in the press, but it carried one small mistake in that they said the club was addressed as Davyhulme Park FLIXTON.
- The Communist Party approached council in 1946 to oust the Conservative Club from Abbotsfield citing it should be converted into flats and help to eliminate the shortage of homes.
- Urmston Pottery by Clive Moore had a set of dies made to indicate as makers' marks. The clay was from Mosedale pits.
- Once the New Curzon opened the old cinemas inherited nicknames. The Palace became "**The Flea Pit**" and the Empress "**The Bug Hut.**" Neither had any kind of insect infestation during their lives as cinemas.
- For the grand opening of Terrys Stores (Urmston) Ltd at the site of the Billiard Hall in 1959 members of the cast from *The Army Game* TV show attended.
- It was reported in the press c.1940 that farmers preferred Guano from **Peru** at £10 a ton to the local price of £3 a ton of the manure manufactured in Manchester from the Davyhulme sewerage.
- A house in Davyhulme came on sale in 1946 in its description it included all the **plastic** trimmings. Another off Moorside had a hall, with a **telephone**. One more stated the **lino** came with the home.
- A road safety scheme introduced in 1946 was squashed by the Ministry for Transport. Signs were erected around town stating, "*This is Urmston please drive with care*" All the signs had to be removed after much to and fro between the government and local council. It was declared they were a distraction to motorists.
- In 1932 James Wild Estates offered a **4-bar electric fire, with a plug**, as an incentive to purchase a home on Shaw Hall.
- Stretford Road, which begins in Urmston, changes into Urmston Lane once it passes into Stretford.

- The Co-op at Winifred Road Urmston was the first to propose early closing on a Saturday as well as a Wednesday. They expressed their hope other shopkeepers would follow suit.
- The Rectory on Carrington Road has a ghost. This unfortunate young lady has red hair and no legs.
- Miss Warburton of Shaw Hall 1840 was presented with a silver cream jug by the Order of Odd Fellows. The St. David Lodge were showing their appreciation for services rendered. She stood guarantor for her employer who went broke owing the Lodge money.
- A shoe repair shop at Davyhulme Circle was run by a Mr. Carcass, a neighbour there was a butcher called Mr. Leather. They should have chosen to exchange names.
- During the period after WW2 there was a piano tuner called Sharpe who lived around Humphrey Lane and a Chimney sweep called Grimes of George Street, both having appropriate names for their trade.
- The curate for St. Michaels Church in 1680 was suspended for three years after refusing to recite the Lord's Prayer for the Queen, Duke, and the Royal family.
- Payment for viewing bodies was shown in several public accounts. It was noted as "*painfully frequent*" in 1828. "*This was one of the penalties of our abutting on two rivers*".
- Hannah Booth of Flixton died in March 1778. On the same day, her husband John passed away a few hours later and they were buried together.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1828 Ann Bennett died in Flixton, on her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday, in the same house in which she was born.
- In 1946 there were 1,600 telephone subscribers in the District.
- The Urmston Council borrowed £4,400 in 1898 to begin flagging and kerbing all of Urmstons public footpaths. The loan from the Local Government Board was to be paid back over 40 years. (1938)
- Walton Removals landed a job moving a local household to Blackpool in 1922. It took three days to complete the task using a horse and cart with the assistance of one other able-bodied man. The cost of this removal was £10.
- A map found at a Cheetham Library in 1855 was dated **AD 1579**; it showed among other places Urmyston, Flyxton, and Denaholme quite clearly marked. For the time this was the oldest map of Lancashire ever found.
- The coal merchants Grime and Williams were awarded a horse brass to recognise their exemplary treatment of horses by the RSPCA in 1926.
- Colin Ware, an Urmston lad, landed an acting part in Spielbergs blockbuster film "*Saving Private Ryan*" he played the role of **a dead body**.
- Bosdin Leech, on one of his journeys concerning the MSC, ordered lunch on a train. Once it was found that the restaurant car had no food, **the train was stopped** so that he could buy some sandwiches before continuing.
- A new shop for Woodsend in 1933 was advertised as being suitable for a **Chemist or, Fried Fish and Chips**.
- James Ashton of the Flixton Grange announced in the press that his daughter was to be married. A few days later James was requesting in the classifieds for the services of a cook/housekeeper. Coincidence?
- The sale of the property Mossfield Terrace on Flixton Road in 1926 prompted the agent to say that **the mines and minerals** underneath were not included.
- In April of 1944 the UUDC voted 8-7 that American soldiers encamped thereabouts must not play softball in public parks on Sundays.
- The Lewis Department Store in Manchester would deliver free to Urmston or Davyhulme if you were to purchase a pound of two-shilling tea, stamps or postal orders only. Flixton did not qualify for this 1883 promotion.
- While building the Davyhulme Sewerage works a tender went out for 6" agricultural pipes. 30,000 in all were required to be delivered to Urmston Station. This was normal for such a development, but the terms were not normal, it was for CASH.
- After deliberations began in 1947 all Urmstons Parks were to be opened on a Sunday. The objections brought about by religious groups were finally overturned as of 1961.
- In 1898 the Stotts occupied three homes in a row, Samuel in Overdale, John in Ardnadam, Sarah in Wibbersley. Each next door to the other on Irlam Road.
- 1960 registered three hotels for the district they were Faversham, Manor Hey, and Lostock Residential.
- All and any riding of horses in Urmstons Parks was to be banned as of 1973.

- The Manchester Ship Canal Company issued a list in 1966 of qualified Pilots classified to navigate the waterway. Only one was included for the district he was G. W. Scully from Eddisbury Avenue in Flixton.
- Urmston comprised of slightly over 30 miles of roadway in 1958. Classed as main, secondary, and district.
- Vandalism in Parks was reaching such an alarming rate by 1964 council was debating the idea of employing guard dogs and handlers. The latest bout in this regard was the poisoning of fish in the ponds and the throwing of benches into the same ponds. This proposal was rejected after a vote.
- Discussions were held in Council during 1946 for the establishment of a new Crematorium. Locations of Newcroft and Hillam were considered, this was not passed.
- While replacing paving at the Red Lion in Woodsend coins dated as 1806 were dug out in 1949.
- Two valuable paintings were presented to Urmston in 1947 by Mr. W. H. Longworth of 'Glenmoye' Crofts Bank Road. They recorded the Nags Head Hotel and the Original Parsonage.
- A 1949 sign on Hayeswater Circle states that if you ride horses or drive cattle onto the green you will be fined £1.
- Humpty Dumpty Lane was a local calling for Humphrey Lane during its earliest of days.
- A furrier called Aidley had a business in 1923 that was advertised as being a few minutes' walk from the **BIG** lamp.
- 1000 people signed a petition in 1963 asking council to provide underground air raid shelters in case of a nuclear attack.
- When the Empress Cinema was refurbished in 1935 the carpets and screen curtain were installed by Pauldin's.
- Charles Terry tried to purchase the Morris Hall for use as a strip club in 1960 this idea was abandoned in 1961.
- Lights were to be installed at Barton Bridge in 1963 due to the high volume of traffic being experienced. They were to warn all of imminent closing of the gates.
- All advertising on bus shelters was banned in 1950 by the Urmston Council.
- Double decker buses were not allowed in 1931 due to the nature of our roads.
- A feud among neighbours during 1931 was brought to the attention of council. One of the tenanted homes on Park Road had an occupant who kept setting fire to his dustbin.
- A motion was passed by Council in 1937 for the clarification concerning Davyhulme Circle. As it was a dual carriageway, motorists had some trouble in navigating entry. The ruling handed down was, all vehicles were to proceed in a clockwise direction. It became applicable to all circles in the district.
- The UUDC relaxed all regulations attaining to the raising of poultry for householders in 1939. The eggs and chicken would be essential during the war period.
- The Secretary of State granted permission for all three local cinemas to open on Sundays as of 1942.

- **Railway.**

The Cheshire Lines Railway was instituted c.1872 dividing the whole urban district. Slicing through farmland it was the instrument for the creation of the Market on Railway Road after dividing lands north and south. The basis was a line from Manchester to Liverpool with punctuality the key to this mode of transport householders, along the line, would set their clocks to the fast train service. The majority of the land through Urmston, including the Duke of York Hotel, was purchased under a court order issued in 1867 after being issued via a Parliamentary Act.



Two stations, Flixton and Urmston, and a Halt at Chassen Road, were created locally. The amalgam of London North Eastern Railway (LNER) and London Midland Scottish (LMS) came in 1923. (CLR became British Rail in 1948) In 1984 a new station was added for the district at the end of Derbyshire Lane to accommodate Humphrey Park.

#### **Flying Scotsman.**

Probably one of the most famous railway engines 4472 ever to grace the railway line was the Flying Scotsman. Built in 1923 and owned by LNER, it carried passengers from London to Edinburgh as its usual route. However as newer diesel and electric trains became available it was re-directed for other use and could be seen passing through Urmston in the 1950's on temporary assignment as the Manchester to Liverpool Express. Eventually this warrior was withdrawn from all service in 1953. The engine was sold and shipped to the USA with a happier outcome of Sir William McAlpine buying it back in 1973 for use once more in Britain. It became a travelling railroad experience of past steam traction held by the National Transport Museum, later on display only. 2016 has the engine completely overhauled and set to travel country lines once more.



### Railway Accident.

In December 1958 the express train from Liverpool to Central Station collided with a fallen crane. The crane which was working on the new Moss Vale Road Bridge toppled over as the train arrived at that point. A second train from the opposite direction then ploughed into the tragic scene. One person died and thirty-nine were injured during this catastrophic event.



### West Manchester Light Railway.

A proposal was forwarded to the Davyhulme and Flixton Parochial Committee in 1903 to run a rail line from Trafford Park through to the Irlam Locks. This was declined because it was too close to residential property in the district. It took until 1919 for a line to pass through Lostock and Trafford Park mainly based along Barton Dock Road for commercial purposes.

- **Railway Road.** Urmston



It was aptly named as facing the railway line and built on landfill from the railway c.1870; it catered to nearly 60 homes in **1901**. A few had names but it became better known for the appearance there of the Market and the Palace Cinema. A home, Holly House from 1880, starts the list with the terrace of Sunny Side afterwards. At Westbourne five houses fill in between to Oak Grove, nine to Gladstone, and then eleven to Cavendish and the next known names. They were Grays Wood, Lyn Brook, Holmes Lea, and The Firs, which end at Moss Road.

Bank House as of **1911** started Railway Road with at the rear the Bank Cottage then at No.4 the Telegraph had set up shop. There was a Boot Makers called Coombs with the Post Office. The Mount became the only house with a name at Number 55 until Greyswood at No.100 which had not changed. The last house before Urmston Park was now called Cartref. From there to Moss Road three callings, Heathfield, Daisy Bank, and Mossfield House came into being. Detail for today's property market is that of the 91 homes there, 82 are residential.

**1939** listed several notes of interest for Railway, the Allotment Society had F. Hausaman for its secretary, the Gardeners Institute was looked after by Dorothy Stansfield, and the Urmston Post Office had Edward Smith as Postmaster. At the Palace, H. Donbavand was manager, and the Urmston British Legion had William Hilton as Steward. The Sub-station for the Electricity Board was well established at the corner of Westbourne Road.

### Railway Road Clarification.

From Crofts Bank Road the first block had a strange arrangement of numbering for 1910-20. The home that started the road off was No.2 this was the house which eventually became the Gardeners Institute and Allotment Society. In its original form it was a private home. From there on the buildings were to be designated as No 4 but with 4a and 4b fitting with the largest house at the end. This why it can be regarded as complicated when it comes down to The Telegraph, Post Office, Telephone Exchange, along with a shoemaker and later a confectioner all listed as being there at the same time. For 2018 there are four shops between the two original buildings.



### Allotments and Gardens. Railway Road

The Victorian buildings of the Gardeners Institute c.1905-10 were located on Railway Road. Instrumental in the organisation of allotments throughout the area, it was also a supplier of seed and plantings. One of the oldest allotments is a stretch of land that goes from Flixton Road at Lime Avenue to Bowfell Road. It is shown as the location of many gardening functions in photographs of 1900 and carried the name of Mossfield. The list for these small pieces of ground is large but a few can be mentioned. Penny Bridge, Western Road, Marlborough Road, Alderley Road, Humphrey, Shaw Hall, and Victoria Road show how dispersed around town they were.

Allotments really came to the fore during the 1914-18 war as a necessity for providing food. The 'Dig for Victory' campaign of 1941 showed Urmston as having 1,160 allotments providing fresh vegetables, many supplying the three Civic Restaurants to help all. The Urmston Allotment Society as a group were established in 1916 by George Harrison Graham. In 1941 Viscount Bledisloe presented an annual cup, in his name, for "The allotment of distinction" in the neighbourhood.



Allotment use at the Urmston cemetery.

### Gardeners Institute and building.

The Victorian buildings numbered as 2 Railway Road housed the institute. These old buildings which included No.4 Railway Road have been used for many things since that time including a Post Office and Telephone Exchange. Some portions were made into shops and business offices, even a men's hairdresser operated there for a while. A large portion of No.4 makes up the indoor section of today's Urmston Market. The Institute and Allotment Society held annual Flower Shows at the Drill Hall for a number of years. A flower show held in 1913 gave the information that it was the 21st show of its kind. This would give a date of 1892 for the beginnings of the Urmston and District Horticultural Society.

The Urmston and District Allotments Association Ltd. amalgamated with the Urmston and District Horticultural Society between them still offered annual flower shows into the 1970's at Chassen Park.

A show held at the Botanical Gardens in Old Trafford during 1894 brought forth that Peter Egerton, who grew *Primula Auriculas* at Shaw Hall, was rated the best florist in Lancashire. It added that Peter had 33 varieties of *Auriculas*. The Society sold the building in 1961 as no longer viable.

**Bank Cottage.** 2 Railway Road

A cottage recorded in 1865 as having James Buslam living there. His death and the cottage were entered in an obituary for this date. Bank House at the corner of Railway and Crofts Bank Road had this small cottage behind the main house. Built many years before the Bank it, at some stage, was altered for commercial use.

This is abandoned presently in a state of disrepair. The cottage calling prior to the Banks arrival has not been found and it never rated inclusion on mapping until after 1900. It remains a possibility that the cottage was a part of the Greenfield farm Estate.

**Bradshaw Bridge.**

As was the case with many of the railway bridges this one was only made for light traffic. It connects Railway Road to Higher Road c.1873. Its original intent was access for farm traffic to pass over the rail line and today it is restricted for pedestrian use. The Cheshire Lines Company wanted to close the pathway and pull down the bridge in 1886 but the local Highway Board said they would re-open it if the threat was carried out. Why this bridge carries the name of Bradshaw is a mystery when all others are known by the road they cross.



Bradshaw

A realistic naming **could** come from the George Bradshaw Railway Guide, a timetable for all rail travel. (Alternately the Bradshaw Charity associated to the St. Clement School)

**Cartref.** Railway Road

It was Thomas Hand who had the home of **The Firs** as his companion in 1901-03 directly before Urmston Park.

**Daisy Bank.** Railway Road

Together with **Heath Field** this duet sat at the edge of Urmston Bank in 1898 the people in Daisy were the Linfoot family.

**Elstree Court.** Railway Road

Caught in the Court are 12 homes which took the place of a company called Nyssen selling bulbs (garden variety) and even earlier to the home of the Palace Cinema. Elstree is a Hertfordshire name.

**Grayswood.** Railway Road

William Darwent was the proud homeowner of this house at Number 100 for 1898. The partner for the semi was **Lynbrook**.

**Heath Field.** Railway Road

The pairing of Heath and **Daisy Bank** can be found sitting at the corner of Urmston Park. John Harold Birtwistle was at home in the Heath in 1910. Heathfield, with name connected in 1885, had four beds, two entertaining, bath and w/c, with gardens back and front. At this time, it was addressed as Urmston Park.

**Holme Lea.** 110 Railway Road

This residence dating back to 1879 is home today for the Railway Kindergarten. It was a six bedroomed house in its original form. The time of 1898 showed John William Young here and 1901 had Edwin Scharffetter as the occupant. By 1903 one room had been converted into office space but still offered three entertaining rooms.

**Luteta.** 56 Railway Road

Hamor Woodcock took his place here in 1901.

**Lynbrook.** 101 Railway Road

Making home for 1898 here was Mrs. Isabella Burgess. As her neighbour the home of **Grayswood** took its place in society. During 1903-4 Emma Watson called this home.

The Watsons



**Mossfield.** 120 Railway Road.

This became the last house as Railway reached Moss Road (Moss Vale) in 1898. It was the abode of Thomas Glover for that year. As of 1921, it was available as a double fronted detached residence. There were five bedrooms, bath and w/c, all on one floor. Three reception rooms, domestic office space, conservatory and garage, everything including a large garden with fruit trees would be yours for £850. Six months later it had dropped to £700. Charles Jones a 1939 butcher lived here, remaining until about 1957. Difficult to locate it can be found slightly off the main Road.

**North Western Electricity Board.** Railway Road

The board had an office, and possibly a substation, that was to be found at the corner of Westbourne Road. It was proposed in 1935 but was eventually vacated and a company called Fattorini began manufacturing badges and trophies in 1964. Still a striking building it is in use today for the same commercial purposes.

**Norwood.** 98 Railway Road

John McCaig lived in the home in 1901 he was a Clerk.

**Palace Cinema.**

Standing next to the Market on Railway Road this was the first purpose-built cinema around for the district. Called a Picturedrome or officially, The Urmston Picture Palace, it opened in 1912. The ceremony was done by Henry Cross of Highfield House who was given a golden key in appreciation. The first show held there was a full house and all the proceeds went as a donation to the Cottage Hospital. Unfortunately, it closed June 1957 to become a factory much changed. Prior to this the Urmston Council, were thinking of bidding on the Palace for use as an Amateur Dramatic Theatre. It would take £6,000 to buy and renovate the cinema but the effort was lost once this money could not be raised.

The building was completely demolished, and flats now stand in its place after some commercial use for a while. Some detail of its history is that it was first owned by Urmston Palace Ltd. This was taken over by a company from Warrington called Cinema Developments who shortly afterwards sold out to Warston Pictures. Once talkies arrived it had a Western Electric sound system installed. The best seat in the house around 1950 would cost you a shilling.

**Post Office.** Railway Road.

The office here came around 1908 and was offering service here for 30 years after a home on Crofts Bank Road. Sitting alongside of the market it preceded the move to the Higher Road opening.

**Railway Road shop conversions.**

These four shops are used as examples of home to business conversion often carried out in Urmstons beginning years. Numbered as 76 and 76a the pair together was set up and running for 1900. In the first was a butcher called Henry Wilkinson and the other had Charles Williamson a baker with another baker H. Shephard following. For the opposite corner at Gladstone Road it was 77, this only opened up around 1920 and had a grocer there called Henry Howell. The next was Brocklehurst continuing into the 1950's.

A confectionary at 76a was run by sisters in 1923 Gertie and Florrie Ludlow.



The fourth, home to shop, conversion was located at the corner of Cavendish Road. Numbered as 84 Robert Gudgeon had his grocery business to be found here during 1901. Still selling grocery in 1928 only now it belonged to George Hindle by 1949 it was the time for Thomas's. The photograph shows that it is now bricked up.

**Rosegarth.** 57 Railway Road

First found for 1903 with Otho Hulme at home. This block built a few years earlier contains four other homes in its makeup.

**Silbury.** 58 Railway Road

Number 58 arrived around 1898-9 the home showed Charles Edward Johnson, as occupant in 1919 he was a Tailor for his livelihood.



**Sunnyside. Railway Road**

The 1880 terrace was to be found directly after the Palace Theatre along the road it comprised of 6 homes. A finding for 1921 now had number 27 with full description. There was a hall, large bay drawing room, dining room kitchen and pantry, three cellars, front large bay with four other bedrooms, box room, bathroom and motor garage. Included was a side road entrance and front, rear, gardens. The front and side roads had been paved and paid for. All this for the princely sum of £950 in October, by December the price had dropped to £750. Not typical for all the homes here was number 27 the end unit and the only one to afford the luxury of a garage. The year of 1890 gave forth the fact that this was the only building along Railway Road from Crofts Bank to Gladstone.

**The Firs. 112 Railway Road.**

The house here was at the corner of Urmston Park in 1898 and had Mrs. Sarah Shanks living in it. The second of the semidetached was **Cartref**.

**The Mount. Railway Road**

For the last house before Westbourne Road it was a late comer only turning up in with Ernest Henry Powis, the for a 1907 find. Mounted up here in the year of 1911 was Otho Hulme.

**Urmston Market. Railway Road**

Greenfield land created this unique aspect of Urmston. The Royle-Higginson family farm, Greenfield, was divided by the Cheshire Line Railway in 1870. A portion of the land north of the farm became the Market after the First World War c.1920. It is registered for 1926 in directories as a confirmed date indicating its presence before this. Open for indoor and outdoor presentations it is often manned by local purveyors. Room for 50 stalls, its presence is not known well enough with this showing during the 1970s when it began offering service for the first time on a Saturday.



By 1973 closure was threatened once again and a suggestion of the land being used for flats was introduced, it has survived through this turmoil. Newer thoughts for 2003 wanted this to include Sundays but it failed after only a couple of months. Persistent rumours about the ownership of the market have found to be without substance. Alleged tales of it being given away or exchanged for handshakes do not have proof to back them up.

This open-air feature of Urmston was in the hands of a market operating company called Strawland Ltd headed by Russell Conlen and his family had actually owned it since 1977. The stall owners come and go however several have clocked up many years of service. The Barnes Fruit and Veg stall has been involved with the market for close to 55 years while Bernard

Kelly the butcher has been around for 35 years and more. The Market was closed up for May 2016 pending a future redevelopment while the indoor market continues, and an **Artisan Market** has been instigated on a monthly basis. A new indoor market building is to be added for 2019 courtesy of the new owners McGoff who are revamping the complex.



Kelly of Railway Road

On a note of **speculation**, in 1895 and 1896 a George Napier purchased the two largest pieces of land from the Greenfield Estate, in total nearly 3,400 Sq. Yds. It hints that a part of this area might have been the basis of the Market and the Palace Theatre whose land origins are still unknown. An earlier land sale indicated J & S Faulkner purchased Long field in 1845 the possible name for the site according to mapping of the time.

**Wood Lea. 99 Railway Road**

Wood Lea was already established for 1900 with an Engineer called Thomas Charlesworth in residence.

Wood Lea and Norwood



- **Rathan Road.** Davyhulme  
Rathan has 24 houses.

- **Reade Avenue.** Flixton  
Five abodes make the avenue what it is.

- **Redbourne Drive.** Davyhulme  
The drive has 10 houses. The calling is a popular word for towns, roads, etc. all over England.

- **Redcar Avenue.** Davyhulme  
Redcar is believed to have a 1960 beginning to its 16 family homes.

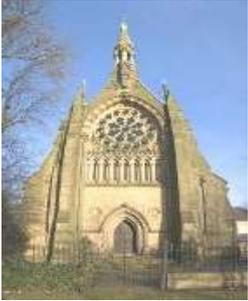


- **Redclyffe Road.** Davyhulme



Officially only the All Saints Franciscan Friary is listed for the road. This was the first road in England to receive banked cornering. The town engineer E. L. Leeming proposed this idea to the Ministry of Transport in order to get finance and succeeded in 1934. They did not know he had already constructed the first on Redcliffe back in 1933 to prove his point. A footpath which had been closed for the war was reopened here in 1948 it connected to Lostock Road.

**All Saints. R C. Church** Redclyffe Road. Barton upon Irwell



All Saints was established in 1789 the present building was created by Edward Welby Pugin c.1867-8 it is described as Gothic revival in appearance. Rock faced stone was used to create this church. The steep slated roof included a bell turret to the west. One reference to this church has it that the "*Gargoyles are grotesque*" high praise for the architect. The church was considered worthy of listing in 1978 Grade 1, the only one in the district. Also known as a Franciscan Friary its bell was inscribed as 1868 confirming the known date for this work by Pugin.



The church received a grant in 2008 for repairs and conservation from the Heritage Society. Further to this another grant came in 2010 to restore the Sanctuary Lamp in the Chancel. The bell tower showed signs of collapse; it was completely removed for a later re-assembly with restoration. The bell called 'St. Anne' found its home back in the tower c.1990. Early Reverends for this church were Rev. Charles Hanrahan and Rev. Patrick O'Regan.



**All Saints Presbytery.**



Mr. Edward Welby Pugin built this at the same time as the All Saints Church and it was included in the listing of 1978 Grade 2. It has a three bay, two storied showing in its layout, and it is built of Rock faced stone. Both the church and presbytery were the result of Sir Humphrey de Traffords efforts to build a Catholic congregation in the area.

Pugin



**All Saints School.** Barton upon Irwell

This school was a part and parcel to the church.

**Brooklyn.** Redclyffe Road

Possibly at number 14 in 1938 was Thomas Summerfield. Condemned in 1968.

**Burlington.** Redclyffe. Road

Found as number 8 this house gave the appearance of being semidetached and adjoined to Sunnyville. 1938 gave both the same address within this half, John Morris. Condemned in 1968.

**Chapel Place.** Redclyffe Road

At the All Saints Church these terraced homes were the closest around. The onset was a chapel built by the de Trafford family to replace their own called St John. A neighbour was Palm Cottage with another, the Swing Bridge Lodge. At a date of 1856 it was put forward there were as many as 12 in a row here with only a few small groups ever traced in mapping. As a "place" it was removed during the period of construction of the Power Station. Seven homes were left by 1950 that figure became two as of 1957. They sit as vacant for the present 2019 derelict.



**Coldcotes.** Redclyffe Road

A wagon builder called Charles Embrey lived at the cotes for 1938. Number 12 along the road was as close as could be estimated. The home was condemned in 1968.

**Lynton.** Redclyffe Road

Sam Howe was addressed at number 16 here in 1938. Condemned in 1968.

**Palm Cottage.**

The cottage was to be found a short walking distance from the All Saints Church in 1840. This was alongside the RC chapel built for the de Trafford's.

**Redclyffe House.** (Redcliffe House) Redclyffe Road

Once a home to De Trafford family, it sat under the shadow of Barton Power Station. A house of c.1850 that also carried the name of Redclyffe Manor. After the home's private usage, it took on the role of office space for the Central Electricity Generating Board. (C. E. G. B.) Little is known about the structure other than it is red brick built, two storied, and internally it had an exquisite staircase. Tall circular columns surrounded the front porch and full height bay windows were set to each side. The upper floor windows were smaller but in keeping with the complete design. Stone steps lead to the front door, the pillars capped with large concrete balls. A long slate/stone drive was laid through spacious grounds. William Ploughman, an Electrical Engineer, was in residence for 1939 he referred to it as the Redclyffe Manor.

**Shell-Mex & B P Ltd. Redclyffe House.**

The company offered a sports club and ground here in 1939. For a location it was near to the Old Barton Road end of Redclyffe. The club and its fields were still to be found there into 1965.

**Sunnyville.** Redclyffe Road

Close to the All Saints Church, Herbert Peel settled here for 1938. The house had a semidetached link to Burlington. Both were condemned in 1968.

**White House.** Redclyffe Road

This version of a White House was at the corner of Barton Road which at that time was still Crofts Bank Road. It occupied land north of Wilderspool House on the edge of the Trafford Estate. The house comprised of 4 bedrooms, 2 parlours, a kitchen with an added room called a back kitchen. It also carried an adequate garden when advertised in 1843. By 1894 a Mrs. Hoffman kept it 'white' through to 1901. Florence Hall continued with the white theme of things in 1939. Condemned in 1957 it was to be demolished soon after.

- **Red Cross.** Urmston

The Flixton, Urmston, Davyhulme, Red Cross Division shows dates of 1877 to 1917 with its Honorary Secretary as Ralph Kidney. Their work in the district was prominent in the realm of Wibbersley and the Institute Hospitals during World War 2. For 1937 Mrs. Dower of Greenfield Avenue and Mr. G. Batten of Mardale Avenue were the respective secretaries for the male and female branches.

- **Redesmere Park.** Flixton

Along with Southgate, Redesmere was the last addition to the Shaw Hall Estate of 1935. Its 68 homes form a large oblong part to the estate. The Mere has Cheshire connections.

- **Red Lane.**

Now called as a portion of Woodhouse Road it is claimed that the name came from the red shale or stones which were to be found along that stretch of land.

- **Reigate Road.** Flixton

Thirty families can be accommodated in this 1935-6 part of Flixton. Surrey is home to Reigate as a town.

- **Religion.**

**Catholicism.** (For the district)

The Bishop of Chester reported in 1778 that there were only twelve Catholics in the district and no church. Humphrey de Trafford was one of them, but he had his own place of worship in the form of a private chapel. For 1791 he had a small church built in the Trafford Hall grounds for public use and for the congregation to grow. This led to the eventual building of the All Saints Church. For 1876 RC followers had to travel to Irlam where a 'Chapel of Ease' became available.

**Chest.**

In the Church of St. Michael there is a chest. During 1603 the clergy were found wanting in the keeping of records relating to BMD. It was deemed from then onwards all such documentary evidence would be kept in a chest and made available to the congregation every Sunday. The chest is still there, minus its locks and a little worse for wear.

**Church Pews.**

It was common practice for all land or estates in the parish to have the rights to a pew in the local church attached. If this was sold, then the Pew went with it. Mrs. Harriet Knubley, a woman of Flixton, won the right to be accommodated in a pew at St. Michael's Church. As pews were sold or leased, she claimed it was unfair, she could not comply due to her situation and condition. This claim was upheld in 1839 by the elders who reviewed the complaint setting a precedent for all. Harriet took this further, as a teacher at Shaw Hall she wanted seating for her staff and pupils as well. An earlier Law of 1836 declared that the sale of pews was illegal, but it took several years to get everyone to comply.

**Churches. 1965 Statistics**

Statistics revealed that for the Urban District there were 22 churches of varying denomination available in 1965. They were made up of 6 Church of England, 5 Roman Catholic, 6 Methodist, and 5 of independent thought.

### Methodist Church.

Many of this following were established throughout the district. Higher Road had the Independent and the Primitive. In Davyhulme, Barton, and Flixton there were Primitive branches. A very early mission at Woodsend was Methodist. Each church or chapel is recorded separately as the details are found.

### Plymouth Brethren.

Founded in Ireland during 1820 it took until 1831 to reach Plymouth and England. The only record traced for the district showed up in 1985 with the drawing up of a constitution.

### Wesley. John Methodist Preacher

Wesley came to Davyhulme in 1746 to preach his gospel. He met with an unruly crowd who charged him with disturbing the peace. John was once quoted as saying, after a sermon in Davyhulme that, *"he found there a whole clan of infidel peasants"* he still returned to complete five visits in the area. No matter, he had convinced and converted 60 people into following his train of thought. Wesley was responsible for the first chapel being built on Moorside Road in 1779. At a conference of ministers and preachers in Manchester 1787 he predicted that the **world would end** in 1836.



### Woolmer Edward. St. Michael's

Edward was the curate at St. Michael's Church 1629-1660 when he passed on, he was buried in the Church Yard. However, the oldest gravestone found is dated 1668, eight years later, this stone record's the initials of D W and remains unknown. Edward's wife, Mary, died in the year 1668 she is buried there. There may have been a connection to the W, but it is not proven. This is still rated as the oldest recorded death of a curate buried here.

- **Renshaw Field.** Flixton Road

This location became the 1965 home of the Urmston Spastic Society as accommodation was built to serve the community.

- **Repton Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue has 23 houses. Repton is from a Derbyshire location.

- **Richmond Avenue.** Urmston 1900

All homes without names but numbered as 1-17 **east** and 2-12 **west**. A series of 10 bungalows was erected at Richmond and Granville in 1959. As of 2008 it is made up of 51 homes.



- **Ripley Crescent.** Davyhulme

This crescent has room for 24 families. The Crescent is a familiar Yorkshire town calling.

### Millennium Park. (Public) Ripley Crescent



No details but a good guess would be 2000 for its date of birth. Described as 9.2 Hectares of wetlands, woods, and water features, a family orientated nature reserve. In the park is a small lake created from the waters of the Bent Brook. This park is owned and managed by United Utilities. At the entry to the park is the Hulme Ferry it adds to the ambiance of its surroundings. Space is designated as being of biological importance.



- **Riverside Drive.** Flixton

Only one of several available entries to the Meadows, it actually boasts two gate ways even if one is labelled as Southgate. It was also a later extension to the Shaw Hall housing estate developed by Bainbridge & Co. along with the Southgate, Redesmere end in about 1935. In addition, here was a large concrete air raid shelter left over from WW2 which survived until about 1950. There are 35 houses but no river. The 10 acres of field alongside the Drive ended for farming in 1961.

- **Rivers Lane.** Davyhulme

Some will know of this lane it is the official address given for the Davyhulme Sewerage Works. It has origin to the Rivers Committee in charge of the plant's development. A footpath exits here that joins through to Bent Lanes which carries from Davyhulme Road. This is possibly the oldest walkway to exist in the district. Two thatched cottages facing the lane were demolished in 1933.

### Davyhulme Sewerage Works. Rivers Lane



Sir Humphrey de Trafford sold 82 acres of land to the Sewerage and Drainage Committee for the sewerage farm. He was very generous in only charging £100 per acre in 1880. Shown on survey maps as being there in 1889, expansion took place and by 1930 became the sewerage works of a size to cope with our effluent society. Prior to this time raw sewerage was pumped into the River Irwell. The outfall sewer along Kingsway was built in 1913 from the Davyhulme works through to Stretford. During construction, and the continuance after, it was always stipulated that any materials used must be British made. By 1935 Russell Building Contractors stated the works were finished, the contract was over, and they sold off all their equipment on site.

The company was granted permission in 1902 to finally close all and any footpaths in or close to the works especially concerning Bent Lanes. During the laying of sewerage pipes in 1914 a rail line along Barton Dock Road came under scrutiny as a train derailed killing one of the workers and injuring several others.

Once built the plant had its sludge piped through to the Ship Canal and loaded on to barges for removal and dumping into Liverpool Bay. For 1955 a £5 Million loan was obtained, this was to ensure odours from the plant would be eliminated and the practice of dumping would stop. (This was not the conclusion) This plant not only services local sewerage but also for many districts of Greater Manchester.

The Thirlmere Aqueduct terminates here at the water treatment plant with a new pipeline authorised in 1945 by the Manchester Corporation for continuance of a stable water supply. The only other alteration, since the lines inception, came when it interfered with the motorway construction causing a small re-route to be installed. This plant is now under the banner of the United Utilities.

### Davyhulme Harbour. MSC Wharf



No longer in use the Corporation Wharf was the feeding station for raw sewerage to be transported down the canal to Liverpool. The eventual introduction and later upgrading of the sewerage workings and pipeline made this system redundant in or around 1987.

### Bollards.

A walk along the ship canal between the Thunder Bridge and the old Ferry Landing shows several bollards. Remnants from the busy shipping times where boats would dock before entering the Irlam Lock, the defined shape and aging make them almost works of art for today.



- **Roads and streets.**



One of the first references to local roads was in the will of Lawrence Asshawe in 1558 he bequeathed, "20 shillings towards paving the highway between ye tithe barn and ye church" at Flixton. Many of the older roads in this document no longer exist or have had names changed over time. All referred to here are from original documentation of times gone by. Remembering the district was very rural and there were not many roads. In 1932 council advised that there were 42 roads still to be paved as required under the Act of 1852.

**Some current road and home** information that has been extracted from Realtor lists is **not always accurate**. All details are as correct as is possible for the years shown. Added to this, places like those of Moss Lane and Moss Road were often mixed up for house sales. The same going for Urmston Lane and Stretford Road, for the 1870's no one quite knew where one ended and the other began.

### Bobby Belisha.

Approximately 1936-40 the imminent introduction of Belisha beacon crossings to Urmston prompted a tour of schools in the area of a robot called Bobby. The local constabulary used this tool to educate children on the use of the crossings. The Zebra Crossing was introduced to compliment the beacon in 1951 often accompanied by the figures known as 'Lolly Pop' Ladies/Men. One such lady, Angela Morton, has retired from her patch in Davyhulme. Starting in 1989 she worked the crossing for twenty years faithfully seeing the children there across the road. (2009)



### Cobblestones and setts.



A hundred years after their installation many roads in Urmston still had cobblestones for their surface. Railway and Higher Roads were excellent examples. Portions of Flixton and Church Roads retained patches well into the 1950's. Most hotels in Urmston had cobble stones for their entries or courtyards with some **still to be found** at the side of the Nags Head Hotel and the frontage of the Church Inn.

These stones were termed as "*Petrified Kidneys*" for the time of 1880. The Flixton, Urmston, and Barton Highways Board requested tenders for 300 tons of Setts and 100 tons of broken granite stone in 1885, the difference being that Setts were rectangular quarried stone against the naturally occurring cobblestones.

As far back as 1903 the Urmston Council had decided to pave over all cobblestones throughout Urmston. During an alteration to the junction at the end of the Mile Road 2013 a series of setts were exposed offering a view of roads as they were many years prior to the modern system of tarmacadam. Most of the current features for Urmston were introduced by Engineer and Surveyor Ernest Leeming. His almost mania for concrete can be traced in signs, paving, seating, and structures throughout the district.

### Finger Posts.



The posts, showing the way, used to be a familiar sight throughout the district. Over the years these signs have disappeared replaced by modern day garish metal with neon letters.

It is refreshing to know that a renovated post has been reclaimed and erected once more in Flixton Village. Another known post is to be found outside the old Police Station on Church Road it shows that it was cast in Stockport.



**Highway Robbery. 1826**

This dastardly deed was carried out in October of that year and reported in the Manchester Guardian. The robbery took place along the **Stretford Road heading to Flixton.**

The detail is quoted:



*“A poor man driving a cart for a drunken carrier was attacked by three ruffians who demanded money. The poor man said he had none about him, saying they may search him if they doubted him. They did so and finding he had only spoken the truth, they knocked him down and beat him in so dreadful a manner as to suppose they left him for dead. He was later assisted and taken to hospital where he remained in a dangerous state. The carter slept through the whole ordeal and the article added that; we are sorry to say no information has yet been obtained which is likely to lead to the apprehension of the villains.*

**No Waiting. Urmston**

After introducing a section of “No Waiting” along Queens Road in 1959 and Stretford Road in 1961 the Council took steps to expand the idea in 1967. Once this program began there was no stopping it.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

*No Waiting at any time*

*Length of Roadside of Road*

*Atkinson Road, from its junction with Higher Road to its junction with Gloucester Road... East  
Flixton Road, from its junction with Crofts Bank Road to its junction with Victoria Road North  
Flixton Road, from its junction with Crofts Bank Road to a point 100 feet west of that junction South  
Flixton Road, from its junction with Grosvenor Road to its junction with Roseneath Road South  
Flixton Road, from its junction with Newton Road to a point 420 feet west of that junction South  
Primrose Avenue, from its junction with Crofts Bank Road to its junction with Greenfield Avenue North*

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

*No Waiting on Weekdays (including Saturdays)*

*Length of Roadside of Road*

*Old Crofts Bank, from its junction with Davyhulme Circle to its junction with Canterbury Road West  
Queens Road, from its junction with Church Road to its junction with Westmorland Road ... Both  
Stretford Road, from its junction with Station Road to its junction with Manor Avenue Both  
Westmorland Road, from its junction with Queens Road to its junction with Stretford Road ... Both*

The ‘No Waiting’ ban continued with many others after 1970 as Urmston struggled with its traffic flow problems. It took until 1972 to have the rules amended with exceptions.

**Exemptions** will be provided in the proposed Order to enable a person to board or alight from a vehicle ; to enable a vehicle to be used in connection with a funeral, any building operation or demolition, the removal of any obstruction and the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of the road or the services therein and in pursuance of statutory powers or duties ; to enable goods to be loaded or unloaded from a vehicle ; to enable a vehicle to take in petrol, oil, water or air from any garage.

**Parking. Municipal**

Up until the Precinct was to be built in 1965 parking was never a major problem around the district. As time went by, and cars became prevalent, it was recognised that there was indeed a need for such places. Only three came forth as sites where one could leave a car, Atkinson Road provided for 25, Manor Avenue another 74, and Park Road along by the Precinct housed 100. Always a short fall this would be corrected as the Eden Square project reached completion. This complex included 486 parking bays. Added to this “Waiting Bays” arrived along Flixton Road, Railway Road, and Gloucester Road.

**Ribbon Development Act. Urmston**

This Act introduced in England for 1935 gave power to local councils so they could control highway size for future development. The first to be restricted under the act in Urmston was Flixton Road. No new construction, restricted to a certain number of feet, from the center of the road could be undertaken. The start point was Crofts Bank Road and it ended at Irlam Road. Redclyffe Road, Davyhulme Road, Woodsend Road, and Moorside Road, all carried the same restrictions in the next phase.

**CPO.**

Compulsory Purchase Orders were being issued by 1937 wherever land was needed for development or road widening. Once more Flixton Road led the way.

**Road sweeping.**

The roads throughout Urmston were swept by hand up to the advent of the mechanical horse. Although there were many employed at this task only one name has been traced that of a Mr. William Burgess who lived at Jawbone Cottage in the 1930-40 period. Considering how this cleaning was done our streets were immaculate in their upkeep. Urmston received mechanical sweeper’s c.1945 and later in 1997 for use on pavements.

A quote from the time; **“We were not a throwaway society, like many I never had to be told not to throw rubbish around, we just never did it.”** Cliff Royle Local author

William Burgess

**Street Index. 2010**

A street index offered by a local Estate Agency showed that the district was made up of 527 byway names. Topping the list, 152 were Avenues this was followed by 134 Roads. Taking a shared third place, Drive and Close with 44 each. For a **street index** the peculiarity is that there were **only 3 streets**, Cross, George, and Stephan.

## Street Lighting.



Once the Urmston byways were to become illuminated it brought forth a variety of lamp posts. This was to be called "Street furniture" among items like telephone poles, direction signs, and their kin. The first photographs depicted ornate castings that enhanced the Victorian look for the district. The Gas Office on Crofts Bank Road carried a series of overhead contraptions that were large enough to show the town what was to come. Modernisation, although still gas lit, brought steel posts that had a bar across to enable the lamplighter to lean his ladder against for safety.

1937 brought major changes as contracts were awarded for lighting to Crofts Bank, Davyhulme Circle, Hayswater, Moorside, Bowfell, and Flixton Roads. Steel columns with mercury vapour and/or sodium lights were to be erected. This gradual conversion to electricity continued to arrive into 1945 but keeping many existing stands to house this new-fangled powering. Most of the common versions stood into 1960 when the taller model lit the streets. Concrete posts were typical of the era and offered a far superior throw of light from their height. Most today have changed back to steel with even more power of illumination and the light taken higher.

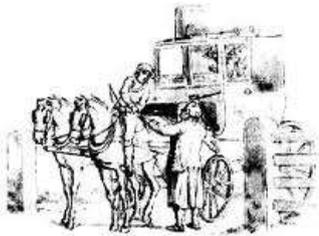
A few of the older lamps have become ornate garden ornaments with perfect examples to be seen on Roseneath and Devon Roads, Link Avenue and Crofts Bank Road. Once Maunders had established the conversion of their offices on Crofts Bank Road they added four stylish lamp posts to the frontage retaining some link to the past for the road. As a statistic council bought 400 concrete lamp posts in 1963 for erection around the town.



## Toll Roads.

A Turnpike road has been located for yesteryear under its own heading in this A-Z but there was an actual Toll Road in Flixton. Chassen Road in its days as Abbots Lane was an exercise in this vein. One Penny was charged for anyone wishing to use it giving forth to the name of Penny Lane. The only other toll that was charged in the area was to cross the ferry at Irlam.

## Turnpike and Toll.



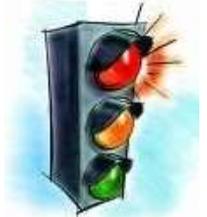
Richard Lawson, in his book, described the route of a very old Turnpike. It originated in Eccles and passed over what is now the Barton Aqueduct. Then heading west along what was the Old Barton Road where it went south and back onto Barton Road to the Davyhulme Circle. Following this it traversed along Lostock Road through to the motorway and beyond. A turnpike was an early application of a Toll Road, this particular one dates back to 1811 it was approximately 4½ miles long.

There were no turnpike roads through Flixton or Urmston although one had to pay a Penny to cross the bridge on Penny Lane. (Now Chassen Road Bridge) Further to this R. J. J. Norreys JP of Davyhulme laid complaint in 1824, he found people were being charged a toll when travelling to the Barton Mill or the Smithy which were exempt according to a law passed in 1811, he won his case and the toll was dropped.

A **Bar** was another calling under this banner. One of few to retain this title into the 20<sup>th</sup> century is Trafford Bar at Chester and Talbot Roads slightly out of the district unfortunately.

## Traffic Lights. Station Road Bridge

Automated traffic lights were introduced to Urmston c.1948 the four ways crossing of Flixton, Crofts Bank, Station, and Railway Roads became the **'first and only'** set in the district at that time. Reported was the first scheduled maintenance brought up in local council of this time as confirmation of the date. The second set came in 1967 at the intersection of Moorside and Winchester Roads.



## Vehicle Lighting.



For the first time in 1897 the Urmston Council listened to a proposal for all vehicles to carry lighting. This was to be made compulsory throughout the county and it was suggested that the Town Clerk should write to the Lancashire County Council to issue an order. In the meantime, it was forwarded to the local Bridges and Roads Committee.

## Zebra Crossings. Urmston (a Council report)

Six new crossings were proposed for Urmston in 1969 with four more being investigated. It was stated that under what was then, "*Current financial stringency*" this may not be possible, and this will be deferred until 1970. Before this time the crossings were few and far between but did exist from 1936. The Pelican crossings came into being locally as of 1969.



- **Rochester Road.** Davyhulme

A mid-1930's date for this road and its accommodation for 34 families. (A famous Cathedral town)

- **Rock Road.** Urmston

A survey map for 1907 shows the road establish but without any residences. The major part of this road came in or around 1980, it has 25 homes there. It was known from earlier days as reference has been found to 1935 and a home called Beverly.

#### **Beverley.** Rock Road

This was a detached dwelling with two bedrooms. The information given included a lounge with an inglenook, bay windows, French windows, one sunshine bedroom had a veranda and it included all the normal mod cons usual for a home of its time. An early resident for 1939 was Thomas Moffat.

#### **Brookside.** Rock Road

This became only the third house to be named on Rock, found in 1938 with Harry Hardman Deaville selling insurance.

#### **The Gales.** Rock Road

The first home on Rock Road is called this and it is assumed that it follows the name of the field on which it stood. One name for the moment was that of 1938 J. Allan Tomlinson.

- **Roedean Gardens.** Flixton

The Gardens arrived about 1950 and has 51 houses to its name. This Brighton place name is better known around the world for its Girls schools.

- **Romley Road.** Davyhulme

There are 9 homes to the road as it sits associated to Conway Road.

- **Roseneath Road.** Urmston **1900** (Rose Street **1880**)



The local authority was calling for tenders to repair this street in 1881 although it did not go through to Flixton Road. On this street was a house called Rose Villa in 1882, a small, semidetached with three bedrooms, parlour, and sitting room was all it could show. 1893 had families moving into new homes created as the beginnings.



With the change of Rose to Roseneath came the blanking out of its sign mounted high on the wall at Flixton Road.

- **Roseneath Road.** Urmston 1900 and on

For **1900 west**, the English Martyrs Church leads off here with Brooklyn Terrace and Villas. Then, Truro Veer, Lindum Villa, Holly Hurst, Oak Villa, Hygeia Villa, and Beech Villa are listed to Fern Villa. Only Sunny Side is named in a group of eight following. East View and Fern Lea are beside the last block of twenty-two in this group No.22 was named as Ormonde Villa.

The **1900 east** fared better with names, Wynford House is known out of row of seven houses. Olive Terrace, Carlton Terrace, Daisy Terrace, Ireby Villas, come next with Aliwd Villa, Borrow Dale, and Rose Cottage ending this row.

Next for **1911** Thorn Lea became the new addition sitting next to Fern Lea. The road numbers had been altered drastically for this time Ormonde Villa for example was No.97 throwing out all earlier reference. The **east** side added only the names of Carisbrooke and Whitfield. Little has changed other than numbering from its 1880 start and out of the 118 properties there is only one as a flat.

A last look at Roseneath with **1928**, the Presbytery had been bought by this year and the Urmston Cricket Club included its presence as well. The remainder did not show a single naming with the count smaller at 109 properties.

#### **Aliwal Villa.** Roseneath Road (**East**)



A single addressed number for to the Villa it was 106 and in 1898 Oswald Virtue lived there. A revision for 1909 made it that the address was 102 and Henry Grundy could be found at home. This home is older than suggested by the 1898 date, possibly 1850 would be more in keeping and one of the earliest on the road.

#### **Beech Villa.** Roseneath Road

A foreign correspondent wrote his papers here in 1901 he was Emanuel Martinho. The home was listed as No.33 on the **west** side. Manny belonged here until 1918.



**Borrowdale.** Roseneath Road

On the **east** side at No. 132 this house for 1898 had a resident of John Gooden. This was to be John's home until 1918 then Alfred Irwin took over.

**Brooklyn Terrace and Villas.** Roseneath Road

Numbered as 5-11, the four for the terrace came directly after the English Martyrs Church on the **west** of the road in 1898. The numbers 13-17 followed as the **Brooklyn Villas**.



Terrace



Villas

**Carisbrooke.** Roseneath Road

This became named only after 1910 and it was addressed as 98 on the road with Charles Smith taking responsibility for it.

**Carlton Terrace.** Roseneath Road

Carlton was an 1895 creation showing several homes 64-74 to the **east** of the road. Tenants for 1898 were Rev. John Christian from the Unitarian Church, Robert Maunder, William Wilcox, John Pease, Miss. E. Thomas and Edward Cowan. After 1903 the terrace lost its naming in documentation.

**Daisy Terrace.** Roseneath Road

Established in 1890 this small terrace was made up of five homes numbered 88-96 it would be found on the **east** side. (Presently numbered as 84-92)

**East View.** Roseneath Road

The view from the **west** side was for a pair numbered as 63 and 65 in 1898, living there were the John Wild and William Featherstone families respectively.

**English Martyrs.** R C Church Roseneath Road

Although around Urmston as a Mission since 1890 the first church an Iron version was opened in 1893. This was carried out in the presence of the Bishop of Salford, Canon Hayes, and Canon Desplenter. It was only in 1901 the foundation was to be laid by Bishop Bilsborrow on Roseneath Road. That building was completed and dated from 1913. The construction was by the local builder of Spark and Son.

An interesting aspect for this was that the new church was built around the old before demolishing. The foundation stone for a 1935 project was laid by Mrs. J. A. Lyons who at that time was wife to the Prime Minister of Australia. That school never materialised.



There was a bell associated with this church, its location has been lost, but it is recorded that the iron church had one in fleche.

**English Martyrs Presbytery.** Roseneath Road

First was purchased, for the use of the clergy, 80 Flixton Road. Next it was registered at numbers 5-7 Roseneath the Presbytery took a semidetached dwelling called **Brooklyn Terrace**. This event took place c.1903 when the Rev. J. W. Thomson obtained possession. 1909 and a new Reverend, James Corkery, 1911 and a new Reverend, Charles Rothwell, 1919 and a new Reverend, Joseph Bannon, 1928 and a new Reverend, James McDonnell. 1939 had Rev. Charles Crisp with Rev. John Leddy.

**English Martyrs Mission School.** Roseneath Road

Canon Kershaw of the All Saints Church was involved with the purchase of land for a School and Mission here in 1890. It was already established as Wheetmans being sold to accommodate the new venture. Father Francis Newton was appointed as first minister by Bishop Herbert Vaughan. The school sat aside of the church approximately where the car park is presently along Flixton Road. Its 1891 beginnings were short lived as it was presumably removed or included in the 1901 School. This new structure was built by the same company Spark and Son who did the 1913 church.



Application has been made to demolish the school for future parking space. (Not as yet granted) The church now has to accommodate additional patrons since amalgamating with Our Lady of the Rosary from Davyhulme.

**Fern Lea.** 69 Roseneath Road

In 1901 this pair of homes had the address of **west** 67-69 with the names of Charles Frederick Smith and Thomas Wainhouse as residents. The partner was Thorn Lea that has been traced earlier to 1890.

**Fern Villas.** 35-37 Roseneath Road

The Villas in the year of 1898 had the families of Howden and Jackson to present it. This semidetached home showed the Pickard and Holt families sharing the accommodation in 1901.

**Glin Terrace.** 9 Rose Street for the time

Although written as an entry in the St. Clement's Church registry it is possibly an error with **Glen** more likely for its calling. 1894 had a daughter added to the family of William and Alice Stubbs. Rose was to become Roseneath and it would follow that the terrace came after the Presbytery which was numbered as 5-7.

**Holly Hurst.** 27 Roseneath Road

Following the popular name which included Holly here is another old home surviving in today's lifestyle. For 1898 it belonged to William Brownsett Stubbs then to Richard Dyson in 1899. Registered at 25 was **Lindum Villa** both on the **west** side.

**Hygeia Villa.** 31 Roseneath Road

The Villa was around in 1880 as Rose Street, its four bedrooms and parlour were to be included with a bath and lavatory. The whole place was ventilated by a Boyle and Tobin system. 1898 had Margaret Abbott at home here in that year with, at number 29, the home of **Oak Villa**.

**Ireby Villas.** Roseneath Road

This pair was known from 1895 and for their **east** address as 98 and 100 at home were the Baxendall's and the Etchell's. A family called Glazier took the place of Baxendall for 1898.

**Lindum Villa.** Roseneath Road

Arnold Carneiro a Foreign Correspondent lived at number 25 for the year of 1898 his home was on the **west** side. At this time 27 was **Hollyhurst**.

**Malabar Mount.** Roseneath Road

A row of homes that showed a name of present times, they are 71-81. Buildings here are pre-1900 and it could be construed as being the naming of the whole terraced block. Mount Malabar is a volcano in Java.

**Oak Villa.** Roseneath Road

**West**, and at number 29, lived William John Clauge during the year of 1898. The matching partner for the villa was number 31 **Hygeia**.



**Olive Terrace.** Roseneath Road

Traced in 1893 the **eastern** Terrace had the address of No's 22-38. This followed Western View early on the road.

**Ormonde Villa.** Roseneath Road

For 1898 the villa at 97 was coupled to **Rosebery Lawn**. Robert Howard was living in this **west** house for that year. In 1926 it contained three bedrooms, two living rooms, bathroom and kitchen. It was noted with a date of 1894 in other findings.

**Rose Cottage.** Roseneath Road

Although it is close to facing Moorside Road it was never shown for that address. The cottage also carried the name of **Rose Villa** in some directories and it was one of the earliest homes on the road dating from around 1879. By 1898 Charles Pengelly lived in it on the **east** side at number 134.

As Roseneath was originally called Rose and Moorside did not exist the connection is difficult to pass-by when confirming where Rose Cottage belonged.

**Rosebery Lawn.** Roseneath Road

Identified as 95 along the road this home was where Joseph Clover lived in 1891. A connection to the past is that it could have been related to the Farm calling of Rosebury. Mr. Clover had connections to horse racing providing another alternate for the home naming and the famous Lord Rosebury and horses. For ID the original gate posts still stand and read accordingly.

**Rosebury Farm.** Rose Street for the time

J. Heinrich Stechmann and his wife Sarah are known to have lived here in 1893 as they had all their children baptised at St. Clement's giving this as their home. As can be found from other information spelling problems such as this are unavoidable with the facts recorded as they were introduced from the originals. Rosebery and Rosebury.

**Sunnyside.** Roseneath Road

For 1898 the house belonged to William Rostron then 1901 Tom Whiting and it was addressed as number 41 on the **west**.

**Thorn Lea.** 67 Roseneath Road

This was the neighbour to **Fern Lea** for the year of 1911 its homemaker was Mrs. Amy Wright.

**Truro Veor.** Roseneath Road

Truro carried the number of 23 in 1898 situated on the **west** side John Soddy was at home for this time. The calling of Truro has Cornish beginnings.

**Western View.** Roseneath Road

The first terrace by number 2-12. At number 4 it has been called Belmont from an unknown date. The terrace shows in the 1898 directory with others known for a slightly earlier date.

**Whitfield.** Roseneath Road

Numbered as 100 Peter Walter Petter held home for 1910 in this **west** side house.

**Wynford House.** Roseneath Road

Number 20 on the **east** side of the road was called this for 1898 with Charles Thompson in house. 1901 and it carried the name of Herbert Worsley. This home is deceiving in that there appears to be a connection to the terrace, but it was always a home of its own.



- **Roslyn Avenue.** Flixton

With 1970 given for the most changes here the 48 homes include 17 flats.

- **Ross Grove.** Urmston 1900

The Grove gets its name from John Ross who owned the land in its baron state.

Known is that a terrace numbered 2-12 brings this Grove up to the official address of Urmston Grammar School. An annex to the junior school was removed later. In 2010 there were nine family homes registered as the Grove. Homes were known here as far back as 1890.

**Abbotsford.** Ross Grove.

The only named home on this grove and it was the house for the schoolmaster Henry Fletcher in 1919. The headmaster called Wilfred Baker he took residence for 1928. The school referred to was Urmston Grammar located across the road.

**Urmston Grammar School.** Ross Grove

The school catered for both boys and girls on Ross Grove, it was to be officially called The Urmston Higher Grade and Organised Science School. Opened in 1882 it expanded to include areas up to Wycliffe Road and by 1901 it was bounded by Newton and Flixton Road. The extension in 1888 of the Ross Grove portions included a laboratory, lecture rooms, and facilities for art. Cookery and music were also accounted for in a building designed by Mr. F. Popplewell an architect from Manchester. This new school was opened by Mr. Robert Dobson after the old closed and was demolished.

1929 the current building was opened by The Earl of Crawford and with the Grammar was an Infant School. Stephen Wilkinson of the County was responsible for the architecture. The school's motto is "*Manners Makyth Man*" this is accompanied by a Lion.



Heads of the past; 1881 Miss Kay Roy. 1884 Miss Annie Edge who was replaced by John Blakeley. Under the new school 1929 -1955 Wilfred Baker. The Chief Executive Mike Spinks was acclaimed by the Secretary of State for Education describing him as the "Best Headmaster of the Best Grammar School in the country" sadly passed away in 2015 after 14 years of highly acclaimed service.

To celebrate 100 years since the change from its calling of the Higher-Grade school and the official formation of Urmston Grammar. An alumnus has been formed to prepare for a gala event.

Mike Spinks

- **Rossett Drive.** Davyhulme

Rossett has been around since 1980 with the homes counting as 68. Wrexham in Wales is home to Rossett.

- **Rothay Close.** Calderbank.

A small Close with attachment to Calderbank Close.

- **Rothiemay Road.** Flixton **1900**



The road only boasted two homes for this period. The later date of **1911** shows one of the homes being called Woodthorpe, and to the **west** four new homes, three named, Kinmont, Lumara (Lismara) and, The Nook. Most had changed names by 1928. As a new named home Cranleigh came for 1948. Many additions here as for 2010 it now has 65 properties. Rothiemay has Scottish history well-known for its granite deposits. J. Barker was the contractor for most here.

**1928** for Rothiemay calling: Struan, Granville, Woodthorpe, Lily Bank, Garnock, Welwyn, Home lea, Linton, Richmond, Fernside, Kinmont, Red Rowan, Lismara, The Nook, Colby, Grange View, Silverlands, Lulworth, and Newstead.

A company called Distinctive Homes began building new homes here as the Rothiemay Estate in 1933 headed by D. Franklyn.

**Colby.** Rothiemay Road

As a manager Harry Gordon managed this 1927 dwelling with ease. He did as he was around for 1938-39.

**Cranleigh.** Rothiemay Road

This **east** side home belonged to John Emmins in 1919. It was the first home out of a pair here in this year with it was **Woodthorpe**. Sometime later it became **Struan** under the 1928 name of David Robertson. Harold Bailey followed in 1938. This was a four bedroomed home, its hall came with a fireplace, and a sunshine room could be converted into two rooms as it housed a French window. A kitchen, scullery with pantry and bathroom almost finished the story adding a maid's attic bedroom. The two-car garage alongside being set in flower and kitchen gardens.

**Egret.** Rothiemay Road

Bird lover, maybe, 1938 offered this naming with William Holden at home.

**Fern Side.** Rothiemay Road

For the **west** side this house along the road had Ernest Stephen Fernandez as tenant as of 1927. Thereafter he was known as Fernley having legally changed his name in 1933. 1938 brought Arthur Brennan to the house.

**Garnock.** Rothiemay Road

Garnock is a river from Scotland. The 1928-38 homeowner could have visited with his Scottish name of John McCallum.

**Glencar.** Rothiemay Road

In this glen was 1938 manager Sam Bell.

**Grange View.** Rothiemay Road

To view a Grange in 1928-38 Alfred Palmer would have seen only Grange Avenue as his house sat at the corner of Brooklyn Avenue.

**Granville.** Rothiemay Road

Living at this house was 1928 occupant Harry Sidall. Then William Burrows for 1938.

**Home Lea.** Rothiemay Road

The lea home of Charles Matthews it would be found on the **east** side c.1927. Mrs. Mable Mathews carried on in 1938.

**Kinmont.** Rothiemay Road

In 1910 this semidetached house made life comfortable for Robert Sanderson on the **west** side. This home was made up of a drawing room, adjoining living room, four bedrooms, a bathroom, and large gardens front and back. James Burnley became the 1938 kin for this house.

**Lily Bank.** Rothiemay Road

The Bank became home to Charles Dew around 1927 to cap it off he worked in a bank. This home was 2 enter, 3 beds, and bath with a nice garden in 1931. Thomas Wignall enjoyed the garden in 1938.

**Linton.** Rothiemay Road

The 1927 house when refiner Gregory Ball called it his own and the last building for the **east** side. In 1938 William Parry was here.

**Lismare.** Rothiemay Road.

In 1909 this house carried the name and Isaac Gaskell was still living there in 1911 for this period of its being. A 1934 description provided some small information: It was a semidetached home with four bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, scullery, and bathroom. Added was a pleasant garden complete with a garage. Archibald Ledbrooke parked here in 1938.

**Loughrigg.** Rothiemay Road

An offering for 1938 having at home, William Dudley.

**Lulworth.** Rothiemay Road

This was the house for William Bailey for the years around 1927-28. By 1938 Robert Seed found his worth in the home.

**Lumara.** Rothiemay Road

Isaac Gaskell lived in this house during 1910 it was on the **west** side of the road. For the year of 1928 it became **Lismara**.

**Newstead.** Rothiemay Road

Making Thomas Prendergast feel proud was the fact that his home, for 1927, was the last on the **west** side of Rothiemay.

**Perrybeg.** Rothiemay Road

Patrick McGeown was a 1938 steam smelter perhaps the calling could be attributed to his trade in some way.

**Red Rowan.** Rothiemay Road

Named after the Rowan Tree this calling was occupied in 1927 to 1928 by Samuel Ashton it was a **west** side story.

**Richmond.** Rothiemay Road

On the **west** side this house came first as of 1928 and there one could find salesman Harry Taylor. After that Norman Barwick, ten years, later filled the spot.

**Selborne.** Rothiemay Road

1938 brought up this name with William Bailey in residence.

**Silverlands.** Rothiemay Road

1927 occupant Joseph Ogden kept house in Silverlands. He was found to be there through to 1939-40.

**Sovrana.** Rothiemay Road

In house for 1938 was Frank Gandy.

**Struan.** Rothiemay Road

The **east** side home that began the road was occupied by 1928-38 resident David Robertson who was a works chemist.

**The Nook.** Rothiemay Road

This Nook had Alfred Barnes as its owner for 1910 as he lived on the **west** side of Rothiemay. Thomas Longworth could have written a book about 1938 nooks, as he was a journalist.

**Tweedale.** Rothiemay Road

George Hardy Bown occupied the house for 1939.

**Welwyn.** Rothiemay Road

For 1927 this had become the house for Clifford Williams.

**Woodthorpe.** Rothiemay Road

The **east** side house was where Edward John Holt made it his own for 1910. It was next door to **Cranleigh**, the only pair for this side. It was a five bedroomed abode with large gardens. 1938 and it was turn for Herbert Ravenscroft to live here.

- **Rowan Avenue.** Urmston

This no through road came into being c.1904 with only accommodation for 6 families this grew to 9 after 1911. The avenue is still recording the same today for 2010.

- **Rowland Avenue.** Urmston

There are twelve individual homes to Rowland.

- **Royal Avenue.** Urmston

The best information has it that the avenue was built about 1931 it is made up from 22 properties. It became subject to 'No Waiting' rules in 1964 applied by council. The design of the houses presents itself as being completed by one architect and builder. Inlaid contrasting brickwork can be found to all the homes down this avenue in similar fashion for each house. Royal is a cul-de-sac.

#### **Wood. A. Royal Avenue.**

A single General Property repairing service run from here by its 1953 owner who had his works on the avenue although the residence was quoted as being 20 Longfield Avenue.

- **Royalty.**

#### **Coronations.**



Since Queen Victoria passed away there have been several coronations to celebrate in Urmston. Nothing compares to that of Edward VII in June of 1902 when Urmston threw an extravaganza. Trafford Lifetimes show many photos of this event and Urmstons participation. Photographs show the 'Arch' which was especially built for the occasion by Spark and Sons. George V gave reason for another party in 1911 his Coronation was slightly more commercial with items being sold of a local nature. Since that time, George VI and Elizabeth II have added to the Coronation '*street party*' fun.



#### **Edward VII. 1841-1910**



The King paid a Royal visit to Urmston in July 1905 en route to the opening of a new dock in Manchester. He was the eldest son of Queen Victoria and he was accompanied by Queen Alexandra. 1909 he passed through Davyhulme on his way to Knowsley Hall.

The Urmston crowds for a King



#### **Duke of York. (Prior to becoming King George in 1901) 1897**

The Duke visited an agricultural show at Trafford Hall and took in Barton on the way.

#### **Jubilee. (Queen Victoria) 1897**

The Queen's Jubilees were celebrated in style throughout Urmston. Flags and bunting were strung all along Crofts Bank Road and through to the end of Station Road. These were occasions to enjoy. The Queen had two parties during her reign one for Gold in 1887 and then this one Diamond 1897.

Victoria in 1897



#### **Jubilee Field.**

An acre or two of farmland behind the Urmston Grange was called the Jubilee Field. Another honour bestowed on Queen Victoria and her well celebrated event. The field has been lost now due to the Motorway construction.

#### **Leopold. King of Belgium**

The King was an interested party to the construction of the Ship Canal taking a tour, which included Barton, in 1890.



#### **Prince Charles.**



The Prince visited Urmston in 2000 to be in attendance for the opening of the McMillan Well-being centre at Trafford General. A plaque is designated to this however no one remembers if he actually ever came.



**Princess Mary** stayed for the day while opening Park Hospital 1929.

**Silver Jubilee.** King George V 1935

Jubilee celebrations were held at Flixton House as a three-day event. It also marked the official opening of the grounds since purchased by Council in 1935. They started with a beacon (bonfire) and firework display, a Chinese Lantern Tattoo, and ended with community singing. Residents were provided with an illustrated souvenir which gave a brief history of the district. The Flixton Secondary Modern School installed a sundial over its front entry as their way of celebrating this event.

**Victoria.** Queen of England 1819-1901

Crowned in 1838 Queen Victoria's influence in Urmston included a hotel and the planting of a Jubilee Tree. The Queen visited, via the canal, to officially open the Manchester Ship Canal in May 1894. Several roads, terraces, and even a field have been labelled under her name. Much architecture from her era makes up the district although sadly it keeps being removed as time goes by. (Queen Victoria reigned 1837-1901)



- **Royston Road.** Davyhulme

The building boom of 1935 continued and the 46 houses for Royston were included. For England, Royston is in Hertfordshire.

- **Rutland Avenue.** Urmston

Once the smallest county in England this Rutland is also small with four homes.

- **Rydal Avenue.** Flixton

Twelve houses in the avenue which is located on the Shaw Hall Estate. This Rydal is Cumbrian in Origin.

- **Ryeburn Walk.** Davyhulme

Not far to walk, there are only 9 houses here.

## S

- **Salisbury Road.** Davyhulme

A newer part to Davyhulme coming in 2003, it has 55 homes.

- **Sandgate Drive.** Davyhulme

The corner of Sandgate was where H. & J. Tetlow set up their Davyhulme Garage. They were followed in direction by Sarah and John Bethell with a Dairy outlet. One of the first roads to be paved with concrete in the district c.1928. There is accommodation for 34 families on Sandgate. A road to aid diversion of traffic at the Davyhulme Circle.

- **Sandown Gardens.** Flixton

Eleven gardens to Sandown, they were built by O'Connor & Co. in or around 1971 and sit behind and alongside of the Bird i'th Hand. The land for this project was purchased from the Worthington Wright estate solely for the purpose. Old cottages sat here with the name of Sandown and the cottage row of Hawthorne.

- **Sandsend Road.** Davyhulme

After building took place here in 1935 it finished up with 36 houses. A home named Blantyre was found for 1954 and in 1960 a house actually called Sandsend.

- **Scafell Close.** Flixton.

This Close is a leg of Jackson Court.

- **Scholfield Avenue.** Urmston

This avenue has 7 houses, for 1928 six of these are named: Rodier, Roker, Cheyne, Lynden, Meadow View, and Belfield. The last house on the avenue was the only one without a calling.

**Belfield.** Schofield Avenue

It was all fields for George Mergatroyd, but he did not have to work them in 1928 he just lived there.

**Cheyne.** Schofield Avenue

Wilfred Wharton called this his own 1928 home.

**Lynden.** Schofield Avenue

Wallace Durston in 1928 lived at this address he was a teacher by profession.

**Meadow View.** Schofield Avenue.

This house did have a good look at the meadows for its time of 1927. Looking was Harry Silcock as he tended the garden.

**Rodier.** Schofield Avenue

The first house on the avenue was occupied by Mrs. Clara Heywood it was for 1928 closest to Stretford Road.

**Roker.** Schofield Avenue

1928 owner James Webb lived in the house.

- **Scouts and Guides.**

### Scouting.

1<sup>st</sup> Flixton have laid claim to be the earliest group around being established in 1907. There is another 'first' record for Urmston. Nicolette Marsden became the first girl to join an all-boys troupe that of 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme at the tender age of 8 years old. Locally there are presently 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Davyhulme. Flixton has 1<sup>st</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> with 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>, Urmston completing the list. (The 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston was founded in 1936 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme in 1943) 2<sup>nd</sup> Davyhulme are located in Flixton with all groups falling under the designation of the Urmston and District Scout Council. Urmstons Scouting & Church Lads Brigade headquarters were to be found at 29 Ashfield Road in 1928 at the corner of Higher Road.



Honours have been presented to local representatives in recent years. One of the highest orders for scouting is the "Silver Fox" it was a reward to Mr. Leslie Naylor who lived on Derwent Avenue he had served the scouts for 38 years. Mrs. E. McCaig 1<sup>st</sup> Flixton and Mr. M. J. Colbourn 1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme received the 'Bar' to go with their previously earned Medal of Merit awards. This was for their outstanding service to scouting. (2003) 1<sup>st</sup> Nelson once represented the sea scouts now disbanded.

### Scout headquarters locally.

1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme pass under the name of "Woodcraft" Bent Terrace  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Davyhulme keep it simple they are known as "The Scout Hut" Bowfell Road  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme can be found at the "Endeavour" Conway Road  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Urmston have "The Scout Hut" Ashfield Road  
 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston have their home called "The Lighthouse" Eas Brook Meadows  
 1<sup>st</sup> Flixton "The Scout Hut" Lansdowne Road  
 8<sup>th</sup> Flixton "The Scout Hut" Woodsend Crescent



### Scout Explorers.

These are the older groups 14-18 who take their scouting to the next level.

Aquilifer: 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston  
 Dakota: 2<sup>nd</sup> Davyhulme  
 Loki: 1<sup>st</sup> Flixton  
 Merlin: 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme  
 Phoenix: 2<sup>nd</sup> Urmston  
 Viking: 1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme  
 Maverick: 8<sup>th</sup> Flixton



### Girl Guides.



Early pictorial evidence shows they existed around the village in 1919. The photographs show 1<sup>st</sup>. Urmston on parade for the Victory celebration of that year. The actual Urmston Division Girl Guide Association was granted a Royal Charter in 1922. Their aim: To the instruction of girls of all classes in the principles of *discipline, loyalty, and good citizenship*. St. Marys has been associated with guides since 1946 and St. Clements Branch Church has had a Brownie group since 1959. The 4<sup>th</sup> Urmston troop celebrated 50 years in 2008.

Some facts of the local troupes: There 11 assorted Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Rangers for Davyhulme. Only 4 are available to Flixton as it is with Urmston. There is a group called the Girls Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme that operate from the Davyhulme Methodist Church on Hayswater Road. Guides who were once involved in this pastime formed an association called the **Trefoil Guild**. Until it suspended its operation it became a familiar haunt where gatherings were held to reminisce about the guiding of old. The calling of Trefoil arrives from the three-leaf insignia of Guiding.

- **Seabrook Crescent.** Davyhulme

Eight properties make up the Crescent. Numbers 1-2 were to be demolished in 1976 due to subsidence having been built over a pond.

- **Service Associations.**

### Air Training Corp.



Established as a force in 1941 Flixton is home to the 182 Squadron and they are still flying high today. In this group's earlier times c.1946 their band led by Sergeant Don Wheeldon won prizes in competitions. A football team was formed also with some moderate success. The Sir Allan Lees Trophy was presented to this squadron in 1964, they were found to be the best of their kind in the United Kingdom. Urmston had the 1944 group, the 246 Squadron who dedicated their flag in that year.

### Army Cadet Force.

 Penny Bridge Lane

As with their various service cadet counterparts, formed after WW2 and they are today, marching on. The force is open to boys and girls aged 12 to 18.



### British Legion.

 Urmston


The Royal Legion was to be found in the building that now houses the indoor portion of Urmston Market on Railway Road. Subject to confirmation it is now associated with the J. Alker Hall. Its original Flags or Standards can be viewed inside St. Clements Church where they are kept for posterity. There are seven standards representing the Legion in several forms. The Legion closed its Urmston Branch in 1997 but went on to celebrate its 90 anniversaries in the year of 2011.

### Flixton Ex-Service Men's Club.

The club took home at the John Alker Memorial Hall as from the time it was built in 1927. Not only offering the hall as a recreational facility it acts as a function room for public hire. The social side includes golf, darts, bowling, snooker, dominoes, complete with a stage to produce entertainment of all kinds.

### Home Guard. Urmston

During WW2 the local Home Guard were represented by the No.4 Platoon E Company Urmston 44<sup>th</sup> Lancaster Battalion.

### Manchester Regiment. Flixton Road

A company of the 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Battalion was formed in 1872 often referred to as the Lancashire Rifles they practiced at the Drill Hall. Officially called the N company 1<sup>st</sup> BM Volunteers, Adam Stott was the Captain who later became a Major. They were a company of 110 men not to be taken lightly.

### National Association of Training Corps for Girls.

An association formed to cover all the different military outfits of the services in 1940. The local group gathered in an old cottage just off Moorside Road and later transferred to a Nissan Hut down Penny Lane. In 1963 this group was dissolved, as they became the Navy League changing once more in 1964 to the Girls Venture Corps.



### Territorial Army.

A company of Terra's has been around locally since the days of the old Stott Mill when the Stott family altered a portion of the Mill for this army use. In 1937 the Urmston Council sold one and a half acres of land to the East Lancashire Territorial Association to build a Drill Hall and create a new Company of able-bodied men there. The site was exactly where the beginning group was formed, on Flixton Road where the mill once stood. History was to repeat itself once more, as it became a Company of the Lancashire Fusiliers. Fact shows the Terra's as being an official organisation affiliated to the British Army.



### Urmston Sea Cadets. Combined with Stretford (Once 1st Nelson Sea Scouts)

The navy cadets came to town in 1942 for the first time in a joint venture with Stretford. They sailed under the name of *T.S. Winston Churchill* located on Cromwell Road. Since that time, they changed to Bradshaw Lane around 1960 and formed an alliance to the *T.S. Vengeance* with an association to the *HMS Vengeance* a Vanguard Class Submarine. In the year of 2000 a Lottery Grant had their dreams fulfilled in being enabled to acquire fully fitted accommodation building. Their newly completed home was only weeks away from opening when arsonists struck burning it down. Since 2004 the cadets have been assigned designation with the Royal Marine Cadets.



### Women's Royal Voluntary Service. Urmston

Known as the WVS at its conception of 1928 these volunteers were bequeathed the title of 'Royal' in 1966. The origins were from a formation to aid in Civil Defence graduating to community help and support into present times. Assistance is given in hospitals, meals on wheels, emergency services, an endless list where aid is needed. The Urmston branch operated out of Crofts Bank Road. By 1960 this service included Welfare Foods predominately for children.



### X-Servicemen.

Recognition to those who served in the World Wars has been well represented by clubs around the district. The British Legion, The Gunners Club, and the John Alker Hall became places of refuge where ex-service members could gather for social activity. Time has taken its toll and only the John Alker Hall is currently engaged as a last stronghold for the heroes of the era. Changes have been made to accommodate anyone who has an interest in the preservation of this noble heritage. Social members are allowed now from the public and being in service is no longer a necessity.



- **Sevenoaks Avenue.** Davyhulme

Named after a Kentish town, there are 35 homes to the avenue.

- **Shaftesbury Gardens.** Flixton

As gardens grow Shaftesbury follows with its 38 houses. Dorset has claim to Shaftesbury.

- **Shanklyn Avenue.** Urmston

2000 is noted for the formation of the 9 houses here. Shanklyn is a probable corruption of the Scottish Shanklin.

- **Shawe Road.** Flixton

The oldest houses here are as Bowden View which, although no date has yet been found, they are from c.1870. For the rest of the road there are 19 properties. Note: **Shaw and Shawe are derivatives of the same calling.**



Urmston Football Club. Shaw Road

The club with its clubhouse was addressed as Shaw for 1938. Harry Chapman was registered as Hon. Sec.

- **Shaw Hall Avenue and Crescent.** Flixton

Built on the site of the original Shaw Hall proper, the Avenue contains 29 houses. The Avenue and the Crescent, containing 45 houses, were built after the demise of the Hall in 1956 by Maunders Builders.

- **Shaw Hall Estate.** Residential

Phase one of the estate came in 1929 with lands purchased alongside the Shaw Hall and to the east. It was developed further as the Southgate, Riverside Drive, and Redesmere portions were added to complete a second phase. Lastly to the west, a further development followed once the Hall was removed in 1956. The Shaw Hall Gardening Society opened here in 1932 and held shows annually, allotments were to be found where the community centre is today. James Wild Co, who developed the estate, sponsored a silver trophy. Before development the lands here belonged to the Ridehalgh family.

- **Shawtown.** (Shawe Town)

The center of town was the area of the Roebuck Hotel, the Shaw Tithe Barn, and the Shaw Lodge. It reached to the early part of Southgate and beyond what was to become the railway at Chassen Road. Divided into several farm locations it was usually under the hand of a single farm manager. The most well know of these were George and Adam Stott. There is information about the Shawtown schools beginning with a simple cottage and moving to a triple housing site, finally reaching Church Road and its better-known school. There are recorded field names for the schools suggested beginning home.

The book by Lawson placed one in 1662 opposite the Buck while Langton gave dates of 1714 to 1764 of a school being built on "the Waste" a wattle and daub cottage with a thatched roof. The school's story is addressed under its own heading.

One parochial school was to be found there in the early 1800's and was being offered for sale as a country residence in 1859. The Indication is of Shaw Hall as in 1821 a school was formed for ladies at the Hall. Slightly later Adam Stott was registered at the Hall, his wife Ann was found to be the head of Shaw Town in the 1881 census.

The earliest date involving Shaw Town proper found was 1671 regarding a will left by Henry Smith. Henry was noted as Yeoman and Elder of Shaightowne. That was until a birth was found for a John Shawcross in **1575** his parents resided there at the time. Land leasing was dominated by the Egerton family as they divided the territory among the populous.

Court documents of 1825 point out that 180 people lived in Shawtown. Shaw Town would appear to have been self-sufficient as in 1846 John Stott was letting a Provision Shop there which had been established for many years. Frederick Tame ran a grocery and bakery store there in 1906. The town had its own well for a water supply and a Malt Kiln. 1765 records a portion called Shaw Green as a gathering point.



Shawtown residents in 1917

A letter posted in the press of 1807 stated that the head of the school in Flixton, James Harrison, was offering 19 children **free schooling** from charitable sources. The normal rates for the teaching of Letters and to Read, 2s 6d. Reading and Writing 5s and Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic 7s 6d. For the full education package of Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and Grammar 9s 6d.

**\*\* Clarification** Shaw Hall was aside from Shaw Town, the Shaw Town Farmhouse was situated on Church Road between Southgate and Barnfield, and the Lodge became better known as Chassen Lodge. Shawtown Farm on Balmoral Road became Chassen Farm and only Shaw House retained its name located close to Acregate and behind the Bird in Hand.

- **Sheldon Avenue.** Flixton

Sheldon has property with odd numbers of 1-13 that were known as being on Oak Avenue until 1933.

- **Sherborne Road and Sherbourne Road.** Davyhulme

A slight oddity here with 13 homes known under one way of spelling and a single house listed, with its own postal code, as the different spelling. Sherbourne is a town in Dorset.

- **Shetland Way.** Davyhulme

This Way has 88 residences dating back to 1970. Sheep and pony's come to mind for this Scottish Way.

- **Shipleigh View.** Davyhulme

One can view 12 homes on Shipleigh. Many towns carry this name in one variation or another.

- **Spring Lane.** Flixton

The lane adjoined Boanes at the edge of the Flixton Eas.

- **Ships and shipping.**

#### Adoption.

During WW2 the Urmston Community adopted two Destroyers namely the HMS Express (left) and HMS Zebra (right). After distinguished service which included the evacuation of troops during Dunkirk, the Express was transferred to the Canadian Navy in 1943. Continuing to serve until 1955 when she was finally broken up. The second destroyer HMS Zebra had been renamed in 1943



and served the Royal Navy until her break up at Newport in 1959. Earlier, in 1937, the St. Clement's Elementary School adopted two Merchant Marine ships the Napier Star and the Albion Star. They later added a third called the Brisbane Star because the Captain was the Headmaster's brother.



### Manchester Liners.

In March 1969 the *'Manchester Courage'* a ship belonging to the Liner Co. crashed into Irlam Lock gates. It closed the canal for five weeks. Technical problems with its 'state of the art' steering equipment had it going in reverse instead of forward. The ship was sold to Liberia in 1979 then renamed The Pacific Container.



This was not the first major accident along the canal, another happened in 1948 when the ship *'Westmount Park'* crashed into the Barton swing bridge. A fault in the system kept the bridge closed when it should have been open. Then a retaining tug lost its tow and the ship could not break in time. Road traffic was still entering onto the bridge during the moment of impact; fortunately, no one was seriously injured.

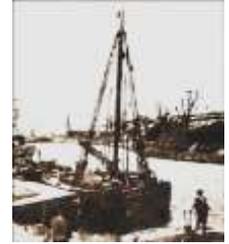


Westmount Park

### Mersey Flats.

This term was given to boats that could navigate the waters of the Mersey and the Irwell rivers. They were a sailing vessel not unlike a barge in shape but could be towed by two horses whenever the wind was calm. A Flat could handle approximately 30 tons of cargo and yet it only took 3 feet of water to manoeuvre in. This suited the typical conditions of the rivers where shallows were frequent. As the conditions improved and locks became available so the tonnage rose eventually, they could carry close to 75 tons with ease.

A Flat has survived the ravages of time; **The Mossdale**, built in 1863, is available at the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port and can be viewed by the public.



### RNA. Urmston Branch

This group meet at the Conservative Club every month as a part of Area 10 which covers the North West of England. Although called the Royal Navy Association they are comprised of Sailors and Wrens from the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, and the Merchant Navy. Their Motto: *"Once Navy Always Navy."*

### Royal Navy. HMS Mersey



There were five ships named as the Mersey, the first in 1814 a 26-gun Conway Class. Next came as the longest wooden vessel ever made for the Navy in 1858. The third ship had the distinction of being steam powered in 1885 and a fourth was launched in 1914, this one served until 1921. A current vessel was commissioned in 2003 as a River Class Patrol ship.



### Royal Yacht Britannia.

In 1997 Peel Holdings lost out on a bid to bring the retired yacht Britannia to Urmston and the MSC. A vision of converting it into a hotel and tourist attraction was beaten by a company in Leith Edinburgh.

### Seaman's Mission. Western Road



The mission operated from the house of Ashdene in 1928. This was the last house on the **east** side. Referred to as the North Western Area, Reginald C. S. Cundy had the position of organising secretary at the time. In the present this now called The Mission to Seafarers. It has not been established as to this being an office or an actual mission.

Four years earlier 1924, W. J. Adcock was representing the **Shipwrecked Mariners Society** from Glen Esk on Irlam Road stating the society was formed in 1893. Regarding seamen, a bronze medal was presented to Harold Hill of Ambleside Road for 1937. He saved the life of a fellow shipmate who was drowning between the quay and their ship. The gong was presented by the Humane Society in recognition of his bravery.

### Shipping. The opening of the Manchester Ship Canal.



When Queen Victoria came to the ceremony in 1894 her Admiralty Yacht "**Enchantress**" was used. This was escorted by two Gunships the Seagull and the Speedy for a short trip to Mode Wheel. The Seagull was lost later when it collided with another ship in 1918 whereas, slightly earlier, the Speedy went down after hitting a mine in 1914.

### Sludge Boats. MSC Davyhulme.

The Joseph Thompson was the first ship that took sewerage from Davyhulme to Liverpool Bay. Launched in 1897 it gave 36 years of service to the Manchester Rivers Committee before being retired in 1933. Some facts: It carried six and a half million tons of sludge during this time and travelled three quarters of a million miles. The Thompson was deployed as a dredger for much of its time involved on the canal. In some quarters these vessels were called '*Bovril*' boats a descriptive detail of how the cargo looked.



The replacement ship was called The Mancunian which was followed in 1971 by the **Gilbert J. Fowler (Left)** Other ships in the fleet were the **Percy Dawson (Right)** and the Consortium<sup>1</sup>. Sludge has also been delivered by pipeline to Liverpool since 1977. Dawson, Fowler, and Consortium were built by Ferguson Ship Builders of



Glasgow. Unfortunate nicknames arose for two of the boats and their task. '*Foul Gilbert*' and '*Percy Filth*' were catchy but unfair.

### Submarine.



In 1960 a visit from the Navy took place along the Ship Canal and into Manchester of two submarines, the Truncheon and the Aurochs. They were opened to the public for viewing as a goodwill and promotional tour. The MSC also record an Oberon Class Submarine came down the canal in 1976. It also reported that the same trip was completed just as WW2 was to end (1945) a German U-1023 submarine docked close to Barton Bridge again for local viewing in 1954. The Manchester Records Office hold photos of many submarines that visited over the years including pictures from 1894 when the H. M. Speedy Gunboat came. They go through the 1920's when many Frigates and Destroyers visited too then, into the 1980's, with more of all kinds.

### Titanic.



For all the historical events in the world there had to be a story regarding the sinking of this ship connect to Urmston. It is wildly remote, but it is included for the interest in anything Titanic. Leonard Hodgkinson was the 4<sup>th</sup> Senior Engineer who lost his life on board during this tragic event. He had a daughter called Marion who lived and was married in Urmston to William Arthur Pinnington 1920. Sorry, but that is the one and only connection found. The year of 2012 was the 100<sup>th</sup> year since the disaster.



Engineer Leonard

The Flixton Band under the leadership of Colonel Samuel Stott collected money for the Titanic Disaster Fund by holding a concert in the Drill Hall. May of 1912 showed this had amounted to £12-12s which was sent to the Mayor of Manchester.

### Trafford Hall. (Steam ship)

This passenger and cargo ship the SS Trafford Hall was built in Glasgow and owned by the Ellerman Lines Ltd. of Liverpool. Launched in 1905 it led an uneventful life mainly shipping to South Africa. She survived until being scrapped in 1934.



### Tugboats. MSC



Obvious to most would be that there were many tugboats in use during the heady cargo days of the Ship Canal. Reference is made to one in particular the **M V Daniel Adamson**. Named after the first chairman of the MSC Co. this boat was obtained by the company in 1921 while called the Ralph Brocklebank. A refit during 1936 provided time for the renaming. Giving service until 1986 she was retired to the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port. When it was learned that it is time was up and a schedule to go to the wreckers was in place, a Daniel Adamson Society was formed to preserve the vessel. It was refurbished in 2012 and once more cruises the waters.

### Urmston Grange. Merchant ship

A ship called the Urmston Grange was involved in active service during the Scapa Flow incident of WW1 in fact it was "*deliberately*" sunk there during the skirmish of 1914 as a part of a blockade. A search for its ownership before being commandeered to the Navy shows it had connections with Urmston in Greater Manchester. The original shipping family of Houlder lived in a Grange and as they began to add to their fleet it became a tradition to name ships after Grange's around the country. In 1946 Houlder Bros. purchased a second vessel and called it once more the Urmston Grange.



**Footnote:** There was also a ship named **The Flixton** which was built in West Hartlepool 1912. It was owned by the Deddington Steam Ship Co. of Hull. The ship was sunk during the First World War. It is to be understood that there are several places called Flixton that might claim this ship.

- **Shops and other business.**

### Fish and chips.



It has to be mentioned that even in 1900 "*prepared fish*" was available all over the district. This wholesome meal was one of the few things that did not fall into a category during WW2 rationing. Newspaper wrapping was commonplace until around 1950 when it was declared a health risk and unhygienic.

Whittaker on Station Road was proclaimed as having the 'Best Fish and Chips' in Britain 2008. The latest being Urmston Fish Bar, they received the Choice Chip award in 2014 for the Greater Manchester area.

### Fishmongers.

Like the various butcher shops fish mongers were a plenty around Urmston. Fresh fish suppliers slowly disappeared but the most well-known around in 1927 was Bob Graham who lived in Hawthorne Cottage next to the Bird in Hand. He walked the streets with his handcart for many years. There were few left by the 1950's and today it has become an item to purchase via the local supermarket, usually frozen.



### Haulage, Movers, Transportation Companies.

As a business this form of transportation has often featured in Urmston. Walton Removals, John Ancliff, W. Arnold, and J. F. Aidley were prominent names found locally since the war.

### Herd. David Car Propriety



Although the Car Sales of David Herd (Ex Manchester United) is not old 1965 it is presently housed along the side of an early building. Lostock Road was his first venture into the business of car sales and service. Permission was granted in 1977 to convert the works into a garage and sales property. The current site was once Arden Motors and here too was the candle factory for the Pybus Brothers it also has connection to the Telegraph newspaper and Woodsend Engineering even a laundry. As history goes it has a very chequered past in its varied usage. David passed on in 2016 leaving the continuance of his name with the business.

### Laundries.

1909 was a location for the **Hygienic Laundry** on Railway Road. Another business of this kind was on Woodsend Road calling itself the **Flixton Laundry** or **Woodsend Laundry** 1935-1950. These were not the only ones, 1898 had Mary Martin's **Imperial Laundry** at the corner of Crofts Bank and Hilton Avenue. After the war c.1950 the **Criterion Laundry** arrived on Stretford Road with several other independent coin operated shops appearing around 1960.



### Lewis's Depot.



The depot was a building owned by Lewis and Co. built in 1928. Building was carried out by J. Gerrard & Sons Ltd. of Swinton. Cadman's, the plastering subcontractor, used steel scaffolding there for the first time in the north west of England unheard of for the period. The space was as a warehouse and parcel depot for the distribution of all goods. The white building, which many mistakenly thought of as a ship on the canal, became a landmark for years but fell eventually to progress. Its location was at the corner of Moss Vale and Winchester Roads.

### M B T Frozen Foods. Woodsend

The location of Woodsend was chosen by this 1960's company for a 'Distribution Centre' due to its ability to service Manchester and surrounds. Although involved in many varieties of product they were best known for distributing Findus Frozen Food from Scandinavia.



### Sawmills.

Most records show that the Higher Road Mill was a **Spark** operation and it is well documented. This has been thought of as the only mill in the area for many years. Now a map dated as 1894-1904 has introduced another which was to be found opposite Belmont on Flixton Road. This was the site of many efforts and ventures brought about by John Hughenden although no connection has been traced to add his name to this one. (The map simply states Sawmill.) **Mitchell & Spittall** were a tenant here as construction engineers they had included sawmilling in their business. A log mill has been added since, found for 1818 and cause for the origin of Millers Lane in Flixton. For the present there is a company called Perkins on Higher Road who retained the Joseph Spark image and call themselves Urmston Sawmill.



### Urmston and District Chamber of Trade.

The Society of Commerce and Trade had been associated with Urmston since around 1945. It was formed to unite all businesses in a common front and to create better conditions for entrepreneurs and consumers alike. An example of relations between the public and shopkeepers a booklet was produced covering the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. Not only to show events but as a "yellow pages" to the district. Their offices were at 21 Station Road J. F. Bennett became President with Mrs. H. Lowe as Hon Sec.



### Urmston Calendar.

A calendar has been published and made available to Urmston for many years, each calendar introducing pictures and information of daily events from the past. This 'annual' record unfortunately does not appear every year. It has been published by "Memories Book Publications" on Crofts Bank Road.

- **Sidmouth Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue has 20 properties. A single home carrying the name of Mead Way in 1938 with another calling for 1951 it was Melandra at No 13. Devonshire is home to Sidmouth. Franklyn the builder claimed responsibility for its 1935 name.

- **Skelwith Close.** Davyhulme

Out of 17 residences there are 7 flats. Cumbria has Skelwith in its locale.

- **Skipton Drive.** Davyhulme

As a Drive it has 12 dwellings to its name. Visit North Yorkshire to find Skipton.

- **Skye Road.** Davyhulme

Named from the isle in Scotland it has 28 houses with a start of 1968.

- **Snowden Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue that was central to the first Shaw Hall Estate was built in 1931 it has 117 homes. Wild and Co. was already buying up the land there in 1929. According to a street photographer the avenue was to be called Snowden Drive as its first christening, this never came to be fact. Only two named houses found here which were Berith at No.91 and Monrovin at 95. The Avenue once supported a footpath connection through to Tintern Ave. In 2009 the circle garden at the center of the avenue came into dispute as a Utilities Company tried to erect a building on it. Found was a covenant that prohibited any using of the grounds there for purposes other than the rest garden it was intended to be. 2010 had this contested by residents the outcome was a smaller distribution box and accompanying shrubbery installed to hide it. Snowden, the word, is of Yorkshire origin.



**Berith.** Snowden Avenue

A 1932 home on Shaw Hall Estate, it was called this just prior to numbers being created for Snowden. The owners fabricated the word from a collection of letters made up from their names. They were Edith and Barney Smith and it was found as number **91** shortly afterwards.



**Monrovin.** Snowden Avenue

This was to be the second home found named for Snowden at the onset of the Shaw Hall estate being occupied. The Frederick Higgins family lived here at number **95** south along the avenue.

**Peel Bank.** 96 Snowden Avenue

Named in 1934 had A. E. Appleton at home.

Home naming did not last very long on Shaw Hall as numbering arrived very quickly after establishment. Almost all the homes carried a name of some kind even so.

- **Southbourne Avenue.** Urmston

The abode count for the avenue is 30. Sussex claims a Southbourne.

- **Southgate.** (Re-named as **Meadowgate**)

The first so named road was addressed **off** Meadow Road behind the St. Clement's Vicarage it passes by the name of **Meadow Gate** today. For 1919 several homes bore names they were Overdale, Scaleber, Gordale, Cald, Standroyd, The Rowans, Carmidale, Brookside, Lea side, Brookdale, and Thornbro. Added for 1928 was; Leathburn, and Brookside was dropped. The spelling of Carmidale changed as did the sequence of the names. **1928** with the full list: Overdale, Scaleber, Gordale, Cald, Standroyd, Thornboro, Brookdale, The Rowans, Carmodale, Leathburn, and Lea side. **See Meadowgate for details.**

- **Southgate.** Off Church Road



The end of Southgate provided one of the several entries onto the meadows. The plan for 1935 was to extend Southgate through and across the Mersey to Carrington. This particular end of the fields has been desecrated by a modern farm building approved by council. The path is now prohibited to pedestrians not allowing access other than to this farm. An application for light vehicle usage was refused in 2007.



Even as of **1911** Southgate comprised of just three premises, they were Langland, Cleveland, and Wallasey. This increased to a row of four semidetached homes by 1918. It began to expand around 1925 until eventually Southgate was lengthened all the way to the Meadows along with Riverside Drive, Redesmere Park, Taunton, and Matlock Avenues in 1934-5. Today, Southgate has 92 houses with one called Greylands found recorded in 1953. It was one of the first roads for the district set in concrete.

**1928** for this Southgate: Langland, Cleveland, Ross Cottage, Wallasey, Longley, Wayside, Bellwood, Lyndale, Caer Urfa, Milverton, Norwood, and East Looe. All noted to be in place before the neighbouring Shaw Hall Estate came into being.

A sample of the later homes on Southgate can be traced back to the lands owned by George Bolton Stott. Deeds show he purchased the fields here from the Ridehalgh family in 1903. This then transferred to Bainbridge builders in 1936. The shops at the corner date earlier 1931.

**Bellwood.** 22 Southgate



For 1919 this was the last semi in a group of four its mate was **Lyndale**. Here after the road ended with only Shaw fields to the Mersey. Frederick John Willett is dated here during 1919 to 1928 and on.

**Caer Urfa.** Southgate

Two semidetached homes appeared at the Church Road end of Southgate in or around 1920. They were the only houses to the **east** side for the period. This strange sounding home was derived from the Celtic language but has several meanings. They range from Town on the Hill to City on the Rock, added to this some say City of the Chieftain. Regardless it was coupled to **Milverton**.



**Cleveland.** Southgate

The second of the homes here built around 1910 as the first houses began to appear on this road. A group of four led off with **Langland** this one was its neighbour. In residence was John Pease who lasted until 1928 or longer.

**East Looe.** Southgate

Around 1920 two semidetached houses were built here they were the first for the **east** side of this road. This particular one was accompanied by **Norwood**. Walter Dinsdale was first to live here.

**Greylands.** Southgate

A son born to the Cooksons here in 1929 brought the name of Greylands to notice with no further detail.

**Langland.** Southgate

In the year of 1910 this was the first house shown on Southgate it was accompanied by three others in a row which were followed slightly later by four further semidetached on the opposite side. Through to 1928 this was the total housing for the road. Langland belonged to Percy Wilkinson from the beginning. The architectural design was far reaching for their years as the style of the Victorian era was being modernised. **Cleveland** became the second name of the two.

**Longley.** Southgate

After the initial start to housing down here the next pair to arrive were Longley and **Wayside**. This was the next to last of the four semi's in the row shown on the west side. William Breirley became the first home owner c.1919.

**Lyndale.** Southgate

Paired with **Bellwood** this home was the ending semi for the period of 1919 along Southgate. James Marsden was the first homeowner here.

**Milverton.** Southgate

One of two semidetached homes to be found at the beginnings of Southgate for 1918 it shared its garden with **Caer Urfa**. The timeline showed these houses to be on the **east** side with the Lane family at home.

**Norwood.** Southgate

This home, a semi, was attached to **East Loe** around 1920. The duo sat at the Church Road end being joined by one other semi for the time. They were **east** side homes with this one occupied by William Kennedy.

**Ross Cottage.** Southgate

Un-named at first this received its calling by 1919. It was a semidetached along with **Wallasey**. Frederick Longworth made this his home.

**Wallasey.** Southgate.

1910 saw the beginnings of the road and it started with a row of four in the form of two semidetached houses. Wallasey was the second of these, its partner **Ross Cottage**. Arthur Jackson was the first to live here occupying this, a newer design for the period.

**Wayside.** Southgate.

The series of semidetached homes on the west side continued with Wayside and **Longley** as the penultimate pairing. This was 1919 and the road went nowhere after this row of homes.

**Southgate Shops.**

The earliest found was for 1938 when shop number 1 was held by John Greenwood in Hardware, he was joined by 'Madame Greenwood' who specialised in Ladies Hairdressing. Their neighbour was Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Blake a confectioner. The shops were number 1-3 showing John shared premises.



There was little change here right through into 1960 with only ownership and branding taking place.

- **Special Days.**

#### **Amalgamation. 1946 & 1952**

Talks were well under way in 1946 towards an amalgamation of seven authorities, Swinton and Pendlebury, Eccles, Farnworth, Worsley, Little Lever, Irlam and **URMSTON**. As is known today this was never consummated. Another attempt for a joining was made in 1952, this time for **URMSTON** and Stretford only.

#### **Arbor Day. Urmston**

March of 1930 was to be the beginning of an annual event which involved the planting of trees. The District Council together with the Allotments Association invited schools to participate in the planting of trees in **Golden Hill Park**. The view was to replace trees that had been taken in recent years under road widening and development schemes. For how long this special day survived as an annual planting day is not known but a Tree Planting Year was celebrated in 1973. It is still a policy to plant a new tree after the felling of an older one.



#### **Census Day 2001.**

The census gave the following figures for the population of Urmston 10,155, Davyhulme 20,005, and Flixton 10,803 making 40,963. In **2003** these figures were revised to 45,000 by the use of political boundaries, missing persons and included people in jail. Census reports of this nature are carried out **every ten years**. One very useful 2003 revised statistic came from this in that there are 100 females to every 93 males throughout the district. (The census for 1851 showed Flixton as being twice the size of Urmston in every respect.)

#### **Christmas. Urmston**



To introduce any information of value relating to Christmas is difficult for the district. 2012 began something worth noting, there was to be the introduction of a permanently planted Christmas tree in Manor Gardens. This stands at the corner of Queens and Stretford Roads. The lighting up of this tree is to become an annual tradition with carol singing and entertainment. A tree that stands on the corner of Irlam Road has inherited the title of Festive Fir for the Flixton population to enjoy.

#### **Cottage Hospital Gala.**



An event named as Gala Day was held in 1898 it was for the benefit of the Cottage Memorial Hospital. All the proceeds were to go for the building of the facility. It was held on Crofts Bank Road with the general public taking advantage of a fun day out. The proceeds from the opening night of the Palace cinema were also donated to the hospital.

#### **Cross Day.**

Holy Cross Day is celebrated each year 14<sup>th</sup> September. Originating from AD 335 the day is to commemorate the cross and its significance in religion. Many Urmston churches still include this in their calendar.

#### **Curfew.**



The bells of St. Michael's rang out a curfew between 29<sup>th</sup> September and the 25<sup>th</sup> of March and a bell locally known as the "*pudding*" bell was rung every Sunday at one o'clock and again at two. The origin of this relates to letting the people of Carrington know that there was to be a service at Flixton in the afternoon. The reason for the curfew has been determined, a single bell tolled each evening from Michaelmas Day until Lady Day, and it was a tradition. An earlier curfew was brought about during the Norman Kings days, it signalled the time for subjects to cover all fires. A practice of 'lights out' for the time.

#### **Customs.**

In Flixton an ancient practice of throwing at cocks was a custom for Shrove Tuesday as was pace egging. No record found about pancakes. Another practice of old was the Singing in of May. It was a custom for Davyhulme chorales to travel the district singing door to door welcoming May similar to the Christmas carolling that is done today. Bear baiting, cock fighting, and badger baiting were included in many of the rites or customs for the 1800's. It was a common custom to conduct legal transactions in the local church porch. This was felt to add some credence to any agreement between the parties.



#### **Guy Fawkes Night. (Bonfire night)**



The bells of St. Michael's Church were rung for this event, the fee, two shillings and sixpence in 1732. The traditional building of a bonfire is continued at Chassen Park each November 5<sup>th</sup>. For many households the traditions of Parkin and Treacle toffee are still the childrens delight for this day. In recent years the proceeds from the night out at Chassen have gone to a charity nominated as the Mayors Fund.

### Long Service.

There are at least two companies that served the district for an inordinate number of years, one being Cuthbert's the other Smethill's, each racking up over 100 years for their presence.



- **James Pennington** earned himself a cash prize of five sovereigns in 1828 working for Joshua Coupe as a farmer's servant for 34 faithful years.
- **Brian Powell** started working for the UUDC in 1956 at the age of 15. He served Urmston for 50 years as a grounds man in the Parks and Gardens around the district. Retiring in 2006 his long service record has been recognised by the Trafford Borough Council.
- **William Hugh Oats** of Urmston retired after 51 years of service to the Cheshire Lines Railway. He started in 1902 as an office boy; at his retirement in 1953 he was Station Master at Central Station.
- **George Royle** of Tanhouse Road retired in 2001 after delivering milk for 50 years. He spent almost 30 of these years on the same Davyhulme route. His life of rising at 3am now over he is to enjoy his hobby of breeding budgies.
- **Scouting** was life to **Tony Collinson** from Whitegate Park he spent 57 years involved with the activities. He reluctantly accepted retirement in 2000 from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Davyhulme Scouts.
- **John Howe** has served the Urmston History Society since its conception in 1979 a record of 40 years.

\*So many long service records have been found since these entries that it has to be taken as a fact, many local people are to be congratulated for their loyalty to the company they stayed with for so many years. **Apologies** are extended for not being able to include everyone.

### Pace Egging.

This odd sounding practice is based on Easter and is actually a traditional Village Play. Carried out in the district by Mummers, it was usually a story of St. George slaying 'all comers' and his rewards as victor. Pace is old English for Easter and the eggs came as the reward collected by children. The group did little to enhance their reputation in general as they were known to take mementos of a visit especially tobacco or alcohol sometimes resorting to violence if anyone tried to prevent this.



### Plaques locally.

Plaques definition.

There are three categories for plaques, and they are designated by colour. **Blue** is for individuals who have contributed to the community in certain ways. **Black** is to recognise buildings that are either of architectural or historical importance. **Red** denotes events that have taken place historically.

**A footnote added here to inform that the lost Footpath plaque is to be replaced and mounted at Flixton House 2019.**

**Marshall Stevens** First general Manager of the Manchester Ship Canal  
Location: Highfield School Urmston



**Bosdin T. Leech** Connected to the M S C and Mayor of Manchester 1891  
Location: Humphrey Lane Urmston (The plaque is blue)

**Bottom's Path.** To confirm the preservation of the footpath  
Location: Once to be found on Flixton Station but lost during the removal after the Station burnt down.



**Thomas Kilburn**, he wrote the world's first programmable computer program.  
Location: Carlton Crescent

**Roy Chadwick** has a Blue Plaque award, but it is not local, it was mounted at the British Aerodrome in Chadderton which has now closed. The same applies to **Tim Bobbin** a plaque is to be found at Milnrow.

The plaque scheme was suspended in 2004 by the Heritage Society due to lack of funding, it is often awarded by **local council** as a supplement to the scheme. A latest addition has been a plaque to honour the **Ford Workers** in Trafford Park for their wartime efforts in producing Merlin engines. This has been followed with two RED plaques installed at Barton (2017) for the aqueduct and aerodrome.





For 2018 Trafford General has become home to a plaque awarded to mark the **70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS** at this location.

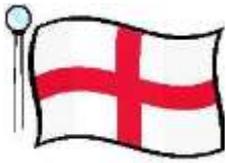
### Royal Oak Day.

The restoration of the Government in 1660 saw the day recorded as Royal Oak Day. The date was 29<sup>th</sup> May giving cause for celebration and an Act of Parliament was passed to keep the day Holy forever. St. Michael's Church tower was decorated with Oak branches and the bells would toll away merrily. The practice was discontinued around 1890.



### St. Georges Day. April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This day is not celebrated enough as it is with other national Saints days. The largest group to take up the challenge are the local scouting groups who march and enjoy the heritage it brings. It has reached a point where some municipalities are banning the flying of the flag. The likes of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston and 3<sup>rd</sup> Davyhulme with their Bands will ensure this will not happen in the district for the near future. St. Clement's and St. Michael's both fly the flag high on their towers to celebrate this day. 2011 saw the usual parade cancelled this was due to the rising costs in police and services. This did not prevent the Scouts from throwing a party though.



### Urmston Agricultural Show.

First held on the Meadow Lane fields 1912 and later settled in on Chassen Park for 1946. The show was slowly commercialised away from farming and lost its way, closing for the last time in 1968. In 1955 it was recorded that 20,000 people attended. There were earlier Urmston Shows the very first is recorded as being held in front of the Urmston Lodge but not as agricultural as it later became.



The Beatles performed at a show here in 1963. The picture shows the Urmston Owner Occupiers Association and their stall. From the past, 1951 Band of the Royal Horse Guards, 1952 Lancashire Mounted Police, 1953 The Royal Military Academy of Sandhurst, and 1954 Liverpool Mounted Police all performed at the show.

### Urmston Carnival.

Pictorial records show the Carnival in full swing as of 1920. During this early period the Leathern family of Auburn Lodge owned a landau which they loaned out to carry the Carnival "*King and Queen*" around the village. The termination sites varied from the Flixton Cricket Club to Woodsend Park but always included a parade through town. As an event it has been on and off over the years being revived, successfully, once more for 2007. The last carnival held before this was in 2000 and it will now continue forward again into the coming years each September. The event varies its nominated charity each year.



### Wake.

The annual wake in Flixton was traditionally held on the Sunday after St Michaels Day and was noted for eel pies. The Barton Wakes were abolished in 1877. During this period of wakes, there were in existence bear baiting, cock fighting, and throwing at cocks as the prime sports, these were abandoned nationally in 1834.



For Flixton this was brought into effect well before this year with a law being passed in 1772 by the local constables of the time. A delicacy brought in from the neighbours for the occasion was, the Eccles Cake. A Wake was literally a watch or vigil but generally it became a holiday.



### Whit Walk.



For the district of Urmston this is a tradition that has grown further than its origins. Celebrated on the first Friday after Whit Sunday, it was more correctly called the Walk of Witness for the local Church of England and Anglican congregations. This developed into bands and local groups such as scouting and other institutions taking part. The walk was also known as '*Scholars Walk*' and a place to show off new clothing. Be it, shoes or a new pair of pants, each family would donate 1 penny towards anything that could be classified as being beneficial to the reciprocate child.

### Unusual Parades.

Flags are waved for traditional parades such as St Patrick's Day and, to somewhat of a lesser extent, St. George's Day. There were others which Urmston celebrated with vigour that of Royal Oak Day and for the Sick and Funeral Club. Royal Oak was an annual event on May 29<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the end of the Great Revolution and Charles 2<sup>nd</sup> was returned to the throne 1660. The Christmas Parade for the sick was regarded as important and one of the sights and highlights of the neighbourhood. May Day traditions abound but an unusual one was the Parade of Working Horses, a tribute to the animals so integrated into Urmston's life.



- **Spennithorne Road.** Flixton Road



1908 saw Pervis Dale, Ingleton, and Westholme as the first on this road. 1910 brought into being St. Serf, and St. Meryn to complete the road. Originally Spennithorn did not have an E to end its calling. The company of Rough Cast Building developed more of the road in 1925 with several three bed bungalows. For modern times there are 33 properties there. (Yorkshire town origin)

The house names for **1928** Spennithorne with its 33: Delaware, Grasmere, Ambleside, St Serf, St Meryn, Purvis Dale, Glenelg, Brighthelmstone, The Laurels, Avondale, Ferndale, Ingleton, Westholme, Silverdale, Braemar, Fern Lea, The Bungalow, The Oaks, Aucklands, Norville, Rose Lea, Llanfair, Ronisdal, Inglewood, Crest, Ridgemount, Hilday, Flau How, Grange Cote, Berwyn, Norwood, The Nook, and Ferndene.

**Ambleside.** Spennithorne Road

This home added to the few already along here in 1919 it was the placement of Alfred Newby to the **east** side. It was sited alongside **Grasmere**.

**Aucklands.** Spennithorne Road

A boot repairer named as Harry Guest found time to live in this house around 1927.

**Avondale.** Spennithorne Road

This home was late for this road it turned up as 1927 with Mrs. Gertrude Knowles keeping house.

**Berwyn.** Spennithorne Road

This Welsh naming was found for 1927 and had a Harold Tomlinson to account for it.

**Braemar.** Spennithorne Road

Along with the neighbour of **Silverdale** this home was not to be found listed in directories for the early years. Through to 1911 only five houses are recorded, and these were not among them. It became fact in 1919 as both homes were now registered. Braemar became the home for a Lionel McAllister on the **west** side.

**Brighthelmstone.** (Bright-helm-stone) Spennithorne Road

This, another late home for the road, had 1927 William Cowan as resident. The strange name arrives from the Domesday Book when it referred to a fishing village near Brighton.

**Crest.** Spennithorne Road.

Riding the crest for 1927 was a Mrs. Cresswell with no other information.

**Delaware.** Spennithorne Road

The year of 1919 showed the arrival of several new homes to the road. This one was on the **east** side with Wallace Cresswell staying there. Edwardian features were added to four bedrooms, bay fronted living room, sitting room and kitchen dining combined. Two chambered cellars and the driveway led to a basic garden.

**Ferndale.** Spennithorne Road

Only found for 1927 the house was occupied by Joseph Baxter.

**Ferndene.** Spennithorne Road

Yet another Fern this one of 1927 belonged to Stanley Baxter who was located on the **west** side. This was also the last home for Spennithorn as the road ended.

**Fern Lea.** Spennithorne Road

Gabriel Reed took this 1927 house for his own use.

**Flau How.** Spennithorne Road

Many home callings can be a problem this 1927 one was worth chasing to find out what it means. The resident for that year probably knew he was Arthur Rogers. Flau is known to be Norwegian and means Embarrassed.

**Glenelg.** Spennithorne Road

Added to list of homes on the road this arrived for 1927 with Ernest Parker at home.

**Grange Cote.** Spennithorne Road

The Grange was occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Storey with 1927 the year. The house dated from c.1920.

**Grasmere.** Spennithorne Road

A new named home for 1919 to appear on this established road it had Walter Kennedy as residing here for the period. When he left, it became house for 1928 Abraham Housley. The partner here was **Ambleside**.

**Hilday.** Spennithorne Road

The William Ainsworth family took residence for the year of 1927.



**Ingleton.** Spennithorne Road

The second building along the road was called this in 1908. Here Albert Towers made it his own.

**Inglewood.** Spennithorne Road

The name of John Davis came to notice in 1927 as he was about to live here in that year.

**Llanfair.** Spennithorne Road.

Charles Gordon could be thanked for not spelling out the complete Welsh word on the gate as he moved to live in this 1927 home. For the record: [Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch](#).

**Norville.** Spennithorne Road

The 1927 family of Frederick Poole assembled in the home on the **west** side.

**Norwood.** Spennithorne Road

A bus inspector called Norman Wright also inspected the home for its 1927 accommodation.

**Purvis Dale.** Spennithorne Road

It was only in 1908 that Spennithorn came into being with this house named as the home of Robert Smith. He was joined as a semi with **Ingleton** on the **east** side of the road.

**Ridgemount.** Spennithorne Road

Mounting the ridge in 1927 was Harry Paley. It was a **west** side building.

**Ronisdal.** Spennithorne Road

The house of Mrs. Alice Gregory was called this. She was at home in it for 1927.

**Rose Lea.** Spennithorne Road

1927 had this addressed to Lawrence Johnson who was a travelling salesman. (See under Longfield and Lime Avenues)

**Silverdale.** Spennithorne Road

The roads introduction of around 1908 did not show this pair with its partner of **Braemar**. By 1919 the homes became known as Thomas Kirkham had moved in.

**St. Meryn.** Spennithorne Road

James Allen moved in here about 1910 and set claim to a new place with **St. Serf**. The road now had five named homes. Both homes were to be located on the **east** side. St. Meryn has Cornish origins.

**St. Serf.** Spennithorne Road

After the 1908 beginning to the road, this house was added for 1911. It took up first place. Then the saintly abode of Emily Burgess shared home with **St. Mervyn** on the **east** side. St. Serf has Scottish connotation.

**The Bungalow.** Spennithorne Road

Spennithorn added many names for 1927 and this was one of them. It was home for Alex Miller in that year.

**The Laurels.** Spennithorne Road

1927 added this home as Ernest Davies moved to the address.

**The Nook.** Spennithorne Road

A draughtsman named as Edwin Rose may have designed this 1927 house.

**The Oaks.** Spennithorne Road

A finding for 1927 as it showed up with Thomas Bailey in house for the year.

**Westholme.** Spennithorne Road

The property of 1908 was brick built and had a slate roof. A four bedroomed detached house with the usual add-ons except a garage. This became the place where Thomas Sykes called home. The last on the **east** side of the road for the original houses built at the start-up of Spennithorne.

- **Sports clubs and associated.** (Other than entered individually)

**AFC Urmston Meadowside.**

Founded in 1977 this soccer club now boasts 700 members of varying ages. They utilise grounds at Lees Field and Flixton Park. Joe Hart, a former Manchester City goalkeeper, had the honour of opening a new club house pavilion at the fields in 2011. Best club award in this field for 2016.

**American football** was played for the first time in 1996 when Centurions were to offer a taste of the game in Flixton.



### Archery.

Urmston had an Archery Club around 1955 to 1965 which was affiliated to the Lancashire Archery Association. The Urmston branch of this society was one of seven that formed the first league in its initial stage. The nearest today is to be found in Eccles. The 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scouting group also have facilities and teach their youngsters this weaponry art of the past. Records show that the field where the Royal-Higginson Court is today was utilised for archery over many years as it was at Davyhulme Hall.



### Bowling.



Bowling has been a major pastime for many but as the greens disappear it has lost some of its popularity. Many public houses that used to cater to the sport have been persuaded to develop them into parking space or other use. Parks are now becoming the only source like as at Davyhulme. It is likely the oldest around is at the Roebuck Hotel. (Unconfirmed) Several clubs and associations have added their own for their members. The latest to fall was at the Gladstone Building which housed the Liberal Club on Station Road. The club was sold for redevelopment the green followed as totally neglected this has been converted for parking space.

For local bowlers, Trafford has four municipal greens in this area, Abbotsfield, (Chassen Park) Golden Hill Park, Humphrey Park, and Davyhulme Park. Several of the facilities available used to be for Men only this attitude is changing into modern thinking. Winchester Road has a green which is not public.

### Boxing. 1890-present

Flixton has had in the past a reputation for being pugilistic. The families of Upton, Pennington, Armitt, and Johnston were well known as contestants during the Wakes. Their reputations carrying out into nearby towns as each village celebrated the times. One main arena became of importance to Urmston that of the Baths, when closed for summer swimming, events held there were popular drawing a large following of fans and boxers of repute.

The famous Bruce Woodcock once fought there in his heyday, but it is not shown in his record of bouts, as it was an exhibition fight only. One of the many venues he did fight at was Belle Vue and he would have been promoting an upcoming card in Urmston.



Woodcock

The ABA records of 1964 show a P. Rushton of Urmston on their honours roll. His list of achievements has not yet been located other than it was classed as Junior A.

### Carrington RUFC.



The followers of Rugby Union have to slightly leave Urmston as the nearest club is in Carrington. Originally a Shell sporting group they were formed in 1957 and their ground is to be found opposite the Windmill Pub. The pub is termed as "A *spiritual home*." The newer venture has been to incorporate Urmston into the club's title with the hope of expanding its stature and membership.

**Croquette** is once more featuring as a local sport and members gather at the Urmston Cricket and Sports Club.



### Cycle Race. Urmston



Under the auspices of South Manchester Racing Cycle Club, a 'Grand Prix' was held throughout Urmston in 1953. Sponsored by the Urmston Telegraph, 10,000 spectators were expected but this never happened with estimates of only a couple of thousand nearer the truth. The race was won by *Ian Steel* who had won the Tour of Britain in 1951. There were 57 entrants in this seven-mile race, it was planned to become an annual event.



Ian Steel

### Cycle Rally.



This was an annual event where local children could test their skills at cycling. The competition that took place on the roads of Urmston is believed to have started after WW2 continuing into today. The aim was to educate all into the use of the Highway Code. There was a prize at the end for the winner scoring top marks. The beginnings for the supply of this form of transportation show as E. Bebbington and Co. at 24 Crofts Bank Road in 1901. In close competition was William Taylor 10 Flixton Road.

### Cycling Club. Flixton

There has not been any detail found for this particular club it was in existence for the 1950's but requires further examination. It is believed that, like the Urmston Cycling Club, some form of amalgamation followed with Stretford Wheelers, and or, Manchester Wheelers.



### Cycling Club. Urmston



At the outset of this club it was called The Urmston and District Wheelers (1897) but it changed its name to become the Urmston Social Cycle Club. They operated out of the Central School on Higher Road. Its address was shown as being at the Lord Nelson for 1911. The club boasted 62 members of which 20 were ladies.

### Flixton F C. Valley Road



Only formed in 1960 its home ground was the Valley and they played in the North West Counties League. Council laid a new pitch in 1972 with a new club house opened in 1980 adding improved change rooms for 1985. Internal problems led to the basis of forming a new and reorganised team in 2009. This too has found problems disbanding as volunteers were not available for any continuance of the club. A last note shows the ground at the Valley has been taken by a club from out of the district.



The Valley

### Flixton Hockey.



Men's hockey has been around Flixton since 1900 forming a club well before Urmston did. No information has been found with regard to detail only a photograph to show the team in its beginning years. This one was for 1909. The women's club played its games at Acregate Farm. It was unfortunate that in 1937 their pavilion burnt down and they lost all the equipment stored there. Today they are associated with the Flixton Cricket Club and its multisport offering.

### Flixton Juniors AFC.

The soccer club was formed in 1970 by Ron Massey an ex Old Flixtonians player who wanted to put something back into the game. The team plays at Wellacre College and it is for both boys and girls.



### Flixton Lawn Tennis Club. The Avenue

The tennis players were to be found at the end of The Avenue off Irlam Road. They had their own pavilion working independently from any other association. The grounds and courts sat along with Wibbersley until development of housing made them join up with the cricket club. Dates are vague they appear to have formed around 1920 and disband around 1930.

### Golf Clubs.

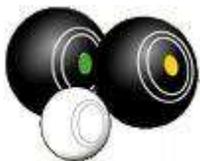
Two exist in the area, Flixton and Davyhulme which are private. For detail see each listed separately. A putting green could be played at Golden Hill Park, it was associated to the bowling club until the precinct took over.

### Guinness Record. (Golf)

Entered in the famous book of records is a feat completed by the Davyhulme Golf Club professional Ernest Smith of 1923. He played five rounds of golf, in five countries, during a 24-hour period. Starting at Prestwick in Scotland he then flew to Ireland, the Isle of Man, and Chester for the next leg. Finally, he completed the last round at Blackpool's North Shore course.



### Inter-county bowls.



Crown bowling tournaments were introduced county wise in 1893. In 1909 Lancashire and Cheshire combined to win at the Roebuck Hotel. The teams were later divided and by 1919 Lancashire won once more on its favourite surface, the Roebuck Hotel. The old Victoria Hotel featured in these events too staging important games as venues were rotated. Urmston has its own controlling association.

### Kersal Rugby Club.

The club leased its home ground behind the Greyhound Hotel from 1926 to 1939. It reformed after the war in 1946 and played there until moving to Altrincham in 1952. The grounds were leased from the Flixton Golf Club situated behind both the St. Michaels Church and the Greyhound. They were used at one time for horse racing well before rugby came to be. The graveyard embankment made for an excellent viewpoint as a grand stand for both sports. (Dr. Michael Winstanley middle row, far right)



### Kickboxing.



In 2007, Urmston had a **World Champion**. Lee Green held the Super Welterweight title in Kick Boxing as sanctioned by the International Kick Boxing Federation. In the Middleweight division Ashley Glennon was the Commonwealth Champion and Richard Callagan was the British Champion. At that time too was Nathan Royle a regional Champion in the Light Heavyweight division. All four were from Urmstons Carnall Centre where Lee runs the club today. 2010

### Manchester City.



As a professional outfit City became attached to Urmston when they agreed with Council in 1955 to build a training facility at Shaw View. Started in 1957 a ground and change rooms were constructed which were used until 1970. It is now the home of Trafford AFC. The team's latest training grounds are in nearby Carrington and three Urmston born players made the squad at one time or another, **Nicky Reed, David White, and Michael Johnson**. As it was with Manchester United several players took residence in the district.

A Grandstand located at the Chassen field was sold by the club to the Sutton Coldfield FC in 1956 the connection between City and the stand was that it once belonged to Urmston AFC alongside the new ground.

### Manchester City Ladies F. C. (Late of Valley Road)

Officially affiliated to Man City, the club formed as a team in 1989 and played some of their games at the Valley. They now have settled back into the Manchester Arena. The team profiled only one local lady **Daniella Lea** who was noted as a defender from Urmston.

### Manchester United.



Many United players often maintained homes in the district over the years. Roger Byrne 1929-58 who died in the Munich air disaster of 1958 was cremated after a service at St. Michael's Church. (Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the crash) David Herd is another notable who carried out a Car Sales business in the area. One local youngster reached the big show with the team, **John Philip Chisnall**.

As it is with Man. City, United have state of the art training grounds over in Carrington called Trafford Training Centre. As an added point of interest, the club of '*Busby Babe*' days always held its annual golfing luncheon at the Davyhulme course.

### Manchester United Ladies F C

It was announced in 2018 that a professional ladies club would be formed for the first time in United's history.

### Old Stretfordians Amateur Football Club.

Named as Stretford casts doubt as to it being in the A-Z, but the club was wholly based at the Flixton Fields with an established club house that was formally the Coach House at Flixton House. Formed in 1928 it ran five 'senior' teams and several 'juniors' with their main affiliation to the Lancashire & Cheshire League. The club moved away around 1976 to a new clubhouse built for their purpose and out of the district.



### Pigeon Fancy.



A new recorded time for velocity became the talking point for Flixton and Urmston in 1908 as the Stott Brothers entry in competition was to prove. This continued into 1910 when a fiercely fought flight between the Stott's and the Peat's beat all times under this specification of Yds. Per Min. A loft of 1915 was the home of a very famous pigeon called '*John Bull*' the owner was H. E. Dixon of the Red Lion Hotel but bred by R. Ault.



H. E. Dixon

The war years brought forward this hobby in that the birds became a carrier service in difficult times. Another pigeon bred by Ault of Flixton was awarded recognition for bravery by the Government Pigeon Service in 1918. The sport of "homing" had been long standing locally with lofts to be found all over the district. Hammond and Whittaker of The Bungalow on Carrington Road were well known for 1950.

For Urmston E. Bradshaw and Robert Mayo belonged to the **Flixton and Urmston Homing Society** with Parkside Lofts on Gladstone Road making up another named fancier. The Lofts belonged to F. Reverley and the years for this grouping were around 1940. Irlam, the Coal Merchant, retained his loft on Snowden Avenue well in to the 1950's with the naming of Flixton's Stuart Blake's involvement to be included through the 1970's. The Homing Society is in existence to this day.



James Walker

The British Nun Club founded in 1906 became locally connected, as James Alan Walker, who was born in Urmston in 1883, became President for 1928. He remained so until his death in 1944. (A Nun is a breed of pigeon)

For 1984-87 there existed another club for birds under the banner of the **Urmston & District Cage Bird Society**. Also mentioned is a **Flixton Budgerigar Society** 1979-1986 meeting at the Brook Road Church.

### Roller Skating.

The first rink provided for his popular activity was included in an entertainment complex of 1910 called the Urmston Rink on Higher Road. This was altered in 1919 to be the Empress Rink and Cinema with the rink disappearing to only the cinema by 1921. The next establishment was as neighbour to the Hughenden on Flixton Road it was called the John Hughenden Rink and the building was a steel and corrugated structure. The date is approximate, but it was c.1930 when it fell to an engineering and construction works. The last effort to keep this sport going arrived at the Billiard Hall c.1956-58 but it too, only lasted for perhaps two years when it became a landmark shop called Vernon.



### Rugby. Flixton



There has been little evidence of amateur rugby being played around the district, League or Union, apart from the existence of Kersal making its home at the Greyhound for a while. A Flixton club played Union according to a fixtures list of 1902 it was named as a Manchester and District League team. A photograph emerged showing a junior side named as Flixton in 1927 which could change such a thought as it shows the thirteen players required for **Rugby League** complete with the correct shaped ball. It has not been found that any regular club was involved in the sport and this may have been a school team. (Also see Carrington Rugby Club)

### Salford Harriers Open.

The Harriers utilised the Urban District for their 'Fourth Open' Cross Country run in 1927. The race took a route that encompassed Barton Road to Sandy Lane, Urmston Lane, Gloucester, Flixton, Irlam, and Woodsend Roads to Davyhulme and the Lostock and Barton Roads. Entries totalled 118 but only 90 turned out. H. F. Jarvis of the Broughton Club won in a time of 46 min 8 sec.

### Soccer. (Amateur)

Many football teams were formed over time, Aldermere in 1906, Old Flixtonians, and Woodsend Rangers to put name to a few. Their history is unknown as clubs came and went. A team was formed in 1907 called the Urmston Young Abstainers Union Football Club. Humphrey Park was known to have kicked off in 1921 and lasted until 1960 whereas Davyhulme AFC ran onto the fields for the first time in 1918. Flixton AFC has the oldest date found so far and it is 1875, thereafter they joined with Urmston in 1881. Urmston Meadowside is the largest group around now which was first established in 1977.



Aldermere 1918

### Swimming Club.



Flixton Swimming Club is to be located at the Urmston Leisure Centre. Its beginning was at the Bowfell Baths as Urmston. The names of Mr. E. H. Dickenson and Mrs. L. Tomlinson being Hon. Sec. for the club. They are affiliated to the Manchester and District Association. Results available since 2001 show some moderate success although many names mentioned are listed under Urmston.



### Tennis.

1898 records that the Urmston Lawn Tennis Company grounds were located on the west side of Ashfield Road. The Urmston Council announced in 1962 that there were now 15 tennis courts available around the district.

### Trafford A F C.



This football club took home at Shaw View the former location of Manchester City's training ground as of 1990. They currently play in the Evo-Stick league First Division North. The club holds a 30-year lease suggesting they hope to be around for a while. New club house, flood lighting, and covered grandstands have followed this thought as improvements occur with some regularity.

The first club house

### Urmston Angling Association.

The local fishermen formed this club in 1974 and there is more detail under the heading of Dutton's Pond, their water hole. The association lease the pond and surrounds from the Council which allows them all fishing rights. Since the group was established, they have now included a junior section with the aim of teaching young interested sportsmen and women in this popular past time. The John Alker Hall is their base for meetings.



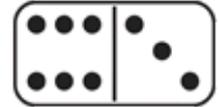
### Urmston and District Darts League.

Twelve teams currently throw the arrows in this league: Urmston Men's, John Alker, Flixton Cricket, Flixton Football, Railway Tavern, Church Inn, Nelson, Bird with A and B teams, Saracens Head, Partington WMC, and Partington Social. All teams are affiliated to the British Darts Organisation founded in 1973. There is a local gathering strictly for women that falls more under a social group and is less competitive.



### Urmston and District Domino League.

The Pub & Club sport has been around for many years in this Urmston league there are two divisions of eight teams showing it is likely to be around for more years to come.



### Urmston and District Riding Club. Southgate Meadows

The club was formed in 1956 by the late Larry Morrissey of Gloucester Road. Starting out with just 7 members it has grown to 120 and their Southgate showground has 5 rings. Doctor Michael Winstanley performed the opening.



Riding schools are in abundance for the Urmston followers of this sport.

### Urmston and District Snooker League.

This league formed in 1957 includes teams from The Urmston and Flixton Conservative Clubs and the Urmston Social Club. The 2015 Masters, 2005 World, and 2008 UK Champion Shaun Murphy, hones his skills at the Urmston Conservative Club.



### Urmston Hockey Club.



The club was formed in the 1980's and the Urmston Grammar School was its home. They are comprised of five men's teams and three ladies along with a junior section for budding youngsters. Urmston play in the North Division (West) There are results for Ladies Hockey shown as dated pre-1912 indicating a club for this sport has been around many years in Urmston. This date indicated they played their games on a field at Spennithorne Road with the President named as C. Rogerson. Presently their base is to be found at the Urmston Sports Club, Moorside Road with games played at Wellacre.

### Urmston Judo Club. Carnall Centre

Judo being a popular sport for the district has had this club in the Carnall since 1982. The facilities are regarded as class and members include Mathew Clempner who represented Britain in the 1980 Moscow Olympics, Michelle Rogers who has European honours, along with another Olympian Billy Cusak who also went to the Games in 1992. Although not born locally it was an honour to have had them and their expertise at the club. Steve Pullen, Urmstons Coach, has his own honours being awarded GB Coach of the Year in 1994 and an MBE in 1997.



### Urmston Lacrosse Club. Flixton Road



This sports club was established for the continuance of lacrosse after its early beginnings of 1885. Their home eventually was on the fields of Flixton House even to the extent of utilising a coach house there as the change room in 1954. The club was promoted to the first division of the North of England League in 1955. After several close attempts the club won the North of England Senior Flags competition in 1974. They capped a great season by adding the English Club Championship and the Referee's Trophy to their cupboard a month later. The feat of winning the Flags and the Club Championship was repeated in 1975.

Five known players for the club, Roberts, Gare, Blake, Bowen, and Smith, were chosen to play for England during their careers with Urmston. The club is believed to have disbanded around 1993.

(See **Warehousemen** Shaw Hall)

### Urmston Town JFC.

A newer Junior club on the local soccer scene formed in 1994. They play their games at Audly Avenue.



- **Springfield.** Urmston

6 houses create Springfield as this, off Church Road, address.

- **Stamford Road.** Urmston

Longfield Avenue became Stamford at the Flixton Road end after its early days. The change came from the Bridge to Flixton Road in 1933. Several houses presented names, but none appear to have been carried forward.

- **Station Road.** Urmston

This road starts at Church Road and ends at the Urmston Bridge. Dated from 1873 when the rail line was completed. Its name before this was Urmston Lane and included Crofts Bank Road on the other side of the bridge. In this modern era some businesspeople here are using the added name of Station Bridge Road. An example was 1953 Tailor H. T. Burt who held shop on the bridge corner. There are actually 54 properties and one carried the name of Faulkner House at No.45 and it has the highest commercial property ratio with 35% residential.



**Station Road. Urmston 1900**

The beginnings here are referred to in conjunction with Higher Road. Both Spark's and the Victoria Hotel are addressed as either Station or Higher Roads. Hereafter, all the buildings are noted as numbered and used for business only, at No.17 is Gloucester House on the corner of Gloucester Road. It continued the same through to the end with 19-45 as business locations to Stretford Road. Missing for this period was a place called The Pitts from 1881.



From the **west**, omitting the Station and yard, it starts at No. 2 with business once more taking all until the Gladstone Building and its occupants the Liberal Club. Prior to the Gladstone building the row of shops have date stones, one for 1889 and one for 1887.

The established business of the Maypole seems to be the highlight for **1910** on the **east** side. The **west** showed the Urmston Pavilion in 1909 it was not entered before. Additional for the road in 1947 the business of the South Lancashire News Agency arrived here.

**Station Approach. Station Road**

The Approach was to be found alongside Woolworth as a side road into the Station and its yards. There were several premises utilised there for business purposes one of which was F. H. Coller, an estate agent for the 1930's. Here too were the offices of the varied coal proprietors who worked the yards over the years along with builders' merchants since the inception of the railway. Once the decision had been taken to re-develop Urmstons center this became Phase 3 after the Precinct and Victoria Parade. The railway sidings were removed, the cobbled driveway resurfaced, and the Station Gardens went. A small shopping area was to be allocated but the shop additions came on Station Road and the area to the station was left with only, a car park. This was to be completed by 1967 with a company called Costain as the construction Company. An early shop here was built in 1953, it was termed as a Fent Shop (fabric and cloth) built of wood and asbestos council allocated a five-year lease for the structure.



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- **Station Road shops by number. 1898-1928 East**

**Railway Road to Stretford Road.****Station Road. East**

Spark Joiner & Builder claims first place in 1898 advertising as Urmston Sawmills and offering Joinery and Building. Joseph added his sons later to the company title. Although this section covers up to 1928, Spark continued to operate into the 60's era moving premises slightly further onto Higher Road from its position at the bridge.

**Station Road. East**

Restall (John) News Agency was another without numbered address but sited with Spark at the corner of Higher Road in 1898. The corner continued to be isolated from the road and by 1938 Modes was open Mrs. Jane Spencer was proprietress. Ridings showed a dealership for cycles.

**Station Road. No. 1 East**

Not a shop here but the **Victoria Hotel**. 1898 was managed by John Walton. Mrs. Lucy Jones was licensee for 1938. There was a café that took the number 1 for 1953 called the Flower Bowl, its proprietor was F. Johnson.

**Station Road. Shop No 3 East**

Mary Wheeler operated not only a Stationery shop here in 1898 but a Circulating Library as well. In 1901 she shared premises with the Telegraph Printing Co until 1903 when the publisher moved on. William Mayo brought his Fruiter shop to Station in 1919 remaining there into 1928. By 1935 Billy had renamed the shop to the Grosvenor Market adding fish and poultry. John Chippendale operated as a corn merchant here in 1939 with 1953 occupant A. Chappell selling seed for the pet market and poultry.

**Station Road. Shop No. 5 East**

An 1898 Ladies Outfitter under the control of Mrs. Marie Davies started this list of occupants. As in 1903 Miss Gertrude Labrey assisted the ladies with their outfits. By 1910-11 William and Robert Fletcher changed the shop for butchery. The calling for 1928 included it being a Limited Company; he was still here for 1938.

**Station Road. Shop No. 7 East**

This shop was a Grocery and Provisions application held by 1898 Thomas Robinson with his son. After the war in 1919 the shop was handed to Richard Hindle still as a grocery with a fast forward to 1928 and John Slinger as grocer. Wetherall had become the grocer for 1938. The shop of Stones Bros. was noted here for 1953 they had a second shop at 56 Flixton Road.

The 1891 census indicates Sarah Buckley in this shop as grocery and the **Post Office**. Sarah and her sister Martha had the PO on Higher Road from around 1881 moving to this shop afterwards.

**Station Road. Shop No. 9 East**

George Myers of 1898 was a Confectioner who had left by 1909 leaving Miss Annie Parker to continue, she was there in 1928. The pastry cook for 1938 was Miss. Sarah Emily Ashley.

**Station Road. Shop No. 11 East**

1898 and the press was busy having the Western Telegraph office here only until 1901 when the paper went into Number 3. Jones and Jackson, Decorators and Furnishers worked their magic for 1903 fading out of sight during the next several years without record. 1928 had Joseph Lillcrap selling Tobacco. 1938 saw Albert Tillotson for tobacco sales. A specialist in giftware could be found here for 1949 C. F. Worsley with 1953 J. F. Bennett Ltd.

**Station Road. Shop No. 13 East**

This shop entered the list in 1901 as a Watch Repair business George Gilbert being the watch maker. Then, coupled to No. 15, the Company of Cash and Co, Boot makers, ran a double shop until they moved to Flixton Road. The shop was not entered in directories again until 1928 when Hyman Stone took one side for a Tailors and James Thomson carried out Cycle Repairs in the other. Hyman and James were there into 1939.



Centred between 13 and 15 Station Garage found home in an alleyway separating the two.

**Station Road. Shop No. 15 East**

A renumbering from an 1898 beginning showed first as No 17 and Wainwright Ltd Boot Makers, for 1903 Cash and Co joined with No 13 for their twin shop. The Maypole Dairy Co Ltd Grocers took both premises for their own in 1910-1938.

**At this point the Road was taken by Gloucester House with Dr Walter Mayne, Physician, in residence.** Tootill who carried out medical practices all over the district had an office in Gloucester House for 1939. The names for the time included: Dr. Reginald and Dr. Mary Tootill, in the group was Dr. Millar.



Today the seven shops are almost as they were in days gone by even though they are divided in different ways. After Gloucester Road the shops continued with numbers 19-39 up to Dawsons Cottages and Stretford Road.

**Gloucester Road to Stretford Road 1898-1928****Station Road. Shop No. 19 East**

This shops earliest record 1823 shows as a Temperance café/bar by the name of Robertson. The Urmston Free Gazette was published from here also in 1923. Thomas Walters offered stationery for 1924 and Herbalist Andrew Robertson followed here for 1928. Allwood took ownership for 1938, Miss Allwood in charge as stationer.

**Station Road. Shop No. 21 East**

The first found business was a Butcher named Wilkinson this in 1898 Henry was later to include both 19 and 21 for his activity. 1909 indicates this was reversed as he went back to only No 19. Alice and Clara Ellison had a Drapery at this point of the road in that year and continued into 1938. By 1953 this was to be the Wool Shop in the hands of H. & J. Lowe.

**Station Road. Shop No. 23 East**

Umbrella manufacturing and repair had first choice in 1898 W. Henry carrying out the work. By 1901 Naomi Heaton had set up as a Confectioner until 1903 and Mary Langley took over. 1919 the shop continued with the new hands of Miss Florence Sutcliffe and on into 1928. The same business but new owner for 1938 it was Albert Ratcliffe. 1953 and Cookson's shoes were to be had here.

**Station Road. Shop No. 25 East**

Joseph Rose opened his Chemist shop here in 1898; Mrs. Eliza Gilmore altered things to sell China and Glassware in 1901. For 1909 the shop was taken by, perhaps a daughter, Miss Phyllis Gilmore. More speculation as it would appear Phyllis married to become Mrs Moffat during 1919. The story ending at 1928 as William Moffat called it his. A new beginning as Shannon Gramophone & Record Dept. was off and running in 1938 eventually adding No 27.

**Station Road. Shop No. 27 East**

Ebblewhite, George, had his 1898 Drapery goods on offer until 1901 when the shop turned to Cragg Provisions. Frank Cragg let it go for 1909 with W. H. Hollingsworth taking the trade and heading into the 1930's and 40's.

**Station Road. Shop No. 29 East**

1898 Miss Alice Wood proclaimed her Hosier stock available to Urmston, for 1909 Harry Bennett believed he could do a better job in presentation. His wife Mrs Kate Bennett thought different during 1911 by taking over control. 1928 Mrs. Ada Holland put things in order and went for Millinery. Ten years on and Mrs. Frances Cowburn had this shop for ladies outfitting.

**Station Road. Shop No. 31 East**

Boot making was John Griffiths 1898 trade having chosen to ply it along Station Road. J & C Warren went beyond and treated the boot industry to their way in 1901, it took until 1919 for them to come clean and admit they were Misses. They thrived and walked into 1928 with a smile. Indicated here for 1938 was Eddie McGrath, the shop has closed as of 2017 after a Flixton Road start.

**Station Road. Shop No. 33 East**

As a Plumber Robert Harrison built up a clientele for himself here in 1898, it did not last long as Tom Molyneux presented new and used furniture to the public from this shop from a confirmed date of 1904. Only 1928 offered anything different as Charles Carrington set up in the same goods. Edna Hughes as a Hairdresser came next in 1930-38, she advertised as The Elgy.

**Station Road. Shop No. 35a East**

A Monumental Mason worked his art from here in 1938. Photographs give idea that this was also a part of the Dawson Cottage arrangement suggested under Station Road 39 and on.

**Station Road. Shop No. 39 East**

Here it becomes interesting and, as an explanation, number 39 would have be the roadside shop of Dawson's Cottages. The odd numbering and O/S mapping suggest this to be a possibility. There were only eight shops in the known row with Dawsons left before the Billiard Hall. 1898 states John Jackson as a Tailor here and George Jackson in 1901. William Moody made Harnesses in 1909. An Electrical Company called Harrison could be found there for 1928. Making this the outfit that the "Lighthouse" story was based on for the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston scouts. 1938 introduced a Chiropodist Joseph Wesley-Hutchinson at number 9.

- **Station Road shops by number 1898-1928 West**

**Railway Station to Church Road.****Station Road. Shop No. 2 West**

After the Station Yard the first shop to begin the row was an 1898 Fishmonger who passed by the name of Charlie Bird. Still selling fish the shop went to the Mayo Brothers for 1909 who kept it that way into 1928. F. W. Woolworth & Co. Ltd. is not noted in the 1928 directory however it did arrive around that time.

**Station Road. Shop No. 4 West**

The manager of the Eastman Ltd Butchery for this 1898 shop was Robert Blomley. One day, in the future, Robert was to run his own shop. Continuing as a butcher shop in 1928 Fred Dodson was in charge followed by 1935 Holcroft & Long. They carried butchery into the 1950's before closing.

**Station Road. Shop No. 6 West**

Hosiery knitting took first place at No. 6 Tommy Thomson spinning the yarn for 1898. A Mrs. Thirsa Christian thought it a job she could do and moved in for 1909. Charles Blake had other ideas setting for his hairdressing salon in 1919 by 1928 he was showing success with it. A complete change for 1938 as the shop became a confectionery run by Robinson.

**Station Road. Shop No. 8 West**

John Fielding sold Fruit as his venture into business for 1898 his fruit remained fresh until 1919 when Walter Greenwood decided Pork Butchery was a better proposition. 1938 listed the Pork shop doing well. F. Sherlock was around for 1954 in pork as previous.

**Station Road. Shop No. 10 West**

The shop for here in 1898 became a Sub-Branch of the Williams Deacon Bank. A suggestion was that the branch operated until the Crofts Bank Road office opened. A Dyer came next in or around 1908 W. Davies and Son Ltd. was the proud title. The Johnson Brothers replaced Davies for 1919 adding Cleaning for their 1928 stay and both into 1940. At 10a suggesting the upper floor became a hairdresser and spa for 1953 called Bettys.

**Station Road. Shop No. 12 West**

More hats for Urmston when Clara Mather offered her Millinery during 1898. They sold well but eventually 1919 Thomas Ogden tipped things for Real Estate and an office. Fried Fish took 1928 precedence over homes as William Alfred Restall showed. Halliwell's went on with the fish frying in 1938 to 1944. They shared premises with at 12a, H. & K. Alker who sold fancy goods. This shop was to turn to catering for the 1950's as Harrison Hart Ltd.

**Station Road. Shop No. 14 West**

A Post Office shared with a **Grocer** at number 14 in 1898, Miss Sarah Buckley knew this, as she was the named occupant. This drove her to drink by 1901; she dropped propped up the grocery with Wine and Spirit sales. Nathaniel Gould Co. Ltd. saw this as a good way to earn a living in 1909 and so took a turn at it. A change of managers for 1928 was all that changed. The Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society took half of the shop in 1938 as Gould carried on in the other half. Nathaniel Gould was there mid-1950s. While divided 14 a came into being and a photographer called Denise occupied the shop in 1949.

**Station Road. Shop No. 16 West**

Resident Josiah Collier for 1898 began a Draper store for a living but lost out to his wife Mary for 1901. A Boot Maker called Bennington came next during 1909 trailed by the Ironmongery shop of 1928 John Restall. John was still there in 1939 including seed and bulbs to his ironmongery.

**Station Road. Shop No.18 West**

R. Fletcher & Son worked a Bakery here during 1898 they shared premises with Dress Maker Emma Emery 1901-1903. For 1909 Misses Elizabeth and Marion Taylor went into Confectionery. All change in 1919 Ed Ashworth went for Tobacco, likewise 1928 to 1938 Mrs. Emily Wood said smoking was good but changed to add chocolate and sweets retaining the shop into the mid-1950's.

**Station Road. Shop No. 20 West**

Joseph Rose only arrived here in 1901 as the Chemist on the row, a stable gentleman who lasted through to 1938 and on. He called this Urmston Medical Hall, and this was to be his first of two local shops, the other was at 10 Davyhulme Circle. By 1953 Rose had ventured to include photographic services.



**The Urmston Pavilion** sat addressed at Royal Avenue. This was a temporary structure used as an entertainment centre.

**Station Road. Shop No. 22 West**

1898 had George Platt & Sons as Grocery & Provisions staying the distance to c.1920 only by 1923 did Farrington and Co. show up to replace them in the same business. The Midland Bank was in operation for 1938 it saved money through to 2002. They did share the building for a while calling it the Midland Chambers. In here was The Direct Supply Co. with Allen Eric Johnson as a Printer and Hoover Ltd. Vacuum cleaner manufacturer.

**Station Road. Shop No. 24 West**

The Fruitier, James Irlam, begins this shops story of 1898 it ends in 1928 with James as a Fruitier. 1938 and the shop was as Miss. Eunice Irlam by name. 1950 shows J. Kay as greengrocer here.

**Station Road. Shop No. 26 West**

The Gladstone Building aka the Liberal Club had a shop each side this one at 26 and the next listed as 30. For 1898 Thomas Cartwright & Sons were Book Sellers here. 1903 Cartwright included an office for the Telegraph Printing Co. The Telegraph did not stay long, and Thomas went on for many years. Both shops 26-30 were occupied by Campbell Teale Drapery for the years 1923-28. For 1938 Thomas Lawrence carried on with the Drapery business.

1910 Liberal Club, Cartwright, Irlam, and Platt.

**Station Road. Shop No. 30 West**

This, the last shop of the block, had Arthur Clowes running a Boot Making supply for 1898 and 1901 it became a Watch Makers named Edward Nicholas. Ed stayed to around 1909 before letting the shop go to Thomas Ogden who once sold Real Estate but had now diversified into Insurance. Thomas held the position of Secretary for the Liberal Club as well for this period. In shop at the end was Monks florist. Mrs Eva Monks went on into or around 1960.

**Station Road other detail:****Allwood. News Agent Urmston**

The corner of Station and Gloucester Roads was taken by this shop 1938-60. There was a postal service there too during this time. The proprietress was a Miss. Allwood.

**County Grill. Station Road**

This popular café was established in 1982 it has served many at its bridge location.

**Dawsons Cottages. Station Road**

The old cottages sat behind and alongside the present site of the Billiard Hall and were dated 1738. There was a date stone and confirmation of a Hulme living there during that year. A calculation brought the fact that there were four cottages each with varying clientele over their many years of history. The last remnants falling in 1956 when all was cleared and the land placed on the market for sale, the site is today an Italian restaurant among other things and called Faulkner House. These cottages were a party to the origin of the Urmston Lighthouse.

A descendent of the Dawson family offers that the row was so called because of the family residing there. It is suggested that the deeds relate to the name of **Rose Cottage**, it remains as hearsay.

**Lighthouse. Dawsons**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group has adopted the name of The Lighthouse for its headquarters. The troop which was formed in 1936 continues to use this name as part of their heritage. It came from a small cottage that was later converted into a shop having a tower, shaped as a small lighthouse, on its roof. The cottage was to be found on Station Road known as Dawsons the last unit became an electrical shop. The lighthouse, or possibly lamp house, is presumed to have been a commercial advert for the store.



**Reference** is made to a lamp house as being housing that carried a light for public purposes, i.e. Paraffin or oil lamp. This is brought about due to a survey map showing L h at this point where the lighthouse was supposed to have stood. L h was an abbreviation for a lamp house which was not like the advertising that could be translated as an electrical shop. The scouts prefer their version.

**Faulkner House.** 45 Station Road

The house, or in reality block, came up for auction in 1963 showing 2,500ft of office space and its own car park. Its main client came to be the Italian Job Restaurant next to the Billiard Hall. This was once the site of Dawsons Cottages.

**Gladstone Building.** Station Road

This fine old building was home to the **Liberal Club** for many years, it was proposed in 1883. Named after the Liberal statesman **William Gladstone**, the foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Richard James of the Urmston Grange and it was officially opened by William Matheson MP. As a building it is a fashionable red brick, designed as many, with a Victorian outlook. Over the impressive entry was a small pillared balcony which was reached via the second floor. At the rear was a bowling green that adjoined the police station which has since been abandoned. Sold in 2006 it has been converted for shops and offices with a renaming that of Peter Minster House.

**Glen Thorne.** Station Road

This was home to Nellie Deacon for March 1900 as she left to marry Fred Atherton who resided at Overdale on Church Road. As this road is all shops today this would have been before such a time of conversion.

**Lancashire. B. P.** Station Road

1947 saw the entry into Urmston of this an Estate Agency. Their offices were at 14a Station Road and they offered as services Auctioneering, Valuations and Surveying. The business was run by Mr. H. G. Whiteley. Generally based in Manchester they saw the estate market and its future arriving in Urmston.

**Liberal Club.** (Urmston) Gladstone Building. Station Road

Discussions first took place in 1883 with the fact in mind that Urmston did not have any form of Liberal association in the area. A club was opened in 1883 by Mr. W. Agnew MP at Lyme Grove. In 1893 the membership was called the Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme Liberal Club. They had Gladstone built on Station Road in September 1892 with the opening made by William Matheson MP. Eventually vacating it in 2006 the club has now registered offices as being at 2-4 Primrose Ave. The League of Young Liberals was formed in August 1910.



Officially the Liberal Club Building Company was "Dissolved" 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010. New shops currently derive income from the ground floor while the upper floors are designated for offices.

**Maypole Dairy Co. Ltd.** Station Road

Arriving in Urmston c.1911 they took up shop as a grocery business at the side of Gloucester House on Station Road. This dairy company opened up its first shop in Wolverhampton 1887 they became known for being in most towns and villages with their chain store approach gradually moving from dairy products to mixed grocery. A final move took the shop to the Station Approach and onto the bridge occupying one of the new shops for that period.



Each store carried a mosaic, usually at the entrance, a practice also used by Co-op's of the era. The company was very industrious in that its policy included tendering for major contracts with local institutions. Park Hospital was a good example of this as they completed a tender for the supply of grocery and provisions to the establishment. A contract was accepted from Haves Dairy for the supply of eggs in 1930 out bidding the Maypole for the period.

**McGrath. Eddie.** Station Road

Local cyclist of renown opened a bicycle shop on Station Road 1931 after an earlier beginning at 96 Flixton Road. Once a double fronted shop it was still trading under his name until closure in 2017. Edmond rode with the club called the Manchester Wheelers.

This double fronted showcase was the place to buy Meccano parts too. The last owners had been associated with the shop for nearly 30 years themselves and were regulars at competing or officiating in the cycle world. Custom built bicycles are on offer now as the shop closed up as a direct outlet and moved to Church Road under a new naming.



Adverts for 1953 showed a different tale when added to cycle wares were TV and Radio's, Refrigerators and washing machines, Hoover or Electrolux products with prams and toys in abundance. Most of the items were to be bought at the 96 Flixton Road shop



Eddie McGrath

**Midland Bank. Station Road**

As of the present time it is not yet been established when the bank arrived on Station c.1935. The first dates show around 1903 for the building to be in place with Irlam and Platt & Sons working the shops. An internal search showed the basics of a combination home and business, that is accommodation provided over what appears to be later, a custom-built bank. The cellars housed a very large vault along with a typical Chubb safe encased in several inches of concrete. From this base an elevator was available for the transportation of perhaps heavy coinage or the like. The upper rooms of which there are many, contained opulent fireplaces although there is little else left to show other fixtures or fittings. The night safety deposit is housed outside the front door, no longer in service.



**The Hair Bank** who occupied the premises from 2014 won the Salon of the year award, best of Manchester. Another feather in Urmstons cap, or hair.

**Monks Florist. 30 Station Road**

Flowers for the 1950's were always available from this shop housed in the Gladstone Building of the Liberal Club. The shop is actually dated 1938 to 1964 and in the hands of Don and Eva Monks.

**Ollerenshaw Poultry Farm. Station Road**

An auction house of 1917 had this farm for sale offering the address as 11 Station Road Urmston. With the farm were 145 fine strain Wyandotte, Leghorn, Orpington, and Rhode Island hens. Six hen houses and an incubator, foster hens, complete with all necessary wiring. Correction came in 1922 when it was put up for sale once more, the address this time showed it on Higher Road at the corner of Ashfield. This was the site called Lillicrap Field.

**Rose Building. 20 Station Road (corner Royal Avenue)**

The building has been utilised for offices over many of its latter years, it shows several small rooms which were at one time possibly bedrooms and a main floor that has been divided again into office style space. Three fireplaces survive, one of these converted to a type of tile used post war 1950's. The three floors are reached by regular stairways the banisters and rails, although painted now, are original. The basement is active for storage only. This inherited the name of Rose due to the chemist's occupation for the longest of time.

**Shannons. Station Road**

Shannons 1950

Shannon was selling records from a shop next door to the Bold Garage on Higher Road 1913. Next came appliances, radio, TV, and records, this was a major outlet for its time on Station Road (c.1924) for this type of merchandise. By 1981 they were into computers offering service for Apple. The company celebrated in 1974 a record of 50 years in business. These premises were converted to become a wallpaper outlet and later 2010, to a bar/restaurant. Double fronted it is still the largest for the row. 2017 the shop became the Station Bar and Grill.

**Sherlock. 8 Station Road**

It is not a known fact as to when the shop opened but it closed in 1978. This was unfortunate for Urmston as the homemade meat pies had a fine reputation.

**The Italian Job. Station Road**

Another entry for its detail and not intended as an advert or recommendation. The restaurant was established in Urmston 1979 and called in connection with the Michael Caine film of that title. It was built on land vacated by the 'Playpen' childrens store and on the site of Dawson Cottages next door to the Billiard Hall. Family owned they have remained here since opening day. This restaurant occupies the largest portion of **Faulkner House**.



**The Pitts.** Urmston

This odd sounding name for a house/cottage/farm was on Station Road in 1881. It has not been located for any information. A member of the Higginson family passed away at Pitt Farm which could give clue to it being associated in name to Greenfield Farm. The Higginson family had a Lime Tree Farm association which also had the word Pit involved over its years.

**The Underwear Shop.** 1-3 Station Road

A shop found to have been established in 1938 but only lasting until 1942 when they sold off every garment before closure.

**Urmston Pavilion.** 20-22 Station Road

Slater's directory in 1889 offered it as being a block of homes and shops. However, the address placed it **between** Rose the chemist and the Platt grocery shop. This led to a belief that the Pavilion was actually a temporary building located here before it was named Royal Avenue. Here there was a Social Club where moving pictures were shown, this being before any cinema was erected in Urmston. Its name was the **Alfresco Pavilion** with Messrs' W. H. Thomas and Arthur Gilford as proprietors in 1909. This company operated under the calling of Pierrots.

As the **Urmston Pierrot Company**, the tale begins in 1905 when it was reported that John Mathews was the manager. Dates show it lasted until 1910 and offered for sale at that time. A reopening took place in 1911 under the name of the Picture Pavilion this was then in the hands of Mr. E. Adrim who was to show films for the district. Ernest Adrim introduced placards in 1911 advertising the Bijou Hippodrome that was to be found addressed as Station Road. A later address was for the Pavilion on Railway Road, this suggests the social club on Westbourne to be the venue. At this point it becomes complicated with information intertwined with the following cinema of the Palace.

**Urmston Post Office.** 14 Station Road

This early post office 1890 and closed c.1902 was housed four shops away from Royal Avenue and opposite Gloucester Road. All that can be seen by the public is the bricked-up passage to the side entry. The Post Office is now dressmakers' shop but if the windows were removed and an ornate Victorian frontage installed it would show how it was. This as a structure was singular for the time with no other on the west side from the railway to Church Road. The Office was managed by Sarah Buckley and her sister Martha after moving from the office and grocery shop at 7 Station Road.



Down the passage was a wall post box for the receipt of mail and a hoist arrangement hung from the roof to accept parcels or sacks of mail of a heavy nature into the loft. As a building it is dated at 1887 for its erection showing a date stone for proof. The passage has been walled up because of vagrant abuse and is **not available to the public** for viewing.

Two ladies were in charge for the earliest of times Miss. Naylor and Miss Stretch. Placed for all to see was a sign it read as follows.

**“Customers who think the 1d postal charge is too small may give more”**

**Wetherall & Co. Ltd.** 7 Station Road

This grocery and provisions company arrived here in 1901 occupying local stores for 50 years. They had to take their lease renewal to court in 1950 as the owners wished to take over the premises for themselves.

**Woolworths.** Station Road

The Woolworth chain of stores opened a branch in Urmston, and it had been a factor of life to many since. The first F. W. Woolworth store was in Liverpool 1909 but was only shown in Urmston for c.1928. Application for a new building came in 1935, it was approved. Woollies did not see 2009 as it failed in tough economic times and Vegas style; “they have left the building.”

Woolworth through the years:



1959

2009



Mayo Brothers held the position before Woolworths was built. There were two Mayo shops along this road William Mayo East and Mayo Bros. West. This occurred about the same period.



- **Stephen Street.** Urmston 1900

Here **north** 3-11 and **south** 2-28 were unidentified by name. Although in 1923 Miss E. M. Bratt sold corsets from No.11 little has altered for modern times along this street.

- **Stile Close.** Flixton

Functioning as a Close since 1989 there are 15 dwellings.

- **Stott Drive.** Flixton

Recognition to the Stott family is recorded in this 86 property Drive. In 1987 the drive lost a public 'right of way' as council prepared for expansion of the area.

### **Stott Family.**

The Stott family were responsible for many large homes in the Urmston district. Builders of the Cotton Mill on Flixton Road, Abbotsfield, Overdale, and Wibbersley were also their contribution to a developing town. Other named places of note where the family were involved are Wellacre, Shaw House, Chassen Lodge, Shawtown Farmhouse, and Glebe Farm. The brothers were involved in farming around the district, the army, and even the hosteliaries. They built employee housing such as Shaw View and Moss Field Terrace alongside the Mill. This family once owned Shaw Hall and all its lands around 1860 add to this the acreage of Woodsend and it brings understanding to their holdings.

**Six** Stotts are found to be involved in the towns early affairs Adam, John, James, Samuel, Albert, and George. The 1901 census shows Sarah Stott residing at Wibbersley she was Adams widowed wife. James died in 1858 and Adam in 1886 with two more killed in the 1914-18 war. Sam and George lived until 1934 both passing in the same year. John died very suddenly at the age of 69 and as the most well-known benefactor in the family his passing was a huge event around Flixton. A younger brother was called Jonathon he was to be found farming at Urmston Hall. James built Abbotsfield and George Bolton Stott owned the farmland on which Flixton Golf Course is now laid out.

**The Stott family** are to be remembered for their donations to the St Michael Church. The pulpit, baptistery screen, and communion rail, all came from them. Several of the descending family bare the names of their forefathers thus also are accredited with some of the town's buildings. Dates known: John 1795. James 1829-1858. Adam 1831-1886. John jnr. 1833-1902. Samuel 1852-1934. George Bolton 1826. George Bolton jnr. 1858-1934. Johnathan Bolton 1859-1909. Jonathon 1883-1916. The list represents only a few of the Stott family names.

- **Stretford** naming.

The name arrives from Old English, the ancient road between Manchester and Chester was called Streta.

- **Stretford Road.** Urmston

In the earliest of days this was called Front Urmston with Gammershaw as an alternate. The date of **2010** shows 366 properties which include 165 flats. From a recent postal code list, it showed only one named home that of Victoria Cottage. Visual signage shows this to be incorrect as many still have names on view. Stretford Road has Urmstons highest residential property list. For the first time, no waiting signs were posted here in 1961 showing "no waiting" between Station Road and Manor Avenue.



### **Stretford Road. Urmston 1900 East**

From the corner of Station Road, it originated with Ivy Terrace, Ivy Cottage, Ivy House, Ivy Mount, Church Field, Broom Lea, and Holly Bank completing the first leg to Gloucester Road. Between there and Ashfield Road, The Lord Nelson and Holly Cottage sat at the corner of the road. Cromwell Mount which was 77-93 ends at Ciss Lane with Beech House, Water Millock, Grassmere, Arne Villa, Purcell Villa, Eamont, and Wyburn leading to Claribel Villas at George Street. From here there was nothing until The Urmston Lodge and Highfield House at Moss Road. Newcroft House, Urmston Bank, Normanhurst, Nut Wood, and Red Lea finish at Humphrey Lane. To complete the list to the Stretford boundary, Link House, The Nook, Strathallan, Elsinore, Ivydene reach Firwood Avenue. To finish then came, Newholme, Arlui, Edgbaston House, and finally, Dunlavin House.

The Temperance Billiard Hall makes its first official entry into directories as at **1911** even though found to be established in 1909. The Lord Nelson advertised the Urmston Cycling Club as its home. A house called Barden was featured here too at Ashfield Road. The church was noted as being under George Street and not Stretford Road but using it for reference shows the next house there as Meadowside and the corner of Lodge Avenue. The Roost and the Brackens had been built by Allen Road and Lyndhurst at Gilpin Road. Add to the list Ross-Gallies at No.7 Stretford Road in 1946 east or west has not been established.

### **Stretford Road. Urmston 1900 West**

Reference for the west side begins at the current Manor Gardens at this period it was home to three houses, Penwood, North Field, and Netherley. Past the Church it was Trafalgar House, Croft Farm, Gregory Farm and on to Lime Tree House and Farm. The Manor Hey, Hawthorne Farm, Edale, Ellers Lea, Ruyton Villa, Aderley House, Trafford House, Peel Terrace, and Beechmount all came before the Auburn Lodge. The Urmston Grange takes this forward to Newcroft Hall, The Pines, The Hollies, Rose Bank, Laurel Bank, Oak Leigh, The Ferns, Daisy Bank, Thorn Bank, Claremont, The Willows, The Oaks, The Firs, and the Elms.

Reaching the end of the road last was The Anchorage, North Field, it would appear, had gone by **1911** and the gardens there begun. After Edale there were some changes, Trentham, and Harpsdale came before Aderley House then further along, Newcroft Hall was then sited next to Trevelyn and Brentwood. Hillam Farm, although off the track a way, is included as a Stretford Road address.

**1928** told a different tale as many houses had dropped their distinctive callings or introduced new names; **East** began with, The Billiard Hall, The Lord Nelson, Knottingley, Barden, Holly Cottage, Bailey Corn Mill, George Street Methodist Church, Urmston Lodge, Highfield House, Urmston Bank, Newcroft House, The Roost, The Brackens, Nut wood, Redleigh, Lyndhurst, Edenhurst, Grenerside, Link House, with Simpson Ltd Garden Factory being with the few left named.

**The west** did not show a lot more for **1928**; Netherley, Lime Tree Farm, Auburn Lodge, The Grange Farm, Grangewood, Dunedin, Strebtor, Gladwyn, Holmleigh, Maldwyn, Norden, Bodryn, Arcot, Belmont, Restil, Moelfre, Cana her, Kilgrimol, Glendene, Corbiere, Rhosneir, Northcote, Allandale, Lane side, Trevelyn, Brentwood, Newcroft Hall, Hillam Farm, The Pines, The Hollies, Rose Bank, Laurel Bank, Scar green, Oakleigh, Daisy bank, Thorn Bank, Claremont, The Oaks and school, The Firs, The Elms, Ellastone Hill, and the Anchorage.

By **1933** a new builder of homes appeared that of A. Wallwork operating out of Moss Side Manchester several houses became part of Stretford Road scene under this name.

#### Stretford Road Plaza.



The row of shops developed by Longworth & Taylor alongside the Urmston Hotel came in 1928 and expanded in the 1950's. One remaining block carries the distinct architecture of a Co-op this has been confirmed. They were a mixture of stores built to serve the Humphrey Park Estate and surrounds. For unknown reasons this so-called modern approach to shopping never

caught on and after just ten years or so closures began to appear. All but the last shops at Link Avenue have been demolished, removed, and rebuilt, with a single store and an accompanying block of flats.



#### Stretford Road. East

Left to right: Ivy Mount, Church Field, Brown Lea, Holly Bank with the last unnamed. The group sit across from St Clements Church at Manor Avenue.



#### Stretford Road Cottages.



The bend in the road, just at Newcroft House, had three cottages sited there. Never actually named they carried the numbers of 209, 211, and 213 Stretford Road. Reputed to have been built in or around 1800, they lasted until c.1950. During the war one cottage became the A.R.P. Post for the assembly of Wardens. This is now a corner of Grammar School Gardens estate.

#### Stretford Road – Manor Ave. Number 22-24

This tiny c.1830 cottage bore no name it is mentioned in all the street directories as being closest to the Church at Manor Avenue. In residence there for 1901 was George Smith he possibly passed on, as by 1911 John Edward Smith was the listed owner. Their next-door neighbour was George Spark a local builder who lived at **24** Stretford Road in that year. This now makes up the site of the St. Clement's Vicarage since the old one was demolished in 1980.



Further changes came here by 1920 with the addition of a semidetached between the cottages and Trafalgar House. They remained un-named but stand today another testimony to Joseph Spark who built them.

#### Alderley House. Stretford Road

The 1898 numbering for this place was 158 and, in that year, it was the home of Mrs. Emma Whittle on the **west** side of the road. Two years later Edgar Andrews could be found here. Another name for 1907 was Ernest Henry Powis. Alderley is on the right with **Trafalgar House** to its left. Alderley is a medieval word for a clearing.



#### Anchorage. Stretford Road

See **Gammershaw House** for details but the name came from an old sea captain called Thomas Buchan in 1894 who owned it at that time. For sale in 1944 this home comprised of; two sitting rooms, kitchen scullery, back kitchen which had one bedroom off, three bedrooms, bath and cellars. There was also a brick outbuilding containing a garage.

#### Ann Challis Home. Stretford Road.



Operating as a lady's residence this building was, and still is, called **The Meadows**. The late Ann Challis was the wife of the Stretford Rotary Clubs President. The club purchased the house in 1947 and offered it to retired and ailing women that could not afford to manage on their own. It was opened for the Rotary by Lady E. M. Robinson. This tradition of care continues with a new wing added in 1961. In private hands as of 1969, the business had an opening name of The Ann Challis Eventide Home, today it is called The Ann Challis Home for Ladies. This building has a much earlier date of mid 1800 possibly as a normal dwelling attached to a farm.

#### Arne Villa. Stretford Road

In 1901 it was to be sited after Ciss Lane and before George Street, William Frost made it comfortable. This semi was accompanied by **Purcell Villa**. Arne has several meanings but the main one is a mythological Greek character.



**Auburn Lodge. Stretford Road**

This lodge was built in 1740 and enlarged over the years the lodge finished up with 22 rooms, two front doors, and two staircases. It had a coach house at the gate and like many places of its time a surrounding wall. After several tenants it became better known as Leathem Farm in 1917. Samuel and William Leathem leased this farm although it actually belonged to the Faulkner family estate estimated as being 1805. A tenant in 1880 was Henry Wood. Some surrounding lands were taken for the motorway in 1958 but the Lodge remained eventually being razed for housing in 1963. It stood on Stretford Road opposite Moss Vale Road and the Urmston Lodge and it is known today as Auburn Drive. The coachman's house, **Auburn Cottage**, which had been made into flats, followed a couple of years later into the past. Even though the buildings were being torn down, Latham family were still farming 18 acres there in 1965.



A later added stone showed 1794 this was initialled J E R.

The time of 1774 showed the Lodge as owned by the Stevenson family and as major wine merchants in Manchester. They offered the Lodge for sale in 1804 showing that the farm was still small. It comprised of 10 acres and the home included a spacious dining room, living room and breakfast nook. A large kitchen with a pantry and cellars made up the balance with no mention of bedrooms. The Barn, coach house with stabling, added detached offices and a granary. It took detail in describing a very fine orchard with a vinery. The house was not sold as in 1806 it was advertised as to let suggesting the Faulkner family purchased it after this time. A final note is that Stevenson Square in Manchester was named after William.

**Bailey Ltd. W & A Stretford Road**

John Bailey was a farmer from Carrington it was he who launched this company on the road to success. His son's Walter and Arthur formed a partnership in 1892 setting up in Partington. It was in 1923 the company relocated to Stretford Road with the results of expansion and a Ltd. Company being formed in 1935. Their main business was agricultural feed and fertiliser, coupled to hay and straw supply. This division waned as horses gave way to the automobile; they even rescinded their own horse-drawn deliveries.

The simple name used locally for this well-known business was **Baileys Corn Mill**. The mill was advertising well into the 1960's at agricultural shows. This company was built on the sites of the former Beech House and the former White Lion. Now called Mill Court, nothing is left but the small association to the name.

**Bandel Villas. Stretford Road**

This was a row of terraced homes to be found at the edge of Lime Tree Farm along Stretford Road. They dated from 1880 but were removed around 1950 after being condemned and preventing development to the road itself

**Barden. Stretford Road**

1903 was the first notice of this semi a gentleman called Charles Holmes lived here. It was a home close to the Nelson and before Ashfield Road. The neighbour here was **Mannheim** also known as **Knottingley** by 1908. Possibly changed for its German association which was not popular.

**Barkway Hotel. Stretford Road**

This hotel was situated on Stretford Road. It closed up as a hotel to be transformed into a nursing home in 1975, since that time it has reverted into a private residence. Its origins are that of two houses **The Elms** and **The Firs** which dated as of 1867.

The combination of the two homes made room for a lot of changes. It allowed for seventeen guest bedrooms, a large lounge with television, bar, dining room, and spacious parking was available. Finally, it was to close in 1985 after offering hospitality for ten years. A fire saw the end of any preservation; the site has now been cleared with homes called **Urmston View** built on it.

**Beech House. Stretford Road**

Formerly called The White Lion which was a public house and later as **Baileys Corn Mill**, it was placed between Jack Lane and Ciss Lane. This site was sold in 1871 for development. Charles Oldham called it home from 1900 to 1910. For even earlier owners it belonged to the Faulkner Estate of c.1790. Mill Court stands here for the present.

**Beech House Farm. Stretford Road**

In 1920 this farm advertised its horses and tackle for sale. Three harness horses with various carts and traps went to the auction block. A location for this farm has not been found, it may have had some connection to the better-known Beech House.

**Beechmount.** 174-176 Stretford Road

One of two semidetached houses built on the site which was the Church School before it was replaced by the Higher Road version of St. Clement's. Built in pairs, the second duo is called **Eldermount** and numbered 178-180. The land became available in 1890 to build these houses, it was bought by J. Spark & sons including the material of the school left behind. Much of this was recycled into the new homes. Going even further back in history this was the site of the Urmston Poor House built on a field called the Barracks. In 1901 the four homes were under the one heading of Beechmount; residents were, Jackson, Whyte, Whittle, and Burgess.

**Brook House.** Stretford Road

Later to become the **Urmston Grange**, Brook House carries its own past. Built during the period of c.1590-1630 it was an estate in Newcroft and comprised of 68 acres. Internally it was filled with lavish wood carvings and a Maple stairway, including a private chapel to one side. The long drive had a lodge house at its entry and the whole of the grounds were walled. Externally there were stables and coach housing with a smaller coachman's house to the rear. This carried its own barns with shippens, and silo. A piggery, hen houses, and dairy, added to the grand scheme of things. From around 1790 this was where the Stevenson family resided. Their neighbour was also Stevenson family owned, Auburn House.

A completed list of its rooms became available in 1881: A dining, drawing, and breakfast room began the tale. It had a kitchen, scullery and cellars, six principle lodging rooms, two dressing rooms and servant's apartments. Added to the outbuildings mentioned was a brew house and the coachman's house was called a cottage. The inevitable Pew at St. Michaels Church was the last feature mentioned.

**Broom Lea.** Urmston

The Lea was located on Stretford Road in 1881 and at number 37 for 1901 between Ivy Terrace and Gloucester Road. Broom had an associate which was **Holly Bank** and they sat as the last building before Gloucester Road. The residents for its beginnings were Edward Evans in 1898 and George Salt 1901-1928.

**Church Field.** Stretford Road

This house was on Stretford Road and noted in the 1881 census. Its location was at number 35 shortly after the Ivy Terrace. Partnered with **Ivy Mount** they completed a line of homes that had the Ivy calling opposite the St. Clement Church. Stanley Kneale got to live here 1898.

**Church View.** Stretford Road

A series of four homes were built post war. The second left of these called itself Church View as it sits appropriately across diagonally from the church of St. Clement's.

**Claremont and Thorn Bank.** Stretford Road

As a pair they added to a list of several along this point of Stretford Road built on land sold by the Swift family in 1867. The Ballentine's occupied Claremont and the Bell family were in Thorn Bank. The houses were converted into flats after WW2, but all was demolished by 1973. Each of these homes had two entertaining rooms and five bedrooms. Their gardens were noted to be charming and well stocked.

**Claribel Villas.** Stretford Road

133-139 gave way to Claribel as it sat at George Street close to the Church for 1877. This block of four was the last residential building on the **east** side before The Urmston Lodge and Highfield at the time. Regrettably, only the first pair 133-135 has survived for today. 1901 had four families in occupation Holaway, Bolland, Ulyatt, and, Armstrong.

**Coach House.** Stretford Road

As a designated coach house, the building is named with a date of 1874. It began as a bakery and faced Stanley Grove. Due to the passing trade it gained the calling of a coach house but in reality, it was only a stop. Known is that the righthand portion is original all else is of modern times. By 1898 a plumber had taken the premises named as George William Anderson. For 1909 it had changed hands and Samuel Pearson was the plumber. Being only known as following Cromwell Mount, no other recognition has been found.

**Court Baron.** Stretford Road

This building housed the court where the Lord of the Manor would sit in judgement and enforce the Law of the Land. It was removed to accommodate the Lord Nelson Hotel in 1804. Hotels throughout the district became the venues for future courthouses.

**Criterion Laundry.** 37-39 Stretford Road (97 Stretford Road is an alternate address)

The laundry was a fixture for many years from c.1930 but went into receivership in 1954. Sitting at the end of Cromwell Mount its neighbour was an 1870's coach house. The premises have seen many uses over the years being recorded in 1900 as a grocery shop run by Solomon Earnshaw. The shop was last noted as being fast foods take away.

**Croft Farm.** Stretford Road

Located opposite the Lord Nelson on Stretford Road c.1699 it remained there until a petrol station took its place c.1961. Croft was one of the last farms around to use the Meadows and the Meadow Lane entry and James Taylor was the farmer for 1898.

The farm went on sale in 1904 giving name to its holdings. Stated was that Trafalgar House and the two neighbouring cottages were not included. Cob Kiln Lane was another exemption. It advanced 24 acres of land in the package mainly encompassed on the Urmston Meadows.

Farmers here were Alexander Webster in 1909, John Martin in 1911, and Harry Taylor in 1919. Decedents of the Taylor family held the farm until its demise, the petrol station that followed was still under the name of B. Taylor.

**Newton Farm.** Urmston

This farm was so called in 1839, it included, a barn, shippons and other outbuildings. The only clue to its presence was that it sat along the road leading from Stretford to Flixton. Most of its land carried the word Carr, Carr Meadow, Carr Head, and Middle Carr which gave indication of it being **Croft Farm**. John Wood sold off the 4 acres of orchard land in 1856. Complicating this theory was the fact land sold for the Railway by the Fogg family stated it would not affect their Newton Farm in any way.

**Cromwell Mount.** 77-81 Stretford Road

The Mount was to be found at the corner of Ashfield Road in 1898 as a block of three homes. The Starkey, Moorhouse, and Smith families were its occupants.

**Daisy Bank and the Ferns.** Stretford Road

Semi-detached houses erected in 1868, a David Barber took possession of Daisy Bank while Henry Galloway had The Ferns. Large enough to be made into flats later in life, the pair were razed in 1973. Daisy Bank included a croquet lawn in the garden. At that time both offered a delightful view of Bowdon.

**Eamont.** Stretford Road

Close to George Street this house built in 1899 belonged to Arthur McArthur for 1901. It was a semidetached with **Wyburn** the calling of its associate.

**Edale.** Stretford Road

The street index showed two families living at this house under the one name for 1901 they were the Allan's and the Bannister's. The home was a close neighbour to the Stretford Road Hawthorn Farm.

**Edenhurst.** Stretford Road

After Gilpin Road there was a small row of buildings. Here a corner shop led to a neighbour called Edenhurst. The row comprised of four homes as it headed towards Humphrey Lane. Of the adjoining units the next was Green Bank, also called Greenside, with the last house un-named up to 1928. The latest names for the last pair are Knottingley and Holly Cottage. The best date traced for origin is 1915.

**Eldermount and Beechmount.** 174-180 Stretford Road

Once the site for the Workhouse alongside Auburn Lodge, these four homes were built to replace the first Church School in Urmston. The school there closed in 1890 and re-established on Higher Road, the houses arrived soon after. (For more detail see Beechmount)



The gate posts mounted here are constructed from portions of the original school building with their church affiliation. There are three caps from the roofing making an ideal presentation.



**Ellastone Hill.** Stretford Road

Built behind the Gammershaw House in 1876 it was one of two homes belonging to the Swift family. The three storied house was called Prospect House until 1903 when it was bought by a Furrier called John Goodwin. He changed the name to Ellastone because it was his place of birth in Staffordshire.



The Hill came up for sale in 1944 and the accommodation included a hall and cloak room, large lounge with modern grate, dining room, kitchen, scullery and larder, three bedrooms with three more secondary bedrooms, box room and bathroom, Cellars. The yard was enclosed and had an old stable, garage, and green house. Falling into ruin the Ellastone was removed in 1953.



A gate post still stands there inscribed as "Private Road to Ellastone Hill." It has not been removed as it carries a benchmark.

**Ellerslie.** 152 Stretford Road

This **west** side home was, in 1901, the residence of the Whittle Family. Ellerslie, on the right, was coupled with **Ruyton Villa** for this year.

**Elsinore.** Stretford Road

Henry Rook lived at No. 287 along the **east** side of the road in 1901.

**Grange Dairy Farm.** (1919-1958) Stretford Road

George Woods was the owner and it was run by his son Jack. This farm sat behind the Urmston Grange until 1958 when it was demolished for the motorway. George, who only wanted the farm, was coerced into buying the Grange as of 1923. The new house is on Harcourt Close and carries a plaque recording the event. Jack received the new house and George a bungalow next door to this.

Facts about the original farm were that it had a large shippon with a dairy attached, stables for two horses, a piggery and hen house. A feature was its tall grain silo and hay barn. Several outbuildings for equipment ran alongside the actual farmhouse and included a creamery for butter and cheese making.

Jack Woods invested all new equipment to the dairy around 1940. This system, to pasteurise milk, became the forerunner to homogenisation and then to include sterilised milk known as 'Sterra' in Urmston.

**Grange Garage.** Stretford Road

The garage came about when George Woods sold a small sector of land to William Hey and Joseph Geary in 1930-40. They in turn built a strange looking place; it was a fabricated structure uncommon to Urmston. The garage became a feature of the landscape until 1958. At that time, it was owned by Messrs Weir and Dodd when it was expropriated for the M63.

The company was allocated a new area alongside the motorway which closed to become car sales and service on the corner of Moss Vale Road.

**Grangewood.** Stretford Road

Previously a Chapel attached to the Urmston Grange this corner of the house was converted first into a drapery shop by Mrs. Bertha Cooke under the name of Grangewood then into a bakery. Removed with the Grange in 1958, large amounts of angels' hand carved into the timber were lost. To many, after the war, the large brass Hovis sign along the frontage was its best identity. Jack Ashton was baker for 1938-1940.

Two names have been found to compliment the past Miss Nora Robinson took possession of the Drapery after Bertha, and the Bakery became Entwisle at the end of its life.

**Grassmere.** Stretford Road

Located midway between Ciss lane and George Street the home was occupied by the Bennington's for 1901. A semidetached with **Water Millock** to keep it company.

**Green Bank.** Stretford Road

The Bank arrived along the road in papers for 1919. It changed to Greenside by 1928 with further change for today as Knottingley. Sited in a row after Gilpin Road it is now coupled with Holly Cottage. This block housed the Newcroft Post Office for many years.

**Gregory Farm & House.** Stretford Road

Between Croft and Lime Tree Farms, Gregory took its place here. In 1898 Samuel Hancock was the farmer of this land. The picture shows the small home of Lime Tree House in the area of Gregory about to be demolished for Lime Tree Close; there were two cottages in the farm grounds.



**Gregory House** built c.1800 here was offered for rent in 1833 but the detail was limited only the basic information of kitchen, scullery, parlour, and sitting room. There was an option to use the stables. **The farm** included a granary, shippon, cart house, hay shed, and general outbuildings. The house was used at one time for the 1886 version of the Conservative Club before it transferred to Holly Cottage. James Taylor for 1909, John Bennett 1911, and Stanley Bennett 1919-1936, all farmed Gregory. This was offered to Council and accepted in 1936 with a view to opening a refuge disposal on the lands.

**Grove Cottage.** Stretford Road

Made up from the Coachman and Keepers house belonging to The Grove 1868 it remained standing after the main house was demolished. Eventually the cottage went to developers in 1933.

**Hatro Court.** Stretford Road

Along Stretford Road after Gammersshaw House, Mathew Swift sold much land for houses named individually in this record. In 1972 all developed housing was removed by its purchaser The Province of Palatine Housing Association. After many attempts to get approval from council to re-develop the land all was deferred. Today it is home to Hatro Court and 10 homes were lost for this project.

**Hawthorn Farm.** Stretford Road

Next door to the late Manor Hey on Stretford Road at Torbay around 1861, The Meadows and Lime Tree Farm were on the other side of the Hey. The farmers of this small holding for 1898 were Misses Martha and Betty Brereton. Going back to 1790 this farm belonged with the John Faulkner Estate which was made up to include Beech House and Auburn Lodge for the time. After the two lady farmers of 1901 only, Martha kept it going to 1911. Hereafter it was 1919 John Silvester Tate, who had been there before in 1895, and 1928 Stephen Clarke. Not large having only 18 acres that included a house, barn, shippon, stable, and other outbuildings. Permission was granted to a farmer called Kirkham for poultry in 1931 but a piggery application was disallowed. The first houses being built on the farmlands began to appear in 1935 after the UUDC had purchased 10 acres for development by Freeman & Evans Ltd. A portion was set aside for recreational use with tennis courts an early idea.

**Highfield House.** Stretford and Moss Vale Roads

This stately residence of three floors was built c.1865 it sat on 3.5 acres and included a coach house with stables. A central staircase from the ground floor rose to the upper rooms which numbered twelve not counting the attic and cellars. It was the home of many notable people at some time or other including Christopher Sparrow (1866) who later went into Urmston Lodge.



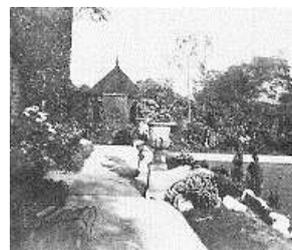
Marshall Stevens, the first manager of the Ship Canal Co lived there for a while (1883). Others included the Taylors of Newcroft fame (1904) and Ernest Nash-Eaton who built the Curzon (1930).

A note of interest was that the home was built 68ft above sea level making it the highest positioned building in the district.



**The interior** of Highfield House was lavish in its Victorian decoration set off with furniture accordingly. Gas lit chandeliers and wall hangings were prominent. The grounds were immaculate with manicured lawns, ornate planters, and statues. A concrete vase standing over 6' was adorned with several cherubs and dressed in foliage.

After WW2 it fell empty and it was purchased by the Urmston Council in 1944. Removed thereafter a small portion was left for use and an auxiliary fire and ambulance station was placed there on Stretford Road. This too was eventually dismantled for the by-pass motorway in 1956. The grounds were purchased by the Lancashire County and utilised for the Highfield Primary School.

**Hollin Pit Farm.** Urmston

Thomas Royle Higginson passed away here in 1892. This information would infer that it was near to Lime Tree Farm on Stretford Road. The family always retained a connection in that area shown by 1898 with Mrs. Royle Higginson as farmer there. Complicating matters there is reference to The Pitts as of Station Road associated to the Higginson family that had the farm of Greenfield.

**Holly Bank.** Stretford Road

This Bank was known to be established in the 1880's and could be found close to the corner of Gloucester Road at number 39. Its partner was **Broom Lea**. For 1921 it offered six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms and a bathroom. The name for 1898 was William Heald he stayed until 1909.



**Holly Cottage.** Stretford Road

This version of Holly is a semidetached home coupled with **Knottingley**. The pair at Blinco Road were called by other names over time. For 1928 they were known as Edenhurst and Greenside with one part changed into a shop. This was to become the Newcroft Post office.

**Holly Cottage.** Stretford Road

This cottage sits close to the Lord Nelson at Ashfield Road at No.69 with, in 1898, a Mrs. M. Blake homemaker. It was the only house between these two points for its time. The cottage carries four bedrooms, living room, sitting room, kitchen and bathroom, a delightful porch entry with well laid out gardens. George Morton followed the Blake's around 1908 and Victor Webb is shown for 1928. The addition of two golden angels as chimera have been included in a makeover for this home as of 2014. It has been indicated that this cottage shows on mapping for 1854.

**Ivy Cottage and House.** Stretford Road

This version of Ivy was on Stretford Road alongside the Ivy Terrace but dated earlier 1841. Very large to be called a cottage it sat at a right angle to the road. This was removed many years ago for reasons unknown. Its old gate posts still stand at the end of the passage there with a new replacement home called the same name. This new home was built in 1988.

The house recorded as of 1865 sat on Stretford Road and came after the Ivy Terrace situated before Gloucester Road. A semidetached one side had five bedrooms, two kitchens, breakfast, dining and sitting rooms. A bathroom and dressing room completed this, the larger of the two homes here. The second home had three bedrooms, a parlour, sitting room and kitchen. Outside a small stable with a coach house and piggery were complimented by an orchard with garden. The sale advert stated that these homes were 20 minutes' walk from Stretford Railway Station as there was not an Urmston Station at that time.

The front portion of Ivy House and its neighbour Ivy Cottage were removed, and the land rebuilt on. Its remaining portion was named as **Willow Bank** and stands as this today.

**Ivydene.** Stretford Road

The last house as the road reached Firwood Avenue in 1900 the family of Mrs. Catherine Steans lived in it.

**Ivy Mount.** 33 Stretford Road

This complemented a series of homes called Ivy all of the same era on Stretford Road. Dated with the Terrace at around 1868 the Mount was occupied by Henry Cross in 1898. As a pair its neighbour was **Church Field**. 1951 and the home was converted into seven flats.

**Ivy Terrace.** 13-19 Stretford Road Urmston

The terrace has an identifying stone for 1866 then found recorded in 1868 when Mr. & Mrs. George Sandys placed notice in the Guardian for the birth of their daughter here. The Hudsons made one their home for 1893. A typical house here had, as it was with No 2, five bedrooms, drawing and sitting room, kitchen, scullery and bathroom. In 1871 it would cost you £30 per year to live there. The section numbered as 21-25 was built slightly later occupying the space left by the Ivy Cottage.

**Knottingley.** Stretford Road

The semidetached home sitting prior to the Urmston Hotel is adjoined to **Holly Cottage**. This pair showed around 1918 and had other names shown over time. The year of 1928 had them named as **Edenhurst and Greenside**. The portion at Blinco Road was converted into a shop which later was to become the Newcroft Post office.

**Knottingley.** Stretford Road

A 1903 house built and named as **Mannheim**. The new owner for 1908 was a Doctor Thomas Wolstenholme who did not like the calling so changed it. The semi still uses the new name today. The original calling would not have been popular due to its Germanic association and the imminent war. A connection to the other Knottingley has not been traced.

**Laurel Bank and Rose Bank.** Stretford Road

This 'Bank' pair created on land sold by the Swift family in 1868 had an occupant called John Milner. John lived in Laurel while Rose remained empty for a while. He later moved into Rose Bank letting the other half to a James Hall. As semidetached they each had six bedrooms and two entertaining rooms, a dressing room and bathroom with w c came as the norm. Cellar's and large gardens were other features. Developers moved into this block in 1973 with the intent of building flats.



**Lime Tree Farm. Stretford Road**

Farming here was done by the Shawcrofts as of 1823 but it became better known as owned by Arthur and Elizabeth Ann Peat around 1890. The family name carried forward with George Peat farming during a more modern era of the 1940's and on. 1727 was its true beginning. Later documentation had this farm and the lands as a part of the Royal-Higginson holdings. The UUDC took possession in 1966 and scheduled it for demolition a year later.

The farmhouse was two storied and delightfully coated with ivy. A slate roof was offset by matching bay windows along its whole frontage. The one main building was complimented by a smaller wing to each side. Farmland lost in 1962 for housing of today, Lime Tree Close and Church Gate share this property now. This farm was also known for its front garden and each year an abundance of daffodils could be seen leading up to the house. George took control of the neighbouring Stretford Road, Gregory and Hawthorn Farms in 1937.

**Lime Tree House. Stretford Road**

Members of the Royle-Higginson family were here next to the Lime Tree Farm c.1890-1900. The house at 114 Stretford Road included at this address, the Shawcross family in its past. The first finding for the house came from the census of 1881.

**Link House. Stretford Road**

The Taylors of Newcroft sold off land for building purposes and one of the first went to the construction of Link House in 1889. Two fields bought by James Parkinson called Smithfield and Gamester field from the Urmston Cottage Estate went to form the basis of the home. In 1901 it was occupied by Daniel Bradshaw. The house was reported to have beautiful sunken gardens incorporating a pond. Large Poplar trees abound with orchards, coach house, and stables.

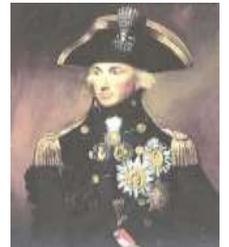
William Simpson came along and purchased the house in 1910 and he started to convert it into the Link Works. Known as the Garden Factory because of the wonderful garden surrounds, the house became the offices. William passed on in 1931 but Simpsons Ready Foods continued in the family until 2016. Link House was demolished for a new housing development 2018.

**Lord Nelson Hotel. Stretford Road**

1805 is the date for establishing this hotel which was built by George Royle. The hotel was certainly named after Lord Horatio Nelson who died at Trafalgar in 1805. The hotel came up for sale in 1856 it was advertised in the Manchester Guardian as having 15 acres of farmland attached along with dwellings. The hotel was rebuilt in 1877 by George Royles grandson and was utilised by Col. Ridehalgh when holding Court. It was used as a terminus for local tram and bus companies in days gone by.



As a structure it was three stories all finished as natural brick this was later covered with a white concrete effect. Many internal features remain including stained glass windows and original woodwork. The frontage has a central arched doorway set in between pairs of columns supporting the large windows either side, its architecture is typically Victorian. 1904 maps show a Smithy at the hotels side and on Gloucester Road. Bear baiting was a regular sport held here on the front courtyard but banned as of 1835. A female licensee for 1881 was called Mary Holiday with Oliver Gags there in 1898-1900.



In 1864 the licensee, Stephen Shawcross, advised all his friends that *the new bowling green would be open on Whit Monday with refreshments available, for a moderate fee.*

Other known licensees were 1891 Catherine Fielden, 1900-09 Herbert Bannister, 1910-18 John Duggan. 1919-38 James Seal.

**Lyndhurst. Stretford Road**

For the early 1900 era it became the last home before Humphrey Lane coupled with **Red lea**. This was a time before the land between Gilpin and Humphrey had any other housing. George Herbert Morton was the living in tenant for 1901.

**Mannheim. Stretford Road**

The home began life in 1903 but by 1909 it was changed to **Knottingley**. Franz Krause, as first resident, probably gave name to this Germanic calling. It was the left-hand side home of the two.



**Manor Gardens.** Stretford Road

Once the houses of Penwood and Northfield were removed this land became the gardens. These gardens reached from Westmorland to Queens Road with much of it still in place. This was a development introduced as a **rest garden** in 1931. The Gardens have been reduced in size due to road widening and bus stop positioning. A Christmas tree has been planted here for future annual festivities.

**Manor Hey Hotel.** Stretford Road

This was a private home (c.1880) converted and expanded to what it became. Thomas Crabtree was shown, as living there in 1898. The original house had eight bedrooms and three large entertaining rooms. All modern conveniences came with the home along with gardens front and rear. It was renamed as the Manor Lodge in 2006.

A three storied building to begin around with in 1957, a bar lounge was added to the frontage and a function room was added to the rear in 1964. All the gardens were replaced with parking bays front and rear.

The upper levels were also added on to with architecture matching the original design. A serious fire in April 2008 placed its future on hold. The Lodge had been vacant for some time, but application was granted to rebuild as a care/nursing home. The Manor Hey is no more being razed in 2009.

**Meadow Bank.** Stretford Road

This Bank home could be found across from Meadowside in 1898 and neighbour to the Hawthorn Farm, James Walker held house.

**Meadowside.** 137 Stretford Road

You could buy this property in 1946 with its three bedrooms, hall, lounge, French windowed dining room, kitchenette, et al. The garage came in splendid gardens. This was a home between George Street and Lodge Avenue and the house of Henry William Townsend in 1902. For an earlier date 1894 it was where school master Henry Willis lived. Thomas Fiddes MD the Urmston benefactor lived here in 1910 at that time, it was numbered as 145 which was found as neighbour to the Church at Lodge Avenue.

**Mill Court.** Stretford Road

The Court sits on what was once the site of the Bailey Corn Mill, this in turn, was the White Lion Public House.

**Netherley.** Stretford Road (aka. Rookeries)

One of three houses adjacent to Manor Road it was close to Northfield and Penwood on Stretford Road through to Queens Road. Netherley was a detached villa that had seven bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, stables, coach house, and fine lawns. A tennis court was included for this opulent living accommodation. In residence here were practitioners named Kershaw for 1868 who remained there until 1883. The house became **Winton Lodge Nursing Home** for an approximate period of 1930 to 1947 before being razed. St. Clement Court sits here, a sheltered home for the aged. An occupant named as Joseph Clegg operated a photographic studio here in 1910.

**Newcroft House.** 225 Stretford Road

Newcroft House built by Samuel Taylor in 1848 for his brothers is on Stretford Road. A topping out date can be found burnt into the roof trusses for 1850. Distinct in a design that makes it appear younger than it is for Victorian days. The house had two entertaining rooms, four bedrooms, kitchen, and scullery. As usual for the period it had a large garden with traditional stables and coach house however these no longer stand. A conservatory has been added and it stands today well maintained. The brothers were John and Edmond who inherited the home when Sam passed on in 1866. A further name was added that of his brother-in-law James Chadwick who resided at Urmston Bank. Finally, all fell to John who began to sell of portions of the land, Link House and Firwood Avenue being the most notable areas. The Taylor descendants retained the house until around 1940. There was a public right of way alongside Newcroft, in the driveway. This gave access to Urmston Bank sitting at the rear followed by the Grammar School for boys. Permission was granted to close this path once and for all. Newcroft House was designated a listing of Grade 2 in 1988 and is **not open to the public**.

**Normanhurst.** 235 Stretford Road (East)

Situated near to the old Urmston Bank this house was often used as an address when referring to the area in the early 1890's. Its location on Stretford Road gave indication for others not quite so close to the road like the Urmston Bank which sat way back into the fields. For 1901 this was the abode of Bernard Beaver. **Nut Wood** came along side connected to the right.

**Northfield.** Stretford Road

Northfield c.1800 was one of the two that occupied the road between Manor Avenue and Westmorland Road. It was recorded in 1898 with Edgar Booth as resident. This home was to one side of Netherley. 1922 and it was placed for sale, the semidetached house comprised, to each side; Two entertaining rooms, kitchen, six bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, and cellars. Included in the sale was vacant land adjoining. The house was removed during the 1930's.

**Nut Wood.** 237 Stretford Road

John Mollison was at home here for 1901 but the house did not carry any number. However, it and its neighbour **Normanhurst**, were getting close to Humphrey Lane.

**Oakleigh and Scar Green.** Stretford Road

Built as a single house it sat in a row of several semis built in 1868. Later it was to be split with the first named by William Crighton and the second by Frederick Royle. In 1909 Frederick had ownership of both houses but sold one again to Christopher Yates. Of interest here is that Yates was Registrar of births and deaths for Urmston. Another pair of fine structures lost in 1973 to development. The detached house was completed with six bedrooms and three spacious living rooms for its original plan.

**Peel Terrace.** Stretford Road

Peel was to be found close to the Hawthorne Farm in 1881. On to 1898 and it was numbered as 162 to 172 making it a row of six. Featured windows and doorways show capped with church like arches, bay windows lower, added charm to the whole structure.

**Penwood.** Stretford Road

This half-timbered style house stood on the corner of Stretford and Queen Roads until 1971. The last to fall that held the land between The Church and Queens Road built c.1800. The site of this house is the Manor Gardens. In the 1890's it was home to the solicitors called Rowland. Offered for sale in 1922 this large semidetached showed each had six bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchen, bathroom, and cellars. Penwood's nearest neighbours were Northfield and Netherley between Queens Road and Manor Avenue.

**Prospect Hill.** (House) Stretford Road

The Hill was an addition to Gammershaw House. A complicated group of names for the house finally called **Ellastone**, Buggard, Prospect, Anchorage, and Gammershaw, all being utilised at one time or another. Ellastone Hill was the later name for this splendid house of yore; it was the last house on Stretford Road at the boundary of Urmston and Stretford.

**Reformatory.** Stretford Road

The house of Prospect, and later as Ellastone on Stretford Road, was being used as a Reformatory for drunkenness. In 1898 there were ten women as inmates working on their skills of sobriety. A Government Act of 1879 allowed authority to incarcerate repeat offenders or habitual drunkards for treatment and rehabilitation.

**Purcell Villa.** Stretford Road

Thomas Gaggs made this his home in 1901 close to George Street. **Arne Villa** was the second of the two homes.

**Red Lea.** 239 Stretford Road

For 1901 this Lea was one of the last houses before Humphrey Lane on the **east** side. The spelling changed over the years some enumerators used Lea while others Leigh. Francis Chambers was the homeowner at this period. The adjoining home was **Lyndhurst**.

**Ruyton Villa.** Stretford Road

Harry Hiles lived at this house on the **west** side for 1898. The Villa was joined to **Ellerslie** at this time with Ruyton being on the left.

**Simpsons.** Stretford Road

The food factory started as a home called Link House which was built in 1889 on land from the Taylors of Newcroft. It was purchased by the Simpson family in 1910 and gradually extended to its present size as a food processing plant. Shareholders until 1917 were Simon and Ephraim Marks and Thomas Spencer. (Marks & Sparks.) The starting product was homemade Jam but the Goblin steak and kidney pie from here has been exported and eaten worldwide. Various formula derived as Lemon Curd carried much of the production. In the year of 1938 Simpsons turned from food to Gas Masks allowing the ARP to run the night shift and use the conveyor system for packaging ready for distribution.





During this war Simpsons had an order from Montreal in Canada for a shipment of Goblin steak and kidney pies. It was well received due to a war-ravaged economy and executed with some gusto. The crated goods were dutifully watched by the North Atlantic forces as they travelled across the ocean and sailed down the St. Lawrence Seaway. A portion of this order was taken by the Red Cross and parcelled up into 'care' packages for several hard-hit countries. The consignment was shipped back along the same route they arrived on and it is recorded that at least one of the pies finished up **back in Urmston**. This local factory averaged the employ of up to 120 people and its last presentation was a microwavable sponge pudding introduced in 2005 especially for the Asda chain of stores. 2016 and the company closed to be replaced with a residential development called "The Orchard".



#### **Strathallan.** Stretford Road

285 was the given number for this house in 1901 with Luis Gibon in residence.

#### **Stretford Road Shops.** Station Road opposite Manor Gardens



Four shops became available here c.1930. Numbered as 3-9 they placed themselves before the terrace of Ivy. Edward Wilcocks took the first as a grocer; he was trailed by Ralph Hudson who cut hair. The third shop was divided Andrew Robertson sold herbalistic products along with Frank Armstrong an optician. Lastly a monumental stone mason called Stott & Co offered their wares.

#### **Stretford Road at Torbay Road.**

The first semis appeared here in 1936 built on the farm fields of Hawthorn. One still has a water pump leftover as a reminder of the agricultural use in the garden. The corner home was demolished and replaced in 2008. Benjamin Irwin and Nellie Allen were the first to reside here in the original semi. There are tales of a ghost here, a faceless priest who walks the homes.



#### **Stretford Road Shops.** Ciss Lane corners.



One shop placed each side of Ciss, both give the appearance of being purpose-built c.1930's and showed as Alan Hassan dealing as a convenience store. The second once sitting next to Baily's Corn Mill was a grocery run by Ernest Lyons. The only one to survive through to the present was the convenience store and that closed in 2018.

#### **Stretford Road Shops.** Elm Grove

Harold Banks News agency being the only shop to be found here in 1938.

#### **Stretford Road Shops.** Westwood Avenue

1938 shop keeper was Harold Hopkinson under the banner of a general store.

#### **The Brackens.** 231 Stretford Road

This was the abode built with **The Roost** and the first tenant was William Moffat. The Roost and the Brackens followed on from Newcroft House and The Bank heading towards Stretford. The detail to some past can be found with the entry for the Roost.



#### **The Elms.** Stretford Road

Around 1868 William John Dorning had this house built for his family. One unit of the two houses that later formed the Barkway Hotel. Both the **Elms and the Firs** had been reinstated to residences once more until a fire destroyed all in 2009. For the original Elms there were six bedrooms, drawing, dining and breakfast rooms, all mod cons and a large garden.

#### **The Ferns.** Stretford Road

The semi of the Ferns was indicated to have the following in 1944; two entertaining rooms, breakfast room, kitchen, scullery, cellars, three bedrooms, three secondary bedrooms, bathroom and a separate w c, and dressing room. Earlier (1927) for a while it was changed into flats for renting.

#### **The Firs.** Stretford Road

This was the second half of the Barkway Hotel. Built in 1868 by James Mair, both this home and its neighbour **The Elms** were badly damaged during 1941 and the Blitz, they were subsequently rebuilt. After reverting to residential houses, they were destroyed by fire in 2009 and demolished.

#### **The Hollies and Pines.** Stretford Road



The last two houses in a row that all started with Mathew Swift selling his land by Gammershaw House around 1870. This large twosome was bought by William Botteley who never moved in. Occupants came and went until its demise in 1973. Both had six bedrooms, two living rooms, a dressing room and all modern arrangements according to the agent. There was an orchard, with garden, at the rear of the building.

**The Meadows.** 128 Stretford Road

This is the correct name for the building called **The Ann Challis Home for Ladies** and built c.1890 Samuel Redfern being in the house at that time. The original house had three entertaining rooms, four principle bedrooms but eight in all, a billiard room and double garage. The house was detached with ornamental and kitchen gardens. Its bathrooms were termed as domestic offices

**The Nook.** Stretford Road

One of the few homes that were numbered along the road for 1901 it showed as 283 on the **east** side. William Henry Walton lived as neighbour to the Link House.

**The Oaks.** Stretford Road

In a series of houses built in 1868 this one was for Daniel Greatorix. As a home it serviced until 1922 when it was turned into **The Oaks Preparatory School**. The education centre was run by Headmaster Cecil Brereton until the mid-1930 era. By then it was once more a home of distinction with the associated Willows.

**The Roost.** 229 Stretford Road

In 1889 the land and old cottages that were there became the property of the Rock Freehold Company. This in turn was bought by Joseph Schofield until Oliver Gaggs bought the land and cleared it for the pair of semidetached homes. Oliver was the landlord of the Lord Nelson in 1898 until he and his wife Mary created The Roost. While clearing the site to build the house Oliver found the first Roman coin ever known for the district.

Here a piece of masonry was worked later into the gardens as an ornament. This relic of the past came from the Blackpool Tower Ballroom. One of Oliver's sons, Joseph, worked at the Tower and when it was altered in 1930, he saved it for his own pleasure. In 2001 this was lost due to the development of a new house being installed on that very garden area. Eventually all became under the ownership of the second son Ernest and in 1939 he sold both the Roost and the Brackens to Joseph Hall. Ernest also sold off the orchard at the rear for the establishment of houses on Allen Road. This home was partnered to the **Brackens** as semidetached.

**The Willows and the Oaks.** Stretford Road

Willow adjoining the Oaks, as its other half, the Kay family took residence in its first years. Both were demolished during WW2 and Simpson's Foods bought the site only to resell in 1954 to the Stretford Corporation for flats. Prior to this the UUDC put out a tender to build six flats here in 1944.

**Trafalgar House.** Stretford Road

A cottage style home that was once to be found on Meadow Road. Currently it sits opposite the Lord Nelson Hotel on Stretford Road it was likely to have been built in the same time as Croft Farm c.1775. Available deeds indicate this was a part of the Thomas Royal-Higginson holding of Hollin Pit Farm as of 1889. In 1893 William Foster held ownership with Annie Mottershead in residence 1897. Referring to 1897 a deal was stuck between the owner at that time Charles Edward Newton and Joseph Spark it made Joseph the owner for 1905. This was possibly a land deal as Joseph went on to eventually build the surrounding homes found there for today and it did include a barn with 8 acres of land.

An early sale showed the house was not incorporated with any farm. Into 1921 Trafalgar was purchased by George Jackson and Frederick Jones the tenants were the William Foster family. Joseph Spark returned to take the home from a now widowed Martha Foster in 1971. Inferred with all the transactions was a Stretford Road widening scheme that took a row of cottages away and left Trafalgar sitting roadside. This cottage row was owned by Spark, he was given notice in 1941 that they were to be declared uninhabitable if repairs were not carried out, it would appear he complied.

**Trafford House.** Stretford Road

A home with an ambitious name was at 160 on the road facing **east**. The dwellers here were the 1901 family of Charles Henry Taylor. Trafford, on the left, was partnered by **Alderley**.

**Tree Tops.** Stretford Road

A delightful mixture of old and new, sadly lacking in any detail other than it sits next door to the Roost and Brackens. It gives the impression of being newly old by design; it was built in 2001 on land once the garden of the Roost.

**Undecided Stretford Road**

When entering named homes for the district, there are four in existence after **Firwood Avenue** in the 1900's. It was not known if they fell under Urmston or Stretford and so they are included here for anyone who might be searching for a family home of those times. All four were on Stretford Road/Urmston Lane and show numbers for the year 1898. They were **Newholme** 291, **Ardlui** 293, **Edgbaston House** 295, and **Dunalivin House** 297. They are confirmed to be found as in Urmston and utilised as accommodation by the Simpson Company.

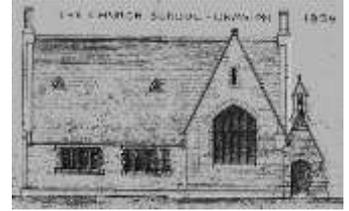


**Urmston Bank. Stretford Road**

The driveway into this home ran alongside Newcroft House with its setting way off the main road. The Bank comprised of six bedrooms, three entertaining rooms, and a billiard room. A coachman's house with stables was nearby and the gardens were laid out with a crescent shaped lawn centred by a large Willow tree. Over the front door was an inscription date of 1770. Badly damaged during the war, in 1957 the Urmston Grammar School was proposed for the land, finally being completed in 1961. The school went in 1991 and the estate of Grammar School Gardens took its place.

**Urmston Church and School. Stretford Road**

A field called The Barracks had a building comprised of five cottages combined on it which were used as the Workhouse for this area. They were sold in 1857 by the Poor Law Board and were eventually converted into an Infants and Sunday school because the nearest alternate was in Flixton. With fanfare and a parade, the first real school was started in 1858. John Hibbert, who laid the foundation stone, was presented with a silver trowel to mark the occasion. The Rev. Gregory offered prayers and closed the proceedings with the National Anthem.



When the new school, St. Clement's, was built on Higher Road these premises became redundant and were auctioned off in 1890. Four houses numbered as 174-180 took place here.

**Urmston Grange. Stretford Road**

The Grange (1590) comprised of 68 acres and was a part of the Newcroft Estate. Its main house stood in large walled grounds and had a small lodge at the entrance. Inside a Maple staircase and an organ added to the richness. Apart from this the house had ten bedrooms, a large drawing room, a library, an open roofed dining room (assumed as a form of patio) and a kitchen. For some more detail, there were two dressing rooms, scullery, wine cellars, a butler's pantry, and a larder. A laundry room was accompanied by a wash house. It supported a chapel which was enhanced by carved angels in its wooden beams. At the rear, a coach house with stables, saddle room, and a loose box, all the trimmings for the gentry involved in its now forgotten past. J. T. Hibbert, an Urmston benefactor, was a past resident here.



In 1851 there was some alteration and the renaming from **Brook House** to **The Grange** came about. For a time, John Taylor farmed here c.1871 to around 1881 before moving on to concentrate on Newcroft House in 1891. He occupied the **Grange Lodge** and was working from what was then called Front Urmston. This lodge was a separate building from the Grange itself, records have it that John Bird lived there for 1898. After a succession of owners, George Woods purchased the rear farmhouse in 1919 and it became the Grange Dairy Farm. Much against his wishes George was pushed into buying the complete Grange. The chapel had been converted into a bakery and the boundary walls and Lodge removed. The Grange was later converted into a series of flats and rooms for letting. In 1958 the motorway took its toll, the Grange, with the farm, came down and a new farmhouse was relocated towards Stretford off Lorreto Road.

**Urmston Hotel. Stretford Road**

Built in 1938 and officially open March 1939 it sits near Humphrey Lane on land procured from the Constantine Family of Victoria Villas. Half-timbered structures were prominent for the time it was the company of Walker & Humphrey that carried the opening banner. Extended during the 1960's it lost its gardens to a car park. 2012 has the pub spruced up for a new wave of its life.

**Urmston Lodge. Stretford Road**

The Trafford family built this home in 1648 as a Dower House, this was a term used for a building erected to house family, usually a female or Dowager. It had three floors and an extension wing of two floors was added later. The grounds of 9 acres included a coach house, stables, and an orchard. For size it had 22 rooms complete with a Maple double stairway from a grand hall. The home had a dining room, breakfast room, drawing room, principle bedrooms, bathroom, servant's bedrooms, kitchen and



dairy, loose boxes, shippin and cart house, barn, wash house, and sheds, piggery, and a hencoop. Vaulted roofing in its cellars was another feature along with a wall surrounding the full grounds. Added to all this was twelve cottages to the rear of the Lodge.

A petition was drawn up to save the Lodge when it was known to be in the way of the Moss Vale Road modification. This was rejected by Council and it was lost to the re-construction in 1958. Sitting on the corner of Moss Vale and Stretford Roads the house was also known as the "*Pineapple Lodge*" due to the ornate gargoyles shaped as Pineapples that decorated the higher reaches. 310 years of Urmstons history gone forever because it was built in the way of a side road modification when the motorway was completed. Kenkast were to build 10 bungalows on the site for 1966.



A masonry Pineapple was salvaged and preserved by Alan Crossland.

There was a cottage associated to the Lodge, it was deemed uninhabitable in 1958 and demolished.

Sold by Cecil de Trafford in 1874 it moved on until in 1920 the Sparrow family, who had been there since 1893, sold out to another family that of Maurice Hird. This name would become familiar to locals as time progressed, especially Mrs Hird who did wonderful charitable work. Only a portion of the Lodges land went with this sale as in 1926 the Sparrows sold off the balance to a builder called Hosker. It was used to erect the housing on Lodge Ave, Hazel, and Elm Groves.

Mrs. Hird also let a small piece of her land go towards the building of four more houses on Stretford Road this she did in an exchange deal for another site adjoining the Lodge. Once more land changed hands and in 1934 the orchard went to a builder called Modern Villas who installed their creations at Whitby Avenue. For the time the motorway was proposed Mrs. Hird was forced out (CPO) and moved on to live in Halifax only after taking with her the Mahogany altar, her favourite piece from the decor.

**Priests hiding hole. Urmston Lodge**

The study at the Lodge had a hiding place called a Priest hole. Large enough for only one person it was built into a window alcove. Such places of refuge were to be found in many of the older mansions due to the fact the occupant would be targeted when under siege. For most of these escape routes they would lead to an outer exit in the grounds via a form of passageway. At Shaw Hall one such passage was located that led from the house into the orchard, it was thought to just be a passage but in earlier times it was possibly connected to a Priest hole of some kind.

**Water Millock. Stretford Road**

In the days when Beech House was still around at this location Water Millock was its next-door neighbour. The house was a part of two, the other being **Grassmere**. 1901 had Frederick Charles Tonge at home. The calling arrives from a town near Ullswater in Cumbria.



**White Lion. Stretford Road**

An inn, which was little more than a cottage from the 1750s, was being run by John Royle in 1783. Then it was purchased by William Faulkner in 1790 and later found to be in the hands David Andrew 1828 its location was near to Ciss Lane, Urmston. The pub was still being used as an auction house in 1835 by the local farming community. A street directory for 1898 only indicated that the premises were now as private cottages, the Lion had long gone. Later detail gave that it was sold in 1871 for future development to a builder named as G. H. Summerfield. Beech House followed and Baileys Corn and Feed Mill took its place, today the site is again residential as Mill Court.

**Willow Bank. Stretford Road**



When the front portion of the semidetached Ivy House was removed it left the rear section standing alone. Hidden today behind a new Ivy Cottage the house became Willow Bank because of a large Willow Tree situated in its garden. This is the five bedroomed half of the original semi which is preserved in immaculate condition with the front of the home facing towards Gloucester Road. On Stretford Road the gate posts are named but do not match the rear entry of this relic of the past as they were erected to suit the original layout. Two entertaining rooms with the required kitchen and bathroom add to compliment the cellars below for internal features. (For more see Ivy House 1865)

**Winton Lodge Nursing Home. Urmston**

The Lodge was addressed as corner of Stretford Road and Manor Avenue. This was the old house called **Netherley** and is recorded as being in practice from around 1938. As a Nursing Home it was owned by Miss Hannah Pitts who passed away in 1947 and the house went up for sale. A date of 1965 indicated the house as still being under this name of Winton. The building of St. Clements Court stands there today.

**Workhouse. (Poor House) Stretford Road**

Just past the Auburn Lodge two cottages were joined as one to form the local Workhouse. Named '*The Barrack's*' after the field where they were built, it was home to people that had no means of support. This would be approximately 1841; by 1859 it had become the first Urmston School and Sunday school.

**Wyburn. Stretford Road**

This was the last private house built in 1899 before the Villa of Claribel. (The Villa sat at George Street for reference) At home here then was Harry Mungo Glaister with the house of **Eamont** his accompaniment.



- **Stroma Gardens.** Davyhulme

Stroma is made up of 30 homes. This is the name of an island off the coast of Scotland.

- **Summer Avenue.** Urmston

Neighbour to St. Clement's Fold, Summer Avenue arrived in 1996 with its 19 houses.

- **Sumner Way.** Urmston

This showed one of the ways into the defunct Precinct, Sumner now provides an entry into the new Eden Square. It is also home to the latest version of the Urmston Police Station.

- **Sunningdale Road.** Flixton

Houses number 41 to the Dale built around 1935. This section of land was once in the hands of the Shawcross family.

- **Sylvan Avenue.** Urmston Rowan and Derby Roads

Only 4 homes made up this avenue in 1909 none of them called by name. Today, it has added one more taking a small allotment at the end of the Avenue.

## T

- **Talbot Road.** Davyhulme



Crofts Bank Road had a section of the road leading into Davyhulme Circle called by this name. It was christened at the time of the Circle in 1929. To avoid confusion, it was changed in 1933 as a continuance of Crofts Bank. The road was an early version of a concrete lain road in the district. As a part of the circle contract it fell to Wilson and Wilkinson for the construction. The last two shops were on offer in 1935 to end the Davyhulme Circle Shopping Centre construction. Talbot House, standing today, was the only home on the road in its beginnings. The house is entered under Crofts Bank Road.

- **Tanhouse Road.** Flixton

Most of the 46 homes are from the late 1950's. Named from the old Tanhouse Farm at Woodsend it was around this area that the Calamanco Mill stood. It also carried an older name of Tan and Horse Croft.

**Tan House.** Woodsend Road west side.

The Tan House, 45 acres, was located on the Woodsend Estate c.1800. Known is that John Taylor, a farmer, died there in 1791. Thomas Taylor took over and supplemented his income by carting for the Calamanco Mill, his neighbour. Thomas gave up tenement in 1847 but the family carried on until around 1871. There is reference for 1928 when it, the farm, was in the capable hands of John Porter.



It comprised of the Tan House Farm and cottages, standing until 1948 approximately where Tanhouse Road is now. Samuel Stott 1852-1934 inherited this farm along with Wellacre leasing it out to local farmers. In most negotiations the farm was referred to as the Tanhouse Estate. The idea of it actually being a Tannery appears to be somewhat correct as leather workers are referred to in documents of 1700 and on. It became a typical farm later in its life. Among other things there were two piggeries, shippons for approximately twenty cows, a bull pen, and stables.

**The Tanhouse farmhouse** only provided description as about 1930 when the majority of it had become storage for equipment and a dairy. There was a living room and a kitchen with a parlour separate. Flooring was flagstone and rough wooden beams supported all above. There is no indication of how many bedrooms were on the upper floor only that the place could accommodate six people. The cottage was adjacent to the main house, this contained two bedrooms, kitchen and two rooms used for all purposes depending on the circumstances. All the residential areas for both premises contained cast iron fireplaces. Piped cold water arrived about 1930 and lighting was gas, the toilets were way down a cobble stoned path at the end of the yard.

**The cottage** has only brought forth one family name that of Thomas Burgess around 1900 recorded on the passing of his wife there. Thomas farmed here through to 1927. Kelsall family had their turn from that date and the brothers William, Arthur and Ernest stayed till its eventual removal of 1947.

**Plane Crash.** Tanhouse Road

Of all the disasters to befall Urmston this rated as the most unexpected when a light plane, a Cessna, crashed in 1974.

This is the Aviation Safety report for the incident: *Came from Barton Airport. The engine failed restart. The pilot elected not to land in school playing fields because term time and near school break. Overshot school playing field perimeter, clipped fence of 34 Tanhouse Rd. Plane came to rest with fuselage just past vertical, tail resting on guttering of number 34, port wing occluding kitchen window of No. 36. Pilot walked free no serious injuries.*



- **Taunton.** Flixton

This tiny road has 4 residences it connects Kingston Drive to Southgate. Taunton is from Somerset.

- **Taxi.**

1918 is the first noted finding for this transportation. Harry Bradshaw operated a cab for hire from the location of the Urmston Station concourse. Photographic evidence would offer that this was at first horse drawn and appropriate for the year. The garage of Bold, next to the Victoria Hotel, advertised a car, an Austin 8, for hire around 1945 however it was a do-it-yourself kit being self-driven. It was not until the Newspapers wrote an article about the Post Office in Urmston being robbed that any clue about early taxis came about. In 1922 the police took a taxi to chase the criminals as they fled the scene. A 1928 name for a local service was James Broadhurst who lived on Gloucester Road and 1935-55 Millers. ABC Taxi was formed c.1960 and since then others such as Phoenix, Abacus, and Direct have followed.



1935 Millers wedding Car

- **Teesdale Avenue.** Davyhulme

The avenue has 21 properties. Cumbria and the River Tees show as origins for this name.

- **Tewkesbury Avenue.** Davyhulme

Homes here number 43 in total. The 'Bury' calling is from Gloucestershire and Albert Locke was awarded the site for the building of 40 homes in 1933.

- **The Avenue.** Flixton **1900** Irlam Road version

This avenue had Staveley House and Holly Hurst established in 1900. The land here became the Avenue Estate by 1908 offering many sites as potential building plots. Modern days and the two houses still stand with 19 other homes near to Wibbersley. Bungalows were for tender here in 1971, 18 in all were suggested along with the necessary road works.

#### **Hollyhurst.** The Avenue

One of two named homes on the **east** side of the avenue, the other being **Staveley**. For 1898 the no thoroughfare was the locale of Richard Dyson. A drawing and dining room set off the detail for this house. It contained a kitchen and scullery with three bedrooms on the first floor. Two bedrooms and two box rooms were to be found on the second floor. Toilets were located inside and out with a wash house outside. The building was cellared and had a large garden.

#### **Staveley House.** The Avenue

The Avenue, which was a no thoroughfare, only had two homes here in 1898. Both on the **east** side carried names the other being **Hollyhurst**. Staveley belonged to the Hattersley family, Charles being the head. On occasion the address offered for this house becomes Irlam Road at the corner of which it sat The Avenue is the correct one. During 1931 it became available on the estate market showing it included five bedrooms, dining and drawing rooms, box room, bathroom, kitchen and scullery. The outside had a washing room. A First Aid Unit was stationed here after a spell at Flixton House in 1942.



- **The Avenue.** Urmston **1900**

The homes here included that of Highfield View and Villas adding Highfield Bank. This Avenue was accounted for as Moss Road and later Moss Vale eventually becoming Bradfield for modern times.

- **The Crescent.** Flixton

There are 29 dwellings in the Crescent. For 1928 only, the **north** side were located by name: Joycedene, Innasdene, Foxdale, Speldhurst, Mayfield, Kelsey, Chandos, Penralt, Lyndon, Burcasa, and Astely. There were 16 houses to the south. The best date so far for origin is 1914-18.

- **The Fold. (Farm)** Moorside Road

It was on this land the first Wesleyan School was built in 1779. Fold Farm was eventually removed, and the land was taken for 5 properties bearing the name.



- **The Nook.** Off Meadow Road

2001 has been found for The Nook to take its place in Urmston with 9 dwellings.

- **The Spinney.** Flixton

Half flats, half houses to The Spinney of its total 18 units just off Bowfell. The location was once an 1895 Brick Works.

- **Thirlmere Road.** Flixton

Lyndene a detached home at number 34 was the only house named from researching the road until Airlie. This road has 30 homes. Urmstons water arrives from Thirlmere in the Lake District.

#### **Airlie.** 17 Thirlmere Road

This was the 1935 home of the Ogilvie family. The word is generally accepted as a female name.

#### **Lyndene.** 34 Thirlmere Road

An unknown quantity for any reference.

- **Thorley Drive.** Urmston

The Drive named in 1931 has 8 houses. There is a village called this in Hertfordshire.

- **Thorne Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue has 16 residences.

- **Thornton Avenue.** Flixton

An origin of 1935 Thornton has 20 residences.

- **Three Lane Ends.**



The Red Lion Hotel is located at the point once named as Three Lane Ends. They were Woodsend Lane, Millers lane, and Green Lane. This locale was also known as The Green.

- **Thurlestone Drive.** Davyhulme

Marnor Services bring some history to the Drive at number 2 they were Press Tool and Jig designers. There are 31 properties to the Drive of Devon and its origin.

- **Time.**

Four large clocks have marked time throughout the various parishes. Two belonged on the church towers of St. Michael and Clement, later a third at Davyhulme Circle on the cenotaph. Number four is to be found atop of the Tower at Park Hospital. It was of little importance to farmers who worked from sunup to sun down and only if you worked at the cotton mill you would be sent home if late, without pay.



For the 1900-1930's time would be taken from things such as a train passing, a nearby works buzzer, or the actual chime of a church clock.

Watches were available but with a prohibitive cost to most, to own a clock of any kind was a luxury, even the radio was only beginning to show itself as an option. The time piece above the Urmston Grammar School was not accessible to the public.

It was years before a new clock was erected at the area of the now defunct Precinct. Urmstons shopping was regulated by time always closing early on Wednesdays and Saturdays, never open on a Sunday unlike the many who offer service today of 24/7. The time piece once to be found in the defunct Precinct has been given new life on Flixton Road for 2013.

- **Tintern Ave.** Flixton

On Shaw Hall Estate Tintern bordered on the old Hall and had a connecting series of paved footpaths, one through to Church Road, and the second back into Snowden and Tintern Ave. This Snowden/Tintern connection was closed 1960 as misused by vagrants. A house for sale in 1946 gave its address as being Church Road, corner of Tintern. It showed the access was still open via the passage and not separated at that time for an address. This pair of cottage type homes sits there for the present. Built in 1927 they came before the first of the Shaw Hall Estate was being erected and addressed as 219 Church Road. There are 74 properties to the avenue. Tintern and its well-known Abbey are to be found in Wales.



- **Tiverton Road.** Davyhulme

The homes here count to 28. (Hailing from Devon)

- **Torbay Road.** Urmston

Torbay has 54 homes along with some commercial/agricultural holdings. Devon is this named towns belonging. J. B. Smethills lived along Torbay. The road became controversial in 1961 when a hostel for disturbed people was to be built at its ending. By 1973 the established building became an adult training centre called Meadowside which has since closed. Housing now takes the place of all.



- **Town Gate Drive.** Flixton

Town Gate has a date of 1991 for the erection of its 43 homes. It was created on Town Gate farmlands approved already in 1951.

- **Townfield.** Flixton

There are 41 residences to Townfield. It is built on the old site of the Shawtown Farm off Balmoral Road.

- **Trades. Various**

#### **Tradesmen. 1890**

When it arrives at the building of homes during Urmstons rise in populous tradesman became a necessity. Plumbers, electricians, carpenters, brick layers and many more are to be found living in the area. Occupations are entered when a birth or christening occurred showing every conceivable trade was around for the period. There is no indication at this time of how they achieved the certification or education to attain the right to practice. In days gone by trades were taught as a hand down from father to son.

It was common for a business to run twofold, Pearce the Funeral Director, ran with joinery and property repairs. Jones a fruiter moved furniture and Mayo the fishmonger also moved furniture on the side.

#### **Carriers. 1840**

Operating from their homes George Royle and John Lowe offered a carrier service from Flixton to Manchester. It was the same for John Barlow who worked from Davyhulme, each left every Saturday morning to deliver or receive goods of any nature. The Stott Mill for example, employed carriers for collection and distribution of materials on a large scale. For conveyance by water 'Packet Boats' passed through the Bridgewater Canal every day at nine a.m. Henry Barlow became the official carrier for Flixton in 1903.

#### **Chimney Sweep.**

Coal, being a staple for heating and cooking during the 1900's, meant there was a need for a regular visit from the chimney sweep. Two were well established by 1901 William Collinge on George Street and Thomas Gill along Gloucester Road. 2010 shows this trade still in need with David Barnes of Link Avenue sweeping away.



#### **Clogs. 1910-1920**

The footwear of this nature was still very popular in Urmstons beginnings. J. Robertshaw was a major supplier and had premises at 4 George Street opposite the Chapel. Available were clogs for men, women, and children he would supply new or repair your old ones. Clogs, as foot ware, were introduced into Britain by Flemish immigrants in 1337. There was a call for a return to wooden soled shoes by Urmstons F. J. Pickering, a boot and shoemaker, due to a shortage of leather in 1943.



### Funeral Directors. District

Several companies followed this unfortunate trade over the years. Brickhill, Frank Pearce, Smethill and Son, Frank Bray, Carsville, even Kendal Milne and the Co-op captured some of the sad local business.

### Gratrix Baskets. 104 Woodsend Road 1927

A local basket maker sited opposite the Union Cottages in a cottage called Woods End c.1890. Locally picked Willow was used from the wetlands of Bent Lanes. The name of Gratrix ranks amongst the earliest of names to inhabit Urmston with a Henry, James, and William Gratrix, plying the trade in 1828. Around 1900 the descendants, James lived at Woods-end Cottage and William at Norwood Terrace both making their baskets up to and for the 1930 era.



### Hairdresser. (General)

For a hair cut in days gone by there were few barbers, two were found to have business premises in Urmston. Henry G. Dicks was on Crofts Bank Road at number 22 and Vincent Griffiths was in the Longfield Cottages Flixton Road c.1905. These were many years before J. Aldcroft opened at the Village or Genes started on Flixton Road. For the times 1950-60 the duo of Jim and Andrew may be remembered by many on Railway Road.



Getting into following barbers, the pair mentioned became replaced by Jim and Paul and one can add Wilde on Church Road. Another popular clipper was Tony of Woodsend and Tony on the upper floor along Flixton Road. There can be no doubt these gents of the trade developed their own stories over time.

Unknown, at this time, was where the **females** of Urmston went for the early years of coiffeur although number 1 Goldsworthy Road advertised for a hairdressing assistant in 1905 so they were around. Ladycare on Gloucester Road celebrated forty years of hairdressing in Urmston 2014.



1960 Beehive

### Honey.



Bee keeping has not featured too strongly throughout the district with efforts to locate local hives difficult. It is treated as a hobby by small numbers on allotments with one found at Granville and another near to the sewerage works. This last one carried the labelled calling of Davyhulme Honey for 2010. The Balmoral allotments carry hives sitting deep into the land along the railway line.

### Ice Cream.

There were two major suppliers of ice cream in the early days after the war, **Walls** and **Grimwood**. The limited refrigeration for pork, more specifically sausage, during summer months had Walls scrambling for some alternate product ice cream was the answer. Both of these companies had delivery by tricycle until vans became the norm. Grimwood was more correctly named, as Grimwood Bros. Alfred (Alf) was the older brother and senior partner to John and they both ran the business along with the milk round and cake shop. Grimwood Bros. claim they had tricycles before Walls and still used them up until they closed the business in the mid 60's.



Contrary to stories the secret formula has **not** been lost, as the family have retained it. The quality ingredients make it commercially unviable for the current markets. John (Jack as he was known) Grimwood was an ex-Manchester United soccer player around 1920-27. This has proven to be correct, but it should be stated that Jack was not born in Urmston (South Shields).

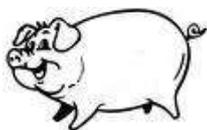
Grimwood, as **the local purveyor** from 1947 was a sad loss to the community, the children of today cannot taste the magic it brought. This picture shows their shop on Davyhulme Circle which is now a hardware and timber supply.



### Joiners.

The woodworking industry was represented in 1928 by two noted brothers they were John and Robert Bennett who operated in both Flixton and Davyhulme during this time as joiners of distinction. Hulme Joinery, Flixton Road, and its history are listed separately as it is with Joseph Spark of Higher Road.

### Pork.



Urmston was renowned for its pork it was a huge industry for the farming community during the early years. Flixton in particular appears to be the center of this with many farmers ignoring crops or alternate fields of agricultural activity for this lucrative market. The farm of George Blythe down Urmston Meadows was probably the last real commercial enterprise of this nature although there were several small holdings still operating as pig farms.

## Pottery.



The Royle family were alleged to have produced a special Tea Pot. Further research into this has clarified the following. John James Royle had a patent for a self-pouring tea kettle or pot in 1886. It was manufactured for the Royle's as a promotional item originally and not for any form of production. Since that early time there have been replicas made in pewter, silver, and even Doulton. John J. Royle, who was at Stocks House 1901, was listed as an engineer and his company was in Irlam. The pots are offered from time to time with doubtful authenticity as not many of the originals survived.

In 1980 **Clive Phillip Moore** began creating **Urmston Pottery** carrying marks declaring it so. The production of varied creations only lasted a couple of years when he turned to pursuing other activities. The identification markings are six in kind with the last versions showing the **CM** initials as against the actual wording of Urmston Pottery used earlier.

## Smiths. Flixton (Blacksmith or Smithy)

The local horse fraternity were serviced by the **Bob Thomas** Smithy at the corner of Irlam and Flixton Roads. There were others but this one is perhaps the best known. 1919 and at the Smithy was **William Baumber** as the blacksmith with Miss. Alice Clare running the small shop there. 1928 it became the turn of Robert (Bob) Thomas and the Smithy, was removed in 1953-4. Prior to Baumber and Thomas, the Blacksmith came from the **William Clare family** c.1838. John Clare declared himself as the blacksmith for 1898. The tombstone for Bob Thomas and his wife Annie sits in St. Michael's Church yard, proudly declaring him as the Blacksmith of Flixton.



The Smithy, as a part of the Worthington Wright Estate, was to be under the control of the UUDC, when Bob Thomas passed away in 1943 the lease was taken by Bernard Close. He had trouble in hiring a "Ferrier" and withdrew from the contract. The following year A. J. Cheetham took it for storage space. By 1952 the garden was established, and a pavement laid from Irlam Road to Whitelake Avenue, the Smithy was demolished in 1953.

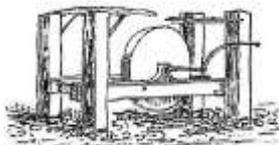
The Flixton Smithy was the only building ever to be placed on this 1.8-acre site, since its removal the land has been reclaimed for green space as once owned by the Wright Estate.

## Smithy. Urmston

In an advert showing sales in Urmston for 1903 it named Gloucester Road as having a Smithy and stables adjoining. Its closeness to the Lord Nelson providing custom. Henry Besford was Blacksmith for 1890, **William Machin** for 1903. After the war 1918 it had been closed with the neighbouring building converted into a drapery. Established here was Chesworth Timber and building supplies, the adjoining shops were taken for varied use.



**Smethills** was another such establishment on Higher Rd with yet another next to the Nags Head Hotel.



This sketch is a representation from Irlam Road it shows an old-fashioned grinding wheel that was to be found at the Smithy.

## Soda Water. Woodsend Road and Gilpin Road



1901 between Whitegate Farm and Irlam Road, Robert W. Stansfield manufactured Aerated Water for the populous. This could have connection to Woodsend Engineering the building there had many usages. Urmston Bottling Co. Ltd produced much the same at its Gilpin Site. During the 1950 era pop was delivered all over the district to homes in stone jugs. Thirst quenching treats such as Dandelion and Burdock, Sarsaparilla, Ginger Beer, Vimto, and Tizer, all housed in glazed stoneware to remain cool. It was a fad for around five years eventually to be replaced by glass bottles that somehow never matched the flavours.

## Thatcher.



The last thatched home for the district was likely to be the Hathaway Cottage which was removed c.1925 to make way for the Alker Hall at Peers Fold. The various cottages of Jack Lane would have been close to this but building there had already begun creating an earlier demise to that time. No particular record has been traced for any local working thatcher.

### Tinsmith

This ancient craft was practiced in the district often found accompanying a forge. A local name from our history is that of John Foster who made a name for himself in carrying the tradition into art and décor c.1960-70



### Wheelwright.



Mention has been made regarding Smithy workers who were wheelwrights or millwrights by trade. Just off Chadwick Lane and thought to have been cottages from the Urmston Bank, were the converted premises of an actual wheelwright. They remained standing until 1957 when Urmston Grammar School took their place. An 1871 wheelwright offered his services on Green Lane he was Edwin Brickell. In truth these men of the trade worked as artisans at any required need in this the line of Blacksmithing or metal working.

### Wine. Flixton



Wine has been produced locally in the greenhouses at Flixton House, where they grew vines for many years; The Grove over at Humphrey also had vines, as did Davyhulme Hall. It has to be noted that it was always for home grown production and not commercially sold. It was common for any reasonable sized home to have its own vines in the late 1800's. The removal of these vines began in 1938 to create more space at the house. The Humphrey Community Centre started a wine makers Society in 1969 but it only lasted until 1972.

One wine maker has been recognised in Flixton, he is Michael Tate who keeps his vines bottle worthy on the Brook Road Allotment. Being active in the field since 1999 he hopes to expand the crop as the years pass by, possibly going commercial. The English Wine Producers Association has said that this is the only vineyard of its kind in the area. 'Plot 19' is now the brand name with cider being added to the products on offer. It was common practice to make homemade wines during the 18-19th century. Elderberry, nettle, and potatoes, all became the popular ingredients to be fermented from a family recipe handed down for generations.

Urmstons association as;

### Trafford

**Trafford Hall** renamed from Whittleswick Hall



### Trafford Hall.

Although this is outside of the district a little of the history behind it is entered due to the proximity of the estate. The Trafford family have been around since c.1050 but it was only about c.1640 they moved into Whittleswick Hall and renamed it Trafford Hall. The 1762 building had 40 bedrooms, several reception rooms, kitchens, servant quarters, a private chapel, stables and coach house. In the grounds was a glass conservatory along with an ornamental garden. The estate was made up of three farms, Park Farm, Waters Meeting Farm, and Moss Farm. The hall was demolished c.1946 at the end of WW2 after sustaining major damage from bombing in 1940.



Moss Farm



Trafford Hall Entry

There were three Lodges around the grounds, Throstle's Nest, Old Trafford, and Barton. Spread around the lands was many Game Keepers cottages and to add to the finery, a large ornamental Lake. It came to its end after being sold to Ernest Terah Hooley who in 1896 then formed the Trafford Park Estate Company. The pictures do not show its grandeur, but the size of the **Trafford lodge Gate** may offer something.



Throstle Lodge Gate



The **Trafford Lodge Gate** was the only portion saved of the estate, which today, acts as the gateway to Gorse Hill Park as of 1923. The family connection to Urmston came in 1648 when the Traffords had the Urmston Lodge built on Stretford and Moss Vale Roads.

Traffords gateway, now at Gorse Hill Park

### Trafford. Humphrey de



Sir Humphrey

The Trafford family can trace their history back to 1050. 1808-1886 Sir Humphrey de Trafford set the ball rolling as far as Urmstons connection. Totally against the proposed ship canal he objected to everything, his defiance fell on deaf ears. Once he passed on, his successor 1862 Sir Humphrey Francis de Trafford, took over and sold out in 1896 to the Trafford Park Estates.



Sir Humphrey Francis

There was a proposal by Ernest Hooley for 1896 to convert the hall into a hotel with a golf course, expanding the lake, building 500 villas, and amazing gardens. It never reached full fruition, all becoming one of the largest industrial sites ever developed in 18<sup>th</sup> century England. Ernest 1859-1947 began life involved in Lace making; he invested in major companies predominately bicycles which was a growing industry. Real Estate was another in his portfolio having bought the Trafford Estate for £360,000. Flamboyant, a gambler, and playboy, he went broke four times during his lifetime.

Ernest Terah Hooley



During the many searches for information it has shown that the Trafford Estate was more involved than the formation of Trafford Park. Once the major portion had been taken by Ernest Terah Hooley much of the balance was passed to a varied group of landowners under a 999-year lease arrangement. Once thought that the lands of the estate bordered up to Davyhulme deeds today show transactions through to Urmston based on this original legal land transfer. Crofts Bank properties indicate this as being a part of the Trafford Estate as close to town as Winchester Road.

### Trafford Ecology Park.



Once the lake found in the grounds of the Hall, this is now an ecology park used for the teaching and study of flora and fauna in the area surrounding.

- **Trafford Avenue.** Urmston  
Trafford has 12 dwellings.

- **Trafford Boulevard.** Dimplington  
Primrose Terrace and Rose Bank stood alone for the Boulevard. The origins for this road begin with Dimplington Lane (1900) which was changed to Redcliffe Road. The terrace and house were eliminated in 2009, 100 years after they were built, the consequence of progress and subject to much protest.

- **Trafford Park and Urmston.**  
For a long time, Urmston and Trafford Park were synonymous with many still regarding it as so. The Barton Dock Road region fit closely with the district and business concerns there often used Urmston as a postal address. Only a few of the entries in the A-Z have been linked in this way retaining some connection for historical purposes. 1935 gave figures of 50% being addressed as the township of Urmston. An example would be Ford and its manufacturing plant.

### Ford Motor Company.

In 1941 this company had an aero engine factory in Davyhulme and along Barton Dock Road.



Sources say approximately near to the present Trafford Centre location. It produced over 30,000 Rolls Royce V12 Merlin engines for the RAF before closing around 1946. Ford originally opened its first production assembly plant here in 1911 it was the only one outside of the United States. 6,000 Model T's were created before the automated line went to Dagenham. To celebrate this event of one hundred years ago Ford has issued several photographs from the era. This copy shows the assembly line for the Merlin aircraft engine



- **Trafford Way.** Dimplington  
There were only two properties down the Way shown as Real Estate for this Industrial setting as of 2009.

- **Tram.**

Only horse drawn trams or buses were seen in the early Urmston era. Facilities were about to be installed for a gas driven system but never were completed due to the railway and motorised vehicles becoming available to the public after World War I. The Stretford Urban District Tramways Company was originally to complete this task.



### Tramway.

The Manchester Southern Tramway Company approached both Urmston and Davyhulme in 1903 with a proposal to install light gauge electric rail lines through the district. For Urmston the original plan was to run two lines through the main street, but this was rejected by Council. The second idea was to take a single line along Carr's Ditch through to Queens Road with a loop. For Davyhulme the route there would follow Lostock Road through to a connection with the Carr's line in Urmston. After much discussion, including with the public, Urmston reject the proposal swiftly followed by Davyhulme. By 1914 an agreement was reached with the Manchester Corporation to talk about Omnibus transport as an alternative. Davyhulme persisted to follow the possibility of a line from Trafford Park to service the industrial sector.

### Tramway Union. Woodsend

The Branch Secretary for the Tram and Vehicle Workers Union held office at 31 Greenfield Terrace in 1905. Mr. H. Day ran the Manchester No. 4 District of the society formed in 1889.



- **Trees.**

### Forestry.



For supplementing income many farms turned to cutting down trees on their property. The Urmston Hall run by the Stotts were one of the biggest suppliers with Fogg, Taylor, and Booths names appearing on advertised auction sales with some regularity. An auction of 1850 had John Stott and James Booth offering 640 trees for timber. Favoured trees were Oak, Ash, Elm, and Beech but Poplar and Sycamore often made the list too. For the 1800's it would seem money did grow on trees.

Although individual woods are mentioned in varied places these record the major naming's and locale. **Whittleswick Wood** could be placed as east of Trafford Hall, while **Warren Wood** was south.

**Wilderspool Wood** could be found south of Dimplington. The claim that a portion of Whittleswick has been preserved by the Trafford Centre could be disputed by direction. There were acres of wooded land which were not named, some fell into records as orchards or were incorporated in farmland. An example would be the Urmston Meadows where trees were being sold off for their timber in large quantities.

### Jubilee Tree. (Detailed under Village)



Early documents show a tree planted, suggested an Oak, it was to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. Replaced as they died over time it is believed that the last was a Beech Tree, the surviving tree was eventually removed for good in 1987. Here the Flixton Stocks sat awaiting customers in ye olde world. Road widening over the years has taken away the site totally at the junction of Church, Carrington, and Flixton Roads. Features here were a bus stop, a phone booth, the tree, and a seat, not to mention road signage and eventually street lighting.

Although no real records show the Jubilee trees culture an Oak, Beech, possibly a Horse Chestnut are all put forward. Reports talk of collecting conkers at this point suggesting the latter. The significance of the Jubilee was the importance. A slice of the last tree has been retained and 100 rings of growth were accounted for.

**The Beech** at Flixton House is to be found under the category of Seven Sisters.

### The Oak Tree. (Symbolic)



An event of 2010 where an Oak tree was planted to honour Winston Churchill at Flixton House serves as a reminder that this tree was once a symbol of the Urban District. The disappearance over the years has to be alarming to everyone who has an interest in this natural heritage. First included in the UUDC Coat of Arms this was recognised by the Heraldic Society and is continued with incorporation into the Trafford Crest of the present. The pair of Oaks, standing in Flixton Park fields, are a fine example of what used to be a bountiful species for the district.



### Trees of local interest. 101 Church Road



Standing tall this tree called a *Camperdown Elm*, is in the front drive of the Chesham B&B. Horticulturists visited to admire its rarity for the district and discuss its features. The tree is thought to have stood since the house was built making it over 120 years old. For 2017 the tree now shows early sign of dying.

About 1835-1840 the Earl of Camperdown's head forester, David Taylor, discovered a mutant contorted branch growing along the ground in the forest at Camperdown House, in Dundee, Scotland. The Earls gardener produced the first Camperdown Elm by grafting it to the trunk of a Wych Elm, *Ulmus glabra*. Every Camperdown Elm in the world is from a cutting taken from that original mutant.

A Mulberry Tree planted at **Holly House** on the corner of Flixton and Irlam Roads was an ancestor of one of seven sent to England in the time of Henry VIII. It became a feature against the fifteen-foot Holly hedge surrounding the home.

**Tree Planting Year.**

Urmston declared 1973 as a tree planting year. The Council worked with the Government to make environmental improvements to the local area. This was done by donating trees to Industrial concerns and private individuals. Significant trees are, or were, to be found around the district besides the Jubilee tree at the Village there was one for the commemoration of the laying of the foundation stone English Martyrs' June 1935. This was to be found in Chassen Park at the Flixton Road end. The Beech at Flixton House is renowned as was the Yew off Bent Lanes.



In 1930 the Allotment Society began an Arbor Day, it was to encourage school children to plant and be familiar with trees. Golden Hill Park was selected for the first planting of this kind. The Society pledged to continue with this as trees were being lost to road schemes and developments at a steady rate. Scouting has been involved with tree planting, 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston embarked on their own plan in 1968 for the wooded area near to the scout hut, 270 trees now embellish the camping grounds. Trafford announced that tree planting will resume as of 2010 with £1m allocated for this purpose over the next two years. A start began along Rothiemay Road with 20 saplings being installed during March of that year.

**Tree Preservation.**



Legislation was passed in March 2000 in an effort to preserve all trees in the district. The Tree Preservation Order was introduced to protect any tree that could be considered as having an amenity value. The law prohibits the cutting down, uprooting, topping, lopping, wilful damage or destruction of trees without consent.

A fine of a maximum £20,000 was to be levied on anyone who offends. It should be noted this applied to public trees and not to commercial fruit trees that require constant pruning and attention.

Wherever trees were planted or introduced to the wilder parts of the district c.1780-1800 they would usually include the Oak and the Plumb trees. A declining need for the fruit at the Manchester markets led to many plumb trees being cut down and reason for so few today being visible. Why the Oak is disappearing has not been researched but a local horticulturist informed one reason is the time they take to mature, it is easier to plant trees of other species that offer faster growth.

**Wood Carving.**



The art of wood carving has made a comeback for present times. Parks and gardens show the stumps of trees being carved into attractive works creating a second life for the remaining wood. Several feature in prominence for Urmston, an owl stands on Irlam and Woodsend Road, a horse head on the Meadows and Acorns on Church Road, then a squirrel at the Woodsend Circle. The next and last pair shown can be found at St. Clement Court and Davyhulme Golf Club respectfully. Credit is given to Tim Burgess the carver of this duo.



Horse on the Meadows

St. Clement Court



Church Road

Woodsend Road

Woodsend Circle

Davyhulme Golf Club

Corn Hill

- **Trevor Road.** Flixton

The 1930's show this road being formed and new to Flixton. Expansion in 1935 and it became home to 85 families.



**Brookside and Gilbody Cottages.** Trevor Road

Some fine cottages that once stood at the corner of Trevor and Flixton Roads. They were removed to create Trevor Road in 1935.

There has not been a directory showing for anyone after 1919 when four families took home. They were Newton, Pearcey, Gratrix, and Gilbody.



A white plastered cottage with a shingled roof became renowned and called Gilbody because of its owner, Mr. J. Gilbody. Mrs. Gilbody lived there alone after his death until 1930 when it was demolished. Trevor Road is now situated where the cottage stood.



- **Tilby Close.** Flixton

Odds and evens, 1-12 numbers for the Close. The Tilby name was first found in Essex as Lords of the Manor but it is alleged, in this instance, to have been connected to a local resident Samuel Tilby.

- **Turner Drive.** Urmston

Another newer housing contract of 1995 brought 10 homes and 6 flats to the Drive.

## U

- **Ullswater Road.** Davyhulme  
1935 saw this road grow into 145 residences. Ullswater is a Lake from the northern District.

- **Unclassified.**

**Dialect. 1870 Urmston**

It is often thought that a local dialect does not exist. Language to the citizens of any place is normal it is everyone else that speaks with an accent. In 1870 to 1873 the Urmston dialect was given notice to quit as little or none was spoken in the neighbourhood. This was supposedly brought about by compulsory education along with the advent of the railway. A professor Joseph Wright from Oxford set about gathering words from this departing folk speech to insert them into a national directory of dialects.

An example of this dialect would be Shagh, pronounced Shah, which today is Shaw. The name of Shalcrosse became Shaghcross finishing as Shawcross. To make life difficult Ridehalgh is pronounce Ride-halsh. An Urmston resident named **Robert Dottie** earned fame at the Manchester Comedy Theatre of 1898 reciting extracts of this local dialect to the public.

It was once said to live in these parts one had to be bilingual, **English and Lancastrian.**

**Fair Grounds.**

Most know that for modern times the Woodsend Park and at times after the war Chassen Park were the grounds where a visiting Fair camped out. It is traced in records that several births occurred during these visits and they give dates for the earliest of times for when this form of entertainment was available. 1911 had three such children brought into the world with their birth entered as "a caravan, Flixton Road Fair Grounds." Golden Hill Park had its own occasions of being used for events of entertainment over the years.

Some recent verbal information is a claim by the Eckersley coal merchant family that a **pair of elephants** passed their yard offices near the Station Road Approach as a feature advertising a coming circus or fair to Urmston. Another local point was that Silcocks on Crofts Bank Road was connected to the fun fair as family.

**Fashion in Urmston.** (Vanity insanity an observation of youth)

Clothing rationing began in June 1941. There was a shortage of fabric and a range of utility clothing was introduced. This used a minimum amount of cloth was devoid of embroidery and controlled; utility clothing had a special label to denote that it was an approved design. Men's and boy's jackets only had three buttons and two pockets and trousers had no turn-ups. Women's and girl's dresses had no pleats, elastic waist bands, or fancy belts. Utility shoes had a heel which was less than 2 inches.



After the war marketing became a way of increasing a productive economy. The Urmstons youth of the fifties were induced into wearing a flat cap that would have even made Andy Capp proud. Girls wore so many petticoats the industry could not keep up with demand. Young adults moved into the Edwardian era wearing long jackets and drainpipe trousers giving birth to the Teddy boy. Girls went from shirtwaisters to A-Line.



Advances were made into leather jackets (Rockers) or frilly shirts (Mods) Changes came and Italian style suits became the norm followed by the shaving of heads (Skin Heads) then on to Grunge. Forget the Hippy era of bell bottoms and Carnaby Street with its miniskirts, there are times when it becomes impossible to keep up.

For now, it is Hoodies,



skinny jeans,



and short skirts with tights.



The company of K-Swiss had a product on the market which carried the brand name of an '**Urmston**' tennis shoe. No longer available now it probably didn't sell many.



Flixton



Davyhulme

The designer fashion company of 'English Laundry' had a man's shirt on offer. It carried the name of '**Flixton**' due to its creator Christopher Wicks, whom was born in the area of Manchester producing a line of clothing under several local names. Not exactly exciting with its short sleeves and double pocket arrangement, as a shirt, acceptable compared to a lot around in this modern era. Added to the line of clothing was a '**Davyhulme**' shirt, a totally different concept, with a younger element aimed for. A last calling includes '**Urmston**' in yet another style.

### Rookeries.



For the 1890's there were three rookeries to be found in the Urban District. Flixton House was noted for its and St. Clement's Church had one close by. The third was to be found at Davyhulme Hall Park and only included after the park became known as such. The Flixton House clamour, changed its allegiance moving to St. Michael's Church once the Squire died. For crows the collective term, as opposed to a 'clamour' of rooks, is a 'murder.'

### Scotland.

Featured in some small way is a connection to the Highlands. It is shown by the road naming of Skye, Orkney, and Shetland, among others in the area of Kingsway. This particular area is found to have its beginnings about the same time as the Lostock Estate for the early 1930's. Many local road names are based on Scottish back grounding.



### Strangeways.

As of 1868 the Urmston, Flixton, and Davyhulme courts fell under the jurisdiction of Manchester. It took until 1951 for it to become closer with the Courts at Eccles being opened. Prior to this 1905 showed that magistrates would be allocated throughout the district to perform judicial duty.



The reorganisation of Trafford in 1974 brought in the Altrincham and Sale courts which survived until a new building came into being in 1985. The current Trafford Court House has been in operation since 2007. Strangeways, although a listed building, was demolished leaving only the sandstone entrance as a reminder of the past.



### Suffragette Movement.

The right to vote for women was well in hand for Urmston in 1900. Two sisters from Primrose Avenue, Urmston, Edith and Beatrice Clayton Pepper were arrested and jailed for their efforts to the cause in 1909. The quest for reform was led locally by Mrs. Rachael Scott who had the backing of both Urmston and Flixton Council's. These councils passed resolutions in 1911 urging Parliament to confer the vote on women householders. **Adela Pankhurst** daughter of the leader Emmeline was once a teacher at the Urmston Higher Grade School. She was forced to resign in 1906 because of her opinions. One of her pupils was Harry Spencer who became head of St. Michaels Church School later in life.



Emmeline

### The White House. Defined



Many houses were called by this name simply because they were painted white. Each are entered as found by location and should be noted carefully to avoid confusion.

### Whitworth. Ursula



A book published in 1937 to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI turned up at auction in 2010. Published to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, 12 May 1937, this book, "*which is the story of the First Citizen and head of our Empire, written more particularly for his younger fellow-citizens, the schoolboys and schoolgirls of Great and greater Britain*", was intended as a gift-book to be presented to schoolchildren; this copy was presented by the Urmston Urban District Council to one Ursula Whitworth.

It shows the Council monogram in gilt to the front cover, with presentation certificate from the Urmston Coronation Celebrations Committee printed to the inside front cover (with the recipient's name in ink) and a two-page foreword from the same Committee bound in at the front. James Heaford was the Chairman and his assistants for this committee were A. G. Holme and Thomas E. Whitelegg.

- **Uplands Road.** Flixton

Dates of 1934 and 1937 are offered for Uplands 27 homes. Bainbridge Bros, who built many local homes, went into some difficulties in 1940 and sold off all their equipment here at Uplands.

- **Urminster Lane.** Davyhulme

This strange spelling arrived from the Barton-upon-Irwell District and its register for 1871. It probably meant Urmston Lane and outside of the district for this document.

- **Urmston.**

Derived from Orme and Tun the words, melding over time, made up Urmston. Other historical names were Wermeston 1194, Urmeston 1212, Urmestone 1302 and Urmyston 1610. In 1868 this was created from the Parish of Flixton to become the Urmston Urban District as of 1894 with 12 councillors. Population in 1891 was 1,891 and it covered 992 acres. There was a Richard of Urmston, dated after the Domesday Book, as holder of the lands in 1193. The Trafford family acquired the lands from him and subsequently the Hyde family of Cheshire took their turn as holder.

### Oldest inhabitant.

The current oldest inhabitant for Urmston is not known but recorded are many names of residents who have reached one hundred years or more. Found is a James Ashton who passed on in 1877 at the age of 100 years and 8 months. One lady for the modern era has reached 106 and it is certainly a testimony to the town that its citizens are able to attain such longevity. In 2011 a Community Health Report for Urmston was issued, and the facts were, men can expect to live 78.6 years and women 83.1 years on average.



Flixton born Margaret Billington, on attaining the century in 2009, said it was due to eating **prunes** every day with her cereal breakfast. The famous local artist Frances Lennon celebrated 100 for 2012 sadly she has since passed.

### Public Convenience.



Dotted around the whole of Urmston were a series of toilets strategically placed underground. The first was installed outside the Victoria Hotel on Station Road. Built in accordance of its Victorian heritage it was exquisitely tiled and had facilities for both men and women. This was followed by modern conveniences at Davyhulme Circle, Woodsend, and lastly Church Road.

For a long period, they were kept under strict control of maintenance and cleanliness, but this deteriorated into the 1960's with their eventual closure around 1975. All had been filled in or removed by 1980. Their one major flaw was towards handicapped persons. Tenders were put forward in 1959 for a new one on Flixton Road and in 1962 for one to be erected on Moorside Road at the hospital.

### Recycle.

Three empty shops were taken by Council in 1942 for the collection of wastepaper during WW2. Mrs. D. W. Grogan was elected as Salvage Steward. Since paper salvage began during 1940 the Council stated, in 1969, that it had raised £140,000 bringing relief towards the war effort and later to the rates in the district. The Urmston Council asked householders to separate paper and cardboard from the material that goes into the dustbins. Refuse collectors were instructed to remove this at the same time as the usual collection. The first 6,000 Wheelie Bins hit the streets of Urmston in November 1997. This, part of an experiment to test public reaction, became permanent for 1998 with a complete phasing in to be completed by 1999.



### Urmston Bridge.

Officially opened in 1873 it was widened for 1927. There is a plaque commemorating this on the corner of Flixton and Station Roads. A ticket office and waiting room was added to the bridge on the Railway Roadside and a foot bridge built to allow passengers to cross the track without having to leave the station. These were removed to accommodate the wider road alterations. Some small conflict occurs here as the railway dates from 1872. The wall opposite this siting carries holes suggesting there was a second plaque at one time. This remains as an unknown.



### Urmston in the United States of America.



Although there are many people who have left for the States for one reason or another Urmston has artefacts there. A cast iron fireplace from the Cemetery Lodge was traced as stolen goods to those shores.

Another piece of history was a gas lamp purchased from the council by a couple who lived on Western Avenue Flixton. When they ventured west in 1958, they took the street lamp with them, renovated and carrying a bronze plate, it was to be electrified and mounted along their drive as a reminder of home.

Over many years post boxes and telephone booths have also appeared in the USA mostly obtained before they were declared as 'listed' items throughout Britain. Descendants of the Farnworth family that occupied Bromyhurst retained much furniture from the old farm home taking it to the USA.

### Urmston Unemployment.

The records for Urmston show that in 1930 the rate unemployment for males was at 7% and in 1950 this was reduced to a number of 2%. The recession of 2009 showed alarming figures, a survey done for Greater Manchester January 2010 brought 10.4%. The latest figures indicate an all-time low of 3.6% at the beginning of 2019.

- **Urmston Lane.**

This lane became Station Road and Crofts Bank Road once the rail line arrived.

- **Urmston Meadows.**

### Meadows. (Public)

'Urmston Ees' this was the original name for the meadows. Farmland for centuries, access was permitted due to public pathways disputed many times by the local farmers. They have survived in part but sadly neglected. A large portion was given up for a farmhouse (Willow Farm) near to the Southgate end while other plots are in use for purposed agricultural purposes. Public pathway rights are still questioned to this day although decided upon in 1895 by the Manchester Police Court at Strangeways. Basic paths were to be allowed as passage from Queens Road and from Cobb Kiln Road while the Mersey banks would also be unrestricted. Under sufferance the various landowners agreed on condition the public kept to the paths and caused no damage or crossed fields.



A group called the **Friends of the Meadows** was formed in 2004 they were doing great work trying to revitalise the situation in conjunction with the Mersey Valley Project but have since fallen into disarray. The Meadows are now under the control of Trafford Mersey Trust in regard to the maintenance there of. (The Valley scheme came into effect as of 1966)

A portion of the Meadows came up for sale with the Moss Farm in 1904. These are some of the field names taken from that part of its history: Long Meadow, Bready Butts, Maghole, Old Eea, Ruah, Little Ruah, Old Croft, Homestead, Bank Brow, Millotts Carr, and Wilcocks Carr. An orchard, Thistle Riding, was another piece of land on offer for the time. For many years walking around these meadows was a treat to behold, the flora and fauna to be admired in all its glory.

One feature that has only recently been replaced was a bridge that crossed the Trib. This was due to heavy trucks and machinery crossing over it that eventually took its toll. Locals did have a name for this structure *Gibraltar Bridge*, but it is long gone from people's minds. The land for the erection of the scout hut was donated by the Irlam family. For the present there are many stables and small holdings utilising the centuries old lands, however sports fields no longer feature. A sports pavilion was erected in 1961 that included change rooms. Erosion by the Mersey was causing concern for the football pitches in 1970 and council began contemplating their closure.



#### **Blythe Farm.** Urmston Meadows

Suggested is that this pig farm run by George Blythe was the last for the particular era to operate down the Meadows. A large farm breeding and supplying into the late 1950's it was most likely the end to such sizable ventures in this field.

#### **Calver House.** Urmston Meadows



The farm stood on Urmston Meadows at the foot of the Cemetery on land found to known as Claver Hey in 1853. Its foundations are still defined at the access to the Meadows at this point. Although the house went, the remaining stables were used up until the 1950's by the local horse fraternity. Council had purchased the home in 1939 for the expansion of the cemetery at a later date. Its last tenant found was J. Tansley in 1946 and council approving demolition as of 1957. Being so far off the beaten track it never came forward with any details about the structure or the occupancy. This was until nature took a hand, in 1898 Thomas Steel's son Harry was wed, then in

1904 Peter and Annie Steel had a daughter there with a ceremony at St. Clement's to prove it. The farmland attached to Calver eventually became Barrow Field Farm attended to by the Connelly family in 1965 and who still work from there with stabling and agricultural equipment repairs. A portion of the land is now a car park completed for 1971.

#### **Orchard.** Urmston Meadows

There was an orchard in 1849 called **Thistle Riding** down on the Urmston Eas. Unlike many that belong to private homes this one was commercial and involved slightly over six acres. There were approximately 200 fruit trees sited along the River Mersey with an associated number of forestry trees, predominately Ash. The land was part of the William Stevenson holdings who, for that time owned Brook House, the Urmston Grange. In 1874 the orchard was offered for sale showing it to still be a functioning business.



#### **Urmston Aerodrome.** Urmston Meadows



The council surveyor was instructed to put forward a plan to build an aerodrome on the Urmston Meadows. The Lancashire Aero Club was to vacate its premises at Woodford and needed a new home. The club entered into discussions and viewed the site in 1946. It was decided that there was room for one natural runway but a second would involve bridging the River Mersey. This never passed Council.

#### **Willow Farm.** Urmston Meadows



This farm was built in 1989 at the Southgate foot of the Meadows. Its main function was as an equestrian centre but plans to extend its operation were granted for a kennel business to be added. The House is red brick and has two stories it sits on approximately 20 acres of land. The farm was offered for sale if you had £1.5 Million. (2009) Flooding in 1992 made the farm into an island.



- **Urmston Park.** Railway Road

Not a park but a small estate comprised of houses. Census reports of 1881 show a list of 1-10 residences here however they must have been semi-detached as only five addresses show in later editions. The first named homes were Lancaster Lea in 1898 with the Acacias. Ash Villa was named for 1903 followed by four more named as, Oak Lea, Woodville, Fern Lea, and The Acacias. Only one further naming came to the Park in 1911 that of Gowan Lea.

The Park changed dramatically by 1928 with only two semidetached homes then found. Numbering was found to be complicated with 2 and 6 as one unit and 8 named Fern Lea coupled to 10 The Acacias. A link can be found later where The Acacias is shown as Granville.

#### **Ash Villa.** Urmston Park

For sale in 1882 the villa had to offer four bedrooms, two living rooms, bathroom and kitchen. The house was described as a semi in very private surroundings built on sandy subsoil. When found for 1898 Edwin Scharffetter stayed there. The home was never recorded again under this name in any directories possibly as it could be mistaken for a home on Railway Road.

**Fern Lea.** 8 Urmston Park

One of three named houses here for 1901 it had the family of Robert Wright in attendance. Charles Wright lived here in 1903 before moving to Moss Vale Road.

**Lancaster Lea.** Urmston Park

In 1898 there were only four houses in the Park, the Lea came in addressed at number 6. James Kennedy had the honour of being there. This home was not continued under the name, as by 1901 it was no longer mentioned in documents as such.

**Oak Lea.** Urmston Park

For 1901 the Park only had three houses each had a name with this one having Joseph William Pollitt at number 2.

- **Urmston Station.**



Opened in 1873 the station buildings are now out of service. When first proposed they were described as being red brick with a white concourse in Gothic styled architecture. One of the first Station Masters was John Henry Bell who lived there with his wife and daughter as of 1881. After complaints about the conditions of the station in 1889 a new booking office was erected on the bridge (Railway Roadside) and a lady's waiting room was added.



The station was to act as a terminus for the North Western buses and the inaugural route to Manchester of 1928. Canopies that covered the platforms in 1889 were modernised but eventually taken down in 1965. A foot bridge was also dismantled at the time the Station Road Bridge was widened. A later stage, 1952, had the steps closed off that led to Station Road on the west side. The coal yard and sidings have been removed and the station building has reopened as a restaurant/pub called The Steam House. (2008)

**Urmston and the Cheshire Line Railway.**

For information only, Central Station, at the Manchester end of the line, was built in 1880, and closed 1969. The question is often asked **'Why Cheshire'** and the answer is to be found in an error from a London parliamentary agent. He had no knowledge of where the division was between Lancashire and Cheshire. This question was raised in the House of Lords and recorded in Hansard.



As a point of interest by road, the Flying Coach as it was called in 1750, took four and a half days to journey from Manchester to London. Presently it takes 2 hours and 15 minutes by rail Piccadilly to Euston.

**Urmston Station.**

Under the heading about the station it recalls the **platform canopies** and the **foot bridge** that crossed the line. Here are three reminders of those antiquated days. The third being a cast stone left over of a **water fountain** mounted as it was in 1872 but no longer functional, only the back drop remains. The exact same fountain was to be found at Flixton Station.



The canopies were finally removed for ever in 1965.

**Urmston Station Yard.**

Once established the yard soon filled with coal merchants and by 1898 there were four. Richard Evans and Co. began this list, he was an actual Colliery owner. Peter Higson and the Bridgewater Trustees, both had use of Flixtons Yard too. Next was the Wigan Coal & Iron Company, to end the list Forsyth William & Co. There was another not a coal merchant but a builder/contractor he was William Hill & Son. The yard was under the control of the Station Master, Richard Leather. A cab for hire was another business to log on here beginning about 1918 with a gent called Bradshaw as proprietor. In that year he had been joined by five coal merchants and the established building merchant in occupying the yard. For 1923 a corn merchant took space called Hoyam and Co. The yards were cleared for redevelopment after announcing closure in 1966.



### Findlay & Co. Ltd. Urmston Station

Circa 1910 it was common practice to have newsagents and suppliers situated on railway stations. Findlay was such an application of this policy at Urmston.

Findlay on the station platform



### Stephenson's Rocket.

Liverpool Road Station was opened to the public in September 1830 by the Duke of Wellington. The rail line between Manchester and Liverpool required a train to carry passengers through to Manchester. Chosen was Stephenson's Rocket after trials and a competition with two other locomotives. The Rocket was the only train to complete the test of a 50-mile round trip under load; it averaged 12 mph carrying 13 tons, and 29 mph when empty.



This date 1830 was before the Cheshire Line Railway 1872 came into being so let the record show, **it would not have included a trip through Urmston** as it is now. Along the old line the Rocket most certainly travelled very close by at Chat Moss.



- **Urmston general.**

### Antenna.

Circa 1950 the skyline for the Urban District was changed as each home started to show the letter "H." It did not matter if your home was 1900 or modern day, the familiar shaped antenna would show that you were in fashion and television had arrived. Licences for TV were first issued in 1946 and cost £2.

TV 1950's style



### Concessions.



For the first time, concessionary bus fares were to be discussed by the Urmston Council. This was in 1969 and an approach to the North Western and Manchester Corporation was made. It would operate under a token or pass system for senior males aged 65 and females aged 60. Included were to be the blind, disabled, or injured that had impaired walking ability.

### Citizens Advice Bureau.

This community service has been around Urmston since the association was founded in 1939. (The Bureau celebrated a Golden anniversary in 1989) Housed in many locations over time it has returned to a very early beginning off Crofts Bank Road. Once terraced here the CAB occupied an old house approximately where the Urmston Library is today. As part of the National Association it is a non-profit registered charity.

### Civic Ball.

January 1944 saw the introduction of Urmstons Civic Ball. It was held at the Urmston Grammar School and attended by all the Civic officials. This was the first-time council had sponsored an event of its kind.

### Civic Restaurants.

Once introduced as Community feeding centres, there were three such eating places, **The Gateway, The Woodsend, and The Good Companions**. (Each has its own entry) Civic Restaurants were exempt from rationing, which led to resentment, as the rich could supplement their food allowance by eating out frequently and extravagantly. To restrict this, rules were put into force: no meal could cost more than five shillings; no meal could consist of more than three courses; meat and fish could not be served at the same sitting. The group as a whole was managed by Mrs. Hayes. At the end of the war 1944 the Urmston Council approached the Ministry of Food to purchase the chain of cafes. Agreement was reached by reimbursing the Ministry for the cost of their establishment.

### Dog Ban. Urmston

It was only in July of 1957 that all dogs were banned from the central shopping district of Urmston unless retained by a leash. The Urmston Council empowered the police to impound any dogs that did not comply, and the owners would be fined. This was to come into effect as soon as the signs could be erected.



### Drainage.



The beginning of the drainage system around Urmston was in 1879 when a contract was awarded to Messrs' Worthington Contractors. They were to drain the whole of Flixton and Urmston for £10,000 within 1 year of signing the contract. Flixton Road and Crofts Bank Road were treated to the pipes in 1881. For 1883 contracts were awarded to continue into roads such as Manor Ave, Queens Road, Windermere and Woodsend Road.

Just before the sewerage works came into being there was in 1893 a group called the Flixton and Urmston Drainage Committee. This group was headed by John Stott who had specialized knowledge of sewerage systems and, aided by his brother Adam, engineered the first drains for the area.

1881 tenders went out for a 15" pipe with manholes along the length of Church Road. The contracts were awarded in 1883. At another period 1925 it was announced that a new 9" internal measure sewer pipe was to be laid from the Davyhulme Plant through to Carrington Road at Flixton. Construction was to be kept close to the Ship canal, passing under Irlam Road, Jack Lane and the Cheshire Line Railway. All the proposed work could be viewed on the 1908 ordinance survey map according to Urmston planners.



Flixton Road was to be completely dug out for new drains in 1963.

#### Dustbin collection.



The collection of household refuse has been a feature for the town for many years. One of the first machines for this purpose was manufactured by Scammell Lorries of Watford. Out of the models they manufactured this was a 3 Ton MH version and made available to Urmston in 1940. The door shows a William Wood was the contractor for the operation. After this the trucks turned to Bedford and Austin as manufacturers. These later vehicles were nicknamed as 'Chip Fryers' due to the side

arrangement of loading and covers. The Scammell photo shows shielded headlights for war time operation and no registration plate confirming it to be new.



Scammell supplied another purpose-built unit. These three wheeled models called 'Trivan's' were slightly more robust and rigid, its designation was P 12 and was noted to be No 6 of the fleet. This vehicle showed the name of W. G. Child as operator.

#### Education.

The Lancashire County Council issued a 1966 list of schools through its Urmston administrative body. There were for Urmston: Two grammar Schools, three Secondary Schools, seven Infant Schools, nine Junior Schools, and two Private Schools. Junior Schools were being proposed for Laburnum Road and Davyhulme Kingsway Park in this same year.

#### Elected. (Term of office)

The first Road Safety Committee Chairman in Briton, Frank Fuller, was re-elected to the Urmston Committee for the 18<sup>th</sup> successive year in 1963. For the same year, Miss Jane Taylor was elected President of the Davyhulme Women's Conservative Association for the 29<sup>th</sup> year running. Since that time, it may well be they exceeded these long-standing records.

#### High and Low. (For the district)

Depending on what is designated as being Urmston the **highest point** for the district is the Barton High Level Bridge. It reaches 100ft (30,5m) above the water level of the canal, for comparison, St. Clement's Tower is 90ft. The **lowest** is the Weir at the Thunder Bridge near



to Irlam Locks. Consideration should be taken for places or fields along the Mersey where the lands are lower than the water level. The **highest temperature** appears to be from 1976 when several days of +90F (32.2C) were recorded. The **coldest** lengthy period was in 1962 when even the Bridgewater Canal froze solid from Christmas Eve until

March. This 1962 record was broken when temperatures dropped to -17.8C in January 2010. This was accompanied by several inches of snow. This wintery weather began over once more for December of the same year with snow and freezing temperatures threatening to break the record set ten months earlier. The year of 1913 showed that Manchester center received only a half of the sunlight that Davyhulme got due to smog. It was also recorded that the Greater Manchester district had 209 wet days out of the 366 in 1920.



#### Highways Act. 1876

It was in this year that an act was passed showing the formation of the Flixton, Urmston, and South Barton Highway District. It included Davyhulme although mentioned only as part player in a scheme to provide a more convenient management of the local roads. Two wardens would be selected each from Flixton and Urmston while two more would cover all the other district towns to be included. The first meeting took place at the Nags Head Hotel in April of 1876. This Highways Board was dissolved in 1895.

#### Industry for the district 1801. (Statistical)

The census of that year quoted that Urmston was "*chiefly employed in agriculture, chiefly employed in trade, manufacturers or handicraft, and others*". By the 1841 census occupational statistics became detailed and listed were over 3,000 different titles, it took until 1881 to reduce these into categories. The statistics were still too complicated and for the 1970's the introduction of Wards made the system redundant.

#### Location.

Urmstons OS Grid Reference is SJ766947. It sits at Latitude 53.4487 deg. Longitude -2.3747 deg. The Postal district is M41 and has a telephone area code of 0161.

**Mayor. (Of the District)**

The term of 'Mayor' is slowly being made redundant and 'Chair' is taking its place. For fact, **Urmston never had a Mayor.** The last Chair for the Flixton Parish Council was William Clough and the last for Urmston was Marie C. Sharp J. P. The amalgamation of that time left R. G. Haigh to complete the list the as last for the newly formed Urmston before its change to Trafford. The Chain of Office for Urmston was donated by Mrs. George Bolton Stott (Ann Grundy) at the amalgamation of the three townships in 1933. The chain for the Chairman's Lady was from Mrs. Sabina Alker. For the present each Trafford Mayor selects which of the chains to wear, usually it is from the constituency they represent.

**Metric Urmston.**

With the change to decimalised **currency** stalls were set up at Urmston Library in 1970 to show all shoppers marked pricing according to this new system and to help with its understanding. This was accomplished with the help of several local shopkeepers. Weights and measures followed the trend.

**Newsletter. UUDC**

The Urmston Urban District Council started to send out a Newsletter to all its residents in 1969. The idea was to keep everyone informed of the happenings in and around council. It was appreciated for its content of general up-to-date information and well received. Unknown is for how long this continued. The publishing company of A. J. Wright & Sons of Cadishead were awarded the contract to print. Four quotes regarding the first newsletter printed out as comments in the second issue dated 'summer' 1969:

- "...answered many questions which I have no doubt are in the mind of Urmston residents."*
- "...should stimulate more interest in the district of which we are all shareholders."*
- "...should help retain the village atmosphere, where everyone knows what is going on."*
- "...it is a good thing to have matters explained, so that we can take more interest."*

**Planning. Addressing a rumour**

It has been confirmed that there are **no regulations** restricting new developments in height for Urmston to more than three stories. The Council will, when assessing planning applications, consider each proposal on its own merits and assess the suitability of the height, layout, and design of the development proposals within its context. However, as Urmston is characterized by relatively low to medium scale developments, you will traditionally see developments coming forward of no more than two, three, and four stories in height. Density housing is limited to 12 houses per acre.

**Radio.**

The introduction of Urmstons own radio station came in 2014. Broadcasting only to the local area as Urmston FM 94.5. Radio Wishing Well although only available in Trafford General was the first.

**Road safety committee. UUDC**

A team organized to control road safety was formed in 1948. This lasted 26 years until it was replaced by the Trafford Authority.

**Smoke free Zone.**

The area of the Woodsend Estate became Urmstons first smoke free zone in 1959. A count of 932 houses and shops, which included the 411 water heated homes, was submitted for approval to the Ministry of Housing and in 1953 it was debated in the House of Commons.



By 1965 the zone was well on its way to 580 acres expanding as far as Brook Road to the east and the length of Davyhulme Road to the north. Ever growing, for 1966 the expansion took it to the circle roundabout at Lostock and Barton Roads, next it was to head south and encompass Urmston. This became official in 1968 and included all of Flixton and the central Urmston.

The last 223 acres fell in 1971 taking the town limits to the boundary of Stretford at Urmston Lane. From the M S Canal at Woodsend to Anchorage Road at the east the district was declared Smoke Free. Urmston, and England, went **cigarette** smoke free in all public places July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

**Theatres. Urmston District**

1969 saw the transfer of control regarding theatre safety from local justice to the Urmston Council. All premises for this use would now have to be licensed as being suitable, from the safety angle, for the performances of plays. The advisors to the County would now be available for use or advice on fire and safety precautions. The term '*theatre*' included the local cinema premises.

**Three Days a Week. UUDC**

From the onset of the new Urban District Council in 1933 they experimented with a three-day working week for their work force. The general idea was to spread employment through the ranks of the unemployed. After two years (1935) this appeared to have been successful. The only drawback reported was with the administration work involved. The clock was eventually sold as redundant in 1946.



### Twins.



Urmston was "twinning" in 1969 to the City of Vergara, Northern Spain. It is unknown as to if this still stands but it is highly unlikely. Earlier in 1948 Urmston formed a "Link of Friendship" with the town of Emmen in Holland. This was formed through the Anglo-Netherlands Sports Association.

During 1974 another attempt was made to Twin with Frankenthal a town on the Rhine, Agreement could not be reached, and the idea dropped.

### Flixton.

#### ➤ The future as seen in 1935.

Once the Urmston Council had purchased Flixton House and all its grounds, a visionary predicted what may happen to the lands in the future. There was room for a **Golf Course** between the railway and Church Road. A **Lido** could be placed behind the St. Michael's Church forming a **Water Park**, a **Minature Train** was thought of north of the railway close to the main house, and a **Riding Path** along Flixton Road. The largest portion of the fields were to be earmarked for **Football and Recreation**. **Housing** accounted for two areas of the available land.



### Urmston.

#### ➤ The future as seen in 1946.

An exhibition held at the Flixton Drill Hall March 1946 showed the public of the district a plan for the future. Still trying to retain its green belt stature the area would contain several new **Small Holdings**, a **Golf Course**, a model **Municipal Farm** and a **Wave Pool** on the Meadows. The building of a **Precinct**, centralised around Urmston railway station. Proposals for a **Ring Road** were included along with **Housing Estates** created around open greens. Future homes might be built with a garage at ground level, living rooms as a first floor, and bedrooms above all in a terraced style. One last feature was an American type **Drug Store** to cater to the day to day people living outside the shopping core.

#### All this as visions in 1935 and 1946.

**Sixty five** years later, showed that small holdings were to exist, a municipal golf course did arrive, and the shopping mall was erected. The ring road went almost as thought, many homes are surrounding greens, flats are in block form, and the chemist chains abound. A miniature railway runs on Chassen Park. Only projects discussed about the Meadows failed due to the ongoing risk of flooding problems and its Mersey River run off.

### Urmston Township. An early reference of 1840

Described as follows; This township, measuring about a mile from **north** to **south** and about a mile and a half across has an area of 993 acres. The village lies in the center of the township.

### Urmston U D C Yards. Higher Road, Bowfell Road, and Moorside Road.

The yard, for 1920-28, was the area to find equipment and of all things the stables. It is hard to imagine horse pulled carts etc. so few years ago. The place to locate this was next door to the St. Clement's School on Higher Road. A depot was opened along Moorside Road with 1936 showing a new weighbridge, compressor, and car lift, among many tooling devices being purchased. Another yard was established off Bowfell Road after WW2 and a new office and workshop came in 1965. All horse drawn transport was withdrawn from use by council in 1937.



### UUDC Information.

According to the National Register of Archives, the "minutes and rate books" for 1895-1973, are available from the Trafford Local Studies Office. Most council documentation for Urmston has not survived its many transitions being destroyed by fire or water damage as it moved from home to home. A footnote here is that Urmston had **still not** achieved Borough status in 1956. The official logo of the town was introduced as The Urban District of Urmston something that never carried to be as known by the public.

- **Utilities.**

### Electricity.



1919 and Stretford Council acquired the Trafford Park Power and Light Company's undertaking for the supply of Electricity to Flixton, Urmston, and Davyhulme. By 1927 they decided to form a collective under one body of a single board. This was due to the "**possible**" future demand both for domestic and industrial use in this area. Electrical services were available as far back as 1890 but gas was the main source for general home and street lighting. Notice was given in December 1923 that district, as a whole would receive an electrical supply. For 1935 Stretford supplied electricity for domestic consumption at a rate of 41/4d per unit.

### Electric Showrooms. Flixton Road



A two storied art deco building of sorts presently the site for the bar called Wetherspoon's Tim Bobbin, which opened in 1999. The rooms were instrumental in displaying all the latest electrical appliances.

The Spoons website once claimed the building was a theatre this is not true. The Stretford and District Electricity Board who were housed on **Higher Road** invited companies to tender for the building in February 1939 specifically for showroom use. The lands of Moss Farm were used for this building. These new showrooms were 'to be let' for the remaining duration of the war in 1941 with no takers.

### Flixton Sewerage Works.

The first estimates as to the future of this works went out for tender in or around 1870 with contracts being awarded in 1878. The work was issued under a numbering system as projects were allocated in sections throughout the district. A joint committee formed from Urmston and Flixton began to create a sewerage farm here in 1881. This all evolved into a series of lagoons along the Mile Road and Mersey River, the Flixton department was born. The earliest date found at this time is for 1901 when bacteria beds were placed along the Mersey on the Carrington side. This is confirmed and found is that the lagoons were to become a part of the Carrington Power Stations ash pits. During expansion in 1935 a new centrifugal sludge pump and a 50ft revolving distributor was installed.



The latest plant is now sited near Irlam locks and is run under the name United Utilities. The official date for the plant to be completed and in operation for its present form was 1965.

It was during the 1960 era that many complaints were made about spending £400,000 on a sewerage works in Flixton when there was a fully functioning plant up the road in Davyhulme.

### Gas.



Gas was supplied to Urmston as of 1862 and much of Urmston still had gas street lighting until the late 1950's. Arthur Preston who lived on George Street was a lamplighter by trade 1903. In fact, it was good employment and a position held by many such as Will Whitnall, Josiah Halliday and John Willis to name a few. In 1912 a gas system was devised for Tram power in the area but never was completed.

A remnant of the early system could be found across the road from the "Bird" in the form of a control box, it carried the wording of Stretford Urban District Tramways. The box no longer stands there having been stolen for its scrap value in September 2010.



Urmston received its gas supply from Stretford until an amalgamation of boards brought it under a single board. A new gas main supply for Urmston was started in 1920 with the purchase of land between the Partington Gas Works, opened in 1929, and the Urmston District all done under the control of an engineer called W. Newbigging. The House of Lords allowed the Manchester Corporation to take control of all districts in 1922 regardless of the voting against it by both Urmston and Flixton. The Urmston Council announced in 1966 that the program to eliminate street gas lighting by conversion to Electricity had been completed.



The district is now served under the country wide British Gas. For the period 1935 Stretford charged 9 3/4 d per thermal of domestic consumption.

### United Utilities.

This corporation, that controls the district's water and sewerage, began its life as a joint venture in 1989. This was when North West Water was privatised. When Norwest, the electricity supplier became privatised for 1990, the two combined as United Utilities in 1995.



The electrical division was sold off for the year 2000 retaining the distribution and telecommunications sides. They have since relinquished both these holdings and sold off attachments to various gas companies to concentrate on water. This company is responsible for the creation of the Millennium Park from properties they own.

### Water.

Urmston gets its water supply from **Lake Thirlmere** it is gravity fed down to the area carried by a large concrete conduit called the Thirlmere Aqueduct. The clearest course of this line can be seen parallel to the Kingsway Estate where there are no buildings or structures along this narrow strip of land. Its destination here was the Davyhulme Water Treatment Plant. It is now treated near Bolton before arriving in Davyhulme. Phases started in 1897 and reached the completion phase in 1925. Its length is close to 96 miles and the Manchester Corporation Water Works were responsible for this project.



Thirlmere then and now

Due to the growing population in 1940 the **Lake of Haweswater** was created to supplement the supply. The water rates for 1935 were 1s-6d in the £ of rateable value.

### Wells.



Most houses and halls had their own wells many only found in diggings years after they were long forgotten. One such well provided for the Shaw Hall and Shaw Town residents where it was noted, never to fail. It is known a stream ran through Shawtown from the area of the Chassen Farm and on to Church Road. Stotts Cotton Mill drew its water from wells (Aqueducts) on Bowfell Road while the Urmston Grange actually sat on its well. In 1981 the well for Newcroft Hall was unearthed during the digging of foundations for a garage addition on Newcroft Road.

The Shawtown well was found on an O/S map, its location was at the Shaw Farm on Balmoral Road. Urmston Hall had its own well directly at the Hall itself. Another site of a well was close to the Bird in Hand and to the side of Hawthorne Cottage. Woodsend had one today it would be in the area of Peers Close behind the row of shops. Ambleside House and Glebe Farm both had their own wells. There were others these are a few examples of how the district was supplied with water in and around 1800 and on

## V

- **Vale Avenue.** Flixton

The Vale is comprised of 34 properties.

- **Valley Road.** Flixton

There are 98 properties built around 1955 on Valley Road.

- **Valley Road South.** Flixton

This **south** section of Valley is home to 32 families. The Road was added to in 1981 when 4 acres of land were developed there.

- **Vicarage Road.** Davyhulme

St. Marys Church Hall is the main feature of the 20 properties along this road. There was one home with a name in 1949 it was Chinauley followed in 1952 by Bryn Hyfryd.

#### **Bryn Hyfryd.** 6 Vicarage Road

Built in 1934 this detached dwelling contained a hall, lounge, dining with French window, morning room, kitchenette, three bedrooms, and bathroom. A brick garage, coal and green houses were to be found outside in the grounds. The naming is Welsh and means Pleasant Hill.

- **Victoria Avenue.** Flixton **1900**

Houses numbered 2-6 led up to Lonsdale. To complete the avenue the last homes were numbered 15-25. [The no thoroughfare became Hampstead Avenue.](#)

#### **Lonsdale.** Victoria Avenue

Registered in 1892 as being a semidetached house with the numbers 7-9. For that time, it was home to Thomas Peart and his wife Margaret. The occupants in 1898 were John Horrocks and John Hardy respectively.

- **Victoria Parade.** Urmston



The 7 properties were introduced after the Victoria Hotel was replaced. It is formed by shops from Station Road through to Atkinson where the Empress Cinema sat and includes an open arcade with the then new pub. This became Phase 2 of Urmstons redevelopment scheme after the Precinct was decided on. The project by Edendale Property Ltd. and Booth Dale Investments was intended for 1964 but eventually arrived in 1966, since then it has gone through radical changes and major disappointment tending to be the result. 1967 had Council approving of the area being designated a pedestrian precinct and officially named as Victoria Parade.

- **Victoria Road.** Urmston **1900**

All of the accommodation was named on this road Ravens Wood, Ingle Wood, Rawden Dale, Glen-aber, Brentwood, and Ivydene. For 1911 the road had gone to housing 54 families with only the original houses still named as the ten years earlier. The late 1940's and it was home, at number 52, to Warrington's, an interior decorating company. This day and age it has increased to 72 residences. For all its years the road was finally paved and completed in 1959. [Not to be confused with Victoria Road Flixton that became Bromley.](#)

#### **Brentwood.** 6 Victoria Road

William Houldsworth was the homeowner on the **east** side for 1898. **Ivydene** was its partner. For 1903 Walter Jameson moved in and then moved out crossing the road to Ravens Wood for 1909. Arthur Brooks came along here for 1939.



#### **Ivydene.** Victoria Road

John Stott and his wife Mary Ann owned this version of an Ivy home in 1897 it was on the **east** side. **Brentwood** made up this pair. (John 1855-1907) Fred Allin is known for here in 1938.



#### **Glen-Aber.** 4 Victoria Road

This was the home of Jesse Ashcroft in 1896 and 1898 **east** side house of Percy William Bryan with the home **Rawdendale** as neighbour. The home was semidetached with three bedrooms and two entertaining rooms. An attic, bathroom, w c, kitchen, and cellars made up the rest of the home. John Ollier was here for 1938.

#### **Rawdendale.** 2 Victoria Road

Land shared by Taylor, Holcroft, and Stott, allowed for homes in the area and known for 1846. This 1897 address was home to Walter Burrill on the **east** side. The corner sited home was made up from; a porch and entrance hall, two well-proportioned entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery, five beds, bath, and cellars. For convenience there was a tradesman's entry. Pre-war residents were Katherine Walton and Ernest Tunna, Ernest sold to a relative of Katherines in 1953 called Sylvester Walton. The home was built of a time when included in Victoria, had it been later it would be classed as Flixton Road.



Valley Road



**Inglewood.** 3 Victoria Road

Norman Richard Freeborn lived here in 1898 on the **west** side of the road as a partner to **Ravenswood**.

**Ravenswood.** 1 Victoria Road

This was the **west** side home of 1898 to Rev. Andrew Creery with **Inglewood** alongside as the second of the pair. The Wood showed; two living rooms, five beds, and all the usual conveniences.

- **Victoria Street.** Urmston

This street which appeared around 1907 has been changed to **Hampton Road**. Terraced both sides it was once a no throughfare. John Sanderson worked as a window cleaner from No.29 for thirty years. The road grew substantially for 1975 with new homes being built

## W

- **Wallingford Road.** Davyhulme

This road of 1935 has 55 dwellings the newest of them arriving c.1957. Oxfordshire is home to this named road.

- **Walmsley Grove.** Urmston

The houses here were founded in 1998 and account for 37 with a loner here by name, Corfield. F. Brennan a coal merchant operated from number 16 under the real calling of J. L. Brennan.

- **Warbrick Drive.** Urmston

A recent addition to the area as 2002 is its given date for the 10 homes there. Some mapping refers to it as The Orchard as in its early days no decision was confirmed officially to call it Warbrick, this was based on the nursing home of that name at Willoughby. Bremen Lodge made way here for the drive.

- **War time Urmston. WW1**

**Peace.** 1914-1918

WWI ended and it gave reason for yet another party in the district, once more celebrated in style, something that Urmston was good at doing. Parades and much flag waving was the order of the day. Peace was declared at 11 o'clock on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, November 1918. Many photographs are available in the Trafford Local studies section at the library. All the war memorials today have been altered and rededicated to honour both World Wars.



- **War Time Urmston. WW2**



The various items regarding this period are entered as individual listings. From the Lostock Road/Kingsway gun site to air raid sirens each has its own piece of history for in-depth study. For 1938 with still 6,000 to go 29,000 gas masks were distributed throughout town, Park Hospital was on full military alert. The ARP and TA had completed several exercises with great success. Volunteers were signing up at a rate of 100 per day under a draft scheme to cover all eventualities. Recruiting began in 1939 towards the formation of an auxiliary fire brigade in conjunction with Manchester. Black out practice also began in 1939 aircraft flew over and reported any lighting that could be seen especially from shipping on the canal.

**Air Raid Casualties. WW2**

From the official records the first casualty from the local area was a female who lived on Snowden Avenue. The date was 10<sup>th</sup> October 1940; following this, eleven other addresses show injury or death to civilians occurring during the war period. The district was fortunate enough to be off the line of fire being aimed at Trafford Park and Manchester, the most damage occurring towards Stretford.

**Air Raid Siren.**

This warning device was mounted above the Church Road Police Station during WW2 and could be heard as far away as both Flixton and Davyhulme. Unknown is its removal, but it was still atop the station in the 1950's.

**Air Raid Shelters.**

In recent times an old underground shelter was reopened due to repair work on Flixton Road close to the Urmston Station. Now resealed, photographs are available recording this event. Many locals had their own way of avoiding the consequences of the war time bombings, but public shelters were dotted around for use. A large one was built on Carrington Road; another remembered well was on Riverside Drive. These concrete structures remained for several years after the war eventually all being torn down and replaced with other use for the lands on which they stood. Some schools had them dug out under the various playing fields. Many from the war era will remember the Anderson and Morrison shelters in their home environment.

**Anti-aircraft.** Army Camp Davyhulme

This subject is covered under the heading of **POW** but for extra detail the guns (4) were 3.7 inch and had a range of around 32,000 ft. The site was encircled by a 7ft wooden fence topped with barbed wire and had two pillboxes as look out advantage points. Having its own fire station and engine helped as damage did occur.

There was a fifth emplacement which housed a "Predictor" this unit guided the guns to their target. Each was surrounded by concrete walling acting as blast protection.



Searchlights were deployed down near and on the Urmston Meadows where roving trucks carried the lights. Carleton Crescent was another center for this, to pick out enemy aircraft. Once caught in a cone of light it gave the simple computer the required input to aim the guns.

**Graf Zeppelin.** Over Urmston

Confirmation of the Zeppelin flying over Urmston has been followed. It was supposed to have taken place during its world tour, but reports were all verbal until a local historian's book stated it happened in 1938 just before war broke out. Most certainly there were Barrage Balloons dotted around during WWII and a further report stated one did get loose and flew around Urmston for a short while. Results show the LZ 130 Graf did fly over Greater Manchester, it was suspected of taking aerial photos for obvious war use later.



The Goodyear Blimp first flew over Urmston in 1984 on route to an event displaying itself as the spectre it is.

**Incendiary Bombs.**

October of 1940 in World War 2 saw the first dropping of these bombs on Urmston. Military observers of the time thought that the Luftwaffe were trying to hit Trafford Park and got it wrong. Several local homes were destroyed or damaged during this period, mostly at the Stretford side of Urmston. An estimate of 20 in all landed in the district accompanied by 2 Land Mines dropped from the skies.

One incendiary landed on the Lodge at the Urmston Cemetery, but it was a lucky day and as it hit the high-pitched roofing it glanced off, exploding between there and the house next door. One landmark saved for all to see today. A disastrous target was a section of homes on Davyhulme Road; in December 1940 numbers 108 to 124 were wiped off the map.



A bomb of the high-end type left a huge mark in the Nags Head area, its size shown by the comparative man standing close. For those who were fortunate to arrive after this period, these bombs were small averaging two inches in diameter and approximately a foot long. A basic idea of creating fire served as their purpose. To render the incendiary ineffective, they were placed into buckets of water. The High Explosive bombs were averaging six feet in length and eighteen inches in diameter.



Incendiary bomb shown with 12" rule

**Land Girls.**

During the Second World War Urmston ladies were a match for any throughout Britain. The voluntary service of Land Girls became very active in the local arena. Places like the Urmston Lodge and the Cemetery gave up their fine gardens to become potato patches and vegetable fields tended by these fine young women. They even farmed land down the Meadows that were deemed unworkable by the local farmers. Added to this were the many school children and unemployed who went gathering the fruits of this labour especially when potato picking became a paying past time.

**Messerschmitt.**

Loaned by the Air Ministry an example of the German fighter plane was displayed for all to view at Golden Hill Park in October 1940. At another time during the war an RAF fighter was to be seen on Urmston Market it was housed there on view before its removal by the ministry.

A verbal story has a plane forced to land on Flixton Golf Links with engine trouble, unknown is to its country of origin, but it was able to take off after a short period of repairs suggesting it belonged to the RAF.

**POW and Battery.** Davyhulme

For the protection of Trafford Park in 1939 an Anti-Aircraft Battery was set up on the east side of Kingsway. It comprised of four guns each supplied from a bunker underground. Mid-way through the war the attacks diminished, and dummy replacements were made up from wood. The property was owned by Seymour Bailey who was fully compensated for the taking of his lands. The site then became available to house prisoners of war mostly German and Italian. By the end of the war it was transformed once more into a resettlement camp predominately for Polish people. Peace time and into 1952 all was cleared from the area leaving only some traces of the gun footings. The War Department rescinded its lease in 1954 and, by 1958, a site hut was constructed for the A. E. Farr Co. who were working on the Motorway.

**POW Site. Davyhulme**

The gun site was listed army wise as M56, it was one of several designated to the defence of Manchester. Its military designation was 70<sup>th</sup> Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment. (Battery 211) At the side of Holehouse Farm it could be approached via a footpath that led to the Crofts Bank Brook. The bridge, a small wooden structure, was replaced with a concrete one to carry heavy equipment. The site was released from its lease in 1958 as the Ministry had no further use for it.



An area of 350 yards by 200 yards made up the facility having the Thirlmere Aqueduct there as one boundary just below Croft Farm. Here a turnstile gate was introduced to reduce access while the south entry was manned at all times with two sentry boxes. A guard room and administration hut completed the arrangement. The public were at first allowed to pass as long as they were escorted, this being phased out as the war progressed with the lane finally closing.

**POW Site. Monument Davyhulme**

2008 saw a permanent tribute installed in the form of an artistic display. Future generations will be able to follow the role played by this war site of importance to Urmston and Manchester's protection. This small, simple but effective, monument is open for public viewing. It marks the site for those who served there and for people to remember its function and roll during World War 2. Included are references to Metropolitan Vickers and the major role it played in the supply of military equipment to our forces. The monument was designed by the Monkey Business Artists Partnership.

**Predictor. Army Camp Davyhulme**

To aid the guns correctly from their position on Kingsway Park this tool was a calculator. Once an aircraft had been located via search lights it could calculate, direction, speed, and altitude so aim could be taken with some reasonable accuracy. The post was a deterrent and there is no record of any aircraft being brought down in the local arena. It should be noted that this piece of equipment was under the control of A.T.S ladies.

**Railing removal.**

To aid the Second World War effort during a shortage of steel the council announced in January 1941 all steel/iron railings/gates would be removed and confiscated for scrap. In the first year 160 tons had been collected.



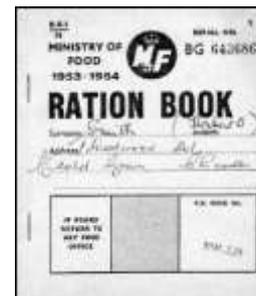
Several reminders of this carry through to today, along the outer wall of the old Urmston Police Station it had an enhancement of fancy iron work removed, and it was never replaced. Gloucester House lost all its iron work the same removal affected St. Clements and St. Michael's Churches. Like many, the Urmston Cricket Club replaced theirs later on the Moorside Road surrounding walls. Some church bells were voluntarily released for this same effort. 160 tons of scrap were accounted for in the first year of the scheme.

**Rationing. 1939-1954**

The measure of rationing, although introduced throughout Britain, affected **Urmston and its residents**. This serves as a reminder of a difficult local struggle during this period. As soon as war broke out the supply of basic commodities fell. The first affected was petrol closely followed by food and clothing. Several other items fell under this rule, soap and coal for example along with newsprint.

The typical rations per person per week were:

- Meat: approx. 6 ounces (150g)
- Eggs: 1
- Fats (butter, margarine and lard): 4 ounces (100g)
- Cheese: 4 ounces (100g)
- Bacon: 4 ounces (100g) initially only 2 ounces (50g)
- Sugar: 8 ounces (200g) initially 12 ounces (300g)
- Tea: 2 ounces (50g)
- Sweets: 2 ounces (50g)



Young children and expectant mothers were allowed extra rations, including orange juice and cod liver oil to ensure that they received the correct vitamins. You could apply for a ration book at the Ministry of Foods office which was at the Congregational Church or the John Alker Hall both on Flixton Road. This came to an end in 1954 with meat the last item to go.

**Rolls of Honour. Churches**

For those lost in active service during WW1 St. Clements has a tablet inscribed and dedicated in 1921. At the main entrance into the St. Michael Church, is a plaque commemorating our local hero's in 1939-1945 listed are the names of 57 men who gave their lives during this time. In a similar form the St. Clements Church remembers 13 civilians from Urmston 1939-1945. St. Marys Church dedicated its Vestry to the losses of WW2 as they had already a memorial to the tragedies of WW1.

**Spitfire.**

The UUDC set up a campaign to collect £5000 as a donation for the supply of a Spitfire to the RAF. One year later 1941, £2000 had been accumulated and it was decided that should the target not be met all funds would be transferred to a council that had the same thought.



**Starfish Site.** Carrington Moss

A Starfish was a decoy fire created to confuse the Luftwaffe during WW2. There were 4 such sites around Manchester in 1941 and Carrington was designated for Urmstons area. It was hoped that a bright fire would attract the bombers away from their target and release their incendiaries harmlessly onto the fields. In 1943 they were deemed ineffective and were closed.

**Unexploded Bomb.**

The bomb squadron was kept busy during WW2 clearing bombs that did not detonate around the Urmston area. One was dug up close to Urmston Station and removed for disposal, however there is still one left. It landed on the Meadows close to the foot of the cemetery and near to one side of the Eas Brook. Knowing it had not gone off the Army moved in to ensure its fate. Once located it was found to be a lot deeper than anticipated which created a problem in its retrieval. By the time a decision was made to dig it up the bomb had sunk deeper into the ground. Eventually nothing more was done until around 1960 when the RAF Bomb Disposal Unit turned up once more to assess the situation. It was deemed no longer to be a threat and it sits there to this day, unexploded, but so deep it does not matter anymore. (**Perhaps**)



2013 A site at the United Utilities water treatment plant in Davyhulme was being cleared for new construction when a hand-grenade was unearthed. It turned out to be a dummy used in training exercises. The US Army had a base there during WW2. Several other documents were found relating to this occupation by American troops.

**Urmston Workers Educational Association.**

This group that went by the initials of WEA was formed to aid workers at the end of WW2 c.1944. Meetings were held at the Brook Road Library with the Hon Sec. Miss. G. Wilde as residing in Wibbersley Park. The prime purpose was to help returning troops acclimatise back into civilian life or employment.

- **Warbrick Drive.** Urmston

This drive was introduced to Urmston once the home of Bremen Lodge was removed. Ten homes were to be included for the cul-de-sac off Church Road

- **Warwick Drive.** Davyhulme

The drive has 22 premises to its name. Warwick sits by the River Avon in Warwickshire.

- **Wasdale Avenue.** Davyhulme

The avenue has 22 property owners. The Lake District is home to Wasdale.

- **Waterside Court.** Flixton

Waterside has no water to make the claim. On Irlam Road the Court numbers 28 residences and it was built in 1977-78 for the Trafford Housing Trust. Its real fame being the first such building of four floors in height for the district. It was to be called Ferry Court, but objections had this changed. Construction was by Bracegirdle of Irlam.

- **Welbeck Avenue.** Davyhulme

Building began in 1954 and when finished it had 18 homes.

- **Wellacre Avenue.** Flixton

The avenue is made up of 5 homes.

- **Welwyn Close.** Davyhulme

This area had beginnings of 1935 and its 76 abodes.

- **Wendover Road.** Urmston

There are 7 flats among the count of 35 houses to the road that was once Lyme Grove until 1933.

- **Wentworth Avenue.** Flixton

The Worth comprises of 26 property owners.

- **Wesley Square.** Flixton

The old Wesleyan district around the Square could give rise to this naming. The Square has 8 properties.

- **Westbourne Park.** Urmston **1900** (Once called Westbourne Grove)

Every home called by name but one. Redclyffe, Ingle Nook, Fern Lea, Holm Field, here sat the unknown. Then there was The Dale, Wycliffe House, Park House, Gable Thorpe, and Roseville. The Park today has 46 residences. (A place name from Sussex) Several homes here were utilised as Police homes an example would have been No.43 which housed Bill Johnson a local Bobby who was locally stationed unlike today where police presence is from out of town. Many houses here were erected by Toft Builders Ltd. In 1937

**Fern Lea.** 3 Westbourne Park

1898 had this as home to Samuel Cocks then the period of 1901 had Mrs. Elizabeth Ernill keeping house here.

**Gable Thorpe.** Westbourne Park

At home here was Patrick O'Ferrall in 1901. The house was co-gabled with **Roseville**. This Gable was taken for home by John Lythgoe of 1909. Many names left Westbourne after WWI as they received numbering to identify each home.

**Holmfield.** Westbourne Park

This, for 1898, was the home field of Francis Hicks until it belonged to Victor Morton in 1901.

**Inglenook.** Westbourne Park

A gentleman called John Driver was here for 1898 with Enoch Hodgkinson residing here for the year of 1901.

**Inglewood.** Westbourne Park

John Marshall Turner of 1910 took the blame for this home, he John, was a traveller at the time.

**Park House.** Westbourne Park

This was home to the family called Arthur Brown in 1912 as they welcomed a baby daughter. For an earlier date 1901 showed William Bailey living in the house. One of a duo to combine here the other is **Wycliffe House**. Mr. M. J. Whelan ran an Estate Agency from here in 1953.

**Redclyffe.** Westbourne Park

For 1898 it was home to Edwin Bleakly followed in 1901 by Mrs. Elizabeth Ingham as the homemaker at Redclyffe.

**Roseville.** Westbourne Park

The last house recorded down the road for 1901 had John Porter looking after it in a delightful co-existence with **Gable Thorpe** the joining home. John was around to see 1940 and on.

**The Dale.** Westbourne Park

Home was The Dale to the 1901 family of Grundy.

**Westbourne Park Club.**

Urmston Rifle Club was established there in 1889. Surveys of 1928 showed a miniature file range still in use. The Club was said to be the first "*small bore club*" in the country. Three founder members are known J. Newton, R. Murray, and R. Cooper. At the entry to the range was a gateway sided by two towers these were the last remnants to go in 1950. The club functioned after this it was entered in the local Urmston Guide of 1964. Buffalo Bill Cody was purported to be a Patron as was Field Marshall Earl Roberts. A major portion of the land around there is now allotments after the club moved to Meadow Road c.1937.

**Buffalo Bill Cody.** 1846-1917

William was a patron of the Urmston Rifle Club in 1903 on Westbourne Park, Urmston. It is not confirmed as to if he ever visited the range although his Wild West Show did appear in Stretford in 1888 and again in 1891.

Buffalo Bill

**Murray.** Robert

Robert was a founder member of the rifle club who went on to win Gold at the Stockholm Olympics of 1912. This as a part of a four-man team event for 50m small bore shooting.

**Wycliffe House.** Westbourne Park

John Charles Burrows for 1901 had his home here. One of two gabled homes that sat next to each other Wycliffe was partnered to **Park House**.



- **Westbourne Road.** Urmston 1900



The **west** had East View, Poplar Villa, and Highfield Terrace. To the **east** there was Clifton Villa. After 1910 all names were dropped with the exception of two, they were Holm Leigh and Glen dale. For Real Estate there today it amounts to 53 homes. North-Western Electricity had a depot here in 1950. Number 2 went on sale in 1928, it showed as a three bedroomed home, two sitting rooms, kitchen with scullery, and gardens front and rear. Directories note that in 1874 people were already living along this road.

**Clifton Villa.** Westbourne Road

The villa was to be found on the **east** side and for the 1870's it was the only home on that side of the road. Robert William Jackson 1898 and John Owen lived in this semidetached 1898-1905. It was the closest home to Derby Road for the day.

**East View.** Westbourne Road

The first of three grouped homes on the **west** side for 1879 it was numbered as 1-3.

**Highfield Terrace.** Westbourne Road

The terrace in 1898 was the largest group of homes on this road. Numbered as 17-31 it comprised of eight **west** side homes.

**Home Lea.** (Home Leigh) Westbourne Road

William Moss was here for 1916.

**Masonic.** Hall and Followers

A group under the name of Social Lodge 3472 was formed by its 15 founding members in 1910. This took place at the Roebuck Hotel which remained as the Lodge until a move came into Flixton House during 1941. A joining with Chorlton-cum-Hardy in 1946 became home for twenty years until the move to the current *Temple* in Urmston 1966. The Lodge is now a constituent part of the amalgamated Phoenix Lodge 1730. An extension planned for 2013 involved a new corner stone, ceremonially placed it included a time capsule. Now complete the venue has become available for community assemblies.

The **Masonic Hall** on Westbourne Road is inscribed with a date of 1881 and is the Freemason's current home which was once the first Urmston Social Club. There are two facilities here and both are licensed to perform Civil Marriage. From its original form a green for bowling has been retained as a garden. Prior times show meetings at the Lord Nelson 1878 and the Victoria Hotel 1887. Officially: The Urmston Masonic Hall Ltd.

**Poplar Villa.** Westbourne Road (**West**)

It is confirmed that this home was built in 1878 actually a pair numbered as 11 and 13. It was also noted in the street index, as being the neighbour of the Urmston Club Co. Ltd. Residents here were Christopher Hargreaves and Joshua Hopewell for 1898.

**Urmston Club Ltd.**

This early version of the club could be found at 15 Westbourne Road it was behind the Cottage Hospital in the 1900's, complete with a bowling green. The same address is given during the 1928 period with names such as J. R. Howarth as Secretary and Arthur Millar being Steward. The grounds now are home to a Masonic Temple and the green incorporated as a garden.

**Welford.** 58 Westbourne Road

In 1944 the son of Councillor S. N. Penlington, Stanley Napier Penlington, hailed from here. His distinction came from attaining the rank of Lieutenant during WW2.

- **Western Road.** Flixton **1900**



The Ambleside House sat alone on the **west** side of this road but to the **east** there were many, all carrying their own identity. In order they were; Old Nursery, Homsleigh, Westward Ho, Wood Leigh, Oak Lea, Glen Thorne, Claremount, Braun Oak, Ty-Llwyd, Hendre, Shawden, Flodden, Holmsdale, Brook Farm, Lisa Node, Osborne House, and Western House.

Ambleside was no longer solo in **1911** it had been joined with houses called Jesmond, Fern Lea, and Westwood. After Holmsdale there were many new changes, Air-lie House, Rose Lea, St. Ives, Lyndhurst, all came into play. A block of ten flats, under the control of the UUDC, were released for tender in 1944 they were to be restored and completed on the corner of Flixton Road. For 2010 there are 64 properties along the road including a 1960's home called Westway.



**1928** Western Road was filled with many home christenings: Jesmond House, Western Lodge, Fernlea House, Westwood, The Orchard, Old Nursery, Westward Hoe, Homeleigh, Woodleigh House, Oakleigh, Glenthorne, Shawdon, Braunoak, Ty-Llwyd, Hendre, Thornton, Flodden House, Holmsdale, Airlie House, Rose Lea, St Ives, Lyndhurst, Lisanode, Osborne House, Western Hoe, and Ashdene.

- **Western Road.**

This road is singled out to inform of the farms around its vicinity. Brook Farm, De Brook Farm, and Broom Farm all had acreage there. Pre-1900 it was only a footpath leading to the fields. The road was named Bruce in 1892 and after a ballot changed to Western. Livingstone, and Moffat Roads, were offered as alternative names. The footpath leading into Western was stopped in 1934 due to a new road being built.



**Airlie House.** Western Road

The birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. G. Atkinson in 1909 announced this address. This semidetached home was connected to **Rose Lea**.

**Ashdene.** Western Road.

A large home of five bedrooms, dressing room, three entertaining, bath and etc., kitchen, larder, store and outbuildings. A fine garden that contained an orchard completed the picture. The year of this detail was 1919; however, earlier in 1903 it was described as the Brook farmhouse residence with hen cotes.

**Braunoak.** Western Road

The 1897 brown Oak was supporting the **east** side and Ralph Cowap. There was a Welsh named mate to the partnership, that of **Ty-Llwyd**. Henry Avery belonged here in 1903 remaining until c.1920. Each home comprised of five bedrooms, two receptions, kitchen and conservatory. The main garden was to be found at the rear.



**Brook Farm.** Western Road (Aka Brook House Farm 1850)



A quaint two storied house, rustic brick covered with a slated roof. All of which was fronted by a wooden ranch type fence. Several trees along side of the home turned it into an 1800's picture post card. The Johnsons farmed 60 acres here for this period. They were to be replaced by 1898 when Peter John Walkden was in charge until 1906. This farm was functioning in the 1950's.

The farmhouse carried another calling that of Ashdene for some time of its life.

**Brough Farm.** (Also known as **Brow Farm**) Western Road

This farm related to c.1845-1900 and was directly north of Ambleside. Miss Sarah Royle was farming it for 1898 in competition with Brook Farm slightly down the road. Survey mapping showed it there until 1929 and described as built over.

**Claremont.** Western Road



This Claremont was on the **east** of the road and at home was Edward Bradbury. **Glenthorne** was the second of the two built here in 1897. After Edward came Mary Dyson around 1902 next, William Thompson 1908, then Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Thompson did not like the name so once it was hers, she changed it to **Shawdon** in 1927.

**Fern Lea.** Western Road

This was the house where Ralph Robinson made home in 1909 and showed as the last of three here for the year on the **west** side. The Lea was adjoined by the home of **Westwood** here the record shows a mix up of the names and so individual location is not known as to which side it sat. This abode had four bedrooms, two living rooms and the normal conveniences including a garage.



**Flodden.** 24 Western Road (**East**)



A house with a large hallway, three bedrooms, two living rooms, kitchen, scullery, box room, and cellars. When advertised for sale in 1944 they were proud to announce electric lighting was included. An earlier period showed that in 1898 Henry Albert Swallow was occupying the house. William Todd came to the Western Road home around 1908, two years later John Alker appeared there until Richard Winfield took over c.1927. **Holmsdale** enhanced this semidetached couple of 1897.

**Glenthorne.** 12 Western Road



The **east** side story here was that in 1898-04 it was where William Deacon lived. He was next to **Claremont** in this combination of homes dated from 1897. When Williams's daughter Elizabeth Annie married from here in 1907 the house was entered in the St. Michael registry as Sleuthorn in error. A second error showed the home to be on Station Road Urmston for 1900.

**Hendre.** Western Road

This was the **eastern** home of William Cooper for 1898. Bill called this his dwelling right through to 1929. **Thornton** was the coupled home built in 1897.

**Holmeleigh.** Western Road

This was an 1897 home on the **eastern** side of the road, and it was homely to William Jenkins in 1901. **Westward-Ho** accompanied this a five bed roomed house.

**Holmsdale.** Western Road

This version sat on the **eastern** side and was the residence of Ebenezer Lockyer in 1898 who shared the semi with **Flodden** for the erection in 1897. The house previewed with two entertaining rooms, three beds, bathroom, kitchen and scullery, and there were three cellars. There was a large garden rear but small front, or so Ernest Sharples, the owner, said in 1920.

**Jesmond House.** Western Road

The home appeared on the western scene for 1909 and it belonged to Ernest Nuttall in that year. Jesmond was a detached house with detail of four beds, two living rooms, kitchen and scullery, bath with w.c. The gardens had a tennis lawn and a garage. 1938 had Leonard Robson here.

**Lisanode.** Western Road

The beginning of 1900 saw, living here, William Shaw as he faced **west**. The partnered house of **Osborne** showed completion in 1897. Another name found was for 1938 with Reginald Victor Brown.

Shaws Boards.

Into Western Road was a house known to the locals as Shaws. A distinct wooden fence surrounding the property gave rise to this name identification. This home was **Lisanode** with William Shaw boarded in from 1900.

**Lyndhurst.** Western Road

This abode was owned by Herbert Houghton Chetham from its established date of c.1903. Making up the semidetached was **St. Ives**.

**Oak Leigh.** Western Road

The house on the roads **eastern** side was the 1898 abode of Alfred Parker. The semi was built in 1892 and had **Wood Leigh** as its cohort. Alfred's daughters, Emily and Fanny had a double wedding from here in 1904. In the house next door, Wood Leigh, another Parker was resident at this time. For 1918 Harold Ring occupied the home.

**Old Nursery.** Western Road

An odd name for this house on the **eastern** side of the road it was registered in 1891 to a timber merchant called Frederick Parker then to a butcher in 1898-04 called Mark Harrison. This house would have sat across from Reade House and did have had a garden nursery, as it was all open land at that period. The trades offered do not match a commercial nursery suggesting the calling was much earlier than the 1890's.

**Osborne House.** 24 Western Road

This is an 1897 house finding known to have been addressed as No. 24. Another finding had Thomas Mather noted here for 1901. Miss. Eunice Swallow lived in Osborne during 1839-39. Then another document showed it belonged with **Lisanode**. Osborne had two entertaining rooms, four bedrooms and the usual domestic conveniences. Electricity was installed and gardens front and back told of little else.

**Rose Lea.** Western Road

Described in 1912 with all its modern conveniences were five bedrooms, two entertaining, and excellent gardens but no cellars. As a semidetached the home was adjoined to **Airlie House**.

**Roslyn.** Western Road

The home of Roslyn was to be found on Western Road at number two.

**Shawdon.** Western Road

An **east** side house on this road and home to William Thompson in 1898. The pair here, built in 1897 to be precise, was made up with **Glenthorne**. The house was originally called Claremont until 1927 when Mrs. Thompson changed it.

**St. Ives.** Western Road

This was a semidetached house complimented by **Lyndhurst** for c 1903. It was home to James Johnson at that time.

**The Cottage.** Western and Flixton Roads

This home known only as 'Cottage' was removed in 1937 and later replaced by the Brentwood flats. It was rented by Dr Moffat who was a missionary, as the cottage was owned by a family called Smith. The Cottage was never shown in street directories but assumed to be close to Western Road. It was later found the land on which the cottage sat was called Smiths Nursery. The Doctor married Mary the daughter of William Smith.

**The Orchard.** Western Road (Aka. **The Bungalow**)

In 1938 Eric Scholfield was the first date found as he retained the home. The Orchard was not noted in the early street directories and re-appeared in 1949 advertised as real estate. Shown that as a detached bungalow it carried most of the usual items for a three bedroomed situation. Featured were a vestibule to the hallway and a separate breakfast nook. The gardens were well stocked but there was no mention of an actual orchard. Further findings show this home did sit on an orchard almost directly across from the Brook Farm.

The interior description was enhanced to include high quality wood panelling and specific vanities fitted into the bedroom corners. There was an enclosed staircase to the upper floor attic; this was converted into a bedroom. The view from the street shows the rear of the home its porch and frontage faced the gardens. A garage/out building has been added for recent times.

**Thornton.** Western Road

Shawdon became the name change for this home around 1920.

**Ty-Llwyd.** Western Road

The Welsh naming of this **east** side house was not reflected in its 1898 resident of Richard Griffith Lloyd who passed on here in 1923. The calling has a meaning of Grey House. The accompanying home referred to the colour, it was **Braun Oak**.

**Western House.** Western Road

The logical name for a house on this road especially sitting on the **western** side, Mr. and Mrs. William Dickman thought so too while they were living there in 1901. An early showing told of its hallway, five bedrooms, living room, sitting room, utility room, cellars, kitchen, and bathroom. The outside carried a garage set in spacious grounds. 1938 had Robert Sanderson in this Western. The home was utilised by two Nuns from St. Monica's by way of a school.

**Western Lodge.** Western Road

The lodge arrived on the road as built in 1925. It was noted to sit between Jesmond and Fern Lea at the beginning of the road. Living here at this date was Alfred Bennett. Little is known other than the home was detached, had a tennis lawn, nice garden and a garage. 1938 it was in the hands of Gilbert Tomlinson.

**Westward-Ho.** Western Road

This was to be found on the **east** side in 1901 with Oliver Row in residence although built in 1897. The pair was completed with **Holmeleigh**.

**Westway.** Western Road

A new addition to the road of c.1960 it was built by the Young family for one of their sons. The family were the owners of The Bungalow or as it was originally known, The Orchard. This was an unusual home with the bedrooms on the ground floor and living rooms on the upper, something different for England of the day.

**Westwood.** Western Road

A 1909 find along the road belonging to Henry Ashcroft who lived here on the **west** side. The neighbour was **Fern Lea** but due to different street entries which side was which name is not known. Fredrick Whitnall knew he was there in 1938.



**Wood Leigh.** 8 Western Road

The Leigh 1892 was semidetached it had three bedrooms to the home with a box room and trunk room additional to the second floor. A garage, summer house, and cellars went along with the normal features of such a home. William Jenkins lived here in 1901 with the neighbour of **Oak Leigh**.

- **Westgate.** Off Barnfield

Of the 9 houses here 6 were named. They were called Dunedin, Bodnant, San Remo, Penwortham, Moss Side, and Alvalney. Westgate began to grow as of 1910 with Ormidale, Ercall, Kyalami, Holcombe, Oxford House, all new with two remaining untitled. 1934 had St. Ives for sale and a home for 1947 was called Lamorna with Wynthorpe found for 1928. The count for today's residences brings the total to 29 after extending in 1930.

As it is with Barnfield the houses of Westgate are very difficult to identify due to their changing of names over time leaving no indication of what came before. The entry into Shawtown Farmhouse is sitting on Westgate although the house itself is noted as Church Road.



**1928** for Westgate addressed these homes: Wynthorpe, Bodnant, Orford House, San Remo, Penwortham, Ercall, Kyalami, Holecombe, Rossmoyne, Coniston, Gala-bank, Orion, St Roche, Garendon, Moss side, Hendon, Maycroft, Dalby, Harvington, Flaxmoss, Marshlands, Westmead, St Ives, Roisel, Grenan, and The Mount.

**Ardlin.** Westgate

A typical oddity for Westgate and the changing names this was home for 1913 dweller Arthur Edward Greene.

**Bodnant.** Westgate

1928 and this was where Samuel diamond found home.

**Dalby.** Westgate

1928 found this house as home to Margaret Harrison. It had 4 bedrooms, one box, 2 entertaining rooms, kitchen and scullery.

**Dunedin.** Westgate

The detached home was to be found on the corner of Barnfield and the leasehold dated as of 1906. Nothing can be added for the habitable side of the building.

**Coniston.** Westgate

1928 occupant was Edwin Winstanley

**Ercall.** Westgate

A house without detail, only found once its contents came up for sale in 1925.

**Flax Moss.** Westgate

A Rates official lived her in 1928 called Huggett.

**Gala Bank.** Westgate

Robert Thompson took this for home in 1928.

**Garendon.** Westgate

Into 1928 a home for Andrew Chapman.

**Grenan.** Westgate

An assistant buyer called Samuel Grierson plied his trade in 1928 from here.

**Harvington.** Westgate

Skinner was the name of this occupant in 1928, Mrs. Ellen Louisa to be precise.

**Hendon.** Westgate

As of 1928 this was where you would find Mrs. Florence Greenway.

**Holcombe.** Westgate

This was the abode of 1928 Mrs. Emma Comfort.

**Kyalami.** Westgate

Ernest Marsh might have visited South Africa for this calling as of 1928, he was still living there in 1934.

**Marshlands.** Westgate

In the marsh was 1928 Robert Headon.

**Maycroft.** Westgate

For Harold Benson this was home in 1928.

**Moss side.** Westgate

William Henry Gregory had this site in his side for 1928.

**Orford House.** Westgate

Henry William Brighten took this for his 1928 home.

**Orion.** Westgate

For 1928 William Robert Lee had this house for his own.

**Penwortham** Westgate

The 1928 place for Edwin T. Bennett.

**Roisel.** Westgate

Broadmeadow, Walter found the fields in 1928 in this meadow.

**Rossmoyne.** Westgate

Percy Oswin had this for a 1928 residence.

**San Rems.** Westgate (San Remo)

San was one of the many homes along Westgate to adopt a name of an unknown quantity. Lillian Druce called it her 1909 abode with her father Henry Druce. Recorded for 1928 was William Edward Astley he was a surveyor.

**St. Ives.** Westgate

For 1928 a clerk named as William Latimer lived here. The home was up for sale in 1934 it had three bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, kitchenette, and all modern conveniences with gardens. Shown was that it was semidetached.

**St. Roche.** Westgate

The second saint for Westgate, this one had 1928 resident Thomas Perkin at home.

**The Mount.** Westgate

Mounting up in 1928 was Robert Hall.

**Westmead.** Westgate

Henry Colitas made his place comfortable here in 1928.

**Wynthorpe.** 1 Westgate (4 Barnfield)

Out of all the homes down this road this one shows its name today. However, this was not its original calling this was believed to be Dunedin. The date for this house was 1906 when the roads of Barnfield and Westgate opened up to Flixton.



A for sale advert of 1932 placed this home on **Barnfield** causing some discrepancy to be followed; it sat at the corner of both. The house is described as being a modern detached with hall, dressing room, drawing room, dining kitchen and scullery. The four bedrooms were all on one floor accompanied by a bathroom and toilet. Washrooms with cellar below were added to a heated garage.

- **Westminster Road.** Davyhulme

The Minster has 123 homeowners.

- **Westmorland Road.** Urmston



Documents date this road as being established as of 1908 but grew over the years. The road boasted 14 semidetached units all on the **north** side with then no through way ending at the point Grange Road is today. By 1928 there were an additional 9 homes of these 4 were semidetached. In 1933 it is recorded that Kathleen and Edward Johnson were the first occupants of the 'newly built' Number 86.

The list for its **1911** days is: Drumlanriy, Rockley Villa, Sunny Bank, Fern Bank, Min-Y-Mor, Romsdal, Lymefield, Riversdale, Norfolk Villa, Woodville, Ryecroft, Endsleigh, Lyndene, Dalefield, Ardernlea, Bankfield, Clovelly, Ellerslie, Rose Bank, Oakwood, Highfield, Westerly House, Richmond, Darley Dale, Lynton, Frankhurst, Bisboro and last was Winmarleigh. Numbered 2-56 everyone had its name on this no through road. A later addition around 1943 was Beechholme at No.57 and Libra was found here for 1947 with 1960 Carlton. At the last count there were 107 properties located along the road.

The housing along Westmorland Road is something of a problem when it arrives at photographs for identification. The first homes were all built in a lookalike situation which makes their entry of little value. One selected building could be used for nearly all the homes. This example shows what they were like for the beginnings.



**Ardern Lea.** 30-32 Westmorland Road

The semi was together with **Bankfield** for early 1900 this side of the home was occupied by Lionel Stanley Birch. He was there through to 1919 when Herbert Sudden took it.

**Bankfield.** 30-32 Westmorland Road

In house here for 1911 was Oliver Colin Mather who lived alongside **Ardernlea**. By 1919 it was all Herbert's, Sudden and Gantby, were the two found here.

**Bayfield.** 35 Westmorland Road

Frank Johnson resided in the field for 1938

**Beechholme.** 57 Westmorland Road

This detached Holme was a late addition to the many named houses here. Found advertised in 1943; from the hall there were two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery and pantry, four bedrooms, box room and bathroom. The exterior had a garage, wash house, and tool shed. The large garden carried fruit trees. For 1928 a gentleman, Robert Lund Hattersley, lived here.

**Bisboro.** 54-56 Westmorland Road

For the year of 1911 this semidetached couple were the last at the end of the no through Road. It was where Edward Leopold Brun lived. **Winmarleigh** carried the honour of actually being last. A shortened version of Bisborough would be apt for the name.

**Calderbank.** 28 Westmorland Road

Justice of the Peace Mr. W. C. Scholes made this version of the Bank his in 1958.

**Calgarth.** 55 Westmorland Road

This home came available in 1950 with its hall, cloak room, lounge with inglenook, dining room, five bedrooms, box and bathrooms. Here too were domestic offices, double garage, tool shed, and greenhouse. The house had gardens around three of its sides. Alan Gilbert Royle lived in this house during 1928.

**Carlton.** 41 Westmorland Road

John Frederick Wignall was the 1938 homemaker.

**Clovelly.** 34 Westmorland Road

The home of Herbert Disley in 1911 he was accompanied by the neighbouring house of No 36 **Ellerslea**.

**Craigside.** 33 Westmorland Road

Directories show that a Mrs. Mullock lived here in 1938.

**Darley Dale.** 46-48 Westmorland Road

Together with the house called **Richmond** the Dale had Edward Mills keeping up appearances in 1911.

**Drumlanrig.** 2-4 Westmorland Road

This is a semidetached house showing **Rockley Villa** as the matching half. John McCaig was living there for 1911-1923.

**Dunloral.** Westmorland Road

Working as a manager 1938 Earl Snowden lived here.

**Ellerslea.** 34-36 Westmorland Road

As a partner to **Clovelly** in 1911-1928 this was home to James Thomas Campbell.

**Endsleigh.** 24-26 Westmorland Road

In 1911 this house was attached to **Lyndene**, but it was also the habitat of Arthur William Crank.

**Fern Bank.** 6-8 Westmorland Road

A semidetached, three bed roomed house with two entertaining rooms, kitchen, scullery and larder, box room and bathroom. It had a separate washroom and coal house. **Sunny Bank** was the other portion of the semi. 1909 brought Edward Mills to the Westmorland neighbourhood.

**Frankhurst.** 50-52 Westmorland Road

The pairing here was made up with **Lynton** in 1911 and it belonged to James Thompson in this year.

**Hamewith.** 39 Westmorland Road (**Spring Bank**)

A certain George Cheetham was in residence for 1938. The home had changed in name from Spring Bank.

**Highfield.** 42-44 Westmorland Road

This version of the famous named home was, for 1911, where Percy Robson lived. To complete the semi was **Westerly House**.

**Lyme Field.** 14-16 Westmorland Road

The Payne family made this home for 1911 and their neighbours' home was called **Riversdale**.

**Lyndene.** 24-26 Westmorland Road

Arthur Wardle made this his home in 1911 the roof was shared with **Endsleigh**.

**Lynton.** 50-52 Westmorland Road

The occupant in 1911 was Edmund Woodward who shared the Lynton lot with **Frankhurst**. Edmond was Headmaster at St. Clements School on Higher Road

**Min-y-mor.** 10-12 Westmorland Road

In 1911 Arthur Redfern was living here, whose garden must have been a mini moor, and the semi was matched with **Romsdal**.

**Norfolk.** 18 Westmorland Road

For 1938 this was where you would find William Alfred Restall.

**Oak Wood.** 38-40 Westmorland Road

The Wood was where a family called Gregg lived in 1909 later it was the Astley family for 1911, they called the house of **Rose Bank** their neighbour.

**Park Field.** 32 Westmorland Road

Leopold Benton had this for his home in 1938

**Richmond.** 46-48 Westmorland Road.

John Sykes commanded this semi with the alter ego being **Darley Dale** for 1911.

**Riversdale.** 16-18 Westmorland Road

A house that arrived in an advert for 1945 although built earlier around 1905 showing it as a semi with, four bedrooms, two living rooms and all the trimmings of a normal home for the day. The connecting house was called **Norfolk Villa**. An early residential example would be Frederick Harry Payne in 1910.

**Rockley Villa.** 2-4 Westmorland Road

The villa had a partner called **Drumlanrig** for 1911 and in the villa was, at home, Stanley Penlington.

**Romsdal.** 10-12 Westmorland Road

The pair of homes here included that of **Min-y-mor** and in attendance was John Bradshaw for 1911.

**Rose Bank.** 38-40 Westmorland Road

Another of the early semidetached homes along the road, this one was adjoined to **Oakwood**. Here the Ralph Colly-Smith Kidney family lived in 1911 to 1916 and on.

**Ryecroft.** 20-22 Westmorland Road

The second portion to the house was **Woodville**. The resident for 1911 in Ryecroft was Sidney Axon.

**Sunny Bank.** 6-8 Westmorland Road

A 1911 directory had Sunny coupled with **Fern Bank**, in the house was William Cotsworth.

**Tre haven.** 49 Westmorland Road

John Tomson occupied this home during 1938.

**Westholme.** 53 Westmorland Road

1938 shows that Harold Waring called this home.

**Westerly House.** 42-44 Westmorland Road

Going west was William Anderson for 1911 as he was the home maker there. The house was with **Highfield** for this era.

**Winmarleigh.** 54-56 Westmorland Road

A Mr. Frederick Thompson was the very last resident for 1911 to live at this the very last home for the year. The road ended as a no through way at this time. The house was matched with **Bisboro** as they awaited further development from the years ahead.

**Woodville.** 22 Westmorland Road

Stephen Barlow made this his home in 1911 sharing the building was **Ryecroft**.

- **Weston Avenue.** Flixton

Western accounts for 16 homes in Flixton.

- **Westover Road.** Davyhulme

This road has 25 dwellings from 1935.

- **Westwood Avenue.** Urmston

There are 6 houses on the avenue of Westward. 1928 had them all named: Meadowside, Whinfell, Rathmell, Brisbane, Waveney, and Overdale to compete the list.

**Brisbane.** Westwood Avenue

One of James Wride's different homes in 1928 this one with an Australian background for its calling.

**Meadowside.** Westwood Avenue

Mrs. Emma Leah had the first named house on this road during 1928.

**Overdale.** Westwood Avenue

Herbert Lomas lived in this version of Overdale off Stretford Road c.1928.

**Rathmell.** Westwood Avenue

For 1928 this was home to Mrs. Emma Bleackley who gave no information of what it was like.

**Waveney.** Westwood Avenue

The home of Mr. Herbert Robinson around 1928 but nothing other than this is known.

**Whinfall.** Westwood Avenue

Herbert Irwin called this his 1928 home without further detail.

- **Weather.**

**Aurora Borealis.** (Northern Lights)

January of 1938 saw an unusual event take place over the whole of North England. The spectacle of lights lasted for approximately one hour. A Davyhulme resident described it as "*an arc of brightness extending from the North East to the North West where it became deep red in colour, with rays of brilliant light radiating from it in all directions.*" A **Parhelion** was seen by observers on Cornhill Road in 1951. This is a bright light caused by the refraction of light through ice crystals floating in the air. Depending on climatic conditions both are seen locally through to the present although they are usually further north than Greater Manchester.

**Flooding.**

Several times the River Mersey has flooded and broken its banks. History shows this happening since 1800 and before. On each occasion the excess of water causing concern to the local farming community on many fronts. Many farmers were selling off 'Flooded Hay' in 1873 the result of crop damage around Flixton. It was being offered as packaging material.



The Irwell flooded as well and in 1890, during the construction of the Ship Canal, heavy rains brought about the biggest destruction of its kind to the workings. A large acreage of land in Davyhulme was affected by this, almost, total disaster.



For 1933 tenders were requested by the Lancashire County Office to construct *Flood Embankments* along the Mersey at Flixton. Then in 1936 it was publicly announced by Council that; "*The sides of the Mersey around Urmston were now built up so high the river would not flood again unless it rained very hard.*" Words **not** spoken in jest.

**It rained very hard** in the 1950's as the picture left shows.

**Fog.**

Fog was a fact of life to Urmston, to be encircled by the Irwell and Mersey made for ideal conditions. It was a hazard to the rail line where modern day signalling had yet to come. The rail employees would place small explosives on the track so that trains would ignite them giving warning of any impending station or irregularity ahead. Road conditions too were far from ideal, motorists told of stories where a pedestrian would have to guide cars along the narrow streets.



One newspaper reported in 1935 motorists were found driving round Davyhulme Circle several times before realising they were going nowhere. Another tale in 1959 showed a bus had crashed across a pavement and pedestrians were walking into it until it could be removed. The Ferry at Irlam would stop running and it would be as though time stood still, especially during the period of November. Modern development has raised the climate level resulting in less frequency and severity of such conditions.

**Hurricane and Earthquake.** Urmston. (Nature at work)

In January of 1839 a **hurricane** hit with forces never seen before throughout the community. Huge losses of trees were reported by farmers such as Ridehalgh and Stevenson. Flixton Lane was closed until debris could be cleared however no loss of life was recorded. The year of 1926, August, an **earthquake** was felt in Urmston. The press told of stories relating to houses on Flixton Road shaking for approximately 60 seconds, there were no reports of injury or major damage. A father and son duo were struck by **lightning** on Chassen Park in 1975.

**Weathervane.**

A rare sight for modern era is a weather cock. There is one to be found atop the community lounge of Charleston Square. A second can be seen atop St. Clements Church with another, now gone, that over the one-time Brook Road Library

**Windmills.**

There was a working windmill in Urmston it was on the lands owned by William Hyde of 1587. No mention in records of its actual location however it was believed to be found near to the Manor. Flixton boasted a working windmill for more modern times it was sited down on the pits of the brickworks possibly utilised for pumping water from the various lagoons there. This windmill is shown on maps as the center point of the clay pits. Davyhulme Hall boasted something called a wind pump. For a last one found it was situated at the end of Nursery Road on the, now, playing fields.

Many farm buildings had **Clacks** mounted on roof tops; this was a small windmill at the top of a pole to scare away birds. As it rotated it would clap against a board sending out a clacking sound.

- **Whalley Avenue.** Davyhulme



Advised, is that the 35 properties were first started in 1977. Before the avenue became residential it was home to the New Mission Church of 1954, the predecessor of the Davyhulme Christ Church. The site was to be cleared in 1976 for an allocation of 5 homes.

- **Whitby Avenue.** Urmston

Whitby has 8 residential properties with an interesting story. It seems the builder here, who went by the name of Modern Villas, wanted to call the avenue Mayfair but as this was taken by another place locally, he asked a passer-by where he had been that day. The reply was Whitby in Yorkshire. To add to this story, an elder living down there stated it was officially opened by Sophie Tucker. Neither tale has documentary proof as evidence of fact. The land for some of the avenue was purchased from the Urmston Lodge Estate in 1934.



- **Whitegate Park.** Flixton

Another of the 1935 projects the Park was responsible for an additional 86 houses in the town. The initial builder involved was J. Parker who built the first six semidetached homes. The 1960s show a home here as the Igloo.

- **Whitelake Avenue.** Urmston 1900



The avenue came into being as of 1858 and by 1899 ten semidetached houses were offered for sale. At the same opening sale nine plots for future buildings were on the list. Each side of the avenue had homes but only by numbers and not names. **East** side had 10-36 with the **west** 9-35. The avenue was based on fields known as White Leach in 1843. A reasonable assumption would be that the new name change came to be in line with its neighbour Whitelake House. Another here was Whitelake Cottage 1902. Typical for here would be three up and three down, kitchen, bath and pantry.



Next for 1911 Strathearn the first house there becoming the only named building. The avenue was then numbered **east** 2-60 and **west** 1-59. The avenue gives ownership to 93 families now. A 1925 notice by the Post and Telegraph office advised that new poles were to be erected along the public path behind number 50 on the avenue.

A music school operated from No.16 from 1910 to 1918 under the hands of an organist J. Augustus Riley. The Whitelake Tennis Club at the end of the avenue went into default and was purchased by council in 1934.

**Glendale.** Whitelake Avenue

All that is known for this home is that it was semidetached and described as modern for 1911.

**Grayburn.** 83 Whitelake Avenue

One of the last homes by position down the avenue so far without information.

**Strathearn.** Whitelake Avenue.

As the first home on the **west** side of the avenue Strathearn had the distinction of being the only named house for its full length. Built around 1906 the name arrived for 1911 with Frank Sand perhaps responsible as he was living there then. Today, it sports a delightful streetlamp as a reminder of that era.

**Sewells School.** (Miss.)

An old school, privately operated, sat behind the Smithy on Flixton Road. Converted from their home the school was **Whitelake House**. Est.1890 the old building was taken by developers for housing 1980.

### Whitelake House as Whitelake School Irlam and Flixton Roads

A gentleman call Houghton owned this house in 1858 where he ran a small nursery it became the Sewells home around 1890 and was converted into a school where children were taught in 1892. The school took the ground floor while the family lived in the upper. The names of Thomas and Emily Bone were to be found here in 1918. Annie Beatrice Bones for 1938 and Thomas Bones came up again in 1944 and it showed as under new supervision in 1947. Some teachers of the past would be from around 1950 Webbers, Wesley, and Kershaw. Eventually all was removed with an ending of its lease in 1973, and approval granted in 1976 for a housing project to be built by Bracegirdle (Irlam) Ltd.



Whitelake House was a classical double story building. Probably built around 1850 and had a central front door with windows each side. A stairway led from the front to a landing continuing on to the three bedrooms and a bathroom. The lower floor had two large living rooms and a third room to the rear. Small steps downward led to a kitchen and dining room. The grounds had a wild approach to the back with a more traditional and formal lawn laden frontage.



The later years of its life were under the hands of a family called Wesley with the house completely taken over as the school. The two front rooms were occupied by infants who graduated to the upper floor, as they grew older. The school taught from Kindergarten to General Certificate. Miss. Sewell with Miss. McKee went on to teach at the first Urmston Junior School.

- **Whitelake Fields.** Irlam Road

Open land between Wibbersley and Ardnadam was offered for development in 1922. The sixteen acres belonged to the Stott family with portions of the Wright Estate. The building contractor was Partington & Tomlinson they took their place in 1937.



- **Whitelake View.** Flixton

There are 8 homes with a view here for present times. This was also called Lake View in the 1930's. The first contract awarded for housing here in modern times was in 1956.

- **Whittleswick.**



This 16<sup>th</sup> century tract of land was nestled between Dimplington and Trafford Park. It was sold to the Trafford family in 1632. Incorporated into the holdings around Trafford Hall, the first of which was built in 1550, it laid the basis of everything now owned by Peel Holdings around there.

There is a tiny portion of the **Whittleswick Woods** retained by the Trafford Centre as a picnic area it has been sign posted to remind everyone of the historical past the centre took away. Here too is an Ecology Park smaller than the original lake it is a pond now used to teach and study the ecology in the area.

- **Wibbersley Park.** Flixton

Between 1930 and 1935 the Park grew to 44 homes in all. The estate was built on the grounds of Wibbersley House. Only one named home found that of The Drive at No.16 for the year of 1948. The well-known Councillor and JP, Mr. William Wroe dwelt at No. 29 during 1953.

- **Widcombe Close.** Davyhulme

16 abodes are to be found on this Close. The possibly is a misspelling of Widcombe in Devon with its renowned fair.

- **Wildlife.**

There are few wild animals around Urmston today, at one time badgers, otter, weasels, and stoats were commonplace. Rabbits, hares, moles, and field mice along with voles, and hedgehogs, still can be found. The fox is often reported as a sighting, sometimes, they can be seen venturing into residential areas when hungry enough. The Mersey and Irwell used to be teeming with fish and after years of contamination this appears to be returning. Species of bird life continue to nest in the district and wildflowers return each year in abundance. Trees although plentiful are beginning to show as less frequent in varieties, the Oak being the one to lessen as time goes by. The times of the 'hunt' have gone chasing deer, or the fox carried out by the Gentry now seem centuries ago. It was not long ago, 1950's, that ferreting took place on the meadows to track down and control the badger population.



### Vermin.

The years of 1820 to 1841 must have been similar to one of the biblical plagues. Sparrows were swarming the district to such an extent they had a bounty on their heads. One Penny in hard cash was the reward for a dead bird or a Farthing per egg. Crows fell under this hunt and a Penny Farthing for each pair of legs would be paid. Hedgehogs were worth Four Pence dead or alive, but the top reward went to the capture of a Fox, it was worth Five Shillings. Because of Rabies a mad dog would fetch the same price as a Fox, if you dared to try and capture one.



Note: **It is now illegal to hunt Foxes** they are protected under the Wild Mammals and Protection of Animals Act no longer regarded as vermin.

- **William Close.** Urmston

Out of 19 properties, 8 are flats all built around 1995.

- **William Street.** Urmston 1900

This tiny street had six houses which connected Beech Avenue off Church Road, and Milly Street, it is now William Close. The actual origins date pre-1890.

- **Willow Avenue.** Urmston

Willow is comprised of 10 dwellings.

- **Wimborne Avenue.** Davyhulme

It has 20 houses to the avenue. Wimborne is a Dorset town.

- **Wimpy Estate.**



George Wimpey and his construction company built many homes throughout the district. A large portion of northern Davyhulmes development can be credited to this company with many today still referring to it as the Wimpey Estate. The company built the 1957-1967 Aeration plant and final tanks for the Davyhulme Sewerage Works.

- **Winchester Road.** Davyhulme

From 1933 to modern times there are now 168 residences. 50 Council houses along this road still had no electrical outlets in 1948 they had to use light fixtures to connect appliances for use. In 1949 a home here at 12 Winchester was called **Bermuda**. Another unknown quantity is **The Gables** which leads off the road at Crofts Bank. The final stretch of Winchester was only completed as of 1935. Winchester is named from the Cathedral City and had its own bowling club alongside Davyhulme Park. This was equipped with a new pavilion in 1974.

**Parkland.** Winchester Road

Aptly named sitting at the rear entrance to Davyhulme Park, this home is modern for the district.

**Pentire.** 27 Winchester Road

Built in 1936 it was made of rustic brick with English tile and valley guttering. The accommodation was, a porch entering on a square hall, the lounge was French windowed and had a mahogany, tiled inglenook fireplace. There was a dining room, kitchenette, three bedrooms and bathroom. The garage was built in and had a washhouse and coal place. Pentire is Cornish meaning Head Land.



- **Windermere Road.** Urmston

An early beginning to this road noted in 1880 as having residences, presently there are 10. One of the many roads named from the Lake District. Around 1938 the road still connected to Church Road, it has since been closed to footfall only.

- **Windsor Avenue.** Flixton

The House of Windsor has 26 owned properties. Notable from here was Councillor Mrs. A. M. Wilkinson for 1953 she lived at No.13. Major property development took place in 1959 cornering Whitelake Avenue.



- **Winifred Road.** Urmston

An investigation for the proposed Precinct stated the site was previously occupied by cottages in 1848. By 1898 it was well established with residences advertise as new. Along the road itself the **east** side had numbers of 1-37 and across the way 2-48. The road and buildings were lost to the shopping centre in 1964. There is a tiny section left as it enters the lands of Golden Hill Park. Addressed there are 2 houses, all that is left of a once bustling road. At one time it boasted the Urmston Corporation Tennis Courts as a part of the road. Number 11 was still the call office for the telephone service in 1911. The Co-op on the Flixton Road corner was in full swing also offering a library and reading room on its upper floor. The last major owner of multiple homes here was A. G. Langshaw.



- **Woodbank Court.** Davyhulme

Holding court here are 6 two bed roomed flats and 6 one bed roomed flats. This was a purpose-built project equivalent to four semis under one roof.

- **Woodbridge Road.** Flixton

The 56 properties arrived in or around 1955.

- **Woodhouse Road.** Davyhulme

Woodhouse was originally called Red Lane as of 1845. The majority of the housing came in 1954 and out of the 171 properties there are 10 flats. The Woodhouse Grove was a Maunders project.



- **Woodlands.** Flixton

There was some conflicting evidence surrounding land called Woodlands as a Flixton location. Found was that in earlier times of 1900 there was an area that did later become an Avenue and a Drive. The avenue is confirmed as being off Kenilworth. The Drive showed as being noted off Irlam Road at the rear of the estate there with a small entry of its own, access is via a passage next to the Co-op.

- **Woodlands Avenue.** Flixton

With a c.1925 beginning the avenue now has 16 homes. The avenue off Kenilworth was a No-thoroughfare.



**1928** the list of homes for Woodlands was: Sunnymede, Kenley, Hollins House, Incelyn, Dene Holm, Clynnog, Dodona, Corbiere, Wynberg, Ellington, Towneley, The Hollies, Kotree, Beristol, and Cyres which accounted for fifteen.

**Beristol.** Woodlands Avenue

This was the 1925 name for a semidetached bungalow here. It had three bedrooms, two entertaining rooms, and every convenience accordingly. For 1927-28 the name of Miss. H. M. Crabtree has been located as living there.

**Clynnog.** Woodlands Avenue

William Harrison made this Welsh naming his abode for 1928 he was a commercial traveller.

**Corbiere.** Woodlands Avenue

Thomas Brown belonged in this home for 1928 with unknown detail.

**Cyres.** Woodlands Avenue

The house is recorded as being the last, by position, on the **north east** side in 1927. George Frank Wills knew this as he lived there.

**Dene Holm.** Woodlands Avenue

This was the house where 1928 resident James Rhodes Hollerton practiced his living as a clerk.

**Dodona.** Woodlands Avenue

For 1928 all that was known for this house was that Mrs. Nicholls lived there.

**Ellington.** Woodlands Avenue

The first positioned house on the avenue for 1928 with clerk Harold Baxter in occupation. It could be found on the **north east side**.

**Hollins House.** Woodlands Avenue

For the period of 1928 a machinist christened as George Lees made it home.

**Incelyn.** Woodlands Avenue

A 1928 home belonging to the family of S. H. Gradwell that gave nothing away about itself. Mr. Gradwell was a teacher by profession.

**Kenley.** Woodlands Avenue

Information found shows that in 1928 this was home to Alex Daniels.

**Kotree.** Woodlands Avenue

William Thomas as resident is the only fact available for this **north eastern** side home on the avenue.

**Sunnymede.** Woodlands Avenue

A motor driver called George Edward Patten was the 1928 resident here.

**The Hollies.** Woodlands Avenue

Commercial traveller William Aspinall stayed in this north eastern side home during 1928.

**Townley.** Woodland Avenue

The house comprised of three bedrooms and two living rooms. It was a semidetached bungalow offering every convenience for the period of 1927. In residence for that year was John Wood Horner an assistant manager by profession.

**Wynberg.** Woodlands Avenue

This became the last house on the **south west** side of the road in 1928. A clerk called Jack Hone made it his own.

- **Woodlands Drive.** Off Irlam Road

The drive showed only two 1927 homes with names they were **Holmlea**, and **Woodland Villa**. The named Holmlea was at home to Joseph Holmes, which was convenient, and John Coutts lived in the Villa. Both remained here into 1940.

- **Woods End.**

This was the name given to the Hamlet lands of this area, just as Calder Bank, Davyhulme, Towns Gate, or Crofts Bank carried their own names and so did Woods End. The center of the region was approximately at the Union Cottages. This Hamlet was one of the prized land possessions of the Stott family. Note that this was always as two words and not as is used for the modern world.

**Calamanco Iron Works.** Woodsend

George Daniel established an Iron Works on the banks of the Irwell two miles below Barton Bridge in 1826. He put the word around that the company would take scrap metal as a purchase or exchange. The company would also be manufacturing, shafts, piston rods, mandrels, rod, and bar iron.

**Calamanco Lock and Weir.** River Irwell (Woodsend)

Half-way between Irlam Locks and Barton Bridge were the Calamanco Locks associated to the Calamanco Cotton Mill. Built in a time of 1730 when the Irwell was being used for the transportation of goods. As one of a series this Lock was built to one side of a weir, it was managed by keepers who lived in a nearby Lock House. The first house was erected in 1806 and replaced once in 1820. The ship canal saw the end to this need and the locks disappeared this included the Lock House which went in 1920.

**Calamanco Mill.** Woodsend River Irwell

The mill was built by the river even before it became navigable. It covered 81 acres which included all adjoining land. Starting as a logwood grinding and chipping mill c.1820 it produced dyes for the textile industry. Power came from the river and its early lumber from the local fields which changed to imports from the West Indies. Another product was a coarse cloth and possibly the reason for the various spellings for the name of Calamanco under which they were traded. Its earliest records show ownership as being in the hands of George Daniel who sold out to a Joseph Yates. Joseph declared bankruptcy in 1837. A new partnership of Fuller & Allen 1838 took it to 1842 when only Thomas Fuller remained.

The new proprietor for 1845, Henry John Barker, followed suit in declaring himself bankrupt in 1847. A dividend of 1s-£1 was declared and in 1848 the mill was sold and closed down with thoughts of the Irwell being improved at this point. This never happened and the empty mill was demolished in 1860. Most of the grounds were absorbed into the farmlands of Hulmes and later as Booths. For reference it was placed near to the present site of Tan House Road on the banks of the canal.

**Woodsend.** Woodsend Road

The home of James Gratrix in 1897 this **east** side house was listed as the first address on the road at this time. It was also classified as home to the farmer William Wood at the same time suggesting two cottages. James is noted to be living there in 1928.

**Woodsend Circle.** Woodsend Flixton

The UUDC were informed that the construction of the Circle was now complete in 1959. Property here adds up to 21. The council decided that in 1972 'one way' rules would apply to a portion of the circle making it Flixtons first restricted one way.

**Woodsend Cottages.** (Unknown calling) Woodsend Road.

This pair were mistakenly attached as a part of the Works which they sat as frontage. As far back as 1898 the pair were occupied, Mary Toft who was a grocer and George Griffith a bricklayer lived here. Throughout the years Marys was a shop usually as a grocery however there has been many and varied occupants since. Returned into residences once more for the present.

**Woodsend Engineering Works.** 62-64 Woodsend Road

Unknown is what they engineered but it was operated by Robert Hattersley. In 1891 they were seeking people to work in fine steel and brass. It is also listed in directories as the premises of the Telegraph Engineering Works 1901. During 1916 all the engineering plant was being offered for sale. The Hattersley family resided in many well-known homes around the district where their varied relationships are not known.

**Woodsend Estate.**

Origins date back to 1800 when it was called Woods End, for many of an older generation this was Woodlands, the estate was established just after WW2 and was the first of its kind in England. This was because of a unique heating and underground water system developed in 1946. It was supplied by a boiler house on Cheriton Road that was fed with low grade fuels such as Peat and Coke for cost effectiveness. 400 homes had radiant heat and all hot water was treated via this original idea. Mr. Donald Smith was the Consulting Engineer who added the idea of grouping the homes in small blocks for efficiency.

Mauders were awarded the contract in 1951 to build the boiler house and water tower. Once gas arrived to supply the estate around 1960 this way of life was abandoned approximately ten years later. The **south** side of Woodsend went out for tender in November of 1950 where 83 new dwellings were to be built. Mauders Show House went on display behind the Union Inn for 1953 on land named as Peers Cottage. The builder Franklyn completed another phase in 1957 adding 75 homes between Tan House and Shaftsbury.

The land for the estate 106 acres was purchased from the Stott family in 1945 by the Council. It comprised of 126 acres and cost £5,500 including the Wellacre House and cottage. The first name proposed for Woodsend was the **Stott Estate**, this altered in 1947 as Council believed in retaining a link to the past. 900 homes were eventually built here with the first laying of sewers taking place in 1947.

### Woodsend Estate Shops.

The year February 1954, the place, Woodsend Estate, the Council released for rent 13 shops newly built for the following: Boots and shoes including repairing, cycle and radio, sweets and tobacco, book seller, stationer and news agent, dry cleaner, off license, supper bar, hardware store, baker and confectioner, grocer, butcher, green grocer, and men's outfitters. Living accommodation was available over each shop.



Next in line was a garage for 1956 complete with service station and show rooms. The plot offered for this was to be next to the Woodsend Shopping Centre. By 1965 the Council were still looking for someone to build the garage and showroom.

The changes today are radical and yet another redevelopment was on offer for 2012. A resident's group was formed called the Woodsend Area Partnership, to work with council on this matter. Two years on and the project was started meeting its due completion date of 2015. The major occupants being a supermarket and medical offices.



### Woods-End Farm. Woodsend Road



The farms locale centred between the Tan House and Hulmes Farm all recorded as before 1840. It comprised of 20 acres with farmhouse, barn, stable, shippon, and cart shed. There was a fine orchard on the lands. This farm carried the name of Holmes Bridge in association to Thomas Booth and family who farmed there. James Booth is recorded as buying this farm in 1910.

### Woodsend Garage. 58-60 Woodsend Road

Establish in 1957 the garage that had a connection to Rootes a Hillman agency by 1959.

### Woods End Lane Farm.

This farm began under the title of Green Lane Farm in the mid 1800's. By 1881 it was called Woods End Lane Farm. This was a misleading calling and could have described several farms for the area. The only clues for identity were that it was made up of 17 acres, a house, barn, stables and shippon with a cart shed. There was a possibility the farmer passed by the name of Taylor.

### Woodsend Laundry. Woodsend Road

The laundry was another business to take its place in a 1906 familiar building. These were the premises of the candle factory an engineering shop, for a time as news printers to date, car sales. There is a shop frontage that has been used for many things like hairdressing and florist sales these were **unconnected** to the factory.

The naming for 1927 was **Flixton Power Laundry** it went up for sale at that period Robert Thornley was proprietor. This two storied building had white glazed brick walls internally. For detail there was an office, drying room, engine house, and chimney. Amongst the list of equipment was the horse and delivery van.

### Woodsend Library. (Public)



The library opened its doors as of 1939 and that went until a new version came in 1974 this had to be rebuilt after a fire in the 1980's. This library offers an informal historical society that holds monthly meetings and carries a limited reference to the past on its shelves of books. Woodsend Farmlands are suggested as being used for this Woodsend Road site.



### Woodsend Methodist Mission. Woodsend Road



Methodist followers often met in private homes, as there were no churches or chapel facilities built. This unidentified house was such a place and called the Methodist Mission c. 1890. The signage at the front was proof of this stating that the Rev. Stansfield was to give the weekly sermon. The naming of this cottage has been traced as **Woodnett Cottage** north of the Red Lion hotel.

### Woodsend Park. (Public)

This parkland alongside Woodsend Road is comprised of 18 acres described as open green space. For many years it hosted the annual visit of Silcocks Fair and it usually is the final destination for the Urmston Carnival. Its main purpose is recreational for the close by residents. A sports pavilion was built in 1960 with new premises in 1972 by the Urmston Council and added to this they established a basketball court, tennis courts and children's play area. This parkland has a community group aiding in the future of the area. The introduction of a skateboard facility in 2009 was controversial but it is now in operation.



A **Flixton Show** was first held at Wellacre 1964 followed with St. John's as the venue in 1965. Later Woodsend Park was to host all and in 1970 the attraction was supposed to be a group called Mungo Jerry however they cancelled. Featured was The Move who went on to be world famous as ELO. Radio 1, Dave Eager was also on the bill.

A Flixton show takes place annually it is held on the Flixton Cricket Clubs grounds, Moorside Road.

#### Woodsend Post office.

This shop was taken over as a post office after a news agency closed on the corner of Woodsend Road. There were earlier versions in the same vicinity. A name for post war time was Fisher who had a News Agency and Office next to Traynor Butchery and close to the Red Lion.



- **Woodsend Crescent Road.** Flixton

This road was only planned for in 1935 and it bounds the Woodsend Park. The Crescent had 5 homes which were built in 1974. Many homes off the Crescent are noted for their own address as a Close.

- **Woodsend Road.** Flixton 1900



A first note was that this road had its sewers laid in 1893 after tenders were called for the year before. In 1947 tenders were called for to build two Police houses along the road. Davyhulme Road to Irlam Road was connected by Woodsend Road and it offered a few named places for interest. Woodsend and Flash Farm begin at Moorside Road. Four houses later there was Brighton, Oak Land Villas, Brighton Grove, and Woodsend Terrace, ending with The Hollies at Irlam Road. **West** had little to offer, Hulmes Bridge Farm and Hope Cottages were there as were Taylors Cottages and White Gate Farm towards Irlam Road.

Enhanced detail came to light for the period of **1911**. Woodsend Rd began with The Cottage, Calderbank, and James Gratrix with his basketry claimed the named cottage of Woodsend as his home. Flash Farm and Cottage was still at the corner of Moorside Road with the terrace of Norwood taking its position between Clarendon Road and Brighton Avenue. Grasmere, Ash Leigh, Ash Dene, Holly Mount, came along to The Hollies and trailing after, The Elms. Woodsend Engineering was as busy as ever and Bennetts Cottages, all six of them, took the space to Irlam Road.

**Westward** looking and the Hulmes Farm was acting neighbour to Hulmes Bridge Ferry House. Woodsend Farm, Hope Cottage, and Tanhouse Farm made up the remainder of the road to Taylors Cottages. There after Whitegate became once more the last known building to Irlam Road. The general facts for present day 2010 are 196 property units of which 25 are flats.

**1938-39** had several new unaccounted-for names, Flash farm was addressed as on Woodsend and the PO carried a number of 124. The Pybus Brothers were making candles and in the same building was Arden Motors. The laundry was called Johnsons who proudly announced they were from Salford. The normal name of Booth was at Hulmes Bridge Farm and Henry Twemlow was ferryman. Will Bennett had Woodsend Farm while and Will Kelsall had Tanhouse Farm. A last note, Flixton Cycling Club could be found at No.65.

#### Ash Dene. Woodsend Road

The home was one of four along this small terrace. Positioned at the end, on the right, Reginald Swann called it his own for 1908.

Ash Dene and Leigh



#### Ash Leigh. Woodsend Road

This Ash sits in the center of a row of four; each side was a named home with the Leigh taking two places. Ash was the home of 1916 resident William Morris Hughes who was a gardener.

#### Ash Villa. Woodsend Road

This 1895 accommodation contained a sitting room, parlour, a kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. Later street directories show only an Ash Leigh and an Ash Dene along Woodsend Road. The Villa was a block of four homes between Woodsend Terrace and The Hollies, only the last house was called Ash however; it would appear that this group became **Norwood Terrace** by 1909. A resident for 1905 was William Stamp late of Flixton Cottage.

#### Bamford A. 1 Woodsend Road

Mrs Annie Bamford ran a tiny shop here on the **west** side in the 1920's it was a sweets and tobacconist but carried general goods as did most of that era. Irlam Road was on the other side making up the corner. She had a neighbour at No.1a James Richmond that was a butcher shop.



#### Bamford T. L. 12 Woodsend Road

This was a general hardware store of the 1970's. This shop was earlier 1953 known as Booths, Prop. M. Pitt also as a general store.

#### Bennetts Cottages. Woodsend Road

This small row of six homes had been around from 1890 and they only received naming in or around 1908 though there is some doubt as to this being a correct naming. Overlooking the 'Green' and facing the old Red Lion they reached to the corner of Irlam Road. Before that 1901 the last home was converted into a shop run by Ellen Whittaker, Joseph Parker kept it going for 1909. Ten more years and Helen Salt tried her luck at shop keeping before Annie Bamford took her turn.



**Brickhill Cottage.** Woodsend Road

As a local undertaker and funeral service c.1930, Brickhill worked from the vicinity of the Union Cottages at Woodsend close to the Flixton Union. Edwin Brickhill of 1880, relationship unknown, was a wheelwright also working from the Woodsend Road area. Two floors made up their cottage which was plastered white and had a thatched roof. Brickhill T. & E were listed in the 1938 directory as Wheelwrights.

**Brimmond.** Woodsend Road

Alex Lea thought this name would be popular during 1938 but only he knew the meaning.

**Brown.** Woodsend Road

This grocery business held home on Woodsend Road for several years circa 1960-70 its two shop assistants became well-known, as they were sisters called Denton.

**Cranford House.** Woodsend Road

A builder from 1937-39 Dervis Franklyn called this home.

**Dimar.** Woodsend Road

This was a fashion shop located close to the Red Lion of the 1970's. The owner, Mrs. M. Harris, moved from there to a new business called **Virgo** near to the Fox and Hounds.

**Dunromin.** Woodsend Road

A 1938 resident named as Horace Eton had finished roaming and lived here.

**Flash Farm.** Woodsend Road

Actually, associated with Moorside Road a 1938 street entry made it Woodsend with F. & A. Lowe as farmers. It also added William Owen in the Flash farm Cottage.

**Flixton Bakery.** Woodsend Road

The bakery existed on the corner of Irlam Road in 1915 it ran as a grocery shop at the same time. Included in the business were a home with all appurtenances, stabling and shed. The bakery itself was made up from modern ovens, a mixing department and storeroom housing other bakery items. (Possible connection to entry marked as Taylors)

**Flixton Union.** Woodsend

Around 1798-1800 the Union ran in a similar fashion to a Co-op. It was housed in a row of cottages adjoining the Hulme Bridge Farm with three main outlets. The group had Grocery and Provisions, then a Bake Shop, with a Brewery to complete the row. To accompany the complex there were orchards and gardens. Dealing mainly with the poorer people they also began a Sick and Funeral Club there. Their slogan which was written across all the cottages was *Sobriety and Industry Destroy Rags and Poverty*. The Union was closed up and sold in 1850 having gone into liquidation. One member who was 85 years old and had been subscribing to the sick fund all his life received one week's payment before he died in 1853.

**Fox and Hounds.**

Called the **Union Inn** in the earlier days it has been in Woodsend for many years. Thought to have originated as a row of cottages c.1818 owned by the Flixton Union Society, it has been changed, extended and renamed in 1973 to bring it to where it is today. Refurbished again in 2008, it was business as usual. A licensee was named for the Union Inn in 1938 she was Mrs. May Young.

**Garth House.** Woodsend Road

Found for 1938 Frank Cadwallander was at Garth.

**Grasmere.** Woodsend Road

In a row of four along this terrace Grasmere was the last on the left-hand side. In 1910 it belonged to John Nicholson.

**Holly House.** 72 Woodsend Road

As neighbour to Holly Mount this home has adopted the Holly calling. The house itself is part of a line along the road which did not show a name over the years. Utilised for commercial practice it has been preserved in fine condition, it is shown as the first home on the right.

**Holly Mount.** Woodsend Road

This semidetached had decorator of 1908 residing here in the Mount which was to be located near to the Engineering works. His name was George Bennett. The home itself was red brick and had three bedrooms with two floors and a cellar. Detailed information of its interior showed a large living room called the '*great*' room which went through the whole house. Several cast iron fireplaces and a remarkable timber stairway with carved cherubs showing some grandeur for the period. Bay windows to the frontage and the usual dining room, kitchen, and scullery completed the layout. The house was complimented by delightful gardens full of fruit trees and a garage. Described by an ex resident as a home full of charm.

**Hope Cottage.** Woodsend Road

The cottage sat on the **west** side of Woodsend in 1898 and belonged to a Black Smith called John Henry Green. He was still living there thirty years later 1927 very close to Tan House Farm. He was upgrade as being an Engineer at that time.

**Inglenook.** Woodsend Road

A 1938 boot repairer lived here his name was John Freeman. This home was the last purchased by the UUDC termed at the time as "rounding off" the Woodsend Estate plan for the future.

**Linda Vista.** Woodsend Road

James Hayes might have had a 1939 wife called Linda.

**Lloyds Cottage.** Woodsend Road

Only Henry Whitehead knew where this cottage was when he had his marriage entered into records of 1908.

**Malvern.** Woodsend Road

On the wrong road was 1939's Arthur Pennington.

**May Vale.** 82 Woodsend Road

An unknown quantity, the Vale has recently been found down this road without detail.

**Mayville.** Woodsend Road.

For the year of 1927 this calling could be found at number 82, shortly after Brighton Avenue. Thomas Wagstaffe called it home.

**May Wood.** Woodsend Road

The third calling involving 'may' this one for 1938 and with Frank and Harold Bainbridge to account for it. The brothers were into building and construction themselves for gainful employment.

**Moss View.** Woodsend Road

Harold Higgin was in No.1 and Leo Whitaker in No.2 making this a semi for 1938 at the corner of Thirlmere.

**Meryn.** Woodsend Road

Banks was the owner here passing as John Gray Banks in 1938.

**Moss View.** Woodsend Road

One of the homes classed as unknown for its origins. The number shown is 140 with nothing else written about it.

**Netherby.** Woodsend Road

For this the years of 1938 to 1939 Edwin Wilson found his place in life.

**Norwood Terrace.** Woodsend Road

The terrace had six units in each of two sections and was to be found at this location, they were numbered 1-12 for 1898. The terrace was originally several named homes in smaller clusters. It filled the space between Clarendon Road and Brighton Avenue.

**Oakland Villas.** Woodsend Road

These Villas numbered five in all for 1901 and were the closest neighbour to Woodbine Terrace. A home for sale here was described as having two entertaining rooms, five bedrooms, kitchen, bath and cellars

**Owls Hoot.** Woodsend Road

Not giving a hoot about the owls along the road was 1938 resident Donald Allan.

**Red Beech Poultry Farm.** Woodsend Road.

The farm was in operation for 1919 and it could be found next door to the Hulme Bridge Farm. Bertram Baker put his name to it for this period.

**Rose Cottage.** Woodsend Road

The cottage sat at the end of Taylors Cottages named independently and in 1904 a bricklayer called Alfred Green lived there.

**Soap and Candle Works.** Woodsend

Flixton had its own soap and candle works c.1926 addressed as 62 Woodsend Road. The Pybus Brothers were the owners of this establishment but sold out in 1973 to a polish manufacturer. At that time, they carried the recognition of being the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest manufacturers of candles in Britain. Rigby and Wood had first occupation, around 1920, for this candle manufacturing business and it is better known in today's world as a garage and car sales David Herd Motors. A small shop was **not included** on the front that has been returned to residences.



Radiant candles

**Taylor Bakery.** Woodsend Road

Thomas Taylor was a baker and flour dealer as of 1906. The business closed up in 1915 leaving all the stock and equipment available which included three horses, and bread vans. Vacant after this was the house, shop, bake house with ovens, three horse stables and other outbuildings including a cart shed. The site for the business was in the vicinity of Woodsend Engineering.

**Taylor Cottages.** Woodsend Road

This was a gathering of five homes in 1898 placed before the White Gate Farm.

**Taylor Farm.** Woodsend

This was an inaccurate calling for the true farm; the Taylors resided at **De Brook** but did not own it. This was common and confusing practice.

**Traynor.** J. P. Woodsend Road

A very popular butcher who began in modest surroundings in association with L. Banister next door to the Red Lion. Purchasing the business from Banister in 1953 his venture moved across the road and into a new shop where he remained until retirement.

**The Elms.** Woodsend Road.

Built c.1880 it was next door to the Telegraph Engineering Works as a pair. For 1892 it was the office for an estate agent called Riley. Known to be in existence in 1921 and owned by the Platt family, the house is still there. A five bedroomed semi with two sitting rooms, a kitchen, and bathroom.

**The Green.** Woodsend and Irlam Roads

The smallest green in the world, maybe it should have qualified for the Book of Records. Facing the Red Lion Hotel, it was made up of two or three trees and surrounded by railings. Irrespective of its size the name stuck and became the reference point for many a traveller when asking directions in this part of Flixton for 1900.

**The Hollies.** Woodsend Road

This section for 1889 led up to the Telegraph and Woodsend Engineering Works, Arthur Rhodes was there then. Detail unknown but for 1904 it was shown as a semidetached the second of which was called **Holly Mount**. At home here as of 1911 was a lady's tailor called Alfred Pendleton.

**The Hut.** Woodsend Road

This particular Hut sat next to the then called Power Laundry of 1927 in occupation was Newsagent James Lever.

**The Nook.** 80 Woodsend Road

This 1916 Nook was where one could find the Robert Thornley family who were involved in the laundry business.

**The Woodsend.**

The third and last Civic restaurant opened in Urmston in 1942 to feed the needy during WW2 it offered low cost meals for residents throughout the district. The Woodsend café was located where the Woodsend Laundry followed and was the first of the three Civics to close in 1946. Pybus offered their premises after a consideration for Flixton House was rejected.

**Union Cottages and Inn.** Woodsend

Home to the Flixton Union Society created from the buildings belonging to the Hulmes Bridge Farm they transformed them into a pub and Co-op. Once the Union liquidated in 1850 the building became a pub in its own right as the Union Inn around 1861. This was the basis for the current Fox and Hounds pub at Woodsend. Landlord for the Inn of 1881 was William Jackson. The Inn's application for a full licence was refused in 1897. The row comprised of a cottage, bake house, warehouse, shippon, and barn, all connected to the farm way of life before its conversion. There was an orchard connected to the small holding of land.

**Union Farm.** (Unknown detail)

Nothing is known of this farm other that it was in Flixton and advertised for sale in 1867 and it included 50 acres of arable Land. This could possibly be the holding farm for the Union Cottages which was later named as Hulmes. Complicating matters two names are known of with the farm as of 1938. They were James Gratrix, who was making his baskets here, and a labourer called Arthur Lowe. Both gave the Union Farm for their respective address. Eventually it was to be council owned and in 1952 a ruling was passed that the farm would not be open for lease pending its demise

**Vern Hill.** Woodsend Road

Vernon Tucker hinted at his own name for 1938 if he christened this abode.

**Welbourne Farm.** Woodsend Road

One of many farms in the Woodsend landfall this one was at the end of Woodsend Road and near to the Tan House Farm. Reaping produce well into the 1930's the farm was still functional.

**Wesley Mission.** Woodsend Road

The small mission sat slightly north of the Red Lion Hotel c.1895 it was later to become the home of the Institute for Flixton c.1905. This was also known as the Woodsend Methodist Mission entered under that heading.

**Western Telegraph.** Woodsend Road

This newspaper appeared for the first time in 1895. By 1898 there were offices at 11 Station Road run by the Manager, Robert Hattersley. It was produced at the premises of the Woodsend Engineering Works and lasted until 1909. Fred Haste was the editor for most of its years followed by Harold Greenhalgh. They re-established as a paper in 1951 to continue as the Urmston Telegraph through to 1956.

**West Hithe.** Woodsend Road

What a Hithe was is unknown but in 1938 Sydney Coe used it for his home calling.

**West wood.** Woodsend Road

In 1938 Frederick Sydney Jones looked out west for the woods.

**Whitegate House.** Woodsend Road.

Recorded as being between Irlam Road and the Taylors Cottages for 1910 a drain contractor called John McRae held home here.

**Whyteleafe.** Woodsend Road

Sydney Leyland had this odd spelling of White leaf in the year of 1939.

**Woodnett Cottage.** Woodsend Road

The family of Woodnett lived on the **west** side of Woodsend Road. The cottage provided interest. This was where the Methodist Mission first held its religious meetings around 1890 before building the real Mission in 1895. It could be found across the road from the Engineering Company of Woodsend where today the Woodsend Park lays. The congregation moved into the Irlam Road Church thereafter.

**Woodsend Farm.** Woodsend Road

This farm has been found as available in 1754, its 15-20 acres were on offer by Richard Howarth. Noted later as another for the Booth family it could be found slightly north of the library in present terms. Arthur Booth has been traced for a sample naming but there were several others prior as it dates along with many there for 1890.

- **Woodsend Green.** Flixton

24 homes make up this Green which shows as next to Norfolk Gardens but along Woodsend Road. 1946 made this the earliest of homes for the estate.

**Woodsend Road Shops at random. 1930-1940**

A pair of small shops sat next to the now defunct Red Lion on the left was a butcher called L.C. Bannister. This was taken by Lilly later and after that Traynor. To the right was Fishers News Agency. Both Bannister and Fisher moved across the road once new stores became available and a cobbler took residence there. 1853 is the best date found so far in regard to the origins of the cottages. In 1938 Fisher was addressed as 1 Woodsend, Lenard C. Bannister with his butchery was at 1a and the nearest neighbour was the Woodsend Co-op. The three sat alone on the east side between Bishop Road and Irlam Road. In 1953 Bannister sold out to J. P. Traynor to trade under his own name, later the shop crossed the road to No.2 Woodsend Road.

**Woodsend Terrace.** Woodsend Road

A home here on the terrace at the corner of Brighton Avenue was for sale in 1891. It offered three bedrooms and two entertaining rooms, a bathroom, and large garden. It was numbered as 4 but had no name there were only three occupied homes here for 1901.

- **Woodsend Road South.** Flixton

St. Monica's Presbytery leads off the 33 properties, some from 2003. The start to this extension from Irlam Road dates around c.1920.

**1928** and still called Woodsend without the south addition: Ellesmere, Hazelmere, Brooklyn, Braemar, Kew ferry, Westfield, Newlands, Hazeldene, Lea house, Winton, and Ashdene. The list is only on the **east side** there were no homes west until 1938 registered J. Taylor & Sons as Dairyemen.

**Ashdene.** Woodsend Road South

This particular home, there was another of this name on Woodsend Road, was the last house before Bosdin Road in 1927 and it belonged to Geoffrey Tonge. Twelve years on and into 1939 Frank Woodbridge took his place,

**Braemar.** Woodsend Road South

This east side house belonged to 1928 homemaker Frank Makin. Then in 1938 Mrs. Mary Fallon made it hers.

**Branksome.** Woodsend Road South

The 1938 resident was Sydney Fielding; he was a patternmaker by trade.

**Brooklyn.** Woodsend Road South

The 1928 to 1938 address for James Henry Hesketh who dwelt on the **east** side of the road.

**Ellesmere.** Woodsend Road South

Robert Hassell was hassle free in this 1927 calling to the first positioned home at this point of the south **east** side.

**Hazeldene.** Woodsend Road South

John Sinclair Lord was 1928 to 1938 tenant in this **east** side house; he was a salesman at that time.

**Hazelmere.** Woodsend Road South

The full name for the 1928 to 1939 resident was William Charles Meredith Powles. He lived on the **east** side of the road.

**Kewferry.** Woodsend Road South

Only George William Mee knew the relationship to the ferry from 1928 to 1938, he lived in the home.

**Lea House.** Woodsend Road South

The only fact known is that in 1928 Morton Ellerton Nicklin was resident. Cyril Kinder replaced him for 1938.

**Marfield Court.** Woodsend Road South

This block of 46 homes was built in 1978 under the control of the Trafford Housing Trust.

**Newlands.** Woodsend Road South

A 1928 clerk stayed here on the **east** side of the Woodsend Road South, his name was Frank Wilde.

**St. Monica R C. Primary School.** Woodsend Road South.

This infant school had its start in 1959 with the junior school following as of 1964. In 1994 a nursery unit was added these events being headed by Sr. Cecilia Julie who sadly passed away for 2001.

**Westfield.** Woodsend Road South

East side for Westfield showed Henry Sant at home in 1928 and on into 1938.

**Winton.** Woodsend Road South

In 1928 Frank Ellis lived here with the only known fact as it being on the **east** side of the road. 1938 Fredrick Coller with the only known fact that it was still on the east side.

**Woodlands.** Woodsend Road South

Albert Claxton during the time of 1938 to 1940 occupied this home.

- **Wroxham Avenue.** Davyhulme

Wroxham has 12 dwellings it is known for its gardens. Wroxham is from Norfolk and near the Broads.

- **Wycliffe Road.** Urmston 1900

An address showed here for 1894 but only later did the various callings arrive. Heather Villas and Thistle Terrace cross over Ross Grove to continue with Fern Side through to Hereford Grove. On the **east** side it was host to the Union Club for Tennis and Bowls ending with Redcliffe and Sherwood. The club was noted as being called the Congregational Tennis Club during 1919 and The Roman Catholic Lawn Tennis Club for 1927.

Miss Lydia McKee acted as Head Mistress at the Urmston British School of **1911** Hereford Grove and only Redcliffe carried its name from the past. 2006 shows 27 property holders here.

**English Martyrs Primary School.** Wycliffe Road

The younger children connected to this church now have their own school in modern style.

**Fern Side.** Wycliffe Road (**West**)

This terrace took homes from Ross Grove through to Hereford Grove in 1898 there were nine in all numbered 13-31. Living in No.21 was the Assistant Overseer for Urmston and Flixton, Charles Griffin.

**Heather Villas.** Wycliffe Road

The **west** showed this as a semidetached house in 1898 with William Palfryman residing at No 1 and John Jackson at No.3. Known is that Wycliffe in general was established c.1880.



**Redcliffe.** Wycliffe Road

John Robinson lived in this house during 1898 which sat next door to the Union Bowling and Tennis Club on the **east** side of the road. In 1916 described as modern detached, its sale offered six bedrooms, one as a box, two entertaining rooms, kitchen and study, large garden, and emphasised it was detached.

**Sherwood.** Wycliffe Road

1898 and this terrace, but no *Forrest*, ended the road for the **east** side it comprised of six homes.

**The Union Lawn Tennis & Bowling Club.** Wycliffe Road

The club was shown to be established in 1898 close to Hereford Grove on the **east** side. The grounds were still active around 1935 but the encroachment of the Grammar and its Junior Schools expanded eventually taking over this area.

**Thistle Terrace.** 5-11 Wycliffe Road

A small terrace of four, it sat **west** on the road before Ross Grove in 1886 with a dated stone to prove it.

**19 Wycliffe Road.** Urmston Photo Studio

Although more than likely a private home it was listed under the name of Margaret Gillett for 1898 as the studio. Further to this Thomas W. B. Gillett was found as a photographer living on Flixton Road in 1891.

- **Wycombe Close.** Davyhulme

There is accommodation for 48 families in this 1937 Close. The Close is named from a Buckinghamshire town.

- **Wyndcliffe Drive.** Flixton

The Drive has slightly strange numbering in that it goes from 1-39 in continuous numbering, then at 40 it changes to even only 40-48. The home at No.40 was available in 1945 it was a three bedroomed semidetached accompanied by all the usual mod cons.

- **Wythburn Avenue.** Flixton

There are 5 houses to the avenue. The Valley of Wythburn is in the Lake District.

X

- **X-The Unknown.**

Several names found on old survey maps are without detail such as Hole House, on Davyhulme Lane. Places in 1600 Flixton are The Stone, Shaw Moor, Willcocks Tenement, and Leaches Cottage, all without detail, as are the following. Hunters Yard turned up for 1893 in Flixton with John and Emma Hilton at home. A finding of a Leech tenement on Bosdin Road adds possibility to the Leach Cottage being exposed. It was property owned by Thomas Bosdin Leech.

**Hope Place Boarding School.** Davyhulme

The school was recognised in 1856 and again 1871 by the Barton District Directory but still could be found here for location. In its first noted date the school was in the hands of a Mrs. Anne Robinson and an associate Catherine Holt. Both ladies declared insolvency for 1859 hinting at closure or at least a sale.

**Joy Terrace.** Urmston

At a church wedding of 1913 that was held in Eccles the groom, John Higson, gave his address as being **Joy Terrace Urmston**. Totally unheard of to this day, it remains a mystery as to its location. Only one gent has been found so far to match this name, he lived down Moss Grove in 1919.

**Nursery.**

The many small holdings, farms, and even homes of the 1800's show acreage that included an orchard and gardens most would qualify as a nursery by today's standards. One outstanding place that has **yet to be found and named** for its location it was run by a James Smith in 1841. The **Flixton premises** held 12,000 forest trees 4 to 9 feet high, several thousand ornamental trees, evergreen and deciduous shrubs dwarf boxed for edgings, ivy plants, and herbaceous flower roots. Apple, plum, cherry, gooseberry, and raspberry, topped a list of fruit trees available. A highlight was a Lacombe Oak which was presently 20ft high and added to this, varied selection of rose bushes and shrubs. The nursery covered 7 acres and included a dwelling house and outbuildings. Some evidence points to this being the **Old Nursery at Western Road**.

**Old Peoples Bungalows.** (No Name) Church Road

In today's correctness this became a poor way of describing the collection of bungalows along Church Road and by the Community Centre of Shaw Hall. They never received a naming as such but inherited the title due to their purpose. Built post-war their task was to house the elderly in modern comfort faced with green space. A date of 1939-45 has been put forward as to the completion of this Council project.

**Patents Pending.**

Several Patents were applied for by Urmston people, one for 1882 with a new mechanism for Umbrellas or Parasols. The second for the protection of the toes in boots or shoes, this was 1902. So far, they remain unknown for names. One who may qualify regarding umbrellas was William Henry of Higher Road; he was a manufacturer that fit the criteria. Isaac Pitman White was granted a patent in 1908 for his improvements to the carburettor on the internal combustion engine. Isaac was from Cross Knowles Davyhulme. John James Royle of Stocks House Carrington Road applied for patents in 1910 to improve the electrical operation of reciprocating tooling and other equipment. John had many patents that included a self-pouring tea pot, and eggbeater, and a smokeless fuel stove among others.

**Steelfield.** Urmston

The birth of a child in 1927 gave the named home of Steelfield as the parent's address. Mother and daughter were fine but where this house was is unknown.

**The Acre.** 4 Flixton Road

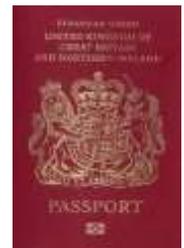
Members of the Collier family made this their home in the early 1880's. In fact, a son was born there to John and Emma in 1879. Judging by the address this was a cottage in the vicinity of the Moss Farm.

**Urmston School.** Unknown

The titled lithograph of 'School at Urmston' has no basis for its origin or location. The artistic rendition is in the same style as it was to record the Richard O'Jone's home of John Collier. (Tim Bobbin) As John's father was the local teacher of this era it is quite possible the school was sketched at the same time for posterity. Comparative mapping of 1842 offers a school on Church Road between the Shawtown Tithe and Malt Kiln Farm. This would be roughly where the Collier home was to be found.

**X-Urmstonions.**

As there are many throughout the world it is hoped this reference is being useful reading for all ex-pats as well as local residents.



## Y

- **Yew Tree Drive.** Davyhulme

For a name that carries so much history it is surprising to find the 17 residences here only date to c.1960.

- **York Avenue.** Urmston

This avenue is lined with 8 properties.

[Churches throughout the district](#) are known to be photographed from their many angles and styles. Internally, parishioners usually only know their own church. Some are now gone or modernised, with this in mind here are a few pictures recorded for posterity.



Congregational Church Flixton Road



St. Michael Church Road



Wesley Chapel Brook Road



All Saints Davyhulme



English Martyr Urmston



Christ Church Davyhulme



Our Lady Davyhulme



St. Mary Davyhulme

### • **Oddities once to be found in Urmston.**

Items dotted around Urmston fall under their own categories. Following here are a few small additions to ponder from the past.

A feature strategically placed around town would be a **weighing scale**. Mostly found close to a Chemist or Post Office they would show your weight for a Penny. Few homeowners had bathroom scales, and this opened a market for machines being offered the public to complete the task.



**Police call boxes** were another of the items not around for use anymore. Their predominant use was for 'on the beat officers' to call in as they connected direct to the police station. Emergency calls could be made from them as a public service remembering few people had phones for 999 help. The first versions carried a phone this was replaced by a speaker that was activated by opening the door. By 1953 there were 24 of these pillar boxes to be found throughout the district. The call of 999 was introduced June 1937 with the addition of 101 for non-emergency calls November 2011.

**Cigarette machines** were available around Urmston to accommodate after hours smokers. In general packets would be bought at a sweets and tobacconist but, as these shops closed for normal shopping hours, dispensers became popular.





**August 1968** brought about the loss of a childhood wonder, to stand on one of Urmstons railway bridges and get covered in soot, and smoke as a train passed underneath. British Rail began to withdraw all steam locomotives at this time to spoil the fun.

In 1972 a **Stone Lion** was unearthed on Davyhulme Road it was at the home of Gordon Berry who preserved the finding due to its estimated age of over two hundred years. The house was sold and the new owners, who knew nothing of its history, had it removed with materials left over from renovations to the local tip.



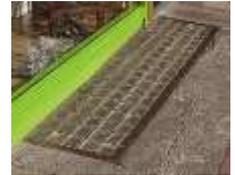
#### Clay Pipes.

The district has proven to produce many samples of Clay Tobacco Pipes. Most are only pieces but found in large numbers and at various locations. There were two main sites for finding these pipes, along the canal, and aside to the railway. Theories range from workers smoking during construction to imported land fill containing the pipes from elsewhere. There was not a local supplier the nearest being John Pollock & Co. in Manchester. They have been picked up on various building sites, the Meadows, Kingsway and Broadway Parks, which makes any basis for a reason difficult.



#### Glass Paving.

An oddity that can be found even now is that of glass tiled paving which allowed light into cellars along Flixton Road. Most have been either filled in or replaced with concrete blocks but there a few remaining. A naming for their manufacture was the 'Improved Pavement Lighting Co.' while some of the others show 'Brothers' but nothing to indicate any local content or supply.



## Of interest or with a spinoff to Urmston

Here we have a few small connections to the district of interest or worth comment.

#### Petrochemicals. Carrington Works

This refinery always used the name of Urmston for its locale. A subsidiary of Shell Chemicals it covered 250 acres when first started in 1947. Completion only came in 1951 the time it began operation. Shell took position of the plant in 1955 continuing the varied processes mainly consisting of Polypropylene and the associated products that are derived from it. The outstanding feature of the plant was a chimney of 375 ft. which took chemical discharge above the considered safety level and avoid atmospheric pollution. As it was with companies from Trafford Park, they employed many from the Urmston district over its lifespan.



#### CWS Soap Works. Irlam Steel Works. Irlam

The Co-op was major source of employment for the workers of Urmston during the period of 1894 to c.1970. Its varied products ranged from soap, candles and starch, to margarine. During the time this factory operated it brought high volume to the ferry crossing at the locks.



The works was another of the important employers for the district. In operation from 1910 until 1979 many made the trip across the canal on a daily basis. Locally there is thought that John James Royal of Stocks House on Carrington Road was connected to this plant but confirmed only is that he had an engineering factory in Irlam.



These are only three examples of factories that took Urmstons skilled and un-skilled workers in-mass. **Trafford Park** with its Metropolitan Vickers, Glovers, Kellogg, Taylor Bros, Turners, and a host of others, added to the companies available around the district, it made Urmston a very attractive place to live. This was country living with industry to hand a short hop away.

**The Tin Church** of English Martyrs, once demolished, was taken by the St. Dunstan Church in Moston. This was followed by the Church of St. Stephen also in Moston.

#### Wall mounted Post Box.

The picture of a wall Post Box that was to be found on Moorside Road is dated as 1903. The box is known from 1896 and still there although the wall itself has been rebuilt over the years. It was very significant during Urmstons younger years and was always shown on survey maps issued at the time. The insignia presently is that of King Edward VII almost guaranteeing that it is still the same one. It can be found today at the junction of Marlborough Road. A Queen Victoria box was mounted in the outer wall of Auburn Lodge on Stretford Road.



1903



2003

Urmston carries a wonderful array of **post box insignia**, take time to have a look at the front of the one nearest to you it may not be around for many more years. Elizabeth II and George VI are the most prevalent but there were some for Edward VII and Queen Victoria.



VR



E VII R



G VI R



E II R



The post box at the Flixton Office was wall mounted alongside the building. The farm gate shown would be Ambleside Road today. This office had a pillar type box eventually as it was a major district centre for collection.

A stone pillar styled post box picture was found in a collection of photographs held by Ernest Leeming. Carrying a Queen Victoria insignia its location has not been traced.



**Stained and leaded glass church windows.**

The black and white picture was taken before the days of colour photography. Its magnificence is lost and cannot ever be found again. The window belonged in the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Higher Road. Another was captured before it too fell under demolition, this from the Congregational Church on Flixton Road. The third is an example from St. Michaels Church, Flixton. It is still there but presented here to show this art in the glorious form it can be found in. A fourth one belongs in what is now as a private home it is to be found in the Cemetery Lodge.



Chapel



Congy



St. Mikes



Lodge



All Saints

The last picture depicts one of several to be found in the All Saints Church which were cleaned and renovated in 2010. The architects were Lloyd Evans Prichard Ltd. and work was undertaken by Lambert Walker, Stone Masons.

These are more examples of this art form throughout the district.



Fern Acre



Bird in Hand



Chesham



Abbotsfield

Mosaic and tiles.



Fern Acre



Carrington Road Shop



Flixton House



The Atlas stone relief once mounted over the Flixton Library at Brook Road is to be displayed in a garden of the homes that will be built on the site.

Some samples from the prolific **Urmston** artists.



Yates



Lennon



Dodson



Smith



Oakley



Bole



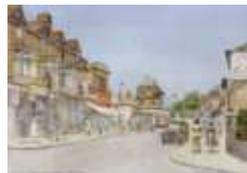
Lowry



Bucklow



G. M. Stott



Booth



Collier



Fletcher

**Below is a list of road/street name changes** that have taken place since 1900. Most Street Directories and Census forms carry names of the year taken and so for Genealogists it can lead to confusion as to where relatives lived.

**Notable Name changes:**

Abbots Lane became Penny Lane followed by Chassen Road  
 Albert Avenue Flixton became Bromley Avenue  
 Atkinson Street became Atkinson Road  
 Atherton Lane no longer exists  
 Back Urmston became Higher Road  
 Balfour Ave became Hilton Avenue  
 Beech Avenue off Brook Road became Fern Avenue  
 Beech Avenue Flixton became Sycamore Avenue  
 Boat Lane became a part of Irlam Road  
 Brook Lane became Moss Lane then Moss Vale Road  
 Bruce became Western Road  
 Brundritt Lane no longer exists.  
 Brundrell Lane confused with Brundritt Lane.  
 Bulwark Road lost to Neary Way  
 Crofts Bank Road became Barton Road after the Nags Head  
 Crofts Bank Road became Old Crofts Bank when the new Road was built  
 Cob Kiln Road became Meadow Gate  
 Cockedge Lane became Flixton Road  
 Cow Lane became Humphrey Lane  
 Chadwick Lane (Lovers Lane) became Bradfield Road  
 Chapel Avenue became Hazel Grove  
 Church Lane became Church Road  
 Davis Road became Mansfield Road  
 Denstone Avenue became Dovedale Avenue  
 Domestic Lane or Road no longer exists  
 Dumplington Circle became Ellesmere Circle  
 Dumplington Lane became Redcliffe Road which has become Trafford Boulevard  
 Egerton Avenue became Sumner Way  
 Feeble Lane became Feeble Street which became Millford Avenue  
 Flash Lane joined as Moorside Road  
 Front Urmston became Stretford Road  
 Gales Brow changed to Parsonage Road  
 Gammershaw became Stretford Road  
 Granville Road became Cavendish Road  
 Greenfield Road became Derwent Road  
 Green Lane became a part of Irlam Road. A portion was claimed by Flixton Road  
 Green Lane became Brooklyn Avenue  
 Highfield Avenue became Bridgenorth Avenue  
 Hillam Lane became Newcroft Road  
 Lever Street became Hazelmere Road  
 Lily Street became Grosvenor Road  
 Lyme Avenue became Lime Avenue  
 Lyme Grove became Wendover Road  
 Lyndale Avenue is now off Walmsley Grove  
 Lyndale Avenue (side road) is now Shanklyn Avenue  
 Longfield Road became Longfield Avenue  
 Longfield Road divided, as half became Stamford Road  
 Meadow Lane was noted as a Stretford Road address  
 Millers Lane became a part of Irlam Road  
 Milly Street absorbed into William Close  
 Moss Road became Moss Vale Road  
 Moss Grove became Dartford Road  
 New Street became The Grove (Flixton Village)  
 Oak Avenue became Sheldon Avenue  
 Park Road was absorbed into Gladstone Road  
 Park Street became Chalfont Avenue  
 Penny Lane changed into Penny Bridge Lane  
 Primrose Avenue off Davyhulme Road became Knowsley Avenue.  
 Red Lane became Woodhouse Road  
 Rose Street Urmston became Roseneath Road  
 Rose Street Davyhulme became Knowsley Road  
 Shawe Lane became Church Road  
 Smithy Lane became a part of Flixton Road  
 Spennithorn added an E and became Spennithorne  
 Southgate off Meadow Road became Meadow Gate  
 Talbot Road absorbed into Crofts Bank Road which created Old Crofts Bank to be named.  
 The Avenue absorbed into Moss Road and later as Moss Vale Road, eventually Bradfield Road  
 Thorn Lane changed to Brook Road  
 Urmston Lane became Station Road to the bridge where it became Crofts Bank Road  
 Victoria Street became Hampton Road  
 Victoria Avenue changed to Albert and lastly to Bromley Avenue  
 A portion of Victoria Avenue that led from Carrington Road changed to Hampstead  
 Woodsend Lane became Woodsend Road  
 Warbrick Drive off Church Road is an addition.



- **Listed Buildings.**

Urmston Flixton and Davyhulme

**Listed.** Heritage meaning;

Listed buildings are classified in grades to show their relative importance.

Grade 1 is of outstanding importance to the Nation.

Grade 2\* are of outstanding interest.

Grade 2 regarded as of some interest.

Only the Church of All Saints carries Grade 1 distinction for the Urmston & District listings.



**Heritage.** (Listed Buildings and others)

Many units make up Heritage sites in the Urmston arena. Churches are to be expected but there are other oddities such as stables, monuments, even a wall at Flixton House is included. The term 'Heritage' is used loosely as most hold only secondary, for interest, designation.



Common errors occur where buildings are thought to be historical sites but **are not**. The Curzon is one with Cottage Hospital another. Some confusion also came about by an address, Chatham in Flixton Village fell under this misconception and it is **not** listed.

Note here, that **not all** buildings under this rating system are open to the public. June 2014 Trafford issued a list for all listed building in the area; each is represented for Urmston under its own heading. Furthermore, a heritage title does not guarantee any preservation.

**Revised as of 2018 by Trafford Borough Council**

The Village No's.18-20 Lark Rise Grade 2 1966  
 Church of All Saints Redclyffe Road Grade 1 1978  
 All Saints Presbytery Redclyffe Road Grade 2 1987  
 Church of Saint Clement Manor Avenue Grade 2 1987  
 Church of St. Mary Davyhulme Road Grade 2 2013  
 Church of St. Mary War Memorial. Grade 2 2013  
 The Village No.16 No Name Grade 2 1987  
 The Old Rectory 52 Carrington Road Grade 2 1978  
 Yew Tree Farmhouse 240 Davyhulme Road Grade 2 1987  
 Church of Saint Michael Church Road Grade 2\*  
 Jones Chest Tomb south of the Church Grade 2 1987  
 Sundial south of the Church Grade 2 1987  
 Flixton House Flixton Road Grade 2 1981  
 Outbuilding and Barn Flixton House Grade 2 1987  
 Wall south side of gardens Flixton House Grade 2 1981  
 Commemorative Urn Davyhulme Road Grade 2 1987  
 Bridgewater Canal Barton Aqueduct Grade 2\* 1987  
 Barton Bridge and Control Tower Grade 2\* 1987  
 Control Tower Barton Aerodrome Grade 2 1987  
 Newcroft House. Stretford Road Grade 2 1988  
 The Cenotaph at Davyhulme Circle. Grade 2 2014



The latest addition to date being the Cenotaph. The word itself means "Empty Tomb", a tribute to all that did not receive a grave or headstone for their valiant sacrifice.

Stable adjacent to 240 Yew Tree Farmhouse Grade 2 1987 has been **de-listed as of 2018** Since that time they have been **removed for redevelopment.**

### There are always a few oddities to our district.

The St. Michaels Parish Magazine reported that when James Royle passed away his headstone showed an error. It seems he was buried **four days before he died** according to the dates shown.



A photograph showing a tram on the Urmston Meadows led to many stories. Trams did not run in Urmston this one was purchased for use as a shed and stored close to the Manor Croft.



The gravestone placed for Alfred Derbyshire in the St. Michaels church yard 1908 offered that he was the "**Architect of Manchester**" a bold statement to say the least. Alfred lived at Chatham House in the Village of Flixton.

**Tim Bobbin** is suggested to have written the epitaph for William Oldfield. As a local blacksmith the words would have carried something amusing to the relationship.



The **Clock Face** mounted on St. Michaels Church was first installed in 1824. The family of Newton who lived at Holly House paid for a new face in 1894 and retained the original at their home. The house was sold and purchased by the Catholic Diocese who in turn returned it to St. Michaels. This was the last known trail for the face. Since St. Monica's passed it back it is now housed in the bell tower of St Michael's.

Around 1880 the Flixton populous were referred to as "an educated lot." Taking the benefactors of Samuel **Reade** and Ralph **Wright** literally they were able to **Reade and Wright**.



The first major accident on the Manchester Ship Canal was in 1906. The **S S Cassia** attempted to enter the smaller lock of two when it believed it was entering the larger. A total wipe out of the lock gates was the result. It was fortunate that the corresponding gates at the other end were closed preventing all the water in the canal from flowing out.



The Battle of Boston Harbour involved a ship called the Shannon. This Royal Navy ship captured the USS Chesapeake in 1813 and on board as a Mariner was William Johnson. He can be found buried in the St. Michaels Church yard.



A series of Beech Trees lined Church Road alongside of the St. Michaels School. They carried the name of the 'Six sisters' and were copped down to make way for the road widening in 1964.

### Derbyshire Glassware.



A not too well-known form of art arrived from a Flixton family named Derbyshire. As a local family they date back to a Thomas Derbyshire of 1758. A son Philip was baptised at St. Michaels in 1793. Two of his children James 1826 and John 1840 set up a glass company in Hulme that became a world leader in producing a style of pressed glass. The company closed around 1890 making their wares now highly collectable.

During a refit of the Font at St. Michaels Church in Flixton a rather sad looking bird was removed. It had been painted black for no apparent reason and it was decided to clean the ornament. Once the paint has been cleared the solid Brass was revealed showing this to actually represent a Dove.



### Urmston Sign.



The brick worked stone that greets people to Urmston from Barton Bridge was laid by two local stonemasons in 1936. They were Thomas McLaughlan and James Walker. Thomas was from Flixton while James hailed from Davyhulme. Since its installation after the amalgamation of councils, it had lost the letter S.

A quiet rest garden made up the surrounds that for the time being is badly overgrown at its location of Redcliffe and Old Barton Road.



2019 and Trafford have **replaced the S** after a request was made by the Urmston History Society.

Playboy London has a local connection that of Lesley Harrison a young lady from Urmston who took on the task of being a "Bunny" in 1968.

There was a beauty contest for Miss Urmston in 1969 it only managed to attract 15 contestants and offered a first prize of £5.

Lesley Harrison.



A horse passing by the name of Tiny was stabled at Lees Field and later the Hulmes Bridge Farm. Known to many she gave birth after 30 years to a foal called Fury in 1969.

When Thomas Burgess retired **after 50 years of service** to British Rail this Church Road resident was presented with a clock, electric kettle, and a table lamp. Sarah Buckley was rewarded a cake tray for her **40 years of service** to the Post Office.



Under the heading of "Benchmarks" a new version has been traced to Flixton Road and along the sidewalk of Chassen Park. A metal insertion placed into the ground was manufactured during the reign of George V. This sample has been identified and sits there for today. These, it is assumed, were created to mark survey points where a fixed site was not available.

A column to be found close to the alter of St. Clement's Church carries the insignia or representation for the four apostles Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John.



### Flixton Weir.



Once the River Mersey reaches the Manchester Ship Canal it flows over a weir at Flixton. The cascade used to be open to the public as a part of the Mersey Valley, but it is now fenced off for safety reasons.

Telephone poles.

Local poles can date back many years 1900-1930 and so to find one complete with its ornament is rare. They are called "Finians" installed for decoration only with an example to be found on Rothiemay Road.



The newly formed amalgamated council decided in 1932 they would be called officially by the name of **Urmston Urban District Council**.

The first thing they did was to incorporate into documentation the title, **Urban District of Urmston, wording in reverse**. For the most part this became simply the **UUDC**

In a surprise bid the Rochdale & Manor Brewery wished to obtain Reade House in 1937 for conversion into a pub. It was to be called "The Railway" however Council denied the application. This was to be the second public house to fail approval after the "Cherry Tree" at Bowfell Road. The Garside Brewery attempted to build a hotel on Cornhill in 1947. The home of the Knolls was the target only to be denied by the UUDC as the area was residential only.



There are gravestones to be found throughout the district, many are remarkable in their design. This one in Urmston was for Captain William Howat RN. His record was exemplary, and he was honoured for his acts of bravery beyond the call of duty.

The second was placed by photographer James Wride to pay tribute to his wife.



A visit to any of the church yards indicates dozens of names one can instantly recognise. Stott, Wright, Royle, Chadwick, the list is sadly many. To record the past, it is one of the better ways for finding accurate detail and to remember what these people did for the district over the years.



Stott family mausoleum.

**Slightly amusing** was the discussion that took place in a 1952 council meeting, it was in regard to a bicycle allowance for its employees. Argued was the fact car allowances were being paid with nothing for workers who used their own bikes. It was granted but a review in 1954 refused an increase in the amount being paid.

**A footbridge** was proposed during 1953 it would cross the Mersey in the region of the Meadows at Queens Road linking Urmston to Sale. At this same time discussion took place regarding a stadium and an airfield also in this area. None, of the proposals, were ever completed.

#### **Festival of Britain. 1951**

The whole of the country was involved for this celebration and Urmston was to enjoy the occasion in its own way. All parks and gardens were specially planted with flowers and shrubbery. One main garden at Flixton House especially altered from a kitchen garden to a garden of retreat. A cricket match was arranged between Australia and West Indies supported by garden party activities. The performance from the Williamson Ballet School was dedicated to the event.

**The lands at the Alker Hall** were called as the Pears or Peers Fold. Another using this term has been traced to between the Union Inn and what is now Eddisbury. Peers Cottage was found as being under a clearance ruling of 1954 and demolished.

**Times of austerity in 1954** became clear, a Christmas decoration allocation for Flixton House and Collingwood amounted to £5 and £3 respectively. Stipulation was made not to exceed the amounts.

Another story, this from 1945, was that without a **gas mask** you could be refused entry into any one of our three cinemas.

To receive the "privilege" of scattering ashes at **Urmston Cemetery** you would have to pay 10/6d in 1956.

**The clock at St. Catherine's Church** was adopted by the UUDC as the church could not afford its maintenance. When the church was to be demolished it was a suggestion it should be rehoused at Flixton House. Eventually it was found that the clock had been bequeathed as was not transferrable.

**A clock** was installed in 1810 at the Moorside Road, Wesley Chapel, this was dismantled and taken to the new Brook Road Church 1905. It is alleged to have been removed yet again into the church now standing on Brook but remains unconfirmed.

**The Peterloo massacre** 1819 carried a small interest person wise for the district. Magistrate's Ralph Wright and J. Norrys took their place and one lady was injured, Ann Johnson who hurt her knees. A James Shawcross was a Yeoman there at the time, his part is not recorded in detail.

**The Gas showrooms** are best known for their location on Flixton Road. The story actually began as a shop on Crofts Bank Road under the banner of the Stretford Gas Co.



Over many years the UUDC produced an annual "**Town Guide**" Each copy was produced by A. J. Wright a printing company from Cadishead. Not too many have been retained but those available give a fascinating insight to the past. A recent find was a copy of an unknown date. Indications led to it being be from **1919** traced through the list of shops trading in that year and the licensee at the Lord Nelson J. Duggan. This guide has proven to be the oldest ever found and is held at the Trafford Local Studies office archives.

### Disclaimer:

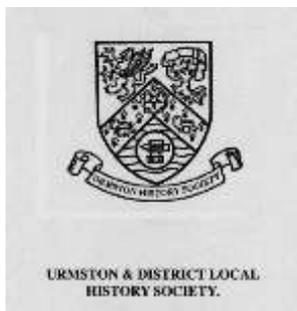
**At no time** does the writer claim to have written all of the entries. This work is to record, for future generations, as much of the Urban Urmston District and its past only. The material gathered from libraries, books, newspapers, or their like, is copied and produced with acknowledgement here to the people who have gone before scribing the descriptive versions of their own. Many photographic depictions are also acknowledged as not all of my own doing.



The preface of Richard Lawsons book for the district published in 1898 states the following ***It is quite possible carefulness notwithstanding there may be some discrepancies.*** These words are echoed here although every effort was taken to provide accuracy for the period.

**David Smith 2019.**

It is mentioned at the start of this document that **acknowledgements** go to all who assisted in its formation. An added thank you goes specifically to Bob Potts, Alan Crossland, John Howe, and Joan Shaw. The effort and support supplied by these people has been invaluable. One other is for David King in providing an Internet access link over the several years of development and presentation under the banner of [www.urmston.net](http://www.urmston.net)



The **Urmston and District Local History Society** meet at the Westbourne Road Masonic Hall on the first Thursday of every month. Exception to this rule is August for a holiday break. All meetings begin at 7-30 pm. 2019 is to be the last year it will operate, after 40 years **the society will close its doors in December.**

**Woodsend History Society** are located at the Woodsend Library and assemble on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 am.

The Society has a Facebook Group under the heading of **Urmston and District History Society**