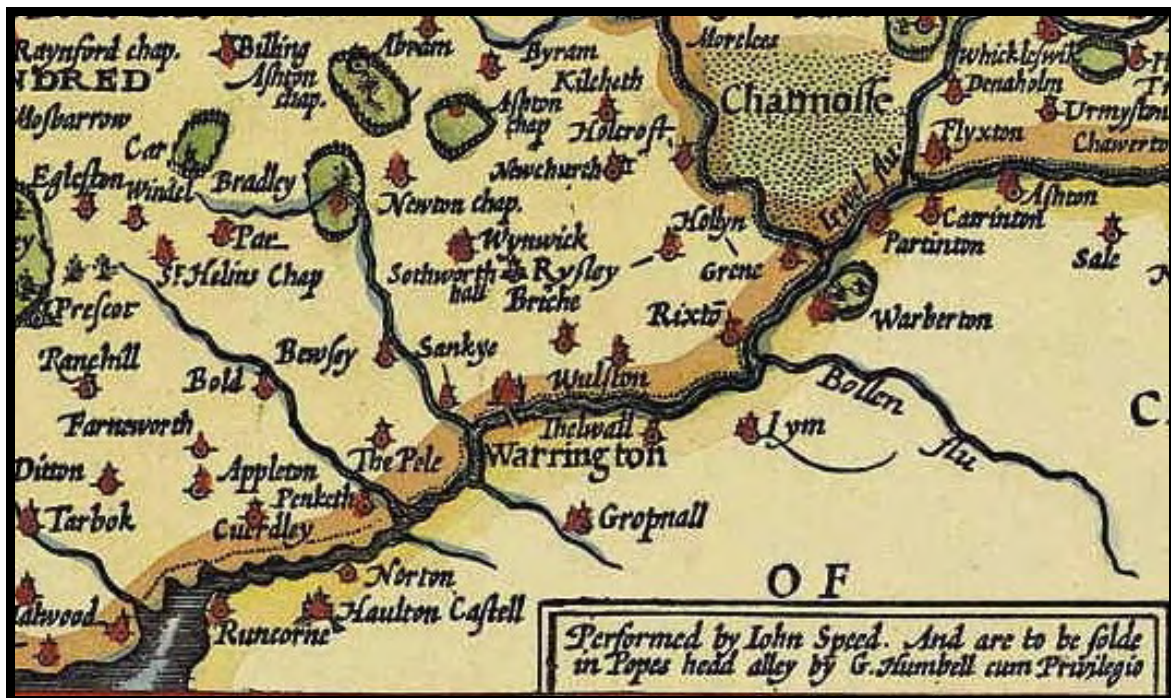


# CHESHIRE HISTORIC TOWNS SURVEY

Lymm

## Archaeological Assessment



2003

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*Lymm*

## *Archaeological Assessment*

2003

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Front cover :

John Speed's Map of Lancashire 1610

Lancashire County Council <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/oldmap/index.asp>

# LYMM

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Mike Shaw & Jo Clark

### 1. SUMMARY

In 1086 pre-Conquest Lymm is recorded as having been divided into two estates of equal value, including a church which was shared between the two. The medieval town developed in two distinct areas: in the vicinity of St Michael's church and to the north in the area of the crossing of the Slitten Brook. During the post medieval period the town experienced industrial development and two important monuments from this period remain: the Bridgewater Canal passes through the village and Lymm slitting mill lies immediately to the north. During the late post medieval period, the town developed an important function as a tourist attraction and this persists today.

#### 1.1 Topography and Geology

Lymm lies at around 30m AOD, 11km east of Warrington in north Cheshire on the A56, Chester to Stockport road. The Slitten Brook runs through the village in a deep ravine before flowing into the River Mersey, which is 1km to the north. Much of the surrounding area comprises low lying farmland and to the west is the built up area of Warrington and its expanding suburbs.

The underlying geology comprises Keuper Sandstone, which is overlain by fluvio-glacial gravel and boulder clay in the surrounding area (British Geological Survey, 1961). The soils in the surrounding area are stagnogleys, which are prone to wetness and are graded class 3 (Furness 1978).

#### 1.2 Administrative Unit

The township of Lymm lay within the parish of the same name and the Hundred of Bucklow. It was also included in the Deanery of Frodsham (Dunn 1987, 16) and became an Urban District in 1881. The modern town lies in the civil parish of Lymm and the Borough of Warrington.

#### 1.3 Place Name

The place name first occurs in Domesday Book (1086) as *Lime*, meaning *the torrent*, which possibly refers to the noise made by the Slitten Brook on its course in a ravine through the middle of the village. The place name also occurs as *Limme* (1194), *Lymmya* (1270) and *Limb* (1673) (Dodgson, 1970, 36).

### 2. SOURCES

#### 2.1 Historical

There is no reliable source for the history of Lymm itself. Consequently reliance has to be placed on entries in county surveys, especially Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*

(1882) and directories, such as Bagshaw (1850). There is also a short guide to the village (Hughes and Thomas 1978).

The Place Name Index in the Cheshire County Record Office (CRO) indicates that there are a substantial number of records for Lymm, including charters dating from the 12th century onwards, parish registers from 1568 and an 18th century survey and valuation (transcript in CRO). These may contain material of value but time has only allowed for examination of the latter.

## **2.2 Cartographic**

Lymm and the Slitten Brook are marked on Saxton's county map of 1577 and Speed's county map of 1610. The earliest available map to show the road pattern and a general plan of the village is Burdett's map of Cheshire (1777). Also a late 18th century map depicts Lymm dam and part of the village (CRO DUL 63). The first map to show the whole area in detail is the tithe map of 1837, which is supplemented by the Ordnance Survey (OS) First Edition maps at 25": 1 mile and 6": 1 mile map scales of c 1873.

## **2.3 Archaeological**

Before the present survey there were eleven sites recorded in the settled area in the County Sites and Monuments Record (CSMR), which are depicted on Figure 1. Where sites or finds have been identified from the CSMR the relevant reference is provided throughout this report. The present survey has generated five new records.

The only known archaeological work to have been carried out in Lymm revealed a section of a possible Roman road to the west of the settlement, some minor works at Lymm Hall and the excavation of the slitting mill on the Slitten Brook.

The remains of the potential Roman road were excavated in 1969 on Booth's Lane to the west of the town. It was located 250mm below the ground surface and was composed of gravel, pebbles and sandstone chippings, measuring 7.20m wide and 250mm deep. It has been suggested that this may be part of a Roman road that ran from Wilderspool to Dunham (CSMR 522/1/1).

In 1975, 96 square metres were excavated between the Lymm Moat House and the driveway that leads to the house. This open area revealed deposits that had been disturbed by garden planting and contained 18th and 19th century pottery but failed to produce structural features. An earlier entrance in the Moat House wall was revealed but the remains of the road leading to this had been removed by later landscaping (Bearpark and Johnson 1976).

The site of the Lymm slitting mill was excavated between 1968 and 1975 by Lymm and District Historical Society and North Cheshire Archaeological Group and extensive remains were revealed. A wheel pit for a raised undershot wheel was uncovered that was fed by a tunnelled tail race, and to the west was a rolling room, a furnace and two further tunnels, one of which was probably a flushing sluice for the mill pond. To the east were workrooms, an extension dated to around 1800 and a

forge. Further east were the remains of a small sandstone cottage and a 'cave' cut into the face of the gorge and probably used for storage (Johnson 1975).

### **3. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY**

#### **3.1 Prehistoric**

There is some evidence of prehistoric activity in the Lymm area with the discovery of a Neolithic stone axe to the west of Lymm (CSMR 2264), two early Neolithic implements of red deer antler to the north (CSMR 517), and reports of possible Bronze Age burial sites to the north of Lymm (CSMR 520 and 513), south-west (CSMR 519), and east of Lymm Hall (CSMR 623).

#### **3.2 Roman**

The possible Roman metalled surface, which was discovered to the west of the village in 1969 is thought to be the road that connected Dunham and Wilderspool, and it has been suggested this may have run through Lymm, along Eagle Brow, past Lymm Cross and down Pepper Street (CSMR 522/1). Few finds are known from this area, however a large Roman coin hoard of 3rd century date was found at Statham, 1.5km north-west of Lymm in the 18th century (CSMR 521). No find spots are known from within Lymm itself.

#### **3.3 Early Medieval**

Lymm was divided by 1066 into two estates of equal value, both of which were in the ownership, before and after the Norman Conquest, of men of importance in the Cheshire hierarchy. Of particular prominence was Gilbert de Venables, Baron of Kinderton and a member of Cheshire's ruling council.

A church is recorded in 1086 and was presumably in existence before the Norman Conquest. Its setting within a curvilinear churchyard also indicates an early origin, but Higham (1993, 162) suggests that Lymm Parish was detached from Rostherne Parish late in the pre-Conquest period and the church is therefore unlikely to be of an earlier date.

The Domesday Survey records that:

*The same Gilbert holds Lime [Lymm]. Wulfgeat (Ulviet) held it and was free. There [is] 1 hide that pays geld. The land is for 2 ploughs. There are 3 bordars. There is ½ church with ½ virgate of land. Half a league in length and as much in width of wood. T.R.E it was worth 10s, now 12d. He found it waste*

*The same Osbern holds Lime [Lymm]. Edward held it and was a free man. There is 1 hide that pays geld. The land is for 4 ploughs. Edward holds it of him. He has there 1 plough and 2 oxmen, and 2 villeins and 4 bordars, and ½ church with a priest with ½ virgate of land quit [of geld]. Wood ½ league long and as much wide. T.R.E it was worth 10s, now 8s. He found it waste*  
(Harris and Thacker, 1987, 363)

## **Medieval**

### **3.4.1 The Manor**

Lymm continued to be divided between two estates throughout the medieval period, and both estates continued to be held by families of importance. Gilbert de Venables' manor passed through the Lymme family to the Leighs and then to the Domvilles. The other manor descended to the Dutton family and then to the Warburtons (Ormerod 1882, 577-9).

Lymm Hall is the site of the manor house of the Lymmes and from 1377, the Domvilles. The present hall belongs to the late 16th century but replaced an earlier moated manor house, the moat of which has been partially in-filled (DoE 1984, 28).

### **3.4.2 Settlement**

Very little is known about the form of the medieval village. Crosby suggests that Lymm may have held an informal market as there is no evidence that it was ever granted a formal market charter (1996, 49).

### **3.4.3 Economy**

Data for Cheshire towns is rare because in the medieval period the shire was exempt from national taxation, having its own taxation system, the Mize. In the Cheshire mize of 1405 Lymm paid a sum of 72s, one of the largest assessments in Bucklow Hundred (Booth 1985). The nature of the economy at Lymm is not known, although it is likely to have been based on agriculture.

### **3.4.4 Religion**

The medieval church was located on the site of the present St Mary's Church, to the south of the main settlement overlooking the gorge of the Slitten Brook. The medieval building does not survive but was described by Ormerod (1882, 577), writing around 1818, as consisting of a tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles terminating in two private chapels. The date of this building is not known although there is a tradition that the church was rebuilt in 1320 and the tower renewed in 1521 (Hughes and Thomas 1978).

The large cross, which stands at the bottom of Rectory Lane and has steps carved from the bedrock, was restored in 1897 and dates mainly to the early to mid-17th century (CSMR 523/3/1). However, its origins may be much earlier. The original cross may have been a preaching cross pre-dating the construction of the parish church, or it could have marked a village assembly point or a market area.

### **3.4.5 The Surrounding Landscape**

While Lymm acted as an important centre for the surrounding area during the medieval period it is likely to have been overshadowed by the medieval town of Warrington, which was granted borough status in the 13th century.

## **3.5 Post-medieval**

### **3.5.1 The Manor**

The Domville manor was sub-divided at the end of the 17th century, the greater portion going to the Taylor family. The other manor was retained by the Warburtons until 1868 when it was sold (Ormerod 1882, 579).

### **3.5.2 Settlement**

From at least the 19th century, Lymm was considered to be a tourist attraction. Bagshaw (1850, 557) states that 'Lymm has long been celebrated, among other Cheshire villages, for its picturesque beauty. The neighbourhood is pleasingly diversified with woody scenery, and there are several beautiful waterfalls from a fine lake of water a little west of the church which fall into vale'. With the arrival of the railway this role as a tourist centre increased.

The date of the foundation of Lymm Grammar School (CSMR 523/6) is uncertain. A schoolmaster is mentioned in 1592 but there need not necessarily have been a school building at this time. However, there was certainly a building in existence by the late 17th century when the Grammar School received a number of bequests. It was located at the north-west corner of the churchyard and is shown on the Tithe map of 1837. Ormerod (1882, 592) described the schoolhouse as being a substantial stone building. The school was moved in 1862 and the original building demolished in 1898. It was moved again at the end of the 19th century to a site on Grammar School Road in 1882 and extended in 1898. This site eventually proved inadequate and the school was moved to a new site at Oughtrington Hall in the 1940s to 1950s (Harris 1980, 235-7; Kay 1960).

A Ladies Free School is depicted on the tithe map of 1837 on Booth's Hill Road, and a Boys and a Girls National Schools are shown on the OS First Edition map of c 1873 on Pepper Street.

The OS First Edition map of c1873 records two separate assembly rooms, one by the church and the other in the central settlement area.

### **3.5.3 Economy**

Lymm was primarily an agricultural settlement until the late 19th century. For example, low-lying land to the north of the town was situated within the flood plain of the River Mersey and used as hay meadows until alterations to the Mersey and the construction of the Manchester Ship Canal in the 19th century drained the land and enabled it to be used for arable. Also, Bagshaw (1850, 558) describes the soils as light, sandy and highly productive, with much given over to market gardens and potatoes. There are, however, signs of small-scale industry from at least the 18th century and tanning, quarrying and iron-working are all attested in Lymm (Hughes and Thomas 1978). Quarries can be seen in the valley of the Slitten Brook to the north and the south of the village. Those to the south are marked as 'Old Quarry' on the OS First Edition map surveyed 1873-6.

Lymm continued to act as a centre for the surrounding area and it is likely to have had a market, which was perhaps held in the vicinity of the cross. In the 17th century, eight inns were recorded in Lymm, a total exceeded in Bucklow Hundred only by Knutsford and Altrincham (MacGregor 1992). This figure may reflect Lymm's marketing activities and potentially its role as a coaching stopover point on the road between Chester and Manchester. In 1837 the tithe apportionment lists shops in the centre of the village and Bagshaw's Directory records that there were eighteen shopkeepers and two grocers/drapers in the mid-19th century (1850, 560-1).

Bagshaw's Directory also provides an insight into the trades of Lymm's residents in the mid-19th century. Farmers (50) form the largest group but the next largest were the fustian cutters (23) and there were also two tanneries listed (1850, 560-1).

Fustian cutting was a major local industry and spread throughout the parish. Cloth was brought from Manchester via the Bridgewater Canal, processed and then returned. A number of cottages were purpose-built for this industry, with the upper storey housing the long benches needed to carry out this work (Ashmore, 1982, 43).

A corn mill (CSMR 523/4) formerly stood on the north side of the Lower Dam in the centre of the village. It is shown on the 18th and 19th century maps but was demolished in 1935, and only the pond and sluice survive (Ashmore, 1982, 44).

A slitting mill (CSMR 523/5), used for cutting iron into rods suitable for nail making, was sited to the north of the village centre beside the Slitten Brook. The oldest written reference to a slitting mill at Lymm comes from around 1720 although there is thought to have been a mill here from the mid-17th century. Later the mill was used for making barrel hoops for the gunpowder factory at Thelwall and from c 1800 it was leased by a woollen manufacturer, then pulled down c 1835. The mill dam was breached in 1905, which allowed the mill pond to drain away (Ashmore 1982, 44).

#### **3.5.4 Religion**

The present St Mary's church was built in 1850-2 on the site of the original church. The west tower was rebuilt in 1888-90 (Bagshaw 1850, 560). There were numerous Nonconformist chapels in Lymm, including chapels of the Wesleyan Methodists, Independents, Baptists and Primitive Methodists (Bagshaw 1850, 558).

#### **3.5.5 Transport and Communications**

The Lymm Dam was constructed in 1821-4 when the Bradley Brook was dammed to allow the turnpike, (the present A56) to run across the valley and to power water mills in the village centre (plaque at Bradley Dam).

The Lymm section of the Bridgewater Canal was opened in 1765. Lymm Wharf has a two-storey toll house/office and a three storey warehouse (Ashmore, 1982, 44).

A station was opened at Lymm in 1853 when the Warrington to Stockport railway was opened. This line was absorbed by the London and North-Western Railway in 1859. It was closed in the 1960s (Ashmore 1982, 44).

### 3.5.6 Population

Lymm's population in 1664 has been estimated from the Hearth Tax returns as 825 (MacGregor 1992). This is the largest population in Bucklow Hundred, although the combined total for Nether Knutsford (620) and Over Knutsford (260) is slightly more. From 1801-1971 population data is available from the census returns printed in the Victoria County History (Harris 1979, 220), and for 1981 and 1991 census data has been reproduced under Class Licence Number C01W0000125 with the permission of the Controller of the HMSO.

<b>1801</b>	1622	<b>1901</b>	4707
<b>1811</b>	1908	<b>1911</b>	4989
<b>1821</b>	2090	<b>1921</b>	5283
<b>1831</b>	2305	<b>1931</b>	5643
<b>1841</b>	2658	<b>1951</b>	6412
<b>1851</b>	3156	<b>1961</b>	7338
<b>1861</b>	3769	<b>1971</b>	10497
<b>1871</b>	4541	<b>1981</b>	10496
<b>1881</b>	4665	<b>1991</b>	10155
<b>1891</b>	4995		

### 3.5.7 The Surrounding Landscape

There are a number of 17th century Grade II listed buildings in the surrounding area, including, Wildersmoor Hall Farm to the southeast of Lymm (525/1), Old Hall Farmhouse, Thelwall to the west of Lymm (CSMR 524/1) and 8 Booths Lane in southwest Lymm (CSMR 527).

## 4. PLAN COMPONENTS

The town has been divided into 12 components (prefixed by **COM**). These have been tentatively sub-divided by period, although there is need for further work to define the extent and date of these components more closely. Many would have spanned more than one period but are discussed under their earliest likely date of occurrence. In some cases tightly defined plan components can be identified, in others only a general area can be delineated and these should be treated as a model against which future evidence should be tested.

There is as yet no evidence of prehistoric or Roman activity in Lymm. However, the Slitten Gorge may have attracted attention from an early period and may even have been an object of veneration, and the suggestion that a Roman road ran along Eagle Brow and Pepper Street remains to be substantiated.

At Domesday, Lymm was divided into two estates of value. Unfortunately, the location of these centres is unknown and only suggestions can be made as to their whereabouts. However, it is likely that much of the settlement was of a dispersed nature and would have been scattered throughout the surrounding landscape.

Medieval Lymm has been identified from topographical inference and surviving boundaries and features, which are suggestive of a medieval origin. However, this remains to be substantiated through a programme of archaeological works.

Two maps are available for charting the growth of Lymm in the post-medieval period: the tithe map of 1837 and the Ordnance Survey of c 1873. Accordingly this period has been divided into two sub-periods. The settlement area at each of these dates has been given a single component number (**COMs 13, 16**) rather than sub-dividing the area as this would have given an unwieldy number of individual components. Separate component numbers have, however, been given to the canal, rail and improved road links of this period as they were the chief influences on the development of the settlement.

### **EARLY MEDIEVAL c 450 - 1066 (Figure 2: The Development of Lymm)**

- COM 1** - Settlement, Church Green?
- COM 2** - Settlement, Lymm Hall?
- COM 3** - Settlement, Slitten Brook crossing?

### **MEDIEVAL c 1066 – c 1540 (Figure 2)**

- COM 4** - St Mary's Church
- COM 5** - Settlement, east of St Mary's Church
- COM 6** - Settlement, north of St Mary's Church
- COM 7** - Settlement, west of The Cross
- COM 8** - Settlement, east of The Cross
- COM 9** - Settlement, south of The Cross
- COM 10** - Settlement, west of Slitten Brook
- COM 11** - Market Place?
- COM 12** - Manor House (Lymm Hall)

### **POST-MEDIEVAL c 1540 – c 1873 (Figure 2)**

#### **Phase 1 - c 1837**

- COM 13** - Settlement
- COM 14** - Bridgewater Canal
- COM 15** - New Road (Church Road)

#### **Phase 2 - c 1873**

- COM 16** - Settlement
- COM 17** - LNWR (Warrington to Stockport line)

### **MODERN c 2000 (Figure 3)**

- COM 18** - Settlement

## 4.1 Early Medieval (Figure 2)

The Domesday Survey indicates that Lymm was a place of some importance before the Norman Conquest. The combined value of the two estates into which the settlement was divided was large (20s) and both of its landholders were men of substance. Presumably Lymm was previously a large single estate before being divided in two. However, the location of settlement and the centres of these estates is unknown and only suggestions can be made as to their whereabouts. Three potential settlement areas are therefore suggested in the vicinity of: St Mary's church (**COM 1**), Lymm Hall (**COM 2**), and the Slitten Brook crossing (**COM 3**), later the medieval commercial centre.

Domesday records a pre-Conquest church at Lymm and this is likely to have been located on the site of the present churchyard of St Mary's. When this church was first constructed is unknown. It may have been located within the vicinity of existing settlement or, if not, it would no doubt have attracted settlement. Components **2** and **3** identify areas that were of importance in the medieval period and may potentially have their origin in the early medieval period. However, the validity of this suggestion can only be ascertained through further work, including archaeological intervention.

The route of the suspected Roman road through Lymm has been depicted running along Eagle Brow, past Lymm Cross and then along Pepper Street.

## 4.2 Medieval Settlement (Figure 2)

Lymm continued to be in the ownership of major landowners during the medieval period and its assessment in the Cheshire mize of 1405 demonstrates that it was one of the major settlements in Bucklow Hundred. We can suggest that in the early medieval period there were potential foci of settlement but more likely the overall settlement pattern was of a dispersed nature. This pattern is likely to have persisted during the medieval period although two clear foci appear to have developed during this period: in the vicinity of St Mary's Church and the crossing of the Slitten Brook.

St Mary's church (**COM 4**) is traditionally thought to have origins c 1320 and the present church was built in 1850-2 on the site of the medieval church. To the east of the church is **COM 5** and to the north is **COM 6**. Both of these settlement areas were no doubt desirable during the medieval period because of their close proximity to the church. Although it has not been depicted as a plan component a potential market area may have developed at the gates of the church on Church Road - indeed an open area is depicted on the tithe map of 1837 in this area where Rectory Lane and Church Road meet.

To the north of Church Green, in the vicinity of the crossing point of the Slitten Brook, a further concentration of settlement appears to have developed during the medieval period. Here **COMs 7, 8, 9** and **10** identify areas of potential tenements but this is based upon conjecture, as so little archaeological work has been carried out in the town and few boundaries typical of medieval settlement survive. However, settlement appears to have developed in this area, close to the Slitten Brook, which would have provided a valuable source of water, and the Cross, where it is likely that

an unofficial market was held (**COM 11**) - no doubt encouraged by its location on a major road and close proximity to a river crossing point.

**COM 12** identifies the site of the medieval moated manor house, which is thought to date to the 14th century if not earlier. This was replaced in the 16th century by the present Lymm Hall but whether this was the site of the earlier manor is unknown.

### 4.3 Post Medieval (Figure 2)

#### 4.3.1 Phase 1 c 1837

The Slitten Mill, to the north of the settlement in the Slitten Gorge, is known to have been worked since the early 18th century and is thought to have operated since at least the mid-17th century. This is the earliest reference to industrial activity in Lymm, although it is likely that the Slitten Gorge would have provided an attractive source of building stone from a much earlier time.

The major influence on the development of Lymm (**COM 13**) was undoubtedly the construction of the Bridgewater Canal (**COM 14**), which was opened in 1765 and passed directly through the main village area, cutting off the north end of settlement. The canal encouraged industrial growth, particularly the development of the fustian cutting industry, allowing goods to be brought into Lymm and finished products to be taken away. The canal encouraged the development of settlement in the vicinity of The Cross, along with the construction of ancillary works such as the wharf and warehouses along the banks of the canal. The growth of small-scale industry, particularly fustian cutting, led to the construction of short lengths of terraced housing, both within and outside the early settlement areas. Lymm may also have had a commercial function, with the presence of alehouses, shops and possibly an informal market held around The Cross.

Towards the end of this period, c 1821, Church Road (**COM 15**) was constructed as part of the improvements to the A56 Warrington to Stockport road. The damming of the brook allowed the road to be constructed and this also provided the water power for a mill in the village below. A corn mill, which was demolished in 1935 stood on the Slitten Brook to the north of the Lower Dam. This is recorded on the OS First Edition map of c 1875 as a 'Flour Mill' and it is also depicted on the tithe map of 1837. When this mill was first built is unknown but it may have medieval origins.

Increasingly from the 18th century Lymm had a function as a tourist attraction, indeed Ormerod (1882, 580) describes 'a vale...of most exquisite beauty and a waterfall of great beauty and boldness'.

#### 4.3.2 Phase 2 c 1873

This period saw rapid growth of settlement (**COM 16**), which was encouraged by the opening of the railway (**COM 17**) in 1853. Indeed, the population doubled in the forty years between 1831 and 1871 - from 2,305 to 4,541. Settlement growth occurred in the main village area in the vicinity of The Cross, in the north-west towards the railway station and to the west with wealthy villa-style houses laid out along Church Road and Booth's Hill Road.

The railway encouraged Lymm's development as a dormitory settlement, in addition to its roles as an agricultural, minor industrial and commercial centre, and its increasing role as a tourist centre.

#### **4.4 Modern (Figure 3)**

The population of Lymm more than doubled in the century between 1871 and 1971, from 4,541 to 10,497. Nevertheless, it retains the characteristics that are more typical of a village than a town.

### **5. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

#### **5.1 Above-Ground Remains**

Within the historic core of the town there are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Lymm Hall moated site and an adjoining ice house (CSMR 523/2/1; SAM 23639) and two cockpits west of Lymm Hall (CSMR 523/2/4: SAM 30377). Lymm village, the Slitten Brook to the north and Lymm dam to the south form a single conservation area.

There are 25 listed buildings in the village. Of these, Lymm Cross is Grade I; Lymm Hall, is Grade II\* and the remainder Grade II. The building stock dates from the late 16th century onwards, although most are of 18th to 19th century date. Of note is a series of structures related to the Bridgewater Canal, which was cut through the northern side of the village, including a covered canal dock of c 1770 and an aqueduct carrying the canal over Bridgewater Street.

#### **5.2 Below Ground Remains**

The extent of survival of below ground remains is unknown with no recorded archaeological work in the main settlement areas. However, as only limited modern development has occurred in Lymm, the survival of archaeological features is likely to be good. The slitting mill has been partially excavated with many of the remains re-buried with the intention of future display.

### **6. PRIORITIES FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK**

#### **6.1 General**

The study of Lymm forms part of a national research priority to examine the origins and development of medieval small towns and rural markets (English Heritage 1997, 49). Work at Lymm would fit into a number of these national priorities, particularly the following processes of change:

- PC6 Late Saxon to medieval
- PC7 Transition from medieval to post medieval traditions (c1300-1700AD)

## **6.2 Roman**

- Establish whether or not a Roman road passed through Lymm.
- Examine whether there was any activity associated with this.

## **6.3 Early Medieval**

- Establish the location, nature and extent of settlement during the early medieval period.
- Establish the location of the pre-conquest estate centres, and examine whether these were once part of an earlier, single large estate.
- Establish the foundation date of the church, examine phases of expansion and contraction.

## **6.4 Medieval**

- Establish the precise location of settlement areas and date their phases of expansion and contraction.
- Establish the nature and extent of buildings on settlement plots.
- Examine evidence for medieval trade and industry.
- Establish the foundation of the moated manor house, examine phases of expansion and contraction.

## **6.5 Post Medieval**

- Establish precise location of settlement areas and date their phases of expansion and contraction.
- Examine any evidence for post medieval trade and industry.
- Examine the location of the Grammar School building in the churchyard and establish its foundation date.
- Establish the preservation of the Lymm slitting mill. Assess the impact of the 1968-75 excavation on the archaeological resource and the potential of the site for future display and interpretation.

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## 8. ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Lymm and the Surrounding Area

Figure 2: The Development of Lymm

Figure 3: Modern Lymm c 2000

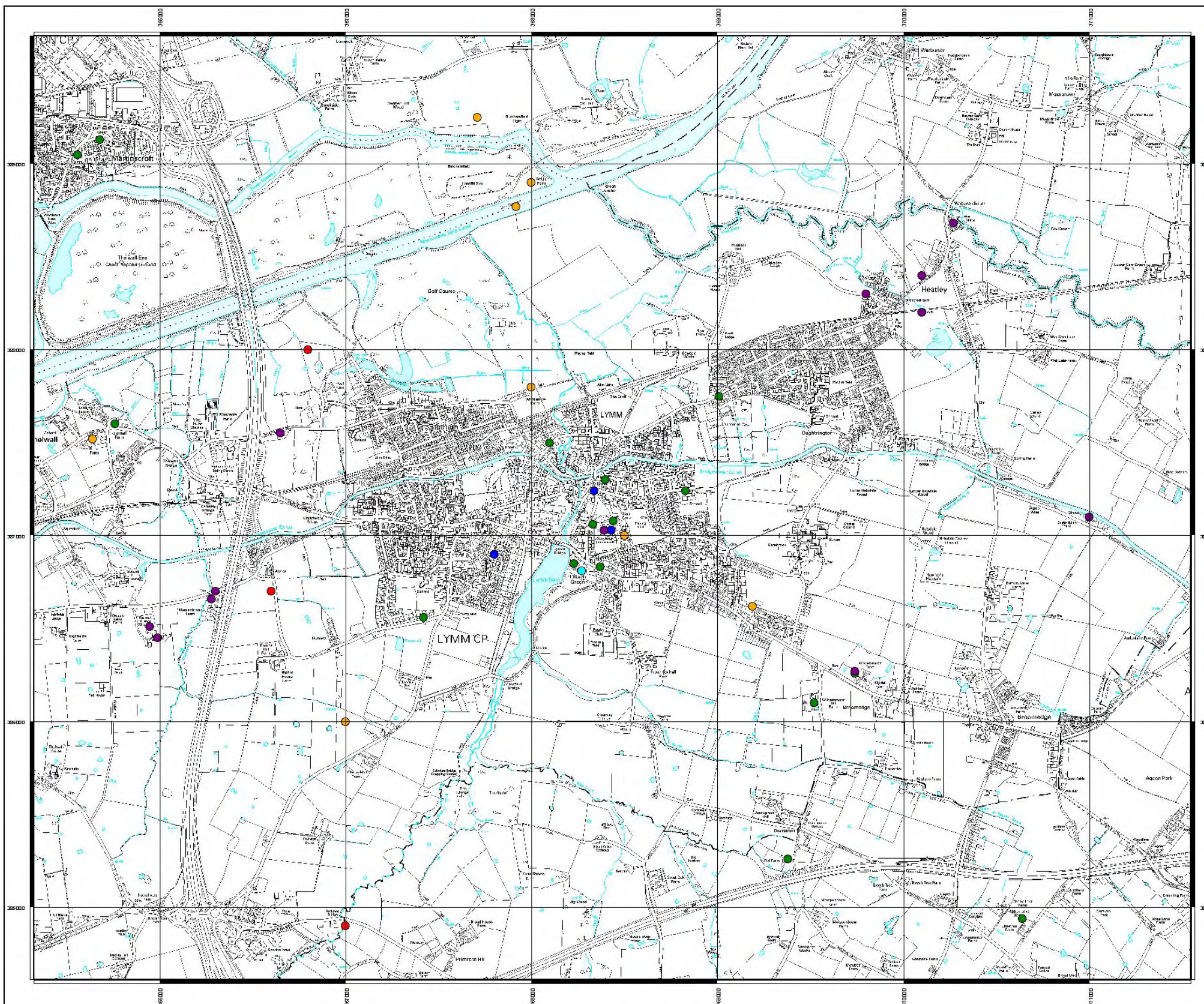


**Figure 1**  
**Lymm and the**  
**Surrounding Area**

- Sites and Monuments
- Prehistoric
  - Romano-British
  - Early Medieval
  - Medieval
  - Post Medieval
  - Modern

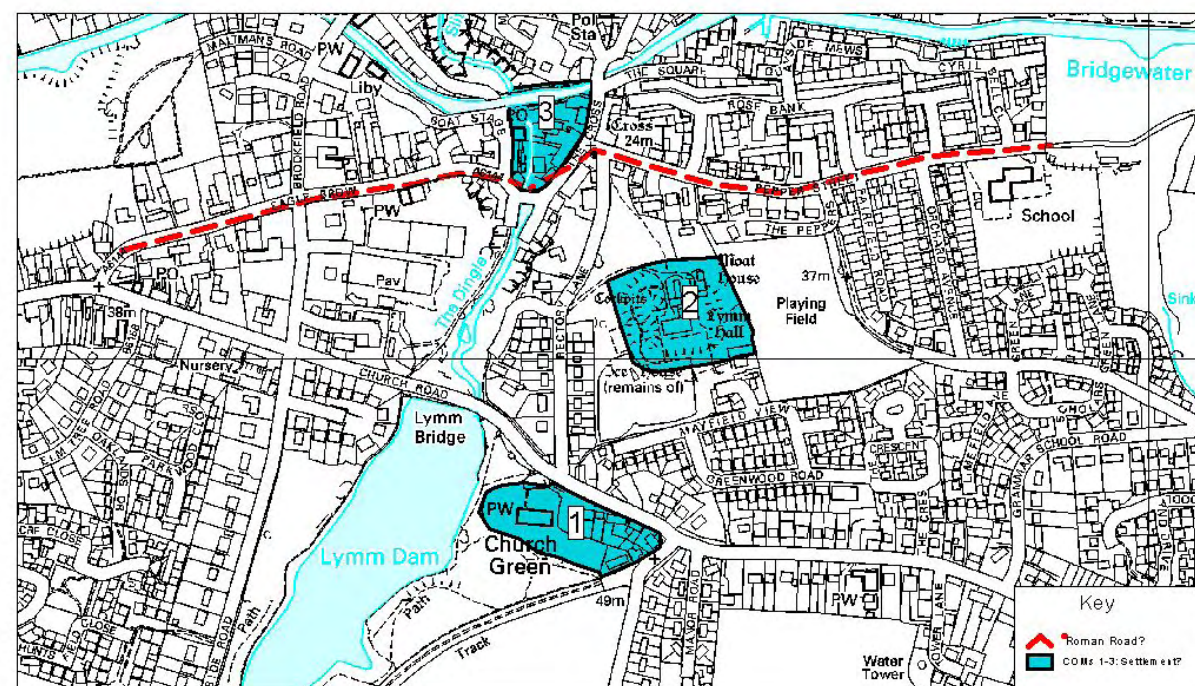
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0 0.5 1 Kilometres

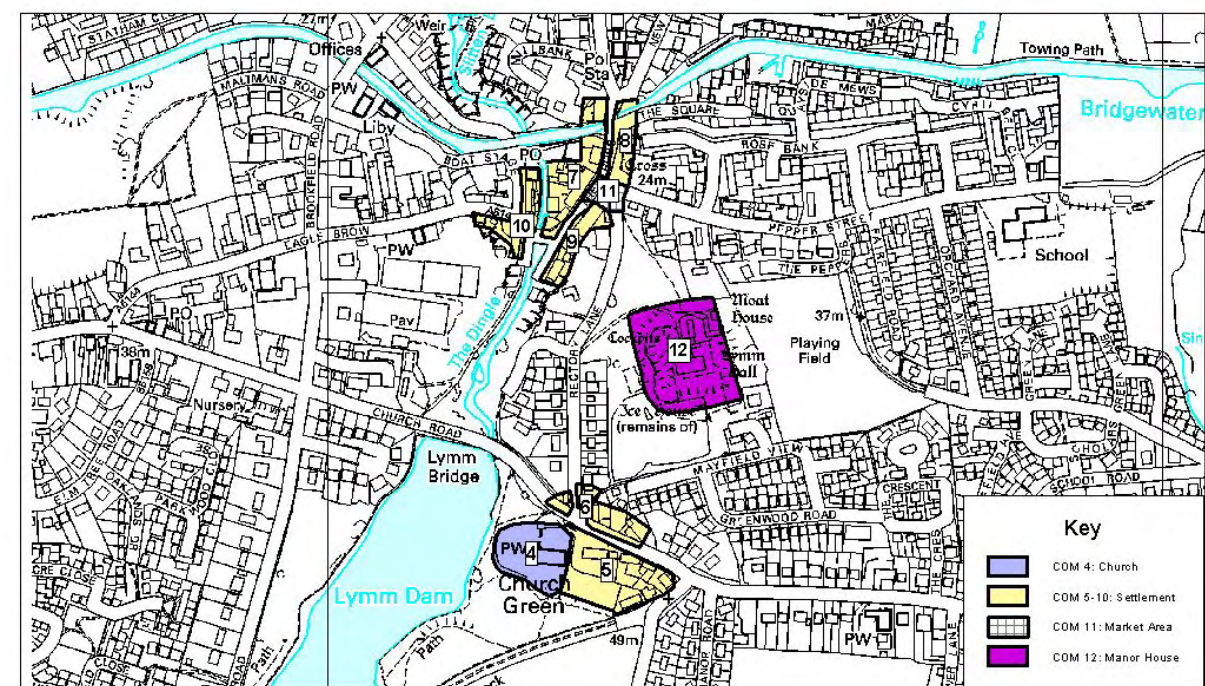
Figure 2: The Development of Lymm



Early Medieval

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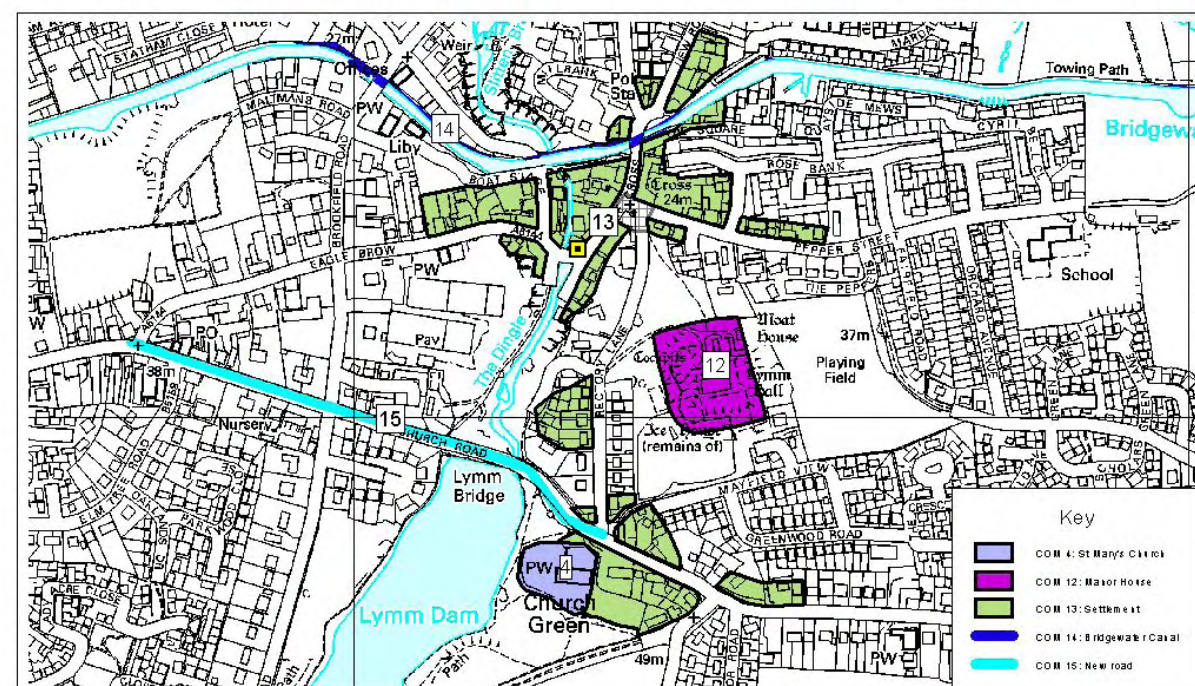
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Medieval

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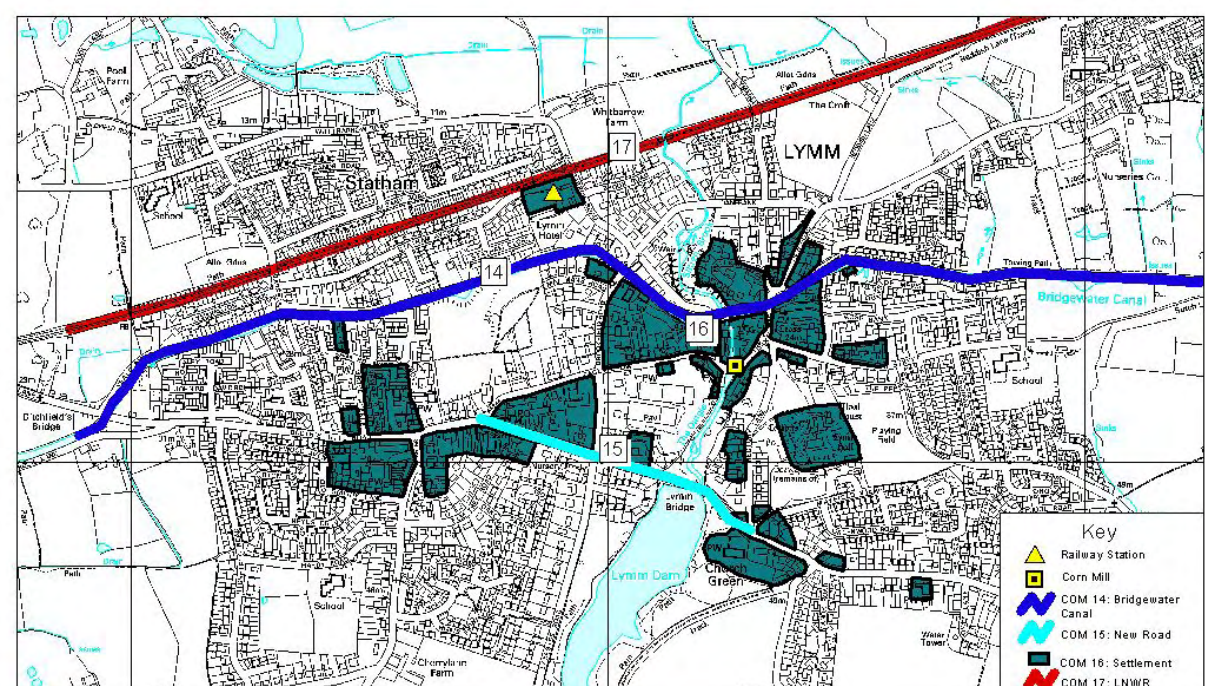
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Post Medieval c 1837

0 100 200 Metres

1:8000



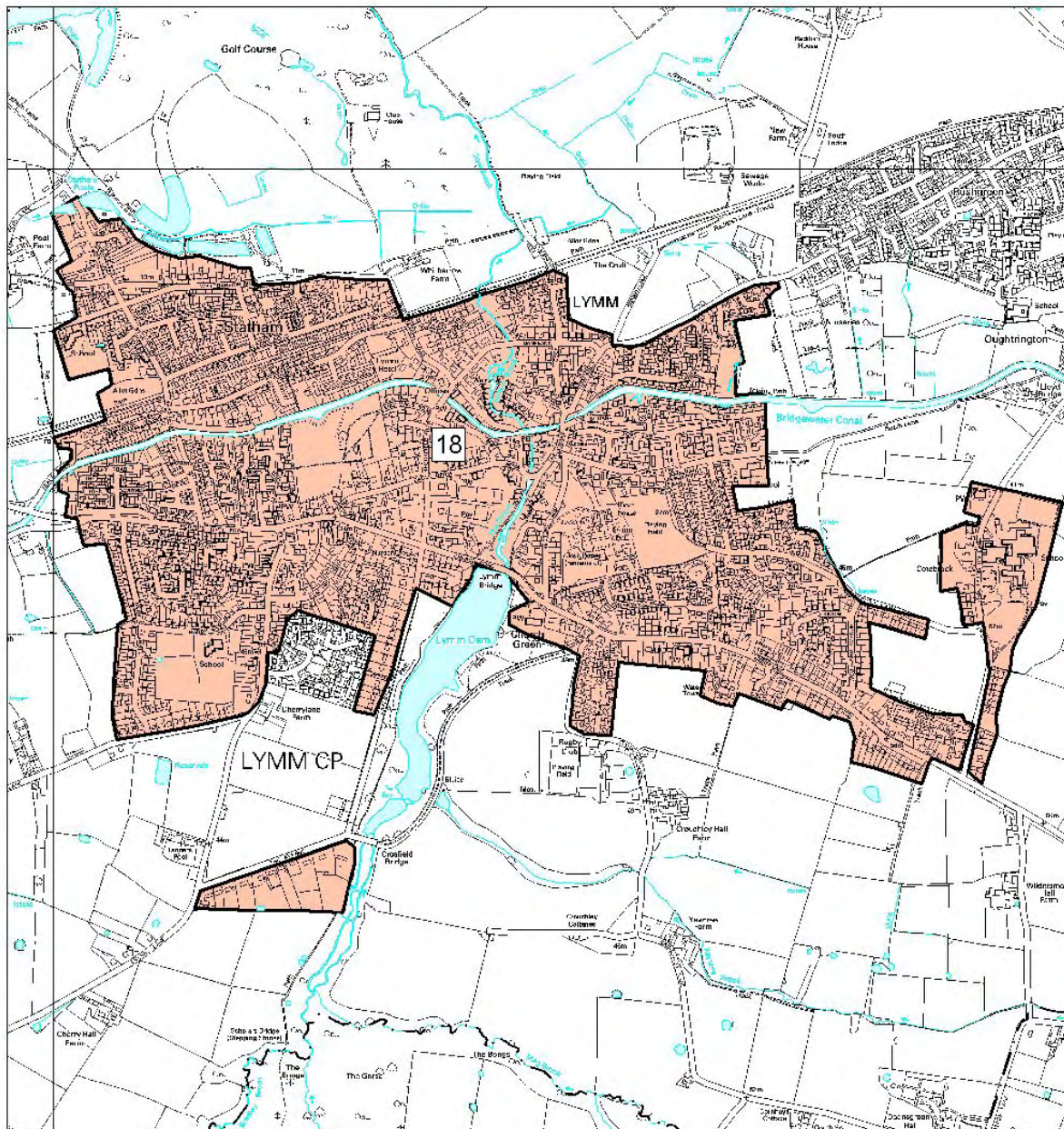
Post Medieval c 1873

0 200 400 Metres

1:14000

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Figure 3: Modern Lymm c 2000



1:16000

0 250 500 Metres



Key

COM 18: Settlement

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