



CHESHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
Archives and Local Studies

TOWNSHIP PACK  
NO. 152

WOOLSTON WITH  
MARTINSCROFT

942.  
719

LOC

The Wall

Duke of Bridgewater's Canal

Town

# **WOOLSTON WITH MARTINSCROFT**

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## ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE TOWNSHIP PACKS

### USER GUIDE

This pack is one of a series produced in order to provide resource material which will form a starting point for anyone researching the history of a particular township. The packs follow a standard format, with occasional slight variations reflecting the characteristics of individual townships.

Each pack opens with the *Domesday Book* entry for the township, or for a place which may be regarded as its "ancestor". A facsimile, transcript, and English version are provided.

This is followed by the relevant extract from the *Victoria County History* of Lancashire, which briefly traces the history of the township, chiefly in terms of the local landowning families and the church.

The "meat" of the pack comes in the form of extracts from five *Directories*, spaced at roughly equal intervals from 1825 to 1924. As well as providing basic information, they also furnish data which can be collated and analysed to investigate a variety of local history topics. It should be noted that these extracts do not by any means constitute complete directory coverage of the township. The local area library will be able to indicate what other county directories are available, though it is unlikely to hold them all.

The directories are complemented by a statistical abstract from the *Census* of 1821 and that of 1831, plus a *Population Summary*, 1801 - 1971. These two extend the period for which basic information is available beyond that covered by the directories.

The next section comprises four *Maps*: Ordnance Survey extracts (6" to 1 mile, or the modern 1: 10,000 equivalent), covering dates from the mid 19th century to the second half of the 20th. These will show older buildings now demolished and indicate development of the area over the past 150 years.

Lastly comes a *Reading List*, which we hope will prove helpful. Some at least of the items on it will be available for loan via branch libraries, whilst the remainder (plus additional material) will be available for reference either at larger libraries or at the Record Office.

Poor quality or condition of some originals occasionally prevents copies in the packs being as clear as we would like. We have, however, always tried to produce the best possible copy.

We hope that you will find this pack useful. If you have any comments or suggestions, we will be pleased to hear from you at the Cheshire Record Office, Duke Street, Chester CH1 1RL.

# DOMESDAY BOOK

## Facsimile

[illegible]

## Transcription

Rex EDWARDUS tenuit WALINTONE cum iij. berewichis. Ibi i. hida.  
Ad ipsum manerium pertinebat xxxliij. dreght et totidem maneria habebant.  
In quibus erant xliij. carucate terre et una hida et dimidia.  
HENRICUS REX tenebat i. carucatam terre quietam de omni consuetudine præter geldum.  
Totum manerium cum hundredo reddebat regi q. d. firmi x. libras ii. solidis minus.  
Modo sunt in domino ii. carucate et viij. homines cum i. carucati.  
Homines isti tenent ibi terram. ROGERUS i. carucatam terre. TERRALDUS i. carucatam  
et dimidiam. WARINUS i. carucatam. RADULPHUS v. carucatas. WILLMUS ii. hidas et liij. carucatas  
ADELARDUS i. hidam et dimidiam carucatam. OSWIGVUS i. carucatam terram. [terrae]  
Valet hoc totum liij. libras et x. solidos. Dominium valet liij. libras et x. solidos.

### Translation

King EDWARD held WALINTUNE with iii. berewicks. There is i. hide.  
To the same manor there belonged xxiv. Drenghtes, who had that number of manors,  
in which there were xlii. carucates of land and i. hide and a half.  
SAINT ELIN held i. carucate of land free of all custom except the geld.  
The whole manor with the hundred rendered to the King a farm rent of xv. pounds, less ii. shillings.  
There are now in the demeane ii. carucates, and viii. men with i. carucate.  
These men hold land there: ROBERT i. carucate of land, THOMAS i. carucate and a half,  
WARIN i. carucate, RADULF v. carucates, WILLIAM ii. hides and iv. carucates of land,  
ADELARD i. hide and half a carucate, [and] OSMUND i. carucate of land.  
The whole is worth iv. pounds and x. shillings. The demeane is worth iii. pounds and x. shillings.

**Note:** Neither Woolston nor Martinscroft is named in Domesday Book. They were presumably included in one or more of the manors of Warrington.

## VICTORIA HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

## WEST DERBY HUNDRED

WARRINGTON

## WOOLSTON WITH MARTINSCROFT

Ulinton c. 1147; Wlinton, 1175-82.

Woolston to the west and Martinscroft to the east extend along the bank of the River Mersey, and together form a joint township containing an area of 1,566 $\frac{1}{2}$  statute acres, of which Woolston proper has 1,225.<sup>19</sup> The township lies wholly upon the upper mottled sandstone of the bunter series of the new red sandstone. The high road from Warrington to Manchester passes through it, and the Woolston New Cut, a short canal belonging to the Manchester Ship Canal, passes through Woolston and shortens the waterway of the Mersey and Irwell Canal by avoiding some of the numerous windings of the River Mersey. In 1901 there were in the joint township 484 persons. There are a number of small landowners here, the land being let in small tenements.

There is a parish council.

The flat country is divided into fields with rather meagre hedgerows and scanty trees. The alluvial and sandy soil appears fertile, yielding good crops of potatoes and turnips, oats, wheat, and clover, whilst many a marshy corner is devoted to the cultivation of osiers for the manufacture of potato-hampers and 'skips'. In the north of the district there is a considerable patch of mossland, and here too there is a good deal of clay in the surface soil. By the river there are moist pastures. The inhabitants are entirely employed in agricultural labour and basket-making.

<sup>19</sup> The census report of 1901 gives the total area as 1,623 acres, of which 47 are inland water.

## VICTORIA HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

## A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

The descent of *WOOLSTON* corresponds with that of the neighbouring manor of Poulton. Both were in 1094 bestowed upon the abbey of St. Peter of Shrewsbury by Count Roger of Poitou,<sup>1</sup> and both passed—probably by purchase—to the lord of Makerfield about the reign of Henry II. From that date Woolston was held by a number of free tenants as of the barony of Newton in Makerfield. The names of those existing between 1175 and 1182 are recorded in a charter of Ralph, abbot of Shrewsbury, granting to them in fee the riddings or assarts of the 'Eyes' lying within a ditch by the water of Mersey for 21 pence yearly, and one 'land' or acre strip from each tenant for ever as an obit.<sup>2</sup> In 1292 two-thirds of the manor were held by Robert de Woolston, whose ancestors had been enfeoffed by Robert Banastre, sometime lord of Newton in Makerfield.<sup>3</sup> The remaining third part was held by Richard de Moston, lord of Poulton, in right of his wife Alice, daughter of Gilbert de Haydock, whose ancestor had likewise been enfeoffed by Robert Banastre.<sup>4</sup> This third part descended in the same succession as the manor of Poulton. Some considerable part of it was held in 1292 by Richard son of Emma de Woolston by the yearly service of 8s.<sup>5</sup>

Robert son of Orm de Woolston, who was living in 1293,<sup>6</sup> had issue by Alice his wife four sons, Adam, father of Agnes, by his wife Ellen, whom he divorced;<sup>7</sup> Richard his heir, living in 1313, when he was suing Richard de Moston and Alice his wife for making sale and destruction in their common wood and turrery in Woolston;<sup>8</sup> Simon, living in 1309;<sup>9</sup> and John, described as John son of Robert Ormeson<sup>10</sup> in 1318, when Hugh de Woolston recovered against him and



WOOLSTON OF WOOLSTON. Argent, a wolf passant sable.

Alice his mother two messuages in this vill.<sup>11</sup> In 1326 and 1332 Richard de Woolston, Richard and Robert de Martinscroft, Simon son of Robert, Henry le Wolf and John de Hepay were the principal owners of land.<sup>12</sup> In 1349 Emma, relict of Richard de Woolston, was claiming her dower in the manor of Woolston against Robert de Woolston her son and Alice his wife, and in six messuages, 36 acres of land, and 30s. of rent in this vill against Alice, relict of Henry le Wolf.<sup>13</sup> Robert de Woolston 'of the Fernyhaed,' died before 1367, in which year Agnes his relict was sued by Thomas de Southworth for a messuage and 100 acres of land which she held in dower, and for waste which she had made in the wood of Woolston.<sup>14</sup>

In 1359 the abbot of Shrewsbury brought a writ of novel disseisin before the justices at Lancaster against Robert son of Robert de Woolston touching tenements here, but did not prosecute his writ.<sup>15</sup> Four years later the abbot successfully traversed the finding of an inquest taken for the king to the effect that one of the king's progenitors had given a plat of land, called Wyldegreve, a fishery in the manor, and 20s. of rent in Woolston, to find a monk to celebrate divine service daily for ever in the chapel of Wyldegreve for the souls of the kings of England, which chantry had been withdrawn for many years past, the lands being worth yearly 24s. and the fishery 20s. An inquest found that the abbot and his predecessors had held the tenements time out of mind of the gift of Ranulf, earl of Chester, in free alms, whereupon judgement was given for the abbot with restitution of the tenements, the issues, and the fishery.<sup>16</sup>

The descent of the family of Woolston is somewhat obscure during this time.<sup>17</sup> In 1401 Hugh de Woolston was in possession of the manor.<sup>18</sup> By the marriage of his daughter Annabel (or Elizabeth) to John de Hawarden of Hawarden, co. Flint, the manor passed to the last-named family.<sup>19</sup> In 1432

<sup>1</sup> Farrer, *Lanc. Pipe R.* 270 et seq.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* 287.

<sup>3</sup> Assize R. 408, m. 41 d. About the year 1285 Robert Banastre gave to Robert de Samlesbury 3 acres of land with common of pasture in Woolston, beginning at the Lache towards the north, by Leynges Croft and continuing between the moss and the brook until 3 acres were fully completed; Raines MSS. (Chet. Lib.), xxxviii, 403, n. 2.

In 1290 Robert lord of Woolston exchanged land in Woolston for other land between Helecroft on the east and the Outlons on the west, with William de Midelton and America his wife, daughter of Robert le Boteler, of whose inheritance it was; Towneley MS. HH, n. 1835.

As Robert, lord of Woolston, he gave to Robert son of Orm de Pesforlone in fee 2 plate of land in Woolston, viz. (1) beginning at the land formerly Adam de Midelton's on the north, following the ditch which the same Robert raised there towards the east, to the highway leading from Poulton to the wood of Fernyhaed, and so following the ditches on the south against the highway to the land of Adam le Rede of Rixton; (2) beginning at the same highway on the west, following in length by the land of Peter de Midelton to the land of Andrew de Midelton, and to the land of William Fox on the east, following ditches southward to the Outlons, with estovers and pannage quit in the

wood of Fernyhaed for 8d. at St. Peter's Chains. See Raines MSS. xxxviii, 411 (1).

<sup>4</sup> Assize R. 408, m. 41 d. 60.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* m. 62 d.; also m. 6 and m.

63 d. In 1323 William de Moston released to Robert son of William son of Tyle (Tillesson) 9½ acres in Woolston and Poulton, which Richard de Moston father of William gave to Richard son of Emma; Raines MSS. xxxviii, 407, n. 3. See *Cal. Close R.* 1288-96, p. 252.

<sup>6</sup> *Lanc. Inq. and Extents* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Chet.), 276.

<sup>7</sup> Assize R. 423, m. 1 d.

<sup>8</sup> De Banc. R. 198, m. 56.

<sup>9</sup> Assize R. 423.

<sup>10</sup> In 1343 Robert son of Richard de Moston gave to Cecily daughter of Robert del Wode and to Richard her eldest son and his issue the lands and buildings in Woolston and Poulton which had belonged to Alice daughter of Richard Ormeson, mother of the said Cecily, with remainders to John son of Matthew de Southworth by Agnes Drynkale, to Gilbert son of the said Matthew, to Godith and Margery daughters of the said Matthew; Raines MSS. xxxviii, 409, n. 2.

<sup>11</sup> De Banc. R. 221, m. 57 d.; R. 223, m. 119.

<sup>12</sup> Lancs. Lay Sub. bdle. 130, n. 5 and 6. In Michaelmas term, 1328, William Lambe of Warrington sued in the King's Bench for 20 marks debt, Richard de Woolston, Richard son of

Robert de Martinscroft, Richard son of Gilbert of the same place, John de Hepay of Woolston, Robert son of Roger de Woolston, Henry le Wolf of Woolston, and Richard de Standys of Orford; De Banc. R. 275, m. 152; 276, m. 190.

<sup>13</sup> De Banc. R. 357, m. 118 d.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.* R. 429, m. 453; 432, m. 347. In 1353 Thomas son of Gilbert de Southworth withdrew a plea against Richard son of Robert de Woolston of the Fernyhaed and Agnes relict of Robert de Woolston; Assize R. 435, m. 4. In 1336 Agnes daughter of Simon son of Robert son of Orme released to Thomas de Southworth a messuage in the Fernyhaed in Woolston; Towneley MS. HH, n. 1934.

<sup>15</sup> Duchy of Lanc. Assize R. 7, m. 6.

<sup>16</sup> Co. Plac. Lanc. No. 10. See *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, p. 478.

<sup>17</sup> In a complaint by Thomas Hawarden the elder in 1516(?) his pedigree is thus traced: Richard de Woolston—s. Richard—s. Hugh—s. Robert—s. Hugh—d. Annabel—s. Thomas Hawarden, the plaintiff, who had a son Thomas; Star Chamb. Proc. Hen. VIII, xxv, 330, vi<sup>8</sup>, 247.

<sup>18</sup> Pal. of Lanc. Pleas R. 1, m. 7.

<sup>19</sup> In 1427 Richard Walker, rector of Warrington, and other feoffees restored certain of Hugh de Woolston's lands in Martinscroft to him, with remainder to Annabel, his daughter, wife of John de Hawarden; Towneley MS. OO, n. 1265.

## VICTORIA HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

## WEST DERBY HUNDRED

## WARRINGTON

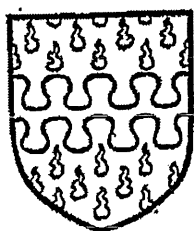
John Hawarden and Elizabeth his wife were freeholders in Poulton and Woolston.<sup>1</sup> His son Thomas Hawarden<sup>2</sup> had a son Thomas, who died before 1513, in which year.

Joan his wife gave 20 marks for the marriage of her son John, which Sir Thomas Boteler claimed in respect of lands held of him in Warrington.<sup>3</sup> In 1523 John Hawarden was amerced for not appearing at a court held at Warrington to do his suit for the same lands.<sup>4</sup>

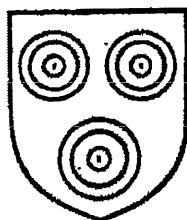
He died in 1556-7 seised of this manor and of lands in Halewood.<sup>5</sup> Adam his son, aged thirty years in 1556-7, entered his pedigree at the visitation of William Flower in 1567.<sup>6</sup>

The manor was settled upon him by his father John Hawarden by fine in 1548.<sup>7</sup> He died 6 February, 1596-7,<sup>8</sup> his only son having predeceased him. Elizabeth, daughter of Adam, had married Alexander, son and heir of Edward Standish of Standish, in 1575,<sup>9</sup> and in 1581 Adam Hawarden and Alexander Standish had conveyed the manor and family estates by fine to trustees,<sup>10</sup> as Alexander Standish and Elizabeth his wife likewise did in 1609.<sup>11</sup> The manor subsequently descended with Standish until March, 1870, when the hall was sold to the present owner, Mr. John Bennett, by the Standish trustees, with the consent of the late Charles Henry Lionel Widdrington Standish. The 'manorial rights, if any,' were reserved by the vendors.<sup>12</sup>

In 1278 Robert son of Alan le Norreys of Halshead



HAWARDEN OF WOOLSTON. *Argent, guille de poix and a fess nebuly sable.*



STANDISH OF STANDISH. *Sable, three standing dibes argent.*

and Agnes his wife claimed estovers in Robert de Woolston's wood in Woolston, which they had been used to enjoy.<sup>13</sup> John son of the same Robert in 1323 and again in 1332 sought to recover a messuage and two oxgangs of land here from Richard son of Hugh de Woolston.<sup>14</sup>

The family of Southworth of Samlesbury held an estate here from an early period. In 1432 Thomas Southworth died seised of lands held of John Hawarden and Elizabeth his wife.<sup>15</sup> Richard Southworth died in 1472, and Christopher his son in 1487, seised of the same, held of Thomas Hawarden by the yearly rent of 1d. In 1502 Ralph Anderton claimed the premises.<sup>16</sup> The subsequent descent is unknown.

Ralph Culcheth died in 1564 seised of a small estate here, which he held of Adam Hawarden in socage by a yearly free rent of 3s.<sup>17</sup> William his bastard son and heir alienated it in 1567 to Thomas Walmesley of Showley,<sup>18</sup> who died seised of the same in 1584.<sup>19</sup> It descended in 1612 to Thomas, son and heir of Robert Walmesley of Coldcotes,<sup>20</sup> and probably passed with the other estates of this family.

MARTINSCROFT<sup>21</sup> was, as the name suggests, a several enclosure within the manor of Woolston. Gilbert de Martinscroft held land here in the time of Edward I,<sup>22</sup> and Richard his son was one of the largest contributors here to the subsidy of 1326.<sup>23</sup> By his wife Agnes, daughter of John de Shaw, he had issue two daughters, Godith and Margery, who with their husbands were claiming a messuage and lands here in 1346 against Robert, son and heir of the said Richard de Martinscroft, and Richard's widow, Margery de Edgeworth.<sup>24</sup>

Richard Houghton, Ellen Hawarden, Adam Hawarden, and Richard Bruch, as landowners in Woolston, contributed to a subsidy in Mary's reign.<sup>25</sup> The only freeholder recorded in 1600 was Alexander Standish.<sup>26</sup> Sir Peter Legh and Ralph Standish were the landowners paying to the subsidy in 1628, in Poulton and Woolston.<sup>27</sup> Richard Booth was in 1653 allowed to contract for two-thirds of his estate

The same volume contains a few other deeds of the Hawarden family; thus John, son of Thomas de Hawarden and William his son about 1396 had lands in Cheshire; m. 1237, 1240. In 1474 John, son and heir of John Hawarden, late of Chester, held the manor of Statham in Lymm; m. 1246.

<sup>1</sup> *Lancet. Inq. p. m.* (Chet. Soc.), II, 46. Hugh de Hawarden and Agnes his wife occur in a Warrington suit in 1357; *Duchy of Lanc. Ant. R.* 6, m. 6 d., and (pt. 3) m. 1; *Final Cont.* II, 156.

<sup>2</sup> *Writ of Diem clausit extra.* issued 16 Hen. VII (1); Towseley MS; CC. (Chet. Lib.), m. 723. The dates in the text do not agree with the Star Chamber Pleading of a preceding note. In 1485 Thomas Legh of High Legh appointed Thomas Hawarden one of the executors of his will (*Rec. Soc. Lancr. and Ches.* xxx, 23); and in 1486 John Hulton of the Park in his will describes him as his brother; *Ibid.* 24. Thomas Hawarden purchased the Statham lands in Lymm in 1485-6, and Thomas, son and heir apparent of Thomas Hawarden of Woolston, made a further purchase in 1492-3; Ormerod, *Chet.* (ed. Helsby), I, 584.

<sup>3</sup> *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), I, 27.

<sup>4</sup> *Lords of Warr.* (Chet. Soc.), 431.

<sup>5</sup> *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p. m.* 2, n. 33.

<sup>6</sup> *Chet. Soc.* lxxx, 87. He held lands in Statham and Lymm of Richard Legh at the latter's death in 1582; Ormerod, I, 453.

<sup>7</sup> *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 13, m. 210.

<sup>8</sup> In the inquest taken after the death of Adam Hawarden, 13 Mar. 1598, it was found that Anne Hawarden, Elizabeth the wife of Alexander Standish, Jane the wife of Thomas Flower, Margaret the wife of Richard Ashton of Bamfurlong, Ellen the wife of Edward Standish, jun., Isabel the wife of Hugh Adlington, and Clemence Hawarden, were his daughters and heirs; Culcheth D. in *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, I, 156.

<sup>9</sup> *Lancet. Inq. p. m.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), I, 187.

<sup>10</sup> *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 43, m. 59; the estate was described as twenty messuages, &c., a water-mill, a dovecote, 2,300 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Woolston, Fearnhead, Bruche, Poulton, Marscroft [Martinscroft], and Halewood.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.* bdle. 75, m. 15.

<sup>12</sup> Information supplied by Mr. Bennett, through his solicitors, Messrs. Robert Davies & Co., Warrington, who state that by his will of 1807 Edward Townley Standish made Charles Standish tenant for life with remainder to Charles H. L. W.

Standish as tenant in tall male, which estate tail was afterwards barred.

<sup>13</sup> *De Banc. R.* 24, m. 38 d, 67 d.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.* R. 248, m. 149 d, 290, m. 143 d.

<sup>15</sup> *Lancet. Inq. p. m.* (Chet. Soc.), II, 46.

<sup>16</sup> *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p. m.* III, n. 41, 103.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.* xl, n. 34.

<sup>18</sup> *Pal. of Lanc. Feet of F. bdle.* 29, m. 96.

<sup>19</sup> *Duchy of Lanc. Inq. p. m.* xlv, n. 72.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.* xx, n. 34.

<sup>21</sup> Martinscroft, Edw. I.

<sup>22</sup> By deed s.d. Roger of the Hurst of Culcheth gave to Norman de Culcheth land in Symondeshurst in Culcheth, which he had by the gift of Richard de Martinscroft, and all his man-fall and pasture in the land which was Uphile the son of Dolphn de Bedford, and all the herbage which Richard de Martinscroft gave him to the east of Glaze Brook, rendering 2s. rent; *Lancs. and Ches. Hist. and Gen. Notes*, I, 22.

<sup>23</sup> *Lancs. Lay Sub. bdle.* 130, n. 5.

<sup>24</sup> *De Banc. R.* 348, m. 248 d.

<sup>25</sup> *Mascy of Rixton D.*

<sup>26</sup> *Misc.* (Rec. Soc. Lancs. and Ches.), I, 238.

<sup>27</sup> *Norris D.* (B.M.).

## VICTORIA HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

## A HISTORY OF LANCASHIRE

sequestered for his recusancy.<sup>1</sup> Richard Booth and William Caldwell, reedmaker, as 'Papists,' registered small estates in 1717.<sup>2</sup>

A family named Willme resided at Martinscroft in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; one of them, John Willme, who died in 1767, was a mathematician and astrologer.<sup>3</sup>

The land-tax returns of 1787 show that Edward Standish, Henry Pickering, and — Strickland were the chief owners of the soil.

The enclosure award (with plan) for the township is preserved at the County Council offices, Preston.

A Wesleyan Methodist chapel was built at Martinscroft in 1827.

The Hawarden family and their successors, adhering to the Roman Catholic faith at the Reformation, afforded shelter to the missionary priests during the times of proscription.<sup>4</sup> The domestic chapel of Woolston Hall was served by the English Benedictines until the beginning of last century,<sup>5</sup> when it was demolished. The present church of St. Peter, opened in 1835, is in the hands of secular clergy.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Royalist Camp. Papers* (Rec. Soc. Lanc. and Ches.), i, 209.

<sup>2</sup> *Engl. Cath. Non-jurors*, 123.

<sup>3</sup> For an account of him see *Pal. Note Book*, i, 117, 193.

<sup>4</sup> A search by the priest-hunters at Woolston Hall in the early hours of a Feb. morning in 1584 is reported in *Foley, Rec. S. J.*, ii, 117.

In 1590 Adam Hawarden of Woolston, though in some degree of conformity, was yet 'in general note of evil affection in religion and a non-communicant'; *Lydiat Hall*, 245. (quoting S.P. Dom. Bllz. ccxxiv, n. 4).

A fair number of names appear in the recusant roll of 1641; *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (New Ser.), xiv, 244.

<sup>5</sup> The Benedictines are known to have been in charge from early in the eighteenth century. The last of the line moved to

Rixton in 1831; Gillow, in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* (New Ser.), xlii, 146.

<sup>6</sup> *Liverpool Cath. Ann.* 1901.



## WARRINGTON PARISH.—OUT TOWNSHIPS.

BURTON WOOD, 4 miles NW. of Warrington.

FERNHEAD, 2½ miles NE. of Warrington.

GLAZEDBROOK, 7 miles ENE. of Warrington.

HOLLINFARE, or HOLLINS GREEN, 5 miles ENE. of Warrington.

MARTINSCROFT, 3 miles E. of Warrington.

POULTON, 2½ miles NE. of Warrington.

RIXTON, 5½ miles ENE. of Warrington.

SANKEY BRIDGES, 1 mile W. of Warrington. (Names with Warrington.)

WOOLSTON, 2 miles E. of Warrington.

## VILLAGE DIRECTORY OF WARRINGTON PARISH.

Marked 1, reside at Burton wood; 2, at Hollins green; 3, at Poulton, & 4, at Woolston.	Hornby Hon. Lucy, Orford hall	3 Wilkinson Saml. 'Stocks'
4 Brimelow John, 'Horse and Jockey'	4 Jackson John, gent. Fernhead	Woolf John, 'grazier, &c. Rixton
4 Caldwell Jno. 'Rope & Anchor'	2 Johnson Nimen, 'Eagle & Child'	4 Wright Rev. Wm.
4 Caldwell Joseph, overseer	3 Lloyd Mrs. Sophia, Puddington collage	2 Yates Wm. vict. 'Packet'
2 Clare Peter, 'Red Lion'	1 Millington Enoch, 'Pear Tree'	CORN MILLERS. YZOMEN, &c.
2 Dale Rev. P. S. curate	2 Ormrod John, 'White Lion'	1 Foster Thos. 1 Bridge Jas.
Fitchett James, gent. Orford	1 Ratchiffe Thos. 'Chapel ls.'	2 Peers Alex. 1 Fairclough T.
3 Flint Henry & Co. mfg. chemists, & bone works	2 Sephton John, parish clerk	1 Peers Naylor 1 Gaskell Rd.
1 Gaskell Mrs. Sarah	2 Speakman Wm. 'Swan'	4 Wilcock Jph. 3 Hewitt Wm.
3 Hewitt Wm. overseer, &c.	Spencer Thos. earthenware mfr. Dullam	WICKELWORTS. 4 Jackson John
	3 Spencer Rd. 'Dog & Partridge'	3 Hall Peter 4 Lythgoe Rph.
	2 Toft John W. 'Old Red Lion'	1 Langton Wm. 4 Newton Jas.
		1 Sergeant T. 1 Tickle Henry
		1 Warburton F.

# WOOLSTON with MARTINSCROFT,

A joint township, in the ecclesiastical district of Padgate, is situated on the turnpike road from Warrington to Manchester, and comprises an area of 1,444 statute acres. The population in 1801 was 496, and in 1871, 501.

Woolston is about 8½ miles from Warrington, 8 south-west from Leigh, and 16 south-west from Bolton, in the parish, union and county court district of Warrington and hundred of West Derby.

Martinscroft is situated on the banks of the river Mersey. About half a mile from Woolston there are two chapels in the township, one belonging to the Wesleyan body and the other the Roman Catholics.

Post Office.—Letters through Warrington, which is the nearest money order office. Nicholas Massey, receiver; delivery, 8 a.m., and despatched at 6 p.m.

Roman Catholic School (St. Peter's), Woolston—Elizabeth Battersby, mistress.

Carter Rev. John (Roman Catholic), Martinscroft  
Daniel Mr. Joseph, Martinscroft  
Hankinson Mr. James

## COMMERCIAL.

Bibby John, basketmaker, Woolston  
Boardman James, toll gate keeper, Martinscroft  
Caldwell John, farmer, Martinscroft  
Clare William, bricklayer, Woolston  
Clarke Aaron, farmer, Woolston  
Clarke Joseph, beer retailer, Martinscroft  
Clarke Peter, farmer, Woolston  
Crank Joseph, farmer, Woolston  
Daintith John, blacksmith, and Rope and Anchor Inn, Woolston  
Dennett Peter, farmer, Martinscroft  
Ditchfield James, fustian cutter, Martinscroft  
Dumbill Luke, farmer, Woolston  
Fairhurst William, farmer, Woolston  
Gallop William, fustian cutter, Martinscroft  
Gatley John, shoemaker, Martinscroft  
Houghton James & William, farmers, Woolston

Hepherd James, farmer, Martinscroft  
Hepperd Thomas, farmer, Woolston  
Hilton George, relieving officer and registrar of births and deaths, Woolston  
Houghton Isaac, farmer, Woolston  
Houghton Joseph, jun., farmer, Woolston  
Houghton Thomas, farmer, Woolston  
Howarth George, farmer, Martinscroft  
Johnson Ralph, basketmaker, Woolston  
Massey James, Horse and Jockey Inn, and farmer, Woolston  
Massey Nicholas, grocer, post office, Woolston  
Massey William, farmer, Martinscroft  
Newton Margaret, farmer, Martinscroft  
Orritt Abraham, blacksmith, Woolston  
Orritt William, wheelwright, Woolston  
Owen James, farmer, Woolston  
Platt Mary A., farmer, Woolston  
Platt George, farmer, Woolston  
Rathbone Samuel, farmer, Woolston  
Taylor John and Thomas, farmers, Woolston  
Warburton Isaac, farmer, Woolston  
Wilcock David, shopkeeper, Martinscroft  
Wood George, farmer, Woolston

'Woolston with Martinscroft is a joint township, the former being about 3½ miles east from Warrington railway station on the road from Warrington to Manchester. MARTINS-CROFT is about half a mile south from Woolston; on the banks of the river Mersey. The Woolston new cut is a canal over a mile in length, belonging to the Bridgewater Navigation Co. Limited. Here is a Catholic chapel dedicated to St. Mary and a Wesleyan chapel. All the land is held in small holdings. The area is 1,528 acres of land and 48 water; rateable value, £4,551; the population in 1881 was 594.

Letter Box cleared at 5.55 p.m. Letters through Warrington, which is the nearest money order & telegraph office. Delivery, 7.10 a.m.; dispatch, 5.55 p.m.; no delivery or dispatch on sundays

SCHOOLS:—

Catholic, Martinscroft (mixed), built in 1840, for 120 children; average attendance, 96; mistress, vacant  
National, Woolston, built in 1885, for 150 children; average attendance, 60; Miss Ellen Turner, mistress

Woolston.

Crank Joseph  
Walsh Rev. Wm. [Catholic], Chapel ho

COMMERCIAL.

Bibby Jas. basket, skip & hamper ma  
Bibby John, basket, skip & hamper ma  
Caldwell Joseph, boot & shoe maker  
Clarke Aaron, farmer  
Clarke Peter, farmer  
Daintith James, Rope & Anchor P.M. & wheelwright  
Daintith James, jun. blacksmith & registrar of births & deaths for Rixton sub-district, Warrington union  
Daintith Thomas, farmer  
Dumbell Luke, farmer  
Houghton James & William, farmers, Wilgrave farm  
Houghton Isaac, farmer, Woolston hall  
Houghton Joseph, farmer  
Houghton Thomas, farmer  
Platt Mary Ann (Mrs.), farmer  
Wainwright William, farmer & market gardeners  
Warburton Isaac, farmer  
Wood George, farmer

Martinscroft.

Hankinson James  
Yarwood Thomas

COMMERCIAL.

Bate Richard, market-gardener  
Bolton Thomas, farmer  
Caldwell Thomas, frmr. Juniper lodge  
Ellam David, farmer & file cutter  
Fairhurst Charles, farmer  
Gatley John, boot & shoe maker  
Lythgoe Isaac, tustian cutter  
Massey William & Thomas, farmers  
Massey Alice (Mrs.), shopkeeper, & post office  
Massey David, farmer  
Massey James, Horse & Jockey P.M. & farmer  
Newton William, farmer  
Orrett Abraham, blacksmith  
Orrett William, wheelwright  
Owen John, farmer  
Taylor Robert, shopkeeper  
Wilson Arden, carrier.

WOOLSTON with MARTINSBOROFT is a joint township, the former being on the road from Warrington to Manchester, about 3 miles east from Warrington Central railway station. Martinscroft, on the banks of the river Mersey, is about half a mile south from Woolston. The Woolston new cut is a canal over a mile in length, belonging to the Bridgewater undertaking of the Manchester Ship Canal Co. The Catholic chapel at Woolston, built in 1834, and dedicated to St. Peter, is a structure of brick in the Gothic style, and has three stained windows; it will seat about 200 persons. At Martinscroft is a Wesleyan chapel, built in 1827. All the land is held in small holdings. The area is 1,676 acres of land and 47 of water; rateable value, £4,798; the population in 1901 was 484.

Post Office.—Miss Sarah Massey, sub-postmistress. Letters through Warrington; delivery, 7 a.m.; dispatch, 8.45 a.m. & 4.45 & 7.20 p.m. No delivery or dispatch on Sundays. Postal Orders are issued & paid here. Padgate is the nearest money order office, & Warrington (near Cemetery); 2½ miles distant, the nearest telegraph office.

#### SCHOOLS.

Public Elementary, Woolston (mixed), built in 1886, for 150 children; average attendance, 78; Richard Ryder, master. Catholic, Martinscroft (mixed), built in 1840, for 120 children; average attendance, 50; Miss Maggie Caldwell, mistress.

#### WOOLSTON.

Howard Alfred W., Woolston lodge  
Lowe Rev. Joseph (Catholic).

#### COMMERCIAL.

Bibby James & John, basket makers  
Clark Aaron, farmer  
Couper Thomas (exors. of), brick-makers  
Daintith Henry, Rope & Anchor F.H.

Daintith James, smith & registrar of births & deaths for Rixton district  
Hepherd James, farmer  
Houghton Joseph, farmer, Holes Lane farm  
Houghton Thomas, farmer, Haslam farm  
Lythgoe Thomas, farmer  
Piatt Brothers, farmers  
Piatt Peter, farmer  
Piatt Thomas, farmer  
Stubbs John, farmer  
Wainwright Brothers, farmers  
Warburton Isaac (Mrs.), farmer

#### MARTINSBOROFT.

Bolton Edward, shopkeeper  
Caldwell Sarah (Mrs.), farmer  
Ellam Samuel, market gardener  
Fairhurst Charles, farmer  
Howard Mary (Mrs.), farmer  
Massey Ann & Alice (Misses), farmers  
Massey Nicholas & Joseph, farmers  
Massey Charles, farmer, Juniper lodge  
Massey Nicholas, Horse & Jockey P.H.  
Massey Sarah (Miss), grocer, Post office  
Oldfield Noah, farmer  
Orett William, wheelwright  
Taylor Robert, market gardener

WOOLSTON with MARTINSCROFT is a joint township on the road from Warrington to Manchester, about 3 miles east from Warrington Central station. The Woolston new cut is a canal over a mile in length, belonging to the Bridgewater undertaking of the Manchester Ship Canal Co. The Roman Catholic chapel at Woolston, built in 1834, and dedicated to St. Peter, is a structure of brick in the Gothic style, and has three stained windows; it will seat about 200 persons. The land is chiefly held in small holdings. The area is 1,678 acres of land and 47 of water; rateable value, £4,662; the population in 1921 was 451.

MARTINSCROFT, on the banks of the river Mersey, is about half a mile south from Woolston. There is a Wesleyan Methodist chapel, built in 1827.

Post Office.—Miss Sarah Massey, sub-postmistress. Letters through Warrington. Padgate is the nearest money order office, & Warrington, 2½ miles distant, the nearest telegraph office.

#### SCHOOLS.

Public Elementary, Woolston (mixed), built in 1885, for 150 children; Richard Ryder, master.  
Roman Catholic, Martinscroft (mixed), built in 1840, for 120 children; Miss Elizabeth Milles, mistress.

#### WOOLSTON.

Gibson Frank, Warranhill  
Howard Alfred W., Woolston lodge,  
Peaker Isaac, Thornhill

#### COMMERCIAL.

Bibby John (Mrs.), basket maker  
Bibby Joseph, shopkeeper, & post office  
Clark Aaron, farmer  
Crank Sarah (Miss), refreshment rooms  
Daintith Herbert, blacksmith  
Daintith Herbert, Rope & Anchor P.H.  
Forster Joseph, Son & Co. Ltd., tanners.

T N 484

Garnett Wm. Edwd., farmer, Haslam farm  
Hapherd James, farmer  
Iea John, farmer, Well farm  
Lythgoe Frederick & Thomas, farmers  
Platt Ernest & David, farmers  
Platt Jonathan, farmer  
Platt William, farmer, Woolstone hall  
Stubbs John, farmer  
Wainwright Thomas, farmer  
Warburton Hy., farmer, Holes Lane farm

#### MARTINSCROFT.

##### COMMERCIAL.

Bennett Alice (Mrs.), farmer  
Ellam David, market gardener  
Hunter Robert, farmer  
Massey Alexander, farmer, Juniper lodge  
Massey Nicholas, farmer  
Massey Nicholas, Horse & Jockey P.H.  
Massey Sarah (Mrs.), grocer, Post office  
Massey William, farmer  
Sudlow J. & J., farmers

## CENSUS ABSTRACT

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1821

PARISH, TOWNSHIP, OR EXTRA-PAROCHIAL PLACE.	HOUSES:				OCCUPATIONS:			PERSONS:		
	Inhabited.	By how many Families Occupied.	Building.	Uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures, or Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the Two preceding Classes.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL OF PERSONS.
Warrington Parish: Woolstone with Martinscroft Township	106	111	-	-	39	69	13	309	287	596

1831

PARISH, TOWNSHIP, OR EXTRA-PAROCHIAL PLACE.	AREA.	HOUSES.				OCCUPATIONS.			PERSONS.		
	English Statute Acres.	Inhabited.	Families.	Building.	Uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures, and Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the two preceding Classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Warrington Parish: Woolstone with Martinscroft } Township	1,490	105	109	-	-	54	33	17	308	270	578

Males Twenty Years of Age.	AGRICULTURE.			Employed in Manufacture, or in making Manufacturing Machinery.	Employed in Retail Trade, or in Handicraft as Masters or Workmen.	Capitalists, Bankers, Professional and other Educated Men.	Labourers employed in Labour not Agricultural.	Other Males 20 Years of Age (except Servants.)	Male Servants.		Female Servants.	PARISHES, TOWNSHIPS, &c.
	Occupiers employing Labourers.	Occupiers not employing Labourers.	Labourers employed in Agriculture.						20 Years of Age.	Under 20 Years.		
149	11	5	69	32	11	4	12	5	-	-	14	Warrington: Woolstone, &c.

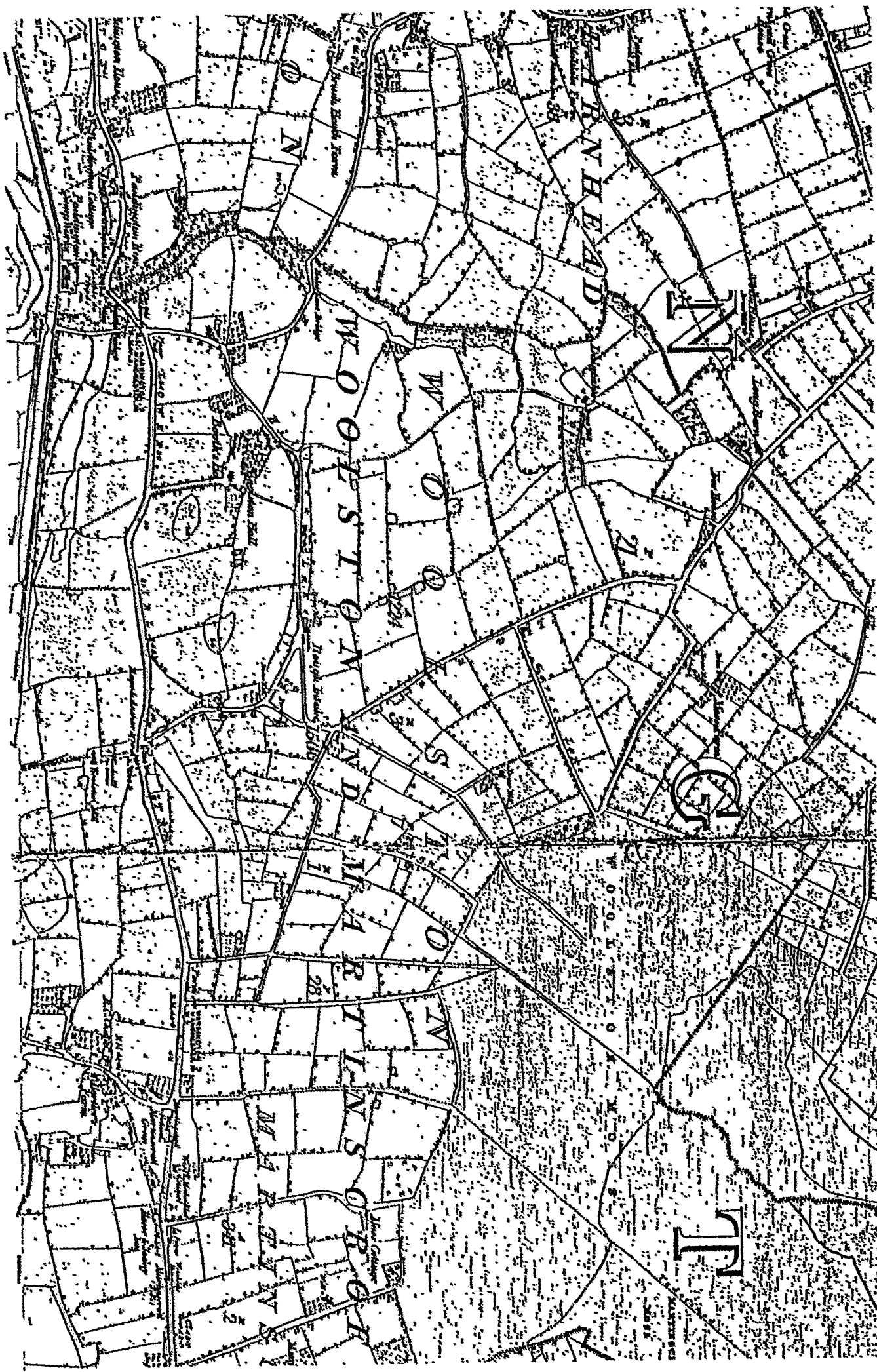
POPULATION SUMMARY 1801 - 1971

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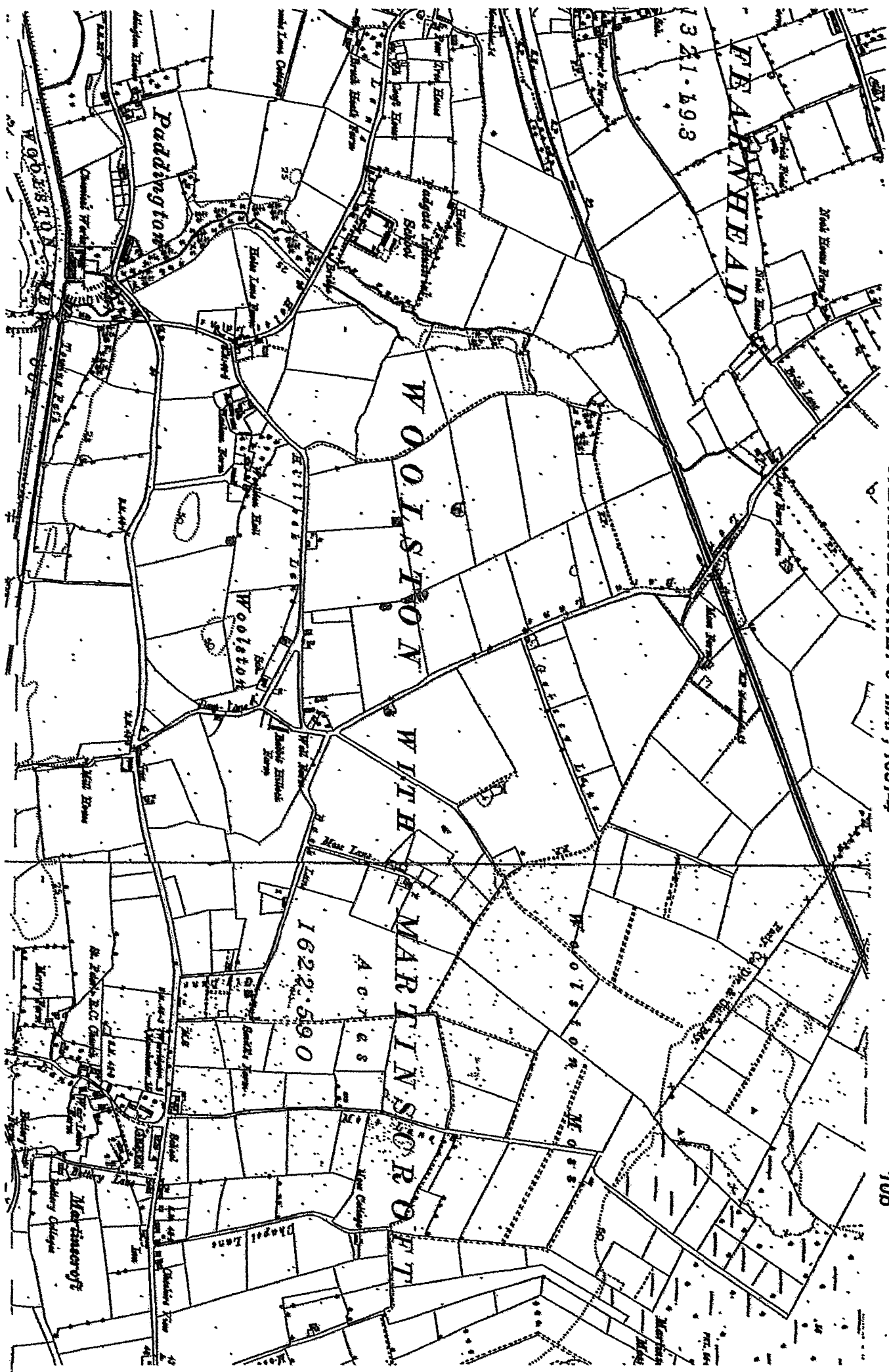
Woolston with Martinscroft

1801	542
1811	562
1821	596
1831	578
1841	548
1851	516
1861	496
1871	501
1881	504
1891	498
1901	484
1911	489
1921	456
1931	537
1951	2375
1961	3434
1971	5570

The increase between 1931 and 1951 was due to the building of new housing. This continued into the 1960s.





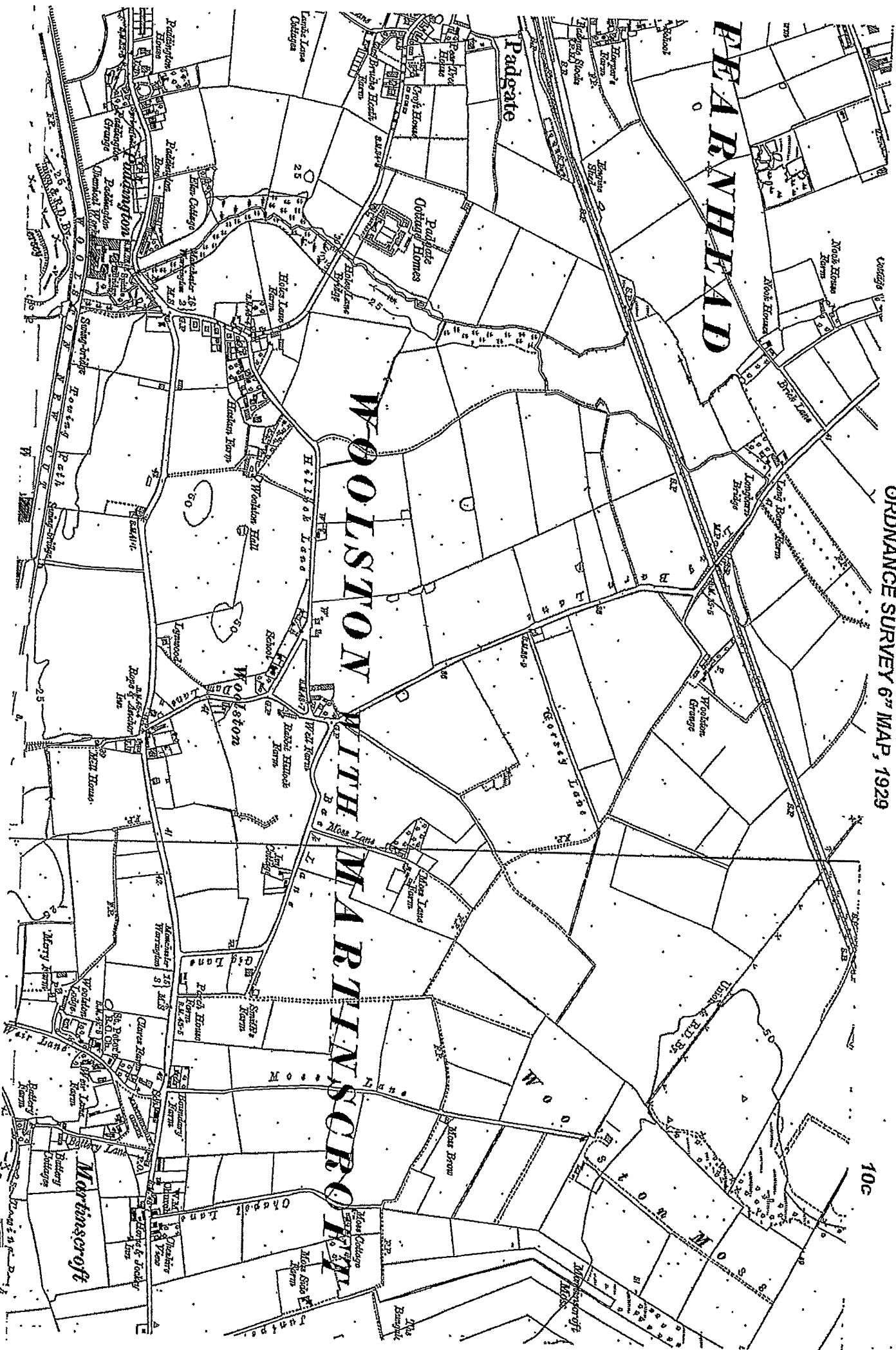


PEARNEHEAD

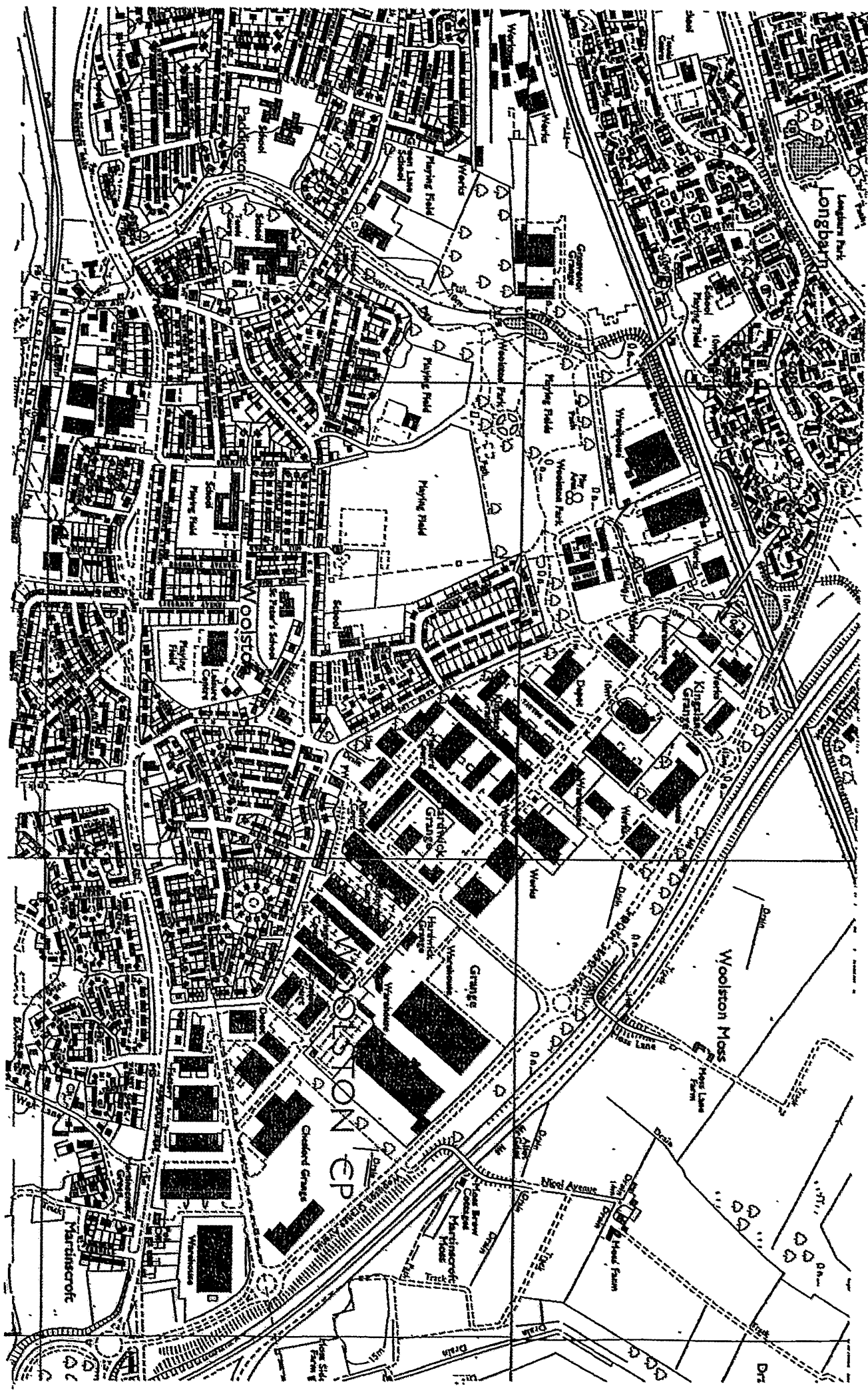
Padgate

WOOLSTON

WITH MARTINSCROFT



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## WOOLSTON WITH MARTINSCROFT

### Reading List (all available at Warrington Library)

#### Books

CARTER, G A

Warrington and the Mid-Mersey Valley.

E J Morten, Didsbury, 1971

Includes a number of references to Woolston.

CHESHIRE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

The Cheshire Village Book.

Countryside Books, Newbury & CFWI, Chester, 1990

Local history and reminiscence from Woolston on p243-4.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest: Borough of Warrington, Cheshire. (Parishes of Croft, . . . Rixton with Glazebrook, and Woolston.)

DOE, 1983

Woolston is covered on p15-16. Gives approximate date, architect where known, and features of merit.

WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Woolston 74 Year Book.

Sproden Press, Warrington, 1974

Includes a brief history of Woolston by T Lloyd Morgan.

YARWOOD, Derek

Outrages -- Fatal and Other. A Chronicle of Cheshire Crime, 1612-1912.

Didsbury Press, Manchester, 1991

The murder of James Hogworth by Edward Miles at Woolston in 1791 is covered on p31-45. This was the case associated with the gibbet-irons now on display in Warrington Museum.

#### Pamphlets

ANON

Land Tax . . . Woolstone (Lancashire).

Unpublished typescript, 1980

Transcripts of the returns for 1785, 1790, 1795, 1800, 1805 and 1815, giving owners and occupiers of land and amount levied.

DAVIES, Peter.

How the Church Came to Woolston.

(Peter Davies, 1978)

History of the local Roman Catholic, Methodist and Church of England churches.

WARRINGTON NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Warrington: A Changing Town.

WNTDC, 1970

Introductory booklet: includes details of the industrial estate at Woolston Grange.

Articles

BEAMONT, William

'The Fee of Makerfield; with an Account of some of its Lords, the Barons of Newton.'

*Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*,  
Volume 24, 1872, p81-130

History of the area, which included Woolston with Martinscroft.

NORTON, P A

'Warrington Water.'

*Journal of the Railway and Canal Historical Society*, 9 (2), March  
1963, p21-26

Includes information on Woolston New Cut.