

Document 1a Resource provided by www.mylearning.org © Harris Museum & Art Gallery A group of cottages

Document 1b

Plan of cottages

Health of Towns Inquiry



PLAN OF COTTAGES REFERRED TO IN THE REPORT ON PRESTON_BY THE REV? J. CLAY.

Standidge & Co. Lithe London

Document 1c

Description of row of cottages in Back Queen Street / Clarksons Court from Rev. Clay's report on the sanitary conditions in Preston in 1844

Description. Between the Back Yards of the two rows of Cottages, a Cesspool extends the whole length of the Street, which receives te Contents of the Privies & Drains, & the Ashes & refuse of the whole Block; At the time of our visit planks were floating in the liquid filth. The Yards are surrounded by Walls 6 1/4 feet high; there is no access to 18 of them, except through the back doors of the Houses; into these square wells the openings from the Privies act as chimnies from the Cesspool and the foul air so rising into them has no means of escape, except over or through the Cottages on each side, or at the end of the Street which is not closed by Buildings. Several of the Yards have the additional odour of a Pigsty and its dung heap. A door to each Privy would be an advantage, but they are nearly all removed, as unfortunately they just fit recesses in the back rooms, and are more useful as tables than doors. The Contents of the Cesspool belong to the Landlord, and are taken out twice a year. The heap of one emptying had lain for several months within 5 Yards of the end of the Cottages and two other heaps were at a short distance. From the appearance of the adjoining Land this Street will probably be extended to nearly double its present length. Three other neighbouring Blocks of Cottages are built on a similar plan; the Cesspool of one of them is about 100 Yards long, and the other two about 60 Yards each.



Whinfield House

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Drawing room at Singleton Hall



A Tea Party, Thomas Webster, 1862

Resource provided by www.mylearning.org © Harris Museum & Art Gallery

Township of Preston		Municipal Borough of Preston		Municipal ward of Fishwick				wn of eston		Hamlet or Ty of				
No.	Road street &c.No.or Name of House	House I or U	Name and surna each person	ame of	Relation to Head of Family	Condition as to marriage	Age r	nale	Age female	Rank, Occupa	Profession or ation	Where	Born	Whether blind, or Deaf- and- Dumb
23	Clarksons Court	I	Ann Nixon		Head	Widow			36	House	keeper	Ireland	1	
			Robert ditto		Son	Single	19			Grinde		ditto		
			Thomas ditto		Son	ditto	17			Self ac	ting Minder	ditto		
			Elizabeth ditto		Daughter	ditto			13	Weave		ditto		
			William ditto		Son	ditto	8			Schola	r	ditto		
			John ditto		Son	ditto	5			ditto		Presto	n Lancashire	
			John Shorrock		Brother	Married	22			Self ac	ting Minder	Blackb	ourn	
			Maria ditto		Wife	ditto			22	Rover		Ireland	1	
24	Queen Street		William Green		Head	ditto	27			Tailor		Presto	n	
			Bridget ditto		Wife	ditto			26			Ireland	1	
			Ellen ditto		Daughter	single			5			Presto	n	
			John ditto		Son	ditto	9 mo	nths				ditto		
			John Cunningha	am	Lodger	Married	36			Hostler	•	Ireland	1	
			Ann ditto		Wife	ditto			33			ditto		
			Mary ditto		Daughter	Single			5			ditto		
			Ann ditto		ditto	ditto			3			ditto		
			John ditto		Son	ditto	1 mo	nth				ditto		
			Bridget Walsh		Lodger	Widow			60	House	keeper	ditto		
25	Queen Street		James Robinso	n	Head	Married	54			Labour	er	Penwo	ortham Lancs	
			Agnes ditto		Wife	ditto			50			Leylan	d	
			Mary ditto		Daughter	Single			19	Weave	r	Presto	n	
			John ditto		Son	ditto	18			ditto		ditto		
			Ann ditto		Daughter	ditto			16	ditto		ditto		
			Alice ditto		ditto	ditto			14	ditto		ditto		
			James ditto		Son	ditto	11			Schola	r	ditto		
			William ditto		Son	ditto	5					ditto		

Township of Preston					,		Town of Preston	Hamlet o of		
No.	Road street &c.No.or Name of House	House I or U	Name and surname of each person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition as to marriage	Age male	Age female	Rank, Profession or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind or Deaf Dumb
1 Winckley Square		Ι	Richard Newsham	Head	M.	62		Magistrate & Deputy Lieutenant for county of Lancaster	Preston Lancashire	-
			Agnes ditto	Wife	М.		55	-	Lancaster	-
			Ann Horsfall	Servant	Un.		44	Cook	Orton Westmorland	-
			Alice Bateman	ditto	"		38	Housemaid	Lancaster Lancashire	-
			Margaret ditto	ditto	"		22	Waiting Maid	" "	-
2	ditto	I	Ralph Clanton Heslop	Head	M.	43		Doctor of Medicine/ Physician	Lancaster Withnell	-
			Ellen Fowler	Servant	Un.		28	House Servant	ditto Sowerby	-
			Elizabeth ditto	ditto	Un.		26	ditto	ditto ditto	-
3	ditto	I	Thomas Wilson	Head	М.	35		Solicitor & Deputy Clerk	Poulton-le-Fylde Lancashire	-
			Jane Eliz. Wilson	Wife	М.		29	-	Preston Lancashire	-
			Frances May "	Daughter			1	-	Preston ditto	-
			Thomas Horrock Wilson	Son		1 month		-	Preston Lancashire	-
			Joanna Yates	Servant	Widow		50	Monthly Nurse	Burton Westmorland	-
			Eleanor Jackson	ditto	Un.		35	Cook	Ulverston Lancashire	-
			Alice Stephenson	ditto	Un.		27	Housemaid	Kendal Westmorland	-
			Frances Compston	ditto	Un.		24	Nurse	ditto ditto	-
4	Winckley Square		Ann Roskell	Head	Widow		80	Partner in Bank	Goosnargh Lancashire	-
			Ann Kendal	Grandchild	Un.		20	Fundholder	Kensington Middlesex	-
			Agnes Kendal	ditto	ditto		18	ditto	ditto ditto	-
			Elizabeth Banks	Servant	ditto		32	Housemaid	Preston Lancashire	-
			Jane Brown	Servant	Un.		34	Lady's Maid	Lancaster ditto	-
			Mary Agnes Wilkinson	Servant	Un.		25	Cook	Liverpool ditto	-
			Mary Shaw	Servant	Un.		16	Kitchen Maid	Preston ditto	-

1861 Census Winckley Square

5	Winckley Square	I	Thomas Miller	Head	М.	50		Cotton Manufacturer	Preston Lancashire	-
			Henrietta ditto	Wife	М.		40		Chidworth	-
									Gloucestershire	
			Thomas ditto	Son	Un.	15		Scholar	Preston Lancashire	-
			William P Miller	Son	Un.	11		ditto	ditto ditto	-
			Henrietta M ditto	Daughter	Un.		9	ditto	ditto ditto	-
			Catherine "	ditto			6	ditto	ditto ditto	-
			Edith "	ditto			3		ditto ditto	-
			Annie Dickson	Governess	Un.		24	Teacher	Elvington Yorkshire	-
			Peter Walmsley	Servant	Un.	26		Butler	Mellor Lancashire	-
			Elizabeth Mathews	Servant	ditto		34	Cook	Castle Martin	-
									Pembroke	
			Mary Wilson	ditto	ditto		42	Housemaid	Broughton in Furness	-
									Lancashire	
			Elizabeth Rise?	ditto	ditto		28	ditto	Preston Lancashire	-
			Ann Rigby	ditto	ditto		39	Nurse		-
			Jane Yates	Servant	Un.		23	Nurse	Downham Lancashire	-
			Elizabeth Nelson	ditto	ditto		22	School Maid	Cartmel Lancashire	-
			Mary Anderson	ditto	ditto		20	Kitchen Maid	Scotforth Lancashire	-
			Margaret Vissers	Visitor	ditto		25	Servant	Downham Lancashire	-

In April 1882 Whinfield was advertised 'to let' in the Preston Guardian.

ASHTON-UPON-RIBBLE, PRESTON.- TO BE LET, for a term of years, the charming residence "WHINFIELD," situate on the banks of the Ribble. The residence contains four entertaining rooms, eight bedrooms, the usual offices, extensive gardens, hothouses, conservatories, vineries, ample stable accomodation, with gardener's and coachman's cottages, together with four acres of pasture land. Whinfield is of recent construction, admirably designed, and one of the most beautiful suburban residences in Lancashire. – For cards to view and terms, apply to Mr. JOSEPH HARDING, Lune Street, Preston.

Advert in the Preston Guardian, 15th April 1882

Statistics from Rev. Clay's report on the sanitary conditions in Preston in 1844

The streets, courts, and yards examined contain about 422 dwellings, inhabited at the time of the inquiry by 2400 persons sleeping in 852 beds, *i. e.*, an average of 5.68 inhabitants to each house, and 2.8 persons to each bed.

	cases 4	l persons slept in	the same bed.	
28	" 5	- 	33	
13	" 6	*	87	
3	n 7	33	7 7	
l	" Ö	77	19	
And, in addition, a fa	mily o	of 8 on bed stock	s covered with a	little straw.

The streets mentioned are Canal Street, Back Canal Street, Hope Street, Holden's Square, Holden's Yard, Edward Street, Buckingham Street, Clarence Street, Poplar Street, Willow Street, Queen Street and Savage's Court.

Ages.		aditioned outs.		rately- ed Streets.	Ill-conditioned Streets.		
	Deaths.	Per Cent.	Deaths.	Per Cent.	Deaths.	Per Cent.	
Under one year old . Above one and under	21 26	15·5 19·3	158 238	20·8 31·3	250 210	38·3 32·2	
five years. About five years old .	88	65•2	364	47.9	192	29•5	
	135		760		652		

From the Letters page of the Preston Guardian 23 November 1844

THE CAUSES OF MORTALITY To the Editor of the Preston Guardian

SIR, - The mortality of towns is now frequently attributed to the want of proper sewerage; but, as one who has had some experience in visiting the poor, I feel confident that though we admit this to be a powerful cause, there are others much more so. I will enumerate some

1. Want of proper food, and sufficient of it.

Porridge and potatoes are the chief items in the eating of many poor families. I was in a weaver's house to-day, where they said they had not had a joint of meat for seven years; that when they did get anything from the shambles, it was a little suet to grease their potatoes with. The insufficiency of suitable nourishing food is the cause and aggravation of many diseases prevalent among the poor. 2. Want of clothing.

The poor, thin clothing of nearly all weavers and factory people is the same for winter as summer, and far from being adequate to the protection of the body.

3. Want of bedding.

From this the poor suffer severely. Five, six and seven in a bed! Few have adequate covering, and many little more than a cotton sheet or two. It would be difficult to convince the rich, who never visit, how rare it is to meet with anything like blankets on poor people's beds. To be starved either day or night is inimical to the enjoyment of good health.

4. The want of ventilation.

What they call double houses – that is, houses back and front – are all badly ventilated; few cellars have windows that will open both back and front; unfortunately still fewer think of opening the bed room windows during the day.

5. Want of household cleanliness.

Bedrooms are generally dirty, windows, walls, and floors are also very far from being clean. These pollute the air, and produce sickness and disease. I have met with some cases where it was almost impossible to remain up stairs through the bad smells. For people to sleep all night in small unventilated rooms, four, five, or six in a bed, and the rooms seldom or never washed, will of itself account for the great mortality of our towns. I was in a house this week which had been whitewashed but once in twenty-seven years.

6. Want of personal cleanliness.

Few wash themselves more than once a week, and then only hands and face. If they would apply plenty of water and a good rubbing to the whole body oftener and especially those who work in factories, they would have much better health.

7. Intemperance.

A very considerable portion of sickness and mortality proceeds from this cause. Many not only shorten their days, but punish their families, and deprive them of the support which is essential to good health.

8. Houses in bad repair.

I have met with sick people lying against damp walls, sleeping on damp cellar floors, exposed to draughts from windows in bad repair. The reason why owners do not put them into good repair is that the people are too poor to pay their rents, and the reason why the poor do not leave such dwellings is that they are behind with their rent, and dare not move.

I have only just hinted at the above particulars, but I feel assured that while better sewerage is highly important, some steps should be taken to remove the causes here enumerated. I believe the medical men who attend the poor would confirm this statement in every particular.

A VISITOR

Extract from 'Home-Life of the Lancashire Factory Folk During the Cotton Famine' by Edwin Waugh 1867

"When we got to the lower end of Hope Street, my guide stopped suddenly, and said, 'Oh, this is close to where that woman lives whose husband died of starvation.' Leading a few yards up the bystreet, he turned into a low, narrow entry, very dark and damp. Two turns more brought us to a dirty, pent-up corner, where a low door stood open. We entered there. It was a cold, gloomy-looking little hovel. In my allusion to the place last week I said it was 'scarcely four yards square.' It is not more than three yards square. There was no fire in the little rusty grate. The day was sunny, but no sunshine could ever reach that nook, nor any fresh breezes disturb the pestilent vapours that harboured there, festering in the sluggish gloom. In one corner of the place a little worn and broken stair led up to a room of the same size above, where, I was told, there was now some straw for the family to sleep upon. But the only furniture in the house, of any kind, was two rickety chairs and a little broken deal table, reared against the stairs, because one leg was gone. A quiet-looking, thin woman, seemingly about fifty years of age, sat there, when we went in. She told us that she had buried five of her children, and that she had six yet alive, all living with her in that poor place."

From a report taken from the Manchester Guardian printed in the Preston Guardian 15th April 1882

A Lancashire weaver earns per week Two children, half timers, each earn 3s. 6d	
Total family income	
A Blackburn mule spinner earns per week Two children, half timers, each earn 3s. 11d Total family income	7s.10d.

Per week a family of husband, wife and 2 children would typically consume:

	s.	d.
Bread, eight 4lb loaves	5	0
Corn meal, ½ peck	0	11
Flour, 6lbs	1	1
Fresh meat, 5lbs	3	11 ½
Bacon, 2lbs	1	6
Potatoes, 40lbs	1	8
Milk, 7 quarts	1	9
Vegetables	0	6
Coffee, ½ lb	0	8
Tea, ¼ lb	0	6 1⁄2
Sugar, 3lbs	1	0
Rice, 2lbs	0	4
Butter, 1lb	1	3
Molasses, 1 quart	0	6
Soap, 1 ½ lbs	0	5
Coal	1	6
Oil	0	6
Rent, five rooms	5	0
Totals, per week	28	1

Imperial measurements

Capacity:

1 pint = 4 gills = 20 fluid ounces (0.568 litre) 1 quart = 2 pints (1.136 litre) 1 gallon = 4 quarts = 8 pints (4.546 litre) 1 peck = 2 gallons 1 bushel = 4 pecks = 8 gallons

Weight:

1 ounce (oz) = 16 drams 1 pound (lb) = 16 oz (0.454 kg) 1 stone = 14 lb 1 quarter = 28 lb 1 hundredweight (cwt) = 4 quarters = 112 lb 1 ton = 20 cwt = 2240 lb (1.016 tonne)

Money:

1 penny (d) = 4 farthings (d = denarius, a Roman coin, translated to 'penny' in the Bible)

1 shilling (s) = 12 pence/pennies

1 crown = 5 shillings

1 pound (£) = 4 crowns = 20 shillings

1 guinea = 21 shillings

Traditional Lancashire Recipes

(taken from More Old Lancashire Recipes by Jean Poulson, 1976)

Bolton Hot Pot

2 lb middle neck of mutton 2 oz mushrooms 1 onion 1 oz fat 20 oysters (optional) 2 lb potatoes " pint stock 2 kidneys 1 oz flour

Melt the fat, brown meat on al sides and put into a casserole. Stir the flour in the fat until brown, pour a little hot stock into pan and stir as it thickens. Gradually add more stock, stirring continuously, until it has all been used. Season with salt, pepper and a good pinch of sugar. Add the sliced kidney, mushrooms and oysters to the meat in the casserole, topping with thick slices of potato. Strain on the thickened stock, cover and cook in a moderate oven for two hours.

Note: Oysters were a relatively common food in Victorian times and were not very expensive

Liver Casserole-recipe from Preston

1 lb liver	1 large onion
1 ″ lb potatoes	stock
4 oz mushrooms	4 oz bacon
3 tomatoes	a pinch of sage

Slice the onion, fry in butter until soft then remove from pan. Fry liver on both sides, put into a casserole and cover with the onions, chopped mushrooms and bacon, skinned and sliced tomatoes and just cover with stock. Add the sage, seasoning and top up with sliced potatoes. Cover and bake for 1-1 " hours until tender, at 375°, gas mark 5.

Lancashire Pea Soup

to serve 6 12 oz dried peas 3 pints stock from boiled ham or bacon shank 2 thinly sliced onions seasoning to taste a pinch of dried mustard

Soak the peas overnight in boiling water. Next day throw away the water and put all the ingredients into a pan. Bring to the boil then cover and simmer very gently for 2-3 hours adding more liquid if it becomes too thick.

If ham stock is not available or a ham knuckle cannot be obtained to cook in with the soup (using water as the liquid), then add 4-6 oz chopped, lean bacon to the water.

Mrs Beeton's Menu Suggestions

(taken from Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management, 1861)

Two Menus for Simple Breakfasts

Summer Buttered Shredded Wheat Boiled Eggs Fried Whiting Potted Beef Stewed Red Currants and Raspberries Rolls, Toast, Bread, Butter, Marmalade Tea, Coffee, Hot and Cold Milk

Winter

Rolled Oats Fried Eggs Grilled Herrings Beef Roll Stewed Rhubarb Scones, Toast, Bread, Butter, Marmalade Tea, Coffee, Hot and Cold Milk

Family Luncheons for a week in summer

- **Sunday-** Croquettes of veal and ham, cold roast beef, salad, new potatoes, fruit tart, beetroot, pickles, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits, fruit.
- **Monday-** Spaghetti au gratin, epigrammes of lamb, new potatoes, bread and butter pudding, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits, fruit.
- **Tuesday-** Fried fillets of plaice, beef roll, salad, gooseberry pudding, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits.
- **Wednesday-** Risotto, cold veal and ham pie, salad, blancmange and stewed fruit, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits.
- **Thursday-** Fish cakes, cold lamb, mint sauce, salad, gooseberry fool, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits.
- **Friday-** Savoury omelet, pressed beef, salad, pickles, marmalade pudding, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits, fruit.
- **Saturday-** Salmon mayonnaise, grilled cutlets, potatoes, cottage pudding, butter, cheese, bread, biscuits, fruit.

Menus for a week's dinners. Autumn.

- **Sunday-** Clear Mulligatawny Soup Boiled Turbot, Oyster Sauce Fricandeau of Veal, French Beans, Fried Potatoes – Apple Charlotte or Rice Cream – Devilled Chicken's Livers.
- **Monday-** Lobster Soup Whiting Soufflé Stewed Pigeons, Rissole Potatoes- Saddle of Mutton, Cauliflower, Boiled Potatoes – Vanilla Soufflé or Fruit in Jelly- Anchovy Fingers
- **Tuesday-** Clear Soup Fillet of Sole Fillets of Beef, Vegetable Marrow, Potato Straws – College Pudding or Almond Cream – Cheese Soufflé.
- Wednesday- Ox tail Soup Scalloped Brill Salmi of Pheasant, Stuffed Cucumber – Roast Beef, Brussels Sprouts, Parisian Potatoes – Lemon Pudding or Bananas in Jelly – Stuffed Mushrooms.
- **Thursday-** Clear Soup Fillets of whiting Mutton Cutlets, Jerusalem Artichokes, Fried Potatoes – Roast Chicken, Salad – Apple Fritters or Pineapple Charlotte – Caviare on Toast
- **Friday-** Haricot Bean Soup Fried Cod, Tartare Sauce Chicken and Rice Loin of Mutton, Baked Tomatoes, Mashed Potatoes – Viennese Pudding or Meringues – Shrimp Toast
- Saturday- Clear Soup –Baked Sole Calf's Head Roast Hare, French Beans, Fried Potatoes – Jam omelet or Swiss Pudding – Cheese Straws