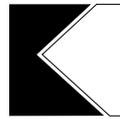


# 2005

## CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL



Knowsley Council

# Knowsley Village



St Mary's Church, Present Day

## Location

Knowsley Village Conservation Area is located within a rural setting. It is typical of a historic village with its village green, wide open spaces and coppices of trees. The buildings comprise of workers cottages, lodges and farm houses and are characteristic of the village's charm.

## History

Knowsley Village is documented in the Domesday Book of 1086 and was previously known as 'Chenulveslei'. Maypole Farm and its outbuildings date from the eighteenth Century. By the time of the Tithe Award map of 1847, St. Mary's Church and the Parsonage (now Dumbreeze House) and a number of cottages had been built.

The Lathom family had held Knowsley from before 1200 and through marriage it passed to the Stanleys, who succeeded in becoming the Earls of Derby. The village of Knowsley was developed as a direct result of the Earls of Derby building their estate at Knowsley Hall.

*KNOWing the value of excellent service*



Clean, green and proud of it

Knowsley Village Conservation Area retains a character reminiscent of pre-war England. Indeed, little has changed apart from a small amount of infilling. The Parish Church, Village Hall, School, the Derby Arms Hotel, and the estate workers houses are an indication of the influence of the Earls of Derby.

Since the Second World War several large housing estates have been constructed to the east of the Conservation Area.

## **Townscape and Key Buildings**

Knowsley Lane is the main thorough fare through the Conservation Area. It passes through the area around Maypole Green which forms the old village core and is known locally as the Knowsley Triangle. The village is one of the best village cores in Merseyside.

The village consists of a series of Georgian and Victorian buildings. Highfield cottage was built in 1759 using local sandstone and retains most of its character with horizontal sliding sash windows at first floor level and casement windows on ground floor level.

The Grade II Listed Building of St. Mary's Church was built in 1844 by Edmund Sharpe and it has transcripts dated in 1860 by E. G Paley. The Derby memorial chapel was added in 1871 and was designed by Paley, and it has a west tower, transepts, a clerestory and a pointed lancet on the south side.

Knowsley Vicarage on Tithebarn Lane was built around 1885. It is a Grade II Listed Building and is constructed in red brick, terracotta and sandstone. Many of the local houses built at the same period share characteristics of the Vicarage including tall chimneys and jettied windows.

Despite the addition of unsuitable developments throughout the Conservation Area, the village still manages to retain its rural character. The trees, high hedgerows, woods and open grassland have shielded the area from the large-scale developments which surround it.

## **Potential Improvements**

The Lych gate on Tithebarn Road projects slightly and as a result considerable damage has been caused by vehicles clipping the roof as they turn left. It would be an advantage to the gate if measures are taken to protect the Lych gate by way of warning signage or a bollard. In order to enhance the character of the area, the following additional actions are suggested:

- Improve maintenance to open areas;
- As with a lot of areas, vandalism has taken its toll on some of the buildings around the village and graffiti has been a particular problem. These buildings would benefit from the removal of the graffiti;
- Investigate which works have been carried out without permission, and proceed with the appropriate enforcement action;

- Advise property owners of the implications of having property in a Conservation Area;
- Assess the buildings in the area to see which would fit the criteria to be listed; and
- Introduce an interpretation feature and signage to highlight the boundaries and places of interest in the Conservation Area.

## **Glossary**

### **Article 4 Direction**

A legal direction imposed by the Council which requires that development which would otherwise be 'Permitted Development' will require planning permission.

### **Conservation Area**

Areas of special historic or architectural character. New development within these areas must preserve or enhance the special characteristics of the area.

### **Listed Building**

Buildings or other structures which are on a statutory list because of their special architectural or historic character, and which are protected from demolition or inappropriate alterations. Listed Building Consent is required for works affecting these buildings.

### **Permitted Development Rights**

Under government legislation, certain forms of minor development (such as small extensions to houses, small fences and walls, small extensions to factories) are automatically granted planning permission. This means that you do not always need to apply to the Council for planning permission for these forms of development. However, the rules governing these 'Permitted Development' rights are complex and you are always advised to contact the Council for advice. In some areas (eg. some Conservation Areas, converted barns and in some housing estates) Permitted Development rights have been removed by the Council meaning that planning permission is required even for the smallest extensions to houses, boundary walls, etc.

### **Trees**

Tree coverage provides a vital aspect of the character and appearance of a Conservation Area, therefore they too are protected through legislation. Any work affecting trees within the Conservation Area requires six weeks notice to be given to the Council.

