

GREATER MANCHESTER PLACE NAMES



Compiled by
Richard West

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INTRODUCTION

It is now more than 50 years since the formation of Greater Manchester but there is still no full account of the place names of Britain's second-most populous county. Harland's gazetteer of 1862 gave the origins of many of the place names in the city of Manchester but, until, 1974, most of what is now Greater Manchester was included in Lancashire and Cheshire. The place names of these counties have been quite well documented but most of the books dealing with these place names either pre-date 1974 or ignore the 1974 boundaries and describe places as still being in Lancashire or Cheshire, despite the fact that Greater Manchester has existed for more than 50 years and now includes many places that did not even exist in 1974.

The present work explores the place names of Greater Manchester from the earliest, which probably date from the 7th century, to those which have emerged in the 21st century. It does not pretend to be comprehensive but is intended to be a first attempt to compile a guide to the many place names of our county. It is, however, very much a work in progress and it appears online so that others can contribute by filling the gaps and correcting the errors.

ENTRIES

Each entry consists of the following:

Place name: There is no hard and fast definition of ‘place’ – most of the places included are settlements or natural features, but streets and individual buildings are generally not listed, although there are notable exceptions. Obvious or derived names such as Salford Town Hall or West Didsbury are not included.

Location: Which metropolitan borough of Greater Manchester the place can be found in.

Date: When the place was first recorded, although many places may have existed for many years, even centuries, before we find any documentary evidence of their existence.

Variations: Variant names and spellings are indicated briefly.

Meaning: The literal meaning of the name where this is not self-evident.

Etymology: The derivation of each name, with the language of origin or the personal name of an eponym where known.

Cross references to other place names in the book (marked in bold) and to the appendices listing the locations of places depicted in the works of Lowry and Valette.

Boxes A number of place names which are related in some way have been brought together in ‘boxes’ at the appropriate point in the alphabet:

- ◆ Animals, fish and birds
- ◆ Domesday Book
- ◆ Woodland and woods
- ◆ Vegetables and vegetation

GLOSSARY

Aspirational place names are names that are consciously chosen to reflect the hopes that the inhabitants have for their future lives in that place. An early example is **Breightmet**, meaning 'beautiful meadow' and recorded in 1257. Later on, it was often a hope to escape from the 'dark satanic mills' of the industrial revolution in Greater Manchester. Examples include **Belle Vue**, **Fairfield**, **Flowery Field**, **Garden Suburb**, **Lark Hill** and **Hazel Grove**.

Eponyms are words derived from the name of a person. Eponyms are widely used as place names across the world. In the Greater Manchester area many date from the Anglo-Saxon period. In these cases, their names have survived far longer than any memory or record of who they were or what they did. Some eponyms are much later, dating from the 18th or 19th centuries – **Ashburys**, **Bridgewater Canal**, **Brooklands** and **Simister** – and in most cases we know the name of the person they are named for and often a lot about their lives and why they have been commemorated in a place name. The person whose name gives us the most eponyms in Greater Manchester is Sir Robert *Peel* (1788-1850), a former prime minister and founder of the modern police force, who was born in Bury and who is commemorated in **Peel Park**, **Peel Tower** and (more obliquely) the **Peel Centre** in Stockport.

Etymology is the study of the origin and history of a word, tracing it back to its original language and form, and often the date when it was first recorded. Many place names in Greater Manchester can be traced back more than a thousand years, with places derived from Celtic or Old Welsh (including the first element of **Manchester**), a few from Latin (**Viridor**, the second element of **Manchester**), Old Norse, Old English, Norman French, Modern French (**Belle Vue**), Gaelic (**Ducie Bridge**), Spanish (**Calamanco**), Greek (**Adelphi**, **Eccles**), Hebrew (**Jericho**, **Salem**), Catalan (**Montserrat**) and Arabic (**Etihad**). In a good many cases the etymology may be uncertain or even unknown. In these cases, this is indicated and different theories or suggestions are given.

Folk etymology is a false derivation which may be commonly believed but which is not true or accurate. Examples from Greater Manchester include **Adswood** (often said to be 'Adders' wood'), **Denton** ('Dane town'), **Gorton** ('gore town'), **Oldham** (said to be derived from owls), **Reddish** ('blood red' from an ancient battle), **Salford** ('salt' + 'ford') and **Wigan** (said to be from the Wiggin tree). Most notably, it is often believed that the first element of **Manchester** is derived from 'adult male', despite its actual female origins, and there continue to be campaigns to change the name of the city or its football teams.

Formalisation is the process by which disputed names or spellings become fixed by the need to choose one through a formal naming process. One example in Greater Manchester is **Bramhall**, where the 19th-century owner of the local country house insisted on Bramall without an H but the Manchester & Birmingham Railway chose Bramhall with an H when it named its station in 1845.

Gentrification Manchester was well aware of its grim industrial reputation and sometimes transferred place names from more affluent or fashionable and aristocratic areas in the south of England in order to 'gentrify' a neighbourhood. This practice was particularly common at the end of the 18th century, when names such as **Adelphi**, **Piccadilly**, **New Islington**, **Oxford Road**, **Grosvenor Square**, **Paddington** and **New Windsor** were all adopted.

Rationalisation is the process of altering the spelling of a place name so that it conforms to modern spelling and the name seems to become more transparent, even though it may have nothing to do with its actual etymology. A notable example is **Strangeways**, which is not derived from either 'strange' or 'ways'. It is actually derived from Old English *strang*, 'strong', and *waesce*, meaning 'flooding', but this meaning was lost and the modern spelling was adopted as early as 1326 by those trying to find meaning in its name.

Reduplication is a process whereby two elements in the place name mean the same, usually because the meaning of the first element has been lost. An example is **Platt Bridge**, where Middle English *platt* means 'bridge' and the addition of Modern English *bridge* is tautologous. Other examples include **Calderbrook**, **Cheadle**, **Glodwick**, **Pendlebury**, **Wardle** and **Whittle Hill**.

Transfer A number of place names in Greater Manchester have been transferred from places elsewhere. This may be because the original place had special significance (**Blackfriars, Maine Road, New Manchester, Whalley Range, Bruntwood, Richmond Hill**) or was the site of a military victory or defeat (**Alma Park, Bunker Hill, Crown Point, Gallipoli Gardens, Victory, Waterloo, Trafalgar Square**), or, most recently, celebrates the twinning of towns in Greater Manchester with European towns (**Armentieres Square, Peine Square**).

TIMELINE OF GREATER MANCHESTER PLACE NAMES

The timeline below highlights the main eras and dates in the history of Greater Manchester and shows how place names across the county exemplify the naming practices of its inhabitants at those times. The names in bold are included as main entries in the dictionary.

THE CELTS

c.750 BC onwards

The Celts were living in north-west England from about the 8th century BC but they were either displaced or assimilated by later invaders. Few of their place names survive. As elsewhere in England, the names of many of the rivers of what is now Greater Manchester are possibly of Celtic origin: **Calder**, **Douglas**, **Glaze**, **Goyt**, **Irk** and **Tame**. The area would have been sparsely populated but several place names provide evidence of Celtic occupation around Wigan: **Wigan** itself, **Bryn**, **Culcheth**, **Ince-in-Makerfield**, **Kenyon**, **Pemberton** and **Shevington**, and **Cheadle**, **Cheetham** and **Cheetwood** all share the same Celtic root (*cēd* 'wood'), suggesting that all were Celtic settlements at an early date, and it has been suggested that this area has one of the heaviest concentrations of Celtic names in England.

The Celts are also recalled in **Wallgate** and **Walton**, both derived from the Anglo-Saxon term for the Celts – the *wealh* (i.e. the Welsh).

ROMANS

AD 78 AD - 410

In AD 78-86 the Roman invaders built a fort that is usually said to have been named **Mamucium**, derived from the Celtic for 'breast-shaped hill'. The name was later Anglicised as **Manchester**, preserving the Latin *castra* ('camp'). The Roman legions abandoned their fort in about AD 410, but, despite this long occupation, there are no place names in Greater Manchester preserving the original Latin, although some seem to be translations of earlier Latin names. Suggestions that Manchester's River **Tib** may have been named after the *Tiber* in Rome may simply be fanciful.

Although there are no place names in Greater Manchester which are derived from Latin, there are several Anglo-Saxon names which acknowledge Roman forts: **Alport**, **Castlefield**, **Castleshaw** and **Littleborough**. Old English *stræt* in **Stretford** and **Trafford** refers to the Roman road to Chester.

ANGLO-SAXONS

c. AD 450 onwards

The majority of Greater Manchester place names recorded before the industrial revolution are derived from Old English – the language of the Anglo-Saxon invaders who spread over much of England from the 5th century onwards. They generally constructed their place names from two or three elements: a generic element identifying the type of place it was and another element coming first to distinguish it from others with the same generic element. So, for example, **Heaton** ('high village') was distinguished from **Lowton** ('low village'). The Anglo-Saxons used several main types of elements:

- ◆ **Eponyms** Many Anglo-Saxon places were named after leaders, but, of course, we know little or nothing of the men and women who gave their names to **Ardwick**, **Baguley**, **Cadishaw**, **Chorlton**, **Crumpsall**, or **Pilsworth**. It is often easy to spot an Anglo-Saxon eponym as any name formed with *-ing-* ('followers, people of') + *-tūn* ('village, estate, etc') is likely to be named after an Anglo-Saxon leader – **Brinnington**, **Dumplington**, **Partington**, **Pennington**, **Pilkington**, **Shevington**, **Torkington**, **Tottington**, **Withington** and **Worthington**. For some reason, there are no longer any Greater Manchester names with *-ing-* + *-tūn* to compare with Birmingham, Nottingham or Sandringham (but see earlier spelling of **Altrincham**).
- ◆ **Topographical** The second category of Anglo-Saxon place names is those derived from the geography of the area – the hills and valleys, rivers and streams, and moors and marshes. In the Greater Manchester area, these follow a clear pattern as the landscape changes from east to west:

- Moors** Moors are barren uplands that are generally unsuitable for agriculture. There are over 3000 listed places with *moor* as their final element, approximately half of them in Yorkshire. In Greater Manchester there are about 20 *moor* places nearly all in the east, on the edge of the Pennines and Peaks (**Moorside**). In the south of the county, the old Roman road to Buxton (the A6) marks a boundary, with **Great Moor**, **Heaton Moor** and **Woodsmoor** along the road and contrasting with the nearby **Shaw Heath** to the west.
- Mosses** To the west of the county are the mosses – bogs or swamps that often made settlement or travel difficult. The name and the phenomenon are distinct to north-west England, as Daniel Defoe noted: ‘On the road to Manchester, we pass’d the great bog or waste call’d Chat Moss, the first of that kind that we see in England, from any of the south parts hither. It extends on the left-hand of the road for five or six miles east and west, and they told us it was, in some places, seven or eight miles from north to south.’ The element is found in at least a dozen places, mostly but not exclusively in the west, such as **Barton Moss**, **Hale Moss**, **Kitt’s Moss**, **Moss Side**, **Mossley**, **Moston**, **Shadow Moss** and, somewhat corrupted, **Moses Gate**.
- Brooks** As we have seen, most of the major rivers in Greater Manchester have names which are probably Celtic in origin, but these are fed by countless muddy brooks flowing from the east, most of which have Anglo-Saxon names. These brooks may flow down steep valleys or *cloughs* (**Stoneclough**), gentler *dales* (**Rochdale**) or long *deans/-dens* (**Denton**, **Droylsden**, **Walkden**) with paths or roads, or meander round a nook or *halh* (**Bramhall**, **Crumpsall**, **Hale**, **Haugh**) or a tongue (**Tonge**, **Taunton**). The rivers and brooks were crossed by *fords* (**Salford**, **Stretford**, **Trafford**) and later by bridges – **Platt**, meaning bridge, is found from 1212 and *bridge* itself occurs in Manchester’s **Hanging Bridge**, dating from 1343. Settlements were frequently established beside these fords and bridges.
- Woods** The flood plain of Greater Manchester between the moors to the east and the mosses to the west was originally heavily wooded, although much of the forest had been cleared by the time the Anglo-Saxons arrived. We find many places that have *wood* in their name (**Woodley**, **Woodford**, **Woodhouses** – [see Woods & Woodland box](#)), but many more that are copses or *shaws* (**Audenshaw**, **Openshaw**, **Shaw**, **Wythenshawe**).
- Amongst the woods, settlements were established in clearings, and names with the element *-lee/-leigh/-le* meaning ‘woodland clearing’ are especially common (**Leigh**, **Cheadle**, **Edgeley**, **Romiley**, **Staley**, **Stalybridge**, **Worsley**).
- ♦ **Vegetation** There are many places named after different types of wood, although this is not always obvious – **Ashton**, **Beech Hill**, **Birch**, **Firswood**, **Hollins** (holly), **Horwich** (wych elm), **Ogden** (oak), **Sale** (willow), **Salford** (willow), **Withington** (willow), and **Wythenshawe** (willow). There are also names which are derived from the uses to which the wood was put – for making poles (**Bollinhurst**), brooms (**Bramhall**, **Brimrod**), staves (**Stalybridge**) and timber (**Timperley**).
[See Woods & Woodland box](#)

There are relatively few places named for other types of vegetation. Several places indicate that reeds or rushes, which could be used for thatching (**Thatch Leach**), could be found (**Broadbent**, **Lever**, **Reddish**, **Sedgley**). Some places are names

after vegetables – celery (**Agecroft**), watercress (**Kearsley, Kersal**), and wild garlic (**Ramsbottom**) – and others indicate that cereal crops such as barley (**Barlow Moor, Pemberton**) and rye (**Ryton, Ryecroft**) were being grown. [See Vegetables & Vegetation box](#)

- ◆ **Animals** The Anglo-Saxons also named many places after animals and birds, especially deer (**Hartshead, Hattersley, Roe Green**), goats (**Bucklow, Gatley**), pigs (**Boarshaw, Swinton**), cranes (**Cornbrook**) and hawks (**Hawkley**). Perhaps surprisingly in a region with so many rivers, there are very few places named after fish (**Compstall**). [See Animals, Birds & Fish box](#)
- ◆ **Directional** While there are several names indicating the northern location of places (**Norbury, Norley, Northenden, Northern Moor**), compass points were also used for distinguishing purposes: **Norden** (= northern valley) and **Sudden** (= southern valley), **Astley** (east Leigh) and **Westleigh, Haughton** and **Westhaughton**.

CHRISTIANITY

6th-7th centuries onwards

Christianity spread to the area of Greater Manchester in the 6th and 7th centuries and evidence of this is found in place names across the county, although little or nothing is known of the monks commemorated in **Monsall** or **Monton**, the priests in **Prestolee, Prestwich** or **Priestnall**, or the abbey in **Abbey Hey**. **Rooden** and possibly **Blackrod** retain the Old English *rōd* (meaning ‘cross’) before it was supplanted by the Gaelic or Norse *cross*, which is found in other, presumably later place names. **Eccles** is also thought to be a Celtic word derived from the Latin or Greek for an ecclesiastical gathering.

The only person from this early period of whom we know anything is St *Chad* (c.634-672), the Bishop of Lichfield in **Mercia**, whose parish covered the Greater Manchester area until 1541. St Chad’s Church in Rochdale, parts of which date from the 13th century and which may have been named in AD 673, is said to be the oldest church in the county, and St Chad is also commemorated in **Chadkirk** and possibly even **Chat Moss**.

Some of the Anglican churches built in Manchester in the 18th and 19 centuries (some of them no longer in existence) have given their names to districts (**All Saints, St George’s**), squares (**St Ann’s, St Peter’s**) and parks (**Angel Meadows, St John’s Gardens, St Michael’s Flags**). Non-conformist churches also coined names for districts with aspirational (**Fairfield**) or Biblical (**Jericho, New Earth** and **Salem**) names. Several other places which originally had Anglo-Saxon names were later rationalised as if they had Christian origins (**Abram, Moses Gate**).

VIKINGS

c. AD 900-1050

The Vikings settled in North-west England from the 8th century but sources differ as to whether Greater Manchester became part of the **Danelaw** or not. Certainly, the spread of the Vikings caused concern and legend has it that the **Nico Ditch** was built in 869-870 to guard against the Vikings: the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* records that in AD 923 ‘King Edward ... ordered levies ... to occupy **Manchester** in Northumbria, and had it repaired and garrisoned’ in order to meet the Viking threat. It also seems that **Bury** and at least some of the places with the *-bury* element (**Bredbury, Norbury, Didsbury, Pendlebury** and **Littleborough**) may have originally been fortified Anglo-Saxon settlements built to protect against the Vikings.

There is little place-name evidence of large-scale Viking settlement in what is now Greater Manchester: there is a cluster of eponyms in western Manchester (**Flixton, Urmston**) but nowhere ending in *-by*, the most common Norse element (as in Derby or Grimsby), not one *-toft* (as in Lowestoft), only one *-thwaite* (**Laithwaite**), and only one *-thorpe* (**Thorp** in Oldham). The only Viking name element that does occur with any

frequency is *-hulme* ('island, raised ground'): **Hulme, Davyhulme, Levenshulme, Cheadle Hulme, Oldham** (corrupted from *Aldholme*) and **Wolstenholme**. A *hulme* was an area of raised ground that would be particularly suitable for a settlement in an area susceptible to frequent flooding.

INTEGRATION & ASSIMILATION

Cheadle Hulme exemplifies Greater Manchester's almost unique mixture of the three linguistic traditions – Celtic, Anglo-Saxon and Norse: Cheadle (Celtic *cēd* + Old English *lēah*) + Old Norse *hulme*. Such names show how, over time, peoples speaking different languages and with different cultures came to live in peace together.

NORMANS 1066 onwards

The Norman conquest of 1066 meant that the official language of England became French, and it remained so until Richard II was deposed in 1399. Despite this, and the fact that Norman lords were given estates across much of England, Norman French had very little impact on place names in mediaeval England. Many of these lords took English names from the lands they governed, but a few Norman names remain today – Darcy (of **Darcy Lever**), Darnel (of **Darnhill**), Massey (of **Dunham Massey**), Norris (of **Heaton Norris**), Molyneux (of **Molyneux Brow**) and, much later, **Davenport** (in Stockport) and Grosvenor (of Manchester's **Grosvenor Square**).

However, the Normans impacted north-western place names in other ways, as can be seen from their *Domesday Book* of 1086. William the Conqueror sent his agents throughout England to list all the towns, villages and property, so that he would know what taxes were due. Domesday recorded 13,418 settlements throughout England and Wales, about 600 in Cheshire and Lancashire, but fewer than 25 in what is now Greater Manchester. Two reasons are normally given for this: William's agents did a poor job, simply omitting major places such as Stockport, Wigan and Bury. More likely, the Normans' genocidal 'harrying of the north' in 1069-1070, in which up to 75% of the population of the north were slaughtered, left many places 'Weaste' – uninhabited or of little value. [See Domesday Book box](#)

CIVIL WAR 1642-1651

Greater Manchester figured significantly in the Civil War: the war itself is often said to have begun when Royalists tried to capture the town and Richard Perceval of **Levenshulme** became the first casualty during street fighting on 15 July 1642. **Oliver Cromwell** is said to have passed through **Trub Smithy** at some point, and to have camped at **Oliver Clough** during the Siege of Manchester in 1643. In May 1644, the Royalist commander, Prince Rupert, camped on **Barlow Moor** before leading the **Bolton** massacre, in which 1500 Parliamentary troops and citizens were killed. On 25 August 1651 the Royalists were defeated in the Battle of Wigan Lane at a hamlet which became known as *Battling Wood*, which was later corrupted to **Bottling Wood**.

ENFRANCHISEMENT & CIVIL RIGHTS 17th century onwards

The first MP for Manchester was not elected until 1654 but the constituency was abolished in 1660 on the restoration of the monarchy as Manchester had supported **Oliver Cromwell** and the parliamentarians in the civil war. This situation lasted throughout the 18th century and in 1725 Defoe described Manchester as 'the greatest meer village in England. It is neither a wall'd town, city or corporation; they send no members to Parliament'. Despite the Peterloo protests, parliamentary representation was not restored to Manchester until 1832 and the first MP, Mark *Philips*, is commemorated in **Philips Park**. The right to vote was dependent on property ownership and in the 1860s, John **Platt**, a mill owner and the mayor of Oldham, gave his employees the **freehold** of their houses so that they could vote.

The right to vote was restricted to men until 1918, largely as a result of the suffragette movement formed by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters, whose campaigning is celebrated at the **Pankhurst Centre**. A much earlier milestone in women's rights is commemorated at **Womanscroft** Bridge in Bramhall, where, in 1637, a landowning *woman* who 'had a house with a small *croft* and *toft*' was given certain legal rights,

including being a juror and being 'exempt from the burden of repairing the bridge over Lady Brook, known as the Woman's Croft bridge'.

JACOBITE REBELLION 1745-1746

In 1745-1746 Bonnie Prince Charlie led a Jacobite army into England in an attempt to regain the throne that his father, James II, had been forced to give up in 1688. He reached Manchester on 28 November 1745 and is thought to have stabled his horses in Stockport, before marching on to Derby and then retreating to defeat at the Battle of Culloden. **Longsight** and **Tiviot Dale** are both said to owe their names to the Bonnie Prince and his army. It has also been suggested that **Scotland** in central Manchester was named because the Jacobite troops camped there in 1745, but this seems unlikely.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION & COAL c.1760-1840

The term 'industrial revolution' was invented in 1799 by the Frenchman, Louis-Guillaume Otto, and was applied to Britain by Arnold Toynbee in 1881. The industrial transformation of Britain in the second half of the 18th century and first half of the 19th had several causes, but chief among these was the availability and application of coal.

Several place names across Greater Manchester point to the early mining of coal and other minerals: **Cinder Hill**, **Collyhurst**, **Coldhurst**, **Cowlshaw**, **Delph**, **Pitses** and **Quarltun**. Daniel Defoe, who toured Great Britain in 1724-1726, described the widespread mining of coal between Wigan and Bolton, but the mines of the area were mostly shallow, with horse-powered winding gear. This early mine equipment is captured in **Gin Pit** village, where Gin is short for *engine*. However, the depth of mines was limited by the dangers of flooding, which was addressed by the use of steam pumps. One of the first of these was installed in 1749 in **Norbury** colliery, which was frequently flooded by the **Bollinhurst Brook**.

The other problem noted by Defoe was the remoteness from markets: 'they are remote; and though some of them have been brought to London, yet they are so dear, by reason of the carriage, that few care to buy them.' This problem was initially solved by canals, notably the **Bridgewater Canal**, which was built in 1759-61, halving the price of coal in Manchester, and becoming the forerunner of the national canal network.

Coal not only powered the industries of Greater Manchester; the region became a centre for the manufacture of textile machinery, industrial equipment and railway locomotives. Some of the manufacturers and engineers gave their names to places in the county, e.g. **Simon's Bridge**, **Whitworth Park**.

The last coal mines in the county closed in the 1990s, leaving only the Lancashire Colliery Museum at **Astley** Green and a legacy of dereliction and pollution. However, much has been done to transform the industrial landscape into nature reserves and conservation areas, notably the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**, where *flashes* are a local word for surface flooding caused by the collapse of underground mine workings. The **Three Sisters**, now a recreation area, take their name from former waste heaps at a local colliery.

'COTTONOPOLIS'

The term 'Cottonopolis' was invented in about 1851 but the textile industry started much earlier. The earliest mills, such as that at **Bowdon**, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, or those at **Milnrow** ('a row of houses by a mill') and **Quarltun** ('mill hill') in the 13th century, were almost certainly corn or flour mills. The textile industry seems to have been established by the 14th century, initially concentrating on flax (see **Crossacres**), wool (**Walkden**, **Walkers**) and linen (**Bowker Vale**, **Gigg**). The switch to cotton had begun by about 1725, when Daniel Defoe visited **Bolton** and noted 'that the cotton manufacture reach'd thither'. The rapid and large-scale expansion of cotton manufacture came later in the century with mechanisation, notably the building of the first water-powered mills at **Portwood** on the **Mersey** in 1732, at **Garret** by the

River **Medlock** in about 1760 and at **Thorp** in **Royton** in 1764, Crompton's spinning mule, invented at **Hall i' th' Wood** in 1779, and Arkwright's steam-powered mill at **Shudehill** in 1783.

The earliest mills tended to be named for the places they were built or the brooks that powered them, but many mills, and the villages and parks around them were named by and for their owners or their wives. **Knott Mill**, dating from 1509, is an early example and later examples include **Bealey's Goit**, **Drinkwater Park**, **Hallam Coronation Garden**, **Holt Town**, **Hope**, **Houldsworth**, **Langworthy** and **Eckersley**.

The First World War led to the loss of markets and the last mill in Greater Manchester and Lancashire – **Elk Mill** in **Royton** – was completed in 1926. Today, the only cotton mill remaining in production in the county is Tower Mill in **Dukinfield**.

RAILWAYS

1830-1880

The Liverpool & Manchester, the world's first intercity railway, was opened in 1830 with its eastern terminus at **Liverpool Road**. In the next 50 years, about 200 stations were built in Greater Manchester. Most were named after existing locations, but some were opened for new suburbs opened up by the railways such as **Altrincham**, **Chorlton-cum-Hardy** and **Sale**, and others, such as **Ashburys**, **Brooklands** and **Davenport**, were opened to serve communities named after individuals. In many other cases, it seems that the railways formalised the names or spelling of places which were not officially agreed: **Astley Bridge**, **Chequerbent**, **Guide Bridge**, **Hazel Grove**, **Heald Green**, **Howe Bridge**, **Mumps**, **Newton Heath**, **Rushford** and **Stoneclough**.

VICTORIAN ERA

1837-1901

The reign of Queen **Victoria** coincided with the rise of Cottonopolis, and many places were named after Victoria herself (**Victoria Bridge**, **Victoria Station**, **Victoria Park**, **Queen's Park**, etc), her husband, Prince Albert (**Albert Bridge**, **Albert Square**, **Albert Park**, etc), their son, the Prince of Wales (**Clarence Park**), and his wife, Princess Alexandra (there are at least four **Alexandra Parks**). Victoria's golden jubilee in 1887 is commemorated in **Jubilee Park**, and Edward VII's coronation in 1902 in **Coronation Street**.

PUBLIC PARKS

1846

It was in Greater Manchester that two of England's first municipal parks - **Peel Park**, named in honour of Sir Robert **Peel**, and **Philips Park** – were opened to the public in 1846. Over the next 150 years, many country-house estates were donated or purchased and opened as public parks, ranging from the very small, such as **Marie Louise Gardens** in south Manchester to the enormous **Heaton Park**, acquired in 1902.

CITY OF MANCHESTER

1853

Manchester had lost its MP in 1660 because it had supported **Cromwell** in the civil war, and it was not until 1832 that parliamentary representation was restored. This was followed by the granting of city status in 1853. As a mark of civic pride, plans for a new town hall were announced in 1863 and, at the same time, **Albert Square** was laid out as a memorial to Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, who had died in 1861. Also in 1853, the construction of the **Free Trade Hall** on the site of the Peterloo massacre of 1819 in St Peter's Square was begun to mark the repeal of the corn laws in 1846. In 1853, the City Manchester reached its peak as a cotton manufacturing city, with 108 mills.

SLAVERY AND THE COTTON FAMINE

1861-1865

The Lancashire 'Cotton Famine' occurred when the American Civil War cut off Greater Manchester's cotton supplies from the southern states of the US. In 1863, US President Abraham Lincoln thanked the Manchester cotton workers for their support for the abolition of slavery and his statue, with an extract from his letter, now stands in **Lincoln Square**. During the cotton famine, various projects were carried out to provide an

income for the unemployed textile workers, notably **Alexandra Park** in Oldham and the Haigh estate (now **Haigh Woodland Park**) in Wigan.

**MANCHESTER SHIP
CANAL**
1894

The first attempt to connect Manchester to the Irish Sea was the Mersey & Irwell Navigation, which was built in 1721-1724 between Runcorn in Cheshire and **Hunt's Quay** in the centre of Manchester. This was not a true canal but a waterway which improved navigation on the two rivers through a series of cuts and locks.

The Manchester Ship Canal is a 58-kilometre artificial waterway between Runcorn in Cheshire and **Salford**. It was built in 1887-1893 and was opened by Queen **Victoria** at **Mode Wheel** on 21 May 1894. It led to a considerable increase in trade and industry, notably the development of **Trafford Park**, the world's first industrial estate, in 1896.

WORLD WAR I
1914-1918

The military action of the First World War had little direct impact on Greater Manchester but there were Zeppelin bombing raids on **Holcombe** and **Greenmount** on 25 September 1916 and on **Wigan** on 12 April 1918. The Wigan raid killed seven people and a further nine were injured. However, the explosion at the **Hooley Hill** Munitions Factory on 13 June 1917 caused far more casualties, with 46 killed and hundreds injured. War memorials were erected after the war, as well as memorial parks such as **Broadhurst Park** in Moston, **Dunwood Park** in Crompton, **Gallipoli Gardens** in Bury, **Tandle Hill Country Park** in Royton, **Woodbank Memorial Park** in Stockport, and the **Albert Hill VC Memorial Park** in Denton.

URBAN RE-HOUSING
20th century

Urban overcrowding and slums led most of the councils of what is now Greater Manchester to build estates to re-house large numbers of residents in improved accommodation. The first was perhaps the **New Barracks** estate in Salford, built in 1901-04 and including **Coronation Street**. Many more followed in the 1930s, and most adopted the names of the farms, mines or areas where they were built – **Brushes**, **Johnson Fold**, **Langley**, **Linnyslaw Park** and **Limeside**. In some cases, new aspirational names were coined, e.g. **Abbey Hills**. A third option was to take the name of a local hall or its grounds and apply it to the whole new housing estate, e.g. **Polefield** and **Wythenshawe**.

CITY OF SALFORD
1926

Salford was granted city status in 1926 but this was not marked by any new civic buildings. However, city status coincided with the announcement of plans to build the first of a new type of 'super cinema' outside London – the **Ambassador**.

WORLD WAR II
1939-1945

Between July 1940 and July 1942, Greater Manchester was subject to repeated German bombing raids, including the 'Manchester blitz' of 22-24 December 1940. 684 people were killed, 2364 were injured and there was widespread destruction. Many buildings were damaged, and St Augustine's and **All Saints** churches were so badly damaged that they had to be demolished. Late in the war, on 24 December 1944, there were V-1 flying bomb attacks on **Abbey Hills**, **Tottington**, **Davenport** and **Worsley** which claimed 37 lives. **Whitehead Gardens** in Tottington commemorate these victims.

GREATER MANCHESTER
1 April 1974

The new county of **Greater Manchester** was created on 1 April 1974 from parts of north-east **Cheshire**, south-east **Lancashire**, and the **West Riding of Yorkshire**. It is composed of 10 Metropolitan Boroughs: **Bolton**, **Bury**, the City of **Manchester**, **Oldham**, **Rochdale**, the City of **Salford**, **Stockport**, **Tameside**, **Trafford** and **Wigan**. All of these except Tameside were pre-existing names dating from mediaeval times or earlier.

**METROLINK &
REGENERATION**
1992 onwards

Greater Manchester, and the City of Manchester in particular, have undergone widespread regeneration since the 1990s. The Metrolink tram system, now the largest in the UK, was opened in 1992 and not only preserves the names of older parts of the county (**Bess o' th' Barn**, **Pomona**, **Shadow Moss**) and closed or disused railway

stations (**Cornbrook, Derker, Failsworth, Hollinwood, Milnrow, Oldham Mumps**), but includes stops named after new areas (**Anchorage, Etihad Campus, MediaCityUK, New Islington, Salford Quays, Velopark**). The new skyscraper area to the south of Manchester city centre is becoming known as “**Manc-hattan**”.

However, regeneration has meant not just demolition and modernistic architecture. There has also been a movement towards the restoration and repurposing of mills and markets such as Manchester’s **Mackie Mayor** and Stockport’s **Weir Mill**, based on what has sometimes been called the ‘**Altrincham** model’.

CULTURES & LIFESTYLES Perhaps the stereotypical images of Greater Manchester are captured in the artwork of L S **Lowry** (see Appendix 1) and the TV soap opera **Coronation Street**. However, in the years since the war and particularly since 1974, new communities and cultures have emerged, and some of these have given rise to new place names. These were initially unofficial but some have now been adopted officially: **China Town, Curry Mile, Gay Village, Madchester** and the **Northern Quarter**.

A

ABBEY HEY is a residential and recreational area of **Gorton**, east of **Manchester** city centre. The origin of the name would seem to be ‘an abbey in or with an enclosed field’, from *abbey* + Old English *hecg* or *hege* (‘a hedge’). However, there is no archaeological or documentary evidence of an abbey or monastery in the area in mediaeval times, although a family with the name *Abbaye* is recorded in the area in 1320. With no definite record, the derivation is therefore usually said to be uncertain.

ABBEY HILLS is a district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. There is no abbey in the area, which was originally known as *Wabbow Hills* as it surrounded a farm of that name. It is assumed that *Wabbow* was the personal name of the original owner of the farmstead but no record can be found of him. In the 1930s a large housing estate was built in the area and the more aspirational name *Abbey Hills* was adopted.

ABBOTSFIELD PARK is a public park and miniature railway in **Flixton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. An **Abbot** family lived in the area in the mid-17th century and streets and localities were named after them. In 1889 a local cotton mill owner, James Stott, built a large family residence and named it *Abbotsfield*, which was taken over as a civilian hospital during World War II. In 1945 the house was returned to its pre-war owners, the Conservative Club, but the local park, the Flixton Recreational Ground, was renamed Abbotsfield Park to commemorate the work of the hospital staff during the war. The park is also known as **Chassen Park**.

ABNEY HALL PARK is an 80-hectare public park in **Cheadle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The park is set in the grounds of Abney Hall, which was owned by Sir James Watts and who named the estate after *Sir Thomas Abney* (1640-1722), a banker and Lord Mayor of London who had offered a home to his father in Stoke Newington for many years. In 1958 Abney Hall was sold to the local authority, which used the hall as Cheadle town hall and opened the grounds to the public.

ABRAHAM MOSS is a Metrolink tram stop in **Cheetham Hill** in the City of **Manchester** which was opened on 18 April 2011. It serves various facilities in the area – a community school, and a library and leisure centre – all named after *Abraham Moss* (1888/89-1964), who was Lord Mayor of Manchester in 1953-1954 and President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews at the time of his death.

ABRAM is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded from 1199 as *Hadburham*, but *Abraham* is recorded in 1372 and the modern spelling is found from 1461. The meaning is ‘homestead or village of a woman called Eadburg’ from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Ēadburg* + *hām* (‘homestead, village’). By the end of the 14th century the name had been rationalised from the Anglo-Saxon to the Biblical *Abraham*, which was later shortened to *Abram*.

ABRAM FLASH is a 40-hectare nature reserve in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that forms part of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. It is on the site of Abram Colliery, a coal mine which opened in about 1870 and finally closed in 1956. It takes its name from the village of **Abram** and *flash*, a lake formed by subsidence.

ACRES is an area in **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, formerly in Lancashire. The name and origin are not well documented, but there are several other places in the area with *acre* in their name, for example **Crossacres** and **Greenacres**. The origin, therefore, may well be Old English *aecers* (‘fields, plots of cultivated land’), which gives us the modern measure of land, which literally means ‘a measure of land which a yoke of oxen could plough in a day’.

MEASUREMENTS OF LAND

Several place names originate from or refer to various measurements of land.

ACRE: area of land which a yoke of oxen could plough in a day (= c. 0.4 hectares)

ACRES (~)

ACRESFIELD (~ + field)

CROSSACRES (cross + ~)

CUTACRE (eponym + ~)

GREENACRES (green + ~)

SOURACRE (muddy + ~)

BAMFURLONG (bean + ~)

FURLONG: the length of a furrow that an ox could plough without resting (= c.0.2 km)

HYDE (~)

HIDE: area of land that could support a household (= c.50 hectares)

CURRY MILE (curry + ~)

MILE: Roman unit consisting of 1000 paces of 5 feet (= c. 1.6 km)

MILE END (~ from centre of Stockport)

MILES PLATTING (bridge ~ from city centre)

ACRESFIELD See **ST ANN'S SQUARE**

ADELPHI is a locality in the City of **Salford** west of Adelphi Street and within the U-shaped bend of the River **Irwell**. The area was developed in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. In 1793, Adelphi Weir was built to harness the waters of the Irwell for a cotton mill. In the following years, print, dye and bleach works were built in the area, as well as swimming baths, all taking the name *Adelphi*. The name is gentrifying – one of a few areas in Salford and Manchester (e.g. **Piccadilly**) that adopted the names of fashionable areas of London. The original *Adelphi* area of London was designed and built by the famous architect, Robert Adam, and his three brothers in 1768-1772, hence the name, which is Greek for 'brothers'. Parts of Adelphi in Salford seem to have been fashionable – Adelphi House was built in 1808 as the home of a wealthy businessman and it is now part of the University of Salford. However, over time Adelphi became increasingly grim and industrialised, but today the area has undergone urban regeneration and is fashionable once again. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

ADSWOOD is a suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** and was part of Cheshire until 1974. The name is found from the mid-13th century as *Addiswode*, meaning 'Æddi's wood', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Æddi* + *wudu*. Suggestions that the name is shortened from Adders' Wood, a snake-infested royal hunting ground in the reign of King Charles II (1625-1649), are probably folk etymology.

AFFETSIDE is a village in the western area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is not well documented but the current spelling is first found in 1504. It means 'the boundary on the hill' from the Old English *ofes* ('border, boundary') + *side* ('hillside'). The hill is 270 metres high and the boundary is marked by Watling Street (not the old Roman road), which today marks the boundary between Bury and **Bolton**.

AGECROFT is a district of **Pendlebury** in the City of **Salford**. It is first recorded as *Achecroft* in 1394. There have been various suggestions for its name: one is that it is 'field of wild celery' from Old English *ache* + *croft*; others, perhaps more likely, are that the first element is *edge*, meaning 'brink', or *Ecga*, a personal name. Agecroft Hall, a Tudor country house, once stood in the area but it was auctioned off in 1925, dismantled and re-erected in Richmond, Virginia. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

AIGGIN STONE is thought to be a mediaeval stone marking the old boundary between **Lancashire** and **Yorkshire**, north of **Blackstone Edge**. It was first recorded in 1800 and various suggestions have been put forward to account for its name: it might be a corruption of *Edge Stone*, a rendering of the Latin *agger* ('pile, heap, mound'), or it could be derived from the French *aguille* ('needle, sharp-pointed rock').

AINSWORTH is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, also known as **Cockey Moor**. It is recorded in about 1200 as *Haineswrthe*, meaning 'Ægen's enclosure', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Ægen* + Old English *worth* ('enclosure, enclosed settlement').

ALAN TURING MEMORIAL is a sculpture erected in 2001 in **Sackville Gardens** in central **Manchester** to commemorate *Alan Turing* (1912-1954), who lived and worked in Manchester from 1948 until his death in 1954. The inscription on the memorial reads, 'Father of Computer Science, Mathematician, Logician, Wartime Codebreaker, Victim of Prejudice'.

ALBERT BRIDGE is an arched-bridge over the River **Irwell**, linking **Salford** to **Manchester**. It was built in 1843-1844 to replace the earlier **New Bailey Bridge**, and was named after Prince *Albert* (1819-1861), after his marriage to Queen Victoria in 1840 and the construction of **Victoria Bridge** in 1838-1839.

ALBERT HALL is a music venue in central **Manchester** that was originally built by the Manchester and Salford Wesleyan Mission in 1908 as the Albert Hall and Aston Institute. It was named after Prince *Albert* (1819-1861), the husband of Queen **Victoria**, and the principal donor, Edward *Aston* (1840-1911). It was closed in 1969 and in 1999 it was converted into a nightclub named Brannigan's after the Irish policeman and boxer, James Christopher *Brannigan* (1910-1986). The club closed in 2011 and the building was refurbished as a music hall, re-opening as Albert Hall in 2013.

ALBERT HILL VC MEMORIAL PARK is a small public park and garden of remembrance in **Denton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It was opened on 22 May 1958 and commemorates *Albert Hill* (1895-1971), who lived in Denton from 1907 till 1923 and won the Victoria Cross during the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

ALBERT PARK is a 6-hectare public park in **Broughton** in the City of **Salford**. It was opened in 1877 and named in memory of Prince *Albert*, Queen **Victoria**'s husband, who had died in 1861.

ALBERT PARK is a residential area of West **Didsbury** in the City of **Manchester**, about 6.5 kilometres south of the city centre. The area was developed as an affluent housing area in 1862-70 and named after Prince *Albert*, Queen **Victoria**'s husband, who had died in 1861.

ALBERT SQUARE is a pedestrianised space in front of **Manchester** Town Hall. It was laid out in 1863-1864 as a memorial to Queen **Victoria**'s husband, Prince *Albert*, who had died in 1861, and to provide a fitting location for a statue of Albert which had been commissioned the city. Victoria was invited to open the Square but declined, and she also declined to open the Town Hall when it was completed in 1877. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

ALDER FOREST is a residential area in **Eccles** in the City of **Salford** that also includes the 8.23-hectare Alder Forest Playing Field. There is little documentation relating to the name and its derivation, but it clearly suggests the presence of alder forests in this area, the name probably coming from the Old English *alor*, meaning 'an alder tree'.

ALDERMAN'S HILL and **ALPHIN PIKE** are both hills in the **Peak District** overlooking **Uppermill** and the **Tame** valley in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The names are recorded only in the 19th century – 1817 and 1842 respectively – but are taken from a local legend of two **Saddleworth** giants called *Alder* and *Alphin* who fought a battle over a water nymph called Rimon who lived in **Chew Brook**. They threw boulders across the valley (see **Pots and Pans**) and Alphin was killed, while Rimon, who loved Alphin, killed herself.

ALEXANDRA PARK, Edgeley is a 24-hectare park in the Borough of **Stockport**. It was laid out in the grounds of what had been Edgeley House and was opened to the public as Alexandra Park in 1870. It was named after Princess *Alexandra* (1844-1925), who married the Prince of Wales in 1863. On Queen Victoria's death in 1901, he became King Edward VII and she became Queen Alexandra.

ALEXANDRA PARK, Moss Side is a 24-hectare public park in **Whalley Range** and **Moss Side** in the City of **Manchester**. The site was purchased by Manchester Corporation in 1864 from William **Egerton** and opened to the public in 1870. It was named after Princess *Alexandra* (1844-1925), who had married the Prince of Wales in 1863, and who became Queen Alexandra on Queen **Victoria**'s death in 1901.

ALEXANDRA PARK, Oldham is a 23-hectare public park in **Glodwick** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It was laid out in 1863-1865 as a way of giving work to textile workers during the Lancashire Cotton Famine of 1861-1865, when cotton could not be imported from the southern United States because of the American Civil War. It was opened on 28 August 1865 and named after Princess *Alexandra* (1844-1925), who had married the Prince of Wales in 1863, and who became Queen Alexandra on Queen **Victoria**'s death in 1901.

ALEXANDRA PARK, Wigan is a 7-hectare public park in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. It was laid out on land donated by Colonel Henry Blundell-Hollinshead-Blundell (1831-1906) and opened in April 1903. It was named after Queen *Alexandra*, who became queen in 1901 when her husband succeeded Queen **Victoria** as King Edward VII.

ALKRINGTON or **ALKINGTON GARDEN VILLAGE** is a suburb of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is recorded in 1212 as *Alkinton*, meaning 'the village of *Alhhere*'s people', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + Old English *-ing-* ('belonging to; followers of') + *tūn* ('enclosure, village').

ALL SAINTS is a district in central **Manchester**, part of which now forms the All Saints Campus of Manchester Metropolitan University. It is one of the few place names in Greater Manchester with an overtly religious origin, taking its name from the Anglican All Saints Church, which was completed in 1820. The church was badly damaged in the blitz of December 1940 and was demolished in 1946. The graveyard had been made into a

children's playground in the 1930s and now forms part of the park in **Grosvenor Square**. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

ALMA PARK is a residential area of the City of **Manchester**, south-east of the city centre. The name is not well documented but, along with numerous other places in Britain, it commemorates the Battle of *Alma* on 20 September 1854 during the Crimean War.

ALPHIN PIKE See **ALDERMAN'S HILL**

ALPORT was a district in central **Manchester** to the south of what is now **Deansgate** (which was formerly known as Alport Street). The name first appears in 1281 and can be explained as meaning simply 'old town', from Old English *ald* + *port*. However, the area was close to the old Roman garrison and it may be that *port* in this context meant 'walled town or fort'. The area was demolished in the 1890s.

ALT is a village in the Borough of **Oldham** that was formerly in **Lancashire**. It is recorded in about 1190 and is said to take its name from the Celtic *allt* meaning 'hill or hillside'. The name does not seem to be related to that of the River Alt in Merseyside.

ALTRINCHAM is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that was formerly in **Cheshire**. It is recorded in 1290 as *Aldringeham* and with its modern spelling from 1321. It means 'the village of *Aldhere's* people' from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *-inga-* ('followers of') + *hām* ('homestead, village'). Altrincham is one of the few places in Greater Manchester with the *hām* element.

HAM

*The Old English element **hām**, meaning 'homestead, village', seems to be more unusual in what is now Greater Manchester than further south in England, with only six examples listed:*

ALTRINCHAM (eponym + ~)	DUNHAM (hill + ~)
CHEETHAM (wood + ~)	IRLAM (angry + stream + ~)
CHESHAM (gravelly place + ~)	THORNHAM (thorn + ~)

The AMBASSADOR was a 'super cinema' and variety theatre in **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford**. The announcement of plans to build the new theatre – the first of a new generation of cinemas to be built outside London – coincided with the granting of city status to Salford in 1926. It opened on Christmas Eve 1928 and was, like many theatres and cinemas at the time, named the Ambassador. The original *Ambassadors Theatre* was built in London in 1913 and named after the first British ambassadors – the word dates from the 14th century but it was only in 1893 that it was adopted as an official diplomatic title and theatres saw themselves as ambassadors for drama and the arts. The Ambassador in Salford became a bingo hall in 1961 and was demolished in 2004.

AMBERSWOOD is a 160-hectare nature reserve in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that forms one of the sites of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. It occupies the site of *Amberswood* Colliery, which began operations in 1855 and closed down as an opencast mine in 1988. The name is not well documented before the opening of the mine in 1855 and the railway station in 1872. The name may literally mean 'wood where amber is found', from the Norman-French *aumbre* + Old English *wudu*, but there are no place names in England listed with this derivation – the others are either eponyms or take their names from the Old English *amore*, meaning 'bunting bird'.

ANCHORAGE is a Metrolink tram stop in **Salford Quays** which was opened on 6 December 1999. It takes its name from the *Anchorage* residential and commercial block located at the end of Erie Basin that was constructed in 1991. All the basins and localities in the redeveloped Salford Quays are named after places in North America, and so the Anchorage block is presumably named after *Anchorage*, Alaska. Anchorage in Alaska was originally named *Anchor Point* by Captain James Cook in 1778 but was later renamed *Anchorage*.

ANCOATS is an inner-city suburb of **Manchester** that was first recorded in 1212 as *Einecote*. Its original meaning seems to 'lonely huts or cottages' from Old English *āna*, 'lonely' + *cot*, 'cottage'.

ANGEL MEADOW is a 3-hectare public park in central **Manchester** close to **Victoria** station. It is set in what was an affluent area, which took its name from St Michael and All *Angels* Church, which was built in 1788, but it became one of the city's worst slums in the 19th century. The area was cleared in the 1960s and Angel Meadow was laid out in 2004. See also **St Michael's Flags and Angel Meadow Park**.

ANIMALS, FISH & BIRDS

The Anglo-Saxons named many of their places after animals and other creatures. Some of the animals were clearly wild (wolves, hares and cats) while others were livestock kept for eggs, meat or milk, particularly pigs and goats. There are very few places in England named after fish and Greater Manchester is no exception – there is only one mention of fish. Several places are named after deer and hawks, reflecting the love of hunting that is hinted at in the Domesday Book entries for the Greater Manchester area.

AUSTERLANDS (sheep)	CROWCROFT (crows)	LOSTOCK (pigs)
BAGULEY (badger, small pig?)	CROWHILL (crows)	LUZLEY (pigs)
BICKERSHAW (bees)	DUKINFIELD (ducks)	PIETHORNE BROOK (magpies)
BOARSHAW (pigs)	FEATHERSTALL (cattle)	RAINSOUGH (ravens?)
BOARSHURST (pigs)	GATHURST (goats)	ROE CROSS (roe buck)
BOWER FOLD (boars)	GATLEY (goats)	ROE GREEN (roe buck)
BUCKLEY (goats)	GOOSE GREEN (geese)	SNYDALE (snipe)
BUCKLOW (goats)	HARROP (hares)	SWINESHAW (pigs)
BUTTERWORTH (butter)	HARTSHEAD (deer)	SWINLEY (pigs)
CATLEY LANE HEAD (wild cats)	HARWOOD (hares)	SWINTON (pigs)
COCKEY MOOR (cock?)	HATTERSLEY (deer)	THROSTLE NEST (song-thrush)
COMPSTALL (fish)	HAWKLEY (hawks)	UNSWORTH (hounds)
CORNBROOK (cranes)	HINDLEY (deer)	“WEATHERFIELD” (castrated ram)
COWHILL (cows)	HINDSFORD (deer)	WOOLLEY BRIDGE (wolves)
CRONKEYSHAW COMMON (cranes?)	HOOLEY BRIDGE (wolves?)	

ANNIE LEE’S playing fields in **Gorton** are after named after *Annie Lee*, who was leader of the **Openshaw** Labour Party from the 1890s and, later, a Manchester alderman. She died in 1945.

ARDEN PARK is a residential area of **Stockport**, north-east of the town centre and formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1260 as *Arderne*, perhaps from the Old English *eard-ærn*, meaning ‘dwelling place’.

ARDWICK is an area of the City of **Manchester** about 1.5 kilometres south-east of the city centre. The name is first recorded in 1282 as *Atheriswyke*, an eponym meaning ‘*Eadred* or *Æthelred*’s farm or workplace’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *wīc* (‘homestead, farmstead, workplace’).

ARMENTIERES SQUARE is a public retail and leisure area close to the Huddersfield Canal in central **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. Stalybridge was twinned with *Armentières* in northern France near the border of Belgium in 1995 and the square was named to commemorate this link. *Armentières* means ‘cattle of ploughing’ from the Gallo-Roman *armentum*.

ARNDALE CENTRE is a large retail centre close to central **Manchester** that was opened in 1975. Many Arndale Centres were built across Britain in the 1960s and 1970s, of which Manchester was the largest. The name Arndale was formed from the names of the owners of the company that owned it – *Arnold* Hagenbach and Sam Chippindale.

ASH BROOK, ASHBROOK HEY Ashbrook Hey is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, north-east of Rochdale town centre, which takes its name from *Ash Brook*, a tributary of the River **Roch**. There are several streams named Ash Brook in Britain, and all mean either ‘the east brook’, from Old English *ēast* + *brōc*, or ‘brook beside ash trees’, from Old English *æsc* + *brōc*. The village of Ashbrook Hey grew up around a farmhouse of that name dating from 1673, which adds Hey, from Old English *hecge* (‘a hedge’), to the name of the stream to indicate that it was enclosed with a hedge.

ASHBURYS is a railway station in **Openshaw**, about 5 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. Ashburys takes its name not from a location but from the *Ashbury Railway Carriage & Iron Company* of Openshaw which originally paid for it to be built by the Sheffield Ashton-under-Lyne & Manchester Railway in July 1855. company was founded in 1837 by John *Ashbury* (1806-1866) and moved to Openshaw in 1847. It was closed down in 1928 and the works were demolished in the early 1930s.

ASHLEY HEATH is a residential area south-west of **Hale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1746 and comes from the Old English *æsc* ('ash') + *lēah* ('clearing; pasture') + *hāth* ('uncultivated land of heather').

ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. There are several places called *Ashton* in Britain, all originally meaning 'ash-tree farmstead or village' and deriving their names from Old English *æsc + tūn*, but some have defining additions to distinguish them from other Ashtons. The situation was particularly confusing in the north-west as the Assheton family at one time owned what are now known as **Ashton-under-Lyne**, Ashton-on-Mersey, and Ashton-on-Ribble. The first record of Ashton-in-Makerfield is in 1212 as *Eston*. Most sources state vaguely that 'in-Makerfield' was added at a later date, but it was certainly in use by 1589, when the grammar school was founded. **Makerfield** is derived from an old Celtic name for a wall or ruin + Old English *feld*, meaning 'open land'.

ASHTON MOSS is a residential area west of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is uncertain when the separate name evolved but the *moss* or bog land of the area was drained and cultivated in the 1830s and the Ashton or New Moss Colliery was opened in 1881. The colliery closed in 1959.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. There are several places called *Ashton* in Britain, all originally meaning 'ash-tree farmstead or village' and deriving their names from Old English *æsc + tūn*, but some have defining additions to distinguish them from other Ashtons. The situation was particularly confusing in the north-west as the Assheton family at one time owned what are now known as **Ashton-under-Lyne**, Ashton-on-Mersey, and Ashton-on-Ribble. Ashton-under-Lyne is first recorded in about 1160 simply as *Haistune* but is distinguished as *Asshton under Lyne* by 1305. Despite the spelling, *lyme* does not mean 'lime' but refers to the ancient Lancashire Forest and is ultimately thought to derive from the Celtic name for 'elm'. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

ASHTON UPON MERSEY There are many places in England named *Ashton*, all meaning 'farm or village near ash trees', and the situation was particularly confusing in the north-west as the Assheton family at one time owned what are now known as **Ashton-under-Lyne**, Ashton-on-Mersey, and Ashton-on-Ribble. It is necessary to distinguish them by identifying their location or some other identifying feature. Ashton upon Mersey is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** roughly 8 kilometres south of **Manchester** city centre. It lies on the south bank of the **River Mersey**, hence its name. It is first mentioned simply as *Ayston* in 1260 and *Ashton* from about 1284. In 1421 it is distinguished as *Assheton super Mercy*, as *Ashton on Mersee Bank* in 1577 and as *Ashton super Merseybanke* in 1584.

ASHWORTH MOOR RESERVOIR is a large reservoir in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** constructed in 1898-1908. It takes its name from the nearby village of *Ashworth* in Lancashire. The name means 'ash-tree enclosure' and is first recorded as *Esworde* in about 1200 and as *Asheworth* in 1347. It is derived from the Old English *æsc* ('ash tree') + *worth* ('enclosed settlement').

ASPULL is a village north-east of **Wigan**. It is first recorded in 1212 as *Aspul*, meaning 'hill where aspen-trees grow', from the Old English *æsp* ('aspen tree') + *hyll* ('hill'). The name provides evidence of aspens on high land in the area in mediaeval times, although today there are few trees.

ASTLEY and **ASTLEY GREEN** are residential areas in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in about 1210 as *Astelegh* and with its modern spelling from 1479. It is derived from the Old English *ēast* ('east') + *lēah* ('woodland clearing, glade') and could mean simply 'eastern wood or clearing'. However, it is located about 5 kilometres east of the town of **Leigh** and so it is likely that it actually means 'east of Leigh'. Astley gives its name to Astley Green, a village to the south. See also **Westleigh**.

ASTLEY BRIDGE is a residential area of northern **Bolton** that was formerly in Lancashire. As the name suggests, it lies on Astley Brook, which rises near **Halliwell** and then flows east to meet **Eagley** Brook to form the River **Tonge**. Astley Bridge itself seems to have been known by various names, including Ashwood and Lower **Sharples**, until the second half of the 19th century, and the name was possibly formalised by the opening of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway's Astley Bridge station in 1877.

The ATHENAEUM is a building, now part of Manchester Art Gallery, which was originally built in 1837 for the Manchester Athenaeum, ‘an institution for literary, political and scientific uses’ which included Richard Cobden, Frederick Engels, Charles Dickens and Benjamin Disraeli among its members and speakers. It was named after the London *Athenaeum*, founded in 1824, which in turn took its name from the Athenaeum in Rome built by the Emperor Hadrian (AD78-138), who named it after the temple of *Athena*, the Greek goddess of wisdom, in Athens.

ATHERLEIGH is a district of **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. *Atherleigh* was not an existing place name but was invented for estates that had been developed after World War I by combining the first element of *Atherton* with nearby *Leigh*. The name was formalised when the London Midland & Scottish Railway opened a station at Atherleigh in October 1935 to serve these residential areas.

ATHERTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, formerly in **Lancashire**. For much of the 19th century the town was known as **Chowbent**, and this name apparently continues in local use. In 1888 the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway called its new station Atherton Central. The name is first recorded as *Aderton* in 1212 and the modern spelling was first used in 1322. The meaning of the name is generally thought to be ‘a farm or village of a man named Æthelhere’, from the Old English personal name *Æthelhere* + *tūn*, meaning ‘farmstead or village’.

AUDENSHAW is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, about 8 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Aldwynshawe*, meaning ‘Aldwine’s copse’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Aldwine* + *sceaga* (‘wood, copse’).

AUSTERLANDS is a suburb of **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** which was previously in **West Yorkshire**. The name is recorded as Osterlands in 1722 and probably means ‘cultivated lands (Old English *land*) with a sheep-fold (*ewestre*)’.

AVIVA STUDIOS is a 13,300 square-metre venue for cultural events, exhibitions and concerts close to the centre of **Manchester**. It was constructed on the site of the former Granada TV studios and took the name Aviva in 2023 following a sponsorship deal. *Aviva* PLC is a British insurance company whose name is a palindrome based on the Latin word *viva*, meaning ‘life, alive’.

AVRO HERITAGE MUSEUM is an aeronautical museum in **Woodford** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It is built on the site of Woodford aerodrome and the factory of the *Avro* aircraft company. Avro was established in 1907 and took its name from those of its founders, the brothers *Alliott Verdon Roe* (1877-1958) and *Humphrey Verdon Roe* (1878-1949), who were both born in **Patricroft**. The company remained in production until 2011 and the museum opened on 13 November 2015.

B

BACKBOWER is a residential area of **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded as *Bower Fold* in 1831 and as *Bank Bower* in 1842. Its derivation is from Old English *banke* ('river bank, hillside') + *būr* ('cottage, dwelling'), so that Backbower means 'cottage on a hillside', referring to its position above **Werneth Brook**. See also **Bower Fold**.

BACK O' TH' MOSS is a residential area north of **Heywood** town centre in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but is recorded in the mid-19th century. *Moss* in this case is said to refer to a large meadow that was used for textile tentering or bleaching rather than the usual bog or swamp, although perhaps it had been a marshy area that had been drained. The higher ground behind Moss became known as Back o' th' Moss.

BAG LANE is a small village in **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented before 1831, when the Bolton & Leigh Railway opened Bag Lane station to serve the village, which was close to a number of collieries. The origin of the name is obscure – there are no recorded textile or bag factories in the area. One suggestion is that the name is somehow associated with the nail, screw and bolt industry which flourished in the villages surrounding Wigan from mediaeval times until the early years of the 20th century.

BAGSLATE MOOR is a residential area of **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in the 13th century as *Bagslade*, meaning '*Bacga's* valley', from an Anglo Saxon personal name + Old English *slæd* ('valley'). Bagslate Moor is 204 metres high and overlooks the valleys of the River **Roch** to the south and **Naden Brook** to the west.

BAGULEY is a residential area of **Wythenshawe** in the City of **Manchester**. It was formerly in Cheshire and is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Bagelei*, from *bacga* or *bagga*, which may be a personal name or the name of a wild animal, possibly a badger or small pig, + *lēah*, meaning 'woodland clearing' or 'enclosure'. See Domesday Book box

BAILEY See **NEW BAILEY**

BALDERSTONE is a district of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, south of Rochdale town centre. The name is recorded in 1323 as *Baldreston*, meaning 'Baldere's village', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *tūn* ('farm, village'). At some time after the 16th century the second element was rationalised as 'stone' to give the modern spelling of the name.

BALDINGSTONE is a village north of **Walmersley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is not well documented but the village is known to date back to the 12th century and it may be an eponym derived from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *ingas-* ('people of, family of') + *tūn* ('farm, village').

BAMFORD is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, west of the main town and north of the River **Roch**. The name is recorded in 1282 as *Baunford* and the modern spelling is found from 1284. The meaning is 'ford with a beam', referring to a wooden footbridge over a tributary of the **Roch**, from Old English *beam* ('tree, beam') + *ford*.

BAMFURLONG is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, south of Wigan town centre. It is recorded in 1442 as *Banforthlang*, meaning 'furlong or strip of land where beans are grown', from Old English *bean* + *furh* ('furrow') + *lang* ('length'). Together, *furh* + *lang* gave the modern measure of a *furlong* ('the distance an ox could plough without resting'). Bamfurlong is one of the few place names in Greater Manchester that makes reference to a food crop.

BARDSLEY is a suburban area of south **Oldham** that lies north of the River **Medlock**. The name is recorded in 1422 as *Bardesley* and *Bardsley*, meaning 'the wood or clearing of someone called *Beard* or *Beornræd*', from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *lēah*.

BARDSLEY GATE is a village south of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in 1842 but is almost certainly far older, probably sharing its origin with **Bardsley** in **Oldham**.

BARFOOT BRIDGE or **BARFOOT AQUEDUCT** in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** was built in 1765 to carry the **Bridgewater Canal** over the River **Mersey**. A second bridge was built alongside the first in 1898-1907 to take the Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway's line across the Mersey. The name is recorded in the 12th century as *Barfotehalt*, from the Old English *baerfot* ('barefoot') + *halh* ('nook, corner of land').

BARLOW FOLD is an area south of **Bury** on the River **Irwell**. Barlow is recorded in 1254 as *Barlowe*, meaning 'barley hill', from Old English *bere* ('barley') + *hlāw* ('hill', usually an artificial mound). Fold may be a later addition, from Old English *fald*, 'an enclosure for animals' or *fold*, 'a small group of cottages and farm buildings'.

BARLOW MOOR is a locality in south **Manchester** that is named after the *Barlow* family, who came from **Derbyshire**, where the village of Barlow was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Barleie*, meaning 'boar clearing' or 'barley clearing'. The Barlows moved to Lancashire in the 13th century and their manor house is referred to in 1254 as *Barlowe*. Their later home, Barlow Hall, was built in 1584 and now belongs to the **Chorlton-cum-Hardy** Golf Club. Barlow Moor is mentioned in May 1644, when Prince Rupert, the Royalist commander, camped his troops on *Barloe More* during the Civil War. Barlow Moor is mentioned as a 'chapelry' in 1870.

"BARNEY'S STEPS" See **COLLYHURST FOOTBRIDGE**

BARNSFOLD is a hamlet south-west of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. Barnsfold Manor Farm dates from 1659 and the name is eponymous: George *Barns* (died 1699) + Old English *fald* ('enclosure for animals').

BARRACK PARK is 2.2-hectare public park and sports facility in **Hulme** in the City of **Manchester**. It takes its name from the Hulme cavalry *barracks*, which were built in about 1817 and housed the 15th King's Hussars, who took part in the infamous 'Peterloo' massacre in **St Peter's** Field 1819. The barracks were demolished in 1914 and converted into a public park which was initially known as **St George's** Park, but was renamed Barrack Park in 1994. See also **New Barracks**

BARROW BRIDGE is a village in **Halliwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The land was originally owned by the *Barrow* family, whose farm was divided by **Dean Brook** with a bridge connecting the two parts. Some of their land was sold in the late 18th century to build a cotton mill. In 1830 the rest of the farm was sold, the mill demolished and two steam-powered mills were built. The workers were accommodated in a model village, which eventually became known as Barrow Bridge.

BARROWSHAW is a small residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, north of the town itself. The name is not well documented but is recorded in 1633 as now spelled but divided into Further and Nearer Barrowshaw. Today the area is divided between Higher Barrowshaw in the north and Near Barrowshaw in the south. The derivation is uncertain, but may be Old English *bearu* ('grove') + *sceaga* ('copse, small wood').

BARTON MOSS is a residential area of **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. It is recorded from 1196 simply as *Barton*, meaning 'barley farm or village,' from Old English *bere* + *tūn*. *Moss*, meaning 'bog or swamp', was added at a later date.

BARTON-UPON-IRWELL, also called **BARTON-ON-IRWELL** or simply **BARTON**, is a suburb of the City of **Salford** beside the River **Irwell** and the **Manchester Ship Canal**. It is recorded in 1196 simply as *Barton* but by 1277 it is found as *Barton on Irrewelle*. *Barton* means 'barley farm or village,' from Old English *bere* + *tūn*, and adding a reference to its location on the Irwell may distinguish it from **Barton Moss** or other Bartons in **Lancashire**.

River BEAL is a short river that rises north-east of **Rochdale** and flows about 15 kilometres north-west to join the River **Roch** at **Belfield**. The name is recorded in 1200 as *Bole*, which may be an old Celtic river name or a derivation of the Old English *bēag*, meaning 'river bend', which would aptly describe the meandering course of the river. The river gives its name to **Belfield**.

BEALEY'S GOIT is an artificial waterway east of **Radcliffe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It was built in about 1760 to take water from the River **Irwell** to Bealey's bleaching works. It takes its name from *goit* ('channel, stream') cut to supply the works built by William *Bealey* (1683-1763). The works were demolished in 1980 but the Bealey family donated their estate to the people of Radcliffe in 1925 and this is now **Close Park**.

BEDFORD is a suburb of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The town of **Leigh** was formed in 1875 from the merger of **Pennington**, **Westleigh** and Bedford. Bedford itself is recorded in 1201 as *Bedeford*, meaning 'Beda's ford', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Bēda* + *ford*, probably a ford across Pennington Brook.

BEECH HILL is a suburb of north-west **Wigan**. The name is not well documented but there was a large house called Beech Hill Hall in the area dating from the late 17th century, and the area was heavily wooded even in the mid-19th century. It therefore seems likely that the name can be taken literally to mean 'beech tree hill' from the Old English *bēce* + *hyll*.

BEESELEY GREEN is or was an area of **Worsley** in the City of **Salford**, and it now forms part of the **Roe Green**/Beesley Green conservation area. The name seems to date from the late 16th century, when a Thomas *Beesley* and his descendants farmed the area.

BEETHAM TOWER is a 47-storey commercial and residential skyscraper at the southern end of **Deansgate** in central **Manchester**. It was completed in 2006 and, at 169 metres, was at the time the tallest building in Britain outside London. It is named after its builders and owners, the *Beetham* Organisation, a property development company based in Liverpool.

BELFIELD is a district of **Rochdale** about 2 kilometres east-north-east of the town centre at the confluence of the River **Beal** and the River **Roch**. The River *Beal* gives its name to Belfield, which is recorded in 1310 as *Belefeld*, meaning simply 'the field by the River Beal'. The derivation of the river name is uncertain but a possibility is the Old English *bēag*, meaning 'river bend', which would aptly describe the meandering course of the river.

BELLE VUE is now a district in eastern **Manchester** that takes its name from the large zoo and amusement park that stood in the area until November 1987. This was originally opened in 1834 as 'Belle Vue Tea Gardens', taking its name from the French for 'beautiful view'. The site and its facilities were gradually extended but it went into decline in the 1970s and the last speedway event was held in 1987.

BENCHILL is a residential area of **Wythenshawe** in the City of **Manchester**, roughly 13 kilometres south of the city centre. Residential development started before World War II but the name dates from the start of the 14th century. It was recorded then as *Baginghull*, meaning 'the hill belonging to *Bēage* or *Bæga*', from an Old English personal name + *-ing-* ('belonging to') + *hyll* ('hill').

BENTCLIFFE was a mediaeval estate of **Salford** that is now recalled in Bentcliffe Park, a small neighbourhood in **Eccles**. Bentcliffe Mill was originally built before 1800 and was later part-owned by Friedrich Engels. The name is recorded from 1550 but was variously spelled *Bentcliffe*, *Bencliffe*, *Beancliffe* and *Beaucliffe*. The meaning is usually given as 'the cliff where bent or coarse grass grows', from the Old English *beonet* + *clif*, but clearly the meaning would change if an alternative spelling reflected the true origin.

BESOM HILL is a 357-metre high hill north-east of **Oldham** that also gives its name to a 9.5-hectare country park and Besom reservoir. The hill is known to be a place of ancient habitation dating back to the Neolithic period 7000-10,000 years ago but the name is not well documented. It is said to be taken from the Old English *besom*, meaning 'a broom made from twigs bound together round a handle', probably because it was a location for the twigs used to make besoms.

BESSES O' TH' BARN is a district of **Whitefield** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name was originally that of an inn owned by a landlady called Bess that was either near a barn or looked like a barn. The inn was originally called the Dog Inn or Bowling Green but was renamed in 1821 and the name was gradually applied to the surrounding village. The name was formalised by the London Midland & Scottish Railway in 1931 when a station was opened to serve a large new housing estate in the area.

BESWICK is an inner-city area of **Manchester** on the River **Medlock** that was formerly in **Lancashire**. It was recorded as *Beaces hlaw* in 917. The Old English *hlaw* meant ‘mound or hill’, and *Beac* is thought to be a personal name. The name evolved to *Bexwik* by 1200-1223, with *wīc* meaning ‘settlement or farm’.

BEXLEY SQUARE is a public space in front of what was originally **Salford** town hall. It is named after Lord *Bexley* (1766-1851), who as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster from 1823-1828 laid the foundation stone on 30 August 1825. The town hall was completed in 1827.

BICKERSHAW is part of **Abram** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, approximately 5 kilometres south of the town centre. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Bikersah* and *Bikesah*, meaning ‘bee-keepers’ copse or wood’, from Old English *bicere* + *sceaga*. It gives its name to the 247-hectare Bickershaw Country Park, which forms part of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**.

BILLINGE, **BILLINGE HIGHER END** or **HIGHER END** Billinge is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of St Helens in Merseyside, but Billinge Higher End (or just Higher End) is an area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** in **Greater Manchester**. Both were formerly in Lancashire but were separated in 1974. The name is recorded in 1202 as *Billing̃*, meaning ‘settlement of the people on the pointed hill’, from the Old English *billing* *billa* (‘promontory, point of a sword’) + *-ing* (‘people of’).

BIRCH is an area north-west of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is recorded in 1246 as *Birches*, meaning ‘birch trees’, from the Old English *birce*. This is one of the many landscape names indicating the types of trees growing locally in mediaeval times.

BIRKS is a small residential area north-east of **Oldham**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is not well documented but is said to derive from the Old Norse *birki*, meaning ‘birch tree’. This would be one of the many places in **Greater Manchester** taking its name from a type of tree.

BIRTENSHAW is an area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1277 as *Byrkenshaw*, meaning ‘birch copse’, from Old English *bircen* (‘birch tree’) + *sceaga* (‘copse, small wood’), referring to the ancient once-wooded landscape of much of **Greater Manchester**.

BIRTLE is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, west of the town of Rochdale itself. It is recorded in 1246 as *Birkele*, meaning ‘birch tree hill’, from Old English *birce* (‘birch’) + *hyll* (‘hill’), referring to a 282-metre hill nearby. The name is one of many examples of place names taken from the landscape of pre-Norman Britain.

BLACK CHEW HEAD is a hill in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** and, at 542 metres, the highest point in **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1468 as *Blackchew-hede*, meaning ‘black valley head’, from the Old English *blaec* (‘black’) + *cēo* (‘valley’) + *hēafod* (‘head, headland, river source’). The ‘valley’ refers to that of **Chew Brook**, which rises on its western slopes and flows to **Dovestones** Reservoir before joining the River **Tame** at **Greenfield**.

BLACKFORD BRIDGE is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** that lies on the River **Roch** just above its confluence with the River **Irwell**. The name is not well documented but it is thought that Blackford refers to an ancient ford across a Black Brook or dark river, i.e. the Roch, on the road between Manchester and Bury. The first bridge had been built by 1551 and the name *Blackford Bridge* is recorded in 1667. This bridge was replaced in the mid-18th century and a new bridge was built in 1903.

BLACKFRIARS is a suburb of the City of **Salford** on the River **Irwell**. It takes its name from *Blackfriars* Bridge over the Irwell and connects Salford with **Manchester**. The first Blackfriars Bridge was built in 1761 to provide access to a theatre in Salford. There are two related theories about its naming. One is that it was named after *Blackfriars Bridge* across the Thames in London, which was built in 1760-1769 and was itself named for a 13th-century Dominican monastery north of the Thames. The second is that it was named after the old Blackfriars theatres in London, the first of which was built on the site of the Blackfriars monastery in 1576. The original Salford bridge was demolished in 1817 and replaced by the present bridge, which was opened in 1820. Blackfriars is an early example of a transferred name and one which seems to have been intended to gentrify parts of Salford and Manchester.

BLACK LANE is a residential area north of **Radcliffe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is not well documented. It is evidently named after its position on a road going north towards the moors and the name was formalised by the Lancashire & Yorkshire when it opened Black Lane station on 20 November 1848.

BLACKLEACH COUNTRY PARK is a 50-hectare nature reserve just north of **Walkden** in the City of **Salford**. The name is recorded in about 1250 as *Blakelache*, although the location is difficult to verify. The name means 'black stream or bog' from Old English *blak* + *lache* ('boggy stream'). Modern Blackleach dates from 1778, when it was developed as an industrial site with chemical works. The polluted site was derelict by 1976 but was transformed into a nature reserve, which was opened in 2004.

BLACKLEY is a residential district on the River **Irk** in the City of **Manchester**, about 8 kilometres north of the city centre. Some sources state that *Blackley* is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, but the earliest record is usually put at 1282, when it is given as *Blakeley*, meaning 'black or dark wood or clearing', from Old English *blæc* + *lēah*.

BLACKMOOR is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in about 1210 as *Blakemore*, literally meaning 'black moor', from Old English *blæc* + *mōr*. Blackmoor is further west than most of the other moors in Greater Manchester and it is likely that the original meaning here would have been 'marshy land' rather than 'barren upland'.

BLACKROD is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, west of the town centre. It is recorded in about 1188 as *Blacherode*, meaning 'dark clearing', from Old English *blæc* + *rodu*, referring to the darkness of the clearing rather than the colour of the trees or the soil. A second, less likely theory is that the 'rod' might be the Holy Rood, the cross of Christ, from the Old English *rod*.

BLACKSTONE EDGE is a 472-metre escarpment in the **Pennines** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** on the boundary between **Greater Manchester** and West Yorkshire. It is recorded in 1291 as *Blackesteyenegge* and with its modern spelling from 1551. The name literally means 'black stone' from Middle English *blak* + *stān*, referring to the colour of the gritstone of which it is composed, + *ecg* ('edge'). This appearance struck Celia Fiennes, who rode up Blackstone Edge in 1698 and said that was 'noted all over England for a dismal high precipice'.

BLATCHINWORTH is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1276 as *Blackenworthe*. It might mean 'Blaeca's enclosed settlement', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *-ingas* ('belonging to') + *worth*, or it could mean 'bleaching area', from Old English *blæcon* ('bleaching') + *worth*.

BLEAK HEY NOOK is a hamlet of former weavers' cottages on **Saddleworth** Moor north-east of **Delph** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in baptismal records in 1813 and is descriptive, coming from Middle English *blæc* ('bleak, dark') + *hæag* ('enclosure') + *nōk* ('nook of land; triangular plot').

BLUE PITS or **BLUE PITS VILLAGE** was the original name for **Castleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented until the late 18th century, when the Rochdale Canal was being constructed and its highest lock was called Blue Pit from the *blue clay* extracted from a local quarry. The name of the village was changed to Castleton in 1875, when it became an urban district council.

BOARSHAW is residential area in north-east **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** which also gives its name to Boarshaw Clough, a 6-hectare recreational area and nature site. The name is not well documented but, according to local legend, the area was once a forest that was home to wild boar and in the 15th century Sir Ralph Assheton found a boar attacking Margaret Barton, a local heiress. He killed the boar and the two were later married. The event seems to have been commemorated in the name, derived from *bar* ('a boar') + *sceaga* ('copse, small wood'). Clough comes from Old English *clōh* ('deep valley'), referring to the valley of **Whit Brook**.

BOAR'S HEAD is a residential area in **Standish** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, north of Wigan town centre. It is said to take its name from a local pub dating from the 13th century and thought to be one of the oldest in England. Boar's Head lies close to the River **Douglas** at a point where the roads to Preston, Chorley and Wigan meet. The name of the district was formalised when the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway and the Lancashire Union Railways opened a joint station named Boar's Head on 1 December 1869.

BOARSHURST is a rural area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** close to the moors of **Saddleworth**. The name is not well documented but is recorded in 1583 and presumably means ‘the wooded hill where boars are found’, from the Old English *bar* (‘a boar’) + *hyrst* (‘wooded hill’), referring to the local wildlife and landscape.

BOGGART HOLE CLOUGH is a 76-hectare country park in **Blackley** in the City of **Manchester**. The name is officially recorded in 1893, when Manchester Corporation purchased the land for health and recreational reasons. However, it is evident that some of its elements may derive from earlier times: a *boggart* is a dialect word for an evil goblin or sprite dating from 1570 according to the Oxford English Dictionary; *Hole* may well be the house that was haunted by the boggart rather than a lake; and it is said that in the 17th century the area was known simply as ‘*the clough*’, referring to a wooded valley, from Old English *clōh*. Taken together, the name would mean ‘the wooded valley with a house haunted by an evil goblin’.

BOLHOLT is an area within the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** that also gives its name to a 20-hectare country park. The name is not well documented, although *Bolholt House* is said to date from the early 17th century. The name means ‘wood on a smooth, rounded hill’, from the Old English *bol* (‘rounded hill’) + *holt* (‘wood, thicket’). In 1969 Bolholt House and estate were converted into a country park.

River BOLLIN is a tributary of the **Mersey** which rises in the **Derbyshire Peak District**, flows through northern **Cheshire** and beneath **Manchester Airport**. It then forms the border between Cheshire and Greater Manchester before joining the Mersey at Rixton. The name is first found as *Bolyn* in about 1275. The origin of the name is unclear – one suggestion is Old English *bōl* + *hlynn*, meaning ‘a noisy river or torrent’. The river lends its name to Bollington in Cheshire: the *tūn* or ‘farm on the Bollin’.

BOLLINHURST BROOK is a tributary of the **Mersey** that rises in the **Derbyshire Peak District** and flows some 15 kilometres to its confluence with the Mersey near **Cheadle**. Its name changes at various points along the way. At its source it is Bollinhurst Brook, from the Middle English *bolling* (‘pollarding, the cropping of branches from the trunk for poles or wattles’) + *hyrst*, ‘a wooded hill’. It then becomes Norbury Brook (see **Norbury**), Bramhall Brook (see **Bramhall**), the **Ladybrook** (probably from ‘our Lady’, the mother of Christ) and finally the Mickerbrook (perhaps Old English *micel*, ‘big, great’).

BOLTON is a town, formerly in **Lancashire**, and a metropolitan borough of **Greater Manchester** since 1974. It was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Bodeltun* and as *Bolton* since 1307. Until 1838, the town was divided between Little Bolton and Great Bolton, with the two separated by the River **Croal**. In that year the two were amalgamated as a single municipality. The name is derived from the Old English *bōthl*, meaning ‘building’, + *tūn*, ‘settlement’. The name is quite common in northern England and is generally thought to mean ‘a new place’.

[See Domesday Book box](#)

BOOTH’S BANK is a residential area to the east of **Boothstown** in the City of **Salford**. It lies to the north of the **Bridgewater Canal**. The name is not well documented but an estate called ‘The Booths’ is recorded in 1323, meaning ‘a place with small huts’, from the Old English *both*. Booth’s Bank Farm is recorded in 1786, with *bank* meaning ‘the slope of a hill’.

BOOTHSTOWN is a suburb of the City of **Salford** that was previously in **Lancashire**. The name first appears as *Bothes man*, referring to Booths Manor, in 1500 and seems to become *Boothstown* only in the late 18th century with the extension of the **Bridgewater Canal** through Boothstown and the development of the coal trade. The original name of the Booths is derived from the Old English *both*, meaning ‘a small hut or enclosure’ used by a herdsman.

BORSDANE WOOD is a 26-hectare nature reserve in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. It was originally part of the great **Lancashire** forest and is first mentioned in about 1215 as a stream named *Ballesdenebroc*, meaning ‘Boell’s valley stream’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Bæll* + *denu* (‘long valley’) + *brōc* (‘stream’). Parts of the forest were acquired over the years but in 1931 a large area was donated to the local authorities and opened as Borsdane (sometimes spelled ‘Borsden’) Wood.

BOSDEN is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** to the east of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1248 as *Bosedon*, meaning ‘*Bōsa*’s Hill’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *dūn* (‘hill’).

BOTTLING WOOD is a 13-hectare woodland area and residential district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, about 1 kilometre north-east of Wigan town centre to the east of the River **Douglas**. The *Bottling Wood Colliery* had been established by 1800 and a hamlet with the name was recorded in 1827. However, the name seems older and is usually said to be a corruption of *Battling Wood*. The reference is to the Battle of Wigan Lane, fought on 25 August 1651 during the Civil War on the east bank of the River Douglas.

BOTTOM OF WOODHOUSES See **WOODHOUSES**

BOUNDARY PARK is a mixed-use sports stadium in **Oldham** and the home of Oldham Athletic football club. It was originally built in 1896 and named the Athletic Ground, but the name was changed at some point to reflect its position in north-west Oldham close to the town's *boundaries* with **Royton** and **Chadderton**.

BOWDON is a suburb of **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that was in **Cheshire** until 1974. The name is first recorded as *Bogedone* in the Domesday Book of 1086, where it is described as having a church and a mill. The name means 'rounded hill' from the Old English *boga* ('curved, bow-shaped') + *dūn* ('hill'). See

Domesday Book box

BOWER FOLD is residential and recreational area south of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded in 1840 as *Boar Fold*, meaning enclosure for boars', from the Old English *bār* + *fald*. By the 20th century, the name was rationalised to Bower Fold, which is perhaps more genteel.

BOWGREEN is a residential and recreational area of south-west **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is recorded as *Bowgreen* in 1647, probably referring to a farm round which the residential area developed in the 19th century. Bowgreen lies on low-lying ground between **Bowdon** and the River **Bollin** and means 'the green below Bowdon hill', from Old English *boga* ('rounded hill') + *grēne*.

BOWKER VALE is a suburban area of **Blackley** on the **River Irk** in the City of **Manchester**. The name is not well documented but is said to date from mediaeval times when cloth was bleached on the banks of the River Irk using sunlight, rain, sour milk and urine from nearby Blackley village. The process was known as *bowkering* and gave its name both to the village and the surname.

BOWLEE is a village on the outskirts of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. Bowlee is not well documented but was apparently settled in mediaeval times. The name is found elsewhere in England and is probably derived from *Bola* + *-lēah* ('wood, glade'). *Bola* could be a personal name or the Old English for a tree-trunk or log.

BOYSNOPE is an area of **Eccles** in the City of **Salford** on the north bank of the River **Irwell** and the **Manchester Ship Canal** with a tradition of waste disposal and, more recently, farming and recreation. The name is recorded in 1277 as *Boylsnape* and is thought to come from Middle English *bole* ('bull') + *snap* ('pasture').

BRABYNS PARK is a 36-hectare public park beside the River **Goyt** in **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It is laid out in a former estate that was inherited in 1749 by Elizabeth *Brabyn* (or Brabin). She and her husband, Dr Henry Brabyn, landscaped the grounds and built Brabyns Hall. Both grounds and hall were eventually purchased by Cheshire County Council in 1941 and the estate was opened as a public park in 1947.

BRADFORD is a district in east **Manchester**, about 4 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name was first recorded in 1196 as *Bradeford*, from the Old English *brād* + *ford* meaning 'broad ford' across the River **Medlock**, and distinguishing the place from a narrower ford in neighbouring **Beswick**. It remained a rural area until industrialised in the 19th century with collieries, an ironworks and brickworks. These all closed in the 1960s and the area went into decline but it has been regenerated since 2000 as **Eastlands** and the campus of the **Etihad Stadium**.

BRADLEY FOLD is a residential and commercial area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, approximately midway between **Bury** and **Bolton**. It is not well documented before the opening of Bradley Fold station by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway in 1849, but the name is probably much older, deriving from the Old English *brād* ('broad, wide') + *lēah* ('woodland clearing').

BRADSHAW is a village in **Turton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Bradeshawe*, meaning ‘broad, extensive wood or copse’ from the Old English *brāda* + *sceaga*.

BRADSHAW CHAPEL is an outlying area of the village of **Bradshaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1610 but it is likely that the settlement dates back to Norman times as it developed round an older church or *chapel* uniquely dedicated to St Maxentius, a Norman saint.

BRAMALL HALL is a country house in **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, parts of which date from the 14th century, set in 20 hectares of land known as Bramhall Park. The earliest parts were owned by the Davenport family (who gave their name to neighbouring **Davenport**) but it was sold in 1877 and acquired in 1935 by the local council, which opened it to the public. The hall takes its name from **Bramhall** village but Charles Nevill, who owned the hall from 1883 until his death in 1916, claimed that the Bramall spelling without an H was closer to that used in the Domesday Book of 1086. [See Domesday Book box](#)

BRAMHALL is a leafy suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that was formerly in **Cheshire**. It was included as *Bramale* in the Domesday Book of 1086, where it was said, ‘There is land for 6 ploughs. There is woodland half a league long and as much wide, and half an enclosure and 1 acre of meadow. He found it waste’. The centre of the village was below **Bramall Hall** at Bramhall Green where the **Lady Brook** bends but the opening of Bramhall station by the Manchester & Birmingham Railway in 1845 drew development about 1.5 kilometres west. The name means ‘corner of land where broom grows’ from Old English *brōm* + *halh*, and the name is recorded as *Bromhall* as late as 1577. Bramhall lends its name to Bramhall-by-the-Sea in North Carolina, USA, either directly or through the habitational surname of a local inhabitant. [See Domesday Book box](#)

BRAMHALL GREEN is an area of **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** to the east of what is now the main village, although it is where Bramhall was originally located. The name is recorded from 1831. The *green* is in a meander (*halh*) of the **Lady Brook**, which once provided power for a corn mill close to **Womanscroft** bridge. The village moved to its current location following the opening of the railway station in 1845.

BRANDLESHOLME is an area in **Bury** which dates from mediaeval times. The name is recorded as *Brandolfholm* in 1285 and some sources claim that this is from *Brandlesholme*, the family name of the landowner from the 12th to the 16th centuries. Others suggest that that name may be older – the *holm* (‘island, raised land’) of *Brandulf*, a personal name that occurs in the Domesday Book of 1086.

BRANDWOOD is an area of **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in about 1200 as *Brendwood*, meaning ‘the burnt wood’ or ‘the wood that has been cleared by burning’, from Middle English *brend* (‘burnt’) + *wudu* (‘wood’).

BREDBURY is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, about 3 kilometres east of Stockport itself and 13 kilometres south-east of **Manchester**. It is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Bretberie*, meaning ‘a stronghold built of boards’, suggesting that it was an Anglo-Saxon fortification. The name comes from the Old English *bred-*, meaning ‘board, plank’, + *byrig* (‘fortified place’). [See Domesday Book box](#)

BREIGHTMET is a district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. It is first recorded in 1257 as *Brihtmede*, at about the same time as workers from Flanders and the Netherlands moved into the area to establish a textile industry. The name comes from the Old English *breorht*, ‘bright, beautiful’ + *mæd*, ‘meadow’.

The **BRICK COMMUNITY STADIUM** is a mixed-use sports venue in **Wigan** and home to Wigan Athletic football and Wigan Wanderers rugby clubs. It was built in 1999 and opened as called the **JJB Stadium** after its original sponsor, which had been founded in Wigan by *John Jarvis Broughton* as a sportswear supplier in the early 1900s. It was renamed in 2024 after *The Brick*, a local charity.

BRIDGEWATER CANAL was the first industrial canal in Britain, and was built in 1759-1761 by the 3rd Duke of *Bridgewater* (1736-1803) to transport coal from his mines at **Worsley** to the centre of **Manchester** at **Knott Mill**. The canal was later extended from Worsley to **Leigh** and from Manchester to Runcorn. The dukes of Bridgewater took their title from *Bridgwater* in Somerset, a name which probably originally meant ‘Walter’s bridge’ rather than ‘the bridge over the water’.

BRIDGEWATER GARDENS are a 62-hectare public garden in the grounds of the former **Worsley New Hall** in the City of **Salford** opened by the Royal Horticultural Society in 2021. The name is taken from the **Bridgewater Canal**, which forms the southern boundary.

BRIDGEWATER HALL is a concert venue in central **Manchester**, opened in 1996. It is named after the Duke of *Bridgewater* (1736-1803) who commissioned the nearby **Bridgewater Canal**.

BRIMROD is a locality in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is first recorded in the 13th century as *Bromyrode*, meaning 'clearing among broomwood' from Old English *brom* + *-rod* ('clearing').

BRINDLE HEATH is a residential area of **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford** between the River **Irwell** and the **Manchester Ship Canal**. It is recorded in 1324 as *Brendlache* meaning 'a brown stream flowing through boggy land', from Middle English *brend-*, meaning 'burnt, brown', + *-lache*, meaning 'a stream flowing through boggy land'. Presumably this was a muddy brown stream or ditch flowing into the Irwell.

BRINKSWAY is an area of **Cheadle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** and also a network of caves that date from 1670, perhaps earlier. The name is taken from a road through the area from **Cheadle Heath** to Stockport meaning 'road at the edge or boundary', from the Middle English *brink* ('edge, bank, border') + *-weg* ('a path or road'). The road runs along the south edge of the **Mersey** valley, which explains its name.

BRINNINGTON is a suburb of **Stockport** north-east of the town centre. It is first recorded in 1248 as *Bruninton* but has its modern spelling by 1290. It means 'the village of farmstead of Brȳni's followers', from the personal name *Brȳni* + *-ing-* (followers, people of) + *-tūn* ('village, estate, etc').

BROADBENT is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, north-east of Oldham town centre. The name is not well documented but the surname *Broadbent*, which is said to be derived from the village near Oldham, is common from the mid-16th century. The name means 'reeds that are broad and bent', from the Old English *brād* + *beonet* ('bent grass').

BROADBOTTOM is a village on the River **Etherow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is first recorded in 1286 as *Brodebothem*, meaning 'wide valley', from Old English *brād* + *bothm*, which aptly describes the location of the village.

BROAD CARR is a rural area of **Mossley** in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is not well documented but may take its name from a local farm. The likely meaning is 'broad, rocky place', from Old English *brād* ('broad, wide') + *carr* ('rocky place').

BROAD EES DOLE is a wildlife park and nature reserve north-east of **Sale Water Park** beside the River **Mersey** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It was opened in 1987 and its name echoes its former uses: Old English *brād* ('broad, spacious') + *ees* ('wetland') + *dole* ('common land shared out among local people').

BROADFIELD is an area of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, formerly in **Lancashire**. It had a number of cotton mills in the 19th century but the district has little early documentation. Its name is derived from the Old English *brād*, meaning 'broad, spacious' + *feld*, 'field, area of land cleared of trees'.

BROADHALGH is a suburban area of **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in the 13th century as *Brodehalgh*, meaning 'the broad nook', from the Old English *brād* ('broad, wide') + *halh* ('nook or corner of land'), aptly describing its position on the meandering River **Roch**, which runs south of the area.

BROADHEATH is a suburban area of **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is first recorded in 1831 and is composed of two modern English words describing its location and landscape. The area developed following the extension of the **Bridgewater Canal** to Altrincham and Broadheath in 1765 and was initially involved in the supply of vegetables to **Manchester**. In 1885 Harry Grey, the 8th Earl of Stamford of **Dunham Massey**, gave a square kilometre of land to develop an industrial estate at Broadheath to attract engineering companies.

BROADHURST PARK is a recreational area in **Moston** in the City of **Manchester**. The land originally formed part of the estate of Moston Hall but in 1920 its owner, Sir Edward Tootal *Broadhurst* (1858-1922), a Manchester cotton manufacturer, donated 32 hectares to the City of Manchester to commemorate the First World War. United of Manchester built a football stadium in Broadhurst Park in 2015.

BROADLEY is an area of **Spotland** close to the River **Spodden** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in 1228 as *Brodelegghbrok*, meaning ‘a broad clearing by a brook’, from the Old English *brād* (‘broad, wide’) + *lēah* (‘clearing’) + *brōc* (‘brook, stream’), which describes its position on a small tributary of the **Spodden**.

BROAD MILLS HERITAGE SITE is a visitors’ attraction in **Broadbottom** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It occupies the site of Broadbottom Mills, a large textile mill originally built in 1802-1824. The name was changed to *Broad Mills* in the early 1900s. Much of the mill was destroyed by fire in 1949 and the site was purchased by the council in the 1980s to develop as a tourist attraction.

BROAD OAK is an area of **Worsley** in the City of **Salford** that also gives its name to Broadoak Park. There are several places named Broad Oak in Greater Manchester and Lancashire, all deriving their names from the Old English *brād* (‘broad, wide’) + *āc* (‘oak’). The name literally means ‘broad oak’ but may be a reference to a particularly large oak tree that marked a boundary. Broad Oak Park is used as Worsley Golf Course.

BROADWAY is a Metrolink tram stop in **Eccles** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Salford**. It was opened on 6 December 1999 and is named after a nearby road. The name of the road is recorded at least as far back as 1871.

BROMLEY CROSS is a village in **Bradshaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. This is an eponym, the name coming from the *Bromley* or *Bromiley* family, who were landowners in the area since the 16th century. The village developed in the 19th century but the name is older as the cross which is included in the name has long since disappeared. The family name would have originated from another *Bromley*, meaning ‘wood or clearing where broom wood grows’ from the Old English *brōm* + *lēah*.

BROOK BOTTOM or **BROOKBOTTOM** is a residential area to the west of **Mossley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name clearly means ‘the settlement in the bottom of a valley of a brook’ and is recorded in 1755. Today the brook, a tributary of the River **Tame**, is partially culverted but it is of historical importance as it formerly marked the boundary between **Lancashire** and **Yorkshire**, and for this reason it is (or was) sometimes referred to as the *County Brook*.

BROOKDALE PARK There are several places in **Greater Manchester** called *Brookdale*, all meaning ‘stream valley’ from Old English *brōc* (‘brook, stream’) + *dæl* (‘valley, hollow’). Brookdale Park in **Newton Heath** in the City of **Manchester** was originally developed as a personal estate beside the River **Medlock** by John Taylor JP in the mid-19th century. The estate was purchased by Manchester Corporation in 1900 and converted into an 18-hectare public park, opened in 1904.

BROOKLANDS is an area of **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, approximately 9 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre. Brooklands is an eponym, named after Samuel *Brooks* (1793-1864), who purchased land in the area in 1856. The name was unofficial at first but was formalised when the Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway opened a station named Brooklands on 1 December 1859.

BROUGHTON is a suburb of the City of **Salford** on the east bank of the River **Irwell**, approximately 1.5 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. There are several places called **Broughton** in Britain and the origins of the name may be different and hard to distinguish. The name is first recorded at this location in 1177 as *Burton*, but the spelling *Brughton* was in use by the 16th century. The name is usually said to mean ‘fortified village’ from Old English *burh* (‘fortified place, stronghold’) + *tūn* (‘village, estate’). (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

BROWNLOW is a rural, wooded area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, south-west of Wigan itself. There are several places called Brownlow in north-west England, none of them well documented. A school was built in Brownlow in Wigan in 1672 but the area was probably named long before that date. It means ‘brown hill’ from the Old English *brūn* + *hlāw* (‘hill, mound’). Brownlow is close to **Billinge** Hill, which is 179 metres high.

BROWNLOW FOLD is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, north-west of Bolton town centre. The name dates from the early 17th century when the land was owned by the *Brownlow* family, the same family that owned **Hall i' th' Wood**. *Fold* refers to a small group of cottages and farm buildings. In the 19th century the name became applied to a broader area as the neighbourhood expanded around a colliery and brickworks.

BRUNSWICK is a district in the City of **Manchester**, south of the city centre. It takes its name from *Brunswick Street* (now Brunswick Park), which lies a little to the north and was laid out in the 1880s with the expansion of the campus of the University of Manchester. Brunswick is the anglicised version of the city of *Braunschweig* ('Bruno's settlement') in northern Germany. German influence in the city and the university was very strong at this time and the first use of this name was Brunswick Mill in **Ancoats**, which was opened in 1840.

BRUNTWOOD PARK is a 40-hectare public park in **Cheadle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name dates from 1860, when John Douglas, a Bradford wool merchant, purchased land in the area and laid out an estate and hall which he named Bruntwood, apparently celebrating his wife's Scottish home in *Bruntwood* in Ayrshire. The local authority purchased the estate in 1944, using the hall as Cheadle and Gatley town hall and opening the grounds to the public as Bruntwood Park.

BRUSHES is a residential area to the east of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** with housing estates developed between 1929 and 1939. It also gives its name to Brushes Reservoir, one of four built locally in the 19th century. The name is recorded in 1770 as *Bruches*, meaning 'lands newly-cleared for cultivation', from the Old English *bryce*.

BRYN is a suburb of **Ashton-in-Makerfield** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in 1212 as *Burnal*, meaning 'scorched land', perhaps land cleared by burning the surrounding forest, from the Old English *bryne* ('burning, fire'). Older sources suggest the name may be Celtic or Welsh in origin from *bryn* meaning 'hill'.

BRYN GATES is a village and airfield north-east of **Ashton-in-Makerfield** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented but Bryn Gates sits on the Bolton Road and it has been suggested that the name refers to turnpike gates on the road between **Bolton** and **Bryn**.

BUCKLEY is a suburb on the north-eastern edge of **Rochdale** beside Buckley Brook. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Bukele* and is usually said to mean 'the clearing or meadow of the bucks', from Old English *bucca* ('he-goat') + *lēah* ('clearing, meadow'). However, it has also been suggested that the name could be taken from *Buckley* family, who were resident in the area in the Norman period.

BUCKLOW is a residential area that was split in 1974 between **Cheshire** and the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** in **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1240 as *Boclou* and various suggestions have been made for its origin: 'beech hill' from Old English *bece* ('beech-tree') + *hlāw* ('mound'); 'buck's hill' from *bucca* ('he-goat') + *hlāw*; or 'Bucca's hill' from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *hlāw*.

BUCKTON CASTLE was a Norman castle north-east of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** atop Buckton Hill, overlooking Buckton Moor and the **Tame** valley. It was probably built and then demolished in the 12th century, and nothing is visible today but the thick sandstone foundations have been excavated. The name means 'buck valley' from Old English *bucca* ('buck') + *denu* ('valley').

BUERSILL is a residential area in eastern **Castleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1228 as *Brideshull*, meaning 'Bridd's hill', from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *hyll*, referring to its position at the foot of a hill.

BUILE HILL PARK is a 35-hectare public park in **Salford**. The present park combines several earlier parks and estates: **Seedley** Park (opened in 1876), Buile Hill Mansion (opened in 1903), Springfield Villa (1927) and Hart Hill House (opened in 1938). The park includes Buile Hill House, originally built in 1827 as the home of Sir Thomas Potter, the first Lord Mayor of **Manchester** and co-founder of the *Manchester Guardian*, is now awaiting restoration. The name Buile Hill is not well documented before 1598, but it is likely that it is an eponym. The

family name of *Buile* means ‘dweller among the birch trees’ and originated in France, but no one with this family name has been traced in the Salford area.

BULLOCK SMITHY was the original name for what is now **Hazel Grove** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. In 1560 a certain Richard *Bullock* leased some land from a Richard Torkington to establish a smithy, and the area became known as *Bullock’s Smithy*. The village acquired a bad reputation and was said to be known for gambling, cock-fighting and dog and bull baiting, so that John Wesley described it as ‘One of the most famous villages in the country for all manner of wickedness’. In 1835 the villagers decided to change the name to the more aspirational **Hazel Grove**.

BUNKER HILL, Rochdale and **BUNKERS HILL, Stockport** There are hills across England named Bunker Hill, Bunkers Hill or Bunker’s Hill, all believed to commemorate the costly British victory at the *Battle of Bunker Hill* in 1775 during the American War of Independence. Bunker Hill in Massachusetts is named after George *Bunker*, a settler from Bedfordshire who was given the land in 1634.

BURNAGE is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** roughly 6.5 kilometres south of the city centre. It is first recorded in 1322 as *Bronage* and *Brownegg*, thought to mean ‘brown (Old English *brūn*) hedges (*hegge*)’, although these may in fact have been brown stone walls. It remained a rural village throughout the 19th century and in 1894 George Bernard Shaw described Burnage as the prettiest village in Manchester. There was some industrialisation in the early 20th century and the opening of Burnage station by the London & North Western Railway in 1910 led to suburban development.

BURNDEN is a suburb of **Bolton** about 2 kilometres south-east of the town centre. It is first recorded in 1285 as *Bornden*, meaning ‘the valley where the stream flows’ from the Old English *burna-* (‘brook’) + *-denu* (‘valley’). The stream is Burnden Brook, a tributary of the **River Croal**. The Bolton Wanderers’ football stadium was built in Burnden in 1894 but was moved to the **Toughsheet Stadium** in 1997. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

BURNEDGE is a residential area south-east of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded as *Brynege* in 1609 and means ‘burnt edge’, from Old English *brende* (‘a burnt place, a place destroyed or cleared by burning’) + *ecg* (‘edge; the edge of a hill, an escarpment’), referring to its position above **Sudden Brook**.

BURRS COUNTRY PARK is a 36-hectare public park on the River **Irwell** north of **Bury** town centre. Textile mills were built at Burrs from 1792 and the last was demolished in 1982. In 1986 the area was purchased by the Metropolitan Borough of Bury and converted into a country park. The name is not well documented but comes from the Old English *burh* meaning ‘a fortified place’, referring to a late Iron Age fort dating from the 5th century BC that was occupied by the Romans and, later, the Anglo-Saxons, who gave it its present name.

BURTON ROAD is a Metrolink tram stop in West **Didsbury** in south **Manchester** opened on 23 May 2013 and named after the Victorian street it is located on, which probably took its name from the earlier *Burton Farm*.

BURY is a town, formerly in **Lancashire**, on a finger of land between the rivers **Irwell** and **Roch** about 14.5 kilometres north-north-west of **Manchester** city centre. It became a metropolitan borough with the creation of **Greater Manchester** in 1974. The name is first recorded in 1194 as *Biri* and with its modern spelling in about 1190. It means ‘at the fort’, from the Old English *burg*, although it is not known which fortification is referred to. Bury gives its name to Bury in Quebec, Canada.

BURY

To ward off the Viking threat, the Saxons built fortified settlements. These can be identified by the Old English element, which appears in two forms – bury and borough. A number of these are found in what is now Greater Manchester.

BREDBURY (board + ~)

LITTLEBOROUGH (liddle + ~)

BROUGHTON (~ + ton)

NORBURY (north + ~)

BURRS COUNTRY PARK (~)

PENDELBURY (hill + ~)

DIDSBURY (eponym + ~)

BUSK is a residential area in **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before the construction of the Busk cotton mill in 1847, but would seem be much older. It may possibly derive from the Old Norse *buskr* or the Old English *busc*, both meaning ‘a bush, a shrub’.

BUTLER GREEN is a residential area of **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, also known as **Washbrook**. The name is not well documented before 1863, when the *Butler Green Cotton Mill* was erected by

the Butler Green Cotton Spinning Company of Chadderton, suggesting that the village took its name from that of the company.

BUTTERWORTH is a suburb in south-eastern **Rochdale**. It is first recorded in 1235 as *Buterworth*, meaning 'butter or dairy farm', from Old English *butere* ('butter') + *worth* ('homestead, enclosure').

The BUTTS today is a commercial area in the centre of **Rochdale**. It is not well-documented but in the 19th century it was an area on the north bank of the River **Roch** beside a ford across the river. It is believed to date from mediaeval times, when it was an area set aside for archery practice. The name comes from the middle English *butt*, which was derived from the Anglo-French *bouter*, meaning 'expel'. The term originally meant the archery target itself but the meaning was extended to include an area used for archery, especially after a law of 1252 required every adult male to possess and become proficient in the use of a longbow.

C

CADISHEAD is a village in the City of **Salford** on the north bank of the **Manchester Ship Canal** near the confluence of the **Glazebrook** and **Irwell**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Cadewalesate*. There have been various suggestions as to the origin and meaning of the name, the most common being that it means 'settlement or pasture (Old English *-set*) by the stream (*-waella-*) of someone called *Cada*'.

CADSHAW BROOK, with Cadshaw Brook waterfall, is a stream running off Turton Moors and flowing into **Turton** and Entwistle Reservoir. Cadshaw Brook takes its name from the village of Cadshaw in Lancashire. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Cadeshoubroc* and evolved into *Cadshawe* by 1617 – an eponym meaning 'Cada's copse', from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *sceaga* ('small wood, copse').

CALAMANCO was an industrial area of **Flixton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that seems to have disappeared from the maps. The name originates from the water-powered *Calamanco* logging mill, which seems to have been built beside the River **Irwell** in the late 17th or early 18th century. The mill also produced a dye used in the production of *calamanco*, a woollen fabric that was produced from the late 16th century. The Mersey & Irwell Navigation built a lock at Calamanco in about 1721 and this remained in use until the **Manchester Ship Canal** was completed in 1893. The origin of the word *calamanco* is obscure: it first appears in English in 1598 and may come from the Spanish *calamaco*, meaning 'worsted wool'.

CALDERBROOK is a village on the **River Roch** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name of the village is first recorded in 1843 but it is found much earlier as the name of two rivers in **Lancashire**, and it has even been suggested that it is an older Celtic name for the River Roch. The origin is Celtic *caled*, meaning 'rapid stream' + the later Old English *-brōc*, meaning 'brook, stream'. There are several examples of reduplication in the names in **Greater Manchester**, where a tautologous Old English element is added to an earlier Welsh or Celtic name, perhaps as an explanation for the original but forgotten meaning.

CALDERMOOR is a residential area in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but the original hamlet of Caldermoor is known to have grown up in the 18th century around the *Caldermoor* inn, which was built in 1755. Caldermoor is in the valley of the River **Roch** and takes its name from the Celtic *caled*, meaning 'rapid stream', which is thought to be the ancient name for the Roch. The addition of *moor* refers to its position on the edge of the *moors* north-east of **Greater Manchester**.

CALDERSHAW is a residential area on the north-western edge of **Rochdale** on the River **Spodden** before its confluence with the River **Roch**. The name is not well documented but would seem to mean 'copse in the valley' referring to its position close to the Spodden. The Spodden is a tributary of the Roch, which is believed to have been called the *Calder*, from the Celtic *caled*, meaning 'rapid stream'. *Shaw* comes from the Old English *sceaga*, meaning 'a small wood'.

CALE GREEN is a residential area in the south **Stockport**. At the beginning of the 19th century the area was occupied by Cale Green Farm, although little is known about the owner, John *Cale*. There appears to have been some industrial development as it is known that William Carrington & Co., hat manufacturers, were operating in the area by 1800. The farm was purchased in 1883 and this, combined with the opening of the nearby station at **Davenport** in 1858, appears to have led to more urban development. Lacrosse and cricket grounds were created in the 1880s and Cale Green Park was opened to the public in 1894 (or 1902 – sources differ) as the second public park in Stockport.

CAPTAIN FOLD or **CAPTAIN'S FOLD** is an urban district of **Hopwood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but seems to be from the *Captain Fold Colliery*, which was owned by the Heywood Coal Company and operated between 1842 and 1854. The premises had been acquired by the Atkinson rope manufacturers by 1880. It is unlikely that it refers to a naval or military man with the personal name of *Fold*. It is more likely that 'fold' refers to part of a farm or a small community. Local records suggest that Captain Fold was once called Captain Hardman's Fold, but it is not known who Captain Hardman was.

CARR BROOK and **CARR WOOD, Bramhall**. Carr Brook is a short stream that rises in **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It flows north-east through Carr Wood and joins **Lady Brook** in **Bramall Park**.

The name is recorded in 1842 and is usually said to derive from the Old Norse *kjarr* or Middle English *ker*, meaning 'marsh overgrown with brushwood'.

CARRBROOK is a village east of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The development of Carrbrook as a village began with the building of Carr Mill in 1799, both mill and village taking their names from *Carr Brook* beside which they sit. The name is likely to have come from the Old English *carr*, meaning 'rock', hence 'the rocky stream'.

CARRINGTON is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is first recorded in 1154 as *Carrintona* but it is found with its modern spelling from the early 13th century. The derivation is uncertain. It is usually said to mean 'the estate of someone called *Cara*', from the Old English personal name + *-inga-* ('belonging to') + *-tūn* ('estate'). Other suggestions are that the name may come from the Old English *caring*, meaning 'tending, caring', *cæring*, meaning 'river bend', or *carr*, 'rocky place'.

CASTLEFIELD is an inner-city urban-heritage site in the City of **Manchester**. It was the site of the Roman fort of **Mancunium** from about 79 AD but acquired its English name of *Castle-in-the-field* by the Middle Ages. It developed into the industrial area of Castlefield when it became the terminus for the **Bridgewater Canal** in 1764 and the **Liverpool Road** terminus of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1830.

CASTLESHAW is a small village in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** which was formerly in the **West Riding of Yorkshire**. It is recorded as *Castlyshaw* in 1544 and with its modern spelling in 1581. The name means 'the fort or castle near a copse' from the Old English *castel* + *sceaga*. The fort refers to a Roman fortress built in about 79 AD on the Roman road from Chester and **Manchester** to York.

CASTLETON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** on the River **Roch**. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Castelton*, literally meaning 'settlement by a castle'. This is believed to refer to a Saxon castle beside the River Roch. The settlement was originally **Blue Pits Village** and the name 'Castleton' was not adopted until 1875, when it became an urban district council.

CATLEY LANE HEAD is a village in **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, north-west of Rochdale itself. The name is recorded in 1418 as *Catcloghgate*, apparently meaning 'wild-cat valley road', from Old English *catt* + *clōh* ('valley') + Old Norse *gate* ('street, road'), referring to a mediaeval route between Rochdale and **Whalley Abbey** in Lancashire, also known as **Rooley Moor Road**. The name had been rationalised to Catley Lane by 1597.

CHADDERTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** about 10 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Chaderton* and is said to mean 'farm by the hill called Cadeir'. *Cader* is a Celtic word meaning 'chair or hill', with the Old English *-tūn* ('farmstead, village'). This may be a reference to the nearby hill **Hanging Chadder**, which is about 250 metres high.

CHADKIRK is an area on the River **Goyt** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that also gives its name to a 24-hectare country park and nature reserve. The name is recorded in 1534 as *Chadkyrke* in reference to the current Chadkirk chapel, but the settlement probably dates from the Anglo-Saxon period and there is reference to the de Chaddekyrke family in 1347. The name means '**St Chad's** church', referring to the 7th-century Bishop of Lichfield in **Mercia**.

CHADWICK is a village about 3 kilometres west of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in about 1180 as *Chaddewyk*, meaning 'the *wīc* (village) of *Ceadda*, who is thought to be St Chad'. *Chad* was a 7th-century Anglo-Saxon monk and Bishop of Lichfield in **Mercia**, and it is claimed that the original church on this site was dedicated to St Chad in AD 673, the year after his death.

CHARLESTOWN is a residential area of the City of **Salford** close to the River **Irwell**. The name is not well documented and is said to be a 19th-century name for an area that had various names. It is believed that it is named after someone called *Charles*, but it is not known who this was.

CHASSEN PARK is a small public park with a miniature railway in **Flixton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It is officially known as **Abbotsfield Park** but is also known as Chassen Park. It takes this name from the adjacent

Chassen Road. The road was originally called Abbots Lane, from a local family, but was changed to Penny Lane in about 1846. In about 1865 it was changed to Chassen Road, apparently from a local family, although no details can be traced.

CHAT MOSS is a very large peat bog extending over some 28 square kilometres across the City of **Salford** and the Metropolitan Boroughs of **Wigan** and **Trafford**. It is first recorded as *catemosse* in 1277 and Daniel Defoe was astounded when he first saw it in about 1727: ‘the great bog or waste call’d *Chatmos*.... The nature of these mosses, for we found there are many of them in this country... is indeed frightful to think of.’ *Moss* is an Old English word meaning ‘a bog, a swamp’ and is widely used across the region. *Chat* is usually explained as the Celtic *ced*, meaning ‘wood’, and Defoe noted that ‘under this moss, or rather in the very body of it, ... those antient fir trees are found’. Alternatively, the root could be Old English *ceat* meaning ‘a piece of wet ground’ and, again, Defoe’s description might support such a derivation: ‘The surface ... will bear neither horse or man, unless in an exceeding dry season.’ Other explanations are that *Chat* is a personal name, either Old English *Ceatta* or even St *Chad*, the 7th-century Bishop of Lichfield in **Mercia**.

CHEADLE is a suburb or ‘village’ in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that was previously part of **Cheshire**. Cheadle is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Cedde*, where there is ‘woodland 1 league long and half wide, and an enclosure and a hawk’s eyrie’. The name comes from the Celtic *cēd*, meaning ‘wood’. *Chedele* is recorded from 1197, with the Old English *lēah* (‘clearing’) added to the Celtic element. This may describe the clearing in the forest or it may be an explanation of the older Celtic element. It has also been suggested that the name may have been derived from St Chad, the 7th-century Bishop of Lichfield in **Mercia**, but this suggestion is usually discounted. [See Domesday Book box](#)

CHEADLE HEATH is a suburb of the Borough of **Stockport**, about 3 kilometres west of the town centre. Originally part of **Cheadle**, it seems to have developed a separate name by 1367, when it was recorded as *Schedletheth*, from a distorted rendering of *Cheadle* + Old English *hæth* (‘uncultivated land’). The modern spelling is found from 1831.

CHEADLE HULME is a village suburb in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, formerly part of **Cheshire**. Cheadle Hulme was originally part of **Cheadle**, which is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. In the early 14th century, Cheadle seems to have split into two: the northern part remained as Cheadle and the southern part became Cheadle Moseley or Cheadle Hulme. The separate name is recorded in 1345 as *Chedle Hulm*, with the modern spelling found from 1669. Cheadle comes from the Celtic *cēd*, meaning ‘wood’, + Old English *lēah* (‘clearing’). *Hulme* comes from Old Norse *holmr*, meaning ‘raised ground in a marsh’. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

CHEADLE ROYAL is a locality west of **Cheadle** town centre in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It takes its name from *Cheadle Royal* Hospital, which was originally founded as the Manchester Lunatic Hospital in what is now **Piccadilly Gardens** in 1766. It received *royal* sponsorship from King William IV in 1830 as part of Manchester Royal Infirmary, but was moved to Cheadle in 1850 and renamed Cheadle Royal Hospital in 1902.

CHEADLE SQUARE is a small public space close to the town hall in central **Bolton**. It was laid out in 1947 and named in honour of Frank *Cheadle* (1885-1940), who, as mayor of Bolton in 1928-1929, campaigned for the area to be set aside as a public space rather than being given over to industrial use.

CHEESDEN is a moorland hamlet in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded as *Chesden* in 1543 and is taken from the valley of the nearby *Cheesden Brook*, meaning ‘gravel valley’, from the Old English *cis* (‘gravel’) + *denu* (‘valley’). Cheesden Brook meanders south to meet **Naden Brook**, which flows into the River **Roch** near **Heywood**.

CHEETHAM and **CHEETHAM HILL** are neighbouring residential and light-industrial areas in the City of **Manchester**, north of the city centre. The name is recorded in the late 12th century as *Chetham*, meaning ‘village by the wood called Chet’, from the Celtic *cēd* (‘wood’) + Old English *hām* (‘village, homestead’).

CHEETHAM PARK is a 12-hectare public park in **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The land was formerly the estates of John Frederick *Cheetham* (1835-1916), a mill owner and Stalybridge MP, and a

relative, a Mrs Wimbush. The two estates were donated to the town of Stalybridge in 1931 and opened as a public park named after J F Cheetham in 1932.

CHEETWOOD is a locality in **Cheetham** in the City of **Manchester**, north of the city centre, that was first recorded as *Chetewood* in 1489. It shares part of its name with Cheetham but *wudu* ('wood') has been added to the Celtic *cēd-* or *cēto-*, meaning 'forest', by way of explanation.

CHELBURN RESERVOIRS There are two reservoirs – Upper and Lower Chelburn – in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The Upper Chelburn was built in 1799-1801 and the Lower Chelburn in 1816 by damming *Chelburn Brook* to supply water for the Rochdale Canal but they were purchased in 1923 by Rochdale and Oldham Corporation to provide drinking water. The derivation of Chelburn is uncertain – it could mean 'cool stream' or 'gravelly stream', either from Old English *col* ('cool') or *cisel* ('gravel') + *burna* ('stream'). Chelburn is one of the few streams in Greater Manchester originally formed from *burna* rather than *brōc*.

CHEQUERBENT is a village east of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented before 1782, when reference is made to a coal mine in Chequerbent. The village is probably far older as the name is usually said to mean 'Ceacca's moorland grass', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *beonet* ('bent grass'), referring to the coarse moorland grass found in the vicinity. An alternative possibility is that the first element comes from Old English *ceacce* ('a lump, applied to a hill'). The name of the village was formalised by the Bolton & Leigh Railway, which opened a station called Chequerbent for Hulton Park on 11 June 1831.

CHERRY CLOUGH is a rural area north-west of **Denshaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded from 1750 and means 'cherry valley', from Middle English *chery* or *chiri* + *clough*.

CHESHAM is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It is recorded in 1429 as *Chesum*, meaning 'gravelly place', from the Old English *cis* ('gravel, heap of stones') + *hām* ('village, homestead'). Another possibility is that it derives from the Celtic *cēd*, meaning 'wood'. See also **Freetown**.

CHESHIRE is the county to the south of **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle of 980 as *Legeceasterscir*, meaning 'shire of the fort of the legions', but by the time of the Domesday Book of 1086 it had been reduced to *Cestrescir* ('Chester-shire'). Chester itself is derived from the Latin *castra*, meaning 'camp or fort'. The border between the counties of Cheshire and **Lancashire** was the River **Mersey** but the creation of **Greater Manchester** in 1974 moved the boundary south and parts of north-east Cheshire were moved into Greater Manchester - **Altrincham**, **Dukinfield**, **Hyde**, **Stalybridge** and **Stockport**.

CETHAM'S LIBRARY is a free public reference library in central **Manchester**. The library, as well as a school, were established in 1653 through the will of Humphrey *Chetham* (1580-1653), making it the oldest public reference in the English-speaking world. In 1698 Celia Fiennes described it as 'a large Library 2 long walls full of books on each side; there is also the globes at the end and maps'. Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx worked together in the library in 1845 and published 'The Communist Manifesto' in 1848. The desk they worked at is exhibited in the library. The school became Chetham's School of Music in 1969.

CHEW BROOK is a tributary of the River Calder in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1325 as **Choo**, meaning 'valley', from 'gap, fissure, cleft' and hence 'valley', from Old English *cēo* ('valley') + *broc*. Chew Brook rises on the western slopes of **Black Chew Head** and then empties into Chew Reservoir, which was built in 1912.

CHEW MOOR is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** that is first recorded as *Chow More* in the 16th century. The name is said to derive either from the Old English *cēo*, meaning 'fissure' and hence 'valley', or the *Chew* or *Chow* family, who lived in the area in the 16th and 17th centuries, or perhaps the *Cholle* family, who can be traced back to 1322.

'**CHINA TOWN**' is an area of central **Manchester** around Faulkner Street with many Chinese restaurants, shops and supermarkets. The term is widely used in cities across the world and dates back as far as 1606.

Manchester's *Chinatown* was a post-war development dating from the opening of the first Chinese restaurant, the Ping Hong, in 1948 and immigration mostly from Hong Kong in the 1950s.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY is a suburb of south **Manchester** that was originally two settlements (see separately for **Hardy**) – Chorlton in the north and Hardy in the south, separated by Chorlton Brook. Chorlton is recorded in 1258 as *Cholreton*, but with the modern spelling in 1551. The name is an eponym – ‘Ceolferth’s farm or village’ from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Cēolferth* (modern Charlton). The combined name of Chorlton-cum-Hardy – literally Chorlton with Hardy – is first recorded in 1700 but seems to have become more widely used in about 1880, when property developers used the term to distinguish it from **Chorlton-upon-Medlock**; the opening of the Midland Railway’s Chorlton-cum-Hardy station in that year formalised the name.

CHORLTON FOLD is a suburban area of **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. **Chorlton** was a common name in northern **Cheshire** and south **Lancashire**, and it was necessary to distinguish various places with this name. Chorlton Fold is not well documented but would seem to come from the Old English *ceorl* (‘a freeman of the lower class, a peasant’) + *tūn* (‘enclosure, village’) + *fold* (‘small group of cottages and farm buildings’).

CHORLTON-UPON-MEDLOCK or **CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK** is an inner-city suburb of the City of **Manchester**. It is recorded as *Cherleton* in 1177, meaning ‘farmstead of the freemen or peasants’, from the Old English *ceorl* (‘a freeman of the lower class, a peasant’) + *tūn* (‘enclosure, village’). In mediaeval times, the village was known as Chorlton Roe, i.e. Chorlton Road, as it was beside the Roman road from Manchester to Buxton. The modern name of Chorlton-upon-Medlock is recorded from 1843, indicated the area’s position on the south bank of the River **Medlock**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

CHORLTONVILLE is a residential area within **Chorlton-cum-Hardy** in the City of **Manchester**. It was built as a private venture in 1910-11, inspired by the garden city movement. The name is aspirational, combining *Chorlton* with the French *ville*.

CHOWBENT is an area of **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** or an old, alternative name for Atherton which is still used locally. The name is first recorded in about 1350 as *Chollebynt* and *Shollebent*, and may be derived from an Old English personal name *Cēola* or *ceole* meaning ‘gorge’ + *bent*, ‘crooked land’, or *beonet*, meaning ‘coarse moorland grass’.

CINDER HILL There are many places called Cinder Hill across England, including at least two in Greater Manchester: Cinder Hill near **Holcombe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, first recorded in 1688, and Cinder Hill in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, first recorded in 1722. The name means ‘hill where cinder or slag is spread or found’, from the Old English *sinder* + *hyll*. As the names suggest, they are sites of mediaeval metal-working, probably iron.

CLAMMERCLOUGH is an area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** that is especially known for Clammerclough (or Farnworth) tunnel, built by the Manchester & Bolton Railway in 1838. The area is not well documented before the construction of the tunnel but the name is possibly derived from Old English *claeme* + *clōh*, meaning ‘clayey or muddy ravine or valley’. The valley refers to that of the Rivers **Croal** and **Irwell**, which join in Clammerclough.

CLARENCE PARK is a 20-hectare public park in **Bury**. It was opened in 1883 as **Walmersley Road Recreation Ground** but renamed Clarence Park in 1888 when it was officially opened by the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), who was also known as the Duke of *Clarence*.

CLARKSFIELD is a suburban district of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1821 and, as its name suggests, was an agricultural area. Presumably the name is an eponym, but it has not been possible to identify the *Clark* for whom it is named.

CLAYTON is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** in **Droylsden**, situated some 5 kilometres east of the city centre. The name is first recorded in about 1250 as *Cleyton* but its modern spelling is recorded as early as 1439. There are two versions of the origin of the place name. It could be from Old English *clæg* + *tūn*, meaning ‘homestead on clayey ground’. Another, perhaps more likely suggestion, is that it is named after the *Clayton* family, who lived

in this area and for whom the Clayton Hall was built in the 12th century. This was replaced in the 15th century by the present Clayton Hall, which is now a museum.

CLEGG HALL is a rural area north of **Milnrow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Clegg*, probably from the Old Norse *kleggi*, meaning ‘haystack’ and hence ‘hill’, probably in reference to the 175-metre high **Owl Hill**, at the foot of which Clegg stands. The original hall was built in the 13th century. A new hall was built in 1610-1618 and still stands as the centre of this sparsely-populated community.

The CLIFF is a residential and recreational area in the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented before 1817, when *Cliff House* was erected on the heights above the River **Irwell**, giving the area its name. The area developed as a commuter suburb in the 19th century and was also home to **Manchester** race course. Today, areas of the Cliff have been turned over to sports fields and a country park adjoining **Kersal Dale**.

CLIFTON is a suburb of **Swinton** in the City of **Salford**, about 8 kilometres north-west of **Manchester**. It is recorded as *Clifton* in 1184 and its name transparently means ‘settlement near a cliff or hillside’, from the Old English *clif* + *-tūn*, which describes its position along the steeply-sloping bank of the River **Irwell**. Clifton gives its name to the 48-hectare Clifton Country Park, which now occupies the site of the **Wet Earth Colliery**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

CLOSE PARK is an 11.2-hectare public park in **Radcliffe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The park is sited in the grounds of *Close House*, the estate of the **Bealey** family, a local family of textile bleachers. The estate was donated to the people of Radcliffe in 1925 and the grounds converted into a public park.

CLOUGH is a rural area north-west of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but is one of many derived from the Old English *clōh*, meaning ‘ravine, deep valley’, referring to Long Clough Brook and Stony Brook, which meet in Clough.

CLOUGH

*Clough comes from the Old English element **clōh**, meaning ‘deep valley, ravine’ and is found only in the north of England. It applies particularly to the valleys of the numerous streams or brooks that run off the **moors** to the east of what is now Greater Manchester.*

BOARSHAW CLOUGH (boar + copse + ~)

BOGGART HOLE CLOUGH (goblin + hole + ~)

CHERRY CLOUGH (cherry + ~)

CLAMMER CLOUGH (muddy ~)

DEADWENCLOUGH (dead wench ~)

HATHERSHAW CLOUGH (heather + copse + ~)

HOPWOOD CLOUGH (wooded + valley + ~)

OLIVER CLOUGH (eponym + ~)

RAVEDEN CLOUGH (eponym + valley + ~)

SHAWCLOUGH (copse + ~)

STONECLOUGH (stony + ~)

CLOUGH is a rural area east of **Shaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented but comes from the Old English *clōh*, meaning ‘ravine, deep valley’.

CLOVER HALL is a village north-west of **Milnrow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but seems to mean ‘clover nook’, from the Old English *clæfre* (‘clover’) + *halh* (‘nook or corner of land’), referring to the sharp meander in the River **Beal** to the east of Clover Hall.

COCKBROOK is a residential area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It takes its name from *Cock Brook*, a tributary of the River **Tame**, which flows just south of Cockbrook. The name is not well documented before 1891, when Cockbrook Mill was opened, powered by water from Cock Brook. The origin of the name is also uncertain. Judging by other places with ‘cock’ as a first element, the origin could be Old English *cocc* meaning ‘a rooster’, or *cocc* meaning ‘a hillock’.

COCKEY MOOR is an area on the eastern side of **Ainsworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1545 as *Cokkaye Chapel Moor*. The origin is uncertain: either Old English *cocc*, meaning ‘rooster’, or Anglo-Saxon personal name *Cocca* + *hege* (‘enclosure’). Taken together, the meaning could be ‘an enclosure for breeding birds or for cock-fighting’ or ‘Cocca’s settlement’. An alternative derivation is suggested by the Old Celtic *kokka* (‘red earth’) + Old English *lēah* (‘woodland clearing’).

COLDHURST is a residential area in central **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1844, when an ecclesiastical parish was established. The origin of the name is uncertain but it is unlikely to be ‘cold, cool’. The

first element is more likely to be Old English *col*, meaning ‘coal, especially charcoal’. The second element is Old English *hyrst*, (‘wooded hill’), so that the combined meaning would be ‘wooded hill suitable for charcoal-making’.

COLLYHURST is an inner-city district of the City of **Manchester**, about 2.5 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name is first recorded in 1322 with its modern spelling and means ‘wooded hill grimy with coal dust or soot’, from Old English *colig* (‘grimy, coal-like’) + *hyrst* (‘wooded hill’). There seems to be no history of coal-working in the Middle Ages but coal was found nearby in the 19th century, leading to the sinking of St George’s colliery in 1866.

COLLYHURST FOOTBRIDGE is a disused footbridge over the River **Irk** and the former sidings of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway connecting **Collyhurst** with **Cheetham Hill**. It was built in the 1890s and is also known as ‘Barney’s Steps’, as it overlooked a 1950s council dump called Barney’s Tip, the ‘Impossible Bridge’, or ‘**Lowry’s** Footbridge’ as it was painted by Lowry in 1938 (see Appendix 1).

COMPSTALL is a village on the River **Etherow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is first recorded in 1608 as *Compstall Bridge*, referring to a crossing over the Etherow. The derivation is uncertain but it is usually said to mean ‘valley fishing place’ from Old English *cumb* (‘valley’) + *stall* (‘a place for catching fish, fishery’). The Etherow is still known for its trout fishing.

COPLEY is a district of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, about 13 kilometres east of **Manchester**. The name is first recorded in 1345 as *Coppelegh*, probably meaning ‘clearing beneath a peaked hill’, from Middle English *coppa* (‘peaked’) + *lēah* (‘a clearing’). This would fit with Copley’s position at the foot of the **Pennines**. It is also possible that it means ‘Coppa’s place’, from an Anglo-Saxon personal name.

COPSTER HILL is a district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** which takes its name from the nearby hill. It is first recorded in 1422 as *Coppedhyrst*, from *copped*, meaning ‘peaked’, and *hyrst*, meaning ‘wooded hill’.

CORNBROOK is a district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** which takes its name from the *Corn Brook*, a tributary of the **Medlock**. The name means ‘stream with cranes’ rather than ‘stream with corn’, and is derived from the Old English *cran*, *cron* or *corn*. The use of the name was perhaps formalised by a station with that name opened in 1856 by the Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway.

CORONATION STREET is a street on the **New Barracks** estate of the City of **Salford**. The estate was built in 1900–1904 and the street was named for the *coronation* of King Edward VII on 9 August 1902. The street gives its name to the long-running ITV soap-opera of that name. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

CORRIDOR MANCHESTER See **OXFORD ROAD**

COTE GREEN is a residential area of **Marple Bridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded from 1842. The origin of the name is uncertain but one possibility is Old or Middle English *cot*, meaning ‘cottage or hut’.

‘**COTTONOPOLIS**’ is a nickname for **Manchester** and the surrounding industrial areas of Lancashire. It is first recorded in 1851 but seems to have been coined somewhat earlier, although no one seems to know when or by whom. The name is derived from *cotton* and *metropolis*.

The **COUNTY BROOK** See **BROOK BOTTOM**

COUNTY END is an area on the eastern side of **Lees** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The area is at the point where the previous county of **Lancashire** met the former **West Riding of Yorkshire**, explaining the name.

COWHILL is a residential area of **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1200 as *Kuhill*, literally meaning ‘cow’s hill’, from Middle English *cou* + *hyll*.

COWLISHAW is a residential area in the west of **Shaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded as *Cowleshawe* in 1558. The derivation is uncertain but it could mean ‘charcoal hill’ from Old English *colig* (‘charcoal; full of, or marked by, charcoal’) + *sceaga* (‘copse’).

COX GREEN is a residential area in the **Egerton** district of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It is recorded as *Cosse* 1108 but by 1248 it had become *Cokksgrene*, from the Old English *cocc* ('hillock, hilltop') + *grene* ('grassy spot, village green'). However, over time the name was rationalised to 'Cox' as if it were an eponym referring to someone named Cox who owned or worked the land.

CRANKWOOD is a hamlet north-east of **Golborne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The place is not well documented before the first edition of the Ordnance Survey maps in the first half of the 19th century. It takes its name from nearby Crank Wood but the origin is uncertain: possibilities are Old English *cranus* ('crane') + *sceaga* ('copse') or *crumb* ('crooked, twisted') + *wudu* ('wood, forest'), so that the meaning might be 'wood of the cranes' or 'crooked wood'.

CRIMBLE or **CRIMBLES** is a rural area on the River **Roch** north of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Crumles*, from the Old English *crȳmel* meaning 'a small piece (crumb) of land'. [See Domesday Book box](#)

CRIME LAKE is a small lake in **Daisy Nook** Country Park in **Oldham**. The lake was formed in 1794 or 1795 when a blocked culvert under the **Hollinwood** Canal resulted in flooding. The name is said to be derived from *chime*, a dialect word for a meadow, or perhaps an eponym referring to someone who owned the meadow. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

River CROAL is a tributary of the River **Irwell**. It rises west of **Bolton** and then flows east for about 16 kilometres to meet the Irwell at **Nob End** in **Kearsley**. The name means 'winding stream' and is derived from the Old English *croh* ('a nook of land in a river bend'; hence 'winding') + *wella* ('stream'), referring to its meandering course.

CROFTS BANK is a residential area of the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented but it is likely that it is derived from the Old English *croft*, meaning 'small enclosed field'.

CROMPTON is part of the district of **Shaw** and Crompton in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Crompton*, meaning 'settlement in a bend' referring to Crompton's position in a meander of the River **Beal**. The origin is the Old English *crumb* ('crooked, twisted, bent') + *tūn* ('homestead, settlement, village').

CROMPTON PLACE is a retail centre in **Bolton**. It was opened in 1971 as an **Arndale Centre** but was renamed in 1989 after the Bolton-born industrialist and inventor, Samuel *Crompton* (1753-1827), who invented his spinning mule for the manufacture of cotton and other fibres in about 1779 while living in **Hall I' th' Wood**.

CROMWELL BRIDGE, originally **CROMWELL ROAD BRIDGE**, was built in 1880-1882 and crosses the River **Irwell** to connect **Broughton** with **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford**. Oliver *Cromwell* (1599-1658) had many associations with what is now **Greater Manchester** during and after the civil war, but it is not known precisely when or why Cromwell Road was named after him.

CRONKEYSHAW COMMON is a 16.3-hectare area of public open space with trees in northern **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1470 as *Crankshaw* and there are various suggestions for its derivation. It may come from Old English *cranus* ('crane') + *sceaga* ('copse') or *crumb* ('crooked, twisted') + *sceaga* ('copse'), so that the meaning might be 'copse of the cranes' or 'crooked copse'.

CROOKE is a village on the River **Douglas** and the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in 1324 as *Crok*, probably from the Old Norse *crokr*, meaning 'a crook, a bend', usually referring land in the bend of a river, which aptly describes the village's location in a meander in the River Douglas.

CROSSACRES is a residential area of **Wythenshawe** in the City of **Manchester**. The name is first recorded in 1290 as *Crosacres*, meaning 'fields or ploughlands (Old English *æcer*) near a cross (*cros*)'. As the name suggests, this was sparsely-populated farmland noted for its flax, although the location of the cross is not recorded. In the 1930s the area was incorporated into the Wythenshawe development around Crossacres Road.

CROSSBANK is a village in the south of **Oldham** on the River **Medlock**. The village is thought to have been part of the lands granted to the Knights Templar in England in the 13th century. The Knights Templar marked ownership of their territory by placing *crosses* in earth *banks*, which explains the name of Crossbank.

CROSSFORD BRIDGE today carries the old Roman road from **Manchester** to Chester (the A56) across the River **Mersey** between **Stretford** and **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is recorded in 1295 as *Crosford*, meaning simply ‘the ford by the cross’. It is thought that the *cross* originally stood on the north bank of the Mersey. The *ford* became unusable in the Middle Ages and the original wooden bridge is said to have been built by 1367, but this was replaced by a stone bridge in 1578.

CROWCROFT PARK is a public park in **Longsight** and **Levenshulme**, south of the city centre of **Manchester**. In the 19th century, the area was an industrial area engaged in cotton manufacture, but in 1900 Manchester Corporation took over the lease and laid the area out as a park. The first cotton mill had been started in *Crowcroft* by Thomas Knight in 1815 but it is likely that the name is older, meaning ‘small field where crows are found’ from the Middle English *croue* + *croft*.

CROWHILL is a residential area west of **Waterloo** in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The residential development dates from the 1950s but it is assumed that the local area, commonly known as ‘The Moss’, was at some time named *Crow Hill*, from Old English *cran* (‘crane, heron or similar bird’) + *hyll* (‘hill’).

CROWN POINT is an area in **Denton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** which gives its name to the Crown Point retail shopping park, built in 2003 on the site of the Victoria Hat Works. The name goes back at least as far as 1817 and commemorates a battle in the northern part of what is now the American state of New York in 1759, when the British destroyed a French garrison known as Fort St Frédéric, which the British then renamed Fort *Crown Point*, a translation of the French *Pointe à la Chevelure*.

CROWTHER STREET or **CROWTHER STEPS** is a steep cobbled street in the **Underbanks** district of **Stockport** made famous by two paintings by L S **Lowry** (see Appendix 1). The street is named after the *Crowther* family, who had silk works in both Stockport and **Heaton Norris** in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The original houses on Crowther Street were demolished in the 1960s but restored early in the 2000s to approximate to those in Lowry’s paintings.

CRUMPSALL is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** on the River **Irk** approximately 5 kilometres north of the city centre. The name is first recorded in 1235 as *Corneshal* and its modern spelling is recorded since 1552. It is usually said to be an eponym meaning ‘Crumb’s nook’, although it has also been suggested that it could mean ‘crooked piece of land’, from Old English *crumb* (‘crooked, bent’) + *halh* (‘nook of land’), from the large bend in the River Irk at this point.

CULCHETH is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** close to **Newton Heath**. This Culcheth is not to be confused with Culcheth on the Metropolitan Borough of Warrington in **Cheshire**. Culcheth Hall in Manchester was the mediaeval seat of the Culcheth family, but they died out in the early 17th century. It is assumed that these two places named Culcheth both originally meant ‘narrow wood’ or ‘nook of a wood’ from Celtic *cŭl* (‘narrow’) + *coed* (‘wood’).

‘**CURRY MILE**’ is the nickname given to the stretch of Wilmslow Road passing through **Rusholme**, south of **Manchester** city centre. The area became a meeting place for the many people from the Asian subcontinent who settled in Manchester in the late 1950s and 1960s, and ‘*Curry Mile*’ became the nickname in the mid-1980s for the many restaurants that were opened. In January 2008 the name was formalised when Manchester City Council erected signs with the title. *Curry* comes from the Tamil *kari*.

CUTACRE COUNTRY PARK is a 226-hectare nature reserve across parts of **Salford**, **Wigan** and **Bolton**. It was opened in 2020 on the site of a massive slag heap formed in the early 20th century when waste from Brackley and Mossley Common collieries was dumped in the valley of *Cutacre Clough*. Opencast mining ended in 2011 and the site was then landscaped and transformed into the country park. The name is not well-documented but is possibly an eponym, from an Anglo-Saxon personal name such as *Cutha* + *æcer*, meaning ‘plot of land’.

CUTGATE is a residential area of **Rochdale** about 1.5 kilometres west of the town centre. It was recorded as *Cut-Hays* in 1562 and 'gate' is thought to derive from Old Norse *gata*, meaning 'road'. It has been suggested that the first element is either a personal name or that it refers to the road being *cut* across the hillside.

CUTLER HILL is an area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** on the disused **Hollinwood** Branch of the **Ashton** Canal. The name is not well documented before 1797, when *Cutler Bridge* was built over the newly-completed canal. The name would seem to come from *cutler*, either literally as being the site of a workshop where someone made or sold knives, or as an eponym from Cutler's Hill.

D

DACRES is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, south-west of **Greenfield**. The name is an eponym, taking its name from Dacre's, the vicarage of Bartholomew *Dacre* (1785-1831), the vicar of St George's Church in **Mossley**, which was built in 1819. It was enlarged in 1858 as Dacre Hall, a house which still stands. In 1928 the owner built a small housing estate adjacent to Dacres Hall.

DAISY HILL is a residential area of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The origins of the name are uncertain and undocumented. In 1824 it was referred to as *Daisey Hillock* and it is assumed that the name was taken literally from a hill covered with daisies. The name was formalised with the opening of Daisy Hill station by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway on 1 October 1888. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

DAISY NOOK is a village (also known as **Waterhouses**) and country park belonging to the National Trust in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is taken from a book of 'Lancashire Sketches' by the **Manchester** weaver-turned-dialect writer, Ben Brierley (1825-96), originally written in 1867. In it he depicts an imaginary village called Daisy Nook where 'Two Banks seemed to have opened to receive a group of neat whitewashed cottages and after filling them with happiness, surrounded them with a curtain of trees, to shelter them from the outside world'. Brierley's description was based on the village of Waterhouses and the area has been known by this name ever since.

DAKIN'S BROOK is a tributary of **Dean Brook** and, ultimately, of the River **Tonge**, north of **Barrow Bridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented but it may well be an eponym, so that the meaning would literally be 'the stream named after a relative of David'. Dakin as a name is derived from a shortening of *David* + Old English *cynn* ('family, relative').

DALE is a village in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, although in the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974. The name is recorded in 1732 and means 'valley', from the Old English *dæl*.

DALE	
<i>Dale means valley and it is found mostly north of the River Mersey. It comes from the Old English dæl but may be influenced by the Old Norse dalr. Unlike clough, it generally refers to a relatively shallow valley.</i>	
BROOKDALE (stream + ~)	ROCHDALE (building + ~)
DEBDALE (deep + ~)	STRINE DALE (stream + ~)
LONGDENDALE (long + valley + ~)	TIVIOT DALE (dark river + ~)

DANE BANK is a residential area of **Denton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, west of the town centre, known as Dane Shot (or Shott or Shutt) Bank before the 20th century. According to local legend, it takes its name from a Danish chieftain who was shot by a Saxon archer and was then beheaded, but this is almost certainly folk etymology: the original name means 'narrow field is derived on a hill overlooking a valley', from Middle English *denu* ('valley') + *shote* ('narrow strip of land') + *banke* ('bank, hillside').

The **DANELAW** was originally just that – the *law* that was applied by the *Danes* or, more widely, the Vikings in the parts of England that they controlled between the late 9th or early 10th century and the Norman conquest in 1066. At a later date, the term came to be applied to the areas where the Danelaw was applied. Whether what is now **Greater Manchester** was included in the Danelaw is a matter of some disagreement: some modern maps include all of Greater Manchester in the Danelaw but place-name evidence suggests that the Viking influence was limited to isolated settlements rather than widespread occupation.

DARBISHIRE or **DERBYSHIRE PARK** is an 8.9-hectare park north-west of **Bolton** town centre. The land was donated to the town in 1868 by Charles James *Darbishire* (1797-1874), who had been mayor of Bolton in 1838-1839, and his brother, Samuel Dukinfield *Darbishire* (c.1796-1870), a local solicitor. The park is popularly known as "Bobby Legs Park" after a tall park keeper named Robert.

DARCY LEVER is part of the area named *Lever* which consists of several settlements – Darcy Lever, **Great Lever**, **Lever Edge** and **Little Lever** – south of **Bolton**. The name Lever is recorded in 1212 as *Lefre*, from the Old English *lefer* ('rush, reed'), so that the entire area would mean 'where the rushes or reeds grow' on the banks of the **Irwell**.

and **Croal**. Darcy Lever is recorded from 1509 as *Darcy Lever*, showing that was now in the possession of the *D'Arcy* family. The family originated in Arcy in Normandy in France.

DARNHILL is a residential area of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It was a farming area centred around *Darn Hill* farm, but in the early 1960s it became the site for the construction of large-scale municipal housing for families from **Manchester**. The name is not well documented. The *Darnhill* family website suggests that the name means 'a grower of *darnel*', a type of ryegrass. *Darnel* is originally French but is found in English from the early 14th century.

DAUBHILL is a south-western suburb of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented but is referred to as *Daub Hill* in 1815. It is derived from Middle English *daube*, meaning clay used in mediaeval building, as in 'wattle and daub', which was obtained locally.

DAVENPORT is a suburb of **Stockport** that takes its name from the *Davenport* family, who had owned **Bramall Hall** since the 14th century and whose name came from their estate in Cheshire, which was recorded as *Denepport* in the Domesday Book of 1086. The name is said to derive from the River Dane (thought to come from the Celtic *dafn* meaning 'a drop, trickle') + Old English *port* meaning 'market town'. Davenport in Stockport is much later: in the mid-19th century a member of the family, Colonel William *Davenport*, persuaded the Stockport Disley & Whaley Bridge Railway to build a station to serve land owned by him. The station was opened on 1 March 1858, was closed in September 1859 and re-opened on 1 January 1862. The station led to the development of Davenport and the neighbouring area of **Cale Green**.

DAVID LEWIS RECREATIONAL GROUND is an area of **Peel Park** in the City of **Salford**. The land was gifted to Salford in 1897 as a recreational area by merchant and philanthropist, David *Lewis* (1823-1885). He made his money from the Lewis's chain of departmental stores, the first of which was opened in Liverpool in 1856 and the second in Manchester in 1877. On his death, he left money to promote health and welfare in **Lancashire** and the north-west.

DAVYHULME is a residential area of **Urmston** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The original *Davyhulme Hall* was built by John de Hulme in 1154 but it seems that it was only in 1434 that it was known as *Defehulme*. There are several *Hulmes* in Greater Manchester, all derived from the Old Norse *holm*, meaning 'raised ground in a marshy place', and they needed to be distinguished, hence **Cheadle Hulme**, **Levenshulme**, etc). The origin of Davyhulme is uncertain and the usual suggestion is that it is Middle English *deaf*, meaning 'deaf' or 'lonely', perhaps the nickname of one of its residents that gradually became associated with the personal name *Davy*.

DEAN BROOK is a tributary of the River **Tonge** that rises on **Smithills Moor** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It flows south, joining other streams to form the **Tonge** at Meeting of the Waters in western Bolton. The name Dean comes from the Old English *denu*, meaning 'valley'.

DEAN

Old English *denu* means 'valley', particularly long valleys (**Longdendale**) which are gentle enough to permit settlements (e.g. **Denton**) or paths.

BORSANE WOOD (eponym + ~ + wood)

BURNDEN (brook + ~)

CHEESDEN (gravel + ~)

DENSHAW (~ + copse)

DENTON (~ + village)

DROYLESDEN (dried-up stream + ~)

LONGDENDALE (long + ~ + dale)

NADEN BROOK (peak + ~ + brook)

NORDEN (north + ~)

OGDEN (peak + ~)

SUDDEN (south + ~)

WALKDEN (eponym + ~)

River DEAN rises at Longclough in **Cheshire** on the edge of the **Peak District** and joins the **Bollin** between Wilmslow and Styal. It then flows some 16 kilometres and meets the **Mersey** near Lymm. It is usually said that the name is shortened from 'Dean Water' and is derived from the Old English *denu*, meaning 'a valley, especially a long valley' + *wæter*.

DEAN CHURCH BROOK, also known as **KIRK BROOK**, is a small stream that rises in **Deane** in south-west **Bolton**. The addition of *Church* distinguishes it from other brooks named *Dean* (all derived from the Old English *denu*, meaning 'valley') and is taken from the Anglican *Church* of St Mary the Virgin in Deane.

DEANE is a residential area in south-west **Bolton**, south of the River **Croal** beside Deane Clough. *Dean* and *Deane* are common place names found across Britain, all meaning a place 'in a valley' from Old English *denu*. Deane in Bolton is recorded in 1292 as *Dene*.

DEANSGATE is the main shopping and commercial thoroughfare through the City of **Manchester**. It is first recorded in 1389 as *Denes-gate* and is said to be Manchester's oldest street. The second element is Old Norse *gata*, meaning 'a road or street', but the origin of the first element is uncertain. It has been suggested that it is a) named after the lost River Dene; b) the 'Danes' gate; and c) most likely, named for the dean of an early church in the area.

DEARNLEY is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, north-east of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1324 as *Dernylegh*, meaning 'hidden or solitary clearing', from Old English *derne* + *lēah* ('a wood, glade, clearing'). It is unclear why the clearing was hidden or solitary.

DEBDALE PARK is an 18-hectare public park in **Gorton** in the City of **Manchester**. The name is not well documented but it is said that the area was originally known as *Deepdale*, from the Old English *dēop* ('deep') + *dæl* ('dale, valley'), and at some point it was reduced to *Debdale*. The area was originally the estate of a local hatter but was purchased by the local water company in the 1820s for two reservoirs. It was developed as a recreational area and park after World War I.

DEADWENCLOUGH See **POLEFIELD**

DELPH is a village in **Saddleworth** in **West Yorkshire** administered by the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1544 as *Delf* and the modern spelling is not found until 1817. The name means 'the quarry' and comes from the Old English *delf*, referring to the bakestone quarries north of the village.

DENSHAW is a village in **Saddleworth** in **West Yorkshire** administered from the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** in **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1635 as *Denshaw*, meaning 'the valley copse', from Old English *denu* ('valley') + *sceaga* ('copse, small wood'), referring to the village's position close to the source of the River **Tame**.

DENTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, 8 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. It was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in 1255 as *Denton* and literally means 'valley village' from Old English *denu* ('valley') + *-tūn* ('farmstead, village'), describing its position in the valley of the **River Tame**. It is sometimes said that Denton means 'Dane town', but there seems to be no evidence for this.

DERBYSHIRE is a county to the east of **Greater Manchester**. The name is first recorded in the 11th century and is derived from the city of *Derby* ('village where deer are found') + *scīr* ('district'). In 1974 a few places – **Marple Bridge**, **Strines** and **Swineshaw** – were transferred from Derbyshire to Greater Manchester.

DERKER is a residential area in the north of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1604 and its origin is unknown. At that time, it was spelled *Dirtcar*, but this is not thought to be related to a small rail wagon for carrying soil or other material, a word that originated in the USA in 1870.

"DICKY BIRD" ESTATE is a residential area east of **Bury** that was built in the 1930s. It was given the name because many of the roads have bird names – Linnet Drive, Chaffinch Drive, etc. 'Dicky bird' has been a colloquial or children's term for a bird since 1744 and was popularised by the nursery rhyme 'Two little dicky birds sat on a wall, One named Peter, one named Paul'. This was originally 'There were two blackbirds sat on a hill, One named Peter, one named Gill', but the wording was changed early in the 19th century.

DIDSBURY is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** lying on the north bank of the River **Mersey** approximately 8 kilometres south of the city centre. It is first recorded in 1246 as *Dedesbiry*, meaning 'Dyddi's stronghold', probably referring to an Anglo-Saxon leader who had a *burh* ('fortified place') overlooking a ford across the Mersey. Didsbury gives its name to Didsbury, Alberta, Canada.

DIGGLE is a village in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, although in the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974. The name is recorded in the late 12th century as *Diggel* and there are two theories about the derivation. One is that it is from the Old English *degle*, meaning 'valley'. The other is that it means 'ditch hill' from Old English *dīc* + *hyll*.

DIMPLE is a village in the Ribble valley north of **Egerton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented but is thought to come from Old English *dumpel* or *dympel*, meaning ‘a pit or a hollow’ and therefore ‘a pool’. The Old English word gives us modern ‘dimple’ and ‘dump’.

DIVISION BRIDGE See **ROYAL GEORGE AQUEDUCT**

DIXON FOLD is a residential area in **Clifton** in the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented before 1841, when the Manchester & Bolton Railway opened its Dixon Fold station. The name would seem to be an eponym: *Dixon* may refer to a farming family who were involved in the textile industry in the 18th century; *Fold* is taken from Old English *fald*, ‘an enclosure for animals or a small group of cottages’. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

DOBCROSS is one of the villages of **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** that was in the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974. The name is recorded in 1662. One suggestion is that it is an eponym and that *Dob* is the name of an unknown person. Another is that it means ‘the place where horses cross’ from *dob*, a now obsolete word meaning ‘a muddy or stagnant pool, a deep pool in a river’. This might refer to an ancient crossing point over a local river on a packhorse route across the **Pennines** between **Lancashire** and **Yorkshire**.

DOFFCOCKER is a residential and recreational area in north-west **Bolton**. The name is not well documented before 1874, when Doffcocker Lodge was built as a reservoir for local mills. There are two theories about the origin of the name. One is that it means ‘dark winding stream’, from the Celtic *dubh* (‘dark, black’) + *cocr* (‘winding stream’). More fancifully, it may recall a Scotsman who had to *doff* (‘remove’) his *cockers* (Scottish and **Lancashire** word for ‘stockings’ or ‘boots’) in order to cross the stream that flowed into Doffcocker Lodge. Doffcocker Lodge was created as a nature reserve in 1992.

DOMESDAY BOOK

*Following the conquest of 1066, William I ordered a survey of the whole of England to record all settlements and properties to determine what taxes would be due. This was completed as the Domesday Book in 1086-1087 and recorded 13,418 places in total. Approximately 600 were in what are now **Cheshire** and **Lancashire**, but only 23 were in **Greater Manchester**. It is sometimes said that William’s surveyors were less than diligent when it came to the north of England, but it is more likely that the genocidal ‘harrying of the north’ of 1069-1070, in which William’s armies killed up to 150,000 people, left much of the north west ‘waste’ – uninhabited and of little value – as can be seen from many of the entries below.*

The overall picture is of sparsely-populated woodland and ploughed arable land, with details of the dimensions and taxable value. The reduced values are another indication of the effects of the harrying. There are several mentions of hawks’ nests - a sign of the earls’ love of hunting.

BAGULEY (Bagelei) *Ranulph and Hamo hold Sinderland Green and Baguley. Aleard and Sucga and Wudumannm and Pat held it as 4 manors and were free men. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 1½ ploughs. The whole is waste. [Before 1066] it was worth 3s.*

BOLTON (Bodeltun) *6 carucates*

BOWDON (Bogedone) *The same Hamo holds Bowdon. Alweard held it and was a free man. There is land for 2 ploughs. There 2 Frenchman have 1 plough. There is priest and a church to which half of his hide belongs. There is a mill rendering 16s. it is worth 3s. It was waste and he found it so.*

BRAMHALL (Bramale) *The same Hamo holds Bramhall. Brun and Hakun held it as 2 manors and were free men. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 6 ploughs. There 1 radman and 2 villans and 2 bordars have 1 plough. There is woodland half a league long and as much wide, and half an enclosure, and 1 acre of meadow. It was worth 32s; now 5s. He found it waste.*

BREDBURY (Bretberie) *The same Richard de Vernon holds Bredbury, and Wulfric holds of him, who is also a free man. There is one hide paying geld. There is land for 3 ploughs. There 1 radman and 6 villans and 2 bordars have 1 plough. There is woodland 1 league long and half a league wide and 3 enclosures and 1 hawk eyrie. [Before 1066] it was worth 10s; now the same.*

CHEADLE (Cedde) *Gamal holds Cheadle of the earl. His father held it as a free man. There are 2 hides paying geld. There is land for 6 ploughs. In desmesne is 1 plough and 2 oxmen; and 4 villans and 3 bordars with 2 ploughs. There is woodland 1 league long and half wide, and an enclosure and a hawk’s eyrie, and 1 acre of meadow. It was and is worth 10s. The whole manor is 2 leagues long and 1 wide.*

CRIMBLES (Crimeles) *In Preston Crimbles 1 carucate*

DUNHAM (MASSEY) (Doneham) *The same Hamo holds Dunham. Alweard held it and was a free man. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne is 1 plough and 2 oxmen, and 2 villans and 1 bordar, and 1 acre of woodland, and in the city 1 house. It was worth 12s; 10s. It was waste.*

GREENHALGH (> GREENMOUNT) (Greneholf) *In Preston ... Greenhalgh 3 carucates*

HALE (Hale) *The same Hamo holds Hale. Alweard held it. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 2½ ploughs. There 3 villans with 1 radman have 2 ploughs. There is woodland 1 league long and a half wide, and an enclosure, and a hawk's eyrie, and half an acre of meadow. [Before 1066] it was worth 15s; now 12s. He found it waste.*

HOLLINGWORTH (Holisurde) *The earl himself holds ... Hollingworth at 1 virgate.*

LONGDENDALE (Langedenedale) *In Longdendale ... had 4 bovates of land to the geld. ... The whole of Longdendale is waste. There is woodland, not for pasture but suitable for hunting. The whole is 8 leagues long and 4 leagues broad. [Before 1066] it was worth 40s.*

LUDWORTH (Lodeuorde) *In Ludworth Brun had 4 bovates of land.*

MANCHESTER *The Church of St Mary and the Church of St Michael held in Manchester 1 carucate of land quit of every customary due except geld.*

NEWTON (Neweton) *In Newton Leofric and Leofnoth had 3 carucates of land to the geld. There is land for 5 ploughs. There is now 1 plough in demesne, and 13 villans and 4 bordars having 5 ploughs. There is a priest having 1 bordar, and 7 acres of meadow. There is woodland pasture 1 league long and a half broad. [Before 1066] worth £4; now 30s. Ralph holds it.*

NORBURY (Nordberie) *The same Bigod holds Norbury. Brun held it and was a free man. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 4 ploughs. There is one radman with 3 bordars has 1 plough. There is 1 acre of meadow, woodland 5 leagues long and 3 leagues wide, and 5 enclosures there. It was worth 10s; now 3s. He found it waste.*

NORTHENDEN (Norwordine) *Ranulph and Bigod hold of the earl Northenden. Wulfgeat held it as 1 manor and was a free man. There is 1 hide paying geld. There is land for 2 ploughs. It is waste. There is a church and 2 furlongs of woodland. It is worth 3s. [Before 1066] it was worth 10s.*

RADCLIFFE (Radeclive) *King Edward held Radcliffe as a manor. There is 1 hide and another hide belonging to Salford.*

ROCHDALE (Recedham) *Gamal, holdiomg 2 hides in Rochdale, was quit of his customs except these 6: housebreaking, highway robbery, breach of the king's peace, breach of a due date set by the reeve, continuance of fighting after the oath was made. For these he paid a fine of 40s.*

ROMILEY (Rumelie) *The earl himself holds ...Romiley at 1 virgate The whole was and is waste.*

SALFORD *King Edward held Salford. There are 3 hides and 12 carucates of waste land and forest 3 leagues long and as much broad and there are several enclosures and a hawk's eyrie.... The whole manor of Salford with the hundred rendered £37.4s.*

SINDERLAND (Sundreland) *See Baguley above.*

WARBURTON (Wareburgetune) *Rawn held it and was a free man. There is half a hide paying geld. There is land for 1 plough. There is 1 radman and 2 villans and 1 bordar with half a plough. It was worth 5s [before 1066]; now 2s. It was waste.*

River DOUGLAS rises on **Winter Hill**, joins the River **Yarrow** and meanders to meet the River Ribble. It is first recorded in 1220 as the *Douglis* and takes its name from the Celtic *Dubo-glais*, meaning 'black or dark stream'.

DOUGLAS GREEN is a former industrial area of **Pendleton** where William *Douglas* (1745-1810) established one of the first, if not the first, and largest cotton mill in **Salford** in 1781-1782.

DOVE STONE RESERVOIR lies above the village of **Greenfield** on **Saddleworth Moor** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The reservoir was completed in 1968 but takes its name from a local landmark, *Dove Stone*, which is recorded in 1771. The stone acquired its name from its shape, which was originally similar to a dove, but years of erosion have flattened the top and it is now sometimes referred to as "Duck Stone".

DRINKWATER PARK is a 62-hectare park on the **River Irwell** in **Prestwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It was originally a country estate dating back to 1389 and was purchased in 1788 by Peter *Drinkwater* (1742-1801), a cotton manufacturer and textile merchant of Northwich. The estate became known as Drinkwater Park and was

sold to **Salford** and Prestwich councils in 1902 for a smallpox isolation hospital. The hospital was closed in 1943 and the land was eventually converted into a public park, which is now administered by the Forestry Commission.

DROYLSDEN is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** on the River **Tame**, about 6.5 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in about 1250 as *Drilisden* and the modern spelling is found from 1619-1620. It may mean 'valley of the dry stream or stream', from Old English *drȳge* ('dry, dried up') + *welles* ('stream, well') + *-denu* ('valley') but it has also been suggested that it could mean 'Drygel's valley' from an Anglo-Saxon personal name. Old English *drȳgel* means 'a small person of dried-up appearance'.

DUCIE BRIDGE There are two bridges in central **Manchester** called Ducie Bridge: Ducie road bridge over the River **Irk** built in 1814-16 and a Great Ducie Street railway bridge over Great Ducie Street built by the Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1842 as it extended its line to **Victoria** station. Both are named after the *Ducie* family of landowners who inherited **Strangeways** Hall in the early 18th century. Apart from owning land, the family seem to have had little to do with Manchester, although the 3rd Baron Ducie (1739-1808) was an MP for Lancaster in 1784-1785. The family name originated in the 13th century as an Anglicised version of the Gaelic O'Dubhghusa, a personal name meaning 'black vigour'.

DUKINFIELD is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, although included in **Cheshire** until 1974. It lies on the south bank of the **River Tame**, east of **Manchester** city centre. The name was recorded in the 12th century as *Dokenfeld*, meaning 'field of ducks', from Old English *dūcena* ('of ducks') + *feld* ('open space, field'). Presumably the ducks were on the River Tame but they could also mean domesticated ducks.

DUMPLINGTON is a locality in **Urmston** in the City of **Salford**, about 9 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1229 as *Dumplinton* and its modern spelling is found from 1623. The meaning is usually given as 'the village or enclosure by a pool', from the Old English *dympele*- ('a dip, pool') + *-ing-* ('associated with') + *-tūn* ('enclosure, village'). An alternative is that it means 'the village or enclosure of the followers of *Dumola*', from the personal name + *-inga-* ('followers of, named after') + *-tūn*.

DUNHAM MASSEY is a 17th-century stately home and 120-hectare estate with deer and other wildlife such as herons. It is located on the **River Bollin** south-west of **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The nearby village of *Dunham* is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and means 'homestead on a hill' from the Old English *dūn-*, 'hill' + *-hām*, 'village, homestead'. *Massey* was added as the name of the Anglo-Norman de Masci barons and is first recorded in 1362. The Massey line died out in the 14th century but the house remained in private ownership until 1976. It is now owned and administered by the National Trust. See Domesday Book box

DUNSCAR is an area close to **Egerton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, that was formerly in **Lancashire**. It is also the site of Dunscar Wood. The name was first recorded in the 12th century as *Dungecarre* and means 'dung marsh' from the Old English *dyngge* ('dung') + *carr* ('swamp').

DUNWOOD PARK is a 12-hectare public park in **Crompton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The land was donated to Crompton council by Captain Abram Crompton, a local landowner, in 1911 and the park was opened in 1912. At the time the land was described as 'a high hill, wooded in parts', which fits its Old English derivation – *dūn* ('hill') + *wudu* ('wood, forest'). In 1926 a fountain was erected in the park 'as a mark of appreciation of the self-sacrifice and devotion of women of Crompton during the Great War'.

E

EAGLEY is a village in **Turton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is recorded only as *Eagley Bridge* until the early 19th century, but the stream was harnessed to power cotton mills from 1796. The owners built a model village named simply *Eagley* for the workers. The mills were closed in the 1970s but have been converted into a residential complex. The name may derive from the Old English *āc*, meaning ‘oak’ + *lēah*, ‘woodland clearing’. Given its position on *Eagley Brook*, it is perhaps more likely that it comes from Old English *ēa*, meaning ‘river’, + *lēah*.

EALEES is a rural area south-east of Littleborough in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. *Ealees Hall* is recorded in 1561 and the name means ‘clearings beside a brook or river’, from the Old English *ēa* (‘river’) + *lēah* (woodland clearing’). The reference is to **Hollingworth Brook**, which flows down the *Ealees Valley*, merges with *Ealees Brook* and flows into the River **Roch** at Littleborough.

EASTLANDS is a regenerated area 1.5 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre that was formerly known as **Bradford**. The name seems to have been first used in the early 1990s when, following the closure of *Bradford colliery* in 1969, the area was transformed for the hosting of the 2002 Commonwealth Games. The centrepiece was the stadium that is now known as the **Etihad Stadium**.

EATOCK LODGE is a 1.21-hectare nature reserve in **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It was designated as a local nature reserve in 2004 and occupies part of the site of *Eatock Colliery*, which opened in 1890 but was shut down in 1936. The colliery was built on and took its name from *Eatock Farm*, which is recorded in 1739 as probably belonging in John *Eatock*. The origin of the family name *Eatock* is uncertain but it has been suggested that it may be Old English *ēast* (‘east’) + *stoc* (‘outlying settlement or farmstead’).

ECCLES is a town in the City of **Salford**, approximately 6.5 kilometres west of the centre of **Manchester**, previously in **Lancashire**. It is first recorded in about 1200 as *Eccles* and is thought to be derived from the ancient British word *eclēs* or *eglēs*, meaning ‘a church’, which may be related to the Latin *ecclesia* and the Greek *ekklesia*. Both mean ‘gathering’ and hence came to be related to ecclesiastical gatherings. However, there is no record of a church in the area before the 13th century, and it has been suggested that the Anglo-Saxons, who invaded the area in the early 7th century, understood the concept of the church and perpetuated the name, despite not being Christians. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

ECKERSLEY MILL is a retail centre in **Wigan** that is being developed as part of the **Wigan Pier** conservation area. It takes its name from *Eckersley Mills*, a complex of cotton mills built between 1883 and 1920 for *Nathaniel ffarington Eckersley* and Co.. Many of the buildings were demolished in the 1960s.

EDGELEY is a district in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is first recorded in 1287 as *Edisheleg* and is derived from the Old English *edisc*, meaning ‘enclosure’ and + *lēah*, ‘wood clearing’. *Edgeley Park Stadium* was built in 1891 for *Stockport Rugby Club* but since 1903 it has been the home of *Stockport County Football Club*. *Edgeley* gives its name to *Edgeley, North Dakota, USA*.

EGERTON is a commuter village about 5 kilometres north of **Bolton** town centre in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It was originally known as *Walmesley* after the family that owned the land. In 1663 the step-daughter of James *Walmesley* married Ralph *Egerton* and the area was then given his family name.

ELIZABETH GASKELL HOUSE is a museum on *Plymouth Grove* in the **Chorlton-on-Medlock** area of the City of **Manchester** dedicated to the life and work of the Victorian novelist, *Elizabeth Gaskell* (1810-1865). The house was built in 1835-1841 and *Elizabeth Gaskell* lived there from 1850 to 1865. It was auctioned off in 1913 on the death of *Elizabeth Gaskell*’s daughter, *Margaret Emily “Meta” Gaskell*. It was purchased by the University of Manchester in 1969 and used for the university’s *International Society*. The university gave up the building in 2000 and it was acquired by the *Manchester Historic Buildings Trust* as a museum to commemorate *Elizabeth Gaskell*. (For the *Valette* picture of *Plymouth Grove*, see Appendix 2)

ELK MILL today is a shopping centre in **Royton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It was built on the site of *Elk Mill*, the last cotton mill built in **Lancashire** or what is now **Greater Manchester**, which was completed in 1926. It was built by the *Shiloh Spinning Company*, which was formed in 1874 and took its name from *Shiloh* in

Tennessee in the USA, from where the first shipment of raw cotton to Lancashire had come in the late 18th century. The company named their Royton mill after the *Elk River* in Tennessee. Elk Mill was closed in 1998 and demolished.

ELLENBROOK is a suburb of **Worsley** in the City of **Salford**, about 11 kilometres west of **Manchester** city centre. Ellenbrook is first recorded in 1544 as *Elynbroke* and is named after the nearby *Ellen Brook*. *Broke* clearly means 'brook, stream' but sources often state that the first element is unknown. However, it has been suggested that it is the Old English *ellern* ('elder tree') or *elri* ('alder tree'), describing the vegetation along the banks.

ELLESMERE PARK is a residential area of **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. It dates from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when fields were laid out for spacious housing. The name is taken from the owner of the land, Francis Charles **Egerton**, 3rd Earl of *Ellesmere* (1847–1914). The family took their title from *Ellesmere* in Shropshire, an eponym that dates from 1172 and means 'Elli's lake'.

ELTON is a suburb of **Bury** that lies on the **River Irwell**. It is first recorded in 1246 as *Elleton* and is said to mean 'Ella's village or farmstead', from an Anglo-Saxon personal name + *-tūn*.

ERNOCROFT is a rural area of **Compstall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, and Ernocroft Wood forms part of **Etherow Country Park**. The name is recorded in 1226 as *Arnwicroft* and with its modern spelling in 1767. This is said to be an eponym derived from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Earnwīg* + *croft* ('small enclosed field').

ETCHELLS is a historical area of north-east **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1154 as *Hecheles* and with its modern spelling from 1302. It is derived from the Old English *ēceles*, meaning 'addition', in the sense that this was land added to another place. From 1860 it was divided between **Stockport** Etchells and **Northen** (or Northern) Etchells, meaning land attached to **Northenden**. In 1931, Northen Etchells was shifted to the City of **Manchester** and became part of **Wythenshawe**. Stockport Etchells became what are now **Gatley** and **Heald Green**.

River ETHEROW is a tributary of the **River Goyt** that rises on Pikenaze Moor in the **Derbyshire Peak District** and flows through **Longdendale** to meet the Goyt north of **Marple**. The name is recorded in about 1226 as *Ederhou*, the name of a hill, meaning 'stream hill-spur', from *ēdre* ('stream') + *hōh* ('hill-spur, slightly higher piece of ground'). *Etherow* is found with its modern spelling from 1767. The river gives its name to Etherow Country Park in the Borough of **Stockport**.

ETHROP GREEN was a farm and hamlet in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** close to **Manchester International Airport**. It is recorded in 1535 as *Athrop*, from Old English *throp* or Old Norse *thorp*, both meaning 'outlying farm'. However, the name was given as *Aplethropp* in 1558, suggesting it could mean 'apple farm', from Old English *æppel*. The farm was demolished when the airport was extended in 1989.

ETIHAD STADIUM was built as the City of **Manchester** Stadium for the 2002 Commonwealth Games in the area now known as **Eastlands** (formerly **Bradford**). In 2003, Manchester City Football Club moved to the stadium from their **Maine Road** ground and in 2011 a sponsorship agreement with *Etihad* (Arabic for 'union, unity') Airways led to a change of name for the stadium.

EXCHANGE was the **Manchester** trading centre for the *exchange* of cotton and other commodities. The first was built in 1727 and rebuilt in 1806-1809. This was enlarged in 1847-1849 and its name was changed to the *Royal Exchange* after a visit by Queen **Victoria** in 1851. The third Exchange was completed in 1874. It was vast and lavishly decorated but was finally closed in 1968 with the decline of Manchester's cotton industry and was converted into the Royal Exchange Theatre.

EXCHANGE STATION was opened by the London & North Western Railway on 30 June 1884 and was closed by British Railways on 5 May 1969. It took its name from the nearby Manchester Cotton *Exchange*. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

F

FAILSWORTH is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** approximately 6.5 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Fayleswrthe* as is thought to possibly mean 'fenced enclosure' from Old English *fegels* (possibly 'a hurdle, a fence') + *-worth* ('enclosure'). (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

FAIRFIELD is a suburb of **Droylsden** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** that was part of **Lancashire** until 1974. Although there are other places in Britain with this name, *Fairfield* in Tameside dates only from 1783, when Moravian refugees established a church and 22-hectare settlement with the aspirational name of *Fairfield*. The area subsequently became an important centre of cotton manufacturing. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

FALINGE is a location in **Rochdale** on the River **Spodden** that also gives its name to Falinge Park. The name is recorded in 1323 as *Falynge*, meaning 'fallow land', from the Old English *fælgung*, meaning 'fallow land' or 'newly-ploughed land'. Falinge Park was opened in 1906.

FALLOWFIELD is a suburb of **Manchester** some 5 kilometres south of the city centre. It is first recorded in 1317 as *Fallafeld* and is said to mean either literally 'fallow field' from the Old English *faelh* ('fallow or newly-ploughed land that has not been planted') or 'fallow-coloured field' from *fealu* ('pale brown, yellowish') + *-feld*.

FARNWORTH is a town on the **River Irwell** and **River Croal** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, 3.2 kilometres south-east of Bolton itself and 13 kilometres north-west of **Manchester**. The name is first recorded in 1185 as *Farnewurd* but the modern spelling is found from 1278. The name means 'fern enclosure' from Old English *fearn* ('fern') + *worth* ('enclosure').

FEATHERSTALL is a locality in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** that takes its name from *Featherstall Brook*, a tributary of the River **Roch**. The name is not well documented and there is little agreement as to its origin or meaning. One suggestion is that it could mean 'place of feathers' from Old English *fether*, another that it is an Old Norse personal name, and another that it could be Old English *fodor* ('fodder, cattle feed') + *-stall* ('stable, cattle stall'). However, there is little evidence for any of these suggestions and none is thought particularly likely.

FERNHILL or **FERN HILL** is an area of northern **Bury**. There are many places named Fern Hill or Fernhill in England, all meaning 'fern-covered hill' from the Old English *fearn* + *hyll*. Fern Hill in Bury is recorded in 1851.

FIRSWOOD is a residential area of **Stretford** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is recorded on Ordnance Survey maps at the beginning of the 19th century and would seem to take its name from *Fir Farm*.

FIRWOOD PARK is a residential area of **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name seems to originate in 1844, when James Cheetham built *Firwood Mill* beside the **Rochdale** Canal, but may have been the name of the area at an earlier date which had taken its name from the local vegetation. In 1990 the area was developed into a large housing estate which perpetuated the name of Firwood. Firwood Mill was demolished in 1960.

FISHPOOL is an area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** south of the town centre. The name is first recorded in 1843 as an agricultural area and was adopted for the residential district that developed in the late 19th century. The name may refer to a local fish pond or to a landowner or farmer by the name of *Fishpool*.

FITTON HILL is a residential area of **Oldham**, about 3 kilometres south of the town centre. The area was developed for residential purposes in the 1950s and 1960s on the land of *Fitton Hill Farm*, which had been occupied by the Fitton family since the early 17th century.

The FLASHES OF WIGAN AND LEIGH is an 800-hectare nature reserve in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** composed of a chain of 8 sites, including **Abram Flash**, **Amberswood**, **Bickershaw** country park, **Lightshaw Meadows**, **Pennington Flash** country park, **Three Sisters**, **Wigan Flashes** and **Viridor Wood**. It takes its name from the towns of *Wigan* and *Leigh* + *flash*, a lake formed by the subsidence of disused mine workings.

FLETCHER MOSS PARK is a 36-hectare botanical garden in **Didsbury** in the City of **Manchester**. It is named after *Fletcher Moss* (1865-1919), the son of a wealthy corn merchant, who purchased the area in 1912 and donated it to the City of Manchester in 1915.

FLIXTON is a town in the Borough of **Trafford**, about 10 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1177 with its modern spelling and means '*Flik's* village or estate', from the Norse personal name + *-tūn*, suggesting Danish settlement in the area at an earlier period.

FLOWERY FIELD is an area of **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is aspirational and is first recorded in 1845. It is said to have been chosen by factory owner Thomas Ashton (1808-75), who provided good working and housing conditions for his employees.

FOGGBROOK is an area of **Offerton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is only recorded in 1849 when it referred to a village and a bridge over **Poise Brook**, but must date from mediaeval times as the suggested meaning is 'grassy stream', from Old English *fogga-* ('long grass left standing in winter') + *brōc* ('stream').

FOG LANE PARK is a 19-hectare public park in East **Didsbury**. The land was purchased by the local authority in 1926 and the park takes its name from *Yorkshire Fog*, a strain of grass that grows in the area. The name of the grass is first recorded in 1874 and is said to come from its appearance, which resembles that of the smoke billowing from the chimneys of Yorkshire factories. However, this may be folk etymology - *fogga* is an Old English word meaning 'grass'.

FREEHOLD is a residential area in **Werneth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name dates from the 1860s when John **Platt**, the mayor of Oldham and the owner of Platt textile machinery factory, purchased some *freehold* land and built houses for the company's employees which enabled them to vote under the franchise laws of the time.

FREETOWN is a suburb of **Bury** that was previously known as **Chesham**. The name dates from the 1820s, when one Thomas Greenhalgh bought some land that included Chesham Mill and renamed it Freetown Mill because it was outside the parish boundaries and therefore *free* from tithes. The mill was demolished late in the 20th century and the land is now occupied by Freetown Business Park.

FREE TRADE HALL was a concert hall in central **Manchester** close to **St Peter's Square** built in 1853-1856 on the site of the Peterloo massacre. The Manchester historian A J P Taylor described it as the only building in the world named after an idea – that there should be free trade between nations without restrictions on imports or exports. It was built on land donated by Richard Cobden (1804-1865), a leader of the Free Trade movement, to commemorate the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 – one of the central demands of the movement. The Free Trade Hall was badly damaged in the Manchester blitz of December 1940, rebuilt after the war, closed in 1997 and again rebuilt as a hotel, retaining the original façade.

FRENCHES is an area of **Greenfield** south of **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It includes Frenches Wharf Marina, a waterside facility opened in 2013 as part of the restored Huddersfield Narrow Canal. The area is recorded in 1673 as *Frenches* Farm, thought to be named from the nickname (*Frenchy*) of Thomas Marralew, one of the French Huguenot Mallalieu family that had settled in Saddleworth in the 16th century. Frenches Fulling Mill was built in 1715 or 1719, and Frenches Wharf dates from the construction of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal in 1794-1811.

FRIARMERE or **FRIAR MERE** is a hamlet in **Delph** in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. A church was built in 1765 on a hillside overlooking Delph but the name is recorded in 1468 as *Friar Mere* from Old English *frere* ('friar') + *mære* ('boundary'), probably referring to an outlying house belonging to the Black Friars' from Roche Abbey in Rotherham that is said to have been built in Delph.

FRIEZLAND is a village south-west of **Greenfield** in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, about 6.5 kilometres east of the town of Oldham and part of the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974. The name is recorded as *Freesland* in 1765 and with its modern spelling in 1783. It clearly relates to the northern Dutch province of *Friesland* but the nature of this relationship is uncertain and three different suggestions have been put forward. The first suggests that it is derived from *Fresa*, a *Frisian* descended from one of the original tribes who invaded England along with the Angles, Saxons and Jutes in the 5th and 6th centuries. The second is that it was applied to an

area of Greenfield in the early 19th century because many Dutch or *Frisian* immigrants had come to work at the Royal George Mills, but this is later than the first record of 'Friezland'. The third and perhaps the most likely possibility is that the name comes from *Friezland* or Dutch Oats, which were introduced into Yorkshire in about 1740 and became popular with upland farmers because of good yield.

FUR LANE or **FURLANE** is a residential area of **Greenfield** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. Fur Lane farmhouse and cottage are said to date back to 1645 and are found beside an old packhorse route across the moors to the east. The name in all probability means 'boundary road', deriving from the Middle English *marfur*, 'a boundary furrow', and *lane*. The village itself lies on the boundary of **Saddleworth** parish.

G

GALE is a village north of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is recorded in 1225 as *Gail*, from the Old Norse *geil*, meaning 'a ravine', referring to its position in the valley of the **River Roch**.

GALLIPOLI GARDENS is a 0.07-hectare public park and war memorial in **Bury**. The memorial commemorating those killed in the First World War was originally erected in 1922 at the **Wellington Barracks** in Bury but, following the closure of the barracks, was moved in 2009 to Sparrow Park in central Bury. The park was renamed Gallipoli Gardens in memory of the heavy losses incurred by the Lancashire Fusiliers during the *Gallipoli* campaign of 1915-1916. *Gallipoli* in Turkey is derived from the Greek *Kallipolis*, meaning 'beautiful town'.

GARDEN SUBURB is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, approximately 3 kilometres south of the town centre. The area was built in 1909 as an experimental development with low-density housing, tree-lined roads and public gardens, all inspired by the 'garden city' movement of Ebenezer Howard. It was named after Hampstead *Garden Suburb*, which had been built in north London in 1907.

GARRET or **GARRATT** was an inner-city area of **Manchester** beside the River **Medlock**. According to **Elizabeth Gaskell**, 'It derives its former name from an old black and white hall of the time of Richard III.' *Garret* Hall had tall towers or turrets that gave it its name, from the Middle English *garret* meaning 'watch tower', as it overlooked and perhaps defended the confluence of the Medlock and **Shooters Brook**. The last parts of the hall were not demolished until 1910 but much of the area was industrialised by the end of the 18th century and Garret Mill, believed to have been built in about 1760, is said to be the first water-powered cotton mill in Manchester.

GARRICK THEATRE, Stockport See **STOCKPORT GARRICK THEATRE**

GATHURST is a village in **Shevington**, west of **Wigan** on the north bank of the River **Douglas**. The name is recorded in 1547 as *Gateshurst*. This is usually said to mean 'wooded hill of the goats' from Old English *gāt* + *hyrst*, but it has also been suggested it could mean 'gate or pass by the wooded hill', from Old English *geat* + *hyrst* because of its position beside the River Douglas.

GATLEY is a suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, 5 kilometres north-east of **Manchester Airport**. The name is first recorded in 1290 as *Gateclyve*, meaning 'a cliff or bank where goats are kept', from Old English *gāta* + *clife*. The current spelling is found from 1602. It was formerly part of **Cheshire**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

GAYTHORN is an inner-city area of the City of **Manchester**, south of the city centre. Its origin is obscure but it is known that the Gaythorn Tunnel, which carries the Rochdale Canal beneath **Deansgate**, dates from 1794, and the Gaythorn Gas Works were built in the area in 1825 and operated for over 100 years. The *Gaythorn* family website suggests that the name may be a corruption of *Heythorn*, which itself is a corruption of *Hawthorn*, from the Old English *haga* + *thorn*. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

'**GAY VILLAGE**' is an area of central **Manchester** 'with a significant gay population and a high concentration of businesses catering primarily to this community' (OED). The first recorded use of the term is from 1975, referring to Coconut Grove, Miami. It seems to have been used in Manchester from the early 1990s.

GEE CROSS is a village or suburb of **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** that was formerly part of **Cheshire**. It is said that the village centre dates back to the 11th century, although it is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. The name first appears as *Gee Crose* in 1629 and takes its name from a cross erected by the Gee family, who lived in the area as far back as 1494.

GIANT'S SEAT is a wooded hill near **Ringley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, overlooking the River **Irwell**. Although thought to be the site of a prehistoric hill fort, the name is not recorded until the building of the Manchester Bolton & Bury Canal in 1791-1808, when two locks were called Giant's Seat and the lock-keeper's cottage was named Giant's Seat House. Since 1954 the hill has been a Scout camp site.

GIDLOW is a residential area north of **Wigan**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Guddelawe*, meaning 'Gidda's hill' from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *hlāw* ('hill'). There is also evidence that it is named

after the *Gyudelowe* or *Goodlaw* family from nearby **Aspull**, who are known to have lived in the area in the 13th century.

GIGG is a suburban area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** that is home to Gigg Lane, Bury Football Club's ground, originally built in 1885. The name *Gigg* comes from *gigge*, a hole in the ground with a fire used for drying flax in the linen-making process. Flax growing and linen making were common in **Lancashire** and are commemorated by Flax Moss near Haslingden and Gigg Road in Thelwall near Warrington.

GILDA BROOK is a tributary of the River **Irwell** that runs from north to south through **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. It is first recorded in the 13th century as *le Guldenaleford*. The derivation is uncertain but it may come from Old English *gylden* ('covered with golden flowers such as marigolds') + *-halh* ('nook or corner of land'). Today the stream is mostly culverted but its name is retained in Gilda Brook Road in Eccles and **Hope** (meaning 'remote valley') probably refers to Gilda Brook.

GILLBENT is a residential area of **Cheadle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded in 1661 as *Gilbent* but the origin is uncertain. It has been suggested that it may be Old English *cild* ('child, young person') + *beonet* ('bent-grass') indicating that this was a grassy area (i.e. a common) belonging to or frequented by young people.

GILNOW is a residential area to the west of **Bolton**. The name is not well-documented before the 18th century, when it was generally spelled *Gilnough*. Its origin is usually said to be unknown, but it has been suggested that the first element may be from the Old Norse *gil*, meaning 'valley, ravine', in reference to Gilnow Brook, a tributary of the nearby River **Croal**.

GIN PIT is a village near **Astley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** which takes its name from the *Gin Pit Colliery* in the **Lancashire** coalfield. The colliery began production in the 1840s and the village developed a few decades later. *Gin* is short for *engine* and describes the horse-powered winding gear in use in many British coalfields since the 18th century. The first houses in the village were built in 1881. The colliery closed in 1958.

GLAZE BROOK is a minor tributary of the River **Mersey**. It rises south-east of **Leigh** and flows 35 kilometres into the Mersey and the **Manchester Ship Canal** at **Cadishead**. For much of its length it forms the boundary between **Greater Manchester** and **Cheshire**. The name is first recorded in about 1195 as *Glasebroc* and gives its name to the village of Glazebrook in Cheshire. The name means 'grey-green stream', and probably derives from the Celtic *glas*, meaning 'grey-green or blue' + Old English *brōc* ('stream').

GLODWICK is a residential area of **Oldham** to the south-east of the town centre. It is first recorded in the 1190s as *Glodic* and the derivation is uncertain. Its meaning may involve reduplication – the first element may be related to the Celtic *clawdd*, meaning 'ditch', and the second element may be the Old English *dic*, also meaning 'ditch or dyke'. This sometimes happened when the second element is added at a later date to explain the meaning of the first element. Glodwick is close to an old Roman road and the ditch may be a fosse beside the road.

GMEX or the Greater Manchester Exhibition Centre is an exhibition, concert and conference centre in central **Manchester**. It started life as Manchester Central terminus, which was built by the Midland Railway and Cheshire Lines Committee in 1880 with the second largest span of any railway station in Britain. It closed in May 1969 and was converted into GMEX, which opened in 1982. Since 2007 it has been known simply as Manchester Central. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

GODLEY is a suburb of **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is first recorded in 1285 as *Godel* and *Godeleigh*, and with its modern spelling in 1577. It is derived from the personal name *Gōda* and Old English *-lēah*, meaning 'woodland clearing, pasture'.

GOLBORNE is a town in the Borough of **Wigan**, 22.5 kilometres west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1187 as *Goldeburn*, meaning 'stream where marsh-marigolds grow', from Old English *golde* ('marsh marigold') + *burna* ('stream'). The town now stands on Millingford Brook and it is assumed that the name changed to Golborne at some point.

GOOSE GREEN is a former hamlet in **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, approximately 13 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in 1799 and is assumed to mean 'village green where geese were grazed'.

GOOSE GREEN is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented but is assumed to have once been a village green where people grazed their geese.

GORE BROOK is a tributary of the **Mersey** that rises in **Droylesden** and flows west to **Gorton** Reservoir and **Platt Fields Park**, where it becomes **Chorlton** Brook, which then joins the Mersey close to **Sale Water Park**. Gore Brook gives its name to **Gorton**. In 1971, Manchester City Council approved an outline planning strategy for Gorton to develop the **Gore Brook** Valley Park into a conservation area linking Sunny Brow Park in the west with **Debdale Park** in the east, along the line of the Gore Brook. This was finally designated on 22 December 1993. The name was recorded in about 1250 as *Gorbroke*, from the Old English *gor*, meaning 'dirt or mud', + *brōc*, meaning 'stream'.

GORSE HILL is a residential area of **Stretford** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name originates from *Gorse Hill Farm*, which was built in the 18th century and presumably named because of the local vegetation. The farm was purchased in 1934 to make way for residential development and was demolished in 1937.

GORSEY BANK today is an industrial and recreational area west of **Stockport** on the south *bank* of the **Mersey**. The name is recorded in 1844, when it was the site of cotton mills powered by the river. These had been demolished by 1935, when the large Gorsey Bank housing estate was built. This was cleared in the mid-1990s and the Aurora business park was established on the site from 2007. The name means 'river bank where gorse grows, from the Old English *gorst*'.

GORTON is a suburb of **Manchester**, south-east of the city centre. It takes its name from **Gore Brook**, meaning 'dirty stream', which flows through the area. The name is first recorded in 1282 as *Gorton*, from the Old English *gor*, meaning 'dirt or mud', + *tūn*, meaning 'settlement or farmstead'. *Gor* can also mean 'gore, clotted blood', and this has led to an alternative suggestion that it means 'Gore Town' from a bloody battle between the Saxons and the Danes, but this can be dismissed as folk etymology.

River GOYT is a tributary of the River **Mersey** which rises on the moors west of Buxton in **Derbyshire** and flows north-west to join the River **Tame** at **Stockport** to form the Mersey. The name is first recorded in 1208 as the *Guit* and comes from the Celtic *gwyth* or, more likely, Old English *gȳte* or *gota* meaning 'channel'.

GRAINS BAR is a residential area north-east of **Shaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name means 'toll gate on the road to/from Grains', which is or was a village east of **Diggle**. *Grains* is derived from the Old English *grein*, meaning 'a river fork or confluence'. The turnpike to/from Grains was built at the end of the 18th century but the name Grains Bar can be dated to the 17th century and refers to a toll *bar* erected on the road at the border between **Lancashire** and the **West Riding of Yorkshire**.

GRANGE is a moorland hamlet in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, north east of Oldham itself. A *grange* was an outlying farm belonging to a monastery, from the Old French *grange*, originally meaning 'granary'. The present hamlet was originally recorded in 1452 as **Castleshaw** Grange. Like **Friarmere**, it was linked to Roche Abbey near Rotherham until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538.

GRASSCROFT is a village in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** that was part of the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974. The name is first recorded in 1728 with its current spelling and means simply 'grass field' from modern English *grass* + *croft* ('small field').

GRAVEL HOLE is an area of **Thornham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. There are several places called Gravel Hole or Gravelhole across Britain and all derive their names from *gravel* pits or quarries that were once found there. Most date from the 19th century and Gravel Hole in Oldham is first recorded on the early Ordnance Survey maps of 1805-1845.

GREAT BOLTON See **BOLTON**

GREAT LEVER is part of the area named *Lever* which consists of several settlements – **Darcy Lever**, Great Lever, **Lever Edge** and **Little Lever** – south of **Bolton**. The name *Lever* is recorded in 1212 as *Lefre*, from the Old English *lefer* ('rush, reed'), so that the entire area would mean 'where the rushes or reeds grow' on the banks of the **Irwell** and **Croal**. Great Lever is a suburb of Bolton, lying about 4 kilometres south of Bolton town centre. The name is recorded in Latin as *Magna Leure* in 1285 and in English as *Great Leure* in 1326.

GREAT MOOR is a suburb of **Stockport**, which was formerly in **Cheshire**. As far back as 1348, this area of southern Stockport was referred to as *del Mor*, from the Old English *mor*, meaning 'a marsh or barren upland'. By the 19th century it was divided into Great Moor and Little Moor.

GREATER MANCHESTER was formed as a county on 1 April 1974 from parts of south-east **Lancashire**, north-east **Cheshire** and a few parts of the **West Riding of Yorkshire**. Prior to 1974, governance the area was divided between the three counties and there had long been demands for a unified authority to coordinate political and social affairs. The term *Greater Manchester* was invented in April 1935 by the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*. Under the headline 'Greater Manchester – The Ratepayers' Solution', it noted the 'increasing demands for the exploration of the possibilities of a greater merger of public services throughout Manchester and the surrounding municipalities'. It took until 1974 for Greater Manchester to be formed into a county with ten metropolitan boroughs: **Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford** and **Wigan**. Eight of these names – **Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport** and **Wigan** – were taken from the largest towns in the new boroughs, but Trafford was selected because of its sporting venues and historical associations, and Tameside was a newly-invented name taken from the river that flows through the borough.

GREAVE is an area of **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It would seem that it takes its name from the *Greave* family, who are recorded as owning land in the area, beginning with Ottiwell Greave, who purchased a 'messuage' in 1569.

GREENACRES, GREENACRES HILL and **GREENACRES MOOR** are all residential areas in north **Oldham**, about 11.25 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. The names are not well documented before 1620, when a stone cross was noted on the edge of Greenacres Moor. The name literally means 'green fields', from the Old English *grene* + *aecer* ('plot of cultivated land; measure of land which a yoke of oxen could plough in a day').

GREENFIELD is a small residential area north-east of **Mossley** on the edge of **Saddleworth** Moor. It shares its name with Greenfield Brook, which meets **Chew Brook** above the village of Greenfield. The name is recorded in 1323 as *Grenefeld* and literally means 'green field', or 'green open land'.

GREENGATE is an inner-city suburb in the east of the City of **Salford** that is often said to be the heart or core of the city. Salford received its Borough Charter in 1230 and was at that time formed around three streets, one of which was Greengate, although it is not clear when the term came into use as early records call it Back Salford. The name evidently dates from mediaeval times as its name comes from the Old English *grene* ('a grassy spot, a village green') + Old Norse *gata* ('a road, a street'), and would therefore mean 'the street by or leading to the green'. Henry III gave Salford the right to hold a weekly market and an annual fair in 1228 and it is believed that these were held on a rectangular green on Greengate. The area is currently undergoing major regeneration.

GREENHEYS is an area south of **Manchester** city centre. It was formerly a residential area but it is now largely occupied by the Manchester Science Park. It takes its name from *Greenheys*, a house built in 1791 by Thomas Quincey, father of the famous Manchester author, Thomas de Quincey (1785-1859). The house was originally named 'Greenhay Hall' by Mary Quincy to reflect its rural surroundings at the end of the 18th century. Elizabeth Gaskell opened her 1848 novel 'Mary Barton' by contrasting rural Green Heys Fields with the 'bustling manufacturing town' of Manchester: 'Here in their seasons may be seen the country business of haymaking, ploughing, etc., which are such pleasant mysteries for townspeople to watch: and here the artisan, deafened with noise of tongues and engines, may come to listen awhile to the delicious sounds of rural life: the lowing of cattle, the milkmaid's call, the clatter and cackle of poultry in the farmyards'. The Quincy house was demolished in 1852 and the area deteriorated until it was cleared in the 1960s and 1970s.

GREEN HILL Green Hill is a common place name in England and it clearly derived from being on or nearby a green hill. Green Hill in **Wigan** is a small residential area 2.3 kilometres north of the town centre. It dates from the mid-

19th century when there were just a few cottages on a green hill, one of them named *Green Hill Cottage*. The current urban development, which takes its name from the area surrounding the cottage, mainly dates from the 1930s.

GREENLOW CROSS, GREENLOW MARSH and **GREENLOW HEATH** were all at one time part of land named simply as Greenlow or Grindlelow in an area south and east of **Manchester** in what are now **Chorlton-on-Medlock** and **Gorton**. The name seems to date from the early 14th century but was divided in 1609 into Greenlow Heath in what is now Chorlton-on-Medlock and Greenlow Marsh or Cross in Gorton. The name simply means 'green hill' from Old English *grēne* + *hlāw*. The alternative spelling, Grindlelow, seems to be merely a corruption of Greenlow.

GREENMOUNT is a village in **Tottington** in the north of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is modern, dating from 1843, and is a re-spelling of *Green Mount*, which is thought to be a rationalisation of the older *Greenhalgh*. *Greenhalgh* gets a passing mention in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Greneholf*, meaning 'green hollow', from Old English *grene* ('a grassy spot') + *holh* ('hollow'). The area was also formerly known as **Nailer's Green**. See Domesday Book box

GRINDLOW MARSH *See* **LONGSIGHT**

GRISTLEHURST is an area and a forest in **Heywood** on the River **Roch** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, formerly in **Lancashire**. It is recorded in 1336 as *Gristelyhyrst* but the meaning is unclear. Old English *hyrst* means 'a wooded hill' and Old English *gristle* meant the same as modern English 'gristle', but why this was appropriate for the name of the settlement is uncertain.

GROSVENOR SQUARE, also known as **All Saints Park**, is a public garden in **Chorlton-on-Medlock**, south of **Manchester** city centre. Grosvenor Square and Grosvenor Street were laid out in about 1794 and named after *Grosvenor Square* in London as part of the gentrification process of the area, in which fashionable and aristocratic names were given to new streets. Grosvenor Street in London was developed in 1725-31 by Sir Richard *Grosvenor* (1689-1732), whose family name comes from the French meaning 'large or fat hunter'. All Saints Church was built beside Grosvenor Square in 1820 and the churchyard and cemetery occupied much of Grosvenor Square until the 1930s. (For Valette pictures, *see* Appendix 2)

GROTTON is a suburb of **Oldham** to the east of Oldham town itself. The name can be traced back at least as far as the 15th century and means 'gravelly place', from Old English *groten* ('sandy or gravelly soil').

GUIDE BRIDGE is an area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is said that its name comes from a bridge over the newly-built Ashton Canal in 1796. This bridge had a 'guide post' or sign post on it and this became the name of the surrounding village. The name was formalised in 1845 when the Sheffield Ashton-under-Lyne & Manchester Railway adopted it for a station that was originally named Ashton & Hooley Hill.

H

HAG FOLD is a residential area of **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** built on the site of *Hag Fold Farm* in the 1930s. The name has been the source of much speculation and amusement but its origin has not been determined with any certainty. It is almost certain that it has nothing to do with witches and it seems likely, based on the names of other locations in **Lancashire**, that it comes from the Old Norse *høgg* or Old English *hagga* meaning 'an area of trees to be felled or a clearing' + Old English *fald*, 'an enclosure for animals'.

HAGGATE is residential area of **Royton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It shares its name with *Haggate* in Lancashire but is otherwise not well documented and its meaning is uncertain. Folk etymology suggests that the name comes from an old woman who sat on a gate, but it is more likely to be Old English *hæc* ('hatch') + *geat* ('gate, gap, pass'), meaning a barred-gate that was the entrance to an estate or parish, or *haga* ('hawthorn') + Old Norse *gata* ('a road, a street').

The HAÇIENDA was a nightclub in **Gaythorn** in central **Manchester** which opened in 1982 and influenced what became the '**Madchester**' music scene. The name was inspired by a slogan of the Situationist International, a radical social movement of the 1950s, 60s and 70s – 'The Hacienda Must be Built', a cry for social and urban change. The name was popularised by Tony Wilson, a music promoter and co-founder of Factory Records, which owned the club. The club was closed in 1997, demolished in 2002 and a block of flats called 'The Hacienda Apartments' built on the site.

The HAGUE is a hamlet south-east of **Mottram in Longdendale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded as *Haghe* in 1339, *Haigh* in 1638 and *The Hague* in 1831. It is related in meaning and etymology to **Haigh** in Wigan and The Hague, the capital of the Netherlands – *haga*, meaning 'a hedged enclosure'.

HAIGH is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is first recorded in 1194 as *Hage* but the modern spelling of *Haigh* is found from 1581. The name is derived from the Old English *haga*, meaning 'a hedge' and therefore 'an enclosure'. The village gives its name to the 100-hectare Haigh Woodland Park, which was originally a mediaeval estate which was laid out as gardens and woodland in the 1860s to hide mining activities. These were purchased by Wigan Corporation in 1945 and opened to the public in 1947.

HALE is a suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** which was formerly part of **Cheshire**. It is recorded as *Hale* in the Domesday Book of 1086, where it was said, 'There is woodland 1 league long and a half wide, and an enclosure, and a hawk's eyrie, and half an acre of meadow'. At that time, it also included **Hale Barns**. The name *Hale* is from the Old English *halh* meaning 'nook or corner of land', referring to areas of higher dry ground in the marshy areas along the River **Bollin**. [See Domesday Book box](#)

HALE & HAUGH

Old English *hale*, *halh* or *haugh* means 'nook', especially one in a hollow or within the meander of a river, where there may be higher ground rising above a marshy or flooded area. Place names with this origin in Greater Manchester are listed here.

BRAMHALL (broom + ~)

HAUGHTON (~ + ton)

BROADHALGH (broad + ~)

HAULGH (~)

CLOVER HALL (clover + ~)

KERSAL (watercress + ~)

CRUMPSALL (bent + ~)

PRIESTNALL (priest + ~)

HALSHAW MOOR (~ + copse)

REDVALES (eponym + ~)

HAUGH (~)

WESTHoUGHTON (west + ~ + ton)

HALE BARNs is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** about 11 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre. Hale Barns was included within **Hale** in mediaeval times but was sufficiently prosperous by the late 16th century to be regarded as a separate settlement. The separate name is first recorded in 1616 as *Halebarnes*. The *barns* refer to the tithe barn that had been built to store the villagers' tithes – a tenth of all farm produce that was donated to the local church. Tithes made in kind were legally abolished in 1836 and the original tithe barn was demolished in 1848.

HALE MOSS today is a residential and recreational area north of **Hale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. While Hale itself is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, Hale Moss is not recorded on maps of the area until 1790, where it appears as a flood plain formed by **Timperley Brook**. The name is formed from *Hale* (Old English *halh* meaning 'nook or corner of land') + *Moss* (*mos*, 'marsh, bog').

HALLAM CORONATION GARDEN is a small park in **Davenport** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It is named after Ephraim *Hallam* (1812-1897), who built a cotton mill in **Heaviley** in 1859. He died in 1897 and

bequeathed a small area adjacent to the mill to Stockport Council, which was laid out as Hallam Park in 1902. In 1953 the park was renamed Hallam Coronation Garden to commemorate the *coronation* of Queen Elizabeth II.

HALL I' TH' WOOD is a museum in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It was originally a manor house built in the 16th century by the **Brownlow** family and known as the *Hall in the Wood*, which was rendered as Hall i' th' Wood in the local dialect. The building was used as a house of multiple occupancy by industrial families. The most famous occupant was Samuel **Crompton** (1753-1827) who invented his spinning mule for the manufacture of muslin in about 1779 while living in the hall, and this was known as the Hall i' th' Wood wheel at the time. The house was purchased by William Lever (later Lord **Leverhulme**) in 1899 and donated to Bolton Corporation in 1902.

HALLIWELL is a residential district of **Bolton**, originally included in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in about 1200 as *Haliwalle*, from the Old English *halig* + *wella*, meaning 'holy well'. This refers to an ancient spring which was found in the northern part of what is now Halliwell.

HALL LEE BROOK is a tributary of the River **Mersey** that rises west of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It flows through Hall Lee Bank Park and eventually joins the Mersey as the **Glaze Brook**. It takes its name from *Lee Hall*, the mediaeval home of the Leigh (or *Lee*, Leghe, Lighe) family.

HALO WEST is a 2.4-hectare logistics and industrial estate off **Liverpool Road** in **Eccles** in the City of **Salford** that was given planning approval in 2025. It is one of several such developments across the UK that have been given the name *Halo*, a term was first used in Kilmarnock in 2021. The name is taken from the *Halo effect*, a term coined in 1920 by Edward Thorndike, and defined by him as 'a marked tendency to think of the person in general as rather good or rather inferior and to colour the judgments of the qualities by this general feeling'. The term was initially used in educational psychology but it is now applied to regeneration initiatives where brownfield sites rise from the ashes of industrial waste and pollution.

HALSHAW MOOR is a residential area of **Farnworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented but it is thought that by 1604 the land belonged to Robtus de *Halsall*, who gave his name to the village. The family took their name from Halsall, some 15 kilometres north-west of Halshaw, and the name may have been changed to Halshaw over time. A perhaps more straightforward derivation is that the name comes from the Old English *halh* ('flat piece of land beside a river') + *shagh* ('woodland').

HAMER is an area of **Wardleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in 1572 as *Hamer*, from the Old English *hamor* or Old Norse *hamarr*, meaning 'steep rock, cliff', which describes the location of the original village near a hill.

HAMPSON GREEN is a hamlet north-west of **Haigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The place is not well documented but it shares its name with Hampson Green, a village south of Lancaster, whose meaning is thought to be 'the village of Pson, the son of Pusan', from Old English *hām* + Anglo-Saxon personal name *Pson*.

HANGING BRIDGE is an ancient sandstone bridge across Hanging Ditch, which used to connect the **Irwell** and the **Irk** south of **Manchester** Cathedral. It is recorded as *Hengand Brigge* in 1343 although references to Hanging Ditch go back to 1316. The present bridge was built in 1421 on the site of an earlier bridge but the present bridge was covered over in 1682 and only uncovered in 1880. There are several theories for the origin of the name: that the original bridge was a Roman drawbridge hung from ropes; that it was an ancient public execution site (Old English *hengen* means 'gallows'); or that it is sited on a slope (Old English *hangende*). Other suggestions are that the name could refer to the curved shape of the ditch, or to hens found nearby.

HANGING CHADDER is a hilly area north of **Royton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It is recorded in 1324 as *Hengandechadre*, meaning 'steep hill', from the Old English *hangende* ('hanging; steep') + the Celtic *cader* ('chair, hill'). Nearby **Chadderton** probably takes its name from Hanging Chadder.

HANKINSON and '**HANKY PARK**' was a residential area of **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford**. The area developed in the second quarter of the 19th century and took its name from the local *Hankinson* family. Robert Hankinson was listed as a calico manufacturer in 1825 and other members of the family later established businesses in the area around what became Hankinson Street, which was known as "Hanky Park". The area was flattened in the 1960s

and high-rise blocks of flats built in place of the old terraced houses. Today only a street called Hankinson Way remains.

HAPPY VALLEY is a 17-hectare nature reserve along the **Ladybrook** valley between **Norbury** and **Womanscroft** Bridge in **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. *Happy Valley* was a term applied to several areas Britain in **Victorian** times as places where industrial workers could enjoy fresh air and a natural landscape. The name is thought to have been applied to the Ladybrook valley in the late 19th century or early 20th.

HARBOUR CITY is an office and residential area in the regeneration area of **Salford Quays** alongside Erie Basin (formerly Wharf 9). It was originally planned in the 1980s but was not developed until the 1990s to be ready for the Harbour City Metrolink stop at Harbour City, which opened on 6 December 1999.

HARCLES HILL is a 371-metre flat-topped hill west of **Ramsbottom** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It is also known as **Holcombe** Hill and is capped by the **Peel Monument**. The name is recorded in 1236 as *Arkilis* or *Arkeles hou*, from the Old Norse personal name, *Arnkell*, + *haugr*, meaning 'hill'.

HARDY was a hamlet in south **Manchester** that was combined with nearby **Chorlton** to form **Chorlton-cum-Hardy**, i.e. Chorlton-with-Hardy. Hardy is recorded separately in 1555 as *Hardey* and is said to mean either 'Hearda's island' from the Old English personal name *Hearda* + *ēg* ('island, river meadow') or 'hard island' from Old English *heard* + *ēg*. Although some claim that the combined name occurs as early as 1700, the date is usually given as 1842 and is said to have been promoted by Victorian residential property developers to distinguish Chorlton from **Chorlton-on-Medlock**.

HARPER GREEN is a neighbourhood of **Farnworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, about 20 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is taken from the landowning *Harper* or *Harpur* family, who lived in the area in the 18th century and earlier. It is said that *Green* comes not from the Old English *grēne*, meaning 'field, village green', but a bleaching green, a field used in textile manufacture where cloth was laid out to be bleached by the sun.

HARPURHEY is an inner-city suburb of the City of **Manchester**, about 5 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name is recorded in 1320 as *Harpourley* and means 'Harpour's enclosure' from William *Harpour*, who owned the area in the 14th century, + Old English *hege* or *hæg*, meaning 'enclosure, hedge or hay'. The area remained rural until the second quarter of the 19th century, when intensive cotton manufacture developed.

HARRIDGE PIKE is a 395-metre hill above the River **Tame** in **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded with its modern spelling in 1840 but may be older – perhaps a corruption of *highridge*, from Old English *hēah* ('high') + *hrycg* ('ridge') + *pike* ('pointed hill').

HARROP DALE, HARROP EDGE, HARROP GREEN and **HARROP RIDGE** are all rural localities to the north of **Diggle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. *Harrop* is recorded with its modern spelling in 1274 and probably means 'hare's valley' from Old English *hara* ('hare') + *hop* ('small valley').

HARROP EDGE is a rural area west of **Mottram** in **Longdendale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded in 1360 as *Harop*, as *Harroppe Edge* in 1631 and with its modern spelling in 1831. It may mean 'ridge in hare's valley' from Old English *hara* ('hare') + *hop* ('small valley') + *ecg* ('ridge, escarpment').

HART COMMON is a village in **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1541 and would seem to refer to the local *Hart* family, who lived in the area from the mid-15th century. The family name is almost certainly taken from Old English *heorot* ('hart, stag') and indeed Hart Common golf club has a stag as its logo.

HARTSHEAD GREEN, originally **HARTSHEAD**, is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is first recorded in 1200 as *Herteshead*, meaning 'hart's or deer's hill' from Old English *heorot* ('hart') + *hēafod* ('hill'). The hill referred to is Hartshead Pike, which comes from the Old English *pike* ('pointed hill'). The hill is thought to have been used as a beacon in mediaeval times and a tower was built near the top in 1751. The tower, or monument, was replaced in 1863 and now has a height of 290 metres.

HARWOOD is a suburb in northern **Bolton**. The name is recorded from 1212 as *Harewode*, meaning ‘grey wood’, from Old English *hār* (‘grey, old’) + *wudu* (‘wood, forest, timber’), or possibly ‘wood where hares are found’, from Old English *hara* + *wudu*.

HASLAM PARK is a 2.2-hectare public park and nature reserve in **Deane** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It lies on part of a large estate donated to the borough in 1908 by Mary *Haslam* in memory of her father, John *Haslam* (1823-1899), and his brother, Joseph, who had been born in Bolton in 1821. The Haslam brothers owned a cotton-manufacturing business in Preston.

HATHERLOW is a hamlet between **Romiley** and **Bredbury** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The settlement dates from 1705, when non-conformists were evicted from **Chadkirk** and bought land in Hatherlow, opening their new chapel in 1706. The name means ‘heather hill’ from Old English *hæddre* (‘heather’) + *hlāw* (‘hill’).

HATHERSHAW is a residential area in **Oldham**, just south of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1280 as *Halselinechaw Clugh*, meaning ‘heather-wood valley’, from Old English *hæddre* (‘heather’) + *sceaga* (‘small wood, copse’) + *clōh* (‘ravine, valley’).

HATTERSLEY is a residential area south of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, 16 kilometres east of Manchester. The name is recorded in 1248 as *Hattirsleg*, meaning ‘wood of the stags’, from Old English *hēah-dēor* (‘high deer’ i.e. ‘antlered-stag, hart’) + *lēah* (‘woodland, clearing’).

HAUGH is a small residential area east of **Newhey** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1549 as *le Halcht*, meaning ‘enclosure’, from the Old English *halh* or *haga*.

HAUGHTON is a residential area of eastern **Denton**, often divided into Haughton Green in the north and Haughton Dale in the south, in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in 1307 as *Halghton*, meaning ‘settlement in a nook’, from Old English *halh* (‘corner, nook’, often in reference to a hollow in a river bend) + *tūn* (‘village, enclosure’), referring to the bend in the River **Tame**, which Haughton overlooks.

HAULGH is a residential area in **Bolton**, often linked administratively and politically with **Tonge**. The name is recorded in 1332 as *Halgh*, from the Old English *halh* (‘corner, nook’, often in reference to a hollow in a river bend), referring to the tongue (hence Tonge) of land between the Rivers **Tonge** and **Croal** on which both Tonge and Haulgh lie.

HAWK GREEN is a village south of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. A map of 1817 records the name as Half Green and this name survives in the street name Half Acre Terrace, presumably referring to a mediaeval farm or field. By 1840 the name was recorded as Hawk Green from the Old English *hafoc* (‘hawk’) + *grēne*, recalling an older name of Hawk Field and suggesting an area where hawks were found or kept.

HAWKLEY is a residential area on the southern edge of **Wigan**. It is recorded in 1512 as *Hawkley*, meaning ‘hawk’s glade’, from Old English *hafoc* (‘hawk’) + *lēah* (‘woodland, clearing’).

HAWKSHAW is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1218 as *Hauekesheghe*, meaning ‘hawk wood’, from the Old English *hafoc* (‘hawk’) + *sceaga* (‘small wood, copse’).

HAZEL GROVE is a suburb in the south of **Stockport**. The village was originally called **Bullock Smithy**, but it got a reputation for unruly behaviour and in 1836 the name was changed to the more aspirational *Hazel Grove*. There is disagreement as to whether the name literally means ‘a grove where hazels grow’ or whether it is a revival of an older name. The older name was *Hesselgrove* or *Hesselgrave*, which is recorded in 1690, a name meaning ‘the gravel pit belonging to someone called Hessel’. The name Hazel Grove was formalised in 1857 when the London & North Western Railway adopted it for the station built there.

HAZELHURST is a residential area of **Swinton** in the City of **Salford**. It is recorded in 1325 as *Haselhurst*, meaning ‘hill covered with hazel trees’, from Old English *haesel* (‘hazel-tree’) + *hyrst* (‘wooded hill’).

HEADY HILL is a village west of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name appears on a map of 1785 and is said to derive from the old English *heafod*, referring to a promontory or *headland*, or a piece of land that is the source ('*head*') of a stream.

HEALD GREEN is a suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, formerly in **Cheshire**. The name appears only in 1841 and was formalised when the London & North Western Railway opened a station there in 1909. The origins of the name are uncertain. One possibility is that it takes its name from Leuk del *Helde*, who was living in the area in 1289 and whose family name may be derived from the Middle English *helde*, meaning 'slope'. Another theory is that the name comes from a *heald* or *heddle*, a weaving device that is first recorded in 1483. This theory is supported by the fact that there were known to be weavers' cottages in the area from the late 18th century.

HEALDS GREEN is a small village north of **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded from 1789, when a Methodist chapel was built there. The origin of the name is uncertain, but, given the terrain, may be from Old English *helde*, meaning 'a steep slope'. It has also been suggested that it could be an eponym: the village green belonging to someone called *Heald*.

HEALEY, HEALEY DELL NATURE RESERVE and **HEALEY NAB**. Healey is an area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** which was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded as *Helei* in 1215 and means 'the high lea', from the Old English *heah* ('a high place, a height') + *lēah* ('a glade, clearing'). Nearby are the Healey Dell Nature Reserve, through which the River **Spodden** flows, and Healey Nab, a 208-metre hill that takes its name from the Old Norse *nabbi* ('a peak, a knoll, a hill').

HEAP BRIDGE is an area in **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, formerly part of **Lancashire**. Heap was a township on the south bank of the River **Roch** and is first recorded in 1278 as *Hep* in 1226 and *Hepe* in 1278. The name is taken from Old English *hēap* meaning 'heap or pile' and, by extension, 'hill'. Heap itself was absorbed into Heywood in 1894 but Heap Bridge survives as a locality. It is documented as *Heipp brige* in 1551 and the original bridge was replaced by a stone bridge in 1884.

HEATON There are several Heatons in **Greater Manchester**, all meaning 'place on high land' and taking their names from the Old English *hēah*, 'high' + *tūn*, 'settlement'. The name is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Hietun*, but this seems to refer to what is now Heaton-with-Oxcliffe in the Lune Valley in what is still **Lancashire**.

HEATON or **HEATON-UNDER-HORWICH** is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The township was created in the 12th century and is recorded as *Heton* in 1227 and *Heton under Horewich* in 1332. The latter name was and is used to distinguish it from other Heatons in the region.

HEATON CHAPEL is an area in **Heaton Norris** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It received its name following the construction of St Thomas's Anglican church in 1765.

HEATON MERSEY is the most western of the four Heatons, which are found in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, north of the town itself. Heaton Mersey means 'farm or enclosure on the high land overlooking the River *Mersey*', which rises in Stockport and formerly separated **Lancashire** from **Cheshire**.

HEATON MOOR is one of the four Heatons in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. *Heaton Moor Road* was part of **Heaton Norris** that still runs north-east towards the moors to the east of Stockport.

HEATON NORRIS is a northern suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** and the first of the four Heatons. It is recorded as *Hetton* in 1196 and as *Heton Norays* in 1282. *Heaton* is derived from the Old English *hēah* ('high') and *-tūn* (farmstead), and Norris was a Norman landowner named William le *Norreys*, who owned the land overlooking the River **Mersey** in 1162-1180. Heaton Norris originally covered all four of the Heatons, but three evolved with separate names – **Heaton Chapel**, **Heaton Mersey** and **Heaton Moor** – in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the separate names were formalised by their separate railway stations.

HEATON PARK is a 262-hectare public park – the largest in **Greater Manchester** and one of the largest in Britain. The park formerly formed the estate of Heaton Hall but was taken over by the City of **Manchester** and opened to

the public in 1902. The park takes its name from the local township of Great Heaton, a name meaning ‘place on high land’, dating from about 1200, and is now a suburb of **Bolton** usually known simply as *Heaton*.

HEAVILEY is a suburb of eastern **Stockport**. It is first recorded in about 1300 as *Hethylegh*, meaning ‘heathy clearing’, from the Old English *hæthig* (‘heathy’) + *-lēah* (‘clearing’). The meaning of the name suggests the origin of the settlement.

HEMPSHAW BROOK is a tributary of the River **Goyt** that was historically also known as Stockport Brook. It is thought to rise in **Hazel Grove** and to join the Goyt in **Stockport**. The name is recorded in 1362 as *Impeshagh* and with its modern spelling from 1842. It means ‘sapling copse’, from Old English *impa* (‘young shoot, sapling’) + *sceaga* (‘copse’).

HESKETH PARK is a small park in **Cheadle Hulme** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It is sited on land donated by William Bamford *Hesketh*, who built the Hesketh Arms Hotel (originally called ‘The Horse and Jockey’) in Cheadle Hulme in 1864. The hotel later became a pub.

HEYHEADS is in eastern **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is not well documented but means ‘the top of an enclosure’, from Old English *hæg* (‘enclosure’) + *hēafod* (‘head, headland, end of a ridge’), presumably referring to its position overlooking the valley of the River **Tame**.

HEY

The Old English hæg meant ‘enclosure’, often a ‘hedged enclosure’, and gave us modern English hedge. There are a number of places across greater Manchester formed from this element, in either first or second position:

ABBEY HEY (abbey + ~)	HARPURHEY (eponym + ~)
ASHBROOK HEY (east or ash + brook + + ~)	HEYHEADS (~ + headland)
BURNAGE (brown + ~)	HEYWOOD (~ + wood)
GREENHEYS (green + ~)	NEWHEY (new + ~)
HAIGH (~)	RINGWAY (ringed + ~)

HEYROD is a village in the **Stalybridge** area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Heyerode*, meaning ‘high clearing’, from Old English *heah* (‘high’) + *rodu* (‘clearing’), describing the village’s position in a forested area.

HEYWOOD is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** and was formerly in **Lancashire**. It is first recorded in 1246 as *Heghwode*. This name has been variously interpreted: the second element is clearly from the Old English *wudu* ‘wood’, but the first element might be Old English *hēah*, ‘high’ or *hege*, *hæg*, ‘hedge’, so that the name would mean either ‘high woods’ or ‘enclosed or fenced wood’.

HIGGINSHAW is an industrial area of north **Oldham**. The name is not well documented but it has been suggested that it means ‘Richard’s wood’, from *Higg* (a mediaeval diminutive of Richard) + *sceaga* (‘wood’).

HIGHER END See **BILLINGE**

HIGH LANE is a village on the Macclesfield Canal 8 kilometres south-east of **Stockport** and in **Cheshire** until 1974. The name is first recorded in 1690 as *Ho Lane* and with its modern spelling in 1842. Its original meaning was ‘the lane leading to the hill spur’, from the Old English *hōh* (‘a heel; a slightly projecting piece of ground’) + *lane* (‘secondary road’). The ‘hoe’ is the small hill on which Disley in Cheshire stands and this element was gradually rationalised to ‘high’. The ‘lane’ is now the A6 Buxton Road.

HILTON HOUSE is a hamlet south of **Horwich** near **Blackrod** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is first recorded in 1838, although the country house itself is said to have been built in the late 18th century. The name was formalised when it was adopted as for a station by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway in 1858. The house was originally owned by the *Hilton* family, who had been prominent landowners in the area since the Middle Ages. The house was extended and converted into a hotel in 2006 and renamed ‘The Georgian House’.

HINDLEY is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, about 5 kilometres east of Wigan town centre. It is recorded in 1212 as *Hindele* and with its modern spelling in 1479. The name means ‘wood or clearing of the hinds’ from Old English *hind* (‘hind, doe’) + *lēah* (‘clearing, meadow’).

HINDSFORD is a small residential area on the south-eastern edge of **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented before the 1820s, when Hindsford House was built. Hindsford lies west of *Hindsford Brook*, a tributary of **Glaze Brook** and the River **Mersey**, and presumably takes its name from the stream. Hindsford Book was formerly known Goderic Brook after a Saxon saint, but it cannot be confirmed when the name was changed. The name means ‘ford of the hinds or does’ from Old English *hind* + *ford*.

HODGE FOLD and **HODGE LANE DYE VATS** Hodge Fold is a rural area on the River **Etherow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in 1655 as *Hodge Hall* and the Hodge Lane Dye Vats date from the late 18th century, when they were used for bleaching cloth at the Hodge Textile Works beside the Etherow. The origin of *Hodge* is uncertain but may be an eponym: Hodge was a mediaeval shortening of *Roger* that was originally used as a nickname for an agricultural labourer.

HOLCOMBE and **HOLCOMBE BROOK** are neighbouring villages in **Ramsbottom** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. Both are situated on Holcombe Moor but take their name from the valley of the brook – Old English *hol* (‘hollow’) + *cumb* (‘valley’) – found in 1236 as *Holecumbam*, referring to the valley at the foot of nearby Holcombe Hill. On top of Holcombe Hill (also known as **Harcles Hill**) is Holcombe Tower, a monument to Sir Robert **Peel** (1788-1850), prime minister and founder of the modern police (the ‘peelers’), who was born in Bury.

HOLLINS is a residential area in north-west **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1843 and is derived from Old English *holegn*, meaning ‘holly trees’.

HOLLINS and **HOLLINS GREEN** are localities south and south-west of the town of **Oldham**. They share their name with other places that are or were in **Lancashire**, all derived from Old English *holegn*, meaning ‘holly trees’.

HOLLINWOOD is a residential area of **Oldham**, south-west of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1713, when Hollinwood Moor was divided between Oldham and **Chadderton**. The name means ‘holly wood’, from the Old English *holegn* (‘holly’) + *wudu* (‘wood, forest’).

HOLLINGWORTH is a village north-east of **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, about 20 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Holisurde* and with its modern spelling by the end of the 13th century. It means ‘an enclosure or homestead surrounded by holly trees’, from Old English *holegn* + *worth*. See Domesday Book box

HOLLINGWORTH LAKE is a reservoir and country park in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1278 as *Holyenworth* and with its modern spelling in 1843. The 53-hectare reservoir was originally built in 1800 to supply the Rochdale Canal, but was later developed as a recreational and tourist facility. It means ‘an enclosure or homestead surrounded by holly trees’, from Old English *holegn* + *worth*.

HOLT TOWN is an inner-city area of eastern **Manchester** within a bend on the River **Medlock**. It takes its name from David *Holt* (c.1764-1846), who established a complex of mills and workers’ housing in 1785 in what was then a rural area. Holt went bankrupt but the name Holt Town persisted. Holt Town is now planned as a regeneration area by the City of Manchester

HOME is an arts centre with cinemas and theatres close to **Manchester** city centre, opened in 2015. Before the opening, a survey was carried out to choose a name and the results showed that ‘*Home* was a word which recurred often when people were asked what the new organisation should be – a second home, somewhere you feel at home, the home of great work’. Outside is a statue of Friedrich Engels (1820-1895) to commemorate his contribution to exposing ‘The Condition of the Working Class in England’, a book he wrote in Manchester in 1842-1844.

HOOLEY BRIDGE is a small village on the banks of the River **Roch** near **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but it is clear that the village takes its name from a bridge over the Roch that dates back at least as far as 1718. However, an earlier document refers to *Wooley Bridge*, which was repaired in about 1635. There are several places named Wooley or Woolley and it is said that the name usually means ‘wolves’ wood or clearing’, from Old English *wulfa* (‘of wolves’) + *-lēah* (‘wood or clearing’). Wolves are generally thought to have become extinct in England by about the start of the 16th century, and the last were found

in the forests of **Lancashire** and the **Derbyshire Peak District**, so that wolves might well have been found in the Roch valley in mediaeval times.

HOOLEY HILL is a locality in **Audenshaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is not well documented but it is recorded in 1795 as a village where several people were employed in hat manufacture, and various mills and factories were established in the 19th century. The origin of the name is not clear but it is possible that it is an eponym as the family name *Hooley* was quite common in **Lancashire** and **Derbyshire**.

HOPE is a locality in **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. The name is first recorded as *Le Hope* in the 13th century. It is taken from the Old English *hop*, meaning ‘a remote valley’ and indeed **Gilda Brook**, a tributary of the **Irwell**, flows through the area.

HOPE MILL THEATRE is located in the **Ancoats** area of the City of **Manchester**. It is situated in Hope Mill, a cotton and fustian mill originally built in 1824 by Joseph Clarke and said to have been named after his wife, Anne *Hope* Ames. The mill was derelict by the mid-20th century but was then redeveloped as a heritage site and reopened as Hope Mill Theatre in November 2015.

HOPWOOD is a suburb of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in 1278 as *Hopwode* and is thought to mean ‘wooded valley’ or ‘wood in a valley’, derived from Old English *hop* (‘remote valley’) + *wudu* (‘wood, forest’). Hopwood is located in Hopwood Clough, which is just such a wooded valley.

HORROCKS FOLD is a hamlet in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, north of **Sharpley** and on the edge of the Pennine moors. It takes its name from *Horrocks Fold Farm*, which probably dates from the early 17th century, which comes from the Old English *hurrock*, meaning ‘a heap of stones’, probably referring to the sandstone found in the quarries nearby. The name is shared with Horrocks Wood on the slopes of **Winter Hill**, and Horrocks Scout, a promontory on **Smithills Moor**. **Scout** comes from the old Norse *skiitt*, meaning ‘jutting rock’.

HORWICH is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, some 24 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is found in 1221 as *Horewic*, from the Old English *hār* (‘grey, hoary’) + *wice* (‘wych elm’). The area was forested in mediaeval times, so that Horwich would mean ‘the place of the grey wych elms’. An alternative derivation is the Old English *horu* + *wīc*, meaning ‘dirty farm’, perhaps because of the dark, peaty streams coming off the moors.

HOSKER’S NOOK is a residential area of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1841 as Hoscars Nook farm and is said to be named after the *Hosker* family – Richard Hosker and Nicholas Hosker were both resident in the area in 1664 and 1678 respectively.

HOULDSWORTH MODEL VILLAGE was an industrial housing estate in **Reddish** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It was built in 1863-1865 and named after by Sir William Henry *Houldsworth* (1834-1917) for the workers at his Houldsworth mill, at the time the largest cotton mill in the world. The area is now undergoing regeneration, retaining the Houldsworth name.

HOWARTH CROSS is a residential area of **Rochdale** north-east of the town centre, west of the River **Roch**. The name is recorded as *Howord* and *Haword* in about 1200 and is believed to be either an eponym derived an Old English or Old Norse personal name, or a topographical name derived from the Old English *hōh* (‘hill spur, heel of land’) + *worth* (‘enclosure’). The original cross is believed to have been on the old road between Rochdale and Todmorden, but it has long since been built over.

HOWE BRIDGE is a residential area of **Atherton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. It takes its name from the *Howe railway bridge*, which was opened by the London & North Western Railway on 1 September 1864. The settlement was developed in 1873-1875 when the Fletcher coal mining company built a model village near the bridge. The name was formalised in 1901 when the LNWR changed the name of the local station from **Chowbent** to Howe Bridge. There are two suggestions for the origin on the name. One is that it is an older settlement named Howe, from the Old English *hōh* meaning ‘heel or spit of land’ or Old Scandinavian *haugr* (‘hill, mound’). The second, less likely, refers to the construction method of the bridge, which may be a Howe truss, invented by *William Howe* of Massachusetts in 1840.

HULL BROOK is a tributary of the River **Tame** that flows out of **Castleshaw** Lower Reservoir and then flows south-west to join the Tame in Delph in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1843, although the settlement of Hull and Hull Mill, which was presumably powered by water from Hull Brook, are recorded in 1787. Like the city of Kingston upon Hull in the East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull is derived from the Old English *hyll*, meaning ‘hill’.

HULME is an inner-city residential area just south of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Hulm*, meaning ‘an island’, from the Old Norse *holmr*. This refers to its position as an area of raised ground amid the marshes formed by the waters of the rivers **Irk**, **Medlock** and **Corn Brook** that surround it.

HULME

The Norse name of Hulme, which is also found in other places to the south (Davyhulme, Cheadle Hulme, Levenshulme), is often seen as evidence of a Danish colony in south Lancashire north of the Mersey.

BRANDLESHOLME (eponym + ~)

CHEADLE HULME (wood + clearing + ~)

DAVYHULME (deaf, lonely + ~)

KIRKMANSHULME (churchman + ~)

LEVENSHULME (eponym + ~)

OLDHAM (old + ~)¹

RUSHOLME (rushes + ~?)²

WOLSTENHOLME (eponym + ~)

HULTON was a district of the City of **Salford** consisting of three ancient townships – Great or Over Hulton, Middle Hulton and Little or Nether Hulton. The name was recorded as *Helghton* and *Hulton* in 1235 but only Little Hulton remains today. The spelling *Hilton* was also used from an early date and this spelling reveals the meaning of the name – ‘settlement on a hill’ from Old English *hyll* + *tūn*.

HUMPHREY PARK is a residential area of **Urmston** in **Manchester** built in 1937-38. It was built off Humphrey Lane, which is said to have been named after Sir Humphrey de **Trafford** (1808-1886) of **Trafford Hall**.

HUNDERSFIELD is an area east of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** that does not usually appear on modern maps. It is recorded in 1202 as *Hunnordesfeld*, meaning ‘the field of Hunworth’. *Hunworth* is thought to be the name of an old but now lost place in the area, the name of which was formed by the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Huna* + *worth* (‘enclosure, enclosed settlement’). *Feld* (‘field, tract of land’) was later added to signify it was ‘the area surrounding Hunsworth’.

HUNGER HILL There are several Hunger Hills in England and Scotland. In some cases, the name seems to derive from the Old English *hungor*, meaning ‘hunger, famine’ in reference to a place where animals went hungry because of poor pasture. In other cases, it means ‘a sloping wood’ from Old English *hangra*. Hunger Hill in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** is a hill and residential area. The origin of the name in this case is disputed, but most sources suggest that the original name was Hanger Hill and that the ‘sloping wood’ meaning is more likely.

HUNT’S BANK today is a short street beside **Victoria Station** in **Manchester** – all that remains of a district that dates back to the Middle Ages. The origin of the name is uncertain. It is certain that a *Hunt* family lived in the area from the 16th century and built *Hunt Hall*. The area may also have been the location of older *hunting* grounds, which could be the original derivation. The ‘Bank’ refers to the steep *banks* of the River **Irwell** at this point, and it was here that the Mersey and Irwell Navigation terminated in 1724. In 1843, the Liverpool & Manchester Railway extended its line into central Manchester and built a new terminus that was to have been called Hunt’s Bank, but the name was changed to **Victoria** in honour of the Queen.

HURST is a suburb and parliamentary constituency in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** which was formerly in **Cheshire**. Hurst here is derived from the Old English *hyrst*, meaning ‘wooded hill’. Hurst in Ashton-under-Lyne lies on high ground above the River **Medlock**.

HURST

The Old English hyrst means ‘wooded hill’, although sometimes the emphasis is ‘wood’ and sometimes ‘hill’. Places named Hurst are found all over England, either simply as Hurst or, more usually, in combination with other elements. Examples and brief meanings of places in Greater Manchester are listed in the box.

BOARSHURST (boars + ~)

BOLLINHURST (pollard + ~)

COLDHURST (charcoal + ~)

COLLYHURST (coal-like + ~)

GATHURST (goat + ~)

GRISTLEHURST (gristle + ~)

HAZELHURST (hazel + ~)

HURSTHEAD (~ + headland)

LIMEHURST (Lyme + ~)

MICKLEHURST (large + ~)

WINDLEHURST (coarse grass + ~)

HURST CROSS is a small area of **Hurst** in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** and also the home of Ashton United football club's stadium since 1879. A large stone *cross* was erected there 1868 but the name apparently pre-dates this and probably comes from its position around a *crossroad*.

HURSTEAD is a residential area of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is recorded from the 13th century as *Housetedes*, meaning 'a homestead, the site of a building', from the Old English *hūs* ('house') + *stede* ('place, site').

HURSTHEAD is a residential area of **Cheadle Hulme** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded in 1831 as *Hirsthead*, but the name is probably older, coming from the Old English *hyrst* ('wooded hill') + *hēafod* ('headland').

HYDE is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, 10 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in the early 13th century and comes from the Old English *hīd*, meaning 'one hide of land', i.e. the amount of ploughed land that could support one family or household (estimated at about 50 hectares).

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** overlooking the **Manchester Ship Canal** is the northern branch of the Imperial War Museum. The museum was originally opened in London in 1920 and the name 'Imperial' was chosen to reflect the contribution to World War I of all countries of what was then the British Empire. Imperial War Museum North opened in July 2002 in a building designed by the Polish-Jewish architect Daniel Libeskind, who envisaged it as a 'constellation of three interlocking shards' representing a shattered globe.

"IMPOSSIBLE BRIDGE" *See* **COLLYHURST FOOTBRIDGE**

INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD There are several places call *Ince* in Britain, all derived from the Celtic *ynys* meaning 'dry land, island'. In order to distinguish them, some have been given a second name. Ince-in-Makerfield is a suburb of **Wigan** in the Metropolitan Borough of Wigan and the name simply means that this Ince is part of neighbouring **Makerfield**. The name is first recorded as *Ines* in 1202 and *Ins in Makerfield* in 1332. The 'dry land' refers to its position above the surrounding swamp.

River IRK is a tributary of the **Irwell** that rises east of **Royton** and then flows west to Rawtenstall, before flowing south to join the Irwell in the centre of **Manchester**. The name is recorded as the *Irk* in 1322. The origin of the name is unclear but it may be related to the Irwell and mean 'the angry or winding little river' from the Old English *irre* ('angry, wandering, winding') + *-uc* ('little'). An alternative suggestion is that it comes from the Celtic *iwrch* meaning 'roebuck'.

IRLAM is a suburb of the City of **Salford** that lies on the north bank of the River **Irwell** at its confluence with the River **Mersey**. The name is first recorded in about 1190 as *Urwelham* or *Irwellham*, meaning 'village by the River Irwell', from the Old English *irre* ('angry, wandering') + *wella* ('stream') + *hām* ('village, homestead'). This original form of the name makes its location by the river clear, but some transparency was lost by 1574, when the name had been reduced to *Irelam*.

IRLAM'S O' TH' HEIGHT is a suburb of the City of **Salford**. The name seems to have developed in two stages. A village called the *Height* (Old English *hēah + th*) is recorded in 1180 in the parish of **Eccles** on high ground above **Pendleton**. Then, in the 17th and 18th centuries, the Pack Horse Inn in the village was run by members of the Irlam family, so that the area became known as *Irlams o' th' Height*, i.e. Irlams on the Height. The name was maintained during the 19th century as the village was occupied by handloom weavers and formalised when the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway opened Irlam o' th' Heights station in 1888.

River IRWELL is the most important tributary of the River **Mersey**. It rises near Bacup in **Lancashire** and meanders 63 kilometres south-west to join the Mersey at **Irlam**. It flows through the cities of **Manchester** and **Salford**, forming the boundary between them. The name is first recorded in 1190 as the *Urewel*, meaning 'winding stream', from the Old English *irre* ('angry, wandering') + *wella* ('stream').

ISLINGTON *See* **NEW ISLINGTON**

J

JACKSON See **NEW JACKSON**

JACKSON'S BRIDGE is a footbridge over the River **Mersey** in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. A timber bridge was built in 1816 and this was replaced by a wrought-iron one in 1881. The bridge, and a nearby pub called Jackson's Boat Inn, take their names from a local farmer called *Jackson* who, in the late 18th century, started a ferry service across the Mersey at this point.

JERICO is a residential area of **Bury** that is said to be named after the Biblical city of *Jericho* ('scented, fragrant place') on the West Bank of the Jordan when John Wesley (1703-1791) preached in **Birtle** in 1778. There seems to be no documentary evidence for this, but the local Methodists gave the name to their new chapel in 2003.

JJB STADIUM See **The BRICK COMMUNITY STADIUM**

JOHN LEIGH PARK is a 5-hectare area of parkland in the **Broadheath** district of **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. **Oldfield** House and the land on which it stood were purchased in 1916 by *John Leigh* and initially used as a military hospital. In 1917 he donated the land to Altrincham District Council for use as a park in memory of his father.

JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY is a research institute and library on **Deansgate** in the City of **Manchester**. It was established in 1900 by Enriqueta Augustina Rylands (1843-1908) in memory of her husband, *John Rylands* (1801-1888), who was the largest textile manufacturer in Britain and a great philanthropist. In 1972 it became part of the University of Manchester.

JOHNSON FOLD is a residential area of western **Bolton**. The name is taken from *Johnson Fold Farm*, which dates back to the 17th century, when the Earl of Derby gifted land to the Johnson family. Bolton Corporation bought the farm in the early 1930s and built a housing estate, originally called the **Montserrat** estate, which was expanded in the early 1950s.

JUBILEE is a village in **Shaw** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** which claims to be the only settlement with this name in the UK. The name is not well documented before the 19th century - the Jubilee pub was built in 1810 and the Jubilee Colliery was opened in 1845. It is unclear which jubilee is commemorated in the village's name – George III was the first monarch to celebrate a jubilee when there were festivities for the 50th year of his reign in 1809, but the term was used more generally before that date and perhaps the village is named for another anniversary. The mine was closed in 1932 and the site has been converted into the Jubilee Colliery Nature Reserve.

JUBILEE MARKET and **JUBILEE PARK, Oldham**. The original Jubilee Market or Jubilee Fountain Market was built by the Oldham Industrial Co-operative Society in 1888 and named to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden *Jubilee* in 1887. It was announced in 2023 that it would be demolished and the space used to form park of a new 2.2-hectare linear park named Jubilee Park in honour of the Platinum *Jubilee* of Queen Elizabeth II in that year.

JUBILEE PARK is a 4.7-hectare public park in the centre of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It was opened in 1889 and named to celebrate the Golden (i.e. 50 years) *Jubilee* of Queen **Victoria**'s reign in 1887.

JUMBLES COUNTRY PARK is a large country park surrounding Jumbles Reservoir in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name for the area outside Bolton seems to have been in use since at least the mid 19th century, but a reservoir was built and opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1971. The surrounding area was declared a country park in 1973. The name is a corruption of the Old English *dumbel*, meaning 'a deep hollow, a ravine' and describes the valley of **Bradshaw** Brook, which flows into and out of Jumbles Reservoir.

JUMBO is an area of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in 1781 and it has been suggested that it may have an exotic origin related to *mumbo-jumbo* or even *Jumbo* the elephant. It actually comes from the Old English *jumb*, meaning 'a deep pool in a stream' and *jumbel* or *dumbel*, meaning 'a deep hollow, a ravine', describing **Wince Brook**, which flows through the area.

JUNCTION *See* **MIDDLETON JUNCTION**

K

KAY GARDENS is a small public park in central **Bury**, originally opened in 1908. It commemorates John *Kay* (1704-c.1780-81), the inventor of the flying shuttle which transformed the textile industry, who was born in **Walmersley**, north of Bury. The park includes a monument to Kay, 'whose invention in the year 1733 of the fly shuttle quadrupled human power in weaving'.

KEARSLEY is a town on the **River Croal** where it meets the **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is recorded in 1187 as *Cherselawe* but the modern spelling can be seen in *Kersleie*, found in about 1220. It means 'place where watercress grows' from *cærse* ('watercress') + *hlæw* ('mound') or *lēah* ('clearing, water meadow').

KENYON is a village, partly in **Cheshire** and partly in **Greater Manchester** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Kenien*, meaning 'Enion's mound' from the Celtic *crūg* ('hill, mound') + the personal name *Eniōn*, and referring to a Bronze Age barrow that may have been erected there.

KERSAL is a suburb of the City of **Salford**, about 5 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. It is first recorded in 1142 as *Kereshala*, meaning 'the nook where cress grows', from Old English *cerse* ('watercress') + *halh* ('nook or corner of land'). The nook would seem to refer to the bend in the River **Irwell** where Kersal is located.

KILN GREEN is a village to the east of **Diggle**, formerly in Saddleworth in **West Yorkshire** but now administered as part of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1785 and its origin is also undocumented, but it could literally mean 'a *kiln* on or beside the village *green*'. *Cyln* was an old English word for a furnace that could be used for making many things – bread, lime, bricks, flax, etc.

KINGSWAY RETAIL PARK and **KINGSWAY BUSINESS PARK** are commercial developments south-east of **Rochdale** town centre. Both take their names from *Kingsway*, a nearby major road that, together with Queensway, was built in the early 1930s and named after the reigning monarch – *King* George V. Kingsway Business Park is one of the sites of **Atom Valley**.

KIRKMANSHULME is an area of eastern **Manchester** close to the city centre that was once part of **Newton Heath**. It is first recorded in 1292 as *Kyrdmannesholm*, but this is thought to be a misspelling for something like *Kyrkmannesholm*, meaning 'raised land belonging to a churchman', from Old Norse *kirkja* ('a church') + Old English *mann* ('person, man') + Norse *holmr* ('island, raised land in marsh').

KITT'S MOSS is a residential area of **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded in 1777 and by 1831 it is shown as *Kits Moss*, an area inhabited by textile workers. The name is presumably an eponym – Kit is short for *Christopher*, but nothing is known of him. *Moss* is an Old English word for 'bog, swamp'.

KNOLL HILL is a 420-metre hill near **Naden** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is recorded in 1771 as *Knowle Top* and is derived from Old English *cnoll*, meaning 'knoll, hillock'. The addition of *Hill* is reduplication as the meaning would be 'hill hill'.

KNOTT MILL is an area of central **Manchester** that is currently scheduled for regeneration. It is first recorded in 1509 when a miller by the name of *Knott* built a water-powered corn mill on the site. The area became the Manchester terminus of the **Bridgewater Canal** in 1764 and industrial development followed. Knott Mill had been converted to a textile mill by 1809.

KNOWL MOOR is a hill on the moors outside **Rochdale** that is popular for hiking and walking. The name is not well documented but is said to come from Old English *cnoll*, meaning 'knoll, hillock'.

KNUTSHAW BRIDGE is a small residential area south-west of **Deane** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It is recorded in 1285 as *Noteschaw* but the spelling *Knutshaw* with a K seems to be much later, even as late as the 20th century. The bridge carries the road north-west from **Manchester** over Knutshaw Brook, a tributary of the River **Croal**. The straightforward meaning would seem to be 'copse of nut-bearing trees', from Old English *hnutu* ('nut; nut-bearing tree') + *sceaga* ('copse'), but it has also been suggested that the first element may be an eponym from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Hnotta*. The spelling with K has given rise to the suggestion that the personal

name may have been *Knut*, i.e. Cnut or Canute, although it is not claimed that there is any connection with King Canute himself.

L

LADYBARN is a suburb of south **Manchester**, east of **Withington**. The name is recorded early in the 19th century as a farm with buildings but urban development had begun by the middle of the century and an independent school was established with the name in 1873. It is likely that Ladybarn refers to a *barn* where tithes were collected on *Lady Day* (25 March).

LADYBROOK or **LADY BROOK** is the name given to a tributary of the **Mersey** as it passes through **Happy Valley** in **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It rises as **Bollinhurst Brook** near Disley in the **Derbyshire Peak District**, becoming **Norbury Brook**, Lady Brook, then Micker Brook before joining the Mersey in **Cheadle Hulme**. The name is recorded in 1637 as Lady Brook, but the origin is uncertain. It has been suggested that it is named after a *Lady* Davenport of **Bramall Hall**, who owned about 2.4 hectares of land the Ladybrook valley. However, the occurrence of other Catholic names in the area – Ladybarn Crescent (the barn where tithes were collected on Lady Day) and Ladythorn Road (Our Lady of the Thorns, celebrated on 16 February) – makes a religious origin more likely.

LADYHOUSE is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** south of **Milnrow**. The name is taken from *Lady House* Farm, which previously occupied the area. A painting by Benjamin Charles Brierley (1857-1920) of Lady House shows a stone building, perhaps the farmhouse, with the date 1631 above the door. It is thought that it may be derived from the Old Norse *hlatha*, meaning ‘storehouse, barn’, rather than any aristocratic or religious use of *lady*. Over the years, *hlatha* was rationalised to *lady*.

LADYWELL is a Metrolink tram stop that takes its name from a hospital in the **Weaste** area of the City of **Salford**. It started in 1851-1852 as a workhouse but was rebuilt in 1890 as a hospital and training school for nurses. Today it forms part of Salford Royal hospital. The original hospital was endowed by the local de Trafford family and named after the *Ladywell* shrine, a 17th century house and chapel with the Holy Well of our Lady in the grounds.

LAITHWAITE is a residential area of west **Wigan**. It is recorded in about 1200 as *Leikeththeit* and *Leikestheith*, meaning ‘barn on or near a forest clearing’, from the Old Norse *hlatha* (‘barn’) + *thwaite* (‘meadow, forest clearing’).

LAMBERHEAD GREEN is a residential and recreational area of **Orrell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** on the border between **Orrell** and **Pemberton** and between Upholland in **Lancashire** and Wigan in **Greater Manchester**. It is recorded in 1519 as *Londmerhede*, from the Old English *land-gemaere* (‘boundary’) + *heafod* (‘hill’).

LANCASHIRE is a county in north-western England that until 1974 included much of what is now **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1140 as *honor de Lancastre* and as *Lancastre-shire* in the 14th century. The name combines the city of *Lancaster* (Roman *cæster* or fort on the River *Lune*) with Old English *scīr* (‘shire, district’).

LANCASHIRE HILL is a residential and commercial area of **Reddish**, north of **Stockport** town centre. It is named because it is a hill on the *Lancashire* side of the River **Mersey**, traditionally the boundary between Cheshire and Lancashire. The name is not well documented and it is not clear when the name was first used. Its modern development dates from the building in 1793-1797 of Stockport Canal, which branched south from the **Ashton Canal** at **Clayton** and terminated at the top of Lancashire Hill. This led to the building of factories, mills and housing in the early 19th century. It was developed further in the late 1960s as a high-rise housing estate.

LANGLEY is a suburb of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, approximately 9 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. There are many places named *Langley* in Britain but Langley in what was then **Lancashire** is first recorded in 1246 as *Langele*, meaning ‘a long wood or clearing’ from Old English *lang* (‘long’) + *lēah* (‘wood, clearing’). Langley was developed as a residential area for about 25,000 people by Manchester City Council in the 1950s.

LANGTREE is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that forms the northern portion of **Standish-with-Langtree**. Although originally separate, they have long been seen as a single settlement. Langtree is recorded in about 1190 as *Lonetre*, meaning ‘tall or high tree’, from the Old English *lang* + *trēo*.

LANGWORTHY is a residential area of the City of **Salford**. The area developed in the last quarter of the 19th century around Langworthy Road, which was built in the 1870s and named in honour of Edward *Langworthy* (1797-1874), a businessman who, with his brothers, owned a cotton mill in **Greengate** and who also became mayor of Salford and, briefly, a Salford MP.

LARK HILL is a common place name in England and there have been several places with this name in **Lancashire**, **Yorkshire** and **Cheshire**. Lark Hill in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** is a 21st-century housing development south-west of **Astley**. It takes its name from *Lark Hill House*, a large house built in 1878 that is now a nursery. Assuming that the name goes back no further than 1878, it would seem to be aspirational, evoking birdsong on a hillside. Places elsewhere which date back to mediaeval times are derived Old English *lawerce* ('lark.') + *hyll*.

LAST DROP VILLAGE is a retail and hotel complex in **Bromley Cross** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It is clustered around a number of 17th century farm buildings originally called **Orrell Fold** in the Manor of **Turton**. These were purchased in 1963 and given the name 'Last Drop'. The name has given rise to some fanciful suggestions – that the last drop refers to execution by hanging or punishment by ducking – but the reality is more prosaic: friends offered the new owner the last drop from a bottle of wine when he bought the farm and the name was applied to the development.

LECTURERS CLOSES is a residential and industrial in central **Bolton**, close to the site of the parish church, where there has been a church since Anglo-Saxon times. The name is not well documented but seems to have religious connotations derived from words with meanings which are now largely obsolete: from the 16th century a *lecturer* was an assistant Anglican preacher, and a *close* was a precinct or cloister of a religious building, a term dating from the mid-15th century.

LEES is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is first recorded in 1604 as the *Leese*, which is usually said to mean 'woods or woodland clearings', from the plural of Old English *lēah* ('wood, clearing'). However, another theory is that it is named after John de *Leghes*, the 14th-century Lord of the Manor.

LEIGH is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. Until 1974 it was part of **Lancashire** and it shares its name with other towns in England as well as numerous places ending in *-leigh*, *-ley*, *-ly* or *-le*. The name is first recorded in 1276 as *Legch* and is derived from the Old English *lēah*, meaning 'wood, clearing or meadow'. Leigh is distinguished from **Westleigh** to the west and **Astley** to the east.

LEIGH & LEE

*This element meaning 'woodland clearing' or 'glade' is common across the whole county, and suggests the wooded landscape of Anglo-Saxon England. It appears by itself (**lees**, **leigh**) and in combination, typically as **-ley**, **-ly** or **-le**.*

ASTLEY (east ~)	HATTERSLEY (deer ~)	SEEDLEY (home ~)
BAGULEY (badger, small pig ~)	HAWKLEY (hawk ~)	SHAKERLEY (robber's ~)
BARDSLEY (Beard's ~)	HEALEY (high ~)	SMEDLEY (smooth or smith ~)
BLACKLEY (black ~)	HEAVILEY (healthy ~)	STALYBRIDGE (staff ~)
BOWLEE (Bola's ~)	HINDLEY (hinds ~)	STANLEY GREEN (stony ~)
BRADLEY FOLD (broad ~)	HOOLEY BRIDGE (wolves? ~)	STAYLEY (staff ~)
BROADLEY (broad ~)	KEARSLEY (watercress ~)	TIMPERLEY (timber ~)
BROMLEY CROSS (broom ~)	LANGLEY (long ~)	TYNDERSLEY (Tildwald's ~)
BUCKLEY (he-goat ~)	LEES (~)	WALMERSLEY (Waldmer's ~)
CHEADLE (wood ~)	LEIGH (~)	WARDLEY (fortified ~)
COCKEY MOOR (cock? ~)	LUZLEY (pig sty ~)	WESTLEIGH (west ~)
COPLEY (peaked ~)	MATLEY (Mata's ~)	WHALLEY RANGE (round hill ~)
DEARNLEY (hidden ~)	MOSLEY COMMON (swamp ~)	WINSTANLEY (Wynstan's ~)
EAGLEY (river ~)	PRESTOLEE (priest's ~)	WOODLEY (wood ~)
EALEES (river ~)	RINGLEY (circular ~)	WORSLEY (Weorchæth's ~)
EDGELEY (enclosed ~)	ROMILEY (room ~)	WUERDLE (army ~)
GODLEY (Goda's ~)	SEDGELEY (reeds ~)	

LEVENSULME is a suburb of the City of **Manchester**, about 5 kilometres south-east of the city centre. The name was recorded as *Lewyneshulm* in 1246 and probably means 'Lēofwine's mound'. The first element is a personal name; the second is the Old Norse *-holmr*, meaning 'island, elevated ground in a marshy area'.

LEVER EDGE is part of the area named *Lever* which consists of several settlements – **Darcy Lever**, **Great Lever**, **Lever Edge** and **Little Lever** – south of **Bolton**. The name *Lever* is recorded in 1212 as *Lefre*, from the Old English *lefer* ('rush, reed'), so that the entire area would mean 'where the rushes or reeds grow' on the banks of the **Irwell** and **Croal**.

LEVERHULME PARK is a 13.75-hectare public park and nature reserve in **Bolton**. It was donated to the people of Bolton in 1919 by Lord *Leverhulme* (1851-1925), the industrialist, philanthropist, politician and mayor of Bolton, and named after him.

LIGHTSHAW MEADOWS is an 18-hectare country park in **Abram** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that was opened in 2010 and now forms one site of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. Lightshaw Hall was built in the 16th century and is derived from Old English *lihte* ('a glade where the trees are sparse') + *sceaga* ('copse'). Lightshaw Hall is still standing and Lightshaw Meadows were shaped by 20th-century mining subsidence.

LIMEFIELD is a residential area of **Bury** in the Metropolitan Borough of Bury. The name is first recorded in 1843 and could mean 'the field with a lime tree' or 'the field spread with lime'. The name seems to originate with a house with a small park, so perhaps the former meaning is more likely.

LIMEHURST is a former village which is now part of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, but formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in 1292 and the modern spelling had been adopted by 1422. The name is unlikely to mean 'lime forest' and is more likely to mean 'the forest (Old English *hyrst*) within the *Lyme*'. *Lyme* meant that the place was included in Lancashire proper, as opposed to outlying areas in neighbouring counties.

LIMESIDE is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, about 3 kilometres south of the town centre. The area was once occupied by Limeside village and Limeside Farm, probably meaning 'the hillside where lime trees grow', from Old English *lim* ('lime') + *side* ('hillside'). The area was developed in the 1930s with a large housing estate and the 7-hectare Limeside Park.

LINCOLN SQUARE is a public space in the centre of **Manchester** that was laid out in 1981. In 1986, a statue of American President Abraham Lincoln, which had been erected in **Platt Fields** in 1919, was moved to Lincoln Square. The plaque misquotes Lincoln's letter of 1863 to the working men of Manchester, expressing his appreciation for their support during the American Civil War and the resulting 'cotton famine' in **Lancashire**: 'To the working people of Manchester 19th January 1863 / I know and deeply deplore the sufferings which the working people of Manchester / and in all Europe are called to endure in this crisis'.

LINGARD'S FOOTBRIDGE is a metal footbridge supported by water pipes over the **Bridgewater Canal** near **Blackmoor** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The bridge seems to be of recent construction but it is uncertain if there were previous bridges at this site. The name ultimately means 'flax enclosure', from the Old English *līn* ('flax') + Old Norse *garthr* ('enclosure'). However, it is likely that the name was taken from the locational surname of the *Lingard* family, who were major landowners in the area.

LINNYSHAW is a residential area and industrial estate to the east of **Walkden** in the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented before the second half of the 19th century, when Linnyshaw Colliery was opened in 1865 and Linnyshaw Mills were built in 1874. The name means 'small lime wood', from Old English *lind* ('lime-tree') + *sceaga* ('copse'). The colliery was closed and demolished in 1921, and has now been converted into Linnyshaw Park, while a disused railway line known as the Linnyshaw Loopline has been turned into a walking and cycling route between **Little Hulton** and **Walkden**.

LITTLE BOLTON See **BOLTON**

LITTLEBOROUGH is a town on the River **Roch** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** about 21 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1577 as *Littlebrough* and means either 'little town' or

'little fort', from the Old English *lȳtel* + *burh*. It is thought that there may have been some sort of fortification on the Roman road nearby but there seems to be no record of this.

LITTLE HULTON See **HULTON**

LITTLE IRELAND was a slum area south of **Manchester** city centre around the north end of **Oxford Road**. Houses originally built in the early 19th century were occupied by large numbers of Irish immigrants who came to work in the expanding textile industry. The area was described by Engels in the early 1840s: 'two groups of cottages, built chiefly back to back, in which live about 4,000 human beings, most of them Irish. The cottages are old, dirty, and of the smallest sort, the streets uneven, fallen into ruts and in part without drains or pavement; masses of refuse, offal, and sickening filth lie among standing pools in all directions..... The race that lives in these ruinous cottages, behind broken windows, mended with oil-skin, sprung doors, and rotten door-posts, or in dark, wet cellars, in measureless filth and stench must surely have reached the lowest stage of humanity.' Much of the area was vacated in 1845-47 to make way for the new Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway and its Oxford Road station headquarters. The area was demolished in about 1877.

LITTLE LEVER is part of the area named *Lever* which consists of several settlements – **Darcy Lever**, **Great Lever**, **Lever Edge** and **Little Lever** – south of **Bolton**. The name Lever is recorded in 1212 as *Lefre*, from the Old English *lefer* ('rush, reed'), so that the entire area would mean 'where the rushes or reeds grow' on the banks of the **Irwell** and **Croal**.

LITTLE MOSS is an area of north-west **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It was established as a civil parish of **Lancashire** in 1894 but it is not clear if the name has older roots. Its meaning is literally 'little moss' ('bog, swamp') and it is one of the few 'moss' place names in the east of **Greater Manchester** – most are in the west.

LITTLE SCOTLAND is located in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, 5 kilometres south of Bolton itself. There are two theories for its derivation. One is that the **Wigan** section of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal was mostly built by navvies from Aberdeen in the 1780s and the area where they lived became known as *Little Scotland*. Another is that the Earl of Balcarres and Crawford, who was a Scotsman, brought staff from Scotland for his new residence at **Haigh Hall**, which was built in 1827-1840.

LIVERPOOL ROAD is a disused railway station located on *Liverpool Road*, west of **Deansgate** in central **Manchester**. It was opened on 15 September 1830 as the eastern terminus of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway, and can claim to be the oldest surviving railway terminus in the world. It was closed to passengers on 4 May 1844, when the company's line was extended to the newly-completed Manchester **Victoria Station**. It remained as a goods depot until 1975 but was sold to Greater Manchester Council in 1978 and converted into what is now the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, opened in 1983. Liverpool comes from the Old English *lifer* ('thick water') + *pōl* ('pool, creek').

LONDON ROAD STATION was the name of **Manchester's** main railway terminus, which had been opened by the Manchester & Birmingham and Sheffield Ashton-under-Lyne & Manchester railways as **Store Street** in 1842. The name was changed to London Road in 1847 and to **Piccadilly** in 1960. It took the name from *London Road*, which runs alongside the station to the south west. Although the Romans had built a road from Manchester to London (what is now the A6), the name is given as Bank Top on maps until 1813.

LONGDENDALE is a valley in the **Peak District** and was adopted as the name of an urban district in **Cheshire** in 1936, but was absorbed into the new Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** in 1974. The name was first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Langedendele* and means 'the long (Old English *lange*-) valley (*denu*) dale (*dala*)'. See also **Mottram in Longdendale**. See Domesday Book box

LONGFORD PARK is a 22-hectare public park in **Stretford** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, and it also gives its name to an electoral ward of Trafford. The name is first recorded in 1320-1346 as the *long ford*, presumably a ford used by those on the Roman road from Chester to **Manchester** crossing the River **Mersey** in Stretford. The ford gave its name to a village and to the Longford family, who had lived in the area since the 11th century. Their

Longford Park estate eventually became the home of **John Rylands** in 1855, and was sold to Stretford Council in 1911, opening to the public in 1912.

LONGSHAW was a common place name across **Lancashire**, **Yorkshire** and **Derbyshire**, meaning 'long or narrow wood' from Old English *lang* ('tall, long') + *sceaga* ('small wood, copse'). This Longshaw is a small agricultural and residential area west of **Wigan**. Neighbouring Longshaw Bottom and Longshaw Common are in the Metropolitan Borough of St Helens in Merseyside.

LONGSHOOT is a suburb of **Wigan**, east of the town centre. The name is not well documented before 1827 but seems to be a remnant of the mediaeval system of dividing large open fields into smaller strips of various shapes and sizes known as '*shoots*'. In Wigan, Longshoot and nearby Middleshoot may have been part of a large field known as **Scholes-Field**.

LONGSIGHT is an inner-city area of the City of **Manchester**, approximately 5 kilometres south of the city centre, formerly known as Grindlow Marsh, meaning 'green hill', from Old English *grēne* + *hlāw*. The *Longsight* name is not well documented but it is usually said that Bonnie Prince Charlie or one of his officers stood outside the Waggon and Horses Inn during the 1745 Scottish incursion into England, looked towards the city and said that it was a '*long sight*' to Manchester. However, there was already a *Longsight Cottage* in the area, suggesting that the name predates 1745. It has been suggested that the origin could be Middle English *lang* ('tall, long') + *shote* ('corner of land, projecting piece of land') or *shut* ('hillside or slope'). Other sources suggest a date as late as 1843, which coincides with the opening of Longsight station by the Manchester & Birmingham Railway.

LOSTOCK is a residential area of western **Bolton** in the **Croal** valley, approximately 20 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in 1205 as *Lostok*, meaning 'pig-sty farm or hamlet', from Old English *hlōse* ('pig-sty') + *stoc* ('farmstead, hamlet').

The LOWRY is a theatre and gallery centre in **Salford Quays** that was opened by Queen Elizabeth II on 12 October 2000. It is named after the artist, *L S Lowry* (1887-1986), who was famed for his paintings of industrial buildings and landscapes in **Greater Manchester** and elsewhere. Many of Lowry's paintings are on now display at the Lowry gallery. (See Appendix 1)

LOWRY'S STEPS or **LOWRY'S FOOTBRIDGE** See **COLLYHURST FOOTBRIDGE**

LOWTON is a residential area south of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, which also gives its name to the outlying area of Lowton Common, Lowton St Mary's and Town of Lowton. The name is recorded from 1202 as *Lauton* and this is said to mean 'hill settlement or farmstead', from Old English *hlāw* ('hill, mound') + *tūn* ('village, farmstead'). Despite the suggestion of its modern spelling, Lowton sits on a slight hill.

LUDWORTH is an area of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It was originally part of **Derbyshire**, but was transferred to **Cheshire** in 1934 and to **Greater Manchester** in 1974. The name is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Lodeuorth* but something close to the modern spelling was found in *Luddeworthe* in 1330. The name means 'Luda's enclosure', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Luda* + *worth* ('enclosure'). See Domesday Book box

LUZLEY is a village north of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded on 1246 as *Luseleg*, probably from the Old English *hlōse* ('pig sty') + *lēah* ('wood, clearing or meadow').

LYDGATE There are places called Lydgate across England, including at least two in **Greater Manchester**. The name is derived from the Old English *hlid-geat*, meaning 'swing gate' – a gate across a field or road to prevent cattle from straying or perhaps to collect tolls. Lydgate in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** is recorded from the 16th century.

LYME PARK is a country house and estate owned by the National Trust. It is officially in **Cheshire** but the postal address is in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** in **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1312 as *Lyme* and as *parcum de Lyme* in 1466. The name means 'forest' rather than 'lime', and refers to the ancient forest of **Lancashire** known as *the Lyme*.

M

MACKIE MAYOR is a retail area housed in the last remaining building of **Smithfield Market** in what is now the **Northern Quarter** of **Manchester**. The original building was opened in 1858 by Ivie *Mackie* (1805-1873), a Scotsman who was Lord *Mayor* of Manchester in 1857-1860 and whose name is inscribed above the entrance. The old Smithfield Market was closed in 1972 but the Mackie building was preserved.

“MADCHESTER” was the nickname given to describe the vibrant Manchester music scene of the late 1980s and early 1990s, much of which centred on the **Haçienda** nightclub in **Gaythorn** in central **Manchester**. The term was coined by Philip Shotton and Keith Jobling of Factory Records, and popularised by Factory Records director, Tony Wilson, and the Happy Mondays band with their 1989 album entitled ‘Madchester Rave On’.

MAINE ROAD is a road south of **Manchester** city centre that runs west of and parallel to **Oxford Road**. The road gave its name to Manchester City Football Club’s stadium from 1923 to 2003, when it moved to the **Etihad** stadium. In the mid-19th century the road was called ‘Dog Kennel Lane’ as there were dog kennels there, but some adjacent land was purchased by the local temperance society in the early 1870s. The society felt the name was inappropriate and in 1876 the name ‘Maine Road’ was adopted in reference to the prohibition laws passed by the U.S. state of *Maine* in 1851.

MAKERFIELD is a town that was in **Lancashire** until 1974, but is now divided between the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** in **Greater Manchester** and the Metropolitan Borough of St Helens in Merseyside. The name is recorded in 1121 as *Macrefeld*, which is usually interpreted as ‘open land by walls or ruins’, where Celtic *macre* seems to refer to the ruins of an older settlement in Wigan, but no further details are known. Alternatively, *Macre* could be a Celtic personal name.

MAMUCIUM or **MANCUNIUM** forms part of the **Castlefield** Urban Heritage Park, which was opened to the public in 1982. It includes the excavated archaeological remains of the Roman fort of *Mamucium*, as well as reconstructions of other parts.

“MANC-HATTAN” is a nickname for the regeneration area at the southern area of **Deansgate** where several skyscrapers have been built in recent years. The term is a portmanteau word from *Manchester* + *Manhattan* and seems to have been invented by **Cale Green**-based artist Eric Jackson in his 2019 poster ‘Manc-hattan – Just like New York, but so much more charming’. The poster shows skyscrapers towering above the ‘Peveril of the Peak’ pub in central **Manchester** (named after Sir Walter Scott’s 1823 novel) and the statue of Prime Minister William Gladstone (1809-1898) in **Albert Square**.

MANCHESTER is a settlement in north-west England that was historically in **Lancashire** until 1974, when it became one of the 10 metropolitan boroughs of **Greater Manchester**. It was established in about AD 79 as the Roman fort of **Mamucium**, a name probably taken from an older Celtic settlement meaning ‘breast-shaped hill’, from the Celtic *mamm*. The Roman legions abandoned their fort in about 410 but by the time of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle at the end of the 9th century, the name had evolved to *Mameceaster*, with the Old English *ceaster* (‘Roman fort’) added to the Celtic root and a similar spelling of *Mamecestre* was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. See Domesday Book box The modern spelling with N rather than M is found from 1480 and was used by Celia Fiennes in 1698 and Daniel Defoe in about 1725. Manchester did not get its first MPs until 1832 and it was granted city status in 1853. At much the same time, the importance of the textile trade led to the nickname of **“Cottonopolis”**. Since 1974 urban regeneration and the emergence of different cultures have seen new place names such as **‘Madchester’, China Town, Curry Mile, Eastlands, Gay Village, Manc-hattan, Northern Quarter**, etc. A 2017 campaign to rename the city **‘Personchester’** because it was thought to be sexist foundered on its mistaken etymology. Manchester has lent its name to many places in the USA, including Manchester, New Hampshire.

MANCHESTER AIRPORT is an international airport some 11 kilometres south-west of the city centre. It was originally opened in 1938 and known as Manchester **Ringway** Airport but the name was changed to Manchester International Airport in 1975.

MANCHESTER CENTRAL See **GMEX**

MANCHESTER MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY *See* LIVERPOOL ROAD

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL is a 58-kilometre man-made waterway linking **Manchester** with the Irish Sea at Liverpool. It was built in 1887-1893 as the largest and last canal built in Britain. It was opened by Queen **Victoria** at **Mode Wheel** on 21 May 1894. It went into decline in the last quarter of the 20th century and the docks at **Salford** were purchased by Salford City Council from the Ship Canal Company in 1984 and developed as **Salford Quays**. The current owners of the canal plan to develop its potential for container traffic. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

MARIE LOUISE GARDENS is a 2-hectare park between West **Didsbury** and **Northenden**. It is named after *Marie Louise* Bagshawe, who was the daughter of Johann Georg Silkenstadt from Bremen in Germany, a wealthy cotton merchant who emigrated to Manchester in about 1865. Marie Louise died in 1891 and the park was donated to the people of Manchester in her memory by her mother, Josephine Helene Silkenstadt.

MARK ADDY BRIDGE *See* WODEN FOOTBRIDGE

MARKLAND HILL is a residential area west of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is found elsewhere in Lancashire dating from the 13th century. It would seem to mean 'boundary area hill', from Old English *mearc* ('boundary, border') + *land* ('tract of land') + *hyll*, perhaps marking the boundary between farms, villages or parishes.

MARLAND is a residential area in north-west **Castleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Merlande*, meaning either 'tract of land by a lake', from Old English *mere* + *land*, or 'boundary land', from Old English *gemære* ('boundary, border') + *land*.

MARPLE is a town on the River **Goyt** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, about 14 kilometres south-east of **Manchester** city centre. Until 1974 it was part of **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1122 as *Merpille* and with its modern spelling in 1355. The name means 'boundary stream', from Old English *mære* ('boundary') + *pyll* ('pool in a river; stream'), referring to the River Goyt, which was traditionally the boundary between **Cheshire** and **Derbyshire**.

MARPLE BRIDGE is a residential area on the River **Goyt** north-east of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It takes its name from the nearby village of **Marple** but is recorded separately as Marple Bridge in 1685. The bridge over the Goyt which gives the places its name was said to be in need of repair in 1621, so undoubtedly dated from much earlier. It seems that it was repaired but needed replacement by the 1790s. The new bridge was built in 1800 and this is the bridge that stands today, although it was widened in 1930.

MARTINSCROFT is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of Warrington in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1332 and means '*Martin's* enclosure or small farm'. In **Greater Manchester** today there is a Metrolink tram stop called 'Martinscroft' that was opened on 3 November 2014 and which takes its name from its position on *Martinscroft* Road. Martinscroft Road simply means 'the road to Martinscroft', which lies directly to the west.

MARYLEBONE or **MARRIEBONNE** is a residential area east of **Wigan**. The spelling and origin of the name are uncertain and there have been many suggestions. It seems that the original name was Mariebonne – the first references seem to be *Mariebonne House*, which was built in 1855, and cottages built on Mariebonne Place in 1895-1914. However, the spelling Marylebone is also found on maps before the end of the 19th century. Suggestions for the origin include farms called *Merrybone* or *Marrowbone*, a church called *St Mary-on-the-Bourne*, or that the name was influenced by the *Marylebone* district of London, which similarly originated as St Mary's bourne. Perhaps most convincing is that Mariebonne means 'St Mary the Good' and refers to a church or parish with this or a similar name.

MATLEY is a rural area south of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded in 1211 as *Mattel* and as *Mattlegh* in 1316. The name means 'Matta's clearing', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Matta* + *lēah* ('glade, woodland clearing'). Oak Farm in Matley may suggest the type of woodland that was cleared.

MAYFIELD PARK today is a 2.5-hectare public park sited on reclaimed land in central **Manchester**. Its name comes from the Old English *mæddre*, meaning 'the mayweed or madder plant' (which, perhaps significantly, is used to

produce a red dye, which may have been used in the textile industries) + *feld*, 'field'. At the end of the 18th century the area around what was then the small town of Manchester was surrounded by various fields and Mayfield was situated on the north bank of the River **Medlock**. In 1782, it was purchased by Thomas Hoyle, who built a large calico and printing works, including a dye house. The site was purchased by the London & North Western Railway for the new Mayfield station, which was opened in 1910 as a relief station for Manchester **London Road** (today, Manchester **Piccadilly**). Mayfield station was closed to passengers in 1960 and to all rail services in 1986. It gradually became derelict but in 2019 Depot Mayfield, a music venue, was opened, and in 2022 the southern part of the site was developed as Mayfield Park.

MEALHOUSE BROW is a street in central **Stockport** that appears in two paintings by L S Lowry. It was recorded in 1680 as Wynn Bank ('winding hill') and later as Dungeon Brow (as sited above the cells used for prisoners awaiting trial). It became known as Mealhouse Brow as it was the location for storing and selling grain or *meal*. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

MEASUREMENTS HALT was a railway station opened in July 1932 by the London Midland & Scottish Railway to serve the **Dobcross** clock factory of *Measurements* Ltd. It was closed in May 1955 when the line from **Oldham** to **Delph** was shut.

MEDIACITYUK is a property development in the **Salford Quays** district of the City of **Salford**. It was built in 2007-2013 and named because major *media* companies, including both the BBC and ITV Granada, built studios and production facilities there.

River MEDLOCK rises in **Saddleworth** and flows south-west for 16 kilometres into the **Irwell** in **Hulme** in the centre of **Manchester**. The name is first recorded as the *Medlak* in 1292 and means 'meadow stream', from Old English *mæd* 'meadow' + *lacu* 'stream'. The form *Medlok* appears in about 1540 and seems to be influenced by a false association with the word 'lock'.

MELLOR is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It was originally in **Derbyshire**, then became part of **Cheshire** in 1936, before being included in **Greater Manchester** in 1974. The name is first recorded in 1130 as *Melver* or *Meluer* and is said to mean 'the bare or smooth-topped hill' from the Celtic *moel* ('bare') + *bre* ('hill').

MERCIA was an Anglo-Saxon kingdom in the Midlands of England. It was established in about 527 and extended as far north as the River **Mersey**, although its control extended north of the Mersey into **Northumbria** and what are now parts of **Great Manchester** at times, especially after the Mercians' conversion to Christianity in the second half of the 7th century. The name is, like that of the Mersey, derived from the Old English *mære*, meaning 'boundary' as the Mercians were thought of as 'boundary people'.

River MERSEY is a major waterway of **Greater Manchester**. It is formed in **Stockport** through the confluence of the rivers **Goyt** and **Tame** and then flows westward. It joins the **Manchester Ship Canal** for some 6.5 kilometres but then separates near Warrington and flows into the Irish Sea at Liverpool, over 110 kilometres from its source. The name is first recorded in 1002 as *Mærese*, meaning 'boundary river' from the Old English *gemære* ('boundary') + *ēa* ('river'). The Mersey formed the boundary between the old Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of **Mercia** and **Northumbria** from about AD 600 and, later on, between **Cheshire** and **Lancashire**. Virtually all of the rivers and brooks across Greater Manchester are tributaries of the Mersey, and the river gives its name to at least two towns in the county – **Ashton-upon-Mersey** and **Heaton Mersey**.

The MERSEY & IRWELL NAVIGATION was constructed in 1724-1734 to provide a navigable route between the Mersey at Runcorn and the **Irwell** at **Hunt's Bank** in **Manchester**. It was one of the first major man-made waterways in England but was not a true canal as it improved the existing rivers by eliminating meanders to straighten and shorten the route, and constructed weirs and locks to facilitate navigation. Among the locks were **Throstles Nest**, **Mode Wheel**, **Barton**, **Calamanco** and **Sandywarps**. It was a great success for nearly 150 years but had largely fallen out of use by the time the **Manchester Ship Canal** was completed in 1894.

MERSEY SQUARE is a pedestrianised shopping centre in **Stockport**. It was opened in 1970 and was one of the first shopping precincts in Britain. It is named after the River *Mersey*, which originates in Stockport and which runs deep beneath Mersey Square.

MICKER BROOK *See* **BOLLINHURST BROOK**

MICKLEHURST is a district in **Mossley** in the Borough of **Tameside** that was formerly part of **Cheshire**. The name comes from the Old English *micel*, meaning 'large or great' + *hyrst*, meaning 'wooded hill'.

MIDDLEBROOK is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1292 as *Mikelbrok*, meaning 'great brook', from the Old English *micel* ('big, great') + *broc* ('brook, stream'). The brook gave its name to the settlement and, over the years, the names of both became rationalised to 'Middlebrook'. The Middle Brook itself is a tributary of the River **Croal**.

MIDDLE HULTON *See* **HULTON**

MIDDLETON is a town on the River **Irk** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. There are many places called *Middleton* in Britain, all meaning 'middle homestead, village or settlement' and deriving from Old English *middel* + *tūn*. Middleton in Rochdale is recorded in 1194 as *Middelton*, and is thought to be a reference to its position midway between **Manchester** and **Rochdale**. (For Lowry associations, *see* Appendix 1)

MIDDLETON JUNCTION is an area in **Middleton** in the Borough of **Rochdale** and **Chadderton** in the Borough of **Oldham** which was developed in the early 19th century as an industrial area along the Rochdale Canal. The Manchester & Leeds Railway's main line between the two cities was built in 1839 with a junction to Oldham **Werneth** and a station was opened on 31 March 1842. Initially named Oldham Junction, the station was renamed *Middleton Junction* in 1852. The station was closed in 1966 and demolished but the area surrounding it retains the name.

MIDLAND HOTEL is a large hotel in central **Manchester** opened in 1903 by the *Midland* Railway close to its **Manchester Central** station. It is said to have been the first building in Britain to be air-conditioned, and in 1904 Charles Rolls met Henry Royce there and formed the Rolls Royce car company.

MILE END is an area of **Davenport** in **Stockport** whose name means 'place at the end of a mile' from the centre of Stockport. The name is first recorded in 1587, when Alexander Lowe, the mayor of Stockport, was living in Mile End Hall, which stood on the main road from **Manchester** to London (now the A6).

MILES PLATTING is an inner-city suburb of **Manchester** lying approximately 2 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name first appears in 1790 referring to a bridge that carried the Oldham Road over Newton Brook. The name comes from *plattling*, a Lancashire dialect term for a 'small bridge', which was located a *mile* from the city centre.

MILLBROOK is a village near **Stalybridge** in the Borough of **Tameside**. The name literally means 'the mill by the brook' and is first recorded in 1831. The mills referred to were cotton mills that were built in the early part of the 19th century and the brook is **Swineshaw** Brook (meaning 'swine wood'), also first recorded in 1831, which flows through the village. The name was perhaps formalised when the London & North Western Railway opened a station called Staley & Millbrook in July 1886.

MILLS HILL is an industrial and residential area in east **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It lies on the Rochdale Canal and the River **Irk**. The name is not well documented and, although many textile mills were built in the area in the 19th century, the name may be older and could refer to windmills or corn mills.

MILNROW is a town on the River **Beal** in the Borough of **Rochdale** that was part of **Lancashire** until 1974. The name is first recorded as *Milnehuses* in the 13th century but had become *Mylnerowe* by 1554. The name means 'row of houses by a mill' from the Old English *myln* ('mill') + *rāw* ('a row of houses, trees, etc').

MIRRLEES FIELDS is a location in **Hazel Grove** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that includes the former factory site and recreational grounds of the *Mirrlees* Engineering Company. The company was established in Glasgow in 1840 but moved to Hazel Grove in 1908, producing diesel engines. It closed in 2000 and the land may be developed into a housing estate.

MITCHELL HEY is a residential area of **Rochdale** west of the town centre within a loop in the River **Roch**. The name is believed to be an eponym derived from the family name *Mitchell* + Old English *hæg* meaning 'enclosure, hedged enclosure'. In 1859 the site was purchased from a Mr William Holt by the **Rochdale Pioneers** for a steam-powered weaving mill to be run on co-operative principles. The chairman at the time was J T W Mitchell (1828-1895), but the naming of the mill was coincidental. When the mill was demolished, a block of flats with the same name was erected on the site in the 1960s. In 2017 it was announced that this block would be demolished as part of a new housing scheme.

MODE WHEEL today is an industrial estate in the City of **Salford** beside the **Manchester Ship Canal**. The Mode Wheel locks were the last on the Manchester Ship Canal, lifting ships 4 metres to the level of Salford docks, and it was at the Mode Wheel locks that Queen **Victoria** officially opened the Manchester Ship Canal on 21 May 1894. The Mode Wheel locks pre-dated the Manchester Ship Canal by some 170 years, having originally been built in the late 1720s as one of the 8 sets of locks on the Mersey & Irwell Navigation, enabling ships to sail from Runcorn to **Hunt's Bank** at Salford. The original Mode Wheel was a waterwheel that must have been constructed in the 16th century or even earlier to power a corn mill. This was named *Maud's Mill* but the name had been corrupted to 'Mode Wheel' by the 1720s. Maud cannot be identified with any certainty but a *Maud* de Worsley is known to have land in **Pendleton**, **Woodhouses** and **Wallness** in 1332.

MOLYNEUX BROW was a hamlet north-west of **Clifton** in the City of **Salford**. The name was recorded in the early 17th century as *Mullineux Brow* and with its more modern spelling in 1853, when the East Lancashire Railway opened *Molyneux Brow* station, taking its name from a few cottages nearby. The name is assumed to be an eponym: a Norman from the town of *Moulineaux* ('mill of the waters') came over with William the Conqueror in 1066 and one of his descendants was given a manor in Sefton, outside Liverpool. The family were influential in Lancashire and two - Sir Thomas *Molyneux* and Sir William *Molyneux* - became sheriffs of the county in the late 15th and early 16th centuries.

MONKS HALL is a building in **Eccles** in the City of **Salford**. The original building is believed to date back to 1234 and took its name either from the *monks* of Whalley Abbey, who owned land in Eccles, or from the *de Monks* family, who are known to have lived in Eccles. Various buildings with various uses have stood on the site. The 17th-century building was purchased by Eccles council in 1959 and converted into a museum, but this closed in the late 1980s. Much of the building was destroyed by fire in 2016 and there are currently plans to convert it into housing.

MONSALL is a suburb of **Manchester**, north-east of the city centre. The name was recorded as *Monshalgh* in 1546 and means 'monk's (Old English *monke*) corner or nook (*halh*)'.

MONTON is a residential area in the City of **Salford**, lying on Dean's Brook, a tributary of the River **Irwell**. The name is recorded in 1190 as *Mawinton*, believed to mean 'Mawinga's or Mawa's village or farmstead', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *tūn*. An alternative suggestion is that the name may be derived from *monk* + *tūn* as it is known that there was a monastic community in the area in mediaeval times.

MONTERRAT is a residential area north-east of **Bolton**. The name is Catalan, meaning 'serrated or jagged mountain'. It is said that a row of cottages was built early in the 19th century by an ex-soldier who had fought with the Duke of **Wellington** in the Peninsular War in Spain. In 1811 and 1812 the monastery at *Montserrat* in Catalonia in north-east Spain was destroyed by Napoleon's troops and the builder named the cottages to commemorate the monastery. In the 1930s the cottages were demolished and, after the war, an estate was built and given the name Montserrat. The estate now seems to be called **Johnson Fold** but Montserrat still appears on maps as the name of the area.

MOORGATE is a residential area north of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in 1831 and literally means 'gateway to the moors', referring to its location close to the moors of the **Derbyshire Peak District** to the east.

MOORSIDE is a suburb of north-east **Oldham**, close to the moors of **Saddleworth**. The name is recorded in 1843 as *Moor Side*, literally meaning 'beside the moors'.

MORRIS GREEN is a residential area south of **Daubhill** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented but is said to be an eponym meaning 'the bleaching green belonging to someone named *Morris*'.

This refers to the practice of laying newly-made cloth out on a grass plot to be bleached by the sun. The *Oxford English Dictionary* records the first use of *green* with this meaning in 1738.

MOSES GATE is a residential area of **Farnworth** in the Borough of **Bolton**, about 4 kilometres south of Bolton town centre and 17.5 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded as *Moss Gate* in 1818 but is probably mediaeval in origin, deriving from Old English *mos* ('a bog or swamp') + Old Norse *gata* ('a road, a street'). The original meaning would have been 'the road across the swamp', but was rationalised to Moses, despite having nothing to do with the Biblical character.

MOSLEY COMMON is a residential area of **Tyldesley** in the east of the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in 1301 as *Mosseld Yard*, meaning 'the woodland clearing near a swamp', from Old English *mos* ('marsh, swamp') + *lēah* ('wood, clearing'). The use of *yard* at this early date would probably be from Old English *geard* ('an enclosure; a court-yard'). The use of *common* rather than *yard* is found in 1747, when Mosley Common was said to be 14 hectares in area.

MOSS BANK PARK is an 85-hectare public park in **Bolton** opened to the public in 1928. The site was formerly an estate belonging to Peter Ainsworth, a bleacher from Halliwell. The estate included a country house, Halliwell Hall, and fields which were for the sun-bleaching of newly-made cloth. Moss Bank is a common name in the north-west, deriving from the Old English *mos* ('marsh, swamp') + *banke* ('slope of a hill').

MOSSLEY is a town beside the River **Tame** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, about 15 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. It was formerly divided between **Lancashire**, **Cheshire** and the **West Riding of Yorkshire**, but in 1889 it was allocated wholly to **Lancashire**. In 1974 it was included in **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1319 as *Moselegh* and with its modern spelling from 1422. It means 'woodland clearing near a swamp', from Old English *mos* ('marsh, swamp') + *lēah* ('wood, clearing').

MOSS PARK GARDENS is a small public space in **Timperley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The area is referred to in 1765 as a 'parcel of moss ground', from the old English *mos* meaning 'marsh, swamp'. By the 1830s it seems to have been drained as it is recorded as a farm and orchard. The land was sold to **Altrincham** Borough Council in 1940 and laid out as a small park in 1974.

MOSS SIDE is a residential area of **Manchester**, south of the city centre. The name is recorded in 1530 as *Mossyde* and with its modern two-word spelling in 1594, meaning 'beside or edge of the swamp', from Old English *mos* ('marsh, swamp') + *side* ('beside'). The name describes the pre-industrial landscape of much of Manchester which shocked Defoe in about 1725: 'The nature of these mosses, for we found there are many of them in this country ... at a distance, looks black and dirty, and is indeed frightful to think of'.

MOSTON is suburb of **Manchester** lying about 5 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name *Moston* was first recorded in 1195 and is derived from Old English *mos*, meaning 'bog or swamp' + *tūn*, 'settlement or farm'.

MOTTRAM IN LONGDENDALE is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, although part of **Cheshire** until 1974. The name is recorded in 1308 as *Mottram in Longedenedale*. *Mottram* is usually said to mean 'place of the speakers' or 'place where meetings are held', from the Old English *mōtere* ('speaker at an assembly') or *mōt* ('meeting, assembly of people') + *rūm* ('room, space'). Another possibility is that *Mottram* comes from the Celtic *moch* ('pigs') + *tref* ('homestead, village'). **Longdendale** was added to distinguish it from Mottram St Andrew in Cheshire, and refers to the long valley of the River **Etherow**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

MUDD or **The MUDD** is a hamlet in **Mottram in Longdendale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in 1845 but it is evident that there has been a settlement since mediaeval times. The name literally means 'mud', from the Old English *mudde*.

MUMPS is an area of **Oldham** which is said to take its name from the 17th-century slang term *mumper*, meaning 'a genteel beggar'. The name seems to have been formalised by a station originally built by the Manchester & Leeds Railway in July 1856 and perpetuated by a Metrolink tram stop named Oldham Mumps, which re-opened in 2014.

MYTHAM is a residential area in **Little Lever** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** that also gives its name to Mytham Park. The name is not well documented but Mytham Farm is recorded in 1805. The name comes from

the Old English *gemȳthu + hām*, meaning ‘village at the confluence of streams or rivers’, referring to confluence of the **Croal** and **Irwell** south-west of Little Lever.

N

NADEN BROOK is a tributary of the River **Roch**. It rises above **Norden** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** and flows southwards to join the Roch in **Heywood**. Naden Brook is recorded as *Nauedenbrok* in the 13th century and means ‘peak valley stream’, from Old English *nafu* (‘nave, hub of a wheel’) + *denu* (‘valley’) + *brōc* (‘stream’). The valley and the brook gave their name to settlements called Naden on the hillside above, and *nafu* here probably refers to the shape of **Knoll Hill**, which rises to a height of 420 metres.

NAILER’S GREEN or **NAILER’S FIELD** is the former name of the village of **Greenmount** in **Tottington** in the north of the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name was taken from a pub called the *Nailer’s*, but the pub was demolished and a local community group campaigned for the village to be renamed. A sign with the new name was unveiled in 2016.

NAVIGATION ROAD is a street in **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, and also a station, originally opened in 1931, that serves both Northern Rail trains and Metrolink trams. The name refers to the nearby **Bridgewater Canal**, which was originally referred to as a ‘navigation’. A *navigation* is a river that has been straightened and dredged to make it navigable, rather than a totally artificial canal. The word in this sense dates from 1720, and the Mersey & Irwell Navigation Act of 1720 was one of the very first uses.

NEWALL GREEN is a district in **Wythenshawe** in the City of **Manchester**, south of the city centre. The name is taken from *Newall Green* Farm, which is thought to go back at least as far as the 16th century and which still exists today, although much of the farmland has been used for residential development since 1937. The name is recorded in 1841 as *New Hall Green* but the current spelling is found from 1842. It comes from the Old English *nīwe* + *halh*, meaning ‘new nook of land or new piece of dry ground’, perhaps referring to a newly-drained piece of land in an area with many streams.

NEW BAILEY was originally a prison in **Salford**, the largest in England at the time, built in 1787-1790 to the designs of John Howard (1726-1790), after whom the Howard League for Prison Reform is named. The jail was paid for by Thomas Butterworth *Bayley* (1744-1802), the High Sheriff of Lancashire, and named ‘New Bailey’ to distinguish it from the Old Bailey in London. The prison was closed in 1868 when the new **Strangeways** prison was opened. A bridge with the same name was built over the River **Irwell** in 1783-1785, but this too was demolished and replaced by the **Albert Bridge** in 1843-1844. (For Valette paintings, see Appendix 2)

NEW BARRACKS is a residential estate built by **Salford** Corporation in 1900-1904. It takes its name from the Salford Infantry *Barracks*, built in 1819 and closed down in 1896. The land was then purchased by Salford Corporation and transformed into one of the first housing estates in what is now **Greater Manchester**. **Coronation Street** was one of the streets on the estate. See also **Barrack Park**

NEWBOLD is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in about 1200 as *Neubolt*, but the modern spelling is found by about 1300. It means ‘new building’ from Old English *nīwe* (‘new’) + *bold* (‘building; dwelling’), but it is uncertain what buildings are referred to.

NEW EARTH is a residential and commercial area of **Oldham** beside New Earth Street and south-east of the town centre. The name is Biblical and refers to the ending of the world: ‘we are looking forward to a new heaven and a *new earth*, where righteousness dwells’. The name seems to date from the 19th century and was probably given by the Moravian church, who were established in Oldham in 1824 and named nearby **Salem**.

NEWHEY is a suburban village near **Milnrow** in the Borough of **Rochdale**. It seems to have developed from the enclosure of surrounding moorland and this is reflected in the ‘new’ part of its name, which was first recorded in 1828. The second element, *hey*, is older, probably from the Old English *hæg*, meaning ‘fence or enclosure’.

NEW ISLINGTON is an inner-city area of **Ancoats** in the City of **Manchester** that has recently undergone regeneration. The name is recorded in the late 18th century, and in the 19th century it was applied both to a street and a cotton mill dating from 1788. The name was originally a move to gentrify the area by adopting the name of the fashionable London district of *Islington*, but the area acquired a reputation that was far from fashionable and

the name fell out of use. Nevertheless, residents of the newly-regenerated area chose to resurrect the name after the millennium. Islington in London is a mediaeval eponymic name meaning 'hill of a man called *Gīsla*'. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

NEW JACKSON is a regeneration area in central **Manchester** and **Hulme** described by the developers as a 'new community' or a 'skyscraper district'. The name is recorded in 2024 but dates back to a farm in the 16th or 17th centuries or even earlier. 'Mr *Jackson's Farm*' appears on a map of 1831 but the urbanisation and industrialisation of the area was already under way by that date: Jackson's grain warehouse was built in 1836 and a police station was built on Jackson Street (later renamed Great Jackson Street) in 1843. The regeneration project was initially known as the Great Jackson Street scheme, but this morphed into 'New Jackson' once the project had been approved and is now part of what is sometimes called **Manc-hattan**.

NEW MANCHESTER is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. It dates from the early 19th century, when miners moved here from **Manchester** to work in the Duke of **Bridgewater's** collieries and transferred the names of the streets from the City of Manchester to the village.

NEW SIRS See **OLD SIRS**

NEWTON is the most common place name in England, with at least 87 towns or villages carrying the name. All mean 'the new settlement' from the Old English *nīwe* + *tūn*.

NEWTON, Tameside is an area of **Hyde** that was formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Neweton* and with its modern spelling in 1320. See Domesday Book box

NEWTON HEATH is a residential area of the City of **Manchester**, 4.5 kilometres north-east of the city centre. The name *Newton* is recorded in 1322 but much of Newton was absorbed into **Miles Platting** in the 19th century and the name fell into disuse. The remaining portion was given the name *Newton Heath*, meaning 'the heath beside Newton'. The full name Newton Heath dates from 1843 and was formalised by the opening of Newton Heath station by the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway on 1 December 1853.

NEW WINDSOR See **WINDSOR**

NICO DITCH is a 10-kilometre defensive ditch and fortification between **Ashton-under-Lyne** and **Stretford**. It is believed to have been constructed at some time between the 5th and the 11th centuries, and parts can still be seen today. According to legend, it was built in just one night in 869-870 to guard against Viking invaders. It is recorded in 1190 as *Mykeldiche*, meaning 'large or great ditch', from the Old English *micel* ('big, great'). Over time, the name became corrupted to 'Nico'. It is said that **Reddish**, meaning 'reedy ditch', refers to Nico Ditch, which at one time formed the northern border of the settlement.

NIMBLE NOOK is a residential area south-west of **Chadderton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1825 but is probably much older. Middle English *nok* means 'a triangular plot of land', but the derivation and meaning of *Nimble* are unclear.

NOB END is a 9-hectare nature reserve near **Little Lever** and **Kearsley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1824 as the village of *Knob End*, from the Middle English *knob* or *nob*, meaning 'a knoll, round-topped promontory', and referring to the shape of a nearby small hill some 10 metres high at the confluence of the Rivers **Croak** and **Irwell**. Later in the century, between 1850 and 1870, the site was used as a toxic tip for alkali waste. The name is sometimes considered vulgar and the Manchester Bolton & Bury Canal preferred **Prestolee** Locks to Nob End Locks.

NORBURY is a district and former mining village in **Hazel Grove** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** which was formerly included in **Cheshire**. It appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Nordberie*, from the Old English *nord*, meaning 'north' and *burh*, meaning 'settlement'. The southern equivalent would be Sudbury. Sudbury in **Derbyshire** is about 80 kilometres south-east of Norbury and is also mentioned in the Domesday Book.

NORDEN is a village on the western edge of the town of **Rochdale** on the north bank of the River **Roch**. The name is said to be recent but its origin is uncertain. One suggestion is that it is a corruption of **Naden**, from Old English *nafu* ('nave, hub of a wheel') + *denu* ('valley'), as **Naden Brook** rises nearby. More plausibly, it describes its location and means 'northern valley', deriving from the Old English *north* + *denu*. On the opposite bank lies **Sudden**, meaning 'southern valley'.

NORDEN ETCHELLS or **NORTHERN ETCHELLS** See **ETCHELLS**

NORLEY is a residential area east of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in 1293 as Nortlegh and means 'northern clearing', from the Old English *north* + *lēah* ('wood, clearing').

NORTHENDEN is a southern suburb of the Borough of **Manchester**. It was formerly in **Cheshire** and lies on the southern banks of the River **Mersey**, which was the traditional border between **Lancashire** and **Cheshire**. Northenden was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Norwordine*, and was recorded simply as *Northern* as late as 1577. The name comes from the Old English *north* + *worthign*, meaning 'northern enclosed settlement'. The Stockport Timperley & Altrincham Junction Railway opened Northenden station in February 1866 and the railway, together with the development of housing estates following its absorption by the City of Manchester in 1931, saw the area develop from a rural into a suburban community. See Domesday Book box

NORTHERN MOOR is a residential area of the City of **Manchester**, approximately 8 kilometres south of the city centre. It was previously in **Cheshire** and seen as part of **Northenden**, which lies to the east. The name is not well documented but was formerly spelled 'Northen Moor', meaning 'the moor of *Northenden*', but over time the name was rationalised to 'Northern'.

NORTHERN QUARTER is an entertainment and commercial area of **Manchester** city centre *north* of **Piccadilly Gardens** in the area formerly occupied by **Smithfield Market**. The name was given in the 1990s by local people to identify the vibrant cultural lifestyle and nightlife of the area.

NORTH MOOR or **NORTHMOOR** is a south-western suburb of **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1868, when the North Moor Wesleyan Church was opened, although it is known that the North Moor Primitive Methodist Society had meetings in a cellar for several years previously. The residents of North Moor Road are listed in the 1851 and it may be that North Moor Road led west to **Westwood**, which is built on a hillside known as North Moor.

NORTHUMBRIA was an Anglo-Saxon kingdom or province in the north of England, and included all of what is now **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in the 10th-century *Anglo Saxon Chronicle*, which states that 'In this year (AD 923), in late autumn, King Edward the Elder (son of Alfred the Great) went ... to occupy **Manchester** in Northumbria, and had it repaired and garrisoned'. The name means '*north* of the *Humber*' but in the west the River **Mersey** marked the boundary between **Mercia** and Northumbria.

NUTSFORD VALE today is a country park in east **Manchester** close to **Gorton**, **Levenshulme** and **Longsight**. Early in the 19th century it was a farm spelled Knutsford Vale but later in the century various factories were built and the spelling became Nutsford Vale. By the 1980s it had become a landfill site, which was transformed into a country park by 2017. The name is clearly linked to *Knutsford* in **Cheshire** in some way, although the modern spelling somewhat obscures this. Knutsford is an eponym derived from the Viking personal name *Knut* + Old English *ford*. It is sometimes said that Knut was King Canute, but this is probably folk etymology.

NUTTALL PARK is a 10.7-hectare park on the River **Irwell** close to **Ramsbottom** town centre in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It takes its name from the 'forgotten' village of Nuttall, which was recorded in 1256 as *Noteho*, meaning 'bare or nut hill', from the Old English *hnott* ('bare, bald') or *hnutu* ('nut') + *hōh* ('heel; spur of land'), referring to a hill to the west of the Irwell on which the village stood. Nuttall Park was opened in 1928.

O

OAKENBOTTOM is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Akinbothun*, meaning 'oaks in the valley bottom', from Old English *acen* ('oaken: growing with oak-trees') + *botm* ('a broad river-valley').

OAK MEADOW PARK is a small park in the centre of **Cheadle Hulme** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It stands on the site of a Victorian residence, *Oak Cottage*, which took its name from a large tree in the garden. Oak Cottage had been demolished by 1937 and Oak Meadow Park was laid out on the site, apparently still with the original large oak tree.

OCTAGON THEATRE is a theatre in **Bolton** that opened in 1967. The auditorium is actually hexagonal, but there was already a theatre in Reading called 'The Hexagon' and so the new Bolton theatre was named 'The *Octagon*'.

OFFERTON is a south-eastern suburb of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that was in **Cheshire** until 1974. There are several places in England named Offerton, but the first record of *Offerton* in Cheshire dates from 1248 with the current spelling. The name is said to consist of a personal name such as *Offa* or *Oftfōr* + *tūn*, meaning 'farmstead or village'.

OGDEN is a hamlet in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** that also gives its name to Ogden Reservoir, which was built in 1878 to supply drinking water to Oldham. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Akeden*, meaning 'oak valley' from the Old English *āc*, meaning 'oak' + *denu*, 'valley'.

OLDFIELD BROW is a residential area on the western edge of **Altrincham** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name means 'the hill of the old open-field', from Old English *ald* ('ancient, long-used') + *feld* ('open country; land cleared of trees') + *bru* ('brow of a hill'). The name is found in *Oldfield Hall*, which was built in 1616 and some of the land in which it stood was donated to Altrincham Council in 1917 as **John Leigh Park**. In the 1920s, the Oldfield Brow estate was built in the area.

OLDHAM is a town and, since 1974, one of the ten metropolitan boroughs of **Greater Manchester**. It was formerly part of **Lancashire**. Its name is first recorded in about 1227 as *Aldholm*, meaning 'old promontory', from Old English *ald*, meaning 'old' + Old Norse *holmr*, 'dry land, promontory'. 'Old' may refer to an older settlement or may mean that the site had been occupied for a long time. Suggestions that Oldham was named because of the local presence of owls are folk etymology, although owls have become the town's symbol and feature in its coat of arms.

OLD SIRS and **NEW SIRS** are residential and recreational areas of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The names are said to derive from the family name of John and Richard *de Sire*, who were recorded as being resident in the area in 1332.

OLD TAME is a hamlet south-west of **Denshaw** to the west of the River **Tame**, from which it takes its name. Both Old Tame and New Tame, a smaller settlement on the eastern side of the *Tame* valley, were originally outlying estates of Roche Abbey. The names are recorded in 1729 but probably date from much earlier.

OLD TRAFFORD is a district of the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** which lends its name to Lancashire County Cricket Club's ground (opened in 1857) and Manchester United's football stadium, which was opened in 1910. The name *Trafford* is first recorded in 1786 and is a variation of the neighbouring **Stretford**, both meaning 'ford over the Roman road', from *stræt*, 'street, especially a Roman road', + *ford*, 'ford' across the River **Mersey**. The 'old' part of the name is thought to refer to the older of the two Trafford Halls. The original or Old Hall is believed to have been built in about 1017, but was replaced by the New Hall in the last quarter of the 17th century or the first quarter of the 18th.

OLIVER CLOUGH is a small valley in **Boggart Hole Clough** country park in **Blackley** in the City of **Manchester**. It is said to be named after *Oliver Cromwell* (1599-1658), whose Parliamentary troops camped in the area during the siege of Manchester in 1643 in the Civil War.

OPENSHAW is a suburb of the City of **Manchester**, about 5 kilometres east of the city centre. The name is first recorded in 1276 as *Openshawe*, meaning ‘open wood’, i.e. one that is not enclosed, referring to a park belonging to the Lord of Manchester, Robert Grelley. It is composed of the Old English *open*, meaning ‘open or unenclosed’ + *sceaga*, ‘wood’.

OPENSHAW PARK is a public park of about 5 hectares in Pimhole, outside **Bury** town centre. The park was established with land and funds donated by Thomas *Openshaw*, a local woollen manufacturer. The park was opened in July 1888 by the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), who also held the title Duke of **Clarence**, and named after Thomas *Openshaw*.

ORDSALL is a suburb of the City of **Salford**. The name is first recorded in 1177 as *Ordeshala*, meaning ‘Ord’s or Ordric’s nook’. *Ord* is a personal name and the second element is *-halh*, meaning ‘a corner or nook’. This comes from the position of Ordsall within a large bend in the River **Irwell**.

ORLANDO BRIDGE is a road viaduct that carries Orlando Street across the railway in **Bolton** town centre close to the station. The bridge was originally built by the Manchester & Bolton Railway in 1838 and both street and bridge were named after Sir *Orlando* Bridgeman, a 17th-century lawyer from nearby **Great Lever**. The bridge was rebuilt in 2016.

ORRELL is a suburb of **Wigan**, sometimes known as Orrell-in-**Makerfield**. The name is first recorded in 1202 as *Horhill* but *Orell* is found before the end of the 13th century. Orrell means ‘ore hill’ from Old English *ōra* + *hyll*, believed to be a reference to ancient iron ore workings rather than coal mining.

ORRELL POST or **ORREL POST** is a residential area north of **Orrell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** around a landmark known as the *Orrell Post*, a stone column 3.3 metres tall outside the Stag Inn recorded in 1607. The original purpose of the post is uncertain: some people suggest it was a tethering post for Stag Inn patrons, but it is usually said to be turnpike marker stone at or near a crossroads.

OUTWOOD is district of **Radcliffe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** that also gives its name to Outwood Country Park. The name dates back to around 1200 and was known as Outwood of **Pilkington**. It means ‘outlying wood’ or ‘wood on the outskirts’ and refers to land on the banks of the River **Irwell**. The name is derived from the Old English *ūt*, meaning ‘outside, on the outskirts’ + *wudu*, ‘wood, coppice’.

OVER HULTON See **HULTON**

OWENS PARK was a large hall of residence complex in the **Fallowfield** area south of **Manchester** city centre. It was built by the University of Manchester in 1964-1965 but shut down in 2021 and demolished in 2024 for redevelopment. It was named after John *Owens* (1790-1846), who was a Manchester merchant and one of the principal donors who founded the university (initially called Owens College) in 1824.

OWLER BARROW or **ALDER BARROW** is a residential area west of **Bury**. The place and name are not well documented. The area is said to be post-mediaeval and appears as *Alder Barrow* on 19th-century maps, but the spelling is altered to *Owler Barrow* by the late 19th century and early 20th century. In fact, the spelling change does not alter the meaning as *owler* is a dialect word for an alder-tree. The name, therefore, would mean ‘alder wood’, from Old English *alor* (‘an alder’) + *bearu* (‘wood, grove’).

OXFORD PARK is a 3-hectare recreation ground in the **Guide Bridge** area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name originates in the late 18th or early 19th century, when Oxford Street was built between the main Stockport Road and the newly-built Ashton canal. In 1845 Thomas Mason (1782-1868) built the first of his Oxford Mills, which were later run by his son, Hugh Mason (1817-1886). In 1870, Hugh

Mason presented the mills' sports ground to the town. Hugh Mason's statue was later erected close by in **Trafalgar Square** and the mills were destroyed by fire in 2019.

OXFORD ROAD is a main road through **Chorlton-on-Medlock** from **Manchester** city centre at **St Peter's Square** to **Whitworth Park**. It was originally named in 1793-1794, when Chorlton was gentrified and adopted prestigious names such as *Oxford*, Cambridge and **Grosvenor** for its principal streets. The opening of Oxford Road station by the Manchester South Junction & Altrincham Railway in 1839 and **Owens** College (now the University of Manchester) in 1873 led to what has become known as the 'Oxford Road Corridor', with educational institutions, hospitals and cultural venues. It is planned to develop this area further as 'Corridor Manchester' by the mid-2020s. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

P

PACKER SPOUT GARDENS is a small public park south-west of **Rochdale** town centre. The gardens were opened in 1934 and laid out round Packer Spout, a fountain in an oval-shaped pool fed by a natural spring. The spring fed a reservoir which was built in 1760 which was used to supply water from drinking and also to power a corn mill until it was demolished in 1934. The name is a shortening of *packhorse*, as horses stopped there to drink in earlier times.

PADDINGTON is a residential area of **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford**. It is not well documented before 1846, when it was created as a parish. The name would seem to be an example of gentrification – when a prestigious name of a district of London is adopted in an attempt to elevate the reputation of an area. *Paddington* in London is recorded in about 1045 and means ‘the farm or homestead belonging to *Padda*’.

PAINSWICK PARK is a public park in **Woodhouse Park** in **Wythenshawe** in southern **Manchester**. It was originally a farm that was taken over in the late 1950s as a landfill site. In 1962, it was acquired by Manchester council and opened in 1968 as a park with an artificial lake. The name is not well documented but there is a Painswick in Gloucestershire which is an eponym derived from the personal name *Pain* + *wiche* (‘a farm, especially a dairy farm’).

PALATINE BRIDGE is a road bridge across the River **Irwell** between **Salford** and **Manchester**. It was built in 1864 to provide better access to **Victoria Station**, which had been opened in 1843. It was sited beside and so took its name from the *Palatine* Hotel and the *Palatine* Buildings, which were named after the County *Palatine* of Lancaster. *Lancashire* was made a county palatine in 1351 to indicate that it was administered by the Duke of Lancaster through powers conferred by the palace (Latin *palatium*), i.e. by the monarch.

PANKHURST CENTRE is a museum and women’s centre in **Chorlton-on-Medlock** in central **Manchester** commemorating the life and work of Emmeline *Pankhurst* (1858-1928) and the suffragette movement. The centre is housed in a pair of villas in Nelson Street. Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters lived in No. 62 from 1898 and established the suffragette movement there in 1903. The centre was opened in 1987. A statue to Emmeline Pankhurst was unveiled in **St Peter’s Square** in 2018.

PARK BRIDGE is a village north of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It takes its name from the *Park Bridge* Ironworks, which were established in 1786 and developed as a village in the second quarter of the 19th century as housing was provided for the workers. The name of the company came from nearby **Lyme Park** and a *bridge* over the River **Medlock** beside the works. The company made rivets for the Eiffel Tower, Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Titanic, but closed in 1963 and the site is now the Park Bridge Heritage Centre.

PARKFIELD is an area of **Middleton**, about 9 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name originated with *Parkfield House*, which was built by a local magistrate, Thomas Ashton, and apparently named to reflect the house’s landscaped grounds. Middleton became a municipal borough in 1886 and it acquired Parkfield House as its town hall in 1925. The house was demolished in 1978.

PARR FOLD PARK is a 7.4-hectare public park in **Walkden** in the City of **Salford**. The name appears as *Parrfold* Farmhouse in the late 17th or early 18th century and is probably an eponym, but it is not known who the *Parr* was who owned the *fold* – the name for a small farmstead, many of which had coal mines. In 1905 **Worsley** Urban District Council purchased the land on which the farmstead stood and opened it as a public park.

PARRS WOOD is a residential area of East **Didsbury** in south **Manchester**. The name is said to be recorded in 1587 and it would seem to be an eponym, but who the *Parr* was that owned the *wood* is unclear. There were several Parr families in the area but none can be traced as far back as the late 16th century. It has been suggested that they may have been related to Henry VIII’s sixth wife, Katherine Parr, but there would seem to be no proof of this.

PARSONAGE GARDENS is a small garden in the centre of **Manchester** just off **Deansgate**. The site was originally known as Parsonage Croft and dates from 1635 as the site of the home of the parson of the original St Mary’s Church (now Manchester Cathedral). A new church was built on the site in 1756 but was demolished in 1891,

followed by Parsonage House in 1897. The site then became Parsonage Gardens and has remained a tranquil garden, apart from the detonation of an IRA bomb on 3 December 1992.

PARTINGTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** about 16 kilometres south-west of **Manchester** city centre on the south bank of **Manchester Ship Canal**. It was part of **Bowdon** parish in **Cheshire** until 1974. The name is first recorded in 1260 as *Partinton* and with its modern spelling in 1577. It means the 'the farm (-tūn) of the people of followers of (-inga-) *Pearta*'.

PATRICROFT is a suburb of the City of **Salford**. Patricroft was a bridging point on the earliest section of the **Bridgewater Canal** when it was opened on 17 July 1761. It was also a bridging point for the Liverpool & Manchester Railway, which opened in 1830, and *Patricroft* station was opened on 15 September of that year, making it one of the earliest railway stations in the world. It soon developed into an industrial area because of its position by the canal and railway, and also because it had clean air and was felt to be healthier than the centre of industrial **Manchester**. *Croft* means 'enclosure, enclosed field', while *Patri-* may be from the Middle English *pertre* ('pear-tree') or, more likely, a version of the personal name *Patrick*.

The PEAK DISTRICT is a hilly area mostly in **Derbyshire** but some places in eastern **Great Manchester** can be said to be in the Peak District. The name is eponymous: the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* of the late 9th century refers to the area as the *Peaclond*, meaning the land of the *Pecsætan* tribe. The tribe's name means 'hill dwellers', from Old English *pēac* ('peak, pointed hill') + *sæte* ('dwellers, settlers').

PEAR MILL or **PEAR NEW MILL** is a retail location in **Bredbury** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It was originally built as a cotton spinning mill in 1908-1913 and was possibly the last textile mill in Stockport to go into production. It was built beside the River **Goyt** on the site of *Pear Tree Farm*, from which it takes its name. The name is celebrated by a gigantic concrete pear-shaped dome on the roof. The mill was closed in 1978 and converted into retail outlets.

PEEL is a residential area of **Worsley** in the City of **Salford**, which includes a park, which is not to be confused with **Peel Park** in Salford. The name is taken from *Peel Hall*, a stately home previously known as Wicheaves Hall. *Wicheaves* is recorded in 1323 and means 'the edge of the elm wood', from Old English *wice* ('wych-elm') + *efes* ('an edge or border, especially of a wood'). Wicheaves Hall was renamed Peel Hall at the end of the 18th century, referring back to a 12th century name, Peel, from the Old English *peel*, 'a palisade, a fortified enclosure'.

PEEL CAUSEWAY was the name for part of what is now **Hale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It is recorded as Peel Causeway Farm in 1701, although a place named Peel was found in the area in 1462. It is probably derived from the Old English *peel*, 'a palisade, a fortified enclosure', and the *causeway* was part of what is now Ashley Road. The name was formalised as Peel Causeway when the Cheshire Midland Railway opened a station with this name in 1862 but the name of the village was dropped when it was incorporated into Hale in 1900 and the station name was also changed to Hale in 1902.

PEEL CENTRE is a retail area close to the centre of **Stockport** town centre. It was first developed in 1987 and expanded in 2010. It was built by the *Peel Group*, a property company founded in the 1960s by John Whittaker, who came from **Bury** and was so inspired by Bury-born prime minister Sir Robert *Peel* (1788-1850) that he named the company after him. The company also now own the **Manchester Ship Canal**.

PEEL HALL is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** on the eastern side of **Wythenshawe**, about 14.5 kilometres south of Manchester city centre. It takes its name from a mediaeval moated country house originally built in the 14th century by Sir John de Arderne named *The Peele*, from the Middle English *pel*, meaning 'a moated and fortified house'. The house was derelict by the 1960s and was demolished.

PEEL PARK is a large park in **Salford** opened in 1846 and named after Sir Robert *Peel* (1788-1850), a former prime minister who did a lot to promote and fund public parks in Victorian England. In 1850, the Salford Museum and Art Gallery was built overlooking the park. In 1896 Salford Royal Technical Institute was opened and this now forms part of the Peel Campus of the University of Salford. (For Lowry pictures of Peel Park, see Appendix 1)

PEEL TOWER or **PEEL MONUMENT** is a 39-metre memorial on **Holcombe Hill** in **Ramsbottom** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It was built in 1850-1852 to commemorate Sir Robert *Peel* (1788-1850), a former prime minister and founder of the modern police force, who was born in Bury. There are also places in Australia, Canada and New Zealand named after Peel.

PEINE SQUARE is a public space in front of the civic centre in **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The square is named after the German town of *Peine* in Lower Saxony, with which Heywood has been twinned since 1967. *Peine* is said to be named after Berthold von *Pagin*, a 12th century knight.

PEMBERTON is a suburb of **Wigan** on the banks of the River **Douglas**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Penberton*, meaning ‘barley hill settlement’ from the Celtic *penn* (‘hill’) or Old English *penn* (‘enclosure’) + Old English *bere* (‘barley’) + *tūn* (‘enclosure, village’). Pemberton is found at the foot of a 95-metre hill named Orrell, which gave its name to the nearby suburb of **Orrell**.

PENDLEBURY is a town in the City of **Salford** about 6 kilometres north-west of **Manchester**. The name is recorded as *Penelbiri* in 1202 but the modern spelling was not adopted until after 1567. The name means ‘fort on a hill’, with reduplication of Celtic and Old English elements meaning ‘hill’, from the Celtic *pen* (‘hill’) + Old English *-hyll* (‘hill’) + *burh* (‘fort’). (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

PENDLETON is an inner-city suburb north-west of the City of **Salford**. The name is first recorded in 1200 as *Penelton*, meaning ‘the *tūn* or village of or near Penhill’. Pendleton is on a 70-metre ridge and it is believed that this must at one time have been called *Penhyll* from Celtic *pen* (‘hill’) + Old English *-hyll* (‘hill’).

The **PENNINES** are a range of hills running along the spine of England and some of the places in north-eastern **Greater Manchester** can be said to be on the slopes of the Pennines. The name was not coined until about 1747s, when Charles Bertram fraudulently claimed to have found it in a 14th century manuscript. The name is thought to have been influenced by or copied from the *Apennines*, the Italian mountain chain. The origin of this name is usually given as the Celtic *penn*, meaning ‘mountain top’.

PENNINGTON is a suburb of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Pinington*, usually said to mean ‘a village or farmstead paying a penny rent’, from Old English *pening* + *tūn*. Alternatively, it could be an eponym meaning ‘a settlement belonging to a man named *Pinna*’. Pennington gives its name to Pennington Brook and **Pennington Flash Country Park**.

PENNINGTON FLASH COUNTRY PARK is a 490-hectare recreational area near **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** which forms part of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. The park, opened in 1981, is centred on Pennington Flash, a 70-hectare lake created in the early 20th century by subsidence from **Bickershaw** colliery. The name comes from the nearby township of *Pennington* + *flash*, a lake formed by subsidence. Pennington Brook is a 3.5-kilometre stream that flows out of Pennington Flash before joining **Glaze Brook**.

‘**PERSONCHESTER**’ is a name that has been suggested (despite the etymology and Manchester’s record in promoting women’s rights) as a non-sexist version of **Manchester**. The suggestion goes back at least as far as 1977 but a 2017 campaign to change the name of Manchester United football club came to nothing. However, another campaign was later launched in 2023 to change the name of the city.

PHILIPS PARK is a 12.5-hectare public park in the **Bradford** area of east **Manchester**. It was originally part of **Pilkington** Deer Park but was opened on 22 August 1846 as one of the first municipal parks in the world and was named after Mark *Philips* (1800-1873), who was one of Manchester’s first two MPs and who campaigned for public parks in the industrialised towns and cities of Victorian England.

PICCADILLY is a district in central **Manchester**. The name was first applied in 1780 to a street that had previously been known as Lever’s Row, and was then used for the surrounding district, which had been called Daub Holes (see **Daubhill**), by about 1812. The name came from the affluent area of *Piccadilly* in London and is another example of gentrification – trying to improve the image of an area by transferring a fashionable or aristocratic

name from elsewhere. In time, the name was applied to the nearby **Piccadilly Gardens** and **Piccadilly station**. *Piccadilly* in London took its name in the mid-17th century from the French *piccadill*, a kind of stiff collar that was made in the area.

PICCADILLY GARDENS are a public open space with a bus station in central **Manchester**. The gardens were laid out in the 1930s after the demolition of the original Manchester Royal Infirmary in 1910, and named after the nearby street of **Piccadilly**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

PICCADILLY STATION is **Manchester's** principal railway station. It was opened on 8 May 1842 by the Manchester & Birmingham and Sheffield Ashton-under-Lyne and Manchester railways as **Store Street**. The Manchester & Birmingham's successor, the London & North Western Railway, renamed it **London Road** in 1847. In 1960, following electrification and modernisation, it was renamed Piccadilly after the nearby *Piccadilly Gardens*.

PICKLEY GREEN is a village about 3.2 kilometres north of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented before the opening of a colliery in 1804 but the village church dates from the 12th century. There are different suggestions for its origin. One is that it is an eponym: Anglo-Saxon personal name *Pic* or *Picco* (perhaps related to *pike*, the mediaeval weapon) + Old English *lēah* ('woodland clearing'). Perhaps more likely is Middle English *pightle*, meaning 'a small field or enclosure, acroft'.

PIETHORNE BROOK is a tributary of the River **Beal** that rises on the moors at Rock Stones Hill, south-east of **Littleborough**, and flows south-west through a series of reservoirs (including **Ogden** and **Rooden** Reservoirs) constructed in 1858-1878 to meet the Beal at **Milnrow**. The name is not well documented but it is said come from Middle English *pie* ('magpie') + *thorn* ('hawthorn-tree'), both of which are found in the area.

PILKINGTON is (or was) a residential district of **Prestwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** beside the River **Irwell** where it meets the River **Croal**. The name is recorded in 1202 as *Pulkinton* and with its modern spelling in 1246. It is an eponym, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Pilheard* or *Pileca* + *inga* ('belonging to') + *tūn* ('enclosure, farmstead, village').

PILSWORTH is a residential area of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1243 as *Pylesworth*, an eponym meaning 'Pil's settlement', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Pil* or *Pilheard* + Old English *worth* ('enclosure, settlement').

PITSES is a small residential area close to the River **Medlock** and east of **Alt** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. Pitses goes back to mediaeval times and it has been suggested that it may be a reduplicated plural of *pits*, perhaps indicating early coal workings in the area.

PLANK LANE is a residential area on the western edge of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is not well documented before the building of *Plank Lane Lock* on the Leigh branch of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in 1819, but the name may refer to an earlier wooden or plank bridge across marshy or flooded land from the Middle English *plank* or *plaunke*.

PLATT BRIDGE is a residential area of **Wigan**, about 3 kilometres south-east of the town centre. The name is found in 1212 as *Platte* and as *Plat Bridge* in 1599. The name is an example of reduplication as Middle English *plat* actually means 'a footbridge', presumably referring to a bridge over the nearby **Borsdane** Brook.

PLATT FIELDS PARK is a 2.4-hectare park in **Rusholme**, south of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in 1150, when the '*lands of Platt*' were given to the Knights of St John. This suggests that the name is an eponym and the Platt family are known to have owned an estate in this area from the 13th to the 17th centuries. The estate was purchased by the City of Manchester in 1908 and opened to the public as Platt Fields Park in 1910.

The PLAZA is a cinema and theatre off **Mersey Square** in **Stockport**. It was built in an extravagant art deco style with a rising organ and opened on 7 October 1932. It was named the *Plaza* – a popular name for cinemas in the north-west of England at the time, derived from the Spanish for space or market. It closed as a cinema on 31 December 1966 and was converted to a bingo hall. In March 2000 it was sold to the Stockport Plaza Trust,

refurbished and re-opened as a cinema and theatre on 7 October 2000. It now has Grade II listing and is frequently used for period films and TV dramas.

POBGREEN or **POB GREEN** is a hamlet east of **Uppermill** in the area of **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1725 but it is known that the church and adjoining settlement date back to mediaeval times. The origin of the name is obscure, but may derive from the dialect term *pob*, meaning 'waste material from the manufacture of flax or other textiles', but this cannot be confirmed. It is known that textile production, including flax, was carried out in the area from the 18th century and perhaps earlier.

POCKET or **The POCKET** is a residential and industrial area in **Deane** on the outskirts of **Bolton**. It appears on a map of 1850 as a *pocket* of land south of the River **Croal**. Croal means 'winding stream' and Pocket seems to have developed in one of its many meanders. The term 'pocket' is being perpetuated with the laying out of 'pocket parks' along the banks of the Croal.

POISE BROOK is a tributary of the River **Goyt** which rises in **High Lane** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It then flows through Poise Bank Local Nature Reserve in north-west **Offerton** to join the Goyt in **Woodbank Park** in eastern Stockport. The name is first recorded in about 1350 as *Puysclogh*, meaning 'pease valley or valley where peas grow', from the French *pois* or Middle English *pease*, + *clōh* ('deep valley').

POLEFIELD is a residential area of **Prestwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The location seems to date from the early 16th century, when it is said to have been called DeadwencloUGH ('Dead women in a stream'). The name *Polefield* seems to have been adopted later in the century and was the site of Polefield House and Polefield Hall. The name was derived from Old English *pol* ('a pole or beacon, especially one used for communication') + *fēld*. Polefield Hall was demolished in the 1930s and the land was used to build a housing estate.

POMONA ISLAND is an island on the River **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It was originally named Strawberry Island. In 1845 the island was developed into a leisure centre and renamed *Pomona* Gardens after the Roman goddess of fruit and gardens. In 1875 a huge concert hall was built, the Royal Pomona Palace, the largest in Victorian England and capable of seating more than 30,000 people. In June 1887, an explosion at a nearby chemical factory badly damaged the Royal Pomona Palace – it was closed and sold for docks on the **Manchester Ship Canal**. The canal was completed in 1894 and Pomona Docks were opened in 1903. The docks were closed in 1982 and fell into decline, but there are plans for development around the Metrolink tram stop of Pomona, which was opened in December 1999. (For Valette pictures, see Appendix 2)

POOLSTOCK is a residential area of **Wigan** about one kilometre south-west of the town centre, close to the River **Douglas** and the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. The name is recorded in 1520 as *Pulstoke* and means something like 'place near or beside a pool', from the Old English *pull* ('pool') + *stoc* ('place, outlying settlement'). It has been suggested that Poolstock was an outlying settlement used for summer grazing by the River Douglas for cattle from elsewhere.

The PORTICO is an independent subscription library in central **Manchester** that was opened in 1806. It takes its name both from its architecture, with a Greek-style *portico* as its main entrance, and because it was intended to be a gateway to knowledge and literature. William Gaskell, the husband of **Elizabeth Gaskell**, was its chairman for 30 years. Peter Mark Roget was its first secretary and began writing his Thesaurus there. The library is now housed on the first floor. The ground floor is occupied by a pub called 'The Bank', recalling the days when it was leased to the Bank of Athens.

PORTLAND BASIN WAREHOUSE is a canal museum near **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is located at the junction of the Ashton and Huddersfield Canals in a warehouse built in 1834 beside the wharves of Portland Basin, which was opened in the 1820s and named after the 3rd *Duke of Portland* (1738-1809). Canal traffic ceased in the 1960s and much of the warehouse was destroyed by fire in 1972, but the canal and warehouse have been restored and the museum opened in 1985 and expanded in 2005.

PORTWOOD is a residential area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** that was in **Cheshire** until 1974. The history and name are not well documented. It seems to date from mediaeval times and in 1546 *Portwood* Hall,

which stood on the banks of the **Mersey**, was noted for its orchards, gardens and deer park. In 1732, a silk mill was built at Portwood which can claim to be the first water-powered mill in north-west England. It seems unlikely that the name refers to a port or harbour. One possibility is that it refers to somebody who carried or transported wood, but it may well be a corruption of a personal name.

POTS AND PANS is a landmark on top of **Alderman's Hill** in the **Peak District** overlooking **Uppermill** and the **Tame** valley in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It consists of a pile of hollowed-out boulders resembling *pots and pans*. The name is recorded in 1843 but the rocks are said to have been thrown by two **Saddleworth** giants named Alder and Alphin in an ancient battle.

POWNALL GREEN is an area of **Bramhall** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** which was included in **Cheshire** until 1974. The name is first recorded in the 12th century as *Pohenhale*, meaning the 'nook of land (*halh*) belonging to someone called *Pūnan*' and in 1297 a Richard de *Pounale* is recorded as a farmer in the area. Peter Pownall is recorded as owning a farm in Bramhall at the end of the 18th century and on the tithe map of 1842.

PRESTOLEE is a village in **Kearsley** on the River **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, which was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in 1618 as *Prestall Lee* and it was often written as two words until later in the century. The name means 'the clearing or meadow (*-lēah*) of the *hall* of the priests (*prēost*)'. The priests' hall refers to the nearby oratory at **Farnworth**.

PRESTWICH is a town on the northern bank of the River **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**, about 5 kilometres north of **Manchester** city centre. It is first recorded in 1194 as *Prestwich*, meaning 'priest's farm or village' or even 'parsonage or rectory', from Old English *prēost* + *wīc*. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

PRIESTNALL is a residential and recreational area of **Heaton Mersey** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded as **Priestnall** in 1696 and there have been various suggestions for its origin. The first element is generally assumed to be *priest*; the second may be Old English *halh* ('nook of land'), or *cnoll* ('hillock') or *cnyll* ('knell').

PRIMROSE BANK is a residential area of south-west **Oldham**. The name is not well documented before 1800 and it is recorded as a hamlet in 1829. The name of the *primrose* flower is first recorded in 1425 and was valued as a source of evening-primrose oil. In 1964 Oldham Council started a major regeneration of the Primrose Bank estate.

The PRINCE'S BRIDGE was originally a road bridge across the River **Irwell** between Salford and **Manchester**. It was built in 1859-1863 and named after *Prince* Albert, Queen **Victoria's** husband, who had died in 1861. It was rebuilt 1905 and demolished in 2015. It was replaced by a new Prince's Bridge, a footbridge opened in 2023.

The PRINTWORKS is an entertainment complex in central **Manchester** with a large cinema, bars, clubs and restaurants. It takes its name from the Hulton newspaper *printworks* that were housed on the site from 1873 until 1988. The site was then sold off, redeveloped and re-opened in 2000.

PRIORY GARDENS are a 6-hectare public park in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that take their name from Sale *Priory*, a country house built in 1711 as the home of Thomas White, a **Manchester** lawyer. The house later passed to his son, also Thomas White, a distinguished surgeon, and then to his son, Dr Charles White (1728-1813), the co-founder of Manchester Royal Infirmary (see **Cheadle Royal**). The Whites gave their name to **White's Bridge** over the **Bridgewater Canal**. The estate was sold to Sale Council in 1923 and the priory was demolished, but the grounds were laid out as a park which is also linked to **Sale Water Park**.

The PUNGLE is a residential area south of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is little-documented and its origin is obscure. It is recorded as *Pungle* in 1841 but as *Pingle Closes* in 1849. One suggestion is that it is a corruption of **Pound Hill**, with *pound* meaning an enclosure for stray cattle. Another is that it is a corruption of the Middle English *pingel*, meaning 'a small enclosure'.

Q

QUARLTON is a village in the north of **Bolton** that was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Querendon*, meaning 'mill hill' or 'hill where millstones were obtained', from the Old English *cweorn* ('mill, millstone') + *dūn* ('hill'). The type of mill referred to is unclear and it may refer to a windmill, a water mill or simply a millstone. The idea that *cweorn* may refer to millstones may be supported by the fact that the hard millstone grit found locally is known to have been used for millstones.

QUEEN'S PARK is an 8.9 hectare public park north-west of **Bolton**. It was initially named Bolton Park when opened in 1866 but was renamed *Queen's Park* in 1897 to celebrate the diamond jubilee of *Queen Victoria*.

QUICK is an old name for **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. Saddleworth is now the term in general use but Quick survives in various place names in the locality – Quick, Quickmere, Quick Edge and Quickwood. The derivation is uncertain. A Victorian suggestion that Quick appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Thoac' or 'Tohac' has now been discounted as the Domesday entry is thought to refer to Upperthong near Holfirth. More recent suggestions for the origin of Quick are that it may represent a Norman pronunciation of the Old English *wic*, meaning 'a dwelling, a building or collection of buildings, a farm', or that it is derived from Old English *cwic*, meaning the wiggan tree or mountain ash.

R

RADCLIFFE is a town on the River **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** 11 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Radeclive*, meaning 'red cliff' and referring to the *red* sandstone *cliff* beside the Irwell. It is taken from the Old English *read* ('red') + *clif* ('cliff'). See Domesday Book box

RADCLIFFE E'ES are an area of wetland on the north bank of a meander in the River **Irwell** east of the town of **Radcliffe** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. E'es is a local word for a water meadow derived from the Old English *ēg*, meaning 'island', often a piece of firm land in an area liable to flooding.

RAINSOUGH is an open space and residential area in **Prestwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It is also the site of an Iron Age and Roman fort atop Rainsough Hill, although no remains are visible today. The name is not well documented before 1716, when a poorhouse was built nearby. The name is said to have originally been *Raineshaw*, suggesting that it might have been derived from Old English *hræfn* ('raven') + *sceaga* ('copse').

RAKEWOOD is village south of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is not well documented before the building of a church by the methodists in 1867 and Rakewood Lower Mill, which is believed to date from the 18th century. The name means 'wood in a narrow valley', from the Old English *hraeca* ('mouth of a narrow valley') + *wudu*. The valley is probably that of **Hollingworth** Brook.

RAMSBOTTOM is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** on the banks of the River **Irwell**. The name is recorded in 1324 as *Romesbothum* and means 'valley bottom where wild garlic grows' from the Old English *hramsa* + *bothm*, suggesting that the herb may have grown along the valley. Another possibility is that it means 'ram's valley bottom' from the Old English *ramm* ('ram').

RAVEDEN BROOK and **RAVEDEN CLOUGH** Raveden or Ravden Brook is a tributary of the River **Tonge** that rises on the Pennine moors and flows through **Smithills** Country Park to join Dean Brook to form **Astley** Brook. The name is recorded in 1429 as *Rapeden* but its origin is unclear. It may be from the Old Norse *hrapi*, meaning 'small shrubs', or *hrapa*, meaning 'rushing'. A third possibility is that it is an eponym, either from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Hraefn* or the later *Raphe* or *Ralphe*. The second element is the Old English *dēnu*, meaning 'valley'.

RAYNER PARK is a public park in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The park was opened on 15 November 1924 by Mrs Ann Alice Rayner, who gave the land to the local authority and asked that it be named after her husband, John Edward *Rayner* (1851-1918), who owned several collieries in the area.

REDDISH is a suburb of **Stockport**, about 7.5 kilometres south-east of **Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1212 as *Rediche* but the modern spelling is found from 1577. It is usually said to mean 'ditch where reeds grow', from Old English *hrēod* ('reed') + *dīc* ('ditch'). Another possibility is that it means 'red ditch' from *read* + *dīc*. In both cases, the *dīc* probably refers to **Nico Ditch**. Suggestions that the 'red ditch' was the site of an ancient and bloody battle are probably folk etymology.

RED LUMB is a village on the moors north-west of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented but *Lumb* is a common place name dating back to mediaeval times across **Lancashire**, **West Yorkshire** and **Cheshire**. It is derived from the Old English *lumm*, meaning 'a pool'.

RED MOSS is a 47-hectare nature reserve south of **Horwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It was set aside as a nature reserve in 1999 to preserve the wildlife of the ancient moss wetland. *Mos* is the Old English for swamp or marsh, and 'red' presumably refers to the colour of the vegetation.

REDVALES is a suburb of **Bury** close to the River **Irwell**. The name is an eponym which is first recorded in 1185 as *Rediveshale*, meaning 'the nook of land belonging to the lady *Rēdgifu*', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *halh* ('nook or corner of land'), referring to the large bend in the Irwell to the south-west of the current district of Redvales. The modern spelling suggests a rationalisation of the name in the belief that it comes from *red* + *vale*.

REEBOK STADIUM See TOUGHSHEET COMMUNITY STADIUM

REGENT BRIDGE is a road bridge across the River **Irwell** connecting **Hulme** and **Salford**. It was opened in 1808 but the chronology of the name is difficult to determine as the building pre-dates the Regency period (when the Prince of Wales, the future George IV, acted as *regent* as his father, George III, was incapacitated) and it seems that the bridge was originally known as Quaker Hall's bridge as it was built by a local Quaker named Hall who charged a ha'penny toll.

RHODES and nearby **RHODES GREEN** and **RHODES RAVINE** are areas east of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1332 as *Rodes*, from Old English *rod* meaning 'a clearing'.

RICHMOND HILL is, or was, a street and residential area on a low rise in the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented before the construction of the Richmond Independent Chapel in Richmond Hill in 1845. The name would seem to have been transferred from *Richmond Hill* in Richmond-on-Thames in what was then Surrey. Richmond-on-Thames was formerly called Sheen but was renamed by order of Henry VII after Richmond in North Yorkshire. The name means 'strong hill' from the Old French *riche* + *mont*. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

RIDING GATE is a location in **Bolton**, about 6.5 kilometres from the town centre. The name is not well documented but is thought to mean 'the cleared road', from Middle English *ridden* ('to clear a way') + Old Norse *gata* ('a road, an entrance to a field'). Over time, the original meaning seems to have been forgotten and the name was rationalised to Riding Gate.

RINGLEY is a residential area on the east bank of the River **Irwell** near **Kearsley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The early history of the name is not well documented but in 1420 it appears as *Ryngleys*, meaning 'round clearing', from the Old English *hring* ('ring, a circle; something circular') + *lēah* ('clearing, glade').

RINGWAY is a village, formerly in **Cheshire**, which was transferred to the City of **Manchester** in 1974. The name means 'circular hedged enclosure' and comes from the Old English *hring* ('ring, circle') + *haeg* ('enclosure').

Manchester Airport is located in Ringway. It was opened in 1938 as Manchester Ringway Airport but the name was changed to Manchester International Airport in 1975.

ROACHES is an area to the north of **Mossley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. There are several places named Roach or Roaches in England, notably The Roaches, an escarpment in Staffordshire. Most are recorded in the Middle Ages and derive from the French *Roche*, meaning 'rock'. This may be the origin of Roaches in Mossley, and quarrying in the area may support this possibility. However, the name is recorded only with the opening of Roaches Lock and Roaches Bridge with the opening of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal in 1811, suggesting that the name could be an eponym. Church records show that there was a Roach family in Mossley at the start of the 19th century but this cannot be confirmed as the origin of the place name.

River ROCH is a tributary of the River **Irwell** that rises in the **Pennines** south of Todmorden and joins the **Irwell** east of **Radcliffe**. The name is evidently linked to that of the town of **Rochdale**, but the link is unclear. It is recorded as *Rach* in the 12th century and it is usually said to be derived from the name of the town, which is spelled *Rachedal* in 1190. See also **Calderbook**.

ROCHDALE is a town 16 kilometres north of **Manchester** city centre that became a metropolitan borough in 1974. The origin of the name is complex. It appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Recedham* See Domesday Book box but *Rochedale* is found from 1276. Although Rochdale lies on the River **Roch**, it is believed that the town gave its name to the river rather than vice versa. The original name was derived from Old English *ræced* ('building, hall') + *hām* ('homestead'), meaning 'homestead with a hall', but *hām* was soon replaced by *dæl* ('valley'), referring to the valley of the River Roch, which had acquired its name by the 13th century. When Daniel Defoe visited the town in about 1725, he described it as a 'very considerable' manufacturing town but 'so remote, so out of the way, and so at the very foot of the mountains, that we may suppose it would be but little frequented'.

ROCHDALE PIONEERS MUSEUM and **PIONEERS MARKET** In December 1844 the *Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society* was established in a building in Toad Lane in **Rochdale** and, although not the first such society in Victorian

England, it became the model for the co-operative movement around the World. The original building was purchased by the Co-operative Union in 1925 and opened as a museum in 1931. The Rochdale Pioneers are also commemorated in the new market which opened in January 2025.

ROCHER VALE is a nature reserve in the valley of the River **Medlock** close to **Bardsley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. In the past it was the site of the Rocher Vale colliery but it now forms part of the **Park Bridge** Heritage Centre. The name is not well documented but *rocher*, from the Old French for 'rock', is found in a number of place names in what was the **West Riding of Yorkshire**.

ROE CROSS is a village north of **Mottram in Longdendale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in 1842 but it is probably older. It means 'roebuck cross', from Old English *rā* ('roebuck deer') + *cros* ('cross'), perhaps in reference to its position on a crossroads.

ROE GREEN is a residential area of **Worsley** in the City of **Salford**. The name is not well documented but is recorded in 1585 as *Rowe Green*, derived from Old English *rā* ('roebuck deer') + *grene* ('village green, grazing area'). Roebuck are the most common species of deer in England and are found across the north-west.

ROMILEY is a suburban village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Rumelie*, meaning 'the roomy clearing', from the Old English *rūm* or *rūmig* ('roomy, broad, spacious') + *lēah* ('clearing, glade'). Despite its name, it was recorded as having a population of zero. (For Valette picture, see Appendix 2) [See Domesday Book box](#)

ROODEN RESERVOIR was built in 1894-1901 as one of six reservoirs fed by **Piethorne Brook** to supply water for **Oldham**. All six took their names from farms that were abandoned or submerged, and *Rooden* farm was named after a local hill. The name is recorded in 1340 as *Roden*, meaning 'hill with a cross', from Old English *rōd* ('rood, cross') + *dūn* ('hill').

ROOLEY MOOR is a moorland area north of **Rochdale** that was formerly known as Shore Moor in **Lancashire**. The name is said to have been changed in the 18th century when a Mr *Rowley* (later corrupted to *Rooley*) took up residence in a local inn.

ROSCOW FOLD is a hamlet west of **Brightmet** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It originated as a square of eleven cottages built in about 1800 and named after an Alice *Roscoe*. Roscoe is a common name in the Bolton area and there are records of Alice Roscoes as far back as about 1578. A *fold* is a small farmstead, often named after the owner.

ROSE HILL is a district west of **Marple** in the Borough of **Stockport**, formerly in **Cheshire**. The name originally applied just to a house, *Rose Hill House*, but the opening of a station by the Marple Bollington & Macclesfield Railway in 1869 under the name Marple (Rose Hill) seems to have led to the development of a community named Rose Hill. The original Rose Hill House was demolished in 1945.

ROUGHTOWN is a residential area in the north of **Mossley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** overlooking the River **Tame** and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal. The name seems initially to have been unofficial, found in Old Roughtown Mill of 1820 which was powered by the local stream, Roughtown Spout, and in the Huddersfield & Manchester Railway's Roughtown overbridge of 1845-49. It was formalised in 1865 with the opening of Roughtown School and was then used in official records. There are two theories about the origin of the name. The more common is that it came from the *rough* behaviour of the workers at the nearby Glossop quarries. The other is that the area was difficult to build because of the *rough* and stony ground.

ROUNDTHORN is an industrial estate and residential area developed in the mid-1950s in **Wythenshawe** in south-west **Manchester**. The name is taken from *Roundthorn* Farm and was applied to the estate that was built over it. *Roundthorn* is a place name found across northern England, derived from Anglo-French *rounde* + Old English *thorn*. There is no species of hawthorn called 'roundthorn' and the name refers to a circular enclosure or animal pasture surrounded by hawthorns as a sort of fence.

ROWLANDS is a village east of **Summerseat** and within a meander of the River **Irwell** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It is not well documented before the building of a Wesleyan chapel in 1830. It is said to be an eponym and that the area was once owned by a man named *Rowland*.

ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD INFIRMARY is an NHS hospital in north **Wigan**. It takes its name from the Prince of Wales, Prince *Albert Edward* (1841-1910, later King Edward VII), who, with his wife, the Princess of Wales (1844-1920, later Queen **Alexandra**) opened the hospital in 1873.

ROYAL EXCHANGE See **EXCHANGE**

ROYAL GEORGE AQUEDUCT or **DIVISION BRIDGE** is a stone aqueduct near **Mossley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** and **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. It was built in 1794-97 to carry the Huddersfield Narrow Canal over the River **Tame**. It was named after the nearby *Royal George* Mills that were built in 1786 and named in honour of *King George III* (reigned 1760-1820). The alternative name of Division Bridge indicates its position on the boundary between Saddleworth and Mossley.

ROYLEY is a residential area of **Royton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1325 as *Rylegh*, meaning ‘clearing where rye is grown’, from the Old English *rȳge* (‘rye’) + *lēah* (‘woodland clearing’).

ROYTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, close to the River **Irk** and 13 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. It is recorded in 1226 as *Ritton* and with its modern spelling from 1577. The name means ‘farm or village where rye is grown’ from the Old English *rȳge* (‘rye’) + *tūn* (‘farm, village’). This is one of the few place names in Greater Manchester that refers to an agricultural crop. It could be said that **Greater Manchester’s** cotton industry began and ended in Royton – the first water-powered cotton mill in what was then **Lancashire** was **Thorp Mill**, built in 1764, and the last was **Elk Mill**, completed in 1926.

RUMWORTH is a neighbourhood in the Borough of **Bolton** that was in **Lancashire** until 1974. It is recorded in 1205 as *Rumwrth* and as *Rumworth* in 1278. The name probably means ‘the broad farm’ from Old English *rūm* (‘broad, spacious’) + *worth* (‘an enclosure’).

RUSHFORD PARK is a residential conservation and recreational area in **Levenshulme**, about 5 kilometres south-east of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in the early 19th century before 1820 as *Rushford* House, meaning ‘the ford with rushes’, from the Old English *rysc* + *ford*, perhaps referring to a ford across what is now the Levenshulme Road Brook. The building of the Manchester & Birmingham Railway line to Crewe and the opening of a station at Rushford in 1840 led to residential and commercial development, but the closure of the station in 1843 limited further development until the end of the century.

RUSHOLME is a suburb of the City of **Manchester** about 3.5 kilometres south of the city centre that was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded as *Russum* in 1235 and means ‘(the place at) the rushes’, from the Old English *ryscum*. The spelling with *-holme* is from the 16th century and seems to be an assimilation to the ‘*-holme/-hulme*’ suffix found elsewhere in **Greater Manchester**.

RYDER BROW or **RIDER BROW** See **WINNING HILL**

RYECROFT is a locality in the west of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Borough of **Tameside** that was formerly in **Lancashire**. The name first appears as *Rycroft* in 1283 and means ‘rye field’ from Old English *ryge* (‘rye’) + *croft* (‘small enclosed field’).

S

SACKVILLE GARDENS is a small park in central **Manchester** that takes its name from nearby Sackville Street. The street appears on a map of 1807 and is named after Lionel Cranfield *Sackville* (1688-1765), the Duke of Dorset, who was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The land was purchased by Manchester City Corporation in 1900 and opened as a public park, originally named **Whitworth** Gardens.

SADDLEWORTH is a moorland area of the western **Pennines** that was part of the **West Riding of Yorkshire** until 1974 but is now administered as part of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in the late 12th century as *Sadelwrth* and with its modern spelling from 1572. It is usually said to mean 'enclosure on a saddle-shaped ridge' from Old English *sadol* ('saddle; saddle-shaped') + *worth* ('enclosure; enclosed settlement'), but no such saddle-shaped hill has been identified. An alternative suggestion, given Saddleworth's terrain and position on the border between **Yorkshire** and **Lancashire**, is that it could mean 'boundary-hill settlement', from old English *scead* ('boundary') + *hyll* + *worth*.

SADLER'S YARD is a 300-square-metre pedestrian square in central **Manchester** which was opened in 2015. It is named after James *Sadler* (1753-1828), who was the first Englishman to make a balloon flight. Following his first ascent in Oxford on 4 October 1784, he made a further flight on 12 May 1785 from what is now Balloon Street in central Manchester to **Radcliffe**.

ST ANN'S SQUARE is a pedestrianised space in the centre of **Manchester**. It is named after the nearby Anglican *St Ann's* Church, which was completed in July 1712, but it also acknowledges the current monarch, Queen *Anne* (1665-1714) and its patron, Lady *Ann* Bland (1662-1734). The Act of Parliament that authorised the construction of the church stipulated that an adjacent area 30 yards wide, previously known as Acresfield, should be set aside for a regular farmers' market for the buying and selling of animals. The fair continued on the site until 1820.

ST GEORGE'S is a residential and recreational area of **Hulme** in the City of **Manchester**. It takes its name from *St George's* Church, built in 1826-1828 as one of 612 Anglican churches built across Britain to commemorate the Battle of **Waterloo** and the end of the Napoleonic Wars. The church was closed in 1984 and converted into flats in 2000-2002, but the name lives on as the name of the district. The name was also celebrated in *St George's* Park in Hulme, but this was renamed **Barrack Park** in 1994.

ST GEORGE'S PARK See **BARRACK PARK**

ST JOHN'S GARDENS is a park in central **Manchester**. It lies on the site of the Anglican *St John's* church and cemetery. The church was completed in 1769 but demolished in 1931. *St John's* Gardens were opened in 1932. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

ST MICHAEL'S FLAGS and **ANGEL MEADOW PARK** is a 3-hectare public park close to the centre of **Manchester**. The name originates with *St Michael and All Angels'* Church, which was built in 1788-1789. By the mid-19th century, the area was known for its poverty and disease, and in 1855 a law was passed to cover the graves with *flagstones* to prevent people from digging up the soil to sell as fertilizer. The area was walled off in 1888 and *Angel Meadow* became a popular park and football pitch. The church was demolished in 1935 and since 2001 the area has undergone regeneration. See also **Angel Meadow**. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

ST PETER'S SQUARE is a public square in central **Manchester** named after *St Peter's* Anglican church, which was built in 1788-1794. The area was originally known as *St Peter's* Field and was the site of the massacre on 16 August 1819 when yeomanry attacked a crowd of 60,000 protesters demanding the reform of the House of Commons. It is usually said that 18 people were killed and 700 injured. Five days later James Wroe, the editor of the *Manchester Observer*, coined the term 'Peterloo' to compare the massacre with the Battle of **Waterloo**. In 1907 *St Peter's* church was demolished and *St Peter's* Square was laid out and was soon surrounded by large buildings – the **Midland Hotel** in 1898-1903, the YMCA in 1909, the Central Library in 1934 and the Town Hall Extension in 1938. (For Lowry picture, see Appendix 1; for Valette picture, see Appendix 2)

ST WERBURGH'S ROAD is in **Chorlton-cum-Hardy** in the south of the City of **Manchester**. The road and the Metrolink tram stop take their name from the nearby *St Werburgh's* church. The originally church dated back to the 7th century and was named after a Saxon abbess (650-700) who became the patron saint of Chester.

SALE is a town in the Borough of **Trafford** on the south bank of the River **Mersey**. It was originally in **Cheshire** until 1974. The town is said to date from the 7th or 8th century but it is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and it is not recorded until about 1200. Its name comes from the Old English *salh*, which means 'sallow or willow tree'.

SALEM is a residential area south-east of **Oldham**. The area takes its name from a church founded in 1824 by members of the Moravian church at **Fairfield** in **Tameside**. *Salem* means 'peace' in both Hebrew and Arabic.

SALE WATER PARK is an area of parkland with an artificial lake and water sports centre in the Borough of **Trafford**. It was formed from a 35-metre-deep gravel pit excavated during the construction of the M60 motorway and opened in 1980.

SALFORD is a city and a metropolitan borough in **Greater Manchester**. It was formerly in **Lancashire** and was created as a city in 1926. The name appears in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Salford*, meaning 'ford across the River **Irwell** where *sallow* or willow trees grow'. The original ford was replaced by a bridge in the 14th century.

[See Domesday Book box](#)

SALFORD QUAYS is a regeneration area of the former Manchester Docks in the City of **Salford**. In 1984 Salford City Council purchased the docks from the **Manchester Ship Canal** Company and renamed it *Salford Quays*, planning its redevelopment as a commercial, retail, media and residential area in the 1990s. The former wharves of the docks were given names that reflected the former trade links with North America – Huron Basin, Erie Basin, Ontario Basin, St Peter Basin, St Louis Basin, St Francis Basin, Winnipeg Quay, Vancouver Quay and Detroit Bridge.

SALTEYE BROOK is a short stream in **Eccles** and **Barton** in the City of **Salford**. It was originally a tributary of the River **Irwell** but now flows from the north into the **Manchester Ship Canal**. The name is recorded in 1235 as *Salteye* but its origin does not seem to have been documented. It may be that it means 'salt island' from Old English *salt* + *ēg* or *īeg* ('island, dry land in a marshy area').

The SALUTATION INN is a pub in **Hulme** dating back at least as far as 1844 in area described by Mrs Gaskell as 'one of numerous similar streets of small monotonous-looking houses, in a suburb of the town.' The word 'salutation' was originally a religious greeting but was used more generally for any kind of greeting by the time of Shakespeare in the 16th century. Its claim to fame is that Charlotte Brontë stayed there in 1846 when she accompanied her father to **Manchester** for a cataract operation, describing it as 'a not-pleasant-at-all small brick house facing a timber yard.' While staying there she started to write *Jane Eyre*. Today it is owned by Manchester Metropolitan University.

SAM BAMFORD MEMORIAL is an obelisk monument in **Middleton** cemetery that was erected in 1877 to commemorate Samuel *Bamford* (1788-1872), a radical writer born in Middleton who was imprisoned for treason for his part in leading the Peterloo demonstrations. The inscription on the obelisk reads, 'Bamford was a reformer when to be so was unsafe, and he suffered for his faith'.

SANDYWARPS is part of a recently-built residential area in **Irlam** in the City of **Salford**. The development has several streets commemorating the **Mersey & Irwell Navigation** – **Calamanco** Way, Ferrymasters Way, Sandywarps, Strickens Lock Lane (named after Strickens or Stickings lock), and Powder Mill Close (from Powder Mill lock, which took its name from the nearby Thelwall Gunpowder Mill). Sandywarps lock was built in about 1760 to bypass a meander in the River Mersey below the confluence with the Irwell in the hamlet of Sandywarps. The name is not well documented. The first element is from the Old English *sandig*, referring to the sandy soil which is so common – sand/sandy is the most common first element in the street names of **Greater Manchester**. Old English *wearp* has several meanings but probably refers to the hairpin bend or 'warp' in the Mersey at this point.

SCHOLES is an area of **Wigan**, formerly in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded as *Scoles* in 1332 and comes from the Old Norse *skáli* or Old English *scale*, meaning ‘hut or temporary shelter’, and is one of the few Norse names in **Greater Manchester**.

SCHOOL HILL is an area of **Bolton** that takes its name from the nearby St George’s Church in Little Bolton. The church was consecrated on 19 August 1796 and an associated Church of England primary *school* was built at a later date. The church was closed in 1975 but the bells were removed and transported to Wangaratta in Australia.

SCOTLAND and **SCOTLAND BRIDGE** Scotland was originally an area on the north bank of the River **Irk** in central **Manchester** close to **Victoria Station**, but today all that remains is a street called Scotland and a bridge over the Irk. Various suggestions have been made as to the origin of the name: that Bonnie Prince Charlie camped his Scottish troops here during the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 or that it was used by 19th-century farmers who had brought their cattle from Scotland and grazed them here before selling them for slaughter. However, the name seems to be older and Scotland Bridge appears on a map of 1741. The most likely derivation is Middle English *scot*, meaning ‘tax, payment’ + *land* (‘land, area’), and the explanation is that the banks of the Irk were used for grazing and fabric drying, and so a tax or tithe had to be paid to the landowners, i.e. they could not ‘get away scot free’.

SCOUTHEAD is a village on the edge of **Saddleworth** moor in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1625 and means ‘the head of a promontory’, from Old Norse *skúti* (‘a projecting or overhanging rock’) + Old English *heafod* or Old Norse *hofuth* (‘head, headland’).

SEDDON’S FOLD or **SEDDON FOLD** is an area in **Prestolee** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** in a tongue of land formed where the **Irwell** and **Croal** join. The name comes from *Seddon* farm, which dates from the late 15th century, and it is known that it was owned by Ralph *Seddon* in 1553. Seddon Fold Bridge dates from the building of the Manchester Bolton & Bury Canal, which was completed in 1796.

SEDGLEY PARK is a suburban area of **Prestwich** in **Bury**. It was formerly part of **Lancashire** but early occurrences of the name are not well documented. It is said to mean a swampy area surrounded by woodland, from the Old English *secg*, ‘sedge, reed, rush’ + *lēah*, ‘wood, clearing’.

SEEDLEY is a suburb of **Salford**. The name is not well documented but it was given to Seedley Park, a public park opened in 1876 and to the station opened by the London & North Western Railway in May 1882. The origin of the name is uncertain but may be Old English *set*, meaning ‘home’ or ‘stable’ + *lēah*, ‘wood, clearing’.

SEVEN ACRES COUNTRY PARK is a 32-hectare nature reserve about 3.25 kilometres east of **Bolton** town centre. It was originally an agricultural area, some or all of which was known as Kindor Bank after John Kindor (1728-1801), the local farmer. The area was recorded on a map of 1764. Its area of 32 hectares equates to 79 acres, and the 7 acres in the name of the park is derived from the area of water that was available to feed a mediaeval corn mill and, much later, the bleaching industry. The area was designated as a country park in 2004.

SHADOW MOSS is an area in south-eastern **Wythenshawe** in the City of **Manchester**. The name is first recorded in the early 13th century as *Shadoke mosse*, meaning ‘the oak at the boundary of the bog’, referring perhaps to a tree that marked the boundary between Macclesfield and **Bucklow**. The name is derived from Old English *scead* (‘boundary’) + *ac* (‘oak tree’) + *moss* (‘bog, swamp’). In time the name became rationalised to Shadow Moss, which is recorded from 1613. It seems quite likely that pubs or restaurants called ‘Shady Oak’ may celebrate boundary oaks rather than shady spots under tall trees.

SHAKERLEY is a north-western suburb of **Tyldesley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in about 1210 as *Shakerlee* and means ‘robber’s clearing’ from the Old English *scēacere* (‘robber’) + *lēah* (‘clearing, glade’). The second element refers to a clearing in the surrounding oak forest but nothing is known of the robber after whom the place is named.

SHAMBLES SQUARE is a pedestrianised area beside the cathedral in central **Manchester**. It was laid out in 1999, when the Old Wellington Inn, which dates from 1552, was moved there after the 1996 IRA bombing. The name

celebrates the Old *Shambles* area, which is recorded in 1657 as the ‘flesh shambles’. It is derived from the Middle English *fleshchameles*, meaning ‘place where meat is sold’ and provides the name for ‘Shambles’ in other towns and cities in England, notably York. A *schamel* was a bench for displaying butchers’ meat.

SHARPLES is a residential area of **Bolton** on the River **Tonge**, about 4 kilometres north of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1212 as *Charples* and with its modern spelling in 1259. The area features a steep hill and the name may be derived from this sense of Old English *scearp* (‘pointed; steep’) + *lās* (‘meadow’) or *lēas* (‘woods; meadows’).

SHARSTON is a residential area and industrial estate in **Wythenshawe** in the south of the City of **Manchester**. The name is recorded in the 13th century as *Sharston*, meaning ‘notched stone’, from Old English *scearda* (‘notched’) + *stān* (‘stone’). The name is a reference to a glacial boulder called the *Shar Stone* in nearby **Northenden**. This was moved to its present location in 1892 but its previous history has not been ascertained.

SHAW is part of the district of Shaw and **Crompton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, which lies on the River **Beal** about 14 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. Shaw is recorded in 1555 as *Shaghe*, meaning ‘copse, small wood’, from Old English *sceaga*. Slightly to the south-west are Shaw Side and Shaw Edge.

SHAWCLOUGH is a residential area of **Rochdale**, north of the town centre. The name is not well documented before the early 19th century, when *Shawclough* Brook, a tributary of the River **Spodden**, provided water power for felt and textile mills on its banks. Shawclough Mill itself was established in 1869 but the name of the stream is probably much older. It means ‘wooded valley’, from Old English *sceaga* (‘small wood, copse’) + *clōh* (‘deep valley’).

SHAW

*By the time the Anglo-Saxons arrived in north-west England the 5th century, much of the forest had been cleared and the most common element in place names was **sceaga**, meaning ‘small wood or copse’ rather than thick forest.*

AUDENSHAW (eponym + ~)	HATHERSHAW (heather + ~)
BARROWSHAW (grove + ~)	HAWKSHAW (hawk + ~)
BICKERSHAW (bee-keeper + ~)	HEMPSHAW BROOK (sapling + ~)
BIRTENSHAW (birches + ~)	HIGGINSHAW (Richard + ~)
BOARSHAW (boar + ~)	KNUTSHAW (nut or eponym ~)
BRADSHAW (broad + ~)	LINNYSHAW (lime + ~)
CADSHAW (eponym + ~)	LONGSHAW (tall, long + ~)
CALDERSHAW (rapid stream + ~)	OPENSHAW (unenclosed + ~)
CASTLESHAW (fort + ~)	STUBSHAW (tree-stump + ~)
COWLISHAW (charcoal + ~)	SWINESHAW (pigs + ~)
CRONKEYSHAW (crane? + ~)	WALSHAW (stream + ~)
DENSHAW (valley + ~)	WYTHENSHAW (willow + ~)
HALSHAW (flat land + ~)	

SHAW HEATH is a suburb of **Stockport**, south of the main town centre. The name is first recorded in 1712 and means ‘copse heath’ from Old English *sceaga* (‘copse, small wood’) + *hæth* (‘heath, uncultivated land’).

SHELDERSLOW is a hamlet in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, formerly in the **West Riding of Yorkshire**. It appears in the early 14th century as a family name, *Childreslaue*, and as the place name in 1531 as *Skelderslow*, from the Old Norse *skjaldari* (‘shield maker’) + Old English *hlāw* (mound, hillock’).

SHEVINGTON is a village on the north bank of the River **Douglas** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, about 5 kilometres west of the town centre. The name is recorded in about 1225 as *Shefinton*, meaning ‘the settlement at Chevin’, derived from the Celtic *cevn* or *cefn*, meaning ‘ridge’ + Old English *tūn* (‘enclosure, farmstead, village’). The name refers to a nearby ridge of high ground on the edge of Shevington Moor.

SHOLVER is a residential area of **Oldham**, about 3.5 kilometres north-east of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1202 as *Solhher* and with its modern spelling from 1278. It is said to mean ‘sloping hill pasture or temporary hut’, from the Old English *sceolh* (‘twisted, sloping’) + Old Norse *erg* or *ærgi* (‘temporary hut, hill pasture’). The name refers to the steeply-sloping ground nearby and the Norse practice of building temporary huts or shielings in hill pastures. Alternatively, the name could be an eponym meaning *Skjolgr*’s pasture.

SHOOTERS BROOK is a minor tributary of the River **Medlock** in central **Manchester** that is now fully culverted beneath **Store Street**. It rises in **Newton Heath** and flows south-west to join the Medlock in what used to be called **Garret** (or Garratt) close to Brook Street, which derives its name from Shooters Brook. The name is recorded in 1334 as the *Schiter*, from the Old English *scite*, meaning ‘dirt, dung’. It was a pleasant meadow waterway whose name had been sanitised to ‘Shooters Brook’ in the 18th century but had become heavily

industrialised and polluted by the end of the century, and became known as “Shitters’ Brook”, thus returning to its Old English origin.

SHORE is a village north-west of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded with its modern spelling in 1324 and means ‘dangerous slope’ from Old English *scora*. The reference is to the steep hillside nearby.

SHORESWORTH is an ancient part of **Pendlebury** on the banks of the River **Irwell** in the City of **Salford**, although the name seems to have fallen out of use in the 20th century. It is recorded in about 1085 as *Scoreswurthin*, meaning ‘settlement on a steep slope’, from the Old English *scora* (‘dangerous or steep slope’) + *worth* (‘enclosure; settlement’), referring to the bank or shore of the Irwell.

SHUDEHILL is an area in central **Manchester** around *Shudehill* Street. The name dates from 1554 and seems to be taken from the word *shude* meaning ‘the husk of oats’, but the reason for this has not been established. Richard Arkwright’s Shudehill Mill of 1782 is said to have been the first steam-powered cotton mill in Manchester.

SHUTTLEWORTH is a village north-east of **Ramsbottom** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1227 as *Suttelsworth*, meaning ‘barred or gated enclosure’, from the Old English *scyttels* (‘a bar; a barred-gate’) + *worth* (‘enclosure; settlement’).

SIDDALE MOOR is an area south of **Heywood** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in 1548 as *Sydall*, meaning ‘wide nook moor’, from Old English *sīd* (‘wide’) + *halh* (‘nook, corner of land’) + *mōr*.

SIDDOW COMMON is an industrial area south of **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in the early 14th century as *Sydale*, meaning ‘wide nook’, from Old English *sīd* (‘wide’) + *halh* (‘nook, corner of land’).

SIMISTER is a suburb of **Bury**, south-east of the main town centre. The name is an eponym, taking the name of a James *Simister* or Somister (1722?-1780), who had an estate and three farms in the area at the beginning of the 18th century.

SIMON’S BRIDGE is a footbridge across the River **Mersey** in **Didsbury**. It was built in 1901 as a gift to the people of Didsbury from Henry *Simon* (1835-1899), a German-born engineer who came to **Manchester** in 1860 and founded a company manufacturing industrial equipment.

SINDERLAND GREEN is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that was formerly part of **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Sundreland*, when it was said to be unpopulated. The spelling and origin are shared with Sunderland in Tyne and Wear, but its modern spelling is found from 1639. It is derived from the Old English *sundor-land*, meaning ‘private land; land set aside for some particular purpose’, although it is unclear what that purpose may have been and it may simply refer to its status as private land. [See Domesday](#)

[Book box](#)

SINDSLEY is a suburb of north-west **Salford**. The name seems to be falling into disuse but is retained in **Sindsley Brook**, which forms the boundary between **Worsley** and **Swinton**. The name is not well documented before 1758, when it was recorded as *Singeley*. The modern spelling was in use by 1832, when Sindsley Mills were built in Swinton. The origin seems unclear, but it may be derived from Old English *scingol*, meaning ‘a shingle; roofing tile’, or *schingled* (‘having a shingled roof’).

SLACKCOTE is a village in the **Saddleworth** district of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is not well-documented before the building of Slackcote woollen mill in 1780-1781 but is almost certainly far older. It is derived from the Old Norse *slakke*, meaning ‘shallow depression’, + dialect *cote* (‘shed, temporary shelter for animals or tools’). There are a number of other places across north-west England derived from *slakke* and most are recorded from the 13th century.

SLADE HALL is a country house in **Rusholme** in the City of **Manchester** that gives its name to the surrounding area that is sometimes known as Slade. The original house dated from about 1160 but the present one was built by Edward Siddall in 1585, making it probably the oldest house in Manchester. The house is recorded in 1322 as *Milkewalslade*, meaning ‘the valley with the milky spring or well’, from Old English *meoluc* (‘milk’) + *wælla* (‘well, spring’) + *slæd* (‘valley, glade’). By 1600, the name was reduced simply to Slade.

SLADEN is a hamlet near **Summit** in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** on the Rochdale Canal. It is recorded in 1246 as *Slaneden*, although the exact derivation and meaning are uncertain. One possibility is that it means ‘the pasture in the valley’, from Old English *denn* (‘woodland pasture’) + *slæd* (‘valley’).

SLATTOCKS is a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, south of the main town centre. The name is not well documented and there are differing theories about its origin. One is that the second element is *ac*, meaning ‘oak tree’, but with no plausible explanation for the first element. Perhaps more convincing is that the name means ‘small valley’, from the Old English *slæd* (‘valley, glade’) + *oc* (‘small’).

SMALLBRIDGE is a residential area on the River **Roch** outside **Rochdale** in the Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale. The name is first recorded in 1843 and is explained by its growth around a bridge over the River Roch.

SMALLSHAW is a residential area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, north-east of the town centre. There are several places in England called ‘Smallshaw’, all meaning ‘small copse’, from the Old English *smael* (‘small, narrow’) + *sceaga* (‘copse, wood’).

SMEDLEY is a suburb of **Manchester**, north-east of the city centre, where, according to Isabella Banks in her novel *The Manchester Man* of 1876, “the **Irk** was clear and bright”. The name derives either from Old English *smethe* (‘smooth, level’) or *smith* (‘blacksmith’) + *lēah* (‘clearing, glade’).

SMITHFIELD MARKET was a large market in **Shudehill** in central **Manchester**, east of the city centre in what is now the **Northern Quarter**. It was started in about 1820 and given its name in 1822. It may have been named directly after *Smithfield* Market in London, which dates from 1174, but by the mid-17th century the word was more widely used for any cattle market. The original Manchester market was covered in 1853 and was nearly 2 hectares in area by the end of the 19th century. It was closed in 1972 and New Smithfield Market was built in **Openshaw**, but one building was preserved and is now **Mackie’s Mayor** food hall and retail outlet. Smithfield is derived from the Old English *smeeth* (‘smooth’) + *feld* (‘field’), i.e. a flat field where animals can be kept and fattened before being sold or slaughtered.

SMITHILLS is a residential area of **Bolton**, 5 kilometres north-west of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1322 as *Smythell*, meaning ‘smooth hills’, from Old English *smēthe* + *hyll*, referring to the moorland landscape. Smithills Hall dates from the 14th century and was purchased by Bolton Corporation in 1938 and opened to the public as a museum. The estate is now an 809-hectare country park, which was opened to the public in 2016.

SMITHY BRIDGE is a suburb of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is first recorded in 1841 and its location on the Rochdale Canal explains its name – a *bridge* over the canal with a *smithy* nearby for canal boats and the horses that towed them.

SMITHY GREEN is a place name found in many places across England meaning ‘the green where the smithy is found’, from the Middle English *smithie* (‘smithy, smith’s workshop’) + *grēn* (‘field, village green’). Smithy Green in **Cheadle Hulme** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** is recorded from 1844.

SNYDALE is a residential area of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1212 as *Slinehal* but it is spelled *Snythelhill* with an N by 1278. This difference of spelling makes any derivation difficult – the second element is Old English *hyll*, referring to the nearby Snydale Hill and the first element may be *snite* or *snyde*, meaning ‘snipe’.

SOURACRE is a village north of **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The name is recorded in the early 13th century and means ‘muddy field or field covered with excrement’ from Old Norse *saurr* or Middle English *sour* + Old English *aecer*.

SPINNINGFIELDS is an area of central **Manchester** west of **Deansgate**. The name appears on a 1772 map of Manchester. Many of the streets were originally named ‘fields’ and Spinningfields was named for the dominant occupation of the textile works who lived there. In the 19th century, Spinningfields was renowned as a place of grime and crime, but, after the IRA bombing of 1996, it was designated for regeneration. In 2013, much of the area was bought up and developed into a residential, retail and financial district.

River SPODDEN or **SPODDEN BROOK** is a river that rises on Shawforth Moor in **Lancashire** and flows 12 kilometres to join the River **Roch** in **Spotland** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in the 13th century as *Spotbrok* but its modern spelling is found from 1577. The derivation is uncertain but may be Middle English *spoute* (‘a spout, a gutter, the mouth of a water-pipe’), so that the meaning might be ‘spouting brook’.

SPOTLAND is an area of **Rochdale** on the River **Spodden** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. *Spotland* is first recorded in about 1180 and may just mean ‘a spot or small piece of land’, but, perhaps more likely, it may take its name from the River *Spodden*, which flows through Spotland, where it joins the River **Roch**. The **Spodden** is said to take its name from the Middle English *spoute* (‘a spout, a gutter, the mouth of a water-pipe’), so that Spotland would mean ‘the land beside the spouting brook’.

SPRINGFIELD PARK is a 17-hectare public park in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It was donated to the borough of Rochdale by Frederick Lye (1860-1948) in order to provide a municipal golf course, which was duly opened on 2 April 1927. The name Springfield came from *Springfield House* and the *Springfield Estate* on which the park and golf course were laid out. The exact derivation of the name in this location has not been ascertained, but *Springfield* is a common place name found in many parts of Britain and usually literally means ‘a field with a spring’.

SPRINGHEAD is now a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, east of the town centre. The name is not well documented before 1894, when an urban district was created with the name ‘Springhead’ rather than ‘**Quickmere**’, which had previously been used. It is said that the name came from a house in the village named Springhead House because it had a spring in the garden, and the name came to be applied to the whole village.

STAKEHILL or **STAKE HILL** is a commercial and industrial area of the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, north-west of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1246 as *Stakehull* and with its modern spelling in 1322. It literally means ‘a hill where a stake is found’, from Old English *staca* + *hyll*. The name is also common in **West Yorkshire** and it has been suggested that the stake refers to a boundary marker. Stakehill is one of the sites of **Atom Valley**.

STALYBRIDGE is a town on the River **Tame** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, about 13 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre. It is recorded with its modern spelling in 1687 and simply means ‘the bridge over the River Tame at **Stayley**’. The hamlet of *Stayley* is much older, recorded in the early 13th century as *Stavelegh*, meaning ‘clearing where staves are found or made’, from Old English *stæf* (‘staff, stave’) + *lēah* (‘clearing’).

STAMFORD PARK is a 26-hectare public park on the borders of **Stalybridge** and **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The land on which it stands was acquired in 1688 by the Earl of *Stamford*. In 1872 local mill workers purchased some of the estate and the Earl of Stamford also donated some land. The park was opened to the public on 12 July 1873, retaining the earl’s title of *Stamford*, which originally came from the town in Leicestershire meaning ‘stone (Old English *stān*) ford’.

STAND is a residential area of **Whitefield** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is not well documented but comes from the old English *stand*, meaning ‘a stand, a place from which to observe game’. This refers to Stand’s position overlooking **Pilkington Deer Park** (now **Philips Park**).

STANDEGE is a gritstone escarpment in the **Pennines** between **West Yorkshire** and the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** in **Greater Manchester**. There has been a moorland crossing at Standedge since Roman times but it presented a major barrier to modern forms of communication. The Huddersfield Narrow Canal opened a tunnel under Standedge in 1811 which is still the highest and longest canal tunnel in Britain. The London & North Western Railway built three tunnels through Standedge in 1848, 1871 and 1894 to connect Manchester with Huddersfield. The name derives from the Old English *stān* + *ecg*, meaning 'stony edge', accurately describing Standedge as a 'stony escarpment'.

STANDISH is a village on the River **Douglas** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, north-west of the town centre, that was part of **Lancashire** until 1974. The name is recorded in 1178 as *Stanesdis*, from the Old English *stān* ('stone') + *edisc* ('enclosure'), so the meaning would be 'stony enclosure', probably for keeping cattle or, more likely, deer. See also **Langtree**.

STANLEY GREEN is a trading estate in **Cheadle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded as early as 1831 and is taken from the Stanley family of nearby Handforth in **Cheshire**. *Stanley* as a forename or family name is ultimately derived from the Old English place name *Stān-lēah*, meaning 'stony wood or clearing where stone is found'.

STANNEY BROOK is a tributary of the River **Roch** which rises in **Burnedge** and flows north through **Milnrow** and **Rochdale** to join the Roch at **Newbold**. It is recorded in 1294 as *Stonneybeck*, meaning 'stony stream', from Old English *stanig* + Old Norse *bekkr*. The use of *beck* is almost unique in Greater Manchester and the more common Old English *brōc* replaced it during mediaeval times.

STANYCLIFFE is a suburb of **Middleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale, north of the town centre on **Whit Brook**. It is recorded in the 13th century as *Stanicliffe*, meaning 'stony river bank', from Old English *stān* + *clif*.

STAYLEY is or was the original area from which **Stalybridge** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** gets its name. It is recorded in 1272 as *Stauley* and the modern spelling is found in 1560. It means 'place where the wood for staves is found' and it shares its derivation with that of Stalybridge - Old English *stæf* ('staff, stave') + *lēah* ('clearing').

STEPHENSON'S BRIDGE, Castlefield is the first of several railway bridges in **Manchester** and **Salford** built by George *Stephenson* (1781-1848). It was completed in August 1830 to carry the Liverpool & Manchester Railway over the River **Irwell** into **Liverpool Road**, the original eastern terminus of the line.

STEPHENSON'S BRIDGE, Victoria Station is one of several railway bridges in **Manchester** and **Salford** built by the 'Father of Railways', George *Stephenson* (1781-1848). In 1844 Stephenson engineered the Manchester & Leeds Railway's route from **Victoria Station** east to the city of Leeds. The lines into Victoria were carried over Victoria Street on Stephenson's Bridge, which in 1884 was incorporated into the longest railway platform in Europe, which connected Victoria with the new **Exchange Station**.

STEPPING HILL was a district south-east of **Stockport** in the 19th century but in 1901-1905 Stepping Hill hospital was built on the site. It appears as a farm on early maps, extending north-east of its present location. The name is not well documented but seems to mean a *hill* with a set of *stepping* stones or a set of steps.

STOCKPORT is a town 13 kilometres south-east of **Manchester** city centre. Until 1974, Stockport was divided between **Cheshire** and **Lancashire**, with the River **Mersey**, which is formed in Stockport, as the dividing line. Since 1974 it has given its name to the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport, one of the ten boroughs of **Greater Manchester**. The name is recorded in 1188 as *Stokeport* and with its modern spelling from about 1274. The meaning is generally said to be 'a market place (Old English *port*) at a secondary, dependent or outlying settlement' (Old English *stoc*). There have, however, been alternative suggestions for both elements: *Stock* may refer to a stockade, from Old English *stoccen*, and the fact that the name was recorded as *Stockford* in 1283 would be consistent with there being a *ford* across the river before the **Goyt** and **Tame** combine to form the Mersey, and

Stopford was in use as the spelling as late as 1610. Stockport gives its name to Stockport, New Jersey and Stockport, South Australia.

STOCKPORT ETCHELLS See **ETCHELLS**

STOCKPORT GARRICK THEATRE was established by an amateur dramatic club on 24 October 1901. The club named itself after the great actor, David *Garrick*, who was born in 1719 and died at the **Adelphi** Theatre in 1779. The club acquired its first playhouse in 1905 and moved to its present theatre in the centre of **Stockport** in 1920.

STOCKPORT VIADUCT See **VIADUCT**

STOLLER HALL is a 482-seat concert hall at Chetham's School of Music (see **Chetham's Library**) completed in 2017. It is named after its principal benefactor, Sir Norman *Stoller*, who was High Sheriff of Greater Manchester in 1999-2000.

STONE BREAKS is a hamlet north of **Grotton** in the metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1625 and therefore pre-dates Stone Breaks quarry, which dates from the 17th or 18th centuries. The hamlet lies in the **Medlock** Valley east of the 260-metre Stone Breaks Hill and probably derives from Old English *stān* ('stone') + Old Norse *brekka* ('slope').

STONECLOUGH is a suburban district of **Kearsley** on the banks of the River **Irwell** in the Borough of **Bolton**. The name is derived from Old English *stān*, meaning 'stony', and *clōh*, meaning 'deep valley', referring to the red sandstone found along the Irwell at this point. The Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway built a station at Stoneclough Bridge and the choice of this name formalised the name *Stoneclough*.

STORE STREET STATION was the name of **Manchester's** principal railway terminus that is now **Piccadilly**. It was built by the Manchester & Birmingham and Sheffield Ashton-under-Lyne & Manchester railways and opened on 8 May 1842. It took its name from its main entrance on *Store Street*, a thoroughfare that had been laid out in about 1805, when **Shooters Brook** was culverted beneath it. It was named Store Street because Manchester's main grain *store* was located here, close to the Ashton Canal, which had been completed in 1797, and to the corn mills situated to the east on Mill Street. The station was rebuilt and renamed **London Road** in 1847 and, following electrification and modernisation, it was renamed Piccadilly in 1960.

STRANGEWAYS is an inner-city district of **Manchester** with a well-known prison, which was built in 1868 to replace the **New Bailey** jail. It lies on a strip of land between the rivers **Irwell** and **Irk**, and as such means 'place subject to strong flooding'. The name is recorded in 1322 as *Strangwas* and is derived from the Old English *strang*, 'strong', and *waesce*, meaning 'flooding', but the spelling was changed as early as 1326 by those trying to find meaning in its name.

STRETFORD is a township in the borough of **Trafford**. The town lies on the Roman road from Chester to **Manchester** where it crosses the River **Mersey**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Streetford* and means the same as *Stratford* – 'a ford on a *strat* or *stræt*', with *stræt* referring in particular to a Roman road.

STRINES is a village in the **Goyt** valley in **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, formerly in **Derbyshire**. A station was opened in 1866 by the Marple, New Mills & Hayfield Junction Railway and the village and its railway are believed to have inspired Edith Nesbit's 1906 novel, *The Railway Children*. The village name is recorded as *Stryndes*, *Strindes* and *Strendes* in the late 13th century and is said to be derived from the Middle English *strinds* meaning 'streams', from the tributaries of the Goyt above the village.

STRINE DALE and **STRINESDALE RESERVOIR** Strine Dale is a village and location north-east of **Oldham** and Strinesdale was the name given to two reservoirs built in the 19th century – the first in 1828 and the second in 1838. *Dale* refers to the valley of the River **Medlock** and Roebuck Brook, which feed the reservoirs. *Strine* is often said to come from an Old English word meaning 'boundary' as the former boundary between **Lancashire** and

Yorkshire ran along the valley, but this meaning cannot be confirmed from other sources and the usual meaning of *strine* or *strind* - 'stream, waterway' - would seem to be applicable.

STUBSHAW CROSS is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** north-east of **Ashton-in-Makerfield**. The name 'Stubshaw' means 'the copse with or beside tree stumps', from the Old Norse *stubbi* ('tree-stump') + Old English *sceaga* ('copse'). A cross was erected there in 1630, giving rise to the modern name, but the 'Stubshaw' settlement and name pre-dated the cross.

SUDDEN is a hamlet south-west of **Rochdale** on the south bank of the River **Roch**. The name is recorded in the 13th century as both *Sothden* and *Sudden*, meaning 'southern valley', from the Old English *sūth* ('south') + *denu* ('valley'). The valley is that of Sudden Brook, which joins the Roch at Sudden. Sudden lies opposite **Norden**, which lies on the north bank of the Roch.

SUMMERSEAT is a village in the Borough of **Bury** on the River **Irwell**. It was part of **Lancashire** until 1974. The name is first recorded in 1556 as *Sumersett* and is derived from the Old English *sumor* or Old Norse *sumarr*, meaning 'summer', and *set* or *sæt*, 'a hut used while looking after animals'.

SUMMIT is a village in **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. It is on the border with West **Yorkshire** and was in the county of **Lancashire** until 1974. Its name refers to its position as the highest point between **Littleborough** and Todmorden in Yorkshire, and the crossing point for both the Rochdale Canal (opened in 1804) and the Manchester & Leeds Railway, whose Summit Tunnel was completed in 1841. The name is not well documented before 1804 and the area was known as 'Charlestown' until late into the 19th century.

SWINESHAW is an area north of Glossop in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside** in what was **Derbyshire** before 1974. It lends its name to several reservoirs that were built in the second half of the 19th century. The name is taken from *Swineshaw* Brook and was recorded in 1831. Swineshaw probably means 'swine wood' and is derived from two Old English elements: *swīn* + *sceaga*.

SWINLEY is a residential area of **Wigan**, north of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1283 as *Swyneley*, meaning 'clearing where pigs are found or kept', from the Old English *swin* ('swine, pig') + *lēah* ('woodland clearing').

SWINTON is a town in **Salford** that was in **Lancashire** until 1974. It was first documented as *Suinton* in 1258. The name consists of two Old English elements: *swīn* + *tūn*, meaning 'pig farm' or 'place where pigs are fed'. This is one of the many references to animals in the place names of **Greater Manchester**.

SYKE is a village on the northern outskirts of **Rochdale**, also known as **Nook Farm**. The name is recorded in 1843 as *Syke*, from the Old English and regional English *sīc*, meaning 'small stream'. There are several streams running off the moors above Syke, including Fanny Brook, **Buckley** Brook and Hey Brook, all tributaries of the River **Roch**.

T

TALLEYRAND was an area in east **Levenshulme** south-east of **Manchester** city centre which was named after the infamous French diplomat, Charles-Maurice de *Talleyrand-Périgord* (1754-1838), who is reported to have stayed in the area during a period of exile in Britain, either in 1792-1794 or 1834-1838 (sources differ). The name does not appear on modern maps but is recalled in the Talleyrand pub on the Stockport Road.

River TAME is a tributary of the River **Mersey** that rises on **Denshaw Moor** on **Saddleworth** and then flows south-west to join the River **Goyt** to form the Mersey in **Stockport**. The name appears as *Tome* in 1292 and *Tame* in 1322, but its origin is unclear. It seems likely that it is Celtic in origin – there are rivers with similar names across Britain, including the Thames, Taff, Tamar and Thame. The name may simply mean ‘river’, but it has also been suggested that it could mean ‘dark river’ or ‘dark one’. The river gives its name to the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**.

TAMESIDE is one of the ten metropolitan boroughs of **Greater Manchester**, which was formed in 1974 from **Dukinfield**, **Hyde** and **Longdendale** in **Cheshire** and **Ashton-under-Lyne**, **Mossley**, **Audenshaw**, **Denton** and **Droylsden** in **Lancashire**. The borough takes its name from the River **Tame**, which crosses the borough from north to south. The name was chosen in 1974 after a consultation exercise and a vote on 30 possibilities.

TANDLE HILL and **TANDLE HILL COUNTRY PARK** Tandle Hill is a 222-metre hill near **Royton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. Its name means ‘fire hill’ from the northern dialect *tandle*, ‘a large fire in the open air, a bonfire’. The name dates from 9 September 1513 when the hill was used as a beacon during the Battle of Flodden Field. The surrounding area was donated to the people of Royton in 1919 as a war memorial and it was opened as Tandle Hill Country Park in 1971.

TARDEN is a rural area east of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**, which was part of **Derbyshire** until 1974. It is recorded in 1285 as *Toardin* and with its modern spelling in 1545, but the meaning and etymology are unclear.

TAUNTON is a town north of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is first recorded in 1246 as **Tongton** but the modern spelling is found from 1422. The name is derived from the Old English *tang* (‘fork of a river’) + *tūn* (‘enclosure, village’), describing Taunton’s position on a long tongue of land where Taunton Brook meets the River **Medlock**.

THATCH LEACH is a village on the western edge of **Oldham**. The name is recorded from the 13th century and the meaning may be quite literal: a place where straw for *thatch* is soaked or *leached*.

THICKETFORD BROW is a suburb of **Bolton**, north-east of the town centre on **Bradshaw** Brook. The name is recorded in the 18th century as *Th’ igh gate ford* meaning ‘ford over the high road’ (to Ramsbottom, presumably), from Old English *hēah* (‘high, chief’) + Old Norse *gata* (‘road’). The name was rationalised to ‘Thicketford’ by the end of the 19th century.

THOMASSON PARK is a 2-hectare public park in **Bolton**. It was opened on 23 October 1890 and named after John Pennington *Thomasson* (1841-1904), a cotton industrialist, who purchased Mere Hall and its estate in 1889 and donated it to the people of Bolton ‘as a playground and garden’.

THORNHAM is a residential area divided between the Metropolitan Boroughs of **Oldham** and **Rochdale**. The name is first recorded in 1246 as *Thornham*, meaning ‘homestead or village where hawthorns grow’ from Old English *thorn* + *hām* (‘village, homestead’).

THORP is a suburb of **Oldham**, north of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1260 with its modern spelling and means ‘village’, from the Old Norse *thorp*. Thorp Mill, built in 1764, was the first water-powered cotton mill in **Lancashire**, using water from Thorp Clough, a tributary of the River **Irk**.

The THREE SISTERS RECREATION AREA is a 44-hectare nature reserve in **Bryn** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name comes from three spoil heaps from the Garswood Hall coal mine, which was originally built in 1867 or earlier. By the time the mine closed in 1958 the heaps were over 50 metres high and were known as the 'Wigan Alps' or the '*Three Sisters*'. The heaps were levelled and the area was converted into a recreation area and wildlife reserve, opened to the public in 1978. The Three Sisters Recreation Area forms a gateway to the **Wigan Flashes Nature Reserve**.

THROSTLE NEST BRIDGE today is a small footbridge across the **Bridgewater Canal** in **Trafford**. There was an older Throstle Nest Bridge over the River **Irwell** that was demolished when the **Manchester Ship Canal** was built in 1887-1893. Both took their names from an area of **Trafford Park** estate, which was recorded as a 'rural retreat' in the 1760s, but the name was also given to Throstle's Nest Lock in **Old Trafford** - the last lock on the Mersey & Irwell Navigation, which was built in the 1720s. The name comes from the Old English *throstle*, meaning 'song thrush'. The name was also applied to deer's antlers, which were large enough to hold a thrush nest, but, although Trafford Park did have deer, this definition is recorded only from 1785 and so is unlikely to be the meaning here.

River TIB is a culverted tributary of the River **Medlock** that rises at a spring called Coopers Pit in **Miles Platting** and flows for a few kilometres before joining the Medlock at **Gaythorn** near **Deansgate** station. A recent suggestion is that the name was given by Roman legionnaires to remind them of the River *Tiber* in Rome, but shortened to reflect the size of the Tib in Manchester. An alternative suggestion is that it comes from the Celtic *dubr*, meaning 'water' which, coincidentally, is also cited as the origin of the Tiber in Italy.

TIMPERLEY is a suburb in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**, but formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is first recorded in 1211-1225 as *Timperleie*, meaning 'clearing where timber is obtained', from the Old English *timber* + *lēah* ('glade, clearing').

TIVOT DALE is a retail and residential area in **Stockport**, although the name seems to be falling into disuse. The name is said to have been given to the area in 1745, when Prince Charles Stuart ('Bonny Prince Charlie') camped in northern Stockport. His Jacobites derived the name from *Teviotdale* in Roxburghshire in their native Scotland. This is derived from Scottish Gaelic *Tibhiot*, a name which simply mean 'river', but it has also been suggested that it could mean 'dark river' or 'dark one'. The name may be related to other ancient river names, including the **Tame**, Tamar and the Thames. The Scottish spelling was maintained in Teviot Dale, the original name of the station opened by the Stockport Timperley & Altrincham Railway on 1 December 1865, but the spelling was changed to Tiviot Dale in about 1874.

TOMMYFIELD MARKET is an indoor market in the centre of **Oldham**. It was established in 1788 in *fields* owned by Thomas ('*Tommy*') Whittaker. (For Lowry paintings, see Appendix 1)

TONGE is an area to the west (Tonge Moor) and south (Tonge Fold) of **Bolton**, both on the River Tonge, which is a tributary of the **Croal** and the **Irwell**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Tange*, but the modern spelling is found by 1226. *Tonge* means 'tongue of land' or 'fork in the river', from the Old English *tang* or *tunge*, describing Tonge's position between the River Tonge to the west and **Bradshaw** Brook to the east, just before their confluence.

TONTINE There are several streets and buildings in Greater **Manchester** and across England named **Tontine**, but this village west of **Orrell** on the border between **Lancashire** and the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** seems to be the only settlement with the name. The name of the village is recorded in 1870 but it could be older as the word was in use in Britain from as early as 1765. It is derived from Lorenzo *Tonti* (c.1602-c.1684), a Neapolitan banker who devised the form of insurance scheme or friendly society that is named after him. Tontines were fairly common in 19th-century Britain among immigrant communities, but it has not been possible to discover the origin of the name for village of Tontine.

TOPPINGS is a residential area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It is first recorded in 1843 and is a dialect word meaning 'hill top' from the Old English *topp* ('the top of a hill, etc').

TORKINGTON is a district in the Borough of **Stockport** that was formerly part of **Cheshire**. The name was first recorded in 1182 as *Torkinton* and consists of three Old English elements: *Turec*, a personal name, *-ing-*,

‘belonging to’ or ‘the followers of’, and *tūn*, ‘settlement or farmstead’, so that together the name would mean ‘the village of Turec’s people’. Nothing is known of anyone called Turec and it is not recognised to be an English name, but, coincidentally, in 1560 a Richard Bullock leased some land from a John Torkington to set up a smithy nearby in what became **Bullock’s Smithy**, now **Hazel Grove**.

TOTTINGTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. The name is first recorded in 1212 as *Totinton*, and is usually said to mean ‘the village of Totta’. *Totta* was a common Anglo-Saxon personal name, *-ing-* means ‘belonging to, associated with’ and *tūn* means ‘enclosure, village’. However, the village is on a 272-metre hill and so the name could derive from Old English *tōt*, meaning ‘hill-top look-out’.

TOUGHSHEET COMMUNITY STADIUM is a mixed-use sports stadium in **Bolton** and home to Bolton Wanderers football club. The club moved from **Burnden** when the new stadium was built in 1997. It was originally named the **Reebok** stadium by its American footwear sponsor, whose name is taken from the Afrikaans *rhebok* antelope. Since 2024 it has been known as the *Toughsheet* Community Stadium after the local manufacturer of recycled plastic building materials.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE is a residential area around a small green in the **Guide Bridge** area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The area itself dates from around the 1840s but the buildings of Trafalgar Square were built in 1881. The square is named after the British naval victory at the Battle of *Trafalgar* in 1805.

TRAFFORD is a district in **Stretford** that gives its name not only to **Old Trafford**, Trafford Centre retail outlet and **Trafford Park** industrial area but also to the Metropolitan Borough of Trafford that was created in 1974. The name is first recorded in about 1200 as *Trafford*, and is a corruption of *Stratford* or *Stretford*, meaning ‘the ford (across the river **Mersey**) on the Roman road (*stræt*) between **Manchester** and Chester’. The loss of the initial S- is said to be a feature of Anglo-Norman but may also be a way of distinguishing Trafford from neighbouring **Stretford**. In 1974 Trafford was chosen for the name of the new borough because of its famous sports venues and the **Trafford Park** industrial estate, as well as historical associations, but only after various alternative proposals - Altrincham Stretford and Sale, Chesford, Crossford, Watlingford and Mercia – had been rejected.

TRAFFORD PARK was originally the estate of *Trafford* Hall. The name is recorded in 1843 but in 1896 it was sold off and developed as the world’s first industrial park, sited on the south side of the **Manchester Ship Canal**.

TRINITY BRIDGE is a 78.5-metre footbridge across the River **Irwell** between **Salford** and **Manchester**. It was designed by the Spanish architect, Santiago Calatrava and was opened in 1995. It takes its name from the nearby Sacred *Trinity* church, the was built in 1635 as the first parish church in Salford.

TRUB SMITHY is a village south of **Castleton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. Trub Hall is recorded in the mid to late 17th century and Trub Farm and Trub Brook are also recorded. *Thrub* is thought to derive from Old English *throp* or Old Norse *thorp*, both meaning ‘outlying settlement’. According to local legend, Oliver **Cromwell** led his Parliamentary troops through the area during the Civil War and the owner of Trub Hall provided a smithy to reshoe one of his horses.

TUNSHILL is a hamlet north-east of **Milnrow** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is not well documented before 1793, when a small Roman statue was uncovered at Tunshill Quarry on Tunshill Farm. The name is probably much older as the family name of *Tunshill* dates back to 1273, and probably means ‘enclosure by or near a hill’ from Old English *tūn* + *hyll*.

TŪN & TON

The most common Old English place-name element across England is ton or tūn, meaning ‘enclosure, homestead or village’, and which, of course, gives us modern English town. There are many places in Greater Manchester which include Tun as their first element (e.g. Tunshill) or, much more commonly, -ton as their second or third element. See the list in the box below.

ALKRINGTON (eponym + ~)	DENTON (valley + ~)	PARTINGTON (eponym + ~)
ASHTON (ash + ~)	DUMPLINGTON (eponym + ~)	PEMBERTON (barley + ~)
ASHTON MOOR (ash + ~ + moor)	ELTON (eponym + ~)	PENDLETON (hill + ~)
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (ash + ~ + Lyne)	FLIXTON (eponym + ~)	PENNINGTON (eponym + ~)
ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY (ash + ~ + Mersey)	GORTON (muddy + ~)	PILKINGTON (eponym + ~)
ATHERTON (eponym + ~)	HAUGHTON (nook + ~)	ROYTON (rye + ~)
BALDERSTONE (eponym + ~)	HEATON (high + ~)	SHARSTON (notched stone + ~)
BALDINGSTONE (eponym + ~)	HEATON-UNDER-HORWICH (high + ~ + Horwich)	SHEVINGTON (ridge + ~)
BARTON MOSS (barley + ~ + moss)	HEATON CHAPEL (high + ~ + chapel)	SWINTON (swine + ~)
BARTON-UPON-IRWELL (barley + ~ + Irwell)	HEATON MERSEY (high + ~ + Mersey)	TAUNTON (river fork + ~)
BOLTON (building + ~)	HEATON MOOR (high + ~ + moor)	TORKINGTON (eponym + ~)
BRINNINGTON (eponym + ~)	HEATON NORRIS (high + ~ + eponym)	TUNSHILL (~ + hill)
BROUGHTON (fortified place + ~)	HEATON PARK (high + ~ + park)	TURTON (eponym + ~)
CARRINGTON (eponym + ~)	HULTON (hill + ~)	URMSTON (eponym + ~)
CASTLETON (castle + ~)	LOWTON (hill + ~)	WALTON PARK (Welsh + ~ + park)
CHADDERTON (hill + ~)	MIDDLETON (middle + ~)	WARBURTON (eponym + ~)
CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY (ceorl + ~ + Hardy)	MIDDLETON JUNCTION (middle + ~ + junction)	WESTHOUGHTON (west + nook + ~)
CHORLTON FOLD (ceorl + ~ + fold)	MONTON (monk + ~)	WINTON (willow + ~)
CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK (ceorl + ~ + Medlock)	MOSTON (swamp + ~)	WITHINGTON (willow + ~)
CLAYTON (clay + ~)	NEWTON (new + ~)	WORTHINGTON (eponym + ~)
CLIFTON (cliff + ~)	NEWTON HEATH (new + ~ + heath)	
CROMPTON (bent + ~)	OFFERTON (eponym + ~)	

TURTON is an area between **Bolton** and Blackburn that is divided between the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** in **Greater Manchester** and Blackburn with Darwen in **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in 1185 as *Thirtun* but its modern spelling is found from 1212. The name means ‘Thorr’s or Thori’s farmstead or village’, from the Old Norse personal name *Thorr* + Old English *tūn* (‘farm, village’).

TYLDESLEY is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that is also known as Tyldesley cum **Shakerley**. The name is first recorded in about 1210 as *Tildesleia* and means ‘Tilwald’s clearing’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Tilwald* + *lēah* (‘wood, clearing’).

U

UNDERBANKS is a district in central **Stockport** surrounding the mediaeval streets known as Great and Little *Underbank*. The name is recorded in 1497, when Underbank Hall was built. The name derives from the position of the area – Stockport is built on a hill and *Underbank* describes the area beneath the *bank*, an Old Norse word that originally meant ‘steep hill’. This hill can be clearly seen at **Crowther Street**.

UNSWORTH is a residential area of **Bury**, about 11 kilometres north of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1291 as *Hundesworth* and means ‘enclosure or place of the hounds’ from the Old English *hundes* + *worth*.

UPPERMILL is a village on the River **Tame** in **Saddleworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, although historically part of the West Riding of **Yorkshire**. The name is first recorded in 1730 as *Upper Mill*, which coincides with the beginnings of the industrial revolution and the construction of two mills in the area – a lower and an *upper mill*. The upper mill was originally a corn mill but was converted for scribbling wool around 1780. It continued in use until the 1930s, when it was demolished.

URMSTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The name is first recorded in 1194 as *Wermeston*, although *Urmeston* is found by 1212. The meaning is ‘Urm’s farm or village’, from the Danish personal name *Urm* + Old English *tūn*. The personal name is said to mean ‘snake, serpent’ and is evidence of early Scandinavian settlement in the Manchester area.

VEGETABLES & VEGETATION

While there are many names taken from the types of wood in the formerly forested areas of Greater Manchester between the moors to the east and the mosses to the west, there are comparatively few named after other forms of vegetation. Some are named after vegetables (beans, garlic, peas) that presumably grew wild in river valleys, and reeds would have been useful as a building material. Places named after barley and rye suggest arable crops, which would be consistent with the ploughed land noted in many of the Domesday book entries for the area.

AGECROFT (celery?)	GOLBORNE (marigolds)	PRIMROSE BANK (primroses)
BAMFURLONG (beans)	GORSE HILL (gorse)	RAMSBOTTOM (garlic)
BARLOW FOLD (barley)	GORSEY BANK (gorse)	REDDISH (reeds)
BARTON MOSS (barley)	HATHERLOW (heather)	ROYTON (rye)
BROADBENT (reeds)	HEATHERSHAW (heather)	RUSHFORD (rushes)
CHERRY CLOUGH (cherries)	KEARSLEY (watercress)	RYECROFT (rye)
CLOVER HILL (clover)	KERSAL (watercress)	SEDGLEY (reeds)
ETHROP GREEN (apple?)	LEVER (reeds)	
FARNWORTH (fern)	PEMBERTON (barley)	
FERN HILL (fern)	POISE BROOK (peas)	

VELODROME in **Clayton**, about 5 kilometres east of **Manchester** city centre, was opened in 1994 as the National Cycling Centre with an Olympic-standard indoor racing track for training and competitions. The name comes from the French *vélodrome*, from *vélo* ('bicycle') + *-drome* ('a place for running or racing'). Metrolink opened the Velopark tram stop on 11 February 2013.

VERNON PARK is a 6-hectare country park in **Stockport**, east of the town centre. It was opened on 20 September 1858 on land donated to Stockport Corporation in 1842 by George John Warren, Lord *Vernon*, and named after him. It was sometimes known as "Pinch Belly Park" or "the People's Park" because of the poverty among local mill workers.

VIADUCT PARK is a 0.8-hectare rooftop park atop the Interchange bus station and transport hub in **Stockport** town centre. It was opened in 2024 and takes its name from the nearby Stockport *Viaduct*, which carries the main Manchester to London railway line over the River **Mersey**. The viaduct was built by the Manchester & Birmingham Railway in 1839-1840 using about 11 million bricks. It was one of the earliest viaducts and, at that time, it was the largest viaduct in the world. In 1839, the word 'viaduct' was new – it had been coined only in 1816. (For Lowry's pictures of Stockport Viaduct, see Appendix 1)

VICTORIA BRIDGE is a single-arch road bridge across the River **Irwell** between the cities of **Salford** and **Manchester**. It was built in 1838-1839 and named after Queen *Victoria* (1819-1901).

VICTORIA PARK, Denton is a 2-hectare public park in **Denton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. The land was purchased in 1886 but the park was not opened until 1913. The park is adjacent to Victoria Street, which takes its name from Queen *Victoria*.

VICTORIA PARK, Rusholme is a suburb of **Manchester** lying about 3 kilometres south of the city centre between **Longsight** and **Rusholme**. Its name comes from the *Victoria Park* Company, which was established in 1836 to build a residential area with large houses for prosperous and professional families.

VICTORIA PARK, Stockport is a 6-hectare park in the **Heaviley** district of the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. It was opened in the late 19th century, probably to commemorate the 60th year of the reign of Queen **Victoria**.

VICTORIA PARK, Swinton is a 6-hectare public park in **Swinton** in the City of **Salford**. It was opened in 1897 to commemorate the 60th year of the reign of Queen **Victoria**.

VICTORIA STATION was opened in 1843 by the Manchester & Leeds Railway. In 1844 the Liverpool & Manchester Railway extended its lines to Victoria and closed its **Liverpool Road** terminus. The new station was originally to have been called **Hunt's Bank**, but was instead named after Queen Victoria. In 1846 the Manchester & Leeds merged with other local companies to form the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway and established its headquarters at Victoria. The station has been rebuilt in various ways in the past: several platforms were converted into a Metrolink tram station in 1992 and in 1992-94 the new Manchester Arena stadium was built above some of the northern end.

VICTORY is a residential area north-east of **Bolton**. It is said to be named after HMS *Victory*, the flagship of Admiral Horatio Nelson (1758-1805), and streets in the area were named after Nelson's victories at Nile and Trafalgar, as well as after Nelson himself.

VIMTO PARK is a small park in central **Manchester** that takes its name from the soft drink, *Vimto*, which was first manufactured on the site on Granby Row in 1908. The drink was at first named 'Vim Tonic', because it was said to give the drinker vim and vigour, but this was shortened to Vimto in 1912. The park includes a wooden sculpture of a Vimto bottle and all its fruit ingredients.

VIRIDOR WOOD is a 96-hectare country park in **Bamfurlong** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that forms part of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. It is on the site of Mains Colliery, which was opened in about 1870 and closed in 1960. It then became a landfill site owned and operated by a waste disposal company named *Viridor*, which is the Latin for 'to become green'. The site was purchased by the Forestry Commission in 2001 and transformed into a country park.

W

WALKDEN is a town in the City of **Salford** about 11 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is first recorded in 1325 as *Walkeden* and this is usually said to mean ‘Walca’s valley’ from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Wealaca* + *denu* (‘valley’). However, an alternative interpretation is that the origin is the Old English *Wealaca*, meaning ‘a fuller’ – someone who shrinks and thickens woollen cloth by moistening, heating, and pressing it by walking on it. This might suggest that *Wealaca* was a fuller or took his name from the occupation. This would fit with Walkden’s history as a textile manufacturing centre.

WALKDEN GARDENS are a 2-hectare public park and open-air theatre in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The site was originally developed as a nursery by Harry *Walkden*, but on his death in 1949 it was bequeathed to Sale Borough Council and named in his memory.

WALKER FOLD is a rural woodland area north-west of **Bolton**. It is not well documented and is assumed to be an eponym meaning ‘the animal enclosure (Old English *fald*) belonging to someone called Walker’.

WALKERS is a residential area north-west of **Grotton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1738 as *Walker’s* and is probably derived, directly or indirectly, from the Old English *wealcere*, meaning ‘someone who treats woollen cloth by treading on it in a tub of caustic soda’. This definition of a walker or ‘fuller’ pre-dates the modern meaning of ‘walker’ and is the origin of the common surname. Walkers in Oldham may therefore mean ‘land where walking or fulling took place’ or may be an eponym signifying land belonging to someone called *Walker*.

WALKER’S FIELD or **MISS WALKER’S FIELD** is a public recreational area in **Bury**. In the 19th century the land belonged to the Walker family, who were **Lancashire** landowners, cotton manufacturers and bankers. The last of the family, a *Miss A Walker*, died in the early 1950s and donated the land to Bury Council.

WALLGATE is an urban area in the centre of **Wigan** that takes its name from the area around the mediaeval street of *Wallgate* and Wigan Wallgate railway station. Wallgate is one of the Wigan ‘gates’, all of which were (and many still are) streets dating from the Middle Ages, and perhaps much earlier as ‘gate’ is derived from the Old Norse *gata*, meaning ‘road, street’. Wallgate means ‘Welsh road’, from the Old English *walh* or *wealh*, suggesting it was the road west to Wales. The others are Standishgate (the road to **Standish**), Hallgate (the road to Wigan Hall), Millgate (the road leading to a watermill on the River **Douglas**) and Stairgate (the road to the River Douglas via a set of steps).

WALLNESS is a residential area of north-west **Salford** and includes Wallness Bridge across the River Irwell. The name is recorded in 1261 as *Walneys*, from the Old English *hwærl*, meaning ‘round hill’ + *ness* (‘promontory, headland’), referring the land inside the long meander in the Irwell at this point. The name had been rationalised to Wallness by the beginning of the 19th century, although the spelling ‘Walneys’ is found in burial records as late as 1852.

WALLSUCHES is a residential district of **Horwich** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is not well documented before 1777, when brothers Thomas and John Ridgway moved from Dog Hill in Bolton to a site east of Horwich and established the *Wallsuches Bleachworks*. It is said that the name comes from the Old English *wella*, meaning ‘stream’, + *soc*, meaning ‘to soak’. This derivation could refer to the numerous streams running off the moors to the east which would provide the water for the bleaching of cloth on the banks.

WALMERSLEY is a suburb of north **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1262 as *Walmeresley* and is said to mean ‘the wood or clearing of *Waldmer* or *Walhmer*’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *lēah* (‘woodland clearing’). Alternatively, it could mean ‘lake by a wood’, from Old English *wald* (‘woodland, forest’) + *mere* (‘pool, lake’).

WALSHAW is a village north-west of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1311 as *Wolleshagh*, meaning ‘the small wood by a stream’, from Old English *wælla* (‘stream’) + *sceaga* (‘copse, small wood’). The stream is the nearby Walshaw Brook, which would seem to take its name from the village rather than vice versa.

WALTON PARK is a 5-hectare public park in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** that was formerly in **Cheshire**. The land was acquired by the local authority in 1938 and opened to the public in 1939. *Walton* is a common place name in England and usually means ‘the farmstead or settlement of the Welsh or Britons’, from the Old English *walh* + *tūn*. The name suggests that there had been an earlier Celtic settlement on or close to the site.

WARBURTON is a village on the south bank of the River **Mersey** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Wareburgetune* and *Warburgetone*, meaning the estate or village (*tūn*) of a woman called *Wærburg*. [See Domesday Book box](#)

WARDLE is a town north-east of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded as *Warhul* in 1193 and with its modern spelling in 1580. The meaning is ‘look-out hill’, from Old English *weard* (‘watch, look-out’) + *hyll*, referring to Brown *Wardle* Hill, a 400-metre-high hill north-west of the town. The name of Brown Wardle Hill suggests that modern English *hill* reduplicates Old English *hyll* because it had been reduced to *-le* and its meaning forgotten.

WARDLEWORTH is a residential area of **Rochdale**, formerly in **Lancashire**. It is recorded in about 1200 and is said to mean ‘the enclosed settlement (*worth*) close to *Wuerdle*’. See also **Wardle** and **Wuerdle**.

WARDLEY is a suburb in the north-west of the City of **Salford**. The name is recorded in 1148 as *Weardeleige* and means ‘clearing or wood (*lēah*) near a fortified place’ (*warde*: protection). (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

WARTH FOLD is a residential and recreational area south-west of **Bury**. The name is not well documented and literally means ‘animal enclosure animal enclosure’ – an example of reduplication as Old English *worth* and *fald* both mean ‘animal enclosure’.

WATCH HILL CASTLE is mediaeval castle in **Bowdon** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The site is located north of the River **Bollin**, overlooking a ford by which the old Roman road crossed the river. The name is apparently not recorded until the 19th century, but it evidently means ‘look-out hill’ from the Old English *wæcce* (‘a watch, look-out’) + *hyll*.

WATERGROVE RESERVOIR is a reservoir in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**, which was completed in 1938. It takes its name from the former village of *Watergrove*, which was evacuated and submerged when the reservoir was built. The village had originally developed in the 1840s to provide housing for *Watergrove Mill*, which was built in 1841.

WATERHEAD is a residential area of north-east **Oldham**. The name is recorded in 1648 as Watergate Mill but as Waterhead in 1844, when it was created as a parish. Both *gate* and *head* here mean ‘the source of a river or stream’, which could refer to any of the streams that rise in this area on the edge of the moors.

WATERHOUSES is a village (also known as **Daisy Nook**) and country park in **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It takes its name from *The Waterhouse*, the former name of **Medlock** Hall, a country house dating from the 15th century.

WATERLOO is a residential area of **Ashton-under-Lyne** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded in 1823 and takes its name from **Wellington**’s victory at the Battle of *Waterloo* in Belgium in June 1815. The name of the original Belgian village means ‘watery clearing’, from the Middle Dutch *water* + *loo* (‘forest, clearing’). A number of streets in the Ashton Waterloo are named after officers in the victorious army.

WATERSHEDDINGS is a residential area of north-east **Oldham**, formerly in **Lancashire**. It is recorded in 1102 as *Watersdeles*, a name that means ‘the dividing of the waters’, i.e. the watershed at the top of Pendle Hill. The name comes from Middle English *water* + *shadel* (‘parting’), a name and spelling that are still found in Watersheddles Reservoir in Lancashire, built in 1877. The modern word ‘watershed’ is not found until 1764, and it seems likely that the name of the village was rationalised at some point to align with the modern term.

WEASTE is an inner-city suburb of the City of **Salford**, previously in **Lancashire**. The name comes from the Old French *wast* or *waste*, meaning ‘uncultivated or common land’. The word is used throughout the Domesday Book

in its Latin form, *wasta*, for uninhabited land for which dues and taxes would not be paid, but Weaste in Lancashire is not mentioned. Although the name would seem to date from mediaeval times, Weaste is not well-documented. A map of 1675 calls what is now Weaste Lane 'Brewers Lane'. Weaste Hall dates from 1831.

"WEATHERFIELD" is a fictional town in **Greater Manchester** which since 1974 has been the location for the *Coronation Street* soap opera. According to *Corriepedia*, it was originally a farming area called *Bellwether Field*, meaning 'the field of the wethered ram around whose neck a bell was hung', from the Old/Middle English *belle* ('bell') + *wether* ('castrated ram') + *feld* ('field, farm'). Over time, this was simplified to Wetherfield and ultimately rationalised to Weatherfield.

WEIR MILL or **WEAR MILL** is a repurposed cotton mill in **Stockport** that is now a residential and retail centre. The **Tame** and the **Goyt** meet in central Stockport to form the River **Mersey**, which then flows west towards **Brinksway**. In this short stretch five water-powered cotton mills were built in the 1790s, each with its own weir. One of those on the south bank was named, appropriately, Weir Mill, although it had been converted to steam by 1834. One of the arches of the Stockport **Viaduct** was built over it in 1840 and part of the upper floor was demolished when the viaduct was doubled in 1888-1889. It ceased production in the 1970s and was restored in 2024 as part of Stockport's regeneration plans.

WELLINGTON BRIDGE is an 11-arch road bridge in **Stockport** that carries Wellington Road, the modern A6 and a rerouting of the old Roman Road from **Manchester** to Buxton, over the valley of the River **Mersey**. The bridge was built in 1824-1826 and was named after the Duke of *Wellington* (1769-1852), the victor at the Battle of **Waterloo** of 1815 and later prime minister.

WERNETH is a residential area of **Oldham**, formerly in **Lancashire**, about 1.5 kilometres west-south-west of Oldham town centre. **Werneth Brook** is a stream and tributary of the River **Tame** in **Hyde** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**, formerly in **Cheshire**. Both mean 'place where alder trees grow' and are derived from the Celtic *verno*, meaning 'alder trees'. Werneth in Cheshire is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as *Warnet* but Werneth in Lancashire rather later in 1226 as *Vernet*. Both are rare survivors of Celtic places names and both take their names from the wooded landscape.

WESTHOUGHTON is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**, 6 kilometres south-west of Bolton itself and 21 kilometres north-west of **Manchester** city centre. The name is recorded in about 1240 as *Westhalcton* and with its modern spelling from the 16th century. It means 'the western settlement in a nook of land', from Old English *west* ('west, western') + *halh* ('nook, corner of land') + *tūn* ('enclosure, village'). The *West* was originally to distinguish it from Little Houghton, a village name that seems to have vanished, and the nook may refer to a bend in nearby Water's Nook.

WESTLEIGH is a suburb of north-west **Leigh** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**. The name is recorded in 1238 as *Westlegh*, from Old English *West* + Old English *lēah*, meaning 'wood, clearing or meadow'. The *West* distinguishes it from Leigh itself. See also **Astley**.

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE was until 1974 one of the three ridings (i.e. third-ings) of **Yorkshire**, the ancient county named after the city of York. Since 1974, the West Riding has become simply West Yorkshire, although parts of the old West Riding around **Saddleworth** were transferred to the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** in **Greater Manchester**.

WESTWOOD is a residential area of western **Oldham**. The name is first recorded as *Westewood* in the late 13th century, from the Old English *west* + *wudu*, meaning 'place to the west of a wood or forest' or 'a forest to the west of a settlement'.

WET EARTH COLLIERY was a coal mine in **Dixon Fold** in the City of **Salford**. It was first opened in 1756 and was originally called Gal Pit from the Galloway ponies that were used there. It had to be closed because of flooding but an ingenious drainage system was devised and it re-opened in the 1760s, although the flooding problems were

recalled it its name. The mine was closed in about 1928 but the site was converted into **Clifton** Country Park, which opened in 2005. (For Lowry pictures, see Appendix 1)

WHALLEY RANGE is an inner-city area in **Moss Side** and **Withington** in the City of **Manchester**, previously in **Lancashire**. It was one of the earliest suburbs of Manchester, built in the 1830s by local banker and businessman Samuel Brooks (1793-1864). (See also **Brooklands**.) He named the area after his birthplace, Whalley in Lancashire. *Whalley* is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle as the site of a great battle of *Hwælleage* in April 798 and takes its name from the Old English *hwæl*, meaning ‘round hill’ + *lēah*, ‘clearing or settlement’.

WHARFSIDE is a regeneration area in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford** on the south bank of the **Manchester Ship Canal** opposite **Salford Quays** and including Manchester United’s **Old Trafford** stadium and the **Imperial War Museum**. The name is taken from the location beside the wharves of the Manchester Ship Canal and seems to have been devised at the time the Metrolink tram stop (originally to have been called Manchester United) was opened on 22 March 2020 with the name ‘Wharfside’.

WHELLEY is a residential area of **Wigan**, north-east of the town itself. The name is recorded in about 1160 as *Quelley* and with its modern spelling from 1553. It means ‘round settlement’, from Old English *hweol* (‘wheel; water-wheel; anything round, such as a stone circle or a curving valley or hill’) + *lēah* (‘clearing or settlement’).

WHIT BROOK is a tributary of the River **Irk** that rises south of **Rochdale** and flows south to join the Irk west of **Middleton**. The name is not well documented but means simply ‘white stream’ from the Old English *hwit* + *brōc*.

WHITEFIELD is a town in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury** that was formerly part of **Lancashire**. The name is first recorded in 1292 as *Whitefeld*, meaning ‘white field or land’, from Old English *hwīta* + *feld*. There are several theories about what the ‘white’ element might mean: long-lying snow, white flowers such as lilies, fabric laid out for bleaching or wheat fields.

WHITEHEAD GARDENS is a public park and war memorial in **Tottington** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bury**. It is named after Mr and Mrs S D *Whitehead*, who gave the garden to the people of Tottington in remembrance of the seven people who were killed when an air-launched V1 flying bomb landed on Chapel Street on 24 December 1944.

WHITE’S BRIDGE is a road bridge over the **Bridgewater Canal** in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. It was built in 1816 and named after Dr Charles *White* (1728-1813), co-founder of the Manchester Royal Infirmary, who lived nearby at Sale Priory (see **Priory Gardens**).

WHITTAKER is a village south-east of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale** that gives its name to Whittaker Woods, a 4.65-hectare area of woodland. The name is not well documented but literally means ‘white field’ from Old English *hwīt* + *æcer*.

WHITTLE HILL is a residential area of **Egerton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. It takes its name from the 470-metre high hill nearby. It is first recorded in 1292 as *Quitful* and with its modern spelling in 1612. It means ‘white or bright hill’ from the Old English *hwīt* + *hyll*. Over time, the second element (hill) was reduced to *-le*, and so the meaning was reduplicated by adding another ‘Hill’.

WHITWORTH PARK is a public park with an art gallery south of **Manchester** city centre. The park and Whitworth Art Gallery were laid out on land purchased from the will of Sir Joseph *Whitworth* (1803-1887), the engineer known for his standard screw threads. The park and gallery were donated to the City of Manchester and opened in 1890.

WICHEAVES See **PEEL**

WIGAN is a town on the River **Douglas** and, since 1974, a metropolitan borough of **Greater Manchester**. The name is first recorded in 1199 as **Wigan** and probably means ‘the dwelling or homestead of Wigan’, from the Celtic personal name *Wigan*. An alternative possibility is that it is from the Old English *wicum*, meaning ‘at the

dwelling's'. According to folk etymology, the town's name is derived from the *wiggin* tree, a variant of the rowan or mountain ash, and a wiggin tree is included on Wigan's coat of arms. 'Wiggin' is a dialect variant of Middle English *quiken*, which is also found in Wickenlow in Lancashire.

WIGAN FLASHES NATURE RESERVE is a 26-hectare country park in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan** that forms one of the 8 sites of the **Flashes of Wigan and Leigh**. It consists of wetlands formed by the subsidence of colliery workings in about 1902, and was opened in 2022. A *flash* is a mining term for a lake formed by subsidence.

WIGAN PIER was originally a wharf on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in **Wigan**. It was probably built sometime in the 18th century, when the main meaning of the word *pier* was an industrial wharf or jetty rather than an entertainment facility built over the sea. Wigan Pier became a music-hall joke and featured in a song by George Formby as well as the title of George Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier*, a 1937 study of the social conditions of Lancashire's working classes. The original Wigan Pier was demolished in about 1929 but nearby warehouses continued in use. In the 1980s they were converted into a museum of Victorian life but this closed in 2007 and current plans are to convert the buildings of Wigan Pier and **Eckersley Mill** for residential, retail and entertainment use.

WILBRAHAM ROAD is a long road in **Chorlton-cum-Hardy** and **Fallowfield** in south **Manchester**, originally built in the 1860s with large houses. It was named after *Wilbraham Egerton* (1832-1909) of **Tatton Park**, who was MP for North Cheshire and the second chairman of the **Manchester Ship Canal**.

WILDERSWOOD is a 9.7-hectare woodland north east of **Horwich** and south of Wilders Moor in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1322 as *Wilderhirst*, from Old English *wilder*, meaning 'wild animal, especially a deer'.

WILDHOUSE is an area in **Butterworth** in south-eastern **Rochdale**. A property called 'Wyld House' is recorded in the area in the late 15th century, its name literally meaning the house or home of the *Wyld* or *Wylde* family, who are known to have lived in the area since the late 13th century.

WILLOWS is a residential area north of **Daubhill** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton** dating from the 1930s. It takes its name from the nearby *Willows Lane*, which is recorded in 1762 as part of the St Helens to Bolton turnpike. The lane also formed the boundary between Bolton and **Rumworth**. Willow comes from the Old English *wilig* or *welig*.

WINDLEHURST is a small village south of **Marple** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. The name is recorded in 1759 with its modern spelling and means 'wooded hill where coarse grass grows', from the Middle English *windle* (shortened from *windel-strēaw*, meaning 'coarse grass used for making windles or woven baskets') + *hyrst* ('wooded hill').

WINDSOR is an area of **Pendleton** in the City of **Salford**, although the name seems to be falling out of use. The name is not well documented before the end of the 18th century, when Windsor Wharf was built, the Windsor Castle pub was opened in 1791, a road bridge was built over the Manchester Bolton and Bury Canal, and the New Windsor chapel was opened in 1797. The area seems to have originally been called 'New Windsor' and the name was transferred from *Windsor* in Berkshire, the name of which means 'a slope with a windlass', from the Old English *windels* ('winding-gear, a winch, a windlass') + *ōra* ('a slope, shore'). Adopting the name of a fashionable or affluent town in the south of England was especially popular in the 1790s as a process of gentrification. (For Valette paintings, see Appendix 2)

WINDY ARBOUR or **WINDY HARBOUR** is, with various spellings, found in several parts of England. There are two in Greater Manchester: **Windy Arbour**, a village in the Metropolitan Borough of **Wigan**, south-west of Wigan itself, and **Windy Harbour**, a location east of **Diggle** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**. The meaning in each case is 'windy shelter' or 'shelter from the wind', from Old English *windig* ('windy') + *here-beorg* ('shelter'). It used to be thought that the reference was to a resting place for legionnaires along a Roman road, but this theory has been challenged and it may refer simply to an exposed shelter. It seems that Windy Arbour in Wigan is not close to any Roman road, but Windy Arbour near Diggle is on the route of the Roman road from **Manchester** to **Castleshaw**.

WINGATES is a village north of **Westhoughton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Bolton**. The name is recorded in 1272 as *Windyates*, meaning 'wind gate, a gate for the wind', referring to a pass through which the wind is funnelled, from Old English *wind* + *geat* ('hole, opening, gap, pass, gate or gateway'). The village is in an area exposed to the wind.

WINNING HILL is now a residential area of **Gorton** in the City of **Manchester** which is also known as Ryder Brow. Gorton and nearby **Nico Ditch** are said to have been the site of battles between the Anglo-Saxons and the Danes in the late 9th and early 10th centuries, and it is tempting to think that the name commemorates a decisive victory. However, it is also possible that it is derived from the Middle English *win*, in the sense of reclaiming marshland or woodland for cultivation, or *whin*, meaning 'gorse'. 19th century maps also give the name Ryder Brow or Rider Brow as an alternative to Winning Hill, but the Ryder spelling seems to have been formalised with the opening of Ryder Brow railway station in 1985. The name could refer to a horseman, or a family named Ryder.

WINSTANLEY is a suburb of **Wigan**, but was part of **Lancashire** until 1974. The name is recorded in 1206 as *Unstanlesle* but its origin and modern spelling are more clearly seen in *Wynstaneslegh*, recorded in 1252. The name means 'Wynstan's clearing in a forest', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name *Wynstan* + *lēah*. The personal name may be derived from the Old English *wynn* ('joy') + *stan* ('stone') and the mediaeval village is thought to be the origin of the 'Winstanley' family name.

WINTER HILL is a 457-metre-high hill in **Bolton**. It is recorded in the 13th century as *Wintyrhold* and *Wintyrheld*, literally meaning 'winter hill' or 'winter slope'. It has been suggested that the slopes (Old English *-helde*) are sometimes covered with cotton grass, making it look as if they are covered in snow, even in summer.

WINTON is a residential area on the western edge of the City of **Salford**. The name is recorded in 1284 as *Wythynton* and as *Wynton* in 1535. It means 'settlement among willow trees', from Old English *withig* ('willow tree') or *withigen* ('growing with willows') + *tūn* ('enclosure, village').

WITHINGTON is a suburb of **Manchester**, 6.5 kilometres south of the city centre. The name is recorded in 1212 as *Withington*, from Old English *withig* ('willow tree') or *withigen* ('growing with willows') + *tūn* ('enclosure, village'). It has been suggested that the species is more likely to be the osier rather than the weeping willow.

WODEN FOOTBRIDGE or **WODEN STREET BRIDGE** over the River **Irwell** between **Ordsall** in **Salford** and **Cornbrook** in **Manchester** was built in 1873 on the site of *Woden's Ford*, an ancient crossing point that took the Roman road from Manchester to **Wigan** over the river. The ford took its name from the nearby Woden's Den, a cave in the sandstone river bank that was said to be a temple to the Saxon god *Woden*, and later a Christian hermitage. The cave was destroyed in 1808 as its owner wanted to prevent travellers from visiting it for luck before crossing the river. The bridge is also known as 'Mark Addy's Bridge' after Mark Addy (1838-1890), a Salford innkeeper and champion rower who was awarded the Albert Medal (forerunner of the George Cross) for rescuing 50 people from the Irwell.

WOLSTENHOLME is a residential area west of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in about 1180 as *Wolstonholme*, an eponym meaning 'Wulfstan's raised land in a swampy area', from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + Old Norse *holmr*. Earlier suggestions that the name is derived from the Old English for 'wolf' are now discounted.

WOMANSCROFT is a locality in north-east **Bramhall** close to Bramhall Green and **Happy Valley** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport**. Womanscroft Bridge across the **Ladybrook** was built in 1931 and replaced one from the early 18th century. However, an earlier bridge is recorded in 1637, when a landowning *woman* who 'had a house with a small *croft* and toft' was given certain legal rights, including being a juror and being 'exempt from the burden of repairing the bridge over Lady Brook, known as the Woman's Croft bridge'. Bramhall was one of only two places in England (along with Bamburgh in Northumberland) to give such rights to women at this early date.

WOODBANK MEMORIAL PARK is a 20-hectare public park in **Offerton** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Stockport** overlooking the River **Goyt**. It takes its name from *Woodbank Farm*, which was purchased in 1812 by Peter

Marsland, a local cotton manufacturer who built an estate and villa on the land. In 1920 these were sold to Sir Thomas Rowbotham, who donated the land to Stockport Council as a war *memorial*.

WOODFORD is a village outside of **Stockport** that was in **Cheshire** until 1974. It is recorded in 1248 as *Widford* and with its modern spelling from 1430. It means ‘the ford in or by a wood’ from the Old English *wudu* + *ford*, and refers to a crossing of the River **Dean** in a forest. Woodford Aerodrome was opened by the aircraft manufacturer Avro in 1924 and closed in August 2011. Part of the former airfield now houses the **Avro Heritage Museum**.

WOOD	
<i>Anglo-Saxon England was originally thickly forested and the Old English wudu means ‘forest’. There are several place names across Greater Manchester including this element and meaning:</i>	
ADSWOOD (eponym + ~)	OUTWOOD (outskirts + ~)
BRANDWOOD (burnt + ~)	RAKEWOOD (mouth of valley ~)
CHEETWOOD (wood + ~)	WESTWOOD (west + ~)
DUNWOOD (hill + ~)	WOODFORD (~ + ford)
HEYWOOD (high + ~)	WOODHOUSES (~ + property)
HOLLINWOOD (holly + ~)	WOODLEY (~ + enclosure)
HOPWOOD (valley + ~)	WOODSMOOR (~ + moor)

WOODHEYS HALL is a housing development in **Ashton upon Mersey** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. The estate dates from 1931 but the Woodheys name, meaning ‘wood enclosures’ from the Old English *wudu* + *hæh*, is recorded in 1831.

WOODHILL and **WOODHILL FOLD** are residential areas north-west of **Bury**. The name is recorded in 1563 as *Wyddell*, meaning ‘wide nook of land’, from the Old English *wīd* + *halh*, referring to a meander in the nearby River **Irwell**. Over time, the name was rationalised to ‘Woodhill’.

WOODHOUSE PARK is a residential area on the southern edge of **Wythenshawe** in south **Manchester**. It was formerly a ‘gentleman’s residence’ with its own grounds but it was purchased by Manchester Corporation in 1949 and developed for housing and recreational areas. The name literally means ‘the house in or by the woods’.

WOODHOUSES is an area south-east of **Failsworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham**, about 8 kilometres north-east of **Manchester** city centre. It is recorded before 1390 as *Woodheyas*, meaning ‘an enclosure surrounded by woods’, from Old English *wudu* (‘wood, forest’) + *haga* (‘enclosure, property’). The original meaning probably became forgotten and the name was rationalised to ‘Woodhouses’. The village of Bottom of Woodhouses is located south-west of Woodhouses.

WOODLEY is a suburb of **Stockport**, north-east of the town centre. The name is recorded in 1326 as *Wodley* or *Wodleghe* and with its modern spelling from 1615. It means ‘clearing in the wood’ from Old English *wudu* + *lēah*.

WOODS & WOODLAND

*Many places are named after a particular type of tree and we see a wide variety of different trees in the names across the county. The names also hint at the uses that the wood was put to – poles (**Bollinhurst**), brooms (**Bramhall**, **Brimrod**), brushes (**Besom Hill**), poles (**Bollinhurst**), staves (**Staley**, **Stalybridge**) and perhaps building timber (**Timperley**).*

ALDER FOREST (alder)	EAGLEY (oak)	POLEFIELD (poles)
ASH BROOK (ash)	ELLENBROOK (elder or alder tree?)	QUICK (mountain ash?)
ASHLEY HEATH (ash)	FIRSTWOOD (fir)	SALE (willow)
ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD (ash)	FIRWOOD PARK (fir)	SALFORD (willow)
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (ash)	HAZELHURST (hazel)	SHADOW MOSS (oak)
ASHWORTH MOOR (ash)	HEMPSHAW BROOK (saplings)	STALYBRIDGE (staff, stave)
ASPULL (aspen)	HOLLINGSWORTH (holly)	STALEY (staff, stave)
BEECH HILL (beech)	HOLLINS (holly)	TIMPERLEY (timber)
BESOM HILL (besom)	HOLLINWOOD (holly)	WICHEAVES (wych-elm)
BIRCH (birch)	HORWICH (grey wych elms)	WILLOWS (willows)

BIRTENSHAW (birch)
BOLLINHURST BROOK (pollard)
BRAMHALL (broom)
BRIMROD (broom)
BROAD OAK (oak)

KNUTSHAW BRIDGE (nut-bearing trees)
LIMEFIELD (lime trees)
LIMESIDE (lime trees)
OAKENBOTTOM (oak)
OGDEN (oak)

WINTON (willow)
WITHINGTON (willow)
WYTHENSHAW (willow)

WOODSMOOR is a suburb of **Stockport**, which was part of **Cheshire** until 1974. In the early 14th century the area was known as Snibbs Moor, from *Snibb*, another word for bog. However, it is also known that it was wooded in mediaeval times, so that Woods Moor, first recorded in 1764, probably means ‘the woods by the moor’.

WOOLLEY BRIDGE is a small residential area on the edge of **Hollingworth** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Tameside**. It is recorded in 1286 as *Woleg* and as *Woolley* from 1400. The first record with *Bridge* is 1842. It means ‘clearing of wolves’, from Old English *wulf* + *lēah*.

WORSLEY is a village in the City of **Salford** about 10 kilometres west of the centre of **Manchester**. The **Bridgewater Canal** originally terminated at Worsley when it was opened in 1761 but it was later extended westward to Runcorn in Cheshire. The name is recorded in 1196 as *Werkesleia*, meaning ‘the woodland or clearing (Old English *-lēah*) belonging to a woman called Weorcgyth or a man called Weorchæth’.

WORSLEY MESNES is a suburb of **Wigan**, south of the town centre. The name is not well documented but it can be traced back at least as far as the 17th century, when a country house with this name is recorded. It consists of three elements. The third is from the Anglo-Norman *demesnes*, meaning ‘the domain or manor of’ a particular landowner. The first and second are presumably far older, coming from the Old English Anglo-Saxon personal name *Weorcgyth* + *-lēah* (‘clearing’). The area includes Mesnes Park, a large public park opened in 1927.

WORTHINGTON is a thinly-populated area about 6.5 kilometres north of **Wigan** which also gives its name to Worthington Lakes reservoirs and Worthington Lakes Country Park. The name is recorded in 1210 as *Worthinton*, meaning ‘*Worth’s* village’, from the Anglo-Saxon personal name + *ing* (‘named after, belonging to’) + *tūn* (‘enclosure, village’). The three reservoirs are fed by the River **Douglas** and were built in the mid-19th century to supply Wigan and now form part of the 20-hectare country park.

WORTHINGTON PARK is a 6.5-hectare public park in **Sale** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Trafford**. At the end of the 19th century the local authority wanted to develop a public park in Sale to celebrate Queen **Victoria’s** diamond jubilee but the funding was not approved. However, Mary *Worthington* of Sale Old Hall provided the funding and she opened the park on 30 June 1900, which was named Sale Park. In 1950, 50 years after the park was opened, it was renamed in memory Mary Worthington.

WUERDLE is a residential area west of **Littleborough** in the Metropolitan Borough of **Rochdale**. The name is recorded in about 1180 as *Werdull*, possibly meaning ‘the clearing where troops are stationed’, from Old English *weorod* (‘army’) + *lēah* (wood, clearing). Nearby **Wardle** means ‘look-out hill’ and it has been suggested that the troops keeping watch on Wardle Hill were stationed in Wuerdle.

WYTHENSHAW is today a district in south **Manchester** which was formerly in **Cheshire**. The name is recorded in the 13th century as *Witenscawe* and with its modern spelling in 1548. It means ‘willow copse’, from the Old English *wīthign* (‘withy tree, willow’) + *sceaga* (‘copse, small wood’). The name originally applied only to a country house called Wythenshawe Hall, but in 1931 **Baguley**, **Northenden** and Northen **Ethchells** were all transferred to the City of Manchester and collectively became known as ‘Wythenshawe’. In the 1920s and 1930s it was the location for large-scale development, forming a council housing estate over 2000 hectares in area – the largest in Europe at the time.

XYZ

YELLOW BROOK is a stream which rises in **Haigh** Woodland Park and flows west to join the River **Douglas** in **Wigan**. It takes its name from its *yellow* colour, which comes from the iron in the water as it drains from mine workings.

YORKSHIRE is the traditional name for the county in north-east England that was previously divided into three Ridings (i.e. thirdings) – North, East and West. In 1974, it was divided into four counties – North Yorkshire, East Yorkshire, South Yorkshire and **West Yorkshire** – although some parts of **Saddleworth** in West Yorkshire are now administered as part of the Metropolitan Borough of **Oldham** in **Greater Manchester**. Yorkshire is derived from the city of *York* + Old English *scīr* ('district'). York itself dates from about AD 150 and probably means 'place of the yew trees'.

APPENDIX 1: LOWRY LOCATIONS IN GREATER MANCHESTER

Of all the cities in Britain, 20th-century Manchester is probably the best documented, largely through the work of Laurence Stephen Lowry (1887-1976). Lowry was born in Stretford and spent his youth in Rusholme, but the family moved to Pendlebury in 1909. He studied at the Manchester School of Art, where he was taught by the French Impressionist, Adolphe Valette (*see* Appendix 2), and later at the Royal Technical Institute in Salford. Although he was recognised as an accomplished artist during his lifetime, he continued to work for a property company until his retirement in 1952. He moved to Mottram in Longdendale in 1948 and died in hospital in Glossop at the age of 88.

Many of Lowry's works are 'composites', combining elements from different places with imaginary scenes. However, many do depict actual identifiable places in what is now Greater Manchester. These locations are listed below.

LOCATION	TITLE	DATE	NOTES
ADELPHI	<i>The River Irwell at the Adelphi</i>	1924	
AGECROFT	<i>Agecroft Regatta</i>	1949	
ANCOATS	<i>Great Ancoats Street</i>	c.1929	
	<i>Great Ancoats Street, Manchester</i>	1930	
	<i>Ancoats Hospital Outpatients' Hall</i>	1952	
	<i>Ancoats Hospital Outpatients' Hall</i>	u/d	
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE	<i>Industrial Landscape</i>	1952	
BROUGHTON	<i>A View from the Window of Royal Technical College, Salford, Looking towards Broughton</i>	1925	
	<i>Houses in Broughton</i>	1937	
BURNDEN	<i>Going to the Match</i>	1953	Bolton Wanderers' football ground
CHEADLE HULME	<i>The Drive, 'Oaklands'</i>	1947	
	<i>Portrait of a House</i>	c.1947	
	<i>Portrait of a House</i>	1954	
CHORLTON-ON-MEDLOCK	<i>David Lloyd George's Birthplace</i>	1958	House demolished 1957
CLIFTON	<i>Wet Earth Colliery, Clifton</i>	1925	Now Clifton Country Park
	<i>Clifton Junction, Morning</i>	1910	
	<i>Clifton Junction, Evening</i>	1910	
	<i>A Footbridge</i>	1944	Pack Saddle or Roving Bridge
COLLYHURST	<i>A Footbridge</i>	1938	Also known as 'Barney's Steps'
CORONATION STREET, Salford	<i>Coronation Street</i>	1957	
CRIME LAKE	<i>Crime Lake</i>	1942	
CROWTHER STREET, Stockport	<i>Crowther Street, Stockport</i>	1930	Original houses demolished in the
	<i>Crowther Street, Stockport</i>	1934	1960s but restored early in the 2000s
DAISY NOOK, Droylsden	<i>Lancashire Fair, Good Friday, Daisy Nook</i>	1946	
	<i>The Fairground</i>	1949	
	<i>Fairground at Daisy Nook</i>	1956	
DIXON FOLD	<i>Wet Earth Colliery, Clifton</i>	1925	Now Clifton Country Park
ECCLES	<i>Eccles Railway Station</i>	1963	
EXCHANGE STATION	<i>Station Approach</i>	1960	
	<i>Station Approach</i>	1962	
FAILSWORTH	<i>Old Road, Failsworth</i>	1957	
	<i>Children Playing, Old Road, Failsworth</i>	1957	
FAIRFIELD	<i>The Canal Bridge</i>	1944	
GATLEY	<i>The Empty House</i>	1934	
	<i>Old House</i>	1936	
	<i>Old House, Gatley</i>	1937	
GAYTHORN	<i>Oldfield Road Dwelling</i>	1927	
	<i>Oldfield Road Dwellings</i>	1929	
River IRWELL	<i>The River Irwell at the Adelphi</i>	1924	
	<i>A View of the River Irwell from Peel Park</i>	1924	
	<i>River Irwell at Salford</i>	c.1924	
	<i>River Scene/Industrial Landscape</i>	1935	
	<i>The Lake</i>	1937	
	<i>River Scene</i>	1942	
	<i>River Irwell at Salford</i>	1947	
	<i>A River Bank</i>	1947	
	<i>The Agecroft Regatta</i>	1948	
MANCHESTER	<i>St John's Church, Deansgate</i>	1920	
	<i>Sketch of St John's, Manchester</i>	c.1920	

LOCATION	TITLE	DATE	NOTES
MIDDLETON MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE PEEL PARK, Salford	<i>St John's Church, Manchester</i>	1928	Collyhurst footbridge
	<i>The Viaduct, Store Street, Manchester</i>	1929	
	<i>St John's Church</i>	1938	
	<i>A Footbridge</i>	1938	
	<i>After the Blitz</i>	1942	
	<i>Manchester Blitz/St Augustine's Church, Hulme</i>	1943	Mather & Platt Works
	<i>Going to Work</i>	1943	
	<i>Going to Work</i>	1944	
	<i>St Augustine's Church, Manchester</i>	1945	Destroyed in Manchester blitz
	<i>Industrial Landscape</i>	1955	Mather & Platt Works
	<i>Reference Library</i>	1972	Now Manchester Central Library
	<i>Old Church and Steps</i>	1960	Lowry's home:
	<i>Agricultural Fair</i>	1949	
	<i>The Hat Rack</i>	1966	
	<i>Peel Park Sketch</i>	1919	
	<i>Peel Park Sketch</i>	1920	
PENDLEBURY	<i>Bandstand, Peel Park</i>	1924	Date tbc
	<i>A View of the River Irwell from Peel Park</i>	1924	
	<i>A View from the Window of Royal Technical College, Salford, Looking towards Manchester</i>	1924	
	<i>Bandstand, Peel Park</i>	1925	
	<i>A View from the Window of Royal Technical College, Salford, Looking towards Broughton</i>	1925	
	<i>The Terrace, Peel Park, Salford</i>	1927	Acme Mill
	<i>Peel Park, Salford</i>	1927	
	<i>Peel Park, Sketch</i>	c.1927	
	<i>Bandstand, Peel Park</i>	1928	
	<i>The Steps, Peel Park, Salford</i>	1930	
	<i>The Bandstand, Peel Park</i>	1931	Annual Whit-Thursday procession
	<i>Peel Park, Salford</i>	1944	
	<i>The Park</i>	1946	
	<i>The Bandstand, Peel Park</i>	c.1954	
	<i>St Augustine's Church, Pendlebury</i>	1920	
	<i>St Augustine's Church, Pendlebury</i>	1924	
	<i>Old Farm in Pendlebury</i>	1925	
	<i>St Augustine's Church, Pendlebury</i>	1930	
	<i>Pendlebury Scene</i>	1931	Annual Whit-Thursday procession
	<i>Street Scene</i>	1935	
	<i>View in Pendlebury</i>	1936	
	<i>Figures in a Lane</i>	1936	
	<i>The Procession</i>	1937	
PICCADILLY	<i>Albion Mill</i>	1941	Annual Whit-Thursday procession
	<i>Winter in Pendlebury</i>	1943	
	<i>The Mill, Pendlebury</i>	1943	
	<i>Mill Scene with Figures</i>	1944	
	<i>Iron Works</i>	1947	
POLICE STREET, Eccles PRESTWICH RAMSBOTTOM	<i>Street in Pendlebury</i>	1948	Annual Whit-Thursday procession
	<i>Pendlebury Market</i>	u/d	
	<i>The Railway Platform</i>	1953	
	<i>Piccadilly</i>	1930	
	<i>Piccadilly Gardens</i>	1954	
RICHMOND HILL, Salford	<i>Piccadilly, Manchester</i>	c.1957	Annual Whit-Thursday procession
	<i>The Arrest</i>	1927	
	<i>Prestwich Clough</i>	1914	
	<i>The Railway Steps, Ramsbottom</i>	1945	
	<i>The Steps</i>	1957	
ST MICHAEL'S FLAGS & ANGEL MEADOW PARK	<i>Richmond Hill, Salford</i>	1925	Date tbc
	<i>Richmond Hill, Salford</i>	1957	
	<i>Playground</i>	c.1927	
	<i>The Steps, Irk Place</i>	1928	
	<i>Lancashire Street</i>	1929	
	<i>St Michael's Church and All Angels – Study</i>	1933	
	<i>View of a Town</i>	1936	

LOCATION	TITLE	DATE	NOTES
ST PETER'S SQUARE SALFORD	<i>St Michael's Church and All Angels</i>	1941	
	<i>Street Scene</i>	1941	
	<i>Britain at Play</i>	1943	
	<i>Street Scene with Figures</i>	1944	
	<i>Street Scene</i>	1947	
	<i>Reference Library</i>	1972	Now Manchester Central Library
	<i>Salford Street Scene</i>	1922	
	<i>The Flat Iron Market</i>	c.1925	
	<i>Belle Vue House, Leaf Square, Salford</i>	1925	
	<i>Behind Leaf Square</i>	1925	
	<i>The County Court</i>	1926	
	<i>The Tower, Leaf Square</i>	1926	
	<i>An Old Lamp, Behind Leaf Square</i>	1926	
	<i>By Christ Church, Salford</i>	1926	
	<i>By the County Court, Salford</i>	1926	
	<i>By St Philip's Church, Salford</i>	1926	
	<i>Hulme Place, Salford</i>	1926	
	<i>Dwelling, Ordsall Lane, Salford</i>	1927	
	<i>A Street Scene, St Simon's Church</i>	1927	
	<i>St Simon's Church</i>	c.1927	
	<i>A Street Scene, St Simon's Church</i>	1928	Church demolished in 1927
	<i>Salford Street Scene</i>	1928	
	<i>The Gateway</i>	1931	
	<i>The Corner Shop</i>	1943	Islington Square
	<i>A Footbridge</i>	1944	Pack Saddle or Roving Bridge
	<i>The Old House, Grove Street, Salford</i>	1948	
	<i>The Factory Gate</i>	1951	
	<i>Early Morning</i>	1954	
	<i>St Stephen's Church, Salford</i>	1956	
	<i>Chapel, St Stephen's Church, Salford</i>	1956	
	<i>North James Henry Street, Salford</i>	1956	
	<i>Christ Church, Salford</i>	1956	
	<i>Francis Terrace, Salford</i>	1956	
	<i>Francis Street, Salford</i>	1957	
	<i>Sunday Afternoon</i>	1957	
	<i>Man Going to Work/Figure in a Gateway</i>	1964	
	<i>Church in Salford/St Philip's Church</i>	1965	
STOCKPORT	<i>The Stepped Street</i>	1929	
	<i>Mealhouse Brow</i>	1929	
	<i>Crowther Street, Stockport</i>	1930	Original houses demolished in the
	<i>Crowther Street, Stockport</i>	1934	1960s but restored early in the 2000s
	<i>Stockport Viaduct</i>	1942	
	<i>Stockport Viaduct</i>	1943	
	<i>Stockport Viaduct</i>	1944	
	<i>The Viaduct, Stockport</i>	c.1950s	
SWINTON	<i>Old Steps, Mealhouse Brow</i>	1969	
	<i>Arden's Farm</i>	c.1909	
	<i>Wardley Farm, Swinton Moss</i>	1913	
	<i>St Mary's Church, Swinton</i>	1913	
	<i>Swinton Moss</i>	1922	
	<i>Swinton Industrial Schools</i>	1930	
TOMMYFIELDS MARKET, Oldham	<i>St Mary's Church, Swinton</i>	1960	
	<i>Selling Oilcloth on the Oldham Road</i>	1914	
WARDLEY	<i>The Lino Market</i>	1955	
	<i>Wardley Farm, Swinton Moss</i>	1913	
WIGAN	<i>Industrial Landscape/Landscape in Wigan</i>	1925	

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APPENDIX 2: VALETTE LOCATIONS IN GREATER MANCHESTER

Pierre Adolphe Valette (1876-1942) was born in Saint-Étienne in France and was already something of an established painter when he came to London in 1904. In 1905 he moved to Manchester and initially designed cards and calendars for a printing company but in 1907 he obtained a teaching post at the Manchester Municipal School of Art, where he famously taught L S Lowry. Over the next 10 years he painted a series of pictures of the streets, squares, stations and bridges of foggy Manchester. In about 1917 he changed his style, preferring portraits and landscapes to the grimy cityscapes of Manchester. He resigned his teaching post in 1920 and returned to France in 1928, where he died in 1942. The locations of Valette's Manchester paintings are listed below.

LOCATION	PICTURE TITLE	DATE	NOTES
ALBERT SQUARE, Manchester	<i>Albert Square, Manchester</i>	1910	
ALL SAINTS/GROSVENOR SQUARE	<i>Hansom Cab at All Saints</i>	1910	All Saints church was damaged in the blitz of 1940 and demolished in 1946
	<i>Old Cab at All Saints</i>	1911	
	<i>Presbyterian Church, All Saints</i>	tbc	
CENTRAL STATION	<i>Central Station</i>	1910-11	
River IRWELL	<i>Windsor Bridge on the Irwell</i>	1909	Actually depicts Irwell Street Bridge
	<i>Manchester Cathedral, Looking up the River Irwell from Bailey Bridge</i>	1909	
	<i>Bailey Bridge</i>	1912	
	<i>Under Windsor Bridge on the Irwell</i>	1912	Actually depicts Irwell Street Bridge
MANCHESTER	<i>Rooftops, Manchester</i>	Tbc	
	<i>Manchester Cathedral, Looking up the River Irwell from Bailey Bridge</i>	1909	
	<i>Plymouth Grove, July</i>	1909	
	<i>Street Scene, Manchester</i>	1912	
	<i>York Street Leading to Charles Street</i>	1913	
	<i>Manchester Street in the Fog</i>	c.1910	
	<i>Manchester Suburban Scene</i>	tbc	
MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL	<i>Ship Canal, Sunset</i>	c.1908	
	<i>Manchester Ship Canal and Warehouses</i>	1908	
	<i>Trafford Road Swing Bridge</i>	c.1910	
	<i>Trafford Bridge and Pomona Dock</i>	tbc	
	<i>Tug on a Canal in Manchester</i>	tbc	
River MEDLOCK	<i>India House</i>	1912	
NEW BAILEY BRIDGE	<i>Manchester Cathedral, Looking up the River Irwell from Bailey Bridge</i>	1909	
	<i>Bailey Bridge</i>	1912	
OXFORD ROAD, Manchester	<i>Oxford Road, Manchester</i>	1910	
	<i>Houses on Oxford Street, Sunset</i>		
PLYMOUTH GROVE, Manchester	<i>Plymouth Grove, July</i>	1909	
ROMILEY	<i>Romiley</i>	1916	
ST PETER'S SQUARE, Manchester	<i>St Peter's Square, Manchester</i>	tbc	
SALE	<i>Sale, near Manchester</i>	1907	
SALFORD	<i>Castlegate, Salford</i>	1912	
WINDSOR BRIDGE	<i>Windsor Bridge on the Irwell</i>	1909	Both paintings in fact depict the Irwell Street Bridge, not Windsor Bridge
	<i>Under Windsor Bridge on the Irwell</i>	1912	

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & SOURCES

This book has largely been compiled through desk research – gathering the work of earlier scholars rather than carrying out any original research. The works of the standard authors on the place names of Britain and north-west England over the past 150 years have all been consulted. These are listed below and I readily acknowledge my great debt to them. However, many smaller and more recently-named places are not included in these books and so I have spent countless hours searching countless websites to explore such place names. Especially useful were those of the many local historians, archaeologists and conservationists who have researched the place names of Greater Manchester in great detail and depth. This is not intended to be a scholarly reference work and these websites are too numerous to list here, but particular mention should be made of the following: Aidan O'Rourke, Allan Russell, Andrew Simpson, the *Bolton News*, British History Online; the English Place Name Society, the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, *Grace's Guide*, the *Manchester Evening News*, National Heritage List for England, the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Surname DB, *Wikipedia*.

I should particularly like to thank Dr Ann Cole and Dr Wendy Scarlin for scrutinizing and correcting the original text, and for their invaluable advice. All errors and omissions are my own responsibility.

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