

Introduction

This survey and recommendations have been prepared by a small group of representatives of the local community, working in conjunction with pupils and a staff member from Christleton High School. For simplicity, on each Nomination Form we have stated the nomination to be by Christleton Heritage Group, (CHG), adding the responsible pupil name where appropriate.

The boundaries of the Civil Parish of Christleton are currently being revised. This survey includes all the existing built-up area of the Parish - additional work will be needed to check other areas, particularly the farming areas to the east.

Prior to 1945 most of the built-up area of the village was tightly packed along the parts of Village Road, Pepper Street, Little Heath Road and Birch Heath Lane which are nearest to the small village green - all this area, plus a limited strip of development adjacent to the canal and A41 is included in the village Conservation Area. Newer developments, mainly to the east and south of the village centre, were included in the survey but have resulted in few recommendations, other than those made in our comments on part of Woodfields (former Council housing - submission no.15) which we believe should be included in an extension of the Conservation Area.

On the Nomination forms we have drawn attention to our surprise that the Grange on Village Road is not a Listed building (submission no.1). In looking through those features that are Listed, we have been surprised at some of the inclusions, and wonder if the 60ft deep well (no.10) adjacent to the Village Green, and the ice house (no.33) within the High School boundary are not of equal value and worthy of Listing.

Field ponds are, and have been, a significant feature of the Parish - in the Church of England Tithe documents of 1844, 152 are recorded, this number having reduced to 80 in a survey undertaken by the Civil Parish Council in conjunction with John Moores University in 1995. Most of the ponds must have been dug to obtain marl to improve farmland, and as they subsequently flooded, many must have been used to water cattle. Arguably many of the ponds are Heritage features, but in this survey we have recommended the inclusion of just four as being the most significant - the Pit, a sandstone paved pond, the Abbott's well, and a diverter pond adjacent to the canal.

Contact with CHG is best made through the Clerk to Christleton Parish Council and details are given on each nomination form.