

Harris Park (Former Harris Orphanage)

Conservation Area Appraisal

November 2017



Summary of Special Interest

- The site is an important early example of the 'village homes' orphanage pioneered by Dr Thomas Barnardo using individual domestic scale homes set within enclosed landscaped grounds.
- The development of the site is an example of Victorian philanthropy by Edmund Robert Harris who bequeathed money for the Harris Library and Museum and the Harris Institute.
- It includes a remarkably intact purpose-designed orphanage of the period; a complex of buildings and landscape serving a fully functioning community.
- Harris Park is the only group of buildings of its type to be included on the statutory list of buildings of architectural or historic interest compiled by Historic England.
- The site includes an important example of landscaped grounds laid out in an informal manner influenced by Edward Milner and Joseph Paxton, two eminent landscape designers of their time.
- The landscaping was designed and coordinated by the Superintendent of Preston Parks, George Rowbotham.
- The site includes good building stock of attractive and well-built houses of a 'vernacular revival' style following the trend of suburban, middle-class houses.
- The buildings were designed by Benjamin Sykes of Garlick, Park and Sykes, a notable local and regional architect.
- The site is an illustration of national social reform when there was a shift from the provision of shelter at the workhouse to social care and aid.

Contents	Page
1. Background	1
2. Review and Updating	1
2.1 National Planning Policy	1
2.2 Local Planning Policy	2
3.0 Introduction	2
4.0 Character Assessment	2
4.1 Location and Context	2
4.2 General Character and Plan Form	3
4.3 Origins and Development	4
4.4 Character and Appearance	6
4.5 Setting, Views and Vistas	7
4.6 Architectural Built Quality and Form	10
4.7 Contribution of Soft Landscaping	10
5.0 Condition	11
6.0 SWOT Analysis	13
7.0 Management, Monitoring and Review	13
8.0 References	13
8.1 Legislation and guidance	13
8.2 Local History archives and Libraries	14
8.3 List of Figures	14
Appendix 1 Designated Heritage Assets	

1. Background

A conservation area is defined by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (as amended) (referred to as 'the Act') as an area 'of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. The Harris Knowledge Park (former Harris Orphanage) Conservation Area* (*Harris Park) was originally designated in 1984 by Preston Borough Council and amended in 2007 extending the boundary so that it corresponded to that of the entry in the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest*. The previous character appraisal was carried out in 2007.

Designation places certain duties on local authorities including the requirement to review the overall extent of designation in their areas regularly and, if appropriate, to designate additional areas. Designation remains the principal means by which local authorities can apply conservation policies to a particular area which include:

- the control over the demolition of unlisted buildings;
- the advertisement of planning applications for development that would affect the character or appearance of the area; and
- the requirement for the submission of notifications for works to trees.

2. Review and Updating

Section 69(2) of the Act imposes a duty on local authorities to review their conservation areas from time to time and Section 71 requires local authorities to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas.

When reviewing a conservation area it is important to re-assess the special interest identified through surveying and recording the streets, buildings, thoroughfares and open spaces within the area's boundary. If the original outlined area has been so eroded by subsequent changes that its character is no longer special, boundary revisions or even cancellation of designation may need to be considered.

Fittingly the assessment should be considered against the current legislation, planning policies and conservation principles. This will provide an accurate and valid appraisal.

2.1 National Planning Policy

The Government's planning policies for England are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework), which was published in March 2012. The policies directly addressing the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment are contained in chapter 12. The Framework clearly states in paragraph 127 'when considering the designation of conservation areas, local planning authorities should ensure that an area justifies such status because of its special architectural or historic interest, and that the concept of conservation is not devalued through the designation of areas that lack special interest'.

Furthermore when determining planning applications LPAs should take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.

2.2 Local Planning Policy

The Development Plan for Preston comprises the Central Lancashire Core Strategy, adopted in 2012 and the Local Plan which was adopted in 2015. It also includes the City Centre Plan and the Inner Easter Preston Neighbourhood Plan although neither of these are relevant to this conservation area.

The relevant policies are as follows:

Core Strategy

- Policy 16 – Heritage Assets

Local Plan

- Policy EN8 – Development and Heritage Assets

3.0 Introduction

The Harris Park Conservation Area was designated by Preston Borough Council in 1984 and the latest conservation area character appraisal was produced in 2007 when the boundary was extended. The conservation area has an area of 6.2 hectares.

The scope and nature of the appraisal is to re-assess the special historic interest of the area in line with current legislation, national and local planning policies and guidance produced by Historic England. The objective is to understand and articulate why the area is special and what elements within the area contribute to this special quality and those which do not.

The assessment will outline the historic development of the area and evaluate the condition of the historic environment through consideration of issues such as forms of buildings and the type and condition of designated and non-designated heritage assets. Other issues include aspect, historic and current land use.

4.0 Character Assessment

4.1 Location and Context

The Harris Park Conservation Area is located to the north of Preston city centre in the suburb of Fulwood accessed off the western side of Garstang Road which is the principal thoroughfare into Preston from the north. The built environment is predominantly residential with pockets of commercial and institutional uses including schools and colleges nearby. To the south of the site is Kings Drive and to the north is Queen's Drive, both entirely residential roads lined with interwar housing. Directly opposite on the eastern side of Garstang Road is a care home for the elderly Little Sisters of the Poor and to the west of the site is residential development. King's Drive is located in the Fulwood Conservation Area which is south and south east of the Harris Park Conservation Area.

The site is a former children's home that was developed in the late 19th century by the Harris Trustees set up by Edmund Robert Harris. The site comprises of 12 statutory designated heritage assets (Grade II listed) including eight houses, a chapel, a war memorial, a lodge and gate piers. The whole area is a Grade II Registered Historic Park and was included in the Register on the 14th December 2001. On the edge of the conservation area boundary is a Grade II listed milestone.



Figure 1 Harris Park Conservation Area boundary in blue, listed buildings in red

4.2 General Character and Plan Form

Harris Park is an early example of a charitable orphanage laid out in 1884-1888. The orphanage buildings are laid out as a 'village' clustered around a village green with playing fields to the west that originally included an orchard. The buildings are set in a landscaped park with few boundaries within the site and where individual gardens open straight out onto the green. There is no distinction between public and private space through formal boundaries as planting was originally used to enclose the paths and houses. A carriageway runs around the site bringing it together as a single composition of buildings and landscape designed as a piece. The north row of houses faces inwards towards the central green whilst the south row of houses faces away from it as does the school master's building and school. The built portion of the site is closer to Garstang Road but the buildings are substantially set back with a definitive boundary of foliage and railings. The aerial photograph below shows the horseshoe arrangement of the buildings with the green in the centre and the playing fields to the north west.



Figure 2 Aerial view of Harris Park looking north C1981

4.3 Origins and Development

The site was originally open agricultural land with orchards at the western boundary and established historic field boundaries.



Figure 3 OS Map 1844-1850

During the 19th century Fulwood developed rapidly and it was during this time of industrial development in Preston with all its wider social consequences that several institutions were built on the outskirts of the city centre in the cleaner environment of Fulwood; the Union Workhouse, the home for the elderly run by the Little Sisters of the Poor, the Derby Home for the Blind, St Vincent's Poor Law School and the Harris Orphanage.

The origins of the orphanage started with the Harris Trustees who bought the land specifically for the orphanage in 1881. At the time of the purchase the land was still open agricultural land as shown in figure 3. As it was a large plot covering just over 6 hectares, the 'Building Committee' was able to build in the village home style pioneered by Dr Barnardo at the Girls' Village Home in Barkingside in the London Borough of Redbridge, which opened in 1876 and consisted of a collection of cottages around a green, housing 1,500 girls. By comparison the Harris Orphanage was more modest and was to provide homes for 120 boys and girls whose

parents had lived within eight miles of Preston for at least a year. The orphanage opened in 1888 and was run by the trustees.



Figure 4 View of girls' village homes, Barkingside (from the Barnardo Society website)

The original area covered by the Children's Home included the recreation ground to the west of the orphanage buildings. The buildings along the northern row with their principal elevations facing the green were used for the girls. The buildings along the southern row that face south away from the green were the boys' accommodation.

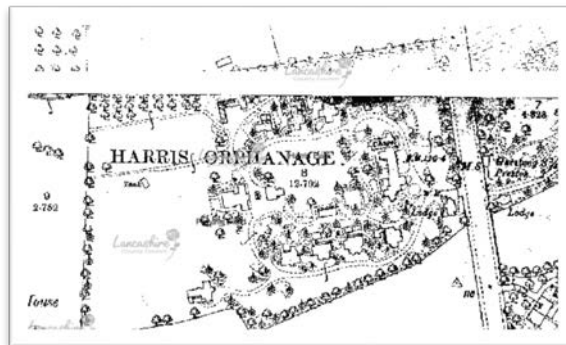


Figure 5 OS Map 1890

The OS Map of 1931 shows the area more clearly and that development had begun to the south of the site along Kings Drive.

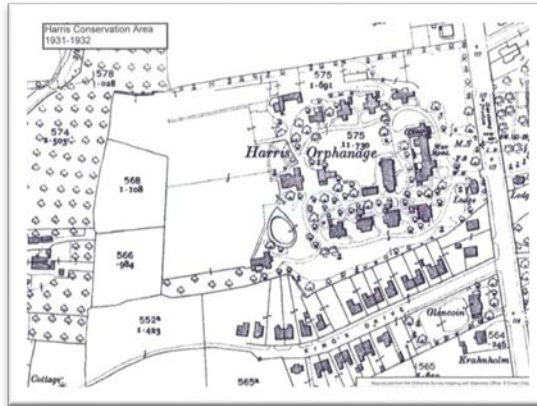


Figure 6 OS Map 1931

The OS Map of 1968 shows how residential development in the vicinity of the site had changed the landscape from largely agricultural to suburban.

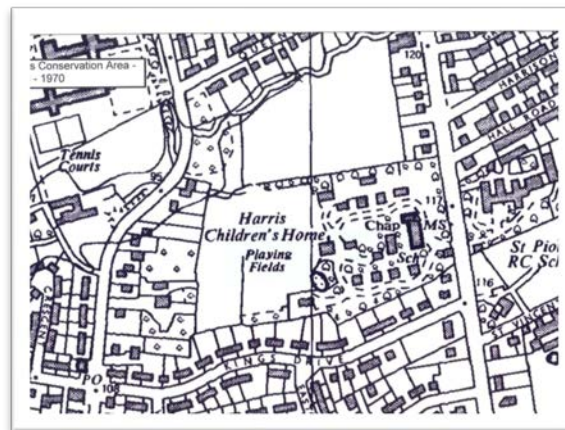


Figure 7 OS Map 1968

In 1940 the orphanage was leased to Lancashire County Council who continued to run it until 1982 when the orphanage use ceased. It was then leased to Preston Polytechnic which bought the site in 1985 for use as student accommodation. In 2000 the Polytechnic became the University of Central Lancashire and the site was developed as the Harris Knowledge Park until 2006 when the site was put up for sale again. The site is now in private ownership. The green was used as a cricket ground up until 2012-13 when the cricket team relocated.

4.4 Character and Appearance

The character of the conservation area derives from:

- A rare and intact purpose built and designed orphanage; the only one to be included in the statutory list of buildings of architectural and historic interest compiled by Historic England;
- A complete site of buildings and landscape serving a fully functioning community;
- The layout of the buildings around a village green;
- The absence of formalised boundaries within the site;
- The layout of the buildings in a well-balanced composition;
- The strong focus provided by the chapel and the village green;

- The design of the orphanage buildings or ‘villas’ in a consistent and impressive style;
- The design of the landscape by George Rowbotham, Preston Parks Superintendent who was influenced by the fashionable designers of the day; Edward Milner and Joseph Paxton. The design includes key views and set pieces;
- The open spaces, green areas, gardens and trees are as important as the built environment;
- Its association with Edmund Robert Harris, a local philanthropist who also donated money for the Harris Museum and the Harris Institute; and
- The presence of the World War 1 memorial, grade II listed, has symbolic values associated with the orphanage.

These elements create an intact and comprehensively designed and unique site that illustrate a key turning point in the provision of care for orphaned children. The professionally designed buildings and landscape create a harmonious and distinctive aesthetic.

4.5 Setting, Views and Vistas

The conservation area is within the leafy suburban district of Fulwood, north of the city centre. The eastern boundary is Garstang Road, a busy thoroughfare where large, Victorian villas set in large gardens have created an attractive route into Preston. Kings Drive, to the south is also an attractive road of inter war semi-detached and detached housing that compliments Harris Park. Along the west and the north boundaries are housing of a smaller and more standardised character that does not reflect or complement the style of the Harris Park Conservation Area.

Views into the site are limited and glimpsed with three sides being landlocked and the only entrance to the site being off Garstang Road. The boundary treatment is large metal railings, gates and gate piers backed with foliage and trees. This was the original design intention as part of the approach to provide a secure environment for the children.

Within the site views and vistas were created across the central green towards to the buildings. Particular views of note include:



Figure 8 from north-east corner of the park looking west



Figure 9 view south-west to Clayton Hall and the Green



Figure 10 view east from west edge of The Green



Figure 11 view looking across the playing fields looking west



Figure 12 view west across the Green to buildings on the south row



Figure 13 view from Glenrosa (Bldg.4) towards Clayton Hall (left) with buildings beyond planted mound to right of picture



Figure 14 view from the north looking at the north row of buildings showing a visual and physical break towards the central Green



Figure 15 Map showing key views

4.6 Architectural Built Quality and Form

Throughout the site the buildings are of a high quality with all eight of the villas being Grade II listed heritage assets. The architectural style, massing, scale and building materials are consistent and this gives the site its distinctive character and homogeneity.

The buildings are traditionally constructed of red brick with sandstone dressing. The roofs overhang and are covered with slate. The roof design is steeply pitched with tall chimneys and projecting gable features and timber boarding. There are bay windows to some elevations and porch features over the entrance doors.

Described as 'vernacular revival' the architectural style shows similarities to other turn of the century architecture such as the arts and crafts where traditional, local materials were used to designs that would age well and give a domestic appearance.

There are some unlisted buildings in the conservation area that include Pond House, the former infirmary, the former laundry block, the former gymnasium, a stable block and a cottage. A cricket pavilion was on site but has been demolished.

4.7 Contribution of Soft Landscaping

The conservation area also derives its special interest from the landscape which was designed specifically to accommodate the functions of an orphanage and used contemporary design vocabulary strongly influenced by fashionable park designers of the day such as John Claudius Loudon (1783-1843), Joseph Paxton (1803-65), Edward Milner (1819-1884) and Edward Kemp (1817-91). These designers considered landscape compositions as art forms relying on line, form, shade and colour.

A typical feature of Loudon's and Paxton's landscapes was the use of earth modelling associated with walks and drives and often planted to complement the landscape form.



Figure 16 example of landscaping mound

Principal features of these parks were curving paths and integrated and subtle mounding. The mounding is used between the buildings to create smaller and informal spaces. Often trees were used to emphasize height or display specimens. Much of the planting within the conservation area is either overgrown or has been lost over time.

5.0 Condition

Two properties are currently occupied (Beach and Ashleigh House). Clayton Hall, Pond House and Glenrosa were occupied until recently but are now vacant. The remaining buildings are vacant. Many are in decline and are showing signs of water ingress and lack of maintenance.

The village green, the playing fields and the lawn areas are regularly mowed but the planting and shrubbery is over grown. The railings and gate piers are well maintained and look robust.



Figure 17 overgrown and self-seeded shrubs and trees



Figure 18 overgrown shrubbery



Figure 19 former laundry building, windows blocked up with security grilles and walls in need of re-pointing



Figure 20 staining and efflorescence on the brickwork



Figure 21 peeling paint on the timber bargeboards

6.0 SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Impressive building stock and a consistent palette of materials
- High quality architectural design and detailing
- High quantity of designated heritage assets
- Some survival of high quality designed landscaping
- Strong historic associations with local philanthropists, designers and architects
- High quality open space in a suburban area

Weaknesses

- The condition of some of the buildings is deteriorating

Opportunities

- Redevelopment of the existing buildings in a sympathetic manner that respects their historic interest and integrity

Threats

- High level of vacancy
- Overgrown landscapes will further erode the historic planting and forms
- Lack of maintenance may affect the condition and decorative qualities of the listed buildings

7.0 Management, Monitoring and Review Strategy

The Council has a duty to maintain and monitor the condition of its conservation areas by way of preparing mid to long term strategies for preserving and enhancing their significance. Management proposals should address the issues and recommendations that have arisen from the appraisal process.

The issues outlined in the SWOT analysis will be dealt with through:

- Monitoring the site including photographic surveys and recording. This will begin with a full inspection of the buildings and the wider site.
- Continuing the dialogue with the site owners to encourage and support sympathetic proposals for the re-use of the site.

8.0 References

8.1 Legislation and Guidance

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (Development) (England) Order 2015
- The Preston Local Plan, 2015
- St. Ignatius Conservation Appraisal, 2008
- Historic England (2006) Conservation Area Designation, appraisal and management

- Understanding Place: Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management (English Heritage) 2011
- Planning and Development Context (English Heritage) 2010
- Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management, February 2016

□ Understand

8.2 Local History Archives and Libraries

- Harris Museum and Library
- Lancashire Archaeological Advisory Service
- Supplementary Heritage Statement; the Historic Designed Landscape by Andrew Whimble, 2013

8.3 List of Figures

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Figure 1 | Harris Park Conservation Area boundary in blue, listed buildings in red |
| Figure 2 | Aerial view of Harris Park looking north C1982 |
| Figure 3 | OS Map 1844-1850 |
| Figure 4 | View of girls village homes, Barkingside (from the Barnardo Society website) |
| Figure 5 | OS Map 1890 |
| Figure 6 | OS Map 1931 |
| Figure 7 | OS Map 1968 |
| Figure 8 | from north-east corner of the park looking west |
| Figure 9 | view south-west to Clayton Hall and the Green |
| Figure 10 | view east from west edge of The Green |
| Figure 11 | view looking across the playing fields looking west |
| Figure 12 | view west across the Green to buildings on the south row |
| Figure 13 | view from Glenrosa (Bldg.4) towards Clayton Hall (left) with buildings beyond planted mound to right of picture |
| Figure 14 | view from the north looking at the north row of buildings showing a visual and physical break towards the central Green |
| Figure 15 | Map showing key views |
| Figure 16 | example of landscaping mound |
| Figure 17 | overgrown and self-seeded shrubs and trees |
| Figure 18 | overgrown shrubbery |
| Figure 19 | former laundry building, windows blocked up with security grills and walls in need of re-pointing |
| Figure 20 | staining and efflorescence on the brickwork and |
| Figure 21 | Peeling paint on the timber bargeboards |

Appendix 1 – Designated Heritage Assets

1. Harris Knowledge Park, Registered Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest



An early example of a charitable orphanage, laid out 1884 by Preston's Parks Superintendent, George Rowbotham, with a group of 'village homes' around a 'village green'.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

Edmund Robert Harris was a wealthy lawyer who acquired a fortune through investment in the railways in the mid C19. At his death in 1877 he bequeathed £300,000 for philanthropic purposes in memory of the Harris family, including the formation of what became known as the Harris Museum in Preston and the Harris Orphanage. In 1881 a c 6ha plot of land in open agricultural land to the north of Preston was acquired by the Harris Trustees as the site for the orphanage. In 1884 a Building Committee was formed, and it was decided to build a village homes-type orphanage for 120 children in the domestic style pioneered by Dr Barnardo at Barkingside, north-east London, in 1876. Benjamin Sykes was selected to be the architect.

In October 1884 the Building Committee sought and gained permission from the Preston Corporation Parks Committee for their Public Parks Superintendent, George Rowbotham (1833-98), to provide 'advice and assistance ... for the laying out of the roads and grounds' (Minute Book, 1884-91). Rowbotham had come to Preston in 1864 to assist Edward Milner with the laying out of Avenham, Miller, and Moor Parks (qqv) (Preston Guardian, 1898). Early in 1885 Rowbotham is reported in the Minutes as having provided a report and sketch plan indicating the best mode of laying out the orphanage grounds, but it was not until early in 1888, with the buildings nearing completion, that this work began in earnest (the sketch plan does not appear to survive, 2001). Rowbotham employed and supervised the men working on the project, and in September 1888 advertised for tenders for the supply of 6000 trees and shrubs, for which a copy of the list of sixty-three species and varieties survives (Harris Museum). Woody material was also supplied from surplus at the nearby Whittingham Lunatic Asylum (letter, October 1888, Harris Museum). At least £660 was paid in men's wages for the manual work that year, with an additional £80 for trees and shrubs, and Rowbotham himself was paid £75 in February 1889 for 'his services and trouble in connection with laying out and superintending the formation of the grounds and selecting the trees and shrubs for planting the same' (Minute Book, 1884-91). The first child was admitted in November 1888.

In 1940 the orphanage school was leased by Lancashire County Council and after the Second World War the orphanage was renamed the Fulwood and Cadley County School (Harris Orphanage

Department). It closed in 1982 and was leased to Preston Polytechnic, in 1985 being bought outright for student accommodation for the Polytechnic. The Polytechnic subsequently became the University of Central Lancashire, which is now (2001) converting the buildings to office use.

DESCRIPTION

LOCATION, AREA, BOUNDARIES, LANDFORM, SETTING The c 7ha site lies 3km north of the centre of Preston adjacent to the west side of the main northern approach to Preston, Garstang Road, in the suburb of Fulwood. It occupies largely level ground, with a slight fall from east to west. The north side is bounded by a school and Regent Park road. To the west it is bounded by the gardens of houses in Black Bull Lane, and to the south by the gardens of houses in King's Drive. The east side of the site is bounded by Garstang Road, the boundary now marked by a clipped privet hedge and formerly by iron railings. The other boundaries are largely marked by C20 fences with mature trees along the inside of the fences. The setting is suburban, with the late C19 former Little Sisters of the Poor Convent, now (2001) the Jeanne Jugan Residence, standing in its own grounds on the east side of Garstang Road. The eastern edge of the site overlooks the Residence and its grounds.

ENTRANCES AND APPROACHES The site is approached from the east off Garstang Road via a gateway (B Sykes 1885(8, listed grade II) set back off the road at the south-east corner of the site. The carriage entrance is flanked by c 3m high stone piers supporting iron railings. These piers are in turn flanked by further piers in similar style marking two pedestrian entrances, these in their turn flanked by low, convex stone walls leading back out to the pavement and terminated by further piers in similar style. The walls formerly supported iron railings, these having been removed in the late 1980s when the entrance was widened and the structures were moved and rebuilt slightly to the west. West of the southern wall stands a single-storey lodge (B Sykes, listed grade II), dated 1887 on the gable, with a weighbridge outside in the drive. The lodge is built in Vernacular Revival style, of red brick with stone dressings. Immediately west of the lodge the drive divides to north-west and south-west, forming a circuit around the buildings.

To the north-west the drive leads to a turning circle outside the former schoolmaster's house occupying the south end of the principal building which also contains the former schoolrooms and chapel. From the turning circle the drive continues north, along the east side of the principal building, with spurs leading west to the entrances to the girls' and boys' entrances respectively. The drive curves west around the north side of the chapel, continuing west in serpentine fashion, overlooked by the entrance fronts of a row of four villas to the north and overlooking the green to the south. Some 100m west of the chapel the drive curves south between the east side of the single-storey former laundry block and the west side of the green. The drive turns east 130m south-west of the chapel, to continue along the south side of the estate, overlooked by the entrance fronts of a second row of four villas. From here it returns north-east to complete the circuit north-west of the lodge.

Spurs off the main circuit drive give access to the northern, service sides of both rows of villas, as well as the rear, west side of the principal building. These spurs link together to form a further circuit for service purposes which intersects with the main drive west of the green, with short drives leading off to give individual access to the north, rear side of each villa and the west side of the principal building. A further spur leads west off the south-west corner of the main circuit drive, giving access to Pond House, the former orphanage infirmary, standing isolated 180m south-west of the chapel.

The drive system was laid out by Rowbotham in 1888 and survives as depicted on the OS 25" map of 1890(2).

PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS The former orphanage buildings form a group around the central green. The largest, principal building forms the easternmost of this group and contains, from south to north, the schoolmaster's house, school, and chapel (B Sykes 1885(8, listed grade II). It is built of red brick with stone dressings in Gothic style. The entrance to the schoolmaster's house lies at the south-east corner, sheltered by a stained-glass porch. The schoolroom extends north from this, entered from the east via separate entrances for girls, at the south end, and boys, at the north end. Set in the lawn between these two entrances is the War Memorial (c 1924, listed grade II), with a 2m high granite pedestal supporting a white stone statue of a very youthful soldier, to commemorate

the 'old boys' of the Orphanage who died in the First World War. At the north-east corner of the school a tall bell tower with a spire stands over the boys' entrance, this tower and spire being visible from much of the site and its surroundings. To the north of this is the chapel, aligned west to east and entered from the boys' entrance in the tower, and from the north end of the schoolroom.

To the north of the green stands a row of detached, two-storey, brick-built villa residences (B Sykes 1885(8, listed grade II), Glen Rosa, Oak House, Ashleigh, and Beech House, built for the male orphans. The villas are to several different patterns, of red brick with stone dressings, in Vernacular Revival style. They overlook and are entered from the circuit drive to the south running along the north edge of the green, with service entrances on the north sides. Glen Rosa, the westernmost of these villas, retains a stone-flagged path leading up to the front door. To the south of the green stands a further row of four villas (B Sykes 1885(8, listed grade II), Chestnuts, Poplar, Holly House, and Laurels. These were built for the female orphans, in similar style to those for the males, but with the service fronts overlooking the green to the north. Some 20m south-west of the principal building stands the brick-built Clayton Hall, the former gymnasium, built c 1914 and recently converted to offices (2001). To the west of the green stand two single-storey buildings (1880s), flanking the main drive, that to the west being the former laundry. The former stable block (1880s, now disused) stands 120m north-west of the chapel at the north-east edge of the playing fields.

GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS The gardens and pleasure grounds are laid out informally and comprise several discrete areas which merge into each other: the eastern lawns overlooked by the front of the principal building and dividing it from Garstang Road; the individual garden areas around the villas; the green; and the recreation ground. A feature of the site is the ground modelling with raised beds planted with mature trees and shrubs; together these provide relief in an otherwise largely level site, both masking and directing views across the site.

The eastern lawns are bounded to the south and west by the drive, and beyond this are overlooked by the lodge and principal building respectively. The east boundary of the lawns, against Garstang Road, is marked by a clipped privet hedge and a line of mature trees. The southern section of the lawns, lying opposite the school entrances, occupies a dip which is bounded to the north and east by irregularly shaped raised beds containing mature trees and shrubs. The northern section of the lawns extends to the north-east corner as an open lawn surrounded by mature trees, entered via a grass path off the circuit drive at the north-east corner of the chapel. Formerly a rectangular perimeter walk from this path extended around this section (OS 1890-2). To the west of the principal building its serpentine service drive sinks slightly in the middle, overlooking the green to the west, and is flanked by informal plantings of mature trees and shrubs.

Each detached villa has its own area of garden lawn on the south, entrance side, through which runs a path to the front door. Although some of these areas are now (2001) enclosed by low, clipped hedges, it appears that they were formerly open (OS 1890?2), the approach paths being flanked by raised shrub beds which in some cases survive. To the south of the female orphans' villas the perimeter planting of mature trees and shrubs along the south boundary is set at the top of a gentle grassed slope running up from the circuit drive. The north sides of the female villas are also ornamented with pronounced raised shrub beds, between which run the service drives and paths to the villas. Some of these beds are bounded by stone edging, possibly retaining for the beds, which is also a feature around various other beds. North of the male villas the ground has been cleared for car parking around a large play shelter, now (2001) used as a store and shortly to be demolished.

The green occupies the heart of the site. It is reached directly from the villas to north and south and is overlooked by the chapel spire. The former gymnasium, Clayton Hall, stands at the south-east corner, and west of this stands a further large wooden play shelter, now enclosed and converted to a store. Before the gymnasium was built (1914) a path led from the shelter to the site of the gymnasium, which was formerly occupied by a square, sunken feature (OS 1890-2, 1910). North-west of the play shelter stands a smaller, decorative wooden seating shelter. At the west end of the green stands a single-storey cottage, now (2001) an office, which formerly had a conservatory on the south side (OS 1910).

The green overlooks the recreation ground to the west, beyond the former laundry. The 180m by 180m recreation ground is laid to lawn and largely bounded by mature trees, with the remains of an orchard on the south boundary. At the south-east corner, north-east of Pond House, lies an irregularly shaped pond set in lawn, and at the north-east corner stands a late C20 cricket pavilion. Initially the recreation ground only extended 100m west of the laundry, when the boundary was marked by a line of mixed deciduous and broadleaf trees, and there was no pond (OS 1890?2), but the pond had been added by 1910 (OS). The recreation ground appears to have been extended further west to its present boundary in the early C20.

2. Chapel, School and Master's House GVII



Chapel and School with integral Master's house, the principal building on an estate of children's homes built 1885-88, by Benjamin Sykes of Garlick, Park and Sykes, for the trustees of E.R. Harris. Accrington red brick with sandstone bands and dressings, steeply pitched Cumberland slate roofs with red ridging tiles. Elaborated H-plan: 5-bay school with cross wing at south end, chapel built as crosswing at north end with a tower in the angle; and Master's house attached at south end of school. Four-stage tower in High Victorian Gothic style incorporates principal entrance with richly moulded surround to door, the shaped lintel lettered BOYS and above this a large triangular namestone inscribed THE HARRIS ORPHANAGE 2nd stage has quadripartite arched windows (the outer lights blocked), 3rd stage, set back slightly above a panelled stone band, has 2-light belfry louvres topped by corbel tables and flanked by tourelles, between the tops of which are clock faces in gables finished with finials, these and the stone pinnacles to the tourelles forming a cluster round a short slated spire. Chapel to right, in simple Gothic style, buttressed, has in the projecting gable a stepped triple window with foliated capitals and cusped lights, and in the right return wall of 6 bays a porch to the 2nd bay, one triple and 3 coupled arched windows in the others. Main range of school, 5 bays and single storey, in Vernacular Revival style, has gabled centre bay with large mullioned and transomed window, a 4-light mullioned window in each of the other bays, a door at the left end with decorated surround, the lintel lettered GIRLS; projecting left wing has a large mullioned and transomed window flanked by single lights, all lights segmental-headed. House, set back at left end, is L-shaped, 2 storeys in similar style, with gabled wings at right angles and a full-height gabled porch in the angle, fronted by a flat roofed outer porch of wooden mullions and transoms, and leaded glazing. Interiors now of less interest.

Listing NGR: SD5314032302

3. Eight detached houses forming the children's homes at the Harris Orphanage (formerly listed with "The Harris Children's Home") 15.1.1985 GV II



Eight houses built in rows of 4 north and south of a green, as "village homes" for the Harris Orphanage, 1885-88, by Benjamin Sykes of Garlick, Park, and Sykes, for trustees of E.R. Harris. Accrington red brick with bands and dressings of sandstone, slate roofs with red ridging tiles. Slightly varied in plan and form, but all like conventional suburban middle class semi-detached houses of the period, in Vernacular Revival style, with decorated gables (some of applied timber, others of diaper and similar patterns of projecting headers), large wooden mullion and transom windows, some in canted bays, some in hipped gabled dormers (and some with altered glazing), and tall Tudor-style chimneys. Not the first, but nevertheless a good and fairly early example of the family-unit system for such institutions, in sharp contrast to the classification system of the New Poor Law, applied less than 20 years earlier at the Preston Union Workhouse, Watling Street Road (q.v.).

Listing NGR: SD5309332346.

4. Milestone on west side of road outside Harris Orphanage GV II



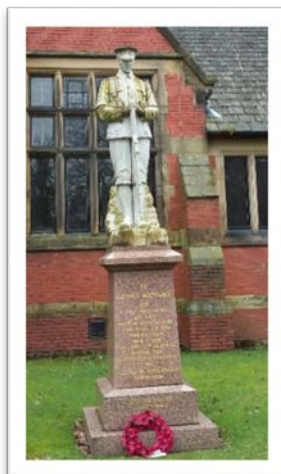
Milestone, mid-to later C18. Convex triangular stone c.1 metre high, with rounded top and a recessed panel on each of the 2 sides to the road, lettered in cursive script:-

"To Garstang Preston 83/4 and 2 Miles" Miles"

Erected by Preston and Garstang Turnpike Trust, established 1751; one of ten such milestones in an unbroken sequence.

Listing NGR: SD5318832310

5. **War Memorial c.5 metres east of School at Harris Orphanage (formerly listed with "The Harris Children's Home") 15.1.1985 GV II**



War Memorial, c.1920. Polished granite pedestal c.2 metres high supporting white stone statue of a very youthful soldier with his hands resting on the butt of a rifle held muzzle down on his left boot. Pedestal is lettered on the face IN / LOVING MEMORY / OF / THE OLD BOYS/ OF THE / HARRIS ORPHANAGE / WHO FELL IN THE / GREAT WAR / 1914 - 1918. / THEY DIED THE DEATH OF / HONOUR FOR / GOD, KING, AND COUNTRY / ERECTED BY THEIR ORPHAN / COMPANIONS and on the left and right sides with lists of 8 and 9 names respectively.

Listing NGR: SD5314832308

6. **Gate Lodge to Harris Orphanage, with associated Gate piers and gates (formerly listed with "The Harris Children's Home") 15.1.1985 GV II**



Lodge and gateway to Harris Orphanage, 1885-88, by Benjamin Sykes of Garlick, Park, and Sykes, for the trustees of E.R. Harris. Accrington red brick with sandstone dressings, Cumberland slate roof. Vernacular Revival style. T-plan, single storey: to drive, a prominent gabled wing with canted bay window and small square flanking windows under oversailing

gable of applied black and white studding with pargeted apex displaying a shield lettered A.D.; 1887 in left angle a lean-to porch, to the road another gable decorated like the first; on the ridge near the junction a tall Tudor-style triple chimney stack with moulded cap. Gate piers: 4 inner, making carriage gateway flanked by pedestrian gates, and 2 outer, all red brick heavily-banded with sandstone; square section, c.3 metres high, with hemispherical tops, the innermost bearing ornamental iron lampholders. Iron spear-railing gates.

Listing NGR: SD5318532272