

# Black Country SMR: Historic Buildings, Sites and Monuments

(Full

20/10/03

SMR Number	Site Name	Materials/Evidence
8719	WATERMILL (SITE); BANKFIELD RD/BROOK TERRACE; BILSTON	
Type and Date		Materials/Evidence
WATERMILL	Medieval to Post Medieval - 1066 AD to 1900 AD	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE
CORN MILL	Medieval to Post Medieval - 1066 AD to 1900 AD	DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

## Location

### National Grid Reference

SO95029603

### Administrative

Council Wolverhampton  
County West Midlands

### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 8719

## Description

Bilston Mill stood on Bilston Brook, half mile SSW of parish church. Doc ref 1378 to Thomas Robbins giving 'Sir William Poort, ye priest of Bilston, & John Robbins one messuage, one watermill etc'. Doc ref c1383 - states that 'Robert Rowley, late of Bilston (miller) did in his lifetime surrender to James Perry & Thomas Smith those 2 dwellings etc.' Deed of 1553 stated that Roger de Boverucks sold half of mill in Bilston to Adam Bate. Parish registers provide names of EC18 millers but make no distinction as to which mill ref to. 1818 - Edward Hickman named as corn miller at Bilston Mill. By 1834, 'The Bread Company' had taken over at Bilston Mill. 1st ed 1" shows that line of stream had been moved. Water is now concealed in culvert but Brook St & Brook Terrace mark former position. {1}. doc ref 1746 - Benjamin Bickley had lease for moated property at Homers Fold (SMR 8732) & also 'close called Millcroft containing about 7 acres' & later on 'all that mill lately stood, & which is now made & converted into a dwelling house, & all that parcel of land lately covered with water & used as pool to aforesaid late mill, but now converted into a meadow'. This land was 'bounded by brook S & E & has Dr Hope's land W & the millcroft N' {2}. watermill shown on Yates map 1775 marked as 'Bickleys Mill' on 1781 sketch, by which name it had been known for at least 14 yrs. Prob refs to mill in 1746 doc, since it has Bilston Brook to S & E. Cholera map shows 2 bldgs by brook, with foot road leading down to them. {3}{4}. Names list of chief tenants in Bilston 1699 mentions rents for John Jesson for 'where his mill stands'. Which mill ref to is uncertain. {5} The brook appears not to have served industry to any great extent, but it is believed that a corn mill existed near to the junction of Bankfield Raod and Brook Terrace from at least the 14th centruy. (6) this ref no for earliest of 2 post med watermills that had gone out of use by mC18. Line of stream now totally obliterated - even altered new line. If Woolley Factory sits on site it can be reasonably located, prob still under playing fields. If in Brook St area then may have been affected by landscaping for Morrisons or building bunds around open space. {7} the brook that passes here was site of Bilston Watermill until pesent Coseley rd pushed through in favour of Union St route. It must have passed directly through old mill pool for area of road here for many years prone to flooding. {8}

A watermill is recorded at Bilston from at least the 14th century and it is suggested that it lay on the Bilston Brook to the south of the town. Its location has never been securely identified. One view is that it lay towards the end of Brook Street (Dilworth). Examination of maps (Yates) shows that by the latter part of the 18th century a watermill lay further west of this in the area later described as Woolley factory. This stood on a leat on the north side of the Brook and is likely to have utilised water power. In 1746 there is a reference to 'all that toft where an ancient corn mill lately stood and which is now converted into a dwelling house' However, a reference to a functioning mill in 1748 with two overshot wheels indicates that there was a second mill and this is likely to be what is subsequently referred to as the Woolley factory. (7)

## Sources

- Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet
- (1) Bibliographic reference: Tame Mills of Staffs, , Dilworth D, 1976,
  - (2) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Enamels of the 18th century, , Cope Tom, ,

- (3) Map: Map of the town of Bilston (Cholera Map), , Timmis R, 1832,
- (4) Map: Map of Co of Staffs, , Yates W, 1775,
- (5) Bibliographic reference: Hist of Bilston, , Lawley G, 1893,
- (6) Bibliographic reference: The Bilston Brook, 14.3; 49-52, Davies, Ron, 1981, 50
- (7) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,
- (8) Bibliographic reference: Priestfield to Capponfield Railway Line, , Davies R, 1982, 15;4;18-

### **Associated Events/Activities**

BL10 Event - Survey: HAW; 1998, -

### **Area**

<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>
8733	POSS WATERMILL (SITE); W OF DUDLEY ST; BILSTON

<b>Type and Date</b>	<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
WATERMILL	Medieval to Post Medieval - 1066 AD to 1900 AD

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO94709580

#### Administrative

Council	Wolverhampton
County	West Midlands

#### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 8733

#### Description

A watermill is recorded at Bilston from at least the 14th century and it is suggested that it lay on the Bilston Brook to the south of the town. Its location has never been securely identified. One view is that it lay towards the end of Brook Street (Dilworth). Examination of maps (Yates) shows that by the latter part of the 18th century a watermill lay further west of this in the area later described as Woolley factory (SMR 10642). This stood on a leat on the north side of the Brook and is likely to have utilised water power. In 1746 there is a reference to 'all that toft where an ancient corn mill lately stood and which is now converted into a dwelling house' However, a reference to a functioning mill in 1748 with two overshot wheels indicates that there was a second mill and this is likely to be what is subsequently referred to as the Woolley factory. (1)

The 1832 cholera map shows a large pool on the north side of the Woolley factory which may be the remains of a mill pool. (2) The pool is not shown on later maps. Further examination of the Yates map suggests that the mill may lie

#### Sources

- (1) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,
- (2) Map: Map of the town of Bilston (Cholera Map), , Timmis R, 1832,

#### Associated Events/Activities





<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
10799	CAPPONFIELD HOUSE (SITE); E OF BROADMOOR RD; HIGHFIELDS		
<b>Type and Date</b>			<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
HOUSE	Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1899 AD		(SITE OF)

#### **Location**

##### **National Grid Reference**

SO94539552                      Point

##### **Administrative**

Council                              Wolverhampton  
County                                West Midlands

##### **Status and other references**

Black Country SMR No - 10799

##### **Description**

Built by J Bagnall in 1842, no doubt for manager of Capponfield Furnaces etc etc.{1}

##### **Sources**

(1)                      Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
Bibliographic reference: ..& Capponfield House, , Davies R, 1986, 19;4;28-

##### **Associated Events/Activities**









**SMR Number**      **Site Name**  
10913              FURNACES; IMMED S OF BILSTON BROOK; BRADLEY

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
FURNACE	Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1899 AD	(SITE OF)
BUILDING	Post Medieval to Modern - 1540 AD to 2050 AD	

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO94979591              Point                      Approximate

#### Administrative

Council	Wolverhampton
County	West Midlands

#### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 10913

#### Description

Appear to be 2 linked furnaces adj the canalised Bilston Brook on mining map of 1848 (& amendments). {1}. small building in this area on map of 1887. {2}. Still there on 2nd and 3rd edn maps (1903, 1919) but has gone by time of 4th edn (1938) when area is marked as a "sports ground". Area v flat - landscaped but now rough. Line of poplars may represent more modern version of brook - could be below ground survival. (3)

#### Sources

- Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
(1) Map: Bankfields Colliery, , , 1848, 40;  
(2) Map: 1st edition Ordnance Survey map Staffs 62.16, , , 1887,  
(3) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village: Arch Assess, , White H, 1998,

#### Associated Events/Activities



















<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>
10959	WOOLLEY'S HOUSE, BILSTON

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
HOUSE	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)

### **Location**

#### **National Grid Reference**

SO94739591	Area	Approximate
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#### **Administrative**

Council	Wolverhampton
County	West Midlands

#### **Status and other references**

Black Country SMR No - 10959

#### **Description**

Ed Woolley local industrialist with factory to S (SMR 10642). House reputedly lay N of factory - HAW. House shown on map of 1839 with paddock to north described as adjoining Woolley's house {1}. Not shown on map of 1832. (2) Still shown on 1st edn map of 1887. (3) Still shown on 2nd and 3rd edn maps of 1903 and 1919 but has disappeared by time of 4th edn map of 1938. Area poss in playing fields to S of single stoeey modern bdgs. {4}

#### **Sources**

- (1) Map: Map of the Township of Bilston, , Timmis, R, 1839,
- (2) Map: Map of the town of Bilston (Cholera Map), , Timmis R, 1832,
- (3) Map: 1st edition Ordnance Survey map Staffs 62.16, , , 1887,
- (4) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village: Arch Assess, , White H, 1998,

#### **Associated Events/Activities**





<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>
2551	TWO COAL PITS; NR WINDMILL FIELD; BILSTON

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
COLLIERY	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	(SITE OF)

#### **Location**

##### **National Grid Reference**

SO95009600

##### **Administrative**

Council	Wolverhampton
County	West Midlands

##### **Status and other references**

Black Country SMR No - 2551  
OS Card Number - SO99NE 27

##### **Description**

`According to Rev Richard Ames, curate of Bilston in C17 coal was got in bilston as far back as 1380'. In a deed of 1401, two coal pits called `ye holloways and ye Delves' are said to be situated near Windmille Field in bilston. <1>

##### **Sources**

Map: SO99NE, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
Map: SO9596, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
(1) Bibliographic reference: Hist of Bilston, , Lawley GT, 1893, 249

##### **Associated Events/Activities**



**SMR Number**      **Site Name**  
2616                  RB COINS; BILSTON

**Type and Date**  
FINDSPOT          Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD

**Materials/Evidence**  
FIND

**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

SO95009600                                  Marginal

**Administrative**

Council                                  Wolverhampton  
County                                    West Midlands

**Status and other references**

Black Country SMR No - 2616  
OS Card Number - SO99NE 7

**Description**

Roman coins of the reigns of Commodus and Antoninus, in a beautiful state of preservation, have been found at Bilston.  
<1>

**Sources**

Map: SO99NE, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
Map: SO9596, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet  
(1) Bibliographic reference: Hist of Bilston, , Lawley GT, 1893, 10

**Associated Events/Activities**

**SMR Number**      **Site Name**  
13146              CANAL BASIN; CAPPONFIELD

**Type and Date**  
CANAL BASIN    Post Medieval to Modern - 1540 AD to 2050 AD

**Materials/Evidence**

**Location**

**National Grid Reference**

SO946955              Area

**Administrative**

Council                      Wolverhampton  
County                        West Midlands

**Status and other references**

Black Country SMR No - 13146

**Description**

Canal basin off N side of canal, westernmost of three. (1) Within Capponfield furnaces (SMR 10654). Shown on Sedgley tihe map of 1845. (2)

**Sources**

- (1)              Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1887,
- (2)              Map: Sedgley tihe map, , , 1845,

**Associated Events/Activities**



<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	
5328	HALL GREEN SCHOOL; PROSSER ST OPP STONEFIELD RD; BILSTON	
<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
SCHOOL	Post Medieval to Modern - 1900 AD to 1999 AD	BUILDING

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO94619601                      Area

#### Administrative

Council	Wolverhampton
Ward	Ettingshall , Wolverhampton
County	West Midlands

#### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 5328  
Local list

#### Description

2 storey chateau like building in interwar tech/college style. Has a central roof mounted vent with weather vane. Site includes other school buildings which were once poss primary or junior schools. {1}

School shown on 3rd edn map 62.16 of 1919 but not on 2nd map of 1903. It is now Colton Hills Community School and Bilston Education Centre.

Primary School built in 1906. Built around a central hall, highly ornate with large imposing windows. Many original features including turrets, tall iron railings and terracotta details. The associated building is of inter-war date. The complex is a highly visible landmark and an important feature of Bilston town centre. (3)

#### Sources

- (3) Local list: Local list description, , Wolverhampton City Council, ,  
Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet
- (1) Bibliographic reference: Surviving Industrial Buildings in Bilston, , Collins P, 1991,
- (2) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,

#### Associated Events/Activities

BL132 Event - Survey: HAW; 1998, -  
BL348 Event - Survey: Site visit (by Paul Collins), -



**SMR Number**      **Site Name**  
10652                BOVEREUX FURNACES (HOLCROFT); BILSTON

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
IRON WORKS	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)
FURNACE	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO95229594                Area

#### Administrative

Council                        Wolverhampton  
County                         West Midlands

#### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 10652

#### Description

Bovereux furnaces (disused) marked on 1st edn map of 1887. Small scattered bdgs in centre of area & few more on NE side of bdy surrounded by spoil heaps to E. 2 large reservoirs to S. {1}. 1849 onwards. 1849 Baldwin & Co. 1872: Tame Iron Co (or Holcroft), 1886 unoccupied. 1849 Hunt lists 2 furnaces in blast. Site called Bovereux Lower in 1862-70, Bovereux thereafter. In 1863-70 the furnace numbers evid include a 2nd works, poss Walbut. {2}. Bovereux-Holcroft & Co. 2 blast furnaces built, 1 in blast. Good mine iron. {3} Areas adj to canal still have bdgs on, area behind may have been landscaped, did not get access for visit. Bunds around the edges. Units & dumping in NE corner. {4}. gone except for western reservoir (& bdgs on NE edge of property). {5} dumps & tramlines to SE to new canal basin - reworking? {6}

Not shown on Timmis map of 1839, at which time area is apparently fields. (7)

#### Sources

- (7) Map: Map of the township of Bilston, , Timmis, R, 1839,  
Map: SO99NE, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet
- (1) Map: 1st edition Ordnance Survey map Staffs 62.16, , , 1887,
- (2) Bibliographic reference: Brit Blast Furnace Statistics 1790-1980, , Riden P; Owen J, 1995,
- (3) Bibliographic reference: Guide to Iron Trade of GB, , Griffiths, 1867,
- (4) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,
- (5) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1903,
- (6) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1919,

#### Associated Events/Activities

BL14      Event - Survey: HAW; 1998, -



<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>
10654	CAPPONFIELD FURNACES (BAGNALLS/T & I BRADLEY); W OF CANAL

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
IRON WORKS	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)
FURNACE	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO94689554                      Area

#### Administrative

Council                              Wolverhampton  
County                                West Midlands

### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 10654

### Description

Little church built by Messrs John Bagnall & son on site of Capponfields furnaces. {1}. 1805 onwards Smith Read & Co, 1825 W Aston; 1839-1881 Bagnalls; 1882 T & I Bradley, 1934-7 Bradley & Foster. + full desc {2}. capponfield - J Bagnall & Son. 3 blast furnaces built. 2 in blast/ 1st class gery forge. Capponfield (as part of Chillington) collectively 95 puddling furnaces, 6 mills/forges. {3}. on W side of railway (closely linked lines to it as well) & N of canal. 2 basins towards E side of site.{4}Did not gain access but from distance appears to be tree planted - in other comparable areas represents programme after landscaping works. {7}. still there. {9} Still there unnamed but smaller number of bdgs, {10}

The furnaces were certainly there before 1806 and passed through many hands, but John Bagnall and Sons appear to have had the most impact there. They were latterly worked by T & I Bradley and blown out by them around 1920. For many years they stood idle, though one was again blown-in for about a month in the late 1920s, after which they were gradually dismantled. A new works, Bradley and Foster, to produce metallic abrasives was established in 1951. It had closed down by 1971. (11)

Described as Capponfield iron works on Sedgley tithe map of 1845. (12)

### Sources

- (12) Map: Sedgley tithe map, , , 1845,  
Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet
- (1) Bibliographic reference: Capponfield Church 100 Yrs On, , Davies R, 1982, 15;4;37-
- (2) Bibliographic reference: Brit Blast Furnace Statistics 1790-1980, , Riden P; Owen J, 1995,
- (3) Bibliographic reference: Guide to Iron Trade of GB, , Griffiths, 1867,
- (4) Map: Staffs LXII.16, , , 1887,
- (5) Bibliographic reference: Bradley & Foster, , Holden L, 1972, 5;2;
- (6) Bibliographic reference: History of Bilston, , Lawley G, 1893, 261-
- (7) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,
- (8) Map: Staffs, , , 1832,
- (9) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1903,
- (10) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1919,
- (11) Bibliographic reference: Priestfield to Capponfield Railway Line, , Davies R, 1982, 15;4;

### Associated Events/Activities

BL15            Event - Survey: Bilston Urban Village: Archaeological Assessment, -

**Area**

<b>SMR Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>
10655	BARBORS FIELD FURNACES (HOLCROFT); W OF DUDLEY ST; BILSTON

<b>Type and Date</b>		<b>Materials/Evidence</b>
IRON WORKS	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)
FURNACE	Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD	(SITE OF)
SITE	Post Medieval - 1800 AD to 1899 AD	

### Location

#### National Grid Reference

SO94989567                      Area

#### Administrative

Council                              Wolverhampton  
County                                West Midlands

#### Status and other references

Black Country SMR No - 10655

#### Description

Detail of site, extra canal basin on E side of property with tramway lines. further lines to N. Areas of dumping to N & W. {1}. barber's Field. Fowler, Holcroft & Hughes. 2 blast furnaces built. 1 and half in blast. 1st class grey forge. {2} These furnaces had their origins c1825. A Thomas Banks is the first recroded operator and it was to pass through many hands before being taken over by the Barbors Field Iron Company in 1881. The ironorks had been idle since 1877 and the blast furnaces did not last much longer; the last one was blown-out in 1884. {4} mr Banks, shows start of large square canal basin betw canal & works (not marked). {6}. works in great detail. {7}. banks long series of buildings stetching NW from canal basin. {8}. "Engine" N of pond in field 374 which abuts parish bdy. {9}. still there. {10} Probably smaller, not named. {11} Bdgs gone, canal basin remains. {12}. area of landscaping E of council estate. Aras immed adj to road heavily banked & with trees. {3} various other maps in Wolv Archives 18 (1867); 16 (1896); 77 (18??); 40/62 (1848) - HAW

#### Sources

- Map: SO99NW, , Ordnance Survey, , On Map Sheet
- (1) Map: 1st edition Ordnance Survey map Staffs 62.16, , , 1887,
  - (2) Bibliographic reference: Guide to Iron Trade of GB, , Griffiths, 1867,
  - (3) Bibliographic reference: Bilston Urban Village Arch Ass, , White H, 1998,
  - (4) Bibliographic reference: The Priestfield to Capponfield Railway Line, The Blackcountryman 15.4, 14-20, Davies, Ron, 1982, 20
  - (5) Map: Staffs, , , 1832,
  - (6) Map: Map of the town of Bilston (Cholera Map), , Timmis R, 1832,
  - (7) Map: Banksfield Colliery, , , 1848,
  - (8) Map: Plan of Township of B, , Timmis, 1839,
  - (9) Map: Bilston Township, , , 1799?,
  - (10) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1903,
  - (11) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1919,
  - (12) Map: Staffs LXII.6, , , 1938,

#### Associated Events/Activities

BL16            Event - Survey: HAW; 1998, -

**Area**