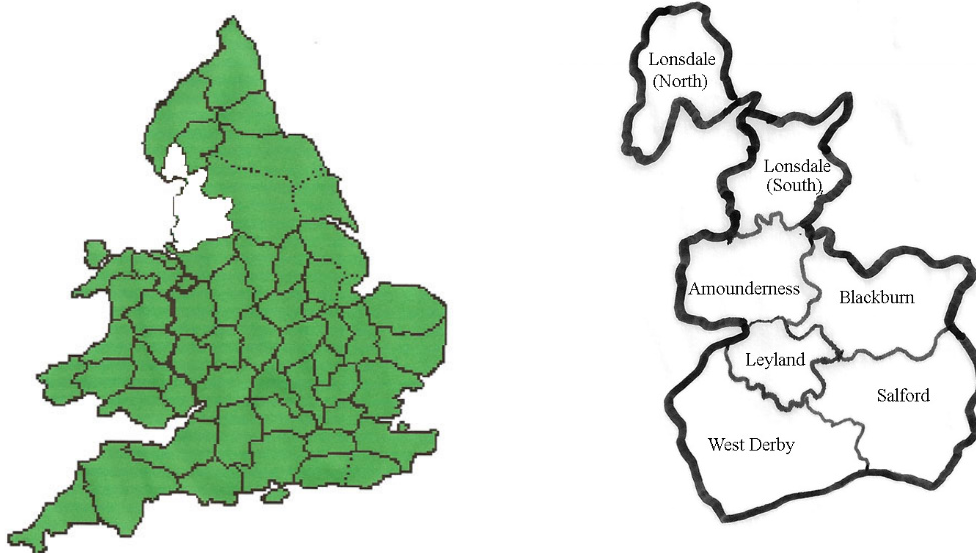


LANCASHIRE

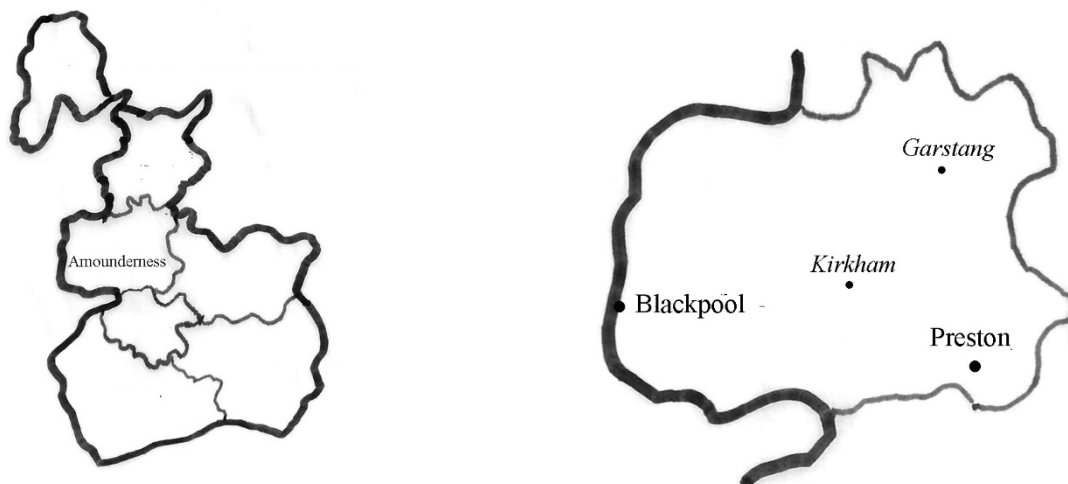


Lancashire is a large county in the north-west of England, bordered by the sea to the west. The counties of Cumberland and Westmorland lie to the north, the West Riding of Yorkshire to the east, and Cheshire to the south.

In the nineteenth century the county was transformed. It began as a mainly agricultural region but became an area with many large urban regions and a variety of industrial occupations. This transformation led to frequent changes in the administrative structure, both in the county-at-large and in the towns and cities.

Because of the complex and changing structure, the information about weights and scales is presented here in six sections. The sections correspond geographically to the six ancient hundreds of the county, as shown in the map above. (The hundred of Lonsdale was divided naturally into two parts, North and South 'of the Sands', but it was administered as one unit.) It must be stressed that, although the administration of the county was based on these geographical areas, the individual hundreds did not have independent jurisdiction.

The hundred of AMOUNDERNESS in Lancashire







In 1826 the county appointed six inspectors, one of whom covered the hundred of Amounderness and probably other parts of the county. After the legislation of 1834 the hundred had its own inspector. The county police force was set up in 1840, and it was agreed that the police would take over the inspection of weights and measures as vacancies occurred. Thus it was that in 1844 the first police officer to act in this way in Lancashire was appointed for Amounderness.

In 1856 the hundred was split into two districts, based at Garstang and Kirkham, and this arrangement continued for many years, with the numbers 91 and 92 being allocated in 1879.

The ancient borough of Preston was the dominant town in the region, and acquired the new Imperial Standards in 1826. At that time the regulation of weights and measures was in the hands of the Court Leet. In 1835 a full-time inspector was appointed and thenceforth inspection and verification were carried out in the usual way. In the second half of the nineteenth century Blackpool became a large and prosperous holiday resort. It was established as a Municipal Borough in 1875, but did not acquire standards until 1889.

The trade in scales and weights was mainly based in Preston, where the firm of Wilcock and Sons was prominent around the turn of the century.

A: Inspection in the **Amounderness hundred** by the County of **LANCASHIRE**

| Dates | Events | Marks | Comments |
|-------|---|--|--|
| 1826 | 6 sets of standards verified, three for 'the county' [164-5, 176]. Amounderness probably shared standards with Lonsdale or Leyland. | | |
| 1834 | One inspector appointed for the hundred of Amounderness. |  | <i>Inspector 1834</i> Joseph Myers (1834-44) |
| 1840 | Lancashire Police force set up. The police were to take over inspection gradually; in 1844, the first police inspector to be appointed was in Amounderness. | | <i>Police as inspectors 1844-89</i> [QSR; Newspapers] Thomas Walters (1844-56) |
| 1856 | For weights and measures purposes, Amounderness District was split into two, Garstang and Kirkham Districts. Standards [1183] were issued for use in the latter. |   | <i>Garstang (1856-90)</i> Thomas Walters (1856-58) Robert Greene (1858-67) James Webbe (1867-89) John Bourke (1889-90) <i>Kirkham (1856-90)</i> John Francis Crean (1856-59) |
| 1879 | Numbers issued: 91 Garstang 92 Kirkham. |  | Thomas Leary (1859-65) Thomas Clarkson (1865-68) James Tindall (1868-76) Thomas Heagren Redin (1876) Daniel Stafford (1876-90) |
| 1890 | After the formation of the County Council the inspectors were qualified police officers. There was one inspector for the whole of Amounderness, based in Kirkham. | | <i>Qualified inspectors:</i> Herbert F.H. Etchells (q. Garstang 1891-1913) William J. Carine (1913-) |
| 1928 | Nos. 91 and 92 still in use. Before 1939 the WM office moved to Preston. | | After 1914 the inspectors changed frequently. |

31 WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,
THAT the Justices of the Peace, assembled at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden at Preston, in and for the County Palatine of Lancaster, on the 5th day of January inst., ordered and directed that **JOSEPH MYERS**, of Preston aforesaid, Gentleman, the Inspector of Weights and Measures, within the Hundred of Amounderness, in the said County, should attend for the purpose of Comparing and Stamping the several weights and measures to be used within the said Hundred, at the several places and times following, viz. :—
 At the Town of *Preston*, on the first Saturday in each calendar month.
 At the Town of *Garstang*, on the second Thursday in the months of February, May, August and November.
 At the Village or Town of *Poulton*, on the first Monday in the months of February, May, August, and November.
 At the Village or Town of *Kirkham*, on the first Thursday in the Months of February, May, August and November.
GORST and BIRCHALL.
 Clerk of the Peace's Office, Preston, 11th January, 1842.

And I do hereby give further Notice,
 That I shall attend for the above purposes mentioned, at my Office, No. 9, **LIBRARY STREET**, in the said Town of Preston, on the several days above-mentioned.
 At the *King's Arms*, in the said Town of Garstang, on the several days above-mentioned.
 At Thornton's, *Bull Inn*, in the said Village or Town of Poulton, on the several days above-mentioned.
 At the Village or Town of Kirkham, at Lawrenson's, the *Seca*, on the several days above-mentioned.
JOSEPH MYERS,
 Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Hundred of Amounderness.

Shopkeepers and others are urgently recommended to avail themselves of the above opportunities without delay, the Justices having determined that after the expiration of a reasonable time, from this Notice, the High Constable of the Hundred shall go round to examine all Weights and Measures, when such as are found deficient will be forfeited, and the Owners punished according to Law.
 For general convenience, incorrect weights may be rectified at the several Places and Times above-mentioned.

¶ Joseph Myers' advertisement from the Preston Chronicle, 15 January, 1842, p. 1.



¶ Details from three weights showing the stamps used in the Amounderness hundred: the Amounderness stamp (1830-37), from a 2 oz brass weight; the Garstang Division stamp is taken from a ½ lb brass weight, whilst that from a 1 oz brass weight shows the stamp of the Kirkham Division, together with its uniform verification number VR92.

B: Localities with separate jurisdiction in the **Amounderness hundred** of **LANCASHIRE**





| Locality | Status | Marks | | Dates & Notes |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| | | Non-uniform | Number pre-1951 | |
| Blackpool | MB:1875 CB:1904 | --- | 553 | s:1889 [2040] n:1891-1974 |

The seaside resort of Blackpool was originally a small part of the parish of Bispham in Amounderness hundred. Although the Blackpool Improvement Act of 1856 had included the appointment of an Inspector, the borough only acquired standards in 1889. A mark comprising a quartered shield surmounted by a seagull has been recorded as being used briefly on measures 1889-91. The number 553 was issued in 1891.

Despite being unqualified, John C. Derham (CC 1887-1911) served as the IWM until his death in 1911 [*MR* 11: 400]. His successor W.J. Pringle (CC 1912-19) had qualified in 1897/8 in Northumberland, and also served as IWM. The next chief constable Herbert E. Derham (CC 1919-35) was unqualified, but he was listed as the chief inspector in 1922 [*Hbk*], assisted by a qualified inspector R. Saxon (q1915/20). In 1925 a civilian chief inspector, W.A. Ladds, was appointed. He served until 1959, when he was succeeded by N.K. Whitehead [*MR* 59:4, 59:116, 74: 51; 79:39].



¶ A 1 oz brass weight stamped in Blackpool. The first detail shows the VR533 (1892-1901) and the ER533 (1901-1910) marks, whilst the second one illustrates the various systems of dating used.

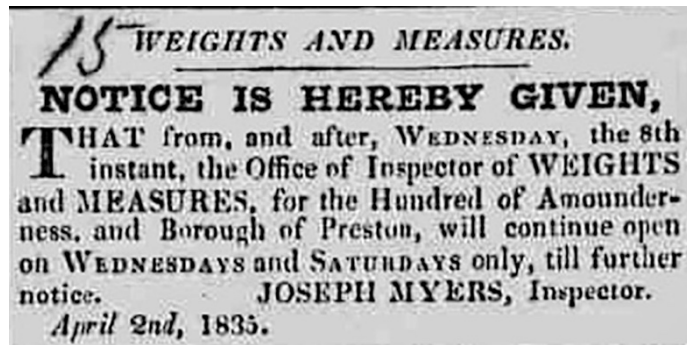
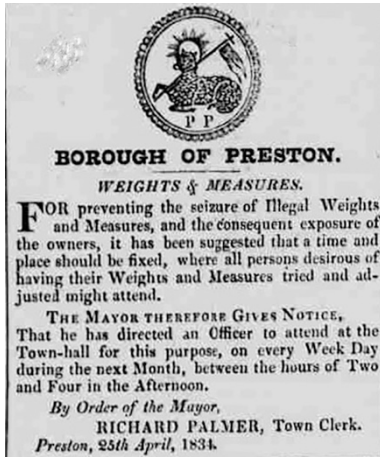
| Locality | Status | Marks | | Dates & Notes |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| | | Non-uniform | Number pre-1951 | |
| Preston | AncBo MB:1835 CB:1888 |     | 495 | s:1826 [221], 1878 [1625] n:1889-1974 |

In 1832, the Preston Court Leet stated that its primary purpose was to examine the weights and measures of the town [PC 5/5/32]. The following year, the Court Leet Jury maintained that it was not prepared to continue in this role, when no penalty was levied on those owning deficient weights [PC 29/6/33] and again, in 1834, a letter published in the Preston Chronicle highlighted the invidious position of the members of the Court Leet Jury and emphasized the need for the proper, regulated examination of weights and measures [PC 3/5/34].

In November 1834 Joseph Myers, the county inspector for Amounderness hundred, was appointed as the inspector for Preston, although this is only mentioned specifically in an advertisement of 1835. In 1841, Thomas Pollett, a police officer, was cited as the borough inspector [PS] and, by the following year, this role had been assumed by Henry Rigby, a police inspector, [PC 26/2/42]. When John Brodbelt retired as the Market Looker in 1846, Rigby undertook this role too [PC 16/5/46]. In 1853, Rigby was relieved of his role as Inspector of Police but continued his work as Market Looker, with responsibility for WM [PC 17/12/53]. By 1876, Henry Rigby was unfit to work full time so that Daniel Wilson was appointed in his stead [PC 16/9/76]. Wilson continued in charge of weights and measures until his death in 1888 [PH 14/1/88; MR 17: 170].

For a period in the 1870s and 1880s it seems that the mark was changed yearly, the figures indicating the date, not a verification number [AR 1882]. A mark with the 'lamb and flag' device of the borough and VR 83 is illustrated below, amongst others.

John Preston Robinson was appointed IWM and market superintendent in Wilson's stead [PH 18/2/88] and remained in post until his death in 1917 [PH 24/3/17], although unqualified. The first qualified inspector was his son, W.B. Robinson, (q1904/5 in Preston), appointed on the death of his father, and he retired in 1945 [MR 05: 152; 45:111]. He was succeeded by Ralph R. Tutte, who had moved to Preston, from Blackburn and Accrington, in 1924; he was chief 1945-51 [MR 51:232; 56:108]. He was followed by G.S. Heald, 1951-72 [MR 72:239].



¶ Before the passing of the 1834 Weights and Measures Act, Preston had moved to regulate its weights and measures, as evidenced by the first advertisement from the Preston Chronicle; the second one, from the same source, records Joseph Myers' acting as the Inspector of Weights and Measures after the passing of that Act.



¶ Three variants of the Preston mark, the first from a ¼ oz brass weight, the next weight also carried the Garstang mark, shown above, and finally from an 8 oz brass weight.



¶ Details from two brass weights: the ½ oz weight shows the date stamps for 1878, 1882 and 1884 whilst the 4 oz one shows the 1880 and 1883 versions.



¶ Detail of the 1883 stamp, from the copper plug on an anonymous iron bar weight.



¶ Details from two 4 oz brass weights, showing the uniform verification number, but maintaining the tradition of showing the year and an altered format.



¶ Detail from the 4oz brass weight, shown above with the 1870 and 1873 marks, but this time stamped after the adoption of the uniform verification number (1889) and with a letter code replacing the date of the examples above.

C: Trade in the Amounderness Hundred of Lancashire

| PRESTON | |
|-----------------|---|
| Foster | Joseph Foster of 28, Avenham Street and St. Paul's Square Works was listed as an engineer, machinist, iron and brass founder, scale beam, weights and platform weighing machine manufacturer in 1866 [MLAL]. |
| Robinson | William Robinson was also listed as a weighing machine maker in 1877 [MP]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 (19 & 20), Titheburn Street <1877-85>. |
| Haslam | Robert Haslam, listed as a weighing machine maker [M]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69 & 70, North Road <1881> • 232, North Road <1885-98>. |
| Wilcock | William Wilcock & Sons were listed as scale manufacturers in 1895 [BP], having previously traded as ironmongers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28, Lancaster Road S. <1882-1907> • 77, 95 & 97, Lancaster Road <1910-13> • 11, 49 & 97, Lancaster Road <1917> • 97, 99-101, Lancaster Road <1924-61>. |
| Pooley | Henry Pooley & Son were first listed in 1895 [BP]. By 1936, Bartlett & Son, Ltd, Hodgson & Stead and Pooley were all cited at the same address. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lime Street West, Fishergate Hill <1895-1917> • 5/3, Lord Street <1910-40>. |
| Steen | James W. Steen had been in partnership with his brother Ralph in Burnley but their partnership was dissolved in 1893 (q.v.). His business in Preston is first advertised in 1896 [LEP 18/3/96]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pump Street <1896> • 11 & 13, North Street <1898-1913> • 13/22, Lord Street <1917-36>. |
| Avery | W & T Avery Ltd is first listed in 1904 [S]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 191, Lancaster Road <1904-08> • 36, Lancaster Road <1910-54 • 13, Church Street 1954-65>. |
| Marsh | Alfred Marsh was listed as a weighing machine maker/scale repairer at 110, Ribbleton Lane, in 1910-12 [Hbk]. By 1917, his listing was simply as a Hardware Dealer [BP]. |

W. WILCOCK & SONS, MAKERS and RE-PAIRERS of all kinds of **SCALES and WEIGHING MACHINES**, and Contractors for the Repair and Maintenance of same. All work executed by competent and practical Workmen, and guaranteed to meet the requirements and regulations of the Board of Trade.
The Largest and most Varied Stock of New and Second-hand Scales and Weighing Apparatus in Lancashire to select from.
W. WILCOCK & SONS,
IRONMONGERS AND SCALE MAKERS,
LANCASTER ROAD, PRESTON.

W. Wilcock & Sons
 Lancaster Road, PRESTON.

TOOL MAKERS and FACTORS.



General Furnishing Ironmongers,
 SCALE & WEIGHING MACHINE MAKERS
TOOLS FOR ALL TRADES.

W. WILCOCK & SONS Celebrated Tacklers' Tools are used in all Mills and Workshops. They have a reputation for reliability, finish, and excellence of material, far in advance of any other make.

TACKLERS SWEAR BY THEM, not AT THEM.

¶ Advertisements of Wilcock & Sons, the first taken from the Preston Herald of 1 August, 1896, p. 8.

Tel. 287 X.

W. WILCOCK & SONS,
 Ironmongers and Scalemakers,
 LANCASTER ROAD, PRESTON.

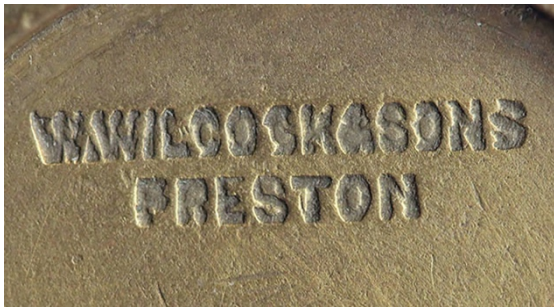
.....

SCALES AND WEIGHING MACHINES
 Of every description kept in stock.

REPAIRS AND ADJUSTMENTS EXECUTED ON THE SHORTEST
 NOTICE BY EXPERT WORKMEN.

Estimates for Periodically Repairing and Adjusting
 all classes of Weighing Instruments
 Free on application.

¶ Trade card of W. Wilcock & Sons.



¶ Details of two brass weights, a 2 oz and a 1 oz one, showing the W. Wilcock & Sons mark.

| PRESTON (continued) | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Brierley | J. Brierley was listed in 1910 [<i>Hbk</i>] as a scale repairer at 53, Pale Street. |
| Stewart | C.W. Stewart was listed in 1910 [<i>Hbk</i>] as a scale repairer at Craggs Row. |
| Jackson | W. H. Jackson, late of W & T Avery advertised in 1919 as a weighing machine and scale repairer [<i>LEP 4/6/19</i>]. W.H. Jackson and Sons were shopfitters, specialising in the repair of scales and weighing machines [<i>LEP 8/3/34</i>]; the company was acquired by Avery in 1949, for £4250 for goodwill. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4, Bamber's Yard <1917-46> • 129, Church Street <1948-53 |
| Berry & Warmington | Berry and Warmington, Ltd were first listed as scale makers and shop outfitters, in 1932 [BP]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchor Court <1932-36> • 96, Friargate <1940-53>. |
| All British Auto Scale Co | The All British Auto Scale Co, Ltd was listed in 1932 [BP], as working as scalemakers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23a Cannon Street <1932-36>. |
| Ashton | Edward Ashton was listed in 1936 [BP], as a weighing machine maker, at 194, New Hall Lane. |

| BLACKPOOL | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sutcliffe | A.Sutcliffe was listed in 1910 [<i>Hbk</i>] as a scale repairer at 17, Back Church Street. |
| Richardson | Leycester Richardson was listed as a scale maker in 1924 [BB]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back Ribble Road <1924-38>. L. Richardson & Son reappeared as repairers in 1963 at 262, Central Drive. |
| Steen | Thomas Steen Ltd had a branch in Blackpool in 1924 [BB], at 17, Back Church Street. |
| Bennett | William H. Bennett was listed as a scale maker in 1924 [BB], at Back Hornby Street. |
| Payne | William Payne was listed as a scale maker in 1924 [BB], at Back Chapel Street. |
| Avery | W & T Avery, Ltd were listed in 1934 [BB]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counce Street <1934> • 6, Deansgate <1938-53> • 302, Talbot Road <1963-5>. |
| Whitaker | The scale department of the shopfitters John Whittaker & Son was listed in 1934 [BB], at Back Hornby Road. |
| Judson | Charles W. Judson was listed as a scale maker in 1938 [BB], at 12, Bispham Road. |
| FLEETWOOD | |
| Avery | W & T Avery, Ltd were established in Fleetwood by 1953 [BB]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 164, Dock Street <1953-65>. |

References for Amounderness Hundred of Lancashire

Published Works

Directories

- BB Barrett's General and Commercial Directory of Blackpool and the Fylde ST803 1924-63
BP Barrett's General and Commercial Directory of Preston and adjacent Villages ST747 1885-1953
M Mannex's Directory of Mid Lancashire ST682 1854
MLAL Mannex's Directory of North and South Lonsdale, Amounderness, Leyland and Town of Stockport ST711 1866
MP Mannex's Directory of Preston ST729 1877
MPL Mannex's Directory of Preston, Lancaster & Districts ST744 1881
NWC North Western Counties of England Trade Directory, Vol II ST106 1936-61
P Pigot and Slater's Directory of Manchester and Salford N515 1841
S Seed's Preston Directory ST783 1904
Sa Slater's Directory of the Towns through the Manufacturing District round Manchester N77 1844
Sl Slater's Directory of Manchester ST695 1861
TC Town and County Directory of Preston, Barrow & District ST796 1913.

Newspapers

- BS Blackburn Standard 1835-1900
LEP Lancashire Evening Post 1886-1957
NDT Northern Daily Telegraph 1889-1910
PC Preston Chronicle 1831-1893
PH Preston Herald 1863-1918.

Original Documents

- Lancashire Archives: CC/CCW/1 Standards records;
CC/CCW/4 Verification Books;
QSP/xxxx/yy Papers relating to IWMs for the various Hundreds: 1821-90.