

1: Map of Premier Street, Birmingham, B7 5TQ, UK | Cylex®

Birmingham is the biggest city of Alabama, with more than thousand inhabitants. This online map shows the detailed scheme of Birmingham streets, including major sites and natural objects. Zoom in or out using the plus/minus panel.

See Acknowledgements for a link to that website. This is only one of many Astons across the country, including another close by: Little Aston near Great Barr. This large Warwickshire manor stands on the Birmingham sandstone ridge. The soil here is generally not very fertile, but it is relatively light and was easy for the early settlers to plough. The small medieval village settlement lay along Witton Lane by the parish church on a dry gravel terrace above the floodplain of the River Tame. This seems to indicate that Aston was a secondary settlement set up by an expanding mother-village to the west. However, which settlement Aston was east of is not known: Wednesbury, perhaps, a fortified settlement, whose pre-Christian name derives from the Anglo-Saxon god Woden. A glance at the map suggests other alternatives: William Hutton described the site: One hundred yards north of the church, in a perfect swamp, stood the hall; probably erected by Godmund [the Saxon lord of the manor at Domesday], or his family: The trenches are obliterated by the floods, so as to render the place unobserved by the stranger: I believe there never was more than one house erected on the spot, and that was one too much. The site, which is known to have been moated, was out of use by , but was not finally built over until the 19th century. The manorial mill, which is also mentioned in the Domesday Book, stood nearby on the Tame near Electric Avenue, though here too the course of the river has been changed. It is not known what, if any, was his relationship to Thomas, son of William de Erdington who is known to have been holding the manor c Thomas was succeeded after his death c by his son, Giles who was in turn succeeded by his nephew Henry de Erdington. The line subsequently died out and the manor was sold off in to the enterprising John atte Holte of Birmingham through whose family it descended to Sir Thomas Holte. He it was who enclosed the park and built the present Aston Hall. In he was created a baronet by King James I. On the death in of the sixth and last baronet, Sir Charles Holte, Aston passed to his daughter Mary, the wife of Abraham Bracebridge of Atherstone who still held the manor in On the death without issue of their grandson, Charles Holte Bracebridge, in the line extinguished and the manorial rights lapsed. Aston Church seen behind the main entrance to Aston Hall Park - date unknown. See Acknowledgements for a link to this website. Noted at Domesday as one of only two local manors with a priest Northfield was the other , Aston is one of the ancient parishes of Birmingham. The 15th-century tower is now the only part of the medieval gothic church to survive; its tall octagonal spire was rebuilt in By the end of the Georgian period, the pointed gothic windows of the chancel and nave had been replaced with neo-classical round arches, the interior filled with high box pews, the roof ceiled and the whole was an unhappy mix of medieval gothic and 18th-century neo-classical. Chatwin reset 14th-century stonework into in the south wall of south aisle and the piscina is from the original chapel of the Virgin Mary. Most of the work was done c, though the south aisle and porch date from The church has many good monuments including an unknown knight of and a lady c, possibly brought here from Maxstoke Abbey. In the choir is the effigy of Ralph Arden d. In the Erdington Chapel, originally a chantry built by their son in , are effigies of Sir Thomas de Erdington d. Sir Thomas is shown in full armour and formerly wore a collar bearing the Lancastrian insignia of the red rose presented to him by King Henry V. Sir William Harcourt d. A number of the Holte family are also commemorated here, including William Holte d. Their memorials in the north aisle are of poorer quality and were probably carved by a local mason copying other tombs. Sir Edward Devereux d. Here too a memorial to Sir John Bridgeman d. Fragments of the carved 12th-century preaching cross have been placed in the south chapel See Aston Cross. On the wall of the Meeting Room is the bust of John Rogers, born in Deritend, who was burnt at the stake in for his part in translating the Bible into English. The bust is clothed in Victorian style and was made in paid by public subscription. In two new trebles were added and the old fourth and the tenor were recast. He became an accomplished ringer, conductor and composer and was nationally known. As a result of this meeting of eminent ringers, the Central Council of Change Ringers was set up which still thrives. When Johnson died in , his friend John Day said of him: Whether as companion, friend, ringer, conductor, or composer it is doubtful

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whether the Exercise will ever again meet with his equal. It is now a City museum and well worth a visit. Sir Thomas stood for the royalist cause during the Civil War. The captured booty was sent to the parliamentary garrison at Warwick Castle and the royal guards were sent to Coventry, also a parliamentary stronghold. On 26 December the following year Sir Thomas was also to suffer for his royalist allegiance. A force of parliamentary soldiers and Birmingham townfolk besieged Aston Hall. Although bolstered by forty royalist musketeers sent from Dudley Castle, Sir Thomas was forced to surrender after three days in the face of overwhelming troops and artillery. Twelve defenders and sixty attackers were killed in the siege, most of whom lie buried in unmarked graves in Aston churchyard nearby. The hall was then held for Parliament until the end of the war. The damage caused by cannon shot and the guilty cannon ball may still be seen on the main staircase. In the Holte line died out and the hall was sold; it was bought c by James Watt Junior. After his death in a private company bought it to open to the public, but it was to be another ten years before it was officially opened by Queen Victoria. In Birmingham Corporation bought the parkland as a public park and set up the hall as a museum and art gallery. Aston was built up largely with working-class housing from the midth century. Much of this older housing was demolished during the last quarter of the 20th century. However, some streets of good quality housing remain around Aston Park. Villa Park, with the Holte Hotel in the foreground. This building had lain empty and dishevelled for many years until it was restored by the club for the season. These had opened in in the parkland of Aston Hall, part of which was laid out as a public park, while travelling fairs and exhibitions used the rest of the site. After permanent buildings were erected to house a theatre, ballroom, art gallery, aquarium, zoo and restaurants. Later a cycle track, sports ground, bowling greens and an indoor skating rink were added. In , a limited liability company was formed to take to the hotel and premises, building an aquarium feet long by 54 feet wide, an assembly-room, feet long, by 91 feet wide, and otherwise catering for the comfort of their visitors, 10, of whom can be now entertained and amused under shelter, in case of wet weather. The visitors to the Lower Grounds since have averaged , per annum. Aston Villa Football Club has played here since It is rated a 4-star UEFA stadium. Despite extensive housing redevelopment on east side of Aston, a number of fine Victorian public houses survive. It is built in brick and terracotta in a Jacobean style probably after Aston Hall and is topped by a statue of Britannia. Internally Victorian decoration survives: Click to enlarge these images of Victorian public houses on the Lichfield Road.

2: Map of Birmingham - Hotels and Attractions on a Birmingham map - TripAdvisor

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