

Preston

**The development of a city throughout
the centuries**

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Englisch bei Frau Kaphegyi



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Preston

The development of a city throughout the centuries

1. General information

Preston is a city in the shire county of Lancashire, in the North West of England in the sovereign state of the United Kingdom. It's "located on the north bank of the River Ribble." (picture 1) 114,300 people live there (ONS, June 2008).¹ With 142.22km² it's about 65km² smaller than Stuttgart.²

"... The name Preston is derived from Old English words meaning "Priest settlement" and in the Domesday Book appears as Prestune."³ The Domesday Book was completed in 1086 and it's a collection of the great survey of England and Wales.⁴

2. Pre-industrial era (shortly before the IR)

The plague in November 1631 killed 1100 people in Preston in 12 month. The civil war from 1630 to 1650 and the Battle of Preston in 1648 have been very bad for the town, too.⁵ The Jacobite Battle in November 1715 describes the battle, when the troops of King George defeated a Jacobite Army of 2,000 soldiers in the Church Street of Preston.⁶

It had no manufacture in 1725, but anyway visitors noted Preston as a fine and cheerful place in the 18th century. Even when it was not as wealthy as Manchester or Liverpool.⁷ "Preston at this time was a compact town surrounded by market gardens, orchards, fields and larger houses."⁸ I can imagine how beautiful it was.

Richard Arkwright (picture 2), born in Preston, developed his water frame which enabled the multi-spindled Spinning Jenny to be powered. It was patented in 1769 and it made Arkwright a wealthy man, even when it was later denied and withdrawn.⁹

¹ Vgl. www.wikipedia.de, Artikel: Preston, Lancashire. Autor: Unbekannt.

² Vgl. www.wikipedia.de, Artikel: City of Preston, Lancashire. Und Artikel: Stuttgart. Autoren: Unbekannt.

³ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 1).

⁴ Vgl. www.wikipedia.de, Artikel: Domesday Book. Autor: Unbekannt.

⁵ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: History, page 1, Modern Ages. Autor: Peter .

⁶ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 5).

⁷ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 5).

⁸ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 5).

⁹ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 5).

3. How the city changed during the industrialization

Arkwright's water frame couldn't be used during the industrialization, because "...Preston had no fast running streams..." then. But because of that, the production was based on the Spinning Jenny by Hargreaves and the Mule by Crompton, which needed hand, horse or windmill to be powered.¹⁰

The cotton industry developed from the first cotton mill in Preston in 1777, the cotton manufacturing became also the largest employer in the 19th century.¹¹

"John Horrocks (picture 3) is probably the most important person in the history of Preston's cotton industry."¹² He was one of the major founders of cotton there.

Some of Preston's greatest buildings were built in that era, like the Town Hall in 1862, the Harris Library, Art Gallery and Institute in 1893 and the Miller Arcade in 1898. They also built parks in the middle of the 1800's to employ people who were hit by the cotton famine in 1860.¹³ So Preston almost looked like it looks today.

Now to the factories in Preston (picture 4): In 1777 William Collison built the first spinning mill in Moor Lane. John Watson built a factory in Lower Penwortham in 1785, and he bought one in Dale Street in 1803, but it was also built in 1785. John Horrocks first factory in Preston was built in 1791. It was called "Yellow Factory".¹⁴ Preston became a town with lots of big factories. They were the main employers for the people in that time.

"In 1799 Mr. Cross bought a field from Mr. Winckley and created Winckley Square." It was an area, which was changing the town, for the gentry, set away and upwind of the industry and it also hosted the main educational institutions of the town.¹⁵

Preston's population grew from 12,000 in 1800, to 70,000 in 1850, to 100,000 in 1880. That means 88,000 new people in 80 years, which is enormously! The population growth also demanded an increase in religious establishments, which meant lots of new churches.¹⁶

¹⁰ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: History, page 2, History of Preston 1780 to 1900. Autor: Peter .

¹¹ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: Cotton, Cotton in Preston. Autor: Peter .

¹² Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: Cotton, 1768 John Horrocks (1768-1804). Autor: Peter .

¹³ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 10) und Artikel: History, page 2, Major Building. Autor: Peter .

¹⁴ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 10).

¹⁵ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: History, page 2, Winckley Square 1799. Autor: Peter .

¹⁶ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, Artikel: History, page 2, 19th Century. Autor: Peter .

And Preston was the town, with the most infant mortalities in Britain in the time of 1880. ¹⁷ This means that lots of newborns died right after they were born.

The Preston Strike on the 13th August in 1842 is probably also very famous. A group of cotton workers demonstrated against the bad conditions of their work. ¹⁸

The famous philosopher Karl Marx visited this town in the 1850s and he called it the next St. Petersburg. And the writer Charles Dickens also visited Preston in 1854. At this time there was a strike by cotton workers, too. His visit was part of his research for the novel “Hard Times”. ¹⁹

Because of all these factors Preston changed very much during the 19th century. The result was that it transformed from a small market town into a bigger industrial town.

4. Developments in the 20th century

“Cinemas were being built on Church Street with the Empire, Palladium, New Victoria (and) Ritz in a cluster.” ²⁰

In the Second World War Preston adjusted its industry to the wartime production. And because of the worst winter known in the UK, they closed the railway in January 1940. A factory in Strand Road became a so called “shadow” aircraft manufacturing plant. They made thousands of bombs there. And even one bomb dropped on Ward Street in Lostock Hall, it killed lots of people. ²¹

The Gothic Public Hall, better known as the Town Hall, burnt down in 1947. They started to close the cotton mills in the 1950s. In the 1960s they destroyed lots of buildings to create high rise flats, shopping centers and also new roads. They also built Secondary Modern Schools. Some of those new buildings were for example the Crystal House (place of the old Town Hall), St. Georges Shopping Center, Harris College Technical building, the new bus station or the Guild Hall. ²²

The large factory in Strand Road closed in 1990. It was demolished and over 4,000 people who worked there lost their job. ²³

¹⁷ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 16).

¹⁸ Vgl. www.wikipedia.de, Artikel: Preston, Lancashire, Industrial Revolution. Autor: Unbekannt.

¹⁹ Vgl. Siehe Fußnote 18).

²⁰ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, History, page 3, 1900 to now, 1918 – 1940. Autor: Peter .

²¹ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, History, page 3, Second World War. Autor: Peter .

²² Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, History, page 3, 1946 – 1980. Autor: Peter .

²³ Vgl. www.madeinpreston.co.uk, History, page 3, 1990 – now. Autor: Peter .

5. The city today

Today (picture 5) Preston is the main regional centre with good rail and road links, a good shopping area and a great culture with the Harris Art Gallery. Since 2011 there are a few new hotels and the Harris Museum (picture 6) is spending lots of money to recreate the history of Preston.²⁴

Preston became “England’s 50th city in the 50th year of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign.”²⁵ It received the city status in 2002 and it became the first new English city since Brighton, Hove and Wolverhampton.²⁶

“(And) the Guild Wheel is public footpath, created in 2012 in celebration of the Guild of Preston.”²⁷ The Preston Guild is an event celebrated every 20 years since 1542. Before that time it wasn’t celebrated regularly. Last time it was celebrated in 2012. It’s the only Guild which is still celebrated in the United Kingdom. It’s an historical event, which took place in the 12th century, when King Henry II gave Preston the right to have a Guild Merchant. The Guild Festival lasts for 10 days with a bright program of arts, culture, sports and community.²⁸

²⁴ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 23).

²⁵ Vgl. siehe Fußnote 1).

²⁶ Vgl. www.bbc.co.uk/news/, Artikel: ‘Proud Preston’ wins city status. Autor: BBC.

²⁷ Vgl. www.wikipedia.de, Artikel: Preston, Lancashire, Transport. Autor: Unbekannt.

²⁸ Vgl. www.visitpreston.com/events/, Artikel: Preston Guild. Autor: Unbekannt.



Picture 1

A map of Preston

(http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1f/Map_of_Preston.png)



Picture 2

Richard Arkwright (<http://www.cromfordmill.co.uk/richard-arkwright.jpg>)



Picture 3

John Horrocks

(http://www.cleo.net.uk/followtheyarn/timeline/images/horrocks_john.jpg)



Picture 4

Textile factory in Preston (<http://fashioninganethicalindustry.org/file/oldhistory.jpg/>)



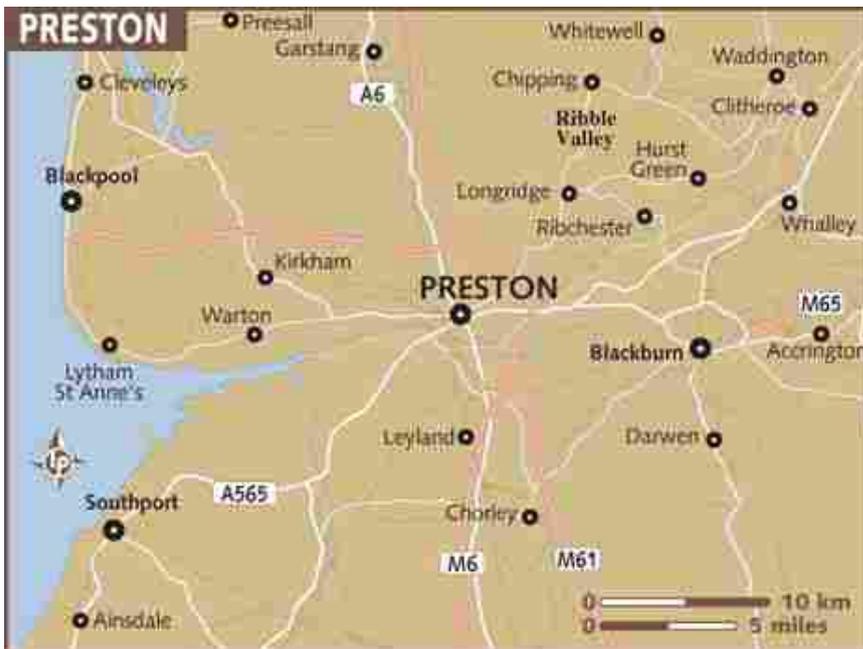
Picture 5

Preston's Skyline in 2002 (http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/prestonian/Preston_Skyline.jpg)



Picture 6

Harris Museum (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Harris_Museum,_Preston_1-Oct-07_232-0021.jpg)



Picture 7

Location of Preston in England
(http://www.lonelyplanet.com/maps/europe/england/preston/map_of_preston.jpg)

Eigenständigkeitserklärung:

Ich versichere hiermit, dass ich die Inhalte meiner Ausarbeitung und meines Vortrages in allen Teilen selbstständig recherchiert und zusammengestellt habe. Textstellen, Grafiken und Bilder in meinen schriftlichen Unterlagen, die wörtlich oder dem Sinn nach der Literatur oder anderen Quellen entnommen sind, habe ich als Entlehnung kenntlich gemacht.

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Literatur- und Quellenverzeichnis:

BBC:

Website: www.bbc.co.uk

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Website: www.en.wikipedia.org

Artikel: Preston, Lancashire. Letzte Aktualisierung: 22. Dezember 2012.

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Artikel: Domesday Book. Letzte Aktualisierung: 12. Dezember 2012.

Artikel: Stuttgart. Letzte Aktualisierung: 31. Dezember 2012.

Website: www.visitpreston.com

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, Peter:

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Artikel: History. History of Preston – Page 3 – 1900 to now. Letzte Aktualisierung: 10. Dezember 2012.

Artikel: Cotton. Letzte Aktualisierung: 6. Dezember 2012.

Anmerkung:

Ich weiß den Namen des Autors der Webseite: www.madeinpreston.co.uk, weil ich ihn kontaktiert habe über den Link: "Contact the site author", auf der angegebenen Seite.

Die E-Mails finden Sie im Anhang.

Anhang:

On 29 December 2012 16:50, Desiree Le Claire wrote:

Hello

my name is Desiree and I'm from Germany.

I have to write an essay about the history of Preston for school.

I have to notice all the sources I'm using, including authors etc.

First: Would it be okay to take information from your site, if I notice it in the Bibliography?

Second: Who is the author of the site, because I have to notice him or her as well.

I would be happy if you'd answer me soon.

Have a nice week and a good start in the New Year.

Greetings from Germany

Desiree Le Claire (29th December, 2012)

PS: Your website is very helpful. Thank you. :)

On 31 December 2012 10:38, Peter wrote:

Hi Desiree,

You can use whatever you like from the website for your school essay. Please use the website name *www.madeinpreston.co.uk* by Peter . That is public information.

My sister learnt German and spent quite a bit of time in Germany in a student exchange about 45 years ago. I recall we had Marita Weiss staying with us.

I hope your essay works out well and would like to put it on the website if you send it to me. Although I guess it will be in German but that doesn't matter as I like things that are different.

Wiedersehen

Peter