

# Sunderland Point: Conservation Area Assessment

## Why is Sunderland Point Conservation Area special?

Sunderland Point is a small village situated at the tip of a peninsula along the Lune estuary and south west of Overton. The name originates from its physical division from other settlements by salt marshes and the tide twice a day. Sunderland Point is a very linear formation and consists of two terraces, which are fronted by the remains of a Quay and both face onto the Lune estuary. The boundary also includes the marshland and fields to the west of the settlement.

The village originated as a transshipment point for Lancaster port in the early-18<sup>th</sup> century as there were issues with the silting further upstream on the River Lune. Robert Lawson, a Lancaster Quaker merchant, developed the 'outport' at Sunderland Point c.1715. Most of the buildings were established as warehouses and an anchor smithy and ropewalk were also constructed. To the west of the Conservation Area is Sambo's grave, a slave whom died upon arrival at Sunderland Point and was buried in unconsecrated ground on the marshland.

In the late-18<sup>th</sup> century, the 'outport' became replaced by Glasson Dock and the area later became known as Cape Famine by sailors. The area then briefly became a popular seabathing destination in the early-19<sup>th</sup> century for the upper classes and this led to many of the warehouses being converted to holiday accommodation.

## General

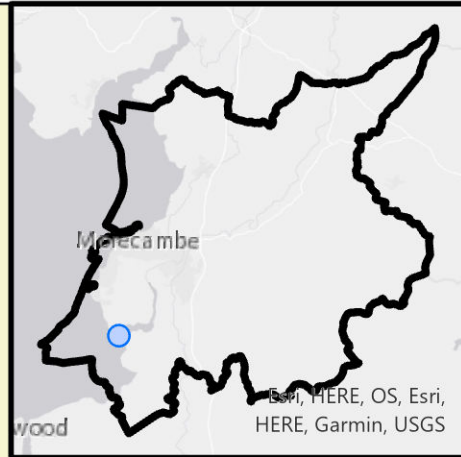
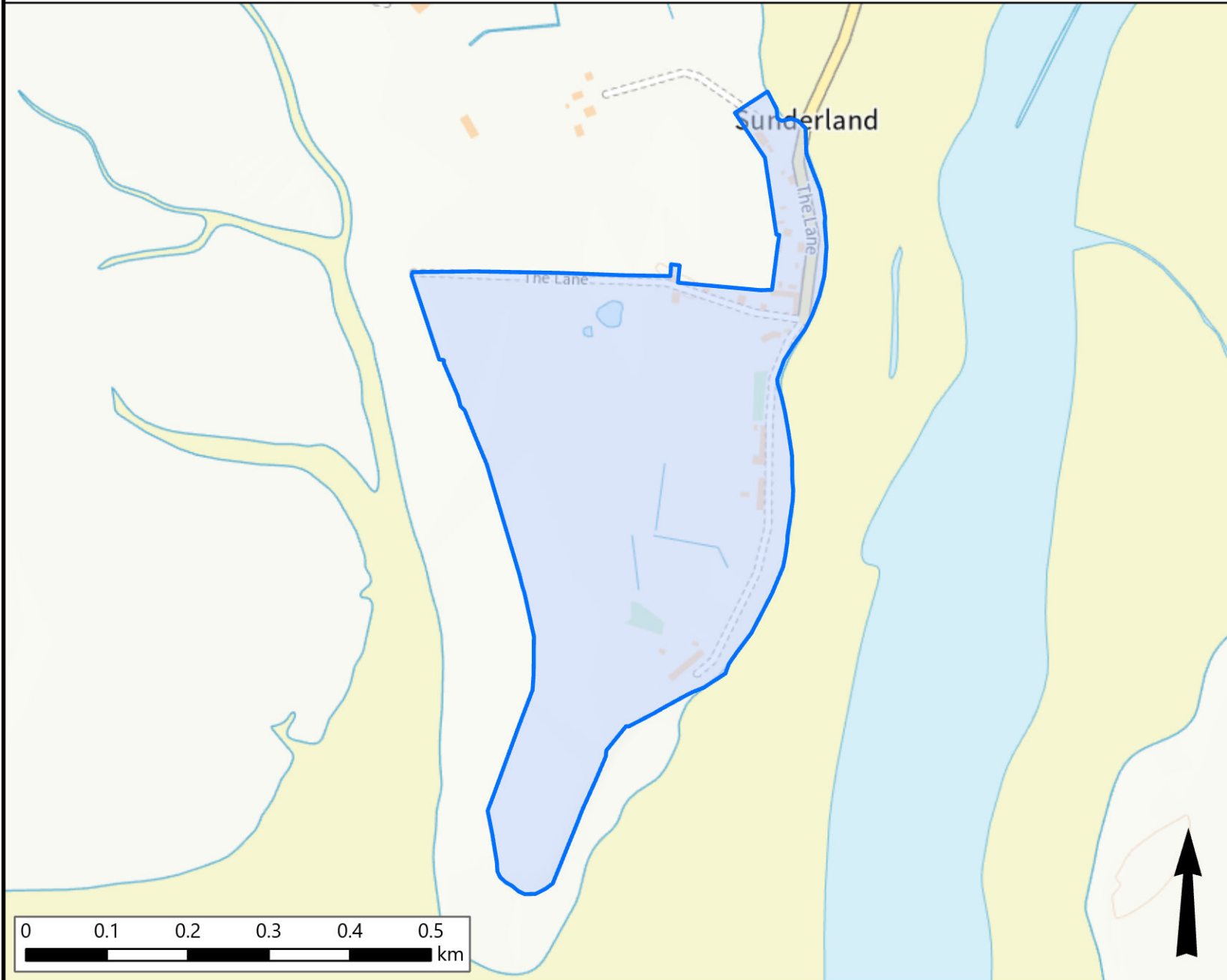
- Setting on a peninsula, physically divided by salt marshes and the tide twice a day
- Linear arrangement of buildings facing the Lune estuary; split into two terraces which are referred to as 'First Terrace' and 'Second Terrace'
- Historic importance as a port in the early-18<sup>th</sup> century, developed by Robert Lawson
- Associated with the importation of cotton, sugar and slave ships from the West Indies and North America
- Origins of many of the buildings as warehouses, which have since been converted to residential use
- Neo-Classical and Georgian styles of houses
- Prevalent use of sandstone walling, mostly rendered due to the exposed location, and pitched slate roofs
- Views of Glasson Dock and the Lune estuary

## Important buildings and features



- 1 The Lane (Grade II) - early-18<sup>th</sup> century house, which may have been built as a brew house for the Ship Inn at Overton and is reported to have been where Sambo died
- Sambo's Grave
- Wharf (Grade II) - reportedly the stonework was used from the ruins of Cockersands Abbey
- Gatepier (Grade II) - rusticated pier with ball finial is a distinctive reminder of the former historic use of the area as a port
- 16 and 17 Second Terrace (Grade II) - large mid-18<sup>th</sup> century warehouses converted to residential use

- Old Hall (Grade II) - a late-17<sup>th</sup> century house which pre-dates the construction of the port
- Cobbled flooring along the public realm

Conservation Area Name	Area (ha)	Designation Date
Sunderland Point	22.76	1981



### Legend

-  Conservation Areas
-  Lancaster District Boundary

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Scale: 1:7,000, if printed on A4

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