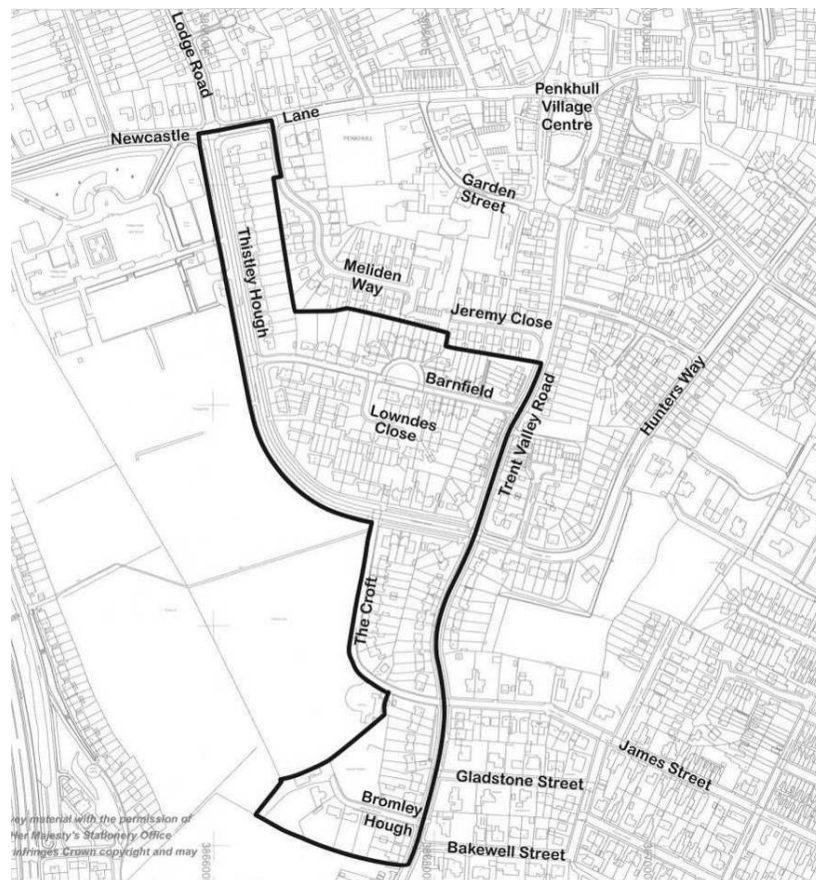


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## 2. The Study Area

- 2.1 Penkhull is a suburb of Stoke-upon-Trent, sitting high up on a ridge above the town. Originally a small settlement within the Manor of Newcastle, the village of Penkhull grew from an early settlement to a village in the 16<sup>th</sup> century; it now merges with the late nineteenth-early twentieth century suburban sprawl of Stoke-upon-Trent which has grown up between Stoke and the suburbs of Newcastle-under-Lyme.
- 2.2 The area has a village and rural feel and whilst having wide tree lined roads in some places also has narrow curved roads over which hedges and trees hang creating a feeling of seclusion, peacefulness and tranquillity. The curved roads create surprises as you round the corner as does the crescent in Barnfield which is reminiscent of a village green. All the houses have good sized gardens, especially front gardens and none of the houses front directly onto the street giving a feeling of space. The strong symmetry and repetition of details on the buildings creates a sense of inclusion and community and enhances the village feel. The wide open spaces to the West of the area reinforce the village feel.
- 2.3 Penkhull was primarily an agricultural community, and remained this way until after the Second World War. However the garden village was built as a distinctive estate rather than the vernacular and accumulation approach of the surrounding area.
- 2.4 The area currently has a very strong population and is a popular place to live in Stoke-upon-Trent.



**FIGURE 1:** Current map of the Conservation Area