**History: Local history study – Handsworth Road**

**Year 4**

A drawing of a church

Description automatically generated

**Key facts**

* Handsworth is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086.
* St Mary’s church dates back to 1170 and is said to be founded by William De Lovetot or his father, Richard De Lovetot.
* The estate of Handsworth was passed to the De Lovetots by the half-brother of William the Conqueror.
* William de Lovetot was a Norman baron who is said to be the founder of the city of Sheffield.
* Handsworth was its own village until 1921, when it became part of Sheffield.
* The Chantry Inn (formerly Cross Keys) is one of the only pubs on consecrated ground.
* There are seven listed buildings adjacent to Handsworth Road.
* Handsworth Road used to be home to huge plant nurseries, and many local people were employed as ‘nurserymen’.

*Image:* [*www.picturesheffield.com*](http://www.picturesheffield.com) *(Ref s04682)*

**Key vocabulary**

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| --- | --- |
| **Significance** | The quality of being worthy of attention; importance |
| **St Mary’s Church** | Ancient Norman church still in use on Handsworth Road |
| **Rectory** | Where the rector of the church lives |
| **Parish** | A small administrative district, typically having its own church and a priest or pastor |
| **Listed** | Being specially noted for historical significance |
| **Nursery** | A place where young plants and trees are grown for sale or for planting elsewhere |
| **Trade directory** | A book listing individuals or organisations alphabetically or thematically, with details such as names, addresses and phone numbers |
| **Occupation** | A job or profession |
| **Residents** | A person who lives somewhere permanently or on a long-term basis |
| **Consecrated** | (of a church or land) Having been made or declared sacred |

**Historical skills**

* Plot recent history on a timeline using centuries.
* Place periods of history on a timeline showing periods of time.
* Explain how events from the past have helped to shape our lives.
* Recognise that the lives of wealthy people were very different from those of poor people.
* Appreciate how items found belonging to the past are helping us to build up an accurate picture of how people lived in the past.
* Give more than one reason to support an historical argument.
* Communicate knowledge and understanding orally and in writing, and offer points of view based upon what they have found out.

**Enquiry questions**

* How significant is Handsworth Road in the history of Sheffield?
* Where is our place in the history of the local area?
* What are the key features of Handsworth Road and how has it changed over time?
* What parts of Sheffield’s history can we see on Handsworth Road?
* Who has lived and worked on Handsworth Road?
* How significant is St Mary’s church to Handsworth Road?

**Why don’t you…**

1. Conduct an interview with a trusted adult who has lived in Handsworth for a long time?
2. Find evidence of older buildings on Handsworth Road with a parent/carer?
3. Find the oldest grave in the cemetery at St Mary’s Church?

**Website links**

[https://stmaryshandsworth.org.uk](https://stmaryshandsworth.org.uk/)

<https://historicengland.org.uk/sitesearch?searchType=site&search=handsworth+sheffield>

**Historical concepts**

**Significance**

Who is Handsworth Road significant to? Why? Children will develop their own understanding of the importance of the history of Handsworth Road to Handsworth and Sheffield.

**Change and continuity**

What evidence of the past can we see on Handsworth Road? How important is this today? Children will build their understanding of how things remain and develop over time.