

Summary

This report contains the results of a consideration of the historical, archaeological and map evidence relating Newton Studland.

Historical Background

The town of Newton, Studland is known only from documentary sources. In 1286, King Edward I appointed two men to lay out a new town with a harbour at *Gotowre super Mare* in the parish of Studland. In that same year Edward granted the burgesses of *Nova Villa* in Dorset two weekly markets and an annual fair. It is likely that these two documents record the same place, though the precise location of the town is not known. Current thinking places the likely location of the town at the end of Newton

Bay near Newton Cottage on the west side of Goathorn Point. A number of ditched enclosures have been identified and excavated in this location, but no remains that can be categorically shown to belong to the town.

By the fifteenth century the name 'Newton' had become attached to a farm, and the location of the town had been lost.

Town morphology

Nothing is known of the form of the town. The documentary evidence records that the two men, Richard de Bosco and Walter de Marisco, were commanded to lay out the town with sufficient streets and lanes, adequate sites for a



Figure 1: Vertical aerial photographic view of Newton, 2005 (© Getmapping.com, 2005).

market and church, and plots for merchants and others. It is unclear whether the town was fully laid out and how many tenements were occupied.

Built character

There is only a single standing building, Newton Cottage, in the area. This cottage is of late 17th or early 18th century date.

Landscape Setting

Newton lies on the south side of Poole Harbour at the head of a shallow bay, Newton Bay. The land is generally low-lying with a series of low gravel ridges and knolls. Much of the area is now forestry plantations, which cover the former heathland.

Historic Urban Character

The area is completely rural in character and reflects the history of the area in the late medieval and later periods, comprising the remnants

of small dispersed settlements or farmsteads with small irregular fields enclosed from the heathland and 19th and 20th century forestry plantations. The area also retains some remnants of the 19th century clay extraction industry in the area.

Further Research

This report has highlighted our current knowledge of Newton, Studland. It has also indicated gaps in our knowledge and areas which would repay further research.

The main areas of suggested further research include:

- Research into the location of the town of Newton.
- Research into the physical form of the town.