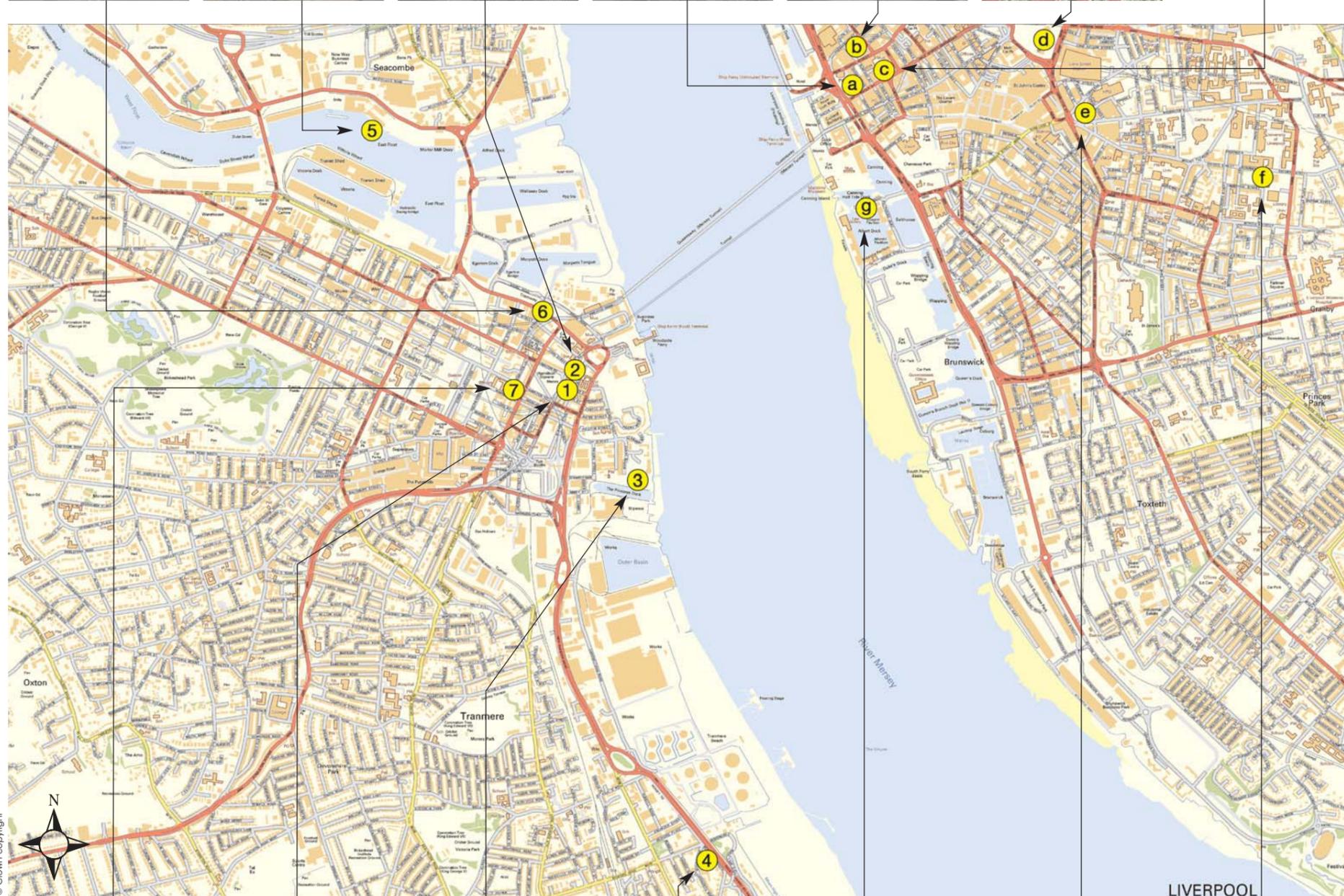


Wirral receives its American Civil War Designation



American Civil War Heritage Sites

Below is a list of some of the sites that are responsible for the designation as a Civil War Heritage Site by the Civil War Preservation Trust.

Wirral Sites:

- 1 **Birkenhead Town Hall (now the Wirral Museum)** - Hosting an American Civil War exhibition, with an original model of the Alabama, and a Samuel Walters painting of the Alabama and other artefacts.
- 2 **John Laird MP** - Town House and Statue in Hamilton Square. John Laird's company built the Confederate Raider Alabama in 1862.
- 3 **No.4 Dock** at the Apprentice Training Centre at Monks Ferry. After the keel of the Alabama was laid on a slip in the John Laird's shipyard it was fitted out in the No.4 dock. This is best viewed from St Mary's Church Tower at the Priory (which is the oldest building in Merseyside). Close by in St Mary's churchyard is John Laird's grave.
- 4 **Manor House** (St Margaret's) Mersey Lane, Rock Ferry. Home of Stephen Watson, cotton merchant, mentioned in the book 'Confederate Secret Agent' by Edward Anderson. Stephen's wife was an American from North Carolina and a Southern sympathiser.
- 5 **Great Float/Uveco Building**, it was alongside this building that the CSS Shenandoah was moored after she surrendered to the British government and prior to being sold. Also moored here was the CSS Sumter.
- 6 **Canning Street** - Reported by Union Private Detective William Passmore, 25th July 1862, who met the sailors, thirty in number walking along Canning Street playing 'Dixie' on a comoean, fife and concertina, they took the 4.30 ferry to Liverpool.
- 7 **28 Argyle Street**, which during the ACW was called the 'Argyle Rooms' where many meetings were held, as they were all over the NW England on the call for emancipation of the slaves.

Liverpool Sites:

- a **Tower Buildings, The Strand** - Thomas Haines Dudley had his office in 69 Tower Buildings. He was the United States Consul from 1861-72; most of the happenings in Liverpool during this period were documented by him and sent back to the US. Also in the building was a small US depository run by Bearing Bros bank.
- b **10 Rumford Place** - Offices of Fraser & Trenholme and the Confederate depository, all monies and loans raised were paid into the depository under the name of General Colin McRae who was the Treasury Bursar for the Confederacy - James D Bulloch used some of these funds to purchase the Alabama from John Laird & Sons.
- c **Liverpool Town Hall** - In June 1877 Ulysses S Grant Commander in Chief of the Union army and President of the USA 1869-77, arrived in Liverpool (and was announced by Lord Beaconsfield that he would be received in Britain as a Sovereign). He stayed at the Adelphi Hotel (the original hotel was replaced by the existing Adelphi Hotel in 1912). He was fêted by the people of Liverpool who held a civic reception for him at the Town Hall.
- d **St George's Hall** - In September 1864 the Leading Ladies of Liverpool organised a 'Southern Bazaar' in aid of Confederate prisoners of war. They raised £20,000.
- e **Adelphi Hotel** - President of USA, General Ulysses S Grant stayed here in June 1877 and President of the Confederacy States, Jefferson Davis stayed here in 1868.
- f **19 Abercromby Square** - The home of Charles K Prioleau who managed the offices of Fraser & Trenhome. When building the house, he had many items built into the stone work outside and the ceilings and walls inside, which represent South Carolina the first state to secede from the Union.
- g **Maritime Museum** - Model and painting of the Alabama and cotton exchange archives.

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Please be aware that many of these sites are in use today as industrial and business premises.