



From coal mining to gold medals

The area around Philips Park has a rich industrial heritage. Former industries include coal mining, cotton mills, engineering works, coking works, power production and chemicals.

Famous local industries include Bradford Colliery: coal had been mined in the area since Tudor times, and Bradford coal was used to power the very first cotton mills in Manchester. Deep mine shafts were sunk in the nineteenth century, and in the early twentieth century there was a conveyor belt that took coal to the nearby power station. Bradford Colliery finally closed in 1968.

Johnson and Nephew's wire works was similarly famous, supplying wire for the first transatlantic cables and many other products exported all over the world. By the 1980s, most of these traditional industries had closed and the surrounding area was largely derelict with many social problems.

East Manchester has been massively transformed and work is continuing by the work of New East Manchester and the development of SportCity. In 2002, East Manchester was the focus of the XVII Commonwealth Games, which brought a wealth of new development to the area, including:

- The City of Manchester Stadium
- The National Cycling Centre (Manchester Velodrome)
- The English Institute of Sport
- National Squash Centre
- Regional Athletics Arena
- Indoor Tennis Centre
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For information about SportCity, please visit the SportCity Visitor Centre or check out the website at www.sportcity-manchester.com