
SYNOPSIS

This report comprises a programme of building recording and site assessment prepared at the request of Strickland Design Consultancy Ltd., on behalf of their client to accompany an application for Listed Building Consent to demolish the property known as Ivy House, Marsh Lane, Astmoor, Runcorn. The property is a Grade II Listed building designated in April 1978 which now stands in isolation on a strip of land wedged between Astmoor Industrial Estate and the A588 Expressway.

Ivy House is a two-storey mid to late 18th century house with cellar and attic rooms built in Georgian style with a two-storey rear wing. Throughout the 19th century and for most of the 20th century the property was known as Astmoor Farmhouse.

The low lying marshland at Astmoor remained relatively undeveloped until the mid-18th century. This situation was greatly transformed by the construction of the Bridgewater Canal in 1759. The canal reached Runcorn in the 1760s and attracted industrial development along its banks including Astmoor Tannery, which stood southwest of Astmoor Farm. In this late 18th century period, the Tannery and Astmoor Farm appear to have been constructed.

The economic depression of the 1930s may have aided its demise of the farm. By 1937, the Tannery has expanded north and housing has developed along the north side of Marsh Lane; both projects taking in agricultural land. During this period, the farmhouse may have been renamed as Ivy House and split into 1a and 3a Marsh Lane.

The closure of Astmoor Tannery in 1962 signifies the major changes that are taking place. In 1964 Runcorn was designated as a New Town to house the overspill from nearby Liverpool. The countryside retreated and buildings in the countryside were demolished as the modern town expanded in the late 1960s – 70s period. By the early 1970s the industrial estate at Astmoor was completed erasing all buildings apart from the former farmhouse now known as Ivy House. The last known use of the building was as a cattery before purchase by the current owner. Since this time the house has remained empty and been subjected to considerable vandalism.

The use of a building as a dwelling became impossible when modern demands created the new industrial estate and Expressway that flank the site. The Listed building can no longer be reconciled with its modern surroundings.

The integrity and setting of the Ivy House is now totally compromised. The building has been on fire, most of the roofline has fallen in, walls are unstable and the building is totally derelict. The site is surrounded by overgrown broadleaf. The secluded location of the building has resulted in it being frequented by youths and people taking drugs. Discarded alcohol containers litter the site together with evidence that people are sleeping rough on the site.

This report concludes that despite its designated status, it is no longer practical to retain the building in this location.

The current programme of work has ensured that a record has been made of the building prior to any future works.

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Abbreviations:

CHER	Cheshire Historic Environment Record
CRO	Cheshire Record Office (Cheshire Archives)
DOE	Department of the Environment
EH	English Heritage
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists
NMR	National Monuments Record
OS	Ordnance Survey
RCHME	Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of Strickland Design Consultancy Ltd., on behalf of their client Ralph Avis, to accompany an application for Listed Building Consent to demolish the property known as Ivy House, Marsh Lane, Astmoor, Runcorn (Fig. 1; NGR SJ 5376 8299). The property is a Grade II Listed building designated in April 1978.

1.2 Listed buildings in general have statutory protection under the Planning Act of 1990, having been designated as being of national historic, architectural or archaeological interest. Ivy House is a two-storey mid to late 18th century house with cellar and attic rooms built in Georgian style with a two-storey rear wing. Throughout the 19th century and for most of the 20th century the property was known as Astmoor Farmhouse. The farm gave way to the modern Astmoor Industrial Estate constructed in the 1970s period, the range of farm buildings was removed and Ivy House now stands in isolation on a strip of land wedged between the industrial estate and the A588 Expressway, which was built in the 1980s.

1.3 The integrity and setting of the Listed building has been totally compromised. The building has been on fire, most of the roofline has fallen in, walls are unstable and the building is totally derelict. The site is surrounded by overgrown broadleaf. The secluded location of the building has resulted in it being frequented by youths and people taking drugs. Discarded alcohol containers litter the site together with evidence that people are sleeping rough on the site.

1.4 In recognition of the statutory status of the building, Marie Farrow, Historic Conservation Officer (Buildings), Cheshire County Council Environmental Planning Service, and Nathan Renison, Senior Planning Policy Officer, Environmental Regulatory Services, Halton Borough Council, have advised that a programme of building recording and site assessment should accompany the application for demolition.

2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aim of the assessment is to set the application buildings in their historical and archaeological context; to identify and photographically record any changes in fabrics and phasing of the buildings and / or significant individual architectural features which may contribute to the character of the historic building, and to provide a comprehensive record of the building prior to demolition, as far as these aims are possible.

2.2 The report is designed to give an indication to the planners of the appropriateness of the proposals for the building.

2.3 Demolition of the building may also have an impact on any archaeological deposits preserved on site. The site assessment will also aim to assess the impact that any proposed works may have on any such archaeological deposits.

3. HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING METHODOLOGY

3.1 Historic Building Recording comprises a review of secondary sources of information (printed material and cartographic evidence) and a site assessment to be followed by a written and illustrated report on the historical and / or architectural significance of the building to be affected by current proposals. The Historic Building Recording follows the guidelines of *DoE Planning Policy Guideline Note 16* (Nov. 1990); the broad specifications defined as Level 2/3 survey by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England in *Recording Historic Buildings – A Descriptive Specification* and English Heritage guidance in *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* (2006).

3.2 The assessment has been undertaken within the Guidelines and Codes of Conduct set out by the Institute of Field Archaeologists; in particular the *IFA Code of Conduct* (1997); the IFA Standard and Guidance Papers on *Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* (1999) and *Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2001).

3.3 The desk-based assessment has examined readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, photographic and oral sources at the County Historic Environment Record (CHER) held by Cheshire County Council; Cheshire Archives (CRO); Halton Library Local Studies Section together with research undertaken Runcorn Historical Society (www.runcornhistsoc.org.uk). A list of all sources is included in Section 8 *following*.

3.4 Maps included in the report have been sourced by the author and by Strickland Design from Halton Library; Landmark Mapping Services and Cheshire County Council. Where applicable, OS maps are reproduced under Strickland Design's licence and / or with the permission of Cheshire County Council and the owner/depositor to whom copyright is reserved. The cartographic evidence has been restricted to the site and its immediate environs.

3.5 The Site Drawings provided by Strickland Design Consultancy Ltd. are included as Drawings 1-6 in Appendix 1. A series of digital photographs is included in Section 9 to complements the Drawings.

3.6 In order to assess the site and its potential for archaeological deposits, an interrogation of known archaeological sites recorded on Cheshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) and the National Monuments Record (NMR) has been undertaken to include a search for find spots, previous evaluation work and historic references. Known archaeological sites are included in Sections 8.6 and 8.7 of this report.

Site visit

3.7 The site visit was undertaken on June 10th 2008, in fine weather when vegetation was at its highest.

Archive Statement

3.8 The site archive will comprise a copy of the report to be deposited at Northwich Salt Museum and Cheshire Historic Environment Record.

4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Ivy House lies on low-lying land south of the Mersey estuary and the ship canal, where the brown earths and thin soils of the marshland have been used for arable and pasture farming until recent times. The solid geology comprises Keuper sandstones, marls and pebble beds of the Triassic period, with overlying boulder clay and blown sand (BGS 1977).

4.2 There are no known archaeological sites on or in close proximity to the application site recorded by Cheshire Historic Environment Record (CHER). Although there have been a number of archaeological excavations at Halton, to date there has been no known investigations either in the town of Runcorn or at Astmoor. Documentary and cartographic evidence, however, show that land at Astmoor was part of the Manor of Halton in Bucklow Hundred. The Manor of Halton and the subsequent Township of Halton lie on the fringe of the existing town of Runcorn.

Prehistoric times

4.3 In Prehistoric times Cheshire, in general with most of the northwest of England, was sparsely populated. Extensive marshland bordered the River Mersey in this area. Isolated finds from this period include a bronze axe found at Runcorn in the late 19th century during the construction of the Manchester Ship Canal (CHER 76) and an Iron Age Brigantian coin reportedly found at Runcorn in 1795 (CHER 117).

Roman period

4.4 During the Roman period, the Twentieth Legion occupied Cheshire and Chester became a permanent fortress c.76 A.D. The main Roman route east from Chester ran via Northwich to Manchester with another probable road direct to Wilderspool. Although finds from this period recovered in the Runcorn area indicate some degree of contact with the Romans (CHER 113, 118, 931 & 2820), there is to date no conclusive evidence of settlement.

Post-Roman

4.5 Following the Roman withdrawal from Britain, the Celts remained the dominant culture until the Anglo-Saxon invasion in the 7th century. Anglo-Saxon influence is indicated by place names such as Frodsham, Halton and Runcorn (Runkhorn) (Dodgson 1970). The 'old town' of Runcorn is thought to be on the site of an Anglo-Saxon burh (NMR_NATINV-71771), founded by Aethelflaed of Mercia c.912 AD. Ethelfleda's borough appears to have been destroyed at an early period by the Normans, since Runcorn was not recorded as a Borough by the Domesday Survey of 1088. At this time Halton is recorded as the administrative centre of a large estate (Clark & Devine 2003).

Post-1066

4.6 In 1071 following the conquest, King William appointed his nephew Hugh of Avranches as Earl of Chester and the Earl's territory was later divided and appointments made, including that of the Baron of Halton (Ormerod 1882). Ivy House stands north of the Grade I Listed Building and Scheduled Ancient Monument known as Halton Castle (SJ 53751 82056). The precise date for the construction of the castle is unknown but documentary evidence exists from the 13th century. The existing stone castle is likely to have been constructed on the site of an earlier timber motte and bailey, thought to have been built in the 11th century by Nigel, the first Baron of Halton.

Foundation of the Augustinian Priory

4.7 In the 12th century, William, son of Nigel, founded an Augustinian Priory at Runcorn. This was the first Augustinian House in Cheshire and the only one to survive for any length of time. The Priory was moved to Norton in 1134 and in 1391 was raised to the rank of Abbey. The ruins of the Abbey are located east of Ivy House at SJ 508 833. The Manor of Halton passed through marriage to the Earls of Lancaster. In the late 13th and 14th centuries the Lancasters were the most powerful members of the nobility, second only to the Crown, receiving a Dukedom in 1351. In 1359 Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Lancaster became King Henry IV, and therefore the Barony of Halton, the manor and the castle became Crown Property, while retaining their own identity as part of the Duchy (Starkey 1990, 19).

Astmoor

4.8 Land at Astmoor appears to have belonged to the Abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1536. Starkey (1990, 37) refers to the 'exceptionally high tides' on the Mersey in 1332 which flooded much of the Priory land in Astmoor and Norton and the fact that the Augustinian Canons were responsible for building embankments along the Mersey Marshes. In this period the Mersey was well-stocked with fish and fishing would have been a major source of income. Following the dissolution, Sir Richard Brooke, Vice Admiral of England, purchased the Abbey estate in 1545 from Henry VIII and the descendants of Brooke continued to be the major landowners in the Township of Halton into the 19th century.

The Bridgewater Canal

4.9 Halton and Runcorn are recorded by Saxton's 1577 and Speed's 1611 pictorial maps. These and early county maps of Cheshire indicate that there was only isolated development on the marshy land in the area of Astmoor until the 20th century. The small-scale of the early maps provides no detailed evidence of occupation. The town of Runcorn itself remained only a minor port, by-passed by the main network of turnpike roads until the mid-18th century. This situation was greatly transformed by the construction of the Bridgewater Canal. Greenwood's map of 1819 records settlement at Astmoor on the north side of the Bridgewater Canal (Fig. 2). The construction of the Canal, which passed south of Astmoor Farm, was sanctioned by an Act of Parliament in 1759. The canal reached Runcorn in the 1760s and was the forerunner of all modern canals in that it followed a route independent of all existing natural watercourses. Runcorn grew as a port and the canal attracted industrial development along its banks including Astmoor Tannery, which stood southwest of Astmoor Farm. In this late 18th century period, the Tannery and Astmoor Farm appear to have been constructed. Subsequent 19th century maps and Trade Directories show that Ivy House was the former farmhouse for Astmoor Farm.

19th century Astmoor Farm

4.10 The 1846 Tithe Map for the Township of Halton (Fig. 3) records Astmoor Farm on the west side of Marsh Lane as it led south to the bridge over the Bridgewater Canal. The existing L-shaped building known as Ivy House is recorded south of an L-shaped complex of barns that enclose the farmyard. The buildings and land are owned by Sir Richard Brooke and let to Thomas Briscoe. Briscoe leases the house, outbuildings, orchard and yard (Plot 75) together with an Orchard (Plot 76) and the Old Orchard which is sown with oats (Plot 77). The farm buildings and the cottages on Plot 72 no longer survive.

4.11 Thomas Briscoe is no longer farming in Astmoor by 1850 when Bagshaw's directory records J. Lightfoot and John Smith as the only two farmers in the area, presumably at Marsh Farm and Astmoor Farm respectively.

4.12 The 1874 OS map (Fig. 4) provides the first accurate large-scale map of the building. The subdivision between the existing main house aligned northeast-southwest and the two-storey rear addition on its north side is clearly recorded. The barns have an additional wing on their east side. The well noted during the site visit is recorded with a 'P' for pump on the west side of the rear addition (Plate 16). There is currently no evidence of the OS benchmark recorded 'B.M. 69.8' on the northeast corner of the building.

4.13 The 1898 and 1910 OS maps (Figs 5 & 6) record little change in the layout of the farm or buildings in the immediate vicinity since 1874. John Smith continues to farm at Astmoor in 1874 (Morris & Co.) but by 1892 (Kelly's Dir.) John Ackerley is working the farm.

Astmoor Tannery

4.14 Tanning was a rural craft in the later medieval period in Cheshire where cattle rearing was the primary agricultural occupation. Starkey states that a tannery was working at Astmoor from the mid-18th century (1990, 154). Trade Directories record Frank Reynolds working at Astmoor from 1830. The 1846 Tithe Map records the Tannery as three rectangular buildings on Plot 83. The Tannery is occupied by Frank Reynolds and cottages southeast of Astmoor Farm are occupied by his undertenants (Plots 72). A road leads off Marsh Lane to the canalside tannery. Trade Directories continue to record W.F. Reynolds & Sons working the tannery throughout the 19th century. The 1874 OS map (Fig. 4) shows that there has been a considerable enlargement to the tannery since 1846.

4.15 Runcorn itself developed into one of the largest tanning centres in the UK in the 19th century. The ready supply of hides and oak bark and the close proximity of the River Mersey; the Bridgewater Canal and the Manchester Ship Canal completed in 1894 facilitated production. The tanneries continued production into the 1950s when the introduction of man-made substitutes for leather brought about a decline in the industry. Astmoor Tannery continued in production until 1962.

20th century developments

4.16 By 1914, Charles Higginson is the farmer at Astmoor (Kelly's 1914) but the farm is unlisted in 1939. The economic depression of the 1930s may have aided its demise. By 1937 (Fig. 7), the Tannery has expanded north and housing has developed along the north side of Marsh Lane; both projects taking in agricultural land. This expansion may have signaled the decline of Ashmoor Farm and the subsequent renaming of the Listed building as Ivy House, although the farm buildings remained unaltered until 1963 at least (Fig. 8). Following disuse as a farmhouse, the property appears to have been split into 1a and 3a Marsh Lane.

4.17 The closure of Astmoor Tannery in 1962 signifies the major changes that are taking place in the town and its surrounding area. In 1964 Runcorn was designated as a New Town to house the overspill from nearby Liverpool. The countryside retreated and buildings in the countryside were demolished as the modern town expanded in the late 1960s – 70s period. By the early 1970s the industrial estates at Astmoor was completed erasing all buildings apart from the former farmhouse now known as Ivy House. The last known use of the building was as a cattery before purchase by the current owner. Since this time the house has remained empty and been subjected to considerable vandalism.

4.18 Runcorn's population of over 80,000 people led to increasing traffic problems, resulting in the construction of the major dual carriageway systems which now feed the new bridge over the Mersey. The A588 Expressway was constructed immediately south of Ivy House in the 1980s period (Fig. 1).

5. THE EXISTING BUILDING

5.1 The existing building was Grade II listed in April 1978 as a mid 18th century house. The Listed building description is included as Appendix 2.

5.2 The existing building comprises the main two-storey house with cellar and attic rooms aligned northeast-southwest together with a two-storey, two-compartment north wing. The main house, 'Ivy House', has no entrance on its existing façade (Plate 2); its entrance is through the doorway in the northeast elevation of the rear extension (Plate 5). The height of the main house, the symmetrical facade and the quality of its construction compared to that of the rear wing suggest the main house was constructed as a free-standing building in the second half of the 18th century, presumably after the construction of the Bridgewater Canal in the 1760s period. The house was presumably funded by the Brooke family as the house attached to an estate farm.

Ivy House

5.3 The main house is constructed in reddish brown hand-made bricks with pebbled inclusions measuring an average of 220 x 110 x 50mm. The external walls are three bricks thick and heavily mortared with a lime-based mix. Fire has destroyed much of the roof timbers which once supported a slate roof (Plate 28). Charred rough cut c.8" square oak beams together with 30" deep machine cut beams lie around the site. Fine grained yellowish-buff coloured sandstone has been used for the 5" deep sills on the fenestration; the 12" flat incised voussoirs with keystone; the 30" deep continuous plinth at ground level and the rusticated quoins (Plate 4).

Elevations

5.4 The front / southeast elevation comprises three pairs of rectangular openings with a mid-height opening indicating the position of the former staircase, all of which presumably once held traditional sash windows (Plate 2). It seems likely that the original main entrance of the house was in an opposing position at ground level, presumably leading into a hall. The southwest gable has a blocked opening at ground level on the north side and an attic window in the north side of the gable (Plate 11). Gable end chimneys with blue ceramic pots rise on both sides and the northeast gable has a blocked opening at attic level also. In the angle between the main house and northeast elevation of the rear wing, a blocked opening below a full brick header arch once led into the 'parlour' of the main house (Plate 19). Internally, the blocked opening can be seen below a 6" deep timber lintel (Plate 18), directly above the opening that let light into the cellar. The sub-square attic openings set below simple brick header arches; the blocked opening at ground level in the southwest gable and the blocked opening in the angle between the main house and the rear wing cannot compete with the grandeur of the main elevation openings.

Floor plans

5.5 Internally the house has been seriously damaged both by fire and vandalism. Three compartments are evident. The three rising fireplaces at the northeast end of the house suggest that this was the location of the ground floor parlour with cellar below and main bedroom above (Plate 17 and 18). The sockets that held the beams to support wooden floors are visible internally at ground, first and attic levels. The tiled fireplace at ground floor level on the southwest side suggests that this room was last used as a kitchen area accessed from the hallway through the semi-circular headed opening seen in Plate 20.

The Rear Wing

5.6 The two-storey three-bay north wing has been added to the main house by 1846. The wing is constructed in reddish brown hand-made bricks measuring an average of 230 x 110 x 60mm, larger than the main house bricks. The main house walls of three brick thickness and the north wing of two brick thickness are both constructed in Flemish bond. The wing comprises three compartments separated by two full height party walls. The two compartments on the north side, which include a central chimney, appear to have formed one cottage, while the south bay was part of the main house. The northern compartments are linked at ground and first floor level (Plates 22, 25 & 26). The roof has collapsed on the south compartment (Plate 24) and a damaged slate roof survives on the north side (Plates 7 & 26). The roofline is lower than that of the main house (Plate 7, 9 & 11).

Elevations

5.7 A brick dentilation course runs below the eaves on the northeast elevation only. The elevation includes flat Doric pilaster doorcase with fluted frieze and pediment which formed the main entrance to the farmhouse in the 19th century. This elevation and the front of the main house faced Marsh Lane and the lane leading to the Tannery. Similar fine grained yellowish-buff coloured sandstone to that of the main house has been used on the northeast elevation albeit with less grandeur. Fenestration comprises casements with stone sills and plain flat skewback heads. The northwest gable and southwest long walls are of far simpler construction. Ground floor openings are below single brick header arches with full brick headers at first floor level above tiled sills (Plate 10 & 12-14).

Floor plans

5.8 The present state of the building indicates a two-up, two-down plan. The unstable nature of the building has prevented any further recognition of staircases or fireplaces.

Absence of architectural fixtures & fittings

5.9 The buildings have been stripped of any architectural fixtures and fittings. Sash windows have been removed from the front elevation and timbers have been constantly removed for fires.

Yard features

5.10 The land surrounding the buildings is heavily vegetated. Only the two courses thick 2ft diameter well and part of the front garden wall of the house survive (Plates 16 & 23). The well has been rebuilt in red facing brick, presumably in the early part of the 20th century, and the coping above the front wall indicates that the feature dates to a similar period.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The existing building was Grade II listed in April 1978, presumably after the construction of Astmoor Industrial Estate but prior to the construction of the Expressway. Only the main façade of the existing building embodies something of the architectural qualities that contributed towards its statutory status.

6.2 The use of a building as a dwelling became impossible when modern demands created the new industrial estate and Expressway that flank the site. The Listed building can no longer be reconciled with its modern surroundings.

6.3 As stated in 1.3 *previous*, the integrity and setting of the Listed building has been totally compromised. The building has been on fire, most of the roofline has fallen in, walls are unstable and the building is totally derelict. The site is surrounded by overgrown broadleaf. The secluded location of the building has resulted in it being frequented by youths and people taking drugs. Discarded alcohol containers litter the site together with evidence that people are sleeping rough on the site.

6.4 This report concludes that despite its designated status, it is no longer practical to retain the building in this location.

6.5 The current programme of work has ensured that a record has been made of the building prior to any future works.

Unknown archaeological deposits

6.6 Although no above ground sites of archaeological interest were noted during the site visit, the area has a past association with the Township of Halton and lands worked by the Augustinian Priory until the 16th century. The site lies in close proximity to the line of the Bridgewater Canal and the former Astmoor Tannery.

6.7 Considerable ground disturbance has been undertaken on the site in more recent times, particularly during the construction of the Expressway. However, the potential to reveal unexpected buried archaeological deposits or chance finds cannot be discounted. As always, potential to uncover buried archaeological deposits and / or chance finds will depend on the depth of made-up ground and the proposed depth of any future excavation.

7. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The contractor would like to thank Andrew Strickland and Emma Coulson of Strickland Design Consultancy Ltd for contracting the work on behalf of their client, Richard Avis; Marie Farrow, Historic Conservation Officer (Buildings), Cheshire County Council Environmental Planning Service, for consultation regarding the site; staff at Cheshire Archives and Halton Library.

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8.2 Trade Directories

1850 Bagshaw; 1874 Morris & Co.; and 1892, 1913 & 1939 Kelly

8.3 Cartographic Sources

1819 Map of the County Palatine of Chester by Greenwood (CRO PM 12/16)
 1845 Tithe Map & Apportionment for the Township of Halton in the Parish of Runcorn (Halton Library)
 1874 first edition Ordnance Survey 25" map, Cheshire Sheets 24.4
 1898 second edition Ordnance Survey 25" map, Cheshire Sheets 24.4
 1910 third edition Ordnance Survey 25" map, Cheshire Sheets 24.4
 1937 edition Ordnance Survey 25" map, Cheshire Sheets 24.4
 1938 Provisional edition Ordnance Survey 6" map, 24NE
 1964 edition Ordnance Survey map, sheets SJ 5381 & 5482, Scale 1:2500
 1977, Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales), Sheet 97: Runcorn Drift & Solid. Scale 1:50000

8.4 Websites

www.cheshire.gov.uk - Cheshire County Council
www.envirocheck.co.uk - Landmark Historical Mapping
www.halton.gov.uk
www.haltoncastle.org
www.runcornhistsoc.org.uk - Runcorn Historical Society

8.5 Cheshire Archives:

Brooke family of Norton Priory Deposit DBN; deeds and estate papers 1552-1891 (*no maps*)

8.6 English Heritage, National Monuments Records:

NMR Record No:	Description:
NATINV-71771	Runcorn Early Medieval, Medieval Burh, Monastery, Town. SJ 5082 8333
NATINV-1300358	Augustinian Monastery; SJ 508 833
NATINV-1340289	Bridgewater Canal Linear Monument

8.7 Cheshire Historic Environment Record:

CHER No. 66	Norton Priory Augustinian Abbey, Scheduled Ancient Monument and Grade I listed building. Remains of an Augustinian Priory founded in 1133
CHER No. 76	Bronze Age axe discovered at the Mersey Brine Works, Weston Point, Runcorn in the late 19 th century
CHER No. 117	Iron Age coin reportedly found at Runcorn in 1795
CHER No. 118	16th century records of a Roman lead hoard found at Runcorn. Twenty inscribed Roman 'sows' of lead reportedly discovered whilst pursuing a vein of marl, near Runcorn at the upper end of Mersey Estuary.
CHER No. 931	Ten Roman coins found in the late 19 th century at Aston-by-Sutton, nr Halton ranging from the time of Augustus (31BC-14AD) to Constantine II (337-340AD)
CHER No. 113	Roman Coin of Domitian found 27ft deep in sand at Runcorn Bridge in the late 19 th century

CHER No. 2820 Roman Coin found on a building site in the 1970s while digging house foundations at Weston Point, Runcorn. Coin of Elagabalus 218-222 minted at Odessus (Thrace)

CHER No. 55995 Ivy House Grade II Listed building

9. PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Fig. 9.1 Plates 1 – 29 Photo Locations

