



An aerial view of the gas works clearly showing the walled footpath between Severnside and Cheapside as shown on the map below and the photographs



The corner of Cheapside showing the foreman's house (with its distinctive curved facade) and the wall of the Lichfield basin opposite.



Stourport's walls fall into two categories: those surrounding private properties such as Moor Hall and The Heath and those enclosing parts of the Canal Estate. Sadly, some of Stourport's more significant walls have been lost with, for example, the garden walls of York House being demolished in the 1990's.

Keep your eyes open and let us know if you see any walls worth recording. Better still join our group in seeking out these old walls and recording the forgotten history of Stourport.

Significant walls include:

- Lichfield Basin
- The Old Tannery
- Gilgal
- York Street
- Engine Lane
- Cheapside

Unlocking Stourport's WALLS

One of the distinctive features of 'Old' Stourport which still remains is remnants of her walls. In many cases only small stretches remain and people passing often fail to realise the significance of what they see. Because many of these walls are at risk, we decided to produce this leaflet to alert Stourport people to what appears a very mundane feature of the local street scene but which can often tell us much about our past.

Unlocking Stourport's Walls

This leaflet has been produced by The Stourport Civic Society as part of the "Unlocking Stourport's Past" project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The opening of the canal in 1771 was to change the little hamlet of Lower Mitton for ever. With it came the need for more housing, stables, pubs and of course churches to fulfil the spiritual needs of the good folk. Industries were to spring up not only along the edge of the basins but ever further into Lower Mitton. Iron foundries, carpet manufacturers, timber merchants were soon demanding the delivery of vital supplies. All these supplies either travelled by barges along the canal from Wolverhampton or from places like Cardiff and Bristol by Severn Trows into the basins via the River Severn.

For further information on Stourport's history the following books are recommended:

Stourport Pubs a Search for their History
By John Cook

Images of England: Stourport-on-Severn
By Anna Carter.

George Nicholson Printer at Stourport
By Audrey Cooper.

DVD: Stourport-on-Severn A Georgian Canal Town
By Albert Mogg.

These books and DVD are available from the Stourport-on-Severn, Civic Society.

Project supported by:-





The most complete bit is around what was the kitchen garden which is now the garden of "Robwynne" owned by Mr. and Mrs. Blunt

The wall is English garden wall bond with lime mortar, has no foundation, is approximately 8 feet high with the original blue brick copings. The courses follow the contour of the land rather than horizontally as walls of today are built.



Moorhill, later called Moor Hall, was the residence of Jonathan Worthington and called a 'New Mansion' in "The Cambrian Traveller's Guide" 1813.

The sale details of 1844 described Moor Hall as "A mansion of importance seated on an eminence in park-like grounds, the property and residence of Jonathan Worthington who is about to leave the same with domestic offices, coach house, stabling, very superior agricultural buildings, cottage, gardens, hot and green houses, plantations, pleasure grounds and upwards of 105 acres of excellent meadow, orchard and arable land".



Opposite this entrance was another pair of gates "which greatly interested me as a boy, from the fact that when the one set was opened the opposite ones also opened as though by magic. How these gates opened in contrary directions was always a puzzle to me." (I.L. Wedley, *Stourport, Its Rise, Decline and Final Triumph*).



There was another pair at what is now Park Lane, but only the lodge remains.



Views of the Lodge and the most complete section of wall belonging to The Heath along Lickhill Road. Most of the original copings have survived.



View of The Heath from the garden

The Heath was built in the first quarter of the nineteenth century and was the home of John Crane Rogers, one of the sons of Joseph Rogers, who owned the tannery. In the years before World War Two parts of the garden were taken over by Bullock's Nursery. The house was later demolished and new houses built on the site.



A garden party at The Heath in 1938. The owner of the house at that time was Alfred Dale Capel Loft.



Bullock's nursery in part of the grounds of The Heath showing their extensive green houses.



The most complete part of the wall fronting Moor Hall Lane.

