

How does scheduling affect me?

Scheduled Monuments are protected by law from unlicensed disturbance and metal detecting. Written consent from the Secretary of State (known as Scheduled Monument Consent) must be obtained before any sort of work can begin on the site of a Scheduled Monument. Works include: repairing, tipping material onto the monument, altering, adding to, removing, flooding, demolishing, destroying or damaging.



Burscough Priory

How do I know if the work I want to do affects a Scheduled Monument?

If you are unsure about the boundaries of a Scheduled Monument or what would need consent, consult the County Archaeologist or the Planning Archaeologist at Lancashire County Council, or English Heritage. Some types of work may also need planning permission from the District Council. Contact details are shown overleaf.

Sometimes Scheduled Monuments are also Listed Buildings or they are situated in a Conservation Area. Some even have designations relating to their special nature conservation interest.

Any of these designations may affect the permissions needed to undertake certain types of work.

It is against the law to:

- Damage a scheduled monument by carrying out works without consent
- Cause reckless or deliberate damage
- Use a metal detector or remove an object found with one without a licence from English Heritage

Remember!

Damage to a Scheduled Monument is a criminal offence

How do I get consent?

The Secretary of State must be informed about any work which might affect a monument above or below ground, and English Heritage gives advice to the Government on each application.

Written consent must always be obtained before any work can begin, it cannot be given retrospectively. Application forms are available from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) or from English Heritage regional offices, both of whom can also advise on the process (see contact details).

Guidance notes can be downloaded from the 'Schedule of Monuments' section of the English Heritage website.



Aerial view of Rufford Moated Site

While some of the sites mentioned overleaf can be visited please remember that there is no general right of public access to monuments and most are on private land.

Permission must always be sought from the landowner.

Where can I find out more?

Department of Culture, Media and Sport
Historic Environment Designation Branch
2-4 Cockspur Street
London, SW1Y 5DH
Tel: 020 7211 2355
E-mail: Scheduling@culture.gsi.gov.uk

English Heritage
23 Saville Row
London, W1S 2ET
www.english-heritage.org.uk

English Heritage North West
Tel: 0161 2421400

Lancashire County Archaeology Service:
The Environment Directorate,
Lancashire County Council,
Guild House,
Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8RD
Tel: 01772 534468 (Reception)
www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/archaeology

Heritage & Environment Section
West Lancashire District Council
52 Derby Street, Ormskirk,
Lancashire, L39 2DF
Fax: 01695 585149
www.westlancsdc.gov.uk/planning

Heritage & Environment Manager
Ian Bond
01695 585167
ian.bond@westlancsdc.gov.uk

Conservation Officer
Cy Griffiths
01695 585102
cyllene.griffiths@westlancsdc.gov.uk



West Lancashire District Council



Scheduled Monuments in West Lancashire



West Lancashire District Council

Heritage and Environment Section



What are Scheduled Monuments?

Scheduled Monuments are archaeological sites that are legally recognised as being of national importance. These can range in date from the prehistoric period to the 20th century, and can take many different forms, including: buildings, earthworks or a cropmark in a field.

Scheduled Monuments include ruins above ground as well as archaeological remains that lie below ground level.

There are 12 Scheduled Monuments in West Lancashire, mostly dating from the medieval period. They include the surviving parts of the Augustinian Priory at Burscough, a holy well at Scarisbrick and a prehistoric round barrow in Wrightington.

Scarisbrick Park Holy Well

Based on a natural spring, this well in medieval times was situated on the edge of Scarisbrick Park near to the wayside cross for the benefit of wayfarers. Often with pre-Christian associations, holy wells sometimes functioned as sites for baptism. Folklore often cites the healing powers of the water and its capacity to effect a desired outcome for future events. This usually required the donation of an object or coin and therefore can be seen to be the predecessor of our 'wish' wells.



Boar's Den Bowl Barrow

Bowl barrows are funerary monuments, most dating from the late Neolithic to the late Bronze Age. Most examples come from the period 2400-1500BC. These monuments can cover singular or multiple burials and can occur singularly or in groups. An often recognised monument in the modern landscape, these types of earthworks may appear to be superficially similar but occur in a wide variety of sizes, shapes and contexts with their contents being equally diverse.

Scarisbrick Park Wayside Cross

The cross was erected in medieval times as part of two lines of wayside crosses which led from Scarisbrick Park, seat of the influential Scarisbrick family. One line led to Burscough

Priory (another Scheduled Monument) and the other, of which this cross is one, led to the market town of Ormskirk. The cross served as a wayside shrine and a route marker across the treacherous marshy ground.



The cross is accessible from the footpath along the east side of the A570, just north of the twin lodges at the Red Lion Bridge. An interpretive panel is situated next to the cross.

Rufford Moated Site

The site at Rufford comprises an island approximately 30x25m surrounded by a moat 5-10m wide. The moat at this site is still well defined and waterlogged, providing favourable conditions for the survival of organic remains. Rufford moated site retains evidence of an inlet/outlet channel illustrating the water management system and there are also the remains of an original causeway.

Halsall Rectory

The upstanding remains of this medieval rectory (priest's house) indicate this was a substantial structure of the 14th / 15th century. By the 16th / 17th century this included a hall, parlours, chambers and possibly a gatehouse.



Moated Site at Bickerstaffe Hall

Bickerstaffe moated site is typical of this type of monument. Most medieval moated sites were built between 1250 and 1350, with their shallow moats being a status symbol rather than a serious form of defence.

Burscough Augustinian Priory

Founded in the late 12th century by Robert Fitz Henry, Lord of Lathom and Knowsley the priory was dissolved in 1536. Excavations in the 1880s revealed many remains including the Prior's garden, the beggars' yard (where those seeking alms would wait) and both the monks' and the guests' locutories or conversation rooms

Earthworks in Spa Roughs Wood

This monument consists of banks and ditches defining a roughly square area in woodland. The remains have been identified as probably a combination of a medieval moated site and Cromwellian fieldworks. The Cromwellian earthworks were thought to have been constructed in 1644 during the Civil War siege of Lathom House. Only about 150 sites in England have been identified as fieldworks from the Civil War.

Moated Site of Scarisbrick Hall

Site of the original Scarisbrick Hall, a half-timbered 11th / 12th century manor house. Moated sites are significant medieval monuments, important for understanding the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside.

Up Holland Benedictine Priory

The surviving remains are thought to represent only a small part of the medieval priory. The foundation of this Benedictine order was the last foundation of this order in the country. The Benedictine monks were also known as 'black monks' due to their dark robes. This foundation is one that may have justified Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries between 1536 and 1540; it is recorded that the five monks were abusing their position by being looked after by at least eight servants and 13 hands.

Wrightington Bridge



Built in 1778, this Italian style stone bridge spans the lake at Wrightington Pond. The bridge was widened in 1927. In 1992 a van careered into the structure, knocking down and breaking most of the balustrade on the north side, which was repaired shortly afterwards.

Cross Hall Moated Site

This moated site is located to the east of Ormskirk. The extensive views to the north and east indicate why this site was chosen. Cross Hall was the residence of the famous Stanley family who abandoned it in the late 17th / early 18th century when a new Cross Hall was built. The new hall has since been demolished.