

Using this guide - The Rankings

All entries stand out as being of particular national heritage interest but there are inevitably notable variations in terms of intactness and quality, hence the ranking system we have adopted.

★★★ Three Star pubs have stayed wholly or largely intact for the last fifty years, or retain particular rooms or features that are truly rare or exceptional, or display a combination of the two.

★★ Two Star pubs have interiors where the intactness and quality levels will be somewhat lower than for Three Star

★ The interiors of One Star pubs will have either readily identifiable historic layouts or retain rooms or features of special interest but more significant changes are allowable.

These online guides provide you with up-to-date descriptions, on a region by region basis, of pubs listed on our National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors. Please note that the content will differ from that in the hard-copy guides where the pub information dates to when that guide was published. The hard-copy guides also contain more editorial material.

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Pubs to Cherish

Real Heritage Pubs of the North West celebrates pub interiors in north-west England (plus the Isle of Man) which CAMRA has identified as having special historic interest. They represent an important aspect of the area's cultural and built heritage and quite a number are true national treasures.

That said, they account for only 2% or so of all the pubs in the area – why is that so? A major reason, of course, is that pub interiors have always been subject to change. The only pubs which are exactly the same as the day they opened are ones which came into being in the last few years. The pace of change, though, accelerated dramatically from the 1960s. Then there began a mania for opening out, faddish theming, image change and general trashing. Consequently, many a pub suffered makeovers during which most, if not all, vestiges of original or early features were lost.

The irony here is that interest in historic buildings has never been greater. Lots of us are fascinated by our built heritage and spend time visiting historic buildings of many kinds. But it is only in recent years, and largely as a result of CAMRA's efforts, that pub interiors have come to be valued by mainstream conservationists. It was CAMRA that picked up the baton on behalf of our pub heritage, filling the gaps in knowledge of what is out there and actively seeking to protect what is left. It has worked closely with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) to gain statutory protection for the most important examples on our inventories through the statutory listing process. Nonetheless there are still losses either through closure or change by insensitive owners eager to tear them apart.

What Shaped Pubs in the North West?

In the Beginning

Most early public houses were literally just that – ordinary houses whose owners opened up a room or two to sell drink to neighbours. All that was needed was somewhere to store the merchandise, someone to serve it and somewhere for customers to drink it. Pub keeping was a family business and, especially in the countryside, usually part-time and combined with, say, farming, carting, blacksmithing or some other trade. Nearly all these very homely pubs have gone now but we can still see a few vestiges in the pubs within this guide.

The very simply appointed Limeburners Arms, Nether Kellet, Lancashire is still linked to a working farm: it only opens in the evenings as the licensee runs the latter during the daytime, a pattern that may well reflect what happened in many rural establishments. At Gawsworth, Cheshire, the Harrington Arms had a farm attached until recently but the two are now separate businesses. The Scotch Piper, Lydiate, is widely considered Lancashire's oldest pub, and within its timber-framed walls you can still get some sense of the rustic simplicity in days gone by. If you visit the venerable Black Lion, Barthomley, Cheshire, wish away everything apart from the right-hand room to envisage how it would have been in former days.

Inns and taverns

The other kinds of establishment up until the early 19th century were the tavern and the inn. The former existed only in larger towns, catering for the more prosperous customer by serving wine and food. They were never common and no former taverns appear to survive in the North West although Mr Thomas's Chop House in Manchester perhaps retains something of the atmosphere of such establishments. Inns provided meals and accommodation for better- off travellers along with stabling for their horses. Inevitably they have been greatly modified but places whose origins go back centuries include the Falcon, Chester

(not in this guide), and the Olde Man and Scythe, Bolton. The Dockray Hall, Penrith, Cumbria, is known to have become an inn in 1719 (haylofts for the stabling can still be seen on the west wing).

The golden age

The pub as we know today is mostly a Victorian creation. The first part of the 19th century saw the widespread adoption of counter service and the hand-pumped beer engine, heralding the change from an essentially domestic environment into a form of shop which could handle a greater volume of trade. Just as most rural pubs once catered primarily for the agricultural labourer, vast numbers of urban pubs were fairly basic establishments for the working man. In industrial areas especially, pubs afforded welcome refreshment after a shift down the pit, in the steelworks, or a day of other heavy labour. Such pubs were a good deal more numerous than they are today with so many towns and cities justifying, almost literally, the epithet about pubs, 'one on every street corner'. The tiny Circus Tavern in central Manchester is a remarkable survivor as a tiny urban pub. All this was overlain with the complexities of Victorian societal structures so that multiple rooms or screened off compartments were the norm to accommodate the social and economic distinctions between customers, even within the working population.

From the early Victorian period, under the influence of social reformers and the powerful Temperance lobby, a drive to improve public houses gained ground. This enhanced the multi-room principle with its ability to offer a choice of 'better' rooms and thus attract a respectable clientele who would pay slightly more than public bar drinkers. The years around 1900 proved to be a high point of pub building both in terms of numbers and sheer quality. Nowhere is this better illustrated than in Liverpool whose immense prosperity as a global trading city led to the building of two of the most superlative pubs in the land – the Philharmonic Dining Rooms and the Vines. Other very fine Liverpool pubs from the late Victorian/Edwardian years, enriched with elaborate glasswork, carved woodwork and ceramics, are the Central, Crown Hotel, Midland Hotel and Lion Tavern. Other shining examples from the time are to be found in Birkenhead (Stork Hotel), Eccles (Lamb Hotel and the Grapes), Manchester (Marble Arch), Preston (Black Horse), and Wigan (Springfield). The now rather anachronistic word 'hotel' still attached to some of these names shows how pubs commonly provided accommodation. Another example is the Swan & Railway, Wigan, conveniently sandwiched between the town's two railway stations. It's also worth noting that railway travellers looked to stations to provide refreshments and at Stalybridge there is a rare example of an intact licensed station buffet from before the Second World War (famous as a real ale haven too!).

Between the Wars

The Great War brought pub-building to a full stop but it resumed fairly soon afterwards. The Carlisle area is famous for its inter-war pubs which were built as part of the State Management Scheme under its architect Harry Redfern: sadly their interiors have nearly all been drastically changed. However, these pubs are emblematic of a shift from Victorian taste when ornate architecture and fittings had been in vogue. Now cleaner, simpler lines were usual, as at the Bridge, Rochdale, or in the harmonious neo-Georgian style of the Unicorn, Manchester. There was something of a Tudor revival too, exemplified by the Shakespeare, Farnworth, near Bolton, and an interest in half-timbering, as at a couple of Merseyside pubs, the Primrose, Liscard, and the Wheatsheaf, Sutton Leach. Out went ornate decoration – colourful ceramics were a particular casualty – and in came large expanses of wall-panelling. Reducing the number of pubs but improving standards in what remained had been the mission of magistrates for some years and continued the objectives of Victorian reformers. The bigger new pubs aimed at offering a respectable environment with a range of rooms and facilities to encourage a middle-class clientele and one that was increasingly mobile thanks to

the motor car and yet to be troubled by drink-drive legislation! And not only men but women too (albeit in male company). Such pubs might also provide a green for bowling clubs, a garden and even a children's playground to encourage family visits.

After 1945

After the Second World War, Britain was bankrupt and hardly any pubs were built for a decade. The new ones that emerged in the mid- 1950s were typified, not surprisingly for these straightened times, by utilitarian design and use of low-quality materials. Layouts, though, still provided a choice of rooms and almost always an off-sales facility for takeaway supplies. Needless to say, once the economy picked up, these cut-price reminders of the grey post-war years became highly unfashionable. Thus it is that intact post-war pubs are far rarer than Victorian ones. A couple of examples survive in Greater Manchester though: the Turnpike, Withington and the rather extraordinary Brindley Arms, Walkden. Curiously, the pretty much intact Queens Arms, Huyton, Merseyside, is securely dated to about 1958 but yet looks for all the world to belong to the 1930s.

The increased prosperity in the mid- 1960s heralded a time of major change for the pub. The social divisions mirrored by the traditional multi-roomed pub were dissolving whilst magistrates and police favoured direct supervision of all public areas from the serving area – hence the widespread removal of internal walls to the great detriment of the atmosphere and attractiveness of traditional pubs. Other forces were at work too. The rise of off-licence shops and supermarkets during the 1960s made pub off-sales departments redundant. Environmental health officers demanded changes to accommodate inside toilets and better food preparation facilities. Bar-back fittings were hacked about to make space for more varied and numerous products – wines, spirits, refrigerated drinks. Fire officers insisted on adaptations to provide safer escape routes. These relentless pressures resulted in a much- depleted pub heritage.

Modern Times

Recent years have seen a tragic decline in the overall number of pubs in this country – down from around 70,000 in 1980 to less than 50,000 now. To some extent, this has been offset by the increase in bars, nearly all in town and city centres but, with some honourable exceptions, few of these have much merit in design terms and most will no doubt undergo a complete makeover every few years.

New pubs are still being built although conversions from existing buildings such as banks and shops are much more common. An encouraging trend has been the rise of the micro-pub, usually in a small redundant shop but they have no pretensions whatever to design excellence. It's noteworthy that in most years no winner can be found for the New Build category in CAMRA's annual Pub Design Awards – and also that at least two previous winners have subsequently been trashed and remodelled. On the other hand, public interest in our built heritage has never been higher, as evidenced by the numbers visiting National Trust and English Heritage properties. The very existence of this book and others published by CAMRA on pub heritage shows that this interest extends to pubs too. Sadly, we continue to lose historic pub interiors at an alarming rate. Mainly this is due to closures – down from an overall total peak of about 30 a week in early 2015 but still running at just over 20 – which affect heritage pubs like any others. And we still have owners with no appreciation for or interest in the often precious interiors of which they are custodians. The article on pages 15–16 looks at what can be done to help safeguard the treasures which survive.

What's Different about Pubs in the North West?

In the past four or five decades there has been a massive trend to open up pubs and pub builders today usually aim to have a single drinking space (look at most Wetherspoons, for example). A century or so ago it was very different and multiple rooms were the norm, as in the traditional pubs celebrated in this book. How these separate spaces were arranged varied enormously from pub to pub and it might seem to most pub goers that there is no geographical pattern. However, to take two very different examples, it's clear that Londoners were very keen on small, intimate screened-off compartments abutting the servery, the finest surviving example of which is the Prince Alfred, Maida Vale, W9, whereas in Northern Ireland there was a vogue for a line of snugs down the long wall facing the servery and separated from it by a wide space: the supreme example is the glorious Crown Bar in Belfast. What of the North West? A common plan-form is to have a public bar on a street corner, surrounded by an L-shaped corridor which could be entered from either the main street and the side one.

On the servery side of the corridor were tall screens. On the non- servery side there were further public rooms. These rooms were effectively the 'better class' rooms of the pub and tended to have upholstered seating and bell-pushes to attract table service. They might go under the names such as 'commercial room' or 'news room', pub room names which are unknown further south. There are several fine examples of these arrangements in this guide such as the Lion Tavern and Prince Arthur in Liverpool, the Stork Hotel, Birkenhead, and the Edinburgh, Crosby, Merseyside. Another typical plan (which is also met with extensively on the other side of the Pennines) is to enter and find yourself directly in a relatively large space at the hub of the pub in front of the servery. In the guide we term this space a 'drinking lobby'. The lobby area acted as the public bar and stand-up drinking was and is common there. Off this space various other rooms radiate. Instructive examples in this guide include the Victoria, Great Harwood, Lancashire, the Alexandra, Stockport, and Cemetery Hotel, Rochdale. And even the lobby bar of the mighty Philharmonic in Liverpool can be seen as a variant on this theme. An inter-war example is at the Whipping Stocks, Over Peover, Cheshire.

Associated with both these plan types are glazed screens which rise from the counter right up to the ceiling and house rising sashes to enable people to be supplied with drinks. Examples are also to be found in Yorkshire but they do seem to have been particularly popular in the North West. There are plenty of examples in this guide. Most have lost their sliding sashes but at the following all or some are still in working order: the Agricultural Hotel, Penrith, the Ship Hotel, Overton, Lancashire, the Lamb Hotel, Eccles, and, as a late, inter-war case, the Royal Oak in central Oldham. Many Holt's pubs were fitted out with them. For an especially ornate, Edwardian example visit the Springfield, Wigan, Greater Manchester.

Survey work by CAMRA has quite recently thrown up another regional speciality. We had always imagined that some of the wide openings off corridors and drinking lobbies were the result of modern opening up. However, many such openings are in fact 'historic' when examined closely. A case in point is the Primrose, Liscard, Merseyside, where such an opening is actually shown on a plan of 1922. Other cases are to be found at the Crown, Birkenhead, Crows Nest, Crosby, Guest House, Southport, and Volunteer Canteen, Waterloo. All these are within Merseyside so this may be a localism in pub design of this area.

CAMRA and Pub Heritage

CAMRA was founded in 1971 to save Britain's traditional beer but it quickly became clear to campaigners that the best places to drink that beer, our pubs, were also under threat. In due course, CAMRA assigned equal importance to campaigning for real ale and for pubs. From the 1970s there was a huge increase in the opening out of pubs and removals of fine fittings so preservation of historic pub interiors emerged as a key campaigning issue. After pioneering work in York in the late 1980s, a specialist Pub Preservation Group was set up, which evolved into today's Pub Heritage Group. The first step was to identify the most intact interiors surviving across the country's (then) 65,000 pubs. This massive task involved following up thousands of leads, developing criteria for inclusion,

recording what was found (in words and photos) and creating a list – the National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors (NI). At first this focused on interiors which remained largely unaltered since before the Second World War, though intact early post-war pubs were admitted later. Another development was to include pubs with specific features or rooms of real national significance.

The first NI was published in 1997 and totalled 179 entries. Since then it has been continually refined and updated as new candidates were discovered and, sadly, existing entries lost. The present total stands at 278 and full descriptions can be found in our publication, *Britain's Best Real Heritage Pubs*, as well as on our website (see below).

Regional Inventories were the next logical step. As would be expected, the criteria for inclusion are set lower than for the NI though the same principles apply, with the emphasis on the internal fabric of the pub and what is authentically old. Here are [the selection criteria for both National and Regional Inventories](#).

CAMRA also identifies a third category – pubs which have experienced still more change but which still have historic rooms or features felt to be of 'some regional importance'. These are included here as 'More to Try' at the end of each county section. Inventory pubs in all three categories can be found on our website pubheritage.camra.org.uk where clicking on the *Find historic pub interiors* facility in the top left-hand corner will take you to easy-to-use drop-down menus.

Pubs in Peril

The current plight of the British pub is only too well known. At the time of going to press, figures show just over twenty closing each week and, between 1982 and 2017, total pub numbers fell by some 20,000. There are many reasons for this gloomy state of affairs – changing social habits, the smoking ban, the effect of the recession in the late 2000s, higher prices, the rapacious behaviour of the big pub companies. A particular threat is the attractiveness of many pub buildings to developers. Conversion of rural pubs to houses has been all too common for many years but it's now our urban pubs which are really suffering. Many suburban pubs, for instance, occupy large plots of land, ideal for small supermarkets, and two a week are being lost in that way alone. Such losses had been exacerbated by feeble planning laws which allowed the demolition of pubs and many changes of use without the need for planning permission. Strong campaigning by CAMRA and others led to these 'permitted development' rights being withdrawn in England in May 2017 so we hope the closure rate may now slow down. We are now campaigning for similar provisions to be enacted in the rest of the UK.

This combination of negative factors has posed major problems for urban heritage pubs. Many of them are to be found in unfashionable, off-centre locations where they ticked along for many years, serving the local community. As a result, their owners saw little point investing in the sort of major changes inflicted, in the pursuit of fashion, on many a town or city centre pub, so heritage was preserved, more or less by accident.

Sadly, though, when the recent recession began to bite, these pubs tended to drop the wrong side of the profits line. Historic pubs in peril can be, and have been, saved and CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group will fight for every one. One tactic is to draw a threatened pub to the attention of an enlightened small pub company and several pubs elsewhere in the country have been saved in just this way. We also seek to get pubs statutorily listed as this affords them an enhanced degree of protection (see below). Where we can, we use the planning system to resist unwanted changes to heritage pubs and encourage local folk to do likewise. Most of all, we aim to generate interest in these precious survivors. Pubs are first and foremost businesses and the more that people use them, the less likely are they

to wither and die. You can do your bit by putting this guide to active use.

Statutory Listing

All parts of the United Kingdom and also the Isle of Man have systems for protecting buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Seventy-five of the 177 pubs in this guide are statutorily listed. The process is devised not to prevent change but to manage it effectively, working with the grain of the building, not against it.

In England, listings are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, on the advice of Historic England. There are three grades: Grade I highest of gradings covers just 2.5% of all listed buildings: these are those that have 'exceptional', even international interest.

Grade II* (spoken of as 'Two Star'). Covers a further 5.5% of listed buildings. They have 'outstanding' interest.

Grade II 92% of listed buildings. They have what is described as 'special' architectural or historic interest.

In the Isle of Man the buildings are 'registered' (rather than 'listed') by the Manx Government's Department for Environment, Food and Agriculture. There is no grading system. Neither of the pubs in this guide are registered

Cheshire

Alraham

Chester Road, Alraham, CW6 9JA

Directions: A51, on northern outskirts of village.

Tel: (01829) 260523

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

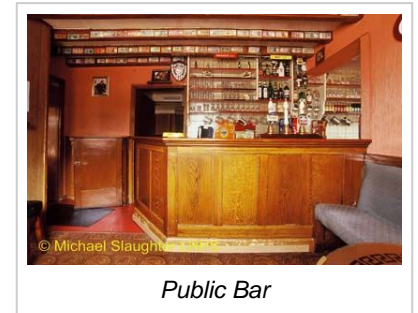
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Travellers Rest ★★★

The pub has been in the same family since 1900 and is still run on traditional lines, meaning no electronic diversions. Most of the fittings are from a 1937 refit, when the pub, dating from around 1850, was extended by the addition of two rooms to create the pub of four simple rooms that exists today.

A four-room wayside pub on the main road through the village. It once comprised just the T-plan building of around 1850 with its Tudor-style windows. This was extended, mainly at the back, in 1937, which is also the date of most of the (quite plain) fittings. Further changes took place around 1970 when the Wicker Room or Dart Room came into use. Back in the old part, the tap room (at the front) has a Victorian fireplace and 1930s mirror; a doorway leads to the tiny bar which is mostly the result of the 1937 refit. The lounge bar or 'New Room' was added at that time and retains its original fittings (but is normally only used when the bowling club meets). There is none of that new-fangled electronic gadgetry here – the till is a drawer in the bar counter and the likes of TVs, piped music and fruit machines are nowhere to be found. This pub has been in the hands of the same family since 1900. The bowling green at the rear is still much used.



Public Bar

Arclid

Newcastle Road, Arclid, CW11 2UG

Directions: A50

Tel: (01477) 500332

Website: <http://www.legsofman.co.uk>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: Not listed

Chester

Park Street, Chester, CH1 1RQ

Directions: next to the city walls on the south-east

Tel: (01244) 340345

Email: christina.mercer@tesco.net

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Chester) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Legs of Man ★

Built in 1939 by architect J.H. Walters, this is one of the major 1930s Cheshire roadhouses in this guide built for Robinsons' Brewery (the others in this guide are the Church House, Buglawton, and Bleeding Wolf, Scholar Green). Unfortunately it lost its thatched roof to fire in 1956. The left-hand entrance retains its revolving door which leads into a large room which houses the servery with its original tapering bar counter (the bar-back is more recent). Note the legs of man over the fireplace. Archways have been cut to the room on the right which still has its original brick fireplace. A door on the right leads out to the gents' with four large original urinals and wall-tiling. The restaurant (rear left) is much as it was originally with panelling and another legs of man over the fireplace. The gents' beyond the restaurant is also intact with two big urinals and tiled walls.



Lounge

Albion ★

Victorian street-corner local retaining a three room layout and with many fittings from the 1950s

The main attractions here are the two right-hand rooms and double doors between them. The small corner bar has distinctive, probably 1950s fittings while the front right room has an early 20th-century fireplace, tiny early post-war counter and seating likely to be from the same period. When Greenall Whitley bought the cottage on the left around 1980 they knocked down the dividing wall and extended the rear-left room into it; this room also has a distinctive 1950s panelled counter, a bar-back of similar vintage and a fine etched window.



Exterior

Gawsworth

Church Lane, Gawsworth, SK11 9RJ

Directions: off A536

Tel: 07716 862699

Email: andywightman4@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/harrington-arms-gawsworth/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Harrington Arms ★★★

A splendid example of the once-common pub that was part of a working farm. There are five rooms in total, including an unspoiled tap room from the pub's early days, and a range of timeless furniture that gives the pub a special and rare feel.

It is claimed there has been a pub here since 1710. Until 2007 it was attached to a working farm and thus was an example of a once-common way of combining pub-keeping with another livelihood. They are now separate businesses. The timeless tap room to the left of the entrance is the oldest part and has a red and black quarry-tiled floor, venerable settles, an old fireplace and sundry other vintage furniture. The servery in its present form only dates from 1980. To the right, the snug has a hatch for service, a 1950s fireplace and a settle; the small lounge at the back has a similar period feel. The former kitchen on the rear left became part of the pub in 2007 (the former cooking facilities seem on a truly industrial scale, perhaps reflecting the need to provide food for farm workers). All the rooms have numbers on their doors .



Tap Room

Haslington

137 Crewe Road, Haslington, CW1 5RG

Directions: On Crewe Road [B5099], next to Co-operative shop

Tel: (01270) 368631

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/hawk-inn-haslington/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Hawk ★★

The Hawk is a fine pub with a sequence of different rooms. These include the dining room on the left with an inter-war fireplace and old panelling. The Games Room (right) has a most interesting feature, an odd seat that projects out over the steps leading down to the cellar, and also a glazed section exposing the wattle and daub of its walling. But the star attraction is at the back of the pub. This is the Oak Room, lined with a rich display of old panelling, probably of early 17th-century origin and likely to have come from a gentry house, rather than an Armada galleon as the hoary old legend would have it. All this was there when Robinsons of Stockport bought the pub in 1929 from Kay's Atlas Brewery of Manchester. The room also has a Tudor-style stone fire-surround, 1920s fixed seating, bell-pushes and leaded windows. Over the fireplace are three decorative arches in relief, either side of which are paired columns.



Oak Room

Hatton

Hatton Lane, Hatton, WA4 4DB

Tel: (01925) 730314

Email: info@hattonarms.co.uk

Website: <https://www.hattonarms.co.uk>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Hatton Arms ★★

A multi-room, early 19th-century pub which appears to have been refitted in the 1950s and is little changed since then. So many of the features appear to date from that time, notably the unusual (but typical of its time) counter of split logs, and also the bar-back, seating, fireplaces and faux half-timbering. The left door from the passage leads to the tap room in an extension to the original building. The former village post office and store on the right-hand end of the building has now been converted into a restaurant.



Main Bar

Macclesfield

25-27 Church Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6LB

Directions: walk up cobbled st from Waters Green car park, pub is to the left as rd bends right.

Tel: (01625) 462646

Email: rebecca@thecastlemaecc.co.uk

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Macclesfield) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Castle ★★★

A charming small town pub with two particularly special rooms, one sporting a notable decorated ceiling.

Although the building it occupies is 18th-century, the pub use probably began in Victorian times. Right of the entrance, the splendid little tap room has fixed seating and tongue-and-grooved wall benches. The holes in the bar counter were for bringing crates of Guinness up to room temperature. Also to the right of the corridor, glazed screenwork incorporates an impressive curved off-sales/serving hatch with rising sashes, display case and entrance to the servery. First left from the corridor is the delightful smoke room with early 20th-century fittings (but Victorian fireplace), bell pushes and a notable ceiling which is formed from moulded putty and features a pair of lozenge patterns with foliage ornament. The ceiling was superbly restored to its original condition prior to the pub reopening in 2021. The fireplace has attractive pictorial tiled panels. The room behind the servery has a glazed partition to the corridor and a 1971 bar counter but older seating. The fourth room at the back is a 1986 conversion to pub use and was extended in 2021.



Passage

Orford

175 Gorsey Lane, Orford, WA2 7RX

Tel: (01925) 444384

Email: info@orfordhotel.co.uk

Website: <https://orfordhotel.co.uk/>

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Warrington Central) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Over Peover

Stocks Lane, Over Peover, WA16 8TU

Directions: Leave A50 at the Whipping Stocks & proceed for 2m

Tel: (01625) 861455

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Orford Hotel ★

A distinguished Tudor Gothic building with a stone-fronted, symmetrical facade, the Orford was built in 1908 for brewers Greenall Whitley. Much of the original six-room floor plan remains. On the right is the former 'Outdoor Department' (off-sales), named in etched glass. The public bar has its originally counter (slightly moved to the left), fixed seating but the tiled floor is new. A doorway leads to another room at the rear, served via a hatch. A passage down the rear has another hatch and a small alcove with seating. In the left-hand front door an etched glass panel announces 'Lounge Hall' and leads initially into a lobby bar (servery added in the 1970s but the fixed seating appears original). Art Nouveau tiling throughout the passageway. Both front and rear left-hand rooms have original seating (but fireplaces lost). The 'Lounge Hall' itself has plainer seating than the last two rooms (perhaps inter-war work). The left-hand gents' is largely original (but some painting over on the tiling sadly).



Left Hand Bar

Park Gate Inn ★

A brick-built village pub with no less than six small rooms which have extensive parquet flooring and inter-war fireplaces. The entrance lobby has seating on either side. A passage runs to the public bar in the heart of the pub (bar fittings replaced in the early 2000s). At the rear right is the small tap room with a red quarry-tiled floor and service via a very small, recently replaced counter. Left are two more small rooms, now linked by a wide gap. The front one has a partition wall to the passage: that at the rear contains settle seating. Right of the passage is the lounge, larger than the other rooms, with a couple of settles (the counter seems a recent replacement). Far right there is door marked 'Private but brought into use at busy times.



Public Bar

Scholar Green

121 Congleton Road North, Scholar Green, ST7 3BQ
Directions: On Congleton Road, A34, between Moss Lane and Little Moss Lane.
Tel: (01782) 782272
Website: <https://bleedingwolf.pub>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Bleeding Wolf ★★ ★

A classic 1930s pub built for the coming age of the motor car but with a nod to rustic traditions, such as an enormous thatched roof and adzed woodwork. The pub has lots to admire from both its grand gestures, such as the wood-panelled room and a huge fireplace, down to tiny details of tiling and stained glass.

Architecturally impressive and remarkably intact, this pub was built in of 1936 for Robinsons Brewery of Stockport under architect J. H. Walters. He employed what we might call a Roadhouse Vernacular Revival style which aimed for respectability and a nostalgic sense of history in the new motor age, an idea reinforced by the enormous thatched roof as an emblem of rustic tradition (see also the Legs of Man, Arclid, and Church House, Buglawton, both above). The spreading plan of five rooms remains, along with most of the original fittings and finishes, notably the adzed tooling on the woodwork to suggest, once again, homely rusticity and hand craftsmanship. Facing the left-hand entrance is an off-sales hatch with the public bar on the left. To the right is a lounge which features the servery, an impressive inglenook fireplace and a lovely semi-circular bay at the front; note and the depiction in stained glass of the bleeding wolf (whose legend is told in a panel on the wall). Further to the right is the dining room and to the rear left the fully panelled Oak Room – a splendid period piece. The area at the rear, which contained nothing of historic interest, was altered in 2021 and now presents a much tidier appearance. There is much original detailing throughout, for example, the delightful stained glass beer bottles either side of the entrance and original tiling in the loos. Listed in 2011 following a successful application by CAMRA.



Public Bar

Warrington

33 Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2SX

Tel: 07716 358945

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Warrington Central) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Wilmslow

71 Chapel Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5JH

Directions: Approaching Wilmslow centre on the A538, turn right into Buckingham Rd. Continue to at end of road, turn left and the pub on your right.

Tel: (01625) 532443

Email: farmersarms.wilmslow@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.jwlees.co.uk/venue/farmers-arms-wilmslow>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Bull's Head ★

Probably 17th-century – suggested by the date 1685 in a gable – this much restored inn is worth a visit for two small rooms of real character. Behind the servery an old latch door leads into a snug with two baffles/screens by the entrance with colourful stained glass panels, early 20th-century fixed seating, and bell-pushes around most of the room but, sadly, a modern brick fireplace. Down a short passageway on the rear right a sliding door leads into the small Trophy Room with Victorian fixed seating with carved ends, and bell-pushes all around the room but, again, another modern brick fireplace. The rest of the pub is opened up and modernised but the area on the front right does retain old fixed seating and bell-pushes. There's an active bowling green at the back. Modern function room.



Main Bar Seating

Farmers Arms ★

A busy locals' pub, built in the early 20th-century, but refitted in the 1930s with further subsequent changes. The small vault has an old and bench seating but the bar-back seems to be of the 1960s. At the rear is another small room with old bench seating and a fireplace that could date from the 1930s. On the right are another two small rooms: a large piece of wall above the dado was removed in the early 2000s. The rear room was a private living room until the early 1980s. The front lounge bar has what may be a 1950s counter, 1960/1970s fixed seating and a new fireplace. The games room upstairs has been brought into use. Two old urinals in the gents'. The window glass is a recent replacement.

Cumbria

Bassenthwaite Lake

, Bassenthwaite Lake, CA13 9YE

Directions: S off A66 at W end of lake

Tel: (017687) 76234

Email: reception@the-pheasant.co.uk

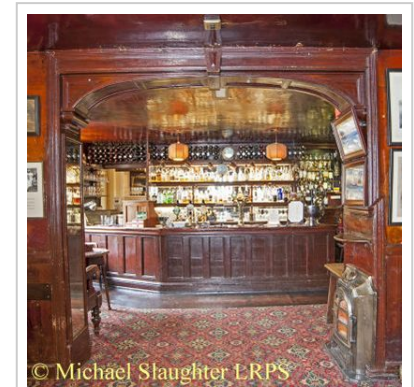
Website: <http://inncollectiongroup.com/pheasant-inn>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: II

Pheasant Inn ★★

The atmospheric public bar of this fine old Georgian coaching inn has not changed in many years. It is divided into two parts by a wide, shallow arch. The layout comprises a relatively small area in front of the counter and, behind the arch, a somewhat larger space for drinkers and diners. Positioned within the north side of the arch is a wondrously old gas fire. Old panelling abounds and the whole place would have been recognisable to Lakeland tourists of past generations. A two-part glazed hatch inscribed 'Waiters Only' can be found in the side passag, along with two old glazed panels. A major refurbishment of the hotel was completed in 2022 which included the creation of a new bar area to the right of the entrance. The old bar remains fully equipped for service but only comes into use at busy periods; however, you're still welcome to sit in this marvellous space.



© Michael Slaughter LRPS

Public Bar

Bowness-on-Windermere

Lowside, Bowness-on-Windermere, LA23

3DH

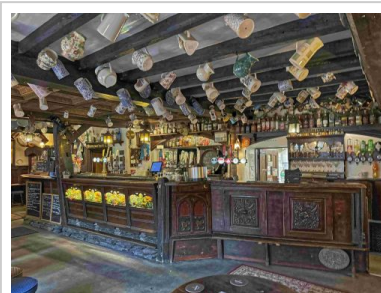
Tel: (015394) 43488

Website: <https://holeintwall.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: II

Hole in t' Wall ★★



Main Bar Servery

Broughton Mills

Broughton Mills, Broughton Mills, LA20 6AX

Tel: (01229) 716824

Email: info@theblacksmithsarms.com

Website: <https://theblacksmithsarms.com>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Listed Status: II

Carlisle

22 Botchergate, Carlisle, CA1 1QS

Tel: (01228) 273059

Website: <https://www.cumberlandinn.co.uk/>

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Carlisle) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Blacksmiths Arms ★★

Floored throughout with stone flags, the Blacksmiths, albeit in a gentrified state with a strong emphasis on dining, offers an impression of how an old Lakeland country inn might have been. The original bar was on the right and had no bar counter until 1996. The room to the left is of much more interest and is divided from the passageway by a solid wooden screen with benches attached. It contains a cast-iron range (hence its name of the 'Range Room') and a fitted cupboard of the former kitchen, showing how the public house developed out of a private one. In more recent times the pub has expanded into the former shop (rear right) and living accommodation (far left).



Left Hand Room

Cumberland Inn ★

The least-altered of the pubs built under the Carlisle State Management Scheme and its architect Harry Redfern. It dates from 1929-30 and is a good example of the high quality his designs, in this case in the Tudor Revival style on a long, narrow site and costing a hefty £13,678. There has been a fair amount of opening out and refitting but a strong sense of the intended elegant ambience can still be felt, evoked in particular by the fielded panelling and stone fireplaces. Upstairs, two formerly little-used bars now house a separate business, the Royal Outpost Restaurant, accessed by a staircase from the right-hand door. Both rooms have original bar fittings, excellent fireplaces and panelled walls with gilded inscriptions in praise of moderate drinking. Above the panelling are painted cartouches and vine motifs with jugs and glasses over the fireplaces.



Front Bar

Elterwater

, Elterwater, LA22 9HP
Tel: (015394) 37210
Email: info@britinn.co.uk
Website: <http://www.britinn.co.uk>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Britannia Inn ★



Great Langdale

Great Langdale, Great Langdale, LA22 9JY
Tel: (015394) 37272
Email: olddungeonghyll1@btconnect.com
Website: <http://www.odg.co.uk>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Old Dungeon Ghyll Hotel ★★

At the side of this secluded hotel in the Langdale Valley sits the 'Hikers' Bar', converted from a shippon (cow-shed) in 1949 and hardly changed since. Two stalls, made from timber and white-painted slate, were retained to provide characterful drinking booths; they also divide the barn-like interior. On the left-hand side, a massive cast-iron open fire burns all year round, a welcome sight for cold and thirsty walkers, many of whom have left carved messages in the simple wooden tables. The right-hand part has more utilitarian features. The long bar counter is faced with white-painted slate plus plentiful timbering. The linoleum floor conceals a slate original. Although very simply appointed, the bar has great atmosphere.



Right Hand Side

Great Urswick

Church Road, Great Urswick, LA12 0SZ

Tel: (01229) 586394

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/general-burgoyne-great-urswick/>

Listed Status: Not listed

General Burgoyne ★

Was an unspoilt Hartleys pub of character until 1992 when Robinsons carried out an expanding of the trading areas which was described in 'Traditional Pubs of Old Lancashire' by Peter Barnes as "If pubs like this have to change then this is an example of how it should be done". It was originally a farmhouse with its own brewhouse.

The highlight is the small room on the left still with an oak partition separating it from the small room on the right. It has an inglenook consisting of a stone fireplace with a mantelpiece almost reaching the ceiling and a short bench with baffle on the right hand side. There are two more baffles by the doorway to the right hand bar. There is old dado panelling with benches attached and a hatch to the side of the servery. One beam has a '1631' date carved into it. Sadly, a small section of the wall above the dado has been removed, no doubt 'for supervision' reasons.

From the front door there is passage created by two partition walls which are painted black. A wide gap on the right of about half the wall leads into the very small public bar with an oldish bar counter, new top, the bar back is partly old but mostly modern. There is some wall bench seating and only two tables. Down three steps and through a wide doorway is another small room with a screeded floor, beamed ceiling, an old stone fireplace, and some pew-like fitted seating.

The rear wall of the left hand room is opened-up to a small area with corner settle seating; and on the far left a modern dining room extension.



Main Bar

Kendal

37-39 Kirkland, Kendal, LA9 5AF
Tel: (01539) 241327
Email: ringobellspubuk@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.ringobellskendal.com/>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Penrith

Castlegate, Penrith, CA11 7JE
Tel: (01768) 597596
Email: Agriculturalhotel@valiantpubs.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Penrith) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Ring O' Bells ★★

Dating from the early 18th century, this is reputedly the only pub in England built on consecrated ground (it is adjacent to the parish church). The lobby retains its off-sales hatch and a portion of Victorian bench seating whilst the bar on the left has a screened counter with two tiers of stained glass panels. It also has half-height panelled walls, an inter-war fireplace and a well-worn Formica-topped card table. Next is a tiny snug, also panelled and with old bench seating. There's yet more panelling in the lounge at the back and another 1920s fireplace but the counter and seating are modern. The small dining room beyond came into use only recently.

Agricultural Inn ★

This hotel built of local sandstone in 1870 is well worth a visit to see one of the finest surviving Victorian shuttered and panelled serveries. It still has working sash screens which reach right up to the ceiling. It is two-sided, of three bays length, two bays on the return, and a curved bay at the corner. The five main bays have lower sliding screens with the corner bay and upper ones having fixed glazed panels. The bar-back fitting is mainly old with some wood and modern colourful stained glass. Sadly in the late 1990s there was a major refurbishment that opened up the pub.

Public Bar

Image not found or type unknown

Public Bar



Rare Intact Servery

Rydal

, Rydal, LA22 9LR

Tel: (015394) 34500

Email: info@theglenrothay.co.uk

Website: <http://www.theglenrothay.co.uk/>

Listed Status: II

Badger Bar (Glen Rothay Hotel) ★

The bar is in the oldest part of this very traditional hotel, The servery area was reconfigured not that long ago and is not as old as it might look. An archway leads to the drinking area, simply fitted out but with some characterful pre-bar features like the 'Gothick' windows. The dining room next door features spectacular panelling which could well date back to the early 17th century.



Greater Manchester

Abbey Hey

187 Abbey Hey Lane, Abbey Hey, M18 8TN

Directions: jct Ackroyd Ave

Tel: None

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Gorton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Atherton

48 Market Street, Atherton, M46 0DG

Tel: (01942) 870135

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Atherton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Hare & Hounds ★

Two small rooms and a lobby bar. The latter on the right retains its old bare wooden flooring, benches, and servery fittings. There's a small smoke room at the front left (advertised in the door glass) with original fixed seating, a draught screen and bell-pushes all around. The rear room (formerly two separate ones) also has a draught screen, original fixed seating and bell-pushes all around the room but part of the wall at the rear right has been removed. Sadly the attractive inter-war tiled dado in the entrance passage and lobby has been over-painted.



Lobby Bar

Wheatsheaf ★

A large and impressive late Victorian red-brick pub. The Wheatsheaf name is in mosaic in the front porch. It underwent a major refurbishment in 2017. The rear parts have been opened out but a visit is still worthwhile for the two front rooms. The right-hand one has an intact three-sided screen creating a vestibule-like entrance with colourful stained glass in the door and two side panels. There are also original fixed seats, bell-pushes and a richly treated fireplace. The left-hand room too has stained glass, fixed seating with bell-pushes but modern screens. Note the grand door hinges with large springs. Good moulded ceilings too.



Left Hand Room

Bolton

6-8 Churchgate, Bolton, BL1 1HL

Tel: (01204) 559060

Email: yeoldemanandscythe@gmail.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bolton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Bolton

127 Crook Street, Bolton, BL3 6DD

Tel: 07503 010187

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bolton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Olde Man & Scythe ★

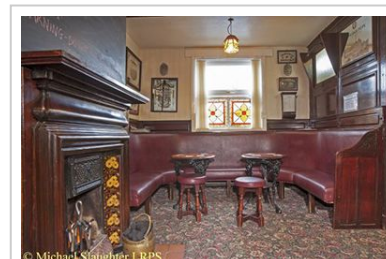
A black and white timber framed building reputed to have been rebuilt in 1636 with a 12th century cellar, though the present building owes much of its form to an early C20 remodelling. Front right small room up a step has a bare wood floor, fixed seating around the bay window and the rest of the room, bell-pushes and a shield emblem in leaded exterior windows. The rear right room up a step has a bare wood floor, old fixed seating around most of the room with bell-pushes in a panel above and a fine pargetted ceiling.



Servery

Sweet Green Tavern ★

By about 1950 three properties had been amalgamated to form the present pub, now surrounded by a traffic system. The layout of some six rooms or areas still retains quite number of 1950s fittings. The opening up may date from the 1950s or is due to Walkers Brewery's subsequent changes. Many of the areas have fixed seating and there are a couple of Victorian cast-iron fireplaces. There are a number of draught screens and some colourful glazed window screens. A recent change has been the careful shortening of the bar counter in 2005. There is wall-panelling to two-thirds height in most areas.



Snug

Bury

6 Bolton Street, Bury, BL9 0LQ

Tel: None

Email: oldwhitelionbury@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.craftunionpubs.com/white-lion-bury>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

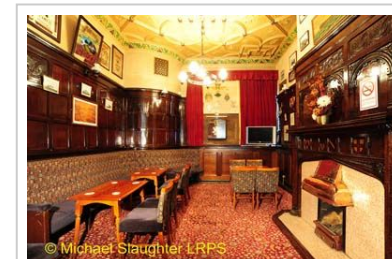
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bury Bolton Street (ELR)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Old White Lion ★★★

A splendid Victorian pub retaining features such as woodwork, wood panelling and seating and with a magnificent rear room that has extravagant decorative plasterwork.

Enter this late 19th/early 20th-century pub through a recently restored revolving door and you find yourself in a drinking lobby with the servery (partly original) on the left and a large seating space on the right (the original opening to it seems to have been much widened): the latter has two broad arches spanning the seating areas. But the great attraction is the Oak Room at the rear right. It has wall panelling and a fireplace with 16th/17th-century-style decoration, a decorative plaster ceiling with Tudor roses, animal faces, lions, and birds in relief, plus a cornice of luscious grapes. The party wall to the bar side comprises a screen of painted glass with lion masks and swags. There is fixed seating with bell-pushes above. A rather remarkable feature is the hinged baffle beside the door: why it was so constructed is hard to imagine. The former commercial (now pool) room (rear left) has a stained glass window but nothing else of note.



Interior of Oak Room

Bury

19 The Wylde, Bury, BL9 0LA

Tel: 07518 819091

Website: <https://twotubsbury.co.uk>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bury Bolton Street (ELR)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Droylsden

435 Manchester Road, Droylsden, M43 6JE

Tel: 07827 850246

Website: <http://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/half-way-house>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Gorton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Two Tubs ★

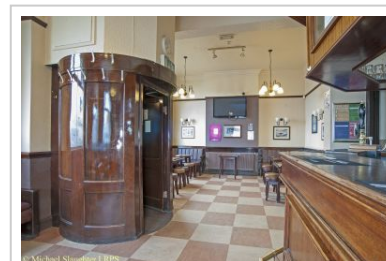
A building 'of doubtful age' (Historic England) – possibly 17th-century with a good deal of later change and enlargement –this pub retains small rooms at the front with fittings from about 1960. From the front door a passage runs to the rear with hold fielded panelling to two-thirds height all along and a counter to the front left room serving with a copper top. On the right further down on the right is a snug. A doorway leads to the small front left-hand bar with a c.1960 lino tiled floor, a bar counter front with barrel staves with brass straps and a copper top. The bar-back fitting has a Tudor-arched central section and display cases with leaded glass windows. Two small rooms on the right appear to have been combined.



Public Bar

Halfway House ★

A massive Holt's pub of 1912, with a large lobby (but modern fittings). Opened-up on the right is another room/area with original fixed seating and bell-pushes above, and a fine carved wood-surround fireplace. A short passage from the lobby bar area leading to the smoking shelter has inter-war tiled dado. The vault on Edge Lane has a former revolving door, original fixed seating, bell-pushes, three 'Half Way House' decorative etched windows but modern serving fittings. At the rear the snooker room still has with original seating on a raised platform with bell pushes above. The passage between the vault and the lobby bar has an open staircase with a fine carved newel post.



Vault

Eccles

33 Regent Street, Eccles, M30 0BP

Directions: Opp Eccles Metrolink Station

Tel: (0161) 789 3882

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/lamb-hotel>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Eccles) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Lamb Hotel ★ ★ ★

A classic Edwardian pub rich in decorative flourishes: wall tiling, mosaic flooring and etched glass abound. Different rooms retain original characteristics and are presided over by a curved mahogany bar with sliding-window hatches for serving.

A classic Edwardian red brick and terracotta extravaganza rebuilt in 1906 and designed by Mr Newton of Hartley, Hacking & Co. for Holt's Brewery (cf. the Grapes and Royal Oak). It has superbly preserved fittings throughout, including elaborate Jacobean-style mahogany door surrounds and chimney-pieces, Art Nouveau wall-tiling and mosaic flooring. From the entrance lobby, with its terrazzo floor and dado of green tiles, a door to the right leads to the vault. This has seen some changes, including incorporation of an off-sales (see the blocked door outside on the right-hand side street) and a replacement bar counter. The bar parlour retains fixed seating with bell-pushes and a wood-surround fireplace. Second on the left, the rear smoke room, entered through a wide arch from the lobby, also has its Edwardian fixed seating plus a Jacobean-style chimneypiece. Sadly, the billiard room recently lost its full-sized snooker table (supplied by Burroughs & Watts of London when the pub opened) but still retains the fixed seating on raised platforms that enabled spectators to watch the play. A star feature is the screened, curved mahogany bar in the lobby with brilliant-cut glazed hatches, still with sliding windows and over-lights. The lobby also has a dado of Art Nouveau glazed tiles which continues up the stairs. Listed in 1994 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Lobby Rear

Gorton

927 Hyde Road, Gorton, M18 7FB

Directions: jct Wellington St

Tel: (0161) 223 9671

Email: admin@inglenookinns.co.uk

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/the-plough-gorton/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Ryder Brow) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Plough ★★★

A late Victorian pub that has its original room layout and lots of interesting features, including a classic vault (public bar). Service is from an ornate counter and bar back.

A basic, but friendly, drinkers' pub of red brick with some terracotta details, whose layout is virtually unaltered since the building was constructed in 1893. The main entrance leads to a black and white floored corridor/drinking lobby with lots of lovely green tiling in the dado. To the right is the vault which is a splendid example of a late- Victorian public bar. It has a particularly elaborate bar counter, a fine bar-back in a loosely Jacobean style, and plain, bare bench seating with raked back-rests. The corridor leads on to what is now termed the snug (rear) and lounge (front left) which have historic features such as bell-pushes. The pool room has been stripped of any historic interest. On the side road is a doorway to the former off-sales compartment and upstairs is a meeting room. Owners Robinsons of Stockport undertook an excellent refurbishment in 2013, two of the many merits of which were the removal of the modern pot-shelf on the counter and the clearing of the off-sales area to reveal its original appearance. Listed in 1994 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Tap Room

Great Moor

351 Buxton Road, Great Moor, SK2 7NL

Directions: jct Cherry Tree Ln

Tel: (0161) 456 6550

Email: marian_lavelle@yahoo.co.uk

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/travellers-call-great-moor/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Woodsmoor) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Hale

128-130 Ashley Road, Hale, WA14 2UN

Tel: (0161) 941 5367

Website: <http://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/railwayhale>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hale) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Travellers Call ★

A small Victorian locals' pub with a rendered exterior and colourful tiled dado in the porch. It has been changed somewhat over the years but still retains three small rooms and a lobby bar with an alcove at the front. The small front right room has Victorian fixed seating and bell-pushes. At the rear right is small plain room, not originally in public use. The counters may be relatively recent. Owners Robinsons undertook modest refurbishment in 2015 including giving many surfaces a modern paint scheme.



Servery

Railway Inn ★

A traditional, multi-room pub attractively rebuilt by Robinsons in the 1930s. The left-hand door leads to the lounge/lobby bar with fielded panelling to two-thirds height (counter of the 1970s). On the left are two small rooms. The front one has original bench seating with bell-pushes, and a brick fireplace (perhaps post-war); the rear one has loose benches (the dado panelling appears to be 1960s ply with bell-pushes all around). A passage was cut in the 1970s to link the lounge and vault. The vault (right) has its own entrance but is wholly modernised. The small bar was replaced in the 1970s and is in a slightly changed position. There was an off-sales until the 1970s, accessed from the vault door.



Lounge Servery

Heaton Mersey

552 Didsbury Road, Heaton Mersey, SK4 3AJ

Directions: jct Harwood Rd

Tel: (0161) 443 2077

Email: thegriffinhotel@joseph-holt.com

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/griffin-heaton-mersey>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (East Didsbury) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Heaton Moor

98-100 Heaton Moor Road, Heaton Moor, SK4 4NZ

Directions: nr jct Shaw Rd

Tel: (0161) 425 7500

Email: crowninnsk4@gmail.com

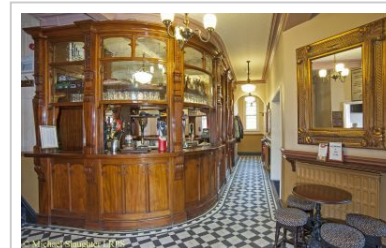
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Heaton Chapel) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Griffin ★★

Built in 1831, the Griffin was acquired by Joseph Holts in 1921. On right-hand is the traditional multi-roomed layout including a lobby bar with a splendid screened servery (lower sashes removed). Off floor lobby are a small right-hand room with old fixed seating; a left-hand room with lovely fixed seating and early 20th-century fireplace; a tiny narrow room on the right (seems to be a conversion of a passage); another small right-hand rear room with marble fireplace and old fixed seating (opened-up to the lobby); and an area behind the servery with more fixed seating. Holts extended the pub in the 1970s creating an open-plan bar of three areas on the left with a servery copying the old one and re-using the old lower sash screens. Lots of 'Griffin Hotel' etched windows.



Lobby Bar

Crown ★

What counts here is the 1930s remodelling of an early 19th-century pub. Behind the symmetrical, fairly plain facade, is a layout of four rooms with extensive remains from the inter-war period. At the front right is a small snug, on the left the main bar, and behind each of these is a further room (that on the right is the vault). Within these are the original servery with a centrally placed stillion (a structure for bottles, glasses etc), bell-pushes for table service (in both front rooms), fixed seating, stained glass panels, draught screens and some wall-panelling. The gents' still keep the original tiled walls and urinals. Open 2 to 11 Mon to Fri.



Servery

Heywood

2 - 4 Manchester Street, Heywood, OL10 1DL

Tel: None

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Heywood (ELR))

Listed Status: Not listed

Duke of Wellington ★

The big attraction here is the baronial-style lounge (right), largely intact since its creation in the 1930s. It's entered between two timber and glass screens and has a full set of benches with ends featuring barley-twist columns. The room appears to have completely panelled walls but actually the top section is a clever design consisting of painted strips of timber on plaster walls.. What seems to be a plaster frieze with decoration of fruits and leaves is actually a modern plastic affair - just tap it and you realise it is hollow! There is a fine plasterwork ceiling and 1930s timber fireplace with an ornate canopy-style mantelpiece (above, unfortunately, an inappropriate reproduction Victorian-style fireplace). The original stained glass windows remain at the rear. Sadly, the recent decorative scheme detracts significantly from the atmosphere of the room.



Lounge

Heywood

Peel Lane, Heywood, OL10 4PR

Tel: (01706) 369705

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Heywood)

Listed Status: Not listed

Grapes Inn ★★★

A pub that largely retains its floor plan from its building in 1920s. Most fittings survive, including rare leaded screens around the entrances to the toilets.

A 1920s estate pub which has kept most of its floor plan and fittings. The entrance has plentiful tiling and mosaic floors, and leads to a drinking lobby with rooms leading off. It has its original bar counter (but new top) and bar back. The two screens around the doors to the toilets are most unusual. Presumably the idea was to provide a touch of privacy given the highly prominent location of the loos (which still have their original tiling). A corresponding screen surrounds a phone booth but this is new work. The vault in the rear left-hand corner has basic bench seating plus the original counter, whilst in the pool room are baffles by the door and more bench seating. Mounted on the counter fronts are horizontal metal bands. Set within the servery is a (mostly stud) wall with a hatch but this seems to be some modern reconfiguration.



Lobby Bar

Higher Blackley

39 Weardale Road, Higher Blackley, M9 8WR

Directions: Near Northdale Road

Tel: 07827 850227

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/duke-of-wellington>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Duke Of Wellington ★★

Brick ground floor, 'Brewers' Tudor' upstairs. There is a large drinking lobby with ornate sash-window screening to the servery with swirling designs in the glazing. A lounge in an extension (right) is opened-up to the lobby but has good quality (date?) fixed seating. The snug (front left) has old fixed seating with draught screens bearing a frosted starburst feature, and a fireplace featuring two columns and bell-pushes. The vault (right) has more draught screens and a couple of screens to the servery. The short passage between the vault and the lobby bar has one wall with an inter-war tiled dado (but painted over). The brass panel is one of about sixty WWII war memorials in pubs around the country.



Lobby Bar

Higher Broughton

2 Back Hope Street, Higher Broughton, M7 2FR

Directions: Off B6187, Great Clowes St

Tel: (0161) 307 0776

Email: bar@staronthecliff.co.uk

Website: <http://www.staronthecliff.co.uk>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Star Inn ★★

A small, early Victorian pub with three rooms that was last refurbished in the 1960s. The tiny bar has an old bench with a heating pipe underneath but the bar fittings date from the 1960s when the counter was moved. The lounge retains original bench seating, which sweeps around the bay windows, and bell-pushes. Old etched glass remains in doors and in a baffle in the lounge. The fittings in the pool room at the rear also date from the 1960s when the room was brought into use. The lobby between the lounge the pool room has old black and white tiled floor and inter-war dado tiled walls. The Star was sold at auction by Robinsons in 2009 and is now a cooperatively-owned community pub.



Lounge

Horwich

121 Church Street, Horwich, BL6 7BR

Tel: (01204) 427273

Email: bridgehotelhorwich@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.thebridgehotel.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Blackrod) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Bridge Hotel ★

UPDATE 2020.

A refurbishment has recently been carried out which requires a re-assessment.

Please note - the photos are therefore out of date and the description is one written before the recent changes.

An imposing red brick and terracotta pub of around 1900 and retaining a largely intact plan of a lobby bar and three (originally four) rooms. Many fittings survive too, notably extensive colourful tiling in the dado (partly painted over, sadly) which extends up the stairs. There is much original fixed seating including, in a small room on the left of the passage with an arrangement of four semi-circular bays. In addition there are original fireplaces, cornices and screenwork. Note the dumb waiter with two ropes to move the cage. The large island bar is very recent. The toilets upstairs have 1930s fittings (but tiles painted over). There is an active bowling green at the rear.



Lounge

Hyde

57 Mottram Road, Hyde, SK14 2NN

Directions: adjacent to exit from Morrisons car park

Tel: (0161) 368 5000

Email: geoff@rossendalebrewery.co.uk

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Newton for Hyde) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Hyde

7 Market Place, Hyde, SK14 2LX

Tel: 07801 885783

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hyde Central) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Sportsman Inn ★

The Sportsman retains many Victorian fittings including tiling in the passage and up the staircase. There has been much opening up but something of the traditional layout is apparent. The servery is right of the corridor and the original counter has a Formica (1950/1960s?) top. The left-hand rooms have Victorian fireplaces and fixed seating with bell-pushes, but both now have wide openings and the top section of walling between them has been removed. Upstairs is a rare intact former billiard room complete with extensive bench seating and a barrel vaulted ceiling: the full-size table was removed in 2011. The toilets retain inter-war fittings. Much inter-war etched and frosted glazing.



Servery

White Lion ★

A rather remarkable pub right in the heart of Hyde which retains some of its extraordinary plan and embellishments from a remodelling by Kay's Atlas Brewery in 1906. The impressive entrance to the Market Place has a ceramic surround with a lion's head and pediment (another lion appears on a low level panel to the right). The star feature is the very long and narrow left-hand bar and its half-height green tiling tricked out with Art Nouveau details. It was originally probably divided in two – the front part is called 'Bar' in the door glass and the rear 'Vault' (in practice more or less interchangeable names for the least posh bit of a pub). Right of the vault is a corridor with more of the green tiled dado and also the remnants of a screen at the back of the servery. A large section of the wall on the right of the corridor has been removed and the original four small rooms opened up to different degrees. All the rooms/areas retain some fixed seating and there are some bell-pushes.



Tiled Corridor Counter

Leigh

2 Market Place, Leigh, WN7 1EG

Tel: None

Website: <http://www.boarsheadleigh.co.uk/home2.html>

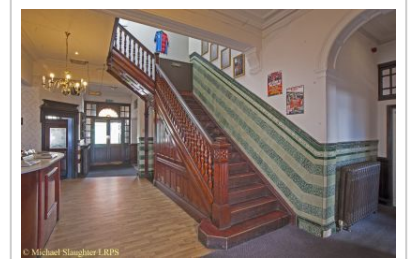
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Boars Head ★

Rebuilt in 1900 with an imposing brick and terracotta exterior (like many contemporary pubs in Birmingham). The interior sadly suffers from opening-out and poor alterations. The main entrance leads into a wide tiled corridor. The most intact rooms are on the right where there is fixed seating with bell-pushes and original fireplaces. Left of the corridor is a bar-hall area with a green tiled dado extending up the fine staircase and down the passage to the rear. The servery counter dates from just 2015, but there is a small, original bar-back. The former stables at the rear have been converted into a timber treatment business.



Lobby and Staircase

Manchester

50 Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester, M1 5LE

Tel: (0161) 236 5895

Email: info@britonsprotection.co.uk

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Deansgate) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Britons Protection ★★★

This old pub owes its appearance largely to a refurbishment in the 1930s. The original layout is respected and the rooms, and the toilets, benefit from beautiful tiling and/or woodwork. With many other historic features and a decorative moulded ceiling, this is a pub in which to sit back and admire.

The pub opened in 1811 and is said to have been used as a recruiting centre for soldiers to fight Napoleon, hence, it seems, the name. But our real interest here is a major refit about 1930, whence the extensive amounts of tiling and quality woodwork to the interior. The layout is similar to some Merseyside pubs in this guide, the Stork, Birkenhead, and the Lion and Prince Arthur in Liverpool. The public bar is along the front, and is wrapped around by an L-shaped terrazzo-floored corridor, beyond which are a pair of back rooms (smoke room and snug) served by a double doored hatch with screens at the back of the serving. Especially good features are the moulded ceiling and bar furniture in the public bar and corridor, the 1930s copper fireplace in the smoke room, and the wall-tiling in the passage, which also runs up the staircase. The tiling at the Britons Protection is very similar in style and date to that at the Hare & Hounds in the Shude Hill area. The massive urinals and tiled walls in the gents' are worth inspection.



Public Bar

Manchester

66 Oldham Street, Manchester, M4 1LE

Directions: Near Warwick St

Tel: (0161) 237 9485

Email: hello@thecastlehotel.info

Website: <http://www.thecastlehotel.info>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

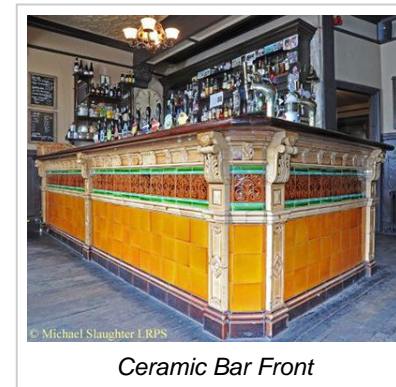
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Victoria (Manchester))
and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Castle Hotel ★★★

An old, small city centre pub with extensive tilework, most notably its colourful tiled bar counter, one of only a few remaining in the country. There are other historic features around the bar and in the parlour to the rear.

A small city centre pub with alterations of around 1900. This is one of a number of Kay's Atlas Brewery pubs with ceramic frontages. The interior has a layout of three rooms with a corridor down the right-hand side. The original vestibule on the right has been replaced with a smaller one, but the mosaic floor declaring 'Castle Hotel' remains and 'The Castle' is named in the inner door etched panel. The small public bar has a wonderful colourful glazed ceramic bar counter front – one of only thirteen such examples left in the whole of the UK. Also remaining is a fine old bar-back fitting, 1960s fixed seating and a good patterned anaglypta ceiling. The partition between the bar and the corridor was removed many years ago. A door beyond the public bar servery announces 'Bar Parlour' in its glasswork and the room retains old fixed seating, bell pushes and a baffle by the door. At the rear is an extended and modernised room albeit with notable old leaded windows in the partition separating it from the corridor.



Manchester

86 Portland Street, Manchester, M1 4GX

Directions: jct Princess St

Tel: 07863 349957

Website: <http://circustavern.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford Road (Manchester)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Circus Tavern ★★★

A rare survivor of a tiny city-centre pub, converted from a house. It is so small that the servery is under the stairs and there are just two simple rooms with fixed seating. An unspoilt gem.

A tiny pub in the heart of bustling central Manchester. The building, originally a house, is just one bay wide. A corridor on the left leads to two tiny, simply-fitted public rooms, separated by a vertically boarded partition. The miniscule servery, branded as 'the smallest bar in Europe', is under the stairs and is so small that only one person can serve. Its design, with its glazed superstructure, suggests a 1930s origin. Both rooms have old fixed benches: until very recently there were baffles at the entrances to the rooms but unfortunately all but one have been destroyed. The fireplaces are replacements. More than 40 customers and the place is packed. Listed in 1994 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Lobby Bar

Manchester

46-48 Kennedy Street, Manchester, M2 4BQ

Directions: near town hall, next door and to the rear of the Waterhouse Pub.

Tel: (0161) 236 4610

Email: cityarms@hotmail.co.uk

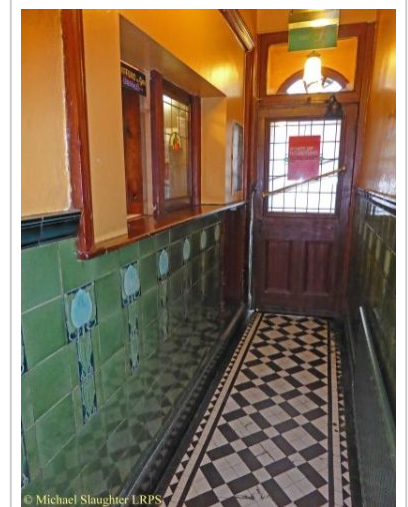
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford Road (Manchester)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

City Arms ★

The layout of this late 18th-century pub derives from a refurbishment around 1900 but some fittings are inter-war whilst designation as a 'Tetley Festival Ale House' in the 1970s introduced further changes such as the bar-back and panelling in the public bar (front). Through the left-hand door is a passage with tiled floor and attractive dado tiling. Halfway down, a hatch still offers service from the back of the servery. Inside are two small rooms on different levels with a widish gap between them. As noted, the public bar with its bare wood floor and fixed seating, has seen post-war changes. Much of the rear saloon décor is from the 1930s: an Art Deco fireplace with bevelled mirror in the mantelpiece, dado panelling, baffles and (probably) the 'ladies' stained glass panel. Another wooden floor here but the fixed seating seems quite recent.



© Michael Slaughter LRPS

Serving Hatch in Tiled Passage

Manchester

46 Shudehill, Manchester, M4 4AA

Directions: Opp Shudehill Bus Station

Tel: (0161) 843 1405

Email: calavinasmarie@hotmail.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Victoria (Manchester))
and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Hare & Hounds ★★ ★

A good example of a pub with both vault and lounge bars and a drinking lobby in front of the servery. There is tilework and many historic features to admire following a complete remodelling in 1925 that is little-altered since.

The Hare & Hounds was given a complete remodelling in 1925 and this remains intact 90 years on. The layout is typical of many in the north of England with a room at the front and back, plus a corridor down one side which expands in the middle to form a drinking lobby in front of the servery: exactly the same arrangement can be found, for example, at the Swan with Two Necks, Stockport and the Swan, York. The pub has both front and back entrances and their vestibules have grey-blue tiling. Inside, the corridor/lobby and front room have mottled brown tiling. All this tiling is very similar to that at the Britons Protection. Both rooms have fixed bench seating but the rear one was evidently the 'better' room since there are bell-pushes for table service: its 1920s fireplace still survives. The servery has an impressive array of glazed screens: the pulleys can be seen in the lobby although the lower panels have gone.



Front Bar

Manchester

73 Rochdale Road, Collyhurst, Manchester, M4 4HY

Directions: Corner Gould St

Tel: (0161) 832 5914

Email: marblearch@marblebeers.com

Website: <https://marblebeers.com/the-marble-arch/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Victoria (Manchester))
and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Marble Arch ★★★

A stunning, extravagant brewery showpiece that combines gothic style with a lavish interior of ceramic tiling and glazed brick walls, topped by a wonderful frieze. As if that weren't enough, there is beautiful mosaic flooring and a decorative ceiling. To be savoured.

This pub, built in 1888 (dated on the side elevation gable) by local architects Darbyshire & Smith is remarkable in two main respects. First is the use of Gothic features in the architecture, which is an unusual choice for a pub, being more associated with churches and educational building in the Victorian era. Second, the interior has a stunning display of ceramic work. The long narrow bar has walls lined with glazed bricks in shades of yellow, cream and green. Above is a wonderful frieze flourishing a litany of alcoholic (and cordial) delights. The ceiling features more glazed bricks forming low jack-arches on iron girders, at the ends of which are ceramic brackets. There is also mosaic flooring, mostly in cream and blue with inset flowers, and this slopes markedly downhill from the Rochdale Road end. It is very obvious that the original servery was much longer than the present one. After a tasteless refurbishment in 1954 the arches, walls and mosaic flooring remained covered up until revealed again in 1989 and the present counter, fireplace and seating were installed. The Marble Brewery was established at the rear of the building in 1997 although brewing now takes place off-site.



Interior

Manchester

52 Cross Street, Manchester, M2 7AR

Tel: (0161) 832 2245

Email: toms@vicchopco.com

Website: <http://tomschophouse.com>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Manchester Victoria) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Mr Thomas's Chop House ★★★

An exuberant building in Jacobean style with four areas united by black and white floor tiling. A magnificent tiled interior making features of tiled arches and even a ceramic fireplace.

This is a fancy Jacobean confection dating from 1901. The front part was originally a shop and offices designed by architects Mills & Murgatroyd and the rear part, facing St Ann's Square was by Woodhouse & Willoughby and of the same date. The interior comprises four spaces, one behind the other, demarcated by light green ceramic arches. A similarly coloured dado runs along much of the walling and the third compartment from the front also has plain cream tiling, reaching up to the ceiling. The small area at the back has an outstanding ceramic fireplace. Black and white tiled flooring runs throughout the pub. The main changes have been to the bar furniture, which is mostly modern: a photograph in the historic picture gallery in the gents' shows how the servery was formerly located in the third compartment from the front. Over half of this fine interior operates as a good-quality restaurant. The painter L.S. Lowry was a regular here in its less up-market days. The pub was known as Mr Thomas's Chop House after Thomas Stubbs, who founded it in 1867, but was renamed in 2019 in honour of after his wife who took over running the business in 1875 when he became too ill to work.



Interior - front area

Manchester

127 Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester, M1 5JQ
Directions: Jct of Great Bridgewater St and Chepstow St
Tel: (0161) 236 6364
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford Road (Manchester)) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Peveril of the Peak ★★ ★

A glorious survivor, isolated in its splendour. The colourful tiled exterior leads to a superb interior filled with quality woodwork, tilework, stained glass, fixed seating and other features. The ornate bar serves a drinking lobby and three other areas, creating a vibrant ensemble.

This pub presents an amazing sight with its late Victorian green ceramic-faced exterior, sitting incongruously amid so much later high-rise development, but the interior is very special too. A dog-leg corridor serves as a drinking lobby, lined with a dado of green and cream tiles and defined on the west side by a glazed screen forming the back of the servery. The most impressive room is that facing Great Bridgewater Street. It has baffles by the door, fixed seating, bell-pushes, a Victorian fireplace and a bar counter with fielded panels and pilasters. The stained glass screen over the counter only dates from 1982 but was skillfully crafted to match the panels in the lobby. The rear lounge and smoke room have fixed seating and bell-pushes, the latter also having an elaborate Victorian marble fire surround. The pub was saved from demolition for a road scheme after campaigning by CAMRA and others in the 1980s.



Lobby Bar

Manchester

26 Church Street, Manchester, Manchester, M4 1PN

Directions: Corner Joiner Street

Tel: None

Website: <https://www.craftunionpubs.com/unicorn-manchester>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Victoria) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Marple

81 Church Lane, Marple, SK6 7AW

Tel: (0161) 427 1529

Email: raymond.lennon@yahoo.co.uk

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/hatters-arms-marple/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rose Hill) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Unicorn ★★★

Built in 1924 this pub retains its original layout and most of its features such as fixed seating and ceramic fireplaces. An island servery with service hatches gives on to a drinking lobby and three bar areas. These plus an upstairs room are finished with attractive, light oak panelling.

The three-storey Unicorn Hotel was built in 1924 of red brick, stone and with some glazed work on the ground floor around the doorways. Much of the original layout and fittings survive with a series of spaces ranged around an attractive island servery with open screenwork (but there is no evidence this contained glazing in the lower part). There is a snug at the rear and also two more on the right, approached through a triple, timber opening. The woodwork throughout is well-designed and of good-quality, creating a comfortable ambience for a drink. The upstairs panelled dining room is intact.



Servery

Hatters Arms ★★

At the end of a terrace of 1855, this attractive pub, created in 1920, still retains multiple rooms. It was given a refit between the wars and much of this survives. The panelled central entrance corridor expands into a small, well-used drinking lobby where the counter seems to have been fully shuttered originally (but now only the high-level glazing survives). The most historic of the rooms are the cosy pair at the front with their fixed seating. The small counter in the right-hand one was created in 1999 to replace a hatch. There has been an extension at the rear left to create the long room we see today: its fittings are modern.



Lobby Bar

Moss Side

116-124 Claremont Road, Moss Side, M14 4RR

Directions: jct Beresford St

Tel: 07710 684045

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/claremont-hotel>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Mossley

415 Manchester Road, Mossley, OL5 9BG

Tel: (01457) 832119

Email: tollemachearmsmossley@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/tollemache-arms-mossley/>

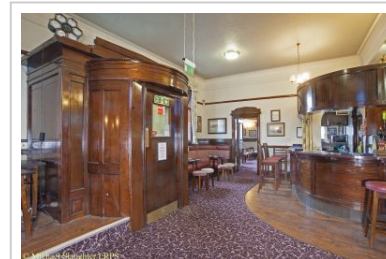
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Mossley (Manchester)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Claremont ★

A large three-storey pub of red brick built by Holt's Brewery in 1929. It lost a revolving door in the 1980s but the curved vestibule remains. The entrance leads into a large lobby bar. On the right the Red Room was opened up to the lobby bar in the 1990s and it retains the original fixed seating with bell-pushes in the panel above all around. The small vault has fixed seating with bell-pushes in a panel above and a draught screen at one end. On the front left is the Blue Room which also has fixed seating with bell-pushes in a panel above and a draught screen at one end with a glazed panel in the top.



Entrance and Servery

Tollemache Arms ★

In front of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal and at the end of a terrace of 1837, it was converted into a pub between 1847 and 1866. It is little changed since a refit after it became a Robinson's pub in 1926. The drinking lobby has an untouched servery at the rear left. On the front left is the former tap room but it has lost a small piece of wall separating it from the lobby bar. It has 1920s fixed seating and is served via a hatch. There is a small separate public bar (figure '2' on the door) with fixed seating all around and Britannia tables. The stone fireplace is from the 1960s which is probably the date of the loss of the room divisions. Do visit the gents' - the biggest room in the pub as locals explain!



Servery

Patricroft

Green Lane, Patricroft, M30 0SH

Directions: Adjacent Patricroft railway station, up ramp opp James Nasmyth Way.

Tel: 07507 168785

Email: contact@queensarms.co

Website: <https://queensarms.co/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Patricroft) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Patricroft

295 Liverpool Road, Patricroft, M30 0QN

Directions: Corner Eliza Ann St

Tel: 07833 092341

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/stanley-arms>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Patricroft) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Queens Arms ★★

Built in 1828 in anticipation of Liverpool-Manchester railway which opened in 1830, although the internal arrangements are probably late Victorian. Inside the front door is a small, cosy drinking lobby with a hatch-like screen to the serving area in the vault (a name appearing in the window glass). Here the counter seems to be Victorian although the bar-back is a replacement from 1997. Right of the entrance is the snug with draught screens and fixed seating. At the rear of the pub two rooms have been practically turned into one (done in 1996): note the 'billiards' and 'bar parlour' inscribed in the glass.



Vault

Stanley Arms ★★★

An old-fashioned street corner local last refitted in the early 1900s. There are a front vault, a corridor/drinking lobby and two further rooms to the rear, all small spaces. Plenty of notable features such as tiling, etched windows, fixed seating and counter screens.

A small, simple street-corner local with etched windows throughout. It was purchased by Joseph Holt's Brewery in 1909 so the work we see today no doubt dates from shortly after this. The drinkers' lobby/corridor is L-shaped, separating the front vault and servery from the rear two rooms. This corridor features green tilework and glazed counter screens to the servery. The small vault has two old benches and an irregularly shaped counter. Across the passage, a smoke room has original fixed benches and bell-pushes. Original tiling in the loos. A former cottage has been incorporated to create a back room out of a former kitchen, hence the impressive cast-iron fireplace.



Public Bar

Peel Green

439 Liverpool Road, Peel Green, M30 7HD

Directions: Corner Clifford Street

Tel: (0161) 789 6971

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/grapes>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

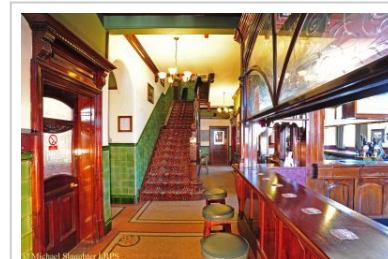
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Patricroft) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Grapes ★★★

A sumptuous brewery showpiece with dazzling elaborate mahogany woodwork and engraved glass. It boasts an impressive drinking passage with a terrazzo floor and glazed tiles with Art Nouveau patterns. A wealth of detail highlights the bar in particular and each of the five rooms enjoys cut or etched glass and retains other historic features. A feast for the eyes.

One of three wonderful pubs built in Eccles for Joseph Holt's Brewery between 1903 and 1906 by local architects Hartley, Hacking & Co. (cf. the Lamb Hotel and the Royal Oak. This one, from 1903, is the most spacious and has the most extravagant use of mahogany and decorative glass. The drinking passage is arguably as impressive as any in the country with its terrazzo floor, deep-etched glazed door panels and superb glazed screenwork to the servery. The Art Nouveau tiling throughout is very special too: the dado of green tiles continues up the staircase. The bar parlour and rear smoke room also have many original features, though the latter has been extended into former private quarters. A billiard (now pool) room still has its raised seating (as at the Lamb Hotel), bell-pushes and a hatch to the servery. In the vault the counter has been truncated, hence the 'stranded' screenwork to the corridor. Listed in 1994 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Lobby Bar

Radcliffe

1 Eton Hill Road, Radcliffe, M26 2YG

Tel: (0161) 723 5306

Website: <http://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/old-cross-inn>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: Not listed

Rochdale

Calf Hey South, Rochdale, OL11 2JR

Tel: (01706) 649679

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rochdale)

Listed Status: Not listed

Old Cross Inn ★★

Dating from around 1897, the Old Cross was renovated by Holts in about 2000 but it still retains a good deal of its original fittings and layout. The lobby bar has a splendid screened servery still complete with lower sections that can be raised and lowered (including a curved one). On the left the taproom and the news room have been combined but retain fixed seating and baffles with inter-war etched panels in the top of them, also signs of the old bell-pushes around the rooms. On the right the music room is now a pool room but retains original fixed seating re-leathered with bell-pushes in the wood panel above.



Working Screens

Bridge Inn ★★

A tucked away red-brick pub, probably dating from the 1920s, with five rooms and extensive survival original fittings including the blue tiles dado in the lobby. The inner twin doors – right with original etched panel, left with replacement panel – lead to the lobby bar which has a black and white tiled floor, inter-war tiled dado and glazed screened servery. The bar-back fitting features some old mirror panels but much of it is new. In the front middle right a doorway leads to a small parquet floored room with what may be original fixed seating. The small rear left room has perhaps original fixed seating (re-upholstered), a new hatch to the side of the servery, new bell-pushes, and has lost its fireplace.



Exterior

Rochdale

470 Bury Road, Rochdale, OL11 5EU

Directions: 1 mile from Rochdale Centre on B6222 Bury Rd

Tel: (01706) 645635

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rochdale) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Cemetery Hotel ★★★

A pub largely unchanged since early 1900s, richly decorated with Art Nouveau-style tiling and glasswork. The drinking lobby is entered via mosaic flooring and is complemented by three rooms that have a mix of features, such as bench seating, etched windows, tiling, fireplaces and, in places, imposing mahogany screens to limit the draughts.

Largely unchanged since Edwardian times, the pub takes its name from the cemetery across the road. The entrance porch and drinking lobby are richly tiled with lovely Art Nouveau-style wall panels and friezes in rich shades of green, blue and orange. The front left parlour (no. 2 on the door) is expensively fitted-out with four booth-style seating areas, created by substantial part-glazed mahogany baffles with classical columns. This splendid room also sports a distinctive fireplace with a rich blue ceramic surround and a wooden overmantel: there is also one original etched and cut window. On the front right, a small pool room (no. 1) is rather plain, with fixed seating, a window advertising 'Crown Ales', and a full-blown range with the maker's name on it (but surely this room was never a kitchen?). The snug (no. 3) retains fixed seating with a baffle, but its fireplace is a replacement. All three rooms have attractive Art Nouveau-style decorative glass in their upper parts. In the heart of the pub is the drinking lobby. Its counter seems original and the glazed panels above also seem to be old. The bar back, however, is modern. The unsympathetic wallpaper throughout is an aberration of the last two or three years. In 2020 the back panels of the fixed seating in the pool room were replaced and all wooden surfaces were painted a blue-grey colour; elsewhere they were painted black,



Public Bar

Rochdale

122 Halifax Road, Smallbridge, Rochdale, OL16 2NJ

Tel: (01706) 645353

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Smithy Bridge)

Listed Status: Not listed

Salford

18-19 Collier Street, Salford, M3 7DW

Directions: Off Queen St

Tel: (0161) 819 5002

Email: theeagleinn@joseph-holt.com

Website: <https://eagleinn.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Salford Central) and

Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Flower Of The Valley ★

Much survives from a probably Edwardian layout and associated fittings. At the front entrance porch there is a mosaic floor, tiling on the walls both sides and on the left a lovely ceramic panel showing lily of the valley. The core is a lobby bar with a black and white tiled floor and off which three rooms and one area lead. The servery has a quarter-circle counter which looks old with modern panels on the front. Above are etched and frosted panels so this may once have been a shuttered bar. The bar back may be old. The panelled space at the rear right has been opened up. There are two rooms at the front and at the rear left is a delightful small snug.



Rear Left Room

Eagle Inn ★

Built 1902 in Edwardian Baroque, the Eagle retains much of its original fittings in a three-roomed layout. The inner door, set in a timber screen, has multiple etched glass panels of floral design. The drinking lobby retains a ceramic dado of mainly red tiles and its original panelled bar counter, with screens in the upper section. A doorway leads to the small parlour on the front right with fixed re-upholstered seating. At the rear right is a small room with modern dado panelling and leatherette benches. A door with multiple etched glass panels of floral design leads to the Vault with re-upholstered original fixed seating.



Lobby Bar

Stalybridge

Platform 4 Stalybridge Railway Station, Rassbottom St,
Stalybridge, SK15 1RF

Directions: access from station (Platform 4)

Tel: (0161) 303 0007

Email: stalybridgebb@beerhouses.co.uk

Website: <http://www.beerhouses.co.uk/pub/stalybridge-buffet-bar/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Stalybridge) and Bus
Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Station Buffet Bar ★★

Housed in platform buildings on platform 4 that were part of the station's reconstruction in 1885, this is one of very few licensed buffets on the English rail network to survive pretty much intact from before the Second World War (e.g. the wonderful example at Bridlington, East Yorks). The old core here, the little-altered main Buffet Bar, has its original hearth at one end, a long, panelled bar counter with a marble top and ornate back-fitting units between the outside windows. Until 1996, when the establishment was greatly extended into adjacent sections of the old station buildings (a scheme which won the national CAMRA/English Heritage Pub Refurbishment Award in 1998) it consisted only of the main Buffet Bar plus a conservatory extension. The present conservatory is a modern replica dating from 2008–9.



Interior

Stockport

195 Northgate Road, Edgeley, Stockport, SK3 9NJ

Directions: jct Chatham Street

Tel: 07479 942646

Email: alexandrastockport@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/the-alexandra-edgeley/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

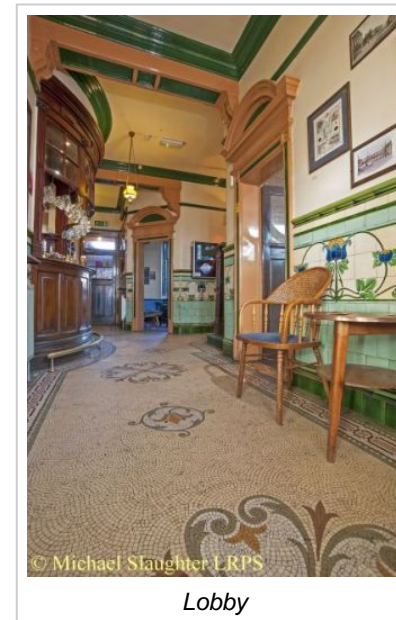
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Stockport) and BusStop

Listed Status: II

Alexandra ★★★

A largely intact pub from the early 20th century that exhibits many original features radiating from the old bar front and lobby. There is splendid tiling and mosaic flooring, etched and coloured glass and fixed seating in each of its five rooms.

In this fine 1911 building only the bar-back has been significantly altered while the off-sales is now disused (but still exists intact between the bar back and a locked external door). The spacious lobby has multicoloured Art Nouveau-style dado tiling. The floor is one of mosaic and this was revealed once more in 2014 thanks to the current licensee after years of being concealed beneath a carpet. The servery has a curved mahogany bar with screenwork above but the bar-back fitting has been replaced and a low suspended ceiling inserted. Rooms lead off from each corner, all with their names etched in the door glass – tap room, smoke room, bar parlour and commercial. All the rooms have fixed seating, coloured glass and original fireplaces. Decoration continues up the stairs which are lit by a wonderful window with coloured glass. An attached billiards room has a vestibule entrance and painted glass skylight. Listed in 1994 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Stockport

23 Millgate, Stockport, SK1 2LX

Directions: jct Corporation St

Tel: (0161) 480 2185

Email: info@ardenarms.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/arden-arms-stockport/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Arden Arms ★★★

This standout pub has rare features. A tiny snug is accessible only through the bar and with permission. Bell pushes for service are situated in tables rather than walls and handpumps are on the bar back. Beyond these, and despite some repainting, there is a wonderful curved, screened bar with sashes, fixed seating, tiled floors and etched glass.

This excellent 19th-century town centre pub has a well-preserved interior with simple wooden panelling, bench seating and quarry-tiled floors plus, in the lobby, a floor-to-ceiling curved, screened bar, still with its rising sashes (part of bar counter was repainted a blue-green colour in 2021). Three rooms open off this lobby whilst the fourth, known as ‘the Select’, offers a most unusual arrangement as it can only be accessed by passing through the bar, with permission from the staff. Only two other pubs are known to have rooms like this – the Bridge Inn, Topsham, Devon, and the (currently closed) Star, Netherton, Northumberland. The fixing of handpumps to the bar-back, rather than the counter, is also unusual.

Throughout the pub are three quite extraordinary tables where bell-pushes to attract waiter service sit in the centre of tables rather than, as usual, on the walls. The two front right-hand rooms can be divided off from one another by a sliding screen. Some structural alterations have taken place in recent years, notably the incorporation of the once private rear right-hand room to make a larger pub space, but the integrity of the historic interior remains largely intact.



© Michael Slaughter LRPS

The Select

Stockport

2 Buxton Road, Heaviley, Stockport, SK2 6NU

Directions: jct Bramhall La

Tel: (0161) 222 4150

Email: TheBlossomsStockport@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/the-blossoms-heaviley/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Davenport) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Stockport

154 Heaton Lane, Stockport, SK4 1AR

Directions: jct King St West (in shadow of railway viaduct)

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Stockport) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Blossoms ★★

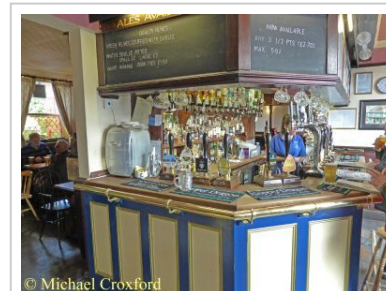
A landmark pub originally built in 1824. It was later given a traditional layout of a central lobby and three rooms leading off, its unspoilt interior owing much to the long-serving licensee from 1942 to 1967, Mary Body. A passage leads to the lobby bar (the servery fittings are probably quite modern). On the right is the vault (now pool room) with vintage fixed seating and stained glass windows. On the left is a small room with more stained glass windows and a couple of old settles. The smoke room (rear left) still has vintage seating (with traces of bell-pushes), a hatch to the servery and more stained glazing. Function room upstairs.



Lobby Bar

Crown Inn ★

Although slightly opened-up this pub still retains five distinctive rooms. The vault in the centre has an old bar counter. Front left room off a narrow opening from the passageway has old fixed bench seating all around the room and bell-pushes. Further along the passage is a narrow opening to the rear left room with more original fixed bench seating, and bell-pushes in the wood panel above. Behind the servery a narrowish gap leads to a slightly larger rear room with a bare wood floor, more old fixed bench seating, two plain baffles by the doorway and bell-pushes in the wood panel above the seating.



Servery

Stockport

258 Green Lane, Heaton Norris, Stockport, SK4 2NA

Directions: jct Heaton Rd

Tel: (0161) 432 2044

Email: nurseryinn@hydesbrewery.com

Website: <https://www.hydesbrewery.com/venue/nursery-inn/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Nursery ★★★

An almost unchanged 1930s ‘improved’ public house that retains its layout. Its considerable character across its five rooms and lobby comes from timeless wood panelling, stained glass and multiple decorative painted panels, some in silk glass. A beautifully preserved classic of its time.

Built in 1939, this pub lies in a delightful, quiet neighbourhood and is a very model of the kind of ‘improved’ pub that was intended as a place of respectable drinking and which cater for the whole family. It is virtually unchanged, sporting a clean sub-Georgian design and its original multi-room layout. As well as a large lounge (front left), there is a bar lobby area, smoke room (rear centre), vault with a separate side entrance and a plain, upstairs function room, plus an immaculate, very well-used bowling green at the rear. Oak woodwork is used generously throughout and the windows in all three main rooms are charmingly embellished with stained glass featuring all manner of horticultural motifs. Also notable are the rows of what are called ‘silk glass’ panels over the counters with paintings of drink-related items: for example, glasses of beer, a tankard, a glass and bottle of wine, a water jug and handpumps – all very much in the 1930s style. There are bell-pushes in the lounge and smoke room but not, of course, in the vault. An interesting feature is the folding metal gate (no longer used) in the corridor towards the rear which could be closed when the bars were not open, but which allowed bowlers to use the loos. The off sales survived until 2015 when it was converted to a ladies’ toilet for users of the vault. The Nursery was statutorily listed in 2011.



Smoke Room Servery

Stockport

36 Princes Street, Stockport, SK1 1RY

Directions: jct Hatton St

Tel: (0161) 480 2185

Email: geoff.troughton@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/swan-with-two-necks-stockport/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Stockport) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Swan with Two Necks ★★★

A small, little-changed inter-war pub with extensive wood panelling. There is a drinking lobby, a vault, a smoke room and a back room that was brought into pub use later. There are plenty of interesting features, such as seating, stained glass and others typical of pubs from the era. A cosy gem.

A long, narrow pub which has changed little since its rebuilding in 1926, just before it was bought by local brewers Robinsons. The interior is simply organised and the extensive use of wall panelling is typical of inter-war pubs. To the left of the tiled and panelled entrance lobby is the vault, with plentiful panelling, although much of it was actually added as recently as about 2009 (and now covers over a fireplace). The other door from the entrance leads into a drinking lobby, which is essentially an expansion of the corridor and faces the servery. Beyond this is the delightful smoke room which, with its Tudor-style fireplace and oak panelling, has a particularly warm and comfortable atmosphere. From the central lobby one can see the unusual feature of roller shutters which can be brought down to safeguard the contents of the bar-back shelves and, above the servery entrance, a notice saying 'waiters' from the days when waiter service was a regular feature in north-western pubs. A small room at the back came into pub use during the 1960s.



Lobby Bar

Swinton

186 Worsley Road, Swinton, M27 5SN

Directions: Opp Lyon Street, close to East Lancs Road

Tel: 07827 850294

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/white-swan>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Swinton (Manchester))
and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Tottington

9 Turton Road, Tottington, BL8 4AW

Tel: (01204) 295329

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

White Swan ★★

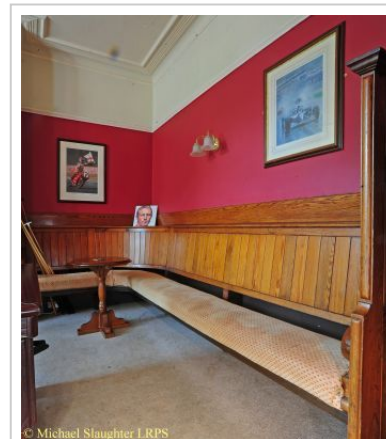
A stately red-brick and terracotta pub of 1926 for Holts Brewery. The most impressive part is the former billiard room (at the rear) with its panelled walls, bell-pushes, curved counter, stained glass, and impressive mahogany fire-surround. The rear lobby has a dado of green inter-war tiles whilst the front one had a door to an off-sales. Two small rooms on the left, each with a good fireplace, have been amalgamated. Attractive door glass with the words 'Vault', 'Bar Parlour,' and 'Gentlemen'.



Smoke Room

Dungeon Inn ★

Re-built in 1904 for the Bury Brewery Co. (named in the parapet) and featuring magnificent colourful Victorian glazed tiles by Pilkingtons. The main point of interest is the front right snug where all fittings appear to be intact – benches all round, two draught screens, panelling above with bell-pushes, and an unusual old fireplace. The spectacular feature is the area above the picture rail, which has wall paintings highlighted by floodlighting. An artist, who was living in Tottington as an evacuee, was commissioned to paint this mural frieze in about 1945. At the rear right is the games room with original bare fixed seating. The main bar on the left has modern fittings apart from some old fixed seating.



Fixed Seating

Tyldesley

235-237 Elliott Street, Tyldesley, M29 8DG

Tel: 07584 341099

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/mort-arms>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Mort Arms ★★

A corner-site pub bought by Holts' Brewery and stylishly rebuilt in 1933. The lobby has a fielded panelling vestibule with a door labelled 'Lounge' on the right and 'Vault' on the left in etched and frosted panels. Originally a middle door led to the off-sales with a screened servery with the left-hand door leading to the vault. The lounge bar retains a screened servery of four bays, all with rising lower panels that are kept in the open position and with decorative etched and frosted panels. The area near to the servery has 1930s fielded panelling all around. The lounge is an amalgamation of three rooms carried out in the 1960s.



Lounge

Westhoughton

2 Market Street, Westhoughton, BL5 3AN

Tel: (01942) 926916

Website: <http://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/white-lion-westhoughton>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Westhoughton) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Whitefield

61 Bury Old Road, Whitefield, M45 6TA

Tel: (0161) 798 0088

Website: <http://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/view/welcome-inn>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

White Lion ★★★

A pub most notable for its wonderful tiled bar with curved, etched glass sashes. Beyond the drinking lobby are three other rooms, many still with bell pushes, keeping the layout largely as it was in the 1920s. Etched glass windows and fixed seating keep the sense of stepping back in time.

This long corner-site pub was bought by the Joseph Holt Brewery in 1925, with the fittings no doubt dating from very shortly after that. The servery is the centrepiece, with its still-working etched glass sash screens and counters with tiles by Pilkingtons which, together, form the most impressive features of this pub (the saltire cross tiles appear again at the Golden Ball, York). It is surrounded by a drinking lobby, the vault and the so-called 'Ugly Room' (thanks, it is said, to the appearance of the former regulars!) where the fireplace has a tiled scene with plough horses. There is also a small bar parlour (the 'John Hyde Suite', commemorating a former customer) plus arefitted and opened up darts room. Bell-pushes for tableservice survive in three rooms, as does a good selection ofetched glass. On the counter there is an old water-heater formaking hot toddies.

Welcome ★

Built in 1936. The bar parlour on the right has a blocked-up door leading originally to the off-sales that ran down the middle of the present room i.e. it was a bar and a snug until it was all knocked into one in the 1980s. The main bar has fully panelled walls to picture frame height, a bar counter with leaded panels reaching to the ceiling but a new counter top and a bar-back that is a mixture of old and new. The original revolving door has been replaced by exterior and inner doors but panelling around it gives a sense of the 1930s arrangement. The small lounge has fixed seating that may be original.



Vault



Main Bar

Wigan

117 Darlington Street East, Wigan, WN1 3EF

Tel: 07827 850210

Email: info@joseph-holt.com

Website: <https://www.joseph-holt.com/pubs/silverwell>

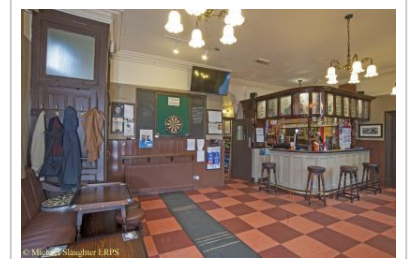
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Silverwell ★

A red-brick corner-site pub that retains much of its layout and fittings. It has an L-shaped lobby with some old fixed seating at the rear, a bench at the end, but modern tiled floor. The island servery on the right has old counter fronts and surrounds but a modern pot shelf. Off the lobby are three rooms. Front-left is a smoke room through a wide arch - original fixed seating all around and now disused bell-pushes. On the rear right is a small snug of irregular shape through a wide arch with more original fixed seating. Front right of the servery is a plain separate vault with old dados and original fixed seating with a curved bar counter.



Vault

Wigan

47 Springfield Road, Wigan, WN6 7BB

Tel: (01942) 201203

Email: springywigan@gmail.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Springfield Hotel ★★ ★

A 1903 pub that retains its six room layout and a great deal of detailing from that era. Its glory is the substantial island servery in carved mahogany with glazed rising sashes. There is much Art Nouveau-style tiling, etched windows, original fireplaces, ornate cornices and some original fixed seating. A good example of brewery indulgence from Edwardian times.

An opulent red brick and terracotta pub of 1903 for the Oldfield Brewery of Poolstock, Wigan, by local architects Heaton & Ralph. The main entrance leads to a spacious drinking lobby which has a magnificent counter screen with columns and glazed sashes. There is also lots of decorative dado tiling. Right of the Rylands Street entrance is a very small public bar with a modern counter superstructure obviously modelled on that in the lobby. Either side of the main entrance is a pair of rooms, that on the right (known as the commercial room) with a little timber vestibule at its entrance. That on the left has been knocked through to an area behind and which opens on to the lobby via a wide, seemingly original arch. Then yet further back is another space opening on to the lobby, now accessed through a crude, modern opening. The spacious billiard (now function) room is a later addition (it is not shown in a (?) 1920s advertisement for the pub displayed in the lobby). Its ceiling and etched glass lettering are quite plain and show how taste became simpler as the 20th century progressed. There was an off-sales on the side street but this has been lost as, sadly, have the once-famous massive bowling greens, sold off in post-war times for a housing estate. They had stands that could accommodate up to 2,000 people to watch the play).



Lobby Bar

Wigan

80 Wallgate, Wigan, WN1 1BA

Tel: (01942) 375817

Email: swanandrailwayhotelwigan@gmail.com

Website: <https://swanandrailwayhotelwigan.co.uk>

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Opposite Wigan North Western. Wigan Wallgate a hundred yards away.) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Swan & Railway Hotel ★

An elegant three-storey building beside the railway bridge outside North Western station, it originally doubled as a hotel for travellers when built in 1898 by Peter Walkers of Warrington (also responsible for the Philharmonic, Liverpool). It suffered a serious fire in 1985 so there is a good deal of reconstruction and replacement.

The original fittings include the entrance lobby with tiled walls right up to the high ceiling and a mosaic floor announcing 'Swan & Railway Hotel':. This leads to a drinking corridor, also with fine mosaic flooring to the corridor, and which has four tall tiled panels on the left-hand side and two smaller ones on the right; much of the woodwork is pre-fire as evidenced by scorch marking. The first room on the left has original fixed seating, an old metal fireplace and baffles by the door while the one further back also has old fixed seating and fireplace. The public bar bore the brunt of the fire so the fittings are all replacements apart from the fixed seating. Despite all the changes, the late Victorian footprint is largely intact. The large high-level glazing between the servery and corridor is clearly modern.



Passageway

Isle of Man

Douglas

3 Chapel Row, Douglas, IM1 2BJ

Directions: Close to the bus stands and the indoor market

Tel: (01624) 673632

Email: themanager@albertiom.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Douglas) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Peel

2 Tynwald Road, Peel, IM5 1LA

Directions: 200m from bus station

Tel: (01624) 842252

Email: twofellas@wm.im

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

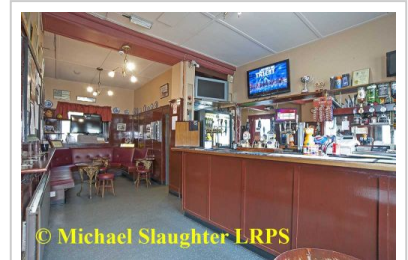
Listed Status: Not listed

Albert Hotel ★

This pub was first licensed 1862 and has had various names over the years. It has also had refits, the latest being back in the 1960s. The right-hand public bar has ply panelling painted a mahogany colour and two sections of fixed bench seating with red-button leatherette covering. The left-hand saloon also has ply panelling painted mahogany and a section of fixed bench seating taking up three sides of the rear. The servery opens to both bars and has ply-panel counter fronts and modest wood shelves. A typical modest (and cheap) refit of the 1960s.

White House Hotel ★★

Built in the 19th century and substantially remodelled in Edwardian times and again in the 1930s, when a large extension was added to the left and rear, and refurbished yet again in the late 1960s. A lobby bar has glazed sashes (no longer working). The small front bar has a venerable baffle and some fixed seating but the bar counter is modern. The rear room and right-hand room were refurbished in the 1960s and has some decent wood-panelled bench seating and an Edwardian fireplace, but the rest is typical of late 1960s and of no real merit.



Left Hand Bar



Servery Room

Lancashire

Bacup

12 Yorkshire Street, Bacup, OL13 9AE
Tel: (01706) 876183
Listed Status: Not listed

Barley

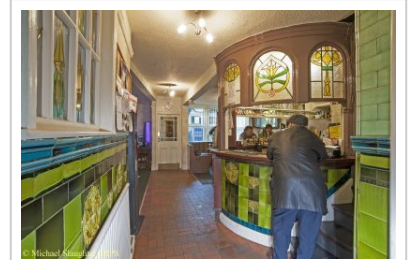
Barley Lane, Barley, BB12 9JX
Tel: (01282) 614808
Website: <http://www.pendle-inn.co.uk>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Blackpool

68 Red Bank Road, Blackpool, FY2 9HY
Tel: (01253) 351752
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Little Queens ★

Despite considerable opening out and alteration at the back, much remains to enjoy at the front. A tiled passage leads to a lobby bar where a small surviving section of the counter sports green Art Nouveau tiles. The authentically traditional tap room, front left, has a wood block floor, fixed seating all round, bell pushes, old fireplace and narrow scrubbed tables. Front right, the snug (now the pool room) has lost its fixed seating but other features like the parquet floor and fireplace are of a good age. Tiling continues up the stairs and in the passage to the toilets - most of the stained and leaded glass is, however, modern.



Tiled Wall and Bar Counter

Pendle Inn ★

This stone-built pub of 1930 underwent various major changes some forty years ago but still has a multi-room layout with a lobby bar and four small rooms leading off, together with various original fittings (although the servery has been moved). On the right at the front and behind there are rooms with 1930s bench seating and other fittings such as bell-pushes. At the front left is a parquet-floored pool room but this has little of historic interest (it once had a small cocktail bar).



Servery

Bispham Hotel ★

Blackpool

286 Whitegate Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9PH

Tel: (01253) 767827

Email: saddle.blackpool@stonegatepubs.co.uk

Website: https://www.greatukpubs.co.uk/saddle-blackpool?utm_source=gmb&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=homepage

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Chorley

38 Hollinshead Street, Chorley, PR7 1EP

Directions: On A6 just north of Flat Iron car park

Tel: (01257) 266401

Website: <https://www.dorbiere.co.uk/traders-taphouse/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Chorley) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Saddle Inn ★

The area entered from the hallway has seen much change in recent years, with a former Men Only snug now incorporated into the lobby and only some of the fittings hanging on, including the bar counter with remnants of sliding sashes. The two rooms to the right, though, have much to commend them. The first has walls and ceilings finished in Lincrusta, brass bell-pushes, fitted seating and a stained glass panel above the door. In the other is more Lincrusta, more bell-pushes and match-boarded walls - a rear extension accommodates a food servery. It is said to have been licensed since 1776.



Servery

Traders Taphouse ★

Although knocked around quite a bit, this pub retains much of the typical North-Western layout of a passage round the servery, several rooms off and a small L-shaped corner public bar surrounded by the servery. The counter of the latter is the Victorian original but the pot shelves are modern. On the Clifford Street side, a small plainly-furnished room is separated from the passageway by a tall glazed partition. Off the corner of the lobby is another small room with old seating but more recent panelling. Another room, rear left, has older panelling while the room on the right has been opened up to the lobby. Throughout the pub a number of holes have been cut into walls; windows inserted to aid 'supervision'; and recently the woodwork painted various colours.



Snug

Darwen

25 Chapels, Darwen, BB3 0EE

Tel: (01254) 702510

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Darwen) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Punch Hotel ★

A Victorian red-brick locals' pub which, remarkably, still has five separate rooms plus a lobby bar. The tiling in the entrance lobby has been painted over: beneath the carpet is a mosaic with the name of the pub. A refit during the 1960s resulted in much Formica adorning bar counters and bar-backs and loss of some fireplaces but nothing much has changed since then.

Original features include the terrazzo floors in the entrance and lobby bar, a parquet floor in the 'Dog House' and fixed seating in several rooms. The room at the back, with its old wall cupboards, was formerly in domestic use. Three rooms have pool tables and another a small snooker table. The gents' toilets retain the original three big urinals.



Lobby Bar

Great Harwood

St Johns Street, Great Harwood, BB6 7EP

Tel: 07920 747646

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Victoria ★★★

An outstanding pub that celebrates the Edwardian era. The tiling and bar area are superb and each of the five rooms shows off many of its original fittings and has a door with the names in etched panels. Numerous heritage highlights await – this is a superb pub that amply rewards extended attention.

This superb Edwardian pub of 1905 provides a friendly environment for a drink, with many quality ales on offer. The lobby bar, passageway and staircase all have full-height cream and green tiling with flower motifs. The counter too has a tiled front and also working screens. All the ceilings are wood-panelled. Four small rooms lead off the lobby, mostly with original fittings. Three are named in the door glass – the Commercial Room (with notable Art Nouveau fireplace), the Bar Parlour (another fine fireplace), another parlour, and the ‘Public Kitchen’. This latter name, probably now unique in a pub, may recall how some pubs offered cooking and food heating facilities to the poor. At the end of the passage is a fifth room, recently converted to pub use. Above the staircase is a splendid stained glass window. The only altered area is to the right of the entrance, where the door opening has been widened. Originally, there was a ‘Jug Department’ here with hatch service, and its door has been re-sited to the ladies’ loo (likewise the smoke room door to the gents’). The nickname comes from a long-gone slaughterhouse and railway bridge. The former bowling green now forms part of the extensive beer garden. Listed in 1997 following a pilot study of Lancashire pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



© Michael Slaughter LRPS
Serving

Guide

321 Haslingden Road, Guide, BB1 2NG

Tel: (01254) 54261

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: Not listed

Nether Kellet

32 Main Road, Nether Kellet, LA6 1EP

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

King Edward VII ★

Originally the Guide Inn but rebuilt in Edwardian times (hence the name), this pub retains many cut-glass windows and much decorative wall-tiling plus attractive friezes in relief on the walls of two lobbies, around the rear bar area and up the staircase to the former function room. The front right-hand room is somewhat opened out but still has original fixed seating and an impressive fireplace with a fine mirrored-surround mantelpiece. The room rear right also retains its fixed seating, plus a baffle, but the fireplace has gone. The same features can be found in the rear left room except the inglenook fireplace survives - the hatch to the bar looks like a later addition. The bar fittings are from the 1960s/'70s as is the fixed seating in the front left area.



Tiled Passage

Limeburner's Arms ★★

A plain, early 19th-century building which is still part of a working farm. It's been in the same family hands since 1931. There is a simple public bar with old fittings, including a shuttered counter with a glazed screen (though the sashes are now raised permanently). In recent years the staircase was removed and the bar expanded on the right-hand side where the domino table now stands. The small right-hand room has always been even plainer in comparison. The present owner has cut a gap in the rear wall to create a walkway to the servery. Outside toilets. Beer is sometimes dispensed by means of a cask pump, a very rare arrangement nowadays. Closed Mon, opens 7.45 Tue-Sat, 4 Sun



Public Bar

Overton

9 Main Street, Overton, LA3 3HD

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Ship ★

The pub occupies a couple of cottages and served as a hotel for Victorian and early 20th-century tourists. The star feature is a shuttered servery (cf. the Agricultural Hotel, Penrith) in the main bar. It has three bays and, like the Penrith example, the sliding sashes are still in full working order. They were presumably lowered when time was called. Two rooms have Victorian coloured tile floors. That in the main bar shows how there must have been a screen and door between the entrance and the bar. The other tiled floor is in the games room (far left). The pub was kept from 1934 to 1976 by Mrs 'Ma' Macluskie and the upstairs function room is named in her honour. There you can see an amazing display of birds' eggs for which the pub was long famous (originally displayed on the ground floor). The pub reopened in March 2016 after what seemed permanent closure and has been lovingly restored..

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Preston

166 Friargate, Preston, PR1 2EJ

Tel: (01772) 204855

Email: enquiries@blackhorse-preston.co.uk

Website: <https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/pubs/black-horse-preston/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

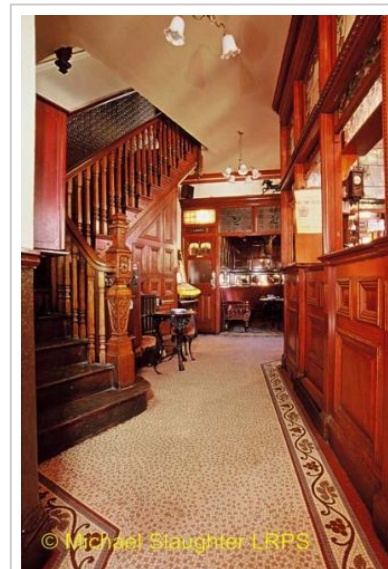
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Preston (Lancs)) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Black Horse ★★★

One of the country's most dazzling Victorian pubs, with a wonderful ceramic bar counter and mosaic flooring that astound on first sight. Small rooms off the tiled and mosaic-floored corridor have their own beautiful tiling, stained and etched glass and other decorative flourishes, alongside fixed seating and old fireplaces. A truly memorable pub.

This is a wonderfully impressive pub from the great days of Victorian urban pub-building and doubled as a small hotel. It was rebuilt in 1898 to designs of local architect J. A. Seward for Kay's Atlas Brewery of Manchester. From the Friargate entrance, there is a pair of small smoke rooms, full of original fittings, either side of a mosaic-floored corridor which extends through to the back of the building. The Orchard Street entrance leads into a truly magnificent public bar, dominated by a semi-circular ceramic counter (probably by Burmantofts or Pilkingtons) in front of which is more mosaic flooring. Originally this area was a separate space but was linked up to the rest by an elliptical arch on the left about 1995. At the back of the servery are glazed counter screens to the main corridor. Originally there was a 'Market Room' (a meeting room for market days) at the rear but in 1929 this was replaced by the present, welcoming U-shaped seating area plus indoor toilets (accessed via corridors to the left and right). The upstairs room is largely modernised.



Lobby Bar

St Annes

St Annes Road West, St Annes, FY8 1SB

Tel: (01253) 728252

Email: 7699@greeneking.co.uk

Website: <https://www.greeneking.co.uk/pubs/lancashire/town-house>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (St Annes-on-the-Sea) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Worsthorne

1-3 Smith Street, Worsthorne, BB10 3NQ

Tel: 07766 230175

Website: <http://www.crookedbilletworsthorne.co.uk>

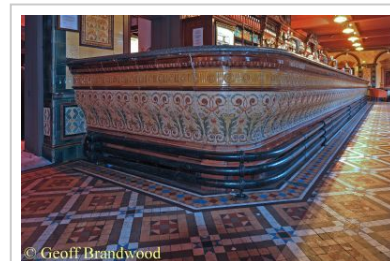
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Town House ★★

Burlingtons Bar is quite simply one of the **greatest pub rooms in Britain** - a late Victorian below-ground bar covered from head to foot with tiles and having a magnificent ceramic bar counter. When the St Anne's Hotel was demolished in 1985 and replaced by the Crescent Pub - now the Town House - the original basement bar, once known as Burlington Bertie's, was preserved and it became a nightclub by the name of Tiles. The **bar**, which is easily visible through the windows, is an excellent example of complete fitting out by Craven Dunnill, dating no doubt from the late 1890s. For the time being at least, there is shamefully no public access to this magnificent room.



Ceramic Counter

Crooked Billet ★★

This award-winning pub was built in 1911 by the local Grimshaw Brewery whose wares are proclaimed in some of the window glass panels. The layout is a classic northern one of a lobby wrapping round the servery and with four rooms leading off (cf. the Victoria, Great Harwood). The pub is enriched by a fair amount of dado tiling. The impressive servery has retained most of its rising glazed panels. Its surrounding terrazzo floor continues into the front right space (the 'Glass House'?) which has tiling on the counter front while the other bar counter fronts have fielded panelling.



Screened Counter

Merseyside

Barnston

107 Barnston Road, Barnston, CH61 1BW

Directions: on A551

Tel: (0151) 648 7685

Email: info@the-fox-hounds.co.uk

Website: <http://www.the-fox-hounds.co.uk>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Heswall) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Fox & Hounds ★★

An attractive pub of 1911 on the footprint of a former alehouse and barn and with surprisingly limited subsequent alterations. The bar and the next-door snug (formerly smoke room) comprised the original pub part of the building. The bar has lots of superb pine woodwork. The panelled counter still has its original top plus a leaded screen at one end and a hatch at the other: the bar-back has shelves with mirrors behind. There is bench seating, attractive window leading, carried through to the snug where there's bench seating with working bell-pushes above (normally turned off to prevent over-enthusiastic usage): bell-box above the snug door. The lounge has two distinct parts – the right-hand end was originally a tea room with bell-pushes, doors and bench seating from 1911. The red-tiled area in front of the servery was converted from the kitchen in 1984 – the range came from a demolished house in West Kirby. The bar-back fitting here, very similar to that in the public bar, was actually only introduced in 1984 and came from a pub in Liverpool and given added glass panels.



Lobby Screen

Birkenhead

128 Conway Street, Birkenhead, CH41 6JE

Tel: (0151) 650 2035

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Conway Park)

Listed Status: II

Crown ★★★

A classic corner local notable for its magnificent bar back with an unusual glazed and gilded inscription running across its length from the adjacent wall. There are other heritage elements, the more scarce being a fitting under which customers can walk and match strikers and a water tap on the counter.

Nowadays this is a basic drinking pub but, architecturally, it is a notable example of a pub with the typical late 19th-century Merseyside plan of a corridor wrapping round a corner-site public bar but with an interesting twist – that twist being a remarkable glazed and gilded inscription running across the left-hand wall of the bar and returning along the length of the bar-back. It's a forthright advertisement for 'D. Higson Wine & Spirit Merchant, Brewer, Cheapside Brewery Liverpool'. Even apart from this, the bar-back itself is an impressive feature, with a broad pediment which includes a (replacement) clock. The side entrance leads to a corridor backing the servery. It has a serving hatch plus a room opening on the right. To the left of the servery is large room (now used for pool) which has the kind of wide opening that characterises other Merseyside pubs (e.g. Primrose, Liscard, and Volunteer Canteen, Waterloo. Note the match strikers on the counter from former, smokier days. The dark red tiling on the ground-floor exterior is noteworthy.



Public Bar

Birkenhead

41-43 Price Street, Birkenhead, CH41 6JN

Tel: 07375 884066

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Conway Park) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Stork Hotel ★★★

This pub proudly displays the splendour of an Edwardian remodelling. There is quality and beauty in the mosaic flooring, the patterned tiling (in and outside) and the decorative glasswork, including the rising sashes on the curved bar. The corridor boasts an impressive fireplace and there is plenty else to admire in the rooms.

A splendid example of lavish refitting, carried out by Threlfalls Brewery of Salford, no doubt in the Edwardian years. The external tilework gives some idea of the superb interior, which is laid out with a public bar on the street corner, enclosed by a corridor with other rooms leading off, as at the Lion Tavern and Prince Arthur, both in Liverpool. The best place to admire the pub is from the cosy semi-circular alcove where the mosaic-floored corridor sweeps in a curve through 90 degrees. The back of the servery is formed by a screen with a dado covered in blue, yellow and buff tiles with Art Nouveau detailing, above which is a glazed screen with richly decorated glass. The tiling was made by George Swift Ltd of the Swan Tile Works, Liverpool and extends to other parts of the pub too, even down to the loos (the gents' tiling may be inter-war). Leading off the corridor are two other rooms, named as a news room (at the back) and bar parlour (left). There is extensive original seating and bell-push arrangements. Note the attractive fireplace where the corridor turns. The public bar has mostly modern fittings although the dado tiling, with a dominant brown colour, rather than blue, is original.



Lobby Bar

Greasby

Greasby Road, Greasby, CH49 3NG

Tel: (0151) 677 4509

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Coach & Horses ★★

A pub with a compact interior, still with four small rooms/distinct areas displaying a mixture of inter-war and post-war fittings. The front right small room has two old high-backed settles whilst the small front left room has a floor-to-ceiling 'modesty screen' near a door with an inter-war etched panel declaring 'Ladies'. The small servery at the rear has a lapped wood counter and a bar-back fitting with a series of drawers.



Lobby Bar

Liscard

1 Withens Lane, Liscard, CH44 1BB

Tel: 07737 100286

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (New Brighton)

Listed Status: Not listed

Primrose ★★★

The layout and most fittings survive from a 1920s refit.

Most striking is the panelled smoke room that opens to the L-shaped drinking lobby via a broad timber arch. There is a panelled lounge that shares an elaborate plaster ceiling. Throughout is a lot of attractive stained glass, fixed seating and fireplaces alongside other traditional elements.

The Primrose dates back to at least the 1850s, but remodelled by architects Prescott & Davies for Liverpool brewers James Mellor & Sons under plans drawn up in 1922. The work was done in 1923 as helpfully suggested by a dated rain-waterhead. The ground floor has large sandstone blocks but the upper part is largely faced with half-timbering which was so popular for inter-war pub-building. The layout and most of the impressive fittings survive with a public bar on the corner and a server's clasp by an L-shaped drinking lobby. Particularly striking is the panelled smoke room on the left, which opens to the lobby via a broad timber Tudor arch, clearly shown on the 1922 plan and thus not a case of modern opening up. At the rear is a further panelled area, called a lounge in 1922, which, like the lobby and smoke room, is covered by a wonderfully rich plaster ceiling. At the back is a further room but here much of the work seems relatively recent. The plain ceiling here and on the corner of the public bar was installed in a 2014 refurbishment (when the panelling in the back room was painted over). Throughout the pub there is a good deal of attractive stained glass in the windows and screens.



Island Bar

Liverpool

66-68 Lark Lane, Liverpool, L17 8UU

Tel: (0151) 726 9119

Email: alberthotel.liverpool@stonegatepubs.com

Website: <https://www.crafted-social.co.uk/albert-hotel-liverpool>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (St Michaels) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Liverpool

62 Barlow Street, Liverpool, L4 4NU

Tel: (0151) 207 2731

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Kirkdale)

Listed Status: Not listed

Albert ★

Commissioned in 1873 for Cain's Brewery - see their emblem and motto in mosaic and coloured glass at the entrance. The style is, unusually for a pub, Gothic. Much opened up but, overall, the work is sensitive. The main bar retains its original counter but the elaborate tall island bar-back was a replacement in Victorian style – the panelling, seating and short partitions are also modern. There is an ornate high Victorian ceiling with a good frieze. A full-height timber and glass screen leads to a passageway with original counter and arch above, open staircase and a wide opening to rear right room.



Main Bar

Barlow Arms ★

Victorian bar counter and splendid three-bay bar-back fitting with 'Whisky, Rum, Sherry, Gin, Wines' painted in gold along the top. It has a rare set of cash register handpumps, sadly disused, with a lead tray and also small screen featuring a bunch of grapes. The dado panelling is modern as is the seating. Opened-up to the right. Down a passage is the back bar with a 1960s/1970s counter but another old bar-back fitting of two bays with 'Whisky, Rum, Sherry, Gin, Wines' painted in gold along the top (it has been moved from its original position).



Servery

Liverpool

8 Sugnall Street, Liverpool, L7 7EB

Directions: Off Falkner St

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Central) and

Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Liverpool

2A Smithdown Road, Liverpool, L7 4JG

Tel: (0151) 489 8258

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Edge Hill)

Listed Status: II

Belvedere ★★★

A tiny pub nestled in a terrace of houses, it boasts nevertheless a smoke room and a bar with a lobby between. The bar has a fine curved counter while the other two drinking areas are served via sashes in a five-bay screen that contains excellent etched and cut glass. A good example of a locals' pub form the nineteenth century.

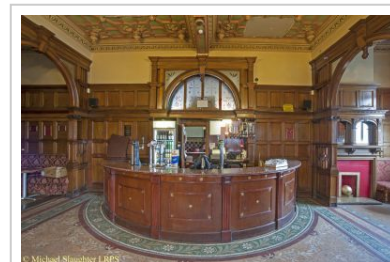
This small pub and former hotel has two public rooms separated by a corridor-cum-drinking lobby. It boasts some excellent etched glass, notably the curved panel of a Renaissance courtier, labelled 'music' in a partition alongside the inner door. The still-working sashes forming the five-bay screen that reaches to the ceiling between the drinking lobby and the servery is notable. Sadly the original bar back was removed when the pub was closed between 2003 and 2006 so and what we see today is modern work. On the left is the high-ceilinged smoke room (so named in the etched glass).



Corridor Screen

Boundary ★

This landmark pub of 1902, which has seen better days, is built of red brick with stone banding and is clear proof that Cain's Brewery did not confine itself to building of luxurious pubs to the city centre. A spacious corridor with a mosaic floor and high dado of colourful tiles in shades of green, light tan and maroon leads round to the stunning high-ceilinged lounge with a mosaic floor and two alcoves picked out in green and pink also with fine woodwork. On the left of the corridor is a large, long public bar with a high dado of colourful tiling on the walls.



Lounge Bar

Liverpool

31 Ranelagh Street, Liverpool, L1 1JP

Tel: (0151) 709 1218

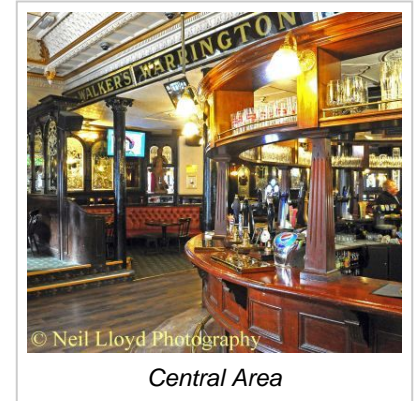
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Central) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Central ★

Built in 1887 (date on the façade - don't be confused by the much earlier date above it!) and right next door to the Midland which also has interesting historic work. Prior to being opened up in 1975 this pub had five separate drinking areas but it is still very much worth a visit for one of the finest displays of Victorian glasswork to be found in any pub in the country. The least-altered parts are the two rear areas both of which also have oblong skylights. The walls are lined with glittering mirrors and other screenwork also has fine embossed glass. The glasswork between the different areas was relocated around the walls during the 1975 remodelling. At the rear is an original partition dividing it into two parts. The right-hand side has a fine Victorian black and white marble fireplace. Also don't miss the fine glazed dome inside the front entrance.



Central Area

Liverpool

43, Lime Street, Liverpool, L1 1JQ

Tel: (0151) 707 6027

Website: <https://www.thecrownliverpool.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Lime Street) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Crown Hotel ★★★

A statement Art Nouveau-style pub with one of the most ornate plasterwork ceilings. Even the entrance has etched, glazed panels and a decorative roof. The main rooms have impressive carved wood panelling topped by a marble frieze. The fireplaces and the counter with a rare copper front are unquestionably grand. The former billiard room upstairs has an ornate glass dome.

The Crown was built about 1905 by Warrington brewers Walkers and is their riposte to the sumptuous extravagances of the nearby Philharmonic and the Vines built by Liverpool's Robert Cain brewery. It is a grand architectural introduction to the city for anyone arriving at Lime Street station with the bold Art Nouveau-style lettering catching the eye. There are now two ground-floor rooms. That at the front is a large open area but the various outside doors clearly suggest it would have been subdivided. The finest features are the amazingly ornate plasterwork in the ceilings and cornices. The bar counter has a copper front and there is an interesting bar-back with mannered detail (the mirrors are clearly modern). On the right is a mightily impressive ceramic fireplace. Sadly, this room has lost most of its once-superb decorative window glass (some survives facing the station). The rear room, with the unusual name 'Bar Room' (so named in the door glass) is fitted out with more high-relief plasterwork, good-quality panelling plus a fine fireplace with a copperwork. A winding staircase, under a glazed dome, leads to an upstairs room: it has a modest frieze of crests and nice stained glass windows, but the servery is new.



Interior 1

Liverpool

Leyfield Road, Liverpool, L12 9HA

Tel: (0151) 228 9943

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Liverpool

63 Victoria Road, Liverpool, L23 7XY

Tel: (0151) 924 6953

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Blundellsands and Crosby) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Crown Inn ★

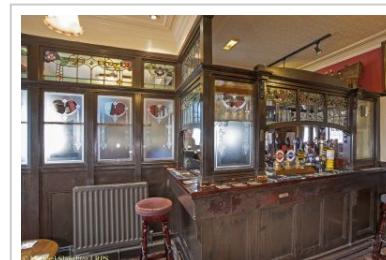
Rebuilt in 1935 to designs by Liverpool architects Medcalf & Medcalf (their perspective drawing hangs in left-hand bar) and retaining a number of features from that time. Following the comprehensive remodelling of the large left-hand bar in the 1970s, these are best appreciated in the L-shaped public bar with fielded panelling all round, and snug (which has recently been sensitively conserved), also panelled and with bell-pushes above the bare bench seating. Note the 'Crown Inn Bowling Club' honours board - the club still plays on the green at the back. The central door at the front led to a former off-sales.



Main Bar

Crows Nest ★★

An impressive Edwardian remodelling for Higson's Brewery. Much attractive internal woodwork and glazing remain. The names of the different rooms appear in the window glass and the layout can readily be discerned, although the off-sales has been incorporated into the snug (front left) and the wall dividing the two rear spaces has been cut back slightly. The wide opening in front of these rear spaces, with its fringe of glazing, is an original feature and is akin to such openings at other Merseyside pubs, notably the Primrose in Liscard and Volunteer Canteen at Waterloo, both of which also belonged to Higsons. The rear right-hand space operated as a 'Men Only' domain prior to the 1970s when such segregation became illegal.



Private Bar

Liverpool

119 College Road, Liverpool, L23 3AS

Tel: (0151) 924 5822

Email: bugboss@live.co.uk

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Blundellsands and Crosby) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Liverpool

44 Park Road, Liverpool, L8 6SH

Directions: Jct.Combermere Street

Tel: None

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brunswick) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Edinburgh ★★

Refitted about 1900 for Robert Cain's Brewery. An L-shaped corridor surrounds the public bar with rooms leading off on the other side of the corridor. Dado tiling survives in the vestibule entrances and lobby on the left, but, sadly, in the public bar it has been panelled over. The lobby bar-back retains some rising windows. On the left the Blue Room has fixed bench seating all around. The large rear room was the result of an extension into a smaller one, perhaps in the 1960s. Note the inscriptions 'Public Bar', 'News Room' and 'Gentlemen' in the etched and gold painted glazing.



Lobby Bar

Globe ★

A well-preserved Edwardian pub. The entrance in Park Street has a small lobby with 'Globe Hotel' in the mosaic floor. The public bar is long public bar and has its old bar counter (bar-back replaced 2001). There is a lovely little snug which is surrounded by glazed doors and screenwork. A door with a 'News Room' decoratively etched panel leads into a small room with a hatch to the back of the servery with a stained glass panel above. The fixed seating all around the room is old, possibly original.



Snug

Liverpool

86 Mill lane, Liverpool, L12 7JD
Tel: (0151) 226 9435
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Liverpool

28-30 Herculaneum Road, Liverpool, L8 4UY
Directions: at Docks end
Tel: (0151) 727 4316
Website: <http://www.herculaneumbridgehotel.co.uk/>
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brunswick)
Listed Status: Not listed

Halton Castle ★

A white-rendered four-roomed pub with two little-altered small rooms at the front. The very small public bar on the right is a stand-up drinking man's bar. It has a vestibule entrance and an old bar counter with decorative brackets. The bar-back, possibly of mahogany, has a number of carved upright oval shaped carvings, mirrors and a cupboard with glazed door. On the left is a small lounge bar with another old vestibule, a further old bar counter and fixed seating.



Lounge Bar Servery

Herculaneum Bridge ★★

Built in 1901-2 by Cain's Brewery it still retains most of its traditional layout and Edwardian fittings. The long public bar has its original bar counter, albeit slightly damaged where it meets the bar back. The notable seven-bay bar-back is glazed to allow borrowed light into the corridor behind. In contrast to many other pubs the bottom part of the bar-back has been retained and the inevitable modern fridges are sensitively accommodated under the bar counter. Across the corridor, which has a tiled dado, there is a large room with an early 20th-century fireplace. The right-hand side room and the front part of the back room have a skylight dome (currently not lit). The back part of the rear room, formerly the lounge, is now used as a breakfast room by guests in the thirteen letting bedrooms, and has a fine original very ornate fireplace.



Public Bar

Liverpool

4 Hackins Hey, Liverpool, L2 2AW

Directions: Off Dale Street

Tel: (0151) 227 3809

Email: contactus@yeholeinyewall.com

Website: <https://yeholeinyewallwebsite.godaddysites.com/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Moorfields) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Hole in Ye Wall ★★

This side-street pub retains much from a rather spectacular inter-war refit and has a rare (former) first-floor cellar. Leaded screens form seating areas and while the lower parts of these and the wall panelling are from the inter-war period: the upper parts were restored/replaced in about 1984. The pub boasts working bell-pushes but these are now rarely used (bell-box with three working indicators behind the bar): but if the pub is quiet they will probably be responded to. It claims to have been the last 'Men Only' public bar in Liverpool, only admitting women when the Sex Discrimination Act came into effect from 1 January 1976. As for the upper cellar, these used to exist in quite a number of pubs: here until quite recently ale was fed down the columns on the bar counter but the pipework has not been replaced so all real ales are now served on handpumps. See the framed note 'Gravity Fed Traditional Ales'. Also note the old telephone booth from the days before mobile phones!



Servery

Liverpool

189 Kensington, Liverpool, L7 2RF

Directions: Jct. Coleridge Street

Tel: 07548 759106

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Edge Hill) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Kensington ★

Re-opened November 2016 after a period of uncertainty. The exterior has a lovely brown glazed brick frontage with a ceramic band of turquoise. A vestibule entrance left inner door leads to the public bar with three old window screens containing modern glass, curved Edwardian counter and old bar back and dado panelling. The fixed seating looks post-war and the tiled floor is modern. The disused corner door and two side doors suggest the room was once split by partitions into two or three rooms. The small room, front right, has another old counter with a screen above containing stained and leaded panels and a service area below. The two sections of fixed seating may be inter-war and there are more old window screens with modern glass. Some of the panelling is recent as is the fireplace. Until 2009, table service could be summoned by using the bell pushes and the current licensee might reinstate this.

A wide doorway leads to a larger rear room that may be an amalgamation of two small rooms. It has old fixed seating again with bell pushes and a fireplace which may be old but containing modern tiling. Service is from a doorway with a flap to the back of the servery.



Public Bar

Liverpool

67 Moorfields, Liverpool, L2 2BP

Tel: None

Email: info@theliontavernliverpool.co.uk

Website: <http://theliontavernliverpool.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Moorfields) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Lion Tavern ★★★

This beautiful pub features mosaic floors, a tiled corridor with Art Nouveau styling and intricately etched and stained glass. Above the corridor, a timber and etched glass screen has sashes allowing service. The front windows have carved screens for advertising, rarely seen in England. And the lounge boasts a colourful glazed dome. There is much else to admire in this venerable old pub.

This richly appointed pub has a layout very similar to others on Merseyside in this guide, namely the Stork Hotel, Birkenhead, and the Prince Arthur, Liverpool. It has an L-shaped corridor wrapping round the public bar on the street corner, and with spaces leading off it. A plan of 1903 shows the public bar as now, but in 1915 the Lion expanded into the building next door. The corridor was then created along with a news room (so-named in the window glass) in the newly acquired area, and a lounge beneath a skylight (the dividing walls were, sadly, taken down in 1967). The corridor has a mosaic floor and a lovely Art Nouveau tiled dado, above which is a timber and etched glass screen, with openings allowing service to drinkers in the corridor. The back fitting in the public bar seems to be Victorian: the dado tiling here is to the same design as in the corridor. There is a fine set of old carved screens in the front windows carrying advertising, something that is occasionally seen in Scotland but rarely in England. The eponymous Lion was a locomotive built for the Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1838 and is displayed at the Museum of Liverpool. It was last steamed for an appearance in the 1953 British comedy film *The Titfield Thunderbolt*.



Lobby Bar

Liverpool

28A Prescot Road, Liverpool, L7 0LQ

Directions: Jct. Lister Road

Tel: (0151) 263 7977

Listed Status: Not listed

Liverpool

9 Pudsey Street, Liverpool, L1 1JA

Tel: (0151) 345 3525

Email: ma@maegertons.com

Website: <http://www.maegertons.com/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Lime Street) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Lister Hotel ★

A three-storey pub with polished larvikite facing and which retains some Edwardian fittings and excellent window glass. The public bar has an inter-war bar counter, fixed seating with bell-pushes. The main bar also has bell-pushes. The fine rear snug has a double width doorway and retains Edwardian panelling to picture frame height with mirror panels and a fireplace with three decorative copper panels in the overmantel, original fixed seating, good plasterwork ceiling. The front entrance has an inner door in the front with a deep-etched panel stating 'Outdoor' so evidently the off-sales has been absorbed into the public bar.

Ma Egerton's ★

Tucked away behind Lime Street Station, this pub retains much from an inter-war refitting in its two rooms and the passage between them from the front door. The passage has a timber and leaded glass partition wall, while the public bar is lined with panelling and retains its inter-war counter (but its top and the bar-back are replacements). The lounge bar has fixed seating all round with side baffles topped with leaded glazed panels and has fitted with bell-pushes. The pub used to be known as the Eagle, run by Mary ('Ma') Egerton, whence its present name. It was much frequented by artists performing at local theatres.



Main Bar

Liverpool

25 Ranelagh Street, Liverpool, L1 1JP

Tel: (0151) 709 2090

Website: <http://themidlandliverpool.co.uk/>

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Central)

Listed Status: II

Liverpool

156 Mill Street, Liverpool, L8 6SR

Tel: (0151) 475 0686

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brunswick)

Listed Status: Not listed

Midland Hotel ★

Sadly this fine pub (and former hotel) next to the opulent Central was opened out internally in the 1970s but some fine work still survives. Perhaps the most impressive feature is the window glass which is both embossed and curved – an impressive feat of glass-making. Copper straps across the middle advertise Walker's ales of Warrington. The right-hand strap indicates the buffet for the hotel and this area has a good display of panelling and mirrorwork. This area was originally separated, of course, from the public bar (named as 'vault' in the door glass). There is some remarkable coloured glazing over two doorways and at the rear of the former buffet.



Servery

Moseley Arms ★

A good example of Edwardian pub-building. There are two rooms parallel to one another with the public bar housing the servery which is divided from the second room by an impressive and unusual glazed screen with tulip detail typical of its time. The public bar retains its original panelled counter with match-strikers all the way along, a superb glazed, screened, three-bay bar-back fitting with a row of leaded glass panels up to the ceiling. There is a colourful tiled dado running along the exterior wall and either side of the rather fine fireplace: the fixed seating is modern. An inner door leads to the original off-sales with a wood and glass partition but replacement counter. The lounge has a hatch in the screen forming the bar back, and old fixed seating.



Public Bar

Liverpool

2-6 Egerton St, Liverpool, L8 7LY

Directions: Off Catharine St

Tel: (0151) 709 3443

Email: peterkavanaghspub@gmail.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Peter Kavanagh's ★★★

An astonishing, unique pub fitted out by the eponymous landlord. It bursts into life with curios hanging from ceiling and walls. The snugs have murals and colourful stained-glass windows with wooden shutters and unusual heavy tables for ships that help smokers and drinkers in adverse conditions – these too designed by the licensee. Benches have carved armrests. The pub has been extended without diminishing its remarkable character.

This idiosyncratic interior was fitted out in 1929 by Peter Kavanagh, licensee from 1897 to 1950. The historic core has the common northern layout of front and rear rooms with a drinking lobby/servy in between (cf. the Hare & Hounds, Manchester and Swan with Two Necks. Both rooms have fixed seating, above which are large murals commissioned by Kavanagh from Scottish artist Eric Robinson: at the front are scenes from Dickens and at the rear ones from Hogarth. There is also much attractive stained glass made by artist William English, with seafaring themes in the 'Dickens Room' and a miscellaneous selection in the 'Hogarth'. Kavanagh also introduced jokey woodwork, including four panels with scenes set in what seems to be the 16th century, and faces on the bench ends caricaturing Peter K. himself. He was an inventor, for example, of the highly distinctive tables with grilles covering bowls for water to extinguish cigarette ends. The pub was extended in 1964 with a new lounge and again in 1977, taking in 6 Egerton Street. Formerly the Grapes, it was renamed in 1978 in honour of the remarkable Mr Kavanagh in 1978.



Middle Bar

Liverpool

36 Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9BX

Tel: (0151) 707 2837

Email: philharmonic@nicholsonspubs.com

Website:

<http://www.nicholsonspubs.co.uk/thephilharmonicdiningroomslivepool>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Central) and

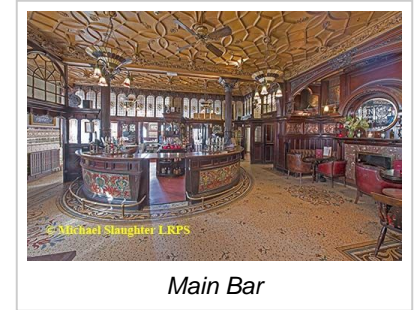
Bus Stop

Listed Status: I

Philharmonic Dining Rooms ★★★

One of the most magnificent pubs in the UK. There is too much to describe in summary: stained glass, wood panelling, carved mahogany, stucco ceilings, mosaic flooring, lavish fireplaces and a riot of marble: it has the lot. Each ornate room has its own character. A showstopper to the point of decadence, including the marbled gents' loos. This pub has to be seen to be believed.

This is a truly spectacular pub whose opulence is explained by the fact that when it was built Liverpool was a vastly rich centre of commerce and among the greatest cities of the Empire. This was no working man's back-street boozer, but a place where well-to-do middle class clients could congregate. It is rivalled only by the nearby Vines and Belfast's Crown Bar. Built about 1900 for Robert Cain's brewery by local architect Walter Thomas, the exterior is waywardly eclectic, the high point being the glorious metal gates on Hope Street, which are surely the finest such Art Nouveau work in Britain. They lead into what is, in effect, an up-market version of another drinking lobby, off which other rooms radiate. The customer is met by the whole gamut of embellishment that makes the 'the Phil' so special – plasterwork, mosaic (even on the counter front), mahogany, copper reliefs (by German-American artist H. Bloomfield Bare) and stained glass. In the delightful fireplace-alcove the drinker is presided over by stained glass heroes of the Boer War (being fought as the pub went up). Facing the counter are two fine panelled rooms, originally a smoke room (left) and news room (right) with St Cecilia, patroness of music, in stained glass. Further small (now linked) spaces line the angle of the streets. A small office lies within the servery. At the back is a vast room, which was a billiard hall (said to have been in use until the 1960s), sumptuously embellished with a huge frieze incorporating the crowning of Apollo (over the entrance) and 'The Murmur of the Sea' (opposite) by artist Charles Allen: lavish fireplaces, panelling and copper reliefs (again by Bare). Finally, don't miss the gents'; easily the best in a British pub (when not in use ladies may, and indeed should, inspect).



Liverpool

93 Rice Lane, Liverpool, L9 1AD

Tel: (0151) 525 4508

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Walton (Merseyside))

Listed Status: II

Prince Arthur ★★★

A pub most notable for its lavish tiling, not only walls but also the counter and partitions. The tiles are highly decorated and complemented by colourful stained and leaded panels on servery hatches and screens.

This is an out-of-town drinkers' pub, probably refurbished at the start of the 20th century. The decorative glass and insignia outside reveal that this was done by Walkers of Warrington and give a hint of the tremendous exuberance within. Pride of place goes to the public bar, set on the street corner, although the closed outside doors clearly suggest this area was once subdivided. Here bright red tiles line the walls, the stubby screens and, unusually, even cover the counter front. The tiling continues round the L-shaped corridor which wraps round the public bar in a typical Merseyside arrangement, as at the Stork Hotel, Birkenhead, and Lion Tavern, Liverpool. This has highly unusual openings to the servery with lovely jewel-like glazing. At the rear is a large smoke room. Gents should not miss the hefty triple urinals, proudly inscribed by Musgraves Invicta Sanitary Ware of Liverpool.



Public Bar

Liverpool

39 Blacklow Brow, Liverpool, L36 5XE

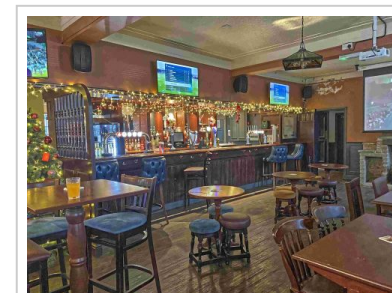
Tel: (0151) 489 5200

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Huyton)

Listed Status: Not listed

Queens Arms ★

Rebuilt in 1957 in a conservative style for the period, the pub retains its public bar, lounge and some original fittings. It reopened in 2022 after two years closure, during which the upper floors were converted to flats. The public bar retains most of its original counter and bar-back, albeit painted an unbecoming shade of blue/grey; many fridges were also added. The lounge has a distinctive counter (thankfully not painted) and the original bar back (but again infested with fridges plus fairy lights). Most of the wall panelling has been painted and the off sales facing the front entrance was lost many years ago.



Lounge

Liverpool

24 Roscoe Street, Liverpool, L1 2SX

Tel: (0151) 709 4365

Email: roscoeheadltd@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.roscoehead.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Central) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Liverpool

86 Fountains Road, Liverpool, L4 1ST

Directions: Jct. Sessions Road

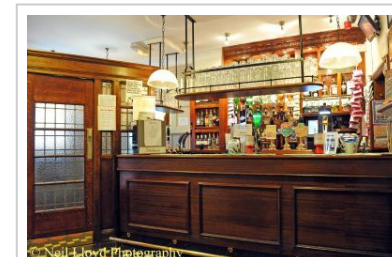
Tel: (0151) 922 2147

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bank Hall)

Listed Status: Not listed

Roscoe Head ★★

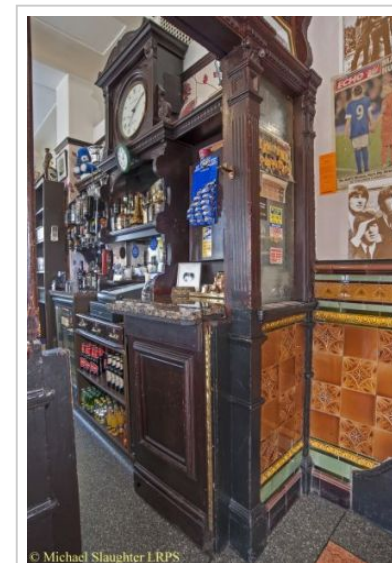
This delightful small, side-street pub majors on real ales and cider, and is a huge and revealing contrast to the mighty Philharmonic just up the hill. It has been run by the Joyce/Ross family for over thirty years and consists mostly of an inter-war refit. In typical northern fashion, there are three rooms surrounding the drinking lobby which forms the lively heart of the pub. Fixed seating remains from the refit, albeit re-upholstered, and there are also bell-pushes in the rear snug. The doors to the three rooms each have attractive inter-war glazed and leaded panels (as do the double doors from the street entrance). In the back room is a moderately ornate plaster ceiling. The pub is named after a great Liverpudlian, William Roscoe (1753-1831), poet, historian and anti-slavery campaigner.



Lobby Bar

Saddle ★

A corner pub with a fine exterior of terracotta and brick. Inside a passage leads to the lobby bar. Carefully renovated in recent years, it retains a number of older features especially the extensive tiled dado in the lobby bar and passageway and also up the staircase and to the toilets. Also noteworthy are the fixed seating and bell-pushes, as in the opened-up room on the right.



Serving and Hatch

Liverpool

Southport Road, Liverpool, L31 4HD

Directions: 800yds north from A5147/Moss Ln jct.

Tel: (0151) 345 6399

Email: scotchpiper@hotmail.com

Website: <http://scotchpiper.com/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II*

Scotch Piper ★★★

An old, thatched, rural pub with a traditional public bar and servery that has simple woodwork, basic benches and a beamed ceiling. Further rooms along the length of the building are equally simple with old benches and more recent inglenook fireplaces, one with a cosy seat to its left. A vivid, atmospheric reminder of pubs past.

This whitewashed, thatched and cruck-framed wayside pub is claimed as Lancashire's oldest inn. Dendrochronology has suggested a date of around the mid 16th century although the northern part is of the 18th century. It is said to have been in pub use since the 15th century, but this is perhaps a triumph of hope over established fact. It was taken over by Burtonwood brewery in 1945, after which the brick fireplaces were installed. A sequence of three rooms, all with exposed beams, runs the length of the building with the public bar on the left. Here a cruck truss is exposed and there is simple bench seating against two of the walls, but the concrete 'half-timbering' over the fireplaces is post-1947. Until 1997 service was simply via a hatch. The middle room has more old bench seating, a pair of hefty wooden posts supporting the upper floor and a massive, much altered setting for the fire. The minimalist far room, with modern decoration and fittings, was originally a storage area/animal shed and later a living room. The loos are outside.



Public Bar

Liverpool

6 James Street, Liverpool, L19 2LS

Tel: (0151) 427 2032

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool South Parkway) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Swan Inn ★

Street-corner pub with two rooms and a drinking lobby. The interior is similar in style to the Volunteer Canteen, Waterloo with a central lobby/passage from the front door to rear. It has a splendid bar-back with glazed screenwork to the room behind with service in the lobby via a doorway and hatch in a screen. Opened up slightly off the passage is a lounge with old fixed seating and service bells in a wood panel above. It has a Victorian tiled, cast-iron and wood-surround fireplace. There are lots of etched and frosted panels including external 'Smoke Room' and 'Walkers Warrington Ales' windows.



Lobby Passageway

Liverpool

23-25 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2EZ

Tel: (0151) 236 3269

Email: ThomasRigbys@hb.im

Website: <http://www.markettowntaverns.co.uk/pub-and-bar-finder/north-west/thomas-rigbys/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Moorfields) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Thomas Rigby's ★

Rebuilt in 1852 with a decorative stucco facing added in 1865. Then in 1922 there was fine makeover which is recorded on the 'must see' fireplace at the rear of the left-hand bar as recorded in its rare, dated inscription: 'Rigby's. This historic house was renovated and refurbished by Ashby Tarr Ltd in the year One Thousand and Nine Hundred and Twenty-Two'. To this time must date the impressive heavy timbering of the ground-floor exterior and entrance doors with their lovely ironwork. Of the three rooms the most impressive is the 'Nelson Room' to the rear, with its oak-panelled walls, brick fireplace, and bell-pushes. Most bar fittings are modern, sadly, from a 2003 refurbishment by Okell's Brewery, Isle of Man. The screenwork near the entrance and some dado panelling in both bars survive from this major refit. Thomas Rigby (1815-86) came to Liverpool in 1830 and prospered as a wine and spirits dealer and pub owner. From his day are the ceiling decoration at the rear of the right-hand bar and cast-iron columns may have since lost their casings.



Main Bar

Liverpool

81 Lime Street, Liverpool, L1 1JQ

Tel: None

Website: <https://www.vinesbighouse.co.uk/>

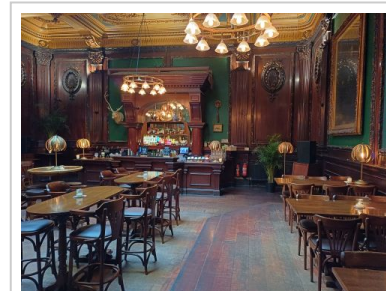
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Liverpool Lime Street) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II*

Vines ★★★

A brewery showpiece of opulent embellishment. The jaw-dropping interior is a lavish display of mahogany, oak panelling, beaten copper, rich plasterwork and ornamental ceilings, all of which are accompanied by extravagances such as decorative friezes, chandeliers and a stained glass dome. The fireplaces are imposing works of art in their own right. A pub to marvel at – give it the time it deserves.

This is one of the great show pubs in the country. Albert B. Vines opened a pub here in 1867 but it was rebuilt in 1907 in flamboyant baroque style by Liverpool brewer, Robert Cain, using local architect Walter Thomas, who had been responsible for the astounding Philharmonic a few years earlier. Inside is a magnificent sequence of rooms with opulent embellishment. On the right is the public bar, less lavish, of course, than the rest and altered in 1989 by the incorporation of a snug and the cutting back of the bar counter (a change which can be readily made out). The decorative ebullience explodes in the lounge to the left with its columns, copper-fronted counter and caryatid-flanked fireplace. The latter is back-to-back with that in the smoke room, which carries Viking ships in relief. Here customers, comfortably seated in the alcoves, are surrounded by wood paneling and deep ornamented friezes populated by busy chubby cherubic figures. Here they would have been served at table (hence the bell-pushes): all this is presided over by signs of the Zodiac in the ceiling. Beyond the corridor, which runs behind the servery, is a vast highceilinged room (as at 'The Phil'), now called the 'Heritage Suite'. This magnificent room (not always open) has giant Corinthian pilasters, an oval skylight, panelling and an enormous fireplace.



Billiard Room

Liverpool

45 East Street, Liverpool, L22 8QR

Tel: 07891 407464

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Waterloo (Merseyside))
and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Volunteer Canteen ★★ ★

There have been few changes since 1924 to this classic terraced house local. The bar counter and back survive as do several etched windows promoting the old brewery. An added bonus is that drinkers can enjoy table service still.

The pub was established here in 1871 and its interior was remodeled in 1924 by Higsons of Toxteth, whose name lives on in the window glass. There have been few major changes since. A central doorway leads into a panelled corridor on the right of which is an opening into the servery. On either side are service hatches with glazed panels above. On the left side of the corridor is a broad archway which seems original to 1924 and opens into the lounge. The bell-pushes were regrettably removed quite recently but this is still a rare example of a pub where customers can be served at their tables (except at busy times, of course). The cupboards and rather crude mirrorwork on the rear wall are modern work, although the fire surround and seating are evidently of the 1920s. The toilets retain their 1924 doors, each labelled with the appropriate gender in the glazing.



Public Bar

Liverpool

2 Acrefield Road, Liverpool, L25 5JL
Tel: (0151) 428 2255
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

New Brighton

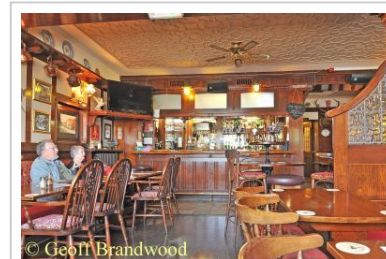
7 Magazine Brow, New Brighton, CH45 1HP
Directions: above Egremont Promenade
Tel: (0151) 630 3169
Email: themagazinehotel@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.the-magazine-hotel.co.uk>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (New Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Raby

Raby Mere Road, Raby, CH63 4JH
Tel: (0151) 336 3416
Email: wheatsheaf-raby@hotmail.com
Website: <http://www.wheatsheaf-cowshed.co.uk/>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

White Horse ★

This pub has a very appealing inter-war interior and, despite much opening up, the essentials of the layout then created can be appreciated. The counter and four-bay bar-back are largely original (despite such inevitable changes such as the fridges and new shelves) and there are also contemporary dado panelling, fixed seating and baffles. The small front right room is perhaps the most intact space with its fixed seating, baffles and bell-pushes but the wall panelling is modern as is much of the work the opened up rear right space. There are a series of ornamented ceiling panels in all areas of the pub. The front windows have etched glass, those on the right being notable for being curved.



Main Bar

Magazine Hotel ★

Dating from 1759 with a fine double bay-windowed frontage. It is little altered in over forty years. The name comes from the fact that it was once used by sailors who were having their outward bound ships reloaded with munitions. The layout is of main bar with four small rooms or areas at the front and on the left. The pub is famous for selling a large volume of Draught Bass. The bowling green at the rear is still in use.



Servery

Wheatsheaf Inn ★★

A timber-framed building with a thatched roof and bearing a datestone from 1611. The main attraction here is the delightful old snug created by settles around a large table situated in front of a substantial brick fireplace. The snug has an entrance gap between an otherwise continuous settle arranged at four different angles. One of the settles has a row of five glazed panels between its top and the ceiling, another has a back of fielded panelling. There are no other fittings of any great age.



Snug

Rainhill

12 Station Road, Rainhill, L35 0LP

Tel: (0151) 431 0984

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rainhill) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Southport

16 Union Street, Southport, PR9 0QE

Tel: (01704) 537660

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Southport) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Commercial Hotel ★

An imposing three-storey pub built in 1890 by Joseph Jones Brewery of Knotty Ash and refurbished from 1927 when the firm was acquired by Higsons. The public bar retains its 1920s interior in the form of its counter, bar-back fitting, dado panelling and fixed seating, but has been re-floored. There is a lobby with signs of an off-sales - note the 'Out-Door Dept: etched panel in a lobby door. There are a number of Knotty Ash Ales etched windows remaining and stained glass panels above. There is an opened-up lounge bar, formerly three small rooms - note a 'Smoke Room' etched panel on a lobby door. There is some 1920s fixed seating, bell-pushes, and the counter seems old but the bar-back fitting looks modern.



Right Hand Bar

Guest House ★★★

An example of early Brewers' Tudor that retains its original layout of three rooms with lots of wood panelling and leaded glass. in the rooms you can find original fireplaces and fixed seating, panelling and bell pushes. Windows have colourful stained and leaded panes.

Built in 1909 this is an early example of 'Brewers' Tudor' but also has attractive Arts & Crafts detailing around the entrance. Off the drinking lobby are three splendidly intact rooms. That on the right has screens (as in the lobby) but sadly the lower panels are lost (apart from one which is permanently closed). The rear room has a wide opening to the lobby under a pretty glazed fringe with coloured glass identical to that elsewhere. The bar-back and floor tiling are modern. The gents' has not just one but two banks of urinals.



Corridor Bar

St Helens

Mill Lane, St Helens, WA9 4HN

Tel: (01744) 813994

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Junction) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Wallasey

225 Wallasey Village, Wallasey, CH45 3LG

Tel: (0151) 638 9345

Website: <https://farmersarms.weebly.com/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Wallasey Village) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Wheatsheaf ★★

Designed in 1936 for brewers Greenall Whitley, this brick- and half-timbered roadhouse retains much of its original multi-room layout. The rooms, ranging from public bar (front left), a buffet (front right) to a small dining room (rear right) are named in etched glass in the doors. The bar fittings, fire surrounds and seating are mostly original. A former verandah (the long, narrow bar at rear centre) overlooks a beautifully maintained bowling green, but has been truncated at one end for the present 'cellar'. The original cellaring was on the first floor, serviced by a hoist in a now-blocked entrance in the frontage. The Wheatsheaf has suffered dramatically from mining subsidence – hence the disconcerting (non-alcohol-induced!) sense of disequilibrium caused by the sloping floors. Much of the interior is obscured by a vast collection of football and rugby shirts and other sundry artefacts.



Public Bar

Farmers Arms ★

Re-built 1924 and still retaining three rooms, with panelling, a part glazed partition wall and leaded glass from that date. On the right is a small L-shaped Public Bar with bare bench seating and bell pushes; the bar back appears to date from the 1920s, but the counter is a replacement - however, the counter on the left hand lobby side with a curved top section would appear to date from the re-build.



Public Bar

Closed Pubs

The following pubs would have been main entries in this guide had they currently been open

Cheshire

Barthomley

Audley Road, , Barthomley, CW2 5PG

Directions: In village centre, a mile from M6 jct 16. At Radway Green Road/Audley Road jct. Opp. Saint Bertoline's Church.

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: II*

White Lion ★★★

This is an outstanding thatched inn dating from 1614. It has open fires, low beams and settles, looking much as it has done for hundreds of years. The tap room never had a bar counter and originally beer was served from a hatch. The larger room has doubled as a courtroom and a schoolroom in the past. A time capsule worth the effort to find.

This fine half-timbered building, facing the medieval parish church, dates back to the early 17th century. The oldest part in terms of pub use is the delightful beamed tap room in the centre of the building. This never had a bar counter and drinks were brought from the parlour behind (now the kitchen). The furniture and fittings are from the 1930s, including a high-backed settle which appears to be constructed from reused old wall panelling. Note the glass-covered section of exposed wattle-and-daub on the left-hand side showing the method of filling in the walls between the timber framing. The fire surround is an unfortunate Modernist replacement of an inter-war brick one. The large room to the left (where the servery now is) has seen use as a courtroom and a schoolroom before becoming part of the pub in 1953, which is the date of most of the fittings. The tiny room at the back was converted from private quarters in 1994.



Tap Room

Little Leigh

Warrington Road, , Little Leigh, CW8 4QY

Directions: On the A49 at junction with Warrington Road and Smithy Lane

Tel: (01606) 853196

Email: info@thehollybush.net

Website: <http://www.thehollybush.net>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: II

Lower Stretton

Northwich Road, , Lower Stretton, WA4 4NZ

Directions: 200m from M56 jct 10

Tel: 07788 447348

Email: claudia.uk944@gmail.com

Website: <https://stretton-grillhouse.com>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Holly Bush ★

This timber-framed, thatched, three-room pub began life as a farmhouse. It was held for many years until 1999 by the same family and thus experienced little change. Then, in 2000, walling in the passage around the servery was removed and a small counter introduced for the first time. Previously drinks were fetched from the cellar. The front bar has a screeded floor, fixed benching, and a 1930s brick fireplace, almost inglenook in style. The two other small rooms retain an historic ambiance. The front one has another 1930s brick fireplace plus post-war fixed seating and a disused front door. Up two steps is the snug, a small room with half-timbered walls and which would have served as an over-spill room in the past. The former living room at the rear right has been converted into a lounge and there is a new extension for a dining room. The outside gents' has been converted to the cellar and a new gents' (still outside) built.



Front Bar

Ring o' Bells ★

The layout of two tiny rooms on the left and the bar on the right was last changed in 1965 when the bar was extended to the right into a former private lounge. Part of the old partition wall to the tiny front left room remains and forms two high backed settles with iron rods fixed to ceiling, and there is a pewter bar top on the hatch to the side of the bar. Fixed seating is at least forty years old, bar counter, bar back and one fireplace date from 1930s.



Public Bar

Lower Whitley

Street Lane, , Lower Whitley, WA4 4EN
Directions: Just off A49
Tel: (01925) 640044
Email: info@chetwode-arms.co.uk
Website: <http://chetwode-arms.co.uk/>
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Mobberley

Knolls Green, , Mobberley, WA16 7BW
Directions: B5085, Knolls Green
Tel: (01565) 873149
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Chetwode Arms ★

A brown-brick village pub of around 1800 incorporating some earlier work. There are four old rooms, now increased to six. At the heart is a delightful small room right of the entrance with a panelled counter, probably inter-war, and with earlier glazed screenwork. Note the annunciator box over the doorway showing where table service was required in days gone by. It names the parlour, tap room and dining room. On the right (not always open) is the small parlour with an inter-war panelled dado, a small serving hatch with sliding sashes, inter-war glazed brick coal fireplace, bench seating and two settles. At the rear is a cosy snug. On the front left is the dining room with an interesting old bench, glazed 1930s brick fireplace but a couple of holes have been cut into the upper parts of the wall 'for supervision'. Bowling green at the rear. Closed lunchtimes.



Public Bar

Bird in Hand ★

This 18th-century pub retains three snugs at the front and lots of 1930s fittings. That on the left has a lino floor, panelled dado, brick fireplace and two small old benches. The second snug has old fixed benches. The third has an arch, benches, Victorian-style fireplace with log fire and a baffle at one end of the seating. At the rear right the gents' has retains intact 1930s work including three big urinals.



Main Bar

Over Peover

Stocks Lane, Over Peover, , Over Peover, WA16 9EX

Directions: On A50

Tel: (01565) 722332

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Warrington

35 Tanners Lane, , Warrington, WA2 7NL

Tel: (01925) 234139

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Warrington Central)

Listed Status: II

Whipping Stocks ★

Although old-looking, this pub seems to have been rebuilt in the 1930s as a roadhouse (it used to be known as the Mainwaring Arms after the chief local family). There are four separate rooms off a spacious central bar where the counter front is of 1930s fielded panelling but the back fitting is modern. There is a large inter-war brick fireplace with a shallow arch and coal fire. On the front left is a room that may have been two small ones in the past. The middle left room is small with another 1930s brick fireplace and settle-style fixed seating. The rear left 'Mainwaring Room' has fielded panelling to picture frame height, a largish 1930s brick fireplace and settle seating. On the front right is what locals call the 'Mourning Room' with a fine 1930s fireplace of brick and also beams.



Lobby Bar

Three Pigeons ★

A multi-room but basic, locals' pub with a public bar at the front containing old servery fittings and some unusual, perhaps 1920s, bentwood seating. The left-hand door leads to a passage and on this side are a couple of rooms, the front one with bell-pushes. At the rear right is now the pool room and has old dado panelling and a fixed bench. The door from Lower Dallam Lane leads into a passage with a mosaic floor and the inner door has an etched panel advertising 'News Room'. The gents' has five original urinals and a separate WC with old dado tiling.



Public Bar

Cumbria

Carlisle

Kingmoor Road, Etterby, , Carlisle, CA3 9PS

Tel: (01228) 512720

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Redfern Inn ★★

Built for the State Management Scheme and opened on 1 October 1940. It was named in honour of Harry Redfern (1861-1950), the Scheme's architect from 1916, and was designed in Arts & Crafts style by his assistant Joseph Seddon (with Redfern's collaboration). Since then, the counter in the public bar has been extended and there has been much wall removal between the right-hand front room and that behind (originally known as a 'tea and smoking room'). Some fireplaces have also been replaced. However, much wooden panelling survives along with a wealth of detail, such as the door furniture, so there is still much to cherish here. The bowling green has been out of use for a number of years and is under threat from development.



Smoking Room Servery

Greater Manchester

Audenshaw

234 Guide Lane, , Audenshaw, M34 5JF

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Guide Bridge) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Broadheath

153 Manchester Road, , Broadheath, WA14 5NT

Directions: on A56 adjacent to retail park.

Tel: (0161) 718 6079

Website: <https://railwayinnaltrincham.co.uk/>

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Navigation Road) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Old Pack Horse ★

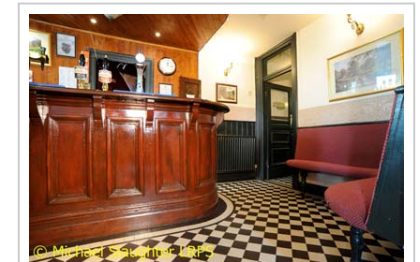


Drinking Lobby

Railway ★★★

Victorian pub retaining its original three room layout with room names announced in beautiful cut and etched glass door panels. A quarry-tiled entrance passage from the front door leads to a small drinking lobby with a curved, panelled counter and bench seating along the walls.

A small, appealing but unpretentious Victorian pub, saved from demolition in 1996 and now marooned beside the parking area of the retail centre that was planned to destroy it. It has a multi-room layout and a recent modest refurbishment has only enhanced its attractiveness. Either side of the entrance are the tap room (left) and bar parlour, named in the cut and etched glass door panels, both with fixed seating and bell-pushes. In the heart of the building is a small drinking lobby, dominated by the curvaceous panelled counter and with bench seating along the walls: the bar-back fittings, unfortunately, are modern. Behind all this are two rooms brought into pub use quite recently: the door proclaiming 'Vault' came from another pub. Threats of demolition were averted by listing in 1993 following a pilot study of Greater Manchester pubs by CAMRA for English Heritage.



Vault

Farnworth

1 Glynne Street, , Farnworth, BL4 7DN

Tel: (01204) 578282

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Moses Gate) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Oldham

172 Manchester Road, Werneth, , Oldham, OL9 7BN

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Shakespeare ★★★

Built in 1926 for Bolton brewers Magee Marshall and largely unchanged since. Beyond the main entrance is a spacious drinking lobby, whose rich counter is topped by a carved shield (one of several such adorning the woodwork). The tilework, unfortunately, has been papered over. The lounge to the left has good panelling and a Tudor-style fireplace. At the front right is the 'News Room' (so named on a door-plate), complete with richly decorated counter, fixed seats and the original coat hooks. The back room is described on the door plate as the 'Commercial Room' and has another fine counter. A door at the side of the pub accesses the off-sales, now lost in most pubs but here untouched, albeit unused. The final ground-floor room (rear left) seems to be a private room brought into pub use and now houses a pool table. Much of the panelling is actually modern, now painted in an unfortunate pastel shade.



Lobby Bar

Royal Oak ★

UPDATE DECEMBER 2023 Planning permission has been granted to convert the pub to a house of multiple occupation.

This little altered four-room and drinking lobby-cum-hallway pub was built in 1824, was extended in 1888, and the toilet block was added in 1937 when it underwent a refurbishment. The lobby bar has inter-war panelling to three-quarters height. A door on the front right leads to a small room with access to the servery but the counter front is may have previously functioned as a hatch. The small rear right room has fixed seating with bell-pushes above, and Formica-topped tables. The front left room has a lino tiled floor, original wood backed, upholstered fixed seating around the room (but no bell-pushes).



Lobby Bar

Oldham

178 Union Street, , Oldham, OL1 1EN

Tel: (0161) 633 2642

Email: sween156@msn.com

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Royal Oak Hotel ★★★

UPDATE NOVEMBER 2023 The pub has been closed by owners Inglenook Inns and sold to persons unknown. The interior has already suffered flood damage due to clumsy removal of a dishwasher. Any significant internal alterations require Listed Building Consent. The Council is keeping a close eye on the situation.

A three-storey brick pub close to the centre of Oldham, which was given a major refit about 1930. The key feature here is the servery, a splendid semi-circular structure which projects forward into what is, in effect, a variant of the typical regional drinking lobby arrangement. It is a marvellous piece, provided with still-working counter screens. The back of the servery fits squarely on to the lounge at the front, to which it is linked by a hatch with counter screening. The c.1930 work provided large expanses of two-tone tiling on the walls, a good deal of which has been papered over, unfortunately. The two rooms on the left have been amalgamated into one. On the side street there is an entrance to a rare, complete off-sales compartment which has a hatch to the servery. There is a large upstairs bar with an original servery and mock half-timbering and is used for functions. Attractive stained glass on the landing.



Lobby Bar

Rochdale

145 Kingsway, , Rochdale, OL16 5HS

Tel: (01706) 646259

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rochdale)

Listed Status: Not listed

Rochdale

158 Rooley Moor Road, Spotland, , Rochdale, OL12 7DQ

Tel: (01706) 640018

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Listed Status: Not listed

Kingsway Hotel ★

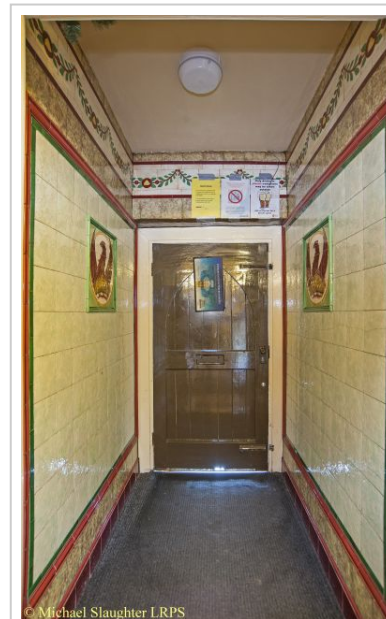
Dating from 1938 this pub has four rooms, a further room upstairs, and it very little altered with only the off-sales removed. The entrance on Kingsway retains its original revolving door and leads to a large lobby bar with parquet floor, plain skylight, and original fixed seating. The bar counter is the original with a distinct mainly horizontal panelled front. A door on the front left has a 'parlour' etched and frosted panel, fixed seating, and another wide strip of mainly horizontal original panelling. A passage leads to the Public Bar and the Lounge Bar both with etched and frosted panels in the doors.



Lobby Bar

Royds Arms ★

An impressive pub for its three small rooms, plus lobby bar, and tilework. At the entrance is floor-to-ceiling tiling with a pair of phoenixes, the emblem of the eponymous Heywood brewery. The lobby bar has a modern tiled floor and tiled dado and further tiling on the counter front. The bar-back fitting only dates from the 1980s. The front right room has 'Tap Room' in the inter-war stained glass panel in the door, old, possibly inter-war fixed seating and service via a hatch to the servery. The front left room has modern dado panelling and there is a wide gap between the front left and rear left rooms, and an doorway entrance from the lobby bar.



Tiled Entrance Passage

Walkden

56 Whittle Street, , Walkden, M28 3WY

Directions: Corner Springside Avenue

Tel: (0161) 790 9821

Email: enquiries@dorbiere.co.uk

Website: <http://www.brindleyarms.co.uk>

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Walkden) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Brindley Arms ★

A most unusual and very intact late 1950s brick-built pub to serve a new housing estate: intact pubs from this era are few and far between. The pub occupies the single-storey ranges, at one end of which is a tower-like structure on open arches and which originally housed an off-sales. The upper part is used for residential use. The main part of the pub is a lounge on split levels and this is unaltered apart from the loss of a glazed screen that used to sit between the two areas of curved seating. At right-angles to the lounge is the separate public bar, at one end of which is an inglenook-style area with wall benches with an inscription above declaring 'Red Rose Stout'. Nobody would claim this as great architecture but it's a fascinating survival.



Public Bar

Weaste

350 Eccles New Road, , Weaste, M5 5NN

Directions: Near Kerrera Drive

Tel: (0161) 736 1203

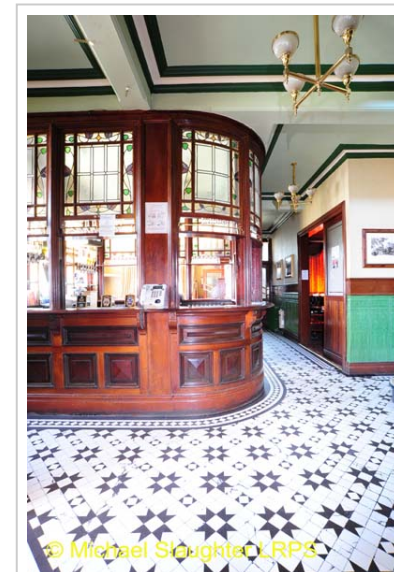
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Salford Crescent) and
Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Coach & Horses ★★★

A multi-roomed pub with a striking interior, in particular its mosaic and tiled floors. The servery has a substantial timber and glass screen and the ‘Outdoor Department’ has a bench and rising shutters. Elsewhere you will find lovely etched glass door panels and a dado of green tiles.

An intact multi-roomed locals’ pub built in 1913 for the Rochdale & Manor Brewery. The vault occupies the right-hand corner, surrounded by a corridor, off which rooms lead to left and right. First (on the right-hand side entrance) comes the ‘Outdoor Department’ which is an interesting and quite rare survivor, fully equipped with a bench and rising shutters to the servery. Next, the lounge has original fixed seating with bell-pushes. A small smoke room has, like the other rooms, lovely etching in the glass door panel but little else of interest. The corridor itself has a fine black and white quarry-tile floor and a dado of green tiles. The servery has an imposing timber and glass screen. Another three sections of this screen are in the public bar along with old fixed seating with baffles – the fireplace is a replacement. The pub has been well restored since the first edition of this guide. Statutorily listed in January 2012 following a successful application by CAMRA.



Lobby Bar

Wigan

168 Gidlow Lane, , Wigan, WN6 7AW

Tel: (01942) 821778

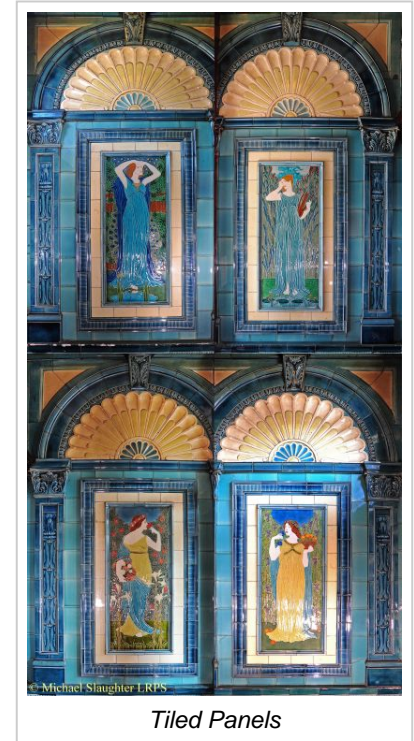
Email: thefamouspagefield@virginmedia.com

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: II

Famous Pagefield ★

Update 2015: Sold by Admiral Taverns. It is currently closed future uncertain. Impressive red brick three-storey former hotel in Free Renaissance style with two turrets built in 1902. There is much to admire here but unfortunately all the bar fittings are modern. There is a grand stone exterior porch with two columns holding up a balustraded balcony with 'Pagefield Hotel' in stone. The passage into the pub has 4 tall tiled panels of elegant ladies and a scallop shaped ceramic above. On the other side of the pub are more tiled walls, tiled panels, lots of etched windows including 'Smoke Room', 'Bar', 'News Room', and 'Club Room'. Lots of good leaded lights including 'MM & Co. Ltd'. There is some original fixed seating and the odd bell-push.



Tiled Panels

Withington

520-522 Wilmslow Road, , Withington, M20 4BT

Directions: near jct Marriot St

Tel: (0161) 445 4565

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Turnpike ★★

UPDATE MAY 2024 The pub has been closed since 2018, supposedly whilst owners Sam Smiths find a new manager but this is a long period even by their standards.

This is one of relatively few surviving post-war interiors built or refitted between 1945 and 1970. Work of this period became unfashionable, with the result that it was usually later altered or destroyed. Here it dates mainly from the early 1960s when the pub expanded into the shop next door and gained its part stone frontage. The left-hand bar formed the original pub and the ply-panel bar counter is likely to date from the 1930s. However, the bar-back shelves, quirky fire surround faced with cobblestones, and also the radiators with wood surrounds have a distinct 1960s flavour. The lounge has full-height, characteristically c.1960 corrugated wall panelling. Its counter, with its leatherette padded sections, is a 2002 copy of the lost Sixties original – Sam Smiths of Tadcaster, the owning brewery, has a considerable track record for reinstating features removed from their pubs in less enlightened times. The fixed seating is original as is the random-coursed green slate fireplace.



Public Bar Servery

Lancashire

Blackpool

204 Talbot Road, , Blackpool, FY1 3AZ

Tel: (01253) 623215

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Blackpool North) and Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Cleveleys

183 Victoria Road West, , Cleveleys, FY5 3PZ

Directions: Approx 1/4 mile from town centre on B5412

Tel: (01253) 853306

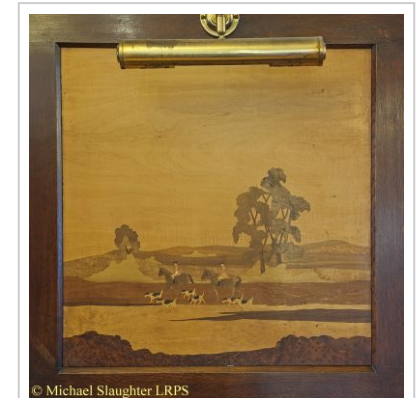
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Ramsden Arms Hotel ★★

A 'Brewers' Tudor' pub, built in 1939 for Thomas Ramsden's of Halifax. The main bar has panelled walls to picture rail, a Tudor-style fireplace and old fixed seating; the bar counter has a recent top and the bar-back is a modern replacement. Two small rooms at the front still have their brick fireplaces and fixed seating but have been opened up to the main bar. One displays marquetry panels with hunting scenes which reputedly came from the predecessor pub, demolished for road widening. The bar to the right was once two small rooms but again has some old fittings of quality. The gents' on the left, with five big urinals, is splendidly intact.



Marquetry Panel 1

Victoria Hotel ★★

A mighty inter-war edifice, built to cater both for visitors and a large middle-class estate. The heavy timber-work in the huge lounge imparts a quasi-baronial feel and everything else, including the original bar counter and Tudor-style stone fireplaces, is on the same scale. Internal screens now create seating areas to break up the cavernous space. A plain snug to the side has stained and leaded windows but nothing else of interest. The public bar has its original counter and bar-back whilst the corridor sports an Art Deco terrazzo floor and tiling to two-thirds height. The off-sales is still in situ but unused.



Bar

Haskayne

1 Delf Lane, , Haskayne, L39 7JJ

Directions: Near the bridge where the Leeds-Liverpool Canal crosses the A5147

Tel: None

Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale

Public Transport: Near Bus Stop

Listed Status: Not listed

Kings Arms Hotel ★

The two small right-hand rooms are the main interest here, refitted in the 1930s, with their dado panelling, fixed seating and parquet floors. The counter is from the same era but the bar-back is recent and the fireplace is partly modern. In the rear room, the panelling above the (modern) fireplace seems of the 1930s and has three painted sections portraying kings and queens. The front and side rooms feature lots of good 1930s stained glass windows and dado panelling runs up a staircase leading to the now closed lounge bar. The left bar was extended in recent years to incorporate former living space but the front counter may be old and the fixed seating at the front certainly is.



Lobby Bar

Rooms in Historic Pubs

Until the late 20th century pubs almost invariably consisted of two or more public rooms. They went under a wide variety of names, the meaning of which was often quite fluid. Some of the names are regional as we shall see. The quality of the surroundings on offer varied from room to room and with this went differentials in pricing. You paid less for your beer in the public bar which was the most simply appointed and often very much the domain of the working man. Here there would be a bar counter, no carpet on the floor, lots of smoke in the air, and the standard drink would be mild (which has now all but disappeared from our pubs). In the north of England a common alternative name for the public bar was the vault. Better-appointed rooms went under a variety of names. The lounge and saloon (sometimes lounge saloon) tended to be larger and one might expect carpets, panelling and service at your table. Much the same might be expected in the smoke/smoking room. These latter names are a little puzzling since there was no restriction on smoking throughout a pub. Maybe the idea was to suggest somewhere where people could take their ease in the way they would have done in a smoking room of a gentleman's residence? Then there were club rooms, function rooms, music or concert rooms, billiard rooms and off-sales compartments, for all of which the purpose is self-evident.

In the North West one sometimes comes across commercial and news rooms where customers might do business or relax for a quiet read. The snug, a name found throughout most of the UK and still widely used, was, as the name suggests, generally a smallish, cosy space. Parlour or bar parlour was a popular North-West name for what is often called a lounge elsewhere. One puzzling name is the tap room. One might be forgiven for thinking that this was where drinks were dispensed but examination of old plans of pubs, and the evidence from ones where tap rooms exist shows this was not the case in the vast majority of instances because the room was separated from, and often at a fair distance from, the servery. One long-serving licensee has suggested that in tap rooms regulars would tap a coin or their glass to attract attention to summon service. Well, maybe!

The 'Carlisle Experiment'

For over fifty years the Carlisle district was used by the Government as a test-bed for the theory that excessive alcohol consumption could be controlled and reduced through the design of the places where drink was sold and enjoyed. Alcohol was the subject of serious debate in late Victorian and Edwardian Britain, with social campaigners concerned about its harmful impact on society who were pitted against a large and profitable drinks industry. During the First World War, drink, and its potential impact on the war effort, became a major concern. In June 1915 the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic) was set up to regulate the production, sale and consumption of alcohol. As the war progressed, opening times for pubs were seriously reduced, the strength of beer was progressively lowered, and its supply rationed.

Furthermore the Central Control Board gained powers to control the sale of alcohol where national security required it. Nowhere was the Government more concerned about the effect that drink had on the war effort than in an area centred on Carlisle. North of the city and into southern Scotland lay the vast National Munitions Factory, where thousands of workers, many of them women, produced the shells fired by the army and the navy. The site also employed thousands of navvies to construct many new buildings so that production could be expanded. It was these men who descended on Carlisle at the weekends in search of drink, and gave the city an unrivalled reputation for drunkenness and disorder. In the first six months of 1916 Carlisle had a higher rate of drink-related convictions than any other town in England. The Government authorised the Central Control Board to take control of the sale of drink around the National Munitions Factory.

In July 1916 pubs and off-licences in Carlisle, Gretna and the surrounding area were purchased by the Board. The English part, stretching from the Scottish border to Maryport, contained 339 licensed premises, as well as a number of breweries, all of which except the Old Brewery in Carlisle were immediately closed. The Board then moved quickly to close the smaller and more disreputable pubs – by the end of 1917, fifty-three had been closed – and also set about enhancing the facilities in those that remained. Even as the war continued, new 'improved' pubs were opened, the first two by the end of 1916. A programme of reconstructing existing pubs was also begun.

At the end of the war, the decision was taken to retain state control of what was now known as the Carlisle State Management Scheme, run by the Home Office. New pubs were built, intended to act as models for those elsewhere. Their design was in the hands of the Scheme's architect, Harry Redfern. All had a variety of rooms, large numbers of seats and tables, a short bar counter (to dissuade people from standing-up drinking) and well-equipped kitchens, to ensure that food and hot drinks could be served. Many of the suburban and country pubs had bowling greens, another way of distracting patrons from drinking. Most were in a pleasant Arts and Crafts style, although some of the city centre pubs had more unusual designs.

After the Second World War, and Redfern's retirement, new pubs continued to be built, their design reflecting changing fashions in architecture. The Scheme had been seen as a model for potential state control of the drink industry, but by 1971 nationalisation was no longer on the political agenda, and the Scheme was abolished. By 1973 the pubs had been sold to a variety of new owners. The Old Brewery was bought by Theakston's of Masham, a small Yorkshire brewery struggling to keep up with the demand for their ales created by support from a new drinkers' organisation – CAMRA.

On the Tiles – Architectural Ceramics in Pubs

One of the glories of late Victorian and Edwardian pubs is the use of ceramics and this guide draws attention to examples in the region. As early as 1850 the billiard room at Gurton's in Old Bond Street, London, was decorated with pictorial ceramic panels, but it is unlikely that such work was common until the 1880s. Thereafter ceramics were employed in various forms, ranging from their mundane, but, very necessary, use in toilets, through floor and wall tiling, to rich mosaic flooring, pictorial panels, and even ceramic bar counters. Tiles were more expensive than wood but had the great advantage of being hard-wearing and – useful in the smoky atmosphere of the pub in bygone days – hygienic, as they were easily cleaned. The golden age of pub ceramics was between the 1880s and the First World War. For an easily visitable ceramic wonderland go to the Marble Arch Inn, Manchester, dating back to 1888, where the walls, floor and even the ceiling are so-treated.

The most exotic use of ceramics is for solid blocks facing bar counters and the North West has four examples of such work (technically known as faience) out

of fifteen in England . The grandest – indeed in the entire country – is in St Anne's-on-Sea at Burlingtons Bar, facing the station. The wonderful, fully-tiled room housing it is closed at the time of going to press (but viewable through the windows or on request at the pub above). A close runner-up is in the public bar at the Black Horse, Preston, which provides a real master-class in pub ceramics. The other examples are at the Hark to Towler, Tottington, in Greater Manchester, and the Castle, Manchester. In addition, more simple, tiled counter fronts are to be found at the Prince Arthur, Liverpool; Queens, Bacup, the Victoria, Great Harwood, and the Crooked Billet, Worsthorpe, all in Lancashire, and Royds Arms, Rochdale, White Lion, Westhoughton (the last probably from the 1920s), all in Greater Manchester. As well as its many other splendours, the Philharmonic Dining Rooms in Liverpool even has a counter faced with mosaic.

Another exotic use of ceramics in vogue between the 1880s and the First World War was for pictorial tiled paintings. They are mostly in otherwise altered pubs, the one exception in this guide being the Flower of the Valley, Rochdale, where a lovely panel by the entrance shows a stylised, Art Nouveau lily of the valley. Rochdale has quite a concentration of tiled paintings in pubs. Other examples (not in this guide) are four at the Brown Cow, Edenfield Road in the Norden area; entrance lobby ones at the Waggon & Horses, 366 Manchester Road; Nelson Hotel, 131 Drake Street; and the Eagle Hotel, 59 Oldham Road.

Enterprising ceramic work sometimes found a place in fireplaces. Three examples of note are at the Crown Hotel and the Globe in central Liverpool and the suburb of Toxteth, respectively, and the Black Horse, Preston.

Tiled dadoes were widely employed and there are numerous examples in this guide. A couple of especially good examples are at the Alexandra, Stockport, and the Cemetery Hotel, Rochdale. Others can be found at the Stanley Arms, Eccles, the Bridge, Horwich, and White Lion Hyde, all in Greater Manchester: in central Manchester itself they occur at the Briton's Protection, Hare & Hounds and Mr Thomas's Chop House. Occasionally walls could be tiled right up to the ceiling as at the King Edward VII, Guide, and the Victoria, Great Harwood, both Lancashire.

Mosaic was widely used for the floors of entrance lobbies, often stating the name of the pub in question. Mosaic might also be used for the flooring of corridors, drinking lobbies or a particular bar. Fine examples are at the Black Horse, Preston; Alexandra, Stockport; Stork, Birkenhead, and the Lion Tavern; Boundary, Edge Hill and Prince Arthur, Walton, all in Liverpool.

Taking it Home with You

Where did you last buy a drink to take home? Chances are it was a supermarket, perhaps a convenience store or possibly a high street drinks shop. It's hardly likely to have been down at your local pub. But up to about fifty years ago it would have been a very different story. Pubs sold drinks of all kinds for customers to enjoy at home and very often there was special provision in the layout of the building to cater for this. Legislation changed in the early 1960s to enable supermarkets to sell alcohol freely and the rest is history. The 'offie' at the pub is now a thing of the past.

The 'off-sales' at pubs went under a bewildering variety of names: off-sales (of course), jug and bottle (and vice versa), outdoor department, family department, retail department, order department, and so on, and you can sometimes still see the old names fossilised in etched glass or doorplates.

Occasionally there was a bench in the space in question: typically this would be occupied by women popping down to get beer for their dad or husband and

stopping for a quick one with their friends. It was also commonplace to despatch the nipper down to the offie to collect drink for the family. Where there was no special enclosed small space for off-sales, there might be a hatch facing the front door or one in a corridor. With the demise of off-sales from pubs, so many small rooms or compartments devoted to the purpose have been incorporated into another pub room or turned over to storage. So, when next you see what appears to be a spare door on the outside of a pub, ask yourself this question – was this for off-sales?

'The Bethlehem of Teetotalism' – Temperance in the North West **The North West was a stronghold of the Temperance movement, the 19th-century campaign against the impact of excessive drinking on society and which eventually became an all-out campaign for the prohibition of alcohol.**

The concept of Temperance arrived on these shores from the United States in the late 1820s, first in Scotland and Ireland, and then quickly spreading to England. At first, Temperance meant abstaining from spirits – beer was acceptable in moderation – but a meeting of the Preston Temperance Society on 1 September 1832 declared a commitment to 'total abstinence'. These abstainers soon became known as 'teetotallers', a term coined by a member of the Society, Richard Turner, and the message was enthusiastically spread by travelling lecturers backed up by a torrent of journals and pamphlets. Many of these were the work of Joseph Livesey (1794-1884), a Preston cheese-monger who, as spokesman for the movement, became its best-known public figure.

There were few public halls in early 19th-century England; most meetings and social gatherings being held in inns or public houses which, obviously, were not suitable venues for the new proselytising movement. The solution was to build its own. The first Temperance Hall opened at Garstang in Lancashire in 1834, and was just a wooden shed, but over the next sixty years or so hundreds of purpose-built halls were erected across the country. A number of these survive in the North West: a fine example is at Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria. The 'citadels' built by the Salvation Army, an organisation whose ethos was underpinned by Temperance principles, can also be found across the region.

Inns and public houses were not places for 19th-century Temperance travellers to stay. The first 'temperance hotel' opened in Preston in December 1832, and within a few years most towns and many villages across the country had them. Most had disappeared by World War II, but the Cross Keys at Cautley, near Sedbergh, Cumbria, still operates as a Temperance inn.

Early Temperance campaigners attempted to persuade drinkers to reform themselves, but in the 1850s their target became the drinks industry itself. In 1851 Maine became the first state in the USA to ban the manufacture, sale and consumption of alcohol altogether and inspired campaigners to press for a 'Maine Law' in Britain. Efforts to secure prohibition were led from 1853 by the United Kingdom Alliance, whose chairman from 1879 was a Cumbrian landowner and MP, Sir Wilfrid Lawson (1829-1906), who became the public face of the campaign. After his death, he was commemorated by a statue in Embankment Gardens, London, and a magnificent drinking fountain in his home town of Aspatria. Memorials like this were useful propaganda for Temperance; Preston General Cemetery has a specific area for teetotallers, with their gravestones clustered around the 'Preston Teetotal Monument' of 1859, which soon became a destination for teetotal excursionists.

The 'Coffee Tavern Movement' appeared in the 1860s and attempted to replicate the appeal of the pub without the alcohol, offering instead hot and cold soft drinks, food and entertainment. By 1892 the Liverpool British Workman Public House Company had ninety houses in and around the city, and paid a hefty

dividend of 10 per cent on its shares for many years afterwards. Continental-style cafés eventually saw off the coffee taverns, though Fitzpatrick's in Rawtenstall, Lancashire, is an extraordinary, surviving example of a Temperance bar selling sarsaparilla and other teetotal concoctions.

In the late 19th century, billiards became a popular pub pastime. Temperance Billiard Halls Ltd, founded in Manchester in 1906 to offer a teetotal alternative, operated halls around the city and in London. Several survive, designed by the company's architect Norman Evans in a distinctive style with Art Nouveau tiling and glasswork. Most are now in other uses – that in Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, is now a Wetherspoon's!

The appeal of Temperance declined after the failure of prohibition in the USA. Its tangible heritage can be seen in buildings and monuments scattered across the North West. Its influence on our pubs is less tangible, yet the huge reduction in pub numbers since 1900, the general improvements in comfort, the availability of food and of non-alcoholic drinks are, in no small measure, the result of Temperance campaigning.

Andrew Davison

Table Service – a Merseyside Survival

In many an old pub you will find bell-pushes dotted round a room. Only at a handful do they still work, but they are a reminder of a largely forgotten practice – table service. The bells were connected to a box in the area of the servery where a bell would ring and an indicator would wobble to show where a customer was requiring a drink. A member of the servery staff or a dedicated waiter would then go and take the order. Needless to say prices were a touch higher than in the public bar and a copper or two by way of a tip for the waiter was usual.

The editor of this guide began his under-age drinking in Birmingham in the early 1960s and was blissfully unaware of this concept. Moving to Manchester he was surprised by this wholly new experience of guys (and I think it was always men) coming round to take orders. It worked very efficiently as the waiting staff went to a dedicated area of the counter from which other customers were excluded so they did not have to fight their way through a crowd of stand-up drinkers.

Has this very civilised way of carrying on now vanished? Not quite. It still takes place on Merseyside where it is still alive and well at a few pubs provided things aren't too busy. Two of the most famous examples are in Crosby at the Volunteer Canteen and Crows Nest. It's also to be found occasionally at the Hole in Ye Wall, and is expected to be re-introduced at the Kensington, both in Liverpool. A wonderful tradition continued.