Guide to 20th-century Non-Domestic Buildings and Public Places in Worcestershire

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Explore the Past

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Front Cover Image: Pre-fabricated Village Hall, Pensax.

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NHPP7644: GUIDE TO 20th CENTURY NON-DOMESTIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC PLACES IN WORCESTERSHIRE

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This guidance document, for both professionals and interested individuals and communities, has been developed to support the understanding, identification and recording of 20th-century non-domestic buildings and public places in Worcestershire, and consideration of their significance. It draws upon and so shows how to use the summary guidance on assessing significance presented in *20th-Century Buildings and Public Places: a National Framework for Assessment*. Like any other aspect of our historic environment, looking at 20th-century heritage raises many questions for those who want to investigate it further: this is set out in *20th-Century Non-Domestic Buildings and Public Places in Worcestershire: Future Work and Research Priorities*, which sets out a strategy for local research within a national context.

All these documents have been developed as part of the Historic England funded **NHPP7644 20th Century Non-Domestic Buildings and Public Places in Worcestershire** project.

The architecture and landscapes of the 20th-century reflect the changing lifestyles and attitudes of society. Its heritage is becoming increasingly present in our collective conscious and many people through the experiences of their parents and grandparents feel a deep connection to this period of our recent history. Architects drew upon innovations in technology, new international styles and to our own past for stylistic inspiration. During the inter-war years increasing standardisation of design and use of non-traditional methods and materials, and new forms of urban planning, transformed the landscape. After World War II new technologies of construction and the need for cheap, easily assembled buildings, further emboldened society to break with traditional architectural forms and materials and embrace Modernism. The role of Local Authorities, as major investors in architecture strengthened as towns and cities damaged by bombing were gradually rebuilt and rural areas experienced huge investment in County Farms and Small Holdings and Local Authority housing. The 1950s and 1960s witnessed the development of many new estates, New Towns and high-rise flats in Modernist designs before a renewed desire for 'vernacular' styles re-emerged in the 1970s. Investment in nationalised industries and manufacturing and the development of car culture, and its associated infrastructure, stimulated the development of many urban and rural landscapes. 20th-century heritage also reflects changing attitudes to religion, education, health, welfare, community life and recreation.

There is increasing conservation interest associated with 20th-century heritage and many buildings and public places are highly valued by local communities. Despite increasing appreciation of even the most controversial of the 20th-century's architectural movements, many locally interesting buildings have been demolished, without record, as re-development outpaces heritage recognition. Many others are at risk of decay, insensitive renovation or demolition as the pressure for new development intensifies. Only a very small percentage of 20th-century heritage assets currently meet the criteria for national designation or Local Listing and strategic understanding of the broad range and value of our 20th-century heritage is poor.

In order to more proactivity manage and guide the conservation of our 20th-century heritage there needs to be a more comprehensive evidence base, at the local level, as well as better understanding of the diverse legacy of 20th-century architectural history and the significance attributed to it by local communities.

1.1 The planning and legislative background

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It places good design, the enhancement of local distinctiveness, landscape character and conservation of the historic environment at the heart of delivering sustainable development and good planning (paragraphs 7–11, 55, 58–64). The NPPF stresses the importance of seeking economic, social and environmental benefits as core to the delivery of sustainable development, the appropriate conservation of heritage assets forming one of its core planning principles. Its policies are a material consideration in all planning applications.

In delivering these objectives, it encourages positive improvements in the quality of the historic environment, high quality design and the conservation of heritage assets and their settings in a manner appropriate to their significance. The NPPF defines a heritage asset as a 'building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest'. The historic environment is addressed more broadly within Section 16 (paragraphs 184 to 202), paragraph 189 stating that 'In determining applications, Local Planning Authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting.'

The National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG), which includes a chapter on *Historic Environment*, provides further guidance on how to meet the demands of the NPPF. Historic England's Good Practice Advice (GPA) documents, which are linked to the NPPG, offer advice on how national policy and advice can be applied to the historic environment and heritage assets, when making Local Plans, applying an understanding of decision-making to the local environment and determining the contribution that setting makes to the significance of heritage assets.[1]

These heritage assets are part of, and contribute to, the distinctive character of places and landscapes, as affected by their use and development over time. This has been mapped at a national and local level by Landscape Character Assessment and Historic Landscape Characterisation, varying in scale from England's 159 National Character Areas to the identification of individual polygons down to one hectare in size.[2] The National Design Guide (October 2019), which also supports the NPPF, sets out

[1] Historic England, GPA 1 (*The Historic Environment in Local Plans*, 2015), 2 (*Managing Significance in Decision-Making in the Historic Environment*, 2015) and 3 (*The Setting of Heritage Assets*, 2015).

[2] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles

how to recognise and design for local character, and the importance of using this understanding to benefit people, heritage and nature at the earliest stage of the design process.

1.2 Heritage assets and Historic Environment Records

Many 20th-century buildings and places are now identified as heritage assets on county Historic Environment Records, and many more await discovery and assessment. As the NPPF states (paragraph 184), 'Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.' These heritage assets thus display a wide variation in their significance, and comprise:

- Designated heritage assets of national and international significance, which for 20th-century heritage include:
    - Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas designated under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 for their 'special architectural and historic interest' due to their rarity, age, integrity and group value. The criteria for selection draw attention to the need for progressively greater selection over time, and whilst it follows that relatively few 20th-century buildings or places (from university campuses to airfields) are designated in this way there are many 20th-century buildings and additions to buildings that are included within Conservation Areas with earlier origins. Objects, structures and buildings that are fixed to a Listed Building or are within its curtilage may also be protected by listing.
    - Registered Parks and Gardens, which do not have additional statutory controls but are subject to local plan policies.
    - Scheduled Monuments of 'national importance', the most numerous 20th-century heritage assets being military and industrial sites, which meet the criteria set out in the Principles of Selection:[3] those selected for scheduling are those which are considered to be best-managed as monuments ('to help preserve them, so far as possible, in the state in which they have come down to us today'), rather than through the planning process, agri-environment schemes or nature designations, meaning that many sites of national importance are not scheduled.
- Non-designated buildings and structures of local (and sometimes greater) significance included on county Historic Environment Records and identified by the Local Planning Authority (including on Local Lists and Local Plans) and in Neighbourhood Development Plans, which have 'a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning considerations' (NPPG)

[3] These are listed in the *Principles of Selection of Scheduled Monuments* as: period; rarity; documentation/finds; group value; survival/condition; fragility/ vulnerability; diversity and potential. (DCMS 2013, *Principles of Selection for Ancient Monuments, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/principles-of-selection-for-scheduled-monuments*)

- Non-designated assets of archaeological interest which may vary more widely in terms of their significance and include some of national importance afforded protection by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979).

2. TYPES OF 20th CENTURY HERITAGE IN WORCESTERSHIRE

2.1.1 Agriculture and Subsistence

From the 1870s British farming faced depression. Caused by a catastrophic fall in grain prices - a consequence of increasingly cheap imports, particularly from America - the British farming industry did not fully recover until after the Second World War. As arable land was laid down to pasture, dairy farming, buoyed by increasing demand in growing urban markets and facilitated by the development of the railway network and new methods of refrigeration, emerged as one of the more profitable sectors of the industry. The fruit and market gardening industry also reached its peak in the early 20th-century before its gradual decline as markets looked increasingly to cheap imports all year round.

Worcestershire is a predominately rural county with a mixed farming economy and distinct agricultural areas, which mixed or specialised, to differing degrees (Lake, Hathaway et al, 2014, 2). The impact of depression, across the county, would undoubtedly have varied and it is likely that the small-scale pastoral and mixed farming economies of the North and West of Worcestershire would have, at least initially, fared better than those larger scale arable economies in the cereal growing landscapes in the South and East. Agricultural Depression is known to have stimulated market gardening in the Vale of Evesham, with the crash in cereal prices, and then livestock prices, emboldening many farmers and Small Holders to turn to fruit and vegetable production; by 1950, more than 10,000 ha. of land in the Vale was under horticulture (Robinson 1983, 89–91). Fruit and hop farming also played a dominant role in the county's 20th-century agricultural economy, shaping not only the local landscape but also its built agricultural heritage.

Demand during the Great War emphasised the importance of a home-grown food supply chain and from the 1920s an increasingly state-regulated and subsidised system of agriculture emerged. This supported the County Farms, Small Holdings and Allotments Movement – which can be traced back to the first half of the 19th-century – as Small Holdings were made available for servicemen returning from the Great War. Worcestershire County Council is recognised as being at the forefront of the movement (Collings 1906, 213); Worcester is also noted in the *Land and the People* (1913, 73) as being one of the counties to make most use of the 1892 Small Holdings and 1908 Small Holdings and Allotments Acts, the chief reasons being *'the lead given by energetic individuals who believe in the principal of Small Holdings and the previous prevalence of Small Holdings in the same district'.* Concentrations of Small Holdings are noted in the Minutes of the Worcestershire Small Holdings and Allotments Committee (1892–1947) in the Vale of Evesham, Wyre Forest and the North East of the County, around Bromsgrove[4]. County Farms and Small Holdings owned and managed by Local

[4] See NHPP7644: Project Case Study on County Farms and Small Holdings.

Authorities remain important national assets, supporting wider economic and environmental objectives and providing a mechanism within which farmers, in-particular young farmers, can progress up the farming ladder.

Did you know?
The Worcestershire County Council Small Holdings Committee was set up on 12th December 1892. By the 10th February 1894, the Committee had recommended that the Council put into action Part 1 of the Small Holdings Act and purchase land at Woodrow Farm, in the Lickey Electoral Division. The land was subsequently divided into 32 Small Holdings varying in size from 2 ¾ acres to 7 acres. (Small Holdings and Allotments Committee. Minutes, 1892–1947).

The development and expansion of the railway network had, since the mid-19th century, unlocked growing urban markets eager to consume fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy products, cider and perry. This, along with the emergence of Co-operative societies, including the Littleton and Badsey Growers, the Pershore Growers and the Far Forest Small Holders and Dairy Association, enabled all farmers, but in-particular small-scale farmers and small holders, to benefit from collective buying (lower costs) and selling (better market prices) (Robinson 1983, 93). Agricultural Co-operation facilitated the development of new buildings including shops, dairies and waterworks, as exemplified in an intriguing report, on the Far Forest Small Holders and Dairy Association, discovered as part of the Minutes of the Worcestershire Small Holdings and Allotments Committee 1892–1947.

'The Far Forest Dairy Association is recorded as having 90 members in total, 54 being Small Holders or Cottagers; the Association is also described as being in possession of the Far Forest Dairy and Waterworks as well as a store on Long Bank, Bewdley Road, retail shops in Kidderminster and Bewdley and a village shop at Far Forest'.

The Midland and Great Western Railway lines supplied special produce trains which ran from May until the end of September to facilitate the transportation of fruit and market garden produce from the Vale of Evesham (Haggard 1906, 350). Large quantities of small sour apples and soft fruits were also purchased by jam and jelly manufacturers, including Beaches, who had a Jam factory in Evesham (Spinks 2018, 47). The railways also brought thousands of people into Herefordshire and Worcestershire, predominately from Birmingham, the Black Country and South Wales, to help with the harvest; the fruit, hop and market gardening industries all being labour intensive operations until the widespread mechanisation of agriculture, from the 1960s. The Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

were also a significant source of flexible, short term labour[5]. Pickers were accommodated in specially constructed hoppers huts or tents, few of which survive.

Did you know?

The 1937 Land Utilisation Survey ranked Worcestershire the second (after Kent) most important fruit growing county in England and Wales. Local specialisms included cherries, damsons and pears (for perry), West of the Severn and plums, in the Avon Valley, Upper Teme Valley, Worcester area and in the market gardening region around Evesham.

The 1921 repeal of the 1920 Agriculture Act and the 1929 collapse of the US Stock Market - and the subsequent global economic depression - worsened the situation for vulnerable British markets and the value of British exports halved. Many larger scale farms reduced their arable acreages and turned to dairying; the increased competition, compounded by falling milk prices, having a devastating impact on small scale farming enterprises specialising in dairying (Jones 2015, ii). The creation of marketing boards in the mid-1930s, alongside the development of increasingly 'industrial' methods of food production and the nationalisation of certain sectors—including in 1936, British Sugar— also helped to stabilise some sectors of the industry. The sugar beet factory in Kidderminster, built in 1925, was one of 18 factories acquired and merged under the control of the British Sugar Corporation. Like the other 17 factories, Kidderminster was chosen for its good railway links, beet products benefiting from reduced railway freight rates under the Local Government Act, 1929[6]. The factory closed in 2001 and has recently been demolished for new development.

The need to maximise productivity, beginning in World War I but then accelerating during World War II, led to an increase in state powers over production and large-scale intensification of farming. The ploughing up and 'improvement' of pasture to increase output once again changed the character of parts of Worcestershire, driving changes such as field re-organisation and amalgamation and the grubbing up of many hedgerow boundaries and orchards.

As in World War I, farmers played a critical role in the war effort; farming not only being a critical means of feeding both the military and civilian population, but also an outward sign of physical strength and morale. Along with women and children, Prisoners of War were a common sight in rural England, and many are known to have been stationed in Worcestershire, accommodated in farm buildings or specially constructed camps. The 1947 Agriculture Act further consolidated high levels of production through a system of guaranteed prices and agricultural subsidies. Government intervention through subsidies and grants, intended to encourage greater output, use of technology and specialisation, continued to be one of the key targets of the European Economic Community established in 1958 (renamed the European Union in 1991) as part of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

[5] The Hop Project http://thehopproject.co.uk/map/hop-pickers-migration/

[6] *British Sugar Corporation* in The Industrial Railway Record No. 48 - p43–46 (1973) https://www.irsociety.co.uk/Archives/48/BSC.htm

Allotment Gardens

The 1908 Small Holdings and Allotments Act established the framework for the modern allotments system, placing a duty on Local Authorities to provide sufficient allotments, according to demand (Hathaway and Lake 2017, 17). These powers were strengthened by the Allotments Act 1922 and subsequent Allotment Acts up until 1950. The Defence of the Realm Act (DORA), which was passed on 8th August 1914, gave the government wide-ranging powers to requisition buildings or land needed for the war effort. This enabled large swathes of land to be requisitioned for allotment gardening, so much so that by the end of the war there was an estimated one allotment for every five households (Way 2008, 18). Despite the provision of allotments for returning veterans, by Local Authorities and veterans housing charities who recognised the physical and mental health benefits of allotment gardening, much of the land requisitioned during the Great War was returned to its former use. Numbers of allotments continued to decline until their resurgence during the economic depression which followed the global stock market crash of 1929. At the onset of World War II, the allotment was declared the possible saviour of the country and 'The National Grow More Food' or 'Dig for Victory' campaign played a vital role in ensuring food security, sustainability and Home Front morale (Way 2008, 19). Post-war reconstruction and changing culinary and leisure patterns once again contributed to a decline in the demand for, and the provision of, allotment gardens. With the withdrawal of government support in the late 1950s many sites were redeveloped for housing. Despite a brief resurgence in the 1970s the numbers of allotments continued to fall throughout the 1980s and 1990s. Since the early 2000s concerns about food security, sustainability and the health and welfare of the nation have encouraged the regeneration of existing allotment gardens as well as the formation of new sites (Acton 2011, 46–58).

Allotments are readily identifiable from Ordnance Survey Maps or Google Earth as they occupy large areas of land in otherwise built-up areas.

Left: Early 20th-century silos at both Chapel Farm, and the outfarm to the North East, dominate views across much of the parish of Netherton. The move from hay to silage, began in the late 19th-century but didn't gain traction until the Second World War.

Right: Market gardening shaped the local landscape and economy of the Vale of Evesham from the 19th to mid-20th century. Every market gardener built themselves a shed at the end of their allotment, locally known as hovels or 'ovels', for storing produce, equipment or for providing shelter. Many of these small, unassuming buildings have since been lost. Photograph © G Pawson – Market Gardening Heritage project.

Left: Early 20th-century, mock timber-framed, weighbridge office in Ombersley.

Right: Dutch Barns, such as this example at Holt Heath, are highly distinctive buildings. Typically with an iron frame and corrugated iron roof (although they can also be of timber construction), these buildings can date from the late 19th-century and often have a manufacturer's nameplate or relief moulding (Lake, 2013, 22).

Left: One of several cottage residences built as part of the first County Small Holding Estate - the Woodrow Farm Small Holding Estate – in Catshill, near Bromsgrove.

Right: The hop harvest was a labour-intensive operation until the widespread mechanisation of agriculture, from the 1960s. Many pickers were accommodated in specially constructed hoppers' huts, like these rare survivals near Leigh.

Left: The recently demolished cattle market in Kidderminster opened in September 1959 when the Victorian cattle market in Market Street was closed and converted into a car park. Photograph © Paul Collins

Right: Typical allotment gardens in Worcestershire. Photograph © Paul Collins

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

- The start of the 20th -century is often considered to be a significant milestone, marking the end of 'traditional' buildings—those which reflect local traditions and materials— and the beginning of 'modern' standardised, buildings in concrete and steel (Gaskell and Owen 2005, 17). 'Traditional' farm buildings, however, continued to be built, albeit in smaller numbers, including by some landed estates and County Councils (Lake and Hathaway 2014. 1) until structural changes and tighter animal welfare regulations, post World War II, led to the introduction of wide-span multi-purpose sheds, in concrete, asbestos and steel. (Historic England 2017, 13). 20th-century buildings that share the 'traditional' architectural character of earlier buildings can generally be assessed as having some to considerable local significance.
- Post-1950 agricultural buildings in a defined architectural style, including those using local materials in order to respect local vernacular, are very uncommon.
- Adapted or purpose-built pre-1940 dairies and cattle housing, using metal-framed windows, roof structures and concrete floors and stalls merit recording and consideration for reuse as part of farmstead groups.
- Some early modern 'industrial' or standardised buildings, in timber, brick, concrete or steel, such as open fronted buildings for hay or straw (Dutch Barn), water towers, silage clamps, and grain silos, are highly distinctive buildings that are often considered landmarks by local communities.
- The best-preserved County Council Small Holdings, established under the Acts of 1892 and 1908, will have some or even considerable significance.
- Buildings erected in WWI and WWII, which may result from the efforts of War Agriculture Committees are rare. Reused and relocated fabric from wartime temporary structures, such as Belfast trusses (WWI) and Romney huts (WWII), can survive in farmstead groups.
- Huts and other accommodation for housing seasonal workers, including Prisoners of War, are fragile but mark a significant aspect of rural life and work, and in woodland and other settings they may include archaeological artefacts.
- Covered and open-air livestock and produce markets may have historic interest that merits recording as well as buildings, including offices and weighbridges, of some heritage interest and/or architectural merit.
- Buildings associated with agricultural Co-operation (wholesaling and retailing) can have strong social histories, as well as some architectural merit.
- Landscapes and buildings associated with market and allotment gardening, as well as fruit and hop production have very strong communal values and social histories.
- Rivers and inland water bodies may have sites and (very rarely) buildings associated with commercial fishing.

2.2 Civil

Civil buildings and places are those that relate too, or benefit, ordinary citizens. They include Police Stations, Fire Stations, Ambulance Depots, buildings associated with Law and Justice, buildings associated with Local Government including Post Offices, Civil Centres and Village and Community Halls.

See Defence for buildings associated with Civil Defence.

Police Stations

The modern police force was effectively created when in 1829 the Metropolitan Police Act established a 1000 strong police force in London (Historic England 2017, 10). The Worcestershire Constabulary was formed in December 1839. Borough Forces were already in existence in the County in Bewdley, Droitwich and Evesham. Kidderminster and Worcester City also had their own forces. Bewdley, Droitwich, Evesham and Kidderminster were eventually incorporated into the County force and both the County and Worcester City Police Force became part of West Mercia Constabulary in 1967[7].

Did you know?
Buildings related to the emergency services, including police stations and fire stations, are regularly upgraded in order to keep them operationally viable. Many older buildings have been converted for industrial or domestic use.

Early 20th-century police stations were generally built in central locations, close to their Victorian counterparts and were often built in a Domestic Revival style. From the 1950s police stations were generally built by County architects and from the 1960s police architecture was adopting a more modern style (Historic England 2017, 12).

Fire Stations

Until the 19th-century fire services were provided by voluntary bodies, parish authorities or insurance organisations. The 1938 Fire Brigades Act made it mandatory for councils, of all County Boroughs and Districts, to act as fire authorities; responsible for the provision of services. The Auxiliary Fire Service was also formed in 1938, as part of the Civil Defence Service – a civilian volunteer organisation, set up in 1935, which also included the Air Raid Precautions Service, set up in 1937. Local brigades and auxiliary fire service units merged to become the National Fire Service in 1941. The Civil Defence Service, which had been disbanded in 1945, remerged in 1949 as part of the Civil Defence Corps as geopolitical tension increased following the end of World War II. The 1947

[7] Worcestershire Police History 1833–1967 http://www.worcestershirepolicehistory.co.uk/

Fire Services Act disbanded the National Fire Service and again made firefighting the responsibility of local County and Borough councils. The Auxiliary Fire Service was again reformed in 1948 as a national fire reserve.

The County of Hereford Fire Brigade and The Worcester City and County Fire Brigade merged in 1974, following national reorganisation of local government, to create the County of Hereford and Worcester Fire Brigade. The two counties spilt in 1998 but a joint fire authority has continued to operate throughout the two counties. Today the Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service have 27 fire stations in active service[8].

Did you know?
With their large, generally bright red, garage doors, fire stations are instantly recognisable. Modern fire stations require key design features to meet on-site training needs, storage for vehicles and apparatus and accommodation, including areas for recreation and for crew, including, since the 1970s, for women. Training yards and buildings, including towers and mock houses are often found to the rear of stations.

Left and Bottom Left: Kidderminster County Police station and twenty-four Police Houses, designed by County Architect, Captain L. C. Lomas and built by A. H. Guest Ltd, dated 1955. Constructed of brick with sandstone dressings the station is reminiscent of a Georgian terrace. A contemporary recreation ground at the rear of the Station was sold off for residential development in the 1990s.

[8] Wikipedia Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hereford_and_Worcester_Fire_and_Rescue_Service

Left: Many post-war public buildings, including the Police Station in Stourport on Severn incorporate decorative brickwork or public art.

Right: The ‘Old Fire Station’ on Howsell Road, Malvern, now Malvern Blinds, still retains its drill tower for routine exercises and training.

Left: Redditch fire station was built in the 1960s to serve the New Town and incorporates a three-storey brick office, a single storey engine garage with three bay doors and a training tower.

Right: Former County Buildings on St Mary's Street, Worcester. Dated 1929–30 and originally three storeys, with a fourth added above the cornice in 1935. Designed by A. V. Rowe and neo-Georgian in style (Worcester City Local List and British Brick Society).

Government Buildings

A surge in Local Government building projects followed the 1888 Local Government Act, which created County Council authorities, and the 1894 formation of Urban and Rural District Councils. Many buildings including County and Town Halls, Civic Centres, Government Offices and the buildings of former public services such as the Post Office were designed by architects working for the Office of Works (1851–1940) and its later incarnations, including the Ministry of Works (1943–1962) and the Property Services Agency (1972–1993). The 1920s and 1930s were a great age of Civic architecture and many public buildings were constructed in the inter-war period in response to the increased responsibilities of Local Government (Twentieth Century Society, 2012, 1). By the 1930s Civic design was becoming increasingly influenced by Continental Modernism (Twentieth Century Society, 2012, 1).

Post Offices[9]

The enormous expansion of the Post Office, from the mid-19th century, encouraged the development of purpose-built Post Offices, including in rural areas, as well as pillar boxes. This expansion continued into the 20th-century, supported by growth in new areas including banking and telecommunications (Clarke, 2008, 6). By 1913 the national Post Office network incorporated 24,354 Post Offices (Clarke, 2008, 14). Post Office buildings vary considerably in their architectural style with many early examples ornate with high ceilinged interiors and mahogany counters (Clarke, 2008, 14). From the late 19th -century, Post Offices, influenced by the Office of Works, adopted a 'house style' that initially embraced classical designs. Although quick to adopt modern constructional techniques - which allowed for flexible and well-lit spaces – the Post Office façade was intended to promote a sense of security, uniformity and traditionalism and from the Edwardian period architects were adopting vernacular materials and styles with more standardised detailing including Roman figured clocks and Roman Lettering (Clarke, 2008, 20). Despite a post-war down-turn in profitability, the Post Office continued to invest in new buildings and the upgrading of older premises, demanded by increasing mechanisation. The privatisation of the Post Office led to more freedom in design and materials from the 1970s (Clarke, 2008, 24).

[9] British Post Office Buildings and Their Architects : an Illustrated Guide (2018) http://britishpostofficearchitects.weebly.com/

Left: The former employment exchange in Worcester dates to 1939 and was designed by the Architects of the Office of Works. Adjacent to the Grade II listed Former H. A. Saunders Garage (Austin House), the building shares its brown brick in Flemish bond and Art Deco detailing. (British Brick Society)

Right: Worcestershire's County Hall was built in 1977 following the 1974 merger of Herefordshire and Worcestershire into the single administrative county of Hereford and Worcester (Herefordshire became a unitary authority in 1998, as part of Local Government Reform, with Worcestershire remaining a two-tier authority). Designed by Robert Matthew Johnson-Marshall and Partners, the hall is adjacent to woodland and sits within its own garden setting complete with green spaces, large pond and sculptures.

Left: The Post Office in Bromsgrove opened in 1937 and was designed by the Office of Works in a neo-Classical style with casement windows on the first floor. The Office closed in 2017 and has been re-developed into flats, this has led to the loss of much of its original interior.

Right: The Worcester Station Sorting Office was constructed c. 1935 and, like Great Malvern's Post Office was designed by architect Henry Seccombe.

Left: Designed in the modern style by H. L. Williamson, the main post office in Evesham opened in 1960.

Village Halls

Village Halls, and their derivatives, remain at the heart of many rural communities. Some of the earliest Village Halls were funded by local landowners, who also often donated land. The 1920s witnessed a dramatic rise in Village Hall provision as the desire for a better, more inclusive society, following the loss of so many during WWI, encouraged communities to raise funds for 'Memorial' or 'Victory' Halls (see Commemorative) to commemorate not only those who had lost their lives but also those who had served and had returned home. This wave of building was encouraged by the 'Village College Idea' (in the East of England) which sought to promote rural education and cultural entertainment, the National Council for Social Service, who published guidance on how to plan and build village halls and other organisations such as the Village Clubs Association, the British Legion and National Federation of Woman's Institutes (Hunns and Hunns 2014, 11).

Village Halls dating to the inter-war period are highly diverse in their character, size and use of materials. Generally simplistic in their design, and without frivolous ornament, some were built in a vernacular style, using local building materials, while others were constructed from prefabricated materials. With building materials in often short supply many communities repurposed ex-army huts.

Many Village Halls were designed with adjacent 'communal' green space, for recreation and leisure. 1940s guidance on Village Hall construction focussed on more sustainable design—strength, stability, durability and ease of maintenance—and promoted the use of innovative building techniques and materials including cavity walls and fibreboard wall linings. Financial and material constraints, during and after WWII, however, prohibited a second wave of Village Hall construction until the mid-1950s. (Hunns and Hunns 2014, 21–22). Despite changing demographics in rural areas, many Village Halls continue to play an important role in village life. While other rural services, such as the village shop and post office, have declined, Village Halls and their associated greens, continue to function as multi-functional and highly valued communal spaces. However, with high

maintenance costs and often limited hall space and kitchen facilities, communities, buoyed by building grants programmes, including from the Big Lottery, are increasingly looking to extend existing facilities or invest in new, larger 'community hall' buildings.

Did you know?
Community Centres were also an integral part of many of the new urban housing estates developed in inter-war and post-war Britain; promoted, by the National Council of Social Service, as centres for recreation, culture, health and welfare.

Left: Early 20th-century prefabricated, corrugated iron village hall in Pensax. Many of these highly distinctive buildings are under increasing pressure from neglect, development and changing social and economic conditions.

Right: Along with the church, vicarage, cottage and green, the village hall in Lower Broadheath, built as a memorial to Admiral Britten of Kenswick Hall by his widow the Hon. Mrs Britten, is part of a locally important 20th-century religious and communal landscape, emphasising the close relationship of the local landowner and the established church.

Left: Precast reinforced concrete was a cheap and easily assembled building material used for the construction of many post-war village halls, including this one in Hanley Broadheath. Dated 1956 and reputedly funded by local collections and built by village volunteers over 5–6 years, the hall displays its original sign 'Licensed in pursuance of the Public Health Act 1936 for Music, Singing and Dancing'.

Emily Hathaway, Worcestershire County Council, and Jeremy Lake, Heritage Consultant

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

- Public buildings and Government Offices. County and Town halls can date from the medieval period, but most were built after the formation of County Councils and then Urban and District Councils in 1888 and 1894. These can combine many different functions, from offices for surveyors and public utilities to law courts and police stations, and display a great range of architectural style: neo-Classical and neo-Georgian (ornamental or stripped of its detail) was increasingly favoured over Gothic styles by architects working for the Office of Works (1852–1940), often stripped of its detail and influenced by Dutch and other European Modernist styles in the 1930s. Its successor the Ministry of Works and then the Property Services Agency (1972–1993) increasingly favoured modern styles using prefabricated techniques for Central Government offices, whilst following the reforms of Local Government in 1974 many Local Government Offices (at County and District level) were built in Vernacular Revival styles using brick.
- Post Offices, dating from the expansion of the Post Office network in the second half of the 19th century and executed by the same architects' offices in similar styles.
- Police stations, sometimes combined with magistrates' and law courts, built from the 1950s by County architects with headquarters in Georgian or Domestic Revival styles; modern styles were more common from the 1960s. Housing in a stripped-down Domestic Revival or neo-Georgian style was commonly provided.
- Fire stations built for voluntary bodies until the setting-up of County fire authorities in the 1930s. Housing in a stripped-down Domestic Revival or Neo-Georgian style was commonly provided.
- Buildings and parts of buildings (in-particular the basements of Local Authority offices) for civil defence.
- Prisons have continued to make use of earlier sites, a major feature since the 1940s being the adoption of mainstream civic architecture designs and from the 1990s minimal architectural treatment to prisons counterbalanced by approaches to more experimental designs focused on education and enabling rehabilitation.
- Civic Centres, first developed in the 1930s and, growing in number from the 1960s, combined government offices with facilities for civic events, theatre, music and dance. They were more self-consciously designed as part of their communities, and as a consequence of their function and how this is embodied through their architecture, can have considerable architectural, historic and communal value.
- Community and Village Halls, dating from the end of the 19th-century and including Memorial Halls built after the World Wars, display a wide range of style and materials, from prefabricated structures in corrugated iron to reused wartime hutting and architect-designed buildings in local vernacular styles; despite relocation, wartime fabric reused for Village Halls may now survive better in these than other contexts.

2.3 Commemorative (including Public Art)

The 20th-century bore witness to an upsurge in individual and collective commemoration. The horror and scale of loss during the Great War, closely followed by the impact of the Second World War on home soil, propelled war commemoration to the forefront of both the public and political agenda. Memorials enable a person or community to express their individual or collective experience of grief in such a way as is meaningful for them; consequently, they vary considerably in both their design and setting. The diversity of memorials, memorial plaques and memorial landscapes in Worcestershire is considerable.

The naming of buildings, rooms, landscapes and roads has long been utilised as a means of commemorating notable events, individuals or benefactors; dedications and their associations often get lost over time. Examples in Worcestershire include the Richard Eve Monument (unveiled in 1902) in Brinton Park, Kidderminster; the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital in Stourport on Severn (opened in 1929 and recently demolished, dedicated to Lucy Baldwin, a vocal advocate for improved maternity care for woman and children) and Walter Stranz Square in Redditch (named after local councillor and several times mayor Walter Stranz whose family fled Germany in 1938 following Kristallnacht).

Public Art[10]

Commemorative art – predominately war memorials and sculptures – has long been a feature of public spaces. Decorative art, as part of public space, is considered a more recent phenomenon. Public art was pivotal to post-war regeneration and re-invention, connecting planning, landscape and the environment with local community and industry and engendering a feeling of social connection and belonging. Like all art, public art attracts attention, reflecting contemporary culture, in subject, method and material. It can also challenge society, both politically and socially.

Post-war public art, which can include sculpture, concrete reliefs, murals and the structure or decoration of buildings, can be found in town centres but also in locations such as schools, shopping centres, factories, housing estates, offices and in rural settings, including along Public Rights of Way (Historic England 2016). 20th-century public art reflects artistic movements of the time, including Abstract Expressionalism, Cubism, Surrealism and Pop Art. While the Twentieth Century Society's Murals Campaign has highlighted some of the most notable murals in England and called for more effective protection for them[11] and Historic England's, recent listing of 41 sculptures across England[12] and campaign 'Help Find Our Missing Art'[13]has raised the profile of post-war public art, albeit

[10] Kingfisher Redditch https://www.kingfishershopping.co.uk/visiting/the-paolozzi-mosaics.html, Philippa Threlfall & SWD (2004–2020) Buildings of Droitwich https://www.philippathrelfall.com/1970s-murals/entry1043-buildings-of-droitwich.html and Concrete Legacy – The Murals of Henry & Joyce Collins https://www.signals.org.uk/concrete-legacy-murals-henry-joyce-collins/

[11] Twentieth Century Society Murals Campaign http://c20society.org.uk/murals-campaign/

[12] Historic England Post War Public Art Listed (2016) https://historicengland.org.uk/whats-new/news/Post-War-Public-Art-Listed

[13] Historic England Help Find Our Missing Art https://historicengland.org.uk/get-involved/protect/missing-public-art/

predominately in London, many significant pieces of post-war public art continue to be destroyed, as a result of re-development or refurbishment. Others have been lost, stolen, neglected, vandalised, sold into private ownership or moved from their original location; breaking the connection between art, community and place.

Did you know?

The Arts Council, which had been set up in 1945, organised nationwide touring exhibitions of sculpture during the 1950s and visual art was a key feature of The 1951 Festival of Britain, showcasing exhibitions by prominent artists including Jacob Epstein, Barbara Hepworth, Peter Laszlo Peri, Henry Moore and Eduardo Paolozzi (Historic England, 2016, 4).

Left: Ombersley Memorial Hall was constructed as a memorial to those local individuals who lost their lives during the Great War but also in celebration of those who returned. The project was led by Lord Sandys of Ombersley Hall and was funded by a range of local individuals and societies. Reminiscent of a village school, the hall opened in 1923, and remains at the heart of village life today.

Right: The children's playing field, in Elmley Castle, was dedicated in 1929 in loving memory of Ernst Victor Stevens of Chapel Farm, Netherton and is an early example of a recreational area for children, reflecting changing social attitudes to health, welfare and children during the early 20th-century. (Hathaway and Lake 2017, 53)

Left: This stone, at the Church of St. Kenelm in Clifton upon Teme was laid to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

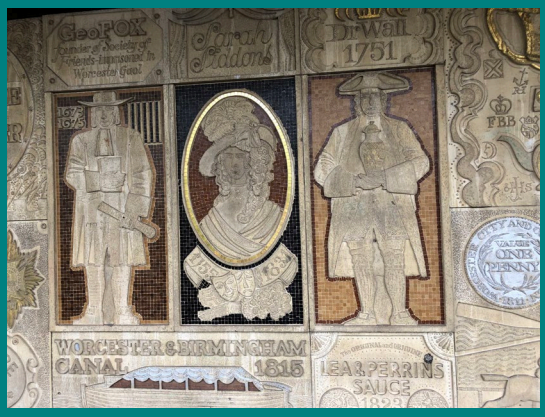
Left: The Burma and multi-theatre memorials are large structures set at opposite ends of a memorial landscape at Crown Green in Bromsgrove. The Burma Star Association, dedicated in 1982, was commissioned in remembrance of those who died during the 'Burma Campaign 1941–45. Constructed from red brick and Welsh slate, the structure is a monolithic column form in a Modernist style. The Multi-Theatre Memorial is a more traditional Portland Stone cross, despite being one of the more recent memorials erected in Worcestershire. Completed in 2013 the monument was built from funds raised by the Bromsgrove Armed Forces Memorial Fund following the death of local soldier, Private Robert Laws in the Afghanistan War. The monument is, however, dedicated to the memory of all those killed in conflict. (Mindykowski, 2017).

Right: 1976 concrete murals, with base relief finish - Kidderminster ring road retaining walls with built in waterfalls – by William George Mitchell. The wall was formed using a series of repeating pieces of formwork. Neglected over the years, with no sufficient management programme in place to ensure their long-term maintenance, these murals, are to a large extent, concealed by scrub.

Left: Decorative brick-work relief on shop in Westlands Estate, Droitwich.

Left: Mosaics by Sir Eduardo Paolozzi in the Kingfisher Centre, Redditch. Funded by the Redditch Development Corporation, the Needles Industry Group and the Arts Council's 'Arts in Public Places' Scheme, the mosaics were unveiled in 1983. They pay tribute to Redditch's industrial heritage as a centre for the manufacture of needles.

Right: The Buildings of Droitwich mural, designed and manufactured by Philippa Threlfall, and unveiled in 1976, was commissioned by Droitwich Town Council to enhance their new Salters Shopping Centre. A public campaign for its restoration and preservation was launched in 2017.



Left: This concrete mural on the side of Sainsbury's in Blackpole was sculpted by Joyce and Harry Collins and dates to c. 1976. The mural, which is inspired by Worcester's unique history, livens up the façade of a building designed for function rather than aesthetic, through its bold use of colour and texture.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

- War memorials (statues, buildings and landscapes), which have great communal value and have been subject to a national listing programme.
- Commemorative plaques which may be re-sited if used as foundation stones for church and community buildings.
- Statues, buildings and landscapes dedicated to and/or funded by notable individuals or organisations.
- Buildings or landscapes celebrating notable events, e.g. the Queen's Coronation or Silver Jubilee or the 1951 Festival of Britain.
- Public Art – murals, sculptures, mosaics, decorative reliefs, may have considerable artistic, historic and/or communal significance.

2.4 Commercial

Commercial buildings are those buildings used for the buying and selling of goods or services by providers to the general public (Historic England 2017, 1). The scale and range of commercial buildings is extremely diverse, from corner shops, large department stores and shopping centres to market halls and exchanges, public houses, hotels, restaurants, banks and office blocks. Commercial buildings are regularly adapted as consumer demands change. Specialised industrial and commercial centres developed from the medieval period, reflecting changing economic fortunes and different types of activity: for example, the development of Feckenham, near Redditch, from a settlement reliant on farming to a centre of local industry and commerce, is reflected in its buildings, many of which were constructed or re-fronted during the 18th to mid-19th century to reflect the growing wealth of the community (Hathaway and Lake 2017, 35) It wasn't until the mid- to late-19th century that the range and scale of commercial buildings was transformed, stimulated by increased mobility and the growth of the national road network in the 1890s and 1920s, as well as by the development of more efficient communication networks and new technologies, such as electricity. Post-war Modernist planning, which led to the large-scale re-generation of many town centres, much of it to facilitate the car, has also left an interesting, if often controversial legacy of commercial architecture. The latter half of the 20th-century saw a shift towards more flexible and somewhat transient commercial architecture in standardised formats and with flexible installations to screen Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Shops

The French concept of the department store, with its wide range of goods and services all set within opulent surroundings, revolutionised the shopping landscape from the late 19th-century, as did the development of the Co-operative Wholesale Society which supplied the rapidly expanding number of independent Co-operative stores in towns, cities and suburbs across England.

Did you know?

As well as shops the Co-operative movement has left an impressive legacy of other commercial buildings, including banks and offices, as well as factories and warehouses. Although Co-operative architecture embraced wider architectural trends, buildings were generally designed to reflect the history and solidity of the movement.

The rise of national chain stores—like W.H. Smith, Burtons, Marks and Spencer, Woolworths and Boots the Chemist—has also left an impressive legacy of commercial buildings on Britain's high streets. National chain stores generally maintained their brand identity with their own distinctive 'house style' architecture. A prime example was Woolworths. From their first store in Liverpool, which opened in 1909, the firm grew at a rapid rate, and in the late 1920s they were opening a new store every 18 days; reaching a peak of 988 stores in the UK. At first, they relied upon the architectural practice of North & Robin who designed their stores until c.1919. By this time Woolworth's had established their own in-house architects' department, headed by William Priddle (1885–1932), who remained the firm's chief architect until his death. Priddle was succeeded by

Bruce Campbell Donaldson (1896–1977) who led Woolworth's in a whole new architectural direction; down the path of popular Art Deco and Streamlined Modern architecture, with cinematic façades clad in faience and embellished with geometric ornamentation. Donaldson also developed a new standard front for smaller stores; cast in a tasteful Georgian mould which made Woolworth's more acceptable on the most traditional high streets[14].

Another brand with a prominent architectural style was Burton's the Tailors. Established by Yorkshire retail clothier Montague Burton in 1906, Burton sensed an opportunity in 1919 to offer demobilised soldiers a chance to own a new suit paid for on 'Tick' (or credit). From 1923 he began to acquire freehold sites to build his own custom designed stores, favouring prominent town centre corner sites. They were the work of Leeds-based architect Harry Wilson, who developed the Burton house style and in 1931 Wilson's practice became the firm's in-house architecture department. Wilson was replaced as chief architect by Nathaniel Martin in 1937, who continued his predecessor's Art Deco style. Whilst individual stores varied from red-brick with neo-Classical scroll headed columns to fully fledged Art Deco with glazed white faience tile, geometric patterns and stylised elephant heads, there are also many standard elements such as a wide polished black granite band above the shop windows for signage, metal vent grates bearing the company logo, billiard halls on the upper levels, window lights showing the locations of other Burton stores, and mosaic titles – sometimes including the company logo – in the doorways. At ground level, foundation stones were often placed by Montague Burton's four children, Barbara, Stanley, Arnold and Raymond. Each store might have one or several foundation stones, each bearing one name and the year. For example: 'THIS STONE LAID BY RAYMOND MONTAGUE BURTON 1937'. Woolworth's and Burtons have the most readily identifiable architectural styles, but other large retailers also had their own, including Boots - with the work of Michael Vyne Treleaven and later company architect Percy J. Bartlett – offering mock timber-framing and statues of local worthies in niches. In 1968 Boots took over Timothy Whites & Taylors, a chain of chemists and household stores with 678 premises, each with their own distinctive style.

From the mid-19th century the commercial sector used architecture to design vibrant thoroughfares that provided a flexible and enticing shopping experience for the rapidly expanding population of urban and suburban 'middle' class consumers. 'Shopping parades' – planned, uniform terraces of shops, normally with accommodation above, stood out against the higgledy-piggledy character of earlier commercial centres. Post-war cities, towns, including New Towns, and their expanding suburbs were developed or re-developed to incorporate larger shopping precincts, with architecturally uniform rows of shops, restaurants and public facilities, often with canopies or overhangs to shelter shoppers, as well as car parking. The shopping parade was often at the centre of post-war local authority estates, along with other service resources such as a community centre or library and communal green space. By the 1980s parades and precincts had been replaced in popularity by large scale, multi-functional and covered shopping centres, often with on-site, multi-storey parking. Many post-war commercial buildings including shopping precincts and centres, and offices, incorporated public art, including concrete reliefs, murals and sculpture.

[14] Building Our Past https://buildingourpast.com/2018/03/07/woolworths-architects/

Left: Decorative features – including the wheat sheaf and beehive – symbolised the Co-operative movements philosophy of mutual support and industry. This example can be seen on the Kidderminster Industrial Co-operative Society building in Kidderminster. Photograph © Paul Collins

Right: The rich history of the Co-operative Movement is manifested in its impressive architectural legacy. This small shop on Bath Road, opened in 1932 and was the 16th grocery branch of the Worcester Co-operative Society The branch was built by the Society's own Works Department to serve the needs of Cherry Orchard District. Photograph © Paul Collins

Left: This 1930s shopping parade in Malvern was built in the Art Deco style with white faience blocks and bronze framed windows, including original transom windows under fascia boards. Its original wooden carved entrances, marble stall risers and marble doorsteps remain intact (Gilmer, 2009, 42).

Right: Iceland in Great Malvern is a former Woolworths store, built in 1936. Its façade reflects a more experimental period in design by Woolworths in-house design team under B. C. Donaldson (Butler, 2017, 49).

Left: The Kemp Hospice in Kidderminster is a good example of a 20th-century shop, set within a deeper plot—made possible with the advent of electric lighting—and with an open plan floor and opulent staircase, which would have afforded a sense of grandeur to the shopping experience.

Right: 2 - 6 St. John Street in Bromsgrove was designed by local architect F.W.B (Freddie) Charles, who is better known for his work on the restoration and conservation of timber-framed buildings. © WCC/CA_BA12857-65-11_5

Left: Shopping parades exhibit wider architectural trends. The shopping parade on Queens Road in Stourport on Severn is at the heart of a post-war estate and, like the houses around it, is characterised by its simple, brick design, with large front picture windows, flush exterior doors with glass bricks and shallow pitched roofs. The 1994 Sunday Trading Act, led to the loss of many smaller independent shops, many of which were subsequently converted into housing

Right: The Swan Centre shopping precinct in Kidderminster was built in 1968–70 as part of the re-development of Kidderminster town centre. Many mid-20th-century shopping centres no longer meet the expected standards demanded from consumers. Shops, which are too big and expensive for small, individual retailers but too small for the larger chain stores, are becoming increasingly vacant, unable to compete with out of town retail parks and internet shopping.

Banks

Banks retained their prominent position on Britain's high streets into the 20th-century, although there was little expansion of the total stock after WWII. Designed to present an image of security, respectability and permanence the Classical designs of the 19th-century gave way to neo-Classical and neo-Georgian, again reflecting wider trends. With the exception of the Midland Bank, the major houses did not have in-house architects, relying instead upon a brace of provincial practices, who, in the main, continued to echo the Classical styles so favoured for their 'veneer of permanence', though executed in modern materials. They can be identified from Ordnance Survey mapping and tell-tale signs such as bricked-up night safes and names of former banks carved or cast in stone.

Office Blocks

The commercial office block, as we recognise it today emerged in the mid-19th century, but they are most conspicuously a development of the mid-20th century. Built in increasing numbers following the cessation of Building Licensing at the end of 1954, a practice which restricted new building in favour of repairs to war-damaged buildings, they can be diverse in their approach to design. The development of information and communications technology has led to a precedence for more standardised, open plan, offices with flexible installations.

Left: County House in Church Green, Redditch was built in 1922 as a branch of the Redditch Benefit Building Society.

Left: Halfords head office at Washford Industrial Estate, in Redditch, is concrete with a heavily glazed frontage facing a deep green verge.

Right: Elgar House in Kidderminster was designed by Birmingham architect C.F. Lawley Harrod in the mid-1930s as part of the expansion of Victoria Carpets. It is a notable example of Streamlined Modern design, exemplified by its use of horizontal orientation, rounded corners and use of glass.

Public Houses and Restaurants

Personal mobility, fostered by the increasing affordability and popularity of the motor car, gave rise to new forms of public house; particularly in the inter-war period. Known as 'roadhouses' these were often located on the newly constructed arterial roads and bypasses where land was plentiful. The ethos behind these was to provide 'improved' or 'reformed pubs' and roadhouses developed to serve the needs of 'respectable' drinkers. They were large family-oriented establishments, offering meals, refreshment and accommodation to motorists and parties travelling by charabanc. Larger roadhouses, generally in urban fringe or nearby rural areas, boasted such facilities as bowling greens, children's play areas, lidos and tennis courts. Their popularity ended with the outbreak of the Second World War when petrol rationing restricted recreational motoring, and the advent of post-war drink driving legislation prevented their full recovery. The Health Act (2006), which came into effect on 1 July 2007, made it illegal to smoke in all enclosed workplaces in England, and has led to a further decline in pub numbers.

Generally larger in scale than a 'traditional' public house and often with gardens, many roadhouses were built in neo-Georgian and Domestic Revival styles – including the so-called 'Brewers' Tudor' - but also include some notable examples of Modern architecture. Their outsides and insides were often from differing periods, offering heady brews of arched openings and doorways with leaded fanlights, swooshing ceiling mouldings and sweeping staircases – in many respects the pub equivalent of their contemporaries, the Super Cinema.

The West Midlands had two major breweries that were at the forefront of the roadhouse movement – Davenports and Mitchells & Butlers (M&B) – whose work can be seen in Worcestershire. They were very proud of their efforts, stating that: - '*on a fine evening in summer there will be scores of people of all ages enjoying themselves*.'

The post-World War II equivalent of the roadhouse was the Estate Pub. Together with shopping parades, a community centre and communal green space, these pubs were designed to engender social cohesion amongst new communities and were generally built in brick and/or concrete and designed to blend in with surrounding housing. Colloquially, and sometimes disparagingly, referred to as 'flat roofed pubs', outwardly they resembled an assemblage of 'boxes', single-storey all but for the manager's flat, which stood at first-storey level. In addition to bars and lounges they also had meeting and function rooms, some with stages, and provided a convivial home for numerous clubs and societies, as well as somewhere for local performing talent to develop. Their demise is due to many factors: including changes in patterns of leisure activity, the rise of supermarkets as a source of cheap alcohol, and the increasing real estate value of their sites – it's often more economically viable to build apartments on a pub site than to keep it going as a business, or even a community resource.

After WWII mass immigration was encouraged by the British government who recognised that Britain was in desperate need of additional labour to fill shortages in the labour market. Large numbers of workers and families came to Britain from all over the Empire and Commonwealth; a large number also came as refugees from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Although growth of ethnic and cultural diversity has progressed at a slower pace in Worcestershire, relative to other

parts of the country, increasing diversity throughout the course of the 20th-century is clearly recognisable in the commercial sector as new shops and restaurants opened to cater for changing consumer practices, demands and eating habits. Pre-1970s restaurants and bars often displayed strong American influences in their signage and layout. From the late 1950s there was also a dramatic rise in the number of Chinese and Indian restaurants.

Left: The Mitre Oak, at Crossways Green, near Hartlebury was built as the Mitre Oak Hotel, in 1936, on the site of an earlier public house.

Right: The Foxlydiate Arms, in Webheath, near Redditch, is located on the old route to Bromsgrove out of Redditch. It is due to be demolished with the land earmarked for housing.

Left: Like many public houses associated with post-war estates, The Coopers Arms in Habberley, Kidderminster, has been demolished as part of a re-development scheme. Photograph © PL Chadwick and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

- Shops in town centres were often internally remodelled and extended to provide more retail space. Shop fronts of the post-1914 period are typically less ornate than those of earlier eras: notable exceptions are historicist shop fronts and Classical, Moderne and Art Deco examples, which are often associated with national chain stores. The identity of small family businesses was limited to signage on the shop fronts of older buildings which have been more vulnerable to change.
- Few post-1945 shops have architectural interest in their own right, and indeed can often be considered as 'anywhere architecture' that – often due to blank elevations of brick or concrete above street level - is insensitive to and detracts from the historic character of an area; shop fronts are dominated by expanses of plate glass, a major driver being the desire to open as much of the most valuable front part of a shop onto view from the street.
- Shopping parades and department stores – their large scale enabled by the amalgamation of earlier shops and plots, were built in great numbers in larger towns and cities in the inter-war period, often using steel frames cloaked in a diversity of styles (especially Neo-Georgian and Moderne). National chain stores such as Boots generally maintained their brand identity with their own distinctive 'house style' architecture which can add a distinctive quality and character to the urban scene.
- Post-1950s shopping centres and superstores built to a larger scale, with associated car parking, make more use of materials such as steel framing, glass, aluminum and concrete. From the 1980s these were being eclipsed by larger shopping centres and then retail parks. Although some shopping centres were developed with a strong sense of architectural identity and character, they are commonly utilitarian and of negligible architectural interest,
- The facades of warehouses and distribution centres might be ornamented or treated to add a degree of interest to structures that are rarely more than utilitarian in their structure or planning.
- Commercial offices in a diversity of modern styles and with innovative features such as atriums in their planning were built in increasing numbers from the mid-1950s. The result is a great diversity of tower blocks and 'low-rise' offices. Business parks (from the 1980s), integrated into landscaped grounds, can display some of the most exciting examples of the skills of architects and the relatively new discipline of landscape architecture.
- Bank architecture was dominated by respectable and 'reassuring' Neo-Georgian and classical styles in the early to mid-20th century. Solid Modernist styles were adopted from the 1960s, as small banks were swallowed up by the 'Big Four', and some of the most dramatic examples of buildings for the banking and financial services sector were built after the deregulation of the financial services sector in the 1980s.
- Eating and drinking establishments continue to follow earlier architectural styles but are marked by an increasing desire to cater for women and families. Inter-war roadhouses are the most distinctive new types of public houses. Tea houses were established close to tourist spots accessed by car and bus from the 1920s. Estate Pubs developed as a distinctive aspect of housing estates in the 1950s–1970s. Pre-1970s restaurants and bars displaying strong American influences are worthy of recording, as are Indian and other restaurants which illustrate increasing diversity in British culture. Hotel design either continues earlier 19th-century traditions or reflects broad developments in commercial architecture.

2.5 Communications

Buildings associated with public and military communications networks are a 'small but significant category of historic building' (Historic England 2017, 1). The expansion of communications networks, and in-particular cable and then electronic communications networks, in the late 19th and 20th Centuries, propelled the development of communications technology including the telephone, wireless (radio) television and computer, changing the technological, economic, political and cultural landscape, not only of the UK but the entire globe.

On 12th December 1901 Italian radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi and Cardiff-based Post Office engineer George Kemp succeeded in broadcasting the first transatlantic radio transmission. By 1914 there were commercial, post office and admiralty radio stations across the UK. Although none of these were in the West Midlands there is evidence of experimental transmissions, by the military, in Worcestershire, using mobile transmitters/receivers (Jones, Lowry and Wilks 2008, 29). By 1920 the idea of wireless broadcasting for entertainment was gaining traction and in 1922 the British Broadcast Company (BBC) was established and regular daily broadcasting on medium waves began (Philips 1994, 3).

On 1st January 1927 the British Broadcast Company was granted Royal Charter, becoming the British Broadcasting Corporation. *'And whereas in view of the widespread interest which is thereby shown to be taken by Our People in the Broadcasting Service and of the great value of the Service as a means of education and entertainment, we deem it desirable that the Service should be developed and exploited to the best advantage and in the national interest.'* [15]

The Droitwich Transmitting Station, in Wychbold, was set up in 1934 as a National (long wave) and Midland Regional (medium wave) transmitter; the Midland Regional medium wave service was transferred from Daventry. Wychbold was chosen for its central location which enabled it to serve most highly populated areas, eliminating the need for as many infill transmitters (Philips, 1994, 6). The transmitting station was the work of L. R. Guthrie of the London-based architects Wimperis, Simpson & Gutherie, who had designed Fortnum & Mason in 1925 and Grosvenor House in Park Lane, London the following year. Exponents of modern architecture, the Droitwich transmitter employed brick and Portland stone[16].

Did you know?

The BBC, like other national organisations, started preparations for the onset of World War II as early as 1935. Air raid shelters for staff, emergency fuel tanks and emergency office accommodation, to house staff, should they have to be evacuated from London, were erected at the Droitwich Transmitting Station.

[15] History of the BBC: BBC Royal Charter archive https://www.bbc.com/historyofthebbc/research/royal-charter

[16] http://news.bbc.co.uk/media/images/46750000/jpg/_46750756_001215486–1.jpg

At the outbreak of World War II, on 1st September 1939, all transmitters, including the transmitter at Wychbold, were ordered to close as transmission moved over to an emergency wartime broadcasting system. It had been decided that only one programme would be broadcast – regional programmes were not reactivated until 29th July 1945 – the emerging TV service also ceased for the duration of the War (Jones, Lowry and Wilks 2008, 29). New low-power transmitters were constructed throughout the country - to support short and medium wave broadcasts that could not be so easily intercepted by enemy aircraft including the first parallel-operating medium-wave transmitters at Wychbold – that, as well as the National Programme, transmitted programmes in a variety of European languages as well as the Voice of America (Philips 1994, 15).

The threat of bombing and later invasion encouraged the BBC to relocate many of its services from London, including to Worcestershire. Wood Norton Hall, near Evesham, being just one of several buildings purchased (as in the case of Wood Norton) or requisitioned in the county, for communications use. New temporary buildings were swiftly erected to accommodate both operations, which included monitoring, and staff. Wood Norton would also have played a significant role, in the event of a nuclear attack, during the Cold War.

Did you know?

A Cold War bunker at BBC Wood Norton was completed in 1970, in preparation for nuclear attack. With the establishment of a Regional Seat of Government in Drakelow, near Kidderminster as well, Worcestershire would have been central to any post nuclear communications network in the event of nuclear disaster.

The West Midlands was also central to the development of wartime radar, which was driven by the need for an early warning system capable of recognising enemy aircraft. In 1942 much of the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE) and the Air Defence Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE) had moved in and around Malvern (see Defence), requisitioning buildings, including Malvern Boys College, and erecting others. In 1943 a large purpose-built Engineering Unit was constructed for TRE, off Geraldine Road in Great Malvern, to expand the production of operational radar equipment. A hostel to accommodate staff was built nearby. Although most of the Engineering Unit has since been redeveloped, a communal building has been retained as part of the Chase High School (Jones, Lowry and Wilks, 2008, 16).

The establishment of a state-operated telecommunications network in the late 19th-century led to widespread development of buildings by HM Office of Works (from 1940 the Ministry for Works, and from 1962 the Ministry of Public Building and Works) as well as a more standardised approach to design (Historic England 2017, 8). The National Telephone Company was taken over by the General Post Office in 1912, who adopted a neo-Georgian house style, in use until the 1950s. As the use and availability of telephones grew, more and more exchanges were built, initially in neo-Georgian styles but later (from the 1960s) in more modern 'Brutalist' designs, since they didn't need huge numbers of windows for natural light. Although an exchange could form an extension to a Post Office, they were, in general, erected as stand-alone buildings.

From the 1960s telephone exchanges were built across the county to ensure the best connection for existing and emerging industry in the new technological age. This is particularly noticeable in Redditch where telephone exchanges were constructed in many of the newly developed districts to attract new technology-led companies to the area; low rates, a well-connected road network and a pleasant, green landscape were all additional draws to industry (Winter, 1993). The British Information Technology Company ISTEL, formerly BL Systems, and latterly AT&T Istel, was one such company that set up their headquarters in Redditch. Formed in 1979, the company was created through the merger of the computer departments of several automotive companies, bought together under British Leyland.

Post Office architecture can easily be identified through its use of a 'Crown' monogram, with the year of opening beneath it. All aspects of broader 'Post Office' architecture, including telephone exchanges - where associated with post offices - can be searched here[17]. As well as telephone exchanges, telephone kiosks, including the iconic red telephone kiosk, quickly became part of the cultural landscape of the UK.

Left: This small rural telephone exchange next to the Victory Hall in Clows Top is one of a number of post-war rural exchanges dotted around the county.

Right: The Postal Order public house, on Foregate Street, in Worcester is a former telephone exchange of circa 1930.

[17] http://britishpostofficearchitects.weebly.com/

Left: The telephone exchange on Abbey Road, Evesham was built in two phases with the earlier phase constructed in 1935 and the later phase added in 1958. Evesham is recorded as being the second place in the UK to have subscriber trunk dialling; telephone communication being integral to the local market gardening industry (Brotherton, 2016)

Right: Berrows House in Worcester was designed, in 1963–5 by the Austin-Smith, Salmon-Lord Partnership, with a Brutalist style. The office building, for the Worcester News, has a steel frame encased in concrete with a central paper store and printing hall above.

Left: The two radio masts associated with the Droitwich Transmitting Station, in Wychbold, are a prominent and local landmark. © Philip Halling and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence.

Right: This Wireless Station and Listening Post in Guarlford was constructed in 1942 as a signals unit for the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE) who also operated flight trails at nearby RAF Defford. Although it closed as an airbase in 1957, RAF Defford continues to function as a base for radio astronomy and is home to one of the seven radio telescopes that makes up the nation's Multi-Element Radio Linked Interferometer Network (MERLIN).

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Sites, buildings and features associated with the transmission and receiving of radio, electric and digital information, of particular interest being:

- Pre-1914 sites and buildings, of rarity and considerable historic interest in a national context.
- Inter-war and WWII transmitter stations, complete or substantially complete groups being very rare.
- Telegraph offices and radio stations including those used for transmitting and receiving messages.
- Telephone exchanges, including those built to the designs of the Office of Works in the 1920s; these can be built in neo-Georgian styles to a high standard that complements the historic character of urban areas.
- Telephone kiosks, notably the K6 designed in 1935 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and its predecessors, which have been designated in areas of high heritage value.
- Modern styles from the 1970s, which more usually follow trends in commercial architecture except in their internal planning.

These sites can have considerable historic interest, particularly in relationship to both World Wars and the development of signals intelligence but may often be short-lived and insubstantial in their built infrastructure.

2.6 Defence

The landscape of Worcestershire, like the landscape of many rural counties, is scattered with the remains of buildings and places associated with World War I and World War II military infrastructure, civil defence and commemoration. From airfields, army camps, military hospitals, munitions factories and prisoner of war camps to anti-invasion defences, air raid shelters, drill halls, memorial halls, stabling for horses and allotments, many of these buildings and places have been recorded by volunteer researchers as part of the Council for British Archaeology's Defence of Britain and Home Front Legacy Projects and the Defence of Worcestershire Project. Official clearing schemes and the temporary nature of many buildings and structures has already resulted in a high level of loss. Many extant buildings and places remain vulnerable to neglect, decay and re-development. Despite extensive research and programmes of recording there remains buildings and places yet to be discovered. Two recent discoveries include a WWII Bailey Bridge, over Dowles Brook in the Wyre Forest and a reused WWI accommodation hut, known as an Armstrong Hut, in St Johns, Worcester[18].

Did you know?

The Dig for Victory campaign, set up during WWII by the British Ministry of Agriculture, is well-recognised as a hugely successful propaganda campaign that encouraged people to grow their own in order to reduce Britain's reliance on imported food. Less well documented is the significance of allotment gardening during WWI. The Defence of the Realm Act (DORA), which was passed on 8th August 1914, gave the government wide-ranging powers to requisition buildings or land needed for the war effort.

As a rural, inland county, far-removed from the theatre of war, Worcestershire became the temporary home of many military personal in need of convalescence; the tranquil landscape being part of the cure. Properties across the county were offered or requisitioned and hospitals were upgraded or newly constructed to both deal with the expected casualties and respond to medical advances, which included X-Ray and Psychology. It wasn't just British troops that were stationed in the county. During World War II, Blackmore Park near Malvern was requisitioned by American forces, and two 1,000 bed general hospitals built (Collins and Collins 2008, vii). Three other sites in the area – B*rickbarns, Merebrook and Wood Farm* - were also set aside for U.S hospitals, each specialising in different types of treatment and surgery (Collins and Collins, 2008, viii). Wolverley Camp, at the Lea Castle Estate in Kidderminster, was also funded by American lend lease funds and, with accommodation for 500 patients, was used by American servicemen until the end of World War II. Lea Castle is set to be developed, as part of Kidderminster's commitment to deliver housing and land for employment through its 2016–2036 Local Plan.

[18] 'Home Front Legacy https://www.homefrontlegacy.org.uk/wp/case-studies/hidden-in-plain-sight-a-discovery-in-worcester/

The mobilisation of society during both World Wars was complex and required organised administration. Although bombing in Worcestershire was minimal, the county had nevertheless, prepared itself for heavy raids. Schools were requisitioned as emergency feeding stations, and villages had a designated first aid point; most often the Village Hall. Larger villages, towns and cities had first aid posts, manned by health professionals. Factories were requisitioned for military production, manufacturing all manner of munitions as well as staple products such as blankets and jam, and hundreds of acres of pasture was ploughed up or 'improved' to increase agricultural production. Several Prisoner of War camps were also established in the county, their rural and often remote locations making it difficult for POWs to escape. Many POWs were accommodated in barrack-style camps and deployed as agricultural labourers. At their peak, in 1946, POWs formed one fifth of the British rural workforce (Custodis 2012, 243). During World War II stop lines were established at strategic points across the county to slow the enemy down should there be an invasion, with pill boxes and anti-tank defences concentrated at nodal points – such as around Pershore - considered to be of high strategic importance.

During World War II Worcestershire had been chosen to re-house the government and key government departments and institutions, should London have fallen (Wilks 2007, 22). Both the British and Dutch Royal Families would have also been temporarily accommodated in the county before making their way up through Shropshire to Liverpool, where they would have made their way to Canada. Many institutions and services were relocated or partially relocated to the county including the BBC, the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE), the Air Defence Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), the Admiralty and the Bank of England. Numerous temporary office buildings (TOBs) and ancillary buildings, such as canteens and air raid shelters, were constructed and housing estates expanded to accommodate workers (including those moving to work in factories) re-locating to the county.

Did you know?

By the summer of 1940 the British Government and War Office were facing the real possibility of a German invasion on home soil. Plans had already been put in place for the evacuation of both Central Government and the Royal Family to Worcestershire. Worcestershire was also intended to be central to the nation's resistance movement with Worcester City and Kidderminster designated as anti-tank islands—strongpoints to threaten the flank of an enemy but also to act as 'honeypots' to draw them in and allow the regular army to then attack in force (Atkin, 2003, 2). In March 1942 Worcestershire also became the centre of RADAR development when Malvern Boys College was requisitioned to house staff from the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE) and the Air Defence Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), later renamed the Radar Research and Development Establishment (RRDE). A second base was established at Pale Manor in Malvern Link. The RRDE merged with TRE in 1953 to become the Radar Research Establishment (RRE)

Buildings and places associated with the Cold War are less well documented, with many, until very recently, shrouded in secrecy and without official acknowledgement. As the tensions between East and West escalated, during the Cold War, Worcestershire was appointed one of ten Regional Seats of Government (RSG), in England. Established at the WWII government owned 'Shadow (Dispersal) Factory' at Drakelow the RSG was designed to accommodate 300–350 members of staff, link into communications systems such as the BBCs Emergency Broadcasting Network and be capable of self-sufficiency for several months, following a nuclear attack[19]. The site continued in use as a Regional Government Headquarters until 1993/4 when the site was cleared, and land put up for sale. Several Cold War bunkers and listening/transmitting facilities are known across the county, including the BBC built nuclear proof transmitting facility at Wood Norton.

Did you know?

A Cold War bunker at BBC Wood Norton was completed in 1970, in preparation for nuclear attack. With the establishment of a Regional Seat of Government in Drakelow, near Kidderminster as well, Worcestershire would have been central to any post nuclear communications network in the event of nuclear disaster.

Left: During World War II the Royal Air Force had their main distribution centre at Hartlebury. Remnants of the site survive as part of Hartlebury Trading Estate, including several half cylindrical, prefabricated Nissen Huts and this wooden accommodation hut.

Right: St David's Church in St. Johns, Worcester is a re-used WWI accommodation hut. WWI saw the widespread adoption of standardised, flexible prefabricated buildings that were both simple to manufacture and quick to erect. Photograph © James Dinn, WCC

[19] Drakelow Tunnels (2014) https://www.drakelow-tunnels.co.uk/rsg9.php

Left: During WWI and WWII Worcestershire was home to allied troops and Prisoners of War, including internees, accommodated in tented or purpose-built camps, built to a standardised plan. These twin water towers are remnants of the US 93rd Military General Hospital camp at Blackmore Park in Hanley Castle, near Malvern. Occupying the site from about 1943 to 1946 (it was later a temporary PoW camp) the camp consisted of about 175 facilities blocks and 60 hospital buildings.

Right: This WWII Bailey Bridge was recently re-discovered over Dowles Brook in Wyre Forest. With plans to improve the footpath and crossing the future of this historically significant heritage asset remains uncertain. Photograph ©Susan Limbrey

Left: Ammunition store and sub blast shelter associated with the former Defford airbase.

Right: The accommodation block is all that survives of Stourport on Severn's Drill Hall complex. The HQ of C Company of the 7th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment and the local Home Guard, the Drill Hall was constructed in 1911 to a design by Pritchard and Pritchard of Kidderminster.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

National initiatives led by the Council for British Archaeology and Historic England have led to many thousands of sites, structures and buildings constructed over the 20th-century being added to HERs. The best-preserved and most historically significant are now designated heritage assets. Temporary fabric and extensive sites which are now an integral part of the landscapes and communities around them have proven to be the most difficult to protect in this manner, although local communities have often chosen to erect memorials to those who served in them and some have now reverted to archaeological sites within woodland and other habitats of natural significance. Wall art can add to the significance of wartime and Cold War fabric. In addition, many sites and buildings erected for other reasons were used or requisitioned for military or civil defence purposes, such as housing child evacuees and military hospitals and headquarters, which may give them additional historic significance.

- Pillboxes and road blocks for defence against invasion, airfields and their defences for training and reserves as well as bomber offence and fighter defence, decoys and gun batteries for air defence, and a massive infrastructure from military camps, hospitals and training areas and supply depots to communications systems. A wide range of standard building and site types were developed; this included temporary fabric ranging from Nissen, Seco and Romney huts to the more long-lived Temporary Office Blocks used at hundreds of sites during the Second World War. It is estimated that during the Second World War more than 20% of Britain's land area was used for military purposes, excluding the networks of anti-invasion defences that thread across the landscape. Many military bases continued to expand in the Cold War and a network of sites for reporting attacks and managing the aftermath of nuclear war were built.
- All drill halls built for reserve forces merit recording, and some have considerable architectural interest as examples of bespoke and increasingly standardised approaches to planning: inter-war examples may be executed in Modern as well as more traditional neo-Georgian and classical styles, and post-war ones are far more utilitarian in appearance. More humble in their appearance but of great historic and communal value are the traces of the civil defence infrastructure put in place before and during the Second World War - purpose-built structures related to Civil Defence or Air Raid Precautions include Communal Air Raid Shelters, Control Rooms, Laundries, Gas Decontamination Centres and Ambulance Depots; some air raid shelters date from the First World War.
- Rooms dating from the 1950s and Regional Seats of Government dating from the early 1980s were built at times of heightened tension to act as administrative centres in the event of nuclear war, and post-war government offices may also have underground shelters.

2.7 Education[20]

Schools

Late 19th-century educational reform laid the foundation for mass education and Local Education Authority (LEA) school boards with responsibility for educational provision, including school building. State-funded education, as opposed to that sponsored by churches, charities or private benefactors, became predominant 'leading to one of the most important campaigns of public building ever undertaken in the country' (Historic England, 2017, 3). The drive for higher standards of education, which was supported by late 19th and early 20th-century campaigns for more widespread social reform, gradually raised the standards of school building. Late 19th-century Board Schools, with their characteristic gables and high roofs, incorporated large windows and more spacious workspace, although came in a variety of designs. From the 1870s school building adopted greater standardisations in design. The Queen Anne Style, with its distinctive red brick form and decorative detail, was widely adopted and greater thought was given to lighting and ventilation. Some school boards began to experiment with separate classrooms with a central room or 'hall' - a plan form which came to dominate school design up until the 1920s (Harwood, 2012, 39) - and many also provided special schools or blocks for disabled or 'disturbed' children (Harwood, 2012, 46).

Early 20th-century designs began to take more account of educational theory—including designing from the point of view of the child—as well as good hygiene, and schools began to move away from the central hall plan towards individual blocks—often in a neo-vernacular design— around a central courtyard. Cross ventilation and covered or open verandas encouraged fresh air and exercise (Harwood, 2012, 53). Open Air Schools, built to combat tuberculosis, became more popular from the 1930s to 1950s, promoting fresh air, vigorous exercise, rest and a wholesome diet as well as outdoor learning opportunities.

Did you know?

From 1925 the Birmingham Local Educational Authority began opening Open Air schools, including in north Worcestershire. Cropwood Open Air Residential School in Blackwell, with its farm, open air swimming pool and sleep-time garden, was gifted by Barrow and Geraldine Cadbury to the city of Birmingham in 1925. Hunters Hill Open Air School, built on land near Cropwood, opened in 1933. The classrooms and dormitories were built around a square courtyard onto which opened wooden verandas. In 1980 Hunters Hill amalgamated with Cropwood; the two sites still function as a school for children with special educational needs. Skilts Open Air School was the last of Birmingham's Open Air schools. Opening in 1958, in a 16th-century manor, the school continues to function today. Rose Hill Open Air School in Worcester opened in 1926, on Windermere Drive in Warndon. It later became a special school before closing in 2007. Regency High School now occupies the site.

[20] Open Air Schools Interactive Map http://www.formerchildrenshomes.org.uk/open_air_schools_directory.html#Worcestershire
RIBA Architecture https://www.architecture.com/image-library/ribapix.html?keywords=bewdley%20county%20

The rising post-war birth rate, coupled with the creation of many new communities as part of the housing programme, wider movement for social architecture and the extension of the school leaving age to 15, led to a further explosion of public school building in the 1950s and 1960s. Limited budgets and stringent building regulations stimulated simple, practical, International modern designs and the use of lightweight, prefabricated steel frames, asbestos and glazing, which a young generation of architects in private practice had started to tentatively explore pre-World War II, albeit in less standardised forms (Harwood, 2010, 68 and 69).

Did you know?
Many newly constructed post-war schools embraced the use of public art in communal areas. The Society for Education in Art argued that art had a vital role to play in education and the learning environment. The Bewdley County Secondary School which was designed by Yorke Rosenberg & Mardall, in the modern style, opened in April 1956, and was decorated with a wall mural by the celebrated English print maker, painter and art teacher Michael Rothenstein. A photograph of the mural is part of a collection of photographs showcasing the school, taken by Reginald Hugo de Burgh Galway, in 1955, that are now part of the Architectural Press Archive / RIBA Collections.

In the post-war period, school design was widened to include the work of architects with a national portfolio. Two notable examples in Worcestershire were Birchen Coppice County Primary School, Kidderminster (1953), and Bewdley County Secondary School (1955), which were both the work of the Modernist firm of Yorke Rosenberg & Mardall, whose other works include Gatwick Airport and the University of Warwick. From the late 1950s onwards open plan interiors were favoured for Primary and Junior schools, particularly those with mixed year classes. Classrooms were built, often in a circular plan, around a shared activity area, such as a library. Pavilions were erected to support outdoor learning (Harwood, 2012, 80).

Did you know?
As well as private architectural practices, municipal architects—County and Borough architects—have left an impressive legacy of public buildings, including many schools.

Few schools were built in the 1980s and 1990s; a drop in the national birth rate and changing socio-economic factors, encouraging the adaptation of existing buildings and the addition of new blocks to existing schools, to meet single use needs such as Science, Modern Languages and Drama.

Late 20th- and 21st-century initiatives to modernise and improve the environmental credentials of schools—including the national 'Building Schools for the future' programme has led to the loss of many late Victorian and 20th-century school buildings. The sale of school playing fields, often to raise revenue for refurbishment or re-development, is also of increasing concern; the former playing field of St Mary's School in Battenhall Road, Worcester, being one such example.

Libraries

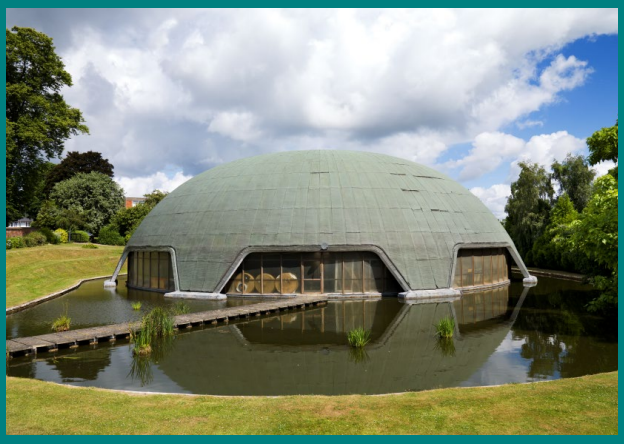
Public libraries were introduced under legislation in 1850 which followed that permitting Local Authorities to open museums and art galleries in 1845. The 'modern' library, as we understand it today, was a development of the 20th-century. The 1919 Public Libraries Act gave County Councils the power to become library authorities, making provision in rural areas more realistic, albeit this provision was generally small scale or even mobile (Historic England, 2016, 4). Libraries were often combined with a museum and gallery or later integrated within larger Civic Centres, which incorporated a wide range of local services and facilities at the heart of post-war re-developed town centres or newly developed suburbs. Neo-Georgian styles were favoured in the inter-war period – but became less formal as provision for children increased - with post-war libraries embracing simpler European modern styles and a greater flexibility, with space for exhibitions and events, and tables and chairs for reading in the library. Public libraries, like many public services, are currently facing a funding crisis. This has led to the closure of many historic libraries and a huge drop in library services, leaving the future of many others uncertain.

Left: Holyoakes Field First School and Nursery in Redditch was built in 1913 to a design by A.V Rowe, who also designed the Grade II listed Parkside High School in Bromsgrove. Plans to rebuild the school on greenbelt land were approved by Worcestershire County Council in September 2016. The future of the old school is uncertain.

Right: The Chase High School in Malvern opened as a Secondary Modern in 1953 and incorporates an earlier communal building built as part of a large purpose-built engineering unit for TRE.

Left: Originally built as a Secondary school in the 1950s, Sion High School in Kidderminster later became a Middle School. It was built to the designs of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the architect who completed the Grade I listed Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ in Liverpool. Designed around a grassed quadrangle, it represents a continuation of the pre-war International Style in its strong and modular horizontal form. After being derelict for approximately 10 years the site was recently demolished to make way for new housing. Photograph © Paul Collins

Right: Baxter College in Kidderminster (formally Harry Cheshire High School) dates to 1939 and was one of several mid-Century schools constructed in response to the 1918 and 1921 Education Acts. Originally designed as a split girl and boys school, which is evident in its symmetrical design, the schools were amalgamated in September 1972. Additional facilities and remodelling of the school have been carried out throughout its history although most of the 1930s buildings remain intact.



Left: The Edinburgh Dome at St. James Girls College in Malvern was listed at Grade II in 2009, after being threatened with demolition, for its innovative method of concrete construction. Named after the Duke of Edinburgh, who opened the building in 1978, the dome was designed by Michael Godwin and is a 'parashell' concrete structure. John Faber of Oscar Faber acted as the engineer. The 'parashell', was invented by Italian, Dante Bini, in 1967. The construction company Norwest Holst bought the sole rights to market the system in England but only two were ever constructed. © Historic England Archive DP138177

Right: Redditch's Library, designed by the John Madin Design Group of Birmingham, is described by Pevsner and Brooks (2007, 90) as the best 20th-century building in town.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Sites, buildings, structures and features relating to the provision of knowledge and skills are one of the most distinctive and often innovative examples of 20th-century architecture, particularly in terms of how their planning expresses developing ideas about children and society. As a result they may have considerable architectural, historic and communal interest and value. Education was made compulsory for children under the age of ten from 1880, and free after the Education Act of 1891. Most rural areas – with the exception of primary schools which were built or adapted to open plans - found it hard to adjust to the three-tier system of grammar, secondary modern and technical schools introduced under the 1944 Education Act.

- State schools continue to be built into the 1930s after the models following the 1870 Education Act, with classrooms set around an assembly hall. Secondary school education, and the provision of schools for children who had disabilities, was expanded after 1918. Grammar and secondary schools in neo-Georgian and later more modernist styles were modelled on public schools with their quadrangles and playing fields. Of particular interest might be distinctive features such as fixed and folding screens to enable flexible use of space, panelled corridors and offices and very rarely intact libraries and laboratories.
- Open air schools of the 1920s–30s, which are innovative in their planning in an International context and may include moveable screens and other features linked to flexible use.
- 67% of all state school buildings were built in 1944 to 1976, a period when Britain was internationally acclaimed for innovations first pioneered in the 1930s - in affording light and air, in prefabrication and planning for flexible use with open teaching areas, sometimes focused around a library or resource centre, and sports facilities. Technical, secondary and grammar schools on the cutting edge of innovation mostly fall into the period between the 1950s and 1970s, following the Education Act of 1944, and are mostly the work of County and municipal architects with some significant figures in 20th-century architecture also being involved if commissions were put out to tender.
- The Robbins Report in 1963 resulted in the building of many more universities, colleges of technology and further education. These were added to earlier generations of mostly Domestic Revival and neo-Georgian buildings including the 'red brick' universities dating from the end of the 19th-century. They include some striking examples of modernist architecture by leading practitioners on the national and international stage, universities being particularly distinctive in this respect.
- Laboratories have considerable or outstanding historic significance depending on the discoveries and inventions made within them.
- Institutes with classrooms and reading rooms, as built from the 19th-century in a diversity of styles, were usually built with other facilities to promote social interaction and well-being. Relatively few were built after 1918.

- Public libraries continued to be built until 1914 using public funds and the donations of philanthropists (notably Andrew Carnegie), and many were built by County authorities after they were empowered to do so by the Public Libraries Act of 1919; the Moderne style is rare, solid neo-Georgian or other historical styles being favoured. Period shelving, sculpture and planning to facilitate access and supervision, and with rooms for reading to children and for other groups, may add to the heritage interest of the libraries built up to 1939. There are some exceptionally bold and imaginative examples of post-war libraries, from the circular or polygonal plans favoured by small libraries to some of the largest 'headquarters libraries' serving County or municipal authorities, either tendered out or designed by their respective in-house architects; relatively few were built after the 1970s, a feature of this period being the conversion of schools chapels and other buildings into libraries [now 'ideas stores' and information centres].
- Museums share these broad developments on the architectural front and are often combined with libraries.

Churches and chapels continued to make a significant contribution to pre-school and primary education, through providing classrooms within them or as separate buildings.

2.8 Gardens, Public Parks and Urban Spaces

Developing in the 19th-century, in response to increasing urbanisation and industrialism, public parks continue to provide a wide range of economic, social and environmental benefits. Used and enjoyed by individuals of all ages and backgrounds they provide opportunities for exercise, play, and social interaction. They also provide space for public art and entertainment, including live music. Despite this, and all the benefits that having access to green space and nature has on our health and well-being, public parks continue to face enormous challenges.

Many public parks have significant historic interest; only a small percentage of them are nationally registered. Two decades of Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) investment – through their *Urban Parks* and *Parks for People* programmes – has safeguarded many nationally, regionally and locally significant parks and gardens across England. Local Authorities, however, have no legal duty to maintain, or in fact provide, public parks and consequently many are facing a new spiral of decline, similar to that experienced in the 1980s and 1990s. The risk of privatisation and re-development has also intensified as Local Authorities face increasing pressure to sell both assets and land. The *Learning to Rethink Parks* programme has contended that public parks must both reduce their running costs and find new ways to raise income if they are to remain free and open.[21]

Victorian public parks were founded on the principles of free access for the benefit of all people; most were funded by municipal and Local Authorities and some, like Brinton Park in Kidderminster, were funded by local philanthropists. As symbols of both nature and health their development was buoyed by legislation including the 1848 Public Health Act which supported '*public walks and means of exercise for the middle and humbler classes'* (Clark, F. 1973. 31). The Victorians also believed that public parks were a means of counteracting *'debasing'* past times such as drinking and fighting (Clark 1973, 36).

Although predominately mid-19th century in date many public parks in Worcestershire were remodelled or extended during the first half of the 20th-century and incorporate buildings and structures of 20th-century date. The majority of late 19th-century and 20th-century parks supported a huge array of sporting and leisure activities and associated buildings including; a bandstand for live music, entertainment and debate; sporting activities including football, cricket, tennis, bowls, skittles, archery, quoits, climbing, marbles and skipping; ponds/pools for swimming, paddling and/or boating; recreational space for children, often incorporating see saws and swings; recreational space for the elderly e.g. Sons of Rest Buildings; tea pavilions; drinking fountains and a lavatory block.

[21] Nesta: Learning to Rethink Parks (2016) https://media.nesta.org.uk/documents/learning_to_rethinking_parks_report.pdf

Left: The Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Gardens in Bewdley is a small park and hidden gem in the centre of the town.

Right: Gheluvelt Park, a memorial landscape named after the battle of Gheluvelt and dated 1919 to 1924, is nationally registered for its landscape design interest and incorporates a range of memorial homes for disabled sailors and soldiers.

Left: The Sons of Rest movement started in Birmingham in 1927 as a means of promoting leisure and social interaction for men over 60. Many public parks in Worcestershire have a Sons of Rest pavilion including Cripplegate Park in Worcester and Brinton Park in Kidderminster. The Sons of Rest pavilion in Brinton Park is now utilised as the HQ for the 21st Kidderminster and District Scout Group.

Right: Bandstands became popular from the late 19th century. They reflect changing attitudes to communal recreation and were often a focal point, offering not only live music and entertainment but also a space for public debate and campaigns. The concrete bandstand in Brinton Park, Kidderminster was built in 1934 to a design by the former Kidderminster Borough Engineer Joseph Hawcroft.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Planned and/or landscaped areas designed for aesthetic or recreational purposes were provided for rural and urban communities and are a historically significant expression of 20th-century social and family life.

- The 20th-century commences with formal parks and gardens following earlier precedents with ornamental walks, cafes, band stands and pavilions.
- The inter-war period – which sees the emergence of landscape architecture as a profession in its own right - sees an increasing emphasis on open space in the design of parks in order to enable free play and recreation with a greater emphasis on children and families; parks of this type may be associated with swimming pools, tennis courts and other sports facilities.
- Post-war parks, particularly those associated with large-scale renewal schemes and housing developments, continue the emphasis on provision for free play and families, with public art as a frequent focal point. The provision for children is highly significant historically, but it is very rare to find any evidence for it surviving due to constant schemes for renewal.
- As well as their high communal value, recognised in successive programmes led by the Heritage Lottery Fund, they may have additional value as wildlife habitats and for flood storage.

2.9 Health and Welfare[22]

20th-century buildings related to health and welfare—including hospitals and clinics—reflect substantial advances in medical practice and progressive attitudes towards social care. Before 1900 healthcare was largely provided by charities, poor relief, Local Government or unregulated private practice. Almhouses, charitable housing for the poor, survived into the early 20th-century and Voluntary Hospitals, which included Cottage Hospitals in smaller towns and rural areas, provided acute as well as specialist care. Mid to late Victorian hospitals were generally based on Paris' Lariboisiere pavilion plan, with inter-linked wards, corridors and service pavilions intended to combat the air-borne spread of disease (Historic England 2017, 6).

Did you know?
The 1919 Ministry of Health Act established a government Minister for Health with responsibility over sanitation, health care and disease, while the 1921 Public Health (tuberculosis) Act obliged County and Borough councils to provide care services for tuberculosis patients. From 1934 subsidised milk was first made available for British school children.

At the turn of the 20th-century the health of the nation was a primary concern of government and the 'value' of a healthy population widely recognised. During World War I, and to a lesser extent World War II, large numbers of public and private buildings were conscripted for use as small hospitals or convalescence homes, military hospitals were established, often as hutted army camps and some hospitals accommodated, or were built specifically as, specialist units.

The impact of two World Wars, and the profound affect war had had on society's attitudes towards fairness, equality and compassion, invigorated calls for a universal system of health and welfare care, which can be dated back to the 1909 *Minority Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law*. While the 1942 *Beveridge Report*—or *Social Insurance and Allied Services* Report—is reputed to have been the blueprint for the British welfare state, it was the unexpected Labour victory in the 1945 General Election that finally drove through reforms for universal education, social welfare and the National Health Service (NHS).

[22] A summarised history of Worcester Royal Infirmary http://www.wrinl.org.uk/history.htm

Did you know?
The now demolished Ronkswood Hospital in Worcester opened in 1941 as a temporary hutted hospital to treat both service and civilian casualties. It was later used by the Ministry of Pensions, as a Pensions hospital. By 1952 Ronkswood Hospital had been absorbed within the NHS and had become part of Worcester Royal Infirmary. At the same time the hospital expanded to accommodate a large maternity unit, with an ante-natal clinic and classrooms.

The NHS was launched on 5th July 1948, by the then Health Secretary, Aneurin Bevan, in Manchester. The establishment of the NHS was by no means universally accepted, with many doctors opposing the idea of becoming employees of the government. In compromise, General Practitioner surgeries were permitted to remain private businesses and hospital consultants authorised to continue private treatment[23]. Rather than initiating a wave of new building the NHS generally absorbed existing Voluntary and Local Authority-owned Hospitals. Maternal and child health and welfare became a top priority of the newly formed NHS. This led to changes in maternity care policy and practice which resulted in the growth of hospital deliveries, as opposed to home births, and the rise of community clinics that delivered immunisation programmes, maternity care and school medical services.

The 1959 Mental Health Act took steps to reform mental health services, and community care. By the mid-1960s, rising demand as well as the development of new technologies, lead to a period of growth in new hospital buildings, clinics and health education. Single speciality hospitals went out of fashion in favour of District General Hospitals, which provided an array of diagnostic and therapeutic services, and Modernist, progressive designs, as pioneered by Continental architects like Le Corbusier and Walter Gropius, were widely adopted, their modular construction and use of electric lighting facilitating wider, deeper, taller buildings that symbolised the modernity of the healthcare found within it (Hughes 2000, 21). Increasing pressures to reduce public spending led to large scale re-organisation of the NHS from the 1970s and the growth of the private health system.

Club Houses

Along with Village Halls club houses associated with private sports clubs; Working Men's Clubs, Ex Service-Men's Clubs, and buildings for the Scouting Movement (formed 1910) and the British Legion (formed 1921) form a significant assemblage of buildings that are increasingly vulnerable to insensitive adaption, decay and demolition. Found across the country, in both rural and urban areas alike, many of these small, unassuming buildings were built with education and welfare as well as recreation in mind. Early examples date to the mid-19th century; many others were established either side of the Second Word War; the character of clubs varies. There has been a steady decline in club buildings since the 1970s, as a consequence of changing legislation and social and cultural change.

[23] The National Archives Cabinet Papers: Origins of the NHS https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/cabinetpapers/alevelstudies/origins-nhs.htm

Left: The Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, in Stourport on Severn, was largely funded by philanthropist Julien Cahn. The hospital was officially opened in 1929 by Stanley Baldwin, the then prime minister, in honour of his wife Lucy Baldwin, a well-known writer and activist for improved maternity care. The site was absorbed within the NHS after 1948. After becoming semi-derelict, the site was demolished in 2012 and redeveloped for housing. © Jeremy Bolwell and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence.

Right: Moor Street clinic in Worcester was built in the Modern style in the mid-1960s as a school clinic, complete with an audio clinic, minor ailments clinic and rooms for doctors, dental surgery, remedial teachers and speech therapy. The building now provides Family Planning and Sexual Health services

Right: Despite the Master Plan for Redditch New Town incorporating a 40-acre site at Woodrow for the development of a 850 bed General Hospital, the inhabitants of Redditch had to wait until 1986 before the Alexandra Hospital officially opened. At the same time the late Victorian Smallwood 'Cottage' Hospital, which had been predominately funded by local needle manufacturer and philanthropist Edwin Smallwood, became an NHS Clinic called Smallwood House (Webster, 2016, 77–82). © Chris Allen and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence.

Left: A good example in the vernacular style of a rural Working Men's Club in Callow End.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

This broad classification comprises sites, buildings, structures and features for treating mental and physical illness (hospitals and health centres) and for social welfare provided by charitable foundations and the state.

- Hospitals, asylums and convalescent homes continued to be built following earlier models - particularly that of the pavilion plan - into the early part of the century. Women's and children's' hospitals, and small cottage hospitals, also continued to follow earlier precedents. Their architectural treatment is a critical factor in determining their significance as heritage assets.
- The 20th-century was increasingly marked by the development of a looser approach to planning, to benefit as much as possible from light and air, and innovative site and building types such as open-air hospitals – further adapting the tradition set by convalescent hospitals, asylums and children's homes set in restorative open spaces. Areas were increasingly needed for research, teaching and new technology, and housing nurses. Health centres – famously pioneered by the Modernist architects Lubetkin and Tecton at Finsbury in 1938 - were placed on the front line of providing general health care for local communities, increasing in numbers after the 1946 National Health Services Act. The NHS took over and extended existing hospitals. Modern Movement architecture was considered to be highly suitable for the large General Hospitals built on new sites from the later 1960s, but it is rare to find examples which are architecturally distinguished.
- Many historic almshouses have been saved and their facilities extended by charitable trusts in the post-1945 period.
- Industrial workforces, particularly those already organised as mutual benefit societies by the late 19th century, also played a critical role in the provision of leisure and educational facilities in miners', mechanics' and other institutes.
- Clubs and societies developed as a distinctive characteristic, at all levels of society, over the 20th-century. Women's Institutes, Working Men's and Ex Service-Men's Clubs (the British Legion was formed in 1921) followed in the footsteps of institutes, but little is known about the architecture of clubs, including those of the Scouting Movement (formed 1910) and other organisations developed for the welfare of boys and girls. Most were built in a domestic or vernacular style; the largest Working Men's clubs being sometimes executed in a neo-Georgian style.

- Youth clubs built from the 1950s also offered leisure facilities and the first of these merit recording and consideration for reuse. They were often part of planned housing developments and promoted by the National Council of Social Service (founded 1919, now the National Council for Voluntary Organisations).

2.10 Industrial and Maritime

The 20th-century bore witness to the decline, although not necessarily the demise, of many 'traditional' industries in Worcestershire including the gloving industry in Worcester, the nail industry in Bromsgrove, the needle and fishhook industry in Redditch and the carpet industry in Kidderminster. These were major employers as between them they accounted for tens of thousands of jobs across the county and with their decline the need to find alternative avenues of industry and employment. Technological advancement and global commerce, major architects of change during the 20th-century, led to the development of new industries, including service industries manufacturing a wide range of consumer goods.

With its central location, supported by good transport links and a ready workforce, Worcestershire – as part of the West Midlands - was at the heart of the 20th-century's British automobile industry. Companies investing in the county, in the early 20th-century, included the Morgan Motor Company, which still manufactures Morgan Cars in Malvern today, The Austin Motor Company, which established the Longbridge plant, now out of county on the southern outskirts of Birmingham and the Enfield Cycle Company in Redditch, which made motorcycles, bicycles, lawnmowers and stationary engines under the name Royal Enfield. Like many other manufacturing industries car manufacture in the West Midlands fell into relative decline from the 1970s, as changing economic and labour market conditions led to a period of 'deindustrialisation' and a transition towards a more 'high tech' and service-based economy.

Did you know?
Royal Enfield in Redditch made motorcycles including the Clipper (250cc), the Crusader Sport (250cc) and the Bullet (350cc). Although the Redditch factory ceased production in 1967 some factory buildings survive as part of the Enfield Industrial Estate off Hewell Road.

Other significant employers in 20th-century Worcestershire – some in fact continue to be - included Mining Engineering Co Lt. (MECO), who moved to Worcester in 1925 and became Dowty Meco in 1979; Kays, a major player in the 'home catalogue' business from 1890 until 2007; L. G. Harris & Co Ltd., who has manufactured paint brushes and decorating products at its Stoke Prior factory since 1936; Worcester Engineering Co Ltd., founded in 1962 by Cecil Duckworth and now Worcester Bosch, Brintons, which began manufacturing carpets in Kidderminster as early as 1783, and Halfords, who opened their head office in Redditch in 1971. Worcestershire also benefited from the nationalisation of the British Sugar Beet Industry when in 1925, one of its refineries was built in Kidderminster. British Sugar closed its Kidderminster base in 2004; the factory site was soon after cleared for new development.

Did you know?

As well as leaving a legacy of manufacturing and commercial buildings many industrialists built housing estates for their workforce, with additional buildings for rest, recreation and worship. The Cadbury family who believed in social responsibility and improved working and social conditions, built cottages for workers at both their Fruit Canning Factory in Blackminster, and their factory in Blackpole, Worcester, while Austin Village, between Longbridge and Northfield, and parts of Tolladine, in Worcester, were developed to house munitions workers, working at the Austin Motor Works and Cadbury factory in Blackpole, during WWI and WWII respectively.

The 20th-century saw a significant shift in industrial development - facilitated by the expanding road network and spread of mains electricity - with many manufacturers moving to cheaper land, with room to expand, on the urban/rural fringe. This is well evidenced in the New Town of Redditch, where new, well connected, industrial estates of varying size, were developed to provide buildings or land for businesses investing in the town. This urban sprawl has persisted with new quickly assembled, modular industrial estates, business parks and out of town retail parks putting increased pressure on green belts and, along with the rise of e-commerce, impacting on the viability of high streets up and down the country. Although some buildings, associated with our 20th-century industrial heritage, have been well recorded and sensitively re-developed as part of urban regeneration schemes, many others remain vulnerable to decay and/or demolition without record.

Maritime

Although not a coastal county, water has had a significant role in the development of Worcestershire, including its landscape, settlement, economy and identity. The River Severn - the longest river, as well as the longest navigable river, in England - and its tributaries, is a significant source of water (for irrigation and sanitation) and energy as well as a means of transporting people, animals and products. At approximately 220 miles in length the Severn rises in the Cambrian Mountains of Powys, before flowing through Shropshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and then emptying into the Bristol Channel. Worcestershire's navigable network further grew, when in 1770, the Severn was linked to the developing canal system. A River Severn bank-side survey, undertaken in 2008, from Worcester to Tewskesbury, established that the historic environment of that stretch of the river was mostly the creation of the 19th and 20th Centuries, although there remained considerable potential for earlier remains in the river banks (Hurst and Miller, 2008, 1). Heritage assets identified included a stone revetment on the river bank, bridges, river locks, weirs, boathouses, WWII defensive sites and an oil storage facility.

Emily Hathaway, Worcestershire County Council, and Jeremy Lake, Heritage Consultant

Left: Set within beautifully landscaped grounds, the factory buildings and offices associated with Harris Brushworks, in Stoke Prior, were commissioned by Leslie G. Harris in 1939 and designed by Bromsgrove architect G. C. Gadd. Construction was put on hold at the outbreak of WWII, the factory buildings weren't completed until 1947, and the office buildings weren't completed until 1959; the company, however, stayed faithful to Gadd's original International Modern design (Butler, 2017, 111).

Right: The Enfield Cycle Company, in Redditch, manufactured motorcycles, bicycles, lawnmowers and stationary engines under the name Royal Enfield. This brick block, its massing reflecting 1920s–1930s Dutch and Scandinavian influences, is one of a number of buildings which survive as part of the Enfield industrial estate; including what is believed to have been the cafeteria, many others have more recently been demolished or heavily modified.

Left: Mining Engineering Co Ltd. (Meco) moved from Sheffield to Worcester in 1925. Their factory, on Bromyard Road (now Joy Mining) is located on the east side of the Worcester and Hereford Railway. It is a simple functional expression of its internal steel frame, a feature common to many factories of the period. It was one of the few places in Worcester to suffer bombing in WWII, when on 3rd October 1940, a lone German aircraft killed seven and injured more than 50 people.

Right: High Duty Alloys, now Mettis Aerospace, in Redditch, made components for aeroplanes during WWII, including pistons for the engines of Spitfires and Hurricanes; it later went on to make parts for Concorde (Coombes, 2017). By 1941 the site was 26 acres. Many original buildings – again reflecting the influence of Dutch and Scandinavian brick buildings of the period - survive including a giant hanger clad in corrugated iron (Butler, 2017, 23).

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Most of the workshops and other buildings associated with small-scale crafts and industries, such as brewing and malting, milling corn, making textiles, shoes and glass and making iron tools, have a distinctive character in their architecture and planning.

- Large-scale manufacturing and processing sites, which required housing for their workforces and access to good communications, continued to follow the development of new industries such as aviation and the motor industry. The 1909 Planning Act and from the 1920s the expansion of the electricity grid drove and enabled the construction of many industrial and business premises away from centres of population and the older dependency on railway stations. These may have interest in how their architecture expresses their engineering and planning, such as using steel framing and reinforced concrete to enable time-effective working in evenly-lit and flexible spaces. Architectural treatment is mostly confined to the elevations of headquarters, showrooms and office blocks facing main and approach roads. Also significant are pre-1940 factories set within their own landscaped grounds. Some of the most advanced factories of the post-1945 period are the 'low-rise' factory blocks that combine the skills of the architect, engineer and landscape architect in the layout and design of manufacturing, research, education, administration and support services within designed landscapes. Many contain evidence for constant adaptation that is worthy of record.
- Whilst the development of the extractive industries (of stone, coal, ore and other minerals, and land for processing, refining and manufacturing) and of armaments and explosives manufacturing and ordnance storage, has used large areas of land it has rarely bequeathed buildings of architectural significance; typically utilitarian structures have been constantly adapted or swept away by renewal programmes, but they or their footprint can be sited within extensive sites that merit recording and/or careful management for the way in which they offer evidence for and illustrate industrial activity. They may also have historic associations and considerable communal value for local communities whose past and present lives they have shaped.

Also included in this category are sites associated with maritime and river management, trade and transportation, including buildings and structures associated with the construction, maintenance and supply of boats, transport and trade (docks, ports, wharves); those to enable navigation and regulate safe passage (weirs, locks, navigation aids) and more recently those to help regulate flooding.

2.11 Public Utilities (includes power stations and water supply and drainage)[24]

From the mid-19th century, growing concerns about water and air quality in the rapidly developing towns and cities encouraged a series of Public Health Acts. The architecture of buildings and places associated with initiatives to improve public sanitation, including water supply and sewage disposal, became important symbols of public investment in health and hygiene, by both local authorities and private companies.

By the end of the 19th-century traction power was also stimulating the growth of the electricity industry, although it wasn't until after WWI that electricity became more widely used domestically. During the first quarter of the 20th-century there were hundreds of electricity suppliers in Britain, all generating and supplying electricity at varying voltages and frequencies. The 1919 Electricity (Supply) Act initiated the provision of regional power by joint authorities while the 1926 Electricity (Supply) Act introduced the National Grid, connecting power stations across the country, and the 1947 Electricity Act bought the distribution and supply of electricity under state control. Generating stations predominately relied on steam engines, and to a lesser extent oil or gas engines. Some stations, including a small station at Fladbury and the larger station at Powick, were water-powered.

Did you know?
The Grade II* Listed former hydroelectricity station at Powick, Worcester was built in 1894. Constructed and operated by Worcester City Council it was the largest 19th-century hydro-electric public-supply works in Britain and one of the earliest and most impressive in the world.

Rivers have long been exploited as a source of energy, as has coal. The Severn Valley, with its fast-flowing river and tributaries, and abundance of raw materials, including coal, iron ore and clay, has an impressive industrial heritage. During the 20th-century the Severn had several power plants along its tidal stretch, and Worcestershire was well placed geographically to meet the demands of growing energy consumption. As well as being essential for hydro-electric power, large volumes of water are needed by 'classic' power plants for cooling processes, and the generation of steam, and stations located along rivers, such as the coal powered 'super-station', built at Stourport, were able to draw water directly from the river (in this case the Rivers Severn and Stour) as part of their cooling systems. Water transport also continued to be more cost-effective than road transport for the transportation of coal. In the second half of the 20th-century, power stations, as well as increasing in size and output, moved away from town centres into the countryside.

[24] British Water Tower Appreciation Society https://bwtas.blogspot.com/2013/10/yew-tree-hill-droitwich-worcestershire.html

Did you know?

Stourport 'A' Power Station was one of a number of 'super-stations' built in the first half of the 20th-century. Constructed by the Shropshire and Worcestershire (later the Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire) Electric Power Company and opening in 1927, the station was built in a neo-classical style. Close to the confluence of the Rivers Severn and Stour, coal was initially brought to the station by river and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal. A branch line of the Severn Valley Railway was constructed in 1940 enabling delivery of coal by rail. A second power station 'Stourport B' was opened on adjacent land in 1950. The station closed in 1984.

The River Severn is also a vital source of water (for irrigation and consumption) for the West Midlands and many reservoirs for the abstraction and storage of water have been developed along its length. Trimpley Reservoir is one such example and was constructed between 1964 and 1968 to supplement the Elan Valley pipeline, which supplies water to Birmingham, Mamble and Tenbury. Water supply in the county is also augmented by abstraction from the Triassic Sandstone aquifer, one of eleven principal aquifers in England and Wales and the second most important aquifer after Chalk.

In 1973 the Water Act brought together the many water and sewerage companies in England and Wales under ten water authorities including Severn Trent Water which, in 1974, became responsible for safeguarding and regulating water supply and sewage disposal in the West Midlands. In the mid-1980s, water, waste and electricity services were transferred to the private sector. Buildings and places associated with public utilities can range from the very small to the monumental in scale. As well as being functional, and often simple, in their design many buildings and places display aesthetic merit, through their thoughtful use of materials, architectural detailing and landscape design.

Left: Reservoirs were developed from the mid-19th century. Trimpley Reservoir, near Kidderminster, was constructed in 1964 and completed in 1968 to provide a supplement to the Elan Valley pipeline, which brings Welsh water to Birmingham, Mamble and Tenbury. The reservoir, which lies adjacent to Eymore Wood, is open to the public and is popular with wildlife, sailing and walking enthusiasts.

Right: This early 20th-century pumping station, in Clifton upon Teme was constructed by the Martley Rural District Council.

Left: Many 20th-century substations, such as this example in Worcester, blend into the local built environment and landscape by using materials and detailing displayed in local architecture.

Right: The Yew Tree Hill water tower, near Droitwich, remains a prominent local landmark. Built in 1962 for the East Worcestershire Waterworks Co. the tower holds 150,000 gallons of water. Construction was by Messrs. Currall, Lewis & Martin Ltd. The architect is unknown. Most 20th -century water towers were built in reinforced concrete.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Sites, buildings, structures and features for the supply and disposal of sewage and wastewater mostly date from the mid-19th century and include some of the most spectacular examples of Victorian and later engineering and their associated landscapes in England. Most 20th-century water towers are built of reinforced concrete and are of less intrinsic combined architectural and engineering significance than their predecessors. The harnessing of water energy, the mining of coal and the supply of oil and gas underpinned the development of power stations from the late 19th-century. Most of those surviving from before 1914, including small-scale generating stations in urban areas, are designated as heritage assets. Some of those predating 1940 – after the establishment of the national grid following the 1919 Electricity Supply Act - are also significant in terms of their architectural expression. Historic England has undertaken the recording of these sites dating after 1945, many of which have had an enormous impact on the landscape, as they have become increasingly redundant.

2.12 Recreation and Sport[25]

The introduction of shorter working hours and public holidays from the late Victorian period, and the passing of new legislation such as the 1938 Holidays with Pay Act, afforded the middle and working classes greater freedoms to enjoy long-standing and new forms of leisure and entertainment. These included sport, railway excursions, fetes and fairs, bands in the park and music at the music hall or winter gardens. This led to the growth of the entertainment and leisure industry and the development of facilities for mass entertainment including theatres, dance halls and cinemas. The 1909 Cinematograph Act, the first legislation to regulate the film industry, introduced a strict building code, stimulating the development of new purpose-built premises as well as the conversion of older buildings. The years 1928–30 saw the emergence of a new technology – talking pictures – and the establishment of large 'modern' theatre/cinema chains like Gaumont, ABC (Associated British Cinemas) and Odeon, which epitomised Art Deco and Moderne styles and exuded Hollywood glamour. Although fewer theatres and cinemas were built from the mid-1940s the emergence of the modern teenager, in the 1950s and 1960s, with their own ideas about fashion, identity and music, offered the entertainment industry a whole new market, with its own increasing economic power and personal mobility. Dance halls thrived, to be joined from c.1961 by ten-pin bowling; discotheques started to dominate with the greater availability of 45 rpm records and modern turntables in the early 1960s. Going to the pub also became more acceptable, particularly for women, and more restaurants began to appear.

The growth of commercial television, from the 1960s, led to a decline in audience numbers which, along with high maintenance costs led to the demolition of theatres and cinemas across the country. Changing economic circumstances and the availability of non-flammable film ensured that from the late 1950s (and particularly from the early 1970s) new cinemas were almost always built as part of integrated, multi-purpose civic complexes, many older buildings, such as the Gaumont on Forgate Street in Worcester, were converted into bingo halls (a hobby introduced from Australia around 1960) or music venues.

Buildings associated with leisure and entertainment remain, in the large part, highly valued by local communities. Despite this many are at risk of decay and demolition as a result of contemporary leisure patterns. The number of cinemas in the UK for example has fallen dramatically since World War II and whereas some local buildings have been saved and lovingly restored – *for example the Grade II listed, 1932, Art Deco Regal in Evesham, re-opened in 2012 after a major restoration project and the Grade II listed, 1936–38, Art Deco Northwick Cinema in Worcester reopened as a furniture store in 2006 after being closed for ten* years – others have been less fortunate – *the Central Theatre (opened 1931, demolished 1984), Futurist Cinema (opened 1912, closed 1962) and Playhouse Theatre (a conversion of the former 1903 Opera House, opened 1946, demolished 1969) are just three of a number of theatres/cinemas to have been demolished in Kidderminster*[26].

Priory Park in Malvern, formally known as the Winter Gardens, was laid out in the late 19th-century. In 1928 the assembly rooms were converted into a theatre and the conservatory a ballroom. A. V. Rowe

[25] The Civic Stourport, History of the Civic https://www.thecivicstourport.co.uk/history-of-the-civic/

[26] Theatres, Music Halls, and Cinemas in Kidderminster, Worcestershire http://www.arthurlloyd.co.uk/KidderminsterTheatres.htm

added a new concert hall extension in 1951 and the complex was again remodelled in the late 20th-century. Now part of Malvern Theatres, the complex continues to be a centre for the arts and music, in Worcestershire. The former Winter Gardens complex in Droitwich, built in 1933 next to the town's Brine Baths, and reputedly having the best sprung floor in the county, was less fortunate. Converted into a cinema in the mid-1970s, it finally closed to the public in 1983 and was one of several interesting late 19th- and early 20th-century buildings demolished in the town in the latter half of the 20th-century.

Increasing awareness of the moral and physical health of the nation, during the Victorian era, facilitated both the development of professional sporting bodies - including the Football Association (founded in 1863), the Rugby Football Union (established in 1871) and the Lawn Tennis Association (founded 1888) – as well as local facilities for sport and recreation including stadiums, grounds, greens, racecourses, grandstands, pavilions, lidos and swimming pools. By the early 20th-century sport had become an important part of British culture, both at home and across the Empire, and after the First World War it was actively promoted by Central and Local Government. Despite lidos, tennis and bowling clubs and parks being in the forefront of improved provision of facilities for women and children, and for families, mass sport continued to be dominated by men. Employers, who recognised the importance of a happy, healthy workforce, encouraged the formation of works teams and sport became an integral part of military training and, during both WWI and WWII, army life. With the establishment of the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) in the late 1920s, sport was able to reach new audiences around the world and by the 1940s and 1950s governments looked to sport to help restore Britain's post-war economy and civic pride as well as strengthen its changing identity as a declining world power. Sports or Leisure Centres are a more modern building type, having come into being as a result of the 1960 Wolfenden Report on Sport and the Community; they typically provide for a variety of both wet and dry sports.

Buildings and spaces associated with sporting activity and recreation are recognised as having considerable social interest, often eliciting a strong emotional response for both local communities and fans further afield. Many transcend utility and display special architectural character (Historic England, 2017, 1). Much of our sporting heritage is at risk of neglect, decay and demolition. Many buildings and spaces have also undergone considerable change as a result of changing leisure patterns and attitudes towards comfort, health and safety and competition (English Heritage, 2012, 2); others have been replaced or adapted to engender wider public participation and to provide additional facilities including function rooms (Historic England, 2017, 3).

Many of Worcestershire's leading sports teams formed in the later 19th or early 20th-century, including Kidderminster Harriers (founded in 1886), Worcestershire County Cricket Club (founded 1865), Worcester Warriors (formally Worcester Rugby Football Club, founded 1871) and Worcester City Football Club (founded 1902). The Victoria Ground in Bromsgrove, now home to Bromsgrove Sporting Football Club (founded 2009), was previously home to Bromsgrove Rovers, who played there between 1909 and 2010. With major rivers, including the Severn, Stour and Avon, flowing through Worcestershire, it's no surprise that water sports, such as rowing, boating and canoeing, also have a long history throughout the county. Worcester Rowing Club, for example, was founded in 1874, following the amalgamation of several separate members clubs, while Evesham Boat Club, later renamed Evesham Rowing Club, was founded even earlier in 1863.

Did you know?
Worcestershire is home to one of the oldest motorsport events in the world, the Shelsley Walsh Speed Hill Climb. Organised by the Midland Automobile club, the event was first held in 1905.

The development of modern stadia, on lower cost, out of town sites – a growing trend since the early 1990s and the publication of the Taylor Report (which followed the Hillsborough disaster of 1989) - has led to the relocation of many teams away from their traditional home grounds. While some, for example Worcester Warriors, have been successful in forging a new social identity, others have struggled. Worcester City Football Club has, only recently (in principal), secured a new site after their historic ground – St Georges – was sold and redeveloped for housing in 2012/13. More recently Kidderminster Harriers Football Club have announced plans to leave their traditional home – Aggborough – for a new stadium and training facility on the other side of the town.

Droitwich Spa Lido, designed by Thomas H. Mawson & Son, is one of the most well-known examples of 20th-century sporting heritage in the County. The lido, which opened in 1935 to much fanfare, was marketed as the 'seaside of Droitwich Spa' and located on the edge of Brine Baths Park (an early 20th-century public park with bandstand and sporting and leisure facilities). The pool was filled with diluted brine from local streams. After falling out of use and into disrepair in the 1990s, the lido was re-opened in 2007, following a well-supported public campaign.

Left: Worcester's Gaumont Cinema, now Gala Bingo, on Foregate Street, opened in 1935 and was designed by W.E. Trent & Earnest F. Tulley in the modern style. Built opposite the Silver Cinema (1919 - 1939), the Gaumont could seat 1,740 patrons and had been built to replace an earlier cinema of the Provincial Cinematograph Theatre chain, located on St Swithin's Street. (British Brick Society).

Right: A second large cinema on Foregate Street, The Odeon, was designed by H. W. Weedon's practice as early as 1938–9, but didn't open until 1950, owing to the War. The building, with its prominent brick flanking wings with rounded corners and front faces decorated with a diamond pattern, is a fine example of the Odeon Company's bold brick house style.

Left: The Grade II listed, 1936–38 Art Deco Northwick Cinema (now an antiques hall), north of Worcester, conceals a spectacular interior, designed by John Alexander and incorporating a group of life-size mythical figures, horses and chariots in fibrous plaster. Photograph © Elain Harwood

Right: The Regal Cinema in Tenbury is one of three 'Regal' cinemas recorded in the county (the others being in Evesham and Bromsgrove). It is Grade II listed and was built in 1937 by Ernest Roberts for Clifton Cinemas. Roberts of Birmingham is well known as being skilled in designing appropriately-scaled cinemas for small market towns. The Regal in Tenbury is a very rare survival with a well-preserved interior, including contemporary murals.

Left: Stourport's Civic Centre was commissioned by the former Stourport Urban District Council and designed by Andrews and Hazzard of Birmingham in 1963. As well as hosting offices for Local Government, the centre incorporated facilities for music, dancing and leisure. After being threatened with demolition in 2011 a public campaign was launched to save the centre.

Although small, the Swan theatre, built in 1965 and designed by Henry Gorst, is one of Worcester's principal venues for the arts.

Left: First referenced in the late 16th Century, cricket remains England's national summer sport. Played in cities, towns and villages across the country, grounds are often picturesque with exclusive views beyond the ground. Cricket pavilions are generally timber-framed, with vernacular detailing. Many were modelled on the Indian bungalow, with verandas, awnings and raised viewing platforms (Historic England, 2017, 13).

Right: The Bowling Green and pavilion at Cripplegate Park in Worcester were built at some point in-between 1928 and 1940. The green in still well used by teams from across the city and Malvern Hills District.

Left: This boathouse in Upton upon Severn has been repurposed and now functions as a restaurant.

Right: The former Swimming Baths ('Castle Locks') on Castle Road in Kidderminster, dated 1931 and designed by Joseph Hawcroft, is one of a number of interesting 20th-century buildings in the Green Street Conservation Area.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Sites, buildings, structures, features and areas of land associated with sport, leisure and entertainment illustrate one of the most historically significant aspects of social life in the later 19th and 20th centuries. They are associated with the shortening of working hours and increased leisure time, complementing how the built environment and landscape increasingly illustrates, from the late 18th Century, the increased emphasis on spas, resorts and other places for recreation. In addition to **Gardens, public parks and open spaces**:

- Structures associated with sporting heritage – ball games and racing in-particular - rarely predate 1940 due to the constant need to rebuild and re-fashion them for changing standards of comfort, health and safety. Cricket and more rarely tennis, golf and rowing clubs are most likely to have club houses in a defined architectural style, usually variations on historic and Domestic Revival styles; those of pre-1940 date will have some heritage significance. The landscapes and places associated with them may have considerable historic and communal value, however, which is rarely reflected in official heritage designations. The most architecturally elaborate and significant post-1960 sports buildings are those built for universities and Local Authorities pioneering the development of multi-purpose sports centres which may also include other recreational facilities.
- Indoor swimming pools can be lavish displays of municipal architecture as well as making use of new developments in reinforced concrete and laminated timber. Complete outdoor swimming baths or lidos of the period to 1940 are now rare. Other outdoor swimming spots might also have long histories, although few tangible remains.
- Public parks can include a diversity of structures such as tea rooms, fountains, lavatories and bandstands, of heritage significance if part of a coherent or architecturally-distinguished scheme. Areas and structures for facilitating childrens' play are of great historic significance but have rarely survived intact.
- Surviving pre-1940 cinemas can be of considerable architectural interest, offering – in contrast to more functional modern cinemas - exotic environments for illustrating one of the most significant aspects of people's experiences in the 20th-century; complete pre-1914 examples are rare.
- A relatively small number of theatres were built – mostly by civic authorities - after the last major phase of building theatres in the Edwardian period.
- Sports buildings can be sited within grounds which include racetracks and playing fields/areas which form an integral part of their settings. These often have very high communal value. Activities such as cycling and walking grew in popularity from the later 19th-century, enabling the engagement of landscape to citizenship but having little tangible legacy; the Ramblers Association was founded in 1935.

2.13 Religious, Ritual and Funerary[27]

The place of the traditional Christian church in British society has changed considerably throughout the course of the 20th-century. At the beginning of the 20th-century church going was a common occurrence with many people attending weekly services. Churches continued to play a significant role in the provision of education with many children attending a denominational or Sunday school. Over the course of the century, however, growing secularism and religious diversity has radically changed the religious landscape.

From traditional Gothic and Arts and Crafts inspired architecture to tin tabernacles and experimental modern design, the character of 20th-century churches is incredibly diverse. Post-war reconstruction and the proliferation of other Christian denominations influenced by American evangelicalism, such as Jehovah's Witnesses and Christadelphians, encouraged new building, particularly in larger towns, cities and the emerging suburbs where there was increased migration, population growth and economic prosperity. Islamic, Sikh and Hindu places of worship followed the pattern of earlier Christian denominations – practice in homes and other premises prior to the building and establishment of their own places of worship.

A proliferation of building by the Catholic Church, particularly in the 1950s and 1960s, adapted classical Italianate as well as Gothic Revival styles, before subsequently embracing the simpler purer forms facilitated by new constructional materials, including reinforced concrete and steel frames (Historic England 2017, 11). All denominations of Christianity were heavily influenced by the Liturgical Movement—which sought to facilitate the participation of the congregation— with new and existing church interiors designed to bring the altar nearer the congregation, both physically and spiritually. Methodist Central Halls combined worship space with offices, meeting rooms and communal facilities, essentially providing social as well as spiritual support, and many evangelical churches became associated with informal settings such as school and community halls. With shrinking congregations and a lack of regular services combined with increased pressure for new residential development, many 20th-century churches and church halls are threatened with closure and demolition, without record.

Did you know?
The Grade II* listed Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Catherine of Alexandria on Worcester Road, Droitwich, designed by notable Birmingham architect F.B. Peacock and constructed in 1921–2, contains a remarkable set of Byzantine style mosaic decorations by Gabriel Pippet, dating to 1921–33).

[27] Kidderminster west Profile 2016, The Church of England Diocese of Worcester http://cofeworcester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/KWTMProfile_Jan2016_final.pdf

Crematoria landscapes

The design and landscaping of crematoria, as places for remembrance as well as internment, reflect changing cultural practices, behaviours and emotions. The 1902 Cremation Act gave Local Authorities new powers to construct crematoria. The Grade I listed Golders Green crematorium in London, dated to 1902, was the first crematorium in England where landscape design was considered from the outset (Historic England 2017. 6). Post-war the popular 'Garden of Remembrance' style layout, with its formal use of rose beds, rockeries, pools and shrubberies, often influenced by the Arts and Crafts style, with informality beyond, was replaced by more natural, woodland settings (Historic England 2017. 7).

The three years immediately before the Second World War were noteworthy for the unprecedented number of crematoria opened in Great Britain – twenty-five new crematoria were built. New building of any kind was restricted immediately post-war, but between 1951 and 1954 15 more crematoria were opened. Outdated legislation, passed in 1902, also hampered development and a new Cremation Act, which came into law on 26th June 1952, removed the former act's anomalies which had prevented further development. Within only five years of the passing of the new Act the one hundredth crematorium opened at Salford on 14th January 1957, and twenty more were built before 1959. The steady rate of growth from 1952–59 quickened into a period of rapid expansion from 1960 onwards. Thirty new crematoria were opened during 1960 and 1961 alone. In the succeeding years eleven were added in 1962, five in 1963, five in 1964, two in 1965, twelve in 1966, two in 1967 and four in 1968, including the two hundredth at Worthing.

With greater numbers came more experience of operating crematoria. Ever more people attending ceremonies came by car, and the close timing of services meant that there needed to be both a flow through the chapel – usually into the Garden of Remembrance – and somewhere for those attending the next service both to park and wait. Many architects found opportunities to express their ideas and to use new materials in working with this evolving form.

Left: Redditch Crematorium opened in 1973. Overlooking the Arrow Valley and next to the Scheduled Monument Bordesley Abbey, the site was designed to be in harmony with its natural surroundings.

Right: This purpose-built funeral parlour, in Worcester, was completed in 1938, to a design by Henry Rowe. Still in use as funeral directors today the building makes a strong contribution to the street scene.

Emily Hathaway, Worcestershire County Council, and Jeremy Lake, Heritage Consultant

Left: The Catholic Church of Our Lady and Pius X, in Habberley, Kidderminster, was built between 1966 and 1970 as part of a post-war estate. The church closed for worship at the end of June 2014. A planning application for its demolition and the erection of nine dwellings with associated landscaping and parking for affordable housing, was approved in February 2017. With the demolition of the adjacent St. Johns Hall originally built in 1965 as a replacement church hall for St. John the Baptist Church on Bewdley Road, and the Estate Pub, the Coopers Arms, also both approved (July 2016), the communal heart of the estate is set to radically change.

Right: Although 21st-century in date this impressive Mosque on Jinnah Road, in Redditch, reflects the growth of the town's Muslim community, throughout the course of the 20th-century. Redditch Central Mosque, one of the earliest mosques in the town, was previously accommodated in the former St. Stephen's Church Institute on Easemore Lane. Dated to 1910 the institute is of Domestic Revival style with vernacular detailing.

Left: Droitwich Methodist Church, designed by G.R. Acton, dates to 1937/38.

Right: The 'new' Somers Park Methodist Chapel in Malvern is a striking composition designed by Stanley A. Griffiths and completed in 1936. The original school/chapel of 1907 is extant and used as the Church Hall.

Left: The Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Ostra Brama in Pitt Street, Kidderminster opened to serve members of the Polish community in 1963.

Right: St. Andrews Methodist Church in Pump Street, Worcester was designed by Shingler Risdon Associates and is dated 1967. Its striking stained glass window, designed by Arthur E. Buss and installed in 1968 by a local company, is divided vertically into seven parts which symbolise the progress of the soul, from doubts and difficulties, through fire and light. The faceted glass is set in epoxy resin and follows the "Dalle de Verre" method, pioneered in the U.S.A. in 1954.

Left: St. Peters Community Church in Birchen Coppice was built as part of a campaign by the Worcestershire diocese to build satellite churches on modern housing estates in the 1950s. (Parish Profile, Kidderminster West Team Ministry, The Church of England, Diocese of Worcestershire).

Right: The Anglican Church of St John the Evangelist in Greenlands Redditch was constructed in 1990 and designed by Trinity Road Developments.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

Sites, buildings, structures and features related to the practice of rituals and religious beliefs, including funerary rites. Includes ancillary buildings, structures and features of uncertain use, which are thought to be 'ritual' (for example, hill figures).

Churches, chapels and other places of worship have been central to the lives of communities from the medieval period.

- In very broad terms, Gothic and other mainstream styles are joined by Modernist styles by the inter-war period, the distinctive brickwork and dramatic massing of Dutch and Scandinavian architecture being particularly influential before 1940.
- The construction, design and massing of the most innovative Anglican and Roman Catholic churches and chapels of the period from the 1950s, which are concentrated in growing suburban areas, resulted from the desire for the congregation to be closer to the priest and the sacraments and so break away from earlier longitudinal forms. Around two thirds of Roman Catholic churches in England date from the 20th-century, after the consecration of Westminster Cathedral in 1910, and most of those from between 1950 and 1970.
- Nonconformist places of worship continued to follow earlier traditions that since the 17th Century had given primacy to seeing and hearing the preacher, the most innovative and ground-breaking in their architectural treatment again dating from the 1950s–1960s.
- The strength of the post-war evangelical movement can find its expression in innovative and American-influenced places of worship, but equally if not more so it has adapted or simply used other spaces such as sports and school halls. Islamic, Sikh and Hindu places of worship followed the pattern of earlier Christian denominations – practice in homes and other premises prior to the building and establishment of their own places of worship.

Churchyards and from the early 1900s crematoria with their gardens of rest were sited away from centres of population from the late 19th-century; most of the latter date from the 1950s. Some of these have considerable significance as designed landscapes.

2.14 Transport and Travel

During the 20th-century the motor car has transformed both the landscape and how we live our lives. The first petrol-powered motor cars were imported into England in 1895 (English Heritage 2016, 1). Initially the preserve of the most affluent, by the 1960s car ownership was a realistic prospect for many families. Car ownership has continued to rise throughout the course of the 20th and 21st Centuries and as of the end of March 2018 there were 37.9 million vehicles, of which 31.3 million were cars, licenced for use on roads in Great Britain. The national road network, which was transformed in the 1890s and then again in the 1920s, continues to expand and adapt to meet ongoing demands for individual mobility.

Worcestershire is world-renowned for being the home of the Morgan Motor Company. Founded in 1909 by H.F.S Morgan, Morgan cars continue to be produced at a factory, constructed between 1919 and 1923, on Pickersleigh Road in Malvern. Malvern is also home to the Santler Brothers who have good claim to be Britain's first makers of petrol-powered cars[28]. The Longbridge Plant - no longer in Worcestershire due to boundary changes - manufactured cars on a far greater scale. Opening in 1905, by the late 1960s Longbridge employed around 25,000 workers[29]. The plant continued to be an important centre for the West Midlands Car Industry until the collapse of MG Rover in 2005; limited production finally ceased in September 2016. Other notable motor car manufactures in Worcestershire include Castle Motor Co. Ltd in Kidderminster, Dellow Motors in Alvechurch, Enfield Autocar Company in Redditch and V. P. Webb in Stourport on Severn.

From the late 1920s facilities for mobile motorists, including petrol stations for refuelling and tea rooms, cafes, roadhouses and motorway service stations, for rest and refreshment, were developed across the country. Designs varied from the exotic, to the quaint and quirky. Many rural stations and services were intended to harmonise with their rural setting, designed in a simple, attractive style with hipped, tiled roofs (Morrison and Minnis 2012, 142). Since the 1980s, with the rise of out of town supermarkets, offering cheaper petrol and a more 'convenient' shopping experiences, independent petrol stations and services have become increasingly rare.

Did you know?
The first petrol station to be opened in England was near Aldermaston, Berkshire in 1919. It was owned and operated by the Automobile Association (AA) and had a single hand-operated pump. Soon after the AA opened seven more stations. It was such a popular development that by 1923 about 7000 petrol stations were in use.

[28] Wikipedia: Santler https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santler

[29] Wikipedia: Longbridge Plant https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Longbridge_plant

Cars, of course, are not the only significant motorised vehicle of the 20th-century. Motor bus services in England were introduced in the 1900's and quickly replaced the horse-drawn bus. In Worcestershire a number of companies offered services, but the First World War led to the dominance of one, "Midland Red', which seems have been due to their choice of vehicle. Their first buses were made by Tillings Stevens who used a hybrid petrol engine/electric motor driving system. This was unpopular with the Army and consequently their buses were not always requisitioned, as other companies' buses were. In 1914 'Midland Red' started services from Birmingham to Stourbridge, Redditch, Kidderminster, Stratford upon Avon, Great Malvern, and Evesham replacing horse drawn services. Early shelters, provided for waiting passengers, came in a variety of designs. Some were inspired by the local vernacular, designed to blend in with their surroundings by adopting local materials, colours and architectural details. Others adopted bolder Art Deco designs, or the functional simplicity of early brutalist architecture. Many rural settlements in Britain erected bus stops as part of the 1951 Festival of Britain Celebrations and then later as part of the 1953 Queen's Coronation Celebrations.

Left: This recently demolished Morgan Garage in Hartlebury was first established in the inter-war period. At one time a busy filling station and tearoom, the site reflected a growing population of private motorists, from the 1920s, and was noted as an example of a little altered rural filling station, in Morrison's and Minnis' (with English Heritage) 2012, book 'Carscapes'.

Right: This Art Deco style garage in Upton upon Severn is full of character and a local landmark.

Left: Although Midland Red buses had been in Redditch since WWI it was not until 1931 that this garage and depot opened in the town.

Right: This bus shelter in Malvern was designed in the local vernacular to blend in with its built and natural surroundings, others in the town adopted bolder modern or simple functional styles.

Significant buildings and sites to look for:

- The growth of the national road network, maintained by public highway authorities, and then of car ownership from the 1920s transformed individual mobility. Concerns emerged about the impact of development, including along roads, at the same time that a variety of publications - including the Shell county guides from the 1930s - met growing demand for the exploration and discovery of rural landscapes and heritage; the Trunk Act of 1936 transferred responsibility for roads to the Ministry of Transport. Motorways developed later than in other parts of Europe, from the late 1950s.
- Multi-storey car parks were built from the 1930s and were built in great numbers from the 1960s; the latter will have greater significance if they display great innovation in their planning and may be integrated with shopping centres of some architectural interest.
- Another significant but often overlooked aspect of this theme is how bridges were adapted and strengthened to take motor transport. There are relatively few 20th-century bridges that – largely due to their construction and design in reinforced concrete or as suspension bridges in steel and concrete – have national significance on account of their engineering virtuosity. Wartime portable bridges, most numerous being the Bailey bridges manufactured from 1941, can be found reused as road or pedestrian bridges.
- The canal infrastructure and abandoned railway lines now play a significant role for leisure and recreation. The rail infrastructure of the previous century continued in large part to be reused until the Beeching cuts of the 1960s. Mechanised marshalling yards and container transport developed in the 1920s–1930s.
- The growth of the national road network and of civil aviation from the 1920s is associated with the construction of garages, filling stations and of airfields, and of the provision of signposting (usually with a distinct county brand) and of emergency call boxes installed by the AA and RAC. Complete pre-1940 examples of the latter are now rare, particularly if associated with any terminals, hangars or hotels. Passenger air travel experienced massive growth from the 1960s.

3. 20TH CENTURY HERITAGE IN WORCESTERSHIRE: NOMINATION FORM

Thank you for suggesting a 20th-century building or public place to be added to the Historic Environment Record

What is a Historic Environment Record?

A Historic Environment Record (or HER) exists to compile and maintain a public record of an area's historic remains, both below and above ground. The HER is one of the things that planners look at when decisions need to be made about a building or site, so the fact that something is on a HER gives it a better chance of being recognised as something of importance and something to be considered when decisions are made. If we know about something, it can be given due weight and lead to a better-informed decision.

20th-century buildings

A 20th-century building or public place is anything built between 1900 and 1999. Although it is almost 20 years since the end of the 20th-century, the majority of the things developed during that period survive in some form or another. A key point is that these nominations should be things which matter to you and to your local community; things which tell a story about how your local community grew and how you grew up in it. So, we are not only looking for the big obvious buildings and public places but also for more modest and less obvious things which nonetheless mean something to you.

Nominating a 20th-century building or public place to be added to the HER

So that we can consider your suggestions we need to know as much as possible about your proposed building(s)/public place. Please provide as much of the following information as possible, the most important piece of information required is a location. Also, please use a separate form for each building you are nominating.

Basic information

(If typing information here, the boxes will expand as you type)

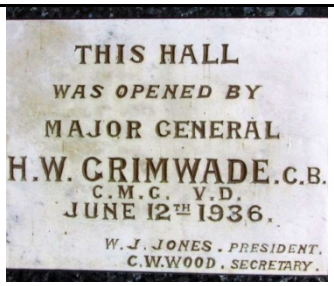
1. Building/Place type
What type of building/place is this? Please refer to the types of buildings/places described in the accompanying guidance document.

Please describe the building/place…

2. Building/Place name
What is the building/place called or known as? Please give as much of the following information as possible: - The name(s) of any business trading from the building, or; Any name(s) showing on the front of the building (e.g. 'Commercial House', etc.).

3. Building/Place address	
Where is the building/place? Please give some means of identifying EITHER the location of the building/place or (in the case of something which does not have an address (i.e. a Telephone Kiosk)), the building it is closest to.	
Number:	Name:
Road or street name:	
Area or district where the building is located:	
Nearest town:	
Post Code:	

4. Date of construction of the building/place (actual or approximate)
When was the building/place built or developed? Please give as much of the following information as possible: - Are any date(s) shown? Please refer to the Picture Grid below for examples of where dates can be seen on buildings.

 On a gutter head	 On a building	 As part of a building
 On a foundation stone	 In a shop front	 On an opening plaque

5. Current or last known use of the building/place
If the building/place is still in use, what is it being used for now?
If the building/place is no longer in use, what was it used for last?

6. Current condition of the building/place		
How does the building/place look today? Is it well kept or not? Please tick the comment(s) below which apply to the building…		
In good repair		
In fair condition, but needing some attention		
Needing lots of repairs		
Disused		
Derelict		

07. Additional information about the building/place
Do you know anything else about the building/place which may be of interest and use in providing a better picture of it? Examples could include:
Names of people who used to live or work there
Names of businesses which used to trade from there
Things that happened there
People once associated with the building

08. Do you have a photograph of the building/place which you can send in with this nomination?	
If YES please tick	

10. Do you have any historical information about the building/place – such as deeds, plans, old adverts, old photographs, etc. – which will help to build a better picture of its past?
If YES please describe these…

Optional information

Thank you for your nomination. If you would like to be kept informed about the progress of your nominated building, or about the development of the HER, please supply some contact details below. Any information provided will be kept confidential and securely, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, and will not be passed on to third parties. (If typing information here, the boxes will expand as you type).

Name	
Address	
Post Code	
Telephone or mobile number	
Email address	

Please return completed nomination forms to:

20th-century Buildings and Places in Worcestershire
Worcestershire Historic Environment Record
Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service
Worcestershire County Council
The Hive, Sawmill Walk, The Butts,
Worcester
WR1 3PD

Or email them to: HErecord@worcestershire.gov.uk

Thank you

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