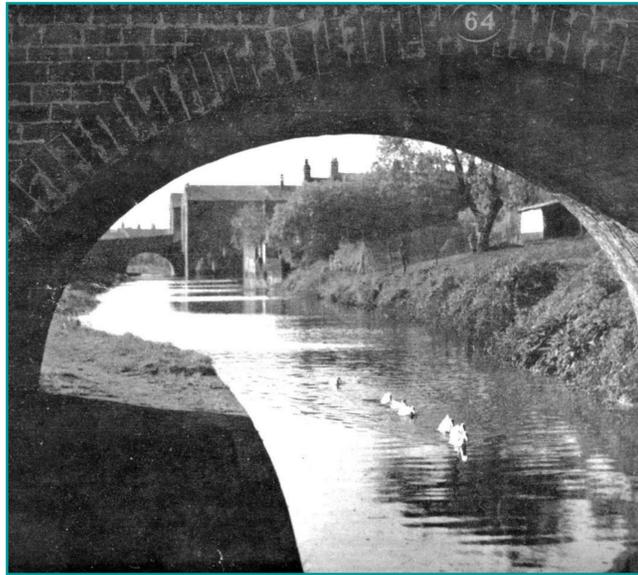


Hello Heritage...

Ashby Canal at Measham and Tan Yard



View of High Street and Wilkes warehouses from Horses Lane bridge number 64.

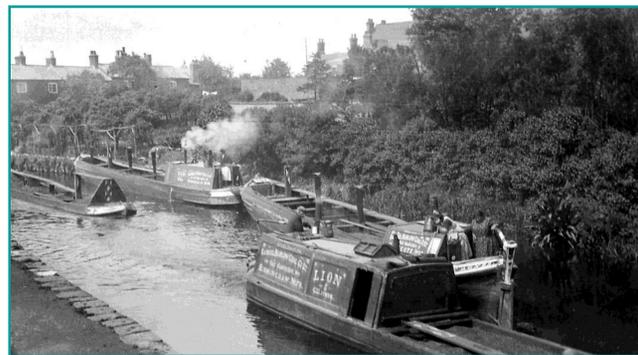
Once a prominent feature of the village, the Ashby Canal was authorised by an act of parliament in 1794 for a 50 mile long canal from Ashby Wolds to Marsden near Coventry. The original estimate for construction was £23,317 but two years later a new estimate was of £100,000 was proposed.

The canal took 10 years to be cut and opened in 1804 at a final cost of £166,000 with a reduced length of 30 miles. Please visit Measham Museum where you will find more information.



The Tan Yard - High Street built in the 18th century, this is the site of Measham's oldest recorded industry.

The buildings on High Street were the last to remain on what was originally the site of a large Tan Yard, built by Joseph Wilkes in 1794. The building on the left became the Gate Inn used by the canal barges when passing through the village, and later became a shoe shop. The shop on the right kept up the tradition of 'leather work', the Hart family being harness and saddle makers from 1857 to 1951. The buildings were demolished in 1999. Arches supporting the High street could be seen after demolition and are now hidden below the new Tan Yard House.



View west of the canal bridge with narrow boats moored to pick up provisions and teapots from Anne Bonus's and perhaps a visit to the Gate public house.



View east of the canal 1957 now drained. In 1967 the canal was blocked off at Snarestone severing the link with the coalfield it was built to serve.



6 of the cottages and the main dwellings faced the High Street and lost their ground floor frontages with the building of the canal, c.1805. and were demolished in 1957.



The main building became shops with the lower floors as living accommodation, demolished late 1990's. You can see the arches which held up the High street.

Heritage on your doorstep...