

HAIGH HALL: MOWPIN LODGE GATES DESIGN



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A new gate is to be commissioned for the Mowpin Lodge entrance to Haigh Hall. 3 designs have been created by Creative Directors AI and AI to celebrate the magnificent heritage of the Haigh Estate.

The people of Wigan Borough are now being invited to decide which gate they want to see at Mowpin Lodge entrance.

The fundamental gate design is ironwork from the 1830's, the same period which the current Hall was built. Each gate is made unique with elements based on 3 different focus points of heritage from Haigh's history...

- 1: Haigh Hall's Bibliotheca Lindesiana
- 2: Haigh's 900 year history of mining
- 3: Haigh Hall's ceiling plasterwork



Mowpin Lodge, Haigh Hall

HAIGH HALL: MOWPIN LODGE GATES DESIGN THE SWAN



The first design features a Swan illustrated by the Earl of Crawford's daughter, Lady Jane Evelyn Lindsay in the stained glass she created for Wigan Parish Church. The Swan with a key in its beak appears in a number of forms connected to Haigh Hall. In the Crawford chapel, founded by Lady Mabel Bradshaigh in 1338, a coat of arms hangs in the ceiling looking down on the ancestors of the families from Haigh Hall buried in the crypt below. The Swan with a key in its beak is also the symbol stamped onto every precious manuscript in the Bibliotheca Lindesiana, once the largest private library in England housed at Haigh Hall. There is also archival evidence that Aspull district council used the Swan with a key in its beak in the 19th century. Mowpin Lodge gates are situated on the Aspull side of the Haigh Estate.



Lady Jane Lindsay stained glass window designs
The Crawford Chapel, Wigan Parish Church



Aspull Council Insignia
1894



Bibliotheca Lindesiana Stamp
Earl of Crawford's library



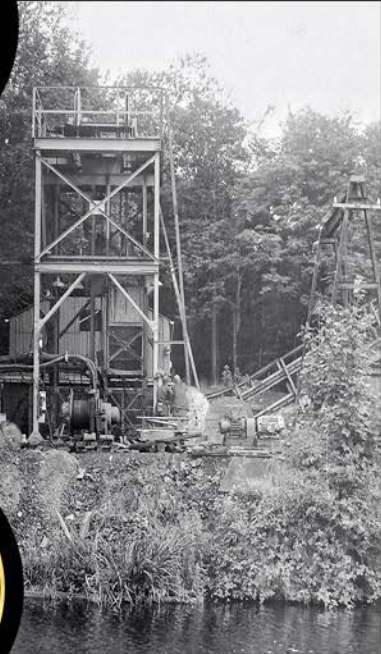
HAIGH HALL: MOWPIN LODGE GATES DESIGN THE MINERS



The second design features the symbol of the Miner's shovel and pickaxe, the traditional tools of the miner used as an emblem of the National Union of Miners. It was the socialist uprising of Miners in the post war period which led to the Nationalisation of the coal mining industry in July 1946, shortly after this, the Lindsay family left Haigh Hall and the Hall was purchased by Wigan Corporation in 1947.

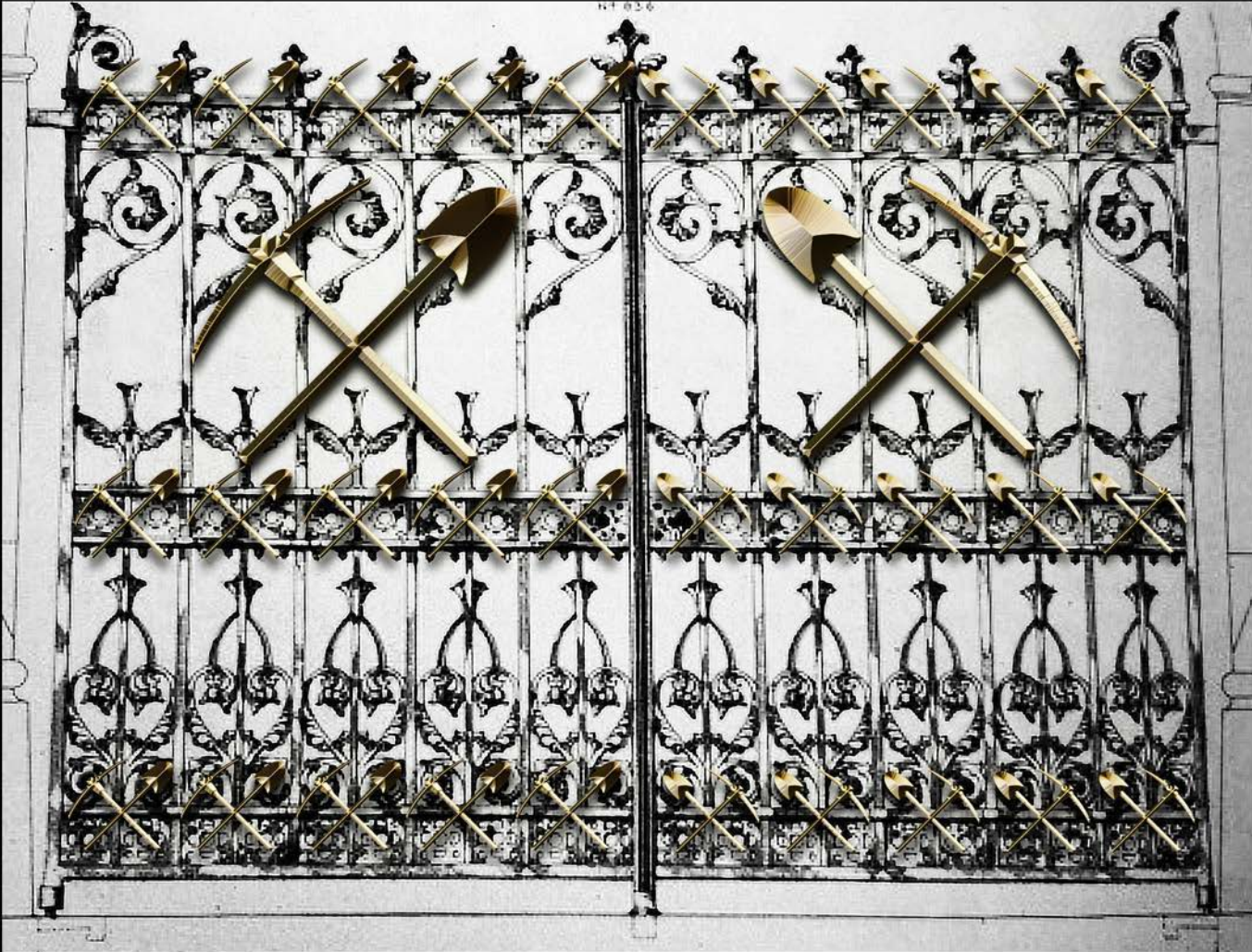
The Miners Gate symbolises the 900 years of mining heritage at Haigh. The coal at Haigh known as Cannel or 'fyrestone' is perfectly clean to touch, resembling black polished marble. In the 17th century, a summerhouse was built of Cannel in the grounds at Haigh. The builder of Haigh Hall declared to his family "Colliers we are and colliers we must remain".

7 capped pitheads remain on the Haigh estate, a subterranean world of tunnels camouflaged by the ancient woodland and Plantations.



Dairy Pit, Haigh Hall

Mining pin badges:
National Union Miners
Women Against Pit Closures
Miners Strike 35th Anniversary



HAIGH HALL: MOWPIN LODGE GATES DESIGN THE EYE

Haigh Hall, The Dining Room Library, Ceiling Plaster Designs



The third design features an original Eye of Providence design by the 24th Earl of Crawford, James Lindsay who built Haigh Hall. During 1829 & 1830, the magnificent plaster casts, which can still be seen in Haigh Hall's ceilings today were cast in Paris and shipped up the Canal from Paddington to Haigh Hall.



Haigh Hall, Library Ceiling Plaster

James Lindsay understood mining was fundamental to the heritage of Haigh, he once said to his family, "Colliers we are and Colliers we must ever remain." The triangle in his design for the Eye of Providence uniquely points towards the ground beneath our feet, rather than the sky above. Perhaps this symbolises Lord Lindsay's understanding that the Cannel coal he was mining at Haigh was the source of his power and light. His families providence depended on this wealth generated from the mines on his estate.



Earl of Crawford Masonic Certificates Insignia

