



The Chester Civic Trust

WALK: Rock Park Conservation Area.

Tuesday, August 9th 2016, 10.30 pm

Rock Park estate was laid out in 1836-7 by Jonathan Bennison. The whole estate was completed by 1850 and now comprises 36 magnificent houses in varying styles, all of which are Grade II Listed. The estate was a park with a looped driveway and lodge gates. Some had frontages onto the esplanade and River Mersey. When the dual carriage by-pass was built, it cut the estate into two. Pevsner called this 'an unforgivable act of vandalism'.

The area was made a conservation area in 1979 after it had been 'vandalized'.

We will meet at The Refreshment Rooms near to the esplanade. This was once part of pleasure gardens, a hotel, a pier, shops and bath houses. There had been a ferry here since at least the eighteenth century and these facilities had been developed in the early nineteenth century. The ferry closed in 1939 and now all that is left is The Refreshment Rooms and the decaying pier.

The walk will be approximately one and a half hours and will be led by Su Thomson, a local expert on this area. We will return to the Refreshment Rooms for a coffee/tea (included) and some of you may wish to have your lunch here.

We are meeting in the area of The Refreshment Rooms, Bedford Road East, Rock Ferry, CH42 1LS. If you need a lift or are prepared to give one, please indicate below.

There is only one route for vehicles into the area. Come from Chester up the A41. Just after Bromborough Pool there is a roundabout with one arm leading into Port Sunlight and another continuing the A41 along the by-pass to the Birkenhead Tunnel. Take the middle B5136 to New Ferry and Rock Ferry. Follow this road along to Rock Lane East. You will see the Stagecoach Depot to your right and a highly coloured block of flats to your left. At the immediate cross roads with traffic lights turn right. Follow this road down and near to the bottom of this incline turn right to cross a bridge going over the by-pass. Follow the road downwards to the esplanade. There is usually an advertising sign for The Refreshment Rooms on this right turn.

The cost of the visit is £3

Chester Civic Trust Visit to Rock Park, 9th August 2016

*To book please complete this slip and enclose a cheque payable to Chester Civic Trust.
Please note: Tickets will not be issued but you will be notified by telephone or email.*

Name(s) _____

Tel No _____ Email _____

I enclose cheque for £ for places at £3 each

I will need a lift / I can give a lift. Please circle if either apply.

I/we wish to have: tea(s) / coffee(s). Please give the number required

Please return to: Chester Civic Trust, Bishop Lloyd's Palace, 51/53 Watergate Row South,
Chester, CH1 2LE