

Jewel Mill Area Visited 24th April 2020

The MARIO map shows that as well as the factory there was what looks like a terrace of workers' houses. The site today is occupied by a short terrace and some agricultural buildings where most of the factory stood. There was a mill race and mill pond (an impressive 3.5 acres) just north of the factory complex. Water was diverted from Pendle Water about 150 m north of the Quakers' Bridge, Brierfield.



The diverted water became the mill race and supplied the mill pond. The pond has been filled in and all that remains is a depression in the field. There is an overflow shown on both MARIO maps; presumably this was an open stream. What happened to the water used in the factory is not indicated on the maps – assumed returned to Pendle Water via an underground drain.



The end of the overflow can still be seen as a depression adjacent to the track under which it passes to the river. There is a section of fireclay pipe lying in the field here, which may have formed part of the overflow, under the track.



The photograph shows where the overflow used to exit the field. This is the view looking south-east; to the left of the track can be seen a row of trees – the river is immediately below them; the buildings in the distance are on the site of the factory.

Looking from directly above, there is an area paved with stones extending into the river. (The photographs were taken after a period of dry weather so it is possible that this would be under water normally.)



Discharge point of overflow, viewed from above.



Overflow exit viewed from above/side. Note the two different alignments of the stones in the paved area.

The stones underneath the overflow are aligned longways with the river flow. Either side of this area is an extensive strip of smaller stones aligned longways at right angles to the river flow.



The paved area is quite extensive, extending approximately 30m upstream and 10 m downstream of the overflow and about 2m wide including the submerged part.

Viewing from upstream of the overflow, showing paved edge.



Typical example of the paved area.



The paved area extended about 1m into the river, when viewed.



The overflow emerging from under the track, diameter around 0.8m.



The paved area may have been an attempt to prevent erosion. The banks are very sandy in this area and easily eroded.



A typical section of unprotected bank c 3m high and almost vertical.

A close-up of the soil – mainly sand – which makes up the bank.

About 20m downstream from the overflow some large stones were noted in the bank which were heavily overgrown and extended for about 10m; adjacent to these was a section of smaller stones which are probably unrelated and may be a repair to an eroded area.



Modern repair to the bank?





A view from above the tree in the previous picture. Note the large stone held back by the tree trunk



Same area as previous picture, from the other side.

It is not clear what this structure was. It was built with large stones – much larger than stones used elsewhere to repair damage (see photograph above). It is big enough to be part of a bridge, but no corresponding structure could be seen across the stream (although it could be concealed in the undergrowth). It might be a predecessor of the overflow described above.

After the full lockdown it was attempted to locate the point where the water was abstracted from Pendle Water. It was not possible to get close, but the photograph shows remains of a stone embankment in the left-hand side of the river – looking upstream from Quaker Bridge.

