

The concession is available to older boats which meet the qualifying criteria described below.

### **1. Age of boat**

The basic structure of the boat must have been built before 1st January 1948 (when most inland waterways were nationalised).

There are many publications which illustrate or describe most of the older boat still existent. Applicants for the discount should provide documentary or photographic evidence. The materials and methods of construction are often indicative of the period of manufacture, eg. virtually all riveted iron/steel construction occurred before 1948.

### **2. Relevance to the heritage of the UK inland waterways**

Boats with heritage specific to any UK inland navigation or UK coastal and estuarial waters are eligible. Boat built for waterways of other countries do not qualify.

### **3. Structural condition**

There are old boats and there are historic old boats. A boat built before 1948 is likely to be of historic value if its structure is either original, or an accurate reproduction in the same material as the original, using the same methods as the original. It should not have had substantial modifications to:

- the hull
- the cabin – exterior or interior
- the engine
- any functional original equipment

Modifications made early in the life of a boat are less significant than changes made in recent years.

If the boat has been modified or converted, it should continue to “look the part”. For example, a traditional 1930’s narrowboat with a 3m cabin extension, an under-canvas conversion, and perhaps an engine of 1950’s vintage, may be acceptable. A similar boat with a full length steel cabin would not.

### **3. Appearance and provenance**

The appearance should reflect the history of the boat. The paintwork should be traditional and the boat should be presented in a good state of repair.

Availability of well documented historical information about the boat which the owner is prepared to communicate to interested visitors to the waterways will contribute to a positive decision.