

POINTS OF INTEREST

Carrington was created from the heather and gorse 'Lings' of Sherwood Forest in 1825, just before Sherwood. Ichabod Wright of Mapperley Hall bought the land and laid out an industrial village which he called Carrington after fellow banker and friend Robert Smith, Lord Carrington. He also gave the land for St John's church, built in 1843. Carrington had a triangular market place, (now the school playground), and 202 houses, many making lace. By 1851 86% of the working population made textiles. Between 1960 and 1963, most of the old village was demolished.

From 1760, Mansfield Road was the primary route between London and Yorkshire and the Sherwood Inn opposite Haydn Road stabled a 'cock' horse to pull the coaches up the hill. It became a turnpike road in 1787, when a toll (fee) had to be paid. Farmers coming down Woodthorpe Drive, then called Swinehouse Road, paid 5d (£1.65) for 20 sheep and 10d (£3.30) for 20 cattle. There is still a track near the bottom that farmers used to avoid the toll. Mansfield Road was lit and paved in 1879 when the horse-drawn trams started running from the site of Pirate Park. In 1901, Nottingham's first electric trams left every 5 minutes to Nottingham from the new terminus and depot, now the Samuel Hall pub.

Woodthorpe Grange was built in 1874 by Henry Ashwell, a Basford bleacher, on land once used for pig farming. He later bought a small brickyard to build the Dell Garden, but he left after the Nottingham Suburban Railway went across and under his land. The tenants after were Edward Parry, who had designed the railway and J G Small, twice the mayor. In 1921 the land was purchased by the Corporation (City Council) for £15000. Jesse Boot donated £5000 of this and the park opened in 1922. Thomas Charlesworth was the last tenant farmer, leaving the dilapidated Woodthorpe Farm in 1939.

Nottingham Suburban Railway opened in 1889, but Sherwood Station was only used until 1916. In 1928 it was reopened, and 17,000 children came to see King George V and Queen Mary in Woodthorpe Grange Park, with nearly 7,000 arriving by train. The incline railway track seen under Sherwood Vale hauled coal and bricks by wire rope between the station and Mapperley brickworks until 1951. St Pancras railway station was built from 10 million of them. Cuttings, embankments, bridges and blocked tunnels can be seen around Woodthorpe Grange Park.

Sherwood Estate was built 1920-1922 and designed by Cecil Howitt, architect of the Council House. After the First World War, he was a supporter of the government's "homes fit for heroes" building programme and the rolling, sandy land was ideal for a "Garden City". He wanted spacious, spread out houses designed to get the sun, not cramped pre-war terraces. Roads were wide and the houses set back. Open spaces were created using existing trees, also allotments surrounded by houses, though all are now private gardens except one.

Previously a recreation ground, the current layout of Valley Road Park was created in 2007 by diverting the Day Brook to prevent flooding, using water meadows, ponds and woodland. The original channel is hidden behind trees and bushes. The Day Brook re-emerges near the old Five Ways pub, the site of the fishpond at Daybrook Vale, home of the nurseryman Charles Mee. Nearby a flight of steps, called Jacob's Ladder, led down from Edwards Lane to the meadows and on to Mansfield Road. While Valley Road was being built in 1923, it all became a large recreation ground for Sherwood Estate.

Discover blue Nottingham Crocus, churches, water meadows, ponds, wildlife, old railways, almshouses, murals, mosaics and a sausage island.

THE FACTS

Area:	Carrington, Sherwood, Woodthorpe Grange Park.
Distance:	About 3.5miles (5.6 km) or shorter walk 2.5 miles (4km).
Duration:	About 2 hours or 1.5 hours shorter walk.
Maps:	Leaflet, street map, or OS Explorer 1:25000 map 260.
Travel Information:	Buses on Mansfield Road and Edwards Lane (see www.nctx.co.uk and www.travelineeastmidlands.co.uk).
Terrain:	Pavements, surfaced paths, steep at point C . Some paths in parks can be muddy or steep. Stepping-stones over the Day Brook, point J . Steps at St John's Church, point A .
Start:	St John's Church, Church Drive, point A .
Finish:	Thackerays Lane point J , or the Sherwood Manor pub point H (shorter walk).
Refreshments:	Mansfield Road, cafes in Woodthorpe Grange Park and Sherwood Community Centre opposite.

Produced by the Nottingham Local Access Forum with the support of Nottingham City Council. For other LAF walks in this series see www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/localaccessforum October 2018

Carrington And Sherwood Walk



A linear walk through Carrington and Sherwood to Daybrook.

Walk No. 5

Cover images, Train ((Point F) Under Woodthorpe Drive), Handprints ((Point A) Old Lido Wall, Carrington), Mural ((Point C) corner of Winchester Street).

THE ROUTE

A From Church Drive take the steps into St John's churchyard. Inside are several white WW1 graves of local soldiers and in springtime you will see rare Nottingham Crocus. At the western end, go through the metal gate onto Loscoe Road. You will see to your left Carrington Pottery and beyond, the Gladstone pub. Renowned for its flower displays, an early landlord was George Fryer, an English amateur heavyweight boxing champion in 1885. Round the corner opposite is Carrington Community Garden. Turn right along Loscoe Road and right again into Pirate Park. Until 1988 this was Carrington Lido and from 1879-1901, horse-drawn tram stables. On the old lido wall are 700 tiles, each with the handprint of a local school pupil. Continue through to the old lido gateway on Mansfield Road. Turn left, past the Bridge Club, to Clawson Lodge, now the Ukrainian Cultural Centre and one of Nottingham architect Watson Fothergill's finest houses. Beyond are more of his houses and behind the trees across Mansfield Road is the old entrance lodge to Mapperley Hall.

B Turn left into Watcombe Road and then right into Watcombe Circus. After the old vicarage and church hall, turn right past the Fothergill-like tower to the 12 Cullen's Court almshouses. See the stone plaques describing why they were built. Turn left onto Mansfield Road and cross at the pedestrian lights by the Methodist church, just before its Quiet Garden and Robinson's almshouses. Turn left, then right, up to Emerson Lodge at the top of Mapperley Street.

C The unsurfaced track to your right was used to reach Mapperley brickworks. Turn left down Crich View and take the steep path down to Mansfield Street. Turn right, past the old Men's Institute with its foundation stone, and Derwent Terrace, until you reach Marshall Street. Turn left, past a one-time smithy and a cobbled yard, before reaching Mansfield Road nearly opposite the Samuel Hall pub, originally a tram depot. Hall, a lace manufacturer, laid out Sherwood with a grid of streets in 1825 and named Marshall Street after his brother, a physician. Turn right along Mansfield Road to the traffic lights, with a "Relax Sherwood" mural above your head.

D Cross Winchester Street here and walk down to Mansfield Street. Turn left, past old Palm Cottages and Hooley Place. Further up, turn left along Hall Street and onto Mansfield Road, just below the Sherwood Manor pub opposite. Turn right past the shops and up over the hill, with the long, old brick wall of Woodthorpe House opposite. At Trevoise Gardens, you can detour to see Sherwood's parish church, dating from 1937.

E At the entrance to Woodthorpe Grange Park, turn right, up the tree-lined avenue. After the last house on your right was where Woodthorpe Farm existed until 1939. Descend the diagonal path here toward the tall Woodthorpe Court flats, part of the new Winwood Heights retirement village. There's a good view and below you a steep meadow, once the farm's orchard. The flats are on the site of the old Sherwood Station. Keep left of the flats and then walk down to the garlic-rich woods in the bottom right corner.

F Turn left, first along the grass, then after 100 metres, into the woods by a surfaced path. Keep walking up the valley with the Sherwood Vale houses to your right, then follow the path as it bends left and steepens. On reaching the hedge of the park's formal gardens continue uphill through the woods until you emerge at the information board in front of Woodthorpe Grange - or you can explore the gardens. Follow the curving path ahead to the left of the house, signposted to the Dell Garden, with its rocks and seating. Shortly after it, you will see a sculpted red train emerging from under Woodthorpe Drive.

G Return to the park entrance (**E**) along the railings and across the meadow. Alternatively, climb steeply left, passing the trees before Ashwell's Tunnel, to the café, play area and mosaics. Turn right and back down the avenue to Mansfield Road. Now go downhill to the Woodthorpe Drive traffic lights and cross over Mansfield Road to the Sherwood Community Centre at Woodthorpe House. Built around 1750, it is Sherwood's oldest building with a lot of local history research pinned to the café walls. There's a community garden behind. Left of the house, go up the bank into Woodthorpe Meadow Nature Reserve, a complete contrast to Mansfield Road over the wall. At the top, leave the reserve, go to the right of the brick substation and left to the traffic lights by the Sherwood Manor pub. You can end your walk here.

H Turn right along Magnus Road. On your left is Sausage Island, the local name for the old strip of land separating Magnus Road from Edwards Lane. At the roundabout, bear right down Edwards Lane. Once narrow with sandstone cliffs, rock is still exposed in some front gardens. Soon you will reach Little Holly Corner, Nottingham's smallest nature reserve. Like Sausage Island and Woodthorpe Meadow, it once formed part of the wooded boundary of Woodthorpe House before owner William Goodliffe, a hosiery manufacturer, felled most of the other trees in the 1880s, possibly as a pastime like William Gladstone. Turn right into Staunton Drive and then left down Edwinstowe Drive. Look how varied the 1920s houses are, a planned feature of Sherwood Estate.

I At the bottom of Edwinstowe Drive is the Five Ways roundabout. Turn right and cross Valley Road at the pedestrian lights. Continue along Valley Road, past the Day Brook in the Valley Road Park, and turn left after the Bowling Green onto a footpath. Half way along, go through a gate on the right into Valley Road Park. Follow the path ahead to the far embankment. To reach point J at Mansfield Road/Valley Road, either cross the small footbridge and continue ahead past the pond and over the stepping stones or to avoid them, turn right and go round the pond by the Valley Road railings.

J Turn left and cross Mansfield Road at Thackeray's Lane traffic lights by The Vale pub to catch a bus back to Nottingham. If you are still keen, the Day Brook reappears behind the pub and can be followed towards Arnold.

MAP

