

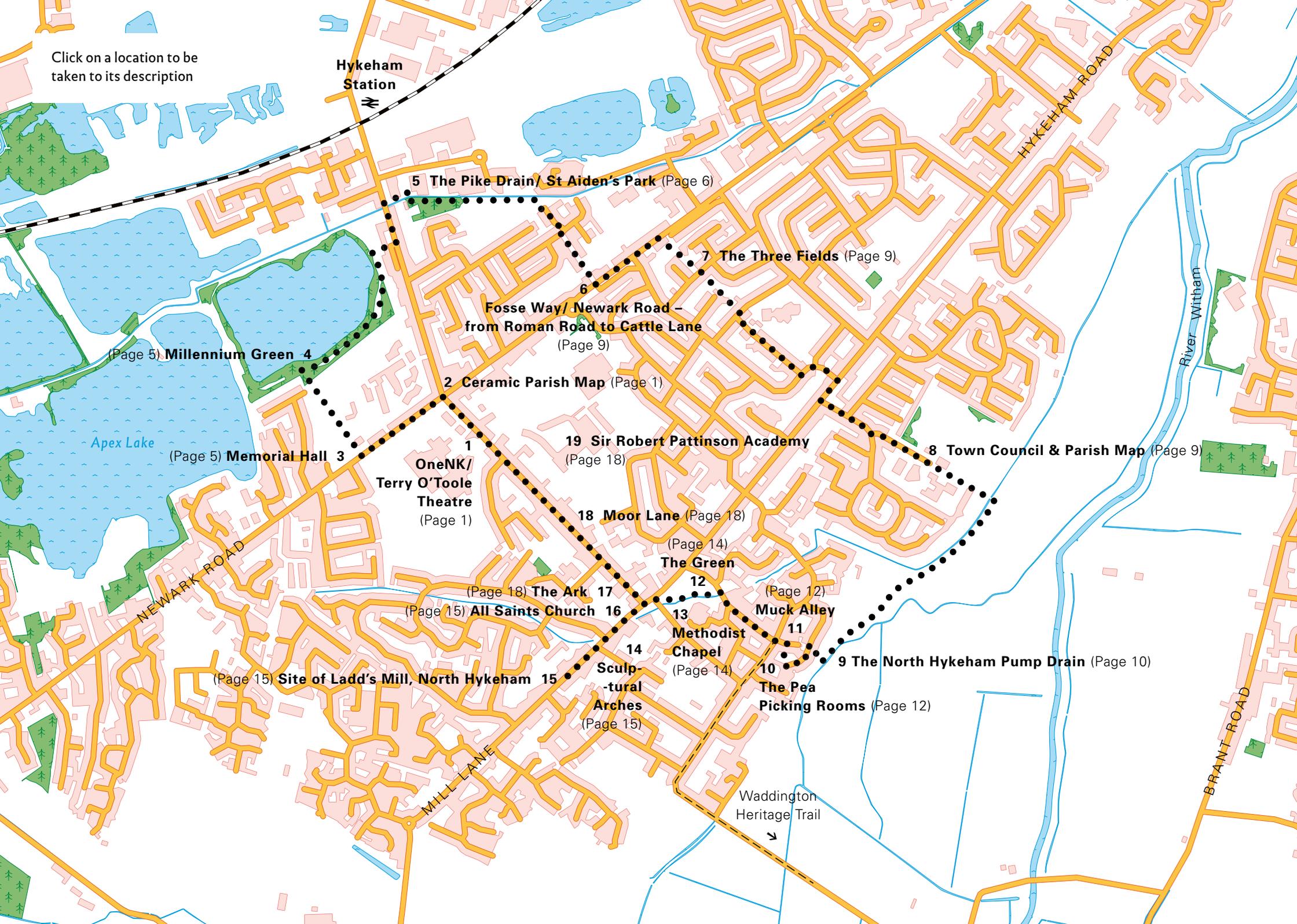
**North**

**Hykeham**

**Heritage**

**Trail**

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MILL LANE

Waddington Heritage Trail

BRANT ROAD

River Witham

## 1 OneNK/ Terry O'Toole Theatre

Within the OneNK Leisure Centre sits The Terry O'Toole Theatre, an intimate 200 seat arts theatre which presents a vibrant programme of professional drama, music, dance and children's theatre, complemented by community performances. The Theatre was opened by acclaimed actor Jim Broadbent in 2002 and is named in memory of Terry O'Toole, former headteacher at North Kesteven School, who was a passionate supporter of the Arts. The OneNK Leisure Centre is built on land that was formerly the farm of the Roe family. The Centre has free parking, toilets, a café and bike hire. [www.terryotooletheatre.org.uk](http://www.terryotooletheatre.org.uk).

Right: **Fox & Hounds pub, Newark Rd**  
Over the page: **Rifle practice, North Hykeham**  
Both from the collection of North Hykeham Town Council.  
Reproduced with permission.

## 2 Ceramic Parish Map

Cross the Newark Road. On the side of the shops to your right, on the opposite side of Station Road, is a ceramic mural which was created as part of a Parish Maps project for artsNK by local artist Pete Moss during workshops with North Kesteven School. A project inspired by the arts and environment group Common Ground, it is one of many Parish Maps produced in communities around North Kesteven. The area on this side of the Newark Road is historically known as Hykeham Moor.

**Bike hire:** at OneNK both pedal and electric bicycles are usually available for hire (details at [www.visitlincoln.com/things-to-do/hirebike](http://www.visitlincoln.com/things-to-do/hirebike)).  
**NOTE:** If you arrive by train, a bicycle can be hired at the railway station and the trail can start at:  
**5 The Pike Drain** (Page 6)

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### 3 Memorial Hall

Turning left along the Newark Road you will come to the Memorial Hall. Built in 1969, this building replaced a circular tin roof building known as The Tin Tabernacle which the Parish Council moved to in 1948. The original structure, 'built after the 1st World War ... had been opened in 1906 as the Club-House of the Hykeham Rifle Club' (The Hykeham Trail 1999). The Memorial Hall was requisitioned for military use in World War II and the army quickly erected a brick structure alongside. The two millstones set into the ground are reminders of the two mills that used to operate in North Hykeham. There is a French Burr Millstone from the North Hykeham Post Mill, built 1753, which was sited between the Memorial Hall and the Fox and Hounds Inn, and an English Peak Millstone from Ladd's Mill, which we will encounter later in this trail.

Also note the site of the time capsule buried here. Pictures of both mills can be seen on the Ridges & Furrows website.

### 4 Millennium Green

Pass through the Millennium Green car park and the playground to join the path along the edge of the playing field. Turn right and walk alongside the lake. Part of Witham Valley Country Park, Millennium Green is one of a number of former gravel pits and lakes put to recreational use in the area. As no boating or fishing is allowed here, there is an abundance of water birds to be seen. [www.withamvalleypark.co.uk](http://www.withamvalleypark.co.uk)

[If you have started this trail at The Pike Drain, the tables and benches provided here make an excellent place to stop for a picnic or refreshments before cycling back to the Railway Station.](#)

*'On 26th October 1859 a farmer from Claypole, J.S.Lee, got into a Midland Railway train at Lincoln while drunk. As the train passed through North Hykeham he exposed himself to the other passengers. He was given a month's hard labour for the exposure and fined £3.7s. for being drunk in a train.'* (Crime & Criminals in Victorian Lincolnshire by Adrian Gray)

### 5 The Pike Drain/ St Aiden's Park

Turn left onto Station Road which takes its name from The Nottingham to Lincoln Railway line, which still crosses the road. Alongside the railway line was the site of the Malleable Iron Foundry. All that is left of the works now is the road names of a housing estate: Ferrous Way, Crucible Close, Forge Way, for example.

Join the pathway alongside the Pike Drain. Cross the bridge. With the Pike Drain on your left, on your right are the remains of an old orchard containing 'old and rare

species of fruit bearing trees including apple trees Reverend W. Wilks, Tower of Glamis, Monarch and Laxton's Fortune. Also home to varieties of damsons, cherries, rosehips, elderberries, blackberries, walnuts and hazlenuts.' (Interpretation board in St Aiden's Park).

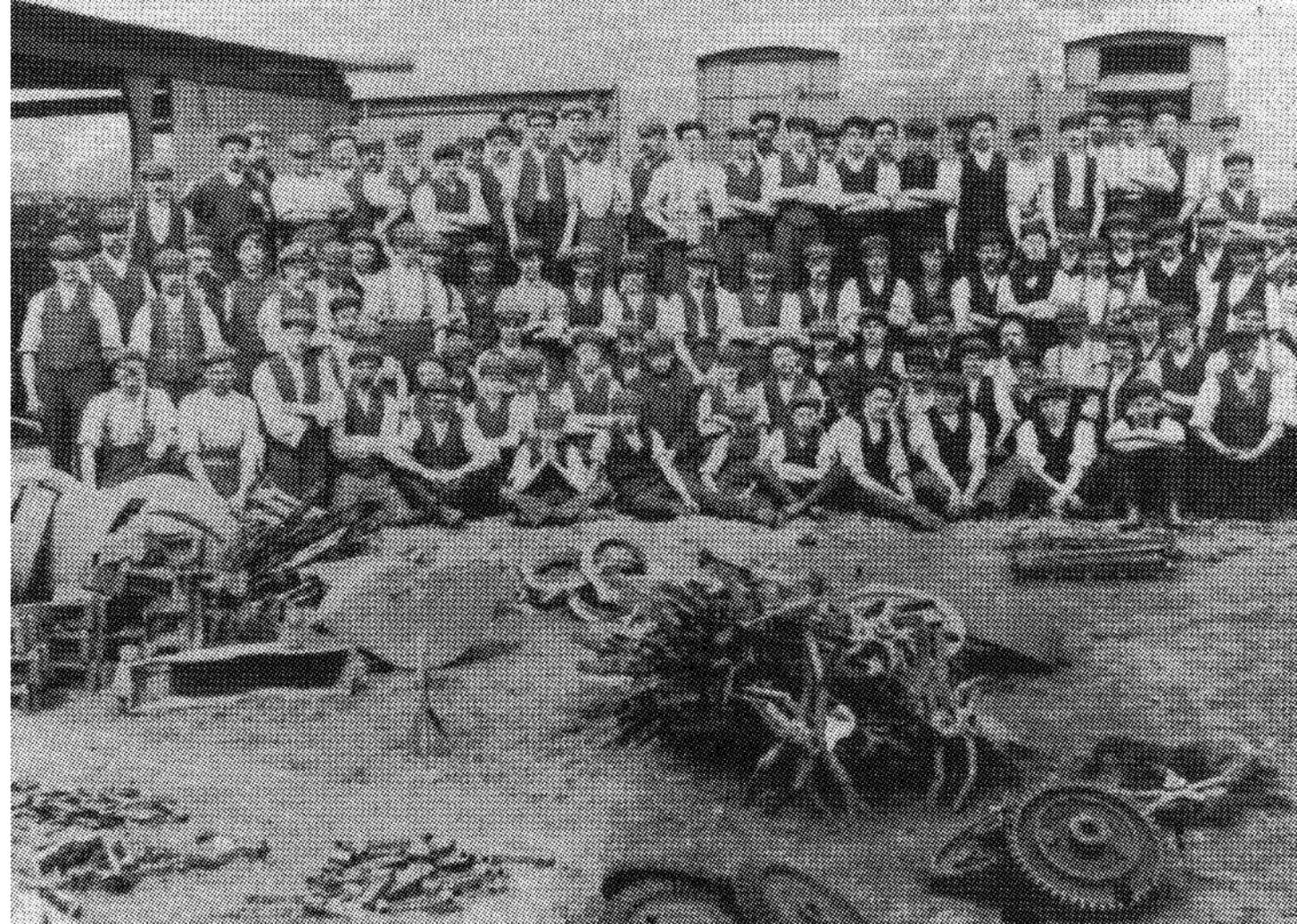
Cross St Aiden's Park diagonally, coming out on St Mark's Close. Follow St George's Close and Johnson's Lane to the Newark Road, and turn left.

An alternative way for cyclists would be to access the park through St David's Road and St Hilary's Close. It may be necessary to dismount and push bicycles through St Aiden's Park.

Leys Malleable Foundry was a major local employer from 1938 to 1981 when it was taken over by George Fischer of Switzerland. In 1986, 350 people worked there, 290 on the shop floor and 60 as supervisors and in the offices. George Fischer made castings for motors, both non-ferrous and ferrous. For ferrous castings they used scrap metal, limestone and carbon. For non-ferrous castings they used aluminium. In 2003 the Meade Corporation acquired the site, renaming the foundry Lincoln Castings under which name it operated until the plant's final closure in 2006.

Before Leys, Harrisons (who were iron makers on the Brayford in Lincoln) ran the foundry. Prior to that, a jam factory stood on the site.

Right: **North Hykeham Foundry**  
From the collection of North Hykeham Town Council.  
Reproduced with permission.



## 6 Fosse Way/ Newark Road – from Roman Road to Cattle Lane

As you walk along the busy Newark Road think that not only did Roman legions walk this road but, within living memory, this was the route that Sid Roe drove his cows from Moor Lane, where this trail started, towards Lincoln on their way to pasture. One of the places that they grazed was in the 'Three Fields,' and the pathway we are about to take on the other side of the A46 was known as the Three Fields Path.

The nearby Asda store occupies the site of the old Manor Hall.

## 7 The Three Fields

Take the narrow pathway from the Newark Rd, cross Chestnut Road and Ash Grove, pass behind the Fosse Way Primary School into Dore Avenue and continue to the Lincoln Road, which you then cross and turn right.

The first of the three sections of this pathway is designated a Cycle Path. The third section may be difficult for cyclists in bad weather. As an alternative route use Dore Avenue.

## 8 Town Council & Parish Map

Turn left into Fen Lane. At the North Hykeham Town Council building, stop to view the artworks inside the reception area. A photographic hanging and panels of poetry, they form a further part of the Parish Maps project referred to earlier, this time the artworks were created by Beth Davidson.

The trail along The North Hykeham Pump Drain section, to where the route joins Water Lane, is not advised for bicycles, especially in winter. After viewing the landscape, an alternative route can be found by rejoining the Lincoln Road, taking

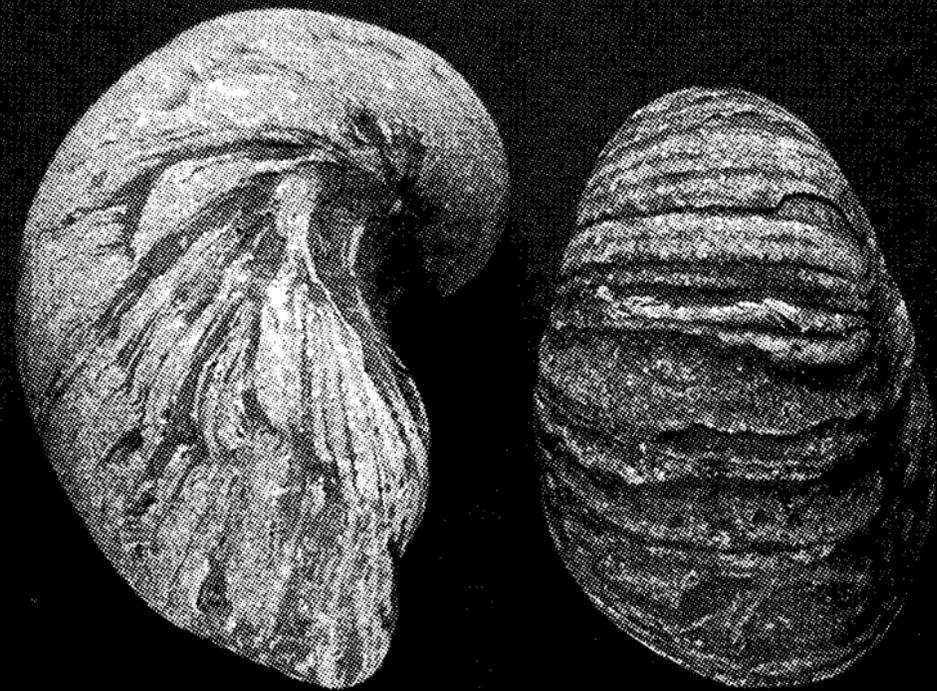
Elizabeth Avenue to where it crosses Water Lane and becomes Meadow Lane. The First right is Cross Lane.

## 9 The North Hykeham Pump Drain

Continue along Fen Lane until you reach open fields and take the footpath to the right. You are here following at some distance, the North Hykeham Pump Drain, formerly shown as the Old River Dyke. 'Until 1770, this was the bank of the River Witham. A coal jetty stood nearby at what was reputed to be the highest navigable point on the river. Coal barges came here in the winter months when the river was flooded.' (The Hykeham Trail 1999). This was an area where the local fossil, the Devils Toenail\*, was to be found in plenty. Follow the footpath to the point where it comes alongside the Pump Drain, and meets the Ridges & Furrows Trail coming in from Waddington, and turn right.

\* Gryphaea, common name, Devil's Toenails, is a genus of extinct oysters, marine bivalve molluscs in the family Gryphaeidae. These fossils range from the Triassic to the Tertiary periods, but are mostly restricted to the Triassic and Jurassic. Both periods belong to the Mesozoic. See image on the next page.

Over the page: **Devil's Toenails**  
Image by Malcolm Lidbury and sourced from Wikimedia.org  
(See page 22 for full details)



## 10 The Pea Picking Rooms

Cross Belton Park Drive and use the Public Footpath to join Water Lane. Turn left along Meadow Lane and then right into Cross Lane (Please note, there is no vehicular entry into Cross Lane from this direction).

The building on the corner of Cross Lane and Middle Street is the former Pea Picking Rooms owned by Albert Wingfield Hall (1841-1910), Family Grocer, Tea & Provision Merchant of Lincoln. "This was a genuine milestone for the community in terms of the new employment opportunity it gave to large numbers of women, even though the work, which was largely pea grading, was seasonal in nature. The Pea Room was a popular employment. 50 women attended the annual 'pea pickers tea' in January 1901, although the room itself went out of use in World War 1 and thereafter Albert Hall conducted his pea business from a large depot at Wigford

Yard in Lincoln, close to the Great Northern Hotel." (The North Hykeham Story by Bill Wilson & John Marriott).

## 11 Muck Alley

Walk along Middle Street until you find, and take, the alleyway on your right. Now bollarded, this is a former track between two farmsteads which was known as Muck Alley. "Muck Alley: The local name in the inter-war years for the short path leading from Middle Street to Water Lane and now blocked off by bollards. Although so called from the piles of dung dropped by Mr Lilleker's cows, the path originated as a Medieval lane separating two farms and, until 1911, was regularly used by trade carts and others cutting through from Middle Street to Water Lane. It seems a pity it cannot have a name board, given its heritage!" (North Kesteven in the 20th Century by Bill Wilson & John Marriott).



### 12 The Green

Rejoining Water Lane, follow it until The Green is on your left. This land was formerly one of the many sites in the village of 'Allotment Gardens', as marked on the 1939 OS Map.

While on The Green you might wish to sit on a bench 'looking at the beck', and listen to the piece of 'listening theatre' created by Hannah Nicklin during a storytelling residency which was the first Ridges & Furrows event in North Hykeham. You can listen to *Your Home From Here* on the Ridges & Furrows website or download a copy from: <http://yourhomefromhere.com>

[Return to Map](#)

### 13 Methodist Chapel

Cross the Green. At the far side, at the rear of The Green on Chapel Lane, is North Hykeham Methodist Church. North Hykeham's first Wesleyan Methodist chapel was built in 1838. It was replaced by the chapel on Chapel Lane in 1881. The chapel has also been known as North Hykeham Village Methodist Church. It bears a stone plaque engraved 'Wesleyan Chapel 1881' and a foundation stone reading 'Laid by W W Richardson on behalf of the Sunday School August 8th 1881'.

Left: **The Village Green**

From the collection of North Hykeham Town Council.  
Reproduced with permission.

#### 14 Sculptural Arches

Cross the road and walk through the three metal arches clad in plaques detailing aspects of North Hykeham life past and present. There are representations of scenes from Roman times, the town's farming history and a celebration of the town's twinning with Denzlingen in Germany, situated on the River Glotter and 8 kilometres from Freiburg, since 1988. The arches were created by Anwick Forge and commissioned by North Hykeham Town Council.

#### 15 Site of Ladd's Mill, North Hykeham

Now cross the Lincoln Road and turn left. Further down the road, on this side, there can still be seen a millstone at the end of a drive and a sign declaring this to be the site of the Mill. Ladd's Mill was used as a base for the Home Guard during World War II.

#### 16 All Saints Church

Rebuilt in 1858 in the 'Decorated Victorian Gothic' style, the Parish Church of All Saints is of rough cut stone and ashlar dressings, with slate ridge roofs, and is a Grade II listed building. The lych gate is inscribed 'In Memory of Frederick G & Kate B Grinter', head teacher of the village school from 1924-1952, and his wife. Their daughter also became a teacher.

Right: **Ladd's Mill**  
From the collection of North Hykeham Town Council.  
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*"Miss Grinter was one of the church wardens at All Saints', she was a Primary Teacher. She was well known locally: a redoubtable lady, never married ... I remember her being quite formidable at school, not a disciplinarian exactly but quite strict: very keen on handwriting skills and sewing skills and things like that. But I remember a bull in the field next to All Saints' School and, I don't know how it happened but, on one occasion the bull got out of the field and it came round into the school playground. And, of course, there was mass panic. All the kids were taken inside. It was stood in the middle of the infants' playground sort of looking around a bit bemusedly. Someone presumably rang for the farmer but Miss Grinter took one of the skipping ropes out of the basket, went marching out and hooked the skipping rope through its nose and led it back round into the field. We'd all got our noses pressed up against the glass in the classroom watching this happen. That was something that always stuck with me afterwards, I thought she must have been quite a brave lady to do that."* **Alison Duncombe**

### **17 The Ark**

The Ark is a community facility with a charity shop included. Originally the Church Hall, it was used as a schoolroom for evacuee children and staff from Hull and Leeds at the beginning of the Second World War, until they were absorbed into regular classes from June 1940. The new building was officially opened on Saturday 25th September 1999.

### **18 Moor Lane**

On the right hand side of Moor Lane is a bungalow, number 87. Formerly known simply as The Bungalow, this was the first new house to be built in Moor Lane. Prior to its construction there was only one property. The plot of land of 1024 square yards was purchased in September 1924 for £76.16 shillings. By 1929, however, this side of the road had been extensively built on although the land opposite was still allotment gardens.

### **19 Sir Robert Pattinson Academy - formerly Robert Pattinson School.**

Built as a bi-lateral school containing both grammar and non-selective streams, with the two groups of students taught separately. The school, opened in 1953, is named after Sir Robert Pattinson (1872-1954), chairman of the then Kesteven County Council for 20 years and briefly a Liberal MP, in recognition of his membership of the education committee.

*Next page: **The Bungalow**  
Photograph courtesy of Joanne Borrill*



*"Prior to the year that I passed in 1952, if you passed the scholarship you went to either South Park School in Lincoln or the Girls' High School in Lincoln or the High School at Sleaford. ... they had built this big new school, at the top of Moor Lane, which was to be bi-lateral education, which was an experiment, where everybody irrespective of whether you passed the 11 plus or not went to the school – but it wasn't comprehensive because it was run as two separate schools. The Grammar School pupils had to wear a uniform and got homework, and the Secondary Modern pupils didn't have to wear a uniform and didn't get homework. And there was an awful lot of feeling about it all. I was in the first intake to Robert Pattison. Being a new school we had a few people in the second year who they brought back from Sleaford, both boys and girls, and they formed a very small second year – so there was not really ever a sixth form to look up to... Nevertheless we had an Olympic athlete on the staff, one Heather Armitage\* who got a bronze medal at the Australia Olympics in the relay." **Anne Lanes née Dodds**, a member of the first intake to Robert Pattison*

*\*Heather Armitage competed in both the 1952 and 1956 Olympics winning two medals in the relay. She became the first British woman to win an individual European track title and still holds the official British Record for the 100 yards.*

This guide was produced as part of the Ridges & Furrows arts and heritage project, which worked with artists, historians, schools and communities in Sleaford, Welbourn, Waddington and North Hykeham during 2015-2017. Local heritage was explored and celebrated through a series of creative performances, exhibitions and events.

The project has resulted in a new arts and heritage trail along the Lincolnshire Cliff, linking the two main arts venues in North Kesteven - The National Centre of Craft & Design in Sleaford and Terry O'Toole Theatre at the OneNK Centre in North Hykeham via the following villages:

South Rauceby  
North Rauceby (Cranwell Aviation Heritage Museum)  
Temple Bruer (Knight's Templar Preceptory)  
Welbourn  
Wellingore  
Navenby (Mrs Smith's Cottage)  
Boothby Graffoe  
Coleby  
Harmston  
Waddington

The trail continues on to Whisby Nature Park, where there is parking and facilities at the Natural World Centre.

The Ridges & Furrows project was delivered by artsNK, Design Factory, The National Centre for Craft & Design and Terry O'Toole Theatre.

Please look out for the other trail guides available in this series for Welbourn and Waddington.

[www.ridgesandfurrowstrail.org](http://www.ridgesandfurrowstrail.org)

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We would also like to acknowledge our debt to North Hykeham historians Bill Wilson & John Marriott for their comprehensive chronicling of North Hykeham in 'The North Hykeham Story'.

Text by Dave Reeves  
Editors: Dave Reeves, Charlotte Pedley and Lucy Lumb  
Design: Maddison Graphic

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