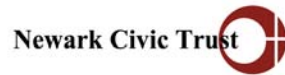


Newark victorian trail

This is the seventh leaflet in a series of eight and the full range may be viewed on our website www.newarkcivictrust.org.uk

This trail was made possible by the following organisations:



Co-authors: Mick Gill, George Wilkinson and Rupert Vinnicombe
Registered Charity Number: 1015046



Printed on 80% recycled paper

D&P/02.12/EXT/7014

Newark Victorian Trail

Distance: 3.0km

Time: 2 hours 15 minutes. Easy Trail

Start/Finish: at the bronze model of Newark in the Castle Grounds

Wheelchair & pushchair friendly

This slightly longer walk takes in some of the town's many diverse and interesting Victorian Buildings.

Start the walk at the bronze model of Newark in the Castle Grounds, leave via the iron gates and turn right to the **Gilstrap Centre (1)**, formerly the Gilstrap Free Library. The gift of the prominent maltster Sir

Retrace your steps, go past **Boar Lane** to the junction with **Kirk Gate**, cross the road and turn to look at **Mark Jarvis Racing Services (4)**. This was the Boar's Head public house from 1778 to 1959, rebuilt and extended in 1883. Note the angle in the Middle Gate frontage and the extremely fine plasterwork.

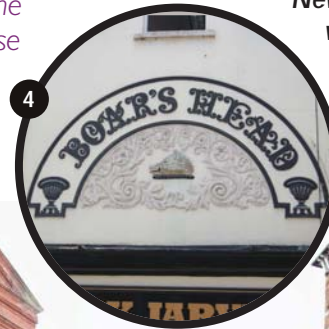
Proceed towards the church, cross the road and stop opposite **The School of Violin Making (5)**. The work of the Nottingham architect Watson Fothergill, this was built in 1887 in the Italian Gothic style as the Nottingham and Notts Bank. Closed as a bank, it has become a world-renowned violin making school.

Behind you is **Sibley's Butchers**, erected in the 1890s as Bank

Chambers. Note the oriel window, ornate ironwork over the side door and cogged brickwork. This clearly shows the intention for extension.

At the junction with **Church Street** turn right and as you enter the **Market Place**, pause to look at the tall, ornate building to your right, now **Lily's Victorian Tea Room (6)**. This was erected in 1885 for Martin Wilkinson, one of the town's jewellers.

Turn left across the **Market Place** to **Bridge Street** and at the far end cross into **Barnby Gate**. Continue until you reach the **Methodist Church (7)**.



The canalisation of the river through Newark and improvements to the Great North Road in the late C18 heralded the start of a period of an unprecedented prosperity for the town. Until then trade had been largely based on agriculture and coaching.

Businesses were established along the river, albeit still very much influenced by a rural hinterland. By the start of the Victorian age malting and brewing and flour milling had become prominent. The town gained from the arrival of the railways and, as dependence on agriculture diminished, so the town's manufacturing trades expanded. Such endeavours attracted all classes who needed houses and schools.

Although small cottages continued to be built, from around 1850 better, terraced

housing was being erected along the major access routes. New streets between these routes followed, for example William and Whitfield Streets and, aligned to the Great Northern Railway, Lincoln and Sydney Streets. Industries, especially malting were attracted to line-side developments and while most are now long gone, signs of them do still remain.

This trail features a broad spectrum of buildings, both commercial and social, and illustrates the gradual evolution of styles and influence of personal taste and needs through the Victorian age. Look for boot-scrappers by house doors, an indication of the state of the roads at the time, and coal-chute manhole covers which provided for the delivery of coal into cellars, a particular feature of houses directly fronting a street.

William Gilstrap, it opened in 1883. The library moved to modern, purpose-built premises in 1988.

Cross over the pedestrian crossing and walk into **Boar Lane**. On the right **Newfield Galleries (2)** and the buildings behind were once a maltings.

Continue to **Middle Gate**, turn right, and stop opposite **The Buttermarket Shopping Centre (3)**. This opened as the New Market Hall in 1884 and provided indoor stalls. Note the carved Town Arms with motto "Our Chartered Rights". Always very popular with shoppers, the Hall was sold by the Town Council and re-developed in 1990.



