

Cathedral Quarter DERBY

Historic Trail



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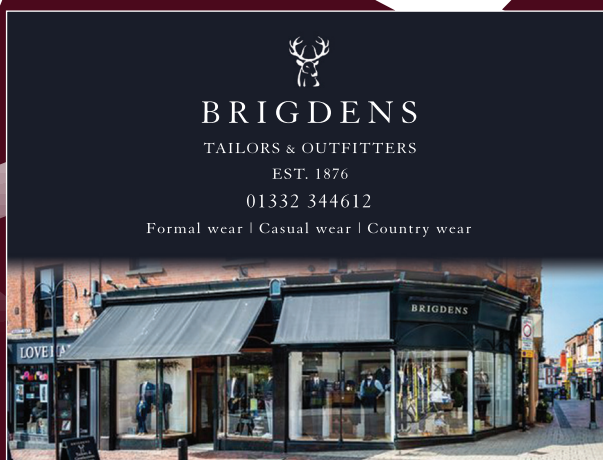
CATHEDRAL
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Key

- 1 The Friary was a townhouse built in 1731 by Samuel Crompton. A Priory of Dominican Friars, founded before 1239 and dissolved in 1539, once stood on the site where the townhouse was built. The building - which was extended in 1760 and again in 1875 and the 1950s - was home to the Boden family - who were leading figures in the temperance movement of the time - from 1873 to 1922.
- 2 The beheaded remains of Jeremiah Brandreth, Isaac Ludlam and William Turner are buried in an unmarked grave in St. Werburgh's Churchyard. All three men were found guilty of high treason as ringleaders of the Pentrich Revolution in 1817. Originally sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered, their sentence was commuted to them being hanged until they were dead and then beheaded. The sentence took place outside the County Gaol on Friar Gate.
- 3 The Derby Museum and Art Gallery has a stone sarcophagus that was found when St Alkmund's Church was demolished in 1968 to make way for the ring road. It was almost certainly made as a shrine for the body of St Alkmund soon after he was killed in AD 800, and St. Alkmund is now the official patron saint of Derby.
- 4 The statue of Michael Thomas Bass MP commemorates his generosity in donating the Derby Museum and Art Gallery to the town. The statue was almost lost to the Second World War when - without consultation - the then curator of the Derby Museum and Art Gallery, in response to a call for scrap metal, sold the statue to a scrap metal dealer for £27. It was only when a passer-by saw the head of the statue over a fence that this came to light. After a public outcry the statue was reinstated.
- 5 Derby's Gaol once stood here next to the then-exposed Markeaton Brook. The historian William Hutton (1723-1815) wrote that 'our ancestors erected the chief gaol in a river, exposed to damp and filth, as if they meant to drown the culprit before they hanged him'. His words were incredibly apt as in 1610 a sudden rising of the brook during the night drowned three of the captive prisoners.
- 6 PC Joseph Moss was fatally shot here in the Derby Borough Police Lock-Up in 1879. The gunman - Gerald Mainwaring - was sentenced to death. It was then disclosed that the jury had been spilt into two groups of six, one of which wanted a verdict of manslaughter, and the other wanted a verdict of wilful murder. With the chairman of the jury refusing to deliver a decision, lots were drawn for a new chairman who declared it was wilful murder. With the press claiming Gerald's fate had been decided by the 'toss of a coin', his death sentence was commuted to 15 years in prison.
- 7 The Reform Bill Riots that erupted in cities including Derby started in the Market Place in October 1831. The riots spread across the town and at one point during the riots the gaol on Friar Gate was stormed resulting in twenty-three prisoners being freed. Across the road from the site of the gaol you can find a series of sculpted heads. These heads represent condemned prisoners emerging from underground cells into the light during the riot.
- 8 Almost all the current buildings on Sadler Gate date back several centuries. The Old Bell Hotel was originally a majestic coaching inn and dates back to 1650. It was considered to be one of the most prestigious coaching inns outside of London and was used as the main stop off point for stagecoaches travelling across the country.

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Historic Trail Map



9 Bonnie Prince Charlie arrived here at The George Inn in 1745 – now Jorrocks – as part of his plan to invade Great Britain along with his Jacobite followers and remove the Hanoverian 'usurper' George II. Upon his arrival he demanded billets for 9000 men. The Derbyshire Blues, a Militia regiment raised in Derby by the Duke of Devonshire in response to the invasion, had left Derby to its fate upon news of the imminent arrival of the Prince's army.

10 The Cathedral tower was built between 1510 and 1530. In 1732 Robert Cadman attached a rope from the top of the tower to St. Michaels Church and walked down it. A few years later someone attached a rope from the top of the tower to the bottom of St. Mary's Gate and walked down it – carrying a donkey!

11 Both John Flamsteed and Joseph Wright – two important Derbeians – lived at the Old Clockworks. John was the very first Astronomer Royal and Joseph was a locally and globally renowned artist. In the late 18th century, the house was home to John Whitehurst, a co-founder of the Lunar Society, who is said to have entertained Benjamin Franklin here.

12 The 18th century extension at the rear of Ye Olde Dolphin Inne was originally a doctor's house and a place where he would dissect bodies including recently executed criminals. According to local legend the doctor went down into the cellar one morning after the delivery of a body and upon removing its shroud, found them still alive.

13 The mural on the side of the Silk Mill Pub contains a reference to Shrovetide Football in Derby. Shrovetide Football used to be actively played in Derby with the large St. Peter's parish taking on the combined might of the smaller parishes of All Saints, St Michael's, St Alkmund's and St Werburgh's. It was in 1846 that Mayor William Eaton Mousley ultimately banned the playing of the game, bringing in specially sworn-in constables and a mounted body of the 5th Dragoon Guards to ensure that no game would be played.

14 The Derby Silk Mill is on the site of the world's first factory and is part of the UNESCO inscribed Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage site. One of the founders of the first factory – John Lombe – stole the secret silk-throwing machinery technology used by the Italians for the factory. He was allegedly assassinated by poisoning for his troubles!

15 Full Street was the site of a gruesome murder in 1774 when Mary Vickers was murdered during a burglary committed by Matthew Cocklayne and George Foster. Though both men fled to Ireland and carried on with their criminal ways, Foster was ultimately shot in the head during a robbery and Cocklayne was captured. Upon his capture it was found out that he was wanted in Derby, and he was returned there to stand trial where he was found guilty and sentenced to death by hanging. Once hanged Matthew's remains were gibbeted at Bradshaw Hay – near to the present-day Bradshaw Way – in Derby.

16 Derby had it's very own Noah – with his very own Ark. Noah Bullock built an ark in the 1600's to hide his counterfeiting and clipping activities from the prying eyes of the law. His ark was eventually raided but Noah avoided the death penalty. Instead, he agreed to dismantle his ark and end his nefarious ways. He eventually died of old age.



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Did you know?

- 1** The Corn Market is wider at one end than the other for a very deliberate reason. It was constructed like this so as to be able to accommodate the old Grain Market. As people entered the market through the wider end, merchants would place samples of grain in containers sited on posts so that potential buyers could test them before purchasing.
- 2** The section of Victoria Street that linked what is now the end of St. James' Street and the intersection of the Corn Market at St. Peter's Street was originally called Brookside due to the open and exposed waterway of the Markeaton Brook flowing through the town. By 1841 the brook had been covered with a brick culvert and Victoria Street came into being.
- 3** Sadler Gate takes its name from the leather workers who used to ply their trade in the area hundreds of years ago in Derby's Viking past. 'Gate' is from the Norse word 'geata', which meant street in their language - hence it means street of the leather workers.
- 4** Locally and globally renowned artist Joseph Wright was born on Iron Gate in the Cathedral Quarter. His works are on display locally at the Derby Museum and Art Gallery and globally at The Hermitage in St Petersburg, New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, Tate Britain, and the National Gallery of Victoria, Australia.
- 5** The Guildhall you see in the Market Place now, was built because the previous one burned down in 1841. It has only been in place for thirteen years when this happened. It was rebuilt to a design by Henry Duesbury and at one time the Guildhall was the home of the Council Chamber and police cells.
- 6** St. Mary's Gate took its name from the ancient church of St. Mary, one of the six churches in Derby recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. Remains were discovered in 1925 showing that the church once stood on the corner of St. Mary's Gate and Queen Street. There is no record of the church after 1535.
- 7** The Museum of Making is on the site of the former Derby Silk Mill. The Silk Mill was generally regarded as the first fully mechanised factory ever recorded when it was built in 1717 to 1721.
- 8** Ye Olde Dolphin Inne is Derby's oldest pub dating back to 1530. Reputedly a stopping-off point for highwaymen including Dick Turpin, the Dolphin is also the site of various alleged hauntings including a boy that sits on the stairs and a Grey Lady that haunts the premises.
- 9** Many of the photographs taken of Victorian Derby were taken by Richard Keene and Richard had a studio on Iron Gate in Derby. One of Richard's sons - Alfred - went on to paint many wonderful views of old Derby that people still love today.
- 10** A plaque in the Wardwick commemorates the flood levels after immense flooding to the town centre in 1842. Though flood defences were improved, in 1932 an even worse flood arrived and overwhelmed them, once again flooding the town centre.



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