



BLACKBURN HERITAGE TOWN TRAIL

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History in the making!
 Come back in 2016 to find out how Blackburn is still making history with the completion of a multi-million pound Cathedral Quarter development set to transform the town with opportunities for new retail, restaurants and a hotel, a festival plaza, new gardens and the first residential clergy cloisters that have been built in the UK for 600 years.

For more information contact:
 Blackburn Visitor Centre
 Blackburn Market
 Church Street, Blackburn
 BB1 5AF
 Tel: 01254 688040
 or visit:
blackburnheritage.com



A hidden history of Blackburn in 31 sites.

This map was produced in 2015 as part of a Heritage Lottery funded project for a team of volunteer 'Talk of the Town' guides to use to help visitors to take a town trail around our most historic buildings.



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1 Blackburn Cathedral

Originally the parish church of Saint Mary the Virgin. In 1926 it became the Cathedral of the newly formed diocese of Blackburn. The interior is notable for the quantity and quality of its 20th century artwork.



2 Church Street Sculptures 'Transitions'



Modern artworks representing both the growth of the cotton plant and the growth of Blackburn.

3 The Waterloo Pavillions

Built in 1835 as three separate buildings, now restored with spaces between enclosed with glass.



4 Cathedral Gateway

The three elaborate cast iron gates and posts seem to date from the construction of the parish church in 1820-26. But the route between them, known as the Ancient Carriage Drive may well mark the traditional entrance to the grounds of the medieval parish church.



5 The Woven Globe

Commissioned for the Millennium, along with an almost identical sculpture in Darwen Town Centre stands in the vicinity of where the town's market cross would have stood.



6 The Old Bank

Its massive stonework and window-bars were designed to offer reassurance during times of unrest. In 1878 Blackburn was the scene of cotton riots.



7 Mitchell & Kenyon Plaque

This is the site of the shop where pioneer film makers, Mitchell and Kenyon had their business and where their groundbreaking films from the late 19th and early 20th century were found.



8 Paganini Blue Plaque

A blue plaque marks the site of the Paganini Inn named after the famous violinist who stayed there in 1833. Here the names, Higher, Middle and Lower Cockcroft recall the cockfighting days.



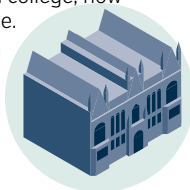
9 William Ewart Gladstone Statue

The statue was unveiled in 1899 by the Earl of Aberdeen in its original position on the boulevard. It was resited in 1955 outside the old technical college and was relocated to its present position in 1983.



10 The Victoria Building

This was the main frontage of the original technical college, now Blackburn College. Built as a Golden Jubilee Tribute to Queen Victoria.



11 King George's Hall

Its foundation stone was laid by King George V from the steps of the old Town Hall on 10th July 1913 by means of an electrical device. The accommodation comprised three halls - a lecture hall, assembly hall and the main King George's Hall. The First World War delayed building work and the halls were not completed until 1921.



12 Blackburn Library

Formerly the Cooperative Society Emporium, the library is situated at the junction of Northgate and Town Hall Street, once known as Thunder Alley.



13 Court House

This building was formally opened by Sir Harry Hornby on 25 July 1912. The two figures representing Justice and Mercy can be seen over the two main entrances.



14 Sudell Cross

Originally the site of the town's Big Lamp, now the site of an illuminated installation called, 'The Braid' by Simon Watkinson.



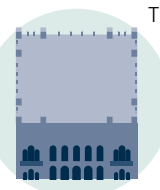
15 The Cotton Exchange

Opened in 1865 as a trading building for the cotton industry. Outside exchange hours the premises were used for public meetings and concerts as the main



entertainment centre in the town. Today people will remember it as a cinema between 1912 and 2006.

16 Old Town Hall



The cornerstone was laid in 1852 by Joseph Feilden, Lord of the Manor. It opened in 1856 and housed an assembly room, council chamber and offices, the court, police offices and cells until 1873.

17 William Henry Hornby Statue

William Henry Hornby became the town's first mayor in 1851. The statue was unveiled in 1912 by Sir 'Harry' Hornby his eldest son. Originally it stood in Limbrick overlooking Sudell Cross. It was moved in 1970 to its present site.



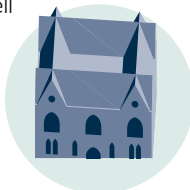
18 Lewis Textile Museum

To the left of the old Town Hall is the former Lewis Textile Museum, built in 1858 by John Neville Howarth, to house his printing and stationery business. Mr T B Lewis purchased the building in 1933 and had it made ready to accommodate the Textile Museum. The Textile Museum opened on 28th September 1938, with an art gallery on the first floor.



19 Museum and Art Gallery

Opened in 1874, originally it was the Library as well as the Museum. The Museum houses the outstanding Hart Collection of books,



manuscripts and coins, as well as a notable collection of Japanese prints and the largest collection of religious icons outside London.

20 Richmond Terrace



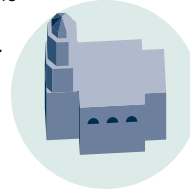
Originally built as houses, early residents included John Baynes, the mill owner and Thomas Dutton, the brewer. The terrace has now largely become offices for various professions. The doorways vary in detail, the most elaborate being number 11, the former Witton Estate Office.

21 County Court Buildings

The County Court Buildings, opened during the Cotton Famine in March 1864. Court day was Monday.

22 St John's Church

Now the Bureau, Blackburn's newest multi-purpose arts venue. It was erected on land given by Henry Sudell, who contributed half the £8,000 cost. The graveyard contains the vaults of some notable families.



23 Queen Victoria Statue

This was unveiled in 1905 by her daughter, Princess Louise, an event filmed by Blackburn's pioneer cinematographers, Mitchell and Kenyon.

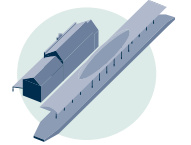


The sculptor was Bertram McKennal, and the statue is a replica of the one in Ballarat, Australia.

24 Railway Station

The Railway Station has a Grade II listed frontage and modern domed roof covering platforms one and

two. By the ramp to platform four, there is a public art installation depicting such local notables as Barbara Castle and Kathleen Ferrier.



25 Original Post Office

Weatherspoons Pub was originally the main Post Office which opened in 1910. A blue plaque commemorates the pre-1900 terminus of the steam tramway to Darwen.



26 Former Philanthropic Mutual Assurance Society

This building was built as the Blackburn Philanthropic Mutual Assurance Society, a fine example of late 19th century commercial architecture.

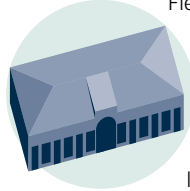
27 Darwen Street

Numbers 28-32 represent some of the oldest surviving buildings in Darwen Street, recently sensitively renovated. Next door is BBC Radio Lancashire with a blue plaque marking the scene of the 1842 Plug Riots.



28 Fleming Square

Fleming Square and the 1849 Exchange Arcade, originally the Cotton Exchange and later Turkish baths. The walls incorporate various salvaged architectural features, including the drinking fountain dedicated to George Dewhurst, a leading 19th century radical, once imprisoned for his political activities. The design of the railings at the end of the square recall its days as a fish market.



29 King Street

Once the grandest street in Blackburn, numbers one and two are Georgian. The front of number two has a replica of the original Sun Insurance fire mark, and a rainwater head with the date 1741. W H Hornby, one of the town's leading figures and a major cotton mill owner, was living here when it was attacked by a mob.



30 Henry Sudell's House

Outdoor Action trades in what was the Georgian town-house of the Sudell family. Once the town's richest man, philanthropist and who later became bankrupt.



31 Quaker Meeting House

A plain brick building, it is one of the oldest places of worship in Blackburn that is still in use. Built in 1824, it was erected on what was known as Alice Sudell's Orchard. Simple numbers mark the small, square gravestones. The Meeting House seats 226 members. Inside large hat-pegs for the traditional broad-brimmed hats still survive.

