

# Discover...

## Norfolk Heritage Trail



The Norfolk Heritage Trail stretches from the hillside vantage point of Manor Lodge, once at the heart of Sheffield's great deer park and the location Mary Queen of Scots was kept in captive custody, down through the remnants of the estates of the Dukes of Norfolk to the Cathedral in the city centre. Historic sites along the Trail include City Road Cemetery, Norfolk Heritage Park, Clay Wood, Cholera Monument Grounds, Park Hill flats, the Old Queen's Head and Sheffield Castle.



© Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust

## A Brief History of Sheffield

Sheffield City lies sprawled in a great amphitheatre, the rim of which is high Pennine moorland, the city centre buildings below stand in a compact group on their own little hill, known since early times as the Hallam Ridge. It was on the lower slopes of this spur, overlooking the rivers Don and Sheaf, that the earliest settlement was established and here that the castle and the ancient parish church were built.

The hill to the east of Sheffield, known for centuries as simply 'The Park' was granted by William the Conqueror to the first of its Norman Lords, William de Lovetot, as part of the Manor of Hallamshire. He effectively founded the modern town for, by 1200, the family had built the first church on the site of the present cathedral, founded a defensive motte and baily castle where the Sheaf meets the Don and between these two encouraged the little town to grow.

The De Furnivals, Lords of Hallamshire during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries rebuilt the castle in stone and granted a charter to the little town in 1297. In 1281 Thomas De Furnival claimed ancient hunting rights

over the Deer Park an area covering some 2,460 acres with a boundary extending to Gleadless, Handsworth and Darnall to the east, along the Don to the north and from Heeley along the Sheaf valley to the south and west. Most significantly, however, the boundary extended beyond the Sheaf to the west to include the hillside now covered by much of the city centre, up to the line of the present Norfolk Street.

By the fifteenth century the Talbots were Lords of the Manor, the title Earl of Shrewsbury was granted to them in 1442 by Henry V as reward for their support of the King during the Hundred Years War with France. One of the most important historical figures to be associated with the family and Sheffield in this era is Mary Queen of Scots, who spent fourteen years in 'captive custody' in and around Sheffield under the care of the 6th Earl, one of the richest noblemen in the north of England.

In the 17th century the Shrewsbury estates came by marriage to the Howard family: the Dukes of Norfolk. The Norfolks were courtiers and henceforth the estate was run primarily as a business rather than a residence.

# Norfolk Heritage Trail

- Main route of Trail
- Alternative routes of Trail
- Tram route

Not all roads & features are marked.





# How to Get There

From the city centre bus services run every 15 mins or more to City Road with a short walk up Manor Lane to the start at Manor Lodge; or take Supertram to Spring Lane stop, cross City Road, take the footpath through Manor Fields Park (Deep Pit) keeping left, exit on to Manor Park Crescent and walk straight forward up to Manor Lodge on Manor Lane. Parking is limited at Manor Lodge. Contact South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (tel 01709 51 51 51) for timetable details.

The Trail is about 4½ km (2¾ miles) long on a downhill gradient. However, shorter circular routes can be taken as shown or a longer circular route bringing the Trail user back to Manor Lodge, about 9 km (5½ miles). The Trail is accessible to all, and alternative routes are given to avoid steps and for easier access to sites of interest.

For information about health walks, visit [www.whi.org.uk](http://www.whi.org.uk), the 'walking the way to health' website.

This leaflet has been produced by a group of people and organisations who have got together in order to help create the Norfolk Heritage Trail: we are keen that more people should visit and enjoy the heritage and landscape of this area of Sheffield.

Project partners include: Sheffield Wildlife Trust, Green Estate, Manor & Castle Development Trust, Friends of Norfolk Park, Friends of Cholera Monument Grounds, Friends of Sheffield Manor Lodge, Sheffield City Council departments, local history experts and others.

If you are interested in finding out more about our group please contact Sheffield Wildlife Trust on 0114 263 4335, Green Estate Ltd on 0114 276 2828, or the city Council Ranger Service on 0114 275 1176.



design by [www.tonywilliamsdesign.co.uk](http://www.tonywilliamsdesign.co.uk)

# Sheffield Manor Lodge

Your walk starts at Manor Lodge, Manor Lane, Sheffield. This important historical location may be explored further to be fully appreciated.



Manor Lodge is a scheduled monument and is one of Sheffield's most important historic buildings. The house was originally a medieval hunting lodge, set within Sheffield's great deer park, but was extensively enlarged in the 16th century to become a very fine residence for the Lords of the Manor and a more salubrious alternative to Sheffield Castle.

At its peak Manor Lodge was described as 'on a hill in the midst of the park, being fairly built with stone and timber, with an inward court and an outward court, 2 gardens and 3 yards, containing 4 acres, 1 rood, 15 perches'. A pair of tall brick-faced octagonal towers flanked the entrance (opposite the Turret House). A Long Gallery, Tower Room and other rooms made for a very impressive manor house. The Turret House (the only remaining intact building) stood in the outer courtyard and was built in 1574 probably as a gatehouse and hunting tower.

During Mary Queen of Scots' long years in 'captive custody' in Sheffield, under the care of the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, George Talbot, she spent time at the Lodge to get away from the unsanitary conditions of the Castle. The Earl died at Sheffield Manor Lodge in 1590. During the 17th century the house fell into disrepair and by 1708 the Duke of Norfolk started piecemeal demolition, letting the land to tenant farmers and craftsmen.

Photos of Turret House, Park Hill, Old Queen's Head and Cathedral by Steven Brownlow

# Directions

**1 Turn right along Manor Lane and take the first road to your left — Harwich Road. Enter City Road Cemetery through the main gates (or side gate if these are closed). Follow main tracks straight ahead, then turn right towards main gate, or keep right following perimeter track to avoid the steps. Exit through main gates or small side gate.**

City Road Cemetery was opened in 1881 and was originally known as Intake Cemetery. The cemetery covers 100 acres and is the largest owned by the City Council. Within the cemetery,



there are war memorials commemorating those who died in the two World Wars, including Belgian troops and refugees who died in Sheffield during the First World War, and a Blitz Garden area where 134 citizens of Sheffield, who lost their lives during the City of Sheffield Blitz on 12 and 15 December 1940, rest in a communal grave.

In April 1905, City Road Crematorium was built and opened by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield (Alderman Jonas). The first cremation took place on 15 April 1905.

**2 Turn right on City Road, cross over at the traffic lights and walk straight forward down the footpath between the houses towards Norfolk Heritage Park. Turn right and follow the path around an open area of wildflowers down the hill and round to the left. Cross St.Aidans Road, turn right then left down a path on to St.Aidans Avenue, turn left and then right into Norfolk Heritage Park. Walk down the stepped path into the park and turn right on the main path.**

*continues...*

...continued



This 70-acre park, the only surviving remnant of the original deer park, was laid out in the 1840s by the 13th Duke of Norfolk, who wanted to create a parkland landscape after the fashion of the times. In 1848, concerned at the dire poverty and over-population of the area, he opened up the park to the people of Sheffield – making it one of the

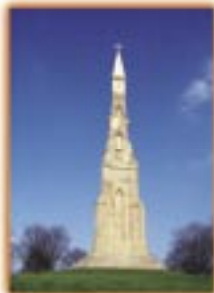
first parks in Britain to be opened free to the public.

**3 Exit the park on to Granville Road, cross at the crossing, turn left then right up Norfolk Road, take first left on to Fitzwalter Road, walk down and enter Clay Wood on the right.**

Clay Wood is mentioned in a 1637 land survey and is the remains of an ancient spring wood ('spring' meaning that it was coppiced). Ancient woodlands are very valuable to wildlife as some woodland plants and animals fail to spread to new woodlands.

**4 Follow the path through the wood and turn left into the Cholera Monument Grounds. Follow this path around the monument to take in views of the city, the topograph and the interpretation board.**

Cholera is a water-borne disease, thought for a long time to be a disease of the 'poor, the idle and the drunk'. In 1832 an epidemic swept through Sheffield, claiming many lives. Of the 402 cholera victims, 339 are buried here. During the epidemic the 12th Duke of Norfolk gave this piece of land so those who died could be buried within hours of dying, thereby helping to reduce the spread of the disease. Survivors of the epidemic had a 70ft monument erected to those who had died. It was built with stone from Rivelin quarry and has recently been restored. In 2004 a clay 'cobbled' mound artwork was installed, representing the individuals who lost their lives.



**5 Walk towards the main entrance gates, and take a left turn.**

Opposite you will see Shrewsbury Hospital; when Gilbert Talbot the 7th Earl of Shrewsbury died in 1616 he left instructions for the establishment of a hospital for twenty of Sheffield's poorest (hospital in the sense of a hostel or hospice, rather than an infirmary). Originally built near the present-day Park Square, the hospital was moved to this site in 1827. It is still used as almshouses today.

**6 Follow the path to Shrewsbury Road, cross and walk left down the hill past the Sweet Factory, turn right and follow the cobbled paths through South Street Park.**

On Shrewsbury Road stands a small, recently restored stone building, originally a non-conformist chapel or Sunday school; it later became a sweet factory until well into the 20th century.



The old cobbled roads are the remaining street pattern of the Victorian housing which once occupied this site, which is now an open space known as South Street Park. To your right are Park Hill Flats, built in the late 1950s to replace cramped and run-down back-to-back housing. The architects envisaged 'streets in the sky' and built the flats with continuous external walkways. They were listed as Grade 2\* historic buildings in 1998 in recognition that they were one of the most innovative and significant public housing projects of post-war Britain.

**7 Cross the tram line and continue towards the bridge over Park Square. Views of city, interpretation board and link to Five Weirs Walk and canal towpath.**

Look out for the Old Queen's Head (named after the decapitated Mary!), a timber-framed building by the bus station. This is thought to be the oldest domestic building still surviving in Sheffield, built in the 15th century by the Talbot family. It was known in the 1770s



as the 'Hawle in the Pondes' and is thought to have been used as a lodge for those fishing and fowling on the River Sheaf and surrounding ponds.

**8 Follow the left tram route over the bridge and walk towards the City Centre up Commercial Street, straight ahead on to High Street and on until you reach the Cathedral on the right. Inside you will find the private Shrewsbury chapel and have reached the end of the linear Trail.**

Looking right towards the Castle Market site, you would once have been viewing Sheffield Castle, sited on the confluence of the Rivers Don and Sheaf. The castle, like the Manor Lodge, was also used for holding Mary Queen of Scots during her years of captivity, after plotting to take over the English throne from Elizabeth I. The castle was demolished by order of Parliament after the Civil War and today the only remains are some ancient foundations in the cellars of Castle Market.



The opulent tomb of the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury and the tomb of the 4th Earl lying between his two wives can be seen in the chapel.

Sheffield Park, a vast deer park, covered an area from here to Arbourthorne. In 1637 the park covered 2,460 acres and had a circumference of eight miles, with 1,000 fallow deer and 200 'antlered' (red) deer inside its bounds. The deer were kept for sport and meat for the Lord of the Manor and his guests. From the castle, avenues of walnut and magnificent oaks led through the deer park to Manor Lodge. The entrance to the park would once have stood very close to the aptly named Park Square. The avenue's branches 'uniting aloft... formed an arched roof through which rain or sun could not penetrate' (*Hunter's Hallamshire*, 1869).

**9 Return to Manor Lodge via 94, 95 or 41 bus at Sheffield Interchange or return to Castle Square for tram to City Road.**