

WALK 3: The Lace Market & Sneinton

Photos and description: 2020-24

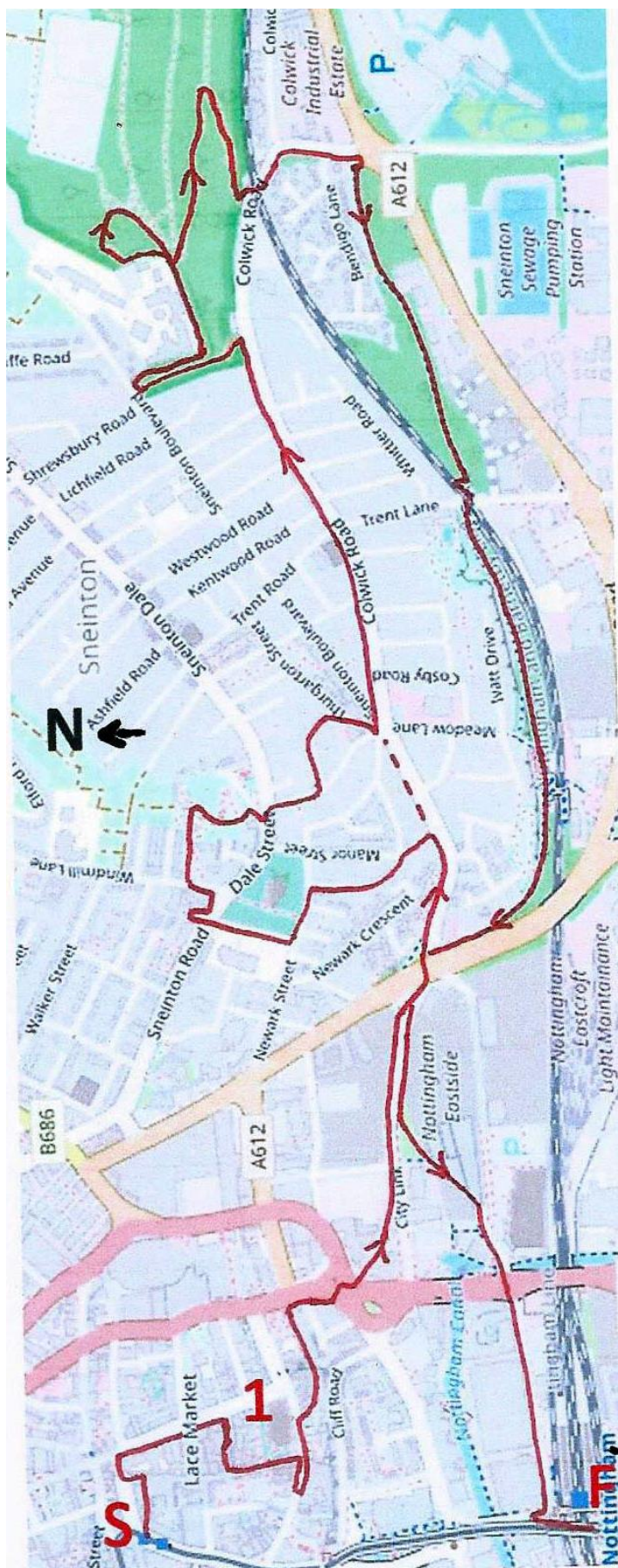
Take the NET service to the Lace Market tramstop, the **S**tart of this walk.

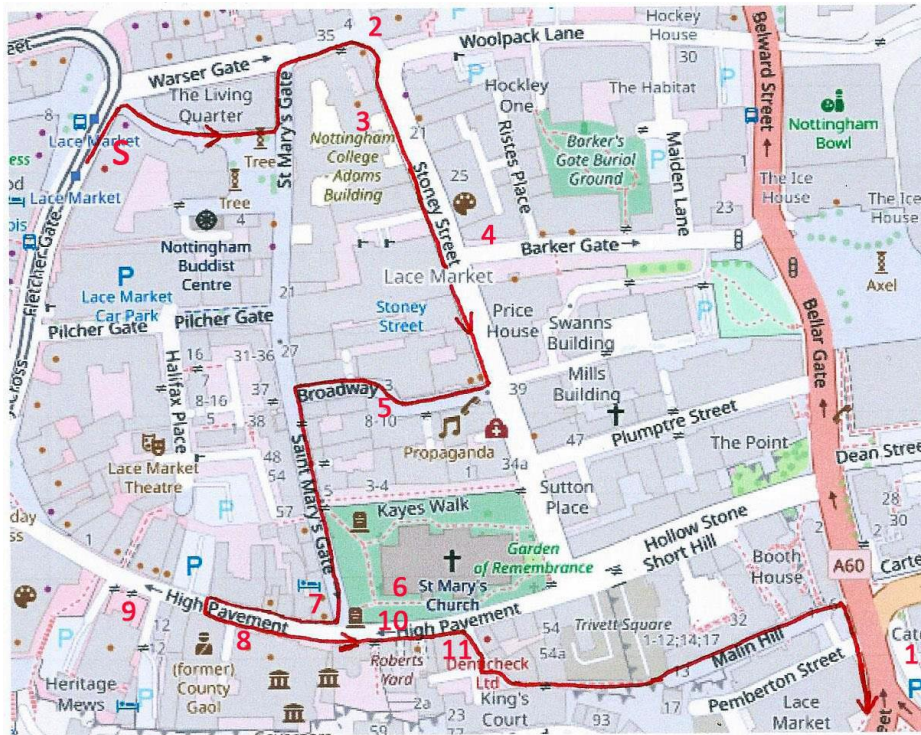
This walk is about 8.3 km (just over 5 miles) and goes through Nottingham's **Lace Market (1)** and the Island Quarter (to see Nottingham's industrial buildings of the past and of its future), then a loop around Sneinton and up to Green's Mill, then a loop through part of Colwick Woods and back along the Sneinton Greenway back to the Island Quarter and along Station Street to the Nottingham Station tramstop, the **F**inish of this walk.

The walk includes quite a lot of steep steps and, after wet weather, the paths through Colwick Woods can be slippery.

The description includes directions and a note of interesting sites along the way. For some of these sites, marked in red and with a red number on the maps, there is further information in **3A. The Lace Mkt & Sneinton Appendix**.

If you want a shorter walk you could split this into two walks, the first to include the loop through Sneinton but not the Colwick Woods/Greenway loop, the second including the Colwick Woods/Greenway loop but not the Sneinton loop.





From the Lace Market tramstop on Fletcher Gate go into the pedestrian walkway (Adams Walk) between modern buildings, with the rear of the Victorian Adams Building ahead.



Turn left on St Mary's Gate and right on Warser Gate to its junction with Stoney Street.

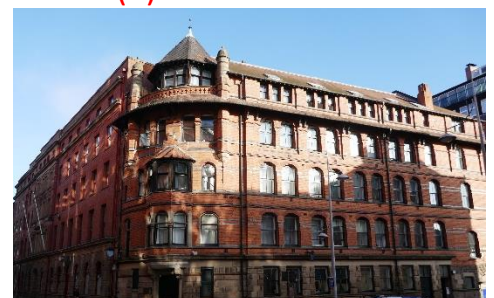
At the junction with Stoney Street is The Angel Microbrewery, which used to be the **Old Angel Inn (2)**.



Turn right, into Stoney Street and, on the right, is the magnificent front of the **Old Adams Building (3)**.



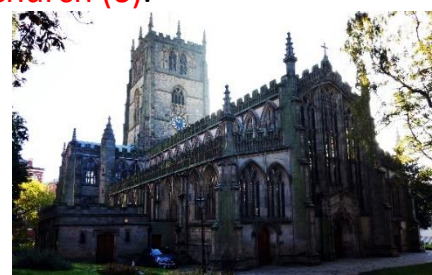
Further along on the left side of Stoney St, at its junction with Barker Gate, is another warehouse – **Barker Gate House (4)**.



Continue along Stoney Street and turn right into Broadway and past the **Birkin Building (5)**.



Turn left along St Mary's Gate and pass **St Mary's Church (6)**.



At the junction with High Pavement, on the right hand corner is the **Lace Market Hotel (7)**.



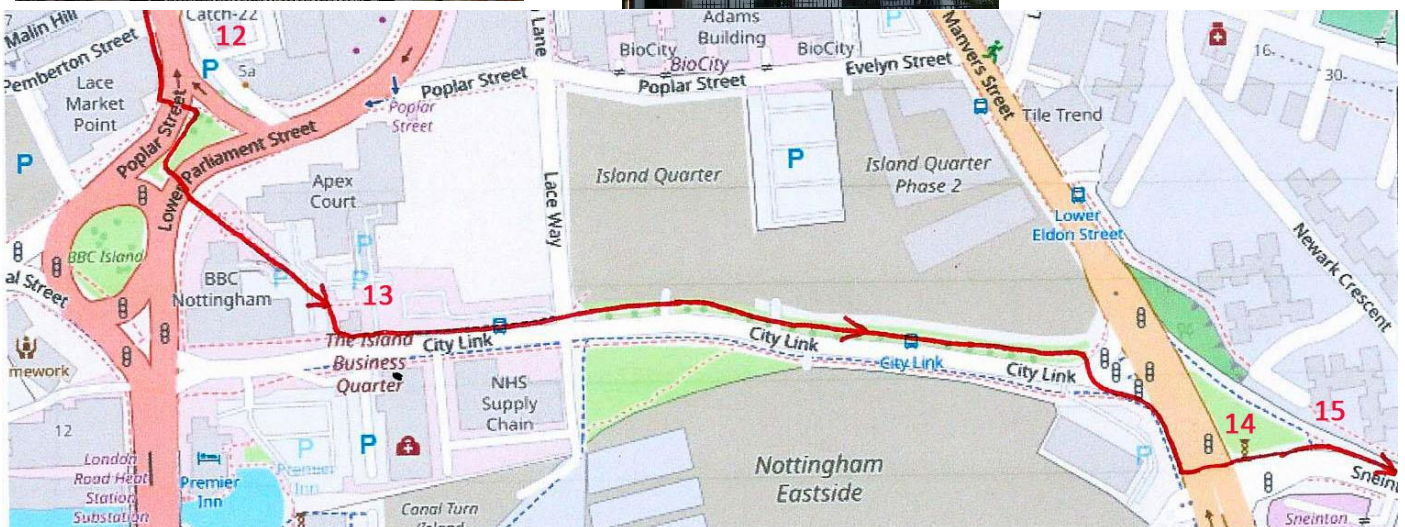
Turning right, further along High Pavement is the **National Justice Museum (8)** and beyond it is **The Unitarian Chapel (9)** which is now the Pitcher & Piano.



Go back along **High Pavement (10)** to the side of St Mary's church and then turn right into **Commerce Square (11)**.



Go left and along the path down Malin Hill to the main road (Hollowstone). Turn right – on the opposite side of the road is what was the **Plumptre Hospital (12)**.



Cross over Poplar Street and Lower Parliament Street and turn into the walkway through the first part of **The Island Quarter (13)**, with Apex Court offices on the left and BBC Nottingham on the right.

Turn left along City Link, with the NHS Emergency Treatment Centre on the right and, across the open area on the left, the BioCity buildings and, ahead, student accommodation under construction.



At the end of City Link cross Manvers Street and bear right into Sneinton Hermitage. Lurking in the trees at the junction is the **Sneinton Dragon (14)**.



Go along Sneinton Hermitage, beside the high stone wall. Above this is an estate of white houses. This is the site of the old London and North Western Railway goods station – see **Old Railways (15)**.



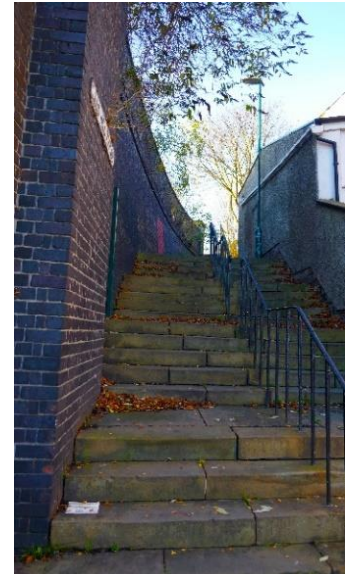
A little further along Sneinton Hermitage, there is a gap in the wall revealing some caves. These are the remaining part of a larger area of cave dwellings which were the origin of the name 'Hermitage' – **Sneinton Hermitage (16)**.

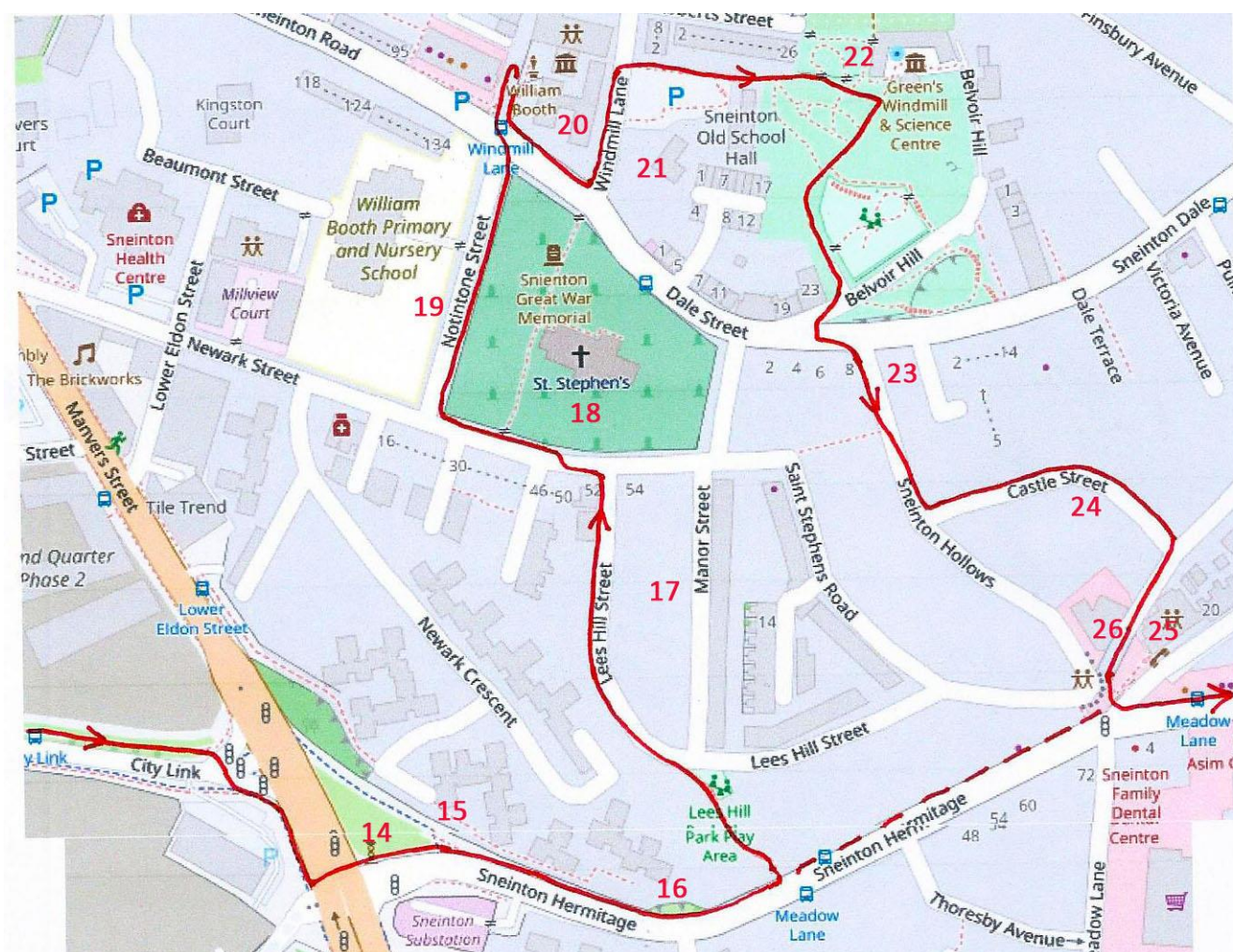


Just past the caves, the stone wall changes to blue brick, where the railway used to cross the road on a bridge, and after this there are steps up to the left.

If you are doing the full walk or the shorter option to include the Sneinton loop, go up the steps; if you are doing the second shorter walk with the Colwick Woods/Greenway loop, continue along Sneinton Hermitage.

Go up the steps and along Lees Hill Footway which goes up to Lees Hill Street – turn left. This area used to be part of **The Manor (17)**.





At the end of Lees Hill Street is the churchyard and **St Stephen's Church (18)**.

Turn left along St Stephens Road and then right into Notintone Street. **Notintone (19)** was the Norman name for Sneinton.

Go to the end of Notintone Street and onto Sneinton Road/Dale Street; ahead is a complex of Salvation Army premises – church, care centre, community centre, etc.

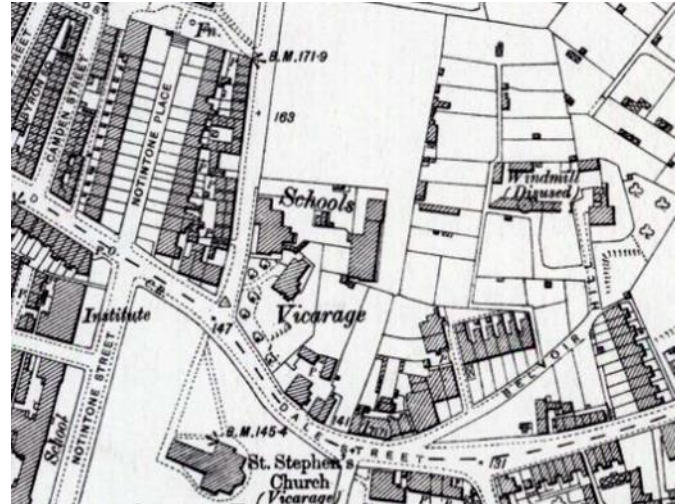


Turn left and immediately right before the shops. This leads to Notintone Place and the **William Booth (20)** Birthplace and Museum. Booth was the founder of the Salvation Army.



As shown on this 1899 map, Notintone Place (top left) was a street with what appear to be small terraced houses on one side and slightly larger ones on the other – the side of Booth's birthplace. The buildings that house the museum are all that remain, the others were demolished sometime after the mid-1960s.

Return to Sneinton Road/Dale St, turn left, past the Salvation Army premises, and then turn left into Windmill Lane.



On the right-hand corner of Windmill Lane is the old **St Stephens Vicarage (21)**

Behind the former vicarage, where 'Schools' are shown on the 1899 map (only one building remains – now a nursery) is a car park – at the far side is a path up to the right; follow this through to the top of Belvoir Hill, overlooking the city of Nottingham, where we reach the **Green's Windmill (22)**.



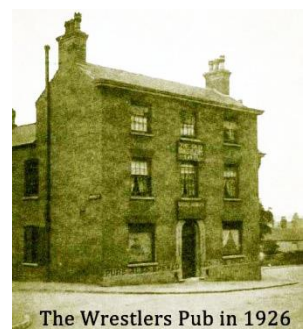
Leaving the mill, go down the path to the right of the play area and turn right onto Belvoir Hill, then left and right into Sneinton Hollows.

This street has terraced housing dating from the late 1890s/early 1900s. Many of the houses have carved heads supporting the door arches and some houses are named.



The first terrace on the left is named **Hornbuckle Villas (23)**

The property at the corner of Sneinton Hollows and Castle Street – No 15 Sneinton Hollows – used to be a pub called 'The Wrestlers'. It closed in 1957.



The Wrestlers Pub in 1926

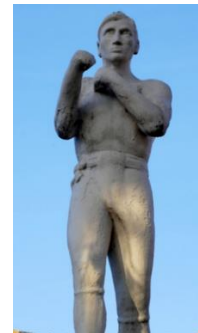
Turn left into Castle Street – most of the houses here are larger, detached Victorian buildings, probably originally the homes of factory owners/managers of the old industrial area below. Originally, the dominant local industry was bobbin net making and framework knitting but later this diversified into lace making, machinery manufacture and malting.



The house with the tower, No 10 Castle Street, is known as **The Towers (24)**. Apparently, 'it was built by a man who owned all the barges on the Trent. He sat in the tower so he could keep an eye on them, making sure they were on time'.

At the end of Castle Street is Thurgarton Street. If you want to see (and have a quick pint) the Lord Nelson pub (info at: **Hornbuckle Villas (23)**), turn left and then second left into Lord Nelson Street. Otherwise, turn right and out to Hermitage Square.

On the left is what was **Sneinton Methodist Church (25)**... ..and on the right is what was **The Bendigo pub (26)**.
On the roof at the front of the pub is a statue of William Abednego Thompson – 'Bendigo' – the famous Nottingham bare-knuckle fighter.



To your right, on Sneinton Hermitage, is an old Police Station, dating from 1894. The second photo is how the street looked when trams ran along it in the early 1900s.



If you are doing the shorter walk option including the Sneinton loop, turn back along Sneinton Hermitage; if you are doing the full walk or the second shorter walk with the Colwick Woods/Greenway loop, go along Colwick Road.



On Colwick Road you pass, on the left, **St Christopher's Church (27)** ...

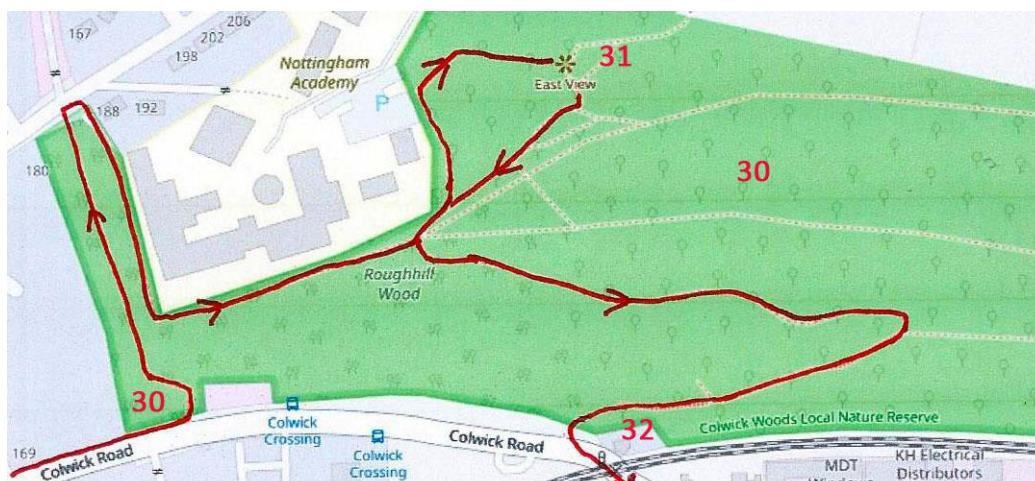


... and a little further on, 115 Colwick Road, an old **Gentlemen's Hairdressing Saloon (28)**.



The next streets along Colwick Road have names associated with the Boer War and other events of the period around 1900: **Sneinton Street Names (29)**. We pass Kingsley Road, Ladysmith Street, Mafeking Street, Baden Powell Street, Kimberley Street and Port Arthur Road.

A short distance past Port Arthur Road take the path (steps) on the left into **Colwick Woods (30)**.



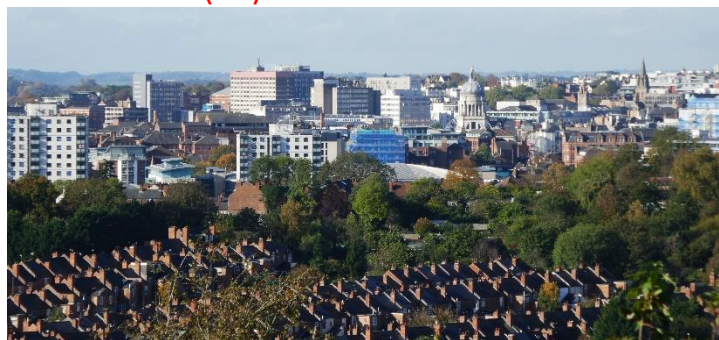
Follow the path up the steps and along through the woods, keeping an eye out for wildlife.



When the path reaches the road (Sneinton Blvd) go right and immediately right again, up the steps, to the path which goes back into Colwick Woods (this part is called Roughhill Wood) and follows the fencing south and then east around the Nottingham Academy site. At the eastern end of the Academy there are a number of paths – take the path on the left.



The path goes up a slope and steps to reach the top where there is a bench, an information panel and a fantastic view over the roofs of Sneinton to the city centre – **East View (31)**.



Facing the view, turn to the left and go along the path through the woods and down to the corner of the Nottingham Academy site and go left, along the path which crosses the slope, until it meets another path – go right and follow this path, which overlooks Nottingham Racecourse, continuing down the slope with steps and out of the wood onto Colwick Road. Turn left towards the railway level crossing.

On the left at the crossing is **Crossing House Cottage (32)**.

Go over the crossing, past a side road (on the right) named after the bare-knuckle fighter.





Go along Racecourse Road just to the roundabout junction with Daleside Road. On the centre of the roundabout are three fine sculptures of horses, as on the opposite side is **Nottingham Racecourse (33)**.



Turn back and take the path to the left through the trees along what were old railway lines – now the **Sneinton Greenway (34)**.

Along the path are remains of railway bridges, now decorated with street art.



Go over the bridge, crossing Trent Lane and the only remaining railway.

Looking to your right from the bridge you should be able to see some of the places passed earlier on this walk:



St Christopher's Church



St Stephen's Church



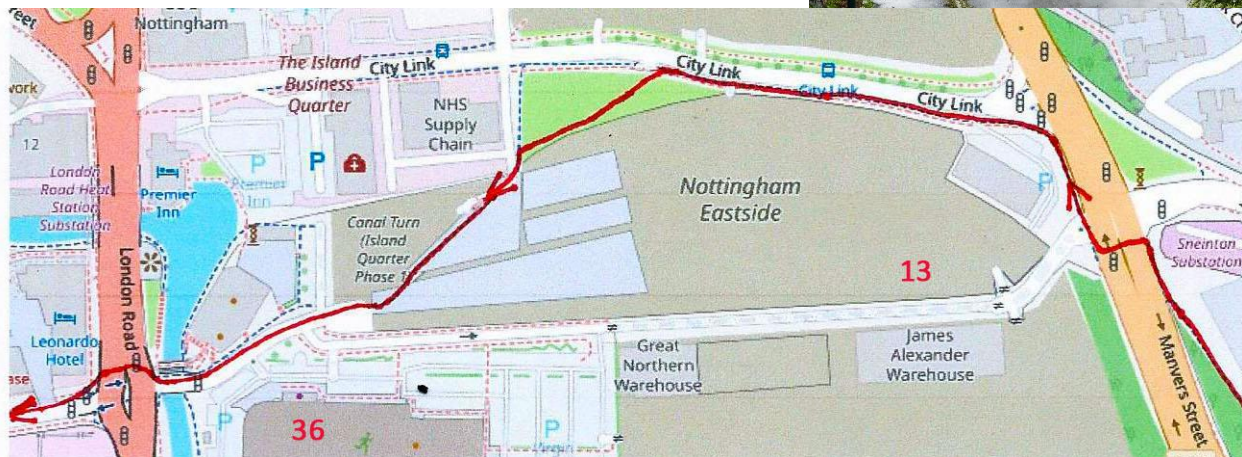
Green's Windmill





Continue along the path, over Meadow Lane bridge – looking down to the left, behind the shrubs, is the railway. This used to be **Meadow Lane level crossing (35)**, now replaced with a pedestrian bridge.

Continue along the path to Manvers Street.



Cross Manvers Street at its junction with Sneinton Hermitage, with the James Alexander Warehouses (see **The Island Quarter (13)**) on the left.



Turn left along City Link and then take the footpath to the left through to The Great Northern Close, with **London Road Station (36)** on the left.

Cross over the canal and then over London Road and along Station Street. At Trent Street go up the steps to the right and left across the tram bridge to the Nottingham Station tramstop and the end of this walk.

