

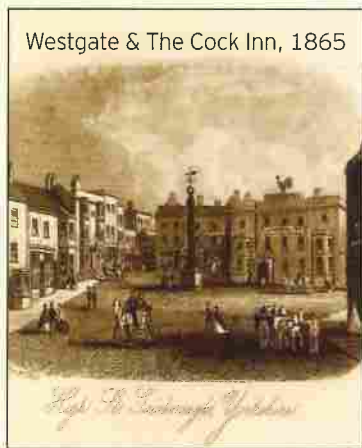
A BRIEF HISTORY OF GUISBOROUGH

An entry in the Domesday Book of 1086 shows a small settlement at Guisborough. At that time the spelling was either Ghigesburg or Gighesbore.

Following the Norman Conquest Robert de Brus II acquired land in the area, some of which was gifted to found a Priory for Augustinian Monks in 1119.

In 1263 Henry III granted permission for a weekly market in the town and for a three day annual fair. Throughout the centuries regular markets and fairs have been held for local people to buy and sell their goods.

Alum was discovered and produced in the area around Guisborough throughout the 17th century but it was not until the 18th and 19th centuries that the town began to prosper and a number of properties on the heritage trail date from this time.



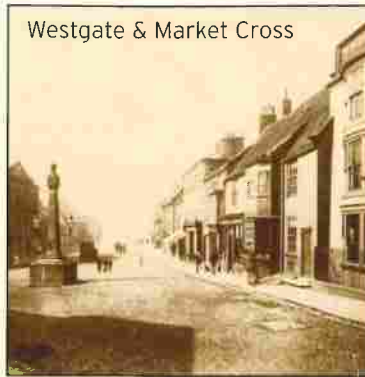
Guisborough was an important coaching centre with three coaching inns within the town - The Buck Inn, The Cock Inn and The Seven Stars.

Ironstone mining began in the mid 19th century which led to a rapid increase in the size of the town. Many terraced houses were built to accommodate the growing number of incoming miners and this growth led to the development of the

railway in 1853. The railway was closed in 1964 with the station demolished shortly afterwards.

The town expanded rapidly during the early 1960s and 70s, fuelled by the expansion of the local chemical and steel industries.

Today Guisborough remains a popular market town retaining its historic charm with over 100 listed buildings within its conservation area.



For further information about activities, events, accommodation and things to see and do in and around Guisborough visit :

www.thisisguisborough.co.uk

Thanks are due to :

Guisborough Town Pride, under whose auspices this project has been undertaken, together with many other dedicated volunteers.

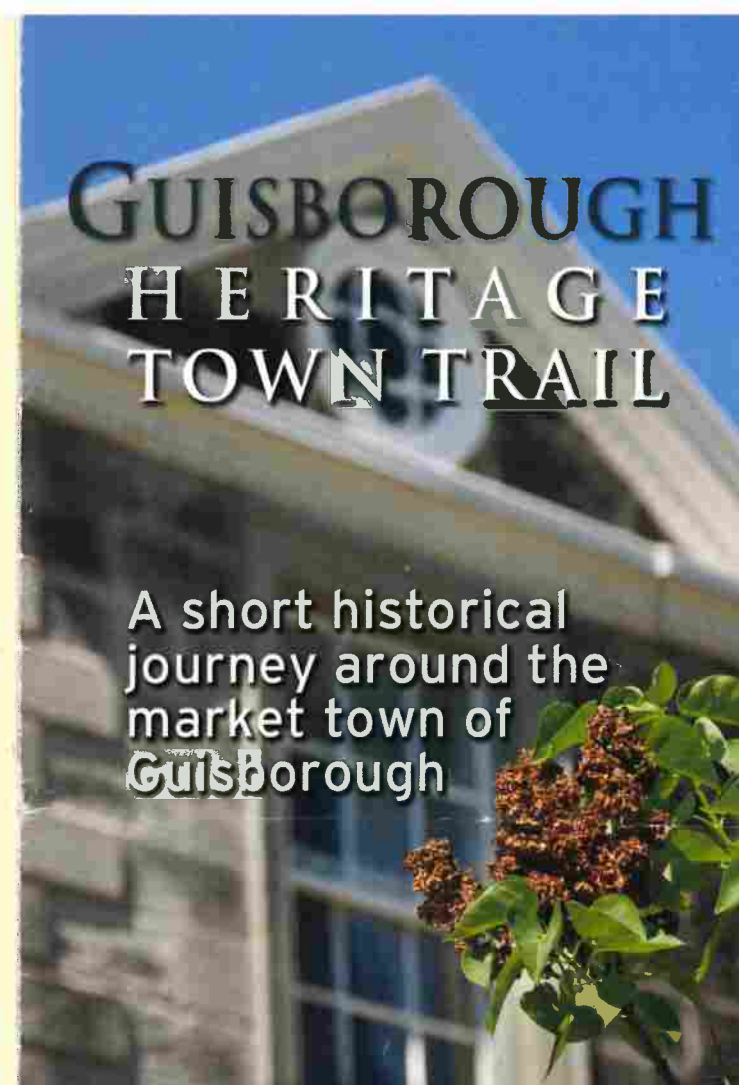
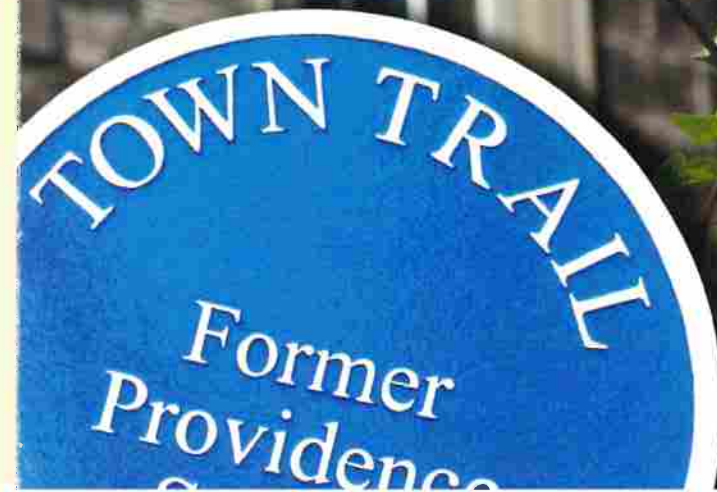
Guisborough Museum for information and photographs.

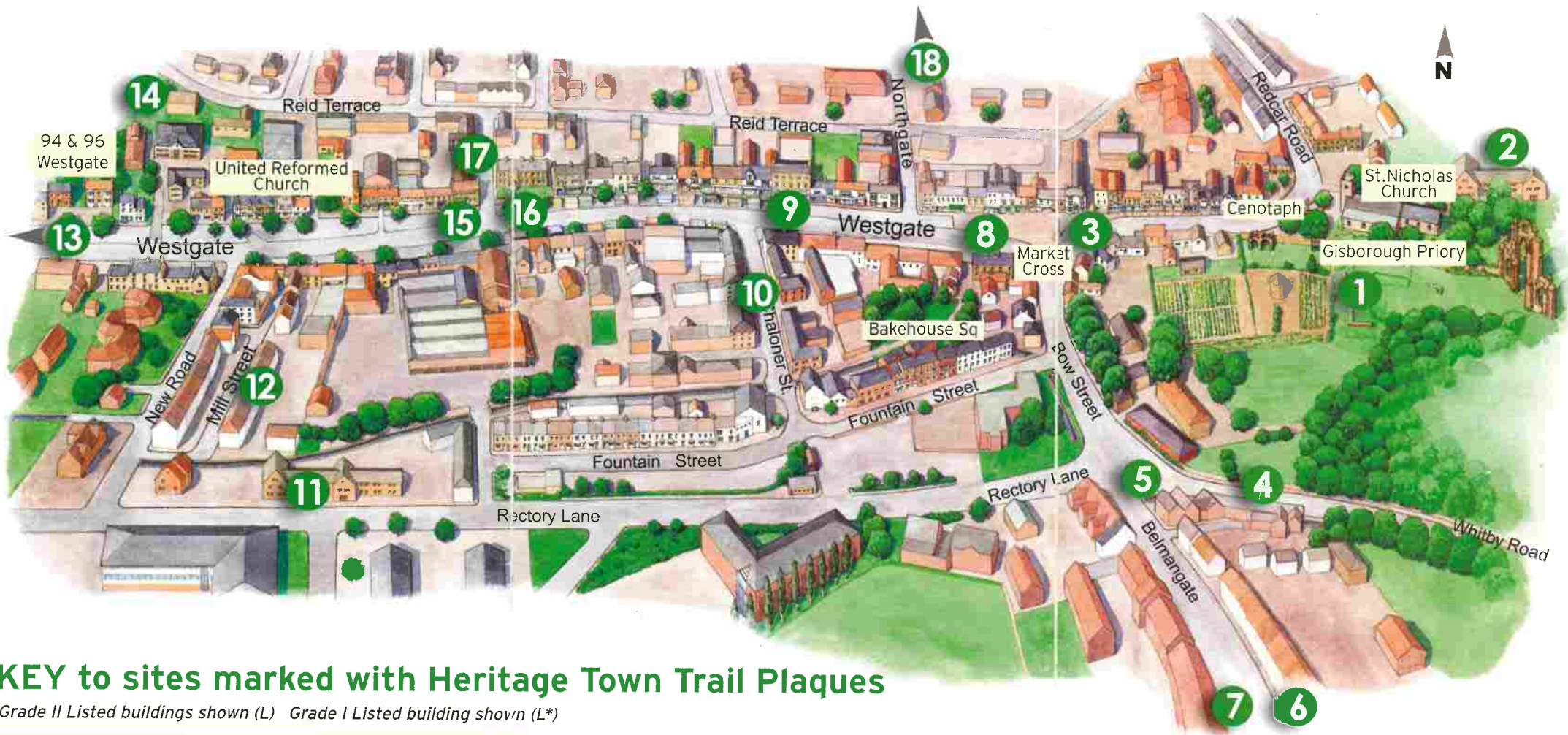
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council for historical information and advice.

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy, the publishers cannot accept any responsibility for errors or omissions, or any consequences arising from them.

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KEY to sites marked with Heritage Town Trail Plaques

Grade II Listed buildings shown (L) Grade I Listed building shown (L*)

- | | | | | | |
|----------|---|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 1 | Augustinian Priory of St. Mary (L*) | 7 | 60 Belmangate | 13 | Cottages 151/153 Westgate (L) |
| 2 | Prior Pursglove College Old Building (L) | 8 | Town Hall (L) | 14 | Quaker Burial Ground |
| 3 | NatWest Bank (Former Cock Inn) | 9 | HSBC Bank (Former Significant Town House L) | 15 | 38 Westgate (Dr. Pratt's House L) |
| 4 | Admiral Chaloner House | 10 | The Mechanics' Institute | 16 | Sunnyfield House (L) |
| 5 | Former Police Station | 11 | The TA Club (Former Providence School) | 17 | Sunnyfield Villa Gazebo (L) |
| 6 | Guisborough Estate Workers' Terrace | 12 | Mill Street (Site of original mill) | 18 | Guisborough General Hospital (L) |

The Heritage Town Trail may be started at any point, but the descriptions and numbering here assume a starting point at the Market Cross on Westgate. The trail is mostly on the level, suitable for all ages and takes approximately 1.5 hours to complete.

The Market Cross (L)

The early 19th century market cross is the focal point of the market place. The drinking fountain is a later addition donated to the town by Lady Pease in 1874. The sundials on top of the market cross were restored in 2006. An interpretative board gives more information on the history of this feature.

1 Augustinian Priory of St. Mary

Founded in 1119, the Augustinian Gisborough Priory was dedicated to St. Mary. The priory was rebuilt after a disastrous fire in 1289 and then closed during Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries. At its closure in 1540 Gisborough Priory was the fourth richest in Yorkshire. The east end was incorporated into gardens designed for the Chaloner family in the 18th century. It is now a Grade I listed building.

The Cenotaph (L)

The town's war memorial or cenotaph was erected in 1925 in memory of those who fell in the First World War. Following the Second World War additional plaques were added to commemorate those who fell between 1939 and 1945.

Parish Church of St. Nicholas (L)

Parts of the parish church date from the early 16th century. There was a major restoration of the church by the architect Temple Moore between 1903 and 1908. The De Brus Cenotaph found in the church is the most significant surviving relic of the priory and depicts both the de Brus's of Skelton and the de Brus's of Annandale. An obelisk in the churchyard is dedicated to John Walker Ord born in Gisborough in 1811. Educated locally he went on to study medicine and anatomy. He abandoned his medical career in 1834 to pursue a literary career. He is remembered for 'History and Antiquities of Cleveland' published in 1844 in 12 monthly instalments costing 2s 6d each. Ord died in Gisborough in 1853.

2 Prior Pursglove College Old Building

Entrance on Church Walk.

In 1887 the Board of Governors of the newly reconstituted Gisborough Grammar School commissioned Alfred Waterhouse, an eminent Victorian architect, most famous for designing the Natural History Museum in London, to design the new Grammar School buildings and the headmaster's house. The new building replaced the old almshouses and earlier school building. The original school was founded in 1561 by Prior Pursglove. A library was added to the west of the building in 1899. A turret at the eastern end of the school building was removed after the First World War and replaced with a clock in memory of old boys of the school who died in the war.

3 NatWest Bank (Former Cock Inn)

The Cock Inn was one of three coaching inns in the town; it was rebuilt as bank premises in 1875. Most of the old inn was converted into a bank but the section to the left of the arch became a separate shop unit. The Buck and The Seven Stars coaching inns are close by.

4 Admiral Chaloner House

In 1873 Admiral Thomas Chaloner endowed the town with a miners' Accident Hospital. This was later named Admiral Chaloner Hospital in recognition of the admiral's generosity to the town. The central gable has the date 1873 plus the Chaloner family crest and the initials TC and AC for the admiral and his wife Amelia. An operating theatre and X-ray facility were added to the building in 1928. The hospital closed in the early 1980s and the original facade has been retained as a frontage for new apartments.

5 Former Police Station

These buildings, adjacent to Admiral Chaloner House, at the junction of Whitby Lane and Belmangate, are the site of a former police station built in 1857, now residential dwellings.



12 Westgate can be seen on the right

12 Mill Street (site of original mill)

This site was a steam driven corn mill and mill warehouse, operating from the 1850s.

13 Cottages 151/153 Westgate

These buildings are part of a terrace of four late 18th century or early 19th century workers' cottages. No 153 has had mid 20th century changes to the roof and windows. No 151 retains the clay pantile roof tiles and Yorkshire sash windows. Note that each cottage has one window to each floor and the vertically boarded doors are to the left hand side of each property.

No. 96 Westgate - Lower Garth

An early 19th century town house of dressed sandstone with a Welsh slate roof.

No 94 Westgate - West Garth

A late 18th century town house with an early 19th century extension. The earliest parts of West Garth date from 1790.

14 Quaker Burial Ground

This is the site of a former Quaker meeting house with an adjacent burial ground.

George Fox, the founder of the Quaker sect, visited Cleveland in 1651. Records of Quaker meeting places exist and in 1815 a Quaker Meeting House was built on this site. Meetings ceased in 1918 and the building had various uses until its demolition in 1965. The burial ground is now all that remains.

United Reformed Church

The first building on this site opened in 1811. The building was substantially reconstructed in 1904/5 to give the present church building.

15 38 Westgate (Dr. Pratt's House)

An imposing 19th century house which was lived in by a succession of general practitioners. One was Dr. James Merryweather, for many years Medical Officer for the Guisborough Board of Health. The last GP to live in the house was Dr. Pratt.

16 Sunnyfield House

Sunnyfield House was built around 1780 as the residence of John Harrison, agent to the Chaloner Estate and included a large area of land to the north of Westgate. After being sold at auction in 1876 the land was broken up and the house was bought by Arthur Buchanan. At this time the house became known as Sunnyfield House.

The house, out buildings (now Guisborough Museum) and immediate gardens became home to Dr William Waters Stainthorpe in 1902. He extended the house in 1919 to provide a private nursing home, in use through to 1952. After this time the building was used as a training school for the garment making industry, then offices. It was bought by Guisborough Town Council in 1984 to be used as a community centre.

17 Sunnyfield Villa Gazebo

1 Westgate Road known as Sunnyfield Villa was built in 1877-8 by William Paver. It was the first property to be completed on the 'Sunnyfield Estate' and remained in the possession of the same family until 1947. The gazebo in the garden of Sunnyfield Villa was once part of the Sunnyfield House gardens but became detached when Westgate Road was constructed to give access to Westgate for the Victorian terraces built to the north.

18 Guisborough General Hospital

Guisborough Poor Law Union came into being in 1837, and its operation was overseen by an elected Board of 28 Guardians. Architects John & William Atkinson of York were appointed to design a workhouse, which was completed in 1839. Built to house some 130 inmates, the accommodation included water closets and a slipper bath.

A piggery, garden field and small orchard were tended by the inmates and provided food and produce to sell. Wards were added in 1842 where, in exchange for work, vagrants were given food and a bed for the night. After the First World War the workhouse became Guisborough Poor Law Institution.

During the Second World War it was used as a military hospital and with the inauguration of the National Health Service in 1948 became Guisborough General and Maternity Hospital.

6 Guisborough Estate Workers' Terrace

On the east side of Belmangate, the row of terraced houses was built in the early 1870s for the employees of Admiral Thomas Chaloner.

7 60 Belmangate

Opposite is an early example of a brick built farmhouse. There are many examples of early brick built houses in the town.

Bakehouse Square (behind the Town Hall)

A footbridge was first built across Chapel Beck to link Beckside and Bakehouse Square in 1878. A space to the side of the bridge was left for horses to drink from the beck or carts to be washed. An interpretative board gives more information.

8 Town Hall

The Town Hall was built in two stages in the 19th century. The ground and first floors were built in 1821 and the second floor in 1870. A shambles (market) was held in the open arches during the mid to late 19th century. The Town Hall was built on the site of an ancient Toll-Booth.

9 HSBC Bank (Former significant townhouse)

12 Westgate was built in the late 18th century with grounds stretching back to the North Bank Lane (now Bolckow St). The house became a bank in the late 19th century and the mock Georgian facade was added in 1919 to promote an image of security and trust. The first and second floors provided a managers' residence for many years with a walled garden to the rear.

10 The Mechanics' Institute, Chaloner St.

The Mechanics' Institute was built in 1861 on land donated by Admiral Thomas Chaloner. The building included a lecture room, reading room, library and classroom. An extension at the rear of the building, completed at the end of the 19th century, included a billiard room.

11 The TA Club (Former Providence School)

This former school was built in 1878 replacing an earlier school on Westgate. The land was given by Admiral Thomas Chaloner. A plaque high on the gable reads 'Rebuilt by the Guisborough School Board AD 1878. The Guisborough Providence Schools were erected AD 1792 in Westgate through the unremitting exertions of Mr George Venables by means of the voluntary subscriptions of himself and other charitable persons'.

Police Station - Belmangate

