

# Virtual Walk of Barton upon Humber Georgian Area

We start this walk in Baysgarth Park.



As you stand in the middle of the park and look north you see Baysgarth House which dates from 1731 but has undergone numerous later alterations. It was originally built for members of a branch of the Nelthorpe family but was eventually given to the town in 1930. It was the centre of a large estate on the southern fringes of the town and is set in some 30 acres of parkland. As you walk past the house towards the main gate you will notice that the building now houses the local museum which is open from 1030am to 3-30pm on Thursdays, Fridays and Bank Holidays and 10-30am to 4-30pm on Saturdays and Sundays and Telephone 01652632318. You can visit their web site at



<http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/museums/baysgrth.htm>. On leaving the park notice the fine wrought iron gates and the ornate gateposts capped with unicorns and baskets of fruit. These were brought to the park in the early 20th century from the garden of New Hall in Newport Street.



As you leave the park and walk straight across Preston Lane you will see to your right Bardney Hall. Bardney Hall is built in the Queen Anne style. The name is a reminder of the towns connection in the medieval period with the great Benedictine abbey of the same name.



As you continue down Whitecross street you will pass the Volunteer Arms public house on your left. This was named after the 320 strong force raised in the town during the Napoleonic War of 1803 to 1814. Notice the dentilled brick cornice under the eaves which is made of bricks set on edge. This feature can be seen on many buildings in Barton and these hand made bricks were produced locally at one of the many yards along the Humber Bank. Continue along Whitecross Street and turn left at the cross-roads into Market lane.



The Mill which was built on the site of a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery, was described as 'lately fitted up' in 1819. It continued in use until about 1950 after which it lay derelict until a more recent scheme of imaginative renovation transformed it into the public house / restaurant we see today.



Continue up Market Lane into the market place. This has a long history of well documented markets. If you look in front of you and slightly to the right you will see The George Hotel which is on the corner of George Street. This is a former coaching inn which has undergone many alterations. The main corner building dates from the 17th century and here was the venue for many of the great social, political and cultural events which took place in the town. You now turn right and walk down George street which is one of the old shopping streets of the town.



If you now turn right into Priestgate. As you enter the street turn and look back at the shops numbers 1 to 5 down from the corner of the one way street, Chapel Lane. This was originally a seven-bay house described as 'new built' in 1727. With its tall, steeply-pitched pantile roof, central stacks, sliding sash windows and generally low, squat proportions it is a good example of the local late 17th - early 18th century style. The rendering obscures good Flemish bond brickwork which, together with the rubbed brick window arches and deep cover plaster cornice, shows that it was a house of some distinction.



If you now turn and look over to the North side of Priestgate you will see Cobb Hall with its fine frontage and columned doorway. It is dated by the rainwater head to 1766. The initials T.M.E. are those of the builders of the house Thomas Marris, a local solicitor, and his wife Elizabeth. Notice the two fire insurance company plaques on the front and there is another on number 26 which is for the Pheonix Fire Insurance Company.



All but one of the houses in Priestgate were built before c.1860, most of them in Georgian period. No 4 on the North side is a fine example of a house which dates from the mid 18th century. Notice again the specially cut and rubbed bricks for the window arches, the dentilled eaves cornice and the decorative door case. It was stylish town houses such as these that first introduced the fashion for tall, narrow, three-storied buildings. The top stories of these houses have small windows though one at No 4 has been enlarged to light a former schoolroom.



A short walk further down Priestgate will bring you to the junction with St. Marys Lane. Named after the church you can see at the bottom of the lane. This street is one of the oldest in the town and was built up along with the churches.



