



G

The Sedgewick Museum

The Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences was founded in 1904 in memory of Adam Sedgwick. It was designed as a working museum where research could also take place, to discover more about our earth's treasures. The museum's collection now holds over 2 million items, including rocks, fossils and minerals and some of which are approximately 4.5 billion years old! The collection includes coprolite (fossilised dino poo) found on Cambridge Greensands, which Michael Rosen has written a number of poems about, one called "Pterosaur Poo" & one called "Coldham's Common"!



H

The Fire of 1849 in Market Square

On the night of Saturday 15th September 1849 there was a huge blaze which came to be known as the Great Fire of Cambridge Market. It started in a textile shop but became out of control once a chemist caught fire, because the chemicals for the medicines blew up like a firework display! The townspeople tried to put out the fire with buckets from Hobson's fountain, but the key was missing, so water had to be brought up from the River Cam behind King's Chapel in a long human chain which took too much time. All the old timber structures of the market area were destroyed, which is why you see stone and brick buildings by the market today.



I

Unsung Women

In 1897 the Victorian women of the University of Cambridge got rather fed up with not being allowed to graduate like their male classmates. Therefore on 21st May 1897 they rallied together to bring about an official vote on the matter. However nearly three times as many men voted against them as for them and women were not awarded degrees at Cambridge until 1948. The men made fun of the protesting women and hung an effigy of the woman on the bike at top of market place. Eglantyne Jebb, a campaigner for women's rights and social reform, campaigned for better living conditions in Cambridge, and we've written a song about her amazing work.



ABOUT CREATING MY CAMBRIDGE

'Creating My Cambridge' is a public art project led by Professor Helen Weinstein to share historical sources about Cambridge's people and places, past and present. It uses histories to inspire creativity and cultures of belonging. The aim is to give voice to school pupils, singers, musicians, poets, rappers, storytellers, filmmakers and composers. Historyworks is working with top poets like Michael Rosen & witty lyricists like CBBC's Horrible Histories song writer, Dave Cohen. Historyworks organizes workshops and events for people to get creative. Do use these resources and contribute subjects and creative pieces. We will be tagging artworks to the topics in the trails. To find further trails, please go to:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/trails/>

ABOUT HISTORYWORKS

Historyworks delivers top quality media products for museums, galleries, archives, libraries, community groups, academics, schools, colleges, universities, radio and television companies.

Historyworks supports the practice and theory of Public History and Public Art in the UK by promoting education programmes and partnerships. Historyworks bridges the gap between knowledge and public engagement with creativity and impact.

Historyworks produces made-to-measure documentary films, radio programmes, podcasts, vodcasts, stills, sound installations, websites, apps, radio and tv tasters and show reels. To get in touch with our team email us at historyworkstv@gmail.com

User Guide

This walking trail will lead you from Ridgefield School along Mill Road into the Market place in the heart of Cambridge, exploring the important stories along the way including the coming of the railway, the Poor House at Ditchburn Place and the Coronation Feast on Parker's Piece and give you insights into the Cambridge Coat of Arms, the story of football, and much more!

Michael Rosen has composed poems about Cambridge people and places pinned to the history trail which Historyworks has recorded with some new songs performed by local primary children to entertain you on your journey. The trail lasts approximately 90 minutes. To find further trails and an electronic copy of this leaflet please go to:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/trails/>

The Audio Trail

Audio Trail downloadable in MP3 format available on the web at: www.audioboom.fm/historyworks

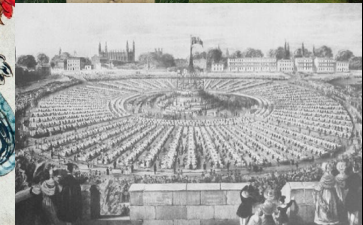
© Historyworks 2017.

This trail & accompanying audio have been devised and produced by Helen Weinstein, to whom all suggestions for revisions should be directed (historyworkstv@gmail.com).

Narration of the trails by Michael Rosen. Michael Rosen is a poet, novelist, broadcaster, famous for his poems like 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Chocolate Cake', and for this project his poems include 'The Fitzwilliam Lions' and 'Coldham's Common'. Photos from Cambridgeshire Collection, the National Railways Museum and Historyworks.

www.creatingmycambridge.com

WALKING HISTORY TRAIL OF CAMBRIDGE - FROM RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL TO MARKET SQUARE

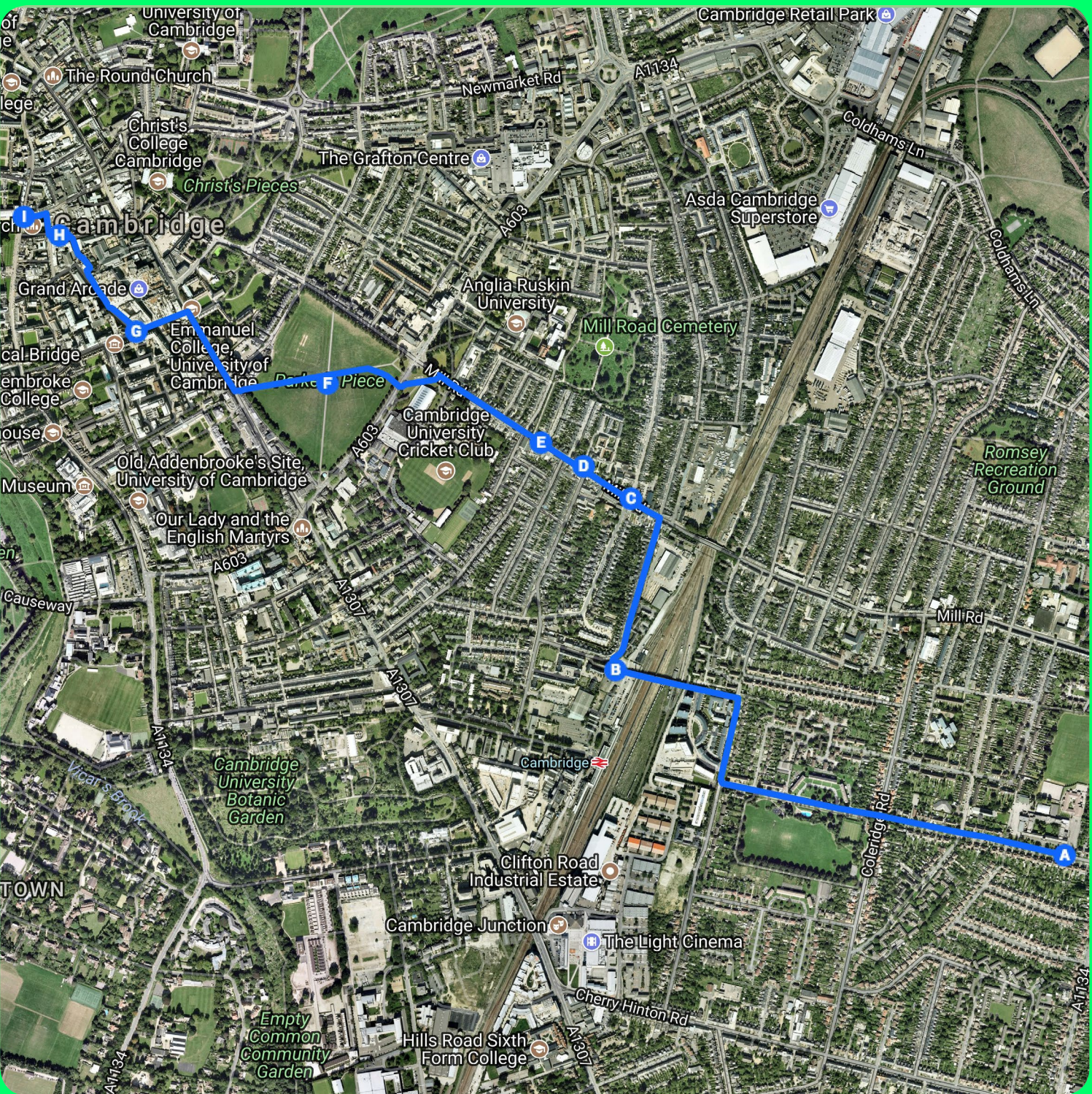


Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

FESTIVAL BRIDGE

Bridge Organisation
Working with Arts Council England to connect young people with great art and culture

history works



A Ridgefield Primary - Victorian School

The new building was officially opened on 1st October 2003 but it developed from two older schools. These were Romsey School and the Sedley Infants School, with the original Romsey School opening behind St Barnabas Church in 1886 which you can still see today labelled 'The Old School', before it moved to Coleridge Road from 1905 to 2002. There are lots of interesting stories documented in the log books, including the closure of the school during the flu epidemic of 1916, and the teaching of skills to children such as sewing, gardening, woodwork, cooking and even shorthand and typewriting - to both boys and girls!



B Coming of the Railway

The first successful railway locomotive train ran in 1804 and Stephenson's Rocket was designed in 1829. Railways then started to expand across the UK. Eventually the railway reached Cambridge during the Victorian Era, in July 1845. When Cambridge station opened the first trains travelled to London and Norwich. The old Great Eastern route to Cambridge had some of the fastest trains on it- with a train recorded at going at 70mph! The Victorian design of the station was mainly the inspiration of architect Francis Thompson and was extremely grand in comparison to other stations on the route, with its arches and columns.



C Cambridge Bath House

The Bath House on Mill Road was once a place where local people would visit to wash, as everyone did not have mains water like we do now. So many people would have to go along to their local 'bath house' to get clean! It was used as a Bath House from the late 1920s to the 1970s and helped improve hygiene in the local community. 'Gywdir House' as it was previously known was built in the Victorian Era and was lived in by a number of local families from 1850 onwards, including a number of doctors and was therefore called 'The Doctor's House' by many.



D Ditchburn Place - Victorian Workhouse

Ditchburn Place is the oldest surviving building on Mill Road and opened as a Victorian workhouse in 1838. The workhouse took in people who were not able to be employed in society and would otherwise be homeless or starve to death. It was a place of great shame and people would do anything to try not to be admitted there. It closed in 1930 to become a hospital, serving as a war hospital in World War II then a maternity hospital from 1948 when the NHS was founded. In 1983 it was converted into sheltered accommodation for the elderly, as it still is today.



E Two Mills of Mill Road

There have been two famous Mills on Mill Road. The street was originally named because of the windmill that was for milling grain to bake bread and cakes. It was sold in 1844 by owner George Humphrey, before being redeveloped into shops and houses at number 56 and 56A which you see today. Years later the Healdy Engineering Company Foundry (Mill Road Depot), which made railway parts for engines and tracks, ironmongery for railings, cattle troughs and garden ornaments, built a Coprolite Mill for grinding up Coprolites (dinosaur poo!) which were used as super charged fertilizer to increase the crop yields to feed the growing population.



F Parker's Piece

Parker's Piece is one of Cambridge's most famous open spaces, named after college cook, Edward Parker. Originally part of Trinity College, it was acquired by Cambridge town in 1613 as grazing land. In the 19th Century the Cambridge Rules of Football were first devised there, which then inspired the Football Association's official rules that are used today! In 1838, a feast for over 15,000 people was held in honour of Queen Victoria's coronation, with bands, choirs, games and fireworks. The Olympic Torch was brought to Parker's Piece on its way to the Olympic Stadium for London 2012. It was the starting point for the third leg of the 2014 Tour de France cycle race, and continues to be a popular place for football, cricket and community gatherings.