

EXPLORING YOUR LOCAL HISTORY

BENWELL

A HERITAGE GUIDE



**St James' Heritage & Environment Group
West End Heritage Guides**

Benwell: A Heritage Guide

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Where to start your walk

All these walks start and end at St James' Church, Benwell Lane, NE15 6RR. The church is located at the crossroads of Benwell Lane, Condercum Road, Adelaide Terrace and Atkinson Road.

Roman Benwell Heritage Trail

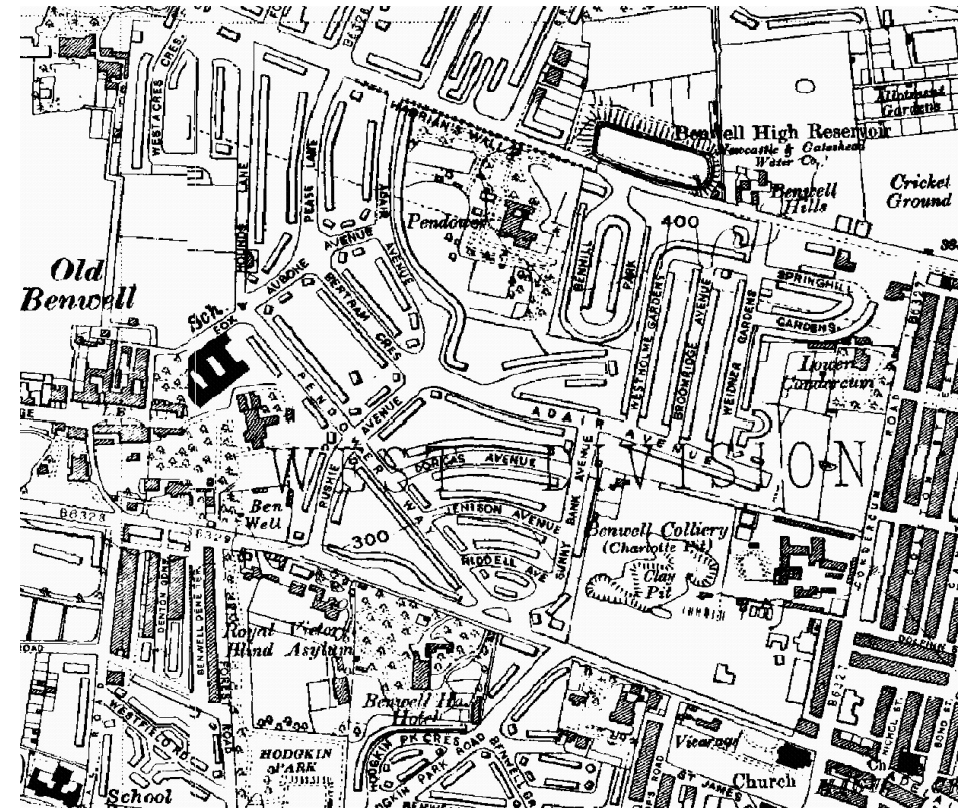
A walk around the Roman sites of Benwell

This circular walk starts and ends at St James' Church, identifying sites of significance to the area's Roman heritage and visiting the two surviving visible Roman remains. The walk involves a fairly steep climb at the start, but otherwise is quite easy. The route is on pavements throughout.

Roman Benwell

Benwell was the site of a Roman fort and associated civilian settlement for about 300 years from the second century AD. This fort was part of the Emperor Hadrian's project to build a wall crossing northern Britain from coast to coast. Most of the structures are no longer visible, having been covered by other buildings and roads or demolished and the stone reused. However the substantial remains of a temple and a vallum crossing are still in existence, hidden incongruously in the middle of 20th century housing estates.

The OS map extract on the opposite page shows the area in 1938. By this time most of Roman Benwell had been almost completely covered by housing. In the centre of the map is the Pendower Estate, one of Newcastle's oldest council estates, built just after the First World War, with a newer estate of private housing just to the east. Further to the right you can see some of the long streets of older terraced housing that ran down the steep slopes to the river, and on the left of the map is the original Benwell Village.



Start at St James' Church

Leaving the church, cross Benwell Lane and turn right towards the crossroads. Turn left and walk up Condercum Road. You will pass the site of the Charlotte Pit on your left (where the council depot is now). Condercum Road used to be known as Charlotte Pit Lane. The Romans were probably the first people to mine coal in this area. There is no direct evidence of this, but they were known to have mined coal elsewhere in their empire, and Benwell had plenty of coal which was easily accessible because the seams are close to the surface along the riverbanks.

Continue to walk up Condercum Road. Near the top, you might like to note the Springbank Club on your left. There used to be several large houses occupied by wealthy families in this area above the pit, but this is the last building still standing today, although almost unrecognisable now. This was formerly Springbank Villa, once home of David Brims, the first building contractor to use ferro-concrete and responsible for the Co-op warehouse on the quayside which is now the Malmaison Hotel.

At the top of Condercum Road, turn left onto the West Road. This is still commonly called the Military Road – a legacy of its history as a military road built in the 18th century between Newcastle and Carlisle to enable troops to move quickly in the aftermath of the Jacobite rebellion. The Military Road used the line of Hadrian's Wall, so you are now walking on the Wall.

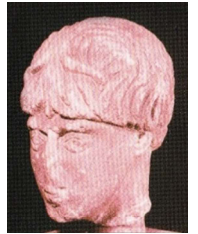
Hadrian's Wall

The Romans began building the Wall in AD 122. It was 73 miles long. For almost 300 years it marked the edge of the Roman Empire. This stretch of the Wall was probably some 3 metres wide and 6 metres high, with a walkway and battlements along the top. On the north side was a V-shaped ditch more than 8 metres wide and up to 3 metres deep. On the south there was another ditch called a Vallum. This was flat-bottomed (6 metres wide and 3 metres deep) with a mound on either side. A road ran between the Vallum and the Wall.

Continue walking west until you reach Weidner Road. Go down Weidner Road, and turn first right, then first left into Broomridge Avenue. There you will see the temple dedicated to the god Antenociticus. You can enter and look around.

Roman Temple

Antenociticus is not heard of anywhere else, so he was probably a local Celtic god. The statue of Antenociticus shown in this photograph is in the Great North Museum (Hancock).



Retrace your steps to the West Road. You are now at the centre of the Roman fort.

Condercum Fort

The Romans built 15 major garrison forts along the Wall. These housed full Roman army units. Benwell was chosen as the site of one of these.

There were two forts to the east – Pons Aelius in Newcastle and Segedunum at Wallsend. The Condercum fort stood at the highest point of the road. The name means “place with a fine view”. It was rectangular, protected by a stone wall and ditches, and contained a headquarters building, grain store houses, commanding officer's house, and barracks for 500 horsemen

The fort was occupied for about 300 years until Roman rule in Britain ended about AD 410.

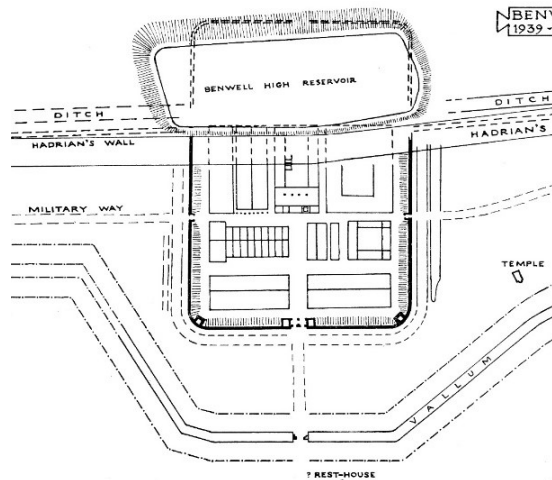


Continue to walk west to the highest point. Between the old Job Centre and the locksmiths, there is a left turn into Denhill Park. Walk down here to find the Vallum Crossing at the bottom of the street. The site is usually locked but you can get a good view of it over the fence.

Vallum Crossing

The Vallum was a big, flat-bottomed ditch running along the south side of the Wall. It separated the Roman military zone from the civilian area to the south. This is where the Vallum was crossed by a road from the south gate of the fort.

This diagram shows the location of the vallum to the south of the fort.



Retrace your steps to the West Road and continue west until you reach Pease Avenue on your left. As you walk, you should note Pendower Hall on your left behind a stone wall and set among mature trees. This is one of the few remaining grand houses in this area. It was built in the 1860s for John Pease the banker, but it has not been a family residence for more than a century. It is currently undergoing renovation.



Turn south down Pease Avenue and continue along this road until you come to Pendower Way on your left. You are now in the heart of Pendower Estate.



This photograph dates from the earliest days of the estate which was built as part of the drive to provide “homes for heroes” after the First World War. It occupies the site of the Roman “vicus”.

The Vicus

Despite the lack of visible evidence, you are still walking on Roman history as you pass through Pendower. The estate occupies the site of the civilian settlement attached to the fort. The Roman name for this was the “vicus”. This was where the wives and children of the soldiers lived, as well as craftsmen, traders, merchants and slaves. There have been several excavations of small sites in Pendower during the past decade which have added to our knowledge of the vicus. These established that it extended at least 275 metres south of the fort – further than had been previously assumed. Evidence was also found to indicate more substantial buildings within the vicus, such as warehouses, workshops and gardens – suggesting that the vicus was more important and wealthy than had been thought.

In 1751 the baths for the fort were found within this area. Unfortunately they were then covered up or destroyed, and their exact location is still unknown.

At the bottom of Pendower Way you will meet Benwell Lane again. Turn left and walk back to St James' Church.

We hope you enjoyed your walk

Benwell Lane Heritage Trail

On the trail of the mansions of Benwell

This circular walk starts and ends at St James' Church. It takes you along Benwell Lane past the sites of the big houses, with insights into their former residents. You can choose a shorter or longer route.

19th Century Benwell

Early 19th century Benwell was home to some of the most wealthy and powerful people on Tyneside. It was a peaceful rural area but still conveniently near to the facilities and social life of Newcastle. By the start of the 20th century, despite the rapid growth of heavy industries and extensive coal workings, most of the area was still occupied by large detached houses set in their own grounds, protected from the sight of industry and coal mines by trees and other landscaping.

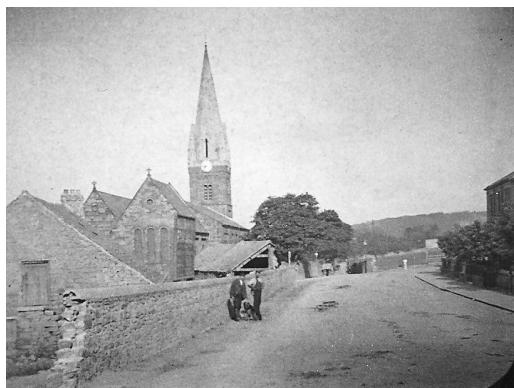
Today only a few of Benwell's big houses remain standing, and none are now in use as private homes. But traces survive, such as gateposts, boundary walls, mature trees and street names.

Start at St James' Church

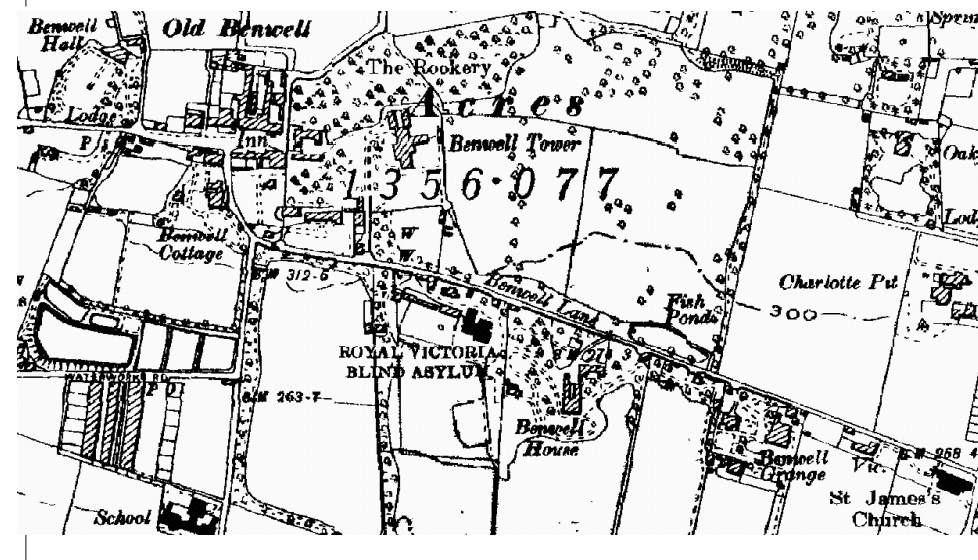
St James' Church is at the east end of Benwell Lane, next to the junction with Condercum Road and Atkinson Road.

Walk west along on Benwell Lane.

This image of the church viewed from the east shows what Benwell Lane used to look like



This OS map extract shows how this part of Benwell looked at the end of the 19th century. St James' Church is at the bottom right, and just above it is the Charlotte Pit which closed in the 1930s. Near the top left-hand corner is Old Benwell Village, surrounded by big houses.



Walk past Bishops Road (so-called because the bishops of Newcastle used to live near here). On your left is a housing development called Benwell Grange. This stands on the site of a former grand house of the same name, built in the 1860s.

Further along Benwell Lane you come to the Cooperative Funeral Services. This is on the site of Benwell House.

Further along you will come to one of Benwell's few surviving mansions, Benwell Dene House.

Benwell Grange

Notable residents of Benwell Grange included George Angus, son of the founder of the Newcastle rubber and leather company that later merged with Dunlop to become a



major multinational. A later resident was the wine and spirit merchant John McPherson, best known for his Cluny brand of whisky. In 1920 the house was bought by the Royal Victoria School for the Blind which ran a hostel and training centre for blind young women here until 1954. It was demolished in 1968.

Benwell House



Built in the 1820s, its first resident was the coal owner, John Walker. Reached by a long drive leading from Benwell Lane, this was a stone-built mansion situated in extensive grounds, including fountains

and a walled garden, and surrounded by woodlands. The estate extended south to the river at Paradise. In 1902 the house and grounds were converted into the Benwell House Hotel. This closed in 1969 and the building was demolished four years later.

Benwell Dene House

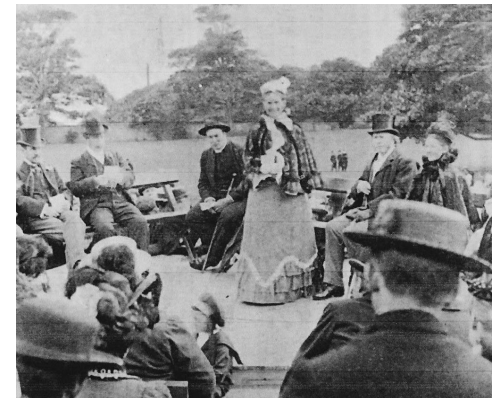
Benwell Dene was built in 1866, designed by the architect Alfred Waterhouse who also designed London's Natural History Museum and Manchester Town Hall.



It was the home of Thomas Hodgkin, a partner in the Newcastle bank of Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease and Spence which later became Lloyd's Bank. Hodgkin was also a respected historian. In 1893 Hodgkin sold Benwell Dene to the Royal Victoria School for the Blind, which relocated to Benwell from its previous city centre premises. It remained there until it closed in 1985. This photograph dates from the early 20th century.

Hodgkin Park

When the Hodgkins left Benwell, they gave most of the grounds attached to Benwell Dene House to the council to be developed as a public park.



Hodgkin Park was opened in 1899, and later extended by the addition of a further area of land south of Armstrong Road.

This photograph shows Mrs Hodgkin formally opening the Park. To her left, you can see her husband wearing a top hat.

Time to choose

Continue west, passing a grassed area which was the site of a small estate of Victorian terraced homes demolished as part of a regeneration initiative in the early 2000s.

When you reach Delaval Road, cross Benwell Lane to the opposite side. If you prefer a shorter walk, you can now return to St James' Church along the north side of Benwell Lane passing Benwell Towers (see below) on your way.

Or you can see the sites of three more former grand houses by taking a short diversion to Old Benwell Village. To do this, walk up the narrow lane heading north from a bus stop and parking bay on the north side of Benwell Lane.

At the top of the lane is Fergusons Lane, named after the dairyman whose farm was at the end of the original road.

As you walk up the narrow lane and emerge onto Fergusons Lane, note on your right the stone boundary wall, with evidence of a bricked-up door. These are the remaining traces of Benwell Old House.

Benwell Old House

Benwell Old House was a large house with gardens and orchards in the centre of the village, dating from the 17th or 18th century. It was demolished in the 1950s.

Its most high-profile resident was Joseph Straker who lived there for several years in the 19th century. Son of a ship owner from Walker, Straker was himself a timber merchant, ship repairer, and owner of the Brancepeth, Brandon and Willington collieries in County Durham.

Stop when you reach Fergusons Lane and look to your left.

Benwell Cottage

The sheltered accommodation on the south side of Fergusons Lane stands on the site of Benwell Cottage. Despite its name, this was actually a large house standing in extensive grounds.

Its most famous resident was the railway engineer and steam engine builder, William Hawthorn, one of Tyneside's most illustrious industrial pioneers.



On the opposite side of Fergusons Lane, you can see a relatively new housing development surrounded by an old stone wall. This is Benwell Hall Drive, situated on the site of the 18th century Benwell Hall.

Benwell Hall

Standing in its own wooded and landscaped grounds, the Hall had been home to several industrialists including William Cuthbert, owner of Montagu Colliery and the

Cooksons of lead and glass making fame. The last residents were the Bramble family who moved there in the 1920s. William Bramble, the "Dick Whittington of Newcastle", is said to have arrived with his possessions in a bundle on his back to seek his fortune. He became Lord Mayor of Newcastle after achieving wealth from retailing and property development. The Hall was demolished in the 1980s.



Looking east along Fergusons Lane you can see what remains of the small settlement of Old Benwell Village.

Old Benwell Village

Almost 200 people lived here in the mid-19th century in a collection of cottages and farms, with a smithy, a school, a church and two pubs. Most families relied on jobs servicing the big houses nearby. St John's Church, the oldest church in Benwell, was in the village. The original church building was replaced on the same site in 1950.



This photograph dates from the 1930s. and shows the village's two pubs, the Green Tree and Hawthorn – now gone.

Now return to Benwell Lane, staying on the north side and walking east towards the church.

The high stone wall is the boundary wall of Benwell Towers. Continuing east, you come to the gatehouse of Benwell Towers. This is one of the few big houses to have survived in Benwell. The gateposts still stand at the start of a narrow lane leading to the house. Sadly it is not now possible to enter the grounds to view it properly, but you can get a clear but partial view of the house through a garden on the left hand side of Rushie Avenue just before the junction with Pendower Way (Rushie Avenue is the next turning left off Benwell Lane after the boundary wall).

Benwell Towers

There has been a big house here since the 12th century or earlier. The estate has been associated with many famous names in the past, including the Delaval and Shafto families. For a period during the 15th and 16th centuries it was owned by Tynemouth Priory, and served as a summer residence for the priors. Its most notorious occupant was Andrew Robinson "Stoney" Bowes, an 18th century high society villain who married the wealthy Countess of Strathmore for her money and then subjected her to considerable mental and physical cruelty.



The present mansion is actually the fourth in a succession of demolitions and new buildings. Pictured here c1900, it was designed by the architect John Dobson and its style

reflects its medieval history. The house stood in more than 100 acres of parkland. Its occupants have included the Sowerby family of glass makers and the Crawhalls whose business interests included rope-making, lead mining and coal mining. In 1881 it became the official residence of the Bishops of Newcastle. From 1943-76 it housed the mines fire and rescue services. After that it became in turn the Silver Lady night club, the Mitre pub, and the location for the Byker Grove television series. Its future is uncertain.

Continue east along Benwell Lane, noting the carvings set into the wall marking the position of an old well. You will pass the Pendower Estate, one of Newcastle's earliest council estates, built just after the First World War on what used to be the grounds of Pendower Hall. The Hall was home to the Pease family of bankers and industrialists. The building still stands and can be seen from the West Road.

Return to your starting point at St James' Church

St James' Graveyard Heritage Trail

A walk around the historic graves

This short walk takes you to see just a few of the significant memorials in this graveyard, and learn about the people buried there. The graveyard is a lovely place, full of flowers, trees and wildlife of different sorts, so enjoy the peace and quiet as well as the history. Please take care walking around the graveyard as the ground is uneven in places and there are hidden trip hazards

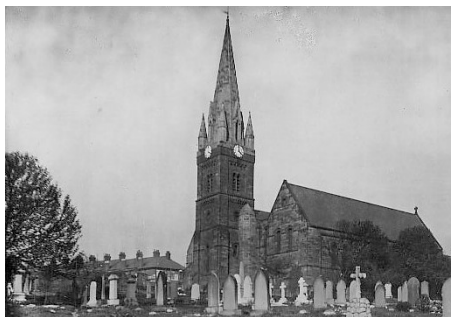
Restricted opening hours

This graveyard is kept locked when the church is not in use. Please check on our website stjamesheritage.com for opening times.

St James' Graveyard

When this graveyard first opened in 1833, Benwell was a rural area containing big houses and mansions set in landscaped grounds, several farms, scattered groups of cottages linked to coal mines, and a small village which became known as Old Benwell. Until the early 20th century, this area was home to some of the wealthiest and most influential families on Tyneside. This walk focuses mainly on the graves of such people simply because they are much more likely to have visible memorials but, over the years, about 12,000 other people were buried here in unmarked graves. Their stories are also an important part of the history of this area and its changing community.

Originally built on empty fields, the graveyard has filled with a variety of trees and plants over the years. Contrast the scene today with this photograph from 100 years ago.



Start your walk

Enter the graveyard by the main entrance on Benwell Lane. Start your walk outside the side entrance to the church. The area opposite here is the original churchyard, opened at the same time as the church itself. After the graveyard was extended to accommodate the rapid increase in demand for burials, this became known as the Old Ground. You can find the oldest graves here.

Richard Grainger 1797-1861

The grave of Richard Grainger is easy to find as it is the only one surrounded by railings. This is a family vault. Grainger's wife and several of his 13 children are also buried here, but Richard's name is the only one carved into the stone. Richard Grainger was a builder and developer, best known for his role in transforming the medieval townscape of Newcastle into one of Britain's finest city centres. During the 1820s and 1830s he created many of the town's most important streets and buildings, including Grey Street, the Theatre Royal and the Grainger Market. The Grainger family lived for a period at Elswick Hall, which stood on the site of the swimming pool in what is now Elswick Park.



William Cochran Carr 1815-1889

Walk through the Old Ground to the row of graves immediately in front of the low stone wall at the back. This marks the boundary with the former vicarage, a fine Dobson-designed house sold off by the church several years ago. Look for the grave of William Cochran Carr which stands out because it has two separate stone memorials. Cochran Carr was a local coal owner and brick manufacturer who lived at South Benwell House, a large house set in wooded grounds situated near the river at Paradise. The memorial stone at the foot of his grave was paid for by his employees, as the inscription states.

The Christopherson children

A small distance south of Cochran Carr, you will find the grave of Claude and Denton Dockray Christopherson, sons of the headmaster of the Royal Grammar School. They died in 1879 of scarlet fever at the ages of five and four, soon after this photograph was taken. More than a third of all burials in this graveyard were of children under the age of ten.



William Isaac Cookson 1812-1888

Further south again you can see the massive stone slab topping the family vault of the Cooksons. W I Cookson was a member of one of Tyneside's most important families with extensive business interests ranging from banking and coal mining to glass and lead manufacture. Cookson was also a scientist who trained with Michael Faraday, and is credited with several inventions. He lived, at different times, in nearby Benwell Towers and Benwell Hall.

John Buddle 1773-1843

Walk back across the Old Ground towards the entrance drive. Almost directly opposite the door to the church hall is the grave of the coal owner and mining engineer John Buddle. Buddle was the owner of Benwell Colliery and a large tract of land associated with it. He donated the land on which the church and churchyard were built. The waggonway from his pits – the Charlotte Pit just north of Benwell Lane and the Edward Pit further north – used to run through what is now the graveyard. Buddle chose to be buried here in a vault that he had designed by John Dobson, who was also the architect of St James' Church. The funeral procession took over three hours to travel from Buddle's home in Wallsend to the graveyard.



The Grace family

Next to Buddle's grave, there are two adjacent memorials to members of the influential Grace family who owned a paper mill at Scotswood. Nathaniel Grace (pictured here) was a prime mover in the development of the first Scotswood Bridge. Nathaniel and his nephew and business partner William lived in Scotswood. The paper mill was on the site later occupied by Adamsez.



Bishop Lloyd 1844-1907

Return to the drive and walk down the steps. At the bottom of these is the old carriageway that runs along the south side of the church to the west wall of the graveyard. Until the graveyard was closed the 1960s, there was a gate here through which coffins were brought to the church for funerals. Turn right at the bottom of the steps and walk a little way along to see on the right the grave of Bishop Arthur Thomas Lloyd. He was the third Bishop of Newcastle, and lived in the official residence which was then the mansion of Benwell Towers on the other side of Benwell Lane. Lloyd had a close relationship with St James' which was his parish church, and chose to be buried here rather than in St Nicholas' Cathedral. There is an elaborate memorial to him in the cathedral but this is his final resting place.



As well as being the Bishops' residence, Benwell Towers was, over the years, home to several of the wealthy families buried at St James'.



Walter Scott 1826-1910

A short distance further along the carriageway you reach the memorial to Sir Walter Scott. Not to be confused with the famous novelist, Scott is said to be one of Britain's first self-made millionaires. He had extensive business interests including coal mining, publishing, steel, and railways, but it is as a civil engineer that he was best known. His projects

included the first underground electric railway in London and the Redheugh Bridge, Quayside, Catholic Cathedral and Royal Station Hotel in Newcastle. Scott lived in Bentinck House in Elswick.



John Sowerby 1808-1879

The grave of John and Annie Sowerby is harder to find as the cross originally on the top of the square marble slabs is missing. It is located slightly further west and a row or two back from the Scott memorial. John Sowerby was a



member of the rich and influential Sowerby family who had made their money out of glass manufacture. John's main contribution was to develop large-scale production of glassware for a mass market. The family lived at Benwell Towers.

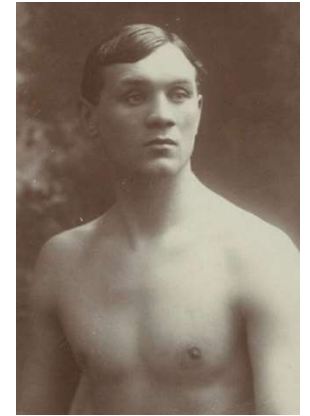
John Pendlington 1861-1914

Returning to the carriageway, continue west for some distance until you see the Pendlington family grave on your right. This is a flat rectangular grave with the names of those buried there carved into the edge pieces. John Atkinson Pendlington was an engineer and businessman with a passion for cricket. He is famous in cricket circles as the inventor of the Linear Method of scoring used in all first-class cricket right up to the computer age. At the time of his death Pendlington lived in Fairholm Road in Benwell.



Jack Palmer 1879-1928

On the other side of the carriageway, look for the grave of another sportsman. This is set back a few yards away from the carriageway and surrounded by long grass and other graves, so don't try to walk right up to it. Jack Palmer was born in Benwell. His real name was John Liddle. Originally a miner, he became a professional boxer at the age of 18. By his early twenties he was the middleweight champion of England. Later he moved up to heavy-weight, becoming British champion from 1903 to 1906. He fought Tommy Burns for the world heavy-weight championship in 1908 but was knocked out.



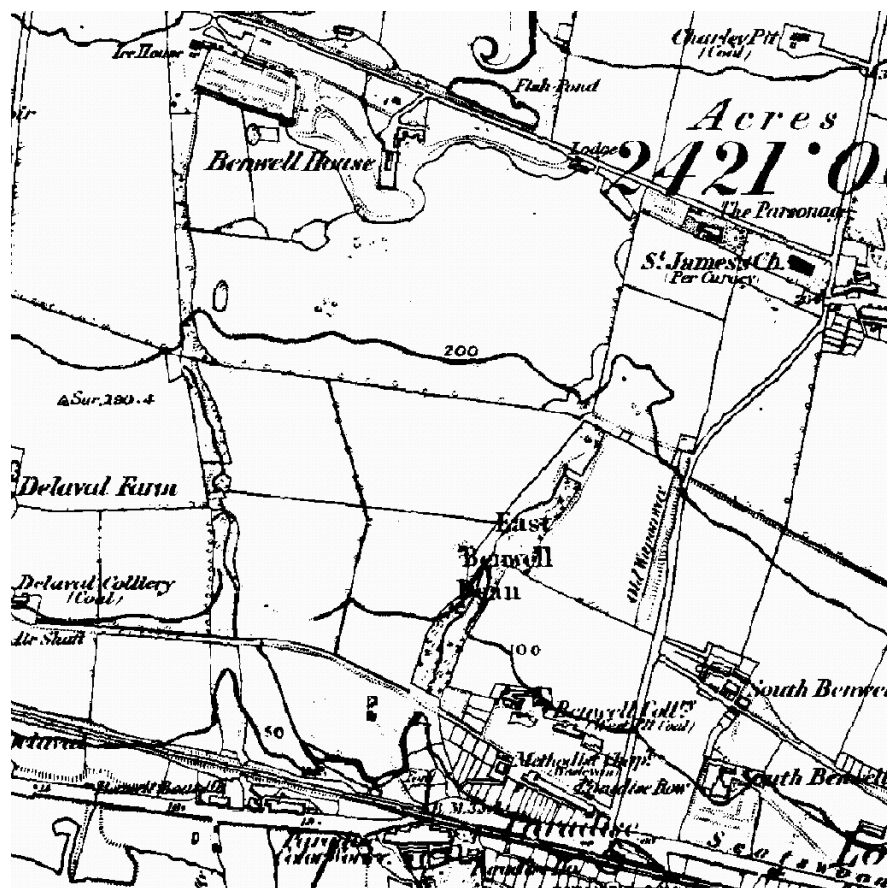
Exploring the rest of the graveyard

This is the end of the self-guided tour, but it is well worth taking a stroll around the other parts of the graveyard. Remember that only a small proportion of those buried here have visible memorials. This was the parish graveyard for a large area stretching at one time from the city boundary west to beyond Denton Burn, south to the Tyne, and north to the town moor. Rich and poor, young and old, Anglicans and Catholics, lie side by side in this graveyard. Next to the wealthy people whose graves you have seen are the 549 unfortunate people who died in the workhouse or its infirmary. A variety of jobs are represented including miners, boatmen, blacksmiths, farmers, shopkeepers, engineers and servants. Those local residents who died as a result of war are also commemorated, and there are 20 official Commonwealth War Graves.

BENWELL'S LOST COALMINES

Exploring Benwell's mining heritage

This is a circular walk following the trail of Benwell's coalmining heritage. The route starts and ends at St James' Church on Benwell Lane. It includes some uphill walking.

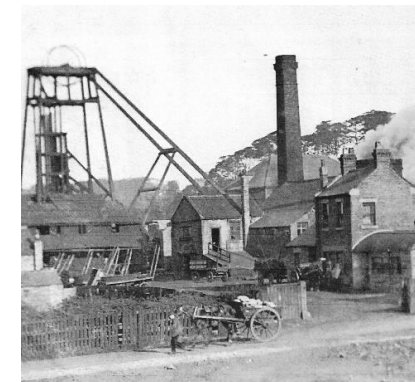


This extract from 1857 OS map shows the locations of Charlotte ("Charley") Pit at the top, Beaumont Pit (marked as "Benwell Colliery") just above the village of Paradise at the bottom, the route of the waggonway connecting these two pits, Delaval Pit on the left, and the Dene in the middle (marked as "Benwell Dean").

Start at St James' Church

Walk east along Benwell Lane to the junction with Atkinson Road, Condercum Road and Adelaide Terrace.

Condercum Road used to be called Charlotte Pit Lane after the pit of that name which was sunk in 1766 and closed in 1939. This was Benwell's last coalmine. The site is now occupied by a council depot and industrial estate a short distance north of here. The pit is pictured here in the 1890s.



At the traffic lights turn right into Atkinson Road, and walk down to the next set of traffic lights. Here you pick up the route of the waggonway which carried coal downhill from Benwell Colliery to the staithes on the riverbank where it was loaded onto keels to be taken downriver for export.

To get here, the waggonway crossed under a bridge at Benwell Lane, and then ran south through St James' Graveyard. It was out of use by the time the graveyard opened in 1833 on land donated by the colliery owner, John Buddle.

Cross Armstrong Road at the traffic lights and continue down the west side of Atkinson Road until you reach a lane called Egerton Street. Atkinson Road used to run in a straight line south from here, following the route of the waggonway.

Turn right into Egerton Street. The plantation to one side of the lane marks the site of the Beaumont Pit. It was abandoned in 1848, and the shaft flooded. This was the

cause of the infamous disaster in 1925 when miners at the Montagu Pit accidentally broke through to the old workings.

Between here and the river, there used to be a village called Paradise. Its name is recalled in the Geordie anthem “Blaydon Races” but there is no trace left today of the pit cottages that clustered around the pit and brickworks.

Walk to the end of Egerton Street, cross the football pitch, and exit on to South Benwell Road. Walk down the road to the junction with Whitehouse Road, and enter Lower Hodgkin Park by the steps to the main entrance. Cross the park in a north westerly direction, reaching a wooded dene.

Leaving the Park at the top left hand corner, cross Armstrong Road and pass through the entrance to Upper Hodgkin Park. Follow the path uphill. To the west there used to be another pit village called Delaval, with a farm, church, school and rows of homes. Little now remains of the original village.

Leave the park via a fenced path leading to Benwell Lane.

Opposite you is the stone boundary wall of the mansion of Benwell Towers, home to a succession of wealthy families who made their fortunes from coal. Later it was the base for the Mines Fire and Rescue Service for 30 years until 1976.



Turn right and walk back towards St James’ Church.

Want to know more?

This heritage trail is a shortened version of a fully illustrated heritage trail published by St James’ Heritage & Environment Group in 2016. See contact details on the back cover to obtain a copy.

EXPLORING YOUR LOCAL HISTORY

A HERITAGE GUIDE

When you walk in Benwell, history is all around you

Hadrian's Wall ran through Benwell and an important Roman fort stood at the highest point. Later on, it became a popular place for wealthy people to live and the area was dotted with grand mansions. Some of Tyneside's most influential families are buried in the parish church of St James'. Benwell was also an important area for coalmining. This history is written on the local landscape in the form of buildings, walls, paths, street names and memorials. Take a walk with us to explore the history of Benwell.

*This heritage guide contains three
illustrated walk trails:*

*Roman Benwell
Benwell Lane and Old Benwell
St James' Graveyard
Benwell's Lost Coalmines*

Images courtesy of: West Newcastle Picture History Collection, Newcastle City Libraries, Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums, Pat Riley, Maureen Hope, Josephine Briggs, Ordnance Survey and www.old-maps.co.uk.

St James' Heritage & Environment Group

St James' Heritage & Environment Group is an independent volunteer-run organisation and registered charity providing activities and resources for people of all ages to explore and celebrate the history of the west end of Newcastle.

Email: stjamesbenwell@gmail.com

Website: <https://stjamesheritage.com>

Write: St James' Heritage & Environment Group, c/o Sunnybank Centre, 12/14 Sunnybank Avenue, Newcastle, NE15 6SD



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