

START

NEWHAVEN HERITAGE ROUTES - Eastside -

OUSE ESTUARY NATURE RESERVE

01

02

03

04

05

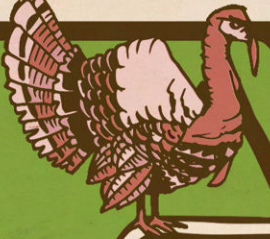
06

07

08

09

10



CASTLE HILL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX LAKE

NEWHAVEN HERITAGE ROUTES

- Eastside -

Welcome to the second in a series of Newhaven Heritage Routes for you to explore. This walk focuses on the East Side of Newhaven – an area rich in industrial, maritime and community heritage. As you navigate this route please take time to think about all the amazing people that have worked, lived, and thrived in this area of Newhaven.

Please refer to the accompanying PDF via the QR code for lots more information researched by our local volunteers. The walk is linear and can finish at Newhaven Harbour Station (approx. 1km from the start) or can be extended to include the Oyster Ponds and also Newhaven Seaplane Base (a further 1km approx. 2kms from the start).

If you walk with children, there are several children's activities (CA) included on the map for them to engage with.

PART ONE Marine Workshops to Newhaven Harbour Station. (01-08 on map).



01 We start this route at The Sidings, an open space located behind the Railwayman's Club in Railway Approach (BN9 0DF/TQ448014). From here you can get a good view of the Marine Workshops (formerly the UTC Building). In 1881, in addition to repairing vessels and steam driven cranes at the port, the workshops were developed to repair trains for the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway.

This location is also near the site of the Sheer Legs Crane which dominated the skyline of Newhaven for over 80 years and played a vital role in moving goods and machinery at the dockside.

(CA) Do you think the name for the Crane is a good one? Can you think of any other suitable names for this crane?

As you leave The Sidings, turn right towards Newhaven Town Train Station, cross over the level-crossing and turn right into Railway Road.

Newhaven and the Railways.

Newhaven once had three railway stations. Newhaven Town Station (opened in 1847) was moved closer to the town in the 1980's. The station near the site of the original Newhaven Town Station was renamed Newhaven Harbour Station. A third station called Newhaven Marine further along the line by Mill Creek, was closed in 2020.

Turkey Town and the East Side Community.

Our local volunteer researchers want you to know that East Side was known for being a close-knit community. Employment (docks, railways, and factories), schools, pubs and shops supported the locals. Army's Stores, opened in 1913 in Norton Road run by Mary Amy, continues to be remembered by our researchers and locals today.

(CA) Why do you think the East Side of Newhaven is sometimes called "Turkey Town"? The PDF will provide some suggestions.

02 As you walk down the left side of Railway Road, you will see the Peach Forest School (originally called Railway Road Infants School). The school was built in 1894 and had only one classroom to educate sixty children.

03 Continue down Railway Road until you reach Parker Way, the former site of Parker Pen Factory (now the Safford Park housing development). Our volunteer researchers have interesting memories about this big local employer.

(CA) Can you find any road names and designs relating to Parker Pens on the housing development?

04 Return to Railway Road, turn left (by the Engineer Pub) into Baker Street. On the right, is the East Side Centre and on the left (towards the end of the street) is a small public garden. This was the site of the East Side Mission Hall (closed in 1973) which played an important educational and social role for the area (including Sunday School for local children and a venue for the celebration of the 1911 coronation of George V).

(CA) Look at the large blue flower pots, how many different types of sea creature can you find painted on these pots?

05 Go along either Norton Terrace or Eastbridge Road which will lead you to Norton Road. Turn left, and at the end of Norton Road you will see Sheffield Cottages and the East Side Recreation Ground. Plans were drawn up in 1891 for the 6th Earl of Sheffield Berkeley Digby George (MP). The ten cottages were unusual because of the extra large front gardens which face the recreation ground. It is rumoured that the cottages were originally planned for the Earl's pig farmers, however the 1901 census reveals that residents worked at the docks and railway.

(CA) Look at the front gardens of the cottages, do you think it would be a good place for pigs to live?

The recreation ground was gifted to the people of East Side by the Earl of Sheffield. It was officially opened by Councillor JS Corbett on Whit Monday 9th June 1924 and a range of festivities took place including a cricket match, a procession and a dance in the evening.

06 Turn back into Norton Road and head west towards Clifton Road/Transit Road, cross over the road and follow the signs for Newhaven Harbour Station. Opened in 1847 (the site of the original Newhaven Town Station) to serve the Cross-Channel service. The Newhaven to Dieppe service was tidal, so the train timetables varied each day to accommodate the arrival of the Boat Train.

07 The station backed onto the London and Paris Hotel Built in 1847/48 on East Quay near the ferry terminal, the hotel was a stopping-off point for travellers from London before boarding the ferry to Dieppe where they caught the train to Paris. There were seventy two rooms and a large dance floor for two hundred people.

08 Walk up the steps of the railway bridge. From the bridge look south and to the right. You will see the former site of Newhaven Wharf Station which was demolished and replaced with a new ferry terminal and station in 1973. It was renamed Newhaven Marine in 1984. The last passenger service stopped at Newhaven Marine station in August 2006, but there was a daily 'ghost' train, which arrived every evening without any passengers to ensure the station could remain officially open. It was eventually closed in 2020.

You may decide that you wish to finish the walk here. If so, return back to the main road (Transit Road) and turn left and back towards the way you came.

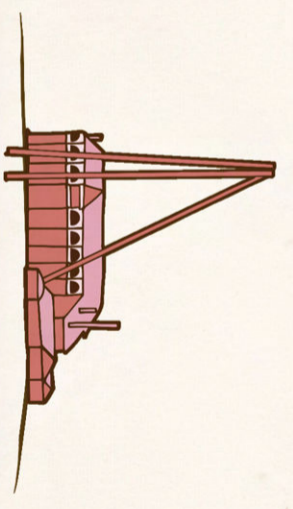
PART TWO Mill Creek Oyster Ponds to Newhaven Seaplane Site. (09-10) on map.

09 Returning to Transit Road from Newhaven Harbour Station, turn right (south), into Beach Road. When Beach Road veers to the left, you need to cross over the road and onto the grassed path area. Follow the signs for the England Coast Path. Cross over the railway bridge and turn left, follow the path to the next bridge (here you get a good view of Mill Creek) on your right will be an Industrial Estate and on your left is the former site of the Oyster Ponds. In the 19th century this area was salt marsh, fishing boat owner Tom Holder built beds here for oysters to 'fatten' themselves with algae and plankton carried in by the tide. Oysters became a very profitable business for the area in the 1800's.

10 Follow the path that runs along Mill Creek (BN9 0BX/TQ452007) to the Beach. Look out for the Red Poppy Trail Information Panel on the site of the former Newhaven Sea Plane site which operated from May 1917-1919, to protect the ships and port from submarine attack.

(CA) Look out to sea and imagine submarines under the water and sea planes flying above. What do you think it would have felt like to live in Newhaven at this time?

To get back you can either return following the same route you came or you can go along McKinley Way (BN9 0FB/TQ455001) which will bring you to the A259, turn left at the Industrial Estate at Avis Way and this will bring you back to the Marine Workshops.



www.tyitunmcomcxssns.org.uk

Sussex Community Development Association

QR code

Text: "The route is a linear walk... The walk is linear and can finish at Newhaven Harbour Station... The walk is linear and can finish at Newhaven Harbour Station... The walk is linear and can finish at Newhaven Harbour Station..."