

HISTORICAL WALK ROUND BRADWELL

Number 2 The Hills



Route: Lyndale House, Church Street, The Steps, The Green, Bottom of Edge Lane, Bessie Lane, past Corbiestones, Cannon Cottage, Bessie Lane to Mill Meadow Cottage, ginnel back to Upper Green, back to the Green and down through the Peace Garden, return to Lyndale House.

Lyndale House 1 Formerly The Shoulder of Mutton until the pub moved across the road and the road was straightened 1937/8. The building became Lyndale House and was occupied jointly by brothers-in-law Eric Spencer and Bill Mather. Well dressing restarted here in 1951 one year after the Smalldale well. Eric built his own television set in 1950 using radar equipment from the old GEE system. In 2022 – 2023 Lyndale house (which is Grade 2 listed) and garden were extensively renovated and now include a rental cottage and B & B.



The old Shoulder of Mutton (Lyndale House)

The flight of steps at the left hand side lead to a café that was once run by Kitty Linley.

Continue along Church Street (former Water Lane) Anvil Cottage on the left has served multiple commercial functions until becoming a dwelling house. Luther Morton had a grocery shop there early in the 20th century, followed by John William Peacock and Walter Rowland Snr kept as a grocer's and post office from 1939. In 1947 it was bought by Ormes of Bakewell.



John William Peacock outside his shop c1903

The Steps: 2 A short walk up a slope beside Steps Cottage brings you to the Steps with a metal railing up the middle. The Steps themselves have experienced so much foot-fall that it can be seen that they have been turned to leave the worn sides underneath. The house at the top right (The Nook) was where candles were made (probably for miners) in the 19th C. It was used by the television company that filmed 'Dead Man Weds' in Bradwell in 2005. The actor and comedian Johnny Vegas emerges from the door so that the shot takes in the chimney of the 'evil' factory dominating the village. In fact the cement works.

The Green: 3 The house Hunter's Green can be seen to the right. Seth Evans tells that one of the former occupants was Adam Morton who greatly enjoyed riding to hounds and was said to have kept a small pack of hounds near the house. On his wedding day in Hope he heard the sound of the hunting horn and left his bride at the altar to join the chase. Bride and groom were married later in the week.



View up The Green, Hunter's Green on the left

Forward to the bottom of Edge Lane: 4 As you leave the Green towards Edge and Bessie Lanes you pass on your right the Old Bakery that was run by Alexander Baille Pryde (a Scot from Falkirk) in the 1930-40s. There used to be excellent views of the houses of Bessie Lane and indeed of the whole village from Edge Lane ahead but now you need to climb quite high to see over the vegetation. Instead turn right on to Bessie Lane past Jeffrey Barn. On the 1844 tithe map all the land on the right was shown as Bessy Croft. A meadow belonging to Thomas Hill.



View of 1 & 2 East view c. 1910, with part of Jeffery Barn middle right.

Bessie Lane: 5 Come to 1 and 2 East View on the right which were built in stages in about 1890-1900. Up the ginnel on the right is Corbiestones built

by the Darneley family as were the houses called The Green, Uplow, Cherry Tree, Westholme, Eastbourne and Oswald House: all on the Hills. Past Corbiestones two sheds were used at one time as a hairdresser's and cobblers, but these are now a car port and not worth the diversion. Where now stand the two houses called South View (odd name, but East View was already taken) and South Bank was an asbestos bungalow occupied by Bateman Eyre. Bateman was one of two soldiers from Bradwell who took part in the attack on Arnhem in WWII (A Bridge Too Far). Bateman survived but George Fletcher did not. George is commemorated by the ceremonial cross in St Barnabas' and on the war memorial.



Corbiestones

Cannon Street: 6 Across the road laying behind the two old cottages Cannon Cottage and Stonecroft was Cannon Street. This lane ran from Bessie to Edge Lane and at the time passed the front of the cottages but has now been blocked off. In 1964 Charles Ashton wrote the poem 'Cannon Street' about the street as it was then with particular attention paid to the 'moonpenny' flowers. Also on Cannon Street is the sole remaining hat factory in Bradwell. From the outside this could be mistaken for just another old barn,

but an industrial archaeologist from the Peak Park confirmed its likely former use as a hat factory because inside it has had two fireplaces for which the chimney stacks can be seen in old photographs. There was once an attached toilet block (south side) with mains drainage



View from Edge Lane showing Cannon Cottage centre left (note 2 chimney stacks) and Bateman Eyre's bungalow behind it.

Further along Bessie Lane: 7 Trafalgar Cottage is also to be seen as you pass along Bessie Lane but the earliest date over the door (1737) considerably predates the actual Battle of Trafalgar (1805) but the other dates are after the battle. The whole stone looks like a marriage lintel recording when occupants of the house were married (not when it was built). A little further along is the house Edge View that Charlie Bland has described growing up in the 1930s. His account can be found in the BHS Newsletter Number 26 on the Society website: www.bradwellhistoricalsociety.org.uk



View from Edge Lane with the Edge View cottage centre left

Back on to the Upper part of the Green: 8 Continue on to the end of Bessie Lane and turn sharp right past Mill Meadow Cottage and up the slope (keeping right) back to the upper part of the Green. In the first part of the walking guides to historical Bradwell the churchyard was visited to see the grave of 'Owd' Benny who died in 1883. He was Benjamin Giles who travelled the country as a hawker dragging his wares in a handcart. According to Seth Evans his home was in a small chamber behind one of the lead smelting works on the Hills (near where Overdale Houses are now found). When Owd Benny died, to everyone's surprise, he left about £350 to Mr Edward Miller Wass of Lea by Matlock (besides whose Lead Smelters he had sheltered). Mr Wass family returned the money to Bradwell in the form of the Church Tower Clock and Benny's grave.

Back along the Green: 9 As we turn right down towards the bottom of the Green there are several impressive houses Hills Style, Oswald House and the Mount. These appear to have been built c. 1908-9 when parliament had approved plans to bring the railway from Hope to Brough, Bradwell and Castleton, but the line was never constructed. Next we come to Kinder Cottage on the right. In the early 1900s this cottage was rented by the Petty family who came from Hull and had close ties to the Darneleys. There are references to Jack Darneley Petty visiting Kinder cottage during WWI. His brother Alfred Hallam Petty is one of the men whose names appear on the Bradwell War Memorial having lost his life in WWI. His father Mortimor

Hallam Petty received news of his son's death when he was staying in Kinder Cottage.

Back down to Lyndale House. 10 When you leave the Green follow the road rather than the Steps to pass the front of the Nook and then next to it Derwent Cottage. There are reasons to believe that this cottage served as a pub in the 19C. The name of the pub has been lost but might have been the Miner's Arms. Opposite Derwent Cottage across the road is what was the toilet block for the pub.



Looking up to Derwent Cottage

Turn sharp right halfway down the road past Derwent Cottage and pass through a wooden gate into the Peace Garden with one of its benches being dedicated to members of the Bossingham family. In WWII this area was used as allotments. Leave the Peace Garden and return Lyndale House.



© Bradwell Historical Society 2023