

Take a trip back in time and bring Manchester history to life on the Ardwick Heritage Trail

Long Trail (Approx 1hr 30mins) 

Short Trail (Approx 1hr) 

1. Manchester University (Grade II*) incl Manchester Museum (Grade II)

The University of Manchester was founded in 1851 by John Owens. In 1904 the University achieved independence and became the University of Manchester. The Gothic Waterhouse Quadrangle on Oxford Rd was commissioned in 1869 with designs by Alfred Waterhouse, (who also designed Manchester's Town Hall) yet not completed until 1902.

The Manchester Museum finished by Paul Waterhouse in 1902 was begun in 1898 and has its foundations in the Manchester Natural History Society (founded 1821). **Contact 0161 275 2634**

2. The Catholic Church of the Holy Name Jesus - Grade I

This church was founded by the Jesuits in 1869 and first opened on 15th October, 1871. The architect, Joseph Aloysius Hansom was also the inventor of the cab that bears his name. The tower was added in 1928 by Gilbert Scott. The church is still regularly used for services. **Contact: 0161 273 2435**

3. The Pankhurst Centre - Grade II* details on previous page

4. Manchester Royal Infirmary - Grade II

The hospital was founded by Charles White in 1752 as a cottage hospital. The Manchester Royal Infirmary (MRI) followed in 1908. It was designed by E T Hall and John Brooke and is a vast building in Greenwich Baroque style. Constructed of brick and stone, its monumental centre is topped by a stone cupola. The lodge railings and gate piers are Grade II listed.

5. Whitworth Art Gallery (Grade II) & Whitworth Park

Whitworth Art Gallery was founded in 1889, as The Whitworth Institute and Park during the great period of Victorian philanthropy, and was originally a voluntary cultural, educational and technical institution marking the memory of the North West's great industrialist, Sir Joseph Whitworth, after whom the park and gallery were named. JW Beaumont won a competition in 1891 to design the Gallery which is now home to some of the UK's finest collections of art and design including modern and historic fine art, prints, textiles and a rare collection of wallpapers. **Contact 0161 275 7450**

The land for Whitworth Park was secured in 1887 through a bequest by Joseph Whitworth. The land was drained and laid out for a pleasure garden, complete with bandstand and large sailing lake, and was opened in 1890. There is a statue of Edward VII by John Cassidy that was unveiled in 1913 (Grade II listed) and a First World War memorial to the 1/7th Battalion The Manchester Regiment, located within the old recruiting area of the battalion. However, some of the original features of the park such as the boating lake, a bandstand and sculpture of 'Christ Blessing the Little Children' by George Tinworth from 1895 have been lost.

6. St Mary's Hospital for Women and Sick Children - Grade II

Founded in 1790, this evolved from an earlier charitable foundation. The building was designed by John Ely in 1909. Constructed of red brick and terracotta it is typical of Edwardian style. The hospital was home to the first fully funded NHS IVF unit in the UK in 1982.

7. First Church of Christ Scientist - Grade I

Built on a green site in 1903, this building is regarded as a masterpiece - one of the most original buildings of its period. It was designed by Edgar Wood in the Arts and Crafts style with Art Nouveau motifs. It has a steeply pitched roof, tall dormer windows, a conical slate roof on a round tower, semicircular arched windows and a lynch gate in matching style. It has recently been converted back to use as a Church. **Contact 0161 929 7799**

8. Victoria Baths - Grade II* details on previous page

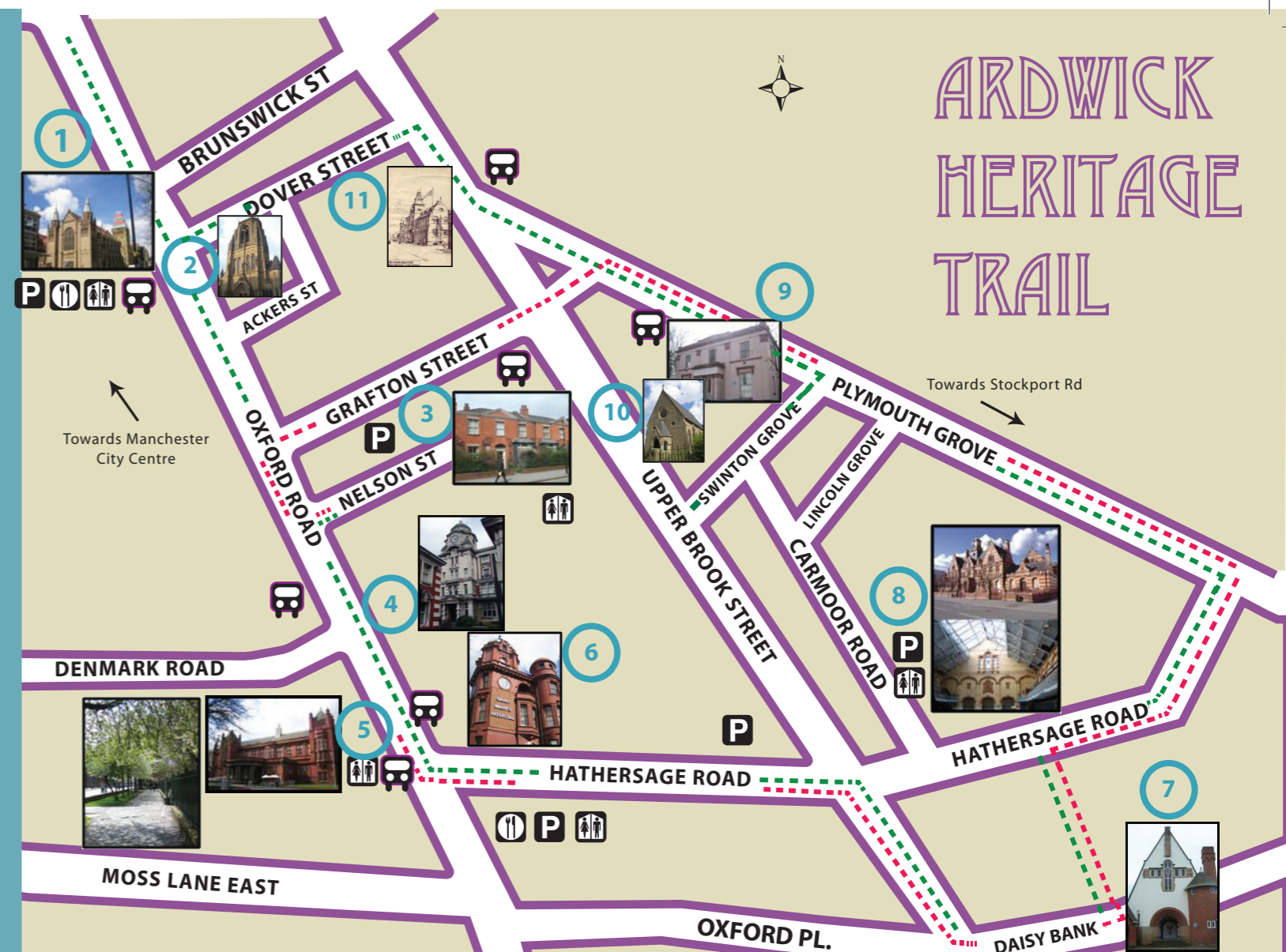
9. Gaskell House - Grade II* details on previous page

10. The Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Manchester

Built in 1869 -70, this is the first church to be purpose built for Armenians in England. The first Armenians settled in Manchester in 1835 as silk merchants. The church is of a low key design, with simple furnishing in keeping with the Armenian tradition. The West Gable contains a circular window with the tracery in the form of the Armenian Cross. A Gothic priest's house is attached to the side of the church.

11. Manchester High School for Girls, Dover St - Grade II


Manchester High School for Girls was founded in 1874 and was located on Dover Street from 1881 until 1940. The school boasts many notable alumnae including Christabel, Sylvia and Adela Pankhurst, as well as Sunny Lowry, the first woman to swim the Channel and a regular swimmer at Victoria Baths. Number 14 Dover St (now demolished) was the home of Elizabeth and William Gaskell whose daughters, Meta and Julia, who lived at Plymouth Grove, were amongst the founders of the school.



 parking  bus stops  toilets  cafe shops

Getting there...

Ardwick is well served by transport links. Manchester Piccadilly bus station and Oxford Road train station are only a 10 min bus journey away and there are regular buses from the City Centre which drop you off on Oxford Road or Upper Brook Street.

 To get to Ardwick the following buses can be used.

- Buses from Piccadilly Bus Station: 14, 16, 41, 42, 43, 43a, 44, 45a, 48, 50 (Upper Brook St) 111, 140, 142, 157, 250
- Buses from Oxford Rd Station: most buses run down Oxford Rd
- Buses from Cross St. outside Boots The Chemist: 47, 87, 50, 143, 197, 291
- Buses from Piccadilly Railway Station: 147 (Mon to Fri only)
- Buses from Manchester Airport: 43a, 45a
- Tram: Alight at St Peters Square and walk or catch the bus down Oxford Rd.
- For the return journey, the buses mentioned above can be used or you can catch the 197 to Piccadilly Bus Station on Plymouth Grove

Some of these buildings and attractions are open to the public. Please contact them for details of opening times. A few also take part in the nationwide Heritage Open Days www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Research by urban design students at University of Manchester for the Victoria Baths Neighbourhood Masterplan.

This leaflet is available in large print please contact 0161 224 2020 for details

