

## Denton - Local History Walk



**6 THE OLD LIBRARY/TOWN HALL** is opposite, built in 1894 as a library and then Denton Town Hall. 1974 saw it decommissioned when Tameside was created. It is now a library again. Nearby is the famous Linney Man Statue, a tribute to Denton's hat manufacturing past. Find the Blue Plaque that pays tribute to the working hatting women of Denton's past.

**7 VICTORIA PARK**, opened in 1886 originally as a Recreation Ground, is down the steps. In 1913 it was laid out as Victoria Park, with the grade 2 Edwardian Bandstand and other features. Find the fine War Memorial (1921) to the right.

**8 DUKE ST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.** Continue towards the playpark and left out of the gate near it onto Acre St. Duke St is 1<sup>st</sup> left. The old school was a WW1 Hospital.

**9 ST MARY OUR LADY OF SORROWS RC CHURCH.** Continue up Duke St and church is on left. Built in 1963, this incredible Grade 2 Avant Garde building was one of the 1<sup>st</sup> of its kind, built at a similar time to the RC cathedral in Liverpool.

**10 THE ONLY BOW GARRET LEFT IN DENTON.** Turn back and cross the road and take the 1<sup>st</sup> left into Kynder St. Halfway down stand with your back towards the school and see the old, early 19<sup>th</sup> century, 2 storey structure behind the terraced houses. A bow garret was a small structure for hat making, before Denton's big hat factories were built. It was only discovered in 2014, having been used for years as a garden shed.

**11 THE OLD CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE.** Carry on and turn left into Cooke St and then look to your right as you get to Market St. The old Church is on the opposite side. It is one of only 29 timber framed churches left in England, dating back to 1531 (possibly earlier). Among many unique features is its 16<sup>th</sup> century stained Glass. It is worthy of a separate visit to do it justice. The picture is of the original chapel, before the Victorian transept was built.

**12 THE OLD HAUGHTON GREEN CO-OP IS** just a few yards down on your right, as you continue past the church to Town Lane. Note the stone carved lettering which denotes its past.

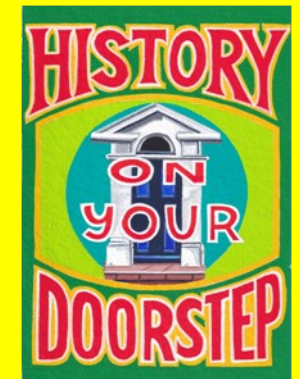
**13 THE OLD DENTON AND HAUGHTON CO-OP.** Now turn back to Stockport Rd and see the other old co-op opposite (now a betting shop). This was part of a different co-op chain to the Haughton Green co-op chain. There were many different chains of co-ops in the country. This was originally where Denton Football Club was and behind that was the church's recreational Chapel Green, sold for housing after WW2. The road is still called Chapel Green.

**14 THE CHAPEL HOUSE PUB** is also opposite. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapel house pub here, the 1<sup>st</sup> being a thatched one in the church grounds, originally the parsonage. The stable's behind were a Home Guard base in WW2.

**15 & 16 THE OLD POLICE STATION AND BROADBENT HAT WORKS (BHW).** Turn left towards Crown Point and pass the old red brick Police station on your left (the names Constable, Magistrate etc are carved above the doors). The old court fittings are now at the Manchester Police Museum. Carry on and on the right is the old BHW (now the Hatwork Rental Office). The photo shows it decorated for King George 6<sup>th</sup> Coronation.

Morrisons is now just on your right.

*Photo credits :- Denton Local History Society,  
A Arrowsmith, P Whitehead*



*History on Your Doorstep*

*This Leaflet is funded by TAMESIDE  
LOCAL HISTORY  
FORUM*



Key :

Walking Route to follow:

Time:



2



8



1

**1 OLDHAM BATTERY MANUFACTURERS** Look across the road to the red and white brick building. It was one of the main employers in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, opening in 1865 to manufacture machinery for hatting and coal mining. They started to produce batteries, including the famous battery operated Miners Safety Lamp, which was safer than the flame lit Davy Lamp.

**2 WALK TO JUNCTION - CROWN POINT** – named after the famous American War of Independence battle. It was originally a Toll Point for the roads to Manchester, Ashton, Stockport and Hyde. The photo is early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.



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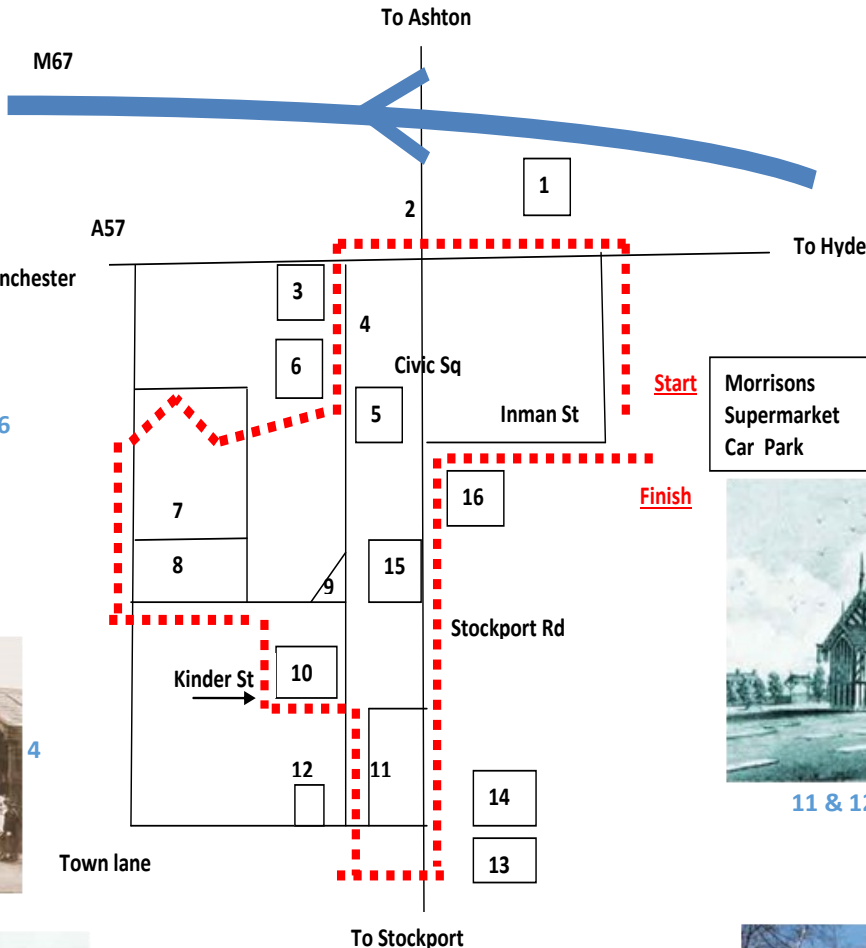
**3 WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN.** Continue across onto Manchester Rd and turn 1<sup>st</sup> left onto Market St. The garden is on your right. And commemorates, among others, Albert Hill VC. See Blue Plaque.

**4 CIVIC SQUARE** is on your left. It was originally the Town Market Place, a thriving Friday market selling fresh produce and other goods. It was also the town's meeting place for important occasions – coronations, end of war celebrations, Whit walks and Wakes fairs.

**5 OLD DENTON POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE** is on the corner and the impressive stone carved signs are still visible.



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11 & 12

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