

The village of Walton and much of the surrounding area was owned, modelled and developed by the Greenall family in the late 1880s. The cottages were homes for the estate staff, they redesigned the pub and even built the local church. Large parts of the village remain unchanged and would still be recognisable by locals from the last century.

### 1 The Bridgewater Canal

The Bridgewater Canal is arguably the first truly man-made canal because it was the first canal in Britain which didn't follow the path of an existing watercourse. It was built to transport coal from the Duke of Bridgewater's mine at Worsley, to Manchester.

### 2 Lady Daresbury Walk and Church Park

This pathway was created for the family's journey to church and was lined with glorious rhododendrons – one of Lady Daresbury's favourite plants.

To your right is Church Park which hosted one special event each year - The Warrington Horse Show (now called the Cheshire Horse Show). It was held here from the late 1880s to the 1970s.

### 3 St John the Evangelist Church

The church, endowed by Sir Gilbert Greenall, was consecrated in 1882 and cost £17,500, which was an enormous sum in the late 19th century. The brick is local red Cheshire sandstone, laid by Fairhursts of Whitley. It has seen many a Greenall celebration: the marriages of both of Sir Gilbert Greenall's daughters and the christenings of three further generations of the Greenall family.

In the graveyard, you will find the graves of several generations of the Greenall family, together with some of their servants, including Lord & Lady Daresbury and their son Gilbert. Gilbert is also portrayed in the stained-glass as the face of St George. It was given by Lady Daresbury in memory of her son when he was tragically killed in 1928.

### 4 The Courtyard, formerly Muskett's Yard

There would have been lots of sounds reverberating around the old courtyard. This was the estate's workshop where the blacksmiths would forge their metal and the carriages would be stored and maintained in the coach house.

### 5 The Walton Arms

The pub was called 'The Bay Horse Inn' until 1880, a time when the landlord was the local farmer.

Brewing had been the Greenall family's core interest since 1762 when Thomas Greenall founded their first brewery.

### 6 The white houses

These houses existed before the Greenall's bought the village and they formed the heart of the former village. It was the intersection of the canal and the main road, a busy thoroughfare where boats could restock, people could use the post office, find the blacksmith or grain store, or relax in the pub!



**WALTON**  
HALL AND GARDENS

## Walton walks: The Model Estate

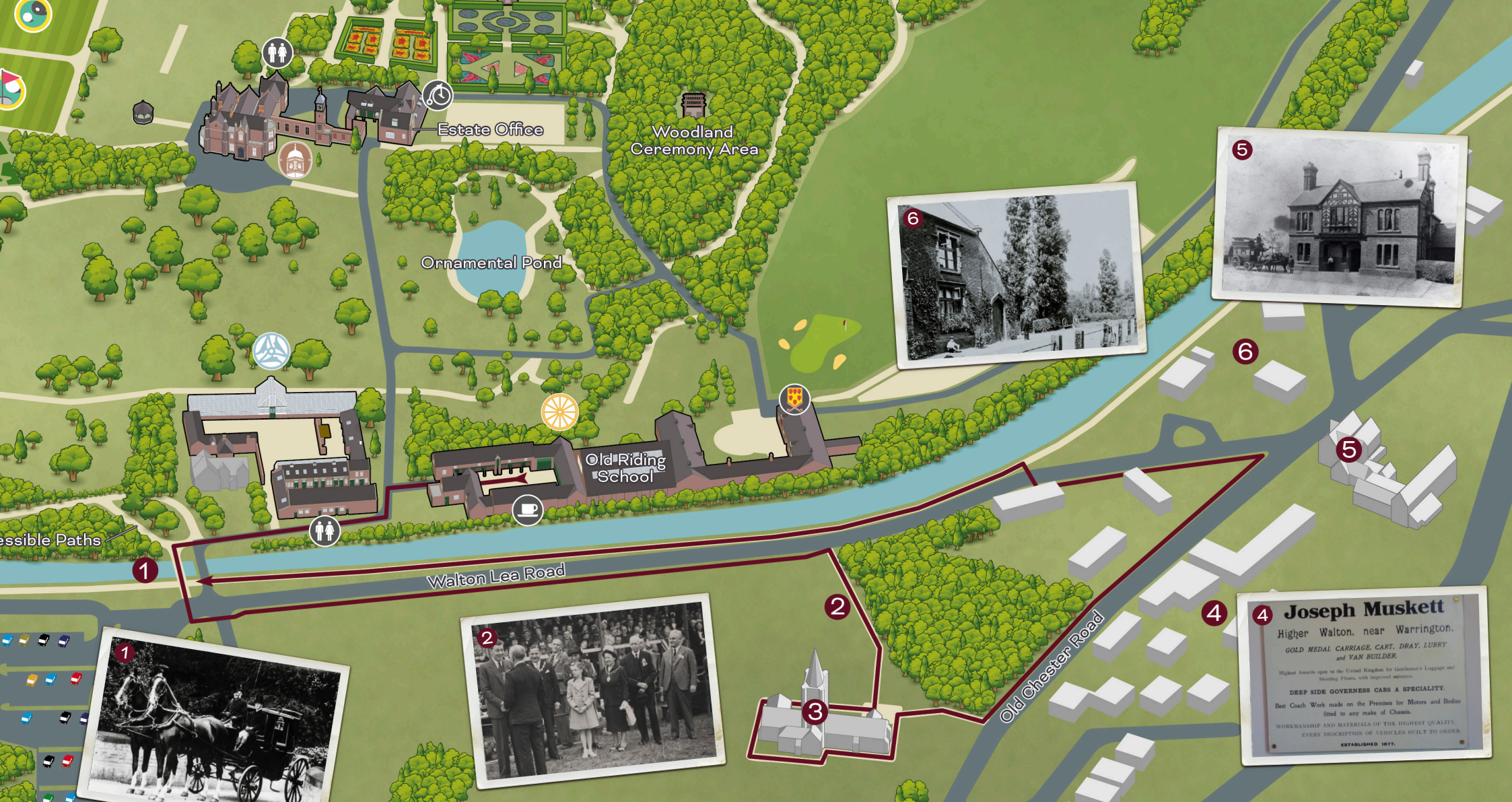
Stroll around Walton to get a flavour of village life back when the Greenalls and their staff lived on their model estate.



For more information visit:  
[www.waltonhallgardens.co.uk](http://www.waltonhallgardens.co.uk)

[@Walton\\_Gardens](https://www.instagram.com/Walton_Gardens) [@waltonhall.warrington](https://www.facebook.com/waltonhall.warrington) [@waltonhallgardens](https://www.twitter.com/waltonhallgardens)

WARRINGTON  
Borough Council 



## Accessibility

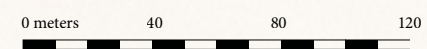


This route is suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

**Walk length** approximately 1470 meters



## Key



- Walk Route
- ① The Bridgewater Canal
- ② Lady Daresbury Walk and Church Park
- ③ St Johns Church and Churchyard
- ④ The Courtyard, formerly Musckett's Yard
- ⑤ The Walton Arms
- ⑥ The white houses