



# DEVONPORT HERITAGE TRAIL Devonport Park



**The Heritage Trail links historic and cultural points of interest in Devonport. It is a great way to explore the local area, once an important town in its own right.**

The Trail also offers a way-marked detour from the popular South West Coastal Footpath. It can be followed from Admiral's Hard in Stonehouse, where it connects with the Plymouth Waterfront Walkway and the Cremyll Ferry - the link between Devon and Cornwall.

Crossing into Devonport via Stonehouse Creek Bridge, the Trail first follows Richmond Walk, exploring Mount Wise and Mutton Cove. It then takes in Ker Street, the one time civic heart of the community - centred on the newly restored Guildhall, the Devonport Column and the 'Egyptian House'. The Heritage Trail returns to the waterfront at North Corner, the birthplace of the original town of 'Dock'.

At New Passage Hill, there is a link-spur to the Torpoint Ferry and the chance to cross back to Cornwall. However, the Trail itself continues through the historic Devonport Park, returning to Stonehouse by way of the Brickfields and Devonport Hill.

## Following the Trail

**The Heritage Trail is way-marked by over 70 distinctive, numbered and themed 'Devonport Discs', designed by Cornish artists Gary and Thomas Thrusell. Pick-up a Trail leaflet or go on-line to get a route map and find out more.**

On route, there are four Trail Panels like this - each focussing on a different section of the Trail. The others can be found at Mount Wise, Cumberland Gardens and North Corner. Look out too for the specially commissioned art works.

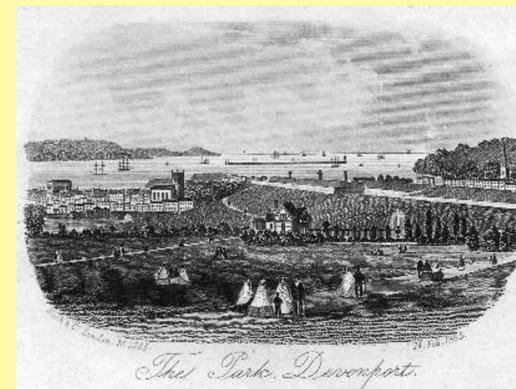
The full Heritage Trail is about 7.5 km (over 4 miles) long, but it can be explored just one section at a time. The way-marked route follows public highways and byways and involves walking alongside and crossing several busy roads - so please take great care. The Trail is fully accessible, with just a short marked detour to avoid steps into Devonport Park at New Passage Hill.

Stay safe, and enjoy discovering Devonport.

Web: [www.plymouth.gov.uk/creativityandculture/artsdevelopment](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/creativityandculture/artsdevelopment)  
 Contacts: Parks Services 01752 606034 & Arts Services on 01752 307315  
 email: [parks.services@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:parks.services@plymouth.gov.uk)

Devonport Heritage Trail was created by Plymouth City Council working in partnership with the Devonport Regeneration Community Partnership and the local community. Thanks must go to the professional artists and local historians who have contributed 'along the way'. With special thanks to Lizzy Cook.

Design and text by Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery



Promenading, 1865 - with the Dock Lines and Stonehouse beyond  
 Plymouth Library Services



HMS Doris Gun and Higher Lodge, c.1905  
 Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery

## New Passage Hill - Devonport Park - Brickfields

Guarded draw-bridges once controlled access to the town of Plymouth Dock - Devonport, and the security of the Naval Dockyard. These were located on Fore Street, Devonport Hill and at New Passage Hill. This Trail section connects all three sites.

Starting at New Passage Hill, there is a stepped entrance to Devonport Park dating from 1857-8. To avoid the steps follow Ferry Road. A Trail-spur links to the Torpoint Ferry and offers a chance to explore the waterfront community at Pottery Quay. A photo artwork by David Harbott is sited near the ferry terminal.

Devonport Park is 'Registered' by English Heritage as a Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest. It is the oldest formal public park in the City. Restoration work and major improvements carried out between 2008 and 2011 have created a 'People's Park' for today. The fascinating history of the Park is told on the separate 'Park Panels' displayed on route.

The Lower Park, which slopes steeply down to the River Tamar, was left isolated by the construction of Park Avenue in the 1950s. By following the Trail way-marker 'Discs' you will get to see many of the Park's unique historic buildings, monuments and memorials. Look carefully, and you will even discover the earth mounds

that mark the sites of underground air raid shelters built during the Second World War.

Feel free to detour off the Trail route and enjoy all the Park has to offer. Make sure to visit the new Park Pavilion building and café. Here you will see a glass and textile artwork by Carole Waller and another photo-montage by David Harbott. The Devonport Memorial to the soldiers, sailors and airmen who lost their lives in the Great War of 1914-18, stands close by. Alongside are two stone benches by Michael Disley, carved by the Friends of the Park and City College students.

Leave the Park via the main Fore Street gates, passing the Swiss style Lower Park Lodge, dating from 1858. Make sure to visit the three Victorian memorials nearby.

To complete the Trail, follow the old military road, now Raglan Road and Madden Road, past the Gatehouse to Raglan Barracks, built in the 1850s. On descending Devonport Hill - the Napoleonic Guardhouse of 1811, the drawbridge cutting and Bluff Battery, built 1779-80 to guard Stonehouse Bridge, are further reminders of Devonport's historic defences.



Park and view to the north-west, c.1905  
 Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery



Guard House and Cumberland Block, Devonport Hill, c.1905  
 Private Collection