

were here at Cross Hill. In 2012 you can still see one of these tiny houses. Now an out-house, the thatch has been replaced by roof tiles.

POINT 8 BEDEHOUSE

Built in c1770 by Charles Yarburgh, it replaced an earlier almshouse and was intended to offer sheltered accommodation for up to six men who had fallen on hard times.

POINT 9 THE BREWERS ARMS

Built c1750 and formerly known as The Lodge.

POINT 10
SNAITH HALL
Built in 1829, by William Shearburn, local landowner and solicitor.

POINT 11 THE DOWER HOUSE FOR SNAITH HALL

A Dower house was traditionally available to the widow of a deceased estate owner.

POINT 12 CADMAN LANE

Named after the Cadman family who had at least two retail businesses in Snaith in the 19th century. The dentist at the end of the lane was their shoe shop.

POINT 13 The tallest house on the High Street was formerly The Vicarage.

POINT 14
FIRE MARK @ NO. 9
Used in the 18th and 19th centuries, a fire mark was proof that the house was insured and gave a fire crew the authority to put out a fire on that particular house.

POINT 15 SNAITH PRIORY

There was an Anglo-Saxon church here prior to 1100 when construction work began on this building. There is an inscription on the clock "Time is short" You can learn more by reading the HERITAGE BOARD.

POINT 16
Education HERITAGE BOARD & History of Snaith Board.

POINT 17 BELL AND CROWN

POINT 18
DOWNE ARMS
These were two of the 12 inns that were in Snaith for a period in the 19th century.

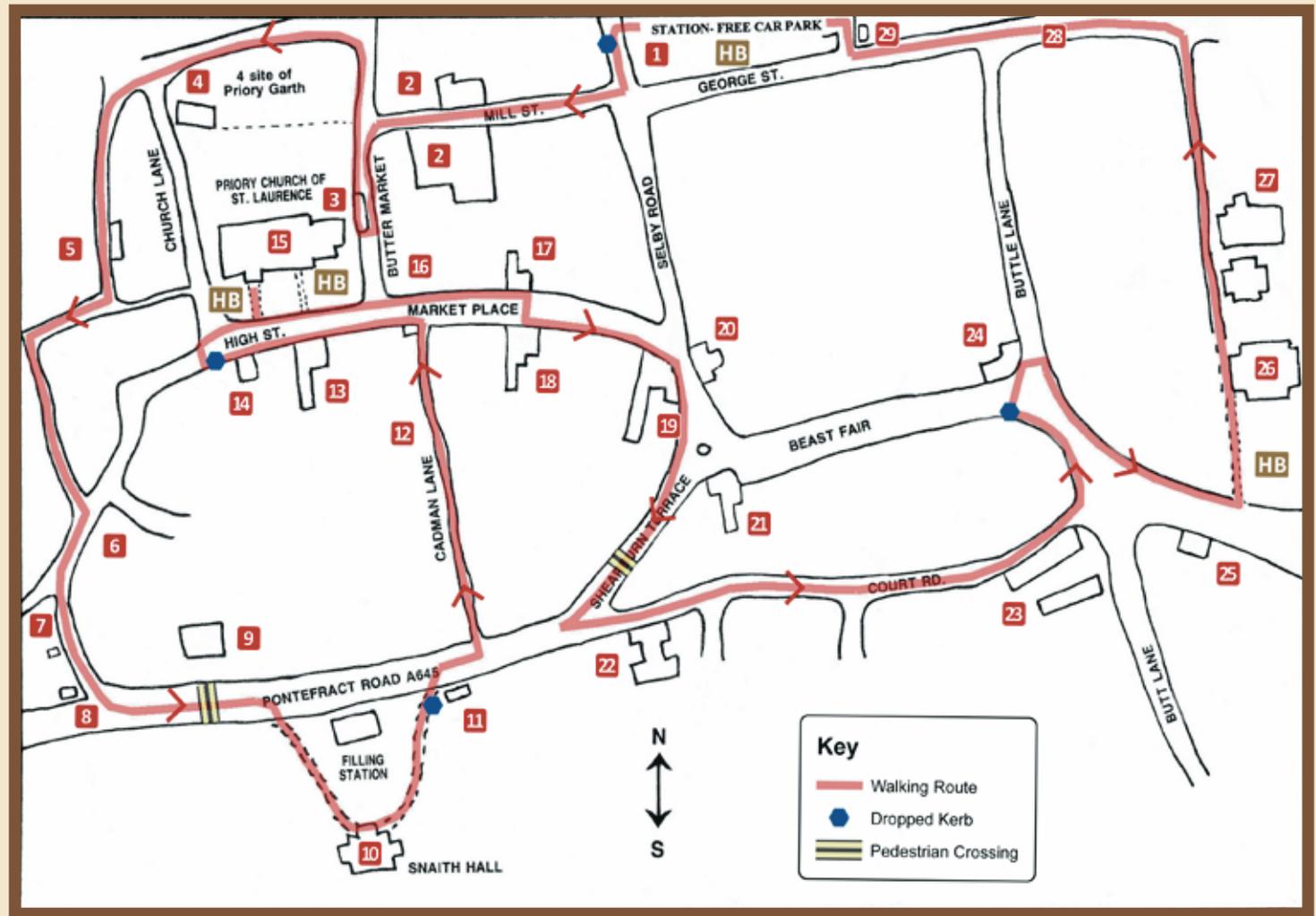
The Bell and Crown was also a farm, while The Downe Arms was the meeting place for the Badsworth Hunt (fox hunting with dogs) and was also used as a Manorial Court. There are cells below the ground floor.

POINT 19 PUNTON'S SHOP

The mock tudor façade, built over a 17th century farmhouse is especially noticeable when entering the town from the north. It has been a retail premises for many years. In 1850 one part was a draper's shop and the other a butcher's shop.

POINT 20
MANOR HOUSE
Formerly called the Moot Hall. It belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster in 1850. There are cells below the ground floor.

POINT 21
PLOUGH INN
Another of the 12 inns of Victorian Snaith. The street to your left is Beastfair, reflecting



the markets and fairs of the past. Shearburn Terrace was formerly called Horse Fair.

POINT 22 OLD POLICE STATION AND COURTHOUSE

Built in 1897 on the site of the former Wesleyan Chapel.

POINT 23 MALTHOUSE/KILNS

Where grain, steeped in water, was dried before use in ale brewing.

POINT 24 NO 33 BEASTFAIR

A plaque dates the house as 1627 Probably a farmhouse when first built, it was owned by Thomas Warwick in 1850 and a barn, piggery and plumber's workshop stood in the yard behind. It was then used for many years by E.T. Clark as a solicitor's office.

POINT 25 VICTORIA HOUSE

An inn in 1850 with a wheelwright's shop adjoining it.

POINT 26 METHODIST CHURCH

The church, costing £2600 was opened in 1862 with seating for over 400 people. You can learn more by reading the HERITAGE BOARD.

POINT 27
WESLEYAN SCHOOL
Opened in 1848, it could accommodate 200 children. Between 1944 and 1976 this was Snaith Primary School.

POINT 28
HAWTHORNE TERRACE
Built in 1866, the rounded top

windows were salvaged from the former Methodist Chapel (old police station site) when it was demolished.

POINT 29
FORMER RAILWAY HOTEL
Thought to have been built originally to provide refreshment and accommodation for railway travellers, it also became a popular inn for locals. Later uses include a dance hall, café and industrial units.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SNAITH



Snaith is a town of early origins. The discovery, in 1853, of a skeleton and Roman coins in Priory Garth, suggests the possibility of a pre- Anglo-Saxon settlement. By the seventh century the Anglo-Saxons were well established in the area as is evident from local place names.

Over the centuries the name Snaith has taken many forms; one of the earliest being “Snaed”, old English, meaning a detached piece of land, or a place cut off, presumably by water in this instance. In the Domesday Book (1086) Snaith is mentioned three times as “Esneit” reflecting the influence of the Norman invaders. Unfortunately no details of “Esneit” are given. Of Snaith’s three manors, the Manor of Snaith and Cowick was the largest and most important. It existed in 1086 and for substantial periods of time throughout its history it was Crown property. Although the Dawnay’s were occupiers of the manor for many years, they were only lessees until the 7th Viscount Downe acquired it, in 1852, from Queen Victoria. Snaith was at its height in the medieval period. It was an important trading centre having been granted a charter, in 1223, to hold markets and fairs. When the Poll Tax of 1379 was taken, Snaith was the eighth most highly assessed place in the West Riding of Yorkshire, reflecting its importance. The pictorial representation of Snaith, on the Inclesmoor Map of c1407, depicts a church with a tower, surmounted by a spire, surrounded by cruck-framed buildings, with thatched roofs. Snaith was at this time the sub-administrative headquarters for the Duchy of Lancaster.

The Priory Church of St Laurence has, over the centuries, remained a constant feature of the town and families such as Waller, Yarburgh, Dawnay, Stapleton and Shearburn have played their part as Snaith has developed. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries Snaith still functioned as a local service centre, but growth was slow and by the mid-nineteenth century the town’s population was still under a thousand.

The influence of the Manor accompanied Snaith into the twentieth century. The Market Charter was proclaimed annually, until the 1930s, from over the church wall and the Court Leet continued to meet, in the Downe Arms, until 1934.

With grateful thanks to The Snaith & District Heritage Society who created The Town Trail in 1990 on which this Trail is based.



WALK DETAILS
1.5m/2.4Km



GRADE: Easy
Mainly on pavements, but in some areas it is necessary to walk on the road.
Suitable for wheelchairs.

SUMMARY
Starting at the free car park at Snaith Railway Station, this walk enables you to learn a little about the historic buildings in the ancient town centre.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Buses: Services 400 and 401 from Goole and Selby.

PARKING
Free parking at start in Snaith station car park.
Post code DN14 9HY
Map reference SE643223

MAPS
OS Explorer 290
OS Landranger 105

REFRESHMENTS
Local pubs, cafes and shops in the town centre.

NO PUBLIC TOILETS

1 SNAITH HERITAGE TRAIL

FEATURES OF INTEREST

POINT 1

RAILWAY STATION

The HERITAGE BOARD at the start tells about the history of the railway station built in 1848.

POINT 2

SNAITH BREWERY

The building dates from 1794 and was used as a steam corn mill. At the beginning of the 20th century it became a mill making wooden clog soles. In 1983 it opened as The Old Mill Brewery.

POINT 3

THE TOWN LOCK-UP

An 18th century single storey Grade II listed building comprising three rooms. It was originally part of a much longer building. On the south side there was a small shop and The Buttermarket. On the north side a brick shed for the old fire engine. It is thought that the prison was used on market days and fair days to house drunks, pick-pockets, vagrants and beggars. Rumour has it that the cell windows originally had one single bar and people outside, took advantage of this to pass jugs of ale to the prisoners.

To thwart this practise, grilles were installed. But people got round this by bringing long clay smoking pipes. The pipe bowl was placed in the beer jug and

the stem passed through the grille to the prisoner, who then proceeded to drink the beer through a ‘straw’.

POINT 4

OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The HERITAGE BOARD at Point 16 tells the story of why this school was built in 1626 and about the schools that came later. This area is called Priory Garth and was separated from the churchyard by walls. It is likely that some small priory buildings stood here.

In 1853 a skeleton dating from Roman times was discovered here. Roof ridge tiles had been placed over it. Many coins were found under the skull.

POINT 5

SMALL BARN WITH TUMBLED GABLE END

Tumbled gables were not common in Snaith. Introduced into England in the 17th century from Holland, they can be seen fairly frequently in villages east of Snaith.

POINT 6

LODGE GARDENS

The whole area to the left and right of Lodge Gardens was the huge walled garden of The Lodge that you will see shortly.

POINT 7

CROSS HILL

In 1850 there were 207 properties in Snaith and 27 still had thatched roofs. A third of these

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