

HIDDEN HERITAGE: WALK 1 - JERICHO

1

- Walk starts at **Bonn Square** (OX1 1EU)
- Head westwards, passing **New Road Baptist church** on your right
- After **55 metres**, turn right into **Bulwarks Lane**

This was probably an ancient lane beyond the outer boundary of the original earthworks around the Norman Castle.

2

- Walk along this lane
- On the left, note a doorway with the sign '**Canal House**'

This used to be the headquarters of the local Canal Company. The canal, connecting Oxford to Coventry, was officially opened in early 1790.

3

- Continue to the end of this twisting lane
- Ignore the branch towards George Street to the right
- Turn left to see **Nuffield College** through the gates

4

- Retrace your steps
- Walk to the junction with **George Street**
- Turn left into **Hythe Bridge Street**
- Walk to the bridge over **Castle Mill Stream**
- Look left to the car park

This is the original canal basin, where boats stopped for unloading.

5

- Turn back to the canal
- Walk north along the **towpath**
- In some **200 metres** you will see an old ivy-clad stone archway on the west of the bank

This was the 15th-century 'watergate' of Rewley Abbey, built in 1281, the remains of which were finally removed when the LMS railway line arrived in 1850.

- Walk further along the towpath to a **lock**
- Look closely at the centre of the cast iron bridge above the lock

6

This bridge dates from 1844. It was constructed in two sections and joined in the middle.

- To your left is a metal girder **footbridge**

*Crossing this allows you to proceed further along the link channel to where there are remains of the original **LMS Swingbridge**, which **Oxford Preservation Trust** is going to restore.*

7

- Return to the canal towpath
- Proceed northwards
- Note **St Barnabas Church** of 1869 to the right above the hoardings for 'Jericho Wharf'

This was designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield, though it is actually a copy of a church at Il Torcello in Venice.

8

- Pass **Lucy's ironworks** (now closed and converted into flats on both banks)
- Climb up to the road crossing the canal
- Turn left onto the unnamed Walton Well Road, over the railway bridge, for around **200 metres** to view the expanse of **Port Meadow**
- Enjoy the excellent view towards **Wolvercote** on the horizon northwards

9

- Retrace your steps east over the canal into **Walton Well Road** (named after the well in front of you at the road junction)

10

- Continue eastwards
- Notice a **terrace** of houses with carved symbols over the upper windows on your right

These are known locally as 'the nine apostles' dating from 1885.

11

- Cross **Walton Street**
- Note the **Victoria Inn** of 1840 with chequered brickwork
- Turn left along Walton Street for **25 metres**
- Turn right into **Plantation Road**
- After **140 metres** (at the junction of two roads) the public house on the left (built in 1830) was originally the local manor house

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- Continue along Plantation Road
- Notice the old stone walls on your right (and the remains of parts of **Worcester College** windows placed therein)
- As you pass a house which abuts onto the street, look back and notice the Chinese-style porch and its curved roof

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- Arrive in **Woodstock Road** and turn right
- Walk southwards towards the town centre before you reach the stone walls of **Green Templeton College** and the **Radcliffe Observatory** (before the Infirmary)
- Look through the gates to spot the fountain

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- Continue southwards along Woodstock Road
- Note a terrace of twelve houses opposite called 'the twelve apostles'
- Turn right into **Little Clarendon Street**
- Turn left into **Wellington Square** at the end of the University Offices building
- Proceed along the north side of the gardens

15

- From the southwest corner of the square, look across the road to **Rewley House** on the other corner (below the roof you will see a cartouche of the **Duke of Wellington**, hence the square's name)
- Walk down **St John Street**
- Turn right at the first opening into **Beaumont Place** to come to **Beaumont Buildings**
- Note as you pass the houses in St John Street that there are ancient mud-scrappers by door-steps (from when the streets were unpaved)

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- At the south end of **Beaumont Terrace** (Beaumont Buildings), there are remnants of stone arches topping a wall of a parking area

*These mark the place where Beaumont Palace stood. It was built for **King Henry I** (1068-1135) in 1130, and was the birthplace of **Richard I** (1157-1199), known as 'The Lionheart'. It was also the residence of **King John** (1167-1216).*

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- Proceed back to St John Street via an alley way and turn right
- Turn right to **Beaumont Street**
- Look up to see the 'Chinese' balcony roofs on the north side of the street

18

- Just before reaching the end of the street (by a garden hedge on your right) look for the stone pedestal on which is a **plaque** commemorating the birth of Richard Lionheart and King John in Beaumont Palace
- Facing you at the end of the street is the impressive façade of Worcester College

This was founded in 1714, incorporating the earlier Gloucester Hall buildings on the south side of the main quadrangle, which were originally founded in 1283.

19

- To return to your starting point, cross Beaumont Street into **Worcester Street**
- After **20 metres**, turn left into the paved footway to **Gloucester Green**
- Cross the central market area diagonally to emerge in George Street
- Cross over to **New Inn Hall Street** and back to Bonn Square

END OF SELF-GUIDED WALK

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