

of the Calverley parish. Look for the dedication stone on the side of the church. Further up Bolton Road, you will pass the other end of Grove House Road. Look for the base of the original gate post of the carriage drive built into the deep retaining wall.

**14** Continue up Bolton Road to Bolton Junction to the new Methodist Church built 1998 which replaced the older building on the site opened in July 1874. Look for the foundation stone and date stone 1853, and the stone marked OJA BV ("Old James Atkinson Bolton Vestry"), taken from the first Methodist chapel which stood in Myers Lane.

**15** Look across the road where the front view of Ivy Hall and Sugden's Houses can be seen across the field at the lower side of the parade of shops and car park. This car park was the site of Bolton Depot, Bradford's first electric tram depot, opened in 1898, later the trolley bus depot.

**16** Turn left at the traffic lights into Idle Road (formerly called Bolton Outlane) and pass three cottages with date stone BH 1821 depicting sheep fleeces, most probably weavers cottages. The Boot and Shoe Inn stood in this row of cottages.

**17** Next, pass the large building, formerly William Morrison's first purpose built supermarket opened in 1963 with its 1960's roof car park for 20 cars. Beyond this, the Swing Gate was for many years only licensed as a beer house. The tap room to the right of the door was originally a small grocers shop.

**18** Continue a little way up Idle Road to Ivy Place, a row of four old houses on the left at right angles to the road. No 2 was built in 1754 as a farmhouse by John Pullan, blacksmith, date stone JMP 1754 and Nos 3 and 4 were built in 1873 on the site of the old barn. Matthew Balme, Clerk of Bolton Local Board and Registrar of Births and Deaths for Idle, Eccleshill and Bolton as well as campaigner for factory reform, lived in No 2 Ivy Place in the 1860s/1870s.

*This concludes the Bolton History Trail.*

#### Other buildings

Other buildings of note (not covered by this trail) are Bolton Old Hall in Cheltenham Road, Wrose, built in 1627, owned by the Stanhope family, and Walnut Tree Farm, formerly called Bartlett House, in Bolton Lane, built in 1736 by Benjamin Bartlett, a Bradford apothecary.

#### Acknowledgements

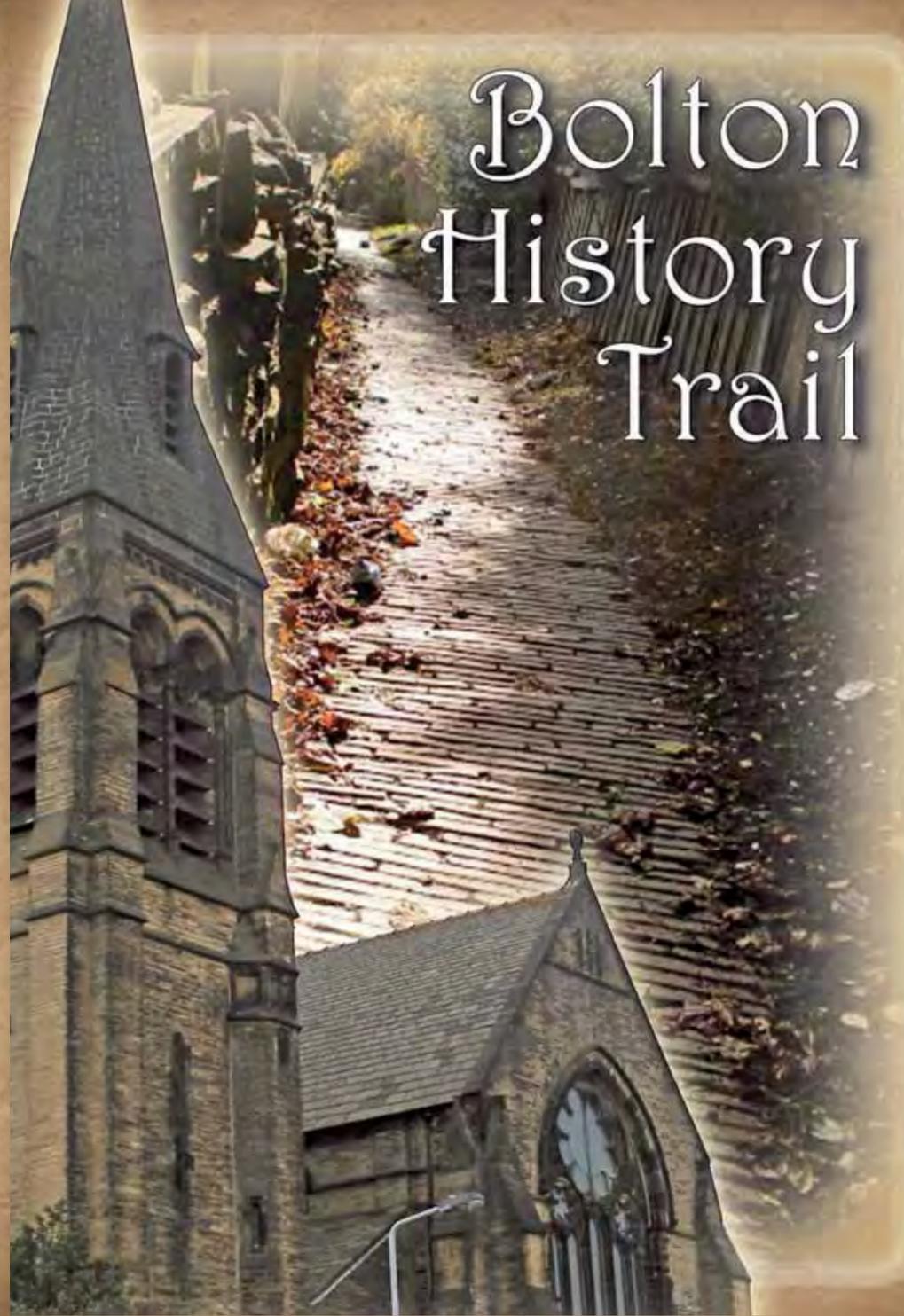
- Bolton History Trail Group
- William Cudworth "Bolton and Bowling"
- Stanley King
- Bradford Libraries
- Bolton & Undercliffe Network Group

Further information on the history of Bolton can be found in the Local Studies Department of Bradford Central Library and also in Eccleshill Library.

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# Bolton History Trail

## Enjoy a stroll through Bolton's history!

Allow 1.5 hours for the trail

**1** Start your walk in the car park behind the Swing Gate Public House at the top of Myers Lane. From the 17th century onwards this was the hamlet of **Bolton Outlanes**, a 'commercial centre' occupied by small traders and artisans - wheelwright, blacksmith, shoemaker, maltster (ie brewer), grocer and beer seller - catering for the neighbouring farms. The large old maltkiln building, where malt was dried and brewed into beer, was demolished in the 1960's. To the right of the Swing Gate the former wheelwright's premises still stand, now W E Shaw's engineering workshop.

**2** From the end of this workshop can be seen the rear view of Bolton's oldest surviving house, Ivy Hall, built in 1616, with its buttressed chimney. It was divided into two houses in the 1880's and has a modern extension. Next door are the three-storey 'garret-high' Sugden's Houses, whose top floor was a handloom weaving manufactory.

**3** Walk down Myers Lane to the junction with Grove House Road, originally the carriage drive to Grove House. The house on the left was the Lodge and double gates on either side of Myers Lane once provided access. Built in 1860 on the hill alongside the Hanson School site, Grove House was the home of James Atkinson Jowett, a wealthy landowner in Bolton, who was Chairman of Bolton Local Board and later an Alderman of Bradford.

**4** Continue along Myers Lane to the hamlet of **Hodgson Fold**. Passing cottages on either side, note the old maltkiln building on the right. Beer was brewed on this site at least from the early 18th century. A wander round the hamlet gives clear evidence of the farming community it used to support. In addition to farming and brewing other trades included butchering and handloom weaving. The two Victorian villas in Italianate style on the left were built by James Atkinson Jowett on the site of six earlier cottages, where Old James Atkinson lived and held the first Methodist services in Bolton.

**5** Walk past two cottages on your left, one dated JH 1652 most probably referring to John Hodgson, and through the gap to the cottage "Fieldhead" on your left. Immediately opposite (next to a small wrought iron gate) note the stone post marked JH. There were several disputes regarding land and access in the hamlet and this "meer stone" was originally placed as a boundary marker. *Pushchair and wheelchair users - return along Myers Lane, turn right into Grove House Road, then 3rd right into Ashbourne Way and rejoin trail at Ashbourne Avenue.*

**6** Facing the "meer stone" turn left alongside the garage and pass through the snicket to your right and then along a footpath. Turn left at the end and follow the old cobbled pathway known as Crowther Flatts down the very steep slope through a

stile and across Ashbourne Way into Ashbourne Avenue. Walk down this road taking the first turning right into Ashbourne Crescent.

**7** Follow Ashbourne Crescent round and take notice of the fine view of the hamlet of **Low Fold** on the hillside opposite. Continue downhill to Bolton Lane which had a stream running alongside it. Bolton Lane was the route to Bradford from Bolton via Manningham. Turn left passing Gant Place on the corner. The stream can be seen in the garden behind. In 1846 this was the home of Benjamin Gant or Gaunt, farmer and maltster.

**8** Continue to walk up Bolton Lane passing Low Fold on your right to the former Bolton Lane First School at the top of the lane. Originally the church school, it was built on land given by W H Rawson and opened in 1859. It was also used as a meeting place for evening classes and a church service room until St James' Church was completed in 1877.

**9** Retrace your steps back down Bolton Lane passing on the left the former malt kiln built by William Tetley, now a row of cottages. The date stone on the gable end reads WST 1795.

**10** Enter Low Fold which was another farming community with Apple and Pear Tree Farms (now demolished) and a "pinfold" for the impounding of stray animals. The

first Anglican Church services were held in Jacob and Sally Wood's barn in Low Fold, as well as a small school. There are 17th and 18th century cottages here.

**11** Leaving Low Fold turn right and pass between the malt kiln and the three terrace houses of Tetley Place. Continue along the pathway until you reach Rose Cottage on your right, for several years the home of the Right Honourable W E Forster MP for Bradford. His determination to bring education to the children of England and Wales culminated in The Education Act 1870. As a result "Board Schools" (the first state schools) were set up and education for all was established. *Pushchair and wheelchair users - return to Bolton Lane, turn right and rejoin trail at junction with Bolton Road.*

**12** Follow the footpath through an old gateway into Queen's Road and turn left. Walk up to the Bolton Hotel public house, go through the entrance to the stable yard at the rear and through the ginnel into Bolton Lane. Note the former cellar dwellings below the landing.

**13** Walk up Bolton Road noting the villas on your right and the changing development of housing until you come to St James' Parish Church. Designed by Andrews & Pepper, the church was consecrated on 22nd December 1877 thus constituting Bolton as an Ecclesiastical parish. Before this, Bolton had been part

# Bolton History Trail

## Walk Information

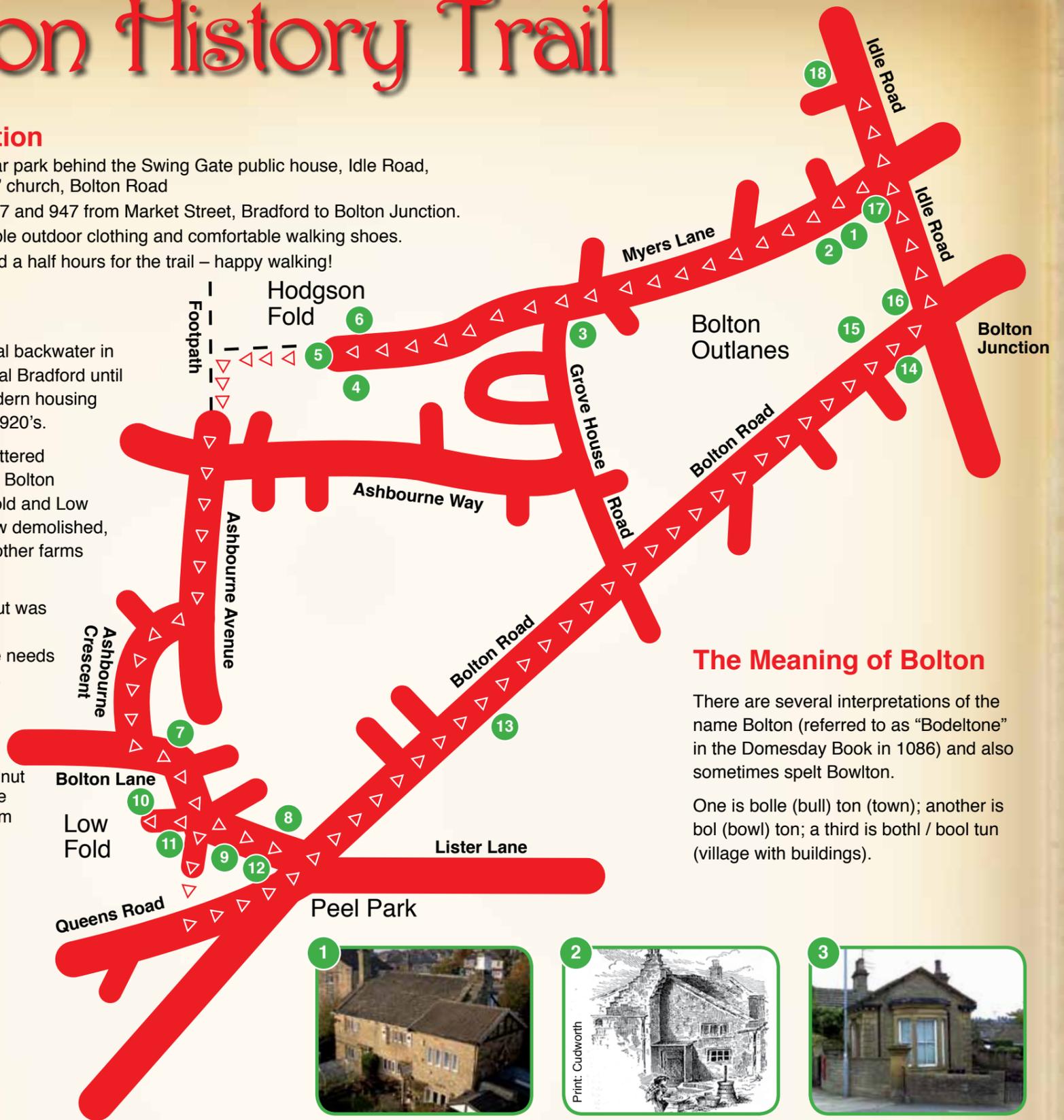
- Start at (1) in the car park behind the Swing Gate public house, Idle Road, or at (13) St James' church, Bolton Road
- Buses 640, 641, 747 and 947 from Market Street, Bradford to Bolton Junction.
- You will need suitable outdoor clothing and comfortable walking shoes.
- Allow about one and a half hours for the trail – happy walking!

## History

Bolton remained a rural backwater in comparison to industrial Bradford until the building of the modern housing estates began in the 1920's.

The township was scattered between four hamlets, Bolton Outlanes, Hodgson Fold and Low Fold, and Delf Hill, now demolished, together with several other farms and homesteads.

Farming was arable but was later replaced by dairy production to meet the needs of Bradford. Stone was quarried and there were valuable beds of coal.



## The Meaning of Bolton

There are several interpretations of the name Bolton (referred to as "Bodeltone" in the Domesday Book in 1086) and also sometimes spelt Bowlton.

One is bolle (bull) ton (town); another is bol (bowl) ton; a third is bothl / bool tun (village with buildings).



1 Ivy Hall, Bolton Outlanes



2 Buttress Chimney, Ivy Hall



3 Grove House Lodge



4 Hodgson Fold



5 Date Stone - Hodgson Fold



6 Meer Stone - Hodgson Fold



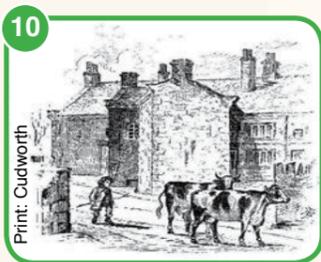
7 Gant Place



8 Bolton Lane School



9 Date Stone - Malt Kiln



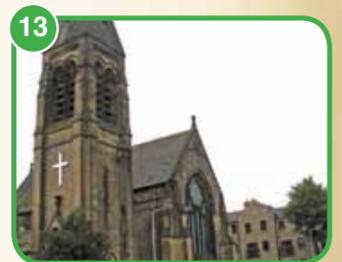
10 Low Fold



11 Rose Cottage



12 Bolton Hotel



13 St James' Church



14 Bolton Methodist Church



15 Trolley Bus Depot



16 Cottages - Idle Road



17 Swing Gate Public House



18 Ivy Place