

Continue along Station Street and on the left you will eventually come to a drive just past no 51. This led to one of the Town's Windmills, sadly none are left standing now. (8) This one was known as **Larratt's Mill**. The miller's cottage along the lane can still be seen and is a listed building.

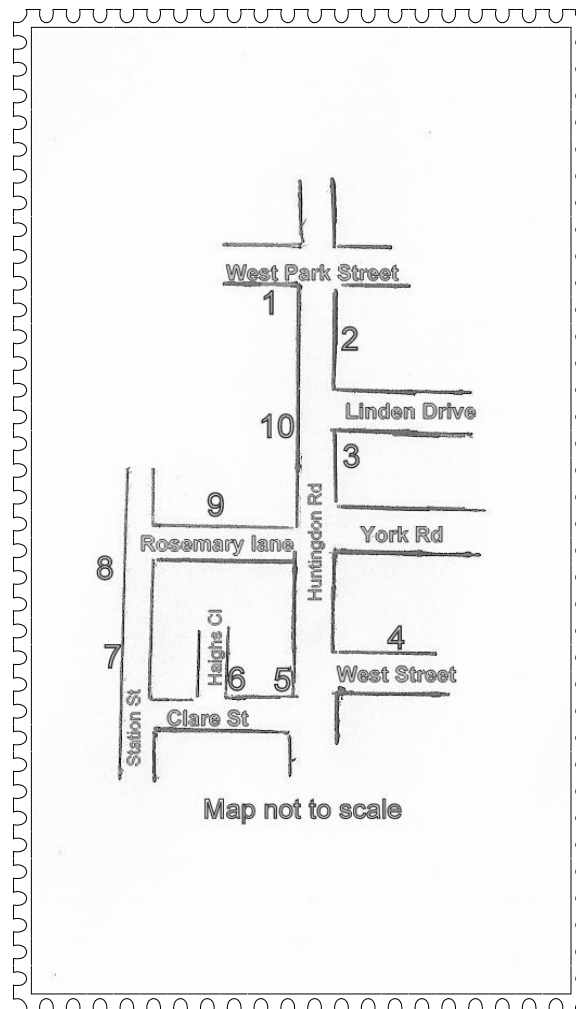
Further along the road on the right take the turning known as Rosemary Lane. This quaint little by-way is probably how many little streets in Chatteris looked before the requirements of the car took over.

On the left is a pair of police houses built in 1906. Continue along the lane. There is a row of 4 small cottages on the left. These are good examples of the type of housing that the working class of the town would have occupied. (9)

Turn left at the top of Rosemary lane into Huntingdon Rd once again. As you walk up the road towards where we began there are still a few points of interest to note.

Look out on the left for Salem Court. It is named after the Salem Chapel that used to stand there. The chapel was founded in 1800 and used by the Strict and Particular Baptists. All that remains today is a carved stone bearing its name housed in Chatteris Museum.

As this stroll nears its end and the Huntingdon Road Gardens are approaching, try to spot Myrtle and Lilac. Were these the names of young Chatteris girls or were the houses named after the builder's favourite shrubs? (10)



See more views of Chatteris on-line. Visit Chatteris.ccan.co.uk. If you have photographs of Chatteris old or new you are welcome to upload them to our website. It is funded and maintained separately from Chatteris Museum.

You can visit the museum in Church Lane on Saturday mornings and Tuesday or Thursday afternoons.

Cr.julue Smith

A Stroll Around Hive End

This walk starts at the gardens at the junction of West Park Street and Huntingdon Road. This area was not always a garden and back in the 1960's when the picture below was taken, we would have been standing in the bar of the White Hart. (1)



Walk along the Huntingdon Rd passing the Petrol Station. On the left hand side, look at number 6 and on the upper level there is a plaque bearing the name **Linnet Terrace**. Why are the houses named after a bird.? Well the story goes that a local man made the money to build them by catching linnets and other song birds with nets and selling them in the London markets (2)

Continue along the left side of the road there is a turning named Linden Drive This was named after the private school which occupied the tall dark building on the corner.

It is now a **Masonic lodge**. (3) There was also another school on this site. It was called Hive End School. Most of it has now been demolished.

Keeping on the left of the Huntingdon Rd pass the York Rd turning and walk on until you reach **West Street** . Turn into this street and keep to the left of the street. (4) Pause a little way along at number 15. Look up above the 1st floor windows. Here you will see a small stone carved to tell us the original dwelling here was destroyed by fire in 1864.

Chatteris has over the years has recorded many fires. This particular one caused much destruction in the Hive End area.

According to the local newspaper of the time "over 70 families, principally the poorer classes were made homeless, the fire destroying nearly all their furniture, clothes and winter stocks of fuel, gleanings etc."

The article went on to describe how the fire occurred at Hive End and the aftermath "looked like a wilderness with skeletons of houses here and there" Particularly heart rending is the descriptions of "pigs shrieking as they were roasted alive and the vain efforts of the people to rescue fowl from the same fate"

Retrace your steps back from the house towards the Huntingdon Road.

Turn left and then cross the road to turn right into Clare street. (5)The street is named after George Clare who lived in Chatteris and was posthumously awarded a Victoria Cross for bravery in the First World war. Chatteris Doctor's surgery is named after him.



George Clare (standing)
Photo from
www.chatteris.ccan.co.uk

Clare Street seems to have been renamed a number of times and was once known as Hive Street, Hive End and also Anchor Street.

Along the street on the right was the Crown and Anchor pub. The pub miraculously survived the ravages of the 1864 fire while buildings around it succumbed to the flames.

It is said the Street became known as Anchor Street following this remarkable escape.

According to the newspaper reports of the time, The Fen Plough and the Dog and Gun beerhouses were not so lucky and were badly affected by the fire.

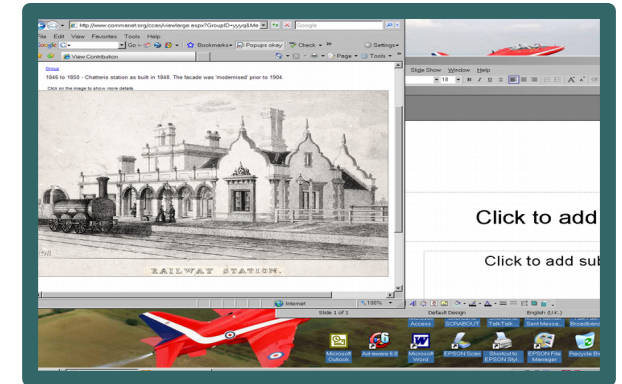
On the right of Clare Street is a road named Haighs Close.(6)

This is named after Cyril Haigh, a successful potato grower and merchant in Chatteris. He generously created a trust to benefit the elderly of Chatteris.

A distribution of its fund is made annually around Christmas time.

Walk the length of Clare Street and when you reach the junction with Station Street pause to look across the road. Here you can see and hear the busy by pass just beyond the fence. If you were standing at this spot 100 years ago, trains would have been thundering past not cars.

Chatteris station is now sadly long gone. It was located roughly where the new apartments have been built.



The picture above is a drawing of how it looked when opened in 1848

Dealing with goods and passenger traffic the line was well used. There was an additional station at Chatteris Docks. At one time all the produce from around Chatteris, potatoes, carrots fruit and livestock would have been loaded here to be sent to London Markets.

Turn right into Station Street, on the left look out for number 61.

This was known as the Railway Tavern. (7)At one time Chatteris had numerous pubs and beer houses. Situated as it was, so close to the station, the pub would have been a popular place to stop off for refreshment.