

FOLLOW THE #15 MINUTE HERITAGE TRAIL AROUND MONMOUTH

Map showing all the #15 Minute Heritage locations mentioned in the podcast.



1. Drybridge House & Park
2. Drybridge Street
3. Monnow Bridge
4. Old Cattle Market
5. Two Rivers Fields
6. Troy Station Site
7. Chippenham
8. Monnow Street
9. Nelson Garden
10. Slaughterhouses
11. Vauxhall
12. Quayside
13. Dixon Church
14. The Kymin
15. The Naval Temple

During lockdown, when the things on our doorstep became much more important to us, we talked to people about their favourite places and collected their stories of Monmouth's past. Weaving together their words with archive images from the collections of Monmouth Museum, the result is a series of short films and podcasts which tell a personal history of Monmouth. This leaflet highlights some of these hidden heritage locations. Download the #15 Minute Heritage podcast to listen to along the way



Watch all the films and podcasts at the Shire Hall in Agincourt Square, or online

www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk/#15minuteheritage

Do you have a story to tell?

Email us at information@wyevalleyaonb.org.uk



#15 Minute Heritage Monmouth is a Wye Valley AONB project in partnership with Monmouth Rotary Club, Cycling Without Age, Monmouth Museum and MonLife Heritage. It was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Cadw.

We would like to thank all those people whose enthusiasm made this project happen during difficult times. Also thanks to Anne Rainsbury for sourcing the archive images from the collections of Monmouth Museum and to MonLife Heritage for their use in this project.



Download the podcast to listen to as you follow the #15 Minute Heritage Trail around Monmouth.



1. DRYBRIDGE HOUSE & PARK

Smile!



'These carved portraits of three of Charles Crompton-Roberts' children ensured they were always giving their father a smile, even when they were away from Drybridge House. Look for them near the entrance door.'

Bill Smith

Anyone for cricket?

Drybridge Park was full of magnificent specimen trees, planted by Charles Crompton-Roberts. He also built a cricket pitch and pavilion, where in 1883 a game between 'The Universities and The World' took place!



3. MONNOW BRIDGE

'The thing I remember about Monnow Bridge is when a bus that was too big tried to go through, hit the bridge and got stuck!'

Marianne Piper

4. CATTLE MARKET

'The farmers and their wives would come in on a Monday, that was the shopping day for the wives. The chap was up there auctioning all the meat off. The chaps would go off into the Barley Mow and have a few drinks, it was a day out!'

Howard Hancock



Rivers and Rails

5. & 6. TWO RIVERS & TWO BRIDGES

The iron bridge and stone viaduct remains, visible from this area, are reminders of Monmouth's railway heritage. Troy Station closed in 1964 but has had a new life since 1999 when it was re-erected as Winchcombe Railway Station in Gloucestershire.



8. MONNOW STREET

Where's the beef?

'The business had been going since October 1900. I'm the 3rd generation. My father bought this place in 1942. My grandfather's place was just down the road. There were 11 or 12 butchers in Monmouth in those days. You had to drive the animals up Monnow Street to the slaughter houses (10) every Monday.'

Howard Hancock, Hancock's Butchers



7. & 11. CHIPPENHAM & VAUXHALL FIELDS

Who remembers the evening horse racing bringing Monmouth Show to a close when Vauxhall was the showground? Racing here goes back to the 19th century. The grandstand in this painting was moved to Chippenham (7) where you can also find the Nelson Garden (9).



13. DIXTON CHURCH



'There was a hermit who lived here at one point. It was probably an old Druid site. The Christians often took over previous sacred sites and made them their own.'

Penny Powdrill



14. THE KYMIN

'We always know we are nearly home when we see the Kymin. It's almost like going to the seaside - first to see the sea, first to see the Kymin on the way back! The little white building on the top of the hill - the Round House.'

Nicholas Frost



2. DRYBRIDGE STREET

Floods

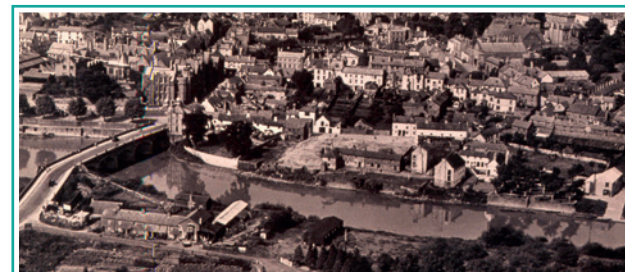


'I lived in 31, Drybridge Street. The worst flood was 1947, when it came 6 steps up the staircase and we all lived upstairs for 3 days! They brought milk and water and bread in boats and served it through the window.'

Nesta Pearce

Wallpaper Blocks

Charles Crompton-Roberts decorated the houses in Drybridge Street with these patterned wooden blocks, used to hand print designs onto wallpaper. Perhaps they come from the paper mills in Whitebrook? Or the Crompton paper mills in Lancashire?



12. RIVERSIDE AND QUAY

This was the business end of town, where Wye trows unloaded their cargoes at the quayside. When leisure pursuits gained popularity the 'town steps' became the focus for rowing and canoeing. Much of the old housing in this area was demolished when the dual carriageway was built.

15. THE NAVAL TEMPLE

'My Father was born in the Old Nag's Head. My Mother was evacuated to Monmouth during the war. She went to the Girls School and the Girls School and the Boys weren't allowed to mix so they rendezvoused at the Kymin. The Naval Temple was quite warm and comfortable for my parents to court!'

Hayden Cullen Jones

