This [trail](https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/education/explorer/salford-heritage-trail-ks2-map) is suitable for Key Stage 2 primary children. On a walk starting at Islington Mill and finishing at Salford Museum and Gallery (or you could do it the other way round), pupils will discover some of the historic buildings in and around Chapel Street and will explore the local cultural, social and industrial heritage of this area.

At each stopping point on the trail, there is information for you to relay to the pupils in your group. There are also suggested activities for your pupils to *‘do now’* which will help pupils observe and consider the historical significance of the building or site. As you are walking the trail, please encourage pupils to look out for any interesting decoration on buildings such as carved faces, shapes, letters or numbers; to look up, down and all around!

In the accompanying [Teachers Resource Pack PowerPoint](https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/education/explorer/salford-heritage-trail-buildings-ppt) there are a selection of old images, modern and old maps and historical sources, some of which you might like to print out and take with you on the trail. Alternatively, use the PowerPoint in the classroom to revisit and further explore the sites on the trail. The PowerPoint contains all of the information from the trail, as well as some suggested *“do in the classroom”* activities for each site, which allow pupils to more closely investigate the events, people or themes uncovered in the trail. There are also some suggested *“do later”* activities, which pupils may like to do outside of school with their families.

Finally, you can access an online [StoryMap](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/02c8288dd376403c80f012dd5fe84cec) containing all the information,

images and resources from this trail. Use this to revisit the location of the sites

on the trail when you are in the classroom or as a tool for pupils to explore the

trail independently or with their families. You could also make use of the

StoryMap if it is not viable to physically take your pupils on this trail.

Please note: There is a trail suitable for [Key Stage 1](https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/education/explorer/salford-heritage-trail-ks1-map) primary pupils which is shorter in length and more accessible for younger children.

**1 ISLINGTON MILL**

**T**

Islington Mill used to be a factory, or mill, for spinning cotton into threads. The cotton would then be woven to make cloth. It was built in 1823, by a man called David Bellhouse, for Nathan Gough. Gough wanted to build a cotton factory so that he could making money from the growing cotton industry in Manchester and Salford. He expected his workers to work at least 69 hours a week. He liked to employ children because they were paid less than adults and they could crawl under the machines to clean or mend them.

In 1824, shortly after Islington Mill was built some faulty casting of the metal frame caused the floors to collapse on each other killing 18 workers. The youngest was Catherine Schofield, aged ten, who lived near to what is now Salford Crescent Railway Station. Betty Smith also died. She was aged 60 and lived on the site of St Philip’s Primary School on a road called Back Factory Lane. The mill was rebuilt in the same year and workers went back to spinning cotton for Gough.

The mill is now home to around 50 business and 100 artists.

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What does the old sign painted on the side of the mill tell us about how it was used at one time in the past?

*Walk down Islington Way with St Philip’s School on your left and Canon Hussey Court in your right. Stop by the terracotta artwork on the wall on your right. Carry on in the same direction and curve round the corner to the right onto North Star Drive. Keep going all the way along here until the next stop in the middle of Islington Park. Look for the black metal artwork panels on entering the park.*

**2 ISLINGTON PARK**

T

Islington Park was once the cemetery for Irwell Street Methodist Chapel. Around 20,000 people, who died of Cholera in the 1800s, were buried here.   Salford was not a very clean place in the 1800s. There was lots of pollution and dirt and the water was not very clean. Factory workers lived in small, over-crowded houses.  As a result, diseases like Cholera spread quickly and were deadly!

From the park you can see a black brick viaduct on which runs a railway line. Behind this is Middlewood Lock which is part of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal, and very close to that is the route of the River Irwell. All were used to transport things that factories like Islington Mill needed - raw materials like cotton, and coal to power the factories for example.

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Look for the black metal artwork panels near the entrance to the park. What can you see in the panels? Why do you think the artist has chosen to include these things?

*Head left out of the park towards Chapel Street and cross at the crossing.*

**3 BEXLEY SQUARE**

T

The buildings on Bexley Square were mainly built in the early 1800s as homes for wealthier businessmen and their families. Poorer factory workers lived very close by, for example in the streets around Islington Mill.

Also on Bexley Square is Salford Town Hall. It was completed in 1827 in the Greek Revival style, inspired by classical Greek temples.  Characteristics of this style include simple lines and building materials, evenly spaced windows and columns.  The town hall is a listed building which means it is nationally important.

A more modern structure on Bexley Square is the Salford Firsts’ sculpture of a horse.  This was created in 2021 by artist Emma Rodgers. It shows change making people, events and inventions from Salford.

In 1931 Bexley Square was the location of the Battle of Bexley Square.  At this time, around one third of the population was unemployed and living in terrible conditions.  At the same time, the government was trying to save by cutting money given to those in need.  On 1 Oct 1931, 10,000 unemployed people marched to Bexley Square in protest. They were beaten and attacked by police with batons.  Many people were put in prison **DO NOW**

C:\Users\dhorsley\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.MSO\F7CF9630.tmp Can you spot the Greek Revival style features on the town hall? Can you find the plaque which marks the events in Bexley Square in 1931? What has the event become known as? What was the date of this event?

*Turn left by the town hall, after the New Oxford, passing the listed gates. Turn left onto Ford Street. Cross Ford Street towards the red brick board school. On your way, look out for old gas lamps. Chapel Street was the first street in the country to be lit with gas lamps.*

**4 SALFORD CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

The Cathedral of St John is a Catholic cathedral.  It was opened in 1848 and was built in the shape of a cross. The architect Matthew Ellison Hadfield designed it in what is known as a gothic architectural style, which was popular at the time.   Gothic buildings are usually very grand! They have windows with pointed arches and lots of decoration in the stone carving.  The Cathedral of St John the Evangelist is a Grade II\* listed building.

The Cathedral was built because more and more people were moving to Salford and they needed somewhere to go to church. It was paid for with money donated by local factory owners but also ordinary working people.  It was used by people from all sorts of backgrounds, including many people from Ireland who had come to Salford, escaping famine.  Their religion was mostly Catholic.

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Find features of the Gothic style architecture.

*Turn Right down Great George Street after the cathedral. Cross the road towards St Philip’s Square.*

**5 ST PHILIP’S SQUARE**

As you walk towards the back of St Philip’s Church, look down to the ground for words carved into the stone. These are by local artist LS Lowry, famous for painting scenes of factories and factory workers in the 1920’s and 30’s. You will then come to a large sculpture of a sycamore seed. This sculpture was made in 2002. It represents Salford’s new life now that most of the local factories closed and new businesses and homes have been built. Behind the seed on the ground is a carving of a painting by Lowry, painted from this spot.

**DO NOW**

C:\Users\dhorsley\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.MSO\F7CF9630.tmp Read the words on the ground and think about what they might mean. (Lowry had a job as a rent collector during the week. Some people thought he wasn’t a good painter and just did it as a hobby on a Sunday.)

Look at the Lowry painting on the ground. Try to stand in the same spot as the painting was painted.

*Turn left at the back of the church then right on Bank Street so you are at the front of the church.*

**6 ST PHILIP’S CHURCH**

**6 ST PHILIP’S CHURCH**

St Philip’s Church was built in 1824 and is another of Salford’s listed buildings.  Like the town hall in Bexley Square, it was designed in the Greek Revival style, inspired by classical Greek temples.  Characteristics of Greek Revival style buildings include simple lines and building materials, evenly spaced windows and columns.   The church has a tall clock tower but, when it was first built, there wasn’t a clock. We think this was added in 1832.

Underneath the church is a crypt - like a large cellar – in which nine people are interred in wooden coffins lined with lead.   One of those interred is General Thomas Arbuthnot who fought in wars all over the world.  He lived in one of the grand Georgian houses on Salford Crescent. In later years, youth groups have gathered in the crypt and it was used as an air raid shelter in the Second World War!

Peter Green was rector at St Philip’s Church for about 40 years. He turned down the opportunity to be a bishop at a cathedral because he loved Salford and the people of this parish so much.

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How is St Philip’s church similar in architectural style to the town hall?

*Walk round to the left of the church on Wilton Place, follow the exterior of the church round to the right onto Bank Place then left onto Encombe Place*

**7 ENCOMBE PLACE**

Encombe Place was originally called Ackers St. Ackers was a very rich man who had made his fortune in silk manufacture.  He built and lived at Lark Hill Mansion, now the site of Salford Museum and Gallery.

On one side of Encombe Place is a former County Court. This was built in the 1860s to deal with cases in which people owed money to other individuals or businesses.   The architect, Charles Reeves, designed 64 new court building in the 1840s to 1860s.  Many look exactly like this one.

On the other side of the road are a row of town houses built for wealthier Salfordians.  They were built in the Georgian period and are a similar architectural style to the buildings in Bexley Square.  They have similar features like columns, scrolls, square or round arched windows.

The County Court House and numbers 6 – 12 Encombe Place are all listed buildings.

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Historical Street Directories give us information about who lived on Encombe Place in the past. Your teacher can tell you a bit about the people who lived there in 1879 and 1911, according to the Historical Directories from these times (see [Teachers Resource pack](https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/education/explorer/salford-heritage-trail-buildings-ppt)). Do you spot anyone interesting?

*Turn left out of Encombe Place round the side of the Court House onto Cleminson Street.*

**8 CLEMINSON STREET**

Cleminson Street was once a cobbled street which, like many in this part of Salford, contained rows of terraced houses where workers’ families with children lived. In 1900 around 3000 young children lived around these streets. In 1929 it was decided, copying an idea in New York, that 48 streets, including Cleminson Street, should become “play streets”.  Between 8am to sunset no cars were allowed, so children could play out safely away from traffic. The play streets lasted until the 1980s. They did reduce the number of car accidents and provided great fun!

Down the hill from Cleminson Street, in the opposite direction to Chapel Street, was once an area with many factories, dye and bleach works, engineering works, a timber yard and works for printing.  Much of this industry grew up around here because the nearby River Irwell could be used for processing, power and transport.   At one time, the area would have been smelly and smoggy due to the coal fired factories pumping out their waste. Industries also dumped chemicals and waste products into the river and over time it became very polluted.

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Stand and look at the view down the hill. Imagine what it would have been like 200 years ago when the factories and works were operating in this area. How would the view be similar and different? What would it have smelled and sounded like in this area? The air photo of this area in the Teachers Resource Pack might help you.

*Turn left onto Adelphi Street and right, back on to Chapel Street. Stop outside the first building on your right. This is Salford Royal Hospital.*

**9. SALFORD ROYAL**

Salford Royal is now apartments but, between 1827 and 1993, it was a hospital. The hospital was built to help the growing population in this area, many of whom had had accidents at work in the factories or were ill due to the pollution in this area, and their unhygienic living arrangements.

During World War Two some nurses died when a bomb landed on the hospital. Their names and hometowns are listed on the side of the former hospital. Nurse Phyllis Norman survived the air raid and sixty years after the bombing, opened the Angel Centre; a Healthy Living Centre just round the corner from the hospital. The name Angel was chosen by the local community to remember those who worked and died in the war at the hospital.

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Find the plaque remembering the names of the nurses who died in the World War Two bombing. What was the date of the air raid? How many nurses died?

*Walk back to the corner of Adelphi Street and Chapel St. On the other side of Chapel Street, you will see a curved building on the corner of Chapel St and Oldfield Road. You will see lines from a poem written in the windows. This building is Transport House.*

**10. TRANSPORT HOUSE**

This is the site of the former Transport and General Workers Union offices. The building was demolished and in 2004 new apartments were built following the curve of the original building. On the ground floor windows of the apartments are words from a poem by Percy Bysshe Shelley about the Peterloo Massacre (see [Teachers Resource Pack](https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/education/explorer/salford-heritage-trail-buildings-ppt)).

In 1819 the Peterloo Massacre took place near Central Library in Manchester. Over 60,000 people walked, from all over Greater Manchester to listen to speeches being given about allowing working people the right to vote. Eighteen people died that day when soldiers on horses were sent to break up the crowd. Hundreds were injured including James Chapman a labourer who lived at 13 Barrow Street, just around the corner from Islington Mill. Chapman was trampled by a soldier’s horse. Four other people who lived along this tour route were also injured, among them a weaver, a dyer and a shoemaker.

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Can you make out any of the words from the poem? What do you think they might mean?

*Cross Adelphi Street, using the crossing. Walk along the Crescent, following the curve of the River Irwell on your right. Stop where there is a gap in the trees.*

**11 RIVER VIEW AND THE CRESCENT**

The name Salford comes from the willow trees lining the banks of the river where people first made a crossing, or a ford. The botanical name for willow is salix. Hence, when added to the word “ford”, we get Salford.

At this point the River Irwell curves in a tight loop and the road along the banks follows the same curve, giving the Crescent name to this part of the street, the old pub and the row of Georgian houses on the other side of the road.  These houses were built for the wealthy to enjoy the river and willow view. General Arbuthnot, who is buried in the crypt at St Philip’s Church, lived on the Crescent.  Now the houses are mostly used as offices.  They are all listed buildings.

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How many willow trees can you spot over the river?

How are the houses on the Crescent similar to the ones on Encombe Place? Which would you prefer to

*Keep walking along the Crescent until you come to the Salford University campus and signs for Peel Park. If you look straight down the side of the building you can catch a glimpse of green. This is Peel Park.*

have lived in?

**12. PEEL PARK**

Peel Park was one of three public parks, opened on the same day in 1846. They were the first three in the country!  The parks were paid for by public subscription - what we would call crowd funding today.

Peel Park is named after Prime Minister Robert Peel who passed a lot of laws to help workers have a better life. The park provided much needed fresh air, nature and a place to exercise.   In fact, the motto on Salford’s coat of arms, written in Latin, means "The welfare of the people is the highest law" and Salford certainly lives up to this. The city provided its people not only with one of the country’s first public parks, but also a library in 1850; now Salford Gallery and Museum.

On the other side of the road you can see a building with a green strip around the top. This building is called Faraday House. Faraday House was once the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers office.  One notable member was Benny Rothman, who worked there in the 1930s. Rothman believed that workers in the city should have access to the countryside and fresh air, outside of Salford, but many landowners were restricting where people could walk. He started a campaign for workers’ rights and access to fresh air.  In April 1932 he organised a mass trespass on a hill called Kinder Scout in the Peak District, which was private property.  Four hundred people walked on the hill and refused to leave.  Rothman was arrested but public support for the cause eventually led to a change in the law about the Right to Roam.

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Why do you think places like Peel Park were so important to people in Salford when it first opened? How do you use Peel Park today?

*Carry on up Chapel Street towards Salford University buildings. The university opened in 1896 as a technical school and became a university in 1967. Here 20,000 students over 18 years of age come to learn about architecture, nursing, finance, engineering, film making, fashion, game design, science, history and more. Stop where you see the statues of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert on the grass in front of Salford Museum and Gallery.*

**13** **SALFORD MUSEUM & GALLERY**

**13 SALFORD MUSEUM & GALLERY**

Salford Museum and Gallery was originally the site of a mansion house built for Colonel Ackers. It was known as Lark Hill. The building was converted into the Royal Museum and Public Library in 1850. It was the first completely free public lending library, with reading rooms and an art gallery.  The building replaced the original mansion in the 1930s and is another listed building in this area of Salford.

Today there is still an art gallery on site, as well as Salford Local History Library, a café and even a recreation of what a Salford Street might have looked like 100 years ago!

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Have a look at the statues of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert outside the museum. Can you see when Prince Albert’s Birthday is?