

Belton History Trail

Here are some questions about Belton history. Follow our trail and see if you can answer them all!

We are starting our trail on Stocks Hill in front of All Saints Church.



- 1 This lamp was given to the people of Belton by the City of Lincoln in 1902. It was to commemorate a special event that was taking place nationally. Reading the inscription on the lamp can you find out what event this was?



- 2 All Saints Church is largely from the 14th and 15th Century but some of the arches to the nave date from the 13th Century. Looking at the stonework around the porch you will find some initials and the date 1751 inscribed. What are the initials?

- 3 These pillars are from the former manor house of Temple Belwood in Belton. In 1144 Roger de Mowbary gave land to the Knights Templars. They built a monastery which they ran until about 1500. This site then changed owners several times. The house was fully rebuilt in 1787. The house fell into disrepair in the 1930's before being demolished in the 1970's to make way for the M180 motorway. Belton Parish council moved these pillars to the Garden of Remembrance to preserve their historic heritage. What year were the pillars moved?





- 4 Walking out of the Church grounds and onto the High Street, look for the Old Post Office. You will find it opposite the gates to the Old Rectory. Although this building is now a house it was originally the post office for the village. In 1885 the postmistress was Mrs Mary Picksley and the post from Doncaster arrived daily at 7:25am. How many windows can you count on the front of the building today?

- 5 Continue walking down the High Street until you come to the old Public Hall. This was formerly a Wesleyan Chapel but was later converted into a public hall. It is now a house. Looking at the inscription on the building can you see what year the building was converted from a chapel to a hall?



- 6 Continue down the High Street until you come to the corner of King Edward Street. Here you will find Belton's war memorial. It features a First World War Soldier standing on a rocky outcrop. It was constructed by Tyas and Guest of Swindon and was unveiled in 1919. It lists the men of Belton who gave their lives during the First World War. A carved stone book was added later to give the names of those who lost their lives during the Second World War. During which years did the Second World War take place?

- 7 Walking down King Edward Street you will come to the former railway line. Constructed for the Axholme Light Railway which later became the Axholme Joint Railway, it ran from Marshlands junction at Goole to Reedness and Fockerby. The station in Belton opened for goods transportation in November 1904 and for passengers in January 1905. It was used to transport passengers and agricultural produce across the Isle of Axholme.



The line closed to passengers in 1933 and by 1965 the whole line was no longer in use. What sort of agricultural produce do you think was transported in the Isle of Axholme?

- 8 Continue along King Edward Street before turning down Temple Gardens. This used to be the old road down to the manor house Temple Belwood. In 1144 Roger de Mowbrary gave a cow pasture at Belwood to the Knight Templars of Balsall, Warwickshire. The Templars later built and ran a monastic institution on this site which became Temple Belwood. In around 1500 it was taken from the Templars and given to the Knight Hospitaliers. In 1536 after the dissolution of the monasteries the Temple and the lands were given to Henry Vavasour. It stayed in this family for several generations before being bought by Robert Ryther. After passing through the generations the house was rebuilt in 1787 by architect Samuel Foster. It was extended to include east and west wings. In the early 1900's the house went through many uses including hotel and school. The house eventually fell into disrepair before being demolished completely in the 1970's when the M180 motorway was built over the land. As you walk down Temple Gardens you will eventually come to the old kitchen gardens. Now privately owned, they used to house the fruit trees and vegetable plants grown to feed the Temple Belwood house occupants. Fireplaces are built into some of the external walls, these would have warmed the bricks and helped the fruit trees grow and ripen. What sort of fruit trees do you imagine they grew?



