

WEAVERHAM HERITAGE SCHEME



The Blue Plaque Walk

A guide to the listed buildings
in Weaverham
with a suggested walk and
a description of the
listed buildings.

Produced by
Weaverham History Society
Weaverham Trust
Weaverham Parish Council and
Vale Royal Borough Council

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A 1.3 mile historic walk through Weaverham village



WEAVERHAM
TRUST



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and Weaverham History Society

Start from St Mary's Church (15) at the top of Church Street. A place of worship since Saxon times, it is mentioned in William the Conqueror's Domesday Book. The tower is 15C while the remainder is late 16C. Internal features include a ceiling from Vale Royal Abbey, a communion rail dated 1709 and a Jacobean font cover.



15 - St Mary's Church

Exit the church grounds and turn left into Church Lane. Built in the 17C, number 3 Church Lane is partly timber framed with some rendered brick construction, typical of the time.



14 - 3 Church Lane

Retrace your steps then turn left into Church Street. On the right, at number 11 is the charming 17C Raintub Cottage reputedly the oldest surviving property in Weaverham. It contains a full cruck framed roof truss with original tie beam and collar.



13 - Raintub Cottage

Continue walking down Church Street, to numbers 6 and 8, which were originally three cottages constructed of Flemish bond brick. The property typifies their 18C construction retaining their stone heads and sills to the windows and semi-circular doorway heads.



12 - 6&8 Church Street

Continue to the end of Church Street and straight ahead you can see the black and white Poplar Cottage. Built in the 17C, it was originally a farmhouse and is Weaverham's best example of domestic Tudor architecture. It is timber framed with a brick noggin. There is a low-floored "birth chamber" on the ground floor. For over a century it was the home of the Bebbington family, cabinet makers and wood carvers, succeeded by Cyril Stockton, cabinetmaker and undertaker.



11 - Poplar Cottage



10 - 3&5 High Street

Turn right onto High Street and at numbers 3 & 5 you will see a 17C black and white cottage that was originally one home but is now two cottages. It still retains its timber frame, brick noggin and thatched roof. It illustrates Weaverham domestic architecture of its period.



9 - Wheatsheaf Inn

Continue up High Street you will see the 18C Wheatsheaf Inn which stands in the historic centre of Weaverham. Rusticated quoin stones at each corner are striking features and the porch and windows recall 18C design. The front room was called the 'Knowledge Room' and the area in front was the village meeting place known as the 'Parliament'.



4 - Methodist Church

Turn left into Forest Street. On the right is Weaverham Methodist Church. Built in 1878 it is constructed of English Bond orange brick with ornate terracotta panels. The interior has a gallery with tiered seating, a central raised pulpit and original pews in grained pine. A fine example of Methodist architecture in original condition.



3 - Grammar School

Continue up Forest Street following the bend to the right until you get to the Free Grammar School. Built on the site of a 15C courthouse, the present structure was built in 1638 as a school. Damaged by royalists during the English Civil War, it continued as a school until it finally closed in 1916.



2 - 42 Forest Street

Very close to the old school is 42 Forest Street, a 17C cottage constructed of timber framing on a stone base retaining many original materials. The original positioning, irregular dimensions of doors and windows illustrate clearly a dwelling of its time.



Continue to the top of Forest St then turn right into West Road.

A short walk will bring you to number 24, a timber framed building on a brick noggin. Built in the 17C, it retains many elements. It has also been a school, the 'Copper Kettle' cafe, a 'Virgins Club' met here once a year in the 1900s and it is reputedly haunted by a ghost with a wooden leg.



1 - 24 West Road

Continue along West Rd until you reach the Hanging Gate Inn and turn right into High Street.

As you approach the centre of the village once more, stop at numbers 14 and 16 High Street. Built in 18C, it was originally named the Manor House. Now two homes, it has been a public house (the Rifleman) and a bank.



6 - 16 High Street

The white building opposite is number 13 High Street. Once a 17C house with interior framing, in its heyday it was a significant property with thick walls and large cellars.



5 - 13 High Street

Turn left into Smith's Lane. On the left is the 17C Ivy House. For more than 100 years it was 'the doctor's house'. The lane is named after Dr. Joseph Smith, a Magistrate and Councillor who died here in 1916.



7 - Ivy House

Retrace your steps and turn left at the High Street. Number 12 was originally a 17C barn converted to housing and sometime commercial use. It has a timber frame and a brick noggin standing on a tall, irregular stone base.



8 - 12 High Street

Carry on up High Street, past the Wheatsheaf Inn then turn left into Church Street.

Retrace your steps back to St Mary's Church.

Weaverham Trust and Weaverham History Society have worked in partnership with the local council to provide a guide to some of the distinctive buildings of earlier times.

By marking the Nationally Listed Buildings with a distinctive 'blue plaque' and providing information about their character, we hope we can enhance their status within the area.

All the buildings described on this walk are Listed Grade II, with the exception of St Mary's Church which is Listed Grade I.

There are other buildings of note within the Conservation Area, most of which may be seen on the suggested walk. They include:

- 21 Forest Street
- Barrymore Institute, Forest Street
- The Hanging Gate Inn
- The Walnuts, 44 High Street
- The Limes, 48 High Street
- 50 High Street
- The Laurels, West Road
- 20 West Road
- Tudor Cottage, West Road
- Little Grange, 23 West Road
- The Hayes, 31 West Road



The suggested walk is about 1.3 miles long and can be completed in about 40 minutes.



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