



Immerse yourself in the captivating history of Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire.

We are dedicated to showcasing the local historic sites and preserving the essence of our town's past for generations to come.

Newark-on-Foot 30 Nov 2025 - Info Sheet

Remember to look up at when you walk along millgate and try to notice the plaques on the buldings and the different styles, a great history of millgate can be found here

www.newarkguide.co.uk/millgate

1. Newark Town Lock

Newark Town Lock, located on the River Trent in Newark-on-Trent, is a historic navigation lock that dates back to the 18th century. It was originally constructed to improve river traffic and trade, particularly for goods like coal and agricultural produce. The lock allowed vessels to bypass the weir and maintain a navigable route through the town. Over time, it has been modernised but still retains its heritage charm, sitting adjacent to Newark Castle and forming part of the town's rich industrial and transport history.

<https://www.newarkguide.co.uk/townlock>

2. Longstone Bridge

Built in 1819 (or possibly 1827), Longstone Bridge is a slender, Grade II listed ashlar stone structure that quietly spans the mill backwater of the River Trent. With seven elegant arches and a subtle dip in its centre, it replaced an older timber bridge and became a cherished spot for walkers, anglers, and childhood adventures. Once near the bustling Parnham's Flour Mill, it now stands as a tranquil reminder of Newark's industrial and architectural heritage.

3. The White House

This elegant riverside mansion, dating from the mid-18th century, was home to Thomas Earp—maltster, mayor, and Liberal MP for Newark. Originally mentioned in the 1772 Trent Navigation Act, it passed through the hands of traders and landed proprietors before Earp made it a centre of civic life. Later owners included Enos Smith, known for his steamboat and French vineyard, and post-war tenants ranged from families to businesses like British Waterways. The house reflects Newark's social, political, and architectural evolution over two centuries.

4. St Catherines Well

St Catherine's Well, once a sacred healing spring near Sconce and Devon Park, was famed in medieval times for curing leprosy and drew pilgrims to its chapel. Over centuries, the chapel vanished, and the well became part of a convent garden at St Catherine's Cottage

<https://www.newarkguide.co.uk/stcatherineswell>

5. Queen Sconce

Built in 1646 during the English Civil War, Queen's Sconce is a star-shaped earthwork fortification constructed by Royalist forces defending Newark. It was part of a network of defences during the town's three sieges. Remarkably well-preserved, it now sits within a public park and offers insight into 17th-century military engineering.

6. Robert Kiddeys Workshop

Robert Kiddey (1900–1984) was Newark's beloved sculptor and art teacher. His workshop was a hive of creativity where he produced public sculptures, busts, and local commissions. Kiddey's legacy lives on in his artworks scattered around Newark and in the memories of those he taught

<https://www.newarkguide.co.uk/kiddey>

7. The Dutch Houses

Newark's Lost Dutch Houses on Millgate were a unique row of 17th-century brick homes, likely built for Flemish weavers around 1663. Once part of a vibrant industrial street, they were admired for their Dutch-style architecture and historic charm. Sadly, they were demolished in the 1960s due to structural concerns, marking a poignant loss in Newark's architectural heritage and sparking ongoing reflection on the balance between preservation and progress.

8. Cuckstool Wharf

Named after the "cuckstool" or ducking stool once used here to punish so-called scolds and disorderly women, this riverside site later became a busy wharf for loading and unloading goods. It played a role in Newark's river trade, particularly during the industrial era, and its name preserves a curious piece of social history.

9. The Castle

Founded in the 12th century by Bishop Alexander of Lincoln, Newark Castle was a powerful ecclesiastical stronghold. It hosted royal visitors and played a key role in the Civil War. Most famously, King John died here in 1216. Though partially ruined, its riverside location and surviving gatehouse make it a dramatic and historic landmark.

<https://www.newarkguide.co.uk/newark-castle>

10. The Ossington

Built in 1882 by Lady Ossington as a temperance hotel and public hall, The Ossington was part of a movement to promote sobriety and civic improvement. Its grand Victorian architecture and philanthropic origins made it a centre for social gatherings. It later became a pub and remains a prominent building in the town.

<https://www.newarkguide.co.uk/ossington>



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